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Royal Orders of Kartik Badi 1, 1865

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Contd.

### 1. Appointment of Sardars

- (a) Doti: Sardar Puran Sahi was appointed as Sardar of Doti district effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866.
- (b) Garhaun: Sardar Chandrabir Kanwar was appointed as Sardar in Garhaun jointly with Parashuram Thapa.

### 2. Land Reclamation and Settlement in Morang

The jimidari of Guwabadi in the Gauradaha area of the Parganna of Athmouja in Morang district, situated on the eastern banks of the Ratuwa river, was granted to Dala Singh Chaudhari under Bekh-Bunyad tenure. A royal order issued in this connection stated, "Reclaim lands and settle the country in accordance with the instructions of Jagat Pande, and also pay the prescribed revenues to him and obtain clearance. One mouja in the Guwabadi area is hereby granted to you under nankar tenure; appropriate half (nisaf) of the income from that mouja, as well as jimidari perquisites. Bring settlers from birta lands, as well as from India, not ryots occupying taxable (mal) lands. Thanke-sair duties (?) shall be included in the Jammabandi register of forest revenues. Let the Sardar collect baheti-sair duties (?). Make collections and disbursements according to the Jammabandi and obtain clearance.

Identical Bekh-Bunyad grants were made as follows on the same day:

- (1) Waste lands in the Parganna of Dhajjan between the Kankai and Mechi rivers in Morang district were granted to Badhalu Chaudhari, with the mouja of Dhulabari as nankar.
- (2) waste lands in the Pathar Ghatta area of the Parganna of Hattighisa between the Mechi and Mahanadi rivers in Morang district were granted to Jasmal Chaudhari, son of Mansa Chaudhari, with the mouja of Aralibari as nankar.

### 3. Appointment of Chaudhari in Saptari District

Bhaiya Lal was appointed Chaudhari of the Pargannas of Maljhamuna, Rayajhamuna, Pakariya, and Gudigaun, and Kanugoye of the Pargannas of Mahisoth, Pihar, Rampur and Dhanchhauwar, in the district of Saptari effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866. The order added, "Perform the duties of your post with full assurance, collect revenues, submit accounts according to the Jammabandi register, and obtain clearance. Use nankar lands and other customary perquisites pertaining to the post, and transmit the prescribed salami fees thereon through the Subba.

4. Disbursement Orders(a) Morang:

Harikrishna Das was ordered to make a disbursement of Rs. 1,850 to meet the shortfall in the Khangri emoluments of Kumbhedan Amrit Sinha Thapa from ijara revenues from Morang district of the year 1865. The breakdown was as follows:-

Shortfall of 10 <u>knets</u>	...	Rs. 250
Shortfall in cash emoluments	...	<u>Rs. 1,600</u>
		Rs. 1,850

(b) Bhadgaun:

Dittha Laxmi Narayan was ordered to disburse a sum of Rs. 1,545 and  $2\frac{1}{4}$  annas from revenues collected in Bhadgaun for the Vikrama year 1865 to meet the shortfall in the Khangri emoluments of Kaji Jaspau Thapa. The shortfall actually amounted to Rs. 2,257 and 12 annas; the balance of Rs. 712 and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  annas being met as follows:-

Rs. 341 from Chumawan revenues collected by Sardar Birabhadra Kanwar.

Rs. 371 and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  annas from revenues collected by Dittha Laxmi Narayan from Pota tax on lands tilled by carpenters.

(c) Doti:

Royal order to Sardar Puran Sahi: "You are hereby ordered to disburse a sum of Rs. 1,500 as the Khangri of Subba Madho Sahi from the general (Sarbarakam) revenues of Doti for the Vikrama year 1866, other than revenues assigned to the military."

(d) Dittha Bishram Khatri

In the Vikrama year 1862, King Girban had performed a religious ceremony to propitiate God Aditya at the confluence of the Tukucha river through Krishna Mishra Pandit. Dittha Bishram Khatri was ordered to pay him Rs. 524 as ritual fees and other expenses from revenues collected during the year 1865.

5. Naya Gorakh Company Deputed to Front

The Subedar, Jamadars, Huddas, soldiers, and other personnel (Lajima) of the Naya Gorakh Company were informed that they had been deputed to the front. The royal order added, "Retain the tenants (mohi) cultivating your rice-fields

if they are willing to pay the chardam-theke, ghiukhane, and other fees, and also to provide loans, and obtain loans accordingly from them. Otherwise, reallocate the rice-fields on adhiya tenure to other persons who are willing to do so."

#### 6. Adhiya Allotments

Rice-fields in the Betali area were allotted on adhiya tenure to Chhatra Simha Karki, Foud Simha Karki, and Hari Karki. The breakdown was as follows:-

Chhatra Simha Karki	...	220 muris
Foud Simha Karki	...	80 muris
Hari Karki	...	40 muris

They were protected from eviction so long as they paid Chardam-theke and ghiukhane, and also provided loans (to their jagirdar-landlords) within the limit of the value of the adhiya rents.

Rice-fields and pasture lands totalling 100 muris in area were similarly allotted to Atal Khadka on the same day in the Daurali and Tamadi areas.

#### 7. Forest Protection in Harmi

"We have received reports that trees adjoining channels which irrigate rice-fields in Harmi have been cut, with the result that the channel has been washed away and the rice-fields are going out of cultivation. We hereby appoint Daroga Damodar Jaisi to supervise the protection of forests near the irrigation channel.

#### 8. Chhap Grants

##### (a) Kaski:

A tract of land in the Talla-Ghachok area (of Kaski district), adjoining the Thulipokhari Lake and the Seti river, was granted under Chhap tenure to Pratap Gurung, Udho Gurung, Birna Gurung, and thirteen other Gurungs stationed at Kangra. The Chhap previously belonged to Prahlad Gurung and Narayan Padya.

##### (b) Sisneri:

A tract of land near Sisneri in the Betali area, occupied by Arjun Basnyat, was granted under Chhap tenure to Chandrabir Karki. He was ordered to pay the customary dues to the local Amali on the Chhap lands.

Kartik Badi 4, 1865.

(c) Karkigaun:

On Kartik Badi 4, 1865, Simha Sahi was granted a tract of lands north of Sisneri-byasi in the Karkigaun area under Chhap tenure.

9. Collection of Chumawan Levy

Balabhadra Pande and Duryodhan Karki were ordered to refund the amount collected as Chumawan during the sacred-thread-investiture ceremony of (King Girban Yuddha Bikram) in the Vikrama year 1865 in the mouja of Remban in the Jataha area of Rautahat owned under Bekh-Bunyad tenure by Kaji Devadatta Thapa, and transmit other amounts collected as Chumawan to Kathmandu through Kaji Bahadur Bhandari and Sardar Birabhadra Kanwar.

Kartik Badi 4, 1865.

10. Jhara Labor for Gunpowder Factory

Troops deputed to impress jhara labor in Sangachok for the construction of a gunpowder factory at Narayanhiti in Kathmandu were ordered not to do so from people inhabiting lands covered by Chhap and other royal grants, since they were required to provide jhara labor for the construction of irrigation channels and reclamation of waste lands in their respective areas.

Kartik Badi 4, 1865.

11. Mail and Passports

Separate orders to Chaukidars at Kalyarighat and Trishuli, as well as to Subedar Ratan Simha Thapa and Dittha Bishram Khatri.

"Expedite the despatch of all mail on which the seal of Kaji Bhasen Thapa has been affixed on the envelopes. Mail not bearing the Kaji's seal shall be forwarded to us. You shall be held guilty if you let such mail pass through. As regards passports, only those bearing the seals and signatures of Chautara Pran Shah and Rana Jung Baniya shall be recognized."

12. Gifts of Elephants

Darogas Damodar Joshi, Mahadev Padhya, Dharma Simha Bhandari, Bajavarna Thapa, and Jaya Simha Khatri were ordered to hand over elephants to the following persons as follows:-

- (a) One elephant of 3½ cubits as a farewell gift to Prabhu Dayal Chhokada.



- (b) One elephant of 4 cubits as a farewell gift to Bakhatar Chhokada, and cow elephants of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  cubits each to three jogis, namely, Ram Nath, Ratan Nath, and Hamsa Nath.
- (c) Two elephants of a total of 11 cubits to Amrit Rao in exchange for gifts presented during the sacred-thread-investiture and wedding ceremonies of King Girban Yuddha Bikram.

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Political Events in Nepal, A.D. 1885

1. From the Statesman of December 6, 1885, as reproduced in the paper on December 6, 1985.

In Nepal there is now a lull after the storm. Colonel Berekely, the Resident, who was at Segowlie when the rioting occurred, has returned to Kathmandoo, and the army remains quiet, apparently accepting the new order of things, as presumably the British Government must do. It is, however, a repulsive alternative, with a discouraging moral to it, to have to reorganize a ruler who seizes the sceptre red-handed, and it may be believed that the Viceroy will endeavour in some more or less impressive way to mark his sense of the situation. As for Jeet Jung, the late Commander-in-Chief, if he is unfortunate in losing his command, he is lucky in saving his head, which would certainly have been lost to him, but for his absence from the country. And his pathetic appeal to Lord Dufferin, as his Excellency was leaving Agra for Gwalior, can avail him nothing. It may be concluded that if before a Nepalese Contingent was to have joined the Camp of Exercise as a matter of courtesy it will be sent now, with something like eagerness, that the world may see that the new regime is accepted.

2. From the Statesman of December 9, 1885, as reproduced in the paper on December 9, 1985.

(Editorial Note)

The situation in Nepal appears to justify fully the hopes which the late revolution in the kingdom has awakened. We are indebted to the Englishman for the assurance that the new Prime Minister, Bhir Shumshere Jung, has been successful in preventing the occurrence of any disorders either at the capital or elsewhere.

As soon as it was known at Khatmandu that Sir Run Uddip Sinh had been killed, the Nur Sinh brothers, took shelter at the British Residency. Some of the other members of the late Prime Ministers's party had fled to villages at some distance from the capital. Maharaja Bhir Shumshere Jung has, however, persuaded all of them to return and has given them

permission to remove their families, as well as their effects, including their money and jewellery to places within the borders of Nepal, or to British territory if they prefer it, but the Council does not consider it advisable to allow them to reside at the capital.

Perfect quiet and order reign throughout the Kingdom, but what is wanted at Khatmandu if we may trust the information that reaches us is a change at the Residency as well as of the Government. Strange as it may seem to many, we are told that the memory of Sir Henry Lawrence is still cherished in the minds of the people, although it is forty years since he went in and out of the Residency. Mr. Girdlestone's abilities are questioned by no one, but very strong remark is made upon the fact that he secludes himself entirely from the people that he seems not to have a sympathy of any kind with them, and that it is only when a great shikar party has to be entertained that the existence of the Resident is even known. In avoiding incessant and mischievous interference with the Government, Mr. Girdlestone seems to have gone to the opposite extreme of withdrawing himself from all contact with the people whatever. And yet who can fail to see the enormous influence for good that a strongly sympathetic but generous and forbearing nature might have, both upon the Government and the people in quietly stimulating their advancement. Very few of our "politicals" as they are called, seem to possess this first qualification of all for successful 'touch' either with the people or their princes. In Mr. Girdlestone it is declared to be conspicuously wanting, with the result of making the Residency, which should be a centre of warmth and enlightenment, a practical non-entity.

3. From the Statesman of December 25, 1885, as reproduced in the paper on December 25, 1985.

We learn that Mr. Henry Ballantine, the enterprising commercial traveller, has just arrived in Calcutta from Nepal. As he was the only European at the British Residency in Kathmandu apart from the Residency Surgeon, who was an eye-witness of the troubles consequent on the murder of the Maharaja and certain officials there, we fancy he could, if he chose, "a tale unfold". Probably the proper Government officials here already have had an interview with him but however that may be, we learn on good authority that Mr. Ballantine has been commissioned by the new Durbar to make out an estimate for certain improvements for immediate execution. If this be really carried out, we can assure the new regime that no stronger proof could be given to the outside world and to the Indian Government of their good intentions and of their sincere resolve to institute a reform in that benighted corner of the earth, notorious for generations past for its habitations of cruelty. We congratulate Nepal in committing to such an enterprising gentleman any contemplated reforms; for in such good hands, they may rest assured of as great success as their wretched city now stands deplorably in need of; while we could point Nepal to Japan and its present prosperous, independent and highly creditable stand among civilized nations, as a position worthy and possible of their attainment.

4. From the Statesman of December 27, 1885, as reproduced in the paper on December 27, 1985.

Our correspondent Radha Nath Dey is apparently a friend of the old regime in Nepal, and therefore, regards the death of the late Prime Minister, and of his nephew and grand-nephew simply as so many murders. God forbid that we should say a word to justify the shedding of innocent blood, but if bloodshed is justifiable under any circumstances, it is in punishing with death the Ministers of any State who are seeking to enslave it either by their own force of character, or by allowing themselves to be made the instruments of others. The information received by us from Kathmandu leaves no doubt upon our own mind, that the late Prime Minister was entirely in the hands of men who were bent upon destroying every reform that had been introduced into the kingdom in the last 25 years. Our correspondent's letter contains the very first suggestion we have seen in any part of the press, that the fall of this party was not an absolute necessity, if Nepal was not to lapse into a cruel despotism, administered by men who, themselves uneducated, were resolutely bent upon restoring the state of things that prevailed in the kingdom before Sir Jung Bahadur's time, if this is a true account of matters, and we have no doubt ourselves that it is so, it would be impossible to stigmatize as assassins and murderers, the men who ventured their own lives in the attempt to seize their country from the hands of those conspirators against its progress and well-being. It is probably true that the Prime Minister's complicity in their plans arose from the weakness of his character, but it was under the ascendancy of his name that the resolution was being carried on.

We think it was Bentham who said that 'capital punishment should be reserved for kings' who conspired against the liberties of their people, and he did so on the ground that it was impossible to provide for their safe imprisonment, because of the overwhelming temptations with which they could bribe their gaolers. Certainly if any men deserve the punishment of death, it is men in high places who conspire against the liberties and well-being of the people. We leave—and can only leave—in the judgement of a higher tribunal than men's the personal guilt or innocence, of the actors in the revolution. We justify and approve the revolution, but cannot even if we would, determine the moral character of what each individual actor has done therein.

5. From the Statesman of January 3, 1886, as reproduced in the paper on January 3, 1986.

The Amrita Bazaar Patrika affirms that the accounts which have been published in the Anglo-Indian dailies of the revolution in Nepal, were "all from interested parties, and that no reliance, therefore, should be put upon them". The writer does not tell us how he came to know this, but publishes what we presume he would have us believe to be an account of

the event from perfectly disinterested parties. And yet we are reasonably sure that he would not say this. The fact seems to be that certain partisans of the late regime who were permitted to leave Nepal unmolested, carrying with them whatever they possessed, have taken up their quarters at Patana, and are now conducting a propaganda against the new Ministry, by diligently writing to the public papers. We have received several letters from this quarter, protesting against the approval we are giving to the murderers and assassins who have usurped the government of Nepal. Now the very presence of these persons in British territory, with their possessions, and the fact that no one asserts that more than three lives were sacrificed in the revolution—one of these being declared to have been occasioned by the victims's own violence—show at all events that the leaders of the revolt have distinguished themselves by a moderation that seldom marks such enterprises, and that must at all events be placed to their credit.

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Resource Mobilization and the Land Tax in Nepal

By

Mahesh C. Regmi

(Paper presented at an international seminar on "Dynamics of Social Change in Nepal", organized by the Center for the Study of Nepal, Banaras Hindu University, at Varanasi, India, from January 23 to 25, 1986).

This paper seeks to analyze the role of the land tax in recent efforts by His Majesty's Government to mobilize financial resources for its growing administrative and development needs. Chronic budget deficits underline the importance of such mobilization. During the fiscal year 1984-85, for example, the deficit amounted to as much as Rs. 1668 million, or nearly one-fifth of the total expenditure of Rs. 8522.8 million.<sup>1</sup> Since the problem is a chronic one, the objective of official policy has been to reduce the size of deficits, rather than to eliminate them. The deficit for the fiscal year 1985-86 was thus originally estimated at Rs. 1419.02 million<sup>2</sup>, but a special economic program introduced as a follow-up to the recent devaluation of the Nepali rupee (from Rs. 145 to Rs. 170 for Indian Rs. 100) aims only at reducing the figure by 25.2 percent to Rs. 1130 million.<sup>3</sup>

Against this backdrop of chronic budget deficits, it goes without saying that it is important for His Majesty's Government to exploit all available sources of revenue, including traditional sources such as the land tax.

Historically, the land tax has been the mainstay of Nepal's fiscal system, but its importance has been declining progressively during the post - 1950 period. At the end of Rana rule, land tax revenue amounted to Rs. 11.39 million, or 39.1 percent of the total revenue of Rs. 29.08 million.<sup>4</sup> By 1961-62, the percentage had declined to 16.25,<sup>5</sup> and in 1983-84, it amounted to not more than 2.26 percent of the total revenue.<sup>6</sup> The declining trend is due to the growing importance of such other traditional sources of revenue as customs and excise, as well as such new sources as sales tax, and taxes on income and property.

But though the declining importance of land tax revenue in the fiscal system of the nation is a natural consequence of the growing importance of the other sources mentioned above, the gradual decline in its volume in absolute terms is a subject that calls for a deeper analysis. The following table contains statistics of land-tax revenue in different years between 1977-78 and 1983-84 :-

Table 1  
Land Tax Revenue, 1977-84

<u>Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (In Million Nepali Rupees)
1977-78	87.02 <sup>7</sup>
1978-79	54.6 <sup>8</sup>
1979-80	56.1 <sup>9</sup>
1980-81	100.07 <sup>10</sup>
1981-82	81.7 <sup>11</sup>
1982-83	66.7 <sup>12</sup>
1983-84	77.1 <sup>13</sup>

There is evidence to believe that this fluctuating trend is largely the result of a series of unstable land tax policies based on questionable assumptions and principles, often veering toward cross-purposes.

One such principle is that of nation-wide uniformity in the rates of land tax assessment. According to the budget proposals for the fiscal year 1966-67<sup>14</sup>:

It is the policy of His Majesty's Government to introduce uniform rates of land tax assessment all over the Kingdom. This measure will reduce land tax revenue from Kathmandu valley by approximately 50 percent, but remove the great hardships so far undergone by landowners in this region. It will also put an end to the age-old inequities prevailing in respect to land tax assessments, progressively reduce economic inequalities, and ensure social justice.

Uniformity of land-tax assessment rates on a nation-wide basis, however, negated the more equitable and time-honored principle of basing assessments on location and productivity. It is indeed surprising how "age-old inequities and economic inequalities" would be mitigated, and social justice ensured, by taxing agricultural lands at the same rates in both the agriculturally rich district of Saptari on the Nepal-India border in the south and the Himalayan region of Jumla in the north.

Following the principle of nation-wide uniformity, His Majesty's Government introduced the following schedule in 1966-67 (For the sake of simplicity, only the rates for rice-lands are used in this paper).

Table 2  
Land-Tax Assessment Rates, 1966<sup>15</sup>

<u>Rates</u>	<u>Grade</u>			
	I	II	III	IV
Per ropani	Rs. 2.60	Rs. 2.20	Rs. 1.80	Rs. 1.40
or				
Per bigha	Rs.34.00	Rs.29.00	Rs.23.00	Rs.18.00

As the budget statement admitted, the new policy reduced land tax revenue from Kathmandu Valley by 50 percent,<sup>16</sup> but the loss was more than compensated by the steep increase made in the Tarai region. The total amount of land tax revenue consequently increased from Rs. 44.5 million in 1965-66<sup>17</sup> to Rs. 83.2 million in 1967-68,<sup>18</sup> that is, an increase of 86.9 percent during a two-year period. The point that needs to be stressed in this context is that the gain in the Tarai would have been achieved without suffering any loss in other regions of the Kingdom had the principle of uniformity among different regions marked by wide geographical and economic diversities not been applied. The rates mentioned in the table remained unchanged for about a decade, and land tax revenue hovered around the Rs. 90 million mark.

The principle of uniformity was partially abandoned after about a decade. In 1975-76, land tax assessment rates were increased by about 50 percent in both Kathmandu Valley and the Tarai region, but by only about 15 percent in the hill region.<sup>19</sup> The new rates were as follows :-

Table 3  
Land Tax Assessment Rates, 1975

<u>Region</u>	<u>Grade</u>			
	I	II	III	IV
Kathmandu Valley (per ropani)	Rs. 3.92	Rs. 3.32	Rs. 2.72	Rs. 2.12
Hill Region (per ropani)	Rs. 3.00	Rs. 2.60	Rs. 2.20	Rs. 1.80
Tarai (per bigha)	Rs.51.00	Rs.44.00	Rs.35.00	Rs.27.00

The 1977-78 budget proposals introduced yet another principle in the land tax assessment system in the form of partial exemption for small and marginal holdings. A 50 percent concession off the rates mentioned in Table 3 was then granted on agricultural holdings of 1 bigha or less in the rural areas of the Kingdom.<sup>20</sup>

Before the impact of these steps on the volume of land tax revenue could be felt, His Majesty's Government announced a sweeping reorganization of the land tax assessment system in 1978-79. The main components of the new policy were as follows: Agricultural holdings were classified into four categories, namely, marginal (1 bigha or less), small (1-3 bighas), medium (3-10 bighas) and large (above 10 bighas). The 50 percent concession for holdings of 1 bigha or less off the 1975 rates was retained. The rates were increased by 40 percent for medium holdings, and 60 percent for large holdings.<sup>21</sup>

From the viewpoint of land tax revenue, the results of these experiments seem to have been disastrous. Table 1 has shown how between the fiscal years 1977-78 and 1978-79, such revenue plummeted by 37.3 percent from Rs. 87.02 million to Rs. 54.6 million. The Kingdom's land-tax collection machinery was obviously not capable of checking the land-holdings of individual tax-payers all over the Kingdom and collecting land taxes on the basis of the total area owned by each. In 1979-80, therefore, the 1978 experiments were abandoned, so that size of holdings no longer remained the criterion for higher payments. The 1975 rates were more or less restored, albeit with a 33 percent reduction for the hill region. The 50 percent concession for marginal holdings was also retained. The new rates were as follows :-

Table 4  
Land Tax Assessment Rates, 1979<sup>22</sup>

<u>Region</u>	<u>Grade</u>			
	I	II	III	IV
Kathmandu Valley (per ropani)	Rs. 3.85	Rs. 3.30	Rs. 2.65	Rs. 2.00
Hill Region (per ropani)	Rs. 2.00	Rs. 1.75	Rs. 1.50	Rs. 1.00
Tarai (per bigha)	Rs.51.00	Rs.44.00	Rs.35.00	Rs.27.00

The impact of this step on land tax revenue receipts was immediate and marked, for such receipts reached Rs. 100.07 million in 1980-81, against Rs. 56.1 million during the previous year (1979-80). This meant an increase by 78.3 percent during a one-year period.

The rates mentioned in this Table 4 have since remained unchanged. At the same time, the concession of 50 percent was increased to 75 percent and extended to agricultural holdings of 1.5 bigha or 20 ropanis or less each in 1980-81.<sup>23</sup> In the following year, the percentage of concession was further increased to 99, subject to a minimum payment of Rs. 0.05 per holding so as to facilitate documentation of title.<sup>24</sup> As a result of these concessions, land tax revenue declined from Rs. 81.7 million in 1981-82 to Rs. 66.7 million in 1982-83. In 1983-84, the amount was Rs. 77.1 million, that is only 1.04% more than the amount of Rs. 76.3 million collected about a decade and a half previously in 1970-71.

#### The Local Development and Land Tax

Notwithstanding such tinkering with the traditional land tax, with a predictably detrimental impact on revenue as underlined in the previous section, His Majesty's Government has long realised the desirability of mobilising additional resources from agricultural lands in order to finance local development activities. A new tax, known as the Panchayat Development and Land Tax, was, therefore, conceived in 1965 as a substitute for the traditional land tax. The objective of the measure was to "mobilise local resources for local development, accelerate the pace of economic development by utilising local Panchayats, and make the land-tax assessment system more equitable". An unusual feature of the Panchayat Development and Land Tax was that it was collected from landed interests of all categories: owner cultivators, non-working landowners, and tenants. According to the 1965 Panchayat Development and Land Tax Act, the tax was collected at a specified percentage of the share of the main annual crop appropriated by each, without any reference to the size of the holding. The rates are given in the following table:

Table 5  
Rates of the Panchayat Development and Land Tax

Owner-cultivators	.....	6 percent of the main crop.
Landlords	.....	15 percent of the rent.
Tenants	.....	5 percent of the tenant's share of the main annual crop if less than 50 percent; or else 3 percent.

These in-kind assessments were converted into cash at rates prescribed by the local Panchayat every year. Local Panchayats were responsible also for collection and allowed a 55 percent share in the proceeds. Of the balance, His Majesty's Government appropriated 35 percent, and the District Panchayat 10 percent.<sup>25</sup>



It is not my intention in the present context to discuss the working of the Panchayat Development and Land Tax scheme in detail. It may be sufficient to point out that such problems as collection of the tax from tenants whose tenancy rights are non-transferable and so not available for sale by auction in the event of default, misuse of the proceeds by local Panchayats for non-productive purposes in contravention of the law, and opposition by local landed interests, proved intractable. The experiment, therefore, was a long drawn-out affair. By 1978, the tax had been introduced in only five among the 75 districts of the Kingdom, namely, Jhapa, in the eastern Terai region, Chitwan, Nawal-Parasi, and Dang in the inner Terai region and Bhaktapur in Kathmandu valley. In December 1978, His Majesty's Government announced its introduction in ten more districts, but seven months later, in July 1979, it found no alternative but to suspend the entire program on the plea of "lack of necessary infrastructures, and administrative problems."<sup>26</sup>

Efforts are once more underway to revive the Panchayat Development and Land Tax in the context of the new program of decentralization announced by His Majesty's Government. The 1982 Decentralization Act<sup>27</sup> provides that any village or town Panchayat may introduce the Panchayat Development and Land Tax in its area with the approval of the local district Panchayat and the concurrence of His Majesty's Government and appropriate 85 percent of the proceeds, leaving 5 percent for the Consolidated Fund of His Majesty's Government and 10 percent for the district Panchayat.

#### The Urban Land Tax

In 1981-82, His Majesty's Government initiated yet another innovation in the field of land taxation with a view to augmenting revenue from that source. The traditional land tax is based on the agricultural use of lands, but, according to an official explanation: "there can be no two opinions that the rates of taxes on lands used for commercial or residential purposes, or those where various amenities are available, must be different from those imposed on agricultural lands." For that reason, the traditional agricultural land tax is being replaced by an urban land tax in the urban areas of the Kingdom. Such lands are classified into tax categories for this purpose, depending on location, proximity to main or other roads, and importance from the commercial or residential points of view. The rates of the urban land tax, as prescribed in 1981-82, are given in the following table:

Table 6

Urban Land Tax Rates, 1981<sup>28</sup>

	I	II	III	<u>Grades</u>	IV	V	VI
Kathmandu Valley (per ropani)	Rs.41.60	Rs.29.70	Rs.21.20	Rs.15.10	Rs.10.80	Rs. 7.70	
Hill Region (per ropani)	Rs.20.80	Rs.14.85	Rs.10.60	Rs. 7.55	Rs. 5.40	Rs. 3.85	
and Tarai (per Kattha)							

The urban land tax was expected to yield a revenue of Rs. 5 million a year, thereby offsetting the loss resulting from the 99 percent concession granted to small farmers in rural areas.

### Concluding Remarks

The purpose of this rather prosaic account of the land tax policies of His Majesty's Government during the past two decades is to underline a few anomalies rather than to present suggestions for reform.

His Majesty's Government's token of concern for the welfare of the small and marginal farmer in the form of a 99 percent concession in the land tax may be easy to explain in populist terms but difficult to justify on economic grounds. The concession is too insignificant to have any impact on their economic condition. For example, the average size of a marginal farm in the hill region is 0.13 hectare or 2.6 ropanis.<sup>29</sup> Assuming that the holding is of medium grade, its total tax burden will amount to about Rs. 4 at the rate of Rs. 1.50 per ropani; the total relief amounts to no more than about 34 paise a month.

His Majesty's Government seems determined to replace the traditional land tax by the Panchayat Development and Land Tax under its new decentralization program. The Panchayat Development and Land Tax will be collected from all categories of landed interests -- owner - cultivators, non-working landlords, and tenants -- without any reference to the size of their holdings. Does the prospective revival of this tax mean that small and marginal farmers, who already enjoy a 99 percent concession in land-tax payments, be brought once more within the ambit of the tax system?

It is similarly not clear whether the Panchayat Development and Land Tax is intended to replace the Urban Land Tax that had been introduced only in 1981.

Even otherwise, the Panchayat Development and Land Tax will mean a steep increase in the tax-burden of landowners and tenants. Assuming an average yield of 45 maunds per bigha of top-grade land, and an official price of Rs. 75 a maund, the incidence will be as follows :-

Table 7  
Comparative Incidence of Panchayat Development and  
Land Tax

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount of PDL Tax</u>	<u>% Increase over Current tax of Rs. 51 per bigha</u>
1. Owner-cultivator, at 6 percent of the main crop, that is, 2.7 mds.	Rs.202.50	397.05
2. Landlords, at 15% of statutory rent of 15 mds. per bigha <sup>30</sup> that is, 2.25 mds.	Rs.168.75	330.8
3. Tenant, at 5 % of his share (30 mds.) of the main crop, that is, 1.5 mds.	Rs.112.50	

If, therefore, contrary to past experience, the Panchayat Development and Land Tax is found politically and administratively feasible, it will prove to be a big step forward in maximizing resource mobilization from agricultural lands. The onus of taking the initiative in this respect has been placed on local Panchayats. Whether or not a two-thirds majority of the local village or town assembly will approve the measure in the first instance and demonstrate a self-denying commitment to the cause of local development will be known only in the future.

(Footnotes will be given in the next issue of the Regmi Research Series).

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The Bheri-Mahakali Region, Magh 1898

I

Royal order to Chautariya Babar Jung Shah: "Because matters relating to land administration, and appointments and dismissals in the Bheri-Mahakali region were removed from the jurisdiction of the (Doti) district administration, the local people have suffered hardships, and complaints are received frequently in the Palace. We, therefore, grant you authority to dispose of matters relating to Jagir, Chhap, manachamal, halbandi, and guthi lands, as well as ukas lands which have not been assigned as Jagir, as well as the appointment and dismissal of Jimmawals, Fouzdars, Mukhiyas, and Mohinaikes in the region west of the Bheri river. Measure those land-holdings where there is any discrepancy in tax-assessment if the owners make a request to that effect, and make necessary adjustments. Assign lands as Chhap, manachamal, or halbandi to the prominent persons of that region according to their status. Make arrangements to ensure that Jagirdars are paid their emoluments. Make necessary appointments and dismissals in that region. Scrutinize accounts of Jimmawals, Fouzdars, Mukhiyas, Thekdars, and other revenue functionaries from the Samvat year 1882, realize arrears, if any, and give them clearance."

Friday, Magh Badi 9, 1898  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, pp. 11-16.

II

Royal order to Captain Juddha Jung Shahi: "We had sent you to revise the revenue settlement in Doti. We have now placed the administration of Doti under Chautariya Babar Jung Shah. Discharge functions relating to the settlement, as well as appointments and dismissals, and other contingent functions, in consultation with the Chautariya. Refer to us any matter in which you are unable to arrive at a decision, and take action as ordered."

Friday, Magh Badi 9, 1898  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, P. 116.

III

Royal order to Chautariya Babar Jung Shah: "Food supplies to military personnel stationed in the Bheri-Mahakali region were previously distributed from godowns according to the order of the Chautariya deputed there. These days, however, military personnel lift supplies themselves, claiming that the lands belong to them. This has led to chaos.. You are now ordered to assign lands according to (the number of military personnel) stationed there. Food from surplus lands, if any, shall be stored at the godown."

Friday, Magh Badi 9, 1898  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, P. 116

## IV

A delegation from Dullu-Dailekh in the Bheri-Karnali region came to Kathmandu with the following complaint: From former time we have been bearing shortfalls in revenue collection, if any, and also discharged the functions of Jimmawal. In Samvat 1894, however, Guman Singh, an outsider, was appointed as Jimmawal. We are not satisfied with this appointment, because we have to meet shortfalls in revenues payable to the local military units."

A royal order was, therefore, issued in the name of Chautariya Babar Jung Shah to visit the area, scrutinize damage to lands caused by floods and wash-outs, grant land-tax remissions accordingly, and persuade the local people to pay the amount of revenue assessed during the settlement of Samvat 1894. The Chautariya was also ordered to appoint Jimmawals and Mukhiyas who could make payments due to local military units and satisfy the local people.

Saturday, Magh Sudi 2, 1998  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, P. 125

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Revenue Survey in Eastern Nepal,  
Samvat 1901

1. Order from Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa Bahadur to Sardar Rasa Simha, Captain Wazir Simha, and Captain Kirtibir Thapa in Ilam.

"Subedar Shivadal Khadka and Jamadar Aiman Khatri had been granted authority to conduct a comprehensive revenue survey (Sarbijanch) in the two Kirat regions. Necessary orders and regulations have already been issued in their names. You are hereby ordered to depute the following military personnel under your command for assisting them in conducting their surveys:

1. Srijung Paltan in Dhankuta

25 Jamadar, Huddas, and soldiers

1 Major

1 Bahidar

2. Sri Gorakh Nath Paltan in Udayapur1 Patti, including a Jamadar

1 Major

3. Sri Narayan Dal Paltan in Sindhuli1 Patti, including a Jamadar

1 Bahidar

4. Sri Naya Srinath Paltan in Ilam

1 Patti, including a Jamadar

1 Bahidar

Monday, Poush Sudi 12, 1901 (December 1844)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, pp. 11-12.

1. Order from Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Singh Thapa Bahadur and Kaji Kalu Simha Shahi to the following Subbas, Tharis, Mukhiyas, Rais, Majhiyas, Gowas, and other functionaries in the region east of the Arun river.

"Subedar Shivadal Khadka and Jamadar Aiman Khatri have been deputed to conduct a revenue survey of the Limbuwan region east of the Arun river. You are hereby ordered to assist them in conducting a survey of homesteads, rice-fields, and all other sources of revenue in that region. You shall be held responsible if you create any difficulty or obstruction in the work.

Yerung

1. Subba Muhan Singh
2. Subba Bagnarsingh
3. Subba Kesar Singh

Das-Subba

1. Subba Bahadur Singh
2. Subba Sriman

Tamor-Khola

Subba Baman Singh

Ilam

Subba Samsamara

Phakphok

Subba Jasananda

Mewakhola

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Subba Dharmadatta | 2. Subba Dayal Singh |
| 3. Subba Sumat Singh | 4. Gowa Chhing       |
| 5. Gowa Thinahu      |                      |

Maiba-Khola

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Subba Karnabir | 2. Subba Sayecha |
|-------------------|------------------|

Attarai

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Subba Yenduba | 2. Subba Chet Singh |
|------------------|---------------------|

Phedap

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Subba Srihang | 2. Subba Asar Singh |
|------------------|---------------------|

Anglabung

- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Subba Nandabir | 2. Subba Jasakarna |
|-------------------|--------------------|

Panchthar

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Subba Rainmukhi | 2. Subba Mahabir |
|--------------------|------------------|

Panchkhaps

- |            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. Jub Rai | 2. Dhanbir Rai |
|------------|----------------|

Tumling

Dowa Rai

Chaubise

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Rup Narayan Rai   | 2. Mahabir Rai     |
| 3. Prithvi Singh Rai | 4. Jaher Singh Rai |

Dhankuta

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. Jasiwant Rai | 2. Badhuwa Rai |
|-----------------|----------------|

Dasmajhiya

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Yanigunda Mahiya   | 2. Dhanbir Majhiya |
| 3. Tika Singh Majhiya |                    |



3. Order from Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Singh Thapa Bahadur and Kaji Kalu Simha Shahi to Subbas, Rais, Majhiyas, Kartas, Tharis, Mukhiyas, Mijhars, and ryots in the region situated east of the Dudhkosi river and the Bahadura area and west of the Mechi river.

"You are hereby ordered to submit accurate particulars of fines, penalties (danda, kunda), fees (theki) and perquisites (panphul) collected in your village by Bicharis who have been deputed in that region since Samvat 1897 to the Janch-Kachahari (Office). Anyone who fails to do so, and, instead, suppresses such particulars, shall be liable to punishment."

Magh Badi 3, 1901

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, P-15.

4. On the same date, Subedar Shivadal Khadka and Jamadar Aimen Khatri were ordered to transmit to Kathmandu all gifts and presents willingly offered by Subbas, Rais, Majhiyas, Yakhas, Tharis, Mukhiyas, and other prominent persons (bhala-manis) and ryots after the completion of the revenue settlement, including provisions (mana chamal), ghee, oil, goats, gelded goats, and money. They were forbidden to use such gifts and presents at their discretion.

Magh Badi 3, 1901

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 31, P. 16

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### Resource Mobilization and the Land Tax in Nepal

(Footnotes)

1. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 35, No. 16A (Extraordinary), Ashadh 25, 2042 (July 9, 1985). P. 44
2. Ibid, P. 69
3. Gorkhapatra, Poush 3, 2042 (December 18, 1985)
4. Calculation based on statistics of revenue and expenditure of the government of Nepal for the year 2008 (A.D. 1951-52). Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 1, No. 32, Chaitra 5, 2008 (March 18, 1952).

5. In 1961-62, land tax revenue amounted to Rs. 28.8 million out of a total revenue of Rs. 109.7 million. Budget speech of Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 12, No. 11 (Extraordinary), Shrawan 9, 2019 (July 24, 1962), pp. 43-44.
6. In 1983-84, land tax revenue amounted to Rs. 77.1 million out of a total revenue of Rs. 3409.3 million. Nepal Rajapatra, July 9, 1985 (See No. 1 above), pp. 77-78.
7. Budget Speech of Prime Minister and Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa. Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 29, No. 23 + A (Extraordinary), Ashadh 25, 2036 (July 9, 1979), P. 56.
8. Budget Speech of the Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 30, No. 18 (c) (Extraordinary), Ashadh 24, 2037 (July 8, 1980), P. 427.
9. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 31, No. 16A (Pre-Extraordinary), Ashadh 23, 2038 (July 7, 1981), P. 87.
10. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 32, No. 12B (Extraordinary), Ashadh 25, 2039 (July 9, 1982), P. 99.
11. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 33, No. 10F (Extraordinary), Ashadh 26, 2040 (July 10, 1983), P. 101.
12. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 34, No. 18A (Extraordinary), Ashadh 26, 2041 (July 10, 1984), P. 135.
13. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Prakash Chandra Lohani, Nepal Rajapatra, July 9, 1985 (See No. 1 above).
14. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 16, No. 13A (Extraordinary), Ashadh 26, 2023 (July 10, 1966), pp. 125-126.
15. Finance Act, 1966, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 16, No. 17 C (Extraordinary), Shrawan 31, 2023 (August 15, 1966), Schedule 8, pp. 112-113.
16. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, July 10, 1966 (See No. 14 above), P. 125.
17. Budget Speech of Prime Minister and Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 17, No. 12 A (Extraordinary) Ashadh 25, 2024 (July 9, 1967).
18. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Kirtinidhi Bista, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 19, No. 10A (Extraordinary), Ashadh 16, 2026 (June 29, 1969), P. 53.

19. Finance Act, 1975, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 25, No. 27 (Extraordinary) Bhadra 20, 2032 (September 5, 1975), Schedule 13, pp. 40-41.
20. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Bhesh Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 27, No. 16C (Extraordinary), Ashadh 20, 2034 (July 4, 1977), P. 43.
21. Finance Act, 1978, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 28, No. 43 A (Extraordinary), Kartik 8, 2035 (October 23, 1978), Schedule 12, pp. 57-59.
22. Finance Act, 1979, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 29, No. 45 (Extraordinary), Marga 5, 2036 (November 20, 1979), Schedule 9, pp. 36-37.
23. Budget Speech of the Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, July 8, 1980. (See No. 8 above), P. 414.
24. Budget Speech of Finance Minister Dr. Yadav Prasad Pant, Nepal Rajapatra, July 7, 1981 (See No. 9 above), pp. 75-76.
25. Panchayat Development and Land Tax Act, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 15, No. 14 (Extraordinary), Bhadra 14, 2022 (August 30, 1965); Mahesh C. Regmi, Landownership in Nepal, (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1976), pp. 152-153.
26. Budget Speech of Prime Minister and Finance Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, Nepal Rajapatra, July 9, 1979 (See No. 17 above), pp. 47-48.
27. Decentralization Act, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 32, No. 36 (Extraordinary), Marga 6, 2039 (November 21, 1982), Section 20.
28. Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 31, No. 16A (Pre-Extraordinary), Ashadh 23, 2038 (July 7, 1981), Schedule 8, P. 47.
29. Nepal Rastra Bank, Some Important Statistics in Agriculture, Nepal, Kathmandu: the Bank, 1985, Table 15.
30. Notirication of the Ministry of Land Reform, Nepal Rajapatra, Vol. 23, No. 26, Aswin 29, 2030 (October 15, 1973), P. 7.

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Royal Orders of Bhadra 1853  
(August-September 1796)

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1. Food Procurement in the Tarai Region
2. Procurement of Muskets
3. Construction of Forts
4. Jagir Assignments to the Army
5. Collection of Gadimubarakh Levy
6. Supplies for Construction of Jagannath Temple
7. Exemption from Payment of Jagat Duties
8. Guthi Land Endowment in Parsa
9. Jagir Assignment to Bidur Shah
10. Income from Minting of Tibetan Silver
11. The Chhipi Levy
12. Land Reclamation and Irrigation

1. Food Procurement in the Tarai Region

On Monday, Bhadra Badi 11, 1853, Subba Linanath Padhya was ordered to purchase paddy worth Rs. 1000 with ijara revenues due from Saptari and Mahottari for the Vikrama year 1853 at prices current in the months of Marga and Poush. The order added, "Maintain these stocks there. We shall send orders for their supply when necessary. Reasonable expenses shall be sanctioned for hiring oxen to transport the paddy up to Sindhuli."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 96.

The same order was sent to Subba Indra Simha of Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat on the same date.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 97.

2. Procurement of Muskets

The Tosakhana had procured miscellaneous supplies worth Rs. 4,001 including 25 muskets worth Rs. 352, through Jayabhadra Simha. Subba Indra Simha was ordered to make the payment to Jayabhadra Simha from the Aswin 1853 installment of ijara revenues from the districts of Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat.

Bhadra Badi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 71

### 3. Construction of Forts

#### I

Royal order to military personnel, Jagirdars, Umras, Subbas, etc. in Kumaun: "We have ordered bhardars to construct forts and outposts as expeditiously as possible. Work hard according to their orders in matters which serve our cause."

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, vol. 23, P. 95

#### II

On Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853, Subba Prabal Rana was ordered to make available necessary funds for the construction of forts at Kumaun as requested by the local bhardars.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 94

#### III

Similar orders were sent to the Amalidars of the following areas for construction of forts at the following places:-

- (1) Darma, Jahari, Bafi, Gotam, and Athbis for construction of forts at Dailekh.
- (2) Isma, for construction of fort at Pyuthan under the command of Subba Ranajit Kanwar.
- (3) Dhurkot, do.

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 94-95.

#### IV

Royal order to the Amalidars of Rukum and Musikot: "You have been assigned the task of constructing a fort at Dailekh. Impress jhara labor from people belonging to all the four castes and the thirty-six sub-castes in areas under your jurisdiction and present yourselves before Subedar Jagajit Pande before the ... day of the month of Mangsir. You shall be punished if you do not do so."

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 95.

#### V

Royal order to Subba Ajit Lama of Dullu: "We have received reports that the Dullu fort has not been constructed in a durable manner. You are hereby ordered to impress jhara labor from people belonging to all the four castes and the thirty-six sub-castes in the area under your jurisdiction,

and depute half of them to construct a fort at Dhamras. Appoint your son or brother as Dittha to supervise construction of the fort. The fort shall be wide and high, with strong walls, for which hard stones shall be procured from quarries. Also construct a concrete reservoir inside the fort for the storage of water in a large quantity. Take proper care of food, water, and arms and ammunition stored at the fort. The other half of the jhara labor shall be utilized to defend the fort under the command of your son or brother. Construct a separate building with stone walls and roof inside the fort with facilities for the storage of food, water, and arms and ammunition through the labor of half of the jhara troops impressed in Dullu. We shall depute officials (tharthok) to inspect whether or not you have complied with these instructions and constructed the fort."

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 96

#### 4. Jagir Assignments to the Army

##### I

Royal order to Dittha Dalal Simha Bakheta and Bicharis Dasharath Tewari and Yashodhar Pantha: "We hereby assign as Khangri to the Amaradal Company lands found in excess of the prescribed ceilings on bandha holdings in Rising and Ghiring. Do not assign those lands to other companies."

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 94

##### II

Three khets (i.e. 300 muris) of rice-fields in Kirtipur, which had been assigned as jagir to Jamadar Jasaraj Thapa of the Devidatta Company, was granted as birta to Khadananda Padhya. Dittha Dalal Simha Bakheta, Dittha Dasharath Pantha, and Bichari Dasharath Tewari were ordered to assign the same area of rice-fields as jagir to the Jamadar from surplus bandha lands in Nuwakot.

Bhadra Badi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 72

##### III

Royal order to Amaradal Company: "We hereby assign to you revenue from the Saune-Fagu-Walak levies for the year 1853 and fines and penalties collected from persons guilty of Panchakhat crimes during a three-year period because this company is a newly-formed one. Revenue from Saune-Fagu-Walak levies shall be remitted to the Palace from the year 1854, and from Panchakhat from the year 1856.

Bhadra Sudi 3, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 94.

5. Collection of Gadimubarakh Levy1. Kumaun

Royal order to ... Kaldhar: "We have deputed you to Kumaun to collect the gadimubarakh levy because we regard you as honest and responsible. Let there be no charge that you have made collections in excess of the prescribed rates, or withheld collection out of favour or on payment of bribes. You shall be punished severely if such charges are proved."

Bhadra Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 59.

