

Public (1897) Department.

ORDINARY PRINTED.

G O., No. 750

DATED 7-7-99

INDEXED.

32 report

1898-99.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Malabar Marriage Act IV of 1896

Recording reports on the work
done under the — during the year
1898-99.

BACK PAPERS.

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

FURTHER PAPERS.

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

*Cus 1564/00 (next
series)*

4. Most of the notices were from Government officials, chiefly Nayars, as will be seen from the annexed statement:—

Districts.	Caste.				Profession.					
	Nayars.	Tiyas.	Others.	Total.	Government servants and pensioners.	Vakils, editors and medical practitioners	Ryots and landlords.	Merchants.	Others.	Total.
Madras	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1
South Canara	..	..	4	4	3	..	..	..	1	4
Tellicherry	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	+1	2
Calicut	7	..	..	7	3	1	2	..	+1	7
Total for 1898-99 ..	8	2	4	14	8	1	2	..	3	14
Total for 1897-98 ..	21	3	..	24	12	5	4	1	2	24

* Three Billavas, one Bant. † Student. ‡ Unemployed. § Schoolmaster in a private school.

5. No objections were received in any of the cases registered, and no suit has been filed for cancellation of registration.

6. Considering the peculiar customs and prejudices of the people, the results obtained appear to me to be fairly satisfactory. Since the introduction of the Act in January 1897, 64 Sambhandams have been registered.

7. The subjoined statement shows the receipts, remittances and expenditure during the past two years:—

Years.	Total fees collected.		Attendance fees retained by Registrars.		Amount disbursed to process-servers.		Balance.		Amount remitted during the year.		Expenditure on account of notice boards.	
	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.	RS.	A. P.
.. .. .	248	3 0	110	8 0	23	2 0	114	9 0	119	5 0	6	12 0
.. .. .	95	4 0	46	0 0	9	12 0	39	8 0	39	8 0	2	0 0

* Includes Rs. 4-12-0 collected in 1896-97.

8. The departmental accounts were compared with the figures furnished by the Accountant-General, and found to agree.

9. With reference to paragraph 10 of G.O., No. 1292, Public, dated 8th December 1896, I beg to suggest that the question of appointing Adhigaris as Marriage Registrars and of allowing process-servers and clerical assistance to Marriage Registrars may be dropped for the present.

ORDER—No. 750, Public, dated 7th July 1899.

Recorded.

(True Extract.)

G. STOKES,
Chief Secretary.

To the Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages.
„ the Collector of Malabar.
„ the Collector of South Canara.
„ M.R.Ry. C Sankaran Nayar Avargal.
„ the Legislative Department.

Ed. A. F. Eccleston.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

READ—the following paper:—

From the Hon'ble M.R.Ry. P. RAJARATNA MUDALIYAR, Diwan Bahadur, Registrar-General of Births, Deaths and Marriages, to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated Madras, 16th June 1899, G. No. 371.

I have the honour to submit a brief report on the work done under the Malabar Marriage Act IV of 1896 during the year ending 31st March 1899.

2. As anticipated in my last report, there was a further fall in the number of notices of intention to register Sambhandams; only 14 notices having been presented during the year as against 24 in 1897-98, and 36 in 1896-97. The mass of the people continue to regard the Marriage law with aversion and suspicion, and even the educated members of the community, who are in favour of the measure, shrink from taking advantage of it, from fear of offending the elder members of their Tarwads and the all-powerful Nambudris and other great landlords. The Registrar of Calicut also points out that the power conferred by the Marriage law to make provision for one's wives and children has hitherto acted as some inducement to

* Act V of 1898.

persons to register their Sambhandams, but as the new Testamentary law,* which came into force from 2nd September 1898, enables the followers of Marumakkattayam law to attain this object without registering their Sambhandams, and thus “unnecessarily curtailing their liberty of action and risking the chances of a divorce proceedings”, he thinks it unlikely that registrations under the Marriage law would increase in future.

