

Judicial (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 2387.

Dated 19th Nov 1895.

INDEXED.

[Despatch Abstract.]

SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Declining to interfere with the--passed on convict No.2079,
Vetta Vannan in Coimbatore Sessions Case No.85 of 1895, and directing
that the law shall take its course.

md.

PETITION FOR MERCY.

VERY EMERGENT.

Hon'ble Member and Circulation.

(FOR ORDERS.)

[J.]
[16.]
1,000-5-2-94.



Judicial Department.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter, dated 14. Nov. 95, No 2802, from the Superintendent of the Central Jail at Coimbatore, forwarding under sentence of death in Criminal Session Case No. 85 of 1895, confirmed by the High Court of Judicature.

Read also letter, dated from the Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side, forwarding the record of the case.

ORDER THEREON, 19. Nov. 1895, No. 238

Having considered the circumstances of the case as set forth in the foregoing papers, the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council sees no reason to interfere with the sentence of death passed on Convict No 2079 Vetta Vannan

2. The law will take its course.

(True Extract)

(From news)

M. J. S.

19/11/95
Chief Secretary.

19/11/95

To the Superintendent of the Central Jail, Coimbatore.
for communication to the Prisoner.
Inspector-General of Jails.
Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, with papers returned.

11/11/11 CB/11
P. 18/11 R. 19/11

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No. _____
 189 ,

DATED

CURRENT No.

ENCLOSURES TO C. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT

A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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

N.B. -

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

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FORM No. 53.

Nominal Roll of Convict No. 2079, *Vella Thumace*.

Crime.	Sentence.	Date of Sentence.	Adjudicating Court.	Present Age.	State of Health.	Conduct in Jail.	Result of the Appeal to Appellate Court.	Number of previous convictions if any and remarks.
Murder, Sec: 302, S.P.C.	To suffer death subject to confirmation by the High Court, Madras.	9.9.1895.	Sessions Judge Coimbatore.	30 years.	Good.	Good.	Sentence of Death confirmed by the High Court, Madras.	

Coimbatore
Central Jail Office,
14th November 1895.

5,000-9-94.

Rules 701 and 704.

Sub

A. J. J. J.
Superintendent of Central Jail.

CRIMINAL APPEAL No. 512 of 1895.

Appeal by the Prisoner against the said Sentence.

This case coming on for hearing, the court delivered the

following

Judgment: — We see no reason why we should not accept the evidence of the 5th witness Ka - Ruppaiji, which was credited by

500-6-2-95.

by the Sessions judge and by the assessors. It seems to have been through the information given by her to Rangasami Iyengar on the morning of the 14th July that the body of the deceased woman was discovered and that the occurrence came to light.

We do not see why the confession of the accused before the magistrate (Exhibit F) should not be considered. As pointed out by the Sessions judge the first question was a perfectly proper one, and after the accused had once confessed the crime there was no reason why he should not

not be asked the particulars.

The questions were not open to the same objections that would have arisen had accused denied the commission of the offence. It is, however, quite clear from the 7th witness's evidence and from Exhibit B (as well as from Exhibit F) that accused must also have made incriminatory statements when arrested at the Bhamani ferry. It is true that the bundle of clothes has not been traced, nor is the broken condition of the knife explained. These omissions, do not, however, affect the credibility of the story and as there was an interval of two days between the actual murder and the arrest of prisoner at the ferry there was ample time for

him to have disposed of the cloths.

The prisoner appears to be a drunkard and one of the causes of quarrel between himself and deceased was that he pawned clothes given to them to wash in order to buy liquor for himself.

It is probable that the accused had been drinking when he committed the offence, - but the attack upon the woman must have been a very persistent one, there being several stabs, - both on the throat and on the stomach.

We can see no reason for any commutation of the sentence.

The conviction and sentence of death must be confirmed and the appeal dismissed.

By the court

C. J. D. H. M.
By Registrar

8.11. App. side

9/11/11

Forwarded to the Superintendent, Central Jail, Coimbatore, for information and communication to the Prisoner with a copy of the judgment.

[Signature]

Sessins Judge
Coimbatore

11. 11. 95.

