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**INDIAN HISTORICAL
RECORDS COMMISSION**

Research Reports

1940-41



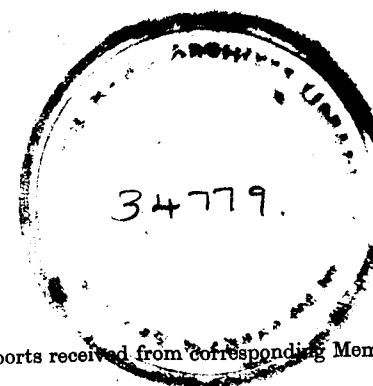
**Eighteenth Session
Jagan Mohan Palace
Mysore.**

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**Research Reports from the Corresponding Members of the
Indian Historical Records Commission (1st April 1940 to
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1. Sir William Foster, C.I.E., London.

Edited the following book:—

The Voyages of Sir James Lancaster to Brazil and the East Indies, 1591-1603 (Hakluyt Society; 1940).

2. Rao Sahib C. S. Srinivasachari, M.A., Annamalainagar.

Wrote the following books:—

- (1) 'Ananda Ranga Pillai—The Pepys of French India' with a foreword by Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan. (Madras, 1940)—(pp.XXV+512).
- (2) Section VIII of Karnataka Rajakkal Savistara Charitam by Narayana Kone. (Edited and Translated from the Tamil. In press).
- (3) A History of Gingee and its Rulers. (Annamalai University, 1941).

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) Supply of Historical notes to the 'Sources of the History of the Carnatic'. (Madras University Islamic Series—Vol. III).
- (2) "The Life of Pachaiyappa". (Pachaiyappa's Residential College Souvenir Publication).
- (3) The Maratha Occupation of the Carnatic and its Significance. (Indian History Congress, Fourth Session, Lahore).
- (4) The first years of Maratha Rule in the Lower Carnatic. (Kane Commemoration Volume, Bombay).
- (5) The First Indian Courtiers of the French (I. H. R. C. Procs. Vol. XVII).
- (6) Some Aspects of Chola Civilisation (Special Christmas Number of the South Indian Railway Magazine).
- (7) The Madras Sepoy and his Services in the Past (New Review, May, 1941, Calcutta).
- (8) The South Indian Sepoy and his Value in History. (The Indian Review, Dec. 1940)
- (9) South Indian Rural Life in the Past (New Review, 1941).

Attended to the following historical work:—

- (1) Rendered help to Mon. A. Lehuraux in collecting material for the location of the site of the commemorative choultry in memory of Nawab Nasir Jang Bahadur and of the probable site of Dupleix-Fathabad.
- (2) Edited "The Nayaks of Tanjore" by V. Vriddhagirisan, M.A., M.Litt., published by the Annamalai University.

3. Mr. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, M.A., Madras.

Wrote the following monographs:—

(1) Sri Vijaya (South Indian influences in Malaya peninsula and Archipelago). (To be published in Bulletin de L' Ecole Francaise D'Extreme-Orient).

(2) Historical method in relation to problems of South Indian History (To be published by the Madras University and is intended to be used as a guide to research workers in South Indian history).

Is engaged in preparing the following book:—

Cola art and architecture.

Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Cakravartiksetram (K.V. Rangaswami Aiyangar Commemoration volume).

(2) Tribhuvanam inscription of Kulottunga III (Bhandarkar Commemoration Volume).

(3) India and China (Madras University Journal, Vol. XII, No. 1).

(4) Some Dutch documents on the seige of Jinji and the capitulation of Pondicherry (I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

(5) Cakravartin (New Indian Antiquary, Vol. III, No. 9).

(6) Nalanda—a monograph (Madras University Journal, Vol. XIII, No. 2).

(7) A Brahmi inscription from Gurzala (Epigraphia Indica).

(8) Lanka (C.R. Reddy Commemoration Volume).

(9) Origin of the Veda (Indian History Congress, fourth Session).

(10) Caturmahadvipas (Jubilee number of the Journal of Indian History).

(11) A Cave inscription from Pachmarhi (Epigraphia Indica).

(12) Twelve Telugu Coda inscriptions (in collaboration with Mr. M. Venkataramayya in Epigraphia Indica).

(13) Recent progress in Malayan archæology (Journal of the Greater India Society, Vol. VIII, No. 1).

Translated some more sheets of Anandaranga Pillai's diary (unpublished so far) received from Professor Dubreuil and also of another manuscript of the diary of Tiruvengadam Pillai, nephew of Anandaranga Pillai. Got three volumes of Tiruvengadam's diary copied from the Madras Records Office and translated some portion into English. These will be edited and published in due course. (Please see also his research report in the I.H.R.C. Procs. Vol. XVII).

