

[E. & L.]

7,000-12-6-12.

Educational (1913) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 296

DATED 9-4-1913 .

[Despatch Abstract.]

University for oriental languages.

Referring to the Syndicate of the University of Madras for remarks Mr. Wood's suggestion regarding the establishment of a University — in the Tanjore palace buildings.

Confidential.



C. 651 Eop

Received 191 . Registered 3. 3 1913.

Abstract.

Tanjore Palace buildings.

Regarding the utilization of the ----- for purposes of a University
for oriental languages.



Political. DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 102 , dated 28th February 1913.

ENCLOSURES.

No.

READ the following paper:—

Letter from the Collector of Tanjore,
To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.
No. 5.
Dated 30th December 1912.

O R D E R: No. 102, dated 28th February 1913.

Recorded with reference to G.O. No. 65, Political,
dated the 6th February 1913. Mr. Wood's suggestion in
paragraphs 2 to 10 of his letter will be considered in the
Educational Department.

(True extract)

To

The Collector and Government Agent, Tanjore.

S. H. M. L. N.
For Chief Secretary.
ASP

Copy to the Educational Department.

TK/3/3

ENCLOSURES TO PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVT. OF MADRAS
~~LETTER FROM~~

No. 102, Political, dated the 28th February 1913

Letter from the Government Agent, Tanjore,
To the Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras,
No. 5, dated 30th December 1912.

I have the honour to state that in considering the future of the Tanjore Palace Buildings, I inevitably thought of their resemblance, distant, yet near enough to be obvious, to the University Buildings of Oxford and Cambridge. The District Board maintains out of Chattram funds a Sanskrit College at Tiruvadi, but this is not in a satisfactory condition at present, and my attention has been drawn by several incidents, to the necessity of thoroughly overhauling it, and perhaps transferring it to Tanjore. At this moment the question of a University for Oriental Languages has come to the front, and I see that although the Government of India has offered a permanent grant, the Madras University and the Newspapers are inclined to refuse it on the ground that they ^{would} prefer to spend the money in promoting scientific education.

2. It is of course impossible to overestimate what science has done for progress in the last two or three generations. But in spite of all that science has done, and all that she claims, the fact still remains that the chief leaders of thought in Europe are those who have received an education in the Western languages including Latin and Greek. It is this class which provides the leading statesmen, the leading authors, and most of the men who are moulding the thoughts of the future, and making the history of the present generations. This literary education, as opposed to education in science, has been profoundly permeated and radically altered by the scientific spirit: but still the men who count most

in the Western nations are not the mathematical and the science men, but the literary men. The reasons for this, the relations of science to literature, and the relations of science to life, would form a most interesting study: but this is not the place for it. The remarks I have made are merely intended to show the basis of the reasons which lead me to differ from the opinions so freely expressed in the Senate and in the public papers, and to hold that this proposal to institute a school for oriental languages may prove an epoch in the history of South India.

3. I would therefore suggest for the consideration of Government whether the Palace Buildings might not be used for a new University for Oriental Languages. There is ample accommodation for 300 or 400 resident students, for the professors, for libraries, and for lecture rooms. There is a good deal of rubbish which might be pulled down, and a certain amount of rebuilding might be necessary. I would suggest that, if this proposal is taken up in earnest, a good architect should be deputed for three or six months to study the present buildings, and to make proposals for the best method of using them in detail. This would in the end save a great deal of money, and allow a harmonious design to pervade the place. I am sure that it would be impossible for any officer to suggest the best way of utilising the different buildings from a few hours inspection or even ^{after} several days' examination. The place is a huge rabbit warren, dirty and miserable structures being dotted all about, interminable narrow evil smelling passages leading from one quarter to another, and interspersed with all these ^{are} large halls, fine blocks of rooms, and numerous buildings which could with a little effort be converted into most suitable rooms for residential students. If any officer were asked to submit suggestions, and had to draw them up in addition to his own work, he would almost certainly make a bad mess of it: and he would quite certainly not make nearly the best of the possibilities present. The expense might be fairly large, but it would easily be covered by

the first year or two's grant, which could be used for this purpose, at the cost of a slight delay in starting the teaching work of the College.

