

# The Hindu Organ.

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### The Hindu Organ.

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**Notice.**

**Order Nisi.**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.  
Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3655.  
In the Matter of the Estate of the late Naganambal Nagamuttu of Kondavil Deceased.  
Sinnathamby Arupillal of Kondavil Plaintiff.  
Vs.  
1. Rasamma widow of Nagamuttu of Kondavil  
2. Nagarettnai daughter of Nagamuttu of do  
3. Kunaretnam daughter of Nagamuttu of do &  
4. Nagamuttu Subramaniam of do. Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Sinnathamby Arupillal of Kondavil, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the above-named deceased, Naganambal Nagamuttu of Kondavil, coming on for disposal before P. E. Floris, Doctor of Letters, District Judge, on September 23, 1918, in the presence of Mr. K. Sivapiraisaam, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated August 24, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the brother-in-law of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before October 17, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

J. H. Vanniasingam,  
Acting District Judge.  
September 25, 1918.

**Clerical Examination 1918.**

THE ACADEMY  
AYANARROVILADY, VANNARPANNAL,  
prepares Candidates for Public Examinations. Candidates taking up the Clerical Examination in December 1918 are requested to see the Manager as early as possible.  
Applications are due at the Director's Office on 17th October 1918.



**The Hindu Organ.**

JAFFNA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1918.

**WOMAN'S PLACE IN HINDU SOCIETY.**

The Motherhood of God is an ideal which is pre-eminently Hindu. The full significance of the manifestation of God's Shakti or Power as the Divine Mother was well-known to the ancient Hindu Seers, and they have prescribed the path of devotion which will lead one to the realisation of the Mother's Power and Presence in one's life. This has highly popularised the worship of the Motherhood of God among Hindus as one of the most favourite forms of devotion. One important result of this popular form of devotion is the high regard entertained for womanhood in ancient Hindu civilization. This is one of our most prominent national ideals which are losing ground through the neglect of our community, to provide the great majority of their children with education on their own national and religious lines. Presiding at the Prize-giving of a Hindu Girls' College in Madras on the 10th of last March, the Hon'ble Mr. S. Srinivasa Aiyangar, Advocate General of Madras, said in the course of his speech:—"They should make the Hindu children preserve their modesty and sweetness which they inherited, and which a trained Hindu civilization had given them. It was evident that English Education had imposed upon boys much trouble; and much more should it be, if we tried to model the education of girls upon the education of the boys. The modern young boy and girl are not very much in touch with our environment or truer to the real elements of Hindu ethical, social and religious life".

Not only Hindus, but even European observers have been struck with this characteristic regard which Hindus entertained for women. Louis Jaccoliot, the celebrated French author of the "Bible in India" says: "India of the Vedas entertained a respect for women amounting to worship, a fact which we seem little to suspect in Europe." He also says: "What! Here is a civilization which you cannot deny to be older than your own, which places the woman on a level with the man and gives her an equal place in the family and in Society". Many similar quotations may be made from the writings and speeches of Anglo-Indian scholars and administrators on this special characteristic of Hindu civilization.

Maritimity is the most important institution in Hindu Social polity. It is the central pivot on which the whole social and spiritual life of the Hindu community has to rest and derive its strength and growth. Saint Tiruvalluvar says that the householder (புலவர்) gives the support in the path of true progress for all who live in the other three stages of life—students, hermits or recluses and ascetics. The five daily sacrifices which a householder is enjoined to perform cannot be observed by him without the loving consent and co-operation of his wife who is his equal partner—the Saha Dharmini. Marriage among the Hindus is regarded as a religious sacrament based more on the ideal of the spiritual union of the souls than on the lower desires. The duties of a woman are given in one of the Hindu Shastras as follows:—"The duties of woman are created in the rites of wedding when in presence of the nuptial fire she becomes the associate of her lord for the performance of all righteous deeds. She should be beautiful and gentle, considering her husband as her God and serving him as such in fortune and misfortune, health and sickness. She should rise early, serving the gods, always keeping her house clean, tending the domestic sacred fire, eating only after the needs of gods and guests and servants have been satisfied, devoted to her father and mother, and the father and mother of her husband. Devotion to her lord is woman's honour, it is her eternal heaven". We need hardly remind our readers that this high ideal of the mutual adoration of man and woman and the merging of their individual selves in the family bond for the performance of the family duties as laid down by the ancient lawgivers was a matter of practical observance among most Hindus. Such a life naturally conducted to the propagation of a healthy, strong, vigorous, and spiritual minded progeny that looked upon this life not as an end in itself but only as a preparatory course for the higher and permanent life. Hindu India described in the Puranas and Ithihasas, and by such foreigners as Megasthenes and Hieun Tshang was the product of this ideals of life. They say that lying and thieving and most of the modern social and selfish vices were then practically unknown among Hindus.

Among ancient Hindus the family was the primary unit in the State. The husband and wife were bound in one indissoluble union and were regarded as one unit, or rather as the two magnetic poles of one body, each giving vitality and inspiration to the other. Neither the husband nor the wife desires for a boon apart from each other. It will be seen, therefore, that the tendency of modern education and culture with its open encouragement of individualism and suffragetteism, and all that they connote, is diametrically opposed to the ancient Hindu culture which looked upon husband and wife as one for all life's purposes. The former breeds strife and competition between the two sexes; and though it may act as an incentive to material achievements, it cannot direct human progress into spiritual paths. The Hindu culture breeds contentment and harmonious co-operation between the two sexes, which is sure to favour the direction of all worldly activities unto spiritual ends. The modern movements for Hindu revival and re-awakening cannot be productive of much benevolent effects if they fail to make reforms in the system of education now imparted to the children of the community by making it national and religious in its tone. This will be difficult, if the Government should persist in not discouraging proselytising bodies whose ideals of life and civilization are different from our own, having any great share in the education of Hindu children. The Government could do this by giving greater encouragement to the starting of Hindu educational institutions for the education of Hindu children. For the good of society as well as for the welfare of the State it is essential that the citizens should sincerely strive to act up to the precepts of the religions they profess, whether they are Hindus, Buddhists or Mohamedans. This cannot be done if proselytising bodies are allowed to tamper with the religious education of the children of these communities.

