

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1736	Press ~~Mis.~~
24-25	
Dated	2 - 11 - 19-1866

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Not to be folded or roughly handled

*Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
2nd November 1866.*

No. 24. Read the following letter from the Session Judge of Nundial, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Kurnool, 18th October 1866, No. 7.

I have the honor, under Section 394 of the Criminal Procedure Code, to submit, for the orders of Government, the case of Miniga Narasaya, Prisoner in Session Case No. 61 of 1866, who has been tried by this Court on a charge of 'Murder,' and acquitted on the ground of insanity.

Enclosure one.

2. The murder, *a triple one*, occurred so far back as March of last year. It appearing, however, at the preliminary inquiry that the Prisoner was in an unsound state of mind, and incapable of making his defence, proceedings were stayed, and he was forwarded to the District Jail, where he has since been under medical treatment. The Medical Officer recently reported him 'of sound mind,' and he was put upon his trial.

3. The verdict recorded was to the effect that the Prisoner committed the act with which he was charged, but that he was, at the time, by reason of unsoundness of mind, incapable of understanding its nature.

4. He was generally looked upon as an imbecile in his village, but was thought harmless. The Government Dresser at Cumbayn had, some time previously, had him under treatment, and had discharged him, as he thought, cured. This fit appears to have come on without apparent cause, and without premonitory warning. The murders were committed under circumstances of the utmost brutality, and were as motiveless as they were tragical. After keeping the whole village at bay during the night and part of the following day, he was eventually overpowered and secured by the Assistant Superintendent of Police, who was, opportunely, in the neighbourhood at the time. It was with considerable difficulty he was made to understand the nature of his crime, and when spoken to regarding his victims, he displayed the most callous indifference. His stolid surly demeanour he maintained throughout the trial.

5. The Medical Officer, as will be seen from the accompanying copy of his deposition, is of opinion that the Prisoner is now sane. This may be so, but I consider him too dangerous a character to be allowed to go at large. I recommend that he be kept in safe custody for the rest of his life, either here, or in such other place as the Government may direct.

SESSION CASE NO. 61 OF 1866.

10th Witness for prosecution.

Deposition given, on solemn affirmation, under Act V of 1840, by Assistant Surgeon Croudace.

I know the prisoner before the Court. I had him under observation in the Jail for about three months. He appeared to me to be sane, and I consider him to be perfectly sane at this moment, and to be capable of giving his defence.

Prisoner asks no question.

Proceedings of the Madras Government, Judicial Department,
2nd November 1866.

To Court. I consider that his silence arises from obstinacy, and not from want of understanding. I put many questions to him this morning, and he answered them readily. His is a very low order of intellect, but I consider him sane.

(Signed) T. CROUDACE,
Assistant Surgeon.

(True Copy.)

(Signed) L. FORBES,
Session Judge.

No. 25. ORDER THEREON, 2nd November 1866, No. 1736.

Under Section 394 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Governor in Council authorizes the detention of Miniga Narasaya in the Zillah Jail at Kurnool.

(True Extract).

Secretary to Government.

To the Session Judge of Nundial.
,, Inspector General of Jails.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

No. 7 of 1866.
Judicial Dept
From
The Session Judge
of Nundial.

To The Chief Secretary
to Govt. Madras.

No. 2333-
Dated 18th October
Recd. 23rd October 1866.
Enclosure - one.

Submitting for the
orders of Government
the case of Miniga
Narasaya Prisoner
in S.C. No. 61 of 1866.
who has been tried in
this Court on a charge
of 'murder' & acquitted
on the ground of
insanity.

2nd November 1866 No. 1736.

Under Section 394 of the Code of
Criminal Procedure, the Govt. in Council
the detention Miniga Narasaya
in the Zillah Jail at Kurnool.

L. Forbes

To the Session Judge of Nundial
Inspector General of Jails.

24-25

1. The first thing I noticed when I stepped
 out of the plane was the cold. It was a
 sharp contrast to the warm air of the
 cabin. I shivered as I walked down the
 stairs, my hands tucked into my pockets.
 The ground was a mix of dirt and gravel,
 and the air smelled of dust and engine
 oil. I looked up at the sky, where a few
 clouds were scattered. The sun was
 low, casting a golden glow over the
 landscape. I felt a sense of adventure
 and excitement, knowing that I was
 about to embark on a journey that would
 change my life.