2. Bhirkot

Royal order to Subba Prabal Rana: "We have received reports that Kulanidhi Tiwari sent Shiva Pantha and Laxmidhar Silwal of Tarku in our name without our permission to Bhirkot and collected the entire amount of the gadimubarakh levy from that area. Instead of transmitting the amount to us, he has used it to pay bribes, and personally appropriated the surplus amount, as well as two khets of birta lands. Kulanidhi Tiwari has confessed that he did all this without our permission, and that he also granted rice-fields to Kalu Pande.

"For these offences, we have degraded Kulanidhi Tiwari to a low caste, banished him from the Kingdom, and confiscated his share of the ancestral property.

"Those kajis who had received bribes from Kulanidhi Tiwari have now paid Rs. 800 for a bribe of Rs. 400, and Rs. 1,200 for a bribe of Rs. 600, in addition to a baksauni fee of Rs. 100. We have been informed that you too had received a bribe of Rs. 500; hence you are hereby ordered to pay double that amount, that is, Rs. 1000, in addition to a baksauni fee of Rs. 100, thus making a total payment of Rs. 1,100, through Chautara Bam Shah."

Bhadra Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 59-60.

6. Supplies for Construction of Jagannath Temple

## I

Royal order to the Amalidar, birtaowners, and other landowners in Jiunpur: "Each household of that area shall supply one load of babiyo (i.e. Sabai grass) consisting of twenty dharnis on jhara basis for the construction of the Jagannath temple in Kathmandu. Any one who does not comply with this order shall be severely punished."

Bhadra Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 60.

## II

The order was sent separately to the following areas also on the same date: Gajuri, Bisankhu, Chitlang, Kewalpur, Lamidanda, Jhiltung, Pinda, Phokatpur, Tamaguru, Katuwalpauwa, Belkot, Bhirpani, Deurali, Deopur, Sipa, Jarayotar, Sindhu, Mandan, Sangachok, Phulbari, Sangakot, Dapcha, Buchakot, Ainselu and Panauti. The place-names are missing in two documents which have been damaged by insects.

Bhadra Sudi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 61-63.

7. Exemption From Payment of Jagat Duties

Royal order to Chaukidars, Jagat-collectors, and bhansaris at different places: "Guthiyars of Guthi endowments in Bhadgaun are sending men as before to purchase supplies needed for religious ceremonies. Do not collect jagat or other duties on the following supplies purchased by them.

Male buffaloes	...	50 pairs
Goats		400
Ghee		200 dharnis
Salt		10 loads
Cotton		10 loads

Bhadra Sudi 12, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 107

8. Guthi Land Endowment in Parsa

Royal order to Subba Indra Simha: "We hereby endow 301 bighas of virgin forest lands (Kalabanjar) in the Birambibar mouja of Naurangiya Parganna in Parsa district as Sarba-Anka-Mafi-Bitalab Birta for the temple of Sri Kal bhairava, and place the endowment under Purn Nath Jogi. Measure these 301 bighas according to the unit customarily used in the district, install boundary marks on all the four sides, and grant possession of the lands to him. In case 301 bighas of land are not available in that mouja alone, allot the shortfall in another mouja of convenient location."

Bhadra Sudi 15, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 108

9. Jagir Assignment to Bidur Shah

Royal order to Bidur Shah, "We hereby assign you as jagir the following emoluments from Majhkirat pertaining to the command of the Sri Bhawani Dal Company, and the Sri Dal Company, which had previously been assigned to Dambar Khatri and Arjun Khawas. Income from rice lands and thums, homestead



taxes (ghargani), taxes on pakho land holdings (serma), fees on chhap and other royal land grants, and all other sources of revenue, with the exception of income from birta and fakirana lands, Dharmadhikar fees, treasure troves (Kalyana-Dhana), Kirana, Kapas, and bhainsi duties, wax, and revenues collected from Saptari. Recruit the following military personnel and use this income as your jagir. Rice lands and income from other sources have been used to provide emoluments (khanggi) to 286 men in two companies. Make sure that these are sufficient; do not let any complaint in this regard reach the Palace. In case you raise taxes, commit injustice, and oppress the people, and complaints are received here as a result, we shall give a hearing to both sides, obtain a confession, and punish the guilty. With these emoluments, guard the post (gaunda) assigned to you, and, like other companies, provide sentinel and other services during war and hunting expeditions."

List of Personnel in Each Company

(Document damaged)	...	1
Jemadars	...	4
Major	...	1
Ajitan	...	1
Kote-Hawaldar	...	1
Nisan	...	2
Hawaldar	...	8
Amaldar	...	8
Carpenter	...	1
Soldiers	...	87
Pipe-jamadar	...	1
Drummer	...	1
<u>Tasya</u>	...	2
<u>Mafya</u>	...	2
<u>Bheri</u>	...	2
<u>Bansuri</u>	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	2
Cobbler	...	2

10. Income from Minting of Tibetan Silver

We hereby certify receipt of the sum of Rs. 459 through Taksari Bhim as income from alloy mixed with Tibetan Silver at the rate of 2 ratti on each tola.

<u>Samvat Year</u>	<u>Tibetan Silver</u> (Tola)	<u>Amount</u> <u>Received</u>
1851	14,556	Rs. 303-4
1852	7,476	Rs. <u>155-12</u>
Total:		Rs. 459

Bhadra Sudi 12, 1853  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 107.

11. The Chhipi Levy

The Chhipi levy, collected from Newar (dyers and printers) in Chisapani, which had been assigned as jagir to Ballabh Vaidya, a royal physician, was removed from the jurisdiction of the Bhansari and the Chaudhari, and included in the jagir.

Bhadra Sudi 15, 1853  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 108

12. Land Reclamation and Irrigation

Royal order to Subba Ranadel Khawas: "Send people belonging to the four castes and thirty-six sub-castes in the area under your jurisdiction, along with spades, axes, khukuris, and picks, as well as food, on the auspicious day of the Tika festival, to provide jhara labor for land reclamation and construction of irrigation channels in the Tumlingtar area. Apportion areas among them in Pallokirat and Majhkirat in consultation with the Ambalidar and the Janadar of Majhkirat, as well as Dirgha Singh Rai and Kanaka Singh Rai. Arrange for the construction of irrigation channels in the areas so apportioned, and send agris to blast rocks, if necessary. This year, it is necessary to construct another irrigation channel on the lower reaches. You are, therefore, ordered to send the jhara laborers as soon as possible. Any person who does not provide jhara labor according to this order shall be punished."

Bhadra Sudi 15, 1853.

An order with the same contents was sent on the same date to the Ambalidar and military officers of different thums in Majhkirat.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 108-9.

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Bhansari Hanumanta Singh Newar's Complaints

- I. Royal order to traders, merchants, pedlars, etc., in Kaski and Parbat: "Bhansari Hanumanta Singh Newar has complained that you have defaulted in the payment of Kirana duties at Pokhara. He has also complained that you take your goods beyond Pokhara and Arghau to Tanahu, Rising, and Andhikhola. Such trade cannot be allowed. We hereby order that (the Bhansari) may confiscate goods that are taken beyond Pokhara and Arghau. Any person who obstructs the collection of duties shall be severely punished."
- Kartik Badi 8, 1865.
- II. Royal order to Chautariyas, Kajis, Sardars, Subbas, Subedars, Jamadars, Hawaldars, Huddas, soldiers (Sipahi), Mohariya and Birta landowners, Bitatab landowners, Ambalidars, Jethabudhas, Mukhiyas, and others in the region situated west of the Chape and Marsyangdi rivers and east of the Bheri river: "Bhansari Hanumanta Singh Newar has complained that you do not allow him to collect payments, escheats, Panchakhat fines and penalties, etc. from Newars living in areas under your jurisdiction. You are hereby ordered to let the Bhansari collect payments which have traditionally formed a part of Kirana-Bhansar. You shall otherwise be liable to punishment."
- Kartik Badi 8, 1865.
- III. Royal order to Bishram Khatri: "We shall compensate you if Kirana duties have been included in your manachamal grant. Let Bhansari Hanumanta Singh's men collect Chhap, Dalal, Chhit-Chhap, and other payments from Newars living in your manachamal lands. In case you have appropriated such payments yourself, or helped others to do so, do not do so in the future."
- Kartik Badi 8, 1865.

Disbursements Under Jitaram Newar's Ijara

Royal order to Jitaram Newar: "You had been ordered to make disbursements to Sardar Birabhadra Kamwar from revenues due on the ijara taken by you for operating copper mines, but you have not done so yet. Make the disbursement immediately, as the Kaji is leaving for the front."

Kartik Badi 8, 1865.

The same day, Jitaram Newar was ordered to make the following disbursements to the following persons from ijara revenues due for the Vikrama year 1865 for the copper mines of Parbat and areas in the western region, as well as for the Beni Mint:-

Dambar Thapa	Rs. 340
Foud Simha Adhikari	Rs. 340
Krishna Simha Thapa	Rs. 340
Harikrishna Dobhase (Interpreter)	Rs. 75

Kartik Badi 8, 1865.

Rights and Obligations of Cultivators in Banepa

Royal order to soldiers, Jagirdars, dhakres, Newars, and other inhabitants of Banepa: "We hereby order that no person cultivating rice-lands in the Banepa area shall be evicted. No soldier belonging to any company shall do so. The person who cultivates rice-lands (praja) shall pay the chardam-theiki and ghiukhane levies and other payments, and also provide loans to the extent of the value of the rents (bali) when the soldier goes abroad. The amali shall pay rents to the soldiers in case the lands remain uncultivated. The cultivator shall be evicted in case he relinquishes the lands, or defaults in payments, or does not provide loans. The amali shall reallocate the lands of a deceased cultivator to another person who has no lands. Any person who does not comply with these orders shall be considered guilty."

Kartik Badi 8, 1865.

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Royal Orders of Aswin 1853

1. Royal Orders to Subba Dinanath Upadhya
2. Birta and Guthi Grants
3. State Elephants
4. Disbursement Orders
5. Appointment of Local Functionaries
6. Appointment of Subedar in Kumaun
7. Revenue Arrears
8. Punishment for Adulteration of Salt

1. Royal Orders to Subba Dinanath Upadhya

I

"Revenue was collected in the district of Rautahat in 1842 and 1843 Samvat under the Amanat system, and in the districts of Saptari and Mahottari in 1843, 1844 and 1845 Samvat under the ijara system. Accounts were submitted accordingly of actual collections under the Amanat system, and of the stipulated amounts under the ijara system. We have also received accounts for ten years submitted by Benudhar Jaisi and Achadev Upadhya and remitted what seemed appropriate. We hereby acknowledge receipt of two rifles and two pieces of cannon of English manufacture of best quality, and grant clearance."

Aswin Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 115

II

On Aswin Badi 11, 1853, Subba Dinanath Upadhya of Saptari and Mahottari was ordered to send a sum of Rs. 2,245 and 5 annas from ijara revenues of those districts for the year 1853 Samvat for buying fodder, provisions, etc. for elephants captured during Khori-Kheddah expeditions.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 115

III

A sum of Rs. 1,977 was credited to the accounts of the Tosakhana through Subba Dinanath Upadhya against ijara payments due from the districts of Saptari and Mahottari for the year 1852 Samvat. It included Rs. 500 paid by the Subba in cash

on Jesta Badi 12, and payments for supplies delivered to the Tosakhana on different dates. These supplies included the following:-

Nutmeg	1 ser
Rice	120 tolas worth Rs. 150
Conch-shells	25
Gujarati Vermilion Powder	10 dharnis worth Rs. 25

Other items were as follows:-

Hakia (physician) of Patna	Rs. 700
Wedding expenses for son of Purnananda Padhya	Rs. 200

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 58

#### IV

"You had formerly been appointed as Chaudhari in Rautahat and granted two villages as nankar and bekh-bunyard. We now resume these villages as khalisa. In exchange, we hereby grant you the mouja of Bhaluhi in Rautahat as bekh-bunyard from Baisakh Badi 1, 1853 on a tax-exempt basis. Appropriate income from all sources in this mouja, including land taxes (mal), commercial taxes (seir), jalkar, bankar, kaliyari, bihadani Singarhat, Judicial fines and penalties (danda-kunda), escheats (moro-putali), Anilan perquisites, bheti and salami fees, etc. Use the mouja on an inheritable basis and bless us."

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 117-18.

#### V

Royal order to Dinanath Upadhya, "We had formerly granted 60 ropanies of homestead and rice lands in the Changu area. A part of these lands was subsequently deducted. We now restore the lands situated within the boundaries mentioned in the grant."

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, p. 118

#### VI

Dinanath Upadhya was appointed Wakil in Calcutta. He was ordered to proceed to Calcutta on the auspicious occasion of the Dashain festival on Aswin Sudi 10, 1853. A sum of Rs. 201 a month was sanctioned for his staff expenses. He

was ordered to deduct the amount from the revenues of the districts of Saptari and Mahottari, which he held under an ijara, through his local agent.

Aswin Badi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 73

## 2. Birta and Guthi Grants

### I

Royal order to Laxmi Narayan Dahal, "Your great-grandfather, Vishnu Hari Dahal, had obtained 60 muris of rice-lands at Kolgakot and Bagmati-Dol as birta from King Jaya Prakash (Malla) for endowment as a guthi for your Kuladevata (family deity). After the Changu area was occupied by us, the lands were confiscated on the ground that they had been mortgaged to Atibal Shrestha, a Newar, and converted into raikar. Inasmuch as you have pleased us with your services, we hereby restore the guthi. Your brothers shall have no claims to these restored lands. Use the income of these lands for the regular and ceremonial worship of your Kuladevata and appropriate the surplus for yourself. (Boundaries follow)."

Aswin Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 114.

### II

The Amalidar of Chainour, and Jamadars Taranidhi and Vamsharaj, were informed that the Kusha-Birta lands of Mahipati Padhya in the village of ... had been taken over by the royal palace and that another plot of land in Siwain, Chainour, had been granted to him in exchange as Birtalab. They were ordered to measure the new lands and determine the boundaries comprising the same area as the restored Kusha-Birta lands in the presence of Asik Ram and prominent local persons.

Aswin Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection Vol, 23, P. 116

### III

Royal order to Halu Singh: "The Kajis had granted you Kalabanjar lands in the mouja of Kolari of the parganna of Pakari, Saptari district, as jagir. We hereby reconfirm 15 bighas of those lands as jagir. Reclaim and settle the lands, use them as your jagir, and remain ready to provide services.

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 117



## IV

A Guthi endowment of 30 muris of rice lands at Palchok, belonging to the Sri Jayabageshwari temple, was reconfirmed in the name of Dayal Giri on Aswin Badi 11, 1853.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, p. 116

A similar endowment belonging to the Sri Vansha-Gopal temple at Panauti was reconfirmed in the name of Hirananda Bhatta on the same date.

In both cases, the recipients were permitted to use the surplus income of the Guthis for themselves.

Aswin Badi 11, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 115-116.

## V

In Dailekh, local Bhardars had granted a tract of land situated west of the Bheri river, east of the Kadhasimtar-Lekh, south of the Katheli-Lekh, and north of the Surmakhola river to Dhanabir Khatri under Chhap tenure. On Aswin Sudi 14, 1853, these lands were reallocated to Shatrubhanjan under Manachamal tenure.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, p. 120.

## VI

Royal order to Jasadhar Pantha, "You have received a plot of 90 muris of rice-lands at Bahakot in Nuwakot as Birta from the displaced (thapala) Raja of Bhirkot. Our lands cannot be granted by a thapala in this manner; the grant is, therefore, confiscated, and the lands have been assigned as jagir to the army. You have committed an offense by serving another while holding the position of our tharghar, and obtaining our lands as birta. You are, therefore, punished with a fine of Rs. 360. We have sent men of the Taradal Company to collect the fine. Make payment as soon as you receive this order."

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, p. 120

3. State Elephants

## I

On Aswin Sudi 14, 1853, Daroga Dayaram Padhya and other Hattisar officials were ordered to hand over two bull elephants and two cow elephants to Dinanath Upadhya to be used as a present to the Bada Sahab in Calcutta.

## II

The same day, local functionaries and birtaowners in the region east of Pyuthan were ordered to supply fodder and provisions in the areas under their jurisdiction for elephants being despatched from Pyuthan to Kathmandu.

## III

The same day, Subba Ranajit Kanwar (of Pyuthan?) was ordered to send one big tusker and one other elephant to Kathmandu for hunting and riding.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 57

## IV

On Aswin Badi 11, 1853, Subba Indra Simha of Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat was ordered to send a sum of Rs. 3,754 and 11½ annas from ijara revenue for the year 1853 Samvat for buying fodder, provisions, etc. for elephants captured during khori kheddah expeditions.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 115

## V

On Aswin Sudi 14, 1853, an official receipt was issued under the royal seal for a sum of Rs. 407 and 5 annas realized from the sale of elephants through Daroga Jasya Khawas.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 119

4. Disbursement Orders

## I

On Aswin Badi 11, 1853, Subba Dhaukal Simha was ordered to make a disbursement of Rs. 357 from installment due on the ijara for Morang district in the month of Marga 1853 as salary for 17 months at the rate of Rs. 21 a month to ..... Hari.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 116

## II

Bhajudev was ordered to disburse the following amounts to the following employees of the Royal Palace from the ijara revenues of Chitwan for the Samvat year 1853:-

Srikrishna Adhikari	Rs. 30
Jayabhadra Budha	Rs. 20
Mastanath Jogi	Rs. 20

Sriballabh Padhya	Rs. 15
... Bhupa Singh Budha	Rs. 30
Nandaram Khatri	Rs. 10
Total:	Rs. 125

Aswin Badi 10, 1853  
Regai Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 116-17

### III

On Aswin Sudi 14, 1853, Ijaradar Bhajudev Newar of Chitwan was ordered to disburse the following amounts for the following purposes from the ijara revenues of that district for the Samvat year 1853:-

Daily expenses at the Royal Palace	Rs. 230
Salary of Laxman Chaudhari	Rs. 300
Total:	Rs. 530

Regai Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 118

## 5. Appointment of Local Functionaries

### I

On Saturday, Aswin Badi 14, 1853, Kamal Chaudhari was appointed Chaudhari of the parganna of Pakari in the district of Saptari, succeeding Nanhu Chaudhari, effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1854. The moujas of Akbarour and Manroun were granted to him as nankar. Kamal Chaudhari was ordered to promote land reclamation and settlement in the parganna, collect revenues according to the Jamabandi records, submit accounts, and obtain clearance.

Regai Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 73

### II

On Aswin Sudi 14, 1853, Mohan Lal was appointed to the following positions effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1853.

- (a) Chaudhari of the pargannas of Raijhamuna and Pakari in the district of Saptari, along with nankar lands. The position was previously held by Srikanta Upadhya and Shyam Chaudhari.
- (b) Kanugoye of the parganna of Bhaginikhonch in the district of Saptari

Mohan Lal was ordered to collect revenue in these pargannas, submit accounts according to the land tax assessment register (Jannabandi), and obtain clearance. He was permitted to appropriate income from the nankar lands as well as from miscellaneous fees and perquisites.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 121

The same day, Subba Dinanath Upadhyaya and Vishnu Upadhyaya were informed that Mohan Lal had been appointed Chaudhari of the pargannas of Raijhamuna and Pakari, and Kaungoye of the parganna of bhaginikhonch, effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1853. They were ordered to let Mohan Lal assume charge of those posts.

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection Vol. 23, P. 122

Another royal order was issued the same day (Aswin Badi 14, 1853) informing Srikanta Upadhyaya and Shyam Chaudhari that they had been dismissed from the position of Chaudhari of the pargannas of Raijhamuna and Pakari in the district of Saptari and that Mohan Lal had been appointed as their successor. They were ordered to hand over to Mohan Lal records and other documents relating to revenue collection.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 122

#### 6. Appointment of Subedar in Kumaun

Royal order to Subba Prabal Rana: "As requested by you, we have endorsed the appointment of Mauji Miya as Subedar of the salaried (darmha) company in Kumaun. Let him work as Subedar of one of the seven companies stationed there and pay him salary according to the prescribed scale from the date when he assumes charge."

Aswin Badi 10, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 113

#### 7. Revenue Arrears

##### I

Limbus in the Arun-Tista region were ordered to pay to the employees of Subba Dinanath Upadhyaya all arrears of homestead taxes and income from judicial fines and penalties as stipulated by them for the four year period after 1847 Samvat. The Limbus were also ordered to restore the property of Ramabhadra Thapa and Chamu Thapa they had looted during the rebellion (kul) of 1848 Samvat.

Aswin Badi 14, 1853

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 72

## II

Royal order to the Subba, Fouzdars, and Peskars of Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat: "Subba Sarbajit Pande is sending his men there to collect arrears of revenue due during his term for the Samvat year 1852. Allow them to collect what is due. Do not raise any obstruction in such collection; if you do so, shall be personally liable for the amount."

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 119

## III

Royal order to the Chaudharis, Kanugoyes, Mokaddams, and Mahaldars of Bara, Parsa, and Rautahat: "Subba Sarbajit Pande is sending his men there to collect arrears of revenue due during his term for the Samvat year 1852. You are hereby ordered to appear before them and pay what you have stipulated. you shall be punished if you make any attempt to obstruct such collections by referring to the Subba, Fouzdars, and Peskars."

Aswin Sudi 14, 1853  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, P. 119

8. Punishment for Adulteration of Salt

Royal order to the Raja of Mustang. "We have sent men to punish traders in different villages in the Chepe/Marsyangdi - Bheri region who have sold salt adulterated with sand and other materials after our conquest of that region. Take similar action against traders who sell adulterated salt in the area under your jurisdiction. Issue a proclamation to the effect that trade should be conducted only in pure commodities and that any trader who sells adulterated salt will be punished."

Aswin Badi 11, 1853  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 113-14.

(To be continued)

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Confidential

REPORT ON NEPAL

Prepared in the Intelligence Branch of the Quarter Master  
General's Department in India,

By

Brevet Major E.R. Elles, R.A.,  
Deputy Assistant Quarter Master General.

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Chapter VIIResources and Supplies

Most fertile districts—Valley of Nepal—Chief grains and vegetables—  
Annual yield of land—Live stock—Garden vegetables—Fruits—Summary  
of crops &c., in different months—Dhang and Deokhur—Terai—Nepal  
weights and measures—Coinage—Commerce—Tables of exports and  
imports—Forests—Mines—British Territory bordering Nepal.

The most fertile districts of Nepal are the valley of Nepal  
proper, the provinces of Dhang and Deokhur, and the cultivated  
portions of the Terai, which we will briefly treat of separately.

Valley of Nepal

Valley of Nepal — Almost every available portion of land in  
the valley is under cultivation, hence the amount of cattle, sheep,  
&c., is very limited, as there is no grazing for them except  
at the foot of the hills, and in the fields when bare of crops,  
which, as will be presently seen, is but for a short time. Some  
milch buffaloes are kept by the poorer classes and cows by the  
richer, but these are stall fed, or if the owners are wealthy,  
they are sent to graze on the hills and the produce is brought  
home daily. The animals for food are imported from Thibet, Hindustan,  
and the Turai; and they are in general consumed as fast as they  
are brought into the valley. Beasts of burden are almost unknown  
in the valley, and even bullocks are seldom used for ploughing  
except by the hillmen.

The rotation of crops varies in the different classes of  
grounds. In the marshy lands near the rivers, only one crop is  
grown, namely, transplanted rice. In the easily flooded lands,  
a crop of wheat is grown in the cold season and the next spring  
"gyah" or upland rice, followed by "oord" or some other kind of  
pulse. In the moister lands of the upper level, the wheat is  
followed by radish, mustard, buckwheat or earth-nut, and then  
again by transplanted rice. In the best lands the succession of  
crops is simply transplanted rice followed by wheat or by mustard,  
radish, or garlic. Sometimes in the dry lands wheat is followed  
by Indian-corn or ginger; turmeric and red pepper are grown.  
In many well-flooded places near the towns, where manure is plentiful,  
three crops are taken off the ground every year. Within the valley  
nothing is allowed to be cultivated but articles of food, so the  
capabilities of the soil for growing tea, cotton, or tobacco  
are unknown.

Chief Grains and Vegetables.—The chief grains and vegetables cultivated are as follows:—

Rice.—Rice is the most universally grown crop. There are several varieties grown, but they may be divided into the transplanted and the "gyah" or upland rice. The former is sown in May and is transplanted as soon as the wheat is cut and rains fairly set in, i.e., from the end of June and throughout July. The crop is ripe from the middle of October to the middle of November, when it is reaped and thrashed. The gyah rice is sown in the lands of the higher level during the latter-half of April and is ready for cutting by the end of August or beginning of September. The average product of rice, is, of the transplanted 4 mooris per ropni or 40 bushels<sup>1</sup> per acre, and of the gyah only 2½ mooris per ropni or 25 bushels per acre.

Wheat.—Wheat is largely grown in Nepal, but it does not form a favourite article of food with the people, and comparatively little attention is bestowed on its cultivation. It is greatly used in the manufacture of a coarse kind of beer and spirit, which are largely consumed by the Newars and Bhootias at all times and especially at festivals and during the rice-planting seasons. Two varieties of wheat are grown, the "rato" or red wheat and the "saito" or white wheat. After the rice crop is fairly off the ground about the end of November the wheat is sown broadcast and no further care is taken of it. The crop is ripe in the middle of May, when it is cut and the ground again prepared for rice. The return is about 14 pathies per ropni or 14 bushels<sup>2</sup> per acre.

Barley and Oats.—Barley and oats are grown in small quantities only in the valley; the latter seems to thrive remarkably well, but is only used for feeding elephants and horses.

Maize.—Indian-corn is much cultivated on the grounds of the higher level and on the hills, where it grows luxuriously though hardly any care is bestowed upon it. In the valley it is carefully hoed, weeded, and manured. It is sown in the end of May and is ripe in the end of August or beginning of September. The average return is 15 pathis per ropni or 15 bushels per acre.<sup>3</sup>

Murroowa.—"Murroowa" is a small millet-like grain largely grown on the hills and on the sides of the "tars" in the valleys. It is sown in May or June and reaped in October or November. It does not require irrigation, and little care is bestowed on it. The average return is about 15 bushels per acre.

Oord.—"Oord" and some other pulses are grown on the higher levels.

"Urhur dal," "moong," "mussoor," and gram are rarely seen growing in the valley. Some of them grow well in the adjacent valleys of a lower level.

1. 1 bushel unhusked rice = about 50 lbs. . . 40 bushels = about 25 maunds of 80 lbs.

2. 1 bushel wheat = 60 lbs. . . 14 bushels = about 10½ maunds of 80 lbs.

3. About 11¼ maunds of 80 lbs.

**Buckwheat.**— Buckwheat ("phaphur") is much grown. It is generally sown as soon as the Indian-corn is cut. It requires little care, and is ripe in November and December. The Purbattias and Bhootias use this grain greatly for making a kind of porridge, and also for making bread.

**Mustard.**— Various species of mustard are grown, chiefly for the sake of oil, but the young plants are also eaten as vegetables. Much care is bestowed on the cultivation, and manure largely employed. The sowing time varies greatly according to the crop that it follows.

**Garlic.**— Garlic is largely grown and is a favourite food with the Nepalese, both raw and cooked or pickled. This crop requires great attention. The chief crop is sown in November, December, and January, and is ready for use in the green state in March, April, and May.

**Radishes.**— Radishes of a large white species are nearly as favourite food as garlic. They are grown all the year round in immense quantities, and are eaten raw and cooked in every possible way.

**Ginger and Turmeric.**— Ginger and turmeric are largely grown, and the former is much prized for its flavour in neighbouring districts.

**Capsicums, &c.**— Capsicums and red peppers of every variety are much cultivated, and Nepal pepper is famous throughout India for its peculiarly delicate flavour.

**Sugarcane.**— Sugarcane is grown on the light soils of the higher level. It is planted in February and March, and is ready for cutting in November and December. The cane grown in the valley is chiefly used for sugar-making, being inferior in quality. The cane brought from the neighbouring valleys for eating is large and of good quality.

**Potatoes.**— Potatoes are grown both in the valley and on the adjacent hills. In the valley a large round white potato is grown, while that of the hills is a small red kidney-shaped variety. Both are of good quality. In the valley potatoes are planted in the lowlands in January and February, and are dug in May or June. The amount grown is not very great, as the Nepalese prefer the red hill potato. Cucumbers and cucurbitaceas of all sorts are largely grown near the towns and much used as food, both raw and cooked.

**Annual yield of land.**— The annual value of the crops obtained from the three descriptions of land is said to be as follows:—

The best land producing annual crops of transplanted rice and wheat yields about Rs. 210 per "khat" of 25 ropnis or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres.



The ground producing upland rice, wheat, and other crops yield about 180 rupees per "khait"; and the poorest kinds of soil yield only about Rs. 95 per "khait."

Lands held from Government by the soldiers are usually made over to the Newer agriculturists on the condition of their paying to the holder one-half of the annual net produce.

For lands which do not belong to Government, and can be sold, the usual price is 20 years' rental as the value of the net produce.

The price of grain and of all articles of food has greatly increased of late years, and in 1871 was nearly double that of 1836.

**Livestock. Cattle.**— The cows are small and give but little milk. Bullocks are not employed as beasts of burden, and but seldom for ploughing. Brahminy bulls abound round the towns, and do much mischief to the growing crops (they are sacred). Some of the wealthy people have fine cows, either English or Hansi, which thrive well; epidemics often occur, both foot and mouth disease, and rinderpest. Buffaloes are kept by the poorer classes for milk, and numbers are imported for slaughtering, but no female is allowed to be killed.

**Sheep and Goats.**— The few reared in the valley are of small poor breeds. Great numbers are imported for consumption from Thibet, Hindustan, and the Terai; these are all males, as no females are killed for food or sacrifices.

**Horses.**— There is no indigenous breed of horses or ponies. A few of the wealthy have Arabs, &c., and many excellent ponies are imported from Thibet and the hills to the northward.

**Poultry.**— Fowls and ducks are largely reared by the Newers, who consume them and their eggs in large quantities.

#### Prices of Cattle, &c., in 1872

	Rs.
Cows	15 to 25
Buffaloes	20 to 70
Ditto for food	10 to 20
Hill sheep	2 to 4
Goats from Serai	2 to 4
Ditto hills	2 to 15
Fowls	5 per rupee
Ducks	3 per do.

**Garden Vegetables.**— Many European vegetables have been in produce during the past 60 years, and most of them are reared in great perfection. Peas, French beans, cabbages, cauliflower, turnips, carrots, artichokes, asparagus, and almost all the common English vegetables grow freely.

Fruits.— Of wild fruits there are many, as raspberry, strawberry, barberry, mulberry, cherry, pear, &c., and of cultivated fruits the valley produces strawberries, pears, quinces, plums, apples, apricots, peaches, pomegranates and a few grapes. The apples and pears are of English stock and thrive well. Oranges and lemons grow most luxuriously and are of very fine flavour.

In the adjacent small hot valleys almost all the fruits of the plains of India grow freely, so that in the season the bazar is well supplied with mangoes, jack, pineapples, guavas, &c.

Timber.— Many valuable woods grow on the hills around the valley, such as deodar, common pine, toon, champa, maple, walnut, and several species of oak. There is no export of timber except from the Terai, and the forests of the interior are destroyed in the most wanton manner. Fuel is, however, scarce in the valley, and cowdung, stalks, straw, &c., are all utilized for it.

Summary of crops, &c., in different months.— The following is a summary of the crops, vegetables, &c., produced in each month of the year:—

#### January (Native, Poos and Maugh)

Wheat sowing ends and mustard sowing commences towards end of month. Crops of garlic and raddish sown. Goor-making continued throughout the month. Peas, beans, salads, sown towards end. Oranges in profusion all the month, and limes and lemons abundant. Plantains and inferior pineapples still procurable from Nayakot. Potatoes, raddishes, garlic, cabbages, knolecoles, cauliflower, spinage, beets, carrot, turnipe, celery, and salads in prime season; young onions coming in.

#### February (Maugh and Phagoon)

Mustard seed sowing continued during first half of the month. Goor-making is continued and finished. A little sugarcane planted, garden sowings are peas, cabbage "chalahi," "lal sag," French beans, salads, &c. Radishes, garlic in great abundance, also cauliflower, cabbages, turnips, and onions; oranges and limes plentiful. Plantains and pineapples procurable from interior.

#### March (Phagoon and Chyt)

Some Indian-corn sown at the end of the month. Garden sowing—peas, French beans, cucumbers, melons, &c., potatoes, capsicums of sorts, raddish, lettuce, beans, and Indian-corn. Vegetables in season—beans, garlic, lettuce and spinage; oranges and limes still abundant.

#### April (Chyt and Bysak)

Upland rice and Indian-corn sown and sugarcane planting finished. Cucumbers and melons sown largely, also peas, French beans, lettuce, cabbage, and cauliflower; vegetables in season—peas, asparagus, lettuce, artichokes, Jal sag, onions. Oats and wheat in ear but green, fit for "kusseel" forage for animals.

## May (Bysak and Jeith)

Upland rice sowing finished and nursery bed for great crops of transplanted rice are sown. The wheat harvest commences about the middle of the month. French beans and salads sown. Vegetable in season—peas, cucumbers, salads, radishes, lal sag, and artichokes. Fruits in season—melons, strawberries, "kaiphal," and wild raspberry.

## June (Jeith and Assar)

Wheat harvest continues. Rice plants for transplanted crop (the great crop of the year) are transplanted after the first heavy fall of rain, generally between 15th and 25th June. Oord and other vetches sown. Vegetables in season—lal sag, salad, and indifferent cucumbers. Fruits—only the wild raspberry, "kaiphal," and barberry.

## July (Assar and Sawan)

Rice transplanting continued and finished before the end of the month. Garden sowings of radishes, cabbages, cauliflowers, &c., in nursery beds. Potatoes of good quality are brought in from the hills in large quantities towards the end of the month. Vegetables in season—Capsica of sorts, lettuce, kidney beans, bhangan, cucumber of various kinds. Fruits in season are indifferent pears, plantains, water melons, mangoes, jack-fruit, and rose apples, all from Nayakot. In the valley are plums, apricots, apples, and quinces.

## August (Sawan and Bhadoon)

The upland rice, oord and other vetch crop harvests commence towards the end of the month, seeds of all vegetables sown, for October, November and December. Vegetables in season—French beans, salads, capsicum, cucumbers, Indian-corn pods, green ginger and turmeric roots, lal sag, pumpkins, onions, radishes, garlic and early turnip. Fruits—plums, apricots, quinces, apples, pears; and from Nayakot pineapples, plantains, guavas, custard-apples, pears, and very fine limes and lemons.

## September (Bhadoon and Assin)

The upland rice harvest becomes general, and radish, mustard, garlic, oord and other vetches at once sown. Garden sowings, second crop—salad, beans, carrots, turnips. Vegetables in season—French beans, lettuces, capsicums, fresh ginger and turmeric, radishes, potatoes, and Jerusalem artichokes. The fruits are apples, apricots, and plums; and from Nayakot, pineapples, limes, lemons, plantains, guavas, custard-apples, water melons, and jack-fruit.

October (Assin and Kartik)

The great harvest of transplanted rice together with that of other crops continues until early in December; this may be considered the fourth crop of the season. First in May is the wheat and mustard harvest; in June and July early Indian-corn

and ripening of cucumbers, melons, &c.; thirdly, in August and September the "gyah" or upland rice, oord, and other pulses and Indian-corn; and fourthly, in end of October, November, and beginning of December the great harvest of rice, "murroowa" sugarcane, oord, &c.

Garden sowings—peas, beans, beet, carrots, lettuce, onions, garlic, radishes, and potatoes. Vegetables in season—Jerusalem artichokes, peas, asparagus, turnips, and salad and greens. The fruits are figs, apples, pears, limes, and pomegranates of immense size; and from Nayakot pineapples, plantains, melons, limes, nectarines, and guavas.

#### November (Kartik and Ughun)

The rice and other harvests continued through the month; mustard, radish, and garlic sown. Sugarcane cutting and goor-making commence towards the end of the month. Ginger, turmeric, ground-nut, and pepper collected and stored. Wheat sowing commences at very end of month. Garden sowings—peas, beans, salads, turnips, and carrots. Vegetables in season—cauliflower, cabbage, knolecole, beet, salad, celery, carrots, turnips, and spinage all abundant. A second crop of potatoes from the hills. Fruits—apples, pears and figs, also limes, plantains, guavas, and pines are procurable from Nayakot but are going out.

#### December (Augun and Poos)

Wheat sowing continues. The rice harvest, too, concluded early in the month. Sugarcane cutting ended by middle of the month and goor made. Garden sowings—beans and salads. Vegetables in season—hill potatoes, young garlic, and radishes, all abundant; also turnips, carrots, beet, cauliflower, cabbages, spinage, celery &c.

Oranges grown in the valley, both sweet bitter, in full season and excellent quality, also limes and lemons most abundant. Plantains and pine-apples obtainable from Nayakot and other valleys.

#### Deokhur and Dhang

The "dhuns" or valleys of Deokhur and Dhang were visited in 1879 by the Resident, and he speaks of them as "the milch cows of Nepal and teeming with produce of all kinds." These valleys are considerably lower than that of Nepal, probably from 2,000 to 3,000 feet above the sea level.

Deokhur.— In the lower part of the Deokhur valley, here called Sonar, between Sindhunea and Baijapore, the chief crops are linseed, mussoor, gram, urhur, barley, and rice. About Loki there are large numbers of cattle, but maize, barley, vegetables, tobacco, and plantains are cultivated. The central portion of the valley from Loki to near Chailahi is little cultivated, as the valley closes in and the wooden spurs from the Deokhur and doondwa ranges interlace. From near Chailahi to Mulmullagaon, a stretch of 17 miles, wheat is a common crop,

and the other grains grown are "kerao" (peas), mussoor, barley, gram, and rice. Wheat is grown on the rice stubble and thrives luxuriantly; it is a spring crop. Of rice there are two crops, one by artificial irrigation, which ripens in May, and one which is more dependant on the rains. There are miles of "dhub" grass utilized for cattle grezing, both for those of the valley and those brought temporarily from British territory. The revenue is collected by the Durbar in kind, and there are large store-houses at different places for these kinds of payments; one is at Baijapore in the lower valley, and another at Pursapur in the upper valley. Wheat was selling at 1½ maunds the rupee in Deokhur in February 1883.<sup>1</sup>

In the Towi valley the chief crop is rice, and ricks of rice-straw are abundant.

Dhang.— The staple crop of Dhang is rice. This is grown both on the high and lowlands, as irrigation, from the Sarjoo or by frequent ducts led from the hills on either side, is plentiful. For the rice the ground is carefully ploughed, each plough giving occupation to three bullocks in the day, so that work goes on unremittingly. All kinds of rice grown in Gonda and Bahraitch are grown, but not hill kinds. There is also much Indian-corn. Spring crops are raised more on the uplands than on low lying soil.

Gram, linseed, wheat, barley, and mussoor are common. There is also a jungle grass, called "bhalola," a small vetch with a yellow flower, which is often seen and is very useful for cattle. The people say that it is self-sown, and is so persistent as to strangle wheat and barley. The chowdry of Doondwagaon put his yearly return of rice at 12,000 to 13,000 Nepalese maunds.

Much of the valley is used for grazing, and herds of buffaloes and cattle, and flocks of sheep, and goats are numerous. Milk, &c., is abundant. Rice straw is little cared for, and a drug in the market. Vegetables, with the exception of pumpkin, are not procurable. There is a very large export trade from Dhang into British territory. The zemindars say that the value of the export trade from Dhang during the cold weather is probably as much as 2,000 rupees a day in rice alone. The exports are rice, makai (Indian-corn), spices, grain, linseed, rape, and forest products.

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1. The Towi valley is a small subsidiary valley between Deokhur and Dhang—vide Route 29.

(To be Continued)

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## From the Bheri to the Jamuna

By

Baburam Acharya

(Devi Prasad Bhandari, "Ai. Shi. Baburama Acharyale Rachana Garnubhayeko Nepalako Samkshipta Itihasa" (A Short History of Nepal Written by Itihasa-Shiromani Baburam Acharya), Purnima, Year 16, No. 1, Falgun 2041 (February-March 1985), pp. 24-31.

During 1786-87 A.D., the western frontiers of the Kingdom of Nepal reached the Bheri river. Bahadur Shah was involved in a war with Tibet after the visit of Syamherpa Lama. Even then, he continued the campaign of military conquest of the principalities situated west of the Bheri river. During 1787-88, he sent envoys to conclude treaties with the rulers of Bilaspur, Dullu, Achham, Doti, and Kumaun. Pandit Kanakanidhi Tiwari of Palpa was the most prominent among these envoys. In January 1788, he signed a treaty with Mohan Chand, Raja of Kumaun. Similar treaties were concluded at about the same time with the rulers of four other principalities, namely, Bilaspur, Dullu, Achham, and Doti. It has long been a tradition among the principalities of the Himalayan region to conclude treaties according to which any friend or foe of one side becomes the friend or foe of the other as well. The treaties signed with Bilaspur and other principalities belonged to this category. Accordingly, all these principalities became friends of the Kingdom of Nepal, and the government of Nepal was bound to come to their aid in the event of any aggression. These principalities thus entered into a subsidiary alliance with Nepal.

For two or three centuries past, the rulers of these principalities had been attacking other principalities in the neighbourhood. Although they signed treaties with Nepal for fear of its growing strength or out of expectation for something, their aggressive tradition continued unchecked. With the aim of impressing them with Nepal's strength and affluence, Bahadur Shah invited their bhardars to visit Kathmandu. However, this step proved meaningless and he was compelled to follow a severe policy.

Because the Raja of Jumla, Chakra Sudarshan Shah, was a minor, his uncle, Shobhan Shah, was chief of the administration. The Rajas of Salyan and Jajarkot had already signed treaties with the government of Nepal. After the principality of Parbat was conquered, the Tihini area had been given (to Jumla), but (Shobhan Shah) was not satisfied. He wanted Mustang, a vassal principality of Parbat. However, Bahadur Shah reconfirmed Mustang in the name of the existing ruler, Angyal Dorje.

At the time when the Nepali army was engaged in a war with Tibet, Shobhan Shah attacked Mustang and drove out Angyal Dorje. In July 1789, therefore, Bahadur Shah sent Kaji Shiva Narayan Khatri and Sardar Prabal Rana from Kathmandu to attack Jumla. They proceeded to Jumla along with two companies of

Gorkhali troops through the difficult Himalayan route of Parbat, as they were likely to be intercepted if they proceeded through the principalities of Jajarkot, Bilaspur, and Dullu. They halted for a few days in Tibrikot. Meanwhile, a big army of conscript (Jhara) troops assembled at Chhinasim, capital of Jumla, but their number gradually dwindled because of the approaching Dashain festival (September 1789). Chhinasim is situated at a distance of four days journey from Tibrikot. In mid-September 1789, Shiva Narayan Khatri attacked Chhinasim. Shobhan Shah fled to Jumla along with Raja Chakra-Sudarshan Shah. (The Gorkhali army) thus occupied Jumla almost without a fight. Shiva Narayan Khatri reinstalled Angyal Dorje as Raja of Mustang and returned to Kathmandu. Thanks to the Gorkhali conquest of Jumla, the principalities from Jajarkot to Achham were surrounded on all sides by Gorkhali territory and lost contact with Tibet.

Among the Chaubisi states, Lamjung and Parbat used to attack the principality of Kaski jointly. Similarly, among the Baisi states, Bilaspur and Achham used to attack the principality of Dullu. At that time, Rajas belonging to two branches of the Raskot dynasty, Sangrama Shah and Uttam Shah, were ruling over Bilaspur and Dullu respectively. Deva Chandra Shah, Raja of Achham, belonged to the Samal dynasty. After signing treaties with the government of Nepal, these principalities remained at peace with each other for only two years. In early 1790, Raja Uttam Shah (Dullu) gave refuge to a rebel Sardar of Achham. Sangrama Shah (Bilaspur) and Devachandra Shah (Achham) thereupon jointly invaded Dullu. Uttam Shah fled to Salyan, where he joined Shatrughna Shahi, a Gorkhali Sardar.

The headquarters of Parbat had then been shifted to Baglung and Amara Simha Thapa had been stationed there. When he received a petition from Uttam Shah, Bahadur Shah ordered Sardar Shatrughna Shahi and Amara Simha Thapa to proceed. Along with two companies of troops, as well as Uttam Shah, they marched ahead, but were stopped by Sangrama Shah in Surkhet. Sangrama Shah was defeated in a minor encounter and fled to Padnaha (in modern Bardiya district). The Gorkhalis occupied Bilaspur and built a fort at a place called Dailekh, from where they could defend both Bilaspur and Dullu. Dailekh thus became the new name of the combined principalities of Bilaspur and Dullu.

Raja Devachandra Shah of Achham had also violated the treaty with Nepal. Amara Simha Thapa, therefore, considered it advisable to occupy that principality. He sent Sardar Shatrughan Shahi to Kathmandu to explain the situation to Bahadur Shah. Shobhan Shah (of Jumla) was prepared to assist Devachandra Shah and the Raja of Doti was also likely to do so. Bahadur Shah, therefore, sent five additional Gorkhali companies, led by Captain Surabir Khatri and Captain Golaiya Bhandari, to assist Amara Simha Thapa. When Amara Simha Thapa reached Achham along with these troops, Devachandra Shah took his position at Bannegadhi, the old capital, in the belief that the Gorkhalis would not be able to climb up the hill where the fort was located. But Amara Simha Thapa, after resting a few days in the valley, climbed the hill at night and attacked the fort. Devachandra Shah then fled to



to Malbara in the Tarai region. When the principality of Achham was occupied in this manner, Raja Samudra Sen of Bajhang and the Raja of Bajura met Amara Simha Thapa there and agreed to become vassals of Gorkha.