In conclusion, we give here a few quotations from Manu and other sacred Hindu law givers on the status of women in Hindu Society:—

- 1. Where women are honored there the Devas are pleased; but where they are dishonored, no sacred rites yield rewards.
- 2. Women must be honoured and adored by their fathers, husbands, brothers, and brothers-in-law, who desire their own welfare.

3. Where female relations lie in grief, the family soon wholly perishes; but the family where they are not unhappy ever prospers.

4. The teacher is ten times more venerable than the sub-teacher, the father a hundred times more than the teacher, but the mother a thousand times more than the father.

5. He who despises woman despises his mother.

6. He who is cursed by a woman is cursed by God.

7. The tears of a woman call down the fire of heaven on those who make them flow.

8. Evil to him who laughs at a woman's sufferings. God shall laugh at his prayers.

9. There is no crime more odious than to persecute women and to take advantage of their weakness to despoil them of their patrimony.

10. The songs of women are sweet in the ears of the Lord; men should not if they wish to be heard sing the praises of God without women.

**LOCAL & GENERAL.**

**THE WEATHER**—Heavy refreshing showers of rain fell yesterday noon in all parts of the Town and suburbs, allaying the intense heat caused by the prolonged drought. It is hoped that the influenza epidemic will now subside.

**RELIGIOUS LECTURES**—Under the auspices of the Manipay Vivekananda Sabha, two lectures on "The Hindu Ideal of Life" and "The True Education" will be delivered by Swami Sharvananda in the Manipay Hindu College Hall on Friday, October 11, 1918, at 4.30 p. m., and on Saturday, October 12, 1918, at 4.30 p. m.

**A NEW SUPREME COURT PROCTOR**—We are glad to note that Mr. R. Subramaniam, who has come out successful in the last Proctors' Final Examination, is the son-in-law of Mr. V. Casipillai, Retired Crown Proctor, and a cousin of Mr. A. Cathiravelu J.P., Crown Proctor, Jaffna. He received his education both at the Jaffna Hindu College and Wesley College, Colombo. We wish Mr. Subramaniam a prosperous career in his new profession.

**PERSONAL**—Mr. E. B. Denham is expected to arrive in Jaffna today to attend a meeting of the District School Committee which is to be held on the 12th instant, at which the proposal of the Director of Education to open an Industrial School in Jaffna will be considered.

—Mr. Clement A. S. Mather has passed the Final Examination for admission as a Proctor of the Supreme Court and Notary Public. He is a son of Mr. Thomas C. Mather of Haputale and a nephew of Mr. William Mather, Managing Director of the Jaffna Commercial Corporation Ltd.

**FAREWELL SEND OFF AT TALAWAKELLE**—On Saturday the 28th of September 1918 at 6 p. m. the numerous friends of Mr. T. Saravananamuttu, the veteran over-seer, P. W. D. Landula, assembled together at his spacious and neatly decorated bungalow to entertain him at a social gathering on the eve of his departure on retirement from the district after a faithful service of 35 years in the Public Works Department. Mr. Saravananamuttu as a public servant has made himself so popular among all classes of people with whom he has worked, and treated all alike that his departure is keenly felt by everyone in the district. After refreshments were lavishly served, Mr. M. Subramaniam, the Head Clerk P. W. D. Talawakelle, rose amidst loud cheers and in a neat speech dwelt at length on the stirring qualities of the departing friend and handed over a wellfilled purse as a token. Then Messrs. S. W. S. Cooke (senior Asst. Post and Telegraph Master Talawakelle) V. Kathirithamby and Tambyrajah spoke very highly of the departing veteran friend and expressed their regret on his departure from the district. The next day a group photo was taken having Mr. Saravananamuttu as the central figure. He left for Jaffna on Saturday the 5th instant when he was seen off by many friends at the Railway Station. —Cor.

**H. E. THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO ANURADHAPURA**—H. E. the Governor, with the Hon. Mrs. Trevisan, the Hon. R. Trevisan and Captain Taylor, arrived at the Anuradhapura Hotel at 10.30 a. m. on the 8th instant by motor-car from Kandy. They were met at the hotel by the G. A., Mr. Freeman. At 2 p. m. the Governor was introduced by the G. A. to the Heads of Departments, to the Unofficial Members of the Local Board and the Chiefs, after which an address on behalf of the Chairman and Members of the Local Board was read by Mr. Navaratnarajah, Unofficial Member, to which H. E. replied. Then an address on behalf of the Chiefs was read by Mr. Bulankulam Dissawe, to which also His Excellency replied.—By telegraph.

**INFLUENZA IN SPAIN**—Madrid.—Spain is again ravaged by influenza. King Alfonso is among the sufferers. There is a great shortage of doctors.



**KALUTARA TILE AND BRICK MANUFACTURE.**  
 —The Diyagama tile and brick kilns are being worked with extra vigour now, as flood-time, which makes the clay yielding fields inaccessible, is at hand. The clay is whitish and was found by experimenters to yield very satisfactory crockery when mixed with other ingredients.

**C T O SECOND ANNUAL MEETING.**—The second annual meeting of the above Club will be held at the Ceylon Turf Club Office on Oct 26th at 7.30 a. m. It is proposed to vote Rs 75,000 from last season's profits to War charities.

**INFLUENZA IN INDIA.**—Influenza has increased terribly in Bombay and Karachi. The death rate for the 24 hours ending Wednesday in Bombay took a sudden jump, the number being 733, which beats all previous records. At Karachi no fewer than 32 deaths are reported yesterday. The Municipality is giving free treatment to patients and also supplying anti-septic nose and mouth washes as a preventive measure.

**PALESTINE—Tribute to Indian Troops.**—London, Oct. 1.—In the course of his speech at the Guildhall, Mr. Bonar Law said that the victory in Palestine had this great additional attraction for us, that the largest part of the army which achieved it was composed of Indian troops—(cheers)—and as an indication of the difference of spirit between the Allies and their enemies we had as much reason to be proud of the fact that Indian troops played that part as of the part which had been given us. Whatever happened, it was necessary for us to save Egypt. Events in Palestine had proved that attack was the best defence, and, moreover, these great victories would have been required for the defence of Egypt alone.

