

Political (1897) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 267

Dated 22-4-97

INDEXED

[Despatch Abstract.]

Receiving a memorial addressed to the
of State by Dr. Kavanagh on behalf of
Raja Ram of Tanjore for grant of an al-
lowance, the latter not wishing it to be
transmitted.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
C no 1069 of 1917	1287/92						

[Poll.]
7
500-29-7-96.

Political (189) Department.

CURRENT No. 409

From Mr. D. Kavanagh Esq.
Battersea
London

Order

No.

Dated 5th/3

Received 2nd/3

Registered 24/3

Enclosures 2

Spare copies.

SUBJECT.

Requesting that his
Memorial on behalf of
Serbhoojee Rajah of Tanjore
may be transmitted to
the Secy of State for India.

R.O. papers

18/3/97 - Put up for the

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
160-1:	7-3-95		
48-6:	22-1-95		
372-4:	14-6-93		
332:	22-5-94		
605:	1-8-87		
278/7:	12-4-87		
862:	3-12-85		
616:	3-9-85		

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

To the Rt. Hon. Lord George Hamilton M.P.
Secretary of State for India.
India Office. S.W.

My Lord. I have the honor to bring to your Lordship's
Kind consideration & most favourable decision
the sad condition of Prince Sarbojee Raja the
adopted son of the late Maharajah, the late Hindu
Sovereign of the Kingdom of Tanjore, in the Madras
Presidency.

2. Tapped to your Lordship on behalf of a very important member of the family & the adopted son of the last of the illustrious Maharatta dynasty that reigned over the Kingdom of Tanjore & who have been alike extremely loyal in their feelings and cordial in their relations towards the British Crown.

3. Maharaja Siraji died in the year 1855. Previous to his death he had married 20 wives. Though he died in 49th year he had no male issue. Before his death, he gave permission to their Highness the Rances to adopt Serboze Raghoo as his & their son having been deeply impressed of the well-known facts disclosed by the Hindu Smritis & Shritis that a Hindu requires a son for two specific objects, one spiritual & the other temporal. Siraji, Serboze soon after the death of Maharaja Siraji, Serboze was appointed by his adoptive mother, the late His Highness' Mother & all the other Rances and British Residents Mr. Forbes to perform as His Highness' son, the funeral ceremonies connected with the prescribed rites over the corpse as therewith which Serboze did then perform & continues to perform up to date.

4. In Virtue of this adoption Sri Rajah as the
temporal and the spiritual heir to His Highness
the late Maharaja Siraji became entitled

to the Throne of Tanjore & it has also since devolved upon
Serboje Rajah to perform the anniversaries not only of
the late Maharajah but also of his late mother.
In accordance with rat the request of His Highness the
Maharajah's dying wishes Serboje Rajah was on the 1st
July 1863, solemnly adopted with all the requisite
publicity and ceremonies by the Senior Rane, Her
Highness M. Kamashi Boyce Sahib according to Maharatta
Custom and usage in the presence of the other Ranes 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 Her Majesty's Government at Fort St George, the Viceroy
of India & to the Secretary of State for India.

6. In August 1883, I instructed my friend the Honourable member
for the Queen's County to ask a question in the House of Commons
regarding the claims of Serboje Rajah to the Throne of Tanjore
& the late Maharajah the then Under Secretary of State for India
was pleased to make the following reply: -
"Nearly eight years after the death of the Rajah of Tanjore, and
the lapse of that State to Government, the Senior Rane wished
to adopt Serboje Rajah as ^{his} 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 who this nephew
was. Nothing is known at the India Office of the funeral in the
High Court in May 1865. Serboje Rajah's name cannot be
found in the list of pensioners & nothing is known in the
India Office as to his pecuniary means."

7. In this reply I submit my Lord, that the Under Secretary of State
has admitted by implication that the Government will recognize
adoption so far as succession to private property was concerned that
a nephew performed the funeral ceremonies 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 Sep. 1856, para 14 says: -
"I was asked to nominate a person - Rajaram Sahib, to perform
his (Rajah's) funeral rites & Rajaram Sahib did perform the
funeral ceremonies."

That nephew & that person & that Rajaram Sahib is one
and the same person, Serboje Rajah who I humbly submit
my Lord is entitled to the Throne of Tanjore according
to Hindu Law & the custom adopted by the British Government.