[Signature]

Enclosure No. 3

for 21/9/95

In the Sessions Court,
Coimbatore Division.

THE 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1895.

PRESENT:

THOMAS WEIR, Esquire,
Sessions Judge.

SESSIONS CASE No. 85 OF 1895.

(REGISTER CASE No. 12 OF 1895,

Committed by the Stationary 2nd Class Magistrate of Erode,
Coimbatore District).

QUEEN EMPRESS OF INDIA *Versus* Vétta Vannan — Defended by
Mr. Krishna Iyer, High Court
Vakil.

OFFENCE Murder, Section 302, I. P. C.

OPINION OF ASSESSORS { 1 Chetti. } .. Guilty.
 { 1 Goundan. }

FINDING OF JUDGE Concurred.

SENTENCE Death subject to confirmation by
the High Court.

TO

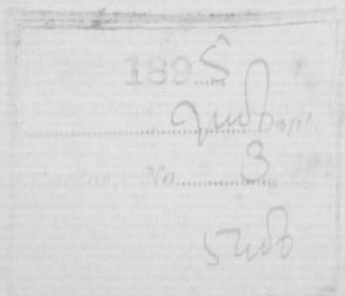
D. W. G. COWIE, Esquire,

ACTING REGISTRAR,

HIGH COURT, APPELLATE SIDE,
MADRAS.

SIR,

I have the honor to submit my judgment in the above case, for the
orders of the High Court, under Section 374, Code of Criminal Procedure.



JUDGMENT.

The accused, Vetta Vannan, is charged with the murder of one Anga Vannathi on 13th July last.

2. The accused is a washerman by caste and the deceased woman, who was the widow of accused's cousin, belonged to the same caste.

3. The deceased woman lost her husband some 8 months previous to July last. The accused, it is said, came to reside in deceased's house, during the last illness of the deceased's husband and did the latter's work (2nd witness' evidence). After the death of the husband, the accused continued to reside with the deceased who became his concubine.

4. The accused was addicted to drinking and had, on this account, pledged, it is said, clothes belonging to his and deceased's customers.

5. The deceased woman was naturally annoyed at accused's misconduct and had been quarrelling with the accused, it is said, for some days before the occurrence, reproaching him for having pledged the clothes and on account of his drinking habits.

The deceased's son, a precocious boy, aged 12, named Palani—2nd witness—had also quarrelled with the accused and had told his mother that, unless the accused were sent away, the family would be reduced to poverty.

6. Matters were on this footing between the accused and the deceased and her family on the morning of the day of the occurrence, viz., Saturday, 13th July.

7. On that morning after taking their early meal, the accused and the deceased woman set out to go to the neighbouring village of Sittodu, 2½ miles away, to bring soiled clothes for washing and also, it is said, to redeem a pledged cloth.

8. According to the evidence for the prosecution, neither the deceased woman nor the accused returned to the village.

9. Early on Sunday morning, 14th July, the corpse of the deceased Anga Vannathi, was found at a jungle-stream called Moottoonoottoo Pallam distant about 1 mile or ¾ths of a mile from deceased's village. The injuries on the corpse proved beyond a doubt that the woman had been murdered.

10. The accused, as already mentioned, did not return to the village on Saturday evening. He was arrested under circumstances which will hereafter be stated on the evening of Monday, the 15th July.

11. When deceased left home on Saturday morning to go with accused to Sittodu, she left behind at her house her married daughter, 1st witness who had come on a short visit, her son Palani, 2nd witness, and a baby aged 10 months.

12. The evidence of these two witnesses, 1st and 2nd witnesses, deceased's children, is not of special importance. They speak to the quarrels between accused and deceased already referred to, to the accused and deceased leaving together on the Saturday morning, to the accused having taken with him in his

waist-cloth a knife with a white handle (afterwards discovered close to the corpse), to their uneasiness at their mother's non-return on Saturday evening and to their seeing and identifying her corpse on Sunday.

