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**GAZETTEER OF INDIA
UTTAR PRADESH**

DISTRICT BAHRAICH

UTTAR PRADESH DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



BAHRAICH

KAILASH NARAIN PANDI

State Editor

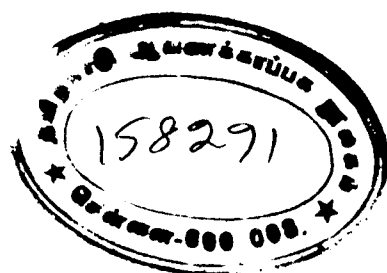
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PREFACE

This is the fifty-third in the series of the revised and rewritten district gazetteers of the State of Uttar Pradesh, which are being published under the scheme sponsored by the Government of India. In presenting this volume, the earlier references relating to the area covered by the district of Bahraich as found in the *Gazetteer of the Province of Oudh*, 1877, various Settlement Reports of the region and H. R. Nevill's *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, 1903 and its Supplements published after each census of 1911, 1921 and 1931 have freely been drawn upon, while other diverse sources, both official and non-official, have also been fruitfully utilised. A bibliography of the published works used in the preparation of this Gazetteer appears at the end of the volume.

Since the publication of the last Gazetteer, very significant changes—political, economic and social—have taken place. The present Gazetteer has been completely rewritten and conforms to the contemporary requirements. It also records the highlights of the freedom struggle and the part played therein by the people of the district.

The work on the Bahraich District Gazetteer was started by Dr. Parmanand Mishra, the then State Editor, and was continued under the able guidance and supervision of my predecessors, whose spade work greatly facilitated my task. However, the final shape to this Gazetteer could be given only recently.

I would like to express my appreciation of the hard work put in by my Editors, Compilation Officers and each member of my staff, technical and non-technical, in shaping this volume. I also avail myself of this opportunity to thank the Chairman and the members of the Advisory Board and officers of the different departments of the State and the Central Governments, as also many knowledgeable individuals and non-official institutions who have rendered valuable assistance in the compilation, completion and publication of this volume.

LUCKNOW :

KAILASH NARAIN PANDE

Dated : March 31, 1984.

FOREWORD

The revised Gazetteer of district Bahraich is in your hands. The delays between the writing, printing and final publication of this Gazetteer are regrettable indeed. These were for many causes at various levels and are not excused for that account. Ordinarily, the delays could be explained away, or ignored, but such an attempt would only weaken our resolve and effectiveness in future. It will remain our concern to go deep into our lapses, hoping that our admissions would work towards better and timely results.

2. The Gazetteer could also have been up-dated with the figures of the Census of 1981 but this would hold up its publication by some more years. District Gazetteer department is presently short of hands and there is a sizable lag of work of other districts. It is hoped that problems of the department will also be soon sorted out, our aims clarified, budget increased so that the Supplements to all the present Gazetteers based on latest socio-economic data are published within the decade.

3. The volume presents a broad and reliable profile useful for public concerned with the general affairs of the district. The Gazetteers are also much sought after documents containing material, widely acknowledged as primary source of information on the geography, society and economy of the district.

4. Needless to say we will be obliged if suggestions for the improvement of the Gazetteer in the light of our common experience of forty years of nation's independence, are sent to the department.

19th April, 1988,
Jawahar Bhawan, Lucknow.

D. S. RAWAT,
STATE EDITOR.

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CONTENTS

				<i>Page</i>
<i>Preface</i>				
<i>FOREWORD</i>				
<i>Advisory Board</i>				
<i>Description of Illustrations</i>				
<i>Chapter</i>				
I General	..	..		1
II History	..	..		16
III People	..	..		45
IV Agriculture and Irrigation	..	..		80
V Industries	..	..		103
VI Banking, Trade and Commerce	..	..		111
VII Communications	..	..		124
VIII Miscellaneous Occupations	..	..		132
IX Economic Trends	..	..		139
X General Administration	..	..		152
XI Revenue Administration	..	..		157
XII Law and Order and Justice	..	..		173
XIII Other Departments	..	..		185
XIV Local Self-government	..	..		189
XV Education and Culture	..	..		203
XVI Medical and Public Health Services	..	..		215
XVII Other Social Services	..	..		230
XVIII Public Life and Voluntary Social Service Organisations	..	..		242
XIX Places of Interest	..	..		253
<i>Appendix</i>				
<i>Conversion Factors</i>	..	..		265
<i>Glossary</i>	..	..		267
<i>Bibliography</i>	..	..		271
<i>Index</i>	..	..		275

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

ORIGIN OF NAME OF DISTRICT

The orthodox legend connects the present name of the district with Brahma, the creator, who is said to have chosen Bahraich as his own special domain and called together a number of rishis to establish His worship here in the Ghandaryavan of the epics. The place was thus called Brahmaich, the assembly of Brahma. The present name Bahraich appears to be the corruption of Brahmaich. Another and perhaps more probable origin of the name lies in the fact that the whole tract in former days was held by the Bhars and it was known as Bahraich, from which it has derived its present name.

LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, AREA AND POPULATION

Location and Boundaries—The district lies between latitude $27^{\circ} 04'$ and $28^{\circ} 24'$ north, and longitude $81^{\circ} 03'$ and $82^{\circ} 13'$ east. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the territory of Nepal, from the village of Bandrahiya Gaurhi near Bharatpur in the north to the boundary of district Gonda. The boundary is marked by a line cleared through forest with masonry pillars at fixed intervals. In the Tulsipur pargana it runs along the foot of the low hills which form the detached parts of the Himalayas, but for the rest of its length the boundary is marked by no physical peculiarity. For a short distance, from Murtiha to Chitlahua on the borders of Nanpara and Dharampur, it is formed by the Saryu, but elsewhere it is merely conventional and runs straight through the forest, and exactly resembles an ordinary forest line. The boundary in the case of the Saryu is the deep stream. Elsewhere there is a neutral strip, on either side of the actual boundary line, on which the pillars stand. Formerly the boundary was very different, for at the time of the annexation of Avadh, it extended to the foot of the hills along the line.

The western boundary is formed by the river Kauriyala, which in its lower portion, after its junction with the Dahawar, is generally known as the Ghaghara. From Nepal to Dahawar, the Kauriyala forms the boundary between the districts of Bahraich and Kheri. South of Kheri lies the Sitapur district, which marches with Bahraich as far as the southern extremity of the Fakhrpur pargana. The southern boundary is

formed by the Bhitauli, Ramnagar, and Bado Sarai parganas of Bara Banki. The south-eastern boundary, from the village of Rehauda to the Nepal border is a conventional line separating this district from Gonda.

Area

According to the Central Statistical Organisation the district covered an area of 6,871 sq. km. in 1971, and with regard to size it occupied 13th place in the State. Owing to changing course of the river Ghaghara the area of the district is subject to frequent alteration.

Population

At the census of 1971 the district had a population of 17,26,972 persons (males 9,37,903; females 7,89,069). Of these 8,82,606 males and 7,41,884 females were residing in rural areas, while 55,297 males and 47,185 females were residing in urban areas. The district occupied 21st position in population in the whole State.

HISTORY OF DISTRICT AS ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT

The district appears to fall within the tracts called Uttar or Northern Kosala and Gaura, the modern Gonda, which formed part of the kingdom of Ayodhya north of the Ghaghara, the former of which, according to the *Vayu Purana*, was governed by Lava, son of Rama.

Legend connects many remains of buildings, mounds and wells with the Bhars. In particular, the mound at Charda is said to have been the fort of the Bhar Chieftain, Suhel Deo.

Little is known regarding the history of the district as an administrative unit before its invasion by Muslims, though the tract occupied by the present district of Bahraich appears to have been populated and flourishing in the Buddhist and Sultanate periods and even earlier.

In the days of Akbar the administrative division known as sarkar Bahraich comprised the whole of the present district as well as considerable portion of Gonda and Kheri. It was then divided into 11 *mahals*, namely, Bahraich, Bahrah, Hisampur, Fakhrpur, Firozabad, Dangdoi, Rajhat, Sujauli, Sultanpur. Qila Nawagarh and Kahrosa.

Several changes had meanwhile occurred in the north of the district owing to the treaty of Sigauli in 1916, by which the whole of the lowlands between the Sarda and the Rapti were ceded to the British.

Since the annexation of Avadh in 1856 several alterations have been made in the boundaries of the district. At the commencement of the settlement of 1865-1872 several excrescences of the district on the south-

CH. I—GENERAL

east were cut off and made over to Gonda, so that the border is now fairly straight. In return for this a large portion of Tulsipur pargana of Gonda, comprising 32 villages, was transferred to Bahraich, thus forming the Bahraich pargana of Tulsipur, which lies between Bhinga and the Nepal boundary. At the same time the pargana of Bhitauli, which originally belonged to Bahraich, was made over to Bara Banki for obvious purposes of convenience, as the small tract lying on the south of the Ghaghara was very difficult of access from the rest of the district.

In 1875, the boundary was altered, as far as the Tulsipur pargana was concerned. A treaty was signed on January 7, 1875, whereby the lower range of hills from Baghaura Tal to Arrah was ceded to Nepal, and the boundary was demarcated at the foot of the hills, in suppression of the earlier boundary line along the crest.

In consequence of a change in the deep stream of the Ghaghara, the two villages of Manjha Sumali and Chakdaha of pargana and tahsil Nanpara of the district were transferred to pargana Firozabad of tahsil Nighasan, district Kheri in 1954. Again, in 1956, due to variation in the course of the river, some villages of the district, namely, Bagesti, Puraina, Shukulpurwa, Sanrakh, Gaulak Kondar, Arazi Kondar Chaubah of pargana and tahsil Kaisarganj, were transferred to pargana and tahsil of Sidhauli of the Sitapur district.

This was followed by yet two more changes in 1957, when three villages, namely, Bahrapur, Niamatpur and Ahata were transferred to Kaisarganj tahsil of the district from tahsil Fatehpur of district Bara Banki, and Jungle Gularhia (Dhania Balli) of Nighasan tahsil of the Kheri district was added to the tahsil Nanpara of the district.

SUBDIVISIONS, TAHSILS AND THANAS

For administrative purposes the district till September 10, 1976 was divided into three subdivisions, namely, Nanpara, Kaisarganj and Bahraich, each forming tahsil of the same name. A fourth tahsil of Bhinga was created on the aforesaid date out of tahsil Bahraich for administrative convenience.

Tahsil Nanpara, the northern most subdivision of the district, comprises the tract of country lying to the north of the tahsils of Kaisarganj and Bahraich, between the Kauriyala (Ghaghara) on the west and south-west, which separates it from the Kheri district, and the territories of Nepal on the north. It consists of three parganas of Nanpara, Dharampur, and Charda. The Nanpara tahsil is the largest in the district and had an area of 2,664.6 sq. km. and a population of 5,50,675 persons (males

2,99,400 ; females 2,51,275) as per census of 1971. Further, while the tahsil can boast of only one town, it has 555 villages.

The Kaisarganj tahsil is the southern subdivision of the district and comprises of the two parganas of Fakhrpur and Hisampur, which lie along the left bank of the Ghaghara and comprise the wide stretch of lowlying land which extends from the river to the central plateau of the district. It is bounded on the south and west by the Ghaghara, on the north by the *tarai* of Nanpara and the parganas of Bahraich and Ikauna, and on the east by the district of Gonda. The tahsil contains no town but is characterised by a number of large villages such as Baundi, Fakhrpur, Sisaiya and Bambhauti. In all there are 651 villages in the tahsil. The total population at the census of 1971 was 5,11,087 of whom 2,27,124 were males and 2,83,963 females. The tahsil is spread over an area of 1,765.1 sq. km.

The tahsil of Bahraich, which is also a subdivision, occupies the central portion of the district. It comprises the three parganas of Bahraich, Ikauna and Tulsipur. It is bounded on the north by tahsils Nanpara and Bhinga, on the east and south by the Gonda district, and on the west again by the Nanpara tahsil. The Bahraich and Ikauna parganas lie for the most part on the high central plateau of the district, while the northern portion of Ikauna forms the valley of the Rapti, and pargana of Tulsipur consists of pure *tarai* with a wide fringe of reserved forest on the north. The total population of the tahsil at the census of 1971, numbered 6,65,207 persons, of whom 3,61,376 were males and 3,03,831 females. The tahsil covered an area of 2,463.9 sq. km. It contains 721 villages and two towns.

With the creation of the new tahsil of Bhinga in 1976 the population of tahsil Bahraich has been reduced to 5,44,154; the area to 1,685 sq.km. and the number of villages to 574.

The Bhinga tahsil is bounded on the north by Nepal; on the east by the district of Gonda, and on the south and west by the tahsil of Bahraich. It has a population of 2,13,028 persons and contains 238 villages, the area being 829 sq. km.

Thanas—For the purpose of police administration there are 18 *thanas* (police-stations) in the district, the names of which are given below:

Kotwali City	Hazoorpur	Sujauli
Kotwali Dehat	Payagpur	Bhinga
Hardi	Nanpara	Sirsiya
Sonwa	Khairighat	Malhipur
Kaisarganj	Rupaidiha	Gilaula
Fakhrpur	Motipur	Ikauna

TOPOGRAPHY

The physical feature of the district are well marked. There are four main divisions, consisting of the basin of the Kauriyala and the Ghaghara on the west; that of the Rapti on the north-east; the central upland, a long narrow plateau between the two, running through the whole length of the district from north-west to south-east and the *tarai* proper along the foothills of the Himalayas on the Nepal border in the extreme north-east.

Ghaghara Basin

The great basin of the Kauriyala and Ghaghara stretches away from the western edge of the high bank to the river itself. The whole plain is scored in every direction by numerous channels, whose presence testifies that the tract has been subjected at different times to fluvial action. These channels are tortuous and have a general direction parallel to that of the river. Some of them are mere drainage lines and are dry throughout the greater part of the year. Sometimes they serve a useful purpose, but more frequently they are obnoxious as a cause of flooding. The Ghaghara valley contains a number of large lakes and aits, which must have been formed by the silting up of old river beds. The soil generally resembles that of the Rapti basin, but is more varying in character. There is in most places the alluvial crust overlying the substratum of sand which in the case of the land adjoining the Saryu is constantly enriched by fertile deposit. The sandy soil found here forms a very small proportion of the cultivated area, and the great bulk of it is to be found in the immediate neighbourhood of the Ghaghara.

Rapti Basin

The Rapti basin lies on the northern side of the plateau, and is one of the most fertile portions of the district. It extends northward from the river Bhakla or Singhia, which flows underneath the high bank, to the *tarai* lands of Tulsipur and Bhinga. There are a couple of large lakes and swamps in this tract, and a few watercourses, which are generally old beds of the river, but this feature is not so marked here as in the west of the district. The soil is generally loam of a distinctly alluvial character, and very rich, except in places where the crust of the deposit is thinly spread over the subsoil of sand. The deposit brought down by the Rapti in times of flood has a fertilizing effect so that the damage, if any, done by the river is little, unless the flood be accompanied by a sudden change in the course of the river.

Central Upland

The central upland or the *Uparhar* stands at a height of about 32 m. above the level of the country on either side. It comprises most of

the eastern portion of tahsil Nanpara and the western and southern part of tahsil Bahraich. It is almost uniform in character, being level plain, dotted here and there with patches of scrub and jungle, and broken only by slight undulations and unimportant drainage channels or by local depressions with a clay soil. The prevailing soil of the whole tract is a light but fertile loam.

Tarai

The *tarai* proper is completely different from the rest of the district. The greater portion of the *tarai* lies in Tulsipur and the northern fringe of Bhinga, but there is also a small group of villages with similar characteristics situated on the Nepal border in the extreme north-east of pargana Nanpara. The whole of the *tarai* is low lying and during the rains is almost continuously under water. The soil is a heavy clay, broken by insignificant patches of loam; it is solely adopted for the cultivation of late paddy, which is generally unprotected by irrigation.

RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

Rivers

The chief rivers of the district are the Kauriyala (with tributaries Girwa and Saryu), the Ghaghara, the Terhi, and the Rapti with its tributaries (Kain and Bhakla).

Kauriyala

The Kauriyala river has its origin in the lower ranges of the Himalayas in Nepal at Chisapani, about 38 km. north east of Bharatapur. Flowing through the gorge which affords it an outlet from the hills, it sweeps violently down, over a bed strewn with immense boulders, which it has during the course of ages carried down with it from the Himalayas. After a course of about 30 km. through the *bhabar* and *tarai* of Nepal, and passing through sal forests over a rough stony bed, it enters the district at its extreme north western corner. It is here joined by the Mohan, and flows south east for 11 km. to its junction with the Girwa, below Bharatapur. It receives the Saryu on its right bank, a short distance above Shitabaghat, but from this point it receives no affluents of any importance till it is joined by the Dahawar about 7 km. north west of Kataighat. This river now carries with it the waters of the Sarda or Chauka, owing to a change in the course of the latter. At the same point it is joined by the Saryu. Below Kataighat the river comes to be known as the Ghaghara.

Girwa

One of the chief affluents of the Kauriyala joins the latter below Bharatapur. This river rises in Nepal, but unites with the Kauriyala at the outermost range of hills, debouching at Shisha Pani. Thence it

again strikes out a course of its own, turning eastwards through the low country at the foot of the hills. Carrying a volume of water, equal to that of Kauriyala, it enters the district at the extreme north-east point of Dharmanpur, about one km. south east of Harinagar and after flowing in a sinuous course towards the south-west past Danidama and Katarniaghat, reaches Bhartapur. It thus cuts off the northernmost portion—a jungle clad tract—from the rest of the district.

Saryu

The Saryu is the chief tributary of the Kauriyala. It enters the district under the name of Babayi in the west of Dharmanpur, near village Salarpur, a short distance above Murtiha. It flows along the boundary with Nepal, for a few kilometers, and then separates the Dharmanpur and Nanpara parganas, flowing between Motipur and Gopia. Its course is exceedingly tortuous; the general direction is at first south-south-east, but from Motipur it turns due east, and then south again. It thus follows the edge of the central plateau as far as the tomb of Shah Sajan near Nanpara. From this point it turns in a south-westerly direction and joins the Kauriyala at Ahiran Purwa about 5 km. west of Narottampur. It is said that the last part of its course is artificial, the story going that about 170 years ago, an European merchant, trading in timber, turned the stream into an old channel connected with the Kauriyala in order to secure more expeditious river transit for logs. At all events, the stream known as the old Saryu keeps on close to the bank of the plateau for a considerable distance. It then takes a course through the Ghaghara lowlands for the whole length of the district, and pursues a winding course through the Kaisarganj tahsil, passing within one kilometer and a half of Bahraich. It ultimately falls into the Ghaghara at Paska in the Gonda district. Its channel can be distinctly traced as far north as Patraia, close to the point where the old Saryu turns westward from the high bank. In times of flood it constantly changes its course in the soft alluvial soil which it encounters. Its deposit is, however, extremely fertile, and unless the change of bed is very sudden, the deserted channel is usually filled up with excellent alluvial silt to the level of the old bank. The old Saryu on the other hand is very sluggish, and as it receives a large amount of surface drainage on its way, it is consequently liable to overflow its banks in years of heavy rainfall.

Ghaghara

The Ghaghara forms the entire western boundary of district Bahraich and carries with it the waters of many streams. Known as Kauriyala in its upper reaches, it is generally known as the Ghaghara from the point where it is joined by the Dahawar which separates the districts of Kheri

and Sitapur. There is a high bank on Sitapur side, but towards Bahraich there extends a wide stretch of lowlying alluvial ground, intersected by numerous channels and watercourses, which represent more or less ancient bed of the river. The Ghaghara is a great river but less beneficial in its action, rather it is frequently very destructive, carrying away whole towns and villages when in floods, and leaving behind it large deposits of barren land.

Terhi

It rises in the Chitaur Tal, about five km. from the town of Bahraich, and flows in a south-easterly direction close under the edge of the plateau. For a short portion of its course, it forms the boundary between the Hisampur and Gonda parganas, and then turns eastward into the district of Gonda. It is a sluggish and weedy stream, and resembles rather a drain than a river. A shallow channel of a few metres in length connects the Terhi with great Baghel Tal.

Rapti

The river takes its rise in the southern Himalaya, and after flowing through Nepal territory for some 152 km. enters the district in pargana Charda, east of village Kundwa. It then flows in a very sinuous course, forming the boundary between parganas of Charda and Bhinga for the same distance, and then enters the latter near village Newada Bhojpur. After traversing Bhinga from north to south it enters Ikauna at Bishampur Rammagar and cuts off the northern corner of that pargana from the main body. From Narain Jot, on the road from Ikauna to Lachhmanpur Bazar, it separates Bahraich from Gonda, leaving the district at Dengra Jot, about 7 km. east of Ikauna.

The river is at times apt to change its course, but it generally flows in a deep channel confined to high banks, and only in more than ordinarily wet seasons overflows its banks to any great extent.

Bhakla

It is the chief affluent of the Rapti. It originates in the *tarai* of Nepal and flows for a considerable distance through the district, along the eastern edge of the central plateau, at an average distance of 6 km. west from the Rapti. It first skirts the eastern boundary of the Charda forest, and then flows throughout the whole length of pargana Charda, which it leaves in the south near Mahdewa. Then after forming western boundary of Bhinga for a short distance, it turns east into the pargana and again south, becoming the boundary between Bhinga and Ikauna, and entering the latter a short distance south of Naubasta. The river then flows to the north-east of Ikauna and joins the Rapti at Piprahiwa near Bhagwanpur.

Kain

The Kain is another affluent of the Rapti. It comes from Tulsipur *tarai* and is fed by the Hathikund and numerous other streams. It joins the Rapti below Bhinga at Lachhmanpur Gurpurwa.

Lakes and Tanks

The lakes of the district are numerous and important as forming the chief source of irrigation. Some of them are of great size. The well known Baghel Tal near Payagpur is a fine sheet of water of about 7 km. in extent. This lake, like several others in the Ghaghara valley, owes its origin to the action of the Ghaghara and its tributaries, for it must have been scored out at a distant date by a very large volume of water. The chief running stretches of water of this description are the Chitaur Tal near Bahraich, the source of the Terhi river, the Ganaur and the Anarkali lakes, which cover about 182 ha. and the Nigria jhil of 154 ha. To these may be added the Maila Tal of 53 ha. near Rehwa; Mae Tal of 34 ha. in the valley of the Rapti; the Khawaja Jhil in the north-west of pargana Bhinga, and the Sitadohar Tal of about 150 ha. 6 km. west of Ikauna. The last mentioned owes its origin in part to the Buddhist mounds and monuments on its banks, the materials of which must have been excavated from the lake. There are numerous other lakes in the Kaisarganj tahsil and in the parganas of Bahraich and Ikauna.

GEOLOGY

The geology of the district does not reveal anything striking except ordinary Gangetic alluvium. The only mineral of importance is *kankar*, available in limited quantity. It is found and quarried in the villages of Chitaur and Shahpur Bara in pargana Bahraich, Maina Nawaria in Nanpara, and Amilia and Sitauli in Hisampur. The average depth below the ground is about 5 m. A small amount of lime is also manufactured from *kankar*.

FLORA

By and large the forests of the district are bound in its north-eastern portion adjoining the boundary with Nepal, and are generally the continuation of the tract of jungle in that country. They are of considerable value and importance, yielding as they do good quality timber and other forest produce in fair proportions.

In the tree-forest areas, sal (*Shorea robusta*) is the predominating species. It is never found alone, but is everywhere accompanied by many other trees. The most noticeable of these are *tun* (*Cedrela toona*), *mahua* (*Barsia latifolia*), *dhao* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *asna* (*Terminalia*

tomentosa), bargad (*Ficus bengalensis*), tendu (*Diospyros melanoxylon*), bel (*Aegle marmelos*), asidh (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), Kajrauta (*Millettia velutina*), ligna (*Odina wodier*), painar (*Buchanania latifolia*), Kumbhi (*Careya arborea*), and agai (*Bellinia pentagyna*).

Besides these, there are many shrubs, such as dudhi (*Cryptolepis buchanani*), aonla (*Emblica officinalis*), rohini (*Soyimida febrifuga*) and Karaunda (*Carrissa carandas*).

On clay soil, asna generally takes the place of sal. Climbers are numerous, especially the elephant creeper (*Bauhinia vahlie*), the mandh (*Millatha auriculata*), both of which do much damage to young sal growth.

There are a large number of shisham (*Dalbergia sissoo*), khair (*Acacia catechu*), and semal (*Bombax malabaricum*), on lowlying alluvial lands, and especially in the neighbourhood of the Girwa and Kauriyala. The jamun (*Eugenia jambolana*) grows along the banks of streams and on moist ground, while on the poorer soils are found dhak (*Butea frondosa*) and kusum (*Schleichera trijuga*).

Game-laws

The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and the U.P. Wild Life (Protection) Rules, 1974 have been enforced in the district in order to protect wild life from ravages. The game-laws have been made more stringent with a view to conserve and prevent the extinction of certain species such as panther (*Panthera pardus*), tiger (*Panthera tigris*), elephant (*Elephas maximus*), swamp deer (*Sambar*), fourhorned antelope (*Tetracerus quadricornis*), Indian gazelle (*Gazella gazella*), black buck (*Antelope cervicapra*), peafowl (*Pavo cristatus*), pink headed duck (*Rhodessa caryophyllacea*), magar (*Crocodylus palustris*), gharial (*Gavialis gangeticus*), etc.

Hunting license can be had from the chief wild life warden, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, or the divisional forest officer concerned. Shooting during closed season i.e. from June to September is strictly prohibited in the government forests.

There are seven game reserves in the district, namely, Katarniaghat, Nishangara, Dharampur, Chakia, Charda (all completely closed for shooting), Matipur and Bhiunga (open to small games only).

FAUNA

Animals

Owing to the large areas under forest the fauna of the district are numerous and varied. The list includes tigers (*Panthera tigris*), leopards (*Panthera pardus*), wolves (*Canis lupus*), hyaenas (*Hyaena hyaena*),

jackals (*Canis aureus*) foxes (*Vulpes bengalensis*), wild pig (*Sus scrofa cristatus*), sambhar (*Cervus unicolor*), chital (*Axis axis*), gond (*Cervus duvauceli*), parha (*Axis porcinus*), kakar (*Muntiacus muntjak*), nilgai (*Boselaphus trago camelus*), and antilopes (*Tetracerus quadricornis*). Of late the number of tigers has fallen off considerably, owing to the great extension of cultivation in the district. The leopards too, which were earlier more numerous have become scarce for the same reason.

Birds

The birds of the district include all the species commonly found in the submontane tracts. The peacock (*Pavo cristatus*), jungle fowl (*Gallus sonneratti*) partridge (*Francolinus francolinus*), and common quail (*Turnix communis*) are found in great numbers. The common snipes (*Capella gallinago*) are found in abundance in the winters. Large flocks of hill pigeon come down from the highlands of Nepal during the cold season. Migratory water fowls of all descriptions visit the district during the winter months and are seen in almost every lake.

Reptiles

Snakes are fairly common throughout the district, especially in the rural areas, the chief being the Cobra (*Naja naja*), Karait (*Bungarus caeruleus*), and rat-snake (*Ptyas mucosus*). Indian Crocodile or naka (*Crocodylus palustris*) and the ghariyal (*Gavialis gangeticus*) are also found in the Ghaghara and Rapti rivers.

Crocodile Farm—The crocodile farm at Katarniaghat was established in 1976. It has 22 adult crocodiles and 249 young ones. The farm is to function as a nursery where from young crocodiles will be released in other rivers to enable them to flourish and multiply in their natural habitat.

Fish

The rivers and the lakes of the district abound in fish of many varieties. The various species met with are practically the same as those found throughout Avadh, the more important species being rohu (*Lebeo rohita*), bhakur (*Catla catla*), nain (*Cirrhina mrigala*), parhin (*Vallabgonia attu*), karaunch (*Lebeo calbasu*), belgagra (*Rita Rita*), tengani (*Mystus senghala*), and mahseer (*Barbus spp.*).

CLIMATE

The climate of the district is characterised by a hot and dry summer and a bracing cold season. The year may be divided into four seasons. The winter season, from about the middle of November to the end of February is followed by the summer season lasting till about the mid

June. The period from mid June to almost the end of September, constitutes the south-west monsoon season. From October to middle of November is the post-monsoon or transition period.

Rainfall

Records of the rainfall in the district are available for three stations—Bahraich, Kaisarganj and Nanpara. The details of the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

The average annual rainfall in the district is 1,135.6 mm. The rainfall in the district generally increases from the south-west towards the north-east and varies from 1,159 mm. at Nanpara to 1,176.5 mm. at Bahraich. About 87 per cent of annual rainfall in the district is received during the south-west monsoon season i.e. from June to September, July being the rainiest month. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is appreciable. In the 50 year period from 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall of the district was 186 per cent of the normal which occurred in 1938. The lowest annual rainfall was 41 per cent of the normal in 1907. During the same period the annual rainfall in the district was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 10 years, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurring twice. Considering the annual rainfall at the individual stations, two consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred thrice at Kaisarganj, twice at Nanpara and once at Bahraich. The annual rainfall in the district was between 800 and 1,400 mm. in 40 years out of 50.

On the average there are 48 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 428.0 mm. at Kaisarganj on September 25, 1901.

Temperature

There is a meteorological observatory in the district at Bahraich and its records may be taken as representative of the climatological conditions prevailing in the district in general. From about the end of February there is a steady increase in temperature. May is generally the hottest month with the mean daily maximum temperature of 39.2°C and the mean daily minimum of 25.6°C. The weather in summer is intensely hot and on individual days the maximum temperature occasionally reaches over 46°C. Hot and dust-laden winds occasionally blow adding much to the discomfort. With the advance of the monsoon into the district by about mid-June, there is appreciable drop in the day temperature. The night temperatures are, however, higher from June to August than in May. Due to decrease in clouding in September, there

is a slight increase in the day temperature. However, the nights become progressively cooler from September. Both day and night temperatures decrease rapidly after October till January which is the coldest month. The mean daily maximum temperature in January is 22.6°C and the mean daily minimum is 8.8°C. During the winter season, (in association with passing western disturbances) the district is affected by cold waves and on such occasions, the minimum temperature sometimes drops down to about the freezing point of water and at times even leads to frost.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Bahraich was 47.6°C on June 9, 1956. The lowest minimum was 0.6°C on January 15, 1936 and February 2, 1905.

Humidity

From March to May the air is least humid, it being about 50 per cent in the mornings and about 30 per cent in the evenings. During the rest of the year it is otherwise, the humidity being nearly 70 per cent or above in the mornings and nearly 50 per cent in the evenings.

Some details of the temperature and the humidity of the district are given in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

Cloudiness

During the south-west monsoon season, and for brief spells of a day or two in the winter season, (in association with passing western disturbances) heavily clouded or overcast skies prevail. During the rest of the year, the skies are generally clear or lightly clouded.

Winds

During the monsoon season (June to September) the winds blow predominantly from east or south-east. October is the month of transition when the winds decrease in strength and are mostly from east or south-east in the mornings and from west in the afternoons. From November to about middle of April winds from the south-west, west and north-west directions predominate. The second half of April and May is the transition period when the winds are predominantly from east or south-east in the mornings and from south-west, west and north-west in the evenings.

Special Weather Phenomena

From January to April, passing western disturbances affect the weather all over the district. Thunderstorms occur during all the months except in November, the highest incidence being during the monsoon months. The thunderstorms during the cold and summer seasons are at times accompanied with hail. Occasional dust-storms occur during the hot season. Fog occurs occasionally during the winter season.

STATEMENT I
Rainfall

Reference Page No. 12

14

Stations	No of years of date	Normal Rainfall (in mm.)												Extreme Rainfall					
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as per-centage of normal and year	Lowest annual rainfall as per-centage of normal and year	Heavyest rainfall in 24 hours	Date	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
Bahraich 50 a	21.8	21.6	10.7	8.6	30.0	155.5	313.5	313.2	225.8	55.5	5.3	7.4	1175.5	203	40	337.2	August 20, 1969		
	b	1.7	2.0	0.2	0.7	2.1	6.0	12.2	12.8	8.0	2.3	0.4	0.7	49.8					
Kaisar-ganj 50 a	18.5	19.3	8.4	3.1	18.0	127.5	333.3	288.5	218.2	49.3	5.6	5.8	1071.0	199	36	423.0	September 25, 1901		
	b	1.5	1.9	0.8	0.5	1.4	5.8	12.4	12.8	7.9	1.8	0.4	0.5	47.9					
Nanpara 50 a	21.8	22.1	12.5	5.1	33.0	165.9	319.5	305.6	212.3	48.5	4.3	7.1	1159.2	159	45	300.0	January 23, 1964		
	b	1.7	1.8	1.0	0.5	2.1	7.2	11.5	12.5	8.2	1.9	0.3	0.7	49.5					
Bahraich 50 a	20.7	21.2	10.5	7.6	27.0	149.6	313.8	302.4	219.1	51.5	5.1	6.8	1135.6	186	41				
(district)	b	1.5	1.9	0.5	0.6	1.9	6.3	12.0	12.7	8.0	2.0	0.4	0.7	49.0					

(a) Normal Rainfall in mm. (Based on all available data upto 1955).

(b) Average no. of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

(a) Normal Rainfall in mm. (Based on all available data upto 1953).
(b) Average no. of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

STATEMENT II
Temperature and Relative Humidity

Reference Page No. 13

Month	Temperature		Highest maximum ever recorded		Lowest Minimum ever recorded		Relative Humidity	
	Mean daily Maximum (°C)	Mean daily Minimum (°C)	°C	Date	°C	Date	8.30 A.M.	5.30 P.M.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
January	22.6	8.8	28.9	January 28, 1946	0.6	January 15, 1936	82	57
February	25.6	10.9	34.4	February 2, 1952	0.6	February 2, 1905	74	47
March	31.9	15.4	40.6	March 29, 1941	5.6	March 6, 1945	55	32
April	37.4	20.9	44.4	April 23, 1954	11.1	April 3, 1943	43	24
May	39.8	25.6	45.6	May 27, 1953	15.6	May 3, 1944	50	31
June	37.6	27.0	47.6	June 9, 1966	18.3	June 2, 1914	68	31
July	33.0	26.3	44.4	July 1, 1902	18.7	July 2, 1975	81	73
August	32.2	26.1	38.3	August 1, 1903	21.1	August 21, 1956	83	77
September	32.7	25.1	38.3	September 21, 1907	18.3	September 21, 1912	80	72
October	32.1	20.7	37.8	October 6, 1907	12.2	October 29, 1935	73	57
November	28.6	13.4	33.9	November 1, 1951	5.0	November 28, 1952	72	51
December	24.3	9.4	31.7	December 1, 1896	1.7	December 29, 1913	79	56
Annual	31.5	19.1	—	—	—	—	70	52

Temperature (extremes) based on data available up to 1977

15

CHAPTER II HISTORY

ANCIENT PERIOD

The region covered by the present district of Bahraich once formed part of the ancient kingdom of Kosala. The ancient history of Bahraich is, therefore, closely linked with the history of that kingdom. Besides the numerous legends connected with this region, valuable evidence such as sculptures, images, coins, large bricks, etc., have been found and the remains of temples, stupas, monasteries with many brick-strewn mounds are spread all over the district. These indicate that the tract enjoyed advanced and settled social life since very early times. The orthodox legend connects the name of the district with Brahma, who is said to have chosen this district, a part of the ancient Gandharvavana, as his own special domain, and calling together a number of rishis,¹ he is said to have established his worship here in the midst of these lovely forests. Hence arose the name Brahmaich², the assembly of Brahma which latter corrupted to Bahraich.

The district appears to fall within the tracts called Uttara or northern Kosala, which formed part of the kingdom of Ayodhya, north of the Ghaghara, the former of which, according to the *Vayu Purana*, was governed by Lava, son of Rama. Panini in his *Astadhyayi* makes a mention of Kosala, which seems to have been the north Kosala.³ The Pali Buddhist literature also makes numerous references to Kosala and to its history, society, and other conditions of life. The *Anguttara Nikaya* mentions Kosala as one of the sixteen great Janapadas. The *Samyutta Nikaya* devotes one full *Samyutta* to its description, in which the Kosalan monarch Prasenajit, his kingdom, and administration, are prominently depicted.⁴

Sravasti was the seat of the post-Rama solar race kings of that kingdom. It was the centre of gravity for all kinds of activities—social, religious, and political—in the days of the Buddha, who spent as many as twenty-five rainy seasons there, ostensibly the greater part of his life, in teaching and

propagating his new religion and philosophy.¹ It was treated in his days as one of the six great cities² of India, worthy, according to Ananda, of the Great Decease of the Lord. Buddhaghosa in his *Papanchasudani* depicts the city as having derived its name, because everything was to be found there.

The founder of the city was king Sravasta,³ the solar king of Ayodhya, sixth in descent from Kakustha, and son of Yuvanasha. He is most likely to be identified with sage Sravasta, who according to some Buddhist sources, gave his name to the city, Sravasti.⁴ It was the custom of the solar race Ksatriya kings of Ayodhya that they used to retire to the forest in their old age to perform penance, after handing over the charge of the kingdom to their successors.⁵ It seems that king Sravasta of Ayodhya became a sage in his old age. Sravasti is said in the *Vayu Purana* and the *Ramayana* to have been the capital of Lava, the son of Rama. It is referred to as Saravasti by Kalidasa.⁶ The phonetic similarity between Sravasti and Saravati points to the fact of their being one and the same place. Legend connects many remains of buildings, mounds and wells with the Buddhist period. In particular, the mound at Charda⁷ is said to have been the fort of the Bhar chieftain Suhel Deo or Suhridhwaja of Gonda, the great opponent of Saiyid Salar Masud, who is a historical personage, and the Hisampur pargana contains many sites traditionally ascribed to the Bhars.

The remains at Tandwa and Charda indicate that the tract was certainly occupied and was flourishing during the Buddhist period. Cunningham identified Tandwa in pargana Ikauna with the birth place of Kasyapa Buddha, where his ashes were also buried,⁸ which Fa-hien called Towai, and which Hiuen Tsang, visited, though he does not give the name of the place.⁹ Vost (Major) has pointed out that the Towai of the Chinese pilgrim is probably the Setavyanagar of the Buddhist books. The identification depends, however, on the acceptance of Sahet Mahet in the district a part of which falls in Gonda district. Nothing has been found at Tandwa which specifically connects it with Towai; but it is situated about 14, km. west of Sahet Mahet. In 1896,

1. Fuhrer, A. : *The Monumental Antiquities And Inscriptions, in the North-Western Provinces And Oudh*, (Allahabad, 1891), p. 292; Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, Vol. XIV, of the *District Gazetteers of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh*, (Lucknow, 1921), p. 115

2. Cunningham, A. : *Archaeological Survey of India, Reports of Tours in the Gangetic Provinces from Badaon to Bihar in 1875-76 and 1877-78*, Vol. XI, (Calcutta, 1880), p. 150

3. Pathak, V. N. : *History of Kosala upto the rise of the Mauryas*, (Varanasi, 1963), p. 34

4. *Ibid.*, p. 35

1. *Ibid.*, p. 58

2. Rockhill : *The Life of the Buddha*, (London, 1884), p. 136

3. *Vishnu Purana*, by Jivananda Vidyasagara, Ed. with Sridhar Swami's Commentary, (Calcutta, 1882), IV., 2.37

4. Law, B. C. *Memory of the Archaeological Survey of India, Sravasti in Indian Literature*, (Delhi, 1935), p. 1

5. Raghuvamsa (Kalidas), Nirnaya Sagara Press, (Bombay), 1932), 1.8

6. *Ibid.*

7. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 115 : Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.* p. 293

8. Beal, S. *Buddhist Records of the Western World Chinese Accounts of India*, Translated from the Chinese of Hiuen Tsang, in 4 Vols., (Calcutta, 1957, 1958), Vol. I. p. 48

9. Beal, S., *op. cit.*, Vol. II. p. 13

Smith suggested that Charda in tahsil Nanpara was a more probable site for Sravasti, and two years later, he expressed the view that the site of Sravasti lies about 24 km. north-east of Nepalganj Road railway station in the Nepal *tarai*, close to the Rapti.¹

One of the chief reasons for this new identification is the statement of the Chinese pilgrims that Kapilavastu lay south-east from Sravasti.² The site of Kapilavastu can now be fixed with some certainty in the Nepal *tarai* north of Basti, owing to the discovery of a pillar having inscriptions of Asoka, and the locality thus fixed is east or north-east from Sahet Mahet.³ Cunningham, however, found an inscribed image at Sahet Mahet which was originally erected at 'Savasti', according to its inscription; and Bloch and Hoey maintained that this is sufficient confirmation, while Smith was convinced of the accuracy of his calculations though the site he indicated has yet remained unexplored.⁴ It has been suggested by Fuhrer that Ikauna, about 6 km. north-west of Sahet Mahet, is the site of the place where, according to the pilgrims, 500 blind men recovered their sight through the Buddha's spiritual power.⁵ They drove their staves into the ground, and these took root and became a forest which was called "Recovered Sight".⁶ The latter name has been restored by Julien to Aptanetravan and by Cunningham to Aptakshivana. This identification also rests on the distance alone.

At Hathiyakund, about 19 km. east of Bhinga, is a high mound of considerable extent, covered with broken bricks and fragments of sculpture, which is popularly believed to have been the site of one of the cities of raja Karna mentioned in the *Mahabharat*.

The ancient city of Sravasti, venerated by Buddhists and Jains alike, is at present a collection of ruins called Saheth Maheth, covering an extensive area most of which lies in Bahraich and a small portion in the adjoining district of Gonda.⁷ The site is situated about 16 km. due west of Balrampur,⁸ a station on the Gonda-Gorakhpur line of the North-Eastern railway. The main road running from Balrampur to Bahraich passes by the site, which is approached by a feeder-road. The twin name of Saheth Maheth, by which the entire area of the ruins is known, is applied to two distinct groups of remains, Saheth and Maheth. Saheth near the main road, is the site of the famous Buddhist monastery

1. *Ibid.* Nevill H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 116

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*

5. Beat, S., *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 46; Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, p. 116

6. *Ibid.*

7. Venkataramayya, M.: *Department of Archaeology of India, Sravasti*, (Kanpur, 1956), p. 1

8. Law, B.C., *op. cit.*, p. 1

anciently known as Jetavana-vihara, which lay outside the limits of the ancient city. The ruins, covering roughly an area of about 456 m. by 152 m. consist mainly of plinths and foundations of monasteries and stupas, all Buddhist.¹ Maheth, situated about half a kilometre away, denotes the Sravasti city proper and is a much bigger site situated south of the river Achiravati² (Rapti), which flows at some distance away. The remains within the city-area include Buddhist, Brahmanical and Jaina structures and a few medieval tombs.

Very little is known of the history of Sravasti till the sixth century B.C., when it rose to fame owing to its association with Buddha and Mahavira.³ Buddha performed here the great miracles⁴ on account of which and other less famous occurrences, Sravasti became one of the eight holy places of Buddhist pilgrimage, the other seven places being Lumbini the place of his birth in Nepal; Bodh-Gaya in district of Gaya in Bihar where he achieved Enlightenment; Sarnath in district Varanasi of Uttar Pradesh where he preached and delivered his sermons for the first time, Rajagriha in district of Bihar where he tamed a mad elephant; Vaisali, again a place in district of Bihar where a monkey offered honey to him; Sankasya, in district Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh where he descended from heaven and Kusinagara, or Kasia in Deoria district of Uttar Pradesh where he passed away.

Prasenjit was the king of Sravasti at the time of Buddha.⁵ He is believed to be referred to as Jitasatru in the Jaina texts. Before the coming of Buddha to Sravasti, the Jaina teacher Mahavira, who had a large following, exerted influence over the king. But soon the fame of Buddha reached Sravasti, through the reports of Sudatta, a wealthy merchant of Sravasti, who had become his disciple when he first met Buddha at Rajagriha. Sudatta was man of exemplary charity and was known as Anathapindika, meaning 'the feeder of the destitute'.⁶ To welcome his teacher Sudatta purchased the park of prince Jeta, son of Prasenjit for 'as many gold pieces as will cover it amounting to about Rs. 18 crores and with an equal amount constructed *vihars* (monasteries), shrines, etc., on it. To commemorate the gift Buddha named it *Anathapindadas arama* of Jetavanavihara. Many variants of this oft-told story are available in the early Buddhist tenets. A pictorial representation of the actual deed of

1. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 2

2. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 9

3. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 3

4. Law, B.C., *op. cit.*, p. 1

5. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalker, A. D.: *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. I, *The Vedic Age*, (Bombay, 1965), p. 326

6. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 3

the dedication is found in a bas-relief sculpture of the second century B.C. from Bharhut. Besides the two main buildings, Gandhakuti and Kosambakuti, the original Jetavana is stated to have contained other elegant structures, Karerikuti, Karerimandalamala and Salalaghara, the last having been erected by king Prasenjit himself, after he became an ardent disciple of Buddha.¹

In the third rainy season after his enlightenment Buddha visited Jetavana, and since then he regularly made his sojourn to the monastery spending there twenty-five rainy seasons in all. Inspired by the example of his son Jeta, king Prasenjit visited Buddha at Jetavana and heard a sermon which led to his conversion. Buddhist texts are full of dialogues between Buddha and Prasenjit, who cherished an exclusive regard and affection for the teacher, claiming that he was of the same age as Buddha and belonged to the same Kosala country.² One of the Bharhut sculptures shows the king coming out in procession on a chariot drawn by four horses to visit Buddha, whose presence is indicated by a large wheel. Hiuen Tsang states that near his palace the king built a "hall of the law".

The pious lady Visakha, also known as Migaramata who had nursed Prasenjit through a severe illness, built for the use of Buddha a magnificent monastery to the east of Jetavana, hence called Purvarama.³ Both Fa-hien and Hiuen Tsang refer to it and, from all accounts, it was only second to Jetavana in extent and elegance, having been erected in wood and stone, costing twenty-seven crores of gold pieces.⁴

One of the most stirring episodes in the ministry of Buddha at Sravasti was the conversion of a dacoit named Angulimala.⁵ Angulimala, whose name literally means 'finger-garland', was a wicked man who harried the city and the country killing people and cutting a finger of each person killed in order to make a garland for himself.⁶ He was about to kill his own mother in order to make up the required number of fingers when Buddha intervened and converted him. The erstwhile robber was even admitted into the order and attained arhat-ship. But his earlier record made him a victim of ridicule and stones were thrown at him wherever he went for begging, so that Buddha often showed him up as an instance of the inevitableness of the fruits of evil-doing.

1. Watters, T., : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels in India*, (Delhi, 1961), p. 377

2. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 18

3. *Ibid.*, p. 25

4. Watters, T., *op. cit.*, p. 399

5. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 6

6. Watters T., *op. cit.*, p. 381

Prasenajit, who had embraced the *dharma* and regularly visited Buddha at Jetavana, was confronted with a challenge from his former co-adherents of the Jaina and Ajivika faiths to prove how Buddha excelled them in miraculous powers.¹ Buddha accepted the challenge on the king's behalf and fixed a place and time for the exhibition. Accounts vary considerably regarding the details, but the main facts stated are that Buddha caused a mango-tree to sprout up in a day and under it created a huge array of representations of himself, seated and standing on lotuses and causing fire and water to emanate from his body. Sculptural representations of the miracles are profuse in Buddhist art.² Hiuen Tsang refers to a stupa at Sravasti as marking the site where Buddha worsted his opponents, but strangely enough it states that it was Sariputra, the disciple, who was challenged and who excelled.

Sravasti was not only the capital of a powerful kingdom but was also the home of philosophical speculations, where a number of schools of thought had already established themselves before the advent of Buddha.³ Mahavira, the twenty-fourth and last Jaina Tirthankara, gathered here a great following particularly among wealthy merchants and bankers. Prasenjit too was initially one of his votaries. Mahavira visited the city more than once and was every time well received.⁴ Enjoying royal patronage, Mahavira built a stronghold for his faith. He also stated to have held disputations with Buddha. Although Jainism temporarily lost ground at Sravasti owing to the activities of Buddha, it survived and prospered till long after Buddhism disappeared from there.

Sravasti was also the birth place of two other Tirthankaras, Sambhavanath and Chandraprabha, facts which add to its attraction for the Jains.⁵

In Buddha's time the city was the stronghold of the Ajivikas, a sect which differed little from the Jains.⁶ Gosala Mankhaliputra, their great leader, was born at Saravana, a settlement in the city and spent his whole life amidst its potters who were his ardent admirers. His colleague was Purna Kasyapa, a heretical teacher, of whom it is recorded that he remained in the field of religious supremacy until the Buddha caused a definite decline in his prestige alongwith those of the other heretical teachers.⁷

After the age of Buddha and Mahavira the history of Sravasti is obscure till the period of Asoka in the third century B.C., when the whole

1. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 6

2. Watters, T., *op. cit.*, p. 395

3. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 7

4. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalken, A. D. : *History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, *The Age of Imperial Unity*, (Bombay, 1960), p. 414

5. Pathak, V. N., *op. cit.*, p. 61

6. Majumdar, R. C. and Pusalken A.D. : *op. cit.*, Vol. II, *The Age of Imperial Unity*, p. 414

7. Pathak, V. N., *op. cit.*, p. 434.

country reached the zenith of its greatness. According to several accounts, Asoka visited Jetavana and Sravasti when he undertook a country-wide pilgrimage (*dharmayatra*) to the holy spots of Buddhism,¹ at each of which he left some monument to signify his attachment to the religion. Hiuen Tsang states that Asoka erected two pillars, each 21 m. high, on the left and right sides of the eastern gate of Jetavana. One was surmounted by a wheel and the other by a bull. The same authority adds that in the vicinity he built a stupa to enshrine the relics of Buddha adjoining a well from which Buddha was believed to have drawn water, and a place where he used to walk and preach. The Buddhist texts state that the emperor worshipped at the stupa of Sariputra, Maudgalyayana, Mahakasyapa and Ananda.² The material prosperity of Sravasti was at its height in Asoka's time.

During the early centuries of the Christian era, when the Kushanas were holding sway, Buddhism became a popular religion with royal support. The monasteries and shrines of Jetavana were resuscitated. A school of sarvastivadins³ flourished here. New stupas and shrines were erected and images of Buddha installed.

Although a vigorous Brahmanical revival took place all over the country with the advent of the Guptas, the Buddhist establishments at Jetavana remained prosperous as before, though in the city of Sravasti Buddhist edifices decayed and some of them were superimposed by Brahmanical temples. Fa-hien, who visited the place in the early fifth century, describes the remains as he saw them. Thus, he locates the ruins of the stupas of Sudatta and Angulimala and the *vihara* of Mahaprajapati⁴ in the city of Sravasti, adding that the Brahmanas had unsuccessfully attempted to destroy these buildings. In the ruins at Sravasti, which are generally believed to mark these spots, a large number of terracotta plaques depicting some scenes from the *Ramayana* were discovered (Kachchi Kutii), partly confirming Fa-hien's statement about the assertion of Brahmanism at the expense of Buddhism. A certain Vikramaditya of Sravasti is mentioned by Hiuen⁵ Tsang as a king of wide renown but unfriendly to the Sramanas. The pilgrim does not specify the king's lineage, but it is possible that he might be a Gupta ruler.⁶

1. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 7

2. *Diravadana*, Ed. by P. L. Vaidya, (Darbhanga, 1959), pp. 252-253

3. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 30

4. *Ibid.*, p. 31.

5. Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.*, p. 307

6. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 9

At Jetavana, Fa-hien saw two huge pillars at the eastern entrance to the *vihara* and a number of stupas and shrines set amidst clear water of the tanks, luxuriant groves and numberless flowers of variegated colours. He also saw a chapel of two storeys, where Buddha spent twenty-five years of his life, and records that this chapel was originally seven storeys high, and that when it was later burnt down by accident the building of two storeys was substituted. Outside Jetavana the building of two storeys was substituted¹. Outside Jetavana the pilgrim recognized the ruins of Purvarama built by lady Visakha. Among the other buildings seen by him were those erected to commemorate the places where Buddha walked and preached and where Buddha defeated ninety-six heretical schools, the latter a huge structure 21 m. high with a seated figure of the teacher.

The prosperous condition of Jetavana under the Guptas is confirmed by the fact that almost all the present ruined structures show the style and ornamentation of the Gupta period. Further, in nearly every building have been found some vestiges of the Gupta period, among which clay sealings, and tablets inscribed with the Buddhist creed were numerous.²

In the reign of king Harsha (606-647 A.D.) who was an ardent Buddhist, Hiuen Tsang visited Sravasti and found it largely ruined but still inhabited by a few Buddhists and large number of non-Buddhists.³ The city was politically the headquarters of an administrative division under the suzerainty of Harsha, being mentioned as such in a copper-plate charter issued by him. Among the deserted buildings which Hiuen Tsang found were the stupas of Sudatta and Angulimala and the *vihara* of Prajapati Bhikshuni,⁴ all seen earlier by Fa-hien. During the two centuries which elapsed between Fa-hien and Hiuen Tsang Jetavana had so much decayed that there was none living in the monasteries at the time of the latter. The few edifices that could still be recognized by him were the two pillars of Asoka and a solitary brick temple with an image of Buddha.⁵ In the environs of Jetavana Hiuen Tsang saw the towering *vihara* also noticed by Fa-hien. In addition, Hiuen Tsang recounts a few more ruined stupas marking certain incidents in the Buddha's life at Sravasti. He omits, however, all references to the Purvarama of Visakha.⁶

1. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 31

2. Venkataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 10

3. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 32

4. *Ibid.* p. 31

5. Watters, T., *op. cit.*, p. 399

6. *Ibid.*,

Shortly after Hiuen Tsang's visit there appears to have been a revival of activity at Jetavana as is shown by numbers of inscribed sealings and Buddhist sculptures assignable to the eighth-ninth century which have been discovered. The images are of Lokanatha, Trailokyavijaya, Avalokitesvara, Simhanada Lokesvara and Jambhala, some of them bearing Nagari inscriptions.¹

Hardly any reliable information exists regarding Sravasti in the centuries following the visit of Hiuen Tsang. Some kings connected with Sravasti find mention in literary works like Dandin's *Dasakumaracharita*, (circa eighth century) in which one Dharamavardhana² is described as the ruler of the city. The *Jaimini-Bharata*, a medieval work, recounts a number of kings who were probably Bhars, with their names ending in 'dhwaja' having their capital at Chandrikapuri, a name which the Jains are believed to have given to Sravasti. The last of these kings was Suhridhdwaja³ (or Sohil Deo), who is supposed to have fought against Salar Masud, a general of Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni, early in the eleventh century.⁴ The family of Sohil Deo is credited with having revived Jainism at the place, the evidence of which is noticed in a large number of sculptures of Jaina Tirthankaras stylistically assignable to this period and found in the ruins of the present Sobhnath temple. The temple is believed to mark the birth-place of Sambhavanatha, the third Tirthankara.

There is evidence to show that some of these Buddhist establishments survived in Jetavana down to the middle of the twelfth century. This was mainly due to the patronage of the Gahadavala⁵ kings of Kannauj, Madanapala and his son Govindachandra. Inscriptions of their reigns were found in Jetavana, which, to this day, is better preserved than the rest of the ruins. Madanapala's record, which is dated *samvat* 1176 (1119 A.D.), records that the king's minister Vidyadhara, forsaking the Saiva religion, devoted his wealth to the foundation of a *vihara* at Jetavana.⁶ The other record, of the reign of Govindachandra (1129-30 A.D.), conveys the royal gift of six villages around Sravasti to Buddhahattaraka and other monks of Jetavana-mahavihara.⁷ It is not improbable that this liberal gift was largely due to the inducement of Govindachandra's Buddhist queen Kumaradevi, whose benefactions to the Buddhist *vihara* at Sarnath are well-known.

1. Vankataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 11

2. Law, B. C., *op. cit.*, p. 7

3. Fuhrer, A., *op. cit.*, p. 292

4. Nevill, H. R., *op. cit.*, pp. 116-117

5. Niyogi, R. : *The History of the Gahadavala Dynasty* (Calcutta, 1959), p. 42

6. *Ibid.*, pp. 45-46

7. Vankataramayya, M., *op. cit.*, p. 12

MEDIEVAL PERIOD

In the early decades of 11th century, Bahraich earned the credit for successfully resisting the invasion of Sayid Salar Masud, one of the most dreaded warriors of the time and a nephew of Mahmud of Ghazni. After having conquered a vast portion of Avadh, Masud reached at Satrikh in district Bara Banki in A. D. 1032, to bring under his control the region beyond river Ghaghara. From Satrikh he sent his two officers, Malik Saifuddin and Mian Rajab, into the regions of Gonda and Bahraich. Knowing the presence of the Turks in their lands the local chieftains soon organized themselves and offered such a tough resistance to them that Saifuddin had to call for help from Masud. Thereupon, Masud proceeded to Bahraich (Shaban 17, Hijri 423 ; A.D. 1032).¹ Masud's presence himself in Bahraich further alarmed the local chiefs, who were mostly Bhar, Tharu and Banjara tribals and 17 in number. They threatened Masud with dire consequences if he attacked them. Finding a formidable opposition, Masud decided to settle the issue through negotiation and sent one Malik Nekdil to persuade the chiefs to accept his paramountcy or face annihilation. Nekdil's proposal was rejected outright by the chiefs and war followed. Hindu chiefs fought bravely and inflicted heavy loss on the Turks, but were defeated.² Upon this, the chief of Hindu Koh, Rai Jagidas, fearing the loss of his kingdom to Masud, sent a messenger to him with presents, who was favourably received. Other chiefs also wished to befriend with Masud but remained hostile to him and were not treated likewise.³

Meanwhile, the local chiefs implored a veteran Tharu chief Suhel Deo for help. After heavy preparations the latter forced an attack on the Turks on the banks of river Kauriyala. Suhel Deo and his men fought gallantly, killing a majority of Turks, but could not eject them from Bahraich.⁴

On 18th and 19th of Rajab, Hijri 424 (A.D. 1033), a historic battle was fought again on the banks of river Kauriyala which completely broke the backbone of Turkish might. Hindu chiefs, by their overwhelming majority and superior war techniques, made every Turkish effort to win the battle impossible. Many Turks were slaughtered. Masud determined to fight to the last with his few bodyguards, what were left to him, but was killed by Suhel Deo and his men. He was buried at Bahraich. With his defeat and death came the end of a critical phase

1. Irwin, H. C. : *The Garden of India*, (Lucknow, 1973), Vol. 1, p. 60

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 60-62

3. *Ibid.*, p. 62

4. *Ibid.*

of the history of the region and Islam remained in abeyance in Avadh for nearly one hundred and sixty years.¹

The district seems to be ruled by the local chiefs for a very long time. Prince Nasir-ud-din Mahmud, the eldest son of Sultan Iltutmish, who was appointed as governor of Avadh in 1226, waged several wars against these chiefs and overthrew a chief named Bartu or Prithu, who is said to have killed one hundred and twenty thousand Turks in different engagements.² Prince Nasir-ud-din was responsible for colonizing and settling the Muslims in the south of the district for the first time.³

In 1242, prince Nasir-ud-din Mahmud, son of Iltutmish, held the charge of Bahraich.⁴ He fought many battles with the turbulent chiefs who did not submit to imperial authority. Under his able rule Bahraich attained great prosperity. The fame of his victories and successful government spread far and wide. The nobility at Delhi, which was disgusted with the rule of his nephew Ala-ud-din Masud, secretly invited him from Bahraich, imprisoned the Sultan and installed him on the throne (1246).⁵

In 1254, Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud placed the fief of Bahraich in the charge of the imperial vizir, Imad-ud-din Rayhan. This appointment is said to have been made owing to the strained relations between the king and the vizir, which gave rise to the unhappy incidents in the district over the years. The region seems to have suffered a great deal due to constant strife between king and ex-vizir. In this task the latter was assisted by Qutluq Khan, who had married the widowed mother of the Sultan. Out of fear of shame he had been given the governorship of Avadh by the Sultan to keep him away from Delhi. Since these two nobles were much powerful and influential, they always hatched plots to remove the Sultan from the throne.⁶ To disorganize them, the Sultan removed Rayhan from Bahraich and appointed one Malik Taj-ud-din in his place. When Qutluq Khan received the news of Rayhan's removal from Bahraich, he confined Taj-ud-din at Ayodhya. But Taj-ud-din reached Bahraich with difficulty and gave battle to Rayhan in which the latter was killed.⁷ After this incident the Sultan ordered Qutluq Khan to take charge of Bahraich, but he refused to comply and openly revolted. His rebellion could not be suppressed for a very long time and he gave much trouble to the Sultan in the subsequent years.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 62-63

2. Habibullah, A. B. M. : *The Foundation of Muslim Rule in India*. (Aligarh, 1967), p. 104

3. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 119

4. Nigam, S. B. P. : *Nobility under the Sultans of Delhi (A. D. 1206-1296)*, (Delhi, 1968), p. 36

5. *Ibid.*, p. 37; Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Adi Turk Kalin Bharat*, (Hindi Text), (Aligarh 1956), p. 46; Sirhindi, Yahya bin Ahmad bin Abdullah; *Tarikh-i-Mubarak Shahi*, Eng. trans. by K. K. Basu, (Baroda, 1932), p. 32

6. Nigam, S. B. P. : *op. cit.*, pp. 40-41; Habibullah, A. B. M., *op. cit.*, p. 127

7. *ibid.*, 132.

Bahraich seems to have remained without imperial control on account of the dynastic trouble which followed the death of Sultan Balban in 1287. The district does not find mention till the rule of Ala-ud-din Khalji who is said to have sent Arkali Khan and Arsalan Khan of Multan, to Bahraich as prisoners where both were subsequently hanged.¹

Sultan Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq gave in grant 25,000 bighas of land of the district to one Jamal-ud-din, a scion of Saiyid family which had long migrated from Iran out of fear of Chingiz Khan. The first grant was made in Barhauili and the same area in Jarauli of Bahraich. It is said that these grants were made as a reparation for unjustly putting to death the brother of the grantee by the Sultan. Saiyid Jamal-ud-din established himself in Barhauili, but owing to the opposition of the Bhars, he was unable at first to make good his claim to Jarauli. The story goes that Saiyid Zakira, the son of Jamal-ud-din, obtained possession of the Bihar fort of Jarauli then held by Raja Chhatrasal, by a stratagem in 1340.² Sultan Muhammad bin Tughluq came to Bahraich to visit the tomb of Sayid Salar Masud.³ He is said to have conferred a grant on the Saiyids from which sprang the grant talukdari estates of the district.⁴

During the reign of Firoze Tughluq (1351-1388), many Janwar strongholds were established in the district by the Sultan Bariar Shah, the prominent Janwar chieftain, is said to have accompanied and assisted the latter during his expedition to Bengal. Afif in his *Taukh-i-Firoze Shahi*, describes that the route taken by the Sultan to Bengal then lay through this district.⁵

Sultan Firoze Tughluq came to Bahraich in 1376, to visit the shrine of Sayid Salar.⁶ He is said to have built the compound wall and other buildings at the Dargah Sharif. There was then residing a saint, called Mir Mah, on whom the Sultan bestowed favours and also gave a jagir for the maintenance of the shrine.