8. I may instance the cases of: -
(a) the confirmation of the British Government of the Kolapur adoption
which was in a great measure due to the interview that
the Rajah had with the most gracious Majesty, the
Queen Empress of India.
(b) that made by the widow of Duntal Row Scindia by the
British Government in 1826.
(c) that made by the widow of the Rajah of Dhora recognized
by Government in 1834.
(d) that made by the Rajah of Krishnagur recognized by Government
in 1841.
(e) the adoption of the present Maharaja of Baroda & the adoption
in the feudal State.

9. If however, my Lord through political & other reasons, the
British Government will not place Rajaram Sahib, now
Serboje Rajah Sahib, upon the Throne of Tanjore to which he
is legally entitled, I appeal ad misericordiam, in his behalf.
& will ask Your Lordship, in this the year of the Diamond
Jubilee of the most gracious Majesty the Queen Empress
to extend to him the hand of kindness & generosity & grant
him a yearly income commensurate with his position &
the services not one farthing from the British Government, &
is living in starvation at Tanjore!

10. Let my Lord an adequate allowance be granted to this
unfortunate Prince who is starving as a simple act of charity
& mercy & he will be satisfied. That divine quality in
human nature cannot better be described by one than
the immortal Shakespeare: -
"The quality of mercy is not strained,
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath; it is twice blest;
It benedict him that gives & him that takes,
It is mightiest in the mightiest; It becomes
The throne monarch better than his crown;
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;
But Mercy is above this sceptred sway;
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings;
It is an attribute to God himself;
And earthly power doth then show like God's,
When Mercy seasons justice."

11. Let me once again to ask Your Lordship to be
pleased to issue orders that a

Suitable allowance be granted to the adopted son
of the late Maharajah of Tanjore. Razaram Sahib
now Serbhoe Rajah Sahib, & he as in duty bound
will for ever pray.

I have the honor to be

My Lord

Your obedient servant

M. D. Karanaph.

2 Wayland Row
Plough Road
Battersea
London S.W.
5th March 1897

(N.B.) The foundation fundology
of the Tanjore Dynasty India

2 Wayland Road. No. 407

Plough Road.

Battersea.

London. S.W.

CHIEF SECRETARY
23. MAR 1897
GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

Sir. I have the honor to enclose
a Memorial on behalf of Razaram
Sahib, now Serbhoe Rajah, Palace
Tanjore, & will thank you to be
pleased to transmit it to the
Hon. Lord George Hamilton, M.P.
Secretary of State for India, Indian
Office, Whitehall London.
This is in accordance with
the request of the Secretary
of State for India.

I have the honor to be,

Yours obedient servant
M. D. Karanaph.
Madras Government.

Political (1897) Department.

CURRENT No. 489

From Serpojee Raja
Palace
Tanjore.

Order

No.

Dated 4/4

Received 7/4

Registered 8/4

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Stating that the
memorial forwarded by one
Kavanah of London in his name
for submission to the Secretary
of State was not authorized
by him & that he has no
concern whatever with
the same.

18/4/97

407/97 - just forward

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

By *Chief* No. 489 Tanjore Palace
 4th April 1897
 (b) That from the letter I recd. from
 From Serpojee Raja
 Palace Tanjore
 he took out his private Secretary
 recognised him as a matter of fact as
 such.

To The Honourable Mr. J. A. Price C. S. I.
 Chief Secretary to Government
 Port St. George.
 -7. APR. 1897
 GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS
 That a letter on the subject was
 instant despatched
 a request to have the same
 we honoured Sir:

With reference to the
 memorial which I hear from one Dr.
 Xavanah of London, has been forwarded
 to the Madras Government by him on
 my behalf, I have the honor to respect-
 fully request you to withhold the memo-
 rial from being transmitted to the Po-
 litical agent Tanjore or to the Rt. Hon-
 able the Secretary of State for India
 on the following grounds.

(a) That the memorial is an unauthorised
 one, I have not, as far as I am aware,
 given permission to or sought the help
 of Dr. Xavanah either directly or thro' of
 anybody for drawing up the said memo-
 rial or for taking any proceedings on

[G.]

100-14-12-06.

