# Kerala History Timeline

<table>
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<th>AD</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>St. Thomas Mission to Kerala</td>
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<td>68</td>
<td>Jews migrated to Kerala</td>
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<tr>
<td>630</td>
<td>Huang Tsang in Kerala</td>
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<td>788</td>
<td>Birth of Sankaracharya</td>
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<td>820</td>
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<td>825</td>
<td>Beginning of Malayalam Era</td>
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<td>851</td>
<td>Sulaiman in Kerala</td>
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<td>1292</td>
<td>Italiyan Traveller Marcopolo reached Kerala</td>
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<td>1295</td>
<td>Kozhikode city was established</td>
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<td>1342-1347</td>
<td>African traveller Ibanbatuta reached Kerala.</td>
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<td>1440</td>
<td>Nicholo Conti in Kerala</td>
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<td>1498</td>
<td>Vascoda Gama reaches Calicut</td>
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<td>1504</td>
<td>War of Cranganore (Kodungallor) between Cochin and Kozhikode</td>
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<td>1505</td>
<td>First Portuguese Viceroy De Almeda reached Kochi</td>
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<td>1510</td>
<td>War between the Portuguese and the Zamorin at Kozhikode</td>
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<tr>
<td>1573</td>
<td>Printing Press started functioning in Kochi and Vypinkotta</td>
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<td>1599</td>
<td>Udayamperoor Sunahadhos</td>
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<tr>
<td>1616</td>
<td>Captain Keeling reached Kerala</td>
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<tr>
<td>1663</td>
<td>Capture of Kochi by the Dutch</td>
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<td>1694</td>
<td>Thallasyery Factory established</td>
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<td>1695</td>
<td>Anjengo (Anchu Thengu) Factory established</td>
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<tr>
<td>1721</td>
<td>Attingal Revolt</td>
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<td>1729</td>
<td>Marthanda Varma becomes king of Travancore</td>
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<td>1731</td>
<td>Sree Padmanabha Swami Temple was rebuilt by Marthanda Varma</td>
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<td>1741</td>
<td>Battle of Kulachal – Marthanda Varma defeated the Dutch</td>
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<td>1750</td>
<td>Thrippadidhanam</td>
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<td>1755</td>
<td>Last Mamamkom festival at Tirunavaya</td>
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<td>1766</td>
<td>Haidar Ali invades Malabar Kingdoms</td>
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<td>1772</td>
<td>Samkshepa Vedartham, the first book in Malayalam was published</td>
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<td>1792</td>
<td>Treaty of Sreerangapatanam</td>
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<td>1797</td>
<td>Revolution of Pazhassi</td>
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<td>1809</td>
<td>Kundara Proclamation of Velu Thampi</td>
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<td>1809</td>
<td>Velu Thampi commits suicide</td>
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<td>1812</td>
<td>Kurichya revolt against the British</td>
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<td>1831</td>
<td>First census taken in Travancore</td>
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<td>1834</td>
<td>English education started by Swatithirunal in Travancore</td>
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<td>1847</td>
<td>Rajyasamacharam the first newspaper in Malayalam, published.</td>
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<td>1855</td>
<td>Birth of Sree Narayana Guru</td>
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<td>1865</td>
<td>Pandarappatta Proclamation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>The first Legislative Assembly in Travancore formed. Malayali Memorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>1895-96</td>
<td>Ezhava Memorial</td>
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<td>1904</td>
<td>Sreemulam Praja Sabha was established</td>
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<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>Gandhiji’s first visit to Kerala</td>
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<td>1920-21</td>
<td>Malabar Rebellion.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>First All Kerala Congress Political Meeting was held at Ottapalam, under the leadership of T. Prakasam.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Vaikom Satyagraha</td>
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<td>1893</td>
<td>Death of Sree Narayana Guru</td>
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<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>Salt Satyagraha</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>Guruvarayur Satyagraha</td>
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<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>Nivarthana Aitigation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>Sri P. Krishna Pillai and Sri. E.M.S. Nampoothiripad jointly formed the Communist Party in Malabar.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>Temple Entry proclamation, allowing the lower castes (untouchables) to enter temple.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Travancore University established (in 1957 it is re-named Kerala University).</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>The first hydro-electric project of Kerala was started at Pallivasal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Kayyur Samaram.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>Punnapra Vayalar Revolt.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1948</td>
<td>The first Ministry in Travancore assumes charge with Sri. Pattom Thanu Pillai as Chief Minister.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1949</td>
<td>Integration of Travancore and Kochi</td>
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1952 • Consequent to the General Election of December 1951, a new ministry headed by Sri. A.J. John assumes charge.

1954 • General Election in Travancore-Cochin. P.S.P. Ministry headed by Sri Pattom Tharu Pillai and supported by the congress, sworn in

1954 • Mahi was united with Indian Union.

1956 • Formation of the Kerala State (November 1)

1957 • General Election. The first Communist Ministry headed by Sri E.M. Sankaran Namoothiripad assumes power.

1959 • Beginning of the Liberation Movement (hānāthikāyā Kerala put under President's rule.

1960 • Sri V. V. Giri appointed Governor of Kerala.

1961 • Kerala Postal Circle established.

1963 • Land Reforms Act enacted in Kerala.

1965 • First Jnanapeeda Award was given to G. Sankara Kurup.

1968 • Municipal Elections all over Kerala. Kozhikode university established.

1969 • Resignation of the EMS Ministry. Sri C. Achutha Menon sworn in as Chief Minister.

1970 • Death of Sri Mannathu Padmanabhan. Death of Sri Pattom Tharu Pillai.

1971 • Death of the famous Film Star Sathyan

1972 • Formation of Idukki District.

1974 • Death of former Union Defence Minister Sri V.K. Krishna Menon.

1976 • Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi inaugurates the Railway Broad Gauge Line between Ernakulam and Trivandrum.

1979 • President’s rule in Kerala for the fifth time.

1980 • The first ship built in Cochin shipyard, Rani Padmini launched.

1981 • Formation of Wayanad District.

1982 • Punalur Liquor tragedy.

1984 • Kasargod, the 14th district of Kerala comes into existence.

1986 • Pope John Paul II visits Kerala.

1988 • About 100 persons killed in the train accident at Peruman near Kollam.

1989 • The first literate town in India - Kottayam.

1990 • Ernakulam declared the first fully literate district of India.

1991 • Kerala declared the first fully literate state in the country.

1992 • Alleppey-Kayamkulam railway line inaugurated.

1996 • Right Livelyhood award given to Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad.

1997 • K.R. Narayanan becomes the President of India.

1998 • E.M.S. (First Chief Minister of Kerala) passes away.

1999 • Kayamkulam Thermal Project commissioned.

2000 • International status given to the Nedumbassery airport in Ernakulam.

2001 • A.K. Antony sworn in as the Chief Minister of Kerala. UNESCO accepted Koodiyattom as a most valued art form of humanity.

• Government banned the use of Endosulphan as it is injurious the health of people.

• First Malayalam audio novel ‘Ithanente Peru’ written by Sakkariya published.

• Tinu Yohannan becomes the first Malayali to be selected to the Indian cricket team.

• Malayala Manorama Associate Editor, Thomas Jacob is selected the chairman of Press Accademi.

• First AIDS patient in the state, Chithra (Kilimanoo) dies.

2002 • Sikhandar Bhakth becomes Kerala Governor.

• First Malayalam Playback singer, Sarojini, dies

• Kumarakom boat tragedy

• Swami Saswathikananda drowned to death

• Kerala becomes India’s first child friendly state.

• Jeevan TV becomes first Malayalam channel to telecast English news.
M. Kamalan sworn is as the Chairperson of State Women’s Commission.

Dr. Kamala Surayya is selected for the Ezhuthachan Award.

Kerala’s first coast-Guard station is started at Vizhinjam.

Vellanadu Panchayat in Trivandrum becomes the country’s first fully comptorised Panchayat.

Calicut based Nedungadi Bank merges itself with the Punjab National Bank.

Yusafali Kecheri assumes charge as the President of Kerala Sahithya Accademi.

Global Investors Meet (GIM) in Cochin inaugurated by the Prime Minister as A.B. Vajpayee.

Communal Riots in Maradu.

The state’s first heart transplantation successfully done in the Medical Trust Hospital (Ernakulam).

K.M. Mani becomes the longest ruling Kerala Minister.

K.M. Ramachandran Nair sworn in as the Vice Chancellor of Kerala University.

Kerala wins the 59th Santhosh Trophy defeating Punjab.

K. Radhakrishnan sworn in as the speaker of 12 Kerala Legislative Assembly.

Justice V.K. Bali is appointed the Chief Justice of Kerala High Court.

Dr. Sripat Ganapat Bhat becomes the first V.C of the newly started National University of Advanced Legal Studies.

Retired High Court Judge T.K. Chandrasekaradas is appointed the Ombudsman.

Raman Sri Vastava is appointed the D.G.P. with the charge of law and order.

Famous writer and cartoonist O.V. Vijayan dies.

Justice V.K. Bali is appointed the Chief Justice of Kerala High Court.

Famous literary critic and writer Prof. M. Krishnan Nair dies.

P. Kamal Kutty is appointed the Chief Election Commissioner.

 MUTTHATHU VARKEY AWARD 2006 IS GIVEN TO KAMALA SURAYYA.

Dr. Samuel Paul is selected for this Year’s Jitgil Memorial Award instituted by the World Bank for Social Service. He is the First Asian to win the honour.

Kerala Government bans online lottery.

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Famous Economist Prabhat Patnaik is appointed the Vice - Chairman of State Planning Board.

Senior Advocate C.P. Sudhakara Prasad is appointed the Advocate General.

Justice N. Dinakar is appointed the state Human Rights Commission Chairman.

Suma Varma is appointed the Banking Ombudsman of Kerala and Lakshadweep.

The Vallathol Award for this year is given to O.N.V. Kurup.

Adayalangal of Sethu wins the Vayalar Award for this year.

This year’s Ezhuthachan Award for lifetime contribution to Malayalam language and literature is conferred upon Kovilan.

Malayali Scientist Dr. George Joseph is appointed the Director for the centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia Pacific (Under the U.N)
Kerala History

Pre-historic Kerala
- Kerala is believed to have originated by the withdrawal of sea, when Parashurama threw his axe from Gokarnam to Kanyakumary.
- Kalidasa’s *Rajhvamsam* mentions about Kerala.
- Parasurama divided Kerala into 64 villages and donated them to Brahmins.
- Famous Rock-cut caves in the Ambukuthi hills in the Wayanad district in known as *Edakkal Caves*.
- The prehistoric people of Kerala were belonged to the Negrito race and Proto Australoids.
- From 3000 BC onwards Kerala had trade relations by sea with the Indus Valley people.
- Early inhabitants of Kerala belonged to the last phase of Middle Stone Age.
- Writings in the Edakkal Caves belonged to the Dravida Brahmi script.
- Chathanparambu near Farrokh is a famous prehistoric site in the Malabar region.

