

GLOSSARY

A

Abhishekam	Pouring water,milk,ghee etc over the head of the idol.
Achimar	Nair woman sweepers in temples.
Adayara	A fee paid by temple priests when they get transfer from one temple toanother.
Adhikari	Village officer.
Adukkuvat	A renewal fee on lands.
Agamas	Tantra text or treatise on temple worship.
Agrasala	Feeding house attached to sree Padmanabhaswamy temple Trivandrum.
Akakkoima	Chief executive officer.
Akattemanusyam	A temple servant to look after the internal affairs of temple.
Akattepadithram	Expentiture for the ritual items inside the temple.

Akapotural	temple servant in charge of internal management.
Alakku-virutti	Lands leased for cloth washing services in temples.
Alankaramandapam	The pillard structure where the decorated idol is seated for public View.
Amani	The sharing system of revenue.
Amargam	A part of the ceremony of the 'Talikket' of Devadasis
Aminadars	Officers of the Revenue Department deputed for technical supervision in temples.
Ampalapati	A person who supervises temple property.
Ampalavasi	Hereditary servants of temples performing various duties outside the inner shrine.
Anaval	Manager of a temple.
Anjali	A land tax imposed on private paddy lands.
An	A Tamil month corresponding to the Malayalam month Mithunam(June-July)
Anubhogam	A right of enjoying allowance in lands.

Apamargam	A temple ceremony.
Aratt	The ceremonial bath of the idol of a deity at the end of the festival.
Arayalam	a tax collected from the gaden lands.
Archana	Offering flower before the deity by reciting verses for the welfare of the devotee.
Archankattanam	Fee for archana
Ardhamandapam	A Pillard structure just in front of sanctum sanctorum.
Arilonnu	One sixth (a measurement of rent on leases land)
Ashtabandakalasam	A ritual followe in temples while fixing the idol in the pedestal.
Athazhapuja	Night ritual of the temple.
Attavisesham	Ceremonies in the temples on special days in each years.
Asudhi	Pollution
Adima	Slave.
Audi	A Tamil month corresponding to Karkidakam of the Malayalam era. (July- August)
Avani	A Tamil month corresponding to chingam of the Malayalam era.(August- September)

Avarnas	Non-caste Hindus.
Ayacut	Land revenue account or permanent settlement record.

B

Bali	Sacrifice,Offering.
Balikkalpura	Hall with pillars where the balikkal (sacrificial stone) is set.
Bhadradeepam	Festival of Lamps- A half yearly festival in the sree Padmanabhaswamy temple at Trivandrum.
Brahmaswam	Wealth of land belonging to Brahmanas.
Bimbom	Idol.

C

Chakram	A copper coin of Travancore.
Chandala	A low caste in Hindus.
Chantu-Viruthu	A service tenure for preparing sandal paste in temples.
Cora otti	lands purchased by Government from Devaswoms.

Chuttu-Virutti	A service tenure to carry the torches in front of the deity during procession.
Chingam	Malayalam month corresponding to August- September.

D

Dakshina	Customary gift of money,Cloth etc. to Brahmins,priests,preceptors etc.
Danam	Gift or alm.
Dasan	Male servant
Dasi	Female servant
Deva(Devan)	Heavenly Immortal
Devadanam	Gift to god both movable and immovable received from devotees.
Devadasi	Maid of God; a woman dancer,singer attached to a temple.
Devadayam	Wealth belonging to God.
DevanadyUranma	Village temples dedicated to the deity.
Devaswom	Assets of God: a temple establishment.
Devaswom Pilla	Accountant of a temple.
Devaswomvaka	Property of a temple.

Dewan	A title given to the chief minister of Travancore after A.D.1784.
Dewan Peishkar	Head of the Revenue Department of the state of Travancore.
Dhanu	Malayalam month corresponding to December- January.
Dharmasastras	Canons of rules and customs of the state.
Dhawajastamba	Flag staff
Dhawajaprathishta	A ritual connected with the installation of temple flag staff.

E

Edavam(Itavam)	Malayalam month corresponding to May-June
Elavanipattam	A tenure for supplying betal and plantain leaves to temples.
Ezhuthitheeruvayulla	Incorporated devaswom
Ezhuthitheeruvayillatha	Unincorporated devaswom.
Ettarayogam	Royal Council of eight members.

F

Fasli year	Revenue year
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G

Garbhagraha	Sanctum –Sanctorum
Gopuram	A pyramidal or multistoreyed tower over the gate way of a temple.

H

Hara	Boundary
Huzur	Dewan's office
Hukkumnama	Proclamation.

