

## Mysore Residency And Its Forms Of Administration

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*Abstract: Mysore was one of the colonial state in British India controlled directly and indirectly by the system of residency introduced by British. After experimenting same system in some other part of the world this system gave more powers to the colonial admiration hence residents acted as an imperial agents. After the death of Tipu Sultan though Mysore ruled by Wodeyars recedents played predominant role till the rendition of Mysore in 1881. Then onwards the power of recedents decreased because of several influential factors like freedom struggle, organisation of Mysore, Mysore as a model state more over Dewan's of Mysore had played a dominant role. Economic prosperity of Mysore was an important aspect discussed about the period recedents tried there best to control it but circumstances were not in there favour when India got independence in 1947 the period of residency was ended new admiratative system emerged into power.*

British conquest of India brought them into a new world which they tried to comprehend using their own forms of knowing and thinking. To the educated Englishman of the late eighteenth and the early nineteenth centuries the world was knowable in an empirical fashion and constructive of the sciences through which would be revealed the laws of nature that governed the world. Bernard's Cohen says in all the British overseas colonies at least until 1776 there was little debate concerning the role of the Crown and Parliament and about the basic Jural and legal institutions of rule Debates in Great Britain had raised overseas by white colonist shared a common discourse were based on assumptions about the nature of the state and society.

As the British dominions were extended and consolidated they became more and more an indisputable fact. A gradual approach seems to have been made to the demand of imperial prerogatives while the limits of those prerogatives were at every step progressively expanded. The assumed prerogatives have been stained in two directions and with two purposes in the direction of feudal suzerainty with the alleged purpose of consolidating their empire and in the direction of administrative dictatorship with the alleged purpose of protecting the people. Both these ideas were based on reasons.

The system of indirect rule which would extend over a third of the subcontinent and a fifth of its population developed, like the entire conquest of India. The East India

Company's initial commercial interest was predominant among the court of Directors, lost pride of place among many of its servants in India from the mid seventieth century onwards. The commercial agents stationed up country at courts such as Murshidabad took on diplomatic functions on a more regular basis. Not until 1764 however, were political residents formally appointed, first at Murshidabad and soon thereafter at Lucknow and Hyderabad. The outbreak of 1857-58 proved beyond doubt that the company's policy of territorial expansion on whatever grounds was no longer expedient or even possible. The Queens proclamation recognized this fact. The new policy enumerated through this royal pledge was the outcome of a practical realization by the security of their Indian Empire not in extinction but in the perpetuation of the Indian ruling princes who in spite of Dalhousie's recent annexation had been as a class faithful to them during the fateful period of the Mutiny. Indeed it was the staunch attitude of Jiyaji Rao Sindhia and Nizam, Holkar, the rulers of Patiala, Jind Nabha and many other states, great and small throughout the rest of India that had been largely responsible for turning the 'tide' in favour of the British. As a result the policy that was followed towards the states after the Mutiny was one of perpetuation and not of extinction. The Queens proclamations as well as Canning's adoption sanads were the instruments through which the result of the Mutiny was expressed.

At the Indian office however two opposite trends emerged unusually referred to as Malcolm and Dalhousie traditions. The Malcom tradition was modeled on the principles of Malcom, Metcalfe Munro and Elphinstone, the great representatives of the romantic era of Indian history. It emphasized non annexation, non intervention, scrupulous adherence to treaty rights and respects for human dignity. Clerk, Kaye, Currie, Eastwick, Montgomery and Willoughby upheld this tradition in their decision on Indian states. The Dalhousie tradition on the other hand, stood for annexation, intervention and expediency. Dollhouse was however not the founder but tradition bore his name because Canning found it difficult to connect it with any great Anglo Indian Administrator other than Dalhousie.

#### THE CONCEPT OF RESIDENCY IN INDIA

The disintegration of the Mughal Empire in the first half of the eighteenth century led to anarchy at the heart of the Empire. By using available opportunity the British Residents at Murshidabad played the most vital role in the consolidation of English power. The commercial spirit of the early seventeenth century had undergone a complete change by the middle in eighteenth century. The Mughal Empire had diplomatic conventions and regulations to which the company had to conform. Ambassadors were regularly sent from one sovereign to another. At a lower level agents and Wakils were exchanged among high Mughal officials and were sent to represent at the imperial court in his absence. Since the company accepted Mughal sovereignty in 1772 (when the company stood forth as Diwan of Bengal). The designation of its representatives as residents translated as Wakils in Persian, instead of Ambassador fit into Mughal practice. Over time however the defector role played by the company changed from that of a body of merchants to that of a regional power to that of primus inter pares among India's rulers although nominally under the Mughal Emperor. Finally in 1858 the Mughal Emperor was tried and exiled, the company was abolished, and the British crown made sovereign with all of Indian's princes under its suzerainty. During and prior to 1858 the number of states with which the company maintained diplomatic residents grew significantly (The inheriting position of the princes as subordinates of British government remained unchanged).

