

# THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINDHI LANGUAGE AND SCRIPT UNDER EARLY ENGLISH ADMINISTRATION

(Based on official correspondence of British officers)



*Muhammad Ahmed Mallah*



**SINDHI LANGUAGE AUTHORITY**

# **THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINDHI LANGUAGE AND SCRIPT UNDER EARLY ENGLISH ADMINISTRATION**

**(Based on official correspondence of British officers)**

*Researched, Compiled & Edited*

By

***Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah***



**SINDHI LANGUAGE AUTHORITY**

**HYDERABAD, SINDH**

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## **THIS BOOK IS DEDICATED TO**

- George Clerk- Governor of Bombay, who issued directives regarding introduction of Sindhi as official language of Sindh
- R.K Pringle- first Commissioner in Sindh, who directed all civil officers in Sindh to pass examination in colloquial Sindhi
- George Stack, who wrote first ever Dictionary in Sindhi language and devoted his life in the research of Sindhi language.
- Richard Burton, the person who recommended Arabic Character for Sindhi
- Bartle Frere , who officially promulgated Sindhi as official language of Sindh, established schools and printed Sindhi Text Books
- B.H. Ellis, who is the man behind revising and regulating Sindhi Alphabet, establishment of Schools and printing of School books.
- Ernest Trump, who returned back Shah Abdul Latif Bhiati to Sindh by publishing it in the first time in history.

***Mukhtiar Ahmed***



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## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah, a research scholar consulted with Sindh Archives Karachi for Archives and Records of the British period regarding his research on the development of Sindhi language and script during first decade of British rule.

The undersigned informed him that a variety of research material is available at Sindh Archives, which is very rare and was established by the then Commissioners of Sindh. Both primary and secondary sources are abundantly available. Apart from original material, copies of Archival collections of other archives like National Archives of Pakistan, India Office Library etc are also available. These archival records are related to the social history and culture of Sindh in particular and sub-continent in general.

Mr. Mallah visited the Archives library for many times for his research. He consulted mainly original Commissioner's records from 1846 to 1857. Besides, he referred Bombay Government gazettes of different years. The required record was correspondence, circulars, directives, official letters, memoranda's, etc. for the development and use of Sindhi language and Script, which was provided to him. I wish him every success in his research work.

**Ravinder L. Jha**  
Director (Research)  
Information & Archives Department  
Government of Sindh



## PUBLISHER'S NOTE

The Sindhi Language Authority has been established in 1990- 91 for teaching, promotion and use of Sindhi Language. It has to coordinate and ensure correct use of Sindhi language in (i) provincial and local bodies records, notifications, manuals and publications, (ii) in educational text books and print, electronic and digital media and (iii) in official documents and lasting public monuments and fixtures like foundation stones, maps, signboards, mileage stones, place names etc. The Authority has to facilitate due adoption of Sindhi language as the language of the competitive examinations. Besides, to undertake production and publication of Dictionaries, Encyclopedia, Reference books, Scientific literature and Periodicals

Sindhi Language Authority since its establishment has done major works and no doubt this work of Mr. Mukhtiar Mallah is a positive and important addition in that sense. Mr. Mukhtiar Mallah is himself an officer of Secretariat Service in Government of Sindh; therefore he knows well historical importance of official correspondence. His approach and experience of official business is evident from the chronological sequence of this book. Through this book, we come to know under what circumstances the English rulers introduced Sindhi as an official language of the province and why did they realize to establish schools and to enforce the Sindhi Language medium for teaching purpose. How they started standard Arabic - Sindhi for writing system and how 52 letters were regulated by the expert committee for official recognized alphabet. This book tells us history of printing and publication of Sindhi Text books. The source of this book is original hand written documents by British officers.

This is a reference book and an authentic document and an evident of importance of official correspondence in Sindhi Language, and will open new avenue of research work regarding use of Sindhi Language and its importance in good governance of Sindh province

**Prof. Dr. Abdul Ghafoor Memon**  
Chairman

24 February, 2017  
Hyderabad, Sindh



## Foreword

Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah is a young, energetic researcher focusing the cultural history of Sindh with reference to linguistic dimensions of the public policy under the colonial British hegemonic Administration. He has been exploring about the eminent benefactors of the Indus valley, mostly of Anglo European origin who rediscovered the rich heritage of an ancient civilization. Indisputably Sindhi is one of the most pristine and old languages of India. Tariq Rahman in his numerous research papers asserts it was the first language the Arabs came in contact with when they landed in the sub-continent. Al Beruni as reported by Edward C. Sachu in 'Alberuni's India', states in India other alphabets are the Malwari, used in Malwashau, in Southern Sindh, towards the seacoast, the Saindhava, used in Bahamamwa or Alamnsura. Dr. N.A Baloch in his writings maintain that this was the Arabic Sindhi script, the Sindhized Arabic script or the truly Sindhi script. On the basis of indirect evidence, it may be presumed that the graphemes for the more typical Sindhi phonemes were divided by adding dots to the corresponding Arabic letters. So much this is for the state of Sindhi language in pre British colonial era. The book compiled, edited and researched by Mukhtiar Ahmed covers the colonial period of this unhappy valley (Richard Burton). It is ambitiously called The Development of Sindhi Language and Script under early English Administration. It is based on official correspondence of British officers. Thus the sources are invariably putatively original primary evidence and references.

The compiler researcher acknowledges his debt of gratitude while dedicating his voluminous labour of love to the dramatis personae of the Sindhi language saga. They commence with George Clerk, Governor of Bombay, who first issued directives regarding introduction of Sindhi as official language of Sindh, to German missionary and Orientalist- Dr. Trumpp, who brought out the first edition of Shah jo Risalo from Leipzig and internationalized Sindhi. In between he places R.K. Pringle, the first Commissioner in Sindh who directed all civil servants posted in Sindh to qualify examination in vernacular Sindhi. He mentions George Stack who wrote the first ever Dictionary of Sindhi language and devoted himself to a lifelong research into the intricacies of the native language. World renowned polyglot explorer and the Renaissance man Richard Burton get a justifiable pride of place that finally decided the present script and clinched the issue by preferring Arabic alphabetic characters over Sanskritized Dewnagri. Bartle Frere is another hero and benefactor, who as Commissioner in Sindh promulgated Sindhi as the official language, established vernacular schools and got text books printed in the language. B.H. Ellis is remembered as the real persona behind revising Sindhi alphabet, establishing vernacular schools and printing of text books in colloquial Sindhi.

The compendium is divided into eight parts, starting with details about the efforts pertaining to the introduction of Sindhi as language for office business, and examination of civil officers in colloquial Sindhi. The narrative of sustained journey regarding approval of a standard character for Sindhi is rivetingly engaging for the contemporary reader of Sindhology. Likewise the story of endeavours to establish Sindhi vernacular schools and printing and publication of

books is indeed informatively inspirational for history buffs. The last three chapters comprise Reports, Memos and Circulars. What an amazing episodic odyssey of the language during the times of the British Raj and lo and behold its climb down in our days of post-colonial self-governance. Who were the real movers and shakers in the English period and what they did to elevate Sindhi to the status it deserved. It is our chronological cultural diary conscientiously preserved here for us and for our posterity. An effort with commendation in an era when history is mostly an ocular pastime, due to digitalization and show business. The book is a timely reminder of a golden era when Sindhi was reborn under an empathic learned administration which was inquisitively alive, intellectually robust and morally upright, unbiased, liberal, temperate and compassionate towards the people's ethos and ethnic identity, yet colonial.

When Sindh was conquered by the British in 1843, Persian was the official and court language. This was so in the rest of India. As a matter of policy inherited from the late East India Company, formulated, articulated and advocated by Lord Macaulay English because of its intellectual and scientific superiority was supposed to replace Persian, Arabic and Sanskrit and the indigenous, native languages were to be encouraged incrementally to play second fiddle to English at the Taluka and district levels. Tariq Rahman in his linguistic research studies reiterates that British took Persian down from its high pedestal and put English in its place and simultaneously promoted Sindhi in Arabic script. Resultantly Sindhi was in immense demand not only by the British officers as it had replaced Persian as court and official language, being second to English, but brave new policy initiatives were being taken to ensure its optimum and pragmatic implementation by conducting examinations for all officers who would serve in the capital cities and mofussils. The present volume is chronicles the saga of development of Sindhi language and script under early English administration. The evidentiary material is indubitably archival and worth perusing by serious students of social linguistics and literary theory. The views of the then Governor of Bombay Presidency about the importance of Sindhi are relevant and scholarly. Sindh was made a part of Bombay Presidency as Charles Napier had arrived from Poona cantonment, near to Bombay. Thus we had to remain there till 1935 when Sindh was declared a separate Province. The learned Governor George Clerk states that Sindhi is a language perfectly distinct from any spoken in India. It is used with many varieties, from the northern boundary of Kathiawar as far north as Bhawalpur, and extends from the hills to the west to the desert which separates Sindh from the east portion of the Indian peninsula. These views are taken from Report of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde, with the appendices and reports of Mr. Pringle and Mr. Frere, edited by James C. Mechvill, August 10, 1854. This was just a specimen of the archival documented first hand source material discovered by our present day indefatigable compiler Mr. Mukhtiar Ahmed. What follows this report are series of reports on education in Sindh by Captain Rathborne, Major Goldney, Captain Preedy, Captain Young, Captain Anderson, all magistrates and judge advocates general at various districts. An interesting monumental document reproduced is the correspondence of Captain George Stack regarding his Dictionary English and Sindhi and Grammar of Sindhi language. Of historical interest and relevance is a letter from Commissioner in Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 1848, informing that officers are offering themselves for examination in Sindhi language. This compendium is a veritable fountainhead of sources and references. Hitherto buried deep down the basement of Antiquity department now merged in Culture department. How our

researcher has laid his hands on such a treasure trove is indeed an achievement of no mean significance! He has encapsulated a momentous period of Sindh's recent past which would have vanished from contemporary consciousness. For the historians of British administration in Sindh a perusal of the directives of Governor of Bombay for introducing Sindhi as language for official business will be quite rewarding. It is titled Minutes of Sir George Clerk, dated 24th April 1848. It commences with the resolve: "We should introduce the language of the country namely Sindhee as the medium of official intercourse. I do not see in what way our revenue and judicial officers (however their offices and courts may be constituted) can work effectually through a foreign medium of communication, such as Persian or English. A period of 18 months should therefore be allowed to the officers in civil employ to qualify themselves for an examination in the Sindhee language".

The Governor also expressed trust that their doing so would be facilitated by the publication of the dictionary and grammar which he had proposed. Lt. Stack should be allowed to print. He speaks about the recommendation of the Commissioner in Sindh which emphasized that early measures should be adopted for extending the same encouragement on the part of Government to education, as in our other provinces. The Governor concurred that though it was no doubt judicious, but it were premature to take any measure for forming educational establishments before their own European administrators had obtained competent knowledge of the language of the country and before they had trained up persons fitted to impart knowledge in the vernacular tongue. This was a clear and unambiguous policy statement coming from the highest authority. It conspicuously outlined the future of Sindhi in the days to come under the colonial administration.

The most seminal decision affecting the survival and growth of Sindhi language and its Arabicized script was taken by a committee of experts which could not turn down cogent arguments of Richard Burton, a polymath and leading anthropologist of the Victorian Age. The compendium has cited it from Burton's landmark book Scinde and Races that inhabit the Valley of Indus, circa 1851.

Let us take a sneak look at what transpired in the battle of scripts. Burton concludes as follows: "That all the literature of the country has been for ages written in this hand. All educated Moslems are able to read it and most of them to write it. Although the Hindoo Amils throughout Scinde are at present unable to read it, their knowledge of the Nastalik or Persian hand would render the difficulty of learning it nugatory. It must be recollected that religious bigotry formerly forbade any infidel to open a book written in the same character as the Koran. It converts itself with great facility into a running hand sufficiently rapid for all practical purposes. The epistolary correspondence of the Arabs is a sufficient proof of this".

Most interesting and logically positive is the dialectics in favour of Arabic script Naskh and against Persian Nastalik. It is worth reiteration for the benefit of those who favour Urdu script at the expense of Sindhi alphabet. Burton vehemently states: "Such are the reasons for preferring the Naskhi character; on the other hand, it may be argued that the Nastalik has the one great advantage of being known to every writer in the Province, that it has been successfully

• adapted to Hindostanee and Panjabee, and therefore might be made equally useful in Scindee. The chief objection to it is that however practicable for Parwanahs, Arzis, Hukms and other official papers, it partakes too much of character of stenography to suit the language we are considering. The dialect of Scindee is so complicated in sound, construction and number of vowels, that, as is proved by the practice of the people, a more complete alphabet is required for it. Any Scindee scholar may observe that the best educated native will find considerable difficulty in reading out the vernacular hemistiches and tetrastichs written in Nastalik, which are frequently introduced by authors into religious and metaphysical works composed in Persian. Whether habit and education would or would not do away with a considerable portion of this difficulty, is a consideration which I leave to the profound practical linguist. "Burton was an eminent polyglot and linguist par excellence of his times and climes."

Such is the intriguing narrative behind the introduction of the present Naskh Arabic script of Sindhi language. Some disgruntled Devnagarist I met at British Library called it an arbitrary diktat, but their reasoning is invariably couched in saffronized emotive terms. Burton was adept in Sanskrit and Hindi, besides other native North Indian tongues and translated "Kamasutra" from the original Sanskrit. No doubt his first love was Arabic and Middle Eastern civilization as manifested from his classic translations of "Alif Laila". "Arabian Nights" is a grand exotic relic of the Victorian Age, in volumes much treasured today as bibliophile's hidden delight. A marvelous what follows Richard Burton's report here is the report of Captain Stack, proposing that Khudawadi character may be adopted for Sindhi. It is dated 8<sup>th</sup> August, 1848. At a divergent angle one finds Lt. A.F. Arthur's report, dated June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1848, suggesting that Persian character may be adopted for Sindhi. Commissioner in Sindhi, Mr. Pringle kept on reminding the Governor of Bombay vide his communications in his letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> April, 1848, he proposed that all officials, Europeans and natives should qualify themselves in the Scindee language as thus written in one year. Minutes of Lord Falkland, dated 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1849 find fault with Richard Burton's recommendation and says that the case for Arabic alphabet is weaker and he does not agree with Burton on the disadvantages of the Khudawadi. There appears some confusion over merits of Burton's prescription and resistance to it by Khudawadi zealots. This is indicated from a letter from Secretary to Government in Bombay to Commissioner in Sindhi, dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 1850 expressing regret for not implementation of proper writing system in the absence of Stack and Burton. Same state of affairs is reflected in many Collectors letters addressed to Commissioner seeking guidance for alphabet and books to be used for Sindhi. Significantly in the plethora of official letters about qualifying Sindhi language a letter from Commissioner in Sindhi to Governor of Bombay, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May is important. It furnishes vital information about officers who have passed in colloquial Sindhi language and highlights issues pertaining to examinations. The compendium minutely records the routine correspondence of those years Sindhi language had taken roots in Collectors, darbar halls and Sessions courts of English Raj amidst confusion about suitability of form of characters and passion to adhere to ones religio-ethnic heritage. Sindhi had come out of woods of oblivion and had started walking on the fertile fields of educational advancement.

Chapter on printing and publication of Sindhi text and school books gives graphic details about endeavours of civil servants in this regard. A letter from Commissioner in Sindhi to

Governor Bombay and President in Council, dated 22nd December 1854 informs him that "Esops Fables" and "History of India" have been published. It says a Scindee version of Esop's Fables by Mr. B.H. Ellis and a History of India (from the Hindustanee) by Moonshee Ghulam Ali are now being lithographed, and these work be added to "Hikayat-oos-Salheen" in the Scindee language. Likewise mention is made to printing and publishing of Arithmetic (Lekhay ji peerh) by Kandass and Nandee Ram. Indeed a remarkable Preface by a great lover of Sindhi language Mr. B.H. Ellis is found in the compendium. This is titled Preface on the Sindhi and English Dictionary of George Stack. He seems to disagree with Stack in his choice of Dewnagri script and states had he been required to decide the point, he did not think, should have adopted the same character, but it was obviously better to act and do something which might be useful to large class of students, than to talk and wait for the termination of an apparently interminable controversy to settle. One of the best historical papers in the volume is indubitably the much celebrated report by B.H. Ellis on Education in Sindh. It is submitted by him as Assistant Commissioner to H.B.E. Frere, Commissioner in Sindh. It is dated December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1854.

Equally pertinent for us is the time honoured paper by Colonel F.J. Goldsmid on the preservation of National Literature in the East. He starts with his fascination with the amorously tragic tale of Sasui and Punho of Shah Latif, immortalized by Burton's translation. He believes that Arabic Sindhi script is now a fait accompli and both the sides are culturally adapted to this change. He thinks that a country to preserve its nationality should preserve its language and literature, and when tangible vestiges of the separate existence of both remain, the revival of one should be simultaneous, if possible, with that of the other. In the similar spirit is the report of Captain Lester, Educational Inspector of Sindh Division submitted to Commissioner in Sindh in 1855. Even though an exhaustive report, he strangely and euphemistically concludes it by saying such is a brief and imperfect sketch of my work in Sindh.

I am afraid our young civil servant researcher, compiler may also show the same modicum of Sindhian humility and exclaim that his present work is just a tip of the documental iceberg, and much more remains to be unearthed. Mukhtiar Mallah has a lengthy bibliography to believe his putative under statement. He has left no stone unturned to promote and, preserve the valuable record of an important era and make it accessible to the present generation of readers who are fast losing interest in studies archaeological, historiographical and cultural. Sky is the limit, I will dare say, and present copious compendium is our magic casement to rediscovery of Sindh. We need to peep into our past as it is fraught with momentous events and benefactors we hardly know and indeed need to know, for a better, rather brighter future. Kudos to Mr. Mukhtiar for this adventure in passion and labour of love. We expect more substantive research from our academia on British period of Sindh.

*Gul Muhammad Umarani*

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Mr. Gul Muhammad Umarani is a retired Secretary to Government of Sindh. Besides, he is a research scholar- The Editor



## EDITOR'S NOTE

Sindhi is one of the oldest languages of the World. Even the oldest civilization of Moen Jo Daro presents evidence that a language in this soil was not only spoken but was written and documented on seals and papers. Max Muller has rightly remarked that "when Aryans came to down into Sindh they found people living on either sides of River Indus, speaking a language which was different and older than the both Zend and Sanskrit. That was roughly about 4,500 years back"<sup>1</sup>. However, the linguists of Sindh and abroad have yet not come on one point at the origin of Sindhi language but all of them are agreed on its oldness and genuineness.

2. Sindhi language has remained the subject of world renowned historians and linguists since centuries. From sacred books of Hindu to Greek historians, from Persians to Indians, from European Orientals to Asian language scholars, a number of books on the history of Sindh and Sindhi language have been written and are available on the record. But in all of them, the contribution of British Orientals is more than any other nations.

3. Since very beginning, English traders wanted to have a commercial relations with Sindh. One of the most populated cities at that time was Thatta, which was also the hub of trade activities. East India Company had established a factory in Thatta in 1615. This was the first step, which paved the way for them to annex Sindh. However, when East India Company became a political power in India, it again opened its factories in Thatta and Karachi in the year 1799. But Sindhi merchants opposed the establishment of factories in Sindh; the local rulers closed them in 1800. During those activities, English armed and civil officers visited Sindh frequently, and they prepared reports on the geography, history, economy, political conditions, and religious conditions, river Indus, Sindhi Language and Literature and on many other subjects. In this regard, I have already authored a book "Magrabi Sindh Shanas" (European Sindhologists). In that book, I have tried to find out surveys, reports and books written by European Orientals on Sindh. Those reports and surveys are quite research based and a work on personal experiences and observations of the foreign visitors.

4. Before annexation by English, Talpur Ameers were rulers of Sindh. Persian was the official language of Sindh. Historically speaking, Persian has remained ruling language of Sindh since many centuries. Sindhi language was even neglected during earlier periods of Arabs, Soomras, Samas, Argouns, Turkhans and Kalhoras. Medium of instructions in schools was also given in Arabic and Persian, however, Sindhi poets and writers preferred in Sindhi in every period and era, who so ever was ruler of Sindh. Despite negligence and dis-ownership from ruling classes, Sindhi writers and poets remained guardians of the language. Those poets and writers were interpreter of common people's sorrows, sufferings, joys and pleasures. No proper schooling system was established in Sindh in those periods. However, a number of Madersas were working in every corner of Sindh, which were run by scholars and philanthropists on

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<sup>1</sup> Max Muller: "The Biography of Languages", 1890

individual basis. In most of the cases, those institutions were working without patronage of Government funding. Those Akhunds\* had a big contribution in the development of Sindhi language, literature, alphabet and written manuscripts. When English troops conquered Sindh; there were no books available in Sindhi language. The first ever Grammar of Sindhi language was written by William Henry Wathen (1802-1866). He published his "A Grammar of Sindhi Language" in 1836. Afterwards, James Princep, with special reference to Wathen's Grammar wrote a detailed treatise on Sindhi Grammar. Edward Estiwick wrote "A Vocabulary of Sindhi language" in 1843. Likewise, many other officers also worked in Sindhi language. After annexation, George Shirt, Ernest Trumpp, George Grierson, Ralph Lily Turner, John Beams and some other Europeans were great scholars of Sindhi language.<sup>1</sup>

5. In 1843, Charles Napier was appointed as Governor of Sindh. He ruled with iron hand, but he continued Persian as official language in the country. However, he categorically advised his officers not to interfere in Native language. At the first, he made Hyderabad his headquarter but afterwards he transferred it to Karachi. He divided Sindh into three Collectorates for revenue and magisterial purpose. Those were: Karachi, Hyderabad and Shikarpur. However, in 1847, Napier retired from Government service, hence Sindh was made province of Bombay Presidency under superintendence of Chief Commissioner. Sindh remained with Bombay Presidency from 1847 to 1936. The Britishers ruled over Sindh from 1843 to 1947, but the first decade of their Government was very important period with regard to introduction of Sindhi as official language of the country, preparation of existing Sindhi Alphabet and establishment of schools.

## 6. SOURCES OF THIS BOOK:

I remember four to five years back, I was working on my book "A Brief History of Sindhi Script", for that book I remained in search of new references and matter. My search brought me in Sindh Archives Library. In the library, I found out some files regarding Sindhi Script by British officers. But the matter was not readable. However, I requested the authorities for photocopies of the matter and they agreed with my request. But I could not fully benefit from that matter, because, it was very difficult to get through the matter. However, I completed my research, which was finally published by Sindhi Language Authority in 2013. Besides, I handed over the Archives files to the Authority for making arrangements for its printing and further search of the matter. Meanwhile, I searched further original sources and documents on Sindhi language and Script. As I had collected many more material on the subject. The officers of the Authority were very kind to and they approved my proposal and recommended my book for printing. In the research of this book, I have gone through many sources, which are given here briefly:

### 1. Sindh Archives Library

The main source of this book is the files obtained from Sindh Archives Library Karachi.

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\* Akhund means a teacher

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah : "Magrabi Sindh Shanas", Culture Department. Karachi ,2013

This Library is working under administration of Information Department; Government of Sindh. A variety of research material is available at Sindh Archives. These archival records are related to the social history and culture of Sindh in particular and sub continent in general. The main collection of this archive is Commissioner's records. Government record mainly from 1820 to 1936 has been preserved here. The commissioner office records dates back to early 19<sup>th</sup> century covering the period from 1820 to 1935. These records contain correspondence, circulars, directives, memoranda's, exchange of notes, treaties, etc between the concerned agencies, i.e. President and Governor in Council, Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay, the Government of India. Nobody can research properly on British Period, if he does not visit this library. I consulted the material available here on my required subject. I feel myself fortunate enough because, I found out many rare files and other related material from this library. Besides, some rare material has been obtained from National Documentation Centre (NDC), located in Islamabad, Cabinet Division. The Records include original source materials on Sindh and many other connected areas.

## **II. The Periodicals of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century**

The periodicals including Journals and Gazettes published during 19<sup>th</sup> century give a documentary account on the current subject. Journal of Asiatic Society remained very helping. In this regard, I would like to share the first chapter especially "Sindhi Language and early British officers" has been taken from various journals. Last chapter of the book, which is story a folk tale about Sassi Punhoo is also taken from a Journal. Besides, references of many Notifications have been derived from Bombay Annual Gazettes, Sindh Gazettes, etc have also been given in this book.

## **III. Books and Ph.D Thesis:**

A number of research books and Ph.D thesis have been referred for seeking original source material for this book. Let me admit here, I could not find out the original reports of Captain George Stack and Lt. Arthur. However, those original references are available at different places in segments. Many of them have been used in Ph.D Thesis and many writers have also used those references while working in Indian Office Library in London. On the basis of those reports, references, I have prepared those untraceable; however some deviations and omissions are expected.

## **IV. Internet Websites and E-Books:**

This is an age of Science and technology. Computer has become a largest library and Archive for all kinds books and journals. Many reports, surveys conducted by British officers are already available on different websites. However, I fully advantaged from reports and other sources, which are available on internet.

## **V. Personal Guidance from Scholars:**

For further clarification and guidance, I have consulted many renowned scholars, who have sufficient knowledge of this subject. In this regard, Mr. Gul Muhammad Umrani, a retired Secretary to Government of Sindh, Mr. Nafees Ahmed Nashad, ex-editor of quarterly Mehran, Dr. Aftab Abro, a renowned linguist and holding Ph.D in the Sindhi Script, Mr. Taj Joyo, ex-Sectary of Sindhi Language Authority, Dr. Anwar Figar Hakro, Chairman of Sindhi Department, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, Dr. Mohammad Ali Manjhi, ex Director General of Culture and many others were consulted for guidance.

## **7. DIFFICULTIES WHILE WORKING ON THIS ASSIGNMENT**

### **I. Quality of Original Source:**

It was a very difficult assignment of my life. When, I proceeded in the search of files from Archives Library, it was very difficult to find out the files of my assignment, because, there is no proper cataloguing available in accordance with matter. The files are almost 170 to 175 years old, suffering from fungi, dust and being infected. Due to long period, the files have not remained legible, because hand written matter has been disappeared from many places. The quality of the paper has deteriorated, with simple touch pages of the files could break and being torn. The files were not in position for even photocopies or scanning.

### **II. Composing of the Matter:**

Another issue was composing of the matter. Because, the matter was hand written, most of the pages have not remained clear and legible. For composing, I consulted many professional compositors but all of them refused after having gone through the matter. The main issue of the matter was also its classical language. Written style of British officers was very difficult and typical. But with the grace of Almighty Allah, I took that task in my own hand and slowly and gradually accomplished it successfully.

### **III. Spellings of Names:**

It may be noted here that the spellings of people, cities, towns, books and others used by British Officers have now been changed. In this regard, in order to preserve originality of the text, I have maintained same spelling written by British officers. A table of such spellings is given here under for kind perusal of the readers:

Spelling used by British officers	Spelling non in use
Scinde/ Sind/Scind	Sindh
Scindee/ Scindhee/ Sindi	Sindhi
Guzratee	Gujrati
Hindoostanee	Hindustani
Oordoo	Urdu
Moonshee	Munshi
Goolam Ally	Ghulam Ali
Ooda Ram	Udha Ram
Nandeeram	Nandi Ram
Kurrachee	Karachi
Shikapoore	Shikarpur
Tatta	Thatta
Mehur	Mehar
Gownspooree	Ghouspur
Roree	Rohri
Muhamad Khan's Tanda	Tando Muhammad Khan
Tarooshah	Tharu Shah
Oobaura	Obaro
Noushera	Noshero Feroze
Jhrruke	Jhirk

## VI. Sequence of the Book:

Even though the book has been divided in different chapters on the basis of subjects, for example printing and publication of books, examination of officers, issue of adoption character for Sindhi, issue of Arabic- Sindhi Alphabet and so on. But I have tried to maintain chronological order of the official correspondence. Broadly speaking, the book covers history from 1846 to 1857. However, many other issues beyond that period have also been discussed in the book.

## 8. OFFICIAL SYSTEM AND OFFICIAL TERMS USED IN THIS BOOK:

This book is a compilation with necessary editing of official correspondence of civil officers working in Sindh from 1846 to 1857 regarding introducing Sindhi as official language and present Sindhi script. This book contain information of official letters, reports, circulars, and compliance letters of Government orders from Deputy Collectors to Collectors, from Collectors to Commissioner Sindh and from Commissioner to Government of India in Bombay Presidency. Following are some official terms used in this book:

**Approval:** It is acceptance of the proposal, submitted by subordinate officer/ official to his high

ups. Hence, approval means permission to do something, acceptances of idea, plan, proposal, action. In this book, a number of proposals could be found, which were proposed by Deputy Collectors to Collectors, from Collectors to Commissioner and from commissioner to President of Bombay Presidency. The approval was given by higher authority in every case.

**Circular:** A Circular may refer to forms of communication used in conveying information and directives within an organization, office, Department etc. It is sometimes called office instructions. In this book, there are many circular, for example from the Commissioner in Sindh to Collectors and Magistrates, dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1848 for knowing the suitable character for Sindh Language, from the Commissioner in Sindh to Head of Departments and Collector, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1848, calling information regarding officers' examination in Sindh language. Circular, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851, to all heads of civil departments, with direction to furnish comments/ views on draft rules for examination of deputies in colloquial Sindh, from Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors, directing them to give their opinion, as to what attempts have been made by Government to education in Sindh province.

**Committee:** A committee is a body of two or more persons officially delegated to perform a function, such as investigating, considering, reporting, or acting on a matter. Committees may have different functions and the type of work that each committee does would depend on the type of organization and its needs. From the perusal of this book, we come to know that many committees were formed for examination of civil and military officers working in Sindh. A high level committee of Sindh scholars was also established for fixing of Sindh orthography.

**Letter:** A letter is a written correspondence request from one office to containing information. The Official business is being carried out with different kinds of letters. This book is completely based on official letters. These letters are official correspondence among deputy collectors, collectors, commissioners, secretaries, and many others.

**Meeting:** A meeting is a gathering of two or more people that has been convened for the purpose of achieving a common goal through verbal interaction, such as sharing information or reaching agreement. This book shows that during first decade of their rule British officers held a number of meetings for the examination of officers in Sindh, proposal on Sindh Script, establishment of schools, publication of text books and so on. The most important minutes are Minutes of Sir George Clerk, dated 24th April 1848.

**Minutes:** Minutes are informally, notes, and the instant written record of a meeting or hearing. They typically describe the events of the meeting and may include a list of attendees, a statement of the issues considered by the participants, and related responses or decisions for the issues.

**Memorandum:** A memorandum was from the Latin verbal phrase *memorandum est*, the gerundive form of the verb *memoro*, "to mention, call to mind, recount, relate", which means "It must be remembered (that)". In this book, most of memorandums have been used for the

correspondence of book printings.

**Nota bene** means "note well". Often abbreviated as "N.B.", "N.b." or "n.b." In present-day English, it is used, particularly in legal papers, to draw the attention of the reader to a certain (side) aspect or detail of the subject on hand, translating it as "pay attention" or "take notice".

**Notification:** A notification means a formal announcement, some thing that notifies a notice. In this book, most of notifications are about officer's passing in the examination of Sindhi language.

**Report:** A report is an informational work made with the specific intention of relaying information or recounting certain events in a widely presentable form. In this book one can find many reports on Sindhi language by British officers, for example Report of Lt. Richard Burton on adoption of Arabic Character for Sindhi Language, Captain Stack's report, wherein he is suggesting therein that Khudawadi character may be adopted for Sindhi Language, Reports of Bartle Frere on implementation of Sindhi language in official business.

**Rules:** Rules are the guiding principles for the regulation governing conduct, action, procedure, arrangement, etc. There are many kinds of rules but in this book we come to across with Rules regarding the Qualification Required for Officers in Civil employment for Colloquial Sindhi and with same related issues.

## 9. OFFICERS OF BOMBAY PRESIDENCY AND SINDHI LANGUAGE

- I. The Bombay Presidency\* remained administrative head quarter of Sindh from 1847 to 1936. With the retirement of Charles Napier in 1847, and due to various other reasons, Sindh became part of Bombay and it remained till 1936, when Sindh was given status of a separate province. During 90 years old Commissionarate Period of Sindh as many as thirty (30) Commissioners were appointed for different tenures of office.<sup>1</sup>
- II. The annexation with Bombay Presidency proved very harmful for Sindh on administrative reasons. All necessary directives were issued from Bombay. For simple approvals, the cases were referred to Bombay Government. So far the correspondence on the issue of Sindhi language and Script is concerned, following Presidents and Secretaries of Bombay worked with the Commissioners of Sindh:

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\* The Bombay Presidency, also known as the Bombay Province and Bombay had remained an administration of British India. Headquartered in the city of Bombay Sindh was annexed by the Company in 1817 after defeating the Talpur dynasty in the Battle of Hyderabad and was made part of the Bombay Presidency. The districts and provinces of the presidency were directly under British rule, while the internal administration of the native or princely states was in the hands of local rulers. The presidency, however, managed the defence of princely states and British relations with them through political agencies. The Bombay Presidency along with the Bengal Presidency and Madras Presidency were the three major centres of British power.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Lakho: "Bombay University and Sindhi Language - Historical Perspective", Sindhological Studies, Institute of Sindhology, University of Sindh, Jamshoro, 2006

### Sir George Russell Clerk (1800-1889)



Sir George Russell Clerk was a British civil servant in India. Mr. Clerk had studied at Haileybury in Hertfordshire, being posted to Bengal as a writer in 1817. He remained Governor of Bombay from 1848 to 1850. He remained Governor of Bombay for a second time from 11 May 1860 to 24 April 1862. During his first tenure, Mr. R.K Pringle was Commissioner in Sindh.<sup>1</sup> Mr Clerk issued directive regarding introduction of Sindhi as official language of Sindh. His most of the correspondence with the authorities of Sindh was published by East India: Scinde: A Copy "of Report of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde; with the Appendices thereto, and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same subject, not already before Parliament", edited by James C. Melvill on 10<sup>th</sup> August 1854.



### Viscount Falkland (1803 -1884)

Lucius Bentinck Cary Viscount Falkland was a British colonial administrator. Falkland was the son of Charles John Cary, 9th Viscount Falkland. Mr.Falkland was a Scottish reformer. Falkland became Governor of Nova Scotia in 1840. In 1848 he was appointed Governor of Bombay, in that post he remained until 1853. He returned to England the same year and later served as a magistrate in Yorkshire.<sup>2</sup> During his period, R.K Pringle was Commissioner in Sindh, who was replaced by Bartle Frere. Lord Falkland made a big correspondence on the issues of Sindh. So far the matter of character for Sindhi is concerned, he supported Khudawadi script for Sindhi. In this regard, his minutes are available in this book



### Lord Elphinstone Elphinstone (1807 - 1860)

Lord Elphinstone Elphinstone was a Scottish soldier, politician and colonial administrator. In 1845 and in 1847 he was appointed by Lord John Russell to be a Lord in waiting to the queen, an office which he held until 1852, and again under Lord Aberdeen's administration from January to October 1853, when he was appointed Governor of Bombay.<sup>3</sup> During his Governorship, the Indian Rebellion of 1857 broke out. Many important decisions were taken by him regarding Sindhi language and establishment of schools during his Governorship.

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<sup>1</sup> Wikipedia -online Encyclopedia

<sup>2</sup> Wikipedia -online Encyclopedia

<sup>3</sup> Ditto

## J. G. Lumsden

He was Secretary to Government of Bombay Presidency for General Department. He on behalf of Governor in Council issued many letters to the Commissioner of Sindh. He being a Secretary to Governor, approval of many important decisions regarding Sindhi language and establishment of schools were forwarded by him.

## Captain W. Hart

Captain S.V. William Hart, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry was Secretary to Government in Bombay Presidency. He on behalf of Governor in Council issued many letters to the Commissioner of Sindh. He had also served in Sindh before annexation.

## 10. OFFICERS WORKING IN CIVIL DEPARTMENTS (1847 TO 1855)

In 1847, Sindh was made under administration of Bombay Presidency. Chief Commissioner was made head of the province. There were three Collectorates, i.e. Karachi, Hyderabad and Shikarpur. Under Collectorate, there was Deputy Collectorate in many talukas. Collectors had power of Magistrates and deputy collectors had powers of deputy magistrates. Commissioner in Sindh had two Assistant Commissioners; the most senior of them was incharge of Education Department. Besides, Police, Costum, Post office, Survey and many other Departments were also working with a separate head office but all of them were reporting to Commissioner. However, with the passage of time new districts and departments were also established. A list of officers working during 1847 to 1857 is given below<sup>1</sup>:

NAMES OF OFFICERS	Station	Capacity
R.K. Pringle	Karachi	Commissioner in Sindh
Bartle Frere	Karachi	Commissioner in Sindh
B.H. Ellis	Karachi	Assistant Commissioner in Sindh
Captain W. Brown, 12 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Secretary to Government of Sindh
W. J. Surtees, Esq Karachi	Karachi	Assistant Secretary to Government of Sindh.
Assistant Surgeon Allender, Bombay Army	Karachi	In medical charge of Civil establishment
Lieutenant Forbes, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Regiment Bombay Light Cavalry	Khairpur	Resident at the Court of Meer Ali Murad Talpur

<sup>1</sup> Main source of this list is "Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde; with the appendices thereto, and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same Subject, not already before Parliament" Edited by James C. Meelwill on 10th August 1854- The Editor

NAMES OF OFFICERS	Station	Capacity
Lieutenant Stanley, Fifth Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Treasurer and post master in Sindh
<b>Judge Advocate Department</b>		
Captain Young, 50 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bengal Army	Karachi	Judge General Advocate Civil General Department.
Lieutenant Kirly, Her Majesty's 86 <sup>th</sup> Regiment	Shikarpur	Deputy Judge Advocate-general, Civil Department
Captain Anderson, 17 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry.	Hyderabad	Ditto
<b>Police Department</b>		
Captain E. C. Marston, Captain 25 <sup>th</sup> Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Captain of Police
Captain E. Baynes, 20 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Hyderabad	Ditto
Lieutenant Robert Romer Younghusband, 8 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Shikarpur	Ditto
Lieutenant H Hodgson, 17 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Acting Lieutenant of Police
<b>SURVEY DEPARTMENT</b>		
Major Walter Scott, Bombay Engineers	Karachi	Superintendent of Canals and forests
Lieutenant J. D. Campbell, Bengal Engineers	Karachi	1st class executive Engineers Canal officer
Lieutenant Perie, Bombay Engineers	Karachi	Ditto
Lieutenant Donsey, Bombay Engineers	Karachi	Engineers
Lieutenant Delisle, Bombay Engineers	Karachi	2nd class executive canal officer
Lieutenant Lambert, 1 <sup>st</sup> Bombay Engineers	Karachi	Ditto
Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Ditto
Lieutenant Jeschemaker, Artillery	Karachi	Ditto
Lieutenant Creagh, 19 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry.	Karachi	Ditto
Lieutenant Burton, 18 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Ditto

NAMES OF OFFICERS	Station	Capacity
<b>Karachi Collectorate</b>		
Captain Preedy, 25 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Karachi	Collector and Magistrate
Captain T. R. Stewart, 8 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Ghorabari	Deputy collector
Captain J. H Partridge, 18th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry		Deputy collector
Lieutenant Dunsterville, 4 <sup>th</sup> Rifles Native Infantry.	Karachi	Deputy collector
Lieutenant Phillips, 1 <sup>st</sup> B.H.E Regiment Fusileers	Sehwan	Deputy collector
<b>Hyderabad Collectorate</b>		
Captain Rathborne, 24 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Hyderabad	Collector and Magistrate
Lieutenant G. Stack, 24 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Hyderabad	Deputy collector
Lieutenant Jameson, 8 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry.	Mirpur Khas	Ditto
Lieutenant Fenning, 21 <sup>st</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry	Tando Mohammed Khan	Ditto
J. Curling, Esq	Halla	Ditto
Lieutenant w. T. Cole, Esq	Shah Bunder	Ditto
<b>Shikapoore Collectorate</b>		
Major Goldney, 4 <sup>th</sup> , Bengal Army	Shikarpur	Collector and Magistrate
Lieutenant James, 44 <sup>th</sup> , Bengal Army	Sukkur	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Lowfiar	Left Bank	Ditto
Arthur Young, Esq	Mehar	Ditto
C. W. Richardson; Esq	Larkana	Ditto
Lieutenant Jarring-ton, 4th, Bengal Army.	Shikapur	Ditto
J. Macleod, Esq	Karachi	Collector of customs
W. Halves, Esq	Karachi	Harbour-master
Assistant Surgeon, Stocks, Bombay Army		Vaccinator
Captain Johnstone	Jherruk	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Giblair Ford	Larkana	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Currie	Mehar	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Wallace	Karachi	Deputy Collector

NAMES OF OFFICERS	Station	Capacity
Lieutenant J. F. Lester	Frontier District	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Suthery	Karachi	Deputy Collector
Major. G. Wood	Karachi	Deputy Collector in charge of Treasury
Lieutenant Hoogkindon	Karachi	Superintendent Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Sambert	Left Bank Hyderabad	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Jameson	Nawabshah	Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Syrhilt		Deputy Collector
Lieutenant Herbert Arthur	Karachi	Lieutenant of Police
Lieutenant Naylor,	Hyderabad	Lieutenant of Police
Lieutenant Perie,	Shikarpur	Acting Lieutenant of Police
<b>Jageer Department</b>		
Lieutenant Pelly		2 <sup>nd</sup> Assistant Commissioner for Jageers

## 11. MAIN CONTRIBUTION OF BRITISH OFFICERS FOR SINDHI LANGUAGE:



**Robert Keith Pringle (1810-1897)**

R.K Pringle was the first Chief Commissioner in Sindh. He obtained his early education from Edinburg High School and Haileybury. In 1820, he joined Civil Services. His father Mr. Pringle belonged to a lower middle class family, but he (R.K. Pringle) reached the post of Chief Secretary. Afterwards, he became member of Bombay Council. At the retirement of Charles Napier, Sindh was annexed with Bombay Presidency and Mr. Pringle was made its first Commissioner. He worked from 1847 to 1850.

He was the man who proposed to the Government of Bombay to declare Sindhi as an official language of the province. He directed all civil officers to pass in examination colloquial Sindhi. He called reports from Collectors on the issue of character for Sindhi language; however, he himself supported the system of George Stack. There is a big role of Mr. Pringle in the development of Sindhi language and even development of Sindh in early years of British Raj. He resigned from his post in 1850.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah: "Magrabi Sindh Shanas", Culture Department, Karachi, 2013, P.136

### Sir Henry Bartle Edward Frere (1815 – 1884)



Sir Henry Bartle Edward Frere, 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet was a British colonial administrator. He had a successful career in India rising to become Governor of Bombay. Frere was born at Clydach House, Clydach, Monmouthshire, the son of Edward Frere, manager of Clydach Ironworks. In Sindh, the energetic and creative Frere initiated one of the most remarkable revolutionary periods of administration seen in the history. Although he was greatly handicapped by economic limitations, Sir Henry Bartle Frere was able to translate his dream into reality. He laid down the structure for modern Sindh and administrative infrastructure for the city of

Karachi. To create economic strength in the province, he constructed Railways, canals, and metallic roads. He founded the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC), made significant improvements to Karachi harbor and initiated the first postal system in subcontinent, The Horse Oak. He paid considerable attention to education. In 1851 he founded the modern Indian postal service. He setup a network of Vernacular Schools, English schools that later adopted throughout subcontinent. He also provided funds and lands to locals to establish educational institutions in Sindh as his firm beliefs were to get change via education. Sir Bartle Frere, as the Commissioner of Sindh issued a decree in 1851, making it compulsory to use Sindhi language in place of Persian. The officers of Sindh were ordered to teach Sindhi compulsorily to enable them to carry on day-to-day work efficiently. Sir Bartle Frere not only gave Sindhi language one standard script but he even published different Sindhi books related to various streams of the literature, which encouraged impetus to Sindhi writers to move quickly with literacy.<sup>1</sup>

### Sir Barrow Herbert Ellis (1823-1887)



He was born in the house of Governor Herbert Ellis, a leading member of the Jewish community. Ellis educated at University College School, London University and capacity for administration, suppressing and Haileybury and went to Bombay in 1843. He served in Sindh from 1851 to 1858, acting for some time as Chief Commissioner during Sir Bartle Frere's absence. He was Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government and Member of Council, Bombay from 1865 to 1870. He himself passed examination of Sindhi language in 1853. In Sindhi language, his proficiency and eligibility was only next to George Stack and Burton. He was the person behind Frere, who worked on Arabic Sindhi character, establishment of schools and printing of text books.<sup>2</sup>

For his role in Sindh, Seth Naomul (1804-1878), writes in his autobiography that "Mr

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah : "Magrabi Sindhi Shanas", Culture Department, Karachi, 2013, P.141

<sup>2</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah : "Magrabi Sindhi Shanas", P.253

Ellis was the Commissioner's Revenue Assistant, a very clever and foresighted gentleman, gifted with a memory of the most admirable. To him Sindh is indebted for its first regularly - written characters, the Arabic- Sindhi. Before his time, the Hindus of Sindh, the trading classes alone, had an alphabet of their own, but this was so imperfect and various and exclusive in point of use that it was deemed necessary to introduce writing characters which should serve general purpose and meet the needs of the majority. To Mr. Ellis is due the honour of having fixed upon and moulded the present Arabic- Sindhi alphabet now so widely used throughout the province. It may be mentioned here that his interest in the cause of education in Sindh did not cease with his labours in the province".<sup>1</sup>

Besides, he took interest in modifying Hindu -Sindhi (so called Banya) character for school education. He prepared a detailed Report on the education of Sindh, which is first report in this regard. In the education of Sindh, he played very important role.

### **Captain George Stack (1821-1853)**

Truly devotee to Sindhi language was Captain George Stack. He was born in London. As soon as English annexed Sindh, he came from India and joined as Deputy Collector of Jageers in Hyderabad under Captain Rathborne. He laid his life for working on Sindhi language. He remained head of the Committee for those who apply to appear before a committee for the examination of colloquial Sindhi. Even Richard Burton appeared before him for the examination of Sindhi and Punjabee. He was highly regarded in Commissioner office as well in Bombay Presidency. He was supporter of Khudawadi character for Sindhi language. He wrote following books:

1. Sindhi Translation of Bible
2. English and Sindhi Dictionary (1849)
3. Grammar of Sindhi Language (1849)
4. Sindhi and English Dictionary (1856)

Both dictionaries and one book of grammar of Sindhi language were written in Dewnagri character. All necessary correspondence regarding publication of his Grammar and both Dictionaries has been made part of this book in detail. His many other reports on Jageers of Sindh are also present in files placed in Archives Library.

### **Richard Francis Burton (1821 - 1890)**

According to Siraj Memon, Burton was a name that attained the status of being a legend of dubious eminence, one of the greatest British traveler, orientalist, diplomat, explorer, archaeologist, linguistic, anthropologist, and author of 19<sup>th</sup> century, authoring 50 books on

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<sup>1</sup> A Forgotten Chapter of Indian History, as Described in the Memoirs of Seth Naomul Hotchand, edited with an Introduction by Sir H. Evan M. James, 1915



subjects like, geography, religion, falconry, military exercises, pilgrimage, superstitions, anthropology, sexual mores of the ancient, the exigencies of empire building, and the substance of British Empire, and his favorite the pornography. He could spoke 29 European, Asian and African languages".<sup>1</sup> He came to Sindh and joined as Assistant Surveyor in Canal Department under W. Scott. He was a person who could understand had most of the native languages of Indian Sub - Continent". He wrote following books on Sindh:

- Sindh or the unhappy valley (1851)
- Sindh and Races that inhabits in valley of Indus (1851)
- Falconry in the valley of Indus (1852)
- Sindh Revisited (1877)

He advocated Arabic character for Sindhi language, which was ultimately supported by Board of Directors of East India Company. His report on Sindhi language and other official correspondence is included in this book.

#### **Captain Preedy (1810-1885)**

Captain Louis William Preedy was born in Worestshire. He had main contribution in annexation of Karachi. He became first Collector of Karachi soon after Napier took over as Governor General of Sindh. His main achievement in Karachi is establishment of Karachi Free School. His wife Lucia was incharge and head mistress of that school. He also established a library in Karachi. He was supporter of modern science in the schools of Sindh. He was qualified in Sindhi language.

#### **Captain A.B Rathborne (1812-1885)**

Captain Anthony Blake Rathborne was from 24<sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry. He was Barrister by profession and was married to Emily Napier, a daughter of Charles Napier. As soon as Hyderabad was made Collectorate, Captain Rathborne was appointed first Collector and Magistrate of Hyderabad. He was writer on political issues. Besides, his many letters were published in book form. He had passed examination in colloquial Sindhi. He encouraged George Stack in writing dictionaries and grammar of Sindhi language. He tried to establish an English School in Hyderabad but his efforts could not succeed.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Siraj: (Foreword) Introduction to Sindh Revisited, Bentley and sons, London, 1877 (New edition published by Culture Department, 1993)

<sup>2</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah: "Magrabi Sindh Shanas", Culture Department, Karachi, 2013, P.194

### **Captain Philip Goldney (1802-1857)**

Captain Goldney was a soldier, second son of Thomas Goldney, esq., of Goldney House, Clifton. He was educated at a private school, and in 1821 went out to Bengal as a cadet of the East India Company's army. He translated various parts of the Bible into the vernaculars; and, when the office of interpreter and quartermaster in his regiment fell vacant, he was elected to the post. In 1844 Goldney, then captain of the 4<sup>th</sup> native infantry was ordered to Sindh, which had recently been annexed. He was appointed first Collector and magistrate of Shikarpur. He passed in colloquial Sindhi. He had good correspondence over the issue of Sindhi language, which is included in this book.

### **Major Goldsmid (1818-1908)**



Sir Frederick John Goldsmid, Major-general was born at Milan. He early showed an aptitude for foreign languages, and after education at an English school in Paris he passed through King's College school to King's College, London. In 1845 he qualified as interpreter in Hindustani; he was appointed interpreter for Persian in 1849 and for Arabic in 1851.<sup>1</sup> He passed examination of Interpreter of Sindhi in January 1853. In 1856; he took up judicial work at Shikarpur. He also served as Assistant Commissioner in Sindh and was in charge of education of the province. He opened many new schools in Sindh and published text books. Seth Naomul in his autobiography writes for him: "but what has left an everlasting impress of his character in Sindh was his fostering care of education, that tender plant which was sown by grew up under the auspicious eye of Sir Bartle Frere and which Major Goldsmid tended and read even long after both Sir Bartle Frere and Mr. Ellis had left the province".<sup>2</sup> He translated tale of Sassi Punhoo into English and published many other books for schools and public interest.

### **John Frederick Lester (1825-1915)**

J. F Lester was born in Baroda. He joined Bombay Army in 1842 and got promotion as Lieutenant 1846; Captain 1856; Major 1862; Lieutenant-Colonel 1868. He was appointed as Deputy Collector and Magistrate at Sukkur in 1850. However, he was posted as a Educational Inspector in Sindh in 1856 and Deccan Division, 1857. He was transferred to Political Department 1873, appointed as Acting Political Superintendent of Savantvadi until his retirement in 1877. He was a very good painter. He served as Educational Inspector in Sindh from 28<sup>th</sup> February 1856 to 1<sup>st</sup> September 1857. His report highlights progress made in education of Sindh during his one year of the assignment.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah : "Magrabi Sindh Sharas", Culture Department, Karachi, 2013

<sup>2</sup> A Forgotten Chapter of Indian History, as Described in the Memoirs of Seth Naomul Hetchand, edited with an Introduction by Sir H. Evan M. James, 1915

<sup>3</sup> Online Encyclopaedia Wikipedia

## **Captain E.P Arthur**

Captain E.P Arthur, 1st L. C. (Lancers) worked in Police Department of Sindh. In the absence of Captain Marston, he was heading Police Department of Sindh. In most of his career, he worked as Interpreter for Persian language. He had passed examination of colloquial Sindhi. He gave his report to the Government that Persian character may be adopted for Sindhi, as it was already in use in Sindh. He published first book in Sindhi under title Hikayat-us-Sualehin. He also published a list of idiomatic sentences in Sindhi, originally written by Dossabhoy. He had also prepared a draft of the alphabet for Sindhi on the basis of Persian letters.

## **Capt. John Bruce Dunsterville (1820-1865)**

Captain Dunsterville, 4<sup>th</sup> Rifles, HEICS, was born in Surat, India. He worked as Deputy Collector in different districts of Sindh. At his promotion, he was posted as Collector of Karachi. He served on that post for five to six years. He had main contribution in printing and publication of text books. He was president of publication committee of text books. He was the person who was given the assignment of transcribing of George Stack's Dictionary' from Dewnagri into Arabic Character. He was also part of the Alphabet Committee in 1853. Besides, he remained president of book award committee, and president book publishing committee. There are many official letters of Dusterville in this book.

## **Lieutenant Dickson**

Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry was well conversant in Sindhi language. He was very much impressed with the work of George Stack. He could write well and speak Sindhi. He had passed examination of Sindhi language. He had proposed that Khudawadi should be adopted for Sindhi writings. He also translated story of "Persian Moonshi" in Sindhi language in Khudawadi and Roman characters. His translation was however published by Lt.E.P Arthur in his book "Idiomatic Sentences of Dosabhoy" in 1852. There are number of letters written by him in this book.



## **Ernest Trumpp (1828 - 1885)**

Dr.Trumpp was German philologist and missionary to Sindh, Punjab, and Khayber Pakhtoonkha. He was born at Ilsfeld in Wurtemberg Province, Germany. He migrated to London due to political upheaval in his country, and he was employed as an assistant librarian at the East India House, headquarters of British East India Company that governed British India in 1858. He came to Sindh.<sup>1</sup> He was writer of many books but following are

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah - "Magrabi Sindh Shanas", Culture Department, Karachi, 2013, P.259

remarkable for Sindhi:

1. The Sindhi Reading Book (London 1858)
2. The Sindhi Pothi (London 1858)
3. Sindhi Literature : The Divanof Abdul Latif Shah , known as Shah Jo Risalo (Liepzig : 1866)
4. Grammar of Sindhi Language : Compared with the Sansakrit -Prakrit and Cognate Indian Vernaculars(Liepzig; 1872)
5. Report on the Sindhi Alphabet, prepared by Mr. Ellis (1854)
6. A research paper: Sindhi as compared to Prakrit and other recent dialects of Sanskrit Origin (1861)
7. A Sindhi -English Dictionary (Incomplete and unpublished)

There aroused a controversy between Mr. Ellis and Dr. Trumpp on the issue of Sindhi Alphabet. He alleged Mr. Ellis for doing badly with the issue of Sindhi Alphabet. All that correspondence is included in this book.

## **12. MAJOR ISSUES DISCUSSED IN THIS BOOK:**

1. State of Education in Sindh before English annexation,
2. British attempt to establish schools in Sindh,
3. Printing of English & Sindhi Dictionary and Grammar of Sindhi by Captain George Stack,
4. Examination of Military and Civil officers in Colloquial Sindhi ,
5. Examination of officers for Interpreter,
6. Introduction of Sindhi as language for official business,
7. Circulars , Memos , Reports and compliance for information on Sindhi language in the offices,
8. Discussion and approval for a Standard Character for Sindhi language,
9. Proposals for Arabic Character,
10. Proposals and charts for Hindoo Sindhi character
11. Progress made in introducing Sindhi as the language of official business
12. Printing and Publication of Sindhi Text Books,
13. Reports on the Education of Sindh

## I. British Attempt to establish Schools in Sindh:

There was no proper schooling system in Sindh; however madersahs system was working in every part of the country, where students could get education in Arabic and Persian languages. Sindhi was ignored at the level of Government authorities. The teacher was known as Akhud. The British officers took interest in Education of Sindh from 1845 during the regime of Charles Napier. As soon as Mr. Pringle took over the office of Commissioner, he called reports from his sub-ordinate officers for knowing the state of education in Sindh. The basic questioners were forwarded to the Collectors of Sindh that:

- Were there any educational institutions in the towns and villages?
- Do the people generally learn to read and write, and what classes most they read most?
- What languages and dialects are spoken; and are they generally understood by all the inhabitants?<sup>1</sup>

The answers of above questions were very pathetic and almost same reply received from all district officers. They all agreed that there was no proper schooling system available in Sindh. Such reports are available in this book. It may be pertinent to say here that there was an English School in Karachi as early as 1841 that is before annexation of British, but that was not opened for the public.

However, the proposal for establishing an English School in Sindh was moved by Captain Rathborne, Collector of Hyderabad. On 27<sup>th</sup> August 1845, he wrote a letter to Government of Sindh with the proposal that the Sardars of Sindh are anxious to give their children education in English. He requested the Government for grant of Rs.3000 per year and he expected that Rs. 6000 to be provided by Sardars for the cause of education. But his proposal despite long deliberations and discussions could not succeed on technical grounds.

The first public school for English education in Sindh was established in 1845. It was "Karachi Free School", later called C.M.S School. That school was founded by Captain Preedy, Collector of Karachi and his wife Lucia Preedy. Captain Preedy also supported as many as schools could be established. However, with the approval of Court of Directors in December 1852, a network of establishment of schools started in Sindh. In 1853, a Sindhi medium school was established at Bundar Road, Karachi\*, under name NJV High School. A list of schools up to 1854 is given in this book from the report of B.H. Ellis.

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from "Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde; with the appendices thereto and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same Subject, not already before Parliament." Edited by James C. Mechwill on 10th August 1854"

## II. The Karachi General Library

In September 1851, within nine months of his arrival in Sindh, Mr. Frere announced the old Station Library and Museum to become the "Kurrachee General Library and Museum". So a library was started. Realizing patronage of high officials most crucial for the institution in its infancy, Mr. Frere requested the Governor of Bombay, to become the patron of the General Library and Museum. His request was responded favorably. Hereafter, a new and prosperous phase of development for the library commenced. Under patronage of the Governor of Bombay, the General library was declared as a public property financially supported through government grants, subscription of the members and municipal support. Basic rules and regulations of that library, as notified by Commissioner are available in this book.

## III. Need for official language:

When the British came to Sindh in power, the first thing that Charles Napier ordered after the battle of Miani was, "Do not interfere into Sindhi language". It is one of the oldest in the world." Soon after, the British officers introduced new modern system of office culture in Sindh and they separated office system from courtyards. Before them, Talpur Ameer were rulers of Sindh; they were ruling the country from different capitals, i.e. Hyderabad, Mirpurkhas and Khairpur. With the advent of British officers in Sindh, the mode of governance was immediately changed. In a few years, they decided to promote Sindhi for official business, especially for Revenue record. Earlier, Government jobs were monopolized by Amils, mainly because of their knowledge for Persian. Muslims were not forward in education. Even most of Munshies were Hindus. Muslims of higher rank did not enter in Government offices. In official transactions, Sindhi people spoke Sindhi, Munshi, who were Amil, interpreted them to the European officers in Hindi/ Urdu/English, and statements were recorded by the munshies in imperfect Persian, whereas for British officers both the Persian and Sindhi were equally foreign languages. Besides, the prevailing official system was very complicated for them. In that situation, the adoption of a uniform and satisfactory language for official business was absolutely essential. They therefore decided to supersede Persian into Sindhi.<sup>1</sup>

This book contains all that correspondence of the officers in civil employment in Sindh who introduced and implemented Sindhi as the official language of the country for official business.

## IV. Introduction of Sindhi as language for official business

The state of the official system has already been discussed above, which compelled the rulers to supersede the Persian and replace it with Sindhi. In the Minutes dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 1848,

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<sup>1</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah, A Brief History of Sindhi Script (in Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2013, p. 97-198

\* Bundar Road is now known as M.A. Jinnah Road.

the Governor of Bombay, George Clerk categorically stated that "Sindhi should be introduced as the language of official business".

This was first time in the known history of Sindh that Sindhi had won status of official language. Even though, the decision was political and in the rulers own interest and facility to deal with the official business but of course that was an attempt of determining that Sindhi was best option for them for official, educational, general, and literary and court purpose in the country. This book tells us how English rulers introduced Sindhi as official language in general and education in particular. It also states how the rulers implemented it all over Sindh including among Muslims and Hindus simultaneously.<sup>3</sup>

## V. Examination of Civil officers in Sindhi language

The British had annexed Sindh for generating revenue for their own people and to extend their power from Sindh to Afghanistan. Sindh was central place for them to central Asian countries. Besides, it was a policy in vogue by the British Government to officers in civil employment must learn and pass examination of native languages in all over the Indian Sub-Continent. In this regard, the proceedings of the examination had been regulated according to the standard laid down in the rules for the examination of officers in the Native Language No. 239 of Page No. 824 of James Code. In 1848, the Bombay Government categorically advised the officers working in Sindh that "a period of 18 months should, therefore, be allowed to the officers in civil employment to qualify themselves for an examination in the Sindhi language". However, that period was extended time to time but no exemption was allowed to any officer of having any rank. All such details are included into this book. In this connection, there were two main examinations for officers in Sindhi language:

- I. Examination in colloquial Sindhi
- II. Examination for Interpreter

So far the course of the examination is concerned; following areas of the candidates were examined by a three (3) members committee:

- Written translation from English to Native Language
- Translation from Native Language to English of a petition
- Translation of an extract to the Native Language from the proceedings of Civil Trials
- Grammatical knowledge of the native language.
- Colloquial knowledge of the native language.
- Viva Voce from Native Language of a passage of native tale.

In this book a list (may be incomplete) of such officers is available, who passed either

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Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah: A Brief History of Sindhi Script (In Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad: 2017

examination in colloquial Sindhi or examination of Interpreter from 1852 to 1856. In this regard following correspondence is very important:

- I. 8<sup>th</sup> May ,1848, Secretary , Civil and Military Examination Committee writes to the Government of Bombay for appointment of three examiners to examine officers appearing for Examination in Sindhi
- II. 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 1848, Bombay Government forwards a copy to the Secretary Civil and Military Examination Committee for information and compliance.
- III. 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851, vide circular letter No. 1825, the Commissioner in Sindh directs that all officers in civil employment that they are required to qualify Sindhi language.
- IV. 28<sup>th</sup> February, 1856, Bombay Government asks the Commissioner in Sindh to report, whether an annual examination in Sindhi language was considered necessary.
- V. 31<sup>st</sup> October 1856, Government of India asks Bombay Government to report, whether an annual examination in Sindhi language was considered necessary.
- VI. 23, March 1857, Bombay Government asks Sindh Commissioner to offer his comments of annual examination in Sindhi language.
- VII. 16<sup>th</sup> April , 1857, Sindh Commissioner writes to Bombay Government that a certificate granted by Educational Department might be submitted at the time of appointment , while on the other hand every hand entertained in the lower grade of public should be employed for a time as probationer , conditionally on his posting the examination as to his knowledge of the special duties upon he was employed.

#### VI. Issue of Standard Character for Sindhi language

The Government introduced Sindhi for official purpose. But the major difficulty was in adopting as the language was the absence of proper character\* for writing. Sindhi language did not have a uniform script and it was written in many prevailing scripts. Hindus used to write in Dewnagri, Gurmukhi and Hatkai whereas Muslims took recourse to Persio-Arabic script for writing in Sindhi language. The Commissioner asked his subordinate officers to suggest him proper script for use of Sindhi. Different officers presented different ideas and recommended Dewnagri, Khudawadi, Persian, Gujrati and Arabic characters for Sindhi. But basic controversy was between George Stack's proposed Khudawadi and Richard Buton's Naskhi Arabic characters respectively for Sindhi. Burton's grounds were that the extant literature in Sindh was in the Arabic script and that educated Sindhis are already known with Persian Nastaliq. On the other hand, Captain Stack was acquainted with Dewnagri. He favoured Khudawadi version of the

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\* This word character has been used throughout by the British officers for "Script"

script, with suitable modifications. He pleaded that the deficiency of vowels in that script could be supplemented by borrowing from Gujrati and Gurmukhi. However, the Government finally adopted Arabic character for Sindhi.<sup>1</sup>

### 13. FIXATION OF ARABIC ORTHOGRAPHY

**I. Background:** The proceeding for the adoption of character is the main discussion of this book. It discloses many hidden facts which were still unexplored before the students and teachers of Sindhi Script. Many theses have been written and subsequently published without knowing basic facts and figures of the British history with regard to the language and script. Hence, many books are full of errors and misleading information because nobody has bothered to consult basic sources in the subject. This book states what were the actual proposals of Captain Stack, Lieutenant Burton, R.K. Pringle, Captain Arthur, Falkland, Frere, Ellis, Dr. Trumpp and others for adoption of a unified character and orthography.

**II. History:** As historically, we are already aware that Arabic character was in use for Sindhi from Arab period (712-1030), which continued in Makhtabs and Madressahs working in Sindhi. However, we had no written manuscripts/books with us till books written by Makhdoom Mohammad Jafar Boobkai (died in 1594). He used clear Sindhi words in his Persian books. It would be pertinent to mention here that Dewnagri written books and manuscripts for Sindhi were prevalent in many parts of Sindh. The poetry of Kazi Kadan (1451-1565), Dadu Dayal (1544-1603) and Mahraj Pernath (1617-1668) is evident of Sindhi literature in Dewnagri character. The most authentic Sindhi work in Arabic character has been found of Izat bin Sulaiman's manuscript, written between 1655-1557. Shah Lutfullah Qadri (1611-1679) preferred Sindhi instead of Persian. However, Makhdoom Abul Hassan Thattvi (died in 1703) is called founder of exiting Sindhi Alphabet. He wrote "Mukadimah Salat" (A case for Prayer) in 1700. For that work, he prepared his own Sindhi Alphabet, which is known as "Makhdoom Abul Hassan ji Sindhi". This was nothing but a movement in the history of Sindhi Literature which continued by scholars during 1700 to 1780 in their Madresahs and they wrote many books on Islamic issues in verse and in prose with Sindhi letters. In this connection, names of Makhdoom Zia u Din (1680-1758), Makhdoom Hashim Thattvi (1690-1761), Makhdoom Abdullah "Narai" (1737-1821), Makhdoom Abdul Raheem Garhori (1739-1778) and many other prominent scholars prepared Sindhi Alphabets for their books. That Arabic - Sindhi Alphabet, prepared by Sindhi scholars was almost same of present 52 letters with exception of a few changes.<sup>2</sup>

**III. A Committee of Experts for Sindhi Alphabet under Mr. B. H. Ellis:** The Government of Sindh received decision of the Court of Directors of East India Company in March 1853. Immediately, B.H. Ellis, the then Assistant Commissioner & Chief of Education Department, by passing the actual directives of the East India Company proposed an eight-members committee of so called munshies to standardize the Sindhi Arabic alphabet. The Committee had four

<sup>1</sup> Mukhtar Ahmed Mallah : A Brief History of Sindhi Script (In Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2013

<sup>2</sup> Mukhtar Ahmed Mallah : A Brief History of Sindhi Script (In Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2013

Muslim members and four Hindu members and some British officers in composition. The brief introduction of the committee members is given below:

(a) **Narayan Jagan Nath Wadiya (1825-1874)**



He belonged to Mahshastar, India. His mother tongue was Marathi, however, he had passed examination in Sindhi language. On account of his knowledge and education, he was appointed as a Deputy Educational Officer in Sindh. He had command over Sindhi, Hindi, Sanskrit and Persian languages. First Sindhi medium School N.W. High School was established in 1854, which is known after his name. He was a member of Arabic Sindhi Alphabet expert committee. However, he himself was keen supporter of Devnagri Script for Sindhi. Accordingly, he played a very giant role, when Government of Sindh assigned him reforming Hindu Sindhi Alphabet, printing books and establishment of Banya Schools. He also wrote a book on the geography of Sindh "Sindh Jo Dharti Nirvar" (1853), which was included in the course of Primary schools.<sup>2</sup>

(b) **Dewan Nandiram Sehwan (1819-1875)**

He was born in Sehwan and had vast scholarship in Persian language. He started working as munshi and translator in the office of Commissioner office. He was the person, who actually prepared existing Sindhi Alphabet. In his book, "History of Sindh" he has given in detail about his role in that committee. He was trusted person of B. H. Ellis; therefore most of the assignments regarding books and reports were prepared by him. He wrote about 70 text books and translation of academic books in Arabic Sindhi character. He won a handsome amount as award for his translation of "Tarikh Mousumi" into Sindhi. His major works are; Bab Nama (1853), Esop's Fables (1854), History of Sindh (1854), Geography of the World (1855), Drawing Book and many others.<sup>2</sup>

(c) **Dewan Pirbhdas (1823-1881)**

He was son Anandram and born in Karachi. He was appointed as Assistant Master in an English School. He compiled many Sindhi Primers for various standards. He also translated the "History of India" (1863) and "History of England" (1868) in two volumes. The latter was approved as text book for the Normal School. He also assisted Mian Muhammad Hyderabad in writing Grammar of Sindhi Language (Sindhi Sert wa Nahawa in 1860)<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Mukhtar Ahmed Malik, A Brief History of Sindhi Script (in Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2003, p. 234.

Date: 0.226

<sup>3</sup> Mukhtar Ahmed Malik, A Brief History of Sindhi Script (in Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2003.

**(d) Dewan Udham Thanwardas (1826-1882)**

He was born in Hyderabad and could speak and write English very well. He worked as translator in the office of the Commissioner. His biggest contribution was to write a number of Sindhi Primers for Primary Classes. He also wrote a short history of the World (1855) and translated novel "Rassela" written by Johnson, for which he got recognition and monetary award. There are many academic books at his credit. He also helped Reverend Shurt (1843-1886) in compiling English and Sindhi Dictionary. His "Elementary Grammar of the Sindhi Language" was published in 1858, published by Mahmomed Shafee at Mafrah al Kuloob Press, Karachi. It was sanctioned by the Sindh Education Department for general use in vernacular schools, and recommended for the officers studying the Sindhi language sufficiently admired to dispose with an English explanation or commenary.<sup>1</sup>

**(e) Mian Ghulam Hussain Qureshi (1819-1896)**

He was son of Mohammad Qasim Qureshi. Mian Ghulam Hussain joined as a munshi in the office of Deputy Collector of Shahbunder. He worked as an interpreter in Persian in official correspondence. On account of his knowledge and expertise, he was included as member of the Committee of experts. He translated a Hindi long story of Pundit Bansi Dhar into Sindhi with title Bhanbhe Zamindar ji Galh (Story of Bhabho landlord).<sup>2</sup>

**(f) Mian Muhammad "Hyderabad"**

Muhammad Memon was born in Hyderabad. He served as a teacher in Normal School. He was an expert grammarian. He was very close to Major Goldsmid. He was a member on the Expert Committee for revising Sindhi Alphabet. He had command over Sindhi and Persian languages. He wrote Sindhi Grammar namely "Sindhi Saraf -wa- Naho" in 1860. The book was published in Sindh Government Press, Karachi. The preface of that book was written by Major Goldsmid, then Assistant Commissioner in Sindh. That book was prescribed for general use in vernacular schools, and recommended for the officers studying the Sindhi language.

