To

His Excellency

The Viceroy and Governor-General in Council

FORT WILLIAM,

**CALCUTTA.**

*The humble Memorial of* RATHAKRISTNA TONDIMAN SAHIB, *the Western Palace Jaghirdar, Pudukotah State, Madras Presidency.*

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,

That in April 1880 the Memorialist presented a Petition to the Madras Government praying for the temporary management of his Estate styled the Western Palace Jaghir in the Pudukotah Territory for the reasons set forth in that Petition.

2. That the Government of Madras in considering the Memorialist's prayer, chose to substitute a money-pension as the appropriate relief and called upon the Memorialist to report the amount of such pension, leaving ample margin for extraordinary charges such as marriages, repairs of Palace, purchase of carriages and horses and purchase of furniture and other contingencies.

3. That the Memorialist submitted a temporary schedule of necessary annual expenses aggregating in round numbers Rs. 30,000, setting down the Jaghir income at Rs. 45,000, per annum, and leaving the balance for extraordinary charges.

4. That as the proposed said schedule of the Memorialist was fancied by the authorities to absorb almost the proceeds of his Jaghir villages and as the Minister of the State reported that he was quite in the dark as to the actual income of the Jaghir far beyond the figures placed by the Jaghirdar, the Government of Madras issued Order No. 261 dated the 14th May 1881 by which the Jaghir was absolutely resumed by the Pudukotah Government and an annual stipend of Rs. 15,000 for the ordinary family expenses was granted in lieu thereof, the State accepting the obligation of providing suitably for reasonable extraordinary expenses to the members of the Western Palace Family.

5. That in the course of succeeding years the terms "Reasonable extraordinary expenses" embodied in the said G. O. have been defined to include "Marriages and other extraordinary domestic events" and then "Marriages and deaths" and lastly "Repair of the Palace" and "Carriages."

6. That consequent upon the Memorialist's second son's refusal to accept a pair of ponies and a phaeton provided by the State for his personal use under reasonable extraordinary expenses and on communication with the then Political

Agent, Mr. Fawcett in this connection, it was proposed that allowances for vehicles and animals required by the different members of the Western Palace Family should be put on a permanent basis and consolidated for 15 years.

7. That in accordance with the said scheme all the members of the Memorialist's Family but himself have received the consolidated allowances for carriages and horses to last for 15 years.

8. That the Memorialist declined to accede to the fifteen years' contract and contented that the period should be reduced.

9. That the Memorialist begs to submit that his contention for the reduction of the period has called forth a fresh scheme from the Political Agent, Mr. James Andrew, which has recently been approved by the Madras Government and which sanctions consolidated allowances for all extraordinary charges payable yearly in cash as follows, to the different members of the Western Palace Family except expenses on account of Marriages, the Western Palace Jaghirdar's 60th Birth-day, the Jaghirdar's death and repairs to the Western Palace buildings, which are to be conducted by the State whenever they occur :—

| | Per annum. |
|---|---|
| Western Palace Jaghirdar ... ... ... | Rs. 900 |
| Do. Elder son ... ... ... | ,, 340 |
| Do. Second son ... ... ... | ,, 340 |
| First wife of the Jaghirdar ... ... ... | ,, 170 |
| Second wife of the Jaghirdar ... ... ... | ,, 170 |
| Wife of the Elder son ... ... ... | ,, 80 |
| TOTAL RUPEES. | 2,000. |

In the case of the second son's marriage the Jaghirdar's allowance of Rs. 900 will be reduced by Rs. 80 leaving 820 Rs. to be drawn by him, the Rs. 80 being given to the wife of the second son.