In Doti, Raja Hari Shah, a contemporary of Prithvi Narayan Shah, was poisoned. Internal dissensions then ensued in that principality. Hari Shah was succeeded by his brother, Krishna Shah. Their father, Raghunath Shah, had made the Raja of Thalahara his vassal and annexed the western part of that principality across the Seti river. Krishna Shah similarly tried hard to bring the Rajas of Bajhang and Achham under his control. He proclaimed his youngest son, Dip Shah, as his heir in recognition of the partial success he achieved in that endeavour, and imprisoned his eldest son, Vishnu Shah. After Raghunath Shah died, some bhardars extended their support to Vishnu Shah and made him Raja. However, Dip Shah captured these bhardars and put them to death mercilessly. Dip Shah also put out Vishnu Shah's eyes and imprisoned him inside a fort. He planned to occupy Achham after putting an end to this internal conflict. Dip Shah, therefore, built a palace at Dipayal on the banks of the Seti river and stationed his army there. In the meantime, Amara Simha Thapa occupied Achham. Vishnu Shah then escaped from imprisonment and took refuge with Amara Simha Thapa.

When he received Vishnu Shah's petition, and Amara Simha Thapa's advice that Doti be occupied, Bahadur Shah sent a force commanded by Kaji Jagajit Pande in August 1790. Ten companies from Pokhara, Parbat, and Salyan were also sent to join that force. These troops reached Amara Simha Thapa's camp on the banks of the Seti river. They marched 390 miles in 25 days through streams and rivers flooded by the monsoon. Kaji Jagajit Pande attacked Dipayal on the same night that the troops reached there. Dip Shah's son, and about 100 of his troops, were killed in the battle that followed. Dip Shah then shifted to Dumrakot along with the rest of his family. The capital (of Doti) had been shifted from Parelipot to Dumrakot about a century previously. Another battle was fought at Narighat. The Gorkhalis had 2,000 muskets, whereas the troops of Doti had very few. Consequently, about 200 Doti troops were killed and the Gorkhalis occupied Dumrakot. Dip Shah fled to the Tarai. By the end of 1791, Kaji Jagajit Pande had occupied hill and Himalayan territories up to the Mahakali river. Vishnu Shah was given approximately one-fourth of the hill territories of Doti and assigned a vassal status. Because Vishnu Shah established his capital at Rajpur, he was known as the Raja of Rajpur.

In the principality of Kumaun, situated west of the Mahakali river, internal conflict predated the time of Prithvi Narayan Shah. In 1744, the Rohilla Muslims of Rohilkhand occupied and destroyed Almora. By the time of Prithvi Narayan Shah's death, the internal conflict of Kumaun had assumed an acute form. The conflict destroyed Raja Dip Shah and his queen and his sons. The Chief Minister, Shiva Dev Joshi, had already been assassinated. After Dip Shah's death, Shivadev Joshi's son, Jayakrishna Joshi, was also assassinated, while another son, Harsha Dev Joshi, was imprisoned. After this bloodbath, Mohan Chand, who belonged

to the royal dynasty, became King. Two years later, Harsha Dev Joshi invited the Raja of Garhwal to attack Kumaun. A prince of the royal house of Garhwal was then installed as Raja of Kumaun. Harsha Dev Joshi thus ruled Kumaun for seven years. Mohan Chand then expelled Harsha Dev Joshi and ruled for eighteen months. It was at this time that Kanakanidhi Tiwari visited Almora and signed a treaty with Mohan Chand. Harsha Dev Joshi reoccupied Almora not long thereafter, assassinated Mohan Chand, installed another person as Raja, and plundered Kumaun for about nine months. Lal Simha, a brother of Mohan Chand, then defeated Harsha Dev Joshi, occupied Almora, and installed Mohan Chand's son, Mahendra Chand, as Raja. For two years Harsha Dev Joshi tried to get assistance from Garhwal and Oudh. Meanwhile, the Gorkhali army occupied the region from Deilekh to Doti. Harsha Dev Joshi then rushed to Doti and invited Jagajit Pande to attack Kumaun.

Earlier, Harsha Dev Joshi had sent a petition to King Ran Bahadur Shah offering to bring Kumaun under Gorkhali control easily. The people of Kumaun were suffering hardships because of instability. Jagajit Pande accordingly wrote to his government that it was Gorkha's duty to occupy Kumaun and maintain tranquillity there. Bahadur Shah did not think it advisable to lose this opportunity. He, therefore, issued orders for an invasion of Kumaun under the command of Harsha Dev Joshi. Hastadal Shah was appointed Subba in Doti, and in early March 1791, Gorkhali troops entered into Kumaun from two directions. Gangauli and Champawat in eastern Kumaun were former capitals and were of strategic location. Amara Simha Thapa proceeded toward Gangauli after crossing the Mahakali river at Jaljibi-Ghat, north of the modern Jhulaghat, while Jagajit Pande proceeded toward Champawat after crossing the same river at Lohaghat, situated south of Jhulaghat. At the time when Amara Simha Thapa was building a fortress on a hill near Askot, Mahendra Chand reached Gangauli along with some troops. Amara Simha Thapa then attacked Gangauli, and in the battle that followed, Raja Uttam Shah of Dullu and about fifty Gorkhali troops were killed. Amara Simha Thapa proceeded toward Champawat, which had already been occupied without any resistance by Jagajit Pande. He then encamped in a village known as Sui. Lal Singh proceeded there with the aim of driving out the Gorkhals, but was attacked by the latter. About 200 soldiers of the Kumaun side were killed. Amara Simha Thapa too reached there on the day the battle took place, hence Lal Singh fled to the Terai. He was followed there by his nephew, Mahendra Chand. Jagajit Pande and Amara Simha Thapa marched toward Almora without facing any resistance. Jagajit Pande occupied Almora in late March 1792 without causing any loss of life and property to the people. During the following two months, Jagajit Pande occupied the hill territories of Kumaun without any bloodshed. The Himalayan and Terai territories had yet to be occupied. Even then, Harsha Dev Joshi requested Jagajit Pande to attack Garhwal forthwith.

Garhwal, which lies west of Kumaun, was ruled by the descendants of Ajaya Pal. Rulers of that dynasty were formerly vassals of the Chand kings of Kumaun, but they became independent when the power of the Chand Kings declined at the beginning of the eighteenth century and began to challenge the Chands. Lalit Shah was king of Garhwal during Prithvi Narayan Shah's time. When

Mohan Chand became king of Kumaun and started a bloodbath, Lalit Shah sided with Harsha Dev Joshi, occupied Almora, and installed his second son, Pradyumna Shah, as king of Kumaun. After Lalit Shah died, his eldest son, Jayakriti Shah, became King of Garhwal. Harsha Dev Joshi, however, wanted to make Pradyumna Shah king of Garhwal as well. He attacked Garhwal with Kumaun troops, and occupied the capital, Srinagar. Jayakriti Shah fled from Garhwal, but soon died, and Pradyumna thus became king of Garhwal as well, with his capital at Srinagar. He sent his younger brother, Parakrama Shah to act as his Regent in Almora. Harsha Dev Joshi fomented a quarrel between the two brothers and began to exploit Kumaun as his own fief. Parakrama Shah then left Almora and went to Srinagar. Subsequently, Parakrama Shah extended his support to Mohan Chand and Mahendra Chand. Harsha Dev Joshi, therefore, resolved to wipe out the kingship of Garhwal, and accordingly sent petitions to both Jagajit Pande and Ran Bahadur Shah to take over Garhwal.

Bahadur Shah appointed Sardar Bhakti Thapa of Lamjung as commander to invade Kumaun along with a company of troops led by Jagajit Pande. However, Bhakti Thapa reached Kumaun only after Almora had already been occupied on the advice of both Bhakti Thapa and Amara Simha Thapa, Jagajit Pande requested Bahadur Shah for permission to occupy Garhwal. Bahadur Shah gave the permission. In mid-June (1792), Jagajit Pande stationed Subba Yoga Narayan Malla in Almora, crossed the Ramaganga river, and entered into the territory of Garhwal. The Garhwal troops previously used to check invaders from Kumaun near a place called Chandpur across the border. Jagajit Pande, therefore, halted at Chandpur in the belief that a battle would take place there. But the Garhwalis did nothing, and Jagajit Pande stationed Gangaram Lama at Chandpur and took the Gorkhali army westward to the banks of the Alakananda river, where Srinagar is situated. On hearing the report of the Gorkhali advance, Pradyumna Shah took away his family as well as his property from Srinagar. By the end of June 1792, that is, three months after the conquest of Almora, Jagajit Pande entered into Srinagar without shedding any blood.

The hill and Himalayan regions north west of Garhwal up to the Sutlej comprised numerous principalities, among whom Sirmur in the east, with its capital at Nahan, was the biggest and strongest. Its frontiers adjoined those of Garhwal, and the two principalities fought each other off and on according to the tradition of the hill principalities. Kirtiprakasha was king of Sirmur during the time of Prithvi Narayan Shah. He tried to occupy the Tarai territory of Dehradun from Garhwal, but died at Kalsi. However, the kings of Garhwal were unable to retain Dehradun, hence anyone who could, collected taxes there. At the time when Jagajit Pande attacked Kumaun and Garhwal, Jagatprakasha, a son of Kirtiprakasha, was king of Sirmur. Pradyumna Shah spent the rainy season in the hill region of Sirmur after leaving Srinagar. He told Jagatprakasha that Sirmur would come next in the list of Gorkha's conquests after Garhwal, hence they should resist the Gorkhali advance unitedly. Pradyumna Shah offered to bear the expenses himself if Jagatprakasha accepted the proposal. Jagatprakasha agreed to provide military

assistance to Pradyumna Shah during the winter in the hope that he would be able to get Dehradun if he was able to defend Garhwal from the Gorkhali invasion.

Immediately after winter set in, Jagajit Pande started bringing areas east of the Alakananda river under Gorkhali control. Chandpur and the Tallo-Salan area had already been occupied, so Jagajit Pande stationed Subba Kalu Khawas at Ulkagadhi in Srinagar. He then stationed the Gorkhali troops under his command at different places with the objective of occupying the remaining part of Tallo-Salan situated in the south. South of Chandpur, on a hill of the Mahabharat range, was situated an ancient fort known as Langurgadh. Pradyumna Shah's family and bhardars were staying there. Consequent to the Gorkhali advance, Pradyumna Shah and Jagat Prakasha took shelter at Languragadh. This raised the morale of the Garhwal troops and so they began to attack the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhali troops at Salangadhi were wiped out. The Garhwalis fought bravely at Kitrakhal and Jaharikhal also. When a big Garhwali force reached a place called Kaudiya, Amara Simha Thapa and Bhakti Thapa attacked it from two sides and repulsed it (March 1792). Jagat Prakasha then led the Sirmur troops against the Gorkhalis, but Amara Simha Thapa checked their advance into the hills. Both sides suffered severe losses in an inconclusive battle that was fought at a sal forest near Kotdwar.

After withdrawing from Kotdwar, Jagajit Pande requested Bahadur Shah for additional troops, for he realized that the troops at his disposal could not defeat the combined forces of Garhwal and Sirmur. The Gorkhali setback revived the hopes of the displaced rulers of Doti, Jumla, and Achham. They held consultations with each other and finalized a plan to reach their respective capitals on a specific date and declare their independence. Raja Dip Shah of Doti and Chautara Shobhan Shah of Jumla accordingly returned to their principalities. However, they were unable to do anything for lack of public support and so waited for Raja Devachandra Shah of Achham. Devachandra Shah was able to get the support of his people, so he returned to Achham, reassumed the Crown, and wiped out the two companies of Gorkhali troops that had been stationed there (April 1792). This disrupted mail and supply of arms and ammunition from Kathmandu to Kumaun and Garhwal. Jagajit Pande, therefore, sent Bhakti Thapa along with five companies of troops to clear the routes. Devachandra Shah fled from Achham as soon as he heard that Bhakti Thapa had crossed the Seti river. The other rebels fled toward the east. Meanwhile, Sardar Kalu Pande and Sardar Jasiwant Bhandari reached the Karnali river along with two companies of troops to assist Jagajit Pande. They captured 700 or 800 fugitives from Achham, beheaded them, and threw the bodies into the river. Devachandra Shah, however, escaped. Shobhan Shah then fled to Tibet, and Dip Shah to India. The Gorkhali troops then occupied Dailekh, Achham, and half of the Tarai territories of Doti. (Dullu-Bilaspur then comprised the modern districts of Banke and Bardiya. Malbara was a part of Achham, and Kailali and Kanchanpur, of Doti). The remaining Tarai territories of Doti were then handed over to Oudh by the sons of Dip Shah, who retained them in the capacity of Zamindars.

After quelling the rebellion in Achham in early May 1792, Kalu Pande and Bhakti Thapa reached Garhwal. Jagajit Pande was planning to defeat the rulers of Garhwal and Sirmur simultaneously and extend the western frontiers of the kingdom of Nepal to the Jamuna river. But he abandoned that plan because the military reinforcements that were received from Kathmandu were inadequate. Instead, he started negotiations for a treaty with Jagatprakash. For three months, the Gorkhali troops remained inactive at Tallo-Salan, while the forces of Garhwal and Sirmur remained at Langurgadh. Pradyumna Shah was not able to give money to Jagatprakash to finance the war, hence misunderstanding ensued between them. Jagatprakash went to Devaprayag and met Jagajit Pande. In mid-August 1792, a treaty was signed under which Jagatprakash agreed not to raise any obstacle if Gorkhali troops occupied territories up to the Jamuna river, while Jagajit Pande agreed not to take Gorkhali troops across the river. Jagatprakash went back to his capital immediately after signing the treaty. Pradyumna Shah was left alone at Langurgadh, so he too was eager to sign a treaty with Jagajit Pande. Jagajit Pande, on his part, was willing to sign a treaty if Pradyumna Shah accepted a vassal status, for he had become weary after two years of war. However, Pradyumna Shah was unwilling to accept such a status. Meanwhile, Chinese troops advanced toward Nepal and Jagajit Pande was ordered by Ran Bahadur Shah to make appropriate arrangements with regard to the defeated principalities and rush back to Nepal. Jagajit Pande kept the royal order secret, and, toward the end of September 1792, signed a treaty with Pradyumna Shah on terms favorable to the Gorkhali side. Accordingly, Pradyumna Shah agreed to cede the areas east of the Alakananda river which the Gorkhalis had already occupied, while Jagajit Pande placed those areas under the jurisdiction of Pradyumna Shah on payment of Rs. 9,000 yearly. Pradyumna Shah remained an independent ruler in areas west of the Alakananda river and also got back Srinagar. It was decided to station a Nepali envoy there.

Immediately after signing the treaty with Pradyumna Shah, Jagajit Pande took the entire Gorkhali force to Kumaun. Until then, Harsha Dev Joshi had been visiting Jagajit Pande and Amara Simha Thapa alternately in a bid to bring back Kumaun under his control. But Amara Simha Thapa, not inclined to trust him, took him forcibly from Almora to Kathmandu. Harsha Dev Joshi complained to Jagajit Pande, but the latter could not overrule Amara Simha Thapa. Harsha Dev Joshi accordingly accompanied them to Gangauli, but escaped from there in the night to the Himalayan region. When Jagajit Pande reached Pyuthan, he was informed that the bhardars and troops accompanying him had been dismissed, and that a treaty had been signed with China.

The first English Governor-General in India, Warren Hastings, had failed in his attempts to subdue the Maratha power. His successor, Lord Cornwallis (1785-93) spent his time in consolidating the administration in the territories under British control. The attention of Cornwallis was naturally drawn toward Nepal, for it was during his term that the frontiers of Nepal were extended from the Kali river to the Alakananda river, and Nepal had defeated Tibet for the first time. No treaty had been signed between the British and the government of Nepal. The British wanted to conclude a political treaty, but the Nepalis did not want to do so and let the British have a foothold on Nepal. Even then, Gajaraj

Newar Weights

9 tolahs	=	1 bhubul
2 bhubuls	=	1 paulah
2 paulahs	=	1 baghula
3 baghulas	=	1 kulau
3 kulaus	=	1 dharni

The Nepalese tolah is 165 grains instead of 180 as in the British Indian tolah. Hence the dharni is equal to 2 seers 7 chittacks and 3 tolahs.

The following notes will facilitate calculation -

English Dry Measures

2 gallons	=	1 peck
4 packs or 2218.192 cub.inches	=	1 bushel
8 bushels	=	1 quarter
5 quarters	=	1 load
3 bushels	=	1 sack
1 bushel of salt or flour	=	56 lbs.
1 ,, wheat	=	60 lbs.
1 ,, barley	=	50 lbs.
1 ,, oats	=	40 lbs.
1/4 bushels	=	1 Nepalese moori

Coinage: The old coinage of the country was hand-made but with the last few years an entirely new coinage manufactured by machinery has been introduced, and the old kind withdrawn.

Gold Coinage

<u>Nepalese Names</u>		<u>Value in English coins</u>		
		Rs	A.	P.
Ashrafi	=	20	0	0
Patley	=	8	5	0
Sooka	=	4	2	8
Sooki	=	2	1	4
Anna	=	1	0	8
Dam	=	0	4	2

Silver Coinage

Rupee	=	0	13	4
Mohur	=	0	6	8
Sooka	=	0	3	4
Sooki	=	0	1	8
Anna	=	0	0	10
Dam	=	0	0	5

Copper Coinage

Pice	=	0	0	2
Dam	=	0	0	6 1/2

Ashrafis, patleys, silver rupees, and mohurs bear the name of Goruknath and Bawani on the face, and that of the raja and the date on the reverse.

Gold and silver sookas have only the name of the Raja and the date; gold and silver sookis have the name of the Rani and date.

Copper pice of the new kind (the old are only lumps of copper) have Nepal Sirkar on one side and the name of the Raja on the other; dams have only Nepal Sirkar on them.

Commerce: The only method of obtaining any idea of the supplies of Nepal, which would be surplus and available for feeding troops in the country, is to glance at its external trade. In case of an invasion large supplies would be available in excess of the amount which the country can afford to export, without inconvenience, for, in time of war, the troops of the invading army must be kept well supplied, even though their supply may entail hardship, and a certain amount of want, on the inoffensive inhabitants of the country. In civilized warfare every endeavour is made to alleviate the hardships of war for the non-combatant population, but there must of necessity be a limit to what in former days would have been looked on as a policy of sentiment, and if sufficient supplies cannot be obtained without pressure, the pressure must be put on.

The annexed Tables show the export and import trade of the most important products, from the point of view of supplying an army.

Quantities of Articles of Merchandise exported from Nepal into the North  
Western Provinces, Oudh, and Bengal, for the 12 months ending 31st March  
1878, 1879, 1980

ARTICLES	Twelve Month, April to March									REMARKS	
	1877-78			1878-79			1879-80				
	Into N.W. Provin ce and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total	Into N.W. Provin ce and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total	Into N.W. Provin ce and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Animals, living (for sale)--											
Horses, ponies and mules	No.	71	-	71	434	59	493	80	137	217	
Cattle	"	2,100	-	2,100	3,951	38,115	42,066	6,249	29,752	36,001	
Sheep and goat	"	288	-	288	1,041	37,456	38,497	1,114	32,732	33,846	
Other kinds	"	724	-	724	663	124,290	124,953	1,436	123,955	123,391	
Cotton--											
Rew	Cwt.	37	-	37	3	620	623	-	840	840	*No informa-
Twist & Yarn (Indian) Piece	"	24	-	24	-	115	115	-	73	73	tion. Value
Goods (Indian)"	"	4588	-	458	-	*	-	-	*	-	in 1878-79
											was Rs.
											12,379, and
											in 1879-80
											was Rs.
											15,204.
Drugs--											
Drugs, not intoxicating	"	6,088	-	6,888	10,428	4	10,428	17,143	4	17,143	Value Rs.
Drugs, intoxicating	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,213 and
											Rs. 9,242
Bhang	"	-	-	-	4	2,292	4	2,296	147	3	150
Charas, &c.	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	



	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Dyeing materials--</b>											
Turmeric	Cwt.	798	-	798	2,659	4,962	7,621	1,471	4,610	6,091	
<b>Fibrous products--</b>											
Jute, raw	"	-	-	-	-	1,306	1,306	4	2,106	2,110	
" manufactured, (gunny bags and cloth)	No.	30,201	-	30,201	2,342	133,240	135,562	23,676	106,982	130,658	
Other fibres, raw	Cwt.	2,257	-	2,257	4,314	10,634	14,948	4,559	10,978	15,537	
Other fibres, manufactured	"	62	-	-	1,172	1,633	2,805	547	378	925	
Fruit and nuts	"	810	-	-	655	1,013	1,668	619	975	1,594	
<b>Grain and pulses--</b>											
Wheat	"	15,448	-	15,448	10,480	6,955	17,435	18,754	5,590	24,344	(The greater part of the grains exported from Nepal are grown in the Terai immediately adjoining our frontier, especially between the River Kosi and the Orisa (or Orka) muddle.
Gram and pulse	"	52,344	-	52,344	14,119	23,095	37,214	15,744	39,739	55,483	
Other spring crops	"	13,266	-	13,266	4,314	18,926	23,240	9,852	16,953	26,805	
Rice, unhusked	"	104,038	-	104,038	48,564	729,047	877,611	350,110	596,521	946,631	
Rice, unhusked	"	246,886	-	246,886	248,933	453,668	702,601	393,312	499,137	882,449	
Other rain crops	"	37,626	-	27,626	49,751	237,366	287,117	40,562	180,053	220,615	
<b>Hides and skins--</b>											
Hides of cattle	(Cwt.)	1,204	-	1,204	1,663	-	-	1,558	-	-	
	(No.)	-	-	-	-	16,601	-	-	70,738	-	
Skins of sheep goat, &c.	(Cwt.)	10	-	10	113	-	-	18	-	-	
	(No.)	-	-	-	-	37,184	-	-	7,138	-	
Horns	Cwt.	49	-	49	140	90	230	270	29	299	
<b>Lac--</b>											
Stick and other kinds	"	45	-	45	14	-	14	242	110	342	
Shell	"	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	67	67	

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Metals and Manufactures of metals--											
Brass and copper Cwt.		80	-	80	513	131	644	406	411	817	
Iron "		2,316	-	2,318	1,711	451	2,162	1,186	213	1,399	
Other metals "		388	-	386	116	10	126	178	74	252	
Oil "		66	-	68	120	520	640	59	1,056	1,115	
Opium "		22	-	22	143	154	297	50	9	59	

Quantities of Articles of Merchandise exported from Nepal into the North-Western Provinces, Oudh, and Bengal, for the 12 months ending 31st March 1878, 1879, 1880  
Continued

ARTICLES	Twelve Months, April to March									Remarks
	1877-78			1878-79			1879-80			
	Into N.W. Province and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total	Into N.W. Province and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total	Into N.W. Province and Oudh	Into Bengal	Total	
Provisions--										
Ghi	Cwt. 8,709	-	8,709	9,264	5,437	14,701	11,314	3,525	14,839	
Other kinds	" 5,934	-	5,934	2,742	22,569	25,311	3,076	29,391	32,467	
Salt	" 243	-	243	304	782	1,086	1	981	992	
Saltpetre, &c.--										
Saltpetre	" -	-	-	114	25,865	25,979	-	7,779	7,779	
Other saline substances	" -	-	-	-	62	62	32	2,058	2,090	
Seeds, oilseeds--										
Linseed	" 22,384	-	22,384	7,062	94,759	101,821	11,608	121,051	132,659	
Mustard and rape	" 23,415	-	23,415	17,495	53,446	70,941	41,792	46,046	87,838	
Til	" 658	-	658	799	169	968	505	428	933	
Other oilseeds	" 22,216	-	22,216	19,340	10,741	30,081	32,085	26,048	58,133	
Spices	" 32,737	-	32,737	22,045	2,539	24,584	13,616	3,458	17,074	
Sugar--										
Refined	" 6	-	6	-	40	40	-	8	8	
Unrefined	" 117	-	117	15	204	219	37	353	390	
Tobacco	" 802	-	-	68	2,779	2,847	11	6,059	6,070	
Tea	" -	-	-	-	10	10	-	108	108	
Wool--										
Raw	" -	-	-	279	106	385	1	49	50	
Manufactured (piece goods)	" 42	-	-	-	*	-	-	-	-	*Value Rs.18,136 Value Rs.7,273

The following tables show the export and import grain trade between Nepal and Bengal (the districts of Mozufferpore, Chumparun, Durbhunga, Sarun, Bhagulpore, Purneah, and Darjeeling). They are taken from the "Report on External Trade of Bengal with Nepal, for 1880-81."

Imports from Nepal

Description of Food-grain	1878-79	1879-80	1880-81
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Wheat	9,467	7,606	13,356
Gram and Pulse	31,415	54,089	78,209
Other spring crops	25,730	23,009	74,530
Rice (husked)	9,90,644	8,11,105	7,91,191
Do. (unhusked)	6,17,238	6,65,457	4,95,772
Other rain crops	3,22,620	2,44,039	1,87,020
Total:	19,97,114	18,05,315	16,40,078

Exports from Nepal

Description of Food-grain	1878-79	1879-80	1880-81
	Mds.	Mds.	Mds.
Wheat	226	201	375
Gram and pulse	5,797	10,441	7,212
Other spring crops	716	1,011	930
Rice (husked)	4,442	3,866	7,055
Do. (unhusked)	6,677	1,444	3,942
Other rain crops	776	243	256
Total:	18,634	16,706	19,767

The decrease in the export trade from Nepal in 1880-81, as compared with the two previous years, is due to the absence of demand in India owing to excellent harvests and low prices.

The total value of the export trade from Nepal to British India is:-

	1877-78	1878-79	1879-80
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
To N.W. Provinces and Oudh	42,19,763	43,91,536	53,15,958
To Bengal	-	84,40,065	96,03,483
Total:	42,19,763	1,28,31,601	1,49,19,441

Forest.— The sal and sissoo forests are all Government property and yield a large amount of revenue, as much as between eight and ten lakhs. The timber is generally sold by auction at the various depots in the Turai, and thence floated down the rivers. There is no export of timber except from the Turai, as the cost of carriage over the hills would be enormous.

Mines.— Mines, too, yield a considerable amount of revenue, besides supplying iron, copper and lead, &c., for the Government works. The following is a list of the places where iron and copper are found in the country:—

Copper in Eastern District	Copper in Western District	Iron
Chootrea	Beni	Waksa
Juntria	Bagloong	Roopi
Choopcoloo	Magrat	Lookoom and also in the
Waksa	Redi	Palpa and Bootwal
Bhooa	Jakhoom	district
Chitang	Kalchok	
Dhorliya	Roongoom	
Chagya	Jhim	
Nagruja	Goolmi	
Ladak	Syatang	

Lead is obtained at Syatang. A substance like imperfect coal has been discovered, not many years since, in the Nepal valley. It is a soft black clayey-looking mass which occurs in large beds of several feet in thickness and from two to twenty feet below the surface. When dug up this looks like wet peat or soft clay, but on drying comes to resemble a coarse stony coal. It is largely used in brickburning, being mixed with an equal quantity of wood. When burned with wood it gives a dull red glow, and leaves a very large amount of earthy ash.

British Territory bordering Nepal.— The country bordering the Nepal frontier, comprising from west to east, the Rohilkund District, the districts of Kheri, Sitapur, Bahraitch, and Gonda in Oudh; Basti, Gorakhpur, and Azimgurh in the North-West Provinces, and Champaran, Sarun, Tirhoot, Monghyr, Bhagulpore, and Purneah in Bengal is the most fertile and densely populated in India. In good years grain is largely exported by the river routes and railways either to adjacent districts for home consumption or to Calcutta for the English trade. Gorakhpur and Basti in particular produce in ordinary years far more grain than they require, chiefly rice and wheat. The river Ghogra and its tributaries form the highways of the trade in these districts. The weight of Ghogra exports as registered at Darauli, where it leaves the Gorakhpur district, was in 1877-78 39,83,591 maunds, of imports 3,76,342 maunds. Supplies of all kinds would in ordinary years be plentiful along this tract of country, and owing to systems of navigable rivers and railways could be easily concentrated at any required point.

<sup>1</sup> At Darauli the boundaries of the four districts of Gorakhpur, Azimgurh, Sarun, and Ghazeeপুর meet.

Land Reclamation in Chitaun, A.D. 1827

## I

On Bhadra Badi 10, 1885 (August 1827), a royal order was issued granting authority to Shatrubhanjan Shahi to reclaim virgin lands and promote settlement in the foothills (kachad) of the Chitaun region. The area placed under his jurisdiction was bounded by Kalyanchaur in the east, Koluwagaun in the south, Lakhankot in the west, and Upardang-Gadhi in the north. He was granted tax exemption for the first three years. From the fourth year, he was required to supply foodgrains to Upardang-Gadhi.

## II

On the same day, Chaudharis and Mahtos in the Chitaun region were informed that any one who settled ten villages on virgin lands in the Kachad area would be granted one nankar village as his jagir. The land tax for such newly-reclaimed lands was fixed at the concessional rate of one rupee for each plow (halbandi).

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The Regency of Bahadur Shah

Expansion to the Bheri River and the First War with Tibet (A.D. 1785-1788).

(Devi Prasad Bhandari, "Ai. Shi. Baburam Acharya le Rachana Garnubhayeko Nepalako Sankshipta Itihasa" (A concise history of Nepal by Itihasa-Shiromani Baburam Acharya), Purnima, Year 15, No. 4, Magh 2041 (January 1985), pp. 37-43).

Bahadur Shah fled from Kathmandu in 1779 with the troops of Queen Rajendralaxmi at his heels and took refuge with Mukunda Sen at Tansen. He had not yet married. Because of his ability and beauty, Mukunda Sen resolved to marry him to his granddaughter. But Bahadur Shah was unwilling to live in his father-in-law's house, so he left for Patna. However, Mukunda Sen, with an eye to the future, maintained good relations with him and regularly helped him with money. Bahadur Shah meanwhile did not forget the affairs of his state, but visited places of pilgrimage and also studied political conditions in the principalities from Junla to Garhwal. In Patna, he was also able to study the position of the British.

When Balabhadra Shah returned from Nuwakot, Rajendralaxmi summoned him to Kathmandu and dismissed him from the post of Kaji on the charge of cowardice. She also invited Bahadur Shah and others to come to Kathmandu. The latter, apprehensive of her manipulations, took a long time to take their decisions. Rajendralaxmi, therefore, started sending allowances to Bahadur Shah and Dalajit Shah. On the recommendation of her advisor, Bhim Khatri, Swarup Simha Karki had been appointed as Chief Administrator in the Tarai with a company of troops under his command one year previously, with his headquarters in Mahottari. Rajendralaxmi was in a hurry to occupy Kaski, so she summoned Swarup Simha Karki to Kathmandu in order to appoint him Commander of the invading forces. A few days later, Vamsha Raj Pande came to Kathmandu and demanded that he be given the assignment. Because of the dispute, Rajendralaxmi imprisoned Vamsha Raj Pande in the royal palace. She was obviously not able to resolve the dispute between two bhardars, which had occurred in the midst of war. As soon as they heard that Vamsha Raj Pande had been imprisoned, Bahadur Shah and Dalajit Shah left for Kathmandu. But while they were still on the way Rajendralaxmi had Vamsha Raj Pande beheaded one night in the gardens of the royal palace (April 21, 1785). This action of Rajendralaxmi distressed Bahadur Shah, but he lacked the time and the strength to oppose her. So he kept silent and became her obedient mukhtiyar.

There was rivalry for the post of Commander among three other bhardars who were stationed in Tanahu, namely, Naru Shah, Abhiman Simha Basnyat, and Devadatta Thapa. Because the rivalry would worsen with the addition of Swarup Simha Karki, Bahadur Shah sent him along with Dalajit Shah, who was appointed Commander. After Dalajit Shah reached Pyuthan, the dispute was resolved, and in mid-June 1785, the Gorkhalis attacked Kaski and occupied it after three days of minor battles. The Raja



of Kaski, Siddhi Narayan Shah, joined Raja Aridaman Shah of Nuwakot along with his troops, weapons, and wealth. On the third day after the conquest of Kaski, the Gorkhali troops attacked Nuwakot, defeated the combined forces of Kaski and Nuwakot, and occupied that principality as well.

Bahadur Shah then sent messages to the rulers of Bhirkot and other petty principalities east of the Kali-Gandaki river to accept the suzerainty of Nepal. But the rulers of Nuwakot, Dhor, Garhun, and Paiyun pledged their support to Raja Kirtibam Malla of Parbat. Bahadur Shah occupied these four principalities and extended the frontiers of Nepal to the Kali-Gandaki river. The rulers of three principalities accepted the suzerainty of Nepal. They were Raja Bhup Narayan Shah of Satahun, Chakrapati Khan of Bhirkot, and Beni Prasad Sen of Rising. Abhiman Simha Basnyat took all of them to Kathmandu, while Dalajit Shah remained in Tanahu to maintain the peace. They were liberally rewarded for their successes. Swarup Simha Karki remained in charge of the administration of Kaski and Nuwakot. Less than two months later, he was beheaded at Pokhara on the orders of Rajendralaxmi and Bahadur Shah (August 1785), probably on the charge of having engineered the death of Vamsha Raj Pande and joined hands with Dhvajabir Sen.

Bahadur Shah next made preparations to occupy the Chaubisi principalities west of the Kali-Gandaki river. With the aim of encircling those principalities from the west and the north, Prithvi Narayan Shah had entered into friendship with the rulers of Salyan, Jajarkot, and Jumla. Bahadur Shah strengthened that friendship and, in addition, concluded a treaty with Raja Mahadatta Sen of Palpa stipulating that the friend or enemy of one would be the friend or enemy of the other. In order to further strengthen that friendship, Bahadur Shah visited Palpa in January 1786 and married Mahadatta Sen's daughter. He tried to extend suzerainty over Parbat, Gulmi, and other principalities also in the same manner. Thanks to his efforts, Ramesh Malla, a prince of the ruling house of Parbat, Sardar Shashidhar Khatri of Gulmi, and other bhardars and military commanders defected to the Nepali side. However, the rulers of nine principalities, namely, Gulmi, Argha, Khanchi, Musikot, Dhurkot, Isna, Galkot, Pyuthan, and Dang, joined hands with Raja Kirtibam Malla of Parbat and remained prepared to fight against the Gorkhali forces.

At that time, Rajendralaxmi was ill and so was staying at Gorkha for a change of climate along with Ran Bahadur Shah. Bahadur Shah went to Gorkha from Palpa and made a pajani of the bhardars. It was felt that the other principalities could be occupied easily if Parbat was defeated. Accordingly, plans were made to attack Parbat from two sides and Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande were appointed to implement them. Shiva Narayan Khatri and Jagajit Pande were appointed as Kajis under Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande respectively. Ramakrishna Rana, Amara Simha Thapa, and other Sardars and Companies were apportioned between them. Dalajit Shah stayed at Tanahu for arranging regular supplies of food and weapons. Bahadur Shah planned to stay at Gorkha for the duration of the war, but eventually came to Kathmandu along

with Rajendralaxmi according to her wishes. Toward the end of May 1786, Jiva Shah crossed the Kali-Gandaki river at Ridighat and Gorkhali troops thus reached Gulmi. That principality was occupied without any fighting within a week and the Gorkhali troops established their base at Chandrakot. Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande planned to launch a simultaneous attack on Benisahar, the capital of Parbat, from Chandrakot and Kaski respectively. Accordingly, Damodar Pande marched from Gorkha as soon as the news was received that Gulmi had been occupied.

In Gorkha, Bahadur Shah appointed bhardars who supported him in the course of the Pajani. This made Rajendralaxmi furious. But she did nothing until she reached Kathmandu and Damodar Pande left Gorkha. She then secretly instructed Bandhu Rana, an officer in Bahadur Shah's bodyguard, to arrest him and take him to India. Because of the fear of malaria in the Tarai region during the rainy season, Bahadur Shah was kept in detention in Pharping town throughout that period on the recommendation of Dalamardan Shah. On the thirteenth day after Bahadur Shah was taken to Pharping, Rajendralaxmi died at Kathmandu (July 14, 1786). Dalamardan Shah then took over the reins of administration. He had to summon Bahadur Shah at Gajaraj Mishra's insistence, because the latter argued that Bahadur Shah alone was entitled to perform Rajendralaxmi's funeral rites. The 12 years old Ran Bahadur Shah welcomed Bahadur Shah, hence Dalamardan Shah handed over the reins of administration to him. After thus being dismissed for 22 days, Bahadur Shah became Mukhtiyar in his own right.

Queen Rajendralaxmi used to run the administration with great pomp. Her cheerful disposition and sweet manners disarmed even her staunch opponents. However, she was fickle and suspicious, and, consequently, destroyed loyal bhardars at inopportune moments. For this reason, the Kingdom's progress was checked during her rule. The frontiers were, no doubt, extended to the Kali-Gandaki river, but the credit goes to Balabhadra Shah, Vamsha Raj Pande, and Bahadur Shah.

Bahadur Shah's arrest at Kathmandu spread agitation among military commanders in the field. Damodar Pande stopped his march at Pokhara. Dalajit Shah, who was in Syangja, was able to keep Jiva Shah and his troops at Gulmi. Kirtibam Malla had assembled two companies at Argha and Isma to wipe out the Gorkhali troops at Gulmi. As soon as he received the news that Bahadur Shah had become Mukhtiyar, Jiva Shah deputed Shiva Narayan Khatri and Amara Simha Thapa to attack the enemy troops at Argha and Isma. They succeeded in wiping out those enemy troops. Damodar Pande reached the Kali-Gandaki river on his way to Parbat. On the day when Jiva Shah marched his troops into Parbat from Isma, Damodar Pande crossed the Kali-Gandaki river by boat along with his troops. The Parbat forces were brave but they had lost the hope of victory, and there were only 1000 of them prepared to kill and die. On the other hand, the Gorkhali troops, both trained and untrained, numbered about 4,000. Only 45 Gorkhalis and about 200 Parbat troops were killed in the battle of Baglung. Kirtibam Malla then fled from his principality. (September 25, 1786).

Parbat was the heart of the Chaubisi principalities. After its fall, the Rajas of seven other principalities, including Gulmi, fled. Raja Moti Chand of Pyuthan was making preparations to check the Gorkhali advance led by Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande. However, the Pyuthan troops fled after a brief encounter at Badikot. Moti Chand then left the hills and went to Sheoraj. Damodar Pande was welcomed by Raja Krishna Shah of Salyan and marched into Chhillikot, capital of Dang. Raja Nabab Simha of Dang offered no resistance but fled to India. From Salyan Jiva Shah crossed the Bheri river and met Raja Gajendra Shah of Jajarkot at Jahari. Jiva Shah then occupied Jahari, Rolpa, and other petty principalities, because their rulers had sided with the enemy (November 1786).

In the beginning of the modern period, Prithvi Narayan laid the foundation of a new Kingdom of Nepal comprising the territories of the divided principalities of Nepal, as well as of the Sesanta and Kirat regions. However, he did not attain success in maintaining the old Kingdom of Nepal by joining territories of the Magarat region (Chaubisi principalities), for the Palpa-Parbat alliance proved to be an obstacle. Bahadur Shah succeeded in breaking up that alliance, occupying the principalities of the Magarat region, and extending the frontiers of the Kingdom of Nepal to the Bheri river. In February 1787, therefore, he organized a big function to celebrate these successes, at which several Rajas were invited. Raja Mahadatta Sen of Palpa was presented with ornaments, elephants, and horses through the hands of Ran Bahadur Shah, as well as the territories of Gulmi, Argha, and Khanchi. Prince Ranabhima Shah, who represented Raja Krishna Shah of Salyan, was granted Rukum, Musikot (Pallo), Malneta, Phalawang, and Dang. Jahari and other petty principalities across the Bheri river were apportioned among Raja Gajendra Shah of Jajarkot, Raja Chakrapati Khan of Bhirkot, Raja Bhupa Narayan Shah of Satahun, and Raja Beni Prasad Sen of Rising. Gajendra Shah received four principalities, while the others received one each. Jyam Bistaju, representative of Raja Chakrasudarshana of Jumla, was granted the Himalayan village of Thini, situated between Jumla and Parbat.

Mahadatta Sen reinstated the rulers of Gulmi, Argha, and Khanchi in their principalities, hence they remained satisfied. Raja Kirtibam Malla of Parbat went to India and asked the British General, Sir Eyre Coote, for help. However, he did not get any. Motichand of Seoraj asked Nawab Asafuddowlah of Oudh for help. The Zemindar of Bansi also laid claim to Seoraj, and Bahadur Shah too did not want to relinquish that territory. In August 1787, therefore, he sent troops from Butwal under the command of Dhaukal Sinha Basnyat and Jagajit Pande and drove out Motichand. Nawab Asafuddowlah used to get some money as tribute (salami) from Seoraj, so he was ready to resist the Gorkhalis. Thanks to the mediation of Mahadatta Sen, that Tarai territory was given to the government of Nepal. Raja Nawab Singh of Dang joined hands with the fugitive rulers of Dhurkot and other principalities and surrounded the forces of Salyan at Chaughara-Madi. The attack was repulsed by Subba Hastadal Shah, who went there from Pyuthan, and the Salyan forces were saved. Thereafter, Gorkhali troops were stationed in Palpa, Salyan, and Jajarkot, which thus became full-fledged vassal principalities.

An agreement had been signed during the time of Pratap Simha Shah on the question of minting coins for Tibet. But neither the Tibetan government nor Tibetan merchants were willing to use debased coins or reduce the rate of exchange. The Tibetan government then started collecting duties on imports from Nepal in contravention of existing laws, while Tibetan merchants began to adulterate the salt they supplied to the border areas of Nepal in exchange for foodgrains. They also doubled the rate of exchange between salt and foodgrains, thereby hurting Nepalis. During the time of Rajendralaxmi, the Tibetan government had even threatened to go to war. Trade was disrupted for about ten or twelve years as a result of the dispute, and Bahadur Shah waited for a favorable opportunity.

China had been exercising political control over Tibet since the days of Chenghiz Khan, but the Chinese emperors regarded the Lamas of Tibet as their spiritual preceptors. Chien Lung, third Emperor of the Ching dynasty, had invited Tashi Lama of Digarcha to Peking in 1779 to attend a birthday function. Tashi Lama died there. Syamharpa Lama was his younger brother. He was staying in Digarcha when a search was started for the incarnate of Tashi Lama. His guardian, who was finally held to be the incarnate Lama, imprisoned Syamharpa Lama on the charge of embezzlement of the property of the monastery. Somehow Syamharpa Lama escaped, and in mid-July 1787, he reached Kerung, where he requested the Nepal government for asylum. Bahadur Shah he sent Kaji Ranajit Pande to receive Syamharpa Lama and bring him to Kathmandu. The Tibetan authorities demanded that the Lama sent back to Tibet. But Bahadur Shah refused to do so on the ground that anyone who sought asylum in Nepal could never be abandoned. The Tibetan government, which suspected that Syamharpa Lama had taken considerable wealth with him, felt infuriated. The two governments carried on correspondence for about one year, but at the same time made preparations for war. During the rule of Laxmi Narasimha Malla, the Nepalis had reoccupied Kuti and Kerung, but had not driven out the Tibetan inhabitants of those towns. The Tibetan inhabitants naturally sided with Tibet. With their help Tibetan troops occupied both Kuti and Kerung in May 1788. The crossing of the Himalayas by the Tibetans signalled war.

After occupying Parbat and Pyuthan, Ramkrishna Rana had ordered the opening of a munitions factory at Pyuthana. However, he soon died there and was succeeded by his son, Ranajit Rana. Since then the factory was being operated by Ranajit Rana. Amara Simha Thapa recruited troops in Parbat and Gulmi in order to form new Companies.

After Tibet declared war, Bahadur Shah appointed Balabhadra Shah and his brother, Srikrishna Shah as Chief Kaji and Commander respectively and despatched them to attack Kuti and Kerung. As Balabhadra Shah fell ill, it was Srikrishna Shah who first marched toward Kuti in early July 1788. He was accompanied by Kaji Ranajit Pande and four Captains, namely, Sri Harsha Panta, Shiva Narayan Khatri, Nahar Simha Basnyat, and Bam Shah along with 1500 troops, both trained and untrained. After winning a minor battle at Chhosey, they finally occupied Kuti. In mid-August they entered Tibet and attacked Sikharjung fort, but failed to occupy it and were forced to retreat to Kuti where they started building a fort.

Although Balabhadra Shah was ill, his deputies, Kaji Kirtiman Simha Basnyat, Captain Bhotu Pande, and Amara Simha Thapa, left Kathmandu eleven days after Srikrishna Shah's departure. Two days after Kuti was occupied, they occupied Kerung. Toward the end of August 1788 they entered Tibet and occupied Jhungagadhi. One month later, a large enemy force besieged them. For 25 days, the Nepali troops faced a critical situation as a result of that seige. Bhotu Pande was captured and held prisoner. However, Kirtiman Simha Basnyat and Amara Simha Thapa kept on fighting the enemy and saved the fort. On being informed of this, Balabhadra Shah rushed there with about 2000 trained soldiers. He drove off the enemy troops who were besieging the Gorkhali troops at Kerung. In this manner, he raised their morale. He then proceeded toward Jhungagadhi and drove out the enemy troops and freed Bhotu Pande. It was no small bravery for him to repulse the enemy and lift the seige against the Gorkhalis at Jhungagadhi barely twelve days after his departure from Kathmandu.

The principality of Sikkim was independent of Tibet, but being of Tibetan origin, its King regarded the Tibetan government as his protector. This is why Sikkim sided with Tibet in this war. Because of Sikkim's support to Tibet, Bahadur Shah ordered Kaji Jahar Simha Basnyat who was based in Chainpur at that time, to attack Sikkim. At this time, Rop Tsering had died and had been succeeded by his minor son. His army commander (Lapcha Karwang), Yuksthuk, was a well-known warrior. In August, Jahar Simha Basnyat attacked the fort of Darjeeling. After a little resistance, the King of Sikkim and Yuksthuk fled toward Dharma. The Gorkhali troops immediately crossed the Tista river and attacked Dharma. But when a treaty was signed with the King of Dharma, the Sikkimese returned to Sikkim. Fighting continued in Sikkim for about a month. The war, although brief, resulted in famine in Sikkim. Jahar Simha Basnyat went to Ilam and started building a fort there. After the conclusion of the treaty with the King of Dharma, a Lama of Dharma came to Kathmandu, and became Senior Lama of a big Buddhist monastery.

