

RAJ BHAVAN, TAMIL NADU - PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

HON'BLE GOVERNOR OF TAMIL NADU THIRU. R.N.RAVI,
PARTICIPATED AS CHIEF GUEST AT THE MARUDHU BROTHERS
MEMORIAL FUNCTION AT NR IAS ACADEMY , THIRUCHIRAPPALLI
ON 23.10.2023 (TODAY)

Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru.R.N.Ravi, today (23.10.2023) participated as Chief Guest at the Marudhu Brothers Memorial Function at NR IAS Academy, Thiruchirappalli.

Hon'ble Governor hailed the great Marudhu Brothers, who lit the fire of India's independence, and gave a conceptual framework for the Jambudweep declaration. He hailed the great valiant Freedom Fighters of Tamil Nadu who suffered and made unfathomable sacrifices for the freedom of our country.

Hon'ble Governor remembers when he came to Tamil Nadu as Governor and wanted to learn about Freedom Fighters from Tamil Nadu; there were a handful of them. There was no mention of great National Freedom Fighters such as the Marudhu Brothers. It was disappointing to see that a land of bravery, which gave so many Freedom Fighters having a

handful of names on the list. Freedom Fighters who gave so much for their Nation. When I furthered my inquiry, I found several thousand Freedom Fighters who gave their lives for the freedom of Bharat. Sivagangai district, which was the center of the revolt against the British, recently issued a prohibitory order not to assemble from October 23rd to 31st, citing a law-and-order situation that happened in 2012 where some people were killed. So that mass celebrations of the heroes and their sacrifices have been prohibited. He was shocked and outraged that a law-and-order incident might happen. It is for the administration and government to resolve the tension, bringing people who have differences together and celebrating the event of National importance. Instead of that, in anticipation of any clashes, 11 years down the line, celebration of the heroes and their sacrifices has been prohibited. If any leader of the political party or their leaders from the past, on their anniversary day, if there were a law and order incident, would they prohibit their celebrations in subsequent years? When it comes to the National Freedom Fighters, it is prohibited to say that one is Marudhu Brothers and other is Muthuramalinga Thevar, another great national Freedom Fighters and great associate of Netaji who suffered for the freedom of our country. It pains me that these leaders have been reduced to caste leaders—those who fought for the freedom of our country and who

never discriminated or distinguished between castes. How and why? These National Freedom Fighters, if they were celebrated by the state, people would have joined. Since the State is trying to erase them from the memory of the people, they have been removed from the school textbooks. Their identity and contributions have occasionally been celebrated on their anniversaries, obviously for the vote bank. But the fact that their acceptance and recognition by the government and authority are not there and so, the people start forgetting them, but the community from which they came they can't forget. Moreover, here is a society which is badly fragmented along caste lines. I have not come across any state in India where students go to school wearing caste bands. When society is fragmented in terms of castes and the national heroes have been forgotten by the authorities, the castes own them. That's how our National leaders have been reduced to caste leaders today, and so the tension happens. Why is it that their memories have been erased? Because they feel scared when they talk about National freedom movement here. Those who are in authority are shy about talking about the National Freedom Movement and the National Freedom Warriors. The moment they talk about them (National Freedom Movement and National Freedom Warriors), they (those who are in authority) are exposed because they were the people who worked

against the National Freedom Movement. They collaborated with the British to defeat the National Freedom Movement. These are all matters of record. British archives in London, will tell the truth that who were the agents of British, who fought against the National Freedom Movement, those who are icons of people today are those who are ruling. Last year, on the 2nd of October, on Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary, an interesting thing happened: we went with other leaders to pay tribute to Mahatma Gandhi. On the side, there was a large photo gallery of Mahatma Gandhi and Freedom Fighters. In the entire photo gallery, there was not one Dravidian Ideology icon's photo present. That created embarrassment, and the system of photo galleries was abolished. This year, on October 2nd, there was no photo gallery as it was embarrassing and something that exposed them.