From 1798 to 1841 the Company entered its major phase of the rapid expansion of its influence over large parts of the subcontinent. This advance brought it to a position of indirect control over some of the larger states including Awadh, Hyderabad and Mysore. Although this clearly resulted from more than the actions of a single man the forward policies initiated impetus to this expansion. During this period of expansion the number of states to which a resident or political agent was posted claimed as advances by the company's armies, thrust its control and influence over large sections of the subcontinent. Once under the company's paramount power a state either was annexed into its direct control or was controlled by the political agent perhaps to be annexed later. In deciding how to regulate their behaviour these early residents apparently drew first upon their knowledge of European and Mughal diplomatic practice modified of course

by their peculiar situations and goals. In Europe the institution of permanent diplomatic missions had only developed during the early sixteenth century. Prior to that time embassies had been exchanged between major European states. But the cost and regular disputes about precedence of ceremony led to the appointment of agent or resident, who were not entitled to the same ceremonial honours as ambassadors. The title resident continued to be in use in Europe until the end of the eighteenth century. Thus when the agents of the company were sent to reside at the courts of India's major princes in the 1760's the title of resident fit their understanding of their own role. In addition to avoiding the issue of whether the company as distinct from the British Crown could appoint an Ambassador. The advantages of low cost and fewer questions of ceremonial and precedence apparently made the idea of resident.

At the first instance, the British Residents at the durbar of Bengal Nawabs at Murshidabad played a vital role in moulding the destiny of the subah and the consequent fate of its people from 1757 to 1772. While Murshidabad remained a seat of power it was they who helped gain the political suzerainty for the English Company by adopting means both fair and foul. Consequently the resident was responsible for infusing a new spirit, that of political hegemonic towards establishing England's colonial power to attempt to control the activities of the English company in Bengal that enjoyed sanction for monopoly trade but did not have the license to intercede and get embroiled in political conflict and controversies.

After the establishment of British rule in Bengal, they tried to introduce their own principles and administrative machinery in the form of Residency system, which was already experimented in Asia and African countries. The Residents, the Governor Generals, agents and similar political officials with different designations at various princely courts whose earlier and original functions had mainly been war and diplomacy, gradually became executive officers with expanding duties and functions. This system of residential domination in the internal affairs of states gradually came to be known as political practice and it formed one of the most important elements in the working relationship between the paramount power and the state. After the Mutiny this system continued unabated in his famous adoption minute Canning gave formal expression to this system.

Since the company's administration of India gradually developed into a bureaucracy regulations for all its branches were in the process of formulations. Although certain identifiable patterns eventually emerged, there were few fixed rules concerning appointment or promotion in the political or any other line. Recruitment into the political line depended on the personal inclination of the individual combined with some measure of influence at the higher level of the company. Residents and political agents were other company officials constantly solicited or were solicited for influence or patronage for one or another appointment. Entry into the political line also came as a result of demonstrated talent either in a Residency or in another field. The military officers were accommodated after repeated reward for service on the battle field in the form of political appointments. Officers appointed to command the residency escort or interpreters only marginally part of the political line occasionally gained

the attention of superiors at the Residency or in the upper administration and rose in the political line.

Once a member in the political line promotion also depended on a range of factors including influence, demonstrated talent and seniority. From the earliest days of the company seniority played a large part in promotion and this continued not as a common practice in the political line. The company made no formal rules for entry into the political line so too, it provided no special training for its appointees for the most part despite the lack of specific criterion for entry and promotion and despite the absence of any substantial training except at the feet of their seniors, the members of the political line did have specific expectations for a carrier in that line.

The British Residents were kind, cordial and generally well disposed towards the princes and their people. But the number of the overbearing types preponderated from the very commencement of the company rule. In pre Mutiny period Major Braille of Oudh, Cole of Mysore, and Henry Russel of Hyderabad, the three residents became notorious for their intolerance and superciliousness. The position was not much different later though by no means distinguished for their intellectual abilities. Many of them were haughty, impertinent and ironic in their dealings with the rulers whom they often treated as their subordinates. The expected unquestioned obedience and even servile submission from these unfortunate men whose rank honour and even security on the gaddi depended upon their favour. In fact the jeweled and titled fraternity was as much exposed to personal insults and humiliations as the rest of the population.

The earliest political residents were under the control of the Company on to communicate with the other regional powers of India; in 1770 each of the three presidencies Bengal, Madras and Bombay sent out its own Residents to the regional states with which it needed to deal. The Governor of each Presidency jealously defended his authority over the Residents after leading to confusion in connection with the appointment and control of residents. The conflict aroused between Governor Generals and the Governors. Governors and governor generals transferred most of their powers to the Residents. Mysore residency was under the authority of the Governor General in 1805.

#### POLITICAL CONDITIONS OF MYSORE

After the fall of Vijayanagara Empire various regional kingdoms emerged in South India- Mysore ruled by the Wodeyars as an independent political power in 1610 with their capital at Srirangapatna. The fact that it took the British East India Company thirty years and four wars to crush the power of Mysore State indicates that Mysore had grown very strong and viable during the administration of the Wodeyars, Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. The colonial expansion of the British in South India was much resisted by the native powers like the Marathas, the Nizam and the State of Mysore. Even though the Carnatic wars virtually sealed the fate of French power in the southern peninsula, still the British on their march in consolidating their power in South India were encountered much efficiently by the natives, particularly by Haider Ali and Tipu Sultan. However, the British succeeded in defeating

Haider and Tipu in the Anglo- Mysore wars. In their consolidation while acquiring the princely States the British established and consolidated through the policy of incorporating of existing indigenous political structures. Writing on the policy of the British consolidation of their power Michael H. Fisher pointed out that, "a single British Resident or Political Agent, controlling a regional state through 'advice' given to the local prince or chief, became the norm for much of the Empire. India's princely states, where from the mid- eighteenth century the British first employed and developed this system of indirect rule, stood as the conscious model for later imperial administrators and Politicians who wished to extend the Empire without the economic and political costs of direct annexation." So while annexing the princely states instead of acquiring the territory directly under their control, they appointed their Agency administration. Even in Mysore after the fourth Anglo-Mysore war having partitioned the state along with the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Marathas only left out share of Mysore was given to the old royal family of Wodeyars and appointed the Residency to control and advice the State affairs.

