

Government of Madras.  
Judicial (19/2 ) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 12 78

CONFIDENTIAL

DATED 12 - 8 - 19 / 2.

*Confidential*

---

[Abstract.]

Convict Warder, Loganatha Aiyar.

Recording papers regarding ----- of the Central Jail, Coimbatore.

This contains the  
envelope of the  
threatening communication

Rs  
15.2.12



To

M. R. R.

P. S. Chakkravarti aiyer,

adl,  
High Court Vakil,

Cuddalore N. T.

---

S. I. R.



[ G.  
12 ]

4,000—G-3-11.

From

DEPARTMENT.

2

SUBJECT :—

Chakkarvarti !

You gave false evidence against our brother Nilakantha. Know thou that shortly you will receive at our hands the same fate as did Mr. Ashe.

Coimbatore.

*Abhinava Bharata Samaj,*

Yours truly,  
*The sons of Kali.*



Judicial Dep<sup>3</sup>

[Copy C-100] No. 108-1/28.6.12.

<sup>DM</sup>  
The D-I-G, C-I-D & Rys is

(Confidential)

requested to enquire into the  
authorship of the enclosed printed  
communication addressed to  
Chakrabarti Anjanjan of Cuddalore  
and to submit a report at  
an early date.

207  
28.6.12

<sup>SP</sup>  
28.6.12

To 28.6.12

The D-I-G, C-I-D & Rys

DM with C.I. in original  
to be returned }

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

C. No. 1374

Stock Form No. 134.  
5,000—24-9-06.

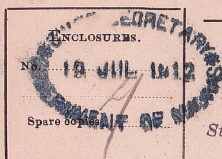
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

20-7-12

Received ..... 190 , Registered ..... 190 .

Subject.

REPORT RE AUTHORSHIP OF PRINTED  
COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO  
CHAKRAVARTI AIYANGAR  
OF CUDDALORE



No. 574 - C

Station Madras , Dated the 18th July 1912 190 .

1. Original cover - p 1 auth
2. Original letter - p 2 auth
3. Sample of printing - p 7  
given by Mr. Gilbert - from (Name) C.C. Longden, Esq.,
4. Anonymoust petition - p 5-7  
received by L.C. Jails - M 579
5. Handwriting of Swami - M 10 (Designation) A/g D.I.G. of Police, Railways & C.I.D.  
natha Aiyar
6. Handwriting and signature - p 12  
nature of Nilakantam

Madras.

To The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras.

574 - C

Sir,

19-7-12

p 3  
auth

With reference to Judicial Department Memo

No 108/C-1. I have the honour to state that I  
28-6-12  
handed over the matter to Inspector Viraraghava  
Aiyar with certain instructions.

2. The Inspector proceeded to Coimbatore, report-  
ed himself to the District Magistrate and District  
Superintendent of Police, and proceeded with his  
enquiries. All the petitions received this year  
by the Collector, District Magistrate, District Judge,  
a series of documents in the Bank of Madras, all  
this year's Appeal petitions and Vakalats, with the  
handwriting of all the Vakils and their clerks and  
(on various pretexts) a certain number of accounts  
in shops, were examined, but nothing definite was  
obtained



obtained. The most careful enquiry locally, where the Inspector is not known, did not reveal that there was any active sympathy with Nilakantam and it appears probable that the letter was posted in Coimbatore either through the agency of Nilakantam himself or through some stranger visiting the Town, who was interested in Nilakantam.

3. Of course Nilakantam is in the Coimbatore Jail, and there is a possibility that he arranged for posting the letter himself but I confess the chain of reasoning is very slender. The chain is:-

(1) We know that Nilakantam, Loganatha Aiyar (the teacher convicted in the Tinnevely rioting case) and Swaminatha Ayar (a Madura man convicted in a defalcation case) are all working in the District Press, which is in the Coimbatore Jail.

(2) Mr. Gilbert, A/g Superintendent Government Press tells me that the cover is Government foolscap 10lb and the enclosure English azurine hand made paper, and that this type of paper cannot be bought in the bazaar (of which I have my doubts) but is available in the District Press. He also gives a definite opinion that the actual printing must have been done in a Government Press, on account of the nature of the type used, (here again it is impossible for me to suppose that at no time or nowhere has Government press type been sold or lost).