Sultan Firoze came to the district for the second time with express purpose of suppressing the gangs of marauders which then infested the area. Bariar Shah was entrusted the task who accomplished it with such success that he was rewarded with the whole tract comprising this district and parts of Gonda and Kheri. In 1414, Bariar Shah took up his resi-

1. Rizvi, S. A. A. : *Khalji Kalin Bharat* (Aligarh, 1955), p. 222

2. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 121

3. Husain, Mahdi; *Tughluq Dynasty*, (Calcutta, 1963), p. 254; Sirhindi, *op. cit.*, p. 113

4. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, p. 121

5. *Ibid.*, p. 122

6. Elliot and Dowson : *The History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. III, p. 293

7. Husain, Mahdi : *op. cit.*, p. 510

cence at Ikauna, then called Khanpur Mahadeo, and became the founder of the great family which later provided rulers for many estates lying in the districts of Gonda and Bahraich. The Janwars claim a very ancient descent. It is their belief that Mansukh Deo, father of Bariar Shah, was 11st in direct line from Arjuna (of the Pandavas).¹

In 1394, Sultan Nasir-ud-din Mahmud Sah, grandson of Sultan Firoze, assigned the region between Kannauj and Bihar to his vizir, Malik Sarvar, Khwaia Jahan, to subdue the recalcitrant chiefs of the eastern parts of the empire who had become independent after the death of his grandfather.² Khwaia Jahan not only subdued the chiefs of these parts but also made his authority felt there. Taking advantage of the political chaos at Delhi, he declared his independence after sometime. His successors ruled from Jaunpur till 1479,³ when the last ruler of his dynasty, Husain Shah Sharqi, lost the kingdom to Sultan Bahlul, who appointed his nephew Muhammad Khan or Kala Pahar as incharge of Bahraich in that year.⁴ Kala Pahar waged several wars with the turbulent chiefs who probably did not submit to the authority of the new governor. His authority seems to be nominal in this region and the adjoining hills, which according to the revenue records of 1485, did not pay sufficient revenue to the paramount power.⁵

During the reign of Akbar, the district was made headquarter of an administrative division known as sirkar Bahraich within the subah of Avadh. It comprised district Bahraich and considerable portions of Gonda and Kheri. This sirkar contained 11 *mahals* and paid a revenue amounting to 2,41,20,525 dams, and 1,66,482 dams as *suyurchal*. The contingent supplied to the imperial army was 1,770 horse and 11,000 foot. It was prominently inhabited by the Rajput, Kahunah, Raikwar, Bisen, Janwar, Tanwar and Bais subcastes.⁶

Harhardeo, the Raikwar chief of Baundi, in the district who was fourth in descent from Saldeo, and probably a contemporary of Akbar, was summoned to Delhi to explain a breach of good manners in having levied toll from one of the royal princes who had passed through his estate on the way to the shrine of Savid Salar at Bahraich. From Delhi he had to accompany the imperial army against Idgah, the rebellious governor of Kashmir. He was later rewarded with the grant of nine estates in Bahraich, Sitapur, Kheri and Bara Banki for rendering excellent

services in the operation. He returned to Baundi about 1590, where his son Jitdeo had taken possession of his father's estate. He left his son in his possession and retired to Tappa Baunraha, where he married the daughter of a Brahman zamindar and founded the Harharpur estate comprising 52 villages in the north of Hisampur.¹

About the year 1600, the Bamhrauti or Baundi estate was split into two parts. Parasram Singh, the elder son of Jitdeo, took three-fifths, to which he gave the name of Rehwa. About 30 years later, a third branch was founded by Dharmadhar Singh, the grandson of Parasram. His brother Subhal Singh set himself up in Chahlari. It was at his time that the grant of Harhardeo was resumed in Fakhrpur, Hisampur, Bansura, Sailuk and the half of Firozabad. After this division the estate remained unchanged, except in one instance, when Nasir Singh, the younger grandson of Gaipat Singh of Rehwa, turned Muslim and took the name of Islam Singh. By means of court influence he acquired a property of 20 villages known as the Khata Ilaka, but these were soon afterwards, received back into Rehwa.²

In the meantime, the Janwars of Ikauna in this district were fast extending their borders. Madho Singh, seventh in descent from Bariar Sah had carried out for himself a new estate in Balrampur in district Gonda leaving his brother Ganesh Singh at Ikauna. Three generations from Mahesh Singh of this family came Lachhmi Narain Singh of Ikauna, who was reported to have been a man of a strong hand with a lust of power and conquest. He was succeeded by Bir Narain Singh, whose son was Maha Singh. It was this Maha Singh who was responsible to enlarge the family estate.³

Maha Singh flourished during the reign of Shah Jahan, and in 1627, he obtained a firman from the Emperor granting him a similar percentage of the government revenue under the name of Haq Chaudhari, as that given to Harhardeo, the Raikwar chief. The extent of this grant was very large, covering the parganas of Bahraich, Salonabad, Sujauli, Rajhat, Sultanpur, Qila Nawagarh, Dangdoi, Bahrah, together with Tappa Bhati Kurasar and Tappa Ramgarh Gauri, the old name of Balrampur. The amount was Rs 19.69 per hundred rupees from all revenue paying villages, Re 0.25 with five seers of every maund of grain in revenue free villages, besides one-fourth of all rights in waters, grazing, transit dues and the like. It helped Maha Singh and his family members in developing the whole of the north and east of the district and to enforce the imperial

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 122-123

2. Lal, K. S. : *Twilight of the Sultanate*, (New York, 1963), p. 9; Husain, Mahdi, *op. cit.*, p. 457

3. Lal, K. S. : *op. cit.*, pp. 45, 69

4. Panday, A. B. : *The First Afghan Empire in India*, (Calcutta), p. 106

5. *Report on the Revision of Settlement of Bahraich District*, (Lucknow, 1873), p. 30; Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 124

6. Abdul Fazl : *Ain-i-Akbari*, Eng. trans. by H. S. Jarret, Edited by J. N. Sarkar, (Calcutta, 1949), Vol. II, p. 187

1. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 127

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Ibid.*, p. 128.

authority in those remote parts. Maha Singh utilised the opportunity by establishing various members of his family in different parts of the district. Already one Jagannath Singh had migrated to Charda, and now Maha Singh sent his brother westwards to found the estate of Jamdan and Malhipur, which was afterwards known as Gujiganj. It was probably before this that a member of the family took possession of the Bhinga estate. Maha Singh also gave deserted and jungle villages to several Brahmins and others in the Bahraich pargana evidently under the authority of the Emperor's firman.¹

Maha Singh was succeeded by his son, Man Singh and his grandson, Shiam Singh. The latter had two sons, the elder being Mohan Singh of Ikauna, and the latter Prag Sah. This Shiam Singh left Ikauna for a time and entered the service of the Emperor at Delhi. There, through his military skill and ability, he joined the post of *risaldar*. He afterwards returned to Avadh with Nawab Saadat Ali Khan (1722), and was deputed to subdue the turbulent Banjaras of Bahraich, a commission which he executed successfully. Another account states that Shiam Singh came direct from Gujarat to Delhi, and thence with Saadat Ali Khan to Bahraich. Unfortunately there is no historical reference to Shiam Singh of Ikauna. However, all the Bahraich Janwars still call Gujarat their home and it is therefore probable that Shiam Singh of Ikauna would have called himself a native of Gujarat when in Delhi.²

Emperor Shah Jahan is said to have bestowed 148 villages of what is now Nanpara on Salona Begam, the wife of prince Dara Shukoh under the name of Salonabad. This tract had been included in Maha Singh's jagir, but he does not appear to have suffered from the loss of what he had never actually held. Owing, however, to the incursions of the Banjaras, the Begam never obtained possession of the estate, and the grant was abandoned. Consequently, Rasul Khan, a Pathan *risaldar* in the Emperor's service, was appointed the keeper of the fort of Bahraich in 1637 and five villages of pargana Salonabad were assigned for the pay of his troops. These villages, then of very doubtful value, were destined to become the nucleus of one of the finest estates in Avadh.³

MODERN PERIOD

The political history of the district during 18th and 19th century is closely related to the rise and fall of the great *talukdari* houses, which had practically come to occupy the whole district. In 1723 A.D. Pratab Singh, younger brother of Chain Singh of Ikauna and grandson of Maha Singh

was deputed by his brother to guard the border estate of Dubaha from the attacks of the Bisen raja of Gonda, as this part of the estate lay to the south of Ikauna and was peculiarly exposed to attacks from this quarter. Pratab Singh occupied the outposts and kept the raids off the estate. Feeling himself strong enough, he at length set up for himself and founded the Mankapur estate which was afterwards called the Gangwal estate.¹ The history of the Janwars was rather that of a number of separate houses. Prag Sah who was in the nawab's army had established Payagpur estate. He had two sons, Himmat Singh and Sitaram Singh. The former inherited the paternal estate, and also received in 1788 from Asaf-ud-daula a clearing lease in Nanpara, Charda, Dharmanpur and a portion of the Nepal tarai comprising 1,486 villages. Himmat Singh directed his attention to clearing the dense jungle in pargana Charda and took the operation up to the high bank of the Bhakla. Sujauli, however, was beyond him where the Banjaras reigned supreme. Duniapat Singh, a nephew of Himmat Singh and the son of Sitaram Singh, had been deputed by his uncle to assist in the work of clearing the Charda jungles. He had managed, during the period that had elapsed since the date of the lease, to make himself independent. Further, there was constant progress during the rule of the successive *talukdars*, Duniapat, Mahipat and Jodh Singh. At the time of annexation the property consisted of 428 villages.²

The taluqa of Bhinga was held from an early date by a younger branch of the Ikauna house. The property consisted of that portion of the pargana which includes the town of Bhinga and the Kakardari *ilaga* (a small region). Another branch had established itself in Durgapur to the north of the Rapti. The Banjaras, in this region, were too strong and they rebelled against Lalit Singh of Bhinga, who made over his estate to his brother-in-law, Bhawani Singh Bisen, a younger brother of the Gonda raja. The latter expelled the Banjaras and settled down in possession of the estate. He first held the villages between Rapti and the forest and a part of the tarai—but a later date he also acquired a large tract of land to the south of the river.³

The Nanpara estate came into existence when Muhammad Khan, grandson of Rasul Khan, keeper of the fort of Bahraich in Emperor Shah Jahan's service (1637) settled in Nanpara and his son Karam Khan laid the foundations of the estate. Karam Khan exerted himself so successfully against the Banjaras that he gained the local title of Raja. He left for his son Mustafa Khan, a considerable estate and the latter was ordered

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*, p. 129

3. *Ibid.*, p. 131

1. Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich : A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), pp. 129-130

2. *Ibid.*, p. 132

3. *Ibid.*, p. 134

to pay a revenue of Rs 5,000 by Hancock on behalf of the Avadh government. Mustafa Khan refused to obey the order and was sent to Lucknow, where he died in 1777 A.D.¹ Sali Khan, then, succeeded Mustafa Khan and in 1790 A.D., left the estate to Madar Bakhsh. Shortly before the death of Madar Bakhsh in 1807 the estate had swelled by the acquisition of part of Gujiganj and by the absorption of Khalsa villages. The story of the acquisition of this tract indicates that the Gujiganj talukdar, Dariao Singh, the great-grandson of *Rudh* Singh, the founder of the estate, incurred the displeasure of Saadat Ali Khan. He was consequently attacked in 1806 by a confederacy of the neighbouring rulers, and his estate was divided among Madar Bakhsh, Himmat Singh and Duniapat Singh of Charda. In this division the villages which lay on the eastern border of the Nanpara estate about Dandi Kusan were given to Madar Bakhsh; while Himmat Singh possessed himself of Malhipur, or the land between the Bhakla and Rapti; and Duniapat Singh added to Charda the Jamdan villages² in the north of doab. Madar Bakhsh was succeeded in 1807 by Munawar Ali Khan, who was then a child of four years, and the estate was held in direct management until 1819.³ Munawar Ali Khan took the management into his own hands in 1827.

During the rule of the first five nawabs, the great talukdars were held thoroughly in check. To watch the interests of the State a tahsildar was residing in each of the estates of Ikauna, Gangwal, Payagpur and Charda. The talukdars had little to do with the management of their property beyond assisting the tahsildar in his collection, and enjoying the produce of a few villages set apart for their maintenance. On the accession of Saadat Ali Khan, the contract system, under which the local governors were bound to pay into the State's treasury a certain stated sum, was instituted. These local governors were allowed to appropriate any excess collections. Under this system the rule of Balki Das, the *nazim* and his son, Rai Amar Singh, from 1807 to 1816 was the most prosperous of any that Bahraich had experienced under Avadh government. From the death of Saadat Ali Khan, to the deposition of Wajid Ali Shah, the district scarcely enjoyed a single year of rest or freedom from the merciless exactions of its grasping administrators.⁴

The notable feature of the time was that in 1815 the independent villages under direct engagement with the State and generally designated by the name of the *Khalsa* numbered no less than 1,295 in the parganas

1. Nevill, H.R. *Bahraich A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), p. 130

2. *Ibid.*, p. 132

3. *Ibid.*, p. 137

4. *Ibid.*, p. 134

of Bahraich, Hisampur and Fakhrpur alone. The word seems to have been originally applied to the estates whose accounts were kept separately from those of the larger taluks, and embraced many ancestral estates which were quite as old as those of the nobles; notably Harharpur and the property of the Jarwal Saiyids.¹

Rai Amar Singh held the contract for Bahraich for two years after the death of Saadat Ali Khan (1814 A.D.), but in 1817 Mehndi Ali Khan, who also held Khairabad and Muhamdi (respectively in Sitapur and Kheri districts), obtained the district by bidding a lakh more than Rai Amar Singh.² He was known as a man of high character, although guilty of the murder of his predecessor. He held the contract for two years, but was compelled to retire before the machinations of those he had left behind him at Lucknow.³

Hadi Ali Khan alias Saif-ud-daula succeeded Mehndi Ali Khan and held the district till 1827, a period of nine years. He demanded an increase of two annas (Re 0.12) in the rupee at the very beginning of his regime. He found it difficult to realize this exorbitant demand and as a means to this end, commenced that system of incorporating the *Khalsa* lands in the talukdars' estates. As a result of this system no less than 439 villages were transferred to the nobles till the expiry of his term of office. This system continued under his successors and till the annexation of the district by the British in 1856, villages numbering 788 were thus absorbed in the talukdars' estates. The revenue amounted to over four lakhs, and was the very utmost which they were capable of paying. No sooner, however, had a talukdar got a village fairly within his grasp than he scorned to pay any but a sum considerably less than that which had been realized from it hitherto.⁴

The one family which was affected worst under this system was the old family of Jarwal which in 1816 had no less than 247 villages, but by the time of annexation had retained only 138. The story of their ruin tells that Hadi Ali Khan, the *nazim* was anxious to obtain in marriage the daughter and heiress of the old Saiyid, the head of the main branch, for his son. The honour was declined, and in return for this slight the *nazim* transferred the estates from the Huzur tahsil to his own management. In 1827 as many as 98 villages of the old Saiyid *Khalsa* were made over to the Kahlans and other Rajput talukdars.⁵

1. Nevill, H.R. : *Bahraich A Gazetteer*, Allahabad, 1903), pp. 134-135

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 135.

3. *Ibid.*

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 135-136

5. *Ibid.*, p. 136

Hadi Ali Khan held the district for a second time a few years later, and notwithstanding his policy with regard to the *Khalsa* lands, his administration corresponds with that of some of his successors. He was the first who held the districts of Gonda and Bahraich united under one charge; and after the first few years of his holding office, he seems to have been able to entertain hopes of keeping his charge more or less permanently, and to have restrained himself from those more oppressive acts of extortion and violence which the contract system encouraged.¹

Darshan Singh succeeded Hadi Ali Khan as *nazim* of Gonda and Bahraich in 1836, and on the first occasion of his holding office, he did no harm. He merely ascertained the character and substance of the great landholders, exacted from the weaker all that they could pay, and bided his time. When, however, he resumed charge in 1842, he came commissioned to coerce the powerful talukdars who, under the measures of the last twenty-five years, had been gradually attaining a position from which it was difficult to dislodge them. Darshan Singh proceeded to seize and plunder them all, one after the other, and put their estates under his own officers. It was during this period of his administration that he made the fatal mistake of entering the Nepal territory in his pursuit of the young raja of Balrampur and embroiled himself with the Nepal government. On account of this he was banished, only, however, to be recalled in two months' time. Husain Ali, who succeeded Darshan Singh, had engaged to pay a lakh more than his predecessor, but when it was found that he was unable to fulfil his pledges, Darshan Singh was reinstated in May 1844. This time he came back with increased powers, but died in August of the same year, leaving three sons, Rama Din, Raghubir Singh, otherwise known as Raghubir Dayal, and Man Singh.²

The second named of these sons, Raghubir Dayal held the contract of Gonda and Bahraich for 1846 and 1847. From the very outset he proved himself a tyrant of the worst description, and the two years of his rule were a reign of terror such as was seldom experienced. During his rule Bahraich suffered far more than Gonda, for he not only devastated the country, but he actually depopulated it. The estates that fared worst under his infamous rule were Baundi, Rehwa, Payagpur, Gangwal, Charda and Harharpur. Nanpara, Bhinga and Ikauna were comparatively secured, the first due to the strong hand of Munawar Ali Khan, and the others to their distance from the *nazim's* headquarters. The Ikauna lands of Bahraich pargana and those portions of Bhinga which lay to the south of the Rapti did not escape notice of Raghubir Dayal.³

1. Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich A Gazetteer*: (Allahabad, 1903), p. 136.
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 138-139
3. *Ibid.*, p. 139

In 1849 Raikwar estates were almost waste, Nanpara and Charda were in a state of deterioration, and Gangwal, Payagpur and Ikauna were much out of tillage. In 1845 under Wajid Ali Sah, the *nizamat* of Gonda-Bahraich had actually paid 1,15,000 rupees. In the following year, Raghubir Dayal paid 14 lakhs, but in 1848 under Inchha Singh it was with difficulty that only six lakhs could be collected and nearly all of this came from Gonda.¹ In 1849 Captain Oir was deputed by the Resident to pass through the district. He wrote, "The once flourishing districts of Gonda and Bahraich, so noted for fertility and beauty, are now for the most part uncultivated; villages completely deserted in the midst of lands devoid of all tillage everywhere meet the eye." He wrote, "I passed through these districts, a distance of 80 miles, over plains which had been fertile and well cultivated, till Raghubir Dayal got charge, but now lay entirely waste, a scene of two years of great misery ending in desolation." It was the time when Bahraich offered but little spoil to tempt the revenue officials to any further devastation, but as Gauri Shankar, the main agent of Raghubir Dayal, remained in the district as tahsildar under Inchha Singh and Man Singh, the uncle and brother, respectively of the tyrant, it could hardly be expected that the land should have much rest.²

On February 7, 1856, the kingdom of Avadh was annexed and vested exclusively in the East India Company. Bahraich was made the headquarters of a division with Wingfield as commissioner. Captain Bunbury was made deputy commissioner, but he was shortly succeeded by Captain Reid. Cunliffe of the civil service, and Jordan completed the staff. The formation and organization of police and tahsil establishments, the institution of the various courts of justice, the arrangement and supervision of jails, the investigation of claims to revenue-free grants, excise, and, above all, the settlement of the land revenue, were some of the points to which these officers had directed their attention in the course of the next fourteen months. This work was diversified by an occasional scour across country to suppress a famous band of unruly men under Fazl Ali, who had been in the service of one of the contending parties in the Nanpara estate, and who, having lost their occupations, declared themselves sworn enemies to the new emerging of things.³

The administration that was established in Avadh after its annexation was, as a matter of fact, a more potent source of active disaffection than the annexation itself. This was the time when the wave of indignation was spreading all over the country and the anne-

1. Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), pp. 139-40
2. *Ibid.*, p. 140
3. *Ibid.*, pp. 140-141

xation was undoubtedly the most important auxiliary cause of the outbreak of the freedom struggle of 1857.

The character of risings in the region comprising the district of Bahraich was the same as in other parts of Avadh. The struggle had taken the form of talukdar's movement in the sense that the landholders, as a rule, took advantage of the situation for the recovery of their lost estates, and in general their attention was confined to the reversal of British land settlement.¹ The chiefs and the talukdars were hoisting the flag of the revolt. Bahraich was bounded on the south by the Ghaghara and on the north by Nepal. Its principal military station was Sikraura or Colonelganj (in Gonda), garrisoned by cavalry and infantry men who broke out on June 9, 1857.² This was followed by a war by the landholders who remained discontented because of the summary Settlement of the land revenue. The raja of Baundi was indignant at having been excluded from a large number of villages on account of the recusancy in paying the revenue demand. He seized the first opportunity of recovering his estate. Moreover, his influence over all the other Raikwans made them restive. The talukdar of Chahlari in the west actually fought against the British at the battle of Nawabganj on November 27, 1857 and was killed. The same example was followed by those of Dhaurahra and Bhitauli.³ The raja of Charda who had fought at Lucknow also joined the coalition of freedom fighters. Later on, after the capture of Lucknow, the raja of Baundi offered protection and shelter in his fort to Begum Hazrat Mahal who had fled thither.⁴ Nanpara in the north in the foothills of Himalayas was all through a centre of disaffection.

At the time of the outbreak of the freedom struggle, the commissioner who was at Sikraura escaped to Gonda and then to Balrampur. Bahraich was then garrisoned by two companies of the 3rd Irregular Infantry. With the signs of the disturbances the three British officers rode off to Nanpara on their way to the hills. But they were refused admission by the agent of the minor raja, and consequently retraced their steps to Bahraich, hoping to reach Lucknow. They unfortunately went to Bahramghat ferry to cross the Ghaghara. The ferry was already guarded by the freedom fighters. Though the officers were disguised as Indians, but they were recognised and killed by the freedom fighters. Thus the whole of the district passed into the hands of the freedom fighters and remained in their power till the close of 1858.⁵ The old fort of Tulsipur in the north of Bahraich, on the border of Nepal, had in the meantime turned into a stronghold of the freedom fighters. Nana and

1. Chaudhuri, S. B. : *Civil Rebellion in the Indian Mutinies, 1857—1859*, (Calcutta, 1957), pp. 13—17
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 143-44
3. Nevill, H. R. : *op. Cit.*, p. 141;
4. *Ibid.*
5. *Ibid.*

his brother Bala Rao had taken refuge there and were joined by Mohammad Hasan, the *nazim* of Gorakhpur.¹

In December of that year Clyde, the commander-in-chief, was on his way to north, and arrived at Colonelganj on the 14th. On the same day Hope Grant marched to Balrampur in order to assist Brigadier Rowcroft in his advance on Tulsipur. The main force under Clyde took the road along the left bank of the Saryu and reached Bahraich on the 17th.² A few freedom fighters in the town, who had remained behind in ignorance of the British advance, were killed. Hitherto the British force had proceeded almost unopposed. After the capture of Bhitauli by the British forces, the freedom fighters shifted towards north. The British army halted at Bahraich till 23rd and it was ascertained that the freedom fighters were in force at Nanpara.³ In the meantime, Hope Grant, who had joined Rowcroft at Tulsipur, sent a detachment to Bhinga to construct a bridge across the Rapti and on 22nd Colonel Christie, with sufficient force, was sent north to move parallel with the main column to prevent the freedom fighters escaping across the Saryu into Kheri.⁴ The main force halted at Bahraich, marched towards Nanpara, leaving garrison there, and on the way destroyed the formidable fort of Tipraha. Reaching Deodatpur on 23rd, the force was detained due to rain till the 26th.⁵ Christie was also moving parallel in the direction of the Saryu. On the 26th of December the main force, having received the news of the movement of the freedom fighters, marched nearly 35 km. to Bargadia, passing the deserted town of Nanpara and halted about 11 km. from it late in the afternoon. The freedom fighters were in force numbering about 4,000 at Bargadia village. Clyde arranged his columns including the 1st Punjab Cavalry which had arrived from Tulsipur in the meantime.⁶ He advanced within range with the cavalry and guns, and then wheeled sharply to the right until opposite the extreme left of the freedom fighters, where he opened fire at about 500 metres.⁷ The freedom forces calculating his strength moved towards Charda after a short fight. Clyde had a serious fall and dislocated his shoulder in this confrontation. On the morning of the 27th, his force marched to Masjidia, the strongest fort in Avadh, and subjected it to a bombardment for nearly three hours and ultimately the place was abandoned. After leaving a small detachment to destroy the fort, the main body of the force returned to Nanpara on 29th of December.

1. Chaudhuri, S. B. : *op. cit.*, p. 144
2. Nevill, H. R. : *op. cit.*, pp. 141-142
3. *Ibid.*, p. 142
4. *Ibid.*
5. *Ibid.*
6. *Ibid.*
7. *Ibid.*, p. 143

On the other hand, Colonel Christie, who was moving parallel with the main column, advanced into Dharmanpur and reached Padnaha on the 30th of December, while Colonel Pratt's column had crossed the Saiyu at Khairighat and joined the main force at Nanpara. The same day Clyde marched north to Banki, leaving a small garrison in Nanpara.¹ At dawn on the 31st he had to face a smart fight with the freedom forces posted about five kilometres from the Rapti. On the freedom forces moving across the river into Nepal, Clyde returned to Nanpara, where he was joined by Christie.² On the 5th of January, 1859, the army marched to Sidhinaighat, where a battle took place, but after a hard and bitter fight in thick jungles, the freedom fighters were scattered and had to ultimately escape to Nepal.³ On the 8th, Clyde returned towards Bahraich and Lucknow, leaving Brigadier Horsford at Sidhinia to watch the pass into Nepal. The general command in the north now passed into the hands of Hope Grant, who was then at Bhinga.⁴

The freedom forces, being thus prevented from re-entering Bahraich, were confined to the jungles of the Nepal tarai, where hundreds died of fever and the rest slowly melted away or were killed by the Nepalese. Among those who died was the raja of Baundi, who failed to come in and had, in fact, rejected repeated offers to surrender. The raja of Charda too who was known to be lurking about the lower ranges of hills, ultimately disappeared, and probably shared the same fate as the rest.⁵

After the restoration of order, retribution followed. The Raikwar estates of Baundi, Chahlari, Bhitauli and Dhaurahra, amounting in all to 440 villages, of which 305 belonged to Baundi, were forthwith confiscated for favouring and joining the freedom fighters. After the proclamation calling on the talukdars to present themselves, three of the Bahraich chieftains failed to appear within the time allowed, and consequently the three estates of Ikauna (with 506 villages), Charda (428 villages), and Tulsipur (313 villages), were also confiscated. This was not all. The talukdars of Rehwa, Bhinga and Tipraha surrendered themselves, but failed to comply with the conditions required, as each was found to have cannon concealed on his estate. This was punished by further confiscations. Bhinga losing one-half of his possessions, 138 villages in all, Rehwa 14 villages, and Tipraha 19 villages. Thus the government was left with the large number of 1,858 villages at its disposal, but of these 313, which comprised the Tulsipur estate, were made over to Nepal on the restitution of the terai parganas in 1860.⁶

1. *Ibid.*

2. *Ibid.*

3. Chaudhuri, S. B., : *op. cit.*, p. 144

4. Nevill, H. R., : *op. cit.*, p. 143

5. *Ibid.*, : p. 144

6. *Ibid.*, : p. 144

Then followed the days of reward when this large and valuable area, spreading to over 6,57,000 acres (2,65,878 ha.) was distributed partly in perpetual settlement, and partly at the ordinary rate and term of assessment to persons who, with a few exceptions, had rendered loyal service to government either during the freedom struggle of 1857 or on some previous occasion. The lion's share fell to the raja of Kapurthala, who brought a force of 2,000 men and four guns to aid in the subjugation of Avadh, and who remained at the head of his men for a whole year, fighting six actions and capturing ten guns. He was rewarded with 437 villages of the Ikauna estate, 305 villages, forming the whole of Baundi, and the Bhitauli taluk of 76 villages in Bara Banki. The raja of Balrampur received 100 villages of Bhinga, remaining 69 villages of Ikauna, and 255 villages of Charda.

The character and content of the upsurge that put its stamp on the year 1857 point to a conflict that was larger in significance than that of a mutiny in the barracks. Though the movement of 1857 had failed for various reasons such as political immaturity, defective military command, and indifferent leadership, yet it cannot be denied that it was not a movement of the disgruntled elements alone but a rising of the people, at any rate a considerable section of them, who felt however dimly, the stirring of a common impulse, against the rise of a foreign ruling power.

The rural society consisted a crowd mainly of peasants smarting under ever increasing extortions of the talukdars and their tribe. Prosperity amongst them was a dream. Under the rule of the talukdars people were feeling much less free than those directly under British rulers. The district unit of the Indian National Congress was founded after some enthusiastic persons attended the Congress session at Nagpur in 1920. In the beginning only some people in rural areas were attracted towards it. In urban areas, Home Rule League was more popular. But soon it was consolidated with the efforts of some Congress leaders from outside the district and the supporters of Home Rule League also joined it. Production of khaddar was one of its main activities at that time.

The non-co-operation movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi was adopted in the special session of the Congress held in Calcutta on September 4, 1920,¹ and it was later ratified by the regular session at Nagpur in December, 1920.² This set the stage for national activities in motion in the district. The peasantry in the district suffered the greatest on account of the agrarian distress. The crushing of peasants and their ever-growing burden of rent, illegal exactions, ejections from land and

1. Majumdar, R. C. : *History of the Freedom Movement in India*, Vol. III, (Calcutta, 1963), : p. 85

2. *Ibid.*, p. 96

poor dwellings, physical torture and around fleeing by zamindar's agents, money-lenders and police were the common scenes. The two movements non-co-operation and the agrarian—were quite separate, but they overlapped and influenced each other greatly in the district. Congress workers went about the rural areas with the message of unity among peasants. Wherever they went they preached and stressed non-violence. This may not have been fully appreciated or understood then, but it did prevent the peasantry from taking to violence.

The rural and urban populace of the district shared its due in the various activities of the non-co-operation movement. Large scale arrests were not made with a view to avoid any uprising. Only three leading persons from different places in the district were arrested during this movement. Picketing was an essential feature of the movement in stopping the sale of liquor and foreign goods. This programme was carried on effectively.

Non-co-operation was in fact, a mass movement. Even in remote bazaars the common folk talked of the Congress and Swaraj. There was tremendous feeling of release and a new yearning for freedom. The fear that had demoralised the people had disappeared, and they were now ready for a fresh move with determination. Meetings and conferences had added greatly to their political education. By February 1922, it was, however, observed at the summit level of the Congress that the movement, in spite of its apparent power and widespread enthusiasm, was grinding to a halt as almost all leading persons had been arrested and the masses had so far received little training to carry on by themselves.¹ These factors in combination with the Chauri Chaura incident resulted in a sudden suspension of the movement.² The activities were nevertheless continued in the district in some form or the other. Smt. Sarojini Naidu toured the district in 1926 and urged the people to foster unity, weave khaddar and work for Swaraj.

As elsewhere, so in Bahraich district, the agitation against the British government cooled down temporarily, but with the appointment of Simon Commission in 1928, the national spirit among the people rose up again. It was demonstrated in February, 1928, when on the day of the arrival of the Commission in Bombay, complete hartal (strike) was observed in all important towns of the country, and demonstrators marched in huge processions waving black flags and carrying "Go back Simon" banners.³

1. Nehru, Jawaharlal : *Jawaharlal Nehru, An Autobiography*, (London, 1936), p. 85

2. *Ibid.*, p. 83

3. Majumdar, R. C. : *History of the Freedom Movement In India*, Vol. III, (Calcutta, 1963), p. 310

The assault on Lala Lajpat Rai, and his subsequent death, had increased the vigour of the demonstrations against the Simon Commission throughout the country and specially in the places which it subsequently visited. As elsewhere, the district also witnessed protest strike and demonstrations against the Commission.

The Non-co-operation Movement which was abruptly suspended by Gandhiji in 1922 was revived in the Congress Session of 1929.¹ On April 6, 1930, Gandhiji broke the salt laws at Dandi beach, and three or four days later permission was given to all Congress organisations to do likewise and begin Civil Disobedience in their own areas.² In the same context Gandhiji was arrested on May 4, 1930, and the reaction of this arrest was obvious throughout the country. As a protest against this action, a complete strike was observed in Bahraich on May 6, 1930. The same day in the evening a huge meeting was arranged at local clock-tower in which the then president of the district Congress committee declared the decision of preparing salt just the next day. Necessary arrangements to break the salt laws were promptly made, but before any action could be taken in this direction the president was arrested early next morning. This infuriated the local atmosphere further and unleashed a chain of hectic activities including salt manufacture processions, and burning of foreign cloth, etc. Some prominent leaders were arrested and sentenced for six months imprisonment each. Though this did not deter the activities, yet the trend of arrests tempted some active workers to side-track their individualities resulting in momentary lull in the first phase of this movement. By this time the activities at the district headquarters produced favourable reaction in the remotest parts of the district. Volunteers from rural areas started coming and the movement regained its vigour. On the part of government, severe repressive measures were taken and several important leaders of the district were arrested and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and fine.

The breach of the Salt Act soon became just one activity, and civil resistance spread to other fields. India was then governed forcibly under autocratic rule with ordinances resulting in suppression of every kind of civil liberty. The more the severity of the laws, the more the opportunities for breaking them, and the civil resistance took the fashion of doing the very thing that the laws were supposed to prohibit. Each official ordinance was countered by a resolution of the Congress working committee giving directions as to how to meet it. These directions were carried out with surprising unanimity and sincerity.

1. *Ibid.*, pp. 325-326

2. Nehru, Jawaharlal, *op. cit.*, p. 213

The agrarian crisis was deepening in the district. There appeared to be a general campaign in progress in which the government and its district officials had joined hands with the big zamindars to crush the tenants and to breakup the Congress organisation in the rural areas. Though apparently the zamindars' men were taking a leading part, but the lead seemed to come from government officials.¹ Jawaharlal Nehru visited the district in October, 1931, to acquaint himself with the state of affairs in the district, particularly the rural areas and addressed a number of mass gatherings at several places on October 6 and 7, 1931. A large number of complaints from different quarters of the district were brought to the notice of district authority. These complaints included charges of molestation and outrage on women.² The visit of Jawaharlal Nehru gave fresh hope to the peasantry of the district resulting in more solidarity among them. Though the civil disobedience movement was suppressed with uncalled for severity, yet the movement continued in the district unabated till May 1931, when Gandhiji suspended it and accepted the entry into legislature as a part of the Congress programme. There was a full scale election campaign in the district in 1937. A number of meetings were organised to consolidate the people in favour of Congress. From the district two persons were elected for the provincial assembly. The Congress also mustered favourable majority in the provincial assembly to form its ministry. Thereafter organisational work was taken up in the district with full force. On February 26 and 27, 1938, a district political conference was organised at local government school ground. Some notable participants of the conference were Ajit Prasad Jain, Rafi Ahmad Kidwai, Keshava Dev Malaviya and Acharya Narendra Deo. On April 30, 1938, a tahsil conference was organised at Nanpara. In the month of August 1938 the district was visited by severe floods. The Congress organisation in the district did not miss the occasion to organise help to the flood victims in all affected areas of the district. Govind Ballabh Pant also visited the district to look into the calamitous circumstances of the people. These gestures on the part of Congress were most appertune for the solidarity of Congress organisation in the district.

Soon after the outbreak of the Second World War in 1939, the Congress ministry resigned, as it had decided not to co-operate with the government in the war effort. The people started a widespread campaign, particularly against contributions towards war fund. Mahatma Gandhi launched the movement of Individual Satyagraha on October 17, 1940, meaning by selecting one individual at a time to go out in the street

1. Gopal, S. : *Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, (New Delhi, 1975), Vol. V., p. 99
2. *Ibid.*, pp. 133-141.

shouting anti-war slogans and get arrested.¹ In Bahraich district this campaign was started vigorously. Preparatory activities for the campaign had already started much earlier after getting an indication of such movement in a district political conference held at Golwa Ghat on March 3 and 4, 1940, under the presidentship of Purushottam Das Tandon. Other important participants and speakers in this conference were Sampurnanand, Ajit Prasad Jain, Kailash Nath Katju and Rafi Ahmad Kidwai who appealed for strengthening the district Congress organisation on a more sound footing, so that it could be prepared to take up further Congress programmes. Rafi Ahmad Kidwai, in his usual manner, however, made a highly anti-British and anti-war speech. The impact of this conference was reflected in individual satyagraha as also in further programmes. In all some 762 persons of the district offered their names and served notices for individual satyagraha. Of these 371 persons were arrested. By the end of 1941 almost all the persons convicted under the Defence of India Rule were released. Thereafter a tahsil political conference was organised at Ikauna on March 7 and 8, 1942 to assess the situation. It was also decided by the Congress to form Sewa Dal.

The Quit India resolution passed by the All India Congress Committee in its session at Bombay on August 8, 1942, marked the turning point in India's struggle for freedom.² The resolution provided for a complete and immediate withdrawal of the British from India. In case of the government not conceding the demand Gandhiji was to launch his movement which he characterised as "non-violent rebellion" the main purpose of which was to wake in the people a requisite measure of sacrifice sufficient to arrest attention. Early next morning (August 9, 1942) Gandhiji and the members of the working committee were arrested followed by a mass arrest of Congressmen in every part of the country. In the district also the movement started on the usual non-violent lines in the shape of strikes and processions, but before it could gain substantially the local leaders were arrested. The absence of the leaders and proper guidance and the stern repressive measures adopted by the authorities soon turned the demonstrators violent. The government had to face a popular revolt, which though unarmed, was most violent in character. The movement had taken a very serious turn in eastern district, but in Bahraich, before anything disastrous could happen, the situation was brought under control. The vigour of the movement was lost before the end of the year and no trace of it had remained after 1944.

1. Majumdar, R. C. : *History of the Freedom Movement in India*, Vol. III, (Calcutta, 1963), p. 607
2. Chopra, P. N. : *Quit India Movement of 1942*, (An Article published in the *Journal of Indian History*), Vol. XLIX, (Trivendrum, 1971), p. 1

In 1946, Congress leaders were released, and in the general elections for the provincial legislature the Congress was again returned in majority followed by the long cherished dream of Independence becoming true on the mid-night of August 14-15, 1947, when the country was also partitioned into India and Pakistan. On the eve of Independence thousands from the town and surrounding countryside assembled at the district headquarters to hail freedom. National flag was ceremoniously hoisted at the collector's office and other government and semi-government buildings. Private buildings too, throughout the district, were bedecked with flags. In the evening there was illumination and fireworks. Tumultuous scenes of joy amidst spontaneous rejoicings were witnessed in every town and village of the district.

The partition was followed by a large scale migration of population from one part to the other, which was attended with much bloodshed, misery and hardship. In course of time as many as 1,375 immigrants, mostly displaced persons, from Pakistan came to the district and were rehabilitated.

On hearing the sad news of the demise of Mahatma Gandhi (on January 30, 1948) the whole district went into mourning. Markets, offices and other establishments were all closed. Several processions were taken out and meetings held to mourn the tragic and irreparable loss of the Father of the Nation. As elsewhere in the State, October 2, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi is celebrated as Gandhi Jayanti.

With the enactment and adoption of the Constitution of India on January 26, 1950, India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic. Once again the district witnessed great rejoicings and thenceforth this day is solemnly observed with enthusiasm every year all over the district as the Republic Day.

On the occasion of celebration of Silver Jubilee of Independence in 1973, proven freedom fighters of the district or their dependents were favoured with political pension and *tamra patras* (copper plates) placing on record the services rendered by them or their forbears.

CHAPTER III PEOPLE

POPULATION

According to the census of 1971, the district had a population of 17,26,972 persons and it covered an area of 6,871.0 sq. km. The males and the females numbered 9,37,903 and 7,89,069 respectively giving a sex ratio of 841 females per 1,000 males.

The density of population in the district was 251 persons (rural 237 and urban 6,405) per sq. km. as against the State average of 300 persons. So far as population is concerned among the districts of the State, it occupied 21st position and 13th in respect of area according to the information obtained from Surveyor General of India.

The tahsilwise density of population per sq. km. in the district was 259 in Nanpara; 303 in Kaisarganj; 329 in Bahraich and 257 in Bhinga.

The following statement gives the area and total population of each tahsil in 1971:

District/tahsil	Area (sq. km.)	Total population
District total	6,893.6	17,26,972
Bahraich	2,463.9	6,65,210
Nanpara	2,664.6	5,50,675
Kaisarganj	1,765.1	5,11,087

NOTE—However, according to the Surveyor General of India, the area of the district was 6,871.0 sq. km. in 1971

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.

In the year 1976 a new tahsil of Bhinga was carved out from the tahsils of Bahraich and Kaisarganj for better administration and facility of the affected population. In the following statement will be found the data regarding area and population of the different tahsils of the district before and after the creation of the new tahsil of Bhinga.

Position before the creation of new tahsil of Bhinga			Position after the creation of the new tahsil of Bhinga in 1976		
Tahsil	Population	Area (in ha.)	Tahsil	Population	Area (in ha.)
Bahraich	6,65,210	2,13,568	Bahraich	5,44,154	1,68,499
Nanpara	5,50,675	2,12,749	Nanpara	5,60,889	2,16,428
Kaisarganj	5,11,087	1,76,664	Kaisarganj	4,08,901	1,35,143
			Bhinga	2,13,028	82,911
District total	17,26,972	6,02,981		17,26,972	6,02,981

Growth of Population

The first enumeration of the population of the district took place at the Avadh census of 1869. The district then had a population of 7,74,437 persons, giving a density of only 286 persons to the square mile. The report of the first regular settlement was published in 1873, and the estimated population of 1872 was as large as 8,35,826 persons, which, if the figures can be accepted as accurate, shows an increase of not less than 28 persons to the square mile in three years. The figure, however, can only be regarded as approximate.

At the census of 1881 the district had a population of 8,78,048 persons, showing an increasing of no less than 1,02,133 persons during the preceding eleven years. The recovery had been more rapid than in any other district of Avadh and the density rose from 283 to 320.3 persons per square mile. This extraordinary growth of the population was not spasmodic, but well sustained, as is evident from the figures of succeeding enumerations.

The census of 1891 showed a still more rapid growth of the population, for the total on that occasion rose to 10,00,432 persons, the increase amounting to an annual average of 12,240 persons. The density in 1891 was 373.2 per square mile.

At the census of 1901 it was ascertained that the total population of the district was 10,49,710 persons giving a density of 395.7 to the square mile, and showing an increase of 49,278 persons since the preceding enumeration. This increase was greater than in any other district of Avadh except Sitapur, and was only to be expected with the rapid development of the district which escaped fairly well from the epidemics of 1894, which caused heavy mortality in other parts of Avadh, the reason

CH. III—PEOPLE

being that it is naturally well drained. The higher rate of increase is also due in part to its having escaped in greater measure than the neighbouring districts from the effects of scarcity in 1896.

The decennial growth with variation in population during the period of 1901–1971 was as follows :

Year	Persons	Males	Females	Decade variation	Percentage decade variation
1901	10,49,710	5,43,539	5,06,171	—	—
1911	10,45,775	5,43,597	5,02,178	+3,935	—0.37
1921	10,63,222	5,53,419	5,09,803	+17,447	+1.67
1931	11,34,082	5,91,535	5,42,547	+70,860	+6.66
1941	12,38,098	6,48,211	5,89,887	+1,04,016	+9.17
1951	13,43,660	7,04,670	6,38,990	+1,05,562	+8.53
1961	14,99,929	7,90,492	7,09,437	+1,56,269	+11.63
1971	17,26,972	9,37,903	7,89,069	+2,27,043	+15.14

Emigration and Immigration

In 1961, of the total population, 94.2 per cent were born within the district, 4.8 per cent in other districts of the State, 0.2 per cent in other parts of India and 0.8 per cent in other countries. Among those from other countries, 9,125 were from Nepal, 1,375 from Pakistan, 146 from Burma, 10 from Africa, 2 from America and 12 from certain other countries. Of the immigrants from other States, the largest number was 898 from Bihar, 735 from Rajasthan, 728 from Punjab and 91 from Madhya Pradesh. The number of immigrants from other districts of the State was 72,587. The duration of residence of 55.2 per cent immigrants was over ten years. 88.4 per cent immigrants were returned from rural areas and the remaining 11.6 per cent from urban areas. Among the immigrants 31.2 per cent were males and 68.8 per cent females.

Distribution of Population

In 1971, the district contained 1,927 villages of which 1,884 were inhabited and 43 uninhabited. The rural population comprised 94.07 per cent of the total population of the district. The remaining 5.93 per cent population was confined to 3 towns. The tahsilwise break-up

of population with the number of villages and towns, as in 1971 was as follows :

District/tahsil		Village			Population		
		Inhabited	Uninhabited	Town	Persons	Males	Females
District	Total	1,884	45	3	17,26,972	9,37,903	7,89,069
	Rural	1,884	43	—	16,24,490	8,82,606	7,41,884
	Urban	—	—	3	1,02,482	55,297	47,185
Bahraich tahsil							
	Total	710	11	2	6,65,210	3,61,379	3,03,831
	Rural	710	11	—	5,81,460	3,16,039	2,65,421
	Urban	—	—	2	83,750	45,340	38,410
Nanpara tahsil							
	Total	532	23	1	5,50,675	2,99,400	2,51,275
	Rural	532	23	—	5,31,943	2,89,443	2,42,500
	Urban	—	—	1	18,732	9,957	8,775
Kaisarganj tahsil							
	Total	642	9	—	5,11,087	2,77,124	2,33,963
	Rural	642	9	—	5,11,087	2,77,124	2,33,963
	Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—

Rural Population

The extent of population in 1,884 villages, as in 1971, was as follows :

Range of population	No. of inhabited villages	Population			Percentage of rural population
		Persons	Males	Females	
Less than 200	184	20,976	11,536	9,440	1.3
200—499	457	1,62,824	89,081	73,743	10.0
500—999	671	4,92,583	2,67,240	2,25,343	30.3
1,000—1,999	452	6,17,179	3,34,831	2,82,348	38.0
2,000—4,999	116	2,99,305	1,62,680	1,36,625	18.5
5,000—9,999	3	19,642	10,748	8,894	1.2
10,000 and above	1	11,981	6,190	5,491	0.7
Total	—	1,884	16,24,490	8,82,606	100.0

Urban population—In 1971, the urban population consisted of 5.93 per cent of the total population and was distributed over three towns. The number of males and females in the urban population in 1971 were as follows :

Name of town	Tahsil	Person	Males	Females
Bahraich (municipal board)	Bahraich	73,931	79,931	34,000
Nanpara (notified area)	Nanpara	18,732	9,957	8,775
Bhinga (notified area)	Bahraich	9,819	5,409	4,410
Total		1,02,482	55,297	47,185

Bahraich, the headquarters town of the district, which is administered as municipal board, was the most populated urban area, which contained about 72.1 per cent of the total urban population.

Nanpara town was the most densely populated which contained 10,071 persons per sq. km.

The density of urban population in the district in 1961 was 4,972 persons per sq. km. By 1971 it had risen to 6,405 persons to a sq. km.

The following statement gives an idea regarding density of population of towns per sq. km. according to 1971 census :

Name of town	Density of population
Nanpara	10,071
Bahraich	5,948
Bhinga	5,742

Displaced Persons

As a result of the partition of the subcontinent in 1947 some Muslim families from the district migrated to Pakistan while some Hindu families came over from Sindh and Punjab. The total number of such migrants to the district according to 1961 census was 1,375. They have all settled down in various trades and vocations.

Four colonies for 300 displaced Bengali families have been constructed in the district. Each family has been provided with a pukka house, cultivated land, agricultural implements for farming, and seed and manure for two crops, alongwith the facility for drinking-water from pukka wells. Nearly 325 displaced families from Burma have also settled in the district. Of these nearly 225 families have been rehabilitated on Gram Samaj land

and on land allotted by government for the purposes. About 120 families have also been distributed agricultural loans at the rate of Rs 1,350 per family.

LANGUAGE

The language of the people of the district is Avadh dialect of Hindi, spoken in the eastern part of the State. The Avadhi dialect of Bahraich closely resembles that of Faizabad. The Tharus of the district speak a broken form of Bhojpuri.

In 1971, as many as six prominent languages/dialects were spoken in the district. Of the total population 85.78 per cent people spoke Hindi, 13.35 per cent Urdu, 0.05 per cent Bhojpuri, 0.05 per cent Punjabi, 0.66 per cent Avadhi and 0.08 per cent Bengali.

A detailed list giving mother-tongues, dialects and languages spoken in the district is given at the end of the chapter in Statement II.

SCRIPT

The scripts used in the district are the Devanagiri for Hindi and Persian for Urdu. The languages of the immigrants have their own scripts.

RELIGION AND CASTE

The population of the district as classified according to religions at the census of 1971 comprised 72.81 per cent of those following Hinduism, 26.99 per cent of Islam, 0.08 per cent of Christianity, 0.10 per cent of Sikhism and 0.02 per cent of Jainism.

The statement below shows the rural and urban distribution of the followers of each religion :

Tract	Religion						Total
	Hinduism	Islam	Christianity	Sikhism	Buddhism	Jainism	
District	12,57,453	4,66,022	1,398	1,713	21	365	17,26,972
Rural	12,13,845	4,07,955	1,279	1,361	20	300	16,24,490
Urban	43,608	58,067	119	352	1	335	1,02,482

Principal Communities

Hindu—Of the total population of the district in 1971, 72.81 per cent were Hindus. The pattern of society among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere, is based on the traditional four-fold caste system, the

CH. III—PEOPLE

four principal castes being the Brahmana, the Kshatriya, the Vaish and the Shudra, each being divided into a number of subcastes.

Brahmanas are found in greatest numbers in the Bahraich and Kaisarganj tahsils, and especially in the parganas of Fakhripur, Bahraich and Ikauna. They are comparatively scarce in Nanpara. The bulk of the Brahmanas in the district belong to the Sarwariya sub-division, but there are also a number of Kanaujiyas and Sakaldipis. The remaining clans Gauris and Sanadhyas are very sparsely represented.

Ahirs are fairly equally distributed throughout all the parganas and form an important element of strength in the agricultural population of the district.

Kurmis are most industrious efficient and prosperous cultivators, and along with the Ahirs form the backbone of the agricultural community. They are most numerous in the Nanpara and the Bahraich tahsils, and fewest in Kaisarganj.

Koris or weavers belong chiefly to tahsil Bahraich, but there are also large numbers in Nanpara. A fairly large number of them are cultivators.

The Rajputs are more numerous in the Kaisarganj tahsil and most of the rest in the Nanpara, Bahraich and Ikauna parganas. The first and the foremost place is taken by the Raikwars who are chiefly found in the Hisampur and Fakhripur parganas. Other well-represented clans are Bais, Kalhans, Chauhans, Bisens and Janwars. Of the remaining clans are Sombansis, Pawars, Rathors, Surajbansis Bhadaurias, Gautams, Kachhwahas, Amethias, Bachhals, Bachgotis, Bhale Sultans, Chandels, Jaiswars and Raghubansis.

The Luniyas are more labourers, whose chief occupation is digging and earthwork. They are most numerous in the Kaisarganj tahsil, but are found in considerable number in Nanpara, Bahraich and Ikauna as well. The Luniyas are generally considered to be of Dravidian origin.

The Gadariyas as a rule follow their usual occupation of shepherds and goatherds, and are agriculturists of a very inferior description. They chiefly rest in pargana Fakhripur, but they are also numerous in Hisampur, Nanpara, Ikauna and Bhinga.

Barais belong chiefly to the Kandu and Kasaundhan sub-divisions, while there are also Baranwals and Umars. The Kandus are in inferior caste of Vaisbyas and are chiefly found in the north of the district. Some of them are cultivators, but their usual occupation is grain-parching and shopkeeping.

There are Kahars, Lodhs, Telis or oil-pressers, Naïs or barbers, kumhars or potters, Barhais or carpenters, Lohars or blacksmiths and Bharbhunjas or grain-parchers. There are also Kayasthas, most of whom belong to the Srivastava sub-division. They own a considerable amount of the land and reside chiefly in pargana Bahraich and Kaisarganj tahsil.

The Chais or Chains are also found in the district. They are a cultivating and fishing class.

Scheduled Castes

In 1971 the number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes was 3,02,847 which formed nearly 17.53 per cent of the district population. They are found in every tahsil of the district.

An idea may be had regarding their distribution in different tahsils of the district from the following figures:

Tahsil	Persons	Males	Females
Bahraich	1,31,639	70,915	60,724
Nanpara	1,01,914	54,782	47,132
Kaisarganj	69,294	36,979	32,315
Total	3,02,847	1,62,676	1,40,171

Scheduled Tribes

The only Scheduled Tribe found in the district is of the Tharus who are confined to the Nanpara and Bahraich tahsils. In 1971 their number was 1,680 (873 males and 807 females) which formed 0.10 per cent of the district population.

The Tharus claim to be of Rajput descent, but their features betray a Mongolian origin.

As for the genesis of the word "Tharu" it is ascribed to several etymological sources, for instance to *Thalra* i.e., they halted or to *Thartharana* i.e. trembling. According to Crooks, one of the plain Kshatriya Kings named these people 'Tharus' denoting a wine bibber, because of their amazing capacity to consume liquor. Nesfield, however, holds that the tribe was so called after the word 'Thar' which in the dialect of the labour class meaning a man of the forest.

The Tharus are divided into a number of sects. In Bahraich the Dangurias are the dominant group while the Kathaurias are found in small numbers.

They have a democratic, socialistically oriented and broad based social order and have no pyramidal class structure, as is in vogue among the neighbouring Hindus. The women have very respectable position in the family and usually have unfettered freedom and full authority to run the household. The men are usually unimpressive and sheepish, while the women are handsome and shapely.

The Tharus have a strong traditional panchayat organization to settle their disputes and to ensure adherence to their common code of conduct. Among the Dangurias especially, panchayats are big institutions covering a number of villages.

Agriculture is the mainstay of Tharus.

Muslims—At the 1971 census, 4,66,022 persons (2,50,114 males and 2,15,908 females) or about 26.99 per cent of the district population were found professing the Islamic faith.

The most numerous among them are the Pathans. They are found in large numbers in the Nanpara, Charda, Hisampur and Fakhrpur parganas, and include representatives of many clans, the most important being the Yusufzais, Lodis, Kakaos and Ghoris. Besides these, there are also Muhammadzai, Rohilla, Afridi, Dilazak and Bangash Pathans.

The Sheikhs are common in Nanpara and Kaisarganj tahsils. More than half of the Sheikhs are Siddiqis, while Qureshis and Ansaris form the bulk of the remainder.

The Saiyeds are chiefly found in the Hisampur, Bahraich and Nanpara parganas. They belong to the Rizwi, Zaidi, Husaini, and several other subdivisions.

There are also some converted Muslims, whose ancestors are originally Rajputs.

The remaining Muslim population consists of Mughals, Julahas, Faqirs, Telis, Behnas, Naïs, Darzis and Halwais. Kabariyas appear to be converted Muraos or Kachhis and are market-gardeners by profession. It is curious that in this district one may come across Muslim Banias too. Ahirs converted to Islam are also to be found. Muslim Halwais and Kanjars also reside in large number in Bahraich than elsewhere, and the same may be said of the Saiqalgars or armourers.

Christians—The Christians numbered 1,398 (including 775 males) in 1971. Generally they belong to the Roman Catholic and Protestant church.

Sikhs—The Sikhs numbered 1,713, including 783 females. Besides being successful agriculturist, quite a number of them are engaged in various trades too.

Jains—In 1971, there were 365 jains in the district, of whom 182 were females.

Buddhists—In 1971, the number of Buddhists in the district was 21, including 4 females.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND PRACTICES

Hinduism—The term Hinduism is elastic and includes a number of sects and cults, allied but different in many important respects. Hinduism is a collection of diverse beliefs and practices ranging from polytheism to absolute monism and the identification of the *atman* (individual soul) with the ultimate reality (*paramatma*). It includes the worship of tutelary village and other 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 Shiva 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. Other gods and goddesses, as well as spirits of natural phenomena such as streams, trees, rocks and *nagas* (snakes), the sun, moon, rain, fire and wind etc. are also worshipped. Thus from the crudest form 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 puja where the idols of the chosen deity are installed and worshipped. Worship in temples is not obligatory but many Hindus visit them either daily or on festivals and special occasions. At times *kathas* (recitations from the *Srimadbhagvat Gita*, *Ramcharitmanasa* and other religious texts or *kirtans* (collective singing of devotional songs) are arranged both in temples and homes. Many Hindus worship the snake on Naga Panchami (the fifth day of the bright fortnight of Sravana). The *pipal* (*Ficus religiosa*) and *bargad* (*Ficus bengalensis*) trees are also sacred, to them, besides they have a traditional reverence for the *tulsi* plant (*Ocimum sanctum*), which is to be found in nearly every home, usually on an elevated place. The illiterate and backward sections of the community also have faith in superstitions, taboos, witch craft and magic and believe in ghosts and spirits, which are feared and propitiated. Religion (and often superstition) dominates the lives of many Hindus, (particularly the illiterate and those in the rural areas). The Hindu, by and large, believes in the auspiciousness or otherwise of a particular point of time or period.

Islam—Islam enjoins on its followers the profession of faith in one God and His prophet, Muhammad, in prayers (*namaz*), preferably in a mosque, five times a day; keeping fasts (*roza*) in the month of Ramadan; proceeding on Hajj to Mecca; and in giving of *zakat* (that portion of one's income which should be given in charity). Their holy book is the *Quran*, and one who memorises and recites it, is called a *hafiz*.

The Muslims usually offer *namaz* daily but are more particular about it on Friday. On important festivals like Id-ul-Fitr and Id-ul-Zuha, they offer *namaz* collectively at *Idgahs* or some *mosques*. The sacrifice of sheep or goats is also a common feature on the occasion of Id-ul-Zuha (Bakrid).

Many Muslims put faith in *pirs* (saints) and hold *urs*. The Milad celebrations to commemorate the birth of the prophet in the month of Rabi-ul-awwal are occasions of greater rejoicings when the houses are illuminated and religious discourses, highlighting the teachings of Islam are organised.

Sikhism—Sikhism is a monotheistic religion, which disavows idolatry and caste distinction. It enjoins the wearing by each adherent of a *kanghi* (comb), a *kara* (iron bangle), a *kirpan* (dagger), a *kachha* (short drawers) and *kesh* (hair), the cutting of which is prohibited. The Sikhs attend congregational prayers in the *gurudwaras* (place of Sikh worship) and celebrate the birth anniversaries of their gurus, when their holy book, the *Granth Sahib* is taken out in procession.

Christianity—The Christians believe in one God, Jesus Christ. His son, as the saviour of mankind and life eternal. *Bible* is their holy book. Congregational prayers are performed in churches and chapals, particularly on Sundays.

Jainism—The Jains believe in tri-ratna (three gems)—right faith, right knowledge and right conduct which lead to the path of *moksha* (liberation). According to their belief, the world has had no beginning and will have no end, and no creator is necessary to explain the nature of the cosmos. After completely annihilating the *karmic* forces and destroying all the shackles of worldly consequences, the soul exists in its Supreme purity endowed with qualities of infinite perfection, infinite bliss and infinite power. The pure soul is called *jina* and serves as the ideal to be aimed at by these desiring to escape from the cycle of birth and death. The keynote of the ethical code of Jainism *ahimsa* (non-injury to living beings). They worship the images of their *tirthankaras* in the temples.

Buddhism—As elsewhere, Buddhists believe in the eight fold middle path of righteousness, viz., right views, right aspirations, right speech, right conduct, right living, right effort, right mindfulness and right meditation, which leads to the end of sorrow and to the attainment of peace, enlightenment and *nirvana* (salvation). Avoiding the two extremes (one—the life of pleasure and the other—denial of worldly enjoyments) this religion advocates the middle path.

Manners and Customs

Each caste and community in the district has its own district manners and customs, though the external patterns of life of all communities is becoming almost uniform under the socio-economic stress of modern living. From birth to death there is a prescribed ceremony for every important occasion in a person's life. Some of the ceremonies which are prevalent among *Mundan* (the first tonsure of the hair), the Hindus are *Namakaran* (naming a child), *Vidyarambha* (commencement of reading and writing), *Upanayan* (initiation ceremony), and *Vivah* (marriage).

Some of the important ceremonies of Muslims are *aqiqa* (a sacrifice which is divided into two parts, namely, the shaving of the child's head and the killing of one or two goats), *bismillah* (taking the name of god), *khatna* (circumcision) and the *nikah* (marriage).

Funeral Ceremonies

The funeral rites in different castes and communities are more or less uniform throughout the State. The Hindus, including Jains and Sikhs, cremate their dead, while others bury them with some minor local variations. Among the Tharus also the dead are cremated.

Inter-caste Relations

As in other parts of the country, inter-caste relations were till a generation ago very rigid. The members of different castes lived in water-tight compartments and inter-caste dining and marriages were a sort of taboo and looked down upon. The picture has greatly changed now, especially in the post-Independence period. Inter-caste dining is no longer looked upon with disapproval by the people anywhere in the district, particularly in towns. Inter-caste marriages, though not very common, are more frequent than before and many of the traditional restrictions on marriage based on caste are generally disappearing as a result of the spread of education, influences of western culture, equality of sex and consequent removal of disabilities from which women suffered in the past.

New Religious Leaders and Movement

The Arya Samaj is a protestant and reformist movement within the Hindu religion. It was founded in 1869 by Swami Dayanand Saraswati. The Arya Samaj philosophy is monotheistic and professes to be a reversion to the original tenets as given in the *Pedas*. The objective is to reform and remove the perversions and distortions existing in the Hindu faith and to accommodate and assimilate the people in the vedic religion, free from rigid rituals and customs, incorporating in it simultaneously, certain platitudes to which the more educated Hindus can subscribe without misgivings. Arya Samaj condemns idolatry, *Shradh*, early marriage, and is opposed to the prevalence of rigid caste system. They give women a higher status than the orthodox Hindus.

Radhasoami—There are also some followers of Radhasoami sect which is an offshoot of the *bhakti* cult of Hinduism but somewhat different from it. It is open to people belonging to any caste, religion or walk of life. The *satsangis* (followers of the 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-shabad* (the true word), *sat-sang* (the true order or association) and *sat-anurag* (true love).

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

The succession and inheritance to property other than agricultural holdings, among the Hindus, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists is governed by the Hindu Succession Act, 1956. This enactment confers equal rights on sons and daughters in paternal property, but such property can also be distributed through wills or gifts. The sons, who generally live together with their parents and look after the property, in most cases obtain relinquishment of title, rights and interest in the estate by their sisters who are supposed to be the members of other families. Here, transfer through gifts is not so common, as it involves much investment (as stamp duty and registration fee) besides other legal complications. The Muslims are governed by their personal laws of succession and inheritance and the Christians by the Indian Succession Act of 1925.

Devolution of agricultural property is governed by the provisions of U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950, which is applicable to all alike irrespective of their religions.

Joint Family

This institution and co-parcenary systems are still in existence, but they are rapidly disintegrating under the impact of various economic and social forces. The family structure, both in towns and villages, is now losing its solidarity and the common purse, common kitchen and common property in land, are gradually losing their place as characteristics of joint family life, the main causes of the decline being the impact of economic forces, modern ideas and the exigencies of public services. The younger generation being individualistic in outlook, the sons tend to separate and seek a division of the family inheritance soon after the death of the father. The lure of life in cities and towns, and expectation of finding better employment and making a quick fortune, encourages the flow of rural population to urban areas. This, in turn, tends to split up village homes and divide the family. The pattern of family is patriarchal and women are mostly dependent on their men-folk for maintenance and protection. Only a few of them are economically independent and earn their own living.

Marriage and Morals

Monogamy and Polygamy—The Hindu community has been by and large monogamous, but till a few decades ago polygamy was also not uncommon. Polygamy was practised by the economically well-off persons, particularly by former zamindars. In recent times enlightened legislation and public opinion has brought about a monogamous society. The legal responsibility of maintaining the wife and children imposed by law also made polygamous marriages less attractive even to the affluent. The Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 prohibits polygamy and makes it a penal offence for Hindus, Jains, Buddhists and Sikhs.

Among Christians polygamy is prohibited by law and religion. Muslims are permitted by law and custom to have more than one wife, but not more than four at a time, but public opinion and economic factors have appreciably minimised the incidence of such marriages.

Traditional Restriction on Marriage Alliance—Marriage alliances among all castes and communities are subject to certain traditional restrictions based on caste and the degree of relationship between the parties. Generally people still prefer to marry within their own caste and community, though marriages outside the caste are not unknown or as rare as in the past. The government is encouraging inter-caste and inter-religion marriages to secure national integration.

Marriage between blood relations is prohibited among all castes and communities. The Hindus are divided into a number of subdivision or *gotras* which are endogamous and they cannot marry among themselves.

Marriage Customs and Rituals

Among the Hindus of the district, as elsewhere in the State, marriage is a sacrament, its rites being prescribed in the scriptures and to some extent by customs and traditions. A few variations in the performance of the different rites may be noticeable from caste to caste or even from family to family within a caste, but the important ceremonies of *bhannwar* or *saptpadi* (literally going round the sacred fire seven times) and *kanyadan* (giving away of the bride) are essentials of every marriage ceremony. Marriage by registration, which is permissible by law, is not very common. Marriages are generally arranged by the parents, the girl's side usually approaching the boy's for negotiations. The date and time of the marriage is fixed after consulting a priest, who makes astrological calculations regarding the feasibility of the marriage. *Barichha* (engagement) is the first ceremony connected with a Hindu marriage when presents and other gifts are given by the bride's people to the bridegroom and his relatives. The next ceremony is the *tilak* or *lagan* which is performed at the bridegroom's house, the bride's people again sending presents and an intimation of the date and time fixed for the marriage ceremony. For the marriage itself, on the fixed date and time, the bridegroom goes with the *barat* (marriage party) to the bride's house where the ceremony of *dwarpuja* (the reception of the bridegroom at the door of the bride's house) takes place. This is followed by *kanyadan* and *bhannwar* or *saptpadi* followed by *vida* (returning of the *barat* with the bride).