Mysore became economically strong and politically powerful during the rule of Tipu Sultan. In the fourth Anglo-Mysore War the Mysore forces were crushed, Tipu Sultan was killed and the capital of Mysore kingdom Srirangapatna fell in to the hands of the British. The fourth of May 1799 was looked at with particular satisfaction by the British rulers as the day on which an indomitable opponent of theirs was at last destroyed for the same reason. The day was looked at with sadness by all who cared for the memory of fighters against colonialism and imperialism of the British. The death of Tipu Sultan relieved General Lord Morington of any embarrassment that might have been caused to him and in a letter addressed to the court of Directors in London on the 11<sup>th</sup> May Lord Morington while expressed his satisfaction at the success that had attended his efforts to subjugate Tipu Sultan. Lord Morington proceeded to Srirangapatnam for the final settlement of affairs there and as a preliminary he sent his private Secretary Henry Wellesley another brother and Lt. Col. Kirk Patrick his Military Secretary to pursue the matter of settlement after their success.

Lord Morington was supposed to proceed to Srirangapatnam. But it was found to be unnecessary. By early 1799 however the British were actively pursuing a course to win over Tipus subjects to their side. This was to be done through the use of propaganda, money reward or offers of territory. In order to achieve this, the Governor General instructed General Harris to set up an Army Commission made up of several military officers including Arthur Wellesley. They were to be assisted by a group of Mahlvis, members of a Muslim sect that had been expelled from Mysore in 1794. For this purpose he personally set the future of the country and he therefore appointed a commission to assume charge of this task under his direction General Harris, Colonel Arthur Wellesley, Colonel Kirk Patrick and Lt. Col. Close with captains Malcolm and Thomas Munro as Joint Secretaries, and laid down the following principles for their guidance for the settlement.

They were; a) That a mode of settlement was to be preferred which should unite the speediest restoration of peace

and order with the greatest practicable security for the continuance of both, b) for this purpose not only the interests of the company but also those of the Nizam and the Marattas and of the leading chieftains in Mysore were to be conciliated, c) the military Power of Mysore was to be broken and to be absolutely identified with that of the company, d) Srirangapatnam was to be a British Garrison town under whatever nominal authority it might be placed, e) the company was to retain the whole of the Sultans territory in Malabar and also in Coimbatore and Dharmapuram with the heads of the pases on the table land of Mysore.

Lord Morington was the guiding consideration of expediency and in part by those of justice. In a dispatch to the court of Directors dated 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1799, he summarized these considerations and said that the company and the Nizam by their conquest had derived an undoubted right to dispose of the conquered territories by dividing the whole between themselves or by allowing others also to participate on grounds of humanity. Marathas in his opinion have taken no share in the War had forfeited every pretension to participate in the advantages which he accrued. It was considered that an equal division of territory between, the Nizam and the company would afford strong grounds of jealousy to the Marathas and would augment the Nizams power, beyond all bounds of discretion. It was however deemed advisable to enlist the good will of the Mahrathas by offering to them such portion of the territory as might give them an interest in the new settlement without offence or injury to the Nizam and without danger to the company possessions.

Lord Morington's eyes were set upon establishing a central and separate government in Mysore, under the protection of the company for which he appointed the office of the Residency. Under the distribution carried out according to this pronouncement of Lord Morington to the company's share fell Canara, Coimbatore, Dharmapuram with all the territories lying below the Ghats between the company's territories in the Carnatic and those in Malabar. These acquisitions were useful to the company not only on account of the three intrinsic values in point of revenue but also because they secured an uninterrupted tract of territory from the coast of Coromandal to that of Malabar. To the Nizam was allotted the districts of Gutti and Gurumkonda bordering on the division of the Mysore territory obtained by him in 1792 together with a tract of country bordering along the line of Chitradurg, Sira, Nandidurg and Kolar excluding however those fortresses to the South forming the frontier to the New Government of Mysore. The rest of the Mysore territory as it existed at the fall of Srirangapatnam was reconstituted in to the new existing state of Mysore. Slight alterations were made in its limits in later years. This treaty was signed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1799 by the Commissioners on behalf of the Governor General and by Meer Alum on behalf of the Nizam. According to the terms of the partition treaty the company's revenue was estimated to be about 7 lakhs of star pagodas annually, a Star Pagoda being Rs.3½ in value and that of the Nizam by about 5 lakhs of Star Pagodas while the revenue of the territory allotted for the new State of Mysore was calculated to yield 25 lakhs of Star Pagodas.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF HINDU ROYAL FAMILY