Realizing that war with Nepal was imminent, the Potala Lama requested the Chinese Emperor, Chien Lung, and the British Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, for assistance. Bahadur Shah too had written to Emperor Chien Lung soliciting assistance. Cornwallis sent a vague reply to the Potala Lama and evaded the matter. Chien Lung, however, sent troops under the command of a bhardar named Patsung in order to resolve the issue. After listening to both sides, Patsung persuaded the Lamas of Tibet to conclude a treaty. In view of China's suzerainty over the trans-Himalayan region, Bahadur Shah agreed to sign a treaty with Tibet, and accordingly despatched a team led by Bam Shah to Kerung. Patsung sent representatives of the Potala Lama, the Tashi Lama, and Sakya Lama of Tibet to Kerung. Syamharpa Lama accompanied Bam Shah as a mediator. At that time, Nepal was incurring considerable losses due to prolonged dislocation of trade. This was over and above the losses being suffered by Nepali traders. The loss of life and property suffered during the war was no less small. The Nepal government, therefore, proposed that the Tibetan government pay an annual tribute of

Rs. 100,000 to Nepal as reparation, and allow trade to be resumed without any obstacle. The Tibetan representatives said that they too were suffering much losses. Patsung, however, persuaded Tibet to pay an annual tribute of Rs. 50,000 only. In the interest of lasting amity and commercial intercourse between the two countries, Bahadur Shah agreed to accept half of what he had claimed as tribute, and affixed the seal of Rana Bahadur Shah on the draft of the treaty. On receiving news of the treaty, Balabhadra Shah left Jhunga and came back to Kathmandu leaving two companies of troops behind at Kerung. He received a warm welcome.

A treaty was signed with Sikkim also and a Nepali envoy was posted there. This helped to eliminate Tibet's influence in that principality and consolidate that of Nepal.

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#### Land Taxation in Garhwal, A.D. 1809

Documents relating to Gorkhali land tax policy in Garhwal had been summarized in "Land Taxation in Garhwal", Regmi Research Series, Year 2, No. 1, January 1, 1970, P. 18. Abstract translations of those documents are given below:-

#### I

Royal order to local revenue functionaries (Raut, Negi, Chaudhari, Pradhan), Gosains, and ryots in the pargannas of Kalyanpur-Kilakhar, Sataur, Saudi, Basantapur, and Sahajpur, situated in the Tarai district of Doon in Garh(wal) west of the Bhagirathi-Ganga river and east of the Jamuna river:-

"We hereby prescribe the following land tax assessment rates effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866. With due assurance, promote reclamation and settlement in these areas and pay taxes at these rates every year to the Tosakhana or Potakhana through the appropriate Subba or Amil, submit accounts, at the end of each year, and obtain clearance. Ryots shall not make payments, and amils shall not make collections, in excess of these rates. Ryots shall make payments in cash on the basis of prices current in the month of Ashadh. Any person who indulges in highhanded or oppressive actions shall be severely punished according to his caste status. Payments shall be made in cash at a price which is less by five seers per rupee than the price at which crops are harvested in the month of Marga if bought by merchants in the month of Ashadh.

In-Kind Kut Rates for each bigha (60x60 cubits) of Junar lands, that is, lands long under cultivation in existing (Sanbati) moujas.

Half of the produce for the following crops:-

1. Sama (Millet, Panicum milaceum)
2. Mas (urd, phaseolus roxburghi or phaseolus radiatus)
3. Tur or rahar (Cytisus indicus or cajanus)
4. Til (Sesame, Sesamum orientale or indicum)
5. Kodo (millet, Paspalum frumentaceum)
6. Gahat (pulse)
7. Kauni (millet, panicum italicum)
8. Wheat
9. Barley
10. Musuro (pulse, Ervum hirsutum)
11. Peas
12. Mustard
13. Gram
14. Linseed

On the following crops, the rate of tax shall be 12 annas a bigha.

1. Cotton
2. Sugarcane

In-kind Kut Rates on Tapad lands per Bigha

(Tapad: Lands under cultivation for the second year)

Government's Share per maund	13 1/3 seers
Ryot's Share	26 2/3 seers
Cotton	per bigha (figure missing)
Sugarcane	( do. )

In-kind Kut Rates on Wakhal Lands per Bigha

(Wakhal: Newly-reclaimed lands)

Government's Share per maund	10 seers
Ryot's share	30 seers

Cotton	6 annas per bigha
Sugarcane	6 annas per bigha

On each sanbati mouja, fees shall be collected at the following rates:

<u>Grade of Mouja</u>	<u>Lekhwar's Fee</u>	<u>Bhete Fee</u>
Abri	Rs. 5	Rs. 2
Doyam	Rs. 4	Rs. 1
Sim.	Rs. 3	8 annas
Chahar	Rs. 2	4 annas

The following fees shall also be collected on each Sanbati mouja:-

Mokaddami fee	R. 1 from each Rs. 10 of revenue
Subbangi fee	R. 1 on each household
Manachamal	Provisions needed by peons visiting the mouja for collecting revenue

Porterage services (begar) shall be provided on payment of wages amounting to 2 annas a day, except while transporting arms and ammunition, sick persons and mail.

Monday, Baisakh Sudi 3, 1866  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp. 4-10.

## II

Royal order to the Amalis of Garh: "Persons deputed by you to collect revenues in the pargannas of Kalyanpur-Kilakhar, Sataur, Basantapur, Saudi, and Sahajpur in the district of Doon shall do so at the prescribed rates. Dispense justice in the district, and collect fines and penalties, in the presence of Mahanta Harisevaka, Harsha Raut, Hari Singh, Indramani, and Surjan Negi. In matters that must be referred to us, send petitions containing full particulars, and take action as ordered. Send Tahasildars and Fouzdars with these instructions. This is a newly-conquered territory, so do not commit injustice or oppression in any matter. Otherwise, you shall be held guilty."

Monday, Baisakh Sudi 3, 1866  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, P. 12

## III

Royal order to Hari Singh: "We hereby appoint you as Dittha and grant you authority to reclaim and settle virgin lands in the Tarai pargannas of Doon district. We also grant you as jagir one village comprising virgin lands in the parganna of



Sataur, other than lands which have already brought under cultivation there. The jagir grant shall be effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866. With due assurance, bring back the ryots who have gone over to the Moglan, issue them pattas for reclamation of virgin lands for five years or seven years, according to the nature of the lands, promote reclamation and settlement according to the prescribed arrangements, and use your jagir."

Thursday, Baisakh Sudi 6, 1866  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, P. 18

## IV

On the same day (Baisakh Sudi 3, 1866), a royal order was issued to zamindars and ryots of the five pargannas mentioned, who had fled to India because of the oppression of local revenue officials (amil, bahidar), to come back. The order added, "We have issued a royal order through Hari Singh providing for arrangements to ensure that you are no longer subjected to such oppression. With due assurance, come back and reoccupy your lands and engage in cultivation".

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, P. 13

## V

On Monday, Baisakh Sudi 3, 1866, a royal order was issued in the name of Mahanta Harisevaka, Harsha Raut, Hari Singh, Indramani, and Surjan Negi granting authority to reclaim and settle virgin lands in five pargannas of the Doon district of Garh (wal) situated in the Tarai region. These pargannas were Kalyanpur-Kilakhar, Sataur, Saudi, Basantapur, and Sahajpur. The grant was effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866.

The royal order added, "Select respectable people in the area who can settle villages and grant them seven-year pattas for each mouja under your signatures. Refer those pattas to us and we shall issue order under the royal seal accordingly. Procure settlers from the Moglan country. You shall be punished if you procure settlers from settlements within our territories."

The royal order contains the following schedule of payments from each mouja under the stipulated seven-year patta:

Year	Rs./Anna/Paisa				
	Land Tax (Mal)	Increment (ijaf)	Total	Fee (Dastur)	Grand Total
First year	5	0	5	2-8	7-8
Second year	5	1-4	6-4	3-2	9-6
Third year	6-4	3-2	9-6	4-11	14-1
Fourth year	9-6	7-0-3	16-6-2	8-3-1	24-9-3

Fifth year	16-6-2	16-6-2	32-13-	16-6-2	49-3-2
Sixth year	32-13	16-6-2	49-3-2	23-12-	72-15-2
Seventh year	49-3-2	18-6-2	67-10	23-8	91-2-

Regmi Research Collection, Vol., 40, PP. 10-11.

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### The Badrinath Temple

(Royal orders issued on Jestha Badi 9, 1866/May 1809)

#### I

Royal order to Subba Shrestha Thapa: "Sitaram Rawal, priest of the Sri Badrinath temple, has complained to us that you have exacted a sum of Rs. 160 from his functionaries (Karobari, Jimidar) at Joshimath on the ground that they had carried drums and colors (nagara nisan) to the Rawal without your permission. Sitaram Rawal has acted on our orders, not at his own discretion. Refund the money you have collected. Do not covet what belongs to Sri Badrinath."

#### II

Royal order to Meral Dangi and his brother: "Your father, Gopal Dangi, had taken away with him royal orders and copper-plate inscriptions relating to management of the Sadavarta-guthi endowment of the Sri Badrinath temple at Kot-Kaili and boundaries of the lands endowed. Hand these over to the priest of the temple, Narayan Rawal, and obtain a receipt."

#### III

Royal order to the jimidars of Dasauli: "We have granted authority to Narayan Rawal to collect rents and other payments from lands offered by us to the temple of Sri Badrinath, and demarcated accordingly by the Subbas, and use the income to operate Sadavartas and regular and ceremonial religious functions at the temple. We have now received complaints that you do not obey the authority of the Rawal. Make the prescribed payments to men deputed by him every year and deliver supplies at the temple of Sri Badrinath and Joshimath. You shall be severely punished if you disobey these orders."

## IV

Royal order to Sardar Chandrabir Kanwar, Sardar Bhakti Thapa, and Subba Shrestha Thapa: "In the Samvat year 1861, we had commanded subbas in Srinagar to demarcate the boundaries of lands yielding an income of Rs. 1,200 a year for financing a Sadavarta for pilgrims visiting the temple of Sri Badrinath. The lands have been demarcated, but documents relating to the boundaries have not yet been received. You are, therefore, ordered to demarcate lands at Dasauli yielding an annual income of Rs. 1,200, and forward the relevant documents here. We shall then issue a copper-plate inscription."

## V

Royal order to officials deputed to collect chumawan, salami and other levies in Garhwal and Kumaun: "You are hereby ordered to collect these levies in lands and villages endowed for the sadavarta of the temple of Sri Badrinath jointly along with the Rawal's men. The proceeds shall be used to procure utensils, ornaments, and other materials required for religious ceremonies at the temple, which shall be inscribed accordingly. Hand over such utensils, ornaments, and materials to the Rawal and obtain a receipt. Do not exact any payments such as Pyajkhani, bheti, or salami, from the ryots while making collection, with the exception of food and other provisions (mana chamal)".

Jestha Badi 9, 1866

Regmi Research Collection Vol. 40, pp. 28-31.

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#### Market Towns in the Tarai Region

During the early years of the twentieth century, Nepal-India trade was conducted through specified market-towns on the border. These market-towns were known as Bazaars. Their names and locations are given below:-

<u>Name of Bazaar</u>	<u>District</u>
1. Birgunj Bazaar	Parsa
2. Goleghat Bazaar	Bardiya
3. Morang-Gograha Bazaar	Morang
4. Butwal Bazaar	Butwal
5. Nepalgunj Bazaar	Banke
6. Hanumannagar Bazaar	Saptari

Source: "Circular to Mal Addas, Bazaar Addas, and Kathmahals in the Tarai Region Regarding Wax Monopoly", Monday, Falgun 9, 1961 (February 20, 1905), Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 78, pp. 424-29.

Upadhyaya Brahmans and Jaisis

(Addendum to Regmi Research Series, Year 2, No. 12, December 1, 1970, pp. 277-85; and Year 11, No. 4, April 1, 1979, p.55)

The following royal order, dated Chaitra Sudi ... 1856, was issued in the name of Upadhyaya Brahmans separately for the following regions :-

- (1) Gandi-Trishulganga Region.
- (2) Sindhu-Tamakosi/Dudhkosi Region.
- (3) Trishulganga-Sindhu Region.
- (4) Kathmandu, Patan, Bhadgaun, Thimi, and rural areas thereof.
- (5) Bajhang, Bajura, Bafi, Gotam, Achham, Dullu, Dailekh, and Jajarkot.
- (6) Jumla, Humla, and other newly-acquired territories.
- (7) Chepe/Marsyangdi-Gandi Region.

Royal Order

"To all Upadhyaya Brahmans, we hereby impose fines at the following rates on Upadhyaya Brahmans who, notwithstanding their caste status, till the land with ox-drawn plows, or take boiled rice from the hands of persons who do so, or return obeisance (Pranama) offered by a person belonging to the Jaisi caste. We are sending men to collect these fines. Make payments at the prescribed rates to them. For the future, we hereby decree that any (Upadhyaya Brahman) who tills the lands with an ox-drawn plow, or takes boiled rice from the hands of one who has done so, or returns obeisance offered by a person belonging to the Jaisi caste, shall be degraded to a lower caste and prohibited to offer boiled rice to persons belonging to higher castes.

Rates of Fines

"For tilling the land with an ox-drawn plow:-

Rs. 130 on each household of Abal grade.

Rs. 80                    do.                    Doyam grade.

Rs. 50                    do.                    Sim grade.

Rs. 30                    do.                    Chahar grade.

"For taking boiled rice from the hands of a Upadhyaya Brahman who has tilled the land with an ox-drawn plow :-

Rs. 80 on each household of Abal grade.  
Rs. 55 do. Doyam grade.  
Rs. 30 do. Sim grade.  
Rs. 15 do. Chahar grade.

"For returning obeisance offered by a person belonging to the Jaisi Caste :-

Rs. 4½ on each household of Abal grade.  
Rs. 3 do. Doyam grade.  
Rs. 1½ do. Sim grade.  
12 annas do. Chahar grade.

"List of employees deputed to each region to collect the fines and their salaries :-

<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u> (Space left blank)	<u>Salary</u> (do.)
Tahasildar		
Bahidar		
Peon		

"Amalidars and Bitalab-holders shall arrange for the collection of these fines in consultation with the Tahasildar. You shall be severely punished if you suppress information relating to the number of Upadhyaya Brahmans and Jaisi households in the area under your jurisdiction, or do not present them before the employees deputed by us".

Regmi Research Collection,  
Vol. 24, pp. 228-30.

#### On Counterfeit Coinage

Royal order to Taksari Laxmi Narayan : "Obtain confessions in the presence of local persons as Panchas from persons, including amalis, who are guilty of the following offenses in the region situated between the Marsyangdi river and Kumaun, and punish them in the manner mentioned below :-

- (1) "In case any person instigates another, to make coins without any authority, his property shall be confiscated.
- (2) "Fines shall be collected at the following rates according to his wealth from any person who instigates another to make coins at the instigation of any one.

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Rates of Fine</u> (space blank)
Abal	
Doyam	
Sim	
Chahar	

- (3) "In case any person makes coins on his own initiative without being instigated by anyone, his property shall be confiscated.
- (4) "Fines shall be collected at the following rates according to his wealth from any person who instigates another to make coins on the instructions of any one :-

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Rates of Fine</u>
Abal	Rs. 40
Doyam	Rs. 30
Sim	Rs. 20
Chahar	Rs. 10

- (5) "In case several persons introduce counterfeit coins into circulation and raise profits by acting in collusion with each other, their property shall be confiscated, and, in addition, fines shall be collected from them at the following rates :-

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Rates of Fine</u>
Abal	Rs. 40
Doyam	Rs. 30
Sim	Rs. 20
Chahar	Rs. 10

- (6) "Persons who make counterfeit coins of gold, silver, brass, bronze, or ashta-dhatu (alloy of eight metals) shall be punished with fines at the following rates for each mohar coin made by them :

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Rates of Fine</u>
Abal	Rs. 32
Doyam	Rs. 24
Sim	Rs. 18
Chahar	Rs. 12

"In case persons who had been punished previously on the charge of having made counterfeit coins have not committed the same offense again, no action shall be taken against them.

"The Dittah, bahidar, and peons who have been deputed on this mission shall receive one-sixth of the income collected by them as their emoluments. Persons who confess their guilt in any of the cases mentioned above shall provide food and other supplies (manchamal) to these employees."

Monday, Kartik Badi 6, 1859 (October 1802)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 613-5

(To be continued).

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A Note on The Concept of Economic Surplus

The concept of economic surplus, in the sense used in my recent book: The State and Economic Surplus: Production Trade, and Resource Mobilization in Early Nineteenth Century Nepal (Varanasi: Nath Publishing House, 1984), has been the subject of some confusion. At least one reviewer (Dr. M.K. Dahal in The Economic Journal of Nepal, a quarterly publication of the Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University, Vol. 8, no. 3, July-September 1985, p. 84) has shown no hesitation in maintaining that "the author seems to have been susceptible to the Marxian theory of surplus value in the selection of the title." However, nothing could be farther from the truth. The common use of the term surplus should by no means be construed to imply a common connotation.

The concept of economic surplus, as used in The State and Economic Surplus, has been borrowed from Barrington Moore and Paul A. Baran. Moore does not explain it in detail, but Baran<sup>1</sup> has made a distinction between actual economic surplus, that is, the difference between society's actual current output and its actual current consumption, and potential economic surplus, or the difference between the output that could be produced in a given natural and technological environment with the help of employable productive resources, and what might be regarded as essential consumption.<sup>2</sup> Another study, co-authored by Baran, states: "The economic surplus, in the briefest possible definition, is the difference between what a society produces and the costs of producing it."<sup>3</sup> Baran stresses the concept in its aggregate societal aspect. He regards actual economic surplus as "identical with current saving or accumulation, (which finds its embodiment in assets of various kinds added to society's wealth during the period in question: productive facilities and equipment, inventories, foreign balances, and gold hoards)".<sup>4</sup> On the other hand, the concept of economic surplus is used in the State and Economic Surplus at the micro-level of the individual producer and trader to denote the net economic gain that he makes from his activity after deducting costs. Moreover, economic surplus is treated as a resource which is available for mobilization by the state for meeting its military and other needs.

My concept of economic surplus is different from the Marxist concept of surplus value. According to Marx, in a capitalist system, labor is a commodity which is purchased by the capitalist at a rate corresponding to the requirements for essential goods necessary for the maintenance and reproduction of labor. In return, the capitalist acquires the use-value of labor. The difference between this use-value and the wage-rate constitutes surplus value, which constitutes the profit of the capitalist. That is to say, "surplus value is the value created by the labor of a wage-worker over and above the value of his labour-power and appropriated without payment by the capitalist."<sup>5</sup> The Marxist concept of surplus value is thus applicable only in conditions of capitalistic production where labor has assumed the form of a commodity and is available for wage-employment.

It cannot be used as a tool of economic analysis in pre-industrial conditions of production and exchange, where peasant-farming is largely a subsistence occupation, and trading the commercial equivalent of peasant farming, and where neither the peasant nor the trader accounts for the cost of his own labor.

Elucidating the distinction between economic surplus and surplus value in the Marxist sense, Baran writes:<sup>6</sup>

(Economic surplus) comprises obviously a lesser share of total output than that encompassed by Marx's notion of surplus value. The latter, it will be recalled, consists of the entire difference between aggregate net output and the real income of labour. The actual economic surplus as defined above is merely that part of surplus value that is being accumulated; it does not include, in other words, the consumption of the capitalist class, the government's spending on administration, military establishment, and the like.

It should also be noted that surplus value in the Marxist concept is derived from production, whereas our concept of economic surplus is based on both production and trade. The latter, according to Marxist theory, is unproductive, because "no new values are created in it; instead, only capital in the form of commodities is converted into money."<sup>7</sup> In Marx's own words:<sup>8</sup>

Since we have assumed that commodities are bought and sold at their values, these acts constitute merely the conversion of a certain value from one form into another, from the commodity-form into the money-form or from the money-form into the commodity-form—a change in the state of being. If commodities are sold at their values, then the magnitudes of value in the hands of the buyer and seller remain unchanged. Only the form of existence of value is changed ... To effect a change in the state of being costs time and labour-power not for the purpose of creating value, however, but in order to accomplish the conversion of value from one form into another. The mutual attempt to appropriate an extra slice of this value on this occasion changes nothing. This labour, increased by the evil designs on either side, creates no value, any more than the work performed in a judicial proceeding increases the value of the subject-matter of the suit.

It may be sufficient to stress in the present context that traders would hardly engage themselves in the buying and selling of commodities if they did not derive an economic gain from the activity. The net gain made by them from trade after deducting expenses, as mentioned above, may be regarded as their economic surplus. The question of whether or not trade is a productive activity generating surplus value in the Marxist sense is, therefore, irrelevant.

One other theoretical point made in Chapter 2 of The State and Economic Surplus, which differs from Marxist theory, may also be explained in this context. I have used the term commodity to denote any material product, but Marxist theory refuses to regard as commodities the products of human labor which were consumed by the producer himself or else transferred to others without involving the process of exchange. In the words of Marx:<sup>9</sup>

A thing can be useful, and the product of human labor, without being a commodity. Whoever directly satisfies his wants with the produce of his own labour, creates, indeed, use-values, but not commodities. In order to produce the latter, he must not only produce use-values, but use-values for others, social use-values. (And not only for others, without more. The mediaeval peasant produced quit-rent-corn for his feudal lord and tithe-corn for his parson. But neither the quit-rent-corn nor the tithe-corn became commodities by reason of the fact that they had been produced for others. To become a commodity a product must be transferred to another, whom it will serve as a use-value, by means of an exchange).

This means that the portion of material production that the producer transfers to the state without getting any payment in return through taxation or other means represents the products of his labor rather than commodities. This distinction between products and commodities, although indispensable for an analysis of the mode of appropriation of surplus value, has been ignored in The State and Economic Surplus, which is concerned solely with the appropriation by the state of a share in the economic surplus generated from the processes of material production and exchange. Products may become commodities only when they are actually exchanged, but the loss of economic surplus suffered by the producer is none the less real when his products are transferred to the state without any payment.

#### Notes

1. Barrington Moore, Jr., Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy (Middlesex: Penguin Books, 1966), pp. 354-55.
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5. S. Vygodsky, Capitalist Economy, (Moscow: Progress Publishers, 1966), p. 45.
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7. Karl Christian Behrens and Berta Backe-Dietrich, "Trade", in Marxism, Communism and Western Society : A Comparative Encyclopedia (New York : Herder and Herder, 1973), vol. 8, p. 204.
8. Karl Marx, Capital (Moscow : Progress Publishers, 1967), vol. 2, pp. 132-33.
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May 30, 1986

Mahesh C. Regmi

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### Kami, Sarki, Damai, and Gaine

#### 1. Kami

The Kathmandu Munitions Factory (Jangi Megjin) used to send peons to different parts of the hill region to collect the megjin levy.

Kaji...Basnyat complained that such peons had been sent to collect the levy on Kami households in lands owned by him under bekh tenure. He maintained that there was no precedent for such action.

An order was accordingly issued on Wednesday, Bhadra Badi 6, 1907 (August 1850) directing the peons not to collect the megjin levy from Kami house-holds in the bekh holdings of the Kaji in Lamjung if it had not been customarily collected there, and to refund collections that had already been made, if any.

Wednesday, Bhadra Badi 6, 1907 (August 1850)  
Regmi Research Collection,  
Vol. 64, pp. 755-6.

#### 2. Sarki

I

In the year 1899 Samvat (A.D. 1842), a royal order had been issued appointing Jasya Sarki and fifteen other persons as chiefs (mijhar) of the Sarki community in the region east of the Dhobikhola river and west of the Mechi river. The Mijhars were granted authority to adjudicate in cases relating to customary sanctions in the community relating to boiled rice, water, and sexual relations, and collect the chandrayan and other levies. In consideration of such authority, they were placed under the obligation of working in the Kathmandu Munitions Factory (Jangi Megjin).

Kulbir, Gangaram, and 20 other Mijhars subsequently complained to Kathmandu that Sarkis in some areas were not obeying their authority according to the order of 1899 Samvat.

An order was issued on Thursday, Bhadra Badi 14, 1907 (August 1850) reconfirming the Samvat 1899 arrangements.

Regmi Research Collection,  
Vol. 64, pp. 756-7.

## II.

Royal order to Kumbhedan Indra Simha Adhikari; We had deputed Maisigya, Jiune, and Ramachandra on behalf of the 22 Sarki Mijhars of the Jangi Megjin and the Rani-Pokhari Megjin to collect fines and penalties from members of the Sarki community in Gorkha who were involved in cases concerning the violation of customary sanctions in the community relating to water and sexual relations. The Mijhar who had been earlier sent there for that purpose imposed an unauthorized payment of four annas (on each Sarki house-hold) and made collections accordingly. The Sarki Mijhars have now complained that he is not permitting collections (in Gorkha) until arrears of payment due to him are cleared off. They have also complained that he has taken into his custody all royal orders and other documents concerning authority to adjudicate in cases relating to water and sexual relations in the Sarki community. If their complaints are true, arrange to have those documents handed over to Maisigya, Jiune, and Ramachandra, and impose a ban on unauthorized collections, if any. If the facts are different, submit an accurate report."

Friday, Chaitra Sudi 2, 1906  
(March 1850)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 64, pp. 641-3

### 3. Damai

The following public notification was issued in the region east of the Dhebhikhola river and west of the Mechi river on Monday, Aswin Badi 10, 1907 (September 1850).

"A royal order had been issued appointing Nagarchi Bhojya Damai as Mijhar of the Damai community, with authority to collect the Chandrayan and other levies from Damai house-holds every year and adjudicate in cases concerning violation of customary sanctions in the community relating to water, as well as in sexual and other crimes such as incest, infanticide, sexual relations between cross cousins, or with persons belonging to the Gaine, Bhand, Chyamekhalak, or Muslim community.

"These arrangements have now been renewed in the names of Agatya Damai and Talya Damai.

"In Tilpung, Manthali, Alampur, Chaurasi, and other areas, attempts are being made to set up independent Mijhars of the Damai community in contravention of the royal order. Those who make such attempts, and collect the Chandrayan and other levies, shall be severely punished."

Regmi Research Collection,  
Vol. 64, pp. 764-6

#### 4. Gaine

Public notification to the Gaine community throughout the Kingdom:

"A royal order had been issued in the names of Khanari Gaine granting him authority to adjudicate in cases concerning violation of customary sanctions in the community relating to boiled rice, water, sexual relations, untouchability, infanticide, and matrimonial relations with slaves.

"Khanari Gaine's sons, Bhimasenya Gaine and Shyamasundar Gaine, have complained that many members of the Gaine community are acting in contravention of the royal order these days.

"We hereby reconfirm the authority mentioned above in the names of Bhimasenya Gaine and Shyamasundar Gaine. Cases of the categories mentioned above, involving members of the Gaine community, shall be heard and disposed of by them, not by the local Amal. We also hereby order that no Gaine shall be evicted from his lands and homestead."

Saturday, Magh Badi 7, 1906,  
(January 1850).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 64, pp. 552-3.

#### Royal Orders of Kartik 1867 Samvat

(Abstract Translations)

##### Contents

1. Status of Children of Freed Slave-Girl.
2. Collection of Revenue Arrears in Bara and Parsa.
3. Ritual Offerings.
4. Chhap Grant.
5. Ban on Forced Labor.
6. Chandrabir Thapa Summoned to Kathmandu.
7. Subedars Summoned to Kathmandu.
8. Restoration of Confiscated Property.
9. Hunting of Tigers.

### 1. Status of Children of Freed Slave Girl

To Padmavati Brahmani: "In the presence of your brothers, you had freed your slave girl, Durgi, and given her the status of a Gharti. You have now complained to us that Durgi has already had three sons, and that your brothers say that she alone had been freed, not the children from her womb. Once a slave girl is freed, her children too must be considered to be free. We, therefore, endorse the good deed performed by you. Rest assured that any one who opposes this act will be severely punished."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 576.

### 2. Collection of Revenue Arrears in Bara and Parsa

To Subba Balabhanjan Pande: "From 1857 to 1863 Samvat, revenues were collected in Bara and Parsa by Subba Shakti Ballabh Padhya. You are hereby ordered to realize all arrears of revenue for this period and hand over the proceeds forthwith through Vaiyakaran Padhya."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 576.

### 3. Ritual Offerings

To Kaji Banadur Bhandari and Bakshi Dasharath Khatri: "On the occasion of Mosha Sankranti (Baisakh 1, 1867), we had made ritual offerings as follows from revenues collected from all sources in the Kingdom, except in the region between the Bheri river and Garh, and proceeds of the darshan-bhet levy collected from different companies of the army.

101 jars of water from Gangotri offered to Sri Setabandha Rameshwara, at Rs. 66 each ... .. Rs. 6,666.

20 do. at Rs. 51-12 each ... .. Rs. 1,035.

Ritual gifts (dakshina) to the following five Brahmans :

1. Kamalpati Tiwari	Rs. 701
2. Sri Krishna Jaisi	Rs. 700
3. Jayadev Tiwari	Rs. 700
4. Ramaballabh Pantha	Rs. 700
5. Vidyapati Pande	Rs. 700
Total	<u>Rs. 3,501</u>

Since the ritual gifts totalling Rs. 3,501 have not been paid in full, you are hereby ordered to disburse the unpaid amounts as follows to the following persons :-

1.	Kamalpati Tiwari	...	Rs. 440- $\frac{3}{2}$
2.	Sri Krishna Jaisi	...	Rs. 439- $8\frac{3}{4}$
3.	Jayadev Tiwari	...	Rs. 439- $8\frac{3}{4}$
4.	Ramaballabh Panth	...	Rs. 439- $8\frac{3}{4}$
5.	Vidyapati Pande	...	Rs. 439- $8\frac{3}{4}$
Total			Rs. 2,198-6

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 577-8.

#### 4. Chhap Grant

On Monday, Kartik 10, 1867, a plot of ... (blank) ropanies of land in the Mulchok area, situated east of the Chhap holding of Birabhadra Kanwar. was granted on Chhap tenure to Delwar Khawas.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 578.

#### 5. Ban on Forced Labor

Royal order to soldiers (Sipahi, tilanga) travelling through Bisangaun: "Hulaki porters are living in Bisangaun Village, so we have granted them exemption from all forms of forced labor (begar) and free supplies of provisions (baikar), except hulak services. You are, therefore, ordered not to exact begar or baikar from the inhabitants of that village."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 578.

The same day, soldiers travelling through villages under the jurisdiction of Padmanidhi Upreti, as well as the villages of Chalispali, Dhurangaun, and Bherung, were similarly ordered not to exact begar and baikar from the local inhabitants, except for the transportation of arms and ammunition, and sick persons.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 578-9.



#### 6. Chandrabir Thapa Summoned to Kathmandu

Royal order to Chandrabir Thapa: "Blessings. The company under your command has now been placed under Aiman Bogati. You are, therefore, ordered to hand over to him the colors of that company, as well as arms and ammunition, and other supplies, to him, and present yourself before us."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 579.

#### 7. Subedars Summoned to Kathmandu

Royal order to Subedars Upendra Simha Kanwar, Bahadur Khadka, and Krishna Upreti: "You are hereby ordered to hand over to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa all collections made in Garh, whether in cash or in kind, obtain receipts from him, and appear before us as soon as you receive this order."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 579.

#### 8. Restoration of Confiscated Property

Royal order to Laxmi Ballabh Vaidya: "In the year 1866 Samvat, charges were framed against you while you were on the front, and your lands and other property were confiscated. Subsequently, investigations revealed that there was no truth in those charges. We, therefore, restore your lands and other property. Remain faithful to us and use your lands."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 580

Similar orders were issued separately on the same date to the following persons as well: Deva Kedyal, Bhawani Shankar Pantha, and Padmanidhi Upreti.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 580.

#### 9. Hunting of Tigers

A royal order was issued on Kartik Badi 10, 1867 directing Bhimaraj Sunuwar and Gajendra Sunuwar to hunt tigers, or trap them in snares and kill them, in the Bagmati-Rosi area of Panauti. They were permitted to accept voluntary contributions from the local people, and were ordered not to collect anything by force.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 580

(To be Continued)

## Minting and Coinage

### Contents

1. Royal Order to Kulananda Jha.
2. The Chandighisa Tax.
3. Export of Coins.
4. Porterage Services for Mints.
5. Minting of Gorakhpuri Coins.

#### 1. Royal Order to Kulananda Jha

"An ijara for collection of the nirkhi tax has been granted to Hanumanta Simha for the period Shrawan Sudi 13, 1873 through Shrawan Sudi 12, 1874. Let his men collect the nirkhi tax at the customary rate on each load of copper supplied to the mints at Beni and Baglung Chaur."

Tuesday, Bhadra, Badi 5, 1873 (August 1816).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 36, p. 308.

#### 2. The Chandighisa Tax

Royal order to Bepari-Naikes Buddharaj, Padmadhwaj, and Chakradhar in Lutin: "We have received reports that the Paneju is demanding the Chandighisa tax at the rate of one-fourth of silver supplied by the Chinese which passes through Lutin. No such tax has been collected there; so it shall not be collected in the future. Discharge your traditional obligations as usual under the authority of Kapardhar Bhotu Pande."

Sunday, Poush Sudi 4, 1873 (December 1816).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 36, p. 345.

#### 3. Export of Coins

Separate royal orders were issued on Fulgun Badi 30, 1873 (February 1817) to officials stationed at Chisapani-Gadhi and Sindhuli-Gadhi directing them to permit traders to take away with them to the south goods as well as mohar and rupee coins of silver, asharfi coins (of gold) and paisa coins (of copper). However, exports of silver and Patna sicca and other (Indian) coins were banned."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 36, pp. 407-8.

#### 4. Porterage Services for Mints

Royal order to the inhabitants of Galkot: "You have complained that porterage services are being exacted from you for transporting both paisa coins and stones. We, therefore, order that the inhabitants of Galkot shall provide porterage services for transporting paisa coins minted at Baglung Chaur, while those of Isma and Musikot shall transport stones. You need not provide porterage services for copper and paisa coins belonging to traders."

Saturday, Falgun Sudi, 6, 1873 (March 1874).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 36, p. 409.

#### 5. Minting of Gorakhpuri Coins

Royal order to Hanumanta Simha: "We hereby grant you dies for minting Gorakhpuri paisa coins at the Nagre mines with scrap (patru) copper, subject to a limit of 12,000 rupees. After that limit is reached, return the dies to us. Do not let Gorakhpuri paisa coins be used here. Hand over such coins to traders for supply to the south(madhes)."

Sunday, Falgun Sudi 14, 1873 (March 1874).  
Regmi Research Series, Vol. 36, p. 410.

(To be continued)

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More Documents From Jumla  
(Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903)

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6. "Mukhiyas and Jimmawals in the Bheri-Mahakali Region," RRS, Year 8, No. 10, October 1976, p. 200.
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17. "Gold-Mining in Jumla", RRS, Year 16, No. 6, June 1984. p. 93.

18. "Jumla Affairs, March-June 1844", RRS, Year 16, No. 7, July 1984, pp.111-112.
19. "Jumla Affairs, A.D. 1844-45", RRS, Year 16, No. 8, August 1984, p. 113-114.
20. "Revenue Settlement in the Bheri-Mahakali Region", RRS, Year 16, No. 8, August 1984, pp. 121-125.

#### Appointment of Jimmawal in Jeragaun

Royal order to Badri Shahi: "You have represented to us that your previous office has now been withheld from you. We, therefore, hereby order that the amount of revenue assessed from the village of Teragaun shall be collected by you and transmitted to the Jimmawal of the dara of Palata. We also order that you may appropriate a sum of six 16-ganda rupees from the proceeds of asmani payments collected in that village as your emoluments for discharging the functions of Jimmawal."

Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 510.

#### Appointment of Jimmawal in Khatyad

Royal order to Dhaula Shahi: "You are hereby authorized to appropriate your emoluments as Jimmawal of the dara of Khatyad, amounting to 5½ rupees of 16 gandas each, from the asmani revenue of the village of Rolsilkot. Collect the and sirto taxes, as assessed during the revenue settlement of the Samvat year 1903, through Mukhiyas, and personally hand over revenue for the entire dara."

Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903, (August 1846).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 510-511.

#### Unauthorized Rent Collection in Sija

Jaladhar Rokaya, a resident of the village of Molpa in the dara of Sija in Jumla district, submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "During the time of the Kalyal Kings, Mani Raj had given our grand-father, Mani Rokaya, 12 muris of rice lands at Larkim-Ahara, as well as a homesite at Gajapatal. We have been using these lands since then. The lands are now registered in my name and I am paying Sirto taxes on them. However, Mani Prasad, Naribhan, and Birchham Shahi are now demanding that I pay rents on those lands."

Royal Order: "We hereby order that since the lands formerly given by Mani Raj are now registered in your name as a landholder (raiyat), you need not pay rents on those lands."

Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 511.

Land Reclamation in Barhabis

Akbar Ruwal of Barisati Village in the dara of Barhabis in Jumla offered to reclaim 80 muris of rice-lands in case he was granted the right to employ the local people on Jhara basis. A royal order was accordingly issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846) granting him the right to employ the inhabitants of Barisati Village on Jhara basis for the construction of dams and channels to irrigate 80 muris of lands at Piligaun and other villages. The royal order added, "You are permitted to appropriate both the landlord's share and the cultivator's share of crops raised on these lands for the first three years after they are converted into rice-fields. From the fourth year, you may use 20 muris as your mana chamal (on a tax-free basis). On the remaining 60 muris, pota tax shall be paid at the current rate to the Amali, in addition to the thek amount stipulated for that dara."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 512.

Ban on Forced Labor in Pansaya

Royal order to government employees and military personnel travelling through the dara of Pansaya in Jumla: "The thanis of that dara have complained to us that you harass them greatly by exacting porterage services and provisions without any payment. We hereby promulgate this order directing that in the future the people of that dara shall not be forced to provide free porterage services to any one, except for military supplies, sick people, and supplies meant for the royal palace. They shall also not be compelled to supply provisions without any payment. In case you need provisions, pay for them at reasonable rates. In case any one forcibly exacts porterage services or provisions without payment, thereby harassing the local people, he shall be held responsible."

Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p.513.

Ritual Gift for Recitation of Vedas

A royal order had been issued in the names of Thani Devidas Acharya and Thani Harihar Acharya entitling them to a yearly ritual payment of Rs. 30 from revenue assessed for the village of Pairegaun in the dara of Chandhabis in Jumla district in consideration of recitation of the Vedas at the temple of Chandananatha. Another royal order was issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846) reconfirming this arrangement. It stated, "As before, recite the Vedas 15 times every day throughout the year, and appropriate 30 rupees of 16 gandas each from the revenue assessment of the village of Pairegaun in the dara of Chandhabis as ritual gift. Receive the balance of the revenue from Mukhiyas and hand it over personally to the Jimmawal of Chandhabis."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 514.

Moratorium on Mahadeva Padhya's Loans

Mahadeva Padhya of Bohragaun in Jumla submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "at the time when Jumla was conquered (by Gorkha), my father, Siru Padhya, accompanied the Thanis to the royal palace (in Kathmandu) as well as the the district headquarters (gaunda). For this, he had to borrow large sums of money. My father is now dead, and the creditors have seized everything, including lands and household utensils. They also charge interest at more than 10 percent a year. How then can I sustain myself in Jumla?"

A royal order was then issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846) directing Mahadeva Padhya's creditors not to demand any repayment for a period of ten years, and start collecting their dues in installments only thereafter. Mahadeva Padhya was ordered to pay taxes on his lands and remain in Jumla.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 514-515.

Complaint Against Exaction of Unpaid Labor Services

Shankar Bhandari, Pounale Bhandari, Bharmale Bhandari and Kalu Kathayat, residents of Mopala Village in the dara of Sija in Jumla, submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "Rakal and others are claiming that we were their plowhands during the time of the Kalyal Kings. They demand that either we vacate their lands or obey their orders. They have thus greatly harassed us. Rakal has even evicted us from 30 muris of rice-fields."

The following royal order was then issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846): "Once the landownership rights of the cultivator have been confirmed, no one is entitled to compel him to work. The cultivator shall be given back the 30 muris of rice-fields, and he shall pay the prescribed sirto tax thereon."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 509.

Land Reclamation in Khatyad

Gajadhar Jaisi and Dayaram Jaisi offered to reclaim 200 muris of land as rice-field in the Upallo-Khatyad area of Jumla in case they were granted authority to exact Jhara labor from the inhabitants of a few villages.

A royal order issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846) granted them authority to exact Jhara labor for that purpose from the inhabitants of Upallo-Khatyad. The order added, "Appropriate both the landlord's share and the cultivator's share of the produce of these lands for the first three years. From the fourth year, you may use 100 muris of the reclaimed lands as your mana chamal. On the remaining 100 muris, pay the pota tax at rates current in the dara to the Amali every year."

Regmi Research Collection Vol. 80, pp. 515-516.

Irrigation in Jumla

Mandhir Padhya and Gelya Rokaya submitted a petition to Kathmandu offering to convert 300 muris of land at Jhimrichaur into rice-field by constructing an irrigation channel from Chalne Kharka if they were granted authority to exact Jhara labor from the inhabitants of the dara of Sija in Jumla. A royal order was then issued on Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846) granting them such authority. It warned the tharis, tharis, Jimmawals, mukhiyas, and ryots of Sija that pota tax for 300 muris of rice-fields would be realized from any one who did not provide Jhara labor for the construction of the irrigation channel.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 516.

Thek-Chhap Grant in Gam

On Sunday, Bhadra Sudi 9, 1903 (August 1846), Mukti Chhatyal was granted a raikar homesite in Papugaun in the dara of Gam on Thek-Chhap tenure. He was entitled to receive a sum of nine 16-ganda rupees every year as emoluments from the local mukhiyas in his capacity of Jimmawal, and transmit the balance of the revenue assessment to the Amali every year.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 517.

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### 1. Amanat Administration

(a) Public notification in Chitwan, Belod, and Sajhawat: "Because that district has long remained under ijara, you have suffered hardships, and the country has been ruined. From Ashadh Badi 1, 1860, therefore, we have placed the district under amanat administration, and appointed Dware Bhawananda as Subba. Pay taxes due from you, and make the country populous. There shall be no oppression in the future. Represent your hardships and grievances, if any, through the Subba, and we shall dispense justice."

Ashadh Badi 9, 1860 (June 1803)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 20, p. 99

(b) Royal order to Chaudharis, mokaddams, mandars and ryots of the hill and plain areas of Chitwan, Belod, and Sajhawat: "Ijaradars have been collecting taxes from you at the rate of Rs. 9 for each hal (ox-team). This has caused you hardships and also ruined the country. From the Samvat year 1860, therefore, we have placed the region under amanat administration and fixed the rate of tax at Rs. 6½ for each hal. Pay taxes at this rate through Bhawanand Dware and promote land reclamation and settlement."

Ashadh Badi 9, 1860 (June 1803)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 20, p. 99.

### 2. Appointment of Umra

Royal order to Pirthya Gurung: "We hereby appoint you as Umra of Akbar-Gadhi in Chitwan for the Samvat year 1872. Maintain 40 men, armed with bows and muskets, in constant watch at the fort. Do not reduce the number. Do not let people travel through the fort. Install traps on the route south of the hill where the fort is located, and make it impassable by planting cane and other thorny trees and bushes. Capture fugitives and smugglers and bring them to the royal palace. Guard the route. Your life and property will be forfeited if you let any one travel through that route. Maintain troops in the number mentioned above and guard the fort. A total of 91 buffaloes have been allotted to you as jagir, including 11 for yourself, and two each for each of the 40 men."

Tuesday, Baisakh Badi 9, 1872 (April 1815)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 408-409.

### 3. Emigration

Royal order to Rupan Chaudhari: "You had been living in our territory, but have now gone to Bettiah because of harassment by the Amali. Come back to our territory along with your relatives and other kinsmen. You had been engaged in the timber (trade) during the time of Subba Zorawar also, do so again along with Padmapani Pandit. We shall grant you

a tract of Kalabanjar lands wherever you want, either in Nawalpur or in Belod. Do your work with full assurance."

Saturday, Poush Sudi 14, 1868 (January 1812)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 335

#### 4. Jhara Services

(a) On Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810), the inhabitants of Jogimara, Kalyanchaur, Kabilaspur, and three other villages in Chitwan were ordered to work for the government as directed by the Amali. They were granted exemption from the obligation to provide jhara labor for the construction of bridges. Peons sent there to impress jhara labor were ordered not to force them to provide jhara labor for that purpose.

Regmi Research Collection, vol. 38, p. 607.

(b) Royal order to the inhabitants of the hill and dahad (plains) areas of Marjyadpur: "We hereby order the inhabitants of the hill areas of Marjyadpur to provide porterage services for the transportation of oil to the kot bhandar (Royal Household) in Kathmandu, and those of the dahad areas to dig irrigation channels. They shall not be required to provide Jhara labor for other purposes."

Tuesday, Poush Badi 4, 1869 (December 1812)  
Regmi Research Collection, vol. 41, pp. 180-181.

(c) Royal order to the dhakre, dhokre, and other ryots of Jogimara and Kalyanchaur: "Your villages have been ruined because you are required to provide porterage services for the transportation of oil from Chitwan as well as to provide jhara services for other purposes. We, therefore, exempt you from the obligation to transport oil. Keep the ryots satisfied and make the village populous. Pay the prescribed Serma and other taxes to the Amali and remain with full assurance."

Saturday, Kartik Sudi 7, 1871 (October 1814)  
Regmi Research Collection, vol. 41, pp. 411-412.

(d) Royal order to the Amali, Dware, and Thari of Sarang - Dharampani: "Because Upadhyaya Brahmans have been exempted from jhara, such obligations have now been imposed on you. You are ordered to provide porterage services for the transportation of oil from Chitwan to the Kot Bhandar. You need not provide compulsory labor services (jhara, beth, begar) for other purposes. You shall be severely punished if supply of oil to the Kot Bhandar is interrupted."

Saturday, Kartik Sudi 7, 1871 (October 1814)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 41, p. 407.

(e) On Thursday, Marga Sudi 4, 1871 (November 1814), the inhabitants of Chitwan, Belod, and Sajhawat, with the exception of Upadhyaya Brahmans, were ordered to present themselves before Subba Bhawani Datta Thapa and Gajabal Daniyan along with weapons and provisions, and provide jhara labor services as ordered by them at the local forts (gadhi) and military headquarters (gaunda).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 41, p. 452.