13. The 3rd witness—Karuppayi—deposes that, on the Saturday in question some time after midday, she saw the accused and the deceased at Sittodu near a temple, where they had placed down their bundles of soiled clothes. She saw them go on carrying the bundles of clothes. Witness who belonged to the same village as the deceased returned home in the evening, and the boy Palani, 2nd witness, came to her and said the baby was crying on account of the absence of its mother. She then told the boy that she had seen accused and his mother leave Sittodu that afternoon.

14. The 4th witness—Kolandal—a Shanar woman, was returning to the village from Bowani on Saturday evening. She met the accused at some high ground near a ford (அறுப்பு), and spoke with him. Witness asked accused why he was going alone and where the washerwoman (deceased) was. The accused replied he had not seen the washerwoman's face nor had the washerwoman seen his face. The time was one naligai before sunset. The place where the witness met accused is said to be two miles from the place where deceased's corpse was afterwards found lying (8th witness' evidence).

After seeing accused, witness went on to the village. As she was passing by deceased's house, Rangasawmy Tevan (8th witness) deceased's neighbour, asked her why deceased's child was crying. Witness said she did not know, and that she had just seen the accused going towards Bowani and that the washerwoman was not with him.

15. The next witness, Karuppayi, 5th witness, is the most important witness in this case.

She deposes that, at midday on the Saturday, she went to Sittodu to sell some plantain-bark.

She met the accused and the deceased coming from Sittodu at a place 2 fields distant from Sittodu. The deceased woman was carrying a bundle. Witness went on to Sittodu, sold her plantain-bark and started back to her village (the same village as deceased's) within one naligai.

As she was going along the itteri (road) at Moottoonoottoo stream, she heard a cry of 'Eiyob, he is stabbing, he is killing'. She left the road to see what was the matter and stood on a rock of a temple (called Madesvara Betta. 11th witness' evidence). She then saw the accused stabbing the washerwoman. The washerwoman was bleeding from a wound in the throat. She saw the accused who had his back to her give a stab and then, being afraid, she waited no longer and ran off.

The distance from which witness saw the deed was, according to her evidence, 30 mars, but, according to the measurement of the 11th witness, Head Constable, 25 mars.

She observed, she says, the white handle of a knife in the accused's hand when he was stabbing.

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The distance from which witness saw the deed was, according to her evidence, 30 mars, but, according to the measurement of the 11th witness, Head Constable, 25 mars.

She observed, she says, the white handle of a knife in the accused's hand when he was stabbing.

After seeing the occurrence, witness ran off to her village, reaching home, she says, about 10 nalgais before sunset. Her house was some little distance from the deceased. She told no one that evening of what she had seen, being afraid. Next morning, however, she told the 8th witness, Rangaswami Tevan, a man of the same caste as herself. On the same morning, Sunday, she went off to Bowani to sell grass and, as she was late in selling her grass and could find no one to accompany her home, she stopped all night at Bowani, and only returned to the village on Monday morning.

The Committing Magistrate who had arrived at the village on the preceding day, Sunday, recorded her evidence on Monday.

16. Rangaswami Tevan, examined as 8th witness, gives evidence that, on the Saturday evening, Kolandal, 4th witness, told him of her having seen the accused going along the road to Bowani and that, on Sunday morning, the 5th witness, Karuppayi, told him that she had seen the accused and the deceased on Saturday at 20 nalgais, quarrelling and struggling at the Moottoonoottoo stream.

This witness, accompanied by the Curnum, 9th witness, went to see the corpse early on Sunday morning and found it lying at the Moottoonoottoo stream. The Curnum thereupon sent the Taliari, Chennai, to fetch the Monigar, 6th witness, who came to the spot at about 9-30 or 10 A.M.

This 8th witness was examined by the Committing Magistrate on Sunday, 14th July, and he is recorded to have then said 'This day at about 7 o'clock, Karuppayi told me' etc., adding that Karuppayi was not then in the village but had gone to Bowani.

17. The 6th witness, the Village Monigar, deposes to his being called to the spot at 10 A.M., on Sunday, to his seeing the corpse at Moottoonoottoo stream, to his finding the following injuries on the body—

A stab wound on the abdomen, another stab wound through which the bowels had protruded on the left side of the abdomen—a knife wound in the pit of the throat—and an incised wound just above it. There were also wounds on the arms and legs.

