

# TIPU SULTAN: A REPRESENTATION OF COURAGEOUSNESS IN THE SUB-CONTINENT - A STUDY

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## Abstract

Fourth Anglo-Mysore War 1799 was the negative episode in the history of sub- continent, where the Haider Ali's eldest son Tipu Sultan was martyred by the Britain's. The defeat of the Sultan of Mysore was the turning point for the expansion of colonial rule of British in India. Tipu Sultan was prominent personality not in India but also spread his bravery in all over world due to his courage, audacity and military tactics. Tipu was the owner of numerous qualities such as administration, socio-economic, military invention, autocrat etc which he uses against the foreign invaders, East India Company. Due to his extra qualities, he discussed as the first freedom fighter of sub- continent. Till to the last breath, Tipu Sultan fight against East India company who tried to capture the territories of Kingdom Mysore. Due to his extraordinary qualities of war and success in different wars, he was barrier for the British colony. This paper covered the early life of Tipu Sultan, innovations, bravery, courage, integrity and freedom led to emerge as the Indian brave warrior. Unfortunately, Tipu Sultan was failed to catch up from his failures.

**Keywords:** Kingdom Mysore, East India Company, Seriangapatam, Anglo-Mysore War.

## Introduction

A man signs of brave in the subcontinent, Tiger of Mysore, Tipu Sultan or Tipu Sahib (Richard, 1999) called by the British officials defeated many resistances of East India Company and capture Southern India. Indian peoples called him as a freedom fighter for their fighting tactics, protection, solidarity and integrity of Mysore against the British Empire. Where the invaders namely East India Company (1600) said that, "without defeat of the Sultan of Mysore, Tipu Sultan, India was not ruled by the British."

These historic words said by the British General, when they were defeated during third Anglo-Mysore war 1790-1792. Tipu Sultan was emerged as the strong resister for the East India Company. Peoples of England think him a ruthless and oppressive dictator, while relating to current times, the Indian nationalists have called him as a revolutionary nationalist, but couple perspectives are the emerging thoughts of rational contemplate. A man with small and a round face with black whisker, who wore royal dress shimmering with jewels, Tipu was strong and assertive, valiant, warlike and ruthless; a committed Muslim ruling particularly Hindu population (Richard, 1999). Tipu Sultan was considered as founder of rocket artillery. At the same time, he had capability to deploy 5000 rockets.

## Early Life

In the territory of Kingdom Mysore, on 20 November, 1750 was witnessed to a birth of healthy and young boy in the house of Haider Ali at DevanHalli, district city of Banglore (Mohib, 2005, p. 6). Fateh Ali called as Tipu Sultan, Tiger of Mysore, Sher-e- Mysore, was successful to break the bars of Seringapatam in 1760, when his father was declared as the rebel by the Raja of Mysore, Tipu Sultan with his brother was arrested put behind the cell. At that time Tipu Sultan was the 10 years old. Tipu Sultan was the son of brave, warrior and a man of qualities, Haider Ali (Irfan, 2001, p.5). Haider Ali choose his name as Fateh Ali later on the name was changed as Tipu Sultan or Tiger of Mysore due to his extraordinary fighting skills and leadership qualities (Mohib, 2005, p. 368). Tipu Sultan was the eldest son of Haider Ali (Ghulam, 1988, p. 78). Tipu Sultan's mother name Fakh-un-Nisa daughter of Mir Moenhuud-Din, Governor of Kadapa. When Tipu Sultan was 11 years old, his father Haider Ali was takeover the throne of Kingdom Mysore in 1761. As the culture to appoint his son in future, Haider Ali arranged different teachers for childhood education in the discipline of Persian, Urdu, Kannada, Quran, Arabic, ridding, shooting, and Fencing for Tipu Sultan. In the young age of 17, he was handover different diplomatic charges and military missions. His father also appointed different French officers for the learning of military skills and tactics for the emerging expeditions. Tipu Sultan quickly adopted teaching methods from different experienced mans, that were appointed by his father Haider Ali. That's why, in the age of 16, in 1767, Tipu Sultan was appointed Command of corps of cavalry attacked to Caratic. Tipu Sultan succeeded throne in 1782, in the age of 32, when his father died due to cancer disease at Chittur, who had quite the last Hindu had capability to deploy 5000 rockets. During his period, he also took initiative of new land revenue system, which gave immense boost to silk and other agricultural activities to the economy of Mysore (Sheikh Ali, 1956).

