

# बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार



सत्तममेव जयते

संचिका संख्या 30/1913  
अभिलेखागार संख्या

१६

## बिहार सरकार

Political

सरकार

विभाग

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग

S.S.

(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशावली)

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in each

विषय:— Action taken in respect of objectionable  
articles appearing in the vernacular newspaper  
& "Mushahir-i-Bihar" published at Patna



[CONFIDENTIAL.]

[File No. 30 of 1913.  
Serial Nos. 1 to 7.]

1913.

## GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR AND ORISSA.

### Political Department.

S. S. ~  
Political Branch.

बिहार सरकार

सचिव मन्त्रालय विभाग  
Action taken in respect of objectionable articles appearing in the  
vernacular newspaper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" published at Patna.

#### LIST OF PAPERS.

1. Letter from the Hindi Translator to Government, No. 398, dated the 10th September 1913.
2. Letter to the District Magistrate of Patna, No. 87C., dated the 3rd October 1913.
3. Letter from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 613, dated the 1st October 1913.
4. Letter to the Government of India, Home Department, No. 88C., dated the 9th October 1913.
5. Memorandum from the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, No. 2757S.B., dated the 6th November 1913.
6. Petition from Muhammad Abdul Qadir, dated the 15th December 1913.
7. Memorandum from the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, No. 112S.B., dated the 16th January 1914.



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[Confidential.]

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Confidential File No. 30 of 1913.

Action taken in respect of objectionable articles appearing in the vernacular newspaper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" published at Patna.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT—

These two copies of a paper called "Mushahir-i-Bihar" have just come in addressed to "The Government of Bihar and Orissa Ranchi."

Do we know anything about the paper? It is a new paper apparently as I have not received issues of it before.

W. I. SHEPHERD—19-6-1913.

Nothing is known in Political Department.

S. C. B.—19-6-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

We may ask Special Branch if they know anything about this paper which is published at Patna.

W. I. SHEPHERD—19-6-1913.

SPECIAL BRANCH—

Do you know anything about this paper and its origin?

M. G. HALLETT—19-6-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

No. A report has been called for.

W. SEALY—20-6-1913.

D.-O. No. 1636S.B.

RANCHI,

The 10th July 1913.

MY DEAR HALLETT.

The following particulars of the paper *Mushahir-i-Bihar* have been received from the Superintendent of Police, Patna.

The paper is to be a weekly and is to be published in Urdu from Mahalla Sadar Galli, police station Khajekallan.

It is printed at the "Ahsan-ul-Mutabi" Press, Chowk Bazar.

The proprietors are Nawab Nasiruddin Khan Bahadur of Bihar, Mr. Saiyid Nurul-Huda, retired Sessions Judge, Bengal, Mr. Abdul Hakim, Bar.-at-Law, Bankipore, Maulvi Saiyid Zamir-ud-din Ahmad, Honorary Magistrate, Sadar Galli, and others.



The editor is Saiyid Zafur-ul-Mulk of Lucknow, the printer, Muhammad Abdul Qadir and publisher, Munshi Majid Husain of Sadar Galli.

The annual subscription is to be Rs. 3.

The paper contains local and mufassil news and deals with general topics. It has been started in place of the *Al Mudabbir* a defunct weekly newspaper.

The first issue appeared on the 15th June 1913.

A copy of this has been sent to the Translator.

Yours sincerely,

W. SEALY.

To

M. G. HALLETT, Esq., I.C.S.,

*Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,  
Political Department.*

CHIEF SECRETARY—

“PERUSAL.”

M. G. HALLETT—11-7-1913.

“Who is Saiyid Zafar-ul-Mulk and what is his record?”

H. LEMESURIER—11-7-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

Saiyid Zafur-ul-Mulk is the son of M. Himait Ali of Kakari, police station Lucknow. He came over in May on appointment as Editor of the *Mushahir-i-Bihar* on Rs. 100 per mensem. He is a Member of the Lucknow *Anjuman Kuddam-i-Kaaba*. Further enquiries are being made from United Provinces. He is at present living in the house of Saiyid Mahbub Asraf, zamindar of Kanghaitoli, Khajekallan, Patna. He visited Darbhanga on 26th July 1913.

W. SEALY—5-8-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

M. G. HALLETT—7-8-1913.

The man's antecedents are suspicious and the society he belongs to are probably concerned with the Cawnpore riots. The *Al Mudabbir* had not altogether a satisfactory reputation last year.

The newspaper and its editor will bear watching.

H. LEMESURIER—7-8-1913.

SEW to Special Branch.

M. G. HALLETT—8-8-1913.

REGISTRAR—

An English translation of the editorial in the “*Mushahir-i-Bihar*” of the 13th July 1913, is submitted below for Chief Secretary's perusal.

S. Askari—5-8-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

Submitted for orders.

W. I. SHEPHERD—6-8-1913.



CHIEF SECRETARY—

M. G. HALLETT—6-8-1913.

Will Special Branch please put up the confidential note on the Anjuman "Kuddam-i-Kaaba." The proprietors of the paper are thoroughly loyal gentlemen but they seem to have got hold of a fire brand in their editor, and we may have to demand security if he goes on in this strain. Was the necessary declaration made before the District Magistrate and did he exempt the paper from security?

H. LEMESURIER—8-8-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

A wire has been sent to Patna to find out about the declaration. The Special Branch file on the Kuddam-i-Kaaba is put up. Pages 1-5, 9, 14, 15.

W. SEALY—9-8-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

Perusal.

H. LEMESURIER—9-8-1913.

We may await further information.

E. A. G[AIT]—9-8-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

You wanted to know if the newspaper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" had made the usual declaration and if the Magistrate had exempted it from security. The paper was exempted from security by the Magistrate, when the declaration was put in.

W. SEALY—12-8-1913.

Please get a copy of the declaration and order of exemption.

H. LEMESURIER—12-8-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Herewith a copy of the Magistrate's order also copies of the declarations.

W. SEALY—18-8-1913.

*Declaration under Act XXV of 1867, Section 5.*

I, Muhammad Abdul Qadir, son of Sheikh Amir Husain, resident of Mahalla Gobind Attar, declare that I am the printer of the periodical work entitled Mushahir-i-Bihar, and printed at "Ahsan-ul-Matabi" in Mahalla Gobind Attar, the boundary of the place of printing is given below :—

Boundary of the place of printing—

*North*—House of Khaja Amanullah.