Marriage among the Tharus broadly follows the same pattern as that of the Hindus.

Among the members of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes also, marriage is considered to be a sacred rite. At times the ceremony known as *paipuja* (touching of feet) and *dola* (bringing of bride in palanquin by bridegroom to his house), takes place at the bridegroom's house. Among certain sub-castes observance of the usual rites is not considered essential and only one or more of the following formalities are observed; applying *sindur* (vermilion powder) in the parting of the bride's hair, the giving of a gift by the bridegroom to the bride and in some cases the making of a declaration by the bride of her willingness to accept the bridegroom before the concerned caste panchayat, the reciting of *kathas* and the tying of one end of the bride's garment to the bridegroom's.

Among Muslims marriage is considered to be a contract, the dowry (*mehr*) being fixed before the actual marriage takes place. The proposal of marriage generally comes from the bridegroom's side. After its

acceptance, the *mangni* (engagement) takes place. On the day of marriage the *barat* (bridegroom's party) goes to the bride's house where the *nikah* (marriage) is performed. The bride's *wakil* (agent) who is usually an elderly relative, obtains the bride's consent (to the marriage), in the presence of two witnesses and conveys the same to the bridegroom. The *qazi* (Muslim functionary who solemnises marriage) after obtaining the bridegroom's consent reads *khutbah* and performs the *nikah* (marriage). The bridegroom is then introduced to the bride's family, followed by *rukhsat* (taking leave) whereafter the bride and bridegroom go away to the latter's house. Among the Shias instead of *qazi*, two *mujtahids* or *maulwis* (one from each side) solemnize the marriage.

Among Christians, the marriage is governed by the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872, as amended in 1952. The marriage customs usually follow the same general pattern as elsewhere in the State. The marriage may be contracted either by the parties concerned or may be arranged by parents or 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 solemnised in order to invite objections, if any. On the fixed date the marriage is solemnized in the church by the pastor in the presence of invitees. The main features of the marriage ceremony 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 the bridegroom, the placing of a ring by the bridegroom on the third finger of the bride's left hand, (sometimes the two exchange rings), the pronouncement of the couple as husband and wife by the pastor and the signing of the marriage register by the couple and their witnesses. Wedding festivities then usually follow.

The important ceremonies in a Sikh marriage are the recitation of extracts from the *Granth Sahib*, and the couple going round the holy book seven times. A Sikh marriage party is similar to those of the Hindus, they also go in the form of a *barat* to the bride's place. Then offerings are made at the *gurudwara* and the invitees are entertained.

In a Jain marriage, sacred hymns from scriptures are recited and the deities worshipped. Besides, some of the Hindu rites are also observed such as *kanyadan*, *bhanwar*, etc.

Dowry

The dowry system exists among all the communities in the district in some form or the other. The amount of dowry is generally settled before the performance of marriage, and it is offered and accepted in cash as well as in kind. In spite of the attempts of social reformers of past

CII. III--PEOPLE

and the present, the evil still persists in one form or the other. The government has enacted laws, which prohibit the giving and taking of dowry. Though the evil is deep rooted and has so far resisted attempts at its eradication, the public opinion is, in the changed economic and social set up, gradually gearing round, for abolition of this ruinous customs.

Civil Marriage

The Special Marriage Act, 1954 provides for the performance and registration of marriages by a marriage officer in the district. Civil Marriages are, as a rule not preferred. People resort to it only when marriages under personal laws become impossible.

The number of such marriages performed during the last four years may be known from the following table :

Year	No. of civil marriages
1975	15
1976	54
1977	97
1978	110

Marital Status

The Statement III appended at the end of the chapter depicts the distribution of population of the district according to the marital status in different age-groups as ascertained at 1971 census.

Widow Marriage

The Hindu Widow Remarriage Act, 1856, provides for the remarriage of a widow, but an orthodox Hindu widow usually avoids remarriage though she is aware that widowhood is perhaps her greatest misfortune in life. Long before the promulgation of the aforesaid Act, the Arya Samaj advocated and performed widow marriage according to the vedic rites. But the number of such marriages was very small, particularly among the higher classes. Among the Christians and Muslims remarriage of widow has all along been allowed, but the incidence of such marriages is rare. The Tharus also permit widow remarriage. Orthodox people, to whichever community they may belong, still do not favour it.

Divorce

Before 1955 Hindu law did not recognise divorce except among the Scheduled Castes. The dissolution of marriage among them was, however, possible only with the sanction of the community panchayat. The Hindu

Marriage Act, 1955, has legalised divorce under certain conditions and circumstances. The Muslim law permits the husband to divorce the wife on payment of *mehar* (stipulated amount fixed at the time of marriage). The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act, 1939, gives under certain conditions, the right to seek dissolution of marriage to the wife also. Among the Tharus divorce is easy.

Generally women seek divorce only as a last resort, when there is no alternative left to them. Men are more prone to seek divorce in the expectation of a better life partner, which is much easier for them to obtain than their female counterparts.

People in the society do not view the divorces with equanimity. They are rather looked down with contempt. It is generally the male partner who initiates the proceedings, and more often than not, the spouse resists the divorce. In most cases the parties indulge in character assassination. Notwithstanding the legalisation of the divorce and slow recognition by the society, a general feeling in the society still persists that if a spouse could not adjust and carry on with his/her life partner he/she would not easily be able to adjust and lead a happy married life, in case she/he to remarry, after the grant of the decree of divorce.

During the period, from 1973 to 1977 about 22 cases of divorce were referred to the court, out of which divorce was granted in four cases. Twelve applications for divorce were filed by men and ten by women.

Economic Dependence of Women

Previously the economic dependence of women was proverbial and they were subject to various social handicaps that usually went with their sex. But in recent times women have not only successfully freed themselves from many restrictions from which they suffered earlier, but have also started taking active part in various fields of activity. Many are competing for jobs with men and have creditably earned employment in all cadres of services in public and private establishments. Amongst the lower strata, women work in large numbers as labourers, agricultural and industrial workers and supplement their family income.

Prostitution and Traffic in Women

Before the enforcement of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, there were about forty women practising prostitution in the district. But after the aforesaid enactment, brothels have ceased to exist, though the evil still lurks and has not been eradicated completely. During the year 1978 four prostitutes were challaned in the district. A number of prostitutes now restrict themselves to the profession of dancing and singing only.

Drinking

Liquor is commonly used among the lower strata of the society. Some among the upper strata of the society are also given to drinking. Efforts by the government and other voluntary social organisations to curb the use of alcohol for drinking are continuing.

The Tharus, as a class, are fond of liquor. Even the females and children are addicted to drinking. They also brew their drinks, mainly from rice.

Gambling

The Public Gambling Act, 1867 (Act no. 3 of 1867), as applicable to the State under the Uttar Pradesh Public Gambling Acts of 1952, and 1961, prohibits gambling. But this social evil still persists, in one form or the other, both in the rural and the urban areas.

The following figures show the number of prosecutions and convictions for gambling during the last three years.

Year	Number of prosecutions	Convictions
1975	42	14
1976	32	12
1977	44	29

HOME LIFE

Statement IV at the end of the chapter shows the classification of households in the district by their size and tenure status.

According to the census of 1971, the district contained 3,40,555 households (group of persons ordinarily living and messing together), of whom 3,23,155 were in rural and 17,400 in urban areas. The households in one room tenement was 34.2 per cent, in two room tenements 35.5 per cent, in three rooms houses, 18.7 per cent, in four rooms houses 6.9 per cent, and in five rooms houses 4.7 per cent of the district total. The majority of persons, i.e. 97.8 per cent were found to be residing in their own houses and 2.2 per cent in rented ones.

- In 1971 there were 83 houseless households, having 176 males and 101 females.

The tahsilwise break-up of such population in 1971 is given in the following statement :

District/Tahsil		Houseless population			
		No. of house-holds	Persons	Males	Females
Bahraich District	Total	83	277	176	101
	Rural	62	236	152	86
	Urban	21	41	24	17
Nanpara	Total	28	71	62	9
	Rural	28	71	62	9
	Urban	—	—	—	—
Kaisarganj	Total	5	56	29	27
	Rural	5	56	29	27
	Urban	—	—	—	—
Bahraich	Total	50	150	85	45
	Rural	29	109	61	42
	Urban	21	41	24	17

Type of Dwellings

There is great difference between the shape, size and durability of residential buildings found in the rural and urban areas of the district.

In the rural areas, small and one storeyed structures are most common. The walls are usually constructed of mud, plastered both in and outside with clay and bearing roofs of grass, leaves, reeds, thatch, wood, unburnt bricks or bamboo. In areas where community development schemes have been implemented, ventilators and windows are sometimes met with. The accommodation is scanty and the covered space usually consists of a room and a verandah in front. Sometimes a side room is also provided. Nearly every house has a courtyard, but there is little or no privacy for individual life. Despite these shortcomings, these houses are usually kept neat and tidy.

In urban areas, pakka houses are built with burnt bricks and lime and generally cement plastered with cement. Masonry work accounts for most of the roof material. The houses consist of many apartments, each for specific purpose and provided with adequate ventilation and ingreets.

In Tharu habitations, the material used in construction of houses are wooden posts, rafters and beams, which are procured from the jungles, while the grass wattle, straw and mud are locally available. They are generally rectangular and the roofs are conical in shape. The roofing is seldom done with tiles, grass being most commonly used, which projects on all sides sloping downwards.

Furniture and Decoration

The possession of furniture varies with the economic status of an individual, and his social standing.

The villagers have little furniture except the ordinary string cots, a wooden *takhat* (backless and armless couch), low stools, etc., but financially well off, use chairs made of wood or reed. In towns the officials, flourishing businessmen and other wealthy people go in for modern furniture.

Usually people eat out of metal utensils while sitting on the ground, either on low stools (chowkis) or on mats or carpets. Orthodox people take their meals in or near the *chauka* kitchen. Those who can afford, and have adopted modern ways of living, use dining tables placed in a nearby room or verandah and use crockery or utensils made of stainless steel. They also suitably decorate their rooms, the drawing room receiving particular attention.

Among the Tharus the furniture consists of wooden or stringed bedsteads, stools made of strings with wooden frame work, mats and baskets. In some houses wooden or stringed chairs, all made by the people themselves are also seen.

Dress

In the district the ordinary dress of men, in the urban areas, is a shirt (or *kurta*) and a dhoti or pyjama. While going out, they put on trousers with coat, shirt or bush shirt, etc. In the villages, the common dress is dhoti, *saluka* short shirt and an *angochha* (rectangular multi-purpose scarf) with a turban or cap. The usual garment worn by the women-folk is sari and a blouse. Among the Punjabis the ladies, however, generally wear *salwar* and *kurta* with a *dupatta* (long scarf for the head and shoulder). Some Muslim women still wear *churidar* pyjama or *garara* (wide and loose pyjamas) with *kurta* and *dupatta*. In towns young girls are seen wearing modern dresses like maxi, pants with shirts, bell-bottoms etc.

In the villages, on ceremonial occasions, Hindu females wear *lengha* (long wide skirt) and *saluka* or loose blouse and *orhni* (a long piece of cloth thrown round the upper part of the body).

In urban areas ladies also use cosmetics such as face-powder, creams, lipstick, nail polish, *kajal*, and other beauty aids. A few women also apply *surma* (antimony grinded into fine powder) instead of *kajal* to their eyes. Use of cosmetics is gradually gaining a foothold in the rural areas also.

Ornaments

Men do not wear jewellery, except rings and occasionally a golden chain around their necks. The ornaments worn by the women are usually made of silver and gold. They wear different types of ornaments on the ear, nose, wrist and around the waist and neck according to their status, the more common being bangles, rings, ear-rings and nose-rings; nose stud, armlet, bracelets and anklets. Married Hindu women wear *bichua* (an ornament for the toes). The ornaments worn above the waist are usually made of gold.

In the rural areas women generally wear anklets and *pachhaila* (wristlets) as do those in the urban areas, who have not taken to modern style of life.

The ornaments of the Tharu women are *tika*, necklace, nose-ring, finger-ring, and ear-rings which are made of gold or silver.

Food

The pattern of food habits of the people throughout the district is more or less the same, though there are minor variations in details among various communities. The main staple food of the district is rice, wheat, barley, jowar, gram and other millets. The pulses consumed are *arhar*, *moong* and *urad*.

Usually people, both in the urban and rural areas, in addition to the morning breakfast and afternoon tiffin, take two regular meals a day. The breakfast generally consists of milk or tea and *chapati* or *paratha*. *Gur* (jaggery) and sugar are the chief sweetening agents. Among edible fats, *ghee*, vegetable oil and mustard oil are commonly used. Fruits and fresh vegetables are also consumed, but on no considerable scale. People are fond of spices, pickles and *chutneys*, etc.

Tea, on account of being cheap and easily available, has become the popular beverage with all classes of people. Tea stalls in towns and big villages are fast becoming leisure time gossip centres. In the summer season people prefer cold drinks or sherbet in addition to *lassi* (a drink made of curd) though tea continues to find favour with many.

COMMUNAL LIFE

Several amusement and festivities which are common in other parts of the State, are also prevalent in this district.

In villages folk-songs (*kajri* and *malhar*) accompanied by harmonium and *dholak* (small drum) and recitation of the heroic tales of Alha and Udal provide ample pastime. Religious gatherings, as a pastime in the evening, are common in which recitations from the sacred books is done, mostly by Brahmanas, to the accompaniment of musical instruments. Some festivals are occasions for gatherings and general rejoicings. During spring people sing *phaags* (holi folk-songs) till late at night.

In the urban area the most common and usual entertainment is cinema. In Bahraich district there are four cinema houses, which accommodate about 2,100 persons at a time. The next most common form of entertainment is radio, though some own television sets also. In 1977-78 there were in all 25,950 radio and 35 television sets in the district.

Sometimes shows of documentary films by mobile units are held in the rural areas, which provide healthy entertainment. At times dramatic societies and circuses from outside also visit the district.

Pilgrim Centres

There are three important religious and pilgrim centres in the district, namely, Sravasti, Dargah Sharif and Sita-dohar.

Sravasti, which is situated 48 km. from Bahraich, was presently known as Sahet Mahet. It represents the site of a large fortified, flourishing city, and contains a number of Buddhist and Jain remains of great antiquity. To these the followers of both the religions flock in great numbers.

Dargah Sharif is located in the north of Bahraich city, and is an important religious place of the Muslims. The Dargah (mausoleum) of Saiyed Salaar Masood Gazi built by Mohamad Shah Tughlaq is located here. A fair is also held every year in the month of Jyaistha, to which people flock in large numbers.

Sita-dohar is situated on Bahraich-Ikauna road, 30 km. from Bahraich city. There is a large sheet of water known as the Sita-dohar Tal. It is said that Kasyapa Buddha was born here, and that sage Balmaki had his ashram here. Every year a huge fair is held here on the occasion of Kartiki Purnima, which is attended by thousands of people.

Amusement and Festivities

A number of festivals are celebrated by different communities, which are closely associated with the various systems of time-reckoning or calendars in vogue in the country. The Hindus of the district usually follow the Vikram Samvat (era). Its origin is traced to the

semi-mythical king Vikramaditya, from the date of whose coronation, it is believed to have started. Vikram Samvat precedes the Christian era by fifty six years.

Muslims of the district celebrate their festivals according to Hijri era, but for accounting and commercial purposes, the Vikram era is followed. The Hijri era is Arabic in origin. It originated from the 15th day of July, 622 A.D. in the 42nd year of the life of prophet Muhammad to commemorate his migration (*hijrat*) from Mecca to Madina.

Jains generally follow Vir (nirvana) Samvatsara which began in 527 B. C. from the day, on which Mahavir, the last of the twenty-four tirthankars, attained nirvana.

Christians, as elsewhere, follow the Gregorian calendar, which is generally followed in the country for all practical purposes.

Festivals, as they are celebrated in the country, symbolise peoples' cultural, social and religious aspirations which, besides helping them to lead a fuller and better life, also mitigate its monotony by providing physical diversion and mental recreation. Though principally associated with religion, there are a number of occasions wherein the social aspect assumes prominence. Festivals may be described as special days, periods of time and season, which are so arranged as to ensure both individual and communal rejoicing by practising religion coupled with social joy and domestic happiness.

Hindus—The series of Hindu festivals starts with Sheetla Astami, which falls on the 8th day of first fortnight of Chaitra, the first month of Hindu calendar, when goddess Sheetla is worshipped.

Rama Navami, the ninth day of bright-half of Chaitra, is observed as the birthday of Lord Rama. Devotees fast on this day. The temples of Rama, where recitations of *Ramayana* are a common feature, are decorated and illuminated at night. Fairs are also held at various places in the district.

Naga Panchami is celebrated on the fifth day of the bright half of Sravana when the *nagas* (serpent gods) are propitiated. *Nagas* are offered milk, flowers and rice. It is also celebrated as a rainy season festival when women sing *kajaris* (folk-songs). The women-folk, particularly young girls also indulge in the recreation of swinging which is customary, particularly on this occasion.

Raksha-Bandhan falls on the full-moon day of Sravana. On this day sisters tie *raksha-sutra* or *rakhi* (protective thread or cord) round

the wrists of their brothers, as a token of their affection in return of protection extended by or expected of the latter.

Janamastami, the festival celebrating the birth of Lord Krishna, falls on the eighth day of the dark-half of Bhadra. The devotees fast the whole day, and break it at midnight with the eating of *prasad* (food offered to an idol). Temples and shrines in houses are specially decorated and *jhankies* (glimpses) are arranged depicting various phases of Krishna's life. Singing of devotional songs in praise of the Lord is a special feature of the festival.

Kajri-teej is primarily a festival of the women folk. Women wear colourful clothes, sing *kajri* (folk-song), observe fast and pray. Worship of Mahadeva on the occasion by married ladies is considered to be specially rewarding. Fairs are held on the occasion in several parts of the district.

Dasahra is celebrated on Vijaya Dashmi, the tenth day of the bright half of Asvina. On this and the preceding nine days, Ramlila celebrations are held in different parts of the district. In Ramlila the whole life of Rama is enacted on the stage in the form of a drama. On the day of Dasahra, big fairs are held at certain places to commemorate the victory of Lord Rama over Ravana and the effigies of Ravana, his brother Kumbhakaran and son Megh Nada are burnt at a fixed time in the evening. The festival also occasions universal excitement and enthusiasm.

The immediately preceding nine days are also known as *Navratri* and are devoted to the worship of goddess Durga. The temples of the goddess are given a facelift and decorated for the occasion and are visited by crowds of people for worship and taking part in the festivities. On the tenth day *viserjan* ceremony, (drowning of the idol in river) takes place.

The fourth day of the bright half of Kartika is known as Karva Chauth. On this day, married women fast until the moon is visible. They worship for the well being and long life of their husbands.

Dipavali is another major festival of Hindus. To begin with all buildings both residential and commercial are cleaned and white or colour washed. This festival, proper, is celebrated on the last day of the dark-half of Kartika. Festivities start two days earlier with Dhanteras, the birthday of Dhanvantari, (the divine physician), when metal utensils are purchased as a token of prosperity. On the next day, Naraka Chaudas (or *choti* Diwali), a small earthen lamp (*diya*) is lit by many, near the drain of the courtyard. The following day is celebrated as Dipavali,

when houses and shops are profusely illuminated with earthen lamps, candles or electric bulbs. Goddess Lakshmi along-with Ganesha is worshipped in the evening, followed by a sumptuous and festive dinner with much display of fireworks. For the business class Dipavali marks the start of new fiscal year, and they pray for prosperity in the new year. There is no fasting on this occasion as Divali is regarded as a festival of feasts and rejoicing.

The next day Goverdhan Puja (Annkoot) is performed when a cow-dung replica of Goverdhan Parvat, is worshipped. On the third of bright-half of Kartika, Bhaiya Dooj is celebrated, when females put vermilion mark (*tika*) on the forehead of their brothers.

The Dipavali has a special importance for the Jains also, who celebrate it because, their twenty-fourth *tirthankara*, Mahavir, attained nirvana on this day.

Kartika Purnima, a bathing festival, falls on the full-moon day of Kartika, when people take a bath in the Ghaghara, and other nearby streams. A big fair is held at Sita-dohar, a place 30 km. from Bahraich.

Makar Sankranti is a festival which is celebrated every year on the 13th or 14th of January and people flock to river, for a dip, which is considered holy on this occasion. On this day *khichri* (rice mixed with pulse) is eaten and gifts of *khichri*, ghee, salt, etc. are given to Brahamanas and the poor.

Basant Panchami, which falls on the fifth day of the latter fortnight of Magha, is devoted to the worship of Saraswati, the goddess of learning. A big fair, on this Occasion, is held at Chittora Jheel, which is situated on Bahraich-Gonda road.

Shivratri is celebrated in honour of Shiva and falls on the 13th day of Phalgun. A fast is observed during the day and a vigil is kept at night by the worshipers. The temples of Shiva are specially decorated on this occasion, and devotee offer water, flowers, rice and *belpatras* (the leaves of the *Aegle marmelos*), to the idol, and devotional songs in praise of Shiva are sung throughout the day. Big fairs are held at Sanchauli, Rampur Deoman and Mendhikia, in tahsil Bahraich.

Holi, the festival of spring, falls on the last day of Phalgun. People start singing *phaags* (songs of Holi), long before the actual day of festival. Big open air fires are lit a day before on the important crossroads of every town and village of the district to celebrate the annihilation of the forces of evil. Ears of newly harvested wheat and barley are roasted as offerings to god. Common rejoicing takes place the following day, and

people in gay abandon move in a mood of merriment and throw coloured water and coloured powder on each other till noon. In the evening people visit friends and relations, and exchange greetings with an embrace. This festival is taking the shape of a national festival and is celebrated by people at large, including many who do not profess Hinduism.

There are many big fairs which are held in the district, the more important ones being those held at Chittora Jheel and Barnapur and Singha Parasi. The fair at Chittora Jheel on Bahraich-Gonda road is held every year on Basant Panchami. Teri river originates from this lake. It is said that a fierce battle took place between Saiyed Salar Masood Gazi and Raja Suheldeo, here.

Another important fair is held at Barnapur in Kaisarganj tahsil on Sharad Purnima (full moon day of Asvina) for four days. Originally this fair was organised by Raja Rudra Pratap Singh for the distribution of medicine for asthma which practice still continues.

Another important fair is held every year at village Singha Parasi, to the north of Bahraich city, at the Dargah (mosoleum) of Saiyed Salar Masood Gazi in the month of Jyaistha. It is attended by a large number of people. It is said benediction of the saint cures patients of even leprosy, skin and other diseases.

The Tharus celebrate most of the Hindu festivals with little variations. Dances usually form a necessary part of the celebrations by them. The principal festivals celebrated by them are Dasahra, Divali, Makar Sankranti and Holi.

Muslims—Barawafat, the birthday of prophet Muhammad, is celebrated on the twelfth day of Rabi-ul-Awal. On this occasion alms are distributed and people gather to listen discourses (Milad Sharif) on the life of the prophet.

Shab-e-Barat is celebrated on the night of the fourteenth day of Shaban, when prayers (*jatihas*) are offered by the people for the souls of their departed kins. The festival is marked by display of fireworks and distribution of sweets.

Id-ul-Fitr falls on the first day of the month of Shawal when thanks giving prayers are offered by Muslims in mosques for the successful completion of the fasts of the previous month of Ramadan. People wear new clothes on this occasion and exchange greetings by embracing each other. There is also much rejoicing and feasting in every home and *sewains* (a sweet dish of noodles), is especially prepared.

Id-uz-Zuha (or Bakr-Id) falls on the tenth day of the month of Zilhijja, a commemoration of the occasion, when prophet Ibrahim submitted himself to the will of God. Men attend morning prayers in Idgahs or mosques and on return sacrifice sheep or goats in God's name, either individually or collectively, and distribute part of the meat among relations, friends and the needy.

Muharram, the festival of mourning, is observed on the first ten days of the month of the same name, to commemorate the martyrdom of Imam Husain and his companions on the historic field of Karbala (Iraq). Though the occasion has special importance for the Shias, the Sunnis of the district also take part in some of the observances. The *imambaras*, (building for the performance of religious ceremonies) are illuminated on the eighth and ninth day of the month, where *majlises* are also held from the first to the ninth day. *Tazias* (replicas of the tombs of Imam Hussain and Hasan, generally made of coloured paper and bamboo) are taken out in procession separately by Shias and Sunnis on Ashra, the tenth day.

Chehlum falls on the 40th day from Ashra. It marks the end of the period of mourning.

Sikhs—The important festivals of the Sikhs are the birthdays of their gurus, namely, Nanak Deo, Tegh Bahadur and Govind Singh, when processions are taken out and congregational prayers held in *gurdwaras*. Portions from the *Granth Saheb* are recited. The Baisakhi is another festival celebrated by them, which falls on 15th day of the bright half of Vaisakha. Local fairs are held at *gurdwaras* on each occasion.

Lohri is another festival of Sikhs celebrated with gusto on the eve of Makar Sankranti. It is also celebrated by other Punjabis with equal enthusiasm.

On every festival, *langars* (mass distribution of food) is a special feature in *gurdwaras*.

Jains—The Jains of the district celebrate the birth and nirvana anniversaries of Parashvanath and Mahavir, their twenty-third and twenty-fourth *tirthankaras* respectively. Paryushan, the last ten days of Bhadra, and Asthanika, falling on the last eight days of Kartika are the other important festivals of Jains.

Christians—The main festivals of Christians are Christmas the birthday of Jesus Christ which falls on 25th day of December, Good Friday, (in March or April), the day of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and Easter, (which falls on Sunday in March or April), the day of his resurrection.

People attend services in churches and exchange greetings and presents. On Christmas eve scenes from the nativity of Christ are enacted and cribs are set up in Roman Catholic churches.

A list of all important fairs and festivals held in district is given in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

PUBLIC GAMES AND RECREATION CLUBS

Traditional games of the district are nearly the same as elsewhere in the State. These are *kabaddi*, *gulli-danda*, and kite flying, etc. Among modern outdoor games football, volley-ball, hockey, cricket, and table-tennis are played. Among the modern indoor games, especially in urban areas, carom, chess, ludo and games of cards are popular. Newspaper reading is also a popular habit of the urban elite in the district.

IMPACT OF ZAMINDARI ABOLITION ON SOCIAL LIFE

The U. P. Zamindari and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (Act no. 1 of 1951), which came into force in July, 1952, has brought about many changes in the social and economic life of the people. The zamindars, who were the rural elite and were exploiting the tillers, have been replaced by a community of progressive farmers, who now own land and cultivate it with full vigour, adopting modern techniques of agriculture. All the rights of zamindars were abolished, while not only more land rights were given to the actual cultivators but the same were placed on a sound footing. The practice of *begar* (forced unpaid or under paid labour) and *nazrana* (premium) also was done away with. By elimination of the intermediaries and measures of land reforms not only the per capita availability of farm produce has increased, but the general prosperity of the masses has also improved, manifesting itself in better standard of living, food, dress and other things. The abolition of zamindari may, therefore, be said to have ushered in an era of greater social justice in this district as well.

STATEMENT I
Area and Population

Reference Page No 45

District/Tahsil	Area		Population					
	1971	1961	1971			1961		
	sq. km.	sq. km.	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
District								
Total	6,871.0	6,894.6	17,26,972	9,37,903	7,89,069	14,99,929	7,90,492	7,09,437
Rural	6,855.0	6,878.6	16,24,490	8,82,606	7,41,884	14,20,341	7,47,483	6,72,858
Urban	16.0	16.0	1,02,482	55,297	47,185	79,588	43,009	36,579
Naupara								
Total	2,664.6	2,660.5	5,50,675	2,99,400	2,51,275	4,58,800	2,41,688	2,17,112
Rural	2,662.7	2,658.6	5,31,943	2,89,443	4,42,500	4,44,224	2,33,898	2,10,326
Urban	1.9	1.9	18,732	9,957	8,775	14,576	7,790	6,786
Kaisarganj								
Total	1,765.1	1,765.9	5,11,087	2,77,124	2,33,963	4,58,002	2,41,577	2,16,425
Rural	1,765.1	1,765.9	5,11,087	2,77,124	2,33,963	4,58,002	2,41,577	2,16,425
Urban	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bahraich								
Total	2,463.9	2,468.2	6,65,210	3,61,379	3,03,831	5,83,127	3,07,227	2,75,900
Rural	2,449.8	2,454.1	5,81,460	3,16,039	2,65,421	5,18,115	2,72,008	2,46,107
Urban	14.1	14.1	83,750	45,340	38,410	65,012	35,219	29,793

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

NOTES—1. There has been no jurisdictional change in the district during the decade. The difference in figures is due to revised calculation of area done by the Board of Revenue.
2. According to Central Statistical Organisation of the district in 1971 was 6,871.0 sq. km.
3. In 1976, a new tahsil of Bhinga was created mostly from areas of the Bahraich tahsil.

CH. III—PEOPLE

STATEMENT II
Prominent Mother-Tongues Dialects, etc., 1971

Reference Page No. 50

Languages etc. spoken	No. of persons
Arabic/Arbi	47
Assamese	4
Bengali	1,439
English	7
Gorkhali/Nepali	105
Gujarati	8
Hindi	14,93,562
Malayalam	20
Marathi	56
Oriya	1
Punjabi	944
Rajasthani	54
Sindhi	60
Tamil	10
Telugu	8
Urdu	2,30,510

STATEMENT III

Marital Status

Reference Page No. 61

Age-group	Total population	Unmarried		Married		Widowed		Divorced or separated		Unspecified status	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
0-9	4,35,553	2,25,247	2,10,306	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-14	1,40,326	54,033	54,238	8,850	22,750	40	105	30	100	60	120
15-19	1,33,161	48,438	17,275	33,465	33,513	270	240	90	40	30	—
20-24	1,39,049	18,130	983	56,272	62,054	880	405	185	95	35	10
25-29	1,56,088	8,372	319	76,596	67,471	2,100	880	185	140	25	—
30-34	1,41,992	3,765	195	69,040	63,712	3,025	2,010	120	95	30	—
35-39	1,25,369	2,530	70	65,038	50,396	3,545	3,320	295	125	40	10
40-44	1,16,092	2,095	90	58,545	42,683	4,654	7,695	240	35	55	—
45-49	85,545	1,150	30	45,695	27,360	4,305	6,890	55	40	20	—
50-54	81,609	910	30	40,891	21,779	5,895	12,004	75	15	10	—
55-59	44,062	410	5	21,936	11,013	3,650	6,978	20	20	10	20
60-64	56,340	600	70	21,299	9,485	6,244	18,487	10	20	35	20
65-69	25,792	120	20	10,478	3,720	3,999	7,440	—	15	—	—
70+	43,940	550	5	13,665	4,420	9,37	17,832	20	50	10	10
Age not stated	54	13	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	17,25,972	3,66,363	2,83,677	5,21,870	4,20,156	47,985	84,256	1,325	790	360	190

BAHRIACH DISTRICT

STATEMENT IV
Households with Size and Tenure Status

Reference Page No. 63

District total (Rural/Urban)	Tenure status	Total No. of census households	Households having number of persons									
			One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	No. unspecified			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
District total	Owned and rented	3,40,555	23,315	40,250	49,010	54,305	50,905	1,22,760	10			
	Owned	3,32,990	21,705	39,150	47,835	53,215	150,105	1,20,975	5			
	Rented	7,565	1,610	1,100	1,175	1,090	800	1,785	5			
Rural total	Owned and rented	3,23,155	21,875	38,490	47,170	52,210	48,745	1,14,655	10			
	Owned	3,19,340	20,915	37,885	46,540	51,705	48,320	1,13,970	5			
	Rented	3,815	960	605	630	505	425	685	5			
Urban total	Owned and rented	17,400	1,440	1,760	1,840	2,095	2,160	8,105	—			
	Owned	13,650	790	1,265	1,295	1,510	1,785	7,005	—			
	Rented	3,750	650	495	545	585	375	1,100	—			

STATEMENT V
List of Fairs

Reference Page No. 73

Place	Name of fairs or its association with	Date	Average daily attendance
1	2	3	4
TAHSIL NANPARA			
Babaganj	Dhanush Yagya	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 5	15,000
Bardaha	Mela Bardaha	Pausa, <i>krishna</i> 3	10,000
Ghumna	Ghumna fair	Magha, <i>krishna</i> 30	10,000
Holia	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Jamnaha	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	8,000
Khairi Samsa	Mela Samsa Bada	Vaisakha, <i>krishna</i> 9	10,000
Kariket	Mela Samai Dih	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10	10,000
Kathra Mafi	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	12,000
Masudnagar Basthanwa	Jangali Nathan	Bhadra, <i>krishna</i> 3	8,000
Saraiyan	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	15,000
Urta	Mela Samai Dih	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10	10,000
TAHSIL KAISARGANJ			
Babhnauti alias Golaganj	Navratri	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	8,000
Ghurharipur	Ghur Devi	Asadha, <i>sukla</i> 2—15	8,000
Jiginia Mahipal Singh	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Jiginia Mahipal Singh	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	10,000
Karmullapur	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	5,000
Karmullapur	Magh Amavasya	Magha, <i>krishna</i> 30	5,000
Karmullapur	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	5,000
Katka Marautha	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	10,000
Katka Marautha	Rama Navami	Chaitra, <i>sukla</i> 9	10,000
Kursanda	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	20,000
Maikupurwa	Vaisakha Purnima	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	8,000
Newasi	Aghan Purnima	Agrahayana, <i>sukla</i> 15	5,000

[Contd.

1	2	3	4
Premi Dass Kutti	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> , 15	10,000
Sheikh Dahcer	Kartiki Purnima	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	16,000
TAHSIL BAHRAICH			
Chakar Bhandar	Mela Sahet Mahet (Sravasti)	Vaisakha, <i>sukla</i> 15	15,000
Dikauli	Dikauli	First Sunday of Jyaistha	5,000
Khalilpur	Beria	Asadha, <i>sukla</i> 15	5,000
Masihabad	Suhel Deo	First Sunday of Jyaistha	10,000
Raipur	Mela Jharkhandey Mahadeo	Jyaistha, Bhadra <i>krishna</i> 3 Asvina, <i>sukla</i> 10 and Phalguna <i>krishna</i> 13	5,000
Sachauli	Bageshwar Nath	Jyaistha, <i>sukla</i> 10 Phalguna, <i>krishna</i> 13	8,000
Shahpur Jot Yusuf	Hathiley Pir	First Sunday of Jyaistha	6,000
Singha Parasi	Dargah	First Sunday of Jyaistha	50,000
Tandwa Mahant	Sita Dohar	Kartika, <i>sukla</i> 15	5,000

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

LAND RECLAMATION AND UTILISATION

Land Utilization

The district had a geographical area of 6,91,405 ha. in 1971, of which 6,08,119, ha. was utilised for agricultural purposes. The statement below compares the area of land utilisation in the district during the last three decades and in 1977-78 :

Utilization purpose	Area in hectares			
	1951	1961	1971	1977-78
Total geographical area	6,86,358	6,88,451	6,91,405	6,02,881
Area under forest	83,960	99,306	1,01,219	20,955
Area not available for cultivation (under water)	61,304	60,264	89,912	65,722
Other uncultivated area excluding current fallows	1,02,402	54,569	32,621	33,258
Current fallows	26,381	35,143	18,834	22,242
Total cultivated area	5,67,335	6,11,903	6,08,449	6,24,608
Net cultivated area	4,12,311	4,39,169	4,48,819	4,60,704
Area cropped more than once	1,55,024	1,72,729	1,59,630	1,63,904

Cultivated Area

Prior to annexation, in 1856, the district had considerable areas under forest and the cultivated area was small. In 1858, at the time of the summary Settlement, the total cultivated area was stated to be 2,06,285 ha. or only 35 per cent of the whole. The first regular Settlement took place ten years later (1869) and a great improvement had been effected during that period. The cultivated area was then 2,19,548 ha. in the temporary Settled tracts and 1,01,776 ha. in the rest of the district, excluding forests. Thus over 50 per cent of the area of the district had already come under cultivation.

At the Settlement of 1898 the total cultivated area in the year of verification was 3,56,419 ha. or 59 per cent, the increase in the temporary Settled tracts being about 25.5 per cent. This increase occurred mainly in the upland parganas, specially in Bahraich and Nanpara. The former showed an extension of cultivation amounting to almost 24,362 ha. and latter about 18,210 ha. This increase had come about primarily due

to reclamation of jungle land. Since the Settlement there occurred a further increase, and the cultivated area in 1901 shows an extension of 37,978 ha. bringing the total upto over 65 per cent.

The following statement shows the decennial figures of cultivated area from 1901 to 1971 and in 1977 :

Year	Cultivated area in ha.
1901	3,99,213
1911	3,96,303
1921	3,87,689
1931	3,82,069
1941	3,97,549
1951	4,12,311
1961	4,39,169
1971	4,48,819
1977-78	4,60,704

Double Cropped Area

Side by side with the increase in the cultivated area there has been a notable improvement in the double-cropped area too. At the Settlement of 1869, such area in the temporarily Settled portion of the district was only 35,118 ha. whereas the average for the five years preceding the last Settlement (in 1898) was over 1,06,028 ha. an increase of 190 per cent. Thereafter there further occurred a considerable advance in this direction, the dofasli area for the whole district for 1902 being no less than, 1,43,131 ha.

The following statement shows the decennial figures of the area cropped more than once from 1901 to 1971 and in 1977-78 :

Year	Area cropped more than once (in ha.)
1901	1,45,834
1911	1,31,195
1921	1,21,189
1931	1,34,297
1941	1,55,959
1951	1,55,024
1961	1,72,729
1971	1,59,630
1977-78	1,63,904

The above statement shows that from 1921 to 1911 there has been a considerable increase in the double cropped area. In 1951 the area decreased slightly, but in 1961 it again rose to a great extent. The figure of 1971 showed a slight decrease, but in 1977 this area again increased.

Culturable Area

In 1901, exclusive of groves, the culturable area was 1,35,131 ha. or 22.5 per cent of the whole. In 1911 the area decreased to 1,13,561 ha., but increased to 1,18,646 ha. in 1921. The following statement gives the decennial figures of culturable area from 1931 to 1971 and in 1977-78 :

Year	Culturable area excluding current fallows (ha.)
1931	
1941	1,27,324
1951	1,13,577
1961	1,02,402
1971	54,568
1977-78	32,621
	30,494

Current Fallows

In 1901, the total current fallow in the district was 18,435 ha. In the year 1911 it increased to 32,108 ha. The trend was steadily maintained till 1921, when it was 34,105 ha. A very small decrease was marked in 1931, when this area was 34,009 ha. In the following two decades, however, there was further decrease, it being 29,172 ha. in 1941 and 26,381 ha. in 1951, but in 1961 it increased to 35,143 ha. which figure dwindled to 18,834 ha. in 1971.

Land not Available for Cultivation

The land under this head consists chiefly of sterile *usar* and the sandy tracts broken by ravines along the banks of rivers. Other areas include those occupied by sites, roads, buildings, water and that under other non-agricultural uses.

The areas not available for cultivation according to census years since 1931 are given in the statement that follows :

Classification of uncultivated land	Area in ha.					
	1931	1941	1951	1961	1971	1977-78
Under water	33,914	35,954	33,627	33,253	—	30,358
Under buildings and roads	20,386	21,292	21,711	21,491	—	26,821
Under non-agricultural uses	5,595	5,589	59,66	5,520	—	8,543
Total	59,895	62,835	61,304	60,264	89,912	15,722

Land Reclamation

Land preservation and development through soil conservation measures is vital or successful agriculture. Wind and rain water are the main agents of soil erosion which are accentuated by deforestation and excessive grazing. Due to uneven nature of land there is problem of soil erosion in the district, particularly during the rains. The catchment areas of rivers are specially affected by soil erosion.

IRRIGATION

The district is well provided with means of irrigation which is obtained mainly from wells, tanks and rivers. Owing to the generally abundant rainfall, there is comparatively less need of irrigation in the district than in many other parts of Avadh. In the lowlands, artificial irrigation is seldom required, as the soil, as a rule, possesses sufficient natural moisture. The whole of the upland, however, requires irrigation. At the time of the first regular Settlement the total irrigated area was 14,663 ha. or only 6.6 per cent of the cultivation. In the later years there was a noticeable increase.

The following statement shows the decennial figures of irrigated area from 1901 to 1971 and in 1977-78 :

Year	Total irrigated area (ha.)
1901	27,541
1911	21,826
1921	33,179
1931	27,194
1941	36,187
1951	32,215
1961	32,003
1971	55,465
1977-78	72,675

It has been noticed that the area irrigated largely varied inversely with the rainfall and the proportion of wet to dry land has never been stable till 1961. Thereafter there has been a steady and considerable increase in the irrigated area possibly because more and more land was being brought under the high yielding variety of seeds which not only need more frequent but assured irrigation. In 1971, it increased to 55,044 ha. which further increased to 72,675 ha. in 1977-78.

The following statement shows the extent of area irrigated from different sources in 1961-62, 1970-71 and in 1977 :

Years	Area irrigated (in ha.)					Total
	Wells	Tube-wells	Canals	Tanks	Other sources	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1960-61	6,988	3,955	—	17,278	3,784	32,005
1970-71	8,301	23,638	203	22,467	435	54,844
1977-78	7,398	54,613	396	10,126	112	31,135

Means of Irrigation

The means of irrigation consist of wells, tube-wells tanks, lakes and canals besides minor irrigation works. An account of different means of irrigation follows :

Canals—Irrigation by canals is very nominal. Only Bhinga Tahsil is having such irrigation facility. In 1977-78 the area irrigated by canals was 396 ha. only.

Reservoirs—There are three reservoirs namely Rampur Bangaghwa and Motipur. Each of the first two have 19.2 ha. of irrigation channels. All the three reservoirs put together irrigate an area of 5,272 ha. in Kharif and 1,762 ha. in Kabi.

Wells—The wells form an important source of irrigation. The great bulk of the well-irrigation is carried on from the ordinary earthen-wells, which are easy to construct, as the water level is in no case vary far from the surface, the average even for the uplands being not more than 5.4 metres. Over half of the well are to be found in the Bahraich tahsil and over one-third in Kaisarganj. In 1901 no less than 423 masonry wells and 1,450 half-masonry wells were employed for irrigation. Since then their number gradually increased which in 1955-56 stood at 7,854. All these wells are worked by the ordinary hand lever or *dhenkli*, so common throughout Avadh. These are almost universally found in clusters, the cultivators forming themselves into a co-operative body for the purpose of getting a good flow of water to each mans' field in turn.

Tube-wells

The soil of the district and the water-level is suitable for drilling of tube-wells and they eminently have played significant role in bringing more area under the assured irrigation. In 1977-78, the total number of State tube-wells was 209 and the area irrigated by them was 54,613 ha.

CH. IV—AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Tanks—Of the various sources of irrigation next to tube-wells the tanks still occupy the most important position. At the first regular Settlement nearly 73 per cent of the area was watered from tanks. In 1901 such area was 15,742 ha. Two-thirds of this was to be found in the Ikauna and Bahraich parganas, while in Nanpara, Charda and Bhinga tank-irrigation largely exceeded that effected from wells. Invariably irrigation from tanks is done by lifting the water with the help of wicker baskets, usually by a couple of persons and releasing the same in fields or water channels as the periphery of the tanks.

Minor Irrigation Works

Minor irrigation works are another important source of irrigation in the district. The statement below shows their number during different Five-year Plan periods and in 1977-78 :

Name of Scheme	First five-year plan	Second five-year plan	Third five-year plan	Fourth five-year plan	1977-78
Masonry wells (No.)	52	287	5,929	1,999	210
Persian Wheels (No.)	2	21	471	182	10
Pumping sets (No.)	—	30	372	2,247	876
Private tube-wells (No.)	10	53	339	1,140	1,197
Boring	14	114	929	6,895	3,106

Out of the 14 districts in the State Bahraich was selected by World Bank Team for the development of minor irrigation potential. The scheme known as U. P. Agricultural Credit Project envisages the development of masonry wells, pumping sets with or without boring, electric and diesel tube-wells, persian wheels, etc.

Water Potential and future possibilities of Irrigation

The soil of the district is generally fertile and can be, by assured irrigation, put to better and more productive use. Hence by installation of more State tube-wells and construction of canals in such areas more land can be brought under permanent irrigation.

In most parts of the district minor irrigation schemes have had good response from the cultivators in the district, particularly in U. P. Agricultural Credit Project, sanctioned by the World Bank.

Saryu canal project consisting Rs 78.43 crores is under construction. An area of 9 lakhs ha. of Rabi and 3.5 lakhs ha. of Kharif is proposed to be irrigated under this scheme. The total length of main canal and distributaries are expected to be 255 km. and 1,000 km. respectively.

AGRICULTURE

Soil

The different natural divisions of the district have different classes of soils. Generally speaking, the prevailing soil is a fertile loam, varied by small patches of clay in the depressions. There is very little *bhur* or sandy soil, most of it being found in the south-west along the banks of the Ghaghara river and on the extreme edge of the Central plateau where the constant drainage seems to have denuded the land of the upper stratum of the good soil which covers with a varying depth the sandy layers beneath. At the Settlement of 1898, the soil classification was based on two different systems. In the parganas of Bahraich and Hisampur a natural classification was adopted while in the rest of the district the land was demarcated under an artificial system. Thus in these two parganas the assessment was based on the division of soil into *duras* or loam, *mattiyar* or clay, *bhur* or sand, and *Kachhar*, a special alluvial soil. In the remaining portion of the district there were three classes, known as *goind*, the highly cultivated and manured land immediately adjoining the village site, *miyana* the middle zone, which forms the bulk of the cultivation and *har*, the outlying tract which from its position received but scanty attention and is generally composed of the poorer soils. The *goind* soil is well known throughout Avadh and corresponds to the *bara* land of the western districts. The *miyana* is the same as the *manjhar* of other parts, which is also known as *misan*. The *har* land corresponds to the *palo* of Gonda. It was further subdivided into *bhur* and non-*bhur*, but there is so little real *bhur* soil in the district that the distinction is of little value.

Harvests

The harvests of the district are the same as elsewhere and under the same names. The Kharif is more important harvest owing chiefly to the large area under paddy. At the time of the Settlement of 1898, the average area sown in the Kharif or autumn harvest was 2,11,489 ha. and in the Rabi, 1,91,921 ha. The average area cultivated in the Kharif from that year to 1901 was about 2,64,866 ha. while the Rabi covered about 2,04,287 ha. The small Zaid or hot weather harvest of miscellaneous crops is of little importance, covering as it did on an average about 607 ha. More notable improvement was to be seen in the double cropped area. At the Settlement of 1869 the temporarily Settled portion of the district area under double crops was only 36,118, ha. whereas the average for the five years preceding the Settlement of 1898 was over 1,06,028 ha., an increase of 190 per cent.

The Kharif crops are sown in Asadha-Sravana (June-July) and reaped in kartika-Agrahayana-Pausa (October-November-December). The

preparation of fields for the Rabi sowing commences soon after the cessation of the rains and the crops are sown in Kartika-Agrahayana. The Rabi crops are harvested from the month of Chaitra (Approximately March) up to Jyaistha (approximately May). An idea may be had regarding the relative figures of the area under Kharif, Rabi and multiple crops in the district for certain years during the period 1951-1977 from the following data:

Year	Area under Kharif (ha.)	Area under Rabi (ha.)	Area under multiple crops (ha.)
1951-52	3,34,453	2,60,402	1,27,640
1961-62	3,58,976	2,63,047	1,78,175
1971-72	3,54,234	2,51,800	1,59,630
1976-77	3,80,917	2,56,396	1,20,996

Kharif

Most widely cultivated crop in the district is the paddy, covering about 45 per cent of the Kharif harvest. It is chiefly grown in the Bahraich and Nanpara tahsils. In the *tarai* tracts of Bhinga and in suitable depressions, the paddy crop is transplanted for harvesting in November. The early paddy is of most importance in the central plateau. It is sown in Asadha and cut in Kartika, the most important species are the *sathi batisar*, *mutamari*, *anjani* and *rudwa*. The transplanted rice is sown in Asadha and cut in Agrahayana, the principal species being known as *dherwa* and *latera*. The increase in the area under paddy has been noticeable. In 1951-52 it was 1,47,075 ha. It rose to 1,67,159 ha. in 1961-62 and it further increased to 1,81,426 ha. in 1971. The district had the largest area under paddy in Faizabad division.

The next Kharif crop in order of importance is the maize, which is the staple autumn crop of the loam soils in the low lands of the Rapti and Ghaghara. It occupies the second position in the district so far as the area sown is concerned. The light and porous soil is more suited for maize. Like paddy the district had the largest area under maize too of the Faizabad division.

The other Kharif crops deserving mention are *jowar*, *arhar* and *kodon*. The major portion of jowar crop is sown in Nanpara tahsil. In the lowlands it is frequently sown every year with maize and on the plateau with *arhar*. *Kodon*, an inferior grain that forms the staple food

of the people, is almost universally sown with *arhar* in the loam soils of the upland parganas in rotation with early rice and spring crops. In 1961, *Kodon* occupied an area of 21,978 ha. and *arhar* an area of 1,732 ha. In 1971 the area under *kodon* decreased to 15,287 ha. and that of *arhar* to 1,551 ha. The following statement gives some relevant details of the main Kharif cereals in the district in 1972-73 :

Crops	Area sown (ha.)	Total Production (in tonnes)	Average yield per ha. in district (q.)	Average yield per ha. in State
Rice	1,72,294	96,485	5.60	7.48
Maize	1,45,356	1,07,181	7.37	7.34
Bajra	787	857	10.88	6.63
Jowar	801	648	8.09	7.19
Kharif pulses	4,072	736	—	—

Rabi—In the Rabi, wheat, as usual, takes the first place in the district. So far as the area is concerned it is second in importance. Significant progress has been made in cultivation of high yielding and improved varieties of wheat. It is sown alone and also in combination with barley, peas and gram. The extent of pure wheat is 29 per cent and it is thus grown largely in Kaisarganj tahsil, where mixed wheat occupies a very secondary position. The latter is chiefly grown in the Bahraich tahsil. Wheat requires good soil, careful tillage and an assured supply of water.

Gram is second in importance of all Rabi crops and is sown all over the district. Gram, peas and *masur* are almost sown in combination, and the same applies to barley. Hence it is difficult to arrive at accurate detailed figures for each crop. Gram flourishes in all types of soils.

Formerly barely had a considerable area under it, averaging 35,410 ha. or 17 per cent of the Rabi area. The increase in barley is in proportion infinitely below the general increase in cultivation, and this may be regarded as a good sign. It is sown in poorer soils and in the more backward tracts. It is seldom sown alone and is generally mixed with wheat or gram or both.

Peas are somewhat similar crop (like gram) and are also sown as a rule in succession to maize or some other Kharif staple. They do best in the lighter soils.

The following statement gives some relevant particulars regarding the main Rabi cereals produced in the district in 1972-73 :

Crops	Area sown (in ha.)	Total production (in tonnes)	Average yield per ha. in district (q.)	Average yield per ha. on State (q.)
Wheat	1,47,649	1,21,755	8.25	1.200
Gram	36,450	20,883	5.73	7.52
Barley	24,879	13,272	5.33	10.15
Pea	2,359	1,473	6.25	6.20
Masur	18,208	11,147	6.12	6.23

Non Food Crops

Oil seeds like linseed, *til* and mustard, sugar-cane, and vegetables are the chief non-food crops.

The following statement gives some relevant details of the main non-food crops in 1972-73 :

Crops	Area sown (ha.)	Total production (in M. tonnes)
All types of oil-seeds	22,651	7,947
Sugar-cane	5,424	1,99,003
Potato	1,183	11,235

Sericulture

The district has been covered under the State Government's Sericulture development scheme since 1965-66. The rearing of silk worm has wide scope around Mihinpurwa. Jajwapur, Maalthipur and north-south belt of Bhinga.

Rotation of Crops

The most common rotations of crops practised by the cultivators of the district are paddy-wheat, paddy-gram, paddy-peas, maize-wheat, maize-potato and sugar-cane-peas.

Mixed Cultivation

The main mixed crops are *arhar-kohan*, bajra, paddy-*kodon* wheat-mustard, wheat, barley gram, peas, etc. The practice of growing more than one crop in a field at the same time, gives additional harvests besides maintaining its fertility. Usually the pests, diseases and adverse weather conditions do not affect all the crops equally.

Progress of Scientific Agriculture

Prior to Independence the farmers of the district, as elsewhere in the State, followed the age-old and traditional methods of cultivation. Soon after, however, it was realised that the old methods of cultivation were not only outmoded but also unable to cope with the ever-increasing demand for food-grains. Improvement in the pattern and techniques of cultivation were, therefore, adopted, due emphasis being laid on intensive cultivation in the schemes under the different Five-year Plans.

Improved and scientific methods of growing various crops, such as wheat, barley and gram, were popularised. The sixties of this century saw the beginning of green revolution in the country under which intensive cultivation and sowing of seeds of high yielding variety was actively encouraged. Pioneering work in this behalf is being done by government agricultural farms in the district. Various other agencies of the Central and the State Governments, the Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, agricultural colleges, Universities and research centres in the country have not only assisted in reorientation of the farmer for adopting better and scientific methods of agriculture but have helped in putting the cultivation on a sound footing and boosting the yield considerably.

Besides making arrangements for the supply of improved seeds, scientific implements, fertilisers and manures and extending improved agricultural practices to the cultivators, the agriculture department also provides technical advice and guidance on agricultural problems.

The State Government through its various schemes have successfully persuaded the cultivators of the district to take to new agricultural technology, mainly resting on the use of seeds of exotic and high yielding varieties of different crops, and application of fertilizers and plant protection measures. An idea may be had regarding distribution of seeds, loan advanced, distribution of fertilizers and plant protection work in the district in 1977-78 from the following statement :

Items	Achievement
Distribution of fertilizers	6,034 Tonnes
Area under plant protection	44,710 ha.
Loans advanced	Rs. 1,53,980
Wells constructed	21
Seeds of food grains distributed	12,190 Quintals
Seeds of Vegetables and fruits distributed	60 Quintals
Number of implements distributed	9,325

Agricultural Implements and Machines

The traditional implements like *hansiya* or sickle, *khurpa* or hoe, etc. have been to a large extent, replaced by modern implements. The improved implements which are used in the district include tractors, powers threshers, bullock drawn threshers, winnowing fans, mould wood ploughs, seed drills and cultivators. The statement below shows the number of agricultural implements and machines distributed in 1977-78 :

Implement	Number
Plough	3,150
Cultivator	564
Power thresher	150
Others	5,461

Seed Supply

The supply of seeds to the farmers of the district is made through the seed stores maintained by the agriculture and co-operative departments and also by private dealers and agencies. In 1977-78 there were 19 seed stores of the agriculture department and 22 of the co-operative department. During the year (1977-78) the agriculture department (seed stores) distributed 739 quintals of paddy, 67 quintals of maize, 45 quintals of pulses, 1,038 quintals of wheat and 11 quintals of oil-seeds to the cultivators.

Besides, the seed stores of the co-operative department distributed 200 quintals of paddy and wheat seeds on cash payment and 10,091 quintals of seeds on *sawai* basis.

The work of seed multiplication is carried on in two government farms as well as by select progressive farmers. Standard seeds are distributed to them, who in turn raise and multiply it and make it available to other cultivators through barter system. The two seed multiplication farms maintained by the agriculture department are located at Nanpara and Mihinpurwa. Efforts are being made to cover larger areas under seeds of high yielding varieties.

Soil Nutrients

The district has been since long using the traditional manures like cattle dung, farm refuse and stable litter. Of late, however, the efficacy and utility of different fertilizers and their nutrient value in increasing the yield of different crops has been realised. Amongst the nitrogenous

fertilizers urea is by far the most popular and is largely used. Nevertheless the average use of fertilizer per hectare in this district is only 4.4 kg. as compared to 10.21 kg. of the State average.

The usefulness of green manure crops such as *sanai*, *dhaincha* and *moong*, which provide nitrogenous matter to the soil and increase its fertility, is also being increasingly realised. The area under green manure crops was 500 ha. in 1977-78. Chemical fertilizers of the nitrogenous, phosphatic, potassic and zincsulphatic groups, the use of which is picking up, are besides private agencies, distributed by agriculture, co-operative, cane department and the U. P. State Agro Industrial Corporation Limited. The following statement shows the distribution of chemical fertilizers (in tonnes) during various agriculture campaigns held in 1978-79 :

Name of campaign	Chemical fertilizers distributed (in tonnes)		
	Nitrogenous	Phosphatic	Potassic
Kharif	3,777	1,562	695
Rabi	8,000	3,325	1,500

Government Agriculture Farms

There are two government agriculture farms in the district a 40 ha. farm at Nanpara and another 30 ha. farm at Mihinpurwa. They are well equipped with modern and scientific agricultural implements such as tractors, power threshers and cultivators etc. The average yield of paddy in these farms varies between 2.5 to 3.5 quintals per ha. of wheat between 2 to 3.5 quintal per hectare and of gram the average yield is about 0.5 quintals per hectare.

Agricultural Diseases and Pests

The paddy crop of the district is frequently and often considerably damaged by a disease commonly known as *gundhi*. It is a slender green insect which sucks the sap of the developing ears of the paddy causing them to turn white. Another disease commonly known as *jhulsa* or *jhoka* also attacks the paddy crop at times. Caterpillars also do a great deal of harm by eating the leaves of growing plants or boring into the unripe seed pods and eating up the seeds. Those attacking the seed pod of gram, peas and *arhar* are green in colour and about 1.54 cm. in length. Their ravage are not so obvious while the crop is standing, but when the pods are opened, the seed may be found to be missing. Among insect pests, harming vegetables and fruit plants, plant lice and mealy bugs are most common. Melon fruit flies cause much damage to melons, cucumber

and pumpkins. Fruit flies and mango hoppers are the foes of fruit crops while termite and sugar-cane borers do considerable damage to sugar-cane.

Damage by birds and stray cattle is also considerable and driving them away is the only method adopted for saving the crops.

The scientific method for control of pests and diseases adopted in the district are dusting with B. H. C. and sulphur, spraying with D. D. T., etc. In 1977-78 the area covered by plant protection programme was about 44,710 ha. It included 28,843 ha. protected from rats and 7,157 ha. protected from various insects. Further, 22,807 quintals of seeds were treated for seed borne diseases.

In 1977-78 there were 51 plant protection depots in the district with a storage capacity of 10,000 tonnes. These depots function as distribution centres for different type of pesticides and insecticides for pest and disease control.

To control the soil borne diseases and weeds treatment of soil with different types of fungicides, pesticides, weedicides is also undertaken by the department. Various leafy growths and weeds are also overcome by systematic and timely intercutting and deep ploughing. The plant protection staff posted in the district gives free advice to the cultivators in plant protection measures for raising healthy crops including those of fruits and vegetables.

HORTICULTURE

The district has two nurseries of fruit and vegetable plants such as guava, *ber*, *aonla*, pear, papaya, lemon etc. The department also provides farmers with improved varieties of vegetable seeds for multiplication. In 1977-78 both the nurseries distributed about 50,000 plants and about 50 quintals of vegetable seeds. The area under vegetables in the district is 30,000 ha. and that under fruit is 30,500 ha.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Area Under Fodder Crops

The grazing areas are open grass lands with scattered trees and patches of forest of inferior species. In 1977-78 the fodder crops—M. P. Chari, *lobia*, *berseem*, oat and P.G. Napier covered an area of 172 ha.

Dairy Farming

At the first regular Settlement the number of plough-cattle was estimated at 2,23,513. In August, 1899 regular census was taken of the live-stock ploughs and carts in the district. The returns showed a total of

2,94,732 bulls and bullocks and 28,355 male buffaloes. Young stock numbered about 2,29,000, a higher figure than in any other district of Avadh save Gonda, and the high proportion borne to the adult stock is an illustration of the amount of breeding carried on in the district.

The number of cows in 1899 was stated as about 2,91,000 and cow buffaloes nearly 93,000. In 1956, the number of bulls was 4,45,563 and that of cows 3,45,153. The number of cow buffaloes was stated as 1,61,160, and male buffaloes as 90,542.

In 1961, the number of bulls was 4,51,079 and that of cows 3,87,028. They were kept for breeding and milk production. Male buffaloes numbered 1,05,303 and female ones numbered 1,72,883.

According to live-stock census of 1972 there were 3,27,053 bull and bullocks and 2,35,605 cows.

The number of buffaloes in the district has always been lower than that of the cows and bulls. At the live-stock census of 1972 male buffaloes numbered 77,131 and cow buffaloes 1,42,096. The reason of the small number of male buffaloes may be attributed to the disinclination of certain persons, to use these animals in the plough. These figures are proportionately very high and indicate that Bahraich is not only a breeding district, as is the case wherever the number of cows approaches or exceeds the number of bulls and bullocks, but also has a large *ghee* industry, the unusual number of cow buffaloes being an important factor in this connection.

Sheep and Goats

The district possesses a large number of goats estimated at 1,91,134 in 1972 highest figure in the whole of the Faizabad division. In the same year the number of sheep was 31,069. They are both reared and kept for wool, for food and for penning on the land.

For improving the local breed of sheep there is a sheep and wool extension centre at Fakarpur where 50 rams are operating. These rams are distributed to the sheep breeders during mating season.

Likewise to improve the local breed of goats 10 buck centres are maintained for breeding purposes. The bucks are also issued to private breeders.

Poultry Farming

Poultry farming, as subsidiary occupation, is becoming popular in the district. According to the live-stock census of 1972 the poultry then numbered 39,457.

Birds

Birds of improved breed are supplied by Government poultry farm, Faizabad, and Chak Ganjaria farm, Lucknow. The total number of improved birds distributed in the district in 1977-78 was 18,858.

Fisheries

Practically the various species found in the district are the same as those found elsewhere in Avadh. The common species are *rohu* (*Labeo rohita*) *nain* (*Cirrhina mrigala*) *bhukur* (*Catla catla*) *Karaunch* (*Labeo calbasus*) *Bata* (*Labeo bata*) *parhin* (*Wallagonia attu*) *tengan* (*Mystus*), *chanda* (*Ambassis nama*) and *Mahaseer* (*Barbus spp*), etc. The methods of fishing are almost the same as practised in neighbouring districts. They are caught with net, rod and line, various forms of wicker baskets and traps, and also with the *pachhi* or five-pronged spear. Fish find a ready sale in the local markets and are used as food by a good number of people.

The main activities of the fisheries department include development and exploitation of reservoirs for pisciculture and supply of fingerlings to private breeders and Gaon Samaj under the small water scheme and applied nutrition programme.

In 1977-78 there were five nurseries one each at Malang, Payagpur, Diha, Fakarpur and Mela Saraiya. The area of first two nurseries was 6 ha. each and that of last three was 2 ha. each. About 15.20 lakh fingerlings were stocked in the Malang nursery and about 2.50 lakh in the Diha nursery. Between 1952 to 1977 four co-operative societies of fisheries, namely, Adarsha Matsya Jivi Sahkari Samiti Limited, Bhopani; Nanpara Matsya Jivi Sahkari Samiti; Adarsha Matsya Jivi Sahkari Samiti, Itaha, and Dabora Narkule Matsya Jivi Samiti, Limited were established in the district for production and development of fishery and trade connected therewith.

Development of Live stock

The development of agriculture is co-related with the development of live-stock as the latter provides the required motive power for various agricultural operations besides being the only source of organic manure for the fields and milk as an item of food. Moreover, the bullocks still play an important role as a draught animal for pulling carts which are, as yet, the chief means of rural transport.

Before Independence the veterinary hospitals were primarily concerned with the treatment of diseased animals and vaccination only. With the beginning of the First Five-year Plan, importance was attached to cattle development also. For this purpose the policy of animal husbandry department was reoriented, emphasis being laid on animal husbandry instead of only control of diseases. The two departments of veterinary

and animal husbandry were, therefore, merged and a post of district live-stock officer was created. The co-operative department too advances loan for purchase of improved animals and the milch animals. In 1977-78 co-operative department gave a loan of Rs 1,53,980 for purchase of bullocks and milch animals.

For maintaining the good breed of animals the weak and inferior ones are castrated in the district.