10. That it is much to be regretted, that all expenses on account of deaths in the Western Palace Family have not been noticed and thrown upon the State. The Memorialist has drawn on different occasions different sums under extraordinary items. He was paid when His Highness the late Rajah and His Ranee Sahibas paid their debt to nature. He received a pretty good sum from the State to meet the needful expenses on account of his nephew's (sister's son's) death. Of course all these deceased individuals were external members of the Western Palace Family. The State has, on various occasions, undertaken to provide for contingencies of even a less important character; of these may be mentioned the expenses for consecrating the residence of the Jaghirdar's second son, procured at a monthly rent, outside the Western Palace premises; again the State defrayed the expenses on the occasion of the Jaghirdar's first son being attacked with measles. Lastly the State paid in all Rs. 200 on account of expenses incurred by the Memorialist and his younger son when the latter was laid up by an accidental fall from his horse-vide Political Agent's letter No. $\frac{7}{238}$ (14th February 1895). One more point worthy of note. The State incurred the necessary funeral expenses

Rattakrishna Jandiman Sahib



on the occasion of the Memorialist's (Jaghirdar's) daughter's death that happened in 1883. But now the Government of Madras has sanctioned the Jaghirdar's Death-expenses alone from the State, when it should defray all expenses on account of *Deaths occurring in the domestic circle of the Jaghirdar*. Now it will be seen that while comparatively less important charges and that of a particular death in the family have been met out of the State funds, no provision has been made for casualities of a similar nature.

11. That with reference to the contract proposed by the Political Agent the Memorialist begs to state that when his opinion was demanded as to whether he would like to receive in lump his share of the consolidated allowances for 5 years or once in a year or once in a month, he expressed that he should be paid at once for 5 years for the reasons that he had not drawn the consolidated horse and carriage allowance of Rs. 3,900 for 15 years as proposed by the late Political Agent Mr. Fawcett, which the Jaghirdar did not accept owing to the period being *too* long and that he possesses no horses, no good vehicles, no utensils, or articles of furniture for his personal use and comfort and that he is unable to obtain loans from any direction owing to his *status* or exemption from the jurisdiction of the local tribunals—a special privilege allowed by Government Order No. 261 dated the 14th May 1881. But the present Dewan communicated, to the Memorialist's sorrow and surprise, that the allowance for all extraordinary expenses, save those on account of the marginally noted items, is payable yearly. His fervent prayer is therefore that he should be paid in advance for the next 5 years for providing himself at the outset with necessary vehicles, animals and articles of furniture.

Marriages, Jaghirdar's 60th Birth Day. Jaghirdar's death. Palace Repairs.

12. That in the distribution of the consolidated extraordinary allowance among the members of the Family, the Memorialist's share has fallen short by Rs. 20, against the spirit of the written order laying down the rateable division in proportion to their share in the money—pension. Para 5 of the printed enclosure will afford further information in this connection.

13. That the State has accepted to celebrate the Memorialist's 60th Birth-day. Prior to the performance of the ceremony in question it is absolutely necessary that he should get himself purified by the *Panchakshara Upadesam* —five sacred spells—to be inculcated by the Loga Guru or Head Priest of the Hindu Religion and then go on a pilgrimage to Benares and Rameswarum. These expenses are to be incurred by the State once in the Memorialist's lifetime. No information regarding these has been furnished to the Memorialist though he has made reference to the higher authorities.

14. That the Memorialist wishes to get sanction to meet the expenses of his intended trip to Kumbhakonum during the coming Maha Magham occurring once in 12 years, to which all orthodox Hindus of the Memorialist's age, who is approaching 60 years, attach the highest religious significance.

15. That the present annual income, collected from the Memorialist's resumed Jaghir villages settled upon permanent cowles, is nearly Rs. 80,000 as appears from the accounts contained in the Pudukotah Administration Reports.

16. That in acknowledging the receipt of the Memorialist's letter No. 49 dated 23rd October 1895, giving cover to a Manuscript Memorial addressed to His Excellency the Right Honorable The Governor of Madras, the Political Agent, Mr. James Andrew was good enough to communicate to the Memorialist by letter No. 28 dated 30th October 1895 that "Government passed its orders after giving the whole matter its careful consideration" and he considered that it would be wasting the time of His Excellency to forward the Memorial. The Memorialist then addressed him letter No. 51 (2nd November 1895) soliciting a reconsideration and solution of the points mentioned in the concluding paragraph of this Memorial.

A Printed copy hereto annexed.