### British Expeditions

Four wars of Mysore were the negative part of the history in the India. British face numerous confrontations in India but never led it down to defeat the Mysore. The eighteenth century was considered as the worst period of the sub-continent. In this period, the British East India Company was decided to declare a series of wars against the Kingdom Mysore for the expansion of his rule. Without defeating the Kingdom Mysore, it was not possible for the British Government to rule over India. The colonial powers find out paths to hold control over the local influence to gain either full supremacy of territory, or the revenues that was generated by the local lords for their financial and military support to his little claimed territory. There were the immense differences seen in the armies of European and local Kingdoms. This was the reason that foreigners hold their control and confidence over the sub-continent. British military will be founded as most organized and well equipped due to its extra-class training and well-done management. That's why the small number of European-trained forces could emerge as successful significantly over the huge Indian local armies contain mainly ill- disciplined cavalry and infantry (James Grant, 1878, pp. 607-608).

East India Company gave the birth to a great hero in the Southern India. This was the time when Warren Hastings controls the government of East India Company and he wanted to capture the territories of India through his modern power. Haider Ali was not much educated and he decided to start his career as a soldier in the army of Kingdom Mysore (Kate, 2006, pp. 172-181). The Prime Minister of the Mysore kingdom was excited with his extra qualities of valour and gave him favor. The destiny of Haidar started his bright career and with the immediate time, he was promoted towards the high ranks. He was a man of strong determination and iron will. He combined intelligence and diplomacy with courage and bravery. Finally, he took full advantage of the king's weakness and captured power.

In 1761, the commander of Mysore, Haider Ali started his journey as king and became the ruler of Mysore and set his feet to rule the kingdom. Haider Ali was able to control the Mysore 21 years, his time was full of expeditions and battles. When he began his rule, he took a decision to capture the Hyderabad Deccan for the expansion of territories. Now, he was made different strategies to capture close areas for the expansion of his rule and protection from the East India Company.

### First Anglo-Mysore War (1766-1769)

The First Anglo-Mysore War (1766-69), Haider Ali took different measures of success against the British, almost covering the most areas of Madras. The British persuade the Nizam of Hyderabad to launch assault over the Haider Ali, but the Nizam changed his decision immediately from the sides of British, supporting Haider Ali, King of Mysore. That was for the short period of time however, and Nizam made new agreement with the British authority in 1768. Haider Ali did engage himself from the attack of British Army on the side of west and Madras Army from northeast. Despite of this, Haider's heavy attack was not faced by the Madras Government and surrender. Resultantly, Madras Army find out a way to sign an agreement with Haider Ali, namely Treaty of Madras (Naravane, 2006, pp. 172-181).

### Second Anglo-Mysore War (1780-1784)

This event was the cause of friendly relations with French by the Mysore King Haider Ali in India. Haider Ali was committed himself French ally to take revenge from the earlier war of Maratha from the Britain. On the other side, the East India Company with the support of France captures the outposts of French and decided to drive out the French from India for their rule. But this was not possible to defeat the Kingdom Mysore under Haider Ali. In 1780, the month of July, the military caravan led by Haider Ali with 80,000 soldiers invaded Carnatic. Haider Ali made a camp at Acrot to prepare his army for the Britain. Responded by the Britain, a military force consists of 5000 equipped and well-trained soldiers with heavy guns send by the Colonel Hector Munro from the Madras to Guntur. In the command of Tipu Sultan, Haider Ali sent an army to intercept the Britain force. Tipu Sultan ordered to his army to open the mouth of guns and started heavy fire over the Colonel William Baillie's force. The result of this attack was compelled Baillie's force to surrender and admitted his defeat in front of Tipu Sultan. The Britain army face toll loss of casualties and 336 were killed out of 3820. This defeat encouraged the kingdom of Haider Ali and witnessed the immense crushing loss of East India Company at that time in India (Pradeep, 2005, pp. 79-80).