The following statement gives the number of cattle castrated and those provided with artificial insemination service from 1972-73 to 1977-78 :

Year	Number castrated	Number inseminated
1972-73	28,994	14,668
1973-74	18,236	15,168
1974-75	21,448	14,668
1975-76	21,763	11,670
1976-77	7,437	13,438
1977-78	11,302	15,744

Animal Diseases and Veterinary Hospitals

Like all other districts of Avadh, cattle diseases are seldom, if ever, absent from the district. The more common diseases affecting the cattle are rinderpest, foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax. There was a fearful epidemic of rinderpest in 1895, when nearly 5,000 animals were recorded as having died from this cause. Other outbreaks occurred in 1900 and 1901 but were not so severe. Foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax are constant factors in cattle mortality, the worst years being 1895, 1899 and 1901. The disease is most prevalent in the lowlying tracts. The treatment usually advocated by villagers for foot-and-mouth disease is the application of lime to the feet, fomentation of the mouth and the surrounding parts with a hot decoction of the bark of the *palas* or *dhak* tree and also occasionally to make the affected cattle stand in pools of muddy water. Fowl pox and ranikhet disease are common among the birds of the district. With the establishment of veterinary hospitals and growing general awareness, the rural folks have started realising the efficacy of modern methods of prevention and treatment of cattle diseases. For infectious diseases mass vaccination of animals and birds is undertaken every year. The following statement shows the number of animals treated and vaccinated

against various diseases in the district during the period from 1972-73 to 1977-78 :

Year	No. of animals treated	No. of animals vaccinated against various diseases
1972-73	11,05,388	2,21,916
1973-74	11,0,140	1,66,389
1974-75	94,413	2,16,320
1975-76	98,273	2,47,643
1976-77	81,273	1,83,121
1977-78	78,689	2,13,252

In 1977-78 there were 24 veterinary hospitals and 26 stockman centres functioning in the district in addition to 14 artificial insemination centres, 22 artificial subcentres and 6 key village units.

FORESTRY

The heavy rainfall in the north has produced abundant forests along the Nepal border and are generally continuation of the tract of jungle in that country. They are of considerable value and importance, yielding good forest produce in fair proportion. Among the trees that grow, the more common and important ones are *sal* (*Shorea robusta*), *tun* (*Cedrela toona*), the *sheesham* (*Dalbergia-sisoo*), *khair* (*Acacia Catechu*) and the *semal* (*Bombax malabaricum*). In 1977-78 the area covered by the forests was 84,496 ha.

The main forest produce are gum, honey, hides and horns, flowers, fruits, bamboos, medicines, firewood, thatching grass, etc. Some more details are given under fauna in Chapter I (General) of this volume.

STATE ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE

The bulk of the land holdings are not generally large and as such the farmers are not in a position either to make much improvement on their lands or to purchase improved implements, seeds and chemical fertilizers, etc., on their own. To enable them to adopt modern methods of cultivation and make improvements the State Government gives assistance in the form of different types of loans. During the period from 1971-72 to 1976-77, Rs 2,75,000 were distributed as loan by the agriculture department.

The co-operative department also gives financial assistance to the farmers. In 1977-78 the department advanced an amount of Rs.1,53,980 as loan for agricultural purposes.

NATURAL CALAMITIES

Due to its geographical position the district is not, as a rule, liable to suffer so much from drought as from excessive rainfall. Floods are more in evidence than a failure of the seasonal rains. Such floods are of course, confined to the lowlying tracts, but are seldom of much consequence. During the fifteen years, ending 1903, on only one occasion in 1897, on account of floods in Ghaghara the Kharif revenue to the extent of Rs 1,736 relating to one village of Hisampur had to be postponed till the following spring.

Famine

There are no records of any periods of severe scarcity in Bahraich. The principal causes of scarcity, have almost invariably been the deficiency of cash on account of poverty of the peasantry. As a matter of fact, however, the district is so well situated for the monsoon rains, and the winter rains so seldom fail, that the chance of failure of all the crops is extremely remote. The principal effect of an exceptionally dry season is merely to curtail the sowings of second crops after maize and early rice.

Earlier records show that Bahraich district was unaffected by famine in the year 1769, and even in the terrible Chalisa of 1781 it apparently escaped. There was then great scarcity in the eastern parganas of Gonda. The district consequently felt its influences but only in a minor degree.

In the famine of 1837 the spring crop failed in the extreme north of Avadh averaging about 32 km. in breadth. Thus there was a partial famine in the district in the following year. The distress was greatest in Nanpara, where all the day-labourers were unemployed and relief works had to be started. The prices were not very high but the difficulty lay in the scarcity of money. Elsewhere there was a fair harvest of maize and *kodon*, and a normal state of things was re-established, by a comparatively good Rabi.

During the famine of 1877-79 most classes of the people were straitened by reason of the high prices prevailing, and some were actually distressed, specially in the town of Bahraich. In the villages the labour and the non-agricultural population was, as usual, the most affected. The drought was greatest in Kaisarganj tahsil, and the distress was enhanced by a large influx of people from district of Bara Banki. The district, however, held large stocks of accumulated grain and the pressure was thus mitigated. The relief works consisted of repairs to the Bahraich-Bahramghat road and improvement of village roads. At the poor-house some 5,000 persons were relieved in four and half-months, while other relief was given to *pardanashin* women, who received cotton for spinning

into thread which was afterwards sold. The municipality also started relief works in the shape of repairs to roads and filling up excavations, while similar works were in the charge of the trustees of the Saiyed salar Dargah.

During the famine of 1896-97 the only crop which was seriously injured was the transplanted rice, but the damage was not very extensive. The loss of this crop caused distress to those who relied on it alone for sustenance during the winter months. Actually there was no famine in Bahraich, the Kharif of 1896 was over 50 per cent of the normal, and this was followed by a good Rabi harvest, so that although there was famine in Sitapur and Bara Banki districts and scarcity in Kheri and Gonda, this district escaped almost untouched.

The district was again visited by a famine in 1907. Thereafter there is no reference of any famine or drought till 1963-64, when the district suffered much on account of a drought which affected an area of 95,370 ha. of Nanpara tahsil the most. At that time a remission in land revenue had to be given to the extent of Rs 4,75,435.

Again in 1966-67 due to inadequate and uneven rains a drought visited the district affecting an area of 1,15,424 ha. in Nanpara and an area of 4,49,767 ha. in Kaisarganj. Gratuitous relief was given to the tune of Rs 1,000 in Kaisarganj tahsil and a remission in land revenue was given to the extent of Rs 4,75,436 in Nanpara tahsil.

The drought of 1972-73 was not very severe. The affected area of Bahraich tahsil amounted to 63,390 ha. only. Gratuitous relief given amounted to Rs 20000.

The next year Nanpara tahsil was the only tahsil which suffered due to drought when only 18,060 ha. was affected. As this drought was not very severe, so the need of remission was not felt. A sum of Rs 4,92,161 in land revenue was, however, suspended.

The year 1977-78 was very unfortunate for the district. Drought, floods and hailstorm visited the district. Drought affected the Bahraich and Nanpara tahsils the most. The area affected in the former was 7,197 ha. and in the latter 7,902 ha. A remission in land revenue was given to the extent of Rs 49,026 and a suspension was granted in land revenue to the extent of Rs 91,77,959.

Flood

Floods are more in evidence than a failure of seasonal rains. Such flood are of course confined to the lowlying tracts but seldom of much consequence. During the fifteen years ending 1903, on only one occasion

in 1897, on account of floods in Ghaghara, the Kharif revenue to the extent of Rs 1,736 had to be suspended till the following spring. The records of floods which might have occurred during the period up to 1938 are not available. In 1938 the district was visited by floods due to which the rivers Ghaghara and Rapti came in spate. The records regarding floods up to 1966 are not extant. In 1966-67 rivers came in spate due to heavy rains and an area of 275 ha. of Bahraich tahsil was affected.

The following year the floods affected an area of about 26,875 ha., when an amount of Rs 1,520 was spent in relief operations. The floods of 1968-69 and 1969-70 were not very severe and the affected area amounted to 2,630 ha. and 2,710 ha. respectively.

The floods of 1970-71, as elsewhere in the State, caused considerable damage in the district affecting an area of 16,756 ha. necessitating relief operations on a large scale, when a sum of Rs 1,07,752 was spent which included a sum of Rs 4,538 distributed as *takavi*.

The floods of 1971-72 must have been severe as in other parts of the State, but the records showing facts and figures are not available.

Next year the district suffered much in 1972-73 due to heavy floods which affected as big an area as 68,390 ha. The expenditure incurred on relief operations amounted to Rs 20,000.

The floods of 1973-74 were more severe than the previous one. These floods caused damage in an area of 79,857 ha. in Bahraich tahsil. For relief the expenditure amounted to Rs 42,629, of which Rs 8,710 were given as *takavi*.

The district was visited by unusual floods in 1977-78 which lasted for about a week. About 1,19,195 ha. of land was sub-merged, when the level of water in river Ghaghara was only 0.06 cm. below the danger mark. A cropped area of 58,691 ha. in 565 villages suffered considerable damage. A population of 5,00,000 souls suffered untold miseries. As many as 600 houses were damaged completely and 1,000 houses suffered partial damage. The loss of houses was estimated to Rs 30,000 and that of public property to the extent of Rs 40,000. Persons rescued and sent to safe places numbered 1,051 and the cattle heads rescued were 2,000. These floods took three human lives. Relief operations were rushed and 328 boats were mobilized. About 224 kg. of gram, 510 kg. of salt, 94 quintals of wheat, 2,374 litres of oil and 5,114 match boxes were distributed. The total expenditure incurred by the government amounted to Rs 3,25,000, of which a sum of Rs 1,00,000 was granted for house building.

Before the people could recover from devastating effects of the previous floods, another flood visited the district in 1978-79 but this was not very severe. These floods affected about 27,480 ha. of land. A sum of Rs 45,077 was distributed as gratuitous relief and Rs 75,000 as *takavi*. About 4,853 quintals of wheat 1,360 kg of *dalia*, 750 blankets, 13,563 *dhoties*, and 100 metres of cloth were distributed to flood victims.

Besides floods the district has not been free from other calamities like hailstorms and fires etc.

Hailstorm

The district was visited by a hailstorm in 1971-72 when about an area of 18,050 ha. in Nanpara tahsil was affected. Consequently an amount of Rs 4,60,214 in land revenue had to be suspended. Again in 1972-73 a mild hailstorm visited the district affecting an area of 638 ha. in Nanpara tahsil, when a sum of Rs 5,453 only in land revenue had to be suspended.

In 1974-75 a hailstorm visited the district affecting an area of 2,695 ha. in Kaisarganj tahsil necessitating a remission of Rs 17,138 in land revenue. Next year a severe hailstorm affected an area of 40,754 ha. of Kaisarganj tahsil. A sum of Rs 46,993 had to be remitted in land revenue.

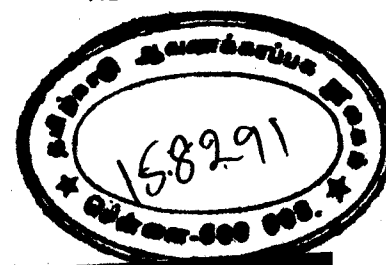
After a gap of one year, in 1976-77, a severe hailstorm visited the district, when an area of 41,396 ha. in Kaisarganj, 4,040 ha. in Bhinga and 4,026 ha. in Nanpara tahsil was affected. About 1,900 quintals of wheat were distributed to relieve the people from distress. A remission of Rs 31,807 was granted in land revenue and an amount of Rs 1,05,911 in land revenue had to be suspended.

The hailstorm of 1978-79 was not severe, and it affected an area of only 376 ha. in Bhinga tahsil.

Fire

Though the incidence of fires is not uncommon in any tahsil of the district, these are most frequent in Kaisarganj. tahsil. The following statement shows the incidence of fires in the district for some years:

Year	Area (in ha.) affected by fire	Relief given and amount spent (in Rs)	Suspension in land revenue (in Rs)
1	2	3	4
1960-61	508	625	—
1961-62	1,376	1,989	—
1962-63	—	2,215	—
1963-64	782	1,520	—



[Contd.]

258

1	2	3	4
1964-55	..	3/5	—
1965-66	828	2,515	—
1966-67	1,057	2,090	—
1967-68	961	2,660	—
1968-69	551	1,648	1,46,695
1969-70	551	1,535	—
1970-71	333	3,470	—
1971-72	160	2,605	1,29,414
1972-73	835	7,310	6,60,314
1973-74	1,942	13,257	—
1974-75	649	15,985	2,10,555
1975-76	595	13,400	4,44,460
1976-77	684 and two Khaliyans	23,438	3,22,834
1977-78	336 ha. 292 houses 4 Khaliyans	26,760	12,80,857

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

The manufacture of the district were insignificant in the ancient and medieval times. However, there were weavers who produced a fair quantity of coarse cloth, which was sold locally. The felt *namdas* of Bahraich were however, well known in 1903 and were of better quality than those of other districts. They were made by muslim weavers. The Bahraich *namdas* were generally made in coloured patterns. They were in some cases geometrical figures or a rude representation of buildings, but usually consisted of conventional foliage and flowers, which were sometimes very pretty, although the curves were too abrupt. The industry at one time also flourished at Jarwal, but it slowly declined, and by the beginning of the twentieth century it had almost disappeared. Blankets were also made in some villages.

In the eighteenth century wood-carving was an important industry, but it was located and confined to in or about the Dargah of Saiyid Salar. The work was done in sal *Shorea robusta* wood. With the beginning of the British rule, the trade lost ground and ultimately vanished. There were, however, till 1903, a few craftsmen from Punjab, who had earned a wide reputation for excellence in wood-carving.

In the forests of the district, particularly those situated in the *tarai* region, felling of trees and its conversion into sawn-timber had been in vogue since early times. The sal trees provided timber of quality which had extensive uses.

The industrial growth of the district had been very slow in the first five decades of the twentieth century. During the long period only one large-scale unit was established at Jarwal Road in 1932 for the production of sugar. The pace of industrialisation, however, increased in the second half of the sixties.

POWER

Electricity was first made available to the district in 1942, when Bahraich town was electrified by linking it with Gonda.

The U. P. State Electricity Board took over the production and distribution of power in the district in 1964, and the district was linked

to the U. P. Grid. In the period 1942 to 1970, besides Bahraich, electricity was made available to four more towns. The following statement gives some information about the towns, and the pattern of their consumption of electricity in 1977 :

Name of town	Year of electrification	Industrial units		Others	
		No. of consumers	No. of units consumed	No. of consumers	No. of units consumed
Bahraich	1942	190	21,03,034	9,731	82,13,110
Nanpara	1957	39	3,39,406	826	4,16,537
Kaisarganj	1957	9	31,828	129	32,100
Ikauna	1963	12	91,599	315	1,12,734
Bhinga	1970	112	11,432	81	40,068

Rural Electrification

Power was first made available to 4 villages in 1957. However, the pace of electrification has been considerably increased in the Five-years Plan periods. Of 1,884 villages in the district, as many as 557 were electrified by March 31, 1978.

LARGE-SCALE INDUSTRY

The Jarwal Sugar Mill is the only large-scale industrial unit in the district. It was established in the year 1932.

In 1977, the factory had a total investment of Rs 24,00,000, and sugar worth about Rs 50,00,000 was produced. The unit has a crushing capacity of about 400 tonnes of sugar-cane per day and employs 350 persons.

The sugar-cane, the raw material used in the production of sugar, is largely available in the district, though some of it is imported from the adjoining districts of Gonda, Bara Banki and Basti also.

SMALL-SCALE INDUSTRIES

The small-scale industries in the district are either traditional or modern. The former comprise the agricultural processing and the forest based units, and the latter include the units which manufacture agricultural implements, sheet metal items, utensils, pesticides, washing soap, and perform such job-works as repair of engineering goods and automobiles. Facilities for the storage of perishable articles, such as potatoes, etc., is also available in the cold storages of the district.

A brief description of each type of small-scale industry is given hereinafter.

Agricultural Processing Units

Rice, oil from oil-seeds (mustard and ground-nut), wheat flour and other wheat products, such as *dalia* (porridge) and *maida* (fine wheat

flour), *besan* (gram flour) and pulses of *arhar*, *moong*, *urd* and *masoor*, are produced in 61 units, which are located at Bahraich, Nanpara, Bhinga, Payagpur, and Kaisarganj. Rice, oil, pulses and wheat products worth Rs 3,50,00,000 were produced in 1977.

Engineering Industries

Persian wheels, iron ploughs, threshers and cane crushers, utensils, steel furniture etc., are produced in 55 units, which are located at Bahraich and Nanpara. About Rs 15,77,000 were invested in the trade, which provided employment to 152 persons in 1977. Against raw material (iron, steel, etc.) worth Rs 11,50,000, goods worth Rs 15,50,000 were produced in that year.

Forest Based Industries

Plywood panels, chests, planks, furniture and catechu are produced in 102 units, which are situated at Bahraich, Nanpara, Payagpur, Kaisarganj and Bhinga. In view of the substantial area under forests in the district, these industries have potential and scope for development in future. About Rs 45,000 is invested. In 1977 the trade employed nearly 550 persons and capital investment stood at about Rs 45,000. There was a turnover of manufactured goods worth Rs 1,80,00,000 against raw material worth Rs 49,00,000.

Other Industries

Footwear is manufactured in 10 unit at Bahraich, Bhinga and Nanpara and soap in 6 units at Bahraich. In addition, there are 20 brick-kilns which are situated at Bahraich, Payagpur and Bhinga. Cold storage facilities are provided in four units at Bahraich; job-work is performed in 25 printing presses located at Bahraich, Nanpara, Bhinga and Payagpur, and pesticides are produced in one unit at Bahraich.

The following statement gives some data relating to these industries in 1977 :

Industry	Investment (in Rs)	Value of production (in Rs)	Value of raw materials used (in Rs)	No. of persons employed
Footwear	30,000	1,25,000	50,000	30
Soap	60,000	3,50,000	2,00,000	18
Brick-kiln	10,00,000	20,00,000	11,54,000	750
Cold storage	25,25,000	7,50,000 (Job-work)	—	42
Printing presses	30,50,000	12,00,000	6,25,000	100
Pesticides	6,75,000	8,50,000	6,00,000	23

VILLAGE AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

The traditional village and cottage industries, which comprise the manufacture of cotton textiles, leather goods, baskets, pottery, woollen blankets and metal goods, such as utensils and implements, are as old as the villages themselves. According to the 1961 census, as many as 1,574 persons were engaged in such industries, which were confined to 196 villages, the artisans using only traditional designs. The following statement gives some data about the village and cottage industries:

Industry	No. of villages in which the industry is located	No. of persons employed in the industry
Cotton textile	2	73
Leather goods	35	220
Basketry	7	62
Pottery	146	1,165
Woollen blankets	4	31
Brass and copperware	2	23

Cotton Textile

Cotton cloth and dhotis, coarse towels, shirtings, *garha* bed-spread, etc., were produced in considerable measure in the past, but the industry appears to be decaying slowly. In 1956 there were 400 handlooms in the district, which produced cloth worth about Rs 35,400. Cotton-yarn worth Rs 6,600 was produced in the same year, and 60 per cent of the yarn was exported to other districts. There are only 4 handloom co-operative societies which are located at Murki, Jarwal, Nanguryan and Bahraich. About Rs 6,400 is invested in the trade and *gamchas* (towels) worth about Rs 13,400 are produced annually. About 70 weavers operate the handlooms.

Sericulture

The district has been covered under the State government's sericulture development scheme since 1965-66, when two centres, one each at Motipur and Naubana were opened. Training in the craft of rearing silkworms is imparted at the centres. About 50 rural families were engaged in the work in 1977. The production of cocoons increased from about 100 kg. in 1966 to 400 kg. in 1968, and in 1977 about 600 kg. of cocoons were produced.

Oil

Among the oil-seeds only ground-nut and mustard are grown in the district in sufficient quantity. In 1977 as many as 1,456 units were engaged in the production of oil, using oil-seeds worth Rs 20,75,400. These units produced oil worth Rs 32,23,000 and employed 4,500 persons. The industry is scattered all over the district.

Gur and Khandsari

Gur (jaggery) and *khandsari* (raw sugar) are produced in 300 units which like the oil industry, are also scattered all over the district. The investment in the trade in 1977 stood at about Rs 3,80,000 and sugar and *khandsari* worth Rs 83,00,000 were produced from sugar-cane worth Rs 72,00,000. The trade provides employment to 1,360 persons.

Catechu

Catechu is produced in seven units which are located at Mihinpurwa and Bhinga. In 1977 the investment in the industry was about Rs 7,00,000 and catechu worth Rs 12,00,000 was produced, against catechu wood worth Rs 10,00,000. The trade provides employment to 180 persons. Raw material (catechu wood) is available in the forests of the district.

Brassware

Utensils of brass are manufactured in about 160 units which are situated at Bahraich, Bhinga, Shivpur and Nanpara. About Rs 65,000 was invested in the industry in 1977. Utensils worth Rs 38,45,000 were produced consuming brass-scrap worth Rs 26,48,900. The industry employed about 550 persons.

Carpentry and Smithery

There were 4,000 carpenters and 650 blacksmiths in the district in 1977, who produced carpentry and metal goods worth Rs 25,00,000 and Rs 10,00,000 respectively. The industry is scattered all-over the district. In 1977 the investment in the carpentry units stood at Rs 12,36,000 and in blacksmithery units at Rs 3,33,000.

Pottery and Bangles

Pottery is produced in 326 units, which had a total investment of Rs 1,63,000 in 1977. About 1,202 persons employed in the trade in 1977, produced pottery worth Rs 11,50,000 consuming raw materials (clay, dyes, etc.) worth Rs 3,26,000. Lac bangles are produced in 249 units, which employed 809 persons and had a total investment of Rs 2,49,000 in 1977. Bangles worth Rs 4,50,000 were produced, consuming lac worth Rs 3,00,000.

Other Industries

There were 2 units producing soap, 122 footwear, 101 baskets and mats of bamboo in 1977. These units had an investment of Rs 4,000, Rs 60,000 and Rs 50,000 respectively. The producers of baskets and mats and footwear are scattered all over the district, whereas the soap industry is located at Bahraich.

The following statement gives the value of production, raw materials used, and the number of persons employed in the trade in 1977 :

Industry	Production (value in Rs)	Raw materials used (value in Rs)	No. of persons employed
Mats and baskets	5,25,000	2,75,000	1,777
Footwear	1,40,000	95,000	487
Soap	1,50,000	55,000	8

INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

There is only one industrial estate in the district—the rural Industrial Estate, Chitaura. Though it was set up in 1963-64, it was taken over by the industries department from the public works department only in September, 1970. The estate covers an area of 24 hectares. In 1977 there were only three units functioning in the estate producing pesticides, agricultural implements and sugar. The following statement gives some data about these units :

Industry	Value of production (in Rs)	No. of persons employed
Pesticides	9,00,000	10
Agricultural implements	1,00,000	7
Sugar	7,03,000	130

AID TO INDUSTRIES

Financial aid is made available to entrepreneurs by various financial institutions. Bahraich, being one of the economically backward districts of the State, enjoys certain concessions, such as low rate of interest and repayment of loan in easy instalments extending over a period of 10 to 15 years.

The commercial banks in the district had advanced Rs 13,32,000 to 70 industrialists by the end of December, 1975. By the end of December, 1977, the number of such industrialists had gone up to 91 and the amount of advances to Rs 13,47,000.

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIAL

The infra-structure of the district has been developed in the earlier Five-year Plans. The district had about 700 km. of metalled roads and 200 km. of unmetalled roads in 1977. In addition 168 km. of railway lines also serve the district.

The district is linked with Kheri, Sitapur, Bara Banki, Gonda and Lucknow by metalled roads. Markets, which are essential for the sale of industrial goods are numerous both in the district and outside. The main internal markets are situated at Bahraich, Nanpara and Kaisarganj. The major external markets are located at Gonda, Sitapur, Kheri, Gorakhpur, Basti, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi and Allahabad. Adequate electricity is likely to be available to the district, as it has been linked with U. P. Grid.

A number of small-scale industries can be established, because raw materials are available in plenty and the demand for them is likely to increase in future.

The following industries can be established in the district :

Industry	Factors favouring the establishment of the industry
Straw-boards	Paddy, straw, grasses like <i>kans</i> and <i>bankas</i> , jute stalks and bagasse are available in plenty in the district. Straw-boards are in demand all over India.
Cornflakes	Maize is produced in large quantities in the district. Demand for cornflakes is increasing.
Rice-bran oil	Paddy is the main crop of Bahraich district, rice-bran is available in sizeable quantities.
Maize starch	Maize starch is used for calendering of cotton textiles and in the production of glucose, etc. At present it is mainly imported from Punjab and Maharashtra.
Activated carbon	It is used as a decolourization agent in the production of vegetable oils and paints. There is demand for the item from all-over the country and has good export potential. Husk of paddy, which is available in plenty in the district can be utilised for the production of activated carbon.
Safety matches	In view of sizeable demand and availability of soft wood from the forest of the district, one unit can be established in the district.
Plywood	Sufficient soft wood is available in the district and there is good demand for plywood throughout the country.
Tanned leather	There is increasing demand for tanned leather, which is generally imported from Kanpur. Hides are available in the district in large quantity. Moreover, tanning materials like babul bark can also be obtained locally.
Polythene bags	These bags are increasingly being used as packing material and they are imported from Kanpur and Lucknow. One unit can be established at Bahraich which can meet the demand.
Steel furniture	The demand for steel furniture in the district is estimated at Rs 50,000 per year, and one unit can be opened at Bahraich.

The district industries department had proposed the establishment of 19 small-scale units in 1977. Oil, rice, pulses and sugar will be produced in these units.

WELFARE OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

After 1947, many schemes have been introduced with a view to provide more and better facilities to the working class. The labour welfare measures aim to benefit the labour community by ensuring minimum wages, social security, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognized trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated working hours, payment of bonus, payment of compensation and safety measures in the factories and industrial establishments. Details of the labour welfare measures have been discussed in chapter XVII (Other social services) of this volume.

CHAPTER VI BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of Indigenous Banking

In the ancient period, the region, covered by the present district of Bahraich had trade with Nepal and other regions around it. The traders and others kept their deposits with *sreni's* (guilds)¹.

With the emergence of middlemen in the medieval period, the *srenis* disappeared. However, the dealing in money was highly developed and money-dealers were found in the centres of trade, notably at Bahraich, Nanpara, Rupaidiha, Payagpur, Jaitapur and Balrampur. The trade with Nepal was also considerable and money was always available with the indigenous bankers. In 1901 there were 20,584 Banias in the district. Majority of them were of traders and provided finances for trade. *Hundis* (negotiable instruments) were also in vogue.

Treasuries were located at the district head-quarters and in the tahsils under the British rule. In the opening years of this century, a cultivator was by and large invariably a debtor. He was too much a creature of habit, as to break off his connection with the village usurer, and borrowed every now and then at ruinous interest. The rate of interest varied from Rs 24 to Rs 37.50 per cent per annum. A certain amount of risk was involved in such transactions, although the loans were small for short periods. However, in many cases the Bania, instead of being the Shylock that he was usually represented to be, was really the poor man's friend.

The present banking system was introduced in the district with the establishment of the Central Bank of India, Ltd, at Bahraich in 1943. The number of banks increased after 1950, but more particularly after 1970. There were 28 banks in the district in 1978 besides the District Co-operative Bank, Ltd, which was established at Bahraich in 1953.

Indebtedness

Rural—In the beginning of the twentieth century, the condition of the people could not be regarded as prosperous. The better crops requiring more laborious cultivation, which ensured heavier return were conspicuous by their absence. Cultivation was mostly of a perfunctory nature, the outturn poor and the capital invested in agricultural

1. Majumdar, R. C. : *Ancient India*, p. 215

improvements small. The people consequently were not able to bear hard times, to resist the stress of bad seasons, or to bear up against the burden of heavier rents. They were frequently in debt and the interest they had to pay was undoubtedly a serious drag upon them.

The economic condition was further reflected by the *saunk* system of wages. Under it any man of the four castes—Lodhi, Chamar, Kori and Kurmi—received an advance from the farmer and became his bonded serf (*sawak*) for life or till he paid off the advance, which did not bear interest. The ordinary sum given varied from Rs 30 to Rs 100 and for the amount a man bound himself and his children down to the remotest generation. It was quite common to meet men whose father entered into these obligations, and who were working for the farmer. The system, however, could not last for ever and by the end of the first decade of this century it existed only in remote pockets.

Not only the *sawak* but also the cultivator was generally in debt.

The economic depression of the early thirties aggravated sufferings of the rural population as returns decreased sharply. The economy revived in the second half of the thirties, and in the wake of the Second World War (1939–45), the prices of agricultural commodities rose and more money came into the hands of the cultivators. But a corresponding rise in the prices of other goods, such as cloth, implements, etc., did not leave much surplus with him. The rise in prices continued and this positively helped the rural economy. However, farmers with small holdings and agricultural labourers continue to have a sub-marginal existence in the throes of spiralling prices and increasing population.

According to a survey undertaken by the Reserve Bank of India in 1971 in eastern Uttar Pradesh (including Bahraich district) it was estimated that the total average value of assets of the household of a farmer was Rs 16,037.15 and he was indebted to the extent of Rs 265.65. The average value of the assets of the household of an agricultural labourer was Rs 1,212.13, and his indebtedness Rs 161.07.

Urban—In the wake of rise in prices, industrial and office workers residing at Bahraich, Jarwal, Nanpara and other urban centres find it difficult to make two ends meet. Generally they take loans to meet such expenses as on marriages, deaths, etc.

Debt-relief Legislation

The courts were authorised, for the first time in 1918, to re-open loan transactions and relieve the debtors of the liability, when interest was excessive and the transaction unfair. The Usurious Loans Act, 1918, and its

subsequent amendment in 1926, enabled the courts to examine transactions. It was made applicable to all parties seeking relief from mortgage, but it did not define the words 'unfair' and 'excessive' with the result that the courts could not provide effective redress. By another amendment affected in 1934, the Act was made applicable to all debts and debtors, and laid down the limits beyond which the rate of interest could 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. They enabled the debtors to repay in easy instalments and reduced the rates of interest. They also protected the person and property of the debtor from being proceeded against in execution of decrees.

The U. P. Government decided to introduce further reforms, as a result whereof the U. P. Regulation of Money-lending Act, 1976 has been introduced.

The Act aims at providing relief from extortion of small farmers, agricultural labourers, village artisans, and other weaker sections of the society. The law is also expected to help the administration in its efforts to curb black money. It provides for licensing of the business of money-lending and issue of receipt and account slips by the money-lender. It further enjoins upon the money-lender not to molest the debtor near his places of work, and make payment in case of loans of Rs 1,000 or above by cheque.

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

In the light of the difficulties encountered in the implementation of the above-mentioned Act and in order to impart precision and effectiveness, the Uttar Pradesh Debt Relief Act, 1977 has been enforced. It mainly aims at providing relief from indebtedness to landless agricultural workers, small farmers and urban workers. The Act has some salient provisions, for example every debt, together with any interest payable on the date of commencement of this Act, by a debtor whose annual household income does not exceed two thousand and four hundred rupees, shall with effect from the date of such commencement, be deemed to be wholly discharged.

The Act also provides for moratorium on debts recoverable from small farmers, and for the effective scaling down of their debts.

Every person who, after the date of commencement of this Act, if recovers any debt or part thereof, intentionally makes any false statement before any officer or authority in proceedings under this Act, produces false document or abets any such act is liable to be punished. The cunning money-lender will naturally pay for his misdeeds or refrain from such actions in future.

Private Money-lenders and Financiers

Money-lenders operating in the district are either local persons or money-lenders from Lucknow. The local money-lenders are both big and small. Advances are made against pronotes, pledge of ornaments and other articles, and against anticipated crops. There are two to three small money-lenders in each village, generally either a trader or an affluent farmer. The rate of interest varies for 18 to 36 per cent per annum.

The money-lenders of Lucknow are known as *qistiyas* and their business is known as *qistiya wala* business. Normally the money-lenders do not insist on taking any security and make advances to borrowers for both productive and unproductive purposes. The debtor has to execute a *ruqqa* (promissory note) and receipt, the advance of a fixed sum is made and the same is recovered in 12 equal monthly instalments.

Government Loans

It had been a tradition of the rulers of the country to provide relief to the agriculturists in times of natural calamities. However, since 1947 loans are provided not only for distress, but also for the development of the agricultural economy.

The following statement indicates the amount of loans advanced for short-term periods in last 3 years :

Year	Amount of loans (Rs)	Purpose	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1975-76	5,89,880	Distress, and investment in agriculture	8.25
1976-77	32,800	Ditto	8.25
1977-78	3,50,000	Ditto	8.25

Commercial Banks

Since mid-1969, the number of bank-offices in the district has increased manifold. There were only seven branches of commercial banks in the district in 1969, which increased to 12 in 1970, and by the end of 1978 there were 22 branches in the district.

The following statement gives the location of each branch :

Name	Location of branch
Allahabad Bank	Bahraich, Gilaula, Ikauna, Fakhrpur, Kaisarganj, Risiya, Bhinga, Malhipur, Matera Bazar, Barnapur, Maharajganj and Sisaiya
Central Bank of India	Bahraich, Mihnipurwa, Rupaidiha, Payagpur
Punjab National Bank	Bahraich, Nanpara, Jarwal
State Bank of India	Bahraich, Risiya, Nanpara

The total deposits of the commercial banks in 1970 were to the tune of Rs 1,93,49,000 and the total advances Rs 42,20,000 forming only 22 per cent of the total deposits.

In the following years more funds were made available to the weaker sections of the society and a priority sector was constituted, which comprised the agriculturists, small industrialists, traders, transport workers and self-employed persons. The advances to the priority sector amounted to Rs 1,22,02,000 which comprised 49.3 per cent of the total advances in 1977. The deposit credit ratio increased from 22 per cent in 1970 to 31.8 per cent in 1977.

The following statement shows the extent of outstanding credit to priority sector in 1977 :

Priority sector	Balance outstanding (in Rs)	No. of accounts
Agriculturists	90,15,000	2,391
Small-scale industrialists	13,47,000	91
Road and other transport workers	2,16,000	106
Retail and small traders	15,55,000	776
Self-employed persons	1,69,000	121
Total	1,23,02,000	3,485

The total deposits and advances of the commercial banks on the last Friday of March, 1977 were as follows :

Total advances	Rs 2,47,35,000
Total deposits	Rs 7,77,41,000
Percentage of advances to priority sector of total advances	49.3
Credit deposit ratio	31.8

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies—Efforts were made in the first decade of this century to form and organise agricultural co-operative societies. The movement, however, gathered momentum only after 1947. The following statement indicates the progress of the co-operative movement :

Year	No. of agricultural co-operative societies	Membership	Amount advanced (in Rs.)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1910	205	3,836	3,05,600	9
1920	342	5,697	3,60,400	9
1930	458	7,975	3,98,175	9
1940	498	12,885	4,89,715	9
1950	830	24,986	6,78,217	9
1960	1,029	57,805	30,84,549	9
1970	308	1,00,233	58,35,289	9
1977	158	1,58,617	2,01,56,758	14

Other Co-operative Institution—There are four large co-operative marketing societies located at Baharaich, Bhinga, Kaisarganj and Nanpara, which deal in food-grains and other agricultural commodities and consumer goods, thereby ensuring a just and fair return to the cultivator for his produce, and making him available items of daily use and agricultural inputs at reasonable price.

The District Co-operative Development Federation Ltd., was established at Bahraich in 1948. It is the central institution for consumers co-operatives and deals in food-grains, sugar, kerosene, cement, seed, fertilisers and stationery. The other co-operative marketing societies in the district also receive aid from the federation in cash and in kind.

Co-operative Banks—The District Co-operative Bank, Ltd., was established at Bahraich in 1953. It has four branches which are located at Bhinga, Kaisarganj, Nanpara and Rupaidiha. These provide banking facilities to all and sundry, but facilities like loans, etc., are available only to agriculturists and others who are members of the banks. The

following statement gives the amount of loans advanced by the bank from 1975-76 to 1977-78 :

Year	Loans advanced (in Rs.)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1975-76	1,02,29,000	18.50
1976-77	2,02,13,000	18.50
1977-78	2,05,70,000	18.50

The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Land Development Bank, Ltd., established its branch at Bahraich in 1960 followed by one each at Nanpara and Kaisarganj in 1969, and another at Bhinga in 1978. During the period from 1975 to 1978 the bank advanced loans mainly for minor irrigation works, as indicated in the following statement :

Year	Amount (in Rs.)	Rate of interest (per cent per annum)
1975-76	51,91,000	10.50
1976-77	38,81,000	10.50
1977-78	47,74,000	10.50

National Saving Organisation

The post-office savings bank scheme has been in operation in the district since the last decade of the nineteenth century. Subsequently other schemes were launched to inculcate a habit of thrift in the people. The funds thus collected are made available for developmental works. In 1962 defence deposits and national defence certificates were introduced to help raise funds and augment the resources for the defence of the country.

Various securities have been floated from time to time to promote national savings. A 15-years public provident fund scheme is also in vogue since 1974.

The following statement gives some information, for the year 1977, about the national savings :

Security	Value (in Rs.)	No. of accounts
Savings Bank	34,55,000	7,344
Time Deposits	21,37,700	1,909
Recurring Deposits	13,28,000	2,533
Cumulative Time Deposits	71,100	67
National Savings Certificates	23,51,000	—
Total	93,42,800	11,853

The per capita national savings increased from Rs 3.8 in 1974 to Rs 5.4 in 1977.

LIFE INSURANCE

The life insurance business was taken over by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in 1956, and a branch-office of the Corporation was opened at Gonda in 1960. This office, with the help of a development centre at Bahraich, looks after the business in the district. The following statement gives the business done by the Corporation during the last three years :

Year	No. of lives insured	Business completed (Rs.)
1975-76	Not available	
1976-77	804	85,92,000
1977-78	603	83,13,000
		63,80,000

CURRENCY AND COINAGE

Coins were issued by merchants, guilds and corporations, besides the government of the day, as far back as the sixth century B.C. These were punch-marked coins with one or two figures marked as symbols of the issuing authority. Imperial Guptas issued a series of coins, which are considered to be of high artistic standard. Generally coins of a single-metal copper or silver were in circulation.¹

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*.²

The British introduced in 1856 their own rupee coin of 180 grains. A rupee comprised 16 annas, and an anna divided into 12 pies or four paisas (old).

The decimal system of coinage was introduced on October 1, 1958. The rupee now has 100 paise. There are coins of one paisa, two paise, three paise, five paise, ten paise, twenty paise, twenty-five paise and 50 paise. 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 in the denominations of rupees two, five, ten, twenty, fifty and one hundred. The one thousand rupee note has since been demonetized.

Currency and coinage are made available to the district through the branches of the State Bank of India which are situated at Bahraich, Nanpara and Risia.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Course of Trade

The trade of the district in the past, before the construction of railway lines and roads by the British, was confined to the exports of grain, tobacco, oil-seeds, sugar, cotton goods, timber, and other forest produce

1. Majumdar, R. C. : *Ancient India*, p. 15

2. Pandey, A. B. : *Later Medieval India*, p. 491, (Allahabad, 1963)

such as fibres, honey, lac, felt, bhang, skins and hides. The imports were largely sugar, salt, piece-goods, spices and hardware. The goods were generally moved on boats which plied the rivers in winter and summer, but timber was generally floated down the rivers in the rainy season.

The trade with Nepal was entirely landborne and was recorded at the various traffic registration posts. The principal imports from Nepal were grain, oil-seeds, timber and raw fibrous products, spices, drugs, dyes, hides and skins, and metals, as well as considerable number of ponies. The total imports in 1901 were over 1,46,000 maunds (54,458 quintals), grain contributing 31 per cent, oil-seeds 21 per cent, timber 14 per cent, and floruous products 13 per cent. The exports into Nepal comprised 45,750 maunds (15,064.7 q.), and consisted chiefly of grain, salt, cotton, goods, sugar, tobacco and provisions. In 1901 the total value of imports was Rs 17,72,111 and of the exports Rs 10,61,467.

Prior to the opening of the railways, the district was a somewhat inaccessible tract because of the Ghaghra and the Kuriala rivers. Even the roads of the district in the early twentieth century were very poor, for there were no metalled roads at all outside the municipal towns while the unmetalled roads were impossible in the rainy season. With the construction of the railway line in 1884, the grain trade gravitated towards the railway stations, several of which formed and nuclei of important markets, while the old markets fell into decay. The new important market were Bahraich, Payagpur, Nanpara, Jaitapur, Athaisa, Bambhaura and Rupaidiha. All these places except Jaitapur, which lies 6.4 km. off the road from Bahraich to Bahramghat and remains the chief place for the export of grain by way of the Ghaghara, are well served by the railway. Khaira bazar, Katghar and Khatagaghat, which were earlier good markets, have somewhat lost their importance after the construction of the railway line. The other new markets that sprang up were Talab Baghel near Payagpur, Shadilaganj and Nanakganj near Chilwariya, and Metera, Risiya and Mohanpurwa. The British constructed roads connecting the district with the adjoining areas and trade developed to some extent.

In the second half of the twentieth century a number of roads were built enabling transport of goods, to Gonda, Basti, Faizabad and Gorakhpur.

Export and Import

The pattern of export from and import to the district remained the same as in the earlier decades of this century with some deviations. Rice, sugar, oil-seeds, timber and *baib* grass are the main items of export. These except the *baib* grass, are generally sent to east Uttar Pradesh and

Bihar. The *baib* grass is exported to Saharanpur and Meerut. The following statement gives the approximate quantities of exports in 1976-77 :

Commodity	Export (quintals)
Tiber	6,80,000
Rice	1,40,000
Sugar	1,12,000
Oil-seeds	£ 60,000
<i>Baib</i> grass	46,000

General merchandise, edible oil, electrical goods, fertilisers, metal goods, cloth, medicines and cement are the main items of import. They are generally imported from Lucknow, Kanpur and Gorakhpur.

The following statement gives the quantities of import for some of the items in 1976-77. The figures are approximate :

Commodity	Import (Quintals)
Mineral merchandise	40,000
Kerosene	20,000
Metal goods	12,000
Edible oil	4,000

Trade Centres

Chhawani bazar is the main wholesale market of the district which is situated in the heart of the Bahraich town. The market came into existence in 1857, when during the freedom struggle soldiers encamped here for some time and the traders marketed their produce to them.

The market is a combination of secondary and terminal markets, and also an assembling one. The shops in the market are owned by individual traders, and the entire complex is controlled by the Bahraich municipal board.

Prior to the opening of the railway line between Gonda and Rupaiddiha, Banjari Ghat was the main centre of river borne trade in the district, particularly for the export of agricultural commodities to the eastern districts. However, with the construction of the railway line in 1884, the market moved to Bahraich on the railway line.

The other wholesale markets, beside Bahraich are situated at Nanpara, Payagpur, Mahinpurwa, Risiya and Rupaiddiha.

The following table gives some idea regarding the arrival of different agricultural commodities in the above mentioned six regulated wholesale markets of the district Bahraich in 1976-77.

Name of commodity	Markets (arrival in quintals)					
	Bahraich	Nanpara	Payagpur	Risiya	Mahinpurwa	Rupaiddiha
Paddy	91,341	19,022	41,586	14,767	5,077	10,333
Rice	4,496	1,144	421	—	218	73
Jowar	21,790	—	4,767	4,078	2,493	8
Bajra	822	—	115	292	—	—
Maize	1,14,905	15,177	12,452	2,452	44,154	3
Urd	2,853	73	771	994	—	—
Moong	11	—	—	—	—	—
Wheat	1,38,405	8,904	56,117	27,170	6,057	199
Barley	10,931	3,466	6,867	9,715	141	25
Gram	14,579	9,109	6,132	8,983	6,191	388
Peas	1,094	—	384	—	—	—
Achhar	2,04,580	54,339	50,494	85,424	36,091	3,907
Masoor	35,392	7,189	2,466	2,576	8,401	136
Til	169	—	64	1,276	—	—
Mustard	7,461	2,605	1,338	—	22,409	—

Retail Trade—The retail trade centres known as bazars and hats are located both in the urban and rural areas of the district. The common requirements of the villagers and those residing in the urban centres are generally met by traders and pedlars. These markets are held once, twice or thrice a week. The following statement gives the number of bazars and hats held in each tahsil of the district prior to the formation of the Bhinga tahsil :

Tahsil	No. of markets
Nanpara	18
Kaisarganj*	18
Bahraich*	16
Total	52

* The present tahsil of Bhinga was carved out of the former tahsils of Kaisarganj and Bahraich.

Fairs

A large number of fairs are held in the district, a majority of them being of religious nature.

The two fairs—Mela Sahet-Mahet and the Dargah which are held at the villages of Chakar Bhandar (development block Ikauna) and Singha Parasi (development block Chittaura) are important, as considerable quantities of merchandise are sold.

The Dargah fair attracts the largest number of visitors, and more than 50,000 persons assemble on the first Sunday of Jayistha (May-June). A large number of traders from distant places like Nepal, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi and Gorakhpur visit the fair with their merchandise, i.e., religious books, metal utensils, agricultural implements, cloth, wooden articles, toys and fancy articles. The fair Sahet-Mahet is held on *Vaisakha Sukla* 15 and more than 15,000 persons assemble there.

State Trading

The prices of all commodities increased considerably during the Second World War (1939-45), and in order to arrest their further rise and to give relief to consumers, chiefly in the urban centres, the prices of a number of commodities were controlled and the supply of most of them to the consumers was rationed and sold through the shops controlled by the government. Some of the more important commodities thus controlled or rationed were food-grains, cloth, drugs and petrol. Various schemes for the rationing food-grains, cloth, drugs, kerosene and petrol have, however, persisted ever since with varying degree of applicability. There were only 30 fair-price shops in the district in 1977, when sugar, rice and wheat worth Rs 12,17,853, Rs 3,27,492 and Rs 22,386 respectively were sold.

Weights and Measures

The ordinary weights in use in the markets of this district in the first decade of this century were the *ser* (seer) of 80 tolas or 16 *Chhataks* and the maund of 40 *ser*s. But the Bahraich tola was heavier than the standard tola by 12 *rattis*. The *ratti* was the seed of a jungle creeper, white, hard and dry. Thus the standard *ser* contained only 70 Bahraich tolas, and the standard maund was equivalent to 35 Bahraich *ser*s. However, common weight used in the district was the kutchra *ser*, which varied from place to place. The commonest weight, however, was the *panseri* of five *ser*s, eight of which made a maund. The

panseri also varied from place to place, as each was made of 26 to 32 *gandas*. In Bahraich itself the kutchra *panseri* was equivalent to two local pakka seers, which comprised 32 *gandas* or *chhataks*. Usually *ganda* was equivalent to four units of Maddu Sahi pice. They were approximately equal to six Lucknow rupees of 178 grains each, the difference being only of 42 grains. It had become the custom in this district to consider the *ganda* as of six units—a custom that was maintained by a tendency of the trade to reduce weights, whenever possible. Thus, up to 1874 the *ganda* continued to be reckoned in Lucknow rupee, which was of 180 grains. The *ganda* therefore, was of 1,080 grains, which was exactly the weight of four Maddu Sahi pice. The *panseri* consisted of 26 to 32 *gandas* in different places and thus the kutchra seers from 5,616 to 6,912 grains, the latter of these being in much use in Bahraich town. The government seer was of 14,400 grains.

The decimal system of weights and measures was introduced in the district with effect from October 1, 1960. An office was opened at Bahraich with a staff of one inspector and others, who work under the supervision of the district supply officer. Every trader has to submit his weights and measures for inspection and each such unit is stamped after being found accurate. Camps are held in different *mandis* where traders are able to obtain accurate weights and measures.

A list of conversion factor from old to new measures appears in the Appendix section at the end of the volume.

CHAPTER VII COMMUNICATIONS

TRADE ROUTES AND HIGHWAYS

Bahraich has been a place of unique importance from early times, and travellers, traders and warriors have been visiting this district frequently from far and near. It was connected by principal trade routes leading to Sravasti which was not only the capital of Kosala but also a centre of trade and Buddhist learning. The route from Sravasti to Rajagriha which passed through the south west of the district had twelve halts in between. Merchant prince Anathapindika is believed to have led his caravan through this route while on his way from Sravasti to Rajagriha. Another not less frequented trade route connecting Sravasti and Rajagriha existed and is said to have gone through Saket (Ayodhya) and Varanasi. The third and fourth routes went in the westerly and south-westerly directions respectively. The famous Chinese traveller Fa-hien seems to have traversed this route when he visited Sravasti in the 5th century A. D. Making his way from Kannauj and halting at Ayodhya he proceeded towards Sravasti via Tandwa (in Bahraich) which has been mentioned by him as lying 60 *li* (about 14 km.) north-west of Sravasti.¹ Hiuen Tsang, another Buddhist traveller from China went to Sravasti after halting at Tandwa for some time.²

Besides the land routes, rivers like Ghaghara and Rapti constituted the great natural routes between the east and the west, making the district accessible by river which was a far easier means of transit than the roads of ancient days. The Ghaghara continued to be a well frequented water way till the beginning of this century, when with the advent of metalled roads and railways, its importance as means of communication dwindled. In the beginning of the 13th century there seems to be a marked change in the development of roads in the district on account of its being made the seat of the government to facilitate the administration of the neighbouring territories which formed part of the Sultanate

of Delhi. Moreover, various *talukdari* families which existed in good numbers in the district, appear to have built roads although meant for their personal use, but in course of time, began to be used by the people at large. Further, the district also appears to have been well connected by river and land routes with the adjoining districts.

With the advent of the British rule, gradual construction of roads began, and by the year 1903, the district board Bahraich constructed about 23 km. of metalled roads. This length merely consisted of a few small railway feeder roads, and portions of other roads which had been metalled in the immediate vicinity of the headquarters town of Bahraich. Besides these roads, however, there were one or two bits of metalled roads which were maintained by the estates in which they lay. One such road was from Payagpur railway station to the village of Payagpur. It had been metalled by the estate, which had also metalled a portion of Gonda-Bahraich road and one or two smaller roads in the immediate vicinity of Payagpur. Likewise the road from Bhinga to Bhabarapur had been metalled out of estate revenues during its management by the court of wards. Most of the roads which lay within the municipal boundaries of Bahraich and Nampara, too, were metalled.

At the same time, the partially metalled or unmetalled roads of the district were divided among five classes, known as second-class roads, bridged and drained throughout; second-class roads, partially bridged and drained; fourth, fifth and sixth class roads. All of these were maintained by the district board (now Zila Parishad), but there were many others maintained either by the larger landowners or by the forest department. The numerous roads afforded sufficient facilities for communication during the busy seasons of the year; but many of them were in bad order.

Under the head of second-class roads, bridged and drained throughout, there were three in the district. The longest from Bahraich to Bahramghat, was metalled up to 3.2 km. and completed in 1865. A similar road was that from Bahramghat to Colonelganj, which ran due east for about 6 km. from Bahramghat to the Gonda boundary. The third road of this class was that from Gonda to Bahraich. Its total length slightly exceeded 38 km. in the district.

The second-class roads, partially bridged and drained were two in number, having a total length of 70 km. The fourth-class roads were raised and banked, but not surfaced and were partially bridged and drained. They were fifteen in number. Similarly fifth and sixth-class

1. Giles, H. A. : *The Travels of Fa-hien*, (London), (map facing page 92)

2. Watters, T. : *On Yuan Chwang's Travels*, Vol. I, p. 378; Nevill, H. R. : *Bahraich* : *A Gazetteer*, (Allahabad, 1903), pp. 220-221

roads slightly differed from mere cart tracks. They had a total combined length of 406 km. These roads afforded access to most parts of the district, and connected all the important places.

However, there were several considerable tracts which had no roads in the proper sense. In pargana Bhinga, for instance, there were hardly any roads beyond the Rapti, except the cart tracks made by the forest department through or near the forest. These forest roads were very numerous, especially in the Nanpara tahsil. They traversed the several ranges in every direction and had greatly improved the means of communication in the otherwise inaccessible parts of the north and west. Many unmetalled roads, too, were made by the larger landholders, especially the Kapurthala estate and the Nawab of Nawabganj-Alibad in pargana Charda. Besides these, in the uplands the ordinary village tracks which extended in every direction afforded a good means of communication in fair weather.

Thus in 1903, the district had a total length of 21 km. of metalled and 891 km. of unmetalled roads which excluded the roads within municipal limits, forest roads and those constructed by talukdars within the limits of their estates. By the end of March, 1912, there were about 55 km. of metalled and 915 km. of unmetalled roads. In March 1922 the length of metalled roads considerably increased and stood at about 166 km. while that of unmetalled roads was only about 756 km. The decrease in the length of unmetalled roads this time was probably due to transformation of some of them into metalled ones. In April 1933, there was little change in the length of metalled roads but the length of the unmetalled roads went up to 823 km. exclusive of about 17 km. under municipal board. About 9 km. of metalled road was maintained by the municipal board, Bahraich; about 6 km. metalled and 3 km. unmetalled roads by the notified area of Nanpara and about 2 km. metalled and about 8 km. unmetalled roads by the notified area of Bhinga.

In the year 1947, the district had about 206 km. of metalled roads, out of which about 53 km. were under the public works department and 153 km. under erstwhile district board. During the period from 1947 to 1963, construction of about 109 km. of new metalled roads and reconstruction of 123 km. of local metalled roads was completed. Besides this, 4 km. of metalled roads, constructed under *shramdan* (voluntary labour) scheme was taken over by the public works department for maintenance. Thus there were in all 320 km. of metalled roads in the district. Out of these about 179 km. roads were cement concrete surfaced and painted (black top).

Statement showing different types of roads in the district in the year 1977-78 follows :

Type of road	Length (in km.)
State Highways	220
Major District Roads	633
Zila Parishad Roads (metalled)	15
Zila Parishad Roads (unmetalled)	529
Municipal Board Roads (metalled)	24
Municipal Board Roads (unmetalled)	54

MODES OF CONVEYANCE

Prior to the introduction of scientific means, the people of the district wholly relied, as elsewhere, on the ancient means of transport which were chiefly the horse, the ox, the camel and the buffalo. The aristocracy and moneyed class used *palki* (palanquin). To travel in *palki* being a costly affair, the masses had to depend on bullock-carts, etc. An important change came over the scene in 1884 when the railway system was introduced in the district which progressively and in a fair measure overcame the difficulties in transport and communication of the region. The tongas, ekkas and bullock-carts are still multi-purpose vehicles, but they, particularly in urban areas, are slowly going off the road and being replaced by time saving and economical means such as bicycles and cycle-rickshaws and other power driven vehicles. But in spite of this, bullock-cart still plays a significant role in rural areas and is employed for transporting goods as well as travellers bound for short distances. In 1977-78, there were 163 ekkas, 94 tongas, 836 rickshaws and 338 bicycles registered with municipal board, Bahraich.

Mechanised Vehicular Traffic

The post-Independence period has shown a steady growth in the number of motor vehicles running throughout the district. The district not being adequately served by the railway, the road transport has developed considerably connecting various places of the district with the adjoining places and the district headquarters as well as with the State capital. Motor vehicles such as lorries and trucks perform useful service in transporting consumer goods, agricultural produce and other goods. In 1977, there were 3,049 motor-cycles, 827 motor-cars, 475 public carriers, 76 taxi-cabs, 317 stage carriages and 21 mini-buses in Faizabad region comprising the districts of Faizabad, Sultanpur, Bahraich and Gonda.

U. P. State Road Transport Corporation

The transport department of the State government introduced passenger services in the district in the year 1918 as elsewhere in the State. The organisation relating to the State roadways services was converted into the U. P. State Road Transport Corporation with effect from June 1, 1972. Roadways bus service is available from Bahraich to Gonda, Bahrapur, Faizabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Sitapur, Lakhimpur, Varanasi and Allahabad. Private bus service is also available for different places in the district where roadways bus service is not available.

Railways

The construction of the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway and of the two branch lines of the same system in 1881 though not fully covering the district had an immense effect on its development. It gave a great stimulus to the export trade, as is at once evident from the sight of the thriving markets that had sprung up at almost all the railway stations. The grain trade, which was formerly carried on at great expense and labour in bullock-carts along the very imperfect roads, has now been almost monopolised by the railways, which has further afforded the exporters a rapid and inexpensive means of transportation.

The first railway line constructed in the district was the line from Gonda to Bahraich and Nanpara, which was opened in 1881. It entered the district in the south of pargana Ikauna and thence ran in north-westerly direction along the western portion of the central plateau to Bahraich, through the stations of Payagpur and Chilwariya. From Bahraich it ran north to Nanpara, with intervening stations at Risiya and Matera, both in the Nanpara pargana. At Nanpara the line divided into two branches. One ran north-east through pargana Charda to the terminus of Nepalganj road. This extension was opened in 1886.

The other branch was then known as the Katarniaghat extension, and was opened in 1898. It ran north from Nanpara to Katarniaghat on the river Girwa.

The other railway line traversing the district is the main line of the Bengal and North-Western Railway from Lucknow to Gonda. After crossing the Ghaghara, it traversed the south-eastern portion of the Hisampur pargana. The section of the line between Ganeshpur and Ghaghara-ghat was opened on December 24, 1898. The portion between Jarwal Road station and Colnelganj was opened on the February 1, 1892, while the section between Ghaghara-ghat and Jarwal Road was opened on the December 18, 1896. Another branch-line connects Katarniaghat to Gonda.

At present the district is served by North-Eastern Railways, (renamed after the nationalisation of the railways in 1950). The district is having rail coverage of approximately 168 km.

TRAVEL FACILITIES

Before the advent of locomotives and mechanised transport, it was considered dangerous to perform journey alone. People generally travelled in groups in order to avoid unnecessary risks on the way. In the remote past serais served to provide food and shelter to the travellers as well as resting place for their animals. With the development of roads, public transport and allied amenities, the situation has vastly improved. The dharmshalas now serve a very useful purpose by providing shelter to the travellers and pilgrims. There are quite a few of them in the district a list whereof is given at the end of the chapter in Statement I. In every tahsil of the district, there are dak-bungalows, inspection houses and rest houses, the upkeep of which is under the various departments of the State government. The dak bungalows, inspection houses and rest houses, though primarily meant for the government servants, also offer lodging facility for others at specified charges. Some details about these appear in Statement II at the end of the chapter.

POST-OFFICE

The practice of carrying mail from one place to another was primitive, before the institution took its firm roots during the British regime. Up to 1873, there were no imperial post-offices except at Nanpara and Bahraich, the 15 other post-offices were under local control. They were located at the police-stations and at other convenient places selected by the settlement officer. The general administration and control of these offices rested with the imperial postal department, but the charges for the district offices were met by the district dak cess. The head station was at Bahraich, from which the post was sent by rail and road daily to the sub-offices, and thence to the branch offices. Formerly there were three postal routes, namely, from Nanpara and Bahraich to Bahramghat and Lucknow, to Payagpur, Gonda and Faizabad, and to Sitapur and Chahlarighat.

With their growing requirement the number of post-offices also gradually increased. By 1912, their number went up to 35 including Bahraich head office. In 1933, the number further increased to 37. After Independence there was rapid and appreciable increase in the number of post-offices, the number in 1961 being 147 in the district. By the end of January, 1978, the number had increased to 288.

STATEMENT I

Dharmasalas, etc.

Reference Page No. 129

Village/Town	Name	Facilities available	Management
TAHSIL BAHRAICH			
Akbarpura Sheelganj	Banshidhar Dharmasala	—	—
Bashirganj	Shyam Lal Sharaf Dharmasala	—	—
Brahamanipura	Dalmia Dharmasala	—	—
Chhawani	Seth Rameshar Lal Bisheshar Lal Dharmasala	—	—
Gudri	Onkar Chandrika Dharmasala	—	—
Ikauna	Peran Chand Dharmasala	—	—
Kazi Katra	Oaddi Baba Dharmasala	—	—
Kazipura	Muslim Musafirkhana (Dharmasala)	—	—
Nazirpura	Halwai Dharmasala	—	—
Singha Parasi (Dargah Sharif)	Dargah Dharmasala	—	—
Sisai Salon	Chhedilal Dharmasala	—	—
TAHSIL BHINGA			
Bhinga	Shrimati Thakurdeyi, Tribhuvan Datt Dharmasala	—	—
Nai Bazar, Bhinga	Mathura Dharmasala	—	—
Nai Bazar, Bhinga	Banwari Dharmasala	—	—
Nai Bazar, Bhinga	Ram Chandra Dharmasala	—	—
Purani Bazar, Bhinga	Shri Ram Narain Ram Chandar Dharmasala	—	—
TAHSIL KAISARGANJ			
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TAHSIL NANPARA			
Nanpara	Dalmia Dharmasala	Lodging	Private
Nanpara	Bacchi Dharmasala	Lodging	Private

STATEMENT II

Reference Page No. 129

Inspection Houses, Dak Bungalows, Rest Houses, etc.

Village/Town	Name	Management
TAHSIL BAHRAICH		
Bahraich	Dak Bungalow	Public Works Department
Bahraich	Dak Bungalow	—
Bahraich	Forest Rest House	Forest Department
Bahraich	Dak Bungalow	Zila Parishad
Bahraich	Dak Bungalow	Sainik Parishad
Bahraich	Dak Bungalow	Irrigation Department
Gilaula	Dak Bungalow	—
Ikauna	Dak Bungalow	—
Payagpur	Dak Bungalow	—
Sita Duhar	Dak Bungalow	—
Sravasti	Dak Bungalow	—
Sonwan	Inspection House	—
TAHSIL BHINGA		
Bharya Kothi	Inspection House	—
Gulra	Inspection House	—
Kakardari	Inspection House	—
Sohelwa	Inspection House	—
TAHSIL KAISARGANJ		
Banbhaura	Dak Bungalow	Zila Parishad
Konari	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Tappo Sipan	Inspection House	Public Works Department
TAHSIL NANPARA		
Abdullahganj	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Chakia	Dak Bungalow	Forest Department
Girijapuri	Dak Bungalow	Irrigation Department
Girijapuri	Inspection House	Irrigation Department
Girijapuri	Field Hostel	Irrigation Department
Jalimnagar	Dak Bungalow	Forest Department
Katarniaghath	Dak Bungalow	Forest Department
Murtiha	Dak Bungalow	Forest Department
Nanpara	Inspection House	Public Works Department
Nanpara	Rest House	Railway Department
Nishangarha	Dak Bungalow	Forest Department

CHAPTER VIII MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

According to the census of 1971, economic activities of the people have been divided into the main and subsidiary categories, all part-time workers enumerated as workers in 1961 being removed from the category of workers and included in the subsidiary category. Consequently, the total number of workers in 1971 was less than in 1961. The total number of workers in 1971 numbered 6,06,022 only, which was short by 60,282 of the 1961 figure, which was 6,66,304.

All those persons who were economically active but neither cultivators nor agricultural labourers, might be considered to be engaged in miscellaneous occupations. An idea of their distribution among the major categories of miscellaneous occupations may be had from the following statement :

Occupation	Number (in 1971)
Livestock, development, forestry, fishing, plantation and orchards, and allied activities	2,947
Mining and quarrying	19
Household industry and manufacturing	12,158
Construction	1,659
Trade and Commerce	12,542
Transport, storage and communications	1,749
Services	23,740
Total ..	54,814

PUBLIC SERVICES

The employment opportunities under the Central and the State Government and local bodies at different levels have considerably increased because of the growing responsibility of the government towards

CH. VIII—MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

133

planned economic and social development of the country. After independence many new departments came into being to carry out developmental activities. An idea of employment under government and quasi-government establishments may be had from the following statement :

Type of establishment	No. of establishment		No. of employees			
	1976	1977	1976		1977	
			Men	Women	Men	Women
State Government	73	88	6,496	154	6,048	247
Quasi-government (Central)	14	22	278	1	322	1
Quasi-government (State)	2	3	531	—	553	—
Local bodies	19	19	4,704	942	4,920	1,012

One significant development has been that women are now seen in quite a number of government offices and their strength is progressively increasing.