Sangham Age
- First five centuries of the Christian Era are known as Sangham Age.
- Ashokan inscriptions mention about the early Cheras with the name *Cheralamputra*.
- Vanchi, Karur, Thrikkariyur and Thiruvanchikkulam were the capitals of Early Chears.
- Agriculture was the major occupation of the people in the Sangham Period.
- *Venadu, Kuttanadu, Kudanadu, Puzhinadu and Karkanadu* were the five divisions of Kerala in the Sangham Age.
- Non existence of caste system was a peculiaristic feature of Sangham Kerala.
- Kottavai (a form of Durga) was the chief deity of people during the Sangham Age (war goddess).
- Avvayar was the most famous poetess of the Sangham period.
- Manram was the famous socio-political institution of the Sangham Kerala.
- Kapilar and Paranar famous poets of Sangham Age, belonged to the ‘Pana’ community.
- Utiyam Cheralatham of first Chera Empire had the title ‘Vanavarampan’.
- Cherala ruler Nedum Cheralathan adopted the title *ImayaVarampan*.
- Palyani Selkelukuttwan defeated the Ay kings of Venadu in battle.
- Narmudicheral defeated Ay Ruler Nannan in the battle of Vagai Peruthurai.
- Velkelu Kuttavan had the title ‘Kadal pirakottiya’.
- During the period of Chera Chenguttuva Kerala had trade relations with Sri Lanka.
- The Royal symbol of Chera’s was Tiger and that of the Pandyas was fish.
- Aryans began to dominate Kerala from the 4th Century BC.
- Ezhimala ruler Konkanam Nannan was believed to be a contemporary of Bindhusara.
- The dynasty which existed in the Ezhimala (Present Naval Academy) was the ‘Mushika Vamsa’.
- *Mushika Vamsa Mahakavya* written by poet Athula describes about Ezhimala rulers.
- Ay dynasty belonged to the Yadava race.
- *Paliyam Copper Plate* (925 AD) of Vikramaditya Varaguna mentions about the Ay rulers.
Vizhinjam was the capital of Ays in later period.
Early capital of Ays was Potiyil Mountain or Ayakkudi.
Sri Padmanabha was the tutelary deity of Ays.
Kollam Era was started in AD 825 (August 15) (Chingam 1) by Rajashekhara Varman Kulasekhara.
Kollam Era is also known as Malayalam Era.
Earliest available inscription dated in the Kollam Era is the Mampalli plate (149) of Sri Vallabalan Kotha of Venadu.

KULASEKHARAS OF MAHODAYAPURAM (800-1102 AD)
- Kulasekhars of Mahodayapuram is also known as Second Chera Empire.
- Kulasekhara Varman or Kulasekhara Alwar was the founder of Second Chera Empire.
- Kulasekhara Alwar wrote Perumal Tirumozhi in Tamil and Mukundamala in Sanskrit.
- The Terisapalli Copper Plate of 849 AD was issued by Ayyan Atikal Tirivatikal for the Kulasekhara ruler Sthanu Ravi Varman.
- The Arab traveller Sulaiman (851 AD) visited Kerala during the reign of Sthanu Ravi Varman.
- The Jewish Copper plate of 1000 AD (175 Kollam Era) was issued by Bhaskara Ravi Varman I.
- The famous “hundred years war” between the Cholas and Cheras began during the reign Bhaskara Ravi Varman I.
- Ramavarma Kulasekhara (1090-1102) was the last of Kulasekaharas of Mahodayapuram.
- Ramavarma Kulasekhara shifted his capital from Mahodayapuram to Quilon and Quilon came to be called “Ten Vanchi” (Vanchi of the South).
- The Cheraman Legend says that the last Chera Emperor (Cheraman Perumal) received Islam went to Arabia and met Prophet Muhammad at Jeddah.
- The “Tuhafat-ul-Mujaidhin” of Sheikh Zainuddin refers about the Cheraman legend.
- ‘Munnuthavar’ and ‘Arunnuttavar’ were local assemblies to look after the administration.
- Manigramam, Anchuvannam and ‘Valanjir’ were famous merchant’s guilds of the period.
- Malayalam became an independent language, freed from Tamil during the period of the Kulasekharas (9th Century AD).
- Sankaracharya (788-80 AD) the great Advaita philosopher was an younger contemporary of Kulasekhara Alwar.
- Sankaracharya was a Namboothiri Brahmin born at Kaladi on the banks of river Periyar.
- Sankaracharya propagated the Advaita philosophy which had its roots in Upanishadic teachings.
- Sankaracharya founded four mutts in four corners of India; Badrinath in the North (Jyotir Mutt), Puri in the east (Govardhan) Dwarka in the West (Sarada Mutt) and Sringeri in the south.
- Vadakke Madham, Neduwil Madham, Edayil Madham and Thekke Madham are the four mutts founded by Sankaracharya in Trichur.
- Sankaracharya wrote commentaries on the Brahmasutras, the Bhagavat Gita and the principal Upanishads. He also composed poems like Vivekachudamani, Upadeshasahasri, Atmabodha, Mohamudgara, Sivanandalahari and Saundarya Lahari.
- Bhakti movement became prominent under the Kulasekharas.
- Saivite saints were called Nayanars and Vaishnavite Saints were called Alwars.
- Vedic schools attached to the temples during the Kulasekhar period were known as Salais. The Kanthalur Salai is popularly known as Nalanda of the South (Dakshina Nalanda).
- Kathavallur Anyonyam, three proficiency tests in the Rigveda, was conducted during the Kulasekhara period related to the Brahmins.

EARLY FOREIGN CONTACTS
- Assyrians and Babylonians were the first to have trade relations with ancient Kerala.
In 1500 BC the Egyptian Queen Hatsheput, (first woman ruler in the world), sent an expedition to Kerala for spices.

Arabs and Phoenicians also had trade relations with ancient Kerala.

It is believed that Hippalus, a Greek navigator, came to Muziris (Kodungallur) by sea in 45AD.

Hippalus discovered Monsoon winds in 45 AD.

Quilon was an important centre of Chinese trade.

Pepper got the name ‘Yavana priya’ because of its high demand by the Romans and Greeks.

Italian (Venetian) traveler Marcopolo reached Kerala in 1292 (13th Century).

Muziris, Tyndis, Barace and Nelcynade were the famous sea ports in ancient Kerala.

African Traveller (Morocco), Ibn Batuta reached Kerala during 1342-1347.

Nicololo Conte reached Kerala is 1440.

The Cranganore port (Muziris) declined as result of the floods in the Periyar river in 1341.

COMING OF RELIGIONS TO KERALA

Ancient religion in Kerala was Dravidian in Nature.

Jainism reached Kerala in the 3rd Century BC.

The famous Koodalmanikyam Temple at Irinjalakkuda, dedicated to Bharata was a famous Jain temple.

It is assumed that Buddhism reached Kerala during the period of Ashoka in the 3rd century BC (232 BC).

The Sangham work Manimekhalai mentions about the the spread of Buddhism in Kerala.

A large number of Buddha images have been found from Kunnathur and Karunagappally taluks of Quilon district.

Famous Buddhist image Karumadikuttan has been discovered from Karumadi near Ambalappuzha.

Buddhism began to decline from the 8th century AD.

Sabarimalai SriAyyapa or Sastha is the Hinduesed version of Buddha.

‘Karuna’ ‘Chandala Bhikshuki’ and ‘Sri Buddha Charitim’ of Kumaranasan are closely associated with Buddhism.

Christianity was introduced in Kerala in the first century AD (52 AD) by St. Thomas.

St. Thomas founded seven churches in Kerala, ie, Maliankara, Palayur, Kottakavu, Kokkamangalam, Quilon, Niranam and Nilakkal.

St. Thomas Christians were called Syrian Christians.

The Jews came to Kerala in 68 AD and first landed at Kodungallur.

The White Jews Synagogue at Mattancherri was built in 1567.

After the birth of the Jewish State of Israel in May 1948 the Jews in Kerala migrated to Israel.

Islam was introduced to Kerala probably in 644 AD by Malik Ibn Dinar. He founded the Cheraman Mosque at Kodungallur.

One and only Muslim ruling dynasty in Kerala was the Arakkal Dynasty. It had its centre at Kannur. It the ruler of this dynasty, is a male he is known as Ali Raja and a female is known as Arakkal Beevi.

Aadiraja Aysha Beevi is the new Arakkal Beevi.

THE PORTUGUESE PERIOD

Vasco Da Gama was the first European navigator to reach India by sea route.

Gama reached at Kappad near Calicut on 20 May.
1498. He was sent to India by Portuguese king **Dom Manuel**.
- Gama was received at Calicut by the Zamorine.
- Gama left Calicut and reached Cannanore at the invitation of Kolathiri Raja.
- Vasco-da-Gama reached Kerala in a ship called St. Gabriel.
- Gama returned to Lisbon in 1499.
- Gama’s second visit was in 1502.
- Gama reached Kerala for the third time in 1524 and died here on 29 December 1524 and was cremated at the **St. Francis Church** at Fort Cochin. Later his mortal remains were brought back to Lisbon, Portugal.
- The second expedition of the Portuguese to Kerala was led by **Pedro Alvarez Cabral**. He reached Cochin on 24 December, 1500.
- **Francisco d’Almeida** was the first Viceroy of the Portuguese in the East. He was appointed in 1505 AD.
- **Albuquerque** is regarded as the greatest of the Portuguese statesmen who came to the East.
- **Kunjali Marakkar** opposed the Portuguese.
- Kunjali Marakkars were the traditional naval commanders of Calicut Zamorine.
- Kunjalis were four in number. Kutti Ali was the first Kunjali. The policy of Kunjali was ‘**Hit and run policy**’.
- Fourth and last Kunjali was Muhammed Kunjali. He adopted the titles ‘**King of the Moors**’ and ‘**Lord of the Indian Seas**’.
- In 1600 the Kunjali IV was captured by the Zamorine and he was executed by the Portuguese at Goa.
- The Portuguese power in India declined by the coming of the English.
- The bungalow type of building was introduced in Kerala by the Portuguese.
- The Portuguese introduced in India a number of new agricultural products such as the Cashewnuts, Tobacco, Custardapple, Guava, Pineapple and Pappaya.
- The **Chavittunatakam**, the Christian counterpart of the Hindu Kathakali was also introduced by the Portuguese.
- **The Synod of Diamper** (Udayamperur) to reform Kerala Church was conducted by the Portuguese (1599)
- The **“Oath of the Coonan Cross”** against the appointment of Latin Bishop was in 1653.
- First European fort built in India was the **Fort Manual** at Cochin by Albuquerque.

**THE DUTCH IN KERALA**
- The Dutch were the first Protestant nation in Europe to establish trade contacts with Kerala.
- **The Dutch East India company** was formed in 1592.
- Dutch Admiral **Steven Van Der Hagen** was the first Dutch Admiral to reach Kerala (Calicut)
- Most important contribution of Dutch to Kerala is the monumental work, **Horthus Malabaricus**. It was compiled under the patronage of **Admiral Van Rheede**. Carmelite Monk Mathavus, three Gowda Saraswath Brahmins, **RangaBhat**, **Appu Bhat** and **Vinayaka Bhat** and an Ezhava Physician **Itti Achuttan** were associated with its compilation. The work was published from Amsterdam (Holland) between 1678 and 1703.

**MARTHANDA VARMA AND DHARMARAJA**
- **Trippapur Swaroopam** or Thrivitamcode was the early name of Travancore.
- Marthandavarma followed a policy of ‘**blood and Iron**’.
- In the famous battle fought at **Colachel** (10 Aug. 1741) the forces of Marthandavarma defeated the Dutch and captured **D’Lannoy**, who later became
By the treaty of Mannar (1742) Kayamkulam became a vassal of Travancore.