**BOMBAY'S MYSTERY FEVER.**—Bombay, Oct. 2.—T. E. the Governor and Lady Willingdon, accompanied by the Commissioner, the Health Officer and the Commissioner of Police, went round the city this morning, inspecting the municipal dispensaries and hospitals, where hundreds of "mystery" fever cases are treated. Subsequently Their Excellencies, accompanied by Mr. N. M. Joshi, Servants of India Society, visited the Queen's Road cemetery and Haines Road Hindu burning ground. The request of Dr. Turner, Executive Health Officer, Bombay Municipality, to the Military authorities for a big hospital for the present epidemic cases has been promptly met and the authorities have placed at the disposal of the Health Department about 500 beds at the Dadar military camp. Two military motor ambulances have been placed at its disposal. The Health Department has widely distributed hand bills throughout the city in various vernaculars, informing the public that medicine and milk will be given free if required at thirteen different dispensaries. Relief work by voluntary workers has been started.—"M. Mail."

**OBITUARY.**—We deeply regret to announce the sad and untimely death of Mr. V. Kumaramany, Notary Public, on the 9th inst., at his residence at Vannarponnai, of the new fever. He was of a kind, genial and charitable disposition and enjoyed a large practice. He was the Assistant Manager of this paper before he was enrolled as a Notary Public. He leaves behind besides his widow, three children, and his aged mother, a very large number of relations and friends to whom we offer our heartfelt condolences.

—It is with deep regret we have to record the sad and untimely death of Mrs. Thuraiappa, wife of Dr. S. Thuraiappa, Medical Officer, Kangeanthurai, on the 9th inst., at her residence at Thunai, Vaddukkottai, of pneumonia after confinement. The deceased lady was a daughter of Dr. M. Kalliasapillai, and was dearly beloved by all who knew her for her good qualities. She leaves behind besides her husband and four children, her father and a large circle of relations and friends to whom we offer our heartfelt condolences.

—We also record with deep regret the death which took place on Tuesday last of Mr. B. Francis Mudaliyar, Registrar of Lands, Jaffna. The deceased gentleman was an able and conscientious Officer of the Government, and held his high office for a long time with great acceptance to the Government and the public. Our condolences to the bereaved.

—We regret to announce the sad and untimely death of Master Sabhasivam, eldest son of Mr. O. Perumispillai, Proctor and Notary Public, which took place at Thunai Vaddukkottai East on Saturday last. The deceased was 16 years old at the time of his death and was a promising student of the Jaffna College. Our condolences to the bereaved.

—We regret to record the death at the early age of 18 of Annamma, the beloved wife of Mr. J. M. James, Librarian, Jaffna Library, at her residence at Karaikur. She gave birth to a child only a fortnight ago at the Inuvil Hospital and succumbed to puerperal fever on the night of the 3rd instant in spite of the best medical treatment given her. The funeral took place on the evening of the following day and there was a very large attendance. She leaves behind her husband two brothers and two sisters, to all of whom we offer our heartfelt sympathy.  
 —Cor.

**THE KARAITIVA TEMPERANCE LEAGUE.**—Under the auspices of the Karaitiva Temperance League there were held two public meetings and two temperance classes. The first public meeting was held in the Mission English School on Friday the 30th ultimo 4 to 6.30 p. m. The speakers were Messrs. K. Oshiravelu and R. Nagalingam, excluding children's exercises. The second public meeting was held in the Sadaival School on Saturday the 28th ultimo from 4 to 6.30 p. m. The speakers were Messrs. K. Ohinnatambay, A. Kattiravelu, S. Ponnappah and R. Nagalingam, excluding children's exercises. The temperance classes were held on the 13th and on the 20th September in the Hindu English School and in the Girls' School respectively. The next public meeting will be held on Saturday the 12th October at the Ayelic Vernacular School. —Cor.

**H. E. THE GOVERNOR AT KURUNEGALA.**

H. E. the Governor motored from Kandy, in the company of the Hon. and Mrs. R. Trefusis and Captain J. A. Taylor and arrived in Kurunegala at 8 a. m. on Saturday the 5th instant. Driving direct to the Maigawa, the residence of the Government Agent, he passed along a line of people chiefly villagers, who had been eagerly waiting by the roadside from the earliest hours of the day. The motor car drove through two picturesque pandals erected by the people and headmen of the Hiriyala, the Wasni and the Wendawille Hatpattua. At 9.30 the Governor in a White Uniform attended by the Hon. R. Trefusis and Captain Taylor arrived at the Town Hall. A line of the minor headmen, the Kurunegala Town Guard and the Police Boys' Brigade was drawn up in front of the hall. The car halted under two richly decorated pandals which were erected in the foreground. His Excellency was received by Captain C. R. Cumberland, and the Chief Officials and Chief Headmen were in turn introduced to him. His Excellency was next escorted to the raised platform where seats were placed for the Hon. Mrs. Trefusis, Mrs. Cumberland, the Hon. R. Trefusis and Captain Taylor, A. D. C. The Local Board, the Chiefs, the Planters, and the Plumbago Merchants Union presented their Addresses to which His Excellency replied one after another. The following reply to the Planters' Address is the most interesting:—