Those in the employment of the government and local bodies are paid dearness allowance at rates varying in accordance with their salaries. Facilities like regular subscription to provident fund, free medical treatment, free or subsidized residential accommodation etc, are also available to government servants, and to some extent to employees of the local bodies. Leave rules have also been revised to reduce disparity between temporary and permanent staff. Encashment of a months' earned leave in a financial year is permitted by the State Government under certain conditions. Other benefits include grant of advances for purchase of conveyance or residential plots and for construction or repair of houses. Pension rules have been liberalised so as to cater to the needs of the family in the event of death of a Government servant. The age for seeking voluntary retirement has been reduced and the quantum of superannuation pension raised. The employees of the State Government subscribe to the compulsory group insurance. In the event of the death of the employee, the members of the family get a lump sum.

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 Uttar Pradesh collectorate sub-ministerial association affiliated to the State level

organisation. 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.

There are associations of peons known as Anjuman Chaprasian, of *lekhpals* known as Lekhpal Sangh affiliated to their state level bodies.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Those in the learned professions e.g. medical, legal, teaching, engineering and arts, etc., form the intellectual backbone of the society. Consequently, in spite of their small number they exert the maximum influence over the people and lead it in most ways.

Education

Teachers, principals and administrative officers of the education department fall in this field. After Independence the number of such employees has increased considerably. There is still scope for trained teachers, specially lady teachers in the rural areas. Many of the male teachers working in rural schools reside in nearby towns mainly because of non-availability of suitable residential accommodation in the village. In 1971 the number of teachers was 4,497, of whom 470 were females.

The statement below shows the number of teachers in various schools and colleges in 1977-78 :

Types of schools/colleges	No. of teachers
Junior Basic schools	4,405
Senior Basic schools	1,125
Government normal schools	21
High schools	198
Inter colleges	462
Degree colleges	58

Besides the above number, there are 60 teachers working under the Formal education scheme.

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

The teachers of the district are members of one or 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 junior and senior Basic schools of the district. These associations are affiliated to the State level apex bodies. Representatives of the teaching staff are borne in managing committees of several institutions and the membership of the Legislative Council has been thrown open to them through the formation of separate teachers' constituencies.

Medicine

According to the 1961 census, 834 persons were either physicians, surgeons or dentists, while 1,843 were engaged in public health and other medical services rendered by hospitals-allopathic, Ayurvedic and *Unani*, nursing homes, maternity and child welfare centres.

According to the 1971 census, there were 465 physicians and surgeons including dental and veterinary surgeons, of whom 15 were females. Private medical practitioners generally dispense medicines at their own clinics. Some of them charge consultation fee too, but generally the cost of the medicines supplied during the treatment covers the consultation fee. The income of such doctors and physicians varies according to their reputation for professional competence and efficiency.

Non-practising allowance is paid to doctors in government service. Higher allowances are admissible to post-graduate physicians and surgeons, and to those possessing superior technical qualifications.

The district has a branch of Indian Medical Association which was established earlier than 1950. The aims and objects of the association are promotion and advancement of medical and allied services, to bring all the qualified medical men under one banner, to supply up-to-date knowledge to the medical profession by refresher courses and journals, to devise ways and means of serving the community better, to safeguard public health, to treat patients effectively during natural calamities and epidemics and

to warn the public against health hazards. In 1978 the association had a membership of 32.

Legal Profession

Legal profession includes advocates, pleaders and their assistants. According to the census of 1961, their number was 140 in the district which increased to 465 in 1971. In 1978 the number of legal practitioners was 381, including a woman pleader.

The large influx of new entrants to this profession has made it more competitive in recent years.

There is a bar association at Bahraich, of which almost all the lawyers practising at Bahraich are the members. The aims and objects of this association are to foster the feeling of brotherhood and to maintain the standard of the profession of law and to take up schemes for the welfare of lawyers and litigant public in the district.

Engineering

The persons engaged in engineering services are mostly employed by the government, local bodies and corporations. Few persons work as engineering contractors and architects privately also.

The engineers play an important role in the developmental activities of the people, particularly in the field of agriculture, industry, means of communication, generation and transmission of power.

According to the 1971 census, the district had 55 architects, engineers, technologists and surveyors.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

The persons engaged in such miscellaneous occupations, e.g. domestic servants, barbers, washermen and tailors, constitute a small percentage of the population though they are an important cross-section of society.

Domestic Servants

According to the 1971 census, there were 810 maids and other house-keepers, cooks, maids and related workers, of whom 165 were females. Most of the domestic servants lived with their masters and acted as multi-purpose workers. In the rural areas, most of them cooked their meals separately, but in the urban areas their masters provided them with boarding and lodging. Their term of service, of course, still continues to be at the pleasure of the employer.

A progressive fall in the availability of domestic servants and the consequent rise in their wage-rates is quite noticeable in the district, as elsewhere in the State. In spite of poverty of the majority of the people,

the paradox of want of domestic servants remains, possibly because of the availability of, more lucrative jobs elsewhere, particularly with the big and prosperous farmers, albeit on a seasonal basis only.

Barbers, Hair Dressers etc.

According to the census of 1971, the number of barbers, hairdressers and related workers was 1,360.

In urban areas the old practice of a family barber has almost completely fallen into disuse. People prefer to go to hair dressing saloons rather than avail of the services of the traditional barber. In rural areas, however, the old practice of a family barber is still in vogue and he can be seen performing customary service on certain social ceremonies. He also attends to his *yajmans* (patrons) at their residences and gets remuneration in kind at the time of harvesting. Inside the ladies' quarters, the wife of the barber called *nain*, does some sort of hair cleaning and dressing and massage of women in villages and towns, though in the latter the practice is fast disappearing.

Washerman

According to the census of 1971, there were 1,485 launderers, dry cleaners and pressers in the district.

Washermen generally attend to the customers at their residence. The launderers, on the other hand, run regular shops and do not undertake home delivery. Further, they charge higher rates, because of their quick and efficient service and are gaining popularity over washermen. The laundry owners employ washermen for washing and as additional hands—for ironing and pressing the clothes.

Of late, the synthetic fabrics, which admit of easy and quick washing are becoming popular with the masses. People, especially in cities, prefer to do their own washing and get the clothes pressed by pressers. This trend has adversely affected the traditional washermen, but brought profitable business to dry-cleaners and pressers. The washerman in the rural areas has not, however, been much affected and follows the traditional pattern.

Tailors

According to the census of 1971, the tailors, dress-makers, sewers, upholsteres and related workers numbered 1,859, including 87 females. In urban areas the tailors stitch shirts, bush-shirts, pants, pyjama and suits, while those in rural areas generally make *kurtas*, simple shirts, pyjamas and *lahangas*. With the passage of time and change in style of

clothes, *salwars* and *kurtas* are also tailored. The charges vary from place to place and shop to shop depending upon the stitching skill of the tailor.

Generally, the tailors in the urban areas are economically better off than their counterparts in the rural areas. In towns the tailors often employ workers for sundry works on monthly or contract basis, but such employment is not available in the villages. Most of the tailors have their own sewing machines and work in their shops and do not ordinarily call on customers.

In the past there used to be family tailors in villages, who besides receiving some cash for tailoring, were also paid in kind at harvesting time. They used to visit their patrons to obtain orders, but this custom is fast disappearing.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS

According to the census of 1971, there were 2,284 carpenters, cabinet and related wood workers; 1,912 food and beverage processors; 1,597 building caretakers, sweepers, cleaners and related workers; 1,302 bricklayers and other construction workers; 717 jewellery and precious metal workers and metal engravers; 535 blacksmiths, tool makers and machine tool operators; 410 cooks, waiters and related workers; 400 maids and other related workers; 340 shoe makers, and leather goods makers; 165 hotel and restaurant keepers; 82 stone cutters and carvers; 80 printing and related workers and 35 painters.

CHAPTER IX ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Workers and Non-workers

In 1961 the percentage of workers and non-workers to the total population of the district was 44.4 and 55.6 respectively against the corresponding State figures of 39.1 and 60.9. Among workers 88.6 per cent were cultivators and agricultural labourers. Next came other services claiming 4.2 per cent, followed by household industry and other manufactures, jointly claiming 4 per cent, and trade and commerce 2.2 per cent. In other categories the number of workers was small. Female participation in it was not insignificant, inasmuch as they comprised 22.6 per cent of the total workers. Of the total population agricultural activities employed 23.5 per cent, while 15.3 per cent were employed in non-agricultural activities. In terms of percentage their number slightly went down in the decade ending 1971, but agricultural activities continued to claim the largest number of workers.

The following statement gives the distribution of workers in the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors of economy in 1961 and 1971:

Year	Total population	Total workers	Percentage of workers to total population			
			Agricultural workers	Non-agricultural workers	District total	U.P.
1961	14,99,929	6,66,304	39.3	5.1	44.4	39.1
1971	17,16,972	6,06,022	32.0	3.3	35.3	30.9

The anomaly of decrease in the percentage of workers notwithstanding substantial increase in the overall population of the district in the decade 1961-71 has arisen due to change in the definition of 'worker', as applied to the census of 1971. The 1961 definition lacked precision and even a part-time worker, like a woman who worked only for an hour or two in the field, was enumerated as a 'worker'. Such part-time and other domestic workers were not included in the list of workers in 1971. As a consequence the total number of workers as enumerated in the 1971-census could not but register a decrease.

In 1971, the 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. Some data in respect of workers of the different categories in 1971 shall be found in the following statement :

Category	No. of workers			Percentage of workers	
	Total	Males	Females	To total workers	To total population
I. Cultivators	4,65,698	4,51,091	14,607	76.8	27.10
II. Agricultural labourers	85,510	73,324	12,186	14.1	4.90
III. Livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	2,947	2,686	261	0.5	0.17
IV. Mining and quarrying	19	18	1	—	0.00
V. Industries —					
(a) Household industries	5,837	5,441	396	1.0	0.33
(b) Other than household industries	6,321	6,243	78	1.0	0.46
VI. Construction	1,659	1,615	44	0.3	0.09
VII. Trade and commerce	12,542	12,334	208	2.1	0.75
VIII. Transport, Storage and communications	1,749	1,743	6	0.3	0.12
IX. Other services	23,740	22,216	1,524	3.9	1.38
Total workers	6,06,022	5,76,711	29,311	100.00	35.30
Non-workers	11,20,950	3,61,192	7,59,758	—	64.70
Total population	17,26,972	9,37,903	7,89,069	—	100.00

All the non-workers have been grouped together in one single class, though they were classified at the 1971 census into the following categories :

- (a) Full-time students
- (b) Those attending to household duties
- (c) Dependents and infants
- (d) Retired persons and rentiers
- (e) Persons of independent means
- (f) Beggars and vagrants
- (g) Inmates of penal, mental and charitable institutions
- (h) Others

GENERAL LEVEL OF PRICE AND WAGES

Prices

For want of proper and authentic record it is difficult to describe the prices of different commodities in the ancient and medieval periods. Since barter system was in vogue in most of the trade centres, the use of money was restricted. However, it may not be wrong to assume that except in times of calamities (war, famine, etc.) the prices were low.

About 1800, wheat was sold at 40 to 60 seers to a rupee, and prices remained low till about 1860. From 1861 to 1870 the average price of wheat was nearly 24 seers (22.3 kg.), barley 42 seers (39.1 kg.), rice 16 seers (14.9 kg.), jowar 40 seers (37.3 kg.) and gram 31 seers (28.9 kg.) per rupee. The price of wheat touched its lowest to a rupee (39.1 kg.) in 1862, and the highest 13.25 seers (12.2 kg.) to a rupee in 1869. In the latter years, however, the rise was undoubtedly due to exportation, because barley too was sold at 33 seers (29.8 kg.) and jowar at 22 seers (20.5 kg.) to a rupee. If these rates are compared with those of the ten years ending 1900 during which period the district was not visited by famines or scarcity, the general rise is apparent. Wheat for example, averaged 14.50 seers (13.4 kg.), and in no single year the average price was as low as 17 seers (15.8 kg.). Barely gave an average of 22 seers (20.5 kg.), the lowest price being 31.25 seers (29.0 kg.) in 1898, and the highest 13.25 seers (12.2 kg.) in 1897. Similarly, jowar worked out at 23.75 seers (22.0 kg.), common rice at a little more than twelve seers (11.1 kg.), and gram at 19 seers (17.7 kg.). What was chiefly of importance concerning these prices was that there were seldom any great variations and never any approach to a return to the former state of things.

In the first decade of this century prices rose very slowly, but the rate of increase in prices was marked after the beginning of the First World War in 1914. The following statement indicates the price level as existing in December, 1921 :

	Prices per rupee in seers (1 seer=0.93 kg.)			
	Wheat	Rice	Gram	Arhar
December 1911	15	11	24	18
December 1921	5	6	6	5

The prices continued to prevail at the 1921 level for about 8 years with marginal and local variations. The economic depression of the 1929-30, caused continuous and severe strain on markets. Contraction

of currency, depression in trade, and abundant supplies of grains were some of the main causes of the depression. In 1932 the rates per rupee were wheat 12 seers (11.1 kg.), rice 10 seers (9.3 kg.), gram 20 seers (18.6 kg.) and *arhar* 13 seers (12.1 kg.). The prices tended to stabilise in 1935-36, but started rising in the following years.

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 levels reached in prices. At the beginning of 1940 the price control measures that had been put into operation at the outbreak of the war were rigorously enforced by the district authorities. These measures included fixation of prices, prosecution in courts of law to check profiteering, and licensing of food-grain dealers. Despite these measures the prices continued to rise and it was experienced that effective control of prices was not possible without control over supplies.

In January 1943, wheat, rice and certain coarse grains were rationed, followed by total rationing from April, 1945 to May 1948. On withdrawal of rationing in 1948 normal and open free sale of food-grains in the markets was restored. However, inflationary tendencies reappeared and total rationing was again introduced in July 1949, which continued till June 1952, when a change in policy with regard to controls was adopted by the government. Open and free markets were restored. The ration card holders, however, continued to receive wheat from fair-price shops, a measure aimed at controlling the price line. Restrictions on the movement of food-grains within the State were withdrawn and their procurement was suspended. The measures, no doubt, had their positive effects as the following statement shows :

Commodity	Prices in Rs per maund (37.3 kg.)		
	1951	1956	1960
Wheat	16.00	15.50	17.00
Barley	10.00	8.00	10.00
Gram	15.00	10.25	11.00
Rice	18.00	15.00	17.00
<i>Arhar</i> dal	17.00	14.75	15.75

The fluctuation in prices in the sixties and the first four years of seventies was very much linked with the Chinese Aggression in 1962 and the Indo-Pak conflicts of 1965 and 1971. However it was only after the

year 1971, that the prices rose at an alarming rate, and an over-all shortage of commodities was felt. The purchasing power of rupee, as computed on the basis of the consumer price index in 1949, kept on steadily declining.

The following statement gives the prices of some of the commodities in the last seven years :

Commodity	Retail prices in Rs. per kg						
	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Wheat	0.90	1.00	1.15	1.40	1.20	1.20	1.10
Gram	0.80	0.90	1.25	1.80	2.10	1.60	1.20
Rice	1.30	1.50	1.60	1.90	2.20	1.80	1.50
Barley	0.75	0.75	0.85	0.95	1.10	1.05	0.85
Jaggery	0.80	1.30	1.60	1.75	1.80	1.90	2.00
Sugar	1.80	2.30	3.50	3.80	4.80	4.80	4.20
Ghee	10.00	10.00	12.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	17.00
Fuel	8.00	9.00	9.50	10.00	12.00	13.00	15.00
Kerosene (in Rs per litre)	0.75	0.80	0.80	1.00	1.26	1.26	1.39

Wages

In the past and even for a number of years during the British rule, the wages were often paid in kind. A small quantity of coarse grains together with some *gur* (Jaggery) comprised the daily wage of the labourer. Another method to pay the labour in the rural areas was to give some land and allow him to retain a portion of its harvest. Further the system of *saunk* labour was also in vogue in the district in the first decade of this century. Under it any man of the four castes—Lodh, Chamar, Kori and Kurmi received an advance from the farmer and became his bond and serf for life or till he repaid the advance, which did not bear interest. The ordinary sum so given varied from Rs 30 to Rs 100, and for this a man bound himself and his children. It was not uncommon to meet serfs whose fathers had entered into such obligations, they were still discharging. However, the system at long last died out, the chief reason being that the debt could not be enforced by law.

The *saunks* received one-sixth of the crop, whatever it be in which they had worked as ploughmen and reapers. There was a modification of the system, called the *ulli sawak*, under which the labourer received

an advance of six to twelve rupees, and gave his services for the year, receiving in addition one-sixth or one-seventh of the crop. Other landlords paid their labourers two rupees a month, a blanket in winter and a couple of local maunds of grain at harvest time.

There was also in the last decade of nineteenth century a contract system under which labourer broke up waste land with spade at a fixed rate. For ordinary land this rate was one rupee for two bighas, the process involving merely turning over the clods with a large hoe. A stout man could do two bighas and earn a rupee in ten days, or nearly three rupees a month, but such a feat was rare. An ordinary labourer could complete his work on two bighas, and earned only Rs 2 a month. The wages slightly increased in the first decade of this century, when the rural wages averaged between Rs 2.25 to Rs 3 per month.

The first wage census was held in the State in 1906. An idea of rural wages for skilled and unskilled labour for certain years from 1906 to 1944 may be had from the data available in the wage census of 1906 and the statement that follows :

Year	Wage (per day in Rs)	
	Skilled worker	Unskilled worker
1906	0.31	0.12
1911	0.37	0.12
1916	0.44	0.15
1928	0.55	0.25
1934	0.42	0.12
1939	0.45	0.12
1944	0.50	0.19

The wages increased in the wake of the First World War (1914-18), and the trend continued till the end of twenties. With the economic depression which set in after 1929, the wages in tune with prices, tended to declined. However, the fluctuations in wages were not as steep as in the case of prices. Even in 1945, at the end of the Second World War, daily wages were Re 0.56 for a skilled worker and Re 0.20 for an unskilled worker. In the fifties for a skilled worker it ranged between Re 1 and Rs 1.50, and for an unskilled worker between Re 0.30 to Re 0.40. The increase continued in the sixties too when the average wages were Rs 2 per day for the skilled worker and Re 1 per day for the unskilled worker.

The increase was, however, rather considerable in the seventies.

In the villages a large number of persons work as weeders, reapers, irrigation workers, carpenters, blacksmiths, tillers and seasonal labour for transplantation of paddy etc. They generally work for seven to eight hours a day and are paid an average of Rs 5 per day in cash. In addition there are others like barbers and washermen who render professional service to their clients, earn their living both in cash and kind. Carpenters and blacksmiths too earn their keep much in the same way, their wages approximating to Rs 8 per day.

In the urban centres of the district the wage earner is up to a variety of jobs, the skilled workers receiving higher wages. An idea may be had regarding the average wages of skilled and unskilled workers in the town of Bahraich in 1977 from the following statement :

Occupation	Unit of quotation	Average wage (Rs)
Gardener	Per month—whole time	150.00
	Per month—part-time	25.00
Carpenter	Per day	10.00
Blacksmith	Per day	10.00
Tailor	Per cotton shirt (full sleeves)	4.00
	Per cotton blouse	3.00
	Per woollen coat	110.00
Midwife	Per delivery	10.00
Barber	Per shave	0.30
	Per hair cut	1.00
Motor driver	Per month	300.00
Casual labourer	Per day	4.25
Domestic servant	Per month without board	50.00
	Per month with board	75.00
Scavenger	Per month for cleaning one latrine daily	5.00

GENERAL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment Trends

With the implementation of different Five-year Plans, a large number of jobs have been created in the public sector. Side by side the private sector too has enlarged its activities resulting in creation of fresh job opportunities in fair number.

An idea may be had from the following statement regarding employment opportunity as provided by the private and public sectors :

Year	Number of establishments			No. of employees		
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total
1973	72	107	179	4,813	14,053	18,866
1974	77	108	185	4,919	13,374	18,293
1975	77	107	184	3,425	13,206	16,631
1976	80	108	188	3,560	13,106	16,666
1977	80	132	212	2,739	13,733	16,472

The number of persons given in the foregoing statement for 1976 and 1977, when further divided according to their work pattern, was as follows :

Category	No. of establishments		No. of employees	
	1976	1977	1976	1977
1. Agriculture, live-stock, forestry, etc.	7	7	763	744
2. Manufacturing	21	17	1,284	1,188
3. Construction	4	4	554	560
4. Electricity, gas, water and sanitary services	9	13	2,272	1,543
5. Trade and commerce	12	11	77	79
6. Transport, storage and communications	4	4	18	21
7. Services	14	24	251	331
8. Activities not adequately described elsewhere	117	132	11,447	12,006
Total	188	212	16,666	16,472

Unemployment Trends

As many as 8,735 persons with different educational standards were seeking employment in the district at the end of the year 1977: More than 50 per cent of these were either matriculates or educated up to

intermediate standard. On the other hand, only 109 post-graduates were seeking employment. The following statement gives the break-up of employment seekers according to their educational standards :

Educational standard	Men	Women	Total
Below middle school standard	1,188	207	1,395
Middle school standard	1,208	27	1,235
Matriculate	2,155	88	2,243
Intermediate	2,692	60	2,752
Graduate	927	74	1,001
Post-graduate	105	4	109
Total	8,275	460	8,735

At the end of the year 1977, only 326 vacancies were notified to the exchange. Of these 215 vacancies were notified by the local bodies, 89 by the State Government, 14 by the private sector and 8 by the quasi-government establishments.

Employment of Women

As compared to the private sector, the number of women employed in the public sector was larger. The following statement gives the data relating to employment of women in the private and public sectors in December, 1977 :

No. of employees in public sector	1,260
Percentage of women employees (of total employees) in public sector	9.1
No. of women employees in private sectors	143
Percentage of women employees (of total employees) in private sector	5.2

Majority of the women are employed in educational and medical and public health institutions. No woman is employed in transport and construction activities. The following statement gives the percentage of women workers (of the total number of all workers) in each of the professions in which they were employed in 1977 :

Medical and public health	17.41
Education	16.43
Trade and Commerce	0.21
Manufacturing	0.16
Other services, etc.	3.33

Employment Exchange

The employment exchange was established at Bahraich on December 1, 1960. It provides job assistance to the unemployed persons and also caters to the employers by sponsoring suitable candidates for different jobs. Under the employment market information scheme, which is in vogue in the district, every employer operating in the district in the private or public sector has to inform the exchange regarding the number of persons already employed in its establishments and notify the number of likely vacancies occurring in each quarter of a year. However, such establishments as employ less than 10 persons are not required to do so. Collection of data regarding the job-requirements of the public and private sectors, enables the exchange to plan in advance and provide quick-service to the employers as well as the employees. The exchange also undertakes analysis and publication of data for the benefit of the employers, employees and the general public. The following statement gives an idea of the work done by the employment exchange during the years 1973 to 1977 :

Year	Vacancies notified by employers	No. of persons registered for employment	Number on 'live register'	Persons provided with employment
1973	947	7,863	7,976	844
1974	812	6,817	6,314	760
1975	640	5,468	5,878	559
1976	474	16,927	7,337	442
1977	865	6,418	8,735	663

NATIONAL PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The British made some efforts to improve sanitation and expand agricultural and irrigation facilities in the villages. However, the effort to improve the condition of the people residing in the villages was made on a greater scale in 1937 when the first Congress Government came into office, and a rural development association was formed at the district level. It had a nominated non-official chairman and a subdivisional magistrate as secretary. The work related largely to rural hygiene, construction of roads, establishment of libraries, construction of Panchayat ghars and night schools for adults. With the declaration of the Second World War, the Congress Government resigned and went out of office in September, 1939, and the schemes for rural development were relegated to the background.

With the return of the popular government the work was resumed and in May, 1947, 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 1952 the district development association was replaced by the district planning committee with the district magistrate, as its chairman, and the district planning officer as secretary. In 1954, for the first time, community development work, on an intense and integrated scale, was undertaken in the district with the establishment of the Kaisarganj development block on January 26, 1954. The First and Second Plans mainly provided for the development of agriculture and infra-structure. However, some efforts were also made to develop industries in the Second Plan.

After the completion of the First Five-year Plan in March, 1956, the Second Five-year Plan came into force with effect from April 1, 1956. The scope of the Second Five-year Plan was enlarged to include industrialisation, and it was decided to divide the whole district in a number of blocks for implementation of various schemes.

The execution of the schemes under the First and Second Five-year Plans was looked after and supervised by the district planning committee. In 1958, the Antarim Zila Parishad was created by amalgamating the district planning committee and the district board. Ultimately for successful implementation of the planning and development programmes a three-tier system of local-self government was adopted in December, 1961. Accordingly at the village level a village Panchayat, a Kshettra Samiti at the block level, and the Zila Parishad at the district level were constituted. In the co-ordinated execution of different Plan schemes, the resources of the agriculture, co-operative, animal husbandry, Panchayat Raj and some other departments and organisations were pooled and put under the district planning officer, now designated district development officer.

There were 19 development blocks in the district in 1978. Some particulars about the development blocks are given in the following statement :

Development block	Tahsil	Date of establishment	No. of Gaon sabhas	No. of Nyaya panchayats	Population in 1971
1	2	3	4	5	6
Chittaura	Bahraich	2-10-56	88	9	1,58,007
Payagpur	Ditto	2-10-59	76	9	80,132
Bishashwarganj	Ditto	1-4-60	78	9	81,119
Ikauna	Ditto	2-10-56	88	11	85,089
Gilaula	Ditto	2-10-58	96	11	81,660

Contd.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Risiya	Nanpara	2-10-59	76	10	80,485
Jamnaha	Ditto	1-4-60	87	11	93,381
Sheopur	Ditto	2-10-57	67	10	1,00,507
Balha	Ditto	1-4-59	63	10	1,00,735
Mahinpurwa	Ditto	2-10-55	64	10	97,999
Nawabganj	Ditto	1-4-58	74	8	77,538
Tejwapur	Kaisarganj	1-4-60	75	9	77,720
Mahsi	Ditto	1-4-57	76	9	84,498
Fakhrpur	Ditto	1-4-57	99	13	98,122
Huzurpur	Ditto	1-4-60	88	10	78,959
Kaisarganj	Ditto	26-1-54	81	10	76,469
Jarwal	Ditto	1-4-57	94	10	95,324
Sisaiya	Bhinga	26-1-55	89	10	85,789
Hariharpur	Ditto	1-4-58	71	11	93,412

In the Third Five-year Plan (1961-66) emphasis was laid on intensive development, with a view to make economy of the district self-reliant and self generating. Special programmes related to the use of improved varieties of seed, intensive and improved methods of cultivation and crop protection measures were also introduced.

The Third Five-year Plan was followed by the three yearly Plans which were introduced in the year 1967 with the following broad objectives :

(1) A growth rate of 5 per cent in the agricultural sector, and 8 to 10 per cent in industry.

(2) To maximise employment opportunities and redress imbalances arising out of population growth by reducing the fertility rate to 25 per thousand.

The main objectives of the Fourth Five-year Plan beginning April 1, 1969, was to increase national income and employment opportunities by a big margin on the one hand and equitable distribution of income and wealth on the other. It sought to provide land to the landless and reduce the holdings of big farmers.

As a result of the use of high yielding varieties of seeds and fertilizers, adoption of scientific methods of cultivation, and an intensive programme of minor irrigation works, the production of food-grains increased in the Fifth Five-year Plan which was introduced in the year 1974.

STANDARD OF LIVING

The standard of living of the people is dependent on two factors, namely, the total income of a family, and its expenditure pattern. The income of an average farmer has, no doubt, gone up with the increase in the production of agricultural commodities and their prevalent high prices in the last 25 years, but the expenditure on inputs, such as implements, fertilisers, irrigation works and seeds also shows definite increase. Therefore, only big farmers owning larger holdings could spend some of their incomes on recreation, better clothes, household equipment, transport and education. There are large holdings in the terai region, which is an excellent paddy growing area. In the *uparhar* and *tarhar* regions the average holdings are, however, small. In addition the risk to cultivation is generally high for the *tarhar* area because of floods in the river Ghaghara.

The extent to which planning and development has enhanced the standard of living cannot possibly be enumerated with precision. However, a comparative study of the means of communications in the forties, sixties and seventies of this century, makes it evident that larger distances can be covered in shorter time, unlike on ekkas, ponies and tongas of the forties. A large number of metalled roads have been constructed, making access to even remote areas easy and quick. Transistors, and radios appear to be available in every village. Even the garments made of synthetic fibres, which were initially only confined to urban centres, are not uncommon sight in the villages.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The district of Bahraich forms part of the Faizabad Division, which is one of the twelve administrative units into which the State of Uttar Pradesh is divided. A commissioner holds the charge of the division with headquarters at Faizabad.

Commissioner

Commissioner is the link or the official channel between the district and the government and is overall responsible for the administration and co-ordination of the activities of the municipal boards, Zila Parishad, notified areas and other local bodies in the division. He has also been made responsible for planning and development work of the districts under his charge.

Earlier the commissioner enjoyed complete authority within his jurisdiction in all matters but gradually it came to be shared by others due to the creation of numerous departments at the regional level, such as industries, labour, co-operative, sales tax, etc., which mostly came into existence in the post-Independence period.

Though the commissioner now does not have to do much judicial work, yet on the appellate side he still hears appeals and revisions under the U. P. Zamindari Abolition Act, the Arms Act and the Anti Goonda Act, etc. He is assisted by an additional commissioner in disposal of revenue cases. He is also the regional transport authority.

District Officers

The district is the most important single unit of administration in which the government comes into intimate contact with the citizens. The head of the civil administration in the district is the collector who is also the district magistrate. For other multifarious duties he is also known as the district officer. As in the other district of Avadh, he is designated deputy commissioner in the district. The main duty of the district officer and collector is fair and prompt collection of the land revenue, irrigation charges and other government dues which may be entrusted to him for recovery. He keeps constant watch over the condition of the crops and peasantry and also recommends to the government suspension or remission of land revenue and grant of gratuitous relief and agricultural loans known

as *taqavi* for seed, agricultural implements, etc., in order to assist the peasantry to tide over difficult period. Maintenance of up-to-date land records; realization of *taqavi* and other loans; dispensation of justice both under Criminal Procedure Code as well as revenue laws, continues to be his responsibility. In addition, in his capacity of a district officer, as he is often called, an assignment which does not relate to any particular department, or that department has no field staff of its own, the same is also often entrusted to him. As district officer he is also responsible for equitable distribution of commodities, which are informal or statutorily controlled. In this sphere he is helped by the district supply officer, who functions as the district rent control and eviction officer as well. The district has a soldiers', sailors' and airman's board with the district officer as ex-officio president, which looks after the welfare of ex-servicemen, serving personnel as well as their families. Being the ex-officio district election officer, he is responsible for all arrangements regarding elections to the Lok Sabha, Vidhan Sabha and local bodies. He is the licensing authority for arms and ammunitions in the district. A comparatively new and important duty of the collector since the middle of this century has been the direction of the planning and development activities in the district. The district development officer, who looks after the planning and development in the district works under his control.

The district magistrate looks after the day-to-day working of the treasury officers and is responsible for the effective execution of the consolidation of holdings programme in the district. As ex-officio district deputy director (consolidation) he also supervises the work of consolidation and hears revisions under the U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953. As district officer he is the chief officer to administer the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, and for this purpose he is assisted by an additional district magistrate (finance), who is designated district stamp officer for this purpose.

The district magistrate is also in overall supervision of the work relating to entertainment tax and State excise duty, the immediate charge of the former being under a deputy collector and that of the latter under an excise officer of the State excise department.

He, as district magistrate, maintains law and order in the district. He keeps watch on the general crime situation and ensures that no outbreak of disturbances occurs. During such situations the entire magisterial and police administration is integrated under his authority. Appraisal of public opinion and prevention of explosive situations are some important duties assigned to him. He is assisted by four-subdivisional officers in administering the district.

Subdivisional Officer/Magistrate

For the purposes of general and revenue administration, the district of Bahraich has been divided into four subdivisions namely, Nanpara, Bhinga, Bahraich and Kaisarganj, each forming a tahsil of the same name. Each subdivision is under the charge of a subdivisional officer whose duties are similar to those of the district officer/magistrate but confined to their subdivisions only. The subdivisional magistrate, Bahraich acts also as city magistrate in addition to his own duties.

Tahsildar

Each tahsil of the district is in the charge of a resident tahsildar, who is an officer of gazetted status and is subordinate to the subdivisional officer. The tahsildar is assisted in his work by a few deputies called *naib-tahsildars*, there being 20 such *naib-tahsildars* in the district in 1978. Each tahsil is further divided into parganas, and each pargana into *kanungo* circles and *lekhpals* circles.

The four registrar *kanungos* who work at the tahsil offices are entrusted with supervision and compiling of land records. Their work is periodically checked by *sadar kanungo* and inspected by *naib-tahsildars* and subdivisional officers.

The supervisor *kanungo* is in charge of one or more parganas and his duties are confined mostly to supervision and checking of land records work of the *lekhpals* in his circles. In 1978 there were 20 such supervisor *kanungos* in the district.

The *lekhpals* are the last link in the above chain. Primarily he is responsible for preparing and maintaining the land records relating to villages in his circle. Besides collecting agricultural statistics, he also renders assistance in developmental and such other miscellaneous work as may be entrusted to him. In 1978, there were 434 *lekhpals* in the district.

Superintendent of Police

The superintendent of police is the executive head of the district police. He is responsible for efficiency and discipline of the force, checking and detection of crime, investigation of offences, general law and order and for maintenance of peace. He is assisted in his work by deputy superintendents of police, circle inspectors, reserve inspectors, sub-inspectors, head constables and constables. The district is divided into four police circles comprising an average of four to five police stations and the charge of a circle is held by a deputy superintendent of police. There are 18 police stations in the district. Some more details about the police administration appear in chapter XII (Law and Order and Justice) of this volume.

District Judge

The judicial work of the district is headed by the district and sessions judge, under the jurisdiction of the High Court of judicature at Allahabad. He is the highest authority in the district for the administration of justice in civil and criminal matters. There are three additional district and sessions judges, two *munsif* magistrates, a civil and assistant sessions judge, a chief judicial magistrate and a special judicial magistrate to assist him.

OTHER DISTRICT LEVEL OFFICERS**State Government**

The following are the other district level officers who are administratively under the control of their own heads of the departments:

- Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies.
- District Basic Shiksha Adhikari.
- Chief Medical Officer.
- Deputy Regional Marketing Officer.
- District Agriculture Officer.
- Divisional Forest Officer.
- District Harijan and Social Welfare Officer.
- District Horticulture Officer.
- District Inspector of Schools.
- District Industries Officer.
- District Live-stock Officer.
- District Panchayat Raj Officer.
- Sales-Tax Officer.
- District Supply Officer.
- Executive Engineer, P.W.D.
- Executive Engineer (State Electricity Board).
- Executive Engineer (Irrigation).
- Executive Engineer (Tube-well).
- Treasury Officer.
- Settlement Officer, Consolidation.

Central Government

Posts and Telegraph Department—The district of Bahraich falls in the Gonda postal division under the charge of a superintendent of post-offices with headquarters at Gonda. The head post-office was situated in the city, and there were 26 sub post-offices and 261 branch post-offices in the district in 1978.

Income Tax Department—The Bahraich circle of income-tax is under the charge of an income-tax officer at Bahraich who is assisted by an inspector of income-tax. The highest authority is the commissioner of income-tax, Allahabad, who is assisted by an inspecting assistant commissioner of income-tax with headquarters at Gorakhpur. Appeals arising against the assessment orders lie with the income-tax commissioner, Allahabad and to appellate assistant commissioner income-tax, Faizabad.

Central Excise Department—The central excise work of the district is looked after by a superintendent, central excise with headquarters at Gonda. For the enforcement and implementation of central excise laws the district Bahraich forms a range of the same name under the charge of an excise inspector.

National Savings Organisation—The object of saving is the circumvention of the tendencies leading to inflation and the inculcation of the habit of thrift among the masses by encouraging investment in small savings. There is a district organiser stationed at Bahraich city, to look after the implementation of this scheme and works under the assistant regional director, national savings, Faizabad.

CHAPTER XI**REVENUE ADMINISTRATION****FISCAL HISTORY**

The fiscal history of Bahraich dates back to very early times and corresponds to the system of revenue administration which was prevailing in other parts of the country. It was an integral part of Kosala and its rulers were equally conscious of realizing the land revenue which was the main source of State income in those days. The tax on land was generally one-sixth of the total produce payable by the cultivator mostly in kind and in lieu of which he was assured safety of his life and property by the king. Besides land revenue, taxes from commercial goods, State owned industries and properties were other sources of State income. Apart from peasant proprietorship, the State also owned land, which yielded substantial revenue to the royal treasury. This ancient method of collection of revenue continued uninterruptedly and without any marked change till the advent of Muslim rule. In the year 1243, Sultan Ala-ud-din, grandson of Iltutmish sent his uncle Nasir-ud-din, as governor of Bahraich who is said to have devoted himself to the improvement of the condition of his subjects. Under his kind rule Bahraich attained great prosperity.¹ The main feature of the agrarian system which the Turkish rulers introduced was the collection of land revenue through assignees. An assignee had not only the exclusive authority to assess and collect the amount due but was also required to ensure that the revenue was paid in the form of grain. Thus with the introduction of this practice the system of collection of land revenue through the agency of intermediaries came into being.

During Akbar's rule the entire system of revenue administration was overhauled. The emperor began by adopting a schedule of assessment rates for general use, on the basis of claiming for the state a third of the average produce, in terms of grain. The system of annual assess-

1. Irvin, H. C. : *The Garden of India*, (Lucknow, 1973), Vol. I, pp. 65-66

ment by *nasaq* (group-assessment or farming)¹ of a village or a pargana as a whole, was replaced (perhaps in the 15th year of his reign) by rates fixed after inquiry from the *kanungo* (revenue official) of the village. Moreover, under Raja Todar Mal, the ryotwari system dealing primarily with individual ryot came into vogue, the sum payable by him for the land he cultivated being fixed. The revenue was, however, paid through intermediaries who deducted their own share.

During the reign of Akbar, the region covered by the present district of Bahraich formed a part of the subah of Avadh and the administrative division, known as sarkar Bahraich, comprised the whole of the present district as well as considerable portion of Gonda and Kheri. It was divided into 11 *mahals*, the revenue of which is given below :

Mahal	Cultivated area (in Bigha)	Revenue (in dams)
Bahraich	6,19,226	91,34,141
Bahrah	926	37,135
Hisampur	1,07,400	47,47,035
Fakhrpur	1,01,720	31,57,876
Firozabad	1,08,301	19,33,079
Dongdoi	80,436	4,40,562
Rajhat	4,064	1,66,880
Sujauli	1,24,710	8,77,007
Sultanpur Kundri	20,141	1,66,000

1 dam—1/40 of a Rupee

From the days of Akbar to the rule of Nawab vizirs of Avadh, the local chiefs managed the collection of revenue in their respective estates excepting those *mahals* which directly paid revenue to the imperial treasury. During 18th century the assignments of lands in the district in revenue-free or service-tenure were very extensive. In pargana Bahraich alone, no less than 858 villages were held by one Nawab Mirza Muhammad Jahan in Jagir. Saiyid Muzaffar Husain, another grantee, held 60 villages and 127 more were assigned in revenue-free tenure to others. This system of jagirs continued to the days of Shuja-ud-daula. After his death in 1775, his successor, Asaf-ud-daula, resumed all the grants with the

1. Moreland, W. H. : *The Agrarian System of Moslem India*, (Allahabad), p. 85

exception of 225 villages reserved for himself by the minister, Mir Afrid Ali Khan. The latter was, however, compelled to relinquish the property on the death of Asaf-ud-daula, when it was seized by the Nazim, Rai Amar Singh. No jagirs were granted in Bahraich after the accession of Saadat Ali Khan, save the Bhinga estate, which, under the engagement executed by that Nawab in favour of the Bahu Begam was made over to that lady in 1795, together with Gonda, and remained in her possession till her death in 1818. These estates profited largely by being exempt from the interference of the government revenue officials.

• During the rule of the first five Nawabs, the great talukdars were held thoroughly in check. A tahsildar resided in each of the estates of Ikauna, Gangwal, Payagpur and Charda, and watched the interest of the State. The talukdars had little to do with the management of their property beyond assisting the tahsildar in his collection and enjoying the produce of a few villages set apart for their maintenance.

Saadat Ali Khan, on his accession instituted the contract system under which the local governors were bound to pay into the king's treasury a certain stated sum, and were allowed to appropriate any excess collections. This system worked well enough while its author held the reins and this district was particularly fortunate in being under a well meaning *nazim* during the period. It was not till the accession of Ghazi-ud-din Haider that the disastrous effects of the farming system appeared. From the death of Saadat Ali Khan, until the deposition of Wajid Ali Shah, the district scarcely enjoyed a single year of rest or freedom from the merciless exactions of its grasping administrators.

The next phase of the fiscal history of the district properly starts from annexation in 1856 by the British. It was from this period onward that the summary and regular Settlements of the district were conducted.

REVENUE SETTLEMENT

First Summary Settlement of 1856

The first assessment of the present district of Bahraich was the summary Settlement of 1856. The country was then not in a flourishing state and the revenue demand was necessarily low. Unfortunately all the records were destroyed during the freedom struggle of 1857. The work of the Settlement was carried out by captain Reid, the then deputy commissioner of Bahraich, and the talukdars in this district remained in possession of almost all their villages. Consequently the changes of possession in property, owing to the adoption of the principles upon which the summary Settlement was made, were only very slight. Out of 3,682 villages, which in the year preceding annexation were held by the taluk-

dars, 2,998 were maintained in their proprietorship. Of the remainder 305 were included in the single estate of Baundi, from which the talukdar was excluded, not as having no right to these villages, but on account of defalcation in the payment of revenue, while 230 were deserted villages, and on that account settled with no one. The talukdars were only ousted from 78 villages, in which the adverse claimants were declared the owners of the properties.

Second Summary Settlement of 1859

The second summary Settlement was made in 1859, shortly after the restoration of order. The demand seems to have been very fairly calculated on the average assets of the preceding years. The total demand for the whole district including the subsequently added pargana of Tulsipur, amounted to Rs 5,79,706.

First Regular Settlement

The first regular Settlement of the district was commenced by Clark in 1865 and completed in 1872 by Boys. It was preceded by a professional survey begun in 1865, which was followed by a field survey. The most important feature, perhaps, of this Settlement was the establishment of the Settlement courts, and formation of the permanent record-of-rights.

The whole of the district was assessed by Clark, with the exception of Dharmanpur and the trans-Rapti portion of Bhinga, which was latter completed by Boys. The assessment was made and reported by parganas, but these were divided into circles, selected topographically and numbered 28 in all. Clark then proceeded to fix rent rates, testing the entries in the rent-rolls and the returns given by the managers with the results ascertained by personal examination. These rates were applied to the natural soils as recorded, except in Hisampur, where a single rate was used for all grain rented land, the regular rent rates being applied to the cash-paying areas only. The assets obtained on this basis formed the main guide for the assessment. In the portion assessed by Boys, grain-rents were almost universal, so that there was no possibility of extracting rent-rates from the village papers. Consequently, he endeavoured to ascertain the average annual value of the outturn in each class of soil, and they obtained rates to be applied. The revised assessments made on these principles was Rs 10,01,656, including Tulsipur and the increase on the quit rent estates held by the ruler of Kapurthala, imposed for the purposes of cesses. Thus the increase in rent on the demand of summary Settlement which was Rs 579,706 amounted to about Rs 1,22,000, or somewhat over 72 per cent.

Second Regular Settlement

The second regular settlement of the district, began in November, 1896, under which separate circle or standard rates were deduced for high and low-caste tenants holding at cash rents, and a third set of rates for the grain-rented area. The standard rentals at circle rates, thus consisted first of the valuation of the cash rented holdings of low caste tenants by low rates applied to the classified soil areas, secondly; to a similar valuation of the cash-rented holdings of high-caste tenants, and of the assumption area other than grain rented land, at high-caste rates; and lastly of a valuation of the grain-rented area at special grain rates.

The rental assets were determined at Rs 25,18,251, to which was added Rs 25,921 as *sayar* income, while Rs 51,183 were deducted for improvements, giving a total of Rs 24,95,989. The assessment was made at 45.26 per cent of the assets, giving a revenue of Rs 11,29,595, an incidence of Rs 1.66 per acre of cultivation, and an enhancement of 40.42 per cent on the expiring demand. Excluding nominal assessments, the increase was 41.18 per cent, a high figure, but not calculated to retard in any way the progress of the district, and inevitable under the rapid improvement already shown.

The permanently-settled area in this district was very large, it being nearly 3,35,695 acres or nearly 20 per cent of the entire agricultural area. Of this 2,03,593 acres belonged to the ruler of Kapurthala and the remainder to the ruler of Balrampur. The former paid an annual revenue of Rs 48,943, excluding Bhitauli in Bara Banki district. The ruler of Balrampur paid the full demand as assessed at the first regular Settlement, amounting to Rs 1,23,030, and representing an incidence of Rs 0.94 per acre.

Settlement operations were next started in the district in 1928, but were abruptly closed in 1932. The result was that the new revenue demand could be enforced in pargana Nanpara only.

Present, System of Survey and Assessment

Under the provisions the U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, of 1951, Settlement operations are in the ordinary course of things not to be under taken before a period of forty years from the date of vesting. In case of a substantial decline in the price of agricultural produce, which may continue for sometime, an interim revision may be taken up.

Collection of Land Revenue

Prior to the abolition of the zamindari system, rent from tenants was collected by the intermediaries who paid the government shares as revenue in the treasury and kept the rest as their own profit. After

their elimination, the system of direct collection by government from *bhumidhars* and *sirdars* was introduced. For this purpose collection *amins* were appointed and their work was supervised by *naib* tahsildars, tahsildars and subdivisional officers. In 1952, the government appointed a district collection officer to supervise and coordinate the collection work of all government dues in the district, but the scheme was discontinued in 1955, and the subdivisional officers were made over all in charge, and responsible for collection work in their respective subdivision.

The following statement shows the revenue demand and receipt from different sources in 1977-78, corresponding to 1385 *Fasli* :

Main dues	Revenue demand (in Rs)
Land revenue	71,52,302
<i>Vikas kar</i> (Development tax)	24,92,307
Irrigation dues	10,72,592
<i>Vrihat jot-kar</i> (Large holdings tax)	86,806

LAND REFORMS

Relations Between Landlord and Tenant

In ancient times there were no intermediaries and the cultivator was solely responsible to pay the traditional one-sixth of the total produce to the king, while the latter ensured safety of his life and property. In early days, the revenue was not collected with so strict a hand as compared with later times. The advent of Muslim rule witnessed the high-handedness of revenue collectors who were assigned vast portions of land and made responsible for assessment and realization of revenue for their benefactor ruler. During the Sultanate period, the post of an assignee was sometimes hereditary, and this class of intermediaries, most often, brought about untold sufferings to the cultivators by realizing greatest possible sum of land revenue. Akbar could succeed in doing away with the system of assignment and introduced uniform revenue laws throughout his empire. His system continued with slight modifications during the reign of his successors. Under the nawab vizirs of Avadh, the district had rather a difficult experience. Before Saadat Khan, the first nawab vizir, took charge as governor of Avadh, not only the local chiefs had started assuming an air of independence and defiance, but the conditions in the countryside were also unsettled. To achieve some sort of order and normalcy, he determined to reduce the authority of the local chiefs first. This he did by undertaking a few military expeditions,

besides introducing a system under which a graded series of officers for collection of land revenue were appointed. These were *chakladars*, *amils* and *kanungos*, but they in turn exploited cultivators by realizing a greater amount than they were liable to pay in Nawab's treasury. Besides, there was a semi-military officer designated as *nazim*, whose task was to coerce the habitual defaulters in making timely payment.

The system had its own defects and was very soon changed by the nawab vizir, and big farms were established and leased to the local rajas and their kinsmen for a stipulated period, on payment of premium, the lessees, having rights of sale or repurchase without being obliged to make any further payment to the nawab. With the introduction of farming system, the office of *chakladar* fell into disuse and was abolished. The position of the lessee rajas thus, for all practical purposes, became that of a tributary rather than a subject. Naturally, when the power of the nawab declined, the rajas started asserting their independence.

Soon after annexation in 1856, the British discarded the system inherited by them from the nawabs and set upon land reforms though slowly, by conducting Settlement operations and establishing relationship with the cultivator, so that the latter might pay a fixed amount of revenue to the government.

Abolition of Zamindari

The U. P. Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1950 (U. P. Act, I of 1951), was enforced in the district with effect from July 1, 1952 doing away with the system of intermediaries (with the exception of urban areas and government estates) affecting 13,465 persons and replacing multiplicity of tenures by only four types : the *bhumidhars*, *sirdars*, *asamis* and *adhivasis*.

As a result thereof, the intermediaries became *bhumidhars* of their *sir* and *khudkasht* lands groves. Certain other tenure-holders also acquired the same status in land under their cultivation, provided they fulfilled certain specified conditions. Such a *bhumidhar* possesses heritable and transferable rights in his holding from which he cannot be ejected. Certain other categories of tenants, who did not, in the first instance acquire *bhumidhari* rights, became *sirdars* of the land in their cultivation. As a *sirdar* a tenant had permanent and heritable interest in his holding but could not transfer it. He could use his land only for purposes of agriculture, horticulture and animal husbandry and acquired *bhumidhari* rights in his holding by paying to the government a sum representing a prescribed multiple of his annual land revenue. In 1977,

the tenure of *adhivasis* was abolished and in the same year by another law the State Government conferred the rights of *bhumidhars* on all the *sirdars*, thus reducing the number of tenures to only two, namely, the *bhumidhar* and the *asami*. *Sirdars* on whom rights of *bhumidhars* were conferred in January, 1977, by the government, however, do not enjoy the right to transfer their land. The law in general prohibits sub letting, but those employed in defence services or invalidated by age or injury, etc., are entitled to sublet their land. The lessee is known as an *asami* and he is a tenant of a *bhumidhar*. A tenant holding land from the *gaon sabha* is also known as the *asami*. He has neither heritable nor transferable rights and is liable to ejectment for void transfer or on the extinction of the rights of the *bhumidhars* concerned, or for contravention of any other provision of the Act.

The total compensation for payment to intermediaries determined up to 1977-78 was Rs 2,29,35,513, of which an amount of Rs 37,21,894 was paid in cash and Rs 1,38,80,600 in bonds. An amount of Rs 25,80,900 in bond and Rs 41,213 in cash was also paid as the rehabilitation grant. The landholder *adhivasis* also received compensation according to the provisions of the Act.

An idea may be had regarding the number of tenure-holders, number of holdings and area under each tenure in the district in 1977-78, from the following table :

Kind of tenure	No. of tenure-holders	No. of holdings	Total area (in ha.)	Average size of holdings (in ha.)
<i>Bhumidhars</i>	5,37,005	5,37,005	4,96,530	0.9
<i>Asami</i>	1,300	1,300	1,265	0.9

The Act of 1952 also established land management committees for the management of lands not comprised in any holding or grove, forests within the village boundaries, tanks, ponds and fisheries, *hats*, bazars and *melas*; and other sources of income vested in the *gaon sabha*.

Urban

Zamindari rights in agricultural lands in urban areas of the district were abolished with the enforcement of the U. P. Urban Areas Zamindari Abolition and Land Reforms Act, 1956 (U. P. Act IX of 1957). The amount assessed as compensation payable to intermediaries whose estates were acquired was Rs 3,58,913, of which Rs 3,52,863 have been paid till the end of 1978.

Consolidation of Holdings

The U. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act, 1953, (Act V of 1954), provides for consolidation of scattered and small holdings. Areas in different tahsils of the district were taken for consolidation under the scheme in a phased manner as would be evident from the following statement :

Name of tahsil	Year of enforcement	Total number of villages	Area under consolidation (in thousand ha.)
Bahraich	1960	381	90
Kaisarganj	1962	473	93
Nanpara	1965	343	93
Bhinga	1972	13	170

The work of consolidation in the district is looked after by one settlement officer (consolidation), six consolidation officers, 19 assistant consolidation officers, 38 consolidators and other field staff.

Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings

As a step towards social and economic justice by providing land to the landless and agricultural labourers and bring about an equitable distribution of land, the Uttar Pradesh Imposition of Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1960, was passed. The Act was enforced in the district in January, 1961. The number of tenure-holders affected by the Act was 1,998 and the total area declared surplus was 15,155 ha. Out of this 14,403 ha. has been allotted to 12,334 persons cases.

An amount of Rs 12,01,164 has been assessed as compensation, of which Rs 10,89,753 were paid till July, 1978.

Bhoodan

In 1951, Acharya Vinoba Bhave initiated *Bhoodan* movement in Uttar Pradesh with the object of obtaining land for landless. The State Government passed the U. P. Bhoodan Yojna Act, 1952. An area of about 3,330 ha. was received in donation/gift in the district of which about an area of 3,270 ha. has been distributed among the landless people.

ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

Central Taxes

The Central Government taxes consist of central excise, income-tax, wealth-tax, gift-tax and estate duties.

Central Excise—for purposes of central excise the district falls under the charge of superintendent, central excise circle, Gonda. There are two excise inspectors posted in the district to look after the excise work.

The excisable commodities in the district are: branded chewing tobacco; copper and copper alloys, *khandsari* and package tea.

The excise revenue collected in the district from 1973-1974 to 1977-78, is given in the following statement:

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1973-74	16,011
1974-75	11,350
1975-76	3,42,307
1976-77	5,09,079
1977-78	5,46,876

Income Tax—This is another important source of revenue of the Central Government. For the collection of this tax, an income tax officer has been appointed in the district with headquarters at Bahraich.

The following statement shows the number of assessees and the amount collected as income-tax between the years 1973-74 and 1977-78:

Year	No. of assessees	Amount of tax (in Rs.)
1973-74	1,421	9,00,000
1974-75	1,775	12,02,000
1975-76	1,775	21,50,000
1976-77	1,775	20,78,000
1977-78	1,775	24,43,000

Wealth-Tax and Gift-Tax—The taxes imposed under the provisions of the Wealth Tax Act, 1957, and Gift Tax Act, 1958, are also collected by the income tax department. The following statement gives the number of assessees and the amount of wealth-tax and gift-tax collected from 1973-74 to 1977-78:

Years	Wealth-tax		Gift-tax	
	No. of assessees	Amount of tax (in Rs.)	No. of assessees	Amount of tax (in Rs.)
1973-74	107	161,000	59	4,000
1974-75	110	63,000	51	30,000
1975-76	112	66,000	58	23,000
1976-77	145	83,000	63	21,000
1977-78	123	94,000	46	17,000

Estate Duty—Estate duty is levied under the provisions of the Estate Duty Act, 1958, on the property left by a deceased person. District Bahraich falls under the estate duty circle, Allahabad.

The following statement gives the amount of estate duty collected in the district in 1976-77 and 1977-78:

Year	No. of assessees	Amount of tax (in thousands)
1976-77	12	32
1977-78	7	8

State Taxes

Excise, sales tax, stamps, registration fees, taxes on motor vehicles, entertainment and betting tax, are some of the principal sources of revenue of the State Government.

Excise—The subjects under this head are governed by the United Provinces Excise Act, 1910. In Uttar Pradesh the administration of excise covers liquor, hemp-drugs, molasses, alcoholic medicines, power alcohol and motor spirit, their production, distribution and sale.

For purposes of excise administration, the district falls in the excise range of Gorakhpur which is under a deputy excise commissioner, with headquarters at Gorakhpur. At the district level the work is looked after by departmental officer, designated as district excise officer. In this field he exercises all the powers which were formerly exercised by the district magistrate. The district has been divided into three excise circles, each under the charge of an excise inspector. Circle I comprises tahsil Kaisarganj and Bahraich; circle II tahsil Nanpara; and circle III, tahsil Bhinga.

The excise inspector of circle I has to look after the supplies of liquor and bhang to the licencees of the district in addition to his normal duties. Apart from prevention and detection of excise offences, the excise inspectors have also to be vigilant about the working of licencees in their respective circles.

Liquor—Plain country spirit is supplied by M/s. Narang Industries, Nawabganj, Gonda, to bonded warehouse, Bahraich from where plain spirit is issued to vendors. The distilleries are paid for per litre spiced and plain spirit at Re 0.58 and Re 0.63 respectively. There is low duty plain spirit also, of which the rate is Re 0.51 per litre. There are 64 country liquor shops in the district, of which 11 are situated in tahsil Bahraich, 15 in tahsil Kaisarganj, 31 in tahsil Nanpara and 7 in tahsil Bhinga.

The following statement shows the total consumption of country spirit from 1966-67 to 1977-78 :

Year	Total consumption (in A.L.)
1966-67	27,733
1967-68	28,226
1968-69	30,554
1969-70	29,734
1970-71	29,837
1971-72	30,276
1972-73	27,831
1973-74	33,478
1974-75	35,122
1975-76	34,352
1976-77	36,801
1977-78	48,969

Foreign Liquor—The number of foreign liquor shops in the district is four, of which two are in tahsil Bahraich and one each in tahsils Nanpara and Kaisarganj.

Hemp Drugs—Hemp, known as 'bhang', is also a source of excise revenue and its growth is spontaneous in the district. Bhang licences for retail sale are settled by auction system. Bhang is supplied to them from bonded warehouse where supply is obtained on contract. The district has 9 bhang shops, of which 4 are situated in tahsil Bahraich, 3 in tahsil Kaisarganj and 2 in tahsil Nanpara.

The following statement shows the consumption of bhang in the district from 1966-67 to 1977-78 :

Year	Consumption (in Rs.)
1966-67	607
1967-68	674
1968-69	710
1969-70	751
1970-71	826
1971-72	829
1972-73	769
1973-74	781
1974-75	663
1975-76	896
1976-77	897
1977-78	825

Tari—The supply and sale of tari is also based on auction system. There was only one tari shop in the district situated at Bahraich. Tari is sold at the average rate of Rs. 1.50 per litre.

The following statement gives the amount of excise revenue from different sources from 1966-67 to 1977-78 :

Year	Revenue (in Rs.)		
	Country Liquor	Bhang	Tari
1966-67	2,37,368	1,857	21,600
1967-68	2,70,676	2,207	22,500
1968-69	3,17,735	2,251	23,000
1969-70	6,86,083	5,354	48,200
1970-71	7,92,040	6,067	48,500
1971-72	8,18,402	6,080	48,700
1972-73	8,04,076	5,860	49,000
1973-74	29,05,792	7,549	49,700
1974-75	35,96,940	7,128	61,000
1975-76	35,97,514	8,514	75,500
1976-77	37,12,718	17,344	1,12,500
1977-78	42,50,234	23,431	1,03,000

Sales-tax—Sales-tax is levied under the U. P. Sales Tax Act, 1948, and Central Sales Tax Act, 1957, as amended from time to time. For the purpose of assessment and collection of sales-tax, the district has been divided into two sectors. The sales tax officer Bahraich is responsible for the assessment and administration of the tax.

The following statement shows the total amount of sales tax collected in the district from 1973-74 to 1977-78 :

Year	Amount (in lakhs)
1973-74	40.07
1974-75	68.18
1975-76	82.80
1976-77	91.93
1977-78	117.39

The number of assessees and the amount collected as sales tax in respect of important commodities in 1977-78, is given in the following statement :

Commodity	No. of assessees	Amount (in Rs.)
Foodgrains	837	56,22,198
General merchandise	426	—
Kirana	240	1,99,261
Sweetmeat	83	—
Bullion and ornament	72	71,704
Bricks	68	6,25,831
Iron and steel	57	81,618
Timber	41	26,55,03
Oil-seeds	—	11,11,406
Cement	—	69,368
Brassware	32	30,324
Cotton yarn	12	1,178
Machinery parts	62	1,05,275

Stamps—Under the Indian Stamps Act, 1899, stamps are classified as judicial and non-judicial. Judicial stamps are affixed where court fee is to be paid, and the latter on bills of exchange, receipts involving more than a sum of Rs 20 and documents in respect of which stamp duty is payable. Income from this source also includes fines and penalties realised under the Act.

The income from judicial non-judicial stamps for the last five years ending with 1977-78 is given below :

Year	Amount (in Rs.)	
	Judicial	Non-judicial
1973-74	4,72,621	12,36,454
1974-75	5,39,722	19,60,349
1975-76	5,25,427	21,52,202
1976-77	4,95,744	24,45,290
1977-78	5,58,173	55,50,579

The following figures indicate the amount of stamp duty and penalty realised between 1973-74 and 1977-78 :

Year	Amount (in Rs.)	
	Duty	Penalty
1973-74	671	473
1974-75	8,161	12,938
1975-76	33,687	32,847
1976-77	7,801	11,424
1977-78	15,281	8,939

Registration—Documents such as instruments of gifts, sale and lease of immovable property and transfer of shares in joint-stock company have to be registered under the Indian Registration Act, 1908.

The following statement shows the income and expenditure on the establishment from 1973-74 to 1977-78 :

Year	Income (in Rs.)	Expenditure (in Rs.)	No. of documents registered
1973-74	3,29,941	54,875	12,690
1974-75	4,51,150	72,051	12,465
1975-76	4,16,515	64,600	9,494
1976-77	4,34,055	52,939	7,407
1977-78	9,14,305	60,628	11,346

Motor Vehicles Tax—The motor vehicles are taxed under the U. P. Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1938 (Act V of 1935), the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, U.P. Motor Gadi (Yatri-Kar) Adhiniyam, 1962, and U.P. Motor Gadi (Mal-Kar) Adhiniyam, 1964. The district falls in the jurisdiction of regional transport officer Faizabad, who is assisted by a passenger tax officer and a goods tax officer. The amount of tax collected in the whole region, comprising the district of Faizabad, Sultanpur, Bahraich and Gonda, is given in the following statement.

Year	Goods-tax (in Rs.)	Road-tax (in Rs.)	Passenger-tax (in Rs.)
1972	68,163*	13,30,671	—
1973	6,30,029	12,51,657	—
1974	8,55,948	23,10,263	—
1975	8,61,172	25,47,744	—
1976	12,68,288	33,99,842	—

*The amount relates to a part of the year, as the tax was introduced in 1972.

Entertainment Tax—The entertainment Tax is realised according to the provisions of the U.P. Entertainment and Betting Tax Act, 1937. The cinema, circuses, *nautanki* etc., are the main sources of this tax. The entertainment tax officer, Bahraich, is responsible for the realisation of the tax and is assisted by two entertainment tax inspectors. There are four cinema houses in the district, of which 3 are situated in Bahraich and one in Nanpara.

The following statement shows the amount of entertainment tax collected in the district from 1973-74 to 1977-78 :

Year	Amount (in Rs.)
1973-74	5,25,048
1974-75	6,49,515
1975-76	7,95,903
1976-77	10,11,688
1977-78	14,80,249

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

Incidence of Crime

The detailed statistics and information about the various types of crimes, their nature and incidence regarding the district of Bahraich are available only from year 1898. During the period from 1898 to 1902 the most prevalent forms of crime were theft, burglary and small riots. The number of offences against receiving stolen property was proportionately small, while the more heinous offences were fairly large. Dacoities were not only rare but were also mild in character, and in most instances were traceable to wandering gangs. At times they were of a serious nature too, as armed gangs had occasionally harassed the district. Their occurrence was partly due to the fact that Bahraich borders Nepal, the territory of which afforded a ready escape. Murders were not very common, the annual average being eight cases. Rioting was also frequent, the average number of persons convicted for this offence from 1898 to 1902 was over 60. Grievous hurts, too, were common alongwith rioting, the average number of cases falling under this head during the same period was about 42.

The commonest offences were, as usual, house-breaking and petty thefts particularly among agricultural communities and the same were rendered easier by the fact that a great number of the houses were only built of thatch, and where there were mudwalls, a thatched hurdle was generally used as a door.

Arson, though rare, was nevertheless a favourite offence, especially among bad characters, and was generally committed in retaliation for evidence given against them. Considering the nature of the district, cattle theft occurred but only occasionally, there being an average of over 40 cases annually brought to convictions.

An idea of the crimes, its incidence and nature may be had from some of the decadewise crime figures of persons convicted or bound down, given below :

Nature of crime	1901	1911	1921	1931	1951	1960
Offences against public tranquillity	38	50	102	200	43	57
Offences affecting life	33	21	4	2	—	—
Grievous hurt	18	13	155	153	30	31
Rape	2	3	—	—	—	3
Cattle theft	21	23	34	19	—	—
Criminal force and assault	23	15	13	20	7	14
Theft	265	129	189	107	170	153
Robbery and dacoity	23	16	37	2	8	—

Some more information on the subject has been given under the section of 'Justices' of this chapter.