Has been continuing his work on the Mackenzie Manuscripts and has so far summarised 102 manuscripts in Tamil, 30 in Kannada, and 115 in Telugu.

4. Dr. B. A. Saletore, M.A., Ph.D., D.Phil. (Giessen), Ahmedabad.

Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Acarya Siddhasena Divakara (The Journal of the Bombay University 1941)

(2) Some Unknown Events in the Career of Venkoji. (I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

(3) Mughal Rule in Karnataka. (The Dr. A. C. Woolner Commemoration Volume, Lahore, 1940).

(4) A Kannada Letter from the Imperial Record Department (To be published soon).

(5) The Political History of Karnataka from the earliest times till the establishment of the Kingdom of Mysore. (Being the Chapter I of the History of Kannada-Nadu, published by the Karnataka Sahitya Parishad, Bangalore, 1940).

(6) A Note on the origin of the word "Bombay" (The Journal of the Gujarat Research Society, 1941).

Is engaged in making a list of manuscripts in the possession of persons in and around Ahmedabad.

5. Mr. D. N. Banerjee, M.A., Dacca.

Wrote the following book:—

Early Administrative System of the East India Company in Bengal, Volume I, 1765-1774 (To be published by Messrs. Longman, Green & Co. Ltd.)

Wrote the following paper:—

The Location of the Sudder Nizamat Adalat in Bengal (I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

Is engaged on researches into the Early Judicial System of the East India Company in Bengal.

6. Dr. N. K. Sinha, M.A., Ph.D., Calcutta.

Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Haidar Ali's relations with the British (1760-67, I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

(2) Haidar Ali's relations with the Marathas (1769-70, Indian Historical Quarterly, December 1940).

7. Dr. Radhakumud Mookerji, M.A., P.R.S., Ph.D., Lucknow.

(1) Has completed researches on "Chandragupta Maurya and His Times (a picture of India in the Fourth Century B.C.)" on the basis of which he delivered Sir William Meyer Lectures at the Madras University in Oct. 1940.

(2) Is also engaged in conducting researches of some of the post-graduate students of the Lucknow University on the History of Oudh and Revenue History of U. P. under the Company.

8. Dr. Nandalal Chatterji, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., Lucknow.

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) The Administration of Justice in Bihar and Bengal. (Journal of Bihar and Orissa Research Society, Vol. XXVI, Part I).
- (2) Shah Alam at Allahabad (Journal of U. P. Historical Society, Vol. XII, Part II).
- (3) Government's Frontier Policy. (Amrita Bazar Patrika, Puja Annual, 1940).
- (4) Should Indian History be re-written? (Advance, Puja Annual, 1940).
- (5) The Military Aspect of the North-West Frontier Problem (Hindustan Standard, Puja Annual, 1940).
- (6) Was the Abdali invasion of 1766-67 a menace to Bengal? (Journal of Indian History, Vol. XIX, Part II).
- (7) Did the Bengalis betray the country to the English? (Bihar Herald, New Series, Vol. II, No. 30).
- (8) Should Indian History be sugar-coated? (Pioneer, Feb. 1940).
- (9) A Forgotten Treaty (Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. XVI, No. 3).
- (10) Inlay work in Mughal Architecture (Indian History Congress, 1940).
- (11) The North West Frontier Problem (Indian History Congress, 1940).
- (12) Clive and the junior civil servants (I.H.R.C. Procs., Vol. XVII).
- (13) The United Provinces and the Reforms (Scholar, Annual Number, 1940).
- (14) The Pros and Cons of a Forward Policy on the North West Frontier (Student, Vol. I, Nos. 3 and 4).
- (15) The United Provinces in the Pre-Reform Days (Modern Review, Vol. LXIX, No. 2).

Read the following paper from the All India Radio Station, Lucknow:—

History and Cryptography.

Is engaged in studying the manuscript records relating to the Company's administration in North India.

Is supervising the research work of a number of Ph. D. students in the Lucknow University.

Is collecting the unpublished historical material in the manuscript records of the Government of the United Provinces.

Is on the editorial board of the Journal of U. P. Historical Society.

9. Dr. Bool Chand, M.A., Ph.D. (London), Benares.

Is engaged in writing the following book:—

Delegated Legislation in Indian Government.

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) North-Western question of Indian History 1798-1830 (Calcutta Review Nov. 1940 and Feb. 1941).

- (2) Fascist State (Published as Beechams Pamphlets on World Affairs, No. I).

- (3) Administrative Courts in England (Indian Journal of Political Science, Oct. 1941).

- (4) The Evacuation of the Island of Karrak, 1841-42 (I. H. R. C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

- (5) Anglo-French conflict in the Near East 1839-1842 (To be published in Aligarh Historical Research Journal).

- (6) Contempt of Court in India (To be published by Beechams Press, Delhi).