(3) The writing of Nilakantam himself and more so that of Swaminatha Aiyar resembles, to some extent, that on the envelope.

(4) Everyone calls the man Nilakantam but in his own writing he <sup>writes</sup> ~~calls~~ it Nilakanta, and it is written Nilakanta in the threatening letter, a noteworthy coincidence.

The chain is ~~so slender~~ certainly slender but it does exist.



4. In his statement to Mr Tampoe, made recently at Coimbatore, I understand that Nilakantam made some reference to a man who came twenty days prior to 11-7-12 from Pondicherry to ask him to spread sedition in the Jail. Now this date tallies with the threatening letter which was posted on 19-6-12 and it is possible that the slip was printed in the Jail and smuggled out to be posted by Nilak<sup>n</sup>antam's friend. However, none of our suspects has been from Pondicherry to Coimbatore in June and Nilakantam has no visitors, and I should not be inclined to put too much reliance on any statement of Nilakantam's making, at present. I have not heard from Mr. Tampoe as to what Nilakantan said at the interview, but I will clear up the point about the visit of the Pondicherry man.

5. I regret that I cannot get anything more definite but it is probable that the letter was composed and posted by people who were already prejudiced against Mr. Chakravarti Aiyangar, and not by any new person.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

*Cum Langdon*

13 D.I.G. of Police, Railways &  
G.I.D.

18.7.22

(6)

7

the our you hands that receive



8

The Inspector General of  
Prisons,  
Ootacamund.

Respected Sir,

In the interests of peace and order, I beg to bring to your serious notice the following rumours which are widely spread in the Central Jail at Coimbatore. These are nevertheless facts though I am not at present in a position to establish them.

The young brahmin who was convicted in the Timmerville Collector shooting case is contemplating and making arrangements for a serious riot in the Jail. It seems he has got members of his secret



(2)

society in the town of Coimbatore. All the Marawa convicts are in his hands. Seditious pamphlets have found their way within the Jail. Also it is a rumour that revolvers have been brought here. For all this the gate-keeper and his brother in law the Chief warder are bribed. The authorities here are ignorant of the plan for nothing tangible has as yet come to their notice. I have done my duty in reporting to you what I knew. An immediate transfer of him to a distant place may perhaps disappoint their plans.

yours

anonymous.

A vigorous search in the Printing  
office might perhaps disclose some  
incriminating things. Every  
 Convict generally knows about  
 this rumour. My report is all  
true.



Forwarded to the Supl. Court in C.

Jail Comptrolr.

Deceased

W. L. J. J.

Suspect of Murder.



225. The following directions for acquiring speed given by a very swift Compositor, who is said to have set type at the rate of nearly 5,000 perus per hour, will be found useful not only to learners but to Compositors who have contracted bad habits and who desire to increase their outturn. He says: "Drop your own motion, whatever it be, and set at a much slower rate than your hand is accustomed to. When you go to a box for a type and fail to get it. Come to the stick and pretend to make a deposit, then return to the Case after the letter or some other letter in the same box, and keep this up until you get a type on the pick. In like manner, if you pick up two types, describe the full motion and make a pretence of depositing a type, then return to the Case, lay down one if you can readily; If not drop them both and come again to the stick and return for the type. There is an apparent loss of time, but the loss is only apparent, not real,

1 and you will be surprised to find that with the slow  
 motion you will accumulate more thousands of letters  
 than with your hitherto quicker motion.

Yours aff.



I waited for the wonderful dish which my neighbour had been vaunting so much, that was to follow the soup, with great curiosity, for I hoped to see a beautiful, fresh, well-cooked fish; but, instead of that, there was brought in a round tin box like those that contain sardines or preserved vegetables. It was put on to a deep plate, and the whole was placed before our host, who poured spirits of wine into the plate, and then set fire to it, so that the tin box was in the midst of the flames. What was going to happen, heaven only knew; it was very like a phantasmagoria but not like a dinner, and the flames of the spirits of wine gave us all a bluish tint, which reminded me of the nun's scene in Robert the Devil. The elder of my two little neighbours began to cry, and his younger brother said to him

"What is the matter with you, Coco?"