**(g) Kazi Ghulam Ali (1827-1890)**

Mian Ghulam Hussain "Thattai" was another member of the Committee of experts. He was running his own Madressa in Thatta. He also worked as Persian interpreter for officers of Thatta. He had vast knowledge in Law and petitions. He wrote History of India in Sindhi in 1854. Besides, he translated many books on law.<sup>3</sup> He also assisted Lieut E.P Arthur for translation of Dossabhae Idiomatical Sentences and translation of Stories from Gladwin's Persian Moonshee. It was lithographed by Ardasseer Rustomjee, at the Advertiser Press, 1852

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<sup>1</sup> Ditto, P.275

<sup>2</sup> Ditto, P.275

<sup>3</sup> Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah: A Brief History of Sindhi Script (In Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2013, P239- 246

#### (h) **Mirza Sadiq Ali**

There is a controversy at the name of Mirza Sadiq Ali as member of the expert committee. Bherumal Maharchand and Mohammad Siddque Memon have given name of Mirza Sadiq Ali Baig (1845-1912) , an elder brother of Mirza Kaleech baig, who worked as Sindhi transtator in Education Department. He was the first person who wrote a book on the Economics of Sindh. He also helped Rev. Shirt in compilation of English-Sindhi Dictionary. However, historian's of Sindhi Script believe that if he was born in 1845, then at the time of proceedings of expert committee in 1853 he must be only 07 years old. In that case, it was not possible to believe that he could be member of that committee.

Other presumption is that Mirza Mohammad Sadiq (died in 1901), who was son of Samsul Ulema Mirza Mukhlis Ali was the member of that committee. His father was cousin of Mirza Qaleech Baig and had migrated from Shikarpur to Hyderabad. Mirza Mukhlis Ali was very close to Commissioner Frere. On the other hand, Mirza Sadiq Ali was himself a renowned journalist. He was editor of two Persian newspapers: "Akleef" and "Moeen ul Islam", published from Karachi.<sup>1</sup>

#### **IV. Meeran Muhammad Shah was the member of Alphabet committee in place of Mirza Sadiq Ali Baig**

Even though, the original record of that committee is still not traceable but to the best my research Munshi Meeran Muhammad Shah (1829-1892) was the member of Sindhi Alphabet Committee. He beloged to Sayed family of Matyari. My reasons are following:

- a) During this research, I have found no name of Mirza Sadiq Ali, who had been given any assignment. On the contrary, all remaining members of the committee were given one or another assignment with regard to book translation, teaching or munshrigeri.
- b) Meeran Muhammad Shah was a Munshi by profession. There is no mention of any Mirza Sadiq as Munshi during this period. This research shows that Munshies were also responsible for educational assignments.
- c) He was close to Captain Dunsterville, who was himself a representative from the side of government in that committee. Besides, he was incharge of each and every activity relating to book printing, translation, school buildings, school examination, and accounts matters, supervision of text books and awards for writer.
- d) Meeran Muhammad Shah translated "Sadhatoro Kadhatoro ji Galh" on the recommendation of Bartle Frere. Besides, he wrote "Akashi Nirwar" and some other books.

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<sup>1</sup> Mukhtar Ahmed Mallah : A Brief History of Sindhi Script (In Sindhi), Sindhi Language Authority, Hyderabad, 2013

- e) He transcribed both dictionaries of Captain Stack from Dewnagri to Arabic character under supervision of Captain Dunsterville.
- f) During examination of an old record, at some places, his name appears as the member of the committee, which I think is Alphabet Committee.

All of above facts and contribution made by Syed Meeran Muhammad Shah proves that he was actually member of the committee in place of Mirza Sadiq Ali for revising Sindhi Alphabet.

## V. Representatives from Government Side

It is pertinent to mention here that along with B.H Ellis, Captain Dunsterville and Major Goldsid were also representatives from European officers in that committee

- **Major Goldsmid** was a representative from European side in the expert committee. Such explanation, he has given in his Preface of "Sindhi Sarf wa Nahwa", written by Mian Muhammad Hyderabadadi and Munshi Pirbhdas in 1860. He says that "we believe that Arabic-Sindhi is official script of Sindh. Historically, we can say that Arabic-Sindhi was emerged in Sindh soon after annexation of Sindh by Arabs. There are good literary books already written in Arabic-Sindhi. Therefore, we have adopted Arabic Sindhi in 1853, which will indeed take place its earlier status in language and literature. The Sheet of Sindhi Alphabet has also been published by Mr. Ellis on the directives of Mr. Frere".<sup>1</sup>
- **Capt. John Bruce Dunsterville** was a representative from Government side, when matter was brought before the Commissioner. He along with Major Goldsmid, Ellis seconded the Sheet of Sindhi Alphabet, which was prepared by Native scholars.

## VI. Proceedings of Alphabet Committee

There are many controversies over proceedings of that committee of experts on Sindhi Alphabet. Alas the minuets of that committee are not traceable today. Reportedly all proceedings with regard to Sindhi- Arabic Alphabet were kept in Training College of Hyderabad, but now are not available there. Bherumal Maharchand writes in his book *Sindhi Bolo Ji Tarikh* (History of Sindhi Language: 1956) that todate original corespondance of that committee is lying in Hyderabad Training College. Mr. E.H Aitkan had also called that file while working on *Sindhi Gazzatier*. Renowned linguist Mr. Murlidhar Jettly had also tried to search that file, but all in vain. I have also tried my level best to trace those proceedings in Archives Library, Sindhology and Sindhi Language Authority but could not succeed. However, I am informed and perused by the officers of Institute of Sindhology that file was shifted from Training College to Sindhology.

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<sup>1</sup> The reference has been taken from "Sindhi Literature and Famous Orientlist" by Habibullah Bhutto, 1973 and the passage has been translated from Sindhi to English by the Editor

Entry of the file was available on the record, but who received the file, there was no signature on the record. It shows that the file was missing from Sindhology. I am sorry to say despite my every effort I could not include those Minutes, charts, circulars, letters and other relevant correspondence in this book, which contains proceedings from March to July 1853.

## VII. Points of Discussions by Alphabet Committee

Mr. Mohammad Siddique Memon has described issue of discussion among members of the expert committee in his book "History of Sindhi Literature" in detail. Mr. Memon had remained Principal of Hyderabad Training College for many years. He must have gone through the file of the proceedings of that committee. He writes that some members of the committee emphasised that there should be one letter for same sound graphemes. However, their proposal was rejected on following grounds:

- (a) Since, Sindhi has already been written with Arabic letters, therefore those letters should be adopted as they are. However, there must be some particular form of original Sindhi letters.
- (b) Many Persian words have been mingled with Sindhi. If the originality of Arabic letters is changed then there will be chances of loosing actual meanings of the words. With the maintaining Arabic and Persian letters with same symbols, there will be no issue of vagueness of sounds. Besides, many good dictionaries of Arabic and Persian are already available.
- (c) At present, Muslim children can write their names with actual meanings. If Arabic and Persian letters are excluded from Sindhi, even in that case Muslims can not give up their relationship with Arabic and Persian languages. For example a boy whose name is Mahfooz Ali, can change his name with alternate words and letters. With the change of Arabic letters, Muslim names loose their legacy.
- (d) From 17<sup>th</sup> Century A.D to date (1853), Sindhi literature has been written either in Arabic or Persian languages. With the change in spellings, the literature of two to three centuries will be spoiled for new generation.
- (e) In Asian continent, big countries of Muslims like Egypt and Zingiber\* have adopted Arabic or Persian Alphabet for official business. Hence, Sindhi should also be adopted with same pattern.<sup>†</sup>

Mr. Bherumal Maharchand has also discussed same points in his book "History of Sindhi language" (1941). But he has associated above observations with Hindu members of the

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\* The genus Zingiber is native to Southeast Asia, China, the Indian Subcontinent, and New Guinea.

† Mohammad Siddique Memon: "Literary History of Sindhi", Mehran Academy, 2005, P.28-29

committee. Mian Muhammad Hyderabad's book "Sindhi Sarf wa Nahwa" also contains a good history of Sindhi Alphabet.

Mr. Mazhar Yusuf writes that "this committee went into the problems in right earliest Linguist, as most of them were in their own right, they even went to the extent of making such a radical suggestion as to adopt only one letter to express similar sounds like Alif, Ain and Haaza or Taai and Tai or Zaud and Zai etc. Unfortunately, this suggestion was considered much to radical at the time just as it is being considered even today with the result that both in Sindhi and Urdu these apparently useless and dead letters continue in vogue"<sup>1</sup>

According to Aitkin, the Committee was also guided by the experience of the Fort William College at Calcutta who had, not very long ago, devised a uniform alphabet for Urdu and had also published several books using the new character"<sup>2</sup>

### VIII. Approval of the Alphabet

According to Dewan Nandi Ram in his book "History of Sindh". "after long discussion and deliberation among native scholars and British officers, an alphabet consisting on 52 letters was devised".<sup>3</sup> Mohanmad Sidique Memon states that "Sir Bartle Frere the Commissioner, in consultation with the European experts and native scholars and unanimously approved Arabic - Sindhi Alphabet".<sup>4</sup> Dr. Nabi Bakhsh Khan Baloach writes that "it has been assumed that newly devised alphabet was officially adopted for Sindhi under the British rule, and that it was Mr. Ellis who had invented this alphabet. As already discussed, the Arabic- Sindhi alphabet had evolved as a result of scholarly effort and usage over the past many centuries, and that it was already in vogue, when Mr. Ellis considered the issue. He did not create a new alphabet but brought about uniformity in the usage of letter forms for Sindhi phonemes by choosing one particular form for each letter out of two or three available alternatives. In his judicious choice, Mr. Ellis was guided mainly by the usage of Muslim Scholars in their writings which he had studied meticulously".<sup>5</sup>

A modified alphabet recommended by the committee and approved by the government was published in 1853. The Government of Sindh, with the approval of Bombay Government implemented Arabic Sindhi for the use of Sindhi writing in official work and as medium of instruction for schools. Zaarin Qualam in his Paper read before Historical Society on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1943 said that "the Script made rapid headway, and with its aid - Sindhi was made the official language of the province, and Persian disappeared from the record".<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mazhar Yusuf : "Selected Writings of Mazhar Yusuf", Institute of Sindhology, Jamshory, 2008

<sup>2</sup> Aitkin, Gazetteer of Sindh Province, Indus Publication, Karachi, 1980

<sup>3</sup> Nandiram, "Sindh ji Tawarikh", Mafrahal Quloob, Karachi, 1868

<sup>4</sup> Mohammad Siddique Memon: "Literary History of Sindh", Mehran Academy, 2005, P.29

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Nabi Bakhsh Khan Baloach: "Sindhi Script and Orthography", Sindhi Language, Authority, Hyderabad, 1992

<sup>6</sup> The Journal of the Sindh Historical Society, September 1943

## 14. Adoption of Hindu Sindhi in Schools

This is another issue, which is also misunderstood by scholars and historians of Sindhi script. Most of the officers including Mr. Pringle, Lord Falkland, Mr. Dickson and many others were supporters of Captain Stack's system of writing. We are informed that the English rulers only introduced Arabic Script for Sindhi writing. That thinking is totally wrong. Hindu scholars for years politicized the issue. This book with solid instances proved that Khudawadi script was also introduced as medium of instruction in schools. In this regard, special schools were established for Hindu students and books were printed accordingly. For implementation of that character, circulars, proposed charts and report of Lieutenant Lester, e.t.c are evident for the claim.

In 1855, Frere had said that the Hindus and the Muslims had a sentimental attachment to the Dewnagri Script and Arabic script respectively. Although he had favoured the adoption of Arabic character for official business, but he also recommended that Dewnagri form of written Sindhi should also be improved for use of Hindus<sup>1</sup>.

Hindu scholars had never accepted Arabic- Sindhi Script. On 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855, Mr. Frere issued a circular to all collectors for suggesting Hindu Sindhi Alphabet. This issue remained under process for many years. Finally, Government of Sindh with the approval of Bombay Presidency introduced Hindu Sindhi in Sindh in 1868. In 1869, a Hindu Sindhi School was established in Karachi. The establishment of this institution was a movement in favour of Dewnagri script for Sindhi.

In 1868, Narayan Jagannath Wadia, formerly teacher and then Deputy Educational Inspector in Sindh made some improvements in that script for education purpose. Mr. Lester and Ellis also took keen interest in improvement of that script. "The improved and revised Hindu - Sindhi Alphabet was devised by Narayan Jagannath Wadia, which was finally adopted in education system in 1868"<sup>2</sup>. Soon after a school was established and three thousand copies of books were published for primary classes. Rewards were offered to those who co-opted by learning it and by sending their words to schools to learn it. In 1873, Dewnagri -Sindhi Typos were devised and text books were published.<sup>3</sup> In October 1875, E.M H Fulton, an Education Inspector of Sindh, notified that teachers in High Schools and Anglo- Vernacular Schools drawing a monthly salary of less than Rs.50 must pass an examination in Dewnagri-Sindhi by May 1876.<sup>4</sup> The Notification also laid that from after May 1876, Dewnagri -Sindhi would be taught in High Schools and Anglo- Vernacular Schools as a recognized character. Zaarir Qualam in his paper read before Historical Society on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1943 said that "Mr. Narayan was able to persist in his experiments with the new Hindu rural alphabets, which he standardized and

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<sup>1</sup> Captain Lester: "Report on the Education of Sindh", 1889

<sup>2</sup> Noor Muhammad: "The Backwardness of Sindhi Mussalamms in Education", 1928

<sup>3</sup> A.W. Hughes: Gazetteer of the Province of Sindh, Indus Publication, Karachi, 1996

<sup>4</sup> Ditto

improved by the addition of vowel – marks, and in 1868 the Government of Bombay was persuaded to order the introduction of the new Sindhi Script into schools. Further , favoured treatment for the new alphabet was soon secured special schools were opened for teaching it, and teachers under training were compelled to learn it and teach in the existing Arabic-Sindhi Schools. Side by side with this movement , there was also going on the concentration of schools in Municipal areas, inspite of the fact that they were paid for by a voluntary self imposed cess on the land revenue : the result was that while the number of Moselm boys under instruction was doubled during the decade between 1860 to 1870, the number of Hindu boys increased five-fold".<sup>1</sup>

The research in this regard, indicates that experiment of Hindu Sindhi (Khudawadi) could not succeed in Sindh. In 1881, Daya Ram Gidumal, an Assistant Collector of the Amil class, proposed that Dewnagri –Sindhi Script should be abolished as it was not popular.<sup>2</sup> In 1886, E. Giles said in his report on Education in Sindh that the Banya boys often left Dewnagri –Sindhi and switched over to learn Arabic –Sindhi. He further said that the script did not get encouraging response from Hindus except Shikarpur.<sup>3</sup> Professor Mangha Ram Malkani writes that " in 1890 Dewan Koromal with the help of Jacob- Educational Inspector of Sindh tried to introduce Devnagri Sindhi in Hyderabad and in this regard books were also published but that scheme could not succeeded and same was given up in 1910"<sup>4</sup>. Evan James noted in 1915 that "no book had been published in Dewnagri – Sindhi after 1910 and that Arabic- Sindhi retained its popular appeal"<sup>5</sup>. Sir George Abraham Grierson writes that despite Government patronage and majority of Hindu students and teachers, Banya script could not get popularity in Sindh".<sup>6</sup>

## 15. Printing and Publication of Sindhi Books by Sindh Government

I. As we have already discussed above that English officers before their conquest of Sindh began to write on various subjects of Sindh. W.H Wathen wrote Grammar of Sindhi Language in 1836, Captain Eastwick wrote vocabulary of Sindhi Language in 1843, besides Mr. Leach, Henry Boilley also wrote vocabularies of Sindhi. In 1848, the Government of India directed to the officers working in Sindh to pass examination in Sindhi language, but no required books were available with them to refer for preparation. The book publishing in Sindh started from 1851, as Sindhi language was introduced as an official language for official bussiness. Hence, published books were required for two purposes: firstly, for teaching and examining European Officers serving in Sindh, who would compulsorily need to acquire the language for speedy promotion, secondly, for use in government and indigenous schools in the province.

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<sup>1</sup> The Journal of the Sindh Historical Society, September 1943

<sup>2</sup> Noor Muhammad : "The Backwardness of Sindhi Mussalamns in Education", 1928

<sup>3</sup> Ditto

<sup>4</sup> Prof. Mangharam Malkani: "History of Sindhi Prose",Roshni Publication, Hyderabad, 1993

<sup>5</sup> Noor Muhammad : "The Backwardness of Sindhi Mussalamns in Education", 1928

<sup>6</sup> Sir George Abraham Grierson: The Linguistic Survey of India, Vol. VIII

## II. The Rules for publishing of books in Sindh

The rules for book publication were published in a report submitted in 1859, under the section Vernacular Publications on pages 44-45. Following rules were set for vernacular publications by the committee:

1. No educational books shall be published in Sindh, except under sanction of the Commissioner or of Government, where the measure would entail any extraordinary expenditure.
2. All Sindee manuscripts, so passed for publication, shall be paid for at following rates:
  1. Original works Rs. 2 per page of prescribed extent.
  2. Translations "Rs. 1 ditto.
  3. Special arrangements will be made for works in other languages.
  4. These books will be distributed, on publication, by the local officers under instructions issued from Educational Department; a commission of 10 per cent being allowed to schoolmasters, kardars, and their moonshees, on the subsequent sale.
  5. Proceeds for sale by Kardars and their moonshees will be at once credited in the kardars' books. Schoolmasters will render in all money received up to date. Books will be disposed of by the person at the cost price, commission being deducted by the vendors before bringing to credit the amount of proceeds.<sup>1</sup>

## III. Rewards for Writers & Translators

Mr. Bartle Frere took many giant steps for encouragement of writers in Sindh. With the introduction of Arabic Sindhi alphabet, publication in Sindhi language was started. Awards and cash payments were also offered for best translation. Mr. Nandi Ram won first award for his translation "History of Sindh" (1853), the award was equal to his 12 salaries. Udha Ram and Shoji Ram won award for their translation of "Rasselas" in 1872. Mirza Qaleech Baig had won award for translation of "Faust" in 1889. In this regard first a committee was formed in 1853 to determine most valued academic and translations. The working of committee was following composition:

1. Lieutenant Dunsterville, President
2. Lieutenant Herbert Arthur

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Allah Rakhio Butt & Kaleem Butt: "British Raj in Sindh"

3. Lieutenant H. Hodgson, Member
4. Lt. Scott, Member<sup>1</sup>

#### IV. A list of Sindhi books

The official correspondence of printing, publication, payment and proposals has been given in this book. I have tried to prepare a list of all books, published from 1849 to 1856, which is given below<sup>2</sup>:

1. **Aghoz Farsi (آغوز فارسي):** Elementary Persian Grammar. Lithog. Sm. 4to, boards, pp. 40 Karachi, 1867. 1s
2. **Akashi Nowar (آکاشي نروار):** A small treatise on Astronomy, translated into Sindhi by Meeran Muhammad Shah. The book is originally written by a Hindi writer Pundit Bansidhar. The book was translated with the approval of Mr. Bartle Frere, then Commissioner in Sindh, Lithog. Sm. 4 to, boards, pp. 61, Karachi, 1856. 1s. 6d.
3. **Algebra (الجبر):** Translated into Sindhi by Narayan Jaggan Nath and Nandiram. This was first book of Algebra into Sindhi, Lithog. 4to. hf. bound, pp. 520. Karachi, 1853. 7s. 6d.
4. **Bab Namah (باب نامو):** The First School Reading Book, in Sindhi was written by Nandiram, Lithographed in 1853 published by Aridsheer Press from Karachi. The book has 32 pages, initial price was two aannas.
5. **Bhanbhe Zamindar je Galh (بھنبھي زميندار جي ڳالھ) Story of Bhanbho Landlord:** This is a moral story, which is written by Hindi writer Pundit Bansi dar. Main Ghulam Hussain Qureshi, a member of expert committee for Sindhi Alphabet, translated it into Sindhi in 1854. All characters were changed with Sindhi society and the story contains issues of a landlord and farmers of Sindh.
6. **Chit je Paar (چٽ جي پاڻ) - A Drawing Book:** An introduction to Drawing. Translated into Sindhi by Kahandas Mansaram. Pundit Kanandas was famous academic writer and translator of Hindi language. He also contributed many books for Sindhi. In this regard, he along with Nandiram prepared Chit je Paar, a drawing book for school students, Lithog. 4, to . boards, pp. 36. Karachi, 1854. 1s. 6d.
7. **Diwan Gul (ديوان گل):** Khalifo Gul Muhammad was first recognized poet of Sindhi Ode.

<sup>1</sup> Mohammad Siddique Memon. "Literary History of Sindh". Mehran Academy, 2005

<sup>2</sup> The Main source of the list is "Tribuner's American and oriental literary record, of the most important works published in North and South India, China, and the British colonies: with occasional Dutch, Danish, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian books, January 1868

His Diwan in Sindhi, Lithog. Fol., leather, pp. 88. Bombay, 1857. 8s. 6d. In his Diwan, he has discussed the issue of Sindhi Alphabet too.

8. **Dharti Nirwar (ذرتي نروار) Geography of the World:** This book was written / translated by Mahadev Shastri and Nandiram in two volumes. First volume translated into Sindhi by Mahadev Shastri and Nandiram. Lithog. Sm.4to. 2 Parts. Part I. pp. 246. with Maps. Karachi, 1855. 3s. 6d. **Part -II:** Geography. Translated into Sindhi by Mahadev Shastri and Nandiram, pp. 194. Karachi, 1861. 3s. 6d.

9. **English Primer**, translated into the Sindhi language for the use of Anglo-vernacular Schools in Sindh by Choharmal. 16mo. boards, pp. 48. Bombay, 1867. 1s. 6d.

10. **Euclid.**—Third and Fourth Books of Euclid, translated into Sindhi by Kowramal Chandamal, and published by the Educational Department for the use of vernacular schools. Lithog. 4to. boards, pp. 127, 64 and 6. Karachi, 1866. 4s. 6d.

11. **Fables of Esop (ايسپ جون آکاڻيون):** Aesop's Fables is a collection of fables credited to Aesop, a storyteller believed to have lived in ancient Greece between 620 and 560 BC. Of diverse origins, the stories associated with Aesop's name have descended to modern times through a number of sources. This famous book was translated into Sindhi by B.H. Ellis and Deewan Nandiram in 1854. It may be pertinent to mention here that the book was initially published in the name of Mr. Ellis, however, with the passage of time the book came to know with the name of Mr Nandi Ram. However, an earliest title of the book has been given in this book for ready reference.

12. **Hikayat-us-Sualheen (حكايت الصالحين) (Lives of Saints):** It was the first book which published by Lieutenant Arthur in 1851 from Ardshier's Press. It contains 580 pages. The book was in verse, translated by Wali Muhammad. But it could not become part of course in Primary education because later on it was rejected by B.H. Ellis with these words "Even this would hardly be the work to choose as a text-book for the rising generation, and in the utter want of elementary works, it was necessary to translate, from the English and other languages, a series adopted for school instructions".

13. **Idiomatic Sentences of Dossabhoj\* (دوسا پائيء جا جملا)** Dossabhoj's Sentences were translated into Sindhi by Lieut. E.P Arthur and Munshi Ghulam Ali, who had also translated History of Sindhi. Besides, seventy five tales of Lieutenant Gladwin namely Persian Moonshee translated by Lt. D. Dickson were also included in this book. This book was lithographed by Ardasseer Rustomjee, at the Advertiser Press, 1852.

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\* Dossabhoj Sorabjee was born in the year 1786 in the city of Broach, in the province of Gujrat. He was working as a Munshi. In 1813 he published his famous "Idiomatrical Sentences" in English, Hindustani, Gujarati, and Persian Languages. This book contains useful and popular phrases on military, medical, judicial and common words with meanings in native languages.

14. **Lekhe jo Kitab** (ليکي جو ڪتاب): Kahandass Munsaram.—A course of Arithmetic. Part I. compiled in the Sindhi language, by order of the Commissioner in Sindh By Kahandass Munsaram. Litho. 4to. boards, pp. 112. Karachi, 1855. 2s. 6 d
15. **Lekhe je Peer** (ليکي جي پيڙھ) **Elementary Arithmetic Book**: This elementary book of arithmetic was written by Nandiram, which was printed at the cost of Rs.1700 by Sindhian Printer Press, owned by Mr. Beases in 1855. Another scholar, who was looking after the work was also paid Rs.10 for supervision of the book.
16. **Mufid-ul-Sibyan** (مفيد الصبيان). Selections of stories in Sindhi and English. By Miran Muhammad Shah. Lithog. Sm. 4to. boards, pp. 98. Karachi, 1861. 3s.6d.
17. **Mufayad-il-Tallbeen** (مفيد الطالبين). Oodharam's guide to students of English and Sindhi, consisting of grammatical rules and illustrations, revised phrases from Dosabhai, and easy stories, compiled by Munshi Oodharam. Lithog. 4to. boards, pp. 2, 48, 28, 122. Karachi, 1861. 6s.
18. **Faimaish-i Kitab** (فيمائشي ڪتاب). Menstruation of planes and solids. Translated into Sindhi by order of the Commissioner in Sindh, by Kahandass Munsram Lithog. 4to. boards, pp. 69. Karachi, 1865. 2s. 6d.
19. **Report of B.H.Ellis on Education of Sindh**: B.H. Ellis, an Assistant Commissioner in Sindh, prepared his report on the Education of Sindh at the advice of then Commissioner in Sindh Mr. Frere in 1854. The report prepared by Mr. Ellis and forwarded by Mr. Frere put light on the basic educational policies followed in Sindh prior to the formation of Sindhi Alphabet. It also presents the history of the adoption of Sindhi as official language, standardization of Sindhi Alphabet and use of Sindhi as the medium for vernacular education and preparation of Sindhi text books and reading material. It also contains information regarding sanction of funds for the extension of the Anglo -Vernacular education in Sindh. Besides, the report of B.H. Ellis, I have included letter written by the Director of Public Instruction based in Bombay. Another report on the subject of education, prepared by Captain Lester is also part of this book.
20. **Sadatoro Khudatoro** (سڌا ٿورو ۽ ڪڏا ٿورو): This is a moral story of Hindi language, written by Pundit Bansidar. Story is about two friends: one Sadhatoro, a polite and good and other Kadhatoro, a bad habit boy. The story was translated by Munshi Syed Miran Mohammad Shah, Lithog. 4to. boards, pp. 28. Karachi, 1855. 1s. 6d.
21. **Sakhrinjun Galun** (گل شکر). Moral Tales in Sindhi by Divan Kavalrim. Lithog. Sm 4to boards, pp. 4, 108, 2. Hyderabad, 1865. 3s. 6d
22. **Sansari Nirvar** (سنساري نروار): A description of the three kingdoms of nature. Translated into Sindhi by Nandiram. Lithog. Small 4to. pp. 207 Karachi 1861, 3s. 6d.

23. **Sappan ji Gal** (سپنن جي ڳالهه) – Sindhi translation of Dr. Collier's Treatise on snakes and remedies for snakebites by Dr. Anant Chandroba and Nandiram. Lithog. 4to. Boards PP. 20 and 16. Karachi, 1858. Is. 6d.
24. **Saswi and Punho** (سسئي پنهنون): A Sindhi poem translated into English by Major Goldsmid in 1860, also published into Sindhi, Lithog. Small 4to. boards, pp. 62. Karachi, 1867. Is. 6d.
25. **Sikhayate Nirvar** (سيڪاتي نروا): A Manual of teaching in Sindhi by Nandiram. Lithog. Small 4to. p. 94 and 4, boards. Karachi, 1859. 2s. 6d.
26. **Sindhi Aliph Be (Sindhi Alphabet)**: This may be called a sheet of Sindhi Alphabet consisting of 52 letters, which was prepared by a Committee of experts and approved by the Government of Sindh. The sheet was published by B.H. Ellis in 1853.
27. **Sindhi First Reading Book** (پهريون ڪتاب): The first book for primary classes was written by Dewan Udharan in 1853. In very beginning, it contains chart of alphabet and certain lessons for learning of students, Lithog. Small 4to. sewed, pp. 90. Karachi.
28. **Sindhi Second Reading Book** (ٻيو ڪتاب): The Second book for primary classes was written by Dewan Udharan in 1853. In very beginning, it contains chart of alphabet and vowels have been given for learning of students. Most of the lessons and poems are written by Dewan Udharan, except one poem written by Akhund Hismudin. Lithog. Small 4to. sewed, pp. 90. Karachi.
29. **Sindhi Third Book** (ٽيون ڪتاب): The Third book for primary classes was written by Deewan Pirbhdas Anandram and revised by Deewan Chihuharmal. It was published in 1853. It contains 99 lessons having moral lessons and poems for students. Lithog. Small 4to. sewed, pp. 8 and 246. Karachi, 1868. 2s. 6d.
30. **Sindhi Fourth Class** (چوٿون ڪتاب): The Fourth book for primary classes was written by Deewan Pirbhdas Anandram in two volumes. It was published in 1853 by the Educational Department for the use of vernacular Schools, in Two Parts. Part II, Lithog. Small 4to. boards, 4 prelim. leaves, and pp. 207, 408, and 2. Karachi. 1860. 3s. 6d.
31. **Sindhi Literature** – The Dewan of Shah Abdul Latif, known by the name of Shah Jo Risilo (شاه جو رسالو), edited by the Rev. Ernest Trumpp. Royal, 8vo. cloth. pp. iii, 739 and 4. Leipzig, 1866. £1 Is.
32. **Sindh jo Nirvar** (سنڌ جو نروار): A general account of Sindh by Rao Sahab Narrayan Jaggan Nath, prepared for the use of the vernacular schools in Sindh. Lithog. 4to. Boards pp. 108,

2. Karachi, 1865. 8s.

33. **Sindhi Saraf wa Nahawa** (سنڌي صرف و نحو): An abstract of a Grammar compiled in Sindhi language by Meeyan Mohammed Hyderabad, head schoolmaster of the vernacular school at Hyderabad, and Munshi Pribhdass, second assistant master in the English school at Hyderabad, published on the order of Commissioner in Sindh from Government press. Litho. Fol. boards, 12 leave, pp. 170, 4 leaves. Karachi, 1860. 12s. Preface of the book was written by Goldsmid, then Assistant Commissioner in Sindh.

34. **Sindhi Wiya Karan** (سنڌي ويا ڪرڻ) **Grammar of Sindhi Language: Elementary Grammar of the Sindhi language** By Munshi Udham, assistant translator to the Government in Sindh. This book of Grammar was written by Deewan Udham and same was published in 1854.

35. **George Stack's English & Sindhi Dictionary and Grammar of Sindhi:** Captain George Stack was the first scholar who compiled English & Sindhi Dictionary and Sindhi & English Dictionary. In November 1845, he started working on English and Sindhi Dictionary (12000 words) and its printing was completed in 1849. On 19<sup>th</sup> January 1849, he wrote to Commissioner requesting the Government may be moved to fix the price of the book and sanction the amount spent by him on the entertainment of a Pundit who assisted him in the preparation of English and Sindhi Dictionary. It was the only book for reference till 1852 for officers appearing in the examination of colloquial Sindhi. Simultaneously he worked on Sindhi Grammar, which was published in 1849. At the end, he has given five popular folk stories. Captain George Stack died in December 1853, while he was working on Sindhi and English Dictionary (17000 entries). His work remained incomplete, which was later on published in 1855 by Mr. Ellis. Captain Dunsterville was assigned to transcribe Dewnagri portion into Arabic character. That book contained 200 pages. All of his rating correspondence is present in this book. It may be noted that all of above three books of Captain George Stack have recently been republished by Sindhi language Authority, Hyderabad.<sup>1</sup>

36. **Tarikh Anglishtani** (تاريخ انگلستان): History of England, translated into Sindhi by

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<sup>1</sup> **Munshies worked with Captain Stack:** In compilation of both Dictionaries, i.e. English and Sindhi & Sindhi and English, Captain George Stack had hired services of two Sindhi Munshies for his work. In 1846, he hired services of Pundit Brahm Suchdanand, who belonged to Hyderabad. He was very able person and had a good knowledge of English, Sindhi and Persian. He assisted Captain Stack a lot. Initially Captain Stack paid him for his services from his own pocket but later on Government of Bombay agreed to pay for him through contingent bills. For Sindhi and English Dictionary, Pundit Jetaram Brahm assisted Captain Stack. He also belonged to Hyderabad. However, Captain Stack died in 1853 but Pundit Jetaram Brahm continued to work with Captain Dunsterville. He was also paid a handsome amount from Government of Bombay.

It is pertinent to mention here that both dictionaries of Captain Stack were published in Dewnagri script. However, in 1856, the Government of Bombay decided to publish both dictionaries in Arabic character too. For assignment was given to Munshi Meeran Muhammad Shah under supervision of Captain Dunsterville. Meeran Muhammad Shah was paid for his work. The work was almost done but could not be published due to unknown reasons.

Wadumal. Lithog. 4to. boards, pp 118, 10, 12. Karachi, 1859. 2s. 6d.

37. **Tarikh Hindustan** (هندوستان جي تاريخ): A brief history of India. Kazi Ghulam Ali, a member of expert committee for Sindhi Alphabet, on the advice of Bartle Frere translated *Tarikh Hindustan* (History of India), by Pundit Devi Parsad from Urdu into Sindhi in 1854. 1200 copies were printed by lithographic printer. John Harvey, Lithog. Small 4to, boards, pp. 77. Karachi, 1854. 8s.

38. **Tarikh Hindustani** (هندوستان جي تاريخ): Morris' History of India, translated into Sindhi by Munsif Perbhdas. Lithog. 4to. hf. bound, pp. 89, 632, 7. Karachi, 1863. 12s.

39. **Tarikh Kolambas** (ڪولمبس جي تاريخ): A short account of the life of Columbus. Translated into Sindhi by Kurumal. Lithog. Small 4to. sewed, pp. 48. Karachi, 1862. 1s. 6d.

40. **Tarikh Masumi** (تاريخ سنڌ): Assistant Commissioner in Sindh invited all scholars and translators to translate the *Tarikh e Sindh* or "Tarikh Mosoomi", written by Syed Mousum Bakhri into Sindhi. Several scholars of that time submitted their translations. After scrutiny, the committee selected translation of Dewn Nandiram. He won an award of Rs.100 for best translation, Lithog. 4to. hf. bound, pp. 4, 368. Karachi, 1854. 7s. 6d.

41. **Tuti Nama** (طوطي نامو): Stories told by a parrot, translated into Sindhi by Udham. Lithog. 4to. sewed, pp. 96. Karachi, 1862. 6s.

42. **Zabeti Kitab** (زبتي ڪتاب): Land measurement, translated into Sindhi by Nandiram. Lithog. Fol., sewed, pp. 15. Karachi, 1854. 1s. 6d.

43. **Zaqsha Kurvari**: Elementary Arithmetic in Sindhi. Lithog. Oblong 4to, sewed, pp. 12. Karachi, 1866.

Many other academic books are on the record, which were published as soon as schools were established and Arabic character was introduced as medium of instructions.

#### V. **Printing Presses in Sindh during first decade of British Raj**

Before English rulers, there were no printing presses in Sindh. Books were transcribed by learned calligraphers. Sindh was the last among the provinces in Indian Sub-Continent to fall came to the British's hands. As soon as they annexed Sindh, the British Empire in February 1843, they began grooming policies regarding printing and media. Initially, they discouraged Persian and encouraged English. With the passage of time many printing presses came into existence in Sindh:

1. **Sindh Advertiser**: This press was established in 1844 in same year when capital of Sindh

was shifted from Hyderabad to Karachi. This press had issued a newspaper "Sindh Advertiser" from 1845. This newspaper was patronized by the Government. Initially, it was a bi-weekly newspaper; basic aim behind its publication, was to defend the policies of Charles Napier. After some years, the same press was known as Commissioner's Printing Press. This printing press published many early text books for Sindhi Schools.<sup>1</sup>

2. **Kurrachee Advertiser:** Mazhar Yousuf writes "Ardeshir Roustamji was the first local person to setup and start printing a newspaper –The Kurrachee Advertiser. This paper and printing press enjoyed near monopoly of all English favour and printing jobs"<sup>2</sup>. This printing press was established in 1855.

3. **Sindhian Press:** This printing press was established by Seth Poojaji and Seth Dorabji at Karachi in 1856. This printing press also issued a weekly newspaper namely "Sindhian". The name of the newspaper was later on changed into "Sindh News". This printing press also published a number of Sindhi text books and other literary books.

4. **Mufarrah-ul Quloob:** In 1857 a printing press was established, which started a Persian "Mutarrah-ul- Quloob". This press was owned by Mirza Mukhlis Alvi. This press also published many Sindhi books including second edition of Tarikh Mousmi, translated by Nandiram.<sup>3</sup>

This book is not only history of Sindhi language, script, orthography but is also history of administration of English rulers during their first decade of the rule in Sindh. This book is also educational history of Sindh and this book is also history of printing and publishing on Sindhi books. The study of this book proves that the rulers not only provided a road map for development of Sindhi language but they even wrote and published different Sindhi books related to various streams of the literature, which provided necessary impetus to Sindhi writers to move fast on the road of literacy. With the introduction of Sindhi alphabet, official system started working with Sindhi language. The Revenue, Police, Courts, Custom, Education and other Departments started working with Sindhi writing system. It was also revolution in the field of education of Sindh and Sindhi literature.

I believe that I am the first researcher, who is bringing these original facts of the official correspondence before the readers, writers, scholars, professors and students of language and script of Sindhi language. Many learned scholars have done their Doctorates on Sindhi Script, but there are still many facts, which are going to be disclosed first time through this book.

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<sup>1</sup> Sindh ja Qadeem Shapkhana ( Old Publishing presses of Sindh) by Dr. Allah Rakhyo Butt, Monthly Paigam, Information Department, Government, of Sindh

<sup>2</sup> Mazhar Yousuf, Selected writings of Mazher Yousuf, Institute of Sindiology, Jamshoro, 2008

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Allah Rakhyo Butt: "Sindh ja Qadeem Shapkhana"

## Acknowledgements

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*Mukhtiar Ahmed Mallah*

19<sup>th</sup> December 2016  
Karachi, Sindh

# **THE DEVELOPMENT OF SINDHI LANGUAGE AND SCRIPT UNDER EARLY ENGLISH ADMINISTRATION**



## SINDHI LANGUAGE AND EARLY BRITISH OFFICERS

### James Mc Murdo\*

The language of Scinde is a written language, and has a character peculiar to it. It is written from left to right, and has other signs of its Indian origin. The character is easily and expeditiously formed, and the letters run much into each other. To a cursory observer the Scindee approaches nearer to the Malabar character than any other I have seen; but on breaking up the letters and examining them they have no resemblance. In the province, there are two distinct languages. The first and original is the Scindhee, the other the Belluchi, which can scarcely be called a written tongue, although it is commonly met with in the Arabic character. The Scindhee, as I have said, is a written tongue, and seems to me, from the little acquaintance I have with it, to be a branch of the Sanskrit stock, which has supplied India with languages. That it is of Sanskrit origin, I advance on the opinion of scholars of the country; and on the same authority I may state, that the Sindhi has fewer modern innovations and a greater number of Sanskrit words than the Guzratee, which is a pure Hindu dialect. There is some affinity between the two — at least the radicals of words are alike, though the entire words have no resemblance. There is undoubtedly, however, a great portion of Panjabee in the Sindhee; and, in fact, it is by many considered as only a dialect of that language.

The Scindee is the language used by the Hindu inhabitants, and, indeed, by the mass of the population of Scinde proper, those of the southern desert, and, with a little variation, by the Jharejas of Cutch. It is worthy of remark, that the Jharejas, Bhattias, Lohanas, and other Sindhee tribes now inhabiting Cutch, have brought with them their language, which they still continue to speak in that country; but the Guzratee, which is spoken by the Charans, and Shepherds, who, if not the aborigines, are certainly many centuries prior to the others, as inhabitants of Cutch, has maintained its superiority, and continues to be the only written tongue in the province.<sup>1</sup>

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\* Captain James Murdo (1785-1820) was a British military officer. He visited Sindh in 1812. His book on Sindh "Mc Murdo's Report on Sindh" was published after his death.

<sup>1</sup> The journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, Vol-I, 1834)

## W.H Wathen\*

The Scindee language is spoken through the whole province of Scinde, and is said to be understood as far North as the territories of Bhawal Khan, the Derajat and Multan; it prevails westwards in Cutch. It is spoken with some slight variations, in formation and accent. This language appears to be derived from the Sanskrit, some of its form may be traced to the Pali; and it possessed considerable similarity to many of the dialects of India, which are derived from the same source. This language is merely a dialect of the Birjbasha, or pure Hindi of Upper India, from which it differs in being more irregular in the inflection of its words. In one particular, the possession of auxiliary verb *thiyan*, to be wanting in Hindi, it approaches in Hindoostanee, or more modern form.<sup>1</sup>

## James Prinsep\*

One of the most singular anomalies of the Sindhi language is the arrangement of its alphabet, which differs totally from the perfect classification followed throughout the peninsula. Having on a former occasion noticed the singular application of the Arabic numerals to the alphabet of the Maldives islands, we were struck with the apparent similarity of the process here pointed out at the opposite extremity of India; but a closer examination removed most of the analogy by shewing that the Sindhi and Múltáni letters, although strikingly similar in form to the common numerals, were all deducible from the elements of the ordinary Deva-Nágarí symbols, and that they are, in fact, but one step removed from the Marwari and Mehajani of our mercantile class (being always happy to add to our catalogue of Indian alphabets'). The Márwari (which does not differ essentially from the Bendrasí) we have added on the authority of gomáshtas residing in Calcutta; but it must be remembered that these written characters are peculiar to the mercantile class, and that the learned of Márwār and Sindh, as of other places, use the Deva-Nagari forms. As to the arrangement of their alphabet given by our author on the authority of merchants, it seems to be nothing more nor less than a couple of memoria-technica lines contrived to comprehend the whole of the letters combined with their most usual vowel sounds; so that in ordinary writing the merchants may dispense with the application of the mátras or vowel-marks. The inconvenience of this omission is not much felt in the limited scope of mercantile correspondence, and in the drafting of hoondees, where the same sentences are constantly repeated. Indeed the first memorial line of the Sindhi and Múltáni alphabets.

The Márwari alphabet contains two poetical lines almost as unintelligible as those of

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\* William Henry Wathen (1802-1866) served as Chief Secretary in General Department in Bombay Presidency in 1835. More than five years before annexation of Sindh, he wrote first ever Grammar of Sindhi language in English in 1836. The Editor

<sup>1</sup> Grammar of the Sindhi Language, 1836

\* James Prinsep (1792-1840) was an English scholar, orientalist and antiquary. He was the founding editor of the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal and is best remembered for deciphering the Kharosthi and Brahmí scripts of ancient India. He wrote a detailed article on the Grammar of Sindhi language, written by W.H. Wathen in Journal of the Asiatic Society. The Editor

Sindh. As written by our informant a gomāshta in one of the banking houses, and lithographed with the vowel marks, they do not abound in errors, nor could we obtain from him any inkling of their meaning. By dint of persevering inquiry, and aided by the Hindi and the Sanskrit dictionaries, we have restored what seems to be the right reading of the text as follows:

At the bottom of the same plate we have inserted the Sindhi alphabet as written by their gomāshtas in Calcutta; because some of the letters vary from the Bombay form; and both differ some what from a genuine Sindhi alphabet procured by Lieut. Leech at Mithyáni on the Indus, which we did not receive in time to insert in the plate. The principal variations are in the aspirated letters kh, gh, ph, and h; j and y are expressed by the same character, which is formed as number 2 of the Mültüni alphabet. The letter is also expressed by Z which accounts for its absence in the memorial line.<sup>1</sup>

### **Thomas Postans\***

The ignorance of this people, from the rulers downwards, is that of perfect barbarism: comparatively few Mahommedans in the country can read, much less write: the whole of the correspondence of government is carried on by the Hindus in the Persian language (in which also the records of every description are kept). The Biluchi adds to the above character a certain degree of cruelty and love of plunder, coupled with a fierce demeanour, which has procured him to be held in particular detestation, and he is considered as implacable in his revenge.

The language of Sindh is of Hindu origin, being a still greater corruption from the Sanscrit than that spoken in the Guzirat peninsula: it is written in a peculiar character, called the Khuda Wadi, and the Hindus keep all their own accounts and correspondence in it. The court employs Persian for records, petitions, and ceremonial purposes, though in common conversation they use the vernacular of the country. The Biluchis have a peculiar dialect of their own, assimilating some what to the Pushtu spoken by the Afghans; but it is not a written or grammatical tongue, and so barbarous in sound, that the Sindhian accuses the Biluchi of having learnt of his goats when he was a shepherd in the mountains of Kilat! Punjabi is much spoken in Sindh by traders, boatmen and others from that country.<sup>2</sup>

### **Leopold Von Orlich\***

The language of Sindh, both oral and written, differs very much from that of the rest of India, but the princes and people are so ignorant, that very few Mahomedans are able to write it.

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<sup>1</sup> Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1837

\* Captain Thomas Postans (1808-1846) was a British army officer. He served many years in Sindh. His book "Personal Observations of Sindh" is known as a good book on the history of Sindh- The Editor

<sup>2</sup> Personal observations on Sindh, by T. Postans, London, printed for Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, 1843

\* Captain Leopold Von Orlich (1801-1860) was a German, but serving for East India Company. He came to Sindh in 1842. He wrote Travels in India, Sindh and the Punjab, which was published in 1845 - The Editor

The characters are called Khuda-wadi, and are found in the letters of the merchants. Compared with most of the alphabets of Hindostan, that of Sinde is very poor: there are but two characters which designate vowels and these are only used as initials. Hence the written language is used merely in letter-writing, and the few books in Sinde are written in Persian characters. The pronunciation of the B-looches is so uncouth, that the Sindians say they learnt it from their goats, when they were herdsmen in the mountains of Kelat! There are two different dialects: that of Lar, which is used in Hyderabad and the environs, and that of Sar, spoken in Upper Sinde.<sup>1</sup>

### George Clerk\*

The Scindhi dialect is a language perfectly distinct from any spoken in India. It is used, with many varieties, from the northern boundary of Katiwar as far north as Bhawalpore, and extends from the hills to the west to the desert which separates Scinde from the east portion of the Indian peninsula. These limits well agree with the Moslem accounts of the extent of empire belonging to the Raé or Hindu rulers of Scinde. Its grammatical structure is heterogeneous; the noun and its branches belonging to the Sanscrit, whereas the verb and adverbs are formed apparently upon the Persian model. The dialect abounds in Arabic words, which, contrary to the usual rule in India and Central Asia, constitute the common, not the learned name of things, as e. g., "Jabal," a hill; "baser," an onion (in ar basal); "abbo," a father; "thum," garlic (corr. from the Arfum); "Shay-y," a thing; "kull," all, &c. etc. etc. Pure as well as corrupted Sanscrit words, perfectly unintelligible to unlearned natives of the Indian peninsula, are perpetually occurring in Scinde, as e. g., "Sain," sir; "kukkur," a cock; "jas," victory; "apar," endless, &c. &c.

The only literature contained in it may be briefly described as religious and poetical; the former being translations of Arabic works on divinity, moral tales, &c. &c., the latter being the popular traditions of the country cast into rude and unartificial verse. In almost all cases the books have been composed by Scindee Mussulmans (as opposed to Balochis, &c.), and are written in the Arabic character called the Naskhi. These works are generally speaking difficult, and barely intelligible to the Hindu munshis, mehtas, and kardars of Scinde, and probably this may be the reason why they have hitherto been so little heard of by Europeans. The Hindus, afterwards he explained, have a totally different alphabet, and their own works written in it. To conclude this part of the subject, the only branch of learning valued or cultivated by the Scindhi is Arabic. It is not often that he attempts Persian, and the extraordinary difficulty he finds in mastering the simplest arithmetical operation, has always rendered him useless as a writer or accountant.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Travels in India, Sinde and the Punjab, London: Printed by A. Spottiswoode, New-Street Square, 1845

\* George Clerk was president of Bombay Presidency

<sup>2</sup> Taken from "Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde; with the appendices thereto, and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same Subject, not already before Parliament." Edited by James C. Moehvil on 10th August 1854"

# REPORTS OF DISTRICT MAGISTRATES ON THE EDUCATION OF SINDH\*

## Captain Rathborne, Magistrate of Hyderabad

There were no educational establishments, but all over the country moollahs taught those to read and write who wished to learn. Hindoos of the Amil class\* (universally employed as government servants), nearly all learn to read and write Persian with facility, though not with correctness, and the children of sardars and syuds mostly learned to read and write too. The Persian is the office language, but Sindee, in some of its various dialects, is spoken and understood by all. The Beloochees, too, have a language of their own, the Serai; but few keep it up. Hindostanee, too, is now spoken and understood in most large towns.

## Major Goldney, Magistrate of Shikarpur

There are no government schools or colleges; moollahs and syuds have schools in most villages of any size, not too well attended. Hindoos generally read, write, and keep accounts. Mussulmans in trade or government employ usually do so, but many jaghiredars and men of consequence can neither do one nor other. Persian is the universal language and character studied by the Mussulmans. Many Hindoos speak, but few read, Persian. The books studied by the Persian students are the various histories of Scinde Chuchnama\*, and so forth, and the Koran; seldom any commentaries or expositions. \_ Government documents for the offices, now and formerly, are written in Persian; village accounts frequently in Sindee. The Hindoos have many styles of writing; a man at Sukkur is often unable to read the Shikarpooore character, though only 24 miles apart. There are but four men at Shikarpooore able to decipher the Belooch Baniansh' writing. Punjabee and Sindee (Kyntee and Mahajine) are used by the traders, according to their nations. Pushtoo is spoken often by old Pathan families, settlers from above the passes, located for years past near Shikarpooore; numbers of Hindoos speak both Pushtoo and Persian, having studied them or learned them in their travels in Afghanistan; most government servants speak Persian.

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\* Note: These reports were prepared by District Magistrates and Judges in 1847 in reply to the query by R.K. Pringle, Commissioner in Sindh. These reports are included in book namely Admin of Sindh - The Editor

\* "Amil" literally means an administrator or official. Amils were a branch of Lohana Hindu tribe and had become hereditary government servant. The mention of Hindu Amil Munshis of the Ameers occurs frequently in the literature and documents of this book. They were responsible for drafting letters, treaties, etc and were frequently employed as agents and envoys for the rulers. There were good Amils working with Talpurs. This class continued working with English rulers too. - The Editor

\* Chach Nama also known as the "Fateh nama Sindh" and as "Tarikh-e-Hind wa Sindh" is a first ever authentic and available source book about the history of Sindh, chronicling the Rai Period (Chacha Dynasty's period) following the demise of the Rai Dynasty and the ascent of Chach of Aler to the throne, down to the Arab conquest by Muhammad bin Qasim in early 8th century AD. The book also contains history of Arabs in Sindh. The authorship of the original book is not known but it was translated into Persian by Ali Kufi - The Editor

## **Captain Preedy, Magistrate of Karachi**

There were no public educational institutions supported by Government in the towns or villages, but private schools were numerous in the large towns. The Mahomedan children of the wealthy were instructed in Persian and Arabic by the moolahs, one or two of whom were retained in each family, while the children of the poorer classes and of Hindoos (great numbers of whom studied Persian) were instructed by the public moollahs. The books made use of were the Chuson, Chiragh, Goolistan, Bhoistan Secunder, or History of Alexander, Chuch Namah, etc. The children of the Hindoo and mercantile classes were all instructed in Sindee, either by Brahman teachers or by Bunyahs. The Sindee is the language generally spoken and understood, but the Government accounts and correspondence are all kept in Persian.

## **Captain Young, Judge Advocate General**

There were no educational institutions supported by Government, but private schools were common in most towns, where Hindoo and Mahomedan children, but principally the former, were taught to read and write. Most of the Hindoos can read and write Sindee, and the sons of rich merchants, and those who are candidates for Government employment, learn Persian also.

A very small proportion of the Mahomedan part of the population is able either to read or write. Sindee is the common language of the country; there are two dialects in use, but as both are generally understood by the inhabitants, it is unnecessary to particularize them.

## **Captain Anderson, Deputy Judge- Advocate, Hyderabad**

There were several schools in the town of Hyderabad. These were taught by moollahs, but were attended chiefly by Hindoo children, who learnt to read and write Persian with the view of obtaining situations in the Duftur Khana, and of becoming eligible for Kardaratcs and other Government appointments. A few Mahomedans destined to become cazees (Kazi) were taught Arabic. Arithmetic was not taught in the schools. Such knowledge of it as was found necessary for keeping accounts and the transaction of general business, was picked up by the Hindoo children from their parents and friends; few Mahomedans paying much attention to that branch of education. Government did not contribute in any way to the maintenance of schools, nor were any particular buildings appropriated to that purpose. Those who wished to educate their sons clubbed together, and hired a moollah, who either taught them at his own quarters or attended at one or other of their houses, as was found most convenient for all parties. The school being once formed, others would join, paying the moollah according to their means.

Education was conducted precisely in the same manner in country towns and villages when there happened to be a moollah qualified to teach Persian. Many of the zemindars read and write Persian, but the Mahomedans are comparatively an uneducated race, while there are few

Hindoos who cannot read and write Persian or Sindee, and they are in general remarkably quick at accounts. Persian was the language in which all Government records were kept, and in which orders, sunuds, official papers, and documents of all kinds, and public and private letters were written. The Persian spoken and written is not, as may be supposed, of the purest description, but it answers all purposes remarkably well; the Sindee, or common language of the country, being wholly unfit for the transaction of official business. Of the latter, there are two dialects, viz., that of the upper country between Hyderabad and Shikarpooore, and that of Lar, or the lower country south of Hyderabad; but their difference consists only in the use of a few local words and expressions, and is no bar to general communication. Hindoo and Memon shopkeepers and merchants keep their accounts in the Sindee character and numerals, and all mercantile business is transacted in that language. The character is in general difficult to decipher from contractions, the omission of vowels, and the similarity of many of the letters. This objection, however, does not apply so much to their account books and ledgers, which are almost always carefully and often beautifully written, as to their notes and memoranda, which are usually written on small scraps of paper, and are some times barely legible, and cost much trouble to decipher. Confusion also arises from the employment of different characters and symbols; one set being used by the people of Shikarpooore, another by the Hyderabad, a third by those of Lar, and a fourth by the Memons. On an intimate acquaintance with the characters, their difference might probably be found less than it seems; but it is undoubtedly important, as it has frequently given rise to difficulty and delay in our courts of justice, and must be a constant source of impediment in all matters of business. The Belooch dialect is used chiefly by the hill tribes, and has little affinity with the Sindee; Poooshtoo is spoken by a few foreigners from Khelat and the upper countries. I have had one or two applications for spelling-books on the part of Moonshees, who expressed a wish to learn English, and I have no doubt that if Government schools be established for the teaching of Persian, English, and Arithmetic, many, especially the better class of Hindoos, would eagerly avail themselves of the opportunity to secure a good and cheap education for their children, provided no attempt be made to tamper with their religion.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from "Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde; with the appendices there to and all reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same subject, not already before Parliament." Edited by James C. Mechvill on 10th August 1854

**Official correspondence regarding Captain STACK's**

**"ENGLISH & SINDHI DICTIONARY"**

**AND**

**"GRAMMAR OF THE SINDHI LANGUAGE"**

**Title page of English & Sindhi Dictionary by Captain Stack**

A

DICTIONARY  
ENGLISH AND SINDHI.

BY  
CAPTAIN GEORGE STACK.

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Printed by Order of the Government of Bombay.

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BOMBAY:  
AMERICAN MISSION PRESS.

T. GRAM, PRINTER.

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1855.

PRESENTED BY THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR INDIA

A

GRAMMAR

OF THE

SINDHI LANGUAGE.

BY

CAPTAIN GEORGE STACK.

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Printed by Order of the Government of Bombay.

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BOMBAY:  
AMERICAN MISSION PRESS,  
T. GRAHAM, PRINTER.  
M, DCCC, XLIX.

1. Letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 1848 from Captain Stack to Commissioner Sindh; regarding superintendence and arrangements for printing of his books.

No. 21 of 1848  
General Department

From:-

Captain George Stack  
Deputy Collector and Magistrate

To

The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 1848

Sir,

In reference to my letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> April last to sir J. G. Lumsden, Secretary to Government General Department reporting on my arrangement for publication on the account of Government of a Sindhi Dictionary and Grammar. I have honour to request you for the information of Government that the printing of the English and Sindhi portion of the work, which it was proposed to be published separately, is now almost completed, I would, therefore, solicit instructions regarding it.

2. The work will contain about 220 pages of the size of the sample herewith annexed. In my report above referred to, I stated that 500 copies were ordered to be struck off and that the charge for printing paper would be 5 Rupees per page. The cost of printing in loose cover will be, I have ascertained, 2 annas per copy or Rupees 02.8.0. Thus the entire charge for the 500 copies of the work will be Rs. 1162-8-0. This will give Rupees 2-5-0 per copy. 2/2 Rupees appears therefore a fair sum to charge it at.

3. There is, however, one point I would beg to represent for the consideration of Government viz the outlay. I have brought myself put to in preparing the work. However, after I began the Dictionary in November 1845, I took my employment for the purpose of assisting me

in it, a Sindhi Pundit\*, a man holding no Government employment, to whom I have since then, with the intermission of the 3 months. I was about in Bombay paid from my own purse 40 Rupees for period of his hiring. This man has been employed by me for no other purpose than the preparation of these Scindee works and I would trust that Government will not think me presumption in hoping for some requirements. For my own labour, I take nothing as I shall consider myself highly honoured if it brings me the approbation of those works I shall intimate progress in the actual expenses. The time however during which this Pundit has employed by me, has not been salary paid on this English and Sindhi Dictionary. I also long time completed a Sindhi Grammar and have made considerable advance in the preparation of a Sindhi and English Dictionary as soon as the work now almost through the time is finished. I propose printing the Grammar, and the printer informs me he will be able to put it through the press quickly and at a less cost by 8 annas per page than the Dictionary. The Sindhi and English Dictionary will hopefully be ready for his hands as soon as the grammar is struck off.

4. I have directed the printer to forward to the Secretary to Government a copy of the English and Sindhi Dictionary when finished, for the approval of Government. I would beg however, early orders regarding the price laid by Government on the work, and on my other point that may be necessary so that there be no delay in issuing it. It is much needed by officers who may to train the language

5. In reference to the arrangements made with the connection of Government in the referred to Mr. J. G. Lumsden letter No. 1750 of the 19<sup>th</sup> May last regarding the correction of proof sheets by Major Comdy I have the honour to return that this was printed in conservancies of the print having desired and he would be unable to send the sheets such a distance as the station for correction. Soon after the opening of the Moonshee\*, however, he has own accord offered to forward them to me, if finished by Mr. Stamer\* and as there may obvious advantages in my correcting the proof sheets myself requested him to so. I wrote also to Major Comdy to inform him of the change in arrangements and let me to thank him for the trouble he had previously put to

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) George Stack  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collector office, Hyderabad  
19<sup>th</sup> January, 1848

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\* Captain Stack had hired services of Pundit Brahm Suchanand, belonged to Hyderabad- The Editor

\* Munshi is a Persian word, originally used for a contractor, writer or secretary, and later used in the Mughal Empire and British India for native language teachers or secretaries employed by Europeans. During British Period, Clerks, accountants, translators and secretaries hired by the government were known as Munshies

\* Mr. Streamer was Manager of Mission Press, Bombay

2. **Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Captain Stack; dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 1848, asking him to transmit letter of Secretary to Government of India.**

No. 237 of 1848  
General Department

To

Captain G. Stack  
Deputy Collector of  
Hyderabad

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> January, 1848

Sir,

With reference to your letter No.21, dated 19<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to request that you will have a goodness to inform me with a copy of your letter to the Secretary J. G. Lumsden referred to in your 1<sup>st</sup> Para as also a copy of the correspondence which may have passed directly between yourself and Government on the printing of your English & Sindhi Dictionary and Grammar.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> January, 1848

**3. Letter from Captain Stack to Commissioner Sindh; dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1848, transmitting the letter of Secretary of India.**

No. 38 of 1848  
General Department

From:

Captain G. Stack  
Deputy Collector, Hyderabad

To

Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1848

Sir,

In reference to your letter No. 237 of the 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the correspondence as per margin- mat passed between myself and Government on the subject of Sindhi Grammar and Dictionary.

Reference from letter of J. G. Lumsden, Secretary to Government of Bombay to Lieutenant G. Stack, with reference to letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 1848 from Goldsmid with orders of Honourable Governor in Council to Mr. Elliot Esquire, Secretary to Government of India letter of 28<sup>th</sup> January 1848 from Mr. J. G. Lumsden to Lieutenant G. Stack, Deputy Collector, Hyderabad  
Lieutenant G. Stack to Secretary Government of Bombay dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1848.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Singed) George Stack  
Deputy Collector

Hyderabad  
Deputy Collector office  
2<sup>nd</sup> February, 1848

4. Letter from Secretary to Government of Sindh to Secretary to Government of India; dated 25<sup>th</sup> February 1848, transmitting copy of George Stack's Dictionary for perusal.

No. 09 of 1848  
General Department

To

Honourable H. M. Elliot\*, Esquire  
Secretary to Government of India  
Foreign Department

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> February, 1848

Sir,

With reference to 2<sup>nd</sup> Para of the letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> February last to the addressed of the Secretary to the Government of Scinde, I am directed to request that you will be so good as to make known to me to the Right Honourable Governor General in Council the wish of the Honourable the Governor that the Scindee Grammar prepared by Lieutenant G. Stack may be transmitted to the Bombay with a view to immediate publication by that officer who is about to visit this Presidency.

2. Lieutenant Stack has made considerable progress in compiling a Dictionary of the Scindee language which the Honourable Governor hopes to be able shortly to put into press.

3. As there reveals at present neither Grammar nor Dictionary calculated for the acquirement of the Scindee language by European, the Honourable Governor attached the highest appreciations for bringing first works in this regard by the officer employed in Scinde, who is carrying a brilliant job besides his day to day official workings.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
H. R Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
25<sup>th</sup> February, 1848

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\* Sir Henry Miers Elliot (1808 -1853) was an English civil servant and historian who worked with the East India company for 26 years. He is most known for History of India, as Told by Its Own Historians based on his works, published posthumously in eight volumes, between 1867-1877 in London. He served as Secretary to Government of India Foreign Department. The eighth Volume of the History of India, as Told by Its Own Historians is about Sindh. That book has also been translated by Atta Muhammad Bhanbhro into Sindhi in 2000- The Editor

5. **Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Captain George Stack; dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1848, inquiring as to whether his Dictionary and Grammar have been prepared for printing.**

No. 1148 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Captain George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

Sir,

I am directed by Honourable the Governor General in Council and to transmit copy of the letter addressed under dated 25<sup>th</sup> ultimo to the Government of India , on the subject of Scindee Grammar and Dictionary, which you have compiled, and to acquaint you that Government is prepared to have these works printed under your own superintendence during your stay at the Presidency , and after your departure under that of Major Comdy, who will be requested to undertake their proof reading.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. M. Elliot, Esquire  
Secretary to the Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
4<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

6. **Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Captain George Stack; dated 6<sup>th</sup> April 1848, informing him that Major Comdy has been appointed as Superintendent for printing of his Dictionary and Grammar.**

No. 1410 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Captain George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

Sir,

With reference to my letter No.1148, dated 14<sup>th</sup> instant, I am directed by Honourable the Governor General in Council and to acquaint you that Major Comdy has considered being superintended the printing of your Scindee Grammar and Dictionary on your return to Scinde.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. M. Elliot, Esq  
Secretary to Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
6<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

7. Letter from Captain George Stack to Secretary to Government of India; dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1848, informing him that he has made arrangements with American Press for publication of his Dictionary and Grammar books.

No. 240 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Secretary to Government of India  
Bombay

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

Sir,

With reference to the letter No.1148, dated 4<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to report that I have made arrangements with the American Mission Press for the publication of Sindhi Grammar and Dictionary compiled by me.

2. The English and Sindhi Dictionary have been recommended and some progress has been made. It is being printed in small type on drum 800 papers. I have directed the printer to strike off 500 copies which I believe will be sufficient and hopefully will be approved.

3. On the completion of the English and Sindhi Dictionary, I would propose putting Grammar in the press. Before it can be printed I trust to have the Sindhi and English portion of the Dictionary, which will make a second volume, may be ready in a month more work is required to prepare it for the printer's house.

4. The charge of the Mission Press for bringing out these works will be as I am informed Rupees 500 per hundred pages, including paper. The English and Sindhi portion of the Dictionary now in the press, that portion will be 190 pages.

5. Having made these arrangements, I propose if approved to hand over the charges, Comdy to full time superintendence the printed copies and to bring for my perusal.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

Deputy Collector Office  
29<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

8. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to George Stack; dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1848, informing him about approval for publication of his Dictionary and Grammar under supervision of Major Comdy.

No. 1753 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Lieutenant George Stack  
Deputy Collector,  
Hyderabad

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> May, 1848

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your fair letter, dated 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, reporting that arrangements have been made at the American Mission Press for the publication of the Scindee Grammar and Dictionary compiled by you, and acquaint you that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council approved your proposal to make over superintendence of the Grammar and Dictionary, which is passing through the Press to Major Comdy.

2. His Lordship in the Council desires that you will return to your duties in Scinde as soon as convenient.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden,  
Secretary to the Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
17<sup>th</sup> May, 1848

9. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Governor of Bombay; dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 1849, recommending him to sanction remuneration of Pundit, who helped Captain Stack in his work.

No. 459 of 1849  
General Department

From:  
The Commussioner in Scinde

To  
The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
Governor in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> March 1849

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit for the information of your Lordship in Council , copy of a letter No. 21 , dated 19<sup>th</sup> January last , from Captain Stack, reporting the progress made in the publication of his Scindee works and to recommend that the price of the English and Scindee Dictionary be fixed at Rupees 2½ as proposed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Para , and that Captain Stack be remunerated for the pay of the Pundit recruited by him to assist in his works as to Rs.40 from period of the first recruitment until their completion.

2. This is the only portion of the cost of the publication of these useful works which would eventually incurred upon the Government, as it is proposed to fix the price at a sum which will cover the expenses of printing.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R. K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
1<sup>st</sup> March, 1849

10. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner of Sindh; dated 29<sup>th</sup> March 1849, sanctioning the price of the Dictionary being fixed at Rs. 2-8-0 per copy and authorizing Captain Stack to draw the actual outlay incurred by him on contingent bill.

No. 929 of 1849  
General Department

To

R.K Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> March, 1849

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 459, dated 1<sup>st</sup> instant, with enclosure from Captain Stack, reporting the progress made in the publication of his Scindee works and to acquaint you that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council approved and sanction the price of the English and Sindhi Dictionary being fixed at Rupees 2-8-0 as two and annas eight per copy, as suggested by the officer.

2. As regards the request of Captain Stack to be remunerated for the expenses to which he has personally been put by engaging the services of a Moonshee to assist him in these works, His Lordship in Council is pleased to authorize that officer to prepare Contingent Bill for the actual which has been incurred on this account.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden,  
Secretary to the Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
29<sup>th</sup> March, 1849

11. **Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to George Stack; dated 11<sup>th</sup> April 1849, sanctioning the price of the Dictionary being fixed at Rs. 2-8-0 per copy and preparation contingent bill for the remuneration of Munshi.**

No. 828 of 1849  
General Department

To  
Lieutenant George Stack  
Deputy Collector, Hyderabad

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> Apr<sup>l</sup>, 1849

Sir,

With reference to your letter to my address, No. 21 of the 19<sup>th</sup> January last, I have the honour to transmit for your information copy of a letter No. 929 of 29<sup>th</sup> March last, from Secretary J. G. Lumsden containing the sanction of Government to the price of the English and Sindhi Dictionary being fixed at Rupees two and annas eight, as requested by you, and to your referring a contingency bill for the actually you may have incurred in arranging the sanction of a Moonshee to assist you in the work.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R. K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
11<sup>th</sup> April, 1849

**12. Letter from George Stack to Commissioner Sindh; dated 19<sup>th</sup> July 1849, complaining him regarding delay made by American Press in printing of Dictionary.**

No. 81 of 1849  
General Department

From

Lieutenant George Stack  
Deputy Collector,  
Hyderabad

To

Commissioner in Scinde  
Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1849

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have this day addressed a letter to the Secretary to the Government, General Department regarding the English and Sindhi Dictionary, prepared by me, which is now ready. This letter I have enclosed to the Superintendent of the American Mission Press with a request that he will hand it over along with a copy of the work for the approval of the Government.

2. I took the liberty of addressing the Secretary to Government direct that would have caused considerable delay to have a copy of English and Sindhi Dictionary for approval of the Government.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) George Stack  
Deputy Collector, Hyderabad

Deputy Collector office  
19<sup>th</sup> July, 1849

13. Letter from George Stack to Secretary to Government of India; dated 19<sup>th</sup> July 1849, informing him about increase in the price of the Dictionary.

No. 80 of 1849  
General Department

From

Lieutenant George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

To

J. G. Lumsden,  
Secretary to the Government of India  
Bombay

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> July 1849

Sir,

In referring 3<sup>rd</sup> Para of my letter No. 21 of the 19<sup>th</sup> January, the Commissioner in Scinde, referred in your reply to Commissioner No. 929 of the 29<sup>th</sup> March last, General Department, in which I mentioned that I had directed the Printer of the American Mission Press to forward you a copy for the approval of Government when ready, a copy of the English and Sindhi Dictionary, prepared by me, I have the honour now acquainted you that the superintendent of the American Mission Press will forward you this copy along with this letter.

2. I had hoped the work would have been done much soon, but delay which the superintendent of the Mission Press inform me were unavoidable, have delayed it till now.