The following table gives an idea of the nature and year wise incidence of crimes reported in the district from 1973 to 1977 :

Nature of crime	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Dacoity	69	154	80	121	162
Robbery	67	108	95	143	15
Murder	52	54	70	70	70 4
Riot	197	309	346	280	272
Theft	946	1,302	1,162	882	1,279
House breaking	1,131	1,287	1,228	947	822
Kidnapping	97	111	120	126	99
Rape	11	8	19	17	13

Organisation of Police

For checking and detection of crime, investigation of offences and for maintaining peace police-stations were established in 1871. There was only one member of the regular police to every nine square miles and 2,590 inhabitants. But around 1902 the figures were one to every 12.9 square miles and 5,179 persons, and the regular police force of the district consisted of a district superintendent of police, a reserve inspector, a visiting inspector, 30 subinspectors, 12 head constables and 161 constables.

Around the year 1901 there were police-stations at the three tahsil headquarters of Bahraich, Kaisarganj and Nanpara and the pargana capitals of Bhinga, Ikauna and Fakhrpur, and at Payagpur, Malhipur, Sisaiya, Motipur, Khairighat and Sujauli.

At present the district police administration is headed by a superintendent of police with his headquarters at Bahraich. He is responsible for maintenance of peace, law and order, prevention, detection and investigation of crimes, besides keeping the force under him, disciplined and efficient.

The district has been divided into a number of circles for efficient administration, each under the charge of a deputy superintendent of police who, besides performing all the work which is entrusted to them, makes inquiries, supervises the work of police-stations of their respective circles and helps in important investigations.

The police force of the district is divided into two broad classes, the civil and the armed police.

In the year 1978 the district was divided in three police circles of Bahraich city, Kaisarganj and Nanpara, 18 police-stations and 19 police outposts. Broadly the duties of the police are to prevent, detect and investigate crimes, regulate traffic in the towns and maintain law and order in the district. The following statement gives the names of police-stations and outposts in each circle :

Police circle	Police-station	Police-outposts
1	2	3
City	Kotwali city	Chowk Bashirganj Kanoongopura Gulamaliyura Civil Line
	Kotwali Dehat	Risiya
	Kardi	—
	Sonwa	—
Kaisarganj	Kaisarganj	Jarwal Road Jarwal Kasba
	Fakhrpur	Bauri
	Hasoorpur	—
	Payagpur	—

[Contd.]

1	2	3
Nanpara	Nanpara	Nanpara
	Khairighat	Sheepur
	Rupaidiha	Nawabgani
	Motipur	Mihimpurwa Murtiha
	Sujauli	Girjapuri Katarnighat
Bhinga	Bhinga	Bhinga
	Sirsiya	—
	Malhipur	Kakardari
	Gilaula	—
	Ikauna	Ikauna

Village Police

The institution of village chowkidars, which forms the lowest ladder of the police organisation, may be traced to ancient times when each village had its own chowkidar who assisted the village headman in maintaining law and order and guarding the cultivators' produce. After the enforcement of the North-Western Provinces and Road Act (Act XVI of 1873) and ever since thereafter, the role of these village chowkidars has continued to gain importance with the passage of time. The chowkidars, while living in their villages, are attached to the police-stations and are paid a nominal amount by the government for the services, rendered by them. Their main duty is to inform the local police of subversive activities within their jurisdiction. They also act as process-servers of the *nyaya* panchayats for which they are paid small remuneration. In 1978 the strength of the chowkidars in the district was 996.

Government Railway Police

The government railway police is a separate wing of the State police. Its main duty is to maintain law and order at railway stations and in trains, to assist the checking squad in prevention of ticketless travel, to control and investigate crime within railway precincts, to deal with cases of accidents and to attend to security arrangements when required. In the district there is only one railway police-station at Bahraich.

Prosecution Staff

The prosecution staff of the district comprises one senior public prosecuting officer who is assisted by ten assistant prosecuting officers, seven head constables, and eleven constables. The staff works under the supervision of superintendent of police. They conduct legal proceedings on behalf of the State before the magistrates and advise the investigating officers on legal matters, arising in the course of investigation of crimes.

In sessions cases and criminal appeals, the government counsel together with his assistants, conducts the cases on behalf of the State.

Jails and lock-ups

In 1902 there was one jail in the district at Bahraich, which was under the charge of the civil surgeon. This building took the place of an earlier one which was condemned on account of the unhealthiness of the situation in 1859.

The institution of jail is an integral part of the judicial system. The first jail, built in the district, was a temporary structure of mud which was replaced in 1860, because of its unhealthy situation. It was under the charge of civil surgeon. At present it has the capacity to accommodate 425 prisoners and is under the charge of civil surgeon (now chief medical officer) who is its ex-officio superintendent. He is assisted by a jailor, a deputy jailor and three assistant jailors. At the State level, the inspector general of prisons, Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, is the administrative head of the department. For providing prompt medical attention to the convicts and under trials, a 12 bedded jail hospital under the charge of an assistant medical officer, is located in the jail premises.

The average daily population of the prisoners and under-trials in the jail from the year 1973 to 1977 was follows :

Year	Prisoners	Under-trials
1973	101	351
1974	98	394
1975	72	524
1976	61	504
1977	55	452

Welfare of Prisoners

Prisoners and under-trials are placed in superior or ordinary class according to the standing orders of the government on the subject.

The treatment of prisoners and under-trials has vastly improved since Independence. Now regular wages are paid to convicts sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for their labour. They also take part in constructive activities and are provided with facilities relating to medical checkup and treatment, games and recreations, etc. The prisoners are also given special diets on certain ceremonial occasions.

Revising Board—The district is governed by the revising board constituted for the districts of Lucknow and Faizabad Divisions, with headquarters at Lucknow. The members comprise the district magistrate of the headquarters, that is Lucknow, the district judge, Bahraich and a non-official member who is a member of the State Legislature nominated by the district magistrate, Bahraich, every year. The superintendent, district jail, is the ex-officio secretary of the board.

Visitors—The ex-officio visitors of the jail appointed by the State government are, the director of the medical and public health services, Uttar Pradesh, all the members of the State and Central Legislature from the district, and all the members of the standing committee of the State legislature for jails. Besides, the chairman of the central committee of the U. P. Apradh Nirodhak Samiti, the chairman of the municipal board, Bahraich, and the Adhyaksha, Zila Parishad, are also non-official visitors of the jail.

Lock-up

There is a lock-up located in the premises of civil court which is meant for the custody of under-trials of lower and the sessions courts. Previously this lock-up was meant and used for persons involved in sessions trial only, but after the transfer of the courts of the chief judicial magistrates and other judicial magistrates in the civil court compound, this lock-up is used for all these courts also, thus creating shortage of accommodation. Besides, there is a lock-up at every police-station.

Justice

During the pre-Independence period, a court of civil and sessions judge, a court of civil judge and two courts of *munsifs* functioned for the district under the Gonda judgeship. A subordinate judge was stationed at Bahraich and there were two *munsifs* with headquarters at Bahraich and Kaisarganj.

There were six honorary magistrates exercising third-class magisterial powers, usually within the limits of their estates, such as the Raja of Payagpur and the taluqdar of Bhingha, and the managers of the Kapurthala and jamdan estates.

Criminal sessions were held at regular intervals at Bahraich by the session judge of Gonda.

The Bahraich judgeship was separated from Gonda judgeship in the year 1953. Later on, some courts of civil and sessions judges were created in view of the heavy arrears of sessions cases in the district. Thereafter two more courts of additional *munsifs* were created in the year 1975 to cope with increasing number of civil and criminal cases.

Civil Justice

The district judge is the head of the judiciary in the district and is assisted by additional district and sessions judges, exercising equal powers with the district judge. All of them are vested with powers of unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction in civil cases, and powers of hearing revisions and certain other types of cases, for which jurisdiction has been conferred upon them under various enactments and statutes.

The district judge also exercises administrative control over judicial magistrates including the chief judicial magistrate at the district level, alongwith supervision and control over all the officers of the judiciary posted in the district.

There is also an assistant civil and sessions judge with jurisdiction to decide suits of unlimited value and appellate jurisdiction to hear appeals upto the valuation of Rs 2,000. There are two *munsifs*, one exercising territorial jurisdiction over parts of Bahraich and Nanpara tahsils, and the other over the remaining parts of Kaisarganj and Bhinga tahsils. They have pecuniary jurisdiction upto Rs 10,000. A chief judicial magistrate exercising first class magisterial powers and territorial jurisdiction over whole of the district is also posted in the district, along with a special judicial magistrate with the same territorial jurisdiction and second class magisterial powers.

The position of civil cases in the year 1977 is given in the following statement :

Cases	Number of suits
Pending at the beginning of the year	1,750
Instituted during that year	938
Disposed of during the year	995
Pending at the end of the year	1,693

The number of suits involving immovable property was 98, money or movable property 353, matrimonial suits 73, and other important cases 414. The number of suits instituted in 1977 according to their valuation was as under :

Valuation	Number of suits
Not exceeding Rs 100	21
Exceeding Rs 100 but not exceeding Rs 1,000	675
Exceeding Rs 1,000 but not exceeding Rs 5,000	197
Exceeding Rs 5,000 but not exceeding Rs 10,000	12
Exceeding Rs 10,000 but not exceeding Rs 20,000	29
Exceeding Rs 20,000 but not exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	4
Exceeding Rs 5 lakhs	Nil

The details of the mode of disposal of the suits in the year 1977 were as follows :

Manner of disposal	Number of suits
Dismissed for default	244
Otherwise decided without trial	159
Decreed ex-parte	139
On admission of claims	37
On compromise	125
On reference to arbitration	Nil

The position of appeals instituted and disposed of during the year 1977 was as follows :

Nature of appeals	No. of appeals	
	Instituted	Dispose
Regular civil appeals	204	144
Regular rent appeals	379	351
Miscellaneous civil appeals	58	52

Criminal Justice

At present the district and sessions judge constitutes the chief criminal court of the district. He is assisted by additional district and sessions judges, and one assistant sessions judge. As district and sessions judge, he deals with criminal cases triable by the court of sessions and has appellate jurisdiction against the judgements and orders of the *munsifs* and magistrates working in the district. There are two *munsif* magistrates, one special judicial magistrate and a chief judicial magistrate.

Some details of criminal cases instituted in various courts from 1975 to 1977 are given below :

Nature of offence	No. of cases instituted		
	1975*	1976*	1977*
Affecting life	171 49	190 51	201 37
Kidnapping and forcible abduction	280 61	320 60	360 51
Hurt	611 21	750 20	810 16
Rape	167 19	195 18	240 15
Unnatural offences	11 2	19 1	21 2
Extortion	97 —	137 —	217 —
Robbery and dacoity	880 58	940 60	995 68
Other cases	1,863 23	1,898 21	1,966 19

*The numerator represents the data relating to the courts of *munsifs* and judicial magistrates and the denominator that of the sessions courts

The following statement shows the number of persons sentenced by the courts during the years 1975 to 1977 :

Persons tried/sentenced	Year		
	1975*	1976*	1977*
Persons tried	3,315	4,070	4,257
	750	774	810
Sentenced to death	—	—	—
	3	1	5
Life imprisonment	—	—	—
	37	11	86
Rigorous imprisonment	910	880	1,096
	310	342	306
Simple imprisonment	45	41	53
	—	—	—
Fined only	307	295	371
	—	—	—
Other imprisonment	53	54	37
	—	—	—

*The numerator represents data relating to both the courts of the *munsifs* and the judicial magistrates and the denominator that of the sessions courts

Separation of Judiciary from Executive

Before the year 1967 the judicial magistrates and the additional district magistrates (judicial) were working under the administrative control of the divisional commissioner. In the year 1967, the judiciary was separated from the executive, and the additional district magistrates (judicial) and judicial magistrates were put under the administrative control of the high court through the district judges. From the year 1967 onwards, *munsifs* have also been conferred with magisterial powers and they are also dealing with criminal cases. The new Code of Criminal Procedure and its enforcement on April 1, 1974 brought about a complete separation of the judiciary from the executive.

Nyaya Panchayats

For the purpose of rendering quick and cheap justice to the rural population, *panchayati adalats* (courts) were established in the district in August 1949, under the United Provinces Panchayat Raj Act, 1947.

They were subsequently named as *nyaya* panchayats. The jurisdiction of a *nyaya* panchayat usually extends over a contiguous area comprising six to twelve *gaon sabhas*, depending on the population of the constituent villages. The total number of *nyaya* panchayats in the district, at present, is 192. The following statement shows the tahsilwise distribution of *nyaya* panchayats at the time of their formation and their present position in 1978 :

Tahsil	1949	1978
Bahraich	70	44
Kaisarganj	61	61
Nanpara	57	59
Bhinga*	..	28

*A new tahsil created in the year 1976

The *panchs* of the *nyaya* panchayats are nominated from amongst the elected members of *gaon* panchayats by the district magistrate with the assistance of an advisory body. The *panchs*, from amongst themselves, elect the *sarpanch*, and a *sahayak* (assistant) *sarpanch* to act as the presiding officer. The *panchs* are honorary workers and hold office for a period of five years, though it may be extended for a year by the State government.

The cases are heard by benches constituted by the *sarpanch*, each bench consisting of five *panchs* for a period of one year. 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 sections of Indian Penal Code :

(a)	140	269	290	352	403*	431	509
	160	277	294	357	411*	447	510
	172	283	323	358	426	448	—
	174	285	334	374	428	504	—
	179	289	341	379*	430	506	—

*Involving property not exceeding an amount of Rs 50.

(b) Sections 24 and 26 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871

(c) Section 10 (i) of the United Provinces District Board Primary Education Act, 1926.

Revisions against their orders in civil, revenue and criminal cases are heard by munsifs and subdivisional magistrates exercising jurisdiction.

An idea may be had regarding the work done by the *nyaya* panchayats during the year 1973 to 1977 from the following statement :

Year	No. of cases pending at beginning of year	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases disposed of by end of year
1973	957	328	178
1974	1,107	4,335	4,315
1975	1,127	3,321	3,648
1976	800	2,560	2,538
1977	822	1,944	2,284

Bar Association

There are three bar associations in the district, namely, Bahraich bar association, Nanpara bar association and Kaisarganj bar association. The latter two associations function at their respective tahsil headquarters, and are independent bodies, having no connection with the Bahraich bar association, and are not yet formally registered like the former.

The Bahraich bar association was formally registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, in 1935. The total number of members of the association in June, 1978, was 204.

The primary aim of these bar associations is to help and safeguard the interests of the litigants, particularly the poor. They also look after the welfare of their members, help them in the discharge of their duties and responsibilities, and provide library facilities for study during court hours.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

Besides the administrative departments discussed in Chapters X, XI and XII, dealing with general administration, revenue administration, law and order and justice, the organizational set-up and functions of other important departments at the district level such as agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operative, forest, horticulture, industries and the public works are described below :

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The main function of this department is to guide and assist the agriculturists and to encourage them to adopt improved practices and modern technology suited to local conditions. Besides arranging uninterrupted supply of inputs like quality seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, insecticides, etc. For administrative purposes, the district falls in the jurisdiction of the deputy director of agriculture, Faizabad region. A project officer is in-charge of the work at the district level who is assisted by a district agriculture officer and four additional district agriculture officers. They are assisted by a team of trained workers and other staff to push forward various agricultural programmes, including extension of areas under high yielding crops, oil-seeds, cotton, etc., and formulation and implementation of Five-year Plan schemes. One additional district agriculture officer particularly looks after the programmes relating to cultivation of oil-seeds. He is assisted by five assistant agriculture inspectors (oil-seeds), and three supervisors who carry out and supervise the activities at the development block level. Other activities of the department at the block level are supervised by an assistant block development officer (agriculture). Demonstrations of modern methods of agriculture, use of fertilisers, improved implements, hybrid seeds and pesticide are periodically arranged. Forty-four assistant inspectors of agriculture, assisted by thirty-eight *kamdars* look after the distribution of improved varieties of seeds, fertilisers and agricultural implements from the seed stores under their charge. In addition, they are also associated with the development of agricultural activities in the villages, adjoining the seed stores.

The district has government seed multiplication farms and jute development centres. While the former are looked after by superintendents,

the latter are supervised by a jute development inspector with the help of three assistant inspectors.

The district has one plant protection officer who guides the cultivators in various plant protection schemes and preventive measures besides necessary and timely steps for protection of plants and crops from diseases, insects, pests, etc.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT

The district falls under the jurisdiction of the deputy director of animal husbandry, Faizabad circle. A district live-stock officer is in charge of the department at the district level. He is responsible for the work relating to improvement of animal breeds and poultry, prevention and treatment of diseases, controlling of possible outbreaks of epidemics among cattle and implementation of Plan schemes of the department. He plays an important and active role in execution of applied nutrition programmes and arranges financial assistance to prospective breeders. He is assisted by an artificial insemination officer, an officer in charge semen collection station, a veterinary officer and two veterinary surgeons. The artificial insemination officer is responsible for supervision of artificial insemination centres and sub-centres, organisation of sterility camps, treatment of sub-fertile and sterile animals, development and propagation of fodder crops, distribution of improved fodder-seeds and maintenance and supervision of stud animals in the district. There are in all 24 veterinary hospitals and 14 artificial insemination centres in the district.

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

The department deals with the co-operative activities in the district including the organization, registration and promotion of co-operative societies. At the district level it is headed by an assistant registrar, co-operative societies, who is under the deputy registrar, co-operative societies, with headquarters at Faizabad. The assistant registrar is assisted at the tahsil level by two additional co-operative officers and a senior farming inspector to help and execute the departmental programmes. The farming inspector is primarily responsible for co-operative farming. Another additional co-operative officer looks after credit societies and banking operations. Nineteen co-operative inspectors, are working as assistant development officers (co-operative) and they are responsible for the entire activities in the co-operative sector in the blocks. Three inspectors serve as secretaries to three co-operative marketing societies while the remaining six look after the different schemes at the district level.

Besides, there is also an assistant co-operative inspector, two government farming supervisors and a village level worker (farming) to provide for a long time projection and planning medium. Other than short term loans were also introduced which resulted in making the co-operative movement considerably more popular.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

The forests of the Bahraich district are of considerable importance. They are situated for the most part along the Nepal border.

Before October, 1978, the forests of the district were covered by the North Gonda and Bahraich forest divisions of reorganisation took place as a result of which from October 1, 1978. West Bahraich and East Bahraich forest divisions were formed in place of the former two divisions, covering the district. Each division is under the charge of a divisional forest officer and falls under the jurisdiction of conservator of forests eastern circle with headquarters at Gorakhpur.

East Bahraich forest division covers the north-eastern side of the district adjoining Nepal boundary. It extends over Bhinga and parts of Nanpara tahsils. For the administrative control the entire division falls under the Bhinga subdivision under the charge of a subdivisional forest officer.

Bhinga subdivision has further been subdivided into five ranges of Chakiya, Charda, Bhinga, Kakardari, Sohelwa (East) and Sohelwa (West), the headquarter of these being at Rupaidiha, Charda, Bhinga, Pipia and Sohelwa respectively. Number of beats in each range varies from 5 to 9.

West Bahraich forest division comprises a major part of the forest area of the Nanpara tahsil. The division comprises two subdivisions of Nishangara and Motipur, each under the charge of a subdivisional officer.

The Nishangara subdivision comprises Katarnianghat, Nishangara and Dharnipur ranges, with the headquarters of the first two located there and of the last one at Murtha. The number of beats in each range varies from one to two. The Motipur subdivision comprises Motipur, Murtiha and Kakraha ranges with the headquarters of the first two located there and of the last one at Motipur. The number of beats varies from one to three in each range. The ranges are under the charge of range officers and beats under forest guards.

There is also one plantation range overlapping Motipur range which also manages 174 km. long roadside avenue.

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT

The district horticulture officer is responsible for lay out new orchards, rejuvenating existing graves, supplying seeds, plants and saplings and providing necessary technical knowledge to horticulturists. He is assisted by a senior inspector, a horticulture inspector, and an assistant horticulture inspector. Their duties are to encourage plantation of improved varieties of vegetables, supply of seeds, rejuvenation of old orchards and planing of new ones.

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT

The district falls in the Faizabad region of the industries department which is under the charge of a joint director of industries at Faizabad. At the district level, a district industries officer at Bahraich looks after the work. Besides providing technical guidance, he also arranges financial and other assistance to local entrepreneurs, which includes loans, subsidy, purchase of machinery on hire purchase, raw material, quality making of goods and formation of societies of artisans. He is assisted by an industries inspector and an industries supervisor (co-operative).

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The district falls in circle XXIII of the public works department with headquarters at Faizabad. The department has two divisions in the district—the provincial and the departmental construction division. The former deals with the construction and maintenance of roads, whereas the latter is concerned with construction and maintenance of government buildings in the district. Each division is under the charge of an executive engineer who is assisted by a number of assistant engineers, junior engineers and other subordinate staff.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

There are no records extant giving detailed information about the self-governing units in the district in ancient period. However, from the available historical accounts, it is evident that local autonomy was a special feature of the ancient Hindu polity and it always endeavoured to give considerable authority to local institutions like panchayats, and functionaries like Gramika or village headman. In this context it is reasonable to believe that viable units of self-government functioned in the villages and towns for a long time till under the Muslim sway when they fell into disuse for want of State patronage. In the absence of any reference regarding the existence of these institutions in this district in particular, it is not possible to delineate their rise and fall during this period.

The growth of local bodies may, however, be conveniently traced after the British occupation of the district in 1856. The only local bodies that existed in the decade 1881–90 were three municipalities, namely, Bahraich, Nanpara and Bhinga, each being administered under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1900 (Act I of 1900).

For rural areas, at the district level, a local board was constituted under the Local Boards Act, 1883 (Act XIV of 1883). The work of the board covered a large field, the more important departments being the medical arrangements, education, upkeep of the local roads and ferries and the cattle pounds.

Not much progress in the field of local self-government, either in rural or urban areas could, however, be affected until the enactment of the Government of India Act, 1919, when local self-government became a transferred subject. Soon afterwards, the U. P. District Board Act, 1922 was passed for setting up district board for rural areas of the districts. The board, under the new Act, had no official element and had an elected non-official chairman, but it did not get the same measure of financial independence as enjoyed by the municipal boards. The list of its obligatory and discretionary duties prescribed by the Act was large and covered the greater part of the local administration in rural areas but the board, like others in the State, could not find it feasible to undertake all of them. Education, cattle pounds, roads, medical and veterinary relief, vaccination, ferries, and a little arboriculture almost monopolised its entire attention.

Thereafter, the U.P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, provided for a three-tier system of democratic decentralization by establishing 'Zila Parishad' and 'Kshettra Samitis' at the district and block levels respectively, and 'Gaon Sabhas' at the village level.

In 1976-77 the district had one municipal board, two notified areas, two town areas, 19 *kshettra samities*, 1,530 *gaon sabhas* (village assemblies) and a Zila Parishad.

MUNICIPAL BOARD

Bahraich

The place has been administered as a municipality since 1884, first under the provisions of the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883, and thereafter under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1900. The Board constituted under the provisions of this Act consisted of 13 members with a paid secretary and the deputy commissioner as its chairman. Of the members ten were elected and three appointed by government. An idea regarding the magnitude of the board's activities may be had by referring to its income and expenditure. The total receipts of the municipality in 1902 amounted to Rs 51,415, including a balance of Rs 17,415 from the preceding year. The most important item of income was the octroi, receipts which amounted to Rs 26,805, the chief objects of taxation being articles of food and drinks, metals, drugs and animals for slaughter. Besides this Rs 3,201 were realized from pounds, Rs 1,131 from the rents of lands and buildings, and Rs 336 from the tax on professions and trades. The expenditure for the same year amounted Rs 28,607. Of this Rs 8,072 were devoted to conservancy, Rs 3,497 to the up-keep of the police and Rs 2,366 to public works. The cost of establishment and collections amounted to Rs 6,255, while among the minor charges the most important were education, amounting to Rs 1,799, and charitable grants to Rs 1,831. The municipality also maintained a public garden.

At present the place is administered under the U. P. Municipalities Act, 1916. At the time of 1971 census, the town had a population of 73,931 persons distributed over an area of 12.43 sq. km. The limits of the municipality were extended in September 1976 the area becoming 18.45 sq. km. having a population of 75,676. The board was constituted through a system of adult franchise along with a president, the term of office of the board and the president being 5 years. It is, however, in a state of supersession since 1974.

Water Supply—Piped supply of water in the town was started in the year 1949-50, the source of supply being a tube-well with an over head

tank of about 220 kl. capacity. Till 1977-78 the board had laid 36 kilometres of pipeline with 87 public and 2,750 private hydrants.

Street-lighting—Electricity was made available to the town in 1940. By the year 1977-78 the town had 759 electric street light points which included 193 electric tubes and 16 mercury lamps. The street-lighting in the town is under the charge of the U.P. State Electricity Board. The expenditure incurred under this head in the year 1977-78 amounted to Rs 72,921.

• **Public Health and Sanitation**—The board looks after the sanitation and drainage of the town. Till 1977-78 the board had constructed 28 km. of pakka drains of which 22 km. are swept and cleaned daily. In the same year the number of persons vaccinated and inoculated was 8,753. The total expenditure over public health and sanitation in 1977-78 amounted to Rs 11,38,267.

The Statements I (a) and (b) of receipts and expenditure of the board from 1968-69 to 1977-78 are given at the end of the chapter.

NOTIFIED AREAS

Bhinga

The place was formerly administered as a municipality under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883 and thereafter under the same Act of 1960. The board, then, consisted to eleven members of whom ten, including the chairman were elected. The income was mainly derived from house-tax. In 1890-91 the total income was Rs 2,538, the principal heads being the house-tax, pounds, and rents, besides a tax on animals and vehicles. The expenditure for the same year was Rs 2,333, the main items of expenditure being conservancy, public works, public safety and administration and collection of charges. On account of the unsatisfactory financial condition the board was downgraded to a notified area on April 1, 1904 and administered by a notified area committee which was superseded in May, 1976 and placed under an administrator.

At the census of 1971 the population of the town was 9,818, distributed over an area of 1.71 sq. km.

The water-supply scheme in the town was completed in the year 1967-68, and since then 6.66 km. of pipe-line has been laid with 34 public and 367 private hydrants in 1977-78. An expenditure of Rs 23,764 was incurred on this item of public utility, in 1977-78.

• **Electrification** of the town began in 1970-71. The number of electric street lamps in 1977-78 was 50 and that of kerosene oil lamps was 32. The expenditure incurred on street-lighting, in that year amounted to Rs 12,177.

The committee or the administrator on its behalf also looks after the public health and sanitation services of the town. In 1977-78 it employed a vaccinator, besides some sanitary staff. Some 383 people were vaccinated during the year. The expenditure incurred on public health in 1977-78, was Rs 3,787.

The Statement II given at the end of the chapter shows receipts and expenditure of the notified area from 1968-69 to 1977-78.

Nanpara

The place was formerly administered as a municipality under the North-Western Provinces and Oudh Municipalities Act, 1883, and thereafter under the same Act of 1900. It was downgraded to the status of a notified area in 1913 and is being governed as such since then. The last committee was constituted in 1972, comprising 15 elected members (for a term of five years) and an elected chairman. The committee was however, superseded in May 1974, and its affairs are now being looked after by the subdivisional magistrate, Nanpara.

The town extends over an area of 1.86 sq. km. and had a population of 18,732 at the census of 1971.

The water-supply scheme in the town was started in the year 1968-69 and till 1977-78, 7.57 km. of pipe-line had been laid. The public and private hydrants in the same year numbered 20 and 412 respectively. In 1977-78 the expenditure incurred on this item amounted to Rs 7,731.

The electricity was introduced in the town in 1958. The number of electric street lamps in the town in 1977-78 was 82. The expenditure incurred on street-lighting was Rs 3,685.

Towards public health and sanitation services, some 441 residents of the town were vaccinated in 1977-78. The expenditure on public health and sanitation amounted to Rs 81,645, of which Rs 3,860 were spent exclusively for public health services.

The Statements III of receipt and expenditure from 1968-69 to 1977-78, appears at the end of the chapter.

TOWN AREAS

Ikauna

The place became a town area in 1972 under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. As per census of 1971, the town had a population of 6,759 distributed over an area of 9.7 sq. km. The Committee being under supersession, its affairs are being looked after by subdivisional officer.

Towards street-lighting arrangements in the town, the committee had provided 50 electric lamps. In 1977-78 expenditure amounting to was incurred on street-lighting.

The receipts and expenditure of notified area from 1972-73 to 1977-78 are given in the following statement :

Year	Total receipts (Rs)	Total expenditure (Rs)
1972-73	14,309	13,500
1973-74	5,306	4,031
1974-75	—	—
1975-76	15,293	5,879
1976-77	74,862	34,557
1977-78	60,761	46,871

Jarwal

The place was constituted as a town area in 1975 under the U. P. Town Areas Act, 1914. At the census of 1971, the place had a population of 6,840 souls, distributed over an area of 9.2 sq. km. The elections to constitute the committee are yet to be held. In the meantime its affairs are being looked after by the subdivisional officer, Kaisarganj.

The figures of receipts and expenditure from 1975-76 to 1977-78, are given in the following statement :

Year	Total receipts (Rs)	Total expenditure (Rs)
1975-76	5,346	1,152
1976-77	15,817	7,296
1977-78	23,904	9,597

PANCHAYATI RAJ

In ancient days the panchayats, which were bodies of village elders, administered the village community as self-governing units. With the advent of Muslim rule these panchayats lost their importance considerably, but they were allowed to exist so long as they did not come into conflict with the super imposed Muslim system of law and order in the villages.

During the British rule these panchayats further lost even their residual importance, though they continued to survive and partially controlled the social life of the villages. But the alien rulers, however, soon realised the importance of the institution and they revived these panchayats, though with a blend of western features in which its traditional features were lost.

The panchayats were created in the district under the U. P. Gram Panchayat Act, 1920. They were, however, not broad based and were primarily meant to serve the interest of the government. The real beginning in the direction of reorganisation of panchayats was made with the enforcement of the U.P. Panchayat Raj Act, 1947, in the district on August 15, 1949. The former panchayats were replaced, under the new Act, by more democratised and elected *gaon* panchayats with adequate powers for the administration of village community. The national extension blocks (now development blocks), which had been envisaged as a nucleus for community development, started coming up in the fifties of the present century. They had block development committees as advisory bodies, to help and advise in speedy implementation of the Five-year Plan schemes. The set-up was again changed with the enactment of the U. P. Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Adhiniyam, 1961. Under this Act the *kshettra samitis* (committees) became statutory bodies with wide executive and financial powers. The structure which thus emerged was a three tier organisation viz., *gaon* panchayats at the base, the *kshettra samitis* (block committees) in the middle, and the Zila Parishad at the apex.

Zila Parishad

The district board constituted under the Local Boards Act, 1883, consisted of 13 members, of whom the district officer was the chairman, the three subdivisional officers were appointed members by virtue of their office and the remaining nine members being elected. Though this board was based on an elective system with greater non-official majority and enlarged resources and responsibilities, even then most of the functions were performed by official members, and the district officer continued to be the chairman.

The desirability of public participation in planning and development activities, necessitated changes in the set-up of the district board and it was replaced in May, 1958 by the Antarim Zila Parishad. It was an autonomous body exercising jurisdiction in the entire rural area in the district and was responsible for the administration of affairs relating to local self-government and to the government for functions relating to

planning and development in the district in terms of the U. P. Antarim Zila Parishad Ordinance, 1981 which was promulgated prior to the enactment of the U. P. Antarim Zila Parishad Act, 1958 under which as an interim measure, the collector of the district became its president; the president of the erstwhile district board, its vice-president, and the members of the erstwhile district planning committee and a few members of the board, its members.

In the set-up provided for by the U. P. Kshettra Samitis and Zila Parishads Act, 1961, the present Zila Parishad, as also the other self-governing units, came into being and took shape.

The Zila Parishad which has since been reconstituted is an indirectly elected body with membership consisting of Pramukhs of *kshettra samitis*, representatives of these *samitis* (committees), presidents of municipal boards, the members of Parliament and of the State legislature elected from the district, and representatives of co-operative institutions of the district. The *Adhyaksh* (president) is elected for a period of five years and an *Upadhyaksh* (vice-president) for one year.

The functions of the Zila Parishad are almost akin to those of the old district board. They include co-ordination of the activities of different development blocks, implementation of the inter-block schemes and utilization of funds allotted by the government for the purpose of agriculture, animal husbandry, irrigation, co-operation, village industries, public health, construction and maintenance of roads, bridges and ferries, cultural activities and welfare of children, women and youth.

The principal sources of receipts of the Zila Parishad are government grants and taxes. The income is mostly spent on general administration, medical and public health, public works, etc. Towards medical and public health activities, the Zila Parishad on its part looks after the vaccination and other general health facilities in the district, particularly in the rural areas. For this purpose the Parishad maintains a separate staff and in the year 1977-78, it carried out 7,872 vaccinations.

Educational institutions up to the senior Basic stage were under the control of Zila Parishad till June, 1972, when they were taken over by the State Government and transferred to the Basic Shiksha Parishad which controls and governs them through the Basic Shiksha Adhikari at the district level.

The Statements IV (a) and IV (b) at the end of the chapter show the receipts and expenditure of the Zila Parishad during the last ten years from 1967-68 to 1976-77.

Kshettra Samitis

There were in all 19 *kshettra samitis* in the district in 1977-78, one for each development block. Normally the term of these *samitis* (committees) is five years. The membership of the *samitis* consists of all the *Pradhans* (chiefs of executive body) of the *gaon sabhas* (village assemblies), chairman of the town area committees within the block, members of Parliament and State legislature elected from the block area, and representatives of the co-operative institutions in the development blocks or *kshettra samitis*. The *samiti* also co-opts persons interested in planning and development work, representatives of women and persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The *kshettra samiti* is headed by a *Pramukh* and two *Up-pramukhs* elected by the members. The block development officer acts as its executive officer. The *samiti* is responsible for formulation and execution of the development plans of the *gaon sabhas* relating to agriculture, horticulture, live-stock, fisheries, minor irrigation works, maternity and child welfare centres, prevention and control of epidemics, promotion of village industries and co-operative institutions, etc. To carry out its various functions the *kshettra samiti* has a *karyakarini* (executive), and two sub-committees, namely, the *utpadan* (production) *upsamiti* and the *kalyan* (welfare) *up-samiti*. These are presided over by the *pramukh* and the two *up-pramukhs* respectively. To facilitate and co-ordinate the work of the various agencies engaged in developmental work in the field, the services of the officers and others engaged in the task have since 1964 been placed at the disposal of *kshettra samitis*. The *samiti* further acts as a co-ordinating agency for the *gaon sabhas* functioning within its jurisdiction, in the implementation of schemes and programmes.

Goan Panchayat

There were 1,530 *gaon sabhas* in the district in 1978. The *gaon panchayat* is the executive body of the *gaon sabha*, whose membership consists of the entire adults population living in its circle. A fixed number of members of the *gaon sabha* are usually elected for period of five years to constitute the *gaon panchayat*. The *pradhan* (chief of the executive body) is elected for the same term through secret ballot by the electors of the *gaon sabha*. The *Up-pradhan* is elected by the members of the *gaon* (village) *panchayat*. 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* and the *gaon panchayat*.

The functions of the *gaon panchayats* are manifold. They include construction, repairs, cleaning and lighting of streets, improvement of

sanitation and prevention of epidemics, maintenance of community buildings, lands and other property, registration of births and deaths, regulation of markets and fairs, provision of drinking water and welfare of the backward classes, particularly Harijans, women and children.

The main source of income of the *gaon sabhas* is tax, levied by it. The following statement shows the realization of tax by the *gaon sabhas* of the district, during the five years from 1972-73 to 1976-77 :

Year	Tax realised (in rupees)
1972-73	1,96,367
1973-74	4,81,146
1974-75	4,19,951
1975-76	3,22,506
1976-77	4,34,485

The total receipts of the *gaon sabhas* of the district in 1976-77 amounted to Rs 8,89,109, of which Rs 7,75,378 were spent during the year, major heads being construction works, establishment, and others. The amount spent on construction works was Rs 5,49,452.

The construction and development works done by the village *panchayats* in the district during 1972-73 to 1976-77 is given in the statement that follows :

Work done by Village Panchayats

Name of the work	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
Construction of pakka roads (km)	—	—	0.05	—	—
Construction of kachha roads (km) 1	5.8	42.5	16.77	5	44.3
Construction of bridges (no.)	—	2	—	—	—
Construction of culves (no.)	5	12	16	11	38
Construction of panchayat ghars (no.)	2	1	2	6	3
Construction of kharanjas (sqm.)	2,615	9,745	12,367	12,978	60,348
Construction of drains (metres)	249	1,500	145	158	405

STATEMENT I (a)
Receipts (In Rs) Municipal Board, Bahraich Reference page No. 191

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Municipal rates, and taxes	Realisation under special less Acts	Revenue derived from municipal property other than taxes	Grants contributions	Miscellaneous	Other sources	Total receipts
1968-69		6,39,291	7,021	1,32,710	2,94,109	62,339	21,034	11,56,504
1969-70		6,23,241	6,074	1,02,664	3,42,884	22,804	85,517	11,83,184
1970-71		6,54,473	9,474	1,41,927	3,70,811	40,277	2,06,901	14,23,863
1971-72		5,95,247	13,052	1,97,033	5,11,434	1,06,645	6,81,547	21,10,958
1972-73		5,28,430	13,419	1,24,011	2,98,072	49,297	61,768	10,76,997
1973-74		5,65,420	10,564	1,46,025	700	2,29,765	24,018	9,76,492
1974-75		7,77,381	12,542	2,10,414	75,700	11,29,404	3,19,396	25,24,837
1975-76		10,28,368	11,935	2,05,284	2,49,171	1,79,387	6,09,900	22,84,045
1976-77		15,55,370	10,815	2,20,960	3,27,850	60,068	30,626	22,05,689
1977-78		15,43,748	9,742	3,01,023	3,59,329	1,00,466	34,289	23,48,787

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

STATEMENT I (b)
Expenditure (in Rs.), Municipal Board, Bahraich Reference Page No. 191

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		General administration and collection charges	Public safety	Public health and sanitation	Education	Contribution	Miscellaneous	Other heads	Total expenditure
1968-69		1,24,691	29,019	3,74,059	2,03,006	2,500	71,533	2,47,890	10,52,698
1969-70		1,52,678	27,584	4,40,693	2,82,494	2,700	82,650	2,22,437	12,11,236
1970-71		1,38,790	27,298	4,58,489	3,60,648	3,300	51,258	2,52,057	12,91,840
1971-72		1,44,844	32,674	5,20,824	4,55,501	2,300	53,965	9,73,745	21,83,853
1972-73		1,69,616	31,003	5,60,204	2,61,066	—	73,156	1,75,614	12,70,659
1973-74		1,69,326	33,043	5,99,600	883	500	40,115	2,07,632	10,51,099
1974-75		2,97,921	34,957	10,71,860	500	1,000	5,32,085	3,85,220	23,23,453
1975-76		2,28,202	34,712	8,71,542	204	1,000	2,83,556	3,56,514	17,75,730
1976-77		3,91,452	79,372	12,69,406	—	500	76,357	7,10,179	25,27,266
1977-78		3,52,016	72,921	11,57,411	—	1,000	1,80,622	8,65,990	26,29,960

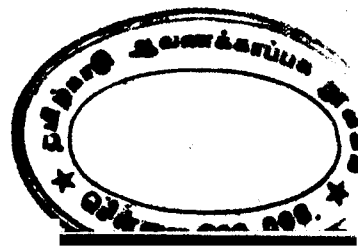
STATEMENT II
Receipts and expenditure, (in Rs.) Notified Area, Bhinga Reference Page No. 192

Year	Receipts (in Rupees)					Expenditure			
	Government grants	Taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Other heads	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1968-69	9,255	54,421	12,858	76,434	24,407	41,161	14,796	80,364	
1969-70	35,887	53,844	12,012	1,01,743	25,942	43,500	24,140	93,582	
1970-71	19,678	58,571	15,315	95,564	25,403	48,653	32,790	1,06,646	
1971-72	10,017	68,545	20,006	98,568	30,708	59,539	15,652	1,05,699	
1972-73	9,275	60,223	18,975	88,473	36,273	61,523	7,345	1,05,141	
1973-74	20,972	77,544	17,571	1,16,087	42,422	63,401	14,593	1,20,416	
1974-75	1,05,937	64,237	16,881	1,87,055	72,134	2,26,415	31,459	3,30,008	
1975-76	33,963	86,907	20,989	1,41,859	48,003	83,140	20,507	1,51,650	
1976-77	41,094	91,221	27,931	1,60,246	69,820	96,944	5,394	1,72,158	
1977-78	57,506	1,49,297	43,681	2,50,484	1,16,758	2,65,891	6,660	3,89,309	

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

STATEMENT III
Receipts and Expenditure (in Rs.), Notified Area, Nanpara

Year	Receipts					Expenditure			
	Government grants	Taxes	Other receipts	Total receipts	General administration and collection charges	Public health	Other works	Total expenditure	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1968-69	—	55,962	35,691	91,653	20,153	37,839	67,927	1,25,919	
1969-70	—	55,788	53,688	1,09,476	12,664	32,951	54,401	1,00,016	
1970-71	—	52,927	47,753	1,00,680	7,385	36,658	62,535	1,06,548	
1971-72	20,000	58,004	91,204	1,49,208	10,299	48,636	72,841	1,31,776	
1972-73	24,000	62,349	74,424	1,36,773	21,573	55,153	58,625	1,35,349	
1973-74	—	1,08,771	1,45,607	2,54,378	26,823	72,704	96,865	1,96,392	
1974-75	—	1,21,665	2,67,834	2,89,499	61,060	1,44,485	1,35,356	3,40,901	
1975-76	10,000	71,533	1,43,641	2,15,174	39,792	99,715	34,957	1,74,464	
1976-77	—	77,215	58,229	1,35,444	25,371	72,508	74,169	1,72,048	
1977-78	—	1,01,786	1,73,815	2,75,601	30,478	81,645	1,51,901	2,64,024	



STATEMENT IV (A)

Receipts (in Rs), Zila Parishad, Bahraich

Reference Page No. 195

Year	Government grants	Education	Medical and public health	Cattle ponds	Other sources	Total receipts
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1967-68	46,58,385	1,69,214	5,191	1,61,203	2,58,296	52,52,289
1968-69	49,89,067	1,56,916	8,012	1,98,767	2,89,502	56,42,264
1969-70	70,06,154	1,65,861	9,036	2,83,987	3,71,993	78,37,031
1970-71	69,53,933	1,86,561	9,514	2,81,038	3,00,531	77,31,577
1971-72	1,38,35,270	1,42,853	8,271	2,24,819	4,90,632	1,47,01,845
1972-73	46,28,864	1,07,892	8,039	1,67,165	3,26,477	52,38,437
1973-74	13,96,502	960	9,144	1,83,153	2,62,560	18,52,319
1974-75	15,48,391	44	8,638	1,80,803	3,36,978	10,74,854
1975-76	11,00,183	44	10,975	1,46,333	6,58,929	19,16,464
1976-77	5,47,473	88	7,073	2,76,817	6,00,250	14,31,701

STATEMENT IV (B)

Expenditure (in Rs), Zila Parishad, Bahraich

Reference Page No. 195

Year	General administration and collection charges	Education	Medical and health	Public works	Total of all other heads	Total expenditure
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1967-68	1,17,201	41,44,577	2,52,398	1,19,179	1,47,591	47,80,946
1968-69	1,21,784	43,85,513	2,47,478	6,15,071	1,52,498	55,22,344
1969-70	1,25,979	56,66,657	2,89,015	6,45,299	3,18,913	70,45,863
1970-71	1,05,409	60,61,289	2,86,820	8,81,415	3,98,260	77,33,793
1971-72	1,19,342	67,13,945	3,16,220	21,97,629	2,78,434	96,25,576
1972-73	1,38,489	43,46,374	3,13,291	19,48,709	4,43,511	71,90,374
1973-74	1,75,843	—	3,34,673	21,90,831	4,23,820	31,25,167
1974-75	2,62,332	—	5,38,284	9,63,538	5,02,378	22,66,533
1975-76	2,21,097	—	4,10,486	3,82,336	3,49,294	13,63,213
1976-77	2,25,821	—	3,91,759	3,03,349	3,92,936	13,13,865

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The system of education in the region comprising the present district of Bahraich in ancient period was, as elsewhere in the country, the concern of the family teachers usually being Brahmanas. This system had the usual organisation and pattern and was based on certain ideals and practices connoted by the term *brahmacharya* which means a life dedicated to complete physical and mental self-control.

From the Vedic age downwards, the central conception of education has been that it is a source of illumination giving a correct lead in the various sphere of life. Under this system people had to go either to the house of a teacher or to the *ashram* (hermitage) of a rishi to get his education. In course of time the importance of association and imitation was emphatically realised and the *gurukula* system became traditional. This was with a view to impart education under the direct guidance and constant personal contact of a teacher of noble character and great achievements.

This system of education seems to have continued in this region, in one form or the other, till the beginning of the mediaeval period when a new element, that of private *pathshalas* (schools), entered upon the scene. The subjects taught, in these *pathshalas*, were Sanskrit grammar, Astrology, Mathematics, etc. When the Muslims settled in this region they established their own *maktabs* or *madarsas* (Muslim schools), which were meant for Islamic learning. Those days no regular system of education was sponsored by the State and these *pathshalas* and *maktabs* were privately owned and run, receiving no regular financial aid from the government except occasional gifts of land.

With the advent of the British, the State began to take interest in the general education of the people. The management of the educational institutions of the district was then one of the most important functions of the district board (now Zila Parishad). In 1863 there was the Kapurthala school at Bahraich to which a grant of Rs 200 per mensem was made by government. This school had then 132 pupils on its rolls and was reported to be in a very flourishing condition. At the beginning of the twentieth century there were no less than seven schools in

which English was taught. The high school at Bahraich was the leading institution. In this school about 100 boys were taught by eight teachers the subjects of English, Persian, Arabic, Sanskrit Urdu and Hindi. There were also two branches of this school in Bahraich, in which Urdu, Hindi and English were taught each having 140 pupils and six teachers. The other English schools were those at Baundi and Ikauna, supported by the Kapurthala estate, and at Bhinga and Nanpara, which were maintained by the talukdars. Another Anglo-vernacular school was founded at Payagpur in March 1903.

Of the vernacular schools there were two town schools—one at Kaisarganj and the other at Ghulamali-pura. The former had 115 boys and six teachers and the latter 120 boys and five teachers. A similar school was maintained by the American Mission in *muhalla Sparkesganj* at Bahraich. It had 180 pupils and six teachers. The school received a small government grant. Besides, the number of primary schools in the district in 1896-97 was 70, with 2,631 male and 20 female scholars which rose to 186 with 6,956 male and 130 female scholars in 1902-03. With regard to the unaided Indian schools maintained by pandits and *maulvis*, the number varied from year to year. In Bahraich itself there were two important schools—Sanskrit and Islamia schools—in the Sparkesganj and Qazipura *muhallas* respectively, supported by private subscriptions and contributions from the municipality. Female education, made but little progress, as there was only one aided girls' school in the Khattripura *muhalla* of Bahraich, with 22 Muslim students. The statistics of education for three decades, since 1900-1901 are given in the following statement:

Year	Number of schools		Number of pupils	
	Secondary	Primary	Boys	Girls
1900-1901	9	117	5,494	94
1910-1911	6	150	7,781	274
1920-1921	8	319	13,076	342
1930-1931	13	427	19,764	1,475

In the year 1951-52, the total number of various types of schools in the district was 618, of which 9 were higher secondary schools having 2,588 students; 53 junior high schools having 3,939 students and 575 primary schools having an enrolment of 38,158. Besides, there was one technical school with 83 students on its rolls. In 1961 there were 11

higher secondary schools, having 5,108 students, 57 junior high schools having 8,242 students, and 728 primary schools, besides two technical schools in the district having 51,732 and 226 students respectively.

By the year 1971 the district had as many as 28 higher secondary, 149 senior Basic, and 1,160 junior Basic schools, out of which 4 higher secondary, 97 senior Basic, and 914 junior Basic schools were exclusively for girls. In the field of higher education there was only one degree college in Bahraich.

GROWTH OF LITERACY

Some idea of the progress of education in the district can be had from the literacy figures detailed in the following statement:

Census year	Percentage of literacy	
	Male	Female
1881	3.6	0.3
1891	4.7	0.1
1901	5.9	0.1
1911	5.1	0.2
1921	3.7	0.2
1931	4.6	0.4
1951	9.3	1.1
1961	19.8	2.7

At the census of 1881 the male and female literacy was 3.6 per cent and 0.03 per cent against the State percentages of 4.5 and 0.1 in respect of males and females respectively. In 1891 the position improved but over half the educated male population was literate in vernacular only. There were 10,400 persons who knew both Hindi and Urdu but were generally more proficient in Hindi. The number of Urdu knowing persons was only 4,000. English had made little progress in the district as only 714 persons knew this language, out of whom the number of females was only 50.

In 1961 the percentage of literacy in the total population of the district was 11.7 as against the State average of 17.7. In this respect the district was comparatively backward. The rank of the district in literacy was 52nd in the whole State. Of the total number of literates, 71.8 per cent were without any educational standard, 23.8 per cent were of primary and junior Basic standard, and only 4.7 per cent of high school standard and above.

The percentage of literacy, at the same time, in the rural population was 10.6 as against 32.8 in the urban areas. The proportion of literates among males in the rural population was 18.5 per cent and among females 1.7 per cent. In the urban area 43.2 per cent males and 2.1 per cent females were literate.

As regards growth of literacy among the Scheduled Castes of the district, it was found that in 1961, out of 2,059 males and 1,822 females belonging to this group in urban areas, 257 males and 26 females were literate without educational levels. Of the rest 62 males were of primary or junior Basic and 30 males of high school or higher secondary levels. Similarly in rural areas, out of 1,34,571 males and 1,26,608 females, 7,229 males and 110 females were literate but had no educational level; 2,060 males and 26 females had received education upto primary or junior Basic stage, while 143 males and females had read upto high school and above.

The statement gives the level of education in 1961 :

Educational level		Total	Males	Females
URBAN				
Literate (without educational level)		14,285	9,093	5,192
Primary or junior Basic		8,094	6,238	1,856
Matriculation and higher secondary		2,962	2,596	366
Technical diploma not equal to degree		26	23	3
Non-technical diploma not equal to degree		67	43	24
University degree other than technical degree		624	551	73
Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree:				
Engineering		3	3	—
Medicine		27	25	2
Veterinary and dairying		1	1	—
Teaching		22	17	5
RURAL				
Literate (without educational level)		1,12,067	1,02,411	9,656
Primary or junior Basic		33,331	31,348	1,983
Matriculation and above		4,536	4,412	124

In 1971, about 12.2 per cent of the total population of the district was literate, the percentage of literacy in the rural population being 10.70 as against 35.72 in the urban areas. The proportion of male and female literacy in the district was 18.84 and 4.28 per cent respectively. In the

rural areas of the district 17.27 per cent males and 2.89 per cent females were literate as compared to 43.91 per cent of males and 26.12 per cent females in the urban areas.

The State's percentage of literacy, at the same time, was 21.70. Compared to other districts of the State, Bahraich was the lowest ranking district in literacy.

EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

Particular attention was paid, on the lead of Mahatma Gandhi, towards educational improvement of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes as early as 1937. After the country became Independent the programme was intensified. In the recent years much impetus has been given to the education of these groups by the State government by providing incentives like free tuition, stipends, scholarships and financial assistance for the purchase of books and stationery. Other facilities made available are relaxation of the time and upper age limit for admission to certain educational institutions and public services. In 1977-78 an amount of Rs 3,43,589 was spent on financial assistance to 2,584 students of these communities reading in classes up to X. Similarly Rs 5,03,953 were spent on 716 students reading in classes from intermediate (XI and XII) to post-graduate level and Rs 7,137 on 18 students in industrial training institute. Number of students receiving and belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes is given in the following statement :

Schools/colleges/ institutes	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Classes	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Junior Basic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Senior Basic	—	—	—	—	—	—
Higher secondary up to class X	1,606	—	384	—	594	—
Higher secondary up to class XII	435	6	—	—	37	7
Graduation	165	2	—	—	18	1
Post-graduation	45	—	—	—	—	—
Technical education (I. T. I.)	9	—	—	—	9	—

GENERAL EDUCATION

The concept of general education normally includes education from the junior Basic stage to the university stage. The pattern and system of education is uniform all over the State. An idea regarding spread of education may be had from the fact that in 1977 the district had 1,295 junior Basic, 191 senior Basic and 34 higher secondary institutions, besides 3 institutions imparting higher education.

The position of general education in 1968 and 1978 is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

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. The term Basic now includes education at the junior Basic stage from class I to V and the senior Basic stage from class VI to VIII. Mahatma Gandhi held that education ought to draw out the best in pupil in body, mind and spirit. The concept implied that free and compulsory education for a term of eight years be provided by the State in the mother-tongue of the pupil and that the process of education should centre round some useful handicraft to enable the child to channelize his creative ability the moment his training begins, and that every school be self-supporting.

In order to ensure academic and administrative efficiency, Basic education has been taken over by the government and the Basic Shiksha Adhiniyam enforced since July 25, 1972. The management of the Basic schools has accordingly been transferred from the local bodies to the Basic Shiksha Parishad, the control at the district level being 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 the work.

REORIENTATION SCHEME

The reorientation scheme aims at introducing agriculture, among others, as a main craft in the schools. Every reoriented school is provided with an instructor called the extension teacher to teach agriculture or other local crafts, from class VI to VIII.

This scheme, in 1977, was in force in 9 higher secondary schools of the district where agriculture was taught. Each school having its agriculture farm put together possesses in all farmland measuring 17 ha.

Higher Secondary Education

The stage of education covers schooling after the senior Basic stage up to class XII. The stage is again divided into two stages, the first being known as high school with classes IX and X, and the second as

intermediate with classes XI and XII. With the establishment of the Board of High School and Intermediate Education, U. P., in 1921, the high school examination is held after completing the courses of study up to class X and the intermediate examination after class XII. The board prescribes the courses of study for these standards and conducts these public examinations. All affairs concerning higher secondary education at the district level are administered by a district inspector of schools.

The district, in 1977-78, had 30 higher secondary schools for boys and 4 for girls. In the same year all these schools put together had an enrolment of 18,039 boys and 3,833 girls. To encourage female education, the State government has made girls' education free up to high school.

Some particulars regarding the higher secondary schools are given at the end of the chapter in Statement II.

Higher Education

There are three degree colleges in the district. Of these one imparts education up to post-graduate level, and another is meant exclusively for girls. All the degree colleges are privately managed, but receive recurring and non-recurring grants and aids from the government. The district falls within the jurisdiction of Avadh University, Faizabad to which all the colleges are affiliated.

The statement given below shows enrolment of each degree college of the district pertaining to the year 1977-78 and also other details regarding these institutions:

Name of institution	Year of establishment	Facilities	Number of teachers		Number of students	
			Male	Female	Boys	Girls
Kisan Post-Graduate College, Bahraich	1960	Arts, Science, B.Ed.	39	3	1,413	62
Gayatri Vidyapeeth Mahavidyalaya, Risia (Bahraich)	1972	Arts, Commerce	10	—	221	5
Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Bahraich	1973	Arts	—	6	—	228

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Before the mechanisation of industries, there was an age handicrafts wherein the skill in the production of goods was acquired through

apprenticeship and dexterity, passed on from generation to generation. In that age there was hardly any scope for opening regular institutions of technical and professional education. But with the advent of machine technology and its application to spheres of production, propagation of professional and technical education became imperative.

In the field of technical education an industrial training institute at Bahraich is being run by the State directorate of training and employment. This institute was established in 1965 and imparts training in trades like electrician, fitter and wireman. Trainees are required to undergo a two years' certificate course to complete the training which entitles them for National Trade Certificate.

In the year 1977-78 the number on roll was 111. The number of instructors, in the same year, was eleven. In addition, a foreman and a store-keeper were also employed in the institute. One-third of the total enrolled trainees are awarded a stipend of rupees forty per month on the basis of poverty-cum-merit. All the Scheduled Caste trainees are awarded stipends and other facilities.

Teachers' Training

To meet the growing demand of trained teachers for Basic schools in the district, the education department maintains two training institutions at Bahraich. One of these institutions is exclusively for girls. In 1977 the training institution for boys had 98 trainees and 11 teachers and the girls institution 100 trainees and 10 teachers. The trainees are awarded B.T.C. certificate after successful completion of two years' course of study and the examination is conducted by the registrar, departmental examinations, of the education department.

Besides these Basic training schools, there is also facility for B.Ed. training in Kisan Post Graduate College, Bahraich.

ORIENTAL EDUCATION

Sanskrit

There were seven Sanskrit *pathshalas* (schools) in the district in 1977-78 and all of them were affiliated to the Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi. These *Pathshala* were preparing students for Prathama, Uttar Madhyama, Shastri and Acharya Sanskrit courses in various subjects. These *pathshalas* were running under private managements and were aided by State's education department in the shape of recurring and non-recurring grants. The statement given be-

low shows some particulars about these *pathshalas* as found in the year 1977-78 :

Name and location	Year of establishment	Number of students	Number of teachers	Degree/certificates awarded or courses taught
Adarsh Sanskrit Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Bahraich	1898	61	3	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama, Shastri and Acharya
Sanatan Dharma Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Rupaidiha	1923	49	5	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama, Shastri and Acharya
Gagatjiteswar Sanskrit Pathshala, Baundiraja	1857	30	2	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama
Mahajanan Sanskrit Pathshala, Bhupganj	1903	26	3	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama
Surbharti Nigam Vidyapeeth Gurukul, Jilaula	1943	48	3	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama
Sri Ram Narayan Vaishnava Sanskrit Pathshala, Nepalganj	1972	37	4	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama
Sri Ramjanki Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Ikauna	1972	21	4	Prathma, Uttar Madhyama

Arabic and Persian

In the field of Arabic and Persian branches of oriental education in the district, there were five government aided Arabic *madaras* (schools) in 1977-78. These schools were preparing students for Munshi and Kamil examinations in Persian, and Maulvi, Alim and Fazil examinations in Arabic. The examinations are conducted by the board of Arabic and Persian Examinations, Allahabad. Besides the examinations in Arabic and Persian, education up to class V was also imparted in Urdu and Hindi, this category being called *Tahtania* (lower classes). Similarly classes VI and VII in these schools were categorised under the name of *Fuqaniya* and the rest higher classes were *Aliya*.

Some particulars pertaining to these schools are given in the following statement :

Name and location	Year of establishment	Number of students	Number of teachers	Degree/ certificates awarded or courses taught
Madarsa Arabia Anwarul Uloom, Bhinga	1941	209	7	<i>Tahtania Fuqaniya Aliya</i>
Jamia Ashrafia Masudul Uloom, Chhoti Takya	1938	376	15	Do.
Madarsa Masudia Nurul Uloom, Bahraich	1931	552	16	Do.
Madarsa Aijul Uloom, Nanpara	1958	290	10	Do.
Madarsa Gazia Saiyadul Madaris, Bari Takya	1962	346	13	Do.

Informal Education

Under the scheme of informal education, the schools run by the education department of the State aim at providing literacy to such children and youth as, because of their social and financial handicaps, were not able to secure education at the proper stage of their lives or were forced by circumstances to discontinue their education after the primary stage. The detailed objects of the scheme are to impart elementary knowledge of language, figures, and little professional learning of local crafts to the age-group of 11 to 14 years. The other phase of the scheme takes up the age-group of 15 to 25 years to spread literacy among the youth.

In Bahraich, in the year 1976-77, there were 60 such schools functioning at various places of the district. Of these five were for girls exclusively. The total enrolment in these boys and girls schools was respectively 2,054 and 161 and the number of teachers 55 and 5.

LIBRARIES AND READING ROOMS

In the district there were as many as 19 library-cum-reading-rooms functioning at each block headquarters, in 1977-78. These libraries were having a stock of books ranging from 300 to 900, besides subscribing for a sufficient number of magazines and periodicals. The average number of daily visitors was about 25. Besides, there was one public library, under private management, at Bahraich, named Rajarshi Pustakalaya. With its stock of about 9,500 books it was catering to the needs of the town.

STATEMENT I*General Education and Literacy*

Reference Page No. 208

Year	Junior Basic education			Senior Basic education			Higher secondary education		
	No. of schools	No. of students		No. of schools	No. of students		No. of schools	No. of students	
		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
1968	800	8,908	4,922	75	13,740	1,612	13	7,350	805
1978	1,206	1,33,380	73,840	165	20,610	2,520	34	11,025	1,310

STATEMENT II*Higher Secondary Schools*

Reference Page No. 209

Name and location	Year of establishment	Number of teachers	Number of students
1	2	3	4
Government Intermediate College, Bahraich	1868	34	803
K. B. Intermediate College, Payagpur	1949	49	1,542
Mahraj Singh Intermediate College, Bahraich	1928	44	1,634
Tara Mahila Intermediate College, Bahraich	1946	39	1,322
Gandhi Intermediate College, Bahraich	1944	54	1,581
Shanker Intermediate College, Nanpara	1944	18	773
Kisan Intermediate College, Jarwal Road	1947	31	1,170
Saadat Intermediate College, Nanpara	1937		—
Sarvodaya Intermediate College, Mohipurwa	1962	22	814
Alakchendra Intermediate College, Bhinga	1949	34	746
Jagatjeet Intermediate College, Ikauna	1948	30	147

(Contd.)

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

1	2	3	4
Azad Intermediate College, Bahraich	1948	28	977
Hukum Singh Intermediate College, Qaiserganj	1966	—	—
Nehru Smarak Intermediate College, Gilala	1966	—	—
Ram Janki Intermediate College, Rupaidiha	1962	—	—
Saraswati Intermediate College, Risia	1949	19	752
Government Girls Intermediate College, Bahraich	1905	30	666
Vaidh Bhagwan Deen Higher Secondary School, Nanpara	1965	24	704
Arya Kanya Pathshala Higher Secondary School, Bahraich	1973	19	735
Kisan Higher Secondary School, Lakshmannagar,	1967	7	610
Tapsi Higher Secondary School, Samrahana	1963	10	238
Prayag Datt Pathak Higher Secondary School, Tapsi	1965	9	250
Janata Higher Secondary School, Nanpara	1952	17	546
Chaudhari Ram Bihari Bidh Higher Secondary School, Srawasti	1964	8	300
Sri Achutanand Suraj Lal Higher Secondary School, Sikandarpur	1965	7	239
Ram Narain Singh Higher Secondary School, Ram Nagar, Khajuri	1961	—	653
Moksha Dwar Higher Secondary School, Kursaha	1964	17	339
Raja Ram Singh Higher Secondary School, Ganguwal	1962	10	341
Lal Bahadur Shastri Higher Secondary School, Beerganj	1969	13	510
Jeat Ban Higher Secondary School, Srawasti	1964	11	336
Swami Vivekanand Higher Secondary School, Mahshi	1960	15	442
Sharda Sahayak Pariyojna Higher Secondary School, Girjapuri	1970	—	—
Ram Piyare Shiva Shankar Highr Secondary School, Baunali	1970	10	487
Nehru Smarak Higher Secondary School, Rupaidiha	1970	10	274

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

MEDICAL FACILITIES IN EARLY TIMES

In ancient times diseases were often attributed to sins, crimes, vices and disobedience of religious laws, and the cures often prescribed were offering of prayers, fasting, animal sacrifice and invocation of deities and supernatural powers.

Ayurveda is the earliest known system of medicine prevalent in the district. Physicians of this system, known as *vaidyas*, diagnose disease by feeling the pulse and to treat it use herbal and other medicines, such as bhasms (oxides of certain metals). Affluent people of charitable disposition extended financial help to such physicians and looked after their material comforts out of piety. Such *vaidyas* did not charge fee from the poor people, taking it to be a part of their pious duty.

During the muslim rule, the Unani system of medicine, based on Arabic and Greek systems, was introduced. Practitioners of this system of medicine are called hakims. *Jarrah* (unqualified surgeon-barbers) undertook surgery and treated sores, boils, etc.

With the advent of the British rule the allopathic system of medicine was introduced, which, in course of time, has become the most popular, although the Ayurvedic, the Unani and the homoeopathic systems are also prevalent.

