

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS
COMMISSION

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

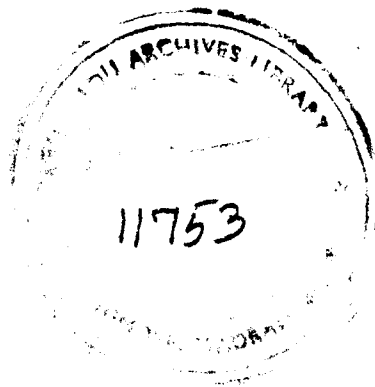
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INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION *Twenty-ninth Session, Bhopal, February 1953*



Seated from left : M. H. R. Taimuri, B. S. Baliga, R. C. Majumdar, B. A. Salefore (Secretary), S. S. Bhatnagar (Chairman), Bhagwan Sahay (Chief Commissioner, Bhopal), Shankar Dayal (Chief Minister, Bhopal), G. S. Sardesai, M. Mujeeb, P. M. Joshi, Triambak Raj Bahadur.
Standing from left :
(1st row)—G. N. Salefore, N. L. Chatterjee, J. M. Ghosh, G. H. Khare, D. C. Ganguly, R. R. Sethi, V. S. Suri, A. L. Srivastava, Hasan Shah, H. K. Barpujari.
(2nd row)—H. L. Gupta, K. K. Datta, C. D. Deshpande, G. S. Das, N. B. Roy, S. S. Jhanwar, S. P. Sen.

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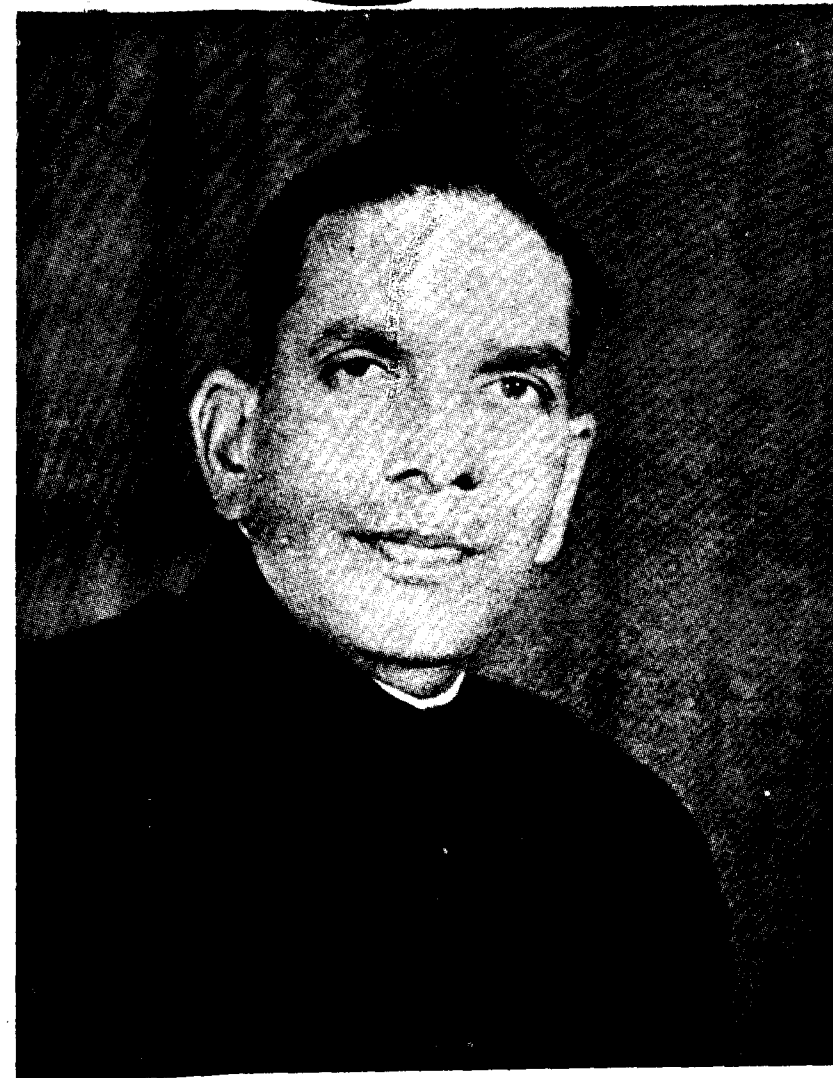
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Bhagwan Sahay, Chief Commissioner of Bhopal

PROCEEDINGS OF THE PUBLIC MEETING TWENTY-NINTH SESSION

BHOPAL, FEBRUARY 10, 1953.

THE PUBLIC Meeting of the twenty-ninth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held at the Legislative Assembly Hall, Bhopal, on Tuesday, February 10, 1953 at 10-30 A.M. The session was inaugurated by Shri Bhagwan Sahay, Chief Commissioner, Bhopal, and was presided over by Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Educational Adviser to the Government of India in the unavoidable absence of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Education Minister of India and *ex-officio* President of the Commission.

The list of members who attended the session will be found on pages 15-20.

On arrival at the Legislative Assembly Hall, the Chief Commissioner was received by Dr. S. S. Bhatnagar and the Secretary. The Secretary then introduced the members of the Commission to the Chief Commissioner, after which a group photograph was taken. The members then entered the Legislative Assembly Hall in a procession.

Before the inauguration of the meeting, Dr. Bhatnagar conveyed to the house the sad news of the death of Shri Gopaldaswamy Ayyangar, Defence Minister of the Government of India, and expressed on their behalf their deep sense of sorrow. A two minutes silence was observed by all the members standing.

The Chairman then requested Shri Bhagwan Sahay to inaugurate the session.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF SHRI BHAGWAN SAHAY, CHIEF COMMISSIONER,
BHOPAL

Friends,

On behalf of this small State of Bhopal I extend to you all my cordial greetings. We were all hoping that the presidential address in this session of the Indian Historical Records Commission will be delivered in person by the great scholar-statesman Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, but his heavy preoccupations elsewhere have denied us this privilege. I share with you the disappointment. However, I am happy to find among us Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar whose forceful personality and energy have contributed so much to the establishment of the great scientific and technological Institutes of which our country is justly proud. Through them the country has been provided with the basic structures required for the promotion of scientific and technological research. I think we shall be justified in expecting that

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Dr. Bhatnagar will now be able to divert some of his energy and imagination to the strengthening of institutions designed to promote and develop historical research on a basis and dimension required for the needs of a great country like ours.

Historical research is sometimes regarded by the uninformed as a luxury or at best a scholastic pursuit mainly of interest to the academic world. It is supposed that it has little direct value to those who are engaged in the so-called practical tasks of the present and the future. Nothing is farther from the truth. Such erroneous notions are based on an imperfect appreciation of the sweep and ambit of historical research. We often confuse chronologies of kings and dynasties, accounts of battles and conquests, chronicles of diplomatic intrigues and negotiations and the like with the real content of history. If the aim and function of historical research were nothing more than to collect superficial facts such as these, one would be justified to some extent in relegating it to a secondary place. Such facts, however, diligently and meticulously collected, cannot by themselves justify a special national effort. But historical research has much wider aims of great significance for the present and the future. Facts and events only provide the source material for use in the study of the evolution of social patterns in the widest sense. The man of today is not a mere organism struggling to survive with no connection with his ancestors. Nor is the environment in which he lives and acts without predetermined tendencies for the future. On the other hand he is the end product of countless generations which have gone before. He is what the past history has made him. And what is more his own conduct and behaviour, in whatever environment it may be, is conditioned to a great extent by the traditions of the society and its pooled experience gained through the ages. The man of today is theoretically heir to all the generations and he inherits the accumulated experience of all his fore-runners. It may be that mankind does not form one society today, but is divided in many distinct societies, each having its own spiritual and material equipment. Each has preserved, transmitted and built up its own peculiar tradition which has its own special complex consisting not only of technological and material equipment but also of ideology. These three elements interact upon each other in a society whether it be progressive or retrograde. And the resultant is reflected throughout the ages in the corresponding social pattern which in its turn determines to a large extent the conduct and behaviour and also probably the will to change, of the individual and of the community. The aim of historical research is to explore and establish the facts in each period of time, to discern their significance and weave them into a pattern with a view to discover the motivating influences and tendencies in the society and the individual. Without such knowledge we do our planning in the

dark. We are apt to make assumptions which may be biassed or influenced by wishful thinking, and build for ourselves aims and targets which may represent no historical continuity. Whatever ideologies we adopt and whatever social patterns we nationally accept for ourselves we cannot be sure that the human element would adequately and truly respond. And if there is conflict and tension between the human element and the social pattern which we have nationally adopted, our progress is bound to be impeded. In such a situation mere technological and material advance would not increase the survival value of the society, and, indeed, the advance itself may not be possible at all. So the study of the past is essential for establishing the foundations of the present and for evolving the blue prints of the future. And for the study of the past historical research is essential.

In practice ideas form as effective an element in the environment of any human society as does the external nature on the one hand, and material and technological equipment on the other. Societies behave as if they are reacting to a spiritual environment as much as to a material one and in reacting to the former they appear to need spiritual equipment just as much as they need material equipment and tools. The spiritual equipment is not confined to ideas which can be translated into tools and instruments that are used successfully in controlling and transforming external nature but also appear to include what is termed as ideology—its superstitions, religious beliefs, moral values, loyalties, artistic ideals and the like. Apparently in pursuit of ideologies and under the inspiration of ideas men may actually perform actions of a kind which may cut across and distort the very lines, directions and contours of social and material change which they themselves may have set out to achieve. An ideology being a social product, not only are words which support its ideas produced by life in society, the ideas themselves owe their reality, their power to influence action, to their general acceptance by society. The most important function of an ideology being to hold the society together, to facilitate its operation, and to promote its progress, it becomes necessary for the planners of material advance to analyse and establish the ideology of the society in terms of the experience of the past. In the absence of such an effort we run the grave risk of its break down by the stresses and tensions within the structure of the society itself. For instance, in our planning we have assumed national unity in a complex of regional diversity. This basic assumption of our social pattern determines to a large extent the future of our plan for material advancement in all its numerous facets. But an important element in the social consciousness which apparently seems to influence the conduct and behaviour of many men, are contradictory ideas such as regional autonomy, linguistic or territorial divisions in the

social pattern. It is the task of the historian to study the confused ideological situation in the light of the past, to expose dominant tendencies, to interpret their significance, to educate the public mind and to bring about the acceptance of ideas which would lubricate the smooth working of the society.

It is against this perspective that we should view the role of this Commission. It does not appear to undertake itself the study of history, but it is one of the instruments—perhaps the most important one—for the collection of the raw material for such studies. It has to ensure that all records and documents which would facilitate historical research, are located and collected. This by itself is an immense task when we remember the range and diversity of the sources which may illuminate the facets of the past. Then the Commission has to make arrangements for the custody of the records in a manner which would ensure not only their preservation but their availability to the investigator. Here again it has to be estimated whether the means are sufficient to achieve the ends in view.

I am not competent to form any sound judgment about these matters. If I may make a confession I may state that till a few days ago I had little idea of what your Commission is doing. I lived in New Delhi for five or six years and must have passed hundreds of times the large building in which you are housed. But I never had the curiosity to enter the door of this somewhat formidable structure. In a vague way the name of your Commission stimulated in my consciousness the musty smell of decaying paper. There must be thousands like me who need being educated in the tasks which you are performing and your plan in the general scheme of things. Your invitation to me to inaugurate this session has helped me to get rid of some of my ignorance and I thank you for it. May your deliberations be fruitful.

* * * *

ADDRESS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Welcoming the Commission, Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, Education and Chief Minister of Bhopal and Chairman of the Reception Committee said:

Mr. President, Members of the Commission, Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the people of Bhopal, the Reception Committee and myself, I welcome the members of the Indian Historical Records Commission to Bhopal, the city known for the scenic beauty of its lakes. We are greatly disappointed that due to various engagements it has not been possible for the President of the Commission, Hon'ble Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, to be present amongst us. People of Bhopal were looking forward to his visit for a long time. I deem it a real privilege to welcome the galaxy of erudite scholars engaged in ceaseless search after Truth in the domain of History. This Commission is engaged in the valuable work of linking the Past of our Country with the Present and providing guidance for the Future. The Records form part of what may be termed the most dependable raw material by which any Country's Past can be properly reconstructed and visualised. The Commission seeks to preserve from destruction the records of the past and makes them available after cataloguing them and putting them in order for the use of historians and institutions. Thus this Commission is making a valuable contribution in the Renaissance of India.

I need not tell you that apart from its geographical attractions Bhopal has an interest for historians. Apart from the early historical monuments at Sanchi, Bhojpur and Raisen and the importance of this region in the early history of India, Bhopal has played a part in the making and unmaking of the Marhatta Confederacy, and the consolidation of the British power in India. This State has seen the rise and fall of neighbouring principalities, the exploits of the Pindaries and extermination of the Thugs.

Bhopal has also had the unique distinction of having as its rulers successively four queens, who proved that they could administer the State as well as any male. I have a definite idea that an exhaustive examination of the present available records in the Central Records Office, Bhopal and other allied departments of the State should add some interesting pages to the history of India. At present the Bhopal Records Office is busy with examination of old records relating to the first national rising against the alien rule in India, the so-called Mutiny and its repercussions in Bhopal and the neighbouring States. I am glad to learn that you are playing an important role in writing the history of the political struggle of this country and I will look forward to be profitted by your research in this direction.

In the end, I find it difficult to resist the temptation to make a suggestion. Though not a historian, I was connected with teaching

legal history in Lucknow University for some time. While teaching legal history I felt convinced that a good deal of light can be thrown not only on legal history but also on Indian social history from the time of the advent of the British in India by an examination of available records of cases decided by various Company's Courts and King's Courts in Bombay, Madras and Calcutta. I hope the Records Commission will try to persuade High Courts to transfer these records of early decided cases to National Archives and will take in hand the task of preserving them and making them easily accessible.

Finally let me express our heartfelt thanks to you for accepting our invitation and taking the trouble of coming here. You have our best wishes for a very successful session. We will try to make your stay as comfortable as possible and will hope to be excused for any shortcomings which may be found by you.

* * * * *

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY DR. S. S. BHATNAGAR

It is my privilege to welcome you to this 29th Annual Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. As you are aware, the Minister for Education, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, was to have presided over this session but his other pre-occupations have stood in the way of his keeping this engagement, and in asking me to deputise on his behalf he desires me to convey his good wishes for the success of your deliberations. This is not the first occasion when duties of this nature have devolved on me. You will remember that some years ago when this Commission met at Jaipur, I had to preside over the session under similar circumstances. I can at best be a poor substitute for Maulana Sahib whose scholarship is acknowledged everywhere. I shall, however, derive courage and inspiration from him *in absentia*.

Although according to Washington Irvine, "History is but a kind of Newgate Calendar, a register of the crimes and miseries that man has inflicted on his fellow man", Tacitus considers the chief office of history to be "to rescue virtuous actions from the oblivion to which a want of records would consign them, and that men should feel a dread of being considered infamous in the opinion of posterity from their depraved expressions and base actions."



S. S. Bhatnagar,
Educational Adviser to the
Government of India.

Historical records are the rich treasure houses of information about our cultural heritage and achievements in different periods. By delving into these treasures, we get a picture of what had already been achieved. As Johnson says, "The present state of things is the consequence of the past and it is natural to enquire as to the source of the good or the evil we suffer." Has Cicero not said, "If no use is made of the labours of the past ages, the world will always remain in the infancy of knowledge."

History provides a basis for laying down programmes for future development. It can no longer rest content with being a mere narrative of events in different periods in the life of a nation, of battles lost and won or invasions warded off. To fulfil its real function, history must present a complete and composite picture of the achievements of a nation's existence, depicting in continuity her rise and fall, the doings of her inhabitants, their methods of working and the standards of their attainments. Johnson referred to this important role of history when he said, "There is no part of history so generally useful as that which relates to the progress of human mind, the gradual improvement of reason, the successive advances of science, the vicissitudes of learning and ignorance, the extinction and resuscitation of arts and the revolutions of the intellectual world. If accounts of battles and invasions are peculiarly the business of princes, the useful and elegant arts are not to be neglected, and those who have kingdoms to govern have understandings to cultivate".

One of the handicaps in the development of India throughout her long history and one which has in no small measure been responsible for her decline and eclipse during the Middle Ages, has been the non-availability of detailed information during different periods. In this respect, Europe has been more fortunate for the records and experiences of past generations were always available to them to plan the building of their future in all spheres of national activity. Particularly in the field of science and technology, this information laid the foundations of the great industrial revolutions and led to the phenomenal progress which western countries have recorded during the last two centuries. In India information was traditionally handed down from generation to generation by word of mouth and many a craftsman carried his knowledge with him to the grave because he had perforce of habit waited too long to confide his secrets to some confident, often in vain. If this knowledge had been set down in writing, it would not have been lost to posterity for ever.

Nevertheless, it is true that whatever was set down and is available in the form of old manuscripts, gains a lot of very valuable

knowledge and it is up to the students of history to make the information available by diligent investigations and research. Only recently we had an instance of the utility of historical research when we read of the unearthing of a manuscript in Mysore containing technical details of the construction and working of Vimans or airships in ancient times. I have not seen the manuscript and cannot vouchsafe for the accuracy of the claims, but it is obvious that such information is always a valuable addition to our knowledge about the developments in these early periods.

Unfortunately many of these ancient manuscripts and even comparatively recent records had been taken to foreign countries by various persons at different periods of history and were not available to Indians interested in the subject. Moreover, the language in which they were written had become obsolete and there were hardly a few who could decipher them. It is a happy augury for the future that through the efforts of this Commission difficulties are being overcome and the originals of ancient scripts or their copies are now becoming more readily available to research workers in this field.

The National Archives of India have made some significant acquisitions during the last year. Amongst these may be mentioned copies of the original records of the Dutch East India Company from 1674 to 1693, covering over 1½ lakh manuscript pages. Micro-filming of papers of Indian interest in the John Rylands Library, Manchester, and the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, has been completed. Micro-copies of the Memoirs of Count de Lally, Correspondence of Col. Prat (1773-74), Correspondence of Dupleix with the French East India Co. and diverse documents relating to his trial, the Memoirs of Rajagopalachar of Pondicherry, are some of the valuable materials provided by the Bibliotheque Nationale, Paris. These records will be of considerable interest to research workers in modern Indian history.

An important activity of the Archives has been the micro-filming of the pre-mutiny records already available in this country. Arrangements to preserve 2½ lakh manuscript pages have been made by copying them on 190 rolls with nearly 1½ lakh exposures. It is proposed to distribute these copies to selected institutions in the country so that they may be available to a large number of scholars interested in the subject. Incidentally this step will also assist in their preservation against loss and damage.

The main obstacles in the way of the publication programme have been overcome and we can now look forward to a continuous flow of publications. Vol. I of Fort William—India House Correspondence is in press and manuscripts of two more volumes in the series, XIII and XVII, are expected to be placed in the hands of the printers shortly. "Selection from Orme Manuscripts", edited by the late Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari and published by the Annamalai University, and the "Punjab Akhbars" (1839-91) edited by Dr. Ganda Singh and published by the Sikh Historical Society of Amritsar, are indicative of the good results which flow from collaboration with universities and other institutions. There is an extensive field for such collaborative activity, particularly in the sphere of local archives. Here the scholar's knowledge of local languages and dialects and local conditions and customs can be of great help, and I am sure we shall see more and more of such collaboration in future.

The Government of Bombay has completed the publication of the "Poona Residency Correspondence" under the editorship of the veteran historian Dr. Jadunath Sarkar, the last volume in the series, Vol. XIV, having recently been made available to students of Indian history. This is a successful consummation of a significant project of record publication in the country. The monographs published by the Punjab Government on the "Correspondence of C.M. Wade", "Correspondence of George Russel Clerk" and "Punjab under the Lawrences", all relate to the history of the State during the 19th century.

The Central Records Office of Madras, first set up in 1901, is the envy of all State archivists, both in regard to the richness of its collection and its scientific maintenance. One wishes other States would also establish such offices to make available detailed records of their work to the present and posterior generations of historians. In recent years central repositories have been established in some of the States like Uttar Pradesh and Orissa but there are quite a few States which have still to appreciate the importance of such establishments. The useful role of a Central Office where all the non-current records can be kept, well indexed and maintained, hardly needs any stressing, and the establishment of a network of archival repositories at all levels of activities in different parts of the country is an urgent necessity. Even local bodies like municipalities and district boards can help in this national task by proper maintenance of their records. These furnish a picture of local conditions and happenings while the State and Central records give an idea of the composite picture of different regions and the country as a whole.

In this context, it would not be out of place to refer to the value of archives which have accumulated with private individuals, institutions and commercial houses. We are apt to obtain a picture of India at different periods from the records of travels of Hieun Tsang, Bernier, Marco Polo, al Beruni and other globe trotters who visited this country from time to time, but have seldom cared to give thought to the accounts of current happenings recorded by private agencies in their correspondence with different organisations and individuals within the country and abroad. Such private documents are invaluable in several respects for they present the version from a different angle and may throw new light on various happenings. The Regional Records Committees of this Commission and of various State Governments have done useful work within their respective spheres but the task is of a vast magnitude and much still remains to be done. Due to sheer ignorance of their value and consequent negligence, there is a rapid destruction of private archives and only a small fraction is properly taken care of. It should be the endeavour of the members of this Commission and the Regional Records Committees to intensify the campaign for saving these valuable raw materials on which historians can base their studies.

By apprising private owners of the value of their possessions, educating them in proper preservation and care and inducing them to make available to research workers, the members of the Commission and the Regional Committees will be doing a national service. Although we do not have many commercial houses who can proudly trace their history to three or four centuries, or who can claim to possess an unbroken series of archives over a long period, many of them do possess documents containing a very useful account of trends and developments of the times. The slow but steady pace of industrialisation, particularly during the last half century, has undoubtedly influenced our social and economic structure and is materially re-orientating our outlook on life. Public archives alone cannot furnish a full picture of these changes and for a thorough understanding of the causes and a full appreciation of their effects, systematic study of the records of industrial firms and business houses will be of considerable value. Besides containing a story of the transactions of a private organisation, these records would contain information about the genesis and growth of the organisation and any changes in the sphere of its activities from time to time. These accounts can be useful source materials on which to build up a connected narrative of the industrialisation of the country. So far they have escaped attention, both due to the apathy of the owners and lack of interest on the part of historians, but I hope that with greater interest, conditions will change for the better in the near future.

This task will have to be undertaken as a voluntary effort, for it may not be possible for the Central Government or the States to find finances for it for an appreciable time to come. The compilation of a new Register of Archives as a voluntary enterprise is the obvious way to make a beginning. Even in a country like England, over a thousand private reports on private accumulations—many of them valuable—are made to the National Register of Archives, mostly by voluntary effort.

Another sphere open to voluntary effort relates to the compilation of reference media of archives, such as calendars, descriptive lists and indexes. With the rapid growth in the bulk of modern records, it is obviously not possible for any repository to prepare hand lists even, without an increase of staff with every fresh accrument. Unless voluntary help is readily forthcoming, it is obvious that this work will tend to get into arrears with the result that editing will suffer.

A couple of years back, Maulana Azad made an appeal to universities and other organisations interested in the subject to assist the local and central record offices in keeping their reference media up-to-date. I hope that with greater appreciation of the value of such archival materials to history, universities and learned bodies will take great interest in these activities. This collaboration in making known the contents of records will be of great assistance to those who cannot afford time to search for their requirements in unwieldy masses of papers deposited in repositories.

The National Archives has undertaken the responsibility for imparting training to record keepers and others in all ministries, governments and other agencies and has instituted a short three months course for this purpose. The syllabus provides for training in general methods of record keeping and preservation and repair of records. I am glad full advantage is being taken of this facility and the third batch of trainees is now receiving instruction. This training will not only help in the proper maintenance of records in their semi-current stage but will also enable the records being received in a more orderly form.

Recently there has been a virtual cessation of fresh accessions of non-current records from the various ministries and their attached and subordinate offices, primarily because of lack of space to receive and store them. Public records are bound to grow progressively, the rate of growth depending on the pace of expansion of public activities and administration, and more space will always be needed for their maintenance and storage. I am happy that the Government has accepted this need and sanctioned the construction of a new wing

to the National Archives building to provide room for expansion of the repository. The completion of this additional wing will enable the department to cope with fresh accessions.

Since our last annual meeting, the Commission has been reconstituted. To those who have retired, I offer our gratitude for their devotion to historical research and the help they rendered us. To the new members I extend a hearty welcome and hope their interest and co-operation will prove useful to the Commission. Particularly I hope that the advice of our new scientist-member Dr. Pruthi, who has played with insects of various kinds all his life, will be helpful in reducing the ravages of elements, insects and time on these historical treasures, thereby assisting in their better preservation. I may also refer to the presence in our midst today, of the veteran Maharashtrian historian, Shri G. S. Sardesai, who even in his old age continues to make a solid contribution to the advancement of Indian history.

Today's meeting at Bhopal has a special significance, for this region has a long history and a rich cultural heritage dating beyond the Mauryan period. Only recently we had a reminder of the glories of this region when the mortal remains of the two leading disciples of Lord Buddha, Mahamogulaina and Sariputta, were re-interred in the new Stupa at Sanchi. The great Stupa and the celebrated Asoka column are standing monuments of the importance of the place while the other vestiges are a constant reminder of the thriving guilds of artists and craftsmen who worked here—during the time of the Sungas and Satavahanas, the Kushans and the Guptas—and brought prosperity and glory to this land.

The modern State of Bhopal dates back to the 18th century when Dost Mohd. Khan became its first independent chief. Subsequent rulers, particularly Nawab Sikander Begum, Shah Jahan Begum, and Sultan Jahan Begum, by their wise statesmanship acquired reputation as versatile and talented rulers. Being a good administrator, Nawab Sikander Begum reformed the administration of State records and established a central records office in 1862 to which all non-current records of the State at headquarters or the mofussil were to be transferred. Here they were well maintained and cared after. The Bhopal Central Office can claim to be one of the pioneer organisations in this sphere and the rules framed for its working from time to time have been based on sound archival principles and procedures. The system has endured during the last ninety years and the unbroken series of archives available in this office furnish a complete picture of the political, administrative, economic and social picture

of Bhopal and its relation with neighbouring States. These provide raw material of immense value on which students of Indian history, particularly those interested in recent developments in Central India, can work. There are, it is true, certain lacuna like the provision of adequate reference media but I hope that it will soon be possible to provide for the adequate housing of these records and their administration on sound lines. When that happens it will not be said of history that "it is something that never happened, written by a man who wasn't there".

* * * *

The Secretary then read out the messages received from Shri Chintaman D. Deshmukh, Finance Minister, Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister for Works, Housing and Supplies, Shri D. P. Karmarkar, Minister for Commerce of the Government of India and from Shri Brahm Prakash, Chief Minister, Mr. Shafiqur Rehman Kidwai, Minister for Education and Dr. Sushila Nayar, Minister for Health of Delhi State.

After one paper was read and discussed, the Chief Commissioner, the Chief Minister of Bhopal, and the President left the Hall. Dr. R. C. Majumdar then took the Chair. Fifteen more papers were then read and discussed. All these papers will be found in the *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXIX, Part II.

The session concluded at 1-00 P.M. with a vote of thanks to the Chair moved by Dr. P. M. Joshi and seconded by Dr. R. R. Sethi.

The morning session on February 11 was devoted to the meeting of the Research and Publication Committee and the Members' Meeting. (The reports will be found on pp. 21—72).

In the evening of the 10th February, Dr. R. C. Majumdar delivered a public lecture at the Hamidia College on "The History of Freedom Movement in India and the National Archives of India" and on the 11th evening Dr. G. S. Sardesai delivered a talk on "An Urgent Need of India's History". Both these lectures were presided over by Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, Chief Minister of Bhopal.

The Chief Minister entertained the members to a Lunch on the 10th February at the Legislative Assembly Hall. On the same evening the members were the guests of the Principal, Hamidia College, at Tea. On the 11th evening His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal was "At Home" to the members at his Ahmedabad Palace. Later on the Chief Commissioner, Bhopal, gave a Dinner to the members at his residence.

On the 11th afternoon the members visited the Bhopal Records Office. On the 12th morning they were taken out on an excursion to Bhilsa, Udayagiri Caves and Sanchi.

An Exhibition of Historical records, manuscripts, seals, photographs and paintings was also organised by the Government of Bhopal in connection with the session of the Indian Historical Records Commission. It was opened by Mrs. Bhagwan Sahay, wife of the Chief Commissioner, Bhopal, at 4-00 P.M. on the 10th February. The exhibits from the National Archives of India included seventy-six documents, some in original and other photographic copies, illustrating different aspects of the history of Bhopal in the 18th and 19th centuries, the history of Education in India and the selection of documents in different oriental languages. A few specimens illustrating the methods of repair and preservation followed in the National Archives of India were also exhibited. The exhibits from the Combined Inter-Services Historical Section of the Central Ministry of Defence and from the States of Bhopal, Hyderabad, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Pepsu were also displayed. The Exhibition remained open to the public from the 10th till the 12th February 1953.

PERSONNEL OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

(*Attended the Bhopal Session)

The Minister for Education, Government of India, *ex-officio* President.

*The Educational Adviser to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, New Delhi, *ex-officio* Chairman—(i) Research and Publication Committee, (ii) Local Records Sub-Committee.

*The Director of Archives, Government of India, National Archives of India, New Delhi, *ex-officio* Secretary—(i) Indian Historical Records Commission, (ii) Research and Publication Committee, (iii) Local Records Sub-Committee.

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*Professor M. Mujeeb, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi.

*Dr. G. S. Sardesai, Kamshet, Poona.

Dr. S. N. Sen, M.A., Ph.D., D.Litt., 36-P, Russa Road, Calcutta.

*Dr. H. S. Pruthi, Plant Protection Adviser to the Government of India, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, New Delhi.

State Governments

*Dr. M. H. R. Taimuri, Director of Archaeology and Superior Central Records Officer, Government of Bhopal, Bhopal.

*Dr. P. M. Joshi, M.A., Ph.D., Director of Archives, Government of Bombay, Secretariat Records Office, Bombay-1.

*Raja Triambak Raj Bahadur, Director, Central Records Office, Government of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.

*Sahibzada Hasan Shah, M.A., LL.B., Assistant Director, Research and Publication, Jammu and Kashmir Government, Srinagar.

Dr. Bool Chand, M.A., Ph.D., I.A.S., Secretary, Department of Education and Local Self Government, Government of Madhya Bharat, Gwalior.

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Mr. J. B. Mallaradhaya, I.A.S., Director of Public Instruction, Government of Mysore, New Public Offices, Bangalore.

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Dr. M. L. Sharma, M.A., D.Litt., Director of Archives, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur.

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*Mr. R. M. Joshi, Assistant Director, Central Records Office, Hyderabad.

*Dr. B. S. Baliga, M.A., Ph.D. (London), Curator, Madras Records Office, Madras.

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*Mr. V. S. Suri, M.A., Keeper of Records of the Government of Punjab, Punjab Government Records Office, The Manse, Simla-E.

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Mr. B. R. Kulkarni, B.A., Curator and Research Worker, Rajwade Samshodhan Mandal, Dhulia.

Mr. D. G. Landge, B.A., LL.B., B.T., (M.P. Research Society), Dhantoli, Nagpur (M.P.).

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Dr. Raghubir Singh, M.A., D.Litt., The Palace, Sitamau (Madhya Bharat).

Dr. K. R. Qanungo, Head of the History Department, Lucknow University, Lucknow.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

Bhopal, February 11, 1953

The twentieth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee was held at the Legislative Assembly Hall, Bhopal, at 10-30 A.M. on Wednesday, February 11, 1953 and was presided over by Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, and *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee. The list of members present will be found on pages 15-20.

1. REVIEW OF ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE NINETEENTH AND SOME PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THE RESEARCH & PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

(Please see conspectus, pages 39-49).

The Committee recorded the action taken on the various resolutions passed by it at its previous meetings.

2. REVIEW OF PROGRESS MADE IN THE PUBLICATION PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

An account of the progress made under the various schemes during the year is given below:—

Scheme I—Fort William-India House Correspondence

In accordance with the decision of the Government of India, the printing of Volume I (Honorary Editor: Dr. K. K. Datta) has been entrusted to the Government of India Press, New Delhi. The proofs of 586 pages out of a total of about 1,600 pages have already been received and the printing of the volume is expected to be completed before the end of 1953.

Two more Volumes—Volume XIII (Honorary Editor: Dr. P. C. Gupta) and Volume XVII (Honorary Editor: Professor Y. J. Taraporewalla) are ready for the press. It is proposed to get them printed simultaneously at presses under the administrative control of the Government of India.

The editorial work of Volume II (Honorary Editor: Dr. H. N. Sinha), Volume IV (Honorary Editor: the late Professor C. S. Srinivasachari), Volume VI (Honorary Editor: Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad) and Volume IX (Honorary Editor: Dr. B. A. Saletore) is being prepared for the press. Professor R. P. Patwardhan (Volume

VII) and Professor S. H. Askari (Volume XVI) have recently submitted their editorial work. The remaining Volumes are at various stages of progress. The editing of Volume III (Honorary Editor: Dr. R. R. Sethi), Volume XII (Honorary Editor: Dr. S. N. Das Gupta) and Volume XVIII (Honorary Editor: Rev. Father H. Heras) is expected to be completed shortly.

Due to the untimely death of Professor J. C. Taluqdar, the editing of Volume XIV, assigned to him, could not be completed. The introduction to the volume had been submitted by him earlier. It is proposed to do the rest of the editorial work in the National Archives of India.

In August 1952, the Honorary Editor of Volume X, Dr. T. G. P. Spear, expressed his inability to edit the volume entrusted to him and returned the transcripts of the Correspondence. Dr. Raghubir Singh was appointed in the vacancy, and he has since reported good progress in his work.

Scheme II—Selections from English Records

The staff expected to do the work connected with this scheme is mostly engaged on the work relating to Scheme I, which has been given priority. Progress under this head has accordingly been meagre.

The microfilm copies of the documents obtained from the India Office to fill the lacunae in the *Browne Correspondence* available at the National Archives of India have been typed. As soon as the necessary staff can be released, the editing of this volume will be resumed.

Scheme III (a)—Records in Oriental Languages

Hindi Letters (In two Volumes).—No communication has been received from either the Allahabad University or the Rajasthan Government regarding their respective volumes of *Hindi Letters*. The Government of Rajasthan was moved through the Ministry of States to enter into a formal agreement with the Government of India for the publication of the second volume of *Hindi Letters*, originally entrusted to the Kotah Darbar, now merged in the Union of Rajasthan. Reply to this is still awaited.

Persian Akhbars.—Delhi University has agreed to undertake the publication of the volume of *Persian Akhbars* and has appointed Dr. Parmatma Saran as editor of the Volume.

Kannada Letters.—The Karnataka University has been approached to undertake the publication of these letters, and it is expected that the University will agree to the proposal.

Tamil Letters.—The scheme to get the *Tamil Letters* published by the Annamalai University has fallen through. The University found only a few of those letters useful and offered to publish them in their Journal. The proposal of the University could not be accepted, as piecemeal publication of this nature was not contemplated in the scheme.

An attempt is being made to persuade the University of Madras to undertake their publication.

Marathi Letters.—The Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala has not made any report on the progress of the work on *Marathi Letters* for the third year in succession, in spite of repeated reminders to Professor D. V. Potdar and the Mandala.

Scheme III (b)—Selections from English Records

The Volume of *Punjab Akhbars* (Honorary Editor: Sardar Ganda Singh), has been recently published by the Sikh History Society, Amritsar.

News Letters.—The Punjab University which was approached to undertake the publication of the volume of *News Letters* wanted to publish only those letters which related specifically to the Punjab affairs. As these cover hardly 200 manuscript pages out of a total of more than 1,200, it has not been found possible to accept their offer.

Elphinstone Correspondence.—The Volume is reported to be in the press, and is expected to be issued shortly by the Nagpur Historical Society.

Orme Manuscripts.—The Volume entitled *Selections from Orme Manuscripts*, edited by the late Professor C. S. Srinivasachari, on behalf of the Annamalai University, was published in November, 1952.

Ochterlony Papers.—No further progress has been made in the editing of this volume.

It may be recalled in this connection that the Research and Publication Committee at its sixteenth meeting held in New Delhi in July 1950 recommended (Resolution I) that the Honorary Editors should be requested to expedite their work or return the typescripts to the Director of Archives, if not completed by the end of December, 1952 (vide *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. XXVII, Pt. I, p. 19). The resolution was brought to the notice of the Honorary Editors concerned. Some of them have since submitted their completed work. A reminder was issued to those

whose work was not completed but without any result. The Committee may now consider the action to be taken in this behalf.

The Research and Publication Committee may similarly suggest steps that are to be taken in respect of the volumes entrusted to different institutions under Scheme III (a) and (b) of the Publication Programme.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar drew attention to the concluding portion of the report on the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India and suggested that each scheme under the Programme should be considered separately. The suggestion was accepted by the house.

Scheme I

Dr. N. K. Sinha expressed dissatisfaction over the slow progress of the publication programme and suggested that in view of the delay in getting the volumes printed at the Government of India Presses, some private presses should be selected by the Secretary to expedite their publication.

The Secretary replied that the Government of India Presses were offering full co-operation to the National Archives of India. He pointed out that the Honorary Editors were not sending their editorial work in time and in many cases the preparation of these volumes for the press took a long time because of the unsatisfactory condition in which they were received from the Editors.

The Chairman suggested the appointment of a small Committee to find ways and means for expediting the implementation of the scheme.

The following resolution, moved by the Chair, was unanimously passed:—

Resolution I.—Resolved that a Committee consisting of Dr. R. C. Majumdar, Dr. G. S. Sardesai, and Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, be appointed to examine the details of the progress made under Scheme I of the Publication Programme and suggest ways and means for expediting the editing and printing of the volumes in question.

Scheme II

Recorded.

Scheme III (a)

Dr. R. C. Majumdar enquired whether something could not be done through the Ministry of States to persuade the Rajasthan Government to expedite the publication of the *Hindi Letters*.

The Chairman assured that he would personally look into the matter and do the needful.

On an enquiry made by Dr. G. S. Sardesai and Dr. R. R. Sethi regarding the progress made in editing the *Marathi Letters*, Mr. G. H. Khare informed that the editing work was progressing.

The Chairman proposed that Mr. Khare should be requested to report to the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, about the progress of work in consultation with Professor D. V. Potdar. The proposal was accepted by the Committee.

Scheme III (b)

The Chairman enquired from the representative of the Punjab Government (Mr. V. S. Suri) whether the State Government was willing to take up the publication of the *News Letters*.

Mr. V. S. Suri replied that since the Punjab Government had their own publication programme, they might be interested in the publication of only such letters which might have a bearing on the history of the Punjab.

It was suggested that the Secretary should explore the possibility of entrusting the publication of the *News Letters* to some other institution under the terms of the scheme.

3. SURVEY OF RECORDS

A review of the survey work done by the *ad hoc* and permanent Regional Records Survey Committees functioning in the various States was placed before the nineteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at Jaipur in December 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXVIII, Part I, pages 27 and 80-81*). A further report on the progress made in this behalf during the year under review is given below:—

(a) *Permanent Committees.*—In addition to the information given last year, the Government of Bhopal have set up their own permanent Committee. The Government of India have made a budget grant of Rs. 6,000 for setting up a permanent Committee for the Delhi State. The Governments of Madras and Travancore-Cochin have reconstituted their respective Committees. The Rajasthan and Vindhya Pradesh Governments have stated that they are taking steps to establish such Committees.

(b) *Annual reports of the Committees.*—A summary of the annual reports of the Regional Records Survey Committees, received last

year, has been printed in the *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, Appendix H. During the current year fresh reports have been received from the Committees of Hyderabad, Madhya Bharat, Madras, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

(c) *Financial grant*.—A grant of Rs. 1,000 only has been received from the Government of India for 1952-53 for the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committees in Part A States only. There being only two such *ad hoc* Committees functioning in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, a sum of Rs. 500 is proposed to be disbursed to each of them.

(d) *Purchase of documents*.—During the year the *ad hoc* Survey Committees did useful survey work, and brought to light some valuable manuscripts of historical importance. The manuscripts and documents purchased by these Committees out of the Government of India grant, or their copies procured by them, have been, as usual, transferred to the National Archives of India.

The Committee recorded the report submitted by the Secretary on the survey of records in private custody.

4. RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN REGARDING PUBLICATION OF SELECTIONS FROM RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS.

Resolved that steps be taken to encourage the publication of records dealing with Social Customs, Economic Life and Systems of Government of various Units, lying in the Records Offices of States and also in the personal possession of Rulers, so as to enable the scholars to have an idea of the Palace and Court traditions, Social Customs, Political Life of the Rulers etc.

Explanatory Note.—This is important because this institution of Rulers is to go into entire oblivion after some years and it is but proper that some technical terms and details of that life could be preserved and studied in original.

Secretary's Note.—Please see item 4 of the Proceedings of the nineteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee (*Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, pages 27 and 81). The Government of India have already requested the State Governments to undertake programmes of publication of their records (*Conspectus*, Research and Publication Committee, nineteenth meeting).

The resolution was not moved as the representative of the Government of Rajasthan was not present.

5. RESOLUTION BY DR. YUSUF HUSAIN KHAN ON BEHALF OF THE OSMANIA UNIVERSITY REGARDING PUBLICATION OF PERSIAN RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

Resolved that the publication of Persian records in the custody of the National Archives be expedited and some more scholars be associated with the work of their editing.

Explanatory Note.—There are a number of Persian records in the National Archives bearing on early Anglo-Nizam relations. It would be convenient for reference purposes if separate volumes are brought out on Anglo-Nizam relations, just as a separate volume has been published by the editors of the Poona Residency Correspondence entitled "Maratha-Nizam Relations". Some scholars of the Osmania University are prepared to undertake the work of annotating and editing these volumes in an honorary capacity.

Secretary's Note.—The scheme of calendaring of records in the National Archives of India covers the entire series of Persian Correspondence (1759—1878) in the custody of the Department. So far eight volumes (1—7 and 9) of these Calenders have been published by the National Archives of India without any external help. Volume VIII is in the press. It is proposed to continue with the publication of these volumes in chronological order as has been done so far; and it is not advisable for the National Archives of India to undertake a new plan of volumes as proposed by the Osmania University. There is, however, no objection to the University or any scholar undertaking the publication of the Persian Correspondence on any particular subject.

In view of the 'Secretary's Note', Dr. Yusuf Husain Khan withdrew his resolution.

6. SUGGESTION BY DR. N. K. SINHA REGARDING DESIRABILITY OF THE REGIONAL RECORDS SURVEY COMMITTEES BEING ALLOWED TO EXAMINE RECORDS OF THE VARIOUS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS BEFORE THEY ARE TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRAL REPOSITORY.

Under the normal accession programme of the National Archives of India a number of agencies make proposals for the transfer of their non-current records to the National Archives of India. It is desirable that the Regional Survey Committee of the State in which an agency's records are located should be afforded facilities to examine these old records before they are actually transferred.

Explanatory Note.—From the monthly reports of the National Archives of India, we learn that the transfer of the non-current records of the Patent Office, Calcutta, and the old records of the Mint Master in Calcutta is contemplated. Similarly old records of other such agencies in other States may also be transferred. It is not intended to protest against this. But the Regional Survey Committee of the State in which an agency is located would naturally like to have an idea of the historical importance of the records before they are actually transferred. Members of Regional Survey Committees who are trained historians would then be in a position to help other people, if necessary, by communicating to them the importance or lack of importance of the records removed.

Secretary's Note.—The records referred to in the 'Explanatory Note' are Central Government records, and as such do not fall under the scope of the activities of the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee. The Government of India, will, however, be glad to give access to these records to *bonafide* scholars under usual conditions after their accession to the National Archives of India and after these have been properly arranged and listed. As regards similar records of the State Governments, such of the Committees whose State Governments have accepted Resolution VI of the 28th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXVIII, Part I, pages 31-32 and 116*), will presumably be consulted by the State Governments concerned on such matters. The main function of the Regional Committees is to salvage records in private custody which are likely to be lost or remain unknown to scholars. It is desirable that the Committees should devote their full attention to this very important work as very little is known about family archives and private records and manuscripts collections. There is hardly any possibility of Government records being lost or remaining unknown for a long time.

Dr. N. K. Sinha while moving the resolution said that the records of the Patent Office and the Mint Master were in Calcutta for more than a century, and the West Bengal Regional Records Survey Committee wanted to know the contents of these records before these were transferred to the National Archives of India. He further added that he had no intention other than to prepare a hand-list of those records which, he felt, might be of interest to local scholars.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar said that the only thing that was intended was to find out what materials were actually being transferred to Delhi and he felt that there should normally be no objection to those records being examined by students of History.

The Secretary pointed out that the records that belonged to the Government of India could not be examined by the Regional Records Survey Committees unless these were properly accessioned and listed. The Secretary, however, agreed to depute at an early date an Officer from the National Archives of India for the listing of the records.

The resolution was withdrawn by the mover.

7. RESOLUTION BY DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO REGARDING COMPILATION OF CATALOGUES AND CALENDARS OF RECORDS OF THE MYSORE SECRETARIAT RECORDS OFFICE.

The Committee recommends that the Government of Mysore should extend all facilities, technical or otherwise, to the Department of History, Mysore University, in the work of compilation of the Catalogues and Calendars of records in the custody of the Secretariat Records Office, Bangalore, as recommended by the Director of Archives, Government of India, in his Inspection Report of the above Records Office. Similar facilities may also be extended in respect of manuscript materials in the possession of the Saraswati Bhandar, the Palace, Mysore.

The Committee accepted the proposal of Dr. M. V. Krishna Rao, and the following resolution was passed:—

Resolution II.—The Committee recommends that the Government of Mysore should extend all facilities, technical or otherwise, to the Department of History, Mysore University, in the work of compilation of Catalogues and Calendars of Records in the custody of the Secretariat Records Office, Bangalore, as recommended by the Director of Archives, Government of India, in his Inspection Report of the above Records Office. Similar facilities may also be extended in respect of manuscript materials in the possession of the Saraswati Bhandar, The Palace, Mysore.

8. RESOLUTION BY DR. N. L. CHATTERJEE REGARDING NATIONAL YEAR BOOK OF ARCHIVES.

That a National Year Book of Archives be regularly published, giving full details regarding official records and private collections, if feasible, for the information of scholars.

Explanatory Note.—Such an annual bulletin is overdue, especially when there is already a demand for an International Year Book of this nature. This Year Book should be published by the National Archives of India. It should, if possible, contain, details regarding collection, accession, publication etc. in the National Archives of India and in the State Record Offices, and also when possible, private collections.

Secretary's Note.—The object of the proposal is, to a certain extent, being carried out at present by the publication in *The Indian Archives*, reports about the activities of the various record offices in India. All available information about their major accessions and publications is usually given in each issue of the *Journal*.

Dr. N. L. Chatterjee while moving his resolution stressed the need for a consolidated National Year Book of Archives.

The Secretary pointed out the difficulties that would be involved in undertaking this work. He informed the house that most of the State Governments were unable to furnish to the National Archives of India the information which it had invited earlier on the subject. He added that it involved the question of finance, as additional staff would be required for the compilation of the Year Book.

In view of this, Dr. Chatterjee did not press for his resolution.

9-10. RESOLUTIONS BY DR. N. L. CHATTERJEE AND DR. R. C. MAJUMDAR REGARDING THE HISTORY OF FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA.

9. Resolution by Dr. N. L. Chatterjee

That Regional Survey Committees be requested to expedite the collection of material for the compilation of the history of Freedom Movement in India.

Explanatory Note.—At present these bodies have made very little progress in this direction for want of funds and other facilities.

10. Resolution by Dr. R. C. Majumdar

This Committee recommends that the Regional Survey Committees be closely associated with the work of preparing a History of the Freedom Movement in India for which a Committee has recently been set up by the Government of India.

Explanatory Note.—The Commission has been taking keen interest in the writing of such a history, and passed a Resolution recommending it in its Session held at Jaipur in the year 1948 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. XXIV, pages 143-44). As the Regional Records Committees consist of persons interested in historical documents, their services would be invaluable in collecting materials for the history. As a matter of fact, it was sometimes proposed to entrust the main work of collecting materials to these Regional Committees. As the Government of India has set up a separate Committee or Editorial Board, it is necessary and desirable that there should be a close association between this body and the Regional Survey Committees and the services of the latter be utilised as far as possible.

Secretary's Note.—Please see the report submitted by the Ministry of Education, Government of India (*vide Proceedings, Indian Historical Records Commission*).

The proposals of Dr. N. L. Chatterjee and Dr. R. C. Majumdar regarding the History of Freedom Movement in India were accepted and the following resolution was passed:—

Resolution III.—This Committee recommends that the Regional Records Survey Committees be closely associated with the work of preparing the History of the Freedom Movement in India. The Committees be further requested to expedite the collection of material for the proposed History.

11. RESOLUTION BY DR. N. L. CHATTERJEE REGARDING ACCESS TO PRIVATE RECORDS OF THE EX-RULERS OF THE STATES MERGED WITH UTTAR PRADESH.

That the Uttar Pradesh Government be advised to arrange for an inspection of the records of the ex-Rulers, which have recently been declared private property without adequate previous examination.

Explanatory Note.—For instance, the records of the Raja of Banaras have been declared private property without a thorough examination.

Secretary's Note.—Please see the remarks of the Government of Uttar Pradesh on Resolution III of the fourteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee (*Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVII, Part I, page 44) regarding the records of the former Banaras State. No information in respect of other States, *viz.*, Rampur, Tehri Garhwal, etc., which have merged with Uttar Pradesh, has been received.

The Chairman pointed out that the matter had already been taken up by the Government of India with all the Rulers.

In view of this Dr. N. L. Chatterjee did not move his resolution.

12. RESOLUTION BY DR. K. K. DATTA REGARDING ZAMINDARI RECORDS

Resolved that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take suitable steps at an early date, for collection and preservation, at a central place, of the old historical records of the Zamindaries now brought under Government control.

Explanatory Note.—The proprietors of most of the Zamindaries must have in their possession old records in the shape of firmans, sanads or grants of various kinds obtained from Governmental

authorities at different dates. Such records, when properly scrutinised, will certainly yield valuable historical information. In the interest of historical truth, these should not be allowed either to be destroyed or to remain uncared for.

The Committee accepted the proposal of Dr. K. K. Datta and the following resolution was passed:—

Resolution IV.—Resolved that the Government of India and the State Governments be requested to take suitable steps at an early date for collection and preservation, at a central place, of the old historical records of the Zamindaries now brought under Government control.

13-14. RESOLUTIONS BY DR. H. K. BARPUJARI REGARDING:

13. PREPARATION OF A LIST OF RESEARCH WORKS ON MODERN INDIAN HISTORY.

This Committee recommends that steps should be taken to prepare a comprehensive list of the research works on Modern Indian History done here and abroad, and that such a list should be published periodically.

Explanatory Note.—To co-ordinate research activities the tenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held in New Delhi in 1947, it appears, adopted a resolution and that "Indian Archives" was to publish the reports submitted by the Indian Universities. It would be perhaps more helpful if such reports are published for a certain number of years in a volume, and if steps are also taken to collect informations from Universities like London, Oxford, Cambridge of the United Kingdom, where innumerable theses and dissertations are submitted annually for different examinations. Apart from enabling scholars of different States and even of countries to come in contact with each other, such an action will eliminate the chance of duplication of works on similar subjects.

Secretary's Note.—The Universities in India were addressed to supply information regarding research work done by their scholars but the response so far has been very poor. Information regarding the research work done in United Kingdom is usually available in the Bulletin of the *Institute of Historical Research*, University of London.

Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad enquired who would undertake the compilation of the list.

The Chairman said that this might be undertaken by the National Archives of India.

The following resolution was then passed:—

Resolution V.—This Committee recommends that steps should be taken to prepare a comprehensive list of the research works on Modern Indian History done in India and that such a list should be published periodically.

14. PREPARATION OF A CATALOGUE OF RARE AND VALUABLE BOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

This Committee recommends to the Regional Survey Committees to make a catalogue, as far as practicable, of all the rare and valuable books and pamphlets published by the East India Company and that steps should be taken by the Central and State Governments concerned to reprint them.

Explanatory Note.—Mention may be made in this connection of such works as Adam White's "Memoir of David Scott (1832)", Pemberton's "Report on the North East Frontier of British India (1839)", Robinson's "A descriptive Account of Assam (1841)". Most of these books were published in a limited number by the East India Company for use of their officers only and at present some of them may not be extant in this country. These books, if reprinted, will be of invaluable help not only to the historical scholars but to the administrators as well.

Secretary's Note.—It will be more appropriate for Universities and learned institutions to undertake this work than its being taken up by the Regional Committees or State Governments.

In view of the Secretary's Note, Dr. H. K. Barpujari did not press for the resolution.

15-16. SUGGESTIONS BY MR. S. S. JHANWAR REGARDING:

15. RESIDENCY RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

Hand-lists of the various files and records received from the various Agencies of the British Government in the former Indian States be prepared and printed for ready use and reference to scholars and other research students. These records and files be separately stored and catalogued Agency-wise to make them easily accessible to research workers desiring to use them.

Secretary's Note.—A statement giving the names of the late Residencies and Political Agencies in India whose records have been transferred to the National Archives of India, has been published in the *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I (Appendix C). A report about progress made in the 50 Dir. of Arch.

arrangement and listing of these records was, as usual, placed before the last Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission and printed in the Proceedings Volume (*Ibid*, Appendix G, pages 107—13). A fresh report giving details of the new accession of Residency records and the progress made in the preparation of their inventories has been given in the "Review of the Development Programme of the National Archives of India" (*vide* Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission). It may be added that the preparation of hand-lists of all the records is a colossal problem and the resources of the Government are not adequate to carry out this work in the near future.

Mr. S. S. Jhanwar withdrew the resolution in view of the Secretary's Note.

16. PUBLICATION PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A definite effort be made to expedite the preparation and publication of the various volumes of the Indian Records Series now being edited.

Secretary's Note.—Please see item 2 of the Proceedings: Review of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India.

In view of the discussion that followed under item 2, Mr. Jhanwar withdrew his resolution.

17. RESOLUTION BY MR. S. C. DE REGARDING COMPILATION AND PUBLICATION OF CATALOGUES OF UNPUBLISHED SANADS, FARMANS, ETC. IN ORIENTAL LANGUAGES IN THE CUSTODY OF DIFFERENT STATES.

Resolved that descriptive catalogues of unpublished Sanads, Farmans or other documents of historical importance in different languages pertaining to the Mughal, Maratha and British periods of Indian History and preserved in the Archives of different States, be compiled by the respective State Governments and placed before the Indian Historical Records Commission. Arrangement may, thereafter, be made for publication of the Sanads, etc., if necessary.

Explanatory Note.—In the Archives of different States there may be a large number of historical documents in different Oriental languages still lying unpublished. In the Orissa State Archives there are a number of historical documents written in old Persian, Modi, Oriya and Bengali scripts of the Mughal, Maratha and British periods. Since scholars knowing these scripts are not available in the State, the publication of these valuable documents is likely to be delayed considerably. If a catalogue of these documents is prepared, the scholars will not only know the number of

such unpublished documents but also the historical importance of those manuscripts. Compilation of such catalogues will ultimately help in properly deciphering the documents and their publication.

The resolution was not moved in the absence of Mr. De.

18. RESOLUTION BY MR. R. SUBBA RAO REGARDING PUBLICATION OF HAND BOOKS OF STATE RECORDS OFFICES.

Resolved that Hand Books of records in the custody of each State Government be published, if necessary, by the help of funds from the Central Government.

Explanatory Note.—For want of such Hand Books of records in the custody of each State, it is not possible for scholars to write books useful for advanced students relating to revenue, social and economic conditions of the country. History is not studied properly in colleges and universities for want of such books.

Secretary's Note.—The Indian Historical Records Commission, since its inception, passed a number of resolutions urging the State Governments to publish Hand Books to their records. If the State Governments can arrange for the compilation of the hand books there will not be any difficulty in publishing them. The cost of printing is generally negligible compared to the cost of preparation of such publications.

The resolution was not moved in the absence of Mr. Subba Rao.

19-20. RESOLUTIONS BY DR. G. N. SALETORÉ AND DR. BOOL CHAND REGARDING PUBLICATION OF THE RESIDENCY RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

19. Resolution by Dr. G. N. Saletore

Resolved that selections from the defunct Residency records deposited in the National Archives may be included in the five-year publication programme of the National Archives of India.

Explanatory Note.—Publication of the Residency records and preparation of their indices, etc. have already formed the subject matter of previous resolutions. In this connection attention is invited to the Secretary's observations at page 22 of the Proceedings of the twenty-seventh session, Nagpur, 1950, and page 82 of the Proceedings of the twenty-eighth session, Jaipur, 1951. It is now over five years since the records of the defunct Residencies were transferred to the National Archives. But it is not known how much progress has been made in regard to their arrangement, preservation, hand-listing, etc. and when this work will be completed. A list of these documents is no doubt available in the National Archives to *bonafide* research

scholars. The Residency records contain correspondence of very valuable nature. It is therefore essential that they may be included in the overall publication programme of the National Archives of India, if it is not possible to consider their publication as a separate series.

20. *Resolution by Dr. Bool Chand*

This Committee recommends to the Government of India that the National Archives of India be asked to include in their publication programme, selections from the Residency records of the various agencies, etc. recently taken over by the National Archives with special reference to the Exercise of Paramountcy, the growth of political practice and usage, etc.

Secretary's Note.—The work of arrangement, preservation and listing of late Residency records in the custody of the National Archives of India has not been completed. For want of staff the work will take some time. The progress of work of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India has not been achieved according to schedule because of a number of difficulties (*vide* Memorandum on the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India; Appendix A, *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVII, Part I, pages 66—72). The addition of the publication of Residency Records to the existing Publication Programme, without corresponding increase in the staff will, naturally, impede the progress of the programme in hand.

In view of the Secretary's Note, Dr. G. N. Saletore did not move the resolution. Dr. Bool Chand was not present in the meeting.

21. RESOLUTION BY DR. G. N. SALETORE REGARDING NATIONAL REGISTER OF RECORDS.

Resolved that the National Register of Archives and historical manuscripts may be compiled more expeditiously.

Explanatory Note.—It is imperative that vigorous attempts have to be made, if the National Register is to be a successful venture. Reminders to the State Governments, Regional Record Survey Committees, learned institutions, etc. may therefore be sent.

Secretary's Note.—The Government of India have accepted the proposal in principle but they have not so far been able to provide requisite financial grant to implement the scheme. An experimental measure recommended by the Indian Historical Record Commission at its twenty-seventh session at Nagpur (Resolution II), could not also be implemented for the same reason (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, page 103).

The Chairman said that he would personally look into the matter. The following resolution was then passed:

Resolution VI.—The Committee reiterates its previous resolutions regarding the compilation of the National Register of Records and Manuscripts and recommends that the Government of India should be moved to take immediate steps for the implementation of the scheme.

22. RESOLUTION BY DR. G. N. SALETORE REGARDING PUBLICATION OF A GUIDE TO RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

This Committee requests the Government of India that the publication of a comprehensive Guide to the records of the National Archives of India may be immediately sanctioned.

Explanatory Note.—The *Hand Book to the records of the Government of India in the Imperial Record Department* (1925) is now out of date. There have been fresh accessions of non-current records and microfilmed documents. It is now necessary that the National Archives of India should publish at a very early date, a guide which will give a general description of its records for enabling the users to utilise the wealth of information that is available. Besides a description of the contents of the Central repository, this publication must contain accounts of the organisational history of the various departments etc. and include in the purview the records of the defunct residencies and the Crown records in the custody of the State Governments. As the revision of the *Hand Book* is under the contemplation of the National Archives (possibly since the last 10 years or so) it is submitted that the work envisaged should be given priority in the publication programme of the National Archives and suitable arrangements made for implementing the proposal. A publication of this type will further the cause of preparation of a consolidated Guide to the various archives in India (*vide* Resolution IV, nineteenth session, Trivandrum, 1942).

Secretary's Note.—The work of compiling a revised edition of the *Hand Book to the records in the custody of the National Archives of India* was suspended because in recent years accessions of records have been very heavy. These records are being properly arranged and listed at present, and unless this work is completed it is not possible to prepare a comprehensive hand book. It is, however, proposed to publish a "summary guide" to the records in the National Archives of India at an early date.

The Secretary assured that the action regarding the compilation of an up-to-date *Hand-Book to Records in the National Archives of India* would be taken up shortly.

In view of this, Dr. G. N. Saletore did not press for the resolution.

23. RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY MOVED BY DR. P. M. JOSHI REGARDING PREPARATION OF A HAND BOOK OF INDIAN ARCHIVAL REPOSITORIES.

Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission should undertake the preparation of a Handbook of Indian Archival Repositories.

Explanatory Note.—Our international contacts in the field of Archives are growing with the result that there is a keen desire for exchange of news and views. It is thus necessary that we should have authoritative information at hand for the use of our foreign co-workers. More than this, we in India must also be more aware of institutions, their programmes, contents, etc. There must be a greater awakening on a national level. A hand-book is expected to serve the need of this awakening and solidarity in our ranks while at the same time adding to our stock of knowledge and helping our own archival and research programmes. The work should be undertaken by a representative body like the Indian Historical Records Commission if it is to be really worthy of its name.

Secretary's Note.—The Indian Historical Records Commission at its nineteenth session held at Trivandrum in December 1942 passed a resolution (IV) on the same subject. The work of the proposed all-India guide, which was undertaken by the National Archives of India, could not be completed partly for want of staff and partly because the State Governments who were expected to furnish the Department with full information regarding their records, were unable to do so.

Dr. B. S. Baliga pointed out that unless all the State Governments themselves prepared their own up-to-date Hand-Books, it would be difficult to undertake the compilation of an all-India Hand-Book of Indian Archival Repositories.

The Chairman stressed the need for such a Hand-Book and suggested that the Director of Archives, Government of India and the State Archivists should explore the possibility of bringing out such a publication at an early date.

The following resolution was passed:—

Resolution VII.—Resolved that the Indian Historical Records Commission should undertake the preparation of a Hand-Book of Indian Archival Repositories. The State Governments should co-operate with the Commission by supplying requisite information about their records for inclusion in the Hand-Book.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE—CONSPECTUS OF ACTION TAKEN

8TH MEETING, NEW DELHI, MARCH 1946

Resolution VI.—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to ask the Provincial Governments and Indian States to set up permanent Regional Survey Committees in view of the altered position consequent on the cessation of hostilities.

Delhi.—The Government of India have made a Budget grant for the Delhi State for 1952-53 for setting up of a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee. Action taken by the State Government in this behalf is awaited.

Vindhya Pradesh.—The State Government have informed that the setting up of a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee for the State is not possible before the reorganisation of the Vindhya Pradesh Historical Records Commission.

Bhopal.—The State Government have set up a Regional Survey Committee consisting of the following members:—

1. Mr. Abdul Alim Khan, Judicial Secretary.
2. Dr. K. L. Srivastava, Professor of History and Politics, Hamidia College.
3. Mr. S. P. Sangar, Lecturer in History, Hamidia College.
4. Dr. M. H. R. Taimuri, Director of Archaeology.

Rajasthan.—The State Government have informed that they have recently appointed a Director of Archives and he would in due course take necessary steps for the formation of a Regional Survey Committee.

Travancore-Cochin.—The State Government have reconstituted their Regional Records Survey Committee which consists of:

1. Mr. K. P. Pillai, Professor of History, University College, Trivandrum (Convener).
2. Mr. Soornad Kunjan Pillai, Assistant Secretary to the Government, Trivandrum.
3. Mr. P. N. Kunjan Pillai, Lecturer in Malayalam, University College, Trivandrum.

Madras.—The State Government have reconstituted the Regional Records Survey Committee on the expiry of the term of office of the previous Committee. The new constitution of the Committee will be found in Appendix D, pages 82—84.

10TH MEETING, NEW DELHI, MARCH 1947

Resolution VIII.—This Committee further recommends that the Provincial and State Governments be requested to give on the basis of the recommendations of the Regional Survey Committees in their areas, free transcripts of records in their custody to those who may help the Survey Committees in their quest for historical records, if such transcripts are wanted for local or family history.

U.P.—The State Government have accepted the resolution.

12TH MEETING, NEW DELHI, JULY 1948

Resolution III.—This Committee recommends that all the non-current District, Divisional and Sub-Divisional records should be centralised at the provincial headquarters under a unified control directly under the provincial governments for better preservation and historical research. It is further recommended that an annual report on the progress achieved in this respect may be submitted to the Indian Historical Records Commission for information.

[Please see item 1 of the proceedings of the nineteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at Jaipur in December 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, page 26)].

The Government of India forwarded relevant extracts from the proceedings of the above meeting to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for necessary action.

Madhya Pradesh.—The State Government have informed that they have issued instructions to the Deputy Commissioners to the effect that no old historical records and documents of any possible historical importance should be eliminated without reference to the Government.

Remarks.—As the action taken by the Madhya Pradesh Government was confined only to appraisal of records, the Government of India have requested the State Government to take suitable steps towards the proper preservation and maintenance of the District records. A copy of the "Note on Preservation of Records" was forwarded to the State Government in this connection. Reply from the State Government is awaited.

16TH MEETING, NEW DELHI, JULY 1950

Resolution III.—Resolved that the Government of India in the Ministry of States be requested to move all the State Governments (Part B) to throw open their records for *bonafide* historical research on the lines adopted by the Government of India. The Rajasthan Government in particular be requested to inform the Government of India regarding the progress they had made in this respect.

The Government of India issued another reminder to the State Governments from whom replies were outstanding. Replies received from some of them are summarised below:—

U.P.—The State Government have forwarded a copy of the Historical Research Rules framed by them for access to records in the custody of the Central Records Office, Allahabad. (*vide* Appendix F, pages 90—95).

Punjab.—The State Government have informed that the records in the Punjab Historical Records Office are open to public for purposes of *bonafide* historical research without any exception.

Rajasthan.—The State Government have informed that they have recently appointed a Director of Archives for the State. Further action on the resolution in question will be taken when the Department is set up.

Madhya Bharat.—(Please see the remarks of the State Government under Resolution IV).

Bhopal.—The State Government have provided facilities to *bonafide* research scholars by creating a Research Section within the Central Records Office. These facilities are subject to the rules and conditions similar to those framed by the National Archives of India.

Saurashtra.—The State Government have informed that old records of the pre-integration period are at present lying in the respective Record Offices of the covenanted States and that the State Government have under active consideration the question of setting up a Central Records Office for custody and preservation of those records. In the meantime, historical records will be open to *bonafide* research scholars subject to the condition that excerpts from confidential records will have to be scrutinised before these are actually released.

Bilaspur.—In reply to Resolution III of the sixteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held in July 1950, the Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur, had informed that the pre-merger records relating to the late Bilaspur State had not been transferred to the custody of the new Administration (*vide Indian Historical Records*

Commission Proceedings, Volume XXVIII, Part I, page 66). On further enquiry made by the Government of India, it has been found that there were no records of the old Bilaspur State with His Highness the Raja of Bilaspur excepting some records of the Treasury. A few registers among these records were destroyed in 1946-47 and some key-registers were handed over by His Highness to an official of the Ministry of States, which the Ministry proposes to hand over to the Chief Commissioner, Bilaspur.

Resolution IV.—This Committee reiterates its past recommendations regarding the establishment of Central Record Offices in the States (Part A & B).

Assam.—The State Government have informed that due to financial stringency the question of establishing a Central Records Office has had to be deferred till better days. They are, however, considering the question of appointing trained personnel in archive keeping for the Assam Civil Secretariat Record Office as a preliminary step towards the establishment of the Central Records Office.

Rajasthan.—(Please see the remarks of the State Government under Resolution III).

Madhya Bharat.—The State Government have informed that the Historical Records Section is a specialised and distinct branch of the Central Record Office where State records, historical and non-historical, are concentrated. The former is under the administrative control of the Chief Inspector of Records, but the technical control is under the Education Department, unlike the latter which is fully under the control of the Chief Inspector of Records and General Administration Department.

Remarks.—As the dual administrative and technical control of the record repositories is opposed to the principle of archival administration, the Government of India have made an enquiry from the Madhya Bharat Government as to what principles have been followed by them in organising two separate record rooms and also classifying records into "historical" and "non-historical". The reply from the State Government is awaited.

Bihar.—The State Government have informed that action is being taken by them to implement the resolution.

Mysore.—The State Government have informed that a well organised Records Office is working in the State.

Saurashtra.—(Please see the remarks of the State Government under Resolution III).

Resolution VII.—Resolved that the Government of India may take steps to (i) get back the records belonging to the late Residencies

and Political Agencies which have gone to the U.K. High Commissioner in India (ii) to call back all records belonging to those agencies and transferred to various States, Union Governments, district authorities and other bodies and (iii) to arrange their concentration in the National Archives of India without delay.

Please see remarks under the same resolution on page 70, *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I.

Efforts are still being made by the Government of India to retrieve the Residency Records which had gone to the High Commissioner for U. K. in India. As regards the records which were reported to have been destroyed on the eve of the lapse of paramountcy, the Government of U. K. are not aware if any lists of such records were compiled before their destruction. According to the information received from them the guiding principle followed in respect of disposal of Residency Records was "that all records of any potential future value should be kept; the ephemeral nature of those destroyed rendered a catalogue unnecessary".

Regarding the records of the defunct residencies which were lying with some Regional Commissioners and State Governments, records of the Eastern States Agency (1933—47), Chhattisgarh States Agency (1923—47), Central India States Agency (1812—1912) and Central Malwa States Agency (1817—42) have been transferred to the National Archives of India.

Resolution X.—Resolved that in view of the impending abolition of Zamindari, the Government of India and State Governments may be requested to take steps by legislation or otherwise for the prevention of dispersal, sale and unwarranted destruction of historical documents in the possession of families like those of Zamindars, Talukdars, Nawabs, etc.

Vindhya Pradesh.—The State Government have informed that no historical documents are known to be in the possession of Zamindars, Jagirdars or Pawaidars in the State.

Ajmer.—The State Government have informed that the records with the Istimarardars are so incomplete and disordered that they do not feel the necessity of introducing any legislation in this behalf. The State Government have, however, assured that the implication of the resolution will be kept in view while taking steps for the abolition of the Zamindari in the State.

Assam.—Reply is awaited.

Please see in this connection item 1 of the nineteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee held at Jaipur in December 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, page 27).

Resolution XI.—Resolved that the Government of India and State Governments may be requested to take appropriate steps to preserve the historical records which are in the personal custody of the Indian Princes, after the merger of their States with the Indian Republic, with a view to assuring their preservation and making them accessible for *bonafide* research.

Rajasthan.—Please see the earlier reply of the State Government on page 75, *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I. The report of the Committee of Scholars appointed by the Government of Rajasthan for a survey of records of various covenanting States has been received (*vide* Appendix I, pages 115—133).

The report gives a short account of the records in the custody of the nineteen covenanting States which have integrated with Rajasthan. Some of these covenanting States had fairly well organised Record Offices before their integration. The State Government propose to set up a Provincial Archives Museum. For the present the records will be preserved where they are, but later they are to be integrated to form five Divisional Archives Museums, which will ultimately develop into Provincial Archives Museum.

Remarks.—The Rajasthan Government was informed by the Government of India that it would be better to have a Central Records Office at the State's headquarters with regional offices at places where there were already some organised record rooms in existence. Also at the time of "integrating" the records, records of different origin or different series should not be mixed up and that the original arrangement should not be disturbed, and the "historical" and "non-historical" records of the same series should not be segregated. The State Government have agreed to adopt these suggestions as the work proceeds and finances permit.

17TH MEETING, NAGPUR, DECEMBER 1950

Resolution I.—That the Universities be requested to award at least one scholarship every year for conducting researches on the proposed compilation of the History of Freedom Movement in India and that Regional Records Survey Committees of the area should offer their full co-operation to the scholarship holders.

The Government of India issued a reminder to the Universities from whom replies were outstanding. The replies received from some of them are summarised below:—

Bombay has informed that there are certain scholarships in the University Departments and that if any student working on the

subject is deemed to be competent by the Head of the Department for the award of the scholarship, his request will be granted.

Roorkee has informed that it is not concerned with the resolution in question.

Jammu & Kashmir has informed that it is not in a position to contribute towards any such scholarship.

Andhra has informed that the University's funds do not permit the institution of a scholarship in the subject.

Annamalai has informed that it awards annually scholarships in aid of post-graduate studies and research. The research studentship earmarked for the History Department will be utilised for the purpose if a suitable applicant is available.

Gujrat has recorded the resolution.

Maharaja Sayajirao of Baroda has recorded the resolution.

Punjab has informed that its Syndicate has decided to recommend to the Senate the institution of a scholarship for one year for the present.

Utkal has informed that in view of the fact that the Syndicate has recommended to the Government of Orissa for appointment of a suitable person for collection of materials in the State for the proposed History of Freedom Movement in India, the question of awarding a scholarship by the University does not arise.

Madras is of the opinion that in the interests of uniformity and fair treatment of the subject, it is desirable that there should be a central organisation and a central committee, and that such organisation and committee should award scholarships, if necessary, on such conditions as may be indicated by those bodies.

Remarks.—The University of Madras was informed that the work of compilation of a History of Freedom Movement in India had been undertaken by the Government of India themselves and they had appointed a Committee of Experts for the purpose, which could be considered as the Central Committee. The work of co-ordination and compilation would ultimately be done by this Committee. The Government of India have since appointed a Board of Editors which held its first meeting in New Delhi in January 1953. Please see item 13 of the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Poona is unable to provide funds for the purpose.

Allahabad has agreed to award such a scholarship provided grant for the same was forthcoming from the State Government. The final decision is awaited.

Rajputana has informed that though such a scholarship cannot be reserved as such, an application received in this connection will be duly considered by the University when awarding the six annual research studentships.

Karnatak sought certain information on the subject, which was furnished to the University. The final decision is awaited.

Agra has informed that it was not possible to award any scholarship.

Osmania has informed that the matter is under its consideration. The final decision is awaited.

Nagpur has accepted the resolution.

Calcutta has informed that the resolution will be kept in view when awarding scholarships to deserving students.

Banaras (Hindu).—The Executive Council of the University recommended that a request be made to the (Regional Records Survey) Committee (for U.P.) to make one scholarship tenable for work at the University and that a requisite grant be made to the University for payment of the scholarship.

Remarks.—The University was informed that granting of scholarships is no part of the duties of the Regional Records Survey Committee. The University should either make a grant itself or should obtain it from the State Government.

19TH MEETING, JAIPUR, DECEMBER 1951

Resolution I.—This Committee approves of the action taken by the Secretary and requests that the list of documents etc. when received from the Director-General of Archaeology in India, may be placed before the next meeting of the Committee. The Committee further resolves that the Director-General of Archaeology may be requested by the Government of India to get one of his employees trained in the National Archives for better preservation and maintenance of records.

The Director-General of Archaeology has forwarded lists of manuscripts and documents in the custody of the Central Asian Antiquities Museum, New Delhi, the Red Fort Museum, Delhi and the Archaeological Section of the Indian Museum, Calcutta. The lists will be found in Appendix G, pages 96—112. The Archaeological Museums at Sarnath, Nalanda and Nagarjunikonda, which are under the administrative control of the Department of Archaeology, do not possess any manuscript or document.

The Department also proposes to depute its Assistant Librarian to the National Archives of India for a short course of training in Archive Keeping in July 1953.

Item 1 regarding old records in the Cochin Records Office

The Government of India forwarded relevant extracts from the proceedings of the meeting to the Government of Travancore-Cochin for their approval.

Travancore-Cochin.—The State Government have agreed to the inspection of the old records in the Cochin Records Office, Ernakulam by the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission. The Secretary proposes to inspect these records some time in April 1953.

Item 4 regarding formation of a Publication Programme by the State Governments

The Government of India forwarded relevant extracts from the proceedings of the meeting to all the State Governments for necessary action. Replies received from some of them are summarized below:—

Kutch.—The State Government have informed that since the records of the State are mostly of administrative importance and not of historical importance, no publication programme is considered necessary for the State.

Hyderabad.—The Central Records Office, Hyderabad, have drawn up a provisional Five Year (1952-57) Publication Programme (vide Appendix H, pages 112—114).

Madras.—The State Government have publication programme of their own which is being systematically implemented. (vide Appendix H, pages 112—114).

Manipur.—The State Government have a very small volume of records hardly of any historical importance and do not, therefore, deserve publication.

Bombay.—The State Government have informed that they are steadily pursuing for the last twenty years the publication of Government records of historical value. A review of the Publication Programme of the State Government will be found in Appendix H, pages 112—114.

Bihar.—The State Government have informed that action on the resolution will be taken when the Central Records Office for the State is established.

PEPSU.—The State Government have informed that the preparation of reference media and of a publication programme for records.

in the Central Records Office on the lines of the National Archives of India is under their active consideration.

West Bengal.—The State Government have informed that due to partition of the Province, they have not been able to formulate any programme of publication of their records. The present programme of the State Government is to publish press-lists of the Supreme and Intermediate Revenue Authorities up to the end of the 18th century. Press-lists of the Supreme Revenue Authorities up to 1782 have already been published.

Andaman & Nicobar.—The Administration has informed that as no historical records are to be found there, the question of formulation of a plan for their publication does not arise.

Vindhya Pradesh.—The State Government have informed that the question will be considered as soon as a Central Records Office is established for the State.

Rajasthan.—The State Government have informed that there is no programme of publication at present.

Saurashtra.—Since the State Government are yet organising the records of the various covenanting States and Talukas, they are not in a position to formulate an integrated plan of publication of their records.

Punjab.—The State Government have informed that they have a publication programme which is being vigorously implemented. A copy of the Publication Programme will be found in Appendix H. pages 112—114.

Bilaspur.—The State Government do not consider it necessary to formulate a publication programme for the State records, which are only three years old.

Mysore.—The State Government have informed that the new Regional Committee when set up by the State Government, will be asked to prepare a publication programme for the State records.

Madhya Bharat.—The State Government have informed that the plan for publication of State records will be undertaken after the survey of records has been completed and the records are properly arranged and listed.

Assam, Tripura, Coorg and Jammu and Kashmir Governments requested the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission to furnish them with copies of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India, which were sent to them.

Item 5 regarding weeding rules of the State Government records

Please see item 5 of the Proceedings of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Item 10 regarding publication by the Portuguese Government in India of records of Indian interest in their possession

The Government of India forwarded relevant extracts from the proceedings of the meeting to the Portuguese Government in India for necessary action.

Reply is awaited.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

MEMBERS' MEETING

Bhopal, February 11, 1953

The twenty-ninth annual session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held at 11-30 A.M. on Wednesday, February 11, 1953, at the Legislative Assembly Hall, Bhopal. In the unavoidable absence of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Education Minister of the Government of India and *ex-officio* President of the Commission, the meeting was presided over by Dr. Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Educational Adviser to the Government of India. The list of members who were present will be found on pages 15—20.

1. MOTION OF CONDOLENCE ON THE DEATH OF PROFESSOR J. C. TALUQDAR AND LT.-COL. J. L. TRELOAR.

Prof. J. C. Taluqdar of St. John's College, Agra represented the University of Agra on the Indian Historical Records Commission from 1942 to 1952 as an Associate Member. He was also Honorary Editor of *Fort William—India House Correspondence*, Volume XIV, under Scheme I of the Publication Programme of the National Archives of India. As a member of the Uttar Pradesh Regional Records Survey Committee, he did valuable work regarding the survey of records and historical manuscripts in private custody.

Lt.-Col. J. L. Treloar, C.B.E., was the Director of the Australian War Memorial and Archival Authority for Service Departments and a Corresponding Member of the Indian Historical Records Commission from Australia since 1947.

Letters of condolence were sent by the Secretary to both Mrs. Taluqdar and Mrs. Treloar.

The Commission passed the following resolution:—

Resolution I.—The Indian Historical Records Commission deeply mourns the death of Professor J. C. Taluqdar and Lt.-Col. J. L. Treloar and authorises the Secretary to convey to the bereaved families messages of condolence on behalf of the Commission.

2. REVIEW OF ACTION TAKEN ON THE RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE TWENTY-EIGHTH AND SOME PREVIOUS SESSIONS OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION.

(Please see Conspectus—pages 68—72).

The Commission recorded the action taken on the resolutions passed by it at the 28th and some previous sessions.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS, IF ANY, OF THE MEETING OF THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE HELD AT BHOPAL.

There being no recommendation of an exceptional nature by the Research and Publication Committee, the Commission proceeded to consider the next item on the agenda.

4. REVIEW OF THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA.

A report on the progress in regard to the Development Programme of the National Archives of India during 1951 was placed before the twenty-eighth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Jaipur in December 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, pages 107—13). A further report for 1952 is submitted below:—

The principal recommendations were:—

- (i) Microfilm copies of all unpublished records relating to modern Indian history, not available in this country, should be obtained and preserved in the National Archives of India.
- (ii) All necessary steps should be taken for salvaging privately owned manuscripts in India. The Central and provincial record offices should be legally authorized to take charge of such manuscripts when their respective owners are willing to transfer their custody on such terms as may mutually be agreed upon. Such owners as may be prepared to provide for the better preservation of their manuscripts should be given such technical advice and service as they may require.
- (iii) Unwarranted destruction and export of historical manuscripts should be legally prohibited.
- (iv) Microphotographic copies of all rare publications on India not available in this country should be obtained irrespective of the period they deal with and placed in the custody of the National Archives of India.
- (v) All *bonafide* students should have access to these copies.
- (vi) The National Archives of India should supply at a reasonable price copies made out of the microfilms mentioned above to universities, learned societies, public libraries and such persons as may apply for them.
- (vii) Early steps should be taken to air-condition the muniment rooms of the National Archives of India with a view

to securing uniformity of temperature and relative humidity.

- (viii) Vacuum fumigatorium and laminating machines should be installed in the National Archives of India at an early date.
- (ix) Imparting instruction in theory and practice of archive-keeping should be recognized as one of the normal duties of the National Archives of India.
- (x) Publication Programme.
- (xi) Building and Shelves.
- (xii) Storage Equipment (for records).
- (xiii) Accession of records of the Government of India not transferred.
- (xiv) Map Room.
- (xv) Survey and listing of National Archives of India records.

(i)—Further progress was made in acquiring microfilm copies of manuscripts of Indian interest from the Algemeen Rijksarchief. The Hague, the total number of reels coming to 91 or about 150,000 manuscript pages, and covering the records of the Dutch East India Company from 1674 to 1693. Microfilm copies were also acquired of several valuable collections of historical manuscripts in the custody of John Rylands Library, Manchester, covering about 32,000 manuscript pages. Important among them include Melville Correspondence, 1786-1828; Miscellaneous Papers of Melville, 1789-1847; Pitt Papers relating to the East India Company and William Edward Rawlinson Manuscripts, 1824-34. The Department was also able to acquire copies of all the Indian materials available in the National Library of Wales which include letters of Sir John Malcolm, 1799-1801; original correspondence of Sir William Jones, 1773-1790; diplomatic papers of Sir Harford Jones, 1787-1810; and the papers and diaries of Sir Alured Clarke 1784-1831, the whole covering over 3,000 manuscript pages.

