

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 1627	Press ~~Vis~~
Dated 11-10-1886	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

11th October 1867.

Read the following :--

No. 98. Letter from the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate, to the Acting Magistrate, Kistna District; dated Sherumahammadpeta, 25th September 1867, No. 88.

I have the honor to forward copies of depositions taken by me in a case of dacoity committed at Chandragudem, near Mylavaram. Two prisoners were arrested in our territory, and will be tried at the next Session. Warrants were issued for the other eleven, nine of whom are now in the hands of Officers of the Nizam's Government.

2. I request that you will be so good as to apply for the delivery to me of these nine prisoners, and of the other two whenever they may be arrested. The names of the nine persons already arrested are—

1. Suraneni Kondaiya.
2. Suraneni Venkataramaiya.
3. Koleti Basavadoo.
4. Khasa Ramaya.
5. Abdul Nabi.
6. Khasa Ramadoo.
7. Suraneni Narsaiya.
8. Pondugula Kesavulu.
9. Muchintala Narsaiya.

3. The two still at large in the Nizam's country are—

1. Sagurti Ramadoo.
2. Chelikani Sitaiya.

No. 291.

Submitted to Government, with the request that the Government of Hyderabad be moved, under the provisions of Act 7 of 1854, to surrender the nine prisoners now in custody in that territory, and that the two accused now at large may be surrendered when arrested.

2. The copies of the depositions taken by the Head Assistant Magistrate are enclosed.

KISTNA DISTRICT MAGISTRATE'S COURT,
MASULIPATAM, 20th September 1867.

(Signed) W. WILSON,
Acting Magistrate.

Kotagiri Lakshmaiya, 1st Complainant.—I and other villagers of Chandragudem agreed to give to Suraneni Kondaiya, an inhabitant of Borragudem, 3 Annas 3 Pice, per head, for the right of grazing our cattle in certain lands belonging to Gowraram village in the Nizam's country.

2. After this, Kondaiya and his brother Narsaiya wanted us to plough these lands for them, which we refused to do. Three days after, 20 cows and 30 sheep were taken away. I was absent at the time, but they were missing when I returned. I did not go to Gowraram, because Kondaiya and Narsaiya threatened to shoot us if we went there; we went then and complained at Mylavaram Police Station. The next day, the Station Officer and the writer came to my village, and with him the villagers, and I went to the boundary of Gowraram village, when they came running with spears, swords, and guns—some ten of them—headed by Kondaiya. There were four guns; they were not fired; there were three swords and two spears. They asked us what we were doing in the Nizam's country; they also refused to give up the cattle, even if we give one Rupee pound fine for each animal. As they would not let us go any further, we went back, and the Station Officer said he would make a report, and told us to complain, which we did. Three or four days ago, the

Inspector came to Chandragudem, and went thence to Gowraram with the Village Moonsiff Curnum two Vetty men, and 10 or 12 Constables, when we found the Cattle in the pound, and Kondaiya gone. The prisoners were arrested in Borragudem hamlet of Chandragudem. They were among the persons who prevented us from going with the Mylavaram Station Officer to Gowraram to get back our cattle. The 2nd prisoner had a gun; and the 3rd had a spear, as also had the 1st prisoner. The 2nd and 3rd prisoners were concealed in some bushes near. The 1st prisoner was arrested in Gowraram, the 2nd and 3rd in Borragudem.

The names of the persons who stopped us at the Nizam's boundary are—

- 1st. Muchintala Narsaiya.
- 2nd. Suraneni Narsaiya.
- 3rd. Suraneni Venkataramaiya.
- 4th. Khasa Ramadass.
- 5th. Abdul Nabi.
- 6th. Pondugula Telaga Kesavulu.
- 7th. Khasa Ramadoo.
- 8th. Sagurti Ramadoo.
- 9th. Koleti Basavadoo.
- 10th. Chelikani Sitaiya.

The Nizam's renter Kondaiya wanted to get the inhabitants of my village to plough his land. All the ryots, except me, agreed and did so, but I refused, as I was of as good a caste as he. I am a Velama casteman, and so is he. He then said he would not let my cattle graze, as he had agreed and I had paid him for; I said "very well, I won't plough nevertheless", and I fed my cattle in my own village, and soon afterwards he committed this outrage.