Witness himself knew the deceased and was able to identify the body. The Police, the Sub-Magistrate and the Apothecary came at about 4 P.M., on Sunday and the Apothecary held the *post-mortem* examination on the spot. Witness examined the boy, Palani (2nd witness) and sent in the usual report (Ex. A).

18. The 9th witness—the Curnum—was present at the discovery of the deceased's corpse on Sunday morning, 14th July. His evidence was, however,

taken principally with reference to the discovery of the white-handled knife produced in Court.

This knife, although it was finally found lying within 4 cubits from where the corpse was found, was not discovered on Sunday. It was only found on a search being made on Tuesday 16th July (Mahazar Ex. C). When found the knife was lying on the leaves of some prickly-pear bushes (10th witness' evidence). The blade of the knife was broken and there were marks of blood on the knife.

19. The evidence of the 1st and 2nd witnesses in regard to the accused taking the knife with him on Saturday morning has already been mentioned.

These witnesses state that the knife was not broken when accused took it. It may be added that the 1st witness (deceased's daughter) said that the accused had first shown the knife to them on Thursday (2 days before the occurrence) stating that he had bought it from an Arab at Bowani for 8 annas. The knife—especially the handle—did, it may be mentioned, appear to bear marks of blood.

20. The accused, it has been stated, disappeared on the Saturday and was not seen until Monday evening.

The 7th witness speaks to the circumstances under which he was arrested.

The witness is the Village Magistrate of Yelavamalai at which place there is a ferry across the river Bowani leading, among other places, to accused's village 3 miles away. At 8 P.M., on Monday evening (15th July) the accused from the opposite bank hailed the ferry-man. Witness (who said he was contractor for the ferry) told the ferry-man to go and bring the accused. When the man came near, witness found that the accused was very drunk.

Witness questioned accused and the latter gave incoherent answers. Witness got a light from a temple close at hand and examined the accused. He found marks of blood on each of accused's two cloths. The marks of blood on the waist cloth were slight. Those on the other cloth which appeared to have been washed were larger.

(NOTE.—The cloth was produced and appeared to have faint marks of discoloration).

Witness sent a report (Ex. B) on the subject, and handed the accused over to the Erode Police (10th witness) on the next day, 16th July. This witness, on being recalled by the Court with reference to certain statements made by the accused, said that accused had a wound on his left hand between the thumb and forefinger. The wound was bandaged and accused untied the bandage. The witness with reference to another of accused's statements said that no Vathiar spoke to the accused, although a Vathiar did come there.

21. The evidence of the 10th witness (S. H. Officer—Erode) supplements that of the 7th witness in regard to the clothes found with deceased and the wound on accused's hand.

This 10th witness was also present at the discovery of the knife, on 16th July as well as at the inspection of the corpse on 14th July.

22. The 11th witness, another Head Constable, had prepared a plan (Exhibit D) showing the scene of the occurrence and the distances from one another of the several places connected with the incident.

23. The deposition of the Medical witness who held the post-mortem examination was read and placed on the record as Ex. E.

24. No evidence was called for the defence.

25. The accused, when examined by the Committing Magistrate after the examination of the witnesses, made a statement which is filed in the record as Ex. F.

26. The Pleader who defended the accused objected to the admission of this statement in evidence on the ground that the questions put by the Magistrate were improper and were in the nature of a cross-examination of the accused.

The decision of the High Court in I. L. R., IX, Mad : 224, was referred to.

27. It appeared to me that (assuming that the questions asked or some of them were improper) the statement of the accused being a statement recorded after the examination of the witnesses, could not, having regard to the language of Section 287, Criminal Procedure Code, be excluded from evidence and I ruled accordingly and directed the statement to be read.

28. The first question addressed by the Magistrate to the accused was not, I consider, improper and the accused having, in reply to this question, admitted that he murdered the deceased, the remaining questions, it was suggested were a necessary sequel and were also not improper.