Mr. Patterson and Members of the Kurunegala Planters' Association, I must first of all thank you for your kindly welcome. Again, as I said in my earlier remarks in the Island, I must say once more how well I know the planters of this Island have given of their best to the great cause and I know well that many have made the great sacrifice. It is to me of great interest to know that you have sent of the best of your community and those left are like yourselves and myself, considered too old to take their active part in the great war. It will be a lasting monument of your loyalty to king and country that so many have taken part in the great war. You have drawn my attention to the fact that the majority of your wants have been fulfilled. That is a situation which I seldom had heard from Associations in the various parts of the Empire I have served in. It pleases me that the Central Government recognises the value of the work done in the Island by you. Two points, one in particular have been brought to my notice. Now as you all are aware I have spent many years in Agricultural Colonies; I know the importance for the planters of immediate telephonic communications with the central town. When the time comes and when it is possible the matter will receive my careful consideration. You have brought to my notice the difficulty in connection with the supply of rice. I had intended when speaking to the chiefs to mention the great difficulty that exists now and will exist for some time after the war, that is, the self supply of food stuffs. There is a belief, an incorrect belief that at the end of the war, every necessary will be forthcoming. My belief is not such as to think so. Rice and other products will be greatly required by the warring nations. The demand will be greater than any surplus we have, especially due to the shortage of grain in Europe. I would urge those that have influence to encourage the planting of rice and other food stuffs. You have also brought to my notice the curious state of affairs with regard to the transport of rice coming from India to Colombo. I hope it would not be impossible to obviate this very singular state of affairs—the rice being taken fifty miles and being brought back fifty miles to Kurunegala. I trust it will be my privilege to meet you later on and discuss closely those matters affecting your interests. I know well it is desirable in this Colony as in all agricultural colonies that the agricultural services of the Government should be strongly manned. You must remember that at this time any man worth his salt is serving at the front and it is difficult in these days to obtain the class of men suitable to strengthen the agricultural staff. Already I have sent a telegram to the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture in the West Indies, a great friend of mine, where there are many young men, unfit for war service, to recommend one whose record I know and who will be of great value to the agricultural service of the Island. Your endeavours have my sympathy and I shall do all in my power to assist you. We shall end by being friends and

you will come and speak to me as man and man. Do not write letters for which you may be sorry later. By this means we shall get to know each other. I thank you again for your welcome and shall be glad to be hereafter with you, as you have desired and we shall talk over matters of interest to you and me. —"The Ceylon Daily News".

**BAGAVAT GITA.**

Bagavat Gita is the discourse which Sri Krishna had with Arjuna in the battle field of Kurukshetra. When the two contending armies were arrayed against each other, Arjuna cast his look on the opposite side, and found that he had to fight against his own kinsmen and preceptors. The idea that he had to kill them all in the battle field in order to satisfy his material desire inspired awe in his mind, and he felt suddenly agitated. He refused to fight and was firm and resolute in his decision. Sri Krishna had therefore to devise means to persuade Arjuna to fight, and he started the discourse known as Bagavat Gita.

In this discourse, Sri Krishna impressed on Arjuna the importance of every man doing his duty as *Nishkamyakarma* (without looking for reward) and he explained at the same time the relation between God and *Jagat*,—which explanation is availed of at present by the followers of the *Bhramavada* school in support of their *Mayavada*.

I do not propose to propound the true meaning of Krishna's explanations at present. For, it is evident from the Maha Bharata itself that Arjuna was a rigid follower of the Agamas, and that he pledged himself to the vow of not eating anything on any day before he performed his *Siva Pooja*, as prescribed by the Agamas. If Lord Krishna had intended to instruct Arjuna on the *Mayavada* theories of Pantheism and Idealism, the latter could not be said to have performed *Siva Pooja* even after these instructions; and in the performance of that Pooja, Lord Krishna cannot be said to have helped him materially. I only wish to draw the attention of the readers to the object of Sri Krishna in imparting the lessons contained in the Bagavat Gita. Was it a genuine *Gnanopatha*? or was it intended to beguile Arjuna as Beakaspathi did Indra, and Sukracharya did Sura Badma?

1. Let us in the first place see whether Arjuna was a fit subject for *Gnanopatha*. He was all along pining under a material loss; he collected a large army, and started to the battle field in order to recoup that loss; he saw in the battle field, as any reasonable man in the material plane would see, that he cannot kill his own kin and kin for the sake of material gain; he manifested evident signs of the influence of the material plane over him throughout the great battle; and after the battle was won, he enjoyed the material world as any worldly minded man would do. Can we say in the circumstances that he was a subject fit for *Gnanopatha*? Can we say that Lord Krishna was unable to see what kind of a soul Arjuna was, and that he made a mistake in instructing him on *Gnanakanda*? We cannot say either. The only conclusion we can therefore draw is that he wanted to tell Arjuna something that will induce him to fight. Krishna knew Arjuna's state of mind, and he also knew how that state of mind could be changed. He therefore had recourse to Bagavat Gita—an instruction to an unripe soul—and it cannot therefore be said to be a genuine *Gnanopatham*.

2. Let us now consider the second question. Was not Arjuna right when he refused to fight against his kinsmen and kill them in the battle field? It is of course the duty of the *Kshatriya* to fight; but is it not at the same time his duty not to kill his kin and kin? I must point out here that *Nishkamyakarma* is greatly misunderstood. *Nishkamyakarma* are actions done without looking for reward. But can we say that actions that are done without caring for the results can also be called *Nishkamyakarma*? certainly not.

It is of course the duty of the King to punish an offender—say a thief, with a number of cuts; but if the king finds that the punishment would endanger the life of the offender, he cannot carry out the punishment blindly. Consideration to the safety of offender's life is also the duty of the king. Similarly Arjuna was perfectly right when he refused to kill his kinsmen, and Lord Krishna only wanted to beguile him in order to baffle that duty so that destiny might have its own way.

3. The third point for consideration is whether *Nishkamyakarma* would have no effect at all on the doer. It is true that real service to fellow creatures is service rendered without looking for reward. But would not such service be of great use ultimately to the doer? Otherwise it will be a suicidal act and cannot be considered a meritorious service at all. The merit lies in the service benefiting the doer ultimately. Whenever we do any *Nishkamyakarma* service, we should not of course look for any direct reward, but should look from the person to whom the service is rendered. But we must render the service in the full faith that such service is highly meritorious, and that the merit lies in the service benefiting us ultimately in the hands of God. If any of our *Karmas* will affect others injuriously, and will reflect on us in the ordinary course, it cannot be called a *Nishkamyakarma*, simply because it was done without looking for reward. We may not look for reward, but at the same time we must see that we do not harm others. If Arjuna's act had harmed his kinsmen, he could not escape the punishment on the plea that he did not look for any reward. Arjuna was not responsible for his actions, and as such was not to act, and he cannot therefore be said to have attained the stage where actions cease. So long as action was found necessary for him, he must enjoy the fruits of his action.