The collaboration of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, made possible during the year under review the compilation of a list of Indian materials available among the Chatham Papers in the Public Record Office, London. The list compiled includes all materials embodied in the first 362 volumes in the collection. The sudden and unexpected death of the Earl of Powis and Lt.-Col. S. E. G. Malet necessitated the postponement of the programme taken up by the Department of acquiring a copy of the *Calendar of Clive Papers* in the custody of the former and of the *Malet Papers* and *Sir Charles Napier Papers* in the custody of the latter. Efforts are, however, being made to resume the work as soon as possible.

Further instalments were received during the year under review of copies of Indian material available among the *Nouvelles Acquisitions* series at the Bibliotheque Nationales, Paris. These cover nearly 8,000 manuscript pages and include, among others, Memoir of Count de Lally; correspondence of Count of Prat (1773-74), documents relating to the trades of Karikal, 1785; correspondence of Dupleix with the French East India Company, and diverse correspondence relating to his trial; Memoir of Rajagopalanaekar of the town of Pondicherry, 1784; Memoir on the siege of Madras and the state of the French Company's trade. Microfilms of further manuscripts in the collection are under preparation.

The above acquisitions were made possible by a liberal grant of Rs. 20,000 from the Government of India during 1951-52. The Government have made a further grant of Rs. 5,000 for the current financial year.

(ii)—(a) The Government of India have made a grant of Rs. 1,000 to the *ad hoc* Regional Records Survey Committees in Part A States only for the year 1952-53. There being only two such *ad hoc* Committees functioning at present in Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, a sum of Rs. 500 is proposed to be disbursed to each of these Committees. All the Survey Committees have unearthed valuable manuscripts in the course of their survey work and the documents purchased by them from private owners have been transferred to the National Archives of India. (Please see the report in the Proceedings of the Research and Publication Committee, item 3).

(b) No grant has been received from the Government of India under the budget grant of the National Archives of India for 1952-53 for the compilation of the National Register of Records and Manuscripts.

(c) A sum of Rs. 4,000 has been provided in the Budget Estimates for 1953-54 for the purchase of manuscripts of historical importance.

(d) No grant has been received from the Government of India during 1952-53 under the heading of "Technical aid".

(iii)—The matter is receiving the attention of the Government of India and the implications of the proposal regarding archival legislation are being scrutinized.

(iv)—(a) 149 reels of microfilms of Parliamentary Papers, relating to India and the Eastern Affairs (1801-1907) have been received from H. M. Stationery Office, London.

(b) A sum of Rs. 7,500 was spent during the year 1951-52 for the purchase of books for the Library of the National Archives of India. Books worth Rs. 4,000 are expected to be acquired during the current financial year.

(v) and (vi)—The copies of manuscripts and publications received from various repositories are available to *bonafide* research scholars. So far very few requests have been made for their use. Copies of these microfilms can also be obtained by scholars and institutions at the usual rates charged by the Department for photographic reproductions.

(vii)—Necessary funds for air-conditioning of the ground floor muniment rooms have been provided and the work is expected to be taken up shortly.

(viii)—Due to the shortage of electric energy in Delhi the Department is finding it difficult to get requisite power for a boiler suitable to work the lamination press. The order for purchasing the boiler will be placed as soon as the required power supply is assured.

(ix)—The Government of India have awarded two stipends of Rs. 125 each per month, during 1952-53, to trainees in Archiving at the National Archives of India. The syllabus for training has been modified on the basis of the past experience and to provide for training of a larger number of candidates for archival positions. The revised syllabus provides training for one year full course, six months course in preservation of records and three months special short course mainly for the staff employed in the record rooms of the Ministries and Offices of the Government of India and of the State Governments.

(x)—Please see report in the Proceedings of the Research and Publication Committee, item 2.

(xi)—Provision for the construction of a new wing to the south of the existing National Archives of India building has been made. The plans for this work have been prepared and the Central Public Works Department is expected to start it shortly.

(xii)—A grant of Rs. 5,000 was made by the Government of India in 1952-53 for the purchase of carton boxes. As boxes of standard specifications could not be obtained, the amount was utilized for the purchase of five-plywood boards for bundles of records. A similar amount has been provided in the Budget Estimates for 1953-54.

(xiii)—The Department could not make much headway in implementing its programme of centralization of Government of India's non-current records mainly owing to shortage of space. Some progress, however, was made in acquiring the records of the defunct Residencies still lying with the various Regional Commissioners. They are as given below:—

1. Eastern States Agency, 1933—47 and Chhattisgarh States Agency 1923—47	1,500 files
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2. Central India States Agency, 1812—1912	10,000 files
3. Central Malwa Agency, 1817—1842	13,000 files

The Department, in addition, completed arrangements for taking over from their respective custodians the records of the Mint Office, 1792—1838; the records of the late Nepal Residency, 1817—1872; and manuscript originals of the records of the late Foreign and Political Department, 1881—1922.

Efforts were continued to collect information on the total archival holdings of the different agencies of the Government of India, which have not yet transferred their records to the National Archives of India. The response to the questionnaire issued to them in this behalf was far from satisfactory.

(xiv)—A provision for setting up a Map Room as an integral part of the National Archives of India has been made in the additional wing to the building which is proposed to be constructed. A provision has been made in the Budget Estimates for 1953-54 for employment of suitable staff for starting work in this behalf.

(xv)—Arrangement and listing of the accessioned records continued to make good progress, and the Department is glad to be able to report that the check-lists of the records of the late Foreign and Political Department from 1881 to 1937, and those of the Crown Representative from 1937 to 1940, were compiled during the year under review. They cover about 2,46,000 files and 68 volumes. Survey and check-listing was also completed of the following items:—

Public Consultations 1812, 1822—38	39,233 documents
Judicial (Home Department) Records, 1925—30	40,000 files
Legislative Proceedings	700 files

In addition, descriptive lists of 5,000 letters belonging to the Central India Agency covering the period January 1858—July 1859 were also prepared. They mostly relate to the final phase of the Indian Mutiny. Further work is in progress.

Dr. N. K. Sinha drew attention to item (ii)(b) of the Report on the Development Programme, and suggested that the Government of India should be moved to make necessary grant for the compilation of the National Register of Records.

The Chairman assured that he would look into the matter.

Other items of the report were recorded

5. NOTE ON THE WEEDING RULES RECEIVED FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENTS.

The Research and Publication Committee at the seventeenth meeting held at Nagpur in December, 1950, decided that the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, should be furnished by the various State Governments with rules which governed the weeding of their current records, for examination whether suitable safeguards were provided against destruction of records of possible research value. As reported at the nineteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee, held at Jaipur in December, 1951, the Government of India requested all the States to send information about their present practices of weeding records. The Secretary has by now received replies from almost all the States, which are being examined and scrutinized.

A preliminary survey of the information received shows the existence of possible lacunae, that is, the weeding rules supplied to the Secretary, cover only a few Departments under a particular State Government, and not all the Ministries, Departments, Divisions, Sub-Divisions, and other Government Agencies, as stipulated in the Research and Publication Committee's resolution. For example, the Governments of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Travancore-Cochin have supplied rules of weeding for their Secretariat records only. The Government of Bombay have supplied weeding rules for their Secretariat records, and have stated that these rules are also applicable to the records of other Administrative Departments, without giving any details about the latter. The Government of West Bengal have furnished their Secretariat records weeding rules, and have stated that the district records are also weeded on the same principles, but have not given any details about the district records. The Governments of Manipur, Saurashtra and Rajasthan have no weeding rules at all. The Government of Bilaspur (Simla Hills) have supplied rules for weeding of their Judicial and Revenue records only. These examples are given at random to show how incomplete is the information which has been received. These gaps can possibly be filled in by requesting the State Governments to send weeding rules for the remaining Departments under each of them. This work has been taken up.

Another important problem is the great divergence between the rules of the different State Governments, and between the various Departments of the same Government in weeding their records. This divergence is, perhaps, due to the difference in the circumstances under which each government or governmental agency has to create its records and formulate its rules for weeding them. Whether or not such divergence is really justified can be ascertained only by

examining the weeding rules in relation to the records of each government or agency. It is not possible, indeed, to formulate general principles to be followed strictly by all without reference to the filing system and the filing practices of the record creating bodies concerned.

In view of the limitations described above, the only action that can possibly be taken is to examine the replies so far received (and those which may be received) from a very theoretical point of view. Any attempt to form a general view about the adequacy or otherwise of a particular set of weeding rules, without actual reference to the records to which they relate, would expose us to the danger of leaving out a great many problems which may be no less important than those which we take into account. The Secretary cannot possibly examine the actual application of these rules in relation to the records for which they have been framed as it would mean visiting each and every record creating body in the States and studying their filing techniques. Any attempt to judge their adequacy regarding the preservation of materials of research value without reference to the records would be hazardous, and may not serve the object of the resolution. The Commission may consider the desirability of continuing this work in the light of the experience gained so far.

In view of the practical difficulties involved in examining the rules for weeding of current records of the State Governments, as pointed out by the Secretary in his note, the Commission decided that the matter need not be pursued with the object of judging the adequacy of the rules in regard to the preservation of records of research value. It was, however, felt that it would be useful to have at the National Archives of India full information about the weeding rules of the State Governments.

6. RESOLUTION BY DR. G. S. SARDESAI REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE IN RAJASTHAN.

The Commission requests the Government of Rajasthan to take immediate steps for establishing a Central Records Office for the State and for throwing open the records of all the covenanting States to *bonafide* research scholars.

In view of the great importance of the records in Rajasthan for the history of India the Commission further requests the State Government to appoint a Committee of experts to examine the problem of centralization of these records and making them available for historical research. The Committee should consist of three members, including one from Rajasthan, one distinguished scholar of modern Indian history from outside the State and the Director of Archives of the Government of India.

Explanatory Note.—The old records of the covenanting States of Rajasthan, particularly those of Jaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Kotah and Bundi, form rich source material for the history of India, but due to lack of facilities they have not been properly utilized for historical research. At present they are not properly looked after and if immediate steps are not taken for their proper maintenance and preservation they will be irretrievably lost to posterity. The appointment of a small committee of experts will be of much help to the Government of Rajasthan to organize their Central Record Office on scientific lines, centralization of their records and facilitating their use for *bonafide* research.

Secretary's Note.—Please see the remarks of the Government of Rajasthan under Resolution XI of the sixteenth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee (*Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, page 75). The report of the Committee of Scholars appointed by the State Government to survey the archival assets of the various covenanting States under Rajasthan, has been received. The State Government have informed that they have appointed a Director of Archives as a preliminary step towards the establishment of a Central Records Office for the State (Please also see *Conspectus*, Research and Publication Committee, Resolution XI, sixteenth meeting).

The Chairman informed that the Minister for Education of the Government of India had personally taken up the matter with the Rajasthan Government. He further assured that he would himself look into it.

The resolution was not, therefore, moved by Dr. Sardesai.

7. RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN REGARDING PREPARATION OF A PAMPHLET IN HINDI ON THE PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.

Resolved that the National Archives should prepare a pamphlet in Hindi, explaining the various elementary processes which are necessary for being adopted in the preservation and maintenance of records of various types.

Explanatory Note.—The production of such a pamphlet is necessary because *Daftaries* and *Peons* of Records Offices are usually familiar with Hindi alone and elementary knowledge imparted to them in this way would help them a good deal in looking after the work on scientific lines.

Secretary's Note.—The Government of India have already circulated to all the State Governments a short pamphlet prepared by the National Archives of India explaining in simple language the methods

of arrangement, maintenance and preservation of records. The Director of Archives will have no objection to its being translated into Hindi or any regional languages by the State Governments concerned according to their requirements.

The resolution was not moved in the absence of the representative of the Rajasthan Government.

8. REPORT ON THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES.

The second International Congress of Archivists will be held at The Hague in June this year. M. Gustav Vaucher, President of the Committee of Programme of the above Congress requested the Director of Archives, Government of India to nominate an Archivist from India to be represented on that Committee, on the basis of the decision arrived at the last International Congress held in Paris in August 1950. The Government of India have, accordingly, nominated their Director of Archives to be represented on the Committee of Programme and M. Vaucher has been informed accordingly.

The International Council on Archives has circulated in this connection a questionnaire (*vide* Appendix J, pages 134—144) to all the member institutions for information and guidance of the Congress. Replies to this questionnaire, as they relate to the National Archives of India, will be sent to the Secretariat of the International Council on Archives shortly.

The members are requested to nominate their representative for this Congress. At the session held at Cuttack in 1949, Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, was nominated to represent the Commission on the First International Congress of Archivists held in 1950.

The Commission expressed its satisfaction at the appointment of Dr. B. A. Saletore, Director of Archives, Government of India, as a member of the Committee of Programme for the Second International Congress of Archivists to be held at The Hague in June 1953. It was unanimously resolved:—

Resolution II.—That Dr. B. A. Saletore, Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, be nominated to represent the Commission on the Second International Congress of Archivists to be held at The Hague in June 1953, and the Government of India be moved to make necessary financial sanction for the Secretary to attend the Congress.

9. RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY MOVED BY DR. P. M. JOSHI REGARDING THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHIVES.

Resolved that representatives of various Governments attending the International Congress of Archives at The Hague be briefed with

a view to presenting the points of view of this nation in a unified and co-ordinated manner.

Explanatory Note.—The International Congress has circulated an exhaustive questionnaire with a view to eliciting information in advance so as to enable the body which is to meet in Holland to co-ordinate results and to arrive at uniformity in techniques, terminology and other questions bearing on archival science. As the outcome of the deliberations of that body are calculated to be of great importance for the science of Archives in general, it is felt necessary that the delegates from each nation should be properly and fully briefed by the national associations of professional archivists, if any such exist. The International body can usefully be saved from a multitude of conflicting views, if instead of flooding it with replies from each and every archival institutions big and small, an attempt was made at co-ordination at national level. As the Indian Historical Records Commission is the only representative body in India, the work may be undertaken by that body.

Secretary's Note.—The members of the International Congress of Archivists do not represent governments, but archival institutions and associations of archivists. It is, at present, not known which of the Indian institutions and societies will be sending delegates to the Congress. In regard to archival terminology and techniques it is difficult for the Indian Historical Records Commission to issue a directive because of divergent practices prevalent in India, and because of the varying standards of archival organisations in different States of the country. The object of the proposal can be achieved by an informal discussion among the prospective Indian delegates attending the next International Congress of Archivists.

Dr. P. M. Joshi did not move the resolution in view of the Secretary's note.

10. SUGGESTION REGARDING SETTING UP A COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION OF ARCHIVES AND OTHER CULTURAL PROPERTIES DURING THE PERIODS OF ARMED CONFLICT.

Dr. Lester K. Born, Secretary-General of the International Council on Archives and the Chairman of its "Committee on the Protection of Archives in time of War" in a communication to the Director of Archives, Government of India, dated 21st August 1952, enquired if any Committee had been set up in India concerning the protection of cultural properties in time of armed conflict. He also suggested that if no such Committee had been constituted so far, steps should be taken to arouse interest in its establishment. It is hardly necessary to emphasize the importance of the problem of affording adequate

protection to cultural objects, such as archives, libraries and museums; and the UNESCO at its last Session held in Paris, in November 1952 discussed a "Draft Convention for the Protection of Cultural Properties during the periods of Armed Conflict". However, conventions signed by many nations do not afford enough protection, and immunity and 'respect' are impossible to guarantee in the midst of war. The true basis of protection is the absence of war, but it is impossible for men to attain that object.

The modern destructive weapons of war cause more damage than even natural calamities like floods, earthquakes and volcanic action. During the last World War archival materials and other cultural objects suffered great losses and there is a possibility of greater destruction in any future war. It is, therefore, essential that efforts should be made to minimize these losses, if not save these properties altogether from destruction. If this view is accepted planning for safeguarding them is a peace-time job as under total war much can be destroyed within a very short time, even before the authorities concerned have taken adequate measures. In regard to archives the losses are always irreparable because of the unique quality of archival materials. Records destroyed once are lost for ever because no similar records exist.

The Commission may consider the desirability of the establishment of a Committee, representing the interests of archives, libraries and museums, to examine the problem of protection of archives and other cultural properties during periods of stress.

The following resolution which was moved by Dr. R. R. Sethi was unanimously passed:—

Resolution III.—Resolved that the Government of India be requested to set up a Committee of Experts representing archives, library and museum interests to study the problem of protection of cultural properties during the periods of war and suggest measures for affording them maximum security.

11-12. RESOLUTIONS BY DR. G. N. SALETORÉ AND DR. BOOL CHAND REGARDING ARCHIVAL LEGISLATION.

11. *Resolution by Dr. G. N. Saletore.*—This Commission requests the Government of India to expedite the passing of suitable legislation for preventing the destruction and export of historical documents.

Explanatory Note.—The question of archival legislation has been actively considered by the Commission since 1930 (Resolution VIII, thirteenth session, Patna, 1930). At the Udaipur Session, 1944, the

Commission recommended the legal prohibition of unwarranted destruction and export of records. This was also the object of Resolution IV, ninth meeting of the Research and Publication Committee, Indore, 1946, Resolution IX, twenty-fourth session, Jaipur, 1948, and Resolution VIII, twenty-sixth session, Cuttack, 1949. The matter was placed before the Standing Committee of the Indian Legislature on Education (Proceedings of the twenty-sixth session, page 56) and discussed at Government level. The Constituent Assembly has also included in the Union List 'any records' that are declared by the Parliament to be of national value. The declaration of certain categories of records as National Wealth, preparation of a draft Bill for legal prohibition and the eventual passing of the same must take considerable time. It is also not known if the Customs authorities have taken any action till now on paras 4 and 6 of the Indian Export of Antiquities Act No. 41 of 1947. In view of the fact that valuable documents are liable to be exported or otherwise disposed of, it is of utmost importance that the contemplated legislation on the subject should be enacted on the basis of the accepted programme of the Commission. However, early Government action in the matter is requested.

12. *Resolution by Dr. Bool Chand.*—The Commission recommends to the Government of India that they take early steps to formulate their Archival Policy on the basis of the recommendations of the Committee elected at the twenty-sixth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Cuttack in December, 1949, with a view to define Historical Records and also to bring about uniformity in the treatment and preservation of Historical Records throughout India.

Secretary's Note.—The question of archival legislation has been taken up with the Ministry of Law, Government of India. As the legislation will involve the setting up of a suitable machinery to enforce the proposed law, the implications of the proposal are being carefully examined. After a draft bill is prepared the Ministry of Finance may have to be consulted regarding the financial obligations which the Government of India will have to meet under the provisions of the new law.

In view of the Secretary's Note, Dr. G. N. Saletore did not press for the resolution. Dr. Bool Chand was not present in the meeting.

13. *RESOLUTION BY DR. R. C. MAJUMDAR REGARDING MICROFILMING OF RECORDS AT GOA.*

That steps be taken, as early as possible, to microfilm the records of historical importance now at Goa.

Explanatory Note.—The importance of the Goa records is well-known and they should be made available to research students in India.

The Chairman supporting the resolution of Dr. R. C. Majumdar assured that the Government of India would take up the matter with the Government of Portuguese India through the regular diplomatic channels.

The following resolution was then passed:—

Resolution IV.—That steps be taken, as early as possible, to microfilm the records of historical importance now at Goa.

14. *RESOLUTION BY DR. N. L. CHATTERJEE REGARDING PROPER HOUSING AND PRESERVATION OF RECORDS IN THE CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE AT ALLAHABAD.*

That the Uttar Pradesh Government be advised to take early steps for adequate housing, storage and preservation of their records in the Central Records Office at present located in Allahabad.

Explanatory Note.—The present state of affairs is far from satisfactory. The building is small and unsatisfactory. The storage facilities are inadequate. The technical staff is negligible. The local Survey Committee has drawn the attention of the Government repeatedly to this state of affairs, but in vain.

Dr. N. L. Chatterjee while moving his resolution said that the main intention underlying his proposal was that adequate arrangement should be made by the Government of Uttar Pradesh for proper housing, storage and preservation of the non-current records of the State in the Central Records Office, Allahabad.

The following resolution was then passed:—

Resolution V.—That the Uttar Pradesh Government be advised to take early steps for adequate housing, storage, and preservation of their records in the Central Records Office at present located in Allahabad.

15-16. *RESOLUTIONS BY DR. N. L. CHATTERJEE REGARDING (i) CHANGE OF TIME OF THE ANNUAL SESSION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION; AND (ii) DESIRABILITY OF HOLDING THE SESSION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION WITH THAT OF INDIAN HISTORY CONGRESS.*

15. That the session of the Indian Historical Records Commission be ordinarily and whenever the circumstances permit be held between the Dasahra and the Diwali holidays.

Explanatory Note.—The time suggested will prove more convenient for members. Besides, the climate too is moderate all over India during this season.

Since the opinions were divided as to the time of holding the annual sessions of the Indian Historical Records Commission, the Chairman put the resolution to vote. It was decided by majority vote that the annual sessions of the Commission should in future be held, as far as possible, during the Dasahra holidays.

16. That the Indian Historical Records Commission should ordinarily and whenever circumstances permit hold sessions with the Indian History Congress.

Explanatory Note.—Most of the members have to attend the sessions of both, and so it is desirable that the sessions be held simultaneously at the same venue.

Dr. N. L. Chatterjee withdrew the resolution.

17. RESOLUTION BY DR. N. K. SINHA REGARDING NOMINATION OF STATE GOVERNMENTS' REPRESENTATIVES ON THE RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

The Commission considers that consolidated indexes, calendars and press-lists of old records are as helpful for the purpose of historical research as annotated selections from historical records, and suggests that persons who are conversant with the techniques of press-listing, calendaring and indexing may be permitted to represent State Governments in the Research and Publication Committee.

Explanatory Note.—According to the provisions laid down in the Constitution of the Indian Historical Records Commission, the nominees of the State Governments, Universities and institutions to be appointed as members of the Research and Publication Committee should be men of academic distinction with a considerable amount of research work on the modern period of Indian history to their credit. These nominees would invariably be men of this type. It would be helpful if some State Governments nominate those who have specialized in indexing, cataloguing and calendaring work. This would lead to a useful co-ordination of activities. In any case such nominees of State Governments should not be debarred because they have not published works on the British period of Indian History to their credit.

Secretary's Note.—The nomination of representatives of the States on the Research and Publication Committee is left entirely to the discretion of the State Governments and they can, if they desire, nominate those persons who have specialized in indexing, calendaring and press-listing.

In view of the 'Secretary's Note', Dr. N. K. Sinha withdrew his resolution.

18. RESOLUTION BY DR. N. K. SINHA REGARDING FREE EXCHANGE OF RECORDS OFFICE PUBLICATIONS.

The Commission understands that Resolution XII of the tenth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission at Rangoon regarding the free exchange of Records Office publications in India, which was then accepted by the Central Government and all provincial Governments, is not being followed and requests that attention of all Records Offices in India may be drawn to this resolution by the Government of India.

Secretary's Note.—All the publications of the National Archives of India are supplied free to all the State Governments and the State Records Offices. Among the new publications within the Publication Programme of the Department, copies of *Indian Travels of Thevenot and Careri* were supplied free to all the State Records Offices. The question of distribution of the *Fort William—India House Correspondence*, Volume V, is under consideration.

The following resolution was passed:—

Resolution VI.—The Commission reiterates its previous resolution (Resolution XII of the 10th Session) regarding the free exchange of Records Office publications in India and requests that the principle underlying the resolution should be followed by all the Records Offices in India.

19. REPORT ON THE HISTORY OF THE FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA.

A review on the progress made regarding the compilation of the proposed History of Freedom Movement in India and proceedings of the second and third meetings of the Committee of Experts held in March and September, 1951, was placed before the twenty-eighth session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Jaipur in December 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I, pages 114 and 186-92). The Government of India have since set up a Board of Editors consisting of nine distinguished scholars with Dr. Syed Mahmud, M.P., as the Chairman, for the compilation of the History (*vide Appendix B*, pages 77-78). The Board held its first meeting at New Delhi on 2 and 3 January, 1953, which was inaugurated by the Minister for Education. The proceedings of the meeting are awaited.

The report on the History of the Freedom Movement in India was recorded.

20. REPRESENTATION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION ON THE INDIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION.

The Indian National Commission for Co-operation with the UNESCO, which has been reconstituted in July, 1952 (Please see Appendix C, pages 79-81), has invited the Indian Historical Records Commission to nominate a representative to be appointed as an Associate Member of the Education Sub-Commission of the National Commission. The term of office of the member will be for three years. It may be recalled in this connection that the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, represented it on the Interim National Commission. The members are requested to nominate a representative.

Dr. P. M. Joshi proposed and Dr. Bisheshwar Prasad seconded that the Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, should represent the Commission on the Education Sub-Commission of the Indian National Commission for Co-operation with the UNESCO. The following resolution was unanimously passed:—

Resolution VII.—The Indian Historical Records Commission nominates its Secretary to represent it on the Education Sub-Commission of the Indian National Commission for Co-operation with the UNESCO.

21. REVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME OF INSPECTION OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

The Director of Archives, Government of India, inspected the Central Government records in the custody of the Governments of Madhya Pradesh and Hyderabad in November 1952. In December of the same year he also inspected the records of the Ministry of Defence in New Delhi.

The review of the programme of inspection by the Director of Archives of the Central Government records in the custody of the State Governments and Central Government agencies was recorded.

22. VENUE OF THE THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION.

The University of Ceylon has invited the Indian Historical Records Commission to hold its Thirtieth Session at Peradeniya.

The Chairman pointed out that the invitation of the Ceylon University could be accepted after the approval of the Government of India in the Ministry of External Affairs has been obtained. He further added that the question of fixing the venue for the next session of the Indian Historical Records Commission might be left

to the President and the Secretary of the Commission. This suggestion was accepted by the members.

23. ANY OTHER SUBJECT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar then proposed with the permission of the Chair, that in addition to reading of papers arrangements should be made in future for holding two or three symposia on important subjects in connection with the annual sessions of the Commission. He added that papers of general and local interest might continue to be read at the Public Meeting as usual, but papers on highly technical and controversial subjects should be invited from distinguished scholars and discussed in a select gathering. For this he suggested that a list of such subjects for symposia might be drawn up and circulated to some distinguished scholars in advance.

The Chairman welcomed Dr. Majumdar's proposal, and suggested that the Secretary in consultation with the members of the Commission residing in Delhi should explore the possibility of arranging such symposia in connection with the annual sessions of the Commission for discussion of important subjects of historical and archival interest. The members agreed to this proposal.

The Secretary then thanked the Government of Bhopal for inviting the Commission at Bhopal and extending generous hospitality to the members, and Dr. M. H. R. Taimuri and other State officials for their co-operation.

Dr. R. C. Majumdar while endorsing the sentiments expressed by the Secretary, thanked the State Government and the State Officials on behalf of all the members of the Commission.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair proposed by Dr. R. C. Majumdar and seconded by Dr. G. S. Sardesai.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION— CONSPECTUS OF ACTION TAKEN

27th Session, Nagpur, December 1950

Resolution III.—It is resolved that (i) all State Governments in India should fall in line with the Government of India in recognising records administration as technical work; (ii) ultimately all appointments to records repositories in India should be made from among Diploma holders in archives science from recognised institutions (for the time being the National Archives of India is the only institution which offers on a limited scale a diploma course in Archives science); (iii) all Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments who have to retain large bodies of 'current records in their custody, should employ full time Record Officers who should be diploma holders in archives science, if such a person is available, or the officer should after appointment be sent up to the National Archives of India or to an organised State Record Office for training; and (iv) for the next five years 4 annual stipends of the value of Rs. 150 p.m. should be awarded by the Government of India to good candidates who come up for training at the National Archives of India. It is further resolved that in awarding the scholarships a contract should be entered into with the stipend-holders to the effect that they would be expected to serve the Government of India or a State Government for a specified period after successful completion of training in the National Archives of India.

The Government of India issued a reminder to such State Governments and Universities from whom replies were still outstanding. Replies received from some of them are summarised below:—

State Governments

Tripura.—The State Government have informed that one seat has been reserved at the National Archives of India for a sponsor trainee of the State during the July-52 Session for training in Archives Keeping.

Remarks.—The State Government subsequently informed that they would send a candidate for the January, 1953 session. No information has so far been received from the State Government.

Bihar.—The matter is under consideration of the State Government.

Bombay.—The State Government have accepted in general the principle underlying the resolution and have informed that the staff in the Record Offices, who have to look after the upkeep and maintenance of records, are already trained. In respect of new appointments to records repositories the State Government have assured that the resolution would be implemented as far as possible.

Madhya Bharat.—The State Government have accepted the principle underlying the resolution. The main function of the Inspectorate of Offices & Records set up by the State Government is to see that records are properly maintained in accordance with the instructions issued in this behalf and to train the staff in the technique of maintenance and preservation of records. The State Government have already a trained officer as Registrar of Historical Records, who received his training at the National Archives of India.

Universities

Osmania has accepted the resolution in principle.

Calcutta.—The University has informed that it recognises the importance of the resolution in question and had two of its Library Assistants trained in Archives Keeping in the National Archives of India on the scientific methods of preservation of records. It does not, however, feel it necessary to make a declaration of its acceptance of the principle. The University is interested only in the less expensive methods of preservation and wants a copy of the pamphlet on "Preservation of Records" prepared by the National Archives of India.

Remarks.—A copy of the pamphlet has been furnished to the Calcutta University.

Resolution V.—Since French Chandernagore has merged into West Bengal the Commission conveys to the Government of India the desirability of treating the old records of Chandernagore as a part of the Records of West Bengal.

Please see remarks under the same resolution on page 107, *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Volume XXVIII, Part I. The French Government have informed the Government of India that all records of administrative value to Chandernagore have been kept there and that only records of historical interest have been removed to Pondicherry. The French authorities in Pondicherry supplied to the Government of India a list of Chandernagore records deposited in Pondicherry archives which are likely to be of interest to India and have also agreed to their photo-copying for the Government of India. As all the records entered on

the list are of interest to India, the French Government have been requested by the Government of India to furnish them with microfilm copies of the entire series of records, and have suggested that the microfilm work may be done either in Pondicherry, if possible, or in the National Archives of India. The reply from the French Government is awaited.

28TH SESSION, JAIPUR, DECEMBER, 1951

Resolution I.—The Indian Historical Records Commission deeply mourn the death of Sir William Foster and Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari and authorise the Secretary to convey to their relatives message of sympathy and condolence on behalf of the Commission.

The resolution was forwarded to Lady Jessie Winfred Foster and Mr. C. S. S. Thathachari, son of the late Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari.

Resolution II.—The Indian Historical Records Commission resolve that in view of the technical difficulties in compiling a catalogue of portraits and paintings of historical interest the matter need not be pursued at present.

The Government of India have accepted the resolution and forwarded it to all the State Governments.

The Government of India have, however, proposed to resume the work on a restricted scale in view of the usefulness of the project to research students.

Resolution III.—The Commission would like to record their appreciation of the monthly progress reports sent by the National Archives of India which are of great use to all the members, and are also glad to note the satisfactory progress that is being made in the implementation of the Development Programme. The Commission request that this may be conveyed to the staff of the Department.

The resolution was circulated by the Secretary to all the members of the staff of the National Archives of India.

Resolution IV.—That though it may not be possible to set up a map room immediately, an attempt may be made to prepare a list of maps available in the Department.

The Government of India have accepted the resolution. They had invited details of additional staff required for opening a Map Room in the National Archives of India, which were furnished. Necessary provision has been made in this connection in the Budget Estimates of the National Archives of India for 1953-54.

Resolution V.—The Commission expressed their disappointment at the decision taken by the Government of India to exclude a representative of the Commission on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology and recommended that there should be representative of the Commission on the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology and *vice versa*.

The Government of India have appointed Dr. B. A. Saletore as a member of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology for a period of three years in his personal capacity. The appointment has, however, been made keeping in view the fact that he is the Director of Archives and *ex-officio* Secretary of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

Resolution VI.—The Commission resolve that all the State Governments should treat the Regional Records Committees in their respective areas as competent bodies to advise them on all matters relating to records and that where there are no such Committees, Advisory Committees should be appointed.

The Government of India forwarded the resolution to all the State Governments for necessary action. Replies received from some of them are summarized below:—

Punjab.—The State Government have informed that a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee has already been set up for the State since 1948 and that the Committee is recognised as competent to advise the State Government on matters relating to the maintenance and preservation of records.

Bilaspur.—The State Government have informed that there being no Central Records Office in the State, it will not be necessary to set up a Regional Records Survey Committee.

Hyderabad.—The State Government have accepted the resolution.

Kutch.—The State Government have informed that there is no Central Records Office for the State. The records of the various departments are being weeded out and maintained according to the rules furnished by the Director of Archives, Government of India. The State Government, therefore, do not feel the necessity of constituting a Local Advisory Committee for weeding and preservation of records.

PEPSU.—The State Government who have set up a Regional Records Survey Committee for the State have accepted the resolution in question.

Bombay.—The State Government have informed that the State Board for Historical Records & Ancient Monuments is doing the work

on a wider scale. The Board is informed of all the work done in the various Record Offices under the Director of Archives of Bombay.

Mysore.—The State Government have accepted the resolution and instructions have been issued by them accordingly.

Saurashtra.—The State Government have informed that action on the resolution can be taken only after records of the various covenanting States and Talukas are properly sorted and listed. The State Government felt that the execution of this work would take about two to three years.

Manipur.—The State Government have informed that in view of Manipur being a very small State and because of very small bulk of records in their custody, no permanent Regional Records Survey Committee is considered necessary for the State.

Andaman & Nicobar.—The Administration has informed that it is not possible to set up a Regional Records Survey Committee at this stage. Setting up of an Advisory Committee is also not likely to serve any useful purpose until suitable trained staff required for proper custody and preservation of important records become available.

Vindhya Pradesh.—The State Government have informed that the question of setting up of a Regional Records Survey Committee will be considered by them as soon as a Central Records Office under the charge of a trained archivist is established in the State.

Bihar.—The State Government have informed that the question of setting up a permanent Regional Records Survey Committee is still under the consideration of the State Government. The question of implementing the resolution will be considered when the Central Records Office and the Regional Committee begin functioning.

Madras.—The State Government have accepted the resolution.

Madhya Bharat.—The State Government have informed that they have accepted the resolution only in respect of "historical" records. For "non-historical" records different rules are followed by the State Government.

Remarks.—Please see the remarks of the Madhya Bharat Government under Resolution III of the sixteenth meeting of the Research & Publication Committee.

West Bengal.—The State Government have accepted the resolution.

APPENDIX A

CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

New Delhi, the 25th June, 1952

Resolution

F.92-8/52-A2.—In supersession of the Ministry of Education Resolution No. F.92-20/47-E. I., dated the 20th November, 1947, and in partial modification of the Resolution No. F.92-11/51-A2, dated the 18th December, 1951, the constitution of the Indian Historical Records Commission will be as follows:—

1. The Commission shall consist of the following two categories of Members:—

(A) Ordinary Members:—

- (i) The Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of India, *Ex-officio* President.
- (ii) Five members of whom one shall be a Scientist, to be nominated by the Government of India in their individual capacity.
- (iii) One nominee each of such State Governments as may have organised Central Record Offices.
- (iv) All Members of the Research & Publication Committee mentioned below.
- (v) The Director of Archives, Government of India, *Ex-officio* Secretary.

(B) Corresponding Members:—

The selection of Members in this category will be confined to persons directly interested in records, only published work of sufficient merit being accepted as satisfactory evidence of such interest. The number of Corresponding Members from within the country shall be limited to 25. There shall be no limit to the number of Corresponding Members residing outside the country.

Corresponding Members can attend the public meetings of the Commission and may, by special invitation, participate in the deliberations of the Members' meetings. They will, however, be expected to bear their own expenses.

In case the President is unable to attend a particular meeting, he shall have the right to nominate a member to act as Chairman (*vide* Ministry of Education Resolution No. F.92-8/52-A2, dated the 7th February 1953).

2. The Commission will have the following two adjuncts:—

(1) A Research and Publication Committee.

The duties of this Committee will be to further the research activities of the Record Offices of the Central and State Governments and to undertake or to promote regional surveys for bringing manuscript records in private custody to public notice, as well as to suggest ways and means for preservation and publication, whenever necessary, of such manuscript records. The composition of the Committee will be as follows:—

(a) The Educational Adviser to the Government of India, *Ex-officio* Chairman.

(b) The nominees of the Government of India as given in para 1(A)(ii) above.

(c) One nominee each of such State Governments as may co-operate with the Commission in the publication of State records.

(d) One nominee each of the universities in India which may co-operate with the Commission in the publication of State records and in conducting regional surveys and exploration of records.

(e) One nominee each of such institutions as are approved by the Government of India.

(f) The Director of Archives, Government of India, *Ex-officio* Secretary.

The Director of Archives, Government of India, will remain the general editor of the Indian Records Series but, whenever necessary, the services of other experts will be utilized to assist in the publication of any particular volume or volumes. The Research and Publication Committee, especially in the matter of regional surveys, will need regional co-operation, whether purely official or official and non-official combined. The Government of India trust that the State Governments will set up regional organisations constituted according to the special needs of the territories under their control to co-operate with the central organisation on which they will be fully represented.

(2) Local Records Sub-Committee.

The main function of this Sub-Committee will be to advise the Director of Archives, Government of India, on such matters connected with the work of the National Archives as may be referred to it. The composition of the Committee will be as follows:—

(a) The Educational Adviser to the Government of India, *Ex-officio* Chairman.

(b) A nominee each of the Ministries of Home Affairs; Works, Housing and Supply; External Affairs; Defence; Finance; and States.

(c) A member co-opted by the Chairman for one year.

(d) The Director of Archives, Government of India, *Ex-officio* Secretary.

3. The Government of India desire that the nominees of the State Governments appointed as Ordinary Members of the Commission should be their official spokesmen competent to represent their point of view on all questions concerning the State Governments in their administrative and financial aspects, and that the nominees of these authorities and of universities and institutions appointed as Members of the Research and Publication Committee, should be men of academic distinction with a considerable amount of original research work on the British period of Indian History to their credit. A State Government will be at liberty to nominate the same person or different persons to serve on the Commission and the Committee.

4. The Ordinary Members of the Commission (other than *Ex-officio* Ordinary Members) and also all Corresponding Members of the Commission will be appointed for a term of five years as follows:—

(i) All appointments and re-appointments for full term of five years will be made *en bloc* with effect from the same date, but on the expiry of their term the Members concerned will be eligible for re-appointment.

(ii) Vacancies due to resignation or otherwise, which may occur within the period of five years fixed under clause (i) above, will not be filled for a full term of five years, but only for the unexpired portion of the term.

5. The travelling allowance of the *Ex-officio* President and Secretary of the Commission, the *Ex-officio* Chairman and Secretary of the Research and Publication Committee and the nominees of the Government of India will be a charge on Central revenues. The *Ex-officio* President and Secretary of the Commission, the *Ex-officio* Chairman and Secretary of the Research and Publication Committee and the nominees of the Government of India will draw travelling

allowance as on tour for attending meetings of the Commission or the Committee and the expenditure will be debitable to the same head as their pay. Non-officials appointed as experts will draw travelling allowance at first class rates and their daily allowance will ordinarily be Rs. 5 per diem but in special cases, such as those of persons who are employees of non-official bodies like universities, e.g. Vice-Chancellors and who are in receipt of a pay exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem, the amount of daily allowance will be regulated in accordance with Supplementary Rule 51. The expenditure will be met from the budget grant of the National Archives of India. The State Governments, the universities and institutions will be required to bear the travelling allowances of their nominees serving as Ordinary Members of the Commission or as Members of the Research and Publication Committee.

Ordered that the Resolution be communicated to all the State Governments; Regional Commissioner, Rajasthan, Madhya Bharat, & Saurashtra; State Counsellor, Hyderabad & PEPSU; all the Ministries of the Government of India; Cabinet Secretariat; Prime Minister's Secretariat; Partition Secretariat; Department of Parliamentary Affairs; Supreme Court; Parliament Secretariat; all universities in India and the Director of Archives to the Government of India.

Ordered also that the Resolution be published in the *Gazette of India*.

L. R. SETHI,
Deputy Secretary-

APPENDIX B

CONSTITUTION OF BOARD OF EDITORS FOR THE HISTORY OF FREEDOM MOVEMENT IN INDIA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

New Delhi, the 30th December, 1952

Resolution

No. F.22-6/52-A.2.—The Government of India have decided to set up a Board of Editors in connection with the compilation of the History of Freedom Movement in India, consisting of the following members:

1. Dr. Syed Mahmud, Member Parliament, *Chairman*.
2. Acharya Narendra Deva, Member Parliament, Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, Banaras.
3. Shri Balwantray G. Mehta, 18, Queensway, New Delhi.
4. Dr. S. N. Sen, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University, Delhi.
5. Professor M. Habib, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
6. Professor K. A. Nilakanta Sastri, Professor of Indology, Mysore University, Mysore.
7. Shri D. V. Potdar, Loka Kalyan, 77, Shaniwarpet, Poona.
8. Dr. R. C. Majumdar, 4, Bepin Pal Road, P.O. Kalighat, Calcutta.
9. Shri Surendra Mohan Ghose, Member Parliament, Member & Honorary Secretary, 21, Queensway, New Delhi.

2. Members of the Board of Editors and the Members-Secretary will be entitled to draw travelling allowances for the purpose of attending the meetings of the Board. Members of the Parliament who are also members of the Board of Editors will draw their allowances for attending the meetings of the Board from the Parliament Secretariat when the Parliament is in session.

3. All expenses incurred in connection with the meetings of the Board of Editors and their staff will be met by the Government of India.

Ordered that the resolution be communicated to all the Ministries in the Government of India, Cabinet Secretariat, Prime Minister's Secretariat, Secretary to the President, Military Secretary to

the President, Department of Parliamentary Affairs, Parliament Secretariat, Union Public Service Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General in India and the Supreme Court, and all State Governments.

Ordered also that this Resolution be published in the *Gazette of India*.

HUMAYUN KABIR,
Additional Secretary.

APPENDIX C

CONSTITUTION OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CO-OPERATION WITH UNESCO.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

New Delhi, the 31st July, 1952

Resolution

No. F.15-1/52/A.5.—In partial modification of this Ministry Resolution No. F.134-27/50-A.5, dated the 16th October 1951, the Functions and Constitution of the Indian National Commission will be as follows:—

Functions

- (a) To promote the understanding of the objects and purposes of UNESCO among the Peoples of the Republic of India;
- (b) To serve as a liaison agency between UNESCO and the institutions concerned with and working for the progress of education, science and culture; and
- (c) To act in an advisory capacity to the Government of India in matters relating to UNESCO.

Constitution

(i) The Minister for Education will be *ex-officio* President of the National Commission.

(ii) The Indian National Commission will have three Sub-Commissions, one each for Education, Science and Culture. The Sub-Commissions will be constituted as follows:—

Education Sub-Commission

- 5 nominees of the Central Advisory Board of Education.
- 1 nominee of the Inter-University Board.
- 3 nominees of the All-India Federation of Educational Associations (1 each representing Basic, Secondary and Social Education).
- 1 nominee of the All-India Council for Technical Education.
- 3 members to be selected from among the nominees of the Indian Philosophical Congress, the All-India Political Science Association, the All-India Economic Congress, the

Indian Council of World Affairs, the Indian History Congress and similar bodies in the field of Social Sciences approved from time to time by the Government of India.

- 5 distinguished persons nominated by the Government of India.

Science Sub-Commission

- 3 nominees of the National Institute of Sciences of India.
 3 nominees of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
 3 nominees of the All-India Council for Technical Education.
 1 nominee of the Inter-University Board.
 5 distinguished persons nominated by the Government of India.

Cultural Sub-Commission

- 3 nominees of the Academy of Letters.
 3 nominees of the Academy of Dance, Drama and Music.
 3 nominees of the Academy of Fine Arts.
 1 nominee of the Inter-University Board.
 5 distinguished persons nominated by the Government of India.

(pending the establishment of the Academies, the President of the Commission will nominate suitable persons to represent these interests.)

(iii) The voluntary educational, scientific and cultural organisations of an All-India character working in the fields of UNESCO will be *Associate Members* with a right to participate in the meetings of the National Commission but with no right to vote. The organisations will be eligible for Associate Membership according to the procedure laid down by the Government of India.

(iv) The affairs of the National Commission will be managed by an Executive Board which shall consist of 11 members. The Constitution of the Board will be as follows:—

1. Educational Adviser to the Government of India.
2. Indian Member of the Executive Board of UNESCO, if any.
3. One representative of Associate Members.
- 4 to 9. Two representatives of each of the three Sub-Commissions.
10. and 11. Two nominees of the President of the Indian National Commission.

(v) The term of office of members of the Executive Board will be for three years from the date of appointment, and no member, except in an *ex-officio* capacity, shall be a member of the Executive Board for more than three consecutive terms.

(vi) The Educational Adviser to the Government of India, Ministry of Education, will be the Chairman of the Executive Board and will preside at its meetings, but when the President of the Commission is present at a meeting of the Executive Board, he shall act as Chairman of the Board.

(vii) The term of office of members of the Commission will be for three years from the date of appointment.

(viii) The Indian National Commission will be attached to the Ministry of Education and the Secretary of the Commission will be an official of the Ministry of Education nominated by the Minister for Education. It will be the function of the Secretary to prepare the agenda for its meetings and to attend to all work relating to the Commission.

HUMAYUN KABIR,
Additional Secretary.

APPENDIX D
**CONSTITUTION OF THE MADRAS REGIONAL
 RECORDS SURVEY COMMITTEE**

Government of Madras

G.O.Ms. No. 1490-Edn.

Dated 4th July, 1952.

Order:

In G.O.Ms. No. 3303, Education, dated 24th December 1948, the Government constituted a Committee for a period of three years from the date of that order, as suggested by the Government of India, for rescuing valuable manuscript records in private custody and for providing for their preservation and for preventing their decay and deterioration from natural causes. The term of office expired by efflux of time on 24th December, 1951. The Government have since considered the question of continuing the Committee and they have decided that the Committee should be reconstituted with the following members for a period of three years from the date of this Order:—

I. *Learned Institutions*

1. Sri P. V. Ramanujaswami, M.A., Director of the Sri Venkateswara Oriental Institute, Tirupati.
2. Prof. K. V. Rangaswamy Aiyangar, Honorary Editor, Adyar Library, Adyar.
3. Sri S. Gopalan, Member and Honorary Secretary, Tanjore Maharaja Sarfoji's Saraswathi Mahal Library, Tanjore.
4. Dr. R. Bhaskaran, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Madras Institute of Public Administration, University Buildings, Madras.
5. Sri M. Somasekhara Sarma, Telugu Bhasha Samithi, University Buildings, Madras.

II. *Universities*

1. Prof. V. R. Ramachandra Dikshitar, Professor of Indian History and Archæology, University of Madras, Madras.
2. Sri R. Sathianatha Iyer, M.A., Professor of History, Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

III. *Government Nominees*

1. Sri T. P. Meenakshisundaram Pillai, M.A., B.L., M.O.L., Correspondent, Chintadripet High School, Madras.

2. Sri T. Balakrishnan Nair, M.A., Professor of Indian History, Presidency College, Madras—*Convener*.
3. Sri R. Subba Rao, M.A., L.T., Secretary, Andhra Historical Research Society, Rajahmundry.
4. Sri T. Chandrasekharan, Curator, Govt. Oriental Mss Library, Madras.
5. Sri Guruty Venkata Rao, M.A., Professor of History, University College of Arts, Waltair.
6. Dr. T. V. Mahalingam, M.A., D.Litt., Reader in Indian History, University of Madras, Madras.
- IV. The Commissioner, Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments (Admn.) Department, Mount Road, Madras-2.
- V. The Superintendent of Archæology, Southern Circle, Fort St. George, Madras.
- VI. The Superintendent of Archæology, South-eastern Circle, Maharahipetta, P.O. Visakhapatnam.
- VII. The Curator, Madras Record Office, Egmore, Madras.
- VIII. The Government Epigraphist for India, Ootacamund.

2. It has been brought to the notice of Government that the representative of the Adyar Library was not attending most of the meetings of the previous Committee. The Convener should persuade this representative to take more active part in the deliberations of the Committee.

3. The Committee will, for purposes of travelling and daily allowances, be classified as a First Class Committee. The non-official members including members of the Legislature will be paid the allowances at the following rates:—

Railway fare.....1½ First Class

Mileage.....six annas

Daily allowance for halts.....Rs. 10.

They will be paid a daily allowance of Rs. 7-8-0 per day of attendance at meetings of the Committee held in their places of residence or within a radius of five miles from their residence. The travelling allowance bills will be counter-signed by the Director of Public Instruction.

4. The Government sanction the payment to the Convener of the Committee of an honorarium of Rs. 1,200 (Rupees one thousand and two hundred) only per annum. A sum of Rs. 1,000 (Rupees one thousand) only will be placed at his disposal for meeting contingent expenditure.

5. The expenditure will be debited to the head "47 Misc. Deptts.-Preservation and Translation of ancient manuscripts".

6. The annual report on the working of the Committee should be submitted to Government by the Convener.

By order of the Governor of Madras

K. M. UNNITHAN.

APPENDIX E

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE REGIONAL RECORDS SURVEY COMMITTEES, 1951-52

The Regional Records Survey Committees set up by the Indian Historical Records Commission as well as those constituted by the State Governments, conducted useful survey work during 1951-52. A brief report about their activities during the previous year was published in the *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. XXVIII, Part I, Appendix H, pages 119-23. Fresh reports on their activities during the year under review have since been received from some of the Committees and the significant information contained in them is summarised below:

Hyderabad.—The Regional Historical Records Survey Committee for Hyderabad was constituted by the State Government in May, 1951. The constitution of the Committee, containing its aims and objects and the names of the members, was published in the *Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings*, Vol. XXVIII, Part I (Appendix F, Annexure II). To facilitate survey work on methodical lines, the Committee has set up four Sub-Committees for different linguistic regions in the State. These include a Committee each for Marathi, Telugu and Kannada regions and a Committee for Urdu and Persian documents to work particularly in the cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad. In view to facilitate the collection of information on archives in the State, the Committee has prepared a questionnaire in English and in the regional languages of the State and circulated it to all keepers of official records as well as to private persons possessing records of historical importance.

The Sub-Committee for Records in Urdu and Persian inspected at Hyderabad the personal collections of Maulvi Syed Ali Asghar Bilgrami, Nawab Inayat Jang and the late Maharaja Sir Kishen Pershad. Among the collections of Maulvi Ali Asghar Bilgrami were found some letters from Lord Clive, Warren Hastings and Lord Cornwallis to Nawab Wajah Jah, eleven confidential News Diaries dated 1841 of Bailey and Nodack, Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Government of India, letters of Tipu Sultan and Nizam Ali Khan, and Farmans of Abul Hasan Tana Shah in Persian and Telegu, and a Sanad of Abdullah Qutab Shah. Nawab Inayat Jang's collections include some important documents of Asaf Jah's time, prominent among them were bundles of Parwanajat, Siyah Itlaq and Siyah Hazur. The late Maharaja Sir Kishen Pershad's collections

are housed at present in the Shad Library. There are 179 Persian and 99 Sanskrit manuscripts in the collection, which include some Albums of Calligraphy. An unique manuscript among them is a Mahabharata in Telugu script. The Marathi Sub-Committee inspected the record rooms of the Collectorate and Tahsil Office at Aurangabad. The records in these Offices date back to 1880 and are mostly bilingual with an equal proportion in Urdu and Modi.

Madhya Bharat.—The Regional Records Survey Committee for Madhya Bharat was set up by the State Government in September, 1951 (*Vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXVIII, Part I, Appendix F*). The first meeting of the Committee was held in the same month and according to its recommendation notifications were issued in the Government Gazette inviting the co-operation of the public, particularly the Jagirdars, Zamindars, etc. with the Committee in its work of exploration, collection and preservation of historical documents in private possession. A pamphlet in Hindi was also issued by the Committee in this behalf. The Committee inspected the personal collections of Sardar Madhao Rao Phalke and sorted out 14 important documents out of them, for making their copies.

Madras.—During the year under review Shri T. Balakrishnan Nayar, Professor of History, Presidency College, Madras, was appointed as the Convener of the Madras Regional Records Survey Committee consequent on the death of Professor C. S. Srinivasachari. The term of the Committee expired on the 24th December, 1951, and a new Committee was reconstituted on 4th July, 1952. The previous Committee held only one meeting in May, 1951. It was decided that in the matter of collection of materials for the History of Freedom Movement in India, the family of Shri V. V. S. Iyer, one of the stalwarts in the fight for freedom in South India, be contacted. The Committee was able to secure, through the efforts of Shri R. Subha Rao, lists of records, letters etc., that passed between the Kandregula Family of Rajahmundry on the one hand and the East India Company and the Nizam and others on the other. These included 32 letters covering the period from March, 1759 to July, 1786, one letter dated 2nd November, 1795, and 14 Persian Farmans of the years 1760—67. Among the important materials acquired by the Committee are the Vizianagram Treaty of 15 November, 1785 (published in Madras in 1894), Regulations of the Madras Government of 1813 (printed in Tamil), Tamil Manuscript regarding the donations and endowments to the Minakshi Sundaresware Temple of Madura, and lists of records and papers relating to the Zamindaries in the Districts of Visakhapatnam. All these, together with other documents acquired by the Committee, have been placed in the custody of the Madras Records Office.

Uttar Pradesh.—A permanent Regional Records Survey Committee was set up by the Uttar Pradesh Government in August, 1951 (*vide Indian Historical Records Commission Proceedings, Volume XXVIII, Part I*). At its first meeting, held in November, 1951, the Committee formulated a plan for the centralisation of records of educational institutions, Municipal Boards and District Boards and the acquisition of Court of Ward records. The Committee also took up the question of examining valuable private collections at Fatehpur Sikri, Etawah, Bilsa, Machhli Shahr and Allahabad and decided to request His Highness the Maharaja of Banaras to make a bequest of some documents. In March 1952 the Committee met again and discussed matters relating to the transfer of some records from Lucknow, publication of inventories and records of religious institutions. During the year under review the Committee purchased 561 documents, 8 manuscripts and one rare printed newspaper. Most of these manuscripts belong to the Mughal and the Nawabi periods and throw light on the administration, revenue system, social and religious life, education, and judicial administration of these days. Of particular importance are a *tomar* (news-letter) which described the activities of Prince Jahandar Shah and Asafud-Daulah; *Dastur-ul-Amal*, dated about 1780, by Nawab Muntazimud-Daulah Mehdi Ali Khan, a contemporary of Nawab Saadat Ali Khan; *Wasiat-nama*, or last will of Nawab Muntazimud-Daulah Mehdi Ali Khan and of Ahmad Ali Khan Bahadur dated 1852. Another important document found by the Committee is the Lucknow Agreement of 17 August, 1825 concluded between the East India Company and H. M. Abul Muzaffar Muizzud-Din Haidar Shah, Nawab of Oudh, for "loan for ever" of one crore. Two Volumes of *Roz-namcha* belonging to the ancestors of Girja Prasad Mathur of Aligarh and acquired from him by the Committee, are the connected portions of the Diaries purchased by the *ad-hoc* Committee during 1946-47 and now in the custody of the National Archives of India.

Bihar.—The *ad-hoc* Committee for Bihar brought to light some important records in certain parts of the State both in private and official custody. Among the collections of Rani Saheba of Gidhour Estate in the Monghyr District, which were examined by the Convener of the Committee, were found some Farmans and Sanads of considerable historical importance. These include a *nishan* each of Prince Shuja and of Prince Dara Shikoh, each requesting Raja Dalsingh, Zamindar of Gidhour, to assist them with his army in their fight for the Imperial throne of Delhi. Both the *farmans* bore the seals and *nishans* of Prince Shuja and Prince Dara Shikoh respectively. Other significant documents in the possession of the Rani Saheba are a *sanad* in Persian issued by the Government of Bengal, conferring the title of Rajah Bahadur upon Raja Jaimangal Singh

of Gidhour in recognition of his services in quelling the Santal rising of 1855-57; copy of a letter in Persian bearing the signature of Frederick Halliday, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, thanking the Raja of Gidhour for assistance rendered by him during the disturbances of 1857; and the Persian translation of a *sanad* conferring the title of Maharaja upon Raja Jaimangal Singh by the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

During the year under review the Committee purchased some valuable Persian manuscripts through the efforts of Professor S. H. Askari and Shri F. Balkhi. These included *Tuzuk-i-Timuri*, a Persian translation from the Turkish Memoirs written by Emperor Timur; *Tazkiratus-Salatin*, volume II, dealing with the events of the reigns of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb; *Khulasatul-Ahwal*, being a History of India from the earliest time up to the reign of Shah Alam II, copied in 1791-92; *Imadus-Sada* by Ghulam Ali Nagir, a history of the rule of Nawab Sadat Ali Khan of Oudh, written in 1852-53; *Alam Arai Abbasi*, Volumes II & IV, a history of the reign of Shah Abbas of Persia, including accounts of certain historical events of the countries in the neighbourhood of Persia. All these manuscripts have been placed in the custody of the National Archives of India.

Three members of the Committee, Professor Surajdeo Narain, Dr. H. R. Ghosal and Professor Shyam Bihari Singh inspected the records of the Collectorate of Muzaffarpur during the year. The records brought to light by them contain highly interesting and important information on a variety of subjects, such as pilgrimage of a Maratha Chief (Sewajee Atul) to Gaya, purchase of goods for export by the Dutch, property of Raja Rajballabh, indigo cultivation and tyranny of the indigo planters, conflicts between the opium contractors and indigo planters, the Company's plans for the cultivation of Sugar in Bihar and Bengal, currency and coinage, land settlements of 1783 and 1789, prices of grains and places for storage of grains in Tirhut, trade with Nepal, abolition of *Sair* duties etc. Some of these important documents have been reproduced in the report published by the Committee.

Madhya Pradesh.—The *ad-hoc* Committee for Madhya Pradesh brought to light some valuable manuscripts in the possession of some private families. Copies of these documents obtained by the Committee have been deposited in the National Archives of India. These include: *Ratnapurka Itihas*, a composite history in prose and poetry in Hindi of the Haihaya Kings of Ratnapura in Mahakoshal, giving an account of the dynasty from its origin up to the year 1876 A.D.; and *Jayachandrika Kavya*, also in Hindi, which contains an account of the achievements of Raja Vishvanath Sai of Saranggarh. It also describes the political condition of the Chhattisgarh district during

that period. The original of the document which bore the date Sambat 1838 (1781-82 A.D.) was copied in 1916 A.D. Copies and English translation of forty-three Persian letters exchanged between the East India Company and the Peshwa Darbar during the regime of Sawai Madhao Rao Peshwa were also obtained by the Committee. Besides these, the Committee obtained photographic copies of some documents relating to the Gond Rajas of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Pradesh, or the Secretary to the Government of Uttar Pradesh, Education Department, Lucknow.

The above-mentioned *bona-fide* research workers are not required to pay the examination fee mentioned in Annexure 'C'.

5. Admission for inspection of the records shall be regulated by Research Students Cards which are valid for six months in the first instance, but renewable on fresh application at the discretion of the Keeper of the Records.

6. The following categories of records are open for research subject to the conditions specified below:—

- (a) Records up to 1901 will be treated as non-current and are open for *bona-fide* research. Non-confidential records up to 1935 may also be consulted by research students, with the special permission of the Secretary to Government, U.P., Education Department.
- (b) Information from the confidential records of the various Departments will be released only with the permission of Government.
- (c) In the case of the purely historical records of the Board of Revenue, copies of unobjectionable documents may be obtained by *bona-fide* research students under the usual regulations. But the attested copies of the administrative and legal records of the Board of Revenue shall be issued only if they are required for litigation purposes to establish claims to property etc., subject to the approval of the Board of Revenue, Lucknow, provided always that the documents so released shall cause no embarrassment to Government.
- (d) Papers of the various courts relating to criminal cases shall not be consulted until they are 70 years old and those of a personal nature, which have been donated or deposited in Central Record Office, cannot be used for research purpose until after 50 years of their accession. But under special circumstances these restrictions can be relaxed by the Keeper of the Records with the consent of the Department or the donor as the case may be.
- (e) Documents relating to the limits and boundaries of States, State defences, fortifications and topography cannot be consulted without the special permission of the Secretary of Government, U.P., Education Department.

7. Research workers are advised to avoid the duplication of research work on the same subject as far as possible.

APPENDIX F

HISTORICAL RESEARCH RULES FOR THE CENTRAL RECORD OFFICE, UTTAR PRADESH ALLAHABAD.

1. The Central Record Office, Allahabad, is open on all working days from 10-30 A.M. to 4-30 P.M. on week days and from 10-30 A.M. to 1-30 P.M. on Saturdays. In special cases the Research Room may be kept open on holidays, provided the student submits an application at least two days earlier, and deposits a fee of Rs. 4 per diem.

2. All applications for the inspection of records shall be addressed to the Keeper of the Records, Uttar Pradesh, Central Record Office, Allahabad. The prescribed forms (as in Annexure 'A') are available from the Office Superintendent of the Central Record Office. All such applications must contain full details, inaccurate or false statements in respect of which are liable to debar applicants from further access to Government archives. Foreign students shall apply through the Government of India's diplomatic and consular representatives in their respective countries, testifying to their *bona-fide* as research workers.

3. The Keeper of the Records reserves to himself the right to refuse or modify an application for conducting research.

4. All *bona-fide* research students shall be allowed to inspect the records in the Research Room in the presence of a member of the supervisory staff. *Bona-fide* research students include any one of the following categories:—

- (a) Members of the Indian Historical Records Commission;
- (b) Vice-Chancellors, Professors, Readers and Lecturers of an Indian University;
- (c) Post-graduate research workers of an Indian University who must satisfy the Keeper of the Records as to their *bona-fides* by furnishing a certificate from their appropriate University Professor or Vice-Chancellor and any other proof which is considered necessary;
- (d) Officers of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, who conduct research in a subject with the approval of the Heads of their Departments;
- (e) Any other person accepted by the Departments of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, as a research worker on the recommendation of the Keeper of the Records, Uttar

8. All persons utilising records of the Central Records Office, Allahabad, for purposes of historical research must deposit gratis 2 copies of their works within sixty days of their publication.

9. Manuscript records, or copies, extracts, notes and references thereof, shall not be taken out of the Central Record Office, without the permission of the Keeper of the Records.

10. All copies, extracts, notes and tracings must be written legibly for the inspection of the Keeper of the Records, who may get these materials typed for his own inspection at the expense of the student concerned, if they are illegible. Details of the excerpts taken shall be given as in Annexure 'B'.

11. In case of transcription of records, the applicant will be required to remit in advance half the transcription charges etc., specified in Annexure C, the balance to be paid by the applicant on the completion of the transcription and before the release of his excerpts.

12. The fees collected for the typing etc. will be credited to Government under the head, "XXVI-Education-General-(c) Miscellaneous", provided that if the typing work is done after office hours, an amount not exceeding 60 per cent of the fees realized shall be distributed among the transcribers and comparers and the balance of 40 per cent credited to Government to cover the cost of stationery etc.

13. If an applicant is unable to search the records personally, he may apply for a search to be made at his own cost to the Keeper of the Records, who may, if possible, arrange for the search to be undertaken on payment of a search fee specified in Annexure 'C'.

14. For borrowing records students shall submit signed requisitions filled in their entirety, to the Assistant of the Research Room. Entry into the stack rooms for consulting or requisitioning records is prohibited.

15. The student shall not be allowed to have at a time more than 5 documents and 2 volumes, except by the special permission of the Office Superintendent. All records which are no longer required should be returned to the Assistant of the Research Room. The requisition slips of records shall be returned to the student when they are restored. The student shall be held responsible for the loss or damage of the records as long as they are not restored. If there are printed or typed copies of documents the originals may not be given for consultation, unless justified by sufficient reasons.

16. Research students shall exercise due care in handling records, manuscripts and books issued to them:—

- (1) Documents of exceptional value and those in a decayed or fragile condition shall be examined in such manner as the Keeper of the Records may prescribe for their preservation and integrity.
- (2) No documents shall be damaged in any manner. Imperfections or damages to records and books shall be shown to the Assistant of the Research Room at the time of borrowing.
- (3) Large folio volumes and tomes shall be kept on bookrests during use. Frequent handling of such documents should be avoided as far as possible. Leaning on documents or volumes causing pressure on them through elbows, piling them on one another and copying the excerpts by placing them on the originals, shall not be allowed.
- (4) The defacing of records by pencil or ink markings is prohibited. Students are allowed to take only fountain pens or pencils in the Research Room.
- (5) None shall trace or photograph documents, illustrations, maps etc., without obtaining the special sanction of the Keeper of the Records and under conditions approved by him.

17. Handbags, hats, overcoats, umbrellas, sticks, pots etc., shall not be taken into the Research Room.

18. Eating food, chewing betel, spitting, smoking, etc., in the Research Room are strictly prohibited.

19. None shall receive visitors or transact private business in the Research Room.

20. Silence shall be maintained in the Research Room.

21. The facilities granted for the inspection of records in the Research Room may be withdrawn at the discretion of the Keeper of the Records for committing the following acts of indiscipline:—

Causing disturbance in the Central Record Office; constant disregard of the authority of the Assistant of the Research Room or any other Officer of the Central Record Office; damage of any sort to records, books and furniture in the Central Record Office; behaviour, language, habits, dress or any thing else which is offensive or likely to cause offence to the staff or other research workers of the Central Record Office.

ANNEXURE 'A'

Application form for conducting research in the Central Record Office, Allahabad (referred to in Rule 2).

To

The Keeper of the Records, U.P.,
Central Record Office, Allahabad.

SIR,

Please allow me to consult the records in the custody of the Central Record Office, Allahabad, in connection with my research work. I promise to abide by the rules and conditions in force there.

1. Name in full (Block letters)
2. Title.
3. Designation.
4. Address.
5. Profession.
6. Domicile.
7. Subject of research.
8. Purpose of research.
9. Period covered by research.
10. (a) Recommendation or letter of introduction (in the case of foreign students) from:—
(b) Address.
(c) Signature and date.

Place:—

Yours faithfully,

Date:—

Signature of the applicant.

* Not necessary in the case of members of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

ANNEXURE 'B'

Particulars of excerpts obtained from the records by

Date and No./pages of consultation/ proceedings.	Departt.	Nature of the records	General remarks
1	2	3	4

Signature of the applicant.

ANNEXURE 'C'

Schedule of Fees

(The charges detailed below are cumulative and not alternative).

1. Search fee:—

- (i) Index for a year at As. 8 per volume.
- (ii) Specified document at As. 8 each.

2. Transcription fee:—

- (i) Typing a foolscap sheet in double spacing—As. 3 per page.
- (ii) Comparison of typescripts with originals—1 anna per foolscap page.
- (iii) Duplicate and subsequent copies—1 anna per foolscap page.

3. Examination fee:—

Scrutiny of each batch of 10 pages of foolscap typescript—Re. 1-4.

APPENDIX G

LIST OF HISTORICAL MANUSCRIPTS AND DOCUMENTS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE MUSEUMS UNDER THE CONTROL OF DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY.

CENTRAL ASIAN ANTIQUITIES MUSEUM, NEW DELHI

1. Farman of Jalalud-Din Muhammad Akbar Badshah Ghazi conferring on Syed Abdul Qadir Rizvi the land, *haveli* and the garden which were granted to his father Syed Muhammad Nasirud-Din Rizvi in return for his services in the battle with Sher Khan Afghan. (Dated 4th year of Akbar's reign=1560 A.D.). No. 50.103.
2. Farman of Muhammad Humayun Badshah Ghazi sent to Syed Muhammad Nasirud-Din Rizvi who had received thirty-five wounds in battle with Sher Khan, commanding him to reach Delhi to be honoured with royal mansab. The date is not legible. No. 50.104.
3. Farman of Firoz Shah granting 3,000 jaribs for improving the condition of the city of Delhi. (Dated 707 A.H.=1310 A.D.) No. 50.105.

DELHI FORT MUSEUM

Manuscripts

1. Ms. copy of *Masnawi of Maulana Rum*.—Comprises 6 Daftars (Parts), first 2 pages of 1st Daftar lavishly decorated and illuminated, each of the remaining 5 Daftars has an illuminated frontispiece. Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.185.
2. Ms. copy of *Diwan-i-Hafiz*.—Written in Nastaliq characters by Inayatullah of Shiraz, in 985 A.H. (1758 A.D.) No. 40.186.
3. Ms. copy of *Bustan of Sadi*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.187.
4. Ms. *Qiranus-Sa'dain*.—A history of the reign of Sultan Kaiqubad written by Amir Khusrau in Persian verse Nastaliq characters. No. 40.188.
5. Ms. of *Quran*.—Written in characters of transition style between Kufic and Naskh. No. 40.189.

6. Ms. of *Tarikh-i-Rashidi*.—A general history in Turkish language by Md. Niyaz s/o Abdul Ghafoor. Plain, Nastaliq characters. No. 40.190.

7. Ms. of *Rauzatus-Safa*, Vol. II.—A history of the Prophet Muhammad and his four Khalifas in Persian by Mir Khwand. Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.191.

8. Ms. of *Quran*.—Written by Yaqut Raqm Khan in Naskh characters. No. 40.192.

9. Ms. of *Bayaz (Note Book) of Bakhtawar Khan*.—A collection of numerous original compositions and extracts from the standard Persian works transcribed by several calligraphists in different styles. No. 40.193.

10. Ms. Detailed List of the members of the house of Timur connected with Bahadur Shah II, the last Mughal Emperor of Delhi. Nastaliq characters. No. 40.194.

11. Ms. *Chihal Majlis of Alaud-Daulah Samanani*.—Written in Nastaliq style by Abdur Rahim Roshan Qalam at Agra. 1611-12 A.D. No. 40.195.

12. Ms. *Timur-nama of Maulana Abdullah Hatifi*.—Written in Nastaliq style. No. 40.196.

13. Ms. *Laila Majnun of Maulana Abdullah Hatifi and Yusuf Zulaikha of Maulana Abdur Rahman Jami*.—Written in Nastaliq style. No. 40.197.

14. Ms. of *Maashiqul-Ibad-anil-Maad of Muhammad s/o Ahmad al-madu Said of Farghana*.—Transcribed in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.198.

15. Ms. *Shah-nama of Firdausi*, Vol. I.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.199.

16. Vol. II of the same. No. 40.199A.

17. Ms. *Ten Precepts of Aristotle*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.200.

18. Ms. *Sahifa-i Kamila*.—Written in Naskh style. No. 40.201.

19. Ms. *Masnawi of Mulla Shah Badakhshi*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.202.

20. Ms. A Book of prayers. Written in Naskh characters. No. 40.203.

21. Ms. *Riyazul-Muluk*.—Nastaliq characters, several seal impressions. No. 40.204.

22. Ms. comprising two books, one (illustrated) dealing with 12 Hindu incarnations and the other deals with the history of Krukshetra and seems to be a copy of printed book. Both written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.205.
23. Ms. *Sairul-Manazil* by Sangin Beg—Written in Naskh and Nastaliq characters. No. 40.206.
24. Ms. containing 10 Precepts of Mir Shamsud-Din Shahryar Al-Mubarazi.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.207.
25. *Panj Sura*.—Engraved in Naskh characters on 8 copper sheets. No. 40.208.
26. Ms. *Khulasa-i-Akhbar-i-Atraf*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.209.
27. Ms. *Quran*.—(Containing more than 5 sections.) Naskh characters. No. 40.210.
28. Volume II of above. No. 40.210A.
29. Ms. *Mukhtar-nama*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. Dated 1056 A.H. (1646 A.D.). No. 40.211.
30. Ms. *Shah-nama of Firdausi*.—Written in Nastaliq character. No. 40.212.
31. Ms. *Tuzuk-i-Timuri*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.213.
32. Ms. *Quran*. No. 40.214.
33. Ms. *Azharan-i-Advia* (illustrated).—Written in Nastaliq characters. Author Hakim Ghulam Ali, artist Sayyid Turab. No. 40.215.
34. Ms. *Nabiul-Balaghat*.—Written in Naskh characters. No. 40.216.
35. Ms. *Sahifa-i-Kamila*.—Written in Naskh characters. No. 40.217.
36. Ms. *Khamsa-i-Nawai*.—Turkish language and Nastaliq characters. No. 40.218.
37. Ms. *Khamsa-i-Nizami*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.219.
38. Ms. *Nasihatul-Muluk*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.220.
39. Ms. *Quran*.—Written in Naskh characters. No. 40.221.
40. Ms. *Majmuat-ul-Fawaid*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.222.

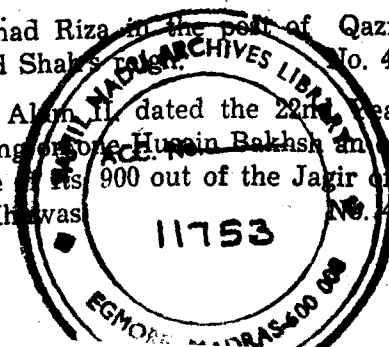
41. Ms. *Sirat-i-Firozshahi*.—Written in Nastaliq characters. No. 40.223.
42. Ms. *Mawahib-i-Aliya*.—Written in Naskh characters. No. 40.224.
43. Ms. *Quran* on a strip of paper. Naskh characters. No. 40.225.
44. *Wazaiif-nama-i-Sultani*.—Written for Md. Ali Shah, King of Lucknow. No. 40.226.

Farmans, Sanads, Attestations etc.

1. Farman of the Emperor Shahjahan granting 150 bighas of land in the Province of Agra to Jaji Musharraf (1627 A.D.). No. 40-81.
2. Farman of the Emperor Shahjahan issued in 2nd regnal year conferring 25 bighas of land upon Shaikh Hatim from the village Dudpur, Parganah Kol. No. 40-20.
3. Farman of Shahjahan (1636 A.D.) conferring upon Saiyid Muhiyud-Din a grant of 150 bighas of land in the Parganah of Jhajjar, Sarkar Delhi. No. 40-21.
4. Sanad of Mujadidud-Daulah Abdul Majid Khan and Saiyid Umar Khan, officials of Emperor Aurangzeb, permitting Sharifa Banu and others to retain possession of 50 bighas in Mihrabad in the Punjab. No. 40-41.
5. Sanad of Hidayatullah, the Chief Justice of Shahjahan (1659 A.D.) to Nizamud-Din permitting him to retain possession of 85 bighas of land at the village of Badhi Gharih Ras in Lahore Province. No. 40-38.
6. Farman of Aurangzeb conferring grant of 100 bighas in the capital of Shahjahanabad upon a lady named Sahib-i-Daulat. No. 40-55.
7. Farman of Aurangzeb (1664 A.D.) granting to a scholar Muhammad Baqir a daily allowance of one rupee for his livelihood. No. 40-56.
8. Nishan of Prince Muhammad Kam Bakhsh conferring 100 bighas of land upon a lady, Sahiba, in the capital of Shahjahanabad. No. 40-16.
9. Sanad of Itmad Khan, an official of Emperor Aurangzeb, to Muhammad Arif, granting him 9,000 dams from the Jagir of Churasi Khambhayat, Sarkar Ahmadabad (1693 A.D.). No. 40-80.
10. Sanad issued by Khwaja Qasim conferring upon Saiyid Mahbub Alam, a grant of 12 bighas and 10 biswas of land from Sarai Miran, Parganah Amroha (1695 A.D.). No. 40-71.

11. Sanad of Mutamid Khan, an official of Emperor Aurangzeb, granting an income of Rs. 526 to Saiyid Muhammad Afzal from the village of Saadatpur, Parganah Jullundur (1698 A.D.). No. 40-66.
12. Sanad of Saadatmand Khan and Ashraf Khan, officials of Emperor Shah Alam I (1709 A.D.), to Gul Muhammad, permitting him to retain possession of 60 bighas of land at village Mehri, Punjab. No. 40-36.
13. Sanad of Saiyid Amjad Khan, the Sadr of Emperor Shah Alam, (1712—15 A.D.), granting 50 bighas of land to Niaz Banu in Parganah Jullundur. No. 40-76.
14. Sanad issued by Saiyid Muhammad Afzal Khan and Qutbul-Mulk Saiyid Abdullah, the Prime Ministers of the Emperor Farrukhsiyar, granting 40 bighas of land to Shaikh Ismail in Parganah Kulanki, Province of Multan (1715 A.D.). No. 40-45.
15. Sanad issued in the reign of Rafiud-Daulah (Shahjahan II) 1719 A.D. by Qutbul-Mulk Abdullah Khan conferring an income of 50,000 dams upon Saiyid Mazhar Ali from the Parganah Salimpur. No. 40-72.
16. Sanad issued by Qamrud-Din Khan, the Prime Minister of Emperor Muhammad Shah to Muhammad Lutfullah granting him 8,000 dams from the Parganah of Shadipur Nilani, Subah Allahabad (1723 A.D.). No. 40-43.
17. Sanad of Qamrud-Din Khan, the Prime Minister of Emperor Muhammad Shah conferring the village of Keshwabpur upon one Gulab Rai Chaudhri (1728 A.D.). No. 40-22.
18. Sanad of Wazirul-Mumalik Qamrud-Din Khan, the Prime Minister of the Emperor Muhammad Shah, appointing Dargahi Mal and Ganga Bishan as Chaudhris of Parganah Amroha in lieu of Rs. 200 as tribute to the Government (1729 A.D.). No. 40-79.
19. Farman of the Emperor Muhammad Shah (1729 A.D.) conferring on Chait Rai Qanungo a grant of the villages of Makramatpur and Yaqutpur. No. 40-25.
20. Letter from Nadir Shah (1736—47 A.D.) to Zakriya Khan, Nazim of the Province of Lahore and Multan, asking him to visit Sind for punishing the rebels. No. 40-25.
21. Sanad of Saiyid Shahamat Khan and Saiyid Mirak, officials of Emperor Muhammad Shah, (1740) to Sharifa Banu and others permitting them to retain the possession of 50 bighas of land at Mihrabad in the Punjab (1740 A.D.). No. 40-37.

22. Farman of the Emperor Muhammad Shah (1748) conferring upon Waqur Khan the post of commandant of the fort of Surat and the title of Belgar Khan.
23. Sanad of Niamat Yar Khan, an official of Emperor Muhammad Shah, issued to Mushammad Iwaz (Superintendent) (1742 A.D.). No. 40-78.
24. Sanad of Abul Mansur Khan Safdar Jang, the Prime Minister of the Emperor Ahmad Shah Bahadur to confirm the grant of 8,000 dams to Ghulam Ahmad Khan as before (1718 A.D.). No. 40-77.
25. Sanad issued by Safdar Jang to Saiyid Mazhar Ali Khan granting him 331,486 dams from Parganah Amroha (1748 A.D.). No. 40-78.
26. Sanad of Abul Mansur Khan Bahadur Safdar Jang, the Prime Minister of the Emperor Ahmad Shah, issued to Saiyid Mir Ali granting him 45,193 dams from the Parganah of Amroha (1749 A.D.). No. 40-44.
27. An old attestation dated 1753 A.D. to the effect that a piece of land purchased by Mir Saiyid Muhammad in the village of Sadhaura Kalan in 1683 belongs to his grandson Saiyid Abdul Wahab.
28. Sanad issued under the seal impression of Mir Muhammad Khan, an official of Alamgir II, conferring on Saiyid Mir Ali income of 165,743 dams granted by Asaf Jah (1754 A.D.). No. 40-42.
29. Sanad issued by Asaf Jah conferring upon Saiyid Mir Ali an income of 155,743 dams from the Parganah Amroha (1754 A.D.). No. 40-69.
30. Sanad issued by Niazul-Mulk Bahadur Asaf Jah conferring upon Saiyid Muzaffar Ali an income of 165,743 dams from the Parganah Amroha (1754 A.D.). No. 40-70.
31. Parwana of Daud Khan, the Sadr-i-Sudur of Timur Shah, the eldest son of Ahmad Shah Durrani, appointing Mir Masud as a Muazzin of the Jami Mosque of Lahore (1757 A.D.). No. 40-39.
32. Farman of the Emperor Alamgir II conferring upon Budh Singh the post of Chaudhri of Parganah Kanaund in the capital of Shahjahanabad (1775 A.D.). No. 40-40.
33. Sanad confirming Muhammad Riza in the post of Qazi of Jalesar, Allahabad, in Muhammad Shah's reign. No. 40-32.
34. Farman of Emperor Shah Alam II, dated the 22nd year of his reign (1780 A.D.) and conferring upon one Hussain Bakhsh an estate of 17,885 dams yielding an income of Rs. 900 out of the Jagir of one Muhammadi Khan alias Bhajju Khawas. No. 40-54.



35. Farman of Akbar Shah II, titular King of Delhi (1806—1837 A.D.) conferring upon Faujdar Khan the dignity of a commander of 4,000 foot and 2,000 horse and the title of Rafiq Jang Bahadur.

No. G.I. 40-26.

36. Farman of Ahmad Shah Durrani (1747-73 A.D.) ordering Mulla Salih Muhammad, Shaikhul-Islam of Peshawar to keep in readiness 30 Kharwars (a measure of 100 Tabriz maunds) of good rice corn and to distribute stipends to the mullas. It is dated 1182 A.H. (1768-69 A.D.).

No. 40-49.

37. Farman of Mahmud Shah dated the 1216 A.H. (1801 A.D.), issued in favour of Mullah Sharfud-Din of Peshawar permitting him to retain possession of 20 jaribs of land in the village of Chakkipatta.

No. 40-48.

38. Farman of Emperor Akbar granting 300 bighas of land, from the village of Khanpur, Parganah Amroha, Sarkar Sambhal, in favour of Shamsa Khan. (1569 A.D.).

No. 40-62.

39. Farman of Maryam Zamani, the mother of Emperor Jahangir, issued in favour of Mudabbir Beg, restoring his Jagir, which was usurped by Suraj Mal in Parganah Chapala (modern Moradabad).

40. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit) dated 31 January 1828, issued by Sir E. Colebrook, Resident at Delhi, enjoining all the officials concerned of the Hon'ble East India Company to pass on safely, from their respective jurisdictions, 13 seers of sugar sent by Zebun-Nisa Begam to Shahjahanabad.

No. 40-88.

41. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit), dated 28 April 1828, issued by Sir E. Colebrook, Resident at Delhi, enjoining all the officials concerned of the Hon'ble East India Company to pass on safely, from their respective jurisdictions, 26 sacks containing 100 mds. of salt, sent from Jhajjar via Borai Ghat, for the kitchen of Zebun-Nisa Begam (Begam Samru).

No. 40-89.

42. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit), dated 23 October 1828, to pass safely 50 pairs of gold embroidered shoes, sent from Shahjahanabad to Meerut, for Zebun-Nisa Begam.

No. 40-84.

43. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit) dated 19 May 1828, to pass on safely, from their respective jurisdiction 30 bundles of Mansinghi and 10 qrs. of Kashmiri paper, sent by Lala Tulsi Ram, from Shahjahanabad to Kharda, for Zebun-Nisa Begam (Begam Samru). Issued by Sir E. Colebrook.

No. 40-86.

44. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit) dated 3 June 1828 issued by Sir E. Colebrook, Resident at Delhi (1827—28), enjoining all the officials concerned of the Hon'ble East India Company to pass on safely,

from their respective jurisdictions, 40 pieces of sack cloth, sent from Shahjahanabad to Jharsa, for Zebun-Nisa Begam.

No. 40-96.

