

Revenue (1897) Department.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

G.O., No. 166.

DATED 11. Jan. 1897

[Despatch Abstract.]

Informing the Revenue of the Aree Taluk, that
that ~~the~~ complaint about Munsif's pay, should be
first addressed to the local authorities, then to the
Bd if not satisfied with their ~~decision~~ orders, and finally
to Govt, with the authenticated copies of the orders
passed by the subordinate authorities.

Note.

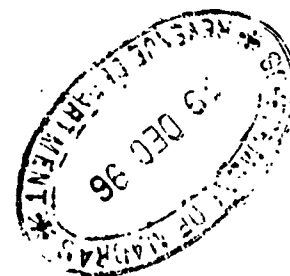
This is a memorial from
the Kurnams of Arcot taluk
n. arcot dt
it is but a copy of that under
No. 4933 & 3-12-96.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No	Department.	Date.
	Cuo 8484/96		
	No. 4933 Revenue		3-12-96

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date



To.
His excellency
The Governor in Council.
Fort St. George.

The humble mahazar of the Kurnams of
the Arcot Taluq. North Arcot Dist.

1. The undersigned Kurnams of Gudiya Arcot
beg most respectfully to submit that they
were discharging the duties of Kurnams and
were in receipt of Mera Damaisha in cash, and
in addition were allowed Inam lands called
"Jari, Tarapadi Maniyams".

2. These emoluments were created with
the Kurnam's Offices considering the onerous
duties which the office involved in ancient days
by the Rajahs who were governing the empire
and they were enjoyed without any impediment
whatever by their ancestors till F. 1210.
In F. 1211 the insufficiency of the emoluments
were complained of and it resulted in the attachment
of "Jari Tarapadi Maniyam lands" and
substitution of Damaisha Mera which was one
eleventh of the entire beriz of the Villages.
Some of them were in receipt of the usual mera
assigned to the office in addition to the Damaisha
mera. The petitioners beg to bring to the notice
of the Honorable, the Board of Revenue that it was to
this unhappy and unlucky posterity that the several
kinds of mera has been withheld by the introduction
of the Salary system.

3. The petitioners beg to state, although
it is not unknown and that their prescriptive
rights were continued without intermission up
to F. 1293. In F. 1299 the Village establishments
were revised which not only tended to reduce
their moderate livelihood and but also drowned
them in grievances which are enumerated below.

- Two or more Villages have been amalgamated with a single Village and a single Kurnam appointed to the work.
- One of the Paimayishdars were confirmed in the case of Villages were two or more than two Paimayishdars were from time immemorial discharging the office or,
- The rights of the Paimayishdars have been ignored.
- The reduced Salary of Rs. 6, 7, 8 has been fixed to the office.

The labor of the Kurnams has already
risen manifold and in the present arrangement

where the amalgamation of two or more Villages has taken place the work has enormously increased that it is hardly possible for an expression in words, of the difficulties to which they are subjected and the work is got through by employing the Kurnams of the amalgamated Villages who were ousted in revision or their Kinsman such as brothers, brother-in-law where by a portion of the scanty pay fixed by the revision has to be sacrificed.

It is an inexpressible misery that the Kurnams who have from time immemorial been discharging the duties of a single Village have been loaded with the duties of additional Villages by the revision.

4. Above all these it is a source of regret to bring to the notice of the ~~Honorable members~~ that they have to wait from January to June at the head quarters of the Taluq for the Settlement of their Villages which is completed in three stages now a days, that as the salary fixed to them is not even enough for maintaining them alone at foreign places and their families in villages become distressed without relief and that a few who have lands in Villages are unable to have their cultivation managed on account of the pressure of work brought to bear upon them in the Taluq.

The petitioners who are unable to live upon any other work and who solely depend upon the small pittance therefore beg to lay bare these facts and to state that they are driven to penury by this miserable pay.

The petitioners further beg respectfully to state that the No. of paimayish Villages was considerably reduced by amalgamation during Survey and Settlement and the unhappy revision of the Village establishment caused a still further reduction in the number of Kurnams. The petitioners beg to illustrate the fact that the No. of Villages in a Taluq which had 290 Paimayish Villages with the same No. of Kurnams have been reduced by amalgamation to 184 Villages which had the same No. of Kurnams till the unhappy revision had set in which still further reduced the Kurnams to 137 or to be plain the work turned out formerly by 290 Kurnams has to be turned out now by 137 Kurnams, which will leave an impression upon the minds of the ~~Honorable members~~ as to the enormity of the work which has to be done. Besides the quantity the quality of the work has to be present in your ~~Honorable Members~~ mind since the introduction of the Village manual.

