

Board of revenue (land revenue no. 155, 24th June, 1898)

Proceedings of the board of revenue

(land revenue)

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Read again the following memorandum from the chief secretary to the public dept, dated Ootacaumand,

April 1898 no. 934.

Read-memorandum from the legislative act, no. 811 dated 28th March.

The board of revenue is requested to report on the suggestion that in view of the great sanctity said to be attached to the birthday of their prophet by the Muhammadans, that day (Duazdaham-i-Sheriff) may be included in the list of gazetted holidays as a holiday for Muhammadans.

Signed. A.R. Knapp, for Chief Secretary. 18 April 1898

Resolution—Mis No. 1223, dated 7th May 1898.

With reference to the govt order read above, the Board begs to report that the birthday of the Prophet is apparently regarded as an important festival by all sections of Muhammadans except the Wahabis. It is declared to be a general holiday for Muhammadans in all the larger provinces in India except Madras and Bombay and a similar concession in this presidency would therefore appear to be warranted. It is the case, however, that Muhammadans in southern India already enjoy a larger number of holidays than the followers of any other religion. While therefore the Board has no objection to the grant of a holiday on the anniversary of the prophet's birth in districts where a general desire to that effect is expressed by Muhammadan public servants, it considers that one of the nine special holidays already enjoyed by such persons should, in that case, be converted into a working day.

Lionel Davidson, acting secretary

To all collectors