By 1st Defendant.—When your son-in-law's younger brother Suraneni Narsaiya was about to shoot at us at the Nizam's boundary, you were present and prevented him from firing.

Court.—Of the defendants above named by me, Kesavulu lives in Pondugula belonging to this Government.

Sagurti Ramadoo lives in Dasullayalem belonging to this Government.

Abdul Nabi takes feed with Kondaiya, who lives in Borragudem, belonging to this Government; and all the other defendants live at Borragudem.

12th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Assistant Magistrate.

Badugu Iyodhiya, 2nd Witness, 2nd Complainant.—I sent some of my cattle to the Chandragudem fields to graze with the first cattle, and some separately with Khasa Appaiya, and Tshakala Muttaya. I ordered that they should be fed in our fields. They did not return. I afterwards went with the Deputy Constable to the Gowrarappadu Pound to look for them, but was prevented from seeing anything by five or six persons who came against us, and five or six more who stood about near—some were armed with spears, two with muskets, two with swords. I afterwards sent and offered a Rupee per head, but they refused to let my cattle go. The cattle were not released until the Inspector of Police, Mr. Forster, came.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Asst. Magistrate.

Khasa Appaiya, 3rd Witness, 3rd Complainant.—I was with Iyodhiya's cattle when Curnum Lakshmaiya of Gowrarappadu Khasa Ramadass (*sic*) came and drove them off to the Gowrarappadu Pounds. There were with me Iyodhiya's son-in-laws; and Lakshmigadu and a Muttaracha man were with me; they threatened to beat me, and I let them go. There were four bullocks of Iyodhiya's, and five pairs of of my own. I gave four annas a head pound fund. Tshakala Muttaya paid eight annas a head for each of his, and Iyodhiya's were kept there, as they demanded one Rupee per head. They were feeding in the Chandragudem lands only near the boundary.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Asst. Magistrate.
17th September 1867.

Mangalapudi Nagadu, 4th Witness.—About 20 days ago I was feeding the complainant's cattle, viz., about 20 cows and 20 sheep, and 2 rams. I was feeding them in the Chandragudem side of the Vagu which forms the Nizam's boundary, when 12 persons came from Gowraram (a Nizam's village) fields, with guns and swords and spears, and, giving me two blows, drove off the cattle to Gowraram. This was at about mid-day.

The twelve persons were—

- 1st.—Suraneni Kondaiya.
- 2nd.—Suraneni Narsaiya.
- 3rd.—Suraneni Venkataramaiya.
- 4th.—Sagurti Ramadoo.
- 5th.—Koleti Basavadoo.
- 6th.—Chelikani Ramaiya.
- 7th.—Suraneni Kristnaiya.
- 8th.—Pondugula Kesavulu.
- 9th.—Khasa Ramadass.
- 10th.—Khasa Ramadoo.
- 11th.—Muchintala Narsaiya.

No. 7.—Kristnaiya had a gun.

„ 9 and 10.—The Khasa people had each a sword.

„ 11. Muchintala Narsaiya had a spear.

„ 5 & 6. The two Chucklers Basavadoo and Ramadoo had sticks.

„ 8. Kesavulu had a sword.

I remember the above.

I was the only person with the cattle.

Bodi Chintadu and Bodi Muttadu were cutting sticks 50 or 60 yards off.

I went crying to the village, and met the above two persons, and told them what had happened. I then went to my master, complainant's house, and found him absent, so I told his wife. On the 3rd day my master came back. I was not personally a witness to what followed, though I know what actually took place.

By 4th Defendant.—Suraneni Narsaiya struck me two blows with a stick. I don't exactly remember where the blows fell, but I sat down in a hurry, and I received the blows on my back. The stick was about 1½ yard long, and as thick as my finger. There was no wound, bruise, and blood. The defendants all came running from the trees in a body to carry off the cattle.

The other defendants followed Narsaiya, running about 30 yards behind him. Kondaiya was on horse back. Narsaiya drove off the cattle. No other cattle except my master's were there.

The other defendants came after and joined Narsaiya and Kondaiya. I saw which of the defendants had guns and swords and spears, as they came from 50 yards off towards me.

I was present when, on the 3rd day before the complainant returned, his wife gave a man called Iyodhiya one Rupee to pay for the impounded cattle.