After this defeat, Britain authority took strong decisions to change the officials but they appeared as failure in different wars. A series of succession of Haider Ali and his eldest son Tipu sultan from 1781 to 1784 of Vellore, Negapatam, Annagudi near Tanjore, Malabar and other areas, spread all over the India and they were created encouragement among the Indian Nationals as Freedom fighters. During this period, the East India Company launched a number of attacks against the Haider Ali but they never able to defeat. These toll losses alarmed the officials of London to find out the solution. The Britain had two ways first to negotiate with Haider Ali and celebrate their defeat and second to send well trained officials with great strategy and heavy armament. Colonel Fullarton was ordered by the Parliament of Britain chose first to enter into negotiations and abandoned all fighting activities. Finally, the four- year war was won by Haider Ali and his son with the signing of Treaty of Manglore on 11 March, 1784 (Naravane, 2006, pp. 173- 175).

### Third Anglo-Mysore War (1790-1792)

In 1784, Treaty of Mangalore was between the British and King of Mysore, but Tipu Sultan, the King of Kingdom Mysore showed hatred and restated that he would make different strategies to fight again with Britain. After the defeat of Third Anglo Mysore War, no other way to capture the Mysore if they didn't joined hands with neighbor enemies of Tipu Sultan. At that time, British Government changed his high post and appointed a new Governor General Lord Earl Cornwallis in 1786 in India. Cornwallis was prominent to made a different amendment in the British supremacy allover India and created new criteria for the courts, civil services, and revenue collection that rest outstandingly unchanged still the control of the British Rule in India (Jerry, 2001, p. 483). Immediately, Lord Cornwallis declared to disintegrate agreements with the Nizam of Hyderabad and Maratha Empire and modify it, if they gave respect to the provision of the 1784 because it will create problematic condition to counter the Kingdom Mysore (John, 2017, p. 546). In 1788, the skirmishes increased among the Tipu Sultan and the Nizam of Haiderabad, Kingdom Travancore and the British when East India Company successfully control over the Circar of Guntur (James & Horace, 1848, pp225-229).

Tipu Sultan launched a series of attempts to Kingdom Travancore in 1788 but it had failed. The President of Madras, Archibald Campbell, at that time, had alarmed Tipu's launched a military action on Travancore would be considered as the announcement of war. It was the first months of 1790, when British Government took a decision by the replacement of General William Medows to General Holland in Madras. Tipu Sultan continued his marched with 14000 his army soldiers and renewed attack on Travancore and successfully crossed the border line of Nedumkotta, a part of Travancore (John, 2017, pp. 549-550).

The British campaign began to attack the Sarangpatam and Banglore, this news was received by the Tipu and marched back to Seringapatam. Cornwallis' decided first target that to capture the mainpart of Bangalore, which would help to create a base to attacked on Seringapatam in future. He expected that this would excite the friend states to rise up their movements. Likely, that Tipu would involve in conspires in the highest of Mysore, he made important planning for the above conspires. To support in the shipping of supplies and a large quantity of weapons, he also keeps a large scale of elephants. On 29 January, 1791, at Vellore, Cornwallis took the charge of main force of British. After one week, he walks in procession to west, as if to cross by the Eastern Ghats at that point. This incited Tipu to disintegrate Pondicherry and rush for Bangalore, where he conscious his serial to be at some risk. No doubt, Tipu put their soldiers in different places for the defense, Cornwallis, after a series of attacks, quickly move to north, and passed the heights of Muglee Pass on 21 February opposed no entities. He then keeps maintain to move forward, against almost no resistance, until he was close to the entrance of Banglore on 5 March. Tipu had protected the city and supplied the military troops, but Ruler of Mysore stay with their soldiers in close areas of British where they started the siege operations by Cornwallis. British were successfully continued to six weeks circumvent the citadel of Tipu and tremendous responded with heavy attacks and skirmishes.