"I am frightened at what Papa is doing."

"How silly you are; it is the same sort of thing as he did the other day. Surely you remember when Mamma said, 'Oh! how nasty it is, I will never eat it again.'"

Nilakantha.



SUBJECT :-

1-2

Confidential

R. F. XXII-M.  
16-a.

Collector's Office,

24 June 1912



Conf No 108  
Judd d 12 6/6/12

K. K. K.

OK

I beg to state herewith,  
as required, a printed  
letter addressed to Mr. K.  
Chakravarti, Assistant  
Secty. by the son of  
Kali" Comibatore in  
which they threaten  
that he will receive  
at their hands the  
same fate as W. Ashe.  
Mr. Chakravarti, Assistant  
Supt. that his letter

28

Subscribed, <sup>frades as to</sup> whether any action should be taken.

2. H. M. has advised in the linked file that  
Mr. Azgudde's reports should not be sent  
in original to the C. I. D.

21/7  
26/6/12

I think the letter posted from  
Comibatore may go to the C. I. D.

YES - It should go <sup>CS</sup> case sent

or most probably prints  
at Pondicherry, and  
a particular press.

I have asked him to  
trace out the Press.  
I think that his  
Pondicherry intimates  
are bent upon doing  
harm to the cause.  
Last evening, I  
have advised W. Chacko  
not to take on his  
guard, but not to  
be alarmed.

Yours Sincerely  
M. Ammann



24

A draft OM is submitted for approval.

2. It is proposed to send to the C.I.D not only the printed letter but also the addressed envelope. This is for records.

247  
28.6.12

Send the envelope too.

Issue

247  
28.6.12

NICT

Issued as OM 10 D-1 & 28-6-12 to the D.I.C Rys + C.I.D  
(C No 137 Corp) from the D.I.C Rys + C.I.D  
11-11-12 C.F.

No 574-C & 18-7-12

25

Submitted for perusal.

2. It does not appear that any action is necessary unless perhaps it is considered that Mr. Tampoe may be asked to sound Nilakantam about the communication.

247  
26.7.12

File re interview under  
issue separately & not  
immediately available

I don't think anything more can be done in regard to this communication. The spelling of the name seems to indicate that Nilakantam, <sup>himself</sup> may have had a hand in the matter & I doubt whether it would be worth while to specifically question him about it.

CS

247  
26.7.12

Am.

I think Mr. Longden has produced very strong circumstantial evidence that the threatening Letter emanates from Nilakantham. The chain of reasoning seems indeed to me much stronger than Mr. Longden himself appears to think. Each of the 4 points stated in para. 3 of the Letter is, I think, a good one, and I feel convinced that the handwriting on the envelope is that of Nilakantham. Please see for instance the following letters:

15 C +

11 C +

- (1) Capital C - It occurs ~~three~~ on the envelope. The two examples in "Chakravati" & "Aardalini" may be compared with the capital C in "Coco" in the extract. Swaminatha Aiyar's capital C is quite different (cf. in "Compositor").
  - (2) Capital N. This occurs on the envelope is N.T., & seems to be made in a curious way, by a down stroke at the beginning. The N in Nilakantha shows the same characteristic.
  - (3) Capital S. Comp. the <sup>2</sup> capital S on the envelope with the Capital S in "Surely" in the extract.
- Other resemblances <sup>noticed</sup> might be noted. Apart from individual Letters, the general character of the handwriting on the envelope seems to compare



that of Nilakantam.

No action need, of course, be taken against Nilakantam, but I think we might <sup>certainly</sup> tell Mr. Aziz-ud-din that he may let Chakkravarti Arijangar know informally that the threatening letter problem emanates from this gentleman who is safely in Jail. The intimation ought to be distinctly reassuring.

Alf  
22.7.12

To await return.

Alf

I agree with the Chief Secretary that Nilakantam was the author of the letter. The I.C. of Prisons should be informed, and Loganathan, who <sup>I think,</sup> is the convict warden in charge of the Press, should be transferred to another jail, for he must have connived at the printing of the letter. The I.C. should consider whether he ought not to be reduced from the position of convict warden. The letter may be useful to Mr. Tampoe and should be seen by him.

