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**GAZETTEER OF INDIA
UTTAR PRADESH**

DISTRICT ETAH

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ETAH

BALWANT SINGH
I. A. S.
State Editor

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PREFACE

This is the forty-fifth in the series of the revised district gazetteers of the State which are being published under a scheme sponsored by the Government of India. The first official document of this type relating to the area covered by the district of Etah was published in 1876 and was known as the *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*. Vol. III, Part-Etah, a work compiled by E.T. Atkinson. In 1908 an account of the district appeared in the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* which amply drew upon the Settlement report of the Etah district by H.O.W. Roberts, published in 1905. In 1911 was published E.R. Neave's *Etah: A Gazetteer*, being volume XVIII of the *District Gazetteers of the United Provinces* which was supplemented by Volumes B, C and D in 1914, 1924 and 1934 respectively. The different sources utilised in the preparation of the present gazetteer have been indicated in the bibliography which appears at the end of the book. The census data of 1961 and 1971 in general have been made the basis for the statistics used in this gazetteer.

The work on the Etah District Gazetteer was started at the time of Smt. Madhuri Srivastava, State Editor. It was continued under the able guidance and supervision of her successors Sri D. P. Varun, Sri Mata Prasad, Sri Om Prakash and (Dr.) P. N. Misra. In this task they were throughout ably assisted by the Editors and the compilation Officers.

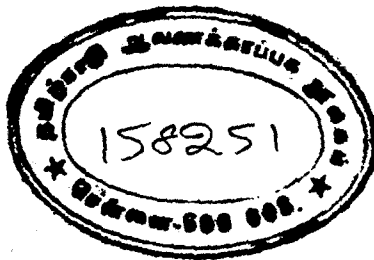
My grateful thanks are due to my predecessors in office whose admirable work has greatly facilitated my task. These are also due to all the Editors, the Compilation Officers and others without whose help I could not have given final shape to the work so easily.

I should like to place on record my sincere thanks to the Chairman and members of the State Advisory Board, Mr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Gazetteers, Central Gazetteer Unit, Government of India, New Delhi, and to all other officials and non-officials, who have helped in bringing out this volume.

Acknow:

(Balwant Singh)

October, 1980.



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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Origin of Name of District

The district is said to have derived its name from 'Inta', a Hindi word for brick. A story is current that about six hundred years ago Sangram Singh, a descendant of Prithviraj Chaudhan of Delhi, resided at Puhor, a village about a kilometre to the south of the present town of Etah. While he was out one day on a hunting mission, he was so fascinated by the spot that he determined to erect a town there. As he was marking out the foundation with a dagger he happened to strike upon a brick. So influenced was he by this incident that he gave the name 'Inta' to that place. In course of time the place came to be known as Etah which was adopted as the name of the district also.

Location, Boundaries, Area and Population

Location and Boundaries—The district lies between Lat. 27° 18' and 28° 2' and Long. 78° 11' and 79° 17' E. It is bounded on the north by the Ganga which separates it from the Badaun district; on the west by the districts of Aligarh, Mathura and Agra; on the south by the Agra and Mainpuri districts and on the east by district Farrukhabad.

Area—The total area, according to the central statistical organisation was 4,449.0 sq. km. in 1971 ranking 35th among the district of the State in regard to size. The greatest length from south-west to north-east is about 99 km. and from north to south a line drawn through the town of Etah measures about 69 km.

Population—At the census of 1971, the district had 15,70,925 persons (8,57,077 males and 7,13,848 females) of which 1,54,213 resided in towns and the remaining 14,16,712 in villages. The district occupied 27th position among the districts of the State in order of population.

History of the District as an Administrative Unit

During the reign of Akbar, almost the whole of the present district of Etah was included in the subah of Agra, the only exception being the small pargana of Faizpur-Badaria which formed part of *mahal* Sahaswan in sirkar Badaun of the subah of Delhi. The remainder of the present district was divided among the sirkars of Agra, Kannauj and Koil. *Mahal* Jalesar now corresponding to the tahsil of the same name, was in sirkar Agra. In sirkar Kannauj lay the *mahals* of Patiali, Sakit Sahaswar, Sikandrapur, Atranji and Samshabad. Parganas Bilani, Pachlana, Soron and Marahra formed parts of the sirkar of Koil. In the period of Maratha supremacy the district was split up into portions lying within the territories of Etawah, Farrukhabad, Mathura and Aligarh. The district was ceded to the British by the Nawab of Awadh in 1801-02. An officer was posted in 1811 at Patiali to run the administration exer-

cising criminal jurisdiction over all the surrounding parganas. In 1816 the headquarters of Patiali subdivision were shifted to Sidhpura. In the same year parganas Bilram, Faizpur-Badaria, Soron and half of Marchra were transferred from Etawah to Aliganj; while Etah, Sakit, Sahawar and rest of Marchra remained with Etawah. In 1824 Etawah villages were distributed among the collectorate of Mainpuri and the three sub-collectorates of Etawah, Bela and Sidhpura, about half of the present district falling to the last subdivision. The parganas of Aligarh, Bilram, Faizpur, Soron and half of Marchra were formed into a tahsil, known as Kasganj and were transferred to a new district of Sahaswan, later known as Badaun. In 1827, the parganas of Bilram, Faizpur, Soron and half of Marchra were transferred from Sahaswan (Badan) to Sidhpura and in the same year the district headquarters were removed to Fatehgarh. In 1837, Patiali was attached to tahsil Azamnagar in Farrukhabad district. Towards the end of 1852, Etah was made the headquarters of the district, and since then the district has borne this name of Etah. In 1856, parganas Marchra and Pachlana were received from Aligarh. In 1879, the pargana of Jalesar, which had until 1874 formed part of the Mathura district was transferred to this district from Agra and constituted a separate tahsil.

Subdivisions, Tahsils and Thanas

The district of Etah has four subdivisions namely Aliganj, Etah, Jalesar and Kasganj, each forming a tahsil of the same name.

Aliganj is the eastern tahsil of the district and comprises the parganas of Nidhpur, Patiali, Azamnagar and Barna. The Ganga forms its boundary on the north and north-east, separating it from the district of Badaun. On the east it is bounded by Farrukhabad, on the south lies Mainpuri with the Kali Nadi as dividing line and on the west are the Etah and Kasganj tahsils. The total area of the tahsil is 1,336.2 sq. km. It had a population of 4,16,983 (2,29,547 males, 1,87,436 females) in 1971, with 397 inhabited and 42 uninhabited villages and two towns.

The subdivision of Etah lies in the southern part of the district, jutting out into Mainpuri district which forms its southern boundary. To the south-west lies the Jalesar tahsil and the north-west, the Aligarh district. On the north it matches with pargana Bilram, while the Kali Nadi separates it on the north-east and east from Kasganj and Aliganj tahsils. It is composed of the three parganas of Marchra, Etah-Sakit and Sonbar. It had an area of 1,250.7 sq. km. and a population 4,40,819 (males 2,38,345; females 2,02,474) in 1971. There were 475 inhabited and 17 uninhabited villages and two towns in the tahsil.

Jalesar tahsil forms a projection towards the south-west of the district and embraces about 16 km. of its north-eastern border. To the north is the Aligarh district, to the west Mathura, while Agra and Mainpuri adjoin it on the south and east respectively. The tahsil lies on a watershed of the Ganga and Yamuna doab. It has only one pargana with its original name of Jalesar. The tahsil of Jalesar had a population of 2,80,230 (males 1,08,670, females 91,560), an area of 588.7 sq. km., and contained a town, 160 inhabited and two uninhabited villages in 1971.

The subdivision of Kasganj occupies the north-west corner of the district, and lies almost in the Ganga-Kali Nadi doab. A small portion of the tahsil in the south-west corner exists on the far side of the Kali Nadi. On the west it marches with Aligarh and on the east with Aliganj tahsil. It includes seven parganas of Bilram, Pachlana, Faizpur-Badaria, Ulai, Soron, Sahawar-Karsana and Sidhpura. In 1971 the total area of the tahsil was 1,276.6 sq. km., and it had a population 5,12,893 (males 2,80,517 females 2,32,376). There were 492 inhabited and 34 uninhabited villages and 2 towns in the tahsil.

Thanas—The district has 17 police-stations. Tahsil Etah has four police-stations out of which Kotwali is located in Etah proper with five out-posts, tahsil Kasganj has four police-stations with six out-posts, tahsil Aliganj has five police-stations having seven out-posts while tahsil Jalesar has four police-stations with two out-posts at Jalesar town itself. In total, there are 20 out-posts in the district.

TOPOGRAPHY

The district is divided into two parts by the Kali Nadi, flowing from north-west to south-east. The area to the south-west of the Kali Nadi consisting of the Jalesar and Etah tahsils and comprising rather less than half of the total area, is a fertile tract of stable cultivation, while the northern portion, which includes the tahsil of Kasganj and Aliganj, is the reverse, being subject to remarkable vicissitudes of fortune and very sensitively responsive to any abnormal variations of season and rainfall.

Topographically there are four distinct tracts, first the *tarai* or the lowland between the river Ganga and its old high bank, second the central doab or the upland between the bank and the crest of the Kali Nadi bank third the valley of the Kali Nadi and fourth the tract lying south of this river.

Tarai—This tract stretches from the bed of the Ganga to its old high bank, and at some places is as much as 15 km. in breadth. It comprises the parganas of Faizpur-Badaria, Ulai and Nidhpur, more than half of Soron, one third of Patiali and portions of Pachlana, Sahawar and Azamnagar. The soils throughout are of alluvial character with the difference that they have a large admixture of vegetable matter than their counterparts in the upland. Even where the portion of the sand is high, they are soft to touch and resemble rather artificial soils, the Composite of the gardener, than natural earth. The most valuable of the *tarai* soil is the rich soft loam found along the edge of the Ganga. Similar but less valuable soil is met with along the edge of the Burhanga (old bed of the Ganga). Here the quality of the soil deteriorates from north to south, being very sandy just above the Burhanga. South of that stream there is always a considerable stretch of very poor soil, either wind-blown sand or *usar*, (barren land) but towards the high bank there is marked improvement in the soil. The subsoil throughout this tract is sand, the pure white sand of the Ganga bed and the fertility of a given tract depends more upon the depth than the quality of the alluvial deposit with which the sand is covered. The surface is everywhere uneven, following, though with

less marked variations, the contours of the underlying sand; so that the hollows, which were the first to catch the alluvial deposits, are richer than the ridges.

Central Doab—This tract comprises the major portion of parganas Pachlana, Bilram, Soron, Sahawar, Sidhpura, Patiali, Bena and Azamnagar. The character of the soil in this tract depends largely upon the distance from the Kali Nadi and the old high bank of the Ganga. At the western boundary of the district the average distance is about 21 km. The Kali Nadi is then running eastwards, while the trend of the high bank is to the south-east with the result that when Sahawar is reached, the distance shrinks to about 22 km. From that point to the commencement of Bena, it varies from 12 to 16 km. The banks of the rivers in this tract are marked by a belt of sand and it is a well-marked characteristic that wherever they approach one another, these ridges stretch out as though to join hands forming an almost continuous sea of sand, from one river to the other. Where, on the contrary, they diverge, the sand seems to shrink in, and the centre of the tract is occupied by a level plain of loam and *usar*. Elsewhere the surface is uneven, the sand being pitted with hollows and depressions in which water collects giving rise to a little firmer soil. The subsoil in this tract is nearly everywhere sandy. In some places as in the east of Aliganj and near Sahawar, a firm subsoil is met, but such tracts stand out as entirely distinct from the rest of the doab.

Kali Nadi Valley—The width of the valley varies according as the descent to the lowland is gradual or abrupt. On the southern bank and the eastern half of the northern bank this descent is almost everywhere gradual. But in the western half of the northern bank, the descent is, in many places sudden, often with a kind of steppes between the crest and the valley bottom. The soil of these steppes is though sandy yet fertile. The lowest portion of the valley is usually that at the foot of the high bank where the soil is always rich but liable to swamping. This is especially the case where the drainage channels from the upland make their way down. The soil on the immediate margin of the stream is a good loam, well raised and not very stiff. Sometimes soil similar to that on the river bank extends nearly to the upland. This is more often the case in the west than in the east. However, the central part is inferior to the rest of the valley, if raised, it is sandy and if lowlying, it is infected with *reh*.

Southern Tract—The tract south of the Kali Nadi comprises Jalesar, particularly the whole of Marehra and Etah-Sakit, two-thirds of pargana Sonhar and a portion of Bilram. The tract is distinguished by the absence of sandy soil, and is also the most stable. The prevailing soil is a good loam. As we proceed south towards the Isan, which runs through the southern portions of Marehra and Etah-Sakit, the soil becomes stiffer and clay is more frequent. On the opposite side of the Isan, the reverse is the case. The stiffest soil is in the north, which is followed by good loam and then by lighter loam. The subsoil in most parts of this tract is firm. In the extreme south-west, however, the level sinks to a marked degree, increasing materially the cost of raising water.

RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

The chief rivers of the district are the Ganga the Burhiganga, the Kali Nadi, the Isan, the Rind and the Bagarh.

Ganga—The Ganga forms for about 51 km. the northern boundary of the district flowing in south-easterly direction. The river flows at a distance varying from 5 to 15 km. from its old high bank.

Burhiganga—The former bed of the Ganga is marked by the Burhiganga or the Burhiganga which enters the district in the north-west corner and flows south-eastwards at a considerable distance from the old high bank which is locally known as the *pahar* and has an average height of about 7m. above the lower plain, rising at times to 10 or 15m. and varying considerably in appearance at different places. Sometimes it descends with a gentle slope to the lowlands into which it imperceptibly disappears, at other places it rises abruptly like a wall. The current of the Burhiganga is sluggish and its course is tortuous, blocked in many places by sand hills and weeds. It is thus unable to cope with a rainfall above the normal, and floods are common, while the lands in its neighbourhood are liable to water logging. Its bed has been excavated and straightened and is annually inspected to keep it clear of weeds by the irrigation department.

Kali Nadi—The Kali Nadi or Kalindi, as it is often called locally, flows to the south of the Burhiganga at a distance of 11 to 27 km. Entering the Etah district from Aligarh in the north-west its general trend is to the south-east, and finally it forms the southern boundary of the Aliganj tahsil. Its total length in the district is about 104 km. The valley through which the river flows is deep and about 5 km. in width.

Isan—The Isan is appuently the outcome of a wide shallow depression which is said to be traceable from Sardhana in Meerut, down to the border of this district. On the west it is still an ill-defined depression rather a waterway, but it develops a distinct bed about half way across the district. Its level, however, is never much below that of the surrounding areas. It has not *tarai*, the approach to it being merely marked by extensive stretches of lowlying clay lands.

Rind—The Rind, Ratwa or Aind flows through a portion of the south of the district beyond the Isan and though a river of considerable size in the rains, in the cold and the hot seasons it almost entirely dries up.

Bagarh—The Bagarh rises in the north-east of Azamnagar, where it forms a series of shallow depressions deepening occasionally into *jhils* and ultimately becomes a stream which flows into the Farrukhabad district. It dries up soon after the rains and its bed affords some good *tarai* cultivation.

There are also small tributaries of the Kali Nadi, such as the Nim, which flows into it at Baswan near Bilram, the Karoh Nala, which joins the Kali Nadi near Mandri, the Karna Nala which falls into the Kali Nadi near Dumri and the Bhongaon Nala, which after passing about 7 km. from Aliganj joins it near Sarai Agnat.

Lakes—The uneven surface and imperfect drainage of a large part of the district have caused the formation of considerable sheets of water in the numerous depressions. Most of these diminish in area during cold and not seasons and only some exist for a short time at the end of the rains. There are, however, some depressions which deserve the name of lakes. Notable among them are the *jhils* of Rustamgarh, Thana Daryaganj, Sikinla pur, and Patna situated in parganas Marchra, Azamgarh, Nilapur and Jalesar respectively.

GEOLOGY

The geology of the district does not reveal any valuable minerals except ordinary clay, *kankur*, sand and *reh*. *Kankur*, is found throughout the district particularly in the Etah and Jalesar tahsils. It is used for metalling road and making lime. Saline efflorescence known as *reh* is found in the neighbourhood of the Bahganga and in pargana Marchra. It is mostly utilized by local washermen. Sand is found in the beds of the Ganga and other rivers of the district. Clay is found every where in the district and is used for preparing bricks and other earthen wares.

Seismology—The district experienced shock of Kabul earthquake of July 6, 1905. The great Kangra earthquake was felt at Etah with maximum intensity at V (Modified Mercalli Scale) on April 4, 1905. Etah also felt the effect of various earthquakes of moderate intensity which occurred during the period of 1950 to 1966 at Delhi (October 10, 1956), Dharchula, (December 28, 1950), Nepal (June 27, 1966) and Moradabad (August 15, 1966).

Underground Water Resources—Near surface ground water is generally tapped by means of open wells. The depth to water level ranges from 1.5 to 10.8 m. The seasonal fluctuations of water level vary between 0.66 to 3.65 m. Shallow aquifers is, generally within 50 m. from the ground level, and tapped by means of cavity tube-wells yield between 36,000 and 45,000 litres at draw-down ranging from 4 to 6 m.

The deeper aquifers tapped by means of deep tube-wells to the maximum depth of 125 m. from the ground level. The water level in the tube-wells varies between 2.15 and 12.80 m. from the ground level. These tube-wells generally yield between 59,060 and 2,04,750 litres per hour at economic draw-downs ranging from 2.75 to 7.60. The transmissibility of the confined aquifers tapped to the maximum depth of 123 m. ranges from 574 to 1850 cubic.

FLORA

There are two forest blocks in the district, under the control of the forest department, namely Senthri (65.5 ha.) and Shitalpur (89 ha.). Land measuring 1,013.96 ha. along the canal banks has been afforested and 428 km. of roadside avenues have been planted.

Dhak (*Butea monosperma*) trees are commonly seen in patches, especially in Azamgarh, Pinji, Daryaganj, Rampur Arjunpur, Sidhpura, Utorra, Sikahra, Pachlana and Sirsa Tibu. Babul (*Acacia arabica*) is found most in *usar* land and is indeed, the only tree which flourishes on it.

Under the scheme of roadside avenue plantation programme, *shisham* (*Dalbergia sissoo*), *jamun* (*Syzygium cumini*), an or mango (*Mangifera indica*), *siris* (*Albizia procera*), *kanji* (*Pongamia pinnata*) and eucalyptus have been planted in recent years. The other common trees found in the

district are *neem* (*Azadirachta indica*), *imli* (*Tamarindus indica*), *semal* (*Salmaia malabarica*), *gular* (*Picu glomerata*), *bel* (*Aegle marmelos*), *ber* (*Zizyphus jujuba*) etc. The ornamental trees generally found in the private gardens and on the canal banks are *kachnar* (*Bauhinia variegata*) *amaltas* (*Cassia fistula*), *ashok* (*Saraca indica*) and *gul mohar* (*Poinciana regia*).

The long coarse grass called *gandar* is found along the Ganga and Bihanga rivers. The longer and stouter reeds, called *senta*, used for making chick and thatching are also found in the district. The *khass* (*Zizaniodes*) grass is also found in the swampy ground. The *mun*, (*Saccharum munja*) is commonly met with in lowlying areas and *patera* (*Typha elephantina*) is found in wet and water-logged tracts. The other grasses found in the district are *dab* (*Desmostachya bipinnate*), *dub* (*Cynodon dactylon*), *anjana* (*Cenchrus ciliaris*), and *siru* (*Imperata cylindrica*).

The undergrowth is chiefly composed of *arus* (*Adhatod vasica*), *hins* (*Capparis zelanica*), *panwar* or *mudar* (*Cato—trophis gignatica*), *karaunda*, (*Carrissa spinarum*) and *makoy* (*Eizyphus ocnopalia*).

FAUNA

Animals—There are no special varieties of wild animals in the district as the forest area is very small. The carnivora consist of the wolf, the hyaena, *bankutta* or the wild dog found in the existing forest tracts, and the jackal and fox, met with throughout the district. The nilgai or blue bull (*Boselaphus tragacamelus*) is found only here and there in the Jaithra jungles in tahsil Jalesar. The hog deer (*cervus porcinus*) is come accross along the Ganga particularly at Kudirganj. The wild pig is found in small numbers along the Ganga and to some extent in the dhak jungles. The *Kala hiron* or black buck is scarce only to be met in tahsil Jalesar. Of smaller animals the parcapine and the hedgehog colled *Parbati chuha* are common, while an occasional specimen of the rare desert fox, the *bijju* or badger and the *sallu samp* (*Armodillo*) sometimes makes their way up from the ravines of the Yamuna.

Birds—Among the birds, pea-fowl and wild-fowl occur in large numbers and nearly everywhere in the district. The snipe (*cappilla gallinago*) is found in abundance in the winter. The goose (*Anser anser*), teal (*Anas crecca*), widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) and pochard duck visit the district during the cold weather and inhabit the fringes of rivers, lakes and swamps. The huge flocks of pigeons are frequent in tahsil Jalesar in the winter, being indeed a notable feature of the district. The sand-grouse are found in small numbers and the imperial-grouse, very occasionally. The grey and black partridges are both fairly common in the district. Some of the other birds found in the district are the sun-bird, king-fisher, hornbill, swift hawk, cuckoo, crow, parrot, owl, culture, dove, weaver-bird and quail.

Fish—There are several varieties of fish found in the rivers, *jhils* and ponds of the district, the common being the *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*), *catla* (*Catla catla*), *singi* (*Heteropneustic fossilis*), *saul* (*Ophioccephalus punctatus*), *lanchi*, *bhur*, *senth*, *kadhu kali machhi* and *silund* (*Silundia silundia*) etc.

Reptiles—Among snakes the dhaman or rate-snake (*Zamenis mucosus*) and the Krait (*Bungarus coeruleus*) are common. Of sauris, the most common is the goh (*Varanus monitor*).

Game Laws

The earlier game laws which were governed by the Wild Birds and Animals protection (U.P. amendment) Act, 1934, have been made more stringent through their substitution by the provision of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, and Wild Life Protection rules 1974, which are enforced in the district, with a view to conserve and preventing the extinction of certain species, such as elephant, tiger, panther, black buck, musk deer, wolf, wild ass, wild buffalo, leopard, swamp deer, crocodile, gharial, peo-fowl, pinkheaded duck, monal, white crane, great Indian bustard, great Indian hornbill, etc.

Any person who contravenes any provision of this act or any rule or order made thereunder or who commits a breach of any of the conditions of any licence or permit granted under this act, shall be guilty of an offence against this act, and shall on conviction, be punishable with punishment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both.

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is characterised by a cool winter and hot summer. The year may be divided into four seasons, viz. the cold season, running from the middle of November to the whole month of February, followed by the hot season extending from March to the third week of June. The period from the third week of June to about the third week of September constitutes the south-west monsoon season and the succeeding period lasting till the middle of November is the post monsoon season.

Rainfall—Records of rainfall in the district are available for four stations, Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj and Jalesar, for periods ranging from 81 to 100 years. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district are given in statement I at the end of the chapter. The average annual (or normal) rainfall in the district is 694.9 mm. The rainfall increases from the west towards the east and varies from 601.6 mm. at Jalesar to 778.6 mm. at Aliganj. About 88 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the period from June to September, July and August being the months of heaviest rainfall. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is large. In the 50 years period, 1901 to 1950 the highest annual rainfall in the district amounting to 181 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1936. The lowest rainfall which was 30 per cent of the normal, occurred in 1918. In the same span of 50 years, the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 4 years, two consecutive years of such low rainfall, occurring twice. Considering the rainfall at individual stations even three consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred twice at Aliganj and once at Etah. The annual rainfall in the district was between 400 and 900 mm. in thirty seven years out of fifty.

A statement regarding the frequency annual rainfall in the district is given below for the period 1901-1950 :

Range in mm.	Number of years
200—300	1
301—400	3
401—500	4
501—600	9
601—700	11
701—800	3
801—900	10
901—1,000	7
1,001—1,100	1
1,101—1,200	0
1,201—1,300	1

On an average there are 37 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district, this number ranging from 33 at Jalesar to 38 at Aliganj. The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 338.8 mm. at Aliganj on October 10, 1903.

Temperature—There is no meteorological observatory in the district. The description which follows is based on the records of the neighbouring districts where similar climatic conditions prevail. After February there is continuous increase in the temperature and May is generally the hottest month of the year. The mean daily maximum temperature in May is about 41°C and the mean daily minimum, about 27°C.

The summer season is intensely hot with the maximum temperature on individual days raising up to 46°C. Hot dry dust laden winds which blow during the summer make the weather very uncomfortable. With the onset of the monsoon in the district by the third week of June there is rapid decrease in the day temperatures. Due to the increased moisture in the atmosphere even in the monsoon season the weather is oppressive in between the rains. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by about the third week of September there is a rapid decrease in the night temperature while there is a slight increase in the day temperature. It is only after October that both the day and night temperatures decrease rapidly. January is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature of about 22°C and the mean daily minimum of about 8°C. During the cold season the minimum temperature may go down to about the freezing point of water and frosts may also occur when the district is affected by the cold waves in the wake of the western disturbances.

Humidity—Except during the monsoon season when the humidity is high, the air is generally dry over the district. The driest part of the year is the summer when in the afternoon relative humidity may be as low as 25 per cent or less.

Cloudiness—In the south-west monsoon season the skies are generally heavily clouded but during the rest of the year the skies are mostly clear. However, for short spells of a day or two during cold season, in association with the western disturbances, skies become cloudy.

Winds—Winds are generally light with a slight increase in force during the summer and early monsoon months. During the period October to April the winds blow mostly from north and west. South-easterlies appear in May. During the monsoon season the winds are predominantly from the south-east or east.

Special Weather Phenomena—In the monsoon season depressions originating in the Bay of Bengal move in a westerly to north-westerly direction across the central part of the country and sometimes cause widespread heavy rain in the district. During the cold season western disturbances affect the weather over the district and a few thunderstorms also occur. Duststorms occur during the summer. Fog may occur during the cold season.

STATEMENT II

Reference Page No. 8

Rainfall (upto 1970)

Normal Rainfall in (mm.) Extreme rainfall (in mm.)

Station	No. of Jan- uary of data	Normal Rainfall in (mm.)												Extreme rainfall (in mm.)				Annual amount (as per- centage of normal) of year and year	Date
		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	1	2	3	4		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Etah	50 a	16.3	14.2	10.4	4.1	8.1	53.3	200.4	215.4	129.8	19.8	1.8	7.6	681.2	167 (1919)	33 (1918)	224.8	October 1, 1910	
	b	1.5	1.2	0.9	0.5	0.8	3.2	10.4	10.5	6.2	9.0	0.2	0.7	87.0					
Kasganj	50 a	16.3	19.6	9.7	5.3	10.4	62.5	211.8	213.6	142.0	18.8	1.8	5.8	717.6	165 (1921)	29 (1918)	281.7	July 21, 1958	
	b	1.5	1.5	1.0	0.7	1.0	3.6	10.3	9.8	6.5	0.9	0.2	0.6	37.6					
Aliganj	50 a	16.0	15.0	9.9	4.3	12.2	67.1	221.7	237.5	157.7	26.7	3.6	7.1	778.8	230 (1936)	28 (1918)	338.8	October 10, 1903	
	b	1.4	1.4	1.0	0.4	1.2	3.1	10.3	10.9	6.5	0.8	0.3	0.7	38.0					
Jalesar	50 a	13.7	11.2	6.9	3.8	6.1	45.0	182.1	181.9	126.5	17.5	1.8	5.1	601.6	193 (1949)	31 (1918)	184.1	October 1, 1910	
	b	1.3	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.8	2.6	9.2	9.9	5.8	0.8	0.3	0.5	33.4					
Etah	50 a	15.6	15.0	9.2	4.4	9.2	57.0	204.0	212.1	139.0	20.7	2.3	6.4	694.9	181 (1936)	30 (1918)			
(District)	b	1.4	1.3	0.9	0.5	0.9	3.1	10.1	10.3	6.3	0.9	0.3	0.6	36.6					

(a) Normal rainfall in mm. (b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The identification of several places mentioned in the scriptures with present day towns and villages of the district and the discovery of quite a few ancient sites in the district have led to a strong belief in the antiquity of the Etah region.

Soron, in tahsil Kasganj, originally known as Ukala Kshetra¹ is believed to be primeval. It stands on a series of scattered mounds². According to the *Bhagvata Purana*, it was Soron where Lord Vishnu had appeared in the form of Varah (bear). The legend is that the demon Hiranyaksha, whose penance was once rewarded by Lord Vishnu, chastised the gods and carried the earth down into an abyss. The gods appealed to Vishnu, who told them that he would assume the form of a Varah and kill the demon. The Lord dived deep down the sea and after a contest lasting for a thousand years, slew Hiranyaksha on the eleventh day of the bright fortnight of the lunar month of Margashirsh, and raised the earth³. The locality received the name Sukershetra after that great event⁴. Local traditions associate the place with Rama, the celebrated king of Kosala, who is said to have visited Soron on a pilgrimage, and performed *pitrshradha* there.

Similarly Aghat, a village in tahsil Aliganj is believed to owe its origin to Agastya, a Vedic sage⁵.

The archaeological excavations made at Atranji Khara on the bank of the Kali river, under the guidance of R.C. Gaur of the history department, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, have not only unravelled mysteries of the past, but brought to fore many relics dating back to the first half of the second millennium B.C. and denoting a highly developed civilisation extant in this part. The bowls, vases, vessels, large and deep basins, knobbed lids, dishes etc., taken out from the site correspond to the ochre coloured pottery of the first half of the second millennium B.C. These pieces have incised decorations with traces of painting in black pigment⁶. The other finds include stone pieces of red and brownish sandstone, terracottas, beads alongwith a large number of burnt clay clots⁷. It is believed that the tract was inhabited by pre-Harrappan

1. Atkinson, E.T. : *Statistical, Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, Vol. IV, Part, I, Agra Division, p. 210
2. Further, A. : *Monumental Antiquities and Inscriptions in the North-Western Provinces and Oudh*, p. 85
3. *Bhagvat Purana*, Part 3, Ch. 13, Verses 16-45, *Varah Purana* 137/7, 11, 12, 38, 59, 67-69
4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 211
5. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 88
6. Note supplied by R.C. Gaur, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
7. *Indian Archaeology—1963-64-A Review*, Edited by A. Ghosh, (New Delhi, 1967), p. 43

people¹ though no regular signs of habitation have appeared so far it might be due to erosion caused by water under which this area remained submerged for years.² It is, however, evident that the inhabitants of this place knew the use of bricks. The grain fossils collected from the site have provided with tips to believe that rice, barley and some pulses were raised from the soil. Similarly certain other remains go to show that the inhabitants were familiar with several varieties of timber like chir, babool, sissoo and sal and were proficient in the copper-ware industry manufacturing weapon parts like spearheads, harpoons, etc.³

The excavations brought to light the Black and Red Ware Civilisation (1,450 B.C.-1,200 B.C.), a new cultural phase, till recently not come across in the upper Gunga valley. It is characterised by black and red pottery which comprises black and red, black slipped, grey, red slipped as well as unslipped ware. The process of inverted firing gave a smooth surface to the pots shaped with the aid of the fast wheel. Some of them had high quality of lustre probably due to burnishing. Hand-made pots were also found. The cultural equipments mainly consisted of objects of copper and semi-precious stones. They seem to have been brought from the neighbourhood of Ranthambor as the culture of the people of this area resembled closely with the state of development in Udaipur region. Some distinct signs of regular habitation have manifested in the shape of three domestic hearths, one of which might have been a sacrificial pit. The people of this period domesticated animals⁴ as evidenced by the fossils of cattle found at the site. The discovery of the pieces of teak wood indicate that they were familiar with it.

The richer deposit of Painted Grey Ware (1,200 B.C. to 600 B.C.) has been significant in many respects. On the basis of the carbon 14 dating of 1,025 B.C. relating to the mid-phase of Painted Grey Ware culture it may be inferred that the people of this culture were Aryans, who settled down in the Gunga valley around 1,200 B.C. Terracotta discs, found in abundance at the site, bear incised decorations depicting symbols of sun, moon, star, fire-altar, etc., closely associated with the Aryans⁵. The most notable discovery relates to the huge stock of iron tools and implements such as spear-heads, arrow-heads, knives, chisels, hooks, axes, and remains of iron furnaces indicating that the iron industry was fully developed.⁶ Perhaps the people were aware of the process of melting, forging and fabricating. These notable finds at the site have pushed back the antiquity of iron in India to at least 1,200 B.C. As the people advanced they began to use copper in casting articles other than weapons. This is established by the discovery of a large number of pieces of rings, bangles, hooks, rods and chisels. Bone objects including awls, knitting needles, arrow-heads, were also found. It would be reasonable to assume that people belonging to this age had adopted extensive use of land for cultivation and started growing wheat. They might have engaged in trade also. The Painted Grey Ware phase re-

1. Note supplied by R.C. Gaur

2. *Indian Archaeology—1963-64-A Review*, Edited by A. Gosh, (New Delhi, 1967), p. 43

3. Note supplied by R.C. Gaur, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Indian Archaeology—1963-64-A Review*, Edited by A. Gosh (New Delhi, 1967 p. 40

presents the culture of Aryana at least of the later Vedic period¹. The broken bricks of such a large size as $33 \times 22 \times 6$ cm.² fragments of statues and other ancient relics, mostly Brahmanical, found at the site of this mound, bear testimony to the fact that there might have stood a large and prosperous town as a centre of Vedic culture in ancient times³.

According to Puranic traditions Brihadvasu, son of Ajamidha, a Bharata king of Tatsu family of the lunar race founded a kingdom which subsequently came to be known as Dakshin (South) Panchala⁴, and it extended to the south of river Ganga up to the river Carnavati (Chambal)⁵, covering major portion of the district. The western part of the district seems to have been included in the ancient kingdom of Surasena with its capital at Mathura⁶.

The Panchalas, however, do not find mention in the *Rigveda* nor does Panchala their country, but their older name is said to have been the Krivis, the people being a Rigvedic tribes⁷ with whom were associated the Srinjaya and the Turvasu tribes.⁸ Originally, the Krivis appear to have proceeded to the east, across the Yamuna, to the land which later on was called as Panchala.⁹ Their dominion roughly extended to the present districts of Bareilly, Budaun and Farrukhabad and the adjoining parts of Uttar Pradesh including portions of the district.¹⁰ Probably the country was named Panchala after the five sons of Bhri-myasva, the fifth in descent from Brihadvasu. The sons were nicknamed the 'five capable ones' (Panchalam).¹¹ The territory over which they ruled might have come to be designated as Panchalas¹². According to some scholars the Panchalas were a composite tribe made up of five Rigvedic tribes—Krivi, Turvasu, Kesin, Srinjaya and Somaka¹³. The Panchalas were the close allies of the Kurus as is indicated by their joint name the Kuru-Panchalas. They were regarded as par-excellence people.¹⁴ They were very learned. Their language was rich; the Brahmanas were adept in the literature of *Upanishads* and *Samhitas*¹⁵. They had an academy of learned men known as Panchala Parishat, having its centres in the cities.¹⁶ The Kuru-Panchala kings were the models for others. Their mode of performance of *yajnas* (sacrifices) is said to be the best in the Upanishad period.¹⁷ Their famous king Pravahana Jaivali, known for his learning was the contemporary of famous philosopher king

Ugrasena Janaka of Videha¹. Bhriaryasva's territory was divided, after his death among his five sons, each receiving a small principality². In the time of Divodasa, an important king of this dynasty, probably all the five units were amalgamated under him. He extended the kingdom considerably³. Sula, probably fifth in descent from Divodasa, raised the kingdom to great prominence. He took part in the celebrated 'battle of ten kings' and achieved victory⁴. His successors being weak lost the kingdom of south Panchala which was subdued by Kuru, king of Hastinapur⁵.

The earliest Aryan people, who settled in the Surasena kingdom which included the western portion of the district, seem to have been the Yadus or Yadavas⁶ named after Yadu, son of Yayati, a descendant of Pururavas Aila, the progenitor of the lunar race of the ancient Kshatriyas⁷. After a number of generations Lavana, son of Madhu⁸, a powerful Yadava king, is said to have challenged Rama the king of Kosala, who ordered his younger brother Satrugana to invade the Yadava kingdom. In a fierce battle that ensued Lavana was killed and in his place Surasena son of Satrugana was installed on the throne and the region came to be called Surasena or Surasenadesa after him⁹.

The South Panchala kingdom was revived under its ruler Nipa with whom another dynastic change commenced. After him his descendants were called Nipas¹⁰. Brahmadatta, also known as Pitravartin, son of Anula, appears to have been a prominent king who exercised his sway over South Panchala. He was a friend and contemporary of the Kuru king Pratipa. He is said to have received instructions in Yogatantra by the preceptor, Jangisavya. Tradition has it that he revived and rearranged Vedic and exegetical texts. He fixed the Kramapatha of the *Rigveda* and of the *Atharvaveda* and his minister, Kandarika that of *Samaveda*¹¹. Visvakshena, Udayksena, Bhallata and Janamejaya were other important kings of the Nipa dynasty¹². Ugrayudha, the Paurva king of Divyadala line, who at that time grew powerful, conquered the territory of North Panchala and forced Prishtha, a prince of that country to take refuge at Kampilya¹³. He also overthrew the Nipa dynasty, killing its king Janamejaya, who was a cruel king¹⁴. Ugrayudha tried to menace the Kuru kingdom but he was killed by Bhishma, a Kuru prince. The kingdom of North Panchala was restored to Prishtha by Bhishma while South Panchala seems to have come under the sway of the Kurus¹⁵.

1. Note supplied by R.C. Gaur, Department of History, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh

2. *Indian Archaeology—1960-61, A Review*, Edited by A. Ghosh (New Delhi, 1961), p. 35

3. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, p. 85; Bajpai, K.D. : *Abichhatra*, p. 26

4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 296-97

5. Pargiter, F.E. : *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition*, p. 113

6. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 84

7. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 257; Macdonell, A.A. and Keith, A.B. : *Vedic Index of Names and Subjects*, Vol. I, p. 196

8. Majumdar, R.C. Raychaudhuri, H.C., and Datta, K. : *An Advanced History of India*, p. 42

9. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 250

10. Raychaudhuri, R.C. : *Political History of Ancient India*, p. 59

11. *Ibid.*, p. 297

12. *Ibid.*

13. Rapson, J. : *The Cambridge History of India*, Vol. I, p. 105; Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 2

14. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 257

15. Rapson, *op. cit.*, p. 105; Macdonell and Keith, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 165

16. *Ibid.*, p. 106

17. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 257

1. Raychaudhuri, *op. cit.*, p. 24; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 324-25

2. Bajpai, *op. cit.*, p. 4

3. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 275

4. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 219, 293

5. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 29

6. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 298; Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 281

7. Macdonell and Keith, *op. cit.*, Vol. II, pp. 185; 187

8. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 277-78

9. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 122

10. *Ibid.*, pp. 170-71, 279

11. *Ibid.*, pp. 164-65; Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 298

12. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 164

13. *Ibid.*, Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, pp. 299-300

14. *Ibid.*, pp. 298-99; Pargiter *op. cit.*, p. 282

15. *Ibid.*

The whole of the district seems to have come for a short period under the sway of Jarasandha, son and successor of Brihadratha, a descendant of Kuru. Brihadratha ruled over Magadha and extended his kingdom as far as Mathura where Kamsa, his son-in-law acknowledged his authority.¹ The tyrannies of Kamsa over his subjects provoked his nephew, Krishna to kill him.² This invoked the displeasure of Jarasandha, who attacked the kingdom of Surasena with a large force. In the course of his military manoeuvres he is said to have built at Jalesar a fort, the remains of which exist in the shape of a mound. Tradition has it that it was from Kundala in the vicinity of Nohekhara in Jalesar tahsil that Krishna took away Rukmini to adopt her as his wife. In the excavations of Nohekhara, an artistic headless statue of a female, believed to be of Rukmini, has been found.⁴

Prishata was succeeded by his son Drupada⁵, who was a class fellow of Drona, son of Bharadvaja, a great sage⁶. When Drupada became king, he out of vanity considered below his dignity to associate with his friend, a common man.⁷ Drona, heartened and dejected, Drona went away to Hastinapur⁸, where he was appointed, by Bhishma, to give training in arms and art of war to the royal princes, the sons of Pandu and Dhritrashtra⁹. On the completion of their training he demanded, as his fee, the defeat and capture of Drupada. Consequently, the disciples of Drona invaded the kingdom of Panchala¹⁰. Bhishma and Arjuna defeated Drupada and brought him as a prisoner before their preceptor, Drona¹¹. Drona, however, still behaved towards Drupada as a friend. He returned to him South Panchala including this district and retained the territory of North Panchala, to equalise his status with that of Drupada¹². The division of the kingdom is said to have taken place at Pattali in Aliganj tahsil¹³. Pattali stands on a high mound on the bank of the river Ganga¹⁴. To commemorate the partition an image of the deity Jageswar was installed in Pattali¹⁵. Defeated at the hands of Drona Drupada felt humiliated. He practised severe austerities¹⁶ to be blessed with a son who would be able to avenge his father's disgrace. In consequence of his strict religious performances, a son was born to him and was named Dhristadyumna¹⁷.

In course of time, due to intrigues of their cousin Duryodhana, the Pandavas were compelled to leave the capital¹⁸. During the wanderings



Female Statue found in excavation at Nohekhara

1. Majumdar, R.C. : *Ancient India*, p. 71; Law, B.C. : *The Magadha in Ancient India*, p. 2

2. Majumdar and Pusalker, op. cit., Vol. I, p. 302

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 302, 303; Pargiter, op. cit., p. 282

4. Bajpai, K.D. : *Yug Yugon Me Uttar Pradesh*, p. 27

5. *Mahabharata*, Adi-parv, Ch. 129/43

6. *Ibid.*, Adi-parv, Ch. 129/42

7. *Ibid.*, Adi-Parv, Ch. 130/1-11, 64-73

8. *Ibid.*, Ch. 130/14

9. *Ibid.*, Ch. 130/39-79

10. *Ibid.*, Ch. 137/12, 25

11. *Ibid.*, Ch. 137/28, 63

12. *Ibid.*, Ch. 137

13. Atkinson, op. cit., p. 176

14. *Ibid.*, Führer, op. cit., p. 87

15. Atkinson, op. cit., p. 178

16. *Mahabharata*, Adi-Parv, Ch. 166/1

17. *Ibid.*, Ch. 166/22-31, 39-44

18. *Ibid.*, Ch. 142/6-19

they arrived at the kingdom of South Panchala¹ where Arjuna, the third Pandava brother won for himself² and his brothers the hand of Drupad's daughter Draupadi³, in a *swayamvara*, for showing excellence in the art of archery⁴. The matrimonial alliance proved helpful to both Drupada and the Pandavas⁵. The successes of the Pandavas roused the jealousy of the Kauravas resulting in the Mahabharata war. The great battle Mahabharata, was fought between the Pandavas and the Kauravas at Kurushetra around 1,400 B.C.⁶ Drupada sided with the Pandavas while Drona, who fought on the side of the Kauravas, was killed at the hand of Drupad's son Dhristadhyumna⁷.

The history of the region including this district, after the great war, is obscure. The kingdom of North Panchala appears to have become a dependency of the kingdom of South Panchala or merged with it, the common name Panchala being used for the entire region as no mention of the two divisions is available⁸. In the list preserved in *Puranas* the Panchala, figure third of the ten ruling dynasties and kingdoms which flourished at that time. Kampilya, capital of South Panchala, by then, had become a chief city and centre of Brahmanical culture and learning⁹.

Tradition has it that Janamejaya, great grandson of Arjuna, the third Pandava brother sojourned for about a month at Soron after performing a sacrifice. In the region of Nichakshu, the fourth in descent from Janamejaya, the Kurus migrated to Kaushambi (in Allahabad district), their capital at Hastinapur having been washed away by floods¹⁰. During the migration, they passed through south Panchala and brought about their fusion with the Panchalas about 820 B.C.¹¹.

Practically nothing is heard about the history of this district for about three centuries except that Bimbisara an important ruler of Magadha, extended his sway up to Kannauj and the district might have come under his political authority in the sixth century B.C.¹² Panchala lost its former status and was ranked tenth and Surasena was listed as twelfth among the sixteen *janapadas* that flourished in that period¹³. Sixth century B.C. was full of spiritual upheavals. The period witnessed extraordinary mental and spiritual unrest¹⁴. Buddha, one of the greatest religious exponents, while on his way from Kannauj to Mathura might have passed through Soron. There is a reference in the *Vinaya Pitaka* about Buddha's stay for a few months at Berarj, indentified by some as Atranji Khera. He is believed to have visited Soron on his

1. *Ibid.*, Ch. 183

2. *Ibid.*, Cm. 187/21-37

3. *Ibid.*, Ch. 187/13

4. *Ibid.*, Ch. 187/21-37

5. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 67

6. *Ibid.*, p. 304

7. *Ibid.*, p. 307

8. Bajpai, K.D. : *Ahichchhatra*, pp. 4-5

9. Rapson, *op. cit.*, p. 281

10. Ghosh, N.N. : *An Early History of Kaushambi*, p. 5

11. Pargiter, *op. cit.*, p. 285, 8

12. Majumdar and Pusalker, *op. cit.*, p. 328

13. Tripathi, *op. cit.*, p. 84

14. *Ibid.*, pp. 96-97

way to Varanasi from Mathura via Sankisa and Kannauj¹. He is also said to have come to Bilsar, a small village in tahsil Aliganj which stands on a high mound² and delivered his sermon of love before the congregation for seven days³. Aghat, a village of this district, formed part of the great and populous town of Sankisa⁴ (in Farrukhabad district), one of the most important centres of Buddhism connected with the life of Buddha⁵.

The northern black polished ware found during excavations here further indicates that some sort of urban life might have developed here even as early as 600 B.C. The structural activity including defences started on a large scale as evidenced by a mudbrick bastion. The whole deposit against the bastion showed house complexes, brick floors, ring wells, granary, etc⁶. Other features of this period include the development of terracotta art including human and animal figurines, coinage seals, and use of iron and copper on extensive scale⁷.

The history of the district is shrouded again in obscurity till about the middle of the fourth century B.C. when the territories of Panchala and Surasena were annexed to the Nanda empire of Magadha, probably in the reign of Mahapadma, who uprooted all the Kshatriya families which ruled contemporaneously⁸. Though the Panchala and Surasena regions were under the political authority of the Nandas they enjoyed certain privileges of self-government like those under a republic. The result was that peace and prosperity prevailed. The internal administration was efficient. The condition, stood in a striking contrast with that prevailing in the area directly governed, testifies that the Nandas allowed a considerable amount of self-government to the people of Panchala⁹. In the same way though the kingdom of Surasena probably including some part of the district, was also overthrown, it did not lose its entity and even retained the republican form of the government. This is testified by the mention of the corporations of Vrishnis and Kukras, both being synonymous with the term Surasena, by Kautilya¹⁰.

Panchala and Surasena continued to be republics probably in the form of dependencies under the Mauryas, who overthrew the Nandas, under Chandragupta in 321 B.C.¹¹. The other important king of this dynasty was Ashoka, who found solace in Buddhism and started on a pilgrimage to places hallowed by the memory of Buddha and erected stupas¹². Hsien Tsang mentions in his travel notes that in Panchalaha there is an Asoka stupa lying in ruins. Cunningham initially identified this spot with Atranji Kheda but later on associated it with Bilsar.

1. *Vinaya Pitaka*, p. 3-11
2. *Fuhrer*, op. cit., p. 86
3. Cunningham, A.: *The Ancient Geography of India*, p. 417
4. Atkimsom, op. cit., p. 198
5. Bajpai, K.D. and Dikshit, R.K.: *Buddhist Centres in Uttar Pradesh* p. 11
6. *Indian Archaeology*, 1968-69-A Review, Edited by B.B. Lal, (New Delhi, 1971), p. 37
7. Note supplied by R.C. Gaur, History Department, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
8. Sastri, K.A.N.: *Age of the Nandas and Mauryas*, p. 17
9. *Ibid.*, p. 21.
10. Shamasastri, R. (Tr.): *Kautilyas Arthashastra*, p. 407
11. *Ibid.*
12. Sastri, K.A.N.; op. cit., p. 210

About the beginning of the second century B.C., the Mauryas were supplanted by the Sungas under Pushyamitra (187-151 B.C.), who brought under his suzerainty the whole of northern India and attempted to revive the Brahminical religion¹. During this period, Panchala, along with other parts of the Sunga empire, was overrun by the Yavanas (Greeks) as has been mentioned in the *Yuga Purana*, a section of the *Gargi Samhita*. According to Patanjali the area covered by south Panchala of which this district formed a part, stretched up to the frontiers of Kuru kingdom in the east and Surasena in the south-east², and came under the possession of Menandar, a Yavana king³. Among the most important cities of Panchala noted by Patanjali was Gavidhumata identified with Kudarkot of this district⁴.

The Greeks were followed by the Sakas in the beginning of the Christian era or the first century B.C. Being the adjoining territory it is likely that the administration of this district passed into the hands of a Saka Kshatrap, Ranjuvula of Mathura, and on his death to his son Sudas who styled himself as Mahakshatrap⁵.

Thereafter the district came under the sway of Kushanas. Some copper coins of Vasudeva, who seems to have ascended the throne around 145 A.D. have been found at Atranji Kheda⁶. The Kushana and the post-Kushana periods are characterised by the red ware pots and pans excavated at Atranji Kheda. An interesting house complex of burnt bricks along with several floor levels and covered drains, were also unearthed which indicate that the houses were better planned and had higher ceilings. Beautiful terracotta, human and animal figurines, beads, copper objects and iron tools are interesting finds of this period⁷.

The political history of the period immediately following the dismemberment of the Kushana empire is mostly enveloped in darkness. In the third and the early part of the fourth century A.D. a Naga ruler Virasena reestablished his sovereignty over the large tracts of western Uttar Pradesh, including this district, with his capital at Mathura⁸. About the middle of the fourth century A.D. Samudragupta seems to have advanced as far as the Chambal and annexed all the intervening kingdoms with his extended empire⁹. The district should have, therefore, become a part of the Gupta territory. During the reign of Chandragupta II (375-414 A.D.) the Chinese pilgrim Fa-Hien, who travelled from Mathura to Sankisa¹⁰, might have traversed this district. He says that the region had temperate climate without frost or snow and the

1. Majumdar and Pusalker, op. cit., Vol. II, pp. 95-97
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 108-115
3. Puri, B.N.: *India in the Time of Patanjali*, pp. 28-29; Rapson, op. cit., p.—471
4. *Ibid.*, pp. 106, 115
5. Majumdar op. cit., p. 120
6. Puri, op. cit., p. 51
7. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 115
8. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 223
9. *Indian Archaeology—1962-61-A Review*, Edited by A. Ghosh, (New Delhi, 1961), p. 36
10. *Indian Archaeology—1962-63-A Review*, Edited by A. Ghosh, (New Delhi, 1965), p. 86, Note supplied by R.C. Gaur, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh
11. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 235, Majumdar and Pusalker op. cit., Vol. II, p. 164
12. Majumdar, R.C. and Atleker, A.S. A.S. (Ed.); *The Vakataka Gupta Age*, p. 151
13. Tripathi, op. cit., p. 252

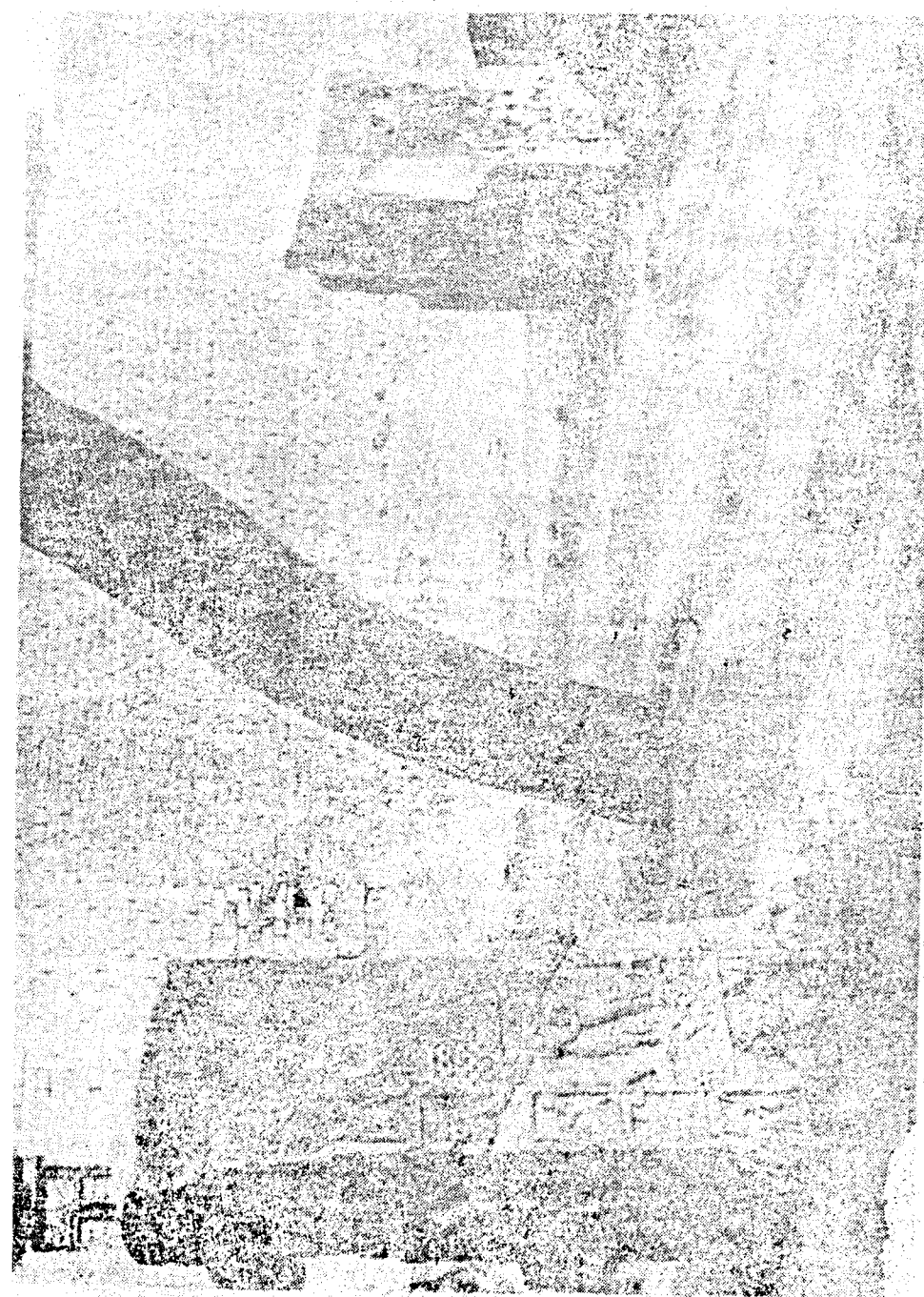
people were prosperous and happy¹. Two monoliths bearing inscription of Kanargupta (414-455 A.D.), son and successor of Chandragupta, as well as, two square pillars belonging to a temple of Gupta period and fragments of a pierced lattice in carved terracottas have been found in Bilsar². A red sandstone head probably of Bhairava, besides pottery and seals which could be dated to the Gupta and the immediately following periods have been found in Atranji Khara³.

After the downfall of the Guptas the district appears to have come under the domination of the Maukharis of Kannauj⁴ and subsequently under the hold of emperor Harsha (606-647 A.D.)⁵. In his reign the prosperity of his subjects grew immensely⁶. Hsiao-Chan-nia (identified with Bilsar) was visited by the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsang about 636 A.D. He has described that this country was above 2,000 li in circuit with its capital above 10 li in circuit. There were five Deva temples and two Buddhist monasteries with 3,000 brethren who were the adherents of the Hinayana system. The people were mainly non-Buddhists. Within the enclosure of a monastery there was an Asoka stupa, in utter ruin, where Buddha delivered *sutra* called Yun-Chie-Chie-Ching for seven days. Besides, there were traces of the sitting, walking up and down postures of the four past Buddhas⁷.

For more than half a century after the death of Harsha, the whole of northern India, spelled anarchy and confusion.⁸

The earliest known monarch after Harsha who exercised political authority over these parts was Yashevarman of Kannauj (725-752 A.D.)⁹. He ruled with glory and splendour till his defeat, and perhaps death also, by Lalitaditya. His kingdom was absorbed in the growing empire of Kashmir¹⁰.

Little is known about the fate of this district after that event except that the Ayudhas held their sway over this region. The first ruler of this dynasty, Vajrayudha, is casually referred to in the *Karpurmanjari* written by Rajshekhar, a dramatist, and his accession may be placed about 770 A.D.¹¹. Rajshekhar writes "to the capital of Vajrayudha, the king of Pancala (Panchala) to Kannauj" in reference to the record of travel of a merchant named Sagardatta, who had gone on business to the royal city. The reference may signify that Panchala was the name of a country of which Kannauj was the capital¹². It is evident that till the period the area of which this district formed part was called Panchala.



Square pillars of Gupta period, Bilsar

1. Giles, H.A. (Tr.) : *The Travels of Fa. Hsien, 399 - 414 A.D. or Record of the Buddhist Kingdom*, p. 20
2. Fuhrer, op. cit., p. 85
3. *Indian Archaeology—1960-61-A Review*, Edited by A. Ghosh, (New Delhi, 1961), p. 35
4. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem conquest*, p. 35, 52, 55
5. Majumdar and Pusalker, op. cit., Vol. III, pp. 113, 115, 121.
6. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 305
7. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, Vol., I, p. 332; Cunningham, A. : *The Ancient Geography of India*, 306; Fuhrer, op. cit p. 86
8. Tripathi, R.S. : *The History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest* p. 188
9. Tripathi, R.S. : *The History of Ancient India*, p. 316
10. Majumdar, op. cit., p. 260
11. Tripathi, R.S. : *The History of Ancient India*, p. 317
12. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Kanauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 212

In the beginning of the ninth century the district came under the sway of the rising power of the Gurjara Pratihara¹, headed by Nagbhata II (805-835 A.D.) and remained so till about the end of the tenth century. Mihir Bhoja (836-885 A.D.) was the greatest monarch of this dynasty and he ruled over an extensive empire². In his coins Adi Varah, which signifies the boar incarnation of Vishnu, is depicted³. Bhoja had an encounter with Somdatta Solanki, a descendant of Mandavya Harsh, and lost possession of Soron, Uttarna and Amapur which were occupied by the latter.

Among the forefathers of Somdatta, Ven is said to have built forts at Soron and Atranji Khura and Sonmali is associated with the foundation of Sonhar, Parson and Songar. The ancient town of Soron is now represented by a mound known as fort. The mound is covered with broken bricks of large size and the foundation of walls are traceable in all directions. The only building standing on it is the temple of Sita Ramji. Popular tradition ascribes the present remains to Somdatta who is believed to have renovated the fort set up earlier by his ancestor, Ven. The temple contains thirty eight pillars.

Mahmud of Ghazni in 1019 A.D. marched towards Kannauj and gave a death blow to the already shattering Gurjara Pratihara empire⁴. No resistance seems to have been offered to the invader's advance in this district.

The reputed Arab scholar Alberuni, who came to India in the wake of Mahmud's invasion early in the 11th century and wrote a book on India, has referred to Panchala as one of the nine great kingdoms of old⁵. Several small principalities sprang up during this period. The Rashtrakutas became independent at Budaun, which was the only important city in the possession of Chandra, a Rashtrakuta king. According to an undated inscription Vodamayuto (Budaun) has been described as the ornament of the land of Panchala. The omission of Kannauj in the inscription implies that it was probably not included in the territory of Rashtrakutas⁶. Amidst the political turmoil it is likely that some portions of the district might have come under the direct control of the Rashtrakutas of Budaun, till such time they were ousted Chandradeva (1089-1100 A.D.), the founder of the Gahadvala dynasty⁷ at Kannauj and subsequently formed part of the mighty kingdom of Kannauj⁸. The last king of this dynasty Jayachandra (1170-1194 A.D.) maintained in tact the vast dominion inherited by him⁹. Even the Muslim historians have described him as the greatest sovereign of India¹⁰. Balram Singh Chauhan a courtier of Jayachandra is believed to have founded Bilram which was originally named Balram. This is borne out by the stone inscription

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 230-232

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 237, 240; Puri, B.S. : *The History of Gurjara Pratihara*, pp. 47, 48, 61-62

3. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Kannauj to the Moslem Conquest*, p. 247

4. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 326

5. Sachau, E.C. : *Alberuni's India*, Vol. I, p. 298

6. Niyogi, R. : *History of the Gahadvala Dynasty*, pp. 18, 21-22; Ray H.C. : *The Dynastic History of Northern India*, Vol. I, p. 552

7. Niyogi, *op. cit.*, p. 290

8. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 323

9. Majumdar, *op. cit.*, p. 316

10. *Ibid.*

held in possession by Raja Shiv Raj Singh of Kasganj. During Jayachandra's reign Sihab-ud-din Ghuri invaded India.¹ According to local tradition one raja Ven, whose forefathers got built a strong fort, surrounded by a large and flourishing city, in Atranji Khera, repulsed several expeditions sent by Ghuri against him after defeating Prithviraj Chauhan, ruler of Delhi and Ajmer. It was only when Ghuri himself attacked the raja, he was defeated and the fort and city were destroyed.² It is said that Ghuri demolished a number of temples at Patiali and built a fort with their material. It was surrounded by strong thick walls of block *kankars* and bricks.³ In 1194 A.D. Ghuri gave a crushing blow to the kingdom of Kannauj by defeating Jayachandra at Chandawar in Agra district.⁴ On way to Chandawar Ghuri again crossed this district. After the defeat of their king some Gahadvalas took up their residence at Khor and others under Dhir Shah drove out Bhars from Azammagar, Barna and Sonhar and settled there.⁵

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

By 1206 A.D., Shihab-ud-din Ghuri had achieved the conquest of western-lower doab and paved the way for the ultimate governance of the region, covered by the present district of Etah, by the Muslim sultans of Delhi.⁶ Initially the territory comprising the district is said to have been divided up between the fiefs of Kannauj and Bayana, where the Muslim governors were stationed⁷, and subsequently it was transferred to the rulers of Koil (in Aligarh) and Etawah. The majority of the inhabitants of the district, however, preferred to resist Muslim domination than to owe allegiance to their perpetration and it was in 1247 that a desperate conflict took place at Bilsar in tahsil Aliganj between the troops of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud under the command of Balban and the local Rathor Rajputs in which the latter were defeated.⁸

While proceeding to subdue the Hindu chiefs of the lower doab after his accession in 1266 A.D., sultan Ghiyas-ud-din Balban (1266-1287 A.D.) gave orders for the construction of fortresses at Patiali in tahsil Aliganj and at Bhojpur in tahsil Etah.⁹ Subsequently, strong military contingents were posted at these places to keep constant vigil on the rebels and to enable the respective governors, to crush any seeds of revolt that tried to germinate in the region. The stationing of these garrisons which mostly consisted of Afghans, solved another problem of the day.

1. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Ancient India*, p. 330

2. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 111

3. Fuhrer, *op. cit.*, pp. 87-88

4. Tripathi, R.S. : *History of Kanauj to the Muslim Conquest*, p. 312

5. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 29

6. Habibullah, A.B.M. : *The Foundation of Moslem Rule in India*, (Allahabad, 1961), face page 86 ; Atkinson, E.T. : *Descriptive and Historical Account of the North-Western Provinces of India*, (Allahabad, 1876), Vol. IV, p. 99

7. *Ibid.*

8. Neave, E.R. : *Etah, A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1911), p. 164

9. Sirhindi, Yahya Bin Ahmad Bin Abdullah : *Tarikh-i-Mubarakshahi*, Eng. Trans. by K.K. Basu, (Baroda, 1932), p. 38

Several places had become hideouts of robbers who were notoriously active on the highways. Sultan Balban, therefore, granted cultivable lands to soldiers who undertook suppression of these bandits in this region. Sixty years after this incident, Zia-ud-din Barni mentioned that this step of the sultan finally led to the virtual extinction of robbery, thus making the roads safe for travellers¹.

After the death of sultan Balban in 1287 A.D., anarchy and disorder reappeared in the area. The ugly state of affairs forced sultan Jalal-ud-din Khalji (1290-1295 A.D.), son of Baghrash Khalji, to visit the district in person and to collect revenue from its inhabitants². Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq (1325-1351 A.D.) is said to have visited Patiali and despatched a force to reduce the holders of forts to submission³.

After the death of sultan Feroze Shah Tughluq in 1388 A.D., his son sultan Muhammad Shah had a dispute with Abu Bakr, his brother's son. The latter defeated Muhammad Shah, and on 29th April, 1389, succeeded in capturing the throne of Delhi. Sultan Muhammad retired to Jalesar in this district with 2,000 men and made it the centre of his activity till 1390 A.D.⁴. At Jalesar, the sultan was joined by some respectable nobles including Malik Sarvar, the governor of the city, and Nasir-ul-Mulk or Khizr Khan, the founder of the Saiyyed dynasty⁵. "Having collected a force of fifty thousand horses and 'innumerable' foot Nasir-ud-din Muhammad once again marched towards Delhi in July-August, 1389. He met the army of Abu Bakr near the village of Tandli, about 46 miles north-east of Delhi. 'There were heavy casualties on both sides', but in the end Muhammad was defeated". The latter again had to retire to Jalesar. 'Tired of constant warfare and encouraged by his recent victories, Abu Bakr decided to fight to a finish. He marched towards Jalesar against Muhammad Shah in April-May 1390"⁶. After ending Abu Bakr, Muhammad Shah on the other hand, reached Delhi with forced marches and seized the throne⁷. Abu Bakr at once retraced his steps and as he entered the city, Muhammad Shah fled and returned to Jalesar⁸. But in August of the same year Islam Khan, an influential courtier at Delhi began to hatch conspiracy against Abu Bakr by opening communication with Muhammad Shah at Jalesar. The discovery of the conspiracy so unnerved Abu Bakr against Abu Bakr an influential courtier at Delhi began to hatch conspiracy that he resolved to relinquish office and settle down at Mewat. Muhammad Shah came to Delhi and was enthroned in 1390 A.D. In these bloody conflicts the people suffered acutely and Muhammad Shah failed to defend the inhabitants of Jalesar and adjoining parts who were victimised during the civil war⁹.

1. Elliot and Dowson : *The History of India as Told by Its Own Historians*, Vol. III, p. 105

2. Neave, E.R. , *op. cit.*, p. 129

3. *Ibid.*

4. Sirhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad bin Abdullah, *op. cit.*, p. 154; Haig, W. : *The Cambridge History of India*, (1958), Vol. III, pp. 190-191; Lal, K.S. : *Twilight of the Sultanate*, (New York), p. 3

5. Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 14; Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 3

6. *Ibid.*, p. 4; Haig, *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 190; Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 155

7. Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 14

8. *Ibid.*, Haig, *op. cit.*, p. 191

9. Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, pp 4-5

In 1392 A.D., the chiefs and the zamindars of doab led by Sarvar-dharan of Etawah raised the banner of revolt against Muhammad Shah Feroze Tughluq had marched against this Hindu confederacy in 1377-78. A.D., and had taken many chiefs to Delhi. They had put up with this humiliation during the reign of Feroze, but now finding the sultanate weak, they not only declared their independence but also occupied pargana Bilram of this district. The revolt was suppressed by Islam Khan, the sultan's vizier, but as soon as his back was turned the rebellion broke out afresh. The sultan thereupon marched in person, and brought the recalcitrant chiefs to proper allegiance¹. Afterwards he proceeded to Jalesar, the place which had brought him luck in the past, ordered the construction of a fort there and christened the place Muhammadabad (1392).²

"The sultan's last devastating campaign in western Uttar Pradesh had left bitter memories behind. No sooner was he back in Delhi than Rai Sumer and his brother Uldharan reoccupied Etawah."³ Ajit Singh Rathor of Rampur in tahsil Aliganj and other neighbouring chiefs joined their cause⁴. The sultan ordered Malik Muqarrab-ul-Mulk, the governor of Jalesar, to march against the occupiers of Etawah. Finding his task formidable, Muqarrab preferred perfidy to a show of arms. He enticed all the aforementioned zamindars to accompany him to Kannauj to finalise the terms of a truce, and there got every one of them murdered except Rai Sumer who managed to escape to Etawah. Muqarrab returned to Muhammadabad (Jalesar) in a triumphant mood.⁵

Sultan Muhammad Shah breathed his last in 1394 A.D. at Jalesar, where he is said to have gone to inspect the progress of his new buildings⁶. He was succeeded by his sonprince Humayun as sultan Sikandar Shah, but he also died within a couple of months. The upon, sultan Sikandar's youngest son Mahmud, a lad of ten years, succeeded him and ascended the throne with the title of sultan Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud Shah on 23rd March, 1394 A.D. The people were naturally sceptical about his capacity to rule, particularly the vast portion of doab, the heart of his kingdom which had proved a disturbing factor for the progress of the sultanate in the past. Moreover, the eastern region especially Jaunpur had gone out of control on account of the turbulence of the Hindu zamindars⁷. "Therefore, the sultan conferred on Shawaja Jahan the title of Malik-ul-Sharq" and an uncontrolled authority over the region extending from Kannauj to Bihar.⁸ The brave and sagacious Khwaja brought the recalcitrant zamindars of this area under control, but taking advantage of the declining power of the sultanate, he extended his influence up to Koil and Ray-i (Mainpuri) in the west. Consequently, the present district of Etah came under the direct control of Jaunpur kings from this period⁹.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7; Haig, W., *op. cit.*, p. 192; Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, pp. 100-161

2. *Ibid.*, Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 7

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8

6. *Ibid.*, pp. 8-9; Neave, E.R., *op. cit.*, p. 129

7. Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, pp. 8-9

8. *Ibid.*, p. 9

9. *Ibid.*, p. 46; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 129

The accession of Mahmud Shah, the youngest son of Muhammad Shah in 1394 A.D., was followed by a period of anarchy and civil war, during which the governors of the various fiefs threw off all allegiance and held their territories for themselves. The moment was an opportune one for the rebellious Rajputs of the doab, and they did not fail to take advantage of it¹. Therefore, in 1400-1401 A.D. Iqbal Khan, the noble, who after displacing the reigning sultan Mahmud Shah in 1398 A.D., had assumed imperial insignia, marched to settle with the chiefs of these parts. His first encounter took place with Rai Sabir, the *mugaddam* (headman) of Etawah, and other chiefs at Patiali. These chiefs assembled with a large force but in the end victory was conferred upon Iqbal Khan². The turbulent chiefs were defeated and subdued³.

During the reign of Khizr Khan Saiyyed (1412-1521 A.D.) another expedition was sent under Taj-ul-Mulk, the vizier, with a large army to bring the chiefs of doab under proper allegiance. Jalesar, which was formerly owned by Muslims was at this time under a Hindu zamindar of Chandwar. Taj-ul-Mulk subdued the zamindar and wrested Jalesar from him which was consequently handed over to the Muslim governor⁴. In 1416-1418 A.D., the same general made another expedition into this region. But the punishment which the refractory Rajputs had received was not sufficient to subdue them⁵.

After the death of Khizr Khan in May 1421, his son Mubarak Khan ascended the throne with the title of sultan Mubarak Shah in the month of the same year⁶. He subdued the chiefs of western Uttar Pradesh presumably including this district and exacted revenue at the point of sword and kept his complete hold on these parts till his murder in February, 1434⁷.

During the reign of Muhammad Shah (1434-1445 A.D.), the successor of Mubarak Shah, nothing significant occurred in the district. His son and successor sultan Ala-ud-din Alam Shah (1445-1457 A.D.), appears to have remained in good terms with Rai Pratap of Bhogaon in Mainpuri who at the same time held Patiali in this district⁸. Rai Pratap is said to have assisted the sultan in an unfulfilled venture of putting Hamid Khan, the vizier, to death. The Rai's move was purely an act of revenge against Hamid Khan, whose father Fateh Khan, had in the past laid waste the former's territory and killed his father⁹. But the failure of this plot against Hamid Khan, who had captured Delhi, had wide repercussions on the politics of the day. Bahlul Lodi who had been watching these developments with keen interest marched with his army, besieged Delhi and occupied it (1450 A.D.). Hamid Khan, unable to withstand Bahlul, entered a compact with the latter making him the king and himself the vizier¹⁰.