H. E. THE GOVERNOR.

THE HONBLE MR. BLISS, C.I.E.

THE HONBLE MR. GROSE, C.I.E.

Political DEPARTMENT.

C. No. 467

SUBJECT.

Raja Ram of Tanjore

FOR ORDERS.

Dr. Kavanagh forwards
addressed
a memorial to the Secretary
in which it is requested
of State requesting that if
the British Govt. is ^{not} prepared
to admit the claims of Raja
Ram to succeed the late
Raja of Tanjore, he may
be granted a pension.
This is not the first time
Dr. Kavanagh has written
on behalf of this man.

In 1893 he wrote to
this Govt. and he was
informed that the claims
of Raja Ram had already
been fully considered and
that the question could
not be reopened - go no's

372-4 B 14-6-93.

In 1895 he moved

* The previous correspondence
regarding Raja Ram is
summarized in Appendix
A to G.O. No. 528 Pz. of
M 12. August 1894 and in
the note flagged I in G.O.
No. 515 Pz. of B.O. Time
1887. (in copy)

C 12/197

Govt. of India who forwarded
the memorial to this Govt.
for disposal. This Govt.
merely referred Dr. Kavanagh
to go. no. 373 Poll 314 June
1893.

Later onⁱⁿ 1895 the
Govt. of India forwarded an
extract from a letter from
Dr. Kavanagh to the Private
Secretary to H.R. the Viceroy
with the intimation that
Dr. Kavanagh should be
informed that the Govt.
of India could not accept
petitions direct from
counsel but that parties
of concern should apply
through the local Govts.
Dr. Kavanagh was informed
accordingly - go. nos. 160-61
D 7th March 1895.

The present memorial
is addressed to the Secretary
of State - It seems doubtful
whether it can be brought
under the ruling of the Govt.
of India just referred to -
there is no such ruling

Memorialist on each
sheet

in D memorial rules,
though there is one (IV) in
C memorial rules. The
present memorial does
not, however, comply with
rules 1 and 2 of section
II of D. memorial rules as
(1) the memorial does not
purport to be ^{an} appeal
against the orders of this
Govt. or the Govt. of India nor
is it accompanied by copies
of such orders and (2) the
enclosure to the memorial
is not authenticated ^{by the signature of the} memorialist. Besides
it appears that rule 6 (6)
applies as Dr. Kavanagh is
not personally interested
in the matters referred to in
the memorial.

Orders are solicited
under which of these rules
the memorial should be
dealt with.

If it is decided to
send on the memorial, it
is submitted ^{that it should be sent} through the
Govt. of India - Attention
is solicited to letter no. 573
Poll. D 30 June 1887 in which

his Govt. protested against
the grant of any pension
to Raja Ram so long as the
Ranis are alive. The Govt.
of India accepted this view
and directed that the Ranis
should be informed that
the adoption of Raja Ram
could not be recognised and
that this ladies should be Raja Ram would
assured that he will not
be left destitute on their
decease (go. no 605 P.N. 8
1-8-87).

Raja Ram is not as
destitute as Dr. Kavanagh makes
him out to be. The Ranis
pay him Rs 1500 per mensem,
allow him the use of palace
equipages and apartments
in the palace. He moreover
appropriated about Rs 40,000
worth of property belonging to
Her late Highness Kamakshi
Bai Sahiba.

Submitted that the
memorial should not be
withheld on account of any
technical defect, but that it
should be submitted through
the India Office.

covering letter bringing out the
facts stated above & stating
that this Govt. sees no reason
to alter its opinion of the
case. CMB 12/4/97

vide flag in go. 332
22-5-94

Since the above was
written, no 489 has come in.
From this it will be seen that
Raja Ram does not wish Dr.
Kavanagh's memorial forwarded
to the Secy. of State.

Submitted that the
papers be recorded. Dr.
Kavanagh has either been
misled or has been somewhat
premature. Dr. K is a very meddling

CMB gentlemen: if I am not mistaken
13.4.97 this is not the first case
of this kind in which he has had
a hand. Record the papers.
22/4/87

Pol. Dept. C. No 4070489
ORDER No 267822 April 1897
this Recorded
CMB for C8
22.4.97

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189

AD AGAIN G.O., No.
 189

DATED

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NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.--

A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only