The marginally noted reply No. 377, under date 9th December 1895 was received from the Political Agent through the Dewan of Pudukota. Thereupon the Memorialist humbly requested the Political Agent to furnish him with copies of his correspondence and the Order of Government or to communicate to him particulars in further detail relating to the final settlement of consolidated allowances, as the arrangement is declared to be in perpetuity. The Pohtical Agent declined.

The Government declines to reconsider the arrangements which have recently been approved after full consideration.

17. That in conclusion, your Lordship's humble Memorialist craves that the following prayers be granted, for which act of justice he shall, as in duty bound, ever pray,

(*a*) The State that accepts to conduct the expenses on account of the Western Palace Jaghirdar's death should also be made to do the same (for the reasons set forth in Para 10 supra) when any death occurs in the Jaghirdar's domestic circle.

(*b*) For the reasons shown in Para 11 above, the total allowance for the five years should be paid in advance without delay.

(*c* As originally proposed and communicated by the authorities, Rs. 20 must be added to the Jaghirdar's share of the consolidated extraordinary allowance.

(*d*) Special assignments from the State for the Religious Ceremony called Punchakshara Upadesam, celebrated only once in one's lifetime, as well as for a pilgrimage to Benares and Rameswarum and also special sanction for the expense on account of Mahamugum that comes off once in 12 years are solicited. The next Mahamugum falls next year.

(*e*) Special permission is prayed for the granting of copies of the Political Agent's correspondence or for full particulars and of the Order of Government touching the settlement of the consolidated extraordinary allowances to the members of the Western Palace Family.

N. B. In obedience to the marginally noted Orders from the Government of Madras and the Government of India, this Memorial is submitted through the proper channel.

No.—602
32—11—89.
No.—80
15—2—90.
No.—404, I.
30—1—91.

30th January 1896.

Rathakrishna Tondimansahib

WESTERN PALACE JAGHIRDAR.

E. V. GOODLUCK & CO., PRINTERS, MOUNT ROAD.

(ENCLOSURE.)

*23rd October 1895.*

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONORABLE
THE GOVERNOR OF MADRAS,
*Fort Saint George.*

The humble Memorial of RATHAKRISTNA TONDIMAN SAHIB, Western Palace Jaghirdar, Pudukota.

MY LORD,

I most humbly and respectfully beg permission to bring to your Lordship's kind notice that in disposing of my claim for the arrears due for carriage and horses bought at my own expense, the Dewan's Yadast No. 192 (29-12-94) brought to me the information that consolidated allowances including those for vehicles and animals required for the future would be settled upon the Western Palace Family.

2. In pursuance of the said intimation the Dewan communicated to me by Yadast No. 37, dated 26-3-95, that as the Political Agent wanted to consolidate all items of extraordinary expenses except marriages and Palace repair, I was asked to mention the aggregate amount for 5 years. It was also asked whether I would like to receive the amount in lump for the period of 5 years or in part for a year or the rateable share for a month. The concluding paragraph of the Dewan's Yadast further conveyed that, if the settlement should be made for 5 years, the amount would be calculated on the average expenditure for the past 14 years, which aggregates Rs. 1,444 for a year or in round numbers Rs. 1,500 and that the distribution of the amount would be made according to the rates of money-pension.

3. Upon the above calculation I beg to submit that my share of the consolidated allowance was set down at Rs. 3,750 in the Dewan's Yadast referred to above.

4. As I differed in the figures and facts, I addressed the Political Agent the marginally noted letters and solicited their kind attention. I handed over letter No. 47 of the 27th July 1895 to the Political Agent, Mr. James Andrew, and requested him to obtain sanction for Rs.7,500 for the different expenses set down in my letter No. 41 of 30th April 1895, and at the same time to exclude the items of *Marriages, Deaths, Palace repairs, Shushty-Abda-Poorthy* santhy (60th birth-day) and *Pilgrimage* to Benares and Ramêswarum from the contract and to bind the State to defray such charges whenever they occur. He was pleased to tell me that he would convey my wishes to Government.