Alf

29.7.12

Issue the draft d.os. below to Messrs. Aziz-ud-din and Francis and Col. Macnamara.

Alf 30.7.12

Judicial Department.

D.O. No. C 108-2, dt 31.7.12

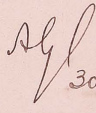
CONFIDENTIAL

p. 1 of notes.

My dear Mr. Aziz-ud-din,

With your letter dated the 24th of June, you sent me <sup>private</sup> a threatening letter addressed to Chakravarti Aiyangar. Inquiries have been made about this letter, and although complete proof is of course wanting, the Govt. think that you may let Chakravarti Aiyangar know informally that the threatening letter probably emanated from a convict who is now inside one of the Madras jails and whose powers of doing him an injury are, therefore, strictly limited.

Yours sincerely,


 30.7.12

Dest <sup>d.</sup> 31.7.12  
 Muhammad Aziz-ud-din Sahib Bahadur,  
 Khan Bahadur, I.S.O.,  
 Collr. of South Arcot,  
 Cuddalore.



Judicial Department.D.O. *C No. 108-3, of 31.7.12*CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Francis,

About a month ago, *PS.*

Chakravarti Aiyangar, the Cuddalore vakil who gave evidence for the prosecution in the Tinnevely conspiracy case, received a <sup>fraudulent</sup> threatening letter which had been posted at Coimbatore. I am to enclose a copy of that letter and of Longden's report thereon. The Govt. think that there can be little doubt that the letter was printed in the Coimbatore jail and that the address on the [REDACTED] envelope is in the handwriting of Nilakantam. They do not propose to take any special action on it, but they think that the letter may be useful to Tampoe, and I am to ask you, therefore, to communicate the above to him.

*Dest d.  
31.7.12*

W. Francis, Esq., I.C.S.,  
Colr. of Tinnevely.

Yours sincerely,

*30.7.12*

D.O. No. C 108-4, of 31-7-12

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Macnamara,

About a month ago,  
a vakil named P.S. Chakravarti Aiyangar,  
who lives at Cuddalore and who gave  
evidence for the prosecution in the late  
Tinnevelly conspiracy case, received  
by the post a cover containing a <sup>printed</sup> threat-  
ening letter, of which I enclose a copy.

~~This letter was in print and~~ The result  
of ~~the~~ inquiries which have been made  
is to leave little doubt that ~~it~~ <sup>the letter</sup> was  
printed in the Coimbatore Central Jail  
and that the address on the cover is in  
the handwriting of Nilakantam, whose  
<sup>from Coimbatore</sup> transfer to the Palamcottah Jail has  
lately been ordered. The Govt. under-  
stand that Nilakantam was employed in  
the District Press within the Coimbatore  
Jail and that Loganatha Aiyar, who was  
convicted in the Tinnevelly rioting  
case, is also employed in the same press  
and is believed to be a convict off



As regards Nilakantam, the Govt. do not wish any action taken, but as regards Loganatha Aiyar, they think he should be transferred to another jail as he must have connived at the printing of the letter, and I am to ask you also to consider whether he should not be reduced from the position of convict officer.

Yours sincerely,

My 30-7-12

Desd. d.  
31-7-12

Lieut.-Col. R.J. Macnamara, M.D.,  
M.Ch., I.M.S.,  
I.G. of Prisons,  
Ootacamund.



## Department.

ROUTINE NOTES WHICH ARE NOT TO BE (a) SENT OUT OF THE OFFICE  
OR (b) INCLUDED IN THE ORIGINALS OF PROCEEDINGS UNLESS THE  
NOTES ARE SPECIALLY MARKED FOR RETENTION OR (c) PRINTED.

Subject of file.

Attn for C.I.

in the handwriting on the cover  
of the breaking letter -

I am afraid we can't  
arrive at certainty  
like all great  
handwriting experts  
the D.S. & I differ.  
However I quite  
admit the existence  
of many dissimilarities  
but then find myself  
writing the same  
letter in diff ways  
according to the groups  
in which it occurs. Even  
in this brief inscription  
on the cover there  
are 2 quite different  
capital C's.  
The misspelt 'Chakka-  
vati' in the print is  
probably a beginner's  
mistake in compositor's  
work.

