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# NASIR JANG IN THE CARNATIC

*by*

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*[ A article seems to have been written based on some references and analysis of some historical notes from **Ananda Ranga Pillai's Diary, History of the Maharattas** and the **Country Correspondence of the British Government**]*

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## NASIR JANG IN THE CARNATIC

PROF. C.S. SRINIVASACHARI, M. A.

### I

On the eve of the death of Nizamu'l-Mulk, confusion reigned in the Deccan and threatened to spread into the Carnatic. Nawab Anwaru'd-din had already heard that the old Nizam had ordered Nasir Jang, owing to repeated requests of the English, to go down to the Carnatic.<sup>1</sup> He wrote to Mahfuz Khan to bring about a frustration of the intended expedition of Nasir Jang saying that "what between French arrogance, English cowardice and the famine (prevailing), the country was ruined and could not bear the expenses of his (Nasir Jang's) army. "When Nasir Jang departed from the Balaghat after finishing his negotiations with Mysore, owing to a threatened Maratha invasion, headed by Sadasiva Rao Bhao, the Nawab felt greatly relieved. As it was though Nasir Jang did not come down into the Carnatic, Murari Rao Ghorepade and his Maratha horsemen began plundering the country round the northern border of the Carnatic.

After Nizamu'l-Mulk's death, Anwaru'd-din seems to have received a confirmation of his office from Nasir Jang, the new Nizam. He communicated this news to both the English and the French. Murtaza Ali Khan of Vellore promised that if he became the Nawab, he would give to Chanda Sahib the Trichinopoly country and to his son Abid Sahib, the Fort and district of Gingee; while Polur Muhammad Ali Khan wished to seize Arni and Conjeevaram. Murtaza Ali actually began to proceed against Arcot; and Anwaru'd-din ordered his son, Hazarat Ali (Mahammaa Ali) who was in camp in Tinnevely, to return to Trichinopoly, lay up provisions and strengthen the garrisons of the Trichinopoly and Madura Forts. Trouble was brewing in the Tanjore country and in the territories of the Tondaiman of Pudukotta and of the Marava Chief of Ramnad, while a local poligar, the Bandari of Vettavanam, near Tiruvannamalai, captured Old Gingee and defied the Nawab and Mahfuz Khan who had to personally conduct the campaign against that jungle stronghold. This poligar was named Periya Ayyan of Vettayanam. He was put down with great difficulty and confessed, before his execution, that he had been bribed by Mir Asadullah to resist the Nawab and even get him assassinated. Mahfuz Khan could not help the English, but vainly stayed on at Gingee. In fact, the administration of the Carnatic never seemed to have recovered from the effects of the great Maratha raid in 1740-41. The succeeding years had been marked by murders and anarchy; and the death of Nizamu'l-Mulk released the other disruptive forces that had been held in check.<sup>2</sup> Burhanu'd-din, a protagonist, of Anwaru'd-din's family, portrays, in vigorous,

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<sup>1</sup> See Country Correspondence 1748; No.5, p. 2, which says that Nasir Jung negotiated with the English for recovering Madras for a stipulated payment. See also note on page 189 of Vol, IV of Ananda Ranga Pillai's Diary.

<sup>2</sup>. See pp. xvii-xviii of the Introduction, Vol. V of the Private Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai, - Ed. by Dodwell.

the turbulence, insincerity and secret hostilities of the Nawayat leaders who were the kinsmen of the dispossessed family of Saiatullah Khan, which contributed to swell the forces of anarchy.

Nasir Jang seems to have entered into or at least begun negotiations for, an agreement with the English that he would recover Madras for a sum of ten lakhs of pagodas according to the Diarist and three lakhs, according to the English Records<sup>3</sup> and 3,000 pagodas for each day the army marched and 2,000 pagodas for each day it halted. (<sup>4</sup>) Later, when this failed, the Fort St. David vakils with Nasir Jang made new proposals by which the English were to have 1,000 horses under two jamadars, which Mahfuz Khan was persuaded by the French to frustrate. A letter to Pondicherry from Nasir Kuli Khan, the Diwan of Mahfuz Khan, dated December 1747, says that Mahfuz Khan had contrived to stop the projected expedition.