VITAL STATISTICS

According to data available, the average death-rate from 1891 to 1902 was 37.47 per thousand. The highest rates were 49.68 in 1892 and 39.24 in 1899. Likewise, the lowest recorded death-rates were 25.78 per thousand in 1893 and 26.29 in 1901, the normal rate being probably not more than 30, which in itself was sufficient to illustrate the general health of the district. From 1902 to 1911, death-rate averaged 54.60 per thousand as a result of unprecedented mortality in 1908, mainly due to increase in deaths by fever, smallpox and cholera. During the period intervening between 1912 to 1921, the lowest death-rate was 25.50 per

thousand in 1914, the highest 60.16 in 1918. This increase was due to an exceptionally virulent outbreak of influenza, which took a toll of 49,873 lives. In the next eight years between 1922 to 1931 the lowest mortality rate was 17.95 per thousand and the highest 27.39 in 1930.

In comparison to the preceding decade the district was practically free from epidemics in 1922-31. Plague was by and large checked although cholera claimed a fairly heavy toll in 1930; but the malarial fever was the most prevalent malady of the district and in some years its victims numbered to half a lakh. The mean decennial death-rate during the decade 1931-40, was 10.4, and the district suffered from migration and various diseases. In the decade 1941 to 1950, death rate ranged from 19.9 per thousand in 1944 to 9.7 in 1949. During the fifties the range was from 26.8 per thousand in 1951 to 13.6 in 1960.

In the period between 1970 to 1975, the death toll was at its peak in 1972 when its total rose to 823 persons, maximum mortality being due to fever. It was lowest in 1975, total being 459 deaths. But these totals are rough indications of the trend, as there were many shortcomings in the system of registration of deaths.

Birth-rate

From 1891 to 1900 the birth-rate averaged 44.88 per thousand. This small excess of births over deaths was compensated by infant mortality, the result being shown in the decrease of population at the census of 1901. In the decade 1901 to 1911 the birth-rate was higher than death-rate and only in 1908 and 1909 did the death-rate exceed birth-rate, the rate per thousand of births being 27.07 and 29.76 respectively. This was mainly due to the epidemic during these years. During 1912 to 1921 birth-rate was maximum in 1917 when it rose to 51.03 per thousand, but in the next four years it showed a declining trend being lowest in 1919 when it fell to 33.41. In the next decade from 1922 to 1931, birth-rate fell still lower and was 28.11 per thousand in 1926. The rate began to show an improvement thereafter and went as high as 38.59 per thousand in 1930. There was again a slight fall in 1931 when it came down to 35.20 per thousand. During 1941 to 1950 birth-rate ranged from 27.1 per thousand in 1941 to 13.9 in 1950. The birth-rate maintained a declining trend from 1951 to 1960.

In the period from 1970 to 1975 the birth-rate was maximum in 1972, the total being 2,834 which is merely indicative of the birth trends.

The following statement gives decade-wise birth-rate and death-rate per thousand from 1941 to 1971:

Year	Birth-rate	Death-rate
1941	27.1	18.0
1951	17.0	26.8
1960	13.1	13.5
1971	15.0	4.4

Infant Mortality

Infant mortality refers to deaths of children of less than one year and infant death-rate may be defined as the number of infant deaths that occur per thousand lives born in one calendar year.

The following statement gives figures of infant mortality in the district for certain years from 1975 to 1978:

Year	Total number of Infant deaths
1975	63
1976	32
1977	32
1978	84

Diseases Common to district

The common diseases which generally accounted for the mortality of the people of the district were fevers of various types, respiratory diseases, diarrhoea, dysentery, cholera, plague and smallpox which appeared periodically and were endemic in the past, but are now showing a declining trend due to the various preventive and curative measures adopted by the people and the government.

The largest number of deaths is ascribed to fevers, a general term including typhoid, malaria, and influenza and all diseases in which the body temperature rises above the normal. The diseases next in importance to fevers are respiratory diseases, the chief ones being pneumonia and pulmonary tuberculosis. Next in order are diseases such as dysentery and diarrhoea. Deaths from other causes include deaths from injuries, snake-bites, etc.

The following statement gives the number of deaths due to various causes excluding the epidemic diseases of smallpox, cholera and plague in certain years from 1970 to 1975 :

Year	Fevers	Respiratory diseases	Dysentery and or diarrhoea	Injuries	All other causes
1970	97	55	15	5	400
1971	160	41	17	6	436
1972	300	4	1	6	490
1973	236	44	17	17	427
1974	101	48	14	7	425
1975	107	60	24	10	258

Epidemics

Plague—The plague which used to be a mass killer in the past has been almost totally eradicated. After 1920 it seems to have lost its former virulence. Anti-rat-campaign by trapping, baiting, and anti-flea measures with D.D.T. and anti-plague inoculation effectively reduced the incidence of this disease. This disease after claiming 42 lives in 1957 disappeared from the district as no deaths were reported thereafter.

Cholera—Cholera was never absent from the district, especially from the tarai of Tulsipur and Dharmanpur, where the water was very near the surface and generally contaminated. Occasionally it assumed a severe epidemic form. In 1902, no less than 13,868 deaths were recorded from this disease alone. The average annual mortality from cholera between 1891 and 1902 was no less than 2,762. The lowest figures on record being 44 in 1898 and 371 in 1899. During 1922 to 1931 cholera claimed maximum lives in 1930 when it became rampant and took 2,013 lives. In the next decade from 1951 to 1960, maximum 88 deaths were reported in 1957, after which the disease maintained a declining trend. In the period ranging from 1970 to 1975, only 75 deaths were reported in 1972 and 4 in 1973, while no cases were reported in other years during this period.

Smallpox—Smallpox was a formidable disease which took many lives whenever it visited the district, but its ravages have been greatly checked by the spread of vaccination. In 1896 and 1897 there were severe epidemics. Since then the mortality has decreased considerably. On 2nd October, 1962 the National Smallpox Eradication Programme was launched. The technique was to vaccinate the entire population during the

year. This considerably reduced the incidence of the disease, but it gradually increased in subsequent years because of inadequate vaccination coverage. With the assistance of the Government of India and the World Health Organisation, an intensive search and containment campaign was launched in the State in October 1973.

The International Commission of Smallpox Eradication which visited the State in April, 1977, found no case and declared the disease as eradicated.

The statement that follows gives the number of deaths from the epidemic diseases in certain years :

Year	Plague	Cholera	Smallpox
1901	—	1,863	8
1911	1,122	2,509	54
1921	4	16,890	47
1931	—	54	44
1951	48	6	735
1960	—	50	204
1972	—	7	15
1973	—	4	5

In 1976 a new disease (fever with high temperature) by the name Encephalitis spread in the district resulting in 13 seizures and 5 deaths in that year followed by 17 seizures and 11 deaths in 1977 and 27 seizures and 11 deaths in 1978. Preventive measures in the form of D.D.T. spray and use of various disinfectants were adopted under which 22,942 wells were disinfected in 1976, and 13,818 and 56,534 in 1977 and 1978 respectively.

MEDICAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING ORGANISATIONS

Before 1948 there were separate departments for medical and public health activities, but the two were put in that year under a single directorate for better cohesion and control over the allopathic, Ayurvedic and the Unani institutions and services. In July, 1961, however, a separate directorate was established at Lucknow for the development and effective supervision of Ayurvedic and Unani institutions and services. Local administration of these institutions, however, remained in the charge of the district medical officer of health who is now designated as deputy chief medical officer (health).

Formerly, the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health respectively, headed the medical and public health organisations in the district. In July, 1973, the departments of medical and public health were again reorganised, abolishing the posts of the civil surgeon and the district medical officer of health. In the district, from the same year, under the new set-up, a chief medical officer was appointed, who heads the entire medical public health and family planning set-ups in the district. He is assisted by three deputy chief medical officers.

Medical

The deputy chief medical officer (medical) supervises all district level hospitals, including hospitals having more than 30 beds, employees State insurance dispensaries, infectious diseases hospitals and school health dispensaries alongwith all public health and family planning activities in the district. He is assisted by a team of doctors, compounders, nurses, etc., posted in different medical institutions. His functions are almost the same as those of the former civil surgeon, whom he has replaced under the new set-up.

Hospitals

There are twelve hospitals in the district managed by the government. The District Hospital, and Leprosy Hospital, located at Bahraich, are both for men and women, and amongst the other 10 hospitals located in various parts of the district, six are exclusively for females and one for males, while the remaining three are for both.

The following statement gives certain information about the hospitals:

Name of hospital with location	Strength of staff		Number of beds				No. of patients treated		Facilities available
	Doctor (No.)	Other staff (No.)	For males	For females	For children		Outdoor	Indoor	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
District Hospital, Bahraich	9	103	62	23	—	56,797	4,257	For Pathological tests, X-ray and blood bank	
Leprosy Hospital, Bahraich	2	20	62	2	—	4,337	76		
Police Hospital, Bahraich	1	6	18	—	—	5,793	232		
Women Hospital, Bahraich	4	24	—	82	—	11,220	4,264		
Female Hospital, Payagpur	1	5	—	10	—	2,369	360		
Female Hospital, Nanpara	1	6	—	6	—	5,528	88		
Female Hospital, Bhinga	1	6	—	6	—	1,689	41		
Female Hospital, Ikauna	1	6	—	6	—	2,200	17		
Zila Parishad Hospital, Ramnagar	1	7	8	8	—	3,174	—		
Zila Parishad Male Hospital, Bhinga	1	6	6	6	—	7,594	24		
Zila Parishad Male Hospital, Nanpara	1	6	4	2	—	6,286	9		
S. M. G. Hospital, Kaisarganj	1	9	—	20	—	1,715	191		

Dispensaries

Allopathic—In 1863 there were dispensaries at Bahraich and Hisampur, the latter being a branch institution, considered especially necessary on account of the unhealthiness of the region. At that time, Bahraich and Kheri alone, of all the Avadh districts, possessed more than one dispensary. Many more dispensaries came into being in the years that followed and the allopathic system gained popularity. With the integration of the medical and health services and extension of health programmes even to the remotest corners of the district, a number of dispensaries under primary health centre scheme were established at each of the development block headquarters of the district, besides opening of other dispensaries in rural areas. A statement giving details of these primary health centres and allopathic dispensaries as in 1978, is given below:

Name/Location of Primary health centre/dispensary	Number of			
	Doctors	Beds	Outdoor patients treated	Indoor patients treated
1	2	3	4	5

Primary Health Centres

Kaisarganj	2	20	3,885	13
Sheopur	2	6	5,520	30
Sirsiya	2	6	5,286	50
Payagpur	2	6	5,987	166
Chhitaura	2	4	4,156	11
Huzurpur	2	4	4,438	5
Malbipur	2	4	3,486	—
Ranipur	2	4	2,759	—
Babaganj	2	4	7,786	—
Bisheshwarganj	2	4	5,660	6
Jarwal	2	4	3,928	3
Gilaula	2	4	7,987	—
Risiya	2	4	6,347	3
Tejwapur	2	4	4,425	15
Fakhrpur	2	4	7,840	36
Balha	2	4	2,051	—

1	2	3	4	5
Mahsi	2	4	4,007	35
Ikauna	2	4	9,086	37
Motipur	2	4	690	—
State Dispensaries				
Lachhmanpur	1	6	690	—
Raja Baundi	1	8	3,416	15
Sonwan	1	8	2,905	7
Bhangaha	1	8	1,855	1
Newasi	1	6	2,442	19
Charda	1	8	2,672	—
Paraspur	1	2	4,577	—
Matera	1	—	8,850	—
Khairighat	1	4	2,400	—
Biswan	1	4	2,657	—
Titihirya	1	4	888	1
Sujauli	1	4	3,769	—
Motipur	1	4	2,928	13
Hariharpur	1	4	4,058	—
Raipur	1	4	3,159	48
T. B. Clinic, Bahraich	3	—	—	—

Ayurvedic and Unani—There are 17 Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries in the district of which 15 are Ayurvedic and two Unani. Ayurvedic dispensary at Mahsi has recently been established in July, 1979. The two Unani dispensaries are quite old and were established in 1911 and 1947 at Nawabganj and Chhitaura respectively.

The following statement gives the details of Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries in the district in 1979 :

Name/Location of dispensaries	Date of establishment	No. of beds		No. of patients treated	
		Men	Women	Indoor	Outdoor
Ayurvedic					
Hariharpur	1939	—	—	—	9,656
Jamnaha Bazar	1939	—	—	—	6,271
	1949	—	—	—	6,963
Mahsi	1940	—	—	—	10,390
	1979	4	—	—	—
Sravasti	1940	4	—	136	15,528
Sita Dohar, Ikauna	1941	—	—	—	9,516
Tejwapur	1941	—	—	—	11,451
Babaganj	1945	4	—	733	17,246
Fakhrpur	1950	—	—	—	17,661
Puraina	1958	4	—	149	8,915
Jarwal road	1959	4	—	203	11,047
Chhitaura	1961	—	—	—	7,672
Payagpur	1969	—	—	—	8,529
Kaisarganj	1975	4	—	125	24,234
Unani					
Nawabganj	1941	—	—	—	8,766
Chhitaura	1947	—	—	—	10,074

Maternity, Child Welfare and Family Planning

The deputy chief medical officer (family planning) exercises complete supervision over the maternity and child welfare, family planning and nutrition programmes. He is also assisted by a team of medical officers, extension educators, midwives and *dais* (untrained midwives) and a district health visitor.

Maternity and Child Welfare—Maternity and child welfare activities in the district, as elsewhere in the State, have come a long way since the days of the *dais* and the village paediatrician. Lack of facilities for anti-natal and post-natal care contributed largely towards higher incidence of mortality among women and children till the late fifties of this century.

In 1958, the government embarked upon a policy of establishing maternity and child welfare centres in the whole of the district. During this year two family planning centres, under the supervision of lady social worker, were initially opened.

With the introduction of the primary health centre scheme, already enumerated in preceding paragraphs, besides an allopathic dispensary, a maternity and child health centre also started functioning under it. The maternity centres, according to their importance are staffed by one to two doctors, and an equal number of midwives, a compounder and one to four *dais*. These centres are equipped with aids and devices to educate married women in planned parenthood. Three maternity sub-centres, looked after by *dais*, are attached to each maternity centres. The following statement gives the location of these maternity centres.

Name of the controlling maternity centre	No. of sub-centres under each centre
Chillaura	3
Gilaula	3
Ikauna	3
Ranipur	3
Sisaiya	3
Payagpur	3
Bisheshwarganj	3
Jarwal	3
Kaisarganj	3
Fakhrpur	3
Mahri	3
Tejwapur	3
Huzurpur	3
Risiya	3
Amwa Husainpur	3
Sheopur	3
Maltipur	3
Babaganj	3
Malhipur	3

The maternity centres have been equipped with aids and devices to educate, especially ladies, in planned parenthood. Family planning literature and contraceptives are also made available, at times free of cost, to couples.

Family Planning—The population explosion during the last few decades has been causing serious concern to the government. The gains which accrue from the implementation of the Five-year Plans are nearly nullified by the increase in the population. In order to arrest the abnormal growth of population, family planning programme was introduced in the district in the closing years of the fifties of the century. In 1965 concrete measures were taken to popularise the concept of a small family through films, placards, posters and personal contacts. The chief medical officer is in charge of the entire family welfare programme in the district which is implemented through the family welfare centres attached to each primary health centre.

The statement below indicates the achievements made under the family welfare programme in the district from 1975-76 to 1977-78 :

Year	Vasectomy	Tubectomy	Loops used
1975-76	1,949	236	2,609
1976-77	2,153	953	2,650
1977-78	5	38	273

Public Health

The deputy chief medical officer (health) exercises complete control and supervision over all health programmes, primary health centres, rural dispensaries and hospitals, having less than 30 beds. Besides, he is also responsible for the collection of intelligence about epidemics, checking of food and drug adulteration, and also for providing necessary assistance during the floods and the outbreaks of an epidemic.

For his assistance, there are one assistant medical officer of health at the headquarters, 19 medical officers in the rural areas, and two anti-epidemic officers. Besides their normal duties, the above staff is also deputed to take anti-epidemic measures.

For public health and sanitation work in the Bahraich municipal area, the municipal health officer, Bahraich, is primarily responsible. He is assisted by a team of municipal sanitary inspectors and vaccinators. Under the Uttar Pradesh Kshettra Samiti and Zila Parishad Act, the responsibility of village sanitation lies with the Gaon Sabhas. The services

of sanitary inspectors are available to the Gaon Sabhas for technical help and guidance. The *Pradhans* (village headmen) are supposed to report outbreaks of epidemic diseases to the primary health centre for preventive and curative measures.

Vaccination

In early days ravages of smallpox were very extensive and direct inoculation was the sole preventive measure. Vaccination was performed at the government dispensaries on those who desired it. In 1805 some active measures were undertaken in this direction and a regular vaccination staff was organized. The Vaccination Act, 1880, which made primary vaccination compulsory for children in municipal areas, notified areas and in a number of town areas, was enforced in the district about the year 1900.

In 1904, it was roughly over 17 per cent of the population which was protected by a vaccination, but this figure showed room for great improvement, as Bahraich was in this respect till then behind nearly all the districts of Avadh, except Bara Banki, and worse results were only obtained in Azamgarh and Farrukhabad of all the districts of Uttar Pradesh. During the period 1929–1958 the number of primary vaccinations performed remained practically constant, but the number of revaccinations performed increased considerably in the district. The work was further intensified since 1963 under the auspices of the World Health Organisation and the Government of India.

At present the deputy chief medical officer (health) is in charge of the work of vaccination in the district. In rural areas of the district, vaccination is not compulsory but at times of epidemics, compulsory vaccination is enforced temporarily in these areas. Normally in urban areas the vaccination is carried out through the vaccinators of municipal boards concerned whose work is supervised by assistant superintendent of vaccinations, while in rural areas the work is carried out by the public health staff posted at the primary health centres. During epidemics the services of anti-epidemic officers and medical officers are pressed into operation for treatment of patients and for preventive measures. The following statement gives the number of persons vaccinated from 1975 to 1977 :

Year	Total no. of persons vaccinated	No. of primary vaccinations	No. of re-vaccinations
1975	1,77,888	67,768	1,10,120
1976	96,152	41,956	54,196
1977	14,154	41,611	12,543

Malaria Control and Eradication Programmes

The National Malaria Eradication Programme was launched in this State during 1958-59 under which the State was divided into two parts, namely, hyper-endemic area and hypo-endemic area. Consequently 40 units, each covering a population of approximately one million of hypo-endemic area were established in 1958 and in 1959, to which 27 units, covering a population of one million, roughly, were added. The units were further divided into four sub-units covering about 2.5 lakhs of population. After the categorising of the district into two parts, the hyper-endemic area was covered by National Malaria Eradication Programme Unit, Bahraich, and the hypo-endemic area by National Malaria Eradication Programme Unit (South), Gonda. The staff consisted of one anti-malaria officer, four senior malaria inspectors, four malaria inspectors and two laboratory technicians.

During 1977-78, a modified plan of operation for the control of Malaria was launched in the district. Under this plan all the other phases of malaria programme, which were in operation prior to the launching of modified plan, have been merged in it. Under the modified plan, the working comprises the insecticidal spray, fortnightly visits by basic health workers, and distribution of anti-malarial drugs through hospitals, primary health centres, etc. In addition to primary health centres, malaria clinics have also been established in those areas of the district where microscopic and laboratory technicians are available. The laboratory services have also been decentralized from unit level to primary health centre level in the N. M. E. P. unit areas. At district level the staff consists of one district malaria officer, two assistant malaria officers, one senior laboratory technician, and two malaria inspectors, and at the primary health level, two health/survey inspectors eight basic health workers/house visitors and one laboratory technician. The following statement gives an idea of incidence of malaria during the last five years in the district:

Year	No. of blood slides examined	No. of malaria cases detected
1973	76,902	2
1974	1,00,357	717
1975	1,03,287	451
1976	99,411	333
1977	1,55,607	881

Prevention of Food and Drug Adulteration

The deputy chief medical officer (health) is the licensing authority for food establishments and drug stores in the district. All municipal officers of health in the municipalities are responsible for the work in the urban areas. An idea may be had from the following statement regarding enforcement work done and prosecutions launched to check food adulteration in the district from 1975 to 1977:

Year	No. of food samples collected	No. of food samples found adulterated	No. of food cases in which prosecutions launched
1975	367	97	97
1976	698	164	164
1977	531	219	119

National Filaria Control Programme

A national filaria control unit is functioning in the district since 1959-60. Under this scheme anti-larval measures to control the mosquito density and entomological work to find out the effect of larvicides are being undertaken. Anti-larval measures aim at treatment with larvicidal oil, at weekly intervals, after cleaning the drains, ponds, and other water accumulations, to control the mosquito breeding. Nearly 10 to 15 per cent of the population is being surveyed. Blood smears are taken in the night and the persons found having positive results, are given prescribed treatment.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

LABOUR WELFARE

After the achievement of Independence in 1947, various schemes were launched for the welfare of working classes. Different welfare programmes undertaken under the schemes, by and large, aimed at providing service benefits to labour including guaranteed minimum wages, social security, security for old age, collective bargaining through the medium of recognised trade unions, medical and maternity facilities, regulated wages, provision for proper and safe working conditions, payment of bonus, as also of compensation in certain circumstances, canteen facilities, recreation, leave, holidays, housing, holiday homes, etc. Settlement of industrial disputes is done by the conciliation board functioning at regional headquarters at Faizabad.

In 1945, a separate labour department was constituted and in 1947, a regional conciliation officer was posted at Faizabad for the district of Faizabad and Bahraich. The labour laws and allied matters are administered by an assistant labour commissioner, assisted by an additional regional conciliation officer, an assistant trade union inspector, a chief investigator (all are stationed at Faizabad) and one labour inspector at Bahraich.

Labour welfare work in the district is looked after mainly by the labour inspector who ensures proper enforcement of labour laws, makes inspections, enquires into complaints, tries to resolve disputes and prevents strikes and lock-outs and prosecutes the defaulting employers. The factories inspector inspects factories under the Factories Act, 1948, to ensure due observance of rules by the owners. Similar duties are performed by the boiler inspector in respect of 40 boilers installed in the district.

Primarily the regional conciliation officer's work is prevention and settlement of industrial disputes by negotiation and conciliation. He can also make recommendations in respect of a case being fit for adjudication, unless the parties agree to in favour of arbitration.

The assistant labour commissioner is also an important functionary in the labour set up at the State level. He is also the prescribed authority under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, and the Payment of Wages

Act, 1936, and, as such, he has to function and exercise the powers of a court in cases of claims due or delayed for payment. He is also the assistant housing commissioner under the U.P. Industries Housing Act, 1955, and makes allotment of residential quarters to the industrial and other workers. Besides his duties as workmen's compensation commissioner under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, his work as conciliation board, conduct of conciliation proceedings and making recommendations and references under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, (control), are some of his other important functions. He presides over the regional welfare committee which is an employers-workers union, an institution constituted to develop a sense of co-operation and sportsmanship in the field of labour welfare.

Both the State and the Central Governments have enacted a number of laws for the benefit of labourers and their dependents to protect their interests. Some of the important labour Acts in operation since the middle of nineteenth century in the region covered by the district are briefly described under the following section.

Labour Welfare Legislations

After the British had established themselves in this region about 1801, a number of statutes were enacted for the amelioration of the conditions of the working classes, the first being the Apprentices Act, 1850, the object of which was to enable the children to learn trades and crafts for employment. The Fatal Accident Act, 1853 was passed to provide compensation for workers in case of death when on duty.

Regarding industrial disputes the earliest legislation was the Employers and Workmen (Disputes) Act, 1860, which aimed at speedy disposal of disputes. It was modified by the Trade Disputes Act, 1929, which also provides for the establishment of a court of enquiry and a conciliation board for examining and settling disputes. In 1947, the Government of India enacted the Industrial Disputes Act, following which the State government also passed the U. P. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. Such of the disputes as are not resolved by persuasion, mediation, or negotiation are referred to the industrial tribunal or the labour court, the decision of which is binding on the parties.

For improvement of the working condition of industrial workers, various legislations were enacted. The first Indian Factories Act, 1881 was passed after some labour unrest in 1877. It provided welfare measures for child labour and prohibited the employment of children below seven years of age completely while those between 7 to 12 were not permitted to work for more than 9 hours a day. The next Factory Act was passed

in 1891, providing for labour welfare and the inspection of ventilation and sanitation for factories. The factories Act of 1911 provided for limited hours of work, period of rest, interval, safety and prohibited employment of women during night. On the recommendations of the royal commission for labour, the Factory Act, 1934, was enacted to provide additional facilities for workers. It made the provincial governments responsible for the administration of the Act. A chief inspector of factories was also appointed under it.

The Factories Act of 1918, which replaced all the earlier legislation on the subject, provided regulated working conditions, including hours of work, leave with wages, safeguard against occupational hazards, health, hygiene and welfare measures like the maintenance of first-aid appliances and facilities for canteen, cool drinking water and the like near the place of work.

After Independence in 1947, the government took greater interest in promoting the welfare of labour and a number of legislations were enacted. By 1972 there were a number of labour legislations in operation in the district, among which seven Acts (passed before 1947), viz., the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, the Employment of Children Act, 1938, the U. P. Maternity Benefits Act, 1938, and the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1947, are still operating as amended from time to time to suit the changing conditions. Some other important Acts enacted after 1947 were the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Uttar Pradesh Industrial Establishments (National Holidays) Act, 1961, the U.P. Dookan Aur Vanijya Adhithan Adhiniyam, 1962, and the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965.

The following statement gives an idea regarding financial assistance provided under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, since 1923 to 1977, in cases which proved fatal, the number of disablement cases due for compensation being nil.

Year	Fatal cases	
	Number	Amount of compensation paid (Rs)
1973	6	28,000
1974	5	14,000
1975	2	7,000
1976	—	—
1977	1	6,000

TRADE UNIONS

The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, provides for the registration of trade unions. It empowers the registrar of trade unions with headquarters at Kanpur, to scrutinise the working of trade unions, obtain returns and to consider application for new registration or cancellation of registration of the already existing unions. The trade union inspector and his subordinates guide trade unions, watch the interests of protected workmen (those office bearers of registered trade unions who are entitled to certain privileges in respect of service conditions, dismissal or discharge from service and other punishments).

The trade unions are corporate bodies which function in the interest of their members and aim at furthering good relations between employers and employees. They strive to improve the economic, moral and social living conditions of the workers, payment of fair wages, maintenance of healthy living and working conditions and the provision of proper medical and educational facilities to their children.

A list of registered trade unions is given in Statement I at the end of the chapter.

HOLIDAY HOME

A holiday home was established at Mussoorie in 1962 out of the U. P. Sugar and Power Alcohol Industries Labour Welfare and Development Fund. In the beginning the workers of only the sugar factories were benefited but later on the right was extended to workers employed in other factories also.

OLD-AGE PENSION

The old-age pension scheme was introduced in the district on January 20, 1958, to provide help to destitutes aged 70 years or more, having no means of subsistence whatever and who had no relatives 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 limit of the monthly income was raised to Rs 15 and the age of eligibility in the cases of the widows, the crippled or the physically infirm or those totally incapable of earning a living reduced to 60 years from 65. The amount of monthly pension was also increased from Rs 15 to Rs 20.

The scheme was further liberalised in January, 1972, and the rate of the monthly pension was raised to Rs 30. The benefits of this scheme are not available to beggars, mendicants and inmates of poor-houses. In September, 1975 the income limit for eligibility was raised to Rs 30. Since April 1, 1976, the amount of pension payable to each pensioner has been raised to Rs 40 per month. The scheme in its initial stages was under the administrative control of the labour commissioner, Kanpur, who sanctioned the pension after verification of particulars and on the recommendation of the district magistrate concerned. Since September 1, 1975 the scheme has been decentralised and now the district magistrate is the sanctioning authority.

Till December 1973, the total number of recipients was 95 comprising 76 females and 19 males. On October 31, 1976 the total number of living recipients was 69, including 49 females. The number came down to 64 (females 45) in 1977.

PROHIBITION

Though the district is not dry, efforts by officials as well as non-official agencies continue to inculcate in the people the habit of abstinence.

Government efforts include restriction on the hours of sale of spirituous liquor and intoxicants, increase in the number of dry days, and fixation of maximum quantity of liquor which can be sold to an individual at a time. Persuasive methods used are education of public against the use of intoxicants through mass contacts and exerting social and moral pressures. The excise department has been taking various steps to discourage addicts from indulging in drinks intoxicants in the form of propaganda such as display of posters, distribution of pamphlets, exhibition of cinema slides, painting of slogans on state buses and other transport vehicles and publicity regarding temperance in important fairs and social gatherings.

In pursuance of the State governments' policy to discourage the use of intoxicants, a prohibition publicity and social uplift organisation was set-up in the district in 1947. There is a prohibition and uplift committee in the district, with the district magistrate as its president. Members include all legislators of the district, the representative of bar association, some officers who have wide public dealings as well as some nominated members.

The purpose of this committee is to determine ways and means of minimising the use of liquor intoxicants.

The committee tries to educate people about the hazards of the drinking by organising meetings and visual publicity, such as film shows, etc.

With effect from April 1, 1978, sale hours have been further reduced and limit is already provided under the Excise Act. On account of Bara Banki district becoming dry with effect from April 1, 1978 Jarwal Road country spirit and Bhang shops had to be closed, as the same fall within a radius of 10 km. from the prohibited area.

ADVANCEMENT OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

In 1950, the Harijan Sahayak department was set-up to formulate and implement schemes for the welfare of members of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes. In 1957, a district Harijan welfare officer was posted in the district whose designation was changed to Harijan and social welfare officer on August 1, 1961, on amalgamation of the Harijan sahayak and social welfare departments.

Members of the Scheduled Castes, who were considered as belonging to the Depressed Classes during the British Rule, have been mostly out-castes of the local society. A half-hearted beginning to better their lot was made in 1930 with a scheme for award of stipends to students belonging to the community.

However, it was only with the advent of Independence that concrete steps were taken for their amelioration and in 1947, the U.P. Removal of Social Disabilities Act was passed ensuring to members of such castes unrestricted enjoyment of social and religious liberties. The Untouchability (Offence) Act, 1955, enforced a complete ban on the age-old practice of untouchability, redeeming the dignity of mankind. It replaced the corresponding State Act of 1947.

The government not only threw open all avenues of employment and public services to members of the Scheduled Castes in government services, but major steps were also taken for their adequate representation in services. In 1944, the upper age limit for recruitment of the Scheduled Castes candidates to civil posts was relaxed up to three years over the prescribed limit. In 1953, the reservation for the Scheduled Castes was raised from 10 to 18 per cent. In 1955 the relaxation in upper age limit for the Scheduled Castes candidates was raised up to 5 years for recruitment to gazetted posts too, as had already been done for non-gazetted posts in 1952. Government keeps a watch over the progress in recruitment of the Scheduled Castes candidates to various posts and have, time and again, emphasised that the prescribed percentage for filling the posts must be achieved. Their quota has also been fixed in regard to promotions. They are also given concessions in application and examination fees, under Government orders.

Advances and loans to members of the Scheduled Castes and the Other Backward Classes for various purposes such as agriculture, irrigation, industries and construction of houses, etc., are freely granted. They also receive priority in 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 1961 looks after the various schemes meant for promoting welfare of these people.

The Statement II, at the end of the chapter, gives an idea of the financial assistance provided by the government together with the number of beneficiaries.

Scholarships

The State government also awards scholarship and stipend to the students belonging to the Scheduled Caste, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes.

Some details of scholarships given during certain years from 1970-71 to 1976-77 for various courses are given in Statement III at the end of the chapter.

The number of students under each educational standard for certain years from 1970-71 to 1976-77 getting scholarships is given in Statement IV at the end of the chapter.

Reimbursement Grant

The government also advances reimbursement grants to students of different classes, the details of which are given in Statement V at the end of the chapter.

Charitable Endowment

There are twelve trusts in the district endowed for religious, charitable or educational purposes and are registered under the Charitable Endowment Act, 1890.

A brief account of these shall be found in Statement VI at the end of the chapter.

Muslim Trusts

Shia *waqfs*—There are thirteen Shia *waqfs* in the district registered with the Shia Central Board of *waqfs*, U.P., Lucknow, created mainly for religious, educational and charitable purposes. A brief account of some important *waqfs* is given in Statement VII at the end of the chapter.

Sunni *waqfs*—There are eighty eight *waqfs* in the district registered with Sunni Central Board of *waqfs*, U.P. Lucknow, created mainly for religious, educational and charitable purposes. A brief account of some important *waqfs* is given in Statement VIII at the end of the chapter.

WELFARE OF EX-SERVICEMEN

For the welfare of ex-servicemen there is a Zila Sainik Parishad in the district which was established on February 18, 1944. It works under the control and supervision of the director, soldiers, welfare U. P. and at the district level, its work is supervised by a secretary who is a paid employee and an ex-servicemen.

He works under the over-all control of the district magistrate who is ex-officio president of the board. The board, as elsewhere, provides various facilities for ex-servicemen and their families and assists in their rehabilitation. These facilities include grant of pension, financial assistance, relief grant, employment, medical treatment, settlement of accounts, permits for controlled commodities, settlement of disputed cases, priority in allotment of land, free legal advice, training, re-settlement, rehabilitation and scholarships to the dependents of ex-servicemen, etc.

During the five years from 1973-74 to 1977-78 between 110 and 156 persons in each year were given assistance in respect of land allotment, financial assistance, B. T. C. Training, Scholarship, allotment of vehicles and re-employment of ex-servicemen.

STATEMENT I
Trade Unions, 1980

Reference Page No. 233

Name of trade union/location	Date of registration	Number of members in 1980
Rashtriya Chini Mill Shramik Sangh, Jarwal Road, Bahraich	7-7-67	311
Chini Mill Mazdoor Sangh, Jarwal Road, Bahraich	19-9-68	532
Vastra Vikretan Karamchari Sangh, Hind Kothi, Bahraich	Jai 30-9-75	25
Kendriya Rajya Farm Mazdoor Union, Bahraich	15-12-78	67
Adarsh Mazdoor Sangh, U. P., State Sugar Corporation, Ltd., Unit Jarwal Road, Bahraich	26-3-80	114

STATEMENT II
Financial Assistance to the Scheduled Castes, etc.

Reference Page No. 236

Nature of assistance		1970-71 to 1973-74		1975-76 to 1976-77	
		Amount given (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited	Amount given (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited
Construction of houses	S.C.	1,63,000	192	55,000	55
	D.T.	21,000	28	6,000	6
	S.T.	68,800	43	16,000	16
Cottage industries	S.C.	75,500	156	33,000	33
	D.T.	15,000	22	2,000	2
	S.T.	33,000	67	—	—
Agricultural grant	S.C.	91,000	143	18,000	18
	D.T.	16,000	29	6,000	6
	S.T.	53,500	100	63,000	3
Drinking waterwells	S.C.	65,000	109	—	—
	D.T.	—	—	—	—
	S.T.	24,000	43	—	—
Land and house sites	S.C.	8,000	13	—	—
Rehabilitation grant	S.T.	1,75,000	38	11,000	24
	S.C.—Scheduled Castes				
	S.T.—Scheduled Tribes				
	D.T.—Denotified Tribes				

STATEMENT III
Scholarship Facilities to Scheduled Castes, etc.

Reference Page No. 236

Classes/Training		1970-71 to 1974-75		1975-76 to 1976-77	
		Amount given (in Rs)	Number of persons benefited	Amount given (in Rs)	Number of person benefited
Post-matric	S.C.	6,92,737	1,481	6,85,084	915
	D.T.	—	—	1,401	2
	O.B.C.	79,397	214	96,662	173
Pre-matric	S.C.	4,39,575	5,803	4,52,567	3,216
	S.T.	37,385	955	25,665	518
	D.T.	—	—	6,975	121
	O.B.C.	1,58,509	2,050	1,86,818	1,204
Industrial Training Institute	S.C.	1,717	4	1,856	7
	O.B.C.	4,119	12	10,022	26
Handi-craft scholarship		950	6	224	2
	S.C.	— Scheduled Castes			
	S.T.	— Scheduled Tribes			
	D.T.	— Denotified Tribes			
	O.B.C.	— Other Backward Classes and Momin Ansar			

STATEMENT IV

Scholarship Assistance according to Educational Standard (1976—77)

Reference Page No. 236

Educational standard	Number of students benefited					
	Scheduled Castes		Scheduled Tribes		Other Backward Classes	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Junior Basic	177	33	251	21	—	—
Senior Basic	931	13	38	—	320	42
High School	467	9	6	—	242	12
Intermediate	178	4	—	—	45	7
Graduation	74	2	—	—	17	—
Technical Education	27	1	—	—	31	—

STATEMENT V

Reimbursement Grants to Scheduled Castes, etc.

Reference Page No. 236

Castes, Tribes etc.	Fourth Five-year Plan 1970-71 to 1974-75		Fifth Five-year Plan 1975-76 to 1976-77	
	Amount given (in Rs)	No. of students benefited	Amount given (in Rs)	Number of students benefited
Scheduled Castes (from classes VII to X)	6,34,523	8,210	2,95,428	3,605
Scheduled Tribes	6,848	107	1,909	30
Scheduled Castes (Those who failed)	3,101	22	998	8

STATEMENT VI

Charitable Endowments

Reference Page No. 236

Name of Trust	Date of registration	Annual income (in Rs)	Objects
Sadar Dispensary Trust	11-8-1892	60	For financial help to Sadar dispensary
Bhinga Dispensary Trust	24-9-1913	1395	For financial assistance to Bhinga dispensary
Raja Hira Singh quinine Trust	1-2-1900	210	For the distribution of quinine
Poor House Trust	26-1-1893	666	For maintenance
Raja Hira Singh's Blanket Trust	21-5-1906	150	For the distribution of blankets
Bhagi Prasad Primary School Trust	20-1-1909	90	For school establishment
Latoos Chair of English Trust	24-7-1907	1047	To provide English chairs
Raja Udi Pratap Singh, C.S.I. Trust	17-4-1912	315	For the distribution of pay to lady doctor and midwives
Bahraich Victory Scholarship Fund	20-5-1920	60	To award scholarship
Bahraich Agricultural and Cattle Show Trust	22-9-1920	450	For agricultural, industrial and cattle show
Lal Bahadur Kayastha Scholarship Trust	11-7-1935	300	To award scholarship to Kayastha students
Beni Dutta Ram Autar Vaishya Trust	7-6-1950	100	For the distribution of sweets among girl

STATEMENT VII

Shia Waqfs

Reference Page No. 236

Name	Date of foundation	Name of founder	Objectives of waqfs
Haji Samin Ali Masuma Masjid Syedwada	1910	Haji Syed Samin Ali	For religious and charitable purpose
Haji Syed Mohd. Asghar Waqfs Berolia	1930	Haji Syed Mohd. Asghar	Do.
Masjid Katra-Jarwal	1917	Syed Haider Mehdi	Do.
Karbala and Masjid Bahraich	1867	Not known	Do.
Imambara and House Nawab Saheban Qazalbash	Old	Taluqadar Nawabganj	Do.

STATEMENT VIII

Sunni Waqfs

Reference Page No. 237

Name of waqf	Date of registration	Name of founder	Annual income in Rs	objectives
Haji Ahmadullah Shah	17-8-1907	Haji Ahmadullah Shah	8,782	For charitable purpose
Dargah Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi		waqf by user	2,92,453	Do.
Rahmatullah Saheb Alaih				
Takia Kalam		waqf by User	3,414	Do.
Dargah Sharif Hateela		waqf by user	33,832	Do.
Dr Mohd. Asghar Ali	26-8-1925	Dr Mohd. Asghar Ali	39,963	Nominally charitable
Ummatul Moin Begum	14-7-1937	Ummatul Moin Begum	4,594	Do.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

REPRESENTATION OF DISTRICT IN STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURE

After Independence the district had ten representatives in the State Assembly. They were elected in 1952 from eight constituencies into which the district was divided. In the double-member constituencies of Bahraich (East) and Bahraich (West), two seats were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates.

In the general elections of 1957 district was represented in the State Assembly by nine members only, as per delimitation of seven constituencies done in 1956 which included two double-member constituencies. In 1962 the district was represented by nine members from nine single-member constituencies. In Lok Sabha the district was represented by two members.

Before the general elections of 1967 two more reserved constituencies for the Scheduled Castes were added, and the total number of constituencies rose to nine. The number of persons representing the district, however, remained unaltered. The position of the district remained the same during the mid-term poll of 1969.

In 1974, the number of members for the State Assembly was reduced to eight. It remained unaltered in the sixth general elections to the State Assembly and Lok Sabha in 1977.

POLITICAL PARTIES

The political parties functioning in the district are units of all-India or State level organisations. The numerical strength of the members varies from time to time. The important political parties which contested the general elections from the district prior to the formation of the Janta Party were the Indian National Congress, the Akhil Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Bhartiya Lok Dal (formerly Bhartiya Kranti Dal, formed towards the end of 1967), the Swatantra Party, the Praja Socialist Party, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Socialist Party of India, the Mazdoor Parishad, the Samyukta Socialist Party, the two Communist Parties of India, the two Rashtriya Loktantrik Sangh, and the Ram Rajya Parishad.

The results of various general elections reveal that till 1976, the Indian National Congress was a leading party in the district. The party contested all the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha and the Lok Sabha, and always won some seats. There was a split in the party in November-December, 1969 and the two parting groups came to be known as the Indian National Congress 'N' ('N' for Nijalingappa, the then president of the group), which later came to be known as Congress (Organisation) some time in 1971. The other group was called Indian National Congress 'J' ('J' for Jagjivan Ram, the then president of the group) and some time in 1971 it came to be known as the Indian National Congress, but later the word 'Ruling' was appended to it to differentiate it with the other group. The latter also nurtured a sister organisation commonly known as the Yuvak Congress which had some influence among the youths.

The Bhartiya Jan Sangh ranked as the second important party in the district. This party also set candidates for all the general elections for the Vidhan Sabha as well as for the Lok Sabha seats, and always won some seats except in the Parliamentary elections of 1962 and 1971. The party has a youth organisation known as Vidyarathi Parishad, having some following in the student community.

Among other parties which could get some success in the elections were the Hindu Mahasabha, the Swatantra Party, the Socialist Party of India, the Samyukta Socialist Party and the Bhartiya Kranti Dal.

Soon after the announcement regarding the sixth general elections to the Lok Sabha in January 1977, the leaders of four opposition parties, namely, the Bhartiya Jan Sangh, the Indian National Congress (Organisation), the Bhartiya Lok Dal and the Socialist Party of India, decided to merge in a single party and thus gave birth to the Janta Party. Later the Congress for Democracy, another party born after the announcement of the general elections, also joined the Janta Party on May 1, 1977. The same day the formal merger of all the five constituent parties was declared at the national convention of the Janta Party held in New Delhi.

The hold of the different political parties on the people of the district as reflected by the results of the different general elections is given under the sections of Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha.

VIDHAN SABHA (LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY)

The first general elections after Independence to the Vidhan Sabha were held in 1952, for which the district was divided into eight constituencies namely Bahraich (East), Bahraich (West), Nanpara (East), Nanpara (North), Nanpara (South), Kaisarganj (North), Kaisarganj (Central), and Kaisarganj (South). The first two named were the double-member

constituencies, each with one seat reserved for a member of the Scheduled Castes. There were 7,11,300 electors in the district. The valid votes polled were 3,08,545 and invalid 7,763, the percentage of votes polled being 44.4.

The following statement gives the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party/Independents :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	5	—	17,535
Communist Party of India	2	—	4,577
Hindu Mahasabha	3	—	6,925
Indian National Congress	10	8	1,33,841
Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party	7	—	29,315
Ram Rajya Parishad	6	—	47,669
Socialist Party of India	5	—	9,637
Uttar Pradesh Praja Party	2	1	7,615
Uttar Pradesh Revolutionary Socialist Party	4	—	5,098
Independents	14	1	46,333
Total	59	10	3,08,545

For the general elections of 1957, the constituencies were delimited in 1956, and their number was reduced to seven, their names being Kaisarganj, Nanpara, Charda, Bahraich (North), Bahraich (South), Ikauna and Fakhrpur. The last two named were double-member constituencies with one seat each reserved for a member of the Scheduled Castes.

There were 7,55,579 electors in the district, the number of valid and invalid votes polled being 3,64,766 and 13,835 respectively. The percentage of polling was 51.

The statement below indicates the position of the different political parties and Independents in the general elections of 1957 to the Vidhan Sabha :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Communist Party of India	2	—	5,677
Indian National Congress	9	5	1,65,037
Praja Socialist Party	2	1	22,568
Ram Rajya Parishad	2	—	29,412
Independents	12	3	1,42,072
Total	27	9	3,64,766

For the general elections to Vidhan Sabha held in 1962, the district was divided into nine single-member constituencies, of them seven being general, namely, Kaisarganj, Fakhrpur, Nanpara, Bhinga, Charda, Bahraich (North), Bahraich (South), and the remaining two, namely, Mahsi and Ikauna reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates.

The number of electors was 7,68,572, but only 3,38,638 votes were polled of which 3,22,799 were found valid and 15,839 invalid, and the percentage of polling came to 44.

The following statement shows the number of contestants, seats won, and votes secured by each party/Independents :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Vote secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	4	—	20,961
Communist Party of India	2	—	3,082
Indian National Congress	9	4	1,12,470
Praja Socialist Party	6	—	69,343
Republican Party of India	1	—	1,562
Socialist Party of India	1	—	6,777
Swatantra Party	6	4	80,587
Independents	9	1	28,017
Total	38	9	3,22,799

The constituencies of the district were slightly altered for the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha held in 1967. The constituencies of Charda and Ikauna were reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. The other seven constituencies, namely, Kaisarganj, Fakhrpur, Mahsi, Sheopur, Nanpara, Bhinga, and Bahraich were general. The total number of electors was 8,79,005, of whom 4,11,742 persons came to cast their votes, their total percentage being 46. The total votes polled were 3,83,564, of which 28,178 were declared invalid.

The results of the general elections to the Vidhan Sabha in 1967 were as follows :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	9	9	1,72,911
Communist Party of India	3	—	4,908
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	1	—	879
Indian National Congress	9	—	82,413
Praja Socialist Party	6	—	34,762
Samyukt Socialist Party	1	—	4,640
Swatantra Party	9	—	50,431
Independents	21	—	32,620
Total	59	9	3,83,564

In the general elections of 1967, Congress failed to muster an absolute majority, but being the largest single party it formed the government in March 1967. Within 18 days the government fell on the defection of some members from the Congress.

The political situation, as then obtaining, generated an anti-Congress wave and gave birth to politics of convenience, leading to the creation of Samyukta Vidhayak Dal, a combination of political parties of divergent views and ideologies, which formed the government in April 1967. But soon the infight among different constituent of the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal coupled with a series of defections forced the chief minister to quit within a period of less than ten months and the State came under President's rule, followed by a mid-term poll in 1969. No fresh delimitation of constituencies was done and the district went to poll on the basis of constituencies in 1967.

In the mid-term elections of 1969 the total number of voters was 9,27,495 in the district, of which 3,33,971 persons, that is 41 per cent, exercise their right of vote, 14,391 votes being declared invalid.

The following statement shows the number of contesting candidates, seats won and votes secured by each contesting party and Independents in the mid-term elections of 1969 :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	9	3	1,57,973
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	9	—	21,964
Communist Party of India	3	—	6,020
Kisan Mazdoor Party	2	—	1,598
Indian National Congress	9	6	1,65,333
Republican Party of India	3	—	3,723
Samyukta Socialist Party	3	—	7,919
Swatantra Party	4	—	10,146
Socialist Party of India	2	—	2,614
Independents	3	—	6,681
Total	47	9	3,83,971

The Congress emerged into power and formed the government in February 1969 after the mid-term poll, but a split in the ruling party reduced its strength to minority and the chief minister had to step down in February, 1970.

The Bhartiya Kranti Dal and Congress (R) coalition government was formed in February, 1970. This arrangement, however, did not last long and within eight months, the withdrawal of the Congress (R) from the coalition brought the fall of the government. In October, 1970, the President's rule was again imposed as the then chief minister of the Bhartiya Kranti Dal and Congress (R) coalition refused to resign even though the Governor held that the constitutional machinery in the State had failed. Congress (R) formed the government in April, 1971, the fourth chief minister assuming office since the mid-term poll of 1969.

Two years later, the chief minister, despite enjoying majority in the State Assembly, had to step down in June, 1973, after having remained in office for about two years and two months. Uttar Pradesh was once again brought under President's rule for the third time since Independence. The Congress Party returned to power after the general elections of 1974, for which the district was delimited into eight single-member constituencies, namely, Kaisarganj, Fakharpur, Mahsi, Nanpara, Bhinga, Bahraich, Charda and Ikauna, the last two being reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. There were 10,08,662 electors in the district and the valid and invalid votes polled were 4,53,046 and 16,906 respectively, the percentage of poll being 46.

The following statement gives relevant data regarding Vidhan Sabha elections of 1974 :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	8	4	1,73,96
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	8	—	33,879
Communist Party of India	1	1	21,519
Indian National Congress (O)	7	—	23,821
Indian National Congress (R)	8	3	1,46,515
Republican Party of India (Khobergarhe)	3	—	3,862
Socialist Party of India	7	—	7,434
Swatantra Party	8	—	25,697
Independents	8	—	16,354
Total	58	8	4,53,046

After the aforesaid general elections to the State Assembly in 1974, the Congress continued to govern the State till another political upheaval rocked the party, leading to the resignation of its ministry in November, 1975, followed by President's rule. The President's rule came to an end in January, 1976, when a Congress ministry was again formed in the State. The dismal performance of the Congress in the 1977 general elections to Lok Sabha under the clouds of emergency, heralded the emergence of the Janta Party in power at the centre, paving the way for the dissolution of State Assembly in May, 1977, and a mid-term poll after a month.

The constituencies for this seventh general elections to Vidhan Sabha were the same as they stood in the last general elections. The number of electors was 10,47,111 in the district, of whom 33.7 per cent exercised their right of franchise. The number of valid votes polled was 3,47,428 and invalid 6,394.

The following statement gives the results of the general elections held in 1977 :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Communist Party of India	1	—	30,427
Indian National Congress	7	—	1,08,486
Janta Party	8	8	1,80,721
Independents	20	—	27,974
Total	36	8	3,47,428

UNION LEGISLATURE

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

At the second general elections of 1957 to the Lok Sabha, the district had two parliamentary constituencies—Bahraich and Kaisarganj. The number of electors was 8,30,378. The total votes polled were 3,01,979, of which 165 were declared invalid. The percentage of polling came to 36.6.

The following statement gives the returns of the Lok Sabha elections of 1957 :

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes polled
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	24,410
Indian National Congress	2	2	1,68,554
Independents	2	—	1,09,015
Total	5	2	3,01,979

For the third general elections to the Lok Sabha, in 1962, the district had again two single-member constituencies, namely, Kaisarganj, and Bahraich. The number of electors was 8,45,728, valid and invalid votes polled being 3,47,543 and 10,540 respectively. The percentage of votes polled was 42.

The following statement shows the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party :

Party	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	—	19,899
Indian National Congress	2	—	1,42,193
Swatantra Party	2	2	1,85,451
Total	5	2	3,47,543

The district had two parliamentary constituencies, viz., Kaisarganj and Bahraich for the fourth general elections held in 1967. There were 9,79,506 electors in the district, out of which 4,57,844 electors cast their votes, their percentage being 46. The total number of valid and invalid votes were 4,36,865 and 20,979 respectively.

The statement given below indicates the number of contestants, seats won, and votes secured by each party for the Lok Sabha elections of 1967 :

Party	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	2	2,16,574
Indian National Congress	2	..	96,857
Praja Socialist Party	2	..	60,954
Swatantra Party	2	..	62,480
Total	8	2	4,36,865

For the fifth general elections to the Lok Sabha in 1971, the position of the constituencies remained the same, as it stood at the last general

election. The electors numbered 10,35,937, the valid votes polled being 3,55,350 and invalid 11,394. The total percentage of votes polled was 35.

The following statement gives the number of contestants, seats won and votes secured by each party:

Party	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	1	1,58,151
Bhartiya Kranti Dal	2	—	13,153
Indian National Congress (I)	2	1	1,81,048
Samyukta Socialist Party	1	—	2,998
Total	7	2	3,55,350

For the sixth general elections to the Lok Sabha held in 1977, the district was divided into two parliamentary constituencies—Bahraich and Kaisarganj. Out of 12,94,844 voters in the district, 6,20,695 or 47 per cent exercised their right of franchise. Of the votes cast, 6,05,575 were found valid and 15,120 invalid.

The following statement gives an idea of the election results of 1977:

Party/Independents	Contes- tants	Seats won	Votes secured
Communist Party of India	1	—	23,604
Indian National Congress	2	—	1,51,538
Janta Party	2	2	3,77,753
Independents	4	—	52,680
Total	9	2	6,05,575

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

There is only one magazine, that goes by the name of *Jan Ekta*, published twice a month in Urdu in the district. It has a circulation of 500 copies and publishes news and current affairs only.

Other Periodicals

The popular dailies, weeklies, fortnightly and monthlies published outside the district but widely circulated in the district are given in the following statement:

Daily	Weekly	Fortnightly	Monthly
Hindi Aaj Bharat Navjeevan Swatantra Bharat	Dharmayug Saptahik Hindustan	Sarita Mukta	Maya Chandamama Madhuri Parag Kadambari Manohar Kahaniya Navneet
English Northern India Patrika The Pioneer National Herald Indian Express The Times of India	Blitz Current Screen Sports	Filmfare Star and Style Caravan	Imprint Mirror Picturpost Reader's Digest
Urdu Milap Pratap Quami Awaraz	Tej Aaj Kal		Shama

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

There are a few voluntary social service organisations in the district looking after the economic and social interests of the people in general. In the past, such institutions depended mainly on the philanthropy and missionary zeal of the religious minded people. An effort is now being made to organise them more effectively under the guidance of the district Harijan and social welfare officer, who makes recommendations regarding the grants to these institutions by the government.

Though voluntary organisations are free to undertake any of the welfare schemes, the government only watch that their activities are in harmony with the schemes and policies of the State.

A brief account of the more important voluntary social service organisations is given below:

Mahila Samaj Kalyan Kendra—The *Mahila Samaj Kalyan Kendra* at Bahraich, was established in 1960 under the patronage of the then deputy commissioner of the district. It aims at the moral, physical, cultural and domestic welfare of destitute women. The institution is running classes for adult education and provides condensed courses. Relief

work, in times of natural calamities is also undertaken by the Kendra. Its sources of income are grants from the State government, Central Welfare Board, New Delhi, membership fee and the donations. The institution is also running five *Bal-Badi Mahila Mandal* centres where ladies and children are being kept and imparted suitable education. The seventy five per cent of the expenditure of *Bal-badi* and *Mahila Mandal* is borne by the grants of the State welfare advisory board and the rest by local contribution.

Shravasti Ashram—The *Shravasti Ashram* was founded in 1919 at Shravasti, a place of historical importance. It has two branches in the district—one at Ikauna and the other at Gilaula. Its main aim is to bring about moral, social and economic betterment of the society by means of Gandhian teachings and to inculcate a sense of discipline, dignity of labour, and adoption of progressive and practical outlook and approach towards various social and economic problems. The *Ashram* is managed by a trust. The institution has some agricultural land and a few buildings.

Prem Sewa Children's Home

The *Prem Sewa Children's Home*, Rupaidiha, Bahraich was established on July 21, 1921 by Rev. Frank Nicodem, a German Missionary.

The institution provides shelter and education to children of lepers, irrespective of race, caste and creed.

It has a clinic which provides curative and preventive medical facilities to the local people.

The institution gets financial assistance in the form of voluntary gifts from individuals, both from inside, and outside the country.

The institution is managed by the governing body of the north India district council of the Assembly of God.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Bahraich (pargana and tahsil Bahraich)

The headquarters town of the district is located in latitude 27°34' north and longitude 81°36' east. It is situated almost in the centre of the district on the road from Bahramghat to Nanpara and Nepalganj. It is about 58 km. distant from Bahramghat and 35 km. from Nanpara. To the east of the town is the railway station on the branch line of the North-Eastern Railway which runs from Gonda to Nepalganj road Katarniaghat. The town stands on the extreme edge of the high plateau that runs down the centre of the district, the bank probably marking an ancient course of river Ghaghara. The ground undulates in all directions. The site is thus not only easily drained, but is also pleasing to the eye. The climate is comparatively cooler but moist which, at time, becomes trying. Besides the main road (Bahramghat to Nanpara) several other roads radiate from Bahraich leading to Gonda, Ikauna, Bhinga, Kakardarighat, Kataighat and Chahlarighat, leading thence to Sitapur.

The chief place of interest in Bahraich is the *dargah* of Saiyid Salar Masaud who was the son of Salar Sahu and the nephew of Mahmud of Ghani. It was here that he met his death in 424 Hijri (1033 A.D.) after defeat at the hands of raja Saheldeo and his forces. His shrine stands at a distance of about 3 km. from the town. It is said to occupy the site of a former temple of the Sun God. It is also said that the *dargah* was erected by Zohra Bibi, the blind daughter of Saiyid Jamal-ud-din of Rudauli in Bara Banki district, after she had regained her eyesight by a pilgrimage to the *dargah*. She also built a tomb for herself here, and when died at the age of eighteen, she was buried here. Her mother and other relatives made a pilgrimage to her grave yearly, performing a ceremony like that of a marriage, saying that they were marrying the virgin Zohra Bibi to the unmarried martyr Masaud. The pilgrimage gradually increased in importance, and the tomb became a sacred place.

In the year 776 Hijri (1375 A.D.) emperor Firoz Sah visited Bahraich, and is said to have built the compound wall and other buildings at the *dargah*. There was then residing a saint, called Mir Mah, on whom the emperor bestowed favours. He also gave a *jagir* for maintenance of the shrine. The tomb of Mir Mah stands close by and is considered a

sacred place, as is also that of Rajab Salar, the confidential servant of Masaud's father, and the Kotwal of the army. According to another account the *dargah* was built by Malik Nasir-ud-din Muhammad, the eldest son of Sultan Shams-ud-din Altamish. On the wall of the inner enclosure of the *dargah*, there is an inscription on a copper-plate recording the revenue free grant of the village by emperor Akbar II of Delhi. In the *malikhana* of the *dargah* there were two copper-plates, the one recording the release of the dues from the fair by Bandai Ali Khan in 1177 Hijri (1763 A.D.) and the other regarding the release of the dues from the *dargah* by Mehndi Ali Khan in 1215 Hijri (1800 A.D.).

A large fair takes place at the *dargah* yearly in May and June, attended by about 1,00,000 persons. The offerings are of several kinds. The first is known as *Pilang Perhi*, or marriage offering, given by the pilgrims from Rudauli, Varanasi, Jaunpur and Mirzapur. These are given in cash by way of dowry for Zohra Bibi. The second is *Charhawa Mazar Sharif*, which consists of cash and merchandise placed at the tomb itself by cultivators and traders, apparently as a thanks-offering. The income from this source is called the *Andani Thal*. The third kind is known as *Qalandarn*, and consists of coins thrown by pilgrims on to the dome of the shrine. It is considered lucky to hit the pinnacle. Offerings of coins and sweets are also made at some of the other tombs. A very picturesque feature of the fair are the flags brought by pilgrims, worked in gay colours with figures of men and animals. These are mounted on bamboos of great length with some coins tied up in a knot on the point. The pinnacle of the shrine is touched with the point and the coin taken. It is said that if the pilgrim's desire has not been fulfilled he takes away the flag, but if the request has been granted the flag is left at the shrine.

Bahraich has more than one derivation assigned to it. According to the local tradition it is a corruption of Brahmaich, or the assembly of Brahma, the story being that Brahma settled here some rishis or priests. Another and perhaps more probable origin of the name, however, lies in the fact that the whole country, in former days was held by Bhars.

Since the time of Akbar, the town had been the administrative centre of the Government in sirkar Bahraich, which included a portion of the district of Gonda. Asaf-ud-daula stayed here several times and built the Daulat-khan, a handsome range of buildings now in ruins. Since the opening of the railway line, the town has expanded and prospered as a commercial centre, and through it passes a large amount of the trade from Nepal. The main articles of merchandise are grain, sugar, timber and tobacco.

Bahraich, administered as a municipal board, is well-electrified and is the block development headquarters of the same name. It had a population of 83,750 persons in 1971.

Among the amenities of public utility are included 3 dak-bungalows, 2 hospitals, 2 degree colleges, 4 junior Basic schools, 3 senior Basic schools, 3 police-stations, 3 cinema halls, a telegraph office, a health centre, a child welfare centre and a family planning centre.

Bhinga (pargana and tahsil Bhinga)

Bhinga, a notified area and the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name, is located near the left bank of the Rapti in latitude 27°42' north and longitude 81°56' east and at a distance of about 87 km. north-east of the district headquarters, with which it is connected by a metalled road.

Another road goes south to Ikauna and Payagpur. From the Bahraich road a branch leads north-west to Nanpara, and another to Balrampur. The town stands close to the forest which extends northwards to the terai. The town was also the country seat of the *ex-taluqdar*, the raja of Bhinga, who had built a dispensary and maintained an anglo-vernacular middle school.

The town is said to have been founded some 390 years ago by one Bhayya Dar Singh, a cadet of the house of Ikauna, in the name of whose head manager Bhagga Singh, the name Bhinga has its origin. For 150 years subsequent to its foundation, it was an important village, but having been Singh Bisen, a younger brother of the raja of the Gonda by force of arms, and then has risen in importance.

The taluqdar's residence was in the old fort near which Ravenscroft was murdered in 1823 A.D., as is narrated in General Sleeman's *Tour in Avadh*.

It was made headquarters of the tahsil of the same name in September, 1976. The place is electrified.

A daily market is held here at which the things of daily use are traded. On the occasion of Kartiki Purnima the place witnesses a fair which is attended by about 10,000 persons.

The amenities of common utility available include an inspection house, a post-office, a police-station, a library, 2 intermediate colleges, 2 senior Basic schools, 2 junior Basic schools, a hospital, a family planning centre, 2 dharmshalas and a branch of Allahabad Bank.

It is a notified area having a population of 9,819 persons and an area of 1.71 sq. km.

Charda (pargana Charda, tahsil Nanpara)

Charda is a considerable village on the road from Babaganj to Malhipur and Ikauna. It stands in latitude 27°57' north and longitude 81°36' east, at a distance of about 17 km. from the tahsil and about 48 km. from the district headquarters. It belonged to the Maharaja of Balrampur, by whom it was held in permanent Settlement. The Maharaja had also constructed a road leading from Charda through the forest to Nepalganj road.

There are ruins of an old fort to the west of the village, which resemble, save in size, those of Sahet-Mahet. Probably of Buddhist origin, the ruins appear to be the remains of one of the chain of forts that guarded the plains against the inroads of the hill tribes.

According to the local tradition this was the fourteenth of the chain of forts and this fact accounts for the name of the place. Like all the other old remains of the district, it is assigned to raja Suhel Deo, the opponent of Saiyid Salar, but it is evidently of earlier origin, and its construction may be assigned to the Buddhists.

Besides having a post-office, the place possesses telephone facility, a junior Basic school, a hospital, and a senior Basic school. It has a population of 1,762 persons and an area of about 309 hectares.

A daily market is held here where a considerable business is carried on. A fair is also held on each Saturday, the attendance being about 300 persons.

Dogaon (pargana and tahsil Nanpara)

Dogaon is an ancient and historical place which lies in latitude 27°53' north and longitude 81°27' east and is situated at a distance of about 40 km. from the tahsil headquarters and about 7 km. from the district headquarters. Though an ancient and a place of historical importance, almost all traces of the same have now disappeared. It had almost, in fact, been lost to sight, but for the existence of a few local traditions and the discovery of numerous copper coins bearing the name of Dogaon or Doganco as the mint. These coins consist of dams and fractions of the dam of the reigns of Akbar and Shah Jahan. The coins were found all over the State in large numbers and especially in Nanpara and Bahraich—a fact which led to the discovery of the site of Dogaon. There are numerous traces of old brickwork and several masonry wells, which undoubtedly belong to the period at which Dogaon flourished. On the ruins stands

a hamlet still known as Dogaon. The place greatly suffered from the construction of the railway as the bricks have been carted away in large quantities for the purpose of ballast.

Dogaon is mentioned in the *Ain-i-Akbari* as a copper mint and as the centre of a considerable trade with the hills. The existence of the mint is doubtless due to the fact that a large proportion of the available copper at that time was brought from Nepal. In the *Dastur-ul-Amal*, of the time of Aurangzeb, it is described as a village that once possessed a mint.