This is fascinating but  
I fear we shall never  
know the truth.

I should like to see  
more of Nilakanthan's  
N's. That 'doo' stroke  
is very sp. I don't  
think. (But, I don't  
want him asked for  
further specimens)  
10/7

The presumption that Nilakanthan printed the  
letter is strong, but against the theory that he wrote  
the address on the cover I wd submit -

- (a) that the handwriting is clearly not disguised
- (b) that Nilakanthan wd. almost certainly have disguised  
his (i) because his handwriting is known to the author his  
(ii) from the same motive which impelled him to print  
the letters
- (c) that if the same pen printed the letter - and wrote  
the address - he wd not have addressed the pleader as  
Chakkaroti in one & Chakkara-roti in the other.

The remarkable similarity in the formation of the letters C, N, S  
in the inscription on the cover & in the example of Nilakanthan's  
acknowledged penmanship sh<sup>d</sup> not blind one to the striking  
dissimilarity in the formation of certain other letters: -

q.	P.	Nilakanthan writes it	P
-	-	the envelope gives it	P
R.	Nilakanthan writes it	R	
-	-	the envelope gives it	R
		(with the curious downward-upward stroke which is the formation of N { C.S. )	
H	Nilakanthan writes it	H	
	-	the envelope gives it	H

I wd say that the writing on the cover was that of a scribe, or  
Z.A. Masani quite undisguised, written in a hurry - it has  
much the same look as Nilakanthan's - and with a thick pen. The



[ 9. ]  
12

4,000-8-3-11.

From Lieut. Col. Macaawara

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

16-11

SUBJECT:—

D.O.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF PRISONS,

Polacawara,

5<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>12</sup>

1912

CHIEF SECRETARY  
100 100 1912  
DEPARTMENT OF MADRAS

Dear Mr. Cawson,

I send herewith, Mr.

Saladen's reply to your

D.O. No C108-4 of the 31<sup>st</sup>

ult. All things considered

perhaps it would be as

well to leave Loganatha

at Coimbatore, as he is

for release, next month,

and not to take his

Commitment from him,

on mere suspicion.

1412-16

148-9  
auto



I shall be glad to learn  
 if Gov. is desirous to  
 follow this course, or  
 still with his transfer  
 and reduction.

J  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 ~~~~~  
 [Signature]



Enclosure

[ 9.  
12 ]

4,000—6-9-11.

From Mr. Gaddes

Judicial DEPARTMENT.

12-15

SUBJECT:—

Augt. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1912. 12

Dear Col. Maclean.

I return herewith the Confidential  
D.O. which accompanied your letter of 1<sup>st</sup>  
August.

It is of course quite possible that the letter  
to the Vakil Chakravati Aiyenger, was printed  
in this jail, but I do not think it was, for  
the type used is certainly not that used in the  
Jail press. Mr. Tansley when speaking to me  
after his interviews with Nilakantan, seemed  
to ridicule the idea of Nilakantan having  
anything to do with it. That however is beside



the present question. Admitting the probability that the letter was sent out of this jail, I cannot see how this implicates Logansport Ayer, and unless there is some very good evidence against him, I consider it would be a gross piece of injustice to deprive him of his rank. Government might just as well hold me personally responsible for permitting the letter to be sent out of the jail, as hold Logansport Ayer in any way privy to it, unless there is some evidence to show that he was connected with it. Logansport Ayer has been employed in the Press but practically all his time is taken up in correcting proofs and he has had very little to



do with the conspirators, of whom Nilakantān  
was one. It may be quite justifiable policy  
to excuse Nilakantān though his guilt may be  
apparent, but it does not appear to me to be  
justifiable to punish a man for conspiring  
with him, when there is not a scrap of evidence  
against him. From what I have seen of  
Loganatha Aiyer, I believe he has no sympathy  
whatever with Nilakantān and the Pondicherry  
lot, & though he no doubt took a leading  
part in the serious riot at Trinnevelly, some  
four or five years ago, I honestly think that  
his views have considerably changed since  
then and it is my firm belief that Government  
has nothing to fear from Loganatha Aiyer



