

MERIAH SACRIFICES ACT 1845

ACT No XXI OF 1845

(Rep., Act 16 of 1874)

[13th September, 1845.]

Passed by the Governor General of India Council on the 13th September, 1845.

AN Act respecting the appointment and powers of Agents for the suppression of Meriah Sacrifices in the Hill Tracts of Orissa.

I. It is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor General in Council by an Order in Council, to remove from the jurisdiction and superintendence of the Commissioner and Superintendent of Tributary Mehals in Cuttack, any of the Tributary Estates specified in Section 2, Regulation II. of 1816 of the Bengal Code, and to place any such Estates under the jurisdiction and superintendence of such Officer (to be called the Agent for the Suppression of Meriah Sacrifices) and his subordinates, all shall from time to time be appointed by the Government of Bengal in that behalf.

II. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor General in Council, by an Order in Council, to remove from the jurisdiction and superintendence of the Agent to the Governor General, South West Frontier, any portion of the tract of Country, comprised in that Agency, and to place any such portion under the jurisdiction and superintendence of such Officer (to be called the Agent for the Suppression of Meriah Sacrifices) and his subordinates, as shall from time to time be appointed by the Government of Bengal in that behalf.

III. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor General in Council, by an Order in Council, to remove from the jurisdiction and superintendence of the Collectors of Granjam or Vizagapatam, exercised by them as Agents to the Governor of Fort St. George under Act XXIV. of 1839, any portion of the tracts of Country specified in Section II. of the said last mentioned Act, and to place any such portion under the jurisdiction and superintendence of such Officer (to be called the Agent for the Suppression of Meriah Sacrifices) and his subordinates, as shall from time to time be appointed by the Government of Fort St. George in that behalf.

IV. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be lawful for the Governor General in Council, by an Order in Council, to remove from the operation of General Regulations and Laws any portion of Zillah Rajamundry, and to place any such portion under the jurisdiction and superintendence of such Officer (to be called the Agent for the Suppression of Meriah Sacrifices) and his subordinates, as shall be appointed by the Government of Fort St. George in that behalf.

V. And it is hereby enacted, that all such Agents and their subordinates as shall be appointed under this Act, shall in the exercise of their jurisdiction and superintendence, be guided by such instructions as they may from time to time receive from the Government of India through their respective Governments.

VI. And it is hereby enacted, that it shall be competent to the Governor General in Council, through the Governments of the aforesaid Presidencies respectively, to prescribe such Rules as he may deem proper for the guidance of such Agents and subordinated, and to determine to what extent the decision of the said Agents in Civil Suits shall be final, and in what Suits an appeal shall lie to the Sudder Court, and to define the authority to be exercised by the said Agents in Criminal trials, and what Criminal cases they shall submit for the decision of the Sudder Court.