Dogaon was deserted in the reign of Shah Jahan, in consequence, it is said, of a curse by a saintly mendicant, Shah Sajan. This tradition is confirmed by the absence of any coins of Dogaon later than Shah Jahan. A tomb of the saint stood here but has of late years, been washed away by the Saryu.

A fair is held here annually in the honour of Shah Sajan.

The place is said to have belonged to Suhel Deo, who defeated Saiyid Salar, but this is common to every old site in the district. Major Vost suggested a connection between Dogaon and Dongdon, the territory of one of the hill rajas mentioned in ancient history, and a pargana of the *Ain-i-Akbari*.

It has a population of about 2,221 persons.

Fakhrpur (pargana Fakhrpur, tahsil Kaiserganj)

Fakhrpur is situated in latitude 27°25' north and longitude 81°31' east, on the west side of the high road from Bahramghat to Bahraich, at a distance of about 18 km. from the tahsil headquarters and about 19 km. from the district headquarters.

In former days the village is said to have been held by Ahirs, and in the times of Akbar was called Pakrpur from a large *pakaria* tree which flourished by the side of the road to Bahraich. In 965 Hijri (1558 A.D.), however, Akbar made it the headquarters of a pargana under the name that it now bears, established a tahsil headquarters, and built a fort.

Fakhrpur as a revenue unit consists of five villages—Fakhrpur, Madhopur, Paraspur, Khalidpur and Ghasipur.

A cattle market is held at Fakhrpur on Monday and Friday. There is also market at Fakhrpur proper, where grains are the main items traded. Total value of the arrivals is near about Rs.2 lakhs per year.

It is a block development headquarters of the same name and has a population of about 5,809 persons and an area of 82 hectares.

It possesses a police-station, a post-office, a primary health centre, a dispensary, an inspection bungalow, two junior Basic schools, a higher secondary school and an intermediate college.

Ikauna Khas (pargana Ikauna tahsil Bahraich)

Ikauna lies in latitude $27^{\circ}32'$ north and longitude $82^{\circ}58'$ east, on the road from Bahraich to Bahrampur, at a distance of about 35 km. east of the district headquarters. A cross-road connects Ikauna with Payagpur and Bhinga.

It has been the headquarters of the Janwar Chiefs, whose ancestors, Bariar Sah, a Risaldar in the service of Firoz Tughlaq, came to Avadh in 1374. The estate was confiscated after the freedom struggle in 1857 and conferred partly on the raja of Kapurthala and partly on the raja of Bahrampur.

In former days it was known as Khanpur-Mahadeo, after one Khanu, a Bhar, who founded it about 650 years ago.

It is popularly said to derive its name from the angleless fort, built by Ram Sah, a descendant of Bariar Sah.

A far more likely derivation, however, is to be found in the name Arkhavana, mentioned by Hiuen Tsang as lying to the north-west of Sahet Mahet, which is at a distance of about 8 km. from Ikauna.

There are ruins of fort, standing to the west of the town, close to the police-station. The Kapurthala estate built a masonry serai and established a depot for the manufacture and sale of wooden articles. The place is of some religious importance and contains several temples and mosques.

It is administered as a town area and is an important agricultural bi-weekly marketing centre. Besides being the development block headquarters, it possesses a police-station, a post-office, a dispensary, a hospital, a primary health centre, a maternity and child welfare centre, a family planning centre, a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school and a higher secondary school.

It is electrified and has a population of about 6,759 persons and an area of about 982 hectares.

Jarwal (pargana Hisampur, tahsil Kaisarganj)

Jarwal is an old town situated in latitude $27^{\circ}10'$ north and longitude $81^{\circ}33'$ east, on the road from Bahramghat to Bahraich, at a distance of about 10 km. south of the tahsil and about 55 km. from the district headquarters.

The original name of the town was Jarauli, which was held by the Bhars. In the days of Ghias-ud-din Tughlaq, one Saiyid Jamal-ud-din received from the emperor a grant of 15,000 bighas here and his son, Zikria, overthrew the Bhar raja Chhatrasal, and founded the family of Saiyids who took up residence here. Gradually, the influence of Saiyid considerably decreased, and a large portion of their property fell into the hands of their Rajput neighbours. There were two taluqas belonging to this family; one was held by Saiyid Zafar Mehdi of Alinagar and Bahraich, but it was mortgaged to the halt with the raja of Mahmudabad, from whom he received an allowance. The other taluqdar was Musammamat Tayab Begam of Wera Qazi, who owned 8 villages and 17 *pattis* in Hisampur and Bahraich.

The place, though primarily an agricultural centre, is famous for trade and industry. Jarwal Sugar Factory is operating here since 1945. Markets are held on all Mondays and Fridays, the chief trade being in skin and hides. A considerable traffic also takes place in cloth, grain, and brass vessels. Sugar and paddy are the main items of export, while *hirana* and cloth constitute the items of import.

It is a town area and a block development headquarter of the same name. The place is electrified and possesses a post-office, a telephone and telegraph office, a hospital, a health centre, a dispensary, a police-station, an intermediate college, a higher secondary school, a senior Basic school, a junior Basic school and a branch of the Punjab National Bank.

It has a population of 6,840 persons and an area of about 724 hectares.

A fair is held here on the occasion of Chehlum, the attendance being about 5,000 persons.

Kaisarganj (pargana Hisampur, tahsil Kaisarganj)

Kaisarganj, the tahsil headquarters, is situated at a distance of about 39 km. from the district headquarters, in latitude $27^{\circ}15'$ north and longitude $81^{\circ}33'$ east. Formerly the headquarters of the tahsil was at Kurasar, a village on the main road from Bahraich to Bahramghat.

A market is held here twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays and a considerable business is done in food-grains. It has a population of 1,036 persons.

The place is electrified and is a development block headquarter of the same name. The amenities of public utility available include an inspection house, a post-office, a police-station, a hospital, a registration office, two senior Basic schools, two junior Basic schools, a higher secondary school, and a branch of Allahabad Bank.

Nanpara (pargana and tahsil Nanpara)

Nanpara, a notified area, lies in latitude $27^{\circ} 52'$ north and longitude $81^{\circ} 30'$ east, at a distance of about 33 km. from the district headquarters. To the east of the town runs the branch line of the North-Eastern Railway from Gonda to Katarniaghat, and from Nanpara railway station, a second branch runs parallel to the road leading to Nepalganj. Other roads lead north to Motipur, south-east to Bhinga and Ikauna, and south-west to Khairighat and Kataighat on the Ghaghara. Nanpara is situated about one and half kilometre from the edge of the high ground, which forms the watershed of the Saryu and the Rapti rivers.

According to the tradition, the place was founded by a Teli named Nidhai, its original name being Nidhipura, which was corrupted first into Nadpura and thence to Nanpara.

The place is electrified and is the block development headquarters of the same name.

A fair is held here on the occasion of Muharram which attracts about 10,000 visitors. Other fairs are held at Jangli Nath and Takiaghat, where the estimated attendance is about 12,000 persons.

The town has a large flourishing daily market where rice, pulse and food-grains are chiefly traded.

It is also the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name and has a population of 18,732 persons and area of 1.86 sq. km.

The amenities of public utility available include an inspection house, two post-offices, a police-station, a maternity and child welfare centre, two intermediate colleges, a senior Basic school, two junior Basic schools, a higher secondary school, two dharmshalas and a dispensary.

Payagpur (pargana and tahsil Bahraich)

Payagpur is a town on the main road from Bahraich to Gonda at a distance of 29 km. from the district headquarters, in latitude $27^{\circ} 24'$ north and longitude $81^{\circ} 48'$ east. At a short distance to the west of the town

runs the branch line of the North-Eastern Railway. Close to the railway station there is a large Masonaryganj, which was built by the raja after the construction of the railway. A crossed-road runs through Payagpur from Ikauna to Kurasar and thence to Kheri and Sitapur.

The chief building in the town is the palace of raja, an extensive edifice to which large additions appear to have been made in subsequent years. Part of the building is of some antiquity and the great gateway bears traces of the unsettled times of the Avadh Government in the shape of a large hole made by a cannon-ball, the mark of a siege by the Nazim Raghbir Dayal. Close to the palace is a small guest-house, which was maintained by the raja for the convenience of European visitors. Adjoining the guest-house is a lofty and handsome temple.

The town presents a thriving appearance and all the roads are metalled. West of the town there is a large expanse of water known as the Baghel Tal, which is connected with the Tehri by a short and narrow channel.

A daily market is held in the town and considerable trade is carried on, chiefly in paddy, maize, jute and potatoes. The place is electrified and is the development block headquarters of the same name.

The amenities of public utility available include a police-station, a post-office, a dispensary, two junior Basic schools and a senior Basic school.

On the occasion of Sivaratri and Kartiki Purnima, fairs are held here which attract about 5,000 persons.

The place has a population of 2,178 persons and an area of 585 hectares.

Rupaidiha (pargana Chanda, tahsil Nanpara)

Rupaidiha is an old village near the Nepal border in latitude $28^{\circ} 1'$ north and longitude $81^{\circ} 36'$ east, on the road from Nanpara to Nepalganj (in Nepal). A branch line of North-Eastern Railway also terminates at Nepalganj Road, a railway station close by.

Rupaidiha is situated at a distance of 51 km. from the district and about 18 km. from the tahsil headquarters. The village formerly belonged to the Maharaja of Balrampur who constructed a road from Rupaidiha to Chanda through the forests. Another track leads north-east along the border into Nanpara pargana. The village was the headquarters of the ranges of the Chakia-Chanda forest range.

The place is an important centre of trade with Nepal. A daily market is held here; and there is a brisk trade during winter months in grain, rice, cloth and spices.

A fair named as Dhanus-yuga-mela is held here on the occasion of Kartiki Purnima, the attendance being about 15,000 persons.

The place is electrified and has a population of 3,500 persons with an area of 540 hectares.

Among the amenities of public utility available the place can boast of a dak-bungalow, a dharmisala, a police-station, a post-office, a dispensary, a senior Basic school, a higher secondary school, two junior Basic schools and the Prem Sewa Children's Home.

Sahet-Mahet (Sravasti)

Sahet-Mahet is the modern equivalent of the site of Sravasti of ancient fame. It was the capital of Uttara Kosala, at a distance of about 16 km. from Balrampur and 8½ km. north of Ayodhya. The town was founded by Sravasta, a king of Solar race. It is a series of mound in latitude 27°31' north and longitude 82°3' east and covers an extensive area. Comprised of villages of Gangapur and Ghughalpur of district Gonda and Chakar-Bhandar and Rajgarh Grulariha of Bahraich, the major and more important portion of the site, however, fall in Bahraich district.

The place was first explored by Cunningham, who made excavations, the results of which were afterwards published. In December 1884 W. Hoey was deputed to examine the place and his report was published in 1892. He unhesitatingly identified Sahet-Mahet with the ancient capital of Sravasti, but his views have since been disputed.

Though the slight controversy regarding identification of the site with Sravasti remains to be resolved, yet it is apparent that Sahet-Mahet represents the site of a large fortified city, full of Buddhist and Jain remains, and is of great antiquity. For its size alone, it must have been a place of note for a considerable period, and as it contained Buddhist monasteries at least till the twelfth century, it is probably that if not Sravasti itself, it was one of the places visited by the Chinese pilgrims. The remains consist of Mahet, a large crescent-shaped fortress, with the concave side facing the river, and Sahet, a smaller mound to the south-west, three small mounds to the west, north of the latter, seven similar heaps east of Sahet and opposite the southern face of Mahet.

Both Cunningham and Hoey in their excavations attempted to identify each locality with the sites or buildings mentioned by the Chinese pilgrims with regard to Sravasti. In 1863 Cunningham took measurements of Mahet, which he considered to have been surrounded with a massive brick wall with a ditch on the land side. The circuit he gave as 5,273 metres. The whole site was covered with dense jungle. In this he cut pathways to all the ruined eminences, and then began excavations to ascertain their nature. His discoveries included several small stupas and temples in Sahet, in district Bahraich, one of which contained a colossal standing statue of Buddha with a fragmentary inscription bearing the name Sravasti, and supposed by him to have come from Mathura. He again visited the place in 1876, with the express object of proving his identification of Sahet with the famous Jetavana monastery of Sravasti. He made excavations in twenty places, and discovered ten temples and five stupas, the others being mere mounds of rubbish. He also found a number of clay seals and votive offerings, and a few fragments of sculpture, but no inscriptions.

Hoey's endeavour were far more comprehensive and his finds of greater interest. He showed that the great citadel of Mahet had four gates and was divided into separate quarters. He also found remains of Buddhist, Jain and Brahmanical temples, and a large quantity of statuary and other articles. The only inscriptions were, however, of comparatively late date and nothing was elucidated with regard to the history of the place.

The prosperity of Sravasti was the prosperity of the kingdom of Kosala. The kingdom figured prominently among the four powerful monarchies of northern India and Sravasti reached its zenith in Buddha's time.

Hiuen Tsang, the Chinese pilgrim of the seventh century, relates that Sariputra, the foremost of the disciples of Buddha, accompanied Sudatta to Sravasti to help him in the task of founding a *vihara*. The only suitable site that could be found near Sravasti was the park of prince Jeta, son of Prasenajit. When Sariputra asked him to sell the park, Jeta demanded an exorbitant price, viz., 'as many gold pieces as will cover it'. So great was his devotion to Buddha that Sudatta at once agreed and proceeded to cover the ground with gold coins from his treasury. When all the ground except a small piece was covered, the prince asked Sudatta to desist, and on the uncovered ground the prince himself erected a temple.

Hiuen Tsang further relates that Buddha, in order to commemorate the pious gifts of both, ordered that the *vihara* should be called 'Anathapindada's Arama of Jetavana-Vihara'.

Tendwa Bankatama (Tendwa Mahant) (pargana and tahsil Bhinga)

Tendwa Bankatama (Tendwa Mahant) is a historical place situated at a distance of about 2 km. from the tahsil headquarters and about 39 km. from the district headquarters, in latitude 27°31' north and longitude 81°55' east.

The only interest of the place is archaeological. It has been identified with the Towai of the Chinese travellers Fa-Hien and Hsien Tsang, who described it as being 60 *li* (about 16 km.) to the north-west of Sravasti, and this corresponds with the 11 km. of distance between Tendwa and Sahet-Mahet. Tendwa is a very old site and is still covered with brick ruins, the chief being a mound to the north of the village, about 211 metres long from east to west, and 91 metres broad. Beyond this mound there is a large sheet of water known as the Sita-dohar Tal. At the south-west corner of this mound Cunningham discovered a large stupa, the massive walls of which are still standing. The steps on the north and west sides were nearly perfect, and the railing round the lower portion of the stupa was also clearly traceable.

In a small temple of modern origin there is a statue, now named as Sita, which is supposed to be that of the mother of Sakya Muni, but more probably represents a dancing figurine, similar to those found at Mathura.

A fair named as Sita-dohar mela takes place here twice a year, which is attended by about 6,000 persons.

It has a population of about 1,361 persons and an area of about 166 hectares.

It possesses a junior Basic school, a senior Basic school, a temple and a mosque, a post-office, and a dispensary.

CONVERSION FACTORS**Money**

1 Pie = 0.52 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 = 2.59 hectares

1 acre = 0.405 hectare

Cubic Measure

1 cubic foot = 0.028 cubic metre

Measure Capacity

1 gallon (Imperial) = 4.55 litres

1 seer* = 0.937 litre

Measure of Weight

1 tola = 11.66 grams

1 *chhatak* = 58.32 grams

1 seer* (80 tolas) = 933.10 grams

1 maund* = 37.32 kilograms

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° Centigrade = 32

*As defined in Indian Standards of Weight Act, 1939.

GLOSSARY

<i>Amin</i>	.. Petty official attached to court of minister and entrusted with work of realising government dues.
<i>Anjani</i>	.. A variety of early paddy
<i>Aonla</i>	.. Bitter apple (<i>Embllica afflicianalis</i>)
<i>Arhar</i>	.. Pigeon pea
<i>Asna</i>	.. A kind of tree (<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>)
<i>Bara</i>	.. A soil tract
<i>Barseem</i>	.. Green fodder
<i>Ber</i>	.. A kind of berry
<i>Bhoodan</i>	.. Free donation of land
<i>Bhur</i>	.. Sandy land
<i>Chakla</i>	.. A small subdivision
<i>Chakledar</i>	.. A collector of revenue under nawabs of Avadh
<i>Dargah</i>	.. Shrine of Muslim saint
<i>Datisa</i>	.. A variety of early paddy
<i>Dhaincha</i>	.. A fodder crop
<i>Dhau</i>	.. A kind of tree (<i>Anegessus latifolia</i>)
<i>Derwa</i>	.. A kind of late paddy
<i>Fasli</i>	.. Agricultural year beginning from July
<i>Gaon</i>	.. Village
<i>Gaon Sabha</i>	.. Village Assembly
<i>Garha</i>	.. Rough cloth
<i>Ghar</i>	.. House
<i>Goind</i>	.. Field near the village
<i>Hartal</i>	.. Strike
<i>Jhoka</i>	.. A plant disease
<i>Jhulsa</i>	.. A plant disease
<i>Kamdar</i>	.. Labourer
<i>Kankar</i>	.. Irregular concretion of impure calcareous matter used for making lime
<i>Kanoongo</i>	.. A subordinate revenue official
<i>Khandsari</i>	.. Indigenous white sugar

BAHIRAICH DISTRICT

<i>Kharanja</i>	.. Pavement of bricks
<i>Khudkast</i>	.. Land cultivated by landlord either himself or through hired labour
<i>Kshettra Samiti</i>	.. Block committee
<i>Kodon</i>	.. A coarse grain
<i>Latera</i>	.. A variety of late paddy
<i>Lekhpal</i>	.. Patwari, village accountant
<i>Lobia</i>	.. A kind of bean
<i>Mahal</i>	.. Unit of land (comprising several villages) under separate engagement for payment of revenue
<i>Mahu</i>	.. A kind of pest
<i>Mahua</i>	.. A kind of tree (<i>Maduca indica</i>)
<i>Masoor</i>	.. A kind of pulse
<i>Mela</i>	.. Fair
<i>Moong</i>	.. Green gram
<i>Mutmari</i>	.. A variety of early paddy
<i>Naib</i>	.. Deputy, assistant
<i>Nazim</i>	.. Head of district with revenue, executive and judicial powers
<i>Nautanki</i>	.. Open air musical and theatrical performance mostly in villages
<i>Nizamat</i>	.. Area falling under one revenue official
<i>Pale</i>	.. The outlying field
<i>Pradhan</i>	.. President
<i>Pramukh</i>	.. Chairman
<i>Radwa</i>	.. A variety of early paddy
<i>Resaldar</i>	.. Officer incharge of cavalry under the Mughals
<i>Samiti</i>	.. Committee
<i>Sanai</i>	.. Green manure crop
<i>Sathi</i>	.. A variety of early paddy
<i>Sawan</i>	.. A coarse grain
<i>Sir</i>	.. Land cultivated by the owner
<i>Suyurghal</i>	.. In the Mughal period allowances granted by the Emperor, whether paid in cash or by grants of land

GLOSSARY OF INDIAN WORDS

<i>Tamra Patra</i>	.. Copper plate given as award
<i>Taqavi</i>	.. Loan given by government to cultivators for Agricultural purposes
<i>Til</i>	.. Linseed
<i>Up-pradhan</i>	.. Vice-president
<i>Up-pramukh</i>	.. Vice-chairman
<i>Urd</i>	.. Black gram

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INDEX

'A'

- Aaj : 251
Aaj Kal : 251
Abdullahganj : 131
Adarsha Matsya Jivi Sahkari Samiti, Itaha : 95
Adarsha Matsya Jivi Sahkari Samiti Limited, Bhopani : 95
Adarsh Mazdoor Sangh, U P State Sugar Corporation Ltd., Unit Jarwal Road, Bahraich : 238
Adarsh Sanskrit Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Rupaiddiha : 211
Afridi : 53
Ahata : 3
Ahir(s) : 51, 53, 257
Ahiran Purwa : 7
Ahirsi : 51, 53
Ain-i-Akhari : 257
Ajivika : 21
Akhar : 2, 28, 157, 158, 162, 254, 256, 257
Akbar II : 254
Akbarpura : 130
Alakchendra Intermediate College, Bhinga : 213
Alha : 67
Alibad : 126
Alinagar : 259
Allahabad : 109, 128, 155, 156, 167
All India Congress Committee : 43
America : 47
Amethia(s) : 51
Amilia : 9
Amwa Husainpur : 225
Ananda : 22
Anathapindadas Arama of Jetavanavihara : 19, 263
Anathapindika : 19, 124
Angulimala : 20, 22, 23
Anguttara Nikaya : 16
Anjuman Chaprasian : 131
Antarim Zila Parishad : 149
Aptakshivana : 18
Aptanetravan : 18
Arazi Kondar Chaubah : 3
Arbi : 75
Arjuna : 28
Arkavana : 258
Arya Kanya Pathshala Higher Secondary School, Bahraich : 213
Arya Samaj : 57, 61
Asaf-ud-daula, Nawab : 31, 158,
Asoka : 18, 21, 22, 23
Assamese : 75
Assembly of God : 252
Astadhyayi : 16
Athaisa : 119
Aurangzeb : 257
Avadh : 1, 2, 11, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 35, 36, 39, 46, 50, 83, 84, 94, 95, 96, 98, 152, 158, 162, 222, 227, 261
Avadhi : 50
Avadh University, Faizabad : 209
Avalokitesvara : 21
Ayodhya : 2, 16, 17, 26, 124
Ayurveda : 215
Azad Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
Azamgarh : 227

'B'

- Babaganj : 78, 222, 224, 225, 256
Babayi : 7
Babhnauti : 78
Bachgoti(s) : 51
Bachhal(s) : 51
Bachhi Dharamsala : 130
Bado Sarai : 2
Bageshwar Nath : 79
Bagesti : 3
Baghaura Tal : 3
Baghel Tal : 8, 9, 261
Bahlul Sultan : 28
Bahrah : 2, 29, 158
Bahraich Agriculture and Cattle Show Trust : 240
Bahraich Victory Scholarship Fund : 240
ahramghat : 36, 98, 119, 125, 129, 253, 259
Baburampur : 3
Bahu Begam : 159, 160
Bais : 28, 51
Bakrid (Bakr-id) : 55, 72
Bala Rao : 37
Balban Sultan : 27
Balha : 150, 222
Balki Das : 32
Balmaki : 67
Balrampur : 18, 29, 34, 36, 37, 39, 111, 128, 159, 166, 255, 256, 258, 261, 262
Bambhaura : 49, 131
Bamhnauti : 4, 29
Bandai Ali Khan : 254
Bandrahiya Gauri : 1
Bangash Pathan(s) : 53

Banja(s) : 53, 111
 Banjara(s) : 25, 30, 31
 Banjari Ghat : 120
 Banki : 38
 Banhi Dhar : 130
 Bansura : 29
 Banwari : 130
 Bara Banki : 1, 2, 3, 25, 28, 39, 98, 99, 104, 109, 161, 227, 235, 253
 Baranwal(s) : 51
 Bardaha : 78
 Pargadja : 37
 Barhais : 52
 Barhaili : 27
 Baria(s) : 51
 Pariar Sah : 258
 Parnapur : 71, 115
 Bartu : 26
 Basant Parchami : 70, 71
 Bashirgani : 130, 175
 Basic Shiksha Parishad : 208
 Basti : 18, 104, 109, 119
 Paundi : 4, 28, 29, 34, 36, 38, 39, 160, 204
 auri : 175
 Beem Hazrat Maha : 36
 Behna(s) : 53
 Pengal : 27, 128
 Bengali : 49, 50
 Beni Dutta Ram Autar Vaish Trust : 240
 Beria : 79
 Bhabarpur : 128
 B. H. C. : 93
 Bhadauria(s) : 51
 Bhagi Prasad Primary School Trust : 240
 Bhagwanpur : 8
 Bhaiya Dooj : 70
 Bhakla : 5, 6, 8, 31, 32
 Bhale Sultan(s) : 51
 Bhangaha : 223
 Bhar(s) : 1, 2, 17, 24, 25, 27, 254, 258
 Bharat : 251
 Bharatapur : 6
 Bharatpur : 1
 Bharbhunga(s) : 52
 Bharhut : 20
 Bhartapur : 7
 Bhartiya Jan Sangh : 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250
 Bhartiya Kranti Dal : 242, 243, 246, 247, 250
 Calcutta : 39
 Carayan : 251
 Central Bank of India : 111, 115
 Central Government : 156, 165, 166
 Central Statistical Organisation : 74
 Central Welfare Board : 252
 Chahlari : 29, 36, 38
 Chahlarighat : 129, 253
 Chais (Chains) : 52
 Chakr Bhandar : 79, 122, 262
 Chakdaha : 3
 Chak (Ganjaria) : 95
 Chakiya (Chakia) : 10, 131, 167, 261

Bhartiya Lok Dal : 242
 Bharya Kothi : 131
 Bhinga (Bhingha) : 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 18, 30, 31, 34, 38, 39, 84, 85, 89, 101, 104, 105, 107, 115, 116, 117, 125, 130, 131, 150, 154, 159, 160, 165, 175, 176, 178, 179, 183, 187, 189, 191, 200, 204, 221, 245, 247, 253, 255, 258, 260, 264
 Bhinga Dispensary Trust : 240
 Bhinsa : 45, 46, 49, 74
 Bhitauli : 2, 3, 36, 37, 38, 39, 159, 161, 240
 Bhojpur : 8
 Bhojpuri : 50
 Bhowali : 135
 Bible : 55
 Bihar : 19, 28, 47, 120
 Bisen(s) : 28, 31, 51
 Bisen raja of Gonda : 31
 Bishanpur Ramnagar : 8
 Bisheshar Lal : 130
 Bisheshwarganj : 149, 222, 225
 Biswan : 223
 Blitz : 251
 Bloch : 18
 Board of High School and Intermediate Education, U.P. : 209
 Bodh Gaya : 19
 Bombay : 40, 43
 Boys : 159
 Brahman(s) : 29, 30
 Brahma : 1, 16, 254
 Brahmaich : 1, 16, 254
 Brahmana(s) : 51, 67, 70
 Brahmanical : 19, 22
 Brahmanipura : 130
 Brahmanism : 22
 British : 2, 33, 36, 37, 39, 40, 43, 111, 118, 119, 125, 129, 159, 162, 163, 189, 194, 215, 231, 235
 Buddha : 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 263
 Buddhahattarak : 24
 Buddhaghosa : 17
 Buddhism : 21, 22, 50, 56
 Buddhist : 2, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 54, 56, 57, 58, 124, 256, 262, 263
 Bunbury (Capt) : 35
 Burma : 47
 'C'
 Chalisa : 98
 Chamar : 112, 143
 Chanda : 261
 Chandamama : 251
 Chandel(s) : 57
 Chandra Prabha : 21
 Chandrika Puri : 24
 Charda : 2, 3, 8, 10, 17, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37, 39, 53, 85, 126, 128, 159, 223, 244, 245, 247, 256
 Chaudhari Ram Bihari Bidh Higher Secondary School, Srawasti : 214
 Chauhan(s) : 51

Chauka : 6
 Chauri Chaura : 40
 Chehlum : 72, 259
 Chhatrasal, Raja : 27, 259
 Chhawani : 130
 Chhawani Bazar : 120
 Chhedilal Dharamshala : 130
 Chhaura : 225
 Chhauria : 119, 128
 China : 124
 Chinese : 170, 124, 262, 263, 264
 Chinese Aggression : 142
 Chini Mill Mazdoor Sangh Jarwal Road, Bahraich : 238
 Chisapani : 6
 Chitaur : 9
 Chitaur Tal. : 8, 9
 Chitlahua : 1
 Chittaura : 122, 149, 222, 224
 Chittora Jheel : 70, 71
 Chowk : 175
 Christ : 73
 Christian(s) : 22, 53, 55, 57, 58, 60, 61, 68, 72
 Christianity : 50, 55

Daddi Baba Dharmasala : 130
 D. D. T. : 93
 Dahavar : 1, 6, 7
 Dahora Narkule Matsya Jivi Samiti Limited : 95
 Dalmia Dharmasala : 130
 Dandi : 41
 Dandi Kusan : 32
 Dandin : 24
 Dangdoi : 2, 29, 158
 Danguria(s) : 52, 53
 Danidama : 7
 Dara Shukoh : 30
 Dargah : 67, 79, 122
 Dargah Hazrat Syed Salar Masood Ghazi Rahmatullah Saheb Alaih : 241
 Dargah of Saiyid Salar : 108
 Dargah Sharif : 27, 130
 Dargah Sharif Hateela : 241
 Darzi(s) : 53
 Dasahra : 69, 71
 Dasakumaracharita : 24
 Dastur-ul-Amal : 257
 Daulat Khan : 254
 Defence of India Rule : 43
 Delhi : 26, 28, 30, 125, 254
 Dengra Jot : 8
 Denotified Tribes : 238, 239
 Deodatpur : 37

Easter : 72
 East India Company : 35

Christie (Col.) : 37
 Christmas : 72, 73
 Civil Disobedience Movement : 41, 42
 Civil Line : 175
 Clark : 160
 Clyde (Commander-in-chief) : 37, 38
 Colonelganj : 36, 37, 125, 128
 Communist Party of India : 242, 244, 245, 246, 250
 Communist Party of India (Marxist) : 245, 247
 Congress : 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 148, 246, 247, 248
 Congress (R) : 247
 Congress for Democracy : 243
 Congressmen : 43
 Congress Party : 247
 Constitution of India : 44
 Co-operative Marketing Societies : 116
 Criminal Procedure Code : 153
 Crooks : 52
 Cunliffe : 35
 Cunningham : 17, 263, 264
 Current : 251

'D'

Deoria : 19
 Depressed Classes : 235
 Devanagri : 50
 Dhania Balli : 3
 Dhanteras : 69
 Dhanus Yagya Mela : 262
 Dhanvantari : 69
 Dharampur : 1, 3, 10, 187
 Dharmadhar Singh : 29
 Dharmapur : 7, 31, 38, 160
 Dharmavardhana : 24
 Dharmayug : 251
 Dhauraha : 36, 38
 Diha : 95
 Dikauli : 79
 Dilazak : 53
 District Co-operative Bank : 116
 District Co-operative Development Federation : 116
 District Hospital : 220
 District Hospital, Bahraich : 221
 Divali (Dipavali) : 69, 70, 71
 Dogaon (Doganeo) : 256, 257
 Dravidin : 51
 Dr. Mohd. Asghar Ali : 241
 Dubaha : 31
 Duniapat : 31, 32
 Durga : 69
 Durgapur : 31

'E'

English : 75, 216, 257
 European : 17

'E'

Fa-Hien : 124, 127, 264
 Faizabad : 50, 87, 94, 95, 119, 129, 152, 156, 171, 178, 185, 186, 188, 231
 Fakhrpur : 1, 2, 4, 29, 33, 51, 53, 95, 115, 150, 158, 175, 222, 224, 225, 244, 245, 247, 257
 Farrukhabad : 227
 Fatehpur : 13
 Fazlali : 35

Female Hospital(s) : 221
 Fifth Five-Year Plan : 151
 Firdaus : 151
 Firozabad : 158
 Firoz Shah : 253
 Firoz Tughlaq : 258
 First Five-year-Plan : 95, 149
 First-World War : 141, 144
 Five-year Plan(s) : 104, 108, 145
 Fourth Five-year Plan : 105

'G'

Gadariya(s) : 51
 Gagatjitesh-War Sanskrit Pathshala
 Baundiraja : 211
 Gahhdavala : 24
 Gajpat Singh : 29
 Ganaur : 9
 Gandhakuti : 20
 Gandharvavara : 16
 Gandhian : 252
 Gandhi Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
 Gandhi Jayanti : 44
 Gandhiji : 41, 42, 43
 Ganesha : 54, 70
 Ganeshpur : 128
 Ganesh Singh : 29
 Gangapur : 262
 Gangetic : 9
 Gangwal : 31, 32, 34, 35, 159
 Gaon Siksha Samiti : 203
 Gaular Kondar : 3
 Gaur(s) : 51
 Gaura : 2
 Gauri Shankar : 35
 Gautam(s) : 51
 Gaya : 19
 Gayatri Vidyapeeth Maha Vidyalaya
 Risia (Bahraich) : 209
 German Missionary : 252
 Ghaghara : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 16, 25, 70, 86, 87, 100, 119, 121, 128, 151, 253, 260
 Ghagharaghat : 128
 Ghanpuravan : 1, 16
 Ghani : 253
 Ghasipur : 257
 Ghazni : 25
 Ghor(s) : 53
 Ghughalpur : 262

Ghumna : 78
 Ghumna Fair : 78
 Ghurharipur : 78
 Gilaula : 4, 115, 131, 149, 176, 222, 225, 252
 Girijapuri : 131, 176
 Girwa : 6, 128
 Golaganj : 78
 Golwa Ghat : 43
 Gonda : 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 17, 18, 25, 27, 28, 29, 31, 34, 35, 70, 94, 98, 99, 103, 104, 109, 119, 120, 125, 127, 128, 129
 Good Friday : 72
 Gorakhpur : 18, 37, 119, 120, 122, 156, 167
 Gorkhali : 75
 Gosala Mankhaliputra : 21
 Govindchandra : 24
 Goverdhan Parvat : 70
 Goverdhan Puja : 70
 Government Girls Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
 Government Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
 Government of India : 118
 Govind Singh : 72
 Gram Samaj : 49
 Grant, Hope : 37, 38
 Granth Sahib : 55, 60, 72
 Greek : 215
 Gregorian : 68
 Grulariha : 262
 Gudri : 130
 Gujarat : 30
 Gujarati : 75
 Gujiganj : 30, 32
 Gulabalipura : 175, 204
 Gupta : 22

'H'

Hadi Ali Khan : 33, 34
 Haider Ghaziuddin : 159
 Haji Ahmadullah Shah : 241
 Haji Samin Ali Masuma Masjid Syedwada : 241
 Haji Syed Mohd Asghar Waqfs, Berolia : 241

Haji Syed Saif Ali : 241
 Haji : 55
 Halwai(s) : 53
 Halwal : 130
 Hancock : 32
 Hanuman : 54
 Haq Chaudhari : 29

INDEX

Hardi : 4
 Harhardeo : 28, 29
 Harharpur (Hari Harpur) : 29, 33, 150, 223, 224
 Harijan : 251
 Harinagar : 7
 Harsha : 23
 Hasan : 72
 Hasoorpur : 175
 Hathi Kund : 9
 Hathiley Pir : 78
 Hathiya Kund : 18
 Hazoorpur : 4
 High Court : 155
 Hijri : 68
 Himalaya(s) : 1, 5, 6, 8, 36
 Hindi : 50, 58, 216, 251
 Hindu(s) : 25, 49, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 71, 75, 76
 Hinduism : 50, 53, 54, 57, 71,

Ibrahim : 72
 Idgah(s) : 28, 55, 72
 Id-ul-fitr : 55, 71
 Id-ul-zuha : 55, 72
 Ikauna : 4, 8, 9, 17, 18, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 38, 39, 43, 51, 85, 104, 115, 122, 128, 130, 131, 149, 159, 175, 176, 192, 216, 221, 222, 224, 225, 244, 245, 247, 252, 253, 255, 256, 258, 260, 261,
 Ikauna Khas : 258
 Itumish : 157
 Itumih, Sultan : 26
 Imambara and House Nawab Saheban
 Qazalbash : 241
 Inam Husain : 72
 Imperial Gultas : 118
 Imprint : 251
 India : 43, 44, 47, 231, 263,

Jagjivan Ram : 243
 Jagannath Singh : 30
 Jainini-Bharata : 24
 Jain(s) : 18, 19, 21, 24, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 60, 68, 70, 72, 262, 263,
 Jain, Ajit Prasad : 42, 43
 Jainism : 21, 24, 50, 55,
 Jaitapur : 111, 119,
 Jajwarpur : 89
 Jamaluddin Saiyid : 27, 253, 259
 Jambhala : 24
 Jamdan : 30, 32, 178
 Jamia-Ashrafia Masudul Uloom :
 Chhoti Takya : 21
 Jamnaha : 78, 150
 Jamnaha Bazar : 224
 Jānamastami : 69
 Jangali Nathan (Nath) : 79, 260
 Janekta : 24, 33
 Janta Party : 242, 243, 245, 256,
 Janwar(s) : 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 51, 258,
 Jarauli : 27

Hindukoh : 25
 Hindu Mahasabha : 243, 244,
 Hisampur : 2, 4, 8, 9, 29, 33, 51, 53, 86, 98, 128, 158, 159, 259,
 Hiuen Tsang : 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 124, 258, 263, 264,
 Hoey : 18, 263,
 Holi : 17
 Holia : 78
 Home Rule League : 39
 Hope Grant : 37, 38
 Horsford : 38
 Hukum Singh Intermediate College,
 Qaisarganj : 213
 Husain Ali : 34
 Husaini : 53
 Husain, Saiyid Muzaffar : 158
 Huzur : 33
 Huzurpur : 150, 222, 225,

'I'

India(s) : 36
 Indian Express : 251
 Indian Medical Association : 135
 Indian National Congress : 39, 40, 242, 243, 244, 248, 249
 Indian National Congress (J) : 243, 244, 245, 250
 Indian National Congress (N) : 243, 246
 Indian National Congress (O) : 247
 Indian National Congress (R) : 247
 Individual Satyagraha : 42
 Indo-Pak : 142
 Industrial Estate Chitaura : 108
 Iran : 27
 Iraq : 72
 Islam : 26, 50, 55
 Islamic : 53
 Islam Singh : 29

'J'

Jarwal : 33, 103, 105, 111, 119, 129, 150, 193, 222, 224, 225, 235, 259
 Jarwal Kasba : 175
 Jarwal Road : 103, 175, 222, 225,
 Jarwal Saiyid(s) : 33
 Jarwal Sugar Factory : 259
 Jarwal Sugar Mill : 104
 Jeat Ban Higher secondary school,
 Srawasti : 214
 Jesus Christ : 55, 72
 Jeta : 19, 20, 263,
 Jetavan (Jetavana) : 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 263
 Jetavana Vihara (Jetavana Mahavihara) :
 18, 24
 Jiginia Mahipal Singh : 78
 Jitasatru : 19
 Jit Deo : 29
 Jordan : 35
 Jungle/Gularhia : 3
 Julaha(s) : 53
 Julien : 18

Kabariya(s) : 53
 Kachchi Kuti : 22
 Kachhi(s) : 53
 Kachhwaha(s) : 51
 Radambini : 251
 Kahar(s) : 52
 Kahnah : 28
 Kahrosa : 2
 Kain : 6, 9
 Kaisarganj : 3, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 45, 46, 48, 51, 52, 53, 64, 74, 84, 88, 98, 99, 101, 104, 105, 109, 115, 116, 117, 121, 131, 149, 150, 154, 164, 167, 168, 175, 178, 179, 183, 184, 204, 221, 222, 224, 225, 243, 244, 245, 247, 248, 249, 250, 257, 259,
 Kajri-Teej : 69
 Kakas(s) : 53
 Kakardari : 31, 131, 176, 187
 Kakar Dari Ghat : 253
 Kakraha : 187
 Kakustha : 17
 Kala Pahar : 28
 Kalhan(s) : 33, 51
 Kalidas : 17
 Kanaujya(s) : 51
 Kandu(s) : 51
 Kannauj : 24, 28, 124
 Kanoongopura : 125
 Kanpur : 109, 120, 122, 128, 233,
 Kapilavastu : 18
 Kapurthala : 126, 160, 161, 178, 258
 Karam Khan : 31
 Karbala : 72, 241
 Kardi : 175
 Karerikuti : 20
 Karerim andalamala : 20
 Karike : 78
 Karmujapur : 78
 Karna : 18
 Kartiki Purnima : 67, 70, 78, 261
 Karva Chauth : 69
 Kasaundhan : 51
 Kashmir : 28
 Kasyapa Buddha : 17, 67
 Katai Ghat : 6, 253, 260
 Katarnian Ghat : 7, 10, 11, 128, 131, 176, 187, 253, 260
 Katghar : 119
 Kathauria(s) : 52
 Kathri Mafi : 78
 Katju, Kailash Nath : 43
 Katka Marautha : 78
 Kauriyala : 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 25

Lachhmanpur : 233
 Lachhmanpur Bazar : 8
 Lachhmanpur Gurgurwa : 19
 Lakhimpur : 128
 Lakshmi : 54, 70
 Lala Lajpat Rai : 41

Kayastha(s) : 52
 Kazi Katra : 130
 K. B. Intermediate College, Paya gpur : 213
 Kendriya Rajya Farm Mazdoor Union, Bahraich : 238
 Khairabad : 33
 Khaira Bazar : 110
 Khairi Ghat : 4, 38, 175, 176, 223, 260
 Khalidpur : 257
 Khalilpur : 79
 Khalji, Alauddin : 27
 Khan, Arkali : 27
 Khan Arsalan : 27
 Khan Chingez : 27
 Khan Mir Afrid Ali : 159
 Khan Muhammad : 28
 Khanpur Mahadeo : 28, 258
 Khan, Qutlugh : 26
 Khanu : 258
 Khata Ilaga : 29
 Khatagaghat : 119
 Khattripura : 204
 Khetri : 1, 2, 3, 7, 27, 28, 33, 37, 59, 109, 158, 222, 261
 Khiri Samsa : 78
 Khwaja Jahan, Malik Sarvar : 28
 Kidwai, Rafi Ahmad : 42, 43
 Kisan Higher Secondary School, Lakshmannagar : 213
 Kisan Intermediate College, Jarwal Road : 213
 Kisan Mazdoor Party : 246
 Kisan Mazdoor Praja Party : 244
 Kisan Post Graduate College, Bahraich : 209, 210
 Konari : 13
 Kori(s) : 51, 112, 143
 Kosala : 16, 20, 124, 157, 263
 Kotwali City : 4
 Kotwali Dehat : 4
 Krishna : 54, 69
 Kshatriya(s) : 17, 51, 52
 Kumaradevi : 24
 Kumbhakaran : 69
 Kumhar(s) : 52
 Kundwa : 8
 Kurasar : 259, 261
 Kuriala : 119
 Kurmi(s) : 51, 112, 143
 Kursanda : 78
 Kushanas : 22
 Kusunagara (Kasia) : 19

'L'

Lal Bahadur Kayastha Scholarship Trust : 240
 Lal Bahadur Shastri Higher Secondary School, Beerganj : 214
 Latoos Chair of English Trust : 240
 Lava : 2, 16

Legislative Council : 135
 Lekhpal Sangh : 134
 Leprosy Hospital : 222
 Leprosy Hospital, Bahraich : 221
 Life Insurance Corporation of India : 113, 118
 Lodh(s) : 52, 112, 143
 Lodi(s) : 53
 Lohar(s) : 52

Lohari : 72
 Lokanatha : 24
 Lokeshvara : 24
 Lok Sabha : 153, 177, 178, 219, 242, 243, 248, 249, 250
 Lucknow : 10, 32, 33, 36, 38, 95, 109, 114, 120, 122, 123, 128, 177, 178, 236
 Luniya(s) : 51

'M'

Maalhipur : 89
 Madanapala : 24
 Madar Bakhsh : 32
 Madarsa Arabia Anwarul Uloom, Bhinga : 211
 Madarsa Gazia Saiyadul Madaris, Bari Takya : 211
 Madarsa Masudia Nurul Uloom, Bahraich : 211
 Madhopur : 257
 Madho Singh : 29
 Madhuri : 251
 Madhyamik Shikshak Sangh : 135
 Madhya Pradesh : 47
 Madina : 68
 Mae Tal : 9
 Magh Amavasya : 78
 Mahabharata : 18
 Mahadeva : 69
 Mahakasyapa : 22
 Mahaprajapati : 22
 Maharajganj : 115
 Maharashtra : 109
 Maha Singh : 29, 30
 Mahatma Gandhi : 39, 42, 44
 Mahavir : 68, 70, 72
 Mahavira : 19, 21
 Mahdewa : 8
 Mahesh Singh : 29
 Mahet : 18, 262, 263
 Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Bahraich : 209
 Mahila Samaj Kalyan Kendra : 251
 Mahinpurwa : 121, 150
 Mahipat : 31
 Mahmud : 25
 Mahmudabad : 259
 Mahmud of Ghazni : 253
 Mahmud Sah Sultan Nasiruddin : 28
 Mahmud Sultan Nasiruddin : 26
 Mahraj Singh Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
 Mahsi : 150, 223, 224, 245, 247
 Maikupurwa : 78
 Maina Nawaria : 9
 Makar Sankranti : 70, 72
 Malang : 95
 Malaviya Keshava Dev : 42
 Malayalam : 75
 Malhipur : 4, 30, 32, 115, 175, 176, 222, 225, 256
 Malik Nasir-ud-din Muhammad : 254
 Malik Nekdil : 25
 Malik Saifuddin : 25

Maltipur : 225
 Manjha Sumali : 3
 Mankapur : 31
 Man Singh : 30
 Manohar Kahanya : 251
 Mansukh Dev : 28
 Marathi : 75
 Marhi : 225
 Masaud : 253, 254
 Masihabad : 79
 Masjidia : 37
 Masjidkatra-Jarwal : 241
 Masonaryganj : 261
 Masud, Alauddin : 26
 Masudnagar Basthanwa : 78
 Masud, Sayid Salar : 25, 27
 Matera : 128, 223
 Matera Bazar : 115
 Mathura : 130, 263, 264
 Matipur : 10
 Maudgalyayana : 22
 Maya : 251
 Mazdoor Parishad : 242
 Mecca : 55, 68
 Meerut : 120
 Mega Nada : 69
 Mehndi Ali Khan : 33, 254
 Mela Bardaha : 78
 Mela Jharkhandey Mahadev : 79
 Mela Sahet Mahet : 79, 122
 Mela Samai Dih : 78
 Mela Samsa Bada : 78
 Mela Saraiya : 95
 Mendhkia : 70
 Metera : 119
 Mian Rajab : 25
 Migaramata : 20
 Mihinpurwa : 89, 91, 92, 107, 115, 176
 Milad : 55
 Milad Sharif : 71
 Milap : 251
 Mir Mah : 27, 253
 Mirror : 251
 Mirza Muhammad Jahan Nawab : 158
 Mirzapur : 254
 Mohammad Hasan : 37
 Mohammad Shah Tughlaq : 67
 Mohan : 6
 Mohanpurwa : 119
 Mohan Singh : 30
 Moksha Dwar Higher Secondary School, Kursaha : 214
 Momin Ansar : 239

BAHRAICH DISTRICT

Mongolian : 52
 Motipur : 4, 7, 106, 175, 176, 187, 223, 260
 M/s Narang Industries : 167
 Mughal(s) : 53
 Muhamdi : 33
 Muhammad : 55, 68
 Muhammad Khan : 31
 Muhammadzai : 53
 Muharram : 72, 260
 Mukta : 251
 Multan : 27

Munawar Ali Khan : 32, 34
 Murao(s) : 53
 Murki : 106
 Murtaa : 187
 Murthiha : 187
 Murtiha : 1, 7, 131, 176
 Muslim(s) : 2, 26, 29, 53, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 67, 68, 71, 157, 162, 189, 192, 216
 Muslim Musafirkhana : 130
 Musoorie : 233
 Mustafa Khan : 31, 32

'N'

Naga Panchami : 54, 63
 Nagpur : 39
 Nagri : 24

Nai Bazar : 130
 Naidu (SMT) Sarojini : 40
 Nais : 52, 53
 Nana (Peshwa) : 36
 Nank Deo : 72
 Nanpara : 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 14, 17, 30, 31, 32, 35, 37, 38, 42, 45, 46, 48, 49, 51, 52, 53, 64, 74, 78, 80, 85, 87, 91, 92, 98, 99, 101, 104, 105, 107, 109, 111, 112, 115, 116, 117, 119, 121, 125, 126, 128, 129, 130, 131, 150, 154, 161, 165, 167, 168, 172, 175, 176, 179, 183, 184, 187, 189, 192, 201, 204, 221, 243, 244, 245, 247, 253, 255, 256, 260, 261

Nanpara Matsyajivi Sahkari Samiti : 95
 Narak Chaudas : 69
 Narendra Deo, Acharya : 42
 Narottampur : 7
 Nasir Singh : 29
 Nasiruddin : 157
 National Foundation For Teachers Welfare Fund : 135
 National Herald : 251
 National Malaria Eradication Programme : 228
 National Saving Organisation : 117

Naubana : 106
 Naubasta : 8
 Navjeevan : 251
 Navneet : 25
 Navratni : 78
 Nawab(s) : 126, 158, 159, 163
 Nawabganj : 36, 126, 150, 167, 176, 223, 224, 241
 Nazirpur : 130
 Nehru Jawaharlal : 42
 Nehru Smarak Higher Secondary : School, Rupaidiha 214
 Nehru Smarak Intermediate College, Gifaula : 213
 Nepal : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 18, 19, 47, 97, 111, 119, 122, 187, 257, 261, 262
 Newasi : 78
 New Delhi : 243, 252
 Niamatpur : 3
 Nicodem Frank (Rev) : 252
 Nidhai : 260
 Nidhipura : 260
 Nigria Jhil : 9
 Nishangara : 10, 187
 Nishangarha : 131
 Non-Co-operation Movement : 40
 North-Eastern Railway : 129, 253, 260, 261
 Northern India Patrika : 251
 North Gonda : 187

'O'

Oir (Capt) : 35
 Onkar Chandrika Dharmala : 130

Other Backward Classes : 59, 235, 236, 239

'P'

Padmaha : 38
 Pakistan : 44, 47, 49
 Pakrpur : 257
 Pali : 16
 Pandavas : 28
 Papanchasudani : 17
 Pant, Govind Ballabh : 42
 Parag : 251

Parashvanath : 72
 Paraspur : 223, 257
 Parasram Singh : 29
 Parvati : 54
 Paska : 7
 Pathan(s) : 30, 53
 Patraia : 7
 Pawar(s) : 51

INDEX

Payagpur : 4, 9, 31, 32, 34, 35, 95, 105, 111, 115, 119, 121, 125, 128, 129, 130, 149, 159, 175, 178, 216, 221, 222, 224, 225, 255, 260
 Persian : 50, 216
 Picture Post : 251
 Pioneer : 251
 Pipia : 187
 Piprahwa : 8
 Police Hospital : 221
 Poor House Trust : 240
 Prag Sah : 30
 Prajapati Bhikshuri : 23
 Praja Socialist Party : 242, 244, 245, 249
 Prasenajit : 16, 19, 20, 21, 263
 Pratap : 251
 Prathamik Shikshak Sangh : 135

Pratt (Colonel) : 38
 Prayag Datt Pathak Higher Secondary School, Tapsi : 213
 Premi Dass Kutti : 79
 Prem Sewa Children's Home : 252
 Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies : 116
 Prithu : 26
 Protestant : 53
 Punjab(s) : 47, 49, 72, 75, 103, 109
 Punjab National Bank : 115, 259
 Puraina : 3, 224
 Purana Kashyapa : 21
 Puran Chand : 130
 Purani Bazar : 130
 Purvarama : 20, 23

'Q'

Qazipura : 216
 Qila Nawagarh : 2, 29
 Quami Awaz : 251

Quit India Resolution : 43
 Quran : 55
 Qureshi(s) : 53

'R'

Radha : 54
 Radhasoami : 57
 Raghubansi : 57
 Raghubir Dayal (Nazim) : 34, 35, 261
 Rai Amar Singh : 32, 33
 Rai Jagidas : 25
 Raikwar (s) : 28, 29, 36, 51
 Raipur : 79, 223
 Raja Baundi : 223
 Rajab Salar : 254
 Rajagriha : 19, 124
 Raja Hira Singh's Blanket Trust : 240
 Raja Hira Singh Quinine Trust : 240
 Raja Ram Singh Higher Secondary School, Ganguwal : 214
 Rajarshi Pustakalaya, Bahraich : 212
 Rajasthan : 47, 75
 Rajasthanis : 75
 Raja Udi Pratap Singh C. S.I. Trust : 240
 Rajgarh : 262
 Rajhat : 2, 29
 Rajput(s) : 28, 33, 51, 52, 53, 259
 Raksha Bandhan : 68
 Rama : 2, 16, 17, 54, 68, 69
 Rama Navami : 78
 Ramayana : 17, 22, 68
 Ram Chandra Dharamsala : 130
 Ramcharitmanasa : 54
 Ramjanki Intermediate College, Rupaidiha : 213
 Ramlila : 69
 Ramnagar : 1, 2, 221

Ram Narain Singh Higher Secondary School, Ramnagar, Khajuri : 214
 Rampur Deoman : 70
 Ram Rajya Parishad : 242, 244
 Ranipur : 222, 225
 Rapti : 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 31, 32, 34, 37, 38, 124, 126, 260
 Rashtriya Chini Mill Shramik Sangh, Jarwal Road, Bahraich : 238
 Rashtriya Loktantrik Sangh : 242
 Rasul Khan : 30
 Rathor(s) : 51
 Ravana : 69
 Rayhan, Imaduddin : 29
 Reader's Digest : 251
 Rehauda : 2
 Rehwa : 29, 34, 38
 Reid (Capt.) : 35
 Republican Party of India : 245, 246
 Republican Party of India (Kobergarhe) : 247
 Republic Day : 44
 Reserve Bank of India : 112, 118
 Risiya : 115, 118, 119, 121, 128, 150, 222, 225
 Rizwi : 53
 Rohilla : 53
 Roman Catholic : 53, 73
 Rowcroft, Brigadier : 37
 Rudauli : 253, 254
 Rupaidiha : 111, 115, 116, 119, 120, 121, 187, 252, 261

'S'

- Saadat Ali Khan, Nawab : 30, 32, 159
 Saadat Intermediate College, Nanpara : 213
 Saadat Khan, Nawab : 162
 Sachauli : 70, 79
 Sadar Dispensary Trust : 240
 Saharanpur : 129
 Sah. Bariar : 27, 28, 29
 Sahet Mahet : 17, 18, 67, 256, 258, 262, 264
 Sah. Prag : 31
 Saif-ud-daula : 33
 Sailuk : 29
 Saiyid(s) : 27, 33, 53, 259
 Saiyid Khalsa : 33
 Saiyid Salar Masud Ghazi : 24, 28, 67, 71, 99, 253, 256, 257, 263
 Sakaldipi(s) : 51
 Saket : 124
 Sakya Muni : 264
 Salalaghara : 20
 Salarpur : 7
 Salar Sahu : 253
 Saldeo : 28
 Sali Khan : 32
 Salonabad : 29, 30
 Salona Begum : 30
 Sambhavanath : 21, 24
 Sampurnanand : 43
 Sampurnanand Sanskrit Vishwavidyalaya, Varanasi : 210
 Samyukta Socialist Party : 242, 243, 245, 246
 Samyukta Vidhayak Dal : 246
 Samyuttanikaya : 16
 Sanadhya(s) : 51
 Sanatan Dharm Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya, Rupaidiha : 211
 Sanchauli : 70, 79
 Sankasya : 19
 Sanskrit : 216
 Saprahi Hindustan : 251
 Sarafyan : 78
 Saraswati : 70
 Saraswati Intermediate College, Risia : 213
 Saravana : 21
 Saravati : 17
 Sarda : 2, 6
 Sariputra : 21, 22, 263
 Sarita : 251
 Sarnath : 19, 24
 Sarvodaya Intermediate College, Mohi-purwa : 213
 Sarwariya(s) : 51
 Sarya : 1, 5, 6, 37, 85, 260
 Satrikh : 25
 Scheduled Caste(s) : 52, 59, 61, 196, 235, 236, 238, 239, 240, 242, 244, 245, 247
 Scheduled Tribes(s) : 52, 196, 235, 236, 238, 239, 240
 Screen : 251
 Second Five-Year Plan : 149
- Second World War : 42, 112, 122, 142, 144, 148
 Seth Rameshwar Lal : 130
 Sew. Dal : 43
 Shab-e-Barat : 71
 Shadillaganj : 119
 Shah Jahan, Emperor : 29, 30, 31, 256, 257
 Shahpur Bara : 9
 Shahpur Jot Yusuf : 79
 Shah Sajjan : 7, 257
 Shakti : 54
 Shama : 251
 Shams-ud-Din Altamash : 254
 Sharda Sahayak Pariyojna Higher Secondary School, Girjapuri : 214
 Sharqi, Husain Shah : 28
 Sheelaganj : 130
 Sheepur : 176
 Sheetla Astami : 68
 Sheikh : 53
 Sheikh Daheer : 79
 Sheopur : 150, 222, 225, 245
 Shia(s) : 60, 72
 Shisha Pani : 6
 Shitabaghat : 6
 Shiva : 54, 70
 Shivpuri : 107
 Shivratri : 70, 261
 Shrimati Thakur Devi : 130
 Shudra : 51
 Shuja-ud-daula, Nawab : 158
 Shukl Purwa : 3
 Shyamlal Sharaf : 130
 Shylock : 111
 Siddiqi(s) : 53
 Sidhauli : 3
 Sidhinia : 38
 Sidhinia Ghat : 38
 Sigauli : 2
 Sikh(s) : 54, 56, 57, 58, 60, 72
 Sikhism : 50, 55
 Simhanad : 24
 Simon Commission : 40, 41
 Sindh : 49
 Sindhi : 78
 Singha Parasi : 71, 79, 122, 133
 Singh, Bhagga : 255
 Singh, Bhawani : 31
 Singh, Bhayya Dar : 255
 Singh, Bir Narain : 29
 Singh, Bisen : 255
 Singh, Chain : 30
 Singh, Darshan : 34
 Singh, Duniapat : 31, 32
 Singh, Himmat : 31, 32
 Singhia : 5
 Singh, Inchha : 35
 Singh, Jodh : 3
 Singh, Lachhmi Narain : 29
 Singh, Lalit : 31
 Singh, Maha : 30
 Singh, Man : 34, 35
 Singh, Pratab : 30, 31
 Singh, Raghubir : 34

- Singh, Rai Amar : 32, 33
 Singh, Shiam : 30
 Singh, Sitaram : 31
 Singh, Subhal : 29
 Siraiya : 4, 176, 222
 Sisaiya : 115, 150, 175, 225
 Sisal Salon : 130
 Sita : 54, 264
 Sitadohar Tal : 9, 67, 70, 79, 131, 224, 264
 Sitapur : 1, 3, 8, 28, 33, 46, 99, 109, 128, 129, 253, 261
 Sitauli : 9
 Sleeman (colonel) : 255
 S. M. G. Hospital, Kaisarganj : 221
 Smith : 17, 18
 Sobhnath : 24
 Socialist Party of India : 243, 244, 245, 246, 247
 Sohelwa : 131
 Sohelwa (East) : 187
 Sohelwa (West) : 187
 Sombansi(s) : 51
 Sonwa : 4, 175
 Sonwan : 131, 223
 Sparkesganj : 216
 Sports : 251
 Sravasta : 17, 262
 Sravasti (Savasti) : 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 67, 79, 124, 131, 224, 252, 262, 263, 264
 Sravasti Ashram : 252
 Sri Achutanand Suraj Lal Higher Secondary School, Sravasti : 214
 Srimadbhagvat Gita : 54
 Sri Ramjanki Sanskrit Vidyalaya, Ikauna : 211
 Sri Ram Narain Ram Chandar Dharm-sala : 130
 Sri Ram Narain Vaishnav Sanskrit Path-shala, Nepalganj : 211
 Srivastava(s) : 52
 Star And Style : 251
 State : 2
 State Assembly : 242, 248
 State Bank of India : 115, 118
 State Government : 106, 147, 155, 164, 165, 167
 Sudatta : 19, 22, 23, 263
 Suhel Deo : 2, 25, 71, 79, 256, 257
 Suhridhwasa : 24
 Sujauli : 2, 4, 29, 158, 175, 176, 223
 Sultanate : 124
 Sultan Mahmud Ghazni : 24
 Sultanpur : 2, 29, 127, 128
 Sultanpur Kundri : 158
 Sunni(s) : 72
 Surajbansi (s) : 51
 Surbharti Nigam Vidyapeeth, Gurukul Jilanla : 211
 Surveyor General of India : 45
 Swami Dayanand Saraswati : 57
 Swami Vivekanand Higher Secondary School, Mahshi : 214
 Swatantra Bharat : 251
 Swatantra Party : 242, 243, 245, 246, 247
 Syed Haider Mehdi : 241
- Tajuddin, Malik : 26
 Takia Ghat : 260
 Takia Kalam : 241
 Tamil : 75
 Tandon, Purshottam Das : 43
 Tandwa : 17, 124, 264
 Tandwa Mahant : 79
 Tanwar : 128
 Tappa Baunraha : 29
 Tappa Bhiti Kurasar : 29
 Tappa Ramgarh Gauri : 29
 Tappo Sipan : 131
 Tapsi Higher Secondary School, Samrahana : 213
 Tara Mahila Intermediate College, Bahraich : 213
 Tarikh-i-Firoze Shahi : 27
 Tayab Begam, Musammat : 259
 T.B. Clinic, Bahraich : 223
 Tegh Bahadur : 72
 Tej : 25
 Tejawpur : 150, 222, 224, 225
 Teli (s) : 52, 53, 260
- Telugu : 75
 Tendwa Bankatama (Tendwa Mahant) : 224
 Terhi : 6, 261
 Tharu(s) : 25, 50, 52, 53, 56, 61, 62, 63, 65, 66, 71
 The Times of India : 251
 The Uttar Pradesh Co-operative Development Bank : 77
 Third Five-Year Plan : 150
 Tipraha : 37, 38
 Titi Hirya : 223
 Todar Mal, Raja : 158
 Tour in Avadh : 255
 Towai : 17, 264
 Trailokyavijaya : 24
 Tribhuvan Dutt Dharamshala : 130
 Tughluq, Sultan Firoze : 27
 Tughluq, Sultan Ghiyasuddin : 27
 Tughluq, Sultan Muhammad Bin : 27
 Tulsipur : 3, 4, 5, 9, 36, 37, 38, 260
 Turkish : 25, 157
 Turks : 25, 26

'T'

'U'

Udal : 67
 Umar (s) : 51
 Ummatul Moyn Begum : 241
 Unani : 135, 215, 219, 223, 224
 Union Legislature : 248
 U. P. Agricultural Credit Project : 85
 U. P. Government : 113
 U. P. State Agro-Industrial Corporation Limited : 92
 U. P. State Electricity Board : 193
 Urdu : 50, 75, 250, 251
 Urra : 78
 Uttara Kosala : 2, 16, 262
 Uttar Pradesh (U. P.) : 10, 19, 63, 112, 119, 152, 165, 167, 177, 178, 227, 233, 236, 247
 Uttar Pradesh Kshettra Samiti : 226
 Uttar Pradesh Praja Party : 244
 Uttar Pradesh Revolutionary Socialist Party : 244

'V'

Vaidh Bhagwan Deen Higher Secondary School, Nanpara : 213
 Vaisakha Purnima : 78
 Vaisali : 19
 Vaish : 51
 Vaishyas : 51
 Varanasi : 19, 109, 122, 124, 128, 254
 Veda (s) : 57
 Vastu Vikretan Karamchhari Saugh, Jaihind
 Kothi, Bahraich : 238
 Vidhan Sabha : 153, 242, 243, 244, 245, 247, 248
 Vidyadhara : 24
 Vijay Dashmi : 69
 Vikramaditya : 22, 68
 Vikram Samvat : 67, 68
 Visakha : 20, 23
 Vost, (Major) : 17, 22, 257

'W'

Wajid Ali Shah : 32, 35, 59
 Wera Qazi : 259
 Women Hospital, Bahraich : 221
 World Bank Team : 85
 World Health Organization : 219, 227

'X'

Nil

'Y'

Yamuna : 54
 Yusufzai(s) : 53
 Yuvanasha : 17

'Z'

Zafar Mehdi, Saiyid : 259
 Zaidi : 53
 Zakira, Saiyid : 27
 Zikria : 259
 Zila Parishad : 125, 127, 131, 149, 152, 178, 194, 195, 202
 Zila Parishad Hospital, Bhinga : 221
 Zila Parishad Hospital, Nanpara : 221
 Zila Parishad Hospital, Ramnagar : 221
 Zila Shiksha Samiti : 208
 Zohra Bibi : 253

PSUP—A. P. 22 Sa. Rajasv—14-6-84—(853)—1988—1,000 (E).