Hon'ble Governor said, when I see persons legends such as the Marudhu Brothers being reduced to caste leaders, I wonder if Mahatma Gandhi, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, Sardar Patel, and Shaheed Bhagat Singh, if they were born in Tamil Nadu, too would have been reduced to caste leaders. This is not acceptable. We cannot forget those who gave their lives and their blood for the freedom of our country. He called it ingratitude and cited Kural 110, "**Ennandri Kondraarkkum Uyvuntaam**

Uyvilai Seynrandri Kondra Makarku” which elaborated on the virtue of gratitude, saying that those who kill gratitude and forget to remember those who gave their lives for them have no salvation and no future, and mentioned it as the curse of Thiruvalluvar. This curse of Thiruvalluvar will fall on those who are trying to forget those great people.

Hon'ble Governor said a concerted attempt has been made to erase the history of this great place. To write a parallel history of this place by wiring a false narrative of the racial divide, Dravid and Aryan call them separate races. The hypothesis given by Robert Caldwell, who gave the Grammer of Dravidian language and tried creating the hypothesis that Dravidian and Aryans are separate races. He further mentioned the India Charter Act, 1813, enacted by the British Parliament, and that one of its mandates was to evangelize India and kill the culture and spirituality of India (Section 13 of the India Charter Act, 1813). They employed volunteers to come here with missionaries; educated people with job prospects did not like to come as they had better opportunities there. Even if they came to India, they came as employees of the company, and later they came as British government employees who were better paid. They started picking up school dropouts, and Robert Caldwell was one of them. He was not even 17 years old, never cleared his school examination, and

never went to a college or university. He came here and, over time, somehow became an expert on languages. It was the British design to divide this country. More so, when the National Freedom Movement started, they became far more active. At that point of time, they started picking up collaborators who could help them defeat the National Freedom Movement. On record, some of these people who are worshipped today here had gone to London and presented a memorandum not to give freedom to India. These are the forgotten chapters of history well documented. All through the National Freedom Movement, they started the Counter Freedom Movement, which was built around this Aryan-Dravidian and Divide, the domination of Aryan and of the North. They started destroying institutions that defined this Punya Bhumi of Tamil Nadu. A divine land of great spiritual leaders, saints, sages, and warriors He also cited Mahakavi Bharathiar's lines "**Vedham niraintha Tamil Nadu - Uyar Veeram serintha Tamil Nadu**". He said, those who observed August 15th, 1947, as a black day, how can they face our National Heroes? That is why they are mortally feared talking about the National Freedom Movement and National Freedom Warriors. They tried to downplay They symbolically celebrate them. We have to keep the spirit. People can't be ungrateful; if

we have to move forward with dignity, grace, and heads high, we must remember our glorious past.

Imagine the Marudhu Brothers coming up with a conceptual framework for the liberation of the whole of Bharat; they built up a formidable alliance; the British get worried. They knew it would sweep them out of the country; they put all their might into catching them and martyring them publicly. Around 533 people were hanged that day, their heads were hanged on a pole for public display to demoralize the people. The people of this place were brave; they didn't become demoralized. Five years later, in 1806, the Vellore Uprising happened. Nearly one thousand Indian soldiers were massacred as the British came with large reinforcements. All these histories of our Freedom Fighters have to be documented.

Hon'ble Governor also highlighted how the PhDs have been awarded for the thesis focused on a handful of icons of Dravidian ideologies. When I went through the PhD thesis, it was all propaganda material, not even proper research. It was a license to get a job at the university as a professor. Such extreme politicization of higher education institutions is rare to see. Not even one was on Marudhu Brothers. I would love to see research on the lives and times of our great freedom fighters. Their lives and times are reflections of the atrocities the British were

committing against our society. A lot of our people from Tamil Nadu were taken as indentured slaves to different countries like Malaysia and Fiji. Such research works should be done.

On this occasion, Thiru. Vijayalayan, Director, NR IAS Academy, Thiru. Gurusamy Mayilvaganan, Writer, Thiru. Karpoorasundhara Pandian, I.A.S., (Retd), Thiru. Mari Servai, Writer, Tmt. Radha Thevar, Jambudweep, Proclamation Co-ordination Committee, Thiru. Madhusuthana Perumal, Jambudweep, Proclamation Co-ordination Committee, Descendants of Marudhu Brothers, Contributors of Marudhu Memorial, students and other dignitaries were present during the function.

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Raj Bhavan Chennai-22

Released by/xx

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