In the 2nd defendant's hand was a sword.

In the 3rd defendant's hand, a gun.

In the 1st defendant's hand, a spear.

I did not show the marks of the blows to the two Pariah wood-cutters.

12th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Asst. Magistrate.

Bodi Chintadu, 5th Witness.—I was cutting fuel in the hills of Chandragudem when the last witness came up crying; we asked what was the matter, and he said Kondaiya and Narsaiya had come and driven off his cattle. I then climbed upon the rocks, and saw the cattle being driven. Before this, I saw the cattle grazing in Chandragudem. When we got up on the rocks, they were still in Chandragudem on the Gowraram boundary. Bodun Muttigadu was with me; 5, 6, 7, or 8

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persons appeared to be driving the cattle. I saw Kondaiya on a horse. I did not recognize any other person properly. I saw swords and spears, but cannot say in whose hands they were. I did not see any guns. They were going across the Vagu to Gowraram village fields. No one was with last witness; he ran by himself.

By 4th Defendant's Fakeel.—Kondaiya and Narsaiya were following the cattle when I saw them. The other persons were driving the cattle, and Kondaiya and Narsaiya following them.

I did not see anything in Kondaiya's hand. Narsaiya had a sword in his hand. Muttadu was only a few yards from me.

I saw no marks of blows upon last witness' body.

12th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Ag. Head Asst. Magistrate.

Yedama Lakshman, 6th Witness, Deputy Constable, No. 244.—I received a report on the 26th August and started on the 27th morning with Chandragudem Curnum Moonsiff and Vetty man, also complainant. We went to Gowraram jungle. We went from Chandragudem towards Gowraram. Constable Sriramuli, the writer, was also with me. We crossed the boundary; and as we came near to the cattle pound which was established in the jungle of the Gowraram village, 1st defendant and Suraneni Narsaiya, taking a spear each, came opposite us. Complainant waited there seeing the spears. I went on, when Suraneni Narsaiya said you have no authority here; this is Nizam's country, if you want anything you must apply to the Nizam's authorities. Then complainant came a few feet on and remonstrated. When Suraneni Narsaiya saw him, he abused him, and took his spear, saying he would strike him. The 1st defendant said don't make a disturbance, don't be in a hurry, and took the spear away. Then Suraneni Narsaiya said that two years' Pullery and pound fee, and Pullery for the current year was due; this will come to two or three Rupees per head of cattle; if you give it—well; if not, we will take the cattle to the Nizam's country, and sell them by auction, but we will not otherwise release them. 1st defendant came some way with complainant on the way back to make rajee. He said I am a relation to both parties, if you give pound fee I will get them released; complainant consented. The complainant said he would give his car-ring as security; 1st defendant consented at first, but afterwards said no, let some man go security to this—he consented. Then I advised complainant not to go himself for the cattle, but to send some other person, for fear of a quarrel. After this, the Curnum of Yeropolum and Mirasidar of Gowraram came where we were, and said he would not let the cattle go on any account. Some persons came with him and concealed themselves among the bushes with arms.

The Curnum also used bad language to the complainant, who remonstrated. Then I took him away to Chandragudem. Then I returned to Mylavaram, and reported by occurrence report.

By 4th Defendant's Fakeel.—The only house near the pound is a palmyra hut belonging to 1st defendant. There were two or three small huts for Vetty men.

A Vetty man was present. He came along with the others. I don't know who the Vetty man is. Narsaiya had a spear with an iron head, a yard long.

Venkataramaiya had a gun; and another, whose name I don't know, had a gun. There were two spears.

There were 10 or 12 persons with the defendants. I only know the name of two Khasas, one Ramadoo by name, one Ramadass.

I saw two swords among them.

These people were 10 or 12 yards off in the jungle.

This took place at 7 A. M.

13th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Ag. Head Asst. Magistrate.

11th October 1867.

Proceedings of the Acting Head Assistant Magistrate, Kistna District, dated 17th September 1867.

The Acting Head Assistant Magistrate has this day inspected the spot where the 1st prisoner in Calendar Case No. 94, by name Muchintala Narsaiya, was arrested.

The place is just on the Nizam's side of the frontier.

Ordered that the said prisoner be handed over to the nearest Nizam's Officer, with a copy of a Warrant which will be issued for his apprehension.