*South*—House of the heirs of Mahadeva and Sheo Lall.

*East*—House of Jadu and open land belonging to Mosamati Momena.

*West*—Lane.

Signed in my presence by the said Abul Qadir, son of Sheikh Amir Husain of Mahalla Gobind Attar, Patna, who is identified before me by Syed Eradat Husain, servant of Mr. Nurul Huda, i.c.s., Eradat Husain is identified by Mr. Nazam-ul-Huda, Bar-at-Law.

SURENDRA NATH CHAKRAVARTI,

The 18th June 1913.

District Magistrate.



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*Declaration under Act XXV of 1867, Section 5.*

I, Majid Husain, son of Sheikh Golam Nabi, resident at present of Mahalla Mir-Gulab-ki-bagh in Patna City, declare that I am the publisher of the periodical work entitled "Mushahir-i-Bihar" and published at the house of Maulvi Zamir-ud-din Ahmad, Honorary Magistrate in Mahalla Saddar Gali in Patna City; the boundary of the place of publication is given below:—

Boundary of the place of publication.

*North*—Open land belonging to Maulvi Zamir-ud-din.

*South*—House of Ghasita.

*East*—Lane.

*West*—A tank.

Signed in my presence by Majid Husain, son of Sheikh Ghulam Nabi of Muhalla Mir Gulab-i-ki-bagh, Patna City, who is identified by Syed Eradat Husain, servant of Mr. Nurul Huda, I.C.S., Syed Eradat Husain is identified by Nazam-ul-Huda, Bar-at Law.

SURENDRA NATH CHAKRAVARTI,

*The 8th June 1913.*

*District Magistrate.*

COPY OF ORDER SHEET.

IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE OF PATNA.

No. 67 of 1913.

Petition of Hafiz Amanatullah.

Date.	Order.	Signature.
1	2	4
11th June 1913 ...	In view of the fact that Mr. S. N. Huda, retired Judge, Nawab Syed Muhammad Nasir-ud-din and other well known gentlemen are Directors of the newspaper, I exempt the publisher from giving the security ordered in my order dated 4th June 1913 ...	(Sd.) D. Weston.

Who is Majid Husain, the publisher? I notice Zafur ul-Mulk's name was carefully concealed.

H. LEMESURIER—18-8-1913.

*Majid Husain* is the son of Sheikh Ghulam Nabi, formerly an Assistant Station Master on the railway (East Indian Railway?), who was dismissed for neglect of duty after 11 years' service. He has settled in Patna City. He is a quiet man, addicted to the opium habit. His brother-in-law Muhammad Nur is a muktari in Patna City.

*Zafar-ul-Mulk*—United Provinces report that his real name is Muhammad Ishaq. He is a cousin of Munshi Ehtishan Ali, who is fairly well known. Zafar-ul-Mulk travelled for 3 or 4 years in China and Hong Kong, in poor circumstances. He returned home, (police station Karkari, Lucknow) about two years ago. He once edited a paper called "An Nazir." Nothing is known against him.

W. SEALY—5-9-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

M. G. HALLETT—6-9-1913.

Have any more articles appeared in this paper recently?

H. LEMESURIER—6-9-1913.

(1) Letter from the Hindi Translator to Government, No. 398, dated the 10th September 1913.



UNDER-SECRETARY—

A full translation of the articles which appeared in the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" relating to the Cawnpore incident has been received and is submitted for perusal and orders.

W. I. SHEPHERD—12-9-1913.

LEGAL REMEMBRANCER—

Will you please give your opinion?

M. G. HALLETT—13-9-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

With regard to the extract from the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" of August 17th it is an exaggerated and untrue account of what happened drawn up by a reporter. I doubt whether any proceedings can be drawn up upon it; it would tend to inflame anger in the minds of Muhammadans but there is no incitement to violence.

L. C. ADAMI—14-9-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

\* \* \* \* \*

The Editor of the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" may be warned by the Commissioner against publishing such inaccurate and exaggerated reports.

M. G. HALLETT—15-9-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

On page 4 of the notes will be found the order of the District Magistrate exempting the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" from furnishing security. The gentlemen named in Mr. Weston's order may be sent for by the Commissioner and warned that if they cannot keep their Editor in better order and if he offends again heavy security will be demanded.

H. LEMESURIER—15-9-1913.

I agree.

E. A. G[AIT]—15-9-1913.

I agree.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—17-9-1913.

D.-O. No. 3940P.

The 20th September 1913.

MY DEAR FOLEY,

I am desired to invite your attention to two articles, one entitled "The Minor Judgment day in Cawnpore" and the other headed "The Actual Facts" which appeared in the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" published in Patna on the 17th August 1913. Full translations are enclosed. The articles in question gave a most exaggerated account of the proceedings in Cawnpore and would tend to inflame anger and racial and religious hostility in the minds of Muhammadans. The District Magistrate of Patna exempted the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" from giving security under the Press Act by his order, dated the 11th June 1913, on the ground that Mr. S. N. Huda, retired Judge and Nawab Syed Nasiruddin and other well-known gentlemen were Directors of the newspaper. I am to request that you will be so good as to send for these two gentlemen and point out to them that the articles are open to very serious objection and to warn them that if they cannot keep their editor in better order and if he publishes similar articles on future occasions heavy security will be demanded from the publisher.

Yours sincerely,

H. LEMESURIER.

To

B. FOLEY, Esq., I.C.S.,

Commissioner of Patna.



\*Paragraphs 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 in Part I (pages 520-524) of Weekly Report on Vernacular Papers for 6th September 1913.

Will Legal Remembrancer please consider the articles\* from the "Ittihad" and "Mushahir-i-Bihar" regarding the Cawnpore riots and advise whether anything should be done?

H. LEMESURIER—17-9-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

The extracts 6, 7, 8 and 9 could not, in my opinion, give rise to any proceedings. Their tone is objectionable, but they are personal attacks on Sir James Meston, criticising his behaviour and policy, and the writers make a point of saying that he and the Magistrate should be arraigned before the Courts.