An important innovation introduced by Marthandavarma was the framing of the annual budget called ‘Pativukanakku’.

Marthandavarma is known as the maker of modern Travancore.

The Chief Minister of Travancore was known as Dalawa.

Ramayyan Dalawa was Diwan of Marthanda Varma.

Marthanda Varma was born in the year 1705 and came to the throne in 1729.

Marthandavarma dedicated the kingdom to Sri Padmanabaha of Trivandrum (Thrrippatidanam) on Wednesday, January 3, 1750 (Makaram 5, 725 KE). Thereafter the Travancore Rajas came to be known as Padmanabhadasas.

The ‘Bhadradeepam’ and ‘Murajapam’ in the Padmanabha Swami Temple was also started by Marthandavarma.

Karthika Tirunal Rama Varma (1758-1798) who is known as the Dharmaraja succeeded Marthandavarma to the throne.

Ayyappan Marthanda Pillai and Rajakesava Das were the Chief Ministers of Dharmaraja.

The reign of Dharmaraja saw the invasion of Kerala by the Mysore rulers, Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan.

Travancore came to be known as ‘Dharmarajyam’ during the reign of Dharmaraja.

Dharmaraja constructed the ‘Nedumkotta’ or ‘Travancore lines’ in central Kerala to prevent the Mysore invasion.

It was Ayyappan Marthanda Pillai, Dharma raja’s Chief Minister, who developed Varkala as the nucleus of a flourishing town.

Raja Kesava Das was the first Chief Minister of Travancore who assumed the title Diwan.

Raja Kesava Das was respectfully referred to as ‘Valia Diwanji’.

Vizhinjam was developed into a small port by Raja Kesava Das.

Alleppey was also developed into a town and port by Raja Kesava Das.

The Chalai Bazar, the completion of the Gopuram of Sri Padmanabhaswami temple were also done by Rajakesava Das.

The name “Raja Kesava Das” was given to him by the Governor General Lord Mornington (original name Kesavapillai).

Kunjan Nambiar and Unnaiy Warrier were the famous poets in the court of Dharmaraja.

It was Dharmaraja who shifted the capital of Travancore from Padmanabhapuram to Trivandrum.

People respectfully called him ‘Kizhvan Raja’ because when he died he was 74 years old.

**The Growth of British Power in Kerala**

First Englishman who came to Kerala was perhaps Master Ralph Fitch. He is known as “Pioneer Englishman”

The 1616 Captain Keeling arrived in Calicut with three ships which brought Sir Thomas Roe on his embassy to the court of Jahangir.

British merchants exported pepper to England for the first time from Cochin in 1626.

First English factory in Kerala was set up at Vizhinjam.

In 1695 the English constructed the Anjengo fort with the permission of Attingal Rani. Construction was started in 1684.

The Attingal Outbreak was on 15 April 1721. It was between the natives and the British traders. 140 Englishmen were massacred by the natives. The event occurred near Anjengo.

Attingal Revolt was the first organised revolt against the English in Kerala.
The April 1723 a formal treaty was concluded between the English East India Company and the king of Travancore. It was the first treaty negotiated by the English East India Company with an Indian State. This was a treaty of friendship.

By 1800 Cochin came under the control of the English East India Company.

By the treaty concluded in 1795 Travancore accepted the Supremacy of the Company.

Col. Macaulay was appointed as the first British Resident in Travancore.

The treaty of 1805 which was negotiated by Velu Thampi Dalawa resulted in the loss of the political freedom of Travancore.

CHALLENGE TO BRITISH SUPREMACY

The more serious of the revolts against the British in Malabar were organised by 

Kerala Varma Pazhassi Raja of Kottayam Royal Family.

Pazhassi’s first revolt was in 1793 - 1797, second revolt was in 1800-1805.

Cause of Pazhassi revolt was the revenue policy of the British.

Pazhassi Raja organised the guerilla warfare from the Wynadu hills particularly from the Puralimala With the help of Kurichyas and Kurumbas, the tribals of Wynadu and Nairs.

Kannavath Sankaran Nambar, Kaiteri Ambu Nair, Edachanna Kungan Nair and Kurichya leader Talakkal Chandu were the able lieutenants of Pazhassi.

On the 30th November 1805 the Raja was shot dead by Thomas Harvey Baber, Subcollector of Tellichery. Sir Arthur Wellesley (later Duke of Wellington) was the Commander in Chief of the British forces in Malabar.

Pazhassi was killed on the banks of ‘Mavilathode’.

Velu Thampi was appointed Mulakumadiseela Karyakar (Commercial minister in 1799 by Balaramavarma)

In 1800 he became the Dalawa.

Velu Tampi introduced travelling courts in Travancore.

On 11 January 1809 (1st Makaram 984) issued the famous Kundara Proclamation indicting the British rule and exhorting the people to rally under his banner for a patriotic struggle against the foreigners.

Important Years

- Attingal Rebellion ...................... 1721
- Kulachal Battle ......................... 1741
- Kundara Proclamation ................. 1809
- Kurichyar Rebellion .................... 1812
- Channar Lahala .......................... 1859
- Malayali Memorial (Travancore) ..... 1891
- Ezhava Memorial ....................... 1896
- Mopla Rebellion, Wagon Tragedy .. 1921
- Vaikkom Satyagraha .................... 1924
- Civil Disobedience Movement ....... 1930
- Guruvayoor Satyagraha ................ 1931
- Nivarthanagya Agitation .............. 1932
- Temple Entry Proclamation .......... 1936
- State Congress Movement ............ 1938
- Kayyur Rebellion ...................... 1941
- Punnapra Vayalar Rebellion .......... 1946
- Formation of Kerala State ............ 1956
- Liberation Movement ................. 1959

Kerala Simham’ is a historical novel written by Sardar K.M. Panicker about Pazahassi Raja. The Malayalam film ‘Kerala Simham’ was directed by Navodaya Appachan.

Parankippadayali is also a novel written by K.M. Panicker.

REvolt of Velu Tampi and Paliath Achan

VeluThampi was the Dalawa of Travancore

Velu Thampi was appointed Mulakumadiseela Karyakar (Commercial minister in 1799 by Balaramavarma)

In 1800 he became the Dalawa.

Velu Tampi introduced travelling courts in Travancore.

Sir Arthur Wellesley
He organised a Hussur Kachery at Kollam.

- Velu Thampi committed suicide in the house of the Potti of the Bhagavati temple at Mannadi.
- His relatives were deported to Maldives.
- The eldest male member of the Paliyam family was the hereditary Diwan of Cochin Raja.
- Paliyat Achan revolted against the British in collaboration with Velu Thampi. But he was finally defeated and deported to Madras. Cochin became a subsidiary state of the British in 1809.
- The Kurchyas and Kurumbas of Wynad rose in revolt against the British in 1812.
- Kurichya Revolt was the last of the early revolts broke out in Malabar against the British supremacy.

**ENLIGHTENED ADMINISTRATION IN TRAVANCORE**

- After the death of Dharmaraja, Balarama Varma came to the throne.
- He appointed Veluthampi as his commerce minister and then the Dalawa.
- Ummini Thampi became the new Dalawa after Veluthampi.
- The weaver’s township of Balaramapuram was created by Ummini Thampi.
- Resident col. Munro was appointed as the first English Diwan in Travancore (Rani Gauri Lekshmi Bai 1710).
- The Secretariat System was introduced in Travancore by Col. Munro.
- Col. Munro changed the Karyakar position to Tahsildar.
- The direct management of Devaswams by Govt was introduced by Col. Munro.
- In 1812 Rani Gauri Lakshmi Bai abolished slavery in Travancore.
- The London Mission Society (LMS) at Nagercoil established was in 1816 under the patronage of Gauri Parvati Bai.
- The reign of Swathi Thirunal (1829-1847) was a Golden Age in the history of Travancore.
- Swathi Thirunal was known as ‘Garbhasreeman’
- Suchendra Kaimukku was also abolished by Swathi Thirunal.
- He shifted Hussur Kachery from Quilon to Trivandrum.
- He introduced English Education in Trivandrum.
- An English School was opened at TVM in 1834 in 1836 it became Raja’s Free School.
- Swathithirunal opened the Trivandrum observatory in 1836.
- He introduced the first charity hospital at TVM.
- He set up the Department of Engineering, Irrigation and Maramathu Department for the first time.
- First census of the state was conducted in 1836 by Swathi Thirunal.
- Utram Tirunal Marthanda Varma abolished all restrictions in regard to the covering of their upper parts by a Channar women in South Travancore in 1859.

**Books written by Missionaries in Kerala**

- Kariyattil OusephMaplan ...........................................
- ........................................, Veda Tharkkam (1678)
- Clement Pianos ......... Samkshepa Vedartham (1772)
- Paramekkal Thomakathanar .. Varthamanapustakam (1785)
- Rv. George Mathan .......... Balabhyasanam (1867)
- Dr. Gundert ....................... Keralappazhama
- Arch Decon Koshi .................... MalayalaBhasha
- Arnosu Pathiri ............... Puthanpana Chaturasiam
First Post-Office in Travancore (also of Kerala) was opened at Alleppey during the reign of Utram Thirunal Marthanda Varma in 1857.

First modern factory for the manufacture of coir was also opened at Alleppey (1859) during the period of Utram Thirunal Marthanda Varma.

Beginning of Agrarian Reforms in Travancore was during the period of Ayilyam Thirunal.

The Pandarapattam Proclamation (1865) and the Janmi-Kudiyam Proclamation (1867) for agrarian reforms were during the period of Ayilyam Thirunal.

Trivandrum Museum building and the main building of Trivandrum University College were constructed during the reign of Ayilyam Thirunal.

The first systematic census of Travancore was taken on May 18, 1875 by Ayilyam Thirunal.

Ayilyam Thirunal was also the first Raja of Travancore to receive the title ‘Maharaja’ from the British crown.

Ayurveda College was started during the period of Sri Mulam Thirunal (1885-1924).

Sri Mulam Tirunal formulated a Legislative Council in 1888. This was the first Legislative Council in an Indian State.

The Sri Mulam Popular Assembly (Praja Sabha) was formed in 1904 by Sri Mulam Thirunal.

Devadasi System in the temples of South Travancore was abolished during the regency of Setu Lekshmi Bai.

Sri Chitra Thirunal Balarama Varma (1931-1949) was the last ruling Raja of Travancore.

The Malayali Memorial was submitted to the Maharaja on January 1, 1891 against the appointment of Tamil Brahmins in Government Service.

The Malayali Memorial was signed by 10,028 persons.

The brain behind the Malayali Memorial was Barister G. P. Pillai and K. P. Sankaramonon.

The Ezhava Memorial was submitted on 3rd September 1896, signed by 13,176 members of the Ezhava community under the leadership of Dr. Palpu.

K. Ramakrishna Pillai, the editor of the ‘Swadesha bhimani’ owned by Vakkam Abdul Khadir Maulavi published a series of articles criticising the Diwan P. Rajagopalachari and the king Sri Mulam Thirunal.

K. Ramakrishna Pillai was deported from the State in September 1910, he died at Cannanore in April 1916.
Swadeshabhimani K. Ramakrishna Pillai was the first to write the biography of Karl Marx in Malayalam.

Indian National Congress started its activities in Travancore during the reign of Sri Mulam Thirunal.

