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25.5.20

10.5.36 d/7th January/38

22 D. G. P. O.

Director General

(For General Distribution.)

Circular No. 5 Public Works.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

GENERAL.

Objects of archaeological or historical interest not to be disturbed without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department.

To

THE GOVERNMENTS OF MADRAS, BOMBAY, BENGAL, THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH, AND THE PUNJAB.
THE CHIEF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CENTRAL PROVINCES, BURMA ^{UPPER} _{LOWER} ASSAM, AND COORG.
THE RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD.
THE AGENTS TO THE GOVERNOR GENERAL FOR CENTRAL INDIA, RAJPUTANA, AND BALUCHISTAN.
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF MILITARY WORKS.
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF RAILWAYS.
THE CONSULTING ENGINEERS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOR RAILWAYS, CALCUTTA, CENTRAL DIVISION AND LUCKNOW.
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF TELEGRAPH IN INDIA.

Fort William, December 14, 1887.

SIR,

In forwarding, for the information of the accompanying copy of a letter received from the Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India, I am directed to invite attention to Circular No. 4, dated the 8th September 1886, and to request that orders may be issued enjoining the careful observance of the instructions conveyed therein.

2. I am further to request that, so far as possible, measures may be taken to prevent any object of archaeological or historical interest being excavated or otherwise disturbed in the manner referred to in Dr. Burgess' letter, without the previous inspection and consent of the Archaeological Survey Department; and that special attention of the local authorities may be called to the cases quoted, in which a neglect of this precaution has apparently led to the loss of much information of great archaeological interest.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

G. H. D. WALKER,

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

No. 2476 G.

Copy forwarded to the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information. Original papers returned.

By order,

G. H. D. WALKER,

Under Secy. to the Govt. of India.

1276

Director General

No 59 W d/7 January 1888

Communicated to
Officers of the Public Works
Department for information
and guidance in continuation
of G. O. No. 2569 W dated
1st October 1886.

154 J. O. W.

No 59 W d/7 Jan 1888

Supdy Engrs
C. S. to Govt
Engrs: Engrs for Pys
Chief Engrs for S. M.
Engrs-in-Chief in S. M. &
Public Dept with copy
of G. O. 2569 W d/1-10-86

Enclosure to Circular No. 5 Public Works.

No. 620, dated Simla, the 17th October 1887.

From—J. BURGESS, Esq., LL.D., C.I.E., Dir. Genl., Archaeological Survey of India,
To—The Secretary to the Government of India.

From a paper that has recently appeared in the Bengal Asiatic Society's Journal, I observe that an ancient Buddhist stupa at Mordhvaj, 27 miles north-east of Bijnaur, mentioned by General Cunningham (Archaeological Survey Reports, Volume II, pages 237-38) must have been recently excavated without any reference to this Department, and other remains have been similarly excavated in Ghazipur, at Bhitari and elsewhere.

2. However carefully the contents or relics found in ancient mounds may in some cases be collected and forwarded to the Provincial Museums by the excavators, the excavations themselves always destroy those indications of purpose and arrangement that the specialist alone would notice, and which are of as much interest as the objects found. It is most desirable that every detail that can be secured by the best modes of excavation, and which only the expert would know where and how to look for, should be acquired. No one can readily conceive what must have been lost by the unscientific excavation and destruction of the many Buddhist remains that might be named. So many have already been utterly destroyed, in search only for their contents, and so few of them are now left, that it seems most desirable they should be strictly guarded from further destruction, or excavated only under the most experienced direction, not so much for the "finds" they may contain, as to discover, if possible, their original characters and the arrangements connected with their purposes and uses. This object seems to have been lost sight of in Upper India, and the excavations made of late years seem to have been conducted with but little scientific care. Archaeological excavation is now a very different work from what it was half a century ago, and requires knowledge and experience. A distinct arrangement should also be made for the transmission to the public museums of every object found in any excavation.

25.5.20 ✓

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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Paper taken out of the Records from the charge of the Referencer.

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Press
Mis.
Rout.

No.

dated

Rack No.
Range.

Date taken out.	FOR WHAT PURPOSE.			Initials of Referencer.	Date returned.	Initials of attender.
	Department	C. No.	Year.			
12/12/10	P.W.	6011/10			21/4/11	
	MR	2680/10				
31-7-13	P.W.	3702 SR/13			15/10/13	
	MR	2599				

DEPARTMENT.

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	Department.	C. No.	Year.			
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25-5-20	MR	1868/20			6-9-21	