Extract No. 10 is far more objectionable charging as it does Mr. Tyler and the police with wilful and premeditated murder, and making misrepresentations as to the facts. The writer saves himself by pretending loyalty and urging merely recourse to the Criminal Courts.

These five articles taken together with the previous articles would, I think, justify the forfeiture of any security which has been given, or if none has been given, the demand of a deposit of the maximum amount.

L. C. ADAMI—18-9-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

There is a clear case for taking security and I think for warning District Magistrates not to exempt newspapers in future.

H. LEMESURIER—19-9-1913.

We should tell the Magistrate to take security from the proprietor and keeper of the press in the case of *Mushahir-i-Bihar*. The security may be fixed at Rs. 1,000 as in the case of the *Ittihad*.

This order, is of course, subject to its being in accordance with the law as explained by Legal Remembrancer in the *Ittihad* case. I note that the necessary facts are already being ascertained.

(Vide confidential file 34 of 1913 and Political file 3N—of 1914.)  
1

In a separate file a report should be called for regarding all declarations and orders under sections 3 and 8 since the Press Act was passed so that these delays may be avoided in future.

E. A. G[AIT]—21-9-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

A draft is put up below, asking the Commissioner to take action against the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" and also forms of the notices to be served on the publisher.

Attention is invited to the Legal Remembrancer's note in the "Ittihad" file and to the letter to the Commissioner about the "Mushahir-i-Bihar," dated the 20th September 1913. (Page 6 of the notes.)

M. G. HALLETT.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

By urgent telegram please.

E. A. G[AIT]—23-9-1913.

Submitted. On page 6 of the notes will be found a letter to Commissioner which issued on previous orders but can be cancelled if necessary.

The draft is for approval. I have suggested the following corrections which make the order more formal.



For the words "The Cawnpore riot" substitute the riot which took place at Cawnpore in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh on the 3rd day of August 1913."

For "the Muhammadans" substitute "the Muhammadan subjects of His Majesty the King Emperor of India."

H. LEMESURIER—23-9-1913.

E. A. G[AIT]—23-9-1913.

UNDER-SECRETARY—

Please wire as below and have papers copied for issue to-morrow.

H. LEMESURIER—23-9-1913.

TO FOLEY, COMMISSIONER, BANKIPORE—

Please cancel my demi-official 3950P., dated twentieth. Fresh orders are under issue.

Express please.

H. LEMESURIER—23-9-1913.

Wire despatched.

Abinash—23-9-1913.

D.-O. No. 4003P.

BIHAR AND ORISSA SECRETARIAT,

RANCHI ;

The 24th September 1913.

MY DEAR FOLEY,

The attention of Government has been drawn recently to the articles appearing in the newspaper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" on the subject of the Cawnpore riot, and it has been decided that it is necessary in the case of the newspapers to demand from the publisher and keeper of the press a security of Rs. 1,000 under sections 3 and 8 of the Indian Press Act (I of 1910). Will you kindly instruct the District Magistrate of Patna to take action immediately?

As this is the first time that it has been found necessary to demand security from any newspaper in this Province, I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the forms of notice to be served on the persons concerned which has been drawn up by the Legal Remembrancer.

The name of the keeper of the press at which the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" is printed is not known. Will you please direct the District Magistrate to ascertain this? It should be noted however that if the printer and the keeper of the press are indetical, proceedings cannot be drawn up against the publisher under proviso to section 8 of the Press Act.

Yours sincerely,

H. LEMESURIER.

To

B. FOLEY, Esq., I.C.S.,

Bankipore.

To

The Publisher of the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" newspaper, Munshi Majid Hussain, son of Sheikh Gholam Nabi, resident at present of Mahalla Mir Gulab-i-ki-Bagh in Patna City.

Whereas you are publisher of the weekly newspaper styled "Mushahir-i-Bihar" which was first issued on the 15th June 1913, and in regard to which a declaration, as required by section 5 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, (XXV of 1867) was made before the District Magistrate of Patna on the 8th day of June 1913.

And whereas the deposit by you of the security required by sub-section (1) of section 8 of the Indian Press Act, 1910, (I of 1910) was dispensed with by the said Magistrate under his order dated the 11th June 1913.



And whereas the issues of the said "Mushahir-i-Bihar" newspaper of the 17th and 31st August 1913, contained articles relating to the riot which took place at Cawnpore on the 3rd day of August 1913, which were likely to bring the Government into hatred and contempt and to excite disaffection towards the Government on the part of the Muhammadan subjects of His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor of India within the meaning of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press Act 1910.

Now therefore you are hereby ordered to deposit with me the sum of rupees one thousand in cash as security within two weeks from this date.

*District Magistrate.*

To

(file in name)

The keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press.

Whereas on the 8th day of June 1912, a declaration was made by you before the District Magistrate of Patna in regard to the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press as required by section 4 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, (XXV of 1867).

And whereas on the said date the said District Magistrate dispensed with the deposit by you of the security required by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Indian Press Act 1910 (I of 1910), by his order under the proviso to the said sub-section, on the condition that such order might be modified at any time if the paper be not properly conducted.

And whereas the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press has been used for the printing of the issues of the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" newspaper of the 17th and 31st August 1913, which contained articles relating to the riots which took place at Cawnpore in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh on the 3rd of August 1913;

And whereas the said articles were likely to bring the Government into hatred and contempt and to excite disaffection towards the Government on the part of the Muhammadan subjects of His Imperial Majesty the King-Emperor of India within the meaning of sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press Act, 1910.

Now, therefore, the previous order dispensing with the deposit of security by you is cancelled under the proviso to sub-section (1) of section 3 of the said Indian Press Act, and you are hereby ordered to deposit with me the sum of rupees one thousand in cash as security within two weeks from this date.

*District Magistrate.*

D.-O. No. 831C.

PATNA COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

BANKIPUR,

The 30th September 1913.

DEAR LEMESURIER,

Your Demi-Official No. 4003P., dated the 24th September, on the subject of the security to be taken from the "Mushahir-i-Bihar."