1. *Ibid.*

2. Neave, E.R., *op. cit.*, p. 129

3. Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 175; Haig, W., *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 201

4. Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 191; Lal, K.S. *op. cit.*, p. 74

5. *Ibid.*; Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, pp. 192-194

6. Lal K.S. *op. cit.*, pp. 82-84

7. *Ibid.*, pp. 101-113

8. Lal K.S., *op. cit.*, pp. 124-125

9. *Ibid.*, p. 125

10. *Ibid.*, pp. 125-126

At the accession of Bahlul Lodi (1451-1488 A.D.), the major portion of the district was in the possession of Rai Pratap, a Rajput chief of Bhogaon in Mainpuri district, who also held Patiali in this district apparently with the sanction of Muslim government for long¹. At this time the vassals of Delhi sultanate had thrown off their allegiance after the change of dynasty in 1451 A.D. Ahmad Khan, the governor of Sakit in tahsil Etah and uncle of king's retainer, finding sultan's presence in doab, tendered submission. He was followed by Rai Pratap of Bhogaon². These chiefs were confirmed in their offices by the sultan when they had accepted his authority³.

But Bahlul's task was not complete till he had settled accounts with the kingdom of Jaumpur, and this fact converted doab into a battle field for supremacy between these two kingdoms in the forthcoming years. Bahlul's cause of action was logical in the sense that the Sharqi rulers had made a bid to overthrow the Delhi sultanate several times and fomented the chiefs of doab never to reconcile with the former. In 1479 A.D., a severe battle took place between the forces of Jaumpur and Delhi near Rapri resulting in the victory of Bahlul. This victory enabled the sultan to capture many parganas including Sakit, Jalesar and Patiali in this district⁴.

In the same year (1479 A.D.) another decisive battle was fought between Husain Shah Sharqi and sultan Bahlul at Sonhar in tahsil Etah in which the former was badly defeated⁵. This war terminated the possibility of conflict between Jaumpur and Delhi in this quarter for some time.

Sultan Bahlul died near Sakit in the year 1489 A.D.⁶ and was succeeded by his son Sikandar Lodi⁷. After his accession Sikandar (1489-1517 A.D.) marched against his brother Alam Khan, the governor of Rapri, who had asserted his independence by assuming the royal title. On Sikandar's approach Alam Khan fled to Isa Khan Lodi, the governor of Patiali and a staunch opponent of Sikandar Lodi. The former is also said to have opposed sultan Sikandar's candidature for the throne⁸. After some time Sikandar succeeded in weaning away his brother Alam Khan from Isa Khan's influence and marched to Patiali to eject the latter from there. Isa Khan offered resistance but met with defeat followed by death⁹. The government of Patiali was conferred upon Rai Ganesh, a local Hindu chief, and partisan of Barbak Shah, the eldest son of Bahlul and the governor of Jaumpur. This was a diplomatic move on the part of the sultan since Barbak Shah was trying to usurp the throne of Delhi¹⁰. Thus Sikandar Lodi drew the help of Rai Ganesh in suppressing Barbak Shah.

1. Pandey A.B. : *The First Afghan Empire in India*, p. 68; Lal K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 137
2. *Ibid.*; Pandey, A.B., *op. cit.*, p. 68
3. *Ibid.*, Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 137
4. *Ibid.*, p. 148; Pandey, A.B., *op. cit.*, p. 82; Haig N., *op. cit.*, Vol. III, p. 257
5. Pandey, A.B., *op. cit.*, pp. 82-83; Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 149
6. Lal, K.S., *op. cit.*, p. 156
7. *Ibid.*, pp. 162-163
8. *Ibid.*, p. 164
9. *Ibid.*
10. *Ibid.*, pp. 162-164

In 1492 A.D., the government of Jalesar, Sakit and Marahra in this district was transferred to sultan Sharf son of Ahmad Jalwani, the ruler of Bayana, in exchange for the latter place¹. But sultan Sharf instead of accepting the term rebelled and with some trouble was reduced to submission².

In 1520 A.D., Sikandar's son Ibrahim also visited this district and fought with Savant Sen, a Chauhan chief and descendant of Sakat Sen, the founder of this place. The Chauhans are said to have suffered defeat and taken refuge in Bhadwar³.

In 1527 A.D., Babar who had wrested the throne of Delhi from Ibrahim Lodi in 1526, after defeating the latter in the famous battle of Panipat appointed Khwaja Imad-ud-din Muhammad, a native of Multan as *amil* (collector of revenue) of Marahra, a pargana in this district which was formed by Ala-ud-din Khalji (1295-1315 A.D.) during his reign⁴. In 1542 A.D., when Sher Shah Sur (1540-1545 A.D.) was ruling, Khwaja Imad-ud-din's two sons were appointed to the offices of *chaudhury* (pargana headman) and *kanungo* (revenue official) of this pargana, which were created for the first time and were subsequently filled by descendants of the original holders until the occupation of the country by the British, when the office of *chaudhury* was abolished. By the year 1876 A.D., the lineal descendants of Khwaja Imad-ud-din retained their title of *kanungo* of this place⁵. Sher Shah is said to have settled a colony of Kunt Muslims at Sakit in 1540 A.D. and built a mosque which bore an inscription in praise of the king⁶.

During the reign of Akbar (1556-1605 A.D.) the entire district of Etah formed part of the Mughal empire and was included in the subah of Agra for administrative purposes and subdivided into *mahals* (revenue paying subdivisions) for revenue administration⁷.

In 1562 A.D. while hunting near Sakit, in this district, the emperor became aware of a gang of Hindu brigands who infested that neighbourhood. He at once marched against them forcing them to flee and take refuge in village Paronkh, 15 miles south-east of Sakit. At the head of his escort of 200 horse he attacked the brigands, who are said to have numbered 4,000. He was not well supported, but pressed on, receiving twelve arrows in his shield and narrowly escaping death. But in the end the tide turned against this notorious group which was ultimately over-powered resulting in many deaths and executions⁸.

During the reign of Akbar's successors till 1707 A.D., the district enjoyed a period of unwonted peace and no significant event came to notice as to interrupt the progress of imperial authority.

1. *Ibid.*, p. 167
2. *Ibid.*
3. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 189; Neave, *op. cit.*, p. 130
4. Atkinson, *op. cit.*, p. 158
5. *Ibid.*, p. 158
6. *Ibid.*, p. 189
7. Neave, E.R., *op. cit.*, p. 131
8. Haig, W., *op. cit.*, Vol. IV, p. 83

MODERN PERIOD

Events following the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 A.D., shook the Mughal empire. A bitter struggle for power which ensued among the aspirants to the throne for several years provided opportunity to adventurers and mercenaries to try their luck in grabbing territories. One such adventurer who carved out an autonomous kingdom for himself in this part of doab was Muhammad Khan, a Bangash Afghan. He was born about 1665 A.D. and settled at Mau-Rashidabad (a suburb of Farrukhabad town), and emerged at this stage as a powerful leader of a band of free-booters. In 1712, emperor Bahadur Shah died and after a struggle which ensued among his sons, Jahandar Shah succeeded him. He had a very short rule and was replaced by Farrukh Siyar. Muhammad Khan Bangash, who helped Farrukh Siyar in the battle of Samugarh near Agra with 12,000 men, was rewarded with honours and jagirs in Bundelkhand and Farrukhabad including portions of the present district of Etah¹. He saw several ups and downs in the subsequent regime of emperor Muhammad Shah (1719-48). His rule was marked by the frequent Maratha inroads, the most severe being in 1737 when Marathas under Baji Rao's lieutenants Malhar Rao Holkar and Pilaji Jadhav invaded and disturbed the peace of this district. In that year a Maratha force advanced towards Jalesar in Etah district, but it was resisted by Burhan-ul-Mulk with the imperial army and driven back in rout across river Yamuna². In 1739, Nadir Shah, swooped down the plains of northern India and broke the backbone of already tottering Mughal empire. Most of the veteran generals and nobles of the empire like Saadat Khan, Burhan-ul-Mulk, the subahdar of Agra and Avadh, committed suicide and Muhammad Khan Bangash died in 1743, leaving his estates in this region without a good administrator. He was succeeded by his son Kaim Khan and at that time his possession were popularly stated to embrace the whole Ganga-Yamuna doab from Koil (Aligarh) in the north to Kora in south including nearly half of the present Etah district. Such widely extended influence could hardly be looked on with equanimity by the central government which was already becoming weak because of the frequent Maratha inroads in the north and then the subsequent Abdali raids between 1743 and 1750. All these factors had contributed to the dwindling power of the Mughals and had vested the provincial governors with a dangerous degree of power.

In 1748, emperor Muhammad Shah was succeeded by his son Ahmad Shah, who appointed Safdar Gang, nawab-vizier of Avadh as his vizier. The new vizier lost no time in attempting to break the power of Kaim Khan. An opportunity soon presented itself in 1749, when Ali Muhammad, the governor of Rohilkhand, had died, Safdar Gang caused an imperial *forman* to be issued conferring on Kaim Khan, the *mahals* of Buceilly and Moradabad. Kaim Khan playing into the trap laid for him set out for the conquest of his new territories with a large force but was defeated and killed at Kodiganj, on the Ganga by Hafiz Rahmat Khan, a Rohilla chief.³ Safdar Gang at once attempted to seize the Bangash territories in Farrukhabad and adjoining area including Etah, but Ahmad Khan, the son of

Kaim Khan collected his troops and in 1750 defeated Safdar Jang's general Nawal Rai at Khudaganj and the nawab vizier himself at Ram Chatauni between Sahawar and Patali on 23rd September, 1750. However, instead of crushing his enemy which he could have done, the nawab contented himself with the recovery of the territories which had formerly belonged to his family. Safdar Jang availed of this opportunity and called in the help of the Marathas on the promise that would pay Jayappa Sindhia and Malhar Rao Holkar at the rate of Rs. 25,000 per day for their help against the nawab. Ahmad Khan was obliged to retreat to Fatehgarh and later to take refuge in Kumaon hills. There he remained till 1752, when a second invasion of Ahmad Shah Abdali came, the nawab vizier and Marathas both, sued for peace. It was agreed that Bangash territories were to be evicted on Ahmad Khan's undertaking the debt of thirty lakhs rupees due from Safdar Jang to Marathas, ceding as security for the debt sixteen and a half of the thirty three parganas comprised in the Bangash territories.

The management of the whole territory remained in the hands of Ahmad Khan, who paid the surplus revenue, after deducting the cost of management and the pay of the troops, to two Maratha agents stationed at Kannauj in Farrukhabad and Aliganj in Etah district. Payments continued to be made till the battle of Panipat in 1761, when the Marathas left this district as well as the whole of northern India after their defeat, but for a very short time. No list of the parganas ceded to the Marathas is given, but they certainly included parts of the present Etah district for there is a mention of Maratha agent being stationed at Aliganj.

In 1754 nawab vizier of Avadh, Safdar Jang died and he was succeeded by his son Shuja-ud-daula as the nawab vizier. Towards the end of 1756, Ahmad Shah Abdali again raided the plains of northern India and plundered Delhi, Mathura and Agra and parts of Etah in 1757. Before quitting Delhi, Abdali planned and despatched an expedition against the rebellious provinces of Avadh and Allahabad, and in accordance with the Afghan monarch's scheme, Shuja-ud-daula, for various reasons became the first target of this scheme¹. Ahmad Khan Bangash had not yet given up his long cherished desire of adding Allahabad subah to his dominions and, therefore, through his envoy he instigated Abdali to send an army against Shuja-ud-daula. Despite all this Abdali overlooked the ambitious claims of the Bangash chief. Imad-ul-Mulk Ghazi-ud-din was asked to plan an expeditionary force against Shuja with some of the Mughal princes at the head of the army. This army reached Agra on 23rd March, 1757, and crossing Yamuna on 25th at Rajghat ferry, proceeded to the neighbouring city of Mainpuri. Prince Baba (one of the Mughal princes) along with Imad-ul-Mulk Ghazi-ud-din, Khan, Mir-Yahiya Khan and Ahmad Khan Bangash marched on to Kadirganj in Etah district and encamped there, most probably with the object of winning over the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan. But despite all these negotiations Imad-ul-Mulk's campaign against Shuja-ud-daula failed and the Mughal princes had to leave the doab without any success. Shuja-ud-daula also asked for Maratha aid which was readily given to him because of Maratha interests in the doab, particularly in the regions of Etah and Farrukhabad. After minor skirmishes which took place at many places like Kasganj between the rival factions, peace was con-

1. Haig, W. and Burn, R. : *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. IV, (Mughal Period), (New Delhi, 1937) p. 328

2. Srivastava, A.L. : *Avadh Ke Pratham Do Nawab*, (Agra, 1957), pp. 59-60

3. Neave E.R. : *Etah A Gazetteer* (Allahabad, 1911), p. 133

cluded in June, 1757 and Marathas gained their immediate objective of a foothold in doab and they continued to plunder it from time to time. The districts of Etah and Mainpuri were the worst affected areas till 1761 when Marathas for a time were expelled from northern India¹.

The absence of Marathas from northern India helped the English to extend their power from Bengal to Bihar and even up to the borders of Avadh. After the battle of Buxar (1764) Shuja-ud-daula entered into a treaty of alliance with the British in August, 1765 by which the British made Avadh a buffer state to check the Maratha inroads in the central doab (including Etah district).

By 1770, Marathas had recovered after their setback of 1761 at Panipat, and they re-entered doab and recovered their posts of Aliganj in Etah and Kannauj in 1770. In 1772, the Marathas were, however, expelled by Sir Robert Barker and their reverses prompted Shuja-ud-daula in 1774 to round off his dominions by the addition of this region of doab. No opposition was made by the weakened Maratha garrisons to hold it and they withdrew from these districts. The territories of Etah, Mainpuri and other adjoining districts were captured by Najaf Khan who was erstwhile an old foe of Shuja-ud-daula. By the successes of Najaf Khan, Shuja grew apprehensive and hurriedly moved from Etawah towards Agra where he held a meeting with Najaf Khan. Thus, after having reached an understanding with the Khan, he marched to Kauriaganj and occupied Etawah and Mainpuri. Anup Giri Gosain was appointed deputy governor of the entire possessions of the nawab in mid-doab including Mainpuri and parts of Etah, etc., farming out to him for an annual income of fifty one lakhs of rupees, payable in eleven instalments. From this time onwards parts of Etah and other *mahals* of neighbourhood continued to form a part of the dominions of the nawab-vizier of Avadh and the Bangash nawab of Farrukhabad and were finally ceded to the British on November 10, 1801². At the time of take over this territory was governed by nawab vizier's deputy governor Almas Ali Khan. The remaining part of the district was under the Bangash nawab of Farrukhabad and it was subsequently ceded to the British in June, 1802 in exchange for an allowance of Rs 9,000 per month³. This cession of the territory was a landmark in the formation of the North-Western provinces, subsequently called the Agra province. The parganas of the ceded territory of Etah were divided and incorporated in the districts of Aligarh, Farrukhabad and Etawah⁴. A small cantonment was established at Kasganj, but was burnt by a refractory zamindar in 1804⁵. With the outbreak of the second Anglo-Maratha war in 1803, the tract comprising Etah and other parganas was up in revolt against the British rule and the tranquillity of the district was disturbed by Jaswant Rao Holkar. In November, 1804, Holkar's army crossed the north of the district closely pursued by Lord Lake. "So close was the pursuit that the British arrived at Aliganj on the 16th November, in time to find the town still burning. A forced march of 36 miles without tents and baggages brought them to Farrukhabad as dawn was breaking

on the 17th. The surprise was complete¹." Holkar's army was destroyed and he was forced to retire and put to flight across the Mainpuri district². Except for these few years turmoil the district generally remained peaceful after the advent of British rule till the outbreak of the freedom struggle of 1857.

In that year A.L. Phillips and Hall were in charge of the civil government in the district, when on 18th May news of the outbreak of the freedom struggle at Meerut was received. Precautions were taken to guard against any surprise attack by doubling the patrols along the road and arresting all suspected persons and communications were maintained daily with Aligarh, Mainpuri, Agra and Farrukhabad.

All zamindars of influence and character were warned either verbally or through letters and were told to exert themselves to utmost to keep the country quiet and to give the earliest intimation of any outbreak or disorder on the part of the villagers. Almost all the treasure, leaving only a sum for ordinary expenses was sent to Mainpuri³.

The communications with other districts were maintained for two days until on 21st May, 1857, the lines of communications broke off completely. However, on the same day at about 10 p.m., one Junishere Khan, the *jamadar* of the road *chaukis* on Aligarh road reached Etah and told Phillips that a large body of revolutionaries belonging to the 9th Indian Infantry at Aligarh was marching towards Etah.

This news was confirmed by the *havaladar* of the party, and the whole garrison at Etah left the town without making any disturbance. The magistrates of Etawah and Mainpuri were warned against the impending danger. There was no force left in Etah except for twenty five men of the jail guard, and those too, also, showed signs of disaffection. They were grumbling for the payment of arrears of pay. Therefore the Britishers decided to runaway, from the statat on in case the Mainpuri garrison also decided to join freedom fighters. On 22nd May the news arrived that the combined forces of Mainpuri and Etawah freedom fighters had come upto Mallawan a place, 23 km. from Etah. Apprehending the danger to his life, Phillips, the officer-in-charge of Etah fled towards Bilram and halted at Nadrai. There he heard the news that the public buildings and private houses of the British had been burnt, or plundered by one Ram Bahadur and the *Sahis* of the neighbourhood. The market was also looted⁴ and all signs of the British authority vanished. Raja Damar Singh of Etah, did nothing to restore order. Phillips reached Bilram where he was given shelter by some loyal person. The country was in great disorder, and the freedom fighters swarmed all the roads of the district. The disturbances also threatened Kasganj and in order to save that town from falling, Phillips tried to collect some people who were loyal to the British regime. He reached Kasganj on 25th May and found that the freedom fighters had already made an attack on Kasganj and were planning a fresh assault. After some time

1. *Ibid.*, p. 35;

2. Srivastava, A.L.: *Shuja-ud-daula*, Vol. II, (Lahore, 1945), pp. 35, 236, 237, 238

3. Dharma Bhanu: *History and Administration of the North-Western Provinces*, (Agra, 1957), pp. 77-78

4. Neave, E.R.: *op. cit.*, p. 135

5. *Ibid.*, p. 135-136

1. *Ibid.*, p. 136

2. *Ibid.*

3. Rizvi, S.A.A.: *Freedom Struggle in Uttar Pradesh*, Vol. V, Lucknow, 1960 p. 671

4. *Ibid.*, p. 672

he saw that a body of 500 men armed with guns and muskets were approaching the place. A minor skirmish took place outside the city. After this, seeing the impending danger of a fresh attack of the freedom fighters, Phillips marched back to Bilram along with some officials and their families.

The tahsildar of Etah also fled from there and took shelter in Bilram on May 26, Phillips, considering it necessary to protect the town of Kasganj from the attacks of the freedom fighters, established himself at the tahsil building at Kasganj. Meanwhile, the news came from Soron that freedom fighters had plundered that town and had severely wounded the *thanedar* of the place. The following day the jail *najibs* and the mounted police were also showing signs of discontent. They refused to fight for the British and showed definite defiance when they abstained from their duty at night patrol. Fearing a revolt of these people also Phillips decided to leave the place for Budam and on 28th May, he actually left the town and reached Sahawar in the evening. He also sent a request to Bureilly to get some assistance but was told to expect no help because the situation there was even worse. On his return, Phillips heard that Bramly had arrived with some troops at Patiali, which was a body of men consisting of personnel from different regiments, of irregular cavalry. On June 2, Phillips and Bramly were joined by Edwards, the collector of Budam and others who had fled for their lives. Soon the news about the spreading of revolutionary fire started arriving from all parts of the district. Ganj-Dumdwar was sacked and a local Muslim zamindar actively helped in this. By 3rd June, all the neighbouring trans-Gangeic districts were up in open revolt against the British. The presence of a large body of freedom fighters at Kasganj forced the helpless British officials to make a move towards Mainpuri but had to come back to Patiali because of the presence of Lucknow revolutionaries in the neighbourhood of Mainpuri¹. On their way they narrowly escaped from a big body of revolutionaries between Kasganj and Patiali, who were on their way to Delhi. Next, they attempted to march across Rohilkhand, but were repulsed at Kadirganj by the freedom fighters and made their way to Faizgarh. The other party of officials left for Agra, thus, leaving the district without any ruler. The district was now presenting a chaotic condition and all the property and estates belonging to the government and private English individuals were plundered. The district was without a ruler. On 29th June, Damar Singh set himself as an independent raja, in the south of the district.

Another man to declare himself as an independent ruler in the district was Lal Ratan Singh, the agent of the estates of the raja of Rajaur. He established himself at Sakit and began to collect the land revenue. Durjan Singh, the brother of raja Tej Singh of Mainpuri, came to aid him with about 500 men and plundered and seized the British property at Manikpur. Towards the end of July, Hasan Mirza was appointed tahsildar of Etah by the nawab of Farrukhabad and he established himself at Aliganj. He took possession of the revenue records and started ruling the district². A person named Azimullah, who was dismissed

from the British service joined the services of the nawab of Farrukhabad and came to Etah as the police inspector. Thus, by July end, the whole of Etah district came under the sway of the freedom fighters who started ruling the district. The British authority in the region completely vanished and for some time it seemed that it would never come back. In August, 1857, Asad Ali Khan, the zamindar of Sarval in Kasganj tahsil was appointed the tahsildar of Kasganj on behalf of the nawab. In the end of August, Cocks sent one Daud Khan of Bhikampur to hold the neighbourhood of Kasganj for the British government but he too made a common cause with the nawab and deceived Cocks by pleading his inability to expel Asad Ali Khan³. Cocks, with a small force under Major Eld visited the district on his way to Kachhlaghat but he did not interfere with the nawab's force at Patiali. On 18th October, Churcher was appointed deputy collector of Etah and he tried once again to establish British authority in Etah. He was joined by Colonel Ridell's force about the middle of November, leaving the district in the hands of Najaf Khan. But this success of the British was very minor and a short-lived one, and the Pathans of Bhitauna continued the freedom struggle although the resistance was now crumbling. Raja Damar Singh died in the month of December, 1857 leaving the struggle to be continued by the people without any competent leader.

In November, 1857, J.C. Wilson with a small party advanced to Soron with a view to get information about Christian refugees who were waiting to escape from confinement, but the advance of the freedom fighters from Patiali to Sahawar obliged Wilson to fall back upon Gangri. Such serious news of the grave conditions in Etah reached Bulandshahr that, though badly off themselves, they resolved to make a fresh effort to relieve the district. Colonel Farquhar who was in military command advised a move in the direction of Kasganj with a view to hold the freedom fighters in check until the arrival of the column under Colonel Seaton. This small force started early in December by Pindrawal to Atrauli and thence to Chikarra, a small village close to the residence of Daud Khan of Bhikampur. While this force was at this place, the news arrived of Seaton's intended march upon Kasganj by way of Akbarabad. A bloody battle took place on 14th December 1857, between Colonel Seaton and Ismail Khan, son of nawab Walidad Khan at Malsai. The freedom fighters had to bear heavy losses, and thousands of revolutionaries laid down their lives. The British forces occupied Kasganj⁴. The next battle took place at Patiali in which once again the freedom fighters were defeated. In these two battles the Pathans of Bhitauna showed rare courage and determination in facing the onrushing British forces and thus, laid down their lives for a great national cause. The British force under Colonel Seaton and Colonel Farquhar, then marched across the district to Mainpuri and the revolutionary fervour for time was lost. Although the district was now under the control of the British but the unrest in the hearts of people was still there. The revolutionary forces were still occupying the ghats and ferries on all the rivers around the district. They still had thousands of people in their ranks and had plenty of ammunition with them. They still had their fortifications all along these lines upto Ramghat. At Kachhlaghat they had built a fortress, made of bamboos and sand, and in that, they had kept their guns.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 678-679.

2. Neave, E.R. : *op. cit.*, pp. 138-139.

3. Chudhary, S.B. : *Civil Rebellion in the Indian Mutinies*, (Calcutta, 1957) pp. 80-81.

4. Razvi, *op. cit.* p. 680., Neave, E.R. : *op. cit.*, p. 140

2*Ibid.*, pp. 681-682

The *ahirs* of Etah were still unsuppressed and they had still maintained contacts with the revolutionary soldiers across the river. They used to raid the British posts in Etah and caused considerable damage to them. General Penny had tried his best to suppress these revolutionaries but in vain. The villages of Mustafabad and Ori were the main centres of insurrections.

When this last ditch battle was being fought in Etah, raja Tej Singh of Mainpuri crossed Kali river on 10th April, 1858 alongwith his 500 trusted soldiers and raided Etah. On 24th April, Khan Bahadur Khan also came to Etah to exhort and once again raise the doab against the British. He, alongwith the *ahirs* of Etah burnt Kadinganj town. The Britishers tried to grab the *garhi* of famous fighter Ram Ratan but they failed. Another fighter of the district, Nihal Singh also came back to Etah but he was soon caught. Jalesar was once again attacked and plundered by the revolutionaries. Mahmud Ali Khan of Sahawar also died fighting against the British. Another revolutionary Rahim Ali also came to Etah with his followers after crossing the river and attacked Major Waterfield and killed many Britishers, but gradually this last flicker of the revolutionary fire was also extinguished and the British re-established their authority in the district. Many freedom fighters who had not perished were later tried and executed, chief among them being the Pathans of Bhitaura.

Thus, the struggle for freedom ended and all the aspirations of the people were smothered under the heels of British imperialism which started consolidating itself with renewed vigour. But, this struggle had somewhat a sobering effect on the British rulers and they took pains to remove all those evils of state policy which had created discontentment.

The twentieth century began with the growth of nationalism throughout India and Etah was no exception. The youths of the district were seething with discontent against an alien rule. This disaffection found its expression when the Congress party was founded. One of the most prominent leaders of this district was Man Pal Gupta, who in 1907 had left his job in the railways and had joined the Congress and the ranks of freedom fighters under the influence of Lok Manya Tilak. Later on, as an extremist, he actively participated in the Mainpuri-Banaras conspiracy case of 1915-16¹. When the conspiracy was detected by the British authorities, for sometime he remained absconding but was later on arrested and jailed. The first real opportunity of seeing the nation came before him when the Congress launched a nation wide Non-co-operation Movement.

After the Congress-Muslim League Pact of 1916 at Lucknow, Mahatma Gandhi made a whirlwind tour of U.P. and it had a profound effect on the people's mind. The whole district, like other parts of the country, rose against the oppressive British rule. Many people from this district left government jobs and participated in the mass movement. The propagation of the nationalist ideas was carried on in the form of folk songs which were sung by the people in every lane and street. Mass arrests were made and the British jails were full of political prisoners.

1. Gupta, M.N. : *History of the Indian Revolutionary Movement*, (Bombay, 1972) pp. 47-48

Public meetings were held and people were asked to leave the government service, boycott the courts and children were asked not to go to English and government schools. People were also asked to maintain absolute communal harmony and to work shoulder to shoulder for the national cause. Hindi-Urdu schools were opened and panchayats decided the disputes arising between the parties. People also left use of foreign cloth and made a bonfire of it. At the Allahabad session of the working Congress Committee, in 1921, Etah was represented by its leaders¹.

The same year, Jawaharlal Nehru visited Kasganj and inspired the workers. In December 1922, the district political conference took place at Patiali. It was presided over by Pandit Motilal Nehru. No sooner than the Non-co-operation Movement was called off by Mahatma Gandhi in 1922, after the Chauri Chaura incident, the government ordered large-scale arrests of political workers. The local leaders, however, exercised restraint and devoted themselves to constructive activity.

At the 44th Congress session held in Lahore in 1929, the district was represented by its leaders². A historic decision was taken at this gathering that the Indian National Congress should strive for achieving 'Complete Independence' and the people should work for it. The district Congress committee, Etah, chalked out a programme accordingly and intensified its efforts to organise the people. The centre of political activity at this time was Kasganj where salt law was violated for the first time in the district³. Volunteers from all parts of the district would assemble there and prepare salt. One of the centres in Etah town lay in the north of the clock tower, other spots were Kukaoli and Lalgarhi⁴. In the vegetable market of Etah, the police arrested about 70 people found busy in the preparation of salt. They were beaten mercilessly and many were deported to farflung places. A procession consisting of hundreds of women was taken out in the city. The salt movement in the district was organised by the Swarajya Ashram in mohalla Nathuram in Kasganj town with about 2,000 participants. Many batches of volunteers were also sent to Agra and other neighbouring districts in the furtherance of the cause⁵. The nationalist fervour at this time was at its peak with tremendous zeal among the people⁶. While the district was humming with this sort of political activity the police opened fire at Soron in Etah district killing a number of persons. On 12th July, 1930 mass arrests were made and all those suspected of taking part in the agitation were rounded up. Fifteen to twenty persons were sentenced and many were illegally kept under police detention⁷. Some of the volunteers of Etah who were working for the Congress continued their support to the terrorist movement. The Soron incident was such a case which shook the whole district and the memories of which could not be erased from the minds of the public. One of the principal accused in 'the Lahore Conspiracy case, of 1929, also belonged to this district.

1. Nehru, Jawaharlal : *An Autobiography* (London, 1955) p. 71

2. *Swatantrata Sangram Ke Sainik, Etah*, (Iktra) p. Gha

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

6. *Ibid.*, p. Anga

7. *Ibid.*, p. Cha

In 1932, Gandhiji revived his agitation after his release from the jail. Other political determes had also been released under the Gandhian Pact of 1931. A Civil Disobedience Movement was launched and here was a renewed vigour among the people of the district. At this time, Swami Devanand was one of the prominent Congress workers of the district. He announced that on 26th January, 1932, the tricolour would be hoisted over Mehta Library at Etah. The police cordoned the entire area around the library. However, a big procession arrived at the Mehta park as scheduled. The Congress bugle produced a note and a man with the tricolour in his hands was atop the Mehta Library. He raised patriotic slogans, which the people also shouted in symphony. The man who was subsequently taken into custody.

With the lifting of the ban on the Congress party all the district committees were re-organised and revitalised. In 1935, the Government of India Act was passed and the Congress after long deliberations decided to contest the general elections. When the Congress nominee was found leading the other candidates in popular support, the *nazim* of Etah estate created disturbance in the public meeting. The infuriated mob attacked an house of the *nazim* and the district magistrate had to intervene to bring the situation under control. The incident led to the visit of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Aliganj. In these elections both the Congress candidates were returned from Aliganj-Jaithra and Kasganj constituencies respectively. The Congress formed government in nearly all the provinces but with the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 and on the issue of India's participation in it, the Congress ministries resigned. The Congress activity at this time was suspended and the people only offered individual *satyagraha* (agitation). Hundreds of people were imprisoned between 1940 and 1941.

The year 1942, saw new dimensions in the Congress movement when a resolution was passed to ask the British to 'Quit India'.

Though the local leaders had been arrested on 9th August 1942, yet the movement progressed. On 14th August, a huge Congress rally in Etah was lathi-charged by the police. The people in their turn attacked the police and forced them to retreat. Government property, was looted and the post-offices and telegraph offices were burnt or ransacked. The procession then proceeded to the bridge on Kali Nadi where it stopped the trains by placing boulders on the railway, and burnt some of the carriages. Only the armed intervention by the homeguards and the police could bring the situation under control. Thousands were arrested and sent to various jails. The movement because of the police atrocities now shifted to the villages and the dak bungalows, the symbols of British bureaucracy, were burnt. Collective fines were imposed but they could hardly act as deterrents. The movement became more vigorous and every effort was made to paralyse the government machinery. The World War came to an end in 1945 and the British rulers realised that they could no longer rule the Indians at the point of bayonet or guns. They decided to leave India and pave the way for transfer of the power.

¹ Ibid.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., p. 'Ja' Gupta, M.N. : op cit., p. 236

On August 15, 1947, the country and with it the district was liberated from alien rule and declared independent. This august day has since been declared as one of the three National Days of the country. The district celebrates the Independence Day every year in a befitting glee and the people are rejoicing in every home. National flag is hoisted on the collectorate building and on almost all private and government buildings. The district has had its due share in the fight and rejoicings for freedom. The country was free, but before the people could fully enjoy the sense of liberation and victory, they woke up to find that a great tragedy had accompanied freedom by way of the partition of the country into two separate and independent units. About 1,837 displaced persons from Pakistan came down to the district and were rehabilitated.

On hearing the news of the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi (on January 30, 1948), the whole district went into mourning, the markets, offices were closed and several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the Father of the Nation. Though he died, he still lives fresh in the memory of the people and is remembered on October 2, which is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti, in the district as in other parts of the State. On this occasion meetings, discussions and discourses are organised all over the district to eulogise Mahatma Gandhi's deeds. The people also take pledge to serve the nation and follow his way of life.

With the enactment and adoption of the Constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic. The day was celebrated in the district by taking out processions, holding meetings and illuminating houses, shops and government buildings. This day is solemnly observed with enthusiasm every year all over the district as the Republic Day.

The nation always venerated those who had participated in the struggle. On the occasion of celebration of silver jubilee year of Independence in 1973, 236 persons of the district who had taken part in India's freedom struggle or their dependents were favoured with *tamra patras* (copper plate) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears. This is a number which any district can boast of, without exaggerating its role.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

GROWTH OF POPULATION

The decennial growth of district population, and its decadal variation since the beginning of this century, are shown below :

Year	Persons	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation	Males	Females
1901	8,68,804	—	—	4,66,710	3,97,094
1911	8,71,326	+7,522	+0.87	4,74,184	3,97,142
1921	8,29,717	-41,609	-4.78	4,40,138	3,89,579
1931	8,60,485	+30,768	+3.71	4,66,418	3,94,067
1941	9,84,768	+1,24,283	+14.44	5,33,191	4,51,577
1951	11,24,360	+1,39,592	+14.18	6,01,376	5,22,984
1961	12,99,674	+1,75,314	+15.59	6,96,924	6,02,750
1971	15,70,925	+2,71,251	+20.87	8,57,077	7,13,848

Except during the period 1911-1921, when a large number of people were carried away by epidemics, there has been a continuous addition to population. The lowest rate of growth was registered in the decade 1901-1911 and the highest increase in 1961-1971.

On July 1, 1971, the area of the district by the central statistical organisation was found to be 4,449 sq. km. Among the districts of the State, it ranked 35 and 27 in respect of size and population. Some more details of area and population of the district in 1961 and 1971 are given in statement I at the end of the chapter.

The density steadily increased during the last thirty years as would appear from the following table :

Year	Density per sq. km. in the district	Density per sq. km. in the State
1951	254	215
1961	292	251
1971	353	300

In 1971, there were in one sq. km. 402 persons in Kasganj tahsil, 352 in Etah tahsil, 340 in Jalesar tahsil, and 312 in Aliganj tahsil. The

rural average was 320 people per sq. km. and the urban 7,113. The highest rural and urban densities of 353 and 13,338 persons per sq. km. respectively, were noticed in Kasganj tahsil.

Rural and urban population of the district from 1951-1971 is indicated below :

Census year	Rural population			Urban population		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
1951	9,86,006	5,27,387	4,58,619	1,38,345	73,984	64,361
1961	11,74,560	6,29,863	5,44,697	1,25,114	67,061	58,053
1971	14,16,712	7,74,115	6,42,597	1,54,213	82,962	71,251

The higher rate of growth in the cities and towns is reflected by the rise of urban population from 9.6 per cent in 1961 to 9.8 per cent in 1971.

The number of females per 1,000 males was 851 in 1901, 838 in 1911, 847 in 1921, 845 in 1931, 847 in 1941, 870 in 1951, 865 in 1961 and 833 in 1971. It would thus appear that the sex ratio during the decade 1961-71 was the lowest (833.) It was also lower than the State average of 879 during the same period. In 1971 the sex ratio of the district in rural areas was 834.

Population by Tahsils and Towns

At the census of 1971, the district had the four tahsils of Kasganj, Jalesar, Etah and Aliganj and seven towns of Kasganj, Soron, Jalesar, Etah, Marahra, Dundwaraganj and Aliganj. The distribution of population among them is shown below :

Tahsil/local body	Village		Towns	Population		
	Uninhabited	Inhabited		Persons	Males	Females
Kasganj (Tahsil)	34	492	2	5,12,893	2,80,517	2,32,376
Kasganj (Rural)	34	492	—	4,49,273	2,46,379	2,02,894
Kasganj (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	46,467	24,968	21,499
Soron (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	17,153	9,170	7,983
Jalesar (Tahsil)	2	160	1	2,00,230	1,08,670	91,560
Jalesar (Rural)	2	160	—	1,82,143	99,039	83,104
Jalesar (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	18,087	9,681	8,406
Etah (Tahsil)	17	475	2	4,40,810	2,38,343	2,02,467
Etah (Rural)	17	475	—	3,95,799	2,13,851	1,81,948
Etah (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	33,514	18,322	15,192
Marahra (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	11,506	6,170	5,336
Aliganj (Tahsil)	42	397	2	4,16,983	2,29,547	1,87,436
Aliganj (Rural)	42	397	—	3,89,497	2,14,846	1,74,651
Dundwaraganj (Municipal Board)	—	—	1	17,275	9,225	8,050
Aliganj (Town Area)	—	—	1	10,211	5,476	4,735

Immigration and Emigration

The 1961 census revealed that about 86.6 per cent were born within the district, 13.1 per cent in other district of the State, 0.2 per cent in other parts of India and 0.1 per cent in other countries. Among those hailing from other countries 797 from Pakistan, 80 from Nepal, 24 from Burma and 2 each from United Kingdom and United States. Most of the immigrants from Pakistan came as displaced persons. The duration of residence of 59.2 per cent of the immigrants was over 10 years. 88 per cent of immigrants were returned from rural areas. Among them 16.5 per cent were males. The larger percentage of females may have been the outcome of marriage migration.

Of the immigrants from adjacent States 797 persons (males 321, females 476) were from Rajasthan, 765 persons (males 394, females 371) from Punjab and 490 persons (males 167, females 323) from Delhi 163 persons (males 61, females 102) from Bihar. The number of immigrants from other districts of the State was 1,68,657 (males 28,382, females 1,40,275).

A number of persons should have left the district and migrated elsewhere for the sake of education, employment, trade or commerce or for joining with their spouses. Their exact number, however cannot be determined easily.

Displaced Persons

Out of the 1,337 displaced persons who settled down in the district between 1947 and 1950, 1,277 resided in the cities and towns and 560 in the villages. By 1961, their number came down to 797 as the rest had presumably moved to more attractive areas.

Distribution of Rural Population

The rural population in 1971, was divided among villages of different size, in the following manner :

Range of population	No. of Villages	Persons	Males	Females	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6
Less than 200	182	15,819	8,444	6,875	1.08
200—499	428	1,50,215	82,848	67,867	10.60
500—999	481	3,52,125	1,92,695	1,59,430	21.86
1,000—1,999	846	4,90,357	2,67,884	2,22,473	34.61
2,000—4,999	117	3,22,074	1,70,779	1,50,195	28.29
5,000—9,999	11	68,374	37,823	31,051	4.83
10,000 above	1	10,348	5,642	4,706	0.73
Total	1,524	14,16,712	7,74,115	6,42,597	100.00

Of the 1,524 inhabited villages, 558 or 36.7 per cent fall in the group with population below 500; 837 or 54.9 per cent in the 500 and 1,999 group; and 129 or 8.4 per cent in the 2,000 and above group. There is concentration of population in medium-sized villages, which predominate in the district.

LANGUAGE

In 1971, about two dozen languages were being spoken in the district. The Hindi speaking people were the largest with 93.1 per cent representation. Urdu was spoken by 6.7 per cent and Punjabi, Sindhi, Bengali and several other languages shared the rest.

The local dialect which is an offshoot of Braj Bhasha is more akin to the Mathura variety with the difference that the termination 'o' is preferred to 'an' and 'y' is dropped in the past participle. In the urban areas the spoken language has a sprinkling of words derived from Urdu, English etc., and is virtually the Khariboli of the State.

Script

Devanagari is used for Hindi and allied languages Persian for Urdu, and Gurmukhi for Punjabi. In the Indian system of book-keeping by businessmen, Muriya is still in vogue.

RELIGION AND CASTE

In 1971, people were found to profess different religions to the following extent :

Religion	Followers	Males	Females
Hinduism	14,00,398	7,67,317	6,33,081
Islam	1,61,258	84,931	76,327
Jainism	4,184	2,105	2,079
Christianity	3,017	1,574	1,443
Sikhism	1,363	770	593
Buddhism	705	380	325
Total	15,70,925	8,57,077	7,13,848

Statement II given at the end of the chapter shows the rural and urban distribution of each religion.

Principal Communities

Hindus—Hindus constitute 89 per cent of the population. The pattern of society among the Hindus of this district, as elsewhere, is based on the traditional fourfold caste system, the four principal castes being the Brahmana, the Kshatriya, the Vaishya and the Shudra, each

being subdivided into a number of subcastes. There are some other groups which have acquired the status of independent castes, such as the Kayastha, the Khattri etc., being again subdivided into subcastes, though they belong to the mainstream of the Kshatriyas, one of the four major traditional castes.

The traditional distribution of occupations which constituted the *raison d'être* for the four principal castes must be regarded to have been greatly altered. Nevertheless, we can even now broadly identify certain castes or groups with specific occupations. The Vaish of the district are, for example, largely engaged in trade and agriculture and some in money-lending. The Yadavas, and Lodhs, distributed all over the district, constitute the principal cultivating castes. Koris, Chamars and Doms who have been designated as Harijans, are largely labourers both agricultural and non-agricultural. While some of them hold land as tenants, many are engaged in traditional crafts like leather tanning, shoemaking, etc. The Gadarias follow their traditional avocations of herding sheep and goats, though many have taken to cultivation, with moderate success. The other occupational castes are goldsmiths, blacksmiths, coppersmiths, brass-smiths carpenters, traders, cultivators, agriculturists, fishermen, watermen, barbers, potters and earth diggers and stone cutters.

In this district, as elsewhere in the State, the Harijans comprised the lowest strata of society. They are still socially, economically and educationally backward. For rapid development a large number of their groups and subgroups have been classified as the Scheduled Castes and other Backward classes. The distribution of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes in 1971 is given below :

Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Kasganj	88,676	48,517	40,159
Jalesar	41,459	22,554	18,905
Etah	67,123	36,253	30,870
Aliganj	64,309	35,682	28,627
Total	2,61,567	1,42,006	1,19,561

Muslims—At the 1971 census, 1,61,258 persons (84,931 males, 76,327 females) were found professing the Islamic faith. They are numerically next to the Hindus and evenly distributed. Their participation is manifest in almost all walks of life. The majority of the Muslims belong to the Sunni sect, though there are some Shias also. The important groups among Muslims are the Sheikhs Pathans, and Saiyids. The Sheikhs outnumber the others. Some of the important occupational castes among the Muslims are Beluas or Dhuras who are properly speaking cotton carders, Julahas or weavers, the great majority of whom are in the Kasganj tahsil, Bhistis or watermen, Qassabs or butchers, Lohars or blacksmiths, Manihars or glass bangle manufactures, Telis or oil pressers, Bhatiyaras or innkeepers. The number of Bhatiyaras, istis, and Manihars is very small because they are gradually losing

their trade due to the very small number of inns, establishment of water-works, opening of bangle shops and the cotton-weaving machines. These occupational castes are, therefore, shifting to other trades and occupations.

Jains—In 1971 there were 4,184 Jains in the district out of whom 2,079 were women. They are almost entirely confined to the two tahsils of Etah and Jalesar and are chiefly grain merchants.

Christians—There were 3,017 Christians in 1971, 1,574 males and 1,443 females. Generally they belong to Roman Catholic and Protestant sects. They are mostly found in government service. They are most numerous in Etah and Kasganj tahsils.

Sikhs—The Sikhs numbered 1,363, including 593 women, in 1971. They are mostly immigrants from Pakistan. Most of them are found in urban areas and are engaged in various types of trade and commerce and few of them are also in government service.

Buddhists—In 1971, the number of Buddhists in the district was 705 (380 males and 325 females). They are not in any particular profession.

Religious Beliefs and Practices

Hindus—The term Hinduism is most elastic and covers a number of sects and cults, allied but different in many important respects. By and large it is more indicative of a culture and civilization than a mere religious creed. The Hindus of the district practice Hinduism which is a collection of diverse beliefs and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monoism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with *paramatma* (ultimate reality). It includes the worship of deities in their various aspects—spirits and powers of natural phenomena and cosmic forces often conceived as personal beings in the form of gods and goddesses) the chief being Siva and Vishnu and their respective consorts Parvati and Lakshmi, Rama and his consort Sita, Hanuman, Shakti (in her different forms), Ganga, Yamuna, Krishna, Radha and Ganesha and other gods and goddesses as well as spirits of natural phenomena such as streams, trees, rocks and *nagas* (snakes), sun, moon, rain, fire, lightning and wind gods, etc., are also worshipped. Thus, from the crudest forms of animism to the realisation of the ultimate reality the Hindu religion touches the whole gamut of religious experience. Generally every household has a place for worship where the idols of the chosen deity are installed and worshipped. Worship in temples is though not obligatory yet most of the Hindus visit them either daily or on festivals and special occasions. At times *kathas* (recitations) from the Gita, the *Ramcharitmanasa* and other religious texts or *kirtans* (collective singing of devotional songs) are arranged both in temples and homes. The Hindus worship the snake on Naga Panchami (the fifth day of the bright fortnight of Shavana). The *Pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*) and bargad (*Ficus bengalensis*) trees are also sacred to them and they have a traditional reverence for the *tulsi* (*Ocimum Sanctum*) plant, which is kept nearly in every home, usually on an elevated and sacred place. The illiterate and backward sections of the community

are not unoften victims of superstitions and taboos and believe in ghosts and spirits, which are feared and propitiated) and people also have faith in witchcraft and magic. Generally religion and often superstition dominates the lives of most of the Hindus, particularly in the rural areas.

There are a large number of Hindu temples and places of worship in the district, the most worshipped being the temple built by Raja Dilsukh Rai at Etah, and the Chaumunda Devi temple at Nardauli. The temple at Sakit is remarkable for its Saracenic arches supported on slender pillars of richly carved Agra stone. There are two ancient temples at Soron one of Sita-Ramji and the other of Varahji. The latter contains a statue of Varah-Lakshmi and is visited by crowds of pilgrims on the eleventh day of the waxing moon of Agrahayana in remembrance of the boar (Varah) incarnation. The temple of Sita-Ramji contains many inscriptions of various pilgrims who have visited the shrine. As the oldest legible record bears the date of *samvat* 1226 or 1169 A.D. the date of the erection of the temple cannot be placed later than 1,000 A.D.

Muslims— All Muslims accept belief in (i) the unity of God (ii) the divine inspiration of Muhammad and (iii) the origin of the *Quran* as divine inspiration. Similarly all Muslims conform in theory if not in practice, to certain observances binding on all sects, viz., (i) the offering of prayers five times daily (*namaz*) (ii) fasting during the month of Ramadan (*roza*) (iii) the hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca and other holy places (iv) the offering of alms (*zakat*) (v) recitation of the *kalma* (an expression) of faith in God and Muhammad).

The two important sects of the Muslims are the Sunnis and Shias. The Sunni represent the orthodox view. They believe in Sunnat or tradition of the prophet and it is from this that they received this name.

There are many mosques in the district, the important ones being situated at Aliganj, Kasganj, Sakit and Sarai Aghat. A number of Muslims have faith in saints called *pirs* and hold *urs* celebrations at their tombs. There are two *dargahs* (shrines) at Bhargain, one of which is the tomb of a former *pir* of the Chishtis, and the other of some unknown *pir*. Bilkam contains the tomb of Muhammad Makhdam Salauddin Chishti, a fakir. *Urs* celebrations are held at the tomb of Saiyid Ibrahim at Jalesar from the 19th to the 26th of the month of Shaban, seven days after the Sab-e-Barat. At the tomb of a noted fakir, Reta Shah at Qadirganj, an annual fair is held in the month of December. The tomb of Saiyid Shah Barkatullah at Mirahra is honoured by the Muslims. Other *dargahs* of local importance are those of Bara Miyan at Jalesar and of Taj-ud-din at Sahawar.

Jains— The Jains do not admit the divine origin of the Vedas, nor do they believe in any supreme deity. According to them the world consists of eternal atoms; it has existed since eternity and will continue to eternity. They believe in an everlasting abode in which the soul (*Jiva*, meaning life) is delivered from the necessity of transmigration but they do not admit that it is absorbed into the universal spirit. Their worship is directed to the saints, or Jinas, who dwell in the heavenly abode and who are styled *tirthankars*. The images of one or more of these *tirthankars* are placed in every Jain temple for worship. The most impor-



Varah-Lakshmi Statues, Soron

tant feature of Jainism is the sanctity attached to life, the more devout Jains in their efforts to refrain from taking life, sweep the ground before sitting down and wear cloth over their mouths so as to avoid taking insect life; they are strict vegetarians. The two chief sects of the Jains are the Digambars (those going about bare and unclothed) and Svetambaras (the white clad).

Christians—The Christians of the district, like their co-religionists all over the world, believe in God as the sole Father of the universe and in Christ, His son, as the messenger, who came down to the earth to justify the ways of God to men. *The Bible* is the holy book of the Christians which contains two main sections, the Old Testament and the New Testament and the Sermon on the Mount which is one of the most beautiful passages in all religious literatures, and represents the *summum bonum* of Christian ethics.

Sikhs—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, which disavows idolatry and has no caste distinctions. No Sikh is admitted to the privileges of the community until he has received the *Pahul* (baptism), when he adopts the five '*kakars*'—the *kesh* (uncut hair), the *kachah* (short drawes), the *kara* (iron bangle), the *kirpan* (steel dagger), and the *kangha* (small comb worn in the hair).

The teachings of Nanak are contained in the first book of the Adi-granth which with the Dasam Granth or Daswin Badshahi forms the two books on which the faith of the Sikhs is based.

An *Akhand paath* means the uninterrupted reading of the *Granth* by a party, generally four or five of orthodox Sikhs; the reading has to be completed within 48 hours. A *diwan* is a meeting of Sikhs held in connection with religious matters.

Buddhists—The main tenet of Buddhism is that while there is vice in the world, the eightfold middle path of righteousness based on right belief, right thought, right speech, right action, right means of livelihood, right endeavour, right recollection and right meditation, leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and nirvana.

Manners and Customs

Though the external pattern of life of all the communities is becoming increasingly uniform under the socio-economic stresses of modern living, nevertheless, each community has its own particular way of life, distinguished by varying manners and customs. Among all the communities, there is a prescribed ceremony for every important occasion in a person's life from birth to death. Among the Hindus some of important ceremonies are *namkaran* (naming of the child), *mundan* (the first tonsure of the hair), *yajnopavit* or *upanayana* (sacred thread ceremony) *Vivah* (marriage ceremony) and *antyeshti* (death ceremony).

Namkaran ceremony is usually performed on the tenth or twelfth day of a child's birth. A family in which a child is born is considered ceremonially unclean for ten days and the *namkaran* is preceded by a minor purificatory ceremony. The Hindus attach great importance to names. The name or the first alphabet of the name is suggested by the

family astrologer after studying child's horoscope. After the naming ceremony, it is customary for the father to distribute sweets to his friends and relations.

Mundan is very important ceremony. Hindus attach religious importance to shaving which they believe have the power to clean the body and the soul. Generally the ceremony of *mundan* is performed in the third or fifth year.

Upanayana is a vedic ceremony performed to invest the boy with sacred thread. *Upanayana* is an essential *sanskara* or purificatory rite among the higher castes which formally initiates one to *brahmacharya* or the stage of celibacy and studenthood.

Hindus consider marriage as a *sanskara* or a sacrament which calls for the performance of elaborate rites and to enable a person to enter *grahsthashrama* or the house holder's stage. The marriage rites and ceremonies to be performed at the *vivah* or wedding are generally the same among all Hindus, though they may vary in some minor details according to caste and religion. The principal rites commonly in vogue are in order *kanyadan* (giving of the girl in marriage), *vivah* (marriage ceremony), *panigrahana* (acceptance of the hand of the bride by the bridegroom in the marriage ceremony) and *saptapadi* (seven steps taken round the sacred fire).

Hindus cremate their dead, and they perform *shradha* or after death ceremonies for the salvation of the departed soul from the tenth to thirteenth day after death. During the first year, monthly, half yearly and yearly *shradhas* are also performed.

The chief Muslim ceremonies are *Akika*, *bismillah*, *nikah* and death ceremony.

On the seventh, fourteenth or twenty-first day after child's birth comes the purely Muslim rite of *akika* which has two parts, namely, the shaving of child's head and the killing of one or two goats.

Bismillah ceremony which consists of taking of the name of God, is performed when a child is made to repeat, after the priest, the opening chapter of the *Quran* and the relatives are feasted to commemorate the occasion. The *khatna* (circumcision) takes place when the boy is six or seven years old.

A Muslim marriage lasts for two three days. The *kazi* (Muslim Judge) asks the bride's agent whether he accepts so and so as her husband in consideration of *mehr* (dower) as decided. If she assents, he records the declaration of two other witnesses. He then follows the same procedure in case of the bridegroom.

The Muslims bury their dead. The duty of helping at the funeral and praying for the departed soul is solemnly enjoined on all Muslims and is carefully observed by them. *Ziarat* ceremony is performed on the morning of the third day. Relatives are also feasted on the tenth and fortieth day. The relatives of the deceased abstain from taking part in any festivity for 40 days after death, the period and intensity of mourning depending on the persons, relationship with the deceased.

The main ceremonies of Christians are baptism, confirmation, marriage and death. When a Christian dies the corpse is well washed and neatly dressed and placed in a coffin box. The priest offers prayers in the house of the deceased on behalf of the departed spirit. The body is then taken to the church to be buried in the cemetery and hymns are sung before the body is buried.

Intercaste Relations—As in other parts of the country, intercaste relations were very rigid nearly a generation ago. The members of different castes and subcastes lived in watertight compartments where such matter as intercaste dining and intercaste marriages were concerned. Gradually, particularly after Independence, changes have started breaking down the old orthodoxy. Intercaste dining is no longer looked upon with disapproval by the Hindus in the district, more so in the towns, though the restriction still persists in the rural areas. Intercaste marriages take place very occasionally and many of the traditional restrictions regarding marriage based on caste are gradually disappearing as a result of the spread of education, the influence of western culture, the equality of the sexes and the gradual removal of disabilities from which women suffered in the past.

New Religious Leaders and Movements Arya Samaj—The Arya Samaj is a protestant and reforming movement within the Hindu Church and originated in 1869 being founded by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. The Arya Samaj Philosophy is monotheistic and professes to be a reversion to the religion held by the early Aryans in the time of divine revelation. The objective of the Samaj has been the reform of the Hindu faith and the accommodation of the masses in national religion freed from rigid ritual but incorporating certain platitudes to which the more educated Hindus can subscribe without misgiving. It condemns idolatry, *shradha* ceremony and early marriage and are opposed to caste system. They admit women to a higher status of life.

Radhasoami—There are in the district also some followers of the Radhasoami sect which is a offshoot of the *bhakti* cult of Hinduism but is appreciably different from that religion. It is open to people belonging to any caste religion or walk of life. The *Satsangis* (followers of the *Sangha* or order) believe that the true name of the Supreme Being is Radhasoami, that the universe has three divisions—the spiritual, the spiritual-material and the material-spiritual and that the four essentials of religion are *sat-guru* (the true teacher), *sat-shabd* (the true word), *satsang* (the true order or association) and *satanurag* (true love).

FESTIVALS AND FAIRS

Hindu festivals are almost numberless, practically every village has its local god and nearly every great character, mythological or real, has developed into a deity, every remarkable object has required a divine connection, thus a continual round of functions and festivals is enjoined. A detailed list of festivals is being given at the end of the chapter.

The chief Hindu festivals are, in chronological order of the English calendar year, as follows:

Makar Sankranti is the first day of the solar month of Magha (about the middle of January) and is timed by the entry of the sun into capricorn. Bathing in sacred rivers is obligatory and special value is attached to bathing at the *Triveni* at Allahabad. The sun is worshipped and alms and gifts are distributed to the poor.

Mauli Amavasya falls on the 15th day of the dark half of Magha (about the end of January) and attracts the largest number of pilgrims to the Sangam at Prayag (Allahabad). Silence is observed by the orthodox until they have bathed in a river.

Vasanta Panchami is the 5th day of the bright half of Magha (at the end of January or early in February) and is considered to be the first day of spring. It is sacred to the memory of Kamdev, the Hindu god of love. On this day Siva burnt Kamdev, who had been sent to him by the gods so as to tempt him to marry Parvati and thus beget a son to destroy a powerful demon. Kamdev discharged an arrow at Siva who was engaged in meditation and at this Siva became so enraged that he glared at Kamdev with the third eye and reduced him to ashes; Siva and Parvati were duly married later. This day is also an important bathing day of Magha and all Hindus observe it as far as possible. They usually colour their food with saffron and wear yellow cloth to represent the ripening of the spring crops and sing songs of love commonly connected with the spring. The Bengalis style this festival as the *Saraswati Puja* and dedicate it to the worship of Saraswati and her image is taken in procession to the nearest sacred stream and immersed there.

Magha Purnima falls on the full moon day of the month of Magha, and closes the bathing festivals of that month. On this day it is believed that the gods go back to their celestial dwellings after their last bath at the *sangam*.

Sivaratri falls on the 13th day of the dark half of Phalguna, and the ceremonies take place chiefly at night. Tradition has it that Siva was married to Parvati on this day. Bathing fairs are held in the morning and fast observed during the day; at night hymns in praise of Siva are sung. This day is considered particularly sacred by the Arya Samajists as Swami Dayanand is supposed to have renounced his disbelief in gods and images on this day.

Holi festival starts with the Rang Ekadeshi (about the middle of March) which is the 11th day of the bright half of Phalguna and ends with the Rang Panchami, which is the 5th day of the dark half of Chaitra. This is a spring festival of the Hindus. The popular basis of the present day celebrations rests on a legend regarding a female demon named Holika (from which the name Holi has been taken). The legend connects Prahlad's devotion to Vishnu and his subsequent escape from death at the hands of Holika who was instigated by her brother Hiranyakashyap the demon king and father of Prahlad, to get rid of his devout son through a fire ordeal. In commemoration of this episode bonfires are lit followed by merry-making and feasting. The throwing of coloured powder or *colution* is a special feature of the festival. Embracing each other is a common sight on this occasion.

Rama Navami falls on the 9th day of the bright half of Chaitra (towards the end of March or the beginning of April). It is celebrated as the birthday of Rama. Temples are decorated and the image of Rama adorned; the *Ramayana* is recited in temples and in houses of the Vaishnavas.

Navaratra festival is observed twice a year, once in Chaitra (April) and once in Asvina (October), and lasts for nine days in honour of the nine manifestations of goddess Durga. During this period the devotees of Durga fast, Brahmins and children are fed and prayers offered for health and prosperity.

Ganga Dasahra falls on the 10th day of the bright half of Jyaishta (early June) and celebrates the flowing of the sacred Ganga at the request of Bhagirath an ancestor of Rama. This is an important day for bathing in the river Ganga.

Rath Yatra falls on the 2nd day of the bright half of Asadha (early July). The principal deity taken out in a car processions is termed Jagannath represented as without hands.

Naga Panchami is celebrated on the 5th day of the bright half of Sravana (early August). Bathing fairs are held on the banks of sacred rivers as well as at the shrine of the snake gods. However, the age-old custom of feeding the snakes on this occasions gradually declined, due to the impact of rapid education, mostly in urban areas particularly after the achievement of freedom in 1947.

Raksha Bandhan falls on the full moon day of the month of Sravana (about August). On this day a *rakhi* (amulet) is tied round the wrist of brothers by their sisters as a protection (*raksha*) from evil. Some take a bath in the holy rivers. Hariyali Teej is a famous festival of ladies. It is celebrated in the month of Sravana. Women and girls sing folk songs. Swinging (indulged in particularly by women and children) is also popular on this occasion.

Janamastami is the birthday of Krishna and it falls on the 8th day of the dark half of Bhadra (about August). A full day fast is observed on this day, which is broken at midnight, when the birth of Krishna is believed to have occurred. Temples are decorated for the occasion and rejoicings take the form of music, the ringing of temple bells and symbols and blowing of conch.

Anant Chaturdasi falls on the 14th day of the bright half of Bhadra (about September), and is held in honour of Ananta (the infinite), the king of the serpents on whom Vishnu rests, during the intervals of creation. A half day fast is observed and bathing is enjoined.

Pitri Visurjana (or Mahalaya Amavasya) falls on the last day of the dark half of Asvina (about September). It concludes the fortnight styled the Pitri Puksha of which each day is sacred. *Shradha* ceremony is performed during the fortnight.

Dasahra or the 10th day of the bright half of Asvina (October) marks the close of rains and the four months' absence of the gods, and is the

opening of the period of joyful festivities. The festival celebrates the victory obtained by Rama over Ravana and during this period the Ramhila drama (based on the Ramayana) is played. Among Bengalis the festival is dedicated to the goddess Durga and processions with her images are taken out. On the fourth day of the first half of Kartika, Karwa Chauth, is celebrated by married women who undertake whole day fast for the well-being of their husband. Some among them do not even drink water and they break their fast only after seeing and worshipping the moon.

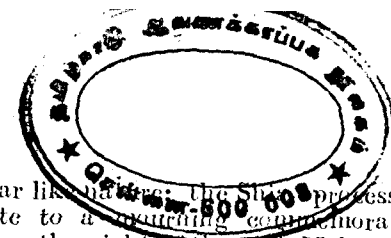
Divali, or Dipavali meaning "a row of lights" is a three-day festival commencing with the Dhan Teras on the 13th day of the dark half of Kartika (October-November) followed next day by the Naraka Chaudas, and on the 3rd day by the Divali proper. The festival is dedicated to the worship of Lakshmi (the goddess of wealth) and is a picturesque one; a general cleaning up takes place, houses are freshly plastered and receive their annual white washing, new utensils are purchased, it is auspicious to check accounts and open new ledgers. On the Divali day itself lamps are burnt and gambling is also indulged. Among the Arya Samajists the day has special significance as the anniversary of the death of Swami Dayanand.

Bhaiyyaduj is celebrated on the second day of the bright half of Kartika. On this day sisters put a *tika* (small red mark) on the forehead of their brothers and wish them long life and prosperity. They prepare special dishes for their brothers and sometimes give them presents receiving presents from them in return.

In addition to these regular festivals it must be noted that every eclipse (solar or lunar) is of universal significance and Hindus are enjoined to stand praying in a sacred stream during the time of eclipse for the deliverance of the celestial god (the sun or the moon as the case may be). Also regular bathing days are observed in each month; amongst these is the Amavasya which falls on the 15th day of the dark half of each month; when this coincides with a Monday the day is specially important. The full moon day of each month, Purnima, is also a day of fasting and bathing, as is also the Ekadasi which is the 11th day of each fortnight of the month. In daily life many functions have to be observed in connection with ancestor worship and chief amongst these is the *shraddha*, which is the ceremonial oblation in honour of a deceased.

Muslim—The principal Muslim festival and fasts are, in chronological sequence, briefly described below:

The Muharram is observed in commemoration of the massacre of Husain and his followers at Karbala in Iraq, by Shias and sunnis alike as a period of mourning; lasting for ten days. The Shias who perhaps attach greater value to Ali as a Khalifa than the Sunnis, observe this commemoration with fervour. During the first ten days they hold *majlis* (mourning meetings) in their houses and Imambaras, but both communities take out processions with *tazias* (replicas of the tomb of Husain) and *alam*s (replicas of the flag of Husain), on several of these days, especially on the 10th Muharram, when the *tazias* are conveyed to the local Karbala and the tops of them are buried. The Sunni processions sometimes, develop into spectacular displays with gymnastics, sword



play and other features of a war like nature; the Shias' processions are more dignified and appropriate to a mourning commemoration. In general, the processions finish on the night of the 10th Muharram.

Chelhum means the 40th day. On the death of any Muslim, mourning is observed for a period of 40 days. The Chelhum following the death of Husain, that is the 40th day after the 10th Muharram, is commemorated each year, especially by the Shias. On the Chelhum Shias take out *alam* processions to the local Karbala. The Sunnis do not attach the same importance to the festival, nor do they hold *majlis* during the 40 days as the Shias do; on the Chelhum itself they do not take out processions, but hold a *majlis* only.

The Barwafat falls on the 12th day of the month of Rabi-al-awwal and commemorates the birth of the prophet and also his death, but especially the former. The festival is celebrated by *milad* gatherings by the Sunnis; houses are decorated and friends visited; at the *milad* gatherings, which are held in the evening, a Maulvi discourses on the life of the prophet, and at the conclusion sweets are distributed. The Shias, however, do not recognize this date as the anniversary of the birth of the prophet, who according to them was born on the 17th Rabi-al-awwal.

Sab-e-Barat falls on the night of the 14th of the month Shaban. The Shias hold that Iram Mehdi was born on the early morning of the 15th Shaban and on that date they believe that God and the prophet sum up the future year and allot rewards or punishment to each person. The sunnis hold the same celebration in commemoration of the ceremonies performed by the prophet on that day, which he set apart for feeding the poor, visiting the graves of the dead and invoking divine blessings on their souls; he is reputed to have spent this night in prayer and meditation; they also hold with the Shias that this night is a night of divine record and allotment for the coming year. Special sanctity is attached to this night throughout the Muslim world. Both Shias and Sunnis illuminate their houses, set off fireworks and distribute sweetmeats; an underlying idea in the festival is desire to remain awake throughout the night so as to receive the full benefit of the divine blessings allotted on this night.

Ramadan is the month of fasting. The last Friday of this month is styled *alwida* and on this day presence at the mosque is essential, where a special sermon is delivered. It is claimed that the *Quran* was revealed in the month of Ramadan. The fast is observed daily from sunrise to sunset; after evening prayers a meal is taken and then congregational prayers are offered in the mosque at which a part of the *Quran* is read each night; on the conclusion of the reading of the *Quran*, the mosques are illuminated and sweets offered, but this is done by sunnis only. Devout Muslims do not take even water from sunrise to sunset during this month.

The Id-ul-Fitr is the first day of the month of Shawwal and celebrates the breaking of the fast of Ramzan; the festival continued for two days and is celebrated with great rejoicings. At about 10 in the morning the Muslims gather at the Idgah where congregational service is held in thanks giving of the successful conclusion of the fast and a sermon is delivered. Felicitations then follow and on return to their

homes all feast and engage in visiting friends and relations. The giving of alms on this day is imperative.

Il-uz-Zila or **Bikrid** fall on the 10th day of the month of **Zilhijja**. The festival commemorates the offering of Isaac by Ibrahim (the Bible story of Isaac and Abraham). The offering is perpetuated by the sacrifice of some animal. The flesh of the animals sacrificed is distributed to the poor and the hides sold and the proceeds devoted to charity. The sacrifice (*qurbani*) takes place usually on the 10th of the month though the Islamic law allows this to be done on the 11th and the 12th of the month; if for any reason, it cannot be carried out on the 10th. Prior to the sacrifice, the Muslims attend the mosques for prayers. The time for the sacrifice is usually the morning, though it is permissible throughout the day. On the 9th day of **Zilhijja**, the **Haj** ceremony is performed.

The 11th day of **Rabi-us-Sani** is known as the **Gharlwin-Sharif** and **Sranis** keep this day in memory of Sheikh Abdul Qadir Jilani of Baghdad; **milad** (birth) gatherings are held in memory of his birth. The 26th, 27th and 28th of the months of **Rajab** are also sacred to the memory of the prophet and on these days **milad** gatherings are held.

In the district fairs are held at the tomb of prominent religious persons, these fairs are styled **urs** (anniversary).

Jain—The Jains in the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of Parshvanath and Mahavira, their twenty-third twenty-fourth, *tirthankaras*. The other important festivals of the Jains are the **Paryushan**, the last ten days of **Bhadra**, and the **Anthanika** the last eight days of **Kartika**.

Christian—The main festivals of the Christians are New Year's Day on the 1st of January each year, Good Friday, the day of Jesus Christ's crucifixion, Easter which is the day of his resurrection, and Christmas, the birthday of Jesus Christ, which falls on the 25th December. On Christmas people attend service in churches and exchange greetings and presents. On Christmas eve scenes from the nativity of Christ are enacted and cribs are set up in the churches where people, particularly children look to see.

Sikh—The Sikhs celebrate the birthdays of their gurus, Nanak Dev, Teg Bahadur and Govind Singh. Portions from the Granth are read, congregational prayers are held at **Gurdwaras** and processions taken out. On **Baisakhi Sankranti**, the origin of the **Khalsa** is commemorated. Guru Govind Singh assembled his followers on this day at the **Baisakhi** fair at Anandpur and tested them by demanding a human sacrifice from them; five of his followers offered themselves and these, after a theatrical demonstration of blood, were restored to the assembly after initiation into the **Pahul** ceremony. On this day, each year the **akhand path** (started two days earlier) is concluded.

Buddhist—The principal festival of the Buddhists is the **Buddha-Purnima** on which day Buddha took birth, got enlightenment and attained nirvana. On this occasion the Buddhists worship in their temples and recite verses from *tripitaka*.

A list of festivals (Statement III) and another of fairs (Statement IV) will be found at the end of the chapter.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

In matters of inheritance the Hindus, Sikhs and Jains are governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1955, the Muslims by their personal law and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act, 1925. Before the enforcement on July 1, 1952 of the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act No. 1 of 1951) right to inherit agricultural land and property was exercisable according to the provisions of the U.P. Tenancy Act, 1900 and the personal law of the individual concerned.

Joint Family—In this district, as in other parts of the State, the institution of joint family, which has been a characteristic feature of Hindu society since ancient times, is breaking down owing to economic and social factors, the impact of modern ideas and the individualistic outlook of the younger generation. The rapid industrialisation and urbanisation, the increasing demand for labour and the expectation of better wages in the urban areas have also accelerated this disintegration.

Division of property during the life time of the patriarch is becoming common.

MARRIAGE AND MORALS

The statement on the next page shows the distribution of the population of the district according to marital status in various age groups in 1971.

Hindus—Among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere in the State, marriage is still a sacrament, its rites being prescribed in the scriptures and to some extent by custom and tradition. A few variations in the performance of the different rites from caste to caste or even from family to family within a caste may occur.

According to Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, the marital age was 18 years for the bridegroom and 15 year for the bride but in the event of the latter not having completed the age of 18 years, the consent of the guardian had to be obtained. The age has recently been raised to 21 and 18 by the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978, which came into force with effect from March, 1978. Under Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, polygamy among the Hindus is illegal. In this context the term Hindu includes Jains and Sikhs. The customary restrictions generally observed by the people of the district, such as those on marriages between persons of the same *gotra* (eponymous group descended from a common ancestor in the male line of descent) have been abolished with the passing of the Act and now inter-caste and inter-sub-caste marriages and marriages among parties of the same *gotra* are not rare. Both law and custom prohibit *sapinda* (literally having same *pinda* or funeral cake; an agnate within seven generations) marriages among the Hindus. The restrictions regarding endogamic marriages are not as rigid as they were in the past. Generally marriages are arranged by the parents, the

Age group	Total population	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced or separated		Unspecified status	
		Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-9	4,92,177	2,66,257	2,25,920	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	1,86,565	1,03,387	73,277	2,655	7,056	25	5	—	20	—	140
15-19	1,21,059	45,743	9,886	23,129	41,821	270	175	10	25	—	—
20-24	1,13,603	16,539	625	40,983	54,391	725	320	—	20	—	—
25-29	1,12,941	10,428	65	46,156	54,131	1,311	835	5	10	—	—
30-34	93,540	8,175	55	35,417	46,093	1,920	1,870	—	10	—	—
35-39	1,00,923	5,285	10	50,110	40,982	2,425	2,091	—	10	10	—
40-44	74,407	4,890	25	36,857	25,852	3,709	3,054	10	10	—	—
45-49	68,031	3,124	110	27,287	30,842	3,184	3,519	5	10	—	—
50-54	61,538	2,861	35	25,793	17,836	3,184	8,307	—	10	—	—
55-59	38,099	2,346	5	15,100	10,852	6,696	5,866	—	—	—	—
60-64	48,654	1,945	15	19,197	9,318	3,930	12,332	—	10	10	—
65-69	19,929	740	—	6,564	5,100	5,827	4,739	—	—	—	—
70 and above	39,409	1,320	—	12,388	3,115	2	13,013	—	—	—	—
Age not stated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	15,70,925	4,78,040	3,10,028	3,41,636	3,47,389	42,351	56,156	30	135	20	140

bride's side approaching the bridegroom's (sometimes through intermediaries). A number of ceremonies differing from caste to caste and place to place precede the nuptials. *Kanyadan* (giving a way of the bride) and *bhanyar* or *saptapadi* (seven steps taken round the sacred fire) are essentials of every Hindu marriage.

