

26/9/89 /RH

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TAMIL NADU ARCHIVES

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
Judicial, DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.	22/16	Press.
B.P. No.		Mis.
Dated	24.9.1891	197

Not to be folded or roughly handled

24TH SEPTEMBER 1894, No. 2314, JUDICIAL.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Read—the following paper:—

From Colonel C. A. PORTEOUS, Inspector-General of Police, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Ootacamund, dated Madras, 8th September 1894, No. 5252.

With reference to G.O., No. 1624, dated 28th June 1894, Judicial Department, I have the honour to state that the Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly, reports that he has not the slightest doubt that the man Para Pandaram, who was swung at the Bheemanaickenpoliem feast in 1893, died from the effects of injuries caused thereby.

The Superintendent's letter (in original), with its enclosures, is herewith forwarded for the information of Government.

ENCLOSURES.

From F. T. BAGSHAW, Esq., Superintendent of Police, Trichinopoly District, to the Inspector-General of Police, Madras (through the Deputy Inspector-General, Southern Range, Coimbatore), dated Trichinopoly, 30th August 1894, No. 1447.

* *Vide* your No. 3859, dated 7th July 1894, and reminder, No. 4956, dated 27th August 1894. With reference to your instructions received with a copy of G.O., No. 1624, Judicial, dated 28th June 1894, I have the honour to report—

I have not the smallest doubt that the man Para Pandaram, who was swung at the Bheemanaickenpoliem feast in 1893, died from the effects of injuries caused by the swinging, though at this distance of time it is difficult to get any absolute proof; and further the well-to-do ambalagars of Bheemanaickenpoliem, who like the festival and derive profit for their temple therefrom, do their best to prevent parties from coming forward to give evidence.

I beg to attach translations of statements taken by the Town Sub-Magistrate of Trichinopoly from neighbours of the deceased Pandaram; also statements taken by the Town Inspector of Police, Trichinopoly, from the widow of Para Pandaram and one Muthukaruppan.

According to the Municipal Register of deaths, the man Para Pandaram, who was also known as Andy, died of fever on 27th August 1893, i.e., within three months of being swung.

The opinion of a local physician, Doctor F. G. Oliver, who witnessed the swinging in 1892, was obtained by me, which was that the operation is attended with much danger to life as the hooks are passed through the muscles of the back so near to the lungs as to cause probable injury to them. The deceased is said to have died of fever. This is a very broad definition in common use by natives as a cause of death. It is certain that the wounds caused by the hook-swinging were not healed, but suppurating at the time of the man's death, and that he had convulsions and was suffering from fever before it took place.

The general belief in the neighbourhood is that the man Para Pandaram met his death as a victim to this barbarous hook-swinging.

I do not think at this distance of time that it would be advisable to have recourse to a criminal prosecution of the Bheemanaickenpoliem Poojari, the prime-mover in the hook-swinging, nor would it probably end in a conviction. Paragraph 18 of G.O., No. 1418, dated 27th August 1890, is relevant to the abovementioned hook-swinging.

There has been some unavoidable delay in submitting this report as the widow of Para Pandaram, Valliammai, could not be found for a long time to get her evidence, and the statements taken by the Town Sub-Magistrate were not at first forthcoming.

Sworn deposition of Para Sappani before the Town Sub-Magistrate.

Last year I, Pandaram, Perinattan, Poovan and Mari were swung. Pandaram died. He died after three months of the swinging. He died from fever. Fever was brought on by injuries. He died of the consequent convulsions. All the village people instigated me and I was swung. As they promised a grant of three cawnies of land we consented. None paid me anything for swinging. Kullian's wife has the hereditary right. I was swung as her adopted son. When Pandaram died there were injuries on both of his sides.

Sworn deposition of Para Andy.

I was swung 40 or 50 years ago. There is intense pain caused by the swinging. One should take strong meals for it, or else he will be attacked with sickness. Pandaram was ill-fed. Fever was brought on and he died. There were four wounds on Pandaram unhealed.

Sworn deposition of Para Periamann.

It was on the third year I was swung. There were four others who were swung with me. All the mirasidars of Abishekapuram instigated us to undergo swinging. For it, we were promised a grant of three cawnies of land. We were also promised payment of As. 4 or As 8 or Re. 1 from each house according to their situations. Neither were we granted lands nor were we paid anything. Rangan of Devadanam and Sembattayan were also swung with us. We were not swung last year. As swinging should take place by turns we were not swung. Last year Sappani (1), Poranadian (2), Pandaram (3) of Abishekapuram, Poovan (4) and Mari (5) of Devadanam were swung. All the five who were swung on the previous year are still living. Persons swung cannot take up work or anything for one and-a-half months owing to the pain out of the injuries received. Out of the five swung last year, Pandaram died. He died for want of good nourishment. Persons swung should take strong meals. He died of fever. When Pandaram died, one of the wounds healed and the other did not heal. In this year the turn of hook-swinging falls on one of the male members of my family. The parties proposing to celebrate the feast did not ask either me or any one of my family to undergo swinging. Either myself or any one of my family is not willing to be swung. Even though they offer grant of lands or good nourishment, I am not willing to be swung this year. On the third year the Tahsildar did not take from me any deposition. Pandaram died three months after the swinging. None treated him. I don't remember the particular month he died. There is a faction between myself and the poojaries. I am not serving the poojaries now. The wives of the four men supported them during the illness caused by the swinging and they regained their health.