No. 41 (30-4-95)
No. 44 (18-6-95)
No. 45 (14-7-95)
No. 46 (20-7-95)
No. 47 (27-7-95)

5. To my surprise, I received yesterday from the Dewan's Office Yadast No. 120, dated 20th instant, conveying to me the purport of the Government Order issued in disposing of the correspondences touching the consolidated allowances. I observe in the printed Enclosure of the Yadast that the allowance for a year for my share is not in proportion to my share of money-pension, Rs. 20 per annum being the deficit when I give away this sum to my second son's wife. I ought to get for the present Rs. 920 per annum. After I give away my second son's wife's share mine should be Rs. 840 instead of Rs. 820.

6. Referring to the printed note embodied in the Dewan's Yadast, I find that the Jaghirdar's Death Expense alone is to be incurred by the State. I argued with the Political

Agent that the expenses on account of "Deaths occurring in the Western Palace Family" should be borne by the State. My argument elicited a reply to the effect that my wishes would be referred to Government. It is a pity that *all Deaths in the Western Palace family* have not attracted the attention, when it is settled that marriages signifying more than one should be celebrated at the State expense. Consequently I solicit a reconsideration of the matter in the interest of justice.

7. As no mention is made about my pilgrimage to Benarês and Ramèswarum, I most humbly pray for its sanction

8. According to Mr Fawcett's scheme of 1889 all the members of the Western Palace Family but myself have received their shares in toto for 15 years Though my share was Rs. 3,900 for 15 years for a carriage and two pairs of horses with harness alone, I was reluctant to accept it as the period of contract was too long. All my contention was that the 15 years should be reduced. Whereas my contention has given birth to the new scheme suggested by the Political Agent and sanctioned by Government and has also tended to promote the interest of the other Members. With regard to the new scheme my general views were asked for by the Dewan. But he or the Political Agent did not call upon me for any further explanation, forwarding a draft as was done by Mr. Willock when he wished to do away with the scheduled arrangements carried out by the State and to divide the Western Palace Family Pension amongst its members.

9. In these circumstances I, who have been long suffering from all sorts of inconveniences and troubles and deprived of all comforts beseech respectfully your Lordship will be graciously pleased to take into your Lordship's benign consideration what I have represented in Paras 4, 5, and 6 regarding Deaths in the Western Palace Family, as also the deficit in my share (vide Para 5 supra) and pass favourable orders and also to order the disbursement of my share of the consolidated allowances for 5 years as a special concession, as already applied for both to the Dewan and the Political Agent, since I have neither good vehicles nor horses nor utensils nor articles of furniture for my use and comforts. A negative decision in this direction will embitter my life and leave me in embarrassed circumstances.

I beg most respectfully to remain,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's Most Obedient and Humble Servant,

(Sd.) RATHAKRISTNA TONDIMAN SAHIB.

Rathakrishna Tondiman Sahib

To

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11. That with reference to the contract proposed by the Political Agent the Memorialist begs to state that when his opinion was demanded as to whether he would like to receive in lump his share of the consolidated allowances for 5 years or once in a year or once in a month, he expressed that he should be paid at once for 5 years for the reasons that he had not drawn the consolidated horse and carriage allowance of Rs. 3,900 for 15 years as proposed by the late Political Agent Mr. Fawcett, which the Jaghirdar did not accept owing to the period being *too* long and that he possesses no horses, no good vehicles, no utensils, or articles of furniture for his personal use and comfort and that he is unable to obtain loans from any direction owing to his *status* or exemption from the jurisdiction of the local tribunals—a special privilege allowed by Government Order No. 261 dated the 14th May 1881. But the present Dewan communicated, to the Memorialist's sorrow and surprise, that the allowance for all extraordinary expenses, save those on account of the marginally noted items, is payable yearly. His fervent prayer is therefore that he should be paid in advance for the next 5 years for providing himself at the outset with necessary vehicles, animals and articles of furniture.

Marriages, Jaghirdar's 60th Birth Day. Jaghirdar's death. Palace Repairs.

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*30th January 1896.*

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