

ARRANGEMENT FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN THE SULTAN OF MUSCAT AND THE SULTAN OF
ZANZIBAR, AND THE INDEPENDENCE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
STATES, DECISION OF 2 APRIL 1861*

ARRANGEMENT POUR LE RÈGLEMENT DE DIFFÉRENDS ENTRE LE
SULTAN DE MASCATE ET LE SULTAN DE ZANZIBAR ET POUR
L'INDÉPENDANCE DE LEURS ÉTATS RESPECTIFS, DÉCISION DU
2 AVRIL 1861**

* * * * *

*No. 1. — The Governor-General of India to the Sultan of Zanzibar.****

BELOVED AND ESTEEMED FRIEND,

Fort William, April 2, 1861.

I ADDRESS your Highness on the subject of the unhappy differences which have arisen between yourself and your Highness's brother, the Imam of Muscat, and for the settlement of which your Highness has engaged to accept the arbitration of the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Having regard to the friendly relations which have always existed between the Government of Her Majesty the Queen and the Government of Oman and Zanzibar, and desiring to prevent war between kinsmen, I accepted the charge of arbitration between you, and in order to obtain the fullest knowledge of all the points in dispute, I directed the Government of Bombay to send an officer to Muscat and Zanzibar to make the necessary inquiries. Brigadier Coghlan was selected for this purpose, an officer in whose judgment,

* Reprinted from British and Foreign State Papers, compiled by The Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign Office, vol. 56, London, 1870, H. M. Stationery Office, p. 1396.

** Reproduit de British and Foreign State Papers, compilé par The Librarian and Keeper of the Papers, Foreign Office, vol. 56, London, 1870, H. M. Stationery Office, p. 1396.

*** Editor's note: A similar letter was addressed by the Governor-General of India to His Highness Syud Thowaynee Bin Saeed bin Sultan, of Muscat.

intelligence, and impartiality the Government of India reposes the utmost confidence.

Brigadier Coghlan has submitted a full and clear report of all the questions at issue between your Highness and your brother.

I have given my most careful attention to each of these questions.

The terms of my decision are as follows:

1st. That his Highness Syud Majeed be declared ruler of Zanzibar and the African dominions of his late Highness Syud Saeed.

2nd. That the ruler of Zanzibar pay annually to the ruler of Muscat a subsidy of 40,000 crowns.

3rd. That his Highness Syud Majeed pay to his Highness Syud Thowaynee the arrears of subsidy for two years, or 80,000 crowns.

I am satisfied that these terms are just and honourable to both of you; and as you have deliberately and solemnly accepted my arbitration, I shall expect that you will cheerfully and faithfully abide by them, and that they will be carried out without unnecessary delay.

The annual payment of 40,000 crowns is not to be understood as a recognition of the dependence of Zanzibar upon Muscat, neither is it to be considered as merely personal between your Highness and your brother Syud Thowaynee. It is to extend to your respective successors, and is to be held to be a final and permanent arrangement, compensating the ruler of Muscat for the abandonment of all claims upon Zanzibar and adjusting the inequality between the two inheritances derived from your father, his late Highness Syud Saeed, the venerated friend of the British Government, which two inheritances are to be henceforward distinct and separate.

I am, &c.

His Highness Syud, the Sultan of Zanzibar.
Fort William, April 2, 1861.

CANNING.

No. 2. — The Sultan of Muscat to the Governor-General of India.

(Translation.)

May 15, 1861.

In the name of the Great God!

After compliments.

AT a most propitious and favourable time we were honoured with the receipt of your esteemed letter, and were highly gratified with its contents. What your Excellency has stated is most satisfactory to us, more especially as regards your award betwixt us and our brother Majid. We heartily accept the

same, and are at a loss how to express our regret for having occasioned you so much trouble, and our appreciation of the kindness which has been manifested towards us in this matter. We thank God for your efforts in our behalf, praying also that your good will may be rewarded, and that you may never cease to be our support. We further pray that our sincere affection may always be towards the Great (British) Government, and that it may increase continually: moreover, that your exalted affection and noble solicitude may always be exercised towards us, and that we may never be deprived thereof. As regards our brother Majid, we pray God during our lifetime he may never experience anything from us but kindness and hearty good will. Furthermore, we rely implicitly on your arbitration between us (being carried out).

What your exalted Excellency may require in any way from your attached friend, a hint alone will suffice for its accomplishment, and we shall feel honoured in executing it.

We pray, finally, that you may be preserved to the highest honours and in the most perfect health. We send you the salutation of peace as the best conclusion.

