

Eedl ~~*Am*~~ (1916) Department.

Mis ~~*E*~~ SERIES.

G.O. No. 8 *Eedl*

DATED 5-1-16.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Address Recording Office notes
on an extract from an _____
presented to his Excellency the
Governor by the Muhammadans
of Negapatam and Nagore during
his recent tour.

BACK PAPERS.

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HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S TOUR, 1915.

*Extract from an address to be presented to
His Excellency the Governor by the
Muhammadans of Negapatam and
Nagore.*

* * *

5. We cannot but be too thankful to Your Excellency for the readiness and the willingness with which Your Excellency always favours the cause of our Muslim education and we may be permitted to submit to Your Excellency that the Muslim inhabitants of this district, viz., the Marakkayar community, are the most backward in education and that separate scholarships to Muhammadan students from this district in the college classes will be one of the most useful ways of utilising to the best advantage of the Muslim community the annual recurring grants so liberally sanctioned by the Government for the improvement of Muhammadan education.

Collector's remarks.

My own opinion as to the reason for the backwardness of education among the Muhammadan community is that the curriculum is not conceived on the right lines, does not give the actual education which the Muhammadans require for their future mercantile pursuits and does not teach the Koran. The latter omission is fatal.

Secretariat note

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

The statement that the Muslim inhabitants of Tanjore are the most backward in point of education does not seem to be supported by the facts. According to the census tables of 1911, out of a total Muhammadan male population of 57,051 in the Tanjore district, 16,900 were literate and of these 654 were literate in English. This gives a percentage of about 29.6 and 1.15 against the corresponding figures of 17 and 0.9 respectively for the Presidency as a whole. The "Marakkayar" community as such form a very small section. They numbered at the last census only 2,461 of whom 1,245

	Presidency.	Tanjore.
Muhammadan male population.	1,362,616	57,051
Literate	226,494	16,900
Literate in English ..	12,510	654
(Taken from census tables.)		

Paragraph 79 on page 171 of the Census Report, volume I.

G.O. 729, Educational, 3rd July 1915.

Paragraph 3 (8) of the Director of Public Instruction's letter on page 6 and paragraph 3 on page 10 of G.O. 729, Educational, 3rd July 1915.

Please see pages 8 and 9 of G.O. 729, Educational, 3rd July 1915.

Cf. G.Os. 404, Educational, 10th May 1912, 557, Educational, 12th June 1913, and 87-88, Educational, 20th January 1914. G.Os. 1053, Educational, 10th September 1914 and 729, Educational, 3rd July 1915.

Government of India's letter on pages 2 to 4 of G.O. 557, Educational, 12th June 1913.

were males, 337 being literate and 12 literate in English. The community is distributed mainly in Tanjore and Tinnevely; but separate figures for these two districts are not available.

2. In regard to the suggestion that provision be made for separate scholarships to Muhammadan students from the Tanjore district in the college classes out of the annual recurring Imperial grant of Rs. 30,000, it will be observed that in the proposals recently approved by Government for the utilization of that grant, provision has been made for *four collegiate* scholarships of the value of Rs. 9 each per mensem while the scholarship-holder is in the Intermediate classes and Rs. 14 each per mensem while in the B.A. classes. There is to be also an additional scholarship of Rs. 14 per mensem for the Honours course, *i.e.*, the fifth year class of the collegiate course. These scholarships are to be in addition to the general scholarships which are now available for award. The new scholarships are tenable by all classes of Muhammadans. The request that scholarships may be provided tenable by the Muhammadans of Tanjore alone may not apparently be practicable. An almost similar request was made by Anjuman Islam of Chicacole for separate scholarships for the Muhammadan youths of the Ganjam district. But this was not approved.

3. The Collector considers that the chief reason for the backwardness of education among the Muhammadan community is that the curriculum is not conceived on the right lines, does not give the actual education which the Muhammadans require for their future mercantile pursuits and does not teach the Koran, the last omission being fatal.

The defective character of the curriculum in so far as it fails to help the community in their mercantile pursuits appears to have been brought to the notice of Government for the first time now. The Government have had on more than one occasion recently to review the whole question of Muhammadan education, the last having been at the instance of the Government of India, who eventually sanctioned an Imperial grant of Rs. 30,000 for the improvement of Muhammadan education in this Presidency. Among the chief obstacles which were then brought to notice as retarding the progress of education among Muhammadans, the want of a curriculum suited

Paragraph 2 of G.O. 404, Educational, 10th
May 1912.

to a mercantile future was not stated to be one; but those connected with language and religious instruction were deemed as main grounds. It appears to be doubtful whether a separate curriculum for Muhammadans to be trained for the mercantile line will ever be practicable.

4. As regards the teaching of Koran, it may be pointed out that religious instruction in Muhammadan schools has already been permitted subject to the following conditions:—

(i) that the instruction shall be given out of school hours and shall not interfere in any way with the school curriculum, and

(ii) that no pupils shall be admitted to the religious instruction classes without the written consent of their parents or guardians.

^{C.R. 7-11-15.}
The Marakkayar community are so far from being synonymous with the Muslim inhabitants of Tanjore that they form only about 4 per cent. of the same. They are a comparatively wealthy community and do not stand in need of special scholarships. They are eligible for the scholarships open to all Muhammadans for which liberal provision has been made. If the wealthy merchants need commercial education for their sons, they can afford to pay for it. Religious instruction is for them to provide and the Nagore mosque offers them an excellent centre for such provision.

C. G. TODHUNTER—8-11-15.

Educational Dept.

Four copies of the note on forms of the address to be presented to His Excellency the Governor by the Mahammandars of Negapatnam and Nagore are placed below. They may be forwarded to the P.S.G. w/o.

AV CR
10.11.15 10.11.15

P.S.G. w.o.

10.11.15

Returned with the following extract from His Excellency's reply:-

"I cannot, I fear, hold out a prospect that it will be possible to offer special scholarships to Muhammadan students from this district. Such students are eligible for the scholarships open to all Muhammadans for which not illiberal provision already exists."

Let him
29.11.15

Educational Dept.

Submitted that these notes may be
Gorder No 8 Ed. M. 9 5-1-16
M.C. "Recorded"

AV CR
3.1.16 3.1.16

Ed. no 3790-1
11.11.15



Noted in
3.1.16

K.S.

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When given for copying
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191

READ AGAIN G.O. No. 191

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—

A = Copy in full.
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Q = Copy heading only.

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