45. Farman of Jahangir conferring 50 bighas of land upon one Firoza Khatun and others at Sakit in the Sarkar of Qannauj. It is dated the 10th year of the reign of that Emperor, corresponding to 1024 A.H. (1615 A.D.).

46. Sanad issued by Mirza Jawan Bakht, the son and heir-apparent of Shah Alam II, conferring the rank of 500 and the title of Khan upon one Saiyid Bunyad Ali, son of Azam Khan. It is dated the 27th year of the reign of Shah Alam II (1785-86 A.D.).

No. 40-29.

47. Sanad of Akbar Shah II as a prince issued in favour of Zabardast Ali conferring upon him the rank of 1,000 and the title of Khan with permission to keep 100 sawars in place of his deceased father Md. Shakir Khan. It is dated the 29th year of the reign of Shah Alam II.

No. 40-83.

48. Marriage Deed of Mirza Shihabud-Din and Madari Begam, executed in 1241 A.H. (1826 A.D.) under the seal of the grand Qazi Mirza Khalilur-Rahman. The marriage portion was five lacs of rupees, current coinage, one third of which was prompt and the rest deferred. It was found in Delhi Palace after its capture on 20 September 1857.

No. 40-33.

49. Sanad issued by Asafud-Daulah and Wazir Khan dated the 6th year of the reign of Shah Alam II (1759—1806 A.D.). It is in favour of Sayid Mazhar Ali, conferring upon him a grant of 50,559 dams from Pargana Amroha, Darul-Khilafat Shahjahanabad.

No. 40-74.

50. Sanad of Amirul-Umara Najaf Khan conferring upon Khiradmand Khan the rank of 6,500 and 3,000 sawars together with the title of Aminud-Daulah Muzaffarul-Mulk Bahadur Hizabr Jang and also a Palki with fringe, an Alam (standard) and Naqqara (drum). It is dated the 1192 A.H. (1778 A.D.).

No. 40-50.

51. Sale Deed dated the 1177 A.H. (1764 A.D.) and marked with the seal impressions of Shaikh Aziz, the Shaikhul-Islam, and Faiz Muhammad and Abdur Rahman, the Qazis respectively. It refers to the sale of a house at Lahore by Muhammad Azam to Muhammad Zarif.

No. 40-46.

52. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit) dated 7 July 1828, issued by Sir E. Colebrook, Resident at Delhi, enjoining all the officials concerned of the Hon'ble East India Company to pass on safely from their respective jurisdictions, 5 mds. of ghee sent by Agha Danish, Tahsil-dar of Jharsa, to Shahjahanabad for the kitchen of Zebun-Nisa Begam.

No. 40-87.

53. Sanad of Raja Shitab and Qazi Saiyid Amanullah confirming the sum of 27,000 dams from the Pargana Harwara, Sarkar Tirhut, Subah Bihar, in favour of lady Rahimun-Nisa as assistance of livelihood. It is dated the 6th year of the reign of Shah Alam II. No. 40-65.

54. Sanad of Prince Jawan Bakht Bahadur, the heir-apparent of Shah Alam II, issued in favour of Saiyid Arshad Ali and others to the effect that an income of 45,781 dams was confirmed upon them from the Jagir of the Pargana Amroha, Subah Darul-Khilafat Shahjahanabad. It is dated the 7th year of the reign of Shah Alam II. (1765-66 A.D.). No. 40-18.

55. Letter issued by Mr. D. Colebrook to Thanadars and Chaukidars etc., of the dominions of the Hon'ble East India Company instructing them to pass 4 maunds of lead belonging to Bahadur Jang Khan from Shahjahanabad to Bahadurgarh without exacting any tax. It is dated 16 April 1828. No. 40-27.

56. Warrant issued by Najabat Ali Khan, an officer of Akbar Shah II, King of Delhi, for the arrest of a thief named Gulab. It is dated 29 June 1809. No. 40-88.

57. Parwana-i-Rahdari (Permit) dated 22 July 1828, issued by Sir E. Colebrook, Resident at Delhi, enjoining all the officials concerned of the Hon'ble East India Company to pass on safely, from their respective jurisdictions, 100 mds. of iron and 1 md. of dried tobacco, sent from Shahjahanabad to Meerut, for Zebun-Nisa Begam. No. 40-85.

58. Royal Mandate bearing the sealmark of Jawan Bakht Bahadur, heir-apparent of the Emperor Shah Alam II, the son of the Emperor Alamgir II, issued to Raja Diler Singh Raushan Rai instructing him to let the sum of 175,000 dams from the Parganah of Suragarh, Subah Bihar, continue in favour of Shuja Nawaz Khan. It is dated 1175 A.H. the 3rd year of the reign of Shah Alam II (1761-62 A.D.). No. 40-64.

59. Letter from Bahadur Shah II to Queen Victoria, dated the 13th year of his reign (1849 A.D.), stating that he had for many years intended to send his son Mirza Jawan Bakht, to the Queen but that he could not bear to be separated from him, and accordingly sent an impression of his hand. No. G.3.

60. Letter from Lord Minto to Raja Ranjit Singh dated 1808 A.D. regarding the conversation of the Maharaja with Lord Metcalfe concerning his encroachment on the Sikh Chiefs under the protection of the British Government. No. 40-31.

61. Sanad issued under the seal impression of Shamsud-Daulah Dost Khan Mabbariz Jang, conferring the governorship of the Fort of Chankman and a grant of Rs. 16,950, from the Parganah Anbar, Sarkar Ellora, Taluka Karnatak, Subah Hyderabad, and the title of Saadat Ali Khan, etc., upon Muhammad Said in succession of his father. Presented by Mirza Shamsud-Din Sahib of Loharu State. No. 40-18.

62. Sanad conferring upon Saiyid Muhammad Aman Ali Khan a Jagir worth 2,15,660 dams in Parganah Amroha, Sarkar Sambhal, Province Shahjahanabad. It bears the seal impression of Asafud-Daulah, the grandson of Abul-Mansur Safdar Jang, and is dated the 29th year of the reign of Shah Alam II (1787-8 A.D.). No. 40-30.

63. Sanad from Najibud-Daulah Haji Khan conferring the rank of 3,000 zat and 2,000 sawars and also the title of Khan and Bahadur on Ghaziud-Din Haidar. It is dated the 10th year of the reign of Shah Alam II, corresponding to 1182 A.H. (1768-9 A.D.). No. 40-60.

64. Sanad issued by Amirul-Umara Najaf Khan conferring upon Husain Ali Khan the rank of 5,000 zat and 2,000 sawars together with the title of Ruknud-Daulah Nizamul-Mulk Qayim Jang Bahadur and also a palki with fringe, a standard and a drum. It is dated 1193 A.H. (1779 A.D.).

65. Letter from Lord Ellenborough to Bahadur Shah II, the titular king of Delhi (1837-57), informing him of his taking over charge of the duties of Governor-General of British possessions in India on 28 February 1842.

66. Farman of the Emperor Aurangzeb (1658-1707) granting 100 bighas of land in the Province of Lahore to Musammat Aisha. No. 40-57.

67. Farman of the Emperor Alamgir dated the 36th year of his reign, granting 40 bighas of land in the Parganah of Jhajjar, Province of Shahjahanabad, to Musammat Nur Banu.

68. Attestation to the effect that Sarfraz Khan was brought up by Akbar Shah II, titular king of Delhi (1806-37), who conferred upon him the title of Hafizud-Daulah Muhibbul-Mulk Afzalul-Umara Shamsheer Jang and a high post in the arsenal and the service of the Privy Purse. The document bears 16 seal marks and was found in the Delhi palace after its capture on the 20 September 1857. Presented by Mr. Imre Schwaiger, Delhi. No. 40-15.

69. Farman of Akbar Shah II, titular King of Delhi (1806-37) granting Nasirud-Daulah Colonel James Skinner Bahadur Ali Jang the village of Rabupure in perpetual lease. It is dated the 30th year of the reign of Akbar Shah II, corresponding to 1250 A.H. (1834-35 A.D.). No. 40-14.

70. Sanad of Qamrud-Din Khan Chin Bahadur, the Prime Minister of Emperor Muhammad Shah, conferring the village of Kishwar-pur upon one Gulab Rai Chaudhri. It is dated the 9th year of the reign of Muhammad Shah. No. 40-22.

71. Sanad dated the 1st year of the reign of Muhammad Shah (1719 A.D.) confirming Shaikh Muhammad Riza in the post of Qazi of the Parganah Jalesar, Province Allahabad. It bears seal impression of Mir Jumla who was Chief Judge of Muhammad Shah. No. 40-32.

72. Farman of Emperor Shah Alam II granting as a reward (altamgha) a Jagir of 186,493 dams in the village of Itarsi, etc., pargana Amroha, Subah Shahjahanabad, yielding a revenue of Rs. 3,370, to Saiyid Muhammad Ali Azam Khan and his sons. It is dated the 17th year of the Emperor's accession, while the court seal bears the date 1173 A.H. (1759-60 A.D.). No. 40-82.

73. Farman of Shahjahan conferring the post of Sadr of the Sarkars of Sambhal and Badaub, together with a daily allowance of two rupees payable from the treasury of Akbarabad, upon Shaikh Fath Muhammad, the son-in-law of Mulla Abdul Latif of Sultanpur. It is dated the 18th year of accession corresponding to 1054 A.H. (1644 A.D.). No. 40-58.

74. Farman of Shujaul-Mulk s/o Timur Shah dated 1218 A.H. (1803-4 A.D.) ordering Firoz Khan to attend upon Prince Sultan Qaisar with his forces. No. 40-47.

75. Farman of Abu Said, grandfather of Babar, confirming Saiyid Shadi and Saiyid Sharful-Mulk as mutawallis of a tomb (868 A.H.=1463 A.D.). No. 40-53.

76. Farman of Dara Shikoh. 1060 A.H. (1650 A.D.) instructing Todar Mal regarding the property of Shaikh Allahdad. No. 40-63.

77. Farman of Jahangir dated the 17th year of his reign, (1622 A.D.), granting 130 bighas of land to Musammat Aimana in Parganah Panipat.

78. Farman of Akbar dated the 5th year of his reign (1560 A.D.) granting 1431 bighas 8 biswas of land, Rs. 100 cash and Re. 1 daily for the maintenance of a tomb at Sohna. No. 40-23.

INDIAN MUSEUM (ARCHAEOLOGICAL SECTION), CALCUTTA

1. Letter in Persian from Aurangzeb conveying condolence to Mir Jamalud-Din on the death of his father, Azam Khan, some time Governor of Dacca—(Dated 20 June 1668).

2. Farman in Persian of Alamgir II conferring grant of 3,590 dams to one Lal Muhammad on account of the death of one Naqi Khan [Bears the Royal seal, dated 1167 A.H. (1753 A.D.)].

3. Deed of Sale in Bengali and Persian conveying slaves (Dated 29 Sravana, San 1074=27 August 1668 A.D.).

4. Deed of Sale in Bengali and Persian conveying land (Dated 1 Paush, San 1073=21 December 1667 A.D.).

5. Qabuliat in Bengali Characters (Dated 1 Jyaistha, San 1114=24 May 1708 A.D.).

6. Sanad in Persian of Shah Alam to Maulvi Muhammad Hafiz (Dated 1208 A.H.=1793 A.D.).

7. Farman in Persian of Muhammad Shah to Bibi Hadya.

8. Farman in Persian of Shah Alam II to Ashraf Khan (Dated 1177 A.H.=1763 A.D.).

9. Farman in Persian of Alamgir to Bibi Zainab (Dated 1080 A.H., 1669 A.D.).

10. Farman in Persian of Alamgir I in the name of Ayesha Bibi (Dated 14 Regnal year=1672 A.D.).

11. Farman in Persian of Alamgir I in the name of Shaikh Jan Muhammad (Dated 43 Regnal year=1701 A.D.).

12. Arabic Fatwa of Sultan Bahlol Lodi of Delhi and compiled by Ibrahim, containing instructions to the Qazis relating to the disposal of cases for which there are no provisions in Quran or Hadis (Bears Sultan's signature).

13. Farman in Persian of Aurangzeb granting 120 bighas of land to a lady named Aqila (Dated 1105 A.H. 37 Regl. year=1693-4 A.D.).

14. Farman in Persian of Jahangir granting 30 bighas of land to Musammat Adar Banu, Dukhtar Mubarak (Dated 1025 A.H.=1616 A.D.). Bears Tughra and Seal of the Emperor.

15. Farman in Persian of Shah Jahan to the Subadar of Khandesh on the success of the Subadar in subduing the Subah and submitting a sum of rupees 1,22,779 to the Court (Dated 29th Ramazan 1047 A.H. 11 regnal year=4 February 1638 A.D.).

16. Parwana in Persian of Aurangzeb to the Officers of Parganah Haweli, Balda Sambhal, enjoining to give possession to one Shaikh Fathullah, of his garden house and land (Dated 1119 A.H.=1707-8 A.D.).

17. Parwana in Persian of Aurangzeb to Muhammad Zaman Beg ordering to give possession of 2 bighas and 16 kathas of land to one Musammat Daulat. (Dated 1077 A.H.=1666-7 A.D.).

18. Farman in Persian of Aurangzeb granting 40 bighas of land to Musammat Fatima and others as grant in perpetuity (Dated 1104 A.H.=1692-3 A.D.).

19. Nishan in Persian of Jahanara Begam granting 60 bighas of land in Pargana Panipat to Musammat Rajen and four other ladies as grant in perpetuity. (Dated 2nd Shawwal 1051 A.H., 15 regnal year=25 Dec. 1641 A.D.).

20. Parwana in Persian of Prince Muhammad Kam Bakhsh granting 40 bighas of land in Parganah Sambhal to Shaikh Bahaud-Din and other scholars. (Dated 24th Zul-Hijja 1090 A.H.=16 January 1680 A.D.).

21. Parwana in Persian of Alamgir granting 50 bighas of land to Musammat Fatima and others, her children, in agreement with all the Qazis (Dated 1099 A.H.=1687-8 A.D.).

22. Parwana of Noblemen of Alamgir in Persian conferring the grant of 50 bighas of land to Shaikh Bahaud-Din and other scholars (Dated 1099 A.H.=1687-8 A.D.).

23. Farman in Persian of Shah Alam renewing the grant of 100 bighas of land in exchange of the daily allowance of Rs. 5/8/- to Munshi Jalil and others, the Caretaker (Khadim) (Dated 1120 A.H.=1708-9 A.D.).

24. Parwana in Persian of Jahandar Shah to all the officers concerned, granting 20 bighas of land in Parganah Obharsi to one Musammat Nur Bibi and others (Dated 1124 A.H., 1st regnal year, 1712-13 A.D.). Bears the Seal of Emperor's Minister, Asafud-Daulah.

25. Farman in Persian of Farrukhsiyar granting 50 bighas of land to one Musammat Hayat and others as a grant in perpetuity (Dated 1127 A.H.=1714-15 A.D.).

26. Parwana in Persian of Farrukhsiyar transferring the duties of Superintendent in the Court of.....Sarkar Sambhal. (Dated 1130 A.H., 4 regnal year=1717-18 A.D.).

27. Parwana in Persian under the seal impression of Abdullah Khan commanding the army of Farrukhsiyar, granting 5,000 dams to Mazhar Ali, as Jagir. (Dated 1125 A.H.=1713 A.D.).

28. Farman in Persian under the seal impression of Shah Jahan granting 37 bighas 10 kathas of land in the Sarkar and Subah Kabul

to the family and children of Shah Muhammad (Dated 7 regnal year=1633 A.D.).

29. Parwana in Persian under the seal impression of Asafud-Daulah, an Officer of Shah Alam, granting 93,000 dams to Syed Dindar, as Jagir (Dated 119 A.H., 1 regnal year=1777-8 A.D.).

30. Parwana in Persian of Rafiud-Darajat granting 4 lac dams to Saiyid Muhammad Shakir and others transferring it from one Muhammad Amir Khan Khanan Bahadur (Dated 1131 A.H.=1718-19 A.D.). Bears the seal impression of Saiyid Abul Khan, C.-in-C. of the Emperor.

31. Farman in Persian of Muhammad Shah granting to Shaikh Jalil and others 110 bighas of land in Mauza Jalore, Akbarabad (Dated 1131 A.H.=1718-19 A.D.).

32. Parwana in Persian of Muhammad Shah renewing the previous grant of 100 bighas of land in Mauza Sarai Mir Adil to Saiyid Abdul Wasi (Dated 1132 A.H.=1719-20 A.D.).

33. Farman in Persian of Muhammad Shah granting 50 bighas of land in Sarkar Sambhal to Musammat Fazila Begam and others (Dated 1136 A.H.=1723-4 A.D.). Bears the seal of Qamrud-Din Khan, Prime Minister of the Emperor.

34. Farman in Persian of Muhammad Shah granting a sum of 77,000 dams from Parganah Salimpur, Sarkar Sambhal to Saiyid Azmatullah, as Jagir (Dated 1137 A.H.=1724-5 A.D.).

35. Parwana in Persian under the seal impression of Muhammad Shah and Nizamul-Mulk, Commander, granting 50 bighas of land in Pargana Amroha to Musammat Sharifa and others. (Dated 1138 A.H. 3 regnal year=1725-6 A.D.).

36. Parwana in Persian of Muhammad Shah confirming the grant of 50 bighas of land to Musammat Fazila Begam and others (Dated 21 Ramazan 1140 A.H., 10 regnal year=20 April 1728).

37. Farman in Persian of Nasirud-Din Muhammad Shah granting 100 bighas of land in Pargana Gaul to Shaikh Habibullah and his children (Dated 1140 A.H.=1727-8 A.D.).

38. Parwana in Persian under the seal impression of Muhammad Shah informing the grant of 50 bighas of land to Musammat Zahura Bibi and others (Dated 4 regnal year=1722 A.D.).

39. Sanad in Persian of Ahmad Shah Bahadur confirming the grant of 1,20,424 dams from Parganah Amroha (Dated 1161 A.H.=1747-8 A.D.).

40. Parwana in Persian of Ahmad Shah Bahadur to Mahtab Khan informing and requesting him to comply with the grant of 6,30,397

dams to Saiyid Muhammad Shakir and others from the Parganah Amroha etc. (Dated 1161 A.H., 1 regnal year=1747-8 A.D.).

41. Parwana in Persian of Ahmad Shah to the Officers concerned requesting compliance with a grant of 6,30,397 dams from Parganah Amroha conferred on Saiyid Muhammad Shakir and others (Dated 1162 A.H.=1748-9 A.D.).

42. Parwana in Persian of Ahmad Shah granting 1,09,070 dams from the Parganah Ovarsi etc. to Saiyid Muhammad Muhiud-Din and others as Jagir (Dated 1162 A.H.=1748-9 A.D.). Bears the seal of the Emperor.

43. Farman in Persian of Ahmad Shah conferring the Judgeship of Parganah Panipat etc. on Faizullah (Dated 1161 A.H.=1747-8 A.D.).

44. Sanad in Persian under the seal impression of Asaf Jah Nizamul-Mulk, Vazir of Alamgir II, transferring a grant of 16,844 dams being the income of Parganah Amroha from Saiyid Muhammad Asadullah to Saiyid Muhammad Jafar (Dated 1171 A.H.=1757-8 A.D.).

45. Sanad in Persian of Shah Alam II granting 58,058 dams from Parganah Amroha to Syed Murtaza as Jagir (Dated 1174 A.H., 1 regnal year=1760-1 A.D.).

46. Sanad in Persian of Shah Alam II granting 12,598 dams from Mauza Daulatpur, Parganah Amroha to Syed Abdullah transferring it from Saiyid Nadir Ali (Dated 1174 A.H., 1 regnal year=1760-1 A.D.).

47. Sanad in Persian of Shah Alam to Shaikh Sa'adat Ali, Tax Collector (Gumashta), exempting a revenue of Rs. 13 payable to the Sarkar (Government). (Dated 1177 A.H.=1763-4 A.D.).

48. A Razinama in Bengali from Gangaram Chandra, his wife and son, selling themselves in the service of Sri Krishnaram Malik (Dated 14 Aswin, 1210 BS=29 September 1803).

49. A Brahmottar Deed in Bengali executed in favour of Radha Krishna Deva Sarma (Dated 7th Baisakh, 1191 San=30 May 1785).

50. Nishan in Persian of Dara Shikoh to Mubariz Khan, Governor of Kabul, passing orders for the expulsion of a group of discordant people (Dated 5th Rajab, 15 regnal year of Shah Jahan=27 August 1642). Bears the seal of Prince Dara Shikoh.

51. Farman in Persian of Alamgir II granting a Jagir of Jatwana District to one Gharib Das (Dated 1105 A.H.=1693-4 A.D.).

52. Parwana in Persian of Asaf Jah Bahadur to the Officials concerned directing them to give possession of the above Jagir (Dated 2nd Rabi 1, 2 regnal year=10 December 1721).

53. Nishan in Persian issued by Dara Shikoh granting 100 bighas of land in the Mauza Chakbariz to Mulla Azam (Dated 1054 A.H., 18th regnal year of Shah Jahan=1644-5 A.D.). Bears the seal of Emperor Shah Jahan.

54. Sanad in Persian issued by Mir Jumla Khan Khanan Bahadur on behalf of Emperor Muhammad Shah, appointing Abul.....Qazi in the Sarkar of Lakhnau (Dated 1136 A.H.=1723-4 A.D.).

55. Sanad in Persian issued by Mir Jumla on the authority of Emperor Muhammad Shah conferring the Qaziship of a Pargana in Sarkar Lakhnau on Munshi Badiuz-Zaman (Dated 1139 A.H.=1726-7 A.D.). Bears the seal of Muhammad Shah with the name of Mir Jumla.

56. Farman in Persian of Alamgir II conferring one lac and nine thousand dams on Dost Muhammad, Darvish, as 'Inam' from Parganah Balia. (Dated 15th Rabi 1, 6 regnal year=6 November 1759). Bears an exquisite seal of Alamgir II.

57. Sanad in Persian of Asaf Jah Nizamul-Mulk Bahadur (Dated 2nd Rabi II, 6 regnal year=27 November 1725). Bears the seal of Asaf Jah Nizamul-Mulk with the name of Alamgir II.

58. Sanad in Persian of Raja Diler Singh (Dated 15th Jumada I, 6 regnal year).

59. Sanad in Persian of Saiyid Afzal Khan to the Officer concerned confirming and communicating the farman of Farrukhsiyar granting the Qaziship to the client of Vakil Munshi Asadullah. (Dated 29th Muharram, 2 regnal year of Shah Farrukhsiyar=14 February 1713).

60. Sanad in Persian of Munajjim Khan communicating the Shahi farman conferring the Qaziship of Parganah Holi in Sarkar Tirhut on Dalilullah (Dated 19th Shawwal, 3 regnal year of Shah Alam II, 1175 A.H.=13 May 1762).

61. Sanad in Persian of Asaf Jah Nizamul-Mulk communicating the grant of 12,150 dams from Parganah Garh Jawid, Sarkar Tirhut, in favour of Muhammad Maab Khan (Dated 4th Rabi II, 6 regnal year of Alamgir II=25 November 1759).

62. Edict of Jawan Bakht Bahadur to Diler Singh Bahadur conferring on Muhammad Jamal Khan 15,000 dams from Parganah Indar (Dated 1st Shaban 3 regnal year of Alamgir II=21 May 1756).

63. Sanad in Persian of Zikria Khan communicating the royal favour of raising Muhammad Shakir to the rank of 700 zat and 100 horse and the title of Khan. (Dated 1171 A.H.=1757-8 A.D.).

APPENDIX H

PUBLICATION PROGRAMMES OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF MADRAS, BOMBAY, PUNJAB AND HYDERABAD

Madras

Madras Government have undertaken regular programmes of publications for stimulating historical research and the lines on which these programmes have been planned are in essence similar to those on which the programmes of the National Archives are planned. The Madras Record Office has already published *in extenso* all the different series of records of the period 1670 (the earliest year of which the records are available in this office) to 1750, comprising no less than 308 volumes; it has also issued calendars of the Madras records of the period 1740 to 1744 and of the Madras Despatches of the period 1744 to 1755. It has likewise issued a number of miscellaneous publications such as the selections from the Baramahal records, selections from the Dutch records and the translations of Ananda Ranga Pillai's famous Diary; it has reprinted besides, all manuscript Indexes of records and Abstracts of despatches; and finally it has carried on its publication programme even during the War period in spite of difficulties created by the congestion of printing work in the Government Press, by the scarcity of paper and by financial stringency.

2. The programmes of publications on which the Madras Record Office is, at present, engaged are as follows:—

- (i) The publication *in extenso* of all the records of the period 1751 to 1765, altogether numbering 224 volumes in continuation of the programme already completed under which all records of the earlier period have been published *in extenso*;
- (ii) The calendaring of the Military Country Correspondence Series of the period 1751 to 1765 which describe in detail the political relations of the British with the various country powers;
- (iii) The calendaring of Revenue records of the period 1763 (the year in which revenue administration as such began in Madras) to 1800, and

- (iv) The selections from the records of the various Departments of the period 1800 to 1856 which is the formative epoch of British administration in our State. Selections from the records of the Judicial Department are now being undertaken in the first instance.

All these programmes have been undertaken after mature consideration and they are being pursued regularly and systematically. The progress made under these various programmes is given in detail every year in the Annual Administration Report of the Madras Record Office.

Bombay

The Government of Bombay is steadily pursuing for the last twenty years, the question of publication of more valuable Government records. The select correspondence of the *Peshwa Daftar* was published in 45 volumes during the years 1929-1934. The publication of another important series, namely, the *Poona Residency Correspondence* was taken up in the year 1934 and when printing was suspended owing to war in the year 1942, 10 volumes of the series had been published. The publication programme has again been resumed from the year 1949 and remaining 4 volumes of the series, namely, 10, 12, 13 and 14 have been published during the last two years. The State Government has recently sanctioned a scheme for publishing historical records for the period from 1818-1850 in ten volumes during the next five years and a descriptive Catalogue of the old records in the Bombay Archives (1700-1818 A.D.) is under preparation.

Punjab

The Publication Programme of the Punjab Government Records Office will include:—

- I. Research work of outstanding merit bearing on the history of the Punjab and based on a study of administrative records, manuscripts and other materials concentrated at the State archives. A series of such monographs were published in the United Punjab. Since the establishment of the new Records Office in the Punjab (I) three research theses of persons who have been awarded Ph.D. degrees have been published under the auspices of this office. The practice is proposed to be continued hereafter.
- II. Selections from governmental records of historical significance with notes and comments, wherever necessary.
- III. Translations into English of parts or whole of certain important manuscripts bearing on the history of the State with annotations and explanatory notes.

IV. Press-lists and indexes of administrative records preserved at the State Records Office after proper classification and arrangement.

V. Reprinting of any rare, or out of print, work on the history of the Punjab in particular and Northern India in general.

Hyderabad

The provisional programme of publication work of the Central Records Office of the Hyderabad Government under the Five Year Plan, is detailed below:

Sl. No.	Nature of Records	Vols.	Expected to be issued in the year	Remarks
<i>A.—Persian Historical Research Section (Asafia)</i>				
1.	The Chronology of modern Hyderabad.	I	1953	Ready for the Press.
2.	News-Letters from China Patan (Madras), Poona and Oudh etc.	I	1953	Ready for the Press.
3.	Akhbarat (Court Bulletins) belonging to the court of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan Bahadur.	I	1954	
4.	Correspondence between Nawab Nizam Ali Khan Bahadur and Governor-General and Governors etc.	I	1955	
5.	Selected Documents of the reigns of:			
	1. Nawab Asaf Jah I	I	1956	
	Nawab Nasir Jang			
	Nawab Muzaffar Jang.			
	Nawab Salabat Jang			
	2. Nawab Nizam Ali Khan			
6.	Akhbarat (Court Bulletins) relating to the Court of Nawab Sikandar Jah Bahadur.	I	1957	
<i>B.—Persian Historical Research Section (Mughlia)</i>				
1.	Selected Roznamacha Waqai Alamgiri	I	1953	Ready for the Press
2.	The selected documents of Aurangzeb's reign.	I	1954	
3.	Ditto	II	1955	
4.	The Selected Documents of Later Mughals along with Akhbarat-i-Delhi.	I	1956	
5.	Ditto	II	1957	
<i>C.—Marathi Historical Research Section</i>				
1.	Poona Akhbars	I	Towards the end of 1952.	In Press.
2.	Ditto	II	Early in 1954.	
3.	Ditto	III	Towards the end of 1955.	
4.	Selected Political Papers	I	Early in 1957.	
5.	Ditto	II	Early in 1959.	

APPENDIX I

REPORT OF ARCHIVAL SURVEY OF RAJASTHAN

The archival survey of Rajasthan recently made has revealed that old records in Rajasthani language and script and some of them in Persian, Urdu, and Marathi exist in every covenanting State of Rajasthan. Some of the records are in possession of rulers, but those transferred to the Government are all fairly important. The records of the old Records Offices of Bikaner, Kotah, Bundi and Jaipur are quite well organised, but their historical importance has not yet been assessed and they have not been properly arranged or classified from historical point of view, except at Kotah, where two clerks have been working for the last four years for this purpose under the guidance of Dr. M. L. Sharma.

The old records of the four States mentioned above consist of several thousand bundles or bastas, and those at Udaipur and Jodhpur also are not less in quantity. These records are of great historical value, which will increase with the passage of time. They, therefore, deserve a careful study and scientific treatment and preservation.

Ultimately a Provincial Archives Museum will have to be organised, but at the present stage it is not possible. To begin with, the records at the old capitals of States in Rajasthan (Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Bikaner, Kotah, Bundi, Alwar, Tonk, Bharatpur, Karauli, Dholpur, Jhalawar, Pratapgarh, Doongarpur, Banswara and Jaisalmer) should be cursorily examined and those considered of historical value be classed separately. The historical section should then be further studied and divided into various sections chronologically. For the present, records may be preserved where they are, but later on they should be integrated to form five divisional archives museums, which may ultimately develop into a Provincial Archives. Facilities should be provided to research scholars for studying the documents inside these offices. The rules and regulations of National Archives of India, New Delhi, with necessary modification and changes to meet local conditions can be adopted for this purpose.

Detailed notes on the archives of every covenanting State are appended for reference.

M. L. SHARMA,

S. P. SRIVASTAVA.

Members of the Committee for Archival Survey in Rajasthan.

I. JAIPUR

The Records Office in Jaipur is a well established office and is situated in the palace compound. This office comprises the old historical records, which may be divided into the following categories: Farmans, Nishans, Sanads, Vakil reports, Akhbarat, Khutut, Kharitas, Arz-dashts, and code letters. These records begin with S. 1678 and are chronologically speaking of the period noted against each.

Sl. No.	Nature	Samvat Years		Years (A.D.)	
		From	To	From	To
1	Farman	1678	1766	1621	1710
2	Nishan	1688	1766	1631	1710
3	Sanad—100 or so	1695	1712	1638	1755
4	Vakil Reports (in Persian) addressed to the Maharaja.	1738	1768	1681	1711
5	Vakil Reports (in Hindi) addressed to the Maharaja.	1740	1776	1683	1719
6	Vakil Reports (in Persian) addressed to the officials.	1742	1767	1684	1710
7	Vakil Reports (in Hindi) addressed to the officials.	1690	1795	1633	1738
8	Akhbarat	1722	1775	1666	1718
9	Khutut (letters) addressed to the Maharaja in Persian.	1714	1774	1658	1717
10	Khutut (letters) addressed to the Maharaja in Hindi.	1701	1794	1644	1737
11	Khutut (letters) addressed to the officials in Persian.	1682	1774	1625	1718
12	Khutut (letters) addressed to the officials in Hindi.	1690	1826	1633	1769
13	Miscellaneous letters addressed to the Maharaja.	1722	1774	1665	1717
14	Miscellaneous letters addressed to the officials	1664	1800	1607	1743
15	Kharita	1690	1795	1633	1718
16	Arz-dasht	1683	1800	1625	1843
17	Code letters	1698	...	1641	...

The other records of the department may be classified as follows:

(a) *Diwani-Hazuri*, i.e., records dealing with jagirs, udak, inam, bhog (charity), mansabdars, waqayat, etc.

(b) *Shamilat and Mustaufi*, i.e., records dealing with accounts of land.

NOTE:—These records are at present stored up in Jalebi Chouk at a place close to Accounts Office.

(c) *Mirbakhshi's records* dealing with Jagirdars' horses, attendance, and other service records.

NOTE:—These records are at present stored up in the basement rooms of the Town Hall.

(d) *Bakhshi Khana Jagir Records* dealing with loan of horses, etc.

(e) *Central Records Files*.—These are in English, Urdu and Persian and begin with 1831 and go up to 1922. Besides these, Amber records, still unassorted and unsifted, are also stored up at one place in the palace compound and await careful study and analysis and weeding, for they are also records and are supposed to contain useful information regarding the history of Amber.

At present these records are placed under the charge of one Mr. Joshi, who is under the administrative control of the Chief Secretary. The Records Office is in working order and records are made available to scholars for study whenever anybody approaches the incharge of them. But the present staff and equipment is hardly sufficient to cope with the efficient running of the department.

Recently a gentleman, Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Yusuf, a very efficient Persian-knowing gentleman, was made to retire on attaining the superannuation age and it has affected the department's efficiency very much. The superannuation age need not be applied to this department's employees in view of the fact that the work of studying, sifting and weeding out of records cannot be done by younger generation, and age and experience count very much and add to the efficiency of the staff.

Over and above these records, which are kept under the charge of Mr. Joshi, incharge of Old Historical Records, there are a number of other records which are kept in 'Qaul Nama' in 'Kapardwara' and are useful from the historical point of view.

Some private bodies like the purohits, the thikanedars, the Bengali families, the Natanis and the Haldias, are in possession of pattas, parwanas, tamrapatras, letters, etc., which need to be procured with a view to collect historical material and to pave the way for scientific reconstruction of India's past in general and of Rajasthan in particular.

2. BHARATPUR

There is an old records office here, at one time organised and run on systematic basis, and known as Diwanan-i-Dafter. These records belong to the time of the four diwans of the former Bharatpur State, namely Diwan Harbaksh Sahib, Diwan Bishambher Nath Sahib, Diwan Sardar Singh Sahib and Diwan Champa Lal Sahib.

These records are mostly annual account records, which were then maintained not in *bahi* form but kept on separate sheets. The bastas of these loose sheets begin from S. 1821. The basta bearing the date S. 1821 on it, contains annual account records pertaining to Pargana Bayana, Kumner, etc., and are entitled 'Jama Kharch', i.e., Income and Expenditure of these tehsils.

These records are either in Urdu or in Hindi. Orders from Agents are also to be found in this record office and they date from the year 1855 A.D. It is interesting to note that these orders are in Persian and not in English. These are on the lines of the orders issued in the Moghul times and are an exact replica of the Moghul farmans in some cases. The style and language have, no doubt, deteriorated for they are not so chaste as those of the Moghul times. The expenditure incurred by the rulers like Maharaja Jaswant Singhji, Maharaja Ram Singhji (dated S. 1950 or so), on marriage items and charity, etc., is also on record. These records throw interesting light on the social and economic aspects of Bharatpur history in particular and of the history of Rajputana and of India in general.

The records in this office are closed. These are well arranged according to contents and dates, but have, for some time past not been opened for lack of funds and of staff for its maintenance. It has not been possible for the Treasury Officer to see it maintained these days. The records are on way to deterioration for there are cobwebs* accumulating over them and almirahs and it appears that these have not been seen and cleaned for long.

Besides these, records of Old Bharatpur Mahakma Khas (Secretariat), Revenue, Settlement, Court of Wards, Forests, Grass farm, Municipality, Shikarghar, Excise, Judicial, etc., are also stored up in different rooms in the Collectorate office compound. These records are not very old but begin mostly from the year 1869. These records are in English, Hindi, and Urdu. The account records beginning from S. 1952 are stored up in one of the unlocked almirahs within the compound of the Collectorate office in a Verandah. These records are not in a good state of preservation and so should be ordered to be preserved properly. These are not systematically arranged and have not been looked after for long.

A number of bastas of records pertaining to customs are preserved in the Customs Department as well. These files are dated 1883, but contain papers bearing references to the year 1978, when a case was filed by a certain party in regard to the Custom dues charged on sugar, rab, gur, etc., which the party considered exorbitant. These records have, of late, been well preserved, but it is said that in the year 1924 when the Customs Office was in Namak ka Katra, a flood occurred and it affected the records stored in the building with the result that majority of the records have many of its words and sentences half washed away. All these records are in Urdu.

A number of bastas containing records are preserved in the Sadabart Office. These records date from 1876 A.D. These concern themselves with details of expenditure relating to charity, temples,

donations etc. The original orders concerning these items of expenditure are in Council Office and copies were made to pass on to the files in the judicial courts for reference. Files containing information regarding the siege of Bharatpur fort (according to the information received from Sri Brij Mohan Lal Sahib, sometime In-charge, Records Office, but now ill) are also kept in Council Office, but the same could not be traced out because nobody is looking after the records in his absence. These files are said to be important from the point of view of historical reconstruction, because these relate to Lord Lake's fight and also to the expenses incurred on army, etc.

There is also one more file in Council Office which records the construction of a house at Kama, by one Kesari Singh of Jaipur.

Toshakhana records could not be seen as they are in possession of His Highness; but these are said to contain only copies of orders (hukams) issued by the old Maharaja of Bharatpur so far as household and expenses on other items are concerned.

Though the present state of Bharatpur owes its origin to Maharaja Surajmal and is said to have been founded in 1817, but records pertaining to Sri Maharaja Badan Singh are also available in record offices.

3. ALWAR

There is an Old Records Department here, just in front of the Press. The records in this Department begin with 1862 A.D. and deal with various aspects of administration. These are in the form of both *Warq-i-dasti* and *bahis*. The records office is in the running order, but the staff attached to it has been retrenched and it is being run with deficient staff. Several accounts records have been ordered to be transferred to the A.G.'s Office, Jaipur.

Besides this, there is another department known as Jagirdar ka Mahakma. Here are stored records pertaining to Jagirdars. The names of the Jagirdars, who were either granted lands or other facilities by the ruler of Alwar from time to time, are to be found in these records and the relations of the Jagirdars with the ruler as revealed from the correspondence entered into between the two can also be gleaned easily on the basis of these records. The records show how Jagirdars were kept pleased and how faithfully they served the rulers on important occasions and festivals of the year. In the course of our investigation it was revealed that a number of records dealing with the relations of the Mughals with the rulers of Alwar in the 17th century are in the possession of the ruler. Some records dealing with the rulers' relations with the British are also preserved in His Highness's household somewhere. These records

need to be preserved and procured in the interest of historical reconstruction.

4. DHOLPUR

Account records here begin with the year 1901 corresponding to Sambat 1950. These records deal with receipts and expenditure under various heads. They deal with mulky section (pay, pension, etc.). The records consist of yad (abstract bills), qabzul-vasul (disbursement bill) and roznamcha (account diaries).

These account records are in Hindi and appear to have been maintained from 1901, the date from which the record office also appears to have been started in the Dholpur State.

In this office are also kept copies of sanads in a bound register. The earliest sanad bears the date 1827 Sambat. In the course of investigation a sanad granted to one barber of Bharatpur, Kirtan by name, for the allotment of 3 bighas of land (including garden, well, etc.) in Dholpur was discovered and found possessed of interesting details. Jamabandies kept in this office begin with Sambat 1935 and go up to Sambat 1947. These relate to kulari parganas. Jamabandi from S. 1951-53, are also preserved separately and contain names existing on the border of Dholpur and Bharatpur. Registers recording details of civil cases and also files of civil cases begin with 1864 and 1891 respectively. Files concerning 'muqadma sairat' begin from 1902 and go up to 1920, in which year the Customs Department was formed and the files started by this department on different lines and also ordered to be preserved in this department.

This records department has in it a register mentioning a list of persons, who got charities or rewards on the occasion of accession, marriages, and other auspicious occasions and who shall receive such bakhshish in future also. These registers begin from S. 1945 and go up to 1960.

Besides these, there is a record, giving details of the 'jeb kharch' or 'privy purse' of His Highness in 1883 A.D. and before. Monthly details of expenses by way of pocket money, Filkhana, Shuterkhana, Tavela, Bagghi Khana etc., are elaborately recorded in the registers here.

Records in the Central Records Office are arranged on iron shelves. This records office is on the point of being closed down for some records are reported to have been sent to the Treasury Office, Bharatpur, and some have been ordered by the Accountant General to be shifted to Jaipur. In order to save the individual States from being thrown into oblivion, proposal of transfer of records from there to Jaipur may not be given effect to, because the records

are likely to lose their identity if transferred to places outside their jurisdiction.

Ahkams (standing orders) from His Highness's Government to the tehsildars and other officers begin from the date 1876 and are preserved in files. Rubkars or orders issued from various departments of Panj-musahiban are also preserved in this records office. These records also belong to the mid-nineteenth century. The Registration and Stamp Act of the period are in Urdu.

The records pertaining to Council, Revenue, Charity, Publicity, Municipality, etc., begin with 1873 or so. Records older than these are reported to be in the possession of His Highness, who could not be contacted for the purpose, because he was out to Bombay then. Much of the strength of the staff of the records offices has been cut down and retrenched and so the strength has to be restored in the interest of proper upkeep of these records.

5. KARAU LI

Several records offices exist in Karauli but these are now on the point of being closed down for want of both funds and staff.

The old records offices are under the Sub-divisional office at present. One of these offices, dealing with the records of the Council of State, Karauli, was put under the Collector, when the collectorate was formed here.

These records begin from 1866 A.D. and come down to the present times. The other records are of revenue cases and concern themselves with boundary dispute cases and revenue details pertaining to all the five tehsils of Karauli. These records begin from 1876 A.D. and come down to present times.

All these records up to the year 1931-32 are in Urdu. The Munsif Sahib, Karauli, has also a records office under him and this office preserves in it judicial cases concerning Mukhtari i.e., when His Highness held courts and decided cases himself. These begin from 1856-1866 A.D.

The Council of States records are in English only, but these are of recent origin, i.e., of the past fifty years, for they begin from the year 1901.

The old Records office of Karauli is known as the Divanan-i-Daftar and is located in the palaces. This office preserves in it records consisting of bahis; files (bills), jamabandis, cash books, khatahs, singhe-jati jamakharch; bahi sam samhal, copies of sanads; patta, parwana, and records concerning jagir, punyarth, etc. Of these, bahis of samhal dealing with the property left by the deceased

maharanis and the deorhijat accounts etc., are important from the point of view of social history. Since the Accountant General in Karauli State worked as chowdhary of His Highness's household as well, he preserved the minutest details of His Highness's expenses in records.

The bahis of account preserve in them interesting details of information. One of the bahis records Sri Gopal Singhji's pilgrimage to Pushkar and Brindaban. The details of travelling expenses incurred by him and the amount spent by him on charity, etc., and the expenses incurred on the party that accompanied him are on record there. These bastas are dated S. 1801, 1810, and 1814. The Tosha Khana bahis of samhal and copies of sanads, patta, parwanas, etc., contain references to events pertaining to the 17th century.

One Shri Panna Lal Gupta is the incharge of accounts records and has been maintaining record for some time past. He has now been ordered to be transferred to some place and has been rendered surplus in his present post. The present records offices are to be closed down. The Accountant General, it was revealed to me by him, has ordered, after necessary weeding, for the transfer of 30 years old records to Jaipur and the preservation of other records there at Karauli under the S.D.O.

It was also revealed to me here by a certain gentleman that Ahwals (daily chronicles of His Highness's family) beginning from S. 1900 and correspondence with the Moghal and the British in the form of Kharitas beginning from 1600 are in His Highness's possession, but when I met His Highness, he denied to have any such records.

There was once a Saraswati Bhandar in the Karauli State. It is now in His Highness's possession. No proper arrangement exists for running it on scientific lines.

6. KISHANGARH

There are six rooms in which archives are housed here. The first 'bhandar' contained pattas, probably grants of Jaipur in maafi lands. The last 'bhandar' to the right in the front Verandah contains accounts records pertaining to marriage, accession, etc., from S. 1800 to 1900. The remaining five rooms contain records relating to various phases of administration from S. 1957 to the present day. The office is said to be in the charge of one Tulsi Ram, who was reported to be working under the Collector, who in spite of best efforts could not be contacted.

7. JODHPUR

At present the old and historical records of Jodhpur exist in the following departments:—

(1) *Dastri & Mir Munshi*

The *Dastri Record* relates to the private and official correspondence of the Jodhpur Darbar, the public record of rights and privileges of the Jodhpur people, jagirdars and thikanas. It contains an old record of the principal events of the Jodhpur, State, such as the daily diary about the movements and activities of the Jodhpur ruler and other high personalities in the past. The Dastri office also furnishes accounts with dates of the visits of Viceroys, Indian rulers, and other big officers to Jodhpur. It is a registry office of rites and ceremonies on births, marriages, deaths, etc., which took place in the royal house, together with the formalities reciprocally observed between the Jodhpur State and the Central Government as well as between Jodhpur and other States or rulers. It keeps in original or copies the diplomatic correspondence, such as, Kharitas exchanged between the Jodhpur Darbar and other rulers, States, and the Central Government. It contains accounts of titles, honours, and privileges which were conferred by the Central Government on the Royal House of Jodhpur and all such similar rights that were bestowed by the Jodhpur ruler or the State on the people of Jodhpur. These rights include 'Matampursi' (death rites and visits of Jodhpur Darbar at the residence of leading citizens), 'Lawazma' or paraphernalia granted by the State to its subjects on occasion of marriage, etc., and the privileges conferred on jagirdars, nobles, mutasaddies (officials) and others about their status, precedence, and position in Darbars (official functions) and so on. The Dastri Office keeps a chronological record of the appointments and postings of the old Diwans, ministers, and high officials. It maintains accounts of gifts, donations, and contributions made from the Jodhpur Darbar or the State to persons and institutions, Parwanas, sanads, amal-ke-chithis and other such official documents issued on the landed aristocracy and officials. When a mention of jagir by grant or succession took place the Dastri used to draft a Jagir Patta for signatures of the Jodhpur Darbar. Among the privileges which used to be conferred on the public by the royal prerogative are the various honours locally known as Saropaos, Kurabs and Tazims. In short, the Dastri records form an important criterion of settling disputes about the jagirs of Jodhpur and other privileges, secular and otherwise. The Dastri records can throw considerable light on the cultural and social aspects of the public life of Jodhpur during the last 200 years or so. These records date from V. S. 1808.

Mir Munshi Records.—Till 1948 these records were held and maintained by the hereditary family of Mir Munshies in lieu of some honorarium paid by the State. Now this important record forms a part of the Dastri office, which is under the Daroga Dastri with his staff (ministerial and non-ministerial). The Mir Munshi record consists of official correspondence, Firmans, Kharitas, etc. (mostly in Persian) exchanged between the Mughal emperors, the British Government, the Marathas, and the Indian States on the one hand and the Jodhpur State or Darbar on the other side.

Most of the material in Dastri and Mir Munshi is listed, catalogued or translated into English. But so far it is like a sealed book. It is very important for consultation by research scholars, administrators and those who desire to know the precedence and formal exchange of diplomatic correspondence. Its ethnological, social, and cultural significance is eminent indeed.

On the formation of the Rajasthan in April, 1949, there arose a question of integration or abolition of such minor departments as Dastri, for effecting economy of management. We understand that the Jodhpur Maharaja claimed the Dastri record as his personal property, as it related mostly to his erstwhile royal prerogative. But since the Rajasthan Government did not desire, for the present at least, to introduce any change in this respect, the matter has been held in abeyance. The Dastri Office at present is thus among one of the Karkhanajat of the Rajasthan Government and under the direct supervision of the Commissioner's Office, Jaipur.

(2) *Hazuri Daftar*

It contains old records of rights of jagirdars and their estates giving their origin, history, grants, pattas, sanads, and the accounts of services rendered by the original grantees and other aristocracy. It contains official records of mutations, successions and other changes in jagir constitution from time to time. It deals with Rekh (assessed amount of income) of jagirs, on which the State levied tribute dues at Rs. 80 for Rs. 1,000 of such income. It keeps accounts of Chhakri, or military service in horses, which the jagirdars used to supply to the State, a system based on the Mughal system of keeping horses for military service. The Chhakri is now commuted to cash at Rs. 144 per 1,000 of Rekh income. It records Hukamnama or succession fee of each jagirdar, Khyalgat or history of succession to each village or jagir mutation. It relates to various cesses leviable from jagirdars such as Nazar, Nazrana, etc.

It concerns the collection of tribute dues from the jagirdars, and the maintenance of accounts of their income, and the application of the principle of 'Moris Ala' or resumption of jagirs in case a jagirdar dies without a son and none is entitled to adoption within the line of descendants of the original grantee of that jagir. In short, the Hazuri Daftar serves an important guide to the history of the Zamindari rights in Jodhpur. It is likely to be a burning question when a change in the tenure system might be introduced, or even before, during the course of the jagir settlement. Since the erstwhile Tribute Department has been abolished in 1949 this valuable record of Hazuri Daftar, of which it was a part, deserves to be preserved with all possible care. All questions of Jagir Settlement are intimately connected with the Hazuri Daftar. In short, it is a directory of jagir areas of Jodhpur. It dates from V.S. 1808.

We understand with much dismay and surprise that such a vital part of records of Hazuri Daftar lies scattered in Naniji-Ki-Haveli in Jodhpur city and with the Land Records Office and Settlement Office (formerly Hawala Department). It deserves to be rescued and preserved as soon as possible, before it is too late when the depredations of interested human agencies or the white ants, cause havoc.

(3) *Old records of Zanani Deodhi, Jodhpur Fort*

It consisted of record of Dholion-ka-Kothar, Rani Manga Bahis (accounts maintained by queens' bhats or chroniclers about histories of Ranis of Jodhpur) and accounts of grants, gifts, made by the ex-rulers from their privy purse. It can throw some important light on the social aspects of old times. This record is said to be now shifted to the old Mahakma Khas records, which though mainly of administrative nature, can also be studied in a historical perspective.

The whereabouts of records of the former Residency W.R.S., Jodhpur are not known, though they also constitute matters of much importance. The residency records can reveal the diplomatic policy and practices of out-going British officers towards Indian rulers.

(4) *Historical Section attached to the Archaeological Department, Jodhpur*

This section is a part of the Archaeological Department. It relates to the traditional historical accounts (locally known as Khyats) which were submitted by jagirdars some 70 years back, when the Jodhpur State contemplated the collection of record of rights and their history in jagir areas of Marwar. The number of Khyats is over 2,800.

8. JAISALMER

Jaisalmer is famous for palm leaf records which are stored up in a Jaina Mandir there. These are ancient Jaina palm leaf records, which are the pride not only of Rajasthan but also of the whole of India.

These are at present being looked after by one Shri Punya Vijaya and a society in Ahmedabad is meeting the expenses of their preservation.

Among the official records may be mentioned the accounts records dealing with lands, jagirdars, etc., and the other administrative records known as Mahakma Khas records. The accounts records deal with expenses of the State in various branches like charity, land settlement, imarat, etc. These records are in the form of bahis. These records begin with S. 1813. The bahis dealing with accession, marriage, kitchen, zakat, P.W.D., are also stored up here.

The bahis also deal with income and expenses under various heads. Besides these, there are registers containing the details regarding the establishment of the royal household in the eighteenth century.

The treaty records dated the 12th December, 1818 and the 10th May, 1870 and signed by C. T. Metcalfe and the Sanad bearing the date 3rd November, 1862, are also preserved in the State. These and several other unimportant records throwing light on important issues are in His Highness's possession.

The records in the possession of the ruler are supposed to be older than those preserved in the State and kept under the control of the Collector.

9. TONK

The historical records in the Tonk State are of three kinds, viz., manuscripts, miscellaneous papers and sanads. The manuscripts are stored up in Kutub Khana and are, therefore, well preserved. Of the rare manuscripts, *Amir-nama* by Rai Sahib Lal Basawan Lal, Private Secretary to H.H. Amir Khan, and *Mohini-nama* (dealing with the battle that ensued between Tonk and Lawa) are of special importance to scholars. The library has in it the translations of *Amir-nama* in Urdu as well, and it is known as *Nama-i-Amir-Khan*. Miscellaneous papers, bound in bastas either in the shape of bahis or loose papers are trilingual in character. The languages used are Hindi, Persian and English. These bastas are about 1,50,500 in

number and begin from the year 1222 (Hijri), corresponding to 1807 A.D. These records pertain to accounts, secretariat correspondence, private letters, etc. Of these bastas, five bastas contain records which throw historical light on the founder of the State and are of importance to researchers working on Amir Khan and his times. A few months back one Mr. Ghosh, deputed by the Government of India's Department of Archives, had a look at these records and separated these bastas from the rest, after having sifted the other papers, un-connected as they appeared to him.*

More than a hundred sanads in original are preserved in the State. They bear on them the date 1222 H, 1223 H and so on. These original sanads should have been, as a rule, in the possession of their recipients and only their copies should have been lying in the State, but the presence of these original sanads leads one to suppose that these were at sometime seized by the State in the event of their recipients having lost the ground on some pretext or the other.

So far as the preservation of records is concerned, the records are being preserved satisfactorily since the time of Mohd. Ali Khan Sahib, prior to whom no record office was in existence in Tonk. Necessity of organising this office was felt in the time of Mohd. Ali Khan Sahib, who consequently made proper arrangements for their up-keep in the old fort. In 1267 H, a fire broke out in the fort, but precautions were taken in the right direction, and in the time of Nawab Wazirud-Daulah Sahib these were placed on sound footing. In 1946-47 these records were shifted from this place to the present place (i.e., in the Nawab's Secretariat) where it is said, they got affected a little by white ants. The records are inspected every now and then by competent hands, one of whom Mr. Abdul Basir is incharge of them. He is assisted by one record keeper, and one peon. The office is under the administrative control of the Collector, Tonk.

The man-in-charge of the records revealed to us in the course of this investigation that a number of records pertaining to H.H. Amir Khan, the Nawab of Tonk, are still to be found in Sikar, Dundlod, and Khandela. These are referred to in the Wills report of the Shekhawati area.

10. KOTAH

There is an old records office in the Gadh at Kotah. It contains thousands of bastas beginning with V.S. 1692 corresponding to 1635 and ending with 1930 sambat, corresponding to 1873. The bastas are about 8,000 in number and concern themselves with (a) forests, (b) revenue, (c) Kotwal Chabutara (faujdari), (d) Talika (copies of ceremonials), (e) Jagir, etc., and also of daily orders issued from

*This statement is not correct. No member of the staff of the National Archives of India was deputed for this work—Secretary I.H.R.C.

the districts beginning from V.S. 1692. Of the so far four closed rooms, one recently opened revealed to the incharge of the Records Office 300 Zakat records. Other rooms so far closed and awaiting opening are expected to yield thousands of records pertaining to Mahkma Khas and Engineering Department.

The records preserved in the Jhalahaveli at Payagn begin from S. 1930 and go up to S. 2007. These records, though new at present, are bound to form part of old records fifty years after and so need be preserved from now. Records should be weeded out only after careful examination and scrutiny so that no important papers be allowed to go to waste paper basket for want of proper vigilance. All these records are valuable documents of local history, particularly in the field of economic and social life of the past 300 years. These are all in Hadoti form of Rajasthan language and contain important technical terms adopted and used in administration in those days. The Saraswati Bhandar, Kotah, preserves in it 3,599 manuscripts and these are all properly looked after just like the old historical department.

The incharge of the old historical records department is Sri Krishna Gopal and that of the manuscript library Sri Madan Mohan Shastri.

11. BUNDI

In the Saraswati Bhandar, Bundi, there are 325 bastas of manuscripts mostly in Sanskrit belonging to different periods. These manuscripts need to be catalogued on scientific lines and also published.

The old records office situated in Gadh at Bundi and known as the Daftar-i-Hisab contains old settlement records beginning with the year V.S. 1901. These records have been made over by His Highness to the Rajasthan Government, but are at present housed in a portion of the Gadh, where restrictions on dress still exist for persons wishing to go to this office. This portion of the building has been rented out by H.H. and, according to the information conveyed to me by the Collector, the H.H. wants this portion to be vacated and the Collector has not yet been able to find any other alternative arrangement for lodging this office in. The number of bastas in this building is said to be 25,000; of these 15,000 bastas are arranged according to villages, tehsilwise. Each basta bears its number and the name of the village. The latest settlement records begin with V.S. 1937. Sri Radha Krishnaji is incharge of these records at present. He revealed to us in the course of investigation that there are Varq-Dasti records up to the S. 1937 and after that the records are in the form of bahi-dasti.

The papers dealing with accounts are in the custody of Sri Kalyanlal. Files beginning with S. 1950 and coming up to present times are also with him. The Records Office is functioning on satisfactory lines but the room, where these records are stored, is affected with white ants and care is taken by the incharge of the office by disinfecting it now and then by coaltar and by applying ordinary preservatives to it.

Sri Kalyanlal told us that some of the account records have been transferred to Udaipur also. Those beginning from 1943 A.D. have been sent to Topkhana for being preserved there.

12. JHALAWAR

The old Accounts Records Office here is known as the Daftar-i-Hisab and is situated in the Collector's office building. The incharge of the office disclosed that the records begin with S. 1894 and some forty-two bastas of records of the period prior to S. 1894 were preserved somewhere in Kotah but on actual search and scrutiny of the records pertaining to finance, they appeared to begin with S. 1865. These bastas were found to be 5,000 in number.

Besides these records, records pertaining to Mahakma Khas (from 1804—1933), revenue (Sambat 1892—1933), customs or zakat (Sambat 1896—1933) were also found to be preserved in a building at the back of the Collector's office and also in the Palace Haveli. In this haveli is also situated a foreign office which contains English records beginning with 1896 and going up to 1948 i.e., up to premerger times.

The records at Jhalawar are in all the three languages. The accounts are all in Rajasthan language, while Mahakma Khas, revenue and other records are in Urdu. The foreign records are in English.

The Archaeological Museum, Jhalawar, also has in it a *rokar bahi* of S. 1814, which, according to the former Curator, Sri Gopal Lal Vyas, was specially sent to him by H.H. the Maharaja of Jhalawar for being preserved in the museums. The bahi throws interesting light on the social and economic history of Jhalawar of the 17th century.

There are, besides these, fifteen hundred manuscripts in the museum. These are all tied in red cloth bastas and are in Sanskrit, Arabic, Persian, Urdu and Hindi (including Maithili) and are interesting so far as their literary contents are concerned.

13. BIKANER

In Bikaner, old records are preserved at several places. The Rampuria Records are to be found in Commissioner's office. These

records deal with the copies of pattas granted to individuals and parties and are known as Patta Bahis. These records begin from S. 1682 i.e., from the time of H.H. the Maharaja Sahib Shri Anoop Singhji. Since these copies are deteriorating day by day, these are being copied afresh and preserved in new bahis.

Other records in the form of bahis are to be found in the General Records Department, known as Mahafiz Khana sometime back. According to the man incharge of the records in the department, these begin with 1600 or so, but we would find the earliest bahis of 1689, 1690 and 1700. These bahis deal with accession, marriage, personal affairs, miscellaneous accounts, pay bills, zakat, P.W.D., etc.

These are interesting records so far as their contents are concerned, and throw valuable light on the social and political life of the 17th century and beyond.

There are also registers, besides these bahis, and they too give us detailed information regarding the establishment of the royal household. All these records are in Rajasthani language. These are informative so far as administrative, social and economic details of Bikaner history are concerned and can be used with advantage by the scholars of history.

The records are well arranged and well preserved and facilities for research are available here to scholars.

The files concerning Mahakma Khas and Council begin with 1868 and these are all in Urdu. Records of foreign office are in English and these comprise letters exchanged with the Agent and the British Government. These records are there till the year 1932. These records offices are well arranged and are looked after properly. Besides these record offices of the Government, we have a number of farmans preserved in the museum as well. These deal with the relations that existed between the Mughal Emperors and the then rulers of Bikaner and are interesting in their contents.

Some private records offices are also functioning at Bikaner. One of these is of Sri Agarchand Nahta. Though the collection is mostly a Jain one and consists of Oswals' Vanshawali (beginning with S. 1612), ordinary correspondence (letters exchanged between private individuals and the rulers of Bikaner), Acharya's letters to Sri Jain Manikya Suri (between S. 1604 and 1612), old khatas of yatis (dated 1800 S.) Panchangs (for S. 1701 to present day), horoscopes of ruling families, diaries, khyats of Jaisalmer, Jodhpur and Bikaner (of the 17th century).

14. PARTABGADH

Here was at one time a regular Record Office, which preserved in it records beginning with V. S. 1815. These records are now said

to be in His Highness's possession. A few record bastas are being preserved by the Collector and have been under a clerk of the collectorate. These records deal with settlement, land revenue and pattas. Some files dealing with revenue and civil cases are also preserved in this office.

The Accounts records dealing with income and expenditure under various heads in the 19th century are preserved in bahis and registers. These begin with V. S. 1957 and pertain to Raj Sri Katchery, Deshdana, Khabar Rasani, Karkhanajat, etc.

Copies of a number of treaties and agreements entered into by the rulers of Partabgadh and the British from time to time are also preserved in His Highness's private collections. These are of the years 1804, 1861, 1818, and 1823.

15. BANSWARA

Banswara was, for a good number of years, under the rulers of the Dungarpur State. So many of the record bastas pertaining to the State are reported to be still in Dungarpur and are probably with the ruler and form part of his private possessions.

Historical records pertaining to the time of Maharawal Lakshman-singhji (V. S. 1960) are with the ruler, but account records beginning from V. S. 1976 or so are preserved in the Collectorate office. These records deal with income and expenditure under various heads like forests, customs, excise, stamps, loan, H.H.'s private purse, etc.

Records pertaining to administration are also stored up in the Palace in a few rooms. Of the important historical records, reported to be in the possession of His Highness the Maharawal of Banswara, are the copies of treaties entered into between the State and the East India Company dated 16 September 1818, 25 December 1818, 15 February 1820, 11 February 1823, 3 November 1832, 24 December 1868 and 15 March 1883.

A number of jagirdar records of the later nineteenth century are also preserved in the Palace compound area.

All these records offices are nearly closed and are not in working order.

16. DUNGARPUR

Most of the records belonging to this place are reported to be in Udaipur. There is no well established records office here. Some records are in the collectorate but they are all of the 20th century. Records beginning with V. S. 1865 are in the possession of His Highness. These records throw interesting light on Peshwa relations.

The records pertaining to V. S. 1875 in the form of a treaty with the British (which is dated V. S. 1875—Mangsar sudi 14) is important.

The agreement entered into between this house and the British dated V. S. 1882, Vaishakh sudi 15, is also important. The accounts files and bahis as usual deal with income and expenses from various sources like Devasthan, 'Sayir', Police, etc.

17. SHAHPURA

There is no records office here now on an organised basis. It is said that some records dealing with accounts, by way of annual income and expenditure from various sources, e.g., royal house-hold, lawazma, sayir, abkari, refahi-am, jagalat, are preserved somewhere in the old palaces. These begin with V. S. 1905. Of the other important records in the possession of the ruler are Ahdnamas and Iqrarnamas and sanads (treaty and agreement records and sanads) bearing the dates 27 June 1948, 16 March 1882, and 7 July 1926.

The records offices here need to be organised on systematic basis.

18. SIROHI (RAJASTHAN)

In the former Sirohi State, there was a well established records office, but due to the partition of Sirohi this records office got disturbed and most important records like those of the treaty entered into between the ruler and the British Government in the year 1823, went into the hands of the Bombay Government people. Only a few records of the past sixty to sixty-five years are in the possession of the Collector and are lodged in the Muhafiz Khana maintained in the collectorate. These records are all revenue records and deal with settlement and allied land problems. These records only give us an insight into the names of the villages and tehsils and help us only to find out the area of land held by the various occupants and the proprietors. These records may prove useful to scholars some fifty or sixty years after and as such need to be preserved.

19. UDAIPUR

Udipur has got a huge quantity of old records. Formerly they were housed in the Mahakma Khas building, now used as Commissioner's Office. When the State of Udaipur integrated the records were removed to a part of His Highness's Palace known as Parvati Bilas.

The records consist of countless bundles, roughly speaking over 4,000, and relate to all kinds of administrative matters—land revenue, settlement, forests, judiciary, political, inter-state, ruling family, mint, defences, police, etc. They date approximately from the beginning of the 18th century.

In Commission's Office there is an almirah containing copper plates, several hundred in number, and also reign-wise albums of photographic copies of several hundred 'sanads' granted by Maharana Kumbha and the succeeding rulers to various persons.

Some important documents are there also in the land Records Office in the palace and in private possession of Pandit Deva Narayan. Certain records and farmans belong to the Private Department.

No document is earlier than the 15th century A. D. They are in charge of a re-employed retired officer, who is assisted by a few pensioned clerks.

APPENDIX J

QUESTIONNAIRE ISSUED BY THE SECOND
INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ARCHIVES.

The Secretariat of the Second International Congress on Archives held at The Hague on 15—20 June 1953, issued a questionnaire to member institutions and associations for eliciting information regarding the main subjects for discussion at the Congress. The questionnaire is reproduced below:

I. UNIFORMITY OF ARCHIVAL TERMS

1. What do you mean in your country with an archive unit? Is it admitted that an archive unit should be completed after its transfer to an archival depository with strayed documents and that documents not belonging to this unit should be removed from it?
2. Which system is used in your country for the arrangement of archives:—
 - I. Formed before the introduction of the decimal code.
 - (a) in chronological order?
 - (b) by grouping according to the subject matter?
 - (c) by division into classes in conformity with the original administrative organisation?
 - II. Formed since the introduction of the decimal code.
3. What is the meaning in your country of the terms:—
 - (a) inventory?
 - (b) catalogue?
 - (c) calendar?
 - (d) index?
4. What do you mean in your country with:—
 - (a) formal document or instrument?
 - (b) charter?
 - (c) cartulary?
 - (d) vidimus?
 - (e) transumpt?
5. Which kinds of applying seals are known in your country and what do you mean with a transfix?

6. What do you mean in your country with:—
 - (a) records?
 - (b) resolutions?
 - (c) minutes?
7. With reference to loose documents do you distinguish in your country between:—
 - (a) draft?
 - (b) minute?
 - (c) engrossed copy?
8. Do you distinguish in your country between:—
 - (a) protocol?
 - (b) register?
9. What do you design in your country as:—
 - (a) volume?
 - (b) binding?
10. Do you distinguish in your country between:—
 - (a) dossier?
 - (b) bundle of documents?
11. Do you distinguish in your country between:—
 - (a) file? (documents laced with a cord).
 - (b) envelope?
 - (c) packet?

II. ARCHIVES AND DOCUMENTATION

1. Do you believe that the duties of an archivist are not restricted to the triple task of keeping, classifying and communicating records, but also involve the function of directing research?
2. Does this function imply, besides the compilation and diffusion of catalogues and inventories, the establishment of card indexes containing ample summaries of the records in the archive and the placing at the disposal of the public of informative guide-books for the purpose of facilitating research?
3. Do you consider that this informative function should be further developed and lead to the setting up of an office of historical documentation capable of supplying not only references to the collections kept in the archive itself but also sufficiently accurate indications concerning supplementary data that other records in private or public archives or libraries can give on the same subject?

4. Should this office of historical documentation keep an up-to-date list of historians and scholars specialized in the various subjects and a card-index of current researches?

5. Do you believe that this informative function should not be restricted to a study of the past but should also deal with contemporary questions—even those of the most topical interest—relating to administration, politics, culture, economics and sociology? Have information centres of this type already been set up in the archives in your region?

6. How do you conceive the practical organization of such a centre of contemporary documentation? Should it be satisfied with being a sort of signal-box for directing an investigator towards the public or private institution capable of supplying the information he desires, or should it be able to supply such information itself?

7. Should it possess, besides an administrative library kept constantly up to date, the most important periodicals and journals that deal with administrative, political, cultural, economic and social questions?

8. Should it keep an up-to-date card-index of the subjects treated in those periodicals and publications?

9. Should it establish files containing references and cuttings of articles on the subjects touched upon?

10. Do you believe that a centre of this type should be focussed chiefly on local and regional problems?

11. What publicity media (bulletins, articles, press conferences, posters) do you think would be best calculated to draw the attention of the administration or the public to the utility of such information centres?

12. What equipment, personnel and credits are at the disposal of the information centres already established within the framework of the records services in your region?

III. ARCHIVES AND HISTORY OF ART

Questionnaire dealing mainly with Architecture and the Fine Arts.

I. DOCUMENTS

What kind of documents of interest for the History of Art are kept in your archives?

1. Iconographic documents

Plans and drawings, seals, prints, photographs, etc.

2. Scriptorial documents

Manuscripts, printed matter (if any).

II. ORGANIZATION

How are your records arranged and stored?

1. Storage

Method of classification.

Inventories and catalogues, manuscript or printed.

Furniture employed for storing the documents.

How are damaged documents repaired or restored?

2. Communication

What are the rules for communication? What are the conditions for opening, deposit and consultation of documents?

Are any restrictions imposed by existing laws and regulations? If so, of what nature?

State the present frequency of communications and the possibility of increasing it.

III. AUXILIARY RESOURCES

1. Libraries

Are your archives supplemented by specialized libraries? If so, state their importance.

2. Collections

Do your archives comprise supplementary collections? If so, of what nature?

3. Exhibitions

Do you organize exhibitions? If so, do you publish catalogues? If so, where and how can they be consulted or obtained?

4. Facilities for Reproduction

Photographs and films. Have you a photo-reproduction department? On what conditions can reproductions be obtained? Do you require the deposit of negatives or prints? Do you guarantee their safe keeping? Do you keep them in special files? If so, can these files be consulted? Do you employ them to spare the original documents?

IV.—FURTHER REMARKS

IV. THE PROFESSIONAL FORMATION OF ARCHIVISTS.

1. In your country must a candidate for the post of archivist submit proof of previous technical training?

2. In your country are there various categories of archivists recruited and trained differently according to the posts occupied?

Are certain managerial positions reserved by law for archivists more highly trained or recruited by a special examination?

Must state, provincial or departmental archivists possess the same qualifications as the keepers of the national archives?

Is a special technical training demanded of municipal archivists, at least in the larger towns, and of those in important ministerial departments?

3. Must a candidate hold a university degree in addition to any technical training he may possess?

4. Is such technical training obtained by a spell in an archive or by organized instruction, or both?

5. Does such instruction consist in a series of courses given in a university or in a specialized school?

Give the names of the universities and of the school or schools.

6. (a) Are these schools only open to officials recruited from amongst professional archivists by examination or otherwise? Or are they open to other students who may wish to join?

(b) Is admission subject to the presentation of a certificate of matriculation, graduation from high school or the like?

(c) Are pupils recruited by competition? If so, state the average time required for preparing such competition. Give the programme and standard of the competition. What percentage of candidates pass?

7. Besides palaeography, diplomatics and the auxiliary historical sciences, does the curriculum include courses on keeping records and practical exercises, as well as courses on administrative history and the current organization of public administrations?

8. To obtain the final diploma must a candidate present a thesis or a set work on the speciality (research, classification, inventory), or both?

9. What is the normal duration of training or instruction?

10. Are these courses also common to librarians? Do they open the way to any other profession besides that of archivist?

11. If your country is planning to reform the professional formation of archivists, outline the proposed modifications.

(We should greatly appreciate your appending to your reply an extract of the regulations of your school or schools for archivists and a note on their operation if there is one in print).

V. HISTORICAL MUSEUMS OF RECORDS

1. Do historical museums mainly composed of records exist in your country? Indicate their number and location. If none exist, do the historical museums utilize records, and to what extent?

2. The administrative position of historical museums of records. Are they at the dependence of a centre of records (national, regional, municipal)? Do they have a special organization, or are they entrusted to the archivists themselves? When were they founded and on whose initiative?

3. *Organization*.—What system or arrangement has been adopted for the chief historical museums of archives? Chronological? Methodical? If the latter, which main branches of interest have been selected (national history; local history; political administrative; economic history; international relations, etc.)?

4. *Layout*.—Have the museums a modern layout? Give details on: (1) show cases (fittings, protection against dust), (2) lighting (natural? artificial? to what extent are fluorescent tubes employed? is coloured glass used? is there indirect lighting?).

5. *Storage*.—What means are employed for the material preservation of the stored documents? What precautions are taken? Repair laboratories and methods (for papyrus, paper, parchment). Are special precautions taken for seals?

6. Are the documents only on view temporarily? If so, what rhythm is applied?

7. In the case of permanent museums that organize temporary exhibitions as well, mention the most important exhibitions held since 1950. Have any of them travelled to other centres?

8. Conditions governing opening and admission. To what extent are the museums visited by the public? Are lectures conducted and visits organized? If so, what are the duties of the archivist? Have catalogues been published?

9. What connexion is there between these museums and education? Do school groups enjoy facilities for visiting them? By

pupils of what standard are they mostly visited (elementary, secondary, university)? Do the museums themselves comprise educational services? If so, what results have been achieved (check-ups, questionnaires, exhibitions of pupils' work, etc.)?

10. Relations with other classes of museums (art, science, etc.). Loans or deposits, for temporary exhibitions or for long periods.

VI. COMMUNICATION WITH DISPLACEMENT OF DOCUMENTS

The question of the *international lending of archive documents* has been entered on the order of the day of the next International Congress of Archives. However, as in most countries the international lending of documents is not, as a rule, customary but, on the other hand, as they have the experience of lending documents within their national boundaries, it has been thought advisable to get inspiration for the first part of this questionnaire from the practice of inland lending.

N.B.—In order to achieve a more exact survey, and of an uniform plan of lending in the different countries and, in the meanwhile, sparing our colleagues' time it has seemed advisable to multiply the questions to which it will be sufficient to answer by *yes* or by *no*. If the problem does not exist in your country kindly scratch out the useless mentions.

I. INLAND LENDING

A. Lending for a scientific purpose

(a) Principle of lending

Is the lending without discrimination of archive documents admitted between all the public Archives of your country?

Is reciprocal lending authorised between the Central State Archives and the local archives (in the case of a centralised state) or between the Federal State Archives and those of the States or Counties (in the case of a federative state)?

Are municipal archives excluded from the lending scheme?

Can there be communications of archive documents to Libraries, Universities, Museums, learned societies and ecclesiastical archives?

Do the archives of your country communicate microfilms to the exclusion of the documents, or at least, preferably to them?

Are applications for lending exceptional or of common occurrence? (Quote, if possible, for typical archives the annual number of communications occurring out of the office for a normal year before 1939 and after 1949).

Is lending extended to all categories of documents? If so, what documents might be excluded?

Is the head of an archive depository free to exclude certain documents from lending according to his convenience?

Does the Central Direction of Archives (or any other administrative authority) have to be consulted before allowing the lending of documents?

Can it allow a lending that would have been refused by the head of an office?

(b) Lending regulations

Number of pieces communicated in one consignment? Duration of lending? Can one renew the lending? How many times?

Can penalties (such as interruption or cessation of lending) be inflicted on archives or people who do not comply with the lending delays?

Are unbound documents communicated?

(c) Expedition of documents

Are the documents sent by the ordinary mail?

Are the parcels registered?

Do you send parcels by air or sea mail?

Maximum weight of parcels?

Are the documents sent directly to the recipient archives or through the medium of an administrative service?

Do your archives enjoy free postage?

Are documents insured?

Is the communication free of charge for the reader? In case of charge, please give the average amount of costs incumbent to the reader.

B. Lending for administrative use

Is lending granted to an administration other than the one who deposited the documents?

Can the archivist refuse a loan for administrative use?

II.—INTERNATIONAL LENDING

Principle of lending

Is the free communication of archive documents to foreign depositories admitted by your country?

Is lending reserved only to the countries or the archives who have admitted reciprocity following diplomatic agreements?

Please name the countries with whom international lending is in use. Dating from when?

Is such lending exceptional or customary? (Give, if possible, the amount of lending for an average year, before 1939 and after 1949).

Do provisions exist in your country, issuing from laws or by-laws, against the establishment of international lending?

Do you desire the adoption of new provisions in order to allow an organisation of international lending or would you prefer to enlarge the system now in force?

In that case, would you consider the establishment of an international agreement under the auspices of the International Council of Archives advisable or is an agreement of regional extension to be preferred (for instance Europe, Latin-America)? Or again, one or several bilateral agreements?

Do you consider that microfilms notwithstanding their high cost can answer the need of historians without the displacement of the documents themselves? In that case should the microfilms (negative or positive) be put free of charge at the disposal of the demander for a given time, or should the latter pay for the microfilming?

Practice of lending

Important notice:

If international lending exists in the current practice of your country kindly put the letter A in front of your answers to the following questions.

If you wish for the establishment of a regimen of international lending different from the one in use now-a-days, kindly put the letter B in front of the solution you prefer.

(a) General rules

Lending reserved only to the central archives of the state? Or to the principal archives of the foreign country?

Lending extended likewise to libraries, universities, academies?

Occasional lending in the case of expositions in foreign archives or museums?

Examination of the application by the concerned archives or by the central direction of archives?

Can the central direction allow the lending against the advice of the concerned archives? Or, inversely, deny its consent?

Is a special authorisation of the lending archives necessary for microfilming the document?

Is the reader who uses the document obliged to give a copy of his work to the archives who lent the document?

Is the lending submitted to diplomatic formalities?

Is the application to be done through the medium of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs?

(b) Forwarding of documents

Is the sending and the return of documents cared for by embassies and consulates through the medium of the diplomatic mail?

Does it happen that diplomatic authorities refuse to forward documents through that medium?

Are there instances of documents sent through that medium being lost, at least temporarily?

When using that medium what is the average time elapsing between the application and the arrival of the parcel?

Do you send documents directly between archives?

Are the parcels sent by ordinary mail?

Do you use air or sea mail?

Maximum weight of parcels?

Are the documents insured?

Are the costs of sending and insurance assumed by the reader?

Order of the amount of costs?

Way of settlement?

Do you enjoy free postage in accordance to a special agreement?

Do you think that you will be allowed the use of free postage as stipulated in the art. 52 of the New Universal Postal Convention concerning administrative parcels if sent under double cover the first one addressed to the Post Office of the town of destination, the second one bearing the name of the service whom the parcel concerns?

Custom formalities?

(c) Limitation of lending operations

How many articles in one sending?

Duration of lending?

Is the lending renewable?

What documents are normally excluded from international lending?

Do you think it advisable, in order to avoid improper use of the documents, to have every application made, not by the reader but by the head of the archives where the consultation will take place, he being the best judge of its interest, and to include in the application the name, qualities, and titles of the reader and the reason of the consultation (thesis, scientific memoir, edition, etc.) and the subject of his study?

Do you deem it advisable to normally exclude from lending applications made only for genealogical motives and to refuse those facilities to professional genealogists?

Do you deem it advisable to establish a regimen of reciprocity in matters of international lending, foreseeing for two given countries an about equal number of lendings both ways?

N.B.—One is advised to join to the answers to the above questions an extract from the regulation texts concerning the inland lending of archive documents, eventually accompanying it with a translation in one of the languages in use at the International Council of Archives.

It is likewise advised eventually to annex the text of all the conventions actually in force for the international lending of archive documents between two given countries.

APPENDIX K

LIST OF EXHIBITS

EXHIBITS FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

I. DOCUMENTS ON BHOPAL

Although the history of the modern State of Bhopal commences with Dost Muhammad Khan, its first independent chief, the State does not begin to figure among the records in the National Archives of India till the outbreak of the 1st Maratha War on which occasion the Bhopal ruler rendered signal service to the East India Company by permitting its army to march through his territory. It was in 1818 that the State decided to place itself under the protection of the Supreme Government in India and it was from this date that we have a regular series of records in the Central Archives. But the most productive period of Bhopal documents so far as the National Archives of India is concerned commences with the second administration of Shah Jahan Begam who was responsible to a large extent for the modernisation of the State. The following would serve to show what rich materials the Central Archives possesses for the study of the modern history of Bhopal.

1. MUHAMMAD HAYAT KHAN TO WARREN HASTINGS

This, the earliest original Persian document in the National Archives of India relating to Bhopal (recd. Nov. 15, 1778), says how Colonel Leslie had come to Bundelkhand on his way to the Western Coast, and assures that the ruler of Bhopal will offer the Colonel whatever help his troops might need. Refers also to the intrigues of a disloyal ex-officer of the State, Pir Muhammad, and requests that no encouragement should be given to him.

[N.A.I. OR 119, 1778]

2. BHOPAL RULER HELPS COL. GODDARD'S FORCES

Translation of letter from Nawab Muhammad Hayat Khan to Warren Hastings reporting the safe arrival of Col. Goddard's force in Bhopal territory and stating how he was himself harassed by the Maratha troops because of the assistance he was rendering to the English.

[N.A.I. TR Vol. 14, 1779, pp. 120-21]

3. TREATY OF NAWAB NAZAR MUHAMMAD KHAN, DATED 26TH FEBRUARY, 1818

The treaty finally stabilised the relations between the Government of Bhopal and the Supreme Government in India.

4. BHOPAL IN 1820

A glimpse into the affairs of the Bhopal State is afforded by W. Henley's letter to Charles Metcalfe, dated 27 June, 1820. The popularity of the Government of the day was reflected in the continued influx of inhabitants to the Bhopal State from the neighbouring regions.

[N.A.I. Pol. Con. 29 July, 1820, No. 55, pp. 3-4]

5. BHOPAL IN 1835-36: A UNIQUE NARRATIVE

Mr. Wilson's letter to Resident, Indore, dated 17 May, 1836, presents a unique narrative of the affairs in Bhopal from 26 May, 1835 to the date of writing. The 1st two pages of the narrative reproduced show how the British Government in India took exception to the signal courage with which the two Begams of Bhopal defied the age-old rules of seclusion.

[N.A.I. Bhopal Pol. Agency File 2 of 1845, pp. 1-2]

6. JAHANGIR MUHAMMAD KHAN'S LETTER OF 1837

This is one of the few extant Persian letters of Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan, in which the latter while assuring the British Government of his desire to abide by the terms of the treaty with them, registers a spirited protest against their proposal that the Nawab should dismiss from his service his loyal adherent Sadullah Khan.

[C.I. Agency, Bhopal File 2 of 1837, p. 1]

7. BHOPAL STATE AGAINST TANTIA TOPI

Nawab Sikandar Begam to the Agent to Governor-General, dated 10 November 1858 stating how the State forces foiled the plan of Tantia Topi by anticipating him in Garhi and how they also routed the rebellious troops under Adil Muhammad Khan. Bears seal and signature of the Begam.

[File No. C.I. Agency 80/22/1858, page 73]

8. SIKANDAR BEGAM AND BHOPAL EDUCATION

The credit of modernising education in Bhopal goes to Nawab Sikandar Begam, whose vigorous measures in that cause earned her the admiration of Sir Charles Wood, India's Secretary of State. In the present letter addressed to the Political Agent, Bhopal, (dated 24 April, 1863) she states how she had started a school in Bhopal on 12 April of the same year with classes in English, Urdu, Persian and Mathematics, and that the syllabus of studies was in preparation.

[Bhopal Agency Vernacular 233, 1863, p. 7]

9. STATE AS PROTECTOR OF ORPHANS.

In 1853 Nawab Sikandar Begam founded a school which was to provide for the training of all the orphans in her State, both boys and girls, not only in the three R's but also in some industry that would prepare the trainees for a career. The State was, moreover, required to provide each trainee, on the completion of his course, with a workshop built at public expense and also with a capital to enable him to ply his trade. The scheme is described in brief in the Begam's letter, dated 3 August, 1863 to the Political Agent, Bhopal.

