

1. Number of pages 1-28
2. Date of repair 4-1-31
3. Initials of Referencer
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MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public DEPARTMENT

G.O. No.

408

Press
Mis

Dated

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19/8/69

Not to be folded or roughly handled

27th May 1869.

No. 196. Read the following letter from the Secretary to the Committee for the Examination of Assistants, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort Saint George; dated Madras, 30th April 1869, No. 37.

I have the honour, by direction of the President, to forward, for the consideration and orders of Government, the accompanying copy of correspondence regarding the preliminary examination in Persian, specified in paragraph 6 of the rules for the encouragement of the study of Oriental languages.

2. I am desired at the same time to say that the Committee are of opinion that Colonel Wilson's remarks are only just and reasonable, and that they consider that the preliminary examination in Persian and Sanscrit might either be dispensed with, or the time within which it has to be passed extended, and the alterations in the tests, as suggested by the Persian and Hindustani Translator, adopted.

ENCLOSURES 3.—Letters.

No. 197. ORDER THEREON, 27th May 1869, No. 708.

With reference to the correspondence above recorded, the Government are not prepared to alter the rules which prescribe a preliminary examination in the classical languages Persian and Sanscrit, or to modify the test laid down for this examination.

(True Extract).

Chief Secretary.

To the Committee for the Examination of Assistants.

Ed. J. Wright,

Madras
20th March 1869

To,
W. Donald Esq.
Secretary to the Committee
for the Examination of
Africans

Sir,
Being about to apply for per-
mission to study Persian with a view
eventually to reaching for the reward
for High Proficiency, I have the honor
to request you will be good enough
to bring to the notice of the Members
of the Committee the following circum-
stances with reference to the Preliminary
Examination which I am obliged
first to pass as not having studied
Persian in England.

2 On reference to the rules
at present in force and published
in the Fort Saint George Gazette
it will be seen that the respective
tests laid down are:—

For Preliminary Examination	For High Proficiency
Azdi-Gul	Azdi-Gul
Azdi-i-Mauzum	Anwar-i-Sabih
	Bostan

Three prescribed Sections. These are, a

The former of these has to be passed within four years from the date of a candidate's arrival in India. Assuming that two years would be required to pass in both standard Examinations and in High Proficiency of the Vernacular language of the District in which an Assistant is stationed, two years would thus be left for the learning of sufficient Persian to pass the Preliminary Examination and five years from the commencement of a candidate's studies would elapse before an Examination for High Proficiency would be compulsory.

4 I find however on looking at the books named that *Agd-i-Gul* consists of two parts; Selections from *Calistan* and Selections from *Anwar-i-Sahih*. The first of these contains the greater part of the Original *Calistan* unabridged, and the second a large portion, namely the first three chapters of

Anwar-i-Sahih. *Agd-i-Manzum*. The second book includes Persian most of the *Bostans* and it thus appears that the same books have been given for the Preliminary Examination as for the High Proficiency Standard, notwithstanding that as shown above two years' teaching are granted for the former and five for the latter. In the Sanskrit Examinations this is not the case and the gradation of difficulty between *Riga Pustak* and such books as *Raghunatha* is well defined.

5 Moreover the tests in Persian required from Civilian candidates for the Preliminary Examination are the same as those given to Military Officers for their Higher Standard Examination. As experience has shown all Military Candidates coming to the Study of Persian have been previously well grounded in

111
Hindustani, a language the
greater portion of which is borrowed
from Persian and Arabic.
To insist therefore that civilians
(of whom but few have taken up
Hindustani) should at the begin-
ning have to pass so lengthy and
difficult ^{an} examination seems an-
no. of malous.

Q. 6 The remarks I have
made with regard to Military
officers having previously read
Hindustani apply with equal
force if not greater force to Bengal
civilians candidates and are an
answer to those who contend
that the tests as at present laid
down are taken bodily from
those ordered by the Supreme
Government for civilians in
Bengal.

7 I would suggest
that the test now in force be
reduced to one half by omitting

7
the whole of Agad-i-Mauzum
and a half of the Selections from
the Anwar-i-Sakhi. This reduction
made more than 200 pages
of text would be still left which
may be regarded as sufficient
for an examination at most
only Preliminary and one
production of no immediate
advantage to any who succeed
in passing it.

8 I would add in conclu-
sion that although hitherto I have
not officially applied for permis-
sion to be examined, I have been
reading Persian for nearly a year.

I have the honor to be
signed / J. B. Jones
True copy /

H. H. H. H.
Secretary

No. 25 of 1869

P. & H. Trans. Office
21st April 1869

From

Col. R. S. Wilson
Pers and Hind Translator
to Government

To

W. Donald Esq.
Secy to the Committee
for the Examination
of Assistants.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge
receipt of your letter, dated 2nd April 1869,
No. 3 enclosing letter addressed to you
by J. B. Jones Esq. C.S. under date
the 20th March 1869, and in reply to
submit the following remarks.

