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Press
Miscellaneous No. _____, dated _____ 190
Routine

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9,000-8-8-96.

Local & Munl. (1895) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS.

G.O., No. 1326 m

DATED 15th August 1895

[Despatch Abstract.]

Burial-ground.

Awaiting further report promised by the Collector of Malabar regarding the site for the Jamat Pali-----in Gannanore.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

No 3002 m/95

No 538

Cannanore, 11th July 1895

To

The Acting SubCollector of Malabar

Idichery

Sir,

Referring to your letter no. 2800 dated the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that owing to religious grounds, too sacred to be ignored, I am, I regret to say, unable to give the Maidanapaki ground to be used as a Moppilah public burial ground.

2 The same question arose in 1892 when I briefly referred to the religious objections in a letter to the Municipal Council, Cannanore, a copy of which is enclosed. A petition also appears to have been presented to the Municipal Council in 1891 by the Moppilah Community pointing out Chapter and verse for the religious objections to changing the burial to the Maidanapally site. A copy of the petition is also enclosed for your perusal given by the Katib of the Jemal Mosque.

3 In the face of such strong objections deeply rooted in religion, I should be loath to believe that Government which always respects the religious sensibilities of its subjects, would adopt any revolutionary measures calculated to outrage the religious feelings of

of a large Mappilah Community without giving it an opportunity of having its voice heard by the authorities.

4 Briefly stated, a few of the objections are (a) that the Maidanapalli site does not possess a mosque where daily prayers are said (b) that for the repose of the soul of a deceased Mahomedan, he should be interred in a place where the daily prayers could be heard, where relations and respectable persons and priests have been buried, and which is always accessible for prayers. (c) the ground should be dedicated or acquired with funds unexceptionable from a Mahomedan religious point of view and (d) the site should on no account be subject to submergence and there should not be the slightest pollution of salt water; nor could it be one desecrated with burials of heretics.

5 The Maidanapally Site is open ~~not~~ only to all the objections briefly stated above, but also to the long list of objections enumerated in the peoples' petition of 1891 referred to above. I therefore regret my inability to be a party to its being converted into a Moppilah burial ground. To participate in the transaction is to violate my religious convictions, and incur Divine displeasure.

6 The elevated part of the Maidanapally Site has been used for the burial of Mahomedan heretics.

7 Before effecting a change of existing arrangements ~~it would respectfully~~ suggest that a meeting of the Mopilahs be convened and their objections heard, and if a change is absolutely necessary, a site which meets with general approval be selected. Such a site if fixed upon within the Karar limits, I shall be glad to allow to be used as a burial ground. I may however add that I understand that in the existing burial grounds there are a large number of well-built graves preserved in good order to be used as occasion arises.

8 If, as I learn, it is your intension to recommend the acquisition of the Maidman paddy site as a Shoppilah burial ground under the land acquisition Act, May this letter may be submitted to Government with your report.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
(Sd) Ali Rajah of Camau.

(Spence Copy)

Math. Officer
27th July 1895

V. F. Runcorn
Ag Collector

No 1140
Dupl.

Malabar Sub Collector's Office
Camp Cannanore 22nd July 1891

From A. J. Pinkney Esquire
Ag Sub Collector of Malabar

To The Collector of Malabar
Calicut.

Sir, In reply to your letter dated 26th June,
I have the honour to state that owing to
the illhealth of the Rajah I have not been
able to have a personal interview with him
but have had to be contented with an
interview with Mr. Kunhikannan, his
Karyastan or Dewan, and such information
as is contained in the Ali Rajah's
reply to my reference to him.

2 Of the objections raised to the Maidana
pally Site which I recommended, the only
one that is in my opinion sound is that
which alleges that the Site being now
used for the burial of heretics cannot
be used for general purposes.

3 In view of this allegation, I adopted
the Arakkal Rajah's suggestions and called
a meeting of the town people in order to
learn if they could suggest a suitable

2
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The meeting was numerously attended, but I was unable to obtain any satisfactory answer to the questions put. The meeting confined themselves to a statement of their grievances in not being allowed to continue the use of their present Cemetery, whilst I repeatedly pointed out that this was not the question for decision. They left the meeting ^{declaring} that it was contrary to their Sharas to change the present site and that no other ^{suitable} ~~right~~ site could be obtained.