29. It appears to me that, in the special circumstances of this case, the further questioning of the accused by the Magistrate was inexpedient if not improper. The accused having, in reply to the first question, admitted the offence, the object of questioning an accused, viz., that of enabling him to explain circumstances appearing in evidence against him—could certainly not be served by any further questioning, and a further examination of the accused became unnecessary and opposed to the intention of the Legislature.

The accused was, however, asked numerous questions as to matters of detail and several of the questions asked and especially the questions asked towards

the close of the examination are, in my opinion, objectionable and have, as was argued by accused's pleader, the appearance of having been asked to elicit statements in accordance with the evidence of the witnesses.

30. It is, I think, to be regretted that the accused was examined in the manner he has been by the Magistrate; but the weight of the case against the accused is, in my opinion, scarcely affected if the statements made during his examination are excluded from consideration.

31. In the Sessions Court, the accused retracted his statement before the Magistrate alleging that he had made it at the instigation of the Police. He went on to say that, as he and the deceased woman were returning (apparently from Sittodu), it got dark and that, when they were about 1 mile from their village, seven, eight or ten persons attacked them, took his bundle and wounded himself on the hand and forehead. These persons also dragged away the deceased. He went on to his village and complained to Rangaswami Tevan (8th witness), but the latter said no one could go at that time to the rock and told him to be quiet.

He then went home and told the children, and they all wept.

Then the villagers took him that Saturday night and tied him up at the Curnam's house and charged him with having stabbed the deceased.

Next day, Sunday, he was sent to the Police.

32. The question now to be considered is what conclusion has to be come to on the evidence?

33. The statement of the accused in the Sessions Court that he returned to the village on the Saturday night and was tied up and delivered to the Police next-day is opposed to all the evidence. The 7th witness' evidence shows that his whereabouts was not discovered until as late as Monday night.

34. The accused's statement that he and the deceased woman were returning from Sittodu after dark is also opposed to the evidence, viz, 3rd, 4th and 5th witnesses' evidence—and cannot, I think, be believed.

35. The accused, it will be seen, admits up to the last that the deceased woman was in his company when she was last seen alive.

The evidence therefore that he went with deceased and was with her at Sittodu on that day (1st, 2nd and 3rd witnesses' evidence) need not be discussed.

36. The evidence that he did not return to the village on that night—and was not found until the Monday night at Yelavamalai is also, I think, true beyond all doubt.

37. The evidence of 4th witness, Kolandal, that she saw accused near sunset going towards Bowani and that accused then said he knew nothing about the deceased woman, seems also reliable and free from suspicion.

38. The above matters are, however, in themselves, not of special weight against the accused.

39. There remains the incriminating evidence of Karuppayi, the only eye-witness.

Her evidence is of course open to attack on the ground that she did not at once reveal what she had seen.

She is also shewn to have made apparently contradictory statements as to whether she told 8th witness, Rangasami Tevan, of what she had seen on Saturday evening or only on Sunday morning. She also apparently did not mention to Rangasami Tevan that she saw stabbing—but spoke merely of struggling. Her statement that she saw the white handle of the knife at a distance of 25 mars was also challenged by the accused's Pleader.

40. I do not myself think these matters—although they deserve consideration—are of weight against the woman's evidence.

Her silence on Saturday night is entirely in accordance with experience.

The fact that she told Rungasami Tevan (8th witness) only on Sunday morning and that she was herself absent from the village on the Sunday is, I think, sufficiently proved by Rangasami Tevan's sworn evidence before the Committing Magistrate on Sunday to the effect that 'This day at 7 o' clock Karuppayi, wife of so and so told me—and that 'she is not now in the village but has gone to Bowani, already referred to (para 16 above).' It seems clear also that the corpse was discovered on the Sunday morning on her (Karuppayi's) information given to Rungasami Tevan and that notwithstanding that Rangasami Tevan is shewn to have said to the Committing Magistrate that Karuppayi did not tell him *at what place* she saw the incident. The discovery of the corpse at a place concealed from ordinary passers-by cannot otherwise reasonably be accounted for.

41. At the close of the trial, I asked the Assessors, after addressing them, to state specially whether they believed the evidence of Karuppayi and they both, without hesitation, stated that they did believe it.