4. The fourth point is whether a *Gnani* has a duty. Duty is all in the material plane. *Gnani* is above the material plane, and he has no duty whatever. If Arjuna was considered to be a fit subject for the plane of *Gnana*, why should Sri Krishna impose on him a duty? If he had Krishna impose on the law of duty, he cannot be said to have been a subject fit for *Gnanopatham*; and if he had to observe his duty as a *Kshatriya*, and if he had to fight, he had also to observe his other duty of abstaining from killing his kinsmen, other duty of abstaining from the material plane. A *Gnani* does not belong to the material plane and

he has therefore no kith or kin, and no duty to perform. But if one is enjoined to do his duty, he must perform that duty consistently with his other duties. Sri Krishna did not solve this problem, but only wanted to say something that would induce Arjuna to fight.

5. The fifth point for consideration is this: Does *Nishkamyakarma* work mean that we should abstain from work that will benefit us? Is it not the primary duty of man to help himself? He should not be of course be selfish; but should he not help himself? Is he not to help others, if he knew that by such help he will also be benefited? Some of our modern thinkers look at things superficially and are taken up by mere shows. They do not discriminate between selfishness and self-interest, and they think that an advanced soul should not care for his own interests. This is a serious mistake. These are no worse sinners than the man who commits suicide. A man that does not do his duty to his own self, cannot be said to be able to do his duty to others. *Nishkamyakarma* is mainly intended to keep out selfishness, and material gains to one's own self; but it cannot be said to be opposed to self-interest in the broad sense. If self-interest, however remote it may be, is absent in an action, it is a sin against one's own self and cannot be called a meritorious action. If Arjuna was urged on to act without caring for its results, and without caring for its ultimate effect on his own self, it cannot be said to be a pure teaching and it cannot be said to merit our admiration.

I only put this forward so that readers may compare the teaching of the Bagavat Gita with the *Gnanakanda* of the Siddhanta Philosophy and find out for themselves their respective merits.  
 —Cor.

**CHANGE OF OCCUPATION IS REST FOR THE TIRED BODY AND MIND.**

We are living in the twentieth century, in an age of hurry and scurry. The stress and strain of modern life is being felt by every one who has got to earn a living. There is no place for idlers in the modern Society. We must work and work if we want to succeed in life. But look at the amount of neurasthenia and feeble mindedness that are being brought on by this high pressure of work. The continual working at the same desk by a poor clerk in the office fags out his brain. When he comes home he is not in good spirits. He frets at everything. Petty annoyances cause a great stork in his mind. The uselessness of the mind tells upon his health. He gets emaciated, feels fagged out with slight exertion. It is this class of people who continually seek the advice of medical men for what they think to be a grave disease e.g. headache, palpitation, breathlessness, indigestion etc. It is the duty of the keen medical man to enquire into the amount work and nature of occupation of such patients. It will then be invariably found out that it is the continual worry over the same work that is telling upon the health of the man who is seeking advice. And what advice should be given to him? A change of occupation or a holiday, for those who can afford it is the best cure that can be prescribed. Let the man take active physical exercise in the open air, let him engage himself in a little gardening either before or after his office hours or in addition to his ordinary avocation in life. He will then, in fact be calling into activity the latent or suspended function of the cerebral centres, leaving the higher, the intellectual part of the brain to work out its own recovery from over-fatigue or exhaustion by rest—that is by freedom from its own peculiar function or occupation. After a time he will be a changed man. He becomes completely invigorated, improved in general appearance, active, and full of mental vigour, and equal to the resumption of almost any amount of renewed exertion without fatigue to his body or brain. In order to give some additional practical interest to this subject, in reference to cases of more decided mental disturbance from overwork of the brain we may be permitted to quote the following letter by Dr. Hood of Bathlem Hospital addressed to Dr. Ellen from his admirable lectures on "Rest and Pain":—

My dear Sir,—In reply to your enquiries, I may state that I am frequently applied to for the admission of lunatics into this hospital, whose insanity is caused by over mental work, anxiety, or exertion, and for whose cases nothing is required to restore the mental equilibrium but rest. Therapeutical measures are not necessary; and the mind seems to imply that the patient reduced to a state of nervous hypochondriasis or the depression of melancholia, is to lead but an indolent life. Such a course would only aggravate the disease, and probably result in complete dementia but that those faculties which have been stretched should have an opportunity of regaining their elasticity by rest and relaxation. In example, an accountant, whose whole day is spent in calculation and thought, becomes by overwork so mentally fatigued that he is incapable of working out with accuracy the most simple sum in arithmetic. Sensible of his incapacity, which perhaps may result in the loss of his situation, and with poverty then staring him in the face, he becomes melancholic, and medical advice is then sought. His physical functions are then sought, no medicine is required or taken, but a holiday from the counting-house, freedom from all thoughts and anxiety, the substitution of amusements for labour, restores his mind to a healthy state, and he returns to business as competent as he ever was. I have now under my care a man who for some years past has been a subject to occasional attacks of melancholia. He is occupied as a compositor, and, being both a clever and trustworthy man, is constantly employed. He works early and late for many consecutive hours, and for some months all gets on well; but the stretch on the mind ultimately causes a break down, from which he cannot rally, unless he leaves his business for a month or six weeks, and takes a complete holiday. He tells me that the cause of his mental suffering is from concentration of thought, and that rest removes the weight and agony of melancholia. In a word, he takes a month's holiday, engages in no occupation requiring thought or belonging with it anxiety, returns to his duties with the mind of a young man; some people may reply, "This is not rest, it is only a change of amusement." I maintain it is the perfect rest to the faculty which has been overworked. Of course we do not propose that the whole mind should remain fallow, but that the pressure which is removed from the particular part which is fatigued.

—Health and Happiness.



## GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH.

London, Oct. 6.