3. In my letter above referred to, I estimate the cost of the work stitching included, at 1162.8.0 Rupees. This estimate was made on the supposition it would contain 220 pages. I now find it has taken up 230 pages besides preface. The superintendent of the Mission Press, too recommended binding in cloth boards instead of stitching, and this he informs me can be done in that establishment for a good copy. If this be sanctioned the entire cost, including binding, would be about 1350 Rupees. I have not yet received the Printer's bill, so I cannot speak exactly, but I have directed the superintendent of the Mission Press to forward with this for the

information of Government, a Memorandum, showing the exact amount of it. I have also directed that the copy submitted to you be bound, as he proposed, for approval.

4. If it be though advisable to have the entire impression (500 copies) or any part of it, bound after the pattern, it would save delay were orders given direct the superintendent Mission Press regarding it, and I would also feel obliged by orders being given to the same individual as to whom he should hand over the work for disposal, I believe the superintendent of the Government Press usually disperse of books printed for Government.

5. In your letter to the Commissioner in Sindh quoted above, you inform the Commissioner that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council sanctions the price of the work being fixed at the rate of 2.8.0 Rupees per copy, as had suggested. This was, however, drawn from the previous estimate of cost above spoken of, which has now been found too low. I should His Lordship the Governor in Council direct the price to be increased accordingly, I would feel obliged by the person to whom the work as given for the disposal, being instructed in regard to it.

6. I would beg to add that the Sindhi Grammar has been for some time in the Press, and the Printer informed that he hoped there will not be much delay in completing it.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) George Stack  
Deputy Collector, Hyderabad

Deputy Collector office  
19<sup>th</sup> July, 1849

14. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner of Sindh; dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1849, informing him about the price of the Dictionary being fixed at Rs. 3 per copy.

No. 2998 of 1849  
General Department

To

R.K Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> September, 1849

Sir,

Advertising to my letter No 92<sup>o</sup>, dated 29 March last, I am directed to acquaint you that on the ground stated in the accompanying letter from Captain Stack, dated 19<sup>th</sup> July the Right Honourable the Governor in Council has been pleased to fix the price of the English and Sindhi portion of the Dictionary at the rate of Rupees /3/ per copy.

2. His Lordship in Council requests that you will have the goodness to inform him, whether a number of copies, say about 200 or 250, might not with the advantage sent to Scinde for sale.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden,  
Secretary to the Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
6<sup>th</sup> September, 1849

**15. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Governor of Bombay; dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1849, requesting him for 250 copies of the Dictionary for sale in Sindh.**

No. 1804 of 1849  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
Governor in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> September 1849

My Lord,

In reply to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Para of the Secretary J. G. Landsmen's letter No.2998 of the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to state for the information of your Lordship in Council that I am of the opinion that two hundred fifty (250) copies of the Captain Stack's English and Sindh Dictionary might with adulate be sent us if on sale to this province.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R. K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
25<sup>th</sup> September 1849

16. Letter from Deputy Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner of Sindh; dated 20<sup>th</sup> September 1849, forwarding 250 copies of the Dictionary for sale in Sindh.

No. 3476 of 1849  
General Department

To  
R.K. Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> October, 1849

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1804, dated 25<sup>th</sup> ultimo, and to acquaint you that two hundred and fifty (250) copies of Captain Stack's English and Scindhee Dictionary will be forwarded to you for sale in Scinde.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. V. Bayley  
Deputy Secretary to  
Government of India

Bombay Castle  
20<sup>th</sup> October, 1849

17. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner of Sindh; dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1849, forwarding 250 copies of the Dictionary.

No. 149 of 1849  
General Department

To

R.K Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 1849

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have this day dispatched to the Company General at the Presidency one box containing two hundred and fifty (250) copies of Captain Stack's English and Scindhee Dictionary for the purpose being forwarded to you according to instructions from the Government.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden,  
Secretary to the Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
2<sup>nd</sup> November 1849

**18. Letter from Deputy Collector to Commissioner of Sindh; dated 29<sup>th</sup> November 1849, for acknowledgment of 250 copies of the Dictionary.**

No. 167 of 1849  
General Department

From  
Deputy Collector  
Ghorabaree

To  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> November, 1849

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the accompanying letter of this day's date No. 3658 with enclosure to my address intended for your office from the Assistant Commissioner General in Scinde.

2. I beg also inform you of the receipt of a letter to your address through the Commissariat Department said to contain 250 copies of Captain Stack's English and Scindhee Dictionary.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) T. R. Stewart, Captain  
Deputy Collector

Ghorabaree  
29<sup>th</sup> November, 1849

**19. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Deputy Collector Karachi; dated 8<sup>th</sup> December 1849, placing copies of the Dictionary at his disposal.**

No. 2307 of 1849  
General Department

To

Captain T. R. Stewart  
Deputy Collector  
Kurrachee

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> December 1849

Sir,

Replying to your letter No167 of 29<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I have the honour to request that the copies of Captain Stack's English and Scindee Dictionary may be made at the disposal of T. R. Stewart, incharge of my office at Kurrachee who will retain it to deposit during my return there

I have honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R. K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
8<sup>th</sup> December 1849

**OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING  
EXAMINATION OF MILITARY AND CIVIL AND  
MILITARY OFFICERS IN SINDHI LANGUAGE -I**

**1. Application of Lieutenant Burton to Superintendent of Canals for forwarding request to the Committee for his examination in Sindhi Language.**

Kurrachee  
24<sup>th</sup> March 1848

To  
Major Scott\*  
Superintendent of Canals

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to request that you will forward my application for a committee to ascertain my proficiency in Scindee language.

2. I may remind you that Lieutenant Donsey and Lieutenant Dickson were examined in the language above mentioned, the former to have civil employment, and latter, with his Regiment.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant F.R Burton  
Assistant Superintendent of  
Survey

Supt Canal office  
Kurrachee  
24<sup>th</sup> March 1848

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\* Lt.-Colonel Walter Scott of the Bombay Engineers was the Superintendent of Canals, Irrigation and Forest in Sindh. He had prepared many valuable reports with regard to his post holding in Sindh. Richard Burton worked under him for many years. Richard Burton dedicated his famous book "Sindh or the Unhappy Valley" to Walter Scott. - The Editor

**2. Forwarding letter from Superintendent of Canals to the Secretary to Government of Sindh for examining Lieutenant Burton in the examination of Sindhi Language.**

No. 188 of 1848  
General Department

From

Major Scott  
The Superintendent of Canals

To

Captain Brown,  
The Secretary to the Scinde Government  
Kurrachee

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> March 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit an application for a committee and a case therein submitted by Lieutenant Burton for his proficiency in Scindee language.

2. Lieutenant Burton's health being very delicate, it would be convenient to permit the Committee under supervision of Captain Stack for the purpose in Kurrachee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient servant  
(Signed) Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals

Superintendent of Canals and Forest Office  
Kurrachee  
26<sup>th</sup> March 1848

**3. Letter from the Secretary to Government of Sindh to Assistant Adjutant-General for knowing about the Committee and character in which Lieutenant Donsey and Lieutenant Dickson were examined.**

No. 792 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Assistant Adjutant-General  
Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to apprise that Lieutenant Donsey and Lieutenant Dickson of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment have already passed examination in Scindee language. I have been directed by Commissioner in Scinde to request that you will have to inform me which committee member had examined those officers and what character was used by them in the examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown\*  
The Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> March, 1848

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\* Captain William Brown of 12th Regiment of Bombay Presidency had long and vast career in Sindh. He had been working before the annexation of Sindh. During Pringle period he was working as the Secretary to the Government - The Editor

4. Letter from Assistant Adjutant-General to the Secretary to Government of Sindh, dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 1848, informing him that Lieutenant Donsey and Lieutenant Dickson were examined by a senior Committee.

No.460 of 1848  
General's Office  
Assistant Adjutant  
Camp Kurrachee

To

Captain Brown,  
The Secretary to the Scinde Government  
Kurrachee

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> March, 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.792 of 30<sup>th</sup> Instant.

2. In reply, I beg to inform you, that Lieutenant Dickson of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment N.I was examined in the Sindee language by a senior Committee assembled at Kurrachee, of which Lieutenant Colonel Ried G. B of the 12th Regiment and I was president.

3. The Committee was assisted in its proceedings by a Sindee Moonshee, who gave Lieutenant Dickson some Sindee petitions to read, and also caused him to answer with several natives of the country in the presence of the committee.

4. Several written questions were also translated from English into Sindee by Lieutenant Donsey, and the report of his proficiency was very favourable. The proceedings of the committee being transmitted to Army Head Quarters.

5. Lieutenant Donsey was examined by the committee of passed Interpreters at Shikarpore, of which Major Goldenly, Collector and Magistrate, was president. The examination of his officers being conducted in much the same manner as that before which Lieutenant Donsey appeared.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient servant  
(Signed) Major Green. C.B  
Assistant Adjutant-general

Kurrachee

31<sup>st</sup> March 1848

5. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 4<sup>th</sup> April 1848, informing that officers are offering themselves for the examination of Sindhi language.

No. 848 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Honourable G. R. Clerk,  
Governor and President  
Bombay

Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> April 1848

Honourable Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for the information of the memo a copy of the letter No.188 of the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1848 and its endorsement from Major Scott, Superintendent of Canal in Scinde, of Lieutenant Burton's request for a Committee to assess his proficiency in the Scindee language.

2. I beg to submit the orders of your in above mentioned letter, as the committee to be assisted in the Government officer in Civil employee in this province offering themselves for examination in the Scindee language.

3. I apprehend that at present there would be rather impossible to find out qualified officers for the purpose of forming a Committee of examination, but as Lieutenant Stack is understood and have attained a comprehensive knowledge of the language, perhaps the best choice would be for him to examine Lieutenant Burton and report on his proficiency on his knowledge under laid down rules as the Committee of Examination in Bombay may practice for the purpose and the officers have passed in this way. They will be available for the examination of others.

4. In this regard, I would recommend that early measures should be adopted for extending the same encouragement on the part of Government to education, as in our other provinces is no doubt.

5. I annex a copy of a letter No. 460 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ultimo from Assistant Adjutant-General, in explanation as the proficiency in the Scindee language in the examination and which Lieutenant Deikson and Lieutenant Donsey, both the officers have already passed.

I have the honour to be Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.K Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
4<sup>th</sup> April 1848

6. Letter from Lieutenant Donsey to Superintendent of Canals, dated 15<sup>th</sup> April 1848, informing the state of Scripts being used for Sindhi language.

No. 441 of 1848  
General Department

From  
Lieutenant Donsey  
Executive Canal Officer Upper Scinde

To  
Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals  
Kurrachee

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1848

Sir,

Having passed a colloquial examination in the Scindee language, the proceedings of which are in the Adjutant General's office, Bombay, and there being no fixed standard scale of acquisition laid down to qualify as an Interpreter in this language.

2. Moreover as it possess no fixed written character, and there is use of its various written characters, and almost every knowledge of them being confined to a region, for prepared as (these ever knowing only the character written in the part of country in which they reside), let me to transmit an application to be considered as a Interpreter in Scindee, and to be altered to the usual Moonshee Allowance granted on passing in a language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant Donsey

Canal Officer Upper Scinde  
Shikarpoore  
15<sup>th</sup> April 1848

**7. Letter from Superintendent of Canals to Secretary to Government of Sindh, dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 1848, transmitting application of Lt. Donsey for consideration as Sindhi Interpreter.**

No. 208 of 1848  
General Department

From

Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals  
Kurrachee

To

Captain Brown  
Secretary to Government of Scinde

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> April 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit application from Lieutenant Donsey, for his consideration as Scindee Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Scott, Major  
Superintendent of Canals

Superintendent of Canals office  
Kurrachee  
20<sup>th</sup> April 1848

**Copy is submitted for the orders of the Commissioner Scinde**

(Signed) Scott, Major  
Superintendent of Canals

Superintendent of Canals office  
Kurrachee  
20<sup>th</sup> April 1848

8. Letter from Secretary to Government of Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 21<sup>st</sup> April 1848, transmitting application of Lt. Donsey for consideration for Munshi allowance for Sindhi Interpreter.

No. 1057 of 1848  
General Department

To  
Honourable G. R. Clerk,  
Governor and President  
Bombay.

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> April 1848

Honourable Sir,

I have the honour to transmit for the consideration of your Lordship in Council, in reference and Commissioner's letter in No.48, dated 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, copy of a communication from the Superintendent of Canals and Forest in Scinde forwarding an application from Lieutenant Donsey, the Canal Officer to be considered as Scindhee Interpreter and to be submitted to the usual Moonshee allowance granted on passing colloquial examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain Brown,  
Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Kurrachee  
21<sup>st</sup> April 1848

9. Letter from Secretary Civil and Military Committee to Secretary to Government of Bombay to Governor of Bombay dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 1848, directing that a Committee of three examiners to be appointed for examination of officers.

No. 9 of 1848  
Military Department

To

J. G. Lumsden Esquire  
Secretary to Government  
General Department  
Bombay

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1848

Sir,

I am directed by the Examination Committee to acknowledge your letter No. 185 of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, with its accompaniment.

2. In reply the Committee has directed me to observe that the arrangements indicated in paragraph 3<sup>rd</sup> of instant in Pringle's letter of the 4<sup>th</sup> ultimo, appears to be very proper one for Lieutenant Burton's examination, but they would recommend that in future (for when ever it may be practicable) at least two other officers, who have passed in Scindee, shall be associated with Lieutenant Stack.

3. These officers might form a regular Committee to assemble at a stated place, twice or thrice times a year, for the Examination of all candidates. Their proceedings to be regulated according to the standard laid down in the rules for the examination of officers in the Native Language No. 239 of Page No. 824 of James Code.

4. Officers desirous of appearing before the Committee might be admitted to adhere in any advantages now enjoyed by those who present themselves for Examination before the Committee in Bombay.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) J. Erstrine  
Secretary Civil and Military  
Committee

Bombay Castle  
8<sup>th</sup> May 1848

**10. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner Sindh dated 26<sup>th</sup> May 1848 informing that Lt. Donsey is not entitled for Munshi allowance.**

No. 2310 of 1848  
Military Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> May 1848

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of the letter from Secretary to the Government of Scinde, No.1057, dated the 21<sup>st</sup> ultimo, with its enclosures, and in reply to state, that Lieutenant Donsey can be considered to have passed the colloquial examination only, and consequently is not entitled to the Moonshi allowance.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
26<sup>th</sup> May 1848

11. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner of Sindh, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848, forwarding information copy of letter 8<sup>th</sup> May for appointment of three examiners to examine the officers.

No. 1989 of 1848  
General Department

To

R. K. Pringle, Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 848, dated 4<sup>th</sup> April last, with enclosures, soliciting the orders of the Government as to the course to be adopted in the event of affairs in civil employe offering themselves for examination in the Scindee language. I am directed by the Right the Governor in Council to transmit for your information, the annexed copy of a letter on the subject (No.9), dated 8<sup>th</sup> ultimo, from the Secretary to the Civil and Military examination committee and suggest that the course therein indicated be followed.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848

12. Letter from the Superintendent of Canals in Sindh to Secretary to Government of Sindh, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1848, informing the qualification of Lieutenant Burton in Sindhi language.

No. 177 of 1848/49  
Canal Department

From

The Superintendent of Canals in Scinde

To

Captain E. I. Brown  
Secretary to the Scinde Government  
Kurrachee

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to submit letter from Lieutenant Burton under dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June with reference to the G.G.O No.316 of May 1848.

2. Lieutenant Burton has not mentioned his qualification in the Scindee language but the Commissioner is aware that he has applied for a Committee and that he considers that Lieutenant Stack, Deputy Collector to be qualified to conduct public business in that language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Scott, Major  
Superintendent of Canals in  
Scinde

Kurrachee  
3<sup>rd</sup> June 1848

### 13. Application of Lieutenant Burton with request to allow him Munshi Allowance.

From

Lieutenant Burton  
Assistant Superintend Surveyor

To

The Superintendent of Canals in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Sir,

Having observed that by a G.O letter of 316 of 1848, the sum of amounting Rs. one thousand (1000) has been granted to Captain Marston and Lieutenant Dickson for passing the examination of four native languages. I have the honour to submit a true copy of a document retained from the Adjutant General's office, by which it appears that I have passed the four numbers of examinations as the two officers above allowed to.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.F Burton  
Assistant Superintendent  
Surveyor

Kurrachee  
5<sup>th</sup> June 1848

**Extract of Proceedings of a Committee of which Major General--- Kremdy is President for the examination of officers in the Native languages, assembled at Bombay, on 1st of May 1843**

Rank & name	Written translation from English to Native Language of a tale	Viva Voce translation from Native Language of another of a petition	Viva Voce translation of an extract to the Native Language, of an extract from the proceedings of civil trials	Grammatical knowledge of the native language	Colloquial knowledge of the native language	Remarks
Hindoostanee Lieutenant R.F. Burton 18 <sup>th</sup> Regiment	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed.
Extract of Proceedings of a Committee of which Major General--- Kremdy is President for the examination of officers in the Native languages, assembled at Bombay, on 16 <sup>th</sup> October 1843						
Cauzatee Lieutenant R.F. Burton	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed.
Extract of Proceedings of a Committee of which Major General--- Kremdy is President for the examination of officers in the Native languages, assembled at Bombay, on 21 <sup>st</sup> October 1844						
Mahratta Lieutenant R.F. Burton	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed.
Extract of Proceedings of a Committee of which Major General J.B. Belassis is President for the examination of officers in the Native languages, assembled at Bombay, on 15 <sup>th</sup> October 1847						
Persian Lieutenant R.F. Burton	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed.

Adjutant General's office  
Bombay 22<sup>nd</sup> October 1847

(Signed) S. Donley, Major

**True copy to R.F. Burton\***  
Assistant Superintendent Surveyor in Scinde

\* Richard Burton had invented a formula of learning different languages and dialects. He could speak and write more than 20 languages. The Editor

15. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 1848, forwarding application of Lt. Burton for allowance.

No. 1536 of 1848  
Canal Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
Governor and President in Council,  
Bombay

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> June 1848

My Lord,

I have the honour to transmit for your information, a copy of letter from Superintendent of Canals in Scinde's letter No. 177 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> last and of its endorsement from his Assistant Lieutenant Burton on the subject of his having passed an examination in four (04) of the Native languages.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
5<sup>th</sup> June 1848

**16. Letter from Secretary to Government of Sindh to Collector Hyderabad, dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848, asking about availability of Captain Stack for conduction examination of officers.**

No. 1633 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Collector & Magistrate  
Hyderabad

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit direction to request you to state whether Captain Stack can without inconvenience be allowed to proceed to Kurrachee for future phase of examining Lieutenant Burton and any other officers, in the Scindhee language and at what time?

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown  
Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Kurrachee  
14<sup>th</sup> June 1848

17. Letter from Secretary to Government of Sindh to Collector Karachi, dated 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848, informing him about examination of Lt. Burton to be held shortly.

No. 1634 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Collector & Magistrate  
Kurrachee

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848

Sir,

In reply to your letter No.1268 of the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1848, I have the honour to transmit direction to inform you that Lieutenant Burton may be examined in the Scindhee language by Lieutenant Stack as soon as the reply of my letter to the officer be obtained, without inconvenience to his duties.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown  
Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Kurrachee  
14<sup>th</sup> June 1848

**18. Letter from Collector Hyderabad to Secretary to Government of Sindh, dated 20<sup>th</sup> June 1848, informing about leave applied by Captain Stack.**

No. 798 of 1848  
General Department

From

The Collector & Magistrate  
Hyderabad

To

Secretary to Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1633 of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant and in reply to state that a great inconvenience would arise from Lieutenant Stack's being taken away from his duties to examine officers at distant stations in Scinde, but that he is about to apply for leave to proceed Kurrachee next month for a most urgent private affairs, that I can not under these circumstances throw any obstacle in the way of such leave being granted, and that he might take that opportunity of examining any officers who might appear before him in Scindee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Rathborene  
Collector & Magistrate

Hyderabad  
Collector's Office  
20<sup>th</sup> June 1848

## 19. An Application of Francis Richard Burton, to his Reporting Officer for assessment of his proficiency in Punjabi.

To

The Superintendent of  
Canals & Forests in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Sir,

I have the honour to request to you that I have attained which is in my humble opinion a competent knowledge of the Punjabee tongue, as read, written and spoken by the natives. I am also desirous of aspiring to show proof of my proficiency. But as probably some difficulty may be experienced in examining my qualification, I hope that I may be excused if offer the following sympathies:

1<sup>st</sup> That I may be examined by a Native Committee presided now by an officer as was the case with Lieutenant Dickson, 3<sup>d</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry in the Scindee language in 1846.

2<sup>nd</sup> That with the selection to the effect that I know the language well enough to pass for the public business in it may be considered difficult, in that the books which I have studied vernacular upon may be brought and assess a proof of my proficiency.

2. It is, I presume unnecessary to say anything about the volume of a knowledge of Punjabee - a tongue which contains the several works of the Sikhs and most of the Scindee Hindoos and in spoken with some few variations of the dialect throughout the vast track lying between Peshawar to the Indian Peninsula.

3. As the G.G.O 18 October 1838 extent the grant of Moonshee Allowance to any officer acquiring the requisite degree of proficiency in any of the Vernacular dialects of the British or neighboring territories on the Continent of India. I venture to express any claim to that allowance may be taken with consideration.

4. In conclusion, I have the honour to inform you that if required I am ready to submit to you a list of the Punjabee works which I have studied.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Richard Burton  
Surveyor in Supt. Canal office

Kurrachee

3<sup>rd</sup> July 1848

20. Forwarding application of Lt. Burton from the Superintendent of Canals & Forests to Secretary to the Government of Sindh for assessment of his proficiency in Punjabi.

No. 352 of 1848  
General Department

From  
The Superintendent of  
Canals & Forests in Scinde

To  
Captain E.I Brown  
Secretary to the Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> July 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to submit a letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> instant from Lieutenant Burton to my address, requesting to be examined in the Punjabee language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Scott, Major  
The Superintendent of Canals  
in Scinde

Kurrachee  
5<sup>th</sup> July 1848

21. Letter from Secretary to Government of Sindh to Superintendent of Canals, dated 26<sup>th</sup> May 1848, informing him that assessment of Lt. Burton's proficiency in Punjabi would be arranged shortly.

No. 1892 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Superintendent of  
Canals & Forests in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> July 1848

Sir,

I have the honour by direction of the Commissioner, in reply to your letter No 352 of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, to inform you that measures will be taken for ascertaining Lieutenant Burton's proficiency in Punjabee language at the same time that he is examined in the Scindhi language in presence of the intimation conveyed in the letter of your address of this 14<sup>th</sup> June last, but that as regards the Moonshee Allowance, you are referred to Secretary in Lieutenant Colonel Melville letter No.2310, dated 26<sup>th</sup> May last conveying through orders of Government on a similar application from Lieutenant Donsey for which you will perceive that the claim was held to be inadmissible.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown  
Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Bombay Castle  
26<sup>th</sup> July 1848

22. Letter from Secretary to Commissioner of Sindh to Superintendent of Canals, dated 14<sup>th</sup> July 1848, informing him that Lt. Burton is not entitled for Munshi allowance.

No. 385 of 1848/49  
General Department

From  
The Superintendent of Canals in Scinde

To  
Captain E.I Brown  
Secretary to the Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to submit that the case of Lieutenant Donsey decided in Lieutenant Colonel Melville's letter No. 2310 of the 25<sup>th</sup> May last is scarcely a precedent in the case of Lieutenant Burton.

2. Lieutenant Donsey underwent a colloquial Examination only such as every officer in the service now undergoes in Hindoostani before he is allowed to hold a company.

3. Such an examination is merely proof that an officer can make himself intelligible and give instructions on ordinary points to the men under his command.

4. This is not by any means the sort of Examination Lieutenant Burton asks for; he is prepared to undergo the same sort of Examination which is laid down for Interpreter in the vernacular languages of India.

5. As Lieutenant Burton's claim to Moonshi allowance would be invalidated by the Examination being merely an oral one, may I request the favour of the Commissioner's interesting the parties who may be directed to examine Lieutenant Burton to ascertain his proficiency in Pujabee language to the extent laid down Jameson's Code for the regular not colloquial Examination in Vernacular Dialects.

6. I speak under correction that I say that the officers who first passed in examination (when regular Committees could not be assembled) were allowed Moonshi allowance.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Yours most obedient  
Servant

(Signed) Scott, Major  
Superintendent of Canals in  
Scinde

Kurrachee  
14<sup>th</sup> July 1848

**23. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Captain Stack, dated 18th July 1848, transmitting application of Lt. Burton for assessment in Punjabi language.**

No. 1933 of 1848  
General Department

To

Lieutenant Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> July 1848

Sir,

With reference to my intimation letters, I have the honour to transmit for your information, copy of the correspondence hinted in the Margin- On the subject of the Examination in the Scindee language and to request that you will have the goodness to appraise any time that may be convenient to you , for examining Lieutenant Burton in the Scindee language and send the result.

No. 792, dated 30 <sup>th</sup> March 1848 to No.460, dated 31 <sup>st</sup> ultimo No. 168, dated 26 <sup>th</sup> ultimo from Superintendent of Canal No.328 of 6 <sup>th</sup> April 1848 No. 1889, dated 2nd June 1848 from Secretary to Government.
--

2. I am at the same time directed to transmit copy of a letter from Lieutenant Burton to Major Scott of the 3<sup>rd</sup> June ultimo to his being examined in the Punjabee language and have to request that you will ascertain Lieutenant Burton's examination in that language , in the same format , which is suggested by Government under Committee yourself for this purpose .

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
18<sup>th</sup> July 1848

**24. Letter from Secretary to Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 1848, informing about Lt. Burton's assessment in Punjabi language.**

No. 1934 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Collector & Magistrate  
Kurrachee

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> July, 1848

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No. 1634 of the 14<sup>th</sup> June 1848, in reply of letter No. 385 of the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1848, I have been directed to transmit for your information that of Lieutenant Burton's copy of a letter No. 1933 from Commissioner to the Lieutenant Stack, Deputy Collector at present on leave at Kurrachee, on the subject of the examination of Lieutenant Burton in Scindee and Punjabee languages.

I have the honour to be Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown  
Secretary to the Scinde  
Government

Kurrachee  
18<sup>th</sup> July, 1848

25. Letter from Captain Stack to Commissioner, dated 24th July 1848, intimating that he is ready to assess Lt. Burton in Sindhi & Punjabi languages.

No. 213 of 1848  
General Department

From

Captain G. Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

To

Secretary to Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> July, 1848

Sir,

In reply to your letter No.1933 of the 18<sup>th</sup> instant, I have honour to inform you that I shall be prepared to examine Lieutenant Burton in the Sindhi language on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of July and I shall at the same time or day the following acquirements in Punjabee through a Committee of natives as directed by you.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient  
(Signed) Captain George  
Stack  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee  
24<sup>th</sup> July 1848

**26. Letter from Lt. Jeschemaker to Superintendent of Canals, dated 27<sup>th</sup> July 1848, requesting therein for his examination in colloquial Sindhi language.**

Kurrachee  
Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> July 1848

To  
Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Sir,

Having heard that an examination in Scindee language is to take place on Tuesday next, I should be obliged by obtaining permission for me to be examined at it. I hope it will not be held an objection that if I am appearing, as it is merely in the colloquial part that I can write and read.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) Jeschemaker  
Assistant Scinde Survey  
Department

Kurrachee  
27<sup>th</sup> July 1848

27. Letter from Secretary to Sindh to Superintendent of Canals, dated 31<sup>st</sup> July 1848, informing that Lt. Jeschemaker is allowed to appear examination in colloquial Sindhi language.

No. 2058 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Superintendent of Canals in Scinde

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> July 1848

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your endorsement No. 440 of the 28<sup>th</sup> July 1848, and to inform you that the examination allowed to by Lieutenant Jeschemaker, as it will take place tomorrow, not being of the same nature or for the same objective as that authorized in the General order to which he referred as supplementary of the kind of examination he is prepared to undergo, his application to be examined on that academic standard as he complied with.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Captain Brown,  
Secretary to the Scinde Government

Kurrachee  
31<sup>st</sup> July 1848

**28. Letter from Superintendent of Canals to Secretary to Sindh, dated 30<sup>th</sup> August 1848, commenting on the knowledge of Lt. Jeschemaker in colloquial Sindhi.**

No. 471 of 1848 / 1849  
General Department

From  
The Superintendent of Canals in Scinde  
To  
Captain E.I. Brown  
Secretary to the Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> August 1848

Sir,

I have the honour that to submit that Lieutenant Jeschemaker is very desirous to be examined as to his colloquial knowledge of Scindee. He has I understand taken a good deal of trouble to qualify himself and although such examination does not entitle an officer to Moonshi Allowance a certain degree of credit is obtained by his home appearing in General Orders on merely by coming favourably before the Government.

2. There is a very little probability of Lieutenant Jeschemaker remaining long in Scinde and I understand he will in all probability to be sent Europe, so that he will certainly (if he should ever return to Scinde) have forgotten his knowledge of the language as he will have no opportunity of speaking, and his knowledge is I apprehend mere colloquial or at least he does not possess sufficient to enable him to keep up his knowledge by reading without assistance.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) Scott, Major  
Superintendent of Canals in  
Scinde

Kurrachee  
3<sup>rd</sup> August 1848

29. Letter from Captain Stack to Secretary to Sindh, dated 31<sup>st</sup> August 1848, transmitting proceedings of examination conducted in respect of Lt. Burton in Sindhi and Punjabi languages.

Collector, Magistrate office  
Hyderabad

From

Captain G. Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> August 1848

To

Secretary to Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Sir,

In reference to your letter No.1933 of the 19<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I have the honour to intimate you the proceedings of the examination of Lieutenant Burton, in Sindhi and Punjabee languages.

2. Both the examinations were made in the form laid down in Jameson's Code No.239 page 824, and were taken with great interest.

3. The character in which he read and wrote Sindhi, were the Arabic, Persian and Dewnagri, there being no books written any of the characters peculiar to the Sindhi itself. They are numerous and now only used by Merchants for their account and correspondence. Should the most common of those styles of writing, the Khoodawady be fixed on by Government as that to be used by in government documents as I have already recommended, I would advise knowledge of it being made necessary in future examinations.\*

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\* Captain Stack always tried his level best to win favour of his officer to adopt Khudawadi script for Sindhi -  
The Editor

4. There are two dialects or languages in use of Punjab. One is used at Lahore and other large towns, and assimilates much to the Hindhi. The other the "Jatkee" is spoken in the South of the Punjab, and differs but little from the Speech of Sindh Balochees. It is quite a distinct language from Sindhi. It was in the former of these two, that I examined Lieutenant Burton. It possesses several works, form one of which, a translation of the Persian "Yoosof and Zuliekha" he read.

I have the honour to be Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain George  
Stack  
Deputy Collector

Collector office Hyderabad  
31<sup>st</sup> August 1848

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\* Yusuf and Zulaikha is the Quranic verse of Yusuf (Joseph) and Zulaikha (the person known in the Bible as Potiphar's wife and whose name is not given there). It has been told and retold countless times in many languages spoken by Muslims, especially Persian, Urdu and Sindhi- The Editor

### 30. Result Sheet of Sindhi Examination

Proceedings of an examination of the under mentioned officers in Sindhi language taken at Kurrachee on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 1848, before Lieutenant Stack, Deputy Collector, Hyderabad, agreeable letters from the Secretary to the Commissioner in Scinde No. 1933 of 18<sup>th</sup> July 1848

Rank named	Written translation from English to Native language	Viva Voce translation from Native Language of a passage of native authors	Viva Voce translation to the Native Language, of an extract from the proceedings of Civil Trials	Grammatical knowledge of the native language	Colloquial knowledge of the native language	Remarks
Lieutenant Burton Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, Canal Department	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed. The character in which Lieutenant Burton read and wrote Sindhi was the Arabic, Persian and Dewnagri.

George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

### 31. Result Sheet of Punjabi Examination

Proceedings of an examination of the under mentioned officers in Punjabee language taken at Kurrachee on the 1st August 1848, before Lieutenant Stack, Deputy Collector, Hyderabad, agreeable letters from the Secretary to the Commissioner in Scinde No 1933 of 18th July 1848

Rank named	Written translation from English to Native language	Viva Voce translation from Native Language of a passage of native authors	Viva Voce translation to the Native Language, of an extract from the proceedings of Civil Trials	Grammatical knowledge of the native language	Colloquial knowledge of the native language	Remarks
Lieutenant Burton Regiment Native Canal Department	R.F 18th Bombay Infantry, Department	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed. The character which Lieutenant Burton read and wrote Persian and Goormookhi

George Stack  
Deputy Collector\*  
Hyderabad

\* Captain George Stack was examiner of Lt. Burton for examination of Sindhi and Punjabi Languages. This shows that captain Stack was not only scholar of Sindhi language but he had command over Punjabi language.

32. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 9<sup>th</sup> August 1848, forwarding result of Lt. Burton's examination in Sindhi & Punjabi and informing him about his proficiency in other native languages.

No.2150 of 1848  
General Department

To

Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland,  
Governor and President in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> August 1848

My Lord,

With reference to Mr. Secretary J. G. Lumsden's letter No. 1489, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> ultimo, I have the honour to transmit for the information of your Lordship in Council, copy of a letter dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant with accompanying proceedings held by Lieutenant Stack in the examination of Lieutenant Burton in the Scindee language, also the Punjabee language, the letters being under the circumstances and in the manner detailed the attached correspondence.

2. In transmitting these documents, I beg to bring to your Lordship favourable notice the distinguished attainment of Lieutenant Burton, who is in addition to the languages, now reported on his passed in Hindustani, Guzratee, Mahrathi and Persian, and whose writings have on several occasions may attracted my attention, and exhibiting an extensive critical knowledge of the languages he had studied.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
9<sup>th</sup> August 1848

**33. Notification issued by Bombay Government in respect of Burton on his passing Colloquial Examination in Sindhi and Punjabi.**

No. 3999 of 1849  
General Department  
Bombay Castle  
6<sup>th</sup> September 1848

**NOTIFICATION**

Lieutenant R.D Burton, Assistant Surveyor in Scinde Canal Department, has been found on examination qualified to transact public business in Scindee and Punjabee languages.<sup>1</sup>

(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Copy for information and necessary action

1. Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee
2. Secretary to Government of India
3. Superintendent of Canal in Scinde
4. Collector of Kurrachee
5. General office, Bombay
6. Incharge Publisher, Bombay Gazette for publication
7. Lieutenant Burton, Assistant Surveyor Canal, Kurrachee

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Derived from Bombay Presidency Gazette, 1849

### 34. Application of Lt. Burton for allowance on qualifying colloquial examination in Sindhi and Punjabi.

Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> September 1848

To

Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals in Scinde

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will obtain for me permission to forward abstract for Moonshee Allowance, as my name has appeared in Order of the 6<sup>th</sup> September 1848 as qualified to conduct public business in the Scindee and Punjabee languages.

2. With respect to the wording of the Order above allowed to, I have the honour to inform you that it merely qualifies me for Civil and for Military employment. But I was examined in both dialects by Lieutenant Stack according to the formt laid down in Jameson Code and the practice of examination in Bombay for Military officers. I had previously applied for an Interpreters Examination. I, therefore, have the honour to request a copy of Lieutenant Stack Report upon my qualification be forwarded to the Governor General Office, and that I may be put in Orders as qualified to act as Interpreter in Scindee and Punjabee. By this means, I shall be able to attend Court matters without having to pass another examination, and shall probably obtain from the Commissioner in Chief the compliment which has been given to every officers who has passed five languages.

3. I have also the honour to request that you will obtain an official copy of Lieutenant Stack's report upon my qualification in the above mentioned dialects. In applying for this, I am not asking for anything what is most usually officers can by applying at the office of the Adjutant General of the Army, always obtain an official copy of the document that by the Committee of examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Richard Burton  
Surveyor in Supt. Canal office

**35. Letter from Commissioner of Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1848, forwards application of Lt. Burton for allowing him Munshi allowance.**

No. 2548 of 1848  
General Department

To  
The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
The Government of India  
Bombay

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1848

My Lord,

With reference to my letter No. 2150 of the 9th August 1848, I have honour to transmit for the favourable consideration of your Lordship informed a copy of endorsement by the Superintendent of Canals in Scinde. having application of Lieutenant Richard Burton, requesting therein copy of Lieutenant Stack's report upon his qualification in Scindee and Punjabee languages, and grant of Moonshee Allowance.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
2<sup>nd</sup> September 1848

**36. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner, dated 31<sup>st</sup> September 1848, suggesting therein that request of Lt. Burton for Munshi allowance to be sent to Court of the Directors.**

No. 3842 of 1848  
General Department  
Bombay Castle

To

R. K Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 31<sup>st</sup> October 1848

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2348, dated the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo, submitting copy of one from Lieutenant Burton, Assistant to the Superintendent of Canals in Scinde, relating to his having passed in Scindee and Punjabee languages.

2. In reply, I am desired by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you, with reference to Para 1 of that office letter that Lieutenant Burton should prefer his request for the Moonshee Allowance to the Military Department through proper channel.

3. With respect to Lieutenant Burton's request that a copy of Captain Stack's report on his examination may be sent to the Adjutant General for publication in General Orders. I am desired to inform you that a copy of all papers will be sent to that officer for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief with an intimation that Government has recommended to the Honourable the Court of Directors to grant Lieutenant Burton a donation for usual requirement in having passed in four languages, and that further reports of his having subsequently passed in Scindee and Punajbee have also been favoured to that authority

4. As requested by Lieutenant Burton, a copy of Captain Stack's reports on his examination is herewith forwarded.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
31<sup>st</sup> October 1848

### 37. Result Sheet of Sindhi Examination

Proceedings of an examination of the under mentioned officers in Sindhi language taken at Kurrachee on the 1st August 1848, before Lieutenant Stack, Deputy Collector, Hyderabad, agreeable letters from the Secretary to the Commissioner No. 1933 of 18th July 1848

Rank named	Written translation from English to Native language	Viva Voce translation from Native Language of a passage of a native author	Viva Voce translation to the Native Language, of an extract from the proceedings of Civil Trials	Grammatical knowledge of the native language	Colloquial knowledge of the native language	Remarks
Lieutenant R.F. Burton 18th Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, Canal Department	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed. The character in which Lieutenant Burton read and wrote Sindhi was the Arabic, Persian and Dewnagri.

George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

38.

### Result Sheet of Punjabi Examination

Proceedings of an examination of the under mentioned officers in Punjabee language taken at Kurrachee on the 1st August 1848, before Lieutenant Stack. Deputy Collector, Hyderabad. agreeable letters from the Secretary to the Commissioner No. 1933 of 18th July 1848

Rank named	Written translation from English to Native language	Viva Voce translation from Native Language of a passage of a native author	Viva Voce translation to the Native Language, of an extract from the proceedings of Civil Trials	Grammatical knowledge of the native language	Colloquial knowledge of the native language	Remarks
Lieutenant R. F. 18 <sup>th</sup> Regiment Bombay Native Infantry, Canal Department	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Passed. The character in which Lieutenant Burton read and wrote were the Persian and Goormookhi

George Stack  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

39. A letter from Commissioner Sindh to Superintendent of Canals, dated 11<sup>th</sup> November 1848, forwarding letter of Secretary to Government of Bombay for information.

No.3066 of 1848  
General Department

From  
Commissioner in Scinde

To  
Major Scott  
Superintendent of Canals and Forests

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> November, 1848

Sir,

With reference to Lieutenant Burton's letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September last forwarded under your endorsement No. 607 dated 28<sup>th</sup> Idem , I have the honour to transmit for communication to that officer Copy of a letter No. 3842 dated the 31<sup>st</sup> Ultimo with enclosure from Mr. Secretary J. G. Lumsden.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
11<sup>th</sup> November 1848

**THE DIRECTIVES OF GOVERNOR OF INDIA  
FOR INTRODUCING SINDHI AS LANGUAGE  
FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS**

## 1. Minutes of Sir George Clerk, Dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 1848

1. We should introduce the language of the country (namely, Sindhee) as the medium of official intercourse. I do not see in what way our revenue and judicial officers (however their offices and courts may be constituted) can work effectually through a foreign medium of communication, such as Persian or English. A period of 18 months should, therefore, be allowed to the officers in civil employ to qualify themselves for an examination in the Sindhee language.

2. I believe their doing so will be facilitated by the publication of the dictionary and grammar which I proposed Lieutenant Stack should be allowed to have printed.<sup>1</sup>

3. The recommendation of the Commissioner, that "early measures should be adopted for extending the same encouragement on the part of Government to education, as in our other provinces," is no doubt judicious; but it were premature to take any measures for forming educational establishments, before our own European administrators have obtained a competent knowledge of the language of the country, and before we have trained up persons fitted to impart knowledge in the vernacular tongue.

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\* Taken from "Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Sindh; with the appendices thereto and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same subject, not already before Parliament." Edited by James C. Mechvill on 10th August 1854".

<sup>1</sup> This decision has three important directions and indications: (1) introduction of Sindhi as official language, (2) Approval of Captain George Stack's Dictionary and (3) the proposal of introduction of Sindhi and establishment of schools was moved by Mr. Pringle, then Commissioner of Sindh- The Editor

2. **Circular from the Commissioner in Sindh to Collectors and Magistrates, dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1848 for knowing the suitable character for Sindhi Language.**

No. 5964 of 1848  
General Department

**CIRCULAR**

From

The Commissioner in Scinde

To

Collector and Magistrates  
Hyderabad/ Shikarpoore/ Kurrachee  
Captain of Police

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> May 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to refer Minutes of Right Honourable Governor in Council, Bombay, dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 1848.

2. All the officers and officials are directed to report on the situation in Scinde and to suggest opinion to the character for Scindhee language that would be most suitable and practical for the day to day business of the Government as well as for the general education of the people.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> May 1848

### 3. Report of Richard Burton on Adoption of Arabic Character for Sindhi\*

The people of Scind were at one time celebrated for their skill in calligraphy; at present, however, they have only three hands:-

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Naskhi, generally called "Arabi Akhar," (Arabic letters)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Nastlik, or "Chitta Akhar", (The plain handwriting)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Shikastah, or "Bhagel Akhara," (The broken or running hand)

2. I have seen some excellent specimens of the Naskhi, and , generally speaking, this character is well written in Scindee. The Shikastah is detestably bad. The Cufic alphabet is quite forgotten, although the walls of tombs and mosques prove that at one time it must have been common. All the ornamental characters, as the Shulsi, Rayhan and others, are unknown. The Talpur Ameers were great patrons of calligraphists, and used occasionally to send to Persia for a well-known penman.

3. Under our rule at present, the Moslem has fewer opportunities of study than the Hindoo. Instead of six establishments for the promotion of education, all that we have done hitherto is to authorize the foundation of a school at Hyderabad, and to support an " Indo-British" one at Kurrachee, in addition to a place of instruction maintained, I believe, by private contributions, and superintended by a converted Hindoo. The Mussulman, therefore, is reduced to the limited means of acquiring knowledge, offered by the petty day-schools which abound through out the country. Not so the Hindoo. His greater pliability of conscience and tenets allows him to take any step towards improving his position, except the last and irrevocable one, that of becoming a Christian. He will apply for, receive, and read the religious tracts and translations of the gospels, which our countrymen are fond of distributing, especially if the injudicious "donor possess the means of temporal advancement. The Hindoo will even study the Bible for the purpose of getting up some phrases to quote before his patron, will punctually attend his school, and even engage in its devotional exercises. When the object is permanently secured or lost, like the "rice Christians" of early Goa, our supple Polytheist not only throws off the appearance of amendment, but also infuses a little additional bigotry into his heathenism, in order to regain the position in his own caste which worldliness has tempted him to peril.

4. Of late, there has been an abundance of very unprofitable discussion amongst the rulers

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\* Lt. Richard Burton had submitted his report/views to the Commissioner in Sindh though Superintendent of Canals Department vide his letter No. 350 of 1848 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1848. However the report given here is almost same which is taken from his book - The Editor

of the Province as to the language which should be selected for literacy and official purposes. The linguists prefer Scindee, seeing that it is sufficient for the objects required, and is moreover, generally understood.

5. The other party supports Persian, or advocates Hindostani, opining that the "Language of Scinde is in a very crude state," has no standard dialect, no universally prevalent character, and no literature;" that "its literature is depressed without extinguishing the language." The linguists, it is presumed, will succeed eventually in spite of ignorance and apathy, as they are in the right. The point to be considered is the best means of improving the dialect (practically speaking) by diffusing knowledge of it, and bending it to our purposes. And with such object, the establishment of places of instruction is manifestly indispensable.

6. At the five large towns of Kurrachee, Tatta, Hyderabad, Sehwen and Sukkur, Scindee vernacular schools might be founded. The course would be, Scindee reading and writing, a little grammar, and epistolary correspondence. The number of scholars might be limited to forty or fifty. The term of instruction would be from three to four years, as in such a country, length of preparatory study would be considered time wasted.

7. After doing this much for the vernacular dialect, it would be as politic as profitable, to encourage the study of our own. If we would give the natives of Scinde opportunities of acquiring knowledge, and connect them with ourselves by proving to them our superiority, they should be taught the English language. Schools might be established at the three chief towns, Kurrachee, Hydrabad and Shikarpoor (or Sukkur). The course would be, English reading and writing, grammar and composition, arithmetic, account keeping, and a superficial knowledge of history and geography. The probable duration of the course would be about five years. Pupils of the English schools should be taken directly from the vernacular establishments, and, unless the prospect of government employ be clearly held out, students would be scarce.

8. That such measures will eventually be carried out under our enlightened rule, there is no doubt.

9. The characters in which the Scindee tongue is written are very numerous. Besides the Moslem varieties of the Semitic alphabet, there are no less than eight different alphabets used principally by the Hindoos, viz,

1. The Khudawadi or Wanikhakhar.
2. The Tathai, of which there are two varieties, viz. :- 1<sup>st</sup>. The Lohana; and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Bhatiha hand.
3. The Saria, used in Upper Scinde.
4. That used by the Khwaja tribe.
5. The Meman handwriting.
6. The Ochki form of Punjabee.
7. The Landi form of Punjabee.
8. The Gurumukhee of Panjabee.

10. The average number of letters is forty, ten being vowels, and thirty consonants.

11. The origin of these characters may fairly be traced through the Landi, and Gurumukhee, to the Devanagaree character. As the immigration of Hindoos into Scinde has always been from the north, it is most probable that these alphabets were brought down from the Punjaub, in the form used by Nanak Shah. This was gradually altered into running hand; and underwent almost as many changes as there are castes or tribes. The learned Mr. James Prinsep was completely at fault when he supposed that Marwari had been corrupted into Scindee, or that the latter is a mixture of Guzerattee, Tamul and Malayalim.

12. But however numerous these alphabets may be, they are all, in their present state, equally useless. This arises from one cause, the want of sufficient number of vowel signs. The consequence is that the trader is scarcely able to read his own accounts, unless assisted by a tenacious memory.

13. The selection of character which will be practically useful is necessary, if we would establish schools: the choice, however, is not without its difficulties. Four systems have been advocated, viz.: 1. Devanagaree: 2. Khudawadi: 3. Gurumukhee: 4. Naskhi.

14. The Devanagaree is certainly the most scholar-like and analogous system, and therefore, perhaps, the best for dictionaries, grammars and other works intended solely for the purpose of teaching the language to Europeans. At the same time, it has much imperfection. No less than twenty letters would require diacritical marks to render them intelligible. Moreover, this character, however well adapted for books, is tedious and cumbersome for official papers. Finally, it would not easily be learned by the people, and is at present utterly unknown to them. The last objection appears to be the strongest of all, for surely no undertaking could be more troublesome or useless than an attempt to supplant a well-known alphabet by one unknown to the people.

15. The adoption of the Khudawadi character has been advocated, on account of its being already extensively used by the people. It is, however, confined to a particular, though influential, caste of Hindoos and even amongst them is only known to the traders, and generally neglected by the Moonshes and Amils. The main objection to it is that, in its present state, it is all but illegible. And to dress it up in Guzerattee, "vowel point," as has been proposed, in fact to remodel it, might be an easy work, but at the same time it would be an improvement very unlikely to be generally adopted by the Scindees.

16. The Gurumukhee is an admirably simple form of Devanagaree, and perfectly fitted for Panjabee, imperfectly for Scindee. The Disadvantage attendant on its introduction would be the same as belong to its Sanscrit progenitor, viz., it is very little known to the people, would require extensive alteration, and, though useful for books, would be slow and clumsy to write.

17. The Naskhi form of the Arabic alphabet appears to be the most favoured by circumstances in Scinde. The intrinsic merit of the character must be acknowledged, when we reflect that it has spread from Arabia, its origin, to Algiers and the Ganges, to Bokhara and Ceylon. For centuries it has been tried, and found capable of adaptation to multitude of dialects, by a few simple additions and modifications, it has been trained to denote the cerebrals of India, and the liquid tones of the Persian and Malay tongues, as well as the gutturals of Arabia. It may be termed, *par excellence*, the alphabet of Asia: nor is it likely to be supplanted by any innovating Romanized systems, or to decline as civilization progresses. In elegance of appearance, and brevity without obscurity, it yields to no other written character, and it is no small proof of its superiority to many, that it offers a symbol for every sound existing in the language for which it was invented.

18. But, as might be expected, the further it deviates from Arabic the more imperfect it becomes. At present it has been rudely and carelessly adapted to the language of Scinde, and by the confusion of points and the multitude of different sounds expressed by one letter appears difficult and discouraging. Still its intrinsic value remains, and we may safely hope that as education advances, much will be done for it. As a case in point, we can instance the many little changes and improvements which have been lately introduced by the natives of India into their system of writing the Nastalik hand.

19. My reasons for advocating the adoption of Naskhi character are as follows:-

- 1<sup>st</sup>. That all the literature of the country has been for ages written in this hand.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. All educated Moslems are able to read it and most of them to write it.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Although the Hindoo Amils throughout Scinde are at present unable to read it, their knowledge of the Nastalik or Persian hand would render the difficulty of learning it nugatory. It must be recollected that religious bigotry formerly forbad any infidel to open a book written in the same character as the Koran.
- 4<sup>th</sup>. It converts itself with great facility into a running hand sufficiently rapid for all practical purposes. The epistolary correspondence of the Arabs is a sufficient proof of this.

20. Such are the reasons for preferring the Naskhi character, on the other hand, it may be argued that the Nastalik has the one great advantage of being known to every writer in the Province, that it has been successfully adapted to Hindostanee and Panjabee, and therefore might be made equally useful in Scindee. The chief objection to it is that however practicable for Parwanahs, Arzis, Hukms and other official papers, it partakes too much of character of stenography to suit the language we are considering. The dialect of Scinde is so complicated in sound, construction and number of vocables, that, as is proved by the practice of the people, a more complete alphabet is required for it. Any Scindee scholar may observe that the best educated native will find considerable difficulty in reading out the vernacular hemistiches and tetrastichs written in Nastalik, which are frequently introduced by authors into religious or metaphysical works composed in Persian. Whether habit and education would or would not do away with a considerable portion of this difficulty, as a consideration which I leave to the profound practical linguist.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from "Scinde and the Races that inhabits the Valley of the Indus, 1851

**4. Captain Stack's report /Views vide his letter No. 350, dated 28<sup>th</sup> August 1848, suggesting therein that Khudawadi character may be adopted for Sindhi language.**

No. 350 of 1848\*  
General Department

From

Captain George Stack  
Deputy Collector and Magistrate  
Hyderabad

To

Secretary to Government of Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> August 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to refer your directive of 30<sup>th</sup> May 1848 regarding the adoption of suitable character for Sindhi language

2. The Sindhi, like the Hindostani, borrows from the Arabic, the Persian, and the Sanscrit, to an extent only limited by the learning and fancy of the writer. It would have rendered the work confused and difficult to add all such words to it. Such of them have been given, as are in common use, and also all pure Sindhi words, that I have been able to meet with. I would note that there are many words in use in Lar or Lower Sindh, which is not known in the northern parts of the province, and vice versa. Different classes too favour different terms—the Hindoos using many Sanscrit words unknown to the Musalmans, and the Musalmans many Arabic vocables spoken only among them.

3. Far from being a mere patois, or Provincial dialect, it is an ancient and distinct tongue, different from its neighbors in some very important points. When it resembles them, resemblance is caused by both borrowing from same original source, and the other tongues from the Sindhi, which I believe was formerly spoken over a much larger range than at present. It bears the marks of a primitive tongue, altered by Sanscrit innovation, yet retaining enough of the original diversity to cause a great difference between it and others of the Sanscrit family much more than between any two dialects of Northern India I am acquainted with. Far from being "poor", "unformed" and "wanting" in perspicuity", it is exceedingly copious and exceedingly clear enough. The grammar structure too is most exact and minute in the some points almost curious from its nicety. In short we will find in Sindhi, the most complete means of expressing every subject, except the arts and sciences as yet unknown to the people. Here we must borrow from more learned tongues, as has been needful in our own language. Where the Sindhi does require extension it will be easy to bring store of vocables to call from as required.

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\* The Report of Captain George Stack has been devised and compiled on the basis of many available sources, it may have however some deviations with the original report. The sources has been given at the end of the report -  
The Editor

4. There are five dialects of Sindhi; three of them are confined to Thar Desert, Kutch and the hills to the West, and thus not really relevant to the rest of Sindh. The two remaining dialects of Lar (the South) Siro (North) were similar as to cause no difficulty. The difference between the two was not greater than between the Cananee and Daccan Maratha. It is certainly near as great as we find our mother tongue in different countries in England, and will offer no obstacle in transaction of business, and using a common style for literary composition.

5. It is my opinion enough that the Sindhi has a character of its own. One if not coeval with the language at least in the of use during several countries –that this character has always been found sufficient for the expression of the language, to the limited extent that a low state of education and literature required that expression and that it is now capable of being and used in the extended way we desire to employ it. It is sufficient to show this; to exhibit how unnecessary it is bring a foreign character in the country. Change of long established usage is ever distasteful and should be pressed unadvisedly and without necessity.

6. I have not met a single native of Sindh, who until taught by myself, had any, even the most remote, knowledge of the Grammar of the language he was talking. The study of it has been always despised –the most by those who had pretensions to education. Learned Musalmans read Arabic and Persian; Hindoos the latter, or Punjabi and Hindi. The speech they learned at their mothers' breasts, was thought only fit for clowns. Yet I am confident the Sindhi will to the philologist prove a more interesting study than that of many of the other Indian dialects.

7. My choice lay among the Sindhi (or rather any of its numerous signs), the Roman, the Persian, the Gurmukhi, and the Dewnagri. The first I saw at once would not do. Its scanty use of vowels made it quite impossible to delineate single words through if, so as to be at all intelligible.

8. The Roman, too, I soon decided against. I never could understand the advantage of framing out of the Roman characters symbols to express sounds in Eastern tongues. Such sounds cannot be particularized without adding to the Roman letters so many marks and signs, as to render the learning of these quite as difficult as committing to memory a new character, and even still they would not possess the distinctive trait of a new set of letters, which from being entirely strange become in some degree better signs for strange sounds, than familiar characters with a new nomenclature.

9. Moreover, I have always thought that they who would not take the trouble of learning a new alphabet, which after all is but the work of a few hours, were not likely to make much progress in any language: so there could be little gain in trying to please them. The Persian was not decided against without some consideration. My choice then lay between the Gurmukhi and the Devanagari. The former had the advantage of assimilating with the Sindhi somewhat more than the Devanagari did, and of being also more known to Hindoos in Sindh: but I have preferred the Devanagari – 1st, as being a character with which Europeans are more acquainted; and 2ndly, as from being the foundation of the Sindhi itself, it seemed more appropriate where a different character was required, to write in it than in any other, although cognate and generally similar.

10. I realize that the modification is necessary before Khudawadi (Devnagri letters) become fit for common use. The alphabet like the language itself sprang from Sanscrit and in form and powers of letters was very much allied to the Punjabi and Guzrati and others of the same family.

So far, however, it had only been used for writing merchants' accounts, bonds, and receipts. There was not single book written in this alphabet, the only existing ones being in the Persian or Arabic alphabets and a few in Gurmukhi. The reason for this was the rather peculiar defect in the alphabet that it has no separate letters to represent vowels.

11. Even though a Sindhi might be quite familiar with Persian and Arabic characters, yet he would not be able to read a Sindhi book written in them without considerable study, where as the same person would have difficulty in reading Sindhi writing in Gurmukhi or Guzrati or Dewnagri even if he had not seen them before. Thus, bearing out my aeration that any of the Dewnagri family (and par excellence, that Khudawadi itself is one) expresses Sindhi sounds far better than the Arabic does. I prefer to use one of the Sindhi sets of the character, simply because they are the characters of the language. I choose Khudawadi as being the most known.

12. Its consonants are perfectly capable of expressing each sound, and with little change it would be made more so and also the vowels completed. As regard quickness in writing the fact that had to be written separately did not mean that much time would be lost in this way. That delay was rather due to the "peculiar way in which the Sindhi language writer held his hand and pen in writing. I suggest that either vowels be taken from Gurmukhi or Guzrati and added to the Sindhi already acquainted with consonants would need only a few hours to learn the vowels.

13. In this regard, I have completed the alphabet for the Khudawadi with necessary modifications such as the ten vowels sound where the character had only three. These additional vowels sounds are borrowed from Gurmukhi, as they were not only familiar to the people but also could be applied much more easily to the Sindhi consonants than those of any other Indian dialect. There could be no fear the modified alphabet was incomprehensible to the people and therefore would be used by them. The revised alphabet with Gurmukhi vowels, several Sindhi writers, generally able to read it with first sight without difficulty and some who knew the Gurmukhi character read it off more freely than they could have their own writing. I made a few modifications from my original plan. At present every native finds it difficult to read the most ordinary paper, as written by himself, and they have intelligence enough to see and acknowledge the advantage of any improvement in the character, which does not at the same time alter it or make it entirely strange to them. The new alphabet (revised Khudawadi) would be as perfect it could be made. It would be introduced gradually, lithographed spelling books were to be circulated and the school children are to be taught the whole new alphabet.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient servant  
(Signed) George. Stack  
Deputy Collector

Hyderabad  
Deputy Collector office  
28<sup>th</sup> August 1848

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<sup>1</sup> Sources of this Report:

1. A Dictionary, Englishe in Sindhi by Captain George Staack, Bombay American Mission Press, 1849
2. A Grammar of the Sindhi Language by Captain George Stack, Bombay American Mission Press, 1849
3. Stack to Secretary to Government of Scinde, 28th August 1848, B.C.P.350, Vol-25, prog 5964
4. National integration of Sindhis, Subhadra Anand, Vikas Pub. House, 1996

5. Lt E.P Arthur's report/Views vide his letter, dated 30<sup>th</sup> June 1848, suggesting therein that Persian character may be adopted for Sindhi language<sup>▼</sup>

No. 689 of 1848  
General Department

From

E.P. Arthur  
Lieutenant of Police

To

The Secretary to  
Government of Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> June 1848

Sir,

I have the honour to refer your circular of 30<sup>th</sup> May 1848 regarding adoption of character for Sindhi language. I would like to share my information of the language for your kind consideration.

2. The Scindhi is used, with many varieties, from the northern boundary of Katiwar as far north as Bhawalpore, and extends from the hills to the west to the desert which separates Scinde from the east portion of the Indian peninsula. Its grammatical structure is hetero generous; the noun and its branches belonging to the Sanscrit, whereas the verb and adverbs are formed apparently upon the Persian model.

3. In Scinde, different writing systems were in vogue for the Scindhee language. Besides the Arabic Scindhee (also called Perso-Arabic), various forms of Devanagaree Sindhi were used for Scindhee. The poetry of many poets was recorded in Devanagaree. *Chahliha-Akhari* (the forty letter system) based on old Devanagaree, was used by Ismailees for religious and other writings. Many manuscripts in this script are preserved by Memons and Khojas. Lunda, - an old form of Devanagaree, was used by the Hindoo- Scindhee traders.

4. The Persian has remained the official language, but Scindhee, in some of its various dialects, is spoken and understood by all. In Schools, Mahomedan children of the wealthy are instructed in Persian and Arabic by the moolahs. Persian is the universal language and character studied by the Musulmans and Hindoos.

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▼ The report of Lt. Arthur has been prepared and compiled on the basis of many available sources, it may have however some deviations with the original report - The Editor

5. Many of the zamindars read and write Persian, but the Muhomedans are comparatively an uneducated race, while there are few Hindoos who cannot read and write Persian or Sindee, and they are in general remarkably quick at accounts. However, the language in which all Government records were kept, and in which orders, sunuds\*, official papers, and documents of all kinds, and public and private letters were written in Persian.

6. Hindoos of the Amil class (mostly employed as government servants), nearly all learn to read and write Persian with facility, though not with correctness. The Hindoos have many styles of writing; a man at Sukkur is often unable to read the Shikarpooore character, though only 24 miles apart. Punjabee and Sindee (Kyntee and Mahajine) are used by the traders, according to their nations.

7. I have had one or two applications for spelling-books on the part of Moonshees, who expressed a wish to learn English, and I have no doubt that if Government schools be established for the teaching of Persian, English, and arithmetic, many, especially the better class of Hindoos, would eagerly avail themselves of the opportunity to secure a good and cheap education for their children.

8. I would suggest that Scindee might be taught to write it legibly in the Persian character, as the Muslamans and Hindoos are already well acquainted with the character and official business in being carried by them successfully since years.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) E.P Arthur, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> June 1848

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\* The meaning of Sanad (سناد) in Urdu and Sindhi is a certificate - The Editor

6. **Circular from the Commissioner in Scinde to Head of Departments and Collector, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1848, calling information regarding officers' examination in Sindhi language.**

No.1825 of 1848  
General Department

### CIRCULAR

Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> September 1848

All heads of Civil Departments and Collectors, Magistrates and Captain of Police are hereby directed to send information requiring officers in civil employment for knowledge of colloquial Examination in Scindee language as laid down in Jameson's Code No.239 Page 824.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
6<sup>th</sup> September 1848

7. **Extract of the Letter from the Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, Dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 1849 for the adoption of Khudawadi character for Sindhi.**

No. 5963 of 1849  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
The Government of India  
Bombay

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> April 1849

My Lord,

I have the honour to refer to the Minutes of Right Honourable Governor in Council, Bombay, dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 1848. Accordingly, I issued a circular in the margin- to the three (03) Collectors and Captain of Police, directing them to call on their Deputies to report on the situation in Scinde and to suggest opinion to the character for Scindee language that would be most suitable and practical for the day to day business of the Government as well as for the general education of the people.

No. 5969 of 1848, dated 30 <sup>th</sup> May 1848
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2. The issue was straight between Persian and Scindee. The former had long been the language of official business with an established literature and alphabet was also well known to all the officials and was also known in the neighboring states, where as Scindee had never been the general language of the business with an alphabet so imperfect in its present form as to be unfit for the general use. It was unknown to most native officials and was confined to the province itself. On the other hand, Scindee was the language of the country and was spoken by the great mass of the people who were ignorant of Persian. It possessed all necessary elements for these purposes and only needed development and improvement.

3. I would once again say that Scindee should be adopted as the official language as soon as possible and recommended steps to be taken to achieve this object.

4. The language of Scinde is of Hindoo origin. The upper classes speak corrupted Persian. Official business is made in Persian with the assistance of moonshees. The Lohano's prayers, if they can be so called, are usually in the Punjabee, rarely in the Sanscrit or Persian languages. They are said to have a few words in the Scindee tongue written in the Khudawadee characters, but they are very unwilling to show or sell them to Europeans. There is no fixed character for the language, and none of the office Moonshees could write it legibly in any of the various characters applicable to it.

5. Various characters have been suggested for getting over first of above difficulties by the different officers employed in the province. Deputy Collector of the Thur & Parkur has recommended Guzaratee for the use of Scindee in official correspondence. Mr. Arthur has proposed experimentally that Moonshees might be taught to write it legibly in the Persian character vide his letter in Margin- But, I believe, it is necessary for me to discuss the suggestions advocated by Captain Stock and Lieutenant Burton vide their letters in Margin- in a very able and

cogent reason reports which the officers have furnished on the subject.

6. Captain Stack has suggested that to take one of the existing Hindoo Scindee characters, which he called Khudawadee. I have gone through books written by Captain Stack in Dewnogree. He wrote a Dictionary and Grammar of Scindee language. Captain Stack believes that the deficiencies of Khudawadee can be removed without much difficulty by supplying and considering the character to be better fitted from Guzratee or Goormookhee Alphabets and made under the authority of as may fit the character for general use.

No. 689 of 1848, 28<sup>th</sup>  
August 1848

No.350 of 1848, dated  
2<sup>nd</sup> May 1848

7. Lieutenant Burton advocates the adoption of the Arabic character for the expression of Scindhi words, on the grounds principally that the existing popular literature of the Scindhee, that would be easy of acquisition by the educated Natives who already write Persian character and that for the perfect adoption to Scindhee trifling in changes or addition would alone be required.

8. I have carefully thought over Lieutenant Burton's plan, and I believe that his suggestion for Arabic Character is not practical. All educated natives without exception could not read and write it in Persian. Besides, the most of the officers have confirmed that Scindee was in general use of Hindoo Scindee character.

9. My own consideration is that Captain Stack's suggestion is reasonable, which will ultimately be perfected and generally adopted.

10. I propose that all officials; Europeans and native should qualify themselves in the Scindee language as thus written in one year. This qualification was to be considered indispensable for office after six months. All the petitioners were to be permitted and encouraged to have their petitions written in Scindee in the approved alphabet at once, and the answers were to be in the same language. After six months 'depositories' and confessions were to be received both in Scindee and Persian and after one year in Scindee only. After that Scindee should become the general language of business except in correspondence with the foreign states where Persian might be used.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R. K. Pringle  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
Commissioner Office  
26<sup>th</sup> April 1849

<sup>1</sup> The report of R.K. Pringle has been compiled on the basis of many available sources, it may have however some deviations with the original report - The Editor. Following are some prominent sources:

1. Reports of Sir George Clerk, on the Administration of Scinde, with the appendices thereto, and all Reports of Mr. Pringle and of Mr. Frere, on the same Subject, not already before Parliament." Edited by James C. Mechvill on 10th August 1854
2. Dr. Hameeda Khuhro: The Making of Modern Sindh, Oxford University Press, 1999
3. Commissioner in Scinde to Scinde to Governor of Bombay ,26th April 1849. B.C.P.R350, Volume-25, prog
4. Mazhar Yousuf : "Selected Writings of Mazhar Yousuf", Institute of Sindhiology. Jamshoro,2008

## 8. EXTRACTS FROM MINUTES OF LORD FALKLAND, DATED 28<sup>TH</sup> JULY 1849

The undeviating policy of the British Government in India wherever our rule has been introduced is directly at variance with its retention... The chief object of all our legislation is to raise the standard of the national character by creating and defining constitutional rights and by rigidly respecting them. No law could be more opposed to this noble object than one according to which the records of the court of justice are kept in unknown characters, the sentences pronounced in unknown sounds. All are agreed that system of ruling a people through an unintelligently tongue ought forth to be discontinued our public officers.

2. I agree on the whole with the Commissioner's recommendation as far as they concerned the adoption of the language for official use and general education.

3. I also agree with the opinion that the improved Khudawadee character should be adopted as the standard alphabet for Scindhee. In my view point that seemed to carry the most weight in the arrangements of the pro-Khudawadee section was that it was the indigenous alphabet of the Scindhoe language and that modifications as proposed by Captain Stack would be slight: The object is to make the change considered advisable form an unnatural and forced system to a natural one as light possible.

4. The case for Arabic alphabet is weaker. I do not agree with Lt. Burton on the disadvantages of the Khudawadee character. The use of Arabic character would be in very partial use and absolutely illegible and that to remodel it would be laborious as to invent an altogether new system. The general and immediate introduction of the reformed alphabet would be an undertaking of very doubtful success. Burton's suggestion for Arabic Naskhi style is not indigenous, even though all educated Muslemmans could read it. All educated Scindhis without exception (especially the officials) could read it and write Persian in the Nastalikh\* and would therefore have been able to learn the Naskhi\* quite easily. In other respects Burton's reasoning in favour of the character is more addressed to its literary merits than to the practical question as issue, the expediency of its application in public affairs as a symbol of Scindhoe language.

5. I disagree with the recommendation of Mr. Pringle that the officers should be given just

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\* *Nastateeq* in Persian is one of the main calligraphic hands used in writing the Persian script, and traditionally the predominant style in Persian calligraphy. It was developed in Iran in the 14th and 15th centuries. It has always been very popular in the Persian, Turkic and Urdu sphere of influence. *Nasta'liq* has extensively been (and still is) practiced in Iran, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and other countries for written poetry and as a form of art.

\* *Naskhi* also known as *Naskhi* is a specific calligraphic style for writing in the Arabic alphabet, thought to have been invented by the calligrapher Ibn Muqlah Shirazi. The root of this Arabic term *naskh* means "to copy". It either refers to the fact that it replaced its predecessor, Kufic script, or that this style allows faster copying of texts. With small modifications, it is the style most commonly used for printing Arabic, Persian, Pashto and Sindhi languages.

one year to qualify themselves in Scindhee and that within the period Scindee should become the language of all official business.

6. I agree with Stack that even if practicable under the circumstances this would be neither more or less than a great social revolution, it would be as if the officers were asked to drop Persian within a year and adopt modern Greek for all official business. That's why I do not agree Mr. Pringle for introduction of Scindhee within one year, making it compulsory for all the officers to pass the examination in Scindhee within certain period, not less than two years. The failure to pass the examination should not mean forfeiture of office only presence in the distribution of permanent to be shown to those who have passed in the language. The native officials are also required to pass examination in Scindhee within two years.

7. The new Scindhee (i.e. Khudawadee) alphabet is one of essential particular a pure invention and that in original it is almost as little known to the people and native officials and is at least as difficult of attainment as Greek

8. I predicted great difficulties and impediments in the conduct of business which would be almost suspended and public offices would be virtually closed-it seems utterly chimerical to expect from a large body of official so situated, native as well as European. The sudden attainment of that high standard of proficiency in the character even more than in the language, which would alone enable the public business to be carried on, to this effect this is beyond the scope of Government order. <sup>1</sup>

(Signed) Viscount Falkland  
The Government of India

Bombay Castle  
28 July 1849.