The agitation known as Nivarthana (Abstention) Movement was started as a protest against the constitutional reforms of 1932.

The Travancore State Congress was formed in September 1938.

Pattom Thanu Pillai was the first President of Travancore State Congress.

The September 1946 there occurred the Punnapra Vayalar Upheaval against the ‘American Model’ irremovable executive.

The American Model was proposed by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar.

First popular ministry of Travancore headed by Pattom A. Thanu Pillai was installed in office on March 24, 1948.

The “Electricity Agitation” was organised against the privatisation of electric supply in Cochin town by Diwan R.K. Shanmukham Chetti (1936).

E. Ikkanda Warrier of Congress became the first Chief Minister of Cochin. During his tenure the new state of Travancore - Cochin came into existence on 1 July 1949.

Aikya Kerala Movement

The State Peoples Conference held at Ernakulam (1928) was the earliest resolution on the subject of united Kerala.

The Payyannur Political Conference held in May 1928 under the Presidency of Jawaharlal Nehru also supported the Aikya Kerala Movement.

An Aikya Kerala Conference was held at Trichur in April 1947 under the presidency of K. Kelappan.

The Cochin Maharaja Sri Kerala Varma proposed the idea of unifying Cochin and Travancore.

On July 1, 1949 the State of Travancore Cochin came into existence. The Maharaja of Travancore became the Rajapramukh of the New State.

The popular ministry of Travancore- Cochin was headed by T.K. Narayana Pillai, the Chief Minister of Travancore at the time of integration.

Panampalli Govinda Menon was the last Chief Minister of Travancore Cochin State. The fall of his ministry was followed by the first spell of President’s Rule in Kerala.

The state of Kerala formally came into existence on November 1, 1956.

The first general elections to the Kerala state Legislature were held in February and March 1957.

In the first general elections the Communist Party of India and a few independent supported by it secured 65 of the 126 seats. The President rule came to an end on April 15, 1957 and E.M.S. Namboothiripad came to power.

The agitation known as “Vimochana Samaram” or ‘Liberation struggle’ began on June 12, 1959 under the leadership of Mannathu Padmanabhan to overthrow the Communist Ministry.

The Ministry collapsed and the President’s rule under the Article 356, for the first time began on 31st July 1959.

Sree Narayana Guru

Sree Narayana Guru was born at Chempazhanthy in Trivandrum district on 20 August 1856 (Vayalvarathu Veedu)

First Ministry of Kerala (1957)

1. E.M.S. Namboothiripad .......... Chief Minister
2. C. Achutha Menon ................ Finance
3. T.V. Thomas ...................... Transport
4. K.C. George ....................... Food, Forest
5. K.P. Gopalan ...................... Industry
6. T.A. Majeed .......................... P.W.D
7. P.K.Chathan ................... Local Self Government
8. Joseph Mundassery ..... Education, Co-operation
9. K.R. Gauri ......................... Land Tax, Excise
10. V.R. Krishna Ayyar .............. Law, Electricity
11. Dr. A.R. Menon .................. Health
He is known as the **Father of Kerala Renaissance**.

The parents of Sree Narayana Guru were Madanasan and Kuttiyamma.

He met **Chattampi Swamikal** at the Aniyur temple near Chempazhanthy.

**Dr. Palpu** was responsible for the connection between Guru and Swami Vivekananda.

His famous **Aruvippuram Consecration** (Siva) was in the year 1888.

S.N.D.P Yogam was founded in 1903 and Guru became the life time President and Kumaranasan as Secretary.

The **Vavoottuyogam** started at Aruvippuram is considered as the predecessor of S.N.D.P. Yogam.

Guru founded a Sarada temple at Varkala in 1915 (1087 KE) and founded the **Advaitasrama** at Aluva on the banks of Periyar.

He gave the mesage **“One caste, One Religion, One God for Man”** at a conference held at the advaitasrama.


The famous Sivagiri pilgrim festival conducted on December 30, 31 and January 1 was started by Guru.

Tagore visited Guru in 1922.

Gandhiji visited Guru at Sivagiri in 1925.

Sree Narayana Guru died on 20 September 1928 (1104 Kanni 5) at Sivagiri.

Ayyankali was born in 1863 at Venganore in Trivandrum district.

In 1905 he founded the **Sadhuja Paripalana Sangham**, which later became **Pulaya Mahasabha**.

Ayyankali’s first struggle was for the right to use the public roads by the downtrodden people.

He was nominated to the Srimulam Prajasabha in 1910 and remained in office for 25 years.

He died at the Age of 77 on 18 June 1941.

Gandhi visited Ayyankali in 1934 and called him ‘Pulaya Raja’.

**CHATTAMPI SWAMIKAL**

He was a Nair reformist.

He was born in Kannammoola in Thiruvananthapuram district.

His real name was Kunjan Pillai.

**Pracheena Malayalam, “Vedadikara Nirupanam’ “Advaita Chinta Paddhathi”’Vedanta Saram” etc are his famous works.

He attained Samadhi at Panmana in Kollam district.

Chattampi Swami Memorial is situated at Panmana.

**SAHODARAN AYYAPPAN (1890-1968)**

He gave the revolutionary message - “**No Caste, No Religion, No God for Man**”

He was born in Cherayi near Cochin.

He founded the **Vidhya Poshini Sabha**.

In 1917 he started the a movement for interdining and founded the “**Sahodarasangham**”.

Sahodaran was a paper started by Sahodaran Ayyappan.
**Swadeshabhimani Ramakrishna Pillai**  
(1878-1916)

- He was born at Neyyattinkara in Thiruvananthapuram.
- He was the editor of ‘Malayali’ published from Kollam.
- In 1906 he became the editor of Swadeshabhimani.
- He was deported from Kerala for criticising the government in 1910.
- “Ente Nadukadathal” is his autobiography.
- He died on 28 March 1916 at Kannur.
- His memorial is situated at Payyampalam in Kannur.

**Channar Revolt**

- Channar Revolt was for the right of Channar women to cover their breast like other upper class women.
- The violation of the rule by Channar women provoked the upperclass and they attacked the women.
- The agitation led to the Royal Proclamation of July 26, 1859 by Uthradam Thirunal Maharaja.

**Vaikkom Sathyagraha**

- The Vaikkom Sathyagraha was started on 30 March 1924.
- It was against untouchability and for the right to use the road before the Vaikkom temple by untouchables.
- T.K. Madhavan, K. Kelappan, K.P. Keshavamenon etc were the major leaders.
- Supporting the Sathyagraha a 'Savarnajatha' (March of upper castes) was lead by Mannath Padmanabhan from Vaikkom to Thiruvananthapuram.
- The Sathyagraha ended on 23 November 1925.
- Gandhiji visited Kerala for the second time related to the Sathyagraha.

- The Sathyagraha lasted for 20 months.

**Yachana Yathra AND Pattini Jatha**

- Yachana Yathra was led by V.T. Bhattathirippadu in 1931 from Trichur to Bhandari river which lasted for seven days.
- Aim of this begging march was to enable the poor children to get educated.
- PattiniJatha’ was led by A.K. Gopalan in July 1936 from Kannur to Chennai. There were 32 persons in the March.

**Guruvayur Sathyagraha**

- Aim was to enable all sections of Hindus to enter temples.
- Sathyagraha was started on 1 November 1931.
- September 25 was earlier observed as Temple Entry Day in Malabar.
- K. Kelappan and A.K. Gopalan were famous leaders.

**Administration of Kerala - A Bird’s Eye**

- Total 13 General Elections were conducted in Kerala.
- Present Legislative Assembly is the 12th.
- V.S. Achuthanandan, is the 20th Chief Minister of Kerala and 11th person to become the Chief Minister.
- 10 Chief Ministers resigned Office.
- C. Achuthamenon, K. Karunakaran and E.K. Nayanar are the three Chief Minister who completed the term of five years.
- K. Karunakaran became the Chief Minister for the maximum number of times (4)
- The credit of remaining in power for longest continuous term goes to C. Achuth Menon.
- K. Karunakaran Ministry of 1997 which lasted only 33 days has the shortest term in office.
- The credit to become the opposition leader for the longest period goes to E.M.S.
C. Achuthamenon was the first Chief Minister who completed the term of five years.
K. Karunakaran was the only congress minister who completed the term.
V.S. Achuthanandan is the oldest person to become the Chief Minister (83).
A.K. Antony was the youngest Chief Minister (37).
First Chief Minister of Kerala who born in the 19th century was Pattom A Thanu Pillai.
First Chief Minister of Kerala who was lost power through article 356 - E.M.S. Namboothiripad.
Only person to head the Ministries of Travancore, Thiru-Cochi and Kerala – Pattam A. Thanu Pillai.
Only person to hold the office of MLA, MP, Speaker, Minister, Deputy Chief Minister and Chief Minister - C.H. Muhammad Koya.
First Chief Minister from a backward community was R. Sankar.
C.H. Muhammed Koya is the only Chief Minister from Muslim Community.
R. Sankar was the first to become Chief Minister after holding the position of Deputy Chief Minister.
R. Sankar was the first Congress Chief Minister.
First to become Chief Minister after holding the post of Speaker - C.H. Muhammed Koya.
Only Chief Minister of Kerala who later became the Governor of an Indian State - Pattam A Thanu Pillai.
First to become Central Cabinet Minister after becoming Chief Minister - A.K. Antony.
Only Chief Minister who later became Deputy Chief Minister - C.H. Muhammed Koya.
Chief Minister who has the latest date of birth - Ommen Chandy (1943)
First Rajya Sabha member to become Kerala Chief Minister - C.Achuthamenon.
First to become Rajyasabha Member after becoming Chief Minister - A.K. Antony.
L.M. Pyli of Cochin Legislative Assembly was the first elected Speaker in India (1947).
First Communist to be elected to a Legislative Assembly was K. Ananthan Nambiyar. He was elected to Madras Legislative Assembly in 1946.
Electronic Voting Machine was used for the first time in India in Kerala (Paravur Byelection 1982)
First Minister in Kerala to resign followed by no-confidence motion was Dr. A.R. Menon (1942) of Cochin State.

Some Stray Feathers

1. Churni river mentioned in Kautilya’s Arthasasthra is river Periyar.
2. *Hieun Tsang* visited Kerala in AD 630.
3. Nicolo Conte visited Kerala in 1440.
4. Italian Traveller Macro Polo visited Kerala in 1292.
6. The Chinese traveller who visited Kerala in 1409 was Mahuan.
7. The city of Calicut was established in 1295.
8. Mamamkam one of the greatest regional festivals of Kerala was started by Kulashekharas. The first Mamamkam was held in 829 AD. Mamamkam was held on the banks Bharathapuzha in Thirunavaya in Malappuram district. From the Kulashekharas the proprietary right of Mamamkam passed to the Valluvanadu Raja and then to the Calicut Zamorine. The last Mamamkam was held in 1755.