II I agree with Mr. Jones in con-
sidering the Preliminary Examination
in Persian as too severe. That examina-
tion is intended to test the attainment
of a fair knowledge of the language,
but it does, in my opinion, considerably
exceed that intention. I therefore beg
to submit the expediency of reducing
the amount of study now required,
by confining the construing part of the
examination to the first halves of the
three prescribed selections. These are, a

Herewith
returned

69/1208 700/100

From

J. B. Jones Esq.

120590

Recd 20th 3rd March 1869

Regarding the
value of the Committee
certain circumstances
with reference to the Pre-
liminary Examination
which he is justly
of the as well as having
checked Persian in
English.

portion of the Gulistan / 105 pages / a portion of the Anwar-i-Suhle / 243 pages / and a portion of the Boostan / 157 pages / If the latter halves of these three portions be omitted, the Examination will, I think, be sufficient to attain its avowed object, so far as the power of construing is concerned.

III I beg however to bring to your notice that as regards living languages, a certain power of conversing in the language to be acquired, is always considered an essential part of the Examination. Nor has this been overlooked in the Rules regulating the Examinations in Persian for the "High Proficiency" and "Honors" Standards. But in those for the Preliminary Examination, no mention is made of it. I beg to submit that some notice should be taken of the candidate's power of conversing in the language he is studying.

IV The above appear to be all the remarks called for by Mr. Lanes' letter, but I trust the Committee will not disapprove of my expressing the following considerations, which have been suggested by the Subject. Having read the Rules carefully, I have failed to discover any advantage in holding the Preliminary Examination at all,

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and it appears to me that it might be abolished with good results. By the present Rules the Examination in question must be held within four years after the candidate has landed in India. The amount of Study and Official duty now imposed on the Junior Members of the Civil Service, during the first years of their residence in this country, is so great that I cannot think it desirable to stimulate them to further efforts by limiting their appearance for classical honors in the manner above mentioned. Members of the Civil Service are now required to do duty as soon as they arrive in the country, they are also required to pass the Standard Examination in one Vernacular language, and the High Proficiency Examination in another Vernacular language before they can appear as candidates for Examination in either of the Classical languages, and they cannot appear as Candidates for Examination in either of the Classical languages after the expiry of four years from the date of their landing in India. The amount of labor contemplated by these Rules, is, I conceive, greater than it is reasonable to expect from the average

number of students and the result
of crowding so much study into
so small a period, must be
either to deter the Civil Service,
for the future, from becoming
Oriental Scholars, or to make them
such in appearance only.

The Rules are stated to
be "for the encouragement of the
study of the Oriental languages
among the Junior Members
of the Civil Service." I submit
that they are framed so as to
encourage those studies too much
among the very Junior Members,
and not at all among the others.
It being admitted that it is
desirable that the Civil Ser-
vice should study the Oriental
languages, I do not see why
they should not be encouraged
to take up such studies at
any part of their Service, and
I beg therefore to recommend
as one step towards the course
which I would wish to see
adopted, that the Preliminary
Examination in Persian be dis-
continued, or at least that one
year be added to the time within
which

135
which it is to be attended, that
is to say, that candidates be allow-
ed to appear before it, any time
within five years from the date
of their arrival in the Country.

I have the honor &c
Signed R. S. Wilson
Pers & Hind. Translator
to Government.

True copy

W. Donald
Secy to Govt. for &c &c

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE,
FOR THE EXAMINATION OF ASSISTANTS,
Madras, 20 April 1869.

No. 3

17

From

W. DONALD, Esq.,

Secretary to the Committee,

for the Examination of Assistants,

To

The Persian Translator
& Government.

Sir,

I am directed by the President to forward copy of a letter received from Mr. J. B. Jones C.S. and to request that you will be so good as to favor the Committee with your opinion on the points raised by him.

I have the
/Sgt/ W. Donald
Secretary.

/True Copy/

Donald
Secretary.

20/4/69

From
The Persian Translator
of the Persian Translator
to Government in suit

Letter 21 3 April 1869
Received 21 3 April 1869

Office of the Committee
for the Examination of Assistants
Madras, 20 April 1869

20 April 1869

19
Public DEPARTMENT.

No. 821.

From the Secretary to the Committee, for the
Administration of Apprentices -
Dated 30th April 1869.

FOR ORDERS.

I think that the Committee for the
Administration of Apprentices are
much to blame for having sent
up a scheme of tests open to the
objection that we have provided
none. They cannot have consulted the
Curriculum Committee. I would advise
the preliminary test proposed by
Charles Wilson & submit the
proposed paper to the Committee.
A.D.