STATEMENT of Valliammai, widow of late Pandaram *alias* Andy of Bheemanaickenpoliem, who died from the effects of hook-swinging.

Pandaram *alias* Andy is my husband. He died 14 months ago. He swung himself last year at the Bheemanaickenpoliem Mariamman feast at the instigation of the poojari and others. There were serious injuries in his back owing to the swinging. He was sick at home for two months unable to pursue his usual avocations. One of the injuries in the back never healed. The others were gradually healing. The leaves of Neem tree (*Samanea*) well ground were applied to the injuries. At last he died on account of the three days' strong fever and consequent fits (*convulsions*). No one assisted him for his subsistence during his illness. Neither the poojari nor the village people. No one treated him. He was in his early age when he died. He was about 30. I being an ignorant woman did not complain to anybody. I complained to the Village Magistrate, but he was deaf to my cries. When my husband died, I went away to my mother's house at Kannikudy from which place only I was brought here by the police.

STATEMENT of Muthukaruppan of Bheemanaickenpoliem.

Pandaram, who died 10 or 11 months ago, is my nephew. My aunt and his grandmother are sisters. Poojaries and others instigated him to undergo the hook-swinging on promise of payment of money and grant of inam lands. He underwent the operation. One of the injuries on his back never healed, he died two or three months since. I was with him when he died. One of the wounds brought on fever and he died at once. There was no room for proper treatment. Sub-Magistrate has enquired me previously.

ORDER—dated 24th September 1894, No. 2314, Judicial.

The Inspector-General's letter will be communicated to all District Magistrates for information. There seems no doubt that the man Para Pandaram died from the effects of hook-swinging, and the ceremony can and should, therefore, be prohibited by orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, in future.

(True Extract.)

J. F. PRICE,
Chief Secretary.

To the Inspector-General of Police.

„ all District Magistrates.

„ the Commissioner of Police, Madras.

Copy to the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

„ „ Government Solicitor, with reference to the
Advocate-General's opinion, dated 25th July 1892.

Exd. G. A. Lewis.

Govt. of {1894} Madras.
JUDICIAL.

Issued

Recd.

Encl.

G.O., 24th Sept. 1894, No. 2314.

SEPTEMBER.

Hook-swinging.

Directing that in future — be prohibited by
orders under section 144, Criminal Procedure
Code.

[6]
650-29-6-11.

Papers to be

Again G.O., dated 3

Again G.O., dated

Current No. 4991 of 1894, dated 1

(In full with
enclosures)

Current No. of 18, dated

No. 222

Madras, 8th September 1891

1389

Colonel C. A. Perkins

INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE.

THE *Chief Secretary*

Chrysomelidae

Over

市 民

English



With reference to B. O. C. 1625, dated 28 June 1876
 Mr. Depy, I have the honor to state that the Super-
 intendant of Police, Muckinspoley, reports that he has
 not the slightest doubt that the man Para is
 Pandurang who was running at the Bhoomanamatha
 Police Station in 1873 died from the effects of his
 injuries caused thereby.

The Superintendent's letter (see original), with its enclosures is herewith forwarded for the information of Government.

Pharm. Soc. London to be

22

Yours Most Obedt. Servant

Wm. Pitt Rivers Colonel
Inspector General of Police

Judicial (1894) DEPARTMENT.

28.6.94 1624 m.
27.8.94 1418 m.

FROM

Col. G. A. B. B. B.

INSPECTOR GENERAL

OF POLICE.

For orders.

With reference to H.E.'s notes in

28 June 1894 & 1624 m.

Please see conf. 80. Nov 82-3 &

29-6-94 Submitted that there

may be recorded

It would perhaps be as well
to print this & communicate
it to all St. Mags. with the
remark that the facts brought
to notice fully justify the
prevention of the practice of
swinging by means of orders
passed under sec. 164 C.P.

It might also be laid on
the Advocate General
might be asked whether, in view
of this occurrence, he does not
see reason to modify the
opinion recorded on pp. 54-5
of G.O. of 14 Oct. 1892, No. 1059, P.H.

28 1419/94

X I submit that this might be done.

It seems doubtful whether any good
would come of communicating
this to the Press.

I don't see that anything will be
gained by referring to the fact. I
simply refer all to sec. 164 C.P. & state that
swinging by order under s. 164 C.P. is
whenever possible more to be avoided
than the other. Then this paper might be
used.

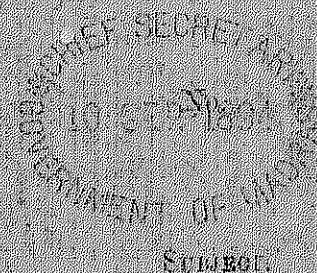
1419/94
10/9

No. 5252

Dated

Received

September 1894.



Reporting that the Superior
Police, Madras, has not the slightest doubt
that the man Para Pandaram
died from the effects of swinging
in 1893.

For orders