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3. Inglis has issued the notice ordering Munshi Majid Husain, publisher of this newspaper, to deposit Rs. 1000 on the 16th October. He was unable at first to ascertain who was the keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press, but subsequently he writes as follows:—

"I have discovered the name of the keeper of the press and also that he made a declaration under section 4 of Act XXV, 1867, on 31st January 1881, before the then District Magistrate, Mr. Quinn. Under section 3, para. 2 of Act I, 1910, it is necessary for the Local Government by notice in writing to require the keeper of such press to deposit with a Magistrate, within whose jurisdiction the press is situated, security to such an amount as it the Local Government may think fit to require, if it appears to the Local Government that the press is being used for any of the purposes described under section 4 sub-section 1 of Act I of 1910. It will be necessary therefore, I presume, for a notice to be issued by the Local Government on the keeper of the press, namely, M. Muhammad Abdul Qadir, son of Sheikh Amir Husain, of Mahalla Gobind Attar, Police Station Chawk Kallan, Patna City. From my letter of yesterday's date you will see that on 18th June 1913 he merely made a declaration under section 5 of Act XXV, 1867 as printer of the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" newspaper, but no declaration under section 4 as keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press."



In the letter referred to Inglis stated that the Ahson-ul-Mutabi Press had been in existence for more than 20 years. Mr. Weston in an order dated 11th June 1913, stated: "I exempt the publisher from giving security," but made no mention of the keeper of the press.

4. Will you kindly issue the notice desired on Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Qadir?

Yours sincerely,

B. FOLEY.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,

*Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.*

Submitted for orders.

S. C. B.—1-10-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

I have discussed the case with the Legal Remembrancer. It is clear that so long as the printer and the keeper of the press are the same persons the publisher of the newspaper can not be touched *vide* proviso to section 8, sub-clause (1). I can only conjecture the reason of this is that it is supposed that in such cases the publisher is merely a man of straw.

2. The question for orders now is whether Government should under section 3, sub-clause (2) call upon the keeper of the press and the printer Munshi Muhammad Abdul Qadir to give security in respect of the seditious matter published at their press.

H. LEMESURIER—2-10-1913.

Yes, if Legal Remembrancer see no objection.

E. A. G[AIT]—2-10-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Below I have placed a draft notice to be issued by the Local Government on the keeper of the Ahsan ul-Mutabi Press.

L. C. ADAMI—3-10-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

H. LEMESURIER—3-10-1913.

I suppose it will be served through the Magistrate.

E. A. G[AIT]—3-10-1913.

(2) Issued letter No. 87C., dated the 3rd October 1913, to District Magistrate, Patna.

D.-O. No. 4185P.

BIHAR AND ORISSA SECRETARIAT,

RANCHI,

*The 3rd October 1913.*

MY DEAR FOLEY,

Your demi-official letter No. 831C., dated the 30th September 1913, regarding notices served on the "Mushahir-i-Bihar."



2. The printer and keeper of the press being the same man, and having been registered in 1881, before the Press Act came into force Muhammad Abdul Kadir can, as you have correctly observed, be called on to give security under section 3(2) by the Local Government only and not by the Magistrate.

The publisher Munshi Majid Hosain made his declaration as printer of the paper after the commencement of Act I of 1910 and would therefore have been liable under section 8(1) if he were not saved by the proviso at the close of that section, the keeper and printer being registered as the same man. Mr. Weston had in fact no power to pass any order as to exemption from or payment of security and the present notice against him must be withdrawn.

Accordingly a formal order under section 3(2) of Act I of 1910 calling upon the keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press to give security of Rs. 1,000 is being sent officially to the District Magistrate.

Yours sincerely,  
H. LEMESURIER.

To

B. FOLEY, Esq., I. C. S.

(3) Letter from the Government of India, Home Department, No. 613, dated the 1st October 1913.

(4) Issued letter No. 88C., dated the 9th October 1913, to the Government of India, Home Department.

(5) From the Deputy Inspector-General, Crime and Railways, No. 2757S.B., dated the 6th November 1913.

Submitted for perusal.

S. C. B.—7-11-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

M. G. HALLETT—7-11-1913.

Has security been given? will Magistrate of Patna kindly say? is anything known about the new Editor?

बिहार सरकार H. LEMESURIER—9-11-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

Security had not been given on 6th November. I have directed the police to report, whether security has been furnished so that action may be taken under section 23 (1) of the Press Act, if necessary. The petition of the keeper of the Press upon which I passed orders has been sent to the police, hence the delay in replying to your note. He asked to be exempted from furnishing security saying that he was loyal and meant no harm, etc. I rejected the petition as I had no jurisdiction and said that he might move the Local Government if he chose.

I understood that the Press would be closed. Nothing has been published since the institution of the case. I shall let you know how matters stand on receiving the police report.

H W. SCROOPE—10-11-1913.

AWAIT.

H. LEMESURIER—10-11-1913.

D.-O. No. 3113 S. B.

RANCHI;

The 4th December 1913.

DEAR MR. LEMESURIER,

In continuation of this office Memorandum No. 2757 S. B., dated the 6th November 1913, I write to inform you that one Mir Hasir of Saksahra, Mahmoodabad, police station Barh, Patna, has been appointed editor of the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" in place of Zafarul Mulk. This man was once the editor of the "Adib" published at Allahabad. The proprietor of the "Adib" found Mir Hasir's work so unreliable and unsatisfactory, that he had to stop the publication of the Magazine.

The "Adib" contained poetry and biographies of prominent persons and had nothing to do with politics.

Yours sincerely,  
W. SPALY.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.,  
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.



Mr. SCROOPE—

Have you any further information?

M. G. HALLETT—7-12-1913.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

The local police reported that the press instruments are still in the possession of Abdul Qadir. The press is not being used, nor is any paper being printed or published. The required security has not been deposited. In this case the Local Government would be legally justified in directing the prosecution of the keeper of the press under section 23 (1), Act I, 1910 as he has failed to comply with the order directing him to furnish security. But as the desired effect has been produced and everything is now quiet. I doubt whether such a step is desirable. The keeper might be directed to hand over the keys of the press to the Magistrate if he cannot furnish the required security.

H. W. SCROOPE—8-12-1913.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

Please see Mr. Scroope's note about the "Mushahir-i Bihar" Press—a prosecution is in the circumstances inadvisable—and the keeper may be told to hand over the keys of the press to the Magistrate.

M. G. HALLETT—8-12-1913.

I agree. (Please note that Secretariat files should be sent very sparingly to other officers.