Lord Wellesley's first plan after the fall of Srirangapatnam was that of recognizing one of Tipu's sons and their share. He writes to Dundas on 7<sup>th</sup> June 1799. It would certainly have been desirable that the power should have been placed in the hands of one of Tipu's sons. But he was deterred from this settlement consideration of British interests. The antiquity of the Hindu Royal family's legitimate title was to be protected, the Governor General naturally turned to the representative of the royal family of Mysore whose rights had been usurped by Hyder Ali earlier. He was of the strong and considerable opinion that, as Lord Wellesley writes to the Court of Directors on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August, 1799 an intercourse of friendship and kindness had subsisted in the most desperate crisis of their adverse fortunes in addition to these motives of policy, moral considerations and sentiments of generosity and humanity which favoured the restoration of the ancient family of Mysore, their high birth, the antiquity of their legitimate title and their long and unmerited, sufferings, rendered them peculiar objects of compassion and respect or could it be doubted that their government would be both more acceptable and more indulgent than that of the Mohammedan usurpers to the mass of the inhabitants of the country. Composed almost entirely of Hindus, Wellesley was desirous to welcome the sovereign of Mysore as a distinct, additional and subordinate power in India.

The infant Raja elevation was opposed at the time by several members and colleagues of Lord Wellesley's advisors and by none other than Sir Thomas Munro. All objections were overruled, a separate government for Mysore was constituted, Poornaiah, the able Brahmin minister who had been Tipu's Chief officer of finance was appointed Prime Minister and for eleven years he managed the State affairs with great skill and success so far as relates to the augmentation and collection of the revenue. During Purnaiahs administration the pressure was never relaxed. No imputation seems ever to have been cast upon his personal integrity and when in the year 1811 he was compelled to resign his authority, however he left a sum of hard cash in the treasury exceeding two millions of sterling.

Imperial British after handing over the power of Mysore to the infant Raja and also to implement the partition treaty he appointed the British Resident the advising agency power in Mysore. The Residency first apparently drew from their knowledge of European and Moghal diplomatic practice, modified of course by their peculiar situations and goals. In Europe the institution of permanent diplomatic missions had only developed during the early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Prior to that time embassies had been exchanged between major European States but the cost of the regular disputes about precedence and ceremonial holds led to the appointment of agents or residents.

This advice was acted upon for a short period, soon after the departure of Sir John Malcolm's successor Colonel Mark Wilks the resident was replaced in direct subordination to the government of Madras. So long as subsidiary alliance was paid that was best calculated whether it was so intended or not to lead to the Raja's ruin. The most striking and critical instance was the occurrence on December 1811 an unavailing

struggle against the intrigues of the palace party in which Purnaiah was finally deprived of power and the Rajah who was now sixteen years old proclaimed his own majority and took the government into his own hands.

From the First year of the young Rajah's personal rule, the condition of Mysore gradually and steadily deteriorated. However, occasional remonstrance was addressed to the native court by the Resident and by the Government of Madras but no efficient means was applied to improve the administration. In the year 1825 Thomas Munro, then Governor General of Madras visited Mysore and warned the Rajah about the situation. The disorder of the Raja's affairs had reached to worst, the Article 4<sup>th</sup> of the treaty subsidy of the direct interference in the administration of Mysore territory opened up. The close supervision of the Resident was also initiated and decided that the Raja was not to be disturbed or frightened anymore until he had sufficiently committed himself. The Resident was not to insist on the redress of grievances or to encourage complaints until some fearful oppression, some impending disaster or the stoppage of the subsidy afforded a good pretext for putting the Raja into their hold. However, on the self vague rumours of the expectant and passive hostility in the Madras government spread over the principality and unquestionably contributed to exile the subsequent rebellion. Lord William Benetnck the Governor General of India appointed a special committee on the insurrection and the decision acquiring the state under the Commissioner's rule. While taking into account the terms of the treaty of 1799, the British Government had determined to take into its own hands the management of Mysore. The letter was delivered by the British Resident and His Highness surrendered his authority without any resistance. However, the Resident continued as before to maintain to the Rajas court and the semblance of disclamation relations between the two sovereign powers continued. The Resident steadily built up a determining influence over the princes by extending their activities into all spheres of the state affairs. They arbitrated in question of successions or suggested particular candidates for succession in Mysore. They often dictated the terms in the appointment of Dewans, through whom they could exercise control easily. The Residents were thus able to intervene virtually in all aspects of the state administration.

The British also continued to look upon the princes as rich sources of making quick money to their treasury. Penalties were often imposed on the Maharaja of Mysore for every lapse in meeting their demands. The Residents were not averse to using subjects against rulers on many occasions. As in British India here also the method of divide and rule was practiced. Having no real power in their hands the rulers however were all eager to live upto their own ideas of Royalty, maintaining the pomp and ceremony of their court and keeping up the peasantry on their turmoil. A resident or political Agent might find himself administering directly during a period of regency and having great attachment as in Mysore during much of the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Thus, the working of the Residency in the early period of British rule in the princely state of Mysore started by binding with a number of rules and a treaty of subsidiary terms which stipulated British control of the princes army paid by them. Trade free to duty, a payment of tribute or the annexations of the best areas

of the state were termed. Each of the articles of the treaty clearly indicated any change in the administration would cause disciplinary action against the king or Raja. Thus the Raja of Mysore became more or less a puppet in the hands of the British all through this period.