4. Coming next to the professorial side of the question, I labour under the disadvantage of not knowing the usual establishment for Indian Universities. I have however consulted Mr. Yates, Principal of the Kumbakonam College, and we have drawn up a plan on the following scale. I should observe that the only languages I start with are Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu. Arabic, Persian and Urdu may be definitely excluded from a South Indian University and for the present I am inclined to exclude Malayalam and Canarese. For the head of the College, I suggest a European Sanskrit Professor, and I should like to strengthen the European element beyond this, if possible. The weakness of our present Indian University Education lies in the difference between the teaching given by the lecturers here, and that given by lecturers at home. I met several Indian students in London during my last furlough, and they were all, whether from Oxford, Cambridge or London, unanimous in the really extraordinary difference in the methods of teaching, and in the relations between the tutors and the students in England and in India. Whether this can best be remedied by strengthening the English element in the ranks of the professors, or by more careful selection of the Indian professors, I do not know. But I am inclined to think that English professors, who have been brought up in the best University traditions, are the proper remedy for the present low standard of Indian Universities, and of Indian thought at these Universities. European Sanskrit scholars can be obtained with comparative ease but I learn that there is no competent European scholar in any of the Dravidian languages.

5. The Professorial staff then will be:-

- (1) The Principal, and professor of Sanskrit, (European) on Rs.500-50-1000. This is the present pay of the Indian Educational service.
- (2) Professor of Tamil, on Rs.400-25-750.
- (3) Professor of Telugu, on Rs.400-25-750.
- (4) Three chief Pandits in Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil on Rs.80-5-100
- (5) Three Assistant Pandits in Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil, on Rs.60-5-80.

6. I have omitted a Professor on Philosophy, Logic and Metaphysics, though I think that such an appointment is advisable, if not essential, and I should like to see him a German or English follower of the Idealist Schools. Indian students are not yet fit to tackle Utilitarianism and Materialism, and a tutor whose philosophy was based on these schools of thought would be most unfit for the proposed College. The pay of the above staff would vary between the following figures:-

1 Principal on 500-1000 x 12	6000-12000
2 Professors on 400-750 x 12	9600-18000
3 Pandits on 80-100 x 12	2880-3600
3 do on 60-80 x 12	2160-2880
	20640-36480.
Add clerks, peons and menials, say	2000-2000.
	Rs.22640-58480

7. I do not include the annual amount which would be required for the upkeep of all these buildings, and for Municipal taxes, as the latter would be cancelled when the buildings are devoted to educational purposes, and the former would not be any greater than it is now, when the buildings are not being used for any public purpose.

8. Nor have I included any salary for an officer corresponding

to

The Professorial staff then will be:-

to the Bursar at the Oxford and Cambridge Colleges. If resident students can be arranged for, such an officer, who would also be a lecturer, would be a necessity: but it should be possible to arrange for his salary from the messing fees of the students.

9. If Government should ^{be} inclined to look favourably upon this scheme, I would venture to lay particular stress upon the absolute necessity of having a good architect on special duty, to arrange for the best use of the buildings, as noted in para 5 supra. This is the danger point in the scheme, for there is no limit to the money which can be wasted in piece meal alterations and patchwork, and any policy that aims at working out this part of the plan on the cheap, will almost certainly turn out a mistake.

10. I may add that in my letter R.C.No.2528/E dated 19-12-12 I have reported that the District Board, Tanjore, has applied for the use of the Sangitha Mahal as a combined District Board and District Board Engineer's office, and I recommended that this may be approved. As the Sangitha Mahal is a block more or less distinct from the other buildings, it may be handed over to the District Board without prejudice to the use of the other buildings as a College for Oriental studies. Government would of course reserve their right to resume the Sangitha Mahal, if they should ever find it ^{necessary} to do so.

11. One last point should not be omitted. The first result of my proposals would be that all the members of the late Tanjore Rajah's family would have to leave the buildings. There would doubtless be a good deal of objection on their part, but they have only been permitted to reside within the Palace precincts by the grace of Government, and I should not attach much importance to their feeling in this matter. The new Tanjore Municipal extension scheme will enable them to get new building sites and houses without much difficulty.

*W.P.E.
no. 1492W
9/26/13*

(1) The Principal, and Professor of Sanskrit, (European) on Rs. 5000-10000. This is the present pay of the Indian Educational Service.

(2) Professor of Tamil, on Rs. 400-500.

(3) Professor of Telugu, on Rs. 400-500.

(4) Three Chief Pandits in Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil on Rs. 30-40.

(5) Three Assistant Pandits in Sanskrit, Telugu and Tamil on Rs. 20-30.

