Poll. 8 —14-7-95

# Political (1895) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 45-46

DATED 22nd Jan. 1895

INDEXED.

## [Despatch Abstract.]

TANJORE PENSIONS.

Drawing the attention of Doctor M.D.Kavanagh, with reference to his letter to the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor-General, to G.O., dated 14th June 1895, No.373, in which he was informed that the question of the claims of Rajaram of Tanjore to a pension had been fully considered and could not be re-opened.

## BACK PAPERS.

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## FURTHER PAPERS.

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| | 595 | 8.9.97 | | | | | |
| | 5 | 5.1.98 | | | | | |

# GENEALOGY OF THE TANJORE DYNASTY

**A.**
Serbhojee Maharaja
Reigned 32 years, under
a Treaty concluded
with the East
India Company
in 1799.

Wife.

**B.**
Ahillia Boyee
Saheb also called
Aau Saheb.

Daughter.

Daughter.

**D.**
S. Boyamma Boyee
Amanee Raje Saheb.

**E.**
M. Saknavara Boyee,
Amanee Raje Saheb.

Son.

Daughter.

Son.

**C.**
Sevajee Maharaja
the late Raja of Tanjore,
who died in 1855,
after a reign of
23 years.

Wife.

**F.**
Her Highness
M. Kamakhi Boyee Saheb
Senior Ranee.

**G.**
Prataparudra
Mano Rao
Ingley Saheb.

**H.**
Razaram Saheb
now
Serbhojee Raje Saheb

**H.**
Razaram Saheb.

D. Krishna Chetty.

G.O.


Dr. M. D. Kavanagh,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW.
54 Eccles Road,
Clapham Common.


54 Eccles Road. 1944b. 1(a) 29.12.94
(Clapham Common.
London S.W.
5th December 1894

207 (Madras)

Dear Sir. Be pleased to place before H.E. the Viceroy & Governor General of India the enclosed letter and documents regarding the case of my client Sirbojee Raghoo, sometimes named Razaram Sahib of the Palace Tanjore. The widowed Ranees. adoptive Mothers of my client requested the Agent at Tanjore to forward their Petition on behalf of their adopted Son and Son

His Excellency.

The Right Hon: Lord Elgin G.C.M.S.

Viceroy & Governor General of India

In Council.

May it please Your Lordship.

I have the honor to bring for the consideration & decision of Your Lordship in Council, the sad and deplorable case of my client Serboje Raja, the adopted son of the late Maharajah, Hindu Sovereign of the Kingdom of Tanjore, Madras Presidency, in the East Indies, with the hope, that Your Lordship will redress the wrongs which have been done to him, & ameliorate the sufferings which for years he has endured.

As the Prince's case is one of the highest import, allow me, my Lord, to put Your Lordship in possession of the whole facts relative to the subject.

2. Maharaja Serafji died in the year 1855. Previous to his death he had married twenty wives. Though he died in his forty ninth year, he had no male issue by any of his wives. When the hour of his death was approaching, he gave permission to their Highnesses the Ranees to adopt my client as his and their son, having been deeply impressed of the uncle. Known facts disclosed by the Hindu Smritis & Shastis that a Hindu requires a son for two specific objects, one Spiritual & the other temporal, that that son may be either begotten on adopted, & that in the absence of neither the soul of the deceased will get redemption from eternal punishment called Puth.

Soon after the death of Maharaja Sivaji, my client was appointed by his adoptive Mother the late His Highness's Mother and all the other Ranees and relations, even to the cognizance of the then British Resident at Tanjore Mr Forbes to perform as His Highness's Son the funeral rites over the Corpse as well as the prescribed Ceremonies therewith, which my client did then perform, and Continues to perform up to date & hopes to perform as long as he lives.

3. According to His Highness the Maharajah Sivaji's dying wishes my client was, on the 1st July 1863 Solemnly adopted with all the requisite publicity and ceremonials by the Senior Ranee Her Highness M. Kamatchi Boyee Sahib, according to Mahratta Custom and usage, in the presence of the other Ranees the Mother of the late Maharajah as well as the Nobility and public in general. The fact of the adoption has been duly & through the proper channel Communicated to the Government at Fort St George, the Viceroy of India and to the Secretary of State for India.

4. In virtue of this adoption my client as the lineal and the Spiritual heir to His Highness the late Sivaji, became entitled to the Throne of Tanjore & it has also since devolved on my client to perform the anniversaries not only of the late Maharaja but also of his late Mother.

5. My client has thus performed not only the funeral obsequies of the late Maharajah but also those of the Six Ranees and their Mother-in-law who died after the Raja. My client still Continues to perform the annual Ceremonies of not only these but also of Some of the Ranees who died long before the Raja's death.