Muslim—Islam permits polygamy to the extent of keeping four wives at a time. The Islamic marriage is a contract and every Muslim of sound mind who has attained puberty may enter into such a contract but a marriage of such a Muslim is void if it has been brought about without his consent. The amount of dower (*mehr*) may be fixed before at the time of or after the marriage. The essentials of a Muslim marriage are that there should be a proposal by or on behalf of one of the parties and an acceptance by or on behalf of the other in the presence and hearing of two men or a man and two women witnesses who must be sane and adult Muslims (but according to Shias, the presence of witnesses is not necessary in any matter regarding marriage). The proposal and acceptance both must be expressed at one meeting. The custom that prevails in the district is that after the settlement of the marriage, the *sagai* or *mangni* (asking for the bride) takes place. The marriage ceremony (*nikah*) is performed by the *qazi* in the presence of witnesses. Among the Shias one *maulawi* from each side participates in performing the marriage instead of the *qazi*.

Christians—According to the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended by Act of 1952 the minimum marital age for the boy and the girl are 18 and 15 years respectively. The age has recently been raised to 21 and 18 by the Child Marriage Restraint (Amendment) Act, 1978, which came into force with effect from March, 1978. The marriage customs of adherents of different denominations in the district usually follow the same general pattern. The marriage may be contracted by the parties concerned or may be arranged by their relatives. The period of engagement, which precedes the marriage, may be long or short. The banns are published three times (once every week) by the priest of the church where the marriage is to be solemnised, to invite the objections if any. On a fixed date the marriage ceremony is performed in the church by the priest. The essential parts of it are the giving away of the bride by the father (or other relative or friend), the repeating aloud after the priest, of the marriage vows by the bride and bridegroom, the placing of the ring by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand (sometimes the bride and the bridegroom exchange rings at this time), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the priest and the signing of the marriage register by the couple and their witnesses.

Dowry—With the passing of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, offer and acceptance of dowry has become illegal but as an age-old practice the evil persists in almost all sections of society.

Civil Marriage—The Special Marriages Act, 1954, provides for marriage to be performed and registered by a marriage officer appointed by government for the purpose. In this system the parties give one month's notice before the proposed date of marriage to the marriage officer in indicating their intention of marry. The notice of marriage is exhibited on the notice board of the marriage officer or of the deputy

commissioner for objections if any. After the expiry of the period of objections if no valid objection is held, the marriage is performed and registered. The parties sign the register and receive marriage certificates from the marriage officer.

The number of civil marriages performed in the district between 1973 to 1977 was 68, their break-up being 19 in 1973, 22 in 1974, 8 in 1975 and 10 in 1976 and 9 in 1977.

Widow Marriage—The Hindu Widows Remarriage Act, 1856, provides for the remarriage of a widow. Even before that widow marriages were performed by the Arya Samaj according to Vedic rites. However the incidence of such marriages is very small, particularly among the higher classes.

Divorce—Among the Hindus the dissolution of marriage once performed was not permissible except among the Scheduled Castes and that too with the sanction of the panchayat. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, made divorce legal under certain conditions and circumstances. The Muslim law permits the husband to divorce the wife on payment of *mahr*. The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, gives under certain conditions, the right to the wife to claim dissolution of her marriage. The India Divorce Act, 1869, is applicable to all civil marriages and generally to the Christians. Nevertheless, among the higher classes instances of divorce are still rare.

From 1970 to 1974, 21 cases of divorce are referred to court and divorce was permitted in all the castes.

Economic Dependence of Women and Their Place in Society—Despite noticeable change in the economic status of women, the broad picture is that they continue to be dependent on men, as most of women regard marriage and motherhood as their natural career. Nevertheless, there are many who, from economic necessity or individual conviction, seek employment. The professions into which the largest number of such women enter are teaching and nursing, though they are found in appreciable numbers in other professions also. With the liberalised laws of inheritance, the economic status of women in the society has generally improved. The introduction of universal adult suffrage, and the special interest the State is taking in the advancement of women, are factors contributing to the uplift of women as useful members of modern society.

Among the poorer classes women work in large number as daily labourers both agricultural and industrial, and cases of the economic dependence of men on such women are also not rare. However it must be conceded that a large proportion of women are unemployed primarily due to lack of opportunities.

Prostitution, Traffic in Women—The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, was enforced in 1956, in the district. In this district there have been no prosecutions for prostitution and for traffic in women in recent years, nor is there any centre, here where such activities are carried on.

Gambling—The Public Gambling Act, 1867, as applicable to the State under the Uttar Pradesh Public Gambling Acts of 1952 and 1961, prohibits gambling in the district. It is usually indulged in as an innocuous pastime throughout the year. The number of prosecutions launched and persons convicted in the district was 37 and 22 in 1970, 51 and 37 in 1971, 52 and 33 in 1972, 20 and 12 in 1973 and 33 and 27 in 1974 respectively.

Home life.

The statement on the next page shows the classification of households by their size and tenure-status in the district :

Types of Dwellings—There is vast difference between the shape, size and durability of residential buildings in the rural and urban areas of the district.

In villages, small one-storeyed structures are most common. The walls are generally constructed of mud or unbaked bricks plastered inside and outside with clay, and bearing thatched or tiled roofs. In 1971, 64.4 per cent rural houses had unbaked brick walls. The poor generally live in congested and insanitary surroundings. In such areas where community development schemes have been implemented, ventilators, bathing platforms, improved cattle sheds, better drainage, etc., are to be seen. A single door is provided which acts both as entrance and exit. Ventilators and windows are to be rarely met with. The accommodation is scanty and the covered space usually consists of a room sometimes with a drak cell inside and verandah opening in the front. Sometimes a side room is added to serve the dual role of a lounge, study and office. A courtyard, however, is a must for every house. The entire accommodation is multi-purpose with little privacy for individual life. Such dwellings cannot be considered as comfortable or hygienic from modern standards. Despite these shortcomings these houses are usually kept in a tidy state.

In the towns one generally comes across pucca houses built of kiln-burnt bricks with lime or cement plastering and stone, lime-concrete or ferro-concrete roofs. Steel suspensions are fast replacing the wooden beams. The dwellings consist of several apartments each earmarked for a specific purpose and provided with adequate ventilation and ingress.

Furniture and Decoration—In rural houses, string cots, *takhts*, *morhas*, *chaukis*, and mats common pieces of furniture that are generally found. Kitchen wares consist of brass, aluminium and iron utensils. Water or grain is stored in earthen pots and tins. Glazed pottery is scarce and glass vessels are rarely used. The only decoration that the eyes may catch are caricatures and geometrical figures on the walls in dark shades. Occasionally printed images of deities framed or otherwise adorn niches. Houses in urban areas possess all sorts of modern furnishing items of furniture, kitchen ware, crockery and decorative pieces.

Dress—The normal dress of the men, both Hindus and Muslims is shirt or *kurtia* and dhoti or pyjama. While going out, however, they put on trousers with coat, shirt or bush-shirt, which has become the dress of working classes. Once back home they revert to the normal dress. On formal occasions, men wear coats, *sherwanis* or *achahans* and trouser,

Total District	Tenure status	Total No. of census house-holds	Households having number of persons					No. of persons unspecified
			One person	Two persons	Three persons	Four persons	Five persons	Six and more persons
Rural								
District	Owned and rented	2,70,660	13,610	20,705	28,355	38,840	42,335	1,26,810
								5
	Owned	2,59,335	12,005	19,525	27,065	37,365	40,795	1,22,575
	Rented	11,325	1,605	1,180	1,290	1,475	1,540	4,235
Rural	Owned and rented	2,44,720	11,865	18,610	25,705	35,815	38,925	1,13,795
								5
	Owned	2,41,795	11,195	18,265	25,405	35,425	38,540	1,12,960
	Rented	2,925	670	345	300	390	385	835
Urban	Owned and rented	25,940	1,745	2,095	2,650	3,025	3,410	13,015
								—
	Owned	17,540	810	1,260	1,660	1,940	2,255	9,615
	Rented	8,400	935	835	990	1,085	1,155	3,400

churidars or loose pyjamas. In villages men still wear turbans or put on caps. The normal dress of women consist of the sari and blouse or *choli* i.e. short blouse. The Punjabi women, however put on *salwar*, *kurta* and *dupatta*. Some Muslim women still wear *churidar* pyjama or *gurara* with *kurta*, and *dupatta*. In the towns of the district, young girls are seen wearing shirt and slacks, *salwar* *garara* or *sharara* with *kurta* and *dupatta* and recently bell-bottomed pyjamas with *kanizes* (shirts). The use of *lahanga* (full long shirt) lingis among the women of the villages or on ceremonial occasions in Hindu families.

Ornaments—Gold and silver ornaments continue to be favourite of, and in good demand, both by the town and the village women showing little change in their pattern except that the heavier articles like *hansula* (heavy necklace), *kardhani* (gold or silver waste band), are being gradually replaced by the articles of lighter weight of new and improved designs.

The article most commonly in use and demand are *bunda* or *jhumki* (ear-ring) *kara* or *payal* (anklets), *keel* or *nath* (nose stud and nose ring); *anguthi* (finger ring), *bichhia* (toe ring) and *pachhaila* (wristlet).

The local goldsmiths meet most of the demand for the above articles. The use of ear-rings by the male persons has considerably declined.

Food—The staples consumed by the people of district are wheat, jowar, maize and *bajra*, the last three being coarse grains are generally eaten by the poorer sections of people. The pulses generally favoured are *urd*, *moong*, *chana*, *masur* and *arhar*. Mostly Hindus of the district are vegetarians by habit and preference. Muslims, Christians and Sikhs are generally non-vegetarians.

COMMUNAL LIFE

Amusement and Recreation

Kabaddi, *gulli danda*, *gulhar*, *choon-ghora*, cards, etc. are the indigenous games and sports commonly played in the district. The village folk generally look for recreation during the rainy season, and in winter nights, when they are comparatively free. They sing folk-songs, called *Dhola*, *Rasia*, holi and devotional hymns, to the accompaniment of handy musical instruments like *dholak* and *majira* and often harmonium too. Among the modern games volley ball, foot-ball, hockey, cricket, badminton and tennis are popular.

The people with religious bent enjoy *kathas* and *kirtans*. Puppet shows are held in winter mostly and are largely attended.

There are 7 cinema houses in the district with a total seating capacity of 4,420. Documentaries and feature films are screened by mobile units in the rural areas. Drama troupes and circuses sometimes visit the district providing thrilling amusement. *Dangals* (wrestling matches) *nautankis* (indigenous open-air dramatic performances), *bhajans* and *qawwali* programmes, *kavi-sammelans* and *mushairas* are also arranged at different places from time to time. At local fairs swings, children's carnivals, magic shows, etc. entertain the masses. *Ramlila* and *Krishnalila* provide amusement in their own way.

Recently, radio has become the greatest source of mass education and entertainment. The All India Radio broadcasts special programmes for the rural listeners. Radio sets were provided by the government to the panchayats on nominal charge the idea being that they would serve not only as a medium of a healthy entertainment to the rural folks but would also contribute to their economic betterment by educating them on the improved techniques of agriculture as well as other allied activities. Interesting cultural programmes for the youth, women and children, are organised by the Yuvak Mahila and Bal Mangel Dals, in the development blocks.

Impact of Zamindari Abolition on Social Life

The U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, (Act No. 1 of 1951), came into operation in the district on July 1, 1952. It brought about significant changes in the social and economic life of the people. The rural elite which consisted mainly of the zamindars who had been exploiting actual tillers of land for the last several centuries, is now replaced by a community of progressive farmers sowing land and cultivating it with full vigour, adopting modern practices. Not only the per capita farm produce has increased but the general prosperity of the people has also improved, manifesting itself in better food, costly attire, and richly furnished dwellings.

New educational institutions are coming up rapidly through voluntary efforts to combat illiteracy which had impeded social and economic growth. The rural society is undergoing a fast transformation to meet fresh challenges of life, successfully.

STATEMENT I

Area and Population

Reference Page No. 39

District and Tahsils	Area in square kilometre		Population					
	1971		1961		1961			
	1	2	3	4	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
District total	4,449.0	4,448.1	15,70,925	8,57,077	7,13,848	12,99,674	6,96,924	6,02,750
Rural	4,427.3	4,426.4	14,16,712	7,74,115	6,42,597	11,74,560	6,29,863	5,44,697
Urban	21.7	21.7	1,54,213	82,962	71,251	1,25,114	67,061	58,053
Kasganj total	1,276.6	1,274.8	5,12,893	2,80,517	2,32,376	4,28,480	2,30,174	1,98,306
Rural	1,271.8	1,270.0	4,49,273	2,46,379	2,02,894	3,75,656	2,02,050	1,73,606
Urban	4.8	4.8	63,620	34,138	29,482	52,824	28,124	24,700
Jafesar total	588.7	588.5	2,00,230	1,08,670	91,560	1,59,971	85,985	74,806
Rural	586.4	586.2	1,82,143	99,039	83,101	1,44,995	77,634	67,361
Urban	2.3	2.3	18,087	9,631	8,456	14,976	8,081	6,945
Etah total	1,250.7	1,247.1	4,40,819	2,38,343	2,02,476	3,59,605	1,91,963	1,67,642
Rural	1,240.3	1,237.7	3,95,799	2,13,851	1,81,948	3,24,436	1,72,898	1,51,538
Urban	10.4	10.4	45,020	24,492	20,528	35,169	19,065	16,104
Aliganj total	1,336.2	1,337.7	4,16,983	2,29,547	1,87,436	3,51,618	1,89,122	1,62,496
Rural	1,332.0	1,333.5	3,89,497	2,14,846	1,74,651	3,29,473	1,77,281	1,52,192
Urban	4.2	4.2	27,486	14,701	12,785	22,145	11,841	10,304

STATEMENT II

Reference Page No. 42

Population according to Religion and Scheduled Caste, 1971

Religion/Scheduled Castes	District total	Rural total	Urban total
1	2	3	4
Hindu	14,00,398	12,94,489	1,05,909
Muslim	1,61,258	1,17,182	44,076
Jain	4,184	1,732	2,452
Christian	3,017	2,304	713
Sikh	1,363	459	904
Buddhist	705	546	159
Scheduled Caste (included above under different religions)	2,61,567	2,41,569	19,998
Total population	15,70,925	14,16,712	1,54,213

STATEMENT III

List of Festivals

Reference Page No. 54

Name of festivals	Date or occasion	Observed by a particular community
1	2	3
Anant Chaturdashi	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 14	Hindu
Vaisakhi Purnima	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Varawafat	12th of Rabi-ul-awwal	Muslim
Bargadee Amavasya	Jyaistha, <i>krishna</i> 30	Hindu
Vasanta Panchami	Magha, <i>sukla</i> 5	Hindu
Bhaiya Dooj	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 2	Hindu
Buddha Jyanti	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Chelhum	20th of Safar	Muslim
Chhoti Diwali (Naraka Chaturdasi)	Kartika, <i>krishna</i> 14	Hindu
Christmas	25th December	Christian
Devuthan Ekadashi	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 11	Hindu
Dhan Teras	Kartika, <i>krishna</i> 13	Hindu
Dipavali	Kartika, <i>krishna</i> 30	Hindu
Durga Navami	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 9	Hindu
Easter	First Sunday after Good Friday in April	Christian
Ganesh Chaturthi	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 4	Hindu
Ganga or Jeth Dasahra	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10	Hindu
Good Friday	On the Friday in April	Christian
Gopastami	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 8	Hindu
Goverdhan Puja (Annkoot)	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 1	Hindu
Guru Nanak's Birthday	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Guru Purnima	Asadha, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Holi	Phalguna, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Harchatya (Halshasti)	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 6	Hindu
Hartalika Teej	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 3	Hindu
Id-ul-Fitar	1st of Shawal	Muslim
Id-uz-Zuha	10th of Zilhijja	Muslim
Janamastami	Bhadra, <i>Krishna</i> 8	Hindu

1	2	3
Kartika Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Karwa Chauth	Kartika, <i>krishna</i> 4	Hindu
Mahavira Jayanti	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 18	Hindu
Makar Sankranti	January 14	Hindu
Muharram	10th of Muharram	Muslim
Naga Panchami	Sravana, <i>sukla</i> 5	Hindu
New Year's Day	1st January	Christian
Pitra Visarjan Amavasya	Asvina, <i>krishna</i> 30	Hindu
Raksha Bandhan	Sravana, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	Hindu
Sakat Chauth	Magha, <i>krishna</i> 4	Hindu
Sab-e-Barat	14th of Shaban	Muslim
Sharad Purnima	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 15	Hindu
Sitala Astami	Chaitra, <i>krishna</i> 8	Hindu
Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	Hindu
Vijaya Dasami (Dasahra)	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10	Hindu

STATEMENT IV

Fairs

Reference Page No. 53

Place	Name of fair or its association with	Date	Average daily attendance
1	2	3	4
TAHSIL KASGANJ			
Kasganj Municipal Board	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 8-10	4,000
Manpur Nagaria	Deviji	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	1,000
Nadrai	Bhimsen	Chaitra, <i>Krishna</i> 9	1,000
Rayon	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>Sukla</i> 8-10	4,000
Sahawar	Urs	January 5	500
Sahawar	Kanslila	Bhadra	2,000
Sidhpura	Deviji	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 8-9	600
Soron Municipal Board	Marg Shri	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 11	10,000
TAHSIL JALESAR			
Awagarh	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	5,000
Jalesar Municipal Board	Urs	March 21-28	27,000
Jalesar Municipal Board	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	10,000
Jalesar Municipal Board	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	1,000
Shakroli	Jain Rath Mela	Chaitra	3,000
Sheikhupur Rajmal	Jain Rath Mela	Chaitra	2,000
Tikathar	Cattle fair	Agrahayana <i>Krishna sukla</i> 2	1,300
TAHSIL ETAH			
Chaprai Sikanderpur	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	600
Etah Municipal Board	Ramlila	Asvina	10,000
Jhinwar	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	700
Jinehra	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	500
Maharhra Municipal Board	Ramlila	Asvina	3,000
Phapotu	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	700
Rasulpur	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	900
Rijore	Deochhat	Bhadra, <i>sukla</i> 6	500

1	2	3	4
Rijore	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	500
Sakit	Ramlila	Asvina	2,000
Sena Kalan	Sivaratri	Phalguna, <i>Krishna</i> 18	500
Sonsa	Parson	Bhadra, <i>Krishna</i> 6 Phalguna, <i>sukla</i> 18	5,000
Sonsa	Sivaratri/ Phalguna	<i>Krishna</i> 18	5,000
TAHSIL ALIGANJ			
Aliganj Town Area	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	10,000
Dundwaraganj Municipal Board	Ramila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	7,000
Jaithra	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	8,000
Kakora	Nartiki	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	15,000
Kakrala	Devi Sheor	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 15	4,000
Patiyali	Ramlila	Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 1-10	5,000
Shikandarpur	Deochhat	Phalguna, <i>Krishna</i> 6	600

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

LAND UTILISATION AND RECLAMATION

In 1971, the total number of workers in the district was 4,01,413. Of these 3,69,222 constituting about 91.98 per cent, were engaged in agricultural pursuits, either as cultivators or as agricultural labourers.

Cultivated Area

The statement below gives the figures of the net *i.e.* purely cultivated area in the district in the years 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Cultivated area (hectares)	Per cent of total area
1951-52	3,13,840	70.7
1961-62	3,08,465	69.4
1974-75	3,08,785	70.1

Culturable Land

Forest land, groves, fallows, waste lands like pastures and land generally classified as unculturable due to sand or *reh* (alkaline soil) or ravine scouring or overgrowth of *baisuri*, kans, *dhak* and other pernicious vegetations constitute the culturable land. An idea of this type of land in the district may be had from the following data :

Year	Culturable land (hectares)
1951-52	89,764
1961-62	94,764
1974-75	87,968

Such land in 1974-75 included 4,283 hectares of forests, 6,117 hectares of groves, 45,613 hectares of culturable waste, 1,090 hectares of pasture, besides fallows measuring 30,865 hectares. Barren and *usar* land constituted 13,521 hectares and the total area of land that was either under water or put to non-agricultural uses, *e.g.*, roads, habitation sites, grave-yards, etc., accounted for 33,394 hectares.

Precarious Tracts

Though the district lies on the Ganga watershed, the area that drains directly into this river is small, consisting only of a strip not more than 9 km. in width. In this tract the drainage is excellent, the Ganga forming an efficient outlet for any quantity of rain water. The same cannot be said for the section of country to the south. Here the watershed lies about 3 km. south of the old high bank of the Ganga and the only outlet on the north is the Burhganga which is unequal to the task of carrying off a heavy fall. The Burhganga is the old and abandoned bed of the Ganga. The old high bank locally known as *pahar* has an average height of about 6 metres above the lower plain, rising at times to 9 to 12 metres and varying considerably in appearance at different places. Sometimes it descends with a gentle slope to the lowlands, into which it imperceptibly disappears, at others it rises abruptly like a wall, or juts out into the plain like the bastion of some huge fort. The Burhganga is sluggish and tortuous blocked in many places by sand-spills and weeds. This totally disables it to cope with a rainfall above the normal, and therefore floods are common and of long continuance, and the lands in its neighbourhood are liable to waterlogging. A lot has been done by the irrigation department to improve the drainage of this stream. Its bed has been excavated and straightened and the weeds are regularly cleared.

The rest of the northern portion of the district drains into the Kali Nadi which is capable of dealing with considerable volumes of water, and would give little trouble where the drainage approaches to it better. These approaches are very unsatisfactory, consisting of shallow, ill-marked depressions, tortuous and obstructed by numerous ridges of sand. The result is that in years of heavy rainfall water collects in depressions, spills from one to the other, destroying in its course the crops in the intervening lands, and instead of passing away to the river is absorbed in the sandy subsoil, where it accumulates, causing a serious rise in the spring level. The extreme variations to which the level of this subsoil water is liable may be illustrated by the example of pargana Sahawar. In 1840, the level was from 3 to 4 metres below the surface, by 1874, it went down to 6 metres and by the close of the century water was within nearly 1.5 metres of the surface and the lower parts of the pargana were flooded. Much has been done since then to improve the drainage. On the extreme west a cut has been made from the Burhganga to the main stream of Ganga through Alipur and an embankment thrown across the former at this point. A series of cuts have also been made connecting all the large depressions in the terai with the Burhganga, whose channel has been straightened by cutting across various bends while sand-spills and weeds have been cleared away.

In the upland (the area between the old high bank of the Ganga and the crest of the Kali Nadi bank) several elaborate schemes of drainage have been carried out. The most westerly is the Jhabar system, which starts near the junction of pargana Pachlana with pargana Bilram, and serves both these parganas, discharging into the Kali Nadi at Barai Khera in pargana Sahawar. The Murahra drain improves the country lying to the west of the lower Ganga canal. The Sidhpura drainage works serve southern half of Sahawar and Sidhpura pargana. The Mohanpur system deals with the west of Sahawar and the north and east

of Sidhpura and Patiali, discharging into the Kali Nadi near Dhumri. Another drain, part of the Mohanpur system, taps the numerous swampy depressions in the west and centre of pargana Azamnagar, discharging into the Kali Nadi near Panjri. The Bighri system carries off the very complicated drainage of the north and east of pargana Azamnagar. South of the Kali Nadi the natural drainage is more efficient but here also some improvements have been effected. The notable ones are the digging and straightening out of the bed of the Isan and Karan Nadi and the drainage works in the neighbourhood of Etah town itself, the Sikan-dra Rio drain, the Kurera cut leading into the Rind, the Basundra and Jhinwar cuts, and the Bharpur drain which discharges into the Sengar in Azam district. The Hiraundi-Panwar drain, the Kartala drain, the Kanoi and the Berauli and Milak Benchra drains which relieve the obstructed drainage along the Bewar branch of the Ganga canal in pargana Etah-Sakit.

Two noxious weeds which the cultivator has most reason to fear in the district are *kans* and *baisuri*. The former is too well known to need any description. Always dormant in the soil, especially throughout the northern portion of the district, its roots only await saturation of the surrounding earth which so quickly results here from continuous heavy rain to spring into luxuriant life and cover the whole countryside with a perfect sea of dense green vegetation with which the plough can not hope to contend. Nothing indeed seems to be of much avail against it until the return of drier seasons and the consequent sinking of the water level to deprive its roots of that plentiful moisture without which they can not thrive. The only remedy against *kans* seems to consist in the removal or mitigation of the conditions which are necessary to its growth and by better drainage to prevent the subsoil from becoming saturated when the rainfall is in excess. *Baisuri* or *baisurai* is fortunately not found to any extent except in the west of the Jalesar tahsil and in pargana Nidhpur at the opposite end of the district, where it is locally known as *sorai*. It is a small branching shrub, up to 3 metres in height, with a woody stem and a tap root which penetrates to the ground to a great depth. In Jalesar, as in Mustafabad tahsil of the adjoining Mainpuri district, it is found to flourish most where the well water is brackish. Its prevalence is also related with the depth of water in the soil. Where the level is low *baisuri* abounds, diminishing as the level rises until it disappears altogether. It has been invariably found that in years of drought, when the level of water naturally sinks lower down, the *baisuri* flourishes exceedingly, and that every year it dies down and disappears with the arrival of the monsoon. It is, therefore, the Rabi harvest which is most seriously affected by it, the Kharif escaping almost entirely. Cattle do not relish it and its only economic value is as fuel in its dried form.

Other areas still waiting to be reclaimed are the stretches of treeless waste or the *dhur* south of the Burhganga and the *usar* tracts forming a striking feature of the landscape in the north of Jalesar tahsil, the whole of terai of the Burhganga, several villages in the east of Nidhpur and large parts of pargana Narahra. In the *usar* the soil is impregnated with certain salts of Sodium, principally the carbonate, whose efflorescence covers the surface with white impalpable *reh* which gives these dreary plains their characteristic appearance.

According to a recent survey of the district, undertaken by the government, the total area affected by soil erosion comes to about 77,950 hectares. The catchment areas of three rivers, the Kali Nadi (nearly 47,100 hectares), the Barhganga (nearly 24,576 hectares) and the Sengar (nearly 6,272 hectares) comes under it. The soil conservation scheme was launched in the district in 1968-69. Under it, operations like bunding, levelling, construction of out-lets in the fields, contour ploughing and sowing of cover crops, construction of check-dams, etc., are undertaken. From 1968-69 to 1974-75, the total area of land covered by soil conservation measures was 6,745 hectares.

IRRIGATION

After the advent of the canals since 1854, the district is well provided with means of irrigation. Few districts are more completely protected, every pargana receiving canal water except those in the Ganga-Barhganga terai, where it is not needed. Besides the canals irrigation is practised from wells, tanks, *jhils* and rivers. But these sources have dwindled in importance with the coming of the canals and are very now much less used than in former years. An unsatisfactory feature of the canals has been that in years of scanty rainfall, there is a short supply of water in them due to the low state of the Ganga and also due to the diversion of its water in the canals to the less favoured districts lower down the doab. The Ramganga project taken up in 1962 and nearing completion and the Tehri project taken up recently, are meant not only to augment the supply of water in the canals but also to increase the number of branches and distributaries in the district. Wells and tube-wells constitute major and more reliable sources of irrigation as a result their number is quite numerous in the district.

Numerous streams and nullahs existing in the district have been the sources of irrigation since time immemorial through hand-operated water lifting devices like *paira* (leather bag or bucket), *dhenkli* (pot and lever apparatus), *rahat* (Persian wheel) and *dal* (basket made of bamboo or wide leather bag). *Paira* involves a large leather bag or bucket fastened to the end of the rope which runs over a pulley, the other end of the rope is attached to the yoke of a pair of bullocks, which are driven down a sloping run from the well, the driver sitting on the rope to give additional momentum to the descent of the oxen. Besides the two men employed at the well, a third known as *panmela*, is required to distribute the water over the fields. The *dhenkli* can be used only when the water is very close to the surface and is the usual method employed for irrigation from *jhils* or tanks. There is a long beam working in a forked post as a fulcrum. The short end is weighted with a stone or else a clod of earth, and to the longer end is hung a vessel. The operator draws down the long end until the vessel reaches the water. It is raised by the weight of the short end and water is emptied into the channel carrying it to the field. The *rahat*, *rahent* or *rhent* consists of a chain of pots attached to each other and worked over a wheel, the pots ascending and descending alternately. It is suitable for places where the sub soil is sand and water close to the surface. The method most commonly employed when water has to be raised from tanks, *jhils*, rivers or canal channels at too low a level to permit of flow irrigation (*tor*), is known as *dal* or lift. A basket usually

made of bamboos, or a wide leather bag with an iron rim, known as *paroya* or *lendi*, is used. Four ropes are attached to this bag or basket, which are held by two or four men who station themselves on either side of the basin from which the water is to be raised. A swinging motion is then given to the basket; the water from the basin is caught up in it and thrown into a small reservoir above, from which it runs off to the fields. In the last two decades the government has completed a number of irrigation schemes like the construction of State tube-wells, improvement of existing canal channels and construction of new ones, besides taking up of a gigantic programme of minor irrigation works in the district.

The statement given below shows the net irrigated area in the district in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Net irrigated area (hectares)	Per cent of net cropped area
1951-52	1,49,405	47.7
1961-62	1,30,578	42.8
1974-75	2,00,138	64.8

Means of Irrigation

The figures in the statement below show the extent of net area irrigated from the wells (including tube-wells), canals and other sources in 1951-52, 1961-62 and 1974-75 :

Year	Area irrigated from all kind of wells (hectares)	Area irrigated from canals (hectares)	Area irrigated from other sources (hectares)
1951-52	64,977	79,069	5,359
1961-62	62,051	63,498	5,028
1974-75	1,30,071	66,735	3,332

Wells in the older sense are fast losing their worth. Formerly wells, both *pakka* and *kutcha* formed a characteristic feature of the landscape in the rural areas. The *kutcha* wells seldom last more than a single year, going down during ensuing monsoon, save in the rare instances where they are sunk in very firm clay or an underlying bed of *kankar* has been bored. In most places it is necessary to strengthen the sides by a lining of *arhar* stalks or bamboo, which are formed into a crude cable coiled round the inside of the well so as to prevent the earth from being washed away. Such lining may take the form of coils of twigs (*bira*), wattle cylinder (*budjhar*) usually made of *amarisk* or rough planking (*kothi*) of *dhak* wood. When bricks take the place of planking in the *kothi* well it is called *garh* well. The *pakka* (masonry or half-masonry) wells have a shaft of brickwork set in mud. Till nearly two or three decades back

the kutchha wells were quite numerous, but their uneconomic nature has resulted in the increased number of pakka wells in recent years. The following data regarding the wells both kutchha and pakka being used for irrigation in the district is interesting :

Year	Number of wells	
	Pakka	Kutchha
1951-52	21,047	8,653
1961-62	22,235	1,945
1974-75	35,775	678

Since the fifties of the present century the tube-wells have given a new, scientific and more economic shape to the well irrigation system. Besides the government taking up programme of constructing State tube-wells, financial assistance to the cultivators is provided by the government, the commercial banks, co-operative institutions and numerous other quasi-government financial corporations for private-pumping sets and Persian wheels for the wells. There were in all 228 State tube-wells in the district in 1970, out of which 203 were in running order. They provided irrigation to an area of 54,497 hectares in that year.

Small private irrigation works generally classified under the minor irrigation works programme have been initiated in the district since 1951 and by the end of 1974-75 the details of works completed in the district were 33,976 masonry wells, 6,914 private tube-wells (both oil and electricity driven) and 20,376 Persian wheels.

Canals — The Ganga canal originating from river Ganga at Hardwar was for the first time opened in 1854 and its two bifurcations, the upper Ganga canal and the lower Ganga canal serve the district through the Kanpur and Etawah branches, a short length of the Anupshahr branch stemming from the former and the Farrukhabad and Bewar branches of the lower Ganga canal. The main line of the lower Ganga canal serves more as a supply channel to its offshoots, the Farrukhabad and the Bewar branches than as an irrigation channel in the district.

Of the three branches of the upper Ganga canal which flow through this district the most northerly is the Anupshahr branch which entering from Aligarh district in pargana Bilram of this district tails into the main lower Ganga canal after a course of about 10 km.

The Kanpur and Etawah branches cross the district from west to south-east at a distance apart of about 6 km. and have each a total length in the district of about 17 km. The Kanpur branch, the most northerly of the two, has its entire course in pargana Marahra. The total length of all the branches of the upper Ganga canal and their distributary channels in the district in 1976 was 634 km.

The main lower Ganga canal enters the district in its north-west corner about 3 km. west of the Barhanga in pargana Pachlana and running nearly due south for about 53 km., flows out into the Mainpuri district, close to Bharehra in pargana Marahra.

The Farrukhabad branch leaves the main canal (lower Ganga) in pargana Pachlana and has in this district a length of 75 km., running through parganas Pachlana, Soron, Sahawar, Patiali and Azamnagar it passes into Farrukhabad district.

The Bewar branch, which takes off from the main canal just above Asadpur, has a length of nearly 40 km. in the district all in pargana Eah-Sakit. The Hathras branch canal, opened for irrigation in 1912, irrigates small western part of Jalesar tahsil comprising the dry brackish water tract where wells are of no use.

The total length of all the branches of the lower Ganga canal and their distributary channels in the district in 1976 was 337 km.

The Agra canal also serves a small area in the portion of the district adjacent to Agra district and its total length including the distributary channels in the district in 1976, was 70 km.

AGRICULTURE INCLUDING HORTICULTURE

Land and Soils

The district is divided into two sections by the Kali Nadi, flowing from north-west to south-east. The river Kali Nadi, the Ganga and the Barhanga (an old bed of the Ganga), govern the physical characteristics of the country. Generally speaking it may be said that the area to the south-west of the Kali Nadi, consisting of Jalesar and Etah tahsils and comprising rather less than half of the total area, is a fertile tract of stable cultivation, while the northern portion, which includes the tahsils of Kasganj and Aliganj is the very reverse, being subject to remarkable vicissitudes of fortune and sensitively responsive to any abnormal variations of season and rainfall. There is also a general tendency towards deterioration from west to east throughout the district.

There are four distinct tracts, first the lowlands between the Ganga and its old high bank; second upland between that bank and the crest of the Kali Nadi bank; third the valley of the Kali Nadi; and fourth the tract south of the Kali Nadi.

The soils in the first generally known as terai, comprising the parganas of Faizpur-Badaria, Aulai and Nidhpur, more than half of the pargana of Soron, about a third of Patiali and portions of Pachlana, Sahawar and Azamnagar parganas, are of an alluvial character, differing from the soils of the upland in that they apparently contain a larger admixture of vegetable matter. Even where the proportion of the sand is high they are soft to the touch and resemble rather artificial soils, the composites of the gardener, than natural earth. The high proportion of the vegetable matter enables them to grow relatively richer crops than the soils in the upland. Wheat, for instance, is constantly grown in

soils which in other parts of the district would be regarded as too sandy for it. The most valuable of the terai soils is the rich soft loam found along the edge of the Ganga, the distinguishing feature of which is that it will grow sugar-cane without any irrigation. Similar but a bit less valuable soil is met with along the edge of the Burhganga. Between the two level is higher and the quality of the soil deteriorates from north to south, being very sandy just above the Burhganga. South of that stream there is a considerable stretch of very poor soil, either wind-blown sand or barren *usar*; but nearer the high bank there is a great improvement and there lies lowlying and rich soil usually under sugar-cane in the west of the district and wheat in the east.

The subsoil throughout the tract is sand, the pure white sand of the Ganga bed and the fertility of a given tract depends more upon the depth than the quality of the alluvial deposit over and above the subsoil.

It is more convenient to use for the upland the term central doab. It comprises the major portions of the parganas Pachlana, Bilram, Soron, Sahawar, Sidhpura, Patiali, Barna and Azamnagar. The character of the soils in this tract depends largely upon the distance between the Kali Nadi and the old high bank of the Ganga. The crest of the rivers is marked by a belt of sand and as the rivers meander closer to each other these sandy ridges stretch out as though to join hands, forming an almost continuous sea of sand. Where, on the other hand, they diverge, the sand seems to shrink in, and the centre of the tract is occupied by a level plain of loam. The subsoil here is nearly everywhere sandy and consequently natural irrigation is deficient.

In the third tract *i.e.* the valley of the Kali Nadi whose width varies according as the descent to the lowland is gradual or abrupt, there is often found a kind of steppe between the crest of the bank and the valley bottom. The soil on these steppes, though sandy, is usually very fertile and capable of good cultivation. The lowest portion of the valley is usually that at the foot of the high bank where the soil is always rich but liable to swamping because of the numerous natural drainage channels. Almost universally the soil on immediate margin of the stream is a good loam, well raised and not too stiff, and this belt is commonly the best portion of the valley. The whole valley is, however, liable to flooding when the river rises with heavy rain, and the autumn crops are rarely grown. The flood usually recedes out well in time to permit of sowing for the spring harvest, and the crops are luxuriant.

The fourth tract lying to the south of the Kali Nadi comprises parganas Jalesar, Narahra and Etah-Sakit, major part of Sonhar and a portion of pargana Bilram. A distinguishing feature of this tract is that there is total absence of sandy soil and thus it is by far the richest portion in the district, as also the most stable. The prevailing soil is a good loam, and the barren area consists almost entirely of *usar*. Towards the Isan in the south, the soil becomes stiffer and clay is more frequent. The Isan, in fact, marks the centre of Kali Nadi-Yamuna doab and the southern portions of pargana Jalesar begin to feel the influence of the latter river. The subsoil in most parts is generally firm so that irrigation is easy. The weed *baisuri* also makes its appearance in the south-west, which is thus markedly poorer than the rest of the tract.

For the purpose of assessing and settling land revenue, the soils of the district were classified in the beginning of the present century. This classification has generally closely adhered to the traditional, local distinctions of the soils and the same holds true even today. The most highly-rated soil is the rich and well-manured belt immediately surrounding the village site, known as *gauhan*. In the western parganas a second zone outside this, called the *manjha*, is recognised. Elsewhere the *gauhan* was subdivided into two grades. For the outlying tracts the natural division into *matyar* or clay, *dumat* or loam, and *blur* or sand, is adopted. There is a variety of rich loam found in the Ganga *khadir*, the lowlands of the Kali Nadi and the Burhganga, generally known as terai. The most valuable of the terai soils is the rich, soft loam called by the name of the *katra*.

Being situated in the Gangetic doab the predominant soil in the district is the alluvium deposited by the Ganga and its tributaries. The parent material is, in general, calcareous and the native vegetation consists of shrubs and low grasses. The soils are neutral to moderately alkaline and calcareous, and have, sometimes, well-developed clay accumulation horizon in the subsoil.

In the *usar* and tracts affected by *reh*, the characteristic feature of the soils is the presence of high content of soluble salts and or high percentage of exchangeable sodium. The calcium carbonate cemented pans are also a common feature of these soils.

Soil survey organisation of the State agriculture department conducted a soil survey of the district in 1951-53, according to which the district is broadly divided into five physiographic soil regions, the Ganga *khadir*, the Ganga terai, the eastern upland, the southern lowland and the western upland. Resulting from the influence of watersheds of the Kali Nadi, the Ganga and its old bed, the Burhganga, and the topographical position of the above five regions, five soil associations types have been identified which are given in the following statement:

Soil region	Soil association type	Textural name
Ganga <i>khadir</i> , Ganga terai	Etah type 1	Ganga loamy sand
Eastern uplands	Etah type 2	Etah loam
Southern lowland	Etah type 3	Etah clayey loam
Western upland		
(a) Ganga alluvium	Etah type 4	Etah sandy loam
(b) Yamuna alluvium	Etah type 5	Yamuna sandy loam

The broad differential characteristics of the above mentioned five major soil types are given in the following statement :

Particulars/textural name	Etah type 1 (Ganga loamy sand)	Etah type 2 (Etah loam)	Etah type 3 (Etah clayey loam)	Etah type 4 (Etah sandy loam)	Etah type 5 (Yamuna sandy loam)
Profile development	Immature	Slightly mature	Mature	Mature	Mature
Colour	Brownish grey to yellowish grey	Brownish grey to yellowish grey	Ash grey to grey	Brown to reddish brown	Light grey to grey
Texture	Sandy to loamy sand	Sandy loam to loam	Loam to clay loam	Sandy loam to sandy loam	Sandy to sandy loam
Concretions	Nil	Brown nodules present	Kankar nodules present	Brown nodules in lower layers	Nil
Cementation	Not cemented	Weakly cemented below	Indurated below	Not cemented	Subsoil compact
Consistency	Loose	Slightly hard below	Very hard	Loose	Loose
Sesquioxides	Low : irregular distribution	Average : slightly illuviated	Average very slightly illuviated	Average : marked illuviation	Low : Illuviation
Lime	Average to high fused	Low : average below	High : more towards bottom	Low throughout	Average throughout
Magnesia	Average to high less than lime	Average : more than lime	High : more than lime in the upper layers	Average : more than lime throughout	Average : slightly more than lime
PH	Slightly alkaline	Low to slightly high	High	Medium	Medium to high
Clay	Low : negligible in lower depths	Low to medium slightly illuviated	High : very slight displacement	Low : illuviated	Low : illuviated
Drainage	Imperfect	Fair : External drainage restricted	Impeded	Excessive	Slightly restricted

The five soil associations (types) are described as below :

Etah type 1 (Ganga loamy Sand)

The soils recognised as Etah type 1 occur in the tracts located mostly along with the river Ganga approaching Burhganga, which is an intermittent stream flowing in the old and abandoned beds of the Ganga. The water table in the whole area is high except in places lying on comparatively high lands on the crest of the watersheds.

The soils in these areas are of a very recent origin and have been deposited by the Ganga while receding from south to north. The soils are very light and shallow overlying Pure Ganga sand. They are newly laid out alluviums and soil forming factors have not yet been able to play their full part in establishing very definite horizons. The colour, in general is grey on the surface while lower layers tends to be lighter grey. Texture of the surface soils in general is loamy sand but becomes coarse sandy below. The PH values of these soils vary between slightly to mildly alkaline due to their comparative richness in bivalent cations. Salt efflorescence is noticed in depressed areas near the river where the water table is very high. The salts consist mostly of bicarbonates and chlorides and unlike the *reh* deposits found further inland, are only very slightly alkaline. C-N ratio is about 7 on the surface, but decreases slightly with depths.

The water soluble salts like high carbonates are found in the second and the third layers and also in terraces. Sulphates are conspicuous by their absence. The salt accumulation is, however, noticeable in small depressional pockets near the Burhganga due to very high water table. The exchange status of these soils is low as expected of light textured soils, but the complex is highly saturated with bivalent cations.

Etah type 2 (Etah loam)

The soils constituting this type are found to occupy the country between the old crest of the Ganga bank in the north and the Kali Nadi in the south, except for the immediate neighbourhood of soil boundaries and some other interspersed scattered spots. The crest of Kali is also marked by high lying sandy belts. As the tract between the Ganga cliff and Kali Nadi broadens out the soils improve in texture. In the north-west where the tract is narrowest sandy soils predominate and even sandhill formations can be found; while in the south-east where the distance between the two rivers increases, soils with loamy texture predominate. Taken as a whole soils with loam texture with heavier subsoils dominate the area although lighter texture soils with sand deposits can also be found which seem to have been formed as a result of the deposits laid down by sand-borne winds from the two rivers.

The colour of these soils is mostly light grey to brownish grey with occasional yellowish tinge in the lower layers. The soils are neutral in reaction except for interspersed depressional areas, not a few in number which contain alkaline soils. The soluble salts, composed mostly of bicarbonates with some chlorides and sulphates are average to slightly light in the upper regions. Carbonates are absent except in low lying areas where infestation with *reh* may be encountered. Total exchange capacity is comparatively high. Calcium accounts for slightly more than 50 per cent; the rest being accounted for by magnesium. Organic

matter is low being only about 0.3 per cent and is almost uniformly distributed. Total nitrogen is also more or less uniform, lying between 0.04 and 0.05 per cent except for the bottom layers where it may be slightly less. C-N ratios are in the neighbourhood of 10 at the surface falling with the depth. The soils have moderate moisture retentive capacity, the value increasing gradually with the depth. Lime is slightly below 0.5 per cent but is uniformly distributed throughout the profile. Magnesium is throughout more than lime and shows displacement from surface to the lower layers.

Etah type 3 (Etah clayey loam)

The soils belonging to this type are ash grey to dark grey in colour depending on the humification of the organic matter brought about in presence of different soluble salts. The soils are clayey loam in texture but at some elevated spots, even loam soils may be encountered and usually attain a cloddy structure. These become very compact and hard on drying and are then rendered difficult to plough. The soils are clayey in upper regions of the profile and the regions lying below may contain comparatively larger quantities of coarse sand. The soils are alkaline, the pH value in the normal cultivated soils being in the neighbourhood of 8.5 per cent. The organic matter and total nitrogen contents are average but the C-N ratio is narrow, being of the order of six at the surface and still less in the lower horizons. Lime contents are maximum in layers below the fourth. Magnesia follows an increasing trend upto the fifth layer. It is more than lime in the upper three layers and less than lime in the regions of lime nodulations. The soils, in general, are very ill-drained but seem to be capable of improvement. The salts consist mainly of carbonates and bicarbonates but also have substantial quantities of chlorides and sulphates which lend support to the belief that these soils are perhaps intermediary in the genetic development of a solonised phase from the normal zonal soil.

The soil belonging to the saline-alkaline group of soils and the good patches only are suitable for cultivation.

Etah type 4 (Etah sandy loam)

It occurs comparatively on higher elevations, the strip parallel to and adjoining the Kali Nadi and in the extreme south-west corner of the district in the Jalesar tahsil. The colour varies from brownish grey to brown tending to be reddish brown and the soils have a lighter texture. Although coarse sand fractions in the profile are small, finer grained sand particles are as much as 83 per cent at the surface. In the lower depths, however, fine sand content decreases with a consequent increase in clay contents. Silt also increases from 6.6 per cent at the surface to 29 per cent in the fourth layer after which the value declines again.

The drainage conditions of the soils are extremely good presenting a porous nature, and the water very rapidly drains out both laterally and vertically. The soils have a poor water holding capacity and are neutral at the top and slightly alkaline in lower layers indicating the downward movement of soluble alkaline salts. Organic matter is very low decreasing with depths, becoming almost negligible in the bottom

layers. Nitrogen contents are also low, the value being as low as 0.02 per cent at the surface. C-N ratio gradually drops with the depth of the profile.

Lime contents are low, but the lower layers have better lime status than the surface. Magnesia is more than lime throughout. Carbonates and sulphates are practically absent and the entire dissolved salts consist of bicarbonates and chlorides, the later being very low.

The soils are fertile but stand in great need of irrigation. Good Rabi and Kharif crops are obtained where irrigation facilities are available.

Etah type 5 (Yamuna sandy loam)

The area lying between the Isan and the western boundary of the district is occupied by this type of soil. The Isan in fact marks the centre of Yamuna and Kali Nadi doab and areas west of this river are influenced by the former river. The soils, in general, are of a light texture, stiffer and heavier in the subsoil. The well-water in this area is brackish and is not suitable for irrigation. The soils are calcareous and consist of soluble salts. Calcareous concretions are also found. The colour of the soils is light grey on the surface and gradually becomes darker in the lower depths. The surface soils are sandy in texture, coarse fraction being as much as 83 per cent, subsoil is of loamy nature and water retention capacity is poor. The soils of the entire profile are all along moderately alkaline. Both organic matter and nitrogen are inadequate and the C-N ratio is very narrow, the value ranging between 4 and 2. Iron and aluminium oxides show similar trends. Lime contents are adequate throughout the profile and magnesia in general is slightly more than lime. Sulphates are almost absent.

The tahsil-wise distribution of these soil types is as under :

Tahsil Kasganj—In the northern boundary of the tahsil along with the Ganga, there is a patch of fresh alluviums parallel to the river and there is also a belt of loamy sand soil. The soils designated as Etah type 1 are sandy in nature formed by recently laid alluviums and comprise 20.25 per cent of the total land area of the tahsil. The rest of the land area of the tahsil is occupied by mostly Etah loam or Etah type 2 and comprises 70.75 per cent of the tahsil area. Some patches containing Etah clayey loam or Etah type 4 soil are also found in the middle of this tract and a patch of Etah sandy loam is found near Kasganj town. The soil type covers nearly 5.10 per cent of the total area of the tahsil.

Tahsil Etah—The bulk of the soil found in Etah tahsil consists of Etah clayey loam or Etah type 3 which forms the entire southern boundary of the tahsil comprising about 70.80 per cent of the area. The northern portion of the tahsil beyond Etah town contains Etah sandy loam or Etah type 4 soils and comprises about 20.25 per cent of the area. There is a belt of fresh alluvium deposited near the northern boundary comprising 5.10 per cent area designated as Etah type 1 soils.

Tahsil Aliganj—Tahsil Aliganj is situated near the north-western boundary of the district and the pattern of soils is similar to that of Etah tahsil. In the northern portion of the tahsil along the Ganga, fresh al-

luminium is found in a belt. Below this belt, in the southern side, loamy sand soil is found. The Etah loamy sand or Etah type 1 soil is to be found in about 40 per cent of the total area of tahsil. Towards the south-west side there is a belt of Etah sandy loam or Etah type 4 soil covering not more than 10 per cent of the tahsil area. The rest of the tahsil is formed by Etah loam or Etah type 2 soil up to the boundary of Mainpuri district. There is an interzonal patch of Etah clayey loam or Etah type 4 towards north-west side of the tahsil near Aliganj town.

Tahsil Jalesar—Jalesar is the southernmost tahsil of the district and is surrounded by Aligarh, Agra and Mainpuri districts. There are only two types of soils found in the tahsil. About 50 per cent of the area in the northern part of the tahsil is covered by Etah clayey loam or Etah type 3 soils. In the south of the tahsil there is Etah sandy loam or Etah type 5 forming about 50 per cent of the tahsil area.

In the alluvial tract of Uttar Pradesh, in which the district is situated, there are vast lands lying unsuitable for cultivation. There are saline, alkaline or *usar* soils and there occur interspersed in between, loam, clay loam and sandy loam alluvial deposits. These soils form about 5 per cent of the total cultivated area of the district. Such soils are mostly found in Awagarh and Jalesar areas of the district though they are also found in Kasganj, Etah and Aliganj tahsils.

Cultivation

From the middle of the last century when the canals were opened for irrigation, a marked change in the technique and pattern of cultivation has been noticeable in the district. The fifth decade of the present century is the next turning point in the field of agriculture in these areas. Since then the State tube-wells and private pumping sets added by various other minor irrigation appliances like the Persian wheels and mechanically operated lift irrigation processes have provided ample and more reliable irrigation to the crops. There has been an appreciable extension of the double-cropped (*dofasti*) area and the more valuable and high-yielding staples are very fast replacing the old, indigenous varieties.

Harvests

As usual in the doab the agricultural year is divided into three kinds of harvests known by the traditional names Kharif, Rabi and Zaid. The last is of little significance in point of area and mainly consists of cucurbits, vegetables, spices, tobacco, legumes and host of low grade cereals like *chehna*, a small millet resembling *sawan*, and it covered a total area of 6,387 hectares in 1970-71. Melons, *kakri* and *khira* are mostly grown in the *khadirs* and along the sandy banks of the rivers.

The Kharif crops are sown in Asadh-Sravana (June-July) and reaped in Asvina-Kartika (September-October) after the cessation of the rains usually well before the preparation of the fields for Rabi sowing which begin in Kartika-Agnahayana (October-November) and are harvested in Chaitra-Vaisakha-Jyaishta (March-April-May).

The relative figures of the area covered by Kharif, Rabi and *dofasti* in the district are given below. The *dofasti* area is included in Rabi and Kharif area.

Year	Area under Kharif (hectares)	Area under Rabi (hectares)	Area under <i>dofasti</i> (hectares)
1951-52	1,90,732	1,90,353	70,082
1961-62	2,09,660	2,00,918	1,04,644
1970-71	2,31,193	2,09,865	1,37,735

Principal Crops

Kharif—*Jowar*, *bajra* and maize were the main crops of this season in the district till the close of the last century. Area under jowar has now shrank considerably and expanded appreciably under rice and maize. At present the main Kharif cereals in order of the area they cover are maize, *bajra* and rice. Among the pulses in this season *urda*, *moong* and *moth* are the chief ones. The following statement gives some relevant details of the main Kharif cereals in the district in 1972-73 :

Kharif crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total production (tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average per hectare in State (quintals)
Maize	50,469	47,971	8.07	9.15
Bajra	87,695	76,483	8.72	6.68
Rice	23,453	19,604	8.36	7.48
Jowar	6,134	3,232	5.27	7.19
Urd, Moong, Moth	Total	217	02	2.18

Rabi—In the Rabi the lead is taken by wheat which is the most important of all the food-grains. It is sown alone as well as mixed with barely, gram, pea or mustard. The area under wheat alone has very much increased in the last few decades, but the old practice of sowing it in combination has not altogether disappeared.

Barley was a favourite crops in the district covering nearly a third of the Rabi area, till the advent of the canals in the late fifties of the last century. Since then its cultivation has declined. Other important Rabi cereals are gram and pea. Of the pulses only *arhar* and *masur* are important. An interesting characteristic of *arhar* is that it is sown with the Kharif crops and harvested later than most of the Rabi crops that is why it is hardly ever sown as a single crop, being usually combined with *bajra* or jowar which are harvested in November leaving it standing alone in the field.

The following statement gives some particulars of the principal Rabi cereals produced in the district in 1972-73 :

Rabi crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total pro- duction (tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average yield per hectare in State (quintals)
Wheat	1,44,975	2,06,592	14.25	12.25
Gram	19,040	16,726	8.78	7.61
Barley	15,241	16,869	11.07	10.09
Peas	27,536	24,776	9.00	6.20
Arhar (Kharif)	8,878	18,011	20.29	15.40
Masur	588	893	6.68	6.23

Non-food Crops

Sugar-cane, oil-seeds like ground-nut, mustard, sesame, rape-seed and linseed, vegetables and fruits, sunn-hemp, jute, cotton and tobacco are the non-food crops in the district. Cotton, indigo, poppy and tobacco were flourishing cash crops in the district till the early years of the present century. The north-eastern part of the district and Jalesar tahsil were notable areas for the cultivation of poppy. But the cultivation of indigo and poppy has totally disappeared from the district now. Sugar-cane continues to be an important crop in as much as that the district was third in Agra Division for sugar-cane area in 1971-72, while sunn-hemp gave second place to the district in the year. The tobacco and cotton are still flourishing crops in the district the former giving first place to the district in Agra Division in 1971-72. The district is an important till and ground-nut producing area in the whole of Division, occupying first place in point of area in 1971-72.

Vegetable though they occupy a small area in the district, specially around the towns and large villages constitute valuable crops. Potato is one of the chief among tubers and the district occupied second place for its area in the Division in 1971-72.

The statement given below provides some relevant facts about the important cash (non-food) crops raised in the district in 1972-1973 :

Crops	Area sown (hectares)	Total produc- tion (tonnes)	Average yield per hectare in district (quintals)	Average yield per hectare in State (quintals)
Sugar-cane	8,927	3,28,265	367.72	433.70
Ground-nut	15,854	20,038	12.64	9.10
Mustard	829	558	6.74	5.38
Oil-seeds Total	16,908	20,632	7.00	5.60
Cotton	1,163	705	1.09	1.41
Potato	4,354	41,351	94.97	93.14

Improvement of Agriculture

The ever-increasing demand for food-grains necessitated far-reaching improvements and changes in the pattern and technique of agriculture. In the post-independence period especially since the launching of 'green revolution' in the sixties of this century, development of agriculture has been given a very important place in the economic planning of the country.

Seed Supply

The most common among the recently introduced, high-yielding varieties of seeds of cereals are the Exotic paddy and millets, Hybrid maize, Mexican wheat, U.P. Wheat, U.P. maize and Hybrid bajra.

Seeds are supplied by the government through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture department and the Pradeshik Co-operative Federation. There were 56 such seed stores in the district in 1974-75, and they distributed nearly 17,755 quintals seeds of Kharif and Rabi crops in that year. The seed stores, however, meet a small fraction of the total seed demand of the farmers, the bulk being supplied by the local dealers who obtain them from the National Seeds Corporation and the U.P. Beej Evam Tarai Vikas Nigam, Pantnagar, and other agencies or through mutual exchange. The government farms at Lodhamai, Malawan, Mohanpura, Simrao, Katholi and Dharoli are also engaged in the production of improved seeds and they produced nearly 3,435 quintals of Kharif and Rabi seeds in 1973-74. The seeds grown in these farms are also sold to the farmers for further multiplication. Under the seed saturation programme it is proposed to cover the entire Kharif and Rabi area with improved and high-yielding varieties. Till 1974-75 the achievement in the seed saturation programme in the district was nearly 50 and 65 per cent in Kharif and Rabi respectively.

Soil Nutrients

The traditional manures are cattle dung, farm refuse and stable litter. The usefulness of green manure crops such as *lobia*, *guar*, *dhaincha*, *sanai* and *mong* which provide nitrogenous matter to the soil and increase its fertility is being increasingly realised by the cultivators. The seed stores distributed nearly 200 quintals of seeds of green manure crops and a total area of 39,000 hectares was sown with them in 1974-75.

The application of chemical fertilizers, has become quite popular among the farmers. The nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic fertilizers are most widely used. The seed stores meet a small part of the total requirement of fertilizers the bulk being obtained by the cultivators from licensed dealers. Total quantity of fertilizers distributed in the district by the government, co-operative institutions and various private agencies in 1971-72 and 1974-75 was 7,715 and 7,504 tonnes respectively. The agriculture department also distributed *tagari* amounting to Rs 2,49,17,311 for the purchase of fertilizers and other agricultural inputs from 1969-70 to 1974-75.

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS AND MACHINES

The farmers make their own arrangement for the purchase of improved implements. The government through the agriculture department and State Agro-Industries Corporation also sell them. Loans are also provided for purchasing implements and for making other agricultural improvements by the co-operative institutions in the district. A total amount of Rs 4,60,23,160 was distributed by the co-operative institutions to the farmers in the district from 1969-70 to 1973-74.

Rotation of Crops and Mixed Cropping

The practice of leaving the fields fallow for at least one season was considered necessary to allow the land time to recuperate its fertility. But of late this practice is being abandoned as the rotation of crops and mixed cropping are proving more beneficial by giving increased yields. The agriculture department, agricultural universities and research centres are evolving better and more scientific rotations and mixtures of crops and propagating them among the farmers. The most common rotations being practised in the district are maize-wheat, maize-potato-tobacco, paddy-wheat, maize-early potato-late potato, *bajra*-wheat, ground-nut-wheat and green manure-wheat.

The system of mixed cultivation gives additional harvest in the same field, thus the overall yield is increased, the field and the nutrients and other inputs of cultivation are utilized to the maximum. The leguminous crops like *moong*, *urd* and *guar* with cereal crops add nitrogenous matter to the soil and through it to the standing crops. Almost always *arhar* is mixed with *jowar*, *urd*, *til* or ground-nut, *bajra* with *urd*, *arhar* or ground-nut, wheat with gram, pea or mustard, barley with gram or pea, maize with *urd* and cotton with *urd*. Potato is sown mixed with *methi* (fenugreek) or onion, sugar-cane with *moong* and rainy season vegetables and late paddy with coriander or fenugreek.

Agricultural Co-operatives

The practice of joint cultivation of land (*sajha*) is very old. Other forms of co-operation in agricultural operations have also been very common among the cultivators.

At present co-operative societies have been organised in the villages for farming, distribution of seeds, loans, fertilizers, implements, marketing of agricultural produce, etc. In 1974-75, there were 28 such seed stores, five marketing societies at Etah, Jalesar, Kasganj, Ganjdudwara and Aliganj, the district co-operative bank and the co-operative federation at the district headquarters and the U.P. co-operative land development banks at each of the tahsil headquarters and 224 co-operative credit societies scattered all over the rural areas of the district. These institutions provide loans, seeds, fertilizers and marketing facilities for the produce of the cultivators. Farming on co-operative lines has not been a success in the district. All the 19 such societies except one at Cailasuni, organised in various villages in the districts have become defunct now.

Horticulture

Artificial groves form a prominent feature in the landscape in almost every part of the district. The total area of groves and fruit orchards was 6,064 hectares in 1974-75. These groves consist of mangoes, guaves, papaya, banana, *ber*, *jamun*, jack-fruit and tamarind. The horticultural needs of the district are met by the government nursery at Etah and the horticulture garden at Agra.

Melons, water-melons and vegetables like tomatoes, onions, turnips and sweet potatoes covered a total area of 14,485 hectares in the district in 1974-75. The horticulture department supplied 48,000 fruit saplings, 21,41,000 vegetables seedlings and 69 quintals of seeds of vegetables to the cultivators in the district in 1974-75.

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

The district loses on an average 15 to 20 per cent of its agricultural produce every year due to the depredations of various pests and crop diseases. The pests are usually insects, birds, animals like stray cattle and jackals and rodents like rats and rabbits. Insects include white ants, aphids, grasshoppers, pyrrilla, white fly, caterpillars and *gujia*. Plant diseases like rust, smut, blight, canker are harmful to wheat, barley, jowar, paddy, *bajra*, potatoes, gram, *arhar*, fruits, vegetables, tomatoes and chillies. A large number of weeds also cause damage to the crops. They are the *doob*, *bathua*, *chaulai*, *kulfa*, etc. Weeding and interculturing are the usual methods to destroy them.

For looking after the health of the flora of the district there is a plant protection officer at the headquarters and a plant protection centre each at the block development headquarters. Spraying and dusting of insecticides and pesticides are carried out by these centres. A total area of 63,837 hectares was covered by various crop protection methods like seed treatment, eradication of rats and weeds, destroying of pests and diseases and spraying of insecticides and pesticides in the district in 1974-75.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

There are no peculiar breeds of domestic cattle in the district, the animals used for agricultural purposes being of the usual, small, thin, wiry breed, common to the doab. In the west of Jalesar cattle are noticeably finer than in the rest of the district, probably owing to the neighbourhood of the grazing grounds across the Yamuna. In the region west of the Isan the low water table makes a much more powerful type of animal necessary to work the wells for irrigation. The favourite bullock for work at well is smallish but active and plucky beast reared in the ravines.

The improvement of the inferior local breed of cattle had been a good deal neglected in the past but towards the close of the 19th century the matter was taken up by the raja of Awa, who imported a number of good bulls and started a breeding farm at Awa. The breeds were of two varieties, one giving a calf each year (*barasi*) and the other calving every second year (*dobarasi*).

The live-stock population of the district in 1966 and 1972 was as follows :

Live-stock	1966	1972
Cattle (cows and bulls)	2,67,362	2,64,292
Buffaloes (males and females)	3,68,744	3,84,716
Sheep	26,416	16,912
Goats	71,376	6,144
Horses and ponies	3,791	2,923
Mules	392	776
Donkeys	5,682	6,779
Camels	313	153
Pigs	20,296	19,742

Sheep and goats are generally reared by the Gadariyas for their flesh and skin. Goat milk is useful for patients suffering from stomach troubles and often sells costlier than cow's or buffalo's milk. Wool obtained from the sheep is used for making coarse blankets locally. Bulls, male buffaloes, ponies, donkeys, camels and mules are the main beasts of burden besides being used as draught animals.

Development of Live-stock

Considerable progress has been made in recent years in improving the breed of the cattle through selective breeding, culling undesirable animals and up-grading indigenous cattle with improved bulls of well-known and tried Indian breeds, distribution of seeds of improved varieties of fodder and cattle-feed at moderate prices. Artificial insemination service for breeding cows and buffaloes has been started in the district and there were 12 centres for this purpose in 1974-75. More than 21,713 cows and buffaloes were provided with artificial insemination service at these centres in the 1974-75. Loans are also given by the government to breeders for the purchase of cows and buffaloes of improved stock. An amount of Rs 7,600 was given away in 1974-75 for this purpose.

For improving the breed of sheep, pigs and goats, high pedigree stud rams, boars and bucks are stationed at the Veterinary hospitals and are also distributed among the breeders at concessional rates. There were 15 rams, 15 bucks and 27 boars in the district in 1972-73.

Poultry farming is rapidly gaining ground with the increasing demand for animal protein. There were two private poultry farms in the district in 1975. Most of the demand of the district regarding improved birds, eggs and chickens is met from Agia and Mainpuri districts where there are big poultry farms. Nearly 7,200 birds were distributed to the private poultry farmers in the district in 1974-75.

For horse breeding there were 4 horse stallion centres at Etah, Jalesar, Aliganj and Goraha in 1974-75. For mule breeding there were 2 donkey stallions at Etah and 1 at Goraha in that year.

Cattle Diseases and Treatment

The common cattle diseases are rinderpest (Pokna), malignant sore throat (Galaghontu), black-quarter (Padsuja), anthrax (Tilraj), dysentery (Pechis), foot and mouth disease (Khuhra) and Haemorrhagic septicaemia.

There is a live-stock officer who is in charge of the animal husbandry department in the district. To help him there is a veterinary officer, who looks after the schemes related to improving the breed of the live-stock through artificial insemination. There were 18 veterinary hospitals and dispensaries and 22 stockman centres in the district in 1975. During 1974-75, total number of animals treated was 1,17,801, those that were vaccinated numbered 1,05,838 and the number of scrub bulls that were castrated was 17,455.

Housing and Feeding

Domestic animals are generally housed in thatched kutcha sheds, pakka and well-ventilated byres, with roof of iron or asbestos sheets are to be seen only in the government farms and farms owned by big cultivators.

Grazing facilities for the cattle are available in the forests, waste lands, groves and harvested or fallow fields. On the canal banks and alongside the rail track, cattle are allowed to graze under stipulated conditions. In 1974-75, the total area covered by culturable waste land, pastures, forests and fallow land was 87,968 hectares. Barren, *usar* and unculturable land measured 13,525 hectares in the same year.

The crops which provide fodder are maize, jowar, *bajra*, *barseem*, *lobia* and *guar*. The husk and dried and crushed stalks of wheat, barley, *arhar*, *uril*, *moong*, pea, gram and paddy are also used by the farmers to feed the cattle. Seeds of improved fodder crops are also supplied by the government. Nearly 180 hectares were sown within them in 1974-75.

Fisheries

The district has a large number of small lakes and tanks suitable for fish culture which is, however, still in infancy as a programme. Kohurs and Dhinars, the only castes who engage in fishing, do so as a casual resource at certain seasons. In the Ganga and the deeper pools of the Kaji Nadi, the sweep-net is employed, while the shallower parts of the latter stream in the hot and cold weather are dammed and then netted, or a casting net with a mesh of 2.5 cm. is made use of. The same method is resorted to in the tanks and lakes and, sometimes, fish are taken on a hook and line. The pools left in the lower Ganga canal when it is emptied during the monsoon give excellent sport with a rod and line.

The area under fish culture in the district is about 210 hectares and the annual production of fish is about 11,375 metric tons.

FORESTRY

A considerable area of the barren land is covered with dhak jungle, the remains of the extensive belt of dhak which till the beginning of the present century ran through Etah, Mainpuri, Etawah, Aligarh and Bulandshahr districts. One of the largest stretches of dhak jungle is in pargana Azamnagar others are in Sidhpura, Sonhar, Pachlana and Marahra parganas. Besides dhak, *katris* or reed reed producing lands along the Ganga and Burhganga and the *khas khas* grass in the swampy lands as especially in Aliganj tahsil from which *khas tattis* are made and perfume (*itr*) is also extracted, a great deal of waste land is covered with the coarse grass known locally as *ganra*, *gandar* or *sinkh*. It is used in a variety of ways. The lower pointed leaves are called *patel* and are used for thatching, the leaves close to the stalks *i.e.* *munj* are used for making ropes and the stalks *i.e.* *sirki* or *sent* are utilised for making mats, *mudhas*, *tirpals* and brooms. Babul also grows in large clumps on the *usar* plains, it is indeed the only tree that flourishes there. Its timber which is hard and close-grained is useful for building purposes, fuel and charcoal. The bark is a useful leather-tanning material and the gum has medicinal value beside being used for dyeing. The roadside and canal avenues abound in plantations of mango, *jamun*, guava, nim and *shisham*. Of these mango and *shisham* are more notable, the former being very luxuriant and productive and the latter grows to perfection and yields valuable timber which besides being utilized in the local furniture industry also finds good market at Agra and Bareilly.

The total area of the forests in the district under the control of forest department, in 1975 was 1,322.06 hectares of which 65.5 hectares fell in the Senthri and 89.0 hectares in the Shitalpur forest blocks and 154.5 hectares comprised the miscellaneous babul and other jungles. The afforestations along the canal banks totalled about 1,014 hectares. Total length of the roadside avenues along the roads of the public works department in the district was nearly 428 km.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

Early Famines

The information available with regard to the early famines which had afflicted the portion of the doab in which this district is situated is for the most part of a meagre description, the historians disdaining to mention any in which the distress was not widespread and fearful. The first of which there is any record is that which followed the invasion of Mahmud of Ghazni in 1004, when the horrors of pestilence were added to those of a very severe famine over the whole countryside. In 1424, again it is recorded that the imperial army was unable to march to Kannauj owing to the famine which then prevailed. The district figured in the terrible famines of 1661 and 1770, while the next in 1783 was so severely felt that it is still remembered and spoken of under the name of *Chalisa*. Almost immediately after the cession came another great famine in 1803, which had its beginning in severe hail storms and complete failure of rains. In both Farrukhabad and Etawah, which between them included the present Etah district, both Rabi and Kharif were destroyed. There was acute starvation, people were selling their cattle and implements and most of them emigrated to other parts. The

revenue could not be collected. Large advances were made to the cultivators for the purchase of seeds and implements to enable them to take up sowing operations in the ensuing season of 1804-05, but it was many years before the country fully recovered. The seasons of 1813-14 and 1819-20 were seasons of scarcity, but another famine did not occur till 1826, when the government had to take up relief measures like granting of advances and suspension of the revenue. In 1837-38 the district was again visited by famine along with the rest of the State. The cattle died in thousands and the prices rose abnormally. Relief was provided and a total sum of nearly two lakhs of rupees was spent. Another famine of sufficient severity to have earned the grim distinction of a name of its own, came in 1860. It is popularly remembered as '*akal satsera*' or 'seven seers' famine, and such was the distress that the people were driven to eat wild vegetation, grass and leaves of trees. Nearly Rs 53,000 was spent on relief works in the district. The year 1868-69, was marked by drought, but no famine occurred. The spell of prosperity was again broken by famine in 1877. It was aggravated by influx of immigrants from tracts south of the Yamuna and the outbreak of the epidemic of smallpox. Relief works like the construction or repair of roads and canals were undertaken and poor-houses were started in 1878 at Etah, Soron, Aliganj, Kasganj and Mathura. The rainfall of 1896, was deficient and the areas worst hit were parts of Etah tahsil, a few villages to the south-west of Jalesar tahsil and the whole of Aliganj tahsil. *Tagavi* advances were made to the tune of Rs 84,880 for the construction of wells, purchase of seeds and cattle and relief works and poor-houses were started at Etah, Aliganj and Jalesar. An amount of Rs 89,000 was provided for relief by the Indian Famine Charitable Relief Fund. Revenue amounting of Rs 78,300 was suspended and Rs. 27,260 worth was remitted. Etah district came out unscathed during the famines of 1905 and 1907.

The history of natural calamities in the district since 1880 shows that while drought has lost most of its terrors for this district except the spread of noxious *baisuri*, a series of seasons in which the rainfall is excessive may cause intensive and lasting mischief and distress. Such a sequence of years occurred between 1885 and 1889 and resulted in a very serious amount of agricultural depression throughout the northern part of the district. During excessively wet years there is a marked general rise in water level, so that the lower lands become water-logged while in the upper the saturated soil breaks out into a terrible eruption of *hans* grass, enormously detrimental to cultivation.

Another mischievous effect of heavy rainfall is floods in the rivers, often attended with disastrous consequences. The lands in the neighbourhood of Burhganga and Kali Nadi are particularly subject to floods. Tradition asserts the change in the course of the Ganga to have taken place some eight or nine hundred years ago, but this view is not shared by Elliot who holds that there is good reason for referring it to some period subsequent to the reign of Akbar¹. The old bed is the Burhganga. Since the beginning of the present century the river is again tending to return to its old bed, and there has been a good deal of

¹. Beames, I : *Memoirs on the history, folklore and the distribution of the races of the North-Western Provinces of India* Vol. II (Trubner, 1860), p. 29

diluvion which is still continuing. Fortunately in the case of Kali Nadi the depth of the valley confines the areas of devastation to comparatively narrow limits and the improvements effected in the channel and drainage of the Burhganga have greatly diminished the floods in the district since the close of the last century.