[Bhopal Agency, Vernacular 240, 1863, pp. 3-4]

10. SPEEDY JUSTICE

Sikandar Begam was not only interested in seeing that justice was done to all her subjects irrespective of caste, creed or wealth, but was anxious to ensure that it was done expeditiously. With this end in view she issued a circular in 1864 asking all the judicial officers in the State to see that the cases were disposed of without any delay whatever. The copy displayed here is that issued to Nazims and Tahsildars of Eastern, Western and Southern Districts.

(Bhopal Agency, Vernacular 244, 1864, pp. 9-10)

11. BHOPAL WINS LAURELS AT THE PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, 1867

The five specimens of grains sent by Nawab Sikandar Begam to the Universal Exhibition of Paris in 1867 won the approbation of the International Jury of the Exhibition, and the ruler of the State in consequence was presented with a bronze medal and certificate. The present reproductions are from the contemporary prints prepared in the Bhopal State and published in the State Gazette.

(Bhopal Agency, Vernacular File 316 of 1872, p. 5 and p. 6, column 1)

12. INDUSTRIAL TRAINING IN BHOPAL

It was Nawab Sikandar Begam who was the first ruler in Bhopal to interest herself in the industrial education of the State. On her death her task was ably resumed by her daughter, Nawab Shah Jahan Begam who set up in 1869 an Industrial training school called Prince of Wales School where training was to be imparted in weaving of gloves, carpets and mosquito curtains. The trainees were to be given daily allowances and experts were appointed to impart the training. The measures taken are described by her in her letter, dated 12 August, 1869, to the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India.

(Bhopal Agency, Vernacular, Recd. 294, 1869, p. 1)

13. ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS OF SHAH JAHAN BEGAM

The accession of Shah Jahan Begam ushered in an era of all round reforms. Her letter to the Political Agent, Bhopal, 14 June, 1869 embodies a report, 106 pages long, on the various measures she had adopted immediately after her succession such as those aiming at speedy justice, low food prices, regularisation of army pay, abolition of excess and illegal exactions, removal of inefficient officers.

(*Bhopal Agency Vernacular Record F. 295, 1869, pp. 9-10*)

14. SURVEY OF BHOPAL

One of the first measures taken by the Begam Shah Jahan on her assumption of the reins of Government was to institute a comprehensive survey of the entire State. Her letter, dated February 3, 1868, shows how anxious she was to get this survey work completed.

(*Bhopal Agency File 124 of 1869-70, State B. p. 8*)

15. A ROYAL ROMANCE

Almost three years after her assumption of the rulership of Bhopal, Nawab Shah Jahan Begam, chose for her consort Maulvi Sayyid Sidiq Husain, who had for 17 years been in the service of the State, first as Munshi to Sikandar Begam and then as the head of the State Historical Department and the Chief of the Education Department. The Nawab in one of her letters says that she felt attracted to this gentleman because 'there was none so learned in her realm'. We are further told by her that he was profoundly read in Arabic, Persian and theology, was an eloquent conversationist and an effective debater. He was always devoted to the cause of learning and was well-known in the country for his many books in Persian and his translations of Arabic works.

(*Bhopal Agency Vernacular File 309, pp. 2-3*)

16. BHOPAL SPENDS RS. 2,72,000 ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS

From a letter, dated 3 October 1869 from Shah Jahan Begam to the Political Agent, Bhopal, that the Bhopal State had by that date contributed to the Government of India a sum of Rs. 2,72,000 for the purpose of construction and maintenance of roads. This would prove an eloquent testimony to the interest taken by Bhopal rulers in public works of all kinds.

(*Bhopal Agency File 125 of 1869-72, pp. 60-62*)

17. HUMANITARIAN WORK DURING THE RUSSO-TURKISH WAR OF 1877

In 1877 a generous contribution was raised by the Bhopal State in order to afford relief to those who had fallen sick or wounded in

the Russo-Turkish War. In recognition of this noble deed the Sublime Porte presented the Ruler of Bhopal with the Royal Insignia of the first class of the Order of *Medjedi*, the highest honour that was in the gift of the Sultan of Turkey. The Order was handsomely ornamented with diamonds and bore the legend "Ghairat, Insaniyat, Shafaqat (zeal, humanity and compassion)". The reproduced documents are those addressed by the Sultan to Shah Jahan Begam on 1 March and 14 June, 1879, announcing the award.

(*Bhopal Agency Misc. 129 of 1871-83, State B, pp. 5-7*)

18. OPENING OF RAILWAYS IN BHOPAL

The interest of the Bhopal State in Rail communication is reflected in the voluminous correspondence which the State ruler carried on in this behalf in the 'seventies' of the last century. The document reproduced here is a questionnaire which was drawn up by Nawab Shah Jahan Begam with a view to eliciting the answers of the Government of India on some of the major problems connected with the opening of the proposed railway. The questionnaire shows how realistic she was in her approach to the problems and how thoroughly she grasped their full implications.

(*Bhopal Agency File 11 of 1878-79, pp. 20-21*)

19. SIKANDAR BEGAM AND THE SANCHI MONUMENTS

The Begam's letter to the Political Agent, 5 August, 1868, bears testimony to the great interest the Bhopal State used to take in the preservation of the historic monuments at Sanchi. Since the inspection of the site carried out by General Cunningham in 1851, the monuments appear to have been placed in charge of a full time Keeper appointed by the State and steps appear to have been taken to prevent the removal of the relics to any other place. In 1868 the monuments were surveyed by the State engineer, Mr. Brown, who reported on the irreparability of the broken railings and images. The report formed an enclosure to the letter.

(*C.I. Agency 129 of 1868, p. 3*)

20. THE SANCHI MONUMENTS AND SULTAN JAHAN BEGAM

Sultan Jahan Begam to Captain C. E. Luard, dated 17 November, 1905 (autograph), assuring Lord Curzon that the writer will be glad to see that the Sanchi Stupa in the State is carefully preserved as a monument of archaeological interest and asking for the services of an artist who could restore the Stupa to its pristine splendour.

(*Bhopal Pol. Agency File 66, 1880-1905, pt. II, pp. 309-310*)

21. PLAN OF THE SANCHI TOPE

Drawn up by Henry Cousens (showing repairs carried out in 1904).

(Bhopal Pol. Agency File 66, 1880—1905, pt. II, p. 272)

II. DOCUMENTS IN ORIENTAL LANGUAGES

Among the proudest possessions of the National Archives of India is a unique collection of records in oriental languages which range from 1764 to 1882. In fact, there is hardly any Indian language which is not represented in the collection, the most prominent place being occupied by Persian. But the collection includes records in Hindi, Urdu, Oriya, Bengali, Marathi, Tamil, Telugu, Kanarese and Malayalam. There are quite a few in Sanskrit. Among the non-Indian languages figuring among the records mention may be made of Arabic, Burmese, Malayan, Chinese, Tibetan and Bhutanese. Photo-copies of ten representative documents have been selected for the present exhibition. Apart from the historical importance they undoubtedly possess, they are also significant from the point of view of the palaeographer as well as student of philology.

22. Verdict given in Sanskrit by several Pandits on a question referred to them by Warren Hastings relating to adoption.

(Persian O. R. 7 November, 1778, No. 102)

23. A declaration in Bhutanese of Nirpal Paigah relating to the establishment of commercial relations between Bengal and Bhutan.

(Home Public Cons. 19 April, 1779, No. 6)

24. A letter in Bengali from Krishna Chandra Ghoshal and Jai Narayan Ghoshal to Lord Cornwallis demanding the establishment of an Industrial Home for the poor and the destitute.

(Persian O. R. June, 1787, No. 280)

25. A letter in Malayan (Arabic characters) from the Sultan of Trengganu, Malaya, seeking protection and help of the East India Company.

(Persian O. R. 15 April, 1796, No. 181)

26. A letter in Oriya from the Raja of Boad to the Commissioner of Cuttack, stating that he will acknowledge no authority other than that of the English.

(Persian O. R. 23 April, 1804, No. 218)

27. A letter in Kanarese from Vir Rajendra Odayar, Raja of Coorg to Lord Minto about his desire to settle his succession.

(Persian O. R. 19 October, 1807)

28. A letter in Burmese from the Viceroy of Arakan to the Governor-General permitting all European nations to enjoy freedom in the commerce of Burma.

(Persian O. R. 1 March 1808, No. 96)

29. A letter in Hindi (Nepalese) from General Bhim Sen Thappa to Guru Gajraj Misra.

(Foreign Hindi 10 August, 1815, No. 64)

30. A letter in Persian from Raja Bhagwant Singh complimenting Lord Auckland on his visit to Allahabad.

(Persian O. R. 8 January, 1837, No. 73)

31. Ghalib's Qasida in Urdu in praise of Lord Hardinge.

(Persian O. R. 1838, No. 268)

III. DOCUMENTS ON EDUCATION

Bhopal has always been noted for the lively interest its rulers took in educational and cultural activities. It is, therefore, in the fitness of things that the Historical Exhibition organised under the auspices of the State Government should have a section devoted to educational documents. The documents displayed here (in photo copies) range from 1781 to 1920 and serve to illustrate some of the essential features in the history of the evolution of education in India. No document on Bhopal has been included in this section as some of the significant documents on education in the State have already been placed on view in the first section.

32. THE FIRST PUBLIC INSTITUTION IN INDIA

In 1781 Warren Hastings, with the double object of arresting the decay of oriental learning and encouraging cordial feeling between the English and the Indians determined on the establishment of an Oriental College or Madrasa at Calcutta. This was in fact the first important Government educational institution in India. The Minute of Hastings (dated 17 April, 1781) states in brief the circumstances under which the institution was established and the progress already made by the students since its foundation. It is interesting to note that Hastings defrayed the cost of the Madrasa from his own pocket for two years.

(Home Pub. A., 18 April, 1781, No. 6, pp. 1-5.)

33. FREE-SCHOOL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA

The Old Calcutta charitable school founded in 1729 by the citizens of Calcutta, by subscription was one of the earliest efforts made by

the members of the public to establish an educational institution. The next important landmark was the coming into being in 1789 of the Free School Society, which was fortunate in obtaining aided institution. The document displayed here contains the proposals for the institution of the Society.

(*Home Pub-A.*, 20 January, 1790, No. 28, pp. 1 & 10)

34. THE FIRST RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MODERN TYPE IN THE EAST

The Asiatic Society of Bengal, founded in 1784, was the first institution set up in India and the East to conduct researches on history and science, archæology and anthropology. It was in fact mother of similar institutions all over the world and proved to be excellent training ground for educated Indians seeking to undertake researches both in arts and science subjects. The document on display is a letter from the members of the Society requesting that the Court of Directors might obtain His Majesty's Letters Patent constituting the Society a Corporation.

(*Home Dept. Pub. Cons.*, 3 October, 1796, No. 27, pp. 1 & 3)

35. COURT DESPATCH OF 1814 ON PROMOTION OF LEARNING IN INDIA

The efforts of Grant and Wilberforce to induce the English Parliament to shoulder the responsibility of "The Advancement of Useful Knowledge" in India bore fruit in the insertion of a clause in the Act of 1813 authorising the Indian Government to set apart a sum of one lac of rupees for the purpose. The Court Despatch of 3 June, 1814, which was issued in pursuance of this clause was the first educational directive of the East India Company.

(*Public Letter from Court to Bengal dated 3 June, 1814, paras 10-11*)

36. GENERAL COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, 1823.

The General Committee of Public Instruction was formed in 1823 charged with the disposal of the yearly lakh of rupees sanctioned by Parliament, and all the Institutions in the Presidency of Fort William including the Schools at Chinsura, Benares, Ajmer and the college at Agra were placed under its authority. The Government Resolution which brought the Committee into being is dated 17 July, 1823.

(*Foreign Dept. Misc. Series No. 178, pp. 2-4*)

37. GOVERNMENT DISCARDS ORIENTAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

Lord Bentinck's Resolution dated 7 March, 1835 formally accepted the policy advocated by Rammohan Roy and Macaulay and paved the way for new education in India.

(*Home Pub. Cons.*, 7 March, 1835, No. 19, pp. 1-3)

38. LORD AUCKLAND ENVISAGES A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

To Lord Auckland belongs the credit of inaugurating the policy the aim of which was 'to communicate.....a complete education in European literature, philosophy, and science to the greatest number of students'. His Minute of 1839 remains the classic exposition of the theory which believed that the way to reach the masses was through the educated classes. But in his Minute dated 17 November 1840 he put even greater emphasis on the need for general diffusion of learning and for "the foundation of an efficient system of national education for the many millions under our charge."

(*Home Pub. Cons.*, 16 December, 1840, Nos. 25-28, pp. 1, 16 & 17)

39. LORD DALHOUSIE ON WOMEN'S EDUCATION

In his Minute dated 1 April, 1850 Lord Dalhousie placed on record his "full and unreserved approval" of the great work done by J. E. D. Bethune to put Women's education in India on a solid foundation.

(*Home Public*, 11 April, 1850, No. 74, 1st and last page)

40. DESPATCH OF 1854

The despatch of the Court of Directors dated 1854 is regarded as the climax in the history of Indian education. It imposed on the Government of India the duty of creating a properly articulated system of education, from the primary to the University standard. Its most notable feature being the emphasis which laid on primary education and the need for the education of the masses. It laid particular stress on the importance of encouraging the study of vernaculars as the only possible media for mass education and recommended the institution of a comprehensive system of scholarships to connect all grades of the educational system.

(*Despatch from Court to Govt. of India 19 July, 1854, No. 49, para. 97*)

41. INSTITUTION OF UNIVERSITIES

One of the principal results of the Despatch of 1854 was the enactment of the legislations which brought into existence the three premier universities of India. The decision to create these universities was taken in Lord Dalhousie's Educational Minute of 1854. The extracts given here (which are in Lord Dalhousie's own hand) discuss advisability of having two degrees in the Indian Universities, one in Science and the other in Arts.

(*Home Edu. Pub.*, 26 January, 1855, No. 149, paras 18-19)

42. THE PREMIER COLLEGE OF ASIA FOUNDED

The Presidency College of Calcutta, rightly regarded the premier college of Asia, has influenced the history and intellectual life of modern India as perhaps no other college in India has done. Its history goes back to 1816 when it was first set up in Calcutta under the name Vidyalaya and was the first public institution to impart Western learning. It was reorganised on a broader basis in 1854 when it came to have its present appellation. Among its distinguished alumni are great names like J. C. Bose and M. N. Saha, P. C. Ray and Sacchidananda Sinha, C. R. Das and Subash Chandra Bose, Michael Dutt and Bhodeb Mookherjee, Sir Ashutosh and Rashbehari Ghosh and last but not least, the first President of the Indian Republic, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

(Public Despatch from Court, 13 September, 1854, No. 62, 1st and last page)

43. YULE PROPOSES REORGANISATION OF EDUCATION IN OUDH.

Mr. Yule's proposal for reorganisation of the educational system in Oudh which was submitted to the Government of India in Charles Currie's letter dated 21 December, 1862, forms one of the most significant documents in the history of education in Oudh. An interesting feature of this scheme was a proposal for preparing teachers for the Government schools in Oudh (communicated to the Government of India, Secretary Chief Commissioner Oudh's letter dated 14 July, 1862).

(Home Proc., 12 September, 1862, No. 88, pp. 1 & 10)

44. REORGANISATION OF EDUCATION IN BERAR

Yule followed up his educational activities in Oudh by formulating a similar scheme for Berar soon after he had assumed charge of the Residency of Hyderabad. His letter dated 21 October, 1863 to the Government of India embodies his proposal.

(Home Proc., 27 November, 1863, No. 25, pp. 1—4)

45. WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN PUNJAB DURING THE SIXTIES.

The Director of Public Instruction, Punjab's letter dated 23 December, 1864 to the Government of Punjab gives a clear picture of the condition of Women's education in the province during the Sixties of the last century. The Director opposed the Supreme Government's decision that the cost of female schools in towns should not be met from the educational cess and observed that to take such a step would be to offer a death blow "to the dawning of hopes of Female education spreading far and wide and taking deep root" throughout the country.

(Home, Education Proc., August, 1865, No. 16, pp. 1, 4 & 5)

46. EDUCATION IN MYSORE 1865-66

Extract from a report submitted to Commissioner for Mysore by the Director of Public Instructions on 19 July, 1866.

(Home Education Proc., September, 1866, No. 26, pp. 1 & 4)

47. BHOODEB MOOKERJEE'S SCHEME FOR ADULT EDUCATION

Bhodeb Mookerjee's plan for setting up night schools with a view to promoting the education of the working classes represents a significant document on the history of adult education in India. In his letter dated 15 January, 1867 to the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, Mr. Mookerjee shewed how useful the night schools might prove to the "rising youth of the lower classes" in pursuing their studies to some extent beyond the utterly unprofitable stage where they had not to leave off.

(Home Education Proc., May, 1867, No. 9, pp. 4-5)

48. THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION ADVOCATE EDUCATION THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF VERNACULARS

As one of the first Indian organisations to interest itself in public affairs, the British Indian Association of N. W. Provinces very early felt the need for promoting education through the medium of the Indian languages. One of the chief difficulties that impeded the implementation of the programme was dearth of books in the Indian languages on the sciences and arts of the West. The Association sought to remove the obstacle by collaborating with the Scientific Society in the translation and publication of significant books on sciences and arts in the languages of the Indian people. The Association's letter to the Government of India dated 12 October, 1867 embodies the definitive proposals formulated by them on the subject.

(Home Education Proc., December, 1867, No. 12, pp. 1—3)

49. THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE MADRAS SCHOOL OF ARTS

The Madras School of Arts owed its existence to the exertions of Dr. Alexander Hunter, who opened it in May, 1850 at his own expenses. The School came under the control of Government of Madras in 1855. The report of the Committee of the School dated 28 July, 1873 gives a brief history of the institution, describes the different branches of studies organised in it, and speaks at length on the encouraging results that have accrued from the experiment.

(Home Education Proc., August, 1874, No. 43, p. 5 notes)

50. HUNTER COMMISSION APPOINTED

By far the greatest educational event during the second half of the 19th century was the masterly survey of education made by the Hunter Commission which was appointed by Lord Ripon's Government on 3 February, 1882. The Commission included such distinguished Indians as Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Ananda Mohan Bose, Bhodeb Mookerjee, Jatindra Mohan Tagore and Kashinath Trimbak Telang. The Resolution appointing this Commission sums up in brief the scope of its programme and constitutes a most significant document in educational history.

(*Home Education Proc.*, February 1882, No. 70, 1st and last page)

51. THE HUNTER COMMISSION ADVOCATES MASS EDUCATION

One of the most encouraging features of the Hunter Commission's report was the emphasis they laid on the prior need for the education of the masses. "It is desirable in the present circumstances" the Commission said, "to declare the elementary education of the masses, its provision, extension and improvement to be that part of the educational system to which the strenuous efforts of the State should be directed in a larger measure than heretofore." The Government Resolution dated 23 October, 1884 presents in a succinct form the chief feature of the Commission's reports and also embodies the Government of India's views on the Commission's recommendations.

(*Home Education Proc.*, November, 1884, pp. 471-72)

52. THE PROBLEM OF THE DEAF MUTE—MR. BANERJI'S EFFORTS

The education of the deaf mute had received scant attention from the Government till 1889 when the question was seriously considered for the first time and it was decided that any assistance that might be granted towards the improvement of the deaf mute should be confined to aiding private charitable efforts. The matter came up for further consideration in 1893, but the Government refused to assume further responsibilities as in their view the deaf mute "could only imperfectly respond to the efforts made in their behalf." It was in this atmosphere that Mr. J. Banerji volunteered to take up the cause of the deaf mute and his efforts bore fruit in the starting of the Calcutta Deaf and Mute School (May, 1893). How discouraging were the odds against him are vividly described in the letter which was addressed by Francis Maginn to the London Times dated August 17, 1896.

(*Home Education Proc.*, September 1897, No. 34 pp. 6-7)

53. INDIAN EDUCATION 1893-1897

Government of India's Resolution dated 28 October 1899, gives a vivid glimpse into the state of education in India during the period from 1893—1897. Page 1 of the Resolution gives statistics in respect of progress made since 1881 and page 7 embodies remarks on aspects of primary education, female education and training schools. Lord Curzon himself was of the opinion that the progress achieved in primary education was highly unsatisfactory. "What on earth can be the good of filling our colleges.....unless we attack, permeate, and elevate the vast amorphous unlettered substratum of the population?"

(*Home Education*, November, 1899, No. 26, pp. 1 & 7)

54. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

One of the most significant events about the opening of the present century is the establishment of the Indian Institute of Science. The Institute owes its existence to a comprehensive report compiled by Professor Orme Masson and Lt. Col. J. Clibborn in which the chief objects of the institute were announced as training students and turning them out imbued with the spirit and practised in the methods of experimental investigations, carrying out and publishing original researches of scientific interest and acting as the accepted central authority on any scientific question within its domain. The report got its approval from the Government of India in their letter No. 188 dated 19 February, 1902 to Bombay Government.

(*Home Department Education Proc.*, February 1902, No. 6, pp. 25 & 37)

55. GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION OF 1903

Resolution of Lord Curzon's Government of November 1903 forms a landmark in the history of education in India. It embodies a masterly review of education in India from 1781 to 1903, analyses the defects and merits of the prevailing system and ends with an appeal to the leaders of Indian thought and the great body of workers in the field of Indian education for lending support to Government's policy and labours.

(*Home Education Proc.*, November 1903, Nos. 42—47, pp. 15 & 33)

56. GOKHALE CHAMPIONS THE CAUSE OF FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION

Gopal Krishna Gokhale was one of the first Indian leaders to conceive the dream of having in India free and compulsory primary education. In his famous speech before the Legislative Council on

18 March, 1910 he pleaded the cause he cherished so dearly with an eloquence which has hardly been equalled and he endeavoured to convince the Government, that the whole of India's future as a nation was 'inextricably bound with it'.

[*Home Education*, May 1910, No. 44, pp. 1 & 9]

57. NORTH WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE MAKES PRIMARY EDUCATION FREE

The Government of the former North West Frontier Province was one of the first provincial Governments in India to make primary education free under its jurisdiction. This aim was sought to be achieved by raising the fees of secondary school. Fees for Agriculturists however were kept sufficiently low even at the secondary stage. The scheme is briefly described in Mr. Richy's letter, dated 11 November, 1911.

[*Dept. of Education Proc.*, February, 1912, No. 90, Appx. G., pp. 15-16]

58. FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN BARODA

It goes to the credit of the Baroda Government that while Government of India were prevented from introducing in India free and compulsory education by unsurmountable difficulties, the former Government was able as early as 1906 to enact a law making education free and obligatory for the people. In fact the ruler of Baroda thought of making an experiment in this behalf as early as 1892 and compulsory education scheme was first commenced in the backward Taluq of Amereli in 1893. The compulsory law was then gradually extended to the entire State. A note compiled for the Resident at Baroda gives a history of the experiment in the State.

[*Education Department Proc.*, May 1912, No. 77, pp. 17 & 24]

59. PANDIT MADAN MOHAN MALAVIYA ON VERNACULAR AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The speech of Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya (on the floor of the Central Council) on 17 May, 1916 in which he eloquently argued the case for Vernacular as medium of instruction will ever be recognised as a classic. He pointed out in the course of the speech how India was the only country in the world which employed a foreign tongue not for the instruction of the select few but for the mass of the people and how such a principle was unnatural. "If the works of Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Rabindranath Tagore are considered good enough to be translated into English and French", he remarked, "it is absurd to say that the language in which they are written is not fit to be the medium of instruction".

[*Education 'B' Proc.*, July 1915, No. 50, pp. 43-44]

60. PRIMARY EDUCATION EXPANSION SCHEME OF 1918

Although Gokhale's proposal for the introduction of compulsory free primary education was negatived by Government, they had to admit the possibility of the principle of compulsion being applied in local areas which might demand it at their own expense. In 1917 Government prepared a scheme under which the number of primary school pupils were to double in ten years time and one third of the expenses incurred were to be borne by the Central Government. Its implementation was postponed in view of the fluidity of the political situation prevailing at the time. In 1918 the question was taken up again and the Government decided that the proposal should be circulated among the provincial Governments who under the coming reforms were to be responsible for education.

[*Education Proc.*, April 1918, No. 23, pp. 5 & 8]

61. RECOMMENDATIONS OF SADLER COMMISSION

The Sadler Commission produced its report in 13 volumes in the summer of 1919 which gives a comprehensive critical survey of the problems of education in Bengal (many of them all-India problems). The report has had a great influence on Indian educational thought in general. Education Department Proceedings February 1920 contain a useful precis of the principal recommendations.

[*Education 'B'*, February 1920, No. 67, pp. 4 & 5]

IV. EXHIBITS ILLUSTRATING DIFFERENT METHODS OF REPAIR & PRESERVATION OF RECORDS

62. SPECIMEN SHOWING REPAIR OF A WEAK AND FRAGILE MANUSCRIPT SHEET WITH JAPANESE TISSUE PAPER

Japanese tissue paper, pasted on both sides of a document with dextrine paste, reinforces it. Tissue paper thus pasted slightly reduces the legibility of the writings, and therefore, its use is limited only to manuscripts with good legibility.

63. SPECIMEN SHOWING REPAIR OF A WEAK AND FRAGILE MANUSCRIPT WITH CHIFFON

Use of chiffon, a silk gauze, is helpful in the repair of manuscripts that are in an extremely bad state of preservation or have slightly dull or faded writings. The whole sheet is repaired with chiffon on both the sides. This method of repair considerably strengthens the record and facilitates its handling.

64. SPECIMEN SHOWING REPAIR OF AN OLD AND FRAGILE MANUSCRIPT SHEET WITH TISSUE PAPER AND CELLULOSE ACETATE ADHESIVE

Use of dextrine paste in tissue repair reduces the legibility of writings to a certain extent, and chiffon repair, because of its high

cost, is resorted to in limited cases only. Extraordinary care is also necessary to work with water soluble writings. Use of cellulose acetate adhesive maintains the original legibility and does not present a problem with water soluble writings. In absence of a Lamination Press, this promises to be a satisfactory alternative.

65. REINFORCEMENT OF A WEAK AND FRAGILE MANUSCRIPT BY LAMINATION

Lamination means sandwiching the document between two pieces of cellulose acetate foil by the application of heat and pressure. Not only does this method impart strength to the document but it also protects the document against moisture, harmful gases and atmospheric impurities. Insects too have no taste for the cellulose-acetate foils.

66. SPECIMEN OF HALF MARGIN REPAIR

Half margin repair is applicable to pages of documents on which half the space from the left is blank on either side. Hand made rag paper is pasted on the blank space on both sides. The right edge of the repairing paper is intended to enable it to encroach on the written part of the part without covering the writings.

67. A SPECIMEN OF INLAYING WORK

Sheets that are weak and of relatively small size may be repaired by inlaying, a method of framing a document in hand-made paper.

68. A SPECIMEN OF REPAIRED BIRCH BARK MANUSCRIPT

Apart from paper many other writing materials have been used in the past. Each presents its own problems of repair. The above is a specimen of a fragile manuscript on birch bark repaired with chiffon.

69. SPECIMEN OF A PRESERVED SEAL

Thick blotting paper pads in which grooves to the exact size of the seal are cut, are stitched with the docket covers on the side of the seals, and the thickness of the blotting pads is made such that the seal may not be damaged by pressures.

70. A SPECIMEN OF ARCHIVAL BINDING

In order to avoid damage to the bound edges of the documents by the sewing needle, the documents are guarded, gathered and provided with get-in papers before they are bound.

71. SPECIMENS OF MICROFILM

Microfilming speeds reproduction and saves storage space, and is a new technique of preservation of records. The specimens shown are:

- (a) Negative microfilm
- (b) Positive microfilm.

72. (A) MICROFILM READER (PHOTOGRAPH)

To read a microfilm it is fed into a compact machine which gives a magnified image on a ground glass screen.

73. (B) ENLARGEMENT PRINTS

In the absence of a suitable reading device, enlarged photo-prints may be obtained and read like an ordinary document.

74. STORAGE OF MICROFILMS (PHOTOGRAPH)

Microfilm, negatives and positives, are kept in rolls in metallic boxes which are kept in specially designed steel cabinets.

75. ARCHIVES STORAGE-FOLDED BUNDLES (PHOTOGRAPH)

Keeping documents folded in bundles tied between two wooden boards was one of the methods of keeping records. This method is highly improper from the point of view of preservation, as papers kept folded become weak along the folds, and are thus damaged.

76. ARCHIVES STORAGE-FLAT BUNDLES (PHOTOGRAPH)

In order that records may be well preserved without damage, it is necessary that all folded papers be flattened and kept flat, kept between two wooden boards tied with log line.

77. ARCHIVES STORAGE-CARTON BOXES (PHOTOGRAPH)

Keeping docketed manuscripts in Carton boxes ensures safety from dust and light, and is an ideal method of Archives storage.

EXHIBITS FROM THE RAJPUTANA MUSEUM, AJMER

I. PAINTINGS

1. Painting representing Prithviraja Chauhan holding a bow (*Rajputana Museum No. 1083*).

2. Portrait of Raja Birbal. Originally a poor Brahman, he was one of the "nine jewels" of the court of the Mughal Emperor Akbar. Raja Birbal was a member of Akbar's innermost circle of friends and Akbar loved to have Birbal by his side so that he might enjoy his witty conversation. (*Rajputana Museum No. 487*).

II. INSCRIPTIONS

3. Photographic copy of a grant on two copper-plates of the Maharaja Sarvanatha (C. 5th Century A.D.) which was originally discovered at Sohawal (Baghelkhand). At present preserved in the Rajputana Museum, Ajmer, these interesting plates were presented by late Rao Gopal Singh of Kharwa, Ajmer State.

50 Dir. of Arch.

4. Copy of an inscription engraved on two black stone slabs (originally found from Adhai-din-ka-Jhopra Mosque at Ajmer) containing portions of the Sanskrit drama called *Harakeli-Nataka* composed by the Chauhan King *Vigraharajadeva* of *Sakambhari*. The date is recorded as "Samvat 1210 Marga Sudi 5 Aditya-dine *Sravananakshatre* *Makarasthe* *Chandre* *Harshanayoge*" (1153 A.D.). Regarding this drama (which can be compared to Bharvi's "*Kiratarjuniyam*") Dr. Kielhorl remarks "actual and undoubted proof is here afforded us of the fact that powerful Hindu rulers were eager to compete with Kalidas and Bhavabhuti for poetical fame". These slabs are at present in the Rajputana Museum, Ajmer (Nos. 252 & 253).

5. Copy of an inscription of the time of the Chauhan King *Prithviraja III*. The date is Samvat 1234 Chaitra Sudi 4. Originally attached to a well near Barla village in District Ajmer, this epigraph records the construction of a Vapi. It is the earliest known inscription of the reign of *Prithviraja III* (*Rajputana Museum* No. 1067).

III. MANUSCRIPT

6. *Srimad Bhagvat* in Urdu characters completed in Samvat 1858 and A.H. 1216. At present it is in possession of *Sri Jawahar Lal*, a retired jailor of Ajmer.

IV. SANAD

7. Copy of a Sanad dated 19 March, 1857 granted by Major B. Loyd in favour of one *Munshi Ganeshilal* of *Tahsil Jawad* (Dt. *Neemuch*) in recognition of services in arresting two notorious dacoits named *Bakla* and *Dhonkla* with stolen properties.

EXHIBITS FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, U.P.

1. A time chart relating to ancient India.
2. A pencil sketch of *Sanchi Stupa*.

EXHIBITS FROM THE CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE, ALLAHABAD

1. Photographic copy of a Copper-plate of *Raja Baj Bahadur Chand* of *Champawat* mentioning an endowment in favour of the temple at *Someshwar*, *Almora District*. It is in the old *Kumaonese* language and is dated in *Saka Samvat* 1510.

2. *FARMAN* of Emperor *Jahangir*. (A. H. 1014, 5 *Jamada II*). The maintenance of *Mir Syed Ahmad* and others equal to 1,562 *BIGHAS* and 14 *BISWAS* of land (location specified) has been verified. This grant of land is therefore confirmed according to the *CHAKNAMAH* of the Tax Officer (No. 164).

3. *FARMAN* of Emperor *Aurangzeb* (A.H. 1074, 27 *Jamada II*), given to *Fateh Singh*, *Raja* of *Srinagar* (*Garhwal*). *Raja Prithi Singh's* nomination of *Fateh Singh*, as his successor, is confirmed. Presents are given to him and he is asked to continue the war against the *Zamindar* of *Kumaun* (*FARMAN MG II*).

4. *SHUQQA* issued by '*Asad-yar Murid-I-Shahryar*' (*Shahjahan's* reign A.H. 1040). Promises help to *Sheikh Yaseen Mian*, a descendant of *Saint Bandaqi Mian* (No. 217).

5. *PARWANAH* of Emperor *Aurangzeb* (A.H. 1081, 7 *Rajabul Murajjab*). 70 *BIGHAS* of land granted to *Syed Ismat Ullah*, the heir of the pious late *Mir Syed Mahmood*, as maintenance, for devoting his time to learning and praying for the well-being of the Emperor (No. 8).

6. *FARMAN* of Emperor *Farrukh-Siyar* (5 *Zil-Hijja*, year 3). 3,000 *DAMS* out of *Kasba Sandi* are given to *Rai Siroman Das* with his sons free of *BEGAR*, *KHANASHUMARI*, taxes of top trees, etc. (No. 221).

7. *FARMAN* of Emperor *Farrukh-Siyar* (19 *Jamada II*, year 5). The land-grant to *Rai Siroman Das* and his sons (as per Royal *FARMAN* of 5 *Zil-Hijja*, year 3) is confirmed as *MUAFI*. (No. 231).

8. News letter of *Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindhia* (*Shaban*, 1220). Mentions the dealings of *Khajji Singh* of *Jodhpur*, ruler of *Shahpura*. etc., the desertion from the platoons of *John Jacob* (due to lack of money provisions), havoc of the *pindaris* etc. (No. 523).

9. Manuscripts of "*FEHRIST UMARAI KHANDAN-I-TAIMURIA*" (undated). Gives an alphabetical list of *Mughal Courtiers*. (No. 511).

10. *Aligarh ROZNAMCHAH*. It is a unique diary of the family of *Babu Girija Prasad Mathur* of *Aligarh* (1819—1827). Contains valuable details about contemporary events (No. 569).

11. A *SANAD* of the *Diwani Kachehri* (A.H. 1249, 13 *Rabi II*) appointing *Jai Sukh Rai* as the *CHAKLADAR* of the region near *Bari*. (No. 21).

12. *MAKHZAN-I-AKHEAR*. A holograph Ms. History of the *Afghans* compiled by *Saadat Khan* in A.H. 1205. It relates to the part played by the *Afghans* from the reign of *Jahangir* to *Muhammad Shah*. (No. 183).

13. "A report of important occurrences in *zillah Futtehpoor*" (28 September, 1857 to 28 February, 1859).

14. Letter from the *Commissioner and Superintendent*, *Lucknow Division* to the *Judicial Commissioner*, *Oudh*, dated 31st December, 1858 relative to the circulation of a new coin struck by the orders of *Birjis Qadar* and circulated throughout the *N. W. P.* during the *Mutiny*. (No. 2237).

15. A KHARITA from Lord Mayo to Nawab Kalb Ali Khan of Rampur, informing him of his appointment as Viceroy and Governor-General of India. It is dated 24 February, 1869.

EXHIBITS FROM CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE, BHOPAL

(A) LETTERS FROM BHAWANI PRASAD TO NAWAB SIKANDAR BEGAM

1. Dated 6th Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Friday the 18th June, 1858, relating to the death of Rani of Jhansi—wounding of the Nawab of Banda and meeting of the Maharaja of Gwalior with the Resident in Central India.

2. Dated 10th Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Tuesday the 22nd June, 1858, relating to the burning of the Morar Cantonment and looting of the grain stocks.

3. Dated 13th Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Friday the 25th June, 1858, containing information relating to Munshi Bhawani Prasad's departure for Sehore (Bhopal Agency) along with the Political Agent and leaving behind the clerk of the Vakil (Local representative) in Lashkar (Gwalior) by permission of the Resident in Central India.

4. Dated 16th Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Monday the 28th June, 1858, relating to Bhawani Prasad's arrival at the village of Mohana and the miseries of travel and destruction of cattle due to heavy rains.

5. Dated 20th Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Friday the 2nd July, 1858, relating to the arrival of the reporter and the Resident at the village of Bhadravas.

6. Dated 22nd Ziqada 1274 Hijri corresponding to Sunday the 4th July, 1858, relating to the departure of the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India and General Rose and conditions in Lashkar (Gwalior).

(B) DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEEM RAQMI JAGIRS OF THE SOLANKI JAGIRDARS OF DISTRICT BERASIA (BHOPAL)

These Jagirs were granted by the British to their respective recipients, but after the award of Berasia and Nazirabad to Sikandar Begum (1861 A.D.) in recognition of services rendered by this State during the Mutiny of 1857, they were given to Bhopal in perpetuity and therefore ipso-facto these Jagirs were also transferred to and included in Bhopal. Neem Raqmi Jagir is that Jagir in which 50 per cent of produce is retained by the Jagirdar and 50 per cent is surrendered to the Ruler.

1. Common Deed granted to Narbhi Singh, Kook Singh Balaji and Dolat Singh, Pargana Berasia, on 29th Zikat 1279 Hijra.

2. Common Deed granted to Mohan Singh s/o Balwant Singh, Chain Singh s/o Moti Singh Rajput, Pragana Berasia and Nazirabad on 5 Zil-hijja 1279 Hijra.

3. Deed granted to Lala Tej Rai, Pargana Berasia, on 5 Zil-hijja 1279 Hijra.

4. Deed granted to Hernath Singh s/o Thakur Bakhat Singh, Pargana Bersia, on 5 Zil-hijja 1279 Hijra.

5. Deed granted to Thakur Moti Singh s/o Bhabbu Singh, Pargana Nazirabad, on 30 Ziqada 1279 Hijra.

6. Deed granted to Thakur Raghu Nath Singh, Pargana Berasia, on 30 Ziqada 1279 Hijra.

7. Common Deed granted to Pertab Singh, Bala Ji, Joda Singh and Dolat Singh, Pargana Berasia, on 30 Ziqada 1279 Hijra.

8. Deed granted to Fateh Singh s/o Thakur Datar Singh, Pargana Nazirabad, on 5 Zil-hijja 1279 Hijra.

9. Deed granted to Bhim Singh Thakur, Pargana Nazirabad, on 5 Zil-hijja 1279 Hijra.

10. Common Deed granted to Nirbhi Singh, Bala Ji, Joda Singh, Dolat Singh and Kook Singh, Pargana Berasia on 29th Ziqada 1279 Hijra.

C. PAINTINGS

(i) Portraits of the Rulers of Bhopal

1. Nawab Dost Muhammad Khan, the founder of the Bhopal State, 1708—26 A.D.

2. Nawab Yar Muhammad Khan, 1726—52 A.D.

3. Nawab Hayat Muhammad Khan, 1777—1808 A.D.

4. Nawab Ghaus Muhammad Khan, 1808—9 A.D.

5. Nawab Wazir Muhammad Khan, 1809—16 A.D.

6. Nawab Nazar Muhammad Khan, 1816—19 A.D.

7. Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan, 1837—44 A.D.

8. Nawab Sultan Jahan Begam, 1901—26 A.D.

(ii) *Portraits of the Relations of the Rulers of Bhopal*

1. Nawab Qudsia Begam.
2. Nawab Faujdar Muhammad Khan.
3. Nawab Muiz Muhammad Khan.

(iii) *Paintings on Ivory Plates*

1. Taj Mahal of Agra.
2. Taj Mahal of Agra with other buildings and pictures of the Mughal Kings and Queens.
3. Golden Temple of Amritsar.

(iv) *Miniatures on Ivory Plates*

Set of ivory miniatures of Mughal Kings. (Forty-three in number).

One complete set of ivory miniatures of the Sikh rulers of Punjab. (Twenty in number).

One complete set of ivory miniatures of the kings of Oudh. (Twelve in number).

Individual ivory miniatures of the begams of the Mughal kings. (Seven in number).

Miscellaneous miniatures, paintings of various buildings. (Twelve in number).

D. ARABIC MANUSCRIPTS

1. *Qasidah*, a prayer book, by Mahmood Shah, a calligraphist of Nishapur (Iran). It is written in Persian characters but the language is Arabic.

2. *Kibrete-e-Ahmar*. Illuminated. Date and the name of the writer not given.

3. *Dalailul-Khairat*, a prayer book, by Hafiz Ahmad. Illuminated. Date and the name of the writer is not given.

4. *Darood-Shareef*, a prayer book. Name of the writer is missing. Dated 1599 A.D.

5. *Kitabul-Fawa'id*, written by Shaikh Ahmad Ali in 1883 A.D.

6. *Adiya*, a prayer book, by Muhammad Muazzam. Date and the name of the author not given.

7. *Adiya*, a prayer book (illuminated) written by Haddad in 1393 A.D.

8. *Adiya*, a prayer book (illuminated) written by Haddad in 1393 A.D.

9. *Adiya*, a prayer book (illuminated), written by Ahmad Ali in 1883 A.D.

E. SANSKRIT MANUSCRIPTS

1. *Bhagwat Gita* (Sanskrit), (Two books), by Yogiraj Shri Krishna. Translated by Madhu Sudan and commented by Gurarth Dipaka. Written by Govind Brahm. Date is not given.

2. *Daikom-di-Bhanika* (Sanskrit and Prakrit). Name of the author and date are not given.

3. *Saraswat Bhaoshya* (Sanskrit), by Anukhuli Swarup Acharya. Translated by Kashi Nath and commented by Bhashya. Name of the copyist and date are not given.

4. *Shankar Dig-vijay* (Sanskrit), by Jagat Guru Shankar Acharya. Translated by Dhanpati Sure and commented by Shankar Acharya Vijay Dim Dim. Name of the copyist and date are not given.

5. *Pratap Sagar Sikandari* (Hindi Poem), by Bhawani Ram. Written in 1123-24 Vikrami.

6. *Panch Yantra* (Sanskrit), by Vishnu Sharma. Written in 1866 A.D.

7. *Vama Vallabh* (Hindi voice), by Munna Lal. Written in 1862 A.D.

F. PERSIAN MANUSCRIPTS

1. *Bahar-i-Danish*, a Persian story book (illuminated) with 25 coloured plates.

2. *Ain-i-Akbari*, by Abul-Fazl. Name of the writer and date are not given.

3. *Tarikh-i-Sikandari*, with 150 plates. Name of the writer and date are not given.

4. *Ten Councils of Luqman Hakim*, written by Salamat Ali, a calligraphist of Bhopal, in 1921 A.D.

5. *Karima of Saadi*, on a single sheet of paper. Written by Ahmad Ullah, a calligraphist of Bhopal. Date is not given.

6. *Tarikh-i-Iaj ganj*, (History of Taj Mahal of Agra). Name of the writer and date are missing.

7. Thirty volumes dealing with different sections of medicine. treatment and surgery including one important encyclopaedic dictionary dealing with Greek and Portuguese words and their equivalents in Persian. (Lent by Mohd. Nauman Khan and Mohd. Afran Khan of Bhopal).

G. URDU MANUSCRIPTS

1. *Fasana-e-Rahmat*, by Mian Yar Muhammad Khan, one of the relations of the ruling family of Bhopal. Written in 1890 A.D.
2. *Zikr-e-Shahjahani*, by Nawab Shahjahan Begam. Written in 1866 A.D.
3. *Mujarreat-e-Shokati*, by Mian Yar Muhammad Khan Shokat, one of the relations of the ruling family of Bhopal. A rare book on Indian medicine (Tib-e-Unani). Written in 1884 A.D.
4. *Qarabadeen-e-Kokabi*, by Mian Yar Muhammad Khan Shokat. A rare compilation of prescriptions from *Mujarreat-e-Shokati*. Date is not given.
5. *Ramayan*, written in Urdu characters, but the language is Hindi. 2 Vols. Name of the writer and date are not given.
6. *Ishtihar* (circular), exciting people of Bhopal to revolt against the British during the mutiny of 1857 A.D. Date and name of the author are not given, but by the record available here it is gathered that these notices, five hundred in number, were brought from Delhi.

H. URDU PRINTED WORKS

1. *Diwan-e-Jahangiri*, by Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan, ruler of Bhopal, 1837—44 A.D. Published in 1860 A.D.
2. *Diwan-e-Dullah*, by Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan, ruler of Bhopal, 1837—44 A.D. Published in 1854 A.D. His poetical *nom de plume* was Dullah.
3. *Diwan-e-Shirin*, by the late Nawab Shahjahan Begam, 1868—1901, the grand mother of the present Nawab of Bhopal. She was a poetess of some merit and she had several *Diwans* to her credit. Her poetical *nom de plume* was *Shirin*. Published in 1869 A.D.
4. *Tarikh-e-Bhopal*, by Muhammad Abbas, historian of the time of Nawab Shah Jahan Begam. Published in 1871 A.D.

EXHIBITS FROM THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT RECORDS
OFFICE, SIMLA

1. *Tarikh-i-Ferishta* (Vols. I and II), by Qasim Ferishta Astrabadi; written in 1207 A.H. (1802 A.D.), a celebrated history of the kingdom of Delhi under the Mughals and other important provincial Muslim dynasties.
2. *Iqbalnama-i-Jahangiri* by Mu'tamid Khan, a courtier of Emperor Jahangir; copied in 1843 A.D. by Tota Ram Kashmiri; a beautifully illuminated year to year record of the reign of Emperor Jahangir (1605—1627 A.D.).

3. *Amal-i-Salih* by Muhammad Salih; contemporary history of Emperor Shahjahan, copied in 1831 A.D. by Muhammad Rahim.

4. *Tarikh-i-Muzzaffari*, by Muhammad Ali Khan Ansari of Panipat; written in 1832 A.D., comprises two parts, the first ending with the death of Alamgir II, 1759, and the second with the accession of Shah Alam II, bringing the account to 1809 A.D.

5. *Tarikh-i-Panjab* (Vols. I and II) by Ghulam Muhiyyud-Din Bute Shah of Ludhiana; a chronicle of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, 1817—1838 A.D.

6. *Ziaul-Shams*, by Nawab Sher Ali of Kapurthala, written in 1255 A.H. (1839 A.D.), beautifully illuminated, random accounts of certain outstanding personalities during the Sikh period of Punjab history.

7. *Siyahat-i-Kashmir*, by Lala Ganesh Lal, Tahsildar of Ludhiana, dated April, 1847, a stage-wise record of a visit from Ludhiana to Srinagar via Kathua by some prominent British officers (Charles Stewart Hardinge, Captain Hardwicke Hardinge, Lord John Elphinstone, Doctor James Thomas Walker and Edward Lake) 28th March to 11th June, 1846. A social, political and economic survey of Jammu and Kashmir State and surrounding areas soon after their transfer to Maharaja Gulab Singh (16th March, 1846).

8. *Maraslat* (copies of official communications), addressed by the British Political Agent for the North Western territories and Resident at Lahore to notable chiefs and personages in the Punjab and neighbouring areas.

Vol. I, 1839—1843 A.D.

Vol. II, 1847 A.D.

Vol. III, 3rd January—30th December, 1848 A.D.

9. *Darbar (or Deorhi) Akhbarat of Maharaja Ranjit Singh*. Vols. I and II, 7th Phagan, 1894 B.E.—13th Besakh, 1895 B.E. (corresponding to Feb.—April, 1838 A.D.).

Vols. III and IV, 17th Besakh—6th Asuj, 1895 B.E. (corresponding to April—Sept., 1838 A.D.).

10. *Darbar Akhbarat of Maharaja Sher Singh*.—Vols. I and II, 11th Chet—31st Sawan, 1898 B.E. (corresponding to March—July, 1841 A.D.).

11. *News-Letters* by Nihal Chand Akhbar Nawis of Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Shahjahanabad (Delhi), dated 1838 A.D.

EXHIBITS FROM THE ARCHIVES OF PATIALA & EAST PUNJAB STATES UNION, PATIALA

1. *Farrukh Siyar Nama*, by Sewa Das of Lucknow, M.S., a history of the reign of Farrukh Siyar. Dated 1834 BK.=1777 A.D.
2. *Amir Nama*, by Busawan Lal Shadan, M.S., an account of the life of Muhammad Amir Khan Afghan of Tonk. Dated 1250 A.H.=1843 A.D. Scribe: Behari Lal.
3. *Iqbal Nama-i-Maharaja Ranjit Singh*, by Pandit Raja Ram Tota, MS., a history of forty years of the reign of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Dated 1917 BK.=1860 A.D.
4. *Tarikh-i-Kashmir*, by Birbal Kachru, MS., a history of Kashmir from the earliest times to the end of the Sikh rule in 1846. Not dated.
5. *Tarikh-i-Jahandari-wa-Nama-i-Zafar-i-Bakhtiyari*, MS, an early history of the Tartars up to Taimur. Not dated.
6. *Tarikh-i-Afghanistan*, by Munshi Fateh Mohd. Khan, MS., an account of the first Anglo-Afghan war. Dated 12.....(? Not clear) A.H.
7. *Tarikh-i-Khandan-i-Tahriya-wa-Ghauriya*, MS., an early history of the dynasties of Tahiris and Ghauris. Author and date not given.
8. *Zafarnama-i-Taimuri*, by Sharafud-Din Ali Yazdi, MS, a history of Taimur from his birth to his death (1336—1405). Dated 1266 A.H.
9. *Tawarikh-i-Akbarnama*, by Shaikh Ilhadad of Sirhind, MS., a brief history of the first forty-seven years of Akbar's reign from his accession in 1556 to 1603 A.D. Not Dated.
10. *Gul-i-Rahmat*, by Muhammad Sa'ad Yar Khan, grandson of Hafiz Rahmat Khan Rohila, MS. This work which is an abridgment of the *Gulistan-i-Rahmat* of Muhammad Mustajib Khan, the uncle of the author, contains the history of the career of Hafiz Rahmat Khan the Rohila chief. Not Dated.
11. *Muhammadnama*, by Muhammad Zahur, the son of Mulla Zahuri, the famous poet and writer, MS., a history of the Deccan dealing with the reign of Mohd. Shah, the son of Ibrahim Adil Shah of Bijapur who reigned from A.H. 1035 to 1070 (A.D. 1626 to 1660). This rare work which is mentioned by the author of *Basatinus-Salatin* (p. 3, Hyderabad edition) as one of his sources is not to be found in the libraries of Europe. Dated 24th year of Shah Alam's reign=A.H. 1196 (A.D. 1781).

12. *Tarikh-i-Sindh*, by Muhammad Masum in Sayyid Safi-al-Husayni At-tirimizi, MS., a short history of Sind under the Muhammadan rule. Not Dated.
13. *Intikhab-i-Shahjahan-Nama*, by Mohd. Bakhsh Khan, MS, an abridgment of the larger works properly called *Amal-i-Salih* written by Muhammad Salih Kanbu in A.D. 1660 which is often incorrectly styled *Shahjahan-Nama*. Dated A.H. 1244 (A.D. 1829).
14. *Sher Singh Nama*, by Muhammad Naqi Peshawari, MS., a history of the Punjab after Maharaja Ranjit Singh by an eye witness. Dated 1901 BK.
15. *Waqaya-i-Brijnath*, by Pandit Brijnath with the *nom de plume* of Khiyal, MS., an account of the disturbance of the Mahdawi sect in Hyderabad (Deccan) in A.H. 1237 (A.D. 1821) during the time of Dewan Chandu Lal, the Prime Minister. Dated 1895 BK.=1838 A.D.
16. *Kashmir-nama*, by Ganeshi Lal, MS. This is the record of a journey to Kashmir made by Lord Hardinge, the Governor-General, in 1845 accompanied by his sons Charles Viscount Hardinge and Captain A. Hardinge, Lord Elphinstone, Dr. Walker and Captain Edward, the Deputy Commissioner of Ludhiana. Dated 1848 A.D.=1905 BK.
17. *Ahwal-i-Subyat*, by an anonymous writer, MS., a brief statistical history of India indicating the extent of revenue resources of the Mughal Empire during the reign of Shahjahan. Dated 1841 A.D.

EXHIBITS FROM MADHYA BHARAT

1. Volume No. 12 of *Parcha Akhbars* of Gwalior, 1879 A.D.
 2. Volume No. 15 of *Parcha Akhbars* of Gwalior, 1892 A.D.
 3. Volume No. 22 of *Parcha Akhbars* of Gwalior, 1889—91 A.D.
- NOTE:—The *Parcha Akhbars* are records of important events and happenings that took place at the court of Gwalior. There are 24 volumes of the *Parcha Akhbars* covering the period from 1868 to 1891.
4. Copper Plate recording the grant of Mauza Chharsirau by Sardar Singh of Jodhpur to Baloji Scindia (*Samvat* 1812).
 5. Kharita from the Agent to the Governor-General in Central India to Raja Mardan Singh of Banpur regarding his claim to Taluka Mastura in Chanderi.
 6. A list of villages granted by the Nizam and the Peshwa from time to time as Choli to Maharanis Gautambai, Ahilyabai, Herkabai and Rukhamabai Holkar, etc.

EXHIBITS FROM CENTRAL RECORDS OFFICE, HYDERABAD

(a) MARATHI DOCUMENTS

Serial No.	A.R. No.	Synopsis	Date
1	B 30	A bilingual (Persian and Marathi, Modi script) Sanad, being the oldest document discovered in the collection of Raja Raghottam Rao, recording the transfer of the Kulkarnigiri of Warur to Krishnaji Niloji from the Deshpande of the aforesaid village.	14th Shaban 1083 A.H. 5th November 1672 A.D.
2	2018	A Sanad issued by Srimant Peshwa Madhav Rao, I in favour of Dhondaji Shankar Rai Rayan bestowing on him in perpetuity the 'agir of the village Sangvi in Sarkar Daulatabad.	18th Zilhij 1167 Sh.S. 17th May 1767 A.D.
3	B 8	The Hyderabad recension of the Treaty of Purandar ratified by Nana Farnavis on 1st March 1776 A.D.	10th Muharram 1190 A.H. 1st March 1776 A.D.
4	B 2	A memorandum setting forth the various issues for discussion with the East India Company, being one of a series of proposals made by the Marathas to the Company culminating in the Treaty of Salbai (1782 A.D.).	About 1782 A.D.
5	B 1	A tripartite treaty between the East India Company on one side and the Peshwa Madhav Rao II and Nawab Nizam Ali Khan on the other side pledging military collaboration on the eve of the Third Mysore War.	17th Ramazan 1204 A.H. 1st June 1790 A.D.
6	B 55	A memorandum which records the indemnity agreed upon by Tipu payable to the Allies on the conclusion of the Third Mysore War.	28th Jamadi II, 1206 A.H. 28th February 1792 A.D.
7	B 17	An Akhbar from Poona which narrates the crowded events of the period, particularly the feasts and rejoicings organized at Poona to celebrate the victory of Kharda. The death of Ahalya Bai Holkar at Maheswar on 27th Muharram 1210 A.H. is also reported.	14th Safar 1210 A.H. 30th August 1795 A.D.
8	B 16	The Hyderabad recension of Sanad No. 10 published in "Treaties, Agreements and Sanads" edited by Maoji and Parasnis being a covenant of friendship between Nana Farnavis and Nawab Nizam Ali Khan.	25th Rabi II, 1211 A.H. 27th October 1796 A.D.
9	B 29	A silver-sprinkled letter from Nana Farnavis to Nawab Nizam Ali Khan requesting the latter to lend his help in the plan to keep away Baji Rao II from the Peshwaship.	29th Rabi II, 1211 A.H. 31st October 1796 A.D.
10	B 23	A political letter written to Raja Raghottam Rao (at Hyderabad) by his agent at Poona. It falls in the period of close intrigues immediately preceding the installation of Baji Rao II as Peshwa and refers to the carrying away of Chimanaji Appa to a place of safety by Parasuram Bhau Patwardhan before Mashirul-Mulk and Yeshwant Rao Holkar could capture him. The writer exhorts Raghottam Rao to reach Menavali with all speed.	30th Rabi II, 1211 A.H. 1st November 1796 A.D.

Serial No.	A.R. No.	Synopsis	Date
11	B 6	A covenant between Daulat Rao Shinde and Nawab Nizam Ali Khan in which the Shinde affirms his friendship with the Nizam and pledges his support in helping the cause of Baji Rao II. It bears the seal of the Shinde.	2nd Jamadi I, 1211 A.H. 3rd November 1796 A.D.
12	B 621	A letter from the camp of Daulat Rao Shinde. The renegade Baloba Taty Pagnis is reported to have been sent to Jambgaon under heavy escort to be detained there as a prisoner.	10th Jamadi I, 1211 A.H. 11th November 1796 A.D.
13	B 216	A letter which gives a frightful account of the rapine and desolation caused by the Pindari hordes in Rakshasbhuvan, Gevrai, Shevgaon, Paithan and other places. Scores of women are reported to have perished as a consequence of their acts of brutality. The writer asks for immediate succour.	28th Jamadi II, 1212 F. 26th October 1802 A.D.
14	B 5	A political letter which gives important news of events on the eve of the departure of Baji Rao II from Suvarna Durg to Wasai.	December 1802 A.D.
15	B 10	A copy of a political letter which abstracts news received from the North about General Lake's campaigns against Yeshwant Rao Holkar in the Punjab.	Early 1806 A.D.

(b) PERSIAN DOCUMENTS

Serial No.	Accession No.	Period	Subject
1	2	3	4
1	5041	Sultan Abdullah Qutub Shah. (1626—1672 A.C.)	Farman bearing the Royal Seal dated 29th Jamadi II, 1038 A.H. (1629 A.C.) ordering the Karkunan of the Patalchur Pargana, not to molest the sons of the late Abdul Karim.
2	5043	Sultan Abul Hasan Tana Shah. (1672—1699 A.C.)	Farman bearing the Royal Seal dated 25th Zilhijja, 1097 A.H. (1686 A.C.) regarding the grant of Sardesmukhi of the Pargana of Devakonda, to Venkatpati Jakras.
3	5080	Ali Adil Shah II. (1656—1672 A.C.)	Farman bearing the Royal Seal dated 6th Jamadi I, 1068 A.H. (1658 A.C.) ordering Shahji Bhonsla, to co-operate with Afzal Khan, the newly appointed Governor of Carnatic.
4	7460	Sultan Sikandar Adil Shah. (1672—1686 A.C.)	Farman bearing the Royal Seal dated 23rd Rajab 1089 A.H. (1678 A.C.) regarding the grant of the villages of Korlakalan, etc. in Inam to Baitaji, the Desai of Nusratabad.

Serial No.	Accession No.	Period	Subject
1	2	3	4
5	7461	Jahangir. (1605—1627 A. C.)	Farman, dated 17th Thir, 4th Regnal year (1609 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal, accepting the <i>Peshkash</i> , offered by Jan Beg to the Emperor.
6	7463	Shahjahan. (1627—1658 A. C.)	Farman, dated 20th Jamadi I, 1049 A.H. (1640 A.C.) bearing the Royal Seal making enhancement in the <i>Mansab</i> of Aman Beg, together with the grant of the Qiladari of the Qandhar fort and also jagir from the Pargana of Qandhar.
7	7464	Aurangzeb. (1658—1707 A. C.)	Farman, dated 10th Muharram, 4th Regnal year (1661 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal, regarding the grant of the Qiladari of the Cholher Fort, to Khajum Beg, together with an enhancement in his <i>Mansab</i> .
8	7467	Farrukh Siyar. (1713—1719 A. C.)	Farman, dated 10th Rajab 4th Regnal year 1128 A.H. (1716 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal granting the supervision of Naseerabad Dharur Fort to Mohd. Ali.
9	7470	Jalaluddin Shah Alam (1759—1806 A. C.)	Farman, dated 22nd Shaban, 39th Regnal year (1797 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal, regarding the conferment of titles of Hashmat Jang Fakhrud-Daulah and Mutamadul-Mulk on James Kirkpatrick (the British Resident at Hyderabad).
10	7471	Asaf Jah I (1719—1748 A. C.)	Sanad, dated 27th Zilhijja 23rd Regnal year (1741 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal, regarding the grant of <i>Qiladari</i> of Muzaffarnagar to Burhanud-Din Qalandar Khan.
11	7472	Nasirjang. (1748—1750 A. C.)	Sanad, dated 9th Ziqada, 1st Regnal year (1748 A. C.) bearing the Royal Seal, granting the <i>Qiledari</i> and <i>Faujdari</i> of the Muzaffarnagar Pargana on Khuda Quli, on the demise of his father Burhanud Din Qalandar Khan.
12	2029	Muzaffar Jang. (1750 A.C.)	Security-bond, executed by Mr. Dupleix.
13	7473	Salabat Jang. (1751—1759 A. C.)	Sanad, dated 29th Ziqada, 7th Regnal year (1759 A.C.) bearing the Royal Seal, regarding the grant of jagir, amounting to 13,69,700 Dams, from the revenues of the Pargana of Muzaffarnagar to Khuda Quli and others.
14	3292	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. (1759—1803 A. C.)	An endorsed Memorandum to distribute the amount of <i>Darbar-Kharch</i> received from Tipu Sultan, amongst Sikandar Jah, Mir Alam, Raja Shamraj and others.

Serial No.	Accession No.	Period	Subject
1	2	3	4
15	7475	Nawab Mir Nizam Ali Khan. (1759—1803 A.C.)	Dastak, addressed to the <i>Gumashtas</i> , at <i>Sair</i> and highways, not to collect the duty the cloth worth Rs. 25,000 which Appaji Har was taking with him from Paitan to Poona in connection with the marriage of Baji Rao Raghunath. Bears the Royal Seal and Baiz.
16	7476	Ditto	Arzi, submitted by Mir Alam, in connection with the interview, which he had with Govind Rao Krishna and Govind Bhagwant the envoys from Poona.
17	5912	Ditto	News letter from Poona dated 14th Safar, 1209 A.H. (10th September 1794 A.C.)
18		Seals of:	1. The Governor-General Lord Mornington, dated 1212 Hijri/1797 A.C. 2. The Governor-General Marquis of Wellesly, dated 1216 Hijri/1801 A.C. 3. The Governor-General Lord Amherst, dated 1238 Hijri/1822 —23 A.C.

EXHIBITS FROM THE COMBINED INTER-SERVICES HISTORICAL SECTION, MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, NEW DELHI

Serial No.	File No.	Subject
1	F. 150/Pt. II	Tel. dated 6-6-42 from the Chief of Staff to C-in-C in India.
2	F. 150/Pt. I	Tel. from Genl. Wavell to COS just after Japanese Ops. in Bay of Bengal, dt. 8-4-42.
3	F. 150/Pt. I	Tel. from Prime Minister to President Roosevelt, dt. 17-4-42.
4	F. 150/Pt. I	Tel. from Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek to Prime Minister re. his view after the inspection of the Burma Front, May 42.
5	F. 150/Pt.	Tels. between General Wavell and CIGS re. Defence of India and Ceylon in early 1942.
6	F. 968	Japanese Poem "The World under one Command".
7	F. 53	Tel. dt. 9-3-42 from Genl. Wavell to CIGS (Ops. in Malaya).

Serial File No. No.	Subject
8 601/10334/H	Story of Subedar Lal Bhadur Thapa. (2nd Gurkha Rifles) award for gallantry in Tunisia (night 5/6 April 1943). Presentation by H.M. (King) at Tripoli.
9 601/7844/H	Ground Check Meiktila Area, Burma.
10 601/10096/H	Story of the escape of General Messervy from German hands in North Africa in May 1942.
11 601/8493/H	German Ai. Historical Branch—A Survey of German Air Operations, 1939-44. No. VII/28 (Translated by Air Ministry).
12 601/7776/H	Map and Chart showing Japanese Dispositions in SEAC 12-9-45 (From SAC's Despatch).
13 601/7493/H	Japanese Communications in Burma. (Map Printed 1943).
14 601/7380/H	Interrogation of Gen. Kimura, Hyotaro, G.O.C. Burma Area Army with Answers
15 601/7381/H	Interrogation Report on Rear Admiral CHUDO
16 H/1/60/H (M)	Diary of S.M.O. Cyprus, 1879-1909.

PHOTOGRAPHS

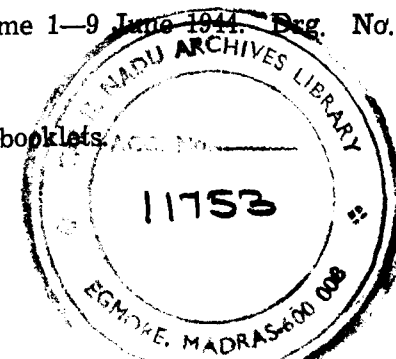
1. Floods in Italy.
2. Commandos wading ashore at Myebon.
3. Into Mersa Matruh.
4. Knee-deep in mud on the Tiddim Rd.
5. Under enemy fire.
6. Indian Tanks enter Benghazi.
7. Through sand and heat to victory.
8. That was Rommel's Panzer Corps.
9. 4th Indian Division in the Western Desert.
10. House to house fighting in Dema.
11. Mopping up an Italian town.
12. On snow patrol in Italy.
13. In "sunny" Italy.
14. 5th Maharatta L. I. battling for the Sangro River.
15. Punjabis attacking the Gustav Line.
16. In position below Monte Cassino, Italy.
17. 3/8 Punjabi patrol in Italy.
18. Fighting in Siena, Italy.
19. Laying cable under fire.
20. Artillery barrage at night.

21. 4th Ind. Div. in final assault on San Marino.
22. 4th Ind. Div. entering San Marino.
23. R.I.A.F. air umbrella over Arakan.

MAPS AND CHARTS

1. Burma Campaign 26 Dec. 1944 to Aug. 1945. Drg. No. 24/47/H.
2. Amba Alagi Drg. No. 92 47/H.
3. 5th Indian Division at Ruweisat Ridge. Drg. No. 95/46/H.
4. Prisoners War Camps in India Drg. No. 108/47/H.
5. Operations in North Burma. Drg. No. 22/50/H.
6. Map of the Bengal-Assam L. of C. Drg. No. 34/47/H.
7. Areas served by the Indian troops during World War II. Drg. No. 125/50/H.
8. Total strength of the Indian Army from year to year during World War II. Drg. No. 122/50/H.
9. Battle casualties among Indian Army troops during World War II from 3rd Sep. 1939 to 26 July 1946. Drg. No. 124/50/H.
10. Military offtake of Cattle, Sheep and Goats in India during World War II. Drg. No. 123/50/H.
11. Military offtake of Principal Commodities in India during World War II. Drg. No. 121/50/H.
12. Revenue Expenditure and Defence Expenditure of the Government of India during World War II. Drg. No. 120/50/H.
13. Malaya showing progress of Japanese Ops. Drg. No. 4/52/H.
14. Malaria map of India. Drg. No. 88/50/H.
15. 19 Ind. Inf. Bde's attack on Viroli. 1-2 June 1944. Drg. No. 10/48/H.
16. Patrols by 12th Lancers from Rieti to Foligno 16-26 June 1944. Drg. No. 30/48/H.
17. 19 Ind. Inf. Bde's advance from Terni to Foligno 15-16 June 1944. Drg. 21/48/H.
18. 8 Indian Division's advance to the R. Liri. Drg. No. 1/48/H.
19. 8 Indian Division's advance to Terni, 10-14 June 1944. Drg. No. 18/48/H.
20. Allied Operations around Rome 1-9 June 1944. Drg. No. 17/48/H.
21. Cyprus. Drg. No. 45/46/H.
22. 4 sets of Formation Signs in booklets.

GIPD—L—50 D. G. Arch.—1-2 54—700.



Serial File No. No.	Subject
8 601/10334/H	Story of Subedar Lal Bhadur Thapa. (2nd Gurkha Rifles) award for gallantry in Tunisia (night 5/6 April 1943). Presentation by H.M. (King) at Tripoli.
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PHOTOGRAPHS

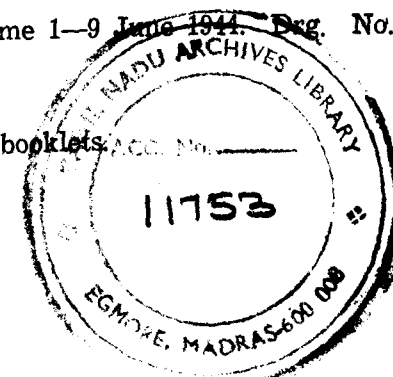
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3. 5th Indian Division at Ruweisat Ridge. Drg. No. 95/46/H.
4. Prisoners War Camps in India Drg. No. 108/47/H.
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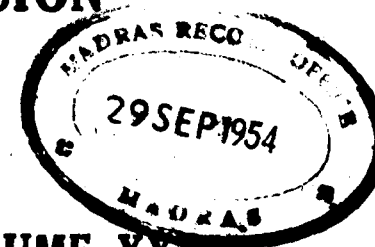
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**INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS
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PART II



BHOPAL



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A NEWLY DISCOVERED MANUSCRIPT OF INYATULLAH'S AHKAM-I-ALAMGIRI

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THE TWO collections of official corespondence entitled *Kalimat-i-Tayyibat* and *Ahkam-i-Alamgiri*, containing royal notes and brief instructions on letters of princes, nobles and officials, *Shuqqas*, *Parwanas*, *Farmans*, *Hasbul Hukm* or royal orders and replies sent through their subsequent compiler, Inayatullah Khan Kashmiri¹, the Chief Diwan and the favourite Secretary of the Emperor, are among the primary sources of information for the last decade of Aurangzeb's reign. Sir J. N. Sarkar, the doyen of Indian historians and the greatest authority on Aurangzeb, says that "good manuscripts of *Kalimat* are often met with" but "of *Ahkam-i-Alamgiri* only two manuscripts are known to exist" one of Rampur and the other of the Oriental Public Library, Patna. As Inayatullah's *Ahkam* was "unknown to the outer world" he thought it necessary to give² a list of the personages to whom the letters were addressed. Recently another complete copy of this precious manuscript was discovered among the valuable collections of Professor Masud Hasan Razvi of Lucknow and it was also exhibited³ at the last session of the All India Oriental Conference held there. The writer's friend M. Fasihuddin Balkhi, has procured a transcribed copy of this manuscript for the Patna University Library. Even a cursory glance over the contents of the two manuscripts, now at Patna, will enable one to realise the wealth of authentic, and sometimes new, information they contain. The newly discovered manuscript is well worth a careful and detailed study which will add to our existing knowledge of the events and the activities and character of the men of the closing years of Aurangzeb's reign. An attempt has been made in the following pages to collate the transcribed copy of the Lucknow Manuscript in the Patna University Library with that of the Oriental Public Library, to note some of the glaring divergences and also draw the reader's attention to such of the contents and rare references as have not received the attention that is due to them.

¹ Belonged to a Persian family long settled in Kashmir ; appointed Court chronicler, 28th year ; enrolled as Khan, 35th year ; *Diwan-i-Tan* and also of Khalsa, 1691, 1701 ; Offg. Sadr Sadur. 1698 ; *Haft Hazari* under Muhammad Shah ; died 1727. (*Maasir-ul-Umra*, Irvine's *Later Mughals*).

² *Studies in Aurangzeb's Reign*, p. 295.

³ It was named as '*Aruiz-i-Ahkam*'

The Lucknow Manuscript is very old but undated and rather difficult to read, but the transcribed copy is legibly written on 463 pages of foolscap size with 22 lines to a page. The names of the addressees are not given in rubric in it, as in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript, but some names which do not occur in the latter are specifically mentioned in it. These addressees are Muhammad Beg Khan, Naib Subadar of Ahmadnagar (335), Ibrahim Khan, Governor of Kashmir (338), Shaikh Abdul Baqi⁴ (421), Maqsud Khan⁵ (425), Sidi Ashraff, Kotwal of Delhi (426), Mir Mohammad Ishaq of Kashmir (432), Abu Nasr, son of Shaista Khan and Subadar of Oudh in 49th year (432), Jalaluddin Khan (434), Jan Nisar Khan⁶ (436), Mullah Muhammad Ashraff, Diwan of Kashmir (425), Abu Muhammad Khan adopted son of Maatabar Khan (425), Ahmad Sayeed Khan (428), Muhammad Ikramuddin, the Sadr, (437), and the Diwan of Khujistabuniad Aurangzeb (451). Sir J. N. Sarkar's list has left out Mirza Asadullah Khan, Qiladar of Orissa, Hakim Muhammad Taqi Shiraz, Qazi Muhammad Haider, Muhammad Baqar, the Foujdar of Gwalior, the Mufti of Surat, the Diwan of Allahabad, and Ziaullah Khan, Diwan of Akbarabad, as 'minor officials'. 'Muhammad Azam' on F. 1166 of the Oriental Public Library Manuscript has been rightly corrected as "Azim-us-Shan". The eleven letters addressed to "Amjad Khan (pp. 360-64) are indicated in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript as written to Syed Ahmad Khan (246 b). "Abdul Majid" mentioned in several places in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript is perhaps correctly named as "Abdul Hamid". Some of the letters in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript appear to have been wrongly ascribed to others. The six letters on ff. 201-205 were actually addressed to Ibrahim Khan (pp. 336-40). Ahsan Khan and not Ahmad Sayeed is said to be the addressee (f. 283; p. 428). There is a similar conflict between the names of Nijabat Khan and Jalaluddin Khan (f. 286; p. 434). There are other such cases also. Though the beginning and the end of both the Manuscripts show the same abruptness and the same contents, and in both some of the letters are found repeated, the order and arrangement of the letters in them do not always tally⁷.

Lack of space does not allow a consideration of these and other divergences and discrepancies and, therefore, one may leave this comparison here and point out what may be taken as the most distinctive features of the newly discovered Manuscript. It is fuller

⁴ Different from his name-sake, the commandant of Agra.

⁵ One Maqsud Beg 'Daroga-i-Topkhana' is referred to in the *Ahkam*.

⁶ For a biographical account of him and of many others, see *Maasir-ul-Umra* and Irvine's *Storia and Later Mughals*.

⁷ The Rampur Manuscript said to have belonged to the Delhi Palace, may help us in settling many of the difficulties.

and more complete than the Oriental Public Library Manuscript noticed by Sir J. N. Sarkar; while it contains all that is found, with minor⁸ changes, in the latter, it furnishes us with some new letters which have an importance of their own. There are only two letters addressed to P. Muizzuddin (116a) in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript while there are as many as 22 in the Patna University Manuscript copy (pp. 154-163). The letters on pp. 100-3, 128, 129, 143, 181, 190-1, 234, 402, 437, 460 are not to be found in the Oriental Public Library Manuscript.

On a comparison of the *Kalimat*, an incomplete copy of which is available in the Oriental Public Library, Patna, with the *Ahkam*, one naturally finds much common ground. The notes and instructions in the *Kalimat* transcribed from the Emperor's autographs and addressed to the favourite Secretary and expanded by the latter, are very often found copied verbatim⁹ in the *Ahkam*. There is neither a preface nor the date of compilation like that of *Kalimat*¹⁰ in *Ahkam* and the letters in the latter are also without dates except the mention of days and months here and there. One of them, however, refers to the 50th year, another to 1117 A.H. or 1705 A.D. (p. 419) while two almost identically worded letters addressed to P. Bedar Bukht and to G. K. Firuz Jung refer to the 25 years struggle against the Mahrattas since the Emperor set out from Ajmer in 1681 (pp. 120, 245). Then the letters mentioning the capture of Wagingerah in 1705 (H. 206, 421), the additional grant of Dewani of Bihar Subah to Murshid Quli Khan in place of Abul Qasim, in the 48th year¹¹ or 1704, and the Emperor's sanction for renaming Patna city as Azimabad after the princely addressee and the Subadar (pp. 163-4) can be definitely dated. Many notable events and cases of transfers, appointments, dismissals etc. of provincial officials and the nobles help us to fix the dates of the letters.

As regards the contents of the *Ahkam*, they cover a very wide field and throw a flood of light on the character and policy of the Emperor, puritanical in outlook and academic in pursuits¹², and on his attitude towards the various classes of Hindus. Mahrattas, Rajputs, Jats, Sikhs, Poligars and even Kols¹³ and Bheels, and on his

⁸ E.g. p. 155 and f. 116a; p. 298 & 226a; besides verbal variants in many places.

⁹ E.g. the notes regarding the European pirates and Arabs of Muscat, etc.

¹⁰ The quatrain of a poet of which the last line "Lauh-i-Kalimat, Tawayyat-i-Quds ast" is a chronogram yielding 1121 A.H. or 1708 A.D.

¹¹ *Akhbarat-i-darbar-i-Mualla*, Sarkar's Ms.

¹² E.g. frequent references to books and libraries and to copies of the Quran and of books on grammar like *Alfiyah* made in his own hand by the Emperor and sent as presents to Mecca.

¹³ See pp. 40, 57, 78, 88, 125, 129, 186, 200 and 406-8.

relations with European¹⁴ traders and pirates in western waters, including the Angrias¹⁵. The Afghan allies¹⁶ of the Hindus in Malwa, the turbulent people in the north west, Ismail Bohras, etc. have also come in for consideration. Besides the evidence of narrowness of outlook, religious¹⁷ intolerance or discrimination, superstitious¹⁸ beliefs, the Emperor's anxiety to check official bribery, laxity in administration, oppressive measures, his sense and methods of justice, his charity—sometimes secret—and the great concern that he felt for the safe journey of the pilgrims to Mecca, are also reflected in the letters. Even the most capable and favourite officials were not spared if reports were received against them. Murshid Quli Khan of Bengal and Orissa who was so regular in remitting the Bengal treasure which finds so frequent mention and which in one year amounted to 16,848 Ashrafs, 2,36,64,553 Rs. and 300 "Huns" (p. 332) was once reported against on the ground of farmers or renters within his jurisdiction oppressing the weak by a variety of expedients and causing ruination of the Parganah, and also because of the confusion in the affairs of the flotilla and arrears of pay of the men of the artillery establishment. The Secretary wrote, among other things, on order:—"The sincerity of aim and intention of His Sacred Majesty is bent on making the territories well peopled and prosperous and on seeing that the weak are safe and protected from the strong and injustice is practised to none nor favour shown to others. You, the exalted one, realising that God the most glorious is ever present should always make it your objective and have in full view of your conscience the necessity of keeping the *Mahals* fully inhabited and well-peopled and allowing people quiet and tranquillity. Moreover, it involves the increase of wealth. You should abstain from all that injures the creatures and adopt remedial measures regarding the disordered condition of the flotilla and the demand for arrears of salaries and accounts of artillery establishment" (p. 328). P. Muizzuddin was also taken to task for neglecting his duties. "How could you of exalted stock become the axis of such oppression and tyranny?" (p. 159). A high official was reprimanded "Why are you dragging down the name of your ancestors?". The Emperor's solicitude for the peaceful pursuits of the traders and the grain dealers or Banjaras and for the protection of the interests of the peasantry, for the strict observance of the regulations concerning public morals, for the repair of old mausoleums and religious

¹⁴ pp. 7, 17, 18, 23, 119, 156, 241, 368, 371-5, 378-81, 395-99, 401-5 in view of their importance these 35 letters deserve a separate treatment.

¹⁵ Kanhoji of Konon, p. 373.

¹⁶ Janullah and Faqirullah.

¹⁷ Demolition of temples and question of cow slaughter 125, 139, 140, 204, 205, 227, 236, converts favoured 343, 290, Muslim heretics 76, 429, 431.
Talismanic effects of stones 264, 258 Tawiz; prayers in effecting cure.

buildings, for the effective news-service, and prompt measures to put the Qazis, the censors, and the provincial chiefs on the correct path, and many other matters, are of great interest to a student of the Mughal administration.

Considerable space is covered in the *Ahkam* by the Mughal-Mahratta struggle. There are interesting references to Raja Sahu in more than a dozen of letters, to his monthly allowances¹⁹, his expenses, his custody and the infructuous negotiations for his release. Tara Bai, Dhannaji Jadav, Nimaji Sindhi, Keshava Malher and many others are frequently mentioned. The various sections of the Rajputs, the Rathors and the Bundellas more than the Kachchawahas and Sisodias, figure in the letters. Some of the references to Sawai Jai Singh of Amber, Durgadas Rathor of Marwar, and Dhir²⁰ Ujjaynia of Shahabad, Bihar, wrongly reported to be killed, deserve more than a passing notice. Raja Chhatarsal, the Jat Chiefs and the Sanyasi affair also frequently attracted the attention of the Emperor.

When P. Bedar Bukht, Governor of Malwa, proposed the grant of a Kettledrum and of a certain Parganah to Jai Singh on condition of keeping a suitable contingent for service, the cryptic answer was "Khurdsal wa Qaim Beghair" or "(he is) young (and) without firmness and stability" (p. 37). When the princely patron persisted and proposed to leave Jai Singh as his Deputy in Malwa, it was not accepted and Khan-i-Alam or any other person was suggested (p. 95). A province of such strategic importance, predominantly Hindu in population and over-run and disturbed so often by the Rajputs and the Mahrattas could not be entrusted by the shrewd and suspicious Emperor to one so young and undependable. We are told:—"I, the child of a slave was ordered to send the copy of the sheets containing the occurrences of Malwa to your beneficent self and submit that in view of these despicable actions the Rajputs are not to be granted *Subadari* or *Foujdari* by the imperial threshold of heaven-like dignity. At any rate, you of exalted power should write to Raja Jai Singh that he may not have an elevated *Musnad* or cushion to recline, but if he wishes he can use an ornamented carpet ('*Suzni*') spread on the ground, and that he should adopt a worthy and agreeable way of living with the royal servants²¹" (p. 101).

¹⁹ 2,560 Rs. for suit of cloths, house expenses (Buyutat) and house rental zulfikar was agreeable to 2,000 Rs.

²⁰ See Irvine's *Later Mughals*, Vol. II. Prince Azim was misinformed when he reported his death to the Emperor. The author of *Hadiqat-ul-Aqalim* whose father joined Abdullah Khan of Ghazipur fame in defeating and killing Dhir of Baraon during the Subadari of Surbuland Khan is more reliable. (Oriental Public Library Manuscript).

²¹ The whole passage has been given here for the first time. It is not fair to make a general statement on the basis of a line torn from its context.