Is engaged in guiding researches on the following which are intended to be submitted as thesis for M.A. Degrees in History and Politics:—

- (1) The relations of British Government with the Indian States 1813-1857.

- (2) The distribution of legislative powers in Indian Federation.

10. Sardar Ganda Singh, M.A., Amritsar.

Wrote the following book:—

Louis Bourquin Un Francais au Service des Mahrattes (Librairie Ernest Lerous, Paris; Bibliotheque Publique, Pondicherry, 1940).

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) Nanak Panthis or the Sikhs and Sikhism of the 17th century (J.I.H. Vol. XIX, pt. 2, Sr. No. 56, August, 1940).

- (2) Some new light on the Treaty of Bhyrowal (Dec. 16, 1846) thrown by the private letters of Sir Henry Hardinge (I.H.R.C. Procs. Vol. XVII).

- (3) The Arrest and Release of Sardar Lahna Singh Majithia (Indian History Congress, 1940).

- (4) Sikh Ate Lohe De Khod (Panj Darya May, 1940).

- (5) Guru Govind Singh da Ik Hukam Namah (Panj Darya, October 1940).

11. Dr. S. C. Sarkar, M.A., Ph.D. (Lond.), M.R.A.S., Patna.

Is engaged in Tibetan studies which are mainly of interest in connection with Ancient and Mediaeval Indian History before 1200 A.D. Has found Tibetan sources which are likely to throw a new light on the history of Bengal and Bihar on the eve of the Muslim conquest (13th century) and the immediately following period.

Directs researches into unpublished records carried on by the staff of the History Dept. of the Patna College.

12. Mr. K. P. Mitra, M.A., B.L., Monghyr.

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) Jagbandhu Vidyadhar (Bengal Past and Present, 1940).

- (2) Santal Insurrection in Chotanagpur (Bengal Past and Present, 1940).

- (3) Scarcity in Bihar (I.H.R.C. Procs. Vol. XVII).

- (4) Some Social Reforms (Indian History Congress, fourth session).
 - (5) Dreams in Jain Literature (Contributed to the Jain Vidya, Lahore).
 - (6) Onomatopoeia and its use in middle Indo-Aryan (Indian Linguistics, Vol. VIII, 1940-41, Part I).
- Is engaged in examining—
- (1) The records of collectors and Commissioners in Bihar.
 - (2) Social Condition of India in ancient and mediæval period (as depicted in Jain literature).
 - (3) A mass of Persian documents (deeds, grants, *Madad-maash* etc.) discovered in the possession of Sheikh Mohammad Abu Saleh alias Md. Khalil of village Mahuli, Monghyr.

13. Dr. K. K. Basu, M.A., Ph.D., Bhagalpur.

Wrote the following book:—

The Adil Shahs of Bijapur 1489-1580 (To be published by the Calcutta University).

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) An account of Ibrahim Adil Shah of Bijapur 1534-57. (J.B.O.R.S. Mar. 1940).
 - (2) Jahangir's letter to Khurram and its reply (Kane Memorial Vol. Indian Antiquary, Bombay).
 - (3) A chapter from Golconda history (Indian History Congress, Lahore Session).
 - (4) The Dastur-ul-Amal of the Bijapur Court (I.H.R.C. Procs, Vol. XVII).
 - (5) The Golconda Court Letters (J.B.O.R.S. Dec. 1940).
 - (6) Firuz Tugluq and his Bengal campaign (J.B.O.R.S. March 1941).
 - (7) Early career of Quli Qutab Shah of Golconda (Indian Historical Quarterly, Dec. 1940).
- Is engaged in editing:
- Sirat-i-Firozshahi (portions are being published in J.B.O.R.S.). Is continuing the study of South Indian Muhammadan history specially relating to Ahmadnagar, Golconda, Bijapur (from 1580 onwards) and Bidar.

14. Dr. K. K. Datta, M.A., Ph.D., P.R.S., Patna.

Is engaged in the preparation of the following works:—

- (1) A thesis on Shah Alam II and the English.
 - (2) A thesis on Anglo-Dutch relations in India, 1740-1825 (almost ready for the Press).
 - (3) Selections from unpublished Bihar records.
- Wrote the following papers:—
- (1) A letter of Shah Alam II to George III (Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society).
 - (2) The Ostend Company in Bengal (Indian Historical Quarterly).

(3) Some unpublished English letters relating to the history of Bengal during the regimes of Shujauddin and Sarfaraz (I.H.R.C. Procs, Vol. XVII).

(4) Some unpublished letters relating to the Roman Catholic Church at Patna (Bengal: Past and Present).

(5) Restoration of the Dutch Settlements in India, 1816-1817 (Bengal: Past and Present).

