M.R.O. 1—32,000—16-10-29.

# MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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## Government of Madras.

Political DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 67 Press Mis.

Dated 21. 2. ~~10~~ 1862

**Not to be folded or roughly handled**

No. 47. Read the following letter from Major R. S. WILSON, Government Agent at Chepauk, and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends; to T. PYCROFT, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George, dated 4th February 1862, No. 87.

I have the honor to submit the following remarks for the consideration of Government:

2. Since the death of the late Nabob of the Carnatic, a custom has arisen among the Mahomedan Gentlemen of Madras of assuming to themselves titles of honor to which they have no claim. This custom is on the increase, and will continue to increase till it is checked, it can only be checked by Government, and Government has a direct interest in declining it.

3. The amount of the stipends granted by Government to the family and servants of the late Nabob, is proportioned to the rank of the persons stipended. Every person therefore who can have any expectation of at any time profiting by a Government stipend, either directly in himself or indirectly through his relations, has a direct interest in ranking himself as high as possible, and there can be no doubt that a person succeeding in establishing himself in a higher title than that to which he has a right, may at some future time, turn that advantage to his own profit, and the loss of Government.

4. As an instance, I beg to bring to notice the case of a Carnatic Stipendiary No. 1,316 D, called Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain. This person has assumed to himself the title of "Khan Bahadoor" to which he has no right whatsoever. His assumption of that title is as gross an impropriety as it would be for an English Gentleman to assume the title of Companion of the Bath, without authority. It may also, hereafter, furnish means for the commission of a pecuniary fraud. A few years hence it may easily happen that there may be no one in Madras acquainted with the facts above given. Should then a demise of a Carnatic Stipendiary, or any other circumstance render necessary the re-adjustment of a stipend, Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain, if alive, or his heirs if he be dead, will undoubtedly take higher ground than they are entitled to, as being a "Khan Bahadoor" or the descendants of a "Khan Bahadoor." It is quite possible that they may thereby obtain, a larger share than they are entitled to, either at the expense of Government, or at that of the other claimants. In either case they will profit by their own misconduct.

5. The authority on which I state that the said Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain has no claim to the title of "Khan Bahadoor," is undeniable. Till the death of the late Nabob, an accurate and complete Register was kept at his Court, of all titles granted by him. That Register is now in this Office, and its authority is undisputed. The name of Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain is not to be found in it, and he himself admits that such is the case. It is quite certain that his assumption of the title is altogether unauthorized.

6. This case was brought to the notice of Government by my predecessor in office, Dr. Balfour, on the 24th June 1858, No. 1,119, and Government passed Orders on it in Extract Minutes Consultation 5th July 1858, No. 424. I trust that Government will excuse my venturing to resubmit it, on the following grounds:

First.—Dr. Balfour's statement of the case is not quite accurate. He speaks of Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain as a "Khan" who improperly claims the second title of "Bahadoor." The truth is, he is neither, and claims to be both, which is a very considerable difference. As added to the title of "Khan" that of "Bahadoor" is of slight account, but the difference between "Khan Bahadoor" and the want of any title, is very considerable.

Secondly.—The practice of unauthorizedly assuming titles has increased since the date of Dr. Balfour's letter above mentioned, and there is a greater necessity for checking it.

Thirdly.—The indifference which has been hitherto shown as to such assumptions has encouraged some of the assumers to assert a *right* to the titles they have assumed, on the ground that their assumption has been recognized by Government.

7. In proof of the two last assertions, I beg to bring to the notice of Government the case of a Carnatic Stipendiary No. 461 called Sudder-ool-Islam. This person also has assumed the title of "Khan Bahadoor" without any right, and on my bringing to his notice that his name did not appear in the Nabob's Register, and requesting to know by what right he assumed the said title; he wrote to me a letter of which I enclose a true copy, by which it will be seen that having

succeeded in imposing himself on the public for some years as "Khan Bahadoor," he considers that his success in that imposture confers on him a vested right to the said title, in virtue of which he desires me to enter him in the Register as "Khan Bahadoor."

8. I trust that Government will not consider that I am troubling it unnecessarily in this matter. It would be easy, were it not for fear of lengthening this communication beyond measure, to show that the custom reported on has many bad consequences, but I cannot suppose that it is necessary to detail them.

9. I beg the permission of Government therefore with reference to Extract Minutes Consultation 5th July 1858, No. 424, to call on Budder-oo-Deen Hoossain to show his title to the rank of "Khan." It was under the impression that he was entitled to that rank that Government in the Extract Minutes Consultation above-mentioned, ordered him to be addressed as "Bahadoor," but if it appears that his claim to the first is false, Government will perhaps be inclined to reconsider his title to the second. He has at present no right to either, except the Extract Minutes Consultation above mentioned.

