

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CABINET BY THE
HON. MINISTER OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & FINANCE

Exemption from Donation and Succession Duty on
property at Gharb, bequeathed to "Ta' Pinu"
Basilica, Gozo

The Rt.Rev.Mgr. Lawrence Portelli, the rector of Ta' Pinu, is requesting exemption from Succession and Donation duties on a house and annexed lands at 2, Gharb Road, Gharb, which Maria Antonia Grima bequeathed to the Sanctuary Basilica by a deed in the records of Notary Dr. John Busuttil LL.D. dated 17th September, 1962; the request has been recommended by His Lordship the Bishop of Gozo, and likewise endorsed by the Commissioner of Inland Revenue.

2. The purpose of the donation, as expressly stated in the deed, is that the house and lands in question should be used as a Museum wherein to exhibit the household effects which belonged to the late Carmela Grima, as part of the history connected with Ta' Pinu Basilica.

3. According to section 98(a) of the Succession and Donation Ordinance dispositions made for charitable/philanthropic purposes, or for any other object the achievement of which is in the public interest, are exempt from donation duties.

4. Although this donation cannot be regarded as being either "charitable" or "philanthropic", the achievement for which it has been made may be considered to be in the public interest and as such qualifies for exemption in terms of the law.

5. Incidentally this same bequest has formed the subject recently in Parliament of an exemption under the Mortmain Law.

6. Hon. Ministers are therefore asked whether they agree that His Excellency the Governor be advised to grant the exemption asked for.

17th January, 1963.