(6) The First Two Anglo-Mysore Wars and Economic Drain on Bengal (Journal of Indian History, Madras).

(7) Correspondence of George III with some Indian Princes (Special issue of the Searchlight, dated the 16th April, 1941).

Examined the following documents:—

(1) Some records of the Imperial Record Department (in English) relating to the Dutch in India during the 18th and 19th centuries.

(2) Correspondence between Raja Shah Mull, custodian of the Rohtas Fort, and the English East India Company during the mid-eighteenth century,—now preserved by a descendant of the said Raja at Tilothu in the Shahabad District of Bihar.

(3) Some records in Persian and Urdu regarding the early history of the Patna College and now preserved in the office of this College.

Has traced the date of establishment of the Patna College as the 9th January, 1863, with the help of the Keeper of the Records of the Government of Bengal.

15. Mr. S. A. Shere, M.A. (Lond.), LL.B., Patna.

Has been continuing his researches on "The Sharqi Dynasty of Jaunpur" and "Muslim Architecture in Bihar" and has consulted the following Persian Manuscripts:—

- (1) Tabaqat-i-Akbari by Nizam Uddin Ahmad.
- (2) Muntakhab-ut-Tawarikh by Abdul-ul-Qadir Badauni.
- (3) Gulshan-i-Ibrahimi by Mohammad Qasim Firishta.

Has also obtained from the British Museum (Cat. No. OR 188) copy of a complete manuscript history of Jaunpur by Khyr-ud-din.

16. Mr. S. M. Jaffar, B.A., M.R.A.S., Peshawar.

Wrote the following books:—

- (1) Sources of Indian History (Hindu and Muslim Periods.)
- (2) Mediæval India under Muslim Kings, Volume I (Arab Rule in Sind).

Engaged in writing the following:—

(1) Mediæval India under Muslim Kings, Volume III (The Ghurids and the so-called Slave Kings).

(2) Peshawar: Past and Present (Historical and Descriptive).

Examined the following collections:—

(1) Pre-British historical documents in possession of Mr. Pir Bakhsh Khan, M.L.A. (N.-W. F. P.), Peshawar.

(2) Some Persian MSS. in the library attached to the *Madrasah Rafi-ul-Islam*. Bhanamari, Peshawar.

(3) Some Pushto MSS. in the library of the Edward's College, Peshawar.

Is engaged in corresponding with the following persons in connection with historical documents in their custody:—

(1) Hon'ble Lieut.-Col. Nawab Sir Muhammad Akbar Khan, Chief of Hoti, District Mardan.

(2) Raja Haidar Zaman Khan of Khanpur, District Hazara.

(3) Khan Bahadur Muhammad Zaman Khan of Akora, District Peshawar.

Transcribed and translated some of the documents in the custody of Mr. Pir Bakhsh Khan mentioned above (A note on some of these documents will be found at the end of these reports).

Prepared (for the consideration of the N.-W. F. P. Government) a scheme for the establishment of a Provincial Records Office at Peshawar after consulting Dr. S. N. Sen, Keeper of the Records of the Government of India and other experts.

17. Khan Bahadur Maulvi Zafar Hasan, B.A., Delhi.

Is engaged in re-editing or re-writing the *Asaru-us-Sanadid*. This book was written by Sir Sayed Ahmad Khan (the founder of the Muhammadan Anglo Oriental College, Aligarh, now the Aligarh Muslim University) on the history and archaeology of Delhi. Has traced a collection of ancient official documents in the possession of one Maulvi Hifz-ur-Rahman. (The owner calls them "Edicts", but they appear to be old official documents). These documents have not yet been examined.

Delivered a presidential address (Medieval India Section) at the fourth session of the Indian History Congress at Lahore in 1940.

18. Dr. T. G. P. Separ, M.A., Ph.D. (Cantab), Delhi.

Carried out researches on "Lord William Bentinck's administration, 1828-1835" in the Imperial Record Department.

Wrote the following papers:—

(1) Lord William Bentinck (Journal of Indian History, Vol. XIX, Part 1).

(2) The Administration of the Delhi Territory 1803-1857 (Journal of Indian History, Vol. XIX, parts 2 and 3).

(3) Local Records, an experience and a suggestion (I. H. R. C. Procs. Vol. XVI).

19. Rao Sahib C. Hayavadana Rao, B.A., B.L., Bangalore.

Traced certain documents relating to the grant of inams and jagirs in Dodballapur, Bangalore, by the Mughal Emperors, Bijapur Sultans and Peshawas. These are in the possession of the family of Sir Deshpande Madhava Rao, B.A., B.E., Bangalore District. These have been collected and are being examined. A note on some of these documents forms a paper for the Mysore Session of the Commission.