The lower Ganga canal has been carried across the Kali Nadi near the village of Nadrai through an aqueduct built at a cost of Rs 4,45,240. There was very severe flood in the Kali Nadi in 1884 and 1855 and the aqueduct was completely destroyed, further aggravating the floods and damage to life and property. Many villages were swept away many roads and the nearby railway bridge was washed away. A new aqueduct was soon after constructed at a cost of Rs 25,83,480.

There was heavy flood in the Isan in 1910. Heavy rains accompanied by severe thunderstorms continued for nearly 17 hours between October 30 and November 1. Roads were cut at many places. In 1916, the Kali Nadi and the Ganga were in spate. The terai tract above the railway embankment between Manpur-Nagaria and Kachla Ghat on the Ganga suffered most from the inundations which were held up by the embankments on the Ganga. A new 9 km. long bund was built in that year to check recurrence of such calamities. The excessive rainfall in 1917 and 1919 caused floods in the Ganga near Kadarganj where a bund was broken. The Ganga was again in heavy flood in 1924. The railway line near Manpur Nagarja was very much damaged.

In recent years, the period between 1955-56 and 1963-64 was marked by floods in nearly all the rivers in the district; 1964-65 and 1968-69 were years of drought, while hailstorms, frost also added to the loss.

Since the opening of the canals and the construction of tube-wells both State-run and privately owned, dealt with under 'Irrigation' in previous pages, the district is now virtually safe from hard-hitting famines. There do occur scarcities and they are overcome by timely relief measures adopted by the government. To organise relief subdivisional officer acts as officer incharge (scarcities) working under the collector. Relief to the people takes several forms such as the suspension and remission of land revenue, distribution of *taqavi* loans and gratuitous grants and providing employment to the needy in construction works like roads, canals, etc., specially started for the purpose.

CHAPTER V INDUSTRIES

The district has a sound agricultural base but the industrial potential is low. Etah does not exactly belong to the most backward region, but its misfortune is largely of another kind it had remained long in what was known as the criminal belt. The criminal climate had been one of the important reasons for the backwardness of this district. The rich agricultural and the weak industrial base together appear to leave a gap, which can be effectively bridged by a coordinated approach to enrich economy of the district. The lack of enterprise and technical know-how among the local people have been the major constraints for the industrial growth of the district. For lack of chronicles it is not possible to trace out the development of industries, avocations and level of excellence achieved in the past, but it is certain that in the ancient times and also during the Mughal rule, many villages of this region constituted self sufficient economic units, producing their own cloth, crude agricultural implements and other necessities of life. It is likely that during the peaceful reign of first five Mughal emperors some handicrafts of art also prospered and received considerable encouragement from them.

The old time manufactures of the district are few but significant. Being an agricultural district, the manufactures were generally based on the products of the soil. Previously preparation of indigo dye was a valuable industry, but with the synthesis of ultramarine blue, it declined. The raja of Awa made attempt to substitute indigo cultivation with manufacture from cotton, and built a ginning and pressing factory at Jalesar. Such mills were also started at Kasganj and Etah, and the cotton ginning industry prospered. The manufacture of sugar was another important industry of the district, and sugar refineries sprang up in the neighbourhood of *tarai* mainly at Kaiganj and Soron and several villages of the Aliganj tahsil. Soil impregnated with saltpetre and salt (the chloride as well as the carbonate and sulphate of sodium) was common in the district. The saltpetre soil was chiefly confined to the sites of villages and towns. To make crude saltpetre the nitrous soil was packed into an oblong trough-shaped filter and freely watered. The filtrate, a brine of the colour of tea, was concentrated by boiling and set out to crystallize in earthen pans, the whole process took from 24 to 36 hours and produced on an average about 25 kles of crude saltpetre. The largest refinery in the district was established at Jalesar and smaller concerns at Awa and Sabawar. Khari the sulphate of soda, was manufactured at Eklabra, Baghela, Kaderbari and Rafatnagar in Kasganj tahsil. The other unorganized industries of the district consisted of rope making, mudba making, oil *ghant* shoe making manufacture of *ghungrao Ghantec*, glass beads and bangles (by hand process).

Power

Electric power is available from U.P. Grid. The district has 11 power sub-stations. The per capita consumption of power was in the district 16 Kilowatts in 1972-73 against the State average of 37 kilowatts.

The consumption of power in various sectors of industry, in the district, in 1974-75 was as follows :

Industries	Total consumption of power (in units)	Number of connections
Small and medium industries	50,92,955	1,340
Large and Heavy industries	49,87,823	9

Rural Electrification

In 1974-75, 547 villages were electrified.

Large-scale Industry

Ghee, baby food, skimmed milk powder, whole milk powder, crystal sugar, molasses and bagasse are produced in two largescale units of the district.

Milk, Ghee and Allied Products

Being established in 1963 M/S Hindustan Lever Ltd. Etah, specialises in the manufacture of baby lever's food, Anik ghee, skimmed milk powder, whole milk powder and Astra (a milkbased health drink). In 1974, it had a net investment of Rs 116.17 lakhs, with a total turnover of Rs 378.70 lakhs and afforded employment to 216 persons. The raw material used for the manufacture is milk, which is collected from 46 centres on the eight roads radiating from Etah. The establishment has been one of the most modern dairies in India. After collection, milk is chilled to inhibit growth of organisms and to maintain the fluid in a fresh and whole some condition. This perhaps is the only dairy in India to have paid special attention to this aspect of preservation of the quality of milk. The dairy has its own fleet of insulated stainless steel road tankers for the transport of milk to the factory. The produced goods are exported to different districts.

Crystal sugar, molasses and bagasse—The Neoli Sugar Mill, Manpur Naraia, established in 1933, is the only sugar producing unit in the district; it is about 8 km. from Soron and about 20 km. from Kasganj. The crushing capacity is 1,250 tonnes of cane per day. Local supply of cane is not more than 25 per cent and 75 per cent comes from Kichha, Nainital and Budaun. Bagasse is supplied to a paper mill at Bareilly and molasses to a distillery. In 1974, the capital outlay of the factory amounted to Rs 238.02 lakhs, giving employment to 425 people. In the same year, it produced goods worth Rs 310.67 lakhs. Due to expansion of

wheat production, the sugarcane producing area in the surrounding region is declining. The sugar produced in this industrial unit is exported all over the country.

Small-scale Industries—Agriculture implements, engineering goods, utensils, silver ornaments, *dal*, rice, steel furniture, candles, soap, Saltpetre, ice, preservation of fruits, *ghungroo ghantee* and glass beads and bangies are the main smallscale industries of the district. About 150 units were registered with the directorate of industries U.P., in 1975.

Agricultural Implements—Ploughs, crushers, buckets and pans (for making jaggery) are manufactured in 27 units, located at Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj, and Jalesar. These units are operated by electricity and use iron and coal as raw materials.

General Engineering—Repair and overhauling of machines by modern tools are undertaken by 8 units, situated at Etah, Kasganj, Jalesar and other important places of the district. The standard of performance is satisfactory. In view of increase in departmental activities in the sphere of agriculture, transport and industries, there is a great demand of such units which may be easily expanded.

Brassware and Utensils—Utensils of different metals like bronze, brass and aluminium are produced in 5 units, located at Etah and Jalesar. The *thalees* of brass is a speciality of Jalesar. The products of this industry have only a limited market.

Silver Ornaments—The silver ornaments of different varieties are manufactured in 5 units located at Etah and Kasganj. This industry has only a local market.

Flour milling and Oil pressing—There are 8 registered units, engaged in wheat milling, oil pressing, *dal* and rice hulling in the district. The extraction of oil is done through oil engines and expellers. The local oil-seeds are not of good quality and as such they give lower percentage of oil.

Steel boxes, almirahs and other articles—Steel boxes, almirahs and other articles are manufactured by 3 units in the district. The raw material is imported from other districts. The method of production of steel boxes is old and introduction of improved tools and implements is still awaited. This industry has only local market.

Wax Candles—The manufacture of wax candles is done by 12 units, located at Etah and Kasganj. Their sale is confined practically to the local markets only.

Soap—Washing soap is produced by 5 units in the district, which is usually of inferior quality.

Saltpetre industry—There are 16 units, mainly located at Jalesar, engaged in this industry, manufacture about 8 tonnes saltpetre a day. During rainy season, the production comes to a halt, as neither soil can be dug and brought, nor processing can be done. There is no godown facility

to stock the material. Soil right is auctioned every year and then on contract the manufacturers receive the same. The refining is done rather in a crude manner, which can be much improved. The *bhattis* too run in the old fashion. The residue, after saltpetre and table salt (to a small extent) are extracted, becomes a good fertiliser and fetches a fair price. Mechanisation, improved methods and better planning can make this a prosperous and all the year round industry.

Cold-storage—Cold storage facilities for the preservation of food, particularly vegetables, fruits and onion etc. are provided at 5 units located at Etah, and Kasganj. All the cold storages produce ice as well.

Chungru—Ten units, located mainly at Jalesar, are engaged in the manufacture of *ghungru ghantees*. Each unit consumes about Rs 60,000 worth of brass per month. Raw material is imported from Mirzapur and Calcutta. Promotion of the industry depends largely upon available banking facilities. About 4 units export many of the articles. Bell chains with huge artificial beads are supposed to be a rage with the angry young people of America and elsewhere. Hippies account for a large consumption of these items. The margin of profit in this industry is small.

Class beads and bangles—It is one of the oldest industries of the district, and at present 3 registered units are engaged in it. This industry, like many other old time ones has also degenerated in recent times due to lack of proper incentive and encouragement. Presently the manufacture of glass beads is concentrated at Jalesar. The manufacture of glass bangles has similarly suffered, partly due to lack of incentive but mainly due to Firozabad dominating its manufacture in quality and quantity.

Bricks, dairy products, biscuits, ink, parts of automobiles, plastic toys and novelties, drugs and optical lenses are other important industries of the district.

The following statement gives the total investment, value of production and number of persons employed in the small-scale industries of the district in 1975:

Industry	Total Investment (in Rs)	Total production (in Rs)	Number of persons employed
Agricultural Implements	12,90,550	12,55,874	162
General Engineering	3,72,881	98,600	39
Brass ware and utensils	9,47,000	10,07,717	103
Silver ornaments	6,04,000	12,49,000	48
Flour mill, race and dal	42,25,000	47,15,000	96
Steel boxes, almirahs, and other articles	27,000	33,248	7
Wax candles	1,48,815	81,040	20
Soap	1,56,710	1,63,205	26
Saltpetre	18,63,000	18,68,000	67
Cold Storages	5,95,000	7,41,000	97
Chungro ghantee	9,08,000	25,94,887	84
Glass beads and Bangles	1,17,000	2,65,297	84

Village and cottage industries

The village and cottage industries include mostly the handicrafts handed down from generation to generation. Leather tanning, handloom clothes, footwear, carpentry and smithy pieces, match sticks, soap, rope, bricks, *ghungru* and pottery etc, and are the goods falling under the group of these industries, which are manned and owned by particular sections of the village community.

A survey of the village and cottage industries in 1956, revealed following facts:

Total number of units	7,726
Total number of persons employed	18,162
Total investment (in Rs)	18,84,900
Total value of raw materials used (in Rs.)	72,35,540
Total value of goods produced (in Rs)	1,11,20,800

Leather tanning—It is an old industry, dependent mostly on traditional skill. The old technique of tanning is still in vogue and the leather produced is of an inferior quality and fails to capture the market. This industry is mainly concentrated at Barni, Rampur, Ghanshyam, Surjabalpur, Kamalpur, Budaria, Timra, Lohakhar, and Kollamau. Hinder, skins, lime, reh and babul bark forming the raw material are available locally. About 5 registered co-operative societies are engaged in this industry.

Handloom industry—Dhotis, bedsheets, towels, etc., are produced in 5 registered co-operative units, located at Kasganj, Kerauli, Ganj Dundwara, and Etah.

Agro-processing industry—Rice is produced from paddy and dal from legumes in 4 registered co-operative societies in the district.

Footwear—Shoe making and manufacture of other allied articles are mainly concentrated at Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj, Raja Ka Rampur and Jalesar. The cobblers use tanned leather and make durable shoes, which are, however, crude in finish and design. So far 4 registered co-operative societies are engaged in this industry.

Smithy and Carpentry—Minor agricultural tools and implements, wheels for carts, ploughs and doors etc., are manufactured in almost all the villages of the district, but Chakpara, Kerauli and Sarai famous for this industry. Three registered co-operative societies are engaged in this industry.

Match-boxes—Match sticks are manufactured in 3 co-operative societies, located mainly at Etah.

Soap—Washing soap is manufactured in two registered co-operative societies, located at Etah and Kasganj. Non edible oil, soda ash and sodium silicate are used as raw materials by these units.

Rope Making—Rope making is mainly done at Ganj Dundwara. The raw material 'moony' is available locally. It is a subsidiary occupation of the people and one registered co-operative society is engaged in this industry.

Bricks—Bricks are prepared in many villages of the district but one registered co-operative society is also engaged in this industry.

Pottery—Pottery, an old industry of the district, still sustains the economic life of some people. Besides, the earthen wares and tiles, the potters usually concentrate on the images of gods and goddess particularly of Ganesh, Laxmi, Shiv, Durga and Saraswati. These products are easily sold out on the occasion of fairs and festivals. Smooth block clay, commonly used for pot making is available locally. The industry however, is presently not in a prosperous state. This industry though scattered throughout the district is mainly located at Dariyav-ganj, Zeeresemee, Ganj Dundwara, Etah and Jalesar. Though there is not a single registered unit in the district, yet more than 400 families are engaged in this industry.

Ghungroo (small tinkling bells) Industry—It is one of the important industries of the district. Though not a single unit is registered, yet about 200 units are manufacturing it at Jalesar. Raw material is purchased from the big businessmen and the finished goods are sold to them, who send them to Moradabad for engraving and enamelling. The products are exported to foreign countries.

Other industries—Mudha, knives, gangajali, biscuits, baskets, brass goods, glass bangles wollen blankets and carpets etc., are produced in a large number by unregistered units in the district.

The following statement gives the total investment, value of production, goods sold and number of persons employed in the village and cottage industries of the district in 1975:

Industry	Total Investment (in Rs)	Total pro- duction (in Rs)	Goods sold (in Rs)	Number of persons employed
Leather tanning	50,962	4,61,117	4,08,539	28
Handloom industry	3,58,592	7,99,500	30,76,387	—
Agro processing	46,570	1,51,328	1,55,342	291
Foot-wear	19,454	52,548	72,228	—
Smithy and Carpentry	30,480	93,940	85,902	56
Match-boxes	51,842	99,679	1,09,556	32
Soap	57,250	1,02,589	1,28,001	10
Rope making	9,300	21,100	21,500	12
Bricks	7,900	1,70,405	2,06,570	39

Industrial Estate—There is an industrial estate in the district, on Etah-Kasganj road at Etah, established in 1962, with a provision of 17 sheds. Only 1 shed is occupied by Jain Engineering Works and the rest are lying vacant. Jain Engineering Works produces alloy wires and German silver and manufactures ornaments out of them, mainly for rural people. The total production of this unit is about 150 kg. per day or about 12 tonnes yearly, and about 20 persons are employed.

Aid to Industries

Etah is one of the industrially underdeveloped districts of Uttar Pradesh and assistance is given to various industries in the district under the State Aid to Industries Act and the Credit Guarantee Schemes of the State Bank of India, but since there is a dearth of enterprise in the district, the credit facilities are not being fully utilized.

The U.P. Financial Corporation advances loans at lower rate of interest, between 7 and 7.5 per cent, with a rebate of 1 to 1.5 per cent for prompt repayment. It gives longer grace period, i.e. upto 4 years and longer repayment period upto 15 years.

The Central Financial Institution—Industrial Development Bank of India and Industrial Financial Corporation of India advance loans for projects upto 1 crore to entrepreneurs at an interest rate lower by one per cent than the normal rate.

The U.P. Financial Corporation, Kanpur, extends assistance to Industrial concerns on its own behalf and on behalf of the State Government. Its own plan of disbursement is known as the Corporation loan scheme, while the loans are also advanced on behalf of State Government, under the Liberalized loan and the ordinary loan schemes. Under the former scheme, loans are advanced at reduced rates of interest and for longer periods extending upto 15 years. The Corporation has been authorised to carry on and transact various types of business but at present it has confined its activities to the granting of loans to industrial concerns and issue of deferred payment guarantees to industrial units for the purchase of indigenous machinery from manufacturers and suppliers, and acting as a agent of the State Government for various schemes. The Corporation can grant loans under the corporation loan scheme to the extent of Rs 30,00,000 in the case of private and public limited companies or registered co-operative societies and Rs 15,00,000 in the case of proprietorship concerns. The rate of interest is 11.5 per cent per annum with a rebate of 2 per cent for prompt payment. The loans under the ordinary loan scheme and liberalised loan scheme are considered for amounts ranging from Rs 5,000 to Rs 50,000. The applications of loans under the schemes are channelised through the district industries officer, Etah. The interest charged is 8 per cent per annum with a rebate of 2 per cent for prompt payment. The loans are recoverable in eight equal instalments. The number of instalments are increased in the case of liberalised loan scheme. The following statement gives an idea of the loan assistance provided by the Corporation as on March 31, 1974.

Scheme	No. of units	Loan disbursement (in Rs) as on March 31, 1974
Corporation loan scheme	5	19.58 Lakhs
Liberalised loan scheme	9	2.81 "
Ordinary loan scheme	4	0.49 "

The other institutions which have rendered assistance to the industries of the district are the U.P. Small-Scale Industries Corporation, Kanpur and the National Small Industries Corporation. The State Government is also helping through a number of other schemes both in the private and the co-operative sectors such as relating to the handloom industry, the Khadi development, the credit facilities and the industrial co-operative societies.

The district can enjoy more financial assistance under the State Aid to Industries Act and the Credit Guarantee Scheme of the State Bank of India, but as said earlier, even the credit facilities already available are not being fully utilized.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL AND PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

With the introduction of modern methods of cultivation and a minimum price guarantee for agricultural produce, the economic condition of the people has improved providing the district a better base for industrial development. The prospects for establishing new industries in the district is analysed on the basis of available resources and the existing and anticipated demand for various manufactured items in the district. Since there are only two large-scale units in the district, there is some scope for the establishment of a few more and also for the ancillary industries. Industrial potential for small-scale industries is based on infra-structure facilities and available resources.

In a developing economy, means of communications play an important role because they enable a quick movement of finished goods to the markets and the raw materials to production units. There is a network of roads, connecting the district headquarter with all important places within and outside the district. It is located near Agra and Mathura, Etah is not on the main line. A branch line of the Northern Railways connects it with Tundla of Agra district, which helps transportation of goods.

No doubt there is some power shortage in the whole of the country but industry has not been made to suffer on that account. The district receives electric power from U.P. Grid.

The district is poor in natural resources and only agriculture can provide certain crops and bye products which can be processed and utilized by few small scale units.

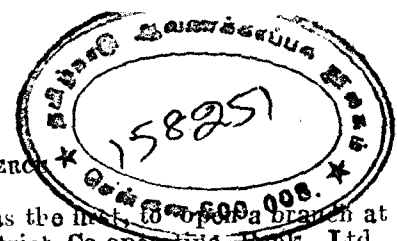
The industries are classified under two major heads, resource based industries and demand based industries. Under the former certain industrial units can be established to utilize the available resources of the district. A solvent extraction plant may be set-up in the district as the district produces oil-seeds and much of oil is left in oil cakes. The oil may be extracted by solvent extraction process because it has double advantages viz. oil is recovered from oil-cakes and dry oil-cake may be exported. A potato chips plant can be established at Mirech in the district, as considerable quantity of potato is available there. A small scale manufacturing unit for cardboard can also be established at Etah, as paddy, wheat and maize husk, the raw material of this industry is available in the district. The district produces green peas in considerable quantity, and the people like to eat them in oil season as well, so there exists a necessity of a factory for dehydrated peas. The flour is milled by "atta chahkis" and there is no roller mill in the district. With the increasing demand for maida and suji, a roller flour mill can be established. There is a scope for opening a few rice and dal mills also. It is apparent that the above mentioned industries, if established, will generate employment opportunity for a large number of persons.

Size of market, levels of income, educational attainments, degree of urbanization, habits and outlook of consumers are major factors to determine the demand based industries. With the advancement of medical aid and expansion of hospitals and primary health centres, the demand for distilled, saline and glucose water has increased so some manufacturing units can be easily set-up to meet the demand. Besides, the units for the manufacture of steel furniture, rolling suttees, conduit pipes, utensils, electric goods, hosiery items, ready made garments, cycle parts, polythene sheets and bags, plastic novelty items, paint and varnish, packing cases, cement jali, glass bangles, toys and toilet articles can be set up in the district. There is scope for few more cold storages also. The old industries also need serious attention, and efforts deserve to be made in order to revive them. All these industries will also create a number of jobs in the district.

Labour Organization

There was only one trade union registered in the district in 1976, with a total number ship of about 178 workers. The main objects of these union are to ensure fair wages, good living and working condition, proper medical and educational facilities for labourers and their general welfare. They also help in creating healthy relationship between the employers and employees.

Labour Welfare—The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Employment of Children Act, 1936, the U.P. Maternity Benefit Act, 1938, the Minimum wages Act, 1948, the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948, the U.P. Industrial Establishment (National Holidays) Act, 1961, and the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, are in operation in the district. In 1974, there was a labour inspector in the district to ensure the enforcement of labour laws, advancement of labour welfare schemes and to maintain a liaison between the employers and the employees,



CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of Banking

Details about indigenous banking in the district are not available, but it may be presumed that general practices which prevailed in the trade centres of northern India also obtained here. The giving and taking of loans was in vogue even in ancient times and the word *rina* (debt) is mentioned repeatedly from the Rigvedic times onwards.¹

The district is situated in the north-eastern part of the Agra division, and a road now called the Grand Trunk Road linked it with Delhi in the Mughal days. It had a flourishing trade with the adjoining areas of Badaun, Aligarh, Mathura, Agra, and Mainpuri districts. The goods were mostly transported on camels and ponies and on carts drawn by animals.

The business of dealing in money was highly developed in the medieval period, and money dealers were found in all centres of trade². Merchants and middlemen advanced money to artisans and traders. However middlemen exploited the artisans. When Emperor Akbar came to know of the malpractices, he abolished many taxes levied on artisans. But the local officials defied Emperor's orders³ and the exploitation of artisans increased.

There were many treasuries in the medieval period but in a bad state. Akbar introduced reforms and the State treasuries were put under the charge of responsible officers. The district received its supply of coins from mints established at Farrukhabad and Agra.

The British established their own treasury at Etah after taking over the administration of the district in 1801. Subsequently, sub-treasuries were established at the four tahsil headquarters. For more than a century treasuries were the main centres for collection and expenditure of money. The district magistrate was ex-officio in-charge of the treasuries. He was assisted by a treasury officer and other staff.

A considerable number of persons, hailing from the trading community also operated as indigenous bankers. At the close of the last century, the tendency of the land to pass into the hands of the trading classes was pretty general, all over the district. At the 1873 Settlement there were 21,364 Banias in the district owning 41,731 acres. In 1911, there were 27,920 Banias, owning 85,002 acres, or 7.7 per cent of the total area. They were most numerous in Kasganj tahsil and only a few resided in Jalesar.

¹ Jain, L.C. : *Indigenous Banking in India* p. 8 (London, 1929)
² Moreland, W.H. : *India at the Death of Akbar*, p. 55
³ *Ibid.*, p. 55

The Central Bank of India was the first to open a branch at Etah in 1911. Seven years later the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd. Etah came into existence.

These were the only banks that catered to the requirements of the government and the public till the end of the fifties of this century. In the sixties, the U.P. State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd. opened four branches in the district. The State Bank of India, Canara Bank and the Allahabad Bank also established their units in the district in the sixties. Thereafter a large number of offices were opened in the district by these four commercial banks, with the result that 25 such offices, including branches and pay offices, were operating in the district in 1976.

The total number of banking units in the district was 40 in 1976 out of which 11 branches were affiliated to the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd. Etah. In addition the Government advanced money for the development of agriculture, industry and trade. However, the district was quite backward in terms of credit and deposits even in 1967. The per capita bank credit was only Rs 2, while the figures for the adjoining districts of Agra and Aligarh were Rs 19.2 and Rs 18.9 respectively. The per capita bank deposit was Rs 10.8 for Etah district, Rs 62.0 for Agra district, and Rs 34.2 for Aligarh district.

Rural Indebtedness

The British after taking over the administration of the district in 1801 contributed to a great extent to the protection of life and property. In addition the extension of canals in almost all the parganas, made farming more secure from drought. The region was infested with robbers in the past and a century of British rule firmly established law and order. However there was a considerable increase in the indebtedness of the district in the period 1873-1910. Banias (businessmen) made great gains at the expense of the old proprietary classes, especially the Thakurs. The Thakur was a careless landlord. The Bania had no connection with the land either by instinct or by training. Land was to him simply an investment from which he expected a high return, and his only interest was to secure the full and punctual payment of his dues. In Etah, only 27 per cent of the Bania landlords resided in 1911, the rest were the absentees, who managed their estates from outside the district through their agents. The Banias had no interest in the economic development of land.

Kisti system was the most popular mode of money-lending in the nineteenth and in the first four decades of the twentieth century. The system exists even now but on a smaller scale and with some modifications. In the past the money-lender advanced Rs 10, and collected as principal and interest one rupee a month for 12 months. In other small transactions where no security was offered, the rate of interest was as high as 37.50 per cent per annum. In the case of large transactions, without a mortgage, the rate of interest varied from 12 to 24 per cent per annum, depending on the relationship between the creditor and the debtor. When movable property was pawned, the rate of interest varied from nine to twelve per cent, and when an immovable property was

mortgaged, the rate of interest was confined to the range-six to nine per cent per annum. On petty agricultural advances on personal security, the rate of interest varied from 36.50 to 57.50 per cent per annum. On grain loans the *sawai* system was in vogue. If a cultivator borrowed Rs 20 from a money-lender on the first of Agrabayana and repaid grain worth Rs 25 on the first of Vaisakha, he paid interest at the rate of 50 per cent per annum. A hard-pressed cultivator at times had to pay at the *deorha*, i.e. 50 per cent of interest for six months on one crop. The money-lender also manipulated the advances and payments in such a way that he could derive maximum profit from the existing prices of grain. When the prices were low he accepted the payment in kind and at the time of rising prices, he accepted payments in cash. There were no large banking establishments in the district in the second decade of this century, although there were several well to do *sahukars* (bankers) in Kasganj, two in Eath and one in Kadirganj. The ordinary village transactions were conducted by the Bania and shopkeepers. In larger villages Brahmanas from Bikaner and Rajputana (Rajasthan) were found to be engaged in loan operations.

The economic depression of the years (1928-32), led to much suffering as incomes and prices decreased sharply. The prices rose slowly in 1934, and they increased further during the Second World War (1939-45). A large number of villagers joined the army, as they had done in the 1914-18 World War. A considerable amount of money was sent by them to their relatives in the villages. The high price of agricultural commodities gave good returns in terms of money and some of them were able to repay old debts. The trend has continued, but the cost of other consumer goods and farm inputs like cloth, fertilisers has also increased, involving additional expenditure by the agriculturists. The population of the district grew by 15.7 per cent in the decade 1951-61, and by 20.8 per cent in the decade 1961-71. The per capita income of an average farmer has no doubt risen with the increase in agricultural production but it has been largely offset by the much higher growth in population.

The Reserve Bank of India estimated that an average family of a cultivator was indebted to the extent of Rs 501.89 in 1971, of which only Rs 9.81 were accepted in kind and the rest valued at Rs 492.58 was taken in cash. The total value of the assets of an agriculturists' family amounted to Rs 20,812.01. There are also a large number of agricultural labourers in the district, and the total value of the assets of an average agricultural labourers' household estimated Rs 1,867.24, while the family was indebted to the extent of Rs 246.6 in 1971. According to a survey undertaken by the Canara Bank in 1971, majority of the rural families depend on private sources for their credit needs. The extent of private finances was relatively greater in Jalesar and Aliganj tahsils than in the two other tahsils. The amount of loan varied widely, from less than Rs 100 to Rs 4,000. Likewise, the volume of business in the case of private money-lenders varied from a few thousands to Rs 4,00,000 annually. Money-lending was the profession of traditional families, residing in towns and quite often engaged in commercial enterprises, such as the sale of tobacco, groundnut, ghee and wheat. Money was generally taken for paying the loans of the government (*tagavi*) and the co-operative societies. The private money-lenders

could recover more of their loans than the official agencies. The increasing cost of agricultural inputs and ceaseless litigation, particularly in tahsil Aliganj, are the main causes of rural indebtedness.

Urban Indebtedness—Industrial and office workers residing at Etah and other urban centres faced difficulties prevailing up to the first-half of 1975. A large number of them are indebted.

The Reserve Bank of India held a survey in 1971, which estimated that the total average value of the assets of the household of an artisan was Rs 2,797.98, and the family was indebted to the extent Rs 300.71.

Debt-relief Legislation

The Usurious Loans Act, 1918 was the first enactment, which authorised the courts to reopen transactions between the parties and relieve the debtor of the liability, when the interest was excessive and the transaction unfair. By an amendment in 1926, the Act was made applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage, but it did not define the words, 'excessive' and 'unfair', with the result that the courts could not give effective redress. By another amendment effected in 1934, the Act was made applicable to all debts and debtors, and it provided definite limits beyond which the rate of interest should be deemed to be excessive. The other enactments that followed the economic depression of the thirties were the United Provinces Agriculturists' Relief Act, 1934, the U.P. Temporary Postponement of Execution of Decrees Act, 1937, and the U.P. Debt Redemption Act, 1940. This enabled a considerable reduction of rates of interest and fixed easy instalments for the payment of debts. They also protected the person and property of debtor from being proceeded against in execution of decrees.

The U.P. Government decided to introduce further reforms in 1975, and the U.P. Regulation of money-lending Act, 1976 has been enforced.

The Act aims at providing relief from extortion to small farmers, agricultural labourers, village artisans and other weaker sections of the community. The law is also expected to help in curbing black money.

Among other things the Act provides for fixation by government of rates of interest on loans, and issue of receipt by money-lenders for every payment made to them. For loans of Rs 1,000 or above, the money-lender is legally bound to make payment through cheques. The Act forbids the money-lenders from molesting debtors on 'payday' near their places of work. The money-lender is also required to furnish account slips to the debtor periodically, which have to be kept open for inspection by the registrar of money-lending.

The Act enjoins upon the money-lenders to declare the details of loans within three months of the promulgation of the Act. No suit can be filed in respect of any loan not included in the declaration. Under the provision of the Act there will be a registrar of money-lending who will control all money-lending transactions in Uttar Pradesh. Each money-lender will be licensed and nobody will be allowed to do money-lending without a valid licence.

Commercial loans of over Rs 5,000 advanced by the banks, Life Insurance Corporation of India, co-operative societies and government, and loans taken from provident fund accounts are not covered by the Act.

Role of Private money-lenders and Financiers

The money-lenders in the district are generally traders and affluent farmers. Bohreys (Brahmanas from Rajasthan) who are traders also, lend money in the villages. However, in the rural areas, the rate of interest continues to be as high as 36 per cent in the urban centres.

Commercial Banks

There were 27 offices of six commercial banks in the district in 1976. The following statement gives the location of the office of each commercial bank in the district :

Commercial Bank	Location of each office
State Bank of India	Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj, Dundwaraganj, Jalesar, Neoli, Sahawar, Awagarh, Nidhauri Kalan, Sakit, Rajarampur Amanpur
Canara Bank	Etah, Jaithra, Mahawar, Jalesar, Dundwaraganj, Sidhpura, Awagarh, Kasganj, Dhumri
Central Bank of India	Etah, Kasganj, Patiali
Allahabad Bank	Etah
Bank of Baroda	Etah
New Bank of India	Etah

In the past, bulk of the advance was given to merchants and traders. However, with the nationalisation of the banks in 1969, the trend has been changed and in September, 1975 as much as 62.5 per cent of the total advance of the commercial banks in the district were diverted to the priority sector, comprising agriculturists, small industrialists, transport workers, retail traders, self-employed persons and students.

The total advances and deposits as in September, 1975 were Rs 3,06,38,000 and Rs 7,43,78,000 respectively. Credit accounted for 41.2 per cent of deposits. The advances to the priority sector amounted to Rs 1,91,55,000 which was operated through 8,526 number of accounts in the banks.

The following statement gives the amount of advances given to different constituents of the priority sector at the end of September, 1975 :

	Amount (in Rs)	No. of accounts
Agriculturists	82,73,000	4,812
Small industrialists	45,05,000	413
Transport workers (road and water)	24,29,000	204
Retail traders	31,50,000	2,345
Self-employed persons	7,37,000	702
Students	61,000	50
Total	1,91,55,000	8,526

Co-operative Movement

The co-operative movement in the district was initiated with the establishment of the Sahawar village bank at Sahawar in 1906. This was the only co-operative society, which handled its business successfully for many years. In 1907-08 the society advanced 317 loans worth an amount of Rs 3,480 to its members. The society now covers most of the villages in that region and is one of the viable credit units in the district.

However the co-operative movement assumed greater momentum after 1947. The membership of the primary agricultural co-operative societies increased from 6,300 in 1950 to 1,23,672 in 1974. However the rate of interest on the whole has decreased on the loans advanced by the co-operative societies to its members. It was 12 per cent per annum in 1940, 8.75 per cent in 1950, 1960 and 1970, but increased to 10.25 per cent in 1974.

The following statement gives the progress of the co-operative movement since the fifties of this century :

Year	No. of primary agricultural co-operative societies	Membership	Amount of loan advanced by societies (in Rs)
1950	263	16,782	4,68,000
1960	387	67,174	69,58,703
1970	241*	1,01,184	1,20,92,816
1974	181*	1,23,672	1,42,97,298
1975	224	1,34,488	1,60,88,341

*The number of societies decreased after 1960, as the small societies were amalgamated to form large viable societies.

The Canara Bank, which is the Lead Bank of the district, undertook a survey of the co-operative movement in the district in 1971. According to the survey, all the villages of the district were discovered by the movement but only 10 per cent of the rural population was served by the movement. In addition only 44 per cent of all the members had availed of the facility and the rest did not borrow from the co-operatives. The deposit per member was Rs 9.60, and the advance per member Rs 120. Deposits per society were about Rs 4,000, advances per society Rs 57,000, and the overdues per society were Rs 15,000. The financial position of a large number of societies was not sound, and the volume of business limited. They did not seem to be capable of meeting the growing credit needs of the agriculturists for modernising agriculture.

Aliganj tahsil presented the worst situation and things appeared to be picking up slightly in Jalesar tahsil. In absolute terms, however the district presented the picture of an ineffective co-operative movement.

Other Co-operative Institutions—The District Co-operative Development Federation Ltd, Etah, was established in 1949. It is the central institution for consumers' co-operatives. The federation buys and sells seeds, foodgrains, cement, fertilisers and other goods. In 1975 cement, cloth, wheat seed and stationery with Rs 17,978, Rs 3,61,361, Rs. 32,282 Rs 57,000 and Rs 2,062 respectively were sold. The Federation owns an icefactory and it had a total investment of Rs 3,73,667 in 1975. The profit earned from the sales of various goods in 1975 was as follows :

	Profit (in Rs)
Ice	10,050
Cement	9,421
Cloth	2,024
Wheat	2,468
Stationery	312
Total	30,275

There are five large co-operative marketing societies situated at Etah, Kasganj, Ganj Dundwara, Aliganj, and Jalesar. Food-grains, fertilisers and other consumer goods as cloth, etc., are sold in the shops of the marketing societies. Oil-seeds are also sold at Kasganj. Agriculturists market their food-grains and other products through the societies, and are assured just and fair return.

The following statement gives the value of sales of each of the five marketing societies in 1975 :

Location of marketing society	Commodities	Value of sales (in Rs)	Total
Etah	Food-grains	15,62,000	16,66,000
	Fertilisers	1,04,000	
Kasganj	Food-grains	4,61,257	10,47,259
	Oil-seeds	1,687	
	Other goods (cloth, etc.)	5,84,315	
Ganj Dundwara	Food-grains	9,52,000	12,90,000
	Fertilisers	3,38,000	
Aliganj	Food-grains	1,39,614	7,23,691
	Fertilisers	3,78,340	
	Other goods (cloth, etc.)	2,05,737	
Jalesar	Food-grains	1,86,238	7,05,771
	Fertilisers	1,87,375	
	Seed	3,32,158	

Co-operative Banks—The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, was established at Etah in 1918. The bank had 11 branches in 1976, which were located in Civil lines, Etah, Kasganj, Aliganj, Jaithra, Amanpur, Jalesar, Awagarh, Ganj Dundwara, Soron, Nidhauli Katan, and Rajarampur. The bank had a total investment of Rs 24,21,000 in June 1975 when its membership was 290. The bank finances the co-operative institutions of the district and it also provides banking facilities to its members. In the year ending on June 30, 1975, the bank had advanced Rs 76,73,000 and the total deposits of the bank on that date amounted to Rs 75,95,000.

The Uttar Pradesh State Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd, has four branches which are located at Aliganj, Etah, Kasganj and Jalesar. The bank provides medium and long term loans (for 7 to 15 years) at 9½ per cent per annum, for the development of agriculture. In recent years the bank has also started offering credit for the implementation of various minor irrigation projects. The bank had advanced a total sum of Rs 3,82,49,000 to the agriculturists by the end of March, 1974. It provided loans worth an amount of Rs 88,64,000 in the year 1974-75.

National Savings Organization

The post-office savings bank scheme has been in operation in the district since the last decade of the nineteenth century. This and other subsequent small savings schemes have been formulated to tap the savings of those who generally do not subscribe to government loans and also with a view to inculcating the habit of thrift in people, and utilising their investments in national development schemes. The border war with China in 1962 led to the introduction of defence deposit and national defence certificates. The funds were raised for the defence of the country.

Various securities have been floated from time to time. The Government of India introduced a 15 year public provident fund scheme in 1974-75, for the benefit of those people who had no regular savings schemes for old age like pension or provident fund.

The following statement gives the total value of various securities as on the last day of December, 1975 :

No. of accounts	15,801
Total value of savings (in Rs)	4,91,23,500
Amount paid to subscribers on maturing securities (in Rs)	4,21,50,500
Net value of securities (in Rs)	9,64,000

Heavy withdrawals indicate that the people have yet to cultivate a habit for long term deposits in government securities.

Life Insurance

The life insurance business was taken over by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in 1956. A branch office of the Corporation was opened at Etah on April 1, 1960. Its success, in rather short period, can be judged from the fact that it was manned in April 1976 by three class I officers, 17 class II officers, a clerical staff of 18 persons and three others. The following statement gives the business procured in the district in the preceding two years :

	1973-74	1974-75
No. of policies issued	3,262	2,827
Value of premia paid (in Rs)	2,62,04,450	2,52,33,750

Government Loans

It had been a tradition of the rulers of the country to provide relief to the agriculturists. However with the attainment of Independence in 1947, the loans are advanced not only for distress, but also for the development of the agricultural economy.

The following statement gives the amount of loans distributed in the four Five-year Plans and in 1973-74. The loans advanced to the agriculturists are known as *tagari* loans :

Period	Amount (in Rs)
I Five-year Plan	5,81,602
II Five-year Plan	62,55,406
III Five-year Plan	1,27,11,000
IV Five-year Plan	4,60,28,100
1973-74	97,20,000

Currency and Coinage

Punch-ma ked coins, with one or two figures marked on them as symbols of the issuing authority were in circulation as far back as the sixth century B.C. Imperial Guptas issued a series of fine gold coins, which are considered to be of high artistic standard. The weight of the earliest coins was based on the system laid down in *Manu-Samhita*. Generally coins of single metal, copper or silver, were in circulation. The silver coin was known as *purana* or *dhurana* and weighed 32 *ratas*.

In the medieval period there were mainly three types of coins, the dam, the rupee, and the *mohar*. A rupee comprised 40 dams and 10 rupees were computed as equal to a gold *mohar*. Farrukhabadi rupee of 169.2 grains was in vogue in this region. The silver rupee was introduced by Emperor Sher Shah and Akbar added many new features to it.

The British issued their own rupee of 180 grains. A rupee comprised 16 annas and an anna was divided into 12 pies or four paisa (old). The decimal system of coinage was introduced on October 1, 1958. The rupee has been divided into 100 paise, comprising coins of one paisa, five paise, 10 paise, 20 paise, 25 paise and 50 paise. However old coins of four annas (25 paise) and eight annas (50 paise) are still in vogue.

The currency consists of one rupee notes and coins issued by the Government of India and the bank notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India. The Reserve Bank of India has issued notes of the denominations of rupees two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred. Currency and coinage are made available to the district through branches of the State Bank of India. Each bank is provided with a currency chest which is a receptacle in which stocks of new or reissuable notes are stored along with rupee coins. The branches of the State Bank of India receive their supply of currency notes and coins from the currency office of the Reserve Bank of India, Kanpur.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Course of Trade

The main trade routes of the district in the past, before the construction of the railways, were the Grand Trunk road, and the trunk road from Mathura to Bareilly. The former entered the district from east, and after passing through Etah, it entered the Aligarh district. The road covered 26 miles (41.6 km.) in the district. The Mathura-Bareilly road ran from Kauchhlaghat on the bank of Ganga, passed through Soron and Kasganj and proceeded to Sikandra Rao in Aligarh district. The road crossed river Kali Nadi by a bridge at Nadai, and the river Burhiganga by two bridges near Soron in the first decade of the twentieth century. The Ganga was crossed by a bridge of boats in the hot season and a ferry in the rains. Mohanpura, Kasganj and Soron were important trade centres on the route, which was about 26 miles (41.6 km.) long in the district. The other trade routes linked Etah with Shikohabad via Aliganj, Kasganj and Jalesar, and the Jalesar-Mathura, and the Aliganj roads. The important unmetalled road that connected Tundla and Sahawar via Patiali, was generally impassable in the rainy season.

At the close of the last century the trade of the district mainly consisted of food-grains, cotton, sugar, *gur* (jaggery), ghee, oil, tobacco, potatoes and spices. But a certain amount of trade was also done in manufactured articles, such as utensils of copper, iron, and brass, cloth, shoes and saltpetre. The principal trade centres were the towns of Kasganj, Jalesar, Soron and Etah. Of these Kasganj was the most important. Marahra and Ganj Dundwara were also large collecting and exporting centres, the latter serving as the outlet for the produce of Aliganj tahsil.

In 1884 the metre-gauge line was laid which passed through Rudain, Thana Daryaoganj, Patiali, Ganj Dundwara, Sahawar, Badhari, Kasganj, Marahra and connected the important trade centre Hathras. A branch line was constructed in 1885, principally on account of the pilgrim traffic from Kasganj to Soron. This line was extended up to Bareilly with stations at Manpur, and Kachhlaghat in the district. The construction of the railway increased the pace of trade but the benefits mainly accrued to the northern portion of the district. The line from Kanpur to Hathras carried a very large grain traffic, and enabled the export of grains from the parganas of Sahawar, Sirpura and Azamnagar, which previously had no better means of exporting their surplus grains than was afforded by unmetalled roads. Later on the broad-gauge line was laid linking Tundla, the stations being at Etah, Jawaharpur, Basundia, Awagarh, Kuswa, Jalesar city and Rajjanpur, covering a total length of 47 km. in the district. The railway benefited the trade in the western part of the district.

The roads have since been considerably improved and some new roads constructed in the four Five-year Plans. There were 585 km. of metalled roads and 550.8 km. of unmetalled roads in the district in 1971. The district is linked by metalled roads to the adjoining districts and a fleet of trucks carries the goods to and from the district. The increasing pace of trade is evident—16,837 persons comprising 1.1 per cent of the total population were engaged in trade and commerce in 1971. The figure represented 3.9 per cent of the total number of workers in the district.

The pattern of trade has also undergone some changes, but the broad features still show the domination of agricultural commodities in export trade and the imports comprise mainly manufactured articles like cloth, machinery, metal goods, fertilisers, kerosene and coal. However *ghunghru ghantis* (small tinkling bells), glass beads, sugar, ghee, milk products, edible oils, and agricultural implements are being exported in larger quantities since the middle of the sixties.

The establishment of a large-scale factory by the Hindustan Lever near Etah for the manufacture of ghee and other milk-products, has contributed to a large extent in increasing the export potential of the district. Jalesar and Kasganj are the other industrial centres in the district, where *ghunghru ghantis* (small tinkling bells), weights and measures, agricultural implements and edible oils are manufactured. Sugar is produced in a factory at Nooli. Glass beads are produced at Jalesar and Kasganj.

Exports and Imports

Exports—The exports of the district comprise both the commodities of industrial origin and agricultural products. The following list gives names and value of items exported in 1974-75 and 1975-76. The figures are approximate :

Year	Item	Value (in Rs)	Names of places of export
*1974-75	Mustard seed	20,00,000	Bengal
	Wheat	5,00,000	Bihar, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh
	Moong	3,60,000	Delhi, Gujarat
	Peas (Pulse)	2,70,000	Assam, Bengal
	Bajra	14,000	Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu
	Gram (Pulse)	4,500	Bengal, Assam
1975-76	Ghee	1,54,28,000	All over India
	Milk products	1,38,98,000	"
	Milk powder	85,44,000	"
	Sugar	46,62,000	Delhi, Lucknow
	Ghunghru Ghanti	20,00,000	United States of America, Europe
	Agricultural Implements	20,00,000	All over Uttar Pradesh
	Edible oils	15,00,000	Kanpur, Delhi
	Foundry castings (metric weights etc.)	14,00,000	Kanpur, Lucknow
	Glass beads	60,000	Agra, Kanpur

*The commodities were exported from Kasganj.

Ganj Dundwara is the other big centre of export of agricultural commodities, which are sent to Kanpur and Agra. Figures for Ganj Dundwara are not available.

Imports—The district imports a large number of commodities. Cloth, metal goods and electrical goods, machinery, drugs and medicines, fertilisers, cotton-yarn and coal are the main industrial goods imported to the district from various industrial centres in the country. *Gru* (jaggery) and cotton are imported from Muzaffarnagar and Punjab respectively. In 1974-75 about 2,000 quintals of jaggery and 400 quintals of cotton were imported.

Trade Centres

There are five organised wholesale markets (*mandis*), of which Ganj Dundwara and Awagarh are regulated. Other wholesale markets are situated at Kasganj, Etah and Jalesar. Ganj Dundwara is the biggest

grain collecting centre and Kasganj is the next such centre in the district. All other towns and a few big villages namely Ndhauri Kalan, Dhumri, Jaithra, Patiali, and Thana Daryaoganj are important local wholesale markets.

The Mayneganj wholesale market which is located at Etab was the main market of the district in the past, but the development of railway, and a rich hinterland around Kasganj and Ganj Dundwara have increased the importance of the *mandis* in these places. The Mayneganj market was founded in the first decade of the century by the British district magistrate and collector of the district Mr. F.O. Mayne I.C.S.

The market was extended in 1939 and after 1947. Besides agricultural commodities, the market is an important centre for the sale of cloth, medicines and drugs, agricultural implements and machinery, furniture and general merchandise. Goods are generally imported from Delhi to this market and it is also the main export centre for agricultural commodities which are sent to Mathura and Delhi.

Etab being primarily an agricultural district, it is but logical that most of its trade and commerce should get linked with its farm products. The total volume of sales in farm products in the organised *mandis* at Ganj Dundwara, Kasganj, Awagarh, Etab and Jalesar during the year 1970 represents more than 70 per cent of the total business in the district as is shown in the following table :

Commodities	Value (in thousand rupees)	Percentage of the total value of commodities
Food cereals		
Wheat	20,344.7	19.7
Barley	1,442.1	1.4
Paddy	7,144.4	6.9
Rice	3,072.7	2.9
Bajra	14,085.7	13.6
Maize	8,000.5	7.9
Total for food cereals	54,090.1	52.4
Pulses		
Arhar	5,634.1	5.5
Gram	5,774.0	5.6
Pea	13,732.9	13.3
Urd	382.6	0.8
Moong	2,264.5	2.2
Total	27,788.1	26.9
Total food-grains	81,878.2	79.3
Gur (jaggery)	1,513.9	1.5

Oil-seeds

Mustard	8,015.8	7.75
Til	73.0	0.07
Groundnut	4,884.0	4.73
Castor	47.8	0.05
Total	13,019.6	12.60

Other commodities

Cotton	62.0	0.06
Ghee	5,076.4	5.5
Potatoes	1,112.8	1.0
Grand total	1,03,262.9	100.0

The value of sales in the five *mandis* was Rs 10.3 crores. Of this food-grains comprised 79.3 per cent, oil-seeds 12.6 per cent, *gur* 1.5 per cent, ghee 5.5 per cent, potatoes 1 per cent, and cotton 0.06 per cent. The traditional grouping of crops between food and non-food crops does not hold good today. The most important commercial crops, which provide maximum cash income to farmers, are the food crops like wheat, bajra, peas, maize, paddy and gram.

The quantity of arrival of various commodities in the five *mandis* varies from month to month. While the pace of arrivals is considerable in May, June, July, November and December, it is reduced in other months, as the following statement (for 1970) indicates :

Month	Value of arrivals of commodities (thousand rupees)	Per cent of total arrivals
January	7,200.3	6.9
February	4,388.1	4.2
March	3,579.0	3.4
April	9,083.6	8.8
May	12,152.0	11.6
June	11,272.7	10.9
July	10,855.2	10.5
August	5,321.0	5.1
September	4,582.2	4.4
October	7,044.2	6.8
November	13,381.8	13.5
December	14,402.8	13.9
Total	1,03,262.9	100.0

Drugs, medicines, cloth, agricultural implements, fertilisers, machinery, furniture, fruits, vegetables and general merchandise are sold in the urban centres of the district. The markets at Kasganj, Ganj Dund-

wara and Etah also reflect the industrial growth of the district. Ghee, milk products, tinkling small bells, handloom cloth, foundry castings (weights and measures, etc.) and edible oils, which are produced in the district are sold in the local markets.

Retail Trade

The common requirements of the villagers and those residing in the urban centres of the district are generally met by traders and pedlars operating in the local bazars. In the rural areas the bazars are known as *hats*. Of all the village *hats* 26 are small ones (number of persons collecting up to 500), 20 are medium sized (the number of persons collecting 500—2,000). Soron *hat* is the biggest where over 6,000 persons collect for routine family purchases. Some of the *hats* are held daily, while others are held once, twice or thrice a week.

The following table gives the number of *hats* held in each tahsil of the district :

Tahsil	Total no. of hats held	No. and nature of business
Kasganj	18	5—Cattle 4—Grains 9—General merchandise and vegetables
Jalesar	6	1—Cattle 5—General merchandise and vegetables
Aliganj	17	4—Cattle 10—Grains 3—General merchandise and vegetables
Etah	14	5—Cattle 5—Grains 4—General merchandise and vegetable

Warehousing

The district is an important producer of food-grains and oil-seeds and as such the following storage capacity is available in the district :

Authority	Total capacity of godowns (in m. tons)
Government	50,222
Co-operative department	7,600
Trading institutions and others	4,540

Price Control and Rationing

In the wake of the Second World War (1939-45), the prices of all commodities increased, and in order to arrest their further rise, and to give relief to the consumers, chiefly in the urban areas, the prices of a large number of commodities were controlled and supply of many of

them to the consumers was rationed. Some of the more important commodities thus controlled or rationed were food-grains, cloth, matches, drugs and petrol. Dealers in these commodities had to take licences from government officers. Various schemes for the rationing of food-grains, chiefly wheat and its products, gram, rice, sugar, and kerosene oil have, however, persisted ever since with varying spheres of applicability and in 1975, there were 69 fair-price shops in the district. Sugar, wheat, rice are being sold in the fair-price shops.

Fairs

Most of the fairs held in the district are of religious character and trading in the fairs is negligible. Generally sweetmeats, country produce, and handloom cloth are sold in the fairs. However, the following fairs attract a large number of persons, and utensils, agricultural implements and general merchandise are also marketed in the fairs. Some important features of the fairs are given in the following statement :

Fair	Location	Period when held	Name of goods sold in the fair
Marg Sri	Soron, tahsil Kasganj	Agrahayana 11th to 15th (November—December)	Food-grains, cloth, ghee, utensils, agricultural implements, toys, plastic goods, etc.
Urs	Jalesar town	March 20 to 28	Food-grains, utensils, handloom cloth and garments, metal goods, plastic goods, toys, etc.

Weights and Measures

In the first decade of the present century, the government seer of 80 tolas or 26 *modushahi takas* was in use in Etah and other large markets. In the markets of tahsil Aliganj—particularly in Dhumni, Patiali, Ganj Dundwara, Kodarganj and Aliganj, the seer comprised 36 *takas*, the use of government seer was confined to milk, sweetmeats and spices, etc. In pargana Aulai the seer of 32 *takas* was used. In a few villages in tahsil Jalesar the seers of both 28 and 32 *takas* were used. The seer comprised 32 *takas* in the villages adjoining Budaun district, though in Nardauli, a village in pargana Nidhpur the seer was of 39 *takas*. The *taka*, the copper piece, was a convenient unit of weight.

A five-seer weight was called a *dhari* and 2½ seer weight was known as *paseri*. However in tahsil Kasganj *dhari* and *paseri* were synonymous terms, meaning five seers, although in pargana Aulai the *katcha paseri* meant 2½ seers and *pakka paseri* 5 seers. Twenty seers made a *katcha maund* and 40 seers a *pakka maund*.

Angusht was the unit for calculating length, and 48 such units made one *gaz* or yard. About 2,200 *gadams* or paces made one *kos*, which was roughly equal to two miles.

The measurement of time was generally confined to units known as *pahar*, *ghanta*, *pal* and *ghari*. About 2½ *ghar* is made one *ghanta* (hour),

60 *pals* made one *ghari*, 60 *bipals* made one *pal* and 3 *ghantas* made one *pahar*. The dawn was known as *dhotura*, and the time between it and first *pahar* was called *chhakwara*.

The metric system of weights and measures was introduced in the district with effect from October 1, 1960. For proper enforcement of the new system, the U.P. Government established an office under a deputy controller of weights and measures at Agra, in the same year. Subsequently another office was opened at Kasganj under an inspector. Every trader has to submit his weights and measures for inspection and every such unit is stamped after being found accurate. Camps are held in different *mandis* and traders are able to obtain accurate weights and measures. In December, every year a publicity week is held in the district, in which the new measures are publicised through films, placards, boardings and pamphlets. Traders are advised to seek the co-operation and guidance of the officials of the department of weights and measures.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

OLD TIME TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS AND MODES OF CONVEYANCE

The region covered by the present district of Etah had formed part of the ancient kingdoms of South Panchala, of Mauryas, Guptas and Harsh Vardhana, and was one of the flourishing areas in the past. The old imperial highway which ran from the north-western region of the country to Bengal had existed from the times of Mauryas. It traversed the district connecting the trade routes with Punjab, Delhi, Agra, Mathura, Allahabad and onwards up to the sea coast of Bengal. It now enters the district from Aligarh in the north-west and after running for about 42 km. goes into Mainpuri district near Pinjri (Aliganj tahsil).

The other old route which connected Mathura with Bareilly passed through this district *via* Soron and Kasganj. It now enters the district after crossing the Ganga at Kachlaghat (Budaun district) and emerges out near Sikandra Rao (Aligarh district), crossing a distance of about 44 km. in the district.

The third ancient highway started from Agra and passed through the towns of Awagarh, Etah, Jaithra and Aliganj before reaching Kaimganj in Farrukhabad district.

The old imperial highway came to be known from Sher Shah Sur's times as the Badshahi road and it was the precursor of the Grand Trunk road. It was the practice of the Hindu kings in ancient India to provide wells and avenues as well as roofed shelters on the main roads. This road was well maintained having milestones, wells and serais and long avenues of fairly well preserved trees.

During the reign of Akbar the main roads in the district were almost the same as they are at present except that they were unmetalled and there were ferries on the rivers instead of bridges existing at present. During the rainy season they were generally difficult to negotiate. Some improvements were effected during the Bangash and Rohilla rules, when some more places were connected with roads.

After the cession of the district to the East India Company in 1801, an effort was made to hold the land-owners responsible for the upkeep of the roads passing through their estates, but the scheme did not work well. The roads were then sought to be improved by imposition of a road cess and the formation of a road and ferry fund committee to administer the proceeds. Till 1857, all the land routes were treated as local and no metalled road had been in existence. After 1857, a net work of roads was running in every direction. In 1876, the metalled roads consisted of the Grand Trunk road (42.04 km.) running in a north-westerly direction from Mainpuri to Aligarh. The next in importance being the Rohilkhand, Kasganj and Hathras road running from Kachla-

ghat on the banks of the Ganga, through Soron and Kasganj, south-west to Sikandra Rao in Aligarh. Another metalled road connected Etah with Kasganj joining the Rohilkhand and Hathras road. The district contained 101 miles (162.5 km.) of first class metalled roads, besides certain second and third class and village roads.

Many more roads were added in the following three decades, but even in 1908, the majority of them were poor and several of them were difficult to travel upon, during several months of the year. Many rivers flowing through the district presented obstacles in the construction of roads. The roads approaching the ferries passed over expanses of drifting sand skirting the rivers, etc. The following statement gives the length of each metalled road existing in the district in 1908 :

Road	Length (in km.)
Grand Trunk road	
Aligarh, Etah and Kanpur	42.04
Mathura, Kasganj and Bareilly	41.06
Railway approach	8.00
Local	
Aliganj-Majhola	15.08
Etah-Kasganj	24.14
Etah-Marahra	2.40
Etah-Shikohabad	19.81
Etah to Jalesar	42.00
Ganj-Dundwara railway station	0.64
Jalesar to Mathura	11.26
Marahchi-Marahra	7.89
Pahara Rampur-Radhani	6.75
Patiali railway approach	16.60
Aspur to Sakit	5.94
Town roads	19.76

In addition there were 608.33 km. of unmetalled roads in the district. There was very little development of roads in the first half of the twentieth century. However, planned development of means of communication and the construction of new roads was undertaken after 1947 by the public works department of the State. In 1947, the total length of metalled roads in the district was 336.35 km. which rose to 450.61 km. in 1963.

Road Transport

The Nagpur Plan broadly classified roads into national highways, State highways, major district roads, ordinary district roads and village roads.

The following table shows the distribution of roads according to their classes on April 1, 1975 :

Category of roads	Length (in km.)
State highways	87
Major district roads	161.59
Ordinary district roads	169.52
Village roads	404.80

State Highways

The following are two such roads as are maintained by the State public works department and remain open for traffic throughout the year :

State highways	Length (in km.)
Grand Trunk road	43
Pilibhit-Bharatpur road	44

Major District Roads

These are kept in good condition by the State public works department, their particulars are given below :

Major district roads	Length (in km.)
Etah-Aliganj	50.43
Etah-Kasganj	24.20
Etah-Tundla	38.16
Etah-Shikohabad	18.28
Awagarh-Mathura	30.43

Minor District Roads

There are 16 minor roads under the management of the State public works department and their particulars are given below :

Minor district roads	Type of roads	Length (in km.)
Etah-Amanpur-Sahawar	Partly metalled	80.87
Kasganj-Amanpur	Unmetalled	15.20
Kasganj-Atrauli	Partly metalled	16.00
Aliganj-Thana Daryaoganj	Unmetalled	14.21
Aliganj-Kasganj	Unmetalled	8.83
L.G.C. Canal Patri	Partly metalled	14.56
Aspur-Bhagwala	Partly metalled	7.34
Sehori-Daramai	Unmetalled	7.34
Bakalpur-Chaprai-Sikandarpur	Unmetalled	8.80
Baghwala-Sidhpura	Metalled	5.00
Mirahchi-Mohanpur	Metalled	8.00
Nidhauri Kalan-Jalesar	Partly metalled	21.80
Sidhpura-Patiali	Metalled	14.80
Dhumhri-Sidhpura	Metalled	14.20
Pahra-Rudain	Unmetalled	6.80
Marahra-Nagarja	Unmetalled	4.60

The following feeder roads are also maintained by the State public works department :

Feeder roads	Length ((in km.)
Jalesar railway	1.00
Rijor	2.90
Phophotoo	1.20
Neoli Tarapur	5.46
Neoli Quadirwari	4.60
Nagrai Hasanpur	2.00
Nelo Sahbajpur	1.60

The Zila Parishad, Etah also maintains 86.8 km. long, 12 metalled roads particulars of which are given below :

Roads	Length (in km.)
Ghumri-Sidhpura	14.4
Sidhpura-Patiali	12.8
Pahra-Rudain	6.8
Mirahchi-Marahra	4.4
Marahra-Mohanpura	8.6
Mitholi-Jalesar	22.4
Marahra-Nagarja	11.2
Marahra-Piwari	4.0
Parsan feeder	1.0
Nagla Chinti feeder	1.6
Nagla Dhata feeder	1.6
Etah-Marahra	2.4
Total	86.8

Besides, 404.8 km. long 35 unmetalled roads are under its management and they connect the villages in the interior of the district.

The following statement shows the length of metalled roads maintained by municipal boards in the district :

Municipal boards	Length (in km.)
Kasganj	17.0
Jalesar	16.0
Ganj-Dundwara	16.8
Aliganj	9.0
Etah	86.5

Road communication in the district has not caught up with the pace of development in other spheres. Even today six out of fifteen block head quarters viz., Sakit, Nidhauri Kalan, Ganj-Dundwara, Patiali, Amanpur and Sidhpura have no metalled road connections.

An ambitious plan has been undertaken to lay out a net work of roads in the district, to widen and modernise existing highways and to link villages with roads. The public works department of the State has taken up the following roads for construction during the next five years :

Roads	Length (in km.)
Agra-Jalesar-Sikandra Rao	14.00
Kasganj-Ismailpur	23.12
Etah-Ganj-Dundwara	33.70
Patiali-Nardauli	4.30
Sakit-Oneta	10.25
Ganj-Dundwara-Patiali	6.74
Hathras-Jalesar	7.65
Thana Daryao Ganj-Patiali	13.65
Sabawar-Ganj-Dundwara	12.61
Amanpur-Sidhpura	8.00
Jalgarhi feeder	1.03
Nagaria-Nidhauri	6.26
Aspur-Sakit	6.20
Awagarh railway feeder	2.50
Aliganj-Sarai ghat	20.10
Ganj-Dundwara-Kadirganj	10.00
Total	180.11

Similarly, rural engineering services department of the State has undertaken the following schemes of road constructions:

Roads	Length (in km.)
Nidhauri-Gadanpur	10.80
Chhachhena-Pawas	5.20
Aurangabad-Deoria	1.20
Auntpur-Paithra	1.00
Mohanpur-Gadhika	4.50
Noreli-Naidhalpur	7.00
Tolakpur-Soron	2.00
Marahra-Madraj	7.00
Nagaria-Pachpera	9.00
Total	47.70

An efficient transportation system is vital for the progress of the district. One of the reasons attributed for the backwardness of the district is the lack of good all-weather roads, connecting the district headquarters with the blocks and villages. Many villages are not connected with tahsil headquarters by all-weather roads. Out of 15 blocks, 6 are yet to be connected by good roads. The rural engineering department has a plan to connect all villages with block headquarters and all block headquarters with district headquarters by constructing 721.7 km. road by the end of Fifth Five-year Plan.

Vehicles and Conveyances

From the earliest times till the coming of railway traction and automobiles, the usual means of passenger and goods transport were palanquins, horses, camels and vehicles drawn by animals. Ordinary goods were carried by pack animals but valuable ones were transported in carts and carriages. The ekka, appears to have been developed in Akbar's time. People in the villages depended largely on bullock carts and on vehicles drawn by horses and camels. Camel carts (which have now almost disappeared from the roads) were a common sight in olden days. With the construction and improvement of roads, speedy mechanised transport has made its appearance, and today motor cars, motor-cycles, scooters and other automobiles, cycle-rickshaws and bicycles are a common sight, on the roads in the towns and their neighbourhood. As an economical and convenient means of transport the bicycle is popular both in the rural and urban areas. Cycle-rickshaws are a recent addition to the modes of public conveyance and are so popular that they have driven ekkas and tongas off the roads. However, carts driven by bullocks and buffaloes are, even today, the most valuable conveyance in the rural areas of the district.

In the urban areas the cycle and cycle-rickshaw are a popular means of conveyance.

Mechanised Vehicular Traffic

Automobiles started operating in the district since the thirties of this century, although the total number of these motor vehicles remained pretty small in the district till 1947. In the following years mechanised road transport developed so fast that in 1977, as many as 53 private passenger buses were plying on the district roads. Private buses operate on 15 routes in the district.

The following statement shows the number of buses operating in 1977 on different routes in the district :

Routes	No. of buses
Etah-Jalesar road	7
Etah-Jalesar town	6
Etah-Sadabad	3
Etah-Ganj-Dundwara	1

Etah-Sahawar	8
Etah-Sakit-Karbala	4
Etah-Kaimganj-Daryaoganj	3
Etah-Daryaoganj	6
Etah-Aligarh	3
Etah-Ghumri	2
Etah-Karhal	1
Jalesar road-Jalesar town	2
Jalesar-Sadabad	1
Kasganj-Amanpur	2
Kasganj-Ganj-Dundwara	4

Bus Service—Road transport was nationalised on a number of routes in the State in 1947. A bus depot was opened in May, 1949 at Etah to run government buses.

The U.P. Government Roadways was constituted into the U.P. State Road Transport Corporation in 1972. The number of routes and buses plying from Etah depot have increased considerably. The following statement gives the names of the routes on which the buses of the U.P. State Road Transport Corporation plied in 1975 :

Routes	Buses plying	Milage (in km.)
Etah-Mathura	2	109
Etah-Agra	9	83
Etah-Aligarh-Delhi	12	223
Etah-Kasganj-Soron-Nagaria	11	53
Etah-Mainpuri-Bewar	15	78
Etah-Ganj Dundwara	4	83
Etah-Fatehgarh	3	111
Etah-Lucknow	2	304
Etah-Jalesar	3	50
Etah-Firozabad	7	73
Etah-Hardwar	2	353

The district is linked with roadways to all the adjoining districts of Agra, Mainpuri, Farrukhabad, Mathura, Budaun and Aligarh and certain other districts of the State and Delhi. Buses can also be chartered for sight-seeing, transportation of marriage parties, etc.

Railways

The district, at present is served by a branch line of the Etah-Barhan-Tundla section of the Northern Railway and the main Kasganj-Bareilly section of the North Eastern Railway, Kasganj to Kanpur and Kasganj to Mathura. The district had 159 km. of railway lines of which 50 km. are in broad gauge and 109 km. in metre gauge. Etah town is connected by rail to Jalesar. Kasganj, the biggest town of the district, is not connected by rail with the district headquarters. The tahsilwise position of the railway lines as obtaining in December, 1975, was as under:

Tahsil	Length of railway line under broad gauge (in km.)	Length of railway line under metre gauge (in km.)
Etah	20	9
Aliganj	...	35
Kasganj	...	65
Jalesar	30	...
Total	50	109

There are 7 stations on the Northern Railway and 3 on the North Eastern Railway. The following are the names of the railway stations on these lines.

Northern Railway :

- (1) Etah
- (2) Jawaharpur
- (3) Vasundhara
- (4) Awagarh
- (5) Kuswa
- (6) Jalesar City
- (7) Rajjanpur

North Eastern Railway :

- (1) Kasganj City
- (2) Soron
- (3) Manpur Nagaria

Bridges and Ferries

Bridges—There are a number of bridges and culverts on the railway tracks and roads in the district. The public works department maintains 3 major bridges on the roads of the district of which 2 are on river Kali Nadi and one on river Burhi Ganga.

Ferries—There are 6 ferries in the district, on the rivers Kali Nadi and Ganga. Communications are constantly interrupted by unfordable rivers particularly during rains.

Travel Facilities

A number of villages in the district have the word *serai* prefixed to their names, denoting that the *serais* (rest-houses) had existed there in the past. A few are even now used as rest-houses, but some have been converted into hospitals and schools, etc.

Passengers including tourists can reach the district by rail or road. Boarding and lodging facilities are available in the urban centres of the district.

The town of Etah is centrally located having road links with the adjoining districts of Farrukhabad, Mainpuri, Budain, Etawah and other districts of the State such as Agra, Kanpur, Lucknow, etc. It has all the necessary facilities for a comfortable halt *viz.*, dharmshalas, rest-houses, post-offices, police-stations and hospitals.

The inspection houses, rest-houses and dak-bungalows in the district are maintained by different departments of the government and are meant chiefly for the use of their own officers, but officers of other departments, members of the public and tourists are also accommodated on payment of room permits. A statement (no. I) of inspection houses, dak-bungalows etc, of the district is given at the end of the chapter.

A few hotels at Etah and Kasganj provide lodging and boarding. There are hotels at Etah mostly within a radius of one kilometre from the district headquarters. Besides there are a large number of restaurants which provide food and light refreshment.

There are a number of dharmshalas at Etah, Kasganj, Jalesar and Aliganj and certain other places in the district. They are privately managed and charge a nominal rent for providing accommodation. The visitor has to make his own arrangement for boarding. A statement (no. II) of the dharmshalas, hotels of the district is given at the end of the chapter.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPH

Post-offices—After the freedom struggle of 1857, carriage and distribution of mail was entrusted to the police, and for that purpose centres were established at tahsil headquarters and principal *thanas* (police-stations). As the system did not work well, a new system was introduced in 1865, whereby the police were relieved of postal duties and separate staff was employed for the purpose. The district was divided into a number of circles, and a post-office was opened at their headquarters which were usually places where police-stations had existed. The dak was carried by paid runners. There were imperial dak lines from Etah connecting the branch lines and the district dak runners were employed to deliver the despatches. After the introduction of the railways the dak was carried by trains, the runners being employed in the interior of the district. In 1870-71, about 8,255 deliveries were made by the department and an amount of Rs 12,697 was earned. Further improvements were made with a view to ensuring the regular delivery of letters in the villages and the system remained in force till 1876. In 1876-77, for postal purposes Avadh was amalgamated with the North-Western

Provinces and its administration was taken over by the Imperial Government (Government of India). The district dak was not however, altogether replaced, only important offices were taken over by the Imperial Government. The imperial post-offices were at Etah, Aliganj, Kasganj, Marahra, Patiali, Sakit and Soron. The district dak offices were functioning at Amapur, Dhumri, Ganj-Dandwara, Kadirganj, Nidhauri, Sahawar and Sirhpura. By 1908, the district dak offices were abolished and the post-offices were placed under the control of the Government of India.

The development and extension of roads, consequent increase in vehicular traffic and growth of population have led to the opening of more and more post-offices. In 1908, there were 32 post-offices in the district and in 1974-75, they numbered 250. In rural areas of the district about 9 villages are served by a post-office and the number of post-offices per 100 sq. km. is shown in the following table :

Tahsil	Number of post-offices per 100 sq. km.
Aliganj	4
Etah	5
Jalesar	4
Kasganj	4

Postal department, a Central Government establishment, is presided by a director-general, under whom are the post-masters general of the States. The district is in the administrative jurisdiction of the superintendent of post-offices, Etawah postal division, with headquarters at Etawah. He works under the administrative control of the post-master general of Uttar Pradesh with headquarters at Lucknow.

Telegraph Offices—After the opening of railway routes in the district, telegraph facilities were available at each railway station. In 1908, there was a head telegraph office at Etah with a number of branch offices. In 1974-75, there were 19 telegraph offices in the district.

STATEMENT I

Inspection Houses, Dak Bungalows etc.

Reference Page No. 180

Village/town	Name	Managing department
TAHSIL ALIGANJ		
Bhutha	Dak-bungalow	Irrigation department (canal)
Tikaiya	" "	" "
Pahraiya	Inspection house	" "
Aliganj	" "	" "
Dhumri	Dak-bungalow	" "
Gunj-Dundwara	Rest-house	Municipal board
TAHSIL JALESAR		
Loha Naherpur	Rest-house	Public works department
Vadanpur Kajipur	Inspection house	Irrigation Department
Pilkhvara	" "	" "
Gadesara	" "	" "
Vori Kalan	" "	" "
Jalesar	" "	" "
TAHSIL KASGANJ		
Kasganj	Inspection house	Public works department
Soron	" "	" "
Gorha	" "	Tube-well division, Aligarh
Sawanpur	" "	Narora division L.G.C., Aliganj
Kiloani	" "	" "
Nadrai	" "	" "
Amanpur	" "	" "
Kinawa	" "	" "
Badhari Kalan	" "	" "
TAHSIL ETAH		
Etah	Inspection house	Public works department
Etah	" "	Irrigation department
Chhachhena	" "	Irrigation department (canal)
Nidhaul Kalan	" "	" "
Sunna Sahori	" "	" "
Jirsami	" "	" "
Himmat Nagar Bajhera	" "	" "

STATEMENT II

Dharamsalas, Hotels, etc.

