

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Political **DEPARTMENT.**

G.O. No.	314	Press ~~Mis~~
Dated	18. 5. 1888	

Not to be folded or roughly handled

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 18th May 1858.

No. 9. From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR, Government Agent at Chepauk ; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 26th April 1858, No. 806 of G. A.

SIR,

As the enclosed documents, which have been sent to me by the Dewan of the Durbar, relate to the duties of the Director of Public Instruction, I have the honor to forward them for the orders of Government.

From MADAR OOL OOMRAH, Dewan of the Durbar ; to E. G. BALFOUR, Esq., Government Agent at Chepauk, dated 26th April 1858.

SIR,

I have the honor to forward, for your information, the accompanying letter addressed to me by the Committee for the management of the Madrasa-i-Auzum.

From AHMAD ALLY, and other Members of the Committee of Management of the Madrasa-i-Auzum ; to MADAR OOL OOMRAH BAHADOOR, Maham of the Durbar, dated 19th April 1858.

SIR,

In acknowledging your letter containing an Extract from the Minutes of Consultation under date the 5th September 1857, we, the Managing Committee of the Madrasa, beg leave to request you will be pleased to submit to Government this letter respecting the Institution under our management.

In 1852, the Madrasa was established and endowed by His Highness the late Nabob Mahomed Ghouse Khan Bahadoor, entirely by the exertions of E. Balfour, Esq., for the purpose of affording a liberal Education to the Mahomedan youths of all orders ; and in order to place the advantages of the institution within the easy reach of even the lower class, His late Highness allowed the instruction to be given gratis and though every facility has been thus afforded for the Education of the Musulman children, we still have had to contend against many difficulties, such as the utter indifference which many parents have evinced in educating their children, and even in some cases where our personal exertions and persuasion have succeeded in inducing some to educate their children, the attendance of the lads has been so irregular that it costs us rather more trouble and pains to have that defect removed than the original attempt to induce persons to send

their lads to the School. We, nevertheless, have been successful in securing
* No. 300. a pretty large number* of boys at present studying at the Madrasa.

We next submit that now the languages taught at the Madrasa can be dispensed with. There are six languages studied here, of these English, Tamil, and Telooogoo are so useful and necessary that we need not make any remarks upon the advantages derivable from the study of them. But the benefits arising from a knowledge of Persian and Arabic being not so conspicuous, we venture by the following observations to place them prominently in view. Hindoostani, though colloquially in use, and therefore considered the mother tongue of the Musulmans of this part of India, is *unhappily* not the medium of written communication even among members of the same family. *Persian* is adopted in its stead, and it will be found that most part of the national literary works are written in this language ; from which it is evident that if a Musulman is ignorant of Persian, his attainments in literature must necessarily be very limited : when so much importance is to be attached to the Persian, we need hardly point out in what greatest degree the study of Arabic is useful and necessary to a Mohomedan, since the sacred book, the Koran, is written in that language ; and no scholar without the help of Arabic, can even succeed in accomplishing the great object which is contemplated by the educational Despatch of the Honorable the Court of Directors.

Fort Saint George, Political Consultation, 18th May 1858.

We further submit a list of Schools of different descriptions already established in Triplicane and its neighbourhood, and supported by private individuals, Europeans, Hindoos, and Mahomedans.

TRIPLICANE.	
Schools where Tamil, Telloogoo and English are taught	2
Ditto. established by Mahomedans at their private dwellings where Hindoostani, Persian, &c., are taught	25
Pial Schools...	82
	109
KISTNAMPETT.	
Schools where Tamil, Telloogoo and English are taught	1
Ditto. established by Mahomedans at their private dwellings where Hindoostanee, Persian, &c., are taught	4
Pial Schools...	1
	6
ROYAPETT.	
Schools where Tamil, Telloogoo and English are taught	4
Ditto. established by Mahomedans at their private dwellings where Hindoostanee, Persian, &c., are taught	9
Pial Schools...	9
	22
MYLAPOOR.	
Schools where Tamil, Telloogoo and English are taught	7
Ditto. established by Mahomedans at their private dwellings where Hindoostanee, Persian, &c., are taught	6
Pial Schools...	9
	22

From the above, it is evident that as there are already a number of minor Schools in the said villages, there exists the greatest need for a superior kind of institution like the Madressa; and if fresh schools should be established, the interests of those already in existence in the above localities will be materially affected and necessarily injured. We may also add that such a step would not only be a check against the growing desire of the people for establishing schools themselves, but would also disperse the large number of boys now studying at the Madressa. We need scarcely mention that by the abolition of the Madressa, the object for which it was originally established would be defeated, and the name of its princely founder will pass into oblivion, instead of being perpetuated to posterity.

In conclusion, we submit that the continuance of the Madressa which has hitherto remained upon *mogaly* system, but which is capable of being made a good College upon an English model, will not only answer such an end, but this gracious act of the Government will clearly manifest to the Mahomedan population of Triplicane the benevolent disposition which the Right Honorable the Governor has expressed in the Minutes. If this boon be conferred, we are prepared to assure the Government that with care and under the control and supervision of the Director of Public Instruction we shall be able to have the institution placed upon an efficient footing, so that it might not be inferior to those that are conducted either by the Hindoos, or East Indians, and with which we hope by this means to share in the benefits which are expected from the Madras University recently established.

No. 10. ORDER THEREON, No. 314; dated 15th May 1858.

Ordered that the letter from the Managing Committee of the Madrisa be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction for his consideration in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 16th December 1857, No. 1054.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
Chief Secretary.

Exd. J. A. Wilson.

No. 314
Ordered that the letter from the Managing Committee of the Madrisa be forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction for his consideration in reference to Extract Minutes of Consultation, dated 16th December 1857 No. 1054.
Fort St. George, 15th May, 1858.

*To the Director of Public Instruction } Secy. 25
" for Agent at the bank. with 2 mg. notes*

Recd Dec. 157. 1708

26. 7. 93.

Relate to the duties of
the Director of Public
Instruction, Submit
them for the Order of
Government.

chm 9910.

26. 7. 93.

POLITICAL 1858 DEPARTMENT.

From Surgeon E. G. BALFOUR,
Government Agent at Chepauk.

To J. Pycroft Esquire

Chief Secretary to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 26th April 1858
Received 26th " 1858

No. 806 of 94
10/28/11

Forwards a letter
from the Director of the
Quarantine dated 24th inst
enclosing one from the
Committee of the
Government of the
Suez Canal, and as to the
Suez Canal.

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Madras.