Malayalis so far Nominated to the Rajyasabha

- Sardar K.M. Panikkar 1959 - 1961
- G. Ramachandran 1964 - 1970
- G. Sankarakurup 1968 - 1972
- Abu Abraham 1972 - 1978
- K. Kasthuri Rangan 2003 -
- Revathi Pattathanam was conducted at the Taliyil temple in Calicut.
- Valmiki Remayanam was translated to Malayalam for the first time by Kottayam Keralavarma in 1645.
- Samkshepa Vedartham written by Clement Piyanus Pathiri was the first book in Malayalam.
- Rani Gauri Parvathi Bai made primary education compulsory in Travancore in 1817.
- Temple Entry Proclamation is known as the Magnacarta of Kerala.
- Raja Kesav Das was the first Diwan of Travancore.
- Sir. C.P. Ramaswami Ayyer was the last Diwan of Travancore.
- The Proclamation of Independent Travancore was made by Sir. C.P. Ramaswami Ayyer.
- T.K. Narayana Pillai was the first Chief Minister of Thiru-Cochi State.
- Panampalli Govinda Menon was the last Chief Minister of Thiru-Cochi State.
- The first railway line in Kerala was opened for traffic on March 12, 1861 between Beypore and Tirur.
- The first railway line in Travancore was inaugurated on November 26, 1904 between Thrinelveli and Kollam.
- Travancore Muslim Mahajanasabha was founded by Vakkom Abdul Khadar Maulavi.
- Thiruvananthapuram General Hospital was started in 1864 during the reign of Ayilyam Thirunal.
- Present Kerala Secretariat building was built in 1869.
- Herman Gundert (1814-1893) was the person who compiled the first Malayalam dictionary. He was a German. He lived and worked at Illikkunnu in Thalassery.
- Accama Cherian is popularly known as the Jhansi of Travancore.
- The Kayyur Riot against caste system and imperialism was on 28 March 1941 in Kasargode.
- Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee was formed in 1925 with K. Madhavan as its Secretary. First conference of the K.P.C.C. was held on 23 April 1921.
- The first trade union in Kerala, the Travancore Labour Association was set up in 1922.
- Kerala History Museum is located at Edappalli (Ernakulam).
- The Radio Station in Thiruvananthapuram was set up in 1943.
- Doordarshan programme started in Kerala on August 14, 1984. Malayalam programs were started in January 1985.
- Metro channel (DD2) was started in Thiruvananthapuram in 1993.
- M. Vijayakumar has the longest term as the Speaker of Kerala Legislative Assembly.
- R. Sankara Narayana Thampi was the first Speaker of Kerala Legislative Assembly.
- State Human Rights Commission was constituted in 1998 with Justice Pareed Pillai as its Chairman.

### Malayalis in Central Cabinet

- First Central Cabinet Minister from Kerala - Dr. John Mathai (1947 - 50)
- The Second Central Cabinet Minister from Kerala - V.K. Krishna Menon
- First Woman Central Minister from Kerala - Lakshmi N. Menon.
- Present representatives from Kerala in central Ministry 14th Lok Sabha.
  1. E. Ahmmed - Minister of State, External Affairs
  2. Vayalar Ravi - Cabinet Minister for Overseas Indian Affairs
Justice N. Dinakar is the present chairman of State Human Rights Commission.

Peoples Plan Campaign was inaugurated on August 17, 1996.

**INDUSTRY**

- Which of the following is associated with the Industrial Development of Kerala?
  - (a) KSIDC
  - (b) KFC
  - (c) KINFRA
  - (d) Technopark

  Ans: (a) KSIDC

- KSIDC is **Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation**. It was set up in 1961.

- KINFRA is **Kerala Infrastructure Development Corporation**. It was set up in 1993 with Ernakulam as its head quarters. Formation of integrated Industrial parks in different parts of Kerala is done by KINFRA.

- SISI is **Small Industries Service Institute**. It is located at Trichur.

- KITCO is **Kerala Industrial and Technical Consultancy Organisation**. It is situated at Ernakulam.

- RIDF is **Rural Infrastructural Development Fund**. It was formed by NABARD in 1995 - 96.

- SIDCO is **Small Industries Development Corporation**.

- Kerala Khadi and Village Industries Board was set up in 1957. All India Khadi and Rural Development Board was formed in 1953.

- Aluva in Ernakulam district is the most important Industrial centre in Kerala. FACT is located there. Making of Amonium Sulphate for the first time in India was done by the FACT.

- Hindustan Machine Tools is located at Kalamassery.

- Coir Industry in Kerala is mainly concentrated in the Aleppey district.

- Kollam district has the largest number of Cashew Industry Units.

- Cashew and coir are two Traditional Industries of Kerala.

- Kerala State Drugs and Pharmaceuticals is at Kalavur, Alleppey.

- Cochin Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) is a Central Government owned institution.

- Cochin Stock Exchange was established in 1978.

- The purpose of the Industrial Single Window Boards is to streamline the process for obtaining clearances for setting up industries, reduce delays and cut red-tapism.

- Lack of infra-structure facility is the major cause behind Kerala’s Industrial backwardness.

- There are 111 public sector industries in Kerala out of it only 105 are in operation.

- The first ship built in Cochin Shipyard, **Rani Padmini** was launched on January 27, 1980.

- Travancore Rayons is at Perumbavoor.

- Travancore Plywood Industries is at Punalur.

- Trivandrum Spinning Mills is at Balaramapuram.

- Mavoor Rayons was at Kozhikode. It was closed down recently.

- Kerala Automobiles is at Neyyattinkara.

- Kerala Bamboo Corporation is at Angamali.

- Newsprint factory is at Velloor in Kottayam.

- The important radio active substance found in the coastal plains of Kerala are Ilmenite and Monozite.

- **K.P. Gopalan** was the first Industries Minister of Kerala.

- **Elamaram Kareem** is the Industries minister of Kerala.

- Kerala State Handloom Weavers Development Corporation was found in 1968.

- Largest number of Industrial units are located in Ernakulam district. Kasargode has the least number of Industrial units.

- Keltron Electro Ceramics Limited started in 1974 is located at Kuttippuram.

- Cashew Industry is the major traditional Industry in Kerala.

- Kallayi near Kozhikode is one of the most important centers of world wood Industry.

- Greater Cochin Development Authority came into existence in 1976.
Kerala Ceramics in Kundara was founded in 1940.
- Travancore Rubber Factory founded in 1935 at Thiruvananthapuram was the first Rubber Factory in India.
- Keltron Equipments Complex is situated at Karakulam in Thiruvananthapuram.
- Travancore Cement Factory was founded at Nattakam.
- First Oil tanker built in Cochin shipyard was named after Motilal Nehru.
- Kerala Fisheries Corporation was founded in 1966.
- First Malayali to become the director of Travancore Industries Department was I.C. Chacko (1921)
- Malabar Cements Limited was started in 1978.
- Forest Industries Travancore is located in Taikkattukara near Aluva.
- FACT was started by Sheshasai brothers.
- FACT became a public sector institution in 1960.
- FACT is the first fertiliser plant in Kerala.
- Coir Board was formed in 1954.
- Mannam Sugar Mill is situated in Pandalam (Pathanamthitta)
- Cochin Refinery began to purify oil from Bombay High from November 1977.
- Cochin Refinery is situated at Ambalamukal in Cochin.
- Earlier the crude oil refined in Cochin refinery was from Iran.
- Cochin Refinery was the fourth oil Refinery in India.

**Agriculture**
- Kuttanadu is known as the Granary of Kerala.
- The largest producer of Paddy in Kerala is Palakkadu.
- Coconut reached Kerala from Sri Lanka.
- Red Chilli was brought to Kerala by the Portuguese from Brazil.
- Travancore Agricultural Department was organised by Sri Mulam Thirunal.
- Largest producer of Pepper in India is Kerala.
- Largest producer of Tapioca in Kerala is Thiruvananthapuram district.
- Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kazargode was started in 1970.
- Wynad is the largest producer of coffee seeds and ginger in Kerala.
- Kasargode district is the only tobacco cultivating district in Kerala.
- Coconut is the most important agricultural product of Kerala. It is known as Kalpavriksha because of its usefulness
- World Coconut day is September 2.
- Chingam 1 is the Kerala farmer’s day.
- Kerala Cultivates 30% of its area with Coconut, 16% with Rubber and 13% with Paddy.
- Kerala accounts for about 60% of the total production of coconut in India. The annual yield of coconut in Kerala is approximately 450 crores. Kozhikode district stands first in producing coconuts in Kerala.
- About 90% of India’s rubber production is from Kerala.
- Idukki and Wynad are the spice districts of the state.
- Kerala is popularly known as the Spice Garden of India. Cochi is known as the Queen of Arabian Sea and Alappuzha is called the Venice of the East.

**Agriculture Related Awards**
- Award given to the best coconut farmer - Kerakesari
- Award given to the best milk producer - Ksheeradhara.
- Award given to the best Farm Journalist - Karshakabharati.
- Award given to the best Agricultural Labourer - Srama Sakti
Award given to the best SC - ST farmer - Karshakajyoti

Award given to the best Agriculture scientist - Krishi Vigyan.

Award given to the best Farmer - Karshakothama

Award given to the best young farmer - Yuvakarshaka

Award given to the best farmer who engages in soil protection - Kshonimitra

Award given to the best Vegetable Farmer - Haritha Mithra

Kerala’s forest area is 19.50%.

The State Institute of Rural Development is in Kottarakkara.

National Farmers Day is December 23.

Kerala is the leading producer of rubber, pepper, cashew, coconut, cardamom, and ginger in India. (Philippines is the leading producer of coconut in the world).

Kerala produces 93% pepper, 92% Rubber and 60% Cardamom of India’s total production.

Pepper is known as ‘Yavanapriya’.

Palakkad is the largest producer of rice in Kerala Thrissur and Ernakulam are the second and third largest producers.

Coconut Research Centres are at Kasaragod and Kayamkulam.

2004 was observed as the World Paddy Cultivation Year.

GALASA - Group Approach for Locally Adoptable and Sustainable Agriculture is a programme implemented in Palakkad district to improve rice cultivation.

Present Agriculture Minister of Kerala is Mullakkara Ratnakaran.

Agriculture Related Institutions and their head quarters in Kerala.