After Banglore was controlled, Cornwallis moved his army to north at a distance of 80 miles from Banglore make sure supply to his army and to support the Nizam's army. Came back to Banglore, Cornwallis noticed the force of Nizam's was not able to provide assistance. Before proceeding to Seringapatam, British Government began a series of attacks to protect the surrounding areas of Banglore. Tipu Sultan proposed a war at a shallow area near the village of Arakere, when Lord Cornwallis was reaching to cross the shallow area of river Cauvery. Resultantly, Lord Cornwallis himself placed to the side areas of the Tipu's position and compelled him to send back towards the walls of Seringapatam. During the arrival of Maratha forces, Tipu Sultan successfully cut off the links between Maratha and Lord Cornwallis, they contact with each other through messengers. Cornwallis' pull back to Bangalore shield the Coimbatore district to Tipu's forces.

The two-thousand-armed troops of Mysore surrounded the Coimbatore. Lord Cornwallis ordered to garrison commander, Lieutenant Chalmers, to withdraw their attack if replied to Tipu's attack, but commander refused the order and decided to fight, and despite of having comparative little 300 men and low quality of gunpowder. His protection was vigour, and close support from Palgautcherry incited him to sortie and successfully take the fighters' supply train. At least eight thousand and more fighters arrived from Mysore, but Chalmers held out. Chalmers violate the conditions of surrender which earlier signed and his men were taken prisoner.

The allied forces again attacked on Bangalore, the forces of PurseramBhow and Teige Wuntlost the large army to motivate geographical access in Mysore's northern sides. PurseramBhow, wanted to capture again the Bednore area that Tipu's father Haider Ali had captured in and latest attack, captured Hooly Honore and Shimoga, no doubt British army found a good work against the Tipu. Only the endangered approach of isolation from Tipu's forcesmake impossible him from approach siege to Bednore itself. When peace talks started at Seringapatam, how was not reached towards the force. Whereas the Cornwallis's little brother, Commodore William Cornwallis, was busy in the marine Battle of Tellicherry, Charles pass time the part of 1791 protecting his providing lines to Madras. He gave instruction to immense supply for operation to confirm that equal supplies and gave charge of money for his army and also for those of joined member states. Secrete agents were forwarded to collect the sensitive data from Tipu's temporary lodgings, and he started to get more authentic information of the troop's strength and team spirit. The communications between Cornwallis and joined members were in a difficult position. The bribed was given to Marathan army leader, Purseram Bhow and Hurry Punt, to place their positions with the army, and Cornwallis reported that the force of Hederabad was failure to support; a British thinker mentioned that they were a "disorderly rabble" and "not very creditable to the state of military discipline at Haiderabad (Franklin & Mary, 1980, pp. 161-162)."

On 25 January, Cornwallis turned their movement from Savendroogto Seringapatam, on the other side Abercrombie retreat from the coast of Malabar. Tipu's men discharge, they did not hindrance its progress. Cornwallis created a number of posts and to secure the sources of supply outside the Banglore. Tipulaunched heavy attacks of rocket when grand force reached the Seringapatam.