6. The adoption of my client by the Ranees of the late Maharajah of Tanjore is legal, & yet the Government has refused to recognize this adoption in pursuance of a policy which to say the least is in direct opposition to the Assurances made by Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress of India to all the Native Rulers Chiefs & Princes in India. & My client is allowed by the British Government, who de has always been the pioneer of Justice, to live at Tanjore penniless, not even

I while my Lord with Your Lordships permission give a Copy of a Letter which I recently received from Genl the Right Hon. Sir H. Ponsonby regarding the Members of the Royal family of Tanjore, of which family, my unfortunate Client is a Member:-

"Privy Purse Office
Buckingham Palace
26th October 1894

"Sir Henry Ponsonby presents his Compliments to Dr Kavanagh. Please see Con. No 164 of 94 and 80. 7500 94 Corpn

and in reply to his Letter of the 15th October is Commanded to say that the Queen wishes Her thanks to be returned to the Widowed Maharanee and members of the Royal Family of Tanjore for their very kind Congratulations".

7. In August 1883, the Honourable Member for Queen's County Ireland asked a question in the House of Commons of the late Mr Cross, the then Under Secretary of State for India regarding the claims of my client to the Throne of Tanjore. On that occasion Mr Cross was pleased to make the following reply:-

"Nearly eight years after the death of the Raja of Tanjore, and the Lapse of that State to government, the Senior Ranee wished to adopt Serboje Raja as her heir; but government refused to recognize any adoption so far as Succession to State property was concerned. A nephew performed the funeral services in presence of the Resident; but it is not known what this nephew was. Nothing is known at the India Office of the judgment in the High Court in May 1865. The various Memorials presented Soon after the Lapse of the State to government were fully Considered and rejected, as was Dr Kavanagh's recent memorial. Serboje's name cannot be traced in the list of Tanjore pensioners & Nothing is known at the India Office as to his pecuniary means"-

8. In this reply I Submit, my Lord, the Under Secretary of State has admitted by implication that the government while recognizing adoption so far as Succession to private property was concerned, that a nephew performed the funeral services in presence of the Resident, but it is not known who this nephew was.

the Resident referred to in the above reply was Mr. Forbes who in his letter to Government dated 9th September 1856 para 14 says:- I was asked to nominate a person, Rajaram Sahib, to perform his (Rajah's) funeral rites and Rajaram Sahib did perform the funeral ceremonies". That Nephew & that person & that Rajaram Sahib, is one & the same person, my unfortunate Client, who is one of the Members of the Royal Family of Tanjore, to whom I was on the 26th October 1896 requested by the Queen Empress of India to return to him Her Majesty's thanks & who is at this present moment living at Tanjore in Semi. Starvation without the smallest allowance from the Government.

I humbly submit my Lord that instances are not wanting & prone the confirmation by the British Government of adoptions similar to my clients made by the widows of Native Princes in India without the previous sanctions of their Husbands. Vz.

(a). The confirmation of the British Government of the Kollapur adoption which was in a great measure due to the interview that the Royal had with the Queen.

(b) That made by the widow of Daulat Row Scindia, acknowledged by the British Government in 1826.

(c) That made by the widow of the Rajah of Dhoa recognized by the Government in 1834.

(d) That made by the Rajah of Krishnaggur recognized Govt. in 1841

(e) The adoption in the State of the Gakwar of Baroda.

(f). Adoption in the Gwaliar State.

8! If for political & other reasons the Government will not bestow on my Client the Status, the dignity & the rights & privileges due to him legally and politically as the adopted Son & Successor of an illustrious line of Native Rulers in India, who have been loyal to the throne of great Britain at all times; who have rendered it yeomans service in times of sore need & who have profited the British Government in the words of Mr Forbes "without the cost of the life of a single Soldier nor the value of a single Rupee nor with the cry of the Orphan nor with the tear of the widow nor with Conquest". then I appeal to Your Lordship ad Misericordiam to grant to this Unfortunate Prince a pension which will, in some slight degree, assuage the pain arising from his territory being confiscated & enable him to support himself his wife and family & not to be dependant upon the two Rupees bestowed upon him by the Widowed Ranees -

I beg to enclose for your Lordships perusal, a document which the widowed Ranees requested me to send Your Lordship & also the genealogy of the Tanjore Dynasty

With due Submersion my Lord I am emboldened to believe that the small Requisition which I make on behalf of my clients, to Your Lordship will (counsel said) be granted.

I have the honor,
To be,
My Lord
Your most Obedient & humble Servant.
Maurice Denis Kavanagh LL.D.
Barrister at Law.