Reference Page no. 126

Village/town	Name	Facilities available	Managing department
TAHSIL ETAH			
Etah	Sri Digambar Padmavati Purvval Panchayati Jain Dharamsala	Lodging	Private
Etah	Farrukhabad-Wali Dharamsala	"	"
Etah	Sumer Dharamsala	"	"
Etah	Bhurji Dharamsala	"	"
Etah	Nai Dharamsala	"	"
Etah	Quality Hotel	"	"
Etah	Shela Restaurant	food and lodging	
Etah	Shanti Hotel	"	"
Etah	Sharma Hotel	"	"
Etah	Ghanshyam Das Hotel	"	"
TAHSIL JALESAR			
Jalesar	Hoti Lal Dharamsala	Lodging	Private
TAHSIL KASGANJ			
Muhalla Nawab	Kapurchandra Dharamsala	"	"
Ditto	Marwari Dharamsala	"	"
Muhalla Nathuram	Maya Kunwar Dharamsala	"	"
Muhalla Mohani	Ganga Chungi Dharamsala	"	"
Ditto	Farrukhabad-Wali Chunni Kunwar Trust	"	"
Muhalla Chabra Tirth Soron	Pannalal Trust	Lodging	Private
Muhalla Katra Garh	Jalesar-Wali Dharamsala	"	"
" Har-ki-Pairi	Dharamsala	"	"
Ditto	Ditto	"	"
Ditto	Ditto	"	"
Ditto	Ganga Sahai Sunar Dharamsala	"	"
Muhalla Nawab	Minakshi Hotel	Boarding and lodging	"
Ditto	Raja Hotel	"	"
Ditto	Shiraz Hotel	"	"
Muhalla Mohan	Quality Lodge	"	"

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

At the decennial census in 1971, the district population which at the preceding census of 1961 stood at 12,99,674 increased to 15,70,925 but the number of workers decreased by 4 per cent. This anomaly appeared because of a division of economic activity of the people into main and subsidiary categories for the first time, at the last enumeration. All part-time workers were registered in the latter group, and excluded from the earnest working population.

All those persons who are economically active but are neither cultivators nor agricultural labourers, have been considered to be engaged in miscellaneous occupations. Their number was 1,04,528 and 79,574 in 1961 and 1971 respectively, and out of the total number of people working in these years, 7 per cent less were enumerated as miscellaneous workers in 1971. The shortfall was made good by an equivalent rise in the percentage of agricultural labourers. An idea of how the non-farm workers were distributed among major categories of miscellaneous employment, may be had from the table given below :

Occupation	1971	1961	Remarks
Mining and quarrying	42	12	
Household industry and manufacturing	24,463	32,669	
Construction	1,933	2,675	
Trade and commerce	16,887	18,554	
Transport, storage and communications	5,545	4,010	
Services	30,740	43,773*	*including unclassified services.
Activities not specified	...	2,835	

It would strike immediately from a glance at the figures given above that except in the joint sector of transport, storage and communications, fewer persons were engaged in other vocations in 1971. Apparent anomaly was due to a change in the definition of the worker as adopted in the census of 1971, according to which all the casual and household workers were, unlike 1961 excluded from the category of workers.

The rural urban ratio of employment which was 67: 33 in 1961 changed to 56: 44 in 1971 in regard to persons following miscellaneous occupations. The growth rate of population in the urban areas of the district was higher by 2.4 per cent than in the countryside, because of movement of rural people to the cities and towns in search of employment. This also explains the altered equation between miscellaneous workers inhabiting the two parts of the district.

Public Services

4,696 persons filled the ranks of public services in the district in 1961. They were distributed in the following manner :

Category of public employment	Number of employees		
	Total	Males	Females
Police	1,101	1,095	6
Administrative departments and offices of the Central Government	450	449	1
Administrative departments and offices of the State Government	748	722	26
Administrative departments and offices of quasi-Government organisations, municipalities local bodies etc	2,397	2,377	20

The number of employees in public services has increased considerably as a corollary of the rapid socio-economic development of the region undertaken by the government through their administrative machinery and the agency of various corporate bodies.

Persons in the public services fall under the category of fixed wage earners who are more prone to the debilitating effect of rising costs. However, locally employed Central Government employees fare a little better than their counter parts in the service of the State Government or the local bodies, if fringe benefits are taken into account. Dearness allowance is admissible to all classes of such employees at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. Facilities like regular subscription to provident funds and free medical treatment, free or subsidized residential accommodation, conveyance allowance etc. are available to government servants and to some extent to employees of the local bodies also. Leave rules have been revised to reduce disparity between temporary and permanent staff. Encashment of leave is admissible to majority of government servants. Other benefits include granting of advances for purchase of conveyances or residential plot and construction or repair of houses and permanent pension rules have been so liberalised as to cater to the needs of the family in the event of premature death of the government employee. The age for seeking voluntary retirement has been reduced and the quantum of superannuation pension raised. Non-practising allowance is paid to certain doctors whose posts have been excluded from the offices carrying benefits of private practice. Higher allowances are admissible to post-graduate physicians and surgeons and those possessing superior technical qualifications. Gallantry awards are available to members of the police force and honoraria to the devoted and meritorious staff.

The employees are allowed to form associations or unions under the Societies Registration Act of 1860, for the protection and promotion of their service interests. Government servants of the state working in the

district are members of the State Employees' Joint Council or the Ministerial Employees Association affiliated to respective state level organisations. Those serving under the local bodies are members of the local authorities employees association and the employees of the State road transport corporation are members of the employees' road transport corporation, joint councils.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Education

In 1961, there were 2,197 persons engaged in the teaching profession of whom 211 were females. In 1961, the percentage of literacy among males was 25.2 and among females 6.6. The corresponding figures of literacy in 1971 were 36.59 per cent in the case of males and 11.01 per cent in the case of females. This has been achieved through opening of new schools and colleges resulting in increase in the number of teaching staff both males and females. The total number of teachers in 1975-76 was 5,899 of whom 836 were females.

Since 1964, the triple benefit scheme has been extended to the State-aided institutions run by the local bodies or private persons, bringing the advantages of contributory provident fund, compulsory life insurance and retirement pension, which includes family pension to members of the teaching staff. Payment of salary to teachers working in institutions which are in receipt of grant from the State Government is made through cheques drawn jointly by the manager and a nominee of the district inspector of schools, usually the associate inspector of schools.

Teachers' wards are entitled to free tuition up to intermediate standard. Needy and disabled teachers receive financial help from the National Foundation for Teachers' Welfare Fund and those suffering from tuberculosis may avail free facilities of treatment at the Bhowali Sanatorium where a few seats have been earmarked for them.

The teachers in the district have joined one or the other association devoted to their welfare. The Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh is meant for teachers of the higher secondary schools and the Prathamik Shikshak Sangh for their counterparts working in the primary and junior high schools of the district. These associations are affiliated to the State-level apex bodies. Representatives of the teaching staff are borne on managing committees of several institutions, and membership of the State Legislative Council has been thrown open to them through the formation of separate teachers' constituencies.

Medicine

In 1961, there were 41 allopathic physicians and surgeons, 189 Ayurvedic physicians, 49 homoeopathic physicians, 9 dentists and 134 other practitioners, totalling 422, engaged in medical profession. The number of lady doctors was only 10. Among the ancillary services were engaged 83 nurses, 265 midwives and health visitors, 21 nursing attendants and related workers, 127 pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians, 35 vaccinators, 1 physiotherapist, 22 sanitation technicians, 2 opticians,

and 30 other medical and health technicians excluding laboratory assistants. The rapid extension of medical and health facilities in the district has caused an enormous rise in the numerical strength of these workers.

A branch of the Indian Medical Association with laudable objectives like the promotion and advancement of medical and allied services is functioning in the district with a small membership.

Law

The district had a small community of 302 legal practitioners and advisers in 1961. There were 15 allied workers including petition writers. From among the lawyers the government have appointed district counsels separately for conducting civil, criminal and revenue cases, on behalf of the State. A panel has also been constituted to share the work load of these functionaries.

With the large influx of new entrants, the legal profession has become more competitive in recent years. Some malpractices have also crept in. The lawyers generally play an important role in the public life of the district, particularly in the social, educational and political spheres. The recent decision of the government to shift the subordinate courts to tahsil headquarters may lead to an abysmal fall in the density of legal practitioners stationed at the district headquarters and a proportionate rise in the number of persons practising in outlying stations.

The lawyers have formed two Bar Associations which aim at infusing brotherly feelings among their members and strive to maintain harmonious relations between the bench, and the bar, some progressive elements have also offered to advise and defend the poor litigants at nominal fee or without accepting remuneration.

Engineering

In 1961, the district had 55 architects, engineers and surveyors. Of these, civil engineers, the mechanical engineers, the electrical engineers, the chemical engineers, the mining engineers, the surveyors and the architects numbered 4, 6, 22, 1, 15, 6 and 1 respectively.

Mostly persons belonging to this class of workers are employees of the government, local bodies and corporations.

Domestic and Personal Services

These services were rendered by 9,474 persons in 1961. Domestic servants and cooks numbered 1,083. Majority of them lived with their masters and acted like multipurpose workers. In the rural areas they cooked their meals separately but in the cities and towns received food from the family kitchen. They worked during the pleasure of their employers and mostly eked a miserable living. There was no security of job and often they had to remain idle. The socio-economic changes which have taken place recently in the life of the people, have largely curtailed avenues of employment in this sphere.

Barbers, hairdressers, etc.

In 1961, the number of barbers, hairdressers, beauticians and related workers was 2,711. In urban areas the old practice of a family barber has almost become extinct. People go to haircutting saloons for service. In villages, however, the old practice of a family barber is still in vogue and he can be seen at certain social ceremonies. He attends to his *yajmans* (patrons) at their residence and usually gets remuneration in kind at the time of harvesting.

Washermen

Launderers, dry cleaners and pressers numbered 5,340 in 1961. Washermen attend to the customers at their residence. The launderers on the other hand run regular shops and do not undertake home delivery. They charge higher rates. Still, because of their quick and efficient service, the launderers are gaining popularity over washermen. The laundry owners employ washermen for washing and additional persons for ironing. Laundering has, no doubt become a profitable business. Washerman of villages still attends to his patrons at their residence. He gets remuneration in kind.

Tailors

In 1961, the number of tailors, cutters furriers and related workers was 2,910. In urban areas the tailors make shirts, bushirts, pants, pyjamas and suits while tailors in rural areas generally make *kurtas*, trousers and *lahangas*. With the passage of time the style of clothes has undergone a complete change. The *lahangas* are being replaced by *salwars* and *kurtas*. In urban areas also the style of clothes keeps on changing with the change in fashion. The tailoring charges vary from place to place and shop to shop depending upon the stitching skill of the tailor and the status of customers. Tailors of urban areas mostly employ workers on monthly or contract basis. The employment of such workers in rural areas is out of the question. Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work at their shops. In the past there used to be family tailors in villages who, besides receiving some cash for tailoring, got food-grain at harvesting.

Other Minor Workers

Their ramifications are so large that it would not be worthwhile discussing them. For their individual roles the District Census Handbooks for relevant years may be referred to.

Labour Organisations

The different classes of workers have organised themselves to form associations which prescribe a schedule of rates for the jobs undertaken by their members, the goods sold and services rendered by them. A strong feeling of trade-unions is fast growing to protect commercial interests and save the workers from cut-throat competition and exploitation by customers. District Workers Union is functioning in the district.

CHAPTER IX ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Workers and Non-workers

The percentage of workers and non-workers in 1961, in the district, was 32.8 and 67.2, the corresponding figures for the State being 39.1 and 60.9 respectively. Of the total workers in the district, cultivators and agricultural labourers accounted for 75.5 per cent. Next come household industry and other manufacturing concerns with 7.4 per cent and trade and commerce 4.3 per cent. In other categories the number was small, altogether accounting for 1.8 per cent. The extent of female participation in work was 4.2 per cent against 6.7 per cent in the State. The non-earning female dependants were mostly engaged in household work and did not seek work for livelihood. Their participation was higher in non-agricultural activities than in agricultural, being 9.4 and 2.5 per cent respectively.

The total rural population, 11,74,566, of the district in 1961 comprised 32.8 per cent workers and the remaining 67.2 per cent non-workers. The corresponding percentages for the urban area were 30.8 and 69.2 respectively. Thus the proportion of workers was lower in towns than in villages. Of the total 3,87,521 workers in the rural area in 1961, cultivators and agricultural labourers were 82.0 per cent and workers in non-agricultural activities were 18.0 per cent only. As usual there was preponderance of non-agricultural workers in the urban areas, the percentage being 89.9.

The comparative data of 1961 and 1971 is tabulated below:

Year	Total population	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total population			
			Agricultural workers	Non-agricultural workers	Total Workers District	U.P.
1961	12,99,674	4,26,042	24.8	8.0	32.8	39.1
1971	15,70,925	4,48,796	23.5	5.0	28.5	30.9

The statement apparently indicates a decrease in the working population reflecting unemployment even amongst the already employed persons of 1961. This anomaly has crept up due to change in the definition of 'worker' in 1971. The use of term 'worker' was so comprehensive at the 1961 Census that a person doing as little as one hour's work in a day was treated as a worker. Accordingly a woman, who mostly attended to household duties, was classified as worker, if at all she carried food on to the field, tended the cattle or did some such other

work. In the census of 1971 a man or woman who was engaged permanently in household duties such as cooking for own household, whether such a person helped in the family's economic activities as a part-time worker, was not treated as worker but categorised as a non-worker. This may explain the sudden decline in the number of total workers in 1971 in spite of a rise in population of about 20.9 per cent over the population of 1961.

At the 1971 Census workers were classified into nine major categories, the basis of the classification being those economic activities which were similar in respect of process, raw materials and products. The details of the nine categories of workers in 1971 are as follows :

Categories of Workers

Number and name	Total	Males	Females	Percentage to total workers	Percentage to total population
I Cultivators	8,18,646	8,10,607	8,089	69.9	19.09
II Agricultural labourers	55,576	54,947	629	12.4	3.5
III Live-stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	1,438	1,890	48	0.3	0.1
IV Mining and quarrying	42	42	...	0.0	0.0
V Manufacturing, processing, servicing and repairs					
(a) Household industry	11,775	10,864	911	2.6	0.8
(b) Non-household industry	11,255	11,029	226	2.5	0.7
VI Construction	1,933	1,926	7	0.5	0.1
VII Trade and commerce	16,837	16,622	215	3.8	1.1
VIII Transport, storage and communications	5,545	5,508	37	1.2	0.4
IX Other services	30,749	29,157	1,592	6.8	1.9
Total workers	4,48,796	4,42,092	6,704	100.0	28.5
Non-workers	11,22,129	4,14,085	7,07,144	—	71.5
Total population	15,70,925	8,57,077	7,13,848	—	—

The non-workers have been grouped together in one single class though they were classified at the census into the following categories :

- (a) Full-time students;
- (b) Those attending to household duties;
- (c) Dependants and infants;

- (d) Retired persons and retirees;
- (e) Persons of independent means;
- (f) Beggar and vagrants;
- (g) Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions;
- (h) Others

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICES AND WAGES.

Prices

Statistics are not available for the whole district from a very early period, but all those that exist point to a general steady rise only occasionally interrupted by a momentary fluctuation. Wheat for instance averaged 36.5 seers to a rupee in the pargana Azamgarh between 1833 and 1836 and had risen to 28.75 seers to a rupee by 1871. In Sahawar and Sidhpura there was little difference in the average during this period. In the period 1870-74 the average price for the whole district was 20.14 seers. It dropped during the next five years to 22.12 seers but rose by steady gradations to 14.44 seers in 1902. Jowar, which between 1841 and 1850 averaged 51.12 seers in Sahawar, rose to 35.12 seers by the end of 1870. Over the whole district their average was 26.06 seers during 1864-68 and between 1897-1902 it rose to 21.25 seers after many fluctuations during the intermediate period.

The improvement of communications and the rapid and cheap means of transport available about 1900 through the extension of the railways coupled with the worldwide demand for wheat, had made its price quite independent of the requirement of the district. The price of wheat in Kasganj or Aligarh, therefore, was governed not by the success or failure of the Rabi crop in Etah but by the abundance or deficiency of the wheat harvest of the entire country. The general rise in prices throughout the district might be put at 20 per cent during the thirty years ending 1900. About 1911 normal rates per rupee for the district were reckoned to be 13 seers for wheat, 8.5 seers for rice, 15 seers for gram and 14 seers for dal arhar.

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, a series of changes in prices including a considerable rise in the cost of food-grains, were witnessed in the succeeding years. The price level in the district as compared to that of 1911 was higher by 26 per cent in 1916 and by 61 per cent in 1928.

A worldwide economic depression started in 1930 and continued with greater severity in the years that followed. Consequently from 1930-31 the rates registered a downward trend and the price level in 1934 went down by about 45 per cent and 30 per cent as compared to those of 1928 and 1916 respectively. Prices remained low till the end of first half of 1936 when they began to stabilize and became steady in 1937, at a level higher than that of 1936. By 1939 the prices registered a rise of nearly 46 per cent over those prevalent in 1934.

After the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939 there was a steep rise in prices largely due to speculation and profiteering. Other factors, like the holding back of stocks in anticipation of further shortages,

contributed in no small measure to maintain and even to advance the high level reached in prices. At the beginning of 1940 price control measures which had been put into operation on the outbreak of the war were vigorously enforced by the district authorities.

In 1942 a district advisory committee was formed to find out ways and means to ease the situation. This had no effect in lowering the prices. The price control measures were then vigorously enforced which included fixation of prices (as modified from time to time), launching of prosecutions to check profiteering and licensing of food-grain traders. Even then the prices continued to go up when they registered a rise of 210 per cent in 1944 over those of 1939.

It was experienced that effective control of prices was not possible without a corresponding check on supplies. Hence in January, 1943, partial rationing was introduced when wheat, rice and certain coarse grains were made available at controlled rates from the government shops to about 25 per cent of the population comprising poorer section of the society. Having failed to achieve the desired result the partial rationing was converted into total rationing (which provided the closing of the open market and rationing for all inhabitants) in 1945. It remained in force for nearly three years, being discontinued about May, 1948. After the abolition of total rationing, the prices in the beginning started going down but the basic overall shortage, reasserted itself and the price soon assumed an upward trend. It seemed as if the markets would go beyond control unless definite steps were taken to arrest the rise in prices. People also clamoured for restoration of rationing and controls. The government took immediate steps and the total rationing was re-imposed about the middle of 1949 when wheat was being sold at about 1.5 seers to a rupee. It continued till June, 1952, when a change in government policy with regard to controls was made. With effect from that date free markets were restored but the issue of food-grains to ration-card holders, however, continued. Restrictions on the movement of foodgrains within the State were also withdrawn and procurement was suspended, but the food-grains continued to be issued by government shops to arrest any rising trend in prices. Towards the end of 1953, the prices per kg. which were Re 0.50 for wheat, Re 0.44 for gram and Re 0.71 for rice, tended to come down a little. The normal forces of demand and supply once again started adjusting the prices. However, neither the cultivator was sure of getting a fixed minimum price for his produce nor was the trader assured of his commission. This uncertainty led to a decline in prices in 1954 which further fell in 1955. By 1955 the fall in prices was about 32 per cent for wheat, 50 per cent for gram and about 40 per cent for rice as compared to those prevailing in 1953. This was a countrywide trend, which required to be checked to stabilize the economy and sustain the growth of agriculture. The government, therefore, took measures in 1954 to support agricultural prices and the results were conducive to production. The prices from 1952 to 1955 were as follows :

Year	Prices (per kg. in Rs)		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1952	0.48	0.39	0.85
1953	0.50	0.44	0.71
1954	0.38	0.30	0.56
1955	0.34	0.22	0.41

The prices thereafter began to show an upward trend and continued to move up. The approximate prices for certain years from 1960 to 1974 are given in the following statement :

Year	Average yearly retail prices in Rs per kg.		
	Wheat	Gram	Rice
1960	0.48	0.41	0.55
1971	0.78	0.85	1.14
1972	0.89	1.10	1.30
1973	1.15	1.68	1.48
1974	1.79	2.10	2.16

The retail prices in the headquarters town for certain other commodities in 1970 and 1974 were as follows :

Commodity	Prices in Rs per kg.	
	1970	1974
Jaggery	0.85	1.62
Sugar	1.86	4.80
Ghee	12.10	19.29
Mustard oil	5.23	9.65
Fire-wood	0.13	0.20
Kerosene oil (per litre)	0.67	1.5

Wages

The general rise in the prices of food-grains has inevitably been accompanied by a rise in the rates of wages but the latter has scarcely been proportionate to the former and has been greater in the case of the skilled artisan than of the unskilled labourer. Carpenters, masons and blacksmiths who in 1850 earned a daily wage ranging from Re 0.12 to Re 0.16 received in 1900 Re 0.31 to Re 0.35, whereas the agricultural labourer's remuneration had risen from Re 0.6 to Re 0.12 only. The same thing happened to coolies and porters. As a rule, however, the village smiths and carpenters were paid not in money but in grain.

The first wage census was carried out in the State in 1906. The results of the survey made at that time and in certain succeeding years are tabulated below :

Year	Wages in Rs per day	
	Unskilled	Skilled
1906	0.16	0.28
1911	0.14	0.34
1916	0.18	0.46
1928	0.25	0.75
1934	0.19	0.56
1939	0.21	0.54
1944	0.59	1.56

After the First World War a general rise in the wages occurred as revealed by the wage census of 1928. The year 1930 was one of world-wide economic depression which reflected in the wage census of 1934. Thereafter, wages began to mount. The steep rise in 1944 was attributed to the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939. The wages moved for an adjustment but there was no coming down and they continued to go upwards as would appear from the following statement :

Year	Wages (in Rs per day)	
	Unskilled labour	Skilled labour
1955	1.09	3.45
1960	1.27	4.89
1965	1.90	4.35
1970	3.29	6.14
1974	4.68	9.08

In 1974 wages for various agricultural occupations, e.g., weeding, reaping, ploughing, etc., were about Rs 4.25 per day for eight working hours.

The approximate average wages paid to the workers at district headquarters in 1975 for certain occupations were as follows :

Occupation	Unit of quotation	Wages (in Rs)
Chowkidar	Per month	150.00
Gardener	Per month (whole-time)	150.00
	Per month (part-time)	80.00
Herdsmen	Per cattle per month	5.00
Casual labourer	Per day	5.00
Domestic servant	Per month without food	100.00
	Per month with food	60.00
Wood-cutter	Per 40 kg. of wood turned into fuel	1.00
Carpenter	Per day	10.00
Midwife	For a boy	10.00
	For a girl	5.00
Barber	Per shave	0.85
	Per hair-cut	1.00
Scavenger	Per month for a house with one latrine for one cleaning per day	2.00
Motor driver	Per month	300.00
Truck driver	Per month	450.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment Trends

The statement given below shows that there had been a considerable increase in the number of persons, employed in public sector though in the private sector there has been an erratic trend during the years 1970-74. The data relate only to a few selected establishments which were subjected to enquiry conducted by the employment exchange authorities.

Year	No. of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1969-70	105	76	181	3,451	11,796	15,247
1970-71	110	96	206	3,586	12,108	15,694
1971-72	109	99	208	3,107	12,887	15,994
1972-73	108	109	217	3,795	13,425	17,220
1973-74	118	116	234	3,760	18,544	17,804

The number of persons in 1972-73 and 1973-74 may be further classified according to work categories in the following manner :

No. of Establishments and Employees under Different Work Categories

Nature of activity	No. of reporting establishments		No. of employees			
			1972-73		1973-74	
	1972-73	1973-74	Private sector	Public sector	Private sector	Public sector
Agriculture, live-stock, hunting and fishing	3	8	—	628	—	578
Manufacturing	82	89	1,638	1,688	1,544	1,544
Construction	6	5	20	970	—	1,080
Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	10	10	—	1,409	—	1,416
Trade and commerce	20	26	90	882	121	877
Transport, storage and communications	6	6	56	848	59	849
Services (public, legal, medical, etc.)	140	145	1,946	11,184	2,036	9,264
						11,300

CH. IX—ECONOMIC TRENDS

Employment of Women

The extent of employment of women workers is indicated by the following statement which shows their number in the private and public sectors during the quarter ending September, 1974 :

No. of reporting establishment	285
No. of women employees in public sector	1,103
No. of women employees in private sector	95
Total number of women employees	1,288
Percentage of women employees in private sector of total employees in that sector	3.16
Percentage of women employees in public sector of total employees in that sector	8.18

The proportion of women workers in educational services was 80 per cent, in medical and public health 19.5 per cent and the remaining 0.5 per cent in other services.

Unemployment Trends

Educational standards of men and women, who were registered for employment during the year ending December, 1974, were as follows :

Educational standard	Men	Women	Total
Post-graduate	48	8	56
Graduate	824	17	841
Intermediate	2,011	16	2,027
Matriculate	1,442	58	1,500
Below matriculate	1,247	62	1,309
Illiterate	68	35	103

During the quarter ending December, 1974, the employment exchange was required to recommend candidates for 66 posts, the Central Government needed 1 candidate, State government 31, local bodies 19 and private sector 15.

The district experienced shortage of stenographers (Hindi and English) and lady teachers for degree classes.

Employment Exchange

An employment exchange was established in the district in 1960 to provide job assistance to the unemployed and employers of the district. The following statement gives an idea of the assistance rendered by the employment exchange during 1970 to 1974.

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	No. on 'live register'	No. of persons provided with employment
1970	876	8,457	8,086	702
1971	768	9,738	5,584	685
1972	586	9,364	8,578	534
1973	991	9,788	8,998	442
1974	489	7,891	7,361	359

The employment market information scheme has also been functioning in the exchange since 1962. Under this scheme an intensive study is carried out to ascertain quarterly the number of persons employed, vacancies created and the types of jobs for which qualified candidates are not available along with other allied information, in public undertakings and some selected private enterprises.

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The subject of national planning and rural development received little attention under the British rule, and the few steps that were taken to recondition the village economy and society were mostly conciliatory in nature and seemingly motivated by political expediency. They largely consisted of improvement in sanitation, expansion of agriculture and extension of irrigational facilities. When the first popular government came into office in 1937 a scheme for rural development was adopted in certain villages of the district. Gradually it was later expanded and a rural development association was formed at the district level. The functions of the association, having a non-official chairman and subdivisional magistrate as secretary, were more or less advisory in nature. They covered rural hygiene, construction of roads, establishment of libraries, construction of panchayat ghars (houses), holding of night classes for adults, and allied developmental activities. With the peoples' government going out of office in 1939 the rural development programme suffered heavily. In 1946 the rural development department was merged with the co-operative department, the rural development association was replaced by the district development association with a non-official as chairman and the district co-operative officer as its secretary. In 1951 the district planning committee, having the district magistrate as its chairman and the district planning officer as its secretary, replaced the district development association. It had a number of sub-committees for the preparation and execution of Five-year Plan schemes and projects. Its role, however, continued to be advisory. The development

blocks were the units of operation into which the district was divided for the implementation of the Plan programmes of each department.

The First Five-year Plan started functioning from April, 1951, with the main objective of raising the standard of living of the people and of opening out opportunities of a wider and more varied life. It was largely a collection of departmental programmes. In the wake of the problems, created by partition, emphasis was on agriculture, irrigation and transport. Consequently efforts were made for improving agricultural practices and developing the village community through national extensive service schemes and peoples' participation in different activities. Earth-work of buildings and village-roads, digging of soak pits, etc., were done by voluntary labour (*shramdan*). Improved methods of agriculture and use of compost were also introduced and tubewells and other means of irrigation were augmented.

Aliganj was the first community development block of the district opened in April, 1953, followed by Avagarh in January, 1955 and Kasganj in January, 1956.

The scope of the Second Five-year Plan (1956-61) was enlarged to include industrialisation with stress on the development of heavy industries and on the enlargement of the scope of public sector. The aim was to increase the national income and to reduce unemployment. In the field of agriculture, scheme relating to Japanese method of paddy cultivation, U.P. method of wheat cultivation and expansion of training in the use of agricultural implements and of chemical and green manures were taken up. The whole district was divided into 15 development blocks for implementation of the Plan schemes.

In 1957, the Antarim Zila Parishad, the precursor of the present Zila Parishad, was formed by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. For the co-ordinated execution of the different Plan schemes the resources of agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, panchayat raj and some other departments like health, plant protection, etc., called the Plan departments, were pooled and put under the control of the district planning officer.

During the Third Plan period (1961-66) a three tier structure of rural self-governing bodies was set up with effect from December 1, 1963, to ensure peoples' participation in the successful implementation of the planning and development programmes. Now the village panchayats function at village level, the Kshetra Samitis at development block (Kshettra) level and the Zila Parishad at the district level. The district has 15 development blocks all of which are now in post-stage II. Some other details of these blocks are given below :

Tahsil	Name of block	Date of inauguration	No. of		Population as in 1971
			Gaon Sabhas	Nyaya panchayats	
Aliganj	Aliganj	1-4-53	97	10	95,380
Do.	Patiali	2-10-57	54	8	74,182
Do.	Ganj-Dundwara	1-4-59	70	9	71,697
Do.	Jaithira	1-4-60	81	9	88,214

(Continued)

Etah	Sitalpur	2-10-56	101	10	91,320
Do.	Sakit	1-4-58	110	11	83,290
Do.	Nidhauri Kalan	1-4-59	80	9	86,544
Do.	Marahara*	1-4-60	71	9	63,276
Jalesar	Avagarh*	26-1-55	63	7	71,428
Do.	Jalesar	1-4-57	74	8	73,567
Kasganj	Kasganj	26-1-56	82	13	83,227
Do.	Sahawar	1-4-58	61	9	69,570
Do.	Soron	2-10-58	87	13	86,983
Do.	Sidhpura	2-10-59	78	12	65,006
Do	Amanpur*	1-4-60	81	12	70,870

*These blocks were abolished in 1966 but were revived in October, 1972.

The Third Five-year Plan was conceived as the 'first stage of a decade or more of intensive development leading to a self-reliant and self-generating economy'. It sought to ensure a minimum level of living to every family while narrowing economic and social disparities. Some special programmes such as those related to improved variety of seeds, particularly of dwarf variety, intensive method of wheat and paddy cultivation and crop protection measures were taken up in hand. In 1962 the economy of the country was so strained that the process of planning and development was considerably slowed down during this Plan period.

The next three years from April, 1966, to March, 1969 did not form part of the next Five-year Plan. Annual Plans for these three years were, therefore, formulated with the following board objectives :

- (i) A growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector and 8 to 10 per cent in industry.
- (ii) An annual growth rate of 6.9 per cent in production of food-grains to achieve self-sufficiency.
- (iii) To maximise employment opportunities.
- (iv) To redress imbalances arising from a high rate of population growth and in adequate expansion in agricultural production by reducing the fertility rate to 25 per thousand in shortest possible time.

The Fourth Five-year Plan (1969-74) defined more precisely the wider and deeper social values as the 'structure of socio-economic relations should be so planned that they result not only in appreciable increases in national income and employment but also in greater equality in incomes and wealth'. It sought to enlarge the income of the rural

population and to achieve self-reliance in agriculture and industry. Consequently new small industrial units in the district were established, besides increased facilities for sanitation, transport and health services with special emphasis on improving the conditions of the backward classes and grant of subsidies to them for starting small crafts. The desired progress could not be made during this Plan period because of Indo-Pak conflict of 1971.

Removal of poverty and attainment of economic self-reliance have been defined to be the two basic objectives of the Fifth Five-year Plan, and expansion of employment opportunities has also to receive the highest priorities.

The Plan programmes of the district are an integral part of the State Plan and they broadly reflect the same priorities. Without going into details it may be observed that the implementation of various development Plan schemes has helped in appreciable growth in agricultural production, power generation and consumption, industrial development, irrigation and road transport. The planned efforts have also resulted in raising the standard of living, providing better wages and living conditions all round and helping the general economic growth of the district.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Etah is one of the five districts of the Agra division of the State, with the divisional commissioner's headquarters at Agra.

Commissioner

He functions as a vital link between the administration of districts under him and the government. He controls, guides and advises district and regional level officers, solves inter-departmental problems and assesses the performance of officers of various departments stationed in his division. On the judicial side, his jurisdiction extends to hearing appeals and revisions under the Land Revenue Act, the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act and several other enactments like the Arms Act, etc. He is the chairman of the regional transport authority exercises powers of supervision over the Zila Parishad, municipal boards and other local bodies.

District Officer

Usually, a member of the Indian Administrative Service and occasionally an officer of the State Civil Service, the district officer presides over the general administration of the district. He combines in himself, the functions of a magistrate and collector, appointed under the Code of Criminal Procedure and the U.P. Land Revenue Act respectively. In his capacity as head of civil administration in the district, he acts as a principal co-ordinator between functionaries of various departments represented in the district. Maintenance of law and order, enforcement of various laws, rules and regulations and miscellaneous government orders, release of prisoners, appraisal of public opinion and avoidance of explosive situations are some of the important duties assigned to him as district magistrate and it is in their performance that he comes in close touch with the police who follow his instructions. He is the licensing authority for possession of arms and ammunition, distribution of motor spirit, etc.

As collector he is responsible for recovery of land revenue and other government dues and maintenance of an up-to-date record of rights. Survey, record operations, settlement, resumption and acquisition of land, rehabilitation of displaced persons, distribution of relief on calamitous occasions are some other subjects dealt with by him as the principal revenue officer of the district. It is also his responsibility to recommend suspension and remission of land revenue, whenever he considers it necessary. He also supervises the work of consolidation of holdings and hears appeals under the Consolidation of Holdings Act. The district treasury is also in his over all charge. He visits each tahsil during the rainy season for tahsil and thana inspections and in winter moves on

on an intensive and extensive touring of the district particularly of the interior areas, with a view to acquainting himself with the condition of agriculturists and to watching the implementation of development schemes.

Necessary certification in respect of claimants to old age or political pensions, payment of compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act in case of accidents causing disability, total or partial, combating strikes and other labour problems, extension of visas, management of estates owned by the government and *nazul*, supervision of the conduct of civil suits in which the State is a party, etc., are also some of his manifold duties. He also acts as the chief protocol officer in the district. He has also to ensure equitable distribution of food-grains and other essential commodities through fair price shops with the help of the district supply officer. He is *ex-officio* district election officer and *ex-officio* president of the district soldier's, sailors' and airmen's board.

The multifarious role of the district officer makes him responsible for the successful implementation of projects and schemes which are introduced by the government from time to time and relate to general welfare of the people. Census, Var Mahotsava, wild life preservation securing investments for post-office securities, raising of loans for the State Government and augmenting sale of State lottery tickets are among other functions of the district officers.

He is the pivot of the planning set-up in the district. For intensive social and economic development of the area he is assisted by a district development officer at the district level and the block development officers at the block level.

The district officer has under him four sub-divisional officers, who perform duties—revenue, executive and magisterial—similar to those of the district officer though confined only to their respective subdivisions.

For effective revenue administration each of the four tahsils—Etah, Jalesar, Kasganj, Aliganj—is in the immediate charge of a resident tahsildar who acts as a magistrate in addition to being an assistant collector and presides at his tahsil office and court. His main duties include collection of land revenue, upkeep of land records, maintenance of law and order, disposal of cases and follow up of public welfare programmes. He is also called out for relief operations as and when necessary. Each tahsildar is also the officer in charge of the tahsil sub-treasury.

The police organisation which is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district, is headed by the superintendent of police, who, though not directly subordinate to the collector is second to him in status. He is in over-all charge of the police force and is responsible for its efficiency, discipline and proper performance of duties. He is assisted by 4 deputy superintendents and a large number of subordinate officers as given in chapter XII.

The judicial organisation of the district is headed by the district and sessions judge with headquarters at Etah. He is the highest authority for administration of justice and civil and criminal matters for

district. He was also the district registrar and exercised powers vested under the Indian Registration Act. But the recent change by the government has conferred powers of district registrar on additional district magistrate (finance and revenue).

OTHER DISTRICT LEVEL OFFICERS OF STATE GOVERNMENT

The other district level officers working under the administrative control of their respective departmental heads are the :

District Panchayat Raj Officer
Assistant Regional Transport Officer
Assistant Registrar Co-operative Societies
District Employment Exchange Officer
District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer
District Organiser, P.R.D.
District Probation Officer
District Statistics Officer
Sales Tax Officer
Basic Shiksha Adhikari
District Inspector of Schools
Chief Medical Officer
District Agriculture Officer
District Horticulture Officer
District Live-stock Officer
A.D.M. (Ceiling)
District Industries Officer

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES

Ministry of Finance

Central Excise—The district is in the charge of the assistant collector of central excise, Aligarh, and is divided in three excise ranges viz. Kasganj, Aliganj and Raja-ka-Rampur each headed by a superintendent. There are four inspectors who assist in collection of excise duties on tobacco, copper and copper alloys etc.

Income Tax—The income-tax office, Etah, which works under the administrative control of the inspecting assistant commissioner of income-tax, range II Agra at Kanpur, is in the charge of an income-tax officer assisted by an inspector. The appellate authority is the appellate assistant commissioner of income-tax, range II, Agra.

Ministry of Transport and Communications

Indian Posts and Telegraph Department—The district lies in the postal division of Mathura and is administered by the postmaster with headquarters at Etah, who performs supervisory duties. The district is divided into two subdivisions each under an inspector with headquarters at Etah and Kasganj.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Fiscal History

In the absence of contemporary records for the district it is not possible to trace the course of fiscal history from ancient times. During the period of Hindu suzerainty, the best view appears to be that the actual cultivator was the proprietor of the land. Manu, the renowned legislator says "the field belongs to him who cleared the jungle". Manu fixed the king's share from one sixteenth to one twelfth according to the quality of land. During the Muslim rule, this was raised to one-fourth by Sher Khan in the sixteenth century and to one third by Raja Todarmal in Akbar's reign. It was further increased to as much as one half during the time of Aurangzeb.

Just after its occupation by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri about 1206 A.D., the district was divided into the chiefs of Kannauj and Bayana for the purpose of revenue administration. Subsequently, during the reign of the sultans of Delhi and Jampur till the accession of Akbar (1556 A.D.), the district was held by Hindu and Muslim chiefs who accepted the suzerainty of the imperial power and paid revenue to the respective monarchs. The sultans of Delhi based their agrarian system on assignments, an assignee being granted exclusive authority to assess and collect the amount due and to ensure that the revenue was paid in the form of grain. Thus the principal feature of this period was that the system of revenue collection through intermediaries came into practice. Bubar (1526-1530 A.D.) and Humayun (1530-1556 A.D.) did not interfere with the system which existed at that time.

Akbar's accession in 1556 A.D. marked an entire overhauling of the system of revenue administration. The emperor began by adopting a schedule of assessment rates for general use, which had been framed by Sher Shah on the basis of claiming for the state a third of the average produce, in terms of grain. He replaced the system of annual assessment by *nasag* (group-assessment or farming)¹ of a village or a pargana as a whole but this in turn was replaced (perhaps in the fifteenth year of his reign) by rates fixed after inquiry from the *karnungo* (a revenue official) of the village. Moreover, the *ryotwari* system came into vogue under Raja Todar Mal, dealing primarily with individual *ryot*, the sum payable by him for the land he cultivated being fixed.² The revenue was paid through intermediaries who deducted their own share.

During the reign of Akbar the region covered by the present district was included in the subah of Agra, the only exception being the small pargana of Faizpur-Badaria which formed part of *mahal* (unit of land for revenue purposes) Sahaswan in sarkar Badam of subah Delhi, and

1. Moreland, W.H. : *The Agrarian System of Moslem India*, (Allahabad), p. 85
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 85-86

contained a total cultivated area of 2,53,120 bighas. The remainder of the present district was divided among sirkars of Agra, Kannauj and Koil. *Mahal Jalesar*, now a tahsil, was in the sirkar of Agra, and is mentioned as possessing a brick fort and having a cultivated area of 9,04,733 bighas, assessed at 68,35,400 dams. This *mahal* was mainly populated by Gahlot Rajputs, who had to supply a contingent of 400 horse and 5,000 foot to the imperial army. In sirkar Kannauj were the *mahals* of Patiali, Sakit and Sahawar, Sikandarpur Atreji and Shamsabad. The last named has its greater part in the Farrukhabad district, and only pargana Azamnagar is left with Etah. *Mahal Patiali* was assessed at 18,77,600 dams on a cultivated area of 1,58,634 bighas, and the principal inhabitants were Chauhan Rajputs who supplied 100 horse and 2,000 foot. The Chauhans also held most of the land in *mahal Sakit* possessing 1,32,955 bighas of cultivable land and paid 32,30,752 dams as revenue and supplied 100 horse and 3,000 foot¹. The two *mahals* of Sahawar and Sikandarpur Atreji made up the modern Sahawar-Karsana, and in Akbar's time the total cultivation of the two amounted to 1,14,658 bighas assessed at 5,21,867 dams. In Sahawar, the Gauruah landholders were to furnish 20 horse and 500 foot, but the contingent levied from the Rajputs of Sikandarpur Atreji was only 5 horse and 150 foot. The *mahals* of Bilram, Pachlana, Soron, Sidhupur and Marahra were all in the sirkar of Koil. Bilram was held by Afghan and Chauhan zamindars who cultivated 1,11,878 bighas of land and were assessed at 21,31,765 dams while supplying 50 horse and 1,000 foot. In *mahal Pachlana* the cultivated area was 39,128 bighas and was assessed at 6,24,825 dams of revenue. The Gaurahar Rajputs, its chief inhabitants, furnished less than 200 horse and 5,000 foot. The *mahal* of Soron had 40,656 bighas of cultivated land and is said to have been more heavily assessed to revenue, the demand amounting to 8,75,016 dams. This *mahal* was inhabited by Saiyyids and Rajputs, who furnished 20 horse and 400 foot². Sidhupur contained 70,567 bighas of cultivation and was assessed at 9,89,458 dams. The landholders were Surki Rajputs. The large *mahal* of Marahra had 2,05,537 bighas of cultivation and was assessed at 36,79,582 dams, while its Chauhan zamindars were bound to supply a contingent of 200 horse and 2,000 foot³.

Jahangir (1605-1627 A.D.) introduced the institution of *altamgha* (grant under seal) which was granted to such deserving officers who applied for the grant of villages or parganas in which they were born⁴.

Aurangzeb issued two *farmans*, that of 1665-66 A.D., pointing towards extension of cultivation and the welfare of the peasants and that of the 1668-69 A.D., with the object of assessing and collecting the revenue in accordance with the principles of Islamic law. The revenue demand was fixed between one third and one half of the average produce⁵.

During eighteenth century, there was a tendency towards the growth of semi-feudal interests. Viewing the relationship between the medieval

1. Abul Fazl : *Ain-i-Akbari*, Eng. Trans. by H.S. Jarret, (Calcutta, 1940), Vol. II, pp.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. Moreland W.H. : *op. cit.*, p. 127

5. *Ibid.* p. 132

period as a whole, it would appear that the fate of the peasantry was in the hands either of the farmer of the revenue or of the king's assignee who usually exacted the maximum that he could. These conditions led to the emergence of powerful middlemen who later came to be known as zamindars.

In 1801, the whole territory covered by the present district of Etah passed to East India Company from the nawabs of Avadh and Farrukhabad. Subsequently, three regular settlements were carried out in the district prior to Regulation IX of 1833. Excluding Jalesar, because most of the villages of that pargana were transferred to Agra district, the revenue assessed on the remainder of the district was Rs. 6,90,510 at the first settlement Rs 6,89,159 at the second, and Rs 7,40,845 at the third.

In the settlement made under Regulation IX of 1833, parganas Sirhpura, Sahawar-Karsana, Sakit and Etah were settled in 1840 by Sir George Edmonstone. In 1837-38, the parganas north of Kali Nadi came under severe drought, and they had not recovered from it when the drought of 1842-43 commenced. This situation rendered people helpless and the revenue demand was therefore, considerably reduced in Sirhpura, while a small increase was imposed on the other parganas. The total demand was enhanced from Rs 2,48,549 to Rs 2,51,597. Parganas Marahra and Pachlana were settled by Mr. Rose in 1839. Here also the famine had been felt, and immediate remissions were granted in Marahra amounting to Rs 12,554 as well as progressive revenue. When the assessment reached its maximum it was calculated to give an increase of Rs 10,901, and it actually stood at Rs 1,17,330, when the next settlement began. In Pachlana no greater increase than Rs 704 was attempted. The new assessment was Rs 18,978 of which Rs 102 were subsequently remitted on account of land taken for a public purpose. Parganas Sonhar, Azamnagar, Patiali and Barna were settled by Mr. Robinson in 1837, and of them also a very unfavourable account is given. The landholders and cultivators were turbulent, idle and extravagant, the soil was poor and sandy, and the population scattered and inadequate. But the previous assessments were exceedingly light and lenient, and they were left practically unchanged. The new assessment amounted to Rs 1,72,152 for the four parganas. The parganas of Soron, Bilram, Aulsi, Faizpur Badaria and Nidhpur were assessed by Mr. Timins, and here also the assessments were apparently light and the total demand amounted to Rs 1,91,420. The new demand for the whole district, excluding the Jalesar tahsil, was then Rs 7,51,480, an increase of only Rs 10,635 on the previous revenue. But nevertheless the settlement broke down during the famine of 1842-44, and the revision of the assessment was undertaken in the latter year by Wynyard for the Farrukhabad parganas and by Cocks for the remainder of the district. A process similar to a regular settlement was gone through, but little except the results had been recorded. But it appears that later the revision of the settlement became necessary on account of unfavourable seasons. The result of the reductions made by Cocks and Wynyard was to reduce the demand over the whole district exclusive of Jalesar, to Rs 7,32,461.

Settlement of 1873

The next settlement was carried out in the district with the exception of the Jalesar tahsil then in Mathura district. The operations extended over 12 years and were controlled by four different officers. Parganas Bilram, Patiali and Barna were assessed by Sir Charles Crosthwaite, pargana Barna by J.S. Porter, on rates worked out by Crosthwaite, parganas Marahra, Pachlana, Soron, Faizpur, Aulai and Nidhpur by Mr. Porter and parganas Etah, Sahawar, Sirhpura and Azamnagar by Ridsdale. Pargana Jalesar was assessed by Mr. Mc Conaghey with the Mathura district. The methods employed by these various officers differed widely from one another. The result of the revision was a large enhancement, the actual revenue for collection becoming Rs 12,07,486 instead of Rs 9,50,124, an increase of nearly 27 per cent.

It was very soon apparent that the assessments of Azamnagar were too severe, and in 1876 Mr. Butt was deputed to revise the settlement of that pargana. His operations resulted in a reduction of Rs 8,745. But even after this reduction the revenue was still a full one. It remained however unchanged except for minor alterations until 1893, when the depression caused by waterlogging necessitated revisional operations. These were commenced in 1890 by Mr. Guthrie and completed by Mr. Ferard, and resulted in a reduction of revenue amounting to Rs 57,187 which was sanctioned for the remaining term of settlement. Outstanding arrears amounting to Rs 1,45,991 exclusive of rates and cesses, were also remitted. By these and minor alterations the demand had been reduced at the expiry of the settlement to Rs 11,13,130 exclusive of nominal demands on revenue free *mahals* and plots which amounted to Rs 22,654.

The Settlement of 1902

The next settlement was preceded by the survey, which began in October, 1899, and was completed in November, 1902. The whole district was cadastrally surveyed with the exception of pargana Jalesar where map correction alone was done. After the attestation of records in 1901, the settlement officer, H.O.W. Robarts began inspection in October of the same year. The first preliminary assessment was a classification of the soils. In this local distinctions were adhered to as closely as possible, only those minor ones being ignored which were not reflected in rent-rates. The most highly rated soil was the rich and well-manured belt immediately surrounding the village site, known throughout the district as Gauhan. In the western parganas a second zone outside this, called the Manjha, was recognised. All soils were further classified as irrigable and unirrigable. The next step was the selection of standard rates for the various soils of each circle. In order to eliminate obsolete rents and rents which had not stood the test of time, the holdings were classified according to length of tenure. The standard rental for the whole district was 21 per cent below the recorded rental of tenants-at-will and 4 per cent above that of occupancy tenants. The total recorded cash rental was Rs 24,84,919 and the valuation of the cash-rented area at standard rates Rs 2,37,182 or 4.55 per cent less. But this cash rental required various adjustments before assessment, both as regarded the area assessed and the tenants of the occupancy and non-occupancy rentals.

In view of the extreme fluctuations in cultivation that had taken place the question of area was of primary importance at this settlement. At the time of settlement the holding area was 7,38,951 acres of which 33,084 acres were uncultivated. But the exclusion merely of the uncultivated portion would have been an entirely inadequate allowance, for the minimum cultivation during the period of depression was 5,48,348 acres, and even for the twelve years prior to survey the average cultivation was only 6,04,769 acres. Each village was treated on its merits. Special attention was paid at the time of inspection to the area which had suffered in the past. The average figures were observed and on a consideration of these and of the probable improvement due to drainage or irrigation an estimate was made of what might be regarded as the normal area in future. In the result the area accepted for assessment was 6,32,977 acres which was 84,629 acres, or 16 per cent above the minimum cultivated area and 5 per cent above the 12 year's average. The revenue was fixed at Rs 12,64,437 which also included nominal revenue on revenue free *mahals*.

Settlement of 1939-44

The operations for this settlement were initiated in 1939 and concluded in March, 1944. In October, 1940, E.H.N. Gill was posted as settlement officer and he inspected and assessed tahsil Etah. In October, 1941, he was succeeded by Shankar Prasad who inspected tahsil Kasganj, except pargana Sirhpura which was inspected by M.M. Siddiqi, who also inspected tahsils Jalesar and Aliganj in 1941-42.

During inspections the main work of the settlement officers was to demarcate the land according to soils. At the previous settlement the soils were divided into two artificial classes, namely, *gauhan* (land situated in the vicinity of the village) and *manjha* (middling land) and four natural classes, namely *dumat* (sandy loam), *bhur* (sandy), *terai* and *matiyar* (blackish clay). These were further sub-divided according to quality. *Dumat* and *bhur* had two classes each, *terai* three, while *matiyar* had generally only one class. *Dumat* represented the prevailing loam, *bhur* the sandy soil, *terai* the soil along the longer rivers, and *matiyar* the clayey soil.

The area assessed at this settlement was practically the same as the normal cultivated area, and was 37,366 acres or 5.1 percent below the cultivated area of the year of record which leaves a safe margin for instability. The total net assets of the revenue-paying area after review amounted to Rs 33,49,242 out of which Rs 21,175 pertained to alluvial *mahals*. The final revenue amounted to Rs 13,02,950.25 (Rs 1,99,288.69 proposed for parganas Patiali, Azamnagar and Barna, and Rs 11,03,661.56 sanctioned for the rest of the district) of which Rs 8,371 were for alluvial and Rs 12,94,579 for non-alluvial *mahals*. It exceeded the expiring demand plus owner's rate by Rs 72,440, and revenue payable after remission including owner's rate by Rs 2,07,132. The increase had mostly been made good to the zamindars by the enhancement of Rs 1,47,975 which they already secured on inadequate rents.

The increased assets due to work of agricultural improvement by state and to an increase of more than 10 per cent in the assessed area were separately assessed to revenue in individual *mahals*. The assets

under the former head had accrued as a result of extension in irrigation owing to the construction of new canals.

The same principles were applied in assessing revenue-free areas as in the case of revenue-paying ones. The total revenue-free area was 15,075 acres, including 2,247 acres held by plot proprietors. The revenue on the latter amounted to Rs 4,179. For the remaining area, comprising 52 *mahals* the revenue came to Rs 20,774 and it represented an increase of Rs 451 or 2.2 per cent on the expiring demand.

Collection of Land Revenue—Prior to the abolition of the zamindari system, rent was collected by intermediaries and the revenue was paid by them to government. In the case of attached estates *qurkamins* (revenue officials) were appointed. The post of district collection officer was abolished on April 1, 1958, and the post of collection *naib-tahsildar* merged in that of the regular *naib-tahsildar* on November 15, 1962, and a deputy collector made responsible for the collection of land revenue and other governmental dues, the ultimate responsibility being that of the collector of the district.

Survey, Settlement and Resettlement

The first Settlement will now take place in the district not earlier than 40 years from the date of vesting and the interval between the succeeding settlements will again be a period of 40 years except in the case of precarious and alluvial areas. If there is a substantial decline in the price of agricultural commodities and if it continues for some time, an interim revision may be taken up.

Relations between Landlord and Tenant

Since the British occupation of the district, an attempt, towards bettering the rights of tenants, for the first time was made when in Act I of 1859, a person in occupation of land continuously for 12 years was bestowed with a right of occupancy. The proprietor had the option to enhance the rent if it was below the prevailing rate. Act XVII of 1878, created the class of ex-proprietary tenants, i.e., persons who had lost their proprietary interest and were now tenants of the land of which they were previously proprietors.

The next important step was Act XII of 1881, which, however, made radical changes. It was followed by Act II of 1901. By this Act firstly, the acquisition of new *sir* by proprietors was stopped; and secondly, the interest of tenants other than permanent tenure-holders and fixed rate tenants was made heritable but not transferable and a special line of succession was provided for them. This was as much a concession to zamindars as a speedy method of determining the heirs. The Act facilitated the grant of 7 year leases and provided a protection to tenants by prescribing a number of years during which no enhancement of rent could be made. The revenue courts had jurisdiction over these matters.

Act III of 1926, was the last important Act in this line. This Act was passed as a measure of compromise between the zamindars and the tenants. Most of the cultivators were conferred heritable and occupancy

rights and were known as statutory tenants. Zamindars were, on the other hand, allowed to acquire further *sir* (land cultivated by the owner) by getting the land which they cultivated in 1926 (the year when the Act was passed) declared as their *Ilahi* and secondly by cultivating land continuously for ten years after 1926. The rule of the accrual of occupancy rights by twelve years' cultivation was abrogated. The Act provided a roster system of 20 years duration to facilitate easy enhancements of rents. The rights of grove-holders and *thekadars* (contractors) were formally defined.

The U.P. Tenancy Act, XVII of 1939, is the first legislation in this direction which bears upon it the impress of a popular Government. It conferred hereditary rights on all such tenants as had not these rights before (except on sub-tenants or tenants of land over which it would be impolitic to grant hereditary rights to cultivators on ground of public policy). The Act gave a large scope to tenants to make improvements on their lands. The obnoxious practice of attaching the crop of a tenant while it was still standing in the field (known as *Kurki Kham*) was abolished. Principles governing the determination, enhancement, abatement and commutation of rent were laid down in detail. Stringent provisions for grant of rent receipts to tenants by zamindars were made. The Act provided for the first time in the history of tenancy legislation that a decree of arrears of rent could be executed by the sale of a portion of the interest of a tenant in a holding. Previously the tenant was ejected from the entire holding.

Despite the protection extended to the tenants in the Act, the land-holders continued to be a great impediment to the prosperity of cultivators. Therefore, in 1946, when Congress resumed office, a committee, for the abolition of zamindari system was formed. According to the data collected by the committee, there were in 1945 (1352-Fasli), 3,61,668 persons cultivating or otherwise occupying land in the state and the total number of holdings concerned an area of 10,80,443 acres. The average size of a *khalsa* (holding) was 3 acres but land was most unevenly distributed.

ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARI

After the Independence, the popular Government acting upon the recommendation of the U.P. Zamindari Abolition Committee, 1946, introduced a bill in the Assembly which passed the U.P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (U.P. Act, I of 1951) doing away with the intermediaries and replacing the multiplicity of tenures existing in this district, as elsewhere, by only three types: the *bhumidhars*, the *sirdars* and the *asamis*. Every intermediary whose right, title or interest in any estate was acquired under the provisions of the Act became entitled to receive compensation according to the scale laid down in the Act. Upto 1976, the total compensation assessed amounted to Rs. 1,17,68,292 of which Rs. 1,17,40,296 in cash and bonds were paid to intermediaries in this district. Zamindars with comparatively smaller estates were entitled to receive rehabilitation grant as well. Upto December 31, 1976, a sum of Rs. 1,03,17,686 had been paid in cash and bonds to the intermediaries against assessed amount of Rs. 1,03,18,613 by way of rehabilitation grant.

Under the Act, intermediaries became *bhumidhars* of their *sir* and *khudkashi* lands and groves. Certain other tenure-holders also acquired the same status in land under their cultivation provided they fulfilled certain specified conditions. A *bhumidhar* possesses permanent heritable and transferrable rights in his holding from which he can not be ejected. Certain other categories of tenants who did not acquire *bhumidhari* rights became *sirdars* of the land in their cultivation. A *sirdar* has permanent and heritable interest in his holding but he cannot transfer it. He may use his land only for purposes of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry. He can, however, acquire *bhumidhari* rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum representing a specified multiple (now 20 times) of his annual rent. Certain *bhumidhars* and *sirdars* are entitled to sublet their lands, for example, those employed in the defence services or invalidated by age or injury etc. An *asami* is a lessee of a *bhumidhar*, a *sirdar* or *gaon sabha*. He has neither heritable nor transferrable rights and is liable to ejection for void transfers or on the extinction of the rights of the *bhumidhars* or *sirdars* concerned, or for contravention of any other provision of the Act.

In 1975-76, the holdings under different tenures in the district were as follows :

Kind of tenures	Total area (in ha)
Bhumidhars	1,51,251
Sirdars	2,20,018
Asamis	1,438

Bhumidhars and *sirdars* have been made jointly responsible for the payment of land revenue to which a holding is assessed. The Act also established Land Management Committees for the management of lands not comprised if any holding or grove, forests within the village boundaries, tanks, ponds and fisheries, *hats* (village market), bazars and *melas* (fairs) and other sources of income vested in the *gaon sabha* (village assembly).

Consolidation of Holdings

The U.P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953, (Act V of 1954), provides for the consolidation of scattered and small holdings. It was enforced in the district in December, 1958. The operation first commenced in 87 villages of tahsil Jalesar which covered an area of 60,982 acres. Consolidation proceedings were next started in 1963 in 388 villages, covering an area of 1,87,595 acres of tahsil Kasganj. The work started in tahsil Aliganj in November, 1965, in 137 villages covering an area of 81,447 acres and in November, 1966, in 85 villages of the same tahsil covering an area of 49,671 acres. In tahsil Etah the scheme started in March, 1967, by which 351 villages covering an area of 1,50,649 acres came under the consolidation scheme. In June of the same year 82 villages of tahsil Aliganj, covering an area of 78,774 acres, were also brought under the purview of this scheme. The consolidation work was

completed in 67 villages of tahsil Jalesar in June, 1970, and in 101 villages of tahsil Etah in November, 1973, covering an area of 44,530 and 36,942 acres respectively. In tahsil Aliganj the consolidation work was completed in August, 1972, covering an area of 28,444 acres; and in tahsil Kasganj in October, 1974, in 82 villages covering an area of 40,762 acres.

Bhoodan

In 1951, Acharya Vinoba Bhave initiated in Uttar Pradesh the *bhoodan* movement with the object of receiving land gifts for the landless. The State Government, therefore, passed the U.P. Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1952. In response, the people donated 1,214 hectares of land of which the entire area had been distributed among landless persons.

Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings

The U.P. Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1948 was passed to tax agricultural income in excess of Rs 4,200 per annum. The tax was not payable by land-holder if he did not cultivate more than 30 acres of land. This Act was replaced by the U.P. Large Land Holdings Tax Act, 1957, which imposed a tax on all land holdings the annual income of which exceeded Rs 3,600. A landholder who did not cultivate more than 12 ha. of land was exempted from the payment of the tax under this Act. The tax was levied on a graduated scale so that larger the holding the greater the incidence of the tax.

As a step towards social and economic justice by way of providing land to the landless and the agricultural labourers and to bring about an equitable distribution of land, the Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Tax Act, 1960, (amended Act, 1972), was enforced in the district on January 3, 1961. It replaced the U.P. Large Land Holdings Tax Act, 1957. Under this Act, the maximum area of a holding was fixed at 16.19 ha. of fair quality land. If, however, the number of members of the landholder's family was more than five, he was allowed to retain, for each additional member, an area of 3.25 ha. of land, subject to a maximum of 9.72 ha. of such additional area. Of the surplus land held by a tenure holder, in excess of the ceiling area vested in the State Government, the tenure holders became entitled to receive compensation. By a later amendment brought into force on June 8, 1973, the maximum size of holding of a tenant is fixed at 7.30 ha. of irrigated land and 10.95 ha. of unirrigated land. This amendment has affected 557 landholders and for the purposes of allotment to the landless persons an area of 1,019 ha. has been declared surplus up to December, 1976. The total amount of compensation payable to the landholders of district Etah amounted to Rs. 6,76,410 out of which a sum Rs 3,76,474 had been paid by December, 1976.

ADMINISTRATION OF TAXES OTHER THAN LAND REVENUE

In this district as elsewhere in the State, the other main sources of revenue include Central and State Taxes.

Central Taxes

The Central Government taxes consist of excise, income tax, and estate duties.

Central Excise—For purposes of central excise the district falls under the jurisdiction of the administrative officer, central excise stationed at Aligarh.

The excise revenue collected in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-75 was as under :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1970-71	19,23,212
1971-72	20,40,721
1972-73	27,08,631
1973-74	26,44,770
1974-75	23,96,040

Income Tax—This is one of the important sources of revenue of the Central Government. For collection of the taxes, the district falls under the administrative control of the income-tax officer stationed at Etah.

The following statement shows the number of assesseees and the amount collected from them as income tax between the years 1971-72 and 1973-74:

Year	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)
1971-72	2,337	969
1972-73	3,514	1,216
1973-74	3,630	1,571

Wealth-tax and Gift-tax—The taxes imposed under the provisions of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957, and the Gift Tax Act, 1958, are also collected by the income-tax department. The following statement gives the number of assesseees and the amount of the wealth-tax collected from 1971-72 to 1973-74:

Year	Wealth-tax		Gift-tax	
	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)	No. of assesseees	Amount of tax (in thousand Rs)
1971-72	29	11	16	4
1972-73	75	37	13	7
1973-74	75	29	20	7

Estate Duty—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1953, on the property left by a deceased person. District Etah falls under the estate duty circle Agra since July, 1974, under the charge of an assistant collector.

In 1975-76, there were a total number of five assesseees in the district and the total amount of estate duty collected was Rs. 32,499.

State Taxes

Excise, sales tax, stamp duty, registration fee, motor vehicles, entertainment tax, etc., are other principal sources of revenue to the State Government.

Excise—Excise has been one of the most important sources of State revenue in the district since the beginning of British rule. It is chiefly realised from the sale of country spirit. Administration of excise department is under the charge of the collector who has delegated his powers to the district excise officer.

Liquor—The number of country spirit shops in the district in 1976 was 31. There were two licenced dealers for Indian made foreign liquor. The consumption of country liquor in last 3 years has been as follows :

Year	Quantity (in l.)
1973-74	1,74,543
1974-75	1,66,403
1975-76	1,54,354

Hemp Drugs—The hemp drugs viz, ganja and bhang constituted important items of excise revenue in the past. The use of charas is abandoned now and licences for retail sale of bhang are granted by the collector and district magistrate through annual auction.

The consumption of bhang in last 3 years was as follows :

Year	Bhang (in kg.)
1973-74	3,176
1974-75	3,600
1975-76	2,472

The excise revenue from country spirit and bhang during the last three years was as follows :

Year	Country spirit (in Rs)		Bhang (in Rs)	
	Duty	Licence fee	Duty	Licence fee
1973-74	9,94,401	9,95,071	24,463	71,600
1974-75	11,67,116	12,61,849	29,104	5,966
1975-76	10,81,792	12,76,429	26,376	55,278

Sales Tax—Sales tax is levied under the U.P. Sales Tax Act, 1948. For purposes of administration of the Sales Tax Act, 1948, a sales tax officer has been appointed at Etah.

The number of assessees and the amount collected as sales tax in respect of important commodities in 1973-74, are given in the following statement :

Commodity	No. of assessees	Amount of sales tax (in Rs)
Food-grains	78	18,46,718
Kirana	49	7,478
Oil-seeds	45	3,52,892
Bricks	97	2,40,780
General Merchandise	56	...
Brassware	31	1,69,526
Ornaments	22	10,229

The following statement shows the total amount of tax collected in the district from 1965-66 to 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1965-66	17,28,445
1966-67	21,06,847
1967-68	19,84,259
1968-69	20,54,335
1969-70	23,18,005
1970-71	24,54,884
1971-72	27,25,006
1972-73	29,74,647
1973-74	45,15,263
1974-75	69,82,135

Stamps and Registration

Under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial. They are affixed where court fee is to be paid and the latter on bills of exchange, receipts involving a sum of Rs 20 or more and documents in respect of which stamp duty is payable. Income from this source also includes fines and penalties realised under the Act.

The receipts under this head during the five years ending with 1973-76, were as follows :

Year	Sale (in Rs)		
	Judicial	Non-judicial	Revenue
1971-72	5,84,417	14,38,548	70,348
1972-73	7,51,922	11,52,447	72,800
1973-74	7,05,135	20,22,987	1,39,189
1974-75	7,08,981	34,15,477	1,51,072
1975-76	6,73,333	36,88,174	1,57,239

Documents such as instruments of gifts, sale of lease of immovable property and the instruments relating to shares in a joint stock company have to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908. There are four sub-registrars in the district posted at the headquarters of each tahsil of the district.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure on the establishment during 1971-72 to 1974-75 :

Year	Income (in Rs)	Expenditure (in Rs)	No. of documents registered
1971-72	4,54,680	54,401	12,614
1972-73	3,42,559	48,320	9,824
1973-74	5,62,385	62,268	14,151
1974-75	6,24,666	75,440	18,723

Tax on Motor Vehicles

The motor vehicles in the district are taxed under the U.P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1933 (Act, V of 1935), and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939. The district was under the jurisdiction of regional transport officer, Agra, prior to August, 1974, but since then it has come under the charge of the assistant regional transport officer, stationed at Aligarh.

The following statement shows amount collected under the provisions of these Acts in Agra region:

Year	Income (in Rs)
1971-72	1,07,70,786
1972-73	87,05,866
1973-74	78,85,292

Under the provision of the U.P. Motor-gadi (*Yatri-kar*) Adhiniyam, 1962, a tax was imposed on passengers travelling in public or private motor vehicles on hire from 15 October, 1962. The following statement shows the amount of tax collected in Agra region from 1971-72 to 1973-74 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1971-72	29,34,619
1972-73	81,23,071
1973-74	85,79,280

The Motor-gadi (*Mal-kar*) Adhiniyam, 1964, provided for the levy of a tax on goods carried by motor vehicles. It was enforced in the district on November 16, 1964. The following statement shows the amount of tax collected under it in the Agra region from 1971-72 to 1973-74 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1971-72	36,89,779
1972-73	40,94,893
1973-74	43,14,542

Entertainment and Betting Tax

Entertainment tax is realised from cinemas, circus, *nautankis* (indigenous open-air theatrical performances) and puppet shows etc. The district magistrate Etah is responsible for its realisation in the district. The tax on entertainment is levied under the provisions of the U.P. Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937, in the district. Two entertainment tax inspectors have been posted in the district, one at

Etah and the other at Kasganj. The following statement shows the amount of tax collected between the years 1970-71 and 1974-75 :

Year	Amount (in Rs)
1970-71	2,80,394
1971-72	3,27,412
1972-73	4,55,946
1973-74	6,46,249
1974-75	9,62,694

The following table shows the number and names of police stations and out-posts in each circle :

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

Incidence of Crime—An idea of the state of crime may be had from the following table which contains data relating to major offences committed during 1971-74 :

Crime	1971	1972	1973	1974
Murder	105	105	183	147
Dacoity	100	85	85	201
Robbery	201	189	153	261
Theft	486	521	542	681
Riot	287	240	266	202
House breaking	724	482	654	832
Kidnapping	5	11	21	19

Organisation of the Police Force—Police administration of Etah district is included in the Agra range, which is under the charge of a deputy inspector general of police with headquarters at Agra. He controls and co-ordinates the functions of superintendents of police working in his range.

The district police force is under the charge of a superintendent of police, with headquarters at Etah. He is responsible for enforcing discipline and efficiency among the staff, and for ensuring maintenance of peace.

The police force of the district is divided into two broad classes—the civil police and the armed police.

Civil Police—The duties of the civil police are to prevent, detect and investigate crime and maintain law and order in the district, which has been divided into four police circles for this purpose, with 17 police stations, each being under the charge of a station officer, who is assisted by sub-inspectors, assistant sub-inspectors, head constables and constables.

Police circles	Police stations	Police out-posts
Ciry Circle	Kotwali Etah, Sidhpura, Bagh-wala, Sakit	Patiyaligate, Godam railway colony, Jalalpur, Qutabpur Mazraon.
Jalesar Circle	Jalesar, Nidhauri, Marchra, Awagarh	Jalesar, Marchra
Aliganj Circle	Aliganj, Patiali, Jaithra, Sikanderpur Bais, Ganj Dundwara	Aliganj, Sarajaghat, Raja-ka-Rampur, Dhumri, Qaderganj, Sanaurhi, Ganj Dundwara.
Kasganj Circle	Kasganj, Soron, Amanpur, Sahawar	Bilram, Inaity, Soron gate, Nadraigate, Balram gate, Soron, Mohanpur.

Armed Police—It consists of the reserve police of the district and is quartered at the reserve police lines. It is under the control of an inspector. The services of the armed police are utilized in guarding government property and treasuries, escorting prisoners and patrolling and combating dacoits.

Prosecution Staff—The prosecution staff which was under the control of the superintendent of police was temporarily placed under the control of district magistrate since April 1, 1974. But soon after through a local amendment made by the State government the control was reverted to the superintendent of police. It consists of a public prosecutor, 9 assistant public prosecutors only. The public prosecutor and his assistants conduct criminal cases on behalf of the State in the courts of magistrates.

Village Police—The institution of village chowkidars, which form the lowest rank of the police organisation came into force after the introduction of North-Western Provinces and Road Police Act, 1873, when the district magistrate was made the appointing and dismissing authority of the village chowkidars.

The village chowkidars are attached to the police stations. They are paid by the government. The main duty of the village chowkidars is to report to the local police, the commission of crime and occurrence of other incidents or accidents in their areas. They also act as process-servers of the *nyaya* panchayats for which they get a small remuneration.

Village Defence Societies—These societies are non-official organisations set up to protect the villagers from the incursions of dacoits and other miscreants. Their members perform watch and ward duty during the night in their respective localities and assist the regular police in patrolling and apprehending lawless and anti-social elements. In order

to inculcate in themselves self-confidence and co-operative action, frequent meetings and rallies of these societies are held. There were 3,970 village defence societies in the district in the year 1975.

Government Railway Police—The government railway police is a separate branch of the State police. The main duty of the railway police is to maintain order at railway stations and in trains, control passengers and vehicular traffic on the premises of the railway station, report to the proper authorities (railway or civil) the commission of offences under the Indian Railway Act, 1890 and cases of fraud and oppression on the part of railway personnel, deal with accidents and attend to security arrangements when important personages travel. This branch of police is under the charge of a section officer stationed at Agra.

JAILS AND LOCK-UPS

The institution of jail as it exists today is of British origin and is integral part of the judicial system introduced by them. The earliest records of a jail existing at Etah date back to 1908. At present the district jail is under the charge of a superintendent, who is assisted by a jailor, a deputy jailor and 3 assistant jailors. Overall control over the jail administration, is exercised by the inspector general of prisons, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow. The jail hospital is looked after by a whole time doctor called assistant medical officer. It has a capacity to accommodate 867 prisoners. The daily average population in it during the last five years (ending with 1974) has been about 182 and 440 of convicts and undertrials respectively.

The main industries in which the inmates of jail are gainfully employed are making *niwar* (cotton tube), *dari* (carpet) and *moonj* (a kind of long reed of which ropes etc., are made) mats.