20. Mr. R. V. Poduval, B.A., Trivandrum.

Examined the palm leaf documents preserved in the archives of the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple, Trivandrum. A note on these documents will be found at the end of these reports.

21. Rao Bahadur Sardar M. V. Kibe, M.A., M.R.A.S., Indore.

Prepared a list of Athalye collection (900 documents in Marathi) and placed it before the seventeenth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. The list was translated into English and printed in the Procs. Vol. XVII as Appendix J. Will read a paper based on some of these records at the Mysore Session.

22. Srimati Kamalabai Kibe, Indore.

Is engaged in examining the Athalye collection.

23. Pandit Bisheshwarnath Reu, Sahityacharya, Jodhpur.

Wrote the following paper:—

Maharaja Abhaisingh of Jodhpur and Maharaja Sujansingh of Bikaner (I. H. R. C. Procs. Vol. XVII).

Discovered 65 documents¹ in the possession of private individuals in Jodhpur. These are in Marwari language and script and relate to the period 1803 to 1843 A.D. Out of them 30 relate to Jagirs, 20 contain correspondence throwing light on the contemporary local affairs and 10 relate to a dispute between the Jodhpur and Jaipur rulers over the marriage of Krishna Kumari, the daughter of Maharana Bhim Singh of Udaipur. These documents also furnish a description of some prominent persons like Muhta Surajmal Singhi, Indraraj Singhi and others.

24. Mr. P. Acharya, B.Sc., M.R.A.S., Mayurbhanj.

Wrote the following paper:—

Gopiballabhpur Farman of Badshah Ghazi Abdul Fateh Muhammad Nasiruddin Shah. (I. H. R. C. Procs. Vol. XVII).

A note on his archaeological researches will be found at the end of these reports.

25. Mons. Alfred Lehuraux, Chandernagore.

Has moved the Archaeological Department for undertaking the exploration of the site in Puttanandal village, Taluq of Tuidivanam (South Arcot) which is believed to contain the foundations of the commemorative column raised by the French Governor Dupleix on the site of the murder of Nawab Nasir Jung. Beneath this column were buried a number of medals, photos of which have been obtained from the "Cabinet des Medailles" of the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris. The discovery of these medals would establish beyond doubt the site of the proposed city of Dupleix-Fathabad. (Please see Research Report, pages 10-13. I. H. R. C. Procs., Vol. XVII).

¹ Out of these 65 documents the most important collection is in the possession of Mr. Mutha Rikhabdas Ajitmal of Sojat, the descendant of Mutha Surajmal who was the Diwan of the late Maharaja Mansinghji of Jodhpur.

26. Cavaliere Panduranga S. Pissurlencar, Goa.

Wrote the following papers:—

- (1) Diplomatic Relations of the Portuguese with Haidar and Tipu. In Portuguese. (Boletim do Instituto Vasco da Gama).
- (2) Historical Fragments. Luso-Dutch Rivalry in India. In Portuguese. (Boletim do Instituto Vasco da Gama).
- (3) Hindu Cooperars of Alphonso of Albuquerque. In Portuguese. A paper read before the History Congress at Lisbon. (Boletim do Instituto Vasco da Gama).
- (4) Some Incidents of Social History of Hindus in Goa. In Marathi. (Bharat Mitra, Goa).

27. A Note on the Historical Documents in the North-West Frontier Province—I.

By MR. S. M. JAFFAR, B.A., M.R.A.S.

Introductory.—The North-West Frontier Province is remarkably rich in records of rare historical importance. A huge mass of MS. records, relating to it, was recently transferred to the custody of the Imperial Record Department, but some documents of the same type must still be in the archives of the Provincial Government. They do not, however, fall within the purview of this Note. They will be described in detail by the Provincial Record Office, when established at Peshawar.* Those forming private property lie scattered all over the Province. Some of them form the most precious and long-preserved heirlooms of old aristocratic families and some form the proud possessions of individual collectors. Unfortunately, this literary wealth is not easily accessible to research scholars. Some of it lies in the leather bags of private persons who are aptly described as "proverbial shy-birds", too reluctant to show it to its seekers for various reasons and some of it is most carefully preserved and jealously guarded by its owners. In short a search for historical records is invariably accompanied by curious inquiries and considerable inconvenience, and consequently involves a great waste of time and energy. Many documents must inevitably lie obscure, exposed to the constant ravages of time, insect pests and other destructive agents, if some suitable steps are not taken to wheedle them out of their hiding places.

