

73 W.C. Harkness & W.D. Scott, Agents
of Immigrants

Immigration Branch

Department of the Interior

Canada Vancouver, B.C.

Vancouver 11th July 1911

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Sir,

I beg to state that information has been received here by Hindus that efforts are being made to secure transportation for intending Hindu immigrants to Canada, by way of Colombo (Ceylon) on the Blue Funnel Line of boats, which call at that Port. How far this matter has been arranged it cannot be gathered, as information on that point is meagre. I am however investigating and will let you know any further developments.

Should however we have Hindus immigrants arrive on the Blue Funnel Boats, having booked their passage from Colombo, I would like to have a ruling as to whether it would be considered that they had come by continuous journey from the land of their birth. To embark on this line of boats from Colombo it would necessitate these people making a journey, either by rail from their own cities, or by steamship from Calcutta, of about two days and a half, in neither of which cases would they secure through transportation to Vancouver.

With reference to H. RAHIM, the present Managing Director of the Canada-India Supply and Trust Company Limited, I beg to state that yesterday a well-educated Hindu named Baboo Singh, who has just returned from a visit to the United States for a month, in the course of conversation gave me the information that, Rahim

Immigration Branch

Department of the Interior

Canada

W.D. Scott, Esq.,

- 2 -

19

was in this country under a fictitious man name. The story that I was able to gather from him is as follows:

Baboo Singh met a Hindu named KHEM CHAND at Sacramento, Cal., who informed him that HOSSAIN RAHIM'S proper name was SHAGAN LALL (Hindu) and not a Mahomedan (as he at present makes himself out to be). That he, KHEM CHAND with his brother SHANTI LALL worked under Rahim, who was manager of the Sait Jemshaid Company, Kobe, Japan, about three years ago, that during the absence of Sait Jemshaid in India, Rahim, alias SHAGAN LALL, absconded to Honolulu with a large sum of money belonging to the firm, first sending KHEM CHAND out to America and his brother SHANTI LALL back to India and himself proceeding to Honolulu.

SHANTI LALL has rejoined his brother in Sacramento and the two of them hearing from Baboo Singh that Rahim had assumed the charge of a Hindu Company in Vancouver, B.C. warned him of the character and doings of this man in Japan. They further intimated that if a reference is made to Tata and Co., also Burma and Co. at Kobe in Japan, full particulars of this man's antecedents could be secured.

I beg to suggest therefore that enquiries be made at Kobe in respect to the truth or otherwise of this information, and if possible secure a photograph for the purpose of identifica-

Immigration Branch

Department of the Interior

Canada

W.D.Scott, Esq.

- 3 -

19

tion. The description given by these two men in Sacramento appeared to Baboo Singh to answer exactly that of Rahim.

There has been a certain amount of distrust in the Hindu colony with respect to Rahim and no one has yet been able to ascertain his village address in India, and many suspect that he is not a Mahomedan, as he claims, but a Hindu and comes from the Province of Bombay. There are several other little matters connected with him which taken collectively bear out to my mind this story of Baboo Singh's.

I think it would be well worth the trouble to ascertain exactly who this man is.

Your obedient servant,

W.D.Scott, Esq ..

Superintendent of Immigration,
O T T A W A

*Sd. W. C. Hopkinson
for Immigration Agent*

Copy respectfully furnished W.W.Corry Esq., C.M.G., Deputy Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, for information.

W. C. Hopkinson