#### CREATION OF RESIDENCY IN MYSORE

The altered political position of Mysore as a subordinate ally of the British Government. The administration of Mysore handed over to the Dewan led the Governor General certain instructions issued to Lt. Col. Barry close the first Resident at the court of Mysore for the regulation of his conduct towards the Government of Mysore as well as for efficiently giving effect to the provisions of the subsidiary treaty. These instructions help us to understand not only the political position assigned to Mysore at the time they were issued but also the subsequent course of events. It was pointed out to the resident that the strength of the subsidiary force to be stationed in the Mysore state had been left deliberately undecided in order that the armies of both the Governments might be considered as common and mutually available for employment.

When a larger British force than was available at the time in Mysore was required by the resident, he was to apply to the Government of Madras under whose political supervision the Mysore state was placed. The other subject to which the attention of the Resident was invited related to the conduct and management of the country. The Resident was diligently to be on the watch with a view not only to the punctual realization of the subsidy but also to the improvement of the resources of the country and to the prevention of any necessity on the part of the company Government in connection with the expenditure of the Raja's palace administration. The government emphasized the need that existed on the part of the Resident to keep a constant eye on such expenditure and inculcate the property of practicing due economy. Regarding alienations of land to individuals or to religions institutions for personal support or general maintenance, the Resident was directed to be careful that no embarrassments arose in future by allowing any profusion and that every augmentation in that direction was to be jealously watched. It was essential that all forms of respect and courtesy due to the Raja and the members of his family were to be strictly maintained.

As a result of instructions given by Governor General of India opportunity to interfere in the management of the affairs of the country vested in the hands of the Resident but also raised the latter to the position of a sort of appellate authority over the Dewan.

From 1799 till 1932 with a very brief interval, the British resident at the court of Mysore was in direct communication only with the Madras authorities from whom he received his instructions while the Madras Government reported its proceedings to the supreme government in Bengal. The plan never seems to have worked well. The authority was wrongly placed; the responsibility was too much divided. The Duke of Wellington then General Wellesley in a letter of Major Shawe-dated 14<sup>th</sup> of January 1804 gave a strong opinion on this subject of a very shrewd observer of men and matters who had the best and latest opportunities of forming a judgment and

affords them another instance of his remarkable foresight as to the course of Mysore affairs.

The British Residents during the same period were Barry close, Josiah Webbe, John Malcome, Wilks and A.H. Cole who were all men of remarkable ability and trained officers of experience and who gave their unstinted support to the government of Mysore. Barry close the first Resident of Mysore was regarded as the ablest man of the time in the diplomatic service in India and his knowledge of languages was extraordinary and superior to that of any other European in the country. He had power of unlimited interference in all the internal concerns of the state, he was sagacious. Residents frequently made tours in the state with a small body of troops and readily gave redress to the grievances of the people there by tending also to restore quiet. The Resident was also a guardian of the subsidiary treaty that Mysore had fulfilled satisfactorily the financial obligations imposed on it under Article-III of the subsidiary Treaty.

From 1811 to 1831, Mysore was ruled by Krishnaraja Wodeyer-III. Under the supervision of the British resident in 1822 Cole wrote to the Madras Government of the problems of the Nagara Division, Survotham Rao who was the Founder of Nagara from 1816-26 employed many of his own relations in the Government service of that division. He also reported about the financial condition of the Nagara Division in 1831 in the wake of disturbance in the province of Nagara when the state was taken over no fresh agreements were concluded between the paramount power and the subsidiary state of Mysore. The subsidiary treaty continued to govern the relations between two in 1881, to make explicit Mysore's altered situation in its relations with the paramount power, the Rendition of the state to native rule was announced. The instrument of transfer, also narrated the conditions of restoration of the state to the Wodeyers. After 1881 the relations between Mysore and the crown Government underwent nominal changes and these were set forth in the Mysore treaty. The subsidiary treaty and the instrument of transfer of power being basically similar, accordingly the paramount power had the right to either intervene in the administration of the state to realize any dues of subsidy or assume the administration of state. In case of breach of conditions both the engagements forbade the Maharaja from corresponding with other native states. Employing Europeans in the service and dismantling or garrisoning of forts within the state, both the engagements called on the ruler to pay utmost and conform at all times to the advice of the Governor General in matters of administration.

The Maharaja of Mysore could not even appoint a Dewan for the administration of the state without the sanction of the Viceroy. While this was not specifically mentioned in the rendition instrument, the power of appointing Dewan was part of the residuary jurisdiction which in the case of Mysore was retained by the paramount power. In 1913 the Government of India issued instructions that in future the appointment of Dewans of Mysore could be ratified by the British resident.

After the decision of rendition Mysore had been taken Lord Lytton addressed a dispatch to the Secretary of state for India narrating in general the British policy towards the princes of India. The Viceroy went on to observe that under the protection of pax-Britannica the power of the native rulers

had remained absolute both in theory and in practice. Hence he said that there was need for some sort of a defense mechanism against maladministration. Therefore Lord William Bentinck on 7<sup>th</sup> September 1831, sent a letter to Raja from the Governor General informing that because of some alleged grave defects in his administration of the state an English Commission composed of the English officers named there in would be in charge of the entire administration of Mysore. In 1881 the Mysore representative assembly was founded Mysore was the first princely state to have such a body. The assembly had important limitations. Basically it had no statutory status until 1923 as it had been created by an executive order of the Government.