1. Kerala Agro Industries Corporation (KAMCo) - Athani (Ernakulam)

2. Kerala Livestock Development Corporation - Pattom (Thiruvanathapuram)

3. National Seed Corporation - Karamana (Thiruvanathapuram)

4. Oilpalm India Limited - Kottayam

5. Command Area Development Authority (CADA) - Perukavu (Thrissur)

6. Coconut Development Board - Cochin

7. Bureau of Indian Standards- Ag mark - Thathamangalam (Palakkad)

8. Central Soil Test Centre - Parottukonam (Thiruvanathapuram)

9. Central State Farm - Aralam (Kannur)

10. Central Integrated Pests Management Centre - Cochi

11. Farm Information Bureau - Kowdiar (Thiruvanathapuram)

12. Kerala State Horticulture Development Corporation - Vellayambalam (Thiruvanathapuram)

13. Milma - Thiruvanathapuram

14. Sugandhabhavan - Cochi (Palarivattam)

15. Marketed - Cochi (Gandhi Bhavan)

16. NABARD - Palayam (Thiruvanathapuram)

17. Kerafed - Thiruvanathapuram

18. Beefed - Pappanamcode (Thiruvanathapuram)

19. Serifed - Pattom (Thiruvanathapuram)

20. Bamboo Corporation - Angamali

Agriculture Research Centres

Rubber Institute of India .................. Kottayam
Cardamom Research Institute .......... Pampadumpara
Harvest Research Institute ............... Karamana
Pepper Research Institute ............... Panniyur
Central Plantation Crops Research Institute .... Kasargod
Spices Research Institute .................. Kozhikode
Pineapple Research Institute .......... Vellanikkara
Central Tuber Crops Research Institute ...... Sreekaryam
Sugarcane Research Centres ................ Thiruvalla and Menonpara
Coconut Research Institute .............. Kadachalkuzhi
(Balaramapuram)
Cashew Research Centre .................. Anakkayam
Agronomic Research Station .......... Chalakkudi
Rice Research Centres .......... Vytila, Kayamkulam,
(Pattambi, and Mankomp)
Ginger Research Institute .............. Ambalavayal
Indo-Swiz Project ....................... Mattupetti
Indo-Norwegian Project ............. Neendakara
C.P.C.R.I .................................. Palode
Forest Research Institute .............. Peechi

POWER PROJECTS

- The history of Kerala’s electricity production begins with the completion of a private power project in Pallivasal in 1900 by Kannan Devan Company.
- **The Pallivasal Hydel Project** was commissioned in 1940. (Periyar River)
- Travancore Government owned electricity production was started in 1929.
- Electric supply in Thiruvananthapuram city was started in 1929 March 8.
- Kottayam town was electrified in 1932.
- Kerala State Electricity Board was formed in 1957 October 31
- **Sabarigiri Hydel Project** was started in 1966.
- **Idukki Project** started production in 1976 by Indira Gandhi.
- Now there are 23 Hydro-Electric Projects in Kerala.
- India’s largest Diesel Power Project is in Kerala (Kozhikode)
- Kerala’s first Wind Farm was commissioned on 7 November 1995 at Kanjikode in Palakkad district.
- India’s first Arch Dam is in Idukki.
- **Brahmapuram Power Station** which uses diesel as fuel is in Ernakulam district. Its first unit started functioning in 1994.
- Biggest dam in Kerala is the Malampuzha Dam in Palakkad district. It was built in 1956.
- The biggest irrigation project in Kerala is **Kallada Project** in Kollam district.

- **Neriyamangalam Project** is on the river periyar. It started functioning in 1961.
- **Kakkad Project** is on the Pamba river in Pathanamthitta. It started functioning in 1999.
- Kuttiyadi Dam is in Kozhikode. This project started functioning in 1972.
- Idukki, the first Hydro-Electric Project in Malabar, is in Kozhikode.
- The first **Thermal Power Station** in Kerala is at Kayamkulam. It uses Naptha to generate electricity. It is under the ownership of The National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC).
- Idamalayar Hydro electric project started functioning in 1987. This dam is built across Idamalayar a tributary of Periyar.
- Government launched several small hydro electric power units with the help of China.
- The first **Electronic Technopark** was started at Thiruvananthapuram.
- A.K. Balan is the Electricity Minister of Kerala.
- Chemkulam Hydro-Electric Project was started in 1954.
- India’s first **Tidal Power Station** is in Vizhinjam (Thiruvananthapuram)
- **Pooyamkutti Hydro Electric Project** is in Idukki.
- Kerala’s (also India) largest underground Hydro-electric Project is in Moolamattam (Idukki)

MASS COMMUNICATION

- The name ‘Anchal’ was given to the early postal system of Kerala by Col. Munro.
- Symbol in the ‘Anchal’ stamps of Travancore was of Conchshell.
- ‘Anchal’ system was introduced in Travancore during the period of Marthandavarma in 1729.
- Anchal stamps of Travancore existed till 1952.
- Indian Postal Department issued stamp bearing the figure of Sri Narayana Guru in 1967 August 21.
- Cochin Foreign Office handles only foreign letters.
First Post Office in Travancore was started in 1857 in Alappuzha during the period of Uthram Thirunal Marthanda Varma.

Early Post Men of Travancore were known as ‘Anchalpillai’.

Pincode system was started in Kerala in the year 1972, August 15.

Telegraph System was started in Travancore in 1863.

Malayalam telegraph was started in 1994.

Kerala Postal Circle came into existence in 1961.

Telephone service was started in Thiruvananthapuram in 1931.

Malayalam Radio Broadcasting was started for the first time from Chennai in 1939.

Sir. C.P. Ramaswami Ayyer took initiative to start Radio Broadcasting in Travancore.


Thiruvananthapuram Radio Station became a part of All India Radio in 1950.

P.K. Veera Raghavan Nair was popularly known as ‘Radio Ammavan’

‘Vivid Bharathi’in was started in the year 1957.

Television broadcasting was started for the first time in Kerala by Keltron (1982)

Doordarshan started broadcasting in Kerala in 1982 November Malayalam programmes began to be broadcasted from Thiruvananthapuram in 1985 January 1.

First satellite television channel in Malayalam is Asianet. It is also the first private television channel in Kerala.


Kairali Channel was started in 2000.

Kerala Postal Circle includes Kerala, Lakshadweep and Mahe.

First Speed Post Centre in Kerala was started in Ernakulam (November 1986)

There are 16 telephone districts in Kerala.

Kerala is the first Indian state to have telephone facilities in all Panchayats.

World Telecommunication Day is observed on May 17.

World Postal Day is on October 9.

Indian Postal Day is on October 10.

TOURISM

K.T.D.C was formed in 1966. The name was adopted in 1970.

Munnar Hydel Tourism Project was inaugurated in 2000.

Ponmudi is the hill station in Thiruvananthapuram district.

Thiruvananthapuram is the headquarter of KTDC.

Munnar is known as Kashmir of South India.

Malampuzha gardens is known as the ‘Vrindavan of Kerala’.

Kerala’s most important coastal tourism destination is Kovalam.

Silentvalley National Park is in Palakkad district.

Kuntipuzha flows through Silent Valley.

Pazhassi tourism centre’ is in Mananthavady in Wynad.

Nehru Trophy Boat Race is known as the king among water festivals.

Water festival in the Punnamada Lake in Alappuzha is conducted in January every year.

Kerala Government proclaimed tourism as an industry in 1986.

Wynad district is most suited for adventure tourism in Kerala.

Famous tourist spot ‘Panchalikkulam’ is in Idukki district.

‘Kolahalamedu’ is in Idukki district near Peerumedu.

‘Boothathankettu’ is in Ernakulam district

Kumarakom tourist village is in Kottayam district.

Athirappalli and Vazhachal waterfalls are in Thrissur district.

‘Pakshipathalam’ a destination for migratory birds is in Wynad district.

‘Muthanga’ is the famous hill station in Wyanad district.
‘Malayattur Perunal’ is the festival in St. Thomas church.

Mamamkam martyrs memorial chaverkkunnu is in Perinthalmanna in Malappuram district.

The first five star hotel in Kerala is Kovalam Ashoka Beach Resort. It was under ITDC. Now it is under the ownership of Leela Group.

India’s first Ecotourism Project was inaugurated in Thenmala in Kollam district.

Bekal fort is in Kasargode district.

September 27 is observed as world Tourism Day. India observes Tourism Day on January 25.

Kerala is known as ‘Gods own Country’

KITTS (Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies) is in Trivandrum.

Tourism is the second largest industry in the world.

Lack of infrastructure is the most important hindrane for the development of tourism.

There are twelve wild life sancturies in Kerala.

Well known tourist centre Thekkadi is in Idukki district. Periyar is in Thekkadi.

Bolgatti Palace is in Cochi. It was built by the Dutch in 1744.

Pazhassiraja Art Gallery is in East hill Kozhikode.

Famous tourist centre Pookode Lake is in Wayanad.

Iravikulam National Park is in Idukki district. It was established in 1978.

Silent Valley National Park was set up in 1984 at Mannarkad in Palakkad district.

The first Biological Park in India was set up at Agastiarkudam in Thiruvananthapuram on 1 January 1992.

Parambikkulam Wild Life Sanctuary is in Palakkad district.

Kerala has figured in the exotic destination category of the 50 places of a life time must see spot for the complete traveller by the National Geographic Traveller Magazine.

Kodiyyeri Balakrishnan is the Minister in charge of Tourism in Kerala.

Kerala was the first Indian state to accept tourism, as an industry.

‘Vazhiyoram’ was a new programme launched by State Tourism department in 2005 to develop tourism sector.

Film actor Jayaram is the brand ambassador of the Vazhiyoram programme.

India’s first Eco-Tourism programme was started in 1998 in Thenmala in Kollam district.

Kumbalangi in Ernakulam district is the first tourism village in Kerala.

EDUCATION

Government undertook the responsibility of education for the first time in Travancore by Rani Gauri Parvati Bhai in 1817.

A Prussian protestant Missionary by name W.T. Ringle Taube established the first English School in Kerala in 1806 (Thiruvananthapuram).

First government owned English School in Travancore was opened in 1834 during the period of Swathithirunal.

The C.M.S. College was opened in Kottayam under the Church Mission Society in 1816.

The school started by Rev. Dasan in 1818 in Mattancherry was the first school in Cochin state.

In 1903 primary education was made free of cost.

Holly Angles Convent started in 1880 in Thiruvananthapuram was the first school for girls in South India.

DPEP was started in Kerala in 1994.

EMS Academy is in Vilappilsala in Thiruvananthapuram.

Education was made without caste discrimination and free in Travancore in 1904.

The school started by Ayyankali under the auspices to Sadhjanaparipalanasangham in 1914. It was Venganoor Pulvilakom Malayalam Primary School.

Balakollassine’ Sanskrit school was founded by Pazhayidathu Sankaran Nambuthirpad in 1916.

Study of Hindi was made compulsory from 1953 onwards.
+2 was started for the first time in Kerala in 1991
Foundation of Modern Muslim Education in Kerala was laid by Vakkom Abdul Khadar Maulavi.
Rani Gauri Parvati Bai made primary education compulsory in Travancore.
The Raja’s Free School started by Swatithirunal in 1834, later became His Highness Maharaja’s College. Later it became University College.
Sri. Chithira Thirunal is considered as the Architect of Modern Education Travancore.
The Travancore University was started on 1 November 1937 by Sri Chithirathirunal Maharaja. Sir. C.P. Ramaswami Ayyar was the first Vice Chancellor of Travancore University from 1937 to 1947. It had ten affiliated colleges in the beginning. In 1957 Travancore University was renamed as Kerala University.
Daru-l-Ulum Madrasa, Vazhakkad is the oldest Arabic College in Kerala.
Thiruvananthapuram Engineering College was started in 1938.
Thiruvananthapuram Medical College was started in 1951.
Alappuzha Medical College is the first private sector Medical College in Kerala. Its name was Thirumala Devaswam Medical College started in 1963.
Sir Harold Papworth, an English, was the second Vice Chancellor of Travancore University.
Calicut University was founded in 1968.
Cochin University of Science and Technology was founded in 1971.
Agricultural University with its headquarters at Mannuthy in Thrissur was founded in 1971.
Sri Sankara University of Sanskrit, Kaladi, was founded in 1992.
Kannur University was founded in 1996.
The Centre for the Development of Imaging Technology (C-DIT) has been approved by the Indira Gandhi National Open University as a special study centre in Kerala.
Total number of universities in Kerala is 8. The National University of Advanced Legal Studies formed in Kochi in 2006 is the latest University in Kerala. Its Vice-Chancellor is Dr. Sripad Ganapat Bhat.
Kerala Kalamandalam has recently been given the status of a Deemed University.
Multi Grade Learning Centre (MGLC) is a part of the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP).
DPEP is founded by the World Bank and aims to make learning through activities that children normally enjoy ‘Education Through Fun’ is its motto.
The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) was registered at Kozhikode on 22 August 1996.
Priyadarshini Planetarium is in Thiruvananthapuram. It was inaugurated in 1994.
Kerala was declared the first fully literate state in India on April 18, 1991 by the then Prime Minister V.P. Singh. First fully literate town in India was Kottayam and the first fully literate district in India was Ernakulam (1990 February).
Kinginikkootam 2000 was a programme launched to ensure active social participation in Schools.
The Women’s College, Thiruvananthapuram celebrated its centenary in 1997.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Universities in Kerala and Vice Chancellor</th>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Kannur University</td>
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<td>National University of Advanced Legal Studies</td>
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Ashok Mehta Committee studied Educational reforms.