Welfare of the Prisoners—Formerly prisoners were classified under categories 'A', 'B' and 'C' but since 1948, they are classified only as 'superior' and 'ordinary' allocations to the superior class being made in special cases by government on taking into consideration the prisoner's standard of living, education, etc. This classification applies equally to convicts undertrials and political prisoners. The condition of the prisoners has improved since the advent of Independence. Regular wages are paid to prison workers. Newspapers, books and periodicals are made available to detenues for study and recreation. The prisoners have been provided with better amenities in recent years. The rules regarding interviews and correspondence have been liberalised, the prisoners being permitted to meet their friends and relatives on Fridays and to receive from them as gifts, *biris*, *jaggery*, cigarettes, fruits, oils, soap of the value of not exceeding five rupees a month. The punishment of cross-bars with fetters has been abolished. Steps are taken to keep the prisoners physically fit through participation in games and sports and they are allowed to perform their religious duties, have *kirtans* and to observe important religious festivals with the permission of the superintendent. In order to create in them an awareness of moral values lectures on religious and other suitable subjects are arranged every week in the jail.

Visitors—The ex-officio visitors of the jail, are the director of the medical and health services, U.P., the commissioner of the Agra Division, the district and sessions judge and the district magistrate. All the members of Central and State legislatures belonging to the district, all members of standing committee of the State legislatures on jails, the chairman of the central committee of the Uttar Pradeshiya Apradh Nirodhak Samiti, chairman of the municipal board and the Adhyaksha Zila Parishad, are the non-official visitors of the jail.

Lock-Ups—Lock-ups which are not sub-jails are provided at the district headquarters and the police-stations separately, for detaining male and female suspects before their production in courts. They are mere halting places well guarded by constabulary. The monthly average of number of undertrials is 408.

Probation—There is a probation officer, in the district, whose duty is to make enquiries and submit his recommendations in all cases referred to him by the courts in respect of juvenile delinquents or where it is proposed to release a first offender with admonition or on probation of good conduct for a specified period.

JUSTICE

Previously, Etah was under the judgeship of Mainpuri. In the last decade of 19th century, Etah parted with this judgeship and thereafter, a district judge held his court at Etah. The crimes in the district increased so much, that the district judge could not cope with the work and some temporary civil and sessions judges were appointed to assist him.

The system of judiciary went on along the lines of the Britishers, with the exception that on January 26, 1950 the Government of India Act, 1935, was replaced by the Constitution of India. The new Code of Criminal Procedure has come into force from April 1, 1974 and in May, 1974 the cadre of civil and sessions judges has been replaced by that of additional district and sessions judges.

At present the civil judiciary at Etah consists of courts of a district judge, four additional district judges, one assistant judge, two munsifs, six additional munsifs.

The position of civil cases in the year 1973 was as under :

Cases	Number of suits
Pending at the beginning of the year	385
Instituted during the year	237
Disposed of during the year	170
Pending at the end of the year	452

In the same year the number of suits involving immovable property was 81. Number of suits instituted for movable property was 100. In the same year number of mortgage suits and matrimonial suits was 30 and 22 respectively. Number of some other important suits was 4 only. The number of suits instituted in 1970 according to their valuation was as follows :

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	—
Exceeding Rs 100 but not Rs 1,000	22
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not Rs 5,000	79
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not exceeding Rs 10,000	72
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not exceeding Rs 20,000	82
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not exceeding Rs 5 lakh	4
Exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	Nil

Total valuation of the property in the suits so instituted was Rs 14,79,796.50. Details of the modes of disposal of suits in the year 1973 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	Number of suits
Suits disposed of after trial	53
Dismissed for default	36
Otherwise decided without trial	15
Decreed ex-parte	48
On admission of claims	3
On compromise	17
On reference to arbitration	—

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of in the year 1973 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	Instituted	Disposed of
Regular civil appeals	249	209
Miscellaneous civil appeals	81	10
Miscellaneous rent appeals	102	50

Criminal Justice—Since the beginning of the present century, the district of Etah has been in the charge of a magistrate and collector, subordinate to the commissioner of Agra Division. There were five magistrates, four with first class and one with second class magisterial powers. Besides this at tahsil level, there were four tahsildars invested with third class magisterial powers. With a view to reducing the cost of litigation and make the justice a little more easily accessible to the people who mostly belong to the remote parts of the sub-divisions, the principle of decentralization was carried a little further and all the subdivisional officers, subdivisional magistrates were required to stay at their respective tahsil headquarters instead of holding their courts at district headquarters from June, 1975.

The sessions judge constitutes the chief criminal court of the district. In sessions trials he is assisted by four additional sessions judges, one assistant sessions judge, two munsif magistrates, six additional munsif magistrates, one chief judicial magistrate, one judicial magistrate and one special judicial magistrate.

Some information about the disposal of criminal cases during the last three years is given below :

Nature of offences	No. of cases committed		
	1972	1973	1974
Affecting life	488	601	1,223
Kidnapping and abduction	45	98	151
Hurt	52	79	75
Rape	7	7	56
Unnatural offences	—	—	—
Extortion	—	—	—
Robbery and dacoity	251	270	557
Other cases	164	87	184

Number of persons tried and sentenced during the period of three years is given below :

Persons tried/sentenced	1972	1973	1974
Persons tried	1,106	1,008	1,112
Death	—	1	2
Life imprisonment	57	18	61
Rigorous imprisonment	192	162	242
Simple imprisonment	—	—	—
Fine only	15	22	28
Other punishment	20	8	4

SEPARATION OF JUDICIARY FROM EXECUTIVE

Partial separation of the judiciary from the executive was tried soon after Independence through the appointment of judicial officers to dispose of cases involving offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code. These officers had different designations in different periods of time but they had to work under the direct control of the district magistrate or the additional district magistrate who was himself a member of the executive services for a long time. Occasionally, a senior judicial officer was made in charge of the team of judicial officers in the district but the overall supervision of the commissioner at the divisional level went a long way in retaining executive authority over the lower judiciary. The experiment regarding severing judiciary from the executive, however, reached a decisive stage, when all the judicial officers including their team leader [called the A.D.M. (J)], were placed under the direct control of the sessions judge of the district within the administrative jurisdiction of the high court, on October 2, 1967. The subsequent amendment of Code of Criminal Procedure and its enforcement from April 1, 1974 brought about absolute separation of the judiciary from the executive.

Nyaya Panchayats—The Panchayats were constituted in the district under the Act VI of 1920 with effect from August 28, 1921. For the purpose of associating people with the administration of justice, the U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947 established panchayat adalats in 1949. They were subsequently called *nyaya* panchayats. The jurisdiction of *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over an area of five to ten *gaon sabhas* depending on the population of the constituent villages. At present, the total number of *nyaya* panchayats is 149.

The *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated from amongst the elected members of the *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate. With the assistance of an advisory body these *panchs* amongst themselves elect the *sarpanch* who is the presiding officer and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch*. The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years. Their term of office can be extended by a year by the State government. The cases are heard by benches consisting of five *panchs* each and constituted by the *sarpanch* annually. The presence of at least three *panchs* including the *sarpanch* at each hearing is essential.

The *nyaya* panchayats are empowered to try cases under the following Acts and their respective sections :

- (a) The U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947;
- (b) Certain specific sections of the Indian Penal Code;
- (c) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871;
- (d) Sub-section 1 of sections 10 of the U.P. District Boards Primary Education Act, 1926 and
- (e) Sections 3, 4, 7 and 13 of the Public Gambling Act, 1867.

The *nyaya* panchayats also have original jurisdiction to try civil suits up to a valuation of Rs 500 and any settlement, compromise on

oath, if the parties agree in writing to such a course. They are not authorised to award sentences of imprisonment and can impose fines upto hundred rupees only.

The number of cases instituted in the *nyaya* panchayats and disposed of by them during the years 1970-71 to 1974-75 was as follows :

Year	Cases pending at the beginning of the year	Cases instituted during the year	Cases disposed of
1970-71	70	384	435
1971-72	19	371	367
1972-73	23	3	6
1973-74	20	—	—
1974-75	20	71	53

Bar Association

Collectorate Bar Association, Etah, was founded around 1905 by the legal practitioners of Etah. In the year 1975 the membership of this association was 253, although the number of practising lawyers was around 350. The association has a building of its own constructed in 1926-28. To foster a nobler professional conduct and to help its member to achieve this aim, is the main purpose of the association.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Departments of the State government dealing with general administration, revenue administration, law and order and justice have already been dealt with in chapters X, XI and XII respectively and major details of several other departments have been given at proper places. The organizational set-up at the district level of some other important departments like agriculture, horticulture, soil conservation, animal husbandry, co-operative, education, forest, public works, industries and irrigation is briefly discussed below:

Agriculture Department

The main function of this department is to raise farm production by persuading cultivators to adopt improved practices and modern technology suited to local conditions and to arrange uninterrupted supply of inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides.

This district comes under the administrative control of the deputy director of agriculture having headquarters at Agra. Locally the district agriculture officer is in charge of the department. He is assisted by a team of trained workers and other general staff to push forward various agriculture programmes, including extension of area under high yielding crops, oilseeds, cotton, etc., and in the formulation and implementation of Five-year Plan schemes.

The activities of this department at the block level are supervised by the block development officers and assistant development officers who are responsible for development of agriculture on scientific lines commensurate with the State policy.

There are 29 seed stores manned by 31 *kamdars* in the district each under the care of an assistant agriculture inspector. These officers, besides meeting the input requirements of the blocks are associated with agricultural development activities of the villages adjoining the seed stores.

Horticulture

The district horticulture officer is responsible for laying out new orchards, rejuvenating existing groves, supplying seeds, plants and saplings and providing necessary technical knowledge to horticulturists. He is assisted by a senior horticulture inspector and other field staff.

Soil Conservation

The district has one soil conservation officer who surveys of work plans in soil conservation schemes and implements them to combat erosion of farm land by wind and water. He is assisted by one technical assistant

2 junior engineers, 5 inspectors, 25 assistant inspectors and other staff. Every year new areas are selected for soil conservation. He prepares estimates of the income and expenditure involved in the projects, works out details of the scheme to be undertaken and secures peoples' participation in the successful implementation of the programme. The 5 soil conservation inspectors assist in the execution, evaluation and measurement of work in their respective sub-units. The assistant soil conservation inspectors supervise masonry activity in their respective circles and the overseers are engaged in the preparation of plan estimates etc.

Animal Husbandry Department

This district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry, posted at Agra. The district live-stock officer is in the charge of this department at the district level, being responsible for improvements in animal breeds and poultry, prevention and treatment of diseases, controlling possible out-breaks of epidemics among animals, implementation of plan schemes of the department, playing an active role in the execution of applied nutrition programmes, and arranging financial assistance to prospective breeders. He is assisted by one artificial insemination officer, one veterinary surgeon, a senior fodder inspector and several veterinary assistant surgeons and stockmen.

Co-operative Department

The department deals with the organization, registration and promotion of various co-operative societies formed in the district, besides attending to administrative and statutory functions like supervision and control over departmental staff and inspectors of co-operative units.

The deputy registrar co-operative societies, Agra is the regional head of the department. The assistant registrar is assisted by 3 additional district co-operative officers, one senior farming inspector and one senior return inspector.

In the field 18 co-operative inspectors group II and 15 assistant development officers (co-operatives) are posted to work either as secretaries of the co-operative marketing societies or as group level functionaries in the National Extension Service blocks. Besides there are also 85 co-operative supervisors who work as secretaries of the large sized societies and Sahkari Sanghs or as supervisors to supervise the many agriculture credit societies of the district.

Education Department

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the deputy director of education and regional inspectress of girl's schools both having their headquarters at Agra. The regional inspectress of girl's schools at Agra region is in overall charge of girls' education at the regional level and is assisted by a deputy inspectress of girls' schools.

The district inspector of schools is the chief officer of the department in the district, working under the administrative control of regional deputy director. He is responsible for supervision, control and inspection of educational institutions in general and of institutions for boys in particular. He is assisted by an associate district inspector of schools.

A Zila Basic Shiksha Adhikari has been working since 1972 to superintend all primary and junior high schools in the district, he also controls the staff of these institutions.

The Sanskrit *pathshalas* and the Urdu medium primary schools are respectively under the overall charge of the assistant inspectors. Sanskrit *pathshalas* and Urdu medium schools both having their headquarters at Agra.

The department, besides imparting education tries to emphasize the need for building up a sound moral character and physique among students. Games, physical education, training in scouting, national discipline scheme etc., have been enforced in the educational institutions of the district with this end in view.

Forest Department

The district forms a part of the Vrajbhumi Forest Division with its headquarters at Agra which falls under the Extension Circle U.P. with headquarters at Clutterbuckganj, Bareilly, this division being under the control of a divisional forest officer whose work is supervised by a conservator of forests.

The field staff consists of one range officer, 6 foresters and 15 forest guards.

The department has been making efforts for the afforestation of waste lands, replacement of inferior trees in forests, by fast-growing and industrially important species. It also undertakes the construction of forest roads and preservation of wild life.

Public Works Department

The district falls in the circle II, public works department, Agra. This is under the charge of a superintending engineer whose duties include ensuring efficient and proper functioning of the circle under him and satisfying himself that all orders regarding execution of works, maintenance of accounts, co-ordination between various divisions and circles are strictly followed. He acts as a liaison between the department and other civil and military organisations engaged in constructional activity. The executive engineer stationed at Etah, is responsible for the proper execution and maintenance of all public works. He is assisted by 4 assistant engineers whose duties include construction and maintenance of National and State highways and other link roads, bridges and buildings in their respective areas.

Industries Department

The district falls under the western zone of the industries department, the zonal office now being situated at Agra. The district industries officer looks after the industrial development of the district and provides technical guidance and financial assistance to local entrepreneurs.

Handloom industry which was so far a subject dealt with by the directorate of industries was till lately looked after by the district in-

dustries officer. Since a separate directorate for handloom and textile has been created at State level at Kanpur, the activities of this sector are now supervised by an assistant director of industries (handloom). The Khadi and village industries are looked after by the Khadi and village industries board, Kanpur. The staff posted by the board in the district consists of the district village industries officer, an assistant village industries officer and a number of other staff.

Irrigation Department

The highest functionary of the department at the district level is an executive engineer, with headquarters at Etah. He is assisted by a number of assistant and junior engineers and their subordinate field staff in the discharge of his duties. At the higher level his work is supervised and controlled by a superintending engineer, an additional chief engineer, and the chief engineer, irrigation department. While the headquarters of the last two functionaries are located at Lucknow, the civil headquarters of the superintending engineer, is located at Kalagarh.

Canals

The executive engineer of the lower Ganga construction division covers a part of the district only. He is responsible for the utilization of water resources, irrigation through canals and other sources, planning, construction and maintenance of all irrigation works.

Minor Irrigation

The minor irrigation works of the district which relate to boring and installation of pumping sets, and *rahats*, construction of masonry wells and private tube-wells are looked after by junior engineers at the district level. Their work is supervised by an assistant engineer.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

From the historical account given in chapter II of this book, it is evident that the district had formed an integral part of the territory governed successively by Panchalas, Nandas, Mauryas, Guptas, the Maukharis, Pratiharas, Rastrakutas and the Gahadavalas before it came under the sway of Muslim rulers. Local autonomy was a special feature of the ancient Hindu polity and in that context it is reasonable to believe that viable units of self-government functioned in the villages and towns for a long time till they became obscure for want of State patronage. In the absence of any records it is not possible to delineate the rise and fall of these institutions in Etah district from the earliest times. However, the growth of local bodies after the British occupation of the district in 1801 may be treated with accuracy on the basis of material contained in earlier gazetteers.

In 1875, the towns of Aliganj, Etah, Kasganj, Marahra and Soron had a municipality each under the provisions of Act XV of 1873, and the localities of Amanpur, Bilram, Dhumri, Ganj Dundwara, Kadirganj, Mohanpur, Nidhauli-Kalan, Patiali, Raja-ka-Rampur, Sahawar, Sakit, Sarai-Aghat, Sarai-Girdhari and Sirhpura supported a police force each out of the proceeds of tax assessed on houses under Mufussil Town Police Act (Act XX of 1856).

Aliganj was reduced to the status of an Act XX town in 1890. In 1904, the municipality of Marahra was abolished and it was made a notified area. The provisions of Act XX of 1856 were withdrawn from Sarai-Aghat and it assumed the shape of an ordinary village on April 1, 1909.

In 1910 Etah, Jalesar, Kasganj and Soron functioned as municipalities and Aliganj, Amanpur, Awagarh, Bilram, Ganj Dundwara, Kadirganj, Mohanpur, Nidhauli Kalan, Patiali, Raja-ka-Rampur, Sahawar and Sakit as Act XX towns with the U.P. Village Sanitation Act 1892 applicable to them.

In subsequent years, Ganj Dundwara was raised to the status of a notified area and Kadirganj was dropped from the list of towns. In 1934, the district had Etah, Jalesar, Kasganj and Soron as municipalities governed under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916, Ganj Dundwara and Marahra as notified areas and Aliganj, Amanpur, Awagarh, Bilram, Mohanpur, Nidhauli Kalan, Patiali, Raja-ka-Rampur, Sahawar and Sakit as town areas governed under the provisions of U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914.

The nucleus of a district body for self-government was formed as early as the year 1871 when a local funds committee was established. It was transformed into a local board in 1883 and developed and constituted as a district board under Act III of 1906 with 12 elected and four

nominated members induced to maintain cross-country roads, manage dispensaries, fairs, ferries and cattle-pounds and run schools in the rural areas. The District Board Act, 1922 introduced many changes in the scope and working of the local body. The number of members rose to 31 out of whom 28 were elected and the jurisdiction of the board was extended to cover the entire non-urban population of the district with more emphasis on its functional role in the sphere of rural development. As a step towards decentralisation which ultimately materialised in 1962, when Zila Parishads were established, the board was converted into an Antarim Zila Parishad in 1958 through an ordinance known as U.P. Antarim Zila Parishad Ordinance. The entire structure of the local body was changed when the provisions of the U.P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Act, 1961 became applicable and a Zila Parishad was re-constituted in Etah on July 12, 1962.

Further growth and organisation of the various municipal boards and town areas in the district is given under the following heads.

MUNICIPAL BOARDS

Aliganj

Prior to its being upgraded as a municipal board on August 27, 1971, the town of Aliganj was a town area since 1929. At present the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916 as amended from time to time governs this municipal board which has 11 members, elected through direct elections from ten wards of the town. The members elect a president through a majority vote from amongst themselves for a period of 5 years. The area of the town at the 1971 census was 1.63 sq. km. and it had a population of 10,211.

Water-supply—Piped supply of water has not yet been introduced in the town and the people continue to depend upon hand-pumps and wells.

Street-lighting—Electricity was made available to the town in 1957. The number of ordinary electric street lamps was 203 and that of tube-lights in 1974-75 was 22. The expenditure incurred by the board on this amounted to Rs 6,510.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board looks after the sanitation of the town and to improve the drainage it had made arrangements for clearing 6 km. of pakka and 2 km. *kutchha* drains in the town. The refuse of the town is used for the preparation of compost. The board has recently taken up a scheme for the construction of 614 metres of *nullahs* and 426 metres of drains to improve the sanitary conditions within the habitation.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 has been given in tables I (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Etah

This town is governed as a municipality under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916 as amended from time to time. At the time of the census of 1971, the municipal town extended over an area of 5.18 sq. km. and had a population of 33,514. At present, the board stands superseded and is managed by an executive officer appointed by the State Government.

Water-supply—The water-supply scheme of the town was completed in 1957. Water is supplied by four tube-wells with an overhead water storage tank and is available at the rate of 91 litres per head per day. The total length of pipe-lines laid in 1974-75 was 864 metres and the number of public and private hydrants being 59 and 1,632 respectively.

Street-lighting—Formerly kerosene oil lamps were the only means of lighting in the town but now lighting is done by means of electricity. There were 897 electric lamps and 103 kerosene oil lamps in use in the town for street lighting in 1974-75.

Public Health and Medical Services—The board manages the sweeping of roads and removal of garbages from the town. The town has nearly 38 km. of drains which are cleaned daily. The refuse and the garbage of the town is auctioned by the board for preparing compost. For medical services, the board has provided the facility of an eye hospital and maternity home. The expenditure incurred on this head by the board in 1974-75 was Rs 15,13,426.

Education—The board manages a higher secondary school for girls from its own funds. The school has a staff of 25 members including the principal. The institution had 800 girls students on roll in 1974-75.

Special Achievements—The board has taken up plans to build 90 shops and an office of Life Insurance Corporation in the town. It has also built 10 houses for Scheduled Caste/employees. The board has laid out three parks and maintains a library in the town.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in tables II (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Ganj Dundwara

Prior to being up-graded as a municipality in 1950, this town was governed as a town area under the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914. At present U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916 as amended from time to time governs this town. It is managed by a committee of 15 members elected directly through adult franchise from 5 wards of the town and a president elected for a period of 5 years.

The town at the census of 1971 had a population of 17,275 distributed over an area of 2.59 sq. km.

Water-supply—The town does not possess a water works but a scheme for introducing piped supply of water is under preparation.

Street-lighting—The town was electrified in 1964 and 350 electric lamps have been lighting the roads and lanes within the municipal limits. The expenditure incurred by the board on this public utility service in 1974-75 amounted to Rs 14,993.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board manages the sweeping of roads and removal of garbage from the town. The town has nearly 40 km. of *kutchas* drains which are cleaned daily. The refuse and the garbage of the town is auctioned by the board for preparing compost. The expenditure incurred on this head by the board in 1974-75 amounted to Rs 2,24,339.

Education—The board manages a higher secondary school for girls from its own funds. The school has a staff of 9 members including the principal, teachers and a clerk besides some other menial staff. The institution had 250 girl students on roll in 1974-75, the expenditure on this head being Rs 55,970.

Special achievements—The board has taken up plans to build cemented roads in the town and to plant trees on the highways and other roads of the town. It has also taken up a scheme to build 65 shops on the *nazul* land. 5 shops have already been constructed on the Mahatma Gandhi road. The board has also approved a housing scheme and laid out a park known as Gandhi Park.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in tables III (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Jalesar

Since the introduction of U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916, the town of Jalesar is being governed by its provisions as amended from time to time. In July, 1975 the board was superseded and the local body was placed under the direct control of the district magistrate.

In 1971, the municipal limits extended to an area of 2.33 sq. km. and had 18,087 as its residents.

Water-supply—Piped supply of water was made available to the towns folk in 1965. There are two overhead tanks with a storing capacity of 40,000 and 68,000 litres, respectively. The per capita supply of water averaged 16 litres a day in 1974-75 on the basis of an 8 hours schedule.

The number of public and private water taps in the town was 70 and 498 respectively in 1974-75 and the pipelines measured 9,657 metres.

Street-lighting—The town was electrified in 1961. There were 212 electric lamps and 224 kerosene oil lamps on the public streets and lanes of the town in 1974-75. The amount spent by the board on this public amenity was Rs 22,298.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board has employed one sanitary inspector, 7 *jamadars* and 88 sweepers to keep the town tidy. The money spent by the board on this item in 1974-75 was Rs 3,06,708.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in tables IV (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Kasganj

The U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916 as amended from time to time governs the local administration of this town. On June 18, 1970 the municipal board was superseded and the district magistrate, Etah was appointed its administrator who continues to hold the office.

In 1971, the town had 46,462 persons occupying an area of 3.88 sq. km. Octroi duty, toll tax, house tax, water dues, licence fee, rent, *tahbazari* and government grant form the major financial resources of the board.

Water-supply—Piped supply of water was introduced in the town on March 18, 1970. An overhead tank with a capacity to store 45,000 litres of water is fed regularly by two electrically operated tube-wells. The supply is run for 18 hours a day making available 34 litres of water per head. The number of public hydrants in the town in 1974-75 was 55.

Street-lighting—The town was electrified in 1933. Its streets were lighted by 811 electric lamps and 177 tubes in the year 1974-75. The municipal board spent Rs 45,922 on this item in 1974-75.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board has employed a staff of 223, consisting of sanitary inspectors, *jamadars*, *bhisties* and sweepers who keep the town clean. 32 km. long *kutchra* drains are flushed daily.

Public Works—Paving of lanes, improvement of roads and re-modelling of streets is being regularly carried out according to a phased programme through the agency of technical staff employed by the board. The board has also taken up a scheme to construct 44 dwellings for the weaker sections of the society at an estimated cost of Rs 4.48 lakhs. Besides this the board has laid out three parks and has opened up a reading room in the town. A statue of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar has been installed in the children's park.

The detailed account of the receipts and expenditure of the board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in the tables V(a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Marahra

The town of Marahra was up-graded as a municipality in 1956 and since then it is governed under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916. Its population according to the census of 1971 was 11,506, distributed over an area of 5.18 sq. km. The board has 15 members including a president, elected from six wards for a period of 5 years.

Water-supply—There is no scheme for piped water supply in the town and people depend upon hand pumps and wells.

Street-lighting—Electricity came to the town in 1939 and nearly all the streets and lanes of the towns are now lighted. There were 200 road lighting points in the city in 1974-75.

Public Health and Medical Services—The municipal board manages the sweeping of roads and removal of garbage from the town. The refuse and the garbage of the town is collected and dumped daily in trenching grounds and it is sold to cultivators after preparing compost. There is an allopathic hospital in which nearly 10,000 patients are treated every year. A maternity and child welfare centre is also provided in the town in which 1,500 cases were treated.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in tables VI (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Soron

Even before becoming a municipality under the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916, Soron together with Badariya was municipal town since 1868. The municipal area was confined to 0.88 sq. km. and a population of 17,152 in 1971. For civic administration the town was divided into seven wards which returned 16 members for a period of 5 years in 1971 and a president who is elected by a majority vote of the members has an office term of five years.

Water-supply—The town does not have waterworks and the residents draw their supply of water from the wells and hand-pumps.

Street-lighting—The electricity came to the town in the year 1945, the supply of which is now managed by the hydel department. The board only looks after the maintenance of this service and had installed 250 electric street lamps in the town in 1974-75. The board spent a total sum of Rs 49,699 on this public utility service.

Public Health and Sanitation—The board manages the sweeping of roads and removal of garbage from the town. The town has 18.24 km. of drains, out of which 17.24 km. of drains are flushed daily. The refuse and the garbage of the town is auctioned by the board for preparing compost. There is a leprosy hospital and a maternity centre in which 350 and 300 patients were treated respectively in 1974-75.

Education—The board manages a higher secondary school from its own funds. The school has a staff of 30 teachers. The total expenditure incurred by the board on education during 1974-75 amounted to Rs 1,86,699.

The details of income and expenditure of the municipal board for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in tables VII (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

TOWN AREAS

Amanpur

Amanpur, as already stated, started as a town governed by Act XX of 1856 and thereafter by the provisions of the U.P. Town Areas Act in 1914. The town area committee at present stands superseded and the sub-divisional magistrate, Kasganj is acting as the officer in-charge of the local body.

The town has a population of 3,874 spread over an area of about 219 hectares.

Electricity was made available in the town in the year 1959 and there were about 100 electric lamps for street-lighting in the town in the year 1975-76.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table VIII at the end of the chapter.

Awagarh

The U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914 was applied to the town in 1914 and the town was converted from an Act XX town, to a town area. The town according to the census of 1971 had a population of 5,000 spread over an area of 809 hectares. The affairs of the town are managed by a committee of 9 members and one chairman who are elected directly by the residents through adult franchise for 4 years.

Water-supply scheme of the town was first commissioned in August, 1968 and 385.5 metres of pipelines were laid. The number of public and private hydrants in the town in 1974-75 was 166 and 24 respectively.

The town is electrified and there were 110 electric street lamps in 1974-75. The committee has laid out a children's park named after late Raja Surya Pal Singh of Awagarh. Besides this, the local body maintains a library in the office premises of the local body. The library has nearly 600 books.

The main sources of income of the town area committee are government grants, receipt from taxes levied by its committee. The important items of expenditure in 1974-75 were the general administration, public health and sanitation, public works etc.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table IX at the end of the chapter.

Bhargain

This town is being administered under the provisions of the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914, since September 25, 1971. It has a population of 8,810 and an area of 76.08 hectares according to the census of 1971. At present there is no committee governing it and the sub-divisional magistrate, Aliganj is the officer-in-charge of this local body.

The main heads from which the town area derives its income are the government grants, receipts from various taxes.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last four years ending 1974-75 have been given in table X at the end of the chapter.

Bilram

Initially, Bilram was one of the Act XX towns of the district and became a town area in 1914. In 1971, it had an area of 57.06 hectares and a population of 6,768. The town is managed by a committee consisting of a chairman and 9 members elected for 4 years through adult suffrage.

Electricity reached the town in 1968 and the committee has been utilising it since then in lighting the streets of the town. There are at present 26 electric lamp posts.

There is no piped supply of water. The town area committee has recently laid out a public park in the memory of Mahatma Gandhi.

The main sources of income of the local body are government grants and local taxes and the items of expenditure are general administration, public works and other items of local utility.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XI at the end of the chapter.

Mohanpur

Mohanpur was administered under the Bengal Chowkidari Act, 1856, as an Act XX town. To improve the sanitation in the town the United Provinces Village Sanitation Act, 1892 was applied to it. The town was up-graded as town area in 1914 under the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914 and had 5 elected and one nominated members in its committee to manage its affairs. This act as amended from time to time is in force in this town at present.

The town had a population of 3,641 according to the 1971 census distributed over an area of 25.89 hectares. The people draw their supply of water from hand-pumps and wells.

The details of income and expenditure for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XII at the end of the chapter.

Nidhauri-Kalan

Nidhauri-Kalan, a town ten miles from Etah was first constituted as a town under Act XX of 1856. Subsequently it was up-graded as a town area in 1914 when the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914 was applied to it. The total area and population of the town according to the census of 1971 was 10.92 hectares and 5,000 respectively.

The town is managed by a committee consisting of 9 members and one chairman elected directly through adult franchise for a term of 4 years.

There is no piped supply of water. The town is partially electrified and had 22 electric street lamps and 20 kerosene oil lamps in 1974-75.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XIII at the end of the chapter.

Patiali

This place was made an Act XX town under Bengal Chowkidari Act 1856. The U.P. Village Sanitation Act, 1892 was enforced in the town which gave powers to the local body of the town to impose taxes to improve the sanitary conditions. With the passing of the U.P. Town Areas Act, (Act II of 1914), this town was up-graded as a town area and a local committee consisting of 5 elected and one nominated members was formed to govern this local body. Presently, this Act with its subsequent amendments governs this town. At present the committee is constituted of 9 members and a chairman elected directly through adult franchise for a term of 4 years.

The town has an area of 78.50 hectares and a population of 5,633 according to the census of 1971.

There is no provision for piped supply of water to the town.

The town is electrified and nearly all the streets and lanes of the town are now lighted. There were 150 road lighting points in the city in 1974-75.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XIV at the end of the chapter.

Raja-ka-Rampur

Raja-ka-Rampur was governed by Act XX of 1856 till 1914 when the provisions of the U.P. Town Areas Act 1914 were made applicable to it in 1953 and a committee was formed to administer it as a town area. The town has a population of 6,100 distributed over an area of 2.56 sq. km.

Street-lighting—Electricity came to the town in 1962 and nearly all its streets and lanes of the town are now lighted. There were 70 electric and 36 kerosene oil road lighting points in the city in 1974-75.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XV at the end of the chapter.

Sahawar

This town is being administered under the provisions of the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914. The town, according to the census of 1971 had a population of 10,348 spread over an area of 681 hectares. The affairs of the town area are managed by a committee of eleven members and a chairman elected directly through adult franchise for a term of four years.

The town is electrified which was made available in the year 1962. There are 154 electric lamps for street lighting in the town.

The main sources of income of the town area are government grants and taxes levied by it.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the eight years ending 1972-73 have been given in table XVI at the end of the chapter.

Sakit

Before becoming a town area in 1914 under the U.P. Town Areas Act, 1914, it was administered as an Act XX town.

The affairs of the town are managed by a committee of 9 members and a chairman elected through adult franchise for a term of 4 years.

The town, according to the census of 1971 had a population of 3,012 distributed over an area of 30.25 hectares.

The water-supply scheme of the town was completed in 1972 and the total length of the pipe-lines laid was 1,829 metres. The number of public and private water connections in the town in 1974-75 were 10 and 40 respectively.

The town was electrified in the year 1965-66. The local committee manages the lighting arrangements for the public thoroughfares. There are 40 electric street lamps in the town. The town area committee has laid out a park named after the great freedom fighter Rani Laxmi Bai of Jhansi.

The details of income and expenditure of the town area for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in table XVII at the end of the chapter.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

In ancient times, the panchayats which used to be the bodies of village elders, exercised administrative and judicial powers over the community. With the advent of Muslim rule these self-governing units lost their importance considerably but they were allowed to exist till such time as they did not come into conflict with the superimposed Muslim system of law and order in villages.

During the British rule these panchayats lost their residual importance though they continued to control the social life of the village. But the alien rulers soon realised that they could not do away with these traditional institutions and they gave some encouragement to them by recognising their importance. But these panchayats lost their traditional feature and the new panchayats created under the U.P. Gram Panchayat Act, 1920, which were meant to be suited to the British.

The first real beginning in this direction was only made in the year 1947, when after the Independence, the U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947 was passed and the Act was applied to Etah district on August 15, 1949 and *gaon sabhas* and *gaon* panchayats started functioning in this district. It reorganised the ancient system on the modern pattern of elected *gaon* panchayats and delegated to them adequate powers for the administration of villages.

The national extension blocks which were envisaged for community development started coming into being gradually from 1957. They had block development committees which were advisory bodies, set up to help and advise the staff posted in the blocks for speedy implementation of the Five years-Plan schemes. The government transformed their structure by enacting the U.P. Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961 and these *samitis* (committees) became statutory bodies with wide executive and financial powers. With the passing of this Act, the three tier organisation *viz.* *gaon* panchayats at the base, the *kshettra samitis* in the middle and the Zila Parishad at the apex was introduced. The organisation and working of these bodies is discussed in the following pages.

Zila Parishad

The district board in the district first came into existence in 1883 when a board was established under the Local Boards Act, 1883. Prior to the year 1883, there functioned in the district a local funds committee with a corresponding education and dispensary committee under the Local Rates Act, XIV and XVIII of 1871, and the corresponding Act III and IV of 1878. When these Acts were superseded by a government order in 1882, a new district committee was formed which later on was known as the district board. This Act of 1883 was repealed by the United Provinces District Boards Act of 1906. In 1906, the board consisted of 16 members of whom 12 were elected, three from each tahsil, the remainder including the district magistrate as chairman and the divisional sub-divisional officers. The duties and spheres of activity of the board were various, comprising mainly of maintenance and repairs of all roads and buildings outside the municipal areas, the superintendence of education and the management of number of local institutions such as dispensaries, fairs, ferries and cattle-pounds.

The Act of 1906 was repealed by the United Provinces District Boards Act, 1922. It consisted of 31 members of whom 28 were elected and 3 were nominated including a lady. The chairman was elected by the members. Thus, the Act of 1922 extended the territorial jurisdiction of the district board to the whole of rural area and made it more board based by introducing the system of partial elections. A whole time

paid secretary was appointed. There was no further enactment for the district boards and the same Act with its later amendments constituted the basis of the district boards in U.P. till in 1958, the Antarim Zila Parishads Act, 1958 was passed and it converted the district boards into Antarim Zila Parishads.

The body at present known as the Zila Parishad, was established in 1962 under the U.P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Adhiniyam, 1961. The Parishad then consisted of 72 members. Their term of office as well as of the *Adhyaksha* (president) is 5 years which may be extended by the State Government in special circumstances. Pending a review of the constitution and functions of the Zila Parishad, the U.P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads (Alpakalik Vyavastha) Ordinance of March 1970, was issued under which the powers and functions of the Zila Parishad were vested in the district magistrate.

The functions of the Zila Parishad are almost akin to those of the old district board. They include co-ordination of the activities of *vikas khandas* (development blocks), implementation of inter block schemes and utilisation of funds allotted by the government for the purpose of agriculture, animal husbandary, irrigation, co-operation, village industries, public health, education, construction as well as repair of roads, bridges and ferries, cultural activities and welfare of children and women and youth.

Finances—The principal sources of income of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical and public health, public works and fairs etc.

Education—Institutions upto the senior Basic stage (junior high school) were under the control of the Zila Parishad till June 25, 1972 when they were taken over by the State Government. The Zila Parishad only spends money from the government grants for the purpose of maintenance and construction of the buildings for schools etc. Upto 1972-73 the Zila Parishad had received a grant of Rs 9,77,500 for the construction of school buildings, out of which it had constructed 89 school buildings with the help of Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee and rest of the money was handed over to the Basic Shiksha Parishad at the time of the transfer.

Medical and Public Health—There were 4 health inspectors working under Zila Parishad and were posted in each tahsil but now their services have been provincialised. The Zila Parishad looks after the vaccination facilities in the rural area and for this purpose the Parishad has employed an assistant superintendent of vaccination and 113 vaccinators. During 1974-75, 17,519 persons were vaccinated by the Zila Parishad staff.

The Zila Parishad was also running 4 allopathic dispensaries at Soron, Jalesar, Kanganj and Marahra before all of them were taken over by the government in 1974. Besides these, the Parishad is still maintaining 8 Ayurvedic dispensaries where 7,061 patients were treated during 1974-75.

Public Works—The Zila Parishad has constructed and maintained 86.8 km. of metalled and 404.8 km. of unmetalled roads in the district during 1974-75. Besides this the Zila Parishad ran 5 ferries each on Ganga and Kali rivers. The total amount spent on these items in 1974-75 amounted to Rs 64,420.

The details of income and expenditure of the Zila Parishad for the last ten years ending 1974-75 have been given in the tables XVIII (a) and (b) at the end of the chapter.

Kshettra Samitis

The community development blocks established in the fifties of the present century for intensive social and economic development of the rural areas, had block advisory committees to help and advise the extension agency. With the enforcement of the U.P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961 the functions that were previously carried out by these committees were taken-up by the *kshettra samitis* in 1963. The number of these *samitis* was 15 in 1974-75, one for each development block. The term of *kshettra samitis* is normally 5 years but can be curtailed or extended by the government. The members of the *kshettra samitis* consist of all the *pradhans* of the *gaon sabhas*, chairman of the town area committees, with in the block, and all elected members of the Central and State legislature representing or residing in any part of the development block or the *kshettra*. The *samiti* also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The *kshettra samiti* is headed by a *pramukh* and two *up-pramukhs* elected by the members. The block development officer acts as the executive officer of the *kshettra samiti* which is responsible for formulation and execution of the development plans of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, live-stock, fisheries, minor irrigation works, opening maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village industries and co-operative institutions.

Every *kshettra samiti* constitutes a *karya karini* (executive) and *utpadan* (production) and a *kalyan* (welfare) *samitis* headed by the *pramukh* and the two *up-pramukhs* respectively. Since 1964, the services of the officers and others, employed in the development blocks have been placed at the disposal of the *kshettra samiti*. The *samiti* acts as the co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within the jurisdiction in the implementation of schemes and programmes.

Gaon Panchayats

With the coming into force of the U.P. Panchayat Raj Act 1947, as many as 585 *gaon* panchayats were constituted in the district in 1949. In 1974-75 their number rose to 1,190. The panchayat is the executive body of the *gaon sabha* which consists of the adult population of the area. A fixed number of members and a *pradhan* and an *up-pradhan* are elected by members of the *gaon sabha* usually for a period of five years. The *pradhan* and *up-pradhan* also function as chairman and vice-chairman

of the larger body, the *gaon sabha*. The panchayat *sevak* is the secretary-cum-executive officer of the *gaon sabha*. The panchayat *sevak* is the secretary-cum-executive officer of the *gaon sabha* and the *gaon* panchayat.

The functions of *gaon* panchayats are manifold. They include construction, repair, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of sanitation and prevention of epidemics, maintenance of buildings, lands and other property belonging to the *gaon sabha*, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provisioning of drinking water and welfare of backward classes, particularly Harijans, women and children.

For the fulfilment of these objectives the *gaon* panchayats largely depend upon voluntary contribution, and government aid. To augment their resources they have been empowered to levy taxes, rates and fee etc. by an ordinance promulgated in November, 1972. They have also been made eligible to borrow money from the State Government, corporations, Scheduled banks, co-operatives and other financing bodies.

The statement below gives an account of the work done by the *gaon* panchayats during the course of the first three Five-years Plans :

Name of the work	First Five-year Plan	Second Five-year Plan	Third Five-year Plan
Tank construction (No.)	31	16	8
Pakka road construction	16.5	110.10	23.5
Pakka gul (kilometres)	8.0	6.00	8.5
Kharanja (sq. km.)	23.9	110.45	63.06
Culverts (No.)	251	773	239
Drinking water wells (No.)	480	975	382
Hand-pumps (No.)	364	521	491
Pakka drains (km.)	52.1	221.4	112.80
Panchayat ghars-cum-Community centres	27	105	42
School buildings	39	172	219

Some of the main achievements of the *gaon* panchayats during the years 1970-71 to 1974-75 have been as follows :

Name of the project	Year				
	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Pakka gul (km.)	—	1.16	2.60	3.96	2.08
Kutcha roads (km.)	8.57	1.32	72.68	82.0	38.52
Kharanja (sq. km.)	12,682	16,908	19,232	18,012	14,867
Culverts (No.)	27	29	19	28	23
Drinking water wells (No.)	41	22	219	27	30
Hand-pumps (No.)	150	108	8	39	13
Pakka drains (km.)	—	2.90	—	6.09	3.52
P.R.A.I. Type toilets (No.)	2	...	304	254	272
School buildings (No.)	43	91	12	25	20
Panchayat ghars-cum-Community centres (No.)	24	3	2	5	1

Figures of the income and expenditure of the *gaon* panchayats of the district during the year 1974-75 are given below :

Incomes	Amount (in Rs)	Expenditure	Amounts (in Rs)
Taxes realised	7,16,945	Construction works	6,53,562
Land management committees earnings	44,801	General Administration	4,22,574
Grants and other aids by government	2,01,193	—	—
Total	9,62,939	Total	10,76,136

TABLE I (a)

Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Ailiganj

Reference Page No-17 9

Year	Revenue derived for						
	Municipal rates and taxes	property and powers apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	receipts	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
1965-66	13,774	10,178	18,746	—	26,331	69,029	
1966-67	14,981	10,550	14,773	—	40,539	80,843	
1967-68	13,166	8,951	67,352	—	84,694	1,24,163	
1968-69	16,685	15,340	57,089	—	42,908	1,32,022	
1969-70	10,004	15,701	52,406	—	38,057	1,16,168	
1970-71	72,446	3,593	19,096	41,386	8,714	1,40,655	
1971-72	1,31,995	3,556	18,845	1,419	22,202	1,78,017	
1972-73	1,30,309	761	27,017	1,468	1,122	1,60,677	
1973-74	1,40,669	4,380	34,054	7,661	1,689	1,83,453	
1974-75	1,46,259	6,144	88,515	5,309	73,074	3,19,281	

TABLE I (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Aigang

Year	General ad- ministration and collec- tion charges					Public health and convenience		Miscellaneous		Total of all other expenditure heads		Total ex- penditure
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
1965-66		17,722	26,464	10,993	884	800	56,863					
1966-67		17,826	24,628	24,467	—	500	77,421					
1967-68		18,778	25,773	38,823	—	—	83,374					
1968-69		18,818	27,254	1,00,000	—	—	14,073					
1969-70		21,696	31,128	79,952	—	35,000	1,67,776					
1970-71		19,778	—	1,18,403	100	1,342	1,39,823					
1971-72		21,065	—	1,07,244	—	445	1,28,754					
1972-73		25,587	2,431	52,605	1,700	12,378	94,701					
1973-74		25,475	2,166	1,01,244	—	3,532	1,32,417					
1974-75		54,743	6,570	2,89,246	4,120	6,603	3,59,252					

TABLE II (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Etah

Years	Revenue derived from				Grants and contribution		Miscella- neous		Total of all other heads		Total receipts
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1965-66		1,71,048	2,396	94,870	1,39,187	10,369	1,86,585	6,04,455			
1966-67		1,76,022	2,333	96,241	1,77,141	5,646	1,63,125	6,20,508			
1967-68		2,07,144	2,016	2,13,001	1,93,296	6,883	1,92,135	8,14,475			
1968-69		2,65,530	4,725	98,314	1,98,997	8,271	3,83,392	9,60,229			
1969-70		3,45,778	4,951	1,67,312	2,84,853	16,437	5,17,729	13,37,060			
1970-71		4,38,886	4,118	1,22,450	2,99,062	22,389	10,45,309	19,32,214			
1971-72		4,94,222	4,689	1,28,202	3,24,981	23,016	6,68,140	20,20,419			
1972-73		5,97,030	3,781	1,76,997	2,66,554	39,203	9,25,531	20,09,096			
1973-74		6,24,912	4,256	1,72,623	5,08,520	45,146	12,34,701	25,90,158			
1974-75		5,99,882	3,812	2,02,548	4,33,909	51,739	9,67,733	22,59,023			

TABLE II (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees) Municipal Board, Etah

Reference Page No. 180

Year	General administra- tion and collec- tion charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instructions	Contribution	Miscella- neous	Total of all other heads	Total ex- penditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	85,251	65,477	2,59,977	1,39,507	7,801	29,127	23,113	6,10,253
1966-67	98,974	42,563	2,62,196	2,12,073	—	30,096	720	6,48,622
1967-68	1,19,203	55,569	3,42,993	2,12,600	2,194	46,764	1,591	7,80,914
1968-69	1,00,880	59,965	4,37,815	2,04,640	2,712	45,165	45,094	8,96,271
1969-70	1,03,365	78,732	4,97,903	2,66,001	2,850	77,532	1,23,419	1,49,802
1970-71	1,73,319	1,01,040	8,04,645	3,64,508	6,583	92,933	85,088	16,28,116
1971-72	1,76,460	1,19,933	8,19,085	3,46,883	3,097	59,014	2,62,521	17,86,993
1972-73	1,66,680	1,14,821	12,15,626	2,81,752	12,093	72,469	1,00,568	19,64,009
1973-74	2,51,594	86,338	16,64,626	1,65,178	3,450	72,694	1,03,550	23,47,430
1974-75	2,85,875	1,16,813	15,13,426	2,20,614	4,000	84,376	98,812	23,23,916

TABLE III (a)
Receipts (in Rupees) Municipal Board, Ganj Dunduara

Reference Page No. 181

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation un- der special acts	Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1965-66	1,02,237	578	26,580	61,664	3,391	1,94,450
1966-67	99,414	680	28,086	63,124	3,391	1,94,695
1967-68	1,09,802	431	41,785	50,859	3,323	2,06,200
1968-69	1,35,765	1,847	25,536	94,518	4,654	2,62,320
1969-70	1,29,488	1,425	26,352	1,15,235	6,114	2,78,614
1970-71	1,34,089	960	42,512	91,705	12,181	2,81,447
1971-72	1,32,774	1,119	52,594	98,079	26,504	3,11,070
1972-73	1,88,984	1,020	44,178	93,870	8,464	3,3,516
1973-74	1,47,058	1,107	79,500	1,05,058	5,919	3,38,642
1974-75	1,60,178	1,042	80,595	1,94,305	3,348	4,39,463

TABLE III (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Ganj-Dundara

Year	General administration and collection charges			Public safety		Public health and convenience		Public Instructions		Miscellaneous	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1965-66		48,172	28,274	68,960	32,340	13,285					
1966-67		46,957	14,154	81,961	33,736	13,609					
1967-68		50,220	16,200	1,23,332	35,672	14,934					
1968-69		55,029	15,071	74,883	34,051	40,839					
1969-70		51,962	14,276	1,26,252	48,279	27,403					
1970-71		55,446	33,731	1,45,732	54,726	15,189					
1971-72		58,423	14,940	1,75,387	62,443	25,439					
1972-73		70,798	10,100	2,19,461	48,186	22,768					
1973-74		76,527	9,692	1,44,097	31,903	38,092					
1974-75		1,20,817	14,993	2,24,339	55,970	48,258					

Reference Page No. 181

TABLE IV (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Jalesar

Year	Municipal rates and taxes			Realisation under special acts		Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart from taxation		Grants and contribution		Miscellaneous		Total of all other heads		Total of receipts	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1965-66		1,42,439	9,287	38,724	65,609	51,493	8,465	3,16,017							
1966-67		1,54,856	11,499	24,739	45,689	27,122	6,238	2,70,143							
1967-68		1,64,529	11,331	61,071	1,06,781	26,489	2,515	3,72,716							
1968-69		1,81,300	10,949	63,121	1,17,194	2,007	1,855	3,76,426							
1969-70		1,81,274	14,024	66,068	1,34,842	3,618	2,299	4,02,125							
1970-71		1,96,520	13,774	65,707	1,40,482	3,401	750	4,20,634							
1971-72		2,22,971	22,764	60,823	1,93,730	10,327	3,415	5,14,030							
1972-73		2,63,462	17,944	87,656	32,020	1,527	1,000	4,03,609							
1973-74		2,98,151	44,500	1,74,075	—	21,952	1,850	5,40,528							
1974-75		3,62,244	56,227	1,47,132	—	1,665	1,025	5,68,293							

Reference Page No. 182

TABLE IV (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Jalesar

Reference Page No. 182

Year	General adminis- tration and col- lection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instructions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	39,338	19,907	1,56,433	59,042	5,543	37,153	3,17,416
1966-67	37,695	18,280	1,11,237	61,468	8,134	39,084	2,75,848
1967-68	51,082	23,834	1,59,075	71,529	10,326	47,777	3,63,623
1968-69	45,119	19,714	1,28,026	70,660	16,997	45,729	3,26,245
1969-70	56,669	21,470	1,87,013	86,204	3,561	45,543	4,00,460
1970-71	48,117	22,058	2,10,484	86,753	7,237	41,443	4,16,092
1971-72	84,486	59,418	2,75,292	90,007	5,143	45,990	5,60,341
1972-73	82,328	31,809	2,43,118	66,346	4,442	15,597	4,43,140
1973-74	87,722	199,93	2,60,670	3,430	19,330	1,53,903	5,44,978
1974-75	1,01,824	22,298	3,06,708	3,592	9,647	94,963	5,39,032

ETAH DISTRICT

TABLE V (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Kasganj

Reference Page No. 182

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation un- der special acts	Revenue derived from Municipal property and powers apart taxation	Grants and con- tribution	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	1,98,068	1,108	88,635	2,33,908	23,571	7,77,060	12,72,051
1966-67	2,14,292	1,296	41,506	2,33,386	97,190	4,78,273	10,65,943
1967-68	2,05,730	1,147	42,149	2,28,279	1,28,638	5,55,190	11,61,133
1968-69	8,88,952	785	48,217	3,06,155	2,08,575	7,52,776	17,00,460
1969-70	5,37,620	2,765	57,243	3,10,868	1,02,443	6,79,243	16,90,182
1970-71	6,24,443	2,853	52,531	3,32,059	41,995	6,58,126	17,12,007
1971-72	8,33,713	1,936	50,177	4,41,485	30,287	8,35,375	21,92,973
1972-73	8,79,328	3,025	56,007	3,68,705	95,873	64,392	14,67,390
1973-74	9,38,282	2,704	62,126	2,96,977	94,807	74,203	14,69,990
1974-75	10,82,624	5,300	95,061	5,32,787	62,057	1,26,560	19,04,389

TABLE V (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees) Municipal Board, Kasganj

Reference Page No. 182

Year	General adminis- tration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instruction	Contri- bution	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total ex- penditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	69,200	28,209	1,42,993	—	3,155	2,013	10,50,512	12,97,217
1966-67	80,656	28,211	1,46,494	—	7,375	65,170	7,68,448	10,91,324
1967-68	1,07,775	23,044	1,90,571	—	5,500	1,04,522	6,68,245	10,69,757
1968-69	88,213	27,153	1,55,298	—	5,920	72,853	14,11,495	17,60,962
1969-70	1,47,440	23,650	2,15,133	—	7,270	479	12,72,372	16,68,344
1970-71	1,78,657	37,794	2,45,165	—	840	2,113	12,28,031	16,92,600
1971-72	2,03,194	54,060	2,95,345	—	230	1,767	15,82,316	21,36,932
1972-73	2,82,106	53,923	3,54,454	—	—	6,168	8,22,599	15,19,250
1973-74	3,23,250	71,538	4,77,960	—	200	18,884	5,73,514	14,65,346
1974-75	4,58,869	45,922	6,82,635	—	250	7,890	6,32,495	18,28,061

TABLE VI (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Marahra

Reference Page No. 183

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Revenue derived from municipal property and powers apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscella- neous	Total of all other heads	Total of receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1965-66	81,028	940	1,15,785	1,902	14,742	1,64,397
1966-67	37,003	912	51,835	2,100	17,462	1,09,362
1967-68	41,701	934	38,648	1,408	11,061	93,752
1968-69	42,200	1,416	42,880	582	22,123	1,03,201
1969-70	47,437	1,445	47,439	1,911	20,658	1,31,051
1970-71	47,621	1,201	63,194	1,560	14,797	1,27,773
1971-72	70,889	1,633	96,232	480	23,047	2,92,003
1972-73	63,239	1,982	39,479	721	21,533	1,23,977
1973-74	62,035	2,663	21,995	2,177	67,741	1,61,361
1974-75	75,669	2,693	23,322	797	21,891	1,29,907

TABLE VI (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Marahra

Reference Page No. 183

Year	General admini- stration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and convenience	Public instructions	Contribu- tions	Miscella- neous	Total of all other heads	Total ex- penditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	20,988	22,880	11,824	63,293	2,201	6,276	4,102	1,31,564
1966-67	22,110	20,282	12,793	67,387	2,473	6,423	3,619	1,35,087
1967-68	23,163	10,259	15,899	46,079	509	7,241	3,150	1,06,800
1968-69	24,044	13,184	17,145	36,008	7,959	6,805	5,282	1,10,927
1969-70	24,459	23,271	16,785	37,379	365	7,193	3,843	1,13,245
1970-71	27,463	21,416	19,439	60,610	—	6,366	3,852	1,89,146
1971-72	32,932	10,170	21,811	1,13,369	—	7,480	6,327	1,92,089
1972-73	35,573	9,741	26,687	68,754	—	6,279	8,182	1,55,216
1973-74	36,877	9,782	30,783	36,476	—	8,032	6,648	1,28,598
1974-75	50,488	5,004	51,523	484	—	9,976	7,497	1,25,522

TABLE VII (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Soron

Reference Page No. 183

Year	Municipal rates and taxes	Realisation un- der Special Acts	Revenue derived from Municipal property and power apart from taxation	Grants and contributions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—
1966-67	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—
1967-68	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—
1968-69	2,41,102	1,654	1,00,128	1,13,869	15,109	7,564	4,79,426
1969-70	2,82,853	2,444	1,58,099	1,75,370	14,279	6,002	6,39,037
1970-71	2,54,886	1,936	1,66,412	2,01,881	20,318	12,199	6,57,032
1971-72	3,25,205	1,712	1,69,408	2,70,519	21,677	1,768	7,90,287
1972-73	2,37,944	1,025	1,45,621	1,68,147	17,764	7,230	5,77,731
1973-74	2,64,236	1,877	1,80,927	1,77,952	79,100	5,237	6,89,839
1974-75	2,40,842	1,549	1,27,545	1,96,413	11,709	722	5,78,780

TABLE VII (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Soron

Expenditure (in Rupees), Municipal Board, Soron								Reference Page No. 183
Year	General adminis- tration and col- lection charges	Public safety	Public health and con- venience	Public instructions	Miscellaneous	Total of all other heads	Total expendi- ture	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1965-66	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—	
1966-67	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—	
1967-68	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—	
1968-69	69,555	23,031	2,28,976	1,62,341	26,086	5,951	5,15,980	
1969-70	62,916	28,409	2,49,411	1,81,853	56,931	9,291	5,88,811	
1970-71	75,425	39,048	1,35,821	2,07,420	81,902	15,341	5,54,957	
1971-72	84,462	42,140	2,79,160	2,54,570	68,264	4,926	7,33,522	
1972-73	98,428	45,190	2,72,748	1,83,082	47,441	10,866	6,57,785	
1973-74	1,06,341	31,574	3,40,780	1,36,177	31,078	6,066	6,52,016	
1974-75	1,50,020	44,447	2,33,966	1,86,699	61,341	517	6,76,896	

TABLE VIII
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Amanpur

Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Amarnagar												
Reference Page No. 184												
Year	Government grants			Receipts from taxes		Other receipts	Total receipts	General adminis- tration and col- lection charges	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure	
	1	2	3	4	5						6	7
1965-66		5,000	8,397	1,027	14,424			6,992	4,129	3,993	15,114	
1966-67		5,000	7,947	2,647	15,594			8,649	5,392	8,753	17,334	
1967-68		5,000	2,501	1,570	9,071			1,598	3,562	2,608	7,768	
1968-69		20,000	13,945	1,386	35,331			10,820	5,214	1,814	17,848	
1969-70		15,000	11,440	1,557	27,997			13,494	44,898	3,121	61,518	
1970-71		7,500	12,513	1,783	21,796			12,778	10,578	7,883	31,239	
1971-72		5,000	6,551	5,650	17,201			13,943	—	2,893	16,638	
1972-73		10,000	15,435	1,450	26,885			18,401	11,912	6,585	36,898	
1973-74		10,000	11,236	10,406	31,642			4,745	9,932	1,846	16,523	
1974-75		10,000	6,182	15,792	31,974			13,404	12,205	7,050	32,659	

TABLE IX
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Awagari

Reference Page No. 184

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	27,500	7,464	16,477	51,441	2,061	11,500	6,812	32,118	52,491
1966-67	29,846	6,098	28,992	64,936	2,790	15,090	61,495	33,983	68,358
1967-68	5,000	5,013	18,495	28,508	1,231	15,443	7,992	8,475	28,146
1968-69	5,000	10,622	32,624	48,256	2,240	23,331	17,082	4,473	47,189
1969-70	6,000	10,362	69,194	85,556	4,230	52,382	24,182	1,575	82,369
1970-71	7,500	10,412	92,609	11,052	22,580	48,376	21,479	12,516	1,04,961
1971-72	6,000	5,694	1,56,558	1,68,252	18,187	87,408	31,984	9,090	1,46,669
1972-73	10,000	8,050	2,18,198	2,31,248	20,584	81,794	95,438	19,273	2,17,089
1973-74	10,000	6,110	2,29,755	2,45,865	17,498	99,435	68,453	65,685	2,46,071
1974-75	10,000	8,425	2,70,704	2,89,179	18,167	1,47,944	85,036	80,698	2,81,845

TABLE X
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Bhargain

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1971-72	6,000	—	—	6,000	—	—	—	—	—
1972-73	11,200	—	835	12,035	825	1,100	22,300	100	24,325
1973-74	20,000	4,800	5,338	30,138	8,919	—	11,714	95	15,728
1974-75	10,000	2,113	6,537	18,650	7,397	—	11,100	231	18,728

TABLE XI
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Bilram

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	5,000	18,147	34,211	52,358	21,918	2,459	7,242	19,882	51,500
1966-67	5,000	13,748	34,920	58,678	28,128	2,703	9,740	10,756	51,328
1967-68	5,000	16,347	32,650	48,997	22,307	2,109	7,463	672	32,551
1968-69	25,000	14,322	48,870	62,692	26,313	3,181	9,352	7,211	46,047
1969-70	21,000	17,119	59,282	68,402	29,596	2,206	13,486	23,872	69,159
1970-71	7,500	23,620	41,447	65,067	33,801	2,262	22,044	11,270	69,377
1971-72	11,000	2,640	86,160	89,111	37,000	6,942	18,770	400	63,111
1972-73	10,000	32,745	81,982	68,374	50,892	10,100	11,795	13,492	86,280
1973-74	10,000	19,920	38,425	66,863	47,762	1,935	15,777	1,391	60,865
1974-75	10,000	21,901	94,996	1,06,995	75,934	1,883	17,449	11,929	1,06,995

TABLE XII
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees) Town Area, Mohanpur

Reference Page No. 185

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	7,407	13,665	4,024	25,096	7,076	5,772	232	13,130
1966-67	7,084	10,625	4,849	22,558	10,017	8,816	386	19,219
1967-68	1,996	5,816	5,809	13,711	8,824	27,842	293	36,959
1968-69	7,408	10,189	10,072	27,619	10,459	8,018	1,088	19,565
1969-70	23,020	4,647	23,899	51,566	10,497	7,978	497	18,972
1970-71	20,006	11,330	5,126	36,462	10,939	23,967	17,888	52,794
1971-72	13,131	7,464	38,449	59,044	12,762	19,453	6,353	38,568
1972-73	15,383	7,745	5,762	28,890	17,511	32,838	4,510	54,859
1973-74	14,546	9,459	10,255	34,260	15,998	9,150	2,034	27,182
1974-75	15,662	10,093	14,276	40,031	22,769	16,505	10,111	49,485

TABLE XIII
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Nidhauili-Kalan

Year	Government grants	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	Total receipts	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1965-66	7,442	5,883	3,814	17,139	4,166	18,884	18,050	
1966-67	7,272	2,701	3,576	13,549	5,978	11,783	17,761	
1967-68	11,531	4,412	3,153	19,098	7,412	12,189	19,601	
1968-69	3,293	9,216	3,111	15,620	3,235	12,363	15,593	
1969-70	23,427	4,653	5,361	33,441	3,296	10,265	13,561	
1970-71	21,159	7,407	5,618	34,184	27,690	11,621	39,311	
1971-72	32,883	6,943	5,870	46,696	22,651	18,255	40,906	
1972-73	20,752	9,951	5,220	35,923	30,203	25,638	55,843	
1973-74	15,965	6,955	8,248	31,168	11,000	16,263	27,263	
1974-75	15,131	5,017	10,717	30,865	14,583	19,326	33,909	

Reference Page No. 186

TABLE XIV
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Patiali

Year	Government grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1965-66	7,725	5,720	1,201	14,646	9,402	2,744	600	12,746
1966-67	7,796	6,938	1,288	17,022	9,061	10,511	412	19,934
1967-68	42,997	6,207	1,531	50,785	11,633	7,801	626	29,660
1968-69	22,794	6,151	1,851	30,796	11,191	46,264	1,660	59,115
1969-70	28,213	12,070	1,369	41,652	10,396	25,187	376	35,933
1970-71	21,314	6,855	1,500	29,669	13,473	22,480	299	36,242
1971-72	33,794	8,534	2,341	44,669	13,917	8,726	319	22,962
1972-73	24,793	2,185	1,476	28,454	16,940	35,611	246	52,737
1973-74	18,066	8,466	3,956	30,508	19,532	9,127	30	28,689
1974-75	15,200	34,993	4,046	54,239	17,209	32,748	255	59,212

Reference Page No. 186

TABLE XV
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Raja-ka-Rampur

Reference Page No. 186

Year	Government grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	5,000	14,534	8,083	28,217	19,193	8,583	2,203	80,044
1966-67	5,000	14,966	10,667	30,633	16,975	10,050	2,879	29,904
1967-68	5,000	11,528	5,927	22,455	13,897	5,000	1,694	20,591
1968-69	25,000	20,477	6,074	51,551	18,562	12,216	2,281	33,059
1969-70	21,000	20,266	6,928	47,594	21,737	20,332	2,065	53,184
1970-71	17,500	17,758	6,556	41,814	20,708	24,817	2,198	47,223
1971-72	21,000	14,607	30,307	65,974	18,491	20,957	1,556	41,004
1972-73	12,000	21,435	11,686	34,371	23,907	37,900	2,469	69,276
1973-74	10,000	15,313	8,984	34,297	22,510	1,442	1,723	25,080
1974-75	10,000	14,698	24,507	49,205	41,242	14,500	1,995	57,737

CH. XIV—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

TABLE XVI
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Sahawar

Reference Page No. 187

Year	Government grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Public works	Other expenditure	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1965-66	26,517	14,270	31,639	72,426	36,818	1,784	17,214	6,491	62,307
1966-67	22,224	46,184	1,491	69,899	49,775	489	26,266	5,373	81,908
1967-68	31,906	46,385	1,638	79,929	58,728	314	8,893	194	66,129
1968-69	44,544	43,940	2,583	81,067	50,028	390	41,412	4,786	96,616
1969-70	37,594	47,105	3,475	88,174	53,153	1,425	24,207	7,846	91,631
1970-71	28,101	61,488	3,585	93,174	53,804	1,243	27,164	21,602	1,03,813
1971-72	15,699	48,399	48,221	1,12,319	59,919	711	26,190	10,346	97,166
1972-73	21,178	60,853	5,228	87,264	60,610	1,691	30,927	11,612	10,494
1973-74	—	—	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—
1974-75	—	—	—	—	Not available	—	—	—	—

TABLE XVII
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rupees), Town Area, Sakit

Reference Page No. 187

Year	Government grant	Receipts from taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public works	Other sources	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1965-66	32,504	6,196	721	39,421	6,675	25,305	245	32,225
1966-67	28,412	7,457	551	36,420	7,499	8,829	36,395	52,723
1967-68	29,542	6,231	974	36,747	6,876	3,877	11,500	22,253
1968-69	18,518	2,534	3,212	24,259	7,932	9,448	1,052	18,482
1969-70	27,146	1,798	1,514	30,458	8,465	8,637	5,249	22,351
1970-71	40,751	4,683	6,332	51,766	7,853	1,563	25,636	35,052
1971-72	3,512	9,153	12,439	25,104	9,853	20,389	1,673	31,915
1972-73	10,482	7,285	3,252	20,969	6,821	51,437	3,198	61,456
1973-74	2,586	3,567	12,548	18,701	2,798	4,695	32,721	40,214
1974-75	24,689	18,493	2,609	45,851	31,377	11,116	1,586	44,079

TABLE XVIII (a)
Receipts (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Etah

Reference Page No. 190

Year	Government grant	Educational	Medical and public health	Cattle pounds	Fairs and exhibition	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	36,72,821	1,58,714	2,042	14,579	10,345	1,03,419	39,61,920
1966-67	36,02,309	1,58,498	4,863	8,656	6,956	3,32,962	41,14,244
1967-68	39,23,175	1,57,432	12,246	9,076	35,905	45,346	41,83,180
1968-69	44,40,508	1,57,073	604	18,865	40,867	1,06,669	47,60,586
1969-70	57,27,516	1,60,945	2,100	17,275	2,373	84,664	59,44,878
1970-71	59,21,632	1,56,457	6,164	11,583	16,856	30,233	61,42,925
1971-72	1,01,86,962	1,51,990	5,754	7,075	42,133	43,346	1,04,37,260
1972-73	31,88,089	62,771	3,768	7,307	3,327	95,302	33,60,564
1973-74	2,75,786	—	2,169	5,864	42,045	2,97,055	6,22,919
1974-75	3,16,635	—	1,469	4,451	27,086	1,60,393	5,10,034

TABLE XVIII (b)
Expenditure (in Rupees), Zila Parishad, Etah

Reference Page No. 190

Year	General adminis- tration	Education	Medical and public health	Public works	Fairs and exhi- bition	Other sources	Total expendi- ture
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1965-66	95,292	28,64,484	1,38,171	1,03,174	18,783	9,99,796	42,14,700
1966-67	85,605	31,72,663	1,22,692	87,764	9,752	51,334	35,29,810
1967-68	63,892	33,58,839	1,23,041	76,085	16,875	45,045	36,38,777
1968-69	64,547	36,57,496	1,30,767	83,376	15,463	1,33,854	40,85,503
1969-70	70,148	47,67,075	1,23,630	1,27,359	11,118	4,26,891	55,26,221
1970-71	57,702	51,82,736	1,27,718	3,56,009	23,821	65,662	58,13,648
1971-72	69,139	59,87,175	1,35,389	1,01,645	16,860	20,86,073	83,96,281
1972-73	84,142	37,99,603	1,16,723	24,34,936	9,465	3,52,013	67,96,932
1973-74	1,62,463	28,455	1,55,217	7,40,792	18,290	5,79,025	16,84,242
1974-75	1,55,140	1,88,194	1,28,324	64,420	12,945	2,13,641	7,62,664

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The area included in the present district of Etah formed part of the ancient kingdoms of south Panchala, Mauriyas, Guptas and Harsh Vardhana. Education in those days began at home followed invariably, in the case of upper strata of society, by admission in some *ashrama* (hermitage). However, regular studentship, in *ashrama*, began with the initiation ceremony called the *upanayana*. The pupil was allowed to pursue studies of his choice accompanied by special teaching in Vedas and the traditional branches of learning such as *itihasa-purana* (history and legend), *vyakarana* (grammar), *philology*, *chhandashastra* (prosody), *arthashastra* (political economy), *ganita* (mathematics), *gyotish* (astronomy and astrology), *dharmashastra* (statecraft and military science) and *Ayurveda* (the science of longevity).

In those days education was for the sake of learning and spiritual advancement and not for earning a livelihood. It was imparted with the best of care, free of cost and was not controlled by the state. The individual was the main concern and centre of this system, and development of character and the acquisition of learning of the sacred lore and its application in practice being its chief aim. The teacher was content with whatever was offered to him by his pupils at the end of their education which ensured that the poorest in society received the benefits of education. The student was also required to help the teacher in his household and farm work. One of the important features of the system was to create an intimate relationship between the teacher and the taught which was expected to inculcate in the latter the attitudes of obedience, austerity and purity of conduct.

In course of time, *pathshalas* (schools) emerged, as elsewhere, in this region also. Majority of them were attached to temples in which in addition to the subjects taught originally (Sanskrit and grammar, the regional languages, astrology, mathematics, etc.), preparation for the priesthood became an important feature for those desirous of taking up that profession.

With the invasion of India by the Muslims and the settling down to rule, a parallel institution of what is known as *maktabs* came to be introduced primarily for the benefit of the Muslim children. Although it is difficult to determine their impact on the educational system in this region yet it may be presumed that they established their own *maktabs* (schools) mostly attached to the mosques. In those days (*pathshalas*) and *maktabs* were almost always privately owned and run, receiving no regular financial aid from the government, except occasional gifts of land, cattle or money.

At the time of the advent of the British, there were some secular elementary schools in which reading, writing and a little arithmetic was taught, in addition to the religious indigenous institutions. The

artisan classes gave their children, mainly vocational education required for professional skill such as carpentry, smithy, tailoring, etc. Schooling of girls was not in vogue but this does not mean that they were ignorant and illiterate. They were generally given training in cooking, house-keeping, embroidery, etc., at home by the elderly ladies of families who also familiarised them with the basic tenets of religion and legends (Puranas), etc. The first attempt for imparting education on the part of the government was made in 1850 when schools were established by S.H. Reid at the tahsil headquarters of Etah, Aligarh and Kasganj. Village schools were opened in 1856 and in 1860, nearly four years after the transfer of the district headquarters from Patiyali to Etah an English school was started at the latter town by major Pearson. Six years later it was converted into a zila school, which was raised to the status of high school in 1906 and at the same time several girls' schools were established. In 1909, there were 5 *tahsili* (tahsil level) schools, one of which was at Awa while the others were at the four tahsil headquarters, besides 144 primary and 75 aided schools for boys, and 20 primary schools and one aided school for girls.

Besides these, there were several private indigenous schools throughout the district in some of which religious instruction either in Sanskrit or in Arabic was given and in some of them Kaithi script, multiplication table and arithmetic were also taught. These included the Anglo-vernacular Islamiyah School at Marehra, the English mission school at Kasganj, the Anglo-Sanskrit Pathshala at Patiyali, and the Sanskrit Pathshala at Etah and Kasganj.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

In 1881, it was found that 38 males in a thousand were literate with one female out of the same number. In 1891, these figures stood at 44 and one respectively and in 1901 they were 39 in the case of males and 2 in that of females. Thereafter, there has been a slow but steady rise in the number of literate persons both among males and females. Achievement in this field between 1951 to 1971 is depicted below :

Year	Percentage of literacy among	
	Males	Females
1	2	3
1951	15.1	3.9
1961	25.2	6.6
1971	30.59	11.01

In 1961, the district occupied 29th place in literacy among the districts of the State. The percentage of literacy was 16.6 as against State

average of 17.7. The following statement gives an insight into the expansion of literacy and education in the district in 1961 :

Educational standard	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4
Urban			
Literate without educational level	25,955	16,754	9,201
Primary or junior Basic	10,724	7,413	3,281
Matriculation or higher secondary	4,518	3,867	651
Technical diploma not equal to degree	71	51	20
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	4	4	—
University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	950	829	121
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree :			
Engineering	7	7	—
Medicine	55	50	5
Agriculture	10	10	—
Veterinary and dairying	5	5	—
Technology	1	1	—
Teaching	107	91	16
Others	7	7	—
Rural			
Literate without educational level	1,23,425	1,01,257	22,168
Primary or junior Basic	37,723	33,443	4,280
Matriculation and above	6,784	6,573	211

In 1971, the percentage of literacy rose to 20.16 and those for males and females 30.59 and 11.01 respectively.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Education now starts generally with the pre-junior Basic class or nursery level and goes up to the university stage. The following statement gives the number of students in various categories of schools in the district in 1974-75 :

Category of school	No. of schools	Number of students	
		Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4
Junior Basic	996	1,19,249	65,691
Senior Basic	212	19,544	8,184
Higher secondary	81	28,127	7,535

A statement showing progress of junior Basic, senior Basic and higher secondary education is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

Pre-junior Basic Stage

Pre-junior Basic education imparted to children up to six years of age, is of recent origin.