#### OFFICIATED RESIDENTS FROM 1799 TO 1947

Col Barry Close who had been chosen as the first Resident of His Highness court and had so closely co-operated with Purnaiah and General Wellesley in making the new government a great success, was transferred as resident at Poona in 1801. He was in some respects one of the most remarkable men of his time. His transfer to Poona was urged by General Wellesley on the ground that he was "the only man" who managed Indians properly and that mainly from his perfect knowledge of their language" He was most zealous in the public cause and though as General Wellesley remarked his temper was not the best and his mode of reasoning, General Wellesley regretted exceedingly the departure of close his brother Henry That he is the ablest man in the diplomatic line in India and that his knowledge of the language is so extraordinary and so superior to that of any other European in India and that alone rendered him as most fit for a diplomatic situation and besides that qualification he has others in an equal it not a superior degree to other candidates for those situations. Wellesley felt that "I considered that closes presence in Mysore for a few years longer would have been a great benefit and would have established the new government on so firm a foundation that nothing could hereafter shake it", Close was greatly admired by Purnaiya who built and named close pet near Bangalore after him in 1800.

Close handed over charge to Mr. J.H. Peile who after a few months was succeeded by Mr. Josiah Webbe who had been Chief Secretary at Madras. He however, left for Nagpur as resident there about the close of 1802, much to the sorrow of Purnaiah. Purnaiah and he were great friends and the obelisk to the north west of Srirangapatnam known as the Webbe monument was erected by Purnaiah as a memorial to him, when he died at Gwalior while resident there in 1805. He was succeeded by Major John Malcom. But as he was engaged in the Maratha war he did not join until November 1804 up to which date Lt.col Wilks, the future historian of Mysore was the officiating Resident. Wilks was a great classical scholar, a keen observer and an officer imbued with the brightest sense of public duty. He ably filled the vacant position, with infinite pain he used for gathering in the materials required for his magnum opus. He stayed until about 1807 for going on a second mission to Persia. The Hon, Arthur. H. Cole who had been since 1806, Secretary to the Resident and then Assistant Resident officiated in the post until about 1812 when he was confirmed in it and he continued in the post till in that year he

was succeeded by Mr. J.A. Casamajor who continued till 1832.

Pandit Sundralal is of the opinion that "The grounds alleged for the attachment of the country are not only unsustainable by the terms of the treaty but one found to be even more opposed to truth" for the next 50 years Mysore state was ruled by the commission and it was restored to the Raja's descendants in 1881. On terms which were harsher than those of 1799, 1800. In 1831 October two British Commissioners took the charge of the administration of Mysore and in 1831-1832 the assistant to the Resident of Mysore was G.L. Penderghast. The commissioner himself acted as the Resident of Mysore in 1832 G.E. Russell officiated to the Residents position. His Residency power was only for a short term and in 1834 April Junior and Senior commissioners post was merged; there onwards a single commissioner was in charge of Mysore who was called the chief commissioner. In 1834 May 30 the resident of Mysore was Col. Mark Cubbon, on a temporary basis. The fulltime resident was Col. J.S. Frazer appointed in June but took charge in October on 1836 Jan-19 Major R.D. Stokes was officiated to the post of Resident. He was in power till 1842 December. In 1843, the imperial government felt that the Residents post was not necessary because Mysore was under the direct control of the British government. Therefore the post of Resident was abolished.

The first Commissioner of Mysore was General Briggs. Though he was 82 at that time he retained a vivid recollection of His Highness and the unfavourable manner in which his rights had been handled. M.C.M. Lushington who acted as a junior commissioner and Mr. Casamajor was the resident of Mysore. Meanwhile a serious difference of opinion that had arisen between the senior and junior commissioners reached the Governor General. Col. Briggs had expressed his earliest desire to be relieved from the position of senior commissioner. He also suggested that the existing constitution of the commission should be modified and that the entire authority should be vested in a single Commissioner. Lord William Bentinck did not agree to the suggestion. He directed the transfer of Colonel Briggs as Resident at Nagpur. His place was taken by J.M. Macleod the Junior commissioner until the arrival of Lt.Col. Morison in April 1863. Col-Briggs suggestion of a single Commissioner was adopted and given effect to Col. Morison nominated to the Chief Commissioners post. In 1834 Casamajor was transferred as Resident at Travancore his place at Mysore being taken in June of that year by Col J.S. Frazer who also held the posts of Commissioner and Military Commandant of Coorg. In June 1834 Col Morison was transferred to Calcutta and was succeeded in the post of sole Commissioner by Col. Sir Mark Cubbon.

During the ten years that elapsed between 1834 and 1843 certain administrative changes were introduced. Of these was the abolition of the post of the British Resident in Mysore which had been created at the time of the restoration of the state about 1799. Major General R.D. Stokes who had proved so successful in his post continued in the post till 1843. When it was abolished, there was a reason to believe that the position of the Resident proved impossible in view of the larger powers wielded in the administration by the Commissioner in actual

working that close and unreserved intimacy between the resident and the commissioner that was necessary was not realized. Their individual ideas in regard "to the future destiny of the Mysore country," as it was described even also differed.

While the Commissioner might have been guided in regard to these by those derived from the supreme government, the Resident being probably unaware of them could not have had any conception of them to guide him in his own attitude in regard to various matters affecting the personal status of His Highness. Right to adjudicate all disputes among his own immediate relations which had been conceded to him in 1834 was questioned in 1839. Difficulties of this kind, personal and political induced the Government of India to decide on the abolition of the post of Resident in 1843. Major Stokes proved accordingly the last of his line during the rendition period.