#### 5. Hulak Services Between Kathmandu and Chitwan

Royal order to Amalis, dwares, jethabudhas, tharis, and mukhiyas in the region west of the Bishnumati river to Chitwan and Belod: "We have deputed Subba Bhawani Datta Thapa with authority to establish a hulak service for the transportation of mail through Upadhyaya Brahmans in their respective areas. Remain in the areas allotted to you and arrange for the transportation of mail between Kathmandu and Chitwan without the slightest delay. Any person who does not comply with this order shall be severely punished."

Wednesday, Marga Badi 3, 1871 (November 1814)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 41, p. 439.

#### 6. Reclamation and Resettlement

(a) Royal order to Umanidhi Pantha: "Grant tax exemption for an initial period of two years on uncultivated kalabanjar lands in the pargannas of Chitwan, Belod, Sajhawat, and Gahirwad in the district of Marjyadpur which are allotted to new settlers, and issue pattas to them during the third year. Construct irrigation channels for the irrigation of lands which receive no water. In areas where people suffer from the depredations of tigers and evil spirits, and, therefore, emigrate elsewhere, procure guraus, provide them with necessary expenses for worshipping gods, and thus protect the country. We shall sanction the debitting of expenses incurred on irrigation channels and religious ceremonies.

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 507.

(b) Royal order to Kalu Chaudhari, Tika Pajiyar, Hudi Jurau, Budhan Gurau, and Badari Diswa: "Because of harassment and oppression, you have left that area and gone to the Moglan. We have now deputed our Tharghar, Gajabal Baniyan, with orders to promote settlement and maintain order in Chitwan. We have also fixed rates of taxes. There will no longer be any harassment and oppression. Come back and reoccupy your lands, and pay taxes at the prescribed rates. In case you have any grievance, represent it to us through the Amali, and we shall issue appropriate order. We shall also grant you one mauja of Kalabanjar lands as jagir."

Friday, Bhadra Badi, 9, 1870 (August 1813).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 41, p. 327

(c) Royal order to Sikha Chaudhari and 52 Mehataris of Chitwan, Belod, Sajhawat, Gahidwar, and Cachar areas : "Shivadatta Chaudhari, Bhanarsing, and Kalyan Puri had been granted authority to reclaim kalabanjar lands, but they were not able to do so. We hereby cancel the authority granted to him and authorize to reclaim all cultivable lands in that region. Procure ryots from the Moglan and promote reclamation and settlement."

Saturday, Kartik Sudi 7, 1871 (October 1814).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 41, pp. 408-409.

7. Supply of Agricultural Credit

On Thursday, Chaitra Badi 12, 1871 (March 1815), Subedar Gajabal Baniyan was ordered to provide bhota (subsistence loans), tagavi (agricultural credit) and food from ijara revenues due from Chitwan and Belod for the year 1872 Samvat to Chaudharis and ryots of Bara and Parsa who shifted to Chitwan, Belod, and Sajhawat along with their families as instructed by Subedar Deva Narayan Khatri. The order added, "Obtain bonds signed by Subedar Deva Narayan Khatri and the concerned Chaudharis and Mahatos against such loans. Demarcate kalabanjar lands for reclamation and settle ryots there. Do not harass or oppress the newcomers in any manner."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol . 41, pp. 507-508.

8. The Wax Monopoly

Royal order to the Umras, lethabudhas and Dwares, and bhansaris, jagates, and chaukidars of different ferry-points (ghat) in Kandrang, Chitwan, and Belod: "From the Samvat year 1867, we have granted the wax monopoly (main-bhansar), previously held by Chamu Bhansari, to Jairatan. We have received reports that merchants smuggle wax from those areas. You are, therefore, ordered to open and inspect all loads carried away from there. If any wax is detected, confiscate it, and hand it over to the employees of the wax monopolist. You shall be held guilty if you do not obey these orders."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol . 38, p. 608.

A similar public notification was issued on Saturday Aswin Sudi 5, 1872 (September 1815), when Jairatan was replaced by Birabhadra as wax monopolist.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 85.

9. Disbursements

(a) On Wednesday, Chaitra Sudi 14, 1869 (March 1813), the Ijaradar of Chitwan and Belod, Gajabal Baniyan, was ordered to disburse a sum of Rs. 335 as salary to Shyam Lal Pantha, and Rs. 140 to Ranabir Baniyan for different purposes from ijara revenues due for the year 1870.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 39, pp. 587 and 589-590.

(b) On Wednesday, Bhadra Badi 4, 1872, the Ijaradar of Chitwan and Belod, Gajabal Baniyan, was ordered to disburse a sum of Rs. 500 against the khangi emoluments of Subba Benudatta Thapa from ijara revenues due for the year 1872 Samvat.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, pp. 45-46.

(To Be Continued).

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Raja Ranabhima Shah of Salyan

By

Triratna Manandhar

(Contributions to Nepalese Studies, journal of the Research Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies, (CNAS), Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur, Vol. 11, No.2, April 1984 (Baisakh 2041).

Salyan was one of the Baisi principalities during the medieval period. Amicable relations existed between Salyan and Gorkha even before Prithvi Narayan Shah conquered Nepal Valley. In 1823 Vikrama Samvat, Prithvi Narayan Shah had married his daughter, Vilasa Kumari, to Ranabhima Shah, son of Raja Sri Krishna Shah of Salyan.

(Yogi Naraharinath, Itihasa Prakashana Sandhi-Patra Sangraha, Kathmandu: Dang Adhyatmika Sammelana, 2022/1965, pp. 408-10).

Two years later, Sri Krishna Shah had signed a pledge committing himself to amicable relations (with Gorkha) through Prithvi Narayan Shah's envoy, Bhagavanta Nath. (Ibid, p. 458). During the regency of Bahadur Shah, Salyan became a Sabangamafi Rajya under Nepal's Suzerainty.

(His Majesty's Government, Mechi Dekhi Mahakali, Kathmandu: 2031/1974, pt. 4, p. 192).

The Raja of Salyan was then granted some judicial and administrative powers. Sri Krishna Shah was still Raja of Salyan at that time.

In the year 1850 Vikrama Samvat, Sri Krishna Shah installed his son, Ranabhima Shah, on the throne of Salyan, and went to Kashi to spend his last days there. (Yogi Naraharinath, op. cit. p. 405).

Because of family ties, relations between the Raja of Salyan and the royal family of Nepal were cordial. In their letters to Ranabhima Shah, Ran Bahadur Shah and Girban Yuddha Bikram Shah use many honorific titles for him. The earlier letters describe him as "Sriman Maharaja Sri Sri Sri Ranabhima Shah", and the later ones as "Sriman Maharajadhiraja." Similarly, some letters describe him as "Sri Sri Sri Maharaja Ranabhima Shah", and others as "Sriman Maharajadhiraja Sri Sri Sri Mad-Ranabhima Shah." (Yogi Naraharinath, op. cit. pp. 504-8. The later rulers of Salyan were described only as Raja).

In the beginning, the rajya of Salyan was bounded by Phalawang in the east, Bhairavi in the west, the Cheplya-Jhimkhani Lekh in the north, and Moglan (India) in the south. Later, territories bounded by the Madi in the east, Salyan in the west and the north, and Balarampur in the south were also added at the request of Vilasa Kumari. (Ibid, pp. 508-10).

Relations between Nepal and Salyan became bad all of a sudden in the beginning of the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat, and Raja Ranabhima Shah was removed from the throne. Most historians are silent on this episode, with the exception of Francis Hamilton and Baburam Acharya. According to Hamilton, Bhimsen Thapa did not show any respect for Vilasa Kumari after the assassination of Ran Bahadur Shah, annexed both Palpa and Salyan simultaneously, brought Vilasa Kumari to Kathmandu along with her youngest son, and gave them a scanty subsistence allowance. Vilasakumari's eldest son took refuge with the Nawab Vazir.

(Francis Hamilton, An Account of the Kingdom of Nepal, New Delhi: Manjari Publishing House, 1971 (reprint), p. 277).

Baburam Acharya has described this episode in the following words:

"On hearing the news of the assassination of Swamiji (Ran Bahadur Shah), Prithvi Narayan Shah's daughter, Rani Vilasa Kumari of Salyan, rushed to Kathmandu. She gave expression to the widespread suspicion that Bhimsen Thapa had had a hand in the killings. Bhimsen Thapa, therefore, expelled her from Kathmandu and sent her to a place in Salyan called phalawang with a subsistence allowance of Rs. 1,400 a year. Bhimsen Thapa then annexed the Salyan into the Kingdom of Nepal. He even confiscated lands which King Prithvi Narayan Shah had bequeathed to Vilasa Kumari as dowry."



(Baburam Acharya, Nepalako Samkshipta Vrittanta, Kathmandu: Pramod Shumshere and Nir Bikram Pyasi, 2022/1965, p. 126).

Some letters have recently been found at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Kathmandu which give a detailed account of these events, and, to some extent, contradict the accounts of Hamilton and Bahuram Acharya. On the basis of these documents, the dismissal of Raja Ranabhir Shah of Salyan is discussed in this article.

The Raja seems to have been dismissed all of a sudden. No contemporary source material makes any reference to that incident even by the end of the year 1865 Vikrama Samvat. But the situation took a new turn in early 1866 Vikrama Samvat. Subedar Angad Karki then reported to the government of Nepal that Sardar Gopal Sahi of Salyan had gone over to Bhawan Sahi (Simha) of Padnaha. The government of Nepal immediately ordered Subedar Angad Karki to investigate the matter thoroughly. It wrote to him :

"If the Sardar has really gone over to Bhawan Sahi along with thrity or forty troops, this is not a good thing. Make thorough inquiries and submit an accurate report in this regard. In case it is proved that your report is false, the informant will be severely punished. "

("Letter to Subedar Angad Karki", Wednesday, Baisakh Badi 5, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

A letter with the same contents was sent the same day to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa, Chief Administrator of Palpa. The letter added :

"If it is true that ... has gone over to Bhawan Sahi, troops must be sent from Palpa. Accordingly, you are ordered to institute necessary inquiries on your own initiative also. After the truth is ascertained, arrangements must be made to prevent his escape. Maintain necessary vigilance from there."

("Letter to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa", Wednesday, Baisakh Badi 5, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

In addition, the government of Nepal sent subedars Shiva Rana and Amara Simha Rana to study the situation in Salyan. But before these two Subedars reached Salyan, the Raja of Salyan sent a letter to the government of Nepal acknowledging that Sardar Gopal Sahi had returned from Kengra and gone to Pradna - Gadhi (belonging to Bhawan Sahi).

("Letter to Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari", Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

On receiving the letter, the government of Nepal decided to remove the Raja of Salyan. On Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866, letters were sent to Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari in Palpa, as well as to the Chief Administrator of Palpa, Kaji Amara Simha Thapa. These letters contained a detailed account of the reasons for the dismissal of the Raja of Salyan. A summary of these reasons is given below.

"The Raja of Salyan had betrayed the government on important occasions during the time of Ran Bahadur Shah. He did not come to Kathmandu even when summoned two or three times. He even joined hands with Bhawan Sahi (Simha), a leading opponent of the government of Nepal for whose arrest orders had already been issued, but had not yet been executed. The government of Nepal had requested the Raja of Salyan to arrest him and even sent men to assist him in doing so. However, the Raja of Salyan disobeyed the order and remained evasive. The government of Nepal thereupon concluded that the Raja of Salyan had colluded with Sardar Gopal Sahi and Bhawan Sahi and decided to dismiss the Raja."

In the words of the letters:-

"(The Raja) should have taken what we gave and obeyed our orders. Instead, a person of the status of Sardar has gone over to the wretched Bhawan Simha of Padnaha, whose dismissal we had ordered. He has accordingly proved faithless. Such a faithless person will surely betray us in the event of any dealing with any important person. Our interests will not be served by retaining such a person in his post."

("Letter to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa", Sunday, Baisakh Sudi 8, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

Subba Rudravira Shahi was then appointed to remove the Raja and run the administration of Salyan. Until he reached Salyan, Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari was ordered to discharge these functions. Jagadeo Bhandari was ordered to take four companies, including the Dalasur Company, with him, and proceed forthwith to Salyan. He was also ordered to arrest the Raja of Salyan, as well as his sons, brothers, and other relatives and bhardars, send them to the Royal Palace (probably Kathmandu), and take custody of their arms and other property.

("Letter to Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari", Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

A similar order was sent to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa also. According to that order :

"We are sending Subba Rudravira Shahi to look after the affairs of Salyan. They may escape when they hear this news. We had written to you previously that it may be necessary to send troops from there, so that they might not be able to escape, if the reports are true. As soon as this order reaches you, send Jagadeo Bhandari along with four companies, including the

Dalapur Company, to take custody of weapons from the royal palace, and weapons and other property from the houses of the bhardars, and maintain records thereof. Arrest the Raja, along with his sons, brothers, relatives, and other bhardars, so that not one of them is able to escape, and send them to the royal palace. These people are not to be trusted in any way. If they resist arrest, we hereby order to you to eliminate all of them. Send necessary arms and ammunition in the light of that possibility. Instruct (Jagadeo Bhandari) to station our men in the forts. Send him immediately, travelling day and night, as soon as you receive this order. Let no one have any knowledge of the purpose for which he is being sent."

("Letter to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa," Sunday, Baisakh Sudi 8, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

The same day (Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866), a royal order was issued to ryots and soldiers in both the plains and hill areas. It declared,

"So far, you have been acknowledging Ranabhima Shah as your lord, and were obeying his orders faithfully. After ... , your life, family, and property will be forfeit if you obey his orders, do not inform us of any matter that affects our interest, or do not act in our interests. Do not acknowledge Ranabhima Shah as your Raja."

("Royal order to Ryots and Soldiers in the plains and Hill Areas", Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866, Foreign Ministry Bundle No. 15).

Orders were also issued that "the Raja of Salyan shall be escorted by a patte of troops with drawn bayonets and loaded muskets on the way", Bhardars were to be carried by relays of halak porters in fetters", while the Raja was to be carried by "our own porters". (Ibid). Relatives of the Raja were to be removed from the royal palace to comfortable houses, and "they will use their property to maintain themselves. They should not be brought here, nor allowed to go anywhere. If they want to come here, do not let them do so without our permission." (Ibid).

The government of Nepal was also vigilant of the danger posed by the Raja of Salyan or his supporters. Local authorities were ordered to maintain surveillance over all mail and traffic between Salyan and Kathmandu for one month and a half. They were also ordered to arrest suspicious persons and send them to Palpa.

("Royal order of Saturday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

After these arrangements were made, the deposition of the Raja of Salyan, Ranabhima Shah, was formally announced on Tuesday, Baisakh Sudi 10, 1866. According to a royal order to the inhabitants of Dang and Salyan issued on that date:

"Because he acted contrary to our interests in important matters, we have deposed Ranabhima Shah and are sending Rudravira Shahi to administer that territory. For the time being, we have deputed Jagadeo Bhandari for this purpose, and you will learn everything from him. Before he was deposed, you had been faithfully obeying Ranabhima Shah's orders. This was quite proper. After his deposition, however, you must acknowledge us as your lord and obey our orders faithfully.

("Royal order of Tuesday, Baisakh Sudi 10, 1866, Foreign Ministry, Bundle No. 15).

The same day, letters were sent to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa and Jagadeo Bhandari directing them to make arrangements for the emoluments of companies despatched to Salyan and sanctioning a sum of Rs. 2,000 for miscellaneous expenses.

("Letter to Kaji Amara Simha Thapa and Jagadeo Bhandari", Tuesday, Baisakh Sudi 10, 1866, Foreign Ministry Bundle No. 15).

All this shows that the government of Nepal adopted a severe policy toward the Raja of Salyan. It is important to note that the Rani Vilasa Kumari, was the Paternal aunt of King Girban Yuddha Bikram and was still alive. It was, therefore, not a minor thing for the government of Nepal to depose the Raja of Salyan. Moreover, orders were sent to bring to Kathmandu not only the Raja of Salyan but all of his brothers, sons, relatives, and bhardars. If Hamilton's account is to be believed, the eldest son of Raja Ranabhima Shah took refuge with the Nawab of Oudh and thus saved himself.

(Hamilton, op. cit. p. 277).

More important, the Raja of Salyan was not replaced by his son or brother. Instead, all of them were arrested and brought to Kathmandu. Salyan was placed under central administration and Subba Rudravira Shahi was appointed administrator. In other words, the Rajya of Salyan was abolished. According to Baburam Acharya (Op. cit. p. 126), even the birta lands that had been given to Vilasa Kumari as dowry was confiscated. Contemporary evidence is available to substantiate this point. Three years later (1869 Vikrama Samvat), a royal order was issued restoring the confiscated lands. (Naraharinath, op. cit. p. 411).

Why did the government of Nepal adopt such a severe policy toward the Raja of Salyan? Were Ranabhima Shah and his family really engaged in anti-Nepal activities? Or did the all-powerful ruler of Nepal at that time, Bhimsen Thapa, wipe out the existence of the Rajya of Salyan in order to serve his personal interests?

The only charge against Ranabhima that was that he had maintained friendly relations with Bhawan Sahi (Simha), who was an anti-Nepal element. No information is available about the identity of Bhawan Sahi, the nature of his anti-Nepal

activities, and the reason why the government of Nepal wanted to eliminate him. Moreover, the charge of having joined hands with Bhawan Sahi had been framed against Gopal Shahi, not against Ranabhima Shah. It was a very harsh step to depose the Raja of Salyan and abolish the Rajya on this ordinary pretext.

The truth seems to be that though Bhimsen Thapa was not directly involved in the assassination of Ran Bahadur Shah, contemporary sources indicate that he was indirectly involved.

(Ojasri, "Bhimsena Thapako Shadayantra," *Parijata*, No. 11, pp. 15-24).

In these circumstances, it was natural for Vilasa Kumari to feel concerned over the assassination of her nephew, Ran Bahadur Shah. It is possible that she blamed Bhimsen Thapa for the assassination. Bhimsen Thapa then realized that he faced a danger from Salyan and planned the abolition of that Rajya. He used the Bhawan Sahi episode as a pretext to depose the Raja of Salyan and abolish that Rajya.

The accounts of Francis Hamilton and Baburan Acharya regarding the deposition of the Raja of Salyan are more or less accurate, but the above account also contradicts their version to some extent. Both agree that Salyan was annexed immediately after the assassination of Ran Bahadur Shah, whereas original sources show that this was done only three years later. They have given different versions of the manner in which Vilasa Kumari was treated by the government of Nepal. According to Hamilton, she was brought to Kathmandu along with her minor son and given a minor subsistence allowance. On the other hand, according to Baburam Acharya, she was given a subsistence allowance of Rs. 1,400 a year and exiled to Phalawang. Contemporary sources do not give any clear information in this regard, but it is clear that she was not treated justly. Bhimsen Thapa was criticized for this step, so he was compelled to restore her property three years later (1869 Vikrama Samvat).

After the Raja of Salyan was deposed, the administration of Salyan was run by Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari for a few months. He was then replaced by Subba Rudravira Shahi, who ran the administration of Salyan for several years under the control of the Chief Administrator of Palpa. Several documents issued by him are available. (Naraharinath *op. cit.* pp. 491-3).

Eighteen years later, in 1884, Vikrama Samvat, Tej Bahadur Shah appears on the scene, but not as the Raja of Salyan.

(Naraharinath, *op. cit.* p. 411). According to Mechi Dekhi Mahakali (p. 192), the government of Nepal had recognized the existence of the Rajya of Salyan in 1869 Vikrama Samvat, but this is not true. Documents issued in the name of Subba Rudravira Shahi in the capacity of administrator of Salyan are available till the year 1875 Vikrama Samvat, but these do not mention any Raja of Salyan.

(Naraharinath, op. cit. p. 493). In 1878 Vikrama Samvat, King Rajendra issued an order which contains the words "at the time when the Raja of Salyan was still on the throne". (Ibid, p. 461). This shows that the Rajya of Salyan had not been restored by that time.)

Only in the year 1894 Vikrama Samvat, that is, after Bhimsen Thapa was removed from power, was Tej Bahadur Shah formally recognized as Raja of Salyan. However, his jurisdiction was limited to Phalawang. The territories of Salyan, Dang, and Deukhuri remained beyond his jurisdiction.

(Mahesh C. Regmi, Readings in Nepali Economic History, Varanasi: Kishor Vidya Niketan, 1979, p. 63).

One author has described Tej Bahadur Shah as the son of Ranabhima Shah and Vilasa Kumari, but he has produced no evidence.

(Ram Niwas Pande, "Rise and Development of the Baisi States", Prachin Nepal, No. 17, p. 55).

On the contrary, the Vamshavali mentions five sons of Ranabhima Shah, namely, Raghunatha, Raghuvara, Ghanashyama, Bharata, and Gadadhara. (Naraharinath, op. cit. pp. 609-11). References to Raghunatha and Raghuvara are available in contemporary documents. (Ibid, pp. 402 and 405). It thus seems that Tej Bahadur Shah was not the son of Ranabhima Shah, but only a nephew or other close relative. Otherwise, it would not have been appropriate to appoint him as Raja of Salyan.

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#### Additional Documents on Salyan

1. Restoration of Shivapriya's Property.
2. Restoration of Lands of Pyuthan Magazine.
3. Royal Order to Subedar Angada Karki.
4. Royal Order to Subba Rudravira Shahi.

#### 1. Restoration of Shivapriya's Property

Royal order to Subba Rudravira Shahi and Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari :

"The property of our Paternal aunt, Shivapriya, including the village of Ghoregaun which had been granted to her through a copper-plate inscription, had been confiscated along with the property of other members of the ruling family and bhardars of Salyan.

"Shivapriya has now submitted the following petition:  
 "I would have attended the marriage ceremony had I been invited. Other people of Salyan may be guilty, but I have done nothing. How am I to maintain my minor children?"

"It is clear that she would have attended the marriage ceremony had she been invited. She has not committed any other offense. We, therefore, hereby order that her slaves and other property, including lands granted by our father through a copper-plate inscription, be restored."

Tuesday, Bhadra Badi 4, 1866.  
 Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 93.

## 2. Restoration of Lands of Pyuthan Magazine

Subedar Ratna Simha Thapa submitted the following petition to Kathmandu through Kaji Amara Simha of Palpa:

"Because the Raja of Salyan was guilty of numerous offenses, his Rajya was abolished, and another Amil was appointed for that territory. At that time, many lands held by the Pyuthan Magazine were placed under the Jurisdiction of the Salyan administration. It would be good if those lands were restored to the Pyuthan Magazine."

The lands were accordingly restored to the Pyuthan Magazine through a royal order. The order added, "These lands include those granted to our paternal aunt, Shivapriya, by our father through a copper-plate inscription. Since she is not guilty of any offense, we hereby order that these lands be restored to her."

Tuesday, Bhadra Badi 4, 1866.  
 Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 94.

## 3. Royal Order to Subedar Ingada Karki

Wednesday, Baisakh Sudi 6, 1867.

"Subba Rudravira Shahi has reported that the rebels of Salyan, including Dhanavira Sahi, are mobilizing troops with the intent of occupying Rajahat and Uddain in the Tarai territory of Salyan. You are, therefore, ordered to defend that territory when your help is sought by the local Fouzdars.

"As regards the complaint that Khang assignments are inadequate, we have sent orders to Subba Rudravira Sahi. Produce records of actual revenue receipts in that territory before him, and he will make necessary Khang assignments to the companies. If he does not do so, report the matter to us, and we shall send him reminders."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 39, p. 182.

4. Royal Order to Subba Rudravira Shahi

Friday, Bhadra Badi 3, 1867.

"With effect from the year 1867 Vikrama Samvat, we have dismissed Khalasis of two companies from among the three companies stationed in Salyan. Income from the rice-fields (assigned to them as Khangis) shall now be used for partial disbursement of the sum of Rs. 4,000 assigned to the Raja of Salyan."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 39, p. 321.

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More Documents on Jumla  
(Continued from the June 1986 issue)

1. Forcible Appropriation of Slaves

Thani Kesari Joshi submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "We had purchased a slave boy and a slave girl on payment of money from Sriram Shahi and Indrabir Shahi with their full consent. When our men were bringing those slaves to our house, Bahabal Hitan and Rugha Hitan waylaid them and took away the slaves. They are holding the slaves now."

A royal order was then sent to Sardar Hastabir Shahi directing him to send peons to summon all the concerned persons, realize the value of the slaves as well as of their labor (nimyak), and dispose of the complaint equitably.

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 292-293.

2. Unauthorized Collection of Taxes in Kunda

Order to Dhakra Nahar Simha Thapa of Chhinasim in Jumla: Rishiram Jaisi, Jadhu Padhya, and Raghunath Chhetyal, functionaries in the dara of Kunda in Jumla, have complained that in the year 1901 Samvat you collected a sum of eighteen rupees from different sources (fees, fines, and penalties, such as danda, dhungo, theki, bidi, and baksauni) which should have been credited to the thek account of that dara. If this complaint is true, you have no right to make such collections. If it is not true, refer the matter to the Amali."

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 294-95.

3. Inheritance Rights of Daughter's Son

Madhu Rokaya submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: My grandfather, Parimal Chalaune, had no son, so he kept his daughter, Subi, who is my mother, in his own house and designated her as his heir with the permission



of the Amali Kachahari. The ancestral lands were accordingly registered in her name in the capacity of Kuriya during two revenue settlements, and we have been paying the prescribed taxes thereon. There are many such cases in Jumla in which property has been inherited by the daughter's son. But now Jhupulta Chalaune, Salibhan Chalaune, Parane Chalaune, and Ugha Chalaune of Phulching village in the dara of Tripurakot are disputing my rights to the inheritance."

An order was then issued in the name of Jhupulta Chalaune and the other respondents to acknowledge Madhu Rokaya's rights to the inheritance according to the custom prevalent in Jumla, or, if the facts were different, come to Kathmandu along with Madhu Rokaya for a hearing.

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 196-97.

#### 4. Dispute Over Grazing Rights in Bohragaun

The inhabitants of Bohragaun village in the dara of Asi in Jumla submitted the following complaint to Kathmandu: "Many people of our village have died, so it is now thinly populated. Consequently, the inhabitants of adjoining villages, as well as Chhinasim, have now started grazing their goats, horses, buffaloes, and calves in our forests. They have damaged our crops and demolished the walls of terraces on our Swanro lands and also embankments on our rice fields. We are thus unable to raise any crops. In winter, they forcibly remove the stubble on our lands, so that we are unable to graze our own oxen. In these circumstances, it is proving difficult for us to continue living in the village."

An Order was then issued in the name of Cha. tariya Fatte Jung Shah, General Jung Bahadur Kunwar, General Gagan Simha, General Abhiman Simha Rana, and Kaji Kulaman Simha Basnyat to Bishwamitra Padhya of Bohragaun village, one of the complainants, prohibiting any such encroachment in the future.

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 297-98.

#### 5. Land Dispute in Sija

Uppa Budha, a resident of Baragaun in the dara of Sija in Jumla, had obtained a tract of Pakho land of Kaubal Acharje in the course of a revenue settlement, and had converted the land into a rice-field. The land was later claimed by Sani Gai, and Uppa Budha, therefore, submitted a petition to Kathmandu. An order was then issued in his name on Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903 which declared, "If it is true that you had converted the Pakho land into a rice-field and are actually cultivating it, you shall be allowed to continue doing so on payment of the prescribed Sirto tax."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, p. 300.

(To be Continued)

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## Gorkhali Rule in Kumaun

By

Dr. Shiva Prasad Dabara "Charan"

(Uttarakhanda Ka Rajanaitika Tatha Samskritika Itihasa, Part V: Kumaun, Garhwal Aur Himachala Par Gorkhali Sheshana Samvat 1847-1872 (1790-1815, Dogadha, Garhwal: Vir-Gatha Prakshan, 2030 (A.D. 1973), pp. 102-118L).

### The Gorkhals in Kumaun (1790-1803)

The political and cultural traditions of Kumaun, like those of Doti, were different from the traditions of the Gorkhals. Gorkhali rule in Kumaun was different from the rule of the Chand Kings, for it was an alien rule.

According to the system followed in Nepal, Gorkhali civil and military officials in Kumaun were transferred every year. After one year's service as jagirdars, military employees became dhakres and returned to their villages, and were replaced by new jagirdars. Civil and military officials similarly returned to Nepal.

The Subba was the chief of the local administration, with a Naib, or deputy, under him. These two administrators were often brothers or other close relatives. There was also a commander of the local military forces.

The Subbas, Naib Subbas, and military commanders of Kumaun during the period from 1791-92 to 1803 were as follows:-

1791-92	...	Subba Jog Malla.
1793	...	Subba Kaji Nara Shah. Naib Subba Ramadatta. Commander Kalu Pande.
1794	...	Subba Ajav Simha Khawas. Naib Subba Shrestha Thapa. Commander Jaswant Bhandari.
1795	...	Subba Amara Simha Thapa. Naib Subba Gobinda Padhya. Commander Bhakti Thapa.
1796	...	Subba Prabal Rana. Naib Subba Jaya Krishna Thapa.

1797-98	...	Subba Bam Shah. Naib Subba Rudravaira Shah. Commanders Amara Simha Thapa. and Sardar Angad.
1799	...	Subba Ajav Simha. Naib Subba Shrestha Thapa. Commander Bishrama Khatri.
1800-01	...	Subba Kaji Dhaukal Simha Basnyat. Naib Subba Major Ganapati Padhya.
1802	...	Subba Rudravira.
1803	...	Subba Kaji Gajakesar Pande. Naib Subba-Subedar Krishnananda Adhikari.

(Edwin T. Atkinson, The Himalayan Districts of N.W.P. of India, Vol. 2, pp. 614-15).

Small military posts were set up at different places in Kumaun. The military personnel stationed at these posts collected the rents assigned to them from the inhabitants of the adjoining villages. This pernicious system subjected the villagers to great hardships.

Military personnel who were stationed in Kumaun for the brief period of one year naturally tended to grab as much income as they could through any means. The level of their education, and culture, and character did not befit their positions. Some of them were ruthless and immoral and believed that the subjects should be treated with great severity so that they might remain docile. For them, human life had no value. Many stories are still current about their oppressive treatment of the people of Kumaun.

In particular, Nara Shah, who was the administrator of Kumaun in 1793, has been described as cruel and oppressive. (Badri Datta Pande, *Kumaun Ka Itihasa*, p. 393). Like the rulers of Garhwal, the Kings of Kumaun had appointed people belonging to the fighting communities of the Himalayan region in high-ranking civil and military posts in order to control their unruly khas subjects. Those who were so appointed in Kumaun belonged to Kangra and other hill Kingdoms in the west and were known as Nagarkoti. They had settled in Pali, Baramandal, and Shor and had entered into matrimonial relations with the local Rajput families. These Nagarkotis were more

freedom-loving than the people of Kumaun and were not prepared to tolerate oppression silently. Nara Shah, therefore, doubted their loyalty. He compiled a census of the Nagarkoti population and ordered his officials to massacre them in the night of a specified date, which happened to be Tuesday. Nagarkotis used to wear their hair long, so they could be easily identified. On that Tuesday, they were massacred all over Kumaun, and only a few of them were able to escape by cutting off their hair or disguised as mendicants. The day is, therefore, notorious as "Nara Shahi's Tuesday" in Kumaun.

Some administrators oppressed not only the subjects but even their own subordinate Gorkhali officials. Dhaukal Simha Basnyat, for instance, wanted to kill a soldier with his own hands when two soldiers quarrelled with each other. He was, therefore, assassinated by some dhakre soldiers (i.e. ex-servicemen) with the butts of their muskets. (Pande, p. 395).

Gorkhali administrators exercised full judicial authority over the people under their jurisdiction. They were empowered not only to impose fines but even inflict physical punishments, such as mutilation and death. There was no standard penal code, so the administrators were free to act as they liked. For one year, they were the despotic lords of the unfortunate people of Kumaun. They could place men, women, and children who were guilty of any offense in detention, or enslave them and employ them personally or sell them to others. There was no provision for appeals against such decisions. Political intransquillity was chronic in the royal palace of Nepal and nobody, other than the minor king, had his post secure. Who could then check the arbitrary rule of the administrators of Kumaun in the midst of such chaos?

### Revenue Collection

During 1791-92, Subba Jog Malla was the administrator of Kumaun. He made the first revenue settlement in Kumaun and assessed the revenue due from each village. The Joshis, who held top-ranking posts under the Chand Kings, provided full cooperation to the Gorkhalis in the revenue settlement operations as well as in the collection of revenue in order to win their trust. As such, the Gorkhalis did not face much difficulty in revenue collection.

Three categories of taxes were collected in Kumaun from (1) each adult, (2) each household, and (3) each village.

The rates of these taxes, as fixed by Subba Jog Malla, were as follows:

<u>Basis</u>	<u>Designation of Tax</u>	<u>Rate</u>
(1) Adult	<u>Manga</u>	One rupee
(2) Household	<u>Gharahi Pichhahi</u>	Two rupees
(3) Village		(1) One rupee on each <u>bisi</u> of agricultural land

Subbangi	(2) One rupee
Mejmani	(3) Two and a half annas

The Kamin of each village apportioned the amount of revenue from these taxes among each local household and thus prepared the assessment register. He then collected these taxes and transmitted the proceeds to the local administrator.

Several other taxes were also collected, such as timasi (quarterly) levy on behalf of the Subedar, the doniya levy, the ghee tax, the tanker levy, the manijhari and the kheni-khapini. When King Girban Yuddha Bikram ascended the throne, the nezarana levy was collected all over the Kingdom.

Brahmans were originally exempt from taxes. During 1797, Bam Shah and Rudravira Shah imposed a new tax known as Kusahi on Brahmans at the rate of five rupees for each Jyula (6 to 13 acres) of land. This step was taken with the objective of striking terror in the minds of Brahmans who took part in politics, that is, who opposed Gorkhali oppression. The kusahi tax was not collected from Brahmans who lived peacefully. (Pande, p. 394). In those days, revenue was collected by two officials known as Kaladhara and Brahmanda Padhya. It lay at their discretion to decide whether or not any Brahman was taking part in politics.

The tax collecting officials possessed unlimited powers. They had full powers to auction the lands, cattle, and other property, and even members of the families of tax-defaulters. Taxes were collected through the Kamin (thckdar, pradhan) of the village. In one case, villagers and Kamins refused to pay a newly-imposed tax. The Kamins of 1,500 villages were then summoned for clarifications on the measure, but were all massacred, so that no one should make any such objection in the future. (Pande, p. 400). Many people consequently fled to Rohilkhand. The Gorkhalis then sold their children as slaves to the Rohillas.

The cruel rule of the Gorkhalis has become notorious in the history of Kumaun. But their oppression was even worse in Garhwal. Kumaun is nearer to Nepal than Garhwal, so local administrators were not unduly oppressive. The people of Kumaun did not offer any strong opposition to Gorkhali rule. They had suffered such oppression during the rule of the Chands and the Joshis as well. The Joshis, Pantas, and Chaudharis offered active support to the Gorkhalis. Some Brahman families of Kumaun, were priests of the royal family and Thakuri families of Nepal (B.D. Sanwal, Nepal and the East India Company, p. 20). So the Gorkhalis showed some goodwill toward the people of Kumaun. Western Nepal had had contacts with Kumaun from ancient times. The Doti branch of the Katyuri dynasty once ruled over both sides of the Kali river. Even today, the people of Doti have closer contacts with Kumaun and Gorkwal than those of eastern and central Nepal. (Ibid., p. 12). But though the Gorkhalis did not impose a harsh rule on Kumaun, they were ruthless in the collection of revenue. The poet Gumani Panta has recorded that even

though bearing a heavy burden of compulsory portering services, the people of Kumaun did not leave the Gorkhali Kingdom (Pande, p. 426). But the truth is different. There is considerable evidence to prove that thousands of people fled from Kumaun during the period of Gorkhali rule.

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Royal Orders of Kartik 1867 Samvat  
(Continued from the June 1986 issue)

In this issue

1. Confirmation of Rajawar in Sorad.
2. Appointment of Grooms in Royal Stables.
3. Royal Order to Subedar Dharmananda Khawas
4. Land Allotment to Rajivalochan Arjyal
5. Disbursements from Doti.
6. Appointment of Mijhars.
7. Revenue from Adalats.
8. Tax Exemptions for Blacksmiths.
9. Restoration of Khuwa Holding
10. Land Reclamation

1. Confirmation of Rajawar in Sorad

Royal order to Udaya Singh Rajawar of Sorad:

"Local Amalis had reconfirmed you as Rajawar with jurisdiction over one-fourth of Sorad. We hereby endorse that reconfirmation. Appropriate your customary perquisites, resettle depopulated areas, and reclaim uncultivated lands. We also reconfirm you Sera holding of 40 muris of rice-fields. Anybody who disputes your authority in the territory assigned to you should be severely punished."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 581.

2. Appointment of Grooms in Nepal Stables

On Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867, Sheikh Roz and Sheikh Khaderu were appointed as grooms at the royal stables (astabalkhana) on a monthly salary of Rs 10 and Rs 5 respectively.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 581.

3. Royal Order to Subedar Dharmananda Khawas

"We had previously sent an order directing you to arrest Bhawanishankar Pantha, Jayakrishna Upreti, Padmanidhi Upreti, Devadatta Vaidya, Laxmiballabh Vaidya and Devi Kandyal, put them in fetters, and send them here. You have accordingly sent Padmanidhi Upreti and Devadatta Vaidya. Statements made by those two persons show that none of those six persons is guilty. Accordingly, we hereby restore their confiscated property. You need not then arrest the other persons and send them here in fetters. Remove their fetters and release them from wherever they may have reached."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 582.

4. Land Allotment to Rajivalochan Arjyal

Separate rice-fields totalling 987 muris in area were allotted to Rajivalochan Arjyal at Bakrang and elsewhere (in Gorkha) on adhiya tenure. The royal order making the allotment added,

"Make customary payments due on these lands, and provide loans within the limit of the value of the rents to the landlord (talsing)"

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 582.

5. Disbursements from Doti

Royal order to Sardar Jagadeo Bhandari, "We had ordered you to disburse a sum of Rs 978, being allowances due to the Dalamardan Company, from the revenues of Doti. You have not made the disbursement on the plea of inadequate revenues. We now order you to make the disbursement from the income of darshan-bhet levy collected from all the nine companies stationed in Doti. Disbursements shall not be made to others before the Company which defends the district. Understand this well, and make the disbursement through Subedar Chandrabir Thapa."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 582-83.

6. Appointment of Mijhars

Public notification in the region situated east of Borlang Ghat and west of the Kaneka Tista rivers:  
"We have appointed the following thirteen ironsmiths (Lohar) employed in the Kathmandu Munitions Factory (Megjin) as Mijhars of the Lohar, Sonar, Afric, Mahar, Chunara, Kadara, and Tamauta communities, replacing Sundar and Bali Chunara:-

"Tulya, Chamya, Birbalya, Kansya, Sundarya, Samya, Lachhumanya (1), Lachhumanya (2), Jiunya, Ratnya, Dharmya, Jaikrishnya, and Kalya."



"These mijhars have been granted authority to appropriate income from fines and penalties (dastur) collected in cases relating to caste and commensal offenses in the above-mentioned communities in the region situated between Borlang-ghat in the west and the Kanaka/Tista rivers in the east. They shall remain on constant duty at the Kathmandu Munitions Factory."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.

Regmi Ressearch Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 583-84.

#### 7. Revenue from Adalats

Royal order to Dittha Bishram Khatri of the four Adalats: "You had submitted accounts of fines and penalties collected by you in the years 1856 and 1857 Vikrama Samvat. These accounts showed that you had deposited on excess sum of Rs. 1265 and 5  $\frac{2}{4}$  annas. We hereby authorize you to recover this sum from income collected by Bicharis deputed through you to the east and the west. It will be debitted while auditing Adalat accounts for the year 1868 Vikrama Samvat."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 584.

#### 8. Tax Exemptions for Blacksmiths

On Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867, a royal order was issued to blacksmiths (nakarmi) belonging to different areas in the hills directing them to work in (Kathmandu) Munitions Factory as directed by the Dittha, as well as in posts elsewhere. In consideration of these services, they were granted exemption from Saunefagu and other taxes, compulsory labor services (Jhara, beth begar), and levies due to the Chaudhari.

The number of Nakarmi households benefitting from this arrangements, and the villages where they were located, were as follows:-

<u>Village</u>	<u>No. of Narkarmi Households</u>
Ainsyalukharka	14
Katirche	3
Chautara-Khani	1
Ghyang-Khani	5
Nawalpur	22
Wami	3
Pantang	3
Gufa	2

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 584-85.

9. Restoration of Khuwa Holding

Daroga Dharma Simha Bhandari had been assigned some villages in Jyamruk (Tanahu) as his Khuwa. These villages had been given to Basanta Bogate, Ramachandra Bogate, and Fouz Simha Bogate for revenue collection against a Thekbandi payment of Rs. 51 a year. A part of this holding had been granted on chnap tenure to Siddhijaya in the year 1865 Vikrama Samvat. These lands were restored as Khuwa to Daroga Dharma Simha Bhandari with effect from Aswin Sudi 11, 1867.

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 585.

10. Land Reclamation

Madhav Khatri was granted uncultivated lands amounting to 15 khets (i.e. 1500 muris) in the area bounded by Deurali on the route leading to Durlung in the east, Lastikhola in the north, the Gandaki river in the west, and the Turture-khola in the south. He was authorized to reclaim these lands and convert them into rice-fields through the Jhara labor of the inhabitants of the thums of Pag, Baglung, Palo, and Balhe, and to reclaim additional lands also, if possible. The persons reclaiming the lands were permitted to appropriate the income for the first two years after the year 1868 Vikrama Samvat, and then make customary payments to the landlord (talsing), and protected from eviction.

The royal order added, "Register the lands at the royal palace in the year 1869 Vikrama Samvat through Kaji Balanarasimha Kanwar. Settle tenants (Kuriya) in areas which can be irrigated. The inhabitants of the four thums mentioned above have been granted exemption from the obligation to provide Jhara labor for the construction of (a bridge on) the Bagmati river (in Kathmandu). Their labor shall be used for land reclamation as mentioned above. On the 20th day of the month of Kartik, they shall construct an irrigation canal at Phorsay as ordered by Madhav Khatri."

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 586-87.

(To be Continued)

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Passport Regulations, A.D. 1800

Royal order to the Subba of Makwanpur, and the Umras and Thanedars, and Jagat and Bhansar functionaries of Chitlang, Chisapani, Bhimpheedi, Hetauda, Bichhakhori, and Parsa.

"Maintain a constant watch on people, high or low, who come from the South, or go there. We hereby promulgate the following regulations regarding whether or not to let them pass.

1. Permit well-known people of our territories to come here without any obstruction.

2. We shall behead you if you let any person, high or low, leave our territories without a valid passport.

3. Detain any Wakil, messenger (halkara), beggars, mendicants, dancers, jugglers, etc. from foreign territories who arrives there, and report the matter to the passport authority (in Kathmandu). Permit only those who are approved after proper scrutiny to pass; do not let others come here.

4. Detain any foreigner who arrives there with urgent communications or information from abroad and obtain his oral statement or documents. Refer the matter to us and take action as ordered.

5. In case any seeks to leave our territories with a forged passport, and the forgery is detected, arrest him, and report the matter to us.

6. Do not let any foreigner enter our territories on the oral or written recommendation sent by any person of our side from abroad.

7. In case any person has opened up an unauthorized track in the areas under your jurisdiction, make such tracks impassable by planting thorny bushes. Arrest any person who travels through such prohibited tracks, and, if necessary, shoot at him with poisoned arrows.

8. Permit only genuine traders and pedlers of our territories to pass, but not any peon (sipahi) accompanying them.

Tuesday, Magh Badi 4, 1856. (January 1800).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 50-52.

The same regulations were promulgated on the same date for the following areas also:-

(1) Sanga, Dapcha, Charange, Dolalghat, Dunja, Mulkot, Chainpur, Sailyaghat, Khurkot, Pauwa, Sindhuli, Saptari, Mahottari, and Vijayapur.

(2) Khinchet, Devighat, Kalyaritar, Kandrangtar, Chitwan, Belod, Bulcot, Borlang, Arughat, Marsyangdi, and Kali.

(3) Betravati, Panchasaya Khola, Listi, Galthe, Irhni, Dolakha, and Lamabagar.

(4) Panauti-Palung region in the south.

(5) Khinchet-Trishuliganga region in the west.

(6) Palanchok, Timal, Pangu, Sangakot and other areas in the east.

(7) Kuti, Kerung, and the main routes leading to Tibet in the north.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 52-54.

Royal order to the amalidar, umra, dware, talap-holders, bitalap-holders, mijhar, and villagers of areas adjoining unauthorized tracks in Dumkharka, Chakalkhani, Bihabar, Phulchoki-Lekh, Godavari, Naldum, Hasidol, Budunchuli, Lapse, Tekar, Sisneri, Kharsu-Lekh, Bhainsekhani, Pakani, Amritpani, Palung, Tistung, and Chhatakot-Lekh.

"Close all unauthorized tracks in your area, and do not let any one travel through them. Orders to this effect had been issued previously also. You have obeyed these instructions well, but have permitted the local villagers to use those tracks. In the future, close those tracks. Dig ditches on slopes in such a way that no one can travel through them. On level lands, plant thorny bushes of various (specified) categories along a 1-kos stretch. Erect fences south of checkpoints, and install traps. Arrest any person who tries to pass surreptitiously, and bring him to the palace. If such person cannot be caught, shoot at him with poisoned arrows. Maintain a constant watch, day and night, and arm yourselves with the fire weapons. In case any person succeeds in escaping through these prohibited tracks, you shall be beheaded, or your property shall be confiscated, according to your caste. The inhabitants of villages situated in areas adjoining the prohibited tracks have been granted exemption from the obligation to provide compulsory labor services (Jhara) for other purposes."

Tuesday, Magh Badi 4, 1856 (January 1800)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 54-56.

The same order was issued on the same date for the following areas also :-

(1) Kiranchok, Pinda, Gajuri, Malekhu, Kandrang, Jogimara, Kalyanchaur, Chisapani, Kabilaspur, Padrang, Kuringhat, Jyamirghat, Benighat, Parebaghat, Gajurighat, Pipalghat, Adamghat, Mahesh-Dobhan, Jhiltung, Budhasing, Taruka, and Indrayani.