3. The number of notices received during the year, the number of Sambhandams registered and the number pending disposal are exhibited in the subjoined statement:—

Districts.	Number of notices pending disposal at the end of the previous year.	Number of notices received during the year.	Total.	Number of Sambhandams registered.	Number of notices struck off [section 8 (4)].	Number pending disposal at the end of the year.
Madras	..	1	1	1	..	..
South Canara	..	4	4	1	..	3
Tellicherry (North Malabar)	..	2	2	2	..	..
Calicut (South Malabar)	5	7	12	9	3	..
Total for 1898-99 ..	5	14	19	13	3	3
Total for 1897-98 ..	26	24	50	41	4	5

As in the previous year, the largest number of notices were received and disposed of by the Marriage Registrar of Calicut.

Government {1899} of Madras.
PUBLIC.

Public (1899) Department.

CURRENT No.



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Order

G.O., No. 750, 7th July 1899.

JULY.

From
The Registrar General of
Births, Deaths and Marriages,
Madras.

Ly. No. 371

Dated 16 June 1899
Received 18. a
Registered 19. a
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SUBJECT.

Submitting report on
the work done under the
Malabar Marriage Act, IV
of 1896, during the year 1898.

99.

Malabar Marriage Act IV of 1896.

Recording report on the work done under the — during the year 1898-99.

с. 7. 99. с. 4-7-99

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1,000-25-3-30.

Public DEPARTMENT

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	1022	Pub.	11.8.98
	107	"	19.1.98
	1083	"	18.8.97
	1292	"	8.12.98
	Madder Acks		8.6.98

C. No. 1758 From the Reg. Genl of B. S. G., No. 371, dated 16. 6. 1899.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

"....." "....." "....." "....." 189
 "....." "....." "....." "....." 189
 "....." "....." "....." "....." 189

In Order

The Registrar General
of Births, Deaths & Marriages
submits a brief report
on the work done under
the Malabar Marriage Act
IV of 1896, during the year
1898-99.

2. Works under the Act came into operation early, in February, 1897. Thirty-six notices of intention to register sambandhams were received in the last two months of 1896-97. During the whole of 1897-98, twenty-four notices were received, and in 1898-99 there was a further fall to fourteen.

Eight out of these fourteen were from Govt. servants & ~~others~~ - Out of 74 notices received since work began, 38, or just over half, came from the mud class of people. The ~~Inspector~~ ^{Inspector} ~~said~~ remarks that the mass of the people continue to regard the marriage law with aversion & suspicion, & that even the educated members of the community shrink from taking advantage of it for fear of offending the elder members of their families -

The Register of Calicut points out that as the recent Madras Wills Act of 1898 enables followers of the Marumakkathayam law to make provision for their families without registering their sambandhams, it is not likely that registrations under the marriage law will increase in future.

3. The J. & S. D. & M. thinks that the results

obtained under the Act brought into force, viz. a total of 64 registrations, fairly satisfactory, consider the peculiar customs and prejudices of the people. The population of Malabar & S. Canara amounts to $\frac{1}{2}$ million of this number over 200 millions are Hindus, & a majority of the Hindus are probably followers of the Marumakkathayam and Aliyasantana law. The results of over two years' working of the marriage act show ^{how} little it is appreciated.

5. Nothing more is said in the present report of the inconvenience caused by the restrictive provision of Sec. 5 of the Act, under which registration can be effected ^{by} ~~by~~ ^{who} ~~who~~ Registrar within the jurisdiction either if parties resided at

2. When the same have
any friends.

1. The Rep. Gen. advised
that the question raised in
previous report, regarding
the appointment of
advisors as marriage
registrars, of allowing
process clerks & clerical
assistance to marriage
registrars, may be dropped
for the present.

2. Apparently there is
nothing to be done but
to send the report, &
to watch the further working
of the Act. It may be
better understood and
appreciated in the future
as education spreads.

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C. No. 1758 From the Rep. Gen. of B. O. No. 371, dated 16.6.1899.



Order
P. S. 11750 7.7.99.

Received.

C.
6.7.99

6.7.99 11/7/99

To the Rep. Gen. of B. O.

Collyer of Madras

S. Canara

M. B. P. C. Sankaran Nayar
avayal

the Legislative Dept.

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READ AGAIN G. O., No.
189

DATED

CURRENT No.

1758A

1077

ENCLOSURES TO G. O. No.

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT.

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT.

STATEMENT WITH DITTO.

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IN ORIGINAL.

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