17th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Ag. Head Asst. Magistrate.

Bodi Muttigadu, 7th Witness.—I am Vetty man of Chandragudem. I heard Mangalapudi Nagadu crying, and saw him running towards Chandragudem villiage, when I and Chintadu (2nd witness) were cutting fuel near the hill which is about 150 yards from the Nizam's boundary. We called to him, and he said Kondaiya and Suraneni Narsaiya had beaten him, because he prevented them from driving off his cattle. Chintadu went high up a tree near, and I went half way up, from whence I saw the complainant's cattle going towards the Gowrarappadu village lands. When I saw them they were still in the Chandragudem lands.

I did not see any people at first, but, afterwards, I saw Narsaiya and Kondaiya, the latter on horse-back. I saw them through the jungle.

Narsaiya had a sword in his hand. Kondaiya carried nothing.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Assistant Magistrate.

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Selam Pottireddi, 8th Witness.—The land on the other side of the Gowrarampad Vagu belongs to the Nizam, and is held by Lakshmaiya, Curnum of Gowrarampadu, and Kondaiya who rents the lands under him. We, the ryots of Chandragudem, and those of Pondugula, both British Government villages, cultivate these lands under the above two persons. A share of the crops was taken last year by Kondaiya. This year, Kondaiya fixed a grass rent of 4 or 5 dubbys per head of cattle fed, which we thought too high, and refused to take the land, then Lakshmaiya settled with us. Borragudem is a hamlet of Chandragudem. The sheep of this hamlet are fed in Gowrarappadu jungles, but not the cattle. We consented to take the lease of the jungles for our cattle, because our cattle were often put in the pound when they strayed across the boundary. There was no dispute about our cultivating these lands. We paid the Pullery tax through Lakshmaiya to Kondaiya. No village besides Chandragudem, Pondugula, and Borragudem, has any share in cultivating these lands. There is no village at Gowrarappadu, there is only a pound and three huts. There are no cultivating ryots, the lands being wholly cultivated by British villages. There is no other Nizam's village nearer than the other side of the range of hills.

MYLAVARAM,

17th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,
Acting Head Assistant Magistrate.

Makhera Kesavareddi, 9th Witness.—The Gowrarappadu Vagu is the boundary between the British villages of Chandragudem and its hamlet Borragudem and Pondugula and the Nizam's village of Gowraram.

Last year, we cultivated the Gowraram lands. This year, Kondaiya is cultivating them himself. He is the renter by his own account of that village.

Early this year, we paid a high Pullery tax for feeding our cattle. Afterwards Kondaiya increased the demand, and put our cattle in the pound when we refused; we then agreed to give for each cow 3 Annas 3 Pice, and bullocks 2 Annas 3 Pice. Kondaiya afterwards demanded payment for grass and leaves cut by us; we refused. He said we must at least give the same for bullocks as for cows; to this we agreed. Even then, he refused to let us feed the cattle, unless we ploughed his fields for him. Most of us consented and ploughed his fields, as we had no other good grass; one or

11th October 1867.

two persons refused, among these was Kotagiri Lakshmaiya, the complainant. He gave us no cooly for ploughing, but only permission to feed the cattle. We paid, about a month ago, 3 Annas 3 Pice per head for cows, and 2 Annas 3 Pice for bullocks, as Pullery tax, to Kondaiya and Lakshmaiya, the Curnum Mirasidar. I went some eight or ten days ago to the pound in the Gowrarappadu village, and saw the cattle of Kotagiri Lakshmaiya there. I know his cattle.

(1) Pottireddi, (2) Yedla Venku, (3) Roydu Venku went with me.

I went to take my bullock from the pound. They said it had trespassed upon a cultivated field. I paid 3 Annas 3 Pice pound fee for its release.

When I went there I saw Suraneni Kondaiya, his younger brother Narsaiya, and Venkata-ramaiya, 1st prisoner, Muchintala Narsaiya, and some servants. I saw no arms.

There is no village at Gowrarampadu. There are only the houses of Kondaiya and Narsaiya, and the pound. These are near the boundary.