The difference in the Scale of Salary between the Munsif and the Kurnam is only one rupee. The Munsif has business in the collection season only for 4 months but not at other times. He enjoys peace of mind after the collection season passes off and the arrears are cleared off while the Kurnam has to be laboring all the year round and at the Head quarters of the Taluq for nearly 6 months and in the collection season the Kurnam has to write the Tandal Kuchayat and all the accounts relating to it, which is signed by the Monigar. Even in other months the Kurnam has to draft fair copy reports &c., for the Munsif and in fact all the clerical business has been thrown upon the Kurnams, although their pay in comparison with the work of the Munsifs is out of all proportion. The grades of pay are also not equal to the labor of the Kurnams and as an example, we beg to point out that a single Village which carries with it a Revenue of Rs. 1,000 is paid Rs. 6 a month, whereas two Villages clubbed at the revision with a beriz of Rs. 2,500 is also paid Rs. 6. We need not put in writing the work attendant upon the miserable single Kurnam who has been appointed for both Villages. He has to write two sets of accounts and has to do twice as much as the kurnam of a single village with a beriz of Rs. 1,000 has to do.

The petitioners therefore beg to bring to the notice of the ~~Honorable Members~~ of the inequalities of the grades of pay. The petitioners further hear that a further reduction has been proposed by the Collector in the No. of Kurnams. For the reasons above given we earnestly entreat that no such proposal may be admitted, but on the contrary, an increase in the staff might be made.

We further earnestly entreat that after the preparation of No. 16 the Munsif might be ordered to prepare the following accounts.

- (1) Arrear list (Kist.)
- (2) Tundal.
- (3) Ledger.
- (4) Irusalnama.
- (5) Interest accounts.
- (6) Death and Birth Register.
- (7) Cattle Register.
- (8) Vaccination Register.

and obsoleting the Kurnams from the duties of the preparation of the above said account.

The petitioners beg to state that while the Kurnams of the Zemindaris of Kalastri &c. of the District are still in the enjoyment of the usually sanctioned Damashi Mera Tarapad

his excellency the Governor in council

his excellency the Governor in council

his excellency the Governor in council

excellency's mind

Inams &c., the rights to mirasi &c., the petitioners the Kurnams dependent upon the bounty of Her most gracious majesty the Queen Victoria the ruler of the Vast Empire, are deprived of the mirasi right, the right to the emoluments enjoyed by them from time immemorial. The petitioners therefore most humbly beg that the Board will be pleased to reconsider the case of the miserable petitioners, who are as the two eyes of Government. The petitioners beg to bring to the notice of the Honorable Members that the Kurnams of the Villages where the emoluments existed in the shape of Inams had at least the advantage of paying 10 annas in the rupee for the lands in their possession, which has been enfranchised whereas the petitioners have not been conferred even such a right.

(a) The petitioners most humbly beg that they may be permitted to discharge their duties, restoring their Inams, rights to mirasi &c. or

(b) The four grades of pay prevailing in Cudappah, i.e. Rs. 18, 15, 12, 10, may be introduced to the petitioners and paid similarly or

(c) The three eighths of the Damashaye Mera may be permitted to be enjoyed by the petitioners just as three eighths of the land assessment was remitted & $\frac{1}{8}$ of the assessment was fixed as quit rent in all those cases in which Inam lands formed the emoluments. If the substitution of Damashi Mera had not taken place the petitioners would have been in possession of lands and would have derived a similar advantage at the enfranchisement of Inam lands. They have now been deprived even of this benefit. The petitioners therefore pray that justice similar to that dealt out to those who were in the enjoyment of Inam lands may be conferred on those who were in receipt of Damashi Mera or

(d) If the reduced rates be confirmed the Inams or Damashi Mera may be ordered to be enjoyed uninterruptedly without payment of any assessment.

(e) In consideration of the enormous work which devolved on the petitioners class of servants an assistant Kurnam may be employed for every Village with a beriz of Rs. 4,000 and upwards.

The Labour of the Kurnams has enormously increased according to the new & revised system as was said above, but now again their work has been raised manifold for a simple salary Rupees 6 to 8 which is quite reverse to the Madras 4th Regulation of 1874. The village cess is hoarded up in the Government locks after locks.

November 16th 1896

ஆகவே பிழைகள் தவிர்த்து, உண்மைகள்

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