Copy sent to A. and E. Noted in Political Department.

Ordinarily a demi-official reference is preferable.)

S. C. B.—10-12-1913.

E. A. G[AIT]—9-12-1913.

The law does not provide for the delivery of the keys of a Printing Press to the District Magistrate for failing to furnish the required security. Office has therefore ventured to put up a demi-official draft to the Commissioner instead of an official order to the District Magistrate.

S. C. B.—12-12-1913.

W. I. SHEPHERD—12-12-1913.

ISSUE.

M. G. HALLETT—13-12-1913.

D.O. No. 1290T.

RANCHI ;

The 13th December 1913.

DEAR MR. OLDHAM,

Kindly refer to Mr. LeMesurier's demi-official to Mr. Foley No., 4185P., dated the 3rd October 1913, regarding the demand of security from Maulvi Muhammad Ablul Qadir, keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press at Patna. It has since been reported by Scroope that although the Press is not being used nor is any paper being printed or published, the printing materials are still in the possession of Abdul Qadir. The required security has not been deposited and the Local Government would be legally justified in directing the prosecution of the keeper under section 23 (1) of Act I of 1910. The desired effect has however been produced and everything seems to be quiet now. In these circumstances a prosecution is considered to be undesirable, but the keeper of the press should be advised to hand over the keys of the press to the District Magistrate if he cannot furnish the required security. Will you kindly issue necessary orders in the matter and report result to Government as soon as possible?

Yours sincerely,

M. G. HALLETT.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. C. E. A. W. OLDHAM, I.C.S.,

Commissioner of the Patna Division.



(6) From Muhammad Abdul Qadir.

Put up early with file.

M. G. HALLETT—19-12-1913.

Submitted with papers. We have asked the Commissioner of Patna to advise the keeper of the press to deliver the keys to the District Magistrate if he cannot furnish the required security. A copy of the present petition may perhaps be sent to Mr. Oldham in continuation for favour of an expression of his opinion.

S. C. B.—21-12-1913.

M. G. HALLETT—23-12-1913.

D.-O. No. 5157P.

RANCHI;

The 24th December 1913.

DEAR MR. OLDHAM,

In continuation of my demi-official No. 1290T., dated the 13th December 1913, I enclose herewith copy of a representation of the 15th December 1913, submitted by Muhammad Abdul Qadir, keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press at Patna for favour of an expression of your opinion.

Yours sincerely,

M. G. HALLETT.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. C. E. A. W. OLDHAM, I.C.S.,

*Commissioner of the Patna Division.*

(7) From the Deputy Inspector-General, Crime and Railways, No. 112S.B., dated the 16th January 1914.

For perusal.

S. C. B.—16-1-1914.

M. G. HALLETT—16-1-1914.

D.-O. No. 44C.

BANKIPORE;

The 15th January 1914.

MY DEAR NATHAN,

In reference to Hallett's confidential demi-official No. 1290T., dated the 13th December 1913, the contents of which were duly communicated to Seroope, the latter reports that the keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press at Patna City has handed over the keys of the press to the City Magistrate, who has satisfied himself by personal inspection that the press cannot be used.

2. In reference to Hallett's subsequent dem-official No. 5157P., dated the 24th December 1913, enclosing copy of a representation dated the 18th idem, submitted by Muhammad Abdul Qadir, for an expression of my opinion, I send a copy of a confidential demi-official letter No. 6, dated the 5th instant, from Seroope. I agree with him in thinking that it would not be sound to withdraw from an order for security passed about two months ago. Such leniency is liable to be misunderstood. If after the expiry of a period of six months from the date of the issue of the Government order, the keeper satisfies the District Magistrate that he will behave himself in future, the order may then be withdrawn.

Yours sincerely,

C. E. A. W. OLDHAM.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. R. NATHAN, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.



D.-O. No. 6.

PATNA DISTRICT OFFICE,  
Bankipore, the 5th January 1914.

MY DEAR OLDHAM,

Your confidential demi-official of the 29th ultimo regarding the representation submitted by the keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press at Patna for an expression of my opinion, I do not think that any further seditious articles are likely to be issued from this press, at any rate for some time to come, but I doubt whether it would be a sound policy to withdraw now an order for security which was issued less than two months ago. The whole affair is still very fresh in the minds of the people and if Government recedes at once from the position which it has taken up, the provisions of the Press Act are not likely to have the deterrent effect which they were framed to produce.

Yours sincerely,  
H. W. P. SCROOPE.

Submitted for orders.

The representation of the keeper of the press will be found at pages 6-7 of the correspondence.

S. C. B.—17-1-1914.

CHIEF SECRETARY—

We may agree with the Commissioner.

M. G. HALLETT—18-1-1914.

HON'BLE MEMBER—

I agree. The Commissioner may be informed that the case may be resubmitted after six months, and that, in submitting he should advise what guarantee should be demanded. Meanwhile the file should be recorded and printed.

E. A. GAIT—20-1-1914.

R. NATHAN—19-1-1914.

E. A. G[AIT]—20-1-1914.

HIS HONOUR—

R. NATHAN—20-1-1914.

C. S. B[AYLEY]—21-1-1914.

D.-O. No. 266P.

RANCHI;  
The 23rd January 1914.

DEAR MR. OLDHAM,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your demi-official No. 44C., dated the 15th January 1914, and enclosure, regarding the keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press.

Government agree that it is undesirable to withdraw the order for security until after the expiry of six months. I am accordingly to request that the case may be resubmitted after that period together with your advice as to what guarantee should be demanded from the keeper of the press for his proper behaviour.

Yours sincerely,  
M. G. HALLETT.

To

The Hon'ble Mr. C. E. A. W. OLDHAM, I.C.S.,  
Commissioner of Patna.



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Action taken in respect of objectionable articles appearing in the vernacular newspaper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" published at Patna.

[No. 1.]

No. 398, dated Gulzarbagh (Patna), the 10th September 1913.

From—Babu Somanath Jharkhandi, B.A., Hindi and Urdu Translator to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

In reference to your telegram of the 4th instant, I have the honour to submit herewith full translation of the articles regarding Cawnpore incident which appeared in the "Mushahir-i-Bihar" of the 17th August 1913.