In spite of the trouble created by Hidayat Muhiuddin Khan (Meerzaffar Jang) Nasir Jang proceeded north according to the orders of the Emperor Ahmad Shah with an army and a large retinue. The news of his march with excessive pomp and numerous followers disgusted Ahmad Shah; and the latter ordered his return to the Deccan. Nasir Jang stayed on at Aurangabad as it was the rainy season. It was now that Hidayat Muhiuddin "poured the materials of mischief and revolution on the Fort of Chitaldrug and on Bednore" and was joined by Husain Dost Khan (Chanda Sahib) who had been taken prisoner by the Marathas in their great raid on the Carnatic of 1740 and was now released. For some time Hidayat Muhiuddin Khan would not countenance the idea of an attack on Nawab Anwaru'd-din and of an invasion of the Carnatic. But Hussain Dost Khan pleaded that he would be supported by the Nawayat nobles and the French and that Nasir Jang was encamped at distant Aurangabad and could not actively proceed against him. At last, Hidayat Muhiuddin consented to join him in marching on the Carnatic and wrote letters to the *killedars* of the Nawayat community in the Carnatic for help.

Narayana Pillai's *Tamil Chronicle* thus inform us :-

*" In the year 1158 Fasli, Nawab Asaf Jah died. Ghaizu'd-din Khan, elder brother of Nawab Nasir Jang was the Vizier of the Badhusa. Carried away against his Vizier the Badhusa had him put into prison.*

*Ghazlud-din Khan advised his brother Nasir Jang to come to attack the Badhusa with a powerful army. After ordering the Foujdars of the Deccan to look after the country, Nasir Jang set out with 50,000 horseman and 2,00,000 infantry and gunners to make war on the Badhusa and advanced with his army as far as the Narumada.*

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<sup>3</sup> Country Correspondence 1748, No.5, p. 2.

<sup>4</sup> Vide the Diarists entry for October 25, 1747, and Mr. Dodwell's note on the: subject of the amount, p.189 of vol. iv of the Diary.

*Muttawassil Khan Rastam jang, son-in-law of Asaf Jab, pretended that the Nawab had given to his wife the Carnatic and the Bubah of Haidrabad. Delivering to his son, Hidayat Muhiuddin Khan the sanad, he told him :-"Your grand-father has given me the Bubha of Hyderabad. Profit by this moment to go and take possession of the Carnatic. The man who knows well the situation of the country is Husain Dost Khan, also called Chanda Sahib. He is now in Poona, a prisoner of the Marathas. I am writing to him."*

Chanda Sahib did not enter the Carnatic till about a year after this time (i. e., when he was released from Maratha captivity in June 1748); and during this period he should have engaged in his wars with Bednore, Chitaldrug, etc., reported by Orma and Wilks who, however, differ from each other in their accounts. Mr. Dodwell thinks that shortly after his release, Chanda Sahib joined Muzaffar Jang, the governor of Adoni and Bijapur, and was employed in raising money for his new master in the Subah of Bijapur, out of which arose the Bednore and other affairs. Chanda Sahib's attempts to bring the Raja of Bednore into subjection to Muzaffar Jang was perhaps animated by the vague hope of doing there what he had accomplished at Trichinopoly (in 1736-40) and of establishing himself in an independent position.

Hearing of the rumours of Chanda Sahib's approaching descent into the Carnatic, Nawab Anwaru'd-din Khan sent for the French wakil at Arcot and told him to write to Pondicherry that his rival's son Reza Sahib, who was preparing to join his father, should not be allowed to remain at Pondicherry and said that he himself would be writing to Dupleix about it. As a usual consequence the merchants at Arcot, were removing their goods and valuables, for the sake of safety, to Vellore, Arni and elsewhere. Anwaru'd-din's letter also informed the French that Nasir Jang was marching with Sayyad Lashkar Khan accompanied by 10,000 horse, cannon and a powerful army and that Chanda Sahib, having lost his able son, Abid Sahib in his Chitaldrug campaign, had become, as it were, a "lame man."