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<sup>1</sup> B.G.P 1849, R350, Vol-25, Prog 5967

9. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner Sindh, dated 7<sup>th</sup> January 1850, expressing regret for not implementation of proper writing system in the absence of Stack & Burton

No. 105 of 1850  
General Department

To

R. K Pringle Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 7<sup>th</sup> January 1850

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2272 of the 28th November last, and to remark that the absence from Scinde of both Captain Stack and Lieutenant Burton is more to be regretted as he fears that it will be interpose usually insurmountable obstacle in the way of introducing into the province the new method of writing Scindee invented by the former officer.\*

2 His Lordship in Council at the same time requests that you will act to the best of your judgment in submitting the views of Government, and in meeting with the difficulties which the usually simultaneous departure of the above named officers had occasioned.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours obedient servant  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
7<sup>th</sup> January 1850

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\* The Government of Bombay had acknowledged that issue of suitable character for Sindhi Language delayed due to absence of Captain Stack and Lt. Burton from Sindh- The Editor

**10. Letter from the Collector in Upper Sindh to Commissioner in Sindh, dated 28<sup>th</sup> January 1850, seeking guidance for alphabet/ books to be used for Sindhi**

No. 36 of 1850  
General Department

From  
The Collector in Upper Scinde  
Shikarpoore

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> January 1850

Sir,

With reference to the Scindee books for the introduction of Scindhee as the official language of the country, Mr. Deputy Collector Young has applied to me for a copy of the alphabet it is intended to introduce.<sup>1</sup>

2. I do myself the honour to point out that, it would be advisable for me to be put in possession of a certain number of copies of this alphabet in order to issue them to any practices when may apply for thereon.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours obedient servant  
(Signed) Major Goldney  
Collector & Magistrate

Shikarpoore Collector office  
28<sup>th</sup> January 1850

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<sup>1</sup> This letter shows that Mr. Young had also suggested an Alphabet for Sindhi in 1850- The Editor

**11. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Deputy Collector Shikapur, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1850, informing him that only Dictionary of Captain Stack is available for Sindhi**

No.213 of 1850  
General Department

The  
Deputy Collector  
Shikarpore

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1850

Sir,

In replying to your letter No. 28<sup>th</sup> Ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the only Scindee work of Captain Stack has been received for Government is the English Scindee Dictionary. A copy of that book will be furnished to your disposal on receiving Rs. 3 to that commission.

2. Copies of the Scindee Grammar may be sent when they will be published to you for your sale.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R. K. P  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 1850

**Official correspondence regarding  
EXAMINATION OF MILITARY AND CIVIL  
OFFICERS IN SINDHI LANGUAGE -II  
(Continued)**

1. Letter from Collector Hyderabad to Commissioner Sindh, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1851, stating his knowledge in Sindhi language and suggesting a new committee for the examination in Sindhi.

No. 235 of 1851  
General Department

From

The Collector of Hyderabad

To

The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.394 of 15<sup>th</sup> ultimo requesting therein for Examination in Scindhee language and to submit in reply that the officer in this Collectorate have passed the examination in Scindhee whether to be Interpreter's or colloquial, and now they are present prepared to pass.

2. For myself, I am directed, I believe as well as arranging Interpreter, though I can neither read nor speak it- it is my replies, therefore, that are Interpreter generally by a Moonshee, believe this is the case with some others.

3. As regards the modifications, I imagine that the best plan in the absence of a sufficient character of passed Scindee interpreters would be to fill up the vacant places in the Committee by officers who had passed other languages, as is done in express to examination in Persian in Bombay. In such case, I imagine the restriction of the external of knowledge shown by the person examined would read with the member's who had passed in Scindee, and subtle whether that external would rule the candidate to pass with officers of the Committee generally.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) Rathborne,

Captain Collector of Hyderabad

Hyderabad Collector's office

3<sup>rd</sup> April 1851

**2. Letter from Deputy Collector Shikarpur to Commissioner Sindh, dated 10<sup>th</sup> April 1851, stating his knowledge in Sindhi language and officers who have not passed the examination in Shikarpur District.**

No. 268 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Shikarpore

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> April 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 391 of the 15<sup>th</sup> ultimo with its annexure on the subject of Examination in Scindee language.

2. In reporting in this subject, I have the honour to inform you that Lieutenant Dickson and I myself are the only officers in this Collectorate, who have passed examination in Scindee. Lieutenant Dickson informs me that he was examined by the Committee of which Captain Preedy was President, having been well qualified Moonshee as member of the committee of the examination in point of policy such as generally adopted by the members of Committee of examination in Bombay. My own examination was conducted there and Interpreter's one and the book was selected of Captain Sack'.

3. Some of the officers have yet not passed the examination and some are prepared to be examined "in reading and speaking in Scindee language.

4. Advocating to the 4<sup>th</sup> Para of letter No. 391 of the 15<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I am of the opinion that for the presently Lieutenant Dickson and myself are only officers, I believe now in Upper Scinde, who are qualified to examine candidates in Scindee, a committee may be composed, i.e. Lieutenant Dickson and myself and having a Moonshee or Pundit or an experienced man, who would there be affected and when sufficient number of the officers had passed, such other arrangement for the revised committee for the examination might be done. My recommendations may be placed on the record.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lester, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Collector's office of Shikarpore  
10<sup>th</sup> April 1851

3. Letter from Deputy Collector of Hyderabad to Commissioner Sindh, dated 17<sup>th</sup> April 1851, requesting that he is desirous to be examined in the examination of colloquial Sindhi language.

No.382 of 1851  
General Department

From

Lieutenant W. T. Cole  
Deputy Collector  
Hyderabad

To

H. B Frere Esquire  
The Commissioner in Sindh

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> April 1851

Sir,

I am desirous to be examined in the examination of colloquial Sindhee language, may I request the favour of your nomination a committee before whom I would appear for that purpose.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) W. T. Cole  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collector office  
Hyderabad  
17<sup>th</sup> April 1851

4. **Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Hyderabad, dated 19<sup>th</sup> April 1851, directing him to associate Captain of Police and Collector of Sea to examine Mr. Cole in colloquial Sindhi language.**

No.606 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Collector of  
Kurrachee

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> April 1851

Sir,

Mr. W. T. Cole, Deputy Collector presently working at Kurrachee having expressed a wish to pass an examination in colloquial branch of Scindhee , I have the honour to request that you will have the goodness to associate with yourself Lieutenant Marston from Police, and Captain Macleod, Collector of Sea Customs as a Committee to report on that forth more generalization in the language in questioner.

2. You should inform Mr. W. T. Cole the date in which it will commend before the Committee.

I have the honour to be Sir  
(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
19<sup>th</sup> April 1851

5. Letter from Captain of Police to Commissioner Sindh, dated 15th March 1851, requesting to assess his knowledge of Sindhi language

No.187 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Captain of Police in Scinde

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> March 1851

Sir,

Being anxious to the presence of an officer, who has knowledge of Scindee, may I request to your honour to sanction my request that of Lieutenant Lester as to assess my proficiency in that language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) Captain Marston

Kurrachee  
15<sup>th</sup> March 1851

6. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Lt. Lester, dated 21<sup>st</sup> March 1851, directing him to assess knowledge of Captain Marston in Sindhi language.

No.368 of 1851  
General Department

To  
Lieutenant Lester  
Deputy Collector  
Sukkur

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> March 1851

Sir,

Being anxious and desirous, Captain Marston has requested that you to assess his proficiency in Scindee language, I have the honour to transmit letter No. 187, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1851 you examine him and submit your result .

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) R. K. P  
Commissioner in Scinde

Camp office Shikarpoore  
21<sup>st</sup> March 1851

7. Letter from Collector of Karachi to Commissioner Sindh, dated 21<sup>st</sup> April 1851, soliciting orders to appoint another member in place of Collector of Sea to examine Mr. Cole in colloquial Sindhi language.

No.783 of 1851  
General Department

From  
Collector of Kurrachee

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> April 1851

Sir,

On acknowledging receipt of your letter No. 606 of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant, requesting me to associate with myself, Captain Marston and Mr. Macleod as a Committee to report Mr. Deputy Collector Cole's qualification in the Scindee language, I have the honor to inform you that previous to its receipt, Mr. Mcleod\* had informed me that his presence was required at Ghorabaree\* and that he proposed starting for that place on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> instant. Under these circumstances, I request the favour of being informed who is to be appointed a member of the committee in his place.

I have the honor to be  
Sir,  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Preedy, Captain  
Collector of Kurrachee

Kurrachee  
Collector's Office  
21<sup>st</sup> April, 1851

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\* John McLeod was Collector of Customs during the 1850s. There is a road after his name "Mc. Leod Road", which was the financial and commercial centre of the city; it was later renamed as I. I. Chundrigar Road, after Pakistan's 6th Prime Minister (1957)- The Editor

\* Ghorabari is a Taluka/ Tahseel in District Thatta- The Editor

8. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1851, suggesting that Mr. Chhampion to replace Mr. Macleod as member to examine Mr. Cole in colloquial Sindhi language

No.023 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 1851

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 783 dated 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, I have the honour to inform you that if Mr. Macleod does not return from England in time I wish Mr. Chhampion may immediately be available or any other officer may be asked to sit for Mr. Lieutenant W. T. Cole's examination in the committee.

I have the honour to be Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
22<sup>nd</sup> April, 1851

9. **Notification issued by Bombay Government in respect of Captain Marston, Captain of Police on his Passing Colloquial Examination in Sindhi.**

No. 2598 of 1851  
General Department  
Bombay Castle  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 1851

**NOTIFICATION**

Captain E. C. Marston, Captain Bombay Native Infantry has been found on examination qualified to transact public business in Scindee language.<sup>1</sup>

(Signed) H. E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

Copy for information and necessary action to

1. Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee
2. Secretary to Government of India
3. Captain of Police, Kurrachee
4. Collector of Kurrachee
5. General office, Bombay
6. The Officer, concerned
7. Incharge Publisher, Bombay Gazette for publication

---

<sup>1</sup> Derived from Bombay Presidency Gazette, 1851

10. Letter from Deputy Collector Sukkur to Commissioner Sindh, dated 25<sup>th</sup> March 1851, informing that Lt. Marston of Police Department has acquired good knowledge of Sindhi

No.72 of 1851  
General Department

From

Lieutenant Lester  
Deputy Collector of Sukkur

To

The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> March 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No,368 of the 14<sup>th</sup> instant, and to inform you that as therein directed , I have examined Lieutenant Marston and of opinion that he has acquired a good colloquial knowledge of the Sindhee language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient Servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant Lester  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collector of Sukkur Officer  
25<sup>th</sup> March 1851

11. Letter from Collector of Karachi to Commissioner Sindh, dated 29<sup>th</sup> April 1851, suggesting that Mr. Chhampion to replace Mr. Macleod as member to examine Mr. Cole in colloquial Sindhi language

No. 892 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Collector of Kurrachee

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> April 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for your information; proceedings of the Committee assembled agreeably to your instructions for the examination of Lieutenant W.T. Cole, Esquire, Deputy Collector of Hyderabad in the Scindee Language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain Preedy  
Collector of Kurrachee

Kurrachee  
Collector's Office  
29<sup>th</sup> April 1851

**12. Proceedings of a Committee for the examination in the Scindee Language of Lieutenant W. T. Cole , Deputy Collector Hyderabad convened by order of the Commissioner in Scinde at Kurrachee on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1851.**

**President:**

- Captain Preedy - Collector of Kurrachee

**Members:**

- Lieutenant Marston -of Police, Kurrachee
- Lieutenant Chhampion -of Police, Hyderabad

The Committee has assessed the candidates by calling before the Committee of European officers and a native Moonshee as to assess his proficiency in colloquial Scindee.

The Committee members are of the opinion that Mr. Lieutenant W. T. Cole has attained a very good knowledge of Scindee language and declared that he is qualified for running public business in the Scindee language.

(Signed) Captain Preedy  
President of the Committee  
Collector of Kurrachee

Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> April, 1851

**13. Notification issued by Bombay Government in respect of Lieutenant W. T. Cole on his passing Colloquial Examination in Sindhi.**

No. 2598 of 1851  
General Department  
Bombay Castle  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 1851

**NOTIFICATION**

Lieutenant W. T. Cole, Esquire, Deputy Collector of Hyderabad has been found on examination qualified to transact public business in Scindee language.<sup>1</sup>

(Signed) H. E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

**Copy for information and necessary action to**

1. Commissioner in Scinde, Kurrachee
2. Secretary to Government of India
3. Collector of Hyderabad
4. General office, Bombay
5. The Officer, concerned
6. Incharge Publisher, Bombay Gazette for publication

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<sup>1</sup> Derived from Bombay Presidency Gazette, 1851

**14. Letter from Deputy Collector of Shikarpur to Commissioner Sindh, dated 13<sup>th</sup> May 1851, informing that Lt. Coble is ready to be examined in colloquial Sindhi language**

No. 327 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector in charge  
Shikarpoore

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 13th May 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter No. 72 of this day's date from Mr. Deputy Collector Coble, reporting his preparedness to undergo an interpreter's examination in the Scindee language and to request the favour of your instructions in respect to the forming a Committee of Examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours obedient servant  
Deputy Collector in charge

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
13<sup>th</sup> May, 1851

**Official correspondence regarding  
INFORMATION REGARDING OFFICERS IN  
CIVIL EMPLOYMENT FOR KNOWLEDGE OF  
COLLOQUIAL SINDHI LANGUAGE**

1. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 16<sup>th</sup> May 1851, calling information regarding officers who have passed examination in colloquial Sindhi.

No. 821 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> May 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will have the goodness to expedite the transmission of the information called for in my letter No. 391, dated the 15<sup>th</sup> March last with reference to the examination of officers in Civil employment in the Native language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
16<sup>th</sup> May 1851

2. Letter from Collector of Karachi to Commissioner Sindh, dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1851, furnishing information regarding officers who have passed examination in colloquial Sindhi.

No 1044 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Collector of Kurrachee

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> May 1851

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No.291, dated 15<sup>th</sup> March last with accompaniment, I have the honour to reply the first second directive of your letter and to inform you that no Deputy Collector in my office has passed an Examination in Scindhee.

2. Captain Stewart, Deputy Collector of Ghorrabaree informs me that his colloquial knowledge of the language, enables him to communicate with Natives of the country and he hopes that if he can find leisure to study, to qualify himself to pass in examination within three months. The Deputy Collector of Jherruk\* also informs me that it is his intention shortly to offer himself as a candidate for examination in Scindhee. The Deputy Collector Sehwan reports that although unable to pass the examination contemplated, he understands the language sufficiently to be able to comprehend all Viva Voce description in Scindhee and can also work himself thoroughly understood without assistance of a Moonshee.

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\* Jherruk is a historical village in District Thatta, which is situated on the National Highway from Hyderabad to Thatta at 50 km and near Keenjhar Lake 26 km ahead. It is on the right bank of River Indus 400 feet high above the sea level on the little mountains. In 19<sup>th</sup> century, Jherruk was the busiest river port and centre of commercial activity in Sindh. It also served as the headquarters of the Indus flotilla, the most modern navigational system of those days. Charles Napier initially made Jherruk the headquarters for the British Army in Sindh. During 1850s and 1860s, it had status of Deputy Collectorate. Many native historian truly believe that Quaid -e- Azam Muhammad Ali Jinnah was born in Jherruk- The Editor

3. My own assistants - Mr. Macleod, Mr W. J. Surtees, and Mr. Slander have also not passed, but the latter informs me that he is studying and hopes to pass within six months.

4. In reply to third query, I am of the opinion that when officers who have passed in Scindhee are available, it is highly desirable that the Committee covered of that member, but when three committee members are not conveniently assembled, I am of the opinion all colloquial examination may with advantage to be taken before the Interpreters in Hindoostanee assisted by a Scindee Interpreter and some Scindee Moonshees. An interpreter's examination when more the one Scindhee interpreters can not properly be presented, may I conceive be passed before a Committee similarly constituted as before.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

You most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain Preedy  
Collector of Kurrachee

Kurrachee  
Collector's Officer  
17<sup>th</sup> May 1851

3. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1851, furnishing information regarding officers who have passed in colloquial Sindhi language and issues relating to the examination.

No. 359 of 1851  
General Department

To  
Lord Falkland  
The Honourable Governor in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1851

My Lord,

I have the honour to reply for the order of your Lordship in Council that Mr. Arthur, Deputy Collector of Mehur has applied for a Committee to pass an Interpreter in the examination of Scindee.

2. This is I believe the first application of this kind and I conclude formal would, I wish the examination to be conducted as soon as possible under the same rules in as similar examination in other languages.

3. The officiating Controller Captain Stewart, who has a good colloquial knowledge of Sindhee and Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, who have both passed Sindhee colloquial examination, as informed other Deputy Collectors, might form the Committee.

4. The usually President to the Committee, the form of Report in idiomatic substance and the position of the book in English, both to be translated into Sindhee might be send us as usual for the Deputy Secretary to Government but the selection of the Scindee written Petition to be translated into English and the Sindhee to be translated into English must be left to the Committee.

5. The petition because as there are 12 or more different alphabets in Sindhee and at each has 8 dialects, it is very possible any petition such from Bombay may not in hand or in a dialect used in upper Scinde and the book because of the few books which exist in Scinde all in manuscripts and more common to exist in multitude of copies, so that a man may read every Sindhee book, he can find and be puzzled by one he has read or written in various mediums of Arabic or Persian words with merely Scindee instructions and constructions.

I have the honour to be Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner office  
Kurrachee  
22<sup>nd</sup> May 1851

4. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1851, furnishing information regarding officers who have passed examination in colloquial Sindhi language and suggesting rules for examination and Arabic character for Sindhi language.

No. 923 of 1851  
General Department

From  
Commissioner in Scinde

To  
Right Honourable  
Lord Viscount Falkland  
Governor President in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> May 1851

My Lord,

I have the honour to submit your Lordship in Council a few remarks on the cogitate subjects of acquirement of Public Officers in Scindee and introduction of Scindhee as language of official business in the province.

2. Both subjects appear and have attracted a good deal of attention, where first the Province was placed under the Bombay Government.

3. That very little has been done since to promote acquirement of vernacular language of the Province by officers in public employ will be apparent if the statements appended to Mr. Pringle's letter No. 734 of 25<sup>th</sup> March 1848, and his favour previous letter on same subject he contrasted with the annexed copies of the replies of the 03 Collectors to a circular lately addressed to them on the subject.

4. The following is analysis of their replies, showing the officers now employed in Scinde who have passed or prepared to pass an examination in Scindhee.

#### Hyderabad Collectorate

None have passed - nor are any at present prepared to pass either an interpreters or colloquial Examination.

Captain Rathborne, Collector understands Scindhee as well as any "Interpreter" but does not speak it.

Mr. Cole Deputy Collector has lately asked at Kurrachee, for a colloquial examination.

### Shikarpoore

Lieutenant Lester and Dickson have passed.

Mr. Young has applied for a Committee to pass in an Interpreter examination.

### Kurrachee

The officers who have passed - Captains Stewart and Partridge possess colloquial knowledge on the language.

Captain Dunsterville and Mr. Slander hope shortly to offer themselves for Examination.

5. I did not refer other Captain of Police, but he has lately passed colloquial examination in Scindhee. Lieutenant Robert Romer is studying to pass an Interpreters examination and other Lieutenants; I believe could pass a colloquial examination after a little study.

6. It must be confessed that the whole present amount of attainment in a branch of knowledge of most essential important to the efficiency of public officers is much less than could be wished.

7. I think this is in part to be attributed to too much having been attempted at first.

8. It must be remembered that faculties for studying the language are still small, the greater than used to be before the publication of Captain Stack's Grammar and Dictionary. The art of good Moonshees and good books for study is still such that at present no man could be explored to pass an Interpreter's examination, unless he possesses either considerable leisure or a more than usual late for and aptitude in passing language.

9. Moreover, as long as Scindhee is not language for official bussiness, it is of comparatively little importance that the public officers should be able to read and write the language, but it is most important and be understood, colloquially by the Natives of the Country, without the aid of an Interpreter.

10. At present, therefore, a colloquial knowledge of the language seems to me the object to which the assertion of public officers should be directed as being of most immediate practical importance.

11. I should therefore submit the consideration of your Lordship in Council, the propriety of making publically known the following rules: \*

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\* Mr. Frere - Commissioner in Sindh has been proposing rules for the examination in Native Language. He is requesting Bombay presidency for the approved of rules - The Editor

I. That hereafter no acting officer be confirmed, nor will any officer now employee be promoted otherwise than acting, in any situation in Scinde, till he has passed a colloquial examination in Scindhee.

II. That the colloquial examination shall be conducted as follows:

A Committee should be appointed comprising as many linguists as can be assembled, passed Interpreters in Gujeratee or Mahrathee or Persian being added to make up the Committee.

They shall examine the candidate:

I. By hearing him conversation with or without Scindhee of the lower order.

II. BY making him write down subject, the substance of a statement orally made by him in Scindhee by one of lower order.

III. By making him with lower order in English substance of a Scindhee petition or letter, and a portion of Scindhee by a Moonshee.

IV. By directing to a Moonshee in Scindhee the substance of a petition or a clause of the Regulation or other circular paper given to him in English.

V. By translating orally, into Scindhee idiomatic phrases given him in English, and vice versa, Scindhee idiomatic phrases read over in Scindhee by Moonshee.

12. The Committee should be required to take their opinion regarding the arrangements of the candidate under read the above heads, separately, as well as in their opinion, whether he has passed the whole a satisfactory examination.

13. This is, I think, as much as can be expected at present, and if an officer passed the above examination, I should say he was fully qualified for the translation of public business in Scindee as could under present disadvantages be suspected in order to secure uniformity.

14. A copy of all papers recoded in questioner with the examination should be used before examination Committee at Bombay but for Scindee linguists can be appointed to that committee the present him qualified the final decision as to whether candidate has or has not passed – had better be left to the examination.

15. In order to encourage officer to qualify themselves in reading and writing, and to pass in an Interpreters examination, it should not only be notified that such proficiency could be regarded as peculiarly creditable of the officers passing but I would suggest that an award of Rs.500 rupees should be paid to each officer as passing in addition to any other award to which

he might become entitled under the several rules of the service.

16. My reason for making this proposition is not only the instinctive difficulty of the task itself, but a conviction that without some such timely the present want of books and other means of acquiring a perfect knowledge of a language that had been so little cultivated, will never be supplied.

17. With a view to promote the same object, I would propose to notify the willingness of Government to bear the expenses of publishing Scindee books written originally or translated which might be reported by Commissioner as fitted for a class of school book.

18. The Selection of the character might be left to the writer or editor on this much vexed question regarding the proper character of Scindee. I will nearly observe:

- i. That any informal book printed in any existing and generally used character will not be thrown away -even though the character used might not be beyond all questions the best
- ii. That a book printed in any existing character, however limited the use of that character may be, will be well worth printing if only as a philological.
- iii. That if left to the ourselves, we will generally choose a character, as they will a language which they find best adapted to give their productions general currency and that therefore, Government may largely trust a good deal with other private production of individually.

19. It would be of course desirable if it were possible of starting to select the character which was best and enquire all dispute, but it is not possible, and the practical difficulties of having books in more than one character not so great as might be supposed.

20. They were not much left where Bleak letter, Italian and Roman types were often all used in one and the same Books, and they are not now fell in German in Hindee or Mahratee, every book, in whatever character printed will be a step as regards some class of community, and when Books multiply, comparative recommendation of each character will be understood better than at present.

21. My own conclusion is that Captain Stack's system one very fine it will ultimately be perfected and generally adopted. But for this task not only learning and zeal but a power to control the press, such as few bodies but such a educational and mission societies possess will be

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\* An award of Rs. 500 has been proposed on passing examination in Sindhi language, which seems big amount-  
The Editor

absolutely requisite, and I had rather see government to adopt a system which had seen perfected and introduced into general use by men who had made the subject the study of their lives than attempt before adoption of a system which may be open to grave observation. Meantime, I have no doubt much progress may be made with the Arabic character recommended by Lieutenant Burton or one of the existing Scindhee characters. The Arabic character has the recommendation of being easily transmitted by the Government moonshees in a few days. \*

22. Till there are books, it is hardly possible to do much in the way of schooling vernacular education, but I would take this opportunity respectfully to point out that I can not find from the records that any thing has been done to promote education in any shape, since the receipt of Mr. Erickson's letter No. 3595 of the 27<sup>th</sup> October 1849.

23. In Para: 24<sup>th</sup> of that letter, a hope was held out that a well devised system of schools, proposed by Lieutenant Burton, would be recommended to the Government of India, in shape of grant of Rupees 3000 which had been before sanctioned, but from that day to this, not a single school of any kind has been established, nor out of our requirements has Government up to this moment expended a rupee for the purposes of education, both the 3,000 Rupees sanction and expanded scheme seem both to have been lost sight of.

24. I have carefully thought over Lieutenant Burton's plan, and consider it as its main features and trust that its adoption rather may be again brought under the consideration of your Lordship in Council as most desirable object. The appointment of qualified interpreter to report on existing measures of education and recommended further steps seems the first measure requisite.

25. Till some progress has been made in giving our own officers a better knowledge of the vernacular, and enabling the people to read and write it themselves, it is same to think of adopting it as the language of official business but I hope that in the meantime some thing may be done to make the favour of reading and writing their own language a less rare accomplishment among our own Scindee native officials than it is at present.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> May 1851

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\* In paragraph No. 21/N. the commissioner in Sindh clearly preferred Lt. Burton's proposal in place of captain Stack- The Editor

**5. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner Sindh, dated 9<sup>th</sup> July 1851, conveying approval of proposals in letter, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1851.**

No. 2844 of 1851  
General Department  
Bombay Castle

To

H. E. Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> July 1851

Sir,

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council approved of the suggestion contained in your letter ( No.859) dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May last and I am directed to forward to you the requisite exercises in English for the examination of Mr. Young , with a request that you will transmit them to the Committee with the accompanying communication.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your obedient servant  
(Signed)H.E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
9<sup>th</sup> July 1851

**6. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to the Officers who have passed examination of Sindhi for their appointment as member of the Committee and rules & format of the examination.**

No. 2845 of 1851  
General Department

To

- Captain Stewart
- Lieutenant Lester
- Lieutenant Dickson

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> July 1851

Gentlemen,

Under the Right Honourable the Governor in Council, you are appointed as members in Committee to examine Mr. Arthur Young in Scindhee language. I have the honour to transmit you under seal the papers required for the purpose.

2. You will have the goodness the officers who required to summon Mr. Young, convenient to yourselves, and having then there opened the papers, submit them to be executed such reasonable time for the performance of the exercises as may be deemed necessary.

3. Mr. Young must not be allowed the use of a Dictionary or other Books nor must receive assistance from any one, and when the translations have been executed to the best of his abilities, You will receive them under a sealed cover duly attested by a certificate, signature by jointly to the effect following:

4. We hereby certify, that these translations into English or vice versa (as the case may be) were executed in our presence between the hours of and without aid or assistance from ourselves, or from any Moonshee or other person, and without Dictionary or other Book.

5. With respect to the papers for oral examination you will be pleased in your Report to state, whether they were read fluently and with apparent ease, and whether in rendering them into English, the candidate evinced sufficient arguments with the language to be able to give the meaning correctly, or with any occasional error, barely made and the substance, or wholly failed in showing that he comprehended the content of papers.

6. You will also be pleased to hear the candidate converse with a Native in Scindhee and report in same detail, the degree of fluency displayed by each candidate.

7. You will have the goodness carefully to inset, in the proper columns of the Form of Report herewith transmitted your judgment of the candidate's qualification, expressed in any one of the following "very good", "good", "fair", "middling", "indifferent", "bad".

I have the honour to be Sir  
Your obedient servant  
(Signed) H. E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
9<sup>th</sup> July 1851

**7. Report of the Examination of Junior Civil Servant in the Native Languages held at Bombay on the -----**

Name	Date of the candidate's arrival in Country	Period of actual Residence in this country	The other languages in which candidate has passed with the date of his passing in each	Language in which examined	Written translation from English into the native language of tale and Section of Regulation	Viva Voce translation from the Native language to into English of prose and other portion	Viva Voce translation from English into the Native Language	Grammatical knowledge of the Native Language	Colloquial knowledge of the Native Language	Knowledge of orthography	Remarks

Bombay Castle  
From Hall

President  
Members

**S. Letter from Secretary to Government of Bombay to Commissioner Sindh, dated 25<sup>th</sup> July 1851, conveying approval of letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1851.**

No.3427 of 1851  
General Department

To  
H. B. Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> July 1851

Sir,

The Right Honourable Governor in Council approves your proceedings as in your letter No. 1486, dated the 30 ultimo.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your obedient servant  
(Signed) H.E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government of India

Bombay Castle  
25<sup>th</sup> July 1851

**9. Letter from Deputy Collector of Sehwan to Collector Karachi, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851, requesting that he may be examined for Interpreter of Sindhi language.**

No.319 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector  
Sehwan

To  
The Collector of  
Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851

Sir,

May I request for a favour of your forwarding an application to the Commissioner for a Committee to examine me as an Interpreter in the Scindhee language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Arthur Young

Sehwan Collector Office  
Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> July 1851

No. 2251 of 1851

True copy is forwarded for the information and orders to the Commissioner in Scinde

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Arthur Young

10. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851, furnishing information regarding examination of Lt. Young in Sindhi language.

No.1486 of 1851  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable Lord  
Viscount Falkland

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.28 dated 9<sup>th</sup> instant and in reply to inform your Lordship in Council that before the letter in question was received Mr. Arthur Young had left Sukkur to join his new appointment in Lower Scinde and I understand that Lieutenant Lester is likely to be obliged to leave Sukkur for the best if he has not already left it.

2. Under these circumstances it seemed to me to be of little use of Scindee. Mr. Young up to Shikarpoore, and as I could not form a Committee at Hyderabad which would be most efficient but when one has passed the Scindee I have told Mr. Young that I will appoint one whenever he can present himself for Committee at Kurrachee -- at present however his stay at Kotree\*, the Collector giving him permission for leaving that station.

3. Whenever he can come, I propose selecting the best Committee. I can find of Scindee linguist and addressing to them counter part of instructions contained in your letter No. 2845 to Captain Stewart, Lieutenant Lester and Lieutenant Deikson and asking to them the sealed papers which authentication embodied. This course I trust will be approved.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) H. B. Freere

Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee.

30 July 1851

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\* Kotri is a small city and a Taluka of Jamshoro district. It is situated on the right bank of the Indus and since 1900 has been connected with Gudu Border on the other side of the river by an iron bridge, replacing the steamboat which used to cross between these two places. It is an industrial town of Sindh and had deputy Commissioner in early British Raj. The Editor

11. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851, directing him to inform Lt. Young for his examination in Sindhi language.

No.1487 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will be good enough to inform Mr. Young, Deputy Collector, Sehwan that the orders of Government have been received to appoint a Committee to examine his Scindhee and that I will immediate one whenever he can present himself at Kurrachee for examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
30 July 1851

**12. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 8th August 1851, conveying approval of his proposals letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1851 and also asking to resume Khudawadi character for Sindhi, as suggested by Captain Stack.**

No. 3228 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> August 1851

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor in Council concurs generally in the opinion which you have expressed in your letter of the 30<sup>th</sup> May last, No 923 on this subject of the introduction of Scindhee as the language of official business in Scinde and degree of preparing in that language which public officers should at present be required to progress.

2. When these objects were formally discussed His Lordship in Council stated his conviction Mr. Pringle would not so easily or so speedily as he seemed to imagine carry out his views of bringing Scindhee into general use.

3. Shortly after the Government's letter No. 3595 dated 27<sup>th</sup> October 1849 was addressed to your predecessor a great laps was sustained in the rather sudden departure from Scinde of two of the ablest devotees for the introduction of Scindhee by adoption in Persian, Arabic or Hindoostanee, namely Captain Stack and Burton. \*

4. After they had left the Province no qualified examiner remained and the proposed reform necessarily fell in some measures into abeyance.

5. It is however, a measured of vital importance to the best interest of the country that public business should be translated in the language which intelligible to the people, the Governor in Council states that you will keep this object constantly in view.

6. A colloquial knowledge of Scindhee on the part of officers in public employ may be received as sufficient at first and as paving the way to higher grade of proficiency. But it must be clearly understood that Government will not rest continued with the partial qualification.

7. His Lordship is however unable to concur in the views and reasoning adopted by you in advocating that the selection of the character in which any Books to be published by

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\* Bombay Presidency admits that Captain Stack and Burton were two true ablest, qualified and devotees of Sindhi Language- The Editor

Government must be written and as corollary in which depositions and records will be kept should be left to the pleasure of writer.

8. He considers that the benefits of which will result from the early establishment of a fixed and acknowledged written character must over balance the advantages which you contend will arise from the initiatory use of writing so voracious, so very imperfect and so restricted to particular localities as that which is now employed of which has been said that man in one part of Province can not read the writing which used in another and that not infrequently he is unable after long time to read or decipher his own.

9. With proceedings which have been submitted to Government on the subject before him His Lordship considers that question resolves itself to one of choice – Captain Stack's arguments have indeed induced him to entertain a decided preference for the carefully considered and seemingly unobjectionable method and character which that officer has recommended and which the officer sufficiently assimilates to the character now in use as to present no insurmountable objection to its general adoption. Doubtless so desirable a result must be a work of time, but it should be ever kept in view and steadily pursued.

10. Captain Stack's alphabet should therefore be used in publications and recording of all documents Scindhee language in other characters though not positively prohibited should be from the first discouraged. \* With this limitation Government approves your proposal in 17<sup>th</sup> Para/N.

11. There are obvious advantages in attending this rule the public records come hereafter to be written exclusively in Scindhee.

12. The suggestions in the Para 11, 12, 13, 14, & 15 of your letter are approved.

13. In regard to Paras at 24 & 25 of your letter are in error in supposing that the subject of establishing schools in Scinde has been lost sight of.

14. As intimated in Para 24 of the Government letter of the 27 October 1849, the Government of India was requested to sanction the sum of 3000 Rupees previously sanctioned to establish the system of school which you have noticed.

15. No reply has been given to this application but the Government of India will be again addressed upon the subject.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your obedient servant  
(Signed) H.E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government of India

Kurrachee  
8<sup>th</sup> August 1851

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\* In response to the proposal of commissioner Sindh in his letter dated 30<sup>th</sup> May 1851, the Bombay Presidency once again supported writing system of Captain Stack- The Editor

13. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851, once again submitting his explanation as to necessity of adopting Arabic Character for Sindhi and furnishing officers knowledge in Sindhi language.

No.1814 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Right Honourable  
Viscount Falkland  
Bombay

Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851

My lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of letter of Secretary to Government of India's letter No. 3228 dated 8<sup>th</sup> ultimo and in reply to the Para at 11/N, I would beg to explain for the submission to your Lordship in Council as follows:

2. My own comments, as alluded to in Para 22 of the letter No. 923 of the 30<sup>th</sup> May last was usual and identical with the opinion of Government as stated in Para 9 of the passed examination, viz. that a character and mode of writing similar to its principle that identical with Captain Stack's, must be ultimately perfected, and generally adopted and that the promotion of the object, I should be kept in view and steadily followed.

3. It should be remembered that the principle of Captain Stack's system was simply to take one of the existing Hindee Scindee character – add to it the letters selected to express sounds which have at present no distinct representation, and when the much of writing had been thus perfected to adhere to it then forward, and to introduce generally.

4. But I think former have misunderstood the progress made in putting this system which Captain Stack wrote.

5. He has satisfied himself that the plan he proposed was practicable, and save one or two that I had examples; but except what he wrote and answered to his reports, I can find here and trace of anything transcribed according to his system. The Moonshee, I believe not use nor employed by Captain Stack himself in his office could write and read his character - nor have I less able, after much required to find and one European or Native who can - I have

heard about any Pundit who was employed by Captain Stack in his private studies and who learnt to him write in this character - but he lives at India and it would be some months before I would turn the knowledge he may possess to any usual account. I have gone through one or two Books written by Captain Stack in that character. He wrote a Dictionary and Grammar of Scindee language. Lieutenant Lester and Lieutenant W. T. Cole preferred to be examined in the character proposed by Captain Stack.

6. Captain Stacks' plan was in fact, theory - will be considered and thoroughly practicable I believe, but it will only a theory and had his views been conceived in, and he ordered to carry through out, he would very probably has modified many of the details before finally deciding or the expecting to be adopted permanently

7. At present, until he returns from England, it is looking impossible to do anything towards carrying out his views practically or some other officers shall have acquired usually as good a knowledge of the language as Stack possess.

8. They must be then finally state the details of the character to be used and composed in it and print for books, and teach a few thousand and school masters.

9. A knowledge of the character and ability to read and write, it may then be made formal subjects of education in all schools when any one organized and may ultimately be required as indispensable general education for offices in all public servants European or natives.

10. If the object of affecting this be steadily and majestically followed, I have the doubt that in about 4 or 5 years from the time Captain Stack's returns, the character would become fixed and known as an indispensable generalfiction for Government employ and might those in 4 or 5 years more if proper faculties are offered for practicing it, become vividly known. Its formal use, as a common or system of writing the language, universally understood by all educated persons cannot be reasonably expected under the most favourable circumstances like those who are boys at school when the character become and commonly taught at all schools - shall have become the office business and school master of the community. In fact not like after the lapse of at last in competition.

11. But it will not, I can respectfully of opinion of to which that time before taking steps to ensure a more modifications required, as the language at least oral communication between the Scindees and their rulers. For this purpose, some written character is necessary and as none of the existing characters fulfill all the requisites in a manner to be considered with the Arabic that must I think be adopted as the temporary substitute for the formal introduction of alphabet for Scindee writing.

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Mr. Frere thinks that proposal of Captain Stack is just theoretical, not practical- The Editor

12. The position of Scindhee is very similar to that Hindustanee when first it was proposed to take it up as a language of business. It was abused as a language without character of its own.

13. There can be no doubt but that Dewnagri is the character theoretically best adopted for writing Hindustanee and that so far there was truth in the objections raised to writing it in Province but it may be safely affirmed that how efforts of others who had the way attempted to exclude the Persian character the use only, Dewnagree Hindustanee can never have attained its present position of universal writing throughout India, which may there have been, at this time a little of the Books and periodicals printed in all characters put together which are now printed in Dewnagri alone. It was the fact the character adopted was already well known to which whole Musلمان population of India was aware of its usage, therefore to take its personal position as the formally known medium of communication throughout the country.

14. In proposing that the character to be used should be left to the pleasure of the writer. I have no expectation that there would be functionally much diversity of choice – my object was to find out objection in the use of the language whether in same character or another. I have little doubt but that the choice will present fall in Arabic.

15. I judge partly from the effects of similar order regarding writing choice of expression in important cases, in the vernacular languages of the province.

16. When I just understand the question, there was the some of the objections, difficulties and diversity of opinions, relating to the character to be used, and I found the only way to state the matter and secure the essential point of the statement being in the language of the Persian to witness was to take officers to write in whatever character they favoured.

17. The result has been the Arabic or Persian and that only has been used.

18. Lieutenant Lester's information that his Moonshee who first offered his choice, dictated without hesitation but after a few days, trial his duty he himself unable to read or the words what he had written in Hindoo Scindee the day previous, then he adopted the Arabic Alphabet and has adhered to it ever since.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
6<sup>th</sup> September 1851

**14. Circular, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851, to all heads of civil departments, with direction to furnish comments/ views on draft rules for examination of deputies in colloquial Sindhi.**

No. 1825 of 1851  
General Department

**CIRCULAR**

To  
The Heads of  
Civil Department

Dated: 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851\*

Sir,

I have the honour to forward for your information and guidance and that of your Deputies the accompanying draft of Rules to be observed by the officers in Civil Employ in the Provincial duties of passing a colloquial examination in Scindee together with effect Paras 5 & 12 letters from Mr. Secretary J. G. Lumsden of 3228 of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant containing the approval of the same.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
6<sup>th</sup> September 1851

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\* The Circular dated 6th September 1851, issued by H. B. Frere, Commissioner in Sindh has been widely misinterpreted by Sindhi research scholars. It has been informed that H. B. Frere issued a circular, dated 6th September 1851, directing that official correspondence should be made in Sindhi, all officers to pass examination in Sindhi language and school should be established immediately. As a matter of the fact, the Circular dated 6th September 1851, issued by H. B. Frere, Commissioner in Sindh was in pursuance of the directives of Bombay Presidency for information and guidance of his Deputy Collectors and other officers in Civil Employ for observing of the Rules for passing colloquial examination in Sindhi- The Editor

## 15. Rules regarding the Qualification Required for Officers in Civil employment for Colloquial Sindhi\*

It has been decided by the Government:

1. That heretofore no officer will be confined in civil offices or employed be promoted otherwise than in any situation in service, but he has passed a colloquial examination in Scindee.
2. The colloquial examination will be conducted as follows:
3. A Committee will be appointed accompanied as many linguists as can be assembled, passed Interpreters in Guzeratee or Mahrathee or Persian being added to make up the Committee.
4. They will examine the candidates :
  - I. By hearing him conversation with or without Scindee of the lower order.
  - II. By making him write down subject, the substance of a statement orally made by him in Scindee by one of lower order.
  - III. By making him with lower order in English substance of a Scindee petition or letter, and a portion of Scindee by a Moonshee.
  - IV. By directing to a Moonshee in Scindee the substance of a petition or a clause of the Regulation or other circular paper given to him in English.
  - V. By translating orally, into Scindee idiomatic phrases given to him in English, and vice versa, Scindee idiomatic phrases read over in Scindee by Moonshee.
5. The Committee will be required to announce their opinion regarding the arrangements of the candidate under read the above head, separately, as well as in their opinion, whether he has passed the whole a satisfactory examination.

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\* These were rules for Deputy Collectors and other officer in Civil Employee for passing a colloquial examination in Sindhi, issued in Circular dated 6th September 1851, by H. B. Frere, Commissioner in Sindh- The Editor

6. If an officer passed the above examination, he will be fully qualified for the translation of public business in Scinde as could undergo present disadvantages expected.
7. To secure to uniformity, i.e. a copy of all papers recorded in questioner with the examination will be used in examination Committee at Bombay but for the personal, will qualify Scindee linguists can be appointed to that committee, the decision as to whether candidate has or has not passed is left with the examination.
8. In order to qualifying himself in reading and writing, and to pass in an Interpreters examination, such proficiency will be regarded as peculiarly creditable of the officers passing, an award of 500 rupees will be paid to each of the passing officer in addition to any other award to which he might become entitled under the several rules of the service, in passing the examination in Scindee language.
9. For making this proposition, to supply books and other means acquainted a perfect knowledge of a language that had been so little cultivated, will never be supplied. To bear the expenses of publishing in Scindee books written originally or translated will be reported by writer as fitted for a class of school book.
10. The Selection of the character will be left to the writer or editor on his such qualification regarding the proper character of Scindee. Captain Stack's system will attainably be perfected and generally adopted but for this task<sup>v</sup> will not only learning but power to control the pen such as few bodies but such a education. Hence the Arabic character will be character for the colloquial examination in Scindee.

(Signed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

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<sup>v</sup> The Government of Sindh had approved adoption of Arabic character for Sindhi on 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851- The Editor

16. Report for Performance of the Examination Prepared by Committee to be Held at -----  
 ----- to Examine ----- as to assess in colloquial Examination in Scindee  
 Language\*

- A B Best passed
- C.D Medium passed
- E.F Failed

Candidate's Name and Rank	Conversation in Scindee with 2 or 3 Natives of the country	Writing orders in English the substances of Scindee orally made to him by one of with known orders	Writing orders in English the substances of Scindee written questions and read over him in Scindee before Moonshee	Dictating to a Moonshee in Scindee the substance of petition, of able in Scindee	Translating into Scindee English idiomatic phrases	Translating orally into Scindee English idiomatic phrases read to him by a Moonshee	General opinion on the result of examination	Remarks

\* This is a proforma/ format along with a prescribed rules for Deputy Collectors and other officer in Civil Employee for passing a colloquial examination in Sindhi, issued in Circular dated 6th September 1851, by H. B. Frere, Commissioner in Sindhi- The Editor

**17. Letter from Lieutenant W. D. Dickson to the Collector in Upper Sindh, dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 1851, informing that he is translating a book (A Persian Munshi) in Sindhi language in Dewnagri character.**

No. 854 of 1851  
General Department

From

Lieutenant W. D. Dickson  
Deputy Collector Shikarpore

To

The Collector in Upper Scinde  
Shikarpore

Dated: 13<sup>th</sup> September 1851

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence, regarding the required qualification of officers in Scindee language, received with your memo No. 630 of yesterday, I have the honour to solicit your observations to my letter No. 185 and 186 of the 18<sup>th</sup> March last, in which I referred that I had passed an examination as Interpreter in the Scindee language, vide G.O Commander, dated 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> November 1846.

2. As I am now asking you to lend one humble assistance into translating books into this language. I would request the favour of you for the obtaining information from Commissioner in Scinde as what sort of the books would be useful for translation. Having sound knowledge of the Marhatee language and Dewnagree character, it will not be difficult for me to make translations of Law books. But I should be glad to know which words to be considered most useful. It is my wish, first to translate the little work called the "Persian Moonshee" which contains about

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\* Historically speaking, Captain George Stack had translated and published four (04) stories of Sindhi language in his book: "A Grammar of the Sindhi Language" in 1849. Those were the earliest published short stories in Sindhi language, however script was used Dewnagri. He was assisted by his Munshies in those translations. Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, working in the Collectorate of Shikarpur was also disciple of Captain George Stack. He was also keen supporter of Dewnagri Script for Sindhi language. He was only next to Captain Stack, who also translated some short stories in Sindhi. In this regard he translated seventy five tales of Gladwin's Persian Moonshee in 1851. The Scripts he used for his translation were Roman and Dewnagri. His work shows his grip and dedication for Sindhi language. Later on, his stories were published by Lieut E.P Arthur along with translation of Dossabhae Idiomatical Sentences in 1852. - The Editor

seventy five stories. After receiving the correspondence on this subject, yesterday evening I sat down and wrote off six stories in Scindee. I beg to submit one of them, as a specimen of off hand translation. This has been done by one without any aid what ever. It will bear correction but that I can easily effect by having a Moonshee in attendance, when I revise.

3. The Story of a Persian Moonshee is very small work than the book, I should like to have some more than the book named to me which I could commence to translate - rather unfortunately my present duties allow me but very little leisure for this purpose. Had I am appointed wherein I could find some more leisure. I should be delighted to give my whole time to work until I had completed the translation of several books . Of course, care would be necessary in the revision but what would be simple result of the leisure other officers have doubtless however given their attention to this subject and it would be first as well as second present ever mentioned that each should take different book for translation.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Lieutenant W. D. Dickson

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
13<sup>th</sup> September 1851

18. Letter from the Collector in Upper Sindh to Commissioner Sindh, dated 15<sup>th</sup> September 1851, forwarding letter of Lieutenant W. D. Dickson for consideration.

No. 636 of 1851  
General Department

From  
The Collector Upper Scinde

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> September 1851

Sir,

With reference to your circular letter, dated 6<sup>th</sup> instant, with its accompaniments on the subject of the officers in Civil Employ in the Provincial duties of passing a colloquial examination in Scindee language, I have the honour to forward herewith a letter No. 548 of the 13<sup>th</sup> instant of Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, Deputy Collector, with its annexures in original for kind consideration.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Goldney, Major  
Collector and Magistrate

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
15<sup>th</sup> September 1851

19. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to the Collector of Shikarpur, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1851, expecting that Lieutenant W. D. Dickson can complete his work without getting leave and will do it both Arabic and Dewnagri characters.

No. 1952 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Collector Shikarpoore

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1851

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 636 of 15<sup>th</sup> instant, I have the honour to inform you that I think Lieutenant W. D. Dickson can do it with no extra time or leave requisite for the discharge of his official duties, a translation of the Regulation XIV of 1827 would be a very useful work – but it would be necessary to make it with care and it could be in both the Dewnagree and Arabic characters. The present draft received with your letter of that officer's translations is fit to me and free from error, as Lieutenant W. D. Dickson will perceive by companying it with translation amended.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
22<sup>nd</sup> September 1851

20. Letter from Lieutenant W. D. Dickson to Collector in Upper Sindh, dated 30<sup>th</sup> September 1851, intimating difficulties while working on translation in Sindhi language.

No. 899 of 1851  
General Department

From

Lieutenant W. D. Dickson  
Deputy Collector Shikarpore

To

The Collector in Upper in Scinde

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> September 1851

Sir,

In obedience of instructions continued in Commissioner's letter of General Department, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1851, I would like to say that I will make use of my spare time and leisure to translation into Scindee of the questioner 14 of 1827.

2. Consideration of my own imperfections and critical knowledge in the language which has no original books or literature to make periodicals, it will be my own study in attempting Scindee translations to obtain useful advice of the best informed of the natives of this place, a thing, which I thought hardly worthwhile for the occasion in the translation of little story from Persian Moonshee which I wholly submitted as specimen translating off hand works particularly mentioning at the time that had not been erected wholly as I myself, much or less the one competent hand, of a native of the country.

3. There is one point however, which I wish to draw attention to not my own humble admiration but on that of Captain Stack who especially in the Preface to his Grammar had written that "the dialects of Scindee could be found to be different in the different divisions of the province".

4. The little experience which I have been enabled to obtain could lead me to assert that

Upper Scinde dialect particular much of Mooltanee\*, I discover a circumstance which if the correction of my little made translation had taken into consideration, he could have been more easily able to made stories only the termination of several of my verbs differed from the forms used in Lower Scinde.

5. Moreover, meaning of the other words have been altered are merely replaced by existing words and perhaps I may be allowed to add that subsequently committing any translations. I have read it and several other of my own unaided to some of the considerable Natives here also both understood approached of the translation.

6. I have also considered these translations with the books given in Stack's Dictionary and I find that they come understood exactly with the letter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Lieutenant W. D. Dickson  
Deputy Collector

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
30<sup>th</sup> September 1851

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\* Historically speaking Multan and Bahawalpur had remained cities of Sindh. Here Mooltanee (Multani) means Siraki, a dialect of Sindhi language - The Editor

21. Forwarding Letter from Collector in Upper Sindh to Commissioner Sindh, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851, forwarding letter of Lieutenant W. D. Dickson

No. 697 of 1851  
General Department

From

The Collector  
Upper in Scinde

To

The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851

Sir,

At the particular request of Lieutenant W. D. Dickson, Deputy Collector, Shikarpoore, I have the honour with reference to your letter No. 1952 in General Department, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> ultimo herewith to enclose a copy of one No. 899 of the 30<sup>th</sup> instant from that officer.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Goldney, Major  
Collector and Magistrate

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851

**22. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Deputy Collector Karachi, dated 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851, suggesting for a Committee having knowledge of Persian and Marathi for conduction examination.**

No. 133 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Deputy Collector Kurrachee

Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will do in the favour to communicate two (02) Interpreters of any before His Majesty or the Honourable Governor in Council having knowledge in Scindee or who have passed examination in Marathee, Guzratee or Persian or any other native languages to Captain Preedy as the member of Examination Committee on early date. They may arrange with your permission, such officers to be temporarily at my disposal till the examination is not likely to be taken more than one or two (2) days is finished.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
3<sup>rd</sup> October 1851

23. Letter from Deputy Collector Karachi to Commissioner Sindh, dated 10<sup>th</sup> October 1851, informing that an officer commanding knowledge of Hinustani has been placed at his disposal, as desired.

No.805 of 1851  
Head Larders

To  
Bartle Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 10<sup>th</sup> October 1851

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter No. 2064 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, and I have the honour to inform you that an officer commanding in Hindusatanees has been identified for Committee to examine Interpreters along with Captain Freedy as member of Examination in to Committee.

2. These officers have been placed at your disposal as requested till the examination is conducted.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. D. Campbell  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee  
10<sup>th</sup> October 1851

**24. Letter from Collector Karachi (President Examiner) to Commissioner Sindh dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 1851, forwarding proceedings of the committee.**

No.122 of 1851  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> October 1851

Sir,

In forwarding the proceedings of the examination agreeably in the directions contained in your letter No. 2074 of the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1851, wherein the Government of India has directed you to constitute a Committee to examine Mr. Goldsmid, and other candidates who may offer themselves in the Scindee language.

2. The Committee headed by me and three (03) other members including Captain Patridge, Deputy Collector, Captain Marston, Captain of Police Department and Lieutenant Mcaelod\*, examined three candidates viz Captain Young, Mr. Goldsmid and Mr. Cole. They have displayed their good proficiency in the Scindee language into written, reading and translating from Scindee to English and English to Scindee
3. It is generalizing to the committee that to have recommend that the three officers cover generally final proficiency, which they acquired, so as to qualify the Interpreter's examination.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient  
(Signed) Captain Preedy  
President Examiner

Kurrachee  
Collector Office  
11<sup>th</sup> October 1851

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\* Collector of Custom

25. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 11<sup>th</sup> October 1851, conveying approval for adoption of Arabic Character, as recommended by Lt. Burton.

No. 3903 of 1851  
General Department

To  
H. B.E Frere Esquire  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> October 1851

Sir,

I have been directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1814 dated 6<sup>th</sup> of the ultimo on the subject of introduction of Scindhee as the language of official business in Scinde.

2. Your proposal is considered reasonable under the explanation which you have now offered and the Right Honourable the Governor in Council has no further objection to offer the adoption of the Arabic Character recommended by Lieutenant Burton on the understanding however that language to be used is to be "Pure Scindhee."<sup>\*</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H.E. Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
11<sup>th</sup> October 1851

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<sup>\*</sup> This shows that the Government of Bombay had already approved Arabic Character for Sindhi in 1851- The Editor

26. Circular letter, dated 8<sup>th</sup> October 1851, from Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors , Captain of Police, & others and forwarding copy of letter of Government of India for adopting Arabic Character for information and guidance.

No. 2371 of 1851  
General Department

### CIRCULAR

To

- Three Collectors
- The Captain of Police
- Deputy Collector, Thur and Parkur
- The Post Master in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> October 1851

Sir,

With reference to previous Circular letter No. 1825, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851, I have the honour to transmit orders as for your consideration with formal sanctioning the use of Arabic Character for Scindee.

Letter No. 1814 of 6<sup>th</sup> September from Commissioner in Scinde to Government of Bombay, submitting his explanation as necessity of adopting Arabic Character for Scindhi.  
Letter No 3903, dated 11th October 1851 from Government of Bombay approving of the proposal.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee

18<sup>th</sup> October 1851\*

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\* In pursuance of the approval of Bombay Government, Commissioner in Sindh circulated approval of Arabic Character in 1851. This shows that the matter had already been resolved by Bombay Government in 1851. However, approval for using same in official system of Court of Director was awaited , which reached in 1853-  
The Editor

27. Letter, dated 16<sup>th</sup> October 1851, from Commissioner Sindh to the Examination Committee, for advising rules regarding conducting examination of colloquial Sindhi.

No.2047 of 1851  
General Department

To

- Captain Preedy, Collector Kurrachee
- Captain Patridge, Deputy Collector
- Captain Marston, Captain of Police Department
- Lieutenant Mcaeload , Collector of custom

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> October 1851

Gentlemen,

Under instructions received from the Right Honourable Governor in Council, I have the honour to constitute a Committee to examine Mr. Goldsmid, and other candidates who may offer themselves in the Scindhee language.

2. I have the honour to transmit to you under a seal the papers required for the purpose.

3. If these officers are at Kurrachee or within reach of it, in civil employment who wishes to present them, for examination in Scindhee, they may send by approaching through Captain Preedy, Collector Kurrachee. Papers for the examination of all these officers presenting in examination will be prepared by the committee. The officers have to read them in the presence one who are examined at the same time.

4. You will have the goodness to summon Mr. Young and other officers who have requested to be examined, to allow before you or any other day and at any place arrangement to yourselves and having this and there opened the papers, submitted them to be executed in your presence, allowing the candidates such time for the performance of the exercise as may be deemed necessary.

5. The candidates must not be allowed the use of dictionary or other books, nor must they receive assistance from any one, when the translations have been executed to the best of their abilities. You will receive them from the candidates and candidates will fold the papers on the same day under a sealed cover addressed to Secretary to Personal, General Department , and it would be under signature duly attested by you jointly , to the effect following:

- I. We do hereby certify, that these translations from English into English or vice versa (as the case may be) were executed in our presence between the hours of ( ) and without aid or assistance from ourselves, or from any Moonshee or other person, and without Dictionary or other Book.
  - II. With respect to the papers for oral examination you will be pleased in your Report to state, whether they were read fluently and with apparent ease, and whether in reading them into English, the candidates evinced sufficient arguments with the language to be able to give the meaning correctly, or with any occasional error, barely made and the substance, or wholly failed in showing that he comprehended the content of papers.
  - III. You will also be pleased to hear the candidate course with a Native in Scindee and report in same detail, the degree of fluency displayed by each candidate.
  - IV. As there are no printed books in Scindee, no any petition usually written in the language. The following can use must be within filling up at 9 for viva voce translations with English of a Scindee petitions.
  - V. With reference to the Prose, you will ask each candidate what books he has been reading, if you can ask about other books also , you will carefully , examine him in different petitions, taken at random , for parts of the Book, which may to refer or other extra as instances. The copy of the petitions must retained to be made by a Moonshee, attached in the papers must be kept with you.
  - VI. With reference to the petition, you will ask each officer the character he has been studying and have any ordinary petitions or questions taken at random from the book to decipher before you to be translated by him in your presence, in idiomatic Scindee.
  - VII. You will have the goodness carefully to inset , in the proper columns of the Form of Report herewith transmitted your judgment of the candidate's qualification , expressed in any one of the following" very good", "good", "fair", "middling", "indifferent", "bad".
6. That any candidate passed himself in examination as to this colloquial proficiency, required to be guided by the Collectors in Districts, and any candidate offering for Interpreter's examination requires appearing before the committee for further guidance.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
16<sup>th</sup> October 1851

**28. Report by the Secretary to the Civil and Military Examination Committee 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1851**

No. 148 of 1851  
General Department

To  
H. B.F Frere Esquire  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> November, 1851

Sir,

Under instructions from the Committee, the Secretary begs to report, that the plan submitted by Commissioner in Scinde appear to be judicious well calculated to secure the objection view about the time of the periodical examination, the Secretary will prepare and furnish to the Commissioner a few sets of stated examination papers with a memorandum of instructions bearing in mind the Commissioners 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> recommendations.

Yours truly  
(Signed Richardson)  
Secretary to the Civil &  
Military Examination  
Committee  
Deputy Secretary to  
Government

Bombay Castle  
21<sup>st</sup> November, 1851

**29. Letter from Deputy Collector of Thur and Parkur to Commissioner Sindh, dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 1851, showing his inability to resume Sindhi written system in his area.**

No. 132 of 1851  
General Department

From  
Deputy Collector of Thur & Parkur

To  
H. B.E Frere Esquire  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> November 1851

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters as per Margin-

Regarding officers in civil employ passing colloquial examination in the Scindhee language and in reply I beg respectfully to offer the following observations regarding its applicability to the desert district.

Circular letter No. 1825, dated 6<sup>th</sup> September 1851. Circular letter No. 2376, dated 8<sup>th</sup> October 1851

2. The Thur district composed of the Thur and Parkur Collectorate are geographically and naturally different from Scindhi people both as regards natural features of the country, and dress, costumes, habits and language of its inhabitants.

3. The language in use in this district is something termed "Thurree", but is hardly deserving of any separate name, being but a dialect of Guzratee, very much resembling "Kutchhi"; a few of the merchants in the Western part of Thur write their own words in that language of the country, most of the letters while accounts of the merchants in Eastern or Parkur district are generally sophisticated and easily legible to be used by a person acquired with Guzratee.

4. Amongst inhabitants generally Kutchhi language or a dialect of Guzratee differencing slightly from that in use in Kutch, would appear to prevail "Rathore", "Soda" and "Rajpoots" of whom there are about two thousand families, all understand Guzratee as their mother

tongue- in the same way as inhabitants of Kutch do , of these 2000 families , those of the chiefs of Deeplai and Naggar Parkur are allied by marriage to His Highness Prince of Kutch , and about one of the remaining Soda and Rajpots' families are connected by marriages with the families of "Jarejah" and other respectable Rajpots in Kutch. There again the shepherd , other Moohamadans and are generally from Scinde proper and who may be estimated at a thousand families from their constant wandering to and fro in Kutch. appear to use in the desert as the common language.

5. The constant intercourse that has for so many years past , dating from period long antecedent to the conquest of Scinde been kept up by the inhabitants of the Thur and Parkur , particularly the latter, and the Kutch , and the fact of a portion , if not all of these districts having been in years gone by under the sway of reigning family in Kutch has served to amalgamates as it were, the inhabitants of two provinces , and change as it may appear , get such is the case , that the Ameers were lords of the lords and administered the jurisdiction there of their officers but distance paces of any intercourse having taken the inhabitants of the desert and Scinde proper , as good deal of may possibly be attributed to the discrimination of Rajpots to associate with their Moohamadan neighbours more than they were obliged to.

6. Since, 1844 , the whole of the business of the desert , has been conducted Guzratee , which , including taking thousands of depositions , and numerous investigations on various subjects , has of course tended to increase the general use of that language , it has this advantage in these districts over any other that a Guzratee paper tolerably written could be read , and addressed at any of the Chief villages , which no other language would be more intelligible than English itself from want of persons to read it . \*

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain S.N.Raikes\*  
Deputy Collector of the Thur &  
Parkur

Deputy Collector & Magistrate Office, Bhooj  
25<sup>th</sup> November 1851

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\* The Deputy collector of Thar and Parkar shows his inability to resume Arabic - Sindhi in his District- The Editor  
\* Captain Stanley Napier Raikes (1814-1891) served in Thur and Parkar regions for many years. He wrote his Memoir of Thur and Parkur in 1859- The Editor

30. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Deputy Collector of Thar Parkar, dated 5th December 1851, allowing him to continue working with Gujrati.

No. 2497 of 1851  
General Department

To

The Deputy Collector  
Thur and Parkur

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> December 1851

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your letter in Margin- I have the honour to inform what you state of dialect of the Thur and Parkur districts, it is clear that the introduction regarding the Scindhee language is not applicable to it and that I request you to continue the use of Guzrattee as being written language with which the people are best acquainted. ♣

No 132 of 25<sup>th</sup> November 1851  
Referring my circular in Civil  
Employ passing a colloquial  
examination in Scindee  
language

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
5<sup>th</sup> December 1851

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♣ The commissioner in Sindh allows the Deputy Commissioner Thar and Parkar to continue Gujratic script in his district in place of official Arabic - Sindhi script- The Editor

31. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 17<sup>th</sup> December 1851, asking him to assign one Order as the period within which all officers should pass colloquial examination in Sindhi.

No. 11677 of 1851  
Territorial Department

To  
H. B. E Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> December 1851

Sir,

I have been directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 2457 dated the 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo and inform you that the Right Honourable the Governor in the Council has been pleased to assign one Order as the period within which all officers should pass a colloquial examination in Scindee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) H. E Goldsmid  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
17<sup>th</sup> December 1851

32. Letter from Deputy Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 20<sup>th</sup> December 1851, informing him that his proposal regarding examination of officers in Sindhi has been approved.

No. 4457 of 1851  
General Department

To  
H. B. E Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> December 1851

Sir,

The Right Honourable the Governor in Council approves the plan proposed in your letter (No. 2141) dated the 13<sup>th</sup> October last, for the examination of officers in the Scindee Language.

2. I am desired to enclose a copy of a report on the subject by the Secretary to the Civil and Military Examination Committee (No. 146) dated the 21<sup>st</sup> ultimo.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Deputy Secretary to  
Government

Bombay Castle  
20<sup>th</sup> December 1851

**Official correspondence regarding  
REQUEST AND POLICY FOR ESTABLISHMENT  
OF SCHOOLS IN SINDH**

1. Letter from Collector of Karachi to Commissioner Sindh dated 4<sup>th</sup> February 1852, suggesting for establishment of an English Medium School in Karachi.

No. 182 of 1852  
General Department

From

Collector Kurrachee

To

The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> February 1852

Sir,

To you who are so well and practically acquainted with the requirements of this province and who have the best interest of its inhabitants much at heart it will, I feel be superfluous for me to be expatriate on a subject which intimately concerned the welfare of the community and which has I know already engaged your serious attention.

2. I allude to the necessitous state of the Scindaïns as regards the means of education and the difficulties they have to contend with in acquiring any degree of skill or proficiency in their several trades or callings consequent upon their inability to obtain information and instructions relating to invention and discoveries of modern Science and to the vast improvements and saving of cost and labour, affected of late years in every Department of trade and manufacture by use of steam.

3. Throughout this land, I think it will be admitted that ignorance on all those subjects which it concerns a people most to know, generally prevails. The higher branches of Science, such as the Mathematics, Philosophy, and History are scarcely known, even by name to me most enlightened Scindian while as regards self-knowledge and any correct or profitable knowledge of Supreme Being it may truly be said "darkness covers the land and gross darkness the people". Agriculture, Commerce, manufacture does exist only in their rudest and most primitive forms, and even the vernacular language beyond its oral use is unknown to the greater portion of the population.

4. To remedy these evils and with the view of rescuing the rising generation from the state of ignorance in which they must otherwise inevitably be brought up, I beg to recommend to your favourable consideration the Establishment of Free School throughout the Province.

5. The school will require to be supported by Government, as no self supporting funds can I fear be expected to be realized for many years to come, they should I conceive be free to all castes and classes, and should be palced under the Superintendence and direction of an

European, Principal and assisted by such European and Native teachers who may be found necessary .

6. The ----- Gentleman of comprehension and enlightened views of extensive acquirements in every branch of Science and literature of kind and conciliatory manners and address , well acquainted with the native character , custom and manners and while tolerant of every creed , should consistently uphold that of the Christian .

7. To obtain the services of a competent persons it would be necessary to grant a liberal salary , especially as he would be required during at least four months in the year to be travelling about inspecting several schools placed under his superintendence and inquiring into and reporting on the progress made in each.

8. With regard to the system of education to be presumed that I conceive should be left to the principal to determine. I would however beg to suggest that instruction in literature should be combined with instruction in some useful art or trade, whereby each student after leaving school might be enabled to obtain his livelihood. I would also recommend that while English is taught the vernacular tongues should not be neglected.

9. As a commencement I would recommend the establishment of school at Head quarter station of each Collectorate , and should these succeed as I feel assured may will if properly conducted and superintended , that branch schools be hereafter established at the several towns in the districts. The Principal should I think in rotation make each of the chief Schools his Head quarters for a year at least.

10. In conclusion, I would beg most earnestly to recommend that the Holy Scriptures be freely admitted into schools and that while the study of them be left entirely optional that all who wish it may have the opportunity afforded them, of obtaining instruction in the doctrines and precepts of Christianity.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Preedy, Captain  
Collector of Kurrachee

Collectorate Office  
Kurrachee  
4<sup>th</sup> February 1852

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♦ The credit for establishment of first school in Karachi goes to Captain Henry W Preedy, Collector of Karachi. He established Karachi Free School in 1845. In 1846, the school was handed over to local community with condition that the Bible would be taught compulsorily in the school. In 1852, the school was handed over to the Church Missionary Society of London on the similar conditions. The school came to known as Karachi Church Mission School. A few years after, Dr. Trumpp was appointed as Principal of the School. Captain Preedy was keen supporter of Missionary teachings. In this letter, he also recommend that "the Holy Scriptures be freely admitted into schools and that while the study of them be left entirely optional that all who wish it may have the opportunity afforded them, of obtaining instruction in the doctrines and principles of Christianity". The Editor

**2. Letter from Deputy Collector of Sehwan to Collector Karachi, dated 19<sup>th</sup> February 1852, suggesting for establishment of a Public School in Sehwan.**

No. 182 of 1852  
General Department

From  
Deputy Collector of Sehwan

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated:19<sup>th</sup> February 1852

Sir,

As you may perhaps recollect, it was several times proposed among the inhabitation of Sehwan by Captain Partridge to establish an English School there, the project appears to have fallen to ground more, however, I think from the natural dilatoriness of the natives than from any want of appreciation of the benefits that would be derived by their Children from an English education.

2. Six or seven of the principal Zamindars' ♦ traders and merchants have expressed to me their willingness to send their sons to school, and to pay two (02) rupees monthly for their education. There are others I have spoken to on the subject who say they should be glad to have their children taught English, but think they ought to learn a little Persian first, or make other pretext for delay.

3. If a school was established most of those who now hesitate gladly and send their children to it, and I think we might reckon on from eighteen to twenty scholars paying Rupees two monthly soon after its commencement.

4. These schools would be mostly of a class who might remain at school long enough to acquire a really useful amount of knowledge as most of the Zamindars consider it rather as essential to their respectability that their sons should not be called on to take any part in the cultivation of their lands during the father's life time.

5. The evil results of this custom are obvious, and no remedy can be more appropriate than

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♦ Zamindar means landlord. However, in Sindhi it means Wadero

the extended education.

6. I have mentioned Rs.2 (two) per month as the payment, because this is the highest sum generally paid to the Moolas\*. There are probably many especially among the Amil class of Hindoos who where the amount reduced would avail themselves of the school, but those who can not afford to pay two rupees will never be able to use the services of their children up to the time they ought to remain at school, and so far as their utility as Government servants is concerned a knowledge of English is neither necessary nor desirable.

7. I am not aware what should be usual amount of salary paid for a good school master, but I have already mentioned the what funds to be expected from the subscribers here. Owing to the climate of Sehwan, school master must be native, and I believe a school room and residence for the master will be given by the Zaminadars free of expense.

8. All that is required is to make a briefing, and I shall feel obliged by your bringing the subject to the notice of the Commissioner with a view to obtaining sufficient assistance from Government to enable us to make the trial.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Arthur Young  
Deputy Collector of Sehwan

Deputy Collector Office  
19<sup>th</sup> February 1852

Copy forwarded to Commissioner's information and consideration.

From the Collector of Kurrachee, No. 319, dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 1852 on the subject of establishing an English School at Sehwan.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Arthur Young  
Deputy Collector of Sehwan

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\* Moola means, who teaches religious education- The Editor

3. Circular, dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 1852, from Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors, directing them to give him their opinion, as to what attempts have been made by Government to education in Sindh province.

No. 885 of 1852  
General Department

### CIRCULAR\*

To Collectors

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> April 1852

Sir,

With reference to the circular noted in the Margin- on the subject of school in Scinde, I have the honour to convey that you will favour me with the opinion of yours and your Deputies in charge of districts, as to what attempts have been made by Government to promote education in this province.