From your truly sincere friend, the servant of God, who confides in him as the Giver of all good.

(L.S.) THOWAYNEE BIN SAEED BIN SULTAN.

4th of Eb Kaada, 1277; 15th May, 1861.

His Excellency Lord Canning.

No. 3. — The Sultan of Zanzibar to the Governor-General of India.

(Translation.)

June 25, 1861.

After usual compliments.

MY chief object in addressing this friendly letter to your Excellency is to inquire after your health. May the Almighty always protect your Excellency from all evils. As to myself, who am under great obligations to your Excellency, I beg to state that by the grace of God, and under your auspices, I am in the enjoyment of good health. I offer my prayers to the Almighty for your long life and for the destruction of your enemies. Your Excellency's kind letter reached me at an auspicious time and I have become fully acquainted with its contents. When I referred to your Excellency for settlement the dispute which long existed between myself and my brother Syud Thowaynee bin Saeed, I made up my mind to act up to any award which you might pass on the case. I agree, as directed by your Excellency, to pay to my said brother the sum of 40,000 crowns annually, and 80,000 crowns on account of arrears for the last two years.

Considering me as a sincere friend, your Excellency will not, I hope, forget me, and I will cheerfully execute any commissions which shall be entrusted to me by your Excellency.

Zilhej, A.H. 1267; 25th June, 1861.
His Excellency Lord Canning.

MAJEED BIN SAEED.

No. 4. — The Sultan of Zanzibar to the British Consul at Zanzibar.

(Translation.)

June 29, 1861.

After compliments.

I DESIRE to inform you that have been very much gratified by the receipt of the letters from his Lordship the Governor-General of India and his Excellency the Governor of Bombay, conveying to me the intelligence of the settlement of the disputes which existed between myself and my brother Thowaynee bin Saeed. And, regarding the decision, that I shall pay to my brother Thowaynee the sum of 40,000 crowns annually, and also the sum of 80,000 crowns on account of arrears for two years, I agree to pay these sums, and I accept and am satisfied with the terms of the decision, and they are binding on me, and it is the desire of the British Government (Javabel Sircar) that each of us, that is, myself and my brother Thowaynee, shall be independent of each other in his own dominions, and Sultan over his own subjects, that is to say, that Zanzibar and the Islands (Pemba and Monfea), and the dominions on the continent of Africa dependent upon it, shall be subject to me, and that Muscat and its dependencies, with the land of Oman, shall be subject to my brother Thowaynee bin Saeed, and that we should dwell in peace and friendly alliance the one with the other, as is customary between brothers. I pray that it may be so, if it please God. I feel very much obliged to the British Government for all its kindness and favour, and for having averted from my dominions disorders and hostilities. During my lifetime I shall never forget the kindness which it has shown to me. And now what I desire from you is this, that you will mention to his Lordship the Governor-General of India that he should kindly determine that the payment of the 40,000 crowns per annum to my brother Thowaynee shall be settled as follows, viz., that 20,000 crowns shall be due and payable each year at the "Monsim" (about April, when the south-west monsoon sets in), and that the other 20,000 crowns shall be due and payable each year at the "Daman" (about September, October, when the annual accounts are made up, and the revenue from the Customs is paid), in like manner as I before agreed to do when I made the arrangement, through my cousin Mahomed bin Salim, to pay 40,000 crowns annually to Muscat.

And respecting the 80,000 crowns, arrears for two years, that it shall be paid as I can possibly do so.

This I desire, in order that there may be no ground of dispute hereafter.

This is what I wish for from the friendship of the Government.

And for whatsoever you may desire from me the sign is with, you.

From the confiding slave in God's mercy,

MAJEED BIN SAEED.

Written on the 19th day of the month of Zilhej, in the year 1277 of the Hegira, corresponding to the 29th June, A. D. 1861.

Lieut.-Col. C. P. Rigby.

No. 5. — The Governor-General of India to the Sultan of Zanzibar.

BELOVED AND ESTEEMED FRIEND,

August 22, 1861.

I HAVE received with much satisfaction your friendly letter dated 15th Zilhej, A.H. 1277. I am gratified to learn that my award for the settlement of the disputes which long existed between yourself and your brother Syud Thowaynee bin Saeed, the ruler of Muscat, has given satisfaction to your Highness.

The terms of the arbitration will be fulfilled if the sum of 40,000 crowns, payable to your brother annually, be paid by two installments, viz., the first at the Monsim and the second at the Daman.

I beg, &c.

His Highness Syud bin Saeed.

CANNING.