42. I agree with them, and notwithstanding the woman's silence until Sunday morning I see no reason to disbelieve her statement that she actually witnessed the murder, nor do I think her statement that she was able to notice a small portion of the white-handle of the knife at a distance of 25 mars unworthy of belief.

43. The 5th witness' evidence taken along with the other evidence in the case, is of conclusive weight against the accused.

44. The circumstance that accused's clothes, when he was arrested on Monday night, are said to have been blood-stained, may be left out of consideration—first because there is no professional evidence that the stains *were* blood-stains and secondly because the blood-stains—if they were such—might have been caused by accused's own wound in the hand.

45. The remaining evidence, however, as a whole, viz., the accused's quarrels and strained relations with deceased, his having admittedly been the last person in whose company she was, his absconding on the afternoon of the day on which she disappeared, his false statement to 4th witness on the Saturday evening, the discovery close beside the corpse, of the knife which accused is said to have taken with him on that Saturday morning and lastly the direct evidence of the 5th witness, Karuppayi, leave in my mind no reasonable doubt of the accused's guilt.

46. As regards the discovery of the knife, the evidence, is I think, on the whole, satisfactory. The fact that it was not discovered on Sunday when the corpse was found seemed to me at first suspicious—but the situation of the knife, among the leaves of a prickly-pear bush, accounts, I think, sufficiently for the weapon not having been noticed earlier.

47. There is a slight discrepancy between the evidence of 1st and 2nd witnesses as to the accused's showing the knife before he set out on Saturday morning—and the 2nd witness is not shown to have mentioned the knife to the Monigar on Sunday morning—but the 1st witness is shown to have mentioned it in her second statement made to the Magistrate on Sunday, 14th July.

48. For the reasons stated, I come to the conclusion that the accused killed the deceased.

49. The accused's Pleader sought to contend that, on the accused's account of the occurrence given in his statement to the Magistrate, the offence did not amount to murder, inasmuch as the deceased woman first stabbed the accused.

50. There is however no support for accused's statement that the deceased stabbed him beyond the fact that the accused had a slight wound which may be otherwise accounted for, and it is altogether against the probabilities that the woman would have attacked the accused. On the other hand, the number and the character of the wounds on the deceased point to a murder of a most savage and determined character.

51. There is also no reason to think that there could have been grave and sudden provocation.

52. The burden of proof as to any exceptional matter was on the accused and he has altogether failed to discharge it.

53. Having regard to the relations between the parties and their antecedent quarrels, it seems probable that there was provocation—but I cannot see grounds for thinking that there was grave and sudden provocation.

54. It seems also probable that the accused may have been drunk at the time. His drinking habits were, according to the evidence, one of the causes of the quarrel between him and the deceased. His own statement (which, on this point, may be referred to as the matter is in his favor) is that he and the deceased both drank toddy at Sittodu. The evidence of the 7th witness shows that he was very drunk when arrested on Monday evening.

It seems therefore highly probable that he was drunk at the time he killed the deceased.

55. If he were drunk, the quality of his crime is not affected, but the circumstance may perhaps be taken into consideration by the final Court in determining whether the sentence I am about to pass should be upheld.

56. As a Court of original jurisdiction, I do not, however, feel myself at liberty to give to this circumstance the weight which the Court of appeal may possibly be disposed to give.

57. I accordingly find the accused guilty of murder and, subject to the confirmation of the High Court, I sentence him to be hanged by the neck, until he is dead.

NOTE.—Accused is told to appeal to High Court within seven days.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) T. WEIR,

Sessions Judge.

To

The Registrar, High Court, Appellate Side, Madras.

„ District Magistrate, Coimbatore, with () spare copies.

„ Superintendent of Police, Coimbatore, with () spare copies.

Prisoner.

(True Copy)

Head Clerk

(2nd Copy)

Despatched 20.9.95

Enclosure no. 2 To

His Excellency

The Governor-in-Council,

Fort Saint George.

The humble petition of convict no. 2079 Vella Thuman under sentence of death in the Coimbatore Central Jail

I was sentenced to suffer death by the Sessions Judge, Coimbatore in Session Case no. 85 of 95.