Copenhagen.—The Chancellor, Prince Max of Baden, speaking in the Reichstag on Oct. 5th, said that by Imperial Decree on September 30th the Empire's political leadership had undergone fundamental alteration. In accordance with the method which the Government had now introduced, he submitted to the Reichstag publicly, without delay, the principles by which he proposed to conduct his gravely responsible office. These principles were firmly established in agreement with the Federated Governments and the leaders of the Majority Parties of the Reichstag before he decided to assume the Chancellorship. Hence they contained not merely his confession of political faith, but that of the overwhelming portion of the German nation. Only the knowledge that the majority of people, supported him gave him strength to undertake the conduct of the Empire's affairs in the present hard and earnest times. One man's shoulders were too weak to carry alone the present tremendous responsibility of Government. Only if the people actively participated through their freely elected political leaders in deciding their destinies could a statesman confidently assume his part of the responsibility. His resolve to do this was lightened by the fact that the 1000 leaders had reached the highest offices in the Empire in the new Government. This offered a rare guarantee that the new Government was supported by broad masses of the people. The programme of the Majority Parties, on which he took his stand, contained the acceptance of the former Imperial Government's answer to the Pope's Note of August, 1st, 1917, also the unconditional acceptance of the Reichstag's resolution of July 19th, 1918. It further declared willingly to join the League of Nations, based upon equal rights for all, both strong and weak. It considered the solution of the Belgian question to lie in the complete rehabilitation of Belgium, particularly her independence and territorial integrity. Efforts would also be made to reach an understanding in the question of an indemnity. The programme would not permit the Peace Treaties, hitherto concluded, to be a hindrance to the conclusion of a general Peace.

Its particular aim was that popular representative bodies should be formed immediately on a broad basis in the Baltic Provinces of Lithuania and Poland. As a preliminary to this, civilian rule would be introduced immediately in these lands, which would regulate their Constitution and their relations with their neighbours without outside interference. As regards the German domestic policy, the manner in which he had formed the Government showed that he had taken a clear and firm stand in making selections. He had laid the largest weight on the fact that the members of the new Government stood on the basis of a just Peace, regardless of the War situation, and that they openly declared this to be their stand—point at the height of Germany's Military successes.

The Chancellor said he was convinced that after the War the Government could not again be formed without the support of the Reichstag or without leaders drawn from the Reichstag. An indisputable result of the War had been that in Germany for the first time the great Parties had co-operated in a firm, harmonious programme, thus reaching a position to determine the fate of the people. This development would never be repeated. (Cheers.) This development would necessitate the alteration of the Constitution in accordance with the Imperial Decree of September 30th and would enable the members of the Reichstag entering the Government to retain their seats in the Reichstag. A Bill to this effect had been submitted to the Federal States for immediate decision. The Chancellor recalled the speech of the Kaiser on August 4th, 1914, when he said there are Parties, but they are all German Parties. (Cheers.)

The Chancellor said the political development of Prussia would have to proceed in the spirit of these words and the King of Prussia's promise of democratic franchise would have to be fulfilled quickly and completely. (Cheers.) He did not doubt that Federal States lagging behind in constitutional development would resolutely follow Prussia's example. (Cheers.) For the present state of siege could not be relinquished, but close relations between the Military and civilian authorities would have to be established, so that in all not purely Military questions, especially questions of censorship and the right of meeting, the attitude of the civilian authorities would make itself heard and the final decision would rest with the Chancellor. (Cheers.) An order of the Kaiser, to this effect, would be sent to the Military Commanders, and Sept. 30th, 1918, (the date of the Kaiser's Decree) would mark a new epoch in Germany's internal history with the people behind it. The German Government would stand at the Peace negotiations for the protection of Labour and the insurance of workers, thus obliging the Treaty-making States to institute in their countries, within a prescribed time, provisions for the security of life and health and also the care of the workers in the case of illness, accident or invalidity.

The German people, after four years of a most bloody struggle against numerically superior enemies, was still confident in its strength and resolved to endure heavier sacrifices. A continuous, terrible and murderous battle had been raging for months in the West. Thanks to the incomparable heroism of the Army, the front was unbroken. Just because we are inspired by this confidence in the future, it is our duty to make certain the bloody struggle is not protracted for a single day beyond the moment when an end of the War seems possible to us, which does not affect our honour. I, therefore, supported by the consent of all authorised persons of the Empire and the consent of all our Allies, acting in concert, sent last Friday night through the intermediary of Switzerland a Note to the President of the United States in which I requested him to take up the bringing about of Peace, and communicate to this end with all belligerent States. The Note will reach Washington today or tomorrow. It is directed to President Wilson because he, in his Message to Congress on January 8th, 1918, and in later Proclamations, particularly in the New York speech of September 27th, proposed a programme of a general Peace which we can accept as a basis for negotiations. I have taken this step, not merely for the salvation of Germany and her Allies, but all humanity which has been suffering years of War and also because

the thoughts regarding the future well being of the nations proclaimed by Mr. Wilson agree with the general ideas cherished by the new German Government and the overwhelming majority of our people. So far as I am personally concerned, my earlier speeches to other assemblies of hearers testify that my conception of a future Peace is unchanged since I have been entrusted with the leadership of the Empire's affairs. What I want is an honourable, enduring Peace for all mankind and I believe such a Peace to be at the same time the strongest rampart for the future well being of the Fatherland. Whatever the outcome of my action may be, I know it will find Germany firmly resolved and united, either for an upright Peace which rejects every selfish violation of rights of others or for a final struggle of life or death, to which we shall be forced without our own fault.

If the answer to our Note by the opposing Powers be dictated by the will to destroy us, I do not despair at the thought of this second alternative. I know the greatness of the mighty powers yet possessed by our people and that the incontrovertible conviction that they are only fighting for their life as a nation would double these Powers. (Cheers.) I hope, however, for the sake of all mankind that the President of the United States will receive our offer as we mean it. Then the door will be opened for a speedy and honourable Peace of Justice and reconciliation, both for us and our opponents.—*Ceylon Observer.*

## TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

## The War.

## THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, Oct. 1.

F. M. Sir D. Haig says:—At the conclusion of yesterday's fighting we hold the high ground a mile North-Eastward of S. Quentin and had successfully beaten off counter-attacks at Gony, Le Catelet and Sequohart. We took over 4,000 prisoners in yesterday's operations Northward of S. Quentin. At night in local fighting to our advantage we occupied positions South Westward of Beauvois and in the Southern outskirts of Cambrai. We slightly advanced our posts North-Eastward of Epinay. We repulsed a hostile attack on a post Southward of Biache-St. Vaast. Northward of the Scarpe we progressed between Oppy, and Mericourt and Northward our advanced troops reached the Railway Eastward of Lens and the general line Vendrinville-Wingles-Berclan-Fournes-en-Weppes-Houplines.