While making preparations, Anwaru'd-din endeavoured at the same time to keep the favour of Muzaffar Jang by writing to him a conciliatory letter. News reached Pondicherry on July 13, 1749, that having settled the Bednore affair, Muzaffar Jang, and Chanda Sahib were descending through the Anantapur district. It was planned by Chanda Sahib that he would settle with Hirasat Khan, the *killedar* of Arcot and his own son-in-law, for five lakhs of rupees, with Murtaza Ali Khan of Vellore for 10 lakhs and with Mir Asad, Khan Sahib and other *killedars* for 25 lakhs; and these settlements would be effected as soon as he should reach Satgadh, Vellore and Arcot. Panic increased at Arcot from which the subah's money-lenders like Kasi Das Bukkanji hastily departed. It was declared by Raza Sahib that Muzaffar Jang had been invested by Ahmad Shah Padshah with a parwana (farman) for the six subhas of the Deccan and that he had actually received the *sanad* and *robes* of honour about the middle of June, and that in his turn Chanda Sahib, who joined Muzaffar Jang a few days later with about six to seven thousand horse, had been granted a *sanad* as the Nawab of Arcot with authority

over Gingee, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Madura and all their dependent territories and forts. This was supplemented by a new title and a new jaghir of three taluks. Both had already set out for Arcot with fourteen thousand horsemen and fourteen or fifteen thousand foot and Chanda Sahib desired Raza Sahib to join him at the foot of the passes (in the Eastern Ghats) with the Mussalman *Sepoy-jamadars*, Abdur Rahman and others and with a body of 2,000 sepoy and 2,000 soldiers, and a large quantity of cannon, mortars, shell, shot, etc. Muzaffar Jang sent Dupleix a dress of honour and a letter, which the latter prepared to receive with all the pomp and grandeur with which he used to receive the Nizam's presents. The Diarist makes mention, in another place of, 4,000 sepoy besides 2,000 soldiers marching along with Raza Sahib. Only 300 European volunteers under d'Auteuil accompanied Reza Sahib. The impression that prevailed was that the old Nawab Anwaru'd-din lunged to go to battle and that it would be a good thing if he, with all his years, should be engaged in another fight and die therein heroically.

When Muzaffar Jang, reinforced by Raza Sahib, offered to give little battle, the old Nawab sought advice from Muhammad Husain Khan Tahir, the jaghirdar of Ambur, who suggested that the maidan in front of his own mountain-fort of Ambur was best suited for the struggle and that the army should fight with the fort at its back. Anwaru'd-din did not suspect any treachery on the part of the Tahirans. But he sent one last message to Muzaffar Jang promising to secure him pardon and forgiveness from Nasir Jang and pleading for peace. Muzaffar Jang at first agreed to the suggestion and arranged to meet Anwaru'd-din for a personal interview on the next day. But any approach to reconciliation was prevented by some mischievous counsellors of his who arranged that Chanda Sahib and the French should offer battle without the knowledge of Muzaffar Jang and without his authority. The old Nawab expecting a speedy compromise, did not arrange his army in battle array.

## II

We have a letter of Shah Nawaz Khan writing to Mir Ghulam Ali Azad from his camp at Koilkuntala after the battle of Ambur in which information is supplied regarding the inability of Nasir Jang to have given help to Nawab Anwaru'd-din.