No. 293 of 14th February  
last calling for return of all  
schools as per a form  
attached

2. These suggestions should be annexed into a tabular state as per form accompanied.
3. That information may come with facts and figures given in the questioner.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
20<sup>th</sup> April 1852

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\* Let me confess here that this informative and historical circular is incomplete. The original matter was not legible, hence I could not read whole of the text of the circular - The Editor

#### 4. DRAFT OF RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ARRANGEMENTS OF GENERAL LIBRARY AT KARACHI

No. 991 of 1852  
General Department

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> May 1852

- I. A Library shall be established in connection with the Government English School at Kurrachee, to be denominated the "Kurrachee Native Government Library".
- II. It shall be supported by annual subscriptions and donations.
- III. The following rules and regulations shall be applicable in to 4 classes for the membership and subscription of the library:
  - IV. The first class shall pay a fee of two (02) Rupees a month shall be eligible to at least in the managing committee, shall have the first issue of all periodicals and shall be entitled to the first item of all new publication received in library, and to have 3 sets of Books from the library at one time.
  - V. The second class pay a fee of one (01) Rupee, a month shall be eligible to the managing committee and shall have the privilege of having periodical and new publications after their circulation among members of the 1st Class and can take two (02) sets of work at a time from the library.
  - VI. The Third class shall pay a fee of eight (08) annas♦ and as month, and shall have the privilege of taking one set of Books at a time from the library.
  - VII. The fourth class shall pay a fee of four (4) annas, and shall only be entitle to perusal of books and newspaper in the rooms of the library.

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♦ An anna is a currency (in coin) unit used in India and Pakistan, equal to 1/16 rupee.

- VIII. All the subscriptions to the library shall be paid in advance.
- IX. Any member of the 1st & 2nd class allowing his subscriptions to fall in arrears for 3 months, shall after two written notices thereof from the Secretary, be liable to be removed from the list of members to the institution and shall not be eligible until the balance against him is charged and the cause thereof satisfactory explained to the Committee of management.
- X. A subscriber of the 3rd & 4th Classes shall be similarly treated on allowing his subscription to fall into arrear for one month. Exception shall be determined on special merit.
- XI. The subscription of the first two classes shall be paid quarterly or every month at or every month in advance but those of the two, the latter must be paid at least one quarter in advance.
- XII. Any party wishing to become a member or subscriber shall, on intentionally in writing his wish to the Secretary, be enroll in the class he might specify, but shall be required to pay in advance the subscription of the particular class, under the foregoing rules, before being allowed to enjoy these privileges belonging to it.
- XIII. The affairs of the library shall be conducted by a committee of management composed of a President, one or more vice Presidents, and Ordinary member including the Secretary and Treasure, who may be or may not be one or the same post.
- XIV. The Committee shall be selected usually at a general meeting of Members & subscribers in the first week of May, due notice shall be given to all members and subscribers.
- XV. The committee shall have control over the receipts and expenditure on accounts of the library. It shall have the power of making by laws of the efficient management of the Institution.
- XVI. Any vacancies in the committee to be filled up by themselves.
- XVII. All extraordinary measures are to be referred to the general body of Members and subscribers, for which as well as any other special purpose, the Committee shall be empowered to convene a general meeting.
- XVIII. A majority of votes at general as well as special meetings shall be decision of the question at issue.
- XIX. No member shall be permitted to take book away from the station without the special permission of the managing committee.
- XX. No work of reference or any newspaper shall be removed from the library.

XXI. An octavo or volume of smaller size shall not be kept for a period and exceeding one week to the any party; but might in the absence of any one other applicant be again issued to the same individual.

XXII. All books of a size larger than Octavo, shall subject to the same provision, not be retained more than a fortnight.

XXIII. With the view of encouraging the theory of Sciences and stimulating the literature, and orders of the Government, the boys of Kurrachee English School be given if able.

XXIV. To understand "Collectors" course of reading I shall with the permission of the committee be entitled to the privilege of their class without payment of any fee.

XXV. Assistant and Teachers or monitors in the above school (if reduced circumstances) shall have the privilege of third class on payment of half the fee.

XXVI. A Register shall be kept in which a person requires any book in the library shall sign his name opposite the book or books taken, these being put down immediately by the Librarian otherwise. And no book shall be issued to the member or subscriber at the same.

XXVII. Any book lost or damaged shall be replaced at the expense of the party who may have been cause the same and in the cost of a copy of the work not being at hand or procurable within a considerable period, the managing committee shall determine a reasonable precautionary price to be paid by the party according the laps or damage.

XXVIII. The following shall be the order for the usual assembling of, transecting business of Managing Committee:

XXIX. The committee shall meet on the first Wednesday of every month, on the first Monday of every month, applicable to the same be Government holidays.

(a) Any three Members will form a committee

(b) The Committee shall examine the cash balance and the Chairman and Secretary countersign it after satisfying themselves of its vouchers.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H. B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
25<sup>th</sup> May 1852

# THE DECISION OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS OF EAST INDIA COMPANY

No. 216 of 1852  
Public Department  
London  
Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> December 1852

To

Our Governor General of India  
In council  
Bombay Castle

Subject:- **TRANSMITTING CORRESPONDENCE RELATING TO THE PROPOSED SUBSTITUTION OF SCINDHI FROM PERSIAN AS THE MEDIUM OF OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION IN SIND AND REQUESTING ORDERS AS TO MODE OF CARRYING OUT THE OBJECT IN VIEW FOR ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE.**

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Letter from the Government of India 2/30th September No.28/51, Bombay-16 October /No91/1850-15th December / No.141/51

I have already informed the Government of Bombay that was entirely concurring in the principle of employment Scindhi, the prevailing language of the country as the medium of official intercourse in Scinde. This is therefore only necessary for us now to state that the conclusion we have arrived at as to means by which what object is to be accomplished.

2. It appears that the immediate introduction of the proposed change of language is opposed by various practical difficulties, the principal of which are work of a generally prevalent or perfect written character, and the absence of such books in Scindhi as requisite for general study of the language.

3. Various models for getting over first of above difficulties were suggested by the different officers employed in the province, but it is necessary for us to notice the plans advocated respectively Lieutenant Burton and Captain Stack in the very able and well reason reports which the officers furnished in the subject. •

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• The Directors of East India Company also admire and acknowledge reports of Stack and Burton- The Editor

4. The former officer advocates the adoption of the Arabic or Nasikh ♦ Alphabet for the expression of Scindhi words, on the grounds principally that the existing popular literature of the Scindhee, that would be easy of acquisition by the educated Natives who already write Persian Nastalikh •and that for the perfect adoption to Scindhee trifling in changes or addition would alone be required. Captain Stack on the other hand believing that deficiencies of Scindhee Alphabet can be without much difficulty by supplying and considering the character to be letter fitted from any foreign Alphabet for expressing peculiar sounds of the language proposes that the Khudawadi ♥ variety of Scindhee character be adopted, the deficiencies of vowels being supplied from Guzeratee of Goormookhi Alphabets and such after additions being made under the authority of the as may fit the character for general use.

5. In my opinion, we have formed after careful consideration of the subject is on the whole favourable to the adoption of the Arabic Character<sup>1</sup>, but at the same time we are not prepared to require that our views should be acted on without further enquiry. A satisfactory settlement of the question would be probably be most practically secured by means of a Committee, composed of European officers best acquainted with the Scindhee language and of limed number of Natives of the province whose character and intelligence may be such as to render their assistance valuable. We should be willing to leave it to the Bombay Government to act on any opinion they might from after having before them the report of a Committee so constituted.

6. The publication in the character which may be eventually selected of elementary Scindhee Books especially Grammar and Dictionaries is absolutely necessary for rendering a proper knowledge of the language attainable either by Europeans or by Natives. It is proposed that the preparation of such works should be entrusted to the officer who may be appointed

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\* Nasikh also known as *Naskhi* is a specific calligraphic style for writing in the Arabic alphabet. The root of this Arabic *term* *nasakh* means "to copy". It either refers to the fact that it replaced its predecessor, Kufic script, or that this style allows faster copying of texts. With small modifications, it is the style most commonly used for printing Arabic, Persian and Sindhi languages- The Editor

• Nastaliq in Persian is one of the main calligraphic hands used in writing the Persian script, and traditionally the predominant style in Persian calligraphy. It was developed in Iran in the 14th and 15th centuries. It has always been more popular in the Persian, Turkic and Urdu sphere of influence. Nasta' liq has extensively been (and still is) practiced in Iran, Pakistan, India, Afghanistan and other countries for written poetry and as a form of art- The Editor

♥ Khudawadi (also known as Khudabadi, Vaniki, Hatvaniki or Hatkai) is a script used for writing the Sindhi language. We have been informed that "Khudawadi" means Devine Voice This is a script, which had been originated from Brahmic script. This script was not in functional for literature but mostly Hindu traders script is known as Vaniki, Hatvaniki or Hatkai script (vanika means trader). Some of the scholars believe that is Khudabadi Script, invented by leaned traders of Khudabad. Many British officers like Captain Edward Estwick, Captain George Stack, Captain Deikson, and some others were supporter of Khudawadi script. Besides, James Mc Murdo, Thomas Postans and Leo Pold Von Orlich had also identified historical importance of this script in their books,- The Editor

<sup>1</sup> This statement shows that East India Company categorically supported Arabic Character for Sindhi- The Editor

Superintendent of Schools for the establishment of which our sanction solicited and the proposal seems to us judicious.

7. The plan of the proposed schools contemplates the establishment of English School in central situation in the province and of five vernacular schools at as many of the principle towns of the province. The expenses of maintaining these schools including the allowance of our European Superintendent is estimated at Rupees 10,000 per annum or Rupees 10,000 in addition to the sum previously sanctioned by you for the establishment of English School at Hyderabad. We are desirous measures should without further delay be adopted for the promotion of general education in Scinde, and as the scheme proposed seems likely to conduce, not only to this object but also to the eventual introduction of Scindee language into official use, we give our cordial sanction to the proposed expenditure.

8. This is obvious that the authoritative introduction of any change in the medium of transacting official business must be postponed, till the preparatory measures above referred to shall have been for some time in operation. It is satisfactory to us that both the Government of Bombay and present Commissioner in Scinde Mr. Frere seem fully impressed with the respecting of proceedings with great caution in effecting the proposed change of language. We deem it necessary therefore to give any particular direction in the matter, being assured that while in the one hand, the Government keeps the proposed object steadily in view and at once lays down such rules as may secure the eventual acquisition of the Scindhi language by all the officers, Native and European in the Province they will on other abstain from any measures which might bear with undue hardship on individual or interfere with the regular course of public business.

We are honour to  
(Signed) I.W Hogg, John  
Whiteman, H.T Smith & Henry  
Wilock  
Court of Directors of East India  
Company

London  
8<sup>th</sup> December 1852

## 2. Forwarding Letter of the Decision of Court of Directors from Bombay Government

No. 816 of 1853  
General Department  
Bombay Castle

To

H.B.E Frere, Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Subject:- SUBSTITUTION OF SCINDHI AS THE MEDIUM OF OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION IN SCINDE-ESTABLISHMENT OF SCHOOLS IN THE PROVINCE

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> March 1853

Sir,

I am directed to transmit for your information and guidance the accompanying copy of a dispatch addressed to the Government of India by the Honourable the Council of Directors on the subject noted above.

2. You will be pleased at once to appoint a Committee to conduct enquiry proposed in Para 5 of this dispatch.
3. You should also take immediate measures for arranging the schools referred to in Para 7. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council further requests that you will recommend some one for the officer of Superintend of Schools.
4. When the schools are fairly at work, a concise account of them showing the number of schools, distribution of funds among the schools and their particulars necessary to give a clear view of the progress made should be laid before Government for transmission of the Honourable Court. After this the further Superintendence in education Scinde may be transferred to the Board of Education.
5. In the mean time, you will report your proceedings at every stage for the purpose of attaining the sanction of the Government to them in the issued course.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient  
(Signed) J. G. Lumsden  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
11<sup>th</sup> March 1853

3. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Assistant Commissioner, dated 17<sup>th</sup> March 1853, directing him to compose a committee of European officers best acquainted with the Sindhi and of some of Natives for the settlement of the issue of character for Sindhi.

No.363 of 1853  
General Department

To  
Mr. B.H. Ellis  
Assistant Commissioner

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> March 1853

Sir,

I have to honour to transmit you a copy of the dispatch No. 216 of 1852, dated 8th December 1852, attached to me by Government of India vide dispatch No. 816 of 1853, dated 11th March 1853 on the adoption of a character for Scindee language.

2. You will be pleased at once to appoint a Committee composed of European officers best acquainted with the Scindee language and of limited number of Natives of the province whose character and intelligence may be such as to render their assistance valuable.
3. You should also take immediate measures for arranging the schools referred to in Para 7.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner Office  
Kurrachee  
17<sup>th</sup> March 1853

4. **Letter from Assistant Commissioner to Commissioner Sindh, dated 21<sup>st</sup> March 1853, requesting him to form a committee of some of Natives, best acquainted with the Arabic Sindhi orthography for the settlement of the issue of character for Sindhi.**

No. 591 of 1853  
General Department

To

H.B.E Frere, Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> March 1853

Sir,

I have to honour to refer your letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> instant for the adoption of a character for Scindee language and to state that the dispatch discussed two subjects. The first is the controversy regarding the character to be used in writing since, which, as has retarded for so many years all educational improvement; and the second subject of the letter was establishment of English and Vernacular schools. The Honourable Court has decided the first point in favour of the Arabic character. However, the appointment of such a Committee will be at this time practically impossible, as the officers best acquainted with Sindee are either absent from Scinde, or in deferent parts of Province, and not easily brought together; the suggestion is therefore of necessity laid aside.

2. I think if we compose the proposed committee, such Committee could only have ended in disappointment; the members would not agree. They would written long minutes, and argue with one another; the controversy would be renewed, and with but a poor chance of any new light being thrown upon a subject already ably and exhaustively discussed by Captain Stack and Burton, whose knowledge of the language probably exceeded that of any one who could have been on the Committee.

3. The dispatch of the Court of the Directors has given favourable to the adoption of the Arabic character, and you have directed that "the very trifling changes or additions required for its perfect adaptation to Sindee" with the forthwith made, and no further time loose in debating and collection opinions.

4. In view of the above, you will be pleased to appoint a Committee under my superintendence, composed of Native scholars, best acquainted with the Arabic- Sindhi orthography for the settlement of the issue of character for Sindhi language. •

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) B.H. Ellis

Assistant Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner Office

Kurrachee

21<sup>st</sup> March 1853

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• The main source of this letter is Report of Mr. B.H.Ellis on the Education of Sindh. However, historical facts and this letter shows that Mr. Ellis by passing the recommendation of the Court of Directors, suggested an other committee for making of Arabic- Sindhi orthography instead of taking decision on the matter of script- The Editor

## 5. A COMMITTEE FOR REVISING ARABIC- SINDHI ALPHABET\*

No.3221 of 1853  
General Department

### OFFICE ORDER

In pursuance of the decision of the Court of Director's No. 216 of 1852, dated 8<sup>th</sup> December 1852 and direction of Government of India vide dispatch No. 816 of 1853, dated 11<sup>th</sup> March 1853, the Government of Scinde is hereby pleased to constitute a committee of Native scholars under the supervision of B.H. Ellis, Assistant Commissioner in Scinde, for fixation of Arabic -Sindee alphabet within a period of three (03) months.

2. The composition of the committee shall be as under:

Captain Dustenville (official member)

Captain F.G Gold Smith (official member)

Rao Saheb Narrayen Juggonath

Moonshee Nandiram

Moonshee Oodaram

Moonshee Pribhdas

Moonshee Goolam Hoosain

Moonshee Goolam Aly

Mian Mohammad

Moonshee Meera Shah

(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner Office

Kurrachee 30<sup>th</sup> March 1853

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\* The original Source of this committee is unavailable. However, following are some reliable references:

1. History of Sindhi Language (in Sindhi) by Bherumal Maharchand Advani, (6th Edition) Sindhi Adabi Board, Jamshoro, 2001
2. Literary History of Sindh (in Sindhi) by Mohammad Sidique Memon, Mehran Acadmy, 2005
3. Gazetteer of the Province of Sindh by E.H. Aitken, 1907

## 6. STATEMENT OF MUNSHI NANDI RAM FOR HIS ROLE IN THE COMMITTEE

In the country of Sindh, the official work of the earlier rulers was being done in Persian language. It also continued by the present rulers till 1852. But soon after, the authority of Sindh came into the hands of able and literary lover officers. The present rulers realized that as they have been working with the official business in other counties with their native languages, similarly they should introduce Sindhi as official language in this land for the betterment and easement of the native people. Mr. Bartle Frere, former Commissioner in Sindh and Mr. B.H Ellis, then Assistant Commissioner in Sindh, being well wishers of the native people and equally loved by the common people – formed a committee of native Scholars with the responsibility to prepare a new Sindhi Alphabet. After long discussion, deliberation and with the assistance of the some native scholars and with the unanimous agreement of European representatives in the committee, this humble person (Nandi Ram) succeeded in forming a new Sindhi Alphabet and same was published by the Government. In this way, present writing system in Sindhi came into being and we got rid from Persian and Urdu. Hence, I started my work on education in Sindhi language.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Sindh Ji Tawarikh" by Munshi Nandram, ( 2nd Edition 1861) – The passage translated from Sindhi to English by the Editor

## باب نامو

سَيِّدَانِ تُو بَابِ نَامُوَانِ دَلِي لَا  
 حِدِ جُو رِي آجِي جِكِ جِي جُو رِي سَوَاهِ  
 اِيُونِي تَا

ا ب پ ت ث ن پ ق ج ح ج ه  
 چ چ چ ح خ د د د د د د ر ر ر ز س ش ص ض  
 ط ظ ع غ ف ق ک ک ک گ گ گ ل م ن ن و ه

ه \*  
 رَبْرَسَانِ جُرَيْلِ الْكَرِ

ا ب پ ت ث ن پ ق ج ح ج ه  
 چ چ چ ح خ د د د د د ر ر ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع  
 ف ق ک ک ک گ گ گ ل م ن ن و ه \* ي \*

<sup>1</sup> Munshi Nandiram's Text Book "Babnamo", 1853





10. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 25<sup>th</sup> November 1853, asking for sanctioning of budget for education purpose in pursuance of approval from the Court of Directors.

No.3361 of 1853  
General Department

To  
Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> November 1853

Sir,

I have to honour to inform you that the Honourable Court of Directors have sanctioned the expenditure of Rs.10,000 annually for the purpose of education in the Province. Copy of the Dispatch No. 216 of 1852, dated 8th December 1852 has been attached to me by Government of India vide dispatch No. 816 of 1853, dated 11th March 1853.

2. The expenditure which may from time to time have been utilized, is hereby authorized under the Sanction of the above letter you have to debit to "Education in Sind" or Taleem Khata".

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Commissioner Office

Kurrachee  
15<sup>th</sup> November 1853

**11. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 15<sup>th</sup> December 1853, asking for sanctioning of budget for education purpose in pursuance of approval from the Court of Directors**

No. 3662 of 1853  
General Department

To

Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> December 1853

Sir,

I have to honour to request that you will make the following disbursement for the educational purpose in accordance with the letter No. 3361 of 15 ultimo, requesting the expenditure of Rs.10,000 per annum for educational purpose.

2. A building for an English School having been sanctioned for the town of Kurrachee, and the inhabitance having agreed to pay Rs. 1000 to supply the furniture and fitting, you will be pleased to pay Rs.2000 on application by Captain Dusternville who has been entrusted with the superintendence of the building.

3. An English head master has been appointed on a salary of Rs.120 per mensem with residence (with half fees). This sum will until April will be paid wholly by Government and you will disburse it monthly to the master himself or asking to any one.

4. A Scindee master has been appointed on a salary of Rs.15 (with fees). Half of his salary will be paid by you and half by the town people, you will therefore be pleased to pay the master Rs.7. 8 per mensem until further orders in the same way as has been pointed out in the preceding item and commencing from the 13<sup>th</sup> of the every month

5. Fourteen copies of the Scindee Alphabet published are to be given for to the first fourteen boys who entered in the Scindee School. I have requested you will have the good enough to give those to the Master for the boys and sanction to be debited from the Sind

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per mensem means per month

The salary of English Teacher 120 per month and Sindhi teacher Rs. 15 per month- The Editor

Education Fund with the account.

6. The work called "Lekhe Jee Peer" containing the just rules of simple arithmetic has been lithographed and Mr. Harvey has been directed to make over to you 1000 copies. Before the receipt thereof, I request you will workout with Mr. Harvey at 8 ½ annas per copy. Rs. 531.4 and you will disburse to the Moonshee Nandiram Rs.53, as his remuneration for translating and compiling the book.

7. I have further authorized Mr. Ellis to pay Moonshee Nandiram from the date of this course as Moonshee for the purpose of assisting in his translation and in superintending the works of these works being lithographed. The salary will be Rs.30 payable on his receipt countersigned by the Assistant Commissioner

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner Office Kurrachee  
15<sup>th</sup> November 1853

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\* An anna is a currency (in coin) unit used in India and Pakistan, equal to 1/16 rupee.

## 12. Report of the Parent Committee of the Church Missionary Society (London) By Ernest Trumpp

Karachi

Dated: November 1854

To

The Honourable  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> November 1854

Sir,

I am happy to inform the committee that I arrived on the point of my destination safely through the grace of God, on the 12<sup>th</sup> September of this year. Directly after arrival, I took up the study of the Scindi Language. I am sorry to say, that I found everything in a confusion respecting the Scindi language. I addressed myself to different Europeans, who have been for many years in the country; to get some information from the commissioner down to the lowest official nobody knows anything of Sindhi. The only Man, Who took some interest in the language, was the Assistant Commissioner Mr. Ellis, but instead of making things better, he had made them worse by his silly alphabet.

2. In order to clear away the rubbish, I wrote the included 'pamphlet on the "Sindhi Alphabet" which I am happy to say, received the approbation of the oriental Scholars in Bombay, and of the Commissioner in Scinde. The alphabet therefore which Mr. Ellis had introduced in the government schools and in the government offices will be discarded and that proposed by me introduced.

3. Respecting the alphabet, I insisted, that the Hindustanee Alphabet with 3 slight modifications, should be adopted:

- Because it suits the Scindi Language perfectly, as being of the same stock.
- Because it is known to every body, even to a great many natives.
- Because it facilitates printing of books and the introduction of the Romanized system.

4. Respecting other details, I beg to refer to the pamphlet. I move a petition to Government to the effect that Government should print Grammar, Dictionary and some school books to which Mr. Frere willingly agreed, promising that he would do all in his power that the press should be established in Kurrachee itself. The petition is at the present before the Council in Bombay, which will, without any doubt confirm the arrangement as the Government is even worse off in the matter than the Mission. The books which I am preparing at the present are:

- (1) A Scindi Reading Book, with grammatical notes and derivation of words, affixed to it as dictionary.
- (2) A Dictionary, Scindi, - English in which the derivation of every Sindhee word is given.
- (3) A Grammar of the Scindi language.

5. The Grammar I intend to split into two separate ones:

A comparative grammar, i.e. A scientific grammar elucidation the Katchi, the Sindhee, and modern Panjabee, all these being one and the same family. These languages are the key to the other great western branch, namely the Baruhuiki, the Balochee or Iranee, and Pashtu.

We have therefore in the west of India two branches of the great Arian family:

The India's languages: i.e. Katchi, Sindhi, and Western Panjabee.

The intermediary languages, between India and Iran Brahuiki, Balochi, Pushtu.

6. There is immense field for exploring these languages, which are little, or utterly unknown, and which will clear up the way to the west. Besides, a comparative grammar I intend to compile a small practical Scindi Grammar, in the Romanized System for the use of missionary labour putting aside all speculation and merely giving the colloquial use of the language.

7. For translating school books there is at the present no time whatsoever, I shall not touch any translation, before I am completely master of the language and answer for what I am translation. I can therefore not come before the Committee with a proposal to translate the holy scriptures before two or three years. I know, that a translation into Sindhee has been exempted, but it is mere work of notice Moonshees, who are not answerable for that they are translation, I shall have consent to put our holy scripture at the mercy of a Moonshee.

8. At the present, I am studying, except Scindhi, Persian, Arabic, Pashtu, which later language is a pure Arian (Sanskrit) language, and not a fabulous Herbrew one. It is a great shame

upon all those, who said it was Hebrew tongue and the Afghans the descendants of the ten tribes.

9. As soon as I shall have carried through the press any book, I shall lay it before the Committee. Meanwhile I can assure the Committee, that I am in India, some few indispositions exempted, the only thing I have to complain of are the fearful dust storms here, which have caused me frequent ache in eyes and disabled me whole days from working. I am therefore longing to exchange this unhappy valley as soon as possible for the Panjab, yet I will subject my own will to the command of the Committee, remembering myself to the kindness and the prayers of the Committee.<sup>1</sup>

I remain  
Your humble and most obedient  
servant  
(Signed) Ernest Trumpp

Kurrachee  
Church Mission House  
20<sup>th</sup> November 1854

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from File No. C13/076/22-CMS, November , 1854, Papers Birmingham University Library, England

13.

## REPLY OF B. H. ELLIS TO DR. TRUMPP

No. 193 of 1855  
General Department

To

The Honourable  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

Dr Trumpp has recently published a memorandum on the Scindee language in which after a residence of a few weeks in Scinde, he has summarily disposed of all who have ever had anything to do with the language including the Scindians themselves. A few comments are therefore required.

2. Much of Dr. Trumpp's memo contains matter which was very well known before, and this portion of course requires no remark. Some space is also devoted to the discussion of the Hindoo Sindhee – but Dr. Trumpp states that the great majority of the population being Mohommedan a character is required which Mussulmans will read, and to this point he has principally addressed himself so that the portion of his memo relation to the Hindoo Scindee, may also be passed over through the very slighting way in which the Dr. speaks of the labours of the late Captain Stack would otherwise dispose and to enter more into detail regarding this branch of the subject.

3. This character has for many years been adopted by musalmans for writing Scindee. But as a matter of necessity additions have been made to the original characters to express the sound which exit in Sindhee but are not found in the Arabic.

4. Precisely the same course was adopted in Hindustan to suit the Arabic character to the language there current, and it is rather late in the day therefore for Arabic purists to shudder at the idea of placing extra dots upon the original forms of Semitic letters.

5. The Sindhee alphabet lately published did not as Dr. Trumpp admits essentially alter the old system in fact the object was to alter it as little as possible, and the alternation are really much fever than Dr. Trumpp states. He admits in one plan that in the Mussalman's attempts to express in the Arabic alphabet those sound which were not originally in it here is great variety in their writing and yet he refuses to give the revised alphabet credit or having adopted some of the various forms which differ from those he has himself learnt.

6. Whether the old alphabet as in use in Scindee is "irrational" and "arbitrary" appears hardly to the point. The alphabet is not a new one which we might frame a philological principle. The English itself would have a poor chance if a similarly attacked, and the only question, it

appears to me, was form the first, what additions or amendments are absolutely essential to the completeness of the existing alphabet, and not whether it should be abolished and German, Roman or other let letters substituted for its present forms.

7. I agree with Dr. Trumpp that it is sad, very sad to see such a blunder in language as the use of a ڦ with extra dots as the aspirate of پ. I regret with him the blunder, but I am not prepared to say with him "This letter must be struck out" when it has existed (in both the forms ڦ & ڦ) for years as a part of the written Sindhee languages. I would rather quote his own words that "we are bound to take letters as they are not as we like".

8. The introduction of the Hindustani is objectionable, because it does not provided for all Sindhee sounds, and more especially because the very confusion which Dr. Trumpp talk so much of, will be created by forms which now represent certain sounds beings made to stand for other sounds e. g. ٺ now th, will become cerebral t. if this be not confusing a language, I confess I do not understand the meaning of words.

9. I consider the question of the style of hand writing to be quite separate. It is clear that the Nuskh is not well adopted for running hand and as we find in other languages the use of this style chiefly confined to printing, so no doubt it will be found expedient hereafter to use in Sindhee a Nushtalik a running hand of some sort for office work. The forms used to express different letters however would be just the same as in the printed handed. As in Hindoostanee books are printed in one variety, and correspondence is carried on in another.

10. I merely mentioned this for fear of being misunderstood when I assert, that there is no advantage in point of clarity of writing gained by adopting the Hindustanee. I mean thereby that the adoption of the symbols used to express sound in Hindustanee would not even in this point of view repay us for displacing those forms to which the majority of the people of the country have been accustomed for ages. Of course, the running hand is more quickly written than that used in printing; this is the case equally in Hindustanee, which has both styles of writing. Sindhee might of course have the same.

11. Dr. Trumpp objects to the use of dots to express aspirates in a Semitic language and says "this must lead to confusing heap of dots and is contrary to the nature of the alphabet". The latter objection is disposed of by the fact that an alphabet applied represents sounds foreign to it, must as a matter of course; add signs contrary to its original nature. This has been the custom in Scinde, and it appears to me not with more unphilological than the heaps of dots and other devices engrafted in Hindustanee upon a Semitic alphabet.

12. And dotting is surely a less "Cumbrous" though more arbitrary way of expressing what wanted, thus چ is much easier to write as the aspirate of چ than the double letter substituted in Hindustanee چ. But this is mere matter of opinion – the fact is the letter exists in the language and is universally written as چ. I therefore see no reason for this expulsion, and so with the other aspirates where they exist, and are generally recognized in all writings ancient and modern.

13. The summary mode in which Dr. Trumpp corrected the mistakes of the Sindhee and their blundering languages does not surprise me, but I am astonished at a professed philologist's being satisfied with a representation of the sounds of گ (ngya) by نگ (ng). He might as well propose the abolition of the Sanscrit ङ and that in future it be represented by ग. And he will find after a longer intercourse with Sindhians that ng is a very incorrect representation of the pure sound ग. The same remarks apply to Dr. Trumpp's substitution of ني for ج.

14. And Dr. Trumpp objects that it is against the nature of a Semitic alphabet to express a nasal sound by two dots. Of course and it is equally against the nature of a Semitic alphabet to represent and sounds other than Semitic. Yet such is the duty a Sindhee alphabet has to perform, and Dr. Trumpp may not be aware, that a similar nasal sounds to the one in question is expressed in the Semitic alphabet which represented the Trukish languages by three dots with a guaf گ. The philological enormity is therefore one third greater in Turkish than in the revised Sindhee alphabet, and we have at any rate an analogous adoption in a Semitic alphabet for the purpose of representing certain nasal sound which do not exit in the original Semitic tongues.

15. With regard to the alternation exhibited by Dr. Trumpp in his comparison of the old of and revised alphabets a few words are necessary. The ط was introduced in two ways and not in four as Dr. trumpp infers where the retention of dots could make no difference, they were committed as cumbrous thus ج expressed no more than ح there being no other letter for which the symbol could be mistaken if written without the dots.

16. But there was one great objection to the ط and that was its being new to Sindhes. At the time of the revision of the alphabet I was no aware of ت being in common use for the aspirate of ت. The first I saw of it was its insertion in an alphabet published last August by Haroon Lohar\* of the Mission House, and subsequent search has confirmed me in the belief that this letter should have been retained in the revised alphabet as having been used in old writings and being generally (Though very far from universally) intelligible to modern Sindhians. There would then of course have been no use for ت this letter might thus be struck off and the ت of Haroon Lohar retained.

17. The alphabet of Haroon appears to have been Dr. Trumpp's guide in reference to the former Sindhee alphabet but there are many forms there in given which not only do not occur in books that I have seen, but are quite unknown to many Sindhees of good education whom I have consulted.

18. Thus, I am pretty confident that the forms be given for the aspirates of J, and K for the peculiar Sindhee Sound for G, and for cerebral N, are so rare, that if they do occur in M.S. They

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\* Historically speaking, the first sheet of Sindhi Alphabet was published in March 1853 in Ardshir's Press from Karachi. However, the controversy started when revised edition of Sindhi Alphabet published by Haroon Lohar of the Mission House in August 1853. It had some modifications against sheet published in March 1853. The Editor

must be considered rather as peculiarities in writing than as forms which have received the sanction of general use. One of these forms is an impossible one for how could be cerebral ن ن be presented when initial or medial? The forms for the Sindhee G, and for Kh, are so absurd, that nothing but universal use could have justified their retention, and to this they certainly have no claim for they are utterly unknown to every Sindhee to whom I have shown them. Haroon has entered گ as an old Sindhee letter, but until the publication of the revised alphabet I had always seen G expressed by ك and if not, how is it that the old Scindee has ك when گ would be expected as the nearer of the two?

19. The usual way of writing the aspirate of J was ج no distinction being made for the aspiration, the form چ I have seen used for T Sindhee J as well as ج though the latter is more common, I chose the former because the latter was required to represent (jaiya) for which no single letter existed in the old Sindhee.

20. The proper form of ڙ is as shown by Haroon Lohar ڙ and I consider it quite immaterial which form is adopted as ڙ with three (03) dots can not possibly represent any other sound however the dots may be placed., The pyramid of dots was inverted in the revised alphabet merely from the analogy of the cerebral ت but it makes no difference which way they are written. Such variations are of little comment, and the Dr. Trumpp's favorite Hindustani, which writers ت ت or ٹ ٹ and ڙ ڙ or ڙ ڙ would easily supply analogous instances.

21. Now have I any objection to forms ز and ف which are both found in old Sindhee writings. The latter is perhaps more common than ف a form also found, and which was adopted in the revised alphabet. The form ز is far less common, for in old Sindhee writings distinction was very seldom made between the two r's.

22. The ط was adopted for the purpose of showing aspiration in these cases; in one of these it is now useless- in the other two it may without great objection be abandoned as it is equally new to Sindhees and to philologists – but there will then be no alternative but to adopt a double letter چ and گ which cumbrous as it is, would be better than writing the aspirated and unaspirated alike as has hitherto been done in Sindhee.

23. The necessity for a separate sign for cerebral N is admitted by Dr. Trumpp, and I see no other course but to retain the ط to put a dot with it would be "useless", as the dot would serve no purpose when the ط stands for no other sound and can therefore be mistaken for nothing else but I cannot see in what sense the ط without the dot is "useless" as stated by Dr. Trumpp.

24. Dr. Trumpp likewise admits that the Sindhee sounds of چ, ب and گ require separate signs and he very unobtrusively adopts those of the revised alphabet, but placed the dots above instead of below the گ with what object is not apparent.

25. With respect to the impossibility of ک serving as the aspirate of س, I confess I do not see the difficulty. It always has served in Sindhee as the aspirate of س and sometimes for س un aspirated. When there were two forms representing indiscriminately two distinct sounds, it was not a violent change to lay down that one of the symbols should hereafter represent one of the two sounds and the other symbol the other. In fact this ک did more duty than Dr. Trumpp gives it credit for, in as much as it served in old Sindhi writing for گ as well as for K. and its aspirate. The Limitation to one of the three sounds is a natural one, which Scindees easily understand, though the point appears more difficult of comprehension by others.

26. If there be no use in a separated letter for ڙ it will of course soon become obsolete, but with difference to Dr. Trumpp's ear, there does appear a distinction of sound between this letter and ڙ or ڙ.

27. I might extend these observations to greater length – but as I have commented on the practical parts of Dr. Trumpp's exposition of the Mussalman Sindhee character further remarks are unnecessary. Hindoostanee symbols may be adopted where:

1st None already exists in the character which has been in use for centuries.

2nd Where they will suffice for the Sindhee sounds?

28. If both these conditions be not fulfilled, the adoption of Hindoostanee would be "useless and confusing" in the case of گ and گ a preference may be given to Hindoostanee over a new and arbitrary character (like the ط), but with respect to all other letters I confess I can not see grounds for the abolition of the old Sindhee characters universally recognized or for displacing those letters which have now for some time past been in use in the publication of books and in other ways.

I have honour to be  
Sir  
Yours most obedient  
(Signed) B. H. Ellis  
Assistant Commissioner, Scinde

Commissioner Office  
Kurrachee  
8<sup>th</sup> January 1855



## 15. EXAMINATION OF REVENUE OFFICERS IN NATIVE LANGUAGE

### VERNACULAR EXAMINATIONS

1stly. \_\_\_The Examinee is to be required to read a page of some accounts from a Village, Talooka, or Hoozoor Office, written in the Vernacular language, and ordinary cursive character.

2ndly. \_\_\_To read off in the Vernacular of the District, and explains viva voce in English, a deposition, or other exhibit, selected from a magisterial case.

3rdly. \_\_\_To render back into the Vernacular (from an English translation) an ordinary report by a Native Revenue Officer. This must be rendered in a style substantially correct, and sufficiently intelligible to enable a Native to read it out as written. It must be free from material errors in grammar and spelling, and the handwriting must be legible.

4thly. \_\_\_To converse with two or three Natives in such manner as to satisfy the Committee that he is able to understand, and make himself understood by Natives of various classes, both in ordinary conversation, and the common business of a Cutcherry\*.

### DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION -FIRST STANDARD

Papers and question are to be proposed to the Assistant for the purpose of ascertaining that as respects conversation, dictation, and writing, his skill in the language of the District is not less than that provided above.

A Revenue and Judicial set of questions being then placed before him; he is to be required to answer them all without reference to any books, except a set of the Regulations and Acts of the Supreme Government, and Interpretations of the same, and copies of the printed Rules for Administration of Revenue Survey Settlements, &c. These questions are to be so framed as not to involve difficult and rare points or recollection of forms, dated of orders, &c., but must be sufficient to test the candidate's general conversance with the subjects of Examination, and with the Laws applicable to the same, especially Regulations XII., XIV. XVI., and XVII. of Bombay, and the Acts supplemental thereto.

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\* Cutcherry is a public office for administrative or judicial business or a courthouse. The word Cutcherry was introduced by British officers for native purpose but the word is still in use - The Editor

The Assistant is required to be able to answer ordinary questions, showing a general acquaintance with the principles and system of Talooka♦ and Village Accounts.

With a view of testing the power which the Assistant may have acquired of dealing with conflicting arguments and evidence, two decided cases, which he has never before seen, (one from the Collector's and one from the Magistrate's Office,) of the nature of those which come before Assistants in charge of Districts, are to be placed before him, the final proceeding in each being withdrawn. The papers may then be read over to the candidate by a Native Officer, and the explanation of any difficult word or phrase asked for and given in the Vernacular, the circumstance being on each occasion noted. The Assistant may make notes as the record is again read over. Finally, he must write in English a brief but the description of the case, and his decision upon the question or questions at issue, with a sufficient statement of the grounds on which it is available.

In order to record how the Assistant has been employed and been progressing, the Collector or Commissioner under whom any un-passed Assistant is placed is frequently to make over to him, for report, cases which are beyond his competency to decide. The reports are to be written on one side of a sheet of paper, and after the case is decided, the deciding Officer is to note on the other side his remarks on the report. These reports, with the notes, are to be submitted to the District Examination Committee. The Collector or Commissioner is also to require his Assistant to make English minutes of cases given him for decision. These also are to be submitted to the Committee, who are to record their judgment of these minutes and reports for the information of the Central Committee.

#### DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATION - SECOND STANDARD

The Assistant must show an unimpaired acquaintance with the Vernacular of the District.

The office papers selected as tests are to be of a more difficult description than those in the former Examination.

The Assistant's power of explaining himself clearly in the Vernacular is to be tested by an argument of some difficulty, such as may occur in official business.

Questions of Law and practice are to be selected from the whole range of the duties of a Collector and Magistrate, and arranged in two classes, one comprehending important and leading points, in answering which no books shall be allowed; and the other comprehending less general and less common points, in answering which the assistance of books shall be allowed. (No guides, digests, or summaries, however, are to be used, but only the original Laws, Circular Orders, and Interpretations, with rules relative to different departments, printed by authority.)

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\* Talooka (Taluko) or Tahseel is a subdivision of a district; a group of several villages organized for revenue and administrative purpose – The Editor

The object of this class of question is to test the Assistant capacity readily to find the law or practice in the less common points which arise in business. It is not to evoke subtlety or ingenuity, but merely to ascertain whether or not the acquisitions and ability of the person examined are such as to enable him fitly to perform the important functions of an Indian Magistrate and Collector.

Trial cases are to be selected from those possessing enough of complexity to test the Assistant's ability to master all ordinary difficulties, and especially to test his power of minute attention to, and just appreciation of evidence, and his knowledge of one or two nice points connected with Native custom.

The requisite Returns and Statements being placed before the Assistant, he is to be required to prepare from them one or other of the accounts submitted to the Presidency Authorities; or by some other similar test he is to be made to prove his knowledge of the mode in which the English accounts of a Collectorate are framed from the vernacular.

He is to be tried with questions relative to Revenue Administration, from the date of a Ryot taking up a field to that of his paying his last instalment; also with question relative to the terms on which land may be abandoned, and to the ordinary business of a Jummabundy Settlement.

Questions are likewise to be put regarding the principles of a Survey Settlement, and the Rules laid down for the guidance of Revenue Officers in connection therewith.

A thorough knowledge is to be required of Regulations. XII. XIV. XVI. XVII. XVIII., and XXI. Of 1827, and of the Acts referring to them; and of the principal decisions of Government regarding the enforcement of the more important provisions of the Revenue Laws.

The record (Vernacular) connected with a claim to a Wurshasun, or other allowance from the Public Treasury, is to be placed before the case ought to be decided according to the Standing Rules which apply to it.<sup>1</sup>

By order of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council.

H. E. GOLDSMID,  
Officiating Chief Secretary to  
Government

Bombay Castle,  
13<sup>th</sup> September 1854

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<sup>\*</sup> JUMMABUNDY: In Hindu law, a written schedule of the whole of an assessment.

<sup>1</sup> Taken from Bombay Presidency Gazette, 1854

**Official correspondence regarding  
REPORTS MADE IN INTRODUCING SINDHI AS  
THE LANGUAGE OF OFFICIAL BUSINESS IN  
THE PROVINCE**

1. **Circular from the Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors and Captain of Police, dated 8<sup>th</sup> December 1854, directing them to report for the knowledge of their Deputies in Sindhi language.**

No. 3712 of 1854  
General Department

To

The Collectors  
Kurrachee/ Hyderabad / Shikarpoore  
Police Superintendent Jacobabad  
Captain of Police

### CIRCULAR

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

I have honour to request that you will at your early directing your Deputies to state generally to submit for the information:

1st What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Sindees, who come before him on business?

2nd Whether he is able to understand a Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?

2. These questions should be answered according to each officers usual habit of transecting his ordinary business and without any reference whether he has or has not passed any examination.

I have the honour to be  
(Signed) B.H. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Kurrachee  
Commissioner Office  
18<sup>th</sup> December 1854

2. Letter from Deputy Collector, Frontier District to the Political Superintendent, dated 27<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that he is able to run official business in Sindhi.

No. 82 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Frontier District

To

The Political Superintendent  
On the Frontier of Scinde

Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement containing the Commissioner's Circular No. 3712 of 1854, I have the honour to state that in reply that in my oral communication with Sindhees who may come before me, I generally use Sindhee language.

2. I am able to understand a Sindhee and to make myself understood in that dialect, in all general cases, without any assistance from an Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant J. F. Lester  
Deputy Collector F. District

Camp Gownspoor  
27<sup>th</sup> December 1854

**3. Letter from Deputy Collector, Shahbundar to Collector of Karachi, dated 28<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that he is able to converse on common subjects in Sindhi.**

No. 611 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Shahbundar

To

The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

In reply to the commissioner's Circular No. 3712 of 18th Instant, received under your endorsement No. 2322 of the 28th idem; I have the honour to report that –

1st That with intelligent petitioners , conversation is generally carried on in Scindee, but that the aid of Moonshee is very frequently required to make a native understand who is not acquainted to speak with an European .

2nd I am able to converse on common subjects in Scindee, and can with intelligent natives make myself understood. There again however, the aid of an Interpreter is very often required, as natives unaccustomed to Europeans, speak in their own dialect, and frequently fail to comprehend the most simple sentence or word, , when spoken by myself , which if repeated by a Moonshee is immediately replied to.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant Philips  
Deputy Collector

Shahbundar

Deputy Collector Office Jherruk

Dated 28<sup>th</sup> December 1854

4. Letter from Deputy Collector, Karachi to Collector of Karachi, dated 28<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that he can understand Sindhi language, and can make himself understood in it.

No. 305 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector of  
Kurrachee

To

The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

in reply to Commissioner's Circular No. 3712 , General Department of the 18th Instant received with your endorsement No. 2322 dated 24th December 1854, I have the honour to report with reference to the first question that in translating ordinary business the language commonly used by me at Kurrachee is the Hindoostanee , because the native community of the town and suburbs consist of mixed races comprising a great number of Cuthees, Puthans and others such as many be expected to be found in a rising port or the vicinity of a very large continent. Kurrachee may therefore be unjustly considered as a place composed of foreigners, and the original of Scindee inhabitation have acquired the habit of speaking in Hidoostanee which has become the common language of the place.

2. In reply to the second question, I understand Scindee language, and can make myself understood in it.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. B. Dunsterville,  
Captain  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee of Collectors Office  
28<sup>th</sup> December 1854

5. Letter from Deputy Collector, Badrah to Collector of Hyderabad, dated 29<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that his is running official business in Sindhi language.

No. 425 of 1854  
General Department

To  
The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

In response to reply the Deputy Collector of Larkhanah to Collectors endorsement in General Department No. 1043 of 1854, dated 21st December 1854.

The language used in oral communication with Scindees coming to me on bossiness is the common Scindee spoken in Upper Scinde.

I can understand a Scindhee I make myself understood without the aid of an Interpreter.

Even since, I have been in Charge of District the whole of my Cutcheerry work has been carried out in Sindhee and any other language by or with the natives of the country is prohibited.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) C. W. Richardson  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collector's Office  
Camp Badrah  
29<sup>th</sup> December 1854

6. Letter from Deputy Collector incharge Treasury Shahbundar to Collector of Karachi dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that he is not at all conversant with Sindhi language.

No. 1797 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector incharge Treasury  
Shahbundar

To

The Collector of Kurrachee  
Via Tatta

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

Replying to the commissioner's letter No. 3712 of 18th Instant , received under your endorsement No. 2322 of the 26th idem , I have the honour to inform you that Hindoostanee being the language generally spoken at Kurrachee , it is what I transect business in.

2. I am not at all conversant with Scindee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) W. J. Surtees  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee Collectors Office  
December, 30<sup>th</sup>, 1854

**7. Letter from the Lieutenant of Kurrachee Police to Captain of Police, dated 30<sup>th</sup> December 1854, informing that he is able to answer in Native language.**

No. 342 of 1854  
General Department

From  
The Lieutenant of Kurrachee Police

To  
The Captain of Police in Scinde

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

In acknowledging your letter No. 3712 of 1854, I have the honour to inform you that in my reply to Para-1 that I am generally able to answer a native in the language he addresses me in that I thoroughly understand and can generally make myself fully understood, in the Scindee language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) E.P. Arthur  
Superintend of Police

Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> December 1854

8. Letter from the Deputy Collector Left Bank to Collector Upper Sindh, dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855, informing that he uses Sindhi in his daily matters.

No. 1 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Left Bank

To  
The Collector of Upper Scinde

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

Sir,

As directed in your endorsement General Department No.1043 of 27<sup>th</sup> December 1854, I have the honour to answer the Commissioner's questions as regards myself as follows:

1st	Question	Reply
	What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Sindees, who come before him on business?	The Sindee language invariably
2nd	Whether he is able to understand a Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?	He is able on all ordinary topics connected without his duties.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant Currie  
Deputy Collector

Sukkur Left Bank  
Deputy Collector's Office  
Dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

9. Letter from the Deputy Collector Left Bank to Collector Upper Sindh, dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855, informing that he uses Sindhi in his daily matters.

No. 6 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Acting Deputy Collector  
Of District

To  
The Collector of Upper Scinde

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

Sir,  
In reply to your Memo No. 1043 of 1854 of 27<sup>th</sup> of 1854 , for my report on the queries therein contained , I have for several months past , used Scindee in my oral communication with the natives who come before me on business.

2. With regard to 2<sup>nd</sup> query, I think that I am sufficiently acquainted with Scindees to dispose of the work with the services of an Interpreter on the different subjects that come under discussion in the course of business.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Sambert, Lieutenant  
Collector in Upper Sinde

Camp Rorree  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

**10. Letter from the Deputy Collector Sehwan to Collector Karachi, dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855, informing that he can understand Sindhi.**

No. 2 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector of  
Sehwan

To

The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

Sir,

When I was incharge of the Treasury at Hyderabad, I always used Hindoostanee as the medium of communication with Scindees coming to me on business. This deemed necessary as a money was involved , and it is the chief reason why I have not up to the present moment acquired such a colloquial freedom in the Scindee language as I should desire.

2. I now converse in Scindee, transact most of my business in that dialect , can understand a Scindee , and make myself understood though I can not in honestly boast of great fluency, or proficiency.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.M Johnston, Captain  
Deputy Collector

Camp Noorpoore  
Sehwan Deputy Collector's Office  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1855

**11. Letter from Deputy Collector of Halla to Collector Hyderabad, dated 5<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he uses the Hindi in his oral communication with a Sindhi.**

No. 5 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Halla

To

The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 5<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to your No. 3712, dated 18th December 1854, I have the honour to state that-

2. I use the Hindoostani language in my oral communication with the Scindees- a Scindee makes his complains or requests in his own language generally. The most of them are able to make themselves understood in Hindoostani - should their communication be made in Scindee. My Moonshee gives them my answer.

3. I cannot confidently say that I can at all times make myself understood in the Scindee dialect but constant communication with the native of Scinde has enabled me to understand them when making a statement or request, sufficiently to be able to detect my Moonshee should he make any important mistake in interpretation thereof or in asking a question.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. Curling  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collectors Office Halla  
5<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**12. Letter from Deputy Collector of Tando Muhammad Khan to Collector Hyderabad, dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he invariably transacts business in Sindhi language.**

No. 6 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Mohammad Khan's Tanda

To

The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated 6<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement as per Margin-  
I have the honour to state for the information of the  
Commissioner, and in reference to his query that

No.1804	of	28th	1854,
forwarding Government letter			
No.3712 of 18 <sup>th</sup> December 1854			

1<sup>st</sup> I invariably transact business in Scindee.

2<sup>nd</sup> I can understand Scindee and make myself understood in that dialect without the aid of an Interpreter.

2 But that cases do happen where Scindees appearing before me one in the habit of speaking "Jataki" and in each cases there is some difficulty in understanding them or making myself in Scindee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant Fenning  
Deputy Collector

Mohammad Khan's Tanda  
6<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**13. Letter from Collector of Karachi to Commissioner Sindh, dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855, forwarding summary of his District regarding implementation of Sindhi language.**

No. 39 of 1855  
General Department

From

Major H.W, Preedy  
Collector of Kurrachee

To

H.B.E Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to your Circular No. 3712 , of the 18th Ultimo , I have the honour , which I am forwarding copies of Deputy Commissioners' reports, to submit the following summary of the same for your information:

Name of Deputy Collector	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Captain Dusterville, Kurrachee	Commonly uses the Hindoostanee language.	Understands Scindee, and can make himself understood in it.
Lieutenant Phillips, Sehwun	Usually converse with the intelligent Petitioners in Scindee, but often finds aid of a Moonshee requisite with natives who are understood to speak with European.	Is able to converse on common subjects in Scindee with intelligent natives to make himself understood
Mr. Cole, Shahbundar	Uses the Scindee language generally, unless Hondoostanee is eventually offered.	Understands and can make himself understood in Scindee.

Mr. W. J. Surtees, In charge of treasury, Kurrachee	Transects business in Hindoostanee.	Is not at all conversant with Scindee.
Captain Johastow, Jherruk	Has lately adopted the Scindee language in translating business.	Understands Scindee and can make himself understood in it.

I have the honour to be  
 Sir  
 Your most obedient servant  
 (Signed) Major Preedy  
 Collector Kurrachee

Kurrachee  
 Collectors' Office  
 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**14. Letter from Deputy Collector of Noushera to Collector Hyderabad, dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he uses the Sindhi language in his all oral.**

No. 10 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Nousherah

To

A.F. Bellasis Esquire  
Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to the Commissioner's Circular letter No. 3712 dated 18th December 1854, received with your endorsement No.1804. dated 18th December 1854. I have the honour to state that-

1<sup>st</sup> I always use the Scindhee language in all oral communications with the Scindees who come before me on the business.

2<sup>nd</sup> I thoroughly understand Scindee and can make myself understood in their dialect without the aid of an Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Jameson, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Deputy Collectors Office,  
Nousherah  
9<sup>th</sup> January 1855

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\* Alfred Frederic Ballasis served as an Assistant Commissioner under Bartle Frere. He also served as a Collector of Karachi and Hyderabad. He replaced Captain Rathborne as Collector of Hyderabad. However, he is best known for his contribution in the field of Archaeology in Sindh. He was the officer and archaeologist, who took part in the excavation of Mansorah and Brahmanabad. He also wrote many books survey of Archaeology in Sindh- The Editor

**15. Letter from the Superintendent of Police Hyderabad to the Captain of Police in Sindh, dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he quite understands Sindhi language.**

No. 16 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Superintendent of Police  
Hyderabad

To

The Captain of Police in Scinde

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

With reference to your letter 15<sup>th</sup> of 1854, General Department, I do myself the honour to report for the information of the Commissioner –

That I commonly use the Scindee language in my oral communication with the Scindees who come before me, and further transact nearly all the work of the General Department in that language also.

I can quite understand a Scindee and also making myself understand to him in the Scindee dialect without the aid of an Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) S.F. Naqlore  
Superintend of Police

Superintend of Police office  
Hyderabad, 9<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**16. Letter from the Deputy Collector Frontier District to the Collector of Upper Sindh, dated 12<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he is able to understand Sindhi language.**

No. 162 of 1854  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Frontier District

To

The Collector of Upper Scinde  
Shaikarpoore

Dated: 12<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to the endorsement containing the Commissioner's Circular No. 3712 of 1854, I have the honour to state that in reply that-

In my oral communications with Scindees who may come before me, I generally use the Scindee language.

I am able to understand a Sindhee and to make understood in that dialect, in all general cases without any assistance from an Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. F. Lester, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Shikarpoore Frontier Districts  
12<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**17. Letter from the Deputy Collector Mirpur to the Collector of Hyderabad, dated 17<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that Sindhi language is used in all his oral.**

No. 13 of 1854  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector  
Meepoore

To  
The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to your Circular Endorsement No. 1804 of letter the 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo , I have the honour to state that Scindee language is used in all my oral communications with the Scindees , but that I am not sufficiently acquainted with that language to make myself understood , except on simple subjects without the aid of an Interpreter, although understand the greater part of what is said in Scindee . I have not as yet obtained that fluency in speaking it.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) G. Jamerson Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Meepoore Deputy Collectors Office  
17<sup>th</sup> January 1855

18. Letter from the Collector of Upper Sindh to the Commissioner Sindh, dated 18<sup>th</sup> January 1855, forwarding report regarding implementation of Sindhi language in his District.

No. 22 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Collector in Upper Scinde

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 3712 dated 18<sup>th</sup> ultimo, calling for reports as to the qualifications of the Deputy Collectors in their Collectorate for conducting their duties in the Scindee language. I have the honour to transmit their reports in original.

2. Lieutenant Sauthey who is absent on leave has passed the colloquial examination, and conducts the duties of his office in that language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Goldney, Major  
Collector in Upper Scinde

Shikarpoore  
Collector's Office  
18<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**19. Letter from the Judicial Deputy Magistrate of Hyderabad to Collector Hyderabad, dated 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that sometimes he finds it difficult to understand.**

No. 21 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Judicial Deputy Magistrate of  
Hyderabad

To  
The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

In reply to your endorsement as per Margin-  
inform you that I generally use Hindoostani in  
communicating with those Scindees who come before  
me.

No.183 of January /26 of 1855 on Commissioner's letter requiring in what language business is carries on
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2. I am as a generally able to understand what a Scindee says to me, but not to make myself understand him. There are of course exceptions in both cases. I am very often make myself understand and I some times find it difficult to understand , but the rather slow occurs.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Anderson, Captain  
Judicial Deputy Magistrate

Hyderabad Deputy Magistrate Office  
24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

20. Letter from the Captain of Police in Sindh to the Commissioner Sindh, dated 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855, forwarding replies of his Lieutenants regarding implementation of Sindhi language in his Department.

No. 122 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The captain of Police in Scinde

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

I have the honour herewith to enclose the replies of my Lieutenants on the subject called from your letter No. 3712, dated 18th Ultimo, and on my own part to state, that commonly use Scindee in my oral communications with those inhabitation of the country who do not understand Hindoostanee, and that I am fully conversant with the language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain Marston  
Captain of Police

Camp Shikarpore  
24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**21. Letter from the Lieutenant of Police in Sindh to the Captain of Police Sindh, dated 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he carries out his work in Hindi.**

No.23 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Captain of Police in Scinde

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

Adverting to the Commissioner's letter No. 3712 of 1854, forwarded under your letter No. 15 General Department, dated 28th Ultimo, I have honour to state –

1<sup>st</sup> That Scindee is the language generally used by me when a native of Scinde comes before me on business.

2<sup>nd</sup> I beg to remark however that the work of the General Department is carried by me in Hindoostanee, which language is also used by me in conversing with the men under my command.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Currie Suitt  
Lieutenant of Police

Camp Shikarpoore  
24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

22. Letter from the Deputy Collector of Jheruk to the Collector of Karachi, dated 28<sup>th</sup> January 1855, informing that he uses Sindhi language.

No. 246 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Jherruk

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> January 1855

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the following replies to the questions communicated by your endorsement No. 2322 of the 26<sup>th</sup> Instant on the Commissioner's letter No. 3712 of the 18<sup>th</sup> viz:

	Question	Reply
1 <sup>st</sup>	What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Sindee, who come before him on business?	I use Scindee language where the Hindustanee is not understood and no dictionary offered.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Whether he is able to understand a Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?	Yes

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) W. I Cole  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee  
28<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**23. Letter from the Commissioner Sindh to Assistant Commissioner for Jageers, dated 13<sup>th</sup> February 1855, asking him to report from Lieutenant Pelly and yourself for the knowledge of Sindhi language.**

No. 503 of 1855  
General Department

To  
Captain Goldsmid  
Assistant Commissioner for Jagheers

Dated : 13<sup>rd</sup> February 1855

Sir,

I have honour to request that you will at your early convenience submit for the information of good reports from Lieutenant Pelly and yourself showing.

1<sup>st</sup> What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Sindees, who come before him on business?

2<sup>nd</sup> Whether he is able to understand a Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?

2. These questions should be answered according to each officers usual habit of transacting his ordinary business and without any reference whether he has or has not passed any examination.

I have the honour to be  
(Signed) B.H. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Camp Oobaura  
Dated 13<sup>rd</sup> February 1855

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Jageer Khata was established for land revenue generation – The Editor

**24. Letter from Assistant Commissioner for Jageers to the Commissioner Sindh, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 1855, informing him that it his habit to talk Sindhi with Sindhi**

No. 37 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The 1st Assistant Commissioner  
for Jagheers

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> February 1855

Sir,

I have the honour to report, with reference to letter No. 503 of the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1855 that --

1st It is my habit to talk Scindee with the lower order of Scindians who come before me in the ordinary course of business in the Districts , through with many Jageerdars, who are in the habit of visiting European officers, with the Banyas of Shikarpooore , with Sardars and come others, I perhaps more frequently converse in Hindoostanee or in certain few cases, in Persian with my Moonshees, I speak much in the same way for instance to the Hyderabad Moonshee (from habit) almost always in Scindee to the Shikarpooore and Kurrachee Moonshees in Scindee and Hindoostanee both perhaps as a rule of late , more often in the former language. Persian, Summons, Urzees♦ and Reports I here or read in original.

2nd I think I may and was this question in the affirmative. As a general rule , I do not experience difficulty in making myself understood in any part of the country through I confess to have some times at a loss a to apprehend the whole of a long story is communicated by natives in certain places which I have not much frequented, and of a class with whom I have not

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\* Urzee (Arzee) means request or application- The Editor

been accustomed to converse in their own language. To remedy this deficiency, however, I should rely upon getting at the facts, one by one through questioning the narrator, and receiving his replies in detail.

2. I may add that, until the commencement of the last year, I had not before learn in the habit of using the language in ordinary conversation with natives.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) Goldsmid, Captain  
Assistant Commissioner for  
Jagheers

Camp Shikarpoore  
Jagheer office  
16<sup>th</sup> February 1855

25. Letter from 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Commissioner for Jageers to the Commissioner Sindh, dated 16<sup>th</sup> February 1855, informing him that invariably he speaks Hindi words availing himself of the few Persian words.

No. 38 of 1855  
General Department

From

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Commissioner  
for Jagheers

To

The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> February 1855

Sir,

In reply to the 1st Instruction contained in your letter No. 503 of the 13th February 1855 that I have to honour of submitting that while in Revenue Department , I commonly use addressed any Scindees coming before me , in Hindoostanee or mixture of this and Scindee.

2. As regards Question No.2 , I may state that I could generally understand a Scindee Moonshee , and also a Scindee peasant provided be spoken slowly , and did not eat his words. My judicial work was usually hard in the Scindian dialect.

3. Since, joining the Jageer Office , I have invariably spoken Hindoostanee words availing myself of the few Persian words with which I may be acquainted , and which are of the frequent account in summons and other orders.

I have the honour to be

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) Lieutenant Pelly ♦

2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Commissioner for  
Jagheers

Camp Shikarpore

Jagheer office

16<sup>th</sup> February 1855

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\* Louis Pelley (1825-1898) served a longest period of his life in Khairpur state. He wrote many reports on the Jageers of Sindh, besides he wrote reports on political and social issues. He also wrote a book "Views and Opinion of John Jacob". His best known report is "The Khypoore State in Upper Scinde"- The Editor

26. Letter from Deputy Collector Shikarpur to the Collector of Upper Sindh, dated 21<sup>st</sup> February 1855, informing him that he understands the little Sindhi.

No. 258 of 1854  
General Department

From

Deputy Collector  
Shikarpore

To

The Collector of Upper Scinde  
Shikarpore

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> February 1855

Sir,

I have the honour to annex replies to the required forwarded with your letter No 104 of the 17<sup>th</sup> Instant.

	Question	Answer
1 <sup>st</sup>	What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Scindees, who come before him on business?	Hindoostanee
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Whether he is able to understand a Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?	Can understand little Scindhee that is used at the sudden station but can not reply with any fluency. an interpreter however is seldom required, as most of the Scindees with whom, I transmit business, can conversantly in Hindoostanee.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) G. Wood, Major  
Deputy Collector

Shikarpore  
21<sup>st</sup> February 1855

**27. Letter from Superintendent Deputy Collector of Sehwan to the Collector of Karachi, dated 29<sup>th</sup> March 1855, informing he commonly uses the Sindhi language in oral communication.**

No. 22 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Superintendent Deputy Collector of  
Sehwan

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> March 1855

Sir,

I have the honour, in reply to your endorsement No. 596, dated 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, to inform you, that I commonly use Scindee language in oral communication with those Scindees, who come before me on business, and that I am able to understand a Scindee, and make myself understood in that dialect, without the aid of an Interpreter.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) C.Hodgekrindor  
Deputy Collector

Camp Sehwan  
Deputy Collector's Office  
29<sup>th</sup> March 1855

No. 693 of 1855

A true copy is forwarded for the information of the Commissioner in Scinde, with reference to his letter No. 501, dated 12<sup>th</sup> February last.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) C.Hodgekrindor  
Deputy Collector

**28. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor of Bombay, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 1855, furnishing him implementation status of the Sindhi language in province and seeking approval for Hindu Sindhi script in Sindh.**

No. 143 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Commissioner in Scinde

To  
  
Right Honourable  
Lord John. S.A Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> April 1855

My Lord,

I have the honour to bring to the recollection of your Lordship in Council that in 1851, a Commissioner was made towards introducing Scindee as the language of official business in Sind .

2. The late Captain Stack and Lieutenant Burton who both thoroughly understood the language. The former as taught by learned Hindoos and later by Mohammadans having then left Sind, there was no officer in the province who had a grammatical knowledge of it.

3. At the beginning, Captain Marston, Captain of Police and Mr. Arthur Young, Deputy Collector, were the only European officers who had a fair colloquial knowledge of the language and could make themselves understood in it. Lt Arthur Lieutenant of Police Kurrachee was the first to pass an Interpreter's examination in October 1852.

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\* This letter explains whole background of Sindhi language and writing system before British rule and after British rule in Sindh- The Editor

4. There was no fixed character for the language, and none of the office Moonshees could write it legibly in any of the various characters applicable to it.
5. Mr. Arthur Young had proved experimentally that Moonshees might be taught to write it legibly in the Persian Character, but the opinion of almost all other officers in the province were unfavorable to the attempt to make Scindee the ordinary official language, in supersession of Persian.
6. But Persian was understood by comparatively few of the higher Class and course by still favoured of the lower orders. It was spoken by only two or three of the European officers. The usual process in all the officers' proceedings before European was that Scindee parties and witnessed spoke Scindee, a Moonshee interpreted between them and European officer in Hindoostanee, all was written down in Persian. Few of them were educated Muhammadans were to be found in own Scindee and the knowledge of their officials Persian enabled a few families of Hindoo or Punjabee origin almost to employed all Civil offices of trust and work similarly.
7. With the exception of Captain Stack's English and Sindhi Dictionary and Sindhi Grammar, both printed by Dewnagree character, there were no books published in Scindee, or as aids to its acquirement.
8. The measure sanctioned by Government, with a view to adopt Scindee as the native language for the official correspondence were principally encouragement by rewards and a prepared in promotion promised to officers who should pass in Scindee, and to Natives who should learn to write their own language in the Arabic Character which was found to be preferred by  $\frac{3}{4}$  the of the whole population. The preparation and publication of Class and Text books in that language and Character - and a gradual introduction of its use in official proceedings and in the country schools.
9. As regards, the success of the measures, I am happy to be able to report the Native officials have made sufficient progress in writing and reading the language in the Arabic Character, to justify the issue of circular vide No. 25 of the 15th April 1851 and No. 1321 of 29th November 1854, making Scindee exclusive language of record for native proceedings in all Judicial cases, Civil as well as Criminal.
10. The first printed in Scindee in Arabic Character was a moral treatise written in verse by a Scindee in the last century. It was printed under Captain Arthur's superintendence in 1851, and he also printed an edition of Dosabhaoy's sentences with a column of Scindee since these books in Scindee, or as aid to its acquirement, as enumerated.

11. In the Margin<sup>1</sup> have been printed and published one or two for the use of European students learning Scindee but the majority are intended to assist in teaching Scindee to read or write their own language and to give their some introduction in it.

S.No.	Name of the book	Nature	Printed by	Rs/ An/ P
1	Hikayat ool Salheen	a moral treatise written by a Scindee in verse	Lieutenant Arthur, of Police	6 = =
2	Dosabhoj's Ideomatical Sentence	English, Persian and Scindee	Lieutenant Arthur ,of Police	5 = =
3	Scindee Alphabet		B.H.Ellis	= = 6
4	Babnamo	Spelling book	translated by Moonshee Nandi Ram	= 2 =
5	Zubtee Kitab	Tables for Surveyros	translated by Moonshee Nandi Ram	= 8 =
6	Lekhe Jee Peer	first found rules of Arithmetic	translated by Moonshee Nandi Ram	= 2 =
7	Dharti Nirwar	A book of Geography	translated by Moonshee Nandi Ram	= 8 =
8	Chit Je Par	a book of drawing	translated by Moonshee Nandi Ram	= 3 =
9	Bhapbhe Zamindar jee Galh	A moral story	translated by Moonshee Goolam Hoosain	= 2 6
10	Esop joo Akanniyoo	Fables of Esop	translated by B. H Ellis	1 4 0
11	Tarikh Hindoostan	History of India	translated by Moonshee Goolam Aly	= 10 =
12	Soodharoo Koodharoo jee Galh	A moral story	translated by Moonshee Meeran Mohammad	
13	Stack's Sindhi and English Dictionary	Dictionary	completed by B.H. Ellis	
14	Sheet Map of the World for Schools		superintended by B.H.Ellis	

12. In December last, I issued a circular in the Margin- to the three (03) Collectors, Police Superintendent Jacobabad and Captain of Police, directing they would call on their Deputies to state

No. 3712 of the 18th  
December 1854

<sup>1</sup> This table shows that till April 1855, 14 text books were published for school course- The Editor

generally:

What language each Deputy commonly uses in his oral communications with those Sindees, who come before him on business?

Whether he is able to understand Scindee and make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter?

13. Further it was requested that these questions should be answered according to each officer's usual habit of transacting his ordinary business and without any reference whether he has or has not passed any examination.

14. The following is the result of that reference:

Kurrachee

Name of Deputy Officer	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Captain Dusterwille, Deputy Collector of Kurrachee. Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Commonly uses the Hindoostanee language.	Understands Scindee, and can make himself understood in it.
Lieutenant Phillips, Deputy Collector Sehwan Passed in Scindee colloquially	Usually converse with the intelligent Petitioners in Scindee, but often finds this aid of a Moonshee requisite with natives who are understand to speak with European.	Is able to converse on common subjects in Scindee with intelligent natives to make himself understood.
Lieutenant W. T. Cole, Office Deputy Collector Shahbunder Passed in Scindee colloquially	Uses the Scindee language intelligently, unless Hondoostanee is voluntarily offered.	Understands and make himself understood in Scindee
Mr. Surtees, In charge of Treasury	Transacts business in Hindoostanee.	Is not at all conversant with Scindee.
Captain Johnstone, Deputy Collector of Jherruk Passed in Scindee colloquially	Has lately adopted the Scindee language in translating business.	Understands Scindee and can make himself understood in it.