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No. 48. ORDER THEREON, 21st February 1862, No. 67.

It does not appear to Government that any Order is required on the subject of the above letter, further than this, that as a general rule no Carnatic Stipendiary should be recognized in the books, accounts and certificates of the Agency Office by any title to which his right has not been established from the Sircar records.

2. It is observed that in the case of the Carnatic Stipendiary referred to in paragraphs 4 @ 6 of Major Wilson's letter it is expressly declared that the stipend will lapse absolutely at death. No such consequence as is intimated by the Agent need therefore be apprehended in this instance, and under these circumstances, it does not seem advisable to re-open the question of his titles which was settled in 1858.

Order No. 221, dated 27th March 1858.

3. With respect to the second instance noticed in paragraph 7, the Government observe that Hafiz Sudder-ool-Islam is styled "Khan" by the late Nabob of the Carnatic in his letter of the 11th March 1852, recommending the application for leave to proceed to England, and that he is also styled "Khan Bahadoor" by the late Agent in his letter of the 15th March 1852, No. 64, submitting that application. By the latter title he has been designated in society for many years, and also by the Government, and it need not now be called in question. It is remarked that his stipend is only Rupees 35 per mensem.

(Signed) T. PYCROFT,
*Chief Secretary.*

Exd. F. Cartledge.

Copy. 12

Mylapore 23d Decr 1861

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 19th Instant I have the honor to inform you that my Rank of "Khan and Bahadoor" found in the Almanac referred to, in your letter now under acknowledgment is quite correct, probably by inadvertancy they were not inserted in the "Book of Titles" which you say is in your Office. These Titles which I uninterruptedly enjoy from a considerable period were conferred upon me by the Circar of His Highness the Nawab of Arcot and the Carnatic, which are in the Records of your Office, and the Sheristadar of Khandan; and particularly in the order of Government dated 16th March 1852 on granting me leave to proceed for England the most noble & magnanimous country on the face of the Earth, which I officially received through your Predecessor Surgeon Major E. G. Balfour and the said Sheristadar. You will also find my Titles in the Records of the Dewan of the Carnatic in the Office of the Private Secretary of His Excellency

the

the Gouernor, in the Gouernment & Several other Offices, especially in the Fort St. George's Gazette reporting my appointments as one of Her Majesty's Justice of the Peace, a Grand Juror, a Member of the Committee on the School of Arts under the Presidentship of the Honorable E. Maltby Esqre and a non Official Member of the Income Tax Commission.

In England my Titles are placed on the Records of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State for India and for War Departments as well as in the

I further seize this opportunity to inform you that I am the Vice President of the Madras Hindu Debating Society & a member of the Madras Sanatory Reform Committee.

Under the foregoing standards I request you will be pleased to order my Titles to be inserted in the "Book of Titles" above alluded to, and also in my pay certificate & oblige me.

I confide with hope you will kindly exercise your high influence in my behalf when you may deem it advisable with the Government for my further advancement in the Public Service.

I have &c.

/Signed/ Hafiz Shudrul
Islam Khan Bahadoor

P.S.



P.S. I at the same time humbly enclose for your perusal and kind consideration my Legal Testimonials &c. (printed copies)

/Signed/ H. S. I.

To

Captain R. S. Wilson,
Government Agent.
at Chepauk.

/A True Copy/
R. Wilson
Govt. Agent,
Chepauk.

Political Dept.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following letter from the Govt. Agent at Chepauk.

(Here enter 1st February '62 No. 87)

Order thereon, 21st February 1862 No. 67.

It does not appear to the Govt that any Order is required on the subject of the above letter, further than this that as a general rule no Carnatic Stipendiary should be recognized in the books, accounts and Certificates of the Agency Office by any title to which his right has not been established from the Sircar records.

2. It is observed that in the case of the Carnatic Stipendiary referred to in paras 4 & 6 of Major Wilson's letter it is expressly declared that the Stipend will lapse absolutely at death. No such consequence as is intimated by the Agent need therefore be apprehended in this instance - and under these

Order No 221 of 27th March 1858

Political Department.

No. 87 of 1862.

From

The Government Agent at Chepauk,
and Paymaster of Carnatic Stipends.

To

The Secretary to Government
Fort St. George

Dated 1st February 1862.
Rec'd 7th —"— 1862.

Submitted for consideration.

Remarks on the annexed letter from Major Wilson state that the Rajah of Arcot and the Nabob of Mahomedan Gentlemen of Madras & Chepauk & Royapooram Triplicane & Egmore Vepery & Purusawalkam Vacant

Decide the cases of Cannadian Pensioners & Pensioners of Deen Bangalore & Trichinopoly &c &c &c

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To the Government Agent at Chepauk.

Desp'd 21 Oct. 1880

17-9-87

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Proceedings of Court

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