Junior and Senior Basic Stage

Education at the junior and senior Basic stages is based on the Wardha scheme of education initiated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1937. It was adopted by the State Government with certain modifications, comprising the junior Basic stage from class I to class V and the senior Basic stage from class VI to Class VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education ought to draw out the best in the pupil in body, mind and spirit. It implied that free and compulsory education for a term of eight years be provided by the State, that the mother-tongue be the medium of instruction, that the process of education centre around some useful handicraft enabling the child to channelize his creative ability, the moment his training is begun, and that, every school be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency Basic education has been nationalised through the Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam since July 25, 1972. The management of Basic schools has accordingly been transferred from the local bodies to the Board of Basic Education. Control at the district level is vested in the Zila Shiksha Samiti and at the village level in the Gaon Shiksha Samiti. A district Basic education officer and an additional Basic education officer (women) are posted in the district to look after Basic education in the district.

To encourage education among the boys and girls, school enrolment was made compulsory.

Secondary Education

The secondary education covers the courses of study after the senior Basic stage up to class XII. With the establishment of the Board of High School and Intermediate Education, U.P., in 1921, the high school and intermediate examination began to be held at the end of class X and class XII, respectively. To encourage female education, the State Government has made girls' education free up to high school since January 1, 1965. A list of the higher secondary schools functioning in the district in 1976-77 is given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

Re-orientation Scheme

The re-orientation scheme aims at introducing agriculture as a central craft in the schools. In 1975, there were 34 such schools each having extension teachers. The following statement gives certain details regarding various types of schools teaching agriculture in 1975 :

Type of schools	Number of schools	Area in hectares
Senior Basic	6	10.6
Higher Secondary	28	49.0

Education Of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes

To encourage education amongst the Scheduled Castes, incentives like free education, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for books and stationery have been provided to boys and girls by the State from class I to class X. In the intermediate classes students belonging to these castes are entitled to get scholarships besides free education. Those who fail at the examination for the first time get free education after fulfilling certain conditions. Poor and deserving students of the Other Backward Classes also receive scholarships. The following statement shows the number of students of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes receiving education in 1975 :

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4
Junior Basic	14,254	4,078	18,327
Senior Basic	1,125	92	1,217
Higher secondary (up to class X)	1,610	118	1,728
Higher secondary (up to class XII)	8,026	106	8,132

Higher Education

In 1975, there were 4 degree colleges in the district out of which 2 were for girls. The following statement gives certain details about them. All of these institutions were affiliated to the Agra University, Agra.

Name and location	Date of establishment	No. of students	No. of teachers	Courses taught
1	2	3	4	5
J.L.N. Degree College, Etah	—	1,122	28	Arts
Kothiwal Arthia Degree College, Kasganj	1963-64	824	27	Arts
M.B. Degree College, Kasganj	1973-74	189	11	Arts
Ganj Dundwara Degree College, Ganj Dundwara	—	918	42	Arts, Science and B. Ed.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Before the mechanisation of industries there was hardly any scope for opening institutions of technical and professional education. In the age of handicrafts skill in the production of goods was acquired through apprenticeship and dexterity passed on from generation to generation. But with the advent of machine technology and its application to spheres of production, propagation of professional and technical education became imperative.

An industrial training institute was started on November 1, 1962 by the State directorate of training and employment at Etah. It imparts one year's training in trades of carpentry, blacksmithy, plumbing, cutting and tailoring, embroidery, etc., and two years' training in the trades of fitting, mechanical engineering, draftsmanship, electrical engineering, surveying, radio mechanism, etc. In 1974, there were 256 trainees. About one-third trainees got stipends.

To meet the growing demand of trained teachers for Basic schools a number of training institutes are being run in the district by the education department. Their position in 1974 is indicated below :

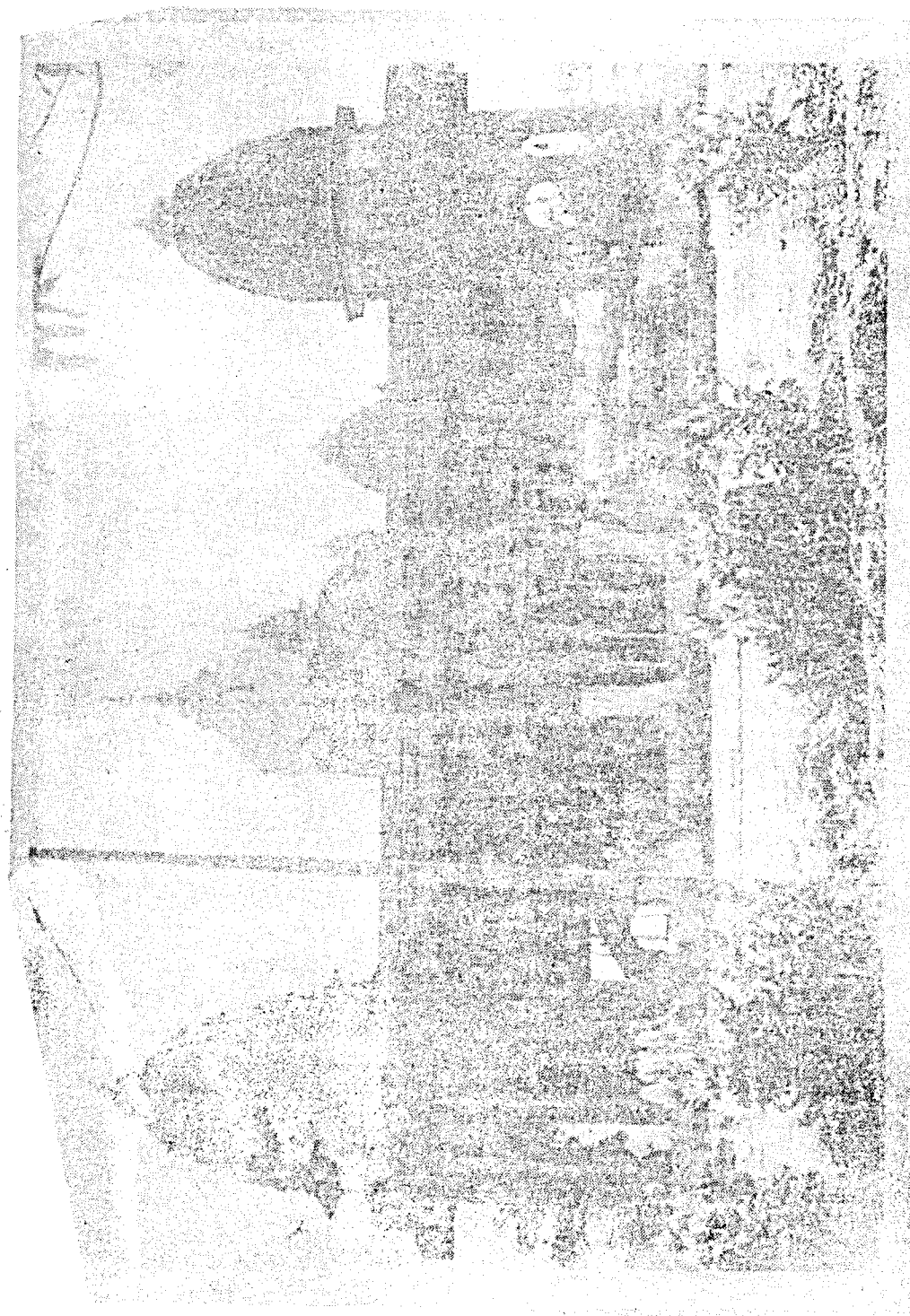
Name and location	Certificates awarded	No. of students	No. of teachers	Duration of training
1	2	3	4	5
Government Normal School, Etah	B.T.C.	98	10	One year
Government Girls' School, Kasganj	B.T.C.	145	15	One year
Government Normal School, Ganj Dundwara	B.T.C.	96	10	One year

ORIENTAL EDUCATION

Sanskrit- In 1975, there were seven Sanskrit *pathshalas* in the district which imparted education in subjects like Sanskrit literature, *vyakarana*, *ganita*, *darshan* (philosophy), etc., and were affiliated to the Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi. The following table gives some details about these :

Name and location	Year of establishment	No. of students (1974)	No. of teachers (1974)	Courses of studies
1	2	3	4	5
Shri Sanatan Dharma Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Etah	1907	16	2	Uchchatar Madhyama
Dayananad Anglo/Surya Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Sonara	1920	107	2	Do
Shri Adarsh Mehta Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Soron	1921	120	6	Acharya
Shri Brahm Deo Jahanvi Sanskrit Adarsha Mahavidyalaya, Nardosi	1926	39	4	Shastri
Shri Kalyan Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Kasganj	1928	73	2	Do
Shri Raj Kumar Sangved Vidyalaya, Soron	1937	48	3	Uchchatar Madhyama
Vedic Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Sirauli	1940	28	3	Do

Arsh Gurukul, Etah, was established nearly 26 years ago on April 26, 1948 through the efforts of Sri Swami Brahmanand Dandi. The Gurukul was an after-effect of a Brahmaparayana Mahayajna of all the four *Vedas* presided over by Sri Brahmdukt Jigyasu, a notable authority



Arsh Gurukul, Etah

on the *Vedas*, a renowned grammarian and winner of the President's award for his contributions. The Gurukul has its own building, spacious grounds and hostels built at a total cost of six lakhs of rupees. It is affiliated to the Sri Maddaranand Vidyapeeth and prepares students for various examinations relating to the studies of the *Vedas* and other ancient Sanskrit scriptures with a view to propagating the mission and ideals of rishi Dayanand, the founder of Arya Samaj.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical training is imparted to boys and girls in all educational institutions in the district. The units of the National Cadet Corps in the district give physical training to youths in certain schools and colleges besides imparting military training. Scouts training sponsored by the Bharat Scouts' and Girls Guides' Association is compulsorily given in all the senior Basic and higher secondary schools. Scouts and guides' camps and rallies are organised every year. The National Fitness Corps, created by the Central Government provides physical training in a number of schools/colleges of the district and for that purpose instructors have been appointed.

ADULT EDUCATION

Since September 20, 1975 a scheme for providing education to adults has been introduced in the district. There are 5 such schools in the Kanganj municipal area and 20 in the rural areas of the district. In addition, there are 30 such part-time schools functioning in the district. Each school has a teacher.

Besides these the education department is running a number of schools as under :

Standard	No. of schools
1	2
Junior high schools	
Boys	51
Girls	14
Senior Basic schools	
Boys	1
Girls	23
Primary schools	
Boys	719
Girls	214

LIBRARIES AND READING-ROOMS

Libraries— In 1975, there were a number of libraries in the district. A public library is functioning at Mehta Park and is managed by the municipal board, Etah. There are about 5,000 books in the library.

There is also a reading-room attached to the library. Another public library is functioning at Kasganj which is managed by the municipal board, Kasganj. It has also a reading-room. There are about 5,000 books. These libraries were established in 1921 by N.O. Mehta the then collector of the district.

Reading-rooms— In 1975, the education extension department was running 25 reading-rooms since 1939 in the rural areas of the district. The following statement gives certain details about them :

Location of reading-rooms	No. of books	Average number of daily visitors
1	2	3
Jisini	423	40
Malawan	1,331	40
Junior high school, Pivari	1,200	30
Primary school, Dhiramai	1,504	25
Trilokpur	756	20
Kamtaur	1,321	30
Junior high school, Sirroli	324	20
Pharauli	1,453	20
Sahawar	877	10
Goraba	786	30
Karsana	1,052	25
Pithan Pur	1,120	30
Surauth	1,120	30
Aliganj	877	20
Majhola	1,331	30
Deo Kali	1,180	20
Dhumri	1,105	40
Nil Khera	1,279	40
Pondri	401	30
Bhoundala	1,071	40
Hasangarh	1,503	40
Rijawali	1,430	30
Sougura	1,402	40
Dharbusi	1,500	30
Rampura	1,331	25

MEN OF LETTERS

Amir Khusrū was born at Mominabad in 1253 A.D., and became an ardent disciple of Hazrat Nizamuddin Auliya at an early age. He was a renowned poet, singer and musician. He adorned the courts of as many as five kings of Delhi sultanate. He was pioneer in introducing the use of native diction in poetry. During his life time he composed over 90 literary works, though few of them are extant now. Khusrū's, *Khamaa* (quintet), a collection of romantic poems, is a marvel of Persian literature. He was the first Indian to compose in Persian, being also well-versed in Hindi and Urdu. He Indianised Persian poetry by his frequent use of Hindustani words, purely Indian legends and themes drawn from Hindu mythology. He was essentially an epic and lyric poet though he also wrote profusely in other forms of poetry. His masterly treatment in these two forms earned him the title of Tooti-i-Hind. He founded a new style of poetry in Persian 'Sabk-i-Hindi.'

Apart from his works of high literary excellence, he has left behind a treasure of folk songs, written in the spoken language of the people. The peculiarity of his folk songs was that he drew abundantly from the colour and perfumes of seasons, and in tune with various local musical styles bearing the themes of important social customs and traditions, particularly the rural hinterland. He is also the author of hundreds of riddles and puzzles and coumdrums for the tiny tots, fair maidens and for others.

Khusrū, himself a great singer of no mean repute, moulded and synthesised the two mainstreams of Persian and Hindustani music. He released the Khyal from Dhrupad and introduced new Ragas like Aimen, Farghana, Qual, Tarana, Suhila Basiti, etc., and introduced Quwwali as a new form in music and poetry.

As a linguist Khusrū's contribution is equally important. His observations on prevailing linguistic regions in India are very significant even today. They reveal that even as early as eight hundred years ago, during Khusrū's time, the Khari Boli (Hindi) was the language of area comprising the subah of Delhi, the Brij of the subah of Agra, Avadhi of the subah of Avadh, the Bhojpuri of the subah of Allahabad, Gujrati of the subah of Gujrat, Bengali of the subah of Bengal, Kashmiri of Kashmir valley, Dogri of Jammu and Himachal hills and Pahari of Punjab and hill areas of Northern India.

It is thus that he started a subconscious movement of cultural integration in the society, the most natural culmination of which are the present day linguistic States in the country.

A group of literary historians connect the great Hindi poet Tulsi Das with this district. According to this view the poet was born to a Brahmana couple at or near Shookar Kshetra (Sorun). Though the other school holds that the poet belonged to district Banda of this State, yet his associations with Sorun at some stage is not much disputed. The impact of Braj Bhasa on his poetry may be the result of his long associations with this place. The dated works of Tulsi Das were commenced as follows : *Ram Charit Manas*, 1574; *Ramsatsai*, 1584; *Ramagya*, 1598 and *Kinnik-Ramayana* between 1612 and 1614.

STATEMENT NO. I

Reference Page No. 222

Year	Junior Basic Education				Senior Basic Education				Higher Secondary Education			
	No. of schools		Number of students		Number of schools		Number of students		Number of schools		Number of students	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1965-66	861	94	91,069	37,008	85	22	15,015	7,451	27	12	12,000	1,000
1966-67	777	183	1,03,625	40,474	100	12	12,168	2,291	42	6	21,795	4,266
1967-68	777	183	1,12,110	58,941	112	13	13,184	1,723	45	7	25,894	4,718
1968-69	789	182	1,12,989	60,498	116	12	13,465	965	50	6	33,024	4,567
1969-70	783	188	1,12,852	41,509	117	35	12,778	892	50	8	29,216	1,329
1970-71	955	Boys and girls	1,15,139	64,028	180	Boys and girls	31,605	4,808	60	Boys and girls	15,934	1,795
1971-72	762	193	1,16,986	65,504	147	33	32,258	4,473	60	9	18,108	3,226
1972-73	967	Boys and girls	1,24,827	56,807	184	Boys and girls	25,418	4,738	71	Boys and girls	19,768	2,174
1973-74	996	Boys and girls	1,18,587	65,666	212	Boys and girls	19,544	3,184	81	Boys and girls	35,998	7,098
1974-75	996	Boys and girls	1,19,249	65,691	212	Boys and girls	21,423	3,193	81	Boys and girls	28,127	7,535

ETAH DISTRICT

STATEMENT NO. II

Reference page no. 222

List of Higher Secondary Schools in the District

Government Inter College, Etah
Avinashi Sahai Arya Inter College, Eath
Gandhi Smarak Inter College, Etah
Varna Jain Inter College, Etah
Christian Inter College, Etah
Sarvodaya Vidyapeeth Inter College, Etah
Kisan Inter College, Dhiramia
M.G.H.M. Inter College, Marchra
Rani Avantibai Inter College, Marchra
L.P.L. Inter College, Achalpur
Sri Ganesh Inter College, Kasganj
D.A.V. Inter College, Kasganj
B.A.V. Inter College, Kasganj
S.T.D.M. Inter College, Soron
Sherwani Inter College, Neoli
Mahandra Inter College, Garhi, Pachgahi
Har Narayan Inter College, Ganj Dundwara
Parvati Rashtriya Inter College, Sidhpura
Subhash Inter College, Naugaon
S.J.V.M. Inter College, Fatehpur
S.P.R. Inter College, Patiyali
Vedram Tarai Inter College, Baraola
D.A.V. Inter College, Aliganj
Janta Inter College, Raja ka Rampur
R.B.L. Inter College, Raja ka Rampur
Janta Inter College, Nagla Gajpati
Gandhi Public Inter College, Jaithra
Janta Inter College, Parsoan
Bhartiya Inter College, Neorai
Janta Inter College, Pihua
Janta Inter College, Awagarh
Chetram Singh Inter College, Narora

M.G.M. Inter College, Jalesar
 D.A.V. Inter College, Sakot
 Government Girls' Inter College, Etah
 Government Girls' Inter College, Lalgarhi
 Government Girls' Inter College, Kasganj
 Municipal Girls' Inter College, Kasganj
 Maharani Laxmibai Girls' Inter College, Etah
 Varshney Higher Secondary School, Etah
 Azad Gandhi Higher Secondary School, Kasganj
 Rashtriya Higher Secondary School, Jinharia, Pirhachi
 S.V. Higher Secondary School, Kantor
 Rana Higher Secondary School, Dholna
 Sumant Kumar Maheswari Higher Secondary School, Kasganj
 Tilak Higher Secondary School, Chakeri, Pachgahi
 Public Higher Secondary School, Babupur Khushkuri
 Makhan Lal Higher Secondary School, Jehangirpur
 M.R. Sherwani Higher Secondary School, Ganj Dundwara
 Janta Higher Secondary School, Thana Daryao Ganj
 Rupnarayan Lal Higher Secondary School, Patiyali
 Shiv Prasad Higher Secondary School, Nagla Kashi
 Janta Higher Secondary School, Dhumri
 Gautam Budha Higher Secondary School, Aliganj
 Sri Nehru Smarak Higher Secondary School, Jaithra
 Swami Madhavanand Higher Secondary School, Kaselia
 Sri Gandhi Smriti Higher Secondary School, Gauhtampur
 Adarsh Janta Higher Secondary School, Rupdhani
 Adarsh Public Inter College, Kartala
 Lal Bahadur Shastri Higher Secondary School, Kangrol
 Janta Higher Secondary School, Chachhena
 Adarsh Higher Secondary School, Tajapur, Uprahr
 Vidya Niketan Higher Secondary School, Vahanpur, Aun
 Kopal Singh Higher Secondary School, Himmat Pur
 Ulphatrai Higher Secondary School, Khara, Basundhra
 S.D. Higher Secondary School, Bhunera, Khatata

Contd.

Jan Kalyan Higher Secondary School, Sikrarelalpur
 Rana Pratap Sisodia Higher Secondary School, Bharela
 Adarsh Higher Secondary School, Jalesar
 Babu Singh Shankernand Higher Secondary School, Nauhi Khara
 Janta Higher Secondary School, Jatapur
 Dr. Zakir Hussain Islamia Higher Secondary School, Nidhauri Kalan
 Rashtriya Higher Secondary School, Songra
 Ram Chandra Nambardar Higher Secondary School, Jalesar
 Government Girls' Higher Secondary School, Jalesar
 Prentiss Girls' Higher Secondary School, Etah
 Municipal Girls' Higher Secondary School, Ganj Dundwara
 Vedic Girls' Higher Secondary School, Ganj Dundwara

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

MEDICAL FACILITIES IN EARLY TIMES

It is not difficult to visualise that in a district like Etah where the climate varied between two extremes, the summer being characterised by an intense dry heat and the winter by a piercing wind, the soil being rich and the annual precipitation averaging 73.5 cm., the inhabitants should have enjoyed good health and would have been less prone to disease, in early times. The existence of any agency other than the society itself to prevent malaria in the remote past can not be contemplated with any measure of accuracy. On the other hand it would be easier to comprehend that a series of practices embodying simple rules of personal and social conduct and hygiene were in vogue. They kept the people in a sound physical and mental state, and also acted as checks to the out-break of epidemics and communicable diseases. Judging from modern standards, medical facilities then available, were far more inadequate than what they are today. Medical care was not treated as a responsibility of the State, but it was left to be assumed as duty by individuals, proficient in the art of healing. Ayurveda and Tib Unani were the two commonly applied systems, and their practitioners were known as *vaid*s and *hakims*, respectively. Their number was not large but they were easily accessible to patients. Their incapacity to alleviate suffering on a mass scale or induce quick recovery in many cases, was exploited by soothsayers who, sometimes, brought miraculous relief to their clients. Minor surgical operations were performed by *sattiyas* and *jarrahs*.

For several ailments, particularly those relating to women and children, there was hardly any remedy, and infirmities like insanity, deaf-mutism, blindness and leprosy were almost beyond cure. Customary services were rendered by semi-skilled mid-wives during maternity. Environmental sanitation seldom received proper attention of the residents. After the establishment of the British rule, the district hospital at Etah and the branch dispensary at Kasganj were the first two to be opened at some date prior to 1865. They were followed by the establishment of dispensaries or their branches at Garhi Jalesar, Aliganj, Soron and Mareahra in 1865, 1870, 1873, 1878 and 1881, respectively. The process was so slow that in 1947 the district had 2 hospitals and 8 dispensaries in all.

VITAL STATISTICS

The district, no doubt, came under the rule of the East India Company in 1801, systematic maintenance of vital statistics and enumeration of people was introduced from 1871 and 1872 onwards. Population decreased by 18.7 at the censuses held in 1881 and again by 7.2 per cent at the census of 1891. It, however, progressed by 23.1 and

0.9 per cent during the next two decades. Death rates averaged 53.8 33.7 and 32.4 per thousand in the inter-census periods of 1872-1881, 1881-1891, 1891-1901, respectively. The famine year of 1873, the year 1879 when a terrible fever epidemic lashed the district, the years 1905 and 1907 which witnessed the ravages of plague, have been periods of high mortality.

The state of affairs prevailing from the beginning of the present century is highlighted in the following table :

Decade	Registered number of births	Inter-census birth-rate (per thousand)	Registered number of deaths	Inter-census death-rates (per thousand)	Decennial rate of increase
190-10	3,71,975	43.1	3,41,403	39.5	3.6
1911-20	3,69,070	42.3	3,34,161	38.3	4.0
1921-30	2,69,828	31.93	1,99,047	23.56	8.37
1931-40	3,20,185	34.76	1,87,003	20.30	14.46
1941-50	2,76,713	26.23	1,63,501	15.53	10.75
1951-60	1,79,979	14.88	96,432	7.97	6.91
1961-70	5,19,902	39.16	2,51,475	13.94	20.22

There was plague in 1901 and 1905 followed by an epidemic of malaria in 1908, causing a great deal of mortality all over the district, especially in Etah and Jalesar tahsils. Yet the population rose by 7,524 persons at the census in 1911. The years 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916 were healthy 1917 less healthy, 1911, 1920 unhealthy, 1919 very unhealthy and 1918 excessively unhealthy. Plague ravaged the district in 1911-1912, accompanied with a serious epidemic of cholera and incidence of fever. In 1918-1919, the people of the district suffered miserably on account of the severe epidemics of plague and cholera and the sweeping wave of influenza in the late summer and early winter. While the tide of plague receded in 1919-20, cholera and influenza persisted. The slight edge of registered births over registered deaths in the decade could not, however, prove conducive to the growth of population and the net result was a loss of 41,612 persons detected at the census in 1921. Except for the prevalence of fever, cholera, plague, and smallpox in some parts of the district during a few months in 1921, 1924, 1928 and 1930, the decade passed off as a healthy period, bringing a substantial addition to the population at the enumeration in 1931. There was a sudden fall in the death-rate being more steep. While the birth-rate progressed during the next decade, the death-rate regressed. Increasing gap between the two accounted for an unprecedented growth of population. During 1941-50 the birth rate went down steeply while the death-rate continued to fall, though not so sharply. In the next decade birth-rate regressed faster than the death-rate. In the last decade both the rates of birth and death shot up. A declining trend is noticeable in the mortality from plague, cholera, and smallpox since the first quarter of the present century, though there have been occasional spurts of their virulence.

DISEASES

Common Diseases

Diarrhoea, Dysentery and Gastro-enteritis—7,212 sufferers were treated as registered patients during 1947 with 3 deaths. In the first 6 months of 1950, persons complaining of these ailments numbered 1,263 and they all recovered. Deaths numbered 414, 432, 426, 440 and 600 in the respective years of 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960. In the years 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974 there were 23,999, 24,963, 20,126, 17,565 and 18,274 people, respectively, receiving treatment in the hospitals and dispensaries in the district. While all were treated successfully in 1974, as many as 4,245 and 23 could not be saved in 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 respectively.

Malarial Fever—The number of patients registered for treatment in 1947 was 9,721 and it attained a figure of 3,475 in the first half of 1950. No deaths occurred in 1947 but one person died from the lot in 1950. There were 797, 1,695, 555, 6,787 and 617 seizures in 1970-1971, 1972-1973 and 1974, without any mortality.

Pyrexia and Fever due to Infection—3,386 persons were treated in the hospitals and dispensaries in 1947 with no casualties, their number was 3,192 in the first 6 months of 1950 with 2 deaths. There were 5,787, 5,558, 7,837, 6,415 and 11,441 casualties in 1956, 1957, 1958 and 1960 respectively. In 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, and 1974 as many as 6,029, 7,897, 2,297, 1,882 and 1,742 people suffered and 8, 21, 10, 21 and 19 died respectively.

Respiratory Diseases—Afflicted people who reported for treatment numbered 13,273 in 1947 and they all recovered. Patients who visited hospitals and dispensaries during the first 6 months of 1950 were 15 only. The mortality was 892, 780, 1,251, 978 and 1,176 respectively in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, and 1960. 19 and 11 persons died in 1970 and 1971, respectively and 2 each in 1972 and 1974.

Epidemics

Smallpox—The district practically remained free from the violent out-break of smallpox epidemic in 1880. It has been treated as an average or mean mortality area with low variation years of high mortality. In 1947 there were 278 cases with no deaths, and the first 6 months of 1950 patients who turned up for treatment numbered 2, 141, 64, 891, 258 and 28 deaths were caused in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960 respectively. The last 5 years have been conspicuous by the absence of this disease from the district.

Plague—The last epidemic year for the district was 1934. Even before that it was considered to fall within the normal mortality zone with low variation.

Cholera—From an analysis of vital statistics relating to years 1906-45, Etah appears to be a district of low mean mortality. In 1947 hospitals and dispensaries located in the district, treated 49 cases of cholera with 9 deaths between January and June. In 1950 as many

as 41,623 patients turned up for treatment and 27,687 of them died 10,264, 54, 20 and 133 deaths were caused, respectively in 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959 and 1960. In the following years most effective anti-cholera measures were taken with so much success that no cholera case has been detected during the last five years.

Tuberculosis—324 cases of tuberculosis were treated in 1947 with 4 deaths. Their number rose to 607 in the first half of 1950 with no casualty. 617, 1,821, 6,910, 1,596 and 879 new cases were detected in 1970-1971, 1972, 1973 and 1974 respectively. The number of deaths in the same years were 2, 18, 320, 1 and 4 respectively.

Eye Diseases—3,510 cases of trachoma, 215 of glaucoma, 520 of cataract and 1,950 of other eye diseases were treated in 1947 at the hospitals and dispensaries in the district. During the first 6 months of 1950, their respective numbers were 1,100, 68, 184 and 6,512. Corresponding figures for 1974 were 101 and 27 and 355 and 2,004.

ORGANISATIONAL SET-UP

The department of public health was created in 1868 in the State and the civil surgeon was given the over-all charge of all the health activities in the district. The civil surgeon had an assistant surgeon who used to be medical officer of the district hospital, and a number of doctors to man the hospitals and dispensaries in the district. In the event of an out-break of epidemics, services of more doctors were requisitioned from districts to combat the menace. For cholera and smallpox control, sanitary inspectors and vaccinators were engaged.

In years to come, health education and prophylactic treatment received more attention of the government, and a medical officer of health was posted to devote himself exclusively of prevention and control of communicable diseases. His activities gradually expanded to such dimensions that not only the strength of the field staff was raised but the important municipal areas were provided with separate medical officers of health. With the enforcement of laws against food adulteration and drug substandardisation, the medical officer of health was saddled with extra duties. A rapid extension of medical facilities in the rural areas after the advent of the independence and the growing emphasis on family welfare planning, necessitated division of functions between the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health. For several years, the district medical officer of health and the civil surgeon exercised supervision over the medical and health activities in the rural and urban areas of the district respectively. The administrative system was reorganised in 1972-73 when the post of the chief medical officer was created in the district to bring better co-ordination in the medical, health and family welfare planning programmes and instead of the civil surgeon, the district medical officer of health and the district family-welfare planning officer, the incumbents were re-designated as deputy chief medical officer (medical), deputy chief medical officer (health) and deputy chief medical officer (family welfare planning).

The chief medical officer is in overall charge of medical, health and family welfare planning programmes in the district. The deputy chief medical officer (medical) exercises supervisory control over the district level hospitals, hospitals with more than 30 beds, the infectious diseases hospital, the school health dispensaries and the employees' State

insurance dispensaries. The district hospital and the women's hospital at Etah had superintendents, who are directly responsible to the chief medical officer.

The deputy chief medical officer (health) is responsible for the implementation of all national health schemes and the smooth running of primary health centres, rural hospitals and dispensaries having beds up to 30 in number, control of epidemics, rural hygiene, sanitary arrangements during fairs and festivals and enforcement of laws against food adulteration, drug substandardization and air pollution in the factories.

The deputy chief medical officer (family welfare planning) is essentially concerned with health education, maternity and child care, nutrition and family welfare planning.

Hospitals and Dispensaries

In the district in 1974 there were 22 allopathic hospitals and dispensaries, 15 primary health centres, 9 Ayurvedic dispensaries, 1 Unani dispensary and 2 homoeopathic dispensaries, besides one each of T.B., eye and dental clinic and a unit for the treatment of leprosy. The Zila Parishad was managing five out of the nine Ayurvedic dispensaries, and the municipal board Etah maintained the eye hospital. A list of these medical institutions with relevant details is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

There were 15 maternity and child welfare units and 45 subunits in the district in that year. Their particulars are given in the Statement II at the end of the chapter.

Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes

Among the private medical institutions functioning in the district, name of the American Presbyterian Mission Hospital at Kasganj may particularly be mentioned. In 1974 there were 50 allopathic physicians, 35 in the cities and towns and 15 in the rural areas and 36 Ayurvedic physicians serving in different parts of district. 5 Unani practitioners served the urban population in the district in that year. Every public hospital, dispensary and primary health centre located in the district is equipped with necessary paraphernalia for birth control and they provide guidance to the people under the family welfare programme. Primary health centres numbering 16, one at the district headquarters and one each at the block headquarters were functioning within the district in 1974. 45 maternity subcentres also functioned in the district that year. Contraceptive are liberally distributed and sterilisations performed with care and ease. A mobile unit was also functioning in the district to popularise the programme.

The following statement shows the progress made under the family welfare programme in the district from 1964-65 to 1974-75 :

Year	Sterilization		Intra-uterine contraceptive device
	Vasectomy	Tubectomy	
1964-65	218	—	—
1965-66	1,086	—	563
1966-67	774	—	2,487

[Contd.]

1967-68	2,073	6	1,551
1968-69	2,155	101	988
1969-70	989	73	1,059
1970-71	641	87	1,807
1971-72	413	177	1,592
1971-73	2,881	155	1,045
1973-74	74	182	1,409
1974-75	164	237	1,888

Maternity and Child Welfare

Maternity and child welfare services were rendered by a net-work of 60 such centres spread throughout the district. The services rendered by health visitors, midwives and *dais* at these centres are indicated in the statement given below :

Year	Maternity cases conducted by		Dais
	Health visitors	Auxilliary nurse-cum-midwives	
1972	44	1,670	2,676
1973	90	2,007	3,744
1974	—	1,475	3,759
1975	48	442	1,004

(upto Jul y, 1975)

Malnutrition among the expectant mothers and children is due to generally deficiency in protein, iron and vitamins, particularly of the A and B varieties. The health staff have under taken schemes to educate the people regarding food habits. Consumption of milk, eggs, fish, soyabean products, fruits and vegetables is encouraged and milk powder and vitamin A tablets are distributed free being received as gifts from voluntary organisation like CARE and UNICEF.

Sanitation

In the cities and towns the sanitary arrangements are more elaborate and they are usually supervised by a medical officer of health. In the urban area has a municipal board or otherwise by a sanitary inspector. A number of sanitary inspectors are generally employed, to look after regular flushing of drains, removal of night soil and garbage and sweeping of streets and lanes with the aid of conservancy staff. Service latrines are being rapidly changed to flush type where the sewer lines have been laid.

In the rural areas disinfection of drinking water wells, their improvement, installation of hand pumps, pavement of lanes, construction of drains, soakage pits and sanitary latrines have been undertaken on a large scale. Some idea of the progress made in these directions may be had from the following statement.

Items	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1. Wells constructed	233	152	45	68	42	30	41	31	34	23
2. Old and insanitary wells improved (No.)	212	201	64	108	95	94	71	68	13	61
3. Kutcha drains constructed (km.)	12.5	25.1	4.92	10.2	8.3	5.3	1.8	2.2	1.9	.005
4. Pucca drains constructed (km.)	12.5	42.1	8.41	14.25	11.15	2.85	4.5	2.9	.3	1.5
5. Hand-pump installed (No.)	622	703	214	373	274	258	259	294	284	292
6. Sanitary latrines constructed (No.)	127	97	48	42	11	55	3	2	33	45

Prevention of Food Adulteration

The health staff has been collecting samples of articles of food and launching prosecutions against adulterators. The following statement shows work done by the health staff in the district in the period 1972-75.

Year	Food samples collected	Samples found adulterated	Cases prosecuted	Cases convicted
1	2	3	4	5
1972	349	65	65	55
1973	492	71	71	21
1974	324	40	21	11
Up to June, 1975	289	52	56	7

Malaria Eradication Programme

A unit of the national malaria eradication programme was established in June 1958, covering the entire district. The subunits functioned at Etah, Aliganj, Kasganj, and Ganj Dundwara. The work was divided into 4 phases namely Survey, D.D.T. spraying, surveillance and maintenance. As a result of these measures the child-spleen rate which was 10 per cent in 1958 came down to 2.3 per cent in 1960-61, and the morbidity regressed from 4.7 per cent to 1.1 per cent in the same period. Nearly 90 per cent of the dwellings in the district were sprayed with D.D.T. and presumptive treatment was given in suspected cases. The following statement A and B give an idea of the work done under this programme in the district from 1958 to 1974 :

A. D.D.T. Spraying

Year	Villages (per cent)	Houses (per cent)
1	2	3
1958	100.0	98.7
1959	88.8	88.2
1960	100.0	95.6
1961	100.0	92.5
1962	100.0	93.4

B. Surveillance and Maintenance

Year	Fever cases detected	Blood smears collected	Blood smears examined	No. of persons treated
1	2	3	4	5
1961	82,681	81,213	81,213	81,238
1962	57,572	57,572	57,572	57,570
1963	92,300	91,991	91,991	92,800
1964	1,20,524	1,20,524	1,18,901	1,10,895
1965	98,394	98,394	97,173	87,891
1966	45,829	37,576	37,576	34,521
1967	64,716	59,320	59,320	47,774
1968	78,918	74,426	74,426	73,817
1969	85,897	82,807	82,807	74,455
1970	73,120	64,326	64,326	53,979
1971	65,556	56,921	56,921	43,879
1972	58,545	49,148	49,148	37,008
1973	56,645	55,051	55,032	41,896
1974	83,543	74,954	74,954	73,194

Vaccination

One vaccinator per 15,000 of rural population has been posted in each of the 15 development blocks. One sanitary inspector, 2 health inspectors and one Basic health worker were appointed to cover every 10,000 people. One sanitary inspector and one vaccinator were working in each of the 7 municipal boards. Two para-medical attendants were stationed at the district headquarters to maintain proper records regarding vaccinations performed in the district. Staff consisting of 16 sanitary inspectors, 30 health inspectors, 120 Basic health workers and 35 vaccinators were employed in 1974 in the district to carry out vaccination work. Vaccination is compulsory in the municipal areas and becomes imperative in the rural areas on the outbreak of epidemics. Vaccination figures for some years are tabulated below:

Year	Total no. of persons vaccinated	No. of primary vaccinations		No. of revaccinations	
		Successful	Unsuccessful	Successful	Unsuccessful
1	2	3	4	5	6
1968 P.V.	32,344	31,152	1,192	95,060	30,071
R.V.	1,25,131				
1969 P.V.	34,217	33,288	979	53,760	35,891
R.V.	89,651				
1970 P.V.	72,216	69,876	2,340	59,230	39,616
R.V.	98,896				
1971 P.V.	1,05,906	1,04,730	1,176	1,57,800	1,05,276
R.V.	2,63,076				
1972 P.V.	75,844	72,948	2,896	1,15,980	7,73,856
R.V.	1,93,836				
1973 P.V.	74,483	69,806	5,087	1,27,860	85,277
R.V.	2,13,137				
1974 P.V.	77,000	76,417	683	1,44,600	96,456
R.V.	2,41,057				
1975 P.V.	39,260	38,974	286	72,960	33,700
R.V.	1,06,680				

(upto July, 1975)

P.V.—Primarily vaccinated
R.V.—Revaccinated

STATEMENT I

List of Medical Institutions

Hospitals and dispensaries	Location	Municipal Board/N.E.S. Block	No. of Beds		Staff		Category
			Male	Female	Doctor	Others	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
District Hospital	Etah	Etah Municipal Board	74	12	3	8	Allopathic
Women's Hospital	Etah	Do	—	34	1	3	Do.
Police Hospital	Etah	Do	16	—	1	1	Do.
Jail Hospital	Etah	Do	12	—	—	1	Do.
Eye Hospital	Etah	Do	8	8	1	1	Do.
T.B. Clinic	Etah	Do	—	—	2	—	Do.
Dental Clinic	Etah	Do	—	—	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Marehra	Marehra Municipal Board	4	2	1	1	Do.
Women's Hospital	Jalesar	Jalesar Municipal Board	—	6	1	2	Do.
Women's Hospital	Kasganj	Kasganj Municipal Board	—	24	1	2	Do.
A.P. Mission	Kasganj	Do	—	125	5	2	Do.
Dispensary	Soron	Soron Municipal Board	4	2	2	2	Do.
Dispensary	Ganj Dundwara	Ganj Dundwara Municipal Board	4	2	1	2	Do.
Women's Hospital	Aliganj	Aliganj Municipal Board	—	6	—	2	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Kharaua	Shitalpur Block	2	2	2	1	Do.

(Contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dispensary	Lalgarhi	Shitalpur Block	2	2	1	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Parson	Do	2	2	...	1	Do.
Dispensary	Kartala	Do	—	—	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Sakit	Sakit Block	2	2	2	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Sonhar	Do	2	2	2	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Nidhauli Kalan	Nidhauli Kalan Block	2	2	1	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Barai	Do	2	2	—	1	Do.
Dispensary	Pihua	Do	2	2	—	1	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Mirchehi	Marehra Block	2	2	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Achalpur	Do	2	2	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Jalesar	Jalesar Block	6	4	2	2	Allopathic
Dispensary	Paharipur Bhondela	Do	2	2	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Mursawan	Do	—	—	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Awagarh	Awagarh Block	2	2	2	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Pondari	Do	—	—	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Kasganj	Kasganj Block	14	4	2	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Mahawar	Do	2	2	1	1	Homeopathic

[Contd.]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dispensary	Neoli	Do	...	...	1	1	Allopathic
Leprosy Camp	Loharra	Do	...	...	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Kirawa	Do	...	...	1	1	Ayurvedic
Dispensary	Bilram	Do	...	...	1	1	Unani
Primary Health Centre	Sahawar	Sahawar Block	2	2	2	1	Allopathic
Primary Health Centre	Soron	Soron Block	2	2	2	1	Do.
Dispensary	Nameni	Do	...	...	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Mahmoodpur	Do	2	2	1	1	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Ananpur	Ananpur Block	2	2	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Khuskari	Do	2	2	1	1	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Sidhpura	Sidhpura Block	2	2	1	1	Do.
Dispensary	Fatehpur	Do	2	2	1	1	Homeopathic
Dispensary	Sidhpura	Do	...	...	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Aliganj	Aliganj Block	12	6	2	1	Allopathic
Dispensary	Raja-ka-Rampur	Do	2	2	1	1	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Patigali	Patigali Block	2	2	2	1	Do.
Dispensary	Majhola	Do	...	...	1	1	Ayurvedic
Primary Health Centre	Salawatnagar	Ganj Dundwara Block	2	2	...	1	Allopathic

[Contd.]

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Dispensary	Nardoli	Ganj Dundwara Block	—	—	1	1	Do.
Primary Health Centre	Jaithra	Jaithra Block	2	2	2	1	Do.
Dispensary	Mohkanpur	Do	2	2	—	1	Do.
Dispensary	Dhumri	Do	—	—	1	1	Ayurvedic

STATEMENT II

List of Maternity and child welfare centres and subcentres

Location of maternity and child welfare Centres		Name of the Block		Location of Subcentres	
1	2	3	4	5	6
Kharaua	Shitalpur			Kakroli, Kansuri, Baroli	
Sakit	Sakit			Jaithara, Sonhar, Rizore	
Nindhauri Kalan	Nindhauri Kalan			Aranpura, Babasa, Jitauli	
Nitehchi	Mirchchi			Achalpur, Khawajagipur, Tilokpur	
Jalesar	Jalesar			Berni, Rajmalpur, Shakroli	
Awagarh	Awagarh			Naroli, Misakhurd, Sarani	
Kasganj	Kasganj			Bilram, Kinawa, Mamon	
Sahawar	Sahawar			Nabganj, Bajnagar, Padarathpur	
Gorha	Soron			Nameji, Sondos, Saleempur	
Amanpur	Amanpur			Sikandarabad, Birpur, Namani	
Rajmau	Sidhpura			Pithanpur, Sikhera, Bhujpura	
Aliganj	Aliganj			Sarai Aghat, Raja-ka-Rampur, Ubhai-Asadnagar	
Patiyali	Patiyali			Barhauh, Aurangabad, Ladhlio	
Ganj Dundwara	Ganj Dundwara			Salawatnagar, Deokali, Miasur	
Jaithra	Jaithra			Dhumri, Mohkampur, Sarauth	

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

For the purposes of enforcement of labour laws and implementation of labour welfare schemes, the district is included in the Agra region. There is an assistant labour commissioner stationed at Agra who is assisted by an additional regional conciliation officer. There is a labour inspector posted in the district who watches the implementation of various labour laws and ensures that these are not violated and the rights of labourers are not curtailed by the employers. He also strives to prevent strikes and lock-outs in the industrial institutions, through prompt enquiries into grievances and resort to speedy measures for their redress.

The chief factories inspector stationed at Kanpur is in over-all charge of the various factories and is responsible for enforcement of provisions of the Factories Act, Payment of Wages Act, etc., in all the industrial establishments. He is assisted by a regional factories inspector who is posted at the regional headquarters, Agra. The regional inspector occasionally visits the district inspects the industrial establishments and takes action in regard to breaches of law, coming to his notice. There is another inspector who performs similar duties in respect of the operation of 19 boilers (in 1976) installed in various industrial units in the district.

The regional conciliation officer's job is to prevent a dispute and if it takes place to try to seek a settlement through negotiations and conciliation. He can also make recommendations whether a case is fit for adjudication unless the parties agree in favour of arbitration.

The assistant labour commissioner is the prescribed authority under the Minimum Wages Act and the Payment of Wages Act and as such he has to function and exercise the powers of a court in respect of claims that are due or delayed. He forwards such cases to the compensation commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923. Both the State and the Central Governments have enacted a number of laws for the benefit of labourers and their dependents. The important ones are the Indian Boilers Act, 1923 the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Payment of Wages Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Uttar Pradesh (Industrial Establishments National Holidays Act), 1961, the U.P. Doosan Aur Vanijya Adhishthan Adhiniyam, 1962, and the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

In 1975-76 as many as 1,210 contraventions of the provisions of the above Acts were detected, and in 127 cases prosecutions were launched. Their summary is given below :

Name of Act	No. of contraventions	No. of prosecutions
1	2	3
U.P. Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1962	939	98
U.P. Industrial Establishments (National Holidays Act, 1961).	2	—
Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961	51	—
Minimum Wages Act, 1948	208	27
Factories Act, 1948	10	2
Total	1,210	127

There was only one fatal case which was reported from the district in 1973-74 in which compensation of Rs 7,000 was paid to the dependants of the victim under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.

Trade Unions

The trade unions are corporate bodies which work for the welfare of their members and aim at furthering harmonious relations between the employers and the employees. As welfare bodies they try to improve the economic, moral and social conditions of the labourer, ensure payment of wages, insist on arrangements for healthy working conditions and proper medical care and clamour for facilities of education to the children of labour employees.

In 1974-75 there was only one trade union in the district which was registered with the registrar, trade unions, U.P. Kanpur, under the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. It was the Hindustan Lever Karamchari Union, Etah. The date of its registration was July 9, 1965 and it had on its roll 176 members.

OLD-AGE PENSION SCHEME

The old-age pension scheme originally provided subsistence allowance to persons aged 70 years or more, having no means of livelihood whatever and devoid of relations bound by custom or usage to support them. Its scope was liberalised in February, 1962 when the definition of the term 'destitute' was extended to include persons with a monthly income of Rs 10, and the age of eligibility was reduced to 65 years. In 1965, the rules were further relaxed to cater to the needs of men and women having a monthly income of Rs 15 and cover cases of such widows, crippled or the physically infirmed persons who were rendered totally incapable of earning living and had attained the age of 60 years.

The amount of monthly pension was also raised from Rs 15 to Rs 20. The scheme was revised again in January 1972, when the amount of monthly pension was fixed at Rs 30. The benefits of this aid are not available to beggars, mendicants and inmates of poor-houses.

The pension is sanctioned by the labour commissioner after the verification of particulars and on the recommendation of the district magistrate.

The number of beneficiaries under this scheme in the district (men and women) as on 31st, December 1975 was 78 and 218 respectively.

PROHIBITION

In pursuance of the State Government's policy to discourage use of intoxicants by the people, the prohibition-publicity and social uplift organization was set up in the district in 1947. A prohibition and uplift committee headed by the district magistrate and consisting of officials, legislators, lawyers and other social workers often meets to devise ways and means to combat the evil of alcohol addiction. A prohibition organiser with head quarters at Agra and a *pracharak* have been employed for extension work of this programme. Under the aegis of the district committee hazards accompanying boozing and the use of narcotics are widely publicised. Every year camps are also organized to educate the masses on this subject.

The district is no more a dry area since 1962. Liquor and *bharg* shops remain closed on Tuesdays and National Holidays like Gandhi Jayanti, Republic Day etc., and vending of *ganja* and opium is strictly restricted.

ADVANCEMENT OF THE SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

The sub-marginal state of existence of a large number of social groups had gyrated in the minds of many reformers but without sufficiently perceptible impact on the caste-conscious and tradition ridden society. In the throes of popular agitations for independence, the alien government in order to fit their own interests, tried to wean away such depressed elements from the parent body of particular social structures. A half-hearted beginning was made in 1930 when a scheme was formulated to award stipends to students belonging to the Scheduled Castes for improving their lot. It was only with the advent of independence that sincere and concrete steps were taken for the amelioration of their conditions, and in 1947, the U.P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act was passed which ensured to the members of such castes an unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The provisions of the Untouchability (Offences), Act, 1955, enforced a complete bar on this age-old practice with the aim of redeeming the dignity of mankind. The government throw open all avenues of employment and public services to the members of the Scheduled Castes and also reserved seats for them till such time as they are represented in numbers proportionate to their strength in the total population. The upper age limit for the recruitment of Scheduled Castes candidates to civil posts has been relaxed upto 3 years over the prescribed limit. Education has been made free for them and other expenses on regular study are also generously subsidized. Pre-test coaching facilities are provided to candidates desirous of appearing in all India and State services competitive examinations. They are entitled to concession in the fees also. Lately, promotion quota has

been reserved in various services for the Scheduled Castes incumbents. Through a recent legislation all those made to suffer on account of past debts received from private money-lenders or obligations of bonded labour, have also been emancipated.

The government freely grants advances and loans to members of the Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes for purposes like agriculture, irrigation, industry, construction of houses, drinking water-wells and hand pumps. They receive priority in the distribution of land, house sites, business premises and retail licences of essential goods. A whole-time district Harijan and social welfare officer, whose office was created in 1960 promotes the welfare of these benighted people through a team of official and non-official workers.

The following table gives a rough idea of the facilities provided by the government to raise the living standards of these people in the district :

Schemes	First Five year Plan	Second Five year Plan	Third Five year Plan	Fourth Five year Plan
1	2	3	4	5
House construction (in Rs)	7,930	88,797	81,350	70,000
Cottage industries (in Rs)	16,800	14,950	46,860	60,500
Drinking-water wells (Nos.)	61	138	142	161

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

Four bequests have been made and registered under the Charitable Endowments Act, 1890, for benevolent purposes. Their particulars for the year 1974-75 are given below :

Name of Trust/Endowment	Year of Registration	Annual income (in Rs)	Objects
1	2	3	4
Merser Hospital Trust, Garhi	25-2-1896	344	For the maintenance of the hospital
His Highness Maharaja Jaipur Benevolent Trust, Soron	7-10-1914	59	To award silver medals to students
Mehta Pathshala and Library Endowment Trust	14-3-1925	1,016	For the maintenance of the library
Shree Bhoopchand Neema Epidemic Trust	21-6-1911	47	To distribute free medicine at the time of epidemics

Muslim Trusts

Shia Waqfs—Six such *waqfs* are registered with the Shia Central Board of Waqfs, U.P. mainly for religious, educational and charitable purposes. Some of the important ones are tabulated below :

Name of waqf	Date of foundation	Founder	Annual income (in Rs)
1	2	3	4
Musammat Enayat Fatema	8-11-1888	Musammat Enayat Fatema	320
, Imambara and Masjid and Khangah	1-6-1842	Nawab Ahmad Khan Galib Bahadur and Nawab Muzaffar Jang Bahadur	720
Moafi Mubarikpur part (A)	1201 Hijri	Nawab Asaf-ud-daula	168
Moafi Mubarakpur part (B)	Do.		168

Sunni Waqfs—There are 136 charitable *Sunni waqfs*, an account of the important ones is given below :

Name of waqf	Year of establishment	Annual Income (in Rs)	Purpose
1	2	3	4
Dargah Hazrat Syed Ibrahim, Jalesar	17-11-1937	42,070	Maintenance of Dargah, mela, exhibition and <i>mushaira</i>
Dargah Marehra Chhoti Sarkar, Bari Sarkar, Marehra	1938	600	Do.
Masjid Aliganj	1908	4,666	Maintenance of the Masjid

WELFARE OF EX-SERVICEMEN

For the welfare of ex-servicemen of the district, Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's board is functioning in the district. It works under the control and supervision of the director, soldiers' welfare, U.P. Lucknow. The district unit is supervised by a secretary who is a paid employee and is also an ex-serviceman. The board as elsewhere, provides various facilities to ex-servicemen and their families and assists in their rehabilitation. These facilities include grant of pensions, scholarships, relief grants and providing employment to retired and other service personnel who have been discharged on various grounds of disablement. Besides these facilities the board also looks after the arrangements of medical treatment, settlement of accounts, permits for controlled commodities settlement of disputed cases, etc.

An idea of the extent of assistance rendered to ex-servicemen during the last five years may be had from the following table :

Year	No. of ex-servicemen helped	Nature of help rendered
1	2	3
1969-70	29	Cash award of Rs 2,598
1970-71	63	Cash award of Rs 5,632
1971-72	100 and 13 (widows)	Cash award of Rs 28,180 (Supplied with one sewing machine each)
1972-73	{ 93 10	Cash award of Rs 9,921 (Supplied with blankets)
1973-74	{ 87 9 (widows) 10	Cash award of Rs 12,044 (Supplied with one sewing machine each) (Supplied with blankets)

The table below highlights the important features of that poll:

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Emergence of Public Life

Throughout the history of civilization in this country some sort of public life had always existed, and contributed to the welfare of the people. Its norms, no doubt, altered with the times but the essence remained intact.

In all ages, public opinion influenced the State policy, and every spell of repression unleashed by the rulers animated the community. While it is not expedient to trace the emergence of public life from early times, it may be useful to divulge that British occupation of the district and neighbouring areas opened up new vistas of corporate activity in this district.

The Act of 1853 marks the beginning of parliamentary system in India. The Act of 1861. The Indian Council Act established a legislative council of the governor-general. In 1886, a legislative council was established for the North-Western provinces.

The elective principle in respect of the members of the legislative council was introduced for the first time in 1892. The principle was further enlarged by the Act of 1919 which required that at least seventy per cent of the members of the council should be elected. The Act of 1935 saw the establishment of almost a full-fledged legislature at the centre as well as in the State. The first two legislators were elected from Aliganj-Jaithra and Kasganj constituencies of the district in the elections held under the Government of India Act 1935.

State Legislature

Vidhan Sabha—At the first general elections of 1952, in Independent India this district was divided into seven constituencies 6 to return one member each and one two elect to representatives, one of whom was to be a member of the Scheduled Castes. The single-member constituencies were those of Etah (South), Etah (East)-cum-Aliganj (West)-cum-Kasganj (South), Kasganj (West), Kasganj (North), Kasganj (East)-cum-Aliganj (North), Aliganj (South) and the double-seated constituency comprised Jalesar-cum-Etah (North).

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	—	55,632
Indian National Congress	8	7	1,21,875
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	7	—	85,465
Scheduled Castes Federation	2	—	21,090
Socialist Party of India	7	—	84,447
Independents	22	1	61,825
Total	54	8	3,30,244

For the general elections of 1957, the constituencies were delimited afresh in 1956, in such a manner so as to have six single-member constituencies of Kasganj, Sahawar, Nidhpur, Aliganj, Sirhpura, Etah and one double-member constituency of Jalesar which had a seat reserved for the candidates of the Scheduled Castes.

The following Statement indicates the number of candidates, seats won and votes secured by each contesting party in the Vidhan Sabha elections of 1957 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	—	59,846
Indian National Congress	8	5	1,23,347
Praja Socialist Party	7	1	66,001
Independents	21	2	1,47,610
Total	43	8	3,96,804

The names of Vidhan Sabha constituencies were altered at the general elections of 1962, but the number of seats remained unchanged. The newly formed single-member constituencies were those of Etah, Sirhpura, Aliganj, Nidhpur, Sahawar, Kasganj, Marahra and Jalesar. The constituency of Jalesar was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The number of electors was 6,66,703; valid votes polled numbered 3,46,808 and 24,225 were declared invalid at the count. The eight seats, were contested by 64 candidates. The results are tabulated below :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	4	69,239
Hindu Mahasabha	7	1	40,061
Indian National Congress	8	1	73,451
Praja Socialist Party	8	1	49,096
Republican Party of India	7	—	46,906
Socialist Party of India	6	—	10,156
Swatantra Party	5	1	39,393
Independents	16	—	18,006
Total	64	8	3,46,308

At the 1967, general elections, the names and number of constituencies and the seats remained unchanged. The number of electors was 7,58,323 of which 4,61,209 persons cast their votes. The ballot papers treated as invalid numbered 26,986.

The following statement shows the number of candidates set up, seats captured and votes secured by each contesting party in the Vidhan Sabha election of 1967 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	1	1,16,095
Indian National Congress	8	5	1,43,417
Republican Party	7	1	68,638
Samyukta Socialist Party	3	—	3,487
Swatantra Party	8	1	50,187
Independents	29	—	52,399
Total	63	8	4,24,223

The Vidhan Sabha, constituted after the 1967, general elections, was dissolved on February 23, 1968, due to a large number of defections which impelled the government to resign and the State went under the administration of the President. A mid-term poll was held after about a year in 1969, on the basis of constituencies delimited in 1967.

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Out of 9,37,431 electors 4,99,047 exercised their franchise. The number of invalid votes was 13,038. In all 58 candidates belonging to 12 different political groups (including independents) contested for the eight seats. The results were as follows :

Party/Independents	No. of candidates	Seats won	Valid Votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	3	1,42,652
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	8	4	1,00,824
Hindu Mahasabha	1	—	1,285
Indian National Congress	8	1	1,48,452
Mazdoor Parishad	2	—	1,162
Praja Socialist Party	1	—	7,388
Proutist Block	6	—	7,796
Republican (Ambedkarite)	3	—	5,900
Republican Party	8	—	57,087
Samyukta Socialist Party	1	—	1,785
Swatantra Party	3	—	6,079
Independents	9	—	5,604
Total	58	8	4,86,009

On 1st of October, 1970, the State was again placed under President's rule, though for a very brief period. On 18th, October 1970, the ministry was formed by the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal. This government did not last long and in the wake its collapse on April 3, 1971 the Congress government came to power. Two years later, the Chief Minister, though commanding a comfortable majority in the assembly, submitted the resignation of his council of ministers to the Governor on June 12, 1973, clearing the way for President's rule in the State again for the third time since the Independence which ended in November, 1973, with Congress government taking the office.

The popular government returned to power again through the general elections held in February, 1974. The district was split into eight constituencies of Aliganj, Patiali, Sakit, Sorou, Kasganj, Etah, Nidhauri Kalan and Jalesar. The last one was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates.

The statement given below indicates the number of candidates put up, seats won and valid votes secured by each contesting party at the general elections of 1974 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled
1	2	3	4
Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh	7	1	1,27,379
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	7	2	97,863
Forward Block	1	—	1,150
Indian National Congress (O)*	5	1	54,817
Indian National Congress (R)	8	4	1,93,948
Republican Party of India	1	—	329
Socialist Party	3	—	1,028
Swatantra Party	3	—	13,111
Independents	27	—	51,164
Total	62	8	5,40,780

*Organisation

In May, 1977 the Legislative Assembly was dissolved and mid-term polls were held after a month. Three parties the Indian National Congress, the Shoshit Samaj Dal and the Janata Party contested those elections. The last named party was formed as a result of the merger of the Bhartiya Lok Dal, the Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Indian National Congress (Organisation), the Socialist Party and the Congress for Democracy, adopting the symbol of the Bhartiya Lok Dal.

In the general elections of 1977, the district was split into eight constituencies of Aligarj, Patiali, Sakit, Soron, Kasganj, Etah, Nidhauri Kalan and Jalesar. The constituency of Jalesar was reserved for Scheduled Castes candidate. The number of electors were 90, 10, 70, total votes cast were 4,36,347, the number of valid votes polled being 4,30,979. The statement given below indicates the number of candidates, seats won, and valid votes secured by each contesting party of elections of 1977 :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1	—	1,850
Indian National Congress	8	—	1,35,221
Janata Party	8	8	2,13,830
Republican Party of India	1	—	1,353
Independents	32	—	78,725
Total	50	8	4,30,979

Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

For the purpose of representation in the Vidhan Parishad, the district is included in three constituencies, the Mainpuri-cum-Etah-cum-Mathura Local Authorities' Constituency, the Agra Teachers' constituency and the Agra Graduates' constituency. From 1958 to 1974 a resident of the district was elected to represent the Mainpuri-cum-Etah-cum-Mathura Local Authorities' constituency in the Vidhan Parishad.

UNION LEGISLATURE

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

For the general elections of 1957, this district formed two single-member constituencies, named Etah and Jalesar, with 7,89,094 voters of whom 4,73,912 exercised their right of franchise, 190 ballot papers were declared invalid at the time of counting. The elections were contested by nine candidates of Congress, Jan Sangh and Praja Socialist Party and three Independents also entered the fray. Both the seats were secured by the Congress Party.

At the general election of 1962, the constituencies remained unaltered. There were 8,46,227 electors out of which 4,84,955 cast their votes. The number of invalid ballots papers mounted to 22,770. The elections were contested by 14 candidates. The Etah seat went to a Hindu Mahasabha candidate and a candidate of Swatantra party captured Jalesar seat.

For the general elections of 1967, the district was divided into two constituencies of Etah and Kasganj. The electors for the two constituencies were 4,82,836 and 5,22,973 respectively and the number of valid votes cast 2,72,420 and 2,91,913 respectively, both the seats were annexed by the Congress candidates.

On account of a rift in the Indian National Congress, the Lok Sabha constituted after the general elections of 1967 was dissolved on December 27, 1970 and fresh poll was ordered. The mid-term parliamentary elections were held in 1971 and a new Lok Sabha was constituted in March the same year. For the mid-term poll, the names of the constituencies remained unaltered. The number of electors rose to 10,71,928. Out of them 5,84,296 cast their votes. The number of invalid votes was 12,162. The elections were contested by 14 candidates. The Etah seat went to the Congress (J), now being known as Congress (R) or Congress candidate, and Kasganj seat was captured by Jan Sangh candidate.

For the general elections of 1977, the district was divided into two constituencies of Etah and Jalesar. The number of electors was 11,41,039 the total votes polled were 7,49,038 and the number of invalid votes were 11,231. Both the seats went to the Bhartiya Lok Dal candidates.

The statement below gives some relevant details of the elections to the Lok Sabha held in the district from 1957 to 1977 :

Party/Independents	1957			1962			1967			1971			1977		
	Con- tes- tants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Con- tes- tants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Con- tes- tants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Con- tes- tants	Seats won	Valid votes polled	Con- tes- tants	Seats won	Valid votes polled
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Abhis Ehartiya Jan Sangh	2	—	97,954	2	—	60,740	2	—	1,73,293	1	1	1,23,288	—	—	—
Ranviya Kranti Dal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1,07,382	—	—	—
Ehartiya Lok Dal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	5,37,139
Hindvi Mahasabha	—	—	—	4	1	56,392	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Indian National Congress	2	2	1,51,133	2	—	1,03,748	2	2	1,90,773	—	—	—	2	—	1,49,124
Indian National Congress (Organisation)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	73,965	—	—	—
Indian National Congress (Ruling)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2,09,349	—	—	—
Praja Socialist Party	2	—	70,173	2	—	51,433	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Proletariat Block of India	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5,676	—	—	—
Republican Party of India	—	—	—	2	—	53,913	2	—	1,02,794	1	—	4,612	—	—	—
Samyukta Socialist Party	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5,981	—	—	—	—	—	—
Socialist Party of India	—	—	—	2	—	19,033	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Svatantra Party	—	—	—	1	1	86,318	2	—	50,946	—	—	—	—	—	—
Independents	3	—	1,12,435	2	—	20,523	2	—	32,544	6	—	37,662	9	—	51,484
Total	9	2	4,37,722	14	2	4,62,165	11	2	5,64,333	14	2	5,73,134	13	2	7,97,807

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

Local Publications

In the first decade of the present century, two Hindi newspapers, namely *Mitra* and *Dharmcentari* and one Urdu, fortnightly, called *Etah District Magazines* were printed and circulated periodically with very limited circulation. The regular publication of newspapers and periodicals was started in the district sometime in 1927 with the appearance of a Hindi weekly *Sudarshan*. At present six Hindi weeklies, two Hindi fortnightly, three Hindi monthlies, one English monthly and one multilingual monthly are being published from here. Besides these, the educational institutions bring out their magazines which have a limited circulation. The details of newspapers published from here are given below :

Name of Newspapers	Periodicity	Year of commence- ment	Copies in circulation
In English			
<i>Voice of Ahimsa</i>	Monthly	1951	300
In Hindi			
<i>Sudarshan</i>	Weekly	1927	1,225
<i>Vir Bharat</i>	Weekly	1933	150
<i>Awaz</i>	Weekly	1934	1,250
<i>Kasganj Samachar</i>	Weekly	1933	1,003
<i>Mazdoor Ghosh</i>	Weekly	1969	N.S.
<i>Etah Samachar</i>	Weekly	1970	N.S.
<i>Prati Pada</i>	Fortnightly	1965	N.S.
<i>Karuna Deep</i>	Fortnightly	1968	330
<i>Ahimsa Vani</i>	Monthly	1953	1,000
<i>Mahar Mitra</i>	Monthly	1954	700
<i>Qaida Qanoon</i>	Monthly	1969	100
Multilingual			
<i>Lodhi Jagran (Hindi, English, Sanskrit Monthly)</i>		1967	N.S.*
*N.S., No sale			

Other Periodicals

The popular dailies weeklies and monthlies published outside the district but widely circulated in the district are listed below :

Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly
Hindi			
<i>Hindustan</i>	<i>Dharmyug</i>	<i>Sarita</i>	<i>Maya</i>
<i>Tarun Bharat</i>	<i>Saptahik Hindustan</i>	<i>Multa</i>	<i>Manohar Kahaniyan</i>
<i>Navjeevan</i>			<i>Chandamama</i>
<i>Nav Bharat Times</i>			<i>Niharika</i>
			<i>Kadambari</i>
<i>Svatantra Bharat</i>			<i>Madhuri</i>
<i>Aaj</i>			<i>Parag</i>
			<i>Lot Pot</i>

(Contd.)

English

<i>The Statesman</i>	<i>Blitz</i>	<i>Filmfare</i>	<i>Imprint</i>
<i>Times of India</i>	<i>The Illustrated Weekly of India</i>		<i>Life</i>
<i>Hindustan Times</i>	<i>Sports</i>	<i>Star and Style</i>	<i>Mirror</i>
<i>Indian Express</i>			
<i>Northern India Patrika</i>	<i>Screen Pastime</i>	<i>Caravan Women's Era</i>	<i>Picturepost</i>
<i>The Pioneer</i>			<i>Readers Digest</i>
<i>National Herald</i>			

Urdu

<i>Milap</i>	<i>Taj</i>	<i>Biswin Sedi</i>
<i>Quami Awaz</i>	<i>Aajkal</i>	<i>Shama</i>

Voluntary Social Service Organisations

The humanitarian urge to organise voluntary associations to serve some social purpose is found in the people of almost all the districts of the State and Etah is no exception to it. With the advent of British rule and western methods of education in the country, missionary institutions were set up, which gave rise to several religious and social organisations, besides the establishment of hospitals, technical, non-technical and educational institutions etc. Since independence, the government have taken active interest in the organisation and proper functioning of such organisations.

Though voluntary organisations are free to undertake any of their welfare schemes, but government see that their activities are in harmony with the objectives and policies of the State. This is generally achieved through providing financial assistance to such organisations and by a periodical review of their performance.

There are a number of non-official social service organisations of various categories engaged in the welfare of children, women, youth, destitutes, handicapped and Harijans in the district. A brief account of the more important ones is given below :

The Etah branch of the U.P. Backward Classes Federation which has its headquarter at Lucknow endeavours to promote advancement of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes and the removal of untouchability and other social evils existing among the masses.

The Madhya Uttar Pradesh Harijan Sewak Sangh with headquarters at Kalpi in Jalaun district is running a branch at Etah. Its activities in the district include removal of untouchability, prohibition and economic development of the members of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes.

A branch of the Gandhi Netra (eye) Hospital, Aligarh is functioning in Etah to prevent and treat the eye-diseases. It holds eye-relief camps in the rural areas where operations are performed and other eye-ailments treated.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST*

Aliganj (Pargana Azamnagar, Tahsil Aliganj)

The town, which is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, lies in Lat. 27° 30' N. and Long. 79° 11' E., on the Etah-Farrukhabad metalled road, about 52 km. south-east from the district headquarters. Another metalled road connects the place with Thana Dariaoganj.

The town was founded in the eighteenth century by Yaqut Khan alias Khan Bahadur Khan who was appointed *amil* of Azamnagar by the nawab of Farrukhabad. The land occupied by the new town was taken from the adjoining five villages and the people of all classes were made to settle on it. Yaqut Khan built a large mud fort in 1747 A.D. to the south of the town and on it a massive tomb of black *kankar* dedicated to the memory of the Muslim saint Hamza Shahid. Yaqut Khan was killed in 1748 at the battle of Dori, where the nawab of Farrukhabad was defeated by the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan. The favourite elephant of Yaqut Khan, though itself badly wounded, brought his corpse to the foot of the fort, where it fell dead. Yaqut Khan was buried in a plain tomb in the middle of an enclosure which lies within the fort and is surrounded by a low wall of black *kankar*. At the foot of his tomb is a mound which tradition alleges to be the burial place of his elephant. These monuments still exist but in a deteriorated condition. Two pretending mosques, one to the north and the other to the south of the town were also built by the founder of the town. After the death of Yaqut Khan, his son Bakhta Baland Khan succeeded him as the *amil* of Azamnagar under the Nawab of Farrukhabad. Aliganj later on fell into the hands of Murthas, who appointed an agent. In 1804 the British occupied this region. Under the British rule Aliganj was created a subdivision (tahsil) of the district and the town became its headquarters.

Aliganj was formerly a municipality but was in 1890 reduced to the status of an Act XX town. It was again raised to the status of a municipality in 1971. The town has a population of 10,211 and an area of 1.63 sq. km. and for civic administration it is divided into 10 wards. There are 6 tanks, eleven temples, eleven mosques and one fort in the town. The town has 9 junior Basic schools, two senior Basic schools and three higher secondary schools. Facilities of lodging are available in a P.W.D. inspection house, four hotels and five *dharmshalas*. The place is provided with a post office, a police-station, two hospitals-one for males and the other for females, one family planning centre, one nursing home and three banks. It is known for good quality of shoes prepared by the local cobbler. Tobacco, potatoes and groundnuts are among the chief articles of export.

*The figures pertaining to area and population in this chapter are based on the 1971 Census.

Aliganj is also the headquarters of a development block covering an area of 35,502 hectares.

Amanpur (pargana Sahawar, tahsil Kasganj)

Amanpur, which is administered as a town area, is situated in Lat. $27^{\circ} 43' N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ} 48' E.$, on a metalled road at a distance of 13 km. south of Kasganj and 18 km. north of Etah. The town lost much of its importance when the Grand Trunk road was opened and traffic consequently fell off on the Delhi-Farrukhabad road on which it was situated, while the opening of the railway gave the final blow to its trade, which was principally in cotton, grain and indigo. The place has a population of 3,874 which is spread over an area of 219 ha.

Amanpur contains two junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school, a post office, a police-station, a hospital, a maternity and child welfare centre, a cattle pound and a veterinary hospital. Market days are Tuesday and Saturday.

Amanpur is also the headquarters of the Amanpur development block which has a population of 85,529 which is spread over 21,614 ha. The block has 12 *nyaya* panchayats.