Sir Mark Cubbon handed over charge to Mr. C.B. Saunders the Judicial Commissioner who conducted the administration till the arrival in February 1862 of the new Commissioner L.B. Bowring and the latter with the interval of a year's leave in 1866-67 during which Mr. Saunders again officiated held office until 1870. Mr. R.A. Dalrymple of the Madras Civil Service and member of the Viceroy's Council officiated for a year from April 1875 when C.B. Saunders who for some year had been Resident at Hyderabad was retransferred to Mysore. During the two years that he was chief commissioner occurred the great famine which swept off more than a million of the population. Mr. James Gordon who had been Judicial Commissioner since 1868 was made Guardian to the Maharaja at the end of 1857. This appointment was kept in abeyance by Colonel Malleon in 1879. Captain F.A. Wilson then acted as tutor to the Maharaja till 1878.

#### RENDITION AND RESIDENCY RULE

J.D. Gordon the last Commissioner of Mysore had written to the Viceroy in 1879 that "it was desirable that the Maharaja should not involve himself in the details of the administration, but should exercise upon it merely his approval or displeasure." Thus the paramount power recognized the Maharaja of Mysore to be the repository of all power within the state but did not want him to wield it exclusively. To place limitations on the ruler's authority a Dewan and a Council were appointed. Executive power on princely Mysore circulated among these three entities the Maharaja, The Dewan and the Council.

In April 1878 Mr. Gordon was made Chief Commissioner in addition to his office as guardian. On the 8<sup>th</sup> March 1881 his highness Sri. Chamarajendra Wodeyar Bahadur attained the age of 18 years and the rendition of the state took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> following when at seven O clock in the morning amidst universal good wishes and every demonstration of joy on the part of the people, the Maharaja Sri. Chamarajendra Wodeyar was placed on the throne at Mysore under a proclamation of the viceroy and Governor General of India in council. The Governor of Madras Honorable W.P. Adam attended, during the inauguration a gentle shower of rain descended, a welcome omen seeming to be a token blessing

from the skies on the great act of the state. Gordon became the Resident from the date of the rendition he was the chief commissioner of Mysore, became Resident of Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg. He was invested with the powers of a local government and of a high court in respect of the Bangalore assigned tract. The changes in the appointment of Resident were frequent when it was known that Sir James Gordon would not return to his appointment in which Mr. Stanford, the Judicial Commissioner had meanwhile been acting as Resident. Mr. Lyall then the Settlement Commissioner in Punjab was made Resident. During most of his absence on leave, Mr. Girdlestone Resident in Nepal was transferred to Mysore Mr. Lyall was eventually appointed Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab and Sir. Charles Bernard Chief Commissioner of Burma was nominated but being almost immediately transferred to the Indian Office, did not join and Mr. Fitzpatrick Legislative Secretary to the Government of India received the appointment. On the transfer of the latter to Assa, Sir. Harry Prendergast became Resident and when he left for Baroda, Sir Oliver St. John succeeded.

Sir Oliver was afterwards sent to Baluchistan and died a few days after arrival at Quetta. Sir Harry Prendergast then again held office till the appointment of Colonel Henderson, Superintendent for the suppression of Thuggee and Dacoity. During the latter's absence on leave, Colonel Peacock acted and on leaving Mysore became Consul General at Baghdad, Colonel Henderson retired in 1895, and Mr. Lee Warner, Political secretary to the Bombay Government succeeded. But in a few months he was transferred to India Office and Mr. Mackworth, young Financial Commissioner in the Punjab was appointed as Resident of Mysore. At the end of 1896 he in his turn was made Lieutenant Governor of the Punjab and Colonel Donald Robertson, Resident of Gwalior took his place in Mysore as Resident. Crawford James Adair later Indian C.S. (Bombay) became the resident of Mysore. He was educated at Rugby arrived in India on 17<sup>th</sup> September 1878 and served in Bombay as Assistant Collector served in the political department and acted as Assistant to the Resident at Hyderabad. He had various positions in the British administration. He was officiated to the position of Resident of Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg on June 1899 to 1901.

Bourdillion Sir James Austin, Resident in Mysore before assuming to the power he worked as Superintendent of Census of Bengal, Acting secretary to the Bengal Government's financial department. Commissioner of Patna, famine member of Famine Commission in India acted as Lieutenant Governor of Bengal in November 1902-1903. He was officiated to the Resident of Mysore. He was succeeded by Tucker Alexander Lauzun Pondock CIE, a late. Indian C.S. Educated at Winchester and Balliol College at Oxford served in Bombay as Assistant Collector, Forest Settlement Officer, Assistant to Resident at Hyderabad and Assistant Secretary for Berar. He also acted as Undersecretary to Government of India, Foreign Department. He was the 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant to Resident of Hyderabad. On November 1901 he was appointed on special duty in Foreign Department Secretary in 1904, officiated to the Resident in Mysore from July to October 1904. Because of his great ability he was later officiated to the position of an

Agent to Governor General in Baluchistan and Political Resident of Persian Gulf. In his place Williams Albert ICS officiated to the Resident of Mysore. He was educated at Upping, Ham Clifton and Christ College, Cambridge, served as Assistant Commissioner at Punjab, Undersecretary to the Government of India. Foreign department, political agent Hyderabad, Deputy Secretary of Government of India in April 1905 he was officiated to the Resident of Mysore and Chief Commissioner of Coorg. In 1907 he was deputed to Punjab Court as Temporary Additional Judge at Chief Court.