The Secretary to the Committee,
for the Examination of Assistants,

To

Dated }
Received }

Received 18/5/69

Before disposing of this I should like
to see what is the Persian text in
Bengal - W.D.
10 May 69.

I submit that there should be
no change made in the text books
prescribed for the Preliminary Examⁿ
in Persian. These, it seems to have
been overlooked, are the text books
determined on for this examⁿ by the
Gov^t of India whose arrangements,
in regard to the three classical languages,
Arabic, Persian & Sanskrit, we have
here adopted. For the solitary one
used in this Presidency who knows
Persian, they have a book on the
Bengal side. It is therefore fair to
infer that they know better than
we, what should be a proper

ideal for the young aspirant to know
in Persian when he appears to pass his
"Isa'at Faris" at a Preliminary Examⁿ.

Further, it cannot be said matter
much to a gentleman who voluntarily selects
the study of Persian in order to secure the
Rewards, (1) 2000, (2) 4000, - whether, in
reading up for the more difficult examⁿ
yielding 2000 R^s, he has, at a preliminary
examination which yields nothing, - to prepare
himself in 200 or 300 pages of a text-book.
Even if there were 400 pages to be read for
this Preliminary Examⁿ, there would be
so much furnished by the aspirant towards
the more difficult subsequent examination
for the pecuniary reward - He has so far
advanced towards the goal he is striving
to reach - Reducing the Preliminary Examⁿ
text book from 300 pages to 200 would
in fact be retarding the aspirant's progress.

Again, it seems to be wrong on principle
to accept objections raised by a student
who has voluntarily become such and
who during his year's study of Persian

has had plenty of time for consideration
whether the test suits him or not. If he
does not, he should give up the study. A
student at an English University who
petitioned for a reduction of an examⁿ
standard would, I apprehend, be laughed
at.

I might add that the 100 paper of
an author which follows the first
200 studied & read, cannot offer
difficulties such as may have been
met with in the first 200. I
wonder for the above reasons, leave
the Persian & Sans. Preliminary
test and is untouched
14 May 69.

Jagjee

W.D.

Memo.

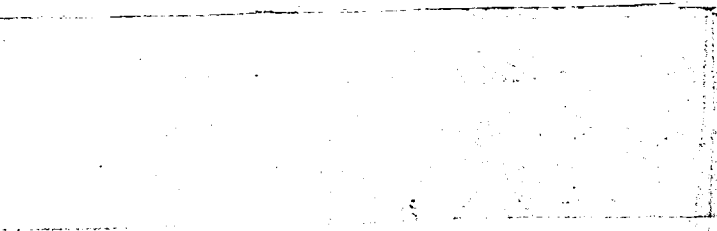
1. With reference to the
remarks of the Hon^{ble} Mr.
Phillips, it is submitted
that from para 1 of Mr.
Frost's letter recorded in
Proc^o of Govt. Pub. Dep. dated
4th July 1868, the text books
in Persian & Hindustani adopted by the Committee
for the examination of
Assistants are the same
as those selected in
Bengal.

W.D.

Mr. J. H. H. H. H.

Each

C13 May
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C20 "
R21 "



OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE,
FOR THE EXAMINATION OF ASSISTANTS,
Madras, 30th April 1869.

No. 37

From

W. DONALD, Esq.,

Secretary to the Committee,

for the Examination of Assistants,

To

The Chief Secretary
to Government
Public Department

SIR,

I have the honor by direction of the President to forward for the consideration and order of Government the accompanying Copy of Correspondence regarding the Preliminary Examination in Persian specified in para 6 of the Rules for the Encouragement of the Study of Oriental Languages.

2. I am desired at the same time to say that the Committee are of opinion that Colonel Wilson's remarks are only just and reasonable, and that they consider that the Preliminary Examination in Persian and Sanskrit may either be dispensed with, or the time within which it has to be passed extended, and the alterations in the Lists as suggested by the Persian and Hindustani Translator adopted.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servant

W. Donald
Secretary

C 13 May
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C 20 "
1221

Presented to the
Committee for the
Examination of Assistants

Received of the
Secretary to the Committee,
for the Examination of Assistants,

No. 37

Received of the
Secretary to the Committee,
for the Examination of Assistants,

The Secretary to the Committee,
for the Examination of Assistants,

The Chief Secretary
to the Committee

Dated 30 April 1869
Received of the
Secretary to the Committee,
for the Examination of Assistants,

copy & correspondence
of the Committee
in the Secretary's
office

to 708-27. May/69.
with reference to the correspondence above mentioned
the first we are not prepared to alter the
present ruling which provides a preliminary
examination in the classical languages before
or it may be the best laid down for this
purpose.

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