Ajit Singh, considered as "Jaali" or impostor (p. 18) and his guardian, Durga Das who "was to be sent to the imperial camp, otherwise finished on the spot so that he might not lead Ajit and the Rathor astray", and also Khem Karan, the brother of Durga and his 'mad' Diwan to whom "worthless Akbar"²² had written a letter which had been seized and forwarded by P. Muizzuddin (p. 6) also find mention in many places. We find reference to a letter of the hero of Marwar addressed to the Secretary which was submitted to the Emperor and a copy whereof was forwarded for a suitable reply to P. Azam Shah, Governor of Gujarat (pp. 33, 31). The reported alliance between Durga and Abdul Hamid Khan, the latter conveying secret news to his Vakil, was disbelieved for the Khan was a 'Hafiz', a 'Haji', a Musulman and born of a Muslim (p. 125). P. Azam Shah was told that Durga Das Rathor had been granted exemption from cattle provision for two years. The period having expired and there being no Vakil of his at the Court to settle it, the addressee was ordered to send his Vakil, his son and brother and his followers again to the victorious camp (p. 5). The Prince's proposal to send Durga to the royal presence after the arrival of the mace-bearers and *Sazawals* (land stewards) was approved (p. 6). Numan Khan, the *Bakshi* and *Waqai-Nigar* of Ahmedabad was informed that "Durgadas Rathor also had been ordered about the protection of the city, chastisement of the infidels and keeping 'Sehbandi' or an establishment of peons" (364). He and "the intrepid Durgadas Rathor" were directed, according to royal orders, that "relying upon God, the great Helper, they should sally out to chastise the group of infidels" (p. 366). Amanat Khan, the Foudar of Baroda, was also ordered to join with the brave Rathor Chief in repelling the Mahrattas and not to rely on hearsay rumours. To the said Rathor was also written "according to orders" (377); Najabet Khan, the Naib Subadar of Ahmedabad, was reminded of the Wazir's letter sent to him, and orders were issued about "pacifying Durgadas Rathor, restoring to him the *Mansab* and the jobs as held before, and keeping him pleased with himself". The Secretary wrote further, according to orders—"As the said Rathor had represented his condition of distress and destitution" the addressee was to contact him and make his proposals so that they might be sanctioned by his Imperial Majesty²³ (p. 413).

No less rare and interesting are the references to Guru Gobind Singh and his virile followers. Prince Muazzam, Governor of Kabul, was informed that Khawaja Mubarak had reported "the assembling

of 5,000 Hindus who call themselves Khalsa of Gobind, the worshippers of Nanak, their march to village Arakzai(?) under the escort of the Yusufzai Afghans who, however, being joined by others, fell on them near the blue waters leading to a number of them being deservedly killed or drowned". The princely Governor was ordered "to put the wicked ones under arrest and expel them from those regions" (p. 3). There is a reference to the siege of Chamkaur in a letter to Wazir Khan, the Subadar of Sarhind "Your communication regarding the descent of Gobind, the worshipper of Nanak, to a place within twelve *kos* of Sarhind, the despatch of a body of 700 horse well-equipped with artillery, and the disturbing fellow being besieged in the *haveli* of the zamindar of Chamkaur and about his two sons and other followers being killed and one son and his mother being taken captive and other matters, has been received" (p. 393). Another letter to Wazir Khan says, among other things, that Muhammad Aulia of Buriya in Parganah Khirzabad of Sarkar-i-Sarhind, had reported that the addressee had, "according to the exalted orders, and in agreement with the Qazi, demolished the idol temple (?) of worshippers of Nanak in the Qasba, erected a mosque there, and appointed a Darwesh, Syed Muzaffar, to perform the daily prayers in that mosque, and that the said body of people destroyed that mosque, killed the said Darwesh, and after enquiry confessed that they had killed him" (p. 394). As regards the Guru himself, a letter to Munim Khan, Diwan of Shah Alam and Deputy Governor of the Punjab, says "Gobind had submitted an *Arzdasht* signifying his intention to kiss the exalted thresh-hold and he had sent a request through a Vakil for the despatch of grace-manifesting "Manshoor". The Emperor was gracious enough to send the "royal mandate obligatory of obedience" through Mohd. Beg, the mace-bearer and Sh. Yar Muhammad, a Mansabdar. They had to convey the "Farman" to the addressee who would forward it to its recipient. He was also enjoined upon to soothe and comfort him, summon him to his presence, and after the receipt of letters patent, arrange to send him to the royal presence with a trustworthy person, acquainted with the routes, and the said mace-bearer and the Mansabdar (p. 324). A similar letter to Wazir Khan also refers to the receipt of the *Arzdasht* of Gobind, the Chief of Nanak worshippers, relating to his intention to request for the despatch of the light emanating sacred "Manshoor". It also refers to the despatch of a 'Farman' through the said personages to Munim Khan with directions to comfort and console the Guru, summon him to his presence, and send him to the imperial camp. The Secretary adds in this letter:—"As soon as the said Gobind arrives in the vicinity of Sarhind city, you, the exalted one, should provide him with an escort to take him beyond your frontier. In case, behind or in presence, he expresses imaginary fears, reassure him, and if he wants the expenses of the

²² The rebellious son of Aurangzeb who had joined the Rajputs and had sent Durga Das to represent him during negotiations with Sambhaji.

²³ These revealing references which had remained previously unnoticed have got an importance of their own.

journey he should be provided with what is needed out of his goods seized by you" (p. 391).

As regards the European traders and the piracy in the western waters and the Emperor's policy towards them, only a few letters can be noticed here: (1) The Goan Chief complained against the misbehaviour of the English and the Dutch who for the last 20 years had obstructed the route of trade and of pilgrimage to Mecca and also against the oppressive activities, on land and sea, in Konkan, of Kanho Angria, and offered to do the needful, if a specified aid was given to him. (2) Failure of Itimad Khan in preventing grain and other necessities reaching the Dutch and deputation of Yakut and others for the purpose. (3) Effective action by Amanat Khan against the Mahratta pirates, and the captain of Daman, and his seizure of a cannon of the enemy. His proposal for the reduction of 700 populars villages dependent on Daman. Reply sent that before accession, on the instigation of inexperienced men, the reduction of the fort of Daman had been aimed at, but the difficulty of taking the forts of the Feringis was realized. These people could be subjugated only by fighting them in unmanly fields. (4) The seizure by the English pirates of two ships of Abdul Ghafur and Qasim of Surat, one of them boarded by Ali Naqi, the daughter's son of the ex-king of Iran, and the explanation called from Itbar Khan who had imprisoned, tortured and mulcted the English brokers, Keshav and Vithal, who had an acquaintance deed. (5) Arrival of seven Dutch ships and capture and detention of Nurul Haque and Fakhrul Islam for whose release the Emperor was very anxious. (6) Realization of 5,48,000 Rupees and 9 lacks as compensation for the plundered goods. (7) On M. Abdul Ghafur and other traders representing through Najabat Khan that if the trade of hat-wearers was stopped they would yield in a year or two and the traffic would be opened, and on a requisition being made for 2,000 foot and 1,000 horse for the reduction of Daman and Bassein of the Portuguese, the reply was sent that it was foolish to think that the forts could be suddenly captured. To fight against all the four—English, French, Dutch and Portuguese—was to invite disorders on the seas. There was the anxiety about the ships of the past year and the present, still on voyage. Everything should be kept secret till their return. As regards the suppression of the Feringhis and favourable decision on claims of other traders against them and grant of bonds of exemption for the opening of the sea traffic, matters should be kept in abeyance for some time. (8) On permission being sought to send Sh. Nurullah on deputation to Thatha and to Arabia to induce the ruler of Muscat, superior to the hatwearers, to fight against them, Prince Muizzuddin was ordered to send some one to Muscat, sanctioning 1,000 Rupees for him, so that he should go in the guise of a trader

and court his friendship. He should be instructed to suggest that aid would be given to him against the ruler of Iran contemplating to send an army against Muscat.

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION IN ASSAM IN THE DAYS OF THE COMPANY

H. K. BARPUJARI

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IN A LETTER addressed to Captain Jenkins, the Agent to the Governor General, North East Frontier, dated 18 June 1834, Adam White, the Political Agent, Upper Assam, writes. "The usual range of school education in Assam is limited to the perusal of the translation of the Bhagavat Gita, Ramayana and the commentaries, treatises on medicine, arithmetic and astronomy. A few pandits have studied the original Sanskrit and their attainments were considered respectable by Mr. Lidden, formerly translator to Mr. Scott and now Professor of Sanskrit in the King's College London. Among the Ahoms, a few still continue to study their ancient literature but it contains anything but dry record of the deeds of their ancestors. At the period of our conquest the provision for educating people had been most diminished, owing to the disturbed state of society which has prevailed in Assam for the last forty or fifty years and the want of encouragement arising from the constant change of rulers. This falling off in point of means had not been counteracted by any increased patronage from the nobility among whom the same feeling prevailed as that which characterised the European aristocracy in the Middle Ages, the art of writing being esteemed ignoble and generally neglected or if attained at all, it rarely extended beyond attaching their signature to a document¹."

The above passage gives a picture of the system of education that prevailed in Assam during the pre-British days. With a view to encourage the indigenous system of education by assignment of lands, in October 1826, David Scott, the Agent to the Governor General, North East Frontier, obtained sanction of the Government of India and accordingly eleven schools were set up in Lower Assam². Learning was then confined mostly to the Brahmins and Kayasthas and in the words of a contemporary, "the only language taught is Sanskrit and matter shaster". "With a view to improve the general

scale of education" Adam White reported "I succeeded in combination with Mr. Roe and Other European gentlemen at Gauhati in establishing a school where all the Bengalee translation from Elementary European works of science were studied and the scriptures were used as class book". Speaking of the attitude of the people to this new system, he further says "Raja Poorandar Singha (the then ruler of Upper Assam) has evinced every disposition to promote the diffusion of knowledge.....he had agreed to establish a school in each *Khel*,³ which if carried into execution would give about one school to every 200 of the population. That he is not indifferent to European learning I am perfectly aware nor all the intelligent portion of his people.....the prejudices of the nobility in regard to learning were rapidly disappearing and were desirous that their children should study.....The press too, had begun to operate on the minds of the more intelligent portion of the community, there being four or five subscribers to the Calcutta native Newspapers⁴."

The activities of the Government were mainly limited to making certain grants of land or petty sums of money and in general, education was left to private enterprise. In June 1834, Captain Jenkins, the Agent to the Governor General and Commissioner of Assam, felt that in a backward province like Assam education should be a state responsibility. "To leave the matter to the people" he pointed out to the Government of India "would be to commit a duty incumbent in my opinion upon us to those who are mostly incapable of judging for themselves and who from universal poverty caused perhaps greatly by our mismanagement are unable from want of means and intelligence to accomplish any progress that would satisfy us. To trust the diffusion of knowledge in this province to native hands alone would be to protract for centuries what with our aid may be performed in a brief period. To leave the matter alone would approach nearly to parental neglect of children⁵."

Doubtless, the Commissioner was, inspired by a "Political-cum-administrative objective"—to win over the confidence of the official aristocracy of the former Government who lost their political influence through British conquest and for whom, he thought Government must provide employment. He reported: "These few in their present uneducated state do not suffice to carry on the duties of our courts, the offices in which are mostly filled by natives of Sylhet and Rungpore; so that the old families of Assam are still losing influence in their own native province from being barred those situations which lead to power or decent maintenance. This state of

¹ Under the Ahoms, who ruled Assam before the British, the whole population was divided into 'Khels' or clans according to their occupation; viz., clan of Gold Washers, Braziers.

² Political Consultations Bengal, 10 July 1834, no. 11; White to Jenkins, 18 June.

³ Political Consultations Bengal, 10 July 1834, no. 2.

¹ Commonwealth Relations Office, (India Office) Political Consultations Bengal, 10 July 1834, no. 211.

² Political Consultations Bengal, 26 October 1826, nos. 21-22.

things appears to me pregnant with evil and I know no other method by which it could be remedied than by the Government taking some active measures to provide instruction for the Assamese Youths".⁶

The General Committee of Public Instruction, on the suggestions of Jenkins, recommended in early 1835 an English School at Gauhati and the following years saw the rise of a number of branch schools near about. To cater to the growing demand, particularly of the remote parganas where on account of poverty and prejudice and no less of affection, many guardians disliked to send their wards away from home, James Matthie, the Collector of Gauhati, proposed in February 1838, to set up an Anglo-Vernacular school for imparting a perfect knowledge of vernacular besides instruction in English and also a number of "Village Schools" to teach the masses the Three Rs.⁷ In spite of the eloquent support of the educationists like Adams, Elphinstone and Munro, the attitude of the General Committee of Public Instruction to the education of the masses was one of total indifference. "That its present system and plans" the Secretary of the Committee pointed out to Jenkins "embrace neither the superintendence nor the support of this class of Schools". "When originally constituted", he added "the General Committee with the sanction of the Government resolved not to interfere with such schools, not only that its means and enquiries might not be exhausted by too wide an expansion, but from an apprehension that its interference might divert the private resources which supported this class of schools". On the other hand "it appears to the General Committee more prudent (as it is certainly more suited to its limited means) for the present to concentrate its efforts and to aim rather at the establishment of a simple well regulated institution than the diffusion of many schools of an inferior grade".⁸

Fortunately, however, Matthie's proposal received strong support from the Supreme Government. In the opinion of Mr. Ross, the then President of the Council "the Scheme deserved encouragement" and as an "experimental measure" sanction was accorded to, with provision that its continuance in future would be determined on its results.⁹

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ Revenue Consultations, Bengal, 14 August 1838, no. 65; Matthie to Jenkins, 13 February 1838.

⁸ Revenue Consultations, Bengal, 18 August 1838, no. 65; Secretary, G. C. P. I. to Capt. Jenkins, 18 April 1838.

⁹ Revenue Consultations, Bengal, 1 August 1838, no. 66.

EXCLUSION OF HIGH CASTE HINDUS FROM OUDH POLICE AFTER THE MUTINY

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I HAVE discovered among the old English records of Lucknow at present in the custody of the local Deputy Commissioner some extremely interesting post-Mutiny circulars, memoranda etc. relating to the recruitment and organisation of the Oudh Police Force. These papers are of historical importance, for they throw a flood of light on the inner springs of British policy in connection with the maintenance of law and order in India.

A study of these papers reveals that after the Mutiny the British Government deliberately excluded from the Police force Hindus of higher castes, and sought to make it a close preserve for Muslims and Hindu Kayasthas alone. These official papers conclusively prove that the preponderance of Muslims or of Kayasthas in the Police was no accident, and was the result of a systematic plan based on imperialist considerations. The exclusion of high caste Hindus was obviously inspired by political motives. The Mutiny of 1857 in which the upper caste Hindu sepoys from Northern India had played a prominent role appears to have been the cause of the change of policy in respect of Police recruitment. The British bureaucracy must have considered it unsafe as well as impolitic to allow a preponderance of Brahmins, Chhatris or Thakurs in the Police personnel. That accounts for the studied exclusion of these higher castes from the Police in the years following the Mutiny.

From the periodical returns furnished to the provincial Inspector General of Police, it appears that by 1872 the upper ranks of constabulary in Oudh were almost entirely composed of either Muslims, or the Kayasthas from amongst the Hindus. For example, a secret Memo (No. 50 of 1872) reveals the very significant fact that "out of the 53 Divisional Head Constables in the Police Force, no less than 27 are Mussulman, and 20 are Kayasthas (Kaiths)." This means that only a handful of these important posts were filled by men of other castes and communities. A list of chief constables likewise shows that a large majority of them were Muslims and Kayasthas. Even among the second grade constables, the same communal preponderance was admitted in another circular. One Memo contains a candid avowal of this fact in these words, ".....the tendency of late

has been to promote from Mussulman and this caste (i.e., Kayasthas), the result of such action must be that the upper ranks of the Police will before long be filled with Mussulman and Moonshees".

The records show that the authorities had evolved an interesting theory in justification of the planned exclusion of particular castes and communities and the preferential treatment shown to Muslim and Kayasthas. Lt. Col. D. S. Barrow, offg. Inspector General, Oudh Police, wrote in the course of a memorandum (Dated Lucknow, the 18th June, 1872)....."Mussulman and Kaithas are generally speaking the best and sharpest men.....". No commentary is needed on an explanation like this.

Another confidential circular directs the District Superintendents of Police to consider invariably "the caste of the man recommended in the recommendation Roll of Officers for promotion". This would serve to show that upper grade vacancies were in fact intended to be filled up as far as possible from the favoured sections of the population.

It is indeed a paradox that one high British officer raised his voice of protest against this policy and urged that it seemed to him "very unwise that we should have such a large number of any two castes holding the most important posts in the force". Apparently, this gentlemen was not conversant with the ways of the British bureaucracy in India, and so his comment went unheeded. Probably, it was to answer such criticisms that the convenient theory about "*the best and sharpest men*" was propounded.

AN OLD VILLAGE SURVEY REPORT

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THE OLD survey reports like those of Major James Rennel and Francis Hamilton Buchanan contain plenty of important information relating to the history of India, in its different aspects, during the last three decades of the eighteenth century and the first two decades of the nineteenth century respectively. They can be supplemented by additional information from the old reports of the village surveys, which the English East India Company's Government had to conduct in the course of land settlements of various kinds. Recently I obtained one such report in Persian, dated 1825, from the Record Office of the Divisional Commissioner at Patna, through a Research Assistant of mine, Mr. F. Balkhi.

This Report, included in the *Proceedings of the Court of the Collector of Shahabad*, dated 12 September 1825, relates to the survey of village Kaithi in tappa Bharki of pargana Sasaram in Bihar. Besides mentioning the usual modes of settlement survey and discussing the reasons for undertaking it, the Report traces the history of this village, and also contains highly interesting facts relating to the social and economic conditions of the time, such as the different castes and their professions, the prices of commodities, the agricultural produce, the conditions of labourers and slaves, the population census figures etc. It further shows that the village was a self-sufficient unit for its practical needs.

Nothing is mentioned about the early history of this village. But the Qanungoes ascertained through enquiries from well-informed persons and from memoirs of some of them that the Kharwars got possession of it in the early medieval period. They had to submit subsequently to the authority of the Surs. During the reign of Aurangzeb the village came into the possession of Dhanpal Rai and Chandra Bhan Rai of Kurmi caste. After the partition of property between them, this village fell to the share of Chandra Bhan Rai. In the eighteenth century before the establishment of the English East India Company's authority in this area, Pahalwan Singh and Loher Singh, Rajput Taluqdars of a neighbouring village called Nokha, took possession of it. After some years it became the property of Dev Rai, descendant of the above-mentioned Dhanpal Rai and Chandra Bhan Rai. Ultimately the descendants of Dev Rai and

Sita Rai inherited it. But chiefly because of their refusal to accept the proposed amount of *Jama* fixed by the Decennial Settlement of 1789-90, it was for some years settled with revenue farmers on short-term contracts. On the expiry of such a contract in 1821, it was settled in this manner for another year, but remained incorporated in Government Khas. Mahal from 1823 to 1825. To avoid loss of revenue due to changing settlements, the Government thought it necessary in 1825 to effect a permanent settlement and for this purpose the survey was undertaken.

Certain important facts revealed by the Survey Report are as follows:—

A. Professional Castes

Forced Labour—No particular caste in this village was required to perform "*Begary*" or forced work. But persons belonging to the lower castes were engaged in menial works of different kinds. They received in return $3\frac{1}{2}$ seers of grain. Those engaged in agricultural works got $3\frac{1}{2}$ seers of grain daily for ploughing and one big bundle as well as a small bushel a day for cutting the crop.

Slavery—No slaves were sold in the village but some of the Rajputs settled there maintained 10 to 12 male or female slaves.

Priest—The Brahman priest (*Purohit*) of the village was named Jagannath Dubey. All the residents contributed their share of grain to a common stock out of which the priest got two-thirds and the *Gorait* (who assisted the Patwaris) one-third. At the time of harvest each cultivator gave one small bushel of grain to him. In addition to all this, on the occasion of marriages or funerals the villagers gave him cash and clothings according to their respective sources of income.

Barber—His name was Sheo Barat. He was paid per family each year $7\frac{1}{2}$ seers of grain excluding rice and one bushel of grain at the time of harvest. Out of what he earned at marriages or other ceremonies he kept $1/3$ rd for himself and the remainder was given to the priest.

Washermen—They were Gur Dayal and Ram Nath by name. Their remuneration was at the rate of 10 seers of grain excluding rice per family each year. They also got from each family one bushel of grain at the time of cutting the crop and also one bushel when crops were brought to the *Khaliars* (agricultural farms).

Blacksmith—His name was Suphal. He made and repaired agricultural implements of the cultivators. He got each year from each cultivator 3 seers of grain and one bushel more for each plough.

B. MARKET RATES OF GRAINS FROM 1822 TO 1825 A.D.

(Rate per Rupee)

Year	Matar	Til	Kurthi	Arhar	Turi	Teesi (Linseed)	Jao (Barley)	Wheat	Nakhod (Bout grams)	Masur	Mong	Mash	Marua
	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.	M. S. C.
1822	2 10 0	1 10 0	2 20 0	2 10 0	1 10 0	1 20 0	3 20 0	2 0 0	3 0 0	3 5 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	3 20 0
1823	1 35 0	0 30 0	...	1 20 0	0 32 0	0 35 0	2 0 0	1 5 0	1 30 0	1 35 0	1 10 0	1 0 0	2 5 0
1824	1 25 0	0 30 0	1 20 0	1 10 0	0 35 0	1 0 0	1 25 0	1 0 0	1 20 0	1 25 0	1 0 0	1 0 0	1 30 0
1825	...	0 30 0	1 30 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 0 0	1 5 0	2 0 0
GRAND TOTAL	6 30 0	3 20 0	5 30 0	5 0 0	2 37 0	3 15 0	7 5 0	4 5 0	6 10 0	6 25 0	4 20 0	4 15 0	9 15 0
Yearly average	2 10 0	0 35 0	1 36 10	1 10 0	0 29 0	1 5 0	2 15 0	1 15 0	2 3 6	2 8 6	1 5 0	1 3 12	2 13 12

M=Maunds.
S=Seers.
C=Chataks.

C. STATEMENT ABOUT AGRICULTURAL LANDS, NUMBER OF HOUSES AND CENSUS
OF INHABITANTS

1. Area according to old papers of <i>Patwaris</i>	900 bighas. B. C. Dh.
2. Area according to survey of 1231-32 Fasli	1146 13 9
3. Area excluded from settlement	177 14 13
4. Area not cultivable <i>i.e.</i> Homestead	174 14 13
5. Number of Houses	37
6. Number of Ploughs	28
7. Number of inhabitants	199
Rajputs	34
Brahmans	5
Kayasthas	7
Kurmis	44
Koeris	29
Lohars	7
Barbers	4
Washermen	12
Tantis (Weevers)	20
Muslim weavers	5
Banias	5
Kahars	4
Telis	6
Pasban or Watchmen	6
Gowalas	8
Kandoos	3
Number of Trees.	199
Mahua	165
Mango	14
Name of Chowkidar	Rajrup Pasban.
Name of Gorait	Raghu Bansi Pasban.
Name of Patwari	Gouri Das.

SALT MONOPOLY IN ORISSA AND ITS EFFECTS
DURING THE EARLY BRITISH RULE

Sushil Chandra De

Orissa State Archives, Bhubaneswar

THE YEAR 1803 constitutes a landmark in the history of Orissa. It witnessed the end of the short Maratha rule and the foundation of that of the British. With the establishment of the British regime, a new administrative machinery was set up, rather too quickly for the people of the province to get used to it. The British authorities, who came possessed of their ideas and experiences relating to their administration in Bengal, started working them out at once in the newly conquered province without ever stopping to consider the general character of the people, their history, traditions, or religious susceptibilities. They proceeded forthwith with their administrative arrangements without a suitable background to popularise or stabilise them. The natural outcome of such hasty arrangements was the discontent among the people who were hardly given any opportunity to adjust themselves to the new situation and it manifested itself even in armed revolts against the new government.

The salt monopoly introduced in Orissa was one of many grievances of the people. A lot of correspondence passed between the authorities on the subject with a view to ascertain how far the grievances of the people in this matter were genuine. The object of this paper is to briefly discuss the effects of the salt monopoly on the people of Orissa in the first two decades of the British rule in the light of the facts recorded in the official records of the period.

Orissa, being on the sea-board, had salt manufacture as one of its most flourishing industries. Orissa salt was of very fine quality, and it found a ready market in the neighbouring States, like Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In the words of Stirling, "In this wild inhospitable tract however the finest salt of all India is manufactured,....."¹. During the Maratha rule, there was no restriction on its manufacture and trade in this commodity. The State income from this source consisted of land revenue assessed on the salt lands and the *sair* duty collected on salt in transit. Naturally, salt was quite cheap in Orissa, and it constituted one of the chief commercial commodities exported from Orissa. During this period, salt could

¹ Stirling, *An account of Orissa Proper or Cuttack*, p. 5.

be purchased for 3 to 4 annas per maund at the place of manufacture². In the market it sold at a rate not exceeding 14 annas per maund, rate during the last four years of the Maratha rule being 8 to 9 annas per Calcutta maund of salt. Colonel Harcourt, who was appointed as one of the Commissioners for the affairs of Cuttack after the conquest of Orissa, observed in 1804, "the price of salt in Cuttack seldom exceeded 14 annas the Calcutta maund"³. Mr. Melville, who was appointed as Joint Commissioner with Col. Harcourt, thought that price of salt never exceeded 5 annas per maund in Orissa under the Maratha Government⁴. The price of salt, one of the essential commodities of food, was much less than what it was in the British period, the rate of salt in the market in 1817 being Rs. 3-4-0 per maund. The salt manufacture being free and unrestricted under Maratha Government, it was not only procurable at a very cheap rate and in sufficient quantity, but was exported to neighbouring territories, especially to Nagpur, in large quantities. Motte noted in 1766 that a village, probably Contillo, in Khandpara was a rendezvous of traders from the Coastal regions of Orissa and those from Central India in the months from January to April, where the traders from Orissa exchanged salt for cotton goods. So, brisk trade in salt was carried on in the Maratha period.

The English with their keen commercial outlook and vast experience in the line were at once impressed with the possibilities and bright prospects of salt industry in Orissa. So they wasted no time in introducing the salt monopoly in the Northern Division of Cuttack, that is, the portion of Orissa lying to the north of the river Mahanadi. At first, it appears, R. Ker, Collector of Balasore, acted as Superintendent of Salt. In 1806, a Salt Agency for Northern Division of Cuttack was created, and James King was appointed as the Salt Agent and was placed under the control of the Salt Department of the Board of Trade, Fort William. In the year 1814, the salt monopoly was extended to the Southern Division. Three years after this extension came the crisis of 1817 which necessitated a thorough investigation into the causes of the grievances of the people of Orissa, one of which was about the enhancement of the price of salt and its scarcity.

In his report of 3 May 1817 pertaining to the complaints of the people relating to salt, Mr. Trower, Collector of Cuttack, wrote to the Secretary, Board of Revenue, that the cry for salt was general; it could not be purchased by the poor people owing to its high price; the rich could not procure it on account of scarcity and that

². *Selections from the correspondence on the settlement of Khoordah estate in the District of Pooree*, Vol. I (printed, Bengal Secretariat Press, 1879), p. 46.

³. *Ibid.*, p. 47.

⁴. *Ibid.*

d.

merchants sold salt at much higher rate than that fixed by the Government. Though he could not give his opinion as to how far complaints were founded on real facts, he stated that he could procure with the greatest difficulty sufficient salt for the daily consumption of his camp⁵. If the Collector of the District could procure his requirement of salt with "the greatest difficulty", there can be hardly any room for doubt that the complaint of the people relating to the scarcity of salt was real and not exaggerated or imaginary, as the Salt Agent sought to explain it away.

The Governor General in Council called for a report from the Board of Trade on the grievances of the people relating to the scarcity and the enhanced price of salt. The Board, in their turn, wanted a report from C. Becher, Salt Agent, Cuttack. Mr. Becher submitted a report on the subject in his letter⁶, dated 8 May 1817, addressed to T. Plowden, Secretary, Board of Trade. He sought to impress upon the Board that the complaints relating to salt were without foundation. In support of this contention, he put forth the following facts and arguments.

(1) The average sale of salt in Orissa in the last three years amounted to 1,51,035 mds. which provided for 5,37,013 souls at half a chhatack per annum. The average retail price of salt in the district was Rs. 3-4-0 per maund, and at that rate, the annual expenditure of an individual would amount to 14 annas and 7 pies. So, he could not believe that there was any scarcity, or there could be any grievance on account of high price.

(2) The real grievance, in his opinion, was due to discontent among the village headmen, who formerly monopolised the salt trade and lost heavily on account of the salt monopoly of the Government.

(3) The price of salt current in Orissa was almost half of that prevailing in Bengal. In view of this, the grievance of the people could not be considered a real one, unless the current rate was compared with that prevailing prior to extension of monopoly.

These were the main arguments of Mr. Becher by which he tried to cover a genuine and very distressing grievance of the people. The Board of Trade too in their report, dated 27 May 1817, to the Governor General in Council on the matter⁸ did not make any intelligent comment on the views of the Salt Agent. They concurred with the

⁵. Ms. Volume (Judicial Department), No. 15-A, pp. 233-34.

⁷. *Ibid.*, pp. 127-38.

⁸. *Ibid.*, pp. 127-26.

Agent's opinion that the insurrection in Cuttack could not be attributed to the price of salt, or difficulty of obtaining it. They, however, could not appreciate the argument of the Salt Agent, that since the price of salt in Orissa was almost half of that prevailing in Bengal, the people of Orissa could have no cause for complaint in regard to its enhanced price.

H. Mackenzie, Secretary to the Government, in his letter of 30 August 1817 conveyed the observations of the Vice-President in Council on the above reports to the Board of Trade⁹. Though the Vice-President was disposed to agree with the opinion expressed by the Board that the causes of the insurrection in the District of Cuttack were, in all probability, wholly unconnected with the high price of salt and the difficulty of procuring that article, he however observed that the report of the Salt Agent was not sufficient or detailed to enable the Government to form a clear judgement in regard to the degree in which the operations of the Salt Department might have calculated to curtail the comforts of the people. As regards population of the District he remarked that the estimate of the Salt Agent was too low. Mr. Richardson, one of the late Commissioners, had estimated the population of Orissa at 15,00,000 souls. Even after making sufficient allowance for over-estimate, Mr. Becher's estimate would appear too low. Regarding Mr. Becher's opinion that half a chhatack of salt per day was sufficient for a man's daily consumption, the Vice-President remarked that in Bengal it was a little more than the quantity estimated by Mr. Becher. The quantity of food ordinarily in use among the inhabitants of Orissa was such as to render necessary the consumption of more than usual quantity of salt. From this point of view he considered Mr. Becher's estimate as rather low. The Vice-President did not accept the view of Mr. Becher that the salt monopoly only hit hard the village headmen who had monopolised salt trade before the British rule. He believed that the price of salt, prior to the introduction of the monopoly, was extremely low, hence, people might be supposed to have suffered from the effects of the monopoly. He thought that the price of salt in Orissa was too rapidly raised; a sudden increase in price of an essential commodity of food like salt could scarcely fail to create considerable distress to the people. The enhanced price of salt, the Vice-President was of opinion, was due to the intermediate agencies through which the commodity passed before it reached the consumer. As a remedy against this defect, he suggested that steps should be taken to increase the number of sales depots so that the consumer might obtain without difficulty his supplies from the public stores; that would considerably bring down the price. He further observed

⁹. *Ibid*, pp. 155-67.

that too rigid enforcement of rules to prevent illicit traffic in salt would prove vexatious to the people with little advantage to the public revenue.

The Vice-President's observations were very practical and designed to alleviate the rigour of the system of salt monopoly. He rightly pointed out that Mr. Becher's estimate of the population of Orissa at a rough figure of five and a half lakhs was too low. It was, at least, twelve lakhs, if not fifteen lakhs, as estimated by Mr. Richardson. Mr. Ewer, after a detailed calculation, estimated the population of the Mughalbandi area of Orissa to be 11 lakhs excluding the area of Ali, Kujang and Kanika¹⁰. Besides, about a lakh of pilgrims on an average came to Puri each year. Taking these facts into consideration the population of Orissa, according to Ewer, would be more than 12 lakhs. Calculating the consumption of salt at the rate of half a chhatack per day per head, the quantity of salt required for Orissa would amount to at least 3½ lakhs of maunds a year¹¹. If a little more than half a chhatack is allotted per head per day, as suggested by the Vice-President, the quantity required for internal consumption each year would amount roughly to about 4,00,000 maunds. The sale of salt in Orissa during the years 1811 to 1816 amounted approximately to 1,35,457 maunds on the average per year¹². So, there was a shortage of more than 2½ lakhs of maunds of salt required for the consumption of the people of Orissa. When salt was not provided for about 2/3 of the population, it was quite natural for the people of Orissa to grumble about the scarcity of salt, and there can be no doubt about the fact that their complaint was real.

It would be interesting to note that annual average sale of salt during the years 1814, 1815 and 1816 amounted to 1,50,914 maunds, and export to Salkia during the same period amounted to 3,83,107 maunds¹³. So when the people of Orissa were going without salt, this most essential commodity of food was exported to Bengal. It was because export to Bengal was more lucrative than internal sale. The exported salt was sold at Rs. 350 per 100 maunds, that is, Rs. 3-8-0 per maund¹⁴; in Orissa the price of salt was fixed at Rs. 2 per maund. It cost Government twelve annas only for manufacture of one maund of salt¹⁵ in Orissa. Thus the Government got only Rs. 1-4-0 per

¹⁰. *Selections from the correspondence on the settlement of the Khoordah estate in the District of Pooree*, Vol. No. I, pp. 50-51.

¹¹. *Ibid*, p. 52.

¹². Ms. Volume No. 15-A, p. 127.

¹³. Ms. Volume (Salt Department), No. 46, p. 53.

¹⁴. *Ibid*.

¹⁵. *Ibid*, p. 51.

maund in Orissa while they received Rs. 2-12-0 on each maund of exported salt. Allowing sufficient margin for wastage and cost of transportation, external trade in salt seemed more profitable than internal sale. Since the Salt Agent himself was receiving a commission on the amount of sale in addition to his pay, the export of salt from Orissa was both in the interest of the Company and the Salt Agent, though it was painfully distressing to the people of Orissa.

From what has been said, it would appear clear that the introduction of the salt monopoly in Orissa was highly detrimental to the interests of the people of Orissa, especially of the poor classes. The price of salt abnormally shot up to about eight times that prevailing under the Marathas, and over and above, it became scarce in the market owing to impudence of the authorities who looked more to their own interest than to those of the people under their rule. In the circumstances, it is no wonder that the people of Orissa should vehemently agitate against the system that was so distressing and oppressive to them.

Lastly, the facts stated above go to show how hastily the English administration was established in Orissa without proper study of the back-ground as observed at the outset, and how Government interests only were cared for, at the cost of the public comfort and peace.

MAHARAJA RAJBALLABH, RAY RAYAN OF THE KHALSA : HIS FAMILY AND ESTATES*

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OUR DISTRICT record rooms are often inexhaustible mines of historical information; and it frequently happens with the worker at these mines that he comes across quite unexpected materials. Recently, while going through the English records in the archives of Muzaffarpur Collectorate, I found a fairly considerable number of documents relating to Maharaja Rajballabh, a notable Bengali administrator of the late eighteenth century. To the student of modern Indian history these will be very useful, because they afford a lot of hitherto unknown information about the Maharaja, his family and estates.

Rajballabh was the eldest son of Maharaja Durlabhram, the well-known Rai Durlabh who played a leading part in the Revolution of 1757. He was a Kayastha by caste, his surname being 'Som'. Rajballabh had a good family tradition, for his ancestors had been well-versed in revenue administration and accounts¹. One of them, Krishnaballabh, from whom he was fifth in descent, had served under the Muslim governors of Orissa and received the title of 'Sarkar'². Durlabhram, who was appointed Diwan and invested with the title of 'Maharaja' by Mir Jafar in 1757³, had a chequered career. In or about 1766 he was, on Clive's recommendation, further honoured with the title 'Mahindra Bahadur' and received a jagir of pargana Naubatpur in Patna district⁴. He died at the end of May or the beginning of June 1770. On receiving the news of his death Governor Cartier wrote to Rajballabh on the 16th June that he was "greatly concerned to learn of the death of his father Maharaja Mahindra. As the latter was a faithful servant of the Company, the English sardars will help and protect not only the addressee but all the members of the bereaved

*The writer is indebted to Dr. S. N. Sen, Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University, for some helpful information on Maharaja Rajballabh.

¹ K. K. Datta, *Durlabhram Som and his Family*, pp. 2-3.

² *Ibid*, p. 3.

³ *Siyar-ul-Mutakharin*, ii, p. 23.

⁴ K. K. Datta, *op. cit.*, p. 36.

family"⁵. Prior to that Vansittart, Carnac and Warren Hastings had vowed on behalf of the Company that "until the family of Roy Durlabh should live on earth we should take due care of their honour, support, dignity, etc., generation after generation"⁶.

The exact date of Rajballabh's birth is not known. Warren Hastings stated in his reply to the minute of Clavering, Monson and Francis of 18 October 1775, that the Maharaja was then "31 years of age"⁷. If that be so, he was born some time in or about 1745. In 1769 Rajballabh was, according to the wishes of the Governor Verelst, appointed Dewan of the Nizamat and Peishkar of the Khalsa Sherif. And on the 9th December, 1769, he wrote to the Governor that he was "unremitting in his attention to the management of the treasury"⁸. His appointment as Ray Rayan by the Company in 1772 was but a formal confirmation; for he had already been acting in that capacity⁹. However, the appointment proved quite lucrative, because in addition to the salary attached to the office, the Ray Rayan was granted the jagir of Dewanganj in Rangpur. Maharaja Nanda Kumar questioned in a letter to the Governor-General in Council of 11 March, 1775, why Rajballabh enjoyed a salary of 5,000 rupees a month, "exclusive of the district of Dewan Gunge", although 25,000 rupees was "the stated annual salary of the Mutsaddee of the Khalsa sherif"¹⁰. Rajballabh was particularly in the favour of Warren Hastings. That was the reason why by a resolution of the majority in the Governor-General's Council he was suddenly dismissed from his office late in 1775¹¹ to make room for Raja Gurudas, whom the Court of Directors, under a mistaken impression, recommended to be removed from the office of Ray Rayan and appointed in another post. As a matter of fact Rajballabh, not Gurudas, was holding that office. But the Council, bent upon dismissing the Governor-General's favourite, took the plea that he was young and inexperienced and that the Court's real intention was that Raja Gurudas should be appointed Ray Rayan. Later on Hastings was able to reinstate Maharaja Rajballabh. In 1784 Rajballabh was granted jagirdari rights in lands which had been held by his immediate ancestors in Rangpur, Dinajpur and Tirhut¹². After some years he retired from his position as Ray Rayan, but was allowed to retain the jagirs for his lifetime. The last few years of his life were unhappy years. His only son Mukundaballabh died in 1795,

⁵ *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, iii, p. 86.

⁶ K. K. Datta, *op. cit.*, p. 26.

⁷ Forest, *Selections from the Letters, Despatches and other State papers*, etc., ii, p. 452.

⁸ K. K. Datta, *op. cit.*, p. 41.

⁹ Forest, *op. cit.*, ii, p. 452.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 301.

¹¹ Proceedings of Secret Select Committee (Forest, *op. cit.*, ii, pp. 43436).

¹² *Vide in r.*

leaving a childless widow behind¹³. Maharaja Rajballabh's death occurred not in 1797, as some writers have supposed¹⁴, but on 26 Asarh 1205 B.S. (11 July, 1798)¹⁵.

The first available document on the subject in Muzaffarpur Collectorate is a letter from J. Duncan to G. F. Grand, Collector of Tirhut, dated 30 January, 1783, wherein the Collector was asked if he had any objection to some of the Maharaja's *mahals* in Tirhut being transferred to Patna. In the English version of the Maharaja's petition to the Government it is stated as follows: "The revenue of Ojhaun¹⁶ and.....Talooks and Ca in Bahar had long been paid at Patna, but was lately transferred to the Collector of Tirhoot, by which the reits are inconvenienced; I requested a letter be sent to Mr. Brooke¹⁷ authorizing him to take the collection at Patna agreeable to former custom". From a letter of the Revenue Committee to Mr. Grand, of 17 April, 1783, it is evident that the request was granted. It was further stated in that letter, as also in another addressed to R. Bathurst, Mr. Grand's successor, dated 19 April, 1783, that one Brijraj, who held a fourth part of pargana Saraisa¹⁸ and owed 20,000 rupees to Maharaja Rajballabh, be asked if he had any objection to his share being delivered over to the Maharaja.

More important than the above documents is the copy of a *sanad* bearing the seal of the English East India Company and the date "5 July, 1784", which will give a clear idea of Maharaja Rajballabh's jagir in Bengal proper. Extracts from the document are quoted below.

"Be it known to the Chowdries, Canongoes, Mukunddums, Ryets and ca, the inhabitants of Kismut pergunnahs Putlada¹⁹ and ca in Sircar Gorah Gaut (Goraghat) within the province of Bengal thatthe sum of Rupees 7,291-10, the produce of the Kismut of the above pergunnahs successively transmitted down from the time of the Roy Royan Umeed Ram, has from.....the year 1171 Bengal stile (*sic*), according to the Indorsement, been granted as a Jagheer on Maharaja Raje Bullub Bahadur, Paishcar of the Khalsa Shereefa. It is required of you to put the Gomastahs of the Maharajah in possession of the Jagheer, to pay them the revenue and the dewanny dues and to perform the duties thereof with fidelity according to the

¹³ K. K. Datta, *op. cit.*, p. 44.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁵ Petition of Bahurani and Jagannath Prasad enclosed in the letter of Sub-Secretary, Revenue Board, to Collector of Tirhut, 9 April, 1799.

¹⁶ Oojan—in the Sadar sub-division of Darbhanga district.

¹⁷ Revenue Chief of Patna.

¹⁸ In Darbhanga district.

¹⁹ Patalda—in Dinajpur district.

established custom and let the conduct of the above-mentioned Gomastahs be such that the ryets, being satisfied with his (*sic*) behaviour towards them, may labour for an increase of cultivation and produce.....

Total Rupees—17,500-0-0.

Total produce of five months—7,291-10-10.

Particulars of this sum.

Pergunnahs Putladah—3,411-9.

Peirabund²⁰—2,888-11.

Serhuttah—996-6-10.

Total as above—7,291-10-10".

Shortly before his death Rajballabh, on the request of Mr. Graham, Acting Collector of Tirhut, had given a lease of two mahals, appertaining to his jagir in Tirhut, for the purpose of the Company's stud at Pusa. These were the mauzas of Malinagar²¹ and Ikhtiarpur²², "well calculated for the growth of grass and English grain for the horses as well as pasture land"²³. In his reply to Mr. Graham's letter Rajballabh wrote: "The promotion of the interests of Government I consider as the greatest happiness and honour to myself"²⁴.

Immediately on receiving the news of Maharaja Rajballabh's death on 11 July, 1798, the Revenue Board wrote to the Collector of Tirhut desiring him to "attach such parts of the Jagheers which were held by him as are situated in your district". The same day Bahurani, the deceased's daughter-in-law, and his other heirs made a joint petition to the Board praying that the jagirs which had been held by the Maharaja might be continued to them. The other heirs were the nephews (sister's sons) of Rajballabh. Another petition was submitted by Bahurani and Roy Jagannath Prasad, one of the nephews of the Maharaja, on 11 September, 1798, reiterating their former prayer. On 23 October, 1798, the Revenue Board, while submitting an account of the computed gross produce of Rajballabh's jagir in Tirhut, expressed their opinion that it would be advisable for the Collector to hold the lands khas "during the current Fusselly year" pending the Government's final decision on them. Very soon it was decided to resume the jagir, and the resumption proceedings were started within six months of the Maharaja's death. While the pro-

²⁰ Bahirband according to W. W. Hunter. *Vide Bengal Ms. Records*, iii, p. 89.

²¹ A village on the Darbhanga—Pusa road.

²² Also called Bakhtiarpur; in the vicinity of Malinagar.

²³ Muzaffarpur Collectorate records.

²⁴ *Ibid.*

ceedings were going on, Bahurani and Roy Jagannath Prasad submitted a fresh petition regarding a small part of the jagir which they claimed as not liable to resumption.

"We have received your orders of the 23rd November, informing us that the Collector of Tirhoot had stated in reply to the reference made to him regarding our former petition that the late Raja Rajebullub was not proprietor of pergunnah Cund²⁵ and Ca but only mokurrerydar and further directing us to produce whatever vouchers we might have to prove our right to the lands. Gentlemen, the true state of the case is as follows—

Pergunnah Cund and Ca has been in the possession of our family for about sixty years. The proprietor of the lands gave them up together with all the right he had in them to the late Rajah's grand father. On his death they were held by Maharajah Mahinder, since when Rajah Rajebullub has held them to this time so that they may surely be now considered as his talook. I beg leave to lay before the Board the sunnud for the mokurrery Jummah granted by the Patna Council together with a correspondent sunnud of the aumil of Tirhoot. The lands have been held by the Rajah's family as their own property for three generations and they have enjoyed the malikanah, no person has ever laid claim to the proprietary (*sic*) right to the lands. Considering therefore the length of time which has elapsed since the lands were originally given to the Rajah's Grand Father and the uninterrupted possession of the family with what labour of justice can any one at this period stand forward to claim the lands from him?.....

We therefore pray that they may be continued to us as formerly at the mokurrery Jummah."

There are several other documents on the subject of Maharajah Rajballabh's jagir in Muzaffarpur Collectorate into the details of which we need not enter. In one of these it is stated that the Collector of Tirhut "be directed to acquaint the Board why he has concluded it for five years instead of making a permanent settlement" of the lands formerly included in the Maharaja's jagir. What is really important to note is the fate of Rajballabh's extensive property after his death. The statement given below from a subsequent document reveals the exact state of affairs²⁶:

²⁵ Band according to Hunter. *Vide op. cit.*, IV, p. 127.

²⁶ Letter from H. Stainforth to Commissioner of Bhagalpur, 30 June 1834.

"The Jageer of Maharaja Mahender Bahadur, father of Rajah Rajebullabh appears to have consisted at the time of the grant of 127 *mauzas* and 8 *kunwas*.....

Synopsis.		
	Mauzas	Kunwas
The original Jageer	127	8
Absorbed somewhere or lost sight of about 1194 Fussileo	1	0
	126	8
Deduct being assessed in 1207 on the death of Rajebullabh in 1205	102	4
Remainder	24	4
Deduct as held under mo. uretee tenure	6	12
Remainder Lakhiraj	17	8
Deduct one lost by diluvion	1	0
Remainder	16	8
Deduct being confirmed regularly as surshikun tenures	3	0
Remainder	13	8
Deduct as resumed	6	8
Remainder	7	0

Out of the original 127½ *mauzas*, 108½ *mauzas* were resumed by the Government and settled partly with Rajah Madhu Singh of Darbhanga and partly with certain other zemindars. A fragment of the original jagir continued in the hands of the family of Rajballabh for some time. In 1801 Bahurani Jnanamayi Dasi adopted a son of Krishnamohan Som who was renamed Gourballabh²⁷. But the family of Rajballabh had already fallen on evil days. The unfortunate daughter-in-law of the Ray Rayan was hard pressed for money which compelled her to mortgage his house at Patna to one Shib Chandra Bose to defray the expenses of litigation²⁸. Nevertheless she held an honoured position in Calcutta society as long as she lived. Her name appears in the list of "the Native Inhabitants of Calcutta" who

²⁷ K. K. Datta, *op. cit.*, p. 44.

²⁸ *Prabhati* (Patna), *Asvin*, 1347 B.S., p. 176.

presented an address on 29 October, 1806, to Sir Henry Russel on his appointment as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court²⁹.

In some records of Muzaffarpur Collectorate of the years 1834-35 Gourballabh figures prominently as being involved in litigation regarding his family property in Tirhut. It appears that a part of the property was sold by him to Messrs. Colvin and Co. under a deed executed on 4 September, 1828³⁰. Another part became the subject matter of a suit instituted by Maharaja Chhatter Singh³¹ of Darbhanga in the Zilla Court of Tirhut. In a letter to the Commissioner of Bhagalpur, dated 20 July, 1835, the Sadar Board of Revenue asked the opinion of the Collector of Tirhut on the question whether the talook should be formed out or temporarily settled with Raja Gourballabh pending the final decision of the suit. Thus gradually the family of Maharaja Rajballabh lost practically all the property he had owned in Tirhut. The same fate befell the family in regard to the jagir in North Bengal³². The solemn vows of Vansittart, Carnac, Verelst and Warren Hastings to protect the honour, dignity and interests of the house of Rai Durlabh "generation after generation" were forgotten by their successors in office in their over-zealousness to resume jagirs and revenue-free *mahals*. Inscrutable destiny proved no respecter of lineage.

²⁹ *Bengal Pas. and Present*, Oct.-Dec., 1925, p. 182.

³⁰ Letter from E. Macnaghten to C. Hamilton, 20 July, 1834 (Muzaffarpur Collectorate Records).

³¹ Son of Raja Madhu Singh; he was the first of the Darbhanga rajas to receive the title of Maharaja.

³² W. W. Hunter, *op. cit.*, iii, pp. 222, 259 and 268; IV pp. 66 and 78.

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LORD ELLENBOROUGH AND THE HOME

AUTHORITIES 1843-44

S. GOPAL

National Archives of India

THE 750 volumes of the Gladstone Papers in the British Museum have hardly been used for a study of India policy in the nineteenth century. On the death of Lord Fitzgerald in 1843 Lord Ripon succeeded him as President of the Board of Control and Mr. Gladstone entered the Cabinet for the first time in May 1843 as President of the Board of Trade. Lord Ellenborough was then Governor-General, and his arrogance and over-activity had led to strained relations with both the Board of Control and the Court of Directors. We gain a great deal of new information concerning later developments from Mr. Gladstone's memoranda of Cabinet meetings, on which this article is based.

In March 1843 Ellenborough had annexed Sind without troubling to secure the assent of either the Cabinet or the Directors. He knew that there would be dissatisfaction but was confident that the annexation could hardly be revoked¹. Events proved him right. In February the Duke of Wellington had, with gentle acidity, expressed to the Governor-General the Cabinet's dissatisfaction over his leaving the question of war and peace in Sind so entirely to Napier and its desire that British relations with the Amirs should be improved by peaceful methods². But while the Cabinet would never have permitted annexation, cancellation was a different matter. In July the Cabinet expressed to Ellenborough their disapproval, but did not order revocation³. At a meeting of the Cabinet on 3 August, Ripon read a letter from the Chairs stating that the Secret Court of Directors were unanimously of opinion that the proceedings towards the Amirs could not be justified and wishing for authority to apprise the Secret Court that the Government had disapproved of them and was anxious as far as possible to repair the injustice. The Prime Minister Sir Robert Peel expressed his apprehension that the Court were about to move decisively against the Governor-General and exercise their power of recall. He sketched a reply stating that on

account of the state of Sind and the fact that no imperative categorical instructions had been sent out but only a recommendation to deal as favourably as might be with the Amirs, the Government deemed it premature to disclose to the Court the nature of the instructions⁴. Thus the Cabinet sheltered Ellenborough; but it was only on 22 November 1843 that the Cabinet determined to acquiesce in the annexation, not as satisfactory but as having no other alternative. Nor was Peel satisfied with the treatment of the deposed Amir Mir Rustum⁵.

Then in 1844 came news of Ellenborough's intervention in Gwalior and Sir Henry Gough's victory at Maharajpur in December 1843. British losses were heavy. Wellington told the Cabinet that he had looked into the details of the action and it appeared to him there was no ground for impeaching the General's conduct. Peel was indisposed to sponsor a vote of thanks by Parliament to Gough but on Wellington's authority decided to do so⁶.

But now fell the blow evaded in 1843. The Governor-General dismissed many officials in Saugur and refused to communicate his reasons to the Court. The Court retorted that they could not sanction proceedings for which reasons were withheld, and Ellenborough replied angrily and offensively that he would at all times act upon his own convictions irrespective of their censure. The Directors thereupon decided to recall him and the Cabinet met on 2 April 1844 to consider this decision. Ripon said he had tried to dissuade the Directors. Wellington thought that Ellenborough had been very wrong but the Directors also would be very wrong to recall him. Their proper mode of proceeding would be to procure the administration of an adequate rebuke: if the Governor-General should resent it and resign, the responsibility would lie with him. Peel and Gladstone felt that Ripon seemed to have led Ellenborough to believe that he did not approve of the Court's refusal to sanction Ellenborough's proceedings, for he had written privately that he had expunged much from their despatch and had pushed them as far as he could, but they would not withdraw from what remained. Ripon replied that he considered himself fully responsible for what remained, the more so because he had refused assent to other matters. Peel said Ellenborough's head was turned and advised Ripon in writing to the Governor-General to hold a firm tone and not to humour him. But Peel suggested that the Government should deprecate recall, point out the great evils attending such a step, refer to the present

¹ *Vide* A. H. Imlah : Lord Ellenborough (Harvard 1939) page 141 ff.

² 4 February 1843. *Vide* Lord Colchester (ed.) History of the Indian Administration of Lord Ellenborough (London 1874) Page 344 ff.

³ Imlah, *op. cit.*, page 216.

⁴ Gladstone's memorandum 3 August 1843. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folio 95.

⁵ Gladstone's memorandum 22 November 1843. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folios 108 and 109.

⁶ Gladstone's memorandum 16 March 1844. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folios 149 and 150.

state of the army and of India compared to that in which Ellenborough had found them, and entirely decline any participation in the responsibility for recall by even entering into preliminary communications upon a choice of a successor. He thought that such a course of action would lead the Court to rescind their decision, but Gladstone and Ripon did not think they would be so pliable⁷.

In fact, the Directors adhered to their decision. Peel thought the crisis most serious. The right course would be to apply to Parliament to abrogate the Court's power of recall, but it would be impossible to secure a majority for Ellenborough in the House of Commons. The next best course was steadily to maintain the tone which had been assumed towards the Court. Wellington was greatly excited and said that in all his recollection of public life he never knew a transaction so outrageous to pass between one set of gentlemen engaged in the service of the State and another. He added that on Ellenborough's withdrawal there would be insurrections all over India. Peel observed that Ellenborough with extraordinary abilities had not the art of managing men and that the great art of government was to work by such instruments as the world supplies, controlling and overruling their humours⁸. Finally, to avoid a desperate struggle before the country between the Crown and the Court which could only lower the prestige of the Crown, Peel with his usual tact and sagacity reached an amicable arrangement with the Court by selecting Sir Henry Hardinge as Ellenborough's successor⁹.

Gladstone's memoranda giving a detailed account of the developments of these twelve months from May 1843 to May 1844 lead us, therefore, to fresh conclusions. It is not true, as Ellenborough believed¹⁰, that it was Ripon who had failed to support him. The whole Cabinet was critical of his actions. Even Wellington, his most loyal friend, said on reading one of his despatches in 1843 that "he ought to have his nose rubbed in it"; and later when Ellenborough in a private letter referred contemptuously to the Court's authority as a "Parliamentary fiction", Wellington remarked, "that which he calls a Parliamentary fiction is *the law*"¹¹. There was indeed no one in English public life except the Queen who was unqualifiedly on

the side of Ellenborough; and it was this which enabled the Court of Directors to score their most resounding triumph over the Board of Control. A Governor-General chosen by the Government had been dismissed by the Company; and Peel, who at the start was not even prepared to consider a successor, finally, when he found the Directors adamant, acquiesced in the dismissal of Ellenborough and evaded public controversy by choosing a successor who was acceptable to the Company. Had Ellenborough been recalled for obeying the Cabinet's instructions, Peel would never have surrendered so tamely. As it was, the Cabinet could question the Court's methods, but not their reasons. For the abrupt end of his Governor-Generalship, Ellenborough could blame no one but himself; and in dragging himself down he exposed the Cabinet to a severe rebuff.

⁷ Gladstone's memorandum. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folio 168.

⁸ Gladstone's two memoranda of 29 April 1844. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folios 172 and 173.

⁹ Gladstone's memorandum 16 May 1844. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folio 184. Also letter of Hardinge to Ellenborough 6 May 1844. A. Law.: India under Lord Ellenborough (London 1926) page 157 ff.

¹⁰ *Vide* his letter to Wellington 26 May 1844. Colchester, op. cit., page 439 ff.

¹¹ Gladstone's memorandum 29 April 1844. Br. Mus. Add. Mss. 44777 folio 173.

THE REBELLION OF MAN SINGH RAO PATANKAR

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THE REBELLION of Man Singh Rao Patankar is an important incident that occurred in the far-flung part of the Maratha State of Gwalior during the last years of Daulat Rao Sindhia. Hitherto this incident has been unknown to history. Not even a reference of it is found in any book on the history of Gwalior. In 1942 I came across a number of letters in the Imperial Record Department (now National Archives of India) relating to this interesting incident which gives an insight into the British policy towards the Indian states and throws a side-light on the important question of succession before and after the demise of the Sindhia who had neither a male heir nor an adopted son to succeed him¹.

Man Singh Rao Patankar, a servant and a subordinate jagirdar of the state of Gwalior and a near relative of its Maharaja, Daulat Rao Sindhia, was in charge of the district of Powagarh and Panch Mahal in the state of Gwalior on the Gujarat frontier, contiguous to the British territories in the Bombay Presidency and the territories of the Gaekwad and the Holkar². His son, Appa Sahib, was the son-in-law of his master³. This new status in relation to his master, the weakness of the Sindhia's authority, his failing health and the prospects of a disputed succession after the death of the Sindhia made Man Singh Rao Patankar uneasy, restive and ambitious. By nature and temperament he was strong, obstinate and unyielding. Daulat Rao Sindhia regarded him as a man of vicious and turbulent character who had once conducted himself in a contumacious and insubordinate manner and had wished to assume the management of the Maharaja's affairs for which he was totally unfit⁴.

Being a close observer of the events in India and of the state of affairs during and after the political settlement in Malwa, Rajputana and the Maratha states of Gwalior, Indore, Baroda and others, Man

¹ Political Consultation, 27 January 1826, No. 48.

² P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 51; 5 March 1824, Nos. 98 and 103; 25 June 1824, No. 54.

³ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 17.

⁴ P. C. 25 March 1825, No. 35.

Singh Rao Patankar took advantage of insubordination and mutiny in the Sindhia's army⁵ and held out a confident hope to assert his independence without any interference on the part of the British Government in support of his master's authority⁶. His conduct became rebellious and defiant⁷. He disobeyed the authority of the Sindhia, refused to submit the accounts, recruited the Arab and the Mekrani tribes in his army, strengthened his armed might and took other measures to make himself strong and powerful so as to be able to play a dominant role in a disputed succession as a close relation of the Sindhia. Many refractory, adventurous and ambitious people flocked under his banner. Thus Man Singh Rao Patankar became virtually independent of the Sindhia's authority and control and began to administer his jagir in accordance with his own wishes. By this incident breach of peace was seriously apprehended in the British districts contiguous to Powagarh and in the states of Baroda and Gwalior⁸. Consequently, the governments of the East India Company and of the states of Gwalior and Baroda were seriously alarmed.

Daulat Rao Sindhia disliked and hated the turbulent jagirdar and proclaimed him as his enemy⁹. He issued orders for his dismissal and appointed Hira Khan in his place¹⁰. But in the state of affairs then existing in Gwalior it seemed difficult for the Maharaja to dislodge the rebel from his vantage position without any effective aid from the British Government. He, therefore, evinced his desire to the Resident, Maj. Close, that the British Government should assist him in effecting the removal of the rebel chief¹¹. At first the Resident regarded this matter as purely domestic concern of the Maharaja of Gwalior and abstained from any interference in the affair. This conduct of the Resident was appreciated by the Governor-General-in-Council as most judicious but the Sindhia was disappointed by it¹². However, after a thorough appraisal of the situation and taking every possible gain into consideration, help to the Sindhia against his tumultuous chief was deemed politically expedient¹³. This change of attitude was not without deep significance.

⁵ P. C. 12 September 1823, No. 22.

⁶ P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 52.

⁷ P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 51.

⁸ P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 98.

⁹ P. C. 12 May 1826, No. 22.

¹⁰ P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 51.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 52; 12 May 1826, No. 23.

¹³ P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 103.

As a general principle non-interference in domestic concerns of the Indian states remained the declared policy of the British Government under Lord Amherst. But, in fact, expediency and prospects of material advantages and not the fixed principles guided the British policy and action in this case¹⁴ and throughout the course of the history of the East India Company in India. Principles were very often used for show like the two beautiful tusks of an elephant while the spring of action was largely determined by larger considerations of economic and political gain. Hence, the instructions issued to Maj. R. Close at this moment were significant as they contained considerations involved in the declared policy in respect of British interference in the domestic concerns of the Maharaja of Gwalior¹⁵.

After the general principles of policy were enunciated¹ on 24 October 1823¹⁶, this particular question was considered in all its bearings¹⁷. As a result of it, fear was entertained that the help to Daulat Rao Sindhia on that occasion might make the British government a principal party to the dispute and that the Sindhia might use British anxiety for a reform in the government of his western districts into an instrument for executing his plans of revenge against an obnoxious individual whom he was long anxious to deprive of office¹⁸. In this way the authority of the Maharaja over his officers, who seemed to count upon the forbearance or inactivity of the British government to disregard his order, would be strengthened¹⁹. But this fear was successfully combated and overcome by the prospects of advantages to be gained from the Sindhia by rendering him assistance, overcoming his suspicions about the British attitude and by enabling him to repose greater faith in the British promises and goodwill. At last, weighing fully the advantages likely to be accrued to the British government from coercing Man Singh Rao Patankar in compliance with the Sindhia's wishes²⁰, Lord Amherst authorised the Resident to assure Daulat Rao Sindhia of the disposition of the British government to gratify his wishes in the affair of his rebel jagirdar²¹.

This decision to help the Sindhia was swayed by a number of considerations of which the most important ones were:—

1. The adjustment of the Sindhia's claims on the British government with respect to Mewar and Udaipur which had accepted British paramountcy and were no longer the tributaries of the Sindhia²².

¹⁴ P. C. 24 October 1823, No. 52.

¹⁵, ¹⁶, & ¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 98.

²⁰ P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 103.

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 116.

2. The settlement of the disputed question of eighty-nine villages of the Deccan in possession of the Sindhia²³.

3. The acquisition of the districts of Nimar, Ratgarh and Deori to British management in perpetuity²⁴.

4. The problem of stopping illicit traffic in opium through his territories to the western coast of India²⁵.

5. The maintenance of good relations with him when war against Burma was imminent.

6. The desire to obtain his cooperation for the suppression of Sheikh Dalla, a Pindari chief who was at large till then²⁶.

For the attainment of these objects good-will of the Sindhia was an indispensable necessity. On his part, the Sindhia had already shown good disposition towards the British government by the transfer of Nimar to it by the treaty of 10 November 1823²⁷. He had also shown inclination not to hinder British efforts to seize opium passing through his territory²⁸. Under the direction of Lt. Blacker 180 maunds of opium were actually seized on their transit through his territory²⁹. In view of this friendly attitude of Daulat Rao Sindhia occasional help to him in the management of his affairs was not considered as a violation of the principle of British policy towards the Indian states. Hence it was decided to reduce the refractory chief under his suzerainty to submission. But owing to the approach of the rainy season the execution of the plan was deferred to some favourable time after the rains when military operations could be undertaken without any risk to the health of the British troops³⁰ and Man Singh Rao Patankar could be compelled to relinquish the state of Gwalior³¹.

Once the British policy was decided upon, Lt. Blacker, the Acting Resident at Gwalior, addressed a letter to Man Singh Rao Patankar in which he pointed out the impropriety of his conduct and urged him to give up the fort and district of Powagarh to Daulat Rao Sindhia in obedience to his orders³². To this advice he gave an evasive reply and did not improve his conduct³³. Therefore, on 29 May 1824, Captain Stewart informed him about the resolve of the British government to enforce the orders of the Maharaja of

²³ & ²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ P. C. 9 April 1824, No. 85.

²⁶ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 21.

²⁷ P. C. 5 March 1824, No. 107.

²⁸ P. C. 9 April 1824, No. 85.

²⁹ P. C. 9 April 1824, No. 86.

³⁰ P. C. 25 June 1824, No. 54.

³¹ P. C. 25 June 1824, No. 59.

³² P. C. 25 June 1824, No. 60.

³³ *Ibid.*

Gwalior and to make him subservient to his master by directing British troops to march against him and to bring him to his sense of duty³⁴. A frank advice was once again given to him to deliver up his post to the person appointed to replace him and to repair to the presence of the Sindhia if he wanted to avoid dire consequences of continuing to remain a rebel to his master and hence an enemy of the British government³⁵. At the same time he was asked to note that the Resident's letter to him was not an idle threat but a friendly warning and that failure to act upon it would not be without grave peril and inevitable ruin to himself and his family³⁶.

On the same date Capt. Stewart wrote to Capt. Fielding, the Assistant Resident, about the entire state of affairs and the resolve of the British government to start military operations after the rainy season. On 9 June 1824 directions were given to execute the intention of the Government by marching with the whole of the British force at his disposal into the jagir of Man Singh Rao Patankar for the purpose of expelling him from his position³⁷. But the immediate preliminary measure to be taken was to cut off all communications between Powagarh and the surrounding country and to place that fortified town in a state of complete blockade. If the contingent at his disposal was not considered sufficient he was asked to take the help of the Gaekwad of Baroda. After that, the first step to be taken was to show the orders of the Sindhia to his rebel chief for the relinquishment of his post to offer him security for his person, family and property and a safe conduct to Gwalior in case he agreed to deliver the fort and the town of Powagarh without any opposition³⁸. On the failure of his advice and threat the British troops were to move to Powagarh in a favourable season after the rains³⁹.

In accordance with these instructions Capt. Fielding blockaded the fort of Powagarh with the aid of the troops from Baroda⁴¹ and completely cut off the supplies of the garrison there with a view to starving out the rebel officer and his followers and compelling them to surrender. As the fort had provisions for not more than three months, surrender of it was considered to be a natural and inevitable outcome of the blockade⁴². More stringent measures involving active warfare were avoided because the Sindhia was very anxious for the safety of the life of his son-in-law and was averse to more vigorous

³⁴ A letter from Capt. Stewart to Man Singh Rao 29 May 1824.

³⁵ *Ibid.*

³⁶ *Ibid.*

³⁷ A letter from Capt. Stewart to Capt. Fielding 9 June 1824.

³⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹ *Ibid.*

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*

⁴¹ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 15.

⁴² P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 17.

action. At last, according to the expectations entertained, surrender was effected and a seven-point agreement was signed between Capt. Fielding and Man Singh Rao Patankar on 13 September 1824⁴³. By this agreement the fort and the jagir were to be handed over to Udaji Rao Khatkia and Gangadhar Baji Rao; safety of the person of Man Singh Rao Patankar and his property was to be guaranteed; his son Appa Sahib, was to proceed to Gwalior; Rs. 50,000 were to be paid to him for the expenses of his journey to Gwalior; and until some arrangement could be made for him he was to be allowed the same amount per year for his private expenses. During this period Man Singh Rao Patankar was to remain in Powagarh under British protection without any army and power to molest or oppress anybody. After this treaty the employment of military force for the reduction of Powagarh became unnecessary⁴⁴. The Arab mercenary troops in the service of Man Singh Rao were disbanded⁴⁵ and Daulat Rao Sindhia's authority was firmly established in that part of his state.

After the suppression of the power of Man Singh Rao Patankar, Maharaja Daulat Rao Sindhia reciprocated very amicably to the British Resident and his demands. In token of his sense of gratefulness to him he organised a grand entertainment and the Maharani Baiza Bai gave him a valuable present worth about Rs. 40,000⁴⁶. The Sindhia also signed the sanad for the transfer of Deori⁴⁷ and Ratgarh⁴⁸ to the management of the British government for which the latter paid him about Rs. 2,50,000 annually⁴⁹. Moreover, he agreed to prevent the transit of the Malwa opium through his state if he was compensated for the loss of revenue involved in it⁵⁰. Besides all this, he offered cooperation in suppressing Sheikh Dalla and other disturbers of peace who had escaped arrest and punishment during Lord Hastings's time and were busy in their depredations and plundering expeditions in Malwa and Khandesh. For this he issued parwanas on 2 September 1824 to various officers of the district of Ecdalabad and other parts of the state instructing them to render all possible assistance to the British government in their efforts to hunt out criminals and notorious characters⁵¹. Nunhi Pandit, the jagirdar of Parasan, who had attacked the fort of Kalpi, was caught by the Sindhia's troops and was handed over to the British Government⁵². On the advice of the Resident the Sindhia

⁴³ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 19.

⁴⁴ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 12.

⁴⁵ P. C. 15 October 1824, No. 4.

⁴⁶ P. C. 24 December 1824, No. 78.

⁴⁷ P. C. 7 January 1825, No. 36.

⁴⁸ P. C. 28 March 1825, Nos. 30 & 31; 26 November 1824, No. 12.

⁴⁹ P. C. 10 November 1826, No. 51.

⁵⁰ P. C. 30 July 1824, No. 24.

⁵¹ P. C. 13 September 1824, No. 21.

⁵² P. C. 28 January 1825, No. 33.

improved the police and military systems of that region⁵³ and stationed an army of 500 soldiers permanently at Burhanpur for watching the activities of Yasoda Bai⁵⁴, the widow of the late Peshwa Madho Rao, and her agent Ganpat Rao and an ex-Maratha chief named Suryaji Rao Nimbalkar⁵⁵. For making all these arrangements the Sindhia was allowed to purchase 50,000 musket flints⁵⁶. On the question of the villages of the Sindhia in the Deccan and his claims on Mewar and Udaipur, negotiations continued between Mr. Chaplin, the British Commissioner in the Deccan, and the government of Gwalior⁵⁷ but no amicable adjustment could be effected, and ultimately when the Sindhia fell ill and the impending question of succession engulfed the attention of everybody, the negotiations were suspended and thus the disputed question could not be decided during the life-time of Daulat Rao Sindhia⁵⁸.

The measures against Man Singh Rao Patankar strained the relations between Daulat Rao Sindhia and his son-in-law. Out of the considerations for his daughter the Sindhia invited him to Gwalior to effect readjustment with him and to wean him away from the influence of his rebel father but he refused to go to Gwalior without his father and even with his father until all the demands of his father were conceded⁵⁹. In fact, Man Singh Rao Patankar wanted to use his son's relation with the Sindhia for extorting some jagir and command of an army and also other advantages which the Sindhia seemed determined not to concede⁶⁰. Nevertheless reconciliation with his son-in-law remained the principal anxiety of Daulat Rao Sindhia till his death⁶¹. When he fell dangerously ill Man Singh Rao Patankar and his son came to Gwalior but they did not meet the Maharaja⁶². Their presence and their activities in the capital made the Maharaja apprehensive of some violence in the palace and breach of peace in the capital at the instigation of Man Singh Rao Patankar. Hence he made formidable defence preparations, kept a strict watch on their movements and obtained promise of British support against them if they proved dangerous⁶³. However, attempts at reconciliation between the father-in-law and the son-in-law were not slackened. But when success seemed impossible the Sindhia

⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ She died in 1811. After her death a pretender impersonating that lady appeared in northern India between 1821-1824. Sardesai *A new History of the Marathas*, Vol. II, p. 370.

⁵⁵ P. C. 28 January 1825, Nos. 3 & 18.

⁵⁶ P. C. 21 January 1825, No. 7 & 8.

⁵⁷ P. C. 26 November 1824, No. 2.

⁵⁸ P. C. 28 March 1826, No. 31; 17 August 1827, No. 19.

⁵⁹ P. C. 25 March 1825, No. 33.

⁶⁰ P. C. 28 March 1826, No. 33.

⁶¹ P. C. 12 May 1826, No. 22.

⁶² P. C. 28 March 1826, No. 33.

⁶³ P. C. 12 May 1826, No. 22.

requested the Resident to come to his help⁶⁴. Thereupon Capt. Fielding tried to effect mediation between them⁶⁵. But Man Singh Rao's demands remained exorbitant which the Sindhia refused to accede⁶⁶. To ward off any possible danger to peace of his state the Sindhia requested Capt. Fielding to expel the rebel chief from Gwalior⁶⁷.

However, Capt. Fielding continued negotiations and prevailed upon the Sindhia to give Man Singh Rao Patankar Rs. 2,50,000 as a concession and to bring the dispute to an amicable settlement⁶⁸. But the latter refused to accept this concession and continued to be refractory. He showed his determination to compel the Sindhia to consent to his demands or to die there in an attempt to get them⁶⁹. In these circumstances he was asked to leave Gwalior. But he refused to comply and his followers created disturbances and committed outrages⁷⁰. Capt. Fielding, therefore, instructed Capt. Stubbs to carry out the resolution of the Maharaja to expel Man Singh Rao from Gwalior by a resort to military operations if necessary⁷¹. Accordingly, as a measure preliminary to war, protection offered to him was withdrawn⁷².

Atmosphere in Gwalior became tense and situation went on worsening. Man Singh Rao Patankar remained undaunted by any fear or threat. At his instigation disturbances occurred in Gwalior on 18 June 1826. In the affray about eighty people of the Sindhia and twelve of the rebel were killed⁷³. Consequently, Man Singh Rao Patankar's house was blockaded and his movements were restricted and watched⁷⁴. In August 1826 when Daulat Rao Sindhia again fell ill it was apprehended that the claims of Rukma Bai, his senior but neglected wife, to regency might be advanced on his demise with the cooperation of Man Singh Rao who was hostile to Baiza Bai, the talented and the favourite wife of the Maharaja⁷⁵.

Daulat Rao Sindhia's policy towards Man Singh Rao Patankar remained weak, feeble, unworthy, vacillating and fruitless. He endeavoured to buy over his adherents and to spin out negotiations until he had exhausted the whole of his treasure⁷⁶. But this policy proved to be a long drawn process uncertain of its results and Gwalior

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ P. C. 7 July 1826, No. 39.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*

⁶⁹ & ⁷⁰ *Ibid.*

⁷¹ P. C. 7 July 1826, No. 41.

⁷² P. C. 7 July 1826, No. 42.

⁷³ P. C. 21 July 1826, No. 24.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*

⁷⁵ P. C. 15 September 1826, No. 7.

⁷⁶ P. C. 6 October 1826, No. 39.

remained for a long time a magazine of combustibles⁷⁷. Man Singh Rao's presence in the capital inspired intrigues and created hostile groups in the state⁷⁸. After the death of Daulat Rao Sindhia the British Government recognized Baiza Bai's right to adopt a son and her claims to regency and watched with active interest the proceedings and reactions in Gwalior. Man Singh Rao and his son Appa Sahib opposed her claims and showed highly unbecoming conduct in 1827⁷⁹. Their followers pulled down houses, killed persons, seized their property and became a source of trouble for the state⁸⁰. Consequently, Baiza Bai ordered them to quit the state and Capt. Fielding made vigorous attempts to force them to comply with the order⁸¹. At last, realizing the danger to which they were likely to be placed, they proceeded to the Deccan peacefully with their 350 armed followers⁸². A provision of Rs. 6,00,000 was made for them. Baiza Bai heaved a sigh of relief and rewarded Capts. Fielding and Stubbs and other English officers suitably⁸³. However, the departure of the opponents of Baiza Bai from Gwalior did not ensure complete peace in the state. The succession controversy still dragged on and tense atmosphere continued.

THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE TREATY BETWEEN BHOPAL AND THE ENGLISH IN 1818

S. C. GUPTA

National Archives of India

THE TREATY between Bhopal and the British was concluded on 26 February 1818 and ratified ten days later. This was the natural culmination of the friendly relationship that had subsisted between the Nawab of Bhopal and the British ever since their coming into contact. Proposals for such a treaty were set on foot and discussed more than once before but those failed to materialise. The initiative was taken by the Nawab in each case, but the ardour with which it was followed up depended on the continuance of the necessity which provoked it. On the part of the British, the degree of the encouragement varied with the benefit anticipated from such an alliance.

The state of Bhopal, wedged as it was between the territories of the Sindhia and of the Bhonsla, was considered a proper object of Maratha encroachment and depredation and the ruler of that principality had to take recourse to all sorts of devices to retain his independence,—promising tribute, or surrendering some territory or calling the Pindaris and Pathan freebooters of Malwā to his assistance. It was not unnatural, therefore, that when faced with an imminent prospect of annihilation by superior forces, or exhausted by a never-ending struggle for existence, the Nawab would turn to the only power which had the ability to offer him protection and security and which had, under Lord Wellesley, given a convincing demonstration of its military prowess.

Contact between the British and Bhopal was first established in 1778 during the Anglo-Maratha conflict. A force from Bengal had been sent by Warren Hastings to support the Bombay Government in its policy of upholding the claims of Raghunath Rao to the Peshwaship. Col. Goddard who assumed command of the force in October 1778, proceeded by way of Bhilsa, Khemlasa, Bhopal and Hoshangabad. During his march through Bhopal territory he was given all assistance. Though under no treaty obligations towards the British, Nawab Hayat Muhammad Khan (1777-1808) remained true to his promise of friendship in spite of Maratha threats—"a spontaneous act

⁷⁷ P. C. 10 November 1826, No. 47.

⁷⁸ P. C. 6 October 1826, No. 39.

⁷⁹ Secret Consultation 2 November 1827, No. 6.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*

⁸¹ S. C. 11 January 1828, No. 1.

⁸² S. C. 11 January 1828, No. 4.

⁸³ S. C. 11 January 1828, No. 6.

of generosity never to be forgotten"¹. Col. Muir testified to "the active assistance and consideration displayed at the time of Colonel Goddard's march through your district"².

The first attempt to form a treaty with the British took place in 1811 when Wazir Muhammad Khan, the *de facto* ruler of Bhopal, who was then engaged in warfare with the Nagpur chief, deputed Inayet Masih, a Christian of French descent, to Mr. Jenkins, Resident at Nagpur, to obtain the assistance and mediation of the British Government. This attempt was unsuccessful because of the fact "that he had not only consorted with professed plunderers such as Amir Khan, but that his country was at that moment one of their asylums." Though there was no doubt "that it was with a view to self-preservation alone that he had contracted friendship with the Pindarry leaders and Amir Khan", he was considered to have so much identified himself with these freebooters that Col. Sir Barry Close, commander of the British forces which were operating against Amir Khan, in co-operation with the Raja of Nagpur, had "discretionary orders to attack Bhopal". Wazir Muhammad Khan sent an agent to Col. Close, pointing out that the necessity of self-preservation alone had forced him to join the Pindaris and urging the claims of the family for the aid formerly given to Col. Goddard and finally stating his readiness to accept any terms which Col. Close might dictate. He eagerly pressed the claim of Bhopal to British protection, "but an apprehension that interference in its concerns would involve much embarrassment and carry government beyond the limit they wished, led to the rejection of all the propositions which he then made"³.

In 1812 the British Government opened negotiations with Raghuji Bhonsla, the Nagpur Raja, for a treaty of alliance. This alliance, whereby the whole of the most 'exposed frontier', viz., the line from Bundelkhand to Cuttack, would be skirted by the dominion of an ally, would guard the British possessions and those of their allies against the predatory hordes of Pathans and Pindaris. While these negotiations were in progress, the rulers of Gwalior and Nagpur commenced combined operations for the destruction of the Bhopal State which they had secretly determined on. The town was besieged but the heroic defence made by Wazir Muhammad during the four months it lasted prevented its fall. The siege was raised but it was only for a time, as Sindhia, determined to humble the pride of Bhopal, despatched Jean Baptiste Filose and Jaswant Rao Bhau in March 1813 with a fresh force. These two however fell out and fought between themselves. "This postponed hostilities, but the attack would have been ultimately delivered, had not political developments caused Sindhia to withdraw his army"⁴.

¹ Luard, *Bhopal State Gazetteer*, p. 8.

² *Ibid*, p. 125.

³ Malcolm, *Central India*, Vol. I, 2nd ed. p. 395.

⁴ Luard, *op. cit.*, p. 24.

Viewing the renewal of the Sindhia's attack with apprehension Wazir Muhammad made another attempt to secure British protection. In October 1814 taking advantage of a visit to Delhi on private business by Hakim Nizamuddin, Wazir sent to Metcalfe, the British Resident, overtures for an alliance with the British. The moment chanced to be opportune as Lord Moira the Governor General had also decided that it would be proper to form a treaty with Bhopal. His principal object was to save that state from destruction and thus prevent the union of interests between the Sindhia and the Bhonsla. The advantage of the connexion as a defensive arrangement against the Pindaris was also not overlooked by him. Mr. Wauchope, Superintendent of Political Affairs in Bundelkhand, was entrusted with the task of carrying on negotiations with the Nawab. Mr. Wauchope addressed a letter to the Nawab informing him of the conditions on which the British Government would take his territory under their protection. Wazir Muhammad professed his willingness to form a treaty and agreed to all the conditions except two which required surrender of a fort and payment of a portion of the expenses for the maintenance of a British force. Mr. Strachey, the Resident at Sindhia's Court, being informed of this, considered rather prematurely that the treaty was practically concluded and apprised the Sindhia of the fact. Daulat Rao Sindhia at once objected on the basis that Bhopal was a dependency of Gwalior and refused to recall the troops as desired. The Nagpur Raja, however, recalled his general Sadiq Ali.

In the meantime the Governor General had already set troops in motion in case of eventuality. The Nawab also let it be generally known that he was under British protection. Sindhia though protesting, thought it advisable to recall his army, seizing the quarrel between Jean Baptiste and Jaswant Rao Bhau as a pretext. The Nawab, once the threat was gone, did not evince the same ardour for a treaty as formerly. Obviously he could not reconcile himself to the curtailment of his political independence and to the surrender of a fort as desired. His excuses for delaying the sending of an agent to Banda to conclude a treaty, together with some of his questionable proceedings, convinced the Governor General that the Nawab was not sincere in his desire for an alliance. He therefore ordered that the negotiations should be broken off and accordingly the Nawab's agent when he arrived in April 1815 was dismissed. The Nawab gave detailed explanations in extenuation of his conduct but these were not considered satisfactory. The Nawab was, however, informed that "no ill-will was harboured against him and that it was merely because his conduct had shown that he had not a proper sense of the value of the connection offered to him or of the spirit in which it ought to have been received that the British Government for the

present withdrew from the discussion of it".⁵ The affair however did not result in a rupture and Wazir continued his friendly communications with British officers.

Wazir died on 17 March 1816 and was succeeded by his second son Nazar Muhammad Khan who was a man of different metal. Though not devoid of personal courage, he preferred security to the hazards of perpetual warfare against the surrounding powers and particularly the Pindaris who were plundering his territories. He therefore immediately began to work for the treaty which had so very nearly been accomplished a short while ago. He commenced a very friendly correspondence with the British officers and did nothing which might be construed in any way opposed to the wishes of the British. The time was however not yet ripe for a re-opening of the negotiations. For one thing, after the death of Raghuji Bhonsla on 22 March 1816, the chances of a connection with Nagpur appeared promising and this was accordingly given priority. Moreover, the authorities at home were not favourably inclined towards any measure which would bring the state under British protection. In their letter, dated 29 September 1815, the Secret Committee positively prohibited the Government of India from forming an alliance with Bhopal, "it being regarded at home as a measure calculated to embroil us with Sindhia and other Marhatta states and as offering no advantages, even supposing those chiefs to be reconciled to it, sufficient to counterbalance the future embarrassments which such engagements are supposed to have a tendency to produce"⁶. So when Captain Close, Resident at Sindhia's court, communicated the likelihood of Sindhia's attacking Bhopal, immediately after the death of Wazir Muhammad Khan, the Governor General was constrained to despatch immediate instructions to Captain Close, informing him that the British Government could not support Bhopal against Sindhia⁷. The Resident was however warned not to "gratuitously make profession of our intention not to interfere. Because that would operate as an invitation to Scindia to undertake the conquest of Bhopal, an occurrence which I should regard as a very serious deterioration of our political and military position"⁸.