Pir Bakhsh Collection.—In this note I have taken up some of the documents which are at present in the custody of Mr. Pir Bakhsh Khan, M.L.A., (N.-W. F. P.), who was kind enough to show them to me at his residence, much to his inconvenience. They consist of four *Firmans*, two private letters, one *Waqfnamah*, one *Kursinamah* and two sale deeds. All of them relate to Peshawar proper and are in Persian language, written in a beautiful *Nastaliq* hand-writing. At places they are torn and the consequent *lacunae* have to be restored only conjecturally, but conjectural restoration does not in any way detract from the subject-matter of the documents. The text of the documents, the texture of paper, the quality of ink, the style of hand-writing and above all the impressions of the seals of Kings, *Qazis*, *Muftis* and other responsible officials of the State sufficiently point to their genuineness.

* A scheme for the establishment of a Provincial Record Office at Peshawar is under the consideration of the N.-W. F. P. Government.

I. *Mughal Firman* (2'9" × 1'6") of Emperor Shah Jahan, issued on the 2nd of *Sha'ban*, the 24th year of his accession under the orders of his son, Sultan Murad Bakhsh, to *Shuja' at-Sha'ar* Allahwardi Beg at Peshawar, requiring him to render all possible help in transporting through the territory under his jurisdiction the royal treasure, consisting of five *lacs* of rupees, sent from Attock Benares in the custody of two Government officials, viz., *Shuja'at-Sha'ar* Fatehullah and Chatar Bhoj to *Shuja'at-Sha'ar* Shaz Khan, officer in charge of *Thana* Dhakka. It bears two *Tughras* or monograms and two seals. One of the seals is of Murad Bakhsh and the other of Shah Jahan, the latter having the name Abdul Latif under the name of the Emperor. The dates in the seals are too dim to be deciphered without difficulty.

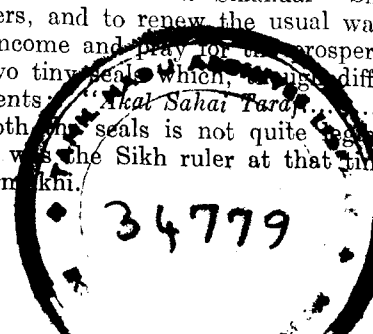
II. *Mughal Firman* (2'9" × 1'5½") of Emperor Aurangzeb Alamgir, issued on the 7th of *Muharram-ul-Haram*, 43rd year of his reign under the orders of his son, Muhammad Mu'azzam Bahadur Shah to confer a grant of 1½ *Qulbas* of land situated in Begram (Peshawar) on a savant, *Mashukhat-Ma'ab* Shaikh Muhammad Taqi bin Haqaiq wa Ma'arif Agah Shaikh 'Abdul Latif Qadiri, who commanded great respect and had a large number of dependants attached to himself, for purposes of his and his sons' maintenance, exempting the grant from payment of Government dues of all kinds and enjoining upon the officials of the State not to interfere with it in any way. Like the first *Firman* (I), it has two *Tughras* or monograms, one of Emperor Aurangzeb 'Alamgir and the other of his son, Muhammad Mu'azzam Bahadur Shah, giving the full names and titles of the Emperor and the Prince. It has but one seal, that of Muhammad Mu'azzam Bahadur Shah. The year in the seal is not legible. The seal and the monograms are fixed on pieces of paper and pasted on the paper of the *Firman* which is mounted on a piece of cloth of equal size.

III. *Durrani Firman* (1'9" × 11½"), issued by Ahmad Shah *Durrani* (1747—1773 A.C.) on the 21st of *Safar-ul-Muzaffar*, '99 A.H. (?) to confer a perpetual grant of land situated in Begram (Peshawar) on Shaikh Muhammad Taqi Qadiri, referred to in *Firman* No. II, and Hafiz Ahmad Yar Qadiri with such concessions as exemption from payment of State dues and official interference for all times to come in order to invoke the blessings of the said saintly donees. It has eleven seals, one on the obverse and ten on the reverse. The one on the obverse is of Ahmad Shah *Durrani*. It reads: "*Ba hukmi Ahmad Shah Durrani*". The rest of the seals are of *Qazis*, *Muftis* and others. The year of this *Firman*, as already indicated, is incorrect. It cannot be 1199 A.H., because Ahmad Shah *Durrani* died in 1188 A.H., i.e., about eleven years before it.

IV. *Sikh Firman* (8" × 6"), dated the 1st *Phagan*, S. 1892, issued by the then Sikh ruler (Ranjit Singh) from Lahore to his most trusted servant, Avitabile, at Peshawar, ordering him to release the land called Dharam Arth, belonging to Faqir Shaikh Bodha son of Shaikh Sikandar Shah according to the *Sanads* of previous rulers, and to renew the usual water rights, etc., so that he might enjoy its income and pray for the prosperity of the exalted Government. It bears two tiny seals which, though different in size by 2 : 1, have the same contents: "*Akal Sahai Tara Singh*". The word before *Singh* in both the seals is not quite legible, but it must be *Ranjit*, for Ranjit Singh was the Sikh ruler at that time. The contents of both the seals are in Gurmukhi.