The following extracts from this letter are explanatory:-<sup>5</sup>

*"I write to tell you something about the happenings here. On the 8th Rajab (14th July 1749) I reached the town of Nalanga and met Nasir Jung (Syed Lashkar Khan). Here I was told that His Excellency (Nawab Nasir Jang) has reached back Aurangabad on 23rd June 1749. In obedience to the commands I intended to go to Gulbarga which is only five days*

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<sup>5</sup> An English translation of this letter taken from Makatib-i-Shah Nawaz Khan, Assia Library, was supplied to the writer by Dr. Yusuf Husain Khan in 1945.

journey from: here. As it was not feasible that Nasir Jang and myself should go to him (Muzaffar Jang), Tarsoon Muhammad Khan has been despatched in order to bring him to the right path. Nazir Jang has received a reply from His Excellency that it was left to his option either to stay on and camp somewhere or return to Aurangabad. I was ordered to go to Hyderabad at the head of five thousand troops. But I sent a petition per return asking permission to tour the districts to realise the dues instead of staying in Hyderabad. The auspicious letter granting permission reached here on 5th Shaban (11th July 1749) directing me not to waste time in neglect and tardiness as the issues were urgent. It was also ordered that troopers, whose horses were found to be weak, should be dismissed.....Thus our military organization had fallen to pieces when we heard of Muzaffar Jang's departure for Sira. I started towards the Krishna on 29th Shaban (4th August, 1749) and was joined by Tarsoon Muhammad Khan at Kalyan, he having returned from Muzaffar Jang's camp. He said that Hidayat Muhiddin Khan (Muzaffar Jang) had solemnly vowed on the Holy Quran that if Nasir Jang (S. Lashkar Khan) and myself would also take an oath on the Quran that if his life and honour would be respected, he was prepared to return to his jaghir. At once I said "It was all a dissimulation, He (Muzaffar Jang) is simply pretending as if he is the injured party in order to advance his interests and to show to the people that he has been oppressed (by Nasir Jang). I told Tarsoon Muhammad Khan that the Quran was my faith and I was prepared to take an oath on it. But besides this it was considered necessary to send all those articles of equipment which needed repair to Hyderabad.

"In the meantime news arrived that the distance between the army of Muzaffar Jang and that of Shahamat Jang (Anwaruddin Khan) was not more than fifteen miles. On 12th Shaban (18th August 1749) I set off from Cinchauli in order to cross the Krishna. But on 16th Shaban (22nd July 1749) the war between (Muzaffar Jang and Anwaruddin Khan) was already over. But as we had no knowledge of this we proceeded by forced marches in heavy and sodden ground caused by severe rain and mud and reached Gurmatkal. Here we were apprised of the destined circumstances ordained by the Divine decree. In the meantime several letters from His Excellency were received ordering us to hasten to the aid of Shahamat Jang (Anwaruddin). Although these orders were not the result of sagacity and prudence and difficulties of the situation were repugnant to its observance, yet in the condition of servitude to its incumbent to obey, we, as far as lay in our power, advanced with all expedition towards the Krishna. Obviously no aid could be sent from here as it was too late.

"......In view of the developments that are taking place and after hearing of the martyrdom of Shahamat Jang, it is but right and proper that His Excellency sets out from Aurangabad after a week and camp at Dharur where the armies from different parts may join him. The equipment that was not ready might be sent to Dharur. Now there is no time to be lost. If His Excellency had set out in this direction just after his accession to power, he (Muzaffar Jang) had none to support him. He would have been compelled to submit and join service. His Excellency's going to the north created a lot of confusion and mischief. A country like the Carnatic and a leader like Anwarud-din Khan has been lost. In these circumstances it is the plain duty of those who, like me, are in the list of loyal servants, and

*like you who have relations of cordial friendship and love, to let His Excellency know explicitly that he should neither rely on the Afghans and their army nor on leaders like Ramachandra Rao and Janoji, but should himself come forward to chastise the rebel. With the grace of Almighty none would dare face His Excellency."*

### III

Muzaffar Jang was now apprehensive of the descent of Nasir Jang. We learn from the .Diary of Ananda Ranga Pillai that in spite of the brave show and high hopes indulged in by Chanda Sahib, he was nervous lest he should not have enough money and a sufficient body of French auxiliaries for the expedition. Muzaffar Jang himself was not to be greatly relied upon, 'being' in the words of the Diarist, 'like a child that will lie in any one's arms,; also he was very close-fisted about money and constantly dunned his ally for fresh supplies. Moreover, he was anxious to go north since he had heard that Murari Rao was marching down on the Caratic with several thousands of horsemen and the Pindaris, turning everything upside down were planning to march on Arcot, while Nasir Jang himself had begun to march southward from Aurangabad with a body of 30,000 horses.