My cattle, 20 in number, were put in the pound. My younger brother's cattle also, 18 in number, were impounded; for all these we had to pay pound fee to Kondaiya. They were impounded because we refused to pay Pullery tax; we had up to the time paid nothing under this head. The usual time for paying this Pullery in former years was November. I think that my cattle were impounded because I refused to pay a high Pullery tax, and because I refused to plough.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

17th September 1867.

Acting Head Assistant Magistrate.

Maridu Kristnaiya, 19th Witness.—About ten days ago, the Deputy Constable of Mylavaram came to my village, Chandragudem, and, taking some of the principal men, went to the pound which has been established in Gowrarampad village. We crossed the boundary, and went toward the pound, when five or six persons, with spears and one sword and one gun, came to meet us. Among these I recognized—

Muchintala Narsaiya.

Appaiya Garu.

Two Khasa men, one called Ramadass.

Appaiya's house name is Suraneni. He is elder or younger brother to Suraneni Kondaiya.

There was another brother Suraneni. We, seeing them armed, retired across the boundary. While we were sitting, there Muchintala Narsaiya came there, and said if we gave pound fee, the cattle should be released. We then returned to the pound, and offered 4 Annas and 3 Pice per head; but Curnum Lakshmaiya had come in the meantime, and he refused to allow us to take the cattle altogether, unless we gave Rupee 1 per head, threatening to take the cattle to Madhira Parganah, in the Nizam's country, unless this sum was given. The complainant refused to give the money, when they pushed us away, and we went home.

The lands in question were cultivated this year by Kondaiya. I do not know who ploughed for his first crop; but for the cholam crop, as we were feeding our cattle in his village after paying Pullery tax, he obliged each of us to plough a part of the lands in question. As we had no other fodder for our cattle, we consented. All the ryots, except four or five, cultivated these lands. The complainant did not cultivate, as he is a Vellama caste man. On this account I think his cattle were taken to the pound by the defendants. No hire was given for this work; if we refused to do it, they drove our cattle to the pound. They first put Kesavareddi's bullocks in the pound on his refusing to plough, afterwards he consented, and they released them. So, they continued to do, until we came and ploughed for nothing for them. The Suraneni people's houses are in Borragudem.

17th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

Actg. Head Asst. Magistrate.

Kandlakunta Lakshmi Narsu, 11th Witness.—I am Curnum of Chandragudem. The complainant's cattle were driven to the pound, because he, being of the same caste (Vellama) as the defendants, refused to plough their lands for them.

11th October 1867.

All the other villagers consented and ploughed.

They consented, because he annoyed them by raising the Pullery tax, and by preventing them from cutting grass. I went with the Constable to the pound in Gowrarampad village.

17th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

Actg. Head Asst. Magistrate.

Chelikani Ramaiya, 1st Prisoner.—I am not guilty. I know nothing of this offence. I was in Borragudem.

Calls—1. Manikenetula Kotappa.

2. Silam Samili Reddi.

18th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

Actg. Head Asst. Magistrate.

Suraneni Kristnaiya, 2nd Prisoner.—I know nothing of this offence. I did not go to the place. I am not guilty. I was in Borragudem.

Calls the same witness as 1st prisoner.

18th September 1867.

(Signed) A. J. STUART,

Actg. Head Asst. Magistrate.

No. 99.

ORDER THEREON, 11th October 1867, No. 1627.

It is competent to the Magistrate to make the usual requisition to the Resident for the surrender of the parties referred to in the foregoing letter. Act VII of 1854 is inapplicable.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Magistrate of the Kistna District.

Exd. J. H. Burns.

11th October 1867 No. 1029

It is competent to the Magistrate to make
the usual requisition to the President
for the surrender of the parties referred
to in the foregoing letter. Act VII of 1854
is inapplicable.

98.99.

To the Magistrate of the
Kistna District. Dated 11/10/67.

10th 1867. Pross 11 Oct
Judicial Department.
From
The Acting Magistrate
Kistna District
To
The Chief
Secretary to Government
Fort Saint George

Dated 30th September
Despatched 5th October 1867

Received - 7 -

No 291

Enclosure 1

No 2138.

Submitting Copy of a letter
from the Acting Head Assistant
Magistrate of Kistna District with
its enclosures regarding the
surrender of certain prisoners
concerned in a Dacoity committed
at Chandragudem, now in
custody in Vizian's territory.
With an order