Mr. Wauchope adopted a similar line of action in his correspondence with the new Nawab. In his letter dated 1 May 1816, transmitting copies of letters written to him on 29 April by the Nawab and Inayet Masih, his confidential agent, who had been concerned in the late negotiations between Mr. Wauchope and Wazir Muhammad Khan, he informed Mr. John Adam, Secretary to the Government in the Political Department, of his having "confined my answer to the usual expressions of condolence and avoided giving any appearance

⁵ Prinsep, *Transactions in India*, Vol. I, p. 256.

⁶ G. G. Minute, N. A. I. Secret Cons. 9 November 1816, No. 12.

⁷ Secret, cons. 6 April 1816, No. 13.

⁸ *Ibid.* Lord Moira's Minute, dated 5 April 1816.

of encouragement to the belief that we had any particular desire to renew the negotiation"⁹.

The Nawab, in spite of his having received no encouragement to his advances, continued his friendly correspondence with the British agents at Bundelkhand and Nagpur which was full of confidences. He scrupulously avoided giving any offence and sought their advice on all affairs of any importance. All his letters almost invariably contained a request for British support and protection. One such letter¹⁰ brought the question of alliance with Bhopal again to the consideration of the Council at Fort William. The Governor General had no doubts in his mind as to its desirability. But the Secret Committee's interdict of 29 September 1815 was still operative. He thought however that the question had assumed a new aspect in the meantime. The negotiation in 1814/15 was contemporaneous with an arduous war with Nepal which demanded "nearly the whole of our disposable infantry and artillery". Any struggle with the Marathas on the issue of an alliance with Bhopal at that time would have caused the Government much anxiety.

That situation had undergone a change for the better. "There was peace with Nepal. The Marathas were not in a position to take up arms against the British. Sindhia, who was most vehement in his opposition to the proposed alliance, "has dropped his views on Bhopal, as may fairly be inferred from his having neglected to avail himself of the favourable opportunity offered by the death of Vizier Mahomed". Nagpur was also in alliance with the British. The Governor General accordingly held the view that "in the present political situation an alliance with Bhopal would not excite the slightest movement of opposition". He also refuted the Secret Committee's apprehensions of future embarrassments. "I do not consider the formation of an alliance with Bhopal as necessarily leading to any ulterior expansion of our political relations, though it would be a great step gained towards the establishment of tranquillity in Central India."

The Governor General pointed out some further arguments in favour of the alliance. The British alliance with Nagpur "renders the extension of our protection to that country (Bhopal) an object of no less early accomplishment than desirable attainment.....The command which it would give us of both banks of the Nerbudda through a considerable extent must be regarded as a great improvement in our military position in that quarter". Rejection of the alliance, he apprehended, would force Bhopal into connections unpalatable to it. "Alone, it stands in too much hazard. It must seek

⁹ Secret Cons. 18 May 1816, No. 21.

¹⁰ Transmitted with Wauchope's Despatch dated 16 July 1816.

support elsewhere if we decline to afford it and may thence become opposed to us instead of strengthening us with its aid". Besides, such an alliance "would contract the limits of the Pindaris and curtail their resources, while it extraordinarily improved our means of obstructing or intercepting their expeditions, by shortening our line of defence".¹¹

On the above considerations the Governor General hoped that the Secret Committee, when apprised of the new situation, would withdraw their ban. He therefore proposed that the question in its new aspect be submitted to the Secret Committee. He however made it clear that if any emergency arose which would make it undesirable, in the interest of his employers, to wait for the Committee's instructions, he would act according to his best judgement.

Pending the receipt of these new advices, the Nawab's hopes for a protective alliance were to remain unfulfilled. Mr. Wauchope was accordingly informed that "the Governor General is not prepared to accede to the solicitations of the Nawab". The repulse to the Nawab's advance was however not to be so decided "as to lead the Nawab to suppose that he can in no case expect the benefit of our protection. Circumstances may, and probably will soon, occur to enable the Government to reconcile the formation of an intimate connection with Bhopal with its political views and plans".¹²

The rebuff came as a great disappointment to Nazar Muhammad Khan. In his letter dated 24 December 1816 addressed to Wauchope, he regretted that his character was misunderstood with the result that the "negotiations for adjusting my affairs were broken off by you and I was thereby exposed to the outrages of the freebooters". Thinking that his conduct had perhaps not been found satisfactory, he pointed out that "although I had been in the habit of frequent correspondence with the chieftains of the country agreeably to the usages of states, I have now discarded all these connections".

Mr. Wauchope, in forwarding this letter to Mr. Adam endorsed the sincerity of these sentiments. He had "made particular enquiry into what footing the Nabob at present stands towards the Pindarees and from the result and from the degree in which his country has lately suffered from their depredations" he had no hesitation in saying "that he maintains no understanding whatever with any of the leaders at the present moment".¹³

In January 1817, the Nawab found another opportunity of pressing his claims to British protection. He had earlier been involved in a dispute with the Rajah of Berar. The latter had charged the Nawab

with having connived at the depredations of the Pindaris and Raghuji Bhonsla had passed across the Bhopal frontiers under a pretext of correcting the Pindaris. The Nawab had naturally protested against this and Sadiq Ali wanted this affair to be discussed in a meeting with him. The Nawab sought Mr. Wauchope's advice who referred him to Mr. Jenkins. The latter "neither encouraged nor discouraged" the Nawab's proposal to send his agent to Nagpur for settlement of the dispute. Undeterred by this cold reply, the Nawab sent Inayet Masih who arrived at Nagpur in the beginning of December 1816. Inayet saw Mr. Jenkins on 20 January 1817 and impressed upon him that Nazar Muhammad was "even more devoted to the object of securing our protection" than the late Wazir Muhammad Khan. Mr. Jenkins in his conversation with the agent attributed the breaking off the negotiation with the Nawab "rather to general political considerations than to the fault of the Nabob, which we assigned as the cause".¹⁴ In a second interview Inayet Masih again stressed his master's wish to have the general protection of the British. On being asked by Mr. Jenkins to put his proposals in writing for being submitted to the Governor General he drafted one with his own seal affixed to it. These proposals, dated 22 January 1817, were based on the terms offered to the late Nawab by Mr. Wauchope in 1814. The proposals were contained in six articles as follows:

"Article 1st. The Fort of Nuzergurh commonly called Seerman or Goolgaon which is situated near Bhilsa shall be delivered over to the British Government as a permanent cantonment and depot for grain etc.

2nd. We will use our utmost endeavours to assist in the collection of supplies of cattle, grain, and all other necessary articles for the use of the British troops, at the market prices.

3rd. Agreeable to the orders of the British Government, we will also abstain from all intercourse and correspondence with the Pindaris and the plundering Afghans of Hindustan.

4th. After we are taken under the protection of the Company we shall have no occasion to enter into engagements or correspondence with the other chiefs and Rajas of Hindustan but in trifling affairs relating to the administration of the Government it will be continually necessary to correspond with the neighbouring zemindars and chiefs in which cases as a previous reference to the British authorities and the obtaining permission might occasion delay, after having concluded any petty transactions of this kind, we will communicate the same to the nearest British authority.

¹¹ Secret Cons. 9 November 1816, No. 12.

¹² Secret Cons. 9 November 1816, No. 16.

¹³ Secret Cons. 11 January 1817, No. 10.

¹⁴ Secret Cons. 22 February 1817, No. 1 Jenkins to Adam dated 25 January 1817.

5th. After being taken under the protection of the Company, we will submit to the British Government all our claims and pretensions on other Rajahs and chiefs, in order that the Company may effect a favourable settlement of the same, or even should we suffer a little loss in this way, we will, out of respect to the British Government, quietly submit to it.

6th. With regard to money stipulations for the payment of the British troops the case is this, that for the last two years the revenues realized by us from our country have not exceeded one lack and 25,000 rupees, on which we have with difficulty subsisted. How therefore can we contribute any sum towards the payment of the British troops—Let the Company excuse us on this point. But the fort of Nuzergarh with some villages dependent on it, some of which are flourishing and the others deserted, shall be delivered into the hands of the Company and when by the assistance of the British Government we shall attain our wishes, we shall never be found deficient in rendering any service in this respect in our power".¹⁵

While these negotiations were going on, the Nawab's conduct supplied further proofs of the sincerity of his disposition. In his letter to Mr. Wauchope, dated 25 January 1817, he expressed his desire "to co-operate to the utmost of my power, with zeal and obedience" for the "extermination of the marauders".¹⁶

In another letter, dated 24 February 1817¹⁷ he informed Mr. Wauchope of the fact of his having expelled some horsemen whom he had allowed to reside in his territories, from Raisen for having joined the Pindaris. He further indicated the location of the troops of Namdar Khan, Chitoo Khan and Wasil Muhammad who were stationed round Bhopal and who, since the Nawab refused "their applications for shelter and protection", intended to plunder his territories.

The Nawab's proposals as put into writing by Inayet Masih were communicated to the Governor General. The moment appeared to be propitious. The long intended operations against the Pindaris had been finally decided upon and an alliance with Bhopal assumed added value. It was now considered "expedient and proper to decide on the course to be pursued and the relation to be established with the Nawab of Bhopal". The consistency of the Nawab's attachment was now to bear fruit. Mr. Adam communicated the decision of the Government to Mr. Jenkins on 30 September 1817¹⁸. His professed and approved attachment to the British cause "which has entailed on

him the peculiar enmity of the Pindaries, renders him deserving of every assistance and support while the local position of his territories, the bravery of his troops and the energy of his personal character enable him to become a most useful and efficient auxiliary in the approaching crisis and an important branch of the system to be established for preventing the revival of predatory associations". He would be "an useful auxiliary to us" and "the throwing his weight into the opposite scale would be detrimental to our cause". The Government were at the same time conscious that in return for his services the Nawab had a legitimate claim to a corresponding benefit. He would appreciate "protection against his enemies, and the restoration of such part of the former territories of his family as the operations of the war may place at our disposal. Our own interest will in fact be promoted by the consolidation of the resources and strength of this little Mussulman state, which surrounded by Marhatta neighbours, must necessarily lean on the aid of a powerful protector and will be faithful to us from interest and inclination."

With regard to the conditions to be required from the Nawab, the British Government required, in addition to those specified in Inayet Masih's proposals, an "engagement to give us the services of his troops". On the question of payment of expenses it was admitted that "in the present condition of his territory and resources, the Nawab is certainly unable to contribute to the expenses of the troops but after the reannexation to his possessions of the tracts that are occupied by the Pindaries and eventually others, accompanied by the improvement which the restoration of tranquility may be expected to effect in his resources, it will be equitable he should contribute in a fair proportion to the charge."

Mr. Jenkins was directed to communicate the assent of the British Government by a letter transmitted through Col. Adams with whom the Nawab had established a friendly intercourse. "This letter, and the Nawab's reply may be considered as an engagement sufficiently binding and supersede the necessity for a formal treaty. If however the Nawab should express a desire to have the conditions reduced to that form, his wish should be complied with."

Communicating acceptance of Inayet Masih's proposals Mr. Jenkins, in his letter, dated 31 October, 1817¹⁹, mentioned the additional stipulations which were that "you will zealously co-operate with your troops against the Pindaries and their abettors, that you will admit the British troops at all times into your territory, that all articles of supply for them shall be purchased and passed through your territories free of duty". Regarding payment of expenses the Nawab

¹⁵ Secret Cons. 22 February 1817, No. 3.

¹⁶ Secret Cons. 22 February 1817, No. 5.

¹⁷ Secret Cons. 22 March 1817, No. 7.

¹⁸ Secret Cons. 28 October 1817, No. 10.

¹⁹ Secret Cons. 21 November 1817, No. 26.

was informed as advised in Mr. Adam's letter. He was also told that "your assent to the conditions will render you at once our ally and entitle you to the immediate and permanent protection of the British power."

The moment the Nawab received the communication from Mr. Jenkins he sent one of his most confidential officers Shazad Masih, the son of Inayet Masih, to Hoshangabad to see Col. Adams and Brig. Genl. Sir John Malcolm, the Governor General's agent, to concert the proper reply to the Resident at Nagpur. It was decided that he would write to Mr. Jenkins, signifying his full assent to all the propositions contained in his letter, "stating however his hope that the last, which referred to his contributing in future a proportion to the expenses of the English Government, would be always exercised with moderation and with a view to his actual condition."

Shazad Masih expressed the Nawab's great anxiety to have a regular treaty with the Company. Malcolm told him there was not the slightest objection to such a measure, but that "to save time which was at present of great importance the Nawab had better sign the proposed letter and transmit it to Mr. Jenkins with a request that conditions stated in it might receive the form of a treaty". This was gladly accepted by Shazad Masih.

The Nawab was very anxious to have some smaller points introduced into the treaty. The first related to the orderly conduct of the English troops passing through his country—the second to the English Government never interfering in his family concerns and not giving protection and encouragement to any of his discontented or disaffected relations or adherents. The third point and one upon which Shazad Masih represented the Nabob to have the most serious anxiety was an engagement to maintain his dignity and authority and not to alter the present system of administering justice in Bhopal. He was told that there would not be the slightest difficulty in this matter. At his request Malcolm wrote a letter to the Nawab to that effect.

The Nawab wrote a letter to Mr. Jenkins in the terms prescribed. He however showed some anxiety on the question of expenses and in his letter to Malcolm, dated 27 October 1817, he hoped that "in consideration of my ancient friendship and the promises formerly received I shall be looked upon with a more favourable eye than others".²⁰

Both the parties to the agreement regarded this exchange of letters as the virtual conclusion of the treaty. The Nawab immediately

²⁰ Secret Cons. 5 December 1817, No. 15.

"entered heartily into the cause, sending his contingents wheresoever directed, in aid of the operations against the Pindarees, and rendering very important service on several trying occasions".²¹

The Governor General in his letter to the Nawab, dated 23 December 1817²², expressed his appreciation of the measures taken by the Nawab in execution of the terms settled, and conveyed his "unqualified confirmation of the assurances you have received from Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm and Mr. Jenkins". He assured him further that "a regular treaty shall be hereafter prepared and duly exchanged and ratified but in the meanwhile I request you to consider this as having the full force of such an instrument".

The Government of India had indeed been willing to "gratify the Nabob by an immediate conclusion of the affair"²³ but disturbances at Nagpur intervened. The formal treaty was concluded at Bhopal on 26 February 1818 and ratified by the Governor General on 8 March. The treaty in its final form exempted the Nawab, in view of the substantial services rendered by him, from payment of any tribute in return for the protection afforded. The contingent which he was required to furnish for the service of the British Government was fixed at a moderate figure of six hundred horse and four hundred foot only as a special favour. Moreover, since a military force was stationed at Sagur following its occupation, Bhopal was relieved from its treaty obligation of furnishing a fort to serve as a depot for a British detachment.

²¹ Prinsep, *Transactions in India*, Vol. II, p. 338.

²² Secret Cons. 16 January 1818, No. 11.

²³ Secret Cons. 21 November 1817, No. 28.

FOOD SCARCITY IN BOMBAY ISLAND, 1737-1739 : A SIDE ISSUE OF THE MARATHA CAMPAIGN AGAINST BASSEIN

P. M. JOSHI

Secretariat Record Office, Bombay

DETAILED ACCOUNTS of Maratha activities in Salsette and their conquest of Bassein have been given by Dr. V. G. Dighe in his *Peshwa Baji Rao I and Maratha Expansion*, by Mr. Y. N. Kelkar in his Marathi book on the Bassein Campaign and in the source material which both writers have used. It is not my intention to add anything to this. The idea behind this short paper is made clear in its title.

When the Portuguese learnt of the Maratha plans against them they naturally looked to their friends, the British, in Bombay for help. But in helping the Portuguese, the British drew on themselves the wrath of the Marathas who stopped the supply of food grains to Bombay island. The Maratha invasion of Salsette island, as a preliminary to the siege of Bassein, began with the occupation of Thana after which the invaders quickly spread all over the island occupying one point after another. Many people from Salsette island sought refuge under the British flag in Bombay and added to the anxiety of the administration of the island with regard to the adequacy of food-grains. Governor Horne took the extreme step of issuing a proclamation requiring refugees to quit the island and declared that any inhabitant of the island harbouring refugees would be considered to have violated the law. All inhabitants of the island were also required to communicate to the heads of their respective castes the quantity of rice and other food grains in their possession. Attempts were made to import rice into Bombay from Mangalore, Surat and Bengal and an envoy was sent to Chimaji Appa to negotiate in this behalf. I give below relevant extracts from the Consultations of the Bombay Council dealing with this emergency. It is perhaps pertinent to add that these extracts give one aspect of the background of Inchbird's embassy to Chimaji.

(1)

Bombay Castle, Tuesday, 3rd May 1737

Being very Apprehensive there will be a want of Grain for our Inhabitants (through the Prohibition of bringing it hither from the Morattas Country) and great Numbers of useless People having

resorted hither since the late Invasion of the Portuguese Territorys, who will expend the Provisions in the Place without being of any service IT IS AGREED THAT the Publication be issued requiring all Strangers who have complied hither since the beginning of those Troubles to depart the island in Seven Days and forbidding any of the Inhabitants to entertain or Conceal them after that time.

(2)

Bombay Castle, Tuesday, 3rd May 1737

Finding the Morattas refuse to permit Grain being brought to this Island, and apprehending them be a want of it for our Inhabitants before the next fair season. It is thought necessary to have a true account of the (grain) at present on the island. For which purpose IT IS AGREED THAT a publication be issued, requiring every Inhabitant to give an exact account to the Heads of their respective (Castes) Batty Rice or other Grain in their Possession under (penalty) of forfeiting such as shall be found and not contained in that Account, and such farther Punishment as the Board shall think fit to inflict, And IT IS AGREED That half the Grain attempted to be concealed shall be given to the informer which we think will be a sufficient Encouragement to make Discoverys.

Directed that the Heads of the respective Castes deliver the Accounts of the Grain found upon the island to the Custom Masters of Bombay and Mahim in order to be laid before the Board.

(3)

Bombay Castle, Saturday, 21st May 1737

...We don't want Pretexts for breaking with them as they have not only refused to permit Provisions being brought to this island from any part of their country, but have actually seized and detained several Boats belonging to this island, some of whom were sent with money to procure Batty from other parts.

A proposal is then made for sending over a person to Chimnajee, the Commanding Officer of the Morattas at Tannah, to Demand the Restitution of the boats they have taken and the Free Trade of the Rivers as formerly; To desire to know how far he is resolved to Proceed against the Portugeuze, whether to make an entire conquest of their country, If not what Terms He will accept from them, and to Hint to Chimnajee that according to his Answer we shall frame our future Conduct.

As we think no ill Consequences can attend this step It is Unanimously Agreed to, and Debating whether to send an Englishman or a Native, We think the former might look like too great a Condescension, nor cou'd We depend upon their not Detaining Him, IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED That Ramjee Purvoo¹, a Person of Capacity & Experience be appointed on this service.

(4)

Bombay Castle, Friday, 24th June 1737

The President acquaints the Board that he has reced a letter from Chimnaje the Commanding Officer of the Morattas at Tannah, in answer to the Demand made for the timber stopt there coming from Bassein belonging to the Hon. Company (as taken Notice of in our Consultation of the 3d. Instt.) but he does not give the least hope that he will restore it.

Read a letter from Capt. Thomas Stoneham Purser Marine (as entred hereafter) setting forth that thro. the great scarcity of all kinds of Provision, he cannot possibly furnish Beef, Pork & Wood at the stated prices, they actually standing him in Fifty p. cent more, & upwards: The consideration of the same is deferred till we can more particularly inform ourselves of the prices of the several articles of provision.

Honble Sir & Sirs,

Provisions & other Necessaries being at present much dearer than usual, have made an Estimate of their prices, which are as follows—

"Billett wood bought since March last exclusive of servants, wastage etc. cost A Hog weighg. about 60 lb. cost..... 3-2-0 Feeding Do. to prevent it giving the people the flux, being otherwise full of Oyl 1-2-0 Cooly Hire..... 50		2-0-0 p. Mill. ²
		Pork amounts to seven pice p. pound exclusive of servants & other charges.
Rupees 5-0-50 ³		
A Bullock weighg. about ... 130 lb. cost. 9-0-0 straw 6 bundles p. is for a month 18c—bundles @ 16 Rups. p. Mill amots. to.. 2-3-50		Beef amots. to pice 7 1/3 p. pound exclusive of servants etc &ca.
Rups. 11-3-50		

¹ Prabhu, Purbhoo, commonly but corruptly called Purvoo (Marathi प्रभू, परभू a chief). The name of the writer caste in the West of the peninsula or of an individual of that caste. *Wilson's Glossary*. Paibus of the Portuguese. See also *Hobson-Jobson*, Parvoo.

² Billet Wood being thick piece of fire-wood it seems that the price is for 1,000 pieces and not by weight or bundles.

³ Accounts in Bombay at this time were kept in rupees, quarters and reas, 400 reas going to a rupee.

If the Beef & Pork are salted it costs half a pice p. pound & during the rains (that is to say in the months, June, July, August and Septr.) the cattle ought to be fed with a little Grain besides straw, to keep them in any tolerable meat, which cannot be done for less than one pice p. pound.

But for this last commodity here is at present not any to be had, therefore I hope you'll please to consider of a convenient place, in order to send a Cooper, Casks & ca, & likewise if you think proper shall very readily go myself, that there may be a sufficient quantity procured against the Cruizers are to sail.

I am

Hon. Sir & Sirs,

Your most obedt. Humble servt.

THOMAS STONEHAM.

BOMBAY

June 24th 1737.

(5)

Bombay Castle, Monday, 19th September 1737

IT is then observed that it is greatly to be feared we shall be in want of rice the ensuing season, not only thro. the prospect of a bad crop, but the certainty of a prohibition of bringing us grain from the Morattas country if they find they can thereby distress us. The President therefore proposes, if the Rose arrives in time from Surat, that she be sent with the above vessels to proceed to Mangulore, & load with rice, & as sundry of our inhabitants are preparing to send boats thither on the like service, the having a convoy in their return may be an encouragement to others, & we don't apprehend any danger of the Rose coming up alone, as our other fleet will be lying off Gereah⁴. It is accordingly agreed that she be employed in this manner.

(6)

Bombay Castle, Monday, 3rd October 1737

The President acquaints the Board that he had desired this meeting to consider how to prevent the evils we are threatened with, thro. the present great want of grain for the use of our inhabitants. Observing that we can expect none from the Morattas, who have prohibited any being brought hither, unless we consent to supply them with warlikewise stores, which wou'd be too dangerous an

⁴ Gheria, Vijayadurg, 16°33,' N 73°20,' E.

expedient, & by letters lately received from the General of the North we are disappointed in our hopes of being furnished from the Portuguese, as he tells the President that he cannot spare any until he has laid in a sufficient stock for the King's Forts & garrisons and he is dubious from the badness of the present crop that they shall have little more than enough for this service. From the Northern ports we may indeed about a month hence hope to receive grain, which however is uncertain and our greatest dependance for rice is on Mangalore and as the Rose (whom we proposed to send for a convoy to the boat bound thither, and to countenance them while there) is not yet arrived from Surat, the President desires the opinion of the Board for preventing any disappointment in the supply of rice we hope to procure at Mangalore.

When It is observed that it is absolutely necessary constantly to block up the enemys ports and if we order any of the cruizers in harbour for a convoy to Mangalore, they cannot return hither to clean, and take in wood and water time eno. to be sent to relieve the vessels. Whereupon Commodore Massey moves, whether it be not possible for his ship to proceed to Mangalore and convoy back the rice vessels time enough for him to make his passage to Gombroon, and return with the wool before the ships bound for England, in January may be sailed.

The Board considering hereupon it is computed that the fleet may get down to Mangalore in seven days, and as the rice they may be now able to get is all in readiness (being the remains of last year's crop) fifteen days is the longest term they need stay at that port and in all probability they may be up here again by the 15th November and we shall not need to detain her above two or three days after her arrival to dispatch her for Gombroon, and allowing twenty days for the passage thither, as many in her return, and that she will be detained there at the most five days, the wool will be here according to their way of reckoning by the 5th Janry at farthest. But to save time the President observes that the timber for Gombroon may be now put on board the Wilmington and that after she has convoy'd the vessels to Mangalore and seen them up safe as high as Rajahporee, she may then stand away for the Gulph^s, whereby her return with the wool will be very much expedited. And to be at the greater certainty it will be necessary limit her departure from Mangalore to the last of October, but if the boats should be loaded before that time or Captain Massey finds no rice is to be got in the place that he comes away so much the sooner as he is able.

By the prosecution of this design we hope to perform all the most material services at present requisite vz. the blocking up Angria,

^s The Persian Gulf.

procuring a supply of grain so absolutely necessary for the island and bringing the wool from Persia, which he shall be in great want of to complete the loadings of the ships on hand and we hope will prove an acceptable article to our Hon. Masters.

It is therefore agreed that the Wilmington be ordered to Mangalore to convoy and protect the vessels sent for rice, and after seeing them safe as high as Rajahporee that she make the best of her way to Gombroon.

(7)

Bombay Castle, Tuesday, 11th October 1737

Read & Approved our last Consultation.

The President acquaints the Board that having reced advice that fifteen of Sambajee's galivats^s and fourteen of Monajee's were cruizing to the Northwards and had intercepted some boats bound to this island with grain and being apprehensive they wou'd prevent our receiving the expected supply he had ordered the Britannia frigate to cruize between Damaun and Bassein in order to protect the vessels bound hither and now communicates to the Board his instructions to the Commander which are approved.

He then observed that it is now necessary to think of making a provision of grain for our inhabitants till the end of next rains, which he apprehends it will not be possible to do from the parts about us thro. the prohibition of exporting it from the Morattas country & the extreme badness of the crop, nor can we expect a sufficient supply from the Northward or even Mangalore since we are assured the general scarcity in these parts will oblige the Portuguese & Sambajee Angria to have recourse to the latter port, where the large demand of others will probably prevent our getting the quantity we may want. The President hereupon proposes to desire the President & Council of Bengall to supply us with twelve or fifteen thousand bags, sending part thereof on any of our Hon. Masters ships bound this way and to contract with any merchants of the place on the best terms they can to deliver us the remainder at a certain rate. The Board considering the present great scarcity the little prospect of supplying ourselves sufficiently from the parts on this side of India & the dreadful evils to be apprehended from the want of grain does unanimously agree to the above proposal & IT IS DIRECTED that a letter be got in readiness & dispatched by express Pattamar^r.

^s Galley or war-boat with oars. *Hobson-Jobson*, Gallevat.

^r A swift sailing vessel with one to three masts. *Hobson-Jobson*, Pattamar.

Bombay Castle, Friday, 6th January 1738

Captn. Richard Peiarce had brought from Scindy⁸ about five Hundred Candys of Rice of the Growth of that country the president acquaints the Board that having considered we are disappointed in the quantity we expected from Bengall & that we are not certain of receiving as much as we expected from Mangulore. It is probable there may be a want before the end of the rains. He had therefore talk'd with Captn. Peiarce for buying his rice on the Honble Comps. Accot. & had brought him to accept of two Rupees & a Quarter p. Parah⁹ which the Board esteems a reasonable price & for reasons before given it is agreed to take it at that risk & directed that the amot. be paid out of the treasury.

Bombay Castle, Monday, 10th April 1738

As we are yet apprehensive of a want of Grain & the Gentlemen at Surat acquainting us it will be difficult if not impossible to secure any more Batty¹⁰ agreed that we direct them to buy what rice may come on the Bengall shipping as cheap as they can provided they learn that the Presidt. & Council have not supplied us with any on our Honble Masters Account.

Bombay Castle, Thursday, 18th January 1739

The President representing to the Board the insufficiency of our supplies of grain for the demand of the year and the obstacles to the obtaining it from the Moratta country and Mangulore, AGREED, that a letter be immediately prepared to the Chief and Factors at Surat directing their purchase of a quantity of batty from one thousand to fifteen hundred morahs¹¹ and that if they cannot procure conveyance to send it down on convenient terms that..... for our supplying them from.....hence.

⁸ Sind, *Index to the Press Lists of the Public Department Records, 1748-1800* (Imperial Record Department, 1924) Also *Hobson-Jobson*, Sind, Scinde.

⁹ Phara (Marathi फरा). A grain measure of Bombay consisting of sixteen paylis Prinsep, *Useful Tables* (Calcutta, 1834), p. 81.

¹⁰ From Kannada, Batta (or Marathi Bhat) rice before it is husked, paddy. Also used for corn in general. *Wilson's Glossary*.

See also *Hobson-Jobson*, Paddy. For "batty ground" in Bombay in the early eighteenth century see "*Bombay in the days of Queen Anne*" (Hakluyt Society, 1933), pp. 60-61.

¹¹ Morah, Mura, Muda, a grain measure equal to twenty-five pharas.

Bombay Castle, Tuesday, 23rd January 1739

The President acquaints the Board that this consultation is expressly held to determine on the best method for providing a quantity of rice for the urgent occasions of the island, as it may be of the worst consequence to the place itself should it be unprovided of grain for the immediate support of the inhabitants the labouring part of which chiefly depends on the Government for even their daily supplys. The extraction of rice from Mangulore and the Moratta countrys being impracticable and the provision lately order'd from Surat the success of which depending on Nunsaree, 'Gundavie' other parts in possession of the Ghenims, being too precarious to trust entirely too, the President proposes to the Board as one expedient to write to Mr. Chas. Boddham residing at Scindy on an employ from the Gentn, at Bengall to purchase from one thousand to fifteen hundred carwalls¹² of red rice on accot of the Hon. Company directing him to advise us of the time he may expect it to be in-readiness. That we may send up a vessel to convoy it down and what quantity of tonnage he can procure there for bringing it down that we may take measures to supply him with the rest wanted from hence and the Board agreeing thereto order'd that a letter be instantly framed to the foregoing purpose and recommended to the Chief and Factors at Surat to be forwarded to said Charles Boddham by the safest and speediest means.

¹² Caravet ?

72 D.G. Arch.

THE RAJENDRAS OF GANGAKHED AND THEIR RECORDS

R. M. JOSHI

Central Records Office, Hyderabad

THE PRATAPWANTS, the Rai Rayans and the Rajendras are the three outstanding Maratha Brahmin families which played a significant role during the Asaf Jahi period, after Nizam-ul-Mulk Asafjah I who passed away on 21 May 1748. Vithal Sundar was the trusted lieutenant of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan (1761-1803), who had installed him as the first Prime Minister of his reign endowing him with the title of Raja Pratapwant. All the three families were extremely loyal to their masters and have shown their mettle in the sphere of diplomacy as well as on the battle fields. It is proposed to deal with the family of the Rajendras in this paper.

On the basis of the extant records the origin of the family can be traced from a very old ancestor by name Balajeepant who served under the Nawab of Kurnool, but it was Haibat Rao Gopal who first came into prominence. Haibat Rao Gopal must have joined the service of Nizam Ali Khan with the support of the Rai Rayan brothers, Dhondajee Shankar (1728-1783) and Nanajee Shankar (1730-1785). When Madhav Rao Narayan was declared Peshwa on the 40th day of his life i.e. on 28 May 1774, Nizam Ali Khan, his royal neighbour, did not fail to congratulate him by sending robes of honour, through a delegation led by Nanajee Shankar. Haibat Rao must have accompanied Nanajee Shankar to Purandar, where he was posted to work as *Akhbarnavis*. This fact has been clearly stated at the close of the *Sanpuri Bakhar*, a historical chronicle giving the account of both the Marathas and the Nizams from the point of view of a loyal citizen of the Nizam's State¹.

One more item of recorded evidence is found in *Savai Madhav Rao's Diary* (Vol. I; page 296), which shows that Kesu Rao Haibat, a younger son of Haibat Rao, was present with Mahmood Yar Jung while giving robes of honour to the Peshwa on the occasion of his nuptial ceremony on 19 February 1789.

¹ This Marathi Bakhar was published by the Central Records Office in 1950.

Though the designation of Haibat Rao seems to be modest, he with his personal efficiency and circumspect outlook, successfully made inroads into the duties of a diplomat. The news-letters despatched by him from the headquarters of the Peshwa afford ample testimony to believe that Haibat Rao had a breadth of vision and a sharpness of acumen in political matters rarely possessed by men of those days. His reports from Poona are extremely elaborate describing events from day to day and *prahar* to *prahar*. From them one can easily visualize a vivid picture of Poona and breathe in refreshing breezes from an atmosphere vibrant with vigorous political activities. Though the reports are only from Poona, Haibat Rao is meticulous in obtaining news of affairs in the North and the South. The conflicts of Mahadaji Sindhia with Muir, the negotiations of Haider Ali's and Tipu's envoys, Narasing Rao and Nur-ud-din Khan, with the Maratha Government, the arrivals and departures of the English and French agents like Upon Mostyn and St. Lubin, are all carefully reported. Poona was then the radiating centre of political activities, to which news from all places came. Haibat Rao Gopal kept close watch on the Shanwarwada palace of the Peshwa and the Budhwarwada mansion of Nana Phadnis. The reports reveal how the young Peshwa was being carefully brought up and educated and trained in manly exercises and in his official duties. Nana's ceaseless endeavours to direct and control all the affairs of the State, his interviews with the political personages and State officials, his visits to the Belbagh and Parwati and ceremonial functions, the presents exchanged on such occasions, have all been narrated by Haibat Rao Gopal with remarkable thoroughness. As a perfect diplomat and statesman, Nana Phadnis's every action was actuated by the desire to raise the dignity of the Maratha State, to eradicate all forces of evil and to extend and strengthen the Maratha empire. Haibat Rao seems to catch the sound of every heart beat of Nana, for his reports display his anxiety to convey a correct picture of these affairs to his master. I am not giving here excerpts from these papers to support my remarks because these *Akhbars* are being shortly published by the Central Records Office of Hyderabad State.

In the Poona *Akhbars* Haibat Rao Gopal often refers to his eldest son Raghottam Rao who was generally at Hyderabad as the person who would be able to give further advice or detailed information on important subjects dealt with in the *Akhbars*. This shows that Raghottam Rao possessed detailed knowledge of conditions at the court of Poona and could be depended upon to give sound guidance on all current affairs. Obviously, this ability developed in him on account of his close association with the day-to-day happenings at the Nizam's court and his frequent visits to Poona. His political sagacity was recognised when he was appointed as the Nizam's

Vakil at Poona. We have in our collection the letter of his appointment to this post in the following terms:—

(Free translation).

SUBJECT.—Appointment of Raja Raghottam Rao as Vakil at Poona;
Dated 1791.

“Your appointment is subject to the conscientious discharge of duties of Vakil entrusted to you. You shall carry out functions in such a way as to win the confidence and appreciation of Srimant Nana (Farnavis). You will be paid a monthly salary of Rs. 50.”

The Central Records Office, Hyderabad, has recently acquired a large and varied collection of papers from the family archives of Raja Raghottam Rao. This collection is made up of a mass of Marathi and Persian papers, some Hindi scrolls and a few English documents. The Marathi and Persian papers consist of political letters, memoranda, treaties, engagements, covenants, sanads, dastaks, diaries, news-letters, military despatches, chronicles etc. Though they are heterogenous, they are bound to shed abundant light on contemporary history when carefully studied. They are generally linked with the period immediately following the death of Madhav Rao II and the relations of the Nizam and the Marathas with the English during the period of the Third Mysore War. Raghottam Rao appears to have virtually held charge of the foreign affairs of the Nizam's court at this period and to have carefully preserved all the records of this period. What is more, he seems to have made special efforts to keep in his *Daftar* copies of several important political papers which had general importance during the period for fuller information or for the purposes of reference. Thus we find in his collection carefully prepared official copies of the Treaty of Purandar, the Treaty of Salbai, of important news-letters of an earlier period from the North and of chronicles of kings and dynasties.

There are other records in the collection which speak highly for the versatile interests cultivated by the scions of the Rajendra family. Thus there are a number of scrolls connected with some astrological charts, some Sanskrit manuscripts like the *Brahma Sutras*, a collection of Marathi songs, poems, etc.

Raghottam Rao's devotion to the Vaishnava cult is revealed by papers connected with various religious observances and letters which show that the Vaishnava Maths and their pontiffs were held in great reverence by the family and received singular homage from time to time. Raghottam Rao built a massive family mansion at Gangakhed, the headquarters of his Jagir. He renamed the town

which was only Khed as Gangakhed and beautified it by constructing a stone-built-ghat on the Godavri studded with many temples, and made this town a centre of religious activities so much so that it came to be known as “Dakshina Kashi” (the Banaras of the South).

He was made Peshkar and given the title of Rajendra in recognition of his services in obtaining the release of Azim-ul-Omra from Poona in 1796. He was held in close confidence by Azim-ul-Omra. The following extract from the *Poona Residency Correspondence* Vol. VI, letter No. 10 from Uhthoff to Sir John Shore shows his position at this time.

“.....Azim-ul-Omra had at present confidence in Raghottam Rao whose fidelity and exertions he had endeavoured to secure by the most honourable and lucrative marks of attention one of which was the appointment of Mustofer-kul, an office possessing, I understand, a general control over all the accounts of State.”

In Volume IV of the same series there are three references to Raghottam Rao in letters Nos. 54, 107, and 145, all of which cast a doubt on his integrity but these cannot be taken at their face value. The student of history knows full well that conflicting interests and party politics undermined the political solidarity of the Nizam's State. The English were bound to cherish biased views regarding all such persons as did not align themselves with them. Raghottam Rao, it may be added, fell in their estimation, as he sided with Azim-ul-Omra, who was zealous to guard the independence of his master. The following extract is significant in this context.

“.....Raghottam Rao of whose integrity M.A. (Meer Alam) has unreservedly expressed his distrust; but the last surely not least, the grand danger presents itself in those evident marks of dissatisfaction and distrust that have shown themselves between A. C. (Azim-ul-Omra) and M.A. In a word what good can be expected from an assemblage that has not a single atom of concord in its whole composition?”²

Raja Raghottam Rao Rajendra died in 1821. There are published Urdu books in which it is stated that Raghottam Rao was a great scholar both in Persian and Sanskrit and knew English well. He was a great conversationalist and a speaker. He had profound interest in astronomy and astrology.

² *Poona Residency Correspondence*, Vol. IV, Letter no. 107, p. 148.

His grandson Raja Gopal Rao seems to have been an erudite scholar in Persian and Sanskrit and was respected by all for his simplicity and nobility of character which won for him among other honours the tutorship of the late Nizam Mir Mahboob Ali Khan Bahadur (1869-1977). He was well-versed in astronomy and was a poet of no mean attainments. We have in our collection his poetical composition in Hindi depicting the early life of Lord Sri Krishna.

RECORDS OF A GHATPANDE FAMILY OF JUNNAR (POONA)

G. H. KHARE

Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona

NEARLY TWO years ago, Mr. Krishna Gopal Ghatpande of Junnar brought to the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala a bundle of old records for examination. It consisted of 176 Persian, 2 Perso-Kannada, 18 Perso-Marathi and 48 Marathi documents. For the sake of convenience I have grouped Persian and Perso-Kannada together (P) and Perso-Marathi and Marathi together (M) and numbered them separately.

Pande means an accountant (of a village) and Deshpande means an accountant of a country (or a group of villages). Similarly Ghatpande means a person who keeps accounts of a pass or passes. In old days bullocks, camels, etc. were mostly employed for carrying mercantile commodities from place to place and passes had to be guarded against robbers and dacoits. The passers through them whether human beings or beasts were charged for traversing the passes according to both the quality and the quantity of loads they carried. The collector and the keeper of the accounts of this charge was called a Ghatpande.

Though the owner of the records bears at present the surname Ghatpande, his ancestors were, it seems, only Deshpandes, in the first half of the 17th century; for document M1, which is dated the 14th of Rajab Shuhur year 1039 (11 November 1638 A.D.) definitely addresses one of them as Shivaji Govinda Deshpande. It would seem that after the conferment of the Ghatpandeship, the subsequent ancestors of the owner gradually began to be called Ghatpandes. Except very early documents like the one just mentioned, almost all the records whether Persian or Marathi refer to the members of this family by this latter surname. Besides the two duties of Deshpandeship and Ghatpandeship, the members of this family also served as Joshis or village priests.

Document M18 which is dated the 9th of Muharram Shuhur year 1120 (11 November 1719 A.D.) shows that the ancestors of the family were Ghatpandes of 12 passes and 27 *mahals* (or centres of toll-collection). Their lists show that these were spread over the tract lying roughly between the Nira and the Pravara rivers (Poona and Ahmadnagar districts).

The documents from this collection generally refer to either the administration of the passes and toll-collection centres or *mahals* mentioned above or the *vatans*, *inams*, etc. of the family and are useful for the study of the economic and administrative aspect of the age to which they belong. But some documents among them are important for the study of political history of the age and I have dealt with them here.

The earliest document from the collection is P5 and is dated the 10th of Rajab 932 A.H. (22 April 1526 A.D.). It is a genuine document as it bears seven different seals and three endorsements. As its language is intermixed with Turki words and phrases, I am inclined to term it an Adilshahi document; for it is in the early Adilshahi period that documents usually contained Turki words. The next document worth noting is an Adilshahi *farman* (P4) dated the 1st of Jumada II 1053 A.H. (7 August 1643 A.D.) to the effect that the *miras* of Sarnadgaudki of the *simta* of Nandasingi included in the *muamila* of Bankapur (Dharwar) once granted to Karim Muhammad Sharza should be continued in his favour despite any irregularities.

I wish to describe here three more documents which are very important for the later life of Shahaji Bhosale and the early life of his son Shivaji, the Great. On the evidence of three Adilshahi *farmans* acquired from three independent sources, I have pointed out elsewhere that between the 15th of Safar and the 29th of Rabi I of 1067 A.H. (22 November 1656 and 5 January 1657 A.D.) Shivaji, the Great, himself or his army had carried an expedition as far south as Masur on the northern border of the present Mysore State. But his forces had to return as they were defeated in this expedition¹. On the evidence of an Adilshahi document issued by the well-known Afzalkhan, it can also be proved that Shivaji had raided as far as Terdal (Bijapur) in the early part of 1659 A.D.²; but he had to return on account of the grand expedition of Afzalkhan sent against him by the Sultan of Bijapur. Now with the help of three unpublished Adilshahi *farmans* from this collection and an Adilshahi *farman* and a Marathi document published long ago, a new expedition of Shivaji into the Karnatak between the expeditions of 1656-57 and 1659 A.D. can be traced.

In 1939, I had published an Adilshahi *farman* that I acquired from the present descendant of the Desajs of Gadag (Dharwar). It is dated the 19th of Jumada 1068 A.H. (12 February 1658 A.D.), was issued by Ali Adilshah II and is addressed to the then Desai of the *pargana* of Gadag. In it the Desai is asked to join with his contin-

gent and serve faithfully Afzalkhan Muhammadshahi who was appointed to the *subahdari* of.....and sent thither with a force. The *farman* being damaged the words denoting the name of the province of which Afzalkhan was given the *subahdari* or the venue of the expedition which he led have remained unknown to us³.

Document P2 from the Ghatpande Collection is a bilingual (Persian and Kannada) *farman* issued by Ali Adilshah II and is addressed to a Nayaka whose name it is rather difficult to make out from the Persian portion owing to the defective Persian script, but which is clearly Koneti Nayaka in the Kannada portion. This *farman* is dated the 22nd of Shahban 1068 A.H. (16 May 1658 A.D.) and orders Koneti Nayaka to proceed to the part of the country where Afzalkhan Muhammadshahi was already ordered to proceed with his force and in which part of the country Maharaja Farzand Shahaji Bhosale had already been posted. Here though Afzalkhan's expedition together with Shahaji's stationing has been mentioned, the *farman* is silent about the place of the expedition and furnishes no information about the person against whom it was directed. P3 is also a bilingual (Persian-Kannada) *farman* similar to P2, bears the same date and is to the same effect; but it is addressed to Narasaraji Maisurkar. Here Kanthirava Narasa Odeyar of Mysore is obviously referred to and as his last known date is 1659 A.D., there is no contradiction here. This *farman* definitely states that Afzalkhan was ordered to lead an expedition into the Karnataka. Thus we at least know the place of the expedition from this *farman*. Now P1 is also a *farman* issued by Ali Adilshah II and bears the same date as P2 and P3. In it Mirza Murad Ali Beg has been asked to remain quite loyal and both he and Maharaja Farzand Shahaji Bhosale in concert with each other serve the kingdom faithfully. No more information about the Mirza is available and it is rather difficult to interpret this *farman* singly. I shall however try to do it later. There is still another *farman* the gist of which I have already published⁴. It was issued by Ali Adilshah II to Maharaja Farzand Shahaji Bhosale and is dated the 4th of Ramzan 1068 A.H. (27 May 1658 A.D.) i.e. it was sent to him only 11 days after the foregoing three *farmans*. Shahaji seems to have expressed restlessness and fear that he would be held responsible for Shivaji's treason, arrogance etc. He is, therefore, assured in this *farman* that Shivaji's activities and intentions had already become manifest to the Court and he (Shahaji) in no way be blamed for Shivaji's crimes. In recognition of his loyalty, the whole of his former *jagir* was again bestowed upon him and the *Manewars* of Bangalur have been

¹ *Persian Sources of Indian History*, Vol. III, pp. 116-18; *Karnataka Historical Review* Vol. V, Part II, pp. 1-3.

² *Shivacharitrpradipa*, p. 83.

³ *Persian Sources of Indian History*, Vol. III, p. 92, No. 79.

⁴ *Sqhyadri*, a Marathi monthly, Vol. XXI, p. 298, *farman* No. 12.

ordered to contact him alone. Anyone reporting against him would be accused. We must also interpret this *farman* which I shall do later with the foregoing one.

Now there is a Marathi document published long ago;⁵ but which remains uninterpreted still. It is an order dated the 13th of Muharram, Shuhur year 1059 (1 October 1658 A.D.) and was issued from the fort of Purandhar in the name of Shīvajī, but in his absence. In those days deputies and specially appointed officers were allowed to issue such orders in the name of the chief personality and were even authorised to use the seal of the personality. Thus there is nothing irregular in the document. There was a suit in which after some enquiry a decision to settle it by ordeal was arrived at in the presence of Shivaji. But the party that was ordered to perform the ordeal somehow or other evaded its performance. The other party, therefore, approached Shivaji's officers and lodged a complaint to the above effect. In reply, the officers told the complainant that nothing could be done in the matter unless the Maharaja (Shivaji, the Great) returned home from his Karnataka campaign. From the date of this letter it is obvious that in the beginning of October 1658 A.D. Shivaji was still in the Karnataka on his expedition. Assuming that he passed the rainy season of 1658 A.D. in the Karnataka, he must have started on his expedition at least in the month of May 1658 A.D. if not earlier.

The Ghatpande *farmans* point out that Afzalkhan was appointed to lead the Karnataka expedition in the month of May 1658 A.D. The Gadag Desai *farman* (if, as I believe, it refers to this very expedition) points out that Afzalkhan was appointed to the post even three months earlier. I wish to place the Marathi document with the five Persian *farmans* mentioned above and conclude that Afzalkhan's expedition was aimed against Shivaji. Shivaji, it seems, must have sent his men ahead into the Karnataka early in 1658 A.D. and he might have followed them later, though he has not been specifically mentioned in the *farmans*.

And now on this basis we can interpret the two *farmans* properly. Afzalkhan was sent to the Karnataka to oppose Shivaji and Shahaji was asked to participate in the task. He was obviously to oppose his own son and fight with him if required. Shahaji must have been naturally quite reluctant to perform this unpleasant duty. The Bijapur Sultan therefore, tried to soothe him by issuing the two *farmans*.

⁵ Report of the 4th annual gathering of the Bharata Itihasa Samshodhaka Mandala, Poona, p. 79.

TIME SIGNAL, FORT WILLIAM

R. H. PHILLIMORE

I HAVE always been fascinated by the punctual drop of the Time Ball on its mast at the south ramparts of Fort William, and on my last visit to Calcutta, made a point of taking a walk in the neighbourhood of Prinsep's Ghat at one o'clock, the time of the signal. The big black ball glides smoothly to the top of its mast a few minutes before the hour, and then drops smartly so that all who are on the look-out may set their watches, clocks, or chronometers.

The mid-day gun-fire signal is now a thing of the past, killed by war time economy. The dip of the electric light at nine in the evening is no longer required. The time signal from B.B.C. or All-India-Radio gives us true radio time throughout the day. How long will the Fort William time signal survive?

How did the Fort William signal start? The story is gathered from correspondence taken from original records of the General and Military Departments of the Bengal Government, and of the Surveyor General's Department. In a letter dated 17th October 1834, Captain Alfred Chapman, "late a commander in the Hon. E. I. Company's service", asked Mr. H. T. Prinsep, Secretary to Government, to lay before the Vice President in Council the following suggestion

That in some suitable place the exact mean time may be shewn, so that all the ships about Calcutta may compare their chronometers with the mean time exhibited, and thereby ascertain the daily rate.The rates which are obtained by taking the chronometers ashore differ in many cases from the rates on board.....This same reason has induced the Home authorities to order that exact mean time at noon to be shewn by a signal at the Observatory at Greenwich.

There is a preparatory signal hoisted about five minutes before noon, and at the exact noon the signal is made..... Similar arrangements are made.....both at Madras and Port Louis (Mauritius).....

This.....will tend very materially to the safety of navigation in the Indian seas.....A notice stating the particulars should accompany the Regulations of the Port,..... which each Commander receives from the Pilot when he first arrives.*¹

Prinsep replied that

it appears on enquiry that means exist for shewing mean time at Noon in the office of the Surveyor General, but as that office is at present at some distance from the river, and there may be difficulty in making the signal so as to be seen from all the ships in port, I am desired to ask your opinion and that of any other commanders of vessels whom you may be able to consult, whether the purpose in view would be answered by causing to be published weekly in the official Gazette of Calcutta the exact time of the flash of the evening gun, which, it is conceived can easily be watched from the river.*²

Chapman, was decidedly of opinion

that it would be better to have the exact mean time shown, if it was only once a week, than to depend upon a calculation which must necessarily be made, and which would require great accuracy. The Commander is very seldom on board in Harbour, and this must devolve frequently on an inexperienced officer.

I conceive that a person may be found in the Surveyor General's Office who might convey the exact time by a good watch to the flagstaff at Fort William, and at five minutes before noon a Ball might be hoisted as a preparatory signal within six feet of the mast head, and at the exact mean noon, it should be hoisted chock up. If this could be done twice in a week, it would be a great practical benefit to all persons navigating the Indian seas.*³

A small observatory had been built at the Surveyor General's Office, No. 37 Park Street, in 1825, so that regular astronomical and meteorological observations could be taken. A Swiss gentleman, Mr. Vincent Rees, had been engaged to take charge of the observations and their computations and these included daily observations for time taken from sun and stars.

Chapman's proposals were passed through the Military Department to the Surveyor General's office, and Mr. Joshua De Penning,

¹ Progs. of VP. in Council, Gen. Dept., of 20-10-34.

² Gen. Dept. 21-11-34.

³ Chapman's Letter of 28-11-34, Mil. Dept. 2-12-34.

the very capable Chief Computer, who held charge of the office whilst his chief, the great George Everest, was on survey up country, replied on 12th December, that the plan proposed by Captain Chapman of conveying a chronometer to the Fort to show mean time be easily effected. The expense would be palankeen hire, and a small remuneration to the individual employed on that duty.

But I think that the exact mean time could be shown by a signal at the Observatory, to be repeated at the Flagstaff in the Fort for the shipping in the river. This promises greater exactness, and would ultimately be attended with less expense. I would respectfully suggest that after the preparatory signal is made with the ball, it should be allowed to fall freely at the exact Mean Noon, instead of being hoisted chock-up, as proposed by Captain Chapman. The effort required to overcome the resistance of a body from a state of repose to one of motion would occasion a loss of time⁴.

The Town Major was now briefed:

The preferable method of showing mean time will be by suspending a ball, or making some other signal, from the Telegraph Tower, so as not to interfere with the flagstaff, and that the exact time should.....be brought daily from the Surveyor General's Office..... His Lordship accordingly desires that you will take the orders of the Governor of the Fort as to the manner of showing the Ball, or other signal, easily visible from the shipping in the river at the precise moment that will be indicated, and that when the arrangement shall be complete, you will give notice in the Gazette of the date from which the signal will be made⁵.

Everything was put in hand, and the signals were started on 28th January 1835, De Penning reporting to the Surveyor General

that in obedience to the orders of Government a signal staff has been erected on the top of the Surveyor General's office, and that the signals for showing Mean Time commenced on the 28th January last, and have been continued every day since, Sundays excepted.

The signals are made by hoisting a Black Ball to the top of the staff on the office 5 minutes before Noon, and as a preparatory signal to be followed up immediately at the Semaphore. Then at the exact Mean Noon, as indicated by the Clock and Chronometer, the Ball is dropped down instantaneously, while the same is done at the Semaphore under the management of a Non-Commissioned Officer.

⁴ Progs. S. G's Dept. 297 (19-20).

⁵ Gen. Dept. 22-12-34.

I have hitherto devoted a great deal of my time to this business in taking observations for the rate of the clock and chronometer, and making signals for Time, but as it interfered too much with my other duties, I have assigned that duty to Mr. Rees appointing Baboo Nil Comul Ghose to assist⁶.

Nil Comul Ghose was one of the eight students recruited from the Hindu College at the end of 1831, to be trained as computers. He resigned in 1838 for a post as Deputy Collector under the Revenue Department.

Six months after its start the service was discontinued owing to the move of the Surveyor General's office from Park Street to No. 21 Chowringhee, which involved the dismantlement of the old wooden observatory. The new building had been recently vacated by the "Sudder Dewany Adawlat and Nizam Adawlat", which had been moved to Alipore. It now had to be shared with the Sadr Board of Revenue, and as that office was steadily expanding the Surveyor General's Office was again moved, and this time the opportunity was taken to erect a new observatory "a good substantial pukka building". Time Signals were resumed on 10th May 1837, "from which date", writes De Penning, "the duty has been entrusted to Mr. Rees and two of the Hindoo computers". There was difficulty later, after the resignation of the batch of computers recruited in 1831, for the new batch recruited in 1838 declined to work in the observatory on holidays. The Deputy Surveyor General writes, 14th November 1840, pointing out

the probable inconvenience which may arise from Mean Time not being shewn from the Observatory as heretofore on the Hindoo Holidays. It adds twenty-eight days to those on which the Ball was not hitherto dropped. As the objection was then only understood to refer to the Doorga Pooja Holidays only (during which but few vessels perhaps are despatched), it was not deemed of sufficient importance to call for official reference.

It now appears, however, that not only all the Hindoo Holidays do the computers decline to assist in the Observatory, but Mr. Rees.....has no longer their aid on those occasional night observations which become requisite when no observation can be made during the day.

If it be deemed of sufficient importance to secure the Ball being dropped as heretofore, and Government would be pleased to sanction an Assistant for the Observatory on

⁶ S. G's Dept. 303 (515, 12-3-35), the time shewn was Local Calcutta Time.

60 rupees per mensem, his spare time might be available for.....astronomical calculations.

Government firmly refused to sanction an extra assistant; "His Lordship in Council being of opinion that the persons who have hitherto performed the duties during Holidays would be required to do so still⁷.

Signals could not always be exactly punctual, as was advertized in the *Gazette* from time to time;

This day, Wednesday the 20th November 1839, the ball in the Fort dropped 33½ seconds after mean noon. The ball at the Surveyor General's Office was dropped correctly⁸.

It is not known when the time of the signal was changed from midday to one O'clock after noon. In 1858 a new time ball was installed at Fort William, operated from the Surveyor General's office by electricity. Responsibility was later transferred to the Telegraph Department, till in 1935 it was taken over by the Meteorological Office at Alipore. As in many other branches of science, the Surveyor General's Department had taken the lead.

⁷ Mil. Dept. 25-11-40.

⁸ DDn. 355 (141).

INSHAI - NAURANG

SHEIKH ABDUR RASHID

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A FZALUL-ULEMA Dr. Abdul Huq, Member Public Service Commission, Madras, has kindly lent me a Persian manuscript, entitled "*Inshai-Naurang*". This is a collection of miscellaneous letters in Persian. The manuscript was purchased in 1256 A.H. for Rs. 2/8 by one Qadir Hussain from Mohiuddin Badshah the eldest son of one Abdul Razzaq. The name of the compiler or the date or purpose of compilation is nowhere given, nor the date of the transcription of this manuscript.

Inshai-Naurang covers 173 pages. The size of the page is $9\frac{1}{2}'' \times 5\frac{1}{2}''$ with 14 lines to a page and it is written in *Shikasta* on old hand made paper. There are 102 letters in this collection, an extract relating to the sack of Muhammadpur in 1782 by the ruler of Mysore and another extract from Khafi Khan's famous History relating to a letter written by Shah Jahan in the early days of his captivity to Mahabat Khan who was then the governor of Kabul.

Letters contained in this collection may be classified as under.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Letters from Mr. Vansittart to Mir Mohd. Jafar Khan | Nos. 1,2,3,4. |
| 2. Letters from Mir Mohd. Qasim Ali Khan to Mr. Vansittart. | Nos. 5,6,7,8,9,10,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30. |
| 3. Letter from Shah Alam to Mir Qasim. | No. 11 |
| 4. Letters of the Nawab Wazir to Mir Qasim. | Nos. 12,36. |
| 5. Letter of Kishen Rai to Mir Qasim. | No. 20. |
| 6. Letters of Mir Jafar to Mr. Vansittart. | Nos. 31,32,38,39,40,41,42. |
| 7. Letters of Shitab Rai to Mr. Vansittart. | Nos. 33,34,48,49,50. |
| 8. Letters of Shah Alam to Mr. Vansittart. | Nos. 35,52,54. |
| 9. Letter of the son of Jagat Seth to Vansittart. | No. 56. |
| 10. Letter from the Shah of Iran to Haidar Ali Khan. | No. 102. |
| 11. Miscellaneous. | Nos. 43,44,45,46,47,51,53,55,57,58,59,60,61,101. |

Some of the letters in this collection are to be found in the *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. 1 (1750-1767). The letters to private individuals and English officers throw important light on the social, economic and political conditions of Bengal after the Battle of Plassey, and these are not to be traced in the *Calendar*.

I have translated two letters as a specimen. One of these letters appears to be letter No. 1476 of the *Persian Calendar* Vol. 1, of which only an abstract is available in the National Archives of India. The second letter I have not been able to trace in this publication.

I propose at a later date to publish an abridged translation of the more important letters in this collection.

(1)

Letter¹ of Nawab Qasim Ali Khan Bahadur to Mr. Vansittart

May the kind and the benevolent Nawab of high status and dignity, patron of brothers and well-wishers—be well.

After giving expression to the desire for receiving your letter which is an epitome of my desires, it is being submitted to your enlightened and kind self that your kind letters dated Rajab² 26, brought happiness to one who was anxious to know about your welfare, by apprizing him of your health. Your sympathetic pen had written that the object in view in besieging Cuttack³ was to benefit this humble self and not the gain of the Company. Previously you had written to me that the expenses of the army of the Company shall be paid by my humble self. It now appears from your sincere letter that you think that this humble person is not interested in the project and so, considering it as vain and improper (on my part), you have given up the idea of sending an army to Cuttack. This humble one will put his heart into the campaign and whatever the British army will require of him he will readily comply with the demands. It is now long since the province of Cuttack has gone out from the jurisdiction of my *Nizamat* and has passed under the domination of the Marhattas. At present laying siege to it would be incurring a new expenditure. Whatever the expenses shall be, this humble self will meet them and whatever has been received from the territory under *Nizamat* shall be considered as written against this contract. The contract between us is that within the dependen-

¹ The year is not given but it relates to 1762 A.D. This letter was in reply to Vansittart's letter of 2 March 1762. *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. I, (Calcutta 1911), No. 1463.

² Mir Qasim wrote a letter on 18 March to Vansittart asking him about the expenses involved in attacking Cuttack, *Ibid*, No. 1476.

On 2 April 1762 Vansittart wrote to Mr. Qasim about the expenses, *Ibid*, No. 1482.

³ Vansittart wrote to Mir Qasim on 16 January 1762. ".....if Cuttack is in His Excellency's possession, the Mahrattas will not find it easy to make excursions into Bengal." *Ibid*, No. 1425.

On 16 February 1762 Mir Qasim wrote to Vansittart about "the necessity of humbling the Mahrattas in Cuttack and the probable advantages that would accrue from capturing that place." *Ibid*, No. 1446.

cies of the *Sarkar*, wherever the Zamindars or other miscreants shall raise their heads, the forces of the Company will help in chastizing them. My kind patron! when has this humble self from the beginning to this day, either written with the pen or uttered from his lips that your good self has done things only for the benefit of the Company and not for my humble self, that you should write like this? God knows that from the very beginning I think that every step that has been taken by you and every thing that you have done has been for my benefit. With reference to what you have written about my lack of interest in the matter, the fact is that the lack of initiative and dash of the Indian army is too well known to you. From the time of the kings of the old to the days of the preceding Nazims they have never obeyed anybody properly. They pay no heed to their master's interests as they should. Besides, knowing the income from and expenditure on the Cuttack expedition and the fact that it would entail an expenditure of 5 to 6 lac rupees, which would have to be met from my personal income, I had some hesitation in undertaking this enterprise. When was the whole of the province of Bengal under the Nazim that your honour should write that Cuttack is outside the jurisdiction of *Nizamat*? Nawab Mir Mohd. Jafar Khan gave to the enemy the area stretching from the district of Birbhum, etc., to 5 *karohs* of Murshidabad and had about two crores of rupees to pay to the army. The laxity of administration and the indiscipline and confusion that he had created, is not unknown to you and when my humble self had accepted the duties of *Nizamat*, I thought that something would come into my hand, it was not expected then that but for 40,000 rupees nothing would be found in the house of Nawab Jafar Ali Khan. It was on the strength of your support and interest that I expelled the enemy from Birbhum etc. and had interfered in the affairs of the province of Bengal and Azimabad. All this is due to your kindness and not to the support of the Indian forces, for these were available to Mir Mohd. Jafar also⁴. The many ways in which your honour has helped me with the English forces cannot be expressed. My heart alone, however, appreciates that. If your honour had not been so kind to me this discipline and improvement in the condition of the affairs (of Bengal) would not have been achieved. Nay it would have definitely deteriorated from what it had been under Mir Mohd. Jafar Khan. The humble self is highly perplexed at finding that the former corrupt *Mutasaddis* and bankers who in the time of the former Nazims paid 10 to 20 lacs, at this time do not like to pay even 2 lacs. Besides, it is incumbent on me to send the treasures to your honour and to pay the salaries and allowances of

⁴ For references to Zamindars, economic problems etc. see *Mir Qasim* by Nanda Lal Chatterji (Allahabad, 1935), pp. 42, 45, 48.

the soldiers. Under such circumstances the cause of my anxiety cannot be expressed. The Vakil of Janoji Mahratta was given a reply. What expenses would be incurred in sending troops to Cuttack? Please write to me. If I can I shall act in the matter as I have written. What more should I write?

(2)

Letter of Nawab Qasim Ali Khan Bahadur to Mr. Vansittart

May the kind and the benevolent Nawab—of high status and dignity, patron of brothers and well-wishers—be safe.

After expressing the desire for receiving your letter which is the epitome of my desires, it is being submitted that the account of the mischief and malice of Shitab Rai⁵ has been intimated to you before this. From that account my views which are inclined towards friendship, will be clear. How long should the seditious activities of the above-mentioned person be pointed out and explained to you? The friendship and sincerity which Major Carnac Bahadur and others showed towards this humble self was not due to fear of your anger; but that spiteful and jealous person, in league with Raja Ram Narain and others, got into their confidence and establishing contact with the officers sought to create dissensions and effect an estrangement between the Emperor and my humble self and the English and strove to put an end to the sincere friendship and alliance that existed between us. Through the grace of God and the blessing of your kind attention which I enjoyed then and still enjoy, his fraudulent machinations did not succeed. And during these six or seven months that this humble self is in this province, what deceit and fraud has he not practised? Enormous sums of money are in danger of being lost and he has put great financial burden on us in connection with military expenses. On the occasion of the Emperor's visit to Azimabad, your demand for 15 lacs was to be decided but as the above-mentioned person had accepted 60 lacs for the *subadari* of Bengal in the name of others, the matter of this humble self could not be settled for less than 40 lacs. Keeping in mind the losses that I have suffered, your kind self should take into consideration the mischief of that person (Shitab Rai) and punish him.

During the *Nizamat* of Mir Mohd. Jafar Khan Bahadur had written twice to Raja Ram Narain that Shitab Rai and others should not be

⁵ Shitab Rai is styled "Luccha" (rascal) by Mir Qasim in a letter to Vansittart in this collection.

See Vansittart's letter to Mir Qasim, *Calendar of Persian Correspondence*, Vol. I, No 1315.

Vansittart's letter dated 5 October 1762 to Mir Qasim: "Has sent his Excellency a copy of Shitab Rai's....." *Ibid*, 1340.

given control over Jagir lands and the administration of the *Nizamat* should be carefully watched. The above-mentioned one secured from the said Raja, through misrepresentation and flattery, the Jagirs and realised revenues therefrom and sent no money to the *Ahl-e-Jagirat* and appropriated the money himself. At present he wants money from me. Your kind self is one of the wisest of the age. Please think over the fact that in spite of the orders of restraint, he has taken over the administration of the Jagirs in his own hands and is spending the money. Placed as I am what is the sense in asking for money from me? How can I pay money to him?

Therefore, whatever sums stand against the name of the above-mentioned (Shitab Rai) would be found in the English list which is being enclosed herewith.

I pray that after its perusal you will relieve this humble self of the demand of payment. What more should be written? May the days of your happiness and prosperity be prolonged.

AZAM - UL - AKHBAR

K. SAJAN LAL

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EIGHT YEARS ago I wrote a small paper based on a study of a few issues of *Azam-ul-Akhbar* and *Tiasir-ul-Akhbar* of Madras of the pre-Mutiny period¹. Since then I have acquired a few issues and volumes of *Azam-ul-Akhbar* of 1849, 1850, 1851 & 1852.

Azam-ul-Akbar (the Great Newspaper), the earliest Urdu newspaper of Madras, was first published in 1848. It was lithographed on ordinary white paper and was published every Thursday. It contained ordinarily eight pages (12" x 7.6") and whenever Court Martial cases or proceedings were reported, it had ten, and at times twelve pages. Each page was divided into three columns. The title and the design of the title page vary.

In 1849, its issues were published by Haji Sayyid Rustam, son of Mir Saeeududdin and were published in the Mathba-i-Azam, Gulam Murtaza Vakil Lane, Madras. Later the press was shifted to Wallajah Road, Trimulkheri (Triplicane), Madras.

In September 1850 Sayyid Mohammed became its editor and continued as such till his death on 25 October 1852. But four months before he took over charge of the paper as the editor, i.e., on 4 June, he became the Secretary of the General Body Meeting of the Muslims which found the Madras Muslim Public Library of which we shall hear more in the course of this narrative.

This paper devoted special attention to the cultural activities of Madras.

On 5 February 1850, at about 6-30 p.m. a meeting was held in the College building when Henry Pottinger, the Governor of Madras, Chambers, the Chief Justice, the Commander-in-Chief and other high officials took part in the Annual Meeting of the Library whose chairman was Chambers, while Edward Balfour was the President of its Managing Committee. This Library possessed one lakh books². Its

¹ "Two Urdu Newspapers of Madras in Pre-Mutiny Days", *Islamic Culture*—July 1944, pp. 313-322. In this paper I said that the newspaper was called *Azam-ul-Akhbar* after "Azam" the Takhlus or pen-name of Nawab Ghaus Md. Khan of Arcot. But in the issue of *Azam-ul-Akhbar* dated 18 July 1850, the editor has clearly stated that it was named after "Ghaus-i-Azam Dastagir".

² *Azam-ul-Akhbar*, 7 February 1850.

details and accounts also appear³. The paper also mentions other Libraries such as the Fort Library, the Vepery Library, the Mount Road Library, the Medical School Library and pays tribute to their useful work.

Another important news item relates to the founding of the Madras Muslim Public Library as suggested by Edward Balfour. It was on Tuesday, 22 Rajab, 1266 A.H. (4 June 1850), that a general body meeting of the Muslims of Madras was held at 11-30 a.m. in the premises of the Polytechnic Institution to establish a library to cater to the needs of the Muslims. It was summoned by Sayyid Md. who acted as its Secretary.

Indeed this is a memorable event in the annals of Madras when we find 99 persons, including the elite of the city, taking part in the deliberations of the meeting.

Madarul Omra, the Diwan of the Nawab of Arcot⁴, proposed that Qazi-ul-Quzzat Md. Irtaza Ali Khan⁵ should take the Chair. His proposal was accepted with acclamations.

Munshi Mahmud Ali Khan Mushir-ud-Daulah proposed that suitable rules and regulations be framed for the Library (25 rules and regulations were framed). Aziz-ul-Mulk proposed that there should be patrons of the Library and added that the Governor of Madras, the Nawab of Arcot and Prince Azeem Jah be requested to honour them as patrons.

Munshi-ul-Mulk Dabir-ud-Daulah proposed that Nawab Ibrat Jung, Aziz-ul-Mulk and Amir-ud-Daulah be appointed as delegates to wait upon the Governor, the Nawab of Arcot and Prince Azeem Jah and to request them to be patrons of the Library.

Amir-ud-Daulah proposed that Qazi-ul-Quzzat Md. Irtaza Ali Khan be elected as the President of the Managing Committee of the Library.

It was also proposed that Madarul Omra, Md. Najaf Ali Khan, Maulvi Shahabuddin, Aziz-ul-Mulk, Saiful-Mulk, and Amir-ud-Daulah, should be elected Vice-Presidents.

³ <i>Ibid</i> , 14 February 1850—Annual Income :	Rs. 7,719
Expenses, purchase of books, staff pay, etc. :	Rs. 6,912
Savings	Rs. 807

⁴ Madar-ul-Omrah was the title of Abdul Wahab Khan who was the son of Md. Ghaus Sharful-Mulk the Diwan of Carnatic. Abdul Wahab Khan was born in Madras in 1793 and died in 1868. He was a very learned person and was the Diwan of the Nawab of Arcot.

⁵ Irtaza Ali Khan "Khushnud" was the son of Mustafa Ali Khan "Khushd" Mustafa Ali Khan was holding the post of Qazi-ul-Quzzat under the E. I. C. His son Irtaza Ali was born in Madras in 1873 and became Qazi-ul-Quzzat in 1828. While returning from Haj he died at Jeddha in 1853. An obituary notice with two Chronograms appear in the issues of *Yama-i-ul-Akhbar* of Madras, dated 3 July, 1854. One chronogram is composed by Sahib-i-Shireen Zabab, and the other by Md. Nizamuddin Khan, son of Sarlashkar Khan. Professor Farooqi and Prof. Mohd. Ahmad Osmani, Controller of Examinations, Osmania University are his descendants.

Ibrat Jung proposed that Md. Mehdi, Nadeemullah Khan, Dr. Edward Balfour, Mirza Abdul Baqi Khan, Mir Mohib-i Ali Khan, Agha Md. Baqir Nemazee, Haidar Jung, Hafiz Sadrul Islam, Miran Mohiuddin, Sultan Mahmud, Gulam Md. Khan and Asaf Jung be elected as Members of the Managing Committee.

It was resolved to publish the proceedings of the general body meeting in the local newspapers and to send a certified copy of the same to the Governor of Madras and his Council Members and the Nawab of Arcot⁶.

This paper gave explanations in Urdu of legal, military and other technical phrases and terms of the Company's Courts, for the benefit of professional men, from lawyers to recruiting officers, who had to learn English. In addition to educating the people, especially Indian sepoys of the army, it took great interest in publishing Court Martial cases and army circulars for their benefit⁷.

This paper evinced great interest in the Native States of India. As a sample of news reporting, we shall confine ourselves to Gwalior and Oudh.

GWALIOR: It reported that on 27th October, 1849, Tarabai left the palace and moved to the Residency on the wrong advice of her Courtiers although Mama Sahib, the Muqtar-i-Riyasat (Regent), the Maharaja and the Assistant Agent dissuaded her from taking such a hasty action. Tarabai, said the paper, had committed a blunder, ill-advised as she was by her two Courtiers. The paper also said that still there were chances of amicable settlement without the loss of prestige to either side. The Agent had advised the expulsion of her advisers from the State. In case she moved out of the State, she would be entitled to Rs. 3 lakhs a year befitting her status⁸.

On the 19th November, a durbar was held and the Assistant Agent brought the *Kharita* addressed to the Maharaja, Tarabai and Mama Sahib. In the durbar he said that the wicked advisers of Tarabai should be expelled and if Tarabai insisted on having her own way then she must be prepared to stay in a tent pitched in Phool Bag and be satisfied with the arrangements made for her maintenance. On hearing this Tarabai was grieved very much and said that she would not leave the palace unless she was removed by force.

⁶ *Azam-ul-Akhbar* dated 6 June 1850 has devoted 7 pages of its issue in giving the certified copy of the proceedings of this Library.

⁷ The Court Martial cases of Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Rawalpindi, Sialkot, Mhow, Peshawar, Trichinopoly, Aurangabad, Jallundur, Dinapur, are reported and they cover the years of 1849—1851.

⁸ 20 December 1849.

On the 21st November, a *Kharita* addressed to the Maharaja was received. It stated that the Maharaja in his State Seal should replace the words "Fidwi-i-Shah Alam" by "Fidwi-i-Shah-i-Inglistan".

It was reported that due to the insolent behaviour of Mama Sahib Tarabai's relations with the State had become very much strained. Tarabai with a few personal attendants left the city and was staying outside the city. As soon as the Assistant Agent, Major Shakespeare arrived from Agra, said the paper, Tarabai's case would be taken up⁹.

Tarabai, disregarding the order of the British Government, had left her palace. Orders had been received that she should stay at Burhanpur. Thus the paper continued reporting the news from Gwalior¹⁰.

LUCKNOW: A description of a hoax which was played on Nawab Wajid Ali Shah of Oudh, covers more than one full page of its issue. When some of the nobles of the Nawab of Oudh found that they were losing the confidence of the Nawab, they employed a queer method to regain his favour. Wahid-ud-Daulah, Razi-ud-Daulah, Tahsin-ud-Daulah and others got secretly constructed a small room and a secret passage to the Nawab's chamber. At night when merry parties were over and Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was left all alone, he used to hear some devilish voices. The Nawab made enquiries about it from his *domes* (professional singers). They said that it was the voice of 'Shah Gin'. The Nawab found this queer phenomenon occurring every night and was greatly worried. One day girding up courage he asked the invisible Gin who he was and what he wanted. The Gin replied that he was the 'Shah Gin' and had come to tender some advice to the Nawab. When asked what he had to say to him, the 'Shah Gin' said that as long as Razi-ud-Daulah, Wahid-ud-Daulah, and Sabit-ud-Daulah were respected the State was safe. The 'Shah Gin' praised the character and integrity of these nobles and threatened Wajid Ali with dire consequences if he spoke to any one about this strange phenomenon. The Nawab, just to appease the 'Shah Gin' used to keep Ashrafs near the wall. Strangely enough they used to disappear and he was surprised to find written on the wall that his *nazrana* was graciously accepted. In all the Nawab offered Ashrafs to the value of Rs. 14,000 to the 'Shah Gin'.

The Nawab began brooding over the mysterious happenings and dared not divulge the activities of 'Shah Gin' to his Prime Minister, Ali Naqi. But shrewd as he was Ali Naqi was informed of the cause

⁹ 27 December 1849.

¹⁰ 17 January 1850.

of the Nawab's brooding by his spies. It was revealed that the four nobles had employed two *domes* and these *domes* had made Sadiq Ali Khan (a servant of the Nawab's establishment) their tool. When the *domes* informed him that Nawab Wajid Ali Shah was alone, Sadiq Ali used to play the role of 'Shah Gin'.

Sadiq Ali when produced before the Nawab confessed everything and said that he had received only Rs. 500 out of Rs. 14,000. The Nawab pardoned him for telling the truth and increased his salary. Then he took action against the culprit nobles¹¹.

The visit of the Maharaja Gaikwad to Bombay—his arrival at 4 O'clock on Saturday the 26th January, 1850 and his reception at the Town Hall, and the arrival of Dalhousie on the 27th January and his durbar on the 28th are reported in the issues of this paper¹².

The paper gives facts and figures about the arms recovered after the fall of the Punjab as detailed¹³.—

Swords	...	2,117
Guns	...	1,535
Spears	...	2,702
Arrows	...	6
Shields	...	28
Bows	...	551
Knives	...	19
Daggers	...	4
Jazal	...	10
Spurious guns	...	121

Besides these, the Government recovered within five months, i.e., from 1st January to 5th April, 1850, 2,821 arms from the suburbs of Jhelum and Rawalpindi. Some more arms were recovered, numbering 10,721. The total number of arms recovered from Pak Patan and Jhelum was 1,40,728. All these were to be melted to make handcuffs¹⁴.

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² 7 February 1850.

¹³ 25 July 1850.

¹⁴ *Ibid.*

A COURT BULLETIN OF PRINCE JAHANDAR SHAH

G. N. SALETORÉ

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RECENTLY an interesting Persian document was acquired by the U.P. Regional Records Survey Committee from an old mohalla of Lucknow¹. Long neglected, the 14 sheets of this *Tomar* were perishing at the touch. But on accessioning, the document has been duly renovated.

The opening title of this fragmentary document is "*Akhbar Deorhi Nawab Asafud-Daulah Bahadur*" (i.e. Court Bulletin or News-sheet of the portals of Nawab Asafud-Daulah²). The narratives appertaining to the above are contained in 3 entries (nos. 1, 29 and 30), while entry no. 28 is about Prince Jahandar Shah. In all these, conspicuous mention is made especially of Asafud-Daulah's audience with Jahandar Shah, the presentations which he made and the pastimes which he offered to the Prince at Lucknow and elsewhere. But the central figure of the news reports is Prince Jahandar Shah himself. Moreover there are 3 entries (nos. 2, 31 and 44) exclusively devoted to the Imperial Court (*Darbar-i-mualla*). Then again there are various items of news relating to other persons. The above-mentioned are called '*Akhbars*'. All these reports were doubtless of a general interest to Asafud-Daulah, although he had nothing to do with most of the events. But to Prince Jahandar Shah, the dealings in his father's dominions were certainly of special concern. The practice of maintaining news reporters in the camps of the absent Mughal Princes was also in vogue. In view of this, it is possible that this document is a Court Bulletin of Prince Jahandar Shah, rather than that of Asafud-Daulah.

¹ No. 182 of 1951-1952. The following abbreviations are used—*Calendar of Persian Correspondence*—C. P. C.; *Historical papers relating to Mahadaji Sindhia* (ed. G. S. Sardesai, 1937)—H. P. M. S.; *Poona Residency Correspondence*—P. R. C.

² According to Sir J. N. Sarkar the news-sheets changed their character from 1750 onwards, first by giving detailed accounts and selected news; and secondly, by combining in one report the news of several days. They also changed their name being no longer called *Akhbarat-i-Darbar-i-mualla*, but simply *Akhbar*, *Sawanih*, *Parcha-i-akhtar* or *Akwal-i-taza*. See *Historical records relating to Northern India 1700-1817*, in I. H. R. C. Progs. VII, pp. 29-30. For an office called the *Deorhi* in some North Indian States see also Sri D. K. Kaul's illuminating article in I. H. R. C. Progs. II, p. 34. But it is not known if the Nawabs of Oudh had such an office.

In all there are 55 "selected" entries relating to Asafud-Daulah, Prince Jahandar Shah, the Imperial Court, Mahadaji Shinde, Ambaji Ingle, Najaf Quli Khan, Afrasiab Khan's army, Nawazish Ali Khan, Faizullah Khan, Raja Jagan Nath, Maharaja Surat Singh, Ghulam Qadir Khan, Bala Rao, Eltimas Ali Khan, Sikh invasions and the affairs of Akbarabad, Allahabad, Benares, Etawah, Farrukhabad, Muradabad, Shahjahanpur, etc.

The available dates range from 27 Muharram A.H. 1199 (Friday 10 December, 1784) to 30 Jamadal 1, A.H. 1199 (Sunday 10 April, 1785), with a date in May the details of which are lost.

Mention is made (entry nos. 1, 28 to 30) of Khud-ba Daulat and Mursidzada-i-Afaq. The courtiers (e.g. Fazl Asim, Raja Jhau Lal, Hasan Riza Khan etc.) and localities of Lucknow (entry no. 30), as well as the distinguishing appellation of the Ms. indicate that this Khud-ba Daulat is to be identified with Nawab Asafud-Daulah Mirza Amani. Again, Mursidzada-i-Afaq interchanged his turban and coat with Khud-ba Daulat. As will be seen presently, Prince Jahandar Shah also exchanged turbans with Asafud-Daulah and reported the incident to his sister, Bahu Begum, at Delhi. This establishes the identity of Mursidzada with Shahzada Jawan Bakht Jahandar Shah, who resided in Lucknow from May 1784 till July 1785 (and a little later)³.

A few items arranged subjectwise are reproduced below.

ASAFUD-DAULAH

10 December, 1784:—

Khud-ba Daulat woke up. Maulavi Fazl Asim, Raja Jhau Lal and Hasan Riza Khan came to greet. Raja Puranchand forwarded a packet of news. 2 *Gharis*⁴ later Major Palmer with Taffazul Husain Khan arrived and the latter repeatedly offered presents. Then Khud-ba Daulat with Maj. Palmer went to pay respects to Mursidzada-i-Afaq and presented him 21 *Asrafis* and a tray of fruits. "Mursidzada-i-Afaq removed the turban from the head and coat

³ With British connivance, the Prince escaped from Delhi Fort on 14 April, 1784. He was received by Governor Hastings and Asafud-Daulah on 9 May at Mohan (18 miles from Lucknow). The British allotted to him the revenues of the Khalsa mahals of Kara, Korah and Prayag (H. P. M. S.; 310, 318 & 330). However they gave him no military aid, while Mahadaji Shinde desired to provide him with his own guard. In this predicament the Prince sojourned at Lucknow. He visited Salar Masud Ghazi's shrine (Bahraich) on 1 December, joined the Vazir's hunts and enjoyed his hospitality. In July 1785, he was still at Lucknow (H. P. M. S.; 410). After the fall of Ali-garh, his relations with Asafud-Daulah became strained and he departed to Benares, where he died on 1 June 1788. See Hoey W.—*History of Asafud-Daulah* (1885 ed) p. 80; Francklin W.—*History of the reign of Shah Aulum* (1798 ed) pp. 154-162; Abdul Ali, A. F. M. *Jahandar Shah Jawan Bakht* in I. H. R. C. Progs. XIV, p. 138 ff.

⁴ Time is reckoned in the Ms. in '*Gharis*' etc. after sunrise and before sunset.

from the shoulders of Khud-ba Daulat and exchanged his used turban and coat with those of Khud-ba Daulat"⁵. 5 *Gharis* later, Khud-ba Daulat attended a feast given by Mirza Haidar Beg Khan, who bowed and presented him with 5 *Asrafis* as 'Door alms'; 21 *Asrafis* as 'Seat alms'; 23 chests of clothing; Rs. 5,000 in a jewelled tray and Rs. 500 for *Tassaduk*. Remained there for a long while (specified) and then went to Macchi Bhawan. The bearer of the royal dinner sent by the Khan was presented a shawl and a horse. Dined and had siesta. 6 *Gharis* (evening) visited the tent of Nawab Salar Jang, whose wife presented 2 chests of clothes and 4 *Acharis* full of *Achar* and *Chutney*. Accepting, rode up to Raj Mahal for reviewing the horses. At sunset departed to Macchi Bhawan and the *Mujrais* (dancers and musicians) came out. (No. 1.)

