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Here I share what I witnessed about the uproar concerning the remarks of Rajinikanth on Periyar. The new film 'Darbar' by Rajinikanth washed out in Hindi, but that does not mean that on Twitter or national politics he can not trend. The new uproar is over his remarks at the .



OLD MAN AT HIS OLD GAME. The police have registered a case against Periyar E. V. Ramaswamy Nair. But, unperturbed, he says, "I have been doing these things from 1930."



NOT FOR VENERATION, BUT DENIGRATION. Black shirt followers of the Dravidian Kazhagam slipper a Rama figure to symbolise their "emancipation" from superstition. showed little concern for the feelings of the hundreds of millions of their countrymen venerate Rama as the paradigm of perfection.



HYMN TO SKANDIA. Siva's son also known as Kartikeya, the god of war and the planet Mars. The Mahabharata and the Ramayana say that Kartikeya was produced without the intervention of a woman. Siva cast his seed into the fire which was afterwards received by the Ganga. The child was fostered by six nurses known as the Krittika, and hence he has six heads and the name Kartikeya. The Dravida Kazhagam has however its own twist to the tale.



AYYAPPAN born out of the union of male gods—reads the legend to this tableau. Hari-Hara, a combination of the names of Vishnu and Siva and representing the union of the two deities in one, has been accounted for in different tales. One such is that Siva was seduced of Vishnu in the form of Mohini and out of Hari-Hara born Ayyappan, the Lord of the Sabarimala temple.



VARAHA AVATAR—the 10th incarnation of Vishnu. The Dravidian Kazhagam's visualisation of Vishnu "earth-shaker" the earth tableau has in the background depiction of mother Bhama, the demon Nara—a legend has no authoritative source. Satapatha Brahmana states: (the earth) was only so in size of a span. A boar called she raised her up. Her lord Vishnu, in consequence prop up with this pair and makes a plateau." The Madras High Court quashed the Tamil Government's recent order for the removal of the tableau with the objection that it was a religious emblem.

50th anniversary celebration of Thuglaq, a Tamil political newspaper, about Periyar E. V. Ramaswamy. Referring to how Thuglak wrote about the intellectual patriarch of Tamil Nadu political parties such as DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam)

and AIADMK (All India Anna Dravida Munnetra

Kazhagam), Rajinikanth, who floated his own political party, when he organised a rally in Salem in 1971 where Hindu holy deities were allegedly displayed in a lewd way. This is how the actor mentioned the incident at the Thuglak event when he was speaking:

"In 1971, in Salem,

Periyar organised a rally featuring the undressed images of Lord Sriramachandramoorthy and Sita with a sandal garland. No other source wrote something about the protest, but Cho printed it on the front page of the paper and denounced it vehemently. Because of the publicity, the

ruling DMK government at the time got a bad reputation. DMK confiscated these copies of Thuglaq because they did not want others to hear about the protest. "Many Dravidian groups staged protests and filed complaints with the police against Rajinikanth saying he "insulted Periyar."

But the actor refused to apologise saying "I didn't say something out of imagination or anything that wasn't there. It was corroborated by Lakshmanan (then Jan Sangh and now BJP leader) who participated in a dharna (in 1971), So, what really happened at the Salem rally in 1971?

The rally featured "obscene images of the birth of Lord Muruga, penance of sages, and Mohini Avatara, a 10-foot long image of Lord Rama," according to the national English newspaper, The Hindu, that "dozens of people kept beating with chappals." The study also confirms the

Today no politician in whole country can dare to repeat such non sense. The champion of freedom of expression SWAMI DAYANAND acknowledged in Satyarth Prakash that involvement of Periyar in the procession. The rally was part of Dravida Kazhagam's 'Superstition Eradication Meeting'

The rally passed a resolution asking "the government to allow free criticism of religious practises of individuals of different faiths, including Islam Christianity, and Hinduism."

But why was it done by Periyar?

Periyar (a name meaning 'valued' in Tamil) carried out a series of

controversial demonstrations including smashing or garlanding the burning of Hindu gods' idols with shoes.

Cho and the Thuglak of his Srinivasa Iyer Ramaswamy was a comedian, satirist, and politician, or Cho Ramaswamy, as he is referred to in the newspapers.

His 1968 "Muhammad bin Tughlaq" satirical play was so popular that Cho launched a Tamil weekly news magazine of the same name in 1970. Till his death in 2016, he remained Thuglak's publisher.