56 Eccles Road
Clapham Common
London S.W
5th December 1896

5
GR
4
36



From,

The undersigned Raees of
The late Senjee Durbar Rajah
of Janjeera

To.

His Excellency the Viceroy and
Governor General of India

May it please your Excellency:—

On the 9th December 1886, when
the then Viceroy and Governor
General Lord Dufferin, was pleased
to pay us a personal visit in our
Palace, we all, after a small con-
ference, in one voice, requested
him that he may be pleased
to recognise our adoption sow as
the successor to all our estates &c.
and effects &c. and to grant him
a monthly Allowance sufficient
to maintain himself and his
growing family keeping up all
the

№ 129

Forwarded to the Government of Madras

provision now (when
alive) in order that
it may not be
will main
the dignity attached to a monument
of the Royal line,
His Excellency, in return
to his deep sympathy with
entertains by
of
So generous as to allow
(the Ranees of the late
Rajahs) four Royal

No 129 I

Forwarded to the Government of Madras

[illegible] I 8

provision now (when [illegible] similar
alive) in order that [illegible] mutter
mind in any way be [illegible] uses
how our sons will main[illegible] clio
themselves, after us.
In short the grounds for [illegible] ria.
supplying with our requisi[illegible]
numerous to enumerate [illegible]
and it is neither [illegible]
it our purpose to dictate [illegible]
those points at present
P.S. But however presumptuous
it may be on our part
as we consider that a
mention of it here cannot D.
fail to draw your sympathy
We beg to add that the [illegible]
of Her Majesty having
so generous as to allow
(the Ranees of the late [illegible]
Rajahs) fair Royal [illegible]

straitened by allowing the ...cal Depot
adopted soon to succeed to ...
estate &c. and by granting ...
at the same time, as a ...
monthly stipend which ... invita
are sure will be more ... auta
compensate by the saving ... was
of the stipend that may ... lio
be effected on our esti- ...
Praying that our entreate ...
will receive due weight an ...
Consideration at your hand ...
as befits the Government of
Her Majesty.
We beg to remain
Yours faithfully.

approval.

Forwarded to the Government of Madras
for disposal, with reference to the letter from the Govern-
-ment of India in the Foreign Department, № 3276 I,
dated the 18th July 1887.

605/18.8.7

By order, &c
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Foreign Department,
Fort William,
The 10th January 1895.

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Memorial from Mr. D. Kavanagh Esq. L.L.D.,
dated the 5th December 1894, and Enclosures.

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8°. 372-74 : 14-6-93 Pol
605 - 1-8-87 -
332 - 22-5-94

No 1

36

On dep

From

The Govt of India

Foreign Dept

No 129 I

Dated 16th Jan
Recd 14th Jan
Regd 15th Jan
Encl 5
Subject

} 1894

Forwd Memorial from
Md Kavanagh Esqr LLD
re the claims of (Sarbojee
Rajah) Raja Ram of the Tanjore Palace,
for disposal by the Madras
Govt.

Political Dept.

Enc. 36.

For orders.

A 8°. 372-4 / 14-6-93.

Dr. Kavanagh made a similar request (that Rajaram be granted a pension) to this Govt and he was informed that the claims of his Rs client have already been fully considered and that Govt cannot reopen the question.

He has now petitioned the Govt. of India on the subject.

G 8°. 605 / 1-8-87

The Govt of India in 1867 declined to recognise the adoption of Raja Ram by the Ranis. He is not "penniless, helpless and in Starvation". The Ranis pay him Rs: 1500 per mensem, allow him the use of palace equipage and apartments in the palace. He moreover appropriated about Rs: 40,000 worth of property belonging to Her late Highness Kamakshi Bai Saheba. The Govt. of India has promised not to leave him destitute on the death of the Ranis.

Vide place marked in 8°. 332 / 22-5-94

The following draft order and letter are submitted for approval.

Order 22 January 1895, No. 45.

Dr: Kavanagh's attention will be drawn to G.O. 14 June 1893, No. 873, Polit.

W 20 Jan

A

Raja Ram

Dr: Mr D. Kavanagh (Copy sent 24 Jan 95)

Letter No. 46. DESPATCHED 25 JAN 95 IN M.S

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 5th Dec 1894 to the Private Secy. to H.E. the Viceroy and Governor General of India regarding the claims of Rajaram of Jaijore to a pension I am directed to enclose the accompanying copy of the proceedings passed by this Govt.

W 20 Jan

C.S. 17/1/95

DESPATCHED 25 JAN 95 IN M.S

Dr: Mr D. Kavanagh

c. 19/1 R. 1/1

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AGAIN G.O., No. DATED
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| PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH IN ORIGINAL. | | | | | | | |

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