

(Translation)

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By order

At this time certain weak minded foolish people have spread a report that the English have forgiven the faults and crimes of the people of Hindostan; This appears very astonishing, for it is the unvarying Custom of the English never to forgive a fault, be it great or small; so much, so that if a small Offence be committed through ignorance or negligence they never forgive it. —

The Proclamation of the 1st November 1858, which has come before us, is perfectly clear, and as some foolish people not understanding the real object of the Proclamation have been carried away, therefore we, the ever aliding Government Parents of the people of Oudh,

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with great Consideration put forth
the present Proclamation in or-
-der that the real object of the
Chief points may be exposed and
our subjects be placed on their guard.

First, It is written in the Procla-
-mation that the Country of Hin-
-doostan which was held in trust
by the Company, has been resumed
by the Queen, and that for the
future, the Queen's laws shall be
obeyed. This is not to be trusted
by our religious subjects, for the laws
of the Company the settlement of
the Company, the English servants
of the Company, the Governor
General and the Judicial admi-
-nistration of the Company are all
unchanged, what then is there
new which can benefit the peo-
-ple, or on which they can
rely?

Second, In the Proclamation
it is written, that all Contracts &
agreements entered into by the com-
-pany

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Company will be accepted by the Queen.
Let the people carefully observe this
artifice. The Company has seized
on the whole of Hindoostan and if
this arrangement be accepted, what
is then new in it. The Company
professed to treat the Chief of Dhurt
-pore as a son, and then took his
territory. the Chief of Lahore was
carried off to London, and it has
not fallen to his lot to return, the
Nawab Shumshooddeen Khan
on one side they hanged, and on
the other side, they took off their
hats and salammued to him, the
Peshwah they expelled from Poonah
Sitara, and imprisoned for life
in Bithoor, their treach of faith
with Sultan Tippoo is well known,
the Rajah of Benares they impri-
-soned in Agra. Under pretence
of administering the Country of the
Chief of Gwalior they introduced
English Customs, they have left

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no name or traces of the Chiefs of
Behar, Orissa, and Bengal; they
gave the Raes of Furruckabad a
small monthly allowance and took
his territory - Shahpore, Bareilly,
Azimgurh, Dounpore, Goruckpore,
Etawah, Allahabad, Futtchpore
yea our ancient possessions they
took from us on pretence of distri-
-cuting pay, and in the 7th Article
of the Treaty, they wrote on oath,
that they would take no more from
us, if then the arrangements made
by the Company are to be accepted,
what is the difference between the
former and the present state of things?

These are old affairs, but recently,
in defiance of treaties and Oaths,
and, notwithstanding, that they owed
us millions of Rupees, without rea-
-son, and on the pretence of the
misgovernment and discontent of our
people, they took our Country and
property worth millions of Rupees.

If our people were discontented
with

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with our Royal predecessor Najid
Ally shah, how comes it they are
content with us? and no ruler ever
experienced such Loyalty, and devotion
of life & goods as we have done; what
then is wanting that they do not re-
-store our Country?

Further, it is written in the Pro-
-clamation that they want no increase
of territory but yet they cannot re-
-frain from annexation. If the Queen
has assumed the Government, why
does Her Majesty not restore our
Country to us when our people wish
it? It is well known that no King
or Queen ever punished a whole army
and people for rebellion, all were
forgiven, and the wise cannot ap-
-prove of punishing the whole army
and people of Hindostan, for so
long as the word "punishment" re-
-mains, the disturbances will not be
suppressed. There is a well known
proverb. A dying man is desperate
496 "Marta

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/Marta keya ne Kurta/ it is im-
possible that a thousand should
attack a Million and the thousand
escape.

Third. In the Proclamation it
is written, that the Christian re-
-ligion is true, but no other Creed
will suffer oppression, and that the
Laws will be observed towards all.
What has the administration of Jus-
-tice to do with the truth or falsehood
of a religion? That religion is true
which acknowledges one God, and
knows no other, Where there are
three Gods in a religion, neither Mus-
-sulmans nor Hindoos. May not
even Jews Sunworshippers or Fire
Worshippers can believe it true. To
eat pigs and drink wine, to bite
greased Cartridges and to mix pigs
fat with flour and sweetmeats, to
destroy Hindoo and Mussulman
temples, pretence of making roads,
to build Churches, to send Clergy-
men into the Streets and alleys to
preach

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preach the Christian religion, to institute English schools, and pay people a monthly stipend for learning the English Sciences. while the places of Worship of Hindoos and Mussulmans are to this day entirely neglected; with all this, how can the people believe that religion will not be interfered with? The rebellion began with religion, and for it Millions of men have been killed - Let not our subjects be deceived, thousands were deprived of their religion in the North West and thousands were hanged rather than abandon their religion South. It is written in the Proclamation, that they who have bowed rebels or who were leaders of rebels, or who caused men to rebel, shall have their lives, but that punishment shall be awarded after deliberation, and that Murderers and abettors of Murderers shall have no mercy shown them

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while all others shall be forgiven.
Any foolish person can see that
under this proclamation no one
be he guilty or innocent, can es-
-cape every thing is written and
yet nothing is written, but they
have clearly written that they
will not let off any one implicated;
and in whatever Village or estate
the army may have halted, the
Inhabitants of that place cannot
escape. We are deeply concerned
for the Condition of our people
on reading this Proclamation, which
palpably teems with Enmity. We
now issue a distinct order, and one
that may be trusted, that all
subjects who may have foolishly
presented themselves as Heads of
Villages to the English, shall be-
-fore the 1st of January next,
present themselves in our Camp.
Without doubt their faults shall
be

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be forgiven them, and they shall
be treated according to their merits.
To believe in this Proclamation, it
is only necessary to remember that
Hindostani rules are altogether kind
and Merciful. Thousands have
seen this, Millions have heard
it. No one has ever seen in a dream
that the English forgave an offence.
Fifthly - In this Proclamation
it is written that when peace is
restored, public Works, such as
roads and Canals will be made
in order to improve the condition
of the people. It is worthy of a
little reflection, that they have
promised no better employment
for Hindostanis than making
roads and digging Canals. If
people cannot see clearly what
this means, there is no help for
them? Let no subject be deceived
by the Proclamation.

True translation

f. J.

W. H. 496
Secretary to the Chief Commr.

W.C. [unclear]

Foreign. 1858. Dept.

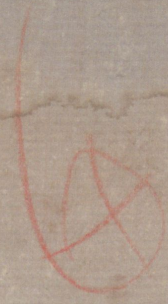
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In a letter from the
Secy to Chief Comr
Inde.

NY 4th Dec 1857

Nov. 19th Dec.

No 254



Translation of a
Proclamation
issued by the
Regim in the name
of her son King in the