"MUSHAHIR-I-BIHAR," PATNA; the 17th August 1913.

*The minor judgment day in Cawnpore.*

We cannot but express our sympathy with the uneasiness which the Lieutenant-Governor has in connection with the riot at Cawnpore. He is very much concerned with the sacrifice of human lives in Cawnpore which is the source of much anxiety to him. His Honour, as every body knows, has the reputation of being very merciful. So far as may be gathered from information, both from official and private sources, it appears that there was a public meeting of Musalmans at *Id-gah* attended by over twenty thousand persons. Just when the meeting closed about 500 people mostly belonging to the lower classes with black flags in their hands proceeded to the Machhli-bazar mosque with the object of rebuilding the demolished portion of the mosque. There is no doubt that they went there inspired with a *bona fide* sense of their faith to rebuild the demolished portion even if it involved a risk of losing their lives, for they saw in it a way to their salvation, for, according to their innocent belief, sacrifice of their lives in its construction was sure to take their souls to heaven. They had of course no other object in view as is evident from the event, for they did not display any resentment, etc., so long as no body interfered with the object they had in view. It is to be regretted that they lost their lives out of their simple-heartedness and this will be felt not only by their co-religionists but those also who have had any connection with the incident in the capacity of administrators and who used force and violence. It is evident from the arrests in Cawnpore that their action was a direct consequence of their gathering at *Id-gah*. Of course there was no talk of this affair before going to *Id-gah*; otherwise the gathering at the mosque would certainly have been twenty times the number actually assembled. The petty traders, the *Mutawallis* and those who gave speeches went home. Only those remained behind who had made up their minds to rebuild the mosque and they were busy in carrying out their resolution, as is clear from the fact that they did not care a bit for the fatal volleys of fire and did not disperse till they were charged with spears. Now the question is whether the gathering was a rebellious assembly or an assembly that becoming frantic by religious zeal was out to reconstruct the mosque for the purpose of seeking salvation. We hope His Honour will soon ascertain this from the local reports that will be placed before him. The most difficult question to solve is whether the employment of the military force to that extent was based on wisdom or indiscretion. There is no doubt that the use of force was necessary to disperse such an unlawful assembly. The object of such an assembly is always the standard by which the proportion of the force to be used is determined. But was there any fear of life or property from this assembly? So far as we understand there was none. All that they would have done was to reconstruct the demolished portion and this could be felled down again.



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The taking of so many lives can be defended merely on the ground of administrative expediency. The matter was between the town public and local officials and religious sentiments were at its back. To us it would have been better that the officials should have let them (the people) do what they thought proper at the time and then considered the punishment (that might be awarded) instead of using military force. All good Musalmans are sorry for the doings of these not far-seeing gentlemen. Considering the object of their action it strikes to the mind that there should not have been so much haste in taking lives. We are anxiously waiting to see the result of the deputation which is to wait upon the Lieutenant-Governor and we expect the members of the deputation to freely discuss the matter and explain this complex religious question to His Honour. It is unquestionable that the effect of this incident is not confined to Cawnpore alone but has spread far and wide and is expected to extend still further. The doings of these frantic Musalmans has considerably affected the Mutawallis and other right-minded Musalmans who were prepared to have recourse to all constitutional means and for which they had passed a resolution also. (*Indian Daily Telegraph*, Lucknow.)

All will be sorry for the regrettable disturbance that occurred at Cawnpore on the last Sunday morning. The foundation of the riot was laid at the monster meeting held in the vicinity of the mosque in dispute in Machhlibazar. We cannot help thinking that the officials did not display wisdom and foresight in dealing with this delicate affair, and when the officials had already seen the agitation of the local Musalmans they ought to have taken necessary precautions for the protection of the mosque and prevented a mob from doing anything illegal. A mere show of military force, we are certain, would have been enough to disperse the crowd, but no such precaution was taken in the very beginning, and when the mob was engaged in rebuilding the demolished portion both the Sub-Inspector and the Inspector of Police committed the greatest blunder in not explaining the real state of things and very indiscreetly interfered with what they were doing. Reprimand from a small force made the mob bold. Either there should have been no resistance and those who acted against the law should have been quietly dealt with according to law afterwards or they should have been met with with a greater force so that the crowd might disperse without any bloodshed. It is quite evident that the local officers altogether failed to sound the depth of the Islamic feeling well and it is a rule with officials to stick to their views with obstinacy whenever they have committed a blunder. The local feeling was not fully estimated as has been generally the case. It was attributed to outside agitation and declared artificial. It is worth considering whether the rioters charged with innumerable dangerous acts could do anything in the absence of the local feeling. The higher authorities took the opinion of the men on the spot to be perfectly right and correct. A mistake has been committed during the regime of such a far-sighted and wise ruler as Sir James Meston who also failed to fully understand the real state of things. The fact has been ignored that owing to the calamities of Turkey and unhappy tactics of European Powers intense and growing agitation has spread over the Islamic world just now. The old standard of making estimates should be modified in the light of new ideas, but the self-willed head, we are afraid, takes a good deal of time to move and is always a staunch supporter of old traditions that stand in need of modifications in the present days of progress. The whole unfortunate event which will be heard throughout India with great regret would have been avoided with a little wisdom provided public opinion had been satisfied to some extent and official obstinacy modified a little. We have repeatedly urged in these columns the formation of a committee of leading Musalmans with full powers to discuss the incidents that have taken place. Had there been such a committee the events would not have taken the form of a riot and some reconciliatory course would have been found out, but a man who is not amenable to control does not like these things. Time and discussion are factors which go a long way to reduce the force of agitation and direct public conduct to a peaceful course. But a hasty judgment and strong action are attributed to real administration and sound statesmanship. This



has been well illustrated in the Sitapore case. However, we hope, all the matters relating to this disturbance will be duly investigated. Did the officers take any precautionary measures to prevent this incident? Was the riot result of an unnecessary interference on their part and whether should they not have interfered but on the contrary have been inclined to take legal measures? And when the event had already occurred was anything done to suppress it without bloodshed? These are the points which attract attention. Really there has been serious loss of life on this occasion. There have been many arrests and these prisoners will be sent up for trial. This proceeding will increase the agitation; nevertheless, those who committed breaches of law must be punished. In any case this incident is highly to be regretted, but it is hoped an official communique giving full details will be placed before the public.

