



# Historical Importance Of The Ellore Municipal Town

K.VICTRIAMMA

Lecturer in History  
B.S.S.B Degree College  
Tadikonda.

## Abstract:

This Present Paper deals with a brief account of the historical significance of the town of Ellore, the capital city of the previous West Godavari district. The geographical location of the town and its history are described, as is the history of the formation of the municipal administration in the town. Ellore was well-known for its carpet-making skills. The well-flourished city witnessed drastic demographic growth in a time span of 150 years. Ellore (the new spelling of Eluru) will become a new district with the same name on April 4, 2022.

**KEY WORDS:** Ellore, Eluru, Town.

## INTRODUCTION

Ellore, spelt Eluru starting in 1949, is the former West Godavari district's headquarters. It is located on the East Coast Railway, three nautical miles from Madras, near the intersection of canals from the Godavari and Krishna rivers, and at  $16^{\circ} 42' 11.8260''$  N and  $81^{\circ} 6' 1.3968''$  E. During the time of Nizam, Ellore was referred to as UppuEllore (Salt Ellore) in order to avoid confusion created by a similar sound to Raya Vellore. Ellore is located on the edge of the marshes that surround Colair Lake and has an extremely hot temperature. It's black dirt. Large ruins in Pedavegi, about 8 miles north of Ellore, are thought to signify the location of the Buddhist Kingdom of Vengi's capital. Helapuri translates to "the abode of joy." Among the principal dynasties that ruled Ellore were the Satavahanas, Ikshvakus, Bruhatyalayanas, Salankayanas, Vishnukundins, and Kakatiyas. In the year 1471 AD, the Kalinga Empire took control of Ellore. After defeating the Vijayanagara kings in battle, Kapileswara Gajapati seized the region. The Mohammadans overthrew the Gajapati ruler in the 1470s. A fort was constructed on the northern edge of the town using the remnants of the fighting. In 1515, Krishnadevraya conducted an expedition and conquered the region. Following the collapse of the Vijayanagara Empire, the region was reclaimed by Golkonda Sultan. A protracted siege by the Hindu chieftains from northern Andhra to Godavari was conducted by the lieutenant of Golkonda Sultan. Ellorecircar was granted to the French East India Company in 1753 by Salabat Jung of Golkonda. Ellore's history has been unremarkable since it

became the seat of the Sarkar of the same name following the fall of Rajahmundry in 1572. The Sultan of Golconda leased Ellore, one of the northern circars, to the East India Company. Later, the British achieved total control over Ellore, and it eventually became a part of Madras' presidency. The Machilipatnam chief and council served as the district's governing body before to its creation. Ellore was part of the Masulipatnam district when districts were formed as administrative divisions. Ellore town was included in the established Godavari district in 1859. In 1904, Ellore town was once again a part of Krishna district, and it stayed there until 1925. On December 31, 1925, the districts of Krishna and Godavari were divided and reorganised. East and West Godavari were the divisions of the Godavari district. Ellore and other portions of the Krishna district were combined to form the West Godavari district. Masulipatnam served as the district capital of West Godavari and Krishna at first. Ellore was subsequently declared the capital of the West Godavari district, effective May 1926.

## Origins and Development of the Ellore Municipality

The Act of 1865 established Ellore as a municipality in the year 1866 AD. The company's troops were cantoned there for a while, but it was soon abandoned. The primary sources of income were tolls and property and housing taxes. At first, the council had eighteen members. By the time the Madras district municipal act of 1884 was enacted in the municipality, five of them had been nominated and the remaining ones had been elected. In 1892 AD, it was headed by an elected non-official chairman; but, in 1899 AD, it was once again headed by an official. The council had shrunk to sixteen members by the end of the 20th century, of which sixteen were elected and the remaining four were nominated. However, it was increased once more to 18 in 1916–17 and to 20 in 1920. Another 1920 act increased the council's strength to 28 members once more. Seven of them were nominated, and 21 of them were elected. The suppression of the municipality for a single year in 1928 is a defining feature of its subsequent history. In 1929, regular elections were conducted. Following this election, a new council was put in place. The council's strength was raised to 32 by another amendment legislation of 1930, including one for Indian Christians. The municipality's future expansion saw no significant changes, with the exception of Shaniwar Peta's addition in 1965–1966. As a result, the council's size expanded to 35 members, with two seats set aside for women and four for scheduled castes. In 1971, the area of the municipality was 14.25 km

Since 1858, the town has had a medical dispensary. In 1879–1880, a dispensary was built in the municipal town with the approval of the Madras government and a grant of Rs. 8,465 from the Madras government. By 1885, it had grown to twenty-four beds, twelve for women and twelve for men. The Church Mission Anglo-Vernacular School was one of the most prominent schools, founded on October 28, 1863, though a boy's school run by missionaries existed as early as 1855–56. From 1876–77, there was one institution for female students.