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V. *Private Letter* (10"×8"), dated the 4th *Muharram-ul-Haram*, 1183 A.H. from an important Government official, whose seal on it is too dim and damaged to be deciphered except the word 'Muhammad' which is fairly legible, to his brother, Allah Yar Khan, expressing his delight at the receipt of Allah Yar's letter, conveying his good wishes to him, referring to the pressure of Government work and his political pre-occupations on account of the disturbances in the neighbourhood of Qandhar, pleading his inability to send detailed information on that account, and sending five *Firozas* or turquoises as presents per bearer of the letter. It ends with greetings to all his relatives and the members of the Kakkezai family.

VI. *Letter* (5"×4"), closely written on both sides of the paper, dated the 1st *Safar-ul-Muzaffar*, 989 A.H. It is from one Said (or Sayyad) Wali Khan to some highly respectable persons. It gives an ocular account of the advance of an Imperial army, consisting of several thousands, under the command of an *Amir* as far as Kabul and Ghaznin. It refers to the conquest of a beautiful country, the construction of roads and high-ways, the dissemination of justice, the pacification of the people, the chastisement of the recalcitrant Afghans of Swad, Bajaur, Tirah and Bangash, who were a great source of trouble to travellers from Turan, the punishment of the ill-natured Baluchis and other brutes of the desert who constantly tormented the travellers from Iran, the inevitable accident (death?) of Hazrat Shah Iliyin, the confusion in Iran, the arrival of a messenger with the soothing news that the disturbances had subsided, the Qandhar campaign, and the slackness of the Mirzas and lack of unity and co-operation among them. It may be pointed out here that the date of this letter is exactly the same as that of the expedition undertaken by Emperor Akbar against Kabul.

VII. *Kursinamah* or pedigree table (1'4"×10½") of Faqir Muhammad 'Ali, a descendant of Shaikh Muhammad Taqi, referred to in the preceding *Firman* (No. II) and the following sale deeds (Nos. VIII and IX). It goes as far back as Hazrat Adam. Other prominent links in it are *Hazrat Ibrahim*, *Hazrat Ismail* and *Hazrat 'Ali*. It has the year '1120 A.H.' and the word 'Kakkezai' on the top of it.

VIII. *Sale Deed*, dated the 15th *Zilhij*, 1153 A.H., executed by Abdun Nabi Bin Haji Ismail bin Muhammad in favour of Shaikh Muhammad Taqi bin Shaikh 'Abdul Lalif bin Shaikh Barkhurdar in respect of six plots of land, measuring 85 *Jaribs*, situated in Begram (Peshawar) for a sum of one thousand, one hundred and forty rupees of the current coin. The sale was confirmed by Qazi 'Abul Qasim Khan who styled himself as *Khadim-i-Shara'* and whose two seals are affixed to the document. There are six other seals. They are of *Qazis*, *Muftis* and marginal witnesses. While giving the boundaries of the land sold, the deed mentions four famous canals *viz.*, *Jui Bara*, *Jui Khani*, *Jui Devisai* and *Jui Ali Mardan Khan*. 'Ali Mardan Khan, it will be recalled, was a leading public spirited official of the Mughal Period, whose remarkable works of public welfare are still to be found in India as well as in Afghanistan.

IX. *Sale Deed*, having the same date, same parties, same number of plots, same boundaries of land and same seals as the preceding sale deed (No. VIII), but the land sold consists of 64 *Jaribs*, the consideration money is four hundred and seventy rupees of the current coin, and the seals are more legible. Two seals of Qazi 'Abul Qasim Khan *Khadim-i-Shara'* bear

the date 1148 A.H. one of Lutfullah Mufti has 1154 A.H., one of Ghulam Muhammad witness 1135 A.H., one of Mir Muhammad Hashim witness 1138 A.H. and one which reads "*Al-i-Rasul am Sayyad am Faqir am*" 1138 A.H. Three of the seals are broken, but the contents of the parts which are intact are quite legible.