We have come to know that His Honour has left Cawnpore after restoring order. It is highly gratifying that he insisted on the local officers to settle the question of the mosque in a way that will put a stop to any future trouble. Now that His Honour has seen the mosque for the first time he will be able to decide the question after throwing light on every point in the matter. Musalmans of the moderate school are very much annoyed with the doings of their narrow-minded co-religionists and hope the doings of these irresponsible persons will not prejudice His Honour in arriving at the right decision. The local officers are expected to treat those Muhammadans of Cawnpore kindly who from the very beginning were against the demolition of the mosque on religious grounds and who expressed their views by holding meetings, etc. We would say that those who know our Lieutenant-Governor can never believe that His Honour will do anything beyond what is necessary for the maintenance of the administrative standard of the British rule in the country and will deal severely with the illegal movement without showing any prejudice to the real religious claims of Musalmans belonging to the moderate school. It would be highly regretted if Government has recourse to proceedings similar to those of the prejudiced Musalmans, but we cannot think for a moment that such will be the case. It is necessary for Government to confine its punishment only to those who acted against the law and it should in no case include those Musalmans in it who were opposed to any portion of the mosque being acquired. We have learnt that there has been some misapprehension about the Lucknow meeting. It should be known that the date of the meeting was fixed some days before and the news of the disturbance at Cawnpore reached there while the meeting was going on. To pray for those killed at Cawnpore is purely a religious matter. According to the tenets of Islam it is obligatory on every Musalman to pray for every man who sacrificed his life for religion and it should not at all be considered whether it is desirable on other grounds. (*The Bengalee*, Calcutta.)

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“MUSHAHIR-I-BIHAR,” PATNA; the 17th August 1913.

#### THE ACTUAL FACTS.

(*Painful scene; distracting calamity.*)

A meeting was held at *Id-gah* on the 3rd August 1913 with the object of making a united effort on the question of the Mosque and so far as possible without fail and of trying to have the demolished portion of the Mosque rebuilt from which no Musalman should turn his face. Speeches were delivered on this subject. Of the speakers Hafiz Ahmadullah and Maulana Azad Subhani's speeches greatly affected the audience and both of them repeatedly urged on doing nothing unconstitutional (*lit.* not transgressing the law). The assembly is estimated to number about twenty thousand. On return the majority made to their homes by various routes. All of them carried nothing in their hands, neither a stick nor an umbrella. The men were mostly bare-headed and without shoes and mourning as it were. A few of them, *viz.*, about



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five or six men had black flags in their hands. They intended to proceed to the Machhlibazar Mosque in the same condition as they were after having done with the meeting and to return after crying and lamenting near the Mosque. Some were for gathering and lamenting in the mosque. Those leading the band consisted of 10 to 15 men with about 40 to 50 boys and were crying "Allah-o-Akbar" while going. When they approached the Mosque they halted for other men to come up. In the meantime two constables came from the Galibazar out post with spears and heavy sticks in hand and told these men (but very roughly) to disperse as a gathering was forbidden there. This greatly affected them and they gave a harsh reply. The result was a pelting of stones on both sides. The constables fled, one of them leaving his spear and the other his turban behind. A short while after the Kotwal (who fortunately for us is a Musalman) came there with a number of constables ready for emergency from beforehand and told the people not to collect there and to disperse. He also spoke to them very roughly with the consequence that a few brickbats were thrown at him. He lost his temper at this and gave the order of "Maro" and "Pakro" (beat and arrest them). The gathering which had already been very agitated was very much affected by these words and there was an exchange of brickbats between the police and the men. Both the police and the men on the other side were wounded. The police fled. The Kotwal immediately informed the Collector. The Collector and the Superintendent of Police came to the spot with armed police both mounted and foot, the majority of whom were opposed to Islam. The Magistrate after a little warning as required by the rules gave orders to fire and there was a volley of grape shots and bullets on the poor, helpless, hungry and thirsty, distressed, and melancholy crowd of Mushalmans and this continued without any consideration for boys or children. People began to die or run away wounded. Those receiving slight wounds escaped to their homes where many of them died or are dying. The firing continued for about 25 minutes. God knows how many fell dead or became wounded. The attack was not confined to gun fire but swords and spears were also used. Of the wounded who were running many were killed by the sword or spear. Those injured were treated with excessive cruelty and mercilessly. It is said 650 cartridges were used. Those who visited the hospitals immediately after the event stated at the time that the number of the killed and the wounded was more than a hundred. Many of the killed were thrown (*lit. sunk*) into the Ganges as unclaimed. If any were claimed by friends they were made over to them. The number of casualties declared by Government can not be correct. The actual number is not known but those who were eye-witnesses estimated the number of those killed to have reached 90 up to 12th August and the number of the wounded in the hospital is 25 or 26. It is difficult to guess the number of those that died after having escaped or gone out of Cawnpore. In fact the disturbance was great and may according to the "Zemin-dar" be called "the minor judgment day." Then there was arrest and hundreds of persons were arrested. The police had now their opportunity and a free hand. Many were arrested and duly taught a lesson and then discharged after obtaining money (from them); about two hundred persons were sent to the lock up. These included about 50 boys with ages between 6 and 10 to 11 years who were detained in the lock up and treated with as much hardness and severity as possible. Forty boys were discharged the same day on the ground of their small age. It excited pity to see them. Four days after 27 men were again discharged against whom, though arrested, there could be no suspicion of being implicated (in the affair). Now 102 persons are in custody. May God have mercy on them. More in future. (A Reporter.)

[No. 2.]

No. 87C., dated the 3rd October 1913.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The District Magistrate of Patna, Bankipore.

I am directed to enclose herewith an order under Sub-section (2) of section 3 of the Indian Press Act I of 1910, and to request you to have it duly served



upon Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Qadir, keeper of the "Ahsan-ul-Mutabi" Press and to hear any objections which he may raise against the deposit of security under that Act.

Dated the 3rd October 1913.

To—Maulvi MUHAMMAD ABDUL QADIR, son of Shaikh Amir Hussain, Resident of Mahalla Gobind Attar, District Patna.