Almost even before they had proceeded a little distance from Pondicberry, Muzaffar Jang quarreled with Channa Shaib about money matters and threatened to return to his headquarters at Adoni. Chanda Sahib had to mollify him by promising to pay him two lakhs of rupees in ready money and to put him in possession of Nellore, Sarvepalle and some other districts. After this, Muzaffar Jang promised to demand no more money for four months.

There now arrived also news of Nasir Jung's rumoured advance to the Bank of the Godavari from Aurangabad and of the advance of the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Kurnool - to seize the fort and province of Adoni under instructions from the former. Muzaffar Jang got greatly frightened and ordered his troops to be ready to march back to Adoni; he said that as Chanda Sahib got the subhas of Arcot with European help, he could manage the affairs by himself, but that he should go to Nasir Jang and get reconciled to him somehow or other. It was with great difficulty that Chanda Sabib contrived to dissuade him from departing at once and to reassure him and finally to make him swear on the Quran that both should stand or fall together. The situation was complicated by the arrival at Pondicherry of letters written to the French chief of Masulipalam by the Nawab of Rajahmundry, Khwajah Namatullah Khan, son of Khwaja Abdulla Khan, advising the French to give up Chanda Sahib and join Nasir Jang; and thus they could have peace at Masulipatam.

Meanwhile Chanda Sahib, having failed to get any money in the country round Fort St. David, directed his attention to the Puligar of Udaiyarpalayam which was a considerable chiefship in the interior of the Trichinopoly District. The Poligar agreed to pay one lakh

of rupees; but Chanda Sahib insisted on a lakh of pagodas. The Udaiyarpalayam people delayed the payment of the amount they agreed to give, in the hope that news of the coming of Nasir Jang might improve their position. Chanda Sahib spent about a fortnight before Udaiyarpalayam and succeeded in getting therefrom only about 70,000 pagodas. Even this was got only when three or four guns had been fired and the Nawab's troops had entered the bounds of the palayam. He then joined Muzaffar Jang who was encamped about 12 kos from Tanjore in order to proceed against that city and got money from its ruler. Dupleix was anxious to get a parwana for the village round Karikal which he wanted for himself from the Raja of Tanjore. He expected that the affair of the Raja of Tanjore might be settled for about half a crore of rupees, which was also the modest estimate of Chanda Sahib. Of course, in his accustomed vein of vainglory, Dupleix proudly exclaimed: "Affairs have been settled with the Udaiyarpalayam and other *Killedars* because of their fear of me; else, at a time when Nasir Jang had given orders to advance no one would have joined Chanda Sahib's army or paid him cash.

Abdul Amin Khan, a relation of Abdul Nabi Khan, Nawab of Cuddapah, wrote to Chanda Sahib that it would be an easy task for him to capture Tanjore and Trichinopoly but that Gingee was strong and should be kept in friendly hands and decided to open communications with Dupleix. He was to play latter a prominent part in the intrigues that brought the deaths of Nasir Jang and Muzaffar Jang in quick succession.

When at last Nasir Jang marched south through Kalyan and Gulbarga and his general Sayyad Lashkar Khan reached the banks of the Krishna, the Diarist heard that the Nawabs of Cuddapah and Savanur were moving against him and the Nawab of Kurnool, Himayat Khan, the other member of this infamous triumvirate, appears to have actually attacked and defeated a small force sent to him from Nasir Jang.