(2) Sangakot, Bhimpokhari, Bandipur, Chapalibas, Udayapur, Morang, Jatanpur, Murkubi, Tadwajor, Mudajor, Bharakha, Tinpatan, and Chaudandi.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 54-57.

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#### Timber Supply for Rana Palaces

The following order was issued in the name of Captain Sahsra Raimajhi Chhetri of the Rautahat Mal Kachahari on Thursday, Kartik Sudi 6, 1939:

"An office, known as Lam Adda, had been established for cutting timber from the forests of Hetauda and transporting it to the godown of the old gunpowder factory at Themel, Kathmandu, for the construction of Palaces of Sri 5 Sarkar and Sri 3 Sarkar. For the transportation of such timber from the forwarding office (Chalani Adda) at Hetauda to the Bhimpedi office, Kathmahals in the Tarai districts have been ordered to make ox-carts available, and timber had been transported accordingly. This year, Major Captain Kirtibir Adhikari Chhetri was requested that an order to make ox-carts available be sent in the name of Captain Sahasra Raimajhi Chhetri of the Rautahat Mal Kachahari. You are, therefore, ordered to make the ox-carts available as usual for the transportation of timber from Hetauda to Bhimpedi."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 82, pp. 527-29.

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#### Sulfur and Saltpeter Supplies

The inhabitants of Liwang village in Pyuthan had traditionally been placed under the obligation of providing free portage services for supplies of sulfur and saltpeter required by the Pyuthan Gunpowder Factory. The village had functionaries known as mukhiya and ghatubudha.

In the year 1894 Vikrama Samvat, the government appointed Bagdal Khatri, an outsider, as Jethabudha of Liwang village with jurisdiction over the local functionaries.

The inhabitants of Liwang village subsequently submitted a complaint to Kathmandu through Captain Yagnya Bahadur Gharti against the Jethabudha. In particular, they complained that he was:

(1) Collecting walak levies during all the twelve months of the year, instead of for six months only according to custom (from each household).

(2) Appropriating one gilded goat each year (from each household).

(3) Exacting unpaid labor (bethi) from the local inhabitants throughout the year.

(4) Exacting unpaid portorage services from each household for the supply of fire-woods, fodder, torches, khar grass, etc. for his household needs.

The villagers declared that they would not be able to continue supplying sulfur and saltpeter to the Pyuthan Gunpowder Factory in addition to these onerous obligation or remain under the jurisdiction of the Jethabudha, Bagdal Khatri.

The government then issued an order reconfirming the arrangement originally made during the revenue settlement of 1894 Vikrama Samvat according to which the inhabitants of Liwang village were required to supply sulfur and saltpeter worth Rs 35-14 to the Pyuthan Gunpowder Factory from the total amount of Rs. 60-14 due from them as agrarian-tax revenue, and transmit the balance of Rs. 25 to the Munitions Factory (Meghin). The appointment of Bagdal Khatri as Jethabudha and of the late Pantha Bohra as mukhiya was cancelled, and the ~~the~~ arrangements made in the year 1894 Vikrama Samvat were restored.

Sunday, Marga Sudi 5, 1907

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 81, pp. 16-18.

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### Additional Documents on Kumaun

#### 1. Royal Orders to the Rajs of Jajarkot and Bajura

Royal order to the Raja of Jajarkot: "You have been assigned the task of defending Kumaun. In the event of any disturbances in Jumla, retain the troops that are stationed in Kumaun, and send additional troops to assist the Subba (of Jumla)".

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 11, 1851.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 383.

The same order was sent on the same date to the Raja of Bajura also.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 383.

#### 2. Troops from Bajhang and Other Areas

Royal order to the Raja of Bajhang: "We have deputed Sardar Bhakti Thapa to Kumaun. You are ordered to despatch your regular troops (bhara-fauj) to accompany him and obey his orders. The Sardar will report to us whether or not you despatch your troops according to this order."

Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 313.

The same order was sent on the same date to:

- (1) The Raja of Bajura.
- (2) The Subba, Subedar and Umra of Nawaloot, Darma, Jahari, Dullu, Dailekh, Gotam, Athbis, Bafi, and Achhem.
- (3) Subba Dhanaraj Rana of Pyuthan.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 312-13.

## II

Separate orders were sent on Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851 to incumbent (jagire) and former (dhakre) Umras of areas west of the Chepe and Marsyangdi rivers to join Sardar Bhakti Thapa in Kumaun along with their men and bows, muskets, and other weapons.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 314.

## III

The men accompanying Sardar Bhakti Thapa to Kumaun included Nath Thapa, Bamsa Khatri, Rana Simha Thapa, and Shatvarna Thapa. They were granted exemption from payment of the Mahasul fee due from them in consideration of the reconfirmation of a total area of 33 khets of rice-fields occupied by them in Pustun and Raginas (in Lamjung) for the year 1851 Vikrama Samvat.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 315.

### 3. Dhakre Umras Despatched to Kumaun

On Saturday, Shrawan Sudi 14, 1851, a royal order was issued to dhakre Umras accompanying Sardar Bhakti Thapa to Kumaun reconfirming their rights over the homesteads (gharbari) being occupied by them.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 347.

On Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851, the Darogas of the Elephant Department were ordered to make available two bull elephants of a total height of 9 cubits, and three cow elephants of a total height of 14 cubits, making a total of 23 cubits, to pay the emoluments (balikharcha) of dhakre Umras accompanying Sardar Bhakti Thapa to Kumaun.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 315-16.

### 4. Disbursement Orders

On Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851, Ijaradar Gorbhu (Khawas) of Patan was ordered to make a disbursement of Rs 251 on an annual basis from the year 1851 Vikrama Samvat as part of cash emoluments due to Sardar Bhakti Thapa.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 316.

On Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851, the Amalidars, Brahmans and Jethabudhas of Dullu and Dailekh were ordered to hand over the proceeds of the Kusahi-Bisahi levy to Sardar Bhakti Thapa, who had been deputed to Kumaun.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 312.

On Bhadra Sudi 1, 1851, Subba Ajav Khawas of Kumaun was ordered to make an annual disbursement of Rs. 100 to Bhawanidatta from the revenues of Kumaun in lieu of 4 khets granted to him.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 366.

#### 5. Kathmandu-Kumaun Courier Service

Royal order to Subba Aj v Khawas: "Devanidhi Pantha's brother, Padmanidhi Pantha, is residing at Rampur. Make a disbursement of ten rupees to him every month for paying wages to two couriers employed for transmitting news between Nepal and Kumaun at the rate of five rupees a month each."

Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 315.

#### 6. Appointment of Haradatta Padhya as Jethabudha

On Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851, Haradatta Padhya was appointed as Jethabudha, with 9 khets of rice-fields, and Khuwa income amounting to Rs. ...., as his jagir amoluments.

In a separate order issued on the same date, Subba Ajav Khawas of Kumaun was directed to make a disbursement of Rs. ... to Jethabudha Haradatta Padhya from the revenues of Kumaun against his khuwa income.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, pp. 314-15.

On Saturday, Shrawan Sudi 14, 1851, a royal order was issued granting exemption to Jethabudha Haradatta Padhya, and his brothers, Karna Padhya and Laxmidhar Padhya, from compulsory labor (beth, begar) obligations, as well as from the bisamufi levy.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 347.

#### 7. Supply of Gunpowder

On Wednesday, Shrawan Sudi 11, 1851, the Subba of Pyuthan, Dhanaraj Rana, was ordered to supply 3 muris of gunpowder to the newly-recruited company accompanying Ajav Khawas to Kumaun.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 314.



### 8. Reconfirmation of Birta Land Grant

Royal order to Sardar Jasiwanta Bhandari, Sardar Bhakti Thapa, and Subba Ajav Khawas: "Raja Mohan Chand and Raja Shiva Chand of Kumaun had made a ritual gift of Birta-Bitalab lands to Kanaka Nidhi Tiwari in .... we hereby reconfirm that grant."

Bhadra Sudi 1, 1851.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 24, p. 372.

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### Royal Orders to the Ijaradar of Chitwan

#### I

On Marga Badi 11, 1853, the following royal orders were sent to Bhajudeo, Ijaradar of Chitwan:

(1) "Purchase oil worth Rs. 500 at local prices for use in the construction of the Sri Jagannath temple and employ the local inhabitants to transport it to Kathmandu. The cost of the oil, as well as of the jars, may be debitted from the ijara revenues of Chitwan for the year 1853 Vikrama Samvat."

(2) "Chandrashekhar Upadhyaya had obtained an ijara for revenue collection in Banepa and paid a sum of Rs. 338 as advance. You are hereby ordered to refund him this amount from the ijara revenues of Chitwan for the year 1853 Vikrama Samvat."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 23, pp. 180-81.

#### II

On Monday, Aswin Sudi 2, 1862, the Subba of Chitwan-Belod was ordered to impress the services of gurau, dhami, mirdeha, khediya, and other people and search riverine and other areas for an elephant with big and long tusks, bigger in size than the elephant Sundari Prasad, and submit a report to Kathmandu through the Daroga. He was also ordered to report on the best place where a cage for the elephant could be constructed.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 19, p. 278.

The Godan Levy

The Godan levy was collected from all households in the Kingdom to provide for the funeral expenses of a deceased King. It was collected in 1806, when ex-King Rana Bahadur Shah was assassinated, and in 1816, when his successor, King Girban, died. The levy appears thereafter to have fallen into disuse. Its rates were as follows :-

Ijaradar-Subba	Rs 250.
Lands under rice, jute and tobacco:	
Jagir	10 annas per bigha
Nankar, Jirayat, Khalisa	3 annas     "     "
Birta	8 annas     "     "
Lands under other crops:	
Jagir	8 annas     "     "
Nankar, Jirayat, Khalisa	2 annas     "     "
Birta	6 annas     "     "
Ijara and other incomes	1 anna in the rupee.
Sukhambasi households:	
Abal	4 annas
Doyam	3 annas
Sim	2 annas
Chahar	1 annas.
Households of occupational castes	4 annas.

References

1. "Imposition of Godan Levy in Mahottari and Other Districts", Marga Sudi 11, 1863 (December 1806), Regmi Research Collection (RRC), Vol. 5, pp. 110-12.
2. "Royal Order Regarding Exemption From Payment of Godan Levy", Tuesday, Ashadh Badi 5, 1874 (June 1917), RRC, Vol. 43, p. 5.

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From the Kali to the Yamuna

By

Dr. Shiva Prasad Dabral "Charan"

(Uttarakhand ka Rajanaitika Thatha Samskritika Itihasa, Part V: Kumaun, Garhwal, Aur Himachala Par Gorkhali Shasana, Samvat 1847-1872 (1790-1815), Dogadha, Garhwal, Vir-Gatha Prakashan, 2030 (A.D. 1973), pp. 63-72.

In the Battle of Paligaon (1843 Samvat/1786 A.D.), Mohan Chand defeated the forces of Harshadeva Joshi and Pradyumna Chand (Shah) and established his rule in Kumaun. Pradyumna Chand was left with his ancestral territories, while Harshadeva Joshi fled to Srinagar.

However, Mohan Chand was unable to consolidate his position in Kumaun. The friends and relatives of Harshadeva Joshi remained influential. The Joshis had occupied important positions under several rulers in the past. They were educated and prosperous and an important section of the rural population of Kumaun supported them. Mohan Chand knew that Harshadeva Joshi had left for the Tarai territory of Srinagar and was trying to enlist troops. He was afraid lest Harshadeva Joshi should succeed in establishing contacts with his supporters in Kumaun, and reoccupy Kumaun at any time with the help of Pradyumna Shah. Mohan Chand, therefore, established contact with the Gorkhali Regent, Bahadur Shah, whose forces were then engaged in a campaign of conquest in the Karnali region. On Magh Sudi 4, 1844 (January 1788), a treaty was signed between the two sides according to which they agreed to treat the friends and enemies of one as the friends and enemies of the other.

In addition, Mohan Chand developed close relations with Pradyumna Shah's brother, Parakrama Shah. In the Battle of Paligaon, the combined forces of Mohan Chand and Parakrama Shah had defeated the forces of Pradyumna Shah and Harshadeva Joshi. The Mohan Chand-Parakrama Shah alliance claimed that the battle had determined the fate of the royal thrones of both Almora and Srinagar, and that Pradyumna Shah was no longer king of either Kumaun or Garh. Parakrama Shah accordingly began to style himself as King of Garh. He signed a treaty with Mohan Chand pledging to rule peacefully over their respective territories and not to oppose each other.

Two factions then emerged, one supporting Pradyumna Shah and the other Parakrama Shah. Such factionalism further accentuated the differences between the two brothers. Both sides recruited troops and made other preparations also for the final battle. Pradyumna Shah's plans to attack Kumaun, consequently, receded into the background.

Mohan Chand's difficulties did not end even after signing a treaty with the Gorkhals and instigating intranquillity in Srinagar. He had recruited troops in the

Tarai areas with the objective of reoccupying Kumaun, but was not able to pay their salaries, for the royal treasury was empty. So he imposed a new tax known as manga and started collecting it with great severity. He did not make any exception to supporters of the Mahar and Phartyal factions, whose long-standing rivalry had helped to maintain a balance in the politics of Kumaun. Mohan Chand thus succeeded in raising a revenue of Rs. 400,000, a part of which he paid to his troops and thus mitigated their discontent. However, the discontent of the people further increased. After pacifying his troops in this manner, Mohan Chand began to live a life of luxury and amusement.

When Pradyumna Shah did not help him, Harshadeva Joshi used the limited resources at his disposal to recruit an army composed of Rohilla fighters, the Thakurs of Barhapore, and people from Kumaun who were dissatisfied with Mohan Chand. He then attacked Kumaun. Mohan Chand received news of the attack only when Harshadeva Joshi's army reached Sitauli and Railkot through Hawalbagh. The two sides clashed at Sitauli and Railkot. Bishen Singh, Mohan Chand's son, was killed and Mohan Chand and his brother, Lal Singh, were taken prisoner. Harshadeva Joshi released Lal Singh, who had once saved his life, but Mohan Chand was kept in detention without food. He was later tortured and murdered. The Gorkhalis did not give their ally any help at all.

Harshadeva Joshi wanted to invite Pradyumna Shah to come back and reoccupy the throne of Kumaun, but the latter refused to do so because he remembered the misfortunes of the past and because he was asked by Parkrama Shah not to take such a step. Harshadeva Joshi then installed Shiva Singh, who was related to a former king of Kumaun, Udyot Chand, under the name of Shiva Chand. However, the people of Kumaun were dissatisfied with the never-ending intrigues of the Joshis. The royal treasury was empty. Frequent change of rulers had created confusion among government functionaries and they were afraid to take sides. For all these reasons, Harshadeva Joshi was unable to strengthen his position.

Meanwhile, with the assistance of Nawab Faiz Ulla Khan of Rampur, Lal Singh, and Mahendra Singh, Mohan Chand's son, invaded Kumaun. Gaddhar Joshi, Commander of Shiva Chand's forces, was killed at the battle of Dhungsil, and his soldiers then fled. Mahendra Singh was able to gain control of the capital, as well as of Kumaun, easily. Harshadeva Joshi and Raja Shiva Chand, accompanied by their remaining troops, fled to Garh, with Lal Singh at their heels. A battle was fought between the two sides at a place called Ulkagarh on the Kumaun - Garh border. Hundreds of Rohilla troops belonging to Lal Singh's army were killed, and Lal Singh was forced to escape to a village known as Chukam. Parakrama Shah, brother of the ruler of Garh, reached there with his army. With his help, Lal Singh defeated Harshadeva Joshi's forces. Harshadeva Joshi fled to Srinagar. Shiva Chand too escaped to some unknown place.

Parakrama Shah then took Lal Singh and Mahendra Singh to Almora, where he crowned the latter as King of Kumaun under the name of Mahendra Chand on payment of Rs 40,000. Lal Singh became Dewan. Parakrama Shah thereafter returned to Srinagar along with his army. These events occurred in 1846 Vikrama Samwat (A.D. 1789).

Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand then began to harass the Joshis. Some of them were placed in detention or exiled, while some were sentenced to death and their property was confiscated. Harshadeva Joshi was not able to stay long in Srinagar for Parakrama Shah, as well as top-ranking civil and military authorities, were opposed to him. Harshadeva Joshi finally took refuge with Mehdi Ali Beg, Subedar of Bareilly, which formed part of the territories of the Nawab of Oudh. Lal Singh felt afraid lest Harshadeva Joshi should hatch another conspiracy in collusion with the Nawab.

Meanwhile, the Nawab of Oudh visited Kheda, east of Kathgodam-Haldwani, on a hunting expedition. Lal Singh met him at that place and convinced him that Raja Mahendra Chand of Kumaun, unlike his predecessors, desired to maintain amicable relations with Oudh and would accept Oudh's claim over the Tarai territories of Kumaun which were then under Oudh's occupation. Lal Singh was accordingly able to get assurances of friendship and assistance from the Nawab. The Tarai territories were then transferred to Oudh through Nandaram, Dewan of Kumaun.

As a result of these developments, Harshadeva Joshi lost all hopes of assistance from either Pradyumna Shah of Garh or the Nawab of Oudh. Nevertheless, he stayed on in Bareilly, where Subedar Mehdi Ali Beg was paying him a daily allowance of ten rupees. By Magh 1846 Vikram Samwat (January 1790), the Gorkhals had already conquered the principalities situated between the Karnali and Kali rivers. Their territories thus extended to the Kali river, across which the territories of Kumaun were situated. Harshadeva Joshi, therefore, planned to regain control of Kumaun with the help of the Gorkhals. With that objective, he invited Bahadur Shah to invade Kumaun.

Bahadur Shah was very ambitious. His ambitions were not fulfilled by extending the Gorkhali control to the Kali river. He was well aware of the political instability prevailing in Kumaun and so wanted to conquer that Kingdom. Bahadur Shah, therefore, sent Kaji Jagajit Pande to Harshadeva Joshi with a letter bearing the royal seal which promised to hand over power to him if he helped the Gorkhals conquer Kumaun. Harshadeva Joshi then revealed Kumaun's secrets to the Gorkhals and assembled an army to help the invaders. Bahadur Shah ignored the fact that only three years previously he had signed a treaty with Mahendra Chand's father, Mohan Chand.

In Magh 1846 (January 1790), Bahadur Shah sent an army commanded by Kaji Jagajit Pande, Sardar Amara Simha Thapa, Captain Golaiyan, Captain Ramavira Khatri, Subba Jog Narayan Malla, Subba Found Simha, Sugbir Khatri, and others to invade Kumaun. The Gorkhali troops crossed the Kali river. One

section proceeded toward Sor, and the other toward Bisung-Patti.

The news of the Gorkhali invasion spread a wave of panic and confusion in Almora. Mahendra Chand conscripted an army of all available men of fighting age, and, along with his standing army, marched toward Gangoli to repulse the Gorkhali invaders. Lal Singh, on his part, similarly marched toward Kali-Kumaun. Mahendra Chand defeated the Gorkhalis at Gangoli through a surprise attack, so that the Gorkhalis were forced to flee toward Kali-Kumaun. At Gaatanda village near Katolgarh, the Gorkhalis, led by Amara Simha Thapa, defeated Lal Singh's troops. Lal Singh lost 200 men and fled to the Tarai for his life. Mahendra Chand, after defeating the Gorkhalis at Gangoli, proceeded to help Lal Singh, but received news of his defeat and escape on the way. Seeing no hope of defending his Kingdom, Mahendra Chand fled to Kotah. He was joined there by Lal Singh, who had gone to Rudrapur.

The Gorkhali army then proceeded toward Almora without any opposition. The remnants of Mahendra Chand's army were defeated in a battle near Hawalbagh. On Chaitra Badi 30, 1846 Vikrama Samwat (February 1790), the Gorkhalis entered Almora. Harshadeva Joshi was then with Kaji Jagajit Pande, and his troops were assisting the Gorkhali invaders. The Gorkhalis thus easily conquered Kumaun with the help of this renegade. The Chand dynasty of Kumaun came to a final end.

For fifty years the people of Kumaun had been suffering untold hardships because of political instability and conflict between the Joshis and the supporters of Mohan Chand. They had been squeezed dry for filling up the empty royal treasury and paying the salaries of the troops. For these reasons, the people of Kumaun, although, distressed by the fall of the Chand dynasty, did not actively oppose the Gorkhali rule.

Harshadeva Joshi's faction, as well as other opportunist elements, extended full cooperation to the Gorkhalis, who, consequently, faced few problems in the fields of administration and revenue collection. Mohan Chand, Lal Singh, and Mahendra Chand had inflicted untold sufferings on the Joshis, who, therefore, welcomed the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhalis appointed members of the Joshi family as revenue functionaries in the villages of Jhinjad, Danya, Digauli, Kalon, Oliya, and Galli. The Chaudharis of Dwara and the Pantas of Gangoli, Uprada, Syunrakot, and Khunt received similar favors. The services of the local Pandits were enlisted for religious and medical functions, while able-bodied Kumaun youths were recruited in the Gorkhali army.

Harshadeva Joshi felt satisfied with his success in destroying the Chand dynasty. The Gorkhalis respected him and took his advice on important matters. Harshadeva Joshi, however, expected that the Gorkhalis would place him in full political control of Kumaun. He, therefore, started instigating them to conquer Garhwal as well.

(To be Continued)

Dharmadhikar Ishwari Datta Mishra

The following public notification was issued under the royal seal in Palpa on Friday, Poush Badi 7, 1862:

"We have designated our maternal uncle (mama), Ishwari Datta Mishra, as Dharmadhikar. He will send his men for expiation rites (Prayaschitta) in that area; perform such rites through them for any offense (chhit) you may have committed without concealing or suppressing anything, and obtain writs (purji). Any one who does not do so, or defaults in payments due to the Dharmadhikar, may be degraded to a caste whose touch contaminates water, and also severely punished."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 688-89.

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Royal Orders of Kartik 1867 Samvat

(Continued from the August 1986 issue).

In this issue:

1. Ban on Begar Labor in Mahottari.
2. Land Reclamation in Bode.
3. Gilded Goats for the Royal Kitchen.
4. Water-Mill in Sankhu.
5. Revenue Survey in Parbat, Isma, and Dhurkot.
6. Jagir Revenues in Mahottari.
7. Scrutiny of Accounts and Records.
8. The Wax Monopoly.
9. Property Transactions.
10. Jhara Levy in the Eastern Hill Region.

1. Ban on Begar Labor in Mahottari

Royal order to the inhabitants of Dharmapur, Wakhari, and seven other moujas in the northern (sir) parts of the Parganna of Mahottari in Mahottari district:

"We have received reports that begar services are being impressed indiscriminately in those moujas, and that the ryots are shifting to other areas. In the future, you are ordered to provide porterage services for our supplies after proper examination, and not to provide such services to the Amali or other persons. With full assurance, reclaim and develop lands in your moujas."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 588-89.



## 2. Land Reclamation in Bode

On Monday, Kartik 10, 1867, a royal order was issued to Dhruva Padhya Khanal and Chandrashekhar Padhya Khanal granting them authority to reclaim 1 khet of uncultivated lands in the Bode area, construct irrigation channels, and convert the lands into rice-fields. The royal order added, "Appropriate the entire produce of these lands for the first two years. From the third year, register the lands at the royal palace through Kaji Balanarasimha Kunwar, and pay rents to the landlord (talsing) on adhiya basis."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38. p. 589.

## 3. Gilded Goats for the Royal Kitchen

On Monday, Kartik 10, 1867, Chaukidars, Jagatis, bhansaris, Umras, Subbas, Subedars, fousdars, gaurungs, etc, on the Kathmandu-Parsa route were ordered not to hold up, or collect duties on 2,400 gilded goats supplied every year by Chaudhari Laxman for the royal kitchen.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 590.

## 4. Water-Mill in Sankhu

Krishna Das Newar of Kolachhi Tol in Bode village was granted permission to install a water-mill (ghatta) on a plot of raikar land owned by him at Jagatipati in Sankhu on payment of a fee (baksauni) of eight annas. The grant was made under sunu birta tenure. He was required to make payment of 2 muris of paddy and a pota tax of Rs 6 every year to the local amal. Krishna Das Newar was also required to operate the guthi of the temple of Sri Vajra Jogini and perform religious ceremonies every year.

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 590-1.

## 5. Revenue Survey in Parbat, Isma, and Dhurkot

Amalis, local functionaries, and other inhabitants of Parbat, Isma, and Dhurkot were informed that Madhav Khatri had been deputed to conduct a survey of rice-fields, cultivators (Kuriya), newly-reclaimed lands, and serma taxes in each thum, other than sources of revenue covered by assignments (raibandi-dhadda) made under (jagir tenure).

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 591.

### 6. Jagir Revenues in Mahottari

Nine moujas in the district of Mahottari, including Dharmapur and Wakhari, had been assigned as jagir to Kaji Jaspal Thapa in the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat. The next year (1867), these moujas were assigned to Kaji Bakhtwar Simha. However, the Subba of the district claimed revenue from Sair duties and jimidari, levies for himself. Kaji Bakhtwar Simha then complained to Kathmandu. A royal order was then issued clarifying that those revenues belonged to the jagirdar, not to the Subba.

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 592.

### 7. Scrutiny of Accounts and Documents

A royal order was issued on Monday, Kartik 10, 1867 assigning the task of scrutinizing official accounts and records all over the Kingdom to Sardar Bakhat Simha Basnyat and Ditttha Pitambar of the Dafdarkhana. The order added, "Do not show any favor to any royal Preceptor or Priest, Chautariya, Kaji, Sardar or other bhardar, or any revenue functionary (rakandar). Collect revenues that are actually due and transmit the proceeds to us. Recruit local employees on monthly salaries (darmahadar) with revenues collected locally. Do not do anything to reduce revenue by manipulating records in collusion with any one. Collect the Farakhtana fee at the rate of five rupees for each Rs 1000 worth of accounts of that amount, Rs 2½ shall belong to the government, Rs 1¼ shall be apportioned among the mukhiyas, and the balance of Rs 1¼ shall be shared by the sardar and the Ditttha."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 593-94.

### 8. The Wax Monopoly

Public notification issued under the royal seal separately for the following regions:-

(1) East of the Dhobikhola river.

(2) West of the Bishnumati river.

"A monopoly has been imposed on the trade in wax. No one other than the monopolist shall, therefore, be allowed to deal in that commodity. The monopolist will send his men there. Any person who is in possession of wax shall give it to them with one hand and receive cash payment with the other at locally current prices. Any person who holds out or conceals supplies will be punished. Any person who takes wax for sale to the madhesh, and the person who purchases the commodity, shall both be severely punished. Any person who adulterates wax shall be punished. Loads being taken to the Madhesh shall be opened and examined, and if any wax is detected, it

shall be confiscated and handed over to the monopolist's men. Wax being brought to Nepal from outside shall be free from any duty, and shall be allowed to come in without any restriction. Any one who holds it up shall be considered guilty."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 594-95.

### 9. Property Transactions

(1) Mateng, a resident of Midhyatol in Tokha, sold one ropani of rice-land, known as Pasikhwat, which was purchased by Manaman Simha of the same place, the price being Rs 25, of which Rs 2½ has been paid as baksauni fee at the rate of ten percent.

(2) Nhulchhe Lohakarmi, a resident of Jonbahal at Nhagaltol in Patan town, sold a house under suna-birta tenure, with a plinth area of 3¼ Jawa, and situated on a plot of 1 khet, at Kuntitol north of the Jhatapol road, which was purchased by Bhajudatta Achar of Kuntitol, Jhatapol, the price being Rs 400, of which Rs 40 has been paid as baksauni fee at the rate of ten percent.

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 595-96.

### 10. Jhara Levy in the Eastern Hill Region

Royal order to the inhabitants of the Chainpur region:  
"A royal order had been sent previously directing you to provide jhara labor for the construction of a bridge on the Bagmati river by our Mother in the name of our Father. The royal order had also promised you exemption from Jhara obligations for a period of five years thereafter. You have now represented to us through the Amil, Sardar Bhairava Simha, that since much money has to be spent on travelling between Chainpur and Kathmandu, the labor obligation be commuted to a cash payment. You have also represented that such commutation, if sanctioned, will enable you to reclaim new rice-fields. Accordingly, you need not provide Jhara services in the future. Instead, soldiers of the Kumaridal Company have been sent to collect payments at the following rates from each household:

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Payment</u>
Abal	Rs 2
Doyam	Rs 1½
Sim	Rs 1
Chchar	8 annas.

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 598.

(To be Continued)

Four Documents on Kipat Tenure

1. Manthali.
2. Majhkirat.
3. Sangakot.
4. Arghau.

1. Manthali

Royal order to Dam Rai: "A tract of land known as Betyani, situated in the Manthali area, has been in your possession under kipat tenure from the time of your ancestors. We now appoint you as Mijhar. Provide constant service and use the lands as kipat."

Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 75.

2. Majhkirat

On Monday, Kartik Badi 14, 1866, a royal order was issued to Asik Ram Rai of Bhangding granting him permission to reclaim 87 muris of uncultivated lands in his holding, other than rice-lands which had been assigned to the army, under kipat tenure,

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 108.

3. Sangakot

Royal order to Sarba Singh Mijhar: "The former king of Bhadgaun, Ranajit Malla, had confiscated a part of the kipat lands owned by Mijhars, Gajya, Bhimanarain, Kalu, and Harkya, at Sangakot (Kabhrepalanchok), and granted those lands to Fulal Thapa as birta. The birta was later confiscated and granted as kipat to your elder brother, Birsing Mijhar. It was found that the boundaries of the kipat holding of Gajya Mijhar and others, as confirmed under the royal seal, overlapped those of the kipat holding granted to Birsing Mijhar. We, therefore, grant you as kipat the remaining area which had been confiscated from Fulal Thapa. The holding is bounded by the Khanikhola-Rosikhola confluence in the east, the Khanikhola stream in the south, Golmatharu in the west, and Kurchidaha and Chihandanda in the south. Provide customary payments and services (dastur, doko-boko), remain under the jurisdiction of the amal, and use the lands as your kipat."

Jestha Badi 11, 1890,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 299.

4. Arghau

Hare Kumhal, Dhanaram Kumhal, Laxmiman Kumhal, Dharmya Kumhal and Sirya Kumhal owned 7 khets (i.e. 700 muris) of rice-lands under kipat tenure in the Arghau area (of Kaski district). (Particulars of these lands, including boundaries, follow).

The following royal order was issued in their names on Wednesday, Magh Badi 3, 1895:

"You have been using these lands under kipat tenure from the time of your ancetors. You had been paying mahsul tax amounting to Rs. 30 to the Ramadal Company on these lands, according to a royal order issued by our father (i.e. King Girban ~~Yuddha~~ Bikram) in the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat. That order had also placed you under the obligation of providing hulak services as well as porterage services for the transportation of cardamom to the royal palace.

"During the year 1893 Vikrama Samvat, the settlement officers deducted excess lands from your kipat holding. You then submitted a complaint to us against such action. The excess lands were then reconfirmed as part of your kipat holding.

"You have now submitted a petition praying that a new royal order be issued, because the old one had been carried away by the Tadi river. We accordingly reconfirm the kipat grant on the original terms and conditions. With full assurance, pay mahsul taxes and other customary dues to the amal, provide hulak services as well as porterage services for the transportation of cardamom, and use the lands as your kipat."

Wednesday, Magh Badi 3, 1895,  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 382.

For a similar reconfirmation of kipat lands in Arghau, Kaski district, on the same terms and conditions, on Bhadra Badi 4, 1866, see Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp 95-96.

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Regulations for the Dharmathali-Jamuna Region

The following regulations were issued under the royal seal on Saturday, Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866 (June 1809) for the region west of Dharmathali (Kathmandu) and east of the Jamuna river in the names of Subedar Balabhadra Khatri and Subedar Dharmananda Khawas.

1. Inspect hulak posts for the transportation of official mail in the region west of Dharmathali and east of the Bheri river, and find out whether or not such posts have been maintained according to the royal orders. According to these orders, hulakis have been granted 50 percent exemption in the saune and fagu levies, and full exemption from forced labor obligations (beth, begar), and the serma tax on their homesteads. They have also been granted protection from eviction from rice-fields cultivated by them under adhiya tenure. From the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat, we hereby order that the remaining 50 percent of saune and fagu levies shall also be waived, and that each hulaki household be allotted..... muris of rice-fields for cultivation. Prepare the draft of a royal order to that effect, and send it along with the previous royal order, and we shall affix our seal on it.

2. Submit a report on the amount needed for payment according to the previous royal order to hulakis transporting official mail in the region west of the Bheri river and east of the Jamuna river, and the additional amount needed according to this year's arrangements, along with the previous royal order, and we shall affix our seal on it.

3. Establish hulak posts for the transportation of official supplies on the main route between Dharmathali and the Bheri river at four places on each day's journey and assign 20 hulaki households for each such post. These households have been granted exemption from the saune, fagu, and other levies, as well as from forced-labor obligations (Jhara, beth, begar), Make necessary arrangements accordingly and submit a report; we shall affix the royal seal on it.

4. Porterage services under the hulak system shall be provided only for military supplies and sick people between (Kathmandu) and the western (front). Such services shall on no account be provided to any other person, including any Royal Preceptor, Royal Priest, Chautariya, Kaji, Sardar, Subba, Subedar, Jamadar, or soldier, except under royal orders or orders signed by Kaji Bhimsen Thapa. In case any person uses hulak services for his supplies, falsely representing them to be those of the royal palace, arrest him, seize the goods, report the matter to us, and take action as ordered.

5. We have issued orders to Bhardars, Subbas, and Subedars at different places that in case any person forcibly encroaches upon the facilities and privileges provided to hulaki mail-carriers (Kagate-hulaki) or porters under royal orders, and oppresses them, he should be arrested, and the matter reported to us... Send instructions accordingly to the following headquarters for the following regions:-

- |            |     |                         |
|------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 1. Pokhara | ... | Marsyangdi-Kali region. |
| 2. Pyuthan | ... | Kali-Sakhi region.      |
| 3. Salyan  | ... | Sakhi-Bheri region.     |
| 4. Achham  | ... | Bheri-Karnali region.   |

5. Dipayal (Doti) ... Katagaun (Doti)-Mahakali region.
6. Almora ... Mahakali-Garh Region.
7. Srinagar ... Kumaun-Bhagirathi region.
8. Doon ... Bhagirathi-Jamuna region.

6. Inspect whether or not forts (gadhi, kill) at different places are being maintained and manned properly. Make arrangements for their construction or repair according to need, and submit a report to us.

7. Inspect targhats (for crossing rivers) at different places, and if these have not been installed or maintained properly, order the local Bhardars and Amalidars to do so without any delay. Submit a report to us.

8. Submit reports on the number of men, high or low, attached to Bhardars, Subbas, Subedars, etc. at different places, as well as on the arrangements that have been made for them.

9. Inspect whether or not gunpowder and munitions factories at different places are being operated properly. Submit reports to us regarding their performance, the number of muskets or quantity of gunpowder produced, and the number and description of the mechanics and workers.

10. Submit reports regarding the following matters:-

(a) The quantity of arms and ammunition supplied to the front from Pyuthan and Kumaun.

(b) The points at which the movement of arms and ammunition supplied from Kathmandu, Pyuthan, and Kumaun is obstructed, and the reasons for such obstruction.

At all points where the movement of arms and ammunition is obstructed, direct the local Bhardars, Subbas, Subedars, chiefs of feudatory principalities, and amalis, to expedite such movement.

11. Persuade the people of villages situated on the main route, who have fled to other places because of oppression by persons travelling through such villages, to come back and reoccupy their lands and homesteads. Do not let any person exact free porterage services, or free provisions, in villages adjoining the main route, except those who travel on official business on our orders. Prepare a report on action taken according to this regulation, retain one copy yourself, and send one copy to us.

12. Check the attendance of military companies at different places. In case a shortfall in the assignment of rice-lands is detected in any company, realise such shortfall from the appropriate Subedar at the rate of Rs. 25 for each khet (100 muris).

13. In case the movement of mail between Kathmandu and the front, or of arms and ammunition, including cannon, shells, flints, and gunpowder, is obstructed at any place, punish the person exercising jurisdiction over the area where such obstruction occurs.

14. Allot rice-land holdings ranging between 40 muris and 1 khet (100 muris) on adhiya tenure to each hulaki household according to the size of the family. The regulations prescribe that hulak posts for the transportation of supplies shall be maintained at intervals of one day's journey. You are now ordered to maintain two to four posts over this distance according to the nature of the terrain. Send the draft of an order to this effect and we shall affix our seal on it.

15. The fiscal exemptions granted to hulakis of both categories have been adjusted against the emoluments assigned to amalis of different areas. As regards losses due to similar exemption for newly-enrolled hulakis, submit particulars and we shall arrive at a decision.

16. In the case of kagate-hulaki mail-carriers, draft orders granting them exemption from payment of the serma tax subject to a limit of one rupee for each household, and we shall affix our seal on it.

Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866 (June 1809).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 1009-18  
and Vol. 40, pp. 65-22.

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#### On Kumaun

1. The Chumawan Levy.
2. Ban on Gambling.

#### 1. The Chumawan Levy

A levy known as mudahi was imposed on each individual in Kumaun in the year when that territory came under Gorkhali occupation. However, it was incorporated into the regular tax assessment records, so that the people of Kumaun were placed under the obligation of paying it every year. They, therefore, submitted a petition to Kathmandu through Subba Karna Simha protesting against such discrimination.

A royal order was then issued on Ashadh Badi 13, 1866, abolishing the mudahi levy in Kumaun from the year 1865 Vikrama Samvat. At the same time, the Chumawan levy was imposed on each household on a one-time basis on the occasion of the sacred-thread-investiture ceremony (of King Girban Yuddha Bikram).



The rates of the Chumawan levy for households which were granted exemption from the mudahi levy were as follows :-

<u>Grade of Household</u>	<u>Rate of Chumawan Levy</u>
Abal	... one rupee
Doyam	... 12 annas.
Sim	.... 8 annas.
Chahar	... 4 annas.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp. 64-65.

## 2. Ban on Gambling

Public notification in Kumaun: "We have received reports panic has spread among you because gamblers have been arrested and brought to the royal palace (in Kathmandu). We have taken such action against those who disobey our orders. So far as you are concerned, we hereby decree that there shall be no gambling in our territories. Any person who gambles shall be severely punished. However, those who had gambled in the past have been pardoned. With due assurance, remain in your lands and homesteads and continue engaging in agriculture, trade, or other occupations."

Saturday, Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 73.

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## Preparations for the Garhwal Campaign

### 1. Royal Order to Ambar Simha Rana

Royal order to Ambar Simha Rana: "On hearing that Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa has been deputed to the western front, you accompanied him. We have received a report to that effect from the Kaji; and so appointed you in the post of Subedar. This is how an ambitious person belonging to an old thar thok family should do. We shall promote you according to your work on the recommendation of the bhardars. Obey their orders faithfully and accompany Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa along with a large number of men to join the bhardars in Garhwal."

Sunday, Aswin Sudi 13, 1862

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 564-65.

## 2. Royal Order to Kaji Jaspau Thapa and Others

Royal order to Kaji Jaspau Thapa, Sardar Bhotu, Subba Toran Dhvaj Shahi, and Subba Prahled Gurung.

"You had left here at the same time as Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa. Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa has already reached Ridi along with seven pieces of cannon and ammunition, and we have already received a report he had sent from there. On the other hand, you are still on the way. You should not make such delay at a time of action. You are, therefore, ordered not to make a single day's delay, but to proceed expeditiously along with your men and meet the Kaji in Pyuthan. From there you are ordered to proceed ahead along with the cannon and ammunition and join Kaji Ambar Simha Thapa on the tenth or twelfth day of the month of Marga. We have appointed you in high-ranking posts, but if you cannot reach the front in time, we shall consider you to be imbeciles and send you women's blouses (guniyo-cholo) to wear. We shall also replace you by other men. Understand this, and march ahead quickly. Report to us from wherever you meet Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa."

Aswin Sudi 13, 1862

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 62, pp. 565-566.

## 3. Conscription in Western Hill Region

### I

Public notification in Tanahu, Bhirkot, and 23 other areas.

"A royal order had been sent previously directing you to join Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa on the western front. People belonging to all castes and communities shall join the bhardars in Garhwal along with their weapons on Jhara basis. Any person who disobeys this order shall be severely punished according to his caste status."

Aswin Sudi 13, 1862

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 566-67.

### II

On Magh Sudi 1, 1862, the following royal order was sent to Tanahu, Bhirkot, and thirty other places: "We had earlier ordered you to accompany Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa to the western front on Jhara basis. Many of you have obeyed that order, while others have not. We have now sent Kaji Ajambar Simha Pantha and Sardar Anirudra Baniya to the front. Join them on Jhara basis along with your weapons. Any amali who does not send the men under his jurisdiction, or any one who does not provide Jhara services according to this order, will be severely punished according to his caste status. Kaji Ajambar Simha Pantha and Sardar Anirudra Baniya have been empowered to inflict such punishment."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 722-23.

#### 4. Training in Artillery

On Aswin Sudi 12, 1862, Roshan Khan was appointed Jamadar of the Artillery on a monthly salary of twenty rupees. The appointment was effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1863.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, p. 562.

Kaji Amara Simha Thapa and Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa were informed of Roshan Khan's appointment the same day. They were ordered to use his services in training Subedars, Jamadars, and Huddas of different companies in operating cannon and pay his salaries from the general revenues (Sarbarokam).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 562-63.

Roshan Khan was sent to Garhwal along with Mahabal Raut, a jamadar of the Naya Srinath Company. Kajis, Sardars, Subbas, Subedars, and other officials stationed in Garhwal were ordered to let him train them in operating cannon, and to send a list of the trainees to Kathmandu.

Wednesday, Kartik Badi 1, 1862

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 580-81.

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## Gorkhali Conquest of Garhwal

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Dr. Shiva Prasad Dabrar "Charan"

(Uttarakhanda Ka Rajanaitika Tatha Sanskritika Itihasa,  
Part IV: Kumaun, Garhwal, Aur Himachale Par Gorkhali Shasana,  
Samvat 1847-1872 (1790-1815), Dogadha, Garhwal, Vir-Gatha Prakashan,  
2030 (A.D. 1973), pp. 72-87).

According to Bala Chandra Sharma, Vice-Chancellor of the Nepal Academy, the Nepali troops crossed the Mahakali river and entered Almora. After the capture of Almora, they immediately moved into Garhwal. The Nepalis did not have to fight at all for occupying territories beyond the Alakananda river. But as the war against the King of Garhwal for control of areas across that river was in progress, the Nepali troops were informed of China's attack on Nepal. In 1848 Vikrama Samvat (1791), the Nepal troops withdrew from Garhwal after signing a treaty.

Neither Nepali nor Garhwali sources confirm Bala Chandra Sharma's contention that the Gorkhali did not have to do any fighting to occupy areas beyond the Alakananda. According to available records, during 1791, that is, one year after the Gorkhali occupation of Kumaun, Harshadeva Joshi was present in Almora, and providing every possible cooperation to the Gorkhali commanders in occupying Garhwal, whereas no other person in Garhwal was an opportunist like him, willing to help the Gorkhali army in enslaving his own motherland. Nor was any functionary of Garhwal so dissatisfied with his King. In fact, the people of Garhwal had profound respect for their King. There was every possibility of the Garhwali troops deployed in the frontier forts resisting the aggressors with determination. That is why the Gorkhali had to make special preparations to invade Garhwal.

The rulers of Kumaun used three main routes for attacking Garhwal. One route passed from Almora to Chankhatiya on the Banks of the Ramaganga river via Hawalbag, Dwarahat, and Mahargeon. After crossing the Ramaganga, one could reach Mehalchauri, Gairsen, and Chandpur Gadhi. The Garhwali Kings stationed troops at Lohawagadhi, situated at an altitude of 8231 feet, in order to defend this route. The second route passed from Almora to Srinagar through Bageshwar, Baijanath, Gwaldam, the Pindar Valley, Tehrali, Narayangadh, Simali, Karna Prayag, Rudra Prayag and Khankara. To defend this route, the Garhwali rulers stationed troops at Baghanagadhi (8124 ft.). The third route linked Almora with Nayar Valley through Bhikhiyasain, Deghat, Gujurgadhi, and Devalikhal. The Garhwali rulers maintained troops at Gujurgadhi (6000 ft.) to defend this route.

There was yet another route leading to the Salan area in Garhwal. After crossing the Kali river near Brahmdeo Mandi, one could reach the modern Kathgodam from Doti or Nepal. At Kathgodam, one could catch the route leading to the Tarai via Almora, Chhakhata, and Bhimtal. From that route, one could reach Kashipur through Chilkiya, and modern Ramnagar. From Kashipur, one could reach Kotdwar in the Bhabar region after crossing the Ramaganga river near Kalagadh. At Kotdwar, a major route to Srinagar via Dwarikhal started. Troops of the Garhwali Kings used to be stationed at Langurgadh (6200 ft) to defend this route.

The conquest of Kumaun by the Gorkhalis posed a serious threat to the Kingdom of Garhwal. The Gorkhali rulers did not need any pretext for attacking neighboring Kingdoms. That is why Pradyumna Shah, King of Garhwal, was anxious to defend his frontier territories. He alerted the troops stationed at the frontier forts. Expecting fierce resistance from the Garhwali troops, the Gorkhali commanders divided their troops into several units and they invaded Garhwal from different routes. Sardar Amar Simha Thapa and Pratiman Shah ordered their troops to open fronts at various points. As a result, the ruler of Garhwal was forced to concentrate his troops on his eastern frontier. Fresh reinforcements were probably brought from Nepal to attack Langurgadh on the southern front.

A unit of the Gorkhali army, under the command of Sardar Ganga Ram, proceeded from Almora and marched toward Chandpur Parganna via Hawelbag, Dwarahat and Chaukhatiya. The Garhwali army, based in Lohawagadhi, tried to stop the advance of the Gorkhali troops. Ganga Ram was, therefore, compelled to open another front near Benital in Chandpur. King Pradyumna Shah promptly despatched troops under the command of Prince Parakrama Shah and Dharanidhara Khandudi toward Benital. The Garhwali troops fought bravely and defeated the Gorkhali forces. Ganga Ram was killed. The remaining Gorkhali troops withdrew to Kumaun.

