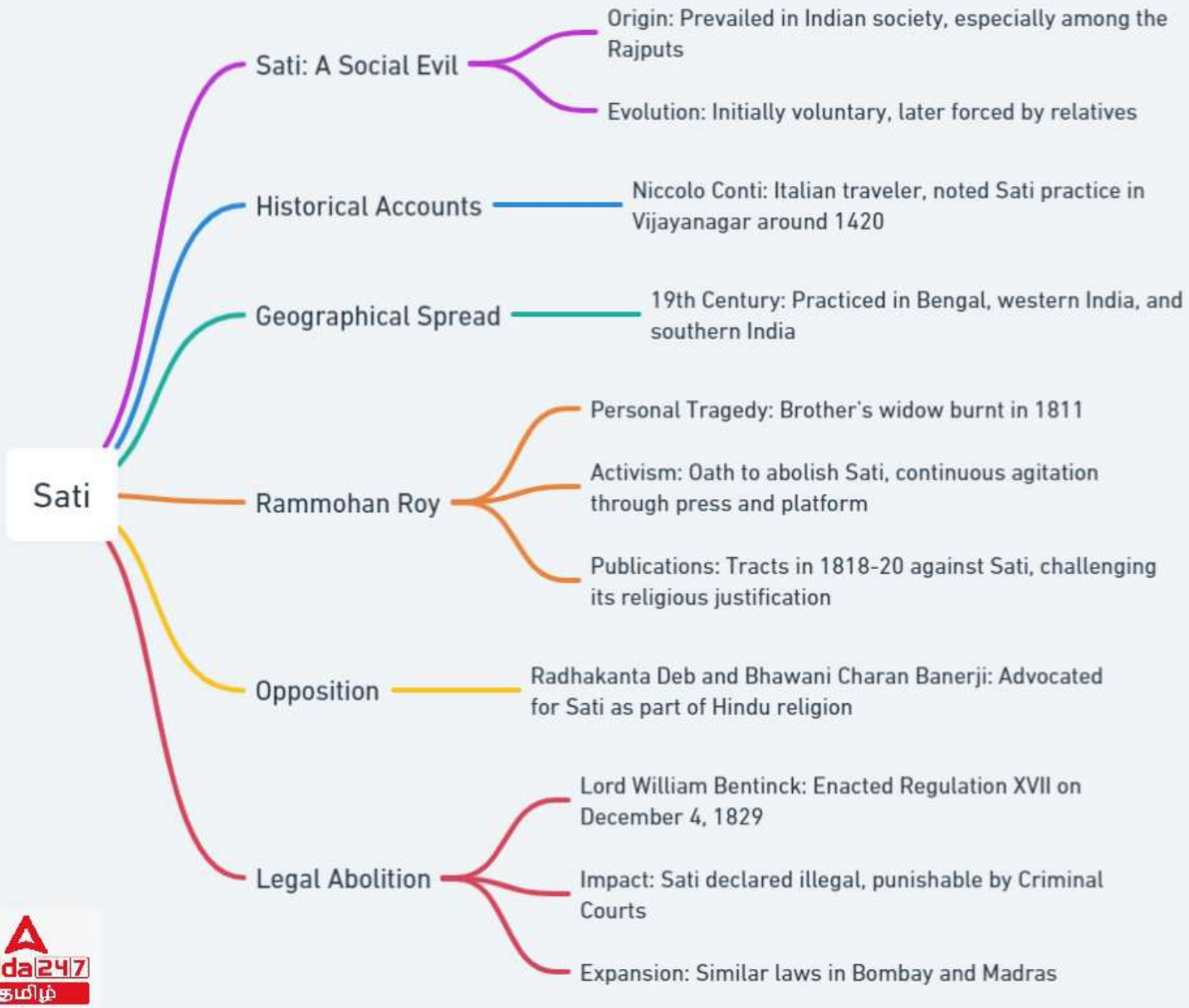
Sati
Sati: A Social Evil
Origin: Prevailed in Indian society, especially among the Rajputs
Evolution: Initially voluntary, later forced by relatives
Historical Accounts
Niccolo Conti: Italian traveler, noted Sati practice in Vijayanagar around 1420
Geographical Spread
19th Century: Practiced in Bengal, western India, and southern India
Rammohan Roy
Personal Tragedy: Brother's widow burnt in 1811
Activism: Oath to abolish Sati, continuous agitation through press and platform
Publications: Tracts in 1818-20 against Sati, challenging its religious justification
Opposition
Radhakanta Deb and Bhawani Charan Banerji: Advocated for Sati as part of Hindu religion
Legal Abolition
Lord William Bentinck: Enacted Regulation XVII on December 4, 1829
Impact: Sati declared illegal, punishable by Criminal Courts
Expansion: Similar laws in Bombay and Madras