

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 668

~~Press~~
Mis.

-301-
Dated 9 . 6 . 1857 19

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Return shewing the number of Murders and Suicides both proved and suspected which have been made known to the Authorities in the several Districts of the Madras Presidency during the Year 1856.

Districts	Murders.						Suicides.						Population by last Census.
	Proved		Suspected		Total		Proved		Suspected		Total		
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Arcoth—North—	10	4	3	2	13	6	20	52	2	13	22	65	14,85,873
Arcoth—South—	1	"	9	"	10	"	16	13	"	"	16	13	10,06,005
Bellary—	17	6	9	"	26	6	22	41	4	22	26	63	12,29,599
Canara—	19	5	4	2	23	7	43	36	"	"	43	36	10,56,333
Chingleput—	1	"	"	"	1	"	12	4	3	"	15	4	5,83,462
Coimbatore—	26	4	2	"	28	4	37	39	"	"	37	39	11,53,862
Cuddapah—	25	8	7	2	32	10	33	29	"	"	33	29	14,51,924
Ganjam—	24	4	2	"	26	4	12	11	"	"	12	11	9,26,930
Guntoor—	6	3	"	"	6	3	20	13	"	"	20	13	5,70,083
Kurnool—	1	"	1	1	2	1	10	8	"	"	10	8	2,73,190
Madura—	7	1	22	6	29	7	15	26	"	"	15	26	17,56,791
Malabar—	26	5	6	2	32	7	58	24	"	"	58	24	15,14,909
Masulipatam—	7	2	"	"	7	3	17	44	"	"	17	44	5,20,866
Nellore—	10	5	2	"	12	5	14	31	"	"	14	31	9,35,690
Rajahmundry—	6	1	1	"	7	1	22	34	4	5	26	39	10,12,036
Salem—	8	3	3	"	11	3	13	8	3	4	16	12	11,95,377
Tanjore—	1	1	"	"	1	1	7	4	2	1	9	5	16,76,086
Tinnevely—	11	3	11	"	22	3	13	20	"	"	13	20	12,69,216
Tritchinopoly—	5	1	"	"	5	1	8	9	"	"	8	9	7,09,196
Vizagapatam—	4	3	5	"	9	3	"	"	11	34	11	34	12,54,272
Total—	215	59	87	16	302	75	392	526	29	79	421	605	21,581,697

Remarks.

Murders 10. Proved 1. and 9 suspected. The Police might have cleared up matters a little more.

Only one murder took place and that was brought home to the criminal.

The nine murders which took place were all "proved".

1. Murder proved— and 2 suspected.

The number of murders proved (8) very small to the number suspected, 28; great number of accidental deaths—128 + 98 = 226.

The reverse of Madura is the case here—We have 34 proved to 2 suspected—murders in Malabar arise mostly from a sense of wounded honour & the murderer does not conceal himself—58 murders proved.

* The Court considered this case as one of suicide and released accused.

The number of proved suicides of women exceeds greatly that of any other Zillah—North Arcot (52) comes next.

Two murders only—both proved.

The suicides here all classed as suspected—the number is 45—surely some were clear cases enough.

Judicial Department.

N^o. 668

Extract from the Minutes of Consultation

Dated 9th June 1857.

Read the following Papers.

*From the Magistrates of North Arcot,
South Arcot, Bellary, Canara,
Chingleput, Coimbatore, Cuddalore,
Guntur, Madras, Malabar,
Masulipatam, Nellore, Rajahmundry,
Salem, Tanjore, Tinnevely and
Trichinopoly and Agents to the
Governor of Fort St. George at
Ganjam, Kurnool and
Vizagapatam.*

*Forward Returns showing
the number of Murders and
Suicides both proved and
suspected which have been
made known to the Authorities
in the Districts of the Madras
Presidency during the Year 1856.*

*Ordered that the
foregoing Returns be
logged.*

[Signature]

The subject of the classification
 of crimes & misdemeanors has
 been discussed many times before the
 Criminal Law Commission. It was taken
 into consideration in Council & the results
 of the inquiry have been derived
 from the present testimony. Those
 particularly for supporting the theory
 of comparing these criminal statistics
 of this Presidency with that of other
 parts of India or of other

Total proved and suspected

Males ————— 421

Females ————— 605

1026 to a population

estimated at 21,521,695 that is there were one
 suicide to every 21,521 persons and .377 of a
 murder. — on murder to every

J

I have no means of as-
certaining what is the proportion in
other Countries.