National Literacy Mission (NLM) was launched in 1998.

First Minister of Education in Kerala was Joseph Mundassery.

Present Education Minister is M.A. Baby.

‘Sarva Siksha Abhiyan’ (SSA) launched on 1 April, 2001 replaced DPEP in the primary level. It aims at the universalisation of education within ten years in the age group of six to fourteen.

Kerala’s literacy as per the 2001 census is 90.92%.

Kerala University conferred D Lit upon the Nobel Laureate Amerthya Sen.

Sir C.P. Ramaswami Ayyar was the first to receive D Lit from Kerala University.

Kerala Governor is the Chancellor of the Universities in Kerala and the pro-chancellor is the Education Minister. The Pro-Chancellor of Agricultural University is the Agriculture Minister.

Computer Literacy Day is on December 2.

English began to be taught as a subject from third Standard onwards in Kerala schools from 2005.

IT ministry in the centre has selected Kerala as the best E-Governance state of South India in 2006.

SPORTS

Travancore-Cochin Sports Council came to be known as Kerala Sports Council in 1956.

‘Kayikavedi’ is the official publication of Kerala Sports Council. G.V. Raja sports school is the first sports school in Kerala.

First Indian state to pass a Sports Bill is Kerala.

India’s first gymnastic training centre was set up at Thalassery.

Water Sports Centre of the Sports Authority of India is on the Punnamada Lake.

Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education is situated at Karyavattom, Thiruvananthapuram.

Col. Godavarma Raja is considered as the ‘Father of Athletic Kerala’.

Famous writer ‘Mali’ Madhavan Nair was a famous Tennis Champion.

P.I. Alexander was the first Principal of the Physical Education Training College, Thiruvananthapuram.

Col. Godavarma Raja is known as a sportsman among kings and king among Sportsmen.

F.C.Cochin was the first professional football club in Kerala.

Sri Mulam Cup Tournament was the first football tournament in Kerala.

Kozhikode is known as the Second Mecca of football lovers.

I.M. Vijayan is popularly called by the Bengalis as ‘Kala Hiran’.

Kerala became the venue for Santhosh Trophy Tournament for the first time in 1955.

G.V. Raja Trophy, Sayed Nagjee Trophy and Chakkola Trophy are the famous football tournaments in Kerala.

Cricket was introduced in Kerala by Col. Arthur Wellesley.

Kerala Varma Valiyakoyithampuran was the founder of Thiruvananthapuram Cricket Club, first cricket club in Travancore.

Town Cricket Club in Thalassery was the first Cricket Club in north Kerala.

Kerala’s first contestant in the Ranjitrophy was the Mysore team.

K.N. Ananthapadmanabhan led Kerala team in largest number of matches.

Kerala’s first Olympian was C.K. Lakshman.

First Malayali Swimmer to participate in Olympic Games was Sebastian Xavier.

First Malayali woman to participate in Olympics was P.T. Usha (1980 Moscow Olympics)

First Malayali to get membership in India’s Olym-
First Keralite Athlete to participate in Olympics was Suresh Babu.

M.D. Valsamma was the first Malayali woman athlete to get a medal in Asian Games.

First Kerala woman to participate in an International athletic event was Angel Mary.

First Kerala woman to receive Arjuna Award K.C. Aelamma.

First Malayali couples to receive Arjuna Award were Wilson Cherian and Shyny Wilson.

Elephant race in Thrissur is organised on 17 January.

Lal Bahadur stadium is in Kollam.

Kalur International Stadium is now known as Nehru Stadium.

Thiruvananthapuram Central stadium was earlier known ‘Pathan Kacherry Ground’.

Jansi V. Varghese of Kerala has been selected as referee to Basket Ball Competition in the 2006 Melbourne Common Wealth Games.

Most important martial art of Kerala is Kalaripayattu.

The last time Kerala won the Santhosh Trophy in 2004. In 2000 Maharashtra defeated Kerala to win the Trophy.


Goa won the 2005 Santhosh Trophy and in 2006 Punjab got the Trophy.

Rowing Training Centre in Kerala was founded at Alappuzha in 1987.

P.T Usha is known as ‘Payyoli Express’ and ‘Golden Girl’.

P.T. Usha Sports School has been set up at Koylandi in Kozhikode.

The biggest aquatic complex in Kerala is situated at Pirappancode in Thiruvananthapuram district.

Nehru Trophy is associated with Boat race.

Nehru Trophy Boat race is conducted on the Punnamada lake.

O.M. Nambyar was the first Malayali to receive the Dronacharya Award (1965) which is given to the best sports coach in India.

Gimmy George Indoor Stadium is situated in Thiruvananthapuram.

‘Santham’ is a Malayalam feature film in which famous football player I.M. Vijayan acted as hero.

Tinu Yohannan was the first Malayali to get enrolled in the Indian Cricket Team. Second being Sreesant.

The minister in charge of Sports, Law, Youth and Parliamentary Affairs is M. Vijayakumar.

TRANSPORT

Roads which are transportable began to be constructed in Malabar during the Mysorian Interlude (Hyder and Tipu).

First motor vehicle registration in Travancore was in 1912.

Travancore Transport Department was formed in 1938. At that time there were 59 buses and one Lorry in service. It was started by Sri Chithira Thirunal Balaramavarma.

India’s first cemented road was built in Kerala between Thiruvananthapuram and Kanyakumari.

K.S.R.T.C was established in 1965. Then there were 900 buses for the Corporation.


Largest number of vehicles have been registered in Ernakulam district.

Wynadu district has least number of vehicles registered.

Neendakara Bridge is known as Sri Sethulakshmi Bai Bridge.

Travancore Road Transport was started during the Diwanship of Sir C.P. Ramaswami Ayyar.

Kollam-Senkottai road was constituted by Veluthampi Dalawa.
The MC Road from Thiruvananthapuram to Angamali has a length of 251 km.

First Railway line in Kerala was built in 1860 from Pothenur to Pattambi.

Kollam - Thirunvalveli line built in 1904 is the first railway line in Travancore.

Railway Mail Service in Kerala was started in 1907.

Idukki district is the only district in Kerala which does not have railway line.

Parvathi Puthanar was built during the period of Rani Gauri Parvathi Bai.

Ezhimala Naval Academy is in Kannur.

The Canal which connects Thiruvananthapuram and Kanyakumari was popularly known as ‘Anandamarthandan Canal’.

The records of King Solomon of Israel speak about a port in Kerala - Ophir. It is identified as Beipur.

Vizhinjam became an important port during the period of Ummintampi Dalawa.

Diwan R.K. Shanmugham Chetti is responsible for the completion of Cochin port.

Cochin is known as the ‘Queen of Arabian Sea’.

First Airport in Kerala was built in Thiruvananthapuram.

Air Mail Service of Tata Sons and Company flew from Bombay to Thiruvananthapuram in 1935 October. This was the first air transport in Kerala.

Thiruvananthapuram flying Club was founded in 1958.

Dubai flight from Thiruvananthapuram Airport was started in 1978.

There are three International Airports in India. They are Thiruvananthapuram, Nedumpanap and Karippur.

The Intercity Expresses run between Thiruvananthapuram and Ernakulam and Ernakulam and Calicut.

There are 18 ports in Kerala.

National Transportation Planning and Co-ordination (NATPAC) is Thiruvananthapuram.

Thiruvananthapuram and Palakkad are the Railway Divisional Headquarters in Kerala.

Kerala’s first railway was started in 1861 March 12.

Vehicle numbers starting in KL-15 is of KSRTC.

The total length of Railway line in Kerala is 1,198km (1,069 broad gauge and 129 meter gauge).

The first electric train in Kerala run between Ernakulam - Shornur on 23 July 2000.

Indira Gandhi inaugurated the railway broad gauge line between Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram on September 13, 1976. 65 km double line between Trivandrum and Kollam opened for traffic line in June 2000.

Karipur International Airport, Kozhikode is situated in Malappuram district. It got the status of an International Airport in 2006.

The Peruman Rail Tragedy of Island Express in which 108 people was died in 1988 July 8.

Kadalundi Rail Tragedy was on 22 June 2001. 52 people died in the Tragedy. Mangalore Chennai was the train involved in the tragedy.

In 1926 Sir Robert Britisto built the Cochin Port. Wellington Island was formed by the deposition of soil when the port was constructed. It became a major port in 1936.

Mathew T. Thomas is the Transport Minister of Kerala.

Important Places

Kothamangalam is known as the ‘Gateway of the High Range’

Guruvayur is known as ‘South Indian Dwaraka’.

Thirunelveli in Wynad is known as ‘Southern Gaya’

Ponnani is known as ‘Little Mecca’

Pazhassi Raja Memorial fame Manathawadi was earlier known as Ananthancode.

Banasurankotta is in Wynadu district.

Payyannur is known as Second Bardoli.

Thrissur is known as the Cultural Capital of Kerala.

Neeleswaram is known as the Cultural Capital of Kasargode.

‘Nanjianadu’ is known as the Granary of Travancore.

Marayur is famous for natural sandalwood forests.

Ambalapuzha is the place where Thullal originated.

Peerumedu is known as Kolahalamedu.

Tamil Brahmins who came to Kerala first settled
in a Sekharipuram in Palakkadu.

- Kerala Kalamandalam is situated in Vallathol Nagar, earlier it was at Cheruthuruthi. Both places are in Thrissur district.
- Vizhinjam is known as Rajendra Chola Pattanam.
- Kasargode is known as the Land of Gods.
- Kerala Historical Museum is situated at Edappalli.
- Cherthala Taluk has the longest sea coast in Kerala.
- Thirurangadi was the major centre of Malabar Rebellion.
- Kuttikkanam and Wagamon are known as the Kodaikanals in Kerala.
- Thenjippalam in Malappuram district is the headquarters of Calicut University.
- Indo-Swiz Project is situated at Mattuppetti.
- First Jews Synagogue in Kerala was built at Mattancherry.
- Sultan Bateri’s earlier name was Ganapathivattam.
- Perunna near Changanasseri is known as the Vatican of Nair community.
- There are 16 passes in the Western Ghats. The Western Ghats is 960km long.
- The widest gap in the Western Ghats is the Palghat Gap.
- Cardamom Hills is the Southern tip of the Western Ghats.
- Kannur is the only cantonment in Kerala.
- Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre is at Thumba, Thiruvananthapuram.
- ‘Pakshipathalam’ famous for variety of birds is in Wynadu district.
- Silent Valley famous for evergreen forests is in Palakkad district.