## BULGARIA'S SURRENDER.

London, Oct. 3.

The German press is still incredulous that Bulgaria has entirely deserted the Central Powers, professing to cling as a last hope to the results of the despatch of Austrian and German troops to Sofia.

## PALESTINE.

London, Oct. 2.

The newspapers, in giving prominence to the British capture of Damascus, emphasize that it is one of the most important Turkish bases in Asia Minor, and the principal supply centre for the captured Turkish Armies. The papers also dwell on its great historical interest, and express themselves as of opinion that the capture will create an enormous impression throughout the East.

## AMERICAN CHASERS SINK TWO SUBMARINES.

London, Oct. 4.

An Italian Naval *communiqué* says:—American submarine-chasers, while protecting larger vessels, which bombarded Durazzo on Oct. 2nd, destroyed two enemy submarines.

## EAST AFRICA.

London, Oct. 3.

A Portuguese East African *communiqué* says:—The Germans, pursued by our forces co-operating with the British have been forced to cross the river Rovuma, abandoning great material and many prisoners. The enemy is retiring into the forests of the interior.

## RUSSIAN INDEMNITY.

London, Oct. 2.

Amsterdam.—A Berlin message says the second instalment in gold of the Russian indemnity has been received on the frontier by the Reichs-Bank.

## GERMANY SUES FOR PEACE.

London, Oct. 6.

Copenhagen.—The Chancellor announced in the Reichstag that he had sent a Note to President Wilson through the Swiss Government on Friday night, requesting President Wilson to take up the bringing about of Peace, and to communicate concerning this matter with the other belligerents.

London, Oct. 5.

A French *communiqué* says:—North of St. Quentin we actively participated in a hard battle in the Hindenburg position. We captured Chardouet, South of Sequohart, and several fortified woods. Further South we gained a footing at Les Dins and captured Morcourt. The enemy furiously and repeatedly counter-attacked. All his efforts were shattered with heavy loss. We captured 400 prisoners and four heavy guns. The French and Americans in Champagne gained an important advantage and completed yesterday's successes. On the left we pushed over four kilometres North of the Aube River and eight kilometres North-West of Somme Py to the River Arne. We captured the villages of Vanducourt, Doutrin, St. Souplet and Grand-elluis Woods, despite resistance. Further East we reached the outskirts of St. Eloiennes-Arnes and gained a footing on the plateau of Orfeuil, capturing Orfeuil village. We evacuated Challerange, which neither side holds, being intensely shelled by both Artilleries. Favourable weather facilitated aviation on Oct. 3rd. Nineteen enemy aeroplanes were felled and three balloons set on fire. Scouts pushed far into the enemy lines. 51 tons of bombs and thousands of cartridges were fired by day on enemy reserves massed with a view to a counter-attack. In one sector aeroplanes again felled the advanced troops. Five 20 tons of projectiles were dropped by night on enemy bivouacs and encampments on a wide front.

London, Oct. 6.

A French *communiqué* says:—The Franco-American victorious attacks for several days on the Vesle and Champagne fronts compelled the enemy to a general retirement towards the Suippe and Arnes Rivières. He is hastily abandoning formidable positions fortified during 4 years and defended with undeniable desperation. He is retreating on a front of 45 kilometres. Rheims in face (?), Brimont Fort, and Moronvillers massif are ours. Nogent l'Abbesse massif is completely surrounded. Our advance guards, keeping in close touch with the enemy rearguards, passed the line Orainville Bourgoigne-Cornay-les-Rheims, Beine and Bithenville. Further East we hold whole course of the Arnes and crossed the Suippe at Orainville and Arnes at several points.

## FLANDERS RIDGE WON IN 48 HOURS.

London, Oct. 5.

A Belgian *communiqué*, dated Oct. 4th, says:—The British, Belgian and French attack on Sept. 25th conquered the whole of Flanders Ridge in 48 hours. Local actions since, aimed at freeing the approaches to the Ridge, resulted in an advance of 14 kilometres on a front of 40 and completely freed Ypres Dunes and permitted the occupation of the Lys River between Armentières and Warvic. 10,500 prisoners, including 200 officers, have been counted, also 350 guns, 200 trench-mortars and 400 machine guns. The British Navy and airmen powerfully contributed to the victory.

London, Oct. 5.

A French *communiqué* says:—North of St. Quentin the fighting continued with undiminished violence. We have thrown back the enemy, who was defending himself foot by foot, from a height situated 1,200 metres South-East of Chardouvet and the neighbouring woods. North-West of Rheims we are again exerting vigorous pressure along the whole front of the Aisne Canal, which we crossed at several places, and advanced as far as the outskirts of Bormericourt. The number of prisoners counted in the past five days exceeds 2,500. We have taken 31 guns, including 20 heavies of which five are 210 millimetre. The lively attacks of the French and Americans in Champagne and their advance yesterday in the direction of the Arne forced the enemy, who was threatened with having his left turned, to evacuate precipitately the Eastern part of the mountain region. Our troops in the Western sector, the Suippe, are on the heels of the enemy rearguards and reached at night the heights 800 kilometres (?) South-East of Moronvillers. South of Monthis we smashed a counter-attack against Croix-des-Soudans, retaining all our gains. The Germans, who were heavily reinforced, are disputing the ground along the entire Orfeuil-Monthois front with extreme obstinacy.

London, Oct. 6.

An American *communiqué* says:—Our attack Westward of the Meuse continued despite determined resistance by Artillery and machine-guns from well entrenched positions. Strong hostile counter-attacks were repulsed with heavy enemy losses.

A French aviation *communiqué* says:—Notwithstanding low clouds and fog aviators closely observed the enemy's movements. Four enemy aeroplanes were felled and one balloon set on fire. Enemy troops, and convoys in the battle zone were bombed and machine-gunned. Twenty tons were thus employed in addition to thirteen tons dropped on stations at night despite 1 dense fog bank.

London, Oct. 4.

