

Epitome : International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research ISSN : 2395-6968

SREE CHATTAMPI SWAMIKAL: SOCIAL REFORMER IN TRAVANCORE

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ABSTRACT

Sree Vidyadhiraja Parama Bhattaraka Chattampi Swamikal, shortly known as Chattampi Swamikal was a Hindu sage and social reformer. He is also called as Sree Vidhyadhiraja Chattampi Swamikal. His thoughts and actives have catalyzed many social movements and reforms in Travancore. Swamikal along with his contemporary, Narayana Guru and Ayyankali during 19th century strived hard to fight against caste system and social injustice that existed in Kerala a century ago. He also worked for emancipation of women and encouraged them to overcome creation of social disabilities of the Travancore society. He propagated the principles of 'Ahimsa' and preached for the classless society. He strongly opposed the conversion actives of the Christian missionaries though he was not against Christianity. According to him, different religions are different paths leading to the same place. Today the southern part of India, lower caste people occupied important places social, cultural, Education and other field. In this context, this paper highlighted the role of Chattampi Swamikal for the liberation of Travancore downtrodden.

KEYWORDS

social reformer, untouchability, unapproachability, unseeability, self-realisation, women rights.