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A Historical Study of Karaikudi Chettinad Palaces and Heritage Tourism

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Abstract

Chettinad is the fastest growing tourism industry in Tamil Nadu. The people love their normal pleasure to another pleasure beyond the sole purpose of leisure and pleasure. The lots of tourists spend time past their busy schedules and pleasure. Heritage tourism is the most important thing in industries and for the furniture development. Karaikudi is the main heritage complex. Karakudi is "Pride of Chettinad". Home land of Chettinad is Nattukottai Chettiars. The traditional city is home to heritage and culture. The famous in Karaikudi Chettinad Palaces. The different style of architectural Chettinad is Architecture reflects traditional. Wood work and stone work was inspired by the houses. The egg white is mixed while constructing palaces with bricks. The materials and furniture are getting from East Asian countries and Europe. The pillars are made up of Burma teak.

Keywords: Pride of Chettinad, Nattukottai, Egg White, Burma Teaks

Introduction

Karaikudi is the best city in Sivaganga District. Karaikudi is said to be as the capital of chettinad because of it is a "Nattukottaichettiars". Chettinad is the best place of nattukottaichettiars and is the tourist paradise in Tamil Nadu. Chettinad palace is outstanding palace in the world. Palace is built by Dr. Annamalai Chettiyar founder of the Indian Bank and the Annamalai university in Chidambaram. The Chettinad palace founded in 1912. It has traditional style of architectures which is characteristics of the region. The construction material, decorative items as well as the furnishing the palace of chettinad imported from East Asian countries and Europe, wall to wall minor from Belgium. The town drives its name referred as Karai in ancient literature as Karakudi, which became Karaikudi. In the 19th century it is said to be as Koppudaiya Nayagi Amman Temple. Mahatma Gandhi says about two speeches in karaikudi in 1927, and in 1919 Bharathiyar visited Karaikudi for the function. Post independence, the town registered usually growth for the industrial sector. Surrounding areas of Karaikudi are referred as "Chettinad".

The home town is Nagarathas, a business community chettians financiers and trade facilitators. Karaikudi is also known as the “Pride of Chettinad”. The traditional city & home to heritage and culture. The place acquired its name, due to the presence of karai. “Karai” is a plant that is found in abundance in the city. Though Karaikudi is not has a historical background like its neighbors’ it does flaunt an amazing appeal.

The actual origin of the site is not known. However, many believe that karikudi acquired its settlements during early 18th century. The old sculpture in Karikudi is Koppudaiya Nayagi Amman Temple. The historical temple was built during the 18th century. The Chettians usually vegetarian. Their feasts at lifestyle ritual functions remain vegetarian.

Methodology

Data are edited and property organized to get a comprehensive picture. Plagiarism is also checked to avoid duplication. The paper is organized as follows: Heritage Tourism and Nattukottaichettians, palaces and the last section concludes the paper. Tamilnadu Tourism Tamil Nadu has is one of the beautiful temple architecture and they have folk, music and etc. It is known globally has temple towns, heritage sites, hill stations, waterfalls, national environment and wildlife. One of the largest tourism in India for Industry level. Primary and Secondary sources were used for the study. Discussions with artificial and local people were made as a part of primary data collection. Secondary data were in the books, journals, magazines, periodicals, Reports and websites. The sampling method used in this study was incidental sampling. Samples are getting from 100 respondents out of which 14 were international tourists. The other 86 samples from domestic tourists. All the samples usually getting from Karakudi. The primary data is collected in form of using questionnaires, question were carefully formed and discussed with officials. After pretests conditions and corrections are made by them. The respondents were individually met and the final questionnaire was given to them with the aim to study the tourist preference and the quality of tourism services provided in Karikudi. Data is collected in form of the study were analyzed for easy interpretation. The responses to the questionnaire were coded and tabulated using simple statistical methods. The data is presnLmKIJLJIIHmHmFmF

at the results. The review of literature is done by the researches to get familiarities in the research topic. It is done in order to bridge the gap between what is alreadydone and what is yet to be done. It also helps to avoid duplication. Krishnan.K.Kamra’s Book managing Tourist Destination brings out the importance at Heritage concept. In this book he pointed out this various manifestations of heritage. Vinodmetha’ sout look Traveler Heritage Holidays (South, west& East India) Vol-11 told about the importance at tourist destination of South, west, & East India. He also pointed out the tourist attractions of Karikudi and SivagangaiV.K.T. Balan’s All Districts in Tamilnadu. A perfect Tourist Guide has given details about the tourist places at Tamilnadu and noted out the tourist attraction of sivagangai district and it’s importance. A.K.Bhatia in his study Tourism management and marketing has analyzed the availability of tourism product. According to him the basic view materials of climate, history, culture and this people. Bhatia, in this study states that the tourist is a comp’s wxxxv±rnjdb

is a developing industry. In the categories of tourism, people mostly choose heritage tourism. For pleasure activities in Tamilnadu, there are many places available. Karaikudi is one of best heritage tourist place comparing to the others places in Tamilnadu. So, I choose this topic to create awareness about this wonderful tourist place all over the world.

Heritage Tourism

Through the National trust on the olden preservation, the cultural Heritage Tourism is journeying to sightsee the palaces of artifacts and activities that preserve the idea of people in the past and present with certainty.

- To learn about the community history and culture.
- To check the existing visitor experience.
- To assess the existing local Marketing efforts
- To assess the degree of support (public and private) of tourism.