in the future. When Nilakantan was first admitted into this jail, I spoke to Hozawatha Ayyar as to the probability of the former trying to send out and receive letters, & I told the latter that in the event of his being to notice any irregularity of that sort he would be given some special remission. He was I believe very grateful to me for getting him the Coronation Dakbar remission after it had been refused by the District Magistrate of Trinnevelly, and I do not think he would have hesitated for a moment to bring to my notice, such an irregularity as Govt. now connect him with.

He will be released on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of September and his transfer for such a



SUBJECT:—

Short period, in my opinion  
not only unnecessary but in-  
politic. He is a man who can, &  
probably will, help Government in the  
future, if he is given the least encourage-  
ment to do so. It seems a pity that  
anything should be done just before  
his release, that would give him the idea  
of being unjustly treated, and I am  
therefore detaining him, till I hear from  
you again on the subject. A day or two  
cannot make much difference.

Yours sincerely

E. H. Hudson





Oitod. 8. 8. 1912

Retd. 9. 8. 1912

## NOTES.

Page 15

render him as disciplinary orders almost imperative. I submit therefore that Govt. may agree to do nothing in the matter.

C. S. 6/8

C.S.

Hm

I agree with Mr. Cotton that we may accept the Jy + W. Gadsden's recommendation - & take no action agt Loganatha Aiyer. He is for release next month as we have no witnesses (see sec. 51 (2) of the Prisons Act) & only suspicion to go upon.

8.12

I agree. I thought that Loganatha Aiyer as convict officer, exercised supervision over all the men working in the press and that he must therefore know what was going on. It appears that this is not the case and this undoubtedly weakens the case against him. Moreover if the type of the letter is not the type used in the jail press the evidence of its having been printed there becomes almost nil.

Hm

9.8.12

Please draft

U.1

To Deputy Secretary  
Draft D.O. to Col. Macnamara  
is submitted below.

Yps. | 2. A formal order recording the  
papers is also submitted. <sup>For orders</sup> ~~It is~~  
as to whether it may be communicated  
~~presumed that no further commun-~~  
~~ication need be to Mr. Aziz-ud-Din~~  
~~and to Mr. Longden, so that they may know~~  
~~that no further action is necessary.~~

S.W.  
12-8-12.

Clof 12/8



[ G. 3. ]  
6  
7,000 - 8-3-12.

READ

~~regarding the~~  
Recording papers  
regarding \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
Central Jail, Cimbetore

Confidential  
Judicial DEPARTMENT.

I

O. m. to the D. I. G., C. I. D., No. C108-1, of 28.6.12

II

(C137) From " " No. 574-e, of 18.7.12

ORDER No 1278, dated 12 — 8 — 1912

This

Recorded

W.D.F.  
12. 8. 12

Confy/s

S.D.  
12. 8. 12

Repacked instructions

Noted by Dy. S. M.  
at 5.40 P. M.  
on 13/8/12

To The D. M. S. Crest  
(21, 29072)  
- D. I. G., Dy. S. & C. I. D.  
(240)

De 80  
8.12.12

Confidential

Genl Dept.

S.O. No. C/108-5/13.8.12

My Dear <sup>Col</sup> Maenamara,

In reply to your  
d.o. of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant,  
I am desired to say  
that the Govt. accept  
your view ~~of the conduct~~  
<sup>with regard to</sup> ~~of~~ Convict-warden  
Loganatha Aiyar and  
<sup>has decided to take</sup> ~~considers that~~ no action  
need be taken against  
him

Yrs sincerely

W.D.F.  
12.8.12

S.D.  
12.8.12

Coff 12/8

DEP  
14.8.12  
Lt. Col. R. J. Maenamara,  
M. D., & M.S.



2172. R#178

~~1020/21~~

~~925/25/8~~

~~1949/12/89~~

~~39/12/186~~

~~191/2~~

~~18/5/2004~~  
R1

~~2610~~ 2004  
R#

~~1328~~ 2002  
R#