### MONUMENTS

- The Orthodox Syrian Church at Mulanthuruthi built about 1225 AD contains mural paintings depicting Biblical scenes.
- The St. Francis Church at Fort Cochin was built by the Portuguese in 1503. Vasco da Gama was buried there in 1524.
- Pallipuram Fort which is also known as Ayakotta or Azhikotta is the oldest European structure in India.
- The Palakkad fort was built by Haider Ali.
- The fort St. Angelo in Cannanore was built by the Portuguese.
- The Beckal fort was built by Sivappa Nayaka.
- The Nedumcotta or the Travancore lines was built by Dharmaraja.
- The Dutch palace at Matancherri was built by the Portuguese in 1555.
- The Krishnapuram Palace near Kayalamkulam was built by Marthandavarma.
- ‘Rasi’ was a gold coin of ancient Kerala believed to have been introduced by Parashastry.
- Thiruvananthapuram is known as the city of statues. Highest statue in Kerala is that of Sri Chithira Thirunal in the Kerala University office compound.

### PRINTING IN MALAYALAM

- The book in which Malayalam was printed for the first time was ‘Horthus Malabaricus’. It was published in 1678 from Amsterdam, the capital of Holland. It was prepared by Van Rheed. It describes about the medicinal plants of Kerala.
- First full-fledged Malayalam work printed in the language using Malayalam types was Samkshepa Vedartham compiled by Father Clement in 1772. It was published from Rome.
- The first newspaper in Kerala was Rajyasamacharam (Herman Guntert - 1847). Keralopathi (1843); Keralappazhama (1863) and “Malayala Nighantu” (1872) are the works of Gunert.
- ‘Deepika’ started publication in 1887.
- Malayala Manorama started publication in 1890 march 22. It was started by Kandathil Varghese Mappila (Malayala Manorama was started as a joint stock company in 1888)
- Malayala Manorama became a daily in 1928.
- Mathrubhumi started publication in 1923 march 17. It was started by K.P.Kesava Menon.
- Deshabhimani started publication in 1942.
- Deepika is the oldest existing newspaper in Malayalam.
O. Chandu Menon’s Indulekha was published in 1889.
The name Malayala Manorama was given to the newspaper by Kerala Varma Vaiyakoyithampuran.
Malayala Manorama was the first joint stock company in India formed to start a newspaper.
Keralakaumudi started its publication in 1911, with the editorship of C.V. Kunjiraman, from Mayyanad.
‘Sahodaran’ was a paper started by K. Ayyappan in 1917.
Paschimodayam was started in 1847.
First educational monthly in Malayalam was ‘Vidya Samgraham’ published in 1864.
Real journalism in Kerala started in 1881 by the publication of ‘Keralamithram’ by Devji Bhimji, a Gujarathi.
‘Keralapatrika’ published in 1884 was the first newspaper in Malabar.
Chenkulathu Kunjirama Menon is considered as the father of Malayalam Journalism.
Desabhimani was the first Malayalam newspaper to have connection with Reuter.
Madhyamam started in 1987, Mangalam started in 1989 and Janmabhumi started in 1979 are the other main newspapers in Kerala.
Kesari A. Balakrishnapillai is the founder of ‘Kesari’ which started in 1889.
Office of the Registrar of the Newspaper was started in Kerala in 1956.
Sandishtavadi which started in 1867 was the first banned newspaper in Kerala.

Cultural Kerala

Kathakali is the most famous art form of Kerala.
Kathakali is the developed form of Krishnanattam developed by Manaveda, the Zamorine of Calciut, on the model of the folk dance known as Ashtrapadiyattam.
Tradition ascribes the immediate origin of Kathakali to the Ramanattom developed by Kottarakara Thampuran.
Markhandeya Charitham performed by Sathyadevan in the model of Harikatha was the first Kathaprashangham
Margam Kali’ is a traditional art form prevalent among the Christians of Kerala.

Vijnana Kairali is the official publication of Kerala Bhasha Institute.
‘Vidhyarthikale Ithile Ithile’ ‘Agraharatlie Kzhuta’ ‘Amma Ariyan’ are the films directed by John Abraham.
‘Thampa’ Kunmati, Kanjana Sita, Esthappan, Pokkuveyl, Chidambaram, Vasthuara etc are the films directed by Aravindan. Cheriyalokavam Valiya Manushyarum was a series of cartoons by Aravindan.
Famous actor M. V. Bhattatirippadu was popularly known as ‘Premji’. He got the Bharat Award for Piravi directed by Shaji.
Abdul Khadar was the original name of Prem Nazir. He acted as hero in more than 620 films and got enrolled in the Guinnes book of World Records.

Chemmin was the first Malayalam film to get National Award (1965). It was directed by Ramukaryat
First Malayalam film Vigathakumaran was released in 1928. J.C. Daniel was its Producer, Director and Cameraman. J.C. Daniel Award is given for around contributions given to Malayalam film.
First Malayalam talkie film was ‘Balan’.
Udaya Studio (1948) is the first Cinema studio in Kerala.
Akshara Keralam is the name given to the Kerala literacy programme.
Devaranyam scheme was launched by Travancore Devaswam Board. The scheme aims to plant trees on barren temple premises.

Njeralathu Ramappoduval was associated with Sopana Sangeetham.
Padayani is the traditional art o Pathanamthitta.
‘Sixth sense’ is an English film directed by Manoj Night Shyamalan. His films were nominated for Oscar award.
‘Maranasimhasanam’ was discreted by Murali Nair.
‘Unbreakable’ ‘Signs’ are the films directed by
Manoj Night Shyamalan. The village is one of his latest films.

- The minister in charge of cultural affairs in Kerala at present is MA Baby.

**PERSONALITIES**

- G. Shankarakurup who got the first Jnanapita Award was born in Ernakulam district. He got the Award for his work ‘Odakkuzhal’.
- Vengayil Kunjiraman Nair is the author of first short story in Malayalam - Vasana Vikruti
- Chenkulathir Kunjirama Menon was popularly known as M.R.K.C.
- The youngest sportsman of Kerala who represented India in the Olympic Games was Suresh Babu in 1972.
- The first Kerala athlete to receive the Padmasree Award was P.T. Usha. She is known as the ‘Golden Girl of India’.
- The scheme ‘Laksham Veedu’ was implemented by M.N. Govindan Nair.
- The first IG of Kerala was N. Chandrasekharan Nair.
- First DGP of Kerala was T. Anantha Sankara Iyer.
- Poomulli Nilakantan Namboottiripad who died in 1997 was known as ‘Arivinte Thampuran’.
- The first Governor of Kerala was B. Ramakrishna Rao.
- The first women member of Parliament from Kerala was Annie Maskrin.
- K.V. Salahuddin is the Chairman of Kerala PSC.
- P.N. Panikkar is the founder of Grandhshala Sangham. His death date (June 19) is observed as the ‘Vayana Dinam’ (Day of Reading). It aims to communicate the message of ‘Grow by Reading’.
- I.K. Kumaram Master is popularly known as ‘Mayyazhi Gandhi’. He led the struggle to liberate Mayyazhi from French domination.
- Kocheril Raman Narayan was the first Malayalee to become the President of India. He held the post during 1997-2002. He was the former Vice-President of India, Union Minister of Planning, External Affairs and Science and Technology. Ambassador to China, Myanmar etc and Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. He was the 10th President of India. He is the first person belonging to a scheduled caste to become the President of India.
- The first woman judge of the Supreme Court was Ms. Fathima Beevi.
- Marana Simhasanam’ directed by Murali Nair won the Golden Camera Award at the Cannes Films Festival in 1999. ‘A Dog’s Day’ is his another film.
- Dr. Samuel Mathew Kalarikkal is known as the Father of Angioplasty in India. Angioplasty is an alternative for heart by-pass surgery. In angioplasty the blockades in arteries supplying blood to the heart are cleared by using balloon-like equipment or drills.
- Dr. Varghese Kurian won the 1999 Paulos Mar Gregorious Award. Dalai Lama was the first winner of this award.
- Padma Ramachandran was the first woman Chief Secretary of Kerala in 1990.
- Lissy Jacob is the new Chief Secretary of Kerala.
- The State Women’s Commission was formed on March 13, 1996 with Sugathakumari as the Chairperson. The tenure of the commission is five years. M. Kamalam is the present head of the Women’s Commission. The other two members were P. Kulso (Muslim League) and Lissy Jose (Kerala Congress (M))
- The first king of Travancore to undertake a sea voyage to a foreign country was Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma.
- G. Madhavan Nair is the Chairman of ISRO.
- First Kerala woman to become the Chief Justice of Kerala was K.K. Usha. Sujata Manohar
was the first woman to become the Chief Justice of Kerala. There are 25 judges in the Kerala High court.

- **The youngest person to be appointed the judge of Supreme court** is **K.G. Balakrishnan**. He was a member of the Kerala High Court Bench which gave verdict of the banning of ‘Bandh’. He later became the Chief Justice of Gujarat and TamilNadu Highcourts. He was the first low caste to reach such high position. He is the first Keralite or Dalit to become the Chief Justice of India.

- Kerala Highcourt was formed in 1956 November 1.

- **Justice K.T. Koshi** was the first Chief Justice of Kerala.

- The actor who received Bharat Award three times is Mammootty. 1998 (Ambedkar), 1993 (Ponthan mada, Vidheyan) 1989 (Oru Vadakkkan VeeraGadha, Mathilukal) are Mammootty’s award winning films.

- First Malayali to receive the Bharat Award was P.J.Antony (1973, Nirmalyam)

- Sharada was the first to receive Urvasi Award (1972, Swayamvaram)

- Monisha got the Urvashi Award in 1986 for Nakhashatangal. Shobhana got the award in 1994 (Manichithra thazhu) and 2001 (Mithru My friend)

- **Vaidhyaratnam P.S. Warier** founded Kottakkal Aryavaidhyashala in 1902.

- **Dr. Salim Ali** took the initiative to set up the Thattekkad Bird Sanctuary in Ernakulam.

- The ‘Fall of a Sparrow’ is the autobiography of famous ornithologist Salim Ali.

- **V. Vishwanathan** was the only Malayali to become the Governor of Kerala.

- **Dr. K.G. Adiyodi** was the first Keralite to become a member of the UPSC.

- Former Chief Minister Oommen Chandy participated in the World Economic Forum conducted in Davos in Switzerland.

- The **Ezhuthachan Award 2006** has been given to **Kovilan** (Rs. 1,00,000)

- Arundhati Roy, for her English work ‘The Algebra of Infinite Justice’ got the Kendra Sahithya Academy Award for English work (2005).

- **Adoor Gopalakrishnan**, the Dada Sahib Falke Award winner for 2004 was awarded with D. Lit by the Mahatma Gandhi University.

- Kalamandalam Haiderali is known as the **Prince in Kathakali Music**.

- Thomas Mathew was appointed as the Managing Director of the Life Insurance Corporation of India.


- The ‘Vallathol Award’ 2006 has been given to **O.N.V. Kurup**. The award includes a money payment of Rs. 1,11,111.

- The ‘Vayalar Award’ 2006 has been given to writer **‘Sethu** for his novel ‘Adayalangal’ (Rs. 25,000)

- **M. Mukundan** has been appointed as the Kerala Sahithya Academy President. O.N.V. Kurup is the Kalamandalam Chairman. Actor Murali is the President of Sangeetha Nataka Academy. C.N.Karunakaran is the Chairman of Lalitakala Academy.