I appealed against the conviction and sentence passed on me to the High Court, Madras, on the ground that it is against law and justice and that I am not guilty.

The said High Court of Madras confirmed the sentence passed on me.

The sentence passed on me is unjust on the following grounds among others.

There is no proper eye witnesses in this case to prove that I committed murder. The Courts ought not to have believed the evidence of the 5th witness. If this witness is a proper one, she would have given information on the day of occurrence; she only told two days after the occurrence.

The important witnesses in this case have

have given their evidence on account of severity
 I confessed before the committing Magistrate
 on account of the Police beating and troubling me.
 The Magistrate did not ask me proper questions. It is
 unjust that the Sessions and High Courts took this
 as evidence.

I was drunk when I went to Sittoudu. At that
 time, some problems came and beat me and dragged
 my cousin's wife. I ran away through fear. I did
 not know what became of my cousin's wife. This
 case is charged with false witnesses.

I humbly pray Your Excellency in Council
 to consider this case and to release me from Jail.

(Translation)

Cum gratia Central Jail }
 14th November 1895 } Sri
 Sub } ^{Asaddeen}
 Superior Beedee.

Enclosure No. 1.

சென்னை மாகாணப் பரிசீலனை
 அலுவலர் அவர்கள் கீழ்க்கண்ட
 காரணத்தினால்.

பெரியபாளையம் பகுதியில்
 2079 பிளேட் நம்பர் 1000-ல்
 1895 ஆம் ஆண்டு நவம்பர் 14-ல்
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது.

பற்றி பெரியபாளையம் பகுதியில்
 1895 ஆம் ஆண்டு நவம்பர் 14-ல்
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது.

சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது

பெரியபாளையம் பகுதியில்
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது

சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது
 சிறைக்கு அனுப்பப்பட்டது

Head Clerk

Appeal for Mercy

His Excellency,

The Right Honorable,
The Governor in Council,
Fort Saint George.

The humble petition of convict no
2079, Veltatannan, under sentence
of death in the Coimbatore Central
Jail.

Dated 13th November 95.

Prayer.

Prays for a consideration of his
case and for his release from jail.

Encls. No.

5406

Head Clerk

No 2802

CURRENT NO 5406
Coimbatore Central Jail office,
14th November 1895.

From

E. H. Gadsden Esquire,
Superintendent, Central Jail,
Coimbatore.

To

The Chief Secretary to Government,
Fort Saint George.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for orders of
Government, a petition for Mercy from convict no
2079 Veltatannan under sentence of death in
Coimbatore Sessions case no 85 of 1895 ~~and~~ confirmed
by the High Court of Judicature, Madras.

2. Copies of judgments of the Sessions and High
Courts and Nominal Roll of the prisoner are—
submitted.

3. The sentence of death passed on this prisoner
will not be carried into execution until a definite
reply is received from Government to this petition.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,
Your most obedient servant.

E. H. Gadsden
Superintendent of Jail

The C. J. S. (C. J. S.)

PETITION FOR MERCY.

VERY URGENT.

Hon'ble Member and Circulation.

(FOR ORDERS.)

[J.]
16.
1,000-5-2-94.

Judicial Department.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

Read the following letter, dated 14. April 95, No 2802, from the Superintendent of the Central Jail at Coimbatore, forwarding petition from Convict No 2079 Vetta Vannan under sentence of death in Coimbatore Session Case No. 85 of 1895, confirmed by the High Court of Judicature.

Read also letter, dated _____ from the Registrar of the High Court, Appellate Side, forwarding the record of the case.

ORDER THEREON, 19. November 1895, No. 2387

Having considered the circumstances of the case as set forth in the foregoing papers, the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council sees no reason to interfere with the sentence of death passed on Convict No 2079 Vetta Vannan

2. The law will take its course.

(True Extract.)

(From records)

Majors

19/11/95

Chief Secretary.

19/11/95

To the Superintendent of the Central Jail, Coimbatore, for communication to the Prisoner.
Inspector-General of Jails.
Hon'ble the Judges of the High Court, with papers returned.

16/11/95
18/11/95