I

Itangazhi	A measure containing eighty cubic inches.
Izhavas(Ezhavas)	An upper class community among the Avarnas.
Inam	Voluntary gift (rent free land)
Irayili	Tax free

J

Jalajapam	Chanting of vedic hymns at the temple tank
Jamabandhi	The term used for the three department of Treasury, Revenue and Finance under old system.
Janmam land	Land owned by the nobles or land lords.
Japam	Chanting of vedic hymns or names of Gods.
Janmi	Land lord
Janmibhogam	A share of a land lord

K

Kaccam(Kacham)	A fine imposed on uralar for fraudulent dealings
Kacha Virutti	Lands given for military service
Kaichartt	Hand written receipt
Kalakam	A hereditary duty or privilege of a temple servant
Kalavarakkaran	Store keeper
Kampittan	A temple servant in charge of the administration of properties

Kanakkan	Accountant
Kanam	A type of land tenure possession of land
Kanappattam	The land mortgaged for money
Kanikka	Offering to God
Kanni	Malayalam month corresponding September-October
Kantukrishi	A kind of tenure
Kara	Village
Karakkar	Villagers
Karamozhivu	Exemption from tax
Karanma	Hereditary right of tenants for doing certain duties in the temples
Kariakkar	Administrative head of a taluk
Karthikai	Tamil month corresponds to Virchikam of the Malayalam Era (November-December)
Kavu	Serpant grove located near temples
Karkitakam	Malayalam month corresponding to July-August
Kizhsanthi	Subordinate priest in a temple
Koda Maholsavam	Annual celebration in the Bhagavathy temples of south, Travancore
Kovil Adhikarai	Administrative authority of a temple

Koyima	A government officer to supervise the temple
Kudimana	Free house site
Kudiyam	A tenant or serf
Kumbham	Malayalam month corresponding to February-March
Kumbanyasa	A temple ceremony
Kuttakapattam	Lease of government lands for a definite period or on permanent basis
Kuruthi	Sacrifice(A ritual in certain minor deity temples)

L

Lakshadeepam	A sexennial festival of one lakh lights.(The Siveli mandapam of Sree Padmanatha swamy temple at Trivandram is decorated with one lakh lights)
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M

Makaram	Malayalam month corresponding to January-February
Manusyam	Temple servant or member of a temple council
Maryada	Custom
Masappadi	Tax collector

Masavari	Monthly contribution to temples
Masavisesham	Monthly festival day of the temple
Matilakam-Grandhavari	Old cadjan records relating to temples kept in the repository of Sree Padmanabha swamy temple atTrivandram
Medam	Malayalam month corresponding to April-May
Melanma	A right of permanent pattam given to tenants by the janmi
Melelutt Pillai	Chief or senior Accountant
Melkoyma	Supervisory power
Melmanusyam	Senior member of a temple council
Melsanthi	Principal priest of a temple
Melvaram	A portion of produce given to the king or land lord on pattam account
Michavaram	The land lord's share of all crops
Minam	Malayalam month corresponding to March -April
Mithunam	Malayalam month corresponding to June- July
Mleccha	One of low (Polluted) Class.
Mukham	Administrative division of a taluk.
Murajapam	A religious ceremony in the Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple held once in six years and it concludes with lakshadeepam ceremony.

Muri Sub division of a village or 'Kara'

N

Nadavaravu	Income of temples in the form of gifts of money.
Naduvazhi	A Local Chief ruler (Itaprabha)
Nalambalam	Cloister around the main shrine.
Namaskaram	Prostration before a deity king etc.
Nazhi(nali)	A liquid or grain measure $\frac{1}{4}$ of an itangazhi or 20 cubic inches in capacity.
Natakaval Virutti	Land given for watchman duty in temples.
Nibandha	Rule or doctrine
Nimittas	Causes
Nirmalyam	Early morning ritual in the temple before holy bath.
Nitt	Royal writ
Nityanidanam	Daily expense or procedure of puja.
Nivedydyam	Offering to God.
Nrittaam(Nrttam)	Dance

O

Ola Palm-leaf document

Olugu	Record of property entered in the settlement register.
Ottaikkal mandapa	The single stone stage in front of the sanctum sanctorum of the Sreepadmanabhaswamy temple, Trivandram

P

Paditharam	Scale of expenditure
Painkuni	Tamil month corresponding to Malayalam month Minam (March-April)
Pakuti	A division of land equivalent to a village, the smallest unit of revenue administration.
Pntheeradi puja	Ritual conducted in between the morning puja and noon puja.
Pathivus	Regulations, customary accounts and payments.
Para	A grain measure equivalent to ten Intangalis or a 800 cubic inches
Parutaiyar	A village officer.
Pandaravaka	Government property
Pandarapattom	Governtment pattom
Patta	Land registration document.