In his book, Nepalako Aitihāsika Vivechana (An historical account of Nepal), Dhundi Raj Bhandari has made no reference to the battle of Benital. Instead, according to him, a battle was fought at Malan-Gadhi. I have failed to locate Malan Garhi in any map of Garh. Bhandari has written that the Garhwali forces attacked the Gorkhalis while the latter were establishing their headquarters at Malan-Gadhi. He adds: "The Gorkhalis resisted the attack with bravery and repulsed the enemy."

Yet another Gorkhali force, which seems to have been sent from Nepal, marched through Kotdwar. The Garhwali forces stationed there evaded an encounter because they were heavily out-numbered by the Gorkhalis. Instead, they lay in wait for the Gorkhali invaders at Langurgarh and Kaudiya-patti. Kaudiya-patti was a key point in the route leading from Dwarikhel and Gumkhal to the Nayar Valley. The route leading into the fort passed through steep and rocky terrain and could be defended even by a very small force. During times of peace, the meager cultivable land available in the fort was used to grow vegetables in the rainy season. Rain water was collected, there being no other source of water. For drinking purposes, one had to go down the rocky hill to a place called Kutalmunda through a distance of one mile to fetch water from a spring located there. This route was also used to supply food to the fort. The walls of the fort no longer exist, but religious ceremonies are still performed at the temple of Bhairava inside it.

The Gorkhalis decided to occupy Langurgarh as a stepping stone to the Kingdom of Garh, as otherwise they could be attacked by the Garhwalis from both Srinagar and Langurgarh. According to Patiram, there were 6,000 Garhwali troops in Langurgarh, but the figure is obviously an exaggeration, for Langurgarh could hardly accommodate so many troops. According to Miyan Prem Singh, Pradyumna Shah received information that another Gorkhali force was invading Garh through the Sulan route, and so sent a Garhwali force commanded by Ramapati Khandudi to defend Langurgarh. The Garhwalis successfully repulsed the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhalis were defeated at Kaudiya also. According to Dhundi Raj Bhandari, "The Garhwalis fought bravely at Kaudiya and Langur even though they had been defeated by the Gorkhalis at Malangarhi. Thanks to the bravery and zeal of men of Srinagar, even a brave fighter such as Pratiman Shah was forced to flee from the battle field."

The Gorkhali forces had hoped that they would be able to strike terror among the Garhwalis in the same way as they had done in Kumaun and make them accept Gorkha's suzerainty. But after being defeated at the battles of Langurgarh and Kaudiya, the Gorkhalis laid siege to Langurgarh. They dug trenches near the fort and organized their position. Some of these trenches are still extant. From there the Gorkhalis could keep a watch on the route leading to Kutalmunda. They wanted to block the supply of food and water to Langurgarh and force the Garhwalis to accept defeat.

The Garhwalis started undertaking surprise raids against the Gorkhali forces from the fort, and, while the enemy was so engaged, bringing food and water. One year passed in this manner, but the Gorkhalis were able neither to occupy Langurgarh nor to proceed to Srinagar through that route.

The Gorkhalis had occupied most parts of Kumaun easily and within a short time. The unsuccessful siege of Langurgarh was likely to undermine their prestige, reduce the feeling of terror they inspired, and encourage ambitious persons in the conquered principalities to raise their heads. The Gorkhali forces, therefore, gave vent to their anger by oppressing the innocent inhabitants of the adjoining villages. Small units of the Gorkhali forces started raiding those villages on foraging missions. As time passed, the range of such missions widened. The Gorkhalis not only siezed whatever provisions they could lay their hands on, but also raped or abducted the village women.

In order to defend themselves from the atrocities of the Gorkhalis, one or two men from each village kept a watch on tracks leading to the village from the tops of trees located at elevated places. They then informed the villagers whenever they saw Gorkhali troops approaching. It is said that even the village gods warned the villagers of the impending approach of the Gorkhalis. If any villager was captured by the Gorkhalis, and nothing of value was obtained from him, he was sold as a slave to the Rohillas. Whenever they received information that

the Gorkhalis were approaching, the inhabitants of Salan drove their cattle to the forests and concealed themselves in bushes or ravines or behind rocks. The Gorkhalis looted their food, clothes, utensils, and sheep and goats in their absence, or even when they were present. The Gorkhalis did not like coarse grains, hence they used to break the containers or mix three types of grains together and leave them. At times, they plowed over ripening crops. In Manduwa village, it is said that this increased the yield of the maruwa (millet) crop. The inhabitants of Salan accordingly adopted that practice, which is prevalent to this day.

As in Kumaun, the Gorkhali troops expelled anyone who was found staying inside his house. They then cooked food there, with the rafters or doors and windows as kindling if firewood was not available. They plucked ripe fruits from the trees and throw away the unripe ones. Often they used their khukuris to cut down the fruit trees.

The inhabitants of Salan were thus left with no alternative but to escape to the adjoining forests and live in makeshift huts with wild herbs and roots, or even leaves, as food. They buried their ornaments in the ground and concealed other belonging in caves or under rocks. They used to cook their food at night, lest the Gorkhalis should locate them by the smoke if they did so during the day. Ruins of such makeshift huts are found in the forests of Salan to this day.

The rulers of Salan were powerless to do anything to protect the people from the depredations of the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhalis sold hundreds of men, women, and children of Garhwal as slaves to the Rohillas, and sent thousands more to Kumaun and Nepal. After signing a treaty with Amara Simha Thapa in the year 1849 Vikrama (A.D. 1792), Pradyumna Shah sent Dharanidhara Khandudi to Nepal to negotiate the release of these unfortunate people of Salan. But nothing could be done for those who had been sold to the Rohillas.

Three years later, in 1852 Vikrama (A.D. 1795), a terrible famine ravaged the Kingdom of Garh. According to Captain Hardwick, who travelled through Salan on his way to Srinagar a year later, he saw that once-prosperous region devastated by the Gorkhali atrocities and famine. Wild animals roamed in areas which once were populated by human beings, and the few who still remained there were living a very miserable life. Only two or three huts were left in most villages, while villages containing ten huts, or even five or six huts, were rare. The Gorkhali troops conducted frequent raids into the eastern border areas of Garh, and the inhabitants of Lohawa used to retaliate in kind.

The invincible Gorkhali army had succeeded in vanquishing dozens of principalities in the region west of the Kali River, but it failed to proceed beyond Langurgarh after an attempt of more than a year. There was no geographical barrier obstructing its advance through the borders of Kumaun and Garh in the region south of the Nanda Himal. The Gorkhali army could have taken several other routes besides the main ones. The main reason why



it could not advance beyond Langurgarh was that no military reinforcements came from Nepal. The number of Gorkhali troops in Kumaun was not large. It was necessary to station some troops in the southern borders of Kumaun on a permanent basis in order to defend the territory against Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand. The Garhwali troops under the command of Dharanidhara Khandudi in the east, and Premapati Khandudi in Langurgarh, had already checked the Gorkhali invasion. Had the Gorkhalis marched ahead through Gunkhal, Dwarikhal, or any other route toward Srinagar, there was the fear of the Khandudis attacking them from the rear.

(Dr. Dabral then gives a detailed account of the Nepal-China war of A.D. 1791--92, and the treaty concluded by the two sides at the end of the war).

Thanks to that treaty, Nepal, Tibet and China were able to establish a political union all along the northern borders of the Indian dominion of the East India Company, which the Company was never able to subjugate.

After one year's unsuccessful siege of Langurgarh, the Gorkhalis made fresh preparations to occupy that fort with fresh reinforcements from Nepal. But meanwhile Jagajit Pande received a royal order from Kathmandu directing him to hand over the administration of the occupied territories west of the Kali River to Harshadeva Joshi and return to Kathmandu along with the entire Gorkhali Army.

However, Captain Kalu Pande and Amara Simha Thapa considered it dishonorable to return to Nepal after their failure in Langurgarh. Displaying extraordinary bravery, they succeeded in reaching Srinagar with a small body of troops. According to Prem Singh, the group included Kaji Jagajit Pande, Amara Simha Thapa, and Bhakti Thapa. The few Garhwali troops that were stationed in Srinagar thought that the Gorkhalis had already defeated the forces commanded by the two Khandudis on the frontier and, therefore, refused to fight. Pradyumna Shah fled along with his family to Ranihat across the Alakananda river. The Gorkhali troops then established their headquarters at Dhamuki.

On receiving this news, Dharanidhara Khandudi joined Pradyumna Shah at Ranihat. Pradyumna Shah sent him to Dhamuku to negotiate a treaty with the Gorkhalis.

On behalf of Pradyumna Shah, Dharanidhara Khandudi offered some money to the Gorkhalis. The Garhwali King was ignorant of the fact that the Gorkhali troops had been summoned back to Nepal because of the serious crisis facing the Kingdom. The Gorkhali commanders, on their part, were eager to leave as quickly as possible after signing an honorable treaty. Accordingly, they did not stipulate any conditions that might not be acceptable to the Garhwalis. A treaty was then signed stipulating an annual tribute of Rs. 3,000 to the government of Nepal.

There is a controversy regarding the actual amount of the tribute stipulated in the treaty. Atkinson (1884) puts the figure at Rs. 25,000 and Prem Singh (1886) at Rs. 4,000. Raper, who visited Srinagar in 1808, has given the figure Rs. 3,000 on the basis of information received from Gorkhali authorities. This figure is corroborated by archival materials of Tehri State.

With the objective of having the treaty endorsed, and securing the freedom of enslaved inhabitants of Salan, Pradyumna Shah sent Dharanidhara Khandudi to Nepal along with the Gorkhali commanders.

After the treaty was concluded, the Gorkhali commanders raised the question of handing over the administration of the conquered territories west of the Kali River to Harshadeva Joshi. Parakrama Shah opposed that plan on the ground that Harshadeva Joshi could not be trusted. The Gorkhalis could not, of course, violate the treaty and hand over the administration of Garhwal to Harshadeva Joshi. Amara Simha Thapa, probably angered by the actions of Harshadeva Joshi, placed him in detention and told him that the conquered territories would be put under his control only if he gave proof of his loyalty to the government of Nepal. Harshadeva Joshi appealed to Jagajit Pande against this action of Amara Simha Thapa. Jagajit Pande then proposed that Harshadeva Joshi accompany them to Nepal, where a final decision could be taken. Harshadeva Joshi accordingly accompanied the Gorkhalis for a few days, but succeeded in escaping at Gangoli and reaching Johar, which had not yet been occupied by the Gorkhalis.

Meanwhile, the Gorkhalis received another royal order from Nepal informing them that a treaty had been signed with China and instructing them not to hand over the administration of the conquered territories west of the Kali River to any one. The Gorkhali troops then returned to Almora. Amara Simha Thapa remained in Kumaun, while Jagajit Pande, accompanied by the Wakil of the King of Garhwal, Dharanidhara Khandudi, left for Nepal. The government of Nepal endorsed the treaty that had been signed with Garhwal and sent gifts and presents to Pradyumna Shah through Dharanidhara Khandudi. Dharanidhara Khandudi raised the question of the enslaved inhabitants of Salan. Many of them had already been sold, but the government of Nepal released thousands of others who had not yet been sold.

In Nepal, Dharanidhara Khandudi married the daughter of a Brahman who occupied an influential position in the royal court and whom Tehri State archives have identified as Gajaraj. Dharanidhara Khandudi then left Nepal and handed over the endorsed treaty to Pradyumna Shah, who, consequently, felt relieved.

According to Raper, the treaty required the King of Garhwal to bear the expenses of maintaining a Nepali envoy (Wakil) at Srinagar. According to Atkinson, he also agreed to send a Wakil to Kathmandu. Ratudi has noted that no source other than Raper has made any reference to a Garhwali Wakil at Kathmandu, hence he considers it improbable. Otherwise, how could the Gorkhalis have again invaded Garhwal in contravention of the treaty.

According to a document in the possession of the Tehri State Archives, Rama (Ramapati Khandudi) was Garhwal's Wakil in Kathmandu, while Dharani (Dharanidhara Khandudi) was the Gorkhali Lekhwar. But the capital of Nepal was known as Kentipur, not Kathmandu, during the time when the treaty was signed. The document referred to above was probably written during the reign of Sudarshana Shah. It shows that Dharanidhara Khandudi had been placed in charge of the Nepal Desk at Srinagar. More than three dozen letters, sent by Ramapati Khandudi to the Kamins of Gujru and Dhanga during the period between 1850 and 1856 Vikrama (A.D. 1793 and 1799), are available. This means that Ramapati Khandudi was at Srinagar during those years, and that he was not permanently stationed at Kathmandu. It is possible that he visited Kathmandu only occasionally, probably for the payment of the annual tribute. There is similarly no evidence that any Nepali Wakil had been permanently stationed at Srinagar. Apparently there was an official named Lekhwar at Srinagar in charge of correspondence with the royal court of Nepal. That post was occupied by Dharanidhar Khandudi. Because he had married the daughter of the royal preceptor of Nepal, he was trusted by the Nepali royal court.

There is some controversy about the date when the treaty between Nepal and Garhwal was signed. The treaty was signed after the Chinese invasion of Nepal. Immediately after it was signed; Amara Simha Thapa and the other Gorkhali commanders left for Nepal by way of Kumaun. They received information about the Nepal-China treaty while they were yet in Kumaun and had not crossed the Kali River. According to Bala Chandra Sharma, the Nepalis had succeeded in confusing the Chinese and compelling them to withdraw from the village of Phedi during the first week of Bhadra 1849 (September 19, 1792), and the Nepal-China treaty was signed not long thereafter. The treaty with Garhwal was signed when the Gorkhali commanders reached Srinagar in Shrawan 1849 (August -September 1792).

Harshadeva Joshi reached Johar after escaping from the Gorkhalis at Gangoli. Johar had not yet been brought under Gorkhali control. Kumaun had been occupied again by the Gorkhalis. Harshadeva Joshi was very afraid of Amara Simha Thapa. It was no longer possible for him to return to Kumaun and mobilise his supporters in the Barhamandal region against the Gorkhalis. The people of Johar had connections with the Phartyals and other enemies of Harshadeva Joshi. Accordingly, they informed Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand, who were then in the Tarai region, of Harshadeva Joshi's arrival and also made adequate arrangements for his maintenance. Lal Singh sent Kunwar Padma Singh, a relative, and other persons to Johar to arrest Harshadeva Joshi and bring him to the Tarai. The people of Johar handed over Harshadeva Joshi to Kunwar Padma Singh. Harshadeva Joshi then resorted to another strategy. He said that Kunwar Padma Singh was the real heir of the Chand dynasty, and that Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand did not belong to its main branch. Harshadeva Joshi, therefore, offered his cooperation to Kunwar Padma Singh in gaining the Chand throne. Lured by this offer, Kunwar Padma Singh released Harshadeva Joshi.

Accompanied by Kunwar Padma Singh and his party, Harshadeva Joshi went to Pradyumna Shah in Srinagar and asked for military assistance in placing Kunwar Padma Singh on the throne of Kumaun. Pradyumna Shah, however, reiterated his resolve to stay out of the politics of Kumaun and refused to break his treaty with the Gorkhalis. Since he had already freed himself from detention, Harshadeva Joshi had no longer any need to accompany Kunwar Padma Singh. Seeing no hope of getting any assistance from Pradyumna Shah, Kunwar Padma Singh returned to the Tarai, while Harshadeva Joshi remained in Srinagar.

Realising that it was impossible to dislodge the Gorkhalis from Kumaun, Harshadeva Joshi once again developed friendly relations with them. Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand twice invaded Kumaun to free it from Gorkhali control, but were defeated because Harshadeva Joshi and his supporters rendered active cooperation to the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhali troops stationed in the fort of Barakheri pursued Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand, who then shifted their headquarters to Kilapuri and began to collect an army.

(To be continued).

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Kumaun DocumentsJagir Grant in Kumaun

Royal order to Devidatta Vaidya: "We hereby grant you as Jagir lands yielding an income of Rs. 112 in the Kingdom of Kumaun. Proceed to the front (muhuda) along with Kaji Ambar Simha Thapa and provide medical services to bhardars, troops and other officials who are working there in our cause." Particulars of the Jagir grant are as follows :-

2 Jyulas in Manan previously in the possession of Radha Pantha ...	Rs. 61
Bhandarkot village in Bora Kiran, previously in the possession of Shiva Joshi ...	Rs. 51

Wednesday, Kartick Sudi 11, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 604-5

Birta Grant to Padmanidhi Upreti

Royal order to Padmanidhi Upreti: "Our bhardars had reported to us that during the conquest of Garh you offered prayers for our victory at the temple of Sri Badrinath and calculated auspicious timings (sait). In appreciation of these services, we had granted you two Jyulas of land in the Manan area of Kumaun as birta in the year 1861 Vikrama Samvat. We hereby reconfirm the grant. With due assurance, remain true to our cause and use the lands as your birta."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 604.

Slave Traffic in Garhwal and Kumaun

Royal order to Kaji Bahadur Bhandari and Bakshi Dasharath Khatri: "You have been sent there with the responsibility of administering Garh and Kumaun and making these territories prosperous. You are now ordered to detect and send back to their homes any inhabitant of those territories who may have been taken to the plains, the hills, the mountains, or Nepal, through force, fraud, guile, or sale. In addition, find out the persons responsible for such traffic, and, if they are located, punish them according to the regulations.

"We have also received reports that Khas, Magar, Khawas, Gurung, and other soldiers sent from here (to Garh and Kumaun) marry Brahman girls without any consideration of caste. Inflict severe punishment on such persons, and confiscate their property."

Monday, Marga Badi 8, 1867.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 640.

Oppression in Garhwal

Royal order to Kaji Bahadur Bhandari and Bakshi Dasharath Khatri: "We have received reports that Upendra Kanwar, Bahadur Khadka, Krishna Upreti, and other persons who had been sent to collect revenues in the Kingdom of Garh had greatly oppressed the ryots and caused them severe hardships, and that many ryots have fled to India (Moglan) or are coming here to submit complaints. If these reports are correct, arrest Upendra Kanwar and others lest they should escape on hearing news of your arrival, put them in fetters, and send them here along with the documents. In addition, submit accurate reports identifying the persons whose oppressive behavior has ruined that territory."

Sunday, Marga Badi 14, 1867

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 644-45.

Appointment of Rajawar

Royal order to Rudra Pal, "Your nephew, Mahindra Pal, and you had been managing the territory of Askot in Kumaun, and transmitting a sum of Rs. 2,025 to the government every year on account of Saunifagu and other revenues. In the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat, Mahindra Pal obtained an order from the bhardars stationed at Kumaun to appropriate the entire (half of the revenue) himself, thus denying you your share. From the year 1868 Vikrama Samvat, we hereby appoint you as Rajawar of Askot. Manage that territory on a joint basis along with Mahindra Pal, transmit Rs. 2025 to the government, and discharge your responsibilities as Rajawar."

Friday, Marga Sudi 4, 1867

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 654-55.

Damaged Jagir Lands in Kumaun

Royal order to Chautariya Bam Shah and Subba Hastadal Shah, "The Budha Kaji (Amara Simha Thapa) has reported that lands assigned to the newly-created unit (Patti) of the Sri Naya ..... Company in Kumaun have been damaged by floods and landslides, and that the soldiers are, therefore, complaining. Soldiers cannot stay there if they do not get any income (bali) from their lands. The Kaji will send a messenger along with documents containing particulars of the damaged lands. You are ordered to scrutinize those particulars, ascertain the amount of the income in money, and disburse such amount from the general revenues of Kumaun."

Thursday, Poush Badi 10, 1867

Regmi Research Collection Vol. 38, pp. 695-96.

Desertions from the Army

Royal order to Chautariya Bam Shah and Subba Hastadal Shahi: "(Military) personnel who were not given any Jagirs during the (annual) Pajani, as well as demobilized dhakres are coming here without our orders. There is still work to be done in Besahar. Until that work is accomplished, do not let any dhakre, irrespective of his status, who had been deputed for action in Garh, Kumaun, Simur, and elsewhere, come (to Kathmandu) without our orders and without passports issued by Kaji Ambar Simha Thapa, but send him to the front. Any dhakre who disobeys this order shall be arrested, put in fetters, and sent here."

Sunday, Magh Sudi 3, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 714

Plan for Attack on Besahar

Royal order to dhakres, Bhardars, Subbas, Subedars, Jamadars, Umras, etc. in the region situated west of the Mahakali River and east of the Satarudra (Sutlej) River: "We are planning to start action in Besahar in the year 1868 Vikrama Samvat. Everyone, whether a dhakre or a Jagirdar, must join in that action. All dhakres, wherever they may be, are hereby ordered to report to Kaji Ambar Simha Thapa immediately and wholeheartedly obey orders issued by him in our cause. Any one who does so shall be provided with jagirs and allowances according to his performance. Any one who does not do so shall be punished."

Sunday, Magh Sudi 3, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 715.

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Kipat Lands of Different Communities

1. The Pun Kipat-Owners of Jumla

Manya Pun submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "Kami Bhagiratya Pun had claimed inheritance rights in our kipat lands. The dispute was referred to the amal, a trial by ordeal of water was held and we were declared victorious. Now, 35 years later Kami Bhagiratya Pun has revived his claim. Because he is a prominent person (jetha-budha) of the village, he is thus encroaching upon the rights of simple and innocent (lata-ganda, nimukha) persons like us."

On Wednesday, Baisakh Badi 7, 1888 (April 1831) the following order, signed by General Bhimsen Thapa and Kaji Bhaktabir Thapa, was sent to the amalis and mukhiyas of Jumla: "If the facts mentioned in the petition are true, (Bhagiratya Pun) has no right to revive a claim in a dispute which he had lost 35 years ago. If, however, the facts are different, send both parties here."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 275-76.

## 2. The Danuwars of Nuwakot

The Mijhars of four villages in Nuwakot district, including Rajman Danuwar, submitted the following petition to Prime Minister Jung Bahadur :-

"Our Kipat lands had been acquired for the Gadkhar (birta), but the serma tax on these lands has not yet been remitted and we have accordingly been paying it since the year 1918 (A.D. 1861). The concerned office is delaying action in the matter. We pray, therefore, that other lands be given to us in exchange for our kipat lands."

On Saturday, Marga Badi, 7, 1925 (November 1868), the following order was issued on this petition: "If the particulars are true, what is the reason for delaying a decision in the matter since the year 1918 Vikrama Samvat? If it is not necessary to grant other lands in exchange for the petitioners' Kipat, explain the reasons in detail. If it is necessary to grant other lands in exchange, this should have been done promptly. Until either course of action is decided, a fine of 2 annas is hereby imposed for every additional day of delay. You may ask why the fine has been imposed. The reason is the delay that has been made in recommending whether or not other lands should be granted in exchange for the Kipat lands which have been acquired for the Gadkhar gardens and thus harassing the concerned people since the year 1918 Vikrama Samvat."

The Sadar Dafdarkhana then reported, "The Kipat lands had been surveyed during the year 1911 Vikrama Samvat by Captain Sevak Ram Thapa, but neither he nor his writers and clerks are available at present. A fresh inquiry has now been held, and the local people have represented their case as follows: "A lokabhar settlement has been made for our village by increasing the actual amount of revenue assessment (wajbi) by 50 percent. We have been paying the amount so stipulated every year. Since a part of the lands have been placed under the jurisdiction of the Bakyauta Tahasil office, a remission in such payment would be justified. It is also not justified to deduct a part of our Kipat lands within the boundaries specified in the relevant royal order."

The Sadar Dafdarkhana then made the following recommendations: "The officials deputed to make the 1911 Vikrama Samvat settlement had not been granted powers to inspect Kipat holdings. If a local inquiry shows that lands are being held under Kipat tenure, the Kipat-owners should not be placed under dual obligations. If the transfer of a part of their Kipat lands to the jurisdiction of the Bakyauta Tahasil Adda is valid, the amount of payment stipulated by them must be reduced accordingly. If not, such remission must be made by the Bakyauta Tahasil Adda. In my opinion, the officials who acted beyond their authority and recorded a part of Kipat holdings as undeclared (ukas) lands must be punished with fines. The lands which have been so recorded must be exempted from taxes imposed by the Bakyauta Tahasil Adda."



The case was referred to the Kaushal Adda, which recommended that the Bakyauta Tahasil Adda should be ordered not to collect taxes on the lands which had once formed part of Kipat holdings.

The following royal orders (lal mohar) were attached to the file :-

(a) A royal order issued in 1864 Vikrama Samvat reconfirming 398 muris of rice-fields and additional uncultivated lands as Seva Birta within specified boundaries.

(b) A royal order issued in 1902 Vikrama Samvat (sic) endorsing Kipat land grants made by Shri Tin Mah. raj.

(c) A similar royal order issued in 1966 Vikrama Samvat.

During the revenue survey of 1911 Vikrama Samvat, Kipat lands covered by a grant signed by Prime Minister (Jung Bahadur) in 1906 Vikrama Samvat were deducted to the extent of 533 muris, and registered with the Bakyauta Tahasil Adda.

The Sadar Dafdarkhana submitted the following recommendation:

"If the boundaries of the Kipat holding, as specified in the relevant royal order, have been substantiated through a local inquiry, and if newly-reclaimed lands within these boundaries have been taxed, the concerned officials should have been punished with fines because they have acted beyond their authority. But since they are already dead, it may be sufficient to order the revenue-collecting officials not to collect taxes on such resumed Kipat lands."

The recommendation, which was made on Wednesday, Baisakh Badi 4, 1926 (April 1869), was referred to the Commander-in-Chief. He accepted the recommendation with retroactive effect from the year in which tax-collection on the resumed Kipat lands had started.

Thursday, Marga Sudi 6, 1926 (November 1869)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 55, pp. 555-61

#### A Note on the Gadkhar Birta

On Sunday, Poush Sudi 5, 1918 (December 1861), all lands in the following villages in Nuwakot district, including those under birta, jagir, or other tenures, were granted as Serbakara - Akara - Sarbangamafi - Birta - Bitalab to Prime Minister Jung Bahadur in appreciation of his services in safely escorting King Surendra during a pilgrimage to Gosainthan.

- |                      |                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| (a) Gadkhar - Gaun.  | (f) Gairhi - Gaun.        |
| (b) Pokhare - Gaun.  | (g) Amchur - Gaun.        |
| (c) Chhap - Gaun.    | (h) Kabilas-Katte - Gaun. |
| (d) Bodhare - Gaun.  | (i) Syundi - Gaun.        |
| (e) Ratimara - Gaun. | (j) Tinghare - Gaun.      |

### 3. Kipatt Lands of Kumhales

A part of the Kipatt holdings of Mijhar Jageshwar Kumhale and Mijhar Sadharam Kumhale was acquired for a royal orchard as well as for birta grants. The remaining area was reconfirmed as Kipatt on Thursday, Bhadra Badi 5, 1865 (August 1808). The location of the lands is not mentioned in the order.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 2, p. 359.

### 4. Kipatt Lands of Churyada Muslims

Royal order to Biraj Churyada: "From the time of your ancestors you had been in possession of lands South of the Bagreni-Khola (other boundaries are also specified) under Kipatt tenure subject to hulak services. Later, Harke Bhatta obtained a grant of these lands by falsely representing them as uncultivated. We hereby invalidate that order and reconfirm the lands as your Kipatt. Provide the customary hulak services and payments and retain the lands under Kipatt tenure as before."

Monday, Ashadh Subi 2, 1864

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 905-6.

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### Royal Orders of Kartik 1867 Samvat

#### Rents on Confiscated Birta Lands

160 muris of rice-fields, owned as birta by Kisan Thapa and Gaur Parajuli, had been confiscated along with those of other birtaowners and assigned as Jagir to the Sri Mehar Company. They were now ordered to pay rents as follows every year to the bearer of certificates (purja) issued by that Company :-

80 muris of paddy as kut.

Rs 4 as ghiukhane levy.

Chardam - Tneki fees.

The order added, "We hereby allot these lands to you on adhiya tenure. (So long as you make these payments), you shall not be evicted from these lands."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 605

Expenses for Rautahat Fort

The ijaradar of Rautahat district had traditionally been allowed to debit the emoluments of the Jamadar of the local fort from the amount of payment stipulated by him under the ijara. Later, however, he was not allowed to do so. When Guru Pandit Raj Ranganath Pandit (was Ijaradar of Rautahat), he requested that he be allowed to debit such emoluments (from the amount of payment stipulated by him). However, he was allowed remission of that amount under the head of depreciation (Jarti). Subsequently, Subba Laxman Giri was appointed Ijaradar of Rautahat, and he prayed that the same concession be extended to him.

The following royal order was then issued on Wednesday, Kartik 11, 1867: "No remission shall now be allowed on account of depreciation. Instead, you will be allowed a sum of Rs. 888 as expenses (mamuli-kharcha) to be incurred on the fort like previous ijaradars from the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat. Use that amount to pay the emoluments of Jamadars and soldiers of the fort every year. The amount will be debitted from the payment stipulated by you under the ijara."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 602.

Rhinoceros Hunting

Royal order to the Subbas, Fouzdars, Birtaowners, Jagirdars, and Chhap-holders of Morang, Saptari, and Mahottari: "We have sent nine men, including Patal Ghale, to hunt rhinoceroses for the Royal Palace. Make laborers available to them if they so request. You shall be held responsible if you do not do so, or if you forcibly seize the rhinoceros horns from them."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 602-3.

Remission of Sair Duties

Royal order to the Rauts, Mahauts, and Sairdars of the pargannas of Mahottari, Kodari, and Asibhou: "Mahaut Baliram Das's men visit those areas to procure timber, fire-wood, bamboo, sabai grass, khar grass, etc. for his Asthan (monastery). Collect sair duties on such supplies only if these have been collected customarily. Do not collect such duties by force. They need these supplies for religious ceremonies, so do not collect sair duties from them."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 603.

Chhap Land Grant

The King of Nepal (i.e. the Malla King of Kathmandu) had granted a plot of land in Jiunpur as Mayau to Nathi Pandit, which needed 3 pathis of seeds for sowing. The land was granted under Chhap tenure to Gangaram Thapa on Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 603.

Appointment of Mohinaike

On Wednesday, Kartik 11, 1867, Matyang was appointed as Mohinaike in Khwadpa for 620 muris of rice lands assigned to the Purano-Sabuj Company. He was ordered to collect the customary rents from the lands on behalf of the Company, and register undeclared and newly-reclaimed lands, which had not been so assigned, at the Royal Palace Dafdarkhana through Kaji Balanarasimha Kanwar. You shall be punished if there is any bungling in the matter. Appropriate the customary fees and perquisites of your office and remain in attendance at the Dafdarkhana."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 601-2.

Expenses on Religious Ceremonies

On Wednesday, Kartik 11, 1867, Mahabir Karki was ordered to make the following disbursements from the thokbandi revenues of Thak for the year 1867 Vikrama Samvat :-

(1) Amount due to Nilakantha Pandit against ritual offering (dakshina) for religious ceremonies and prayers at the temple of Sri Guhyeshwari.

(2) Rs. 183 due to Nilakantha Pandit against ritual offering for reciting the Puranas during the four-month period from Shrawan to Kartik in the year 1865 Vikrama Samvat.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 601.

Disbursements from Darshan-Bhat Revenues

In two separate royal orders issued on Wednesday, Kartik 11, 1867, Subedar Dhambar Thapa of Sri Bhagawati Dal Company in Majhkirat, and Sardar Bhairava Simha Thapa of the ... Company in Chainpur, were ordered to disburse Rs. 300 each to Yudhisthir Thapa and Gambhir Simha Thapa as maintenance allowance (pet-kharcha) from the Darshan-Bhat revenues collected from their respective Companies during the year 1868 Vikrama Samvat.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 600.

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Introducing:

An Economic History of Nepal, 1846-1901

By

Mahesh C. Regai.

(To be published shortly)

This volume is the final part of the sequel promised in the author's Thatched Huts and Stucco Palaces; Peasants and Landlords in 19th Century Nepal (New Delhi: Vikas Publishing House Private Ltd., 1978), the first part being The State and Economic Surplus: Production, Trade, and Resource-Mobilization in Early 19th Century Nepal (Varanasi: Math Publishing House, 1984). It covers the early period of Rana rule in Nepal, that is, the period between 1846 and 1901, when the foundations of the Rana political and administrative system were laid and consolidated by Prime Ministers Jung Bahadur (September 1846-August 1856, and May 1857-March 1877), Ranoddip Simha (March 1877-November 1885), and Bir Shumshere (November 1885-March 1901).

The objective of this volume is to study the economic history of Nepal during the period mentioned above. The fiscal system has been chosen as the main theme in the belief that it provides a key to an understanding of the working of the economy as a whole. Accordingly, the first chapter describes the internal political and economic situation and the external environment at the beginning of Rana rule. The general characteristics of the Kingdom's fiscal system are described in Chapter 2, while Chapter 3 describes the systems of fiscal administration that were followed in different regions of the Kingdom. Chapter 4 contains an account of the agrarian tax system, the biggest source of revenue during that period. The next three chapters deal with revenues from the state sector in the fields of agriculture (Chapter 5), mining (Chapter 6), and forests (Chapter 7). The general pattern of the Kingdom's internal and external trade forms the subject-matter of Chapter 8 as a background for a discussion of the system of commercial taxation (Chapter 9) and state intervention in trade (Chapter 10). The final chapter contains some broad observations on the nature of the fiscal system of the Kingdom during the early Rana period. The reader is requested to realize that this is not a study of the political economy of Rana Nepal, but only of the fiscal system of the Rana state.

The author makes no claim that he has gone through all existing materials on the subject; rather, he has taken care to ensure that the passion for acquiring data does not become a substitute for the harder job of interpretation. No such study of the Kingdom's economy during the nineteenth century has ever been attempted, hence the question of depending on secondary sources did not arise. The study, therefore, relies mainly on primary sources, both published and unpublished. Contemporary sources of British official origin have been used where possible, but the bulk of the information contained in the study has been drawn from the archival materials in the possession of the Department of Land Revenue in the Ministry of Finance of His Majesty's Government. The author is grateful to the appropriate authorities of His Majesty's Government for permission to use these materials.

It is by no means the intention of the author to forestall criticism, but a few words of explanation on the choice of methodology may not be out of place. What the author has attempted in these pages is to devise a conceptual framework within which historical facts pertaining to the fiscal aspects of Nepal's economy can be assembled and interpreted. Such a study should help to underline the organic linkage among different aspects of the economy, facilitate a total and general perspective, and pave the way for theories and theoretical models on its dynamics. To those who might regard the study as long on description and short on analysis, the author can only repeat the observation that he had made in the preface to The State and Economic Surplus that the ground plan of the whole edifice of the study should itself serve the purpose of an analytical framework.

More than fifteen years ago, in the preface to A Study in Nepali Economic History, 1768-1846 (New Delhi: Manjusri Publishing House, 1971), the author had claimed that "in not confining his attention to wars, dynastic chronologies and political intrigues in Kathmandu as a fitting and, indeed, the only subject-matter of historical study, he has set up a precedent in Nepali historiography." The intervening years have done nothing to qualify the claim. Regrettably, this new genre seems to be at variance with the traditional Nepali view of history. Such an unorthodox stand needs a few words of explanation. It is based on two different points of view with respect to the past, one represented by the Sanskrit/Nepali term Itihasa, and the other by the Greco-Latin term History. The term Itihasa, like the Germanic word Geschichte, denotes an account of what happened in the past (Itiha+Asa = Thus it was). In contradistinction, the Greek verb at the root of History is historein, to inquire, hence the term denotes a more critical tendency, with the accent on subjective interpretation. The author has tried to explain this distinction because he has found the traditional Nepali mind generally incapable of grasping the concept of history in the Greco-Latin tradition. This incapability seems to have two manifestations. In the first place, there is an obsession with "facts", relegating interpretation, the life-blood of history, to a secondary position. The movement for writing a "true" history, or a "national" history of Nepal may be regarded as a product of that obsession. Secondly, there is the failure to realize that history is a multi-dimensional field in which historical facts can be observed, selected, and interpreted in many different ways, so that the form and content of history are shaped as much by the events of the past as by the perceptions of the historian, or that the basic theme of one study can be used to serve only the secondary purpose of a background for another study, or even that a volume may deal with one particular theme to the exclusion of others during the same chronological period.

The author can, therefore, only hope that his effort, as part of man's eternal quest for knowledge, will stimulate deeper studies on the subject, as well as alternative interpretations of the material, and conclude, in the words of Thucydides, that "my work is not a piece of writing designed to meet the taste of an immediate public."

- Mahesh C. Regmi.

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Miscellaneous Documents

1. Reconfirmation of Udayapur - Birta, A.D. 1810.
2. Exemption from Forced-Labor Obligations in Bhadgaun, A.D. 1810.
3. Appointment of Chaudhari in Saptari, A.D. 1833.
4. Appointment of Kanugoye-Rais in Saptari, A.D. 1833.
5. Appointment of Chaudhari and Rais in Sarlahi, A.D. 1833.
6. Land Reclamation in Sheoraj, A.D. 1838.
7. Forced Labor in Jumla, A.D. 1846,
8. Amanat System in the Tarai Region, A.D. 1850.
9. Land Surveys in the Tarai Region, A.D. 1862.
10. Revenue Collection Contract in Salyan, A.D. 1862.

1. Reconfirmation of Udayapur-Birta

Royal order to Rudramani Karki of Udayapur in Dang:  
 "Formerly, after the conquest of Pyuthan, our father (That is, King Ran Bahadur Shah) had reconfirmed your Bitalab-Birta on payment of Rs. 1,100. Subsequently, we ordered you to remain under the jurisdiction of Salyan. The (Raja of) Salyan then collected a payment of Rs. 1,100 from you as theki-bheti and reconfirmed your birta. In the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat, Subba Rudravira Shahi similarly collected a sum of Rs. 1,100 from you. We, therefore, hereby again reconfirm your birta within the customary boundaries."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810)  
 Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38 p. 615.

2. Exemption from Forced-Labor Obligations in Bhadgaun

Several smiths (banda) of Bhadgaun were taken to Beni and Baglung-Chaur to work in the local mints under Subba Jabar Singh. They were granted exemption from forced-labor obligations (Jhara, beth, begar) so long as they were thus employed. The number of banda households enjoying such exemption was one in Mul-Nasal-Tol, 3 in Bekhatol, 8 in Ilecho Tol, 8 in Talachhe-Tol and Kwathandu-Tol, 2 in Itachhe-Tol, and 3 in Thimi.

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810).  
 Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 613.



### 3. Appointment of Chaudhari in Saptari

Royal order to Bhawanath Chaudhari: "You were previously Chaudhari of the parganna of Pakaria in Saptari district, but were dismissed in the Vikrama year 1889 (A.D. 1832) because you were unable to make payments in full. You have now represented to us that the arrears have been paid up. We, therefore, reinstate you as Chaudhari from Baisakh Badi 1, 1890 (April 1833). The Moujas of Maheshbari and Sakhwa-Itaharwa are hereby granted to you as nankar, in addition to other customary perquisites, subject to a Khatami Salami payment of Patna Rs. 451 a year."

Jestha Badi 11, 1890 (May 1833)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 300.

### 4. Appointment of Kanugoye-Rais in Saptari

On Jestha Badi 11, 1890 (May 1833), separate functionaries known as Kanugoye-Rais were appointed for the pargannas of Pakaria and Jagadar in Saptari district to assist in the collection of revenue and maintenance of land and tax records. They received one mouja each as nankar, and a specified amount, Rs. 100 for Pakaria and Rs. 40 for Jagadar, in lieu of other perquisites. A Khatami Salami of Rs. 210 was collected every year on the nankar mouja in Pakaria; the amount was Rs. 130 in Jagadar.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, pp. 300-1.

### 5. Appointment of Chaudhari and Rais in Sarlahi

Gobind Mandar had been appointed Chaudhari of all the four pargannas of Sarlahi district, namely, Asibhau, Kodraha, Sarlahi, and Brahmapuri during the Panchasala settlement (of Vikrama 1885). In Vikrama 1889 Dharmani Khan was appointed Chaudhari of the parganna of Asibhau. When Gobind Mandar complained to Kathmandu, his appointment as Chaudhari of all the four pargannas was reconfirmed, with the usual nankar lands and other perquisites, on Jestha Sudi 2, 1890 (May 1833).

In a separate order, Dharmani Khan was appointed as Rais of the above-mentioned four pargannas to maintain land and tax records and dispose of disputes between ryots and tax-collectors (malguzar) in a mutually satisfactory manner on the basis of available documentary evidence.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, pp. 313-14.

### 6. Land Reclamation in Sheoraj

According to a royal order issued on Marga Badi 3, 1895 (November 1838), Chaudhari Durga Prasad of Sheoraj was granted the waste mouja of Bankatwa, which had neither been granted as bekh or birta nor covered by the thek-thiti settlement for

that area, under nankar tenure. The grant was effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1895 (April 1838). The Chaudhari was sanctioned emoluments amounting to Rs. 25 a year, in addition to customary perquisites under the thek-thiti settlement.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 410.

#### 7. Forced Labor in Jumla

Royal order to dhakres, jagirdars, jimmawals, thanis, tharis, and Thakuris travelling through Machhe-Bhanjyang.

"The inhabitants of Parathkhola and Chyudi Villages (in Jumla) have complained that they have been greatly harassed by the practice of exacting unpaid portage services and provisions. We, therefore, order that in the future the inhabitants of areas adjoining Machhe-Bhanjyang shall not be compelled to provide such services and provisions, except for arms and ammunition, sick soldiers, and coins destined to the royal palace. Any person who acts in contravention of this order, thereby depopulating the villages, shall be held liable for taxes due from the depopulated homesteads.

Friday, Bhadra Sudi 14, 1903 (August 1846)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 80, pp. 318-19.

#### 8. Amanat System in the Tarai Region, A.D. 1850

Commander-in-Chief Bam Bahadur to Captain Dalamardan Thapa: "The amanat system was introduced in the districts of the eastern and western Tarai regions in 1906. Subba, Naib Subbas, and Kumbhedans were appointed to different districts to make collections, and munsiffs have been appointed to conduct surveys. You are hereby ordered to oversee these arrangements under the supervision of Dal Bahadur Kunwar Rana. In case any Subba, Naib Subba, Munsiff, Chaudhari, Kanugoye, Patwari, or other revenue functionary discloses your order, or is guilty of bribery or obstructive tactics, refer the matter to Kathmandu through General (Krishna Bahadur) at Katarbana and take action as ordered. Retain those functionaries that are loyal and competent, and recommend new ones according to need. We shall duly send letters of appointment .

Baisakh Badi 3, 1907 (April 1850)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 64, p. 499.

#### 9. Land Surveys in the Tarai Region A.D. 1850

Order to Lt. Hira Singh Karki Chhetri, Kharidar Yagnyenidhi Padhya, Kharidar Simhabir Rajbhandari, Kharidar Devidas, and Kharidar Juman:

"On Ashadh Badi 7, 1919 (June 1862), Colonel Siddhiman Singh Rajbhandari had been ordered to measure lands on the southern hillslopes and record them in the land-tax-assessment register (Jammabandi) for the Tarai."

"In the Butwal region, situated west of the Kaligandaki river and east of the Arra river, only plain lands shall be recorded in the tax-assessment register for the Tarai, but not hill lands."

Aswin Badi 4, 1919 (September 1862).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 29, pp. 537-38.

\*\*\*\*\*

) Revenue-Collection in Salyan

I

Order to the Mukhiyas, Katuwals, and ryots of Kot-Jahari, Darma, Bafi, and Gotam (in Salyan): "The Jimmawals of these four areas have been dismissed, and a royal order has been issued granting a revenue-collection contract (thek) to Vrishadhvaj Shah of Jajarkot. You are hereby ordered to collect revenues, and administer justice, under the jurisdiction of Vrishadhvaj Shah."

Aswin Badi 4, 1919 (September 1862).  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 29, p. 528.

II

On Aswin Sudi 3, 1881, Dilaram Mahat and Khalu Kanwar were granted an ijara for the collection of revenue from the following sources in the Gurwakot area of Salyan: Chari (grazing tax), customs and transit duties (sair), taxes on riverine products (Jalkar), taxes on forest products (bankar), gold-mining (sun-dhuwai), duties on (export of) boats, sal and catechu timber, and foodgrains (galla), and duties on the sale of miscellaneous local produce (dihi-sair). Crown levies (raja-anka) were excluded from the ijara. The ijara was valid for a period of three years beginning Ashadh Badi 1, 1881. The stipulated annual payments were as follows:-

<u>Vikrama Year</u>	<u>Amount</u> (In Mohar Rupees)
1881	Rs. 285
1882	Rs. 301
1883	Rs. 301

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 35, pp. 11-12.

## III

On Bhadra Sudi 9, 1881, Khalu Kanwar was granted a three-year ijara for the collection of revenue from Chari, Sair, bankar, Sun-Dhuwai, and other sources in the Daukhuri, Sunar, and Rajapur-Patuwari pargannas of Salyan. Raja-Anka revenue was excluded from the ijara. Khalu Kanwar stipulated an annual payment of Mohar Rs. 3,776. The letter of his appointment as Ijaradar contained the following instructions:-

1. Do not enhance the customary rates of taxes and levies.
2. Rs. 135 shall be paid from Sair revenues every year against the emoluments of Chautariyas.
3. The balance of Mohar Rs. 10,923 shall be transmitted to the headquarters (Dafdarkhana) of the Srinath Kampu every year.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 35, pp. 10-11.

Of this amount, a sum of Rs. 2,134 was assigned for payment of salaries to mechanics employed at the Kathmandu Munitions Factory. The assignment became necessary because 8,536 muris of rice-lands assigned to them in the villages of Tistung, Palung, Agra, and Lele, were reassigned to the Srinath Kampu.

Tuesday, Jesta Badi 8, 1882

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 5-6.

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Recognition of Gorkhali Rule in Kumaun

By

Dr. Shiva Prasad Dabara "Charan"  
(pp. 87-89)

In the Vikrama year 1851 (A.D. 1794), Gulam Mohammed assassinated the Nawab of Rampur, Mohammed Ali Khan, who was his brother, and occupied the throne. The East India Company government then sent a force led by General Abercrombie from Fatehgarh to punish him. Gulam Mohammed was defeated and fled to Fatehchaur in the Siwalik foothills south of the Kingdom of Garh. On receiving this information from Harshadeva Joshi, Pradyumna Shah sent troops to drive out Gulam Mohammed from there. Gulam Mohammed was then left with no alternative but to surrender to the East India Company government. The Company's troops then left Rampur. Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand recruited Gulam Mohammed's troops in their own army and invaded Kumaun. However, they were again repulsed by Amara Simha Thapa. The Gorkhali army pursued the enemy to the Tarai and occupied Kilapuri, headquarters of the Lal Singh-Mahendra Chand Clique.

Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand then met the Nawab-Vizier of Oudh through the good offices of the Subedar of Bareilly. They told the Nawab that the Gorkhalis had occupied territory in the Tarai region which belonged to Oudh. The Nawab ordered the Subedar of Bareilly to drive out the Gorkhalis and reoccupy that territory. Troops of the Nawab, led by Ata-Beg Khan and Raja Shambhu Nath, blockaded the valley of Chilkia, so that supply of goods to Kumaun was disrupted. This was a prelude to an invasion of Kumaun. The British Resident, Cherry, mediated in the dispute and averted a war between the Nawab and the Nepal government, since any British assistance to its ally, the Nawab, would undermine British commercial interests in Nepal. The government of Nepal accepted Oudh's claim to the Tarai territory and the Nawab recognized the Gorkhalis' authority over Kumaun. The Nawab then granted the Chandhat territory of Pilibhit district in the Tarai as jagir to Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand and also granted them lands in the Tarai.

These arrangements made Harshadeva Joshi furious, for the Nawab of Oudh had already promised him the Zamindarship of Kashipur, Rudrapur, and other areas through Raja Tikit Roy. It appears that Harshadeva Joshi was then in Srinagar. He left for Lucknow saying that he would submit a petition to the Nawab-Vizier on behalf of the people of Garhwal, who had been oppressed by the Gorkhalis. But his real intention was to oppose the agreement that had been concluded between the Nawab and the Lalsingh - Mahendra Chand clique. The Nawab-Vizier advised Harshadeva Joshi to contact the British Resident, Cherry, who had negotiated the agreement. In A.D. 1797, Harshadeva Joshi met Cherry at Benaras in the capacity of an envoy of the King of Garhwal. He also handed over a memorandum describing the oppression that the people of Kumaun and Garhwal had suffered at the hands of the Gorkhalis.

Harshadeva Joshi sent similar letters to Mr. Graham. Cherry arranged for a monthly allowance of Rs. 50 to enable him to stay in Benaras. He gave assurances that his services would be utilized at a favorable opportunity. However, Harshadeva Joshi had to return to Hardwar when Cherry was assassinated in A.D. 1799.

The government of Nepal did not want to relinquish the Tarai territory, for it needed that fertile territory to maintain its troops in Kumaun. In fact, it wanted to occupy as much Tarai territory as possible from Kumaun to Bihar. It insisted that since Kumaun belonged to it, its claims over the Tarai territories of that principality should be accepted. The government of Nepal reiterated its claim over the Tarai territories of Rudrapur, Kashipur, and Kewalpur, when the Kirkpatrick mission visited Nepal in March 1793, and also in July-August 1795, when the East India Company government sent Maulvi Abdul Kadir to Nepal. The Nepali authorities then reminded the Maulvi that relations between Nepal and Oudh had remained cordial for three generations, and that Nepal had assisted the Nawab during the Rohilla rebellion.

Sheoraj Affairs, A.D. 1837-38

## I

Royal Order to Subba Gosain Shiva Bux Puri

"In the Vikrama year 1894 (A.D. 1834), a royal order was issued under which a thek-thiti settlement was made for Sheoraj on the basis of an official survey. The settlement comprised revenues from Land tax (mal) customs duties (sair) and judicial fines and penalties, (asmani), but excluded Crown levies (raja-anka). It stipulated a yearly payment of Rs. 19,000 through Chaudhari Gurudas. This thek-thiti settlement remains operative.

"We have now received reports that you are directly collecting revenue from sair duties. You are under obligation to receive the sum of Rs. 19,000 through Chaudhari Gurudas and have no authority to make direct collections.

Royal order to the Chaudhari and other ryots of Sheoraj:  
"We hereby order to make payments in accordance with the terms of the royal order issued in your names to Subba Shiva Bux Puri during the year 1894 (A.D. 1837)."

Marga Badi 7, 1894 (November 1837)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 675.

## II

Royal order to Bhardars in Pyuthan

"You are hereby ordered to depute six soldiers (Sipahi) in the month of Kartik (October 16-November 15) every year to the jimmawal of Sheoraj for the collection of revenue as stipulated under the thek-thiti settlement for that area. These soldiers shall visit the villages specified by the jimmawal, collect revenues, and hand over the proceeds to the jimmawal. They may appropriate provisions (manachamal) (from the local people) only during the period when they are engaged in the collection of revenue. They must return to Pyuthan in the month of Chaitra (March 14-April 12).

Marga Badi 3, 1895 (November 1838)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 409.

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Doti Administration

## I

Regulations relating to the administration of Doti in the name of Subedar Devendra Padhya and Narasing Thapa.

1. Provide assistance from Doti in the event of any intranquillity in Jumla west of the Kali river. No assistance need be provided for Kumaun. In the event of any intranquillity in Doti itself, do not provide any assistance outside, but defend Doti.

2. In case you receive reports of intranquillity in Kumaun or Jumla, report the matter to us immediately.

3. Find out what the Raja of Doti has promised to other Rajas in respect to our Kumaun territory and send a report to us.

4. In case any person causes harm to us, punish him according to the extent of his guilt in consultation with the Raja of Doti.

5. In case persons enslaved by former bhardafs have run away, do not let them be recaptured notwithstanding orders from anybody. Reinstate such persons as free peasants (Kuriya).

6. Accept the monthly salaries given by the Raja of Doti. If he is unwilling to pay such salaries, but offers lands instead, accept lands which will yield the same income. Appoint agents to collect information from different places at (the Raja's) expense. In case any jamadar is defeated in battle, or does not reach the front in time, inform him of his guilt and report the matter to us. Appoint another Jamadar in his place.

7. In case any person has committed a serious crime which is punishable by death, obtain a confession from him in the presence of the Raja, put him in irons, and report the matter to us.

Marga Sudi 3, 1850. (November 1793)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 36, pp. 37-39.

## II

Royal order to Mandhata Shahi: "From the time of our conquest of Doti until the Vikrama year 1878, Pahad Shahi administered that territory first as Raja and then on the basis. During that time, your father, Narapati Shahi, and you worked according to the orders of Pahad Shahi's agent (karobari), Lal Bikram Shahi. Some ryots of Doti who were dissatisfied with decisions made in their cases submitted complaints to the Amali of Doti against Pahad Shahi. You then represented to Chautariya Bam Shah that you would not be able to produce the litigants because Pahad Shahi had taken custody of all your accounts and records. Chautariya Bam Shah ordered that such complaints shall not be heard by the Amali, and not pursued by the litigants. You have now complained to the Revenue Survey Team (Sarbajanch ko kachahari) that the litigants, disobeying that order, were once again submitting complaints to the Amali and thus harassing you. Your complaint has been referred to us through the Kot Ditha, Sarup Bista, and Major Ram Nath Upadhaya.

"We hereby order that since Pahad Shahi has taken custody of all accounts and records, you need not produce the litigants, and that the Amali shall not hear any complaint in this regard, nor shall the litigants submit any complaint, and pardon you."

Tuesday, Jesta Badi 8, 1882  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 6-7.

A similar order was issued on the same date in the name of Ram Bhatta.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 7-8.

### III

On Tuesday, Jestha Badi 8 1882, Man Malla was granted an ijara for the collection of revenue from the following sources on commodities brought for sale at a fair held for a fortnight every year in the month of ... in the Siu-Garkha area of Doti. The payment stipulated under the ijara amounted to Mohar Rs. 75 a year.

Chungi duties on copper, brass, iron, iron utensils, musk-pods, wax, attar (i.e. chares), blankets, ghee, salt, foodgrains, and other (kerana) goods, and fees for stamping cloth.

The order added, "Transmit the amount through the Amali every year and obtain clearance. Keep traders satisfied, and collect duties at customary rates. Obtain seals for stamping cloth from the Chautariya at Silgadi. After the term of the ijara expires, return the seal to the Chautariya.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 8-9.

### IV

On Monday, Chaitra Sudi 12, 1886, Chautariya Pushkar Shah of Doti was ordered to disburse a sum of 280 rupees and 10 annas to meet the shortfall in the Khuwa revenue assigned to Sardar Balabhadraju for the Vikrama year 1887 with revenue collected from sources allotted for meeting miscellaneous expenses (masaland).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, p. 58.

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Copper and Iron Mining Ijaras A.D. 1901-2

## I

Ijaras for copper and iron mines entitled the ijaradar to collect cash payments or metals from miners, as well as homestead and other taxes, income from fines and penalties imposed in the course of the administration of justice (in cases other than those classified as Panchakhat), and escheat property worth less than Rs. 100 in one case. The ijaradar was not entitled to appropriate income from Crown levies (raja-anka), levies collected on behalf of the Dharmadhikar, and treasure troves (Kalayanadhan).

## II

Pahalman Gurung of Lamjung was granted a one-year ijara effective Aswin Badi 1, 1958 (September 1901) for two copper mines at Kitini in Nuwakot against a payment of Rs. 237-15½ to the Mulukikhana. The payment was previously collected by the local Bakyaute Tahasil Adda, since no ijara offer had been received.

Chaitra Badi 8, 1958 (March 1902)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 612-21

## III

Pahalman Gurung was also granted a three-year ijara effective Poush Badi 1, 1958 to work copper mines in the Attharasay Khola area of Nuwakot district against an annual cash payment of Rs. 880 to the Mulukikhana.

Chaitra Badi 30, 1958 (March 1902)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 630-41

## IV

Pahalman Gurung was granted a three-year ijara effective Aswin Badi 1, 1958 (September 1901) for copper mines at Jharlang in Gorkha against a payment of Rs. 219 a year to the Mulukikhana.

Poush Sudi 14, 1958 (January 1902)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 522-532

## V

Setu Thapa Magar, a private in the army, was granted a one-year contract for copper mines in the Agra area of Chisapani effective Aswin Badi 1, 1958 (September 1901). He was required to supply 10% ~~of~~ <sup>of</sup> copper to the Sadar Jinsikhana and Rs 3½ in cash to the Mulukikhana.

Marga Sudi 11, 1958 (November 1901)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 444-454

## VI

Abishhamuni Lama was granted a three-year ijara effective Shrawan Badi 1, 1958 for copper mines in Godawari (The Godawari Mines Office having been abolished) against an annual payment of Rs. 50 to the Mulukikhana. The government pledged not to procure the copper produced in the mines, but to let the ijaradar sell it elsewhere.

Poush Sudi 2, 1958 (December 1901)  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 492-502

Rents and Tenancy on Jagir Lands

Rent Exemption

Kashiram Pande's Complaint: "A plot of 15 muris of rice-lands belonging to Sri Hanuman Dhoj Company, had remained uncultivated for six or seven years. The Amali allotted the land to one, with exemption from rents for an initial period of three years. The three-year period is not yet over, but Ranamasta Giri is demanding rents."

Order from General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Kunwar to the Dware, Thari, and prominent inhabitants (bhala-manis) of Chiti (Lamjung): "If the complaint is true, Ranamasta Giri shall not be allowed to demand rents before the three-year period of exemption is over."

Jestha Badi 14, 1876

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 556-57

Remission of Rents

I

Order issued in the names of Chautariya Prana Shah, General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, Kaji Ranadhir Simha Basnyat, and Kaji Rewanta Simha Kunwar to mohis cultivating Jagir lands of the army in Chittutar and other areas of Lamjung: "During the month of Marga 1874, hailstorms damaged crop on Jagir lands in those areas. The military personnel (Tilanga) holding the jagirs then inspected the damage and let cows loose in the fields. On such lands, the mohi shall pay, and the Jagirdar shall accept, only one-third of the kut rent. No one shall now raise a quarrel in this matter and submit complaints to the Palace."

Wednesday, Jestha Sudi 5, 1875

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 514

II

The following order was sent on Wednesday, Jestha Sudi 6, 1875 in the names of General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Simha Kunwar to military units holding lands under Jagir tenure in the Chittutar and other areas of Lamjung: "Orders have been issued to the effect that on lands where crops were damaged by hailstorms in Marga 1874, and where cows were accordingly let loose, tenants shall pay only one-third of the kut rent. Such payments shall be made in cash at the rate of 30 pathis of paddy a rupee."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 516-17

### Enhancement of Rents

Order from General Bhimsen Thapa and Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa to the Major of the Durga Bux Company, as well as Mohinaikes, Tharis, mohis, and respectable people (bhala-admi) of lands assigned (as Jagir to that company).

"Ranasur Karki, Bhimaraj Thapa, Bhimal Gurung, and Nahar Singh Gurung made a false representation of the amount of kut rents paid on these lands in the Vikrama year 1875, offered to pay a higher amount for the Vikrama year 1876 on that basis, and obtained an order under the royal seal accordingly. The order was, therefore, withdrawn. You are now ordered to make arrangements for renting these lands on higher amounts of rents, convert such rents into cash, and submit drafts of new orders accordingly."

Chaitra Sudi 1, 1875

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 553.

### Taxable Lands in Pharping

On Wednesday, Jestha Sudi 5, 1875, an order was issued to the Dware, Pradhan, and Mohinaike of Pharping in the names of General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Simha Kunwar directing them to furnish accurate particulars of rice-lands and pakho-lands, apart from suna-khet guthi and birta lands, to Jamadar Narapati Kunwar.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 516.

### Agrarian Discontent

Order issued in the names of Chautariya Prana Shah, General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Simha Kunwar to Bholu Nath Jaisi, Narad Padhya, Joga Jaisi, Parsa Pande, Jogya Rokaya, and Suka Rokaya on Shrawan Sudi 4, 1875: "For long you have been indulging in activities designed to render Jagir lands of the army uncultivated, flout royal orders, and preventing amity between cultivators (rati) and rent-receivers (amali). Now the government has granted those lands to the Raja of Bajhang. Make payments through the Raja of Bajhang of amounts due from you or the peasants. If even now you incite the peasantry and create trouble, and if such reports are received by the palace from the Raja or from the Company, you shall be punished according to your caste status."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 523-24.

### Rights of Local Peasants

#### I

From General Bhimsen Thapa to the Amali, Thari, and other respectable people (bhala-manush) of Chiti (Lamjung): Gnyananidhi Tiwari and Riddhinidhi Tiwari have complained that you have not allowed them to occupy their homesteads and lands in their

district on payment of the customary dues. They shall be allowed to occupy their homesteads and lands in their district on payment of the customary dues to the Amali. Reconfirm their occupancy rights and do not create any trouble."

Magh Sudi 14, 1875

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 539-40

## II

Dharmananda Devkota submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "Lands assigned as the khangi of Birabhadra Company had been allotted for cultivation to a local person. However, the allotment was nullified when an outsider paid the Chardam-theke fee for allotment in his name. An order was then issued according to which payment of the Chardam-theke fee would not nullify the original allotment. Disregarding that order, Bichari Chamu Padhya and Khadga Simha Karki are planning to confirm the rights of the outsider who had paid the Chardam-theke fee. They have also appropriated the cultivator's share (mohi-boti) of the crop of the Vikrama year 1874, as well as the allotment order."

An order signed by General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Kunwar was then issued on Chaitra Sudi 3, 1875 to Bichari Chamu Padhya and Khadga Simha Karki informing them that "mere payment of the Chardam-theke fee cannot nullify a royal order." It added, "Fund the cultivator's share of the crop, in cash or in kind, that you have taken from Dharmananda Devkota, as well as the royal order and other documents."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 554.

## III

Order from General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewanta Kunwar to Ramu Pantha, Jagya Ballabh Bista, and Gaure Gurung: "A plot of 230 muris of rice-lands had been allotted to you by royal order, as you represented that you were inhabitants of the same area and no local person would complain. Now Lilanidhi Tiwari has complained that he has been cultivating those lands since the Vikrama year 1862 and regularly paying the Chardam-theke fee and rents to the landlord (talsing). The lands shall accordingly be restored to Lilanidhi Tiwari if he is willing to pay customary fees and kut rents at the enhanced rate. You shall not be allowed to show him after the Vasanta Panchami festival (Magh Sudi 5) a royal order which had been issued in the month of Poush. You have also no right to claim lands in Chiti (Lamjung) while residing in Kaski."

Chaitra Badi 30, 1875

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 554-55.

Land Allotment

## I

Royal order to Birabhadra Pandit: "A royal order had been issued granting you an ijara for the collection of kut rents. The bhardars inserted the provision in that order that you shall not be entitled to evict (cultivators). We now cancel that order and grant you authority to appoint or dismiss (pajani) (cultivators). With due assurance, fear nobody, allot the lands to cultivators (kuriya) who can reclaim new lands and pay the prescribed amount of rents. Do what is in our interest and will bring you credit."

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 608.

## II

Royal order to Dinanath P. ~~dhya~~, Vamsharaj Thapa, and Birabhadra Thapa: "A tract of land known as Murkuchi, located in the Khunj area, had been allotted under the royal seal to Jaga Simha Thapa. We hereby cancel that order and reallocate the lands to you. Pay the prescribed amount of rents to the Sridal Company, and promote cultivation and settlement."

Saturday, Marga Badi 6, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 633-34.

Cultivation of Jagir Lands

Royal order to people belonging to the four castes and thirty-six sub-castes in the Chainpur region: "We have received reports that you leave the Jagir lands of military companies uncultivated, but cultivate pakho lands instead. In case you continue to do so, you shall be severely punished, and the rents shall also be realized from you."

Friday, Falgun Sudi 6, 1867  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 748.

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## Forest Protection in the Hill Region

### 1. Gorkha

Royal order to the Subba and Tharghars of Gorkha: "You have reported that a forest adjoining the Sanghu (ford) on the Daraundi river in Gorkha has been cleared and burnt for purposes of cultivation, with the result that the rest-house (near the Sanghu) has been washed away and the Sanghu too is about to collapse.

"We therefore hereby order that the forest tracts mentioned below be protected in the future:-

- (1) Forest bounded by the Alainchi-Khet in the east, the Deurali hill in the south, the Daraundi river in the west, and the fields at the foot of the hills in the north.
- (2) Forest bounded by the Bhusya-Khola in the east, the Khahare field in the south, the Khahare-Khola in the west, and the Thado-Kholsi in the north.
- (3) Forests adjoining irrigation channels in the Ghelala-Phant area.

"Roadside trees, as well as those located near sources of water, and fruit trees, shall not be cut. Do not let anyone cut green trees, set fire to the forest cover, and clear the land for cultivation. Allow timber required for the construction of palaces and Sanghus, for the repair of dams and irrigation channels on sera lands, and for building the huts and houses of the people through common consent. No one shall cut any timber without such permission. Any person who clears forests or sets them on fire shall be punished according to the nature of his offense."

Sunday, Magh Badi 9, 1903

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 52, pp. 620-21.

### 2. Garhun

Jageshwar Pande's petition: "Forests adjoining the Modi-Khola river in Garhun had been protected from former times. Now timber, bamboo, and cane are being cut from those forests and the land is being cleared for cultivation. As a result, landslides are damaging dams and irrigation channels on rice-fields belonging to the army."

The following order was then issued in the name of Jageshwar Pande on Saturday, Marga Sudi 3, 1903: "The forests shall be protected as usual. All lands brought into cultivation in that area after the Vikram year 1894 shall be allowed to revert to forest. No one shall be allowed to cut green trees, bamboo, or cane there. Timber may be cut only with your permission for meeting the requirements of the local palace (Kot) and Dashain ceremonies, as well as for constructing dams and irrigation channels, embankments, and houses. Any person who cuts timber in contravention of this order shall be produced before the Amal and punished. You are hereby granted authority to protect the forests according to those arrangements."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 62, pp. 601-2.

### 3. Parbat

Petition of Navanidhi Pandit of Balewa, Parbat district: "Forests located above the confluence of the Dhawa Khola in the Balewa are of Parbat, as well as khar grass on the Antari hills, had been conserved according to the collective decision of the local people. The villagers used to cut (timber and khar) grass for their needs in a regulated manner. These days, however, these trees are being felled indiscriminately, and khar grass is cut even before it is mature, because there are no official regulations. As a result, the villagers have not been able to roof their houses, or procure building materials (danda, bhata). Indeed, timber is not available even to repair dams and irrigation channels on the lands of the army, and fields remain uncultivated. Our villages will be depopulated if necessary official regulations are not promulgated."

The following order was issued on this petition from the Sadar Dafdar Khana on Friday, Baisakh Sudi 7, 1907:

"You are hereby granted authority to protect the forest and the hillside tract (bhir) (mentioned in the petition). Do not let any one cut timber or khar grass indiscriminately, or to clear the lands for cultivation. Materials needed to repair dams and irrigation channels on the lands of the army, and for building and roofing houses, shall be procured through the collective decision of the villagers. In case anyone cuts trees, he shall be taken to the local Amal and punished. You will be punished by the Amal if you procure such materials for your own use without consulting other villagers on the plea that you are the caretaker."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 79, pp. 44-45.



4. Rising

Petition of Gajabir Ale of Rising: "I had constructed a rest-house (dharmashala-thanti) on the hill leading to the village of Khudi in Rising. These days trees, bamboo, nigalo-khar, etc. around that rest-house are being cut indiscriminately. How then can I make the roof? It has now become difficult for travellers to take shelter there."

Gajabir Ale, therefore, requested permission to use the trees, bamboo, nigalo, cane, etc. on the banks of the Chapadi-Khola, and the khar grass on a tract of Suvaro (hillside) land known as Betauti, exclusively for the rest-house. He also requested that he be granted authority to protect them.

An order, addressed to the thekdar, Mukhiya, and villagers of Khundi village, was issued on Tuesday, Baisakh Sudi 10, 1907 granting Gajabir Ale's request.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 79, pp. 97-98.

5. Syangja

Twelve tharis of the Kristi area of (Syangja) Nuwakot submitted the following petition to Kathmandu. Their names were Bagbir Thapa, Tribhu Thapa, Maniram Chuwagain, Jayamangal Padhya, Tulasiram Padhya, Abir Thapa, Karabir Khatri, Biraj Gurung, Tirtha Gurung, Kumbha Singh Gurung, Kalu Thapa, and Jayabhadra Banstola.

"An order had been issued during the time of General Bhimsen Thapa for the protection of forests in the Kristi area bounded by Khalsya in the east, Syaldhunga in the west, Bhir-Suvaro and Bhaisyadi in the north, and the track through Bholyadanda in the south. These forests had accordingly been protected.

"People subsequently acted in contravention of that order, with the result that the forests were destroyed. A royal order was, therefore, issued in the Vikrama year 1904. However, that order did not contain a full list of names, nor did it indicate the boundaries accurately. Consequently, the forests are again being destroyed.

"This year, a landslide occurred in that area, and buried large areas of rice fields belonging to the army. The supports of the local fort (Kot-Gadhi) are also about to collapse."

The petitioners, therefore, prayed that a fresh order be issued authorising them to protect the forests. The order was accordingly issued on Sunday, Marga Sudi 5, 1907.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 79, pp. 235-37.

6. Bhirkot

Ranabir Rokaya and other inhabitants of Khilung in Bhirkot submitted the following petition to Kathmandu: "Sal and Sallo trees, as well as bamboo, nigalo, khar" and babiyo in the Chhagodi, Trishuli, Bhima-Odar, and Deupuja area of Khilung had been protected since the times of the Raja of Bhirkot. The local people used to procure timber and other products from there according to need for repairing dams and irrigation channels on lands belonging to the army, as well as for their domestic purposes. These days, however, both the local villagers and outsiders do so indiscriminately, so that supplies are nearing exhaustion. It has, consequently, not been possible to repair dams and irrigation channels on lands belonging to the army, and large areas have been left uncultivated. It has also not been possible to meet domestic needs."

An order was accordingly issued on Saturday, Magh 7, 1907 authorising the petitioners to function as caretakers and protect the forests. The order added, "Necessary supplies of timber and other products may be obtained only with the permission of the caretaker (Chitaidar) and the Amali. Anyone who forcibly procures supplies, including the Chitaidar, shall be punished by the Amal."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 79, pp. 277-79.

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Instruction To Chiefs of Administrative Districts

The following instructions were sent under the royal seal to the chiefs of different administrative districts on Thursday, Chaitra Badi 8, 1892 (March 1836):-

1. Civil and military officials and functionaries who visit any village may accept as Mejmani any fruits, vegetables, and firewood that may be offered willingly by the people. They shall not take anything by force.
2. In case such officials and functionaries need provisions, the local people shall make these available at current prices.
3. Roadside trees, as well as those near temples, rest-houses, and sources of water shall not be cut in any circumstances.
4. Nobody, high or low, shall exact unpaid portorage services under the hulak system except for the transportation of government supplies, arms and ammunition, and sick people, as well as for purposes specified through royal orders or orders signed by the General and Commander-in-Chief, Bhimsen Thapa.

5. No one shall supply provisions (manachamal) without payment.
6. Tracks and targhats in the concerned area shall be maintained properly. Any person who acts in contravention of this order shall be arrested and punished. If necessary, the matter shall be referred to us, and action taken as ordered."

The order was sent to the chiefs of the following administrative districts:-

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| (1) Palpa               | (2) Jumla            |
| (3) Majhkhand (Pokhara) | (4) Salyan           |
| (4) Doti                | (6) Pyuthan          |
| (7) Dullu-Dailekh       | (8) Sindhuli         |
| (9) Dhankuta            | (10) Ilam            |
| (11) Chitwan            | (12) Chisapani-Gadhi |

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 27, pp. 366-71.

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### The Parbat Copper Mines

#### Appointment of Ijaradar

The ijara for the Parbat mines and the Beni and Baglung-Chaur mints had been held by Prahlad Thapa and Mahabir Karki. Dittha Laxmi Narayan and Laxman were granted the ijara after Prahlad Thapa and Mahabir Karki were dismissed.

Sunday, Jestha Sudi 11, 1872.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 10.

#### Collection of Arrears

Royal order to Prahlad Thapa and Mahabir Karki: "From former times, ijaradars in the Baiskhani region have been taking over arrears of payment due (from miners) to their predecessors. However, you have refused to take over arrears due for the Vikram year 1869 and 1870. The local people accordingly complained to us and we have issued orders according to which the Amali (ijaradar) for the Vikram year 1871, 1872, and 1873 must take over these arrears, make collections in three installments, and transmit the proceeds to us. For the Vikrama year 1871, you will thus have to pay Rs 2137-11-3-1. Transmit the amount through Dittha Laxmi Narayan and Laxman as soon as you receive this order."

Ashadh Badi 30, 1872.  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, pp. 17-18.

Repayment of Loans

On Sunday, Jestha Sudi 4, 1872, a royal order was sent to the mukhiyas of different mines in the Baiskhani area of Parbat directing them to repay personal (kapali) loans obtained by mineworkers (agri, keta, mahar) during 1869-70 Vikrama, when the mines were held by Ramajit Bhandari and Balabhadra Padhya. The order was addressed to 23 mukhiyas of the Pandokhani mines, 14 mukhiyas of the Daram-Khani mines, 2 mukhiyas each of the Jhimkhani mines and the Gahun Khani mines, 4 mukhiyas of the Thana-Khani mines, and 1 mukhiya of the Durbukhani mines.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, pp. 4-6.

Exploitation of New Mines

Royal order to the miners (agri) of the Baiskhani mines in Parbat from whom arrears of payment were due for the Vikrama year 1869: "We hereby authorize you to operate both old and new mines in areas between the Marsyangdi and Bheri rivers, which have never been placed under the jurisdiction of any Amali since our conquest, and are not presently under the jurisdiction of the Amali of the Baiskhani mines. For the Vikrama years 1872 and 1873 you have stipulated a payment of Rs 1902 for these mines. Deposit the amount at the Tosakhana (Treasury) every year"

Particulars of payment were as follows:

1872:	Rs. 901
1873:	Rs. 1001
Total	<u>Rs. 1902</u>

Daramkhani Mines

Mukhiya Sahadev Pun.  
 Mukhiya Bandoe Siris  
 Mukhiya Jitari Gharti.  
 Mukhiya Dhurcha Pun  
 Mukhiya Badhya Pun  
 Mukhiya Ajya Pun  
 Mukhiya Sanya Siris  
 Mukhiya Banya Gharti  
 Mukhiya Panchya Gharti  
 Mukhiya Bagmatya Siris  
 Mukhiya Jayadrath Thapa

Pandokhani Mines

Mukhiya Juktya Siris  
 .. Ambar Siris  
 .. Ravi Pun  
 .. Rangya Pun  
 .. Jairam Pun  
 .. Bandoe Gharti

Thadakhani Mines

Mukhiya Shuraj

... Jalya

... Maitu

Kholekhani Mines

Mukhiya Hiramani

Wednesday, Jestha Sudi 7, 1872  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, pp. 6-8.

Restrictions on Copper Trade

Royal order to the inhabitants of Thek residing in the Baiskhani area of Parbat: "We have received reports that you visit different mines to procure copper, which you smuggle abroad. A monopoly has been introduced in trade in copper, and mints have been established. Whatever you may have done in the past, do not export copper in the future. We have authorised the Amali of the mines to expell you from the mining area if you do so in the future.

Thursday, Asadh Badi 30, 1872  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 18.

Exemption from Serma Tax

Royal order to the Amalis of Chimribot and Kotgaun-Pakhanani: "We have received reports that you are demanding Serma tax (on homesteads) in the mining areas of Tahabir-Khani and Thada-Khasi. From former times, miners (Khaniwar) in the Baiskhani region have been paying Kachho (ore), not Serma. You are, therefore, ordered not to collect the Serma tax from them."

Friday, Ashadh Badi 9, 1872  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 16.

The Nirkhi Tax

Royal Order to Prahlad Thapa and Mahabir Karki: "You had been granted the ijara exclusive of revenue from the nirkhi tax on copper supplied to the Beni and Baglung-Chaur Mints. Dittha Laxmi Narayan has now complained that you have not paid amounts collected from that tax. You are, therefore, ordered to make such payments at the prescribed rates, or else you will have to pay interest as well."

Friday, Ashadh Badi 9, 1872  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 16.

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Enslavement in Jumla

Ram Chandra Khatri, Subba of Jumla, had purchased a musk -pod from Jadhu Padhya at the price of twenty rupees.

Lakshya Budha had been convicted of adultery with a Badi woman of Nigalibot village and sentenced to enslavement.

On Thursday, Ashadh Sudi 4, 1867, Subba Ram Chandra Khatri issued an order handing over Lakshya Budha as a slave to Jadhu Padhya in lieu of payment for the musk.

(Yogi Naraharinath, Itihasa Prakasha, Kathmandu: Itihasa-Prakashaka Sangha, 2013 (1956), vol. 2, bk 2, p. 26).

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Jagir Land Allotments in Gorkha

A total of 1,472 muris of rice-fields had been assigned as Jagir to the Srinath Company and the Tripuradal Company in the Dhawa and Tandrang areas of Gorkha. On Thursday, Falgun Sudi 1, 1868, these lands were allotted for cultivation under kut tenure to five Brahmans. The order provided that "the allotments shall never be resumed."

Kut rents were assessed on these lands at three different rates, obviously with productivity and location as the chief criteria. The rates were 6 pathis, 7 pathis, or 8 pathis of paddy for each 20 muris of lands. A cash levy, known as ghinkhane, was also collected.

The names of the Brahman allottees, the area allotted to each, the total quantity of kut rents, and the total amount payable as ghinkhane are given in the following table:

<u>Allottee</u>	<u>Area</u> (in muri)	<u>Kut Rents</u> -- (in paddy)	<u>Ghinkhane</u> Rs/Annas
1. Raghunath Padhya	435	105 muris and 11 pathis	10-7 $\frac{1}{4}$
2. Vishwamitra Padhya	281	89 muris and 2 pathis	7-0
3. Ramanand Padhya	287	100 muris and 4 pathis	7-3
4. Srilal Padhya	325	114 muris and 10 pathis	8-2
5. Chamu Padhya	144	49 muris and 6 pathis	3-10
Total : 1,472		458 muris and 13 pathis	Rs. 36-6 $\frac{1}{4}$

Thursday, Falgun Sudi 1, 1868  
(February 1812)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp. 391-93.

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Kut Revenue

During the early years of the nineteenth century, taxable lands and homesteads in the central hill region (east of the Bheri river and west of the Dudhkosi river, including Kathmandu Valley) were mostly under the fiscal jurisdiction of birtaowners and jagirdars. At the same time, large areas of such lands and homesteads were also held by the government under its own fiscal jurisdiction under what was known as Jagera tenure. Such Jagera lands and homesteads were usually given out to cultivators on fixed-rent tenure under what was known as the kut system.

In 1867 Vikrama (1810-11 A.D.), collection of Kut rents in the central hill region appears to have been the responsibility of a functionary known as Amalidar. A part of kut revenues was assigned for meeting the expenses of religious and ceremonial functions at the royal palace. The amount so appropriated was Rs. 5,539 and 10½ annas a year from 1866 Vikrama, Rs. 5892 and 2 annas from 1868 Vikrama, and Rs. 6,778 and 9 annas from 1871 Vikrama. These amounts were spent under the supervision of Birabhadra Pandit.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp. 175-93.

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Subba Chandrabir Kanwar of Doti

Royal order to Chandrabir Kanwar, grandson of Ashiram Kanwar, and son of Jaya Krishna Kanwar, resident of Bhanwarkot (Kabhrepalanchok) :-

"We hereby appoint you Subba of the Bhot, Madhesh, and hill regions of Doti, replacing Naru Shahi. The company stationed at Doti is also hereby placed under your command. You shall be entitled to khang emoluments amounting to Rs. 3,500. Allot the lands marked by Puran Shahi to eight companies according to the prescribed schedules. On lands in excess of these allotments, as well as your own khang lands, do not collect unauthorized taxes, or make collections at enhanced rates, but keep the people satisfied. Mint coins according to the designs that had been approved previously.

"Collect revenue from all customary sources in that area, including land taxes (mal), customs duties (sair), taxes on river (Jalkar) and forest (bankar) products, as well as bihadani, sagaudha, judicial fines and penalties (danda-kunda), escheats (marvo-apatali), rahata-bahata, mines, taxes on kurva-akariya (?), sobado, kachho, and sirto. Appoint your own men to dispose of cases relating to panchakhat crimes and collect fines and penalties.

"We approve administrative expenses (masaland) as during the time of Subba Naru Shahi. Spend money for such purposes in a reasonable manner.

"Revenue from buried treasure (kalyanadhana), Dharmadhikara levies, and any new taxes that may be imposed by the palace, darshan-bhet revenues not assigned to any company, and revenue

from lands under Khalisa tenure shall be used to pay additional emoluments to those companies of Doti that have been deputed to Kangra so long as they remain there, meet losses resulting from floods and washouts, reasonable emoluments of Fouzdars and Peskars according to royal orders, and reasonable expenses on religious ceremonies and other purposes.

"The surplus revenue, if any, shall be transmitted to the Tosakhana (Treasury). Submit accounts at the end of each year and obtain clearance. Remain on constant duty with full assurance and loyalty."

Bhadra Sudi 1, 1864

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 1032-33.

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### Affermath of the Kot Massacre

#### I

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sardar Bal Bahadur Pande: "You have been replaced by Sardar Ranabhadra Basnyat as Commander of ... Paltan in Pyuthan. You are ordered to keep military personnel, and the employees of the munitions factories, in their posts, and join your relatives through the Gorakhpur route along with your property. Kaji Jungbir Pande and Bhairav Pande have been sent into exile from here through the Chisapani route."

Aswin Sudi 11, 1903

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 92-93.

#### II

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sri Taradal Paltan:

"Kaji Jungbir Pande and Captain Bhairav Bahadur Pande have been banished from Nepal. They have already crossed the frontier. His Majesty has now ordered the banishment of Sardar Bal Bahadur Pande also. Let him take whatever belongs to him personally, other than goods belonging to His Majesty. Escort him up to the frontier. Sardar Ranabhadra Basnyat has been appointed to succeed Sardar Bal Bahadur Pande (as Chief Administrator of Pyuthan)."

Aswin Sudi 11, 1903

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 93-94.



## III

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sri Taradal Paltan:

"Your letter of Thursday, Aswin Badi 12, (1903), was received on Friday, Aswin Badi 13, (1903), and the contents were noted. You have written that those who have been banished will be treated as orderd. You will accordingly send them away. You are responsible for escorting them safely up to Makwanpur. Beyond Makwanpur, they will be escorted by the Sri Gourung (Paltan). If those who have been banished from here want to halt there for ten or fifteen days, let them do so. They may then depart after ferries and tracks reopen."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 91-92.

## IV

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Dittha Chatur Ale, Mukhiya Mangal Singh Das, and Mukhiya Srinivas Arjyal:

"Wazir Singh has been appointed as General with Sri Sabuj Paltan and Sri Bardwani Paltan under his command. Until his men reach there, do whatever is necessary to ensure that the interests of His Majesty are not harmed. The General's men will take over charge when they reach there. You will have to hand over charge to them, so work with due care and vigilance. In case you are guilty of any mistake after the Chautariya leaves, and if His Majesty's interests are harmed as a result, you will be punished according to your caste status."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 94-95.

## V

Commander-in Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Jamadars Ranasur Khadka and Jagajit Basnyat:

"If you have captured Chautariya Guru Prasad Shah and Kaji Trivikrama Simha Thapa and dealt with them as ordered by His Majesty, it is good. If these men have reached Gorakhpur before you reached that place, what can you do? Come back immediately after you receive this order."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 95-96.

## VI

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sri Barakh Paltan:

"Kaji Kulaman Simha Basnyat has been given command of Sri Barakh Paltan with the rank of Chautariya. Until he reaches there, do your duties properly and maintain the gaunda. If you neglect your duty and go elsewhere on hearing reports of the intranquillity that has occurred here, you will be punished according to your caste status by His Majesty. The Ranasadal Company has been deputed to the munitions factory here; their duties shall be taken over by two units (patti) of the Sri Barakh Paltan. Despatch the Ranasadal Company (to Kathmandu) along with their colors and rifles."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 96-97.

## VII

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sardar Hastabir Shahi:

"You have been replaced by Sardar Fatte Simha. Do not leave your post until he reaches there. After he reaches there, hand over charge to him and come here. If you neglect your duty and leave your post on hearing of reports of intranquillity here, you will be punished according to your caste status."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 97.

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Miscellaneous Documents of Chaitra 1901

Thaple Hulaki Service

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief General Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to Thaple-Hulaki porters and Chaprasis:

"We have sent orders from time to time that supplies belonging to His Majesty, as well as those specified by us under our signautre, be transported without the slightest delay. Even then, we have now received reports that transportation of coins (toda) belonging to the army (Kampu, Paltan), has been held up. Coins of the army belong to His Majesty. In the future, transport military supplies, coins of the army, supplies belonging to His Majesty, and supplies specified by us under our signature, without any delay."

Wednesday, Chaitra Badi 10, 1901

This order was issued separately for the following regions:-

- (1) Dhobikhola - Mechi Region.
- (2) Vishnumati - Mahakali Region.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 1.

#### Meghavarna Thapa's Complaint

In the Vikrama year 1881, Captain Haribhakta had allotted agricultural and pasture lands in the Chhiringbas area of Tinpatan to Meghavarna Thapa. Meghavarna Thapa complained that Laxman Thapa had forcibly harvested crops on these lands.

On Wednesday, Chaitra Badi 10, 1901 Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa sent an order to Laxman Thapa to explain his action, refund the crops that had been harvested, and, if Meghavarna Thapa's complaint was false, appear for a hearing in Kathmandu.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 1-2.

#### Unauthorized Collection of Mahanta-Mandali Levies

The jogi priests of the Sri Kalabhairava Temple in Ismakot submitted the following petition to Kathmandu:

"A royal order had been issued making an endowment of judicial fines and penalties and escheats collected from jogis living on the guthi lands of the Sri Kalabhairava Temple in Ismakot, as well as taxes and levies collected from the Kumhala inhabitants, for meeting the expenses of wicks, incense, etc. The royal order had also exempted them from payment of Mahanta-Mandali levies.

"These days, however, representatives of the Mahanta-Mandali, including Kishan Puri, Sanyasi Ramanatha, and Jogi Purna Kanwar are collecting and appropriating income from the above-mentioned sources. How are we to perform religious ceremonies at the temple?"

The following order was then sent on Wednesday, Chaitra Badi 10, 1901, under the signature of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa, to the Dittha and Bicharis of the Palpa Court (Adalat) :-

"If the complaint is true, income assigned for performing religious ceremonies at the temple of Sri Kalabhairava cannot be misappropriated in this manner. Refund the amount that has already been so collected from jogis and Kumhales. If the facts are otherwise, take an appropriate decision in the matter."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 2-3.

Rights Over Slave's Property

Petition of Lal Nath Jogi of Isma: Bale Bhandari and Rene abetted the escape of my slave, Nirbhanya. His property and goods had remained in my possession. However, Johar Nath, Bhane Padhya, and Hire Damai, said that I had no rights to that property. They accordingly handed it over to my slave's father, a freed slave who was living in the home of another person. I have thus suffered from injustice."

Order sent under the signature of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa to the Dittha and Bicharis of the Palpa Adalat:

"If the petition is true, the property of a runaway slave belongs to his master. Hand it over to him. Summon the persons who abetted the slave's escape and dispose of the case. If it is proved that Bale Bhandari and Rene had abetted the slave's escape, realise the value of the slave from them and hand over the amount to Lal Nath Jogi. If the facts are otherwise, dispose of the case in a just manner."

Wednesday, Chaitra Badi 10. 1901  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 3.

Recovery of Loans and Arrears of Rents

The Srinath Kempu had been assigned lands as jagir in the Tarai region. These lands were administered by an office known as the Srinath Kempu Kot Tahabil. That office collected rents from the jagir lands and also supplied credit to the local people.

On Friday, Chaitra Badi 13, 1901, two orders were issued as follows under the signature of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa :-

(1) To the people of the Tarai region who had obtained such loans, or from whom arrears of rent payments were due, to hand over those amounts to Subba Hiralal Jha.

(2) To Subba Hiralal Jha, to make collections of the amounts mentioned above.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 4-5.

Jhara Obligations of Slave

Shiveshankar Upadhyya Chalise of Katunje village in Thimi complained that the local functionaries were exacting jhara services from his slave, Bhannaran Newar, although the slave had never provided such services previously. An order was issued on Friday,

Chaitra Badi 13, 1901, under the signature of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa directing the local Amali, Dware, Mohinaike, and other functionaries not to exact jhara services from the slave if this had not been the customary practice.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 6.

#### Transportation of Timber

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to the Mijhar, Gaurung, and Chaukidars of Okhargauh village in Sikarkot (Makwanpur district) :-

"Porters (Khalasi, Pipa) and jhara laborers will pass through that checkpost (chauki) on their way to Bhainse-Khani and Bhainse-Dobhan to transport timber for a Shiva temple being constructed by His Majesty. Do not stop them, but let not criminals and fugitives pass through that checkpost disguised as porters."

Sunday, Chaitra Badi 30, 1901.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 6.

#### Dispute Regarding Ownership of Slave-Girl

Tanbo Lama's petition: "My father, Palchang Lama, had handed over to the local administrator (Sahab) a slave-girl named Kamisa in lieu of the fine that had been imposed on him. It had been agreed that he would pay the fine later and take back the slave-girl. Meanwhile, her father, Ghyancho Gharti, who was himself a slave, made a payment of Rs 42, took back the girl, and handed her over to my father. In appreciation of this gesture, my father granted him his freedom. The slave-girl lived with us for five or seven years. Our father, Palchang Lama, then died. We were yet children at that time. Ghyancho Gharti then complained that he had redeemed his daughter with his personal property (Pewa) and that she was being held by her master without repaying him the money. I then filed a complaint at the Adalat. After hearing both sides, the Adalat ruled that the slave-girl was my property. Now the slave-girl's husband, Droje Bhote, has taken her away, claiming that she does not belong to me."

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to the Dware, Thari, Mukhiya, Mijhar, and other people of Lyanglyang village in Manthali.

"If it is true, as maintained in the petition, that the Adalat had ruled, after hearing both sides and consulting the local people, that the slave-girl belongs to Tanbo Lama, her husband is not entitled to lay any claim over her. Hand over the slave-girl to Tanbo Lama. If any relative or other person claims that she is not a slave, hold a Kachahari in the presence of the local people, and give a just decision. If no such claim is made, then the rights of the owner cannot be adversely affected through collusion between the slave-girl and

her husband. Tanbo Lama's rights over the slave-girl shall be reconfirmed. If, however, the facts are different, let both sides appear before us for a hearing.

Thursday, Chaitra Sudi 4, 1901  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 9-10.

#### Pasturage Facilities in Garhun

The Newars of Balam Bhanjyang in Garhun occupied lands endowed as Guthi for financing the repair and maintenance of a rest-house (Pouwa). They complained to Kathmandu that the village functionaries were denying them pasturage facilities in the local forests. An order signed by Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa was issued on Thursday, Chaitra Sudi 5, 1901 directing the Amali, Thari, Mukhiya, and other people of Garandi and Balam not to deny such facilities to the Newars if these had been customarily used. The order summoned both parties to Kathmandu for a hearing if the facts were different.

Regmi Research Collection, vol. 7, p. 7.

#### Supply of Charcoal

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to the Bhote-Praja inhabitants of the Tribeni-Phedi area of Bisankhu, other than those under the jurisdiction of Sri Maiya Sabe (Princess) :-

"You are hereby ordered to supply charcoal to the Ranipokhari Magazine every day according to the royal order issued previously. If you do not do so, and there is a shortage of charcoal, you shall be held liable."

Tuesday, Chaitra Sudi 8, 1901  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 13.

#### Supply of Timber

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to the inhabitants of Bhumlu, Thokarpa, and Yamuna :-

"His Majesty is constructing a Shiva temple at Pokhaldyang (in Kathmandu). For this purpose, timber has been cut from the Rithe forest. Transport the timber up to Simle-Ghat as ordered by Hawaldar Sarup Gharti."

Saturday, Chaitra Sudi 12, 1901  
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, p. 13.

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