Whereas, on the 31st day of January 1881, a declaration was made by you before the District Magistrate of Patna in regard to the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press as required by section 4 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867, (XXV of 1867) :

And whereas the said Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press has been used for the printing of the issues of the *Mushahir-i-Bihar* newspaper of the 17th and 31st August 1913, which contained articles relating to the riots which took place at Cawnpore in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh on the 3rd of August, 1913 :

And whereas the said articles were likely to bring the Government into hatred and contempt and to excite disaffection towards the Government on the part of the Muhammadan subjects of His Imperial Majesty the King Emperor of India, within the meaning of Sub-section (1) of section 4 of the Indian Press Act, 1910 (I of 1910) :

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 3 of the said Act, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bihar and Orissa in Council hereby requires you, as keeper of the said Press, to deposit with the Magistrate of Patna the sum of Rupees one thousand in cash as security within two weeks from this date.

H. LEMESURIER,

बिहार सरकार  
Chief Secretary to Government.

[No. 3.]

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग

No. 613, dated the 1st October 1913.

From—The Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

I am directed to invite the particular attention of the Lieutenant-Governor

1. Article in the *Ittihad* of the 14th and 21st August 1913, headed "An address to Government."

2. Article in the *Mushahir-i-Bihar* of the 31st August 1913, headed "Charge of unlawful murder."

in Council to the articles noted on the margin which were reproduced in the selections from Indian-owned newspapers published in Bihar and Orissa for the weeks ending the 30th August and 6th September 1913, and to enquire if any

action is proposed to be taken in respect of them.

[No. 4.]

No. 88C., dated the 9th October 1913.

From—The Hon'ble Mr. H. LEMESURIER, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 613, dated the

1. Article in the *Ittihad* of the 14th and 21st August 1913, headed "An Address to Government."

2. Article in the *Mushahir-i-Bihar* of the 31st August 1913, headed "Charge of unlawful murder."

1st October 1913, in which the attention of the Lieutenant-Governor in Council is invited to certain articles cited on the margin which were reproduced in the selections from Indian-owned newspapers published in Bihar and Orissa for the weeks ending

30th August and 6th September 1913. You enquire whether it is proposed to take any action in respect of them.



2. In reply I am to report for the information of the Government of India that the Lieutenant-Governor in Council had already noticed the articles in question and in view of the fact that the tone of all the Muhammadan newspapers of Bihar had steadily deteriorated since the riot at Cawnpore on the 3rd of August 1913 and that the two papers in question had persistently written bitter and inflammatory articles, he decided to demand security from the persons responsible for them. A notice has been accordingly issued under section 3 sub-section- (2) of the Indian Press Act I of 1910 upon Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Qadir, keeper of the Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press at which the *Mushahir-i-Bihar* is printed, calling on him to deposit a sum of Rs. 1,000 in cash as security and a similar notice under section 3(1) upon Maulvi Mazrul-Haqq, who is the keeper of the press and printer and publisher of the *Ittihad*, calling on him to deposit Rs. 2,000.

3. A report has just been received to the effect that in consequence of this action *Ittihad* will cease to exist and that the press from which it was published will be closed. This report is being verified.

[No. 5.]

No. 2757S.B., dated Ranchi, the 6th November 1913.

Memo. by—The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Bihar and Orissa.

*Extract from Patna Diary for week ending 25th October 1913.*

Zafar-ul-Mulk, editor of the Urdu paper "*Mushahir-i-Bihar*" has resigned and went back to Lucknow on 12th October 1913. Maulvi Nasir of Patna is going to act as editor of the paper in place of Zafar-ul-Mulk.

बिहार सरकार

[No. 6.]

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग

Dated the 15th December 1913.

From—MUHAMMAD ABDUL QADIR, CARE OF SHAIKH AMIR HUSSAIN, Mahalla Gobind Attar, Patna,

To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa.

In the year 1881 I set up a printing press entitled "*Ahsan-ul-Mutabi*" for the purpose of printing books and other job works and at no time since its establishment any newspaper was printed in the press. The weekly newspaper *Mushahir-i-Bihar* was started in June 1913 and it was proposed to me that I should print the weekly newspaper on payments made by the proprietors and publisher of the paper.

2. Taking into consideration the fact that highly respectable men of this district such as Nawab Nasiruddin Ahmad Shaheb of Bihar, Khan Bahadur Saiyad Mahbub Hussain Khan of Muzaffarpur, Mr. Saiyad Nurul Hudda, retired District and Sessions Judge, and several other prominent men were among the directors of the paper, I took up the job without even conceiving that any article of an objectionable character will be sent to me for printing. I did take up the printing of the paper with the fullest belief that nothing untoward will happen afterwards. The articles of 17th and 31st of August 1913 relating to the riot at Cawnpore were printed in the ordinary course of business in accordance with the arrangements arrived at between me and the proprietors and publisher of the paper. I regret to find that the articles in question have been deemed by the Government as likely to bring it into hatred and contempt and to extend disaffection towards it on the part of the Muhammadan subjects of his Imperial Majesty the King Emperor necessitating the demand of a security of Rs. 1,000 under section 4, sub-section 1 of the Indian Press Act of 1910. The press has been in existence for over 25 years and has been the sole means of my subsistence and that of my family. In view of the fact that the security of Rs. 1,000 which was demanded from the



publisher has been recalled, I beg leave to approach your honour with the request that the security demanded from me may also be recalled. I am extremely poor and the press is the only source of my subsistence and that of my family. I assure your honour that I would never have printed the articles, had I not been conscious of the fact that the paper was backed by highly respectable people, who have no reasons to be disloyal to the Government. I am prepared to give an undertaking to conduct the printing on any line the Government may deem fit to prescribe.

[No. 7.]

No. 112S.B., dated Ranchi, the 16th January 1914.

Memo. by—The Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Crime and Railways, Bihar and Orissa.

(*Extract from Patna Diary for week ending 3rd January 1914.*)

Ahsan-ul-Mutabi Press, Patna City, has been ordered to be closed by the City Magistrate until the proprietor furnishes security for Rs. 1,000. This is the press where the Urdu paper "Mushahir-i-Bihar" was printed.

बिहार सरकार

मंत्रिमंडल सचिवालय विभाग  
(बिहार राज्य अभिलेखागार निदेशालय)