

ICHR Sponsored National Conference on

# POPULAR MOVEMENTS IN SOUTH INDIA DURING 19th & 20th CENTURIES

## **Abstracts**

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### **CONTRIBUTED ARTICLES**

# 1. PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT AGAINST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT IN KOODANKULAM

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#### ABSTRACT

The commissioning of the first of two 1,000 megawatt (MW) power plants as part of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) took place in Trinelveli District. Protests against the project have been occurring since proposal was mooted in 1988, the impending commissioning of the reactors has rightly triggered a wave of concern in Tamil Nadu and throughout India, especially in light of the devastating and uncontrollable nuclear meltdown in Fukushima, Japan. Anti-nuclear struggles in India have been consistently non-violent despite brutal repression from the State. In Koodankulam, common people - mostly fishing communities - have been fighting for more than two decades to save when on their life, livelihoods and their natural surroundings with which they have inextricable organic links. Koodankulam people have over the years learnt about the harmful effects of nuclear fuel cycle, and the insurmountable risks inherently attached with nuclear technology. Koodankulam movement is a struggle for alternative development. They protest a 12-day long hunger strike against commissioning of nuclear power plant.

Keywords: Koodankulam ,movement, Nuclear Power