Atranji Khera (pargana Marehra, tahsil Etah)

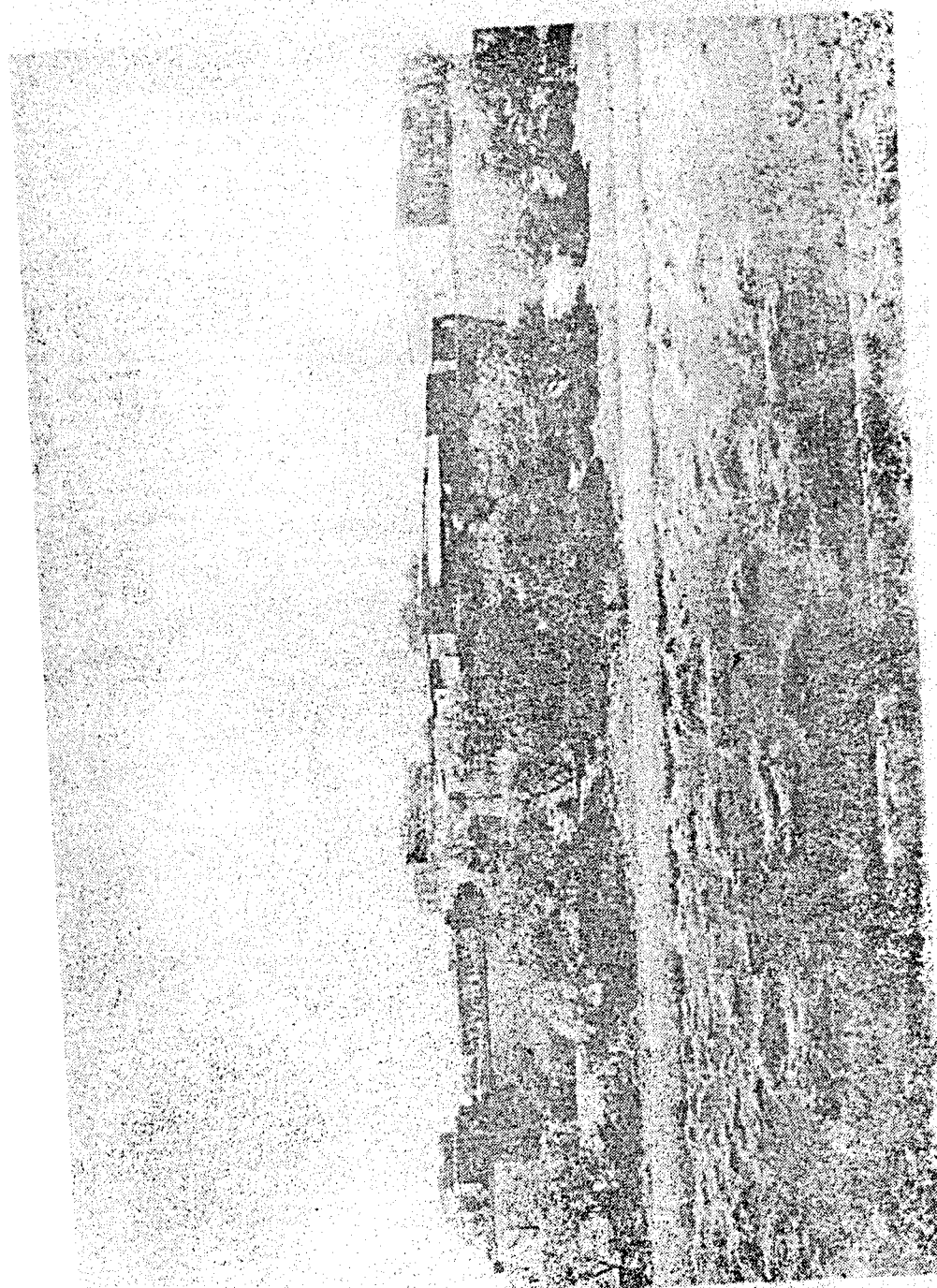
Atranji Khera, now a barren mound covered with bricks has supplied rich archaeological material from the earliest times. It lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 42' N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ} 44' E.$, about 16 km. north of Etah and 24 km. south of Soron.

R.C. Gaur, while excavating the mound near Kali river, discovered several relics and other precious remains of the second millennium B.C. The finds have testified to the existence of towns and highly developed urban life in the early period, in what may be called the wider parts of the doab. The soil on the site contained numerous specimens of pottery; bricks of an unusual shape appearing as if the people knew their use; pieces of the red and brownish sandstone, terracotta, vessels, dishes and pots. The extent of the richer deposit of painted greyware, iron, arrow heads etc. has been further significant in many respects. Coins of all sorts are frequently found at Atranji Khera. General Cunningham would identify the place with the site Pilo-char-na visited by the Chinese traveller Huen Tsang in the 7th century.

The name Atranji occurs in the *Ain-i-Akbari* in the form Sikandarpur—Atranji. Sikandarpur, now called Sikandrabad is a village on the left bank of the Kali Nadi. Atranji, according to local tradition, the ancestor of Raja Ben built a strong fort, but Shihab-ud-din Ghuri defeated Raja Ben in a great battle, after which the fort and the place were utterly destroyed along with its inhabitants. Since that time the Khera has remained uninhabited and desolate.

Awa (Pargana and tahsil Jalesar)

Awa lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 26' N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ} 31' E.$, in the Eastern corner of the tahsil, about 21 km. west of Etah and about 13 km.



Fort, Awa

east of Jalesar, on Etah-Ummergarh metalled road. The state highway between Etah and Mithura also passes through Awa. It is served by the northern railway joining it with Jalesar in the west and Etah in the east.

Awa has a population of 4,467 and an area of 809 ha. The village has remained a stronghold of the Rajas of Awa, whose fort is now in very ruined state. Situated about a km. to the north-east of Awa is a formidable structure of brick and mud surrounded by a deep moat nearly 1.6 km. in circumference.

It is the headquarters of a development block of the same name which was inaugurated on February 10, 1975, has a population of 71,428 and contains 63 Gram Sabhas, 7 *nyaya* panchayats and a total area of 29,042 ha.

Being administered as a town area, Awa is partially electrified and has a regular water supply. It has three junior Basic schools, one senior Basic school and one higher secondary school. The medical aid to the people is provided through a health centre and a maternity and child welfare centre. It also has a police-station and a post and telegraph office. Markets are held twice a week, on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Bhargain (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

Bhargain also known as Bhargain Mashraq is situated in Lat. 27° 37' N. and Long. 79° 11' E., 14 km. north of Aliganj and 53 km. north-east of Etah.

The place is said to have derived its name from Bhargava or Bhargahana, a rishi of remote antiquity, and local legend relates that it was once the scene of a great battle, thus accounting for the large number of Muslim tombs existing in the vicinity.

Bhargain is believed to be of religious importance as it possesses two *dargahs*, one of which is the tomb of a *pir* of the Chishtis and the other of some unknown saint, but in the lapse of time it has been forgotten in which of the two, the Chishti lies buried. After the freedom struggle of 1857-58 the place was bestowed to one Asa Singh, but it passed out of the possession of his descendants into the hands of Bharat Indar. Bhargain possesses two junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school and a post office. Markets are held here on every Sunday and Wednesday. Bhargain falls in the Patiali development block.

In 1971 Bhargain was raised to the status of a town area. It has a population of 3,732 and an area of 440 ha.

Bilram (pargana Bilram, tahsil Kasganj)

The chief town of the pargana of the same name lies in Lat. 27° 49' N. and Long. 78° 38' E., about 30 km. to the north of Etah and about 6 km. west of Kasganj.

According to local tradition the town was founded by Chauhan Rajputs some 675 years ago. The Chauhan raja of Bilram was attacked by Shahzada Masaud bin Muhammad, but the Muslim army was defeated and the prince, his vizir, his paymaster and many nobles were slain. The emperor then attacked Bilram in person, killed the raja and destroyed the town, those Chauhans only being spared who submitted and accepted Islam. Bilram long remained unoccupied and desolate, until Muhammad Makhdum Chishti, a fakir, came to the jungle, which had grown over the deserted site, and took up his residence there, persuading the people of the neighbouring villages to build a new town on the old *khera* (mound). Some remains of the Chauhan Raja's fort are still visible, as also the tombs of the prince, the vizir and the paymaster. Within Bilram is the tomb of Muhammad Makhdum Salauddin Chishti, which owing to its raised site is visible from a great distance on all sides. The numerous remains of old buildings which are to be found all around the present site show that in the past it must have been a town of considerable size and importance. Bilram is administered as a town area. It possesses a park, two junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school, a dispensary and a post office. The place falls in the Kasganj development block. Bilram has a population of 6,768 and an area 3 sq. km.

Bilsar (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

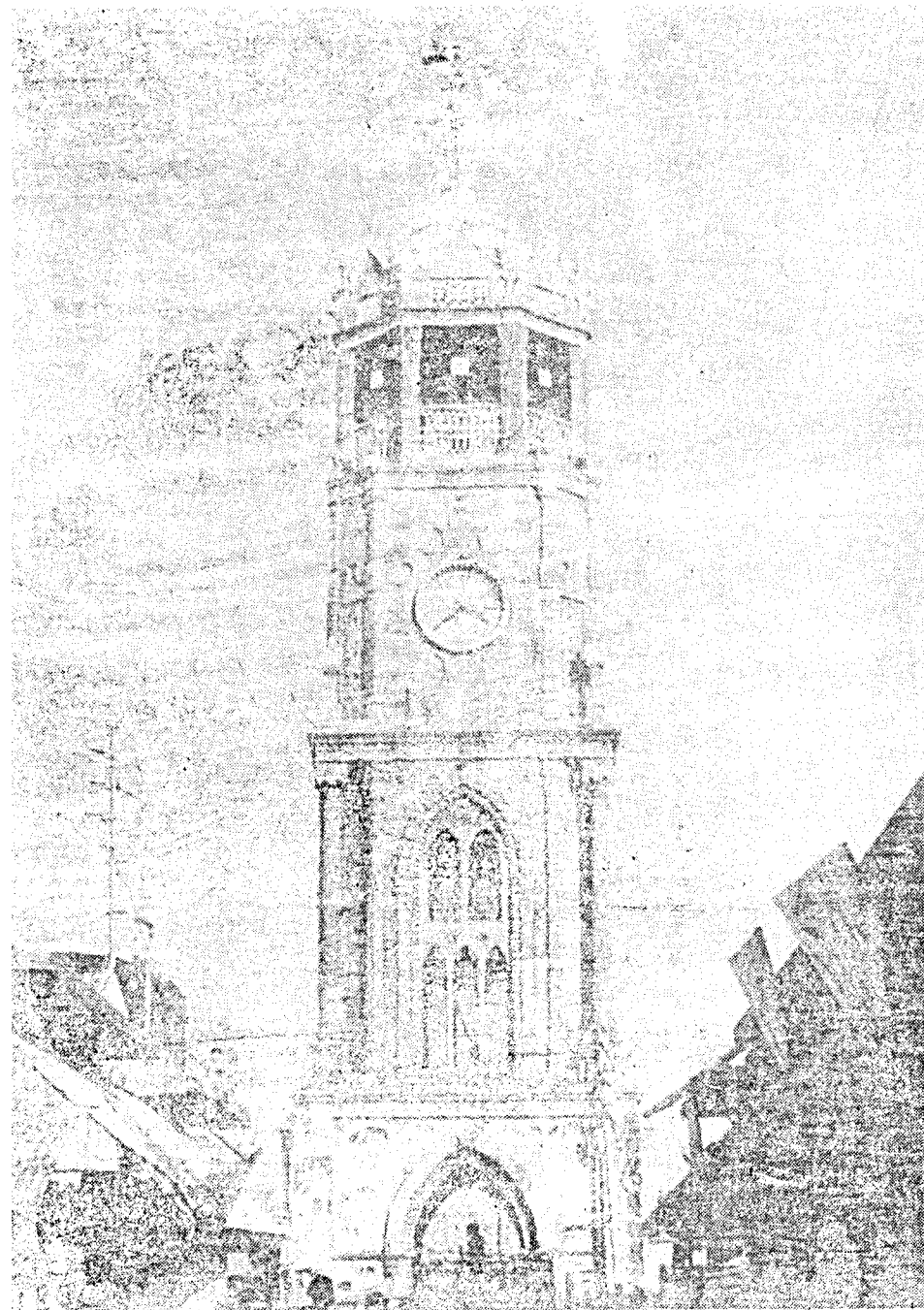
The present village, now only of archaeological interest, lies in Lat. $28^{\circ} 33' N.$ and Long. $79^{\circ} 12' E.$, 59 km. north-east of Etah. It is built over a number of ancient mounds and its whole area is covered with broken bricks of former habitations.

Bilsar is an old place and is identified with the town called Pi-lo-cha-na by the Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang and also with the town variously called Talsanda and Nandana by the Muslim historians. General Cunningham carried on excavations in 1877 which brought to light many monuments and sites of broken temples. In the centre of the village there is a great mound 33 feet in height, probably the site of Asoka's stupa mentioned in Hiuen Tsang's account. Four pillars bearing inscriptions of Kumar Gupta dated in the year 96 of the Gupta era (415 A.D.) have been found here. Bilsar is also referred to in the *Tabakat-i-Nasiri* as possessing a very strong fort vying with the wall of Alexander. In 1247 A.D. it was the scene of a desperate conflict between the troops of Balban and a body of Hindus, probably Rathor Rajputs in which the latter were defeated. Numerous fragments of sculpture have been collected from the *chabutra* or shrine, which is situated on the highest point of the mound in the north-western corner. A Rathor Raja built a strong fort on the top of the high mound in the middle of the village of which the remains still exist.

The village has a population of 885 and an area of 272 ha. and it contains a post office and a junior Basic school.

Etah (pargana and tahsil Etah)

This town, from which the district takes its name, lies on the Grand Trunk Road in Lat. $27^{\circ} 34' N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ} 43' E.$, over which heavy



Clock Tower, Etan

vehicular traffic flows day and night. Etah has been the district headquarters since 1856 when Patiali was abandoned for the purpose.

The place is said to have been founded in the 14th century by Sangram Singh, a descendant of Prithviraj Chauhan of Delhi. According to local tradition, Etah was the site of an older town named Aurangabad, which had been deserted and overgrown with jungle. Sangram Singh built a mud fort to the north of the town and for several generations his descendants occupied the surrounding territory, with the title of *raja*, until 1857, when Raja Damar Singh rebelled and the property and title were both confiscated. The principal market place, Mayneganj, which has been recently improved perpetuates the name of F.O. Mayne, a former collector of the district. It consists of several rows of strongly-built shops. To the west of Mayneganj lies the civil lines well served with metalled roads and containing public buildings, the municipal hall, tahsil and district offices. In the central market of the town, there is a beautiful clock tower. To the east of the town exists a temple called Kailash Mandir, built by the late Raja Dilsukh Rai in a style evolved by himself, an extraordinary high and solid edifice. In the neighbourhood lies a large tank with a handsome flight of steps but unfortunately no water. On the Etah-Kasganj road, nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ km. to the west of the town is situated the Arsha Gurukul, a notable Sanskrit institution.

The Sarvodaya Ashram which is opened to provide employment to rural folks is situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ km. on the Etah-Sahawar road. The Ashram also runs an intermediate college.

The town site is level and lies rather low and was formerly subject to floods; but a cutting to the Kak river, effected by Mayne, partially remedied that evil. A more effective drainage scheme had been undertaken by the Etah municipality, through the canal department. The town is densely populated and divided into *muhallas* like Marchra Darwaza, Ganga Mandir, Purana Hazar, Katra, Maharana Pratap Nagar, Sarai Mishra, Aruna Nagar, Patiali Darwaza, Holi Darwaza, Gali Baldeo Sahai, Babooganj, Nai Basti, Narain Nagar, Civil Lines etc. Water works was installed in 1956 and the telephone exchange began to function in 1952. The place is electrified.

Among higher educational institutions the town has one degree college and eight higher secondary schools. There are five hospitals, a T.B. clinic, a family welfare centre, a railway station, a head post office, a police-station, three cinema houses, eight banks, a public library, a reading room and four parks. Hindustan Levers have established a milk products factory in the town.

A dak bungalow and an inspection house are also available in the town for stay. The place has a population of 33,514 and an area of 5.18 sq. km.

Ganj Dundwara (pargana Patiali, tahsil Aliganj)

Ganj Dundwara, also known as Dundwar Ganj, lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 46'N$. and Long. $79^{\circ} 1' E$, at a road distance of 34 km. north-west of Aliganj.

and about 35 km. north-east of the district headquarters and is connected with Etah by a metalled road. It has also a railway station which connects it with Kasganj and Kanpur.

According to an old tradition, the land on which the town is built was formerly in the possession of Kent Rajputs, who were expelled by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri in 1194 A.D., and a colony of Dundiya Kayathis from whom the present name is derived, was settled there. The ganj or market was built by Shujat Khan, the brother-in-law of the Bangash Nawab of Farrukhabad.

The town is made up of two sites of Dundwar Ganj and Dundwara Khas separated from each other by a road. The Dundwara Khas is an agricultural village while Dundawar Ganj is a busy market place. The town contains a post office, a police-station, 2 banks, a hospital and a veterinary hospital. It has also 10 junior Basic schools, 4 higher secondary schools, one model school and one teachers training college. Stay facilities are available in a municipality inspection house, 3 hotels, and 3 dharmshalas.

Ganj Dundwara was declared a municipality in 1950. It has a population of 17,275 and an area of 2.59 sq. km. and for the civic administration is divided in five wards. It contains 22 temples, 11 mosques, one gurdwara, one town hall and five tanks. This town is predominantly industrial and the main articles of manufacture are rope, mustard oil and Khadi cloth, leather and tobacco are exported from here to various places as far as Bombay, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, while cotton yarn and pea are imported here. Ganj Dundwara is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Jaithra (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

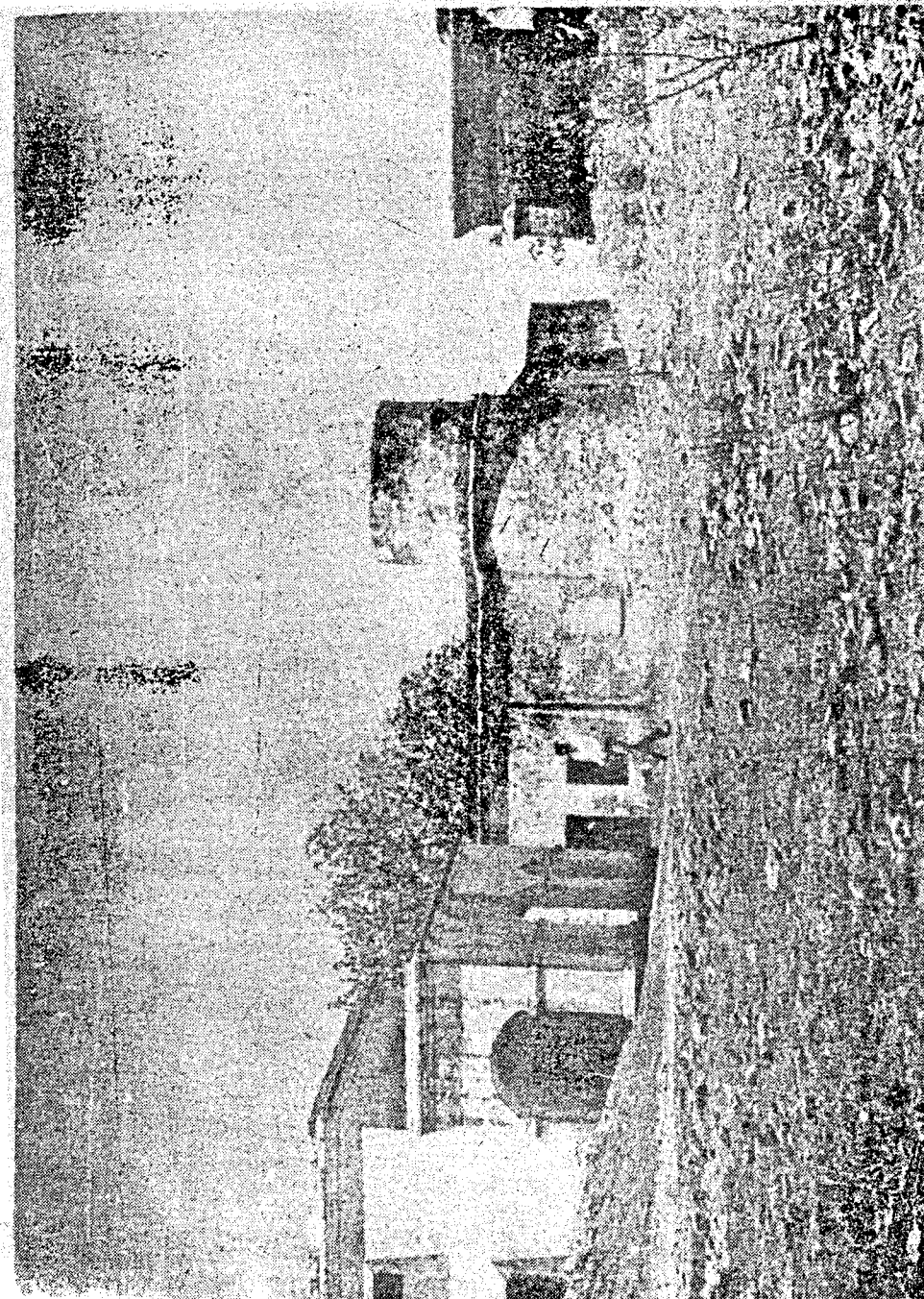
Jaithra lies in Lat. 27° 31' N. and Long. 79° 1' E., on the Etah-Aliganj metalled road at a distance of 37 km. east of Etah and 14 km. west of Aliganj.

The place is said to have been founded by Jaisukh Rai, grandson of Dhir Sahai, brother of Raja Ram Sahai, the Rathor Thakur who founded Rampur. The name is derived from the Jaithuri goddess worshipped by Jaisukh Rai.

Jaithra has a population of 7,822 and an area of 1,947 ha. It contains a veterinary hospital, a male hospital, one health centre, one family-planning centre, one maternity and child welfare centre, a post office and a police-station. It has two junior Basic schools, one senior Basic school and two higher secondary schools. Markets are held here every Tuesday and Friday. It is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name.

Jalesar (pargana and tahsil Jalesar)

This town, the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name is situated in Lat. 27° 23' N. and Long. 72° 19' E., about 40 km. to the north-east of Etah on the railway line which connects Etah with Tundla bel-



Part of Fort, Jalesar

ween the Isan and Sirsa rivers. The town consists of two parts—the fort and the lower town : the former is a large mound being the remains of a massive fort visible from a considerable distance, crowned by the office of the tahsil, police-station and the office of the municipal board; the latter a collection of narrow streets and lanes bordering the metalled roads leading to the different parts outside the main town. Thus the town is very well linked within and with the surrounding places, like Etah in the north-east and Sadabad in district Mathura in the west.

The town has a population of 18,087 and an area of 2.35 sq. km. The country surrounding the town is low and swampy and its periodical inundations probably suggested the name Jalesar, which according to some scholars is the corruption of Jaleshwar meaning “The God of Waters”. Ruined walls surrounding a huge mass of shapeless mound proclaim the existence of a decayed fort, built by one Raja Katira of Mewar, according to N.R. Neave, and according to some by one Raja Jar Singh of Jalesar. Muhammadans are said to have resisted the invasion of Raja Katira under the command of one Saiyid Ibrahim who was killed and is now revered as a martyr and a saint. It is also said that his head fell here while his headless body fought its way upto Sahasban where it ultimately fell and was solemnly entered in a *dargah*. His head was buried here in a *dargah* and to sanctify and immortalise this event the place became known as Jalwai-sar which in course of time assumed the present name Jalesar. To commemorate the sacrifice of the saint an annual *urs* is held in his Dargah in the month of Shaban. His tomb and resting place for pilgrims (*dargah*), lie a short distance north of the town and are visited by a considerable number of pilgrims, both Hindu and Muhammadan. There is another fair held every Saturday in honour of a certain Bara Miyan, who came here in the 17th century from Ajmer and practised austerities. His shrine is near the fort, and is known as the “drain” or “Mohri” a place where once upon a time, it is said, the sun god (Surya Narayan) showed himself and disappeared.

Jalesar contains one intermediate college, a higher secondary school, two junior high schools and nine primary schools. Besides this, two hospitals, one for males and the other for females and a primary health centre cater to the medical needs of the local population. It has a police-station and a post and telegraph office. It has two spacious inspection houses, one under the management of the canal department while the other under the public works department and two *dharmshalas*.

It is a flourishing mart and an important industrial centre, specialising particularly in cottage industries. The most important products of the place are shoes, country-cloth, glass bangles and utensils of brass and pewter. The quality and delicacy of brass wares, bells and *ghungroos* attract considerable market in some foreign countries. Besides these the other main products of this place are saltpetre and sulphur. The commercial activities of the place are facilitated by the existence of a branch each of State Bank of India, Central Bank, Land Development Bank and the District Co-operative Bank.

The town which is administered by a municipal board, is divided into six wards.

Besides the usual public buildings, the town contains a number of historical monuments, mosques, temples and mausoleum of one Nawab Rashid Khan, who was a grantee of emperor Jahangir. Of mosques, the Jama Masjid, and the Sunehri Masjid are notable, while the temples of Chintaharan and Mahavirji ka mandir, which is ascribed to Raja Prithvi Pal Singh of Awagarh, are popular and of considerable importance.

Kadirganj (pargana Nidhpur, tahsil Aliganj)

Kadirganj lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 48' N.$ and Long. $79^{\circ} 7' E.$, on the bank of Ganga about 51 km. north-east of Etah and 14 km. from Ganj Dundwara. It has a population of 1,750 and an area of 1,795 hectares.

The village is said to have derived its name from Kadirdad Khan, one of the ancestors of Shujaat Khan. Shujaat Khan was killed in the battle of Dori, fighting on the side of his brother-in-law, the Nawab of Farrukhabad, against the Rohillas under Hafiz Rahmat Khan in 1749. To the west of the village on a high mound of earth lies the remains of a fort built of block *kankar*, and a tomb, partly in ruins, within which Shujaat Khan lies buried. Kadirganj is built on the site of a former village called Chilla Chaun, inhabited by Taila Thakurs, who were subsequently defeated and ousted by Shujaat Khan who built for himself a fort on the site of the former village and settled people round about and gave the name of village after his ancestor Kadirdad Khan. Floods of the Ganga swept away a great piece of the mound on which the fort was built.

There lies in Kadirganj the tomb of a noted faqir, Reta Shah who died about 1850 A.D. A fair is held in the village annually in the month of December and attracts a large gathering. The village contains a post office, 3 junior Basic and one senior Basic schools; and a market is held every Tuesday and Saturday.

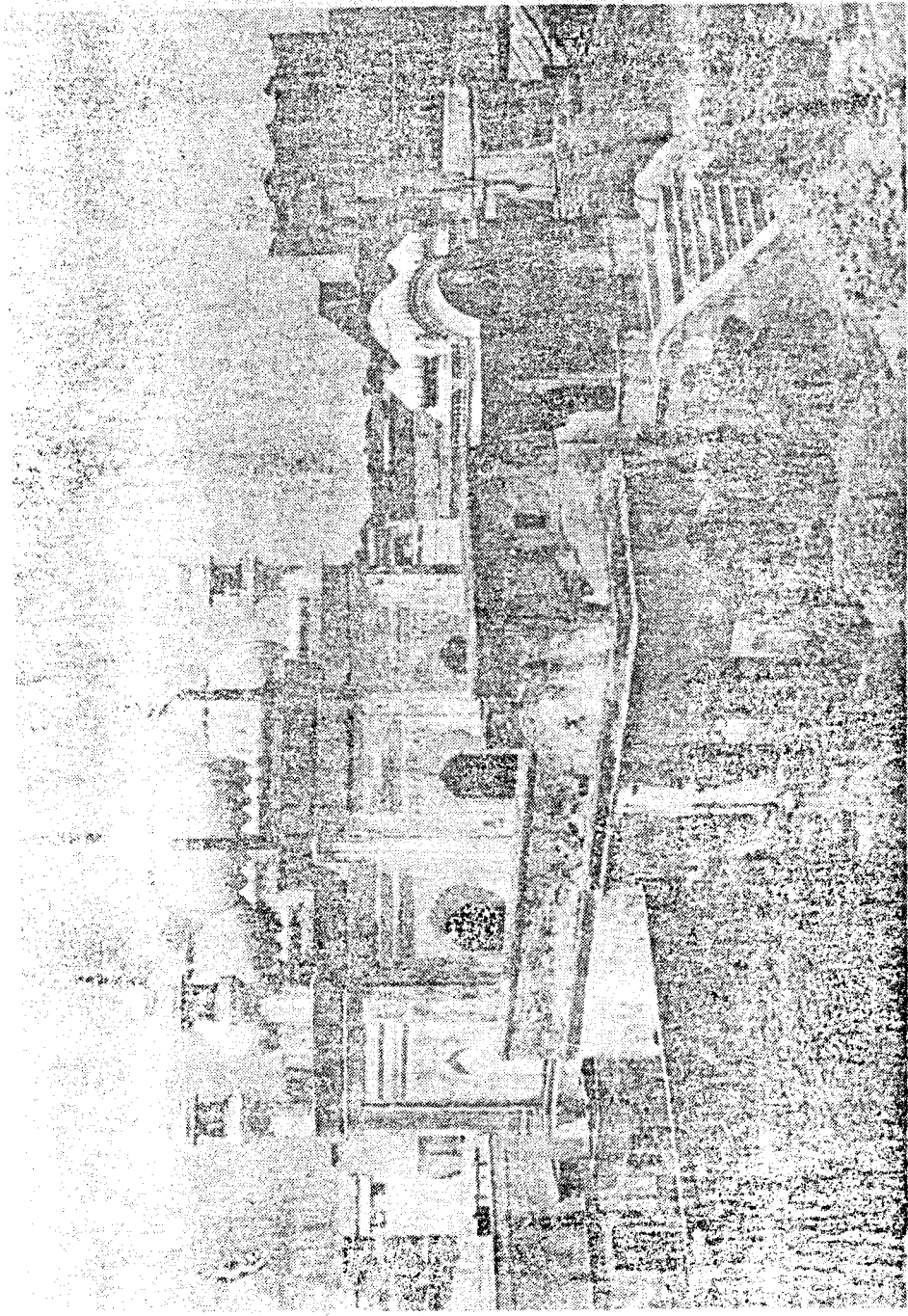
Kasganj (pargana Bilram, tahsil Kasganj)

The headquarters town of the tahsil of the same name is situated in Lat. $27^{\circ} 48' N.$ and Long. $78^{\circ} 39' E.$, at a distance of 30 km. north of Etah with which it is connected by a metalled road.

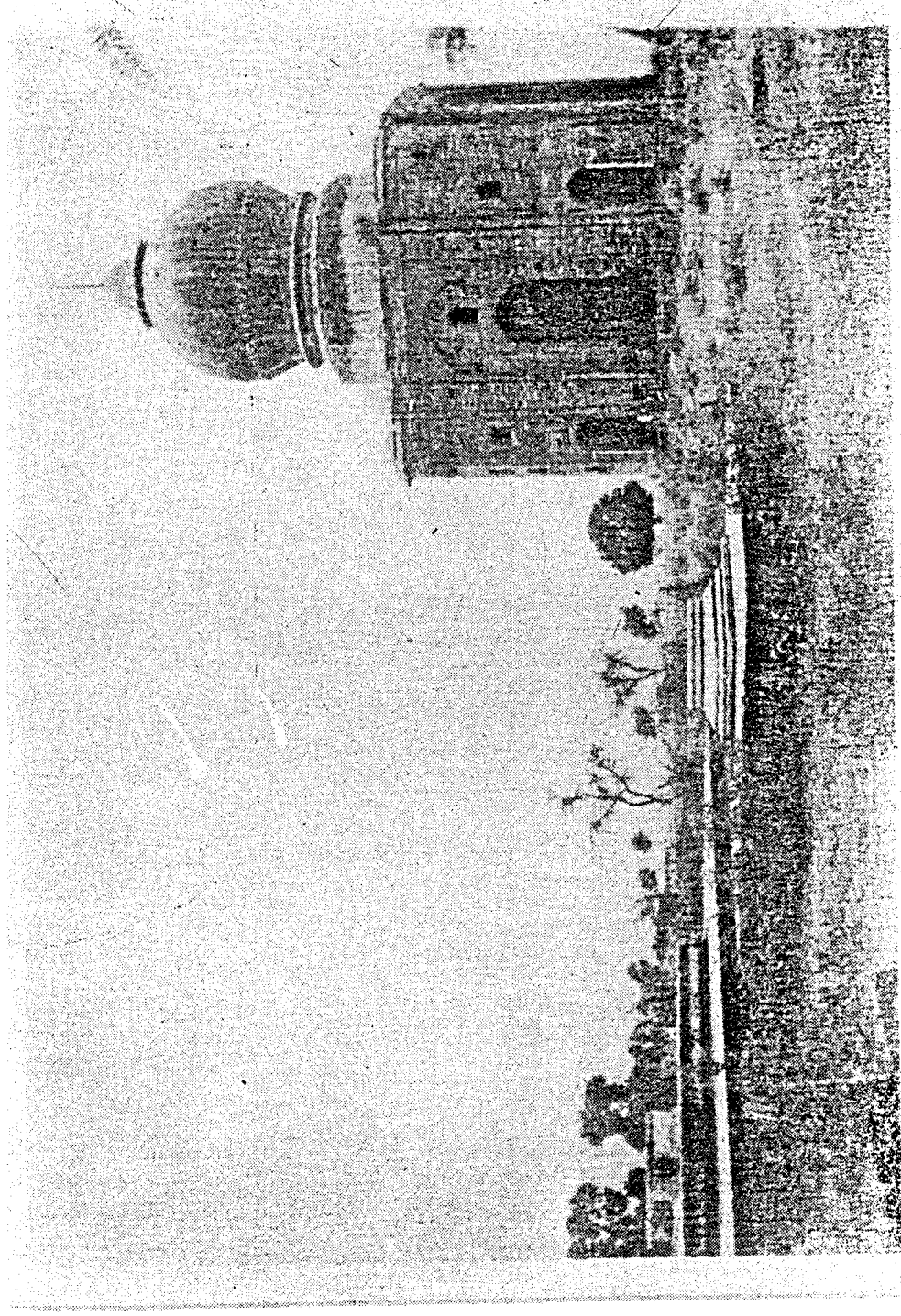
Kasganj is said to have been founded by Yakut Khan *alias* Khan Bahadur Khan, the founder of Aliganj. He was an eunuch in the employ of Muhammad Khan Bangash of Farrukhabad. On his death Khuda Bakhsh Khan became proprietor of the town, and after him Muhammad Bakhsh Khan; the latter sold it to Colonel James Gardner, better known in Etah as Mura Sahib, who in 1859 sold it to Dilsukh Rai, formerly an agent of the Gardner family, who had been raised to the dignity of Raja and honorary magistrate. At the cession of Etah district in 1801 to the British, a military cantonment had been established at Kasganj, but this was burnt down during Holkar's raid into the doab in 1804. Colonel Gardner built cantonment for his cavalry at Kunwarpur, about 3 km. from Kasganj, in 1809, and it survived till 1822, when he resigned command of the regiment.



Chintaharan Mahadeo, Jalesar



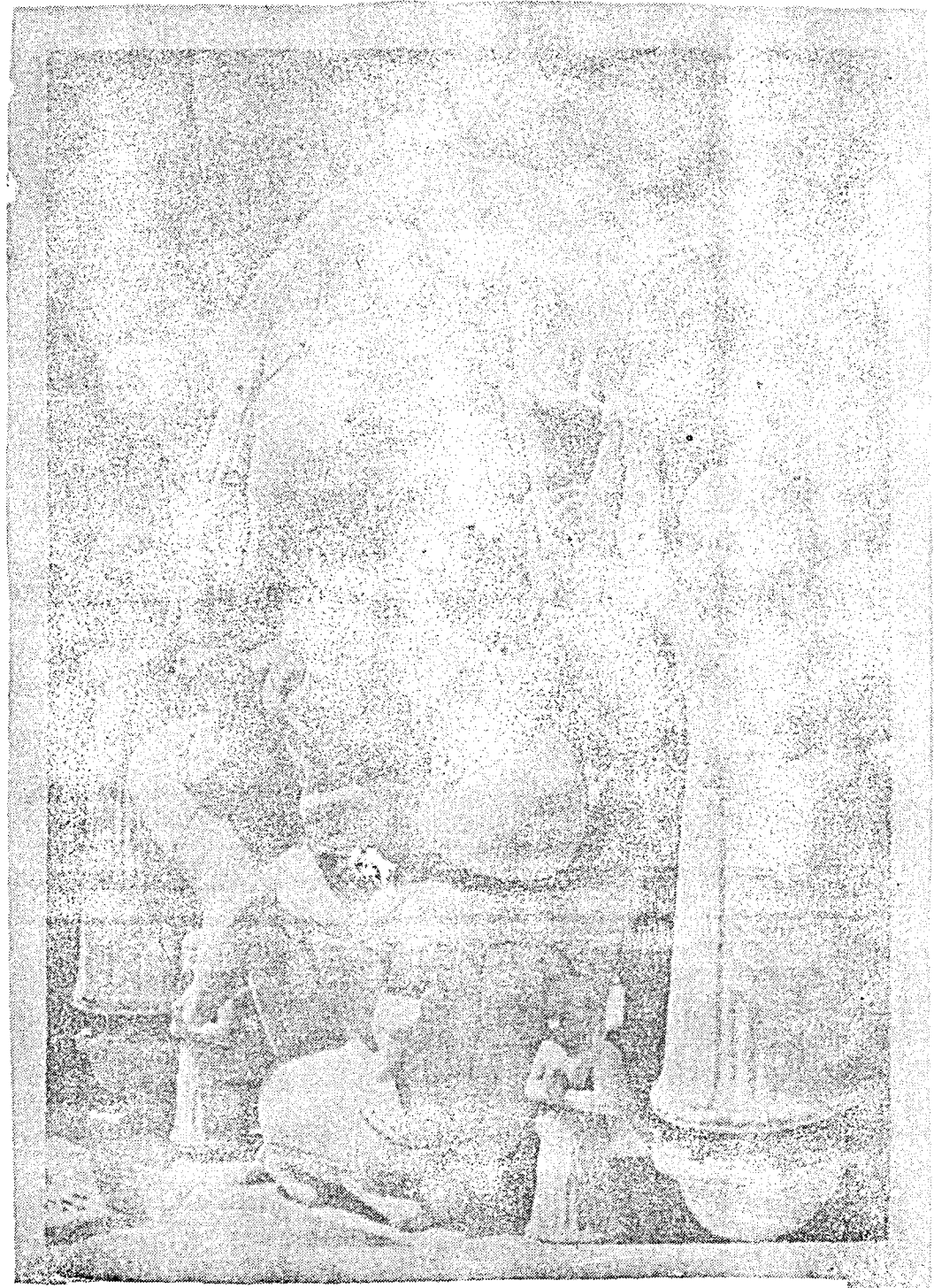
Sunehri Masjid, Jalesar



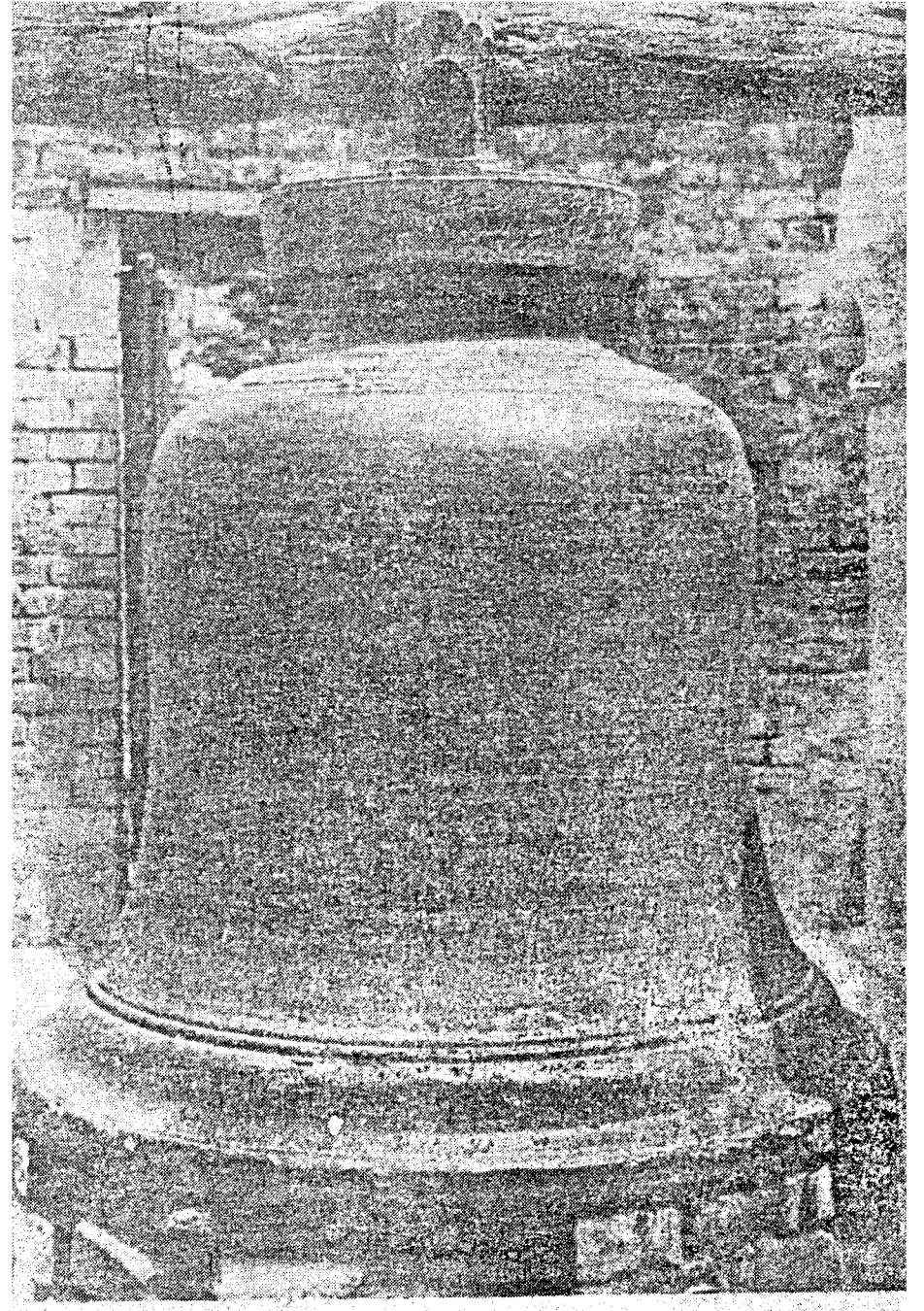
Tomb of Colonel James Gardner, Kasganj



Statue of Bhimsen, Bhimsen Mandir, Nadrai, Kasganj



Statue of Ganapati, Bhimsen Mandir, Nadral, Kasganj



Ghanta, Bhimsen Mannir, Nadral, Kasganj

Kasganj is a municipality and is divided into 14 wards for the sake of civic administration. Its population is 46,467, and area 3.8 sq. km.

The site on which Kasganj is built is sufficiently raised to permit the drainage to run off into the Kali Nadi which flows about two kilometres to the south-east of the town. A fine metalled road runs through the centre of the town from north to south and forms the main market, while another road passes from east to west, the extremities of the two being connected by a road which encircles the town round the northern, western and southern sides. Where the principal roads meet there are a number of good shops forming a handsome octagon-shaped building, called the Barahdari, which provides an appropriate centre to the town. The shops on both roads are substantially good buildings, and not only are the main streets metalled, but many of the minor lanes also. Throughout the town there is a good proportion of brick houses shaded by many fine trees.

Kasganj is not merely an important trade centre but also a railway junction. North of the town, not far from the town hall, stands the palace of the former Raja of Kasganj. Built by Shankar Singh, the son of Raja Dilsukh Rai, it is an imposing fort-like edifice, standing out in a picturesque and striking way to catch the eye of a traveller approaching from the north. Close by, in village Nadrai, there is a temple dedicated to Bhimsen, famous for its large bell bearing ancient inscriptions.

Kasganj possesses a fine mosque remarkable for its curious roof and numerous minarets, a family planning centre, three hospitals, a dispensary, a T.B. clinic, a nursing home, a veterinary hospital, a degree college, five higher secondary schools, three junior high schools, 18 primary schools, five banks, three clubs, an inspection house, nine *dharmshalas*, three post offices, three hotels, 40 restaurants, one church, one clock-tower, one town hall, a waterworks, tahsil building, and a police station. Kasganj is electrified. The main articles manufactured here are aluminium bars.

Kasganj is also the headquarters of a development block which covers an area of 22,903 ha. and includes a population of 1,00,895 and 13 *nyaya* panchayats.

Marehra (pargana and tahsil Etah)

Marehra, now a municipal town lies 19 km. to the north of Etah in $27^{\circ} 44' \text{ N.}$ and $78^{\circ} 35' \text{ E.}$ A metalled road runs from the railway station, right through the town from west to east, where it joins the metalled road from Kasganj to Etah. Besides, there is another wide metalled road crossing the town from north to south, but the smaller lanes are narrow, tortuous and mostly undrained.

The name Marehra of Markara as it is sometimes written, is locally provided with a fantastic derivation from the words "*marke hara kar diya*," i.e. "utterly destroyed and made green." Tradition avers that to the north-east of the present site there used to be a village called Sarupganj, founded by one Sarup Kishan, a Rajput who (in 1295 A.D.) was put to death by Ala-ud-din Muhammad Shah Khilji. In the follo-

ving year, while the imperial forces were passing by Sarupganj, some servants of Ala-ud-din were maltreated and plundered by robbers who were traced to that village. The emperor gave orders for a general massacre of the inhabitants and his command was carried out with such thoroughness that not only were all the people destroyed but the place itself was turned into jungle. Another derivation makes the name Manhara, referring the founding of the town to one Man Singh Chaudhan, after the expulsion of the Chauhan from Delhi at the close of the 12th century. A third story ascribes the name to the legend that in 1299 Raja Mani Ram, the governor of the neighbouring territory, founded a town near Sarupganj and called it Marhara, because he thereby made green (*hara*) what had been destroyed (*mara*). During Akbar's reign the town was the headquarters of a *dastur*. In the 18th century it belonged to the Saiyids of Barha in Muzaffarnagar district, and then passed into the hands of the nawabs of Farrukhabad and of Avadh.

The town is of poor appearance, but contains the ruins of two fine 17th century tombs, and another tomb and a beautiful mosque built in 1729 and 1732 respectively. Marchra has a hospital, a family welfare centre, two higher secondary schools, a junior high school, five primary schools, a public library, a post office and a number of industrial and commercial establishments. The place is electrified. It contains a population of 11,506 and an area of 5.18 sq. km.

Nardauli (pargana Nidhpur, tahsil Aliganj)

Nardauli lies in Lat. 27° 46' N. and Long. 79° 10' E., close to the Ganga 51 km. north-east of Etah and 22 km. north-east of Ganj Dundwara.

The place is of considerable religious importance for the Hindus as according to local tradition a majority of the Brahmanas concentrated here since the close of the 12th century and a large number of pilgrims visited it to bathe in the Ganga which, then, flowed at a distance of about 6 km. to the south of Nardauli. The prosperity of Brahmanas soon attracted the attention of some of the Rawal Muslims (other settlers in the place) who often plundered the former. But ultimately the Hindus succeeded in driving the intruders away.

The village has a population of 4,004 and an area of 1,392 hectares. A religious fair takes place in this village annually in honour of goddess Debi. A market is held on every Wednesday and Sunday. The village contains a post office, a hospital and two junior Basic schools.

Nidhauri (pargana Marehra, tahsil Etah)

This town lies 16 km. from Etah in 27° 34' N. and 78° 44' E. It has a population of 3,933 and an area of 1.1 sq. km. The place was founded by Daya Ram, raja of Hathras, who destroyed a village of the same name. Daya Ram named the place Narayanganj, but the old name survived. Close to the town are the remains of a fort built by Khushal Singh, *amil* of the nawab of Farrukhabad. The Isan river flows close by, on its northern side.

The town contains besides a bazar, a dispensary, a family welfare centre, a post office and a police-station. Several industrial and commercial establishments have come up in the town. The place is electrified and is administered by a town area committee.

Patiali (pargana Patiali, tahsil Aliganj)

Patiali, which is the headquarters of the pargana of the same name, lies in Lat. 27° 42' N. and Long. 79° 5' E., on the bank of the Burhi Ganga at a distance of 40 km. north-east of Etah and 27 km. north-west of Aliganj. The place is connected with Etah by a metalled road and with Aliganj and Thana Dariaoganj by an unmetalled road. It has also a railway station on the Kasganj-Kanpur section of the North Eastern Railway.

According to popular mythological belief the place is said to have derived its name from the word Batiari denoting *batna* (division) which took place in the reorganisation of the Panchala kingdom, Batiari having fallen to the share of Drona (the preceptor of the Pandavas) from the hands of Drupada. Another tradition ascribes the origin of the place to some *ahirin* (milk maid) named Patiya who received the site now covered by the present village in gratitude from a king on the recommendation of his queen.

Patiali is a historical place. There is in the town a fort built by Shihab-ud-din Ghuri which covered an area of 1,17,124 square yards. It was surrounded by strong thick walls of block *kankar* and by a moat. Many of the *kankar* blocks still remaining in the wall are carved on one side, showing that they must have formed parts of some other Hindu buildings. In the time of the Rohillas, Raja Har Prashad, a resident of Patiali obtained considerable power under Hafiz Rahmat Khan of Bareilly, and was appointed representative of the Rohilkhand nobles at the court of Nadir Shah when he seized upon Delhi in 1739. He bought many villages in the pargana and built a large enclosure of houses.

Patiali has been a scene of many battles, among which may be mentioned the engagement between Ahmad Khan Bangash, the nawab of Farrukhabad and Safdar Jang, the nawab of Avadh which took place in 1749, and another action in which fighters of freedom were defeated in 1857. The town is proud of having produced the great literary figure Amir Khusro who was the contemporary of Ala-ud-din Khilji.

Patiali, which is administered as a town area, is also the headquarters of a development block and it has a population of 5,633 and an area of 79 hectares. The town is provided with a police-station, 9 post offices, a health centre, a family planning centre and a maternity and child welfare centre. It has one junior Basic, two senior Basic and one higher secondary schools. Market is held here on every Sunday and Wednesday.

Raja Ka Rampur (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

The town which is also known as Rampur or Rampur Raja, lies in Lat. 27° 32' N. and Long. 79° 12' E., about 2 km. north of Aliganj and 51 km. from Etah.

The town is said to have been founded by Raja Ram Sahai in 1513 Sambat (1456 A.D.). Rampur is chiefly remarkable as the residence of Rani Kishan Kunwar, widow of the late Raja Rama Chandra Sen, a lineal descendant of the last Rathor Raja of Kannauj and tenth in descent from Raja Ram Sahai. The town was raised to the status of a town area in 1953. It has a population of 5,963 and an area of 79 ha. An annual fair is held here in honour of goddess Devi. The town has 3 junior Basic schools, a senior Basic school, a higher secondary school and a post office. Farrukhabad branch of the lower Ganga canal passes through this town. Markets are held here on every Sunday and Wednesday.

Sahawar (pargana Sahawar, tahsil Kasganj)

This town is situated in Lat. 27° 48' N. and Long. 78° 51' E., about 31 km. from Etah and 29 km. from Kasganj.

The traditional account of the town states that it was founded by Raja Naurang Deb, a Chauhan Rajput who called it Naurangabad. It was soon after attacked by the Muslims when the Raja fled to Sirhpura to invoke the aid of the raja of that place. Meanwhile all the people who remained in Naurangabad were forcibly converted to Islam. Returning with a force from Sirhpura, Raja Naurang Deb succeeded in expelling the Muslims and then changed the name of the town to Sahawar as it was with the aid of good people (*sahaila*) that he recovered possession of it. Though the town has the advantage of a railway station on the Kanpur-Achnera railway it does little trade. A market is held here every Tuesday and Saturday.

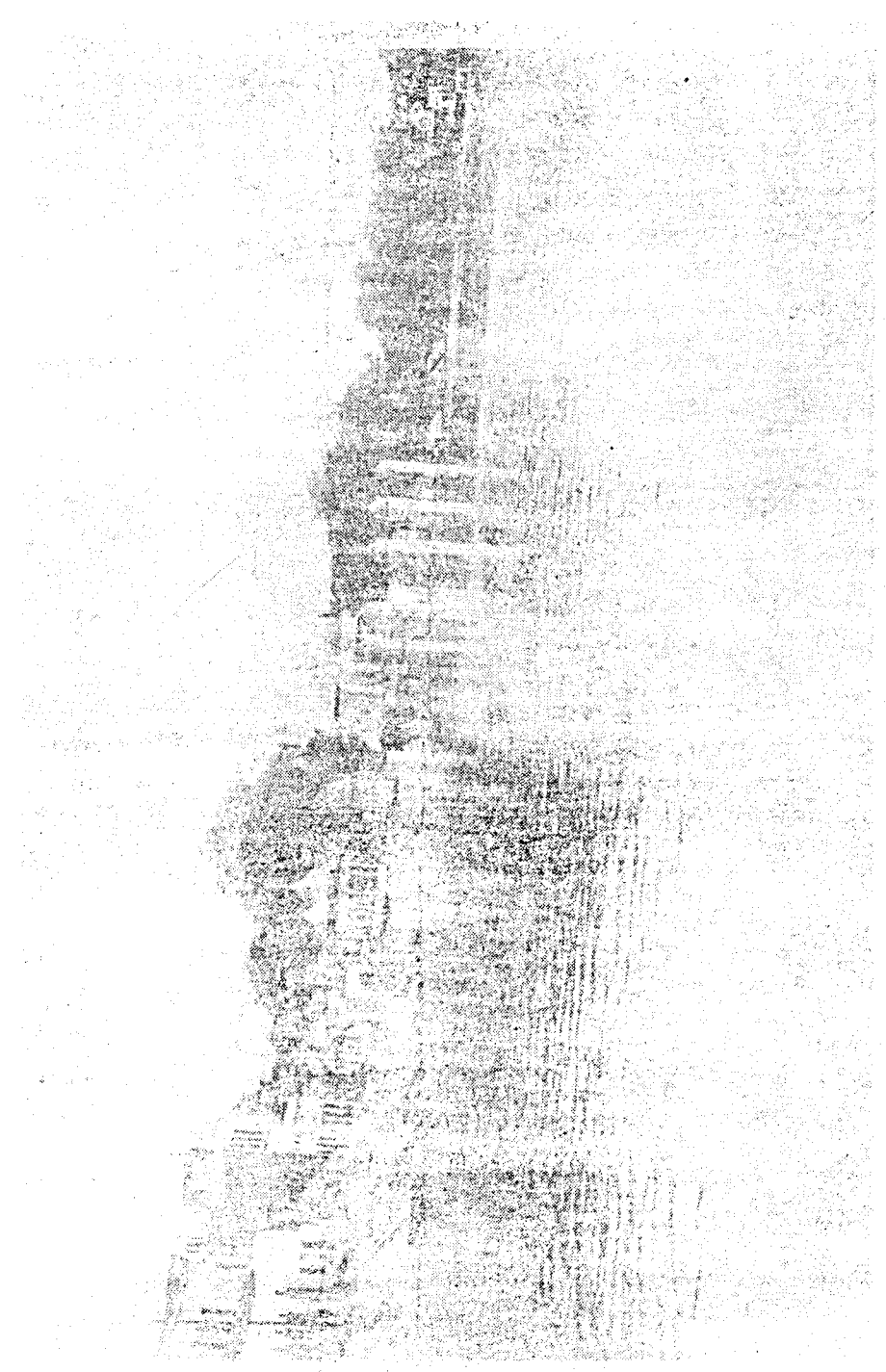
The town has a population of 10,348 which is spread over an area of 681 ha. Sahawar contains a post and telegraph office, a police-station, a cattle pound, a veterinary hospital, a health centre, a family planning centre, one junior Basic school and three senior Basic schools.

Sahawar is also the headquarters of a development block of the same name which covers an area of 21,964 ha. a population of 77,810 and nine *nyaya* panchayats.

Sakit (pargana Etah-Sakit, tahsil Etah)

This town lies in Lat. 27° 27' N. and Long. 78° 50' E., about 16 km. to the south-east of Etah. On the hill, once crowned by a fort, there remain now only the *kankar* blocks forming the foundations of the great mosque erected here in the 13th century when the town was an important Muslim stronghold. On the highest site in the town is a half-finished temple remarkable for its Saracenic arches supported on slender pillars of richly carved Agra stone. The town clusters round this temple, which from its position, forms a conspicuous landmark. On the north a fine bridge carries into the town the metalled road that connects Sakit with the Grand Trunk Road. Through the bazar the road is metalled and the shops are well built.

Tradition ascribes the founding of Sakit to Raja Sakat Deo, Chauhan Thakur descended from Raja Prithviraj of Delhi, who built a fort here



Mari-ki-Pairi, Soron

which he called after his own name. In 1488 Bahlul Lodi fell sick and died at Sakit. The place contains an old mosque built in 1563 during the reign of Akbar by Khwajah Ibrahim Badakhshan.

Sakit is served by a hospital, a family welfare centre, a police-station a higher secondary school, two junior Basic schools, a post office and a park. It is administered by a town area committee and the availability of electricity has given rise to several new industrial and commercial establishments. There is piped supply of water. The place has a population of 3,227 and an area of .52 sq. km.

Sarai Aghat (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

This place lies in Lat. 27° 29' N. and Long. 79° 18' E. 20 km. away from Aliganj in the extreme south-eastern corner of the district.

Sarai Aghat is made up of two villages divided by the ravines of the Kali Nadi Sarai on the east and Aghat on the west. Sarai was founded in 1686 A.D. by Khizr Khan, Muhammad Khan and Rasul Khan, Pathans of Toya or Tuyah Khail, who came here from Mau Rashidabad in the Farrukhabad district and built the Sarai Abdurrasul and mosque. Aghat is said to be indebted for its name to the great sage Muni Agastya.

The town possesses a lofty and extensive *khera* where a large number of gold, silver and copper coins of ancient and medieval ages as well as images of Buddha have been found. On the opposite side of sarai and a kilometre off is Sankisa and it is believed that Aghat once formed a part of that city in the days of its greatness.

The town has a population of 3,753 and an area of 590 ha. It contains a post office, 2 junior Basic schools and a dispensary. A market is held here every Sunday and Wednesday.

Soron (pargana Soron, tahsil Kasganj)

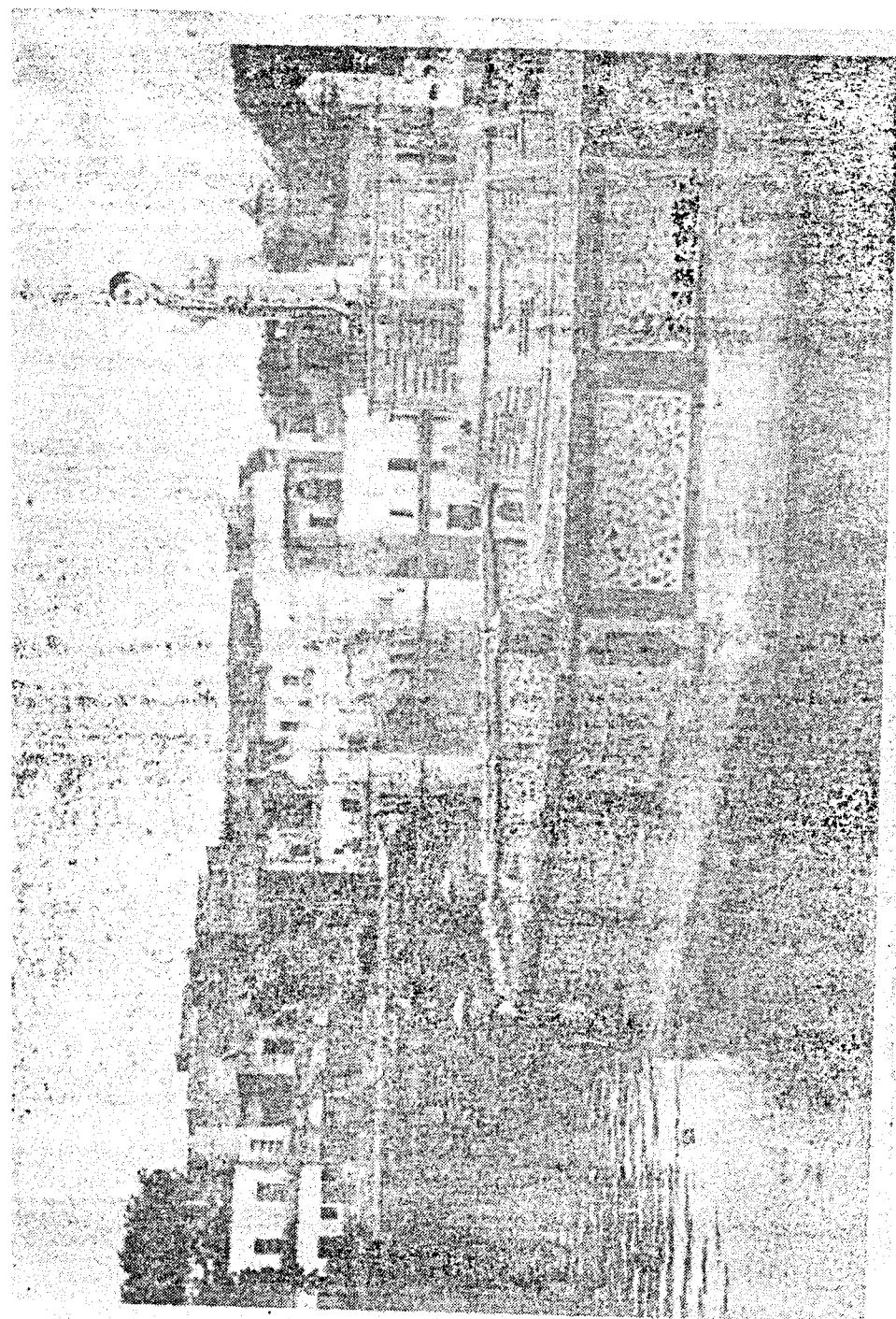
The town is situated in Lat. 27° 54' N. and Long. 78° 45' E. on a metalled road at a distance of 45 km. from Etah and 14 km. from Kasganj. The town is also connected by railway with Kasganj.

Though it has some pretensions to be considered as a mart, Soron is chiefly important for its religious associations, and as being the scene of numerous *melas* or religious assemblies. Devout Hindus from all parts of India come to bathe in the Burhganga and in the Garga itself at Garhia Ghat about 7 km. to the north of Soron. The Marg Sri fair in Agrahayana is the great day for Garhia Ghat. The Burhganga here forms a considerable pool known as Hari-ki-Pairi with temples and ghats on the eastern and western sides. It is here that the pilgrims bathe and draw the holy water which they take away. There are many ghats all well kept and well-built of *kankar* blocks or stone with brick steps leading down to the water's edge. Numerous pipal trees are planted near the temples which number altogether from fifty to sixty. Besides the temples there are over a dozen large well-built dharmshala many of which constructed by wealthy pilgrims from Gwalior or Bharatpur, stand on high plinths and exquisitely carved in Agra stone, presenting

an imposing appearance. A wide central street forming the principal bazar is paved with *kankar* blocks, as are four other side roads, while several of the minor lanes have pavements of brick. The site is well raised on the right bank of the Burhganga.

Near the railway station stands the municipal hall. A stranger to Soron is chiefly struck by the number of substantial and imposing houses and temples, and by the crowds which throng the bazar during the frequent fairs.

The original name Soron was *Ukala Kshetra*, but after the demon *Hiranyakasyapa* had been slain here by Vishnu in his boar incarnation, the name was changed to *Sukara Kshetra*, or "the place of the wild boar." The ancient town is now represented by a mound known as the *qila* or fort, which is a quarter of a mile in length from north to south and somewhat less in breadth. It stands on the old high bank of the Ganga which is said by some to have flowed immediately under it so lately as 350 years ago. The only buildings now existing on it are the temple of Sita Ramji and the tomb of Sheikh Jamal, but it is covered with broken bricks of large size and the foundations of walls can be traced in all directions. Tradition ascribes the present remains to one Raja Somadatta of Soron, but the original settlement is attributed to the much older Raja Bena Chakravarti. According to the Solanki tradition the founder was their own leader Sonamatti. Though many of the temples are said to be of very ancient origin the only ones of any consequence are those Sita Ramji, just mentioned and of Varahji to the north-west of the city. The latter contains a statue of Varaha-Lakshmi and is visited by thousands of pilgrims on the eleventh day of the waxing moon of Agrahayana in remembrance of the boar (*varaha*) incarnation. The temple of Sita Ramji which is said to have been destroyed by Aurangzeb, was restored by a wealthy Bania in 1860 by building up the spaces between the pillars with plain white washed walls. The style of these columns is similar to that of the set of pillars in the south-east corner of the quadrangle of the great Kutb mosque at Delhi, which bears the date of Samvat 1124, or 1067 A.D. That this date is not too early for the Soron temple is proved by the inscriptions of various pilgrims who have visited the shrine. As the oldest legible record bears date of Samvat 1226 or 1169 A.D. the date of the erection of the temple cannot be placed later than 1,000 A.D. Of these pilgrims' records Cunningham writes that "they are generally short and uninteresting, but as there are no less than 38 of them, bearing dates which range from A.D. 1169 to A.D. 1511 they become valuable for tracing the history of the temple. The earliest date after the Muhammadan conquest is A.D. 1241 and from that time down to A.D. 1290 there are no less than 15 dated records showing that Soron continued to be a much frequented place of pilgrimage during the whole period of the Ghori dynasty, which ended in A.D. 1289. But during the rule of the next two dynasties, the Khiljis and the Tughlaks, there is only one inscription, dated in A.D. 1375 in the reign of Firoz. Now as nearly one half of this period was occupied by the reigns of Ala-ud-din Khilji and Muhammad Tughlak, it seems only reasonable to suppose that the people were deterred from making their usual pilgrimages by the persecution of their Muhammadan rulers. The next record is dated in A.D. 1429, and from that time down to 1511 there are 16 dated inscriptions; but as no less than 13 of this number belong to the reign of



Tulsi Smarak, Soron

Bahlol Lodi, I infer that the rule of the Saiyid dynasty was not favourable to Hindu pilgrimages. I infer also that the temple must have been destroyed during the reign of the intolerant Sikandar Lodi, because the series of inscriptions closes with 1511, or first six years before the end of his reign. Had the temple existed during the happy century when the sceptre of India was swayed by the tolerant Akbar, the indifferent Jahangir and the politic Shah Jahan, it is about certain that some records of the pilgrims' visits would have been inscribed on the pillars of the temple. For this reason I feel satisfied that the destruction of the great temple of Soron must be assigned to an earlier period than that of the bigoted Aurang Shah."

Soron possesses a monument dedicated to the memory of Tulsi Das, the renowned Hindi poet who according to one group of literary historians had long association with the place.

In 1868 Soron was made a municipality. It contains a municipal hall which is situated near the railway station.

The town has a population of 17,153 which is spread over an area of 0.88 sq. km.

Soron is also the headquarters of the Soron development block which has an area of 38, 429 ha. a population of 1,03,707 and 13 *nyaya* panchayats.

Soron possesses a post office with telegraph facilities, a police-station, a veterinary hospital, a stockman centre, 11 primary schools, seven junior Basic schools, a higher secondary school, three intermediate colleges, a dispensary and a family planning centre.

The principal industries of the place are the manufacture of beads and of glass phials for the use of pilgrims who wish to carry away the holy water.

Thana Dariaoganj (pargana Azamnagar, tahsil Aliganj)

The village which is situated on the bank of Burhanga lies in Lat. 27° 37' N. and Long. 79° 8' E., on the Aliganj-Patiali road, 14 km. north-west of Aliganj. It is also a railway station which connects it with Kanpur and Kasganj.

Thana Dariaoganj is made up of two villages, Thana and Lariaoganj. Thana which is the older village was founded by Than Singh, grandson of Dhir Sahai, brother Raja Ram Sahai, the ancestor of Rampur family. Dariaoganj was founded by Khan, Bahadur Khan, *amil* of Azamnagar the founder of Aliganj. Remains of a large fort built by Khan Bahadur Khan are still to be seen.

The village has a population of 5,949 and an area of 1,910 ha. It contains a post office, 2 junior Basic and 2 senior Basic schools. A market is held here every Tuesday and Friday.

Unmergarh (pargana and tahsil Jalesar)

Ramgarh and Unmergarh lies in Lat. $27^{\circ} 24'$ N. and Long. $78^{\circ} 24'$ E., on the Awa-Tundla metalled road, about 16 km. south-west of the former and about 15 km. south-east of Jalesar. The place is not very historically significant except that it had been the stronghold of the Thakurs of Unmergarh, the last remains of whose power and prestige here can still be witnessed in an old fort, which in the process of time, stands deprived of its old grandeur.

Unmergarh has a senior Basic school, a post office and an old temple. The village contains a population of 7,111 and an area of 2,644 ha.

CONVERSION FACTORS**Money**

- 1 pice = 0.52 naya paise
- 1 pice = 1.56 naya paise

Linear Measure

- 1 inch = 2.54 centimetres
- 1 foot = 30.48 centimetres
- 1 yard = 91.44 centimetres
- 1 mile = 1.61 kilometres

Square Measure

- 1 square foot = 0.093 square metre
- 1 square yard = 0.836 square metre
- 1 square mile = 2.59 square kilometres
- 1 acre = 0.405 hectare

Cubic Measure

- 1 cubic foot = 0.028 cubic metre

Measure of Capacity

- 1 gallon (Imperial) = 4.55 litres
- 1 seer* (80 tolas) = 0.937 litre

Measure of Weight

- 1 tola = 11.66 grams
- 1 chhatak = 58.32 grams
- 1 seer* = 933.10 grams
- 1 maund* = 37.32 kilograms
- 1 ounce (Avoirdupois) = 28.35 grams
- 1 pound (Avoirdupois) = 453.59 grams
- 1 hundred weight = 50.80 kilograms
- 1 ton = 1,016.05 kilograms = 1.016 metric tonnes

Thermometer Scales

- 1° Fahrenheit = $9/5^{\circ}$ Centigrade + 32

*As defined in Indian Standards Weight Act, 1939

GLOSSARY OF INDIAN WORDS

<i>Achkan</i>	: Type of long coat
<i>Amin</i>	: A petty revenue official usually engaged in the collection of government dues
<i>Arhar</i>	: Kind of pulse seed
<i>Atta Chakki</i>	: Flour mill
<i>Bhajan</i>	: Devotional songs
<i>Bhatti</i>	: Furnace
<i>Chauki</i>	: Police Out-post
<i>Churidar</i>	: Tight fitting pyjama
<i>Dal</i>	: Pulse
<i>Gangajali</i>	: Pot for keeping water of holy Ganga
<i>Garara</i>	: A form of full long loose pyjama with a wider bottom
<i>Ghani</i>	: Oil-crusher
<i>Ghungroo Ghantee</i>	: Small tinkling bell
<i>Gram</i>	: Village
<i>Granth</i>	: Religious book of Sikhs
<i>Guls</i>	: Small channels for irrigation
<i>Gurudwara</i>	: The place of worship of Sikhs
<i>Jali</i>	: Net
<i>Jhil</i>	: Lake
<i>Kankar</i>	: Irregular concretion of impure calcareous matter used for making lime
<i>Kathas</i>	: Recitation from the epics, Puranas or other religious books
<i>Kavi-Sammelan</i>	: Symposium of poets (Hindi)
<i>Kirtan</i>	: Recitation of names and attributes of deities
<i>Kurta</i>	: Long loose shirt without cuffs and collar
<i>Mahal</i>	: Unit of land under separate engagement for payment of revenue
<i>Maida</i>	: Fine wheat flour
<i>Majlis</i>	: Religious assemblies
<i>Modha</i>	: Chair made of reed with or without arms
<i>Moong</i>	: A kind of long grass of which ropes etc. are made
<i>Nala</i>	: Drain
<i>Nyaya</i>	: Justice

Panch	: A member of village court
Pathshala	: School
Qawwali	: Persian or Urdu verses rendered to a traditionally set tune
Qazi	: Functionary who solemnises Muslim marriages; a judge under Muslim ruler
Reh	: Saline efflorescence
Sherwani	: A long coat akin to <i>achkan</i>
Suji	: Granular wheat product
Tazias	: Representation of tomb of Hasan or Husain, generally made of coloured paper and bamboo
Thalee	: A round metal plate with a raised brim used for eating
Tirthankara(s)	: In Jainism, deified hero and saint and expounder of religion
Tripitaka	: Sacred book of Buddhists
Usar	: Alkaline land unfit for cultivation

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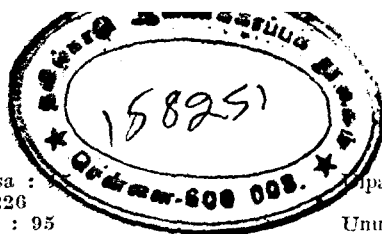
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