4 As I conceive the Arakkal Rajah was aware of their statements beforehand, it seems to me that his letter under reference, the subsequent proceedings and his apparently generous offer to provide a site were merely for the purpose of causing delay.

5 It appears to me that there is nothing more I can do in the matter until the decision of Government is obtained; I have carefully avoided going into the question whether the present burial ground should be closed because I understand that was settled so long ago as 1891. The attempt to provide an alternative site for the Mopillah Community must be considered to have failed. They say that under their Sharas no site acquired by the Municipality could be used for the purpose.

(vide their petition). It seems to me that the only course left, if Government decide to enforce the closing of the present burial grounds in the town, is to issue a notice in the gazette to that effect and direct the Mopillah Community to provide themselves with a suitable place within 12 months subject to the approval of the Sanitary Officers, and on the expiry of the 12 months to prosecute all cases that contravene the order.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your most obedient servant
(sd) A. J. Pether
As Sub-Collector

(True copy)

V Rusechun

Malabar Collector's Office }
Calicut 27th July 1895 }
Dy. Asst. Collector

Sh. M.

Malabar Collector's Office
Calicut, 27th July 1895

Local & Municipal Dept.

CURRENT No. 2447 M

No. 1314
Pub.

From

H. Moberly Esquire,

Acting Collector of Malabar

Calicut

To

Chief
The Secretary

to Government

Local and Municipal Dept.

Madras

Sir,

With reference to para 2 of G.O. dated

29th November 1894 n^o 1832 M (Local and Municipal) and subsequent reminders, I have the

honour to state that the Site B marked

the accompanying rough sketch appears

a suitable place for a Mopilah burial

It is 5.39 acres in extent.

2 The Subcollector inspected the site and
proves of it. The present acting Civil Surgeon
is of opinion that the site is very low
the water-level so high that during the
season a 6 ft. grave cannot be dug
meeting with subsoil water. Two of his
predecessors were, however, in favour of the

To be kindly returned.

3
2447 M of 15

The Subcollector reports that the land is never under water even in the monsoon, ~~that~~ that it is now used as a burial ground and that there are about 100 graves in it.

3 The Site belongs to Ali Rajah of Cannanore, who uses it at present as a burial ground for all such persons as have offended him while living, such persons not being allowed the privilege of burial in the Cemetery in the heart of the Town. The Rajah is unwilling to give it for use as a public burial ground, because it is against the Muhammadan religion to change a burial ground and because the Site itself is objectionable from a religious point of view.

The Subcollector called a meeting of the Moppilah inhabitants of Cannanore, but they did not agree to any proposals that necessitate abandoning their present Cemetery. Copies of the Subcollector's and Ali Rajah's letters are enclosed.

The Subcollector recommends that if it is decided to close the present Cemetery, a notice be published in the District Gazette directing the Moppilah Community to provide themselves with a suitable place, within 12 months, subject to the approval of the Sanitary authorities, and on the expiry of the 12 months to prosecute all cases that contravene the order.

Under Sec 240 (1) of the District Municipal Act IV of 1884, the Municipal Council should provide another convenient burial ground for the persons who would ordinarily make use of such a place. The Subcollector's recommendation is therefore not in accordance with Act IV of 1884.

5 The matter may, I think, be over until I visit Cannanore again. I shall then see Ali Rajah and some of the principal Moppilah residents and report again.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your Most obedient Servant

C. S. S. S.
Ag Collector

At 10/10/84

Local & Municipal Dep.
CURRENT No. 2447 M

The Collector of Malabar

To the Chief
The Secretary
to Government
Local and Municipal Depts
Madras

C.S.
Misc.

Order. 15/8/95 No 1326

The report promised in para.
-graph 5 of the Collector's letter
will be awaited.

1.9
27/8/95
W. S. S. 28
13/8/95

Dated 27th
Recd. } July 1895

Recd. 31 JUL 95

Enclosures 3

Subject

Replying to G.O. no. 1832

M dated 29th November 1894

Submitting the report called

for 29-11-94 no 1832 M

for the site for the jamaat Pali

ground at Cannanore

To The Collector of Malabar
(with sketch returned)

20/12-20/8/95

(with order)

2/8. 21/7/95

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. -

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