Things did not advance well in Chanda Sahib's camp either. Though some money was got from Ariyalur, there was general unrest among the troops on account of the mounting arrears of pay; while Miyan Ma'sud, the diwan of Muzaffar Jang, went to Chanda Sahib's camp before Udaiyarpalayam and demanded a lakh of rupees for expenses; when the latter expressed his inability, he behaved disrespectfully and said, among other things, that he (Chanda Sahib) should not continue to live. There was for sometime a great likelihood of revolution breaking out in the camp while Chanda Sahib complained that the northern Poligars did not join him effectively as one Dabbili Rayappa Raja, presumably an adventurer, who had promised him a large some of money for being allowed to seize Bommarajapalayam, was being detained in custody at Pondicherry.

#### IV

Letters were received early in December 1749 at Pondicherry from Nasir Jang and Muhammad Aji Khan. Nasir Jang's letter promised to forgive the French for their past



offences if they should separate from their allies and be faithful to the Nizam in the future and that otherwise he would order that the French factories should be pulled down and would write to Bengal to the same effect. Muhammad Ali's letter solicited French friendship and asked Dupleix to make peace with Nasir Jang and offered twice as much of gains as the French might secure from his enemies. To this Dupliex replied exhorting Muhammad Ali to obey Muzaffar Jang's orders and win his favour and through it French friendship. He had news, at least so he told the Diarist that Sambaji Rao had surrounded Nasir Jang and was harassing him and the latter had abandoned the idea of coming down to the Carnatic and so Chanda Sahib need not fear him now. Captain Grant-Duff, the historian of the Marathas, thus details the circumstances of Nasir Jang's troubles with the Marathas :- " Verv shortly afterwards, intelligence was received of the defeat and death of Anwar-ud-din.....on which Nasir Jang applied to Rughoojee Bhonslay for a body of his troops, promising to grant some cessions of territory as the reward of their service. He also summoned the whole of the Mogbul dependants and tributaries in the Carnatic to be prepared to join his army as he advanced southward. Moorar Rao Ghorepuray, as Jagheerdar of Ghooty, the Raja of Mysore, the Nabobs of Kupra, Karnool and Savanoor, and Muhammad Ali, second son of the late Anvarud-din, with his supporters, and the President of the Council at Madras (Fort St. David) were the principal authorities who joined or sent their troops to accompany Nasir Jang." Before Shahu's death which occurred in December, 1749, Raghuji had sent his son Janoji to accompany Nasir Jang into the Carnatic with 10,000 horse. <sup>(5)</sup>

News reached Pondicherry on December 19, that Nasir Jang who had advanced as far as Gulbargabad again gone back towards Satara, but had ordered Sayyad Lashkar Khan to seize Adoni, Rayachoti and other places (belonging to Muzaffar Jang) south of the Krishna and that the latter had already captured Rayacboti and hoisted his flag there. Nasir Jang had advanced, by February 10, as far as Sirpi; he now sent two emissaries to Chanda Sahib, who was then at Tanjore, to treat for peace. Dupleix was anxious that Chanda Sahib and Muzaffa Jang should not make any agreement without his knowledge and that the emissaries of Nasir Jang should be told that though we (Dupleix, Chanda Sahib and Muzaffar Jang) have three bodies, our life is one; peace cannot he settled without me (Dupleix); and if the matter is to be settled satisfactorily, they must come here (to Pondicherry).

Moro Pant and Khazi Dayem (these were the two emissaries of Nazir Jang) are laid by the Diarist in one place to offer terms to Muzaffar Jang while Chanda Sahib was too busy with the Tanjore affair to care about the enemy's approach and that he was unwilling to do anything until the fort should be captured. Dupleix suspected that Muzaffar Jang might be purposely spreading the rumour that Nasir Jang was coming down rapidly into the Carnatic, because Chanda Sahib was not letting him manage the

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<sup>5.</sup> pp.511, 512 and 520 of the History of The Maharattas , 4<sup>th</sup> ed., Vol I

Tanjore affair and he hoped, by spreading such news, to cause confusion and prevent him from taking the fort.