In replied to attack of Tipu, Cornwallis took advantage of dark night and disintegrates the force from the actual position of Tipu. Cornwallis organized a amazing ceremony for holding the two young sons of Tipu in his custody, according to the terms of Treaty. Cornwallis desired to expand the rule of British and wanted to give the territory of Mysore to Maratha and Nizam of Hyderabad. After sometime, he mentions in his writings, "If we had taken Seringapatam and killed Tippoo, we must either have given that capital to the Marattas (a dangerous boon) or have set up some miserable pageant of our own, to be supported by the Company's troops and treasures, and to be plundered by its servants." The Mysore sacrifices most of their territories of the coastline; the territories taken depressed Mysore of much of its coastline; Mysore was also duty bounded to pay some of the allied war costs.

On 18 March 1792, Tipu made an agreement Treaty of Seringapatam, ending combat (Franklin & Mary, 1980, pp. 171-173).

#### **Fourth Anglo-Mysore War (1798-1799)**

Fourth Anglo Mysore War 1798-1799 was the last conflict lying among the Kingdom Mysore against the hatred enemy East India Company (George, 2006, pp. 322-323). This battle was the resulted in the favour of East India Company to defeat the Tipu Sultan, King of Mysore and made Princely State of Britain.

Tipu Sultan was not tolerated the defeat of Third Mysore War and decided to take the revenge from the East India Company to recapture the territories which was lost in recent war and became the part of Kingdom Mysore. To make his army forceful and strong, he searches out the allies' group to defeat the East India Company and flash out from the India. He sought the help from the France, Turkey, Arbaia and Kabul. Nepolean's landing in Egypt in 1798, would lead France to create a challenging scenario for the Britain rule in India. Tipu Sultan believed from the success Nepoleans and strong ally of the Mysore because several French officers and commanders performed his duties in Tipu's army.

Now finally, the Britains decided that if they controlled over the India, they remove feets of Tipu from the Mysore. So, now they started different conspires against the Tipu. Britain's find out the weak point of Tipu that they purchase the Generals from the Army of Tipu. This was the loose point that Tipu appointed new Generals instead of old. This was the time that Mir Sadiq Finance Minister was not happy from the decision of Sultan Tipu. Defeat of Tipu totally was conspired by his cabinet members (Darbari).

Now the East India Company took an opportunity to lose the Tipu and they were successes to shake the hands with cabinet members of Tipu. At that time, East India Company was appointed a new Governor General Lord Cornwallis. He was rude and ambitious against the Indians. Lord Cornwallis sends many spies to Kingdom Mysore for the important information. Syed Imam was one of the main spies send by Governor General. But this information was leaked and Syed Imam was arrested by the army of Tipu's. Tipu Sultan took a strong notice against the spies make sentenced to death.

Lord Cornwallis sends the 21,000 mans from the army of Madras to attack Seringapatam. At that time, the lord Cornwallis started to join the hands with Nizam of Haiderabad and Maratha to defeat the Sultan of Kingdom Mysore. The Nizam of Haiderabad supported to East India Company and sends 16,000 peoples to join the Madras Army (Thomas, 2010, pp. 2-6). Tipu Sultan was advised by his military general to escape from the scene through secret passage and fight another day, but he replied: "It is better to live one day as a tiger, rather than a hundred years as a jackal" (The News, 2019).

Tipu Sultan's death is widely attributed to his trusted general Mir Sadiq's betrayal. Tipu Sultan was informed that the Ghaffar Shah, the head of ammo was killed by the enemies. He rushed to his dead body which placed at out of the fort. As Tipu Sultan place their feet with countable force out of the fort, the doors of fort were closed by conspirators. On the other side, Mir Sadiq announced to issue the salary among the soldiers, when the war was at its high peak. This conspiracy weakened to busy force, that's why he removes army from the walls where the British force breached the wall and enter easily in the highly fortified Seringapatam. General of British Army issued order to open the fire against the front enemies. They don't know about Tipu and his force. One of the soldiers gave suggestion to Tipu for the announcement of his leadership in front British but he denied. In his replied to soldier, he recorded historic words that a loin's life of one day is better than the hundred years of jackel. He started fire against the troops, they were fully prepared and filled with a large amount of armament. Tipu sultan was shot by bullets and place to earth. When the sepyo of British Army came to close and suddenly, he slays the head with his sword by Tipu Sultan. Another bullet was shot at the head of the Tipu and he was martyred at the spot.

