



Thanthai Periyar Memorial

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- Recently, Kerala and Tamil Nadu Chief Ministers inaugurated the renovated **Thanthai Periyar memorial in Vaikom**, a significant site commemorating the contributions of Tamil reformist **E.V. Ramasami Naicker, popularly known as Thanthai Periyar**.
- The memorial honors **Thanthai Periyar**, who played a pivotal role in the [Vaikom Satyagraha](#), recognized as the **first organized** movement for the rights of the 'untouchable' communities in India in **April 1924**.
 - Periyar's activism led to his imprisonment twice for his involvement in the movement, earning him the **title Vaikom Veeran**.
- The renovated memorial includes a **new library** and a **wealth of materials** detailing Periyar's biography, **history of the [Dravidian movement](#)**, and his interactions with prominent leaders.
- **Contributions of Periyar:**
 - The Vaikom Satyagraha, a peaceful protest held in Vaikom, Kerala, from **30th March 1924 to 23rd November 1925** was led by visionary leaders **T.K. Madhavan, K.P. Kesava Menon**, and **K. Kelappan**.
 - He started the **Self-Respect Movement and Dravidar Kazhagam** and is known as the '**Father of the Dravidian movement**'.

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Read More: [100 Years of Vaikom Satyagraha](#)

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