6. I have omitted a Professor on Philosophy, Logic and Metaphysics, though I think that such an appointment is advisable.

It is not considered that I should like to see him a German or Russian.

7. I have omitted a Professor on the Indian Literature and History.

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27. I have omitted a Professor on the Indian Literature and History.

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C. No. 651 From the Political Department No 102 dated 28-2-1913

SUBJECT.

A University for oriental languages.

Page 2 of CF

Submitted that no regular
school or college was pro-
posed by the University
before these proposals
and that the University
had not submitted
any proposal.

22-2-13

In his letter No. 5, dated 30th December 1912, Mr. Wood, the Collector of Tanjore, submits a scheme for the establishment of a new University for oriental languages in the Tanjore Palace buildings. His scheme is similar to the one proposed by the University of Madras in their letter No. 1735, dated 3rd May 1912 and disapproved by Government in paragraph 2 of Memo No. 1314-3, Educational, dated 2nd September 1912. In the revised proposal submitted by the University for the utilization of the Imperial grants they have not entirely given up the idea of a School for oriental languages. They have set apart a sum of Rs. 36,000 out of the recurring grant of Rs. 65,000 for the development of the study, on modern lines, of the languages of India, especially South India. The University have not yet determined in what manner the object they have in view will have to be accomplished and ^{have} left this question to be settled by the Committee.

which has been considering the position occupied by languages other than English ⁱⁿ the various Courses of Study. The general proposal of the University is now under the Consideration of Government and Mr Woods letter may lie over pending the decision of Government on the ~~University's~~ University's proposal.

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22.3.13 Though the proposals sub^d by The University ~~have not~~ are calculated to promote the study of South Indian languages, the Scheme suggested by the Collector of Tanjore is different. No regular school ^(to the University) ~~was~~ proposed. A suggestion to start such an institution for Dravidian languages ~~was made~~ with Sanskrit taking a necessary but secondary place, was made by the D.P. I ~~in~~ foot. in his no. note, dated 13th May 1912 and was also placed before the Syndicate. But it was not accepted by foot. In connection with the recommendations submitted by the foot. of India for the improvement of the study of Oriental languages, it was stated by that foot. that they had decided to recommend the establishment of a Central Research Institute at Delhi which should receive students from all parts of India; ^{by the establishment} ~~the establishment~~ of Provincial institutions was not ~~not~~ suggested by that ^{foot.}

page 19 note
with note 12/14 - 5th (J)

(H)
page 2 of p. 275 ED
1.5.12.

In these circumstances it seems ^{probably} ~~possible~~ that the establishment of a College, such as the one suggested, Collector of Tanjore will at present be considered. The file may it is to be forwarded to the D. P. D. as an instance.

CA

24.5.13 an attractive idea but not practicable unless the Govt. take it up on a more scale.
 av. to J.
 26.5.13

D.P.I.

Eol no 657-1
 26.5.13



26.5.13 87 of 1st April 1913
 I am also much attracted by the idea - but on the other hand as the University is located in Madras there is much to be said for any developments taking place in Madras.

After all it is only the old building that is something at Tanjore.

It might be well to duplicate and let them better

27.5.13

TK
 2/4

It is for consideration whether Mr. Wood's letter may be referred to the syndicate of the Madras University as suggested by the D.P.O. If so, the draft placed below may issue.

FA. CA
2.4.13. 6.4.13

✓

7k¹⁷

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No. 296 ^{his} dated 9 4 1913

Wio

April

in the large
palace buildings

23/4/5

To The Registrar, M. U.
D. P. O.

$$\frac{ans}{18.4 \cdot 13}$$

Comp 11 13

Mr. Wood's suggestion
in paras 2 to 10 of his letter
no 5 dated 30th Dec-1912
regarding the establishment of a University for Oriental
will be referred to the
Syndicate of the University
of Madras for remarks.

2-4-13 6-4-83

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The Woods suggestion
in form 10 of his letter
no 2 dated 30th Dec 1912
will be referred to the
Syndicate of the University
of London for consideration

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E.

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given for copying
copied
examined
signed

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AGAIN G.O., No. 191, DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURE TO G. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DETAIL.

PAPERS NOT SEEN UP, BEING KEPT FOR DISPATCH
IN ORIGINAL.

V.E.-

A = Copy in full
B = Not to be copied.
P = Copy abstract only.
Q = Copy Heading only

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