Pattu parivattom	Cloth for idol.
Pattu virutti	Land given for supply of silk cloth for the idol.
Pavitrata	Purity.
Payasam	Pudding prepared with rice or other grains, milks and sugar or juggery.
Peishkar	District head of the revenue department.
Prakara	The outer wall of the temple precinct.
Prasadam	Sandal, flowers and scared food offered to the deity and issued to the devotees.
Pratishata	Image of the deity.
Pujas	Offerings to the deity or rituals
Puranas	Vedic treatises based on Hindu mythology.
Purattemanusysam	Temple servant to look after the external affairs of a temple.
Purathepaditharam	Expenditure outside the temple for various functions.
Puruttasi	Tamil month corresponding to Malayalam month Kanni (September – October)

R

Rajabhogam	Light rate rent levied in the case of favourable tenures.
S	
Sadhanam	An official communication.
Salai	Vedic School
Samudayam	Temple Manager.
Sanchayam	Revenue department land.
Sanketam	Temple domain where immunity for Brahmins prevailed from state interference.
Sanku Virutti	Lease of land granted for blowing knoch-shell in temples.
Sannad	A government order of authorisation or licence.
Santi	Priest or priest hood.
Santikars	Temple priest.
Santi virutti	Lease of land for priestly services.

Sarvadhidhikariakkars	Administrative head (officer) of a district.
Sastras	Canons of law and conduct.
Sattar	Student who studies vedas and upanishads.
Sattavariyola	A set of rules framed for the guidance of government officials.
Satyagraha	Non-violent residence
Savarnas	Caste Hindus
Sircar	Government.
Shroff	Cash keeper
Sreepadam land	Property, temple belonging to Maharaja or Maharani of Travancore
Sreepandaravaka Land	Lands belonged to Sree Padmanabhaswamy temple, Trivandrum
Sriveli or sribeli	Sribeli (offering) held at prescribed times in the temples.
Srikaryakkaran	Temple manager.
T	
Tai	Tamil month corresponding to Malayalam month

	Makaram(January- Feburury)
Tantram	Ritual ,Ceremonies
Tantrasamuchayam	Book of vedic prescription for rituals
Tantri	An ecclesiastical dignitary who has learned the art of exhibiting proper signs and symbols accompanied by - 'mantras'
Tarakkuttam	Village Assemly
Taravazhis(Taravalis)	Members of Tarakkuttam
Thiruvabharanams	Ornaments for the idol.
Thirukalyanam	Holy marriage(A festivel in Vellimalai Kumara Koil Temple)
Tindal	Untouchability, poliution caused aby low castes.
Tindal palakas	Wooden boards marking the limits of approachability (Prohibitive sign board)
Tiratt	A general abstrct of all transaction including receipts and expenditure for the year.
Tulabharam	Ceremony of weighing the body against precious articles, as an offering at temples.
Tulam	Malayalam month Corresponding to October – November

U

Uchapuja	Noon ritual in temples.
Uliyam	Service rendered in return for the enjoyment of lands granted for the purpose.
Ulpadan	A temple servant in charge of the internal matters.
Ulsavam	Festival in temples.
Unnis	A temple servant belonging to the Ambalavasi group.
Ur.	Village
Uralar	Trustees
Uranma	Ownership of Temples.
Uranamakkar	Village headman who managed the lands.
Ushapuja	Morning ritual in temples.
Uttupura	Free feeding centres for the Brahmins

V

Vatavilakku	Perpetual Lamp
Vaidikan	Learned men in the vedas
Vazhivad	Offering to a deity

Vanchi	Strong box kept in the temples for keeping money
Variyam	An elected council of a temple
Variyola	A government order (or) Memo of instructions
Varna	Caste
Venpattam	A major land tenure system
Vigraham	Idol
Vilakku Virutti	Land leased for the service of lighting lamps in temples
Vimana	A decorative arch
Virutti	A Kind of free service to the state and temples (Service tenure)
Virutti lands	Tax free lands granted to tenants for their free service to the state and temples
Viruttikar	Virutti service holders
Vittu Virutti	Free service to a house
Vrischikam	Malayalam Month corresponding to November-December)

W

Warrier	A Temple servant of the Ambalavasi group.
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Y

Yaga

A sacrifice- a ritual(ceremony) in which offerings are given to the sacred fire in the name of God.

Yoga

Meditation

Yogakkar

Member of a temple governing body.

Yogam

Management Council.