A Study of the Arab Settlement in the old Tirunelveli District, with special reference to Kayalpattnam

A. Alagu Selvam

The research paper entitled "Advent of Islam in Tirunelveli District - A Study attempts to trace out the rise and spread of Islam and its significant effects in Tirunelveli region. Kayal port city was the principal commercial emporium of Mabar attracting traders from Arab countries, China and Greece even before the advent of Islam. The Sangam literary works such as Ahananuru, Mullaippattu, Nedunalvadai, Perumpanatrappadai, Manimekalai, Maduraikanchi, Seevagasinthamani and Silappathikaram call a class of people of traders, soldiers and artisans as "Yavanas".

1 Assistant Professor, Department of History, Sadakathullah Appa College, Tirunelveli, India