

Privy Council Appeal No. 127 of 1920.

Muruga Goundan - - - - - *Appellant*

v.

The King-Emperor - - - - - *Respondent*

FROM

THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS.

JUDGMENT OF THE LORDS OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE
PRIVY COUNCIL, DELIVERED THE 9TH MARCH, 1921.

Present at the Hearing :

VISCOUNT HALDANE.

LORD DUNEDIN.

SIR JOHN EDGE.

[*Delivered by* VISCOUNT HALDANE.]

Their Lordships have made it plain during the argument what the ground is on which they are compelled to advise His Majesty to reject this appeal. The rule which has prevailed in recent years is that the King in Council is not a Court of criminal appeal and that the power in the Sovereign to entertain appeals of this character is only to be exercised when there has been such a gross denial of the principles of natural justice as has been defined in numerous cases. Looking at the evidence in this case it is obvious that the appeal cannot be brought within those limits. Therefore, on the simple ground that it would be outside the jurisdiction of the Crown to entertain it, this appeal must be dismissed, and their Lordships will humbly advise His Majesty accordingly.

In the Privy Council.

MURUGA GOUNDAN

2.

THE KING-EMPEROR.

DELIVERED BY VISCOUNT HALDANE.

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