J.P.

It is difficult to procure
any very satisfactory returns
even from England - for
comparison - as the charac-
teristics is not similar -

I obtained some a short
time ago - but I cannot lay
my hand on them at this
moment -

H

Ag

In England every crime of magnitude
indeed every crime of any description
comes to the knowledge of the police

Here a great number are carefully
concealed or are never heard of -

No fair comparison can be instituted
between the two of crime are not home

The great thing that strikes is the discrepancy between
the number of murders & those of self destruction 377 & 1026

The disproportion proportions in
different districts also remarkable

The largest number of murders occurs

in districts		of suicides	
Cuddalore	62	Rajahmundry	115
Malabar	39	Bellary	89
Madurai	38	Malabar	82
Bellary	32	St Arcot	87
Comblaton	32	Canara	79
		Comblaton	76

is that Malabar

Bellary

Comblaton

show a large proportion under both
heads -

The disproportion in Rajahmundry between
murders & suicides is so great as to leave
no doubt in my mind that a large pro-
portion of the latter were murders

The prevailing condition of that Province
is unfavorable to inducement. Self destruc-
tion. The police was brought to a considera-
ble degree of vigilance of the late Master and I
have no doubt that many murders perpetrated
in January & proper villages wh. were
altogether concealed, have been multiplied
into suicides

In Madras the number of suicides
in proportion to the population is full as great as
or even greater than in Rajahmundry.

In Vizagapatnam the crimes returned are
very few in proportion to the population
yet the district is one of the most lawless
& the police the most inefficient in the
whole Presidency. My

W. L. G.

Mur. 7 Suicides 62

The subject of the classification
of crimes & misdemeanors for
the purposes coming before the
Criminal Courts - was lately con-
sidered in Council - & the results
of the information obtained
from the present survey - more
particularly for affording the means
of comparing these criminal states
of the Presidency with that of other
parts of India or of other

country was very evident -

This inconvenience is occasioned
by the dissimilarity of the classification -
which prevails - & in some cases
perhaps from an indistinctness in
the division of crimes - & of the ^{clauses} ~~heads~~
under which they are placed - which
perhaps in some cases cannot be very
easily avoided.

The returns from the London
Board display in the first place
the two great classes of crimes against

5
person & against property - & then
individually each under several heads.

I have not the returns from the
other Prisons to refer to - but from
a representative tabular statement by
the Ladder - I have led to suppose - that
they are less numerous in the details -

In England the returns are
made under six heads or classes.

1. Offences against persons.
2. - - - property with violence
3. - - - - without
4. Malicious offences against property -
5. Forgery & offences against currency
6. Other offences.

I fully concur in the importance of
having the criminal returns prepared
in a more intelligible shape

One great use of such returns
is to afford the means of instituting
comparisons between the state of
crime in different countries
under different systems of
policy.

The English arrangement
is good as far as it goes. But
it should be confined to the few
general heads only which are
specified.

Doubtless however
the details of each head are
recorded separately & will be given

from when required.

It is especially desirable
that the same forms should be
adopted throughout the whole
of India & I entirely approve
of the proposition for bringing
the subject under the notice
of the Legislature.
The Secy of India
Walter M. D. S.

16/5/54

Reinforced according
to instructions received
in Council -

No information
can be obtained from
the returns of other
Presidencies as to
the number of
murders or suicides
there

JF

Memo

See notes in the columns of remarks.
On the whole there were 274 murders proved
of which 215 were of men and 59 of women.

And 103 suspected 87 men and 16 women.
Total number of murders proved & suspected 377

Males 302.

Females 75.

In suicide the proved were

Males 392

Females 526

918

Suspected..

Males 29

Females 79

108.

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W. H. L.

Mur. 7 Suicides 62

Is Mutual Aid Socy
1844/57

Material. 1837. (Declarⁿ)

Notes

Extracts Minutes of Comd.

28th Decr 1837

301.

301.