When the solders of Tipu know about the conspiracy of Mir Sadiq, then he was killed by gaurds. Tipu sultan was rest in peace at Seringapatam in the age of 49. He was presented gaurd of honor by the British govt. He was also given 49-gun salute at Seringapatam, where he was buried.

#### **Tipu Sultan a Symbol of Bravery**

Tipu Sultan was the legend personality of the Sub-continent, where he saves their name in the books with high prestige and considered as the symbol of brave for all the world. He was full of military knowledge tactics, battlefield, strategy and the hero of peoples of Mysore. His actions and influence only against the British Government in South India and poke into one nose. Tipu Sultan's whole life was devoted and struggle for the honor of his soil. Tipu Sultan's success in the battlefield was the Self Command and complete trust of his soldiers. Napoleon Bonaparte issued a letter from his office to Tipu Sultan for appreciating the efforts against Britain. No doubt, he was the son of soil and he was counted in the list of warriors where the generations follow their footprints. He was the first Indian who launched the Rocket Artillery. On the other side, Tipu Sultan was failed to win the confidence Mughal emperors except for Shah Alam II. This whole scenario made him strong and brave. Tipu Sultan proved himself to develop the modern war techniques which have been highly discussed and recognized by his fronts (British). He always shows the tiger as put

their strengths in front of enemies and that's why the peoples called him Tiger of Mysore. The befitting tribute to the legendary ruler will be to judge him by his services and deeds as unfortunately, myths have overrun on history as far as this great ruler is concerned.

### Literature Review

In this book Tipu Sultan's Search for Legitimacy, the writer Kate brittle bank focusing over the techniques and tactics excepted by tiger of Mysore to establish his supremacy and as a powerful ruler. This book also depicts about the kingship in 18<sup>th</sup> century in south India. Tipu Sultan also tried to legitimize their throne after pull out the Muhibul Hussain in his book History of Tipu Sultan wrote that the Tipu Sultan was a great warrior and up rise as a hero not for only subcontinent but also for complete world. The writer also discusses about personal life, about his state and about the skills which he developed at their dynasty.

Richard, C. Tipu Sultan Killed at Seringapatam History Today Journal, Vol. No. 49 in this he discus the fighting qualities and war like method which he adopted during the fighting against the Britains. In this book over the last war between the king of Mysore and the British army till death of Tipu Sultan.

Franklin B. Wickwire Cornwallis: The Imperial Years, in this book the writer told about the Cornwallis contribution towards India he also discusses the expeditions toward the king of Mysore Tipu Sultan. Mr. Franklin also contribute through this book the imperil role of British towards the people of India the Britain's continued their hegemony to kill the king of Mysore

### Conclusion

Tipu Sultan fought against the British Empire with exemplary courage and bravery. Tipu Sultan had attributed his life to sacrifice and defend for his motherland. During his time, Tipu was victimized by the larger population of Hindus other than Muslims. But today, Tipu was emerged as the hero for both Muslims and non-Muslims in undivided India and he remained stood as a hero even after 220 years of his martyrdom. In his soul, he never compromised his personality with British Empire and he always preferred to fight for the rights and protect motherland. In fact, he was continued the legacy, prestige and de-facto Kingdom of his father Haider Ali. The historians believed the fact that, Tipu Sultan was an excellent and a brave warrior who was downed by his own court members. Despite this fact, he faced the lack of man force and dismal resources in the war, but he created exemplary resilience and perseverance. He would be considered as the state hero. Tipu rule the Kingdom Mysore, comparison little area in India, but he was considered as World figure. The history witnessed that Tipu's period full of continuous wars but still a symbol of honor, status and prestige

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