A Belgian *communiqué* says:—The French and Belgians today slightly progressed towards Hoogledede and Roulers.

London, Oct. 4.

F. M. Sir D. Haig reports re aviation:—Intense air activity was maintained on all possible occasions on the battle front. Our counter-attack and patrols successfully forestalled the enemy's intentions by warning our Headquarters. Our advancing Infantry were screened by smoke curtains caused by smoke-bombs dropped from the air, while our forward machine guns were supplied with ammunition dropped by airmen. Our fighting squadrons kept the air free of hostile machines, enabling this work to be successfully carried out. We destroyed 27 hostile machines and drove down five out of control. Twelve British are missing. We dropped 26 tons of bombs by day and 30 tons at night, doing considerable damage to the junctions and communications.

Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters, wiring this afternoon, says:—With our line still creeping Eastwards beyond Lens and Armentières and the whole Beaurevoir system reported to be in our hands, it may be said that yesterday was a good day. A distinguished officer, fresh from the thick of the fighting, said:—"We have the Germans pressed and cooked." The trend of the fighting has swung nearly due North and the strategic effect of yesterday's battle will possibly have far-reaching results. Our patrols have pushed out beyond the Beaurevoir line. Along the whole length of new front there was much heavy counter-attacking during the night. We were driven out of, but recaptured the fortified positions of Beaurevoir Mill and La Motte Farm. The fighting was most severe round Sequohart. We are maintaining all our gains. The tanks assisted the Infantry very effectively. Down to last evening over 4,000 prisoners had been counted in the Fourth Army cages. Prisoners are still coming in.

Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, wiring this evening, says how fiercely the Belgians are now fighting is shown by the fact that a German battery in action was captured by the use of knives and revolvers alone. The Belgians rushed the guns while they were being fired and killed the whole crew. An armoured car entered Roulers and did great execution. Two of the occupants were killed and two wounded, only one being left to bring it back. According to prisoners the German 57th and 59th Reserve Divisions and the 2nd and 11th Divisions have been withdrawn, being no longer capable of fighting. The morale of the German Guards Division is reported to be so reduced that some men run on the opening of attacks, Straggler pickets are posted in the rear to prevent this.

## HUNS QUIT FLANDERS COAST.

London, Oct. 4.

Reuter learns from authoritative Naval sources that there is every indication that the Germans will soon abandon the whole of the Flanders Coast. It is known that the Germans are already removing guns. There have been three heavy bombardments on the Flanders Coast in the last few days.

The Kaiser presided over the Grand Council yesterday. Evidence that the deliberations dealt with the retreat from the West is furnished by inspired articles in the German Press, preparing the public for the evacuation of the Belgian Coast, notably in the "Kreuz Zeitung" which says the Bulgarian treachery will have very rapid consequence in the Oriental world and may alter the whole world situation in favour of the *Entente*. Therefore, as the mortal spot for the Central Powers is South-East Europe, they must concentrate there and a new German line—from Antwerp to Metz and the Adriatic—must be prepared. Experts in London point out, however, that the question which is being fought out on the Western front is whether the enemy can retreat to another strategic front and a shorter line without supreme disaster. His retreat between Lens and Armentières is regarded as an indication of his desire to evacuate the Belgian Coast, but the Allies threaten both ends of the lateral railway from Lille to Metz, on which the supply for the German trenches depends, while the menace to Roulers endangers the German communications with the coast. The German right has a very long way to go in the event of a general retreat. Hence the importance attached by both sides to the Cambrai St. Quentin sector where the Allies are hammering the breach already made in the Siegfried system and the Germans are fighting desperately. Any substantial quickening of the Allies' advance here might mean disaster to a large part of the German Army in the West.

## ANOTHER PEACE ATTACK.

London, Oct. 5.

Amsterdam.—The "Berliner Tageblatt" learns from an authentic Vienna source that Austria has requested Holland to invite the belligerents to negotiations and Holland has already despatched invitations.

Striking figures respecting the transport of American troops to Europe show that the total up to Sept. 30th was 1,760,000, of which number British ships carried approximately one million. 70 per cent of the work of conveying was performed by the British Navy. During September 31,000 Americans, 5,000 Canadians and 4,000 American Blue Jackets were transported to Europe. Half of these September Americans have been landed in France, and the remainder in England. The largest single convoy from the United States came in September and numbered over 31,000. The previous record was 29,000. The figures emphasize the enormous contribution America is making, of the strength of the British Navy and the failure of the much vaunted U-boats' threats to prevent the arrival of the American Army.

## LLOYD GEORGE AND FOCH.

London, Oct. 4.

Mr. Lloyd George, telegraphing birthday congratulations to Marshal Foch, said:—"I do not know which to admire most, your wonderful genius in leadership or the undaunted courage and unshakable faith in victory that you have displayed during the whole War." Marshal Foch replied:—"I do not forget that it is to your persistent confidence that I owe my present position. This trust and your nation's trust are a powerful support."

—The Ceylon Observer.

## Order Nisi.

## IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA.

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 3683.

In the Matter of the Estate of the late Ponnamma wife of Veluppillai Nagalingam of Kockuvil West

Deceased.

Vinasittampi Kandiah of Kockuvil West

Petitioner.

Vs.

1. Muttupillai widow of Vinasittampi of Kockuvil West  
Minor 2. Rasamani daughter of Vinasittampi of do  
3. Veluppillai Nagalingam of do. The 2nd Respondent is a minor appearing by her guardian-ad-litem the 1st Respondent

Respondents.

This matter of the Petition of Vinasittampi Kandiah of Kockuvil West, praying for Letters of Administration to the estate of the abovesaid deceased, Ponnamma wife of Veluppillai Nagalingam, coming on for disposal before P. E. Piaris, Doctor of Letters, District Judge, on September 18, 1918, in the presence of Mr. A. Modliar Veluppillai, Proctor, on the part of the Petitioner; and the affidavit of the Petitioner, dated August 8, 1918, having been read: It is declared that the Petitioner is the brother of the minor heir of the said intestate and is entitled to have Letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him unless the Respondents or any other person shall, on or before October 17, 1918, show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

P. E. Piaris,

District Judge.

September 19, 1918.

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