3 February, 1785:—

In the morning Khud-ba Daulat departed after obeisance⁶. Mursidzada refreshed and entered his tent (*Khema*). At 4 *Gharis* (sunset) he visited Khud-ba Daulat's tent and was presented with 11 *Asrafis*. Entertained by the *Mujrais*, Mursidzada returned to his camp at 6 p.m. Khud-ba Daulat came later with the 'royal tray' for Mursidzada (No. 28).

3 February, 1785:—

As usual Khud-ba Daulat awoke in the morning, bathed, changed dress and took tea⁷. Followed the customary greetings of courtiers (including Salar Jang and Madarud-Daulah). Ismail Beg Khan, *Faujdar* of Gorakhpur, presented one mare, a lion's cub and 5 *Asrafis*. Raja Jhau Lal confirmed that the Khan had remitted the instalment..... A shawl and an ear-ring were presented to the Khan.

Khud-ba Daulat then called on Mursidzada. Both rode 2 *Kroh*, got refreshed and returned to their tents. In the afternoon Khud-ba Daulat ordered the banks of the Baghera to be illuminated. On Mursidzada's arrival, at 4 *Gharis* to (sunset), Khud-ba Daulat presented him 13 *Asrafis*. At 6 p.m. Mursidzada departed. Khud-ba

⁵ On 21 Muharram (4 December, 1784) Prince Jahandar Shan wrote to the Governor General enclosing two letters of his mother Taj Mahal Begum. In these letters Taj Mahal Begum informed him that she "was much pleased to learn from his letter addressed to his sister, Bahu Begum, that he has changed turbans with Nawab Asafud-Daulah, and that he has awarded *Khilats* and shawls to the Nawab's men" (C. P. C. VI, 1519). This reveals that the incident occurred before 4 December 1784, when the prince was encamped at Fatehpur and was thus incorporated later in the entry under the date 10 December.

⁶ Asafud-Daulah undertook annually two regular tours. One, after the rains and in extreme cold, to Almora or Butwal; and the second, to Bahraich, for about 6 weeks, at the height of the hot season (Hoey, *History of Asafud-Daulah* pp. 45, 48 & 74).

⁷ In one of Asafud-Daulah's tours to Bahraich during 1779-80, Abu Tarlib elates the following "As the Wazir indulges in opium, he sleeps until very late in the morning; and then eats breakfast and starts on his march after a full watch of the day has passed" (Hoey, *op. cit.* p. 48).

Daulat ordered the vanguard to march 5 *Kroh* towards Fyzabad, permitting the beating of the drum (No. 29).

10 March, 1785:—

Got up in the morning and entered the 'Hamam' of Sheesh Mahal. After bath and change of dress, Khud-ba Daulat took *Ab-Chai* (i.e., water and tea or breakfast). The courtiers (named earlier) came. Puranchand submitted a news scroll. Khud-ba Daulat then rode to salute Mursidzada. On the way Haidar Beg Khan and Tikait Ray waited on him, spoke something and left. Then he left with Mursidzada and in his presence presented shawls to Bhawani, Sewak Ram and Murad Khan, *Jamatdar* (s) of the Camel Corps. Attended at noon, along with Mursidzada, a function in the Isaganj gardens. (Here follows the decision of a complaint by the local Banias). Arrangements were completed for Mursidzada's harem. Khud-ba Daulat then bowed and went to Macchi Bhawan. The royal meal was sent to Mursidzada. Khud-ba Daulat also dined, reclined, dressed up in the afternoon and went to Aishbagh. Mursidzada had already arrived. They refreshed themselves in the.....lake. At 3 *Gharis* (sunset) along with the royal party, they reached the Bara Dari of Chowk. Gave Rs. 100.....for pigeons and fighting cocks. At bed time Khud-ba Daulat escorted Mursidzada to the royal camp and himself retired to Macchi Bhawan. The *Mujrais* entertained. He came out (No. 30).

DARBAR-I-MUALLA

6 January, 1785:—

This morning the clerks assembled and rode from village Bisari. Major Browne, *Bakshi* Bird, Rainy (?) and Bird (Jr.) passed. The military arrayed and saluted..... The Emperor entered his tent (time given). Ordered Munawar Ali Khan to the next encampment. Then the *Mujrais* came (for his pastime). Munawar Ali Khan's son Rustom Ali announced (afternoon) Rambagh, 2 *Kroh* from Dekia, as the next stop. (No. 2.)

6 April, 1785:—

To-day the ladies were sent to the city at 1 *Ghari* (sunrise). The Emperor also proceeded riding on an elephant with Bairam Khan, in *Kursi*. En route Raja Deshmukh, Major Browne, *Bakshi* Bird and Bird (Jr) accompanied. Offered them 2 cakes each and they paid respects. 8 *Gharis* (sunrise) the Emperor approached the camp and entered the palace sitting on a *takht*. Dined and went to Aish Mahal. Rustom Ali announced Bhadawar, 2 *Kroh* from Daj (?) and 7 from Sikandra, as the next halt. Entered palace at sunset. At 3 *Gharis* of the night, signed the petition of drum beating, with orders for halting (No. 31).

9 April, 1785:—

To-day the Emperor entered Aish Mahal. Ordered Murad Ali Khan to dispatch the vanguard 2½ *Kroh* away.....The news-letter of Shahjahanabad was put up to him. After perusing it, he said: "Ambaji is coming to this place. What is the matter?" Later (specified) entered the palace and dined. Had siesta. At 5 *Gharis* (sunset) Murad Ali announced that the vanguard was stationed at Aurangabad (?). 3 *Gharis* (sunset), Mahadaji Shinde, Madhav Rao (Gangadhar?), Raja Deshmukh, Rana Khan Bhai, Mirza Rahim Beg etc. were given audience. Mahadaji presented to the Emperor 12 trays of royal robes, 5 swords, 4 shields, 1 Nalki and 1 *Jharledar* Palki and introduced Ladoji. The latter presented 11 Ashrafis to the Emperor and 7 to the Princes. Then the Emperor made a gift of a royal robe of 5 clothings and a bejewelled spear to Ladoji for his services as Fort-Keeper of Akbarabad; a royal robe of 5 clothings and a bejewelled spear to Mian Sarfaraz Khoja Sarai stationed at Akbarabad with 400/500 infantry; and a royal robe of 5 clothings to Rana Khan Bhai.....They all gratefully acknowledged. A royal robe of 7 clothings to Shaikh....., a pearl necklace, a jewelled sword and a spear.....for Mirza Jahandar Shah; a royal robe of 7 clothings, a bejewelled spear, a sword and a *jeegha* (turban) with feather-hold for Nawab Asafud-Daulah Bahadur, Peshwaji and Nizam Ali Khan, were all reserved in the *Tushak Khana* (Royal Store). The Nalki and Palki presented by Peshwaji were given to Mahadaji Shinde. At 1 *Ghari* to sunset Mahadaji departed and the Emperor (*Hazrat*) entered the palace (No. 44). Cf. also No. 45 below.

MAHADAJI SHINDE

1 January, 1785:—

Last night Khoja Muhammad Sadiq brought the royal seal. He was rewarded with a shawl and an ear-ring. To-day Raja Himmat Bahadur came. They were closeted for 2 *Gharis*. Himmat Bahadur proposed that the late Afrasiab's son should be introduced to the Emperor (*Hazrat*) and awarded a robe of mourning^a. Started with Himmat Bahadur in the morning (specified time). Encamped at Jewther, (4 *Kroh* from Dekia) at 4 *Gharis* (evening). Wartan Singh Diwan and Rao Macheriwala presented themselves. (Here follows a statement which seems to imply the settlement of pargana paota(?) and terms for the redemption of property worth 8 lakhs) (no. 3).

^a Ambaji, Himmat Bahadur, Narayan Das and Ibrahim Beg conferred and decided among other things, that Mahadaji should write a letter of condolence on Afrasiab Khan's assassination (C. P. C. VI, 1494). Himmat Bahadur and Narayan Das represented to Mahadaji about 25 (?) December, that he should send for Khadim Husain Khan, son of the late Afrasiab Khan, and obtain for him a *Khilat* from the Emperor, as also reinstatement in his father's place, and the Niabat be given to Himmat Bahadur. (*ibid*, 1550). They sent for Khadim Husain Khan who left by 21 December and was expected to reach the Emperor's presence shortly (*ibid*, 1 no. 1541).

1 February, 1785:—

Mahadaji Shinde took counsel from (Vi?) Nayak Khare, wakil of the late Zabita Khan and dictated a reply to Ghulam Qadir Khan. Went to the camp of Gulabji Shinde (after-noon) and 1 *Ghari* later entered the tent. Appa Khanderao, promoted Bishan Singh Sitambarwala as a sawar (no. 15).

4 April, 1785:—

Last night Mahadaji Shinde sent to Shujadil Khan the message: "The *Tushak Khana* of Afrasiab Khan is with you." The Khan replied: "Whoever has informed you.....let him be sent to me so that.....then do whatever you deem fit." Then Raja Himmat Bahadur said that he had been to Brindavan. They said Brindavan will also be searched. Thus he (?) was detained. Today Ladoji and Raja Chait Singh Banaraswala took permission to see the fort. Mahadaji bathed and attended office. Shah Habibullah came. Various problems were discussed. Mahadaji entered camp Jaretha, near Sikandra at 1 *Pahar* (sunrise) (no. 32).

9 April, 1785:—

Mahadaji told Nizamud-Din (Shah) that Ambaji was coming from Shahjahanabad on 7 April when facts would be confirmed. As desired Khadim Husain Khan came.....3 *Gharis* (sunset), Mahadaji, accompanied by companions, interviewed the Emperor and presented him trays of robes. The Emperor gave a robe to Ladoji for keeping the fort of Akbarabad and a robe of 4 clothings to Mian Sarfaraz Khoja Sarai commanding an infantry of 400/500. The Fort-Keeper of Aligarh fixed the stipends of 2 platoons encamped in the gardens of Koil-Mirza Rahim Beg's brother (Anwar Beg) was on the way (no. 45).

GHULAM QADIR KHAN

1 April, 1785:—

Ghulam Qadir Khan, Chobdar of Ghausgarh.....will start for Rampur tomorrow (from Ghausgarh). He dispatched Tafazzul Khan to Ambaji giving him one shawl and Rs. 2,000 (no. 37).

7 April, 1785:—

Ghulam Qadir Khan went this A.M. to the Royal Threshold, interviewed the Emperor, prayed for him, presented Rs. 100 and obtained in return a turban as *Tabassuk*. Next visited Maulavi Ghulam Rasul and entered the fort. Was shown the petitions of Karam Singh Tribella Shahabadwala, Diwan Singh.....Sikandra-wala and Phag Singh qasba Poorbawala. Read and gave them to Mir Abdullah. Dismissed gunner.....Qutub-Din and appointed instead Baber Singh. A petition for the Royal Presence and a letter to Mahadaji Shinde were dispatched (no. 52).

AFRASIAB KHAN'S ARMY

1 January, 1785:—

Yesterday Narayan Das informed Himmat Bahadur that Patel Saheb was pressing for the treasure..... They said: "You have sent it after informing..... Ali Khan." Then the Sahebzada's mother replied: "I have come here with my son as desired, but not brought the treasure. Send Munshi Bhawani Prasad and Lacchman Das Diwan to Afrasiab Khan's second wife, the daughter of Shujadil Khan, to obtain it. To tell me anything about it is indeed useless....." (no. 4)*.

2 February, 1785:—

Ambaji wrote to Himmat Bahadur that the Mughals are inducing (?)..... Has stayed in Faridabad and sent Rao Pratap Singh (Macheriwala) with other officers. To-day was fixed for the meeting. Himmat Bahadur showed the letter to Patel Saheb. Bajid Khan's artillerymen have revolted⁹. Bajid Khan conferred with Narayan Das. 4 *Gharis* (sunset), the latter paid Rs. 4,000 to him saying that it was sent by Patel Saheb as disbursement to the gunners and everything they desired would be done on deciding Shujadil Khan's case (No. 16).

9 February, 1785:—

Yesterday Haidar Ali Khan sent a message to Khadim Husain Khan's mother that Jahangir Khan had gone to visit the British¹¹..... She informed Patel Saheb as follows: "It is 6 months since you have promised a jagir. Now permit me to go to Fatehpur and sit on the grave of the late Nawab"¹². In reply, the Patel Saheb consoled her. To-day Khadim Husain Khan rode to Shah Habib and presented 1 Asrafi and Rs. 5. He then went to Patel Saheb's camp. The latter seated him by his side and offered him *Ittar* and Pan, after which he gave him leave..... (No. 46.)

NAJAF QULI KHAN

1 February, 1785:—

Yesterday Appaji, Dharmaji Pawar and Imamud-Din, Vakils of Ambaji, Sadiq Beg Khan and Murad Beg Khan interviewed Najaf

* Afrasiab had 3 wives. The eldest was the mother of Khadim Husain Khan a child of 4 (*Chauvarshanchen mula*). When Mahadaji summoned him, his mother escorted. The second wife possessed the forts and Afrasiab's fabulous treasure. Himmat Bahadur and Narayan Das desired to seize the forts and treasure and settle the family on a jagir of 9 lakhs. But this proposition was not acceptable to Shujadil Khan (H. P. M. S, 363 P. R. C. I. 10).

⁹ Shujadil Khan had 3 brothers—Bajid Khan, Mehrban Khan and Jahangir Khan (H. P. M. S. nos. 363 & 432).

¹¹ The fort of Ramgarh (named Aligarh by Afrasiab Khan) was under Jahangir Khan and Afrasiab's second wife. They proclaimed thus "2 or 3 times" and then made secret overtures to the British at Anupshahr. (*ibid*, 363 & 373).

¹² Afrasiab Khan was assassinated at Fatehpur (Franklin, *op.cit*, pp. 129-30).

Quli Khan and presented gifts. They disclosed Mahadaji Shinde's terms for a muafi grant (specified) to be conferred on him if, among other things, he kept himself "ready for the royal duties whole heartedly" and also that Ambaji was his well-wisher. The Khan administered an oath that he would co-operate. He then made a gift of shawls to Appaji, Immamud-Din, Dharmaji Pawar, Thirpat the treasurer etc. He sent to the Vakils Rs. 100 for a feast, informing that he would start on the morrow after the interview. To-day he held secret talks with Jai Sukh Rai and sent him to Ambaji and Nawab Nazir. Ambaji encamped on the other side of Neelamgarh and was expected to approach Sarai Khoja (no. 17).

2 April, 1785:—

To-day Najaf Quli Khan was informed that Ambaji was meeting Gurdit Singh. The Khan visited Ambaji, went to the city (Bakhtawarpur?) and sent Hoshyar Khan and Jai Sukh Rai to bring Gurdit Singh. Gurdit Singh and Rai Singh arrived. A conference took place. Najaf Quli Khan took leave..... (No. 33).

AMBAJI

2 April, 1785:—

To-day the Sikh delegation came and announced that Saheb Singh, Chief of the Sikhs, and "Bohra Guru" are proceeding to Shahjahanabad to visit the Emperor. Then Ambaji sent Darbarimal, and also his own representative Shankar Pandit, to see Thakel Singh. Gurdit Singh proposed that he desired to meet Ambaji. So Ambaji, Rao Macheriwala and Najaf Quli Khan rode away. Najaf Quli Khan dispatched in advance Jai Sukh Rai and Hoshyar Khan to convey Gurdit Singh. Then Gurdit Singh, Ari Singh and Mehr Singh came from the other side and met in conference (at Bakhtawarpur?). Gurdit Singh presented 4 bows to Ambaji and disclosed the affairs of.....Thakel Singh. Ambaji brought the 3 Sikh sardars to his own camp and said: "Only that will be done, as will please you". Then he presented 8 chests of clothing and 2 horses. But they took one horse and 2 shawls and took leave. Darbari Mal, Ram Dayal (?) and Shankar Pandit returned from Thakel Singh. But the gist of their talks is not known. An agreement was concluded yesterday. The vakils of Thakel Singh took it to Jai Sukh Rai after getting it sealed by Ambaji. The vakils of Thakel Singh and Gurdit Singh were dismissed by Ambaji with 6 shawls¹³ (no. 34).

¹³ For a treaty between Ambaji and the Khalsa Sardars effected by Rao Macheri, wala on 31 March, 1785, see C. P. C. VII, 212. The Sikh chiefs were Baghel Singh, Karam Singh, Dulcha Singh, Bhag Singh, Diwan Singh, Genar Singh etc.

BALA RAO

2 April, 1785:—

Balarao heard that Saheb Singh Ambalawala with 200 horsemen and "Bohra Guru" (of the vicinity of Bara Mula) were visiting the Emperor and staying with Nagar Seth Birbal Kodia. As directed by Ambaji, he sent provisions for a feast to Saheb Singh (no. 35).

AKBARABAD

3 February, 1785:—

Shujadil Khan directed Parmanand contractor to establish in the fort 5 shops (specified) and store in the granaries, Jwar & Bajra worth Rs. 3,000 purchased from villages. Ordered Brij Lal Diwan to issue the fortnightly rations..... The Maratha Commander had reached 12 *Kroh* from Akbarabad. A *Harkarah* assured the Mewati officers that grain for the 2nd fortnight was being distributed next week and enjoined them to be alert. It was resolved that if any one came from the fort the Imperial Court had all powers. Otherwise there would be no capitulation, without adequate remuneration (No. 18)¹⁴.

3 April, 1785:—

To-day Babu Rao Deshmukh, Mirza Rahim Beg Khan, Raja Chait Singh and Mirza Madoo (Madec?) inspected the fort till 4 *Gharis* (sunset) and then left. Raoji Patel stayed at the *Hawaili* of Bahadurkhan due to indisposition (no. 36).

9 April, 1785:—

Yesterday Raoji Patel had a tent pitched in Qandhari Bagh and entered it to-day. Mirza Jangli proceeded towards Patel Saheb's army. Raoji Patel proposed to Dhan (?) Sukh Rai to repair the damaged fort, as to-day is auspicious. The work has commenced. Banshi Dhar revealed that the gunners were removing the arms out of the fort and collecting them in the Chowk (no. 49).

SIKH INVASIONS

1 January, 1785:—

Manyar Singh, *Kumedan* of Badawa, reported that the Sikh Sardar Dewan Singh moved towards Jasui (6 *Kroh* from Ghausgarh). 200 Cavalrymen under Sorab Singh, encamped in a field outside Qadirgarh (no. 8).

¹⁴ Akbarabad surrendered on 27 March 1785. The Emperor immediately conferred the *Subahdari* of the Province on Mirza Akbar Shah and the Deputyship on Ladoji Shitole Deshmukh, son-in-law of Mahadaji Shinde. But Mahadaji appointed a relation, Rajji Patel to its Government (P. R. C. I. 12).

1 February, 1785:—

Ghulam Qadir Khan consulted Nawab Afzal Khan on hearing that the Sikhs had reached Qadar (Pargana Mangalore). They intended raiding the interior (No. 19).

2 February, 1785:—

Dolja Singh arrived from the side of Ghausgarh with 5,000 cavalry and infantry and joined the forces of Khamba Singh. They raided Nasirpur north of Ghausgarh (No. 20)¹⁵.

8 April, 1785:—

Sada Singh with 300 horsemen encamped on the other side of Daranagar. Another party emerged at Ghat Shairpur. Rai (?), Moti Ram Gujar and Kunwar Bhaban Singh watched the movements (no. 53).

The Court Bulletin also records bits of information about many other contemporary events. There cannot be any doubt, therefore, of its historical value.

¹⁵ "On 21 February 1785, Dulcha Singh and Rai Singh arrived from the vicinity of Ghausgarh and encamped 4 or 5 miles away from the Sikh army of Baghel Singh and Jassa Singh (C. P. C. ; VII, 41).

SAMBHAJI ANGRIA—A PRETENDER TO THE GADI OF KOLABA

Upendra Nath Sarkar

National Archives of India

SOME AMOUNT of mystery always surrounds the activities of pretenders to thrones and invariably they are harrassed by fate. Such is the story of Sambhaji Angria, son of Mouji, who laid claims to the chiefship of Kolaba ever since the death of his uncle Babu Rao Angria. There are interesting documents in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, which show that systematic efforts were made by Sambhaji to secure for himself the State of Kolaba. His pretension was that he was the only surviving representative of the legitimate branch of the Angria family through his grandfather Yesaji Angria, a son of Kanhoji I, the founder of the dynasty. According to him, Yesaji was the legitimate son of Kanhoji by his second wife "Koumtah Baiee, the daughter of Khusuajee Angria Urjunwallah"¹. He firmly believed that he failed to secure the chiefship mainly through the machinations of Venayak Rao Parushram, Dewanji (Minister) of Kolaba, who persuaded Peshwa Baji Rao II to reinstate Manaji II after Babu Rao's death, for his personal gain. He maintained that the Peshwa set aside his just claims for his personal aggrandisement. Failing to obtain justice from the Peshwa, Sambhaji hoped to get it from the British, who succeeded to the paramount rights after Baji Rao's fall.

He reiterated his claim for the Kolaba *gadi* on every suitable occasion. Sambhaji made several representations to the Bombay Government and to the Governor-General-in-Council to consider his claims.

Manaji, the eldest illegitimate son of Kanhoji I, occupied the *gadi* of Kolaba after the death of Sekhoji, second son of Kanhoji. He died on 23 September 1758 and was succeeded by his natural son Raghuji². Raghuji left two sons Manaji and Kanhoji and a natural son Jaising Rao. Raghuji was succeeded by his eldest son Manaji II³. About 1797/98, Babu Rao with the help of his nephew Daulat Rao Sindhia, attacked and captured Kolaba, and put Manaji and his

brother Kanhoji into prison. Baji Rao under the pressure of Daulat Rao Sindhia had to acquiesce in this usurpation⁴, as he accepted Babu Rao as the Chief of Kolaba. Curiously enough, in justification for his claim to the *gadi*, Sambhaji Angria gave a different interpretation to this incident. In his memorandum, dated 18 September 1840 to the Bombay Government he asserted that "Manaji Angria, VI succeeded his father Raghoji V. After being in possession of the state a Period of three years and seven months, a war broke out between the Peshwa and Nezam's Government, the former directed the cooperation of Sindhia who was then at Poona. He immediately assented to the Peshwa's orders, on condition that the Peshwa would reinstate the legitimate branch of Kanaji Angria I, the founder of the sovereignty of the state of Colaba. This was agreed to, and notwithstanding that the great changes that took place about this time viz., the death of Maharaj Madhaji Sindia and the prosecution of the war by Dowlutrow Sindia, his successor, the death of the Peshwa Mahadhawarao Narayin, who agreed to the condition of reinstating the legitimate branch of the Colaba Family to that Estate and of the succession of the Peshwa Bajirao Raghunath. Notwithstanding all these changes, the condition agreed to by Madhawrao Narayan Peshwa was confirmed by his successor; and Baboorao Angria No. VII, was put into possession of his ancestral state, which belonged to him as being then the sole legitimate representative of the original founder of that state"⁵. Jaising Rao, the natural brother of Raghuji, gave some opposition to Babu Rao. He attacked Kolaba with a large army and Babu Rao could repulse the attack with the help of the naval force sent by the Bombay Government and the land forces by the Peshwa. In this help Sambhaji saw the moral support of the British authorities for Babu Rao's cause. He said in the same memorandum that "in A.D. 1806, a body of two thousand men was sent by an illegitimate Grandson of Ragoji V to take possession of the estate—they landed and took Alibag, but by the assistance of the British by water, and a land force sent by the Peshwa, this body was reduced and their leader hanged, thus was Baboorao's (No. VII) right and enjoyment, not only respected, but enforced both by the Honorable Company's Government and by the Peshwa"⁶.

⁴ Grant Duff, *A History of the Mahrattas*, Vol. II p. 233; Sardesai, *New History of the Marathas*, Vol. III, p. 331; Sen, S. N., *A Man of Mystery—Apaji Angria*, *Calcutta Review*, November, 1937; *Cambridge History of India*, Vol. V, p. 369.

⁵ K.W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954. This memorandum, was accompanied by a 'Genealogical Table, which is a faithful and true representation of the family' with the following 'Explanations':—

"The Chain Link denotes Legitimate Issue. The dotted Link denotes Illegitimate Issue. The Roman Numbers I, II, III, &c. show the Persons who succeeded to the state and retained possession in that successive order. The Roman Letters A, B, C, &c. are references shown in the accompanying memorandums." The genealogical table has not been reproduced in the article.

⁶ *Ibid*.

¹ K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954.

² Sardesai, *New History of the Marathas*, Vol. II, p. 352.

³ Grant Duff, *A History of the Mahrattas*, Vol. II, p. 233 (Ed. Edwards).

'On Baboorao's death Manajee was restored to his Government by the Peishwah's aid, on which occasion he ceded to that Prince the island of Kennery 18 of the Do Turafa villages and 2 of his own.'

Babu Rao died in 1814, and Sambhaji hoped to succeed him, but that was not to be. Describing to the Bombay Government how luck betrayed him, Sambhaji said "The lapse of Baboorao Angria VII was no sooner announced to me than I (marked E), repaired to Poona to assert my right to the Inheritance of my fore-father; Whilst prosecuting such right through the means of the Resident the Honorable Mr. Elphinstone, Venayak Pursuram, the Dewan and his father, made overtures, with the Peshwa to relinquish the Island of Kanderi and territory yielding a revenue of Ten thousand Rupees per annum to his Highness, if he would confirm the state of Colaba to Manaji Angria VI—the bribe influenced his highness and he accordingly invested Manaji Angria, now VI and VIII, with the title and possession. I remonstrated with Mr. Elphinstone against this injustice, but he was pleased to state that he could not then interfere that he had made known the circumstances of the case and of my right to succeed to the Colaba state, to the Governor-General of India"⁷. This assertion of Sambhaji is substantially corroborated by W. Edwards, Assistant Secretary to the Government of India, in his note dated 17 March 1843 on the 'Colaba Affairs'. He remarked "After Baboo Row Angria's death the Peshwa hesitated for some time whether to recognise the Baboo's nephew and heir *Sumbhaje* as chief or to restore *Manajee* the rightful owner to the gudee. The readiness, however, evinced by Manajee to accede to the implied wish of the Peshwa and cede to him the fort of Kannery and its dependent territory in value about 10,000 Rs. per annum, and the refusal of Sumbhaje and his adherents to give up these lands voluntarily determined the Peshwa to recognize the claims of Manajee and he was accordingly installed in the chiefship"⁸. Thus Sambhaji lost his real chance to secure the Kolaba *gadi*. Manaji II died in 1818, and was succeeded by his only son Raghuji II. On 15 January 1822, Kasi Bai, the widow of Babu Rao, sent a petition to the Bombay Government for her claims on the Kolaba State but it was negatived on the ground "that the claims of Babooraw's branch of the Angria family having long since been set aside by the Peishwa, the widow of that chief can have no pretensions to the Govt. of Colaba. Indeed, if the claims of that Branch were admitted they would be vested in Babooraw's nephew now in Sindhia's Camp"⁹.

⁷. Pol. Cons. 3 July 1839, No. 26.

⁸. K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954.

⁹. *Ibid.*

¹⁰. K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954.

Sambhaji was also not free from other worries. In 1822 a rival claimant appeared on the scene styling himself "Futteh Singh Angria". He claimed to be a son of Babu Rao by Kasi Bai. To Sambhaji's great relief, the Bombay Government refused to have anything to do with that impostor¹¹.

On the death of Raghuji on 22 December 1838 without any legitimate issue, Sambhaji assumed the hereditary title of *Sarkhel* and *Wazarat-Maab*, used the great seal of the State, and asked Venayak Rao to carry on the Government in his name and requested the Bombay Government to recognize his rights¹². Yesodha Bai, the second wife of Raghuji, was at this time expecting a child. As a safeguard against possible fraud at the time of the birth of the child, the Bombay Government posted William Courtney on special duty at Kolaba. Venayak Rao saw real danger in Sambhaji's move and in his letter dated 2 February 1839 appealed to the Bombay Government through Mr. Courtney "to put a stop to his making the use of the seal of the state which he has fabricated and affixed to his letter", and in the same letter informed that 'there are now two men of the family of Manajee and Raghojee living whilst Sambhaji is a descendant of an unequal marriage'¹³.

Sambhaji's hopes were, however, frustrated by the birth of a posthumous son to Raghuji, on 29 January 1839, and the infant was recognized as Kanhoji II, the Chief of Kolaba. On the death of Kanhoji on 9 April 1840, the Kolaba state again fell vacant and Sambhaji though much advanced in years came forward once again to assert his rights. Raghuji left two natural sons Gunputtee and Chimnaje, who were minors. As a safeguard against all possible exigencies, the Bombay Government deputed on 23 April 1840, I. M. Davies on special duty to Kolaba to look to 'Government Interest'¹⁴.

Sambhaji was destined to have a rough sailing. Kamala Bai, the senior wife of Raghuji, appealed on 8 May 1840 to the Bombay Government through Mr. Davies seeking permission for an adoption from among the illegitimate members of the family 'according to the usages of former times'¹⁵. She wrote 'although unfortunate in legitimate male issue, there are no less than thirteen (13) male descendants now living, lineal heirs of the body (not by the female line) of the first Manajee Angria.'¹⁶

¹¹. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.

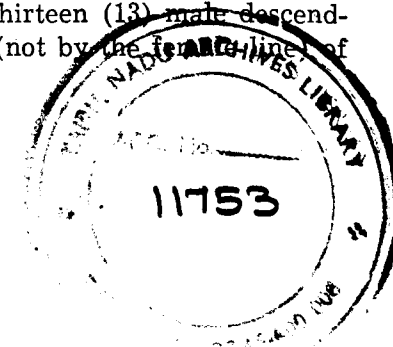
¹². Pol. Cons. 3 July 1839, No. 26.

¹³. Pol. Cons. 3 July 1839, No. 26.

¹⁴. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.

¹⁵. *Ibid.*

¹⁶. *Ibid.*



As soon as this news reached Sambhaji, he lodged a strong protest with the Bombay Government against the proposed adoption 'without any kind of investigation' and requested that the 'Estate may remain under sequestration'. It was also reported that 'he has a son to succeed him'¹⁷. In his memorial dated 18 September 1840 to the Bombay Government, Sambhaji appealed that the Dewanji "actually supported the Interests of the Illegitimate branch.....and possessed himself of all the records &ca. of the legitimate line on the death of Baboorow Angria VII, and from the absence of these, I am unable to bring any documentary record forward. It is not to the Interests of the present Dewanjee that I should succeed..... Between father and son they have held Management of the Santhan a Period of upwards of forty years"¹⁸. His brother Sekhoji died in 1839. In his letter dated 28 April 1840 to the Bombay Government, Sambhaji refused to abide by the decision of that Government dated 19 February 1839, intimating that he had 'no pretension to the Government of Colaba—the claims of Baboorow's branch of the Angria family having been long since set aside by the Peshwa' and asserted that after Kanhoji's death 'there is no heir to the Colaba State other than myself'¹⁹. Sambhaji's activities created a lot of uneasiness for the Dewanji. It is intriguing to find an entry as 'Hush-money to Sumbhaje Angria (upon Manajee's accession).....Rs. 30,000'²⁰. Shrewd as the Kolaba Minister was, he tried to buy Sambhaji's silence.

In his Minute dated 29 May 1840, I. R. Carnac, Governor of Bombay, forwarded his case to the Government of India with the remarks "that we consider Sumbhojee's claims to be inadmissible, not only because they were set aside by the Ex-Peshwa but also because he is an illegitimate member of Angria's family, more remote than the children of the late chief's father"²¹. The Bombay Government came to this conclusion after mature deliberations and a proper scrutiny of his case. They gave much weight to the genealogical table²² which accompanied the report on Kolaba dated 17 January 1839 by Courtney, and they were also guided by the views of such authorities on Maratha history as Grant Duff²³.

¹⁷. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 12.

¹⁸. K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954.

¹⁹. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.

²⁰. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 12 (Entry No. 6 in the 'Abstract of the expenses incurred in the State of Colaba from the death of Baboorao Angria & accession of Munajee Angria down to the present time (Appendix No. 6) submitted by I. M. Davies, dated 28 May 1840 to L. R. Reid, Chief Secretary to Bombay Government).

²¹. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.

²². Pol. Cons. 3 July 1839, Nos. 25-27.

²³. K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954. Grant Duff : Vol. I p. 386; see also Sarkar, H. N. "Note on the Genealogy of the Angrias", *The Indian Historical Quarterly*, Vol. XXVII. No. 2, June 1951.

Sambhaji also tried without success to press his demands through the British Residents at Gwalior. In spite of so many refusals from the Bombay Government Sambhaji did not lose heart and finally appealed to Lord Auckland on 15 July 1840. In this appeal, Sambhaji protested against the efforts of 'the widow mother of the late Kanoji Angria to secure to herself or to the illegitimate Branch (in opposition to the right of the lawful heir) the possession of the musnud'. He also reiterated that 'he has not sprung from an illegitimate Branch of the Family of the first Canojee Angria as has been wrongly and falsely shewn in the genealogical table of the Angria family', and expressed his mortification 'in the event of the late Raghujee Angray being allowed to adopt an illegitimate son, whilst a proper heir to the state as Sumbhaje Angray who has descended from legitimate family is surviving'²⁴. Courtney in the 2nd paragraph of his letter dated 17 January 1839 reported that Yesaji was an illegitimate son of Kanhoji.

Lord Auckland in his Minute dated 3 August 1840 thus observed. "But Sumbajee is asserted to be of illegitimate descent. His claim was put aside, though perhaps not expressly on this ground, by the Peshwa, and he can therefore have no right, supposing the charge of illegitimate origin to be well founded. It seems nevertheless that in 1838, Colonel Sutherland was of opinion that the claim of this person had more substance than the Bombay Government was disposed to admit.—We have no evidence but the assertion of Sumbajee himself that his descent was legitimate, but the reverse is assumed so much as a matter of notoriety in the papers before us, that though we may refer to former correspondence upon the subject, and might attempt, if necessary to obtain further information, I would, for the present, abide by the former decision upon the case of this claimant"²⁵.

In the Political Department letter No. 617 dated Agra 18 April 1843, Sambhaji was informed "that the Governor-General cannot recognise the claim of Sumbhaje Angria to the Colaba State and has accordingly issued orders for its resumption and annexation to the British territories"²⁶, although the succession to the Colaba State has not regularly descended from father to son or has been confined to the legitimate line²⁷.

Thus ended the Sambhaji episode in the long drawn Kolaba succession case. Sambhaji's name was not included in the list of pensions provided for the members of the Angria family²⁸.

²⁴ Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 13.

²⁵ Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 16.

²⁶ Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.

²⁷ K. W. to Pol. Cons. 14 June 1843, No. 954.

²⁸ Pol. Cons. 23 November 1844, Nos. 148/64.

Though the Bombay Governor I. R. Carnac in his Minute dated, 21 May 1840, considered it 'not to be good policy to disturb the independence of small Native States around²⁹ us', yet it is evident from the Minutes of Mr. Farish, dated 28 May 1840, and of Mr. Anderson dated 30 May, 1840, members of the Bombay Council, that considerations other than the legitimacy or otherwise of the members of the Angria family weighed heavily with the Bombay Government in shaping their policy towards the Kolaba State. Its proximity to the Bombay harbour 'independently of its Revenue amounting to about four lacs of Rupees per annum'³⁰ decided the issue.

WARREN HASTINGS AND CHAPMAN'S MISSION TO THE EASTERN SEAS (1778)

S. K. SAXENA

National Archives of India

BY THE latter half of the eighteenth century the British were not only well established in India but were also the principal European power trading with Canton, in South China. The articles of commerce with China were woollens and lead from England¹, broad cloth from Madras, raw cotton from Bombay, opium from Bengal and the produce of the Spice Islands in the southern seas in exchange for tea, silk and cotton cloth (*nankeens* were then an article of export from China to the West), the adverse balance being liquidated by silver² payments secured either from India or England or private British firms who gave silver derived from their trade in Asia to supercargoes at Canton taking in return bills drawn by the latter in their favour on the Court of Directors in London.

Thus the problem of a one-sided commerce which had troubled previous generations in relation to India now arose with regard to China. In order to obviate these cash transfers, the East India Company resolved in 1773 to build up an export trade in opium³ to the Eastern Islands and China. Opium had been for centuries cultivated at Patna and Benares. When those provinces passed into British hands in the eighteenth century, the cultivation of this drug was steadily increased and a monopoly created by forcing growers to sell the entire crop to the Company. At first the Company's ships carried it, but they soon abandoned the practice, because, the drug being contraband, they feared that their normal trading rights in China might be affected. Moreover, the conditions under which the British carried on trade with China were far from satisfactory. A way therefore had to be found of selling opium in China which would give the authorities no cause of complaint against the Company. There existed British agencies⁴ competent and willing to

¹. In December 1778, the Company proposed to export to China the cargo consisting of "Broad Cloth 730 bales, Long Ells 1250 bales of 20 pieces each and 16 bales of camblets and lead 250 tons". National Archives of India, Home Public Letter from Court, 23 December 1778.

². "In the 1780's the average annual value of the silver transported in the company's ships to China was £700,000", Vincent T. Harlow, *The Founding of the Second British Empire* (1952), Vol. I, p. 63.

³. J.C. Sinha, *Economic Annals of Bengal*, pp. 189—90.

⁴. British country firms, which included Parsee firms of Bombay and the Captains of the "Country Ships", under licence from the Company, handled trade inside Asia.

²⁹. Pol. Cons. 31 August 1840, No. 11.
³⁰. *Ibid.*

assume the whole risk involved in the illicit trade, but the Directors in England desired to secure an intermediary station⁵ between India and China which could be a centre of exchange for the articles of Europe and India with the products of the Eastern Archipelago suitable for the Canton market, and also be "a port of refreshment and repair for the king's, the Company's and the country ships"⁶. But this was not the sole object, there was also a consideration of naval strategy⁷.

The first definite step by the East India Company to acquire the much needed base was taken in 1763 when the Madras Council sent Mr. Kinloch to Achin to endeavour to persuade the Sultan of that independent kingdom to permit the establishment of an English settlement. This mission failed. Then Captain Forrest, who appears to have held a roving commission from the Company and landed at Achin in 1762, revisited it two years later, but he also received short shrift from the Sultan⁸. In 1766, efforts were then made to gain a foothold to the south of the Straits of Sunda, but by about 1770 it was decided that the enterprise was hopeless. The Government of India again turned its attention to the possibility of finding the desired position in the Straits of Malacca. The Company's officials at Bencoolen scouted the idea as preposterous because of the remoteness of the Straits from their settlement, but the Directors instructed the Madras Council in 1771 to despatch a mission to the Court of Achin with a view to obtain permission from the Sultan to establish a factory there. In the meanwhile the Government received a favourable account about Kedah, and, therefore, the Madras Council despatched, in February 1772, two missions, one to Achin and another to Kedah headed respectively by Charles Des Voeux and Edward Monckton, both of whom were young officials of the Company. The Achin venture, like those of 1762 and 1764,

⁵. The most frequently-used route to the factory at Canton lay through the Straits of Malacca, if the course were from India, or Banka, if from Europe. Between Calcutta and Canton, there was not a single British port except the isolated station of Perceelen. Vessels in need of supplies or disabled by storm had to seek shelter either at Malacca or Batavia, the most conveniently situated Dutch ports. Even in times of peace the relations between the two Companies were none too friendly and the charges imposed by the Dutch were ruinously high.

⁶. National Archives of India, Straits Settlement Home O.C., 22 January 1787, No. 11.

⁷. During the days of sailing ships, meteorological conditions to a great extent modified the Company's policy in founding a harbour in the East. From April to August when South East monsoons prevailed, the ships could safely remain in the Bay of Pergeal and carry out repairs but with the setting in of North East monsoons which lasted from October to March, it was dangerous for ships to remain in the Bay. They were forced either to seek shelter at Bombay, involving great expense and at the same time exposing the settlements to enemy's attack or to proceed eastwards and anchor either at Malay or at a Dutch port.

⁸. H.P. Clodd, *Malaya's First British Pioneer*, (London, 1948), p. 2 and Arnold Wright and Thomas Reid, *Malaya Peninsula* (London, 1912), p. 51.

ended in failure⁹, since the agreement signed by the Company with the Sultan had not the backing of the people of the country. In Kedah the failure was due to a different cause, the firm refusal of the Company to become involved in the quarrels of the Malay rulers.

During the next six years little was heard of the project of establishing a new settlement. This period and the six years following it were a very critical era in the history of the Company, and Warren Hastings was busy organizing the Government in India and defending British possessions against foreign and Indian powers. Yet these political and military pre-occupations did not prevent the great administrator from availing himself of every opportunity to open friendly commercial and political intercourse with other Asian nations.

On 12 February 1778, David Killican reported¹⁰ to the Governor General the unexpected arrival in Calcutta of two Cochin-Chinese Mandarins of considerable rank. He explained that in course of a trading voyage from Canton, his ship, the *Rumbold*, had put in at the Bay of Turon on the Annam coast. Here a Jesuit missionary, one Senhor Loureiro, sought for and obtained a passage for himself and the Mandarins to a Cambodian port. Stress of weather, however, had driven the *Rumbold* far to the south and the captain decided to make straight for Calcutta. On the morning after their arrival, the visitors were presented to Warren Hastings, who, with the approval of the Board, agreed to provide the Mandarins "for the credit of the Company.....a house with a suitable establishment"¹¹. In the meanwhile "the novelty of the circumstance" under which they were brought to Calcutta not only "excited the curiosity of the whole settlement" but induced "the French chief of Chandernagore (Governor J. B. Chevalier), sensible of the importance of these people" to make an offer of a vessel for them to return to their country. Hastings, therefore, thought it "both prudent and politic to seize the present occasion" to "frustrate the intrigues" carried on by Chevalier with the Cochin-Chinese Mandarins through Senhor Loureiro, the Jesuit, and also to revive the project of founding a settlement to the eastward by forming "some kind of commercial alliance with the ruling power of that country (Cochin-China), calculated to secure to the English superior privileges to the French or others"¹².

⁹. Frederick Charles Danvers, *Report on the Records of the India Office*, Vol. 1, Pt. I. (London, 1887), p. 76.

¹⁰. Public Cons. 12 February 1778, No. 1.

¹¹. Public Body Sheet, 12 February, 1778.

¹². Public Cons. 30 March 1778, No. 18.

In order to prevent expansion of French influence¹³ in Cochin-China and also to create a good impression about the Company, Hastings planned to send back the Mandarins more honourably than was intended by the merchant owners (Croftes and Killican) on the vessel, *Rumbold*. With this end in view, on 30 March, he laid before the Board a minute which summarised the advantages of a commerce between India and Cochin-China and proposed "that a person be sent, in a public capacity, with the Mandarins, to investigate the real state of their country, its sources for trade, and to discover what connection can be made with it advantageous to Bengal and that he be likewise vested with powers, should he find the state of things answer the expectations formed of them, and agree with the accounts which have been given, to form a treaty of commerce on the part of this Government with that of Cochin-China". The Supreme Council having "no objection to the experiment being made"¹⁴ to forge an intimate connection with Cochin-China, approved the same day the choice of Charles Chapman for the leadership of the proposed mission.

The envoy-designate to the Court of Annam was a young Bengal Civil servant and a son of Colonel Charles Chapman, former Commander-in-Chief of the Bengal Army. His social position and attachment "to Hastings with an affection that bordered to idolatry", coupled with his official employment as an Assistant in the Persian Translator's Office of the Public Department, perhaps enabled him, on behalf of the Bengal Government, to act as host to the Mandarins during their two months' sojourn in the city. While Chapman was on this service, Croftes and Killican, who had brought the visitors there, had been opening their minds to Chapman, urging the benefits of establishing a trade with Cochin-China and the opportunity which chance had now provided for it. This inculcated in Chapman a keen interest in Cochin-Chinese affairs and he wrote in his

¹³. In those days the British were suffering from Franco-phobia as is illustrated by Hastings' attitude towards the French mission sent to the Court of the Peshwa at Poona in November 1776. "I think it appears proved beyond a doubt that the French Agent there is entrusted with a plan which has for its object the subversion of the British influence in India" observed Hastings, a couple of weeks before the arrival of the Cochin-Chinese Mandarins in Calcutta. As the Supreme Council was entrusted with "the Maintenance of the peace and policy of the Company's settlements in India" he did not like "to remain longer in this state of supineness and indecision" in view of "the extraordinary countenance afforded by the Ministers to the Chevalier St. Lubin, and Mr. Bolts, the former an Agent of the Crown of France, the latter declared Representative of the House of Austria". These agents as he had noticed have been both received with marks of distinction which have been never shewn to our Resident, and have been admitted to secret conferences, the former has even obtained the dangerous grant of a port of trade in the neighbourhood of Bombay and if credit may be given to universal report writer engagements have been interchanged between him and the Ministers, the object of which whatever it be, must if attained prove destructive to the trade of the English East India Company". Secret Cons. 26 January 1778 No. 4.

¹⁴. Public Body Sheet, 30 March 1778.

Narrative¹⁵ that "Ever possessed with a spirit of enterprise, and allured by the hopes of distinguishing myself, I declared that I would readily undertake the voyage if the Supreme Council should think it proper to send me in a public capacity" and to that end he approached the members of the Council and the Governor General himself.

On 9 April, the Governor-General-in-Council approved the Secretary's draft instructions¹⁶ based on Hastings' minute of 30 March, and ordered them to be delivered to Charles Chapman. Therein he was informed that the Company's ship, the *Amazon*, was being prepared to take the Mandarins back to Cochin-China.

On 16 April, the mission¹⁸ with the principal Mandarin set sail on the *Amazon*, the other having left earlier on the *Jenny*¹⁹, which was first made ready by Messrs Croftes and Killican to carry them back. They reached Malacca on 29 May and Tringano on 12 June, where the local potentate offered Chapman exclusive trading privileges and permission to establish a factory in return for the Company's support and protection against his enemies. But Chapman declined the offer, due to the port being unsuitable for commerce during the North East monsoons. In company of the *Jenny* which

¹⁵. Charles Chapman on his return from the mission submitted to the Board a graphic report chronicling the political, commercial and strategic state of the country and this report formed a part of the Bengal Home Public Department Proceedings of 4 October 1779. Unfortunately neither the original consultation nor the proceedings of that date are available in the National Archives of India. A copy was, however, sent to the Court of Directors under Bengal Home Public Letter of 14 January, 1780, and is available in the Commonwealth Relations Office, London, *Factory Records, China*, No. 18 (vide William Foster, *A Guide to the India Office Records, 1600—1858*, p. 94) a portion of it was used in Sir George Staunton's book, *An Authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China* (London, 1797). A copy of the narrative was also supplied by the Board to the Bengal Royal Asiatic Society on 13 April, 1784, at the request of Sir William Jones, but even this manuscript is missing from the Society's archives. For the first time the narrative came in print in 1802 in the *Asiatic Annual Register* of 1801 and subsequently it was published in 1817 in the *Asiatic Journal*, London, Vol. III, pp. 229—31, 322—25, 421—24, 542—45, Vol. IV, pp. 14—18, 121—26, 234—40, 339—43 and also in *The Journal of the Indian Archipelago and Eastern Asia*, for May and June 1852, edited by J.R. Logan, Singapore, Vol. VI, pp. 290—320, 349—68.

¹⁶. Public Cons. 9 April 1778, no. 3.

¹⁷. Although Philip Francis had no objection to the mission being sent to Cochin-China he had something to say as usual against Hastings' proposal on the despatch of the *Amazon*:

"I have no objection to the experiments being made and I agree with the Governor in thinking that the civilities we have already shewn to these Mandarines and even our paying the expence of their return might be productive of good effect, but as the *Amazon* is the only armed vessel we have in the river, and as many occasions may possibly arise in which her service may be wanted I am unwilling to send her on this expedition. I think it would be better to make use of the vessel already fitted out by the Gentlemen in whose Ship the Mandarines came hither, and to make them a compensation for the expence of the voyage." (Public Body Sheet 30 March 1778).

¹⁸. The principal companions of Chapman were Writer Bayard, Assistant Surgeon Totty, Captain Maclellan of the *Amazon* and Captain Hutton of the *Jenny*.

¹⁹. Hastings reported that it was "of 120 tons burthen and has no accommodation for passengers" but the *Narrative* puts it between "seventy and eighty burthen".

had reached Malacca earlier, the *Amazon* proceeded on her way to Cochin-China.

The ships arrived at the mouth of the western branch of the Mekong on 25 June, where Chapman found the whole region in the hands of Nguyen Van-Nhac²⁰, the rebel king. The legitimate king had been murdered, and all the friends of the Mandarins who accompanied Chapman from Bengal were either dead or in hiding. This intelligence gave the principal Mandarin²¹ the greatest fright and he tried to dissuade Chapman from landing on enemy occupied territory. Chapman thought that, if he were to avoid every place in possession of the rebels, he was virtually to abandon his commission and return to Calcutta, but he did not wish to leave Cochin-China, almost as totally uninformed as when he left Bengal. On 13 July, he dropped anchor in the Bay of Qui-Nhon and a few days later met Nguyen Van-Nhac, who informed him "that the fame of the English exploits had reached him, and that he had heard they exceeded all other nations in the number of their ships, and excelled in the management of them; but they had made an ill use of the advantage, for he had also been informed that they indiscriminately attacked and plundered whatsoever vessels they met with, that he was very willing to permit the English to trade to his ports" and afterwards asked Chapman on what terms he would agree to assist him with the vessels to fight his enemies. Chapman made it clear that he was not authorized to take part in the disputes that were raging in the country. At a private audience, Nguyen Van-Nhac desired that the Governor General should send him a capable person for instructing his people in the art of war. He explained to Chapman his future designs which were no less than to subdue the kingdom of Cambodia, with the whole peninsula as far as Siam and that part of Cochin-China then in the hands of the Tonquinese. In order to realise his ambition, he wished to obtain the assistance of some English vessels and in return promised a cession of territory. Chapman agreed to refer his conversation to the Governor General and, on 28 July, sailed towards the north.

Reaching the Bay of Turon on 2 August, Chapman dis-embarked at the village of Turon to make enquiries about "the dispute which

²⁰. Nguyen Van-Nhac was the eldest of three brothers Tay-Son, who, as the rival of the Nguyen of Hue from 1771, became the master of Middle and Lower Annam and proclaimed himself Emperor. The word Tay-Son was translated by John Crawford as "mountaineers of the West", the native country of the insurgents being the mountains of the province of Quinhone, lying west of the capital.

²¹. The other died soon after leaving Malacca. His death caused Chapman much disappointment for he was a sensible, steady and well-behaved man and on him Chapman had relied greatly for assistance amongst his courtiers.

had arisen (in 1777) between some of his (Nguyen Van-Nhac's) people and those of an English ship (the *Rumbold*)" and to sell the cargo brought from Bengal but "could not find any body capable of purchasing". On the invitation of the Mandarin, he set out on the 13th for the partially-destroyed city of Faifo and returning on the 15th, sailed on the *Jenny* on the 18th, the *Amazon* being unable to proceed up the river Hue due to the waters being shallow.

At Hue, Chapman had a mixed reception, the Viceroy being favourably disposed in contrast to the Commander-in-Chief's indifference. However, he continued to point out to the Mandarins the advantages which the Company and the Tonquinese could derive if a trade link were established between them. He also supplied them with a list of the *Jenny's* cargo and sold "iron, copper, lead, hardware, glass, Bengal and Madras cloths" on credit, the local practice then being to settle the accounts at the time of departure of the ships.

Here again the mission failed to achieve its object. From the beginning, the Tonquinese looked with suspicion²² on and doubted the sincerity of the mission because they thought that under the guise of commerce, the ultimate aim of the English was to secure political control over the country. The arrival of the *Amazon* at the mouth of the river in September, to land Captain Maclellan who was dangerously ill for the "benefit of a change of air" further appears to have strengthened their doubts. Added to this was the hostility of the Chinese residents who "finding my (Chapman's) views bent on the establishment of a commerce they were afraid would be rather detrimental to (their trade).....represented to the Mandarins that the English were come to deprive them of the country" and even represented Chapman's visit to the burial ground as "a pretence of attending the funeral of Captain Maclellan²³, that I might have an opportunity to examine the country and the gold mines, said to be situate near the place he was interred at" (a distance of seven or eight hours journey into the interior).

Ultimately Chapman and his colleagues were drawn into actual hostilities with the Tonquinese and narrowly escaped having their vessel seized. On the night of 29 November, the *Jenny* succeeded in crossing the bar of the Hue river and rejoined the *Amazon* the next day. Chapman intended to call at Qui-Nhon to see Nguyen Van-Nhac

²². Ong-ia nai, who was the offspring of a Chinese by marriage with a Tonquinese woman, in the course of his conversations with Chapman "took an occasion to abuse the Government he was a member of; and hinted if the English thought it an object, how easy it would be for them to become masters of the country. The hook (proceeds Chapman) was too unskillfully covered for the bait to allure, I utterly and entirely disclaimed any such intention."

²³. He died at Hue on 2 October 1778.

and subsequently to proceed to Donai but the weather then being unfavourable, he gave up all hopes of going to the coast. On 23 December, the *Amazon* went past Pulo Condor and on 1 January 1779, anchored in the Malacca roads, sailed from there on the 8th and arrived²⁴ in Calcutta on 16 February 1779.

On 17 September Chapman submitted to the Governor-General-in-Council a narrative of his transactions in Cochin-China and pointed out that failure²⁵ "did not arise from any misconduct or want of exertion on my part, but from the distracted state of the country, and the total suppression of the party I relied on for support²⁶". Although his experience was far from happy, yet his account is not totally discouraging. He was firmly convinced that once normal conditions were restored Cochin-China, with its abundant resources, could be easily developed into the base for a new policy of expansion of British commerce in the Far East.

Chapman in his narrative points out the commercial, strategic and political advantages which the Company could have over other European nations should they found a settlement in Cochin-China.

Firstly he enumerates the articles of Cochin-Chinese commerce which could be exchanged with those of India and England for the Company's investment in the China trade. He further brings out the restrictions under which the English had to carry on trade at Canton and continues that "It is an opinion latterly grown current that the Chinese are desirous of totally excluding all Europeans from their country..... Were such an event to happen, the want of a settlement to the eastward would be severely felt. The Chinese would export their own commodities, and Java or the Philippines, as the nearest ports, would become the marts for them. As there is no reason to suppose that our inability to procure them from the first hand would hinder their consumption, we must buy them either from the Dutch or from the Spaniards" (which factor would repeat the old difficulties the Company faced in the seventeenth century with

²⁴. Professor Harlow mentions in his book "*Second British Empire*", on p. 100 that "Reaching Calcutta in September, 1779, Chapman reported his ill success to the Supreme Council", presuming the date (17 September, 1779) of submission of the report as the date of Chapman's arrival in Calcutta, whereas on his arrival from Cochin-China, Chapman was for sometime (29 March 1779) in charge of the "records and old papers". Public Cons. 19 April 1779, No. 31.

²⁵. John Barrow, in *A Voyage to Cochin China*, (London 1806) observed that the character of merchant is here (Cochin China), as well as in China, held in very low esteem, and the government is equally jealous of admitting an indiscriminate introduction of foreigners into its ports..... there is something in a commercial intercourse which is inconsistent with diplomatic agency.... (Chapman's) mission..... having called at different ports on the coast of Cochin-China, and traded with different parties then struggling for the government of the country, they were suspected by all of them."

²⁶. Home Public Vol. 41 for 1778-79 containing copies obtained from the India Office, p. 436.

regard to the spice trade.) "A settlement in Cochin-China" he proceeds "will give us a superior advantage to either, both as its situation is nearer, and the Chinese are more accustomed to resort thither; in all event there is reason to suppose it will enable us to procure the commodities of China at a much more reasonable rate than now purchased by our factors at Canton, and certainly on less humiliating terms to the nation. Large colonies of Chinese have from time to time emigrated from the parent country and fixed their abode in different parts of Cochin-China; these have their correspondents in every sea port of the empire; through their means, teas, chinaware and the various other articles, the objects of our commerce with China might be imported in junks to our own settlements, equally good in quality, and cheaper, as the Chinese are exempted from the exorbitant duties levied on foreigners. Some of the best workers might be encouraged to settle in Cochin-China, and under their direction manufactories carried to as great a degree of perfection as in China itself.

"The intercourse between Japan and Cochin-China might be renewed, and we might participate in a trade, for many years monopolized by the Dutch.

"An advantageous trade might be carried on with the Philippine Islands, and Madras and Bengal goods introduced amongst them by means of the junks for the consumption of Spanish America.

"The Siamese and Cambodians, would bring the produce of their respective countries and barter or sell them for such articles as they wanted from Cochin-China. Amongst them it is probable a vent might be found for quantities of Bengal cloths.....

"The demand for opium, already in some measure become a necessary of life to the Chinese, would increase in proportion to the facility of procuring it. The importation of it no longer confined to Canton, but carried by the junks in every sea port in the country, would spread the demand of this drug to the remotest parts of the empire."

He further adds that he had taken advantage of the occasion to inform himself of the production of gold in Cochin-China and had learnt that ore was exceptionally rich and could be obtained without much labour in the mines of the provinces situated at the north of Hue.

From the commercial advantages, he proceeds to emphasize the strategic aspect. A British occupation of the Bay of Turon on the Annam Coast would provide "a secure retreat to our Indiamen in case of their losing their passage to China but from thence we might

also intercept the fleets of any hostile power either going to, or returning from that country", and thus the English would "become formidable neighbours to the Dutch and to the Spaniards, and in the event of a war with either of them, attack with advantage their most valuable settlements. In short all the arguments²⁷ in favour of a settlement at Balambangan may with much more propriety be urged for one in Cochin-China."

Finally, Chapman was strongly in favour of immediate action. He wrote that "should any thing that has been said, appear sufficiently well-grounded to induce the Company to form a settlement in Cochin-China, it may be effected on principle strictly just and at a small expense. Several of the royal family, besides the Mandarins who were in Bengal, with many officers of the late Government urged me to use my endeavours with the Government of Bengal to induce it to afford them assistance, promising a powerful support whenever we should heartily engage in their cause; to restore²⁸ their lawful sovereign to the throne, would be now a measure so popular, that the sincerity of their offers cannot be doubted. To relieve an unhappy people groaning under the weight of the most cruel oppression would be an act worthy the humanity of the British nation. Fifty²⁹ European infantry, half that number of artillery and two hundred sepoys would be sufficient for this and every other purpose...

"While Cochin-China remains in its present distracted state, a favourable opening is presented to the first European nation that may attempt to obtain a footing in the country. Three years ago, the French sent a frigate to Turon Bay, and from the pains taken to be informed of the produce and political state of the country, there is strong reason to conclude some such design was in agitation..... added to the loss of all their settlements in India, will most probably induce them to resume it. If they do not, some other power may adopt the scheme. Should the Company, therefore, entertain a

²⁷. "The objects of which were stated to be, (1) to divert the Chinese trade into this channel, (2) to draw the produce of adjoining countries hither, and (3) to form a port for the introduction of spices, & c., by the Bugis, and for the vent of Indian commodities." Danvers, *Records of the India Office*, p. 103.

²⁸. John Crawford, who visited Cochin-China in 1822, reported "that the bulk of the people were by no means so anxious for the restoration of the legitimate kings..... nor the Government of the Taysons so odious and unpopular. I was, in fact, assured by Chinese merchants with whom I conversed at Hue, and who had lived in the country during the rule of both, that the Taysons governed the country with more equity and moderation than either the present king or his father." John Crawford, *Journal of an Embassy..... to the Court of Siam and Cochin China*, (London, 1828). Here it may be stated that Crawford did not succeed in his mission, though he was able to collect more information of those countries than any other European traveller before him.

²⁹. Governor Chevalier, whose conduct we noted earlier, recommended to his superiors "two hundred Europeans with a good artillery and two hundred to three hundred soldiers". Quoted in C.B. Maybon, *Histoire Naturelle du Pays d'Annam*, p. 180.

design of making an establishment in Cochin-China, no time should be lost in carrying it into execution."

The Supreme Council were "pleased" with his conduct in this troublesome and perilous service, and recommend (ed) his narrative of it and the observation which follow(ed) it, as deserving of your (Court of Directors) attention³⁰ but both Calcutta and London hesitated to carry out his designs in Cochin-China presumably for the following reasons.

If founding a settlement in Cochin-China was primarily for commerce, the Company could not hope to succeed in their objects as the countryside according to Chapman was in a devastated condition and in the grip of civil war. Trade could only develop in those areas where there was settled government and peace prevailed.

To depend upon the local Chinese population in Cochin-China for facilitating the Company's trade with China was out of the question for they were obviously hostile to Chapman fearing that the Company's influence in the settlement would ruin their means of livelihood.

If a settlement in the east were to be established as a counter-balance to the East India Empire of the Dutch and to keep open the Company's trade route to China, an establishment in Cochin-China could serve no useful purpose without a base³¹ in the Straits of Malacca or of Sunda. Geographically, it was situated as disadvantageously as China. In the event of war with the Portuguese or the Dutch, they could still cut the line of communication to those areas as the Dutch were predominantly entrenched in the Straits of Malacca and the Eastern Islands and the Portuguese at Macao and either could intercept the Company's trade with China and Cochin-China.

The Court of Directors did not encourage entanglement in native politics, leading as it did to participation in native wars, for the Company's interests in those regions then were purely commercial. Consequently the Governments of Madras and Bengal, time and again, declined to accept the territorial cessions offered by the unfortunate

³⁰. Public Letter Cour, 14 January, 17 1780, para. 48.

³¹ Chapman's *Narrative* was sent to the Directors under a letter dated 14 January 1780, by the *Ganges* and the *Talbot*, which reached Crookhaven in Ireland on 9 January 1781. The Secret Committee of the Court of Directors might have perused the narrative before they issued "the following urgent and pointed orders" to Hastings for a settlement east of the Bay of Bangal. The orders run thus "But a more considerable object which claims Our attention is a settlement at Acheen, and the Importance of an Establishment at Acheen would be greatly increased by small settlements upon the Nicobar and Andaman Islands. Our present Idea is that a Tract of country be procured from the King of Acheen sufficient to prevent all Erections towards the Sea except our own, that as may be enlarged if we become popular there." Secret Letter from Court dated 8 December 1781, Vol. I, Pt. I, pp. 375-78; Public Cons. 19 January 1784, nos. 3 & 4.

Eastern princes in exchange for protection against their enemies or assistance if they were to conduct aggressive wars. The missions sent to the Malay Peninsula between 1762 and 1772 failed to achieve their objects because the Company declined to conclude offensive and defensive alliances with those potentates. The rebel Annamese King did promise to cede territory for an English factory in Cochin-China but the offer carried with it the price of political alliance for waging aggressive wars at the expense of neighbouring potentates.

Those were the days of experiments and explorations³² and presumably the Bengal Government did not wish to invest money on any doubtful enterprise (establishment of an harbour on the coast of Annam in the Bay of Turon). Moreover they had not abandoned till 1789 the idea of founding a suitable harbour for receiving "the King's, the Company's and the country ships" on the Indian side of the Bay of Bengal³³.

Even if the Bengal Government were to agree to open a settlement in Cochin-China, they were then unable to spare³⁴ men and money on a similar project in 1780, in view of hostilities against France, who in later years supported by Spain and the Netherlands waged war against the British.

It was the force of prevailing circumstances which induced the Bengal Government to send Chapman, whose apparent object was to frustrate the designs of the French in Cochin-China. During the years to come, the Company did try to establish connections with the Annamese, always trying to "permanently exclude the French"³⁵ from Cochin-China, and commerce was definitely a subservient factor in their endeavours for their energies were directed against the Spaniards in the Philippines and the Dutch in the Moluccas. As earlier stated, the Company could no more afford to see the key bases retained by the Dutch in the East in the grasp of the French, who then dominated the Netherlands in Europe.

In short, Chapman's mission was one of a series of experiments carried out by the Company to secure a line of independent bases (to link England, India and China) to guard the sea passage across the Bay of Bengal and through the Straits of Malacca, which operation concluded successfully with the occupation of Penang³⁶ in 1786 and Singapore in 1819.

³². Public Cons. 22 December 1783, No. 2.

³³. Public Cons. 13 January 1789, No. 13.

³⁴. Straits Settlement Home Cons. 27 July 1787, No. 2, Arnold Wright and Thomas H. Reid, *The Malay Peninsula*, p. 60.

³⁵. Secret Cons. 16 June 1804, No. 16.

³⁶. The Sultan of Kedah ceded Penang under the implicit belief that the Company would protect him from the Siamese and other surrounding powers, but the Company repudiated the commitments made by Francis Light with the Sultan, taking advantage of Pitt's India Act of 1784. To the Company it was an imperial necessity in contrast to Cochin-China as the former guarded the entrance to the Straits of Malacca.

A LETTER OF NAWAB NIZAM ALI KHAN ON HOLLAND'S MISSION, 1779

SAYYID MOHIUDDIN

Central Records Office, Hyderabad

THE CENTRAL Records Office, Hyderabad, is a repository of old records of the administration of the State, ranging back to 1719 A.D., preserved in the several *daftars* or offices. Among the records of *Daftar-i-Darul-Insha*, a letter addressed to Mubarizul-Mulk Bahadur¹ by Nawab Nizam Ali Khan has been found. This is written on five sheets of paper, 15"×5", and is dated 12th Jamadi II 1193 A.H. (27 June 1779 A.D.). This communication, written after the arrival of John Holland as an envoy of the Madras Government at the Nizam's court, throws considerable light on the relations that subsisted between the English Company and Hyderabad.

The story of Holland's mission, its failure and the dismissal of Thomas Rumbold, Governor of Madras, on account of the differences between the Supreme Government at Fort William and the Governor and Council of Madras, have been fully narrated in modern works on Hyderabad. The records among the Secret Proceedings of the Fort William Government, now in the National Archives of India, furnish a full account of the mission from the point of view of the English authorities in India. So far hardly any records containing the views of the Nizam on the mission and his relations with the Company have been published. After the agreement which the Madras Government concluded with Basalat Jung in January, 1779, regarding the cession of Guntoor, independently of the Nizam, the latter was naturally suspicious about the intentions of the Company and resented their actions. The letter of which a free translation is given below contains the views of the Nizam pertaining to Holland's mission and the former's apprehension of an outbreak of war with the Company. The letter closes with a proposed plan for the defence of the State.

The contents of the letter are:

"Prior to this, information has already been communicated to you regarding Mr. Holland's visit to our gracious presence; details

1. Nawab Mubarizul-Mulk Bahadur, known as Ibrahim Beg Khen Dhensa, who was first attached to Nawab Wala Jah Bahadur of Madras, came to Hyderabad accompanied by Nawab Ruknud-Daula Bahadur, the Diwan, after the treaty of 1768. The Nizam was graciously pleased to honour him with the titles of Zabita Jang, Zafarud-Daula, Mubtarizul-Mulk Bahadur and to grant him the districts of Warangal, Khammam and Elgarol, etc., for the maintenance of troops.

have already been furnished about his supplication and the despatch of a letter to the Governor of Chinnapatan (Madras) to which a reply was being awaited; and that we had promised to write to you as soon as a reply was received. Yesterday, 11th Jamadi II 1193 A.H. (26th June 1779 A.C.) Mr. Holland had the honour of waiting upon us and submitting the letter received in reply from the Governor of Chinnapatan (Madras). Although no replies to the point stressed on Mr. Holland during two or three audiences granted to him, were given, there were one or two paragraphs which relate to the French, as would be apparent from the enclosed copy. When we had ascertained anything about the points referred to in the letter addressed to him, Mr. Holland replied in the negative, except for the request which the Company had made to us for remission of the arrears in respect of Northern Circars then and in future recoverable, as the Company had sustained a loss consequent on the invasion of Phulcherry (Pondicherry) and on account of a fall in the revenues of the territories of Northern Circars, namely Rajahmundry, etc. On hearing this, we were highly agitated. We frankly told him that the Company had, we understand, resolved to violate the terms of the treaty otherwise such a request would not have been made. The terms of the treaty should be referred to: the Company could, under the provisions of the treaty, if any, avail of remission; we would readily grant it. As regards a fall in revenue, the Company should have acquired the districts after thorough examination of pros and cons. As such, the request made for the remission could not be granted as this would be a breach of the treaty. We further stated that no delay should be made in the preparations of war and challenged the Company to come forward to wage war in spite of the rainy season. The sinews of war were not, by the grace of God, lacking. As cordial relations were existing between the parties, we had, in view of the agreement, refrained from taking steps against the Company in spite of instances of violation of the terms of the agreements, such as protection given to Raghonath Rao by the Company. God be thanked that the Company had taken the initiative as we wished. It was not proper to utter words of pride but we were sure that the result of the message sent by the Company would adversely affect them. It should not be presumed that the same result as that had, due to the inexperience of the officers incharge occurred at Tirnamali, would betide. We had since been earnestly praying God to take revenge but we refrained from taking any action keeping in view the agreements between the parties. Since the Company had, on its accord, taken the initiative to commit breach, we were also ready for war without any delay. Hyder Naik had bitter animosity against the Company and was keen on taking revenge with our alliance. Poona Authorities were also determined. But both the parties were hesitating

because the Company had friendly relations with us. Now, as the Company, on their own accord, wished to create a discord and commit a breach of the treaty, let it be so. From their recent movements and behaviour it appeared that the English had lost their sense and were doomed to face misery and indignity in the near future. Although the Governor of Bombay had been actually repulsed by the Poona Forces, they still cherished vain pride in their brains. No matter; there would surely be a fight between us and the English, and the result would depend upon the strength and weakness of the parties. Expressing such sentiments, we asked Mr. Holland if he would depart and place the facts personally or would communicate and obtain the reply from the Governor of Chinnapatan (Madras). Mr. Holland replied that he would write in detail and obtain a reply as directed. Whereupon we told him that no delay should be made as before and that the reply should come in a fortnight, to which Mr. Holland agreed and departed. We are giving a full account of the meeting. As previously indicated in the war plan, Prince A'li Jah Bahadur (May he live long!) was posted to Raghupathipet and Sharfud-daula Bahadur, with other Officers, was stationed in the vicinity of Kodai and Amarabad, and a few thousand *Sair* troops were despatched towards Nalgonda and Devarkonda. But now we feel that Prince A'li Jah Bahadur should remain at Raghupathipet and Sharfud-daula, with officers, under him, i.e. Hashmat Jang Bahadur, Muhammad Salabat Khan Bahadur, Muhammad Bahlul Khan Bahadur, Sarbaland Khan Bahadur, Muhammad Ghouse Khan Bahadur, Chalpathi Rao, Kalyan Rao, and the contingent of Rajah Maharaja Bahadur, Govind Rao and Mukat Rao, should proceed to the Devarkonda and Nalgonda districts and stay there to inspire awe and reverence. For the well being of the State and in view of the expediency of the times, whatever may be considered good should at once be communicated to us in detail. An early reply is awaited. Brook no delay; nothing more to write about."

THE DIPLOMATIC INTRIGUES OF CHEVALIER, GOVERNOR OF CHANDERNAGORE (1767—1778)

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ALTHOUGH the Seven Years' War dealt a severe blow to the French political ambitions in India, hopes for a revival of the lost position persisted for thirty years more and were not finally abandoned till about the end of the 18th century. All through that period numerous diplomatic and military projects for the destruction of the English power in India were submitted to the Ministry in Paris by Frenchmen in India, including Governors and other officials as well as private adventurers in the service of the Indian Princes. One of the most important among them was Jean Baptiste Chevalier, Governor of Chandernagore from 1767 to 1778. Chevalier was a most colourful personality with an unlimited optimism and a blind patriotism which on occasions brought on him ridicule even from his compatriots. He kept himself in constant touch with the Princes of north India and with the French military adventurers scattered all over the sub-continent, intrigued at every Darbar, and never doubted for a moment that it was possible for France even at that late hour to drive the English out of Bengal with the help of some of the Indian Princes. At an earlier period, when the English had not yet become firmly entrenched in Bengal, an energetic man like Chevalier might have done much in furthering French political influence in north India. But unfortunately for him and for his country, he came ten years too late, when the English had already established their firm grip on Bengal, Bihar and Oudh, and France had fallen into a strange state of lethargy in colonial matters as a result of the frustration of her earlier efforts. Under the circumstances all that Chevalier could do was to carry on secret pourparlers with the north Indian Princes for an alliance with France and a combined attack on Bengal, just an alluring mirage, and to write frantic letters to the Government in Paris to send immediate and large-scale military assistance to these shadowy allies,—letters which down to the death of Louis XV did not receive even the scantiest attention in Paris and remained for the most part unanswered. As a consequence Chevalier had to suffer the disappointment of ending his career as a mere intriguer, and although the English in Bengal considered him as their most dangerous enemy,

to his own countrymen he remained a ridiculous figure who put forward fantastic and chimerical projects.

For some time after assuming charge of the French possessions in Bengal Chevalier tried to secure his national interests by a policy of friendly and amicable relations with the English. He was a pleasing and genial host, and his palace at Goretty, near Chandernagore, was the rendezvous of most of the Calcutta celebrities of the time, including the Governor. For a time the policy of personal contact succeeded, but in 1769 there was a sudden setback and the English grew increasingly jealous of the economic recovery of the French possessions in Bengal. They used their political power in the province to stop all French trade and commerce despite the provisions of the treaty of 1763. When repeated protests to Calcutta failed to secure respect for treaty provisions, Chevalier turned as a last resort to the north Indian Princes and tried to foment an anti-English coalition strengthened by French troops.

A connected account of Chevalier's diplomatic intrigues in the different north Indian Darbars and the policy he wanted France to pursue in order to drive the English out of Bengal may be gathered from the large mass of letters he wrote to the Minister in Paris from 1769 to 1778¹. We may discern three distinct periods in his ideas about French intervention in Indian politics,—the first from 1769 to the installation of Shah Alam on the Imperial throne at Delhi in 1772; the second from 1772 to the broaching of the Tatta project in 1775; and the third from 1775 to 1778, when all diplomatic projects were cut short by the sudden outbreak of war and the prompt capture of Chandernagore by the English. In the first period Chevalier's policy was rather vague and not based on any definite line of action. He thought in a general way that the rapid expansion of English power had so much antagonised the north Indian Princes that it was quite an easy task to combine all of them in a joint attack on Bengal, provided they were assured of French military and naval assistance. In the second period Chevalier's policy took a more definite and concrete shape. He dropped the idea of a number of heterogeneous allies and concentrated on a solid alliance with the Mughal Emperor, Shah Alam, now installed at Delhi. He advocated a policy of strengthening the hands of the Emperor and enabling him to assert his authority over his former vassals, who had assumed virtual independence, by lending him 5,000 French troops and organising a large sepoy force trained and armed in the European fashion. In that case the mere extension of the Emperor's authority would mean an extension of French political influence in north India, and when the opportune moment would come there could

¹ Bibliothèque Nationale, MS. Fr. N. A. 9366.

be launched a joint attack on Bengal by land and naval forces. In the third period Chevalier changed his plan to obviate the difficulty of English opposition. The new plan was based on a solid alliance with the Emperor and the cession of the province of Tatta or Sind to the French. The latter were to keep a large garrison in Tatta and lend a small corps of troops to the Emperor. In case of necessity the whole body of French troops stationed in the newly acquired territory could move on to Delhi, effect a junction with the Imperial forces and swoop down on Bengal. The advantage of this plan over the previous one was that since Tatta was situated far away from the English possessions in India the English were not likely to oppose the landing of French troops there with the same vehemence with which they would oppose the sending of 5,000 French troops direct to Delhi. Let us now see in more details the diplomatic projects of Chevalier in their three distinct phases from his own letters to the Minister in Paris.

The first time that Chevalier drew the attention of the French Government to the political situation in north India and held out the prospect of an anti-English coalition was in a letter to the Minister, Duc de Praslin, dated 10th January 1769.² After complaining about the tyranny and constant vexation of the English in Bengal, Chevalier stated that the Nawab was so completely under their control that all the letters he wrote to Murshidabad, the capital of Bengal, were sent to Calcutta where the replies were drafted. But at the same time Chevalier felt that at heart the Nawab was friendly towards the French and was willing to secure their alliance to rid himself of the yoke of the English. "If there remain any credit and authority with him he would soon give us the most convincing proofs of his goodwill. Even the Emperor does not speak of the French except with respect and admiration. He regards them as being destined to be his liberators from captivity, and all the Princes of Indoustan have the same sentiment. There is not one among them who is not ready to employ his forces and his money in our favour as soon as he finds us declare against the English". Chevalier then suggested that if France ever thought of intervention in India, the best means of combining the Indian Princes against the English was to send an expeditionary force to Bengal. "It is at Chatigan that our troops should land; there would be no reason to fear the opposition of the English, who would be sufficiently occupied in defending their frontiers against the Marathas and other Princes who could be induced by us to draw them there and keep them engaged".

² Bibliothèque Nationale, MS. Fr. N. A. 9366, pp.1-9.

In a letter dated 15th March 1769³, Chevalier gave a more detailed plan of operations in Bengal and showed the ease with which allies could be procured against the English. "The Muslim Government at Dacca is without force and is animated by hatred against the English. Therefore, far from offering any resistance it will willingly surrender to us, specially if we take care to declare ourselves as liberators". Once the French had captured Dacca, Chevalier recommended that they should liberate the descendants of Sarfaraz Khan, the old Nawab of Bengal. The house of Sarfaraz Khan was very popular, and although the Princes of the family could not render any material help Chevalier believed that "it would be sufficient to put forward their names, and we shall draw from this phantom all the advantages that we may be in need of. We shall summon the Nawab of Moxoudabad to place himself on our side.....The beginning would be made by proclaiming at Dacca the eldest son of Safrescan, named Aga Baba..... He would then be recognised in all the parts of the province lying to the east of the Ganges.....We would not leave at peace the part lying to the west unless the Nawab of Moxoudabad allies himself with us. From that moment the war would be finished quickly, and we shall suddenly find ourselves having reached our goal.....The Nawab would help us not with forces because he does not have any, but with money, credit and influence..... We can count on Sojadaolah.....who is only waiting for the favourable moment to declare himself on our side.....We can equally count on the deposed Emperor; he does not have any troops, but his name would always be of great weight in facilitating all our intrigues and our policies". Chevalier then referred to the friendly overtures he had received from the Maratha Chief of Berar and Cuttack. "The Chief of the Marathas of Katek, sworn enemies of the English, had made overtures to me in writing and had proposed to leave us half of Bengal or an equivalent annual revenue if I would furnish him men and munitions for the conquest of Bengal. I have eluded the request by honest pretexts".

Writing to the Controller-General of Finance on 24th February 1770⁴, Chevalier reiterated his view that the Princes of India were ready to combine together and join with the French in an attempt to drive the English out of Bengal. "Fear restrains them and none has the courage to be the first to raise the standard of liberty. They content themselves with sighs for the French and desire to see them declare themselves openly in order to rally round their standard at once.....If ever we carry the war to this country we shall find here as many allies as there are Princes".

³ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, pp.10-24.

⁴ *Ibid*, pp. 25-29.

In a letter dated 6th January 1771⁵, addressed to the Minister of Marine, Chevalier again referred to the overtures he had received from the Marathas, Mir Kasim and the Emperor and recommended the despatch of 4,000 troops from the Isle of France to be lent to these Powers. That would enable the French to fight as auxiliaries of the Indian Princes, although legally France and England remained at peace in Europe. The English could not object to this policy as they themselves had followed it in the past. "The Marathas know the superiority of Europeans to their own troops, and for that reason desire to have a certain number of Europeans to oppose the English. As a result Janoji, one of the principal Maratha Princes, with whom I have always been in contact and whose territories border on Bengal has written to me to sound my intentions and to know if I would like to furnish him a corps of seven to eight hundred men with arms and artillery while offering to advance me all the expenses. This request has again been supported by three other Chiefs who command all the forces camped near Delhi, numbering 200,000 cavalry, and I have been assured that the Emperor himself would write to me to persuade me to agree to the request and to join our forces to his by a treaty. He is not unaware of the large number of troops that we have in the Isle of France and seems to have based his expectations on that". To these overtures Chevalier had replied in an evasive manner, but in order to maintain close relations with the Powers for use in future he thought it necessary to send French agents to the various Darbars. Visage, a surgeon by profession and later to enter the service of Shuja-ud-Daulah, was sent to Janoji and was further entrusted with letters for the other Maratha Chiefs as also for Mir Kasim. Another person, Du Jarday, formerly an employee of the French East India Company at Pondicherry, was sent to Delhi in the guise of a Muslim. He was to meet the Emperor and the three Maratha Chiefs there and was to send information regarding their projects.

In the second period, after the restoration of Shah Alam at Delhi, Chevalier's policy took a more definite and concrete shape. An alliance with the Emperor and strengthening his authority by placing a body of French troops at his service became the corner-stone of his diplomacy. An alliance with the Emperor was all the more useful to France since he was supported by the Marathas, the strongest power in India and the only one likely to have the courage to attack the English position in Bengal. So from the beginning of 1772 Chevalier made pressing representation to the Government in Paris to conclude an alliance with the Emperor and send five thousand troops to his assistance. At the same time he also made frantic

⁵ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, pp. 77-104.

efforts to rally round the Emperor all the French military adventurers scattered in different parts of India. While he failed in the case of those who were in the service of Shuja-ud-Daulah and Basalat Jang, he succeeded in persuading Madec to give up the service of the Jat Raja and join the Emperor even at a great personal loss. It is interesting to notice that while in his letters to the Minister Chevalier repeatedly stated that it was the Emperor who was asking for French military assistance, in his letters to Madec persuading him to join the Imperial service he wrote that his main purpose was that once in the confidence of the Emperor Madec could induce him to take in his service a body of French troops⁶.

The first time that Chevalier definitely proposed the sending of French troops to the assistance of the Emperor was in a letter to the Minister dated 30th August 1772⁷. After stating the change in the Indian political situation brought about by the restoration of the Emperor at Delhi with the help of the Marathas, Chevalier wrote that the Emperor had asked him if he could procure a body of 5,000 French troops for his service. The attitude of the Minister was extremely discouraging. He was entirely opposed to giving any provocation to the English by forming alliances with the country Powers. In a letter dated 29th September 1772, Chevalier expressed great surprise and resentment at this attitude and recommended that the best course for the French was to quit India completely rather than show their humiliation and impotence to the country Powers⁸. In spite of the rebuff, however, Chevalier did not remain inactive but pursued his old policy of forming diplomatic alliances with some of the country Powers in the hope of ultimately being able to bring the French Government to his point of view. Through the efforts of his agent at Delhi, Du Jarday, terms of alliance with the Maratha Chief Mahadaji Sindhia were drawn up, which were communicated by Chevalier to the Minister in his letter dated 10th February 1773⁹. The terms in substance were: (1) in case of a war between the French and the English, Sindhia was to declare himself an ally of France; (2) if there arrived a French expeditionary force in India Sindhia would join it with his forces; (3) the Marathas would conduct the French army if it landed on the Orissa or Gujarat coast and would supply free of cost provisions and animals for transport; (4) if the English were driven out of Bengal the Peshwa was to get back all that legitimately belonged to him; (5) the two parties would remain permanently allied; (6) the treaty must be ratified by their respective sovereigns.