Lieutenant Hoogkindon Superintendent Deputy Collector	Commonly uses the Scindee language in oral communication with Scindees who come on business.	Understands Scindee and can make himself understood in Scindee without the aid of a Moonshee.
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Shikarpore

Name of the officer	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Lieutenant Lowfiar, Deputy Collector Left Bank Passed in Scindee colloquially	Uses the Scindee language in variably.	Is able on all ordinary topics to understand and make himself understood Scindee.
Lieutenant Gblair Ford, Deputy Collector Larkhana Passed in Scindee colloquially	The language used in oral communication with Scindees by this officer is the common Scindee spoken in Upper Scinde.	Understands Scindee and can make himself understood without the aid of Interpreter and that any other language than Scindee in his court is prohibited.
Lieutenant Currie, Deputy Collector Mehur Passed in Scindee colloquially	The language used in oral communication with Scindees who come before him Scinde.	Understands Scindee and can make himself gradually a understood.
Lieutenant Wallace, acting Deputy Collector Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Uses Scindee in his oral communication with Natives who come before him on business.	States that he is sufficiently acquainted with Scindee with the services of an interpreter in communication with Sindees.
Lieutenant Lester, Deputy Collector, Frontier Districts Passed in Scindee colloquially	Generally uses Scindee language in his oral communication with Scindees.	Is able to understand a Scindee and make himself in all general cases.
Lieutenant Suthery, Deputy Collector Passed in Scindee colloquially	At this time absent on leave but the Collector reports that he conducts the duties of his office in Scindee language.	
Major G. Wood, Esq, Deputy Collector in charge of Treasury	Hindoostanee	Understands the little Scindee that is used at sudden station but can not reply with any fluency, an Interpreter is seldom required as most of the Scindees

		with whom he transacted business, can conversed reading in Hindoostanee.
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## Hyderabad

Name of the officer	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Lieutenant Sambert, Deputy collector Left Bank	Generally uses Hindoostanee in transecting business with Scindees.	As a general rule is able to understand what Scindee says but not able to speak to make himself understood.
Lieutenant Jameson, Deputy Collector Nawabshah Passed in Scindee colloquially	Always uses the Scindee language in all oral communication with Scindees who come before him on business.	Thoroughly understands and can make himself understood without the aid of an interpreter.
Major Richardson, Deputy Collector, Halla	Uses Hindoostanee in his oral communications with the Scindees.	He can make himself understood in the Scindee dialect but constant communication with the natives of Scinde has enable him to understand them sufficiently to detect any mistake that may made by his Moonshee in interpreting.
Lieutenant Syrhilt, Deputy Collector	Uses the Scindee in his oral communications with the Scindees.	Not sufficiently acquainted with the Scindee to make himself understand, except on simple subjects without the aid of Interpreter.
Major Stack, Deputy Collector, Muhammad Khan's Tanda	Uses Hindoostanee in his oral communications with the Scindees.	Unable to communicate with Scindees except by means of an Interpreter.
Lieutenant Dunsterville, Deputy Collector, Kurrachee Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Invariably transects business in Scindee.	Understands Scindee and can make himself understood in that dialect without the aid of an interpreter

## Jagheer Department

Name of the officer	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Captain Goldsmid , 1st Assistant Commissioner for Jagheers Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Uses Scindee in his ordinary course of business with the Scindees.	Is able to understand and make himself understood in Scindee without an Interpreter.
Lieutenant Pelly, 2nd Assistant Commissioner for Jagheers Passed in Scindee colloquially	Commonly uses Hindoostanee or a mixture of Hindoostanee and Scindee.	Generally understands, a Moonshee and also a Scindee peasant provided he spoke slowly. His judicial work usually heard in Scindee dialect.

## Police Department

Name of the officer	Replies to Question No. 1	Replies to Question No. 2
Captain Marston Captain of Police Passed in Scindee colloquially	Uses Scindee in oral communication.	Understands is fully conversant with the Scindee language.
Lieutenant Arthur , Lieutenant of Police Kurrachee Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Generally able to answer a Native in the language he is addressed.	Thoroughly understands and can make generally himself fully understood in the Scindee language.
Lieutenant Naylor, Lieutenant of Police Hyderabad Passed as Scindee Interpreter	Commonly uses the Scindee language in his oral communication with Sindees and transects all his work with mixture of the Persian and Hindoostnee.	Understands a Scindee and can make generally himself understood in that dialect.
Lieutenant Perie, Acting Lieutenant of Police Skarpooe	Generally uses Scindee when a Native of Scindee comes before him.	Understands a Scindee and can make himself understood in that dialect.

15. From the above it will be seen that of 18 European officers under the 3 Collectorates, the Jagheer Department and Captain of Police passed examination in Sindee Language.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Commissioner in Sindh presents a very comprehensive report to Bombay Government for implementation of Sindhi language in the province. Every officer was bound to go through the examination of colloquial Sindhi or examination of an Interpreter- Editor

Civil Offices	Have Passed		Are independent of Monnshees in conversing with Scindees	Require an Interpreter
	As Interpreter	Colloquially		
Kurrachee	1	3	5	1
Hyderabad	1	1	2	4
Shakarpoore	1	6	6	1
Police Officers	2	1	4	0
Jhageer Department	1	1	2	0
Total	6	12	19	6

16. I am sanguine that the efforts of the officers above enumerated to qualify themselves is so important a branch of their duties will be considered during appropriate of your Lordship in Council.

17. The labour of carrying out most of the measured which have conducted to this end, has fallen almost exclusively upon Mr. Ellis, my ex- Assistant, whose services in laying down a fixed character and preparing Books in it, have been already brought to the notice of the Government.

18. I trust that henceforth the business to which natives of Sind, are parties, will be conducted as the general rule in their own language and recorded in a character easily legible by all educated Muhammadans for the Hindoos former about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the population, it will be necessary as in Hindoostan, to have a Hindoo character which they may be taught to use for their own private correspondence and accounts instead of the various systems moved reasonably Cipher or Short hand than an alphabetical character, of which almost every town and large caste has a different and particular from- measures are now being taken, as was formerly necessary with Guzzerattee, to select and reform such character, and introduce into a general use and the results shall be reported here forth.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
 Sir  
 Your most obedient servant  
 (Signed) H.B. Frere  
 Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
 Kurrachee  
 9<sup>th</sup> April 1855

<sup>1</sup> In Para No 18 of the letter, Mr. Frere, Commissioner Sindh is seeking approval of Bombay Government for the reformation and introduction of Khudawadee character for Hindu Sindhus – Editor

29. Memorandum from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 11<sup>th</sup> May 1855, acknowledging his efforts for implementation of Sindhi language in the province.

No. 1692 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

#### MEMORANDUM

Each of the Authorities whose names or official designations are noted above is to understand that the following Copy or Extract of Resolution (together with any Papers may be appended) is sent for his information and guidance (as the case may be), and for the issue of such subsidiary orders as may appear necessary for giving effect to the views of Government.

It is also to be understood that a Copy or an Extract of the Resolution has been likewise furnished to all Authorities whose names or official designations are prefixed.

The same number, as above, is fixed to each copy sent to the different Authorities.

In official correspondence the number and the date of the Secretary's Memorandum should be quoted, and not the date of the Government Resolution.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
11<sup>th</sup> May 1855

Reporting the progress made in introducing Scindee as the language of official usage of official business in Scinde.

Resolution of Government on the above, dated 8<sup>th</sup> May 1855

1. The result of measures detailed by Mr. Frere, which have altered the lamentable state of things described in his 1st Paragraph, as to mark the language of record, and that in which Government may now repeat the official business of the Province to be transacted, is highly gratifying, and it is pleasing duty to Government to have record their high sense of the merits of the officers to whose endeavours as described in Para 10215 of the Commissioner's letter the result stated in it 9<sup>th</sup> Paragraph is due.
2. There is no doubt that to those officers the people of Scinde will in a great measure owe that improvement of their conditions and management which must be result of a reformation.
3. With respect to the officers mentioned by Mr. Frere as having fully adopted the Scindee language, as that in which the business of their offices is transected, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council desires that the Commissioner will communicate to them cordial approbation.
4. The subject treated in that Commissioner's last Para is under separate consideration<sup>1</sup>.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
11<sup>th</sup> May 1855

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<sup>1</sup> This para is about approval of Khudawadi script – Editor

**OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING  
INTRODUCING HINDU- SINDHI**

1. **Circular from Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors, dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855, calling proposals regarding Hindu Sindhi with consultation of learned Hindus.**

No. 70 of 1855  
General Department

From  
Commissioner in Scinde

To  
All Collectors

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> January 1855

**CIRCULAR**

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will, during the course of present tour consult with any intelligent Hindoo you may meet with a copy of the Government Scindee Alphabet on which you have written apposite each of the Arabic Character the Hindoo Scindee character which you consider best fitted to stand as the Hindoo equivalent of the Arabic letters. 3 words being given in a separate list in which each proposed letter may be supplied as an initial, medial and final letter.

2. When the Hindoo Scindee alphabet currently known in the district do not include any requirement for a letter, once may be borrowed from the Dewa Nagree, Goormookhi, Guzratti, Marhati, Modhi or any other existing Alphabet or of thought more convenient a new character may be invented.

3. It is proposed that on the receipt of the replied of the concerned officers whose opinion has been asked, they should be carefully considered by a competent person, who will with the aid thus obtained, be able to draw up a Hindoo Scindee alphabet in the same moment as was done with the Arabic alphabet.

I have the honour to be  
(Signed) H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner office  
Kurrachee  
8<sup>th</sup> January 1855

2. Circular from Deputy Collector of Jheruk to Collector of Karachi, dated 30<sup>th</sup> March 1855, submitting proposal regarding Hindu Sindhi.

No. 160 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Jerruke

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> March 1855

Sir,

When I received your endorsement No. 80 on letter from Commissioner letter No. 70 dated 8th January last, Dr. Trumpp was on a visit at my house.

2. I therefore availed myself of his knowledge in language to let about obtaining the information desired in as compact form as possible.

3. He very kindly drew up the accompanying form for me and I have now the honour to resubmit it.

4. The Banyas that wrote were often very awkward so I dare the document is full of imperfection, but this I beg you will attribute to my stupidity in explaining what was required rather than lay it at their door.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Johnstone, Captain  
Deputy Collector

Camp Sonda Ketti  
30<sup>th</sup> March 1855

	a	m	n	m	m	m	m	m	m
अ	ā	ṁ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ
आ	ā	ṁ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ
इ	ī	ṁ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ
उ	ū	ṁ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ
ऋ	r	ṁ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ	ṅ

*Consonants: इपणा: use*

*Sanskrit Hill of Tatta*

	k	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
{	क	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ख	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ग	g	g	gh	ng	h	n
	घ	gh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ङ	ng	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ह	h	g	gh	ng	h	n

*Consonants*

	ch	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
{	च	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ख	kh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ग	g	g	gh	ng	h	n
	घ	gh	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ङ	ng	g	gh	ng	h	n
	ह	h	g	gh	ng	h	n



3. Letter from Deputy Collector of Sehwan to Collector of Karachi, dated 26<sup>th</sup> April 1855, endorsing a proposed scheme for Hindu Sindhi.

No. 310 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Sehwan

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> April 1855

Sir,

Referring to Commissioner's letter No. 70 dated 8<sup>th</sup> January last, received under letter No. 80 of the 13<sup>th</sup> idem, I have the honour to endorse a scheme of Hindoo Sindee alphabet with the Arabic Scindee character- already use in the Province.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Dusternville,  
Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Kotree office  
26<sup>th</sup> April 1855



۱۱ ۱۲ ۱۳ ۱۴ ۱۵ ۱۶ ۱۷ ۱۸ ۱۹ ۲۰ ۲۱ ۲۲ ۲۳ ۲۴ ۲۵ ۲۶ ۲۷ ۲۸ ۲۹ ۳۰ ۳۱ ۳۲ ۳۳ ۳۴ ۳۵ ۳۶ ۳۷ ۳۸ ۳۹ ۴۰ ۴۱ ۴۲ ۴۳ ۴۴ ۴۵ ۴۶ ۴۷ ۴۸ ۴۹ ۵۰ ۵۱ ۵۲ ۵۳ ۵۴ ۵۵ ۵۶ ۵۷ ۵۸ ۵۹ ۶۰ ۶۱ ۶۲ ۶۳ ۶۴ ۶۵ ۶۶ ۶۷ ۶۸ ۶۹ ۷۰ ۷۱ ۷۲ ۷۳ ۷۴ ۷۵ ۷۶ ۷۷ ۷۸ ۷۹ ۸۰ ۸۱ ۸۲ ۸۳ ۸۴ ۸۵ ۸۶ ۸۷ ۸۸ ۸۹ ۹۰ ۹۱ ۹۲ ۹۳ ۹۴ ۹۵ ۹۶ ۹۷ ۹۸ ۹۹ ۱۰۰

۱۱ ۱۲ ۱۳ ۱۴ ۱۵ ۱۶ ۱۷ ۱۸ ۱۹ ۲۰ ۲۱ ۲۲ ۲۳ ۲۴ ۲۵ ۲۶ ۲۷ ۲۸ ۲۹ ۳۰ ۳۱ ۳۲ ۳۳ ۳۴ ۳۵ ۳۶ ۳۷ ۳۸ ۳۹ ۴۰ ۴۱ ۴۲ ۴۳ ۴۴ ۴۵ ۴۶ ۴۷ ۴۸ ۴۹ ۵۰ ۵۱ ۵۲ ۵۳ ۵۴ ۵۵ ۵۶ ۵۷ ۵۸ ۵۹ ۶۰ ۶۱ ۶۲ ۶۳ ۶۴ ۶۵ ۶۶ ۶۷ ۶۸ ۶۹ ۷۰ ۷۱ ۷۲ ۷۳ ۷۴ ۷۵ ۷۶ ۷۷ ۷۸ ۷۹ ۸۰ ۸۱ ۸۲ ۸۳ ۸۴ ۸۵ ۸۶ ۸۷ ۸۸ ۸۹ ۹۰ ۹۱ ۹۲ ۹۳ ۹۴ ۹۵ ۹۶ ۹۷ ۹۸ ۹۹ ۱۰۰

ذکر  
را من  
رو کتو  
نرود  
سیر  
نامون  
صوبو  
ضرف  
ظلم  
عم  
فقیر  
قبول  
کار  
کنو  
کنک  
تور  
لا  
مار  
نکمتو  
ماتو  
نوار  
هار  
یار

ذکر  
را من  
رو کتو  
نرود  
سیر  
نامون  
صوبو  
ضرف  
ظلم  
عم  
فقیر  
قبول  
کار  
کنو  
کنک  
تور  
لا  
مار  
نکمتو  
ماتو  
نوار  
هار  
یار

*Handwritten signature*

4. Letter from Deputy Collector of Shahbundar to Collector of Karachi, dated 4<sup>th</sup> June 1855, forwarding a chart of Hindu Sindhi, prepared by his Munshi.

No. 308 of 1855  
General Department

From  
W. I Cole  
The Deputy Collector of Shahbundar

To  
Major T. R. Stewart  
Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 4<sup>th</sup> June 1855

Sir,

In reply to your Memo No. 108 of the 1st Instant, I have the honour to be obliged to admit that my knowledge of the Scindee character is too slight to enable me to give an opinion, on the subject of the Scindee Alphabet. However, a chart has been prepared by a Moonshee of mine, which is sent herewith.\*

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Lieutenant W. I Cole  
Deputy Collector

Jerruk  
4<sup>th</sup> June 1855

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\* Note: The original chart was based on one sheet (1 Meter long). It was not possible to scan whole sheet on one page. However, making it legible, the chart has been scanned into 03 pieces- The Editor







**5. Letter from Deputy Collector of Noushera to Collector of Hyderabad, dated 18<sup>th</sup> May 1855, forwarding a chart of Hindu Sindhi, prepared by a Native Hindu.**

No. 206 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Deputy Collector of Noushera

To  
The Collector of Hyderabad

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> May 1855

Sir,

With reference to your letter as per Margin-  
I have the honour to forward herewith the copy of  
Hindoo Scindee Alphabet with the corresponding  
Arabic character written opposite, and examples of the  
forms of each letter as in the heading and final as  
required.

No.70 of 1855 General Department ,  
dated 8th January calling for a copy  
of the Hindoo Scindee Alphabet

2. Not having as yet passed in Scindee myself, I am not able to express my opinion as the fitness or otherwise of the Hindoo letters to express the sounds in Arabic , but as the copy has been drawn up with care by a competent Native , I trust it will be good available for the purpose intended.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) A. Sambert, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector  
Noushera •

Office of Deputy Collector  
Tarooshah•  
18<sup>th</sup> May 1855

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\* Noushero Feroze

\* Tharo Shah

١٠٠	١٠٠	١٠٠
١٠١	١٠١	١٠١
١٠٢	١٠٢	١٠٢
١٠٣	١٠٣	١٠٣
١٠٤	١٠٤	١٠٤
١٠٥	١٠٥	١٠٥
١٠٦	١٠٦	١٠٦
١٠٧	١٠٧	١٠٧
١٠٨	١٠٨	١٠٨
١٠٩	١٠٩	١٠٩
١١٠	١١٠	١١٠
١١١	١١١	١١١
١١٢	١١٢	١١٢
١١٣	١١٣	١١٣
١١٤	١١٤	١١٤
١١٥	١١٥	١١٥
١١٦	١١٦	١١٦
١١٧	١١٧	١١٧
١١٨	١١٨	١١٨
١١٩	١١٩	١١٩
١٢٠	١٢٠	١٢٠

١٠٠	١٠٠
١٠١	١٠١
١٠٢	١٠٢
١٠٣	١٠٣
١٠٤	١٠٤
١٠٥	١٠٥
١٠٦	١٠٦
١٠٧	١٠٧
١٠٨	١٠٨
١٠٩	١٠٩
١١٠	١١٠
١١١	١١١
١١٢	١١٢
١١٣	١١٣
١١٤	١١٤
١١٥	١١٥
١١٦	١١٦
١١٧	١١٧
١١٨	١١٨
١١٩	١١٩
١٢٠	١٢٠

٦٦	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥
٥	٥	٥	٥

فَوَوُو  
 دَزُو  
 مَسَالُو  
 مَهَرُو  
 نَابُو  
 رَزُو  
 لَوُو

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ  
 بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

6. Letter from Deputy Collector of Mehar to the Acting Collector of Upper Sindh, dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1855, regretted to provide any copy of Hindu Sindhi.

No. 124 of 1855  
General Department

From

Lieutenant I. Currie  
Deputy Collector of Mehur

To

Captain R. Coupar  
Collector Upper Scinde

Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> May 1855

Sir,

In reply of your letter No 453 of 1855 , General Department ,I have the honour to state that I have been unable and I regret to say to get the Hindoo Sindee Alphabet ready , as required by the Commissioner up to the present time but will forward it as soon as it is so.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. Currie, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Mehur  
Deputy Collector  
17<sup>th</sup> May 1855

7. **Letter from the Collector of Upper Sindh to Commissioner Sindh, dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 1855, forwarding information submitted him by his Deputy Collectors.**

No. 232 of 1855  
General Department

From  
The Collector in Upper Scinde  
To  
The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 21<sup>st</sup> May 1855

Sir,

I have the honour as requested in your letter No.70 of 8<sup>th</sup> January last to forwarded copies of the Sindee Alphabet prepared as therein directed by the Deputy Collectors as per below:

Deputy Collector of Sukkur  
Deputy Collector of Larkanah  
Deputy Collector of Roree

2. The delay in forwarding the above is owing to the one required from Lieutenant Currie not having been furnished before the 15th instant and when called to upon to expedite its transmission that officer, as will be seen, from the accompanying copy of his letter No.124 states that he has not yet been able to prepare it.

I he honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) James, Lieutenant  
Collector of Upper Scinde

Sukkur Collector's office  
Camp Tarooshah  
21<sup>st</sup> May 1855

8. Letter from the Collector of Upper Sindh to Commissioner Sindh, dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 1855, forwarding him a copy of Hindu Sindhi submitted by Deputy Collector of Mehar.

No. 272 of 1855  
General Department

From

Captain R. Coupar  
Collector Upper Scinde

To

Commissioner Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 19<sup>th</sup> June 1855

Sir,

The enclosed Scindee Alphabet, received this day from the Deputy Collector of Mehar is transmitted to the Commissioner in Scinde with reference to my letter No. 323 of the 21<sup>st</sup> ultimo.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R. Coupar, Captain  
Collector Upper Scinde

Collector Office  
19<sup>th</sup> June 1855

			۱۱۹۲		
۱	۱	۱	۱	۱	۱
۲	۲	۲	۲	۲	۲
۳	۳	۳	۳	۳	۳
۴	۴	۴	۴	۴	۴
۵	۵	۵	۵	۵	۵
۶	۶	۶	۶	۶	۶
۷	۷	۷	۷	۷	۷
۸	۸	۸	۸	۸	۸
۹	۹	۹	۹	۹	۹
۱۰	۱۰	۱۰	۱۰	۱۰	۱۰
۱۱	۱۱	۱۱	۱۱	۱۱	۱۱
۱۲	۱۲	۱۲	۱۲	۱۲	۱۲
۱۳	۱۳	۱۳	۱۳	۱۳	۱۳
۱۴	۱۴	۱۴	۱۴	۱۴	۱۴
۱۵	۱۵	۱۵	۱۵	۱۵	۱۵
۱۶	۱۶	۱۶	۱۶	۱۶	۱۶
۱۷	۱۷	۱۷	۱۷	۱۷	۱۷
۱۸	۱۸	۱۸	۱۸	۱۸	۱۸
۱۹	۱۹	۱۹	۱۹	۱۹	۱۹
۲۰	۲۰	۲۰	۲۰	۲۰	۲۰

23	ج	ک	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
24	چ	ن	ن	ن	ن	ن	ن	ن
25	ج	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
26	ج	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
27	ج	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
28	چ	ط	ط	ط	ط	ط	ط	ط
29	چ	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
30	ح	د	د	د	د	د	د	د
31	ح	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ
32	ح	ر	ر	ر	ر	ر	ر	ر
33	ح	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز

22	س	س	س	س	س	س
24	س	س	س	س	س	س
25	س	س	س	س	س	س
26	س	س	س	س	س	س
27	س	س	س	س	س	س
28	س	س	س	س	س	س
29	س	س	س	س	س	س
30	س	س	س	س	س	س
31	س	س	س	س	س	س
32	س	س	س	س	س	س
33	س	س	س	س	س	س
34	س	س	س	س	س	س
35	س	س	س	س	س	س



9. Letter from Deputy Collector of Sukkur to the Acting Collector of Upper Sindh, dated 9<sup>th</sup> May 1855, forwarding a chart of Hindu Sindhi.

No. 177 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Collector of  
Shikarpore and Sukkur District

To

The Acting Collector  
Upper Scinde

Dated: 9th May 1855

Sir,

In compliance with instructions conveyed in your Memo No. 64 of 1855, I have the honour to forward herewith Hindoo Sindee Alphabet showing the Hindoo character in use within my District in its initial medial and final form contrasted with the Arabic Character.

2. Such letters as were not to be found (comprising No.3) among the Hindoo Alphabet have been supplied from the Goormukhee, this being the parent dots from which I believe will the various Hindoo characters in Scinde have been taken, and which would I fancy be more willing by adopted by the Hindoos from its assimilated to their own imperfect hieroglyphic, and becomes many of their religious and low books are written in the character.

3. For the same reason, the Goormukhee system of vowel points and marks has been adopted, it is more copious than that of the Arabic Scindee Alphabet and can therefore if necessary be presumed down to more convenient dimensions.

4. The Dewanagree character is more cumbrous, and is not as easily or quietly written as the Goormookhee, for this reason, also it has not been used to "ekr" out the short comings of the Hindoo Alphabet.

5. There are several letters in the Hindoo Sindee character that are not to be found in the Arabic Scindee Character, and which are hardly required to render the written character more

easily read, the compiler of this Alphabet has however thought it as well that they should appear in his work.

6. The compiler of this Alphabet, Moonshee Venaldas, the foudaree ♦ Moonshee in my office has bestowed much care in collecting and calling all the available information to this, I believe undertaken several translations into the new Arabic Character under the direction of Captain Goldsmid, and should respectfully recommended his services to your favourable notice.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) R.R Wallace  
Deputy Collector

Sukkur  
9<sup>th</sup> May 1855

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\* Foujdaree (Fojdari) means cases related to crimes

\* Note: The original chart was based on one sheet (1.5 Meter long). It was not possible to scan whole sheet on one page. However, making it legible, the chart has been scanned into 07 pieces- The Editor

۱	ک	ا	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۲	خ	ب	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۳	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۴	ف	پ	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۵	ق	پ	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۶	و	پ	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۷	ز	پ	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۸	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۹	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۱۰	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۱۱	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۱۲	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۱۳	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۱۴	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۱۵	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۱۶	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۱۷	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۱۸	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۱۹	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۲۰	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۲۱	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۲۲	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۲۳	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۲۴	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۲۵	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۲۶	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۲۷	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۲۸	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۲۹	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۳۰	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۳۱	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۳۲	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۳۳	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۳۴	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۳۵	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۳۶	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۳۷	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۳۸	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۳۹	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۴۰	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۴۱	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۴۲	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۴۳	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۴۴	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۴۵	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۴۶	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۴۷	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۴۸	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۴۹	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۵۰	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۵۱	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۵۲	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۵۳	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۵۴	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۵۵	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۵۶	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۵۷	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۵۸	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۵۹	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۶۰	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۶۱	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۶۲	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۶۳	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۶۴	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۶۵	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۶۶	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۶۷	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۶۸	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۶۹	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۷۰	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۷۱	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۷۲	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۷۳	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۷۴	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۷۵	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۷۶	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۷۷	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۷۸	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۷۹	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۸۰	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۸۱	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۸۲	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۸۳	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۸۴	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۸۵	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۸۶	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۸۷	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج
۸۸	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ	چ
۸۹	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ	ٹ
۹۰	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث	ث
۹۱	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک	ک
۹۲	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ	گ
۹۳	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ	خ
۹۴	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ	پ
۹۵	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف	ف
۹۶	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق	ق
۹۷	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و	و
۹۸	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز	ز
۹۹	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح	ح
۱۰۰	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج	ج

20	س	ق	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
21	ع	ق	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
22	ق	د	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
23	ط	د	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
24	ح	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
25	و	ش	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
26	ل	ش	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
27	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
28	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
29	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
30	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
31	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
32	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
33	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
34	ی	س	س	س	س	س	س	س	س
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اگر تو شایر آیت رجا  
 بر لب پریم  
 آهمن بنماصل  
 ہی آهمن  
 ← →

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آیت رجا

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ہی نشو نایل لکلی نشی و نیلاس بیوالی ہی نبر پیتی کاکار طبع نکا پیر  
 سکر چی جی



آهنن جانا لانا فارسي منج معروف و پھول و سائين آهن بي  
 م بي و بي واو و هڪ مء و الف و هڪ نير و هڪ پيش و هڪ  
 لوزن جونڪ م اچي هي مڙي توڙه ٿيا

چاڻ گرجي جو جن اکرن سنان اچار لاکنا جو لوزن نڪ واري ساڙ  
 گڏ ايندو آهن کي لاکنا اها ٿي جيڪا ايندي هجن تن  
 ڪر وارا مٿ ان جي لوزن نڪ واري جي لاکنا ٿي ٿي  
 چاڻ گرجي

جو اکر چار منڍم ڳا لوسندي جي نه ايندا اهي اکر آهن  
 چ ڙ گ ڻ

پهو اکر ملت جا اهي آهن جيڪي اکرن جي وچ ۾ ايندا  
 ايندا نه اهي جيڪي منڍم ايندا جي جو اچ وارو يار  
 جيڪڏهن اهي اکر سڀ سنڌي جا ليک هيت لکبا تڏهن  
 موهيا ٿيندا  
 جي اکر ٿي لاکنا جو اچار نه ايندو ان جو نالو مڪتو اهي

↑  
 1888

Handwritten signature

# INTRODUCTION OF HINDU- SINDHI

Government Resolution No. 698

Dated 12<sup>th</sup> December 1868

## NOTIFICATION

1. It is well known that a large portion of the Hindoo population in Sind, consisting principally of Merchants and Shopkeepers, are averse to the Arabic-Sindhi character which is used in Government Offices and our Schools ; it is further known that the Bunya Sindhi character, in use among the class of persons mentioned above, is generally illegible except to the writer ; it is also known that there is no literature in that character; bearing the above facts in mind, Government have decided upon introducing a uniform Bunya-Sindhi or Hindu-Sindhi alphabet, in the hope that :

By its use in our Schools, it may be the means of very largely increasing the attendance.

By the publication of books in the new character, the education of the children of Native merchants and shopkeepers may be facilitated and knowledge largely diffused among that class.

By the gradual introduction of the new character, the difficulty generally experienced by our Law Courts, in deciphering documents drawn up in the present Bunya-Sindhi character may be avoided.

2. The Educational Inspector has made arrangements for printing 3,000 copies of the new alphabet, which will be widely distributed; he has also directed that the students who are being trained in our Normal Schools shall be taught the character, and that all masters of Vernacular Schools shall learn it and teach it to such Hindu boys as may desire to acquire a knowledge of it. Shortly, it is hoped that school books will be printed in the new character and classes formed in connection with it.

3. Meanwhile the Commissioner in Sind desires the hearty co-operation of the Hindu public generally in the work of introducing the new character; and he calls upon all Moonhees, and the heads of the Hindu community in the several towns and villages throughout the Province, to set an example to their brethren, by adopting the revised character themselves and sending their children to Government Schools.

4. The names of all persons who heartily respond to this invitation will be brought to the notice of the Commissioner in Sind, who will be happy to reward them in a suitable manner.<sup>1</sup>

W. L. Merewether, Colonel ♦  
Commissioner in Sind

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from "Report of the Department of Public Instruction in the Bombay Presidency, for the year 1868-69", printed at the Education Society's Press, Byculla, 1869

\* Major General Sir William Lockyer Merewether (1825-1880) was a British Indian Army officer who served in a number of places including India and Abyssinia. He was the British Resident at Aden from 1863 to 1867. He was the 8th Commissioner in Sind from 1867 to 1877. He was one of the founding members of Sind Club as well as its first president. He started Sindhi official Gazette. After his name Merewether Clock Tower is located in Karachi. There is also a ship pier named after him in Karachi Harbour. - The Editor

**PRINTING AND PUBLICATION OF SINDHI  
TEXT AND SCHOOL BOOKS**

TITLE PAGE OF HIKAYAT -UL SALHEEN

هِيَ كِتَابٌ حِكَايَةُ الصَّالِحِينَ مِنْهُ سِنْدِي رَبِّا  
جَاهِ كَالِي نَبِيكَ بَخْتَنَ جِي هَ آمِينِ بِيَا نَا  
مِنَا عَرَبِي زَبَانِ سِي كِي سِنْدِي مِ جَوْرِي وَ آو  
وَبِي مُحَمَّدِ نَابِي مَكَارَن حَافِظِ سِنْدِي نِقَا ط

*Hukayut Oosalaheen*

*or stories of good men  
written in Sindia.*

*by*

*Wullee Mahomed.*

*for*

*Hafiz Sadeek.*

*Lithographed by Ardasser Rustamjee  
at the Advertiser Press Kurrachee*

*1851*

## 1. PREFACE OF HIKAYATUL SALHEEN

The "Hiqayat -oo -salheen" consists of 20 chapters in each of which some religious or moral duty is enforced and illustrated by a number of tales and allegories from the Arabic language into Scindee by Wally Mohamad at the command of Hafez Sadeek\*. The date of the translation is not known.

2. It is esteemed by the Muhammadans as one of the most popular of the books which are extant in Scindee and like most works in the language, it is written in a kind of rude irregular meter, the ear and the connivance of the writer and reciter being more consulted than strict rules of prosody. The style is considered pure comparatively free from foreign idioms in which learned Scindee composition generally allowed.

3. It may therefore be regarded with some interest by philologist, apart from its utility to those who are studying Scindee for more practical purpose, which included Government to direct a few copies to be lithographed. It has been from copy made at Tatta, which was estimated correct by the few who considered themselves judges in the matter. But in a language which has been so long neglected of which so few even now pretend to know the correct orthography and rules of Grammar many mistakes beyond those incidental to even the most careful transcription, are likely to meet the eye of the critical reader.]

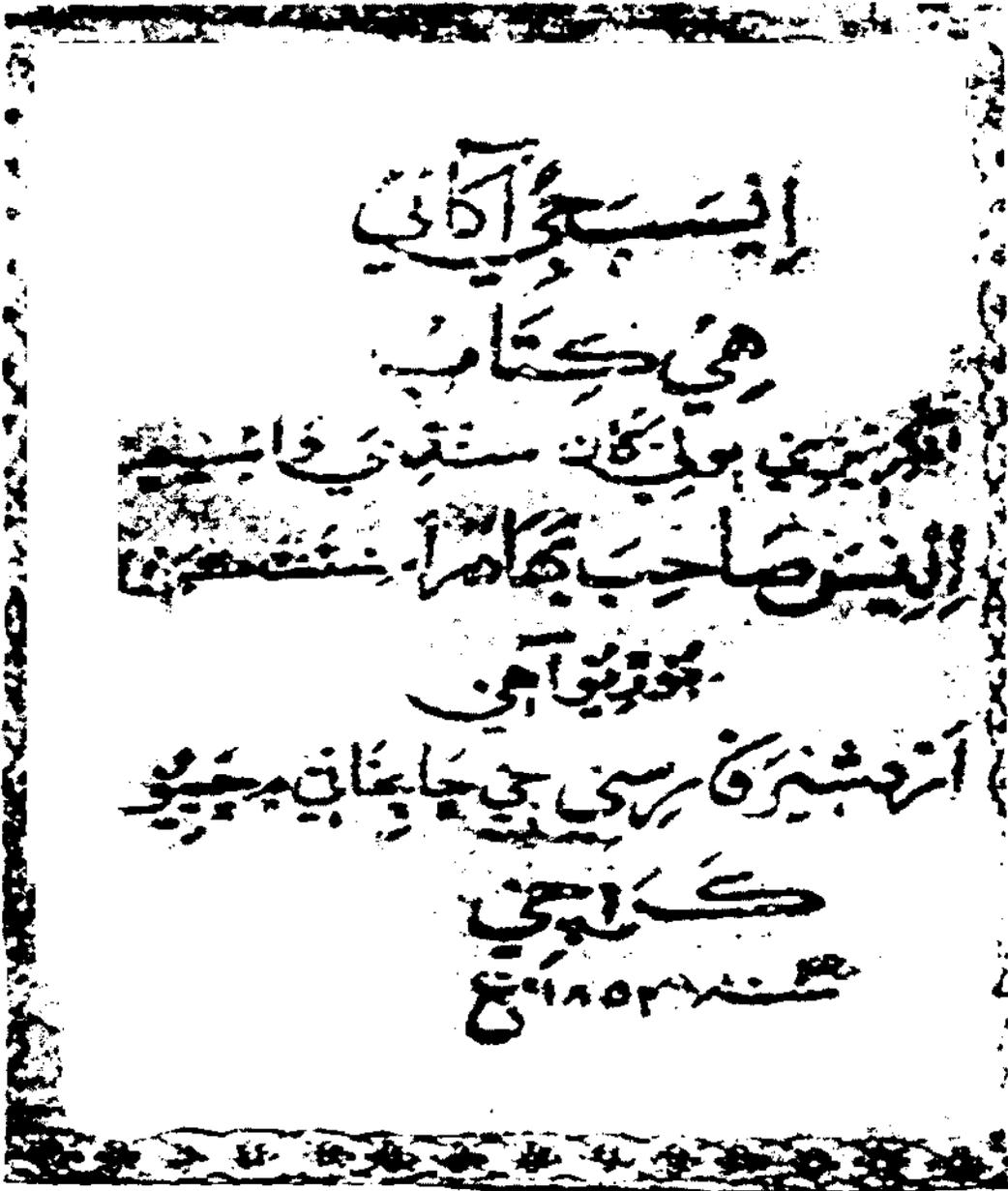
E. P. Arthur  
Lieutenant of Police

Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> October 1851

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\* Hafiz Sadiq was poet of letter period of Talpur dynasty. This book was translated from Arabic to Sindh by Moly: Wali Muhammad in 1804. Moly: Wali Muhammad, who also belonged to latter period of Talpurs.

<sup>1</sup> Hikayatul Salheen is first ever book, which was lithographed in Arabic -Sindhi Script in 1851. Captain Arthur published it and wrote a beautiful preface of the book. Captain Arthur was Captain of Police, he had also submitted his proposal for Nastaleeq character for Sindh in 1848- Editor.



\* Esop's Fables was translated into Sindhi by B.H. Ellis and Deewan Nandiram in 1854

**2. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor and President in Council, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1854, informing him that Esop's Fables and a History of India have been published.**

No. 70 of 1854  
General Department

From

H.B.E Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde

To

The Right Honourable  
Lord Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council  
Bombay

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1854

My Lord,

I have the honour to state for the information of your Lordship in Council that a Scindee version of Esop's Fables by Mr. B.H. Ellis, and a History of India (from the Hindustanee) by Moonshee Goolam Alli are now being lithographed, and I would suggest that these works be added to the Hikayat-oos-Salheen as text books in all future examinations in the Scindee language.

2. Mr. Ellis has reported that he has dispatched to the American Mission Press, the last sheets of Captain Stack's Scindee and English Dictionary.

3. I take this opportunity of bringing to the notice of your Lordship in council that during the 3 years Mr Elis has been in Scindee, he has not only made himself proficient in the language, but has done more than any other single person to promote the acquisition of it by other officers, and to facilitate its adoption as the general language of official business.

4. Of the Scindee books already printed in the press of which a list is annexed all but the first have been prepared by Mr. Elis and his instigation there latter have largely been etided by his supervision.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner office  
Camp Burranah  
22<sup>nd</sup> December 1854

3. **Nata bene from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 27<sup>th</sup> January 1855, directing him to furnish one copy of every book to examination committee.**

No. 395 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

**NOTA BENE\***

The Authority whose name or official designation is at the top of the copy or Extract of Resolution is to understand of the same (together with any Papers may be appended) is sent for his information and guidance (as the case may be), and for the issue of such subsidiary orders as may appear necessary for giving effect to the views of Government.

The same number, as above, is fixed to each copy sent to the different Authorities.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

---

No. 395 of 1855

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Copy of the Resolution passed by the Government on letter from the Commissioner in Scinde (No.459), dated 22nd December 1854 suggesting that a Scindee version of Esop's Fables by Mr. B.H. Ellis, and a History of India (from the Hindustanee) by Moonshee Goolam Alli which are now being lithographed, and he added to the Hikayat-oos-Sallien as that Books in all future examinations in the Scindee language and noticing Mr. Ellis' proficiency in the Scindee language, and his exertion to promote the acquisition of it by other officers, and to facilitate its adoption as the general language of official business.

The suggestion made by Mr. Frere in his first paragraph should be adopted. He should

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\* Nota bene: nota bene comes from the Latin roots notare ("to note") and bene ("well"). It is often abbreviated as N.B.

be requested to furnish a copy of each of those, and other Scindee text books to the Examination Committee at the Presidency.

The approbation of the Government may be communicated to Mr. Ellis for the perseverance he has exhibited in a species of labour the usefulness of which is perhaps not generally appreciated as it should be. Any country which like Scinde has recently experienced, a change of Rules, will have reason to feel grateful to everyone, who assists in facilitating an acquaintance with the language of her people by those, into whose hands their management is committed.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
27<sup>th</sup> January 1855

4. Letter from Proprietor Karachi Press to Deputy Collector Karachi, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1855, informing him that he handed over 1000 copies of Esop's Fables to Captain Dusternville.

Kurrachee  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 1855

To

I.Gibbs Esquire  
Assistant Commissioner Scinde,  
Kurrachee

Sir,

I beg most respectfully to state for your information that I have completed and handed over to Captain J.B Dunsterville the 1000 copies of Esop's Fables and request that I may be favoured with an order to pay me the amount of Rs.1250 by the above named gentlemen.

I beg to remain  
with respect Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Ardseer Rustomjee  
Proprietor Kurrachee Press

---

\* Mr.Inveranty Gibbs

5. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 8th February 1855, asking him to deliver a sum of Rs. 1225 to Rustumjee for lithographing of Esop's fables.

No.436 of 1855  
General Department

### MEMORANDUM

The Collector of Kurrachee is requested from Ardseer Rustumjee, 1000 (one thousand copies) of the Scindee Esop's Fables , and pay for the same, the sum of 1225 (One thousand and two hundred and twenty five) , be Rs. 1-4 per copy.

2. The above amount to be debited as usual to "Sind Education Fund ".

By order  
(Signed) H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Camp Meerpoore Mathela  
8th February 1855

6. Letter from I. Gibbs to Proprietor Karachi Press, dated 8<sup>th</sup> February 1855, advising him to consult Collector Karachi for his payment.

No.437 of 1855  
General Department

To

Ardseer Rustomjee

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> February 1855

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1855, requesting payment of 1250 for lithographing for 1000 copies of Esop's Fables; I am directed by the Commissioner to inform you, that order has been issued to the Collector of Kurrachee, to whom you must apply.

Yours Obediently  
(Signed) I. Gibbs  
Assistant Commissioner, Sindhe

Commissioner's office  
Camp Meerpoore Mathela  
8<sup>th</sup> February 1855

7. **Letter from Commissioner Sindh to President of examination Committee, dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 1855, directing him to include Esop's Stories in Text Books.**

No. 662 of 1855  
General Department

To

Lieutenant Cole B. Crispier  
President of Examination Committee  
Bombay

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> February 1855

Sir,

As directed in the 1<sup>st</sup> Para of the Government Resolution No395 of the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo in the General Department, I have the honour to forward one copy each of Scindee version of Esop's Fables by Mr. B.H. Ellis , and a History of India (from the Hindustanee) by Moonshee Goolam Alli, which are now to be added to the Hikayat-oos - Salheen as the text books in all future examinations of the Scindee language.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Camp Sukkur  
24<sup>th</sup> February 1855

8. **Memo from Commissioner Sindh dated 24 February 1855, directing Collector Karachi to send books to Lt. Cole.**

No.663 of 1855  
General Department

**MEMO**

The enclosed letter is forwarded to the Judicial Deputy Magistrate Kurrachee , who is requested to send it to Lieutenant Cole Crispier with the two (02) books, first received, the cost of which is to be charged to the Government .

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Camp Sukkur  
24<sup>th</sup> February 1855

9. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh to Collector Karachi, dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 1855, requesting to send 300 copies of Esop's fable to Collector Hyderabad and Shikarpur.

No.1802 of 1855  
General Department

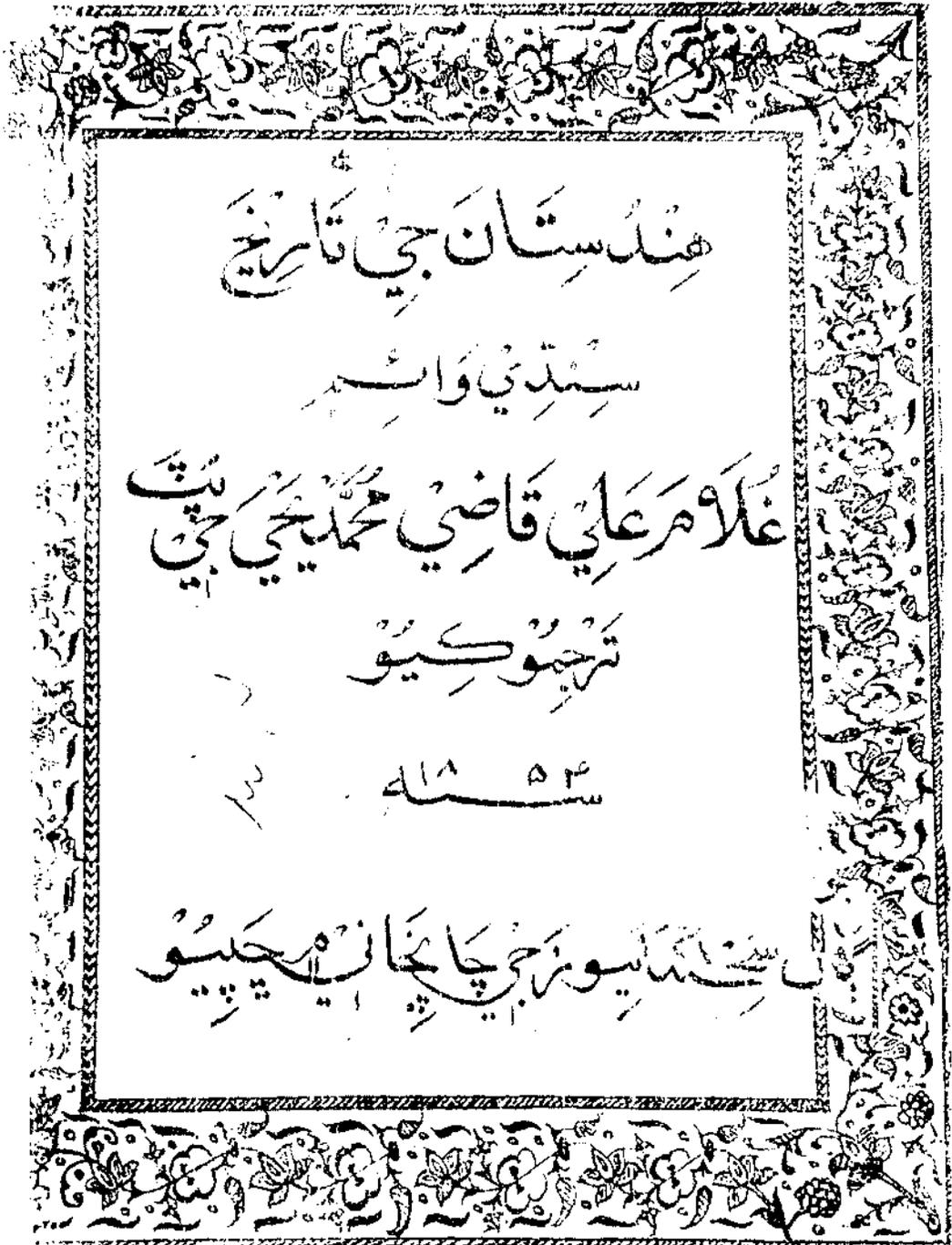
### MEMORANDUM

The Collector of Kurrachee is requested to dispatch the Scindee translation of Esop's Fables as per Margin- to the Collector of Hyderabad and Shikarpore for sale at the rate of Rs.1-8-0 per copy as recommended by the Government.

300 copies to the Collector Hyderabad 300 copies to the Collector Shikarpore
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I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office Kurrachee  
26<sup>th</sup> May 1855



**10. Letter from J. Harvoy to Assistant Commissioner Sindh, dated 27<sup>th</sup> February 1855, informing him that History of India has been lithographed.**

No.283 of 1854  
General Department

To

B.H. Ellis  
Assistant Commissioner

Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> December 1854

Sir,

I beg to send a copy of History of India lithographed and bound, which was finished on the 24<sup>th</sup> instant. If you may remember to send to press on 20<sup>th</sup> last, so that I may hope it was not only in hands also you had been to take the trouble to write an account of its delay.

2. The binding you will preferably use in cloth which exceeds the former binding three times per each, It is rather better that cloth was an item in other invasion to the person who imported for me from Bhoy, so that I cannot send the dispatch bill.

3. Captain Dunsterville who is now incharge of the Suddar Station tells me that he has no instructions regarding the books as to the receipt or disposal for the latter. I should be obliged by you being so good as to send me an Order for the 10<sup>th</sup> annas\* per copy having the extra expenses of binding bill accounted.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. Harvoy

---

\* An anna is a currency (in coin) unit equal to 1/16 rupee.

11. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 1855, asking him for payment of 1200 to John Havory for lithography of History of India.

No.32 of 1855  
General Department

### MEMORANDUM

The Collector of Kurrachee

Rupees 750 (Seven Hundred and fifty) payable to Mr. John Harvoy on account of lithographed 1200 (One thousand two hundred) copies of an abridgement of the History of India including binding and paper debatable to "Sind Education Fund 1854-55".

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
4<sup>th</sup> January 1855  
Kurrachee

12. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1855, for admiring services of Captain Dusternville.

No.361 of 1855  
General Department

MEMORANDUM

The Assistant Commissioner in Scinde presents his compliment to Captain Dunsterville, and request the favour of his making arrangements for lithographing the Sindhi Arithmetic, the first part of which had already been sent to Captain Dunsterville, and the second, will be lithographed in the course of a few days.

I have the honour to be  
Sir

(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Camp Shikarpoore  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 1855

ARITHMETIC (ليکي جي پيڙھ) BY KANDASS AND NANDEERAM

13. Captain Dunsterville presents his Memorandum to Mr. Gibbs, dated 19<sup>th</sup> February 1855, and informs him about lithography of book on Arithmetic.

No.34 of 1855  
General Department

MEMORANDUM

Captain Dunsterville presents his compliments to Mr. Gibbs and begs to inform him with reference to the first book of Arithmetic forwarded to be lithographed, that he has accepted Mr. Bease's offer for doing the same with paper cover for 12 annas\* (the rate usually allowed by Mr. Ellis). If a cloth binding with the lamination cover be thought preferable the price of the copy will be increased by 2 annas or for a rupee altogether for each copy, the binding will be in half. Captain Dunsterville begs to be informed which binding should be selected. The cloth is said to be better for work of this kind, which is one of the constant use.

2. Agreeably to Mr. Ellis' instructions, Khandas Muncharam\* and Nandeeram have been consulted in the lithographing of the book and appears that arithmetic portions of it have been wrongly written, or rather since it has been written, that the method has been reversed by Mr. Ellis. The sums in it are written from right to left but the scholars are being taught from left to right, and Kandass informs me it was settled before Mr. Ellis left that this method should be established as almost every page contains numbers which have now to be inversed it has become imperative to re-write the book in order to prevent mistakes in lithographing it, which is being done by a normal scholar under Kandass superintendence at a cost of 10 Rupees.

3. Khandass further says that this 1<sup>st</sup> book will be largely in requisition as every boy will have to use it, and instead of 1200 copies, there should be 2000 at least, if that number be not done now, it will have to be eventually.

4. The above remarks refer to the 1<sup>st</sup> book only. The 2<sup>nd</sup> book has just come to hand.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Dunsterville,  
Lieutenant  
Judicial Deputy Magistrate

Kuriachee  
19<sup>th</sup> February 1855

\* An anna is a currency (in coin) unit equal to 1/16 rupee.

• Kanandas Munchiram was a school teacher. He was educated from Poona College. He alongwith Nadiram compiled and translated many school books in to Sindhi- The Editor

**14. Assistant Commissioner replying Memorandum of Captain Dusterville, dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 1855.**

No.674 of 1855  
General Department

**MEMORANDUM**

The Assistant Commissioner in Scinde in replying to the Memo of Captain Dusterville, vide No. 34 of 19<sup>th</sup> instant, requests that Captain Dunsterville will be good enough to chose with Mr. Beases' offer to lithograph 1st part of the Scindhi Arithmetic and bind the copies in cloth of fourteen (14) annas\* per copy, a printed English Title page being of course included in the work.

2. The Assistant Commissioner in Scinde understands that Arithmetical rotation had from the first been taught in the normal class from left to right, therefore, the re-writing of 2<sup>nd</sup> Part under the careful supervision of the Kanandas Munchiram appears necessary.

3. As suggested by Captain Dunsterville 2000 copies should be struck off provided that the stores will admit that number of impressions being taken.

By order of  
Assistant Commissioner  
in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
26<sup>th</sup> February 1855

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\* An anna is a currency (in coin) unit equal to 1/16 rupee.

15. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh to Collector Karachi, dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1855, requesting him to collect 2000 copies of Sindhi Arithmetic from Mr. Bease.

No.1694 of 1855  
General Department

### MEMORANDUM

The officiating Collector of Kurrachee is requested to receive from Mr. Bease two thousand (2000) copies of the first Sindee Arithmetic, and pay for the same, the sum of Rupees (Rs.1750) one thousand, seven hundred and fifty being ("14") fourteen annas per copy, Mr. Beases' Bill for which amount is herewith enclosed.

2. The above amount to be debited as usual to School Education Fund, Government for 1855-56.

By order of

(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
17<sup>th</sup> May 1855

**16. Letter from Manager Sindhian Press to Commissioner Sindh, dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 1855, requesting for Rs. 2000 for Arithmetic book.**

To

H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Sindh

Sir,

Having completed half of the 2nd part of Scindee Arithmetic, may I solicit the favour of an advance of Rupees (1000) one thousand on account. The estimate, I agreed to was for 2000 Rupees.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) George Brade  
Manager Sindian Press

Kurrachee  
17<sup>th</sup> September 1855

17. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Manager Sindhian Press, dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 1855, informing him that Collector Karachi has been asked to pay you Rs.1000 in advance.

No.3142 of 1855  
General Department

To

Mr. George Brade  
Manager Sindian Press

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1855

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> September 1855, I have the honour to inform you that the office of Collector Kurrachee has been requested to pay you an advance Rs.1000 one thousand on account of the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Scindee Arithmetic.

By order of  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 1855

18. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1855, asking him to pay Rs.1000 to Mr. Base in advance.

No.1350 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1855

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will pay to Mr. Bease the sum of Rs.1000 (one thousand) in advance of a money of the sum for which he agreed to the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the Sindee Arithmetic.

2. This advance to be adjusted according to the instructions conveyed in my letter No. 3361 of 1853 dated 15<sup>th</sup> November.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Commissioner's office

Kurrachee  
2<sup>nd</sup> October 1855

19. Memorandum from Commissioner Sindh to Collector of Karachi, dated 20<sup>th</sup> November 1855, asking him to pay Rs.25 munshi Fateh Mohammad through Captain Dusterville.

No.3649 of 1855  
General Department

### MEMORANDUM

Forwarded to the Collector of Kurrachee, who is requested to pay the amount of Rupees 25 to Futeh Mohamad Moonshee through Captain Dunsterville, Deputy Magistrate by whom the Moonshee appears to have been engaged. Captain Dunsterville will be aware if the charges are correct.

2. The charge to be debited to Sind Education Fund under my letter No. 3361 dated 15th November 1853.

By order of  
(Signed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
20<sup>th</sup> Noveraber 1855

20. Letter from J. Harvoy to Assistant Commissioner, dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 1855, asking about his bill and cloth binding for the book.

Kurrachee  
24<sup>th</sup> November 1855

To  
Assistant Commissioner in Scinde

Sir,

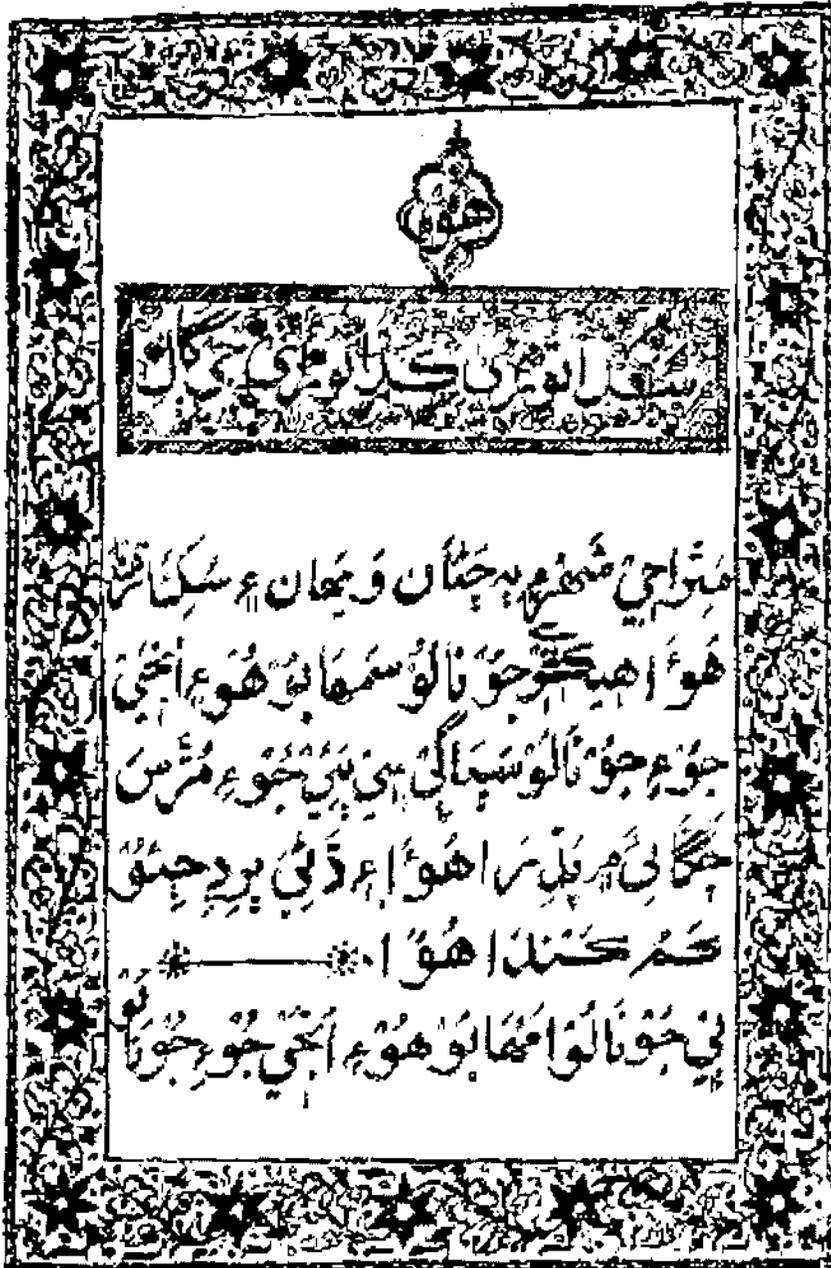
I beg to enclose a copy of the last of the Book's left in my charge by B.H. Ellis Esquire for being lithographed.

2. At the time the proof was got up cloth had not arrived for binding but has since been received and is being used for that purpose, and will be completed in a day or two. I would feel obliged by you having goodness to inform me to whom this Book, together with the History of India should be delivered, as the Deputy Collector in charge Suddar Station at Kurrachee, to whom supplied two months ago on this subject informed me that he had received no instructions regarding it.

3. I should feel further obliged by your obtaining the sanction of the Commissioner in Scinde for the payment of the amount of the enclosed Bill Rs.218.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) J. Harvoy  
Proprietor of S.N press

TITLE PAGE OF SUDDATAROO KUDDATOAROO (سدا تورو ۽ کدا تورو)  
 BY MEERA MOHAMMADSHA



21. Letter from Captain Dunsterville to Collector of Karachi, dated 24<sup>th</sup> February 1856, informing him about delivery of 1200 copies of Sudhatoo Kudhatooro.

No.40 of 1856  
General Department

From

Captain Dunsterville  
Deputy Magistrate  
Kurrachee

To

The Collector of Kurrachee

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> February 1856

Sir,

In reply to your Memo No. 138, dated 15th January 1856, I have the honour to report that 1200 copies of the Suddataroo Kuddataroo have been furnished by Mr. Harvey and 2000 Copies of the 1st Part Sindhee Arithmetic by Mr. Bease.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Ib. Dunsterville, Captain  
Deputy Collector

Kurrachee  
24<sup>th</sup> January 1855

پنٺي زميندار جي ڳال

هي ڪتاب ٻه پنڊت ٻنهي ڌرا جو جوڙيل

هندي وائي ۾ هو هائي جناب فير صبا

ٻاڏ سنڌ جي ڪمشنري حڪم مون هن اپڻ

غلام حسين محمد قاسم قراڻي صديقي جي پٽ جي

رهندڙ جڊيشل ڪمشنر سنڌ ڪارٽيڊ مٺي

سنڌي وائي ۾ جوڙيو آهي سنه ۱۸۵۴ ۽ ۱۲۷۰

۱۰۰۰ جلد

**22. Letter from Deputy Collector Treasury Hyderabad to Deputy Collector Treasury, dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 1855, enquiring about sale of Esop's Fable and Bhanbho Zamindar.**

No. 186 of 1855/56  
General Department

From

The Acting Deputy Collector  
Incharge Treasury  
Hyderabad

To

The Deputy Collector  
Incharge Treasury  
Kurrachee

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> June 1855

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will inform me what head the realizations from sale of the 300 copies of Esops Fables just received at this office should be credited – On receipt of this information the value of the works viz. Rs. 450 will be credited to the Collector of Kurrachee.

2. Would you at the same time favour me with similar information regarding the books 250 Copies of Regulation XIV of 1827 in Scindee, 400 Copies of Bumbha Zamindar in Scindhi received a few months ago.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) W. Dowman  
The Acting Deputy Collector

Collector Office  
Hyderabad  
9<sup>th</sup> June 1855

**23. Letter from Proprietor Karachi Advertiser to Commissioner Sindh, dated 28<sup>th</sup> July 1855, sharing his issues in printing of books.**

To

H.R. Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Sindh  
Kurrachee

Sir,

For some years past before there was any Press or Paper in the Province, I have been Proprietor of the Kurrachee Advertiser Press and Paper, and shortly after the "Sindhian" was established. I was compelled to relinquish the Paper for want of support, and have since been dependent on job works before other lithographic Presses were established. Government work was entrusted to me and I have had the pleasure of affording every satisfaction, but of late, I regret to say that I have not been favoured with any portion of it and for last two months have been without work of any kind. Being entirely dependent on the Press induces me to take the liberty of thus addressing you and begging favour of your patronage and support with a share of the Government Orders.

Trusting you will excuse my thus bothering you.

I am sir,  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Ardseer Roustmjee

28<sup>th</sup> July 1855

**24. Letter from Proprietor Karachi Advertiser to Assistant Commissioner, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 1855, furnishing his tender for books.**

To

H.J. Stewart Esquire  
Assistant Commissioner  
Kurrachee

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> July 1855

Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo, calling for tenders for lithographing two Books.

1<sup>st</sup> A work on Illustration of Planes and solids of about sixty (60) pages.

2<sup>nd</sup> A Book on Sindhee Algebra of four (400) hundred pages.

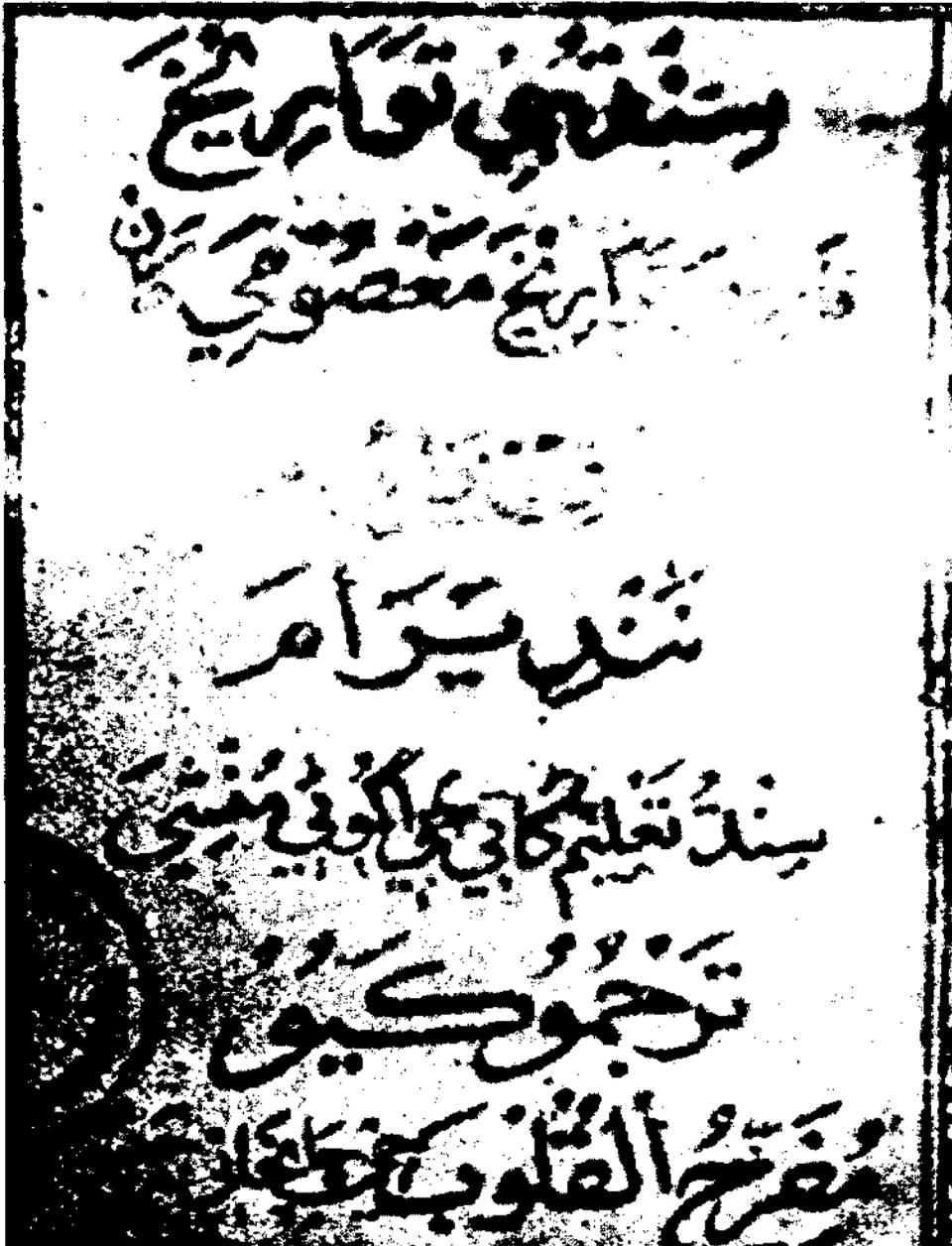
In reply, I herewith beg to tender for the first work the sum of six annas per copy lithographing and binding the same in cloth complete.

For the second work, I beg to tender for the same the sum of /8/ annas per 100 (One hundred) pages, binding with cloth complete.

Three rates on the lowest that have been offered as yet for work of this description and which will barely enumerate more but in offering them I am influenced in the hope of obtaining the order of Government for the future assuring you that, if I am favoured with the job, the work shall be accomplished with the greatest care, and that shall afford every satisfaction therein as I have hither to done.

I am sir,  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Ardeshir Roustamjee

TITEL PAGE OF SINDH JI TARIKH (TARIKH MOUSOMI) TRANSLATED  
BY NANDIRAM



GEORGE STACK'S SINDHI AND ENGLISH DICTIONARY

A

DICTIONARY  
SINDHI AND ENGLISH.

BY  
CAPTAIN GEORGE STACK.

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Printed by Order of the Government of Bombay.

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BOMBAY:  
AMERICAN MISSION PRESS.

I. GRAMER, PRINTER.

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1855.

# 1.

## PREFACE OF THE DICTIONARY

In publishing the present work few words of explanation are necessary, as the author was not spared to complete it and carry it through the Press. This Dictionary was intended by the late Captain Stack as companion volume to the English and Scinde dictionary published by him in 1849 and he had collected the greater part of the materials for the work, when ill health compelled him in that year to leave this country for England. It may indeed be said that this Dictionary was in great measure the cause of Captain Stack's illness: for while he had onerous duties to perform in his office of Deputy Collector at Hyderabad, the extra labour which he imposed on himself in the preparation of the dictionaries so seriously impaired his health that he was obliged to seek change. The design thus temporarily laid aside was not abandoned, and on Captain Stack's return to India, one of his chief inducements to prefer an appointment in Scinde to higher paid post in better climate, was his desire to complete the work now published. The Government of Bombay having authorized the publication, Captain Stack immediately on his return to Scinde in the commencement of 1853 proceeded to revise the materials he had previously collected, to add to them, and to prepare his work for the Press.

At the date of his untimely death (December 1853)\* 160 pages had passed through the Press, and the rest of the work was in different stages of forwardness. From the letter to the end, the sheets for printing had only to be written out and corrected, while the materials for the last nine letters of the Alphabet had yet to be revised, preparatory to their transcription by the copyist for the Press.

It is not to be wondered at if many errors be found in work which has not had the benefit of the author's revision, and especially in Dictionary description of book which from its nature requires more careful scrutiny than perhaps any other. The unfavorable circumstances under which the present Dictionary has been completed will, it is hoped, be accepted in excuse for all such errors, especially for those of omission. It is hardly necessary for me to state that the whole plan of the Dictionary, the labour of collecting materials and in fact any merit which may be accorded to the work are due wholly to the late Captain Stack, and that have no claim whatever to aught but indulgence for the errors which may have negligently allowed to creep in revising the work for the Press.

It is right however to mention that nearly all the names of trees and Botanical words were supplied by the late Dr. Stack, whose extensive acquaintance with the Botany of Scinde rendered his aid peculiarly valuable have the less hesitation in recording this, as am sure Captain

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\* Dictionary of Sindhi and English is a posthumous book of Captain George Stack. The book was completed by Mr. B.H. Ellis. Captain Stack died in December 1853, whereas the book published in 1855. Hence, preface of the book was written by the compiler. The Editor

• Captain Stack died in 1853 in Sindh. His grave must be in Hyderabad- The Editor

Stack would readily have acknowledged the obligation, had he been spared to complete his work. The reasons which induced Captain Stack to print in the Dewanagree character he has slightly touched on in his Preface to the English and Sindhee Dictionary. Lest his views be misunderstood may mention that he frequently assured me, that he adopted the character merely as one generally known to those officers who might be supposed to be the persons most likely to use these books and not with any view to its permanent adoption by Scindhis. Had myself been required to decide the point, do not think should have adopted the same character, but it was obviously better to act and do something which might be useful to large class of students, than to talk and wait for the termination of an apparently interminable controversy to settle Scindhi character for universal adoption.

Whatever may be the defects of the present work, believe that Captain Stack's labours will be thankfully acknowledged by any students of Scindhi previously acquainted with the Dewanagree character, and this includes most of the Civil and Military officers who are likely to learn Sindhi. may further confidently assert that future authors of Sindhee Dictionaries, will in no small degree be indebted to Captain Stack for their materials, and whether such obligations be acknowledged or not, it is hoped that generous public will not fail to appreciate the labors of the first Sindhee Lexicographer. It may be right to mention that in the composition of the Dictionary, Captain Stack was assisted at first by Pundit Brahm Suchdanund, and subsequently by Pundit Jeshta Brahm or Jetaram both of Hyderabad\*

B.H.Ellis  
December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1854.

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\* The Arabic- Sindhi version of Sindh and English Dictionary of Captain Stack was also prepared by Munshi Meera Muhammad Shah. But due to the will and desire of captain Stack, the Government of Bombay finally decided to publish it into Dewnagari character, in which Captain Stack had compiled it- The Editor

**2. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, dated 26<sup>th</sup> February 1855, directing to dispense services of Munshi working for Dictionary of Stack.**

No.883 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Civil Auditor  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> February 1855

Sir,

Copies of the Resolution passed by Government under dated the 18<sup>th</sup> January 1855 , on a communication from the Civil Auditor No. 166 dated 14<sup>th</sup> idem , submitting an audit Para on a Bill for expenses incurred by Mr. B.H Ellis, Assistant Commissioner in Scinde , in employing a Moonshee to assist in completing a Scindee and English Dictionary.