But in spite of rumours that Nasir Jang had turned back, news arrived early in March that he had reached the Chengama pass. Chanda Sahib had, meanwhile, retreated from Tanjore and had encamped on the northern side of the Coleroon in the neighbourhood of Chidambaram which was surrounded and plundered by a body of Maratha horse under Murari Rao who, however, retreated on the approach of the Muhammadans. Murari Rao was now joined by Moro Pant and the forms fought a small action with the enemy near the old Coleroon, a little to the south of Chidambaram.

Being continually harassed by the Maratha troops and often repulsing them with the fire of the French troops, Chanda Sahib reached Tiruvati (a temple-fort on the Gadilam, near Panruti Railway Station.) Rumour came that the Marathas were actually joined by a body of English troops from Fort St. David though it was not true. The Marathas had come up to the place even before the French reached it and the fear of Chanda Sahib and Muzaffar Jang was very great. The former reached Ponaicherry on March 11. Immediately afterwards he renewed his importunate demands for money. Dupleix refused to give him any amount but promised to supply plenty of powder, shot and guns and also to pay the French soldiers and sepoy, But Chanda Sahib was timid, declared that this was not the proper time to attack Nasir Jang and desired to stay on at Pondicherry till he should go away. Dupleix answered that he should advance and meet Nasir Jang as otherwise he would be dishonoured. Muzaffar Jang entered Pondicherry on Mmarch 15, and likewise importuned Dupleix for money.

Dupleix urged Chanda Sahib and Muzaffar Jang to attack Nasir Jang "If you refuse to attack him you will dishonour me, your ally..... Put your trust in him (God) and attack Nasir Jang. If he falls in battle you shall march to Aurangabad; and I will give you the Subbas of the Deccan but if it fails as you fear, it is the will of God. <sup>6</sup>"

On the 18th March Nasir Jang's troops occupied Gingee; but: the *Killedar* that was appointed to that fort allowed the French at that place to depart with their arms and money in peace while Chanda Sahib's garrison within the fort quietly gave it up to the enemy. Chanda Sahib's sepoy and horsemen greatly troubled him for the payment of the arrears.

Safely secured under the shelter of Pondicherry and the French guns, the allies dunned Dupleix for money in order to payoff the arrears due to their troops which manifested a spirit of mutiny and unrest. They refused to meet Nasir Jang in battle and thus great uncertainty prevailed till about the beginning of April. This was worsened by a mutinous refusal of the French officers to continue in camp and by the equally dangerous refusal

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<sup>6</sup> Entry of the Diadat for March 14, 1715 - p. 394 of the Dairy Vol, VI.

of Muzaffar Jang to march back with his friend into Pondicherry. Nasir Jang, on entering the Carnatic, first summoned Muhammad Ali to join him from Trichinopoly and wrote letters to Fort St. David, requesting the English to send him a body of European troops. He ordered his own army to concentrate under the hills of Gingee and the protection of its walls. Nasir Jang himself seems to have reached Gingee about the last week of March. Muhammad Ali joined him with about 6,000 horses at Valudavur and the English detachment under Captain Cope which had been sent previously to Trichinopoly to help Muhammad Ali, accompanied him. Even now an emissary from Nasir Jang arrived to treat for peace, to whom, in the presence of Bussy, Muzaffar Jang replied that there could be no talk of peace without the approval of Dupleix. The emissary offered to grant suitable jaghirs to both Muzaffar Jang and Chanda Sahib and to repay the amounts they had borrowed from the French. Muzaffar Jang, to whom the emissary came in the first instance, sent for a French representative to be present during the conversations and his reply was given in the presence of Bussy. Dupleix wrote to Chanda Saheb insisting that every negotiation should be conducted only through himself and that otherwise he was not for any compromise at all. Shortly afterwards, Nasir Jang's engagement took place on account of which the English Captain Cope and the French Commandant, de' Auteuil, exchanged mutual recriminations regarding the breach of peace between the two nations. Lawrence, with an English embassy, was also present in Nasir Jang's camp and he no doubt inspired Cope's recriminations with de' Auteuil.

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