X. *Waqfnamah* or deed of endowment, dated the 27th *Rajjab*, 1242 A.H. whereby the executant, Qasim 'Ali Khan, created a big *Waqf* or endowment, consisting of considerable immovable property of the kind of shops, houses, *hammam*s, wells, mosques, etc., in or in the vicinity of Kissa Khani in Peshawar for the welfare of the public, entrusted its management to *Fazilat-Panah Mullah 'Abdul Hadi bin Mullah Ghulam Raza*, appointed him as *Khatib* of the *Jumma* and *Id* prayers in the *Masjid-i-Kalan* founded by him in Kissa Khani, authorised him to spend the income of the endowed property on his own requirements after defraying the expenses in connection with the repairs and maintenance of the *Waqf* property, invested the guardianship of the *Waqf* in the said Mullah and his sons, should the latter be good and pious, and empowered the *Qazi-ul-Islam* to entrust the management of the *Waqf* to some competent person in case the said *Mutawalli* (guardian) died without leaving a son. The deed ends with a note of warning to the *Mutawallis* concerned, requiring them to be honest and earnest in the discharge of their duties, directing them not to treat the *Waqf* as their personal property and forbidding all from asserting claims of ownership on it; and finally reminding them of the Day of Judgment and the awe of the Almighty. This deed bears the impressions of eight seals, three of which are of Muhammad Shah. One of these three bears the date 1215 A.H. Of the remaining five one is of Muhammad Hasan *Shaikh-ul-Islam Khadim-i-Shara'* and another of *Hafiz Nur Mufti-i-Shara'*. The deed throws some light on the origin of the *Masjid* of Qasim 'Ali Khan and its endowments, makes a mention of *Kissa Khani*, the old fort of Begram and the *Takiyas* of *Sayyad Shah Wali Qattal* and *Faqir Rahmatullah Shah*. It affords a brilliant testimony to what Musalmans of means in Muslim India used to do for the sacred cause of religion and for the welfare of the public.

28. A Note on some Palm leaf documents preserved in the Archives of the Sri Padmanabhaswami Temple at Trivandrum.

By MR. R. V. PODUVAL, B.A., TRIVANDRUM.

The State of Travancore has a considerable wealth of old palm leaf documents having great historical interest. Some of them date back to the 14th and 15th centuries A.D. and are preserved in the archives of the Sri Padmanabhaswami temple at Trivandrum the capital of the State. Till A.D. 1873 when paper began to be largely used, all the documents were written on cadjan leaf called "Ola", a material of great durability. These documents are tied up in bundles called "Churunas", each of which generally contains about 500 to 1,000 cadjan leaves. The older records are written in *Vattezhuttu*, a script which was largely prevalent in South India in ancient times, and *Kolezhuttu* or *Malavazhma*, a later form of the above. There are a few records written in Tamil and in Malayalam characters also. The most important of the Travancore documents are kept in three places (1) the "Chellamvaka" of the palace of H. H. the Maharaja, (2) the Huzur Central Records and (3) the temple of Sri Padmanabha, the tutelary diety of the rulers of the State.

On a general examination of the records of the Sri Padmanabhaswami shrine, it is found that they number over 2,200 "Churunas" or bundles. The transactions relating to the various affairs of the temple in the old days are recorded in these documents which form regular Chronicles called "Granthavaries". The oldest of the documents go back to the 14th Century A. D. Many of the records throw a flood of light on the genealogical history of the ruling houses of Puri from the 14th to the 18th centuries A. D. and also on the political, social and economic conditions of the State during that period.

29. A Note on the Archaeological Researches done by Mr. P. Acharya, B.Sc., M.R.A.S., Mayurbhanj during 1940-41.

1. Supervised the Archaeological conservation work of the temple of Khiching.

2. Has been studying—

- (i) the Punch-marked coins of which a hoard was found in Mayurbhanj during the year and (ii) the Published inscriptions of the Samavamsi Kings, called the Kesari dynasty in the *Madala Panji* of Jagannath temple of Orissa.

(Proposes to publish a memoir on this subject in due course.)

3. Has found some new materials on the history of the Ganga dynasty of Orissa from a comparative study of the Ganga inscriptions and Muhammadan historical accounts of the period.

4. Made an inspection tour to several places in the Districts of Midnapore and Balasore for checking the references found in early British records to Mayurbhanj and the following places deserve special notice:—

(a) *Kiarchand*.—The votive temples built of laterite stones at *Kiarchand* in Midnapore were not identified before (and so in the Gazetteer of the Midnapore District P. 202 a different story has been published on these antiquities).

(b) *Kaisari*.—At this place three important Oriya inscriptions, two belonging to Raja Man Singh and one to Kalyan Malla, the Mughal Governors of Orissa, have been found in the Sarvamangala temple. There are two other Persian inscriptions in this place belonging to the 17th century A.D.

(c) *Nangaleswar*.—There are no images of Siva and Parvati at this place as recorded in the District Gazetteer of Balasore at page 204.

(d) *The sites on the river Subarnarekha*.—This river has changed its course so considerably that all the old sites on its banks are no longer traceable. The site of the old fort at Pipli is no more in existence near Shah Bandar. The village Shahabandar was on the left bank of the river, but now it is on the right bank due to the change of the course of the river and there are villages now on the old river bed where there is a small nullah about 20 feet wide. The Renell's map sheet No. 7 shows a temple on the right bank of the river near the sea-side, but due to the change of the course of the river, it now stands on the left bank.

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