**Chief Trade:**

It has a substantial grain trade and serves as the principal commercial hub for the countries that border it. Tangellamudi's shrubbery, across the Tammileru creek from Ellore, is where the famous Ellore carpets are made. This firm has historically been owned and operated solely by Muslims. At the moment, it is mostly restricted to inexpensive carpets with overseas designs meant for export. On the other hand, fine carpets with retro patterns are still accessible. Wool and dyes are prepared in nearby facilities. It makes sense to believe that the town was already urbanised before the British arrived, based on the facts provided above.

**The town's demographic changes:**

According to the Madras Presidency's 1881 Imperial Census, any village with more than 5000 inhabitants was considered a town. Thus, Ellore was a town from the beginning of the first census, and the amenities provided in municipal governance raised its population, as the following table presents. As per the 1901 census, towns were classified into six types according to their population. Any town may fall under the category of "Class I town" if its inhabitants are more than 100,000. Ellore town acquired the status of a class 1 town in the 1961 AD census.

Population changes in Eluru between 1871 and 2011.

YEAR	POPULATION	CHANGE IN PERCENTAGE
1871	20,387	—
1881	25,092	-1.5
1891	29,382	17.1
1901	33,521	14.1
1911	37,819	12.8
1921	45,862	21.2
1931	57,342	25.03
1941	64,911	13.2
1951	87,213	33.3
1961	1,08,367	24.2
1971	1,27,047	17.2
1981	1,68,154	32.38
1991	2,12,866	26.6
2001	1,96,813	-8.2
2011	2,18,020	10.8

**Present Condition in the Town:**

In accordance with subsection (5) of section 3 of the AP District Act of 1974 (Act No. 7 of 1974), a draft notification was released suggesting that on January 26, 2022, thirteen districts of Andhra Pradesh be divided into twenty-six districts. On April 4, 2022, Eluru (Ellore) is divided into three revenue

divisions: Eluru (with 12 mandals), Jangareddygudem (10 mandals), and Nuzividu (6 mandals). Together, these divisions create the new Eluru District.

## Conclusion:

A lot of kings and dynasties were interested in Ellore Town because it was a well-liked town. It was governed by Masulipatnam until being given to the Godavari district in 1859. It was in the Krishna district from 1904 till 1925. Following the creation of the East and West Godavari districts in 1925 from portions of the former Godavari and Krishna districts, Eluru relocated to the West Godavari district. It functioned as the West Godavari district's capital. The British government gave the town's health and education top priority. The village was well-known for producing top-notch carpets. Population shifts are evident over time, and as of April 4, 2022, the town of Elllore (Eluru) is presently being divided into the Eluru district.

## References:

1. A Gazetteer of Southern India, Madras, 1855, P.55.
2. Unnisa, SyedaAzeem, Rav, and S. Bhupathi, 'Sustainable Solid Waste Management" (online ausg.ed), Toronto, Apple Academic Press, p. 49.
3. An epigraph from Penugonda, S. 1370, 1448 AD.
4. Andhra Pradesh Government Archaeological Series, Department of Archaeology, 1962.P.15.
5. Chisholm, Hugh, 1911, Ellore, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Volume 9 of the 11th Edition, Cambridge University Press, P. 294.
6. Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1925-1926, Madras, 1927, Chapter I, Page 3.
7. Madras Municipalities Act X
8. N. Ramsen, 'Andhra Pradesh District Gazetteers' West Godavari, Government Central Press Hyderabad, 1979, p. 177.
9. Crawford, D.G., 'A history of the Indian Medical Service, 1600–1913," Volume 1. London: W. Thacker & Co., 1914.
10. Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency, Madras, 1780, p. 330.
11. Sathianathan.S., 'History of Education in Madras Presidency', Madras, 1894, p. 52.
12. Imperial Gazette of India, volume 1, Madras, 1908, Superintendent of Government Printing, Calcutta, page 279.
13. McIver, The Imperial census of Madras Presidency 1881, Madras, 1884.P.2.
14. Pradeep Sachdeva, 'Local Government in India', Pearson publication-Delhi, 2011, page 17.
15. Decadal census reports of Madras Presidency and West Godavari district from 1871 till 2011.
16. G.O.Ms. No. 183, Revenue (Lands-IV), 2 April, 2022, AP.