Fraser Sir STUART MITFORD ICS, Resident in Mysore. Educated at Blunders School Tiverton and Balliol College Oxford, served in Bombay as Assistant Collector and Magistrate, Forest Settlement officer, tutor and guardian to the Raja of Kolhapur and Chief of Kagal and Kunvar Sahib of Bhavnagar. Tutor and Governor to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore, Assistant Resident in 1902 Department Secretary to Government of India Foreign department on October 1905, he was officiated to the position of Resident of Mysore and Chief and Judicial Commissioner of Coorg, November 1905 to March 1910. Resident, Kashmir December 1911. His place was filled by DALY, Sir HUGH. Resident of Mysore. 1910 to 1916. Born 1860 son of Sir H.D. Daly entered Gloucestershire, joined the Indian staff Corps Captain 1892, served in Burmese expedition, Superintendent of the Northern Shan states, C.I. E. Assistant and later Deputy Secretary to the Government of India Foreign Department, Major and C.S.I. 1903. Agent to the Governor General for central India officiated to the post of Resident at Mysore in 1910, proved a true friend of the state and worthily maintained the highest traditions of British statesmanship. The Daly Memorial Hall at Bangalore in which the Mythic society is housed is named after him. A fine portrait of him is to be seen there.

Mr. H.V. Cobb was the Resident of Mysore in 1916, in 1920 W.P. Barton was officiated to the post of Residency his position was filled by Lieut-Col-STUART George KNOX. He was working in Indian Army, officiated to the Resident in Mysore, joined the service on 19<sup>th</sup> September 1888-regimental duty officiated to the Political Assistant Kalat, Assistant to Political Resident Persian Gulf, political Agent and H.B.M.S consul Muscat officiated to Political Resident in Persian Gulf. He was transferred and officiated to the service of Resident of Mysore on 13<sup>th</sup> February 1921. Served till 13<sup>th</sup> October 1921. His position was filled by A.N.L. Cater in 1924. Watson Charles Cunningham educated at Watson's College, Edinburgh, Edinburgh University and Christ Church Oxford, served in Bombay as Assistant Collector. Assistant to governor's agent in Kathiawar officiated to the Assistant Commissioner in Merwara, Assistant to Governor General's agent in Rajputana, Private Secretary to Governor of Bombay, worked as Secretary to Governor of Bombay officiated to the Resident of Mysore March to August 1924. He was succeeded by Pears Stuart Edmund, ICS Resident of Mysore, educated in Edinburgh University and Trinity Hall Cambridge served in North Western Frontier province, Political Agent in Tochi Kurram, Khyber and Malakand, delegate to Anglo-Afghan Conference at Mussorrie in 1920 Resident Waziristan Agent of Governor General Baluchistan. In 1924 officiated to the position of Resident of Mysore.



Pears was succeeded by Lt. Col Burke RJC officiated to the position of the Resident of Mysore from 1930 to 1933. He was succeeded by Lt. Col Plowden CTC, CIE from 5<sup>th</sup> May 1933 to 9 December 1937. He was succeeded by John de la Hay Gordon who also worked as the Commissioner of Mysore, later he was officiated to the position of the Resident of Mysore from 9<sup>th</sup> December 1937 to 1941. His position was occupied by Sir Denholm de Montalt Fraser from 1941 to 1944. During the period Mysore was under tense of Freedom Movement and Quit India Movement, created an overall awareness among the people of Mysore. From 1944 to 1946 Sir Philip Gainsford acted as the Resident of Mysore. The last Resident of Mysore from 1946 to 1947 was Sir Walter Fendall Campbell. After the Rendition of Mysore the power and position of the Resident was under limits because Dewans of Mysore played a predominant role in the Administration of princely Mysore.

From 1881 onwards Wodeyars, the Rajas of Mysore ruled the Mysore territories. They appointed Dewans to manage administration of the state. The First Dewan after Rendition was Dewan C. Rangacharlu. Mysore has witnessed three Maharajas and Eleven Dewans. The freedom movement in India strengthened princely states, Dewans and Raja some times co-operated, some times acted against the movement. Residents were supervising the activities of the native princes. Often Residents reported the conditions and the political situations of the native states. For all official purpose residents were the superior officers of the state. They were appointed by the paramount government.

The administration was directly run by Dewans under the instructions of His Highness Maharaja. The Residents were supervising the British interest. For all the new administrative and economic ventures the consent of Residents advised the paramount power. Thus Mysore was under the 'Clutches of the paramount power. During this period Mysore developed memorably under the able Dewans guidance and active role. Thus the Residency, an European system introduced by British in Mysore after Tipu's death was an incident of economic greed of the paramount powers. Mysore had witnessed lot of problems, development; resistance etc., The Government of Mysore was always under Ventilator till Quit India Movement. The political situation in India changed after 1942, the Residents power was though a constitutional binding in general, Maharajas and Dewans played predominant roles. This trend of operation of the administration continued till India got independence. The Residency control and administrative exercise ended with independence of India and Mysore.

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