2. This Moonshee was employed to assist in the compilation of Scindee and English Dictionary.
3. The charge from 1st May to 31st October 1854 to be passed.
4. The Commissioner in Scinde having reported to Government under dated 22nd December last, that the last sheets of the Dictionary had been sent to the press, Government presumes that the services of the Moonshee have now been dispensed with.

I have the honour to be Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
26<sup>th</sup> February 1855

3. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to President in Council, dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 1855, updating him on the Dictionary of Stack.

No.132 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Right Honourable  
Lord Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council

Date: 31<sup>st</sup> March 1855

My Lord,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the secretary to government's letter as per Margin- and in reply to state that the last sheet of Scindee and English Dictionary has been dispatched by Mr. B.H Ellis , Assistant Commissioner in Scinde but have been not yet received from Lieutenant Dunsterville , Deputy Collector, at Muhammad Khan's Tanda, has kindly offered to contact the press and superintended completion of the work and the Moonshee has been placed under that officer for that purpose. A report of the completion will be forwarded hereafter.

No. 883 of 26th July 1855  
asking thereto the Scindee  
and English Dictionary by  
Mr. B.H. Ellis and the  
Moonshee employed therein

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
31st March 1855

No. 1092

True copies forwarded Gov. Deptt: to Lieutenant Dunsterville , Deputy Collector ,at Muhammad Khan's Tanda, with request that he will inform me when the Dictionary will be ready and the Moonshee's services dispensed with .

I have the honour to be Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
31<sup>st</sup> March 1855

4. Letter from Lieutenant Dunsterville to Commissioner Sindh, dated 9<sup>th</sup> April 1855, 31<sup>st</sup> March 1855, requesting for retention of services of the Munshi for the Dictionary of Stack.

No.3 of 1855  
General Department

From

Lieutenant Dunsterville,  
Deputy Collector  
Muhammad Khan's Tanda

To

Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> April 1855

Sir,

In acknowledging the receipt of your endorsement, No. 1092 of 1855, General Department, dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 1855, copies of correspondence as per Margin- I have the honour to state that I have now received one form awaiting for correction which will be forwarded to the Press corrected.

No. 883 of 26<sup>th</sup> July 1855 from Secretary Hart to Civil Auditor and Commissioner in Scinde, No. 132 of 1855 of 31<sup>st</sup> March reply there to

2. The Pundit informs me that there are four (4) forms of the original Dictionary yet to be received from Bombay for correction, as well as a supplement compiled by Mr. B.H. Ellis, which will probably be compared in a single form.

3. Should these be received from Bombay within the current month the Pundit's service will be not be required on this work after its expiration but if Government wishes the labour of Captain Stack in the compilation of his dictionary to be made generally useful to the community both European and Native, should earnestly recommend its transcription in the Arabic Sindhi Character.

4. For this purpose, if approved any services (if more better can be obtained) and very much at the disposal of Government, and it will afford me much gratification to be able to

employ the little leisure may have in a work which will consider be likely to prove of great utility , both to my brother officers and the people whose interests are identified with mine.

5. It would I think greatly increase the utility of the proposed work of the Dictionary were to be thoroughly revised and each addenda made as might be available, I would concurrenee with the English and Sindhi Dictionary as any deficiencies which may exist in that portion of the work will more readily present themselves to my notice than those of the Sindhi and English now passing through the Press.

6. The services of preset Pundit should I think be retained for two months (after the conclusion of the present work) to aid in the first transcription of the Sindhi words from the Shastree into the Arabic Sindhi character:

- This salary would amount to Rs.60.
- Pay to Mohammadan Moonshee for 6 months at the rate of 30 Rupees.
- Per mensem ----- Rs. 180
- 4 Copies of the English and Sindhi Dictionary are required in the preparation of the work  
Rs. 3 each Rs. 12.
- Paper pens etc. etc: Say Rs. 23
- Total Rupees Rs. 275

7. This sum would I think suffice to get the work ready for the press and if sanctioned by you I will arrange so as to secure the services of one able Muhammadan Moonshee from the date on which the employment of the Pundit on the present work cease and the latter can at once cooperate with the former from the date of his engagement.

8. In conclusion, I would solicit the favour of early intiuation of your wishes on the subject in order that I may loose no time in carrying them into effect.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Dunsterville,  
Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Muhammad Khan's Tanda  
9<sup>th</sup> April 1855

5. **Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor in Council, 13<sup>th</sup> April 1855, requesting him for retention of services of Munshi and updating on progress made in the printing of the Dictionary captain of Stack.**

No.159 of 1855  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Lord Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council

Dated: 13<sup>th</sup> April 1855

My Lord,

In continuation of my letter No.132 of the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo, in continuation of the Resolution as per Margin- I have the honour to remark that Captain Stack's Dictionaries are printed in the Dewnagree character, which was selected not only as the most expert known medium of representing the sounds of the language of Hindoo origin and as the most acceptable to the Hindoo portion of the Community but as being at the time captian Stack wrote the only suited alphabet which had been systematically adopted to the Scindee language. It is also perhaps on the whole the most usual alphabet which would have been adopted this which an European could learn the language.

No. 883 of 26th July 1855  
from Secretary Hart to Civil  
Auditor and Commissioner  
in Scinde , No. 132 of 1855  
of 31st March reply to

2. But it is comparatively useless to Moohamadans who are roughly estimated at about ¼th of the whole population, I doubt, if a dozen Indian could be found able to read the character, and they have a peculiar prejudice against it as instruction of an object of vinevation to idolaters.

3. Moreover, since Captain Stack's English and Sindhi Dictionary was within knowledge of Scindee intended so that Dictionary does not contain more than a portion of the Scindee words now known. This would render a new edition which should including the late additions to our knowledge of the language very desirable.

4. Lieutenant Dunsterville, as Govt. is aware is now employed in revising the press of Captain Stack's Scindee Dictionary with the addition made by Mr. Ellis. He writes as follows in reference to the present letter to which this letter is in reply:

"I have the honour to state that I have now one form awaiting correction which will be forwarded to the superintendent Press corrected by tonorows post".

"The Pundit informs me that there are four (4) forms of the original Dictionary yet to be received from American Mission Press, Bombay for correction, as well as a supplement compiled by B.H Ellis, which will probably be compared in a single form".

"Should these be received from Bombay within the current month the Pundit's services will not be required on this work after its expiration but if Government wishes the labour of Captain Stack in the compilation of his dictionary to be made generally useful to the community both European and Native should earnestly recommend its transcription in the Arabic Sindhi character".

"For this purpose, if approved my services (if were better can be obtained) are very much at the disposal of Government, and it will afford me much gratification to be able to employ the little leisure I may have in a work which will I consider likely to prove of great utility, both to my brother officers and the people whose interests are identified with mine".

"It would I think greatly increase the utility of the proposed work of the Dictionary were to thoroughly revised and such addenda made as might be available, I would commence with the English and Sindhee Dictionary as any deficiencies which may exist in that portion of the work will more readily present themselves to my notice than those of the Sindhee and English now passing through the Press".

"The services of present Pundit should' I think, be retained for two months (after the conclusion of the present work) to aid in the first transcription of the Sindhee words from the Shastree into the Arabic Sindhi character.

- His salary would amount to Rs.60 per month.
- Pay to Mohammadan Moonshee for 6 months at the rate of 30 Rupees.
- Per mensem ----- Rs. 180
- 4 Copies of the English and Sindhi Dictionary are required in the preparation of the work as 3 each----- Rs.12.
- Paper Press etc. etc. Say Rs. 23
- Total Rupees Rs. 275

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♦ Syed Meera Muhammad Shah, who was working as Munshi of Lt. Dunsterville- was employed to transcribe Captain Stack's both dictionaries in the Arabic Sindhi- The Editor

“This sum would, I think, suffice to get the work ready for the press and if sanctioned by you I will arrange so as to secure the services of one able Muhammadan Moonshee from the date on which the employment of the Pundit on the present work cease and the latter can at once cooperate with the former from the date of his engagement”.

“In conclusion, I would solicit the favour of any early attending intimation of your wishes on the subject in order that I may loose no time in carrying them into effect”.

5. I think Lieutenant Dunsterville has underestimated the probable time and expense required but as the work will be one of such utility and the rate of the cost may be changed, even if the time occupied should be four fold that estimated. I should recommend that his public spirited offer be accepted.

6. A new edition of Captain Stack’s Dictionary need not interfere with Dr. Trumpp’s proposed work. The latter will be a work of a fresh research of high level ethnologist and proper philologist. I have no doubt it will be considered a new valuable occassion to European stores of oriental literature than Captain Stack’s can pretend to be, but this latter will be of immediate practical value in promoting an acquisition of the Scindee language by Englishman and English by Scindees. The object of the two works are distinct and both are in my humble opinion deserving of that support from Government without which neither could well be carried out.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner’s office  
Kurrachee  
13<sup>th</sup> April 1855

6. **Memorandum from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1855, conveying approval on the recommendation of Dunsterville.**

No. 1623 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

**MEMORANDUM**

Each of the Authorities whose names or official designations are noted above is to understand that the following Copy or Extract of Resolution (together with any Papers may be appended) is sent for his information and guidance (as the case may be) , and for the issue of such subsidiary orders as may appear necessary for giving effect to the views of Government.

It is also to be understood that a Copy or an Extract of the Resolution has been likewise furnished to all Authorities whose names or official designations are prefixed.

The same number, as above, is fixed to each copy sent to the different Authorities.

In official correspondence the number and the date of the Secretary's Memorandum should be quoted, and not the date of the Government Resolution.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
3<sup>rd</sup> May 1855

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Letter from the Commissioner in Scinde  
No. 139, dated 13th April 1855

Recommending for acceptance and offer by Lieutenant Dunsterville to prepare for the press a new edition of Captain Stack's Scindee and English Dictionary.

Resolution of Government on the above, dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1855

Mr. Frere may be authorized to thank Lieutenant Dunsterville for his offer and to avail himself of his services as recommended in Mr. Frere's 5 Para.

2. He should be instructed to report as soon as possible, the precise expenditure requisite.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

7. Letter from Lieutenant Dunsterville to Commissioner Sindh, 23<sup>th</sup> May 1855, updating on progress made in the printing of the Dictionary of Stack.

No.5 of 1855  
General Department

From

Lieutenant Dunsterville,

To

The Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 25<sup>th</sup> May 1855

Sir,

I tendering you my best thanks for the flattering may in which you were pleased in Para 5 of your letter No. 159 of the 13th April 1855 to recommend to the Government my offer to prepare a new edition of Captain Stack's Dictionary, I do myself the honour to state, with reference to the request contained in your memorandum, No.1727 of 1855, dated 18<sup>th</sup> instant, that it is not clear to me from the documents forwarded whether by the work referred to is meant both parts of the Dictionary or only that estimated for in my letter No 2 viz. the English and Scindi.

2. Even that, I fear, is considerably underestimated, as on going over the Dictionary since my last communication, I find the number of omissions to be supplied and corrections to be made greater than I had expected.

3. Having, however, once submitted the estimate for your approval, I should not brought this fact to your notice, as I consider that the information I should probably make in my knowledge of the language would sufficiently repay little experience I might be subjected to in taking up the work on an inadequate estimate.

4. But I have reflect that it would be improper in me to runaway such risk, in as much as in the event of any contingency occurring to interrupt my labour. Such want of forethought on my part might prove a serious hindrance to the continuance of the work through the agency of others.

5. If, therefore, you will favour me with instructions as to whether it is your wish I should estimate the expense of preparing a new edition of both parts of the work for the press. I will loose no time in submitting such an one as will be calculated to bear the test of trial under all ordinary circumstances.

6. The contingent expenses attending the preparation of the work will be so small that the estimate may be considered as a mere question of time and as soon as I can with any degree of accuracy determine the period which will probably be required for its completion, will loose no time in submitting the result for your information and approval.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Dunsterville, Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Muhammad Khan's Tanda  
25<sup>th</sup> May 1855

8. **A Memorandum, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June 1855, from Commissioner to the Civil Auditor along with Persian written bills.**

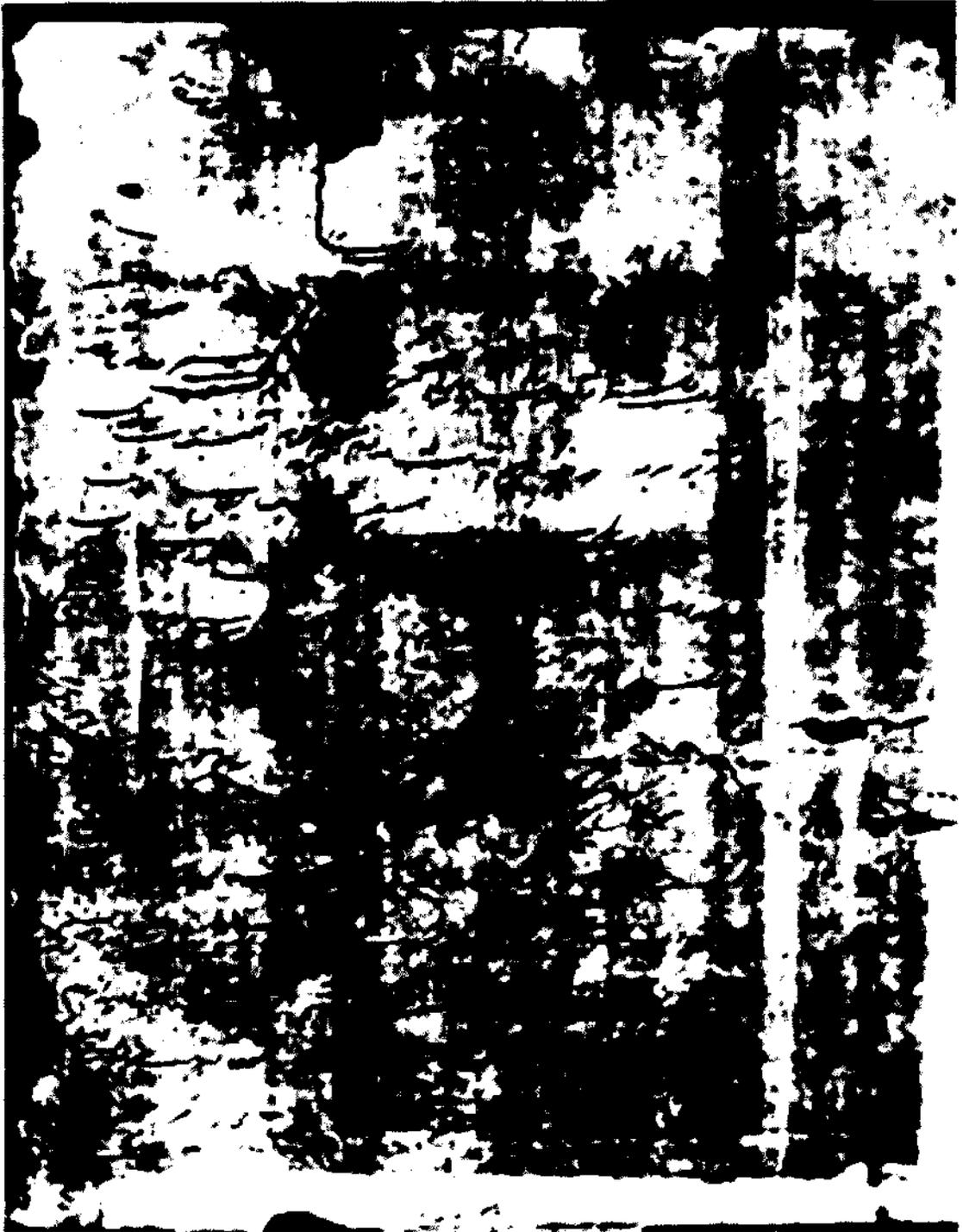
No.2114 of 1855  
General Department

**MEMORANDUM**

The Commissioner in Scinde begs to inform the civil auditor in reference to his letter of the 8th instant, that the Commissioner in replying your No.883 of the 18th July last, reported that sheets had not been corrected and the services of Moonshee had been placed under Lieutenant Dunsterville who had offered to correct the press superintendent the compositor of the Dictionary – the bills are herewith returned.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
22<sup>nd</sup> June 1855



Original copy of bills written in Persian

در وقت الترتیب فی سبیله و بیرونه کلکند منزه از کل امر لیهبت خراب گیسو  
 در پیش رفتن کشته عیب ایلم ندره رفیع می خفت از عیال و برائی  
 جسته بیست بقدره ملک ۱۶۷۰  
 [Signature]

امروز بر کسب عیب بر آگشت رسید بهت لغت الترتیب عیب ایلمی کلکند منزه که جان تریتم سیزده که از این سیزده  
 اینان کوانده دگر نیز بر آه نام است بهت بهت که در آن الطبع از آن وقت عقد در امر ۱۶۷۰  
 [Signature]

[Signature]

Original copy of bills written in Persian

9. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, 20<sup>th</sup> December 1855, informing him about progress on the printing of the Dictionary of Stack.

No. 2554 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> August 1855

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, No. 325, dated 7<sup>th</sup> August 1855, and to acquaint you that agreeably to the suggestion therein made, half the impression of the Scindee and English Dictionary will be forwarded to you that you may make arraignments for its sale in the Province of Scinde.

2. Only twenty two copies of the Dictionary have as yet been bound. This number is forwarded to you by the present opportunity the remaining copies intended for Scinde will be hereafter sent.

3. The cost to Government of the Printing and binding of these Books will be as follows:

Printing 500 Vols: (inclusion of Paper)	Rs. 2200
Binding ditto at 9 ½ annas per Vol:	Rs. 296/14
Total	Rupees 2496.14

4. The selling price at Bombay has therefore been fixed at Rupees 5.4 (Five and four annas) per copy. The price of the books in Scinde, however, should be some what higher so as to cover the cost of carriage.

I have the honour to be  
Your most obedient servant  
Sir  
(Signed) W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
20<sup>th</sup> August 1855

**10. Letter from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, 20<sup>th</sup> December 1855, informing him about completion of the printing of the Dictionary of Stack.**

No. 2264 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> August 1855

Sir,

The Superintendent of the American Mission Press having reported the completion of the printing of the late Captain Stack's Scindee and English Dictionary the Right Honourable Governor in Council requests that you will favour Government with your opinion as to the steps which should be taken for making it available to the public.

2. The Superintendent of the Press has been requested to invite tenders for the proper binding of the Dictionary, the result of which will be communicated to you.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
20<sup>th</sup> August 1855

11. **Circular from Commissioner Sindh to all Collectors of Sindh, 29<sup>th</sup> August 1855, informing them that Sindhi to English Dictionary of G. Stack is ready for sale.**

No. 2834 of 1855  
General Department

### CIRCULAR

To

- The three Collectors
- Collector in Upper Sindh
- Captain of Police

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Sindhee & English Dictionary of late Captain Stack has been published and that copies may now be had for sale at the Book Repository at Kurrachee English School.

2. Any number of Copies that you may require will be supplied on application.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> August 1855

Notice-

(For Newspapers)

For sale at the Government Repository at Kurrachee English School, Sindhi and English Dictionary by late Captain Stack. Price Rs. 5 ½ per copy

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> August 1855

12. Letter from Lieutenant Dunsterville to Commissioner Sindh, 1<sup>st</sup> October 1855, submitting expected expenditure on the printing of the Dictionary of Stack.

No.175 of 1855  
General Department

From

Deputy Collector  
Muhammad Khan's Tanda

To

Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 1<sup>st</sup> October 1855

Sir,

With reference to former correspondence on the subject, I now do myself the honour to submit herewith for your approval and sanction an estimate of the probable expenses that will be incurred in transmitting both parts of Captain Stack's Dictionary in the Arabic Sindhi character.

2. In having a slight margin I have endeavoured to anticipate every contingency that may possibly occur without I trust exceeding the limits of proper economy.

3. The present estimate is formed on two months practical experience of the work and if sanctioned should have effect from the 1st August last to meet the expenses of Pundit's pay and other contingencies since that date.

4. The time I have allowed for the compilation both parts is two or 27 years. Estimate is given below:

No.	Description	Rupees
	Pay to Pundit @ 30 Rupees per month for 6 months of tour in each year being 12 months	360
	Ditto @ Rs.25 for the other 6 months in each year	300
	Proposed gratuity Deputy Collector for transcribing 200 pages at 3rd Class Section rate ½ ---- per page	62.8

	2 Reams and 2 quires of papers (foolscap) @ Rs.10 per ream	21
	Pens and Ink	12
	One Copy of English and Sindhi Dictionary	3.8
	One Copy of Sindhi and English Dictionary	3.4
	Total	461.12.0
	Add 5% of contingencies	38
	Total	799.12
	Say	800

5. I would propose to submit a statement of actual expenditure at the end of a labour month.

I have the honour to be  
 Sir  
 Your most obedient servant  
 Dunsterville, Lieutenant  
 Deputy Collector

Muhammad Khan's Tanda  
 1<sup>st</sup> October 1855

**13. Memorandum from Secretary to Government of India to Commissioner Sindh, 10<sup>th</sup> October 1855, directing him to issue explanation Notice to Lt. Dunsterville.**

No. 3024 of 1855  
General Department

To  
The Acting Civil Auditor  
Commissioner in Scinde

**MEMORANDUM**

Each of the Authorities whose names or official designations are noted above is to understand that the following Copy or Extract of Resolution (together with any Papers may be appended) is sent for his information and guidance (as the case may be) , and for the issue of such subsidiary orders as may appear necessary for giving effect to the views of Government.

It is also to be understood that a Copy or an Extract of the Resolution has been likewise furnished to all Authorities whose names or official designations are prefixed.

The same number, as above, is fixed to each copy sent to the different Authorities.

In official correspondence the number and the date of the Secretary's Memorandum should be quoted, and not the date of the Government Resolution.

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
10<sup>th</sup> October 1855

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Memo from the Acting Civil Auditor  
No. 112, dated 28th September 1855

Submitting for orders an Bills amounting together to Rupees 90, for expenses incurred in employing a Moonshee to assist in the completion of a Scindee and English Dictionary during the

months of May, June and July 1855.

Resolution of Government on the above, dated 8th October 1855-

In his letter dated 31st March No. 132 of 1855 the Commissioner in Scinde stated that the services of the Moonshee would be retained until the printing of the Scindee and English Dictionary had been completed, with the view to his assisting Lieutenant Dunsterville in the correction of the Press, and under this intimation, bills for the salary of the Moonshee for the months of February, March and April were passed by the Government on 31st July last.

2. A similar charge is now preferred for the month of May, June and July. Government can not understand this charge as the completion of the dictionary was reported on 5th July, so that it would seem that no duty in connection with that work could have been performed by the Moonshee for a great portion of the period for which salary is claimed.

3. Before, however, passing final orders in the case, the Governor in Council desires that Lieutenant Dunsterville shall be called upon through the Commissioner in Scinde, for such explanation as can be afforded of the irregularity above noticed.

(True copy)

W. HART  
Secretary to Government

14. Memorandum from Secretary to Government of India, 16th October 1855, sending Sindhi to English Dictionary of G. Stack.

No. 3084 of 1855  
General Department

MEMORANDUM

With reference to Para 2 of the Government letter No. 2554 dated 20th August 1855, the Secretary to Government, begs to forward to the Commissioner in Scinde, Seventy eight copies of the Sindhi and English Dictionary, which with the number formerly sent will make one hundred copies.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
16<sup>th</sup> October 1855

15. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor in Council, 30<sup>th</sup> October 1855, giving explanation on the behalf of Lt. Dunsterville.

No.449 of 1855  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Lord Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> October 1855

My Lord,

On the subject of the Scindee Dictionary regarding which I addressed you in my letter dated the 13<sup>th</sup> April, No. 159, I have the honour now to request that in accordance with the Government resolution forwarded with the Secretary's Memo No. 1623 of 3rd May, I called upon Lieutenant Dunsterville for an estimate of the precise expenditure and enclose a copy of that officer's reply, from which it appears that he estimated the probable expenses of the both English & Scindee and Scindee & English dictionaries from the Dewnagri to Arabic Scindee character to be Rs. 1000 and that the probable time required will be three to four years from the 1st August last.

2. To the proposition in Lieutenant Dunsterville's letter I have to solicit the sanction of your Lordship in Council.

3. I take this opportunity of replying to the Resolution of Government as per Secretary's Memo No. 3024 of 10th October 1855 assumed entirely on out the apperant irregularity Lieutenant Dunsterville having employed the Moonshee in the months of May, June & July, and beg to submit the following explanation on behalf of Lieutenant Dunsterville:

4. On the 31st March, I requested to Lieutenant Dunsterville to inform me when the both English & Scindee and Scindee & English Dictionaries, when the ready and services of the Moonshee dispensed with sending them at the same time, a copy of the letter, No. 132 of the 31<sup>st</sup> of June last and his reply of 9th April was enclosed in my subsequent letter No. 159, dated 13<sup>th</sup> April 1855, when Lieutenant Dunsterville in proposing that the Dictionaries might be

transcribed with the Arabic Scindee character and Devnagree character together and recommended that the pandit should be retained for two months more and that a Moonshee should be entertained at Rs.30 per mensem for 6 months.

5. I was requested to thank Lieutenant Dunsterville for his offer, and to avail myself of his service, I do not doubt but that Lieutenant Dunsterville has estimated to employ the Pundit or Moonshee in the work of transcribing the dictionary and considered himself authorized to do so, and under these circumstances I would suggest that the bills referred to, be passed without requiring any further explanation from him.

6. All expenses up to in the August 1855 corrected with the dictionary would then be paid and the sum of Rs. 1000 which sanction is now solicited would become available for the current expenses from that date.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
30<sup>th</sup> October 1855

16. Letter from Commissioner Sindh to Governor in Council, 1st November 1855, updating on progress made in the printing of the Dictionary of Stack.

No.3424 of 1855  
General Department

To

The Right Honourable  
Lord Elphinstone  
Governor and President in Council

My Lord,

In continuation of my earlier letter No No.449 of 1855, dated 30th October 1855, I have the honour to add that I am not certain that I have made it quite clear that there are 02 separate books on which the Moonshee has been employed viz first in passing through Press the Scindee and English (Dewnagri Character) of the late Captain Stack's , which is now finished and Secondly, in transcribing the book of Captain Stack into the Arabic Character now equally used in Sind. In the course of this transcription Lieutenant Dunsterville is greatly engagement with work of Captain Stack, so that the work will be not merely transcribed but greatly enlarged.

I have the honour  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Singed) Bartle Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
1<sup>st</sup> November 1855

**17. Letter from Lieutenant Dunsterville to Commissioner Sindh, 23<sup>th</sup> May 1855, updating on progress made in the printing of the Dictionary of Stack and thanking for giving explanation on his behalf.**

No. 3484 of 1855  
General Department

To  
Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> November 1855

Sir,

I am directed by the Right Honourable Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 449 dated 31st October 1855.

2. In reply, I am desired to observe that it appears from your letter that simultaneously with the offer made by Lieutenant Dunsterville in the month of April to mediate the transcription of Captain Stack's Dictionary from the Dewnagree to Arabic Scindee character, that officer asked for permission to retain the services of his Pundit or Moonshee to assist him in this duty, and that on the Government accepting the offer of his services, Lieutenant Dunsterville considered himself at liberty to employ the Moonshee upon the proposed duty during the following months of May, June and July.

3. Under these circumstances, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council has been pleased to sanction the bills for the salary of the Moonshee during the months above alluded to amounting Rupees (90) ninety checked upon audit by the civil Auditor and submitted by that officer for the order of Government under dated the 28th of the last September.

4. The probable cost of the transcription in the Arabic Scindee character is estimated in your letter to be about Rs.1000 which sum I am desired to intimate may, as proposed by you be made available from the 1st August towards defraying the current expenses from that date, the bills above allowed to being considered applicable to all expense up to that date incurred an account of the Dictionary referred to.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) W. HART  
Secretary to Government

Bombay Castle  
28<sup>th</sup> November 1855

18. Letter from Lieutenant Dunsterville to Commissioner Sindh, 18th December 1855, thanking him for his trust on him and requesting that funds may be placed at his disposal.

No.224 of 1855  
General Department

From

The Deputy Collector  
Muhammad Khan's Tanda

To

H.B E. Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated 18<sup>th</sup> December 1855

Sir,

In doing myself the honour of acknowledging receipt of your endorsement No. 3873, General Department, dated 12<sup>th</sup> instant, forwarding a copy of Mr. Secretary W. Hart's letter No. 3484, General Department, dated 28<sup>th</sup> ultimo, for my information and guide with reference to former correspondence, I beg you will permit me to return you my best thanks for the kind trouble you have taken on my behalf in procuring sanction for Pundit Jeshta Bhirman's arrears of pay and for my estimate for the transcription of the Scindee Dictionary.

2. To enable me to avail myself of the latter sum, I would beg the favour of an order on the Collector of Hyderabad authorizing him to disburse such sums within the limit sanctioned as I may apply for from time to time.

3. Further, I would suggest that such sums should be paid to me in my passing receipts for them, contingent Bills being furnished by me monthly or quarterly (as may be ordered by you) instead of with each item of expenditure as heretofore.

I have the honour to be  
Your most obedient servant  
Sir  
(Signed) Dunsterville,  
Lieutenant  
Deputy Collector

Muhammad Khan's Tanda  
18<sup>th</sup> December 1855

## **REPORTS ON THE EDUCATION OF SINDH**

H.B.E Frere, Commissioner in Sindh

B. H. Ellis, Assistant Commissioner in Sindh

C.J Erskine, Director Public Relations

Captain Lester, Educational Inspector of Sindh Division

1. **A letter from Commissioner in Sindh to the Director of Public Relations, Bombay, dated 24<sup>th</sup> December 1855 for forwarding Report of B.H. Ellis on the Education of Sindh.**

No.3969 of 1855  
General Department

From

H.B.E Frere, Esq.,  
Commissioner in Sind

To,

C.J. Erskine, Esq  
Director of Public Instruction  
Bombay

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> December 1855

Sir,

I have deeply to regret and apologies for the length of time during which your letters, noted in the Margin- have remained unanswered, and the Report now enclosed, from Mr. B.H Ellis, A.C.S., has lain by me. My only excuse is that it was my wish, in handing up the report to state more fully and perfectly than the time at my command has permitted, the details which you ought to possess regarding the present state of Education, and the suggestions which occur to me for its extension and improvement.

Nos.343 and 706 of the 21<sup>st</sup> May, and 6<sup>th</sup> November last regarding the Organization of an Educational Agency in Sind.

2. Mr. Ellis's very interesting Report is so full that it might have justified my doing at first from choice what I am compelled now to do from want of time, namely submitting it as it stands, as a very full exposition of what has been done in the way of inquiry and preparation, as well as of what it is proposed to do.

3. I may here remark that the labour of correspondence on the subject, and of arranging all details, fell almost exclusively upon Mr. Ellis, in whose general views I entirely concur. He had mastered Sindee to an extent little if at all inferior to Captains Stack or Burton, whom the Sindees used to consider the only two Europeans early qualified as critical Sindee scholars; and he devoted a great portion of his time to collecting, composing, or revising the Sindee works, the publication of which was a necessary preliminary to anything more than rudimentary education.

4. In his report now forwarded, he has but briefly adverted to a branch of the subject which cost him great labour, and which was of the utmost importance, as a preliminary step to any attempt at education in Sindee, I mean the selection of the character in which it should be written.

5. You will find on record two Memoranda addressed to my predecessor, Mr. Pringle, on this subject- one by the late Captain Stack, advocating the adoption of a Hindooised alphabet, selected from one or other of the many alphabets, or rather systems of short-hand writing, current among the Hindoo inhabitants of Sind; the other by Captain Burton, advocating the adoption of the Arabic character. Each is unanswerable, according as the reader looks at the question from a Hindoo or Mahomedan point of view. And the most difficult part of the dilemma, in deciding between them, arises from the fact that while the language itself has a Hindoo origin and genius, belonging undoubtedly to that great family of languages which acknowledges Sanscrit as its most perfect type and while a large portion of the government servants are Hindoos, between two-thirds and three-fourth of the people are Mahomedans, and look to Arabic and Persian as their classic languages. It would be difficult to say which of these two sections of the population is the more bigoted, or the less inclined to adopt anything however remotely connected with the rival faith.

6. In fact both Captain Stack and Captain Burton are right as far as the section of the community they respectively represent is concerned; and after the most careful and dispassionate consideration, Mr. Ellis, who judged the question with as much scholarly acumen and knowledge as practical-sagacity, agreed with the impressions which I had formed on looser data-that was as hopeless to teach the Hindoos generally to read their own language in an Arabic character, as it would be to induce the Mahomedans to adopt generally a system of writing which they would consider as more than savouring of rank idolatry.

7. To attain that general enlightenment which can alone put an end to such prejudices; it appeared to us absolutely necessary to teach both parties to read their own language in their own way. As Mr. Ellis points out, the example of the North-West provinces and he might have added of Germany-proves that the coexistence of two distinct alphabets is less practically inconvenient than would be at first supposed. But whether inconvenient or not, there is no escape from the difficulty; and if Government were exclusively to adopt either the Hindoo or Arabic character as the sole medium of Sindee education, the result must be to condemn either the Mahomedan, and more formidably prejudiced majority, or the Hindoo, the trading and money-making minority, to many generations of ignorance.

8. The reasons which induced us to commence with the Arabic alphabet are glanced at by Mr. Ellis. The Persian language, written in character essentially identical, has been the official language of record and account; and no Sindee official, Hindoo or Mahomedan, need be many days or even hours in learning to read Sindee in any character derived from the Arabic. Moreover, there are a few, though very few, books extant in Sindee, written in the Arabic character, with the addition of a few dots, to distinguish letters which have no Arabic representative. The

system on which these additional letters were invented was not uniform; but the fact was sufficient to show how little practical difficulty existed in adapting the Arabic alphabet to the expression of Sindee sounds.

9. With great pains, Mr. Ellis selected the best of the various letters so offered to his choice, adding a few which were necessary to express some uncommon sounds, and to make the alphabet theoretically complete; and by lithographing copies, and insisting upon its being learned by all the inferior Government servants, the introduction of the alphabet has been fairly accomplished.

10. It was not to be expected that such a work would escape criticism. Mr. Ellis's most formidable assailant was the Rev. Doctor Trumpp, a scholar whose attainments would entitle his opinions to respect even in Germany, and whose scholarship is of a depth and extent rarely met with in India. He held that he had demonstrated that the dots whereby Mr. Ellis converted an Arabic d or t into the guttural, or cerebral, or pectoral dh or th known only in the Sindee language, had not been fixed on the same principles which guided the original inventors of the Arabic character in dotting the letters, the use of which has become so universal.

11. I am free to confess that it did not appear very clear to me that the original inventors had any very fixed principles in distributing these dots; or that if they had, those principles were now very clear. But, as a practical question, it seemed certain that no good could come from distributing an alphabet just when it had been introduced, until Doctor Trumpp had determined how those principles were to be applied in dotting the new letters, which, by some device or another, must be distinguished from the orthodox Arabic letters, which slightly differ from them in sound. For most of what Doctor Trumpp considered Mr. Ellis's solecisms, Mr. Ellis could quote the authority of Sindee scholars, who had invented and used the objectionable dots for several generations past, and from whose works Mr. Ellis had borrowed them. After much controversy it appeared that Doctor Trumpp's objections were insuperable only as regarded three or four letters, which very rarely occur. It seemed, therefore, to me practically useless to make any alteration in Mr. Ellis's alphabet, at least until Doctor Trumpp should have matured a better, and till he shall have actually employed it, as he contemplates doing, in a copious dictionary and grammar, and selection of reading lessons, on the preparation of which he was engaged when forced by ill health temporarily to leave the country.

12. I may observe that the points at issue will hardly more affect the mode of writing than the different ways in which different English writing-masters teach their pupils to write F, and T, M, N, and S.

13. The selection of a Hindoo alphabet for adoption in all Government business and publications, and it may be hoped for ultimate general adoption by the community, has not yet been effected. It is a matter of rather more difficulty than the adaptation of the Arabic character to Sindee, in as much as the variety of the alphabets in use is greater, and whichever may be

selected, it must be supplied with a complete set of vowel marks, which are almost universally omitted in the Hindoo alphabets now used. I had hoped this most desirable object might have been soon effected, had Mr. Wishwanath Narayan remained in Sind; but his removal has deferred the attainment of this object, though I hope to no very distant period.

14. Annexed is a copy of a circular I have latterly issued regarding annual examinations and a system rewarding the best pupils, either by scholarships, or a footing in the Government service, which I propose to recruit exclusively from this source. To carry out the system, however, the assistance of a thoroughly qualified Inspector, under your order, seems to me essential.

15. Mr. Ellis's 105th paragraph gives a summary of the plan which we had intended to pursue. I think that an annual grant of at least Rs.25,000 will be required to carry it out.

16. Perhaps at present the most pressing want is that of some qualified Inspector, under your general superintendence, to devote his whole attention to the subject. He should have under him at least two subordinates, one a Mahomedan and the other Hindoo, not less highly qualified than the provincial superintendents of Schools in India. If these latter are drawn from the ranks of educated Natives in Bombay, I think you will find it necessary to give higher pay than would content them in our older provinces.

17. The salaries and establishments of these officers will amount to much more than 4,800 per annum, which is the sum estimated by Mr. Ellis (vide the two first items of statement G) for some time to come, the other items of charge in that statement will be within the sums estimated by Mr. Ellis; but upon the whole, I am convinced that Rs. 25,000 per annum is a moderate estimate of the charge of doing anything very effectual in the way of education in Sind.

18. I think it would be advisable to print Mr. Ellis's Report, with any instructions you may issue, and forward copies for the information and guidance of officers in charge of districts in Sind. It is necessary to bear in mind that they have few means of learning what is doing in other parts of the presidency, and that they are unavoidably ignorant of many matters which are well known to all officers in similar positions in India; but I feel assured you will find them at least as zealous in carrying out your views, when they clearly understand them.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
HBE FRERE  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's Office, Camp Larkhana,  
Shikarpoor Districts  
24<sup>th</sup> December, 1855

## 2. REPORT ON EDUCATION OF SIND BY B.H. ELLIS, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

To

H.B.E Frere Esquire  
Commissioner in Sind,  
Kurrachee

Sir,

In accordance with your instructions to place on record, for submission to Government, an account of the measures recently adopted for the promotion of education in Sind, I have the honour to lay before you a report on the present state of Education in this province, and the measures proposed for its extension.

2. In commencing an inquiry into this subject, the indigenous schools naturally demand the most prominent attention, as furnishing a basis for future extended operations. A summary Abstract of Returns furnished by the Collectors in 1852 is annexed, marked A; its perusal gives rise to many suggestions of interest.
3. The total number of such schools is shown to have been 643, attended by 7,443 scholars, and it is a noticeable fact that of these nearly one-ninth (693) were females. These returns do not exhibit the total number of persons receiving education, for many of the better class maintain instructors for their children in their own homes, and these have probably found no place in the Collectors' returns.
4. On the other hand, many of these indigenous schools are hardly worth of the name. Two or three little boys, or in some cases pupil, spelling the letter of the Koran under the instruction of the village Moolla, who neither reads any other language, nor understands the meaning of the Arabic he teaches, would constitute a "School," if the building be a public one. The open platform in front of a mosque is the usual school-house in such cases; and many of this description of school have been entered in the returns in company with the places of instruction where the pupils are more numerous, and the education imparted is more complete.
5. The schools in which the teaching is confined to the Koran or Arabic number 178, and the pupils 1,906. The better classes of schools, in which both Arabic and Persian are taught, are 275,

but the number of pupils is much greater in proportion, being 4,252. There are also 56 schools, with 321 scholars, where Persian exclusively is taught. Out of the total number of schools there are thus 609, with 6,479 scholars, in which the pupils are either Mussulmans, or such Hindoos as may be desirous of qualifying for Government employ, and who study the Persian language in schools, the teachers of which are for the most part Mahomedans.

6. The schools in which the Hindoo-Sindee, written in the Khudawadee and other varieties of the Sindee character, is studied, number 23, with 803 pupils. The course of instruction in these schools is invariably confined to such reading and writing as may be necessary to qualify the pupil to carry on business as a shopkeeper or merchant. It is not unusual for this knowledge to be acquired by a lad at the shop of some neighbour, who has leisure to give instruction; and it is probable that the number of persons learning appears from the Collectors' returns to be far below the actual number, from the necessary exclusion of these private instructors from the lists of public school-masters.

7. There are also a few schools in Kurrachee and Shikarpore, where Sanscrit and Goormookhee are taught, but the number of pupils is small (85). It is rare to find in any town in Sind many Hindoos acquainted with either of these languages, the acquirement of which is usually confined to Brahmins, and priests of the Manukshahee sect.

8. The instruction imparted in the Hindoo-Sindee schools is, as I have before mentioned, purely mercantile. The total absence of all books written in any Hindoo-Sindee character would itself confine the subjects taught within very narrow bounds. The Hindoo religious books being chiefly in Goormookhee, and the Hindoos who were in public employ under the Meers having confined their attention to the Court Language (Persian), the two chief incentives to the study of the Vernacular were entirely wanting; and it is not to be wondered at that the schools in which Sindee in this form is taught are of a very inferior description.

9. The mode, too, in which the pupils are instructed, is certainly not according to any orthodox system of tuition, as may be inferred from the fact that the chief school of this description in Kurrachee is taught by master "*who understands no written language*", - he merely punishes, while the boys teach one another! As may be inferred from the fact that there are 70 scholars - a greater number than attend any other school in Kurrachee.

10. The state of the schools in which Persian and Arabic are taught is more promising. I do not include the schools in which the teaching is confined to the Koran; for as above remarked, the instructors themselves are usually too ignorant to be qualified to impart knowledge to other; still, their efforts, which are usually gratuitous or rewarded by a scanty occasional pittance of grain or money, are not to be despised, and the sight of venerable Moolia, teaching in charity (fee subeel-loolla, in the way of God) few pupils beneath a shady tree, in the courtyard of a mosque, can not fail to inspire respect, though we may be unable to admire either the nature or the method of the instruction.

11. And these have no doubt been the germs of the more prosperous schools which are found scattered over the country, not always in the most populous and best known towns, but often in remote villages, where some preceptor, having acquired a name by his skill in teaching, or a reputation for superior learning, has drawn together pupils from distant districts. Thus at Adilpoor, not far from Ghotkee, in upper Sind, an old man was found teaching 50 pupils, many of whom had come from great distance; and with the most wretched means and appliances, this school had been flourishing for upwards of fifty years.

12. In some of the large towns, too, well known schools have been established for years. In Tatta, for instance, one school numbers about 100 scholars. The master adopts teaching as profession, which has been handed down to him from his father and grandfather, and boasts of having educated many distinguished servants, both Mussulman and Hindoo, of the late and present Government.

13. Roree and Ghotkee in upper Sind, Halla and Nusarpoor in Central Sind, were likewise distinguished for their learning in former times; and although their schools have fallen of, both in the number of students and the subjects studied, yet these towns are still noted for the superior intelligence and learning of their residents.

14. In the Abstract summary, an attempt has been made to classify the schools according to the mode of remuneration to the master; but the results cannot be relied on as very accurate. The fact is, that the modes of payment are so varied that classification is impossible.

15. The schools supported by fixed payments from the scholars are entered as 304 in number; but it is not to be inferred that all the scholars in these schools pay a fixed fee. In many, some of the pupils are excused all payment, while others pay a reduced sum, and probably none give their quota regularly. In many, some of the pupils are excused all payment, while others pay a reduced sum, and down as free, the richer zemindars subscribe for the maintenance of the teacher, or some one wealthy person supports a moolla or Akhoond for the instruction of his own sons and permits the children of his fellow-villagers to receive the same benefit gratuitously.

16. It is not uncommon to find the schoolmaster, especially if he be the village moolla, allowed a present of grain each season at harvest, or at other times the parents of the children receiving instruction bestow some reward (usually from two to five rupees) on the occasion of a particular book or branch of study being successfully completed, or on the pupil having finished the curriculum of study which the limited knowledge of the master permits of his going through.

17. The fees, where taken, are not of one fixed amount -they vary in most cases from one to four annas per mensem; but instances are given of the fees being as low as eight pies, and as high as twelve annas or a rupee per mensem. The latter is rare; and it is more common to read that the master's remuneration is "a pittance of grain each harvest." "No fixed salary, the scholars giving

the master enough to support life", "bread and clothes". "daily food, and a small present of grain at harvest", and so on; showing how wretched is the remuneration which usually falls to the teacher's lot; and we may wonder, not the masters are so few and ill qualified, but rather that so many well educated men are content to undertake the task.

18. Among the curiosities of education experience to be gathered from these returns must be noticed the schoolmaster at Syed Mujoom Ali Shah (in upper Sind), who not only teaches gratuitously, but feeds and clothes at his own expenses the 14 pupils whom he instructs in Arabic and Persian. Other instances of similar devotion may be found; and, though rare and exceptional cases, they are sufficiently numerous to prove that education is not unappreciated in Sind, and that judicious efforts for its extension have very chance of being rewarded with success.

19. Two other schools are noticeable, one where a boy and two girls are taught Arabic and Persian gratuitously by the wife of a Mochee, at Soong, in Obowra; and the other in which two boys are instructed in the Koran by a blind woman at Tanga in Obowra. Further inquiry regarding these schools would no doubt be repaid by the acquisition of interesting information regarding the teachers.

20. The above detail will suffice to show the present state of the indigenous schools in the Province. It might be interesting to go further back, and trace the condition of learning under the Kulhoras and Talpoors; but such researches would be of antiquarian or historical interest rather than of practical utility in discussing the means to be adopted in the present day for the promotion of education.

21. For the latter purpose, it is enough to record that, under the rule of the Talpoors, there was no direct and regular encouragement to education, most of the Meers being given to patronize field sports in preference to learned avocation. There were however, exceptions; and some of the Meers are said to have been poets themselves, and to have patronized men of learning.

22. The Syuds of Tatta and Roree were in the enjoyment of liberal allowances from the state, which, though not given expressly for the encouragement of learning, no doubt tended to promote it, by affording men naturally inclined to the study of Arabic and Persian literature the means of subsistence, and leisure to pursue their studies; and to this circumstance may be traced the fact of the most learned men having belonged to one or other of those communities.

23. When the British Government succeeded the Talpoors, such occasional present of cash or of loongees as were not uncommonly bestowed on learned men on special occasions by even the least refined of the Meers entirely ceased and at the same time the large allowances of the Tatta Syuds were confiscated, notwithstanding the enjoyment for centuries under successive dynasties.

24. These sources of emolument, though they may have been irregular in the one case, and

their sudden withdrawal rendered it incumbent to the British Government to substitute an equivalent, if not a more regular and direct means of promoting education.

25. Such steps were taken, but in the Hyderabad Collectorate alone, A School was established in Kurrachee, by subscription among the European community; but its object being professedly missionary, it does not come within the scope of a review of the connection of Government with the progress of education.

26. Captain Rathborne, the Collector of Hyderabad, however, evinced a very laudable zeal in endeavouring to establish, on a liberal scale, a college for instruction in English. As early as August 1845 he brought the subject to the notice of the Governor, and the sanction of the Supreme Government was applied for to an annual disbursement of Rs.3, 000.

27. Unfortunately the wars on our Frontier prevented the project from being then carried out; but as soon as warlike operations were at an end, the Supreme Government of India sanctioned the amount, and there was very prospect of an efficient school being established.

28. But difficulties were thrown in the way; the Board of Education could give no competent master; the Government of Bombay would not sanction the outlay until made acquainted with the details of the proposed arrangements; and , after many references from Government , and from the then Commissioner, the scheme was finally abandoned in September 1848.

29. This failure was much to be regretted, for Captain Rathborne had in the first, instance induced the chief Beloochees and other to engage to defray half the current expenses; and , had a commencement been then made, they would probably have continue to take an interest in education which no exertion could now arouse. The delay in carrying out the original scheme was fatal to this portion of the plan; and the zeal of the Belooch Chieftains not unnaturally had evaporated when, after a lapse of three years, they were again consulted on the subject.

30. A further effort was made by Captain Rathborne on the occasion of the conviction of two men, of high ranks, for forgery (Meers Ghoolam Shah and Fuzlah Talpoor). The large fine which was then imposed the Magistrate suggested should be devoted to educational purposes. This also was sanctioned but in this case, too, no further results followed.

31. Owing to these failures, no progress whatever was made in English education during the first ten years of British rule in Sir.d; and for other reasons, which may be briefly alluded to; Vernacular education was equally at a standstill during the same period.

32. This is chiefly attributable to the doubts as to the written character to be adopted for official record in the Sindee language. On this question a warm controversy arose; no two of the Officers who were consulted were of the same opinion; and those best qualified to judge (Captains Stack and Burton) took diametrically opposite views.

33. The consequence of this variety of opinions and the hesitation of the authorities as to the character to be officially adopted, was that up to 1853 not a single book or paper of any kind was published in the vernacular; nor were any book (even the most elementary) translated into Sindee; in fine, all progress towards the very desirable substitution of the language of the country for Persian in official documents was entirely checked.

34. Captain Stack meanwhile, by the publication of an English and Sindee Dictionary and Grammar, had very much facilitated the acquisition of the language by future students; but I do not consider that these works can be viewed in the light of Sindee books for Sindians, the character adopted (Devanagree) being unknown to all but a very small section of the people of the country.

35. The publication of these books, however, was of great practical utility, as paving the way for the next step which was taken, to promote the adoption of the Vernacular language in official business. This was the issue of your circular (No. 1825, of 6th September 1851) directing all Officers to undergo an examination to test their proficiency in colloquial knowledge of Sindee. So long as the European Officers made no efforts to acquire that language, it was not to be expected that the Native subordinates would aid them in substituting, for the Persian to which they had so long been habituated, and which few but themselves knew, a language which all concerned might comprehend. The compulsory acquirement of a colloquial knowledge of Sindee, by all Officers employed in the Province, ought shortly to lead to its general adoption in all public business, and the opposition of the Native official must gradually give way.

36. The means of acquiring a knowledge of Sindee were about the same time increased by Lieutenant Arthur's publication of a Sindee work, the "Hikayut-oos-Salaheen," for the use of students; and subsequently by his publishing a version of Dossa bhoy's "Idiomatic Sentences" in Sindee, a work which is of great utility to those who wish to acquire a colloquial knowledge of the language.

37. The receipt of a dispatch from the Court of Directors (No 46, of 8th December 1852, forwarded by Government of Bombay, No. 816 of 11th March 1853), sanctioning an annual outlay of Rs.10,000 for educational purposes, followed the inquiries you had instituted in 1852 into the state of indigenous schools, and gave an additional impetus to the movement in favour of the more general adoption of Sindee.

38. This dispatch discussed two subjects. The first was the controversy regarding the character to be used in writing since, which, as has been above observed, retarded for so many years all educational improvement; and the second subject of the letter was establishment of English and Vernacular schools.

39. The Honourable Court decided the first point in favour of the Arabic character; but in

deference, it would seem, to the previously expressed opinions of the Bombay Government, suggested the appointment of a Committee to settle the question finally.

40. The appointment of such a Committee was at the time practically impossible, as the officers best acquainted with Sindee were either absent from Sind, or in distant parts of Province, and not easily brought together; the suggestion was therefore of necessity laid aside.

41. I confess that this result is not much to be regretted, as such a Committee could only have ended in disappointment; the members would not have agreed. They would have written long minutes, and argued with one another; the controversy would have been renewed, and with but a poor chance of any new light being thrown upon a subject already ably and exhaustively discussed by Captains Stack and Burton, whose knowledge of the language probably exceeded that of any one who could have been on the Committee.

42. The dispatch of the Court was favourable to the adoption of the Arabic character, and you directed that "the very trifling changes or additions required for its perfect adaptation to Sindee" (paragraph 4 of court's dispatch) should be forthwith made, and no further time lost in debating and collecting opinions. This was done, and a sheet containing the alphabet revised was published in July 1853. From that time to the present a series of books on arithmetic, geography, history, and other subjects has been issued; and it is to be hoped the question is for ever set at rest, so far as concerns the character to be used in the publication of books, and instruction generally.

43. At the same time there can be no doubt but that this, or any other character in ordinary use by Mussulmans, will not be adopted by the Hindoo community. While the great majority of the population of Sind consists of Mahomedans, it is imperative on us that we should not deter them (the Hindoos) from entering the public service, and debar them from the means of instruction in their own language, by the universal adoption of a Hindoo-Sindee character, which Mussulmans would never adopt; yet the Hindoos are a sufficiently numerous and influential community to demand that their interest would not be overlooked.

44. For this purpose, it will be necessary to print books, and teach Sindee, in a character to which they will not object; and I have little doubt but that the Khudawadee character (advocated in the former discussion by Captain Stack) is, with some necessary changes, the one which it will be found advisable to adopt.

45. The use of two characters, one for the Hindoo and one for the Mahomedan population, has its parallel in the North-West province. To adopt a similar course in Sind would be the simplest solution of the difficulty; and we might then reconcile the chief advocates in the controversy, by deciding that both Captain Stack and Captain Burton were right, the one arguing on behalf of the Hindoos, the other as the organ of Mahomedan of Sind.

46. The same progress, however, has not been made in the publication of works in the Khudawadee character; not, indeed, has any attempt been made to fix the alphabet in a form adopted for ordinary use. The alterations required are more extensive than were needed in the Arabic character, and the varieties of forms for letters are much more numerous, as the Hindoos of many of principal cities, and even some of their castes residing in the same city, have peculiar modes of writing, which they are not likely to abandon readily for any universal system, although the change involved be slight.

47. And in connection with the backward state of the Hindoo-Sindee schools, and the very indifferent quality of the instruction imparted by their teachers, we find this class of the community much less inclined than their Mahomedan fellow-countryman to study for the sake of learning. For these reasons and especially as the Mussulmans are in Sind as four to one Hindoo, the Arabic character first demanded and received attention.

48. In proceeding to carry out the instructions of the Honourable Court on the second point adverted to in their dispatch, the first difficulty was to find an Officer to fill the post of Superintendent. In consequence of your inability to find any one whom you could recommend for which requires many qualifications not often combined in the same person, the progress attained towards a complete system of education in the Province has necessarily been less than it otherwise would have been.

49. To have delayed all improvement pending the appointment of Officer would have related matters, and every effort has therefore been made to carry out the spirit of the directions of the Court and of Government, though circumstances rendered compliance with the letter of their instructions impracticable.

50. The original idea of one central English School for the Province was abandoned. The great distance would have precluded the attendance of many scholars otherwise anxious to obtain an English education: and there were no valid reasons for refusing to the people of Sind facilities which are enjoyed elsewhere in India. The establishment of one English school in each Collectorate appeared to be the least that could be sanctioned, to meet the wants of the people of the Province.

51. The Kurrachee Municipality having expressed their readiness to share the expense of building and maintaining a school, the erection of a school house from a design by the late Lieutenant Champan was sanctioned, and master, who had been educated at the Poona College, was placed in charge of the school.

52. When the new building was opened on the 5th October last, there were 68 boys in the school, and there were prospects of a considerable increase, the Natives of the town having by that time begun to acquire confidence in the principles upon which instruction is conducted.

53. Owing to the mixed population settled at Kurrachee from all parts of India, the majority of the pupils at the school there is composed of the sons of residents in the older Provinces of India and establishment of schools at Hyderabad and Shikarpoore is likely to be attended with more beneficial result in extending English education to the people of Sind.

54. It is therefore with satisfaction that I record, in addition to the gratifying fact of the Kurrachee school being in full operation that the building of a school-house at Hyderabad, and of another at Shikarpoore, has been sanctioned; and both works will shortly be in progress, if they have not already been commenced.

55. In the former town, as at Kurrachee, the Municipality (will) bear a portion of the expense. At Shikarpoore the only English school hitherto in existence has been kept up by the liberality of a private individual (Captain Goldsmid), and the charge of erecting the school building there will be defrayed out of the sum of Rs. 11,000 authorized to be expended on educational objects in Upper Sind. (Government Letter No. 1291 of 23rd March 1853)

56. This grant has its origin in the circumstance of His Highness Ali Moorad having offered a bribe to Lieutenant Younghusband, during the time of the inquiry which preceded the resumption of certain districts for His Highness in 1852. The amount of this bribe, which Lieutenant Younghusband had deposited in the Government Treasury, was at your suggestion, placed by Government at your disposal for the furtherance of education in upper Sind.

57. From this source, not only will the cost of the Shikarpoore English and Vernacular school-house be defrayed, but buildings for instruction in the Vernacular and other oriental languages have been sanctioned at the places noted below; some of these have already been erected, others are now in course of erection.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Jacobabad.</li> <li>2. Roree.</li> <li>3. Ghotkee.</li> <li>4. Khyrpoore Dahirkee</li> <li>5. Obowra.</li> <li>6. Meerpoor Mathela.</li> <li>7. Larkhana.</li> <li>8. Mehur.</li> <li>9. Nowshera.</li> <li>10. Kundiara.</li> <li>11. Tarooshah.</li> <li>12. Sehwan</li> </ol>	} In these three assisted by money from local funds
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58. By these means, both ample provision has been made for the erection of buildings for instruction in English, and nearly all the large towns in Upper Sind have been provided with

suitable school- houses for Vernacular Education.

59. Besides the above, grants-in-aid of contributions from local funds have been sanctioned for similar purpose in the places noted below- these towns are, with two exceptions, in the districts under charge of Lieutenant Jameson, in the Hyderabad Collectorate.

1. Mitaree.
2. Berea.
3. Tuttabad
4. Mohubut Dhera Juttoee
5. Hillanee Belanee.
6. Kotree
7. Tatta } Kurrachee Collectorate.

60. In one village (Laka Bazeedpoor) a school- house is being erected from local funds; and, in the following places, where no such funds were forthcoming, the amount has been wholly defrayed by Government:-

1. Jerruck, Kurrachee Collectorate,
2. Kumbhur. }
3. Thurery. } Shikarpoor Collectorate
4. Khokur, Hyderabad Collectorate

61. There remain a few important towns (chiefly in the Hyderabad districts) where buildings have yet to be provided. It will be seen, however, from the enumeration above given that a good deal has been done to provide the requisite accommodation.

62. This has been effected partly from the sources I have indicated, and partly from the annual grant of Rs. 10,000 authorised in the dispatch of the Court before quoted. This dispatch arrived too late in 1852-53 to be available in the year the mode in which you have authorized, subject to the confirmation of Government, the expenditure for the past official year, is exhibited in the annexed Statement, marked B.

63. As it was impossible to organize in so short a time a regular system of education for the Province, the object has been to take such steps as might conduce gradually to this organization, and to foster the wish for education, wherever displayed, by the expenditure of sums from the Government grant, in aid of the efforts of the inhabitants.

64. Thus in Thurery, Kumbhur, and Mehur, towns in Upper Sind, in which no local funds were forthcoming for the erection of a school-house, the principal inhabitants promised ample

monthly contributions for the maintenance of the school when established. Their request for the erection of school-houses at the expense of Government was therefore readily complied with. In many other places the funds for the support of the school are derivable from local sources, and the cost to Government will be but small. All such grants are part of the general system which it is intended by degree to carry out, and the sanctions already accorded will, without difficulty, be blended therewith, either without alteration, or with modification which the extension of the system will in some cases render necessary.

65. It would obviously have been useless to build school-houses unless some measures were at the same time taken to provide books for elementary institutions in the schools. The Elphinstone Institution and a separate Book Depository has now been established in connection with the Kurrachee schools.

66. In Sindee, the books already extant were chiefly of a religious character. One of the best-*"The lives of the Saints"* has already been alluded to as having been published by Lieutenant Arthur. Even this would hardly be the work to choose as a text-book for the rising generation: and in the utter want of all elementary works, it was necessary to translate, from the English and other languages, a series adapted for school instruction.

67. For this purpose a collection of Oordoo and Persian books was sent for from Agra, and some Murathee or Gazerathee school books were like wise taken as basis for translation.

68. The works which have up to this time been prepared are *Lekhey-jee-Peer*. The *Rudiments of Arithmetic*, containing the first four rules (from the Hindustani chiefly).

1. Babnamo.- Sindee Primer.
2. Map of the World. - From the English.
3. Dhartee Nirwar.-Geography, chiefly from the Murathee
4. Chitr-jee-Par. - Elements of Drawing (from the Hindustani).
5. Bhumboo Zemindar. - A moral story (from ditto).
6. Sudhaturo and Kudhaturo, A moral story (from ditto).
7. History of India. - Chiefly from ditto.
8. Aesop's Fables. - From the English.
9. Lekhey-jo-Kitab. - A complete course of Arithmetic, partly from the Murathee, partly from Hutton's Mathematics.

69. Besides these, I may mention "*Zubtee Kitab*" (Tables for measuring the contents of Fields), a translation of Regulation XIV of 1827, and a Hindustani treatise on vaccination (the last not yet published). These, though not strictly educational works, may still be noted as contributions to the infant Sindee literature.

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♦ Hikayat -u- Salheen الحيات الصالحين

70. The chief want at present experienced is an elementary Sindee Grammar for Sindees. This Captain Stack had promised, and but for his untimely end the want would no doubt have been supplied.

71. With this exception, the books now ready are sufficiently numerous for a commencement. Some of them may perhaps show signs of haste in the preparation, but they will, I believe, answer the purpose for which they were intended, and will serve for elementary instruction until books with more pretensions are published.

72. A prize having been offered for the best specimen of translation from Persian into Sindee, a version of the Persian History of Sind, called "Tarikh Masumee," is also under preparation by Moonshee Nundiram, who gained the prize.

73. All the above mentioned works have been lithographed since the publication, in July 1853, of the revised alphabet, and I trust that the instructions of the Honourable Court of Directors, to commence the preparation of elementary works in Sindee will not be thought to have been neglected, considering the short period that has elapsed, and the want of a superintendent to devote this time wholly to the work.

74. The erection of commodious buildings, and the publication of elementary works, would be of little benefit without competent teachers: and it was evident that although the schoolmasters now teaching might impart a very tolerable knowledge of the rudiments of Arabic and Persian, they were quite incompetent to give instruction in geography, history, arithmetic, and the other ordinary branches of study, in which they were themselves wholly un instructed.

75. It becomes, therefore, a matter of some importance to form without delay a normal class, for the tuition of school masters. It was not without difficulty that a number of teachers, or persons of the class usually occupied in teaching, could be got together. The greatest difficulty, however, was the want of a teacher, and when an application which was made to Bombay failed, the project must have fallen to the ground but the voluntary services of very competent instructors (Wishwanath Narayan, Mahadeo Shastree, and latterly Kahandas Muncharam, formerly students of the Elphinston and Poona Colleges) who happened to be employed in the Government service at Kurrachee.

76. This normal class, to the number of 30, has been for some months past receiving instruction in geography, arithmetic, and latterly history: and their progress has far exceeded the expectation entertained at starting. Those who may have attained a certain standard of qualification will shortly be appointed to schools: and although it is not supposed that they will be thoroughly efficient, or as competent as the masters whom we may hope to see in a few years, yet there can be no doubt but that they will be far better qualified as teachers than they were before, and they will, moreover, be able to give some instruction in useful elementary subjects.

77. The course of study this class will have gone through is, however, very limited: and the numbers who are likely to prove efficient teachers too small to allow of the class being entirely broken up. I would suggest that such a class be maintained for five years, and that the students attend for a period of one, or, if possible, two years. At the end of five years, it may be expected that the district schools will furnish pupils competent to succeed to vacancies in mastership: and the normal class, as a separate and distinct institution, may be abolished: or at any rate the question whether it should be retained, in a modified form, might at the end of that time be reconsidered.

78. For this purpose, a sum of Rs. 260 per mensem would be required for five years, independently of the funds set apart for education in this Province, the amount of which is shown in a statement annexed to this Report, marked C. I have not included this expense in the estimate of annual expenditure, as it is proposed to make the charge temporary. If, at the end of five years, it be deemed advisable to provide permanently for the special training of masters, no doubt the means of meeting the charge will be available.

Payment to 35 scholars, at Rs.6	210
Master	50
Total	Rs. 260

Contingent expenses will be defrayed out of the savings from absent pupils, & c.

79. The class should, in my opinion, be taught in future at Hyderabad, as more central for the pupils, though it was necessary in the first instance to establish in at Kurrachee, I do not think it likely that any competent teacher will be found at Hyderabad, except the future master of the English school: and the sum I have proposed for remuneration is intended to be applied as an addition to his salary for the extra labour this imposed, or in providing him an assistant to the English school, to compensate for a portion of his time being occupied with the normal class.

80. The details of the proposed educational scheme for this Province will be found annexed, and marked C. The figures must be considered as those of an estimate, which may possibly be altered when the design is executed: and the places for schools are not in all cases actually determined, but are merely indicative of suitable localities. As a want now unknown may spring up in one town, so in another a proposed school may prove to be superfluous: and thus, on the average, it will be found that the estimated number of district schools (48, including the three principal schools) will be found ample for the present.

81. Your views for the educational regulation of the Province had been developed long before the promulgation of the dispatch from the Honorable Court of Directors dated the 19th July last, and I have much satisfaction in drawing attention to the fact that the arrangements also proposed are for the most part in perfect harmony with the wishes of the Court, as made known

in their despatch.

82. The appointment of a superintendent was a portion of the scheme which had before been authorized. This will provide for the due inspection of schools. When the educational institutions in the Province become more numerous, further inspections will probably be requisite: but for the present a Superintendent, who will travel through the cold weather, visiting Shikarpore and all the large schools, and who will pass the hot season at Hyderabad and Kurrachee, will be sufficient for the organisation of the schools, and for the other primary arrangements which must be effected before periodical inspection becomes of much utility.

83. The proposed plan, it will be observed, tallies precisely with the opinion advocated in the Court's despatch, in the degree to which an English education is to be provided: while, on the one hand, the funds are not to be wholly absorbed in bestowing a superior education upon a few, yet, on the other, benefits of English literature and science will be made available to all, by the establishment of a school at each of the three chief Collectorate towns, (The expense will be restricted to Rs. 300 per mensem, - See C.)

84. It would have been desirable, had there been funds available, to carry out another portion of the Court's despatch, by the establishment of scholarships in English schools, to maintain, while studying, those pupils who had much distinguished themselves at Vernacular schools.

85. Though the funds did not admit of these views being carried out to a great extent, yet the arrangements made harmonized with them as far as they went. Proficiency in the village schools has been held to entitle the pupil to free admission into the district schools, and success in the latter entitles one pupil annually to free admission into the English schools.

86. And, that the principle has been fully recognized in Sind may be inferred from the fact of the subscribers to the testimonial proposed in memory of the late Mr. Macleod having resolved that a scholarship should be established in the Kurrachee English school: and the Municipality at the same place recently voted the appointment of two monitorships in their school, to be held by the most advanced and diligent of the pupils. This system of pupil-monitors it is proposed to carry out in every case when size of the school renders assistance to the master expedient.

87. The want of officers acquainted with surveying and civil engineering is peculiarly felt in Sind, and measures have already been taken for the formation of an engineering class in connection with the Kurrachee school, which, when completed, will be an useful adjunct to the more scientific but less practical professorship which it is proposed to establish at the Presidency. (Para 31 of Court's despatch)

88. It will be seen from the appended statement that it is proposed to establish a number of district schools, usually, but not necessarily, at the head quarters of a Kardar: the subjects to be

taught are Sindee, Persian, and, if required, Arabic.

89. The Persian has so long been cultivated in Sind, for its literature, as well as on account of its being the language of official records and accounts, that any present attempt to establish schools where the Vernacular only is taught would probably fail: while the combination of the two is likely to lead to the study of Sindee, now not learnt at all, but which will become popular by degrees, as the language is more and more used in the transaction of official business.

90. For tuition in Arabic and Persian, a fee will be exacted, except when exemption is allowed in recognition of proved proficiency in Sindee. Eventually, the study of Persian will be confined to those who acquire it as an accomplishment, or for its literature: and a considerable number of persons who now learn Persian purely with a view to official employ will divert their attention to Sindee; but until the latter becomes the sole language of public business, a school where Sindee exclusively is taught has small chance of being attractive.

91. The Arabic is usually learnt (though to a very limited extent) as the foundation of Persian: and to declare it banished from the school would certainly keep away many who would otherwise attend. It has therefore been thought expedient not to prohibit Arabic instruction in the district schools: but by the imposition of a higher fee (four annas) the tuition in such elements as are thought a necessary preliminary to Persian will for the most part continue to be carried on in the smaller village schools, while the study of Arabic as a language will in all probability be confined to the three chief district schools (Tatta, Halla, and Roree) where the abolition of the branch of study would much retard the popularity and progress of a school under Government supervision.

92. In one respect, the scheme proposed differs from the views advocated in the Honourable Court's despatch. Although tuition in English, Arabic, or Persian, is to be paid for by fees, instruction in Sindee is to be gratuitous: and I would with all deference submit that, although not in accordance with the rule laid down by the Court, this arrangement be allowed to hold good.

93. I quite concur in the opinion that the acquisition of other than the Vernacular languages, or such extra tuition as is looked on in the light of accomplishment, may fairly be charged for, but the great importance of diffusing a rudimentary knowledge as widely as possible would of itself be a sufficient plea for the admission of all scholars free to such extent that they may at least be put on the road to acquire the further learning usually attainable only at the expense of more time than the masses of people are able to spare.

94. And when the inhabitants have themselves contributed (whether from municipal and other local funds, or by individual subscription) to the support of a school, they have a right to expect that their children should receive education, in the lowest grade at least, without further cost to themselves.

95. I would indeed go further, and advocate the adoption of the system pursued in some Continental States, by which the community are one and all taxed for educational purposes, and the teaching is at once compulsory, and without further fee from the scholars or their parents. The right of the State to punish criminals is undoubted; and if the liberty of conscience be left unfettered, the right to enforce education, as the great antidote to crime, can hardly be reasonably questioned.

96. If, whoever, the compulsory part of this system be considered impracticable, yet at least the imposition of a tax for educational purposes, and gratuitous rudimentary education as its sequitur, are surely worthy of attention; and I would remind you of the efforts you have yourself made in support of the views ably propounded by Captain Wingate, late Commissioner of Surveys, with reference to such a case for the promotion of education.

97. I believe that in England there is a growing tendency to consider that, when a rate is imposed in furtherance of education, a right to gratuitous tuition is created. In this country, it would be a great encouragement to voluntary taxation, in support of education, were this principle more generally adopted.