⁶ Emile Barbé-Le Nabob René Madec, pp. 61-83.

⁷ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, p. 133.

⁸ *Ibid*, p. 136.

⁹ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, p. 137.

On 28th February 1773, Chevalier wrote a long letter to the Minister, de Boynes, giving details of the political situation at Delhi and the results of his negotiations, and reiterated once more his demand for a body of French troops for the assistance of the Emperor¹⁰. In the next letter, dated 15th April 1773¹¹, Chevalier informed the Minister that he had received an envoy from the Emperor and the Marathas with solicitations to join the common cause. The envoy had also brought the treaty proposed by the Marathas, the terms of which appeared to Chevalier quite advantageous from the French point of view. The French would not be put to any expense for the 5,000 troops to be supplied, and in addition they would be granted complete freedom of trade throughout Hindustan. If they joined the coalition as auxiliaries they might be given possession of Bengal in the same way as the English held it, provided they paid 30 lakhs of rupees annually to the Emperor and 25 lakhs to the Marathas. In short, Chevalier considered the treaty to be a satisfactory basis for effecting a political revolution in north India. But the crux of the difficulty lay, as Chevalier should have understood, in the financial distress of the Emperor; and in a letter dated 3rd October 1773¹², Chevalier complained that while the Emperor repeatedly asked for French troops he made no move at all to advance money for the purpose. The political calculations of Chevalier were totally upset by the sudden outbreak of dissensions at Poona, and in a letter dated 2nd February 1774¹³, he informed the Minister that the Maratha Chiefs had hurriedly returned to their capital, leaving the Emperor alone. Another loss to the French was the death of Janoji, but Chevalier maintained close relations with his successor, Mudaji.

The correspondence of Chevalier became less frequent during 1774-1775, no doubt because of the repeated disappointments he received from the Government in Paris since the first representations he made in 1769 for the despatch of French troops to the assistance of the Indian Princes. In a letter dated 23rd January 1775, Chevalier expressed his regret that the inactivity of the French had allowed the English to gain increasing predominance in the different Darbars, and if things continued like that in a few years time the French would be turned out completely and England would rule over India like a despot. He then proposed that if nothing was going to be done to stop the progress of English power in India it was better for the French to leave India at once without exposing themselves to further humiliation¹⁴.

¹⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 138-147.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 148-157.

¹² *Ibid.*, pp. 158-166.

¹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 192-196.

¹⁴ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, pp. 233-236.

It was towards the end of 1775 that Madec put forward his project for an alliance with the Mughal Emperor on the basis of the cession of the province of Tatta or Sind to France. For the next two and a half years the Tatta project held the attention of the French Government and of other persons who were interested in the matter of restoring French influence in India. There were two reasons for the Tatta project to have received more consideration from the Government than the earlier plan of Chevalier. The first was the change of administration, lethargic de Boynes being succeeded by the more enterprising de Sartine at the Ministry of Marine and Colonies. The second was that the Tatta project was an improvement on Chevalier's earlier plan and was less likely to rouse the susceptibilities of the English since Tatta lay far off from the existing English possessions in India. It is not a little surprising that while making repeated representations to Paris for an alliance with the Emperor and for the despatch of a body of French troops to his assistance, an astute person like Chevalier did not think of a means by which the opposition of the English could be eliminated and conceded to Madec the credit of a project which in essence was the same as his with one important improvement, namely a territorial cession to France in an area lying far off from English possessions. Anyway, although Madec was the originator of the project, it was at once accepted by Chevalier with enthusiasm, and in fact without Chevalier's support Madec's plan would not have received any consideration in France.

The basis of the project was the cession of the province of Tatta to France by the Mughal Emperor in return for a solid alliance. That would give the French an opportunity to maintain a large body of troops in the ceded territory and a small corps in the direct service of the Emperor to help him in establishing his authority over the recalcitrant vassals. When the opportune moment arrived the entire body of French troops maintained in Tatta could be moved on to Delhi, where they would be joined by the Imperial troops and the combined forces could make a sudden attack on Bengal. In order to keep the matter a close secret the Emperor asked Madec to write to the French Government direct without going through the official channel of Chevalier, but Madec realised that he did not have sufficient standing for carrying on negotiations independently. So from the beginning he approached Chevalier for his active support, and in fact it was the representations of Chevalier which were responsible for the serious consideration given to the Tatta project in France. But things moved very slowly, and for the whole of 1776 and the early part of 1777 Chevalier did not receive any response from France. In a letter dated 11th August 72 D.G. Arch.

1776, he urged the immediate necessity of accepting the Tatta proposal and warned the Government that the Emperor was losing courage and patience¹⁵. It was only about the middle of 1777 that Chevalier received the first favourable response from Paris, and in a letter to the Minister dated 31st August, he wrote that as soon as he received definite orders he would send des Blottières on a reconnoitring voyage to Tatta¹⁶. But there was again a prolonged silence. Even as late as 18th February 1778, we find Chevalier regretting in a letter to the Minister the dilatory policy of the Government and warning him that unless steps were taken promptly the French would be totally expelled from the country¹⁷.

The thing was that after long deliberations the French Government decided at the end of 1777 to send out Col. Montigny to India to report on the feasibility of the Tatta project. But by the time he arrived two essential factors for the successful execution of the project were removed: the first by the departure of Madec from north India in 1777 in sore disappointment at the lack of response to his proposal; and the second by the sudden outbreak of war between France and England and the prompt capture of Chandernagore on 10th July 1778. Lt. Col. Dow, who was sent from Calcutta to seize the French settlement, was greatly disappointed at not being able to capture Chevalier, regarded by the English as their most dangerous enemy, who escaped from his house through the help of his wife. Three weeks later, however, Chevalier was arrested at Cuttack and handed over by the Maratha Governor of the place, Raja Ram Pandit, to the English envoy Alexander Elliot, who was then on his way to Nagpur on a special diplomatic mission. It was an irony of fate that Chevalier was betrayed by the agent of an Indian Prince on whom he had counted so much in his diplomatic intrigues. He was later released on parole and permitted to return to Europe¹⁸. Back in France at the end of 1779 Chevalier tried once more to persuade the Government to accept his views about the plan of military operations in India, but by that time he had fallen into political disgrace and lost all credit in Government circles. All his plans regarding diplomatic alliances and military operations in

¹⁵ Bibliothèque Nationale, N. A. 9366, pp. 275-279.

¹⁶ Archives du Ministère des Colonies, Serie Noire, Vol. 34.

¹⁷ Bibl. Nat., 9366, pp. 289-290.

¹⁸ For the French version of the capture of Chandernagore and flight of Chevalier see the report by Hocquart, commandant of the force at Chandernagore—Bibl. Nat., 9366 pp. 291-300. For the English version see Forrest—*Selections from Letters, Despatches etc.*, Foreign Dept., Govt. of India, Vol. III pp. 639-653.

About the arrest of Chevalier see Elliot's letter to Hastings and the Calcutta Council in *Bengal, Past and Present*, Vol. II, Part II, pp. 412-413; see also Vol. IV for exchange of letters between Chevalier and the Calcutta Council.

India were treated with contempt, and in spite of his long experience in India and his intimate knowledge of the Indian political situation he was not even consulted when the French Government decided to send out an expeditionary force under Bussy in 1781¹⁹. One thing that may be said in conclusion about Chevalier is that whatever discredit he might have earned by his unrealistic approach to the Indian political situation, there cannot be any doubt about the sincerity of his patriotic fervour; and therefore the political disgrace into which he fell after his return to France had everything tragic about it.

¹⁹ Bibl. Nat., 9366, pp. 305-309.

NEWSPAPERS AS A SOURCE OF MODERN INDIAN HISTORY

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NEWSPAPERS in their selection of facts reflect the contemporary taste for news. In their comments on public events they mirror the contemporary public opinion or at least the opinion of their own circle of readers. They are a valuable source of information for public events which they may in some cases be reporting on first hand information gathered by their own staff of reporters.

The earliest newspapers to appear in India were published in English. They were read by the small number of Englishmen stationed in various parts of India as civil or military officers. Newspapers in Indian languages, however, followed in due course. One of the earliest of these was the *Gnan Prakash* of Poona which started publication as a weekly on 12 February 1849. A disastrous fire about thirty years ago destroyed the early records of the paper. Recently I was able to examine a bound volume which includes all the issues for the first and the second year of publication, except one. The first volume runs to 376 pages, the second volume for the year 1850 covers 418 pages of the quarto size. The paper was lithographed at the Gnan Prakash Press, Poona, by Krishnaji Traymbak Ranade.

The two volumes make a very interesting reading supplying useful information about contemporary events at Poona and elsewhere and shedding a good deal of light on matters of contemporary interest. Its references to political events elsewhere in India may not form an original source of information thereon but its accounts of the Second Sikh War or of extinction of the Bhonsla rule in Satara tell us what passed currently as public information about these events. There are several references to the Sikh War scattered in the entire first volume (pages 13, 15, 27, 37, 44, 53, 54, 62, 74, 75, 78, 80, 85, 111, 119, 191, 232). They range in content from a description of the Sikhs to a map of the country to illustrate the events that were taking place and include an account of the trial of Mulraj as well. Reference to Satara first occurs on page 34 in the issue for 12 March where the story is unfolded.

But apart from these references to public events these two issues contain valuable information about other matters. The issue for 5 March gives bazar rates for wheat, rice, gram, millet, sugar, gur, ghee and oil which may make a reader sigh for those good old days when one could buy $3\frac{1}{2}$ seers of ghee or 10 seers of gur for a rupee. It is curious to learn that wheat was cheaper than millet. This information about bazar rates is repeated again in the issue for 30 April 1849 when the price of ghee seems to have gone up to $2\frac{1}{4}$ seers a rupee though gur had become cheaper, 12 seers for a rupee.

On page 92 is reproduced a statement for the years 1844-46 of convictions for various types of crimes in the district of Poona such as one finds even today in the office of the district superintendents of police in the state of Bombay. It provides an interesting commentary on British rule in Maharashtra and is an eloquent testimony to the success which had attended British efforts to preserve law and order. According to the editorial comment the details were published as they were useful in determining what crimes were on the increase. From their study efforts could be made to check such crimes as were becoming more common.

Pages 178 to 183 of the first volume contain a detailed description of contemporary Poona. It starts with a list of administrators, beginning with a judge on the judicial side and mentioning the assistant judge, principal sadar amin, and sadar amin and munsifs at Poona, another sadar amin at Baramati and munsifs in four other towns in the district. The Collector-Magistrate, we are told, had three assistants and a number of mamaltdars and mahalakaris in the district. The district had an engineer. The police was under a Fojdar. Hereditary Maratha officials of nine types are mentioned elsewhere (page 203) including Zakatai-patki, Naikvadi, Petkari, Chaudhri, Chaugula and Tral. Army was stationed in the district in six places including Poona city. Poona had at that time a Government English school, a Christian school, a Sanskrit Pathshala and four Marathi schools. It could boast of two libraries, one in the camp and another 'native' library in the city where it still continues. Poona had one hospital but two churches for the cure of souls.

"Business in Poona is at an end" bewails the writer. There is only one monied-man in the city, Dayaram Atmaram.

"According to the Shruti there are four castes but in Poona they are differentiated in many ways." Forty-four sub-castes of Brahmans are enumerated. Kshatriyas are divided into five classes only. The mercantile community is classified into twenty classes including Madrasis, Khattris, Marwaris and Aggarvals. Komthis figure both as Kshatriyas and Vaishyas. Ninety-three groups of

Shudras are enumerated. Among the non-Hindus, Musalmans, Momons, Vohras, Mughals, Iranis, Kisabs, Christians, Sikhs and the Chinese are also mentioned.

An interesting controversy on the limitations of the British rule to do good to the inhabitants of Maharashtra was carried on without any inhibition. Another debate covering the editorial and correspondence columns took place about the complaints of the students of Sanskrit Pathshala of lack of state patronage. A fruitful topic for discussion was drinking and gambling and their effects on Europeans and Indians. The dismissal of European officers for getting too deeply into debt on account of these two evils usually became a fit occasion for such comments, editorial or otherwise.

It is interesting to read that the publisher was threatened with excommunication for his daring to publish articles—always in correspondence columns—which were not liked by the orthodox. A dialogue between an old man of 'the old times' and a young man of 'new age' (volume II, pages 77 to 80) forms an interesting record of this eternal debate between the two generations. The danger to orthodoxy from English education was voiced in letters to the editor published in the second volume and some very interesting proposals seem to have been made to avert it. Several religious controversies also find reflections in its pages. The celebration of Id in 1849 occasioned friction between Moulvis and some sections of the Muslims of Poona. A voluminous correspondence on Shankaracharya's philosophy also finds a place in the paper.

The paper noted all local postings and transfers as also appointments of public servants in various parts of Maharashtra. It referred to all cases of officials convicted for corruption. Some of the famous, or infamous cases which drew public attention are also mentioned. It makes several references to the attempts being then made to lay down railway lines near Bombay and wrote editorially on the benefits expected therefrom. The outbreak of plague in Poona and Hyderabad finds its place in the chronicle of events. The 'goings on' among the Maratha sardars are mentioned regularly, sometimes with a relish for scandal in high places.

The publisher was also engaged in printing useful literature in Marathi, several such books are advertised for sale in Volume II, Number 25.

I have no desire to lengthen this paper by summarizing the contents of the two volumes. I have referred to their contents in order to illustrate the thesis that much useful information could be secured from this class of material for the study of modern Indian history.

MINTO AND GOA

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THE STORY of the First Earl of Minto's dealings with Goa has never before been told either by the historians of British India or by the authorities on Portuguese India.

Wellesley, scheming always to keep British India in the utmost security against any possible French attack, as early as 1799, persuaded the then Portuguese Viceroy, Francisco Antonio da Veiga Cabral, to garrison Goa with English troops. The feebleness of the Portuguese Government in India and Goa's vicinity to Bombay were strong temptations for the French to attempt to secure it and equally strong reasons for the British to appoint one of their most experienced soldiers in India, Colonel Sir William Clarke, at the head of the British garrison there¹.

On receiving the information of the Treaty of Badajoz, of 6 June 1801, by which Portugal undertook to close her ports against the English², Wellesley in January 1802 decided upon the occupation of Goa³. Due to reasons and circumstances, which lie beyond the scope of this article, the measure was not carried out.

Col. Clarke carried out in Goa the duties both of the British Envoy and the commandant of the English detachment. He was succeeded in this post by Col. Colman. When Colman left, the temporary charge of the political duties was given to Captain Courtland Schuyler, whose military rank was, however, not sufficiently high to entitle him to assume the command of the British troops at Goa. This latter duty fell to Lieut. Col. Alexander Adam. No permanent appointment to the Envoy's post was made because the Government expected Clarke to return from England, when he would be reappointed to his old post. But instead Clarke took up the command of the Mysore subsidiary Force and died there soon after⁴. In the meanwhile Capt. Schuyler continued as officiating Envoy to Goa; and relations between him and Col. Adam were very cordial⁵.

1. Danvers, Frederick Charles, *Portuguese in India*, Vol. II, 1894, pp. 8,453.

2. *Cambridge Modern History*, Vol. IX, p. 72.

3. Martin, M. *Dispatches of Lord Wellesley*, Vol. II, 1836, pp. 615-16.

4. *N. A. I. For. Dept. Sec. and Sep. Br. Proceedings*, 18 July 1808, Governor General's Observations.

5. *For. Dept. Sec. and Sep. Br. Cons.*, 17 June 1808, no 3.

Late in 1807, Napoleon was seeking to perfect his Continental system and finding the Regent of Portugal lukewarm in the matter, occupied the country⁶. News of the expected French attack on Portugal, and the speculation that soon Portugal would lose her independence started trickling into India, *via* Bushire, Bagdad and Turkey, as early as January 1808⁷. On the basis of these rumours, Capt. Schuyler and Colonel Adam decided that the time had come to plan and effect the occupation of Goa and other Portuguese settlements in India. They drew up a very detailed plan for effecting the occupation, and the terms of capitulation to be offered to the Viceroy of Goa; and forwarded it to the Supreme Government⁸. The plan was to surround Goa suddenly and make the Portuguese surrender even before they could be aware of what was going on⁹.

Minto's instructions in reply to this were characteristic. He praised the spirit of public zeal evinced by Messrs. Schuyler and Adam, but remarked that the agitation of the question was 'premature'. The prosecution of any such measure was forbidden in unqualified terms. He was not prepared to allow a British occupation of Goa unless he was convinced of the existence of a definite rupture between Portugal and England. In brief he refused to "delegate the power of deciding a question of such national importance to any subordinate authority whatever". Schuyler was asked to exercise all caution¹⁰.

But now various minor but unpleasant incidents occurred. One Portuguese ship was detained at Colombo and another at Tellicherry. The suspicious sensitiveness of the authorities on both sides increased. The suggestion of Col. Adam, previously approved by the higher authorities, for improved signals communication between the ports of Cobo and Agunda, was now dropped for the time being¹¹.

On 23 April 1808 official orders from the Secret Committee were received at Fort William that Goa was to be occupied by the English troops, because the Prince Regent had closed his ports to English ships. The same mail, however, brought news of the Portuguese Royal Family having left under British protection for Brazil. It was known also that *en route* the Prince Regent had touched at Madeira Island and ordered its being placed under British protection. The orders of the home authorities regarding the occupation of Goa had, however, been passed while they were ignorant of this latter event. Minto, therefore, with his acute legal mind, reasoned that Portugal

6. *Cambridge Modern History*, Vol. IX. pp. 301-4.

7. *For. Dept. Sec. and Sep. Br. Cons.*, 22 February 1808, no 6.

8. *Ibid*, 22 February 1808, nos 6, 7, 8.

9. *Ibid*, 22 February 1808, no 7.

10. *Ibid*, 22 February 1808, no 9.

11. *Ibid* 25 April 1808, nos 25, 26, 27, 28.

under these conditions could not be considered an enemy, and so, hostile measures against her settlements in India could not be taken. His view was that the departure of the Prince Regent for Brazil was "a striking and memorable event which evinces the determination of the sovereign to withdraw that kingdom from the foreign usurped authority, under the coercion of which the proclamation referred to had been issued, and which appears to me to involve a clear and satisfactory disavowal of that hostile act"¹². He felt that he had no right to occupy Goa but that he ought merely to provide for its adequate defence and security. He felt also that by not being guided by the letter of the Secret Committee's orders he was doing what justice and political wisdom demanded and that by arranging to take Goa under complete protection (not occupation) he was perhaps following the lead given by the Prince Regent himself, who had already placed Madeira Island under British protection.

He wished to make it plain that the British had no intentions of aggrandisement at the expense of the Portuguese, and that the Portuguese structure of local administration would be kept intact. The only thing he wanted to do was to make provision for the effectual defence of the place, and for achieving this end he wished to give untrammelled authority to the Commandant of the British troops in Goa to make any military dispositions for its security. He wished to provide not only against a foreign attack but also against eventual disaffection amongst the Portuguese forces. For the rest the British authority at Goa, *vis a vis* the Portuguese authority, was to remain as before.

Minto presumed the Portuguese Viceroy would have to acquiesce in all these measures if only through a realisation of his greatly inferior force. In what he considered to be an almost impossible probability, that of resistance by the Viceroy, Minto was prepared to authorise forcible occupation of Goa. This arrangement he proposed for all Portuguese settlements in India, Goa, Daman and Diu¹³.

It was not sheer generosity or goodness that prompted Minto to make these arrangements. It was practical politics. He knew that the arrangement he had prescribed "obviates all those embarrassments, difficulties and individual distresses which are the necessary consequences of the cessation of the functions of the actual Government of a foreign possession, and the transfer of its authority to another power in the form of conquest. It obviates also an additional burthen upon the public finances, which in my judgment must be

12. *Ibid*, 25 April 1808, no 47.

(I have seen the original minute of the Governor General. The whole of it is in the Secretary's handwriting. The portion quoted here, however, is in Minto's own writing. It is a part of additions made by him).

13. *Ibid*.

occasioned, by the occupation of these settlements, of which the revenue is inconsiderable"¹⁴. As the balance between the revenues and expenses of Goa was just 47,270 Xeraphines of Goa currency (Rs. 23,635, one Xeraphine being worth about half a rupee)¹⁵, annexation was hardly worthwhile.

The instructions and dispatches Minto sent on 25 April, to Captain Schuyler, the Bombay Government, the Viceroy of Goa and Rear Admiral Sir Edward Pellew, C.-in-C. of H.M.'s Navy in Indian waters, were based upon these considerations. Schuyler was asked to be respectful to the Viceroy, to excite no suspicions of the British intentions, but in case of a refusal from the Viceroy he was asked to send word to Adam, even before leaving the Viceroy's presence. Adam was, in such a case, to take measures to surround the whole place and to occupy Goa by a *coup de main*. Much, however, was left to the Envoy's discretion¹⁶.

Little did Minto know that the official information regarding Portugal's anti-British proclamations had reached Admiral Pellew at Bombay as early as on 16 April. The Admiral, however, was unaware of the flight of the Portuguese royal family to Brazil and other later events. Neither had he received by then a copy of the Secret Committee's orders for the forcible occupation of Goa. Admiral Pellew lost no time in coming to the conclusion that the Portuguese Settlements in India should be immediately occupied. He was so sure of the rectitude of his decision that he felt it was useless to wait for the Supreme Government's instructions on the point, because, they would, of necessity, be the same as his own decision. He contacted the Bombay Government the same day, putting forth his suggestions and expressing his eagerness to co-operate in the operation of occupying Goa¹⁷. The same day the Governor of Bombay replied, declining to take any initiative in the matter, as he felt that the Supreme Government's instructions to Capt. Schuyler (of which he had cognizance) were positive in forbidding him to take any step regarding Goa, without their prior sanction¹⁸. But Pellew felt it was a grave emergency, and sent on 16 and 17 April respectively, two of His Majesty's larger ships in Bombay—the *Dedaigneuse* (Captain Bastard) and the *Albion* (Captain Ferrier). These were meant to provide for the eventual seizure of

14. *Ibid.*

15. *Ibid.*, 15 August 1808, no 75.

16. *Ibid.*, 25 April 1808, no 50.

17. *Ibid.*, 8 May 1808, no 2.

18. *Ibid.*, no

shipping and commerce in Goa Roads, and for preventing the departure of any ships from there. The Captains were instructed to co-operate with Schuyler in the occupation of Goa ".....under my authority ready to assume the responsibility of the measure as an act of national policy"¹⁹. In his letter to Captain Schuyler he said, in effect, that the Bombay Government had failed to understand the gravity of the situation and rise to the occasion. He expected, however, that Schuyler would feel free to agree with his views, in spite of the Bombay Government's attitude, especially as Schuyler's discretionary powers were solely under the control of the Supreme Government and entirely independent of the Bombay Government. He also expressed himself "perfectly ready to contribute my share of the responsibility upon a juncture so important"²⁰. All this he did in the first flush of excitement. His instructions to Captain Ferrier of the *Albion*, a day later were, however, more cautious and directing him to take no extreme measures, but to do things of a general and unexceptional nature²¹. From his writings and moves on this occasion it is clear that Admiral Pellew was an enthusiastic but impatient person, and sometimes deficient in coherent thinking. Repetitions and ambiguous sentences in his letters abound.

When the news of Pellew's hasty action reached Minto, he was not greatly disturbed. He had already sent his instructions, which we have referred to earlier, to Captain Schuyler. He wished no alteration to be effected in that plan. He was clear in his instructions to his Envoy that even if the task of occupying Goa had been carried out, it was to be undone immediately, and the Governor General's previous instructions carried out without the least variation "in the same manner, as if the occupation of Goa had not taken place"²².

His letter to Pellew had no trace of annoyance or disapprobation but rather commended his zeal in the public service and admired his promptitude. Minto suavely added that the Supreme Government was better informed than he was and so had thought fit to make certain arrangements different to those in which Pellew's actions would have resulted²³. He wrote in this strain partly because Pellew was under the direct orders of the Admiralty, and partly because he had plans regarding Macao which could only be carried out with Pellew's active support and co-operation. Quarrelling with the Admiral would have been both impolitic and fruitless. Minto's Vice-President in Council

19. *Ibid.*, no 5.

20. *Ibid.*, no 7.

21. *Ibid.*, no 6.

22. *Ibid.*, no 12.

23. *Ibid.*, no 13.

and C-in-C of the Company's army in India, Lt. General Sir George Hewett was, however, very irritated. He refused to associate himself with Minto's mild and uncritical letter to Pellew and wrote an official minute of dissent which concluded ".....although in my private opinion the transaction (Pellew's interference) is very censurable, I mean no more by what I have said than to object to the praise lavished on it"²⁴.

By April 25 Pellew received also the Admiralty orders of 11 December 1807²⁵, based on the Secret Committee's orders to the Supreme Government²⁶, to co-operate with the Indian land forces in the operation of occupying Goa. Even now the Admiral knew nothing about the escape of the Portuguese royal family to Brazil, under British protection. So he renewed his demands on the Bombay Government for co-operation in his previously suggested plan. The language he used in this communication was not only strong but also mocking. This letter, he said, was ".....notwithstanding your former indecision"²⁷. The Bombay Government replied that they had finally decided not to act in the matter, without Minto's orders. Their letter had a strength of conviction born out of their knowledge of the escape to Brazil of the Portuguese royal family²⁸.

Captain Schuyler and Colonel Adam, eager from the outset to occupy Goa, yet not daring to flout the Supreme Government's old and most emphatic orders, sent a long list of reasons why the occupation at this time would be advisable and why it would be better not to await the Supreme Government's instructions, and wrote several notes to Bombay Government, begging for their advice and suggestions²⁹. At one time the Bombay Government were unsure of themselves and said that the two officers could make their own decisions, guided by local conditions as much as by the Supreme Government's old instructions³⁰. Schuyler, however, dared not take any decisive step, as he felt bound by the old instructions. He got no clue from the Bombay Government and just awaited fresh and definite instructions from Fort William.

In the meanwhile there was a slight panic in Goa due to the fact that Captain Ferrier had on 21 April stopped a Portuguese ship, the *Robust*, from entering and unloading at Goa. When the Portuguese Viceroy wished Schuyler to interpose, he refused on the ground

24. *Ibid*, no 14.

25. *Ibid*, 16 May 1808, no 12.

26. *Ibid*.

27. *Ibid*, 23 May 1808, no 2.

28. *Ibid*.

29. *Ibid*, nos 19, 20.

30. *Ibid*, 16 May 1808, no 10.

that Ferrier was under the orders of Admiral Pellew and not responsible to Fort William³¹. So the Portuguese Viceroy on 30 April quietly moved a large number of his troops from other places into the island of Goa itself. These were all kept scattered in villages. Schuyler, Ferrier and Adam prepared for the worst and then demanded an explanation from the Viceroy. Seeing the writing on the wall, the Viceroy immediately gave way and ordered withdrawal of his troops to their accustomed stations. At this juncture, though entirely independently of any considerations connected with this affair, Ferrier decided to release the ship *Robust*, on the assurance of the Viceroy that it would not be used to further the French cause³².

Schuyler was very suspicious of the Portuguese authorities at this period—perhaps unnecessarily³³. We cannot, however, blame him for this, as, in state-craft it is a greater mistake to be over-confident than to be over-cautious. He sent alarming reports to Fort William about French officers from Mauritius infiltrating into India *via* Goa, with the connivance and active aid of the Portuguese authorities³⁴. Naturally Minto felt concerned and on 30 May gave Schuyler discretionary powers for the occupation of Goa, in case of an emergency, at the same time reminding him that this was not to be exercised without 'manifest and urgent necessity'³⁵.

The necessity of using this discretionary power never arose, because when on 25 May, Schuyler presented to the Viceroy, Minto's letter of 25 April, suggesting the assumption by British troops of complete responsibility for the protection of Goa, and the grant of necessary concessions, the Viceroy agreed with a remarkably good grace. He was, however, not prepared to sign that he would cede completely, when required by the British power, the civil and military administration of Goa. This, he pleaded, was against the oath he had taken to guard this dominion of his sovereign³⁶. Schuyler and Adam felt that the objection was purely sentimental and that even if he did not agree to this clause formally, it would hardly make any difference, bereft of any means of defending himself as he was. And so they conceded this point to him³⁷. To Marmagom, Fort El Reis, Anjedive Island and all other strategic points British troops were admitted and the Viceroy issued very strong letters to the Governors of Daman and Diu to allow the same arrangements, in those places,

31. *Ibid*, 23 May 1808, nos 4, 6, 8.

32. *Ibid*, 30 May 1808, no 38.

33. *Ibid*, 13 June 1808, no 9.

34. *Ibid*, 30 May 1808, no 39.

35. *Ibid*, no 40.

36. *Ibid*, 4 July 1808, no 16.

37. *Ibid*, 17 June 1808, no 3.

which he had allowed for Goa³⁸. All formalities, expected to be observed between friends, were observed³⁹. The brevet rank of Colonel in the Portuguese army coupled with the command of the Grenadier Battalion was, by proclamation, conferred by the Viceroy on Lt. Col. Adam⁴⁰. He also issued a general proclamation to the people of Portuguese Indies, asking them to help the British in all ways in the task of making Goa secure⁴¹.

The letters of Schuyler, of this period, show that notwithstanding his deep-rooted suspicion of Conde de Sarzedas' (the Viceroy's) character⁴², he was now prepared to acknowledge that in these transactions he had been very co-operative⁴³.

The Supreme Government were naturally pleased; and as a reward for his good work in Goa Schuyler was confirmed as permanent Envoy to Goa. Till now his had only been an officiating charge⁴⁴. To the Viceroy also flattering letters were sent full of praise of his "acknowledged character for wisdom, patriotism and knowledge of the true interests of your country and your august Sovereign"⁴⁵ and telling him that since he was pleased with Schuyler, it had been deemed proper to appoint him their permanent Envoy at Goa⁴⁶.

By now the Secret Committee's instructions revoking their previous orders for the occupation of Goa were also received. Minto had been expecting them and had not acted on the previous instructions at all. The British protection of Goa was thereafter described as 'a combined system of defensive measures'⁴⁷. As in every other place where Minto had his diplomatic officers so also here he wanted full reports on Goa and her affairs, her requirements to perfect security arrangements and such other matters⁴⁸. These were duly submitted to him⁴⁹. The British garrison continued to remain in Goa, with full protective strength till 1815⁵⁰.

Soon after his permanent appointment to Goa, it seems that Schuyler was cured of his short-lived admiration of the Portuguese Viceroy, Conde de Sarzedas. The cause may have been mutual incompatibility as well as the fact that there was authentic information that Sarzedas belonged to a family which had strongly Francophil

38. *Ibid.*

39. *Ibid.*, 18 July 1808, no 1. (On June 4, 1808 King George III's birthday, the viceroy dined with British Officers and himself got a birthday salute fired).

40. *Ibid.*, no 10.

41. *Ibid.*, no 2.

42. *Ibid.*, 13 June 1808, no 9.

43. *Ibid.*, 18 July 1808, no 1.

44. *Ibid.*, no 4.

45. *Ibid.*, 4 July 1808, no 17.

46. *Ibid.*, 18 July 1808, no 5.

47. *Ibid.*, 4 July 1808, no 17.

48. *Ibid.*, 17 June 1808, no 7.

49. *Ibid.*, 15 August 1808, nos 73, 74, 75.

50. Danvers, F. C.; *Portuguese in India*, Vol. II. 1894, p. 454.

leanings. Moreover in Col. Conea, Adjutant General to the Viceroy, Schuyler found a personal devotee of his and an admirer of the British nation. This man naturally was recommended by Schuyler as worthy of mention in Minto's letters home, so that he might get a reward from the Portuguese Prince Regent. In an atmosphere of mutual suspicion and antipathy sometimes molehills can be made into mountains. Schuyler spoke, in his letters to Minto, of the levity and weakness of the Viceroy's conduct and did not hesitate to speak of him as a man of mean abilities and unfit for the situation he holds⁵¹! Minto, in reply, advised Schuyler to be more watchful, but did nothing more⁵².

Thus as time went on things gradually settled down and nothing remarkable happened in Goa, during the rest of Minto's stay in India.

51. N.A.I. *For. Dept. Sec. & Sep. Br. O.C.* 13 March 1809, no 13. (Refer to the loud protests of Schuyler merely because on receipt of the first news of British successes in Portugal, the Viceroy did not order an immediate *Te deum* to be sung, but rather wished to await confirmation of the news).

52. *Ibid.*, 13 March 1809, no 14.

AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN ASAF-UD-DLAULAH OF AWADH AND MUZAFFAR JANG OF FARRUKHABAD, December 27, 1775

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THE BANGASH Estate with its capital Farrukhabad, was founded in 1714 A.D. by Muhammad Khan Bangash¹, an Afghan of the Kanghazai Karlai clan from Eastern Afghanistan, and named after the Emperor Farrukhsiyar (1713-1719). On the founder's death in 1743 his eldest son Qasim Khan became Nawab of Farrukhabad. Early in 1750 Safdar Jang, Nawab of Awadh and Allahabad and Wazir of the Empire, seized the Estate for himself, leaving the town of Farrukhabad and twelve villages for the maintenance of the Bangash family. The Afghan followers of the family revolted against this outrage, defeated the Wazir on 13 September 1750, and ravaged his provinces of Awadh and Allahabad. But Safdar Jang soon recovered strength and in April 1751 defeated with Maratha and Jat assistance the Bangash and his Ruhela ally, and drove them to the hills of Kumaun. The Wazir was, however, obliged on account of an invasion of the Punjab by Ahmad Shah Abdali of Kabul, to make peace with them in April 1752 by which half of the Farrukhabad Estate, then under Ahmad Khan Bangash, a younger son of Muhammad Khan, was transferred to the Marathas in lieu of Safdar Jang's debt to them, the Wazir keeping a few places for himself and leaving Farrukhabad and a few *parganas* for the maintenance of the Bangash family². Soon after the third battle of Panipat (January 1761) Ahmad Khan Bangash drove away the Marathas and recovered practically the whole of his dominion³. He died on 17 April 1771, and was succeeded by his son Muzaffar Jang who was confirmed as Nawab of Farrukhabad by Emperor Shah Alam II in consideration of a payment of six lakhs of rupees⁴.

Muzaffar Jang was a weak and timid ruler and could not long maintain his independence. Safdar Jang's son Shuja-ud-Daulah

¹. For Muhammad Khan Bangash's early career see the present writer's "First Two Nawabs of Oudh", pp. 142-143 and also *Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal* (1878), pp. 340-346.

². *First Two Nawabs of Oudh*, p. 189; Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. I, (2nd ed.), pp. 212-231.

³. *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. I, p. 232.

⁴. *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. II (2nd. ed), p. 407.

remembering that his father had twice reduced Farrukhabad to submission, compelled Muzaffar Jang in November 1773 by diplomacy and show of force to accept the position of a vassal to Awadh. As Muzaffar Jang was being harassed by the Marathas who were endeavouring to retrieve their position in northern India after their disaster at Panipat, he was not in a position to resist and acquiesced. Shuja-ud-Daulah promised to deliver to him his ancestral territory when he (Shuja) had conquered the Doab from the Marathas, and advanced to him a loan of two lakhs of rupees as a mark of his friendship. His main object was to detach⁵ Muzaffar Jang from his natural allies, the Ruhelas, in his impending campaign against the latter, and he never really wanted to fulfil his promise. After Shuja-ud-Daulah had conquered the Doab, he put off the restoration of Muzaffar Jang's *parganas*⁶ on one pretext or another.

On his accession in January 1775, Asaf-ud-Daulah (1775-1797) decided to follow his ancestral policy towards Farrukhabad and to annex it to Awadh. A letter, dated 21 January 1776, preserved in the Secret Proceedings of Fort William Government now in the National Archives of India, New Delhi, throws fresh light on the relations between him and Muzaffar Jang, and supplements the information furnished by contemporary Persian chronicles, such as, *Siyar-ul-mutakherin*, *Bayan-i-waqia* and *Tarikh-i-Ahmad Shahi*. This document informs us that Asaf-ud-Daulah demanded the payment of two lakhs lent by his father to Muzaffar Jang, and wanted a *nazrana* besides. Muzaffar had to agree and Manik Ram and a few other men were sent to Farrukhabad at different times to collect the money. Being a timid man Muzaffar Jang allowed these *sazawals* (supervisors) to interfere with his administration, displace his old servants and to oppress his people. As Muzaffar Jang could not protect himself, it became necessary for Asaf-ud-Daulah to send a battalion of his troops to be stationed at Farrukhabad. Even then matters did not improve. Sher Ali, commander of these troops, aided and abetted all sorts of oppressions, and Maharban Khan, a creature of some of Asaf-ud-Daulah's courtiers, placed himself in the position of the sole manager of Muzaffar Jang's affairs. He was entrusted with the latter's seal and used it at his pleasure. He reduced Muzaffar Jang to a cypher and peculated large sums of money on the pretence of paying it to Asaf-ud-Daulah. Maharban Khan was charged with murdering Beni Ram, Mir Yar Ali and twelve other notable persons, in order to free himself from rivals; and he caused confusion and terror in the country⁷.

⁵. Author's *Shuja-ud-Daulah*. Vol. II, p. 235.

⁶. John Bristow to Bengal Board, 21 January 1776; George Forster, *A Journey*, etc. (1799), p. 168.

⁷. Bristow to Bengal Board, 21 January 1776.

Asaf-ud-Daulah wanted to dispossess Muzaffar Jang and annex Farrukhabad outright; but on the advice of John Bristow, British Resident at his court, he allowed the government of Farrukhabad to remain in Muzaffar Jang's hands and to post a battalion of his troops for the latter's protection. Accordingly he proceeded to Farrukhabad, and imposed a fresh agreement on Muzaffar Jang by which the latter promised to pay him one and a half lakhs of rupees on account of arrears and four and a half lakhs of rupees annually on account of the subsidy for a battalion of troops to be stationed at Farrukhabad. Rahmat Khan was appointed minister and Sher Ali was arrested and imprisoned to answer for his misdemeanour. Maharban Khan and other officials responsible for the mal-administration were delivered up into the hands of Muzaffar Jang.

An agreement embodying the following terms was drawn up and signed by the parties on 27 December 1775:—

1. Asaf-ud-Daulah "engages that he will in every instance preserve the honour and credit of the Nabob Muzaffar Jang Bahadur and that he will assist the said Nabob with any number of troops which may at any time be necessary for the defence of his territories".

2. Asaf-ud-Daulah promised to post one battalion of sepoy's permanently at Farrukhabad for the protection and defence of Muzaffar Jang and that whenever it was necessary for the regulation of the latter's territory that force would march without delay or excuse.

3. He bound himself not to make any further demand on Muzaffar Jang 'on any pretence whatever' except the sum which the latter engaged to pay by this agreement and on account of a 'nazrana'.

4. Asaf-ud-Daulah promised to deliver up Muzaffar Jang's servants and dependents, then in confinement with him, and as for the future, the Bangash Nawab would be master of his servants and dependents.

5. Muzaffar Jang "engages that he will in every instance adhere to the rights of friendship and alliance and that except with the said Nabob and the English Chiefs he will form no connection with any one, nor keep any forces on foot and that he will not unite with any of the Nabob's enemies".

6. Muzaffar Jang further "engages that in consideration of the aid and support of the troops to be stationed in his country by the Nabob Asaf-ud-Daulah he will pay to the said Nabob four and a half lakhs of rupees per annum at the spring and autumn seasons in ten qists agreeable to the annexed list".

7. As far the current (Fasli) year, its six months having been passed, Muzaffar Jang would pay two lakhs and seventy thousand rupees in six instalments.

8. Muzaffar Jang bound himself to comply with and execute "whatever *dustaks* and *parwanahs* Nabob Asaf-ud-Daulah shall send into my country".

9. The friends and enemies of the parties were to be common.

A memorandum was attached to the above agreement whereby Muzaffar Jang promised to pay one lakh and a half rupees to Asaf-ud-Daulah on account of 'nazrana' and arrears, etc., in six instalments⁸.

⁸. John Bristow to the Bengal Secret Board, Camp near E'awah, dated 21 January 1776.

RAJAB ALI MANUSCRIPTS IN THE PUNJAB GOVERNMENT RECORD OFFICE

V. S. SURI

The Punjab Government Record Office, Simla

THE PUNJAB Government Record Office which was established at Simla in 1948 has in its custody a large number of valuable historical manuscripts salvaged from the properties of the Muslim evacuees after the partition of the province. The officials of the new Record Office and the members of the State's Regional Records Survey Committee took timely action and saved from destruction valuable collections of historical materials. They undertook a systematic survey of evacuee properties to collect books and manuscripts and as a result of their sustained efforts it was possible to house them properly in the Government Record Office.

In this paper it is proposed to describe some old and unpublished historical manuscripts which formed part of a fairly large collection of Syed Moulvi Rajab Ali of Jagraon, in Ludhiana District. Rajab Ali came from an old and well known Syed family of northern India; his ancestry dated back to Syed Mahmud, a celebrated theologian, who migrated in 1502 A.D. from his home in Multan and attached himself to Sikandar Lodhi of Delhi. Fifty years later, in Akbar's time, the Syed was granted a jagir at Batala to which additions were made later by Emperor Jahangir. During the reign of Muhammad Shah one of the descendants of the family was granted twelve villages in Ludhiana District. They continued to flourish until the beginning of the nineteenth century when Dewan Mul Chand, representative of Maharaja Ranjit Singh at Jullundur, seized the jagir and reduced its holders to poverty.

To Moulvi Rajab Ali belonged the privilege of restoring the fortunes of the family. He started his career in 1826, as a teacher at the Delhi Madrasa on a salary of Rs. 10 p.m. For this post he was especially selected by Joseph Henry Taylor on account of his intellectual attainments. After one year's service at the Madrasa, Rajab Ali moved to the south in search of more lucrative employment. He stayed for a short time at Bharatpur, Akbarabad and Gwalior and was for some time engaged by John Reef Ouseley at Hoshangabad. Thereafter he took up service as *Amin* in Bhopal State. Later he secured a post in the office of the Political Agent at Ambala and soon rose to the position of Head Reader (*Mir Munshi*). In this capacity

he was transferred in 1839, to Ludhiana to serve under Mr. Robinson. Later on he accompanied Henry Lawrence to Lahore where he gained the confidence of the Punjab Chiefs and gentlemen with whom his work brought him into close contact. The late Sir Herbert Edwardes held Rajab Ali in the highest esteem. In 1848 he wrote of him: "I believe his judgment on questions of policy to be valuable and that he has always proved to Sir Henry Lawrence a trust-worthy depository of most secret information. I hope also to be able to testify that the Moulvi, though a '*Sahib-i-Kalam*', is by no means afraid of the gleam of a '*shamshir*'. He behaved with great coolness and bravery in the Cow Riot in Lahore in 1846". This opinion was endorsed by Currie, Clerk, Melvill, Barnes, Montgomery and Temple, all of whom knew the Moulvi well and had ample opportunities of studying his character. Sir Henry Lawrence wrote in 1853: "During the Lahore troubles I hardly know what we should have done without Rajab Ali; and he has ever since been of the greatest use to me in all political arrangements and negotiations". In conferring on him jagir assignments valued at Rs. 2,696 per annum in Aligarh and both Talwandiis (Tehsil Jagraon, Ludhiana District), the Governor-General, John Lawrence, remarked in 1868 that it was "in consideration of most valuable services rendered to the state at the time of negotiations with the Ruler of the Panjab to obtain permission for the British Force to cross the Sikh Frontier and proceed to Afghanistan, in the campaigns which led to the annexation of the Panjab and during the siege of Delhi in 1857". During the Mutiny the Moulvi's services were placed at the disposal of the Quarter Master General for the purpose of assisting Hodson at Delhi in organising and working the intelligence service and he was thoroughly successful in the discharge of these important duties. He received a cash reward of Rs. 10,000 in recognition of his services during the siege.

Moulvi Rajab Ali was given the title of Khan Bahadur in 1846 and that of Arastu Jah (Great as Aristotle) in 1858. He died in 1869.

The family library of Rajab Ali at Jagraon was believed to contain some three thousand old and rare manuscripts in Persian and Arabic. Some of the most outstanding original historical materials out of the collection, now available in the State's Record Office, are described below in order to assess their value and importance for the study of the period to which they pertain. Judged from their nature and contents the manuscripts can be classed as:—

I(a) *Darbar Akhbarat* (Court Chronicles) of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

(i) Vols. I—II, covering the period from the 7th Phagan, 1894 B.E. to 13th Besakh, 1895 B.E. (corresponding to February-April, 1838 A.D.), pp. 1-248; 11. 22; size 10" x 6"; written in free *shikasta* style;

(ii) Vols. III and IV, covering the period from the 17th Besakh to 6th Asuj, 1895 B.E. (corresponding to April-September 1838 A.D.), ff. 1-427; 11. 14-18; size 10"×6"; written in free *shikasta* style.

(b) *Darbar Akhbarat (Court Chronicles) of Maharaja Sher Singh.*

Vols. I—II, covering the period from the 11th Chet to 31st Sawan, 1898 B.E. (corresponding to March-July 1841 A.D.), Vol. I, ff. 1-180; Vol. II, ff. 1-191; 11. 16-18; size 10"×6"; written in free *shikasta* style.

These *Akhbarat* relating in part to the reigns of Maharaja Ranjit Singh (1799-1839) and Maharaja Sher Singh (1841-1843) describe in the form of daily news-letters the activities and events at the courts of the two sovereigns. All the happenings that filled the day of the ruler from daybreak until he retired to his private chambers and all the business transacted and the persons who visited him during the day, their representations and orders thereon, are recorded in minute detail. Though the name of the author is not traceable, the *Akhbarat* were written by a Vakil who was attached to the court of the two rulers and was called upon to report its proceedings. As authentic, contemporary and eye-witness accounts of the events at the Court of Lahore, the historical value of these manuscript sources, untapped and unpublished heretofore, can hardly be overrated. A note in the beginning of one of the volumes in the hand of the great grandson of Moulvi Rajab Ali indicates that the *Akhbarat* were presented to him by the author. It was customary with the principal chiefs or the neighbouring rulers to appoint accredited Vakil (Political Agents) at the Sikh Court through whom detailed reports of the events were obtained by their constituents.

II—*Muraslajat (or copies of official communications and despatches).*

Vol. I, 1839-1843 A.D.; ff. 1-64.

Vol. II, 1847 A.D.; pp. 1-326.

Vol. III, 3rd January—30th December, 1848 A.D.; ff. 1-190.

Size 12"×10-5"; 11-17; written in *shikasta* style; each letter is separated from the other by a straight line.

The *Muraslajat* are collections of copies of official communications addressed to notable chiefs and personages on behalf of the British Government through their agents dealing with political affairs of the North Western regions. The names of the addressees are generally given in the margin and occasionally the subject is also noted along with them. The date and place from where the communication was sent are given at the end. The despatches deal with a variety of subjects on which diplomatic correspondence was carried on between the British government and the Lahore Darbar and its important

functionaries. These documents furnish detailed information about the relations of the East India Company with the notable personages of northern India in general and the Lahore Darbar in particular.

Vol. I (1839-43) contains letters addressed to Maharaja Ranjit Singh and his successors Maharaja Kharak Singh and Maharaja Sher Singh. Besides usual exchanges of felicitations, condolences and profound feelings of goodwill and amity they contain the views of the British Government on certain important matters of common concern to both the governments. A large number of communications relate to the implementation of the Tripartite Treaty and developments in Afghanistan.

Vol. II comprises of letters addressed to various functionaries of the Lahore Darbar, feudatory chiefs and Maharani Jindan, mother of Maharaja Dalip Singh and *Parwanas* issued to *Thanadars* and *Kardars* on sundry administrative subjects. While the bulk of the despatches are in Persian the letters sent to Maharani Jindan are written in Urdu and relate to routine correspondence between the British Resident and the Maharani.

Vol. III, covering the period following the First Anglo-Sikh War (1846) and events leading to Second Sikh War (1848), including the Multan revolt, comprises of letters sent to members of the Regency Council, principal *Sardars*, neighbouring rulers, and a host of functionaries of the Lahore Darbar. There are also in this volume a fairly large number of letters addressed to Maharaja Gulab Singh who was made the ruler of the newly created state of Jammu and Kashmir.

The *Muraslajat* were most probably written in the hand of Moulvi Rajab Ali who was not only *Mir Munshi* to the Political Agent to the Governor-General but also played an important role in the political developments at Lahore. The communications contained in Vols. II and III were issued almost invariably from "Dera Anarkali, Lahore" which had become the headquarters of the British Resident at the seat of the Sikh government after the First Sikh War. The documents are indeed invaluable for the study of Anglo-Sikh relations immediately before the annexation of the Punjab.

III—*Siyahat-i-Kashmir* by Lala Ganeshi Lal, *Tehsildar* of Ludhiana dated April, 1847; ff. 48 (ff. 2-5 missing); ff. 15; size 10"×6"; written in *shikasta* hand.

This volume is a stage-wise record of a journey from Ludhiana to Srinagar and back, undertaken by a party of prominent officers of the East India Company—Charles Stewart Hardinge (eldest son of Sir Henry Hardinge) who was private secretary to his father, Captain Hardwicke Hardinge, the Governor-General's second son, Lord John Elphinstone, Governor of Madras (1837-42) and of Bombay (1853-60),

Doctor James Thomas Walker of Bombay Engineers and of the Punjab Campaigns of 1848-49 and Edward Lake, the Political Assistant at Ludhiana. The author was required by the English officers to accompany them on this historic tour and write in detail about the people and places of interest on the way. The itinerary covered the period from 23th March to 11th June, 1846. The route followed by them was through Philaur, Gantal, Sujanpur, Kathua (the way across the river Ravi in Jammu province), Khanpur, Samba, Jammu, Nagrota, Udhampur and across Bannihal pass into Kashmir valley. The journey was made over the difficult hilly tracks on horse, elephant or by boat. The trip was in the main a holiday; but it was also intended to attempt a social, political and economic survey of the region. Accordingly the author, a keen observer, has described in considerable detail the resources of the areas traversed by the party. The genealogical tables of the principal ruling houses give a clear picture of the political set-up of the region. In particular comprehensive information is given about the State of Jammu and Kashmir which had shortly before been assigned to Maharaja Gulab Singh. The composition of the population in terms of occupations, the sources of income and the principal articles of export and import are described in minute detail. A list of *Mahals* and *Parganas* into which the State was divided for administrative purposes along with the income under various heads for 1846 is also included.

The manuscript initially meant to be a traveller's guide, actually reads like a gazetteer of Jammu and Kashmir and the neighbouring areas. As a contemporary and eye-witness account of the State, immediately after the transfer of its control to Maharaja Gulab Singh, the record possesses rare historical value. Special interest attaches to the journey in view of the fact that the route followed by the visitors to the Kashmir valley, the only one open to the British before the annexation of the Punjab, is more or less the same as has lately assumed great importance owing to the link up of Kashmir with the Punjab (I) following the political and constitutional changes of 1947.

IV—*Roznamchajat* (or *Diaries*).

Vol. I, 30th October, 1848—6th October, 1853 A.D.

Vol. II, 7th October, 1854—31st July, 1859 A.D.

Vol. IV, 11th June, 1864—13th April, 1869 A.D.

Vol. V, 14th April, 1869—26th May, 1875 A.D.

The *Roznamchajat* are evidently daily records of transactions. On every page the corresponding Hijra and Christian dates as also the days of the week are noted and the particulars about the happenings and doings during each day are recorded against successive dates

The journals appear to have been maintained by a private secretary or manager of the household of Moulvi Rajab Ali. The writer, who has not mentioned his name, was in close personal touch with his master and he kept an account of the activities of the Moulvi, both official and private, such as his meetings with British officers, tours to different places, correspondence carried on with friends and relations and even minor occurrences of indisposition or the application of black dye to his hair. The author has also recorded the business transacted and errands performed by him on behalf of Rajab Ali. These *Roznamchajat*, kept almost continuously for over a quarter of a century, furnish detailed information about the life and work of the Moulvi.

V—*Zabat-ut-Tawarikh* (Tables of corresponding Hijra, Bikrami and Christian dates).

Vol. I, 28th March, 1808—23rd September, 1843.

Vol. II, 24th September, 1843—22nd April, 1854.

The tables seem to have been drawn as ready reckoners of the corresponding dates of the three calendars which were in vogue during this period in northern India. The importance of the '*Jantries*' as a handy aid for finding the day of the week, month and year of the respective eras is too obvious for those who had to conduct correspondence with different parties resorting to one or other calendar. But their distinguishing feature is that in the columns for remarks references are made to certain important events which took place on particular dates. The importance of the tables is thus considerably enhanced as valuable corroborative evidence for ascertaining broad facts of the history of northern India during the period. A few examples of these historical notes are given below:

19th Feb., 1844; King Shah Zaman arrived at Ludhiana; 11th December, 1844; Prince Peshora Singh crossed the Sutlej, reached Ferozpur and met the "Principal Sahib"; 10th Sept., 1845; King Shah Zaman died at Ludhiana and at 3-00 P.M. his bier was sent to Sirhind; 21st Sept., 1845; Sardar Jawahar Singh, *Mukhtar* of Lahore, killed by the army and Raja Lal Singh appointed Wazir; and 28th Jan., 1845; Governor-General along with Major Lawrence crossed Harike and assumed command at Sobraon. On the same date the Sikhs were defeated and 21 guns were fired in the camp of the Governor-General to celebrate the defeat of the Sikhs in the neighbourhood of Bhundri.

VI—*Mukatabat* (or *Letters*).

One bound volume and over two thousand loose letters addressed by or to Moulvi Rajab Ali form a valuable source of information on

a variety of subjects. As a man of great literary eminence and political influence, Rajab Ali carried on prolific correspondence with a large number of people all over India and abroad. His letters bear ample testimony to his wide interests and contacts. Among his correspondents are to be found prominent chiefs, literary figures and several friends and relations seeking his good offices for one thing or the other from Kabul to South India. The *Mukatabat* are of special biographical and historical interest.

This note on Rajab Ali's collection of manuscripts is intended to introduce research students to this hitherto unknown source material on the history of the Punjab in the first half of the nineteenth century. The papers have suffered some damage through neglect and mishandling during the period of upheaval, but they are still in a good state of preservation. The Record Office has taken steps to repair and rehabilitate them as best as possible. In order to enable research students outside the Punjab to have access to these materials it is also proposed to prepare microfilm copies. This rare and valuable acquisition by the State Record Office is expected to stimulate interest in a fresh appraisal of the contribution of Moulvi Rajab Ali and the main events of the period in which he lived.

SOIROBA NAIG

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DURING THE early years of the nineteenth century, the political residents of the East India Company spotted out some talented Indians associated with the administration of the country. Among such Indians Soiroba Naig of Tanjore deserves mention. His integrity and high character are well borne out by the great regard and esteem Sir William Blackburn, Political Resident at Tanjore between 1810 and 1823, had for him.

We know little about the early career and activities of Soiroba Naig. It appears that he was in the service of the Raja of Tanjore (Sarfoji II) until 1814. For some unknown reason he was removed from service by the Raja and thereafter he was denied even access to the palace. Sir William Blackburn, who was a keen judge of men and things, was very much impressed with the character and ability of Soiroba Naig and wanted to provide him with a suitable position in the administration of Pudukkottai over which he had control.

On the death of Vijaya Raghunatha Tondaiman, the Raja of Pudukkottai, in 1807, his minor son Vijaya Raghunatha Raya Tondaiman succeeded to the *gadi*. It was the responsibility of Sir William Blackburn to make arrangements for the proper administration of the State. The officers appointed by the Resident neglected public business on account of their mutual animosities. They failed to take necessary steps to clear the debts left by the previous ruler to the tune of 60,400 *pagodas* and did not make any effort to discharge their responsibilities in spite of repeated warnings¹. Hence the Madras Government appointed one Anantayya as agent with wide powers to work under the superintendence of the Resident. Anantayya took undue advantage of the powers given to him, collected unauthorised levies and bestowed favours on a few. Sir William Blackburn was displeased with him also. In 1814 the administration of the State was, therefore, placed under a Council of three persons who were first called Managers and then Counsellors. Soiroba Naig figures as the chief among them. Thus we know of Soiroba Naig, as holding a political appointment for the first time in 1814.

1. C. S. Srinivasachari *Commemoration Volume*, p. 132; *Sir William Blackburn—An ideal Political Resident*, by Dr. T. V. Mahalingam.

Sir William Blackburn could not reconcile himself to the fact that a servant of the calibre of Soiroba Naig, should have been discharged from the Tanjore court, without any proper reason whatsoever. He endeavoured to reinstate Soiroba Naig in the service of the Tanjore Raja between the years 1814 and 1822. The Resident's communication to the Raja, dated 21 April 1817, runs as follows:—"It is highly displeasing that Soiroba Naig, the worthy head servant of the Office, as well as other principal servants are disallowed in the palace on public business"². Again he wrote on a subsequent occasion "The Resident requests the Raja to state the reason for his objection to allowing Soiroba Naig in the palace"³. In another letter, dated 30 April 1817, the Resident said that "he will persist in his protest against the Raja's determination to exclude Soiroba Naig from the palace which is unjust unless proofs of his guilt are offered and established"⁴. The Tanjore Raja Sarfoji II wanted to employ John Staellier, a French writer to convey all the oral messages between the Resident and himself. Sir William Blackburn could not approve of such an idea and threatened the Raja that his desire would be disapproved by the Government⁵. Apparently Sir Blackburn wanted that Soiroba Naig should be appointed to that position of trust in the Tanjore court, rather than a Frenchman.

Sir William Blackburn was so very favourably disposed towards Soiroba Naig that he resented with scorn any false allegations against Soiroba. It appears that a certain Kailasa Pillai, a native of Pudukkottai brought some charges against Naig. The letter of the Resident's Sarishtadar, dated 21 August 1819, orders a strict enquiry into the charges brought against Soiroba Naig, by Kailasa Pillai⁶. Unfortunately we do not have more details about this case.

The head of the administration in the Pudukkottai State was originally known as *Karyakarta*. Towards the end of the eighteenth century his designation was changed into *Sirkil*. It was the highest and the most dignified position in the State. Sir William Blackburn considered Soiroba Naig, sufficiently qualified to occupy the place. From 1814 to 1822, the *Sirkilship* was kept vacant, though the Raja had attained majority in 1817, for want of a suitable person to occupy it. In 1822, however, Soiroba Naig was appointed as the *Sirkil* or the First Minister of Pudukkottai. In communicating the appointment the Resident wrote to the Raja of Pudukkottai as follows: "So much of your comfort and so entirely your independence will depend on

². *Guide to the Records of Tanjore District* Vol. . III, No. 8. *Resident's correspondence with the Raja*, Vol. 3421/210-215.

³. *Ibid* Vol. 3421/217-20.

⁴. *Ibid* Vol. 3421/228-30.

⁵. *Ibid* Vol. 3421/210-215.

⁶. *Guide to the Records of Tanjore District*, Vol. IV, 3437/242-3.

the manner in which your unavoidable intercourse with the public officers of the British Government is carried on, that it is necessary that your principal officers should be intimately acquainted with the character, views, and feelings of our public officers in general, their modes of transacting business and other particulars which can only be attained by long and close observation, and communication with them. Your Principal Manager Soiroba Naig, possesses in an eminent degree all the qualifications for the discharge of the important duties of your first minister and I should have resigned him entirely to your service long ago, if his situation in my office, had not enabled him to be as useful to you as if he had constantly resided at Poodocottah. His abilities are considerable, his experience and knowledge of business are great. His integrity, as you know, is unimpeachable. During your minority I did not fill up the place of the late *Sirkeel* with a view to recommend to you Soiroba Naig for it"⁷. From the foregoing extract, it is clear that though Soiroba Naig was the principal Manager of Pudukkottai he continued to be with the Political Resident at Tanjore, but visiting the State now and then to inspect affairs of administration.

The elevation of Soiroba Naig to the *Sirkilship* was very much resented by the Raja of Tanjore, Sarfoji. He raised the question whether the Raja of Pudukkottai was entitled to have a *Sirkil* and refused to pay the usual compliments due to a *Sirkil*. This happened on the eve of the visit of Soiroba Naig to Sir William Blackburn at Tanjore on 1 January 1823, obviously to convey his New year greetings personally to the Resident. It was rather surprising to Sir William Blackburn that this issue should be raised on the eve of the visit of the new *Sirkil*, particularly because the Raja of Tanjore did not have any objection to pay compliments to previous *Sirkils* of Pudukkottai. Therefore the Resident wrote to him a spirited letter in 1822 clearly explaining the position. "The Raja Behauder's Sirkeels and Fouzdars have been received with compliments requested from your Highness whenever they have visited British Stations and it is indeed a matter of much surprise as concern to me to receive this refusal from your Highness"⁸.

In 1823 Sir William Blackburn resigned his position as Resident of Tanjore for reasons of health and left for England. Prior to his departure, he wrote to Raja Vijaya Raghunatha Tondaiman of Pudukkottai asking him, "Cherish the excellent and well tried servants you possess, Soiroba Naig (*Sirkil* or First Minister), Tana Pillai (Minister in charge of Finances), Tyagaraze (English Tutor)

⁷. See Radhakrishna Iyer—*General History of the Pudukkottai State* p. 370.

⁸. Letter of the Resident to the Raja of Tanjore dated 31 December 1822. See *Translations, copies and extracts of several letters relating to Pudukkottai State* (Published by T. Rungasamy Naidoo in 1874) p. 124.

and you will never fail to go on well"⁹. Soiroba Naig continued to be the *Sirkil* till 1839. In that year Raja Raghunatha Tondaiman died and Raya Ramachandra Tondaiman, a minor succeeded to the throne. The administration was conducted by a Council of Regency consisting of the *Sirkil* (Soiroba Naig), Fouzdar and other officers in communication with the Rani. Col. MacLean, the Resident at that time wrote to the *Sirkil* and the Fouzdar—"while the management of the affairs remains with the Ranee and yourselves. I can have no fear for the result"¹⁰, though the *Sirkil* was too diffident a man to assert himself.

After 1844, the Regency Council was dissolved and Soiroba Naig was again appointed *Sirkil*, which office he held with distinction till 1853, when probably he died and was succeeded by his son Gopal Naig, who was Deputy *Sirkil* from 1851.

⁹. Letter of the Resident to Raja dated 3 March 1823 from Madras—*Translation copies and extracts of several letters relating to Pudukkottai State* (Published by T. Rungasamy Naidoo) p. 125.

¹⁰. See K. R. Venkatrama Iyer—*A Manual of the Pudukkottai State*, Vol. II. pt. I, pp. 844-45.

SOME UNPUBLISHED DOCUMENTS ON THE DEATH OF THE RANI OF JHANSI AND THE MUTINY IN CENTRAL INDIA

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Central Records Office, Bhopal

The re-examination of Persian records undertaken recently in the Central Records Office, Bhopal, has revealed the existence of some valuable *muraslajat* (letters) which throw fresh light on the circumstances of the death of Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi and other events connected with the Mutiny in Central India. These communications, six in number, were all addressed to Nawab Sikandar Begum of Bhopal, from 18 June to 4 July 1858, by Munshi Bhawani Prasad, the Begum's representative with the Political Agent to the Governor General in Central India. Bhawani Prasad was in the regular employment of the State and because of the trust reposed in him by the ruler of Bhopal was given this important assignment. He regularly communicated to the Begum reports containing information about the Mutiny and the operations undertaken by the British forces to suppress the rebellion in Malwa. The fact that the reporter was very close to the scene of action against the mutineers lend certain amount of authority to the reports furnished by him. Bhawani Prasad certainly conveyed to his employer complete information about the happenings as it was available to him.

From a study of these documents it appears that they were after a careful perusal transferred to Lala Menu Lal, Keeper of the *Daftar-i-Insha*. Incidentally it may be noted that there was a regular system of keeping these records in the safe custody of the Keeper of Records which office was one of trust and responsibility in the State. These letters of Bhawani Prasad have been thus in possession of the Record Office for about a century and they are of unquestionable authenticity.

The main contents of the documents are as follows:

1. Dated, Morar Cantonment, 6 1274 Ziqaidh *Hijri* corresponding to Friday, 18 June 1858. Relating to the death of Rani of Jhansi—wounding of the Nawab of Banda and meeting of the Maharaja of Gwalior

- with the Resident in Central India.
2. Dated, Morar Cantonment, 10 Ziqaidh 1274 *Hijri* corresponding to Tuesday 22 June 1858. Relating to the burning of the Morar Cantonment and looting of the grain stocks.
 3. Dated, Re-het, 13 Ziqaidh 1274 *Hijri* corresponding to Friday 25 June 1858. Relating to Munshi Bhawani Prasad's departure for Sehore (Bhopal Agency) along with the Political Agent and leaving behind the clerk of the Vakil (local representative) in Lashkar (Gwalior) by permission of the Resident in Central India.
 4. Dated, Morar Cantonment, 16 Ziqaidh 1274 *Hijri* corresponding to Monday 28 June 1858. Relating to his (Bhawani Prasad's) arrival at the village and the miseries of travel and destruction of cattle due to heavy rains.
 5. Dated, Bhadravas, 20 Ziqaidh 1274 *Hijri* corresponding to Friday 2 July 1858. Relating to the arrival of the reporter and the Resident at the village of Bhadravas.
 6. Dated, Guna, 22 Ziqaidh 1274 *Hijri* corresponding to Sunday 4 July 1858. Relating to the departure of the Agent to the Governor General in Central India and General Rose and the conditions in Lashkar (Gwalior).

It will appear that the first of these reports sent by Bhawani Prasad on 18 June 1858 from Morar Cantonment is the most important as it gives information regarding the circumstances of the death of the Rani of Jhansi which is a matter of controversy among historians and Sir Hugh Rose's campaign for the restoration of British authority in Gwalior. The letter reads:

"Yesterday, the Rani of Jhansi and the Nawab of Banda both present at the entrenchment were personally directing the bombardment against Major R. (Hugh Rose's?) position. During the engagement that ensued one shell from Major R's(?) battery blew off an arm of the Nawab of Banda and another one went off bruising the Rani's breast which resulted in her death. The mutineers, therefore, cremated the said Rani's body with Sandal wood. It is also correct that at night the rebels numbering

about 3,000 made away with the treasury and 13 mountain guns from Maharaja Scindia's artillery towards Karauli. It is also understood that Tantia Tope has ordered the mutineers accompanying him that when all of them with their equipment had crossed the Gwalior territory then they should get away by way of Karauli, but a small number of them should be ready at their entrenchments to give fight. Major R.(?) on the other hand has sent a small contingent for the punishment of the mutineers and the deserters. Maharaja Scindia came and met the Agent to the Governor General in Central India at 8 A.M. today. On his arrival a salute of 19 guns was fired in his honour. Hardly anybody had gone to receive him, the Maharaja Scindia himself entered the bungalow of the Agent to the Governor General in Central India. The Maharaja was accompanied by two Government Sikh squadrons from Akbarabad. Constant bombardment continues from Major R's entrenchment. It is certain that Gwalior will soon be captured and the Maharaja Scindia will be installed on the Gadi. Rupees sixty lacs in cash in Gangajali (Treasury) were captured by the rebels which either they spent by themselves or took away with them. They did not loot the property of the subjects. Rest is all well.

Submitted for information.

It is again submitted that Karauli is situated on the north of Gwalior and borders the territories of Jaipur, Bharatpur and Ajmer.

May you live long to rule."

The foregoing paragraphs just form an attempt to show how valuable historical materials are to be found among the records of Bhopal and it is expected that scholars of modern Indian history will give proper attention for making use of them.

MICROFILMING : IMMENSE POSSIBILITIES OF ITS USE IN INDIA

M. C. TRIVEDI

Government Photo Registry Office, Poona

DURING the last twenty years, and especially since the World War II, microfilming as a useful means of copying in facsimile has held a place of its own. Developed originally as one of the methods of photocopying which proved to be much cheaper and required much less space for storage and transport than other photographic methods of facsimile copying then in existence like the Photostat and the Rectigraph, it soon developed, in war years, as a very suitable method of carrying in small space and at a very cheap cost the great volume of traffic. To save space, aerograph became a regular mail service in war years. Letters were micro-filmed at the place of origin; and their film, instead of original letters, was flown to the place of destination. At the other end the contents of the film were read through the help of a reader or enlarged on a photographic paper and delivered to the addressee. World War II thus gave a great fillip to microfilming, and various machines and apparatus to do this work, were developed.

After the War, these were utilised for peace time work. Good many departments of government, and of private commercial houses, in Europe and America, have begun to make a regular use of it for their manifold needs; such as for saving in space for which, for instance, the newspaper publishing houses are in greatest need; for the necessity for records being copied out in facsimile for which the commercial houses are ever very much in need for preserving copies of their bills of lading, cheques, etc; and for preserving their ever increasing but valuable old records for which government departments are required to provide.

In India, there is one of the activities of the government which requires adequate provision to be made in the sphere of copying. Registration of public transactions is undertaken by the government in India, unlike that in western countries. In the case of the latter, this is done by firms of solicitors or notary public. In India, Government have undertaken this work, and the procedure thereof is statutorily prescribed in an Act of Government called the Indian Registration Act. This Act is an all India Act and it regulates the

procedure of registration in all the States of India. To give effect to the provisions of the Act, Government of each State has opened a net work of offices called Sub-Registry Offices, one in each Taluka town, before whom the registrants register their documents. According to Section 70 of the Act, Government are required to have a copy made for record of each document that is presented for registration, after it is accepted by the Sub-Registrar, (as the officer in charge of each Sub-Registry is called), before the document registered is returned to the parties.

Here then is an immense field for photocopying for all the States. So far, in all the States except Bombay, this copying is done in hand in big volumes provided for the purpose. This, however, is not exact copying. The distinguishing part of each document—the signatures of parties, witnesses etc., cannot be copied. While copying the contents there is also a great possibility of mistakes—unintentional or even intentional—being committed, and even after copying there is a chance of fraudulent additions and alterations at any time. The hand-copying method results in but one copy and if it is destroyed by fire, flood or theft, there is nothing to take its place; instances of this kind have taken place in Bombay State in the past. Again, as the work of copying is voluminous, it entails at times abnormal delays to parties in the return of their documents.

These are the disadvantages of hand-copying of registered documents; and all States and their Registration Departments are aware of them. In the absence, however, of a better alternative method of copying, it has been tolerated in spite of its defects. In this matter Bombay State, however, took a lead as far back as 1920 and adopted a system of photo-registry.

In 1920, the then Inspector General of Registration, Mr. F.G.H. Anderson, I.C.S. conceived the idea of preparing a photographic copy of each document that was presented for registration, instead of the manuscript copy so far in vogue in all States of India. At first, for the first six or seven years, blue print copies such as those taken for engineer's drawings were taken, by what was called the wetplate photographic process. This was, however, not quite successful as a method of copying registered documents, which invariably contained photographically heterogeneous details, from a faint rubber stamp impression to thick black writing of the text, often on one and the same page, which required different photographic exposures. As the negatives were prepared on glass, it did not allow negatives to be preserved for all time. With the experience gained a new photographic method was evolved, after experiments which lasted for two years, which satisfied all the exacting

requirements of the Act and the needs of the Registration Department. This was the microfilm sulphide print process. It was introduced in 1927 and is working since that time.

The essence of the process is that documents are first photographed on 35 mm cellulose acetate (safety base) film; and after this an enlarged print $7\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ is taken from the microfilm image. Larger sizes of prints are also given $10'' \times 6''$, $12'' \times 7\frac{1}{2}''$, $13\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8\frac{1}{2}''$ if the parties desire. For purposes of government record $7\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$ size is considered to be suitable enough. At present, about 3,000 sides are daily microfilmed and printed by enlargement on paper on an average, with number increasing to 4,000 sides per day in busy months i.e., from April to June. This number is likely to increase shortly from 8,000 to 10,000 sides per day on an average and 12,000 sides per day in busy months, with the arrears of the work of the Department which was held over due to the War and abnormal conditions prevailing thereafter, being taken over. The film negatives are preserved at the Central Office at Poona known as the Government Photo Registry Office where this work is done. The enlarged photo-copies together with the original documents are returned, after they are certified to be true copies of the original documents, to the Sub-Registry Offices concerned—the photo-copies for record there and the documents for return to the parties. As the film negatives and photo-copies are to be permanent, various expedients, safeguards, apparatus etc., are devised to ensure this, which is difficult when work is done and is required to be turned out on such a large scale and so expeditiously. Almost all the apparatus and machines are devised and constructed locally; as at the time the process was introduced, in 1927, the idea of microfilming had not made much headway even in Europe and America. The cost of production for the negative and print ($7\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}''$) comes to about five annas per side, which is about the same as for hand-copying. In the same cost therefore, two facsimile records are obtained.

The system has been working in Bombay State for the last 25 years. It was hoped other States would follow suit. Madras actually introduced the microfilm sulphide print process in 1930 on the lines of the Bombay province and worked it for 12 years. In 1942, however, on account of the difficulties felt in supplies of materials due to war conditions it was abandoned. Other States like the Punjab, Bengal, Bihar also made detailed enquiries, but they have not so far adopted the system.

In this direction it appears that the Central Government may be able to give a useful lead. The Indian Registration Act is an all

India Act. The provisions of this Act had to be modified, in so far as they were applicable to the State of Bombay, in order to bring them in line with the introduction of the photo-copying system. Section 70 of the Act had to be modified and a whole chapter, part XI A, had to be introduced. A bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly to amend the Act and legalise the photo-copying system in 1930, 1933 and again in 1938. If the Indian Registration Act is amended on these lines, all the States would automatically come under the photo system of copying, and it would give a great and much needed fillip to microfilming, in addition to substituting a modern scientific method in place of an old and obsolete one. This can, it is understood, be suitably undertaken by the Centre. A comprehensive scheme based on the amended Act can then be worked out for all the States in India; and this will be in keeping with the initiative that was taken 25 years ago when the idea of microfilming had not advanced far even in Europe and America, due to which we are acknowledged by foreign experts as pioneers in microfilming.

Another direction in which the Centre can help for the promotion of microfilming is in introducing it for the manifold needs of the Education Department, libraries, records repositories, museums, etc. In consultation with the Department of Education a scheme can be worked out for this also.

The copying of very old historical and religious manuscripts which are lying scattered in large numbers all over India and which are now, with the lapse of time, deteriorating with the risk of losing them for all time to come, should also engage the attention of the Centre, especially of the Historical Records Commission. A comprehensive scheme on an all India basis, to microfilm these valuable records according to a well laid out programme can be evolved by the Centre in close collaboration with the Departments of Archives of the various States.

What is thus required is an urge—well planned, organised and directed from the Centre,—to make the fullest use of this modern scientific method of copying and preservation of all kinds of records and relics.

SOME PROMINENT PARSIS IN THE 18TH CENTURY

B. A. SALETORÉ

National Archives of India

THESE ARE a few documents in the National Archives which refer to some prominent Parsis of Bombay, who were responsible for the maritime prosperity of that city. Of these five were exclusively Master Builders, one was a wealthy merchant, and the seventh was a citizen who, for want of a better designation, could be merely put down as a prominent inhabitant of Bombay. These records which are eight in number, range from 1782 till 1800.

The earliest is dated 28th September, 1782, and was addressed by the Surat Factors William Lewis, Daniel Crockatt, D. Seton, and F. Warden to Governor General Warren Hastings at Fort William. In this letter the Factors wrote that they had accepted all the 14 bills of exchange which accompanied the Governor General's letter "of the 5th past, (i.e. 5th August, evidently).....except two Bills, to the Amount of Rupees 12000-0-0 on Dunjeeshaw Munjeeshaw, who being at Bombay, his Son and Agent desire Time to refer to him, for the Acceptance of these Bills, as they have no Orders regarding them". Another letter also from Surat, and dated the 24th November, 1782, and obviously by the same Factors, addressed to Mr. Warren Hastings, confirmed the statement made in the previous letter, and stated that "The above mentioned Bills have all been duly honored except those drawn on Dunjeeshaw Munjeeshaw and we therefore now return the first of those Bills protested for non-payment²". It cannot be made out what happened to these dealings afterwards. Neither can we make out the exact status of Dunjeeshaw Munjeeshaw. In all likelihood he was a member of the famous Wadia family which had risen into prominence under the first Master Builder of Surat, Lowji Nasarwanji Wadia, who had served the English Factory from 1735 till 1773, and who may be said to have founded the reputation of the Dockyard at Bombay³.

In 1790 figures Burjerjee Dorabjee. The letter referring to him dated 28th April, 1790, at Bombay Castle, was signed by Robt. Abercromby, D. Carnegie, and George Dick, and was addressed

obviously to Mr. Warren Hastings. This is an interesting letter in which we have details concerning the observations made by the Master Builders of Bombay referring to His Majesty's ship *Crown*, and in which we are informed that "yesterday" (i.e. 27th April), the Bombay Factors drew on the Governor General a bill for Rs. 14,000 in favour of Burjerjee Dorabjee, "which being for an indispensable military purpose we are to request your Lordship will honour when due."⁴

Although chronologically there figure two other Parsis in these records, about whom I shall presently mention a few details, yet for the sake of the completion of the history of the Master Builders of Bombay, I might pass on to three more Parsi Master Builders, who were Framjee Manakjee, Jamshedjee Bomanjee and Dorabjee Bairamjee. Framjee Manakjee and Jamshedjee Bomanjee (written in the record as Fronjie Monakje and Junsetjee Bomonjee) gave a certificate at Bombay on the 21st March 1800, which was countersigned by Roebuck Abbott and Co. The certificate by itself makes interesting reading:

"We the undersigned the Master Builders in the Hon'ble Companys Dock Yard in Bombay, do hereby certify to whom it may concern, that the Danish ship Helsingore Captain Irevine, was hauled into Dock here, on the 12th of January 1797 that her whole bottom was stripped examined Caulked new, and leak sheathed, and new Coppered, that such Planks in her Top sides and Decks, as were found to be bad or decayed were stripped, that that lower Masts were taken out and examined, in consequence of supposed Injury from Shot, and such of the fishes as were found to be wounded thereby were replaced, by New and good ones, and we do further Certify, that she was hauled out of Dock on the 27th Day of January, above mentioned completely repaired to the best of our judgment⁵."

Of the two above mentioned Master Builders, the second was the same Jamshedjee Bomonjee, who was the most distinguished member of the Wadia family. He is reputed to have built for the British Navy several lines of battleship and frigates, remarkable for their strength and sea-worthiness⁶. It is interesting to observe here that the Wadia family from 1736 to 1863, built for the East India Co., 170 war vessels and other crafts, 34 war-ships for the Royal Navy, 87 merchant vessels for private firms and 3 vessels for the Imam of Muscat⁷. This is a proud record of a most enterprising family which was responsible for the prosperity of both of the city of Bombay and of the East

1. Public Consultation, 20 January 1783, No. 11.

2. *Ibid*, 23 January 1783, No. 1.

3. *Gazetteer of Bombay City & Island*, Bombay, 1910, III, p. 272.

4. Public Consultation, 28 April 1790, No. 4.

5. Public Consultation, 3 July 1800, No. 3.

6. *Gazetteer of Bombay City & Island*, III, p. 272. See *ibid*, n (2) for Bombay ships built in 1828 and 1844 still being in service in 1910.

7. *Ibid*, p. 273.

India Co., in India. Jumshedjee Bomanjee again figures in another letter dated 13th September, 1800 at Bombay, which is signed by himself. It certifies that the ship "*Santa Cruz*" commanded by John Collie was built at Bombay Marine yard, and launched under the Name of Griffiin in the year of our Lord 1770⁸". A good deal of correspondence rests with ship *Santa Cruz* which is outside our purpose⁹. We have to pass on to the last name in the present list of Master Builders and that was that of Dorabjee Bairamjee (written Beramjee) which is mentioned in a letter from Calcutta dated May the 22nd, 1800, and addressed to Mr. C. R. Crommelin, Secretary to the Government in the Public Department, Dorabjee Bairamjee solicited the permission of the Governor General in Council for disposing of the Ship *Rebecca* to one "Mr. John William Bronaugh, an American, who lost his own Ship the *Louis*, by Capture, on the 4th Januay last, and is therefore, under the Necessity of purchasing another at this Place, to take the property he has here to America¹⁰". This letter shows that a member of the famous Parsi family of Master Builders of Bombay and Surat, was at Calcutta in the year 1800, evidently carrying on the professon of the building and selling of ships associated with his family. As a point of information we might mention that the last Master Builder of the Wadia Family was Khan Bahadur Jamshedjee Dhanjibhoy who retired in 1885¹¹.

Now we may mention a few details about a prominent Parsi merchant, Jamshedjee Kokajee figuring in a record dated the 25th November, 1795. In this letter written by Charles Christkuer, Attorney at Law for Jamshedjee Kokajee (written Cocajee) and addressed to Mr. Edward Hay, Secretary to Government we are informed that "An action having been brought by a Man named Jamsetjee Cocajee against Captain. John Reid for the recovery of certain Goods shipped on board the Ship *Hampshire* of which he was then Commander and which sailed from this Port (which is not mentioned) early in the month of April 1793, and it being necessary for Jamsetjee Cocajee, in order to make good his Claim to prove the Voyage Captain. Reid held out he was going when he took the Goods on freight", Mr. Christkuer requested Mr. Hay to inform him "what particular Voyage Captain Reid in his application to Government for a passport specified he was bound for". If Mr. Hay was not in a position to give this information, it was requested that the Governor-General might kindly be addressed, so that the necessary information when obtained would "tend to the attainment of Justice or be the means of preventing an Expensive Litigation between the Parties¹²."

8. Public Consultation, 13 November 1800, No. 16.

9. *Ibid.*

10. Public Consultation, 22 May 1800, No. 53.

11. *Gazetteer of Bombay City and Island, op. cit.*, 273.

12. Public Consultation, 30 November 1795, No. 39.

We now come to a prominent citizen named Jurajee Bhowunjee. He figures in an affidavit submitted by Mr. G. Kirckpatrick, Clerk of the Peace of Bombay, and dated the 6th March 1790. This record also contains the statement of Mr. T. H. Davies, Advocate-General, on the case of Jurajee Bhowunjee which is as follows:—"Whether a verdict passed on Jurajee Bhowunjee at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace and Sessions of Ayer and Terminer and Goal Delivery held for the Town and Island of Bombay and it's Dependencies on the fifteenth day of January 1790, and continued by several means adjournments to Tuesday the 2nd of March"; could be legally carried out. Jurajee Bhowunjee described as "a Gentoo", "was arraigned upon a Bill of Indictment for wilful and corrupt Perjury, of which a Copy No. 1 is adjoined to this Case and upon not guilty pleaded, was Tried and convicted of the Perjury, charged in the Indictment". When he was brought to the Court to receive the sentence he prayed the Court to assign him Counsel to assist him in some thing he had to offer why Judgment should not be given on the Verdict. The Advocate General Mr. Davies' opinion in this case was that "the Judgement in this case ought to be arrested, and that no sentence can legally be passed upon the Indictment on which Jurajee Bhowunjee has been found guilty". But Mr. Davies arrived at his opinion upon a ground different to the one offered to the Court by Mr. Constable, Counsel for the accused. The entire document is very important from the point of view of Justice as it was meted out in the Bombay Major's Court. For our purpose it might be noted that a British advocate did not hesitate to defend an Indian accused who was convicted of perjury so early as in 1800. This case is also important from the point of view of the practice of Criminal Law and of the Rule of Law, which latter phrase occurs in the last paragraph of the statement of Mr. Davies.¹³