The process of preservation is, in fact, a small portion of the concept of heritage, which encompasses, far beyond merely maintaining or digging up a collection in their place, the process of displaying or substituting the old things. Objects, culture and monuments, as well as heritage are inherited traditions and heritage, which are inherited to the entire history of that.

Those who have palation houses in the country are called the Nattukottaichettiars. It is reputed to be as Nagarathars. Nagarathars are mansions, which are temples of sculptures. They were interested in architecture. They are very rich people whose lives are depicted by using golden, silver and diamond.

Nattukkottai country fort, looks at the name itself evokes the image of great houses of chettinad. The community they used to construct as large fort-like houses are known as Nagarathas traditions. The culture of chettinad houses art and architecture is founded on the indications of a heritage.

Chettinad Palace

Chettinad palace was beautiful example of indigenous chettinad architecture. Chettinad palace is only enhanced by the vast expanses of lush greens surrounding it. Chettinad rich in cultural heritage, art and architecture. Today is well known for its mansions. Mansions are a block long, front on one street, and the rear on another street. The wood work and stone work was inspired that of the houses in France and other European destinations. The verandah is next for the iron-gate and is converted to waiting area of visitors. The meeting hall was decorated with help of several pairs of tusks. The ceiling is using artistic patterns for vegetable dye made of copper soldered and it has a help of special variety of aluminium. The walls are made up of 1.5 ft to 3ft wide to use the interiors cool is does not use any electronic equipment. (Example air conditioners) There is no cementing agent were used for the construction and the bricks in bound with a help of paste of egg white the extract of medicinal fruit ripe of kadukkai and lime grind. In palace pooja room is must present in corner.

Chettinad palace was a good example of native chettinad architecture. The massive stretches of green gardens just complement Chettinad palace. Chettinad is full of cultural heritage, art and architecture. It is very famous today that it has mansions. Mansions are one block long, front on one side, and the back on the other side. The wood work and stone work were inspired after those of the houses in France and other Europe destinations. The iron-gate leads to the next the verandah, which is turned into waiting-bay of visitors. The conference room was decorated assisting with the use of multiple pairs of tusks. This ceiling employs artistic patterns of vegetable dye prepared of copper soldered and it has an aid of special form of aluminium. The walls consist of 1.5 ft to 3 ft wide in order to take advantage of the fact that the interiors of the premises do not require electronic equipment to cool anything. There was no cementing material so to speak that were employed in the building and all the bricks were cemented using the extract of egg white of medication fruit ripe of kadukkai and lime grind.

Annamalaichettiyar, spent most of her time. The other rows of inarumanai are hung depending on the shelves in outside in front of kitchen, used to cut vegetables and grate coconuts. Chettinad houses have their cultural heritage signified in the art and architecture of the building. The immense entrance into the houses with a high arch looks like the entrance to the temples in India. The central part of house is free to the sky thus making it spacious and allowing it to be aerated. Thimmai, which is a raised platform is used to house travellers and visitors. The kanadukattan and Athandgudi

palaces which are very popular in karaikudi main entrances and main doors are sculpted well like temples. The ponds on which the water is gathering are mouthwatering. The local people had been drinking water in the ponds up to the eighties (OORANI). The Numerous fabulous fort like houses in Athangudi as in other part of chettinad. Tall single or twin teak wood pillars on the corridors are what the visitors are attracted to. The interior walls are also complete with plaster of Chettinadu our mixture of eggs and shells. We had our initial view of the wonder structure at Athangudi and this is where Lakshmi Vilas otherwise known as periyaveedu (big house) is located. These pillars sustain the aisles of the storey above. Both the corridors contain ornately decorated balustrades and the twin stone pillars with arches. The arches are surpassed by large windows that are opening into sunlight.

Athangudi

Athangudi village is made of cement, synthetic used for construction in Sivaganga district of Tamil Nadu and is 24 km from Karaikudi.

Athangudi Tiles

It is handmade over a glass colors in vibrant. If looking it for just that touch of colour and antiquity to your home flooring, Athangudi tiles are the answer.

Kanadukathan

The palace at Kanadukathan is associated with the perfection of the architectural wonders, woodwork and antique lighting on top of cultural ethos of the area. Every house consists of one to three `mittam`, or pillared inner courtyard. There has been the use of Italian glossy tiles on the walls and ceilings.

Palm Leaf Baskets

Chettinad Baskets are colorful utopian and exquisite with intricate patterns made of palm leaves. These patterns are as fine of embroidery and are the specialty of the chettiar community of the area. Palm leaf baskets are made in many places including Keeloyapatti near Pillarpatti Kaloiyarkovil Thiruppathur, Kallal, Ilyankudi etc.

Stone Carvings

A stone carvings workshop is located in Karaikudi. A sculpture school was located in Koviloor.

Gold Jewellery

The gold Thali(marriage chain) of 80 sovereigns for the common sight was made for chettiar marriages. A diamond Thali used for states symbol. Gold Jewellery were located in Karaikudi.

Ariyakudi Brass Lamps

Deepam means “that which disperses darkness”. Such lamps are produced at ariyakudi, 10km away from Karaikudi.

Conclusion

The most famous in Karaikudi is chettinad palace. It is tourism was grown rapidly for the recent years and because of many of the same reasons that is in the growth of tourism. An important uses in tourism industry is contribution for the national integration and creation of harmonics social and cultural environment. Today many tourists were like the chettinad palaces and their works are

famous through whole world. Chettinad plays a crucial role in the promotion of tourism and tourist paradise in Tamilnadu.

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