98. Besides, the acquirements applicable to India generally, there exists the necessity for encouraging the study of Sindee, a language which has never yet formed part of the regular education of Sindees,-an additional incentive to the adoption of gratuitous tuition in the Vernacular in this country.

99. For these reasons, I would respectfully submit that education in Sindee should be gratuitous, and necessarily so when the inhabitants themselves aid to support the school. There has been no disinclination shown in Sind to afford such aid, either by indirect taxation, through grant from municipal funds, or, as in Upper Sind, directly, by monthly contributions from wealthy individuals.

100. It is hoped that the aid from such sources will be gradually extended, and thus free a portion of the Government funds, so as to allow of their application in aid of smaller schools, where the community is not wealthy enough to defray the whole charge.

101. Such grants-in-aid occupy a prominent position in the scheme proposed for Sind, as they do in the Court's despatch before adverted to. For the present, Rs. 1,000 are set apart for this object, to be expended by the Superintendent, during his annual tour, in donations of from ten to twenty-five rupees, as an addition to the allowances of the masters whose schools are found in a promising condition. The gradual adoption of the regulations of Government, and an improved system of tuition, would lead to these grants becoming permanent to particular schools; and the number of such schools receiving aid would be increased, as the cost to Government of the district schools diminishes.

102. The female indigenous schools mentioned above should be included in the grants-in-aid; and at first the interference should be very slight; indeed it would be well of it were confined to noting the progress made, and to giving small rewards, both to the scholars reported on most favourably by the teachers, and to the teachers themselves when the people come forward to request it. Without such advances on their part, very minute interference would be more likely to do harm than good.

103. For the Hindoo-Sindee schools, Rs. 2,400 per mensem have been set down. This sum will not be required at present; for until an alphabet for universal adoption by the Hindoos of Sind has been definitely fixed, the establishment of schools would only tend to perpetuate the barbarous varieties which now exist in the different towns, and would prevent the improvement of the present quasi short-hand by the addition of distinguishing vowel marks.

104. It will not, I hope, be long before such an alphabet is framed; but it is likely that some time will elapse before it will be universally adopted. The improvement in the Guzratee (a language formerly as barbarous as the present Hindoo-Sindee) has not yet been adopted by the whole of the Banyan population of Guzrat; and it will not be surprising if some time should pass before a revised and complete alphabet is adopted by the corresponding class in Sind.

105. To sum up briefly, the heads of the plan which is submitted for approval, and which, it will be seen, requires twice the amount now placed at the disposal of Government for the purpose; the propositions are:-

- 1<sup>st</sup>: The appointment of a superintendent, who will inspect the chief schools in the Province annually, and who will communicate with the Commissioner in Sind, and eventually with the Minister of Education.
- 2<sup>nd</sup>: The entertainment of a small establishment, to assist him in superintending the issue of elementary work, from the press, and in corresponding with the masters, &c.
- 3<sup>rd</sup>: The establishment of an English school at the head quarters of each Collectorate.
- 4<sup>th</sup>: Three Vernacular schools for instruction in Sindee, in the revised Arabic character. Persian and Arabic will also be taught for a fee; and a higher standard of knowledge will be attained than in the other Vernacular schools.
- 5<sup>th</sup>: District schools, where Sindee will be the chief study; but where Persian will also be taught for a fee; and, if required, Arabic.
- 6<sup>th</sup>: Part of the expenses, in all the above mentioned schools, to be defrayed by the community. The English schools to be governed by the Rules recently promulgated, of

which a copy is annexed (Marked D).

- 7<sup>th</sup>: Grants-in-aid to indigenous schools, the system adopted in such schools being gradually improved.
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Hindoo-Sindee schools, for instruction in an improved uniform character, founded on the Khudawadee.
- 9<sup>th</sup>: Prizes at annual examinations by the Superintendent (eventually to be assisted by subordinate Inspectors).

106. I do not think these objects can be attained at a less cost than Rs. 20,000 per annum,<sup>1</sup> and I am quite certain that the sum already granted will be found inadequate. It is hoped, therefore, that the increased amount will be sanctioned; and in the meanwhile the sum already authorized can be expended in promoting portions of the general scheme, which, however, cannot be expected to work well unless the whole is carried out.

107. As the object of this report was to exhibit the state of education as existing in Sind, and to elucidate the details of the proposed distribution of the funds. I have necessarily been compelled to confine myself to facts and dry details. These are of course less interesting than a more general exposition of the theory and principles of education, which I could have indulged in only at the risk of lengthening a report which must, as it is, appear tedious from its length.

(Signed) B.H. Ellis  
Assistant Commissioner

Kurrachee  
December 29<sup>th</sup>, 1854

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<sup>1</sup> Normal class temporary charge not included; but, if required permanently, it may hereafter be found possible to reduce some of the charges, when the contributions from the people increase.

**A**  
**Statement, compiled from returns furnished by Collectors, showing the Number of Schools in Sind in 1852**

Collectorate	Number of schools	Number of Scholars		Instruction given in						Mode of Payment												
		Males	Females	English only	English, Mahralta, and Sindhee	Koran, Or Arabic only	Persian only	Sindee only	Arabic And Persian	Sanscrit and Goormukhee	Free	By fixed payments only	For occasional Payments or presents only	For occasional Payments or presents only	By Payment, but mode unsettled							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Kurrachee	103	955	175	..	1	76	50	353	2	16	4	70	41	594	5	21	29	48	26	..	..	..
Hydrabad	267	2,890	302	..	..	..	122	909	16	59	7	12	122	2,212	..	..	93	151	9	..	..	14
Shikarpoor	273	2,905	216	..	..	..	106	644	38	246	12	721	112	1,446	5	64	121	105	11	16	16	20
Total	643	6,750	693	..	1	76	278	1,906	56	321	23	803	275	4,252	10	85	243	403	46	16	16	34

**Statement of Expenditure authorised by the Commissioner in Sind for Education  
National Purposes, under Government Letter No. 816, of 11th March 1853**

Date	Number	Name of place	Amount of Donation from Education fund	Monthly sum ditto	Amount per Annum of Monthly Grants From ditto	Total of Donations and Monthly Grants from ditto up to 30 <sup>th</sup> April 1854	Amount from the other sources				For what purpose Grant	Remarks
							Donation Under Government Letter No. 1291	Donations from other Sources	Monthly Sum	Amount Per Annum of Monthly Grant		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1853 Dec. 15	3661	General	Rs. a. P. 531-4-0	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. P. 531-4-0	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. P.	Rs. a. P.	For printing 1,000 copies of Lekhe-je-Peer (Rudiments of Arithmetic)	Of this sum Rs. 500 Will be recovered by the sale of the work at 8 annas per copy.
			53-0-0			53-0-0					For translating & compiling the above work.	
											Moonshree for assisting in miscellaneous translations, and superintending the works of other while being lithographed.	
											For printing 1500 copies of the Bahanno.	Of this sum Rs. 107-8-0 will be recovered by the sale of the work at 2 annas a copy
				30-0-0	36-0-0-0	10-8-7-2						



**Statement of Expenditure authorized by the Commissioner in Sind for Educational Purposes,  
under Government Letter No.816, of 11th March 1853**

Date	Number	Name of place	Amount of Donation from Education Fund.	Monthly sum ditto	Amount per annum of Monthly Grants from Ditto	Total of Donations and Monthly Grants from Ditto up to 30th April 1854	Donation Under Government Letter No.1291	Donations From other sources	Monthly Sum	Amount Per annum of Monthly Grants	For what purpose Granted	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p	Rs. - a - p		
1853 Dec.24	3740	Kurrachee College (Contd.) Town of Kurrachee.	52- 4 - 0		Brought Over Rs	3,939-1-5 52- 4 - 0					For English books And maps from The Board of Education, for use of English School.	In part of a consignment of Rs.130-12-0, the rest being for general Purposes.
1854 Jan. 10	53	Ditto	20-11- 4			20-11- 4					Passage money for Mahratta School-master, and pay to date of taking charge.	Pay from 10th to 27th December 1853, at Rs. 15, and Rs.12 passage money
1853 Dec. 2	3783	Jerruk	600- 0 - 0			640- 0 - 0	10,000- 0 - 0 50- 0 - 0				Erection of a Vernacular School-house Ditto Ditto Furniture for above	

1854 Jan. 25	223	Sehwan	...	...	...	...	...	206-0-0	....	....	....	For Vernacular School-house, and school-master.	Will commence form, 1st May Amount of column 9 from Jagheerders.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500-0-0	....	....	....	For enlarging English school.	The number of scholars being greater than had been calculated upon, the building had to be erected on a large scale. Amount in column 9 form Municipality.
Feb. 3	579	Kotree	600-0-0	5-0-0	60-0-0	600-0-0	...	...	....	....	....	Miscellaneous expenditure on account of English school.	
Mar. 28	849	Kurrachee Town	500-0-0	...	...	500-0-0	...	...	....	....	....	Return passage money to Mahratra School-master.	
Apr. 1	905	Ditto	21-0-0	...	...	21-0-0	...	...	....	....	....	Erection of a Vernacular school-house.	
Apr. 18	1045	Ditto	12-0-0	...	...	12-0-0	...	1,000-0-0	....	....	....	Erection of English school-house.	Amount in col/9 from Municipality.
1854 Jan. 5	14	Kokar	100-0-0	...	...	100-0-0	...	...	....	....	....		

" 19	152	Hydrabad Town	1000 0-0	...	...	2000-0-0	300-0-0	400-0-0	8 0-0	96-0-0	Vernacular school - house, and school- master.
Apr. 25	122						400-0-0	400-0-0	8 0-0	96-0-0	Ditto
Jan 5	198	Nowshera	...	...	...	...	400-0-0	400-0-0	8 0-0	96-0-0	Ditto
							80-0-0	.....	.....	.....	Ditto
" 25	217	Kundru	...	...	...	...					Providing furniture for schools at Nowshera, Kundiara, and Tarcoobah.
Feb 25	275	Tarcoobah	...	...	...	...					
" "	"	Ditto	...	...	...	...					
						7,645-0-0	Carried over				



( C )  
**SKETCH ESITMATE OF AMOUNT REQUIRED ANNUALY FOR EDUCATION  
 PURPOSES IN SIND**

**Superintendant**

If a Military Officer in addition to Military pay and allowances Rs.200 permanent traveling allowance, to be continued throughout the year, including there month's residence at Kurrachee.

100  
 300 X 12=3,600

Establishment and contingent office expenses of Superintendent. English schools (part Expense to be defrayed by the people)

100 X 12 = 1,200

Kurrachee  
 Hydrabad  
 Shikarpooore

}

At Rs. 100 per mensem  
 each

= 300 X 12 = 3,600

Chief Schools for instruction in the Vernacular, Persian, & c. (part Expense defrayed by the people).

Tatta  
 Hala  
 Roree

}

At Rs. 50 per mensem each = 150 X 12 = 1,800

Other District Schools, for instruction in Sindee, Persian, & c. (part Expense defrayed by the People).  
 Kurrachee Collectorate.

Kurrachee 1  
 Jerruck 1  
 Kotree 1  
 Carried over per annum Rs. 10,200

**Brought over pre annum Rs. 10,200**

Sehwan 1  
 Booouk 1  
 Dadoo 1  
 Johee \* Talooka 1  
 Mahajunda Talooka 1  
 Mahajunda or Sun and Lukhee 2

\* In original "Sohee"

Sakra Talooka	1
Shahbunder Talooka	1
Meerpoor do	1
Jatee do	1

\_13

#### Hydrabad Collectorate

Hydrabad	1
Mahomed Khan's Tanda	1
Budeena	1
Bhyaka Taunda	1
Meeepoor	1
Alyar	1
Nusipoor	1
Omerkote	1
Adam Khan-ka-Tanda	1
Shadadpoor	1
Mettaree	1
Sukhrund*	1
Mora	1
Nowshera	1
Kundiara	1
Tarooshah	1
Jooda Talooka	1
Mohbut Dhera Talooka	1

\_18

#### Shikarpore Collectorate

Mehur	1
Thurery	1
Carried over per annum Rs. 10,200	
Brought over per annum Rs. 10,200	
Kumbhur	1
Larkhana	1
Drukhun	1
Shikarpore	1
Sukkur	1
Jacobabad	1
Chotkee	1
Khyrpoor	1
Merrpoor Mathela	1
Obowra	1

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\*In original "Sukhmund"



**D**  
**RULES REGARDING EXAMINATIONS OF VERNACULAR  
AND OTHER SCHOOLS IN SIND**

1. The following rules are to apply to all schools, whether wholly or in part supported by Government funds, or entirely independent of such aid, their application is in no case to be compulsory.

But no place of instruction, public or private, the managers of which are willing to submit to inspection and examination by Government Officers, is to be excluded from any of the advantages which may result from compliance with these rules.

**1. Vernacular Schools**

2. An examination of all schools in each Talooka is to be held annually. When an Inspector of Education is appointed under the orders of the Director of Public Instruction, he will arrange the mode in which these examinations are to be conducted. In the meantime, each Deputy Collector will do his best to form a qualified Board of Examiners for each district.

3. It will depend on local circumstance, whether one or more schools shall be examined at the same time and place, or separately. It will be easy to ensure, a uniformity of standard, by assigning the same value in marks to full proficiency in each ordinary branch of study.

4. Proficiency in Sindee, to the extent of reading, writing, and the first four rules in arithmetic, to be a sine qua non for any advantage beyond the holding of simple prize.

5. Extra proficiency in Sindee, in such branches as arithmetic, surveying, history, geography, penmanship, &c, to entitle the proficient to extra marks.

6. Additional marks to be also allowed for proficiency in Persian, Arabic, Sanscrit, English, or any other voluntary acquirement.

7. The three best boys in each Talooka to be selected, and allowed to choose, in the order of their proficiency, one of the three following rewards:-

1<sup>st</sup> - A place in the District Cutcherry, as a paid candidate for Government employment, on Rs. 5 per mensem.

2<sup>nd</sup>,- An appointment as paid Assistant Teacher in the Government district school, at Rs. 6 or as pupil in the normal school at Rs. 7 per mensem.

3<sup>rd</sup>, - A scholarship of Rs. 6 per mensem, tenable for two years, as a scholar in the Government English school of the Collectorate.

8. In the event of either of the above rewards being successively declined by the three best candidates, it may be offered in succession to the next best, provided he comes up to what the Examiner considers a fair minimum standard of qualifications.

9. The paid candidates for Government employment will receive pay at the rate of Rs. 5 per mensem for two years, or till such time within that period as the candidate may be provided with a Government situation of equal or greater emolument. The salary as a paid candidate will cease from the date of the offer of such an appointment in the Government service, whether the offer be accepted or not. But if the cause of the non-acceptance be satisfactory, in the opinion of the Collector, he is invested with discretionary power to re-appoint any such paid candidate till the period of the next annual examination.

10. All vacancies in the subordinate ranks of the Government service, under Rs.20 per mensem, to be filled up exclusively from among the paid candidates.

11. No exceptions to be allowed from this rule, except in favour of pupils who have chosen either of the other alternatives offered in Rule 7, or except under special circumstances, which must be immediately reported for the information of the Commissioner, and for his sanction.

12. In the event of any paid candidate remaining unprovoked with a permanent berth in the Government service at the end of the second year, he shall be examined by the Deputy Collector, aided, if possible, by the Inspector in the Educational Department; and if it should be found that he is in all respects qualified, for the employment, but that his not having received an appointment arises from the non-occurrence of a vacancy, or other similar case, over which he has no control, his claim to employment, in preference to other candidates, will continue; but his pay will cease from the end of the term of two years. If on the contrary, his non-employment should be in any degree owing to his own default, his claim to employment will cease with his pay.

13. Appointments as paid Assistant Teachers, normal school pupils, or scholarships in the English school, will be subject to the rules which may be laid down for those institutions respectively.

14. But in the event of any pupil, who has chosen such appointment service, he shall possess in all respects the same advantages, and claims to employment, as a paid candidate. In such cases, the respective rank of the parties will be regulated by the date of their passing their examination.

## II. English Schools

15. The same principles to be adopted in the English schools. Annual examination to be held of all English schools, private as well as Government, at each Station, and the best candidates who can pass a minimum standard of qualification, to be fixed by the Examiners, to be rewarded with either:-

1<sup>st</sup>,- A place in the Collector's English office, as a paid candidate, of Rs. 10 per mensem.

2<sup>nd</sup>, - An appointment as Assistant Teacher in the school, at Rs. 15 per mensem.

3<sup>rd</sup>, - An scholarship of Rs. 10 per mensem, in the engineering class at Kurrachee.

16. Each tenable for two years, on term similar to those laid down regarding Vernacular schools.

17. Rules 10 and 11, regarding Vernacular schools, to be applied mutatis mutandis to the English offices of all civil establishments.

H. B. E. FRERE  
Commissioner in Sind

**3. From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 12<sup>th</sup> February 1856, regarding printing of Report on Education of Sind by B.H. Ellis, Assistant Commissioner**

No. 206 of 1856  
General Department

From  
Director of Public Instruction

Sir,

A letter from the Commissioner in Sind, which had not reached me at the date of my report (No. 49 of the 17<sup>th</sup> ultimo), has since been received. It had apparently been delayed in transit, owing to some postal miscarriage. I have the pleasure to forward a copy of it, and of its accompaniments, for the information of the Governor in Council.

2. It will not be expected at this stage of the proceedings that I should make any detailed remarks on the educational plans recommended for Sind, and already partially introduced into the province. My information on this subject is very imperfect, and it will be much more advantageous, I am sure, to accept in its integrity the system designed by Mr. Ellis, under the directions of Mr. Frere, and merely to introduce hereafter such modifications and reforms as experience may from time to time suggest.

3. I beg, therefore, to urge upon Government the propriety of immediately naming an officer to perform the duties of Educational Inspector in Sind. He should proceed to take charge of his office with the least possible delay. I will send him copies of the instructions issued to inspectors and visitors in the Indian districts of this Presidency, and request him at once to compare these with the proposals contained in Mr. Ellis's report, and with the present actual requirements of his division, and then to submit, by the 1<sup>st</sup> of April next, any suggestions which may occur to him for the future regulation of the department.

4. The Sindi language having been adopted as the language of official business in Sind, it follows that instruction in the vernacular schools must be conveyed in that language. In order to meet the circumstances and prejudices of the Mahomedans and Hindoos, it is thought necessary to have Arabic-Sindi schools for the Mahomedans, and Hindoo-Sindee schools for the Hindoos, in which the written character employed, will be respectively the Arabic and the Khudawadee. No doubt seems to be entertained by the various officers who have written on the subject that a necessity exists for this difference; but with reference to the appeal to the example of the North-Western Provinces, as affording a precedent for the use of distinct characters by the different classes of the population, it is to be remarked that in those provinces measures had been in successful progress for some time before the present disturbances broke out for doing away with the distinction, and for the general employment of the Devanagree to the exclusion of the

Khyasthee character. It is most desirable that, if practicable, a similar course should be taken in Sind.

5. The resolution adopted by Mr. Frere, of causing the Sindee language to be written in Arabic character for Mahomedans, and in the Devanagaree character for Hindoos, appears to be perfectly just and wise. He laments that the departure from Sindh of Rao Saheb Wisswanath Narayan (now visitor of schools in the Tannah (collectorate), should have deferred the preparation of a Hindoo- Sindee alphabet, on which that gentleman was occupied. I trust, however, that if his Lordship in Council will sanction the appointment of a Hindoo visitor for Sind, as recommended, it may be possible to secure the services of Rao Saheb Wisswanath Narayan in this capacity, at least as a temporary measure, and until the Hindoo-Sindee alphabet shall be fixed, a series of Hindoo-Sindee school books prepared for publication, and the new organization generally brought into effective operation.

6. As a provisional arrangement, I would suggest that Seyud Ameenooddeen, now head Moonshee in the Commissioner's office, be appointed to officiate as Mahomedan visitor for the province. This person was named to me by Mr. Frere as the gentleman best qualified of those immediately available for this work.

7. His Lordship in Council will not understand from the above that I concur in every suggestion contained in Mr. Ellis's report. I may doubt whether Arabic should be taught in the district (or, as we would call them, village) schools; and, whether the high rates of remuneration proposed for scholars and official candidates can really be maintained. But these are questions of detail, which may well be regarded at present as open motions; and in the Bombay, general principles propounded in these papers I am able entirely to concur.

8. There is one important point which Mr. Frere has not particularly noticed, but to which I feel it right to direct the special attention of Government. It is the proposal explained and defended in paras 92 and 99 of Mr. Ellis's report. I had occasion, some time ago, to express my belief that the present provision for primary education in this Presidency is, in principle, defective and inadequate. That did not, however seem to be the opinion of Government. I am happy, therefore, to find that Mr. Ellis and Mr. Frere have been led by practical observations to the conclusion, that, in this country, all communities should be encouraged in their corporate capacity to take upon themselves the obligation of imparting common knowledge and training to all their members, that the schools thus maintained should be wholly free to all within their reach ; and that, provided the municipal grants be appropriated, not to higher studies, which can never be the portion of all, nor to particular schools, or districts or classes of the community, but really to all men, everywhere, they are the most suitable, the most practical, and the most acceptable method of supporting education which has been proposed or can be attempted in India.

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) C. J. Erskine,  
Director of Public Instruction

Bombay, Office of the Director of Public Instruction  
12 February 1856

4. From the Director of Public Instruction, dated 28<sup>th</sup> July 1856, regarding printing of Report on Education of Sind by B.H. Ellis, Assistant Commissioner.

No. 1788 of 1856  
General Department

From

The Director of Public Instruction

Sir,

Under date the 29th of May, the Officiating Commissioner in Sindh addressed me as follows:

1. I have the honour to bring to your notice that, on the 6th March last, I forwarded to Lieutenant Lester, Educational Inspector in Sind, for his opinion thereon, an application for sanction for a disbursement of 530 rupees, for the erection of a school-house at the village of Dadoo in the Kurrachee Collectorate.

2. The papers so forwarded were only returned to me on the 23d instant by Lieutenant Lester, with a letter from himself, informing me that he had sent them on to you in Bombay, and that they had been laid before Government, whose sanction had been obtained for the outlay

3. I cannot imagine what useful end could have been proposed to be Bombay attained by forwarding to Bombay the papers in question, with regard to which local knowledge only was necessary to enable a correct opinion to be arrived at, and on which I had called for Lieutenant Lester's opinion, thinking that in obtaining such opinion but a few hours' delay would have been caused. The manner in which these papers were transmitted to you seems to have induced you to believe that they had been forwarded with my knowledge and sanction, and to have led to an application to Government for sanction to a disbursement wholly unknown to me, and without any reference to the Public Works Department, a course of procedure which is, I submit, irregular, and which, if permitted, appears to me to be likely to cause much inconvenience and confusion. Wherefore I beg to suggest that it be prohibited in future."

4. On the 10th June, I replied:

- I. In acknowledging your letter, No. 2/1, of the 29th ultimo, I beg to express my entire concurrence in your opinion, that the reference to Bombay of every case in which a new sanction for any educational charge is contemplated, would be extremely inconvenient, and ought not to be allowed.
- II. It will, however, appear to you, I trust, that Lieutenant Lester might not

unnaturally feel somewhat at a loss how to advise on a reference like this on his first arrival in the province, and before it had been possible to give him definite instructions as to the method of obtaining sanction for charges of this nature. He seems to have misunderstood the object of your reference. I have already more than once pointed out to him that the practice of constantly communicating with Bombay would be very injurious, and he is, I believe, him self entirely of that opinion, and most anxious to act accordingly, and to be guided by your counsels.

III. I may, perhaps, fancy difficulties where none exist, but it seems to me that you will not find it easy, without enlarged authority, to dispose of such applications for educational aid. The sum hitherto at the disposal of the Commissioner for this purpose annually was 10,000 rupees; of this, a very large portion has already been permanently appropriated to fixed charges, which will recur annually. Indeed, from the statements recently received, I conclude, for they do not show exactly, that nearly the whole of the above sum must be already absorbed. I have asked Lieutenant Lester for precise information on this point because it seemed to me, from the best information I could obtain, that even if your annual grant were raised, as Mr. Frere proposed, to 25,000 rupees per annum it would hardly in this respect meet the requirement of the case.

IV. There are two ways; it seems to me, in which the necessity for references may be avoided.

- a. By giving your authority to appropriate annually to new fixed charges connected with education a certain sum in addition to the fixed sanctioned charges existing at the commencement of the year, and authority also to disburse annually a certain extra sum on general or contingent charges of the department.
- b. By adopting some rule under which, if a certain rate of contribution be raised by local communities, a certain rate in aid will be allowed by Government, without reference to the total sum thus annually granted away.

5. The latter is the principle now acted upon in these districts, and under it practically there is no limit to the charges which the inspecting officers may provisionally admit, except the liberality of the communities visited. Schools are thus conditionally sanctioned at once, and preparations are made for opening them in anticipation of the formal sanction of Government, which is given upon monthly statements of schools provisionally approved in every district. This relates, of course, only to fixed charges, contributions in aid of buildings, &c, being extremely rare here; but the same principle might be applied to such contributions.

6. I deem it advisable to bring this prominently to your notice, because, as regards these provinces, the Government of India has abolished the annual education in Sind. Educational grant, stating that hereafter the charges of this department, as of Bombay other public departments, must be regulated by the wants to be supplied, and sanctioned from time to time

accordingly. I have acquiesced in the propriety of this view as regards Indian districts, but I am not disposed to view it as applicable to Sind. If, however, a larger annual grant is to be asked for, it should not be forgotten that the order just referred to has been adopted else where. I should be greatly obliged to you for a statement of your views on this subject.

7. The officiating Commissioner has now reported: "I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 1257, and with reference to having reference the subject of paras. 3, 4, 5 and 6, of that letter, to state that in my opinion to the promotion of the rules under which, if a certain amount of contribution be raised by the people of any locality for educational purposes, a certain grant in aid will be allowed by Government, will be far preferable to any fixed sum being granted annually for educational purposes.

8. The grant in aid for Sind, should, I think, be in proportion to the contributions of the people as two to one, Government thus bearing two-thirds of the whole cost.

9. I doubt if anything effectual can be accomplished at present, at least, with a less amount of assistance from the State; but as the benefits of education extend and become more and more valued by the people, the proportions of the respective shares will be reversed, and ultimately the whole cost of education may be borne by the people themselves.

10. This may be a proper opportunity to mention to you that it appears to me, that the arrangement of appointing an inspector of education in Sind on a salary of 1,000 rupees a month, is not by any means the best mode of advancing education in the province-

11. It seems not to be in accordance with the rules of a wise economy, to pay (12,000) twelve thousand rupees, or (16,000) sixteen thousand rupees per annum for the duty of superintending the expenditure of (10,000) ten thousand or twenty-five thousand, while it is evident to me that too much direct interference by Europeans in the first instance, will be likely, in the present state of mental culture existing generally in the province, seriously to retard instead of advancing the real education of the people of Sind.

12. It should be borne in mind that proceedings at Kurrachee, where the European Inspector resides, have almost as little influence on the people of Sind, as proceedings in Bombay or in England. The people of Kurrachee are mostly foreigners to Sind, and the inhabitants of Sind generally have an almost invincible dislike even to a temporary residence at this place. The schools at Kurrachee are not properly Sindee schools, and can effect little towards advancing the real education of the people of Sind, except by training masters to be supplied to the schools throughout the province.

13. That which is really most necessary to raise the moral and intellectual character of the people of Sind, appears to me to be at first the most elementary instruction very generally diffused throughout the country, and this it seems to me will be best introduced by native agency only. No European Inspector or Superintendent is required. Two well qualified and active visitors, one Mussulman and one Hindoo, each on a salary of 150 rupees a month, moving about

the province with the Commissioner, would, it appears to me, effect the object in view far more effectually than the European Inspector at Kurrachee on a salary of 1,000 rupees.

14. If the object be to improve the people of Sind, and to advance their mental growth, the present machinery will prove far too heavy for the work, however imposing may be the display it may make by means of English schools, & c. among the foreigners at Kurrachee.

15. Another circumstance is also worthy of serious consideration the language to be taught.

16. It appears to me certain that the attempt to make a written language out of the several barbarous provincial dialects used in Sind, and to perpetuate their use, will impede the progress of real education in Sind for a long series of years, and do more to crush all intellectual development among the people than any other proceedings I can readily think of. I have no doubt on this point, and feeling as I do, that improved mental culture and advancing moral growth are the greatest possible blessings which can be granted to men, I can not but be deeply impressed with the idea of the great evil which must follow from the course we are now adopting.

17. I am quite convinced that less harm would be done to the cause of education, were we to leave the people entirely unaided to follow their own devices, than will be produced and indefinitely extended by our insisting on introducing into the schools and perpetuating the use of one or any of the provincial dialects of Sind, or of a so-called Sindee language constructed out of these dialects."

18. In a postscript it is added: "The subject of the educational establishment in Sind appears to me to be one of great importance to the province, and I should therefore esteem it a favour if you would at once bring it prominently to the notice of Government."

19. As I concur entirely in the opinion expressed by the officiating Commissioner on the importance of this subject, I have been careful to submit his statements in his own words without curtailment.

20. The points under reference are evidently three, which differ much from each other, and may be separately considered.

1. The principle on which educational charges in Sind should here after be sanctioned.
2. The establishment by which educational operations in that province should be carried on.
3. The language to be taught in primary schools in Sind.

21. On the first point, I beg to support the recommendation of the Commissioner, that he be permitted to sanction, without reference to Government, expenditure for educational purposes in the province of Sind, on condition that no sum thus sanctioned shall be more than double the sum contributed by the local association or community. Many special cases will doubtless arise,

in which it will be desirable to sanction disbursements by Government, without any equivalent, but those may be especially referred for Government sanction in each instance. It hardly seems necessary to give a maximum beyond which the sanctions of the Commissioner on the above condition shall not pass in each year, as it seems unlikely that the provincial communities will at present more than exhaust the liberality of Government. Should Government have any difficulty in at once sanctioning the proposal, I beg very earnestly to propose that the Commissioner at all events be immediately authorized (in anticipation of final sanction) to expend 25,000 rupees per annum on education (the minimum proposed by Mr. Frere), instead of 10,000 rupees, as at present. The urgent necessity for this increase, especially since the withdrawal of municipal aid from schools in Sind, is sufficiently proved by the following extract from a letter of the Inspector, No. 237, of the 4th instant, Para. 8: "The present fixed charges (on the educational grant) amount to about 8,748 rupees per annum, and now we have the municipal aid additional of Rs. 3,682. 2., making a total of actual school expenses of Rs. 12,430. 2 per annum, being a surplus expenditure of 2,430 rupees beyond the present Government grant, leaving us therefore nothing for establishing new schools or scholarships, nothing for prizes, school books, lithographing of new books, &c. &c. This is proposed merely as a provisional arrangement. A final one will be recommended as soon as possible."

22. On the second point, the present establishment, as Government are aware, was organized on the recommendation of the Commissioner, Mr. Frere. In the 16th para, of his letter, No. 3969, of the 24th of December last, he observed, "Perhaps at present the most pressing want is that of some qualified Inspector, under your general superintendence, to devote his whole attention to the subject. He should have under him at least two subordinates, one a Mahomedan and the other a Hindoo, not less highly qualified than the provincial Superintendents of schools in India."

23. Mr. Frere represented, that inquiries connected with educational improvements have imposed great labour upon his assistant Mr. Ellis; and he wrote strongly, and others have spoken strongly, of the benefit which had resulted to the cause, of education in Sind from the labours of that gentleman, and which with all deference I can hardly believe would have resulted from the labours of a native of the province.

24. I do not know whether the Officiating Commissioner proposes to avail himself of the services of any and what European assistants hereafter, in organizing a system of village schools, preparing works for use in them, controlling expenditure, rendering accounts, administering patronage, visiting private and mission schools as they arise, training teachers, superintending the operations of this department generally, and reporting proceedings from time to time. If competent European agency is to be employed at all, I see no reason for interfering with existing arrangements. The present Inspector was indicated by the Commissioner as a proper person for the office, and has performed his duties in a very satisfactory manner. Unless therefore the Officiating Commissioner be prepared to take into his own hands the duty and responsibility of immediately maturing and carrying out all educational measures, and directly controlling all educational establishments, I would certainly deprecate any attempt to supersede the arrangement which has been adopted for the introduction by degrees of an effective system of

schools, and the diffusion of rational desire for knowledge

25 Lt Colonel Jacob\* has observed that "it seems not to be in accordance with the rules of a wise economy to pay 12,000 rupees or 16,000 rupees per annum, for the duty of superintending the expenditure of 10,000 rupees or 25,000 rupees per annum."

26 I need hardly point out that the duty of superintending expenditure (which, I am afraid, in the absence of a single responsible controller, has been very imperfectly performed) is not the chief duty, and much less the sole duty of an Inspector of schools. Certainly the extent of his utility cannot be measured by the extent of Government funds (for they only are here referred to) at his disposal. Colonel Jacob has himself declared that, with the progress of education, the proportion of Government aid to be granted to schools will diminish, until at last, as he prophesies, Government aid will be unnecessary. He will hardly maintain that inspection will then be unnecessary likewise.

27 The duties of an Inspector of course are mainly connected with the encouragement of a desire for instruction, and the improvement of the means of instruction. Every one must concur in the opinion of the Officiating Commissioner, that too much direct interference by Europeans in the first instance will do more harm than good, but I am obliged to confess that, in my judgment, it is the excess of interference alone which can be injurious: that it is not clear why the exertions of Lieutenant Lester should be less beneficial in their degree than those of Mr. Ellis: and that, especially with the existing great difficulty of obtaining suitable native agency, it seems very difficult indeed to believe that the services of a European Superintendent can be dispensed with without imposing upon the Commissioner or his assistant personally a degree of labour which, in the opinion of Mr. Ellis and Mr. Frere, may most advantageously be transferred to a special Inspector of education.

28 I have made these remarks with some hesitation, as they are opposed to the opinions of an officer so able and experienced as Colonel Jacob. I should hardly have made them perhaps were it not that I believe the views now expressed to be in conformity with those of Mr. Frere (by which the proceedings of Government have been influenced), and also that Government must expect me, under these circumstances, to offer an expression of my own opinion, which is not altered by the remarks of the Officiating Commissioner.

29 If it should appear desirable to Government and to the Commissioner to appoint the Inspector in Sind to be an assistant to the Commissioner in the Department of Education, and to order that his communications on all matters of local concernment are to be with the Commissioner direct, and generally with the Director of Public Instruction only after the Commissioner has pronounced upon them, I shall not oppose that arrangement. It is most desirable that the wishes of the Commissioner should regulate the proceedings of the Inspector in every possible way, and that the instructions issued by the Inspector should be known always to

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\*Lt Colonel Jacob served as officiating commissioner of Sindh during absence of Bartle Frere, while he was on leave- The Editor

have the authority and concurrence of the Commissioner. If, therefore, this course were adopted I would merely require that the usual periodical reports and returns should be duly forwarded to this office from Sind as from the other divisions, and that the director should be kept fully informed of all proceedings without delay. The final submission of proposals to and issue of orders by Government should of course, in every instance, be through this office.

30. I will not comment on the remarks of the Officiating Commissioner in paragraphs 6 to 8 of his letter, because there seems to be no reason why an educational Inspector should pass more of his time at Kurrachee or devote more of his attention to English schools than a native Inspector or an assistant to the Commissioner.

31. The third point to which Colonel Jacob draws attention is the language to be used in the primary schools in Sind. The arguments which he advances has not convinced me that Mr. Frere's determination to adopt the Sindee as the language of business and instruction for the bulk of the population was injudicious. Nor does I suppose that Government (on other grounds) is willing to re-open the question as to the language of official record in the province. I will merely, therefore, a somewhat fuller statement by Colonel Jacob of his objections to the Sindee dialect, and await the decision of Government on the question, whether or not the general use of that dialect, in as far as Government offices and schools are concerned, is again to be regarded as an open question or not.

32. I have had very great difficulty in obtaining the information required to enable me to frame definite and detailed instructions for the Inspector in Sind, and to propose in detail a definite course of procedure for the conduct of educational operations in the province. Most of the information has now been furnished, in as far as it can be furnished, and I hope very soon to lay the results before Government in a separate communication. I have reason to believe that it will be necessary, very considerably, and without delay, to modify many of the proposals made in Mr. Ellis's report; but on this subject I will not enter at present.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) C. J. Erskine,  
Director of Public Instruction

Bombay, Office of the  
Director of Public Instruction  
28<sup>th</sup> July 1856

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<sup>1</sup> Taken from Mr. Arthur Mills EAST INDIA (EDUCATION), Ordered, by The House of Commons, 1859

## 5. THE REPORT OF CAPTAIN LESTER, EDUCATIONAL INSPECTOR OF THE SIND DIVISION

To

Commissioner in Sind

Sir,

I have the honour to submit, as requested, a brief sketch of my proceedings in Sind, as Educational Inspector.

2. My sojourn in Sind was not on this last occasion a very long one. I assumed charge of my duties as Educational Inspector on the 28th February 1856, and on the 20th of the following September I left Sind, to take up my appointment in the Dekkan.

3. My proceedings, therefore, extend over a period of about six months and a half. I received very full instructions from your Predecessor as to my course of action, and my first duty was 'to ascertain exactly the number, distribution, objects, quality, and management of existing Schools,' with other details, unnecessary now to mention, but fully detailed in the letter of instructions above referred to.

4. The season for district travelling was nearly over when I arrived at Kurrachee, and, being without any recent information as to the state of Education in the Province, without any office establishment or camp equipage, I deemed it my best plan, instead of at once going fruitlessly into the Districts, to communicate with the Commissioner and the Collectors (the former, as also the Collector of Kurrachee, had not then returned to Kurrachee), and collect as much information from them as they were able to give me.

5. This was a work of considerable time and some difficulty, as I was unable, for some time, to obtain the services of a competent clerk for my office, the only subordinate official which was allowed me; no Deputy Inspectors were employed under me. I was therefore single-handed in compiling and arranging the statistical information which, from time to time, reached me from the Districts.

6. The great leading employment of my sojourn in Sind was therefore to ascertain exactly what had been done before; what was the present position of Educational matters, both in their financial and general bearings; and, in correspondence with yourself and the Commissioner, maturing plans and preparing the way for future operation, as soon as the cold season set in and admitted of my taking the field.

7. Education, under Government auspices, and at Government expense, had been exactly

three years in progress when I took charge of my office as Educational Inspector. In March 1853 an annual outlay of 10,000 rupees was sanctioned for Educational purposes in Sind, and the actual results of this outlay I found to be the following:

### I. Schools in existence in March 1856.

English Schools	2
Engineer School (English)	1
Normal Class	1
Vernacular Schools	27
Total	31 Schools.

The Masters and Assistant Masters in all these Schools, with the exception of the Engineer School, were paid, some wholly, some in part, from the Educational Fund. Those who received only a portion of their salaries from the Fund had the balance paid them either from the Municipal Fund, or by Jageerdars or Zemindars 14 of the towns or districts in which their Schools were respectively situated.

### II.—School-houses.

A great number of School-houses had been erected, either wholly or in part by grants from the Educational Fund. A very substantial one had been built for the English School at Kurrachee, at a cost of Rs. 4,816-10-8, defrayed partly from the sum granted by Government annually for Educational purposes in Sind, and partly by the Municipality of that place. Another one, of elegant design, by the late Lieutenant Chapman, of the Bombay Engineers, was in course of erection at Hyderabad.

### III.—Books.

Several elementary books for school purposes had been translated, and published in the Arabic-Sindee character, the expense of which (a very heavy item) was met from the Educational Fund.

8. Very little was done in the first year, after the grant had been sanctioned, in the actual establishment of Schools. It was necessary, at first, to prepare books. It was not till 1854 that Schools began to appear; all the Schools in Sind, with two or three exceptions, were established in the years 1854 and 1855.

9. After assuming charge of my office, I found any further extension impossible for the present. On examining the accounts, it appeared that the expenditure was already far in excess of the sanctioned allowance. The Fund was in debt; and on my reporting to the Commissioner the state of the finances, he at once directed that no further expenditure could be sanctioned, except what was actually necessary, until a reference had ( 103 ) been made to Government, and the original sum increased proportionally to the growing wants of the Province.

10. Hence there were several applications for grants for the erection of School-houses, and for augmenting salaries of Masters, which we were obliged to put aside for a while. It was necessary also to postpone the lithographing of three or four works which had been translated, and prepared in the Arabic-Sindee, for School purposes.

11. In short, the whole work of advancement entailing expenditure was necessarily stopped.

12. Two grants, however, were made while I was in Sind, by Government, through the Director of Public Instruction; the one grant of Rs. 500, for a School-house at Dadoo, the other, of Rs. 400, for furniture for the Indo-European School at Kurrachee.

13. There were also a few items sanctioned by the Commissioner from the Educational Fund, soon after my arrival in Sind, viz.

1. A grant of Rs. 25 monthly, for a Master, for the English class at Kotree.
2. A grant of, I think, Rs. 60 a month, for the Assistant Master of the Government English School at Kurrachee, correspondence regarding whose appointment I found going on when I took charge.
3. A grant for the payment of a balance due for lithographing some Educational work. The exact amount I cannot remember, but I believe it was about Rs. 500.
4. A grant of Rs. 28 for the lithographing a number of copies of the Rules for Grants-in-aid which had been translated into Sindee by me.

14. The above four grants were, I think, the principal grants made during the time I was in Sind.

15. I should mention, also, that a very handsome sum was sanctioned for the erection of a School-house for the Engineer School at Kurrachee. The exact amount I do not remember, but it was, I think, at least Rs. 5,000. This was chargeable, however, to the Public Work Department, and not to the Sind Educational Fund. Infact the whole charge of this Engineer School was debited to the Public Works Department.

16. For reasons before given, I am unable to report the establishment of many new Schools. During the time I held office only two Vernacular Schools were opened, one at Tatta and the other at Sukkur; an English class was also formed at Kotree, for which a sum of Rs. 25 was sanctioned, as before stated, for the salary of the Master.

17. The preparation of the Arabic-Sindee Alphabet for the use of the Mahomedan population had been achieved by Mr. Ellis, in July 1853; but an Alphabet for the Hindoos, considered by the Commissioner and others to be absolutely necessary, had not yet been attempted, owing to the fact that those by whom the work was capable of being undertaken had been compelled, by

sickness and other causes, to leave the Province\*.

18. You are, doubtless, well acquainted with the causes which rendered the use of two characters necessary in our Educational work in Sind; but as these may not be generally known, it may not perhaps be out of place briefly to explain them, and I cannot do so better than by quoting Mr. Frere's own words. After stating the fact that Captain Stack had, during the discussion which took place as to choice of character, advocated the adoption of a Hindooised Alphabet, selected from one or other of the many Alphabets, or rather systems of short hand writing current among the Hindoo inhabitants of Sind, and that Captain Burton had advocated the adoption of the Arabic character, Mr. Frere adds, each is unanswerable according as the reader looks at the question from a Hindoo or Mahomedan point of view; and the most difficult part of the dilemma, in deciding between them, arises from the fact that while the language itself has a Hindoo origin and genius, belonging undoubtedly to that great family of languages which acknowledges Sanskrit as its most perfect type, and while a large proportion of the Government servants are Hindoos, between two-thirds and three-fourths of the people are Mahomedans, and look to Arabic and Persian as their classic languages. It would be difficult to say which of these two sections of the population is the more bigoted, or the less inclined to adopt anything, however remotely connected with the rival faith. In fact, both Captain Stack and Captain Burton are right as far as the section of the community they respectively represent is concerned; and after the most careful and dispassionate consideration, Mr. Ellis, who judged the question with as much scholarly acumen and knowledge as practical sagacity, agreed with the impressions which I had formed on looser data, that it was as hopeless to teach the Hindoos generally to read their own language in an Arabic character, as it would be to induce the Mahomedans to adopt generally a system of writing which they would consider as more than savoring of rank idolatry. To attain that general enlightenment which can alone put an end to such prejudices; it appeared to us absolutely necessary to teach both parties to read their own language in their own way. As Mr. Ellis points out, the example of the North-West Provinces, and he might have added of Germany, proves that the co-existence of two distinct alphabets is less practically inconvenient than would be at first supposed. But, whether inconvenient or not, there is no escape from the difficulty; and, if Government were exclusively to adopt either the Hindoo or Arabic character as the sole medium of Sindee education, the result must be to condemn either the Mahomedan, and more formidably-prejudiced majority, or the Hindoo, the trading and money-making minority, to many generations of ignorance.

19. The preparation of the Hindoo-Sindee character was entrusted to me. The task was accordingly undertaken, and, with the assistance of several intelligent Native gentlemen, and by the aid of several very valuable papers which had been prepared on the subject by some of the Revenue Officers in Upper Sind, the work was carried through, and submitted to the Commissioner shortly before my departure from Sind. What has since been done in regard to its general adoption I do not know; but I am sure that no pains were spared in making it as complete

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\* Captain Lester is citing about Narayan Jaganath, who was appointed school Inspector and was given assignment of revising Khudawad: character- The Editor

and perfect as could be, and I have reason to hope that it will eventually be brought into use in our Schools in Sind.

20. A Native General Library was established at Kurrachee while I was there, which, from the very abundant support which it received from the Native community, fair to be a most useful and valuable institution. Government very liberally granted it in donation a sum of Rs. 1,000.

21. The work of inspection and examination of the Schools at Kurrachee, Government as well as others, formed a not important part of my duty. The Government English and Vernacular Schools were frequently visited by me, and I was enabled, shortly before my departure, to be present at the examination of the English School (preliminary to the annual public one), at which the Commissioner presided.

22. The Government English School at Kurrachee is a very flourishing institution. It numbered about 75 or 80 scholars; and, considering that it had only then been about two years in operation, the proficiency of the scholars was very creditable to them and to their Master. The School is supplied with a small but well-chosen Library, which, I doubt not, will be of much value to the scholars by and by. It is also provided with a small stock of Chemical apparatus, a Magic Lantern, Electrical machines, &c., which, as they had only been lately received, had not at that time been made much use of.

23. The Government Vernacular School assembles in a neat and substantial little building, which was completed only shortly before I left. It is near the Native town, and about one and half or two miles from Camp. It was not in a very good state, for want of a better Master. This is the great want in Sind. The Masters there are even more ignorant and unlettered than their brethren in the Dekkan. Their acquirements do not exceed those of reading and writing, and the extent of their knowledge is not much beyond what they find in their Koran.

24. The Normal Class, therefore, at Kurrachee, for the training of Masters, is a very valuable institution. Something more should be done for it than as yet has been. It numbers about 12 students, each of whom receives a salary of Rs. 6 a month.

25. Other Schools at Kurrachee are: (1) The Indo-European, in the middle of the Camp, presided over by Mr. and Mrs. Mc Clumpha. It is intended for the benefit of the children of Europeans in Kurrachee, who are unable to send their children to England. It is well attended, numbering by the last report 98 children, who seem to be well taught under the care of Mr. Mc Clumpha. Altogether this is a most interesting institution. (2) The Mission School, under the management of the Rev. Mr. Sheldon, of the Church of England Mission, and situated near the Native Town, is an important School. I am not sure what the exact attendance is at it, but, on the occasion of my visiting it, it was well filled by a number of very intelligent children, and the School was in a very fair state of discipline and advancement. My removal from Sind before the setting in of the travelling season prevented my seeing any of the District Schools.

26. Such is a brief and imperfect sketch of my work in Sind. It is drawn up partly from

letters, correspondence, and notes, and partly from recollection; but I trust it will be deemed sufficient for the purpose. I believe the way is very fully prepared for future operations. A great amount of information has been collected, and, I trust, arranged in a form at once intelligible and useful.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
(Signed) Captain Lester  
Educational Inspector  
Kurrachee

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<sup>1</sup> Lieutenant J. F. Lester worked as Deputy Collector in Shikarpur Collectorate in 1850; he then was transferred and posted in different districts. He also remained incharge of Education Department. Preparation of Hindoo Sindhi (Khudawadi) for Hindu Sindhi Schools was his main assignment. He had passed examination of colloquial in Sindhi-The Editor

**6. Letter from Government of Bombay to Commissioner Sindh, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1857, enquiring about examination of civil officers in Sindh**

No 1439 of 1857  
General Department

To

The Commissioner in Scinde

Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1857

Sir,

I have the honour to refer letter No. 642 of 28th February 1856 and forwarding for information and guidance a copy of Government of India's letter No. 1436, dated 31st October 1856 relating to the examination for the servants of Government in all Departments .

2. I am directed to request you to report whether an annual examination was considered necessary for the officers in civil employment?

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
Your most obedient servant  
Secretary to Government of  
India

Bombay Castle  
Dated: 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1857

7. A Circular from Commissioner in Sindh to Collectors of Sindh, dated August 29<sup>th</sup>, 1857, stating that applications written in Persian would not be entertained now onwards.

No. 123 of 1857  
General Department

### CIRCULAR

To

- Three Collectors
- The Captain of Police
- Deputy Collector, Thur and Parkur
- The Post Master in Scinde  
Kurrachee

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup> August 1857

Sir,

All heads of Civil Departments and Collectors, Magistrates and Captain of Police and Deputy Collectors have already been directed to send information requiring officers in civil employment for knowledge of colloquial Examination in of Scindee.

2. I have the honour to further direct you that in future all petitions written in Persian would not be accepted, and, if anybody wants to submit it in Persian, a word-by-word Scindee translation must also be attached with that to make it acceptable.

3. A Scindee version of the Notification duly signed by the undersigned is transmitted herewith for your guidance and strict compliance.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to be  
Sir  
(Signed) H.B.E. Frere  
Commissioner in Scinde

Commissioner's office  
Kurrachee  
29<sup>th</sup> August 1857

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<sup>1</sup> The English version of this Notification has been prepared on the basis: Alphabetical Catalogue of the Contents of the Pre-Mutiny Records of the Commissioner in Sindh 1857  
Commissioner's Printing Press, 1931



## ON THE PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL LITERATURE IN THE EAST•

*By Major Goldsmid*

Dated 30<sup>th</sup> November, 1863

The Sindi Legendary Poem of Sa'sui and Punhu English translations from oriental languages are not easily made attractive to the general reader, unless they convey some startling novelty of idea or treatment, a position which they are not often calculated to realize. If literal, they are for the most part verbose or unmeaning; if adaptations to suit the supposed taste of the home public, they become subject to the rules of ordinary criticism, and have seldom the requisite stamina to pass creditably through the ordeal. I have always thought that the true charm of Sa'di and Hafiz rests more in the language than in the morals or poetry; consequently, that our English versions, however ably executed, are far from doing justice to the original. The airs are for a full orchestra, and we hear them on a piano or street organ. And if the Persian intellect be, as I believe, one which places sound above import, so also may we esteem that of other Eastern nations, whose poets are humble imitators of the Persians. These remarks apply with especial force to the romantic and fanciful schools of poetry, whether expressed after the fashion of an ode, a ballad, or a sonnet. I use intelligible terms, though all may not precisely correspond with the technical requirements of the Asiatic Muse.

2. At the same time, to arrive at a due estimate of a nation's genius, it will be necessary to know its words as well as its acts; and as comparatively few people, except those upon whom the task falls professionally, have time or inclination to devote themselves to the study of oriental tongues, the work of clothing them in European guise cannot be altogether abandoned. But the interpretation of treaties and political dialogues, instructive and necessary as they cannot fail to prove, is not satisfying. I should know something of a people's inner life and sentiment, as expressed by its own approved domestic spokesmen—in plainer words, by its bards and philosophers; and, in nine cases out of ten, the language of this class is all the more acceptable to us because addressed emphatically to their fellow-countrymen. It comes from and speaks to the heart and the home; it has no arrière pensée on civilized criticism; it is simply national, and the author knows nothing of "reserving the rights of translation."

3. If, then, the literature of distant lands should be valuable to us as an exotic, how much more should it be valued by the people or nation of whose individuality it is the truest and best

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\* This article is about famous folk tale of Sassui Punhun, which is a told in the length and breadth of Sindh. The story appears in Shah Jo Risalo and forms part of seven popular tragic romances from Sindh. The story is about a faithful beloved wife Sassui, who is ready to undergo all kinds of troubles that would come her way while seeking her beloved husband (Punhu) who was separated from her by the rivals. The story was translated by Major Goldsmid with available sources and books at that time in 1863. In this article, Major Goldsmid has also given historical background of Sindhi Language. – The Editor

representative? Or, putting a case more apposite to the argument about to be offered, how much more is it the part of the civilized rulers of that people or nation to treasure it as perhaps the most enduring inheritance of which they are the trustees? Amid the many and vast regions brought under her control, England not only bestows crowns and countries, but she imparts liberty and education. More than this: she exercises her discretion in laying down the language or dialect of her conquered provinces. If a grammar he wanted, she directs one to be made; if an alphabet be incomplete, she calls the attention of her craftsmen to supply the deficiency; and school-books in the vernacular issue from the press at her command by the dozen. But she cannot create a national literature; for few will gainsay the assertion that an educational course is a very different thing indeed.

4. That I am not speaking at random, but on facts and experiences will presently be shown. A country, to preserve its nationality, should preserve its language and literature; and where tangible vestiges of the separate existence of both remain, the revival of one should be simultaneous, if possible, with that of the other. It is this feeling which actuates the Magyar of Hungary, who, whether his origin be Fin or Eastern, has been so long a graft of Central Europe as to have found his second nature there—it is this which actuates him when he rejects the German of his Austrian masters, and clings to his ancestral tongue. In France and Spain the 'Basque is tenaciously preserved; in our own land the Gaelic, however fallen into disuse, is not suffered to die outright; the Norwegian will not allow the Icelander wholly to appropriate the old Norse of his forefathers; and so on in many instances. The European instinct is patriotic; while in Asia it is a mere adherence to custom and precedent. The first will admit innovation where it does not interfere with personal liberty; the second abhors all change, from the simple fact that it is change. The Asiatic, that is, our Asiatic, would not cut down one tall tree in front of his house, though it obscured the most beautiful view of a whole forest beneath, just because it had been suffered to remain for a whole century before he had become its owner. It must be done for him. At first he would complain; secondly, he would become reconciled; thirdly, he would forget the whole affair. A very remarkable instance of the revival of a language without a literature, in one of our Indian possessions, will serve to illustrate the meaning here intended, and may not be void of interest.

5. About twenty years ago, the Province of Sind was conquered by British troops under General Sir Charles Napier, and its people became parts of the mass of Indians who acknowledge the sovereignty of Great Britain. After some five years of occupation, when acquaintance between the governors and governed had so far ripened that administration had become clear and defined to the first, and the last had carefully noted the more salient points of the English character, attention was called to the question of language.

6. There was an acknowledged medium of communication in very general use, called the "Sindi." Viewed as a mere dialect, its immediate geographical neighbours were the Punjabee, Jataki, Multani, and Bellochki. Each was distinct, and confined to its own ethnological range. But Sindi, as the language of a province, had no recognized written character, and here was the

difficulty: one by no means unimportant.

7. The Ameers of Sind, Belichis not Sindis themselves, were of a dynasty that had not ruled so long as sixty years before the British conquest; but their followers were no strangers in the land. Many of them had made it the country of their adoption, by virtue of the family settlements there, long prior to the Beluch accession. I have never heard of an attempt made, under this regime, to amalgamate Sindi and Beluchki, or absorb either, but rather that nonchalance prevailed on the subject. Indeed, the reigning family, while retaining the last, did not object to associate with it the first, and could, perhaps, as a general rule, converse freely in both. But Persian was the language of their literature and of their state. No volume of poetry or prose was ever tendered for patronage or acceptance but in that musical tongue; no official report, or record of the most ordinary administrative act, ever issued from the Talpur bureau in any other guise.

8. Some of the Ameers composed in Persian. I have seen one or two books of which they were professedly the authors. It was a garbled and a vulgar Persian; but it must be borne in mind that this language, in its native purity, is comparatively unknown in India. Arabic was beyond the capacity of the Sindi or Beluchi, or would have met with way attention. Under these circumstances it will not be surprising to find that Sindi, the natural language of the province, in as much as it bears its distinctive name, was left to be expressed in characters at the option of the writers; consequently, that the custom in this respect was a matter of caste and prejudice.

9. The educated Mussulman wrote, and this but rarely, a language found in a few, and very few old books (strictly speaking, manuscripts), which he had learnt to read, the character of which was Arabic with the admission of Sanscrit points. This is known as the Arabic- Sindi. The Hindoo trader kept his correspondence and accounts in a hieroglyphic which was in many cases quite unintelligible to the members of his own firm and family, much more so to his fellow-traders en masse. This is known as the Hindu Sindhee because Khudawadi, Gurmoohki, or any more defined term would be wholly incomprehensible. The spoken language of the two might have been assimilated without much effort had there been a common alphabet; but, as above stated, none was to be found to meet the exigency.

10. The adoption of either the Mahomedan or Hindu character as an action of government would seem to savour of partiality. One argument, however, was greatly in favour of the former in the scales of political justice. Sind, whatever religious revolutions it had undergone, was decidedly a Mahomedan country, and the Mahomedans were sensitively alive to this fact. Opinion was divided on the point. Reports were called for and submitted, but judgment was reserved. Years passed with no result. The late Captain Stack published a grammar and dictionary of Sindi in the Devanagari character, but the sale of these books was far from encouraging. The fact is, that, the question of an established alphabet being in abeyance, it was hardly to be expected that English or native students of the language would, to gain their ends, choose the medium of a character current indeed on the other side of India, and useful enough at Bombay, but little known to the coast north of Guzerat. Eventually, the verdict was in favour of

Arabic Sindi,' and in order to suit the alphabet to the several sounds required, one new letter and the modifications of other letters were introduced among those heretofore in use in the old Mahomedan manuscripts to 9 which allusion has been made.

11. In 1853 it became the official character of the province. Alphabets were circulated in sheets among the schools and public offices; educational works were lithographed, to turn the alphabet to practical account; and all candidates for government employ were required to master the character for official purposes. That the effect upon the Mahomedans was not thoroughly satisfactory may be learned from the following brief extracts of an Educational Report submitted by me in 1858. It was not the quality of the written Sindi to which they objected, but they could not see the object in making Sindi a written language at all.—

12. The existence of the book known as 'Hikayut us Saliheen, or Narratives of Holy Men, in the Arabic-Sindi character, is a sufficient warrant for the adoption of the latter by Mussulmans, but they do not take to the new books printed with the same readiness exhibited by the Hindoos. I attribute the cause to the little influence exercised, or attempted to be exercised, by the Akhoonds; for where these books have been successfully taught, the success has been surprising. The pabulum is actually devoured: it is seized upon by smart lads as their daily food. The misfortune is that they have not more. They would consume twenty times the amount if set before them. "It has been the fashion in this country (Sind), for many years, to consider the Persian language to contain all polite learning and literature, while Arabic has represented all that was venerable and scholastic in letters. The neglected 'Sindi,' without any one acknowledged character, became the medium of ordinary verbal communication, peculiar to the lips of the 'Langhas,' or minstrels, and those who learned by heart their legends. Such fashion had grown into inveterate custom about the period of the conquest; and it is no easy matter to dispel at once a tacit belief that, in substituting a native for a foreign tongue, we prefer bazar-made tinsel to imported gold.

13. Another difficulty to be met is the existence of pseudo learned men; that is, of a certain set of individuals crammed with the more palpable lore of Arabic schools, without the smallest conception of its application to any useful purposes. Such as these would deem a recitation of the ten Predicaments of Aristotle to be a greater passport to favour and applause than any amount of sound practical knowledge; and their persuasions are not without force.

14. The Hindus of Sind are, for the greater part, either Amils, that is, candidates for the Government Service, or Banyans, the traders or shopkeepers. With the former the alphabet had great success; with the latter it produced, as might have been expected, no fruits whatever: it was a dead letter for all commercial purposes. But so far from Hindu-Sindi being put aside, a question was next raised whether the measure successfully introduced into the Punjab of employing Dewnagree to the exclusion of the Khyasthi character could not be carried out in the sister province. To this it was replied:

15. That the Mussulman would never be brought to write the proposed Hindu-Sindi character, supposing that to be the established alphabet, nor would the trading Hindu readily desert the character in which his fathers and forefathers had ever kept their accounts. Not an instance could be recalled of a Mahomedan using or understanding Gurumukhee or Khudabadi. And to establish the Arabic letters and punctuation for entries in a native wdi or roznamchéh would be a measure productive of endless confusion.

16. It was proposed, however, to introduce, in the course of instruction laid down for provincial schools, a Hindu-Sindi alphabet in addition to the Arabic or Mussulman Sindi alphabet now used in official records. This would not alter the arrangement by which the latter had become the acknowledged character of the province, but would merely furnish material for a new branch of study, required almost solely for a mercantile community.

17. No further objection having been offered to its progress, and time having done its preliminary part, the resuscitation of Arabic-Sindi may now be considered a fait accompli. The staple having thus been strengthened let us now see what has been done in the way of manufacture.

18. I have not a list at hand of the numerous educational works, chiefly of an elementary character, which have been published at the Sind Lithographic Press. But it may be noted that a whole set was presented by me, through the Bombay Government, to the International Exhibition, and may, perhaps, be still available for inspection. In the wish to give them a respectable appearance, and at the same time enhance their nationality, the fault was committed of clothing them in Hyderabad embroidered cloth. For this the blame rests upon myself. The result has unfortunately been that an offering intended as a specimen of educational advancement in one of our comparatively new territorial acquisitions, has been converted into a specimen of manual dexterity, and the shell exhibited to the prejudice of its contents.

19. Among these specimens was a small pamphlet containing a Sindi Poem, entitled Sa'swi and Punhu. It was one of a series which I had hoped to have collected as contributions to the Educational Library in Sind, a measure approved by the Director of Public Instruction in Bombay; but experience soon proved to me that, to get a worthy record of this description of literature, more time and labour would be requisite than were ordinarily at my disposal. The case of Sa'swi and Punhu may be cited as one illustrative of all these legends and romances, among which it stands first in popularity. Unless where one manuscript had been transcribed from another manuscript, or prepared in duplicate, it would be almost impossible to obtain two copies exactly alike. The story had hitherto existed solely in the memory of the minstrels, or in single copies obtained at different times by different persons.

20. Like the Sindi language itself, spoken by many, written by few, and without a common character acknowledged by any, so was the traditionary poem. It was recited by many, seldom criticized, and no set version recognized. 'Not improbably, the story was a mere theme, and the

more the narrator could vary his words from recital to recital, the greater to his professional credit. He was not an improvisator, but a player of variations: although an improvisation is not rare in the East. The Charans or religious bards of the desert South East of Sind, bordering on Cutch and Joudhpoor, are remarkable instances in point.

21. The present copy of Sa'swi and Punhu was obtained by the agency of two intelligent natives in the office of the Commissioner in Sind during a recent cold weather tour through out that province. Two papers were written down from two recitations, each independent of the other, and the results collated. In rendering the tale into English metre of not unfamiliar nine feet measure, I must disclaim any more ambition than that of endeavouring to imitate the rhythm and convey some notion of the character, as well as to follow the literal meaning of the original; making the version useful, if need be, to the student of Sindi. Here and there. I have been compelled to deviate from the precise letter of the verse, but not, I hope, to that extent to nullify the last-named object. Captain Richard Burton, an officer whose extraordinary talents as a linguist and an explorer present a combination of which we may be at a loss to find a parallel in the present day, has detailed the argument so skillfully in the fourth chapter of his History of Sind (I wish he had called it "Sin and its Inhabitants"), that a very few words will suffice to sketch it at second hand. Saswi was the daughter of a Brahmin of Tatta. At her birth, it was foretold by the astrologers that she would forsake the religion of her fathers. This prediction was so terrified the parents that they placed the infant in a casket, and committed her to the waters of the Indus. She was found by a washer man, taken to the town of Bhambor, and brought up there. Some years afterwards, Punhu Khan, a young Beluch chief of Mekran, heard of the charms of the foundling, then verging on womanhood, obtained access to her house in disguise, wooed, won, and married her. His indignant father, Jam A'ri, of Kedje, hearing of the match, caused him to be seized and carried forcibly back to his home. Sa'swi, wild at the separation, started off on foot in quest of her lord. On her journey, after various mishaps, she came in the way of a hill barbarian, who attempted to gain possession of her. She prayed for relief, and was instantly swallowed up in the earth!

22. A similar fate awaited Punhu, who soon after arrived at the same spot, like Romeo, found his Juliet departed, and courted death as the only remedy for his woe. The story of Mahomed Cassim's invasion is too well known to readers of Asiatic annals to need repetition even in abstract. It is only now further alluded to, because it is popularly considered the conquest of Sind, when, in reality, it must rather have been the overwhelming irruption of Mahomed of Ghizni which subjugated the province. The immediate successors of Mahomed Cassim effected but a partial occupation granted that the Arabs colonized, and changed much of the old-established order of things. They shivered the Pagan staff, as at Déwul, and ridiculed the idol worship, as at Alore; but the huge Sanscrit tree had its thousand ramifications, and these were not to be uprooted by a comparative handful of adventurers. As with the peculiar genius of the country and people invaded so with their language. In toleration and forcible conversion became the order of the day.

23. The broken stick and trampled image may be likened to the written character or outward symbol. As the mosque and minaret were founded amid the subverted temples and shrines of Indian mythology, so was the stately letter of the Koran driven into the many-phased Indian alphabet. Hence the old manuscript language, whose renewal under the name of Arabic-Sindi has been described. That Kedje Mekran, the neighbouring country to Sind, was ruled by a chief designated "Jam," proves the power of the Semmas to the westward, two centuries before they became the sovereigns of Sind itself. Usually considered a race of Rajputs, their descendants are now traceable in the Jharejas of Catch, and the Sind Semmas and Jokyas of the present day—the first adhering to the idolatry of their ancestors, the second so bigoted to Mahomedanism as to reject wholly the truth of their Hindu origin. But there is evidence to make the Judg'rls or Zudgr'rls of Sus Beyla Semmas also; and we find this large section still exercising a quasi independent authority not only over 240 miles of coast from Kurrachee westward, but as far to the west as the boundary of the Muscat Imam's territory of Chinbz'ir, namely, between the Meridians 60° 40', and 61° 40' E. In Kurrachee, the Jokyas are the aboriginal owners of the soil, and eastward in Cutch the Jharejas are the reigning dynasty. The title of Jaim, which was probably assumed by the first Samma converts to Mahomedanism, from their supposed ancestor Jamshid, was peculiar to the Tattah sovereigns of Lower Sind in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, as it is now hereditary with the chief of the Jokyas and the ruler of Beyla. The facts afford matter of much interesting inquiry to the ethnologist—an inquiry which has yet to be carried to satisfactory results. But though history and chronology may not derive valuable aid from our poem, it has merits of its own more akin to those which may reasonably be looked for in a popular Oriental legend thought worthy of revival. Novelty of plot can hardly be expected in a story at least five hundred years old, but novelty of incident will not, perhaps, be found wanting.

24. The adventures of the young Beluch chief Punhu Khan, when, disguised as a washer man, he finds access to the house of Sa'swi's supposed father, himself a washer man, are told with piquancy and humour. He is required to show his professional skill, clumsily batters the clothes to pieces against the washing-stone in endeavoring to cleanse them, then hits on the successful device of quieting the owners by placing a gold coin in each one's bundle. I greatly regret the incompleteness as well as prolixity in the version which I have procured; and I say this more strongly because the extracts given in Captain Burton's work on Sind lead me to believe that he must have obtained a better one. Not that I grudge him the triumph due to his own perseverance and discrimination; but that it is to be feared the genius of the Sindi bard has deteriorated from want of practice and encouragement under British occupation. My Moonshi appropriated, at my own suggestion, two of the extracts, and these two will be found, in stanzas 65 and 74 of the lithographed poem Arabicized from Captain Burton's Romanized Sindi.

25. It should be noted, however, that Captain Burton, speaking of the translations and specimens of the tales and songs most admired by Sindis, which he presents to the public, explains that his MS is a small one of about thirty pages, in Sindi and Persian both. This leads me to believe that he could not have possessed complete copies of each poem; and this impression is confirmed in the case of Saswi and Punhu, by the statement that his poet plunges in medias res,

neglecting his prolegomena. Now my poet, though less eloquent than Captain Burton's, begins at the beginning of his subject. Another version of Sa'swi and Punhu was obtained some four or five years ago by Dr. Trumpp, of the Church Missionary Society. Had this erudite gentleman given to the world his collection of Sindi poems, the present attempt would have been superfluous. But I am apprehensive that, if they do appear at all, it will be in a guise foreign to that approved by Government. Dr. Trumpp objects to the Arabic-Sindi character, upon philological principles, and prefers the Urdu, which, he contends, can be rendered equally applicable to the expression of Sindi sounds. Without recording an unsustained opinion on this point, I cannot but hope that the missionaries will adopt the Government letter. A point of philology is surely not so important to their great objects as the use of a character generally understood throughout the province by all educated Sindis, except the strictly mercantile class, who 'steadily refuse to receive any character but their own. Without fighting the philological battle, I may confidently assert that the Arabic-Sindi is so understood, is day by day becoming more firmly rooted, and that the Urdu-Sindi is comparatively illegible to natives, even in Dr. Trumpp's admirably clear type. Under these circumstances, to revert to my starting-point, it is deferentially submitted that a collection of all original, semi-original, and popular traditional literature in Sind, in the revived and recognized character, will be more valuable to the student of the Sindi language, and more acceptable to the province itself, than educational translations, however well executed and useful. But early measures should be taken to preserve these traditions, for they are liable to deterioration under the influence of Western civilization. It is not intended that education should relax a jot, or make way for these revivals; only that it should not throw them into too cold a shadow, when sunlight is required. I since writing the above, I learn that Government sanction has been given to the publication of Dr. Trumpp's valuable Sind'i collections. Had these approve before the results above noted had been obtained, my humble advocacy would not, in all probability, have been offered on behalf of the "Arabic Sindi." As it is, I see no cause to modify the opinion recorded. Under any circumstances, the people themselves should be the best judges of their own alphabz, and will, doubtless, be allowed to confirm or modify the choice heretofore to conclude.

26. A recent exploration on the Mekran coast caused me to make inquiries on the scenery of the little drama of Sasui and Punhu. By one I was informed that the lovers' resting place is in the "Pubbuni" pass of the hills dividing Sind from Beyla; by another that it is at Mount Phir, some miles to the westward. The former notion is that commonly received. The pass is now little frequented, owing to its many difficulties, and the vicinity, both north and south, of simple routes. The legend seems just as well known in Beyla as in Sind.

**Major Goldsmid**  
Assistant Commissioner in  
Sind





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