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Contents

	<u>Page</u>
1. Sexual Relations With Widowed Sisters-In-Law ...	1
2. King Girban's Letter To Kaji Ranjor Thapa ...	3
3. Reign And Abdication Of King Rana Bahadur Shah ...	6
4. The Fall Of Bhimsen Thapa And The Rise Of Jung Bahadur Rana ...	13

Regmi Research (Private) Ltd,

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Sexual Relations With Widowed Sisters-In-Law

Sexual relations with the widowed wives of elder brothers seem to have been a common practice among many communities in the hill regions of Nepal. It is interesting that even high-caste Upadhyaya Brahmans and Chhetris followed this practice. In an earlier issue (Year 2, No. 12, December 1, 1970, PP. 277-284) we have discussed this custom among members of the Jaisi Brahman community.

In Dullu-Dailekh, according to an official order issued on Aswin Sudi 4, 1879 (September 1821) in the name of "people belonging to the four castes and thirty-six sub-castes (Char Varna Chhattes Jat)" stated that sexual relations with the widowed wives of elder brothers did not traditionally constitute a punishable offense in that region.¹

Regulations promulgated for Doti district on Ashadh Sudi, 1886 (July 1829) recognized this custom among the Khasiya community subject to the condition that the younger brother should take his widowed sister-in-law as his wife only with the consent of the latter's paternal relatives and on payment of Rs 12 to them. If such relatives did not give their consent and preferred to take the woman-back, they were required to pay the same amount to the younger brother.²

This custom was prevalent among the Majhi community also.³

The following regulations were promulgated by the government of Nepal for country-wide enforcement on Ashadh Sudi 7, 1893 (July 1836).⁴ They show how widely prevalent this custom was in Nepal at that time:

From King Rajendra,

To people of the four castes and thirty-six sub-castes throughout our kingdom.

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1. Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 43, P. 359.
 2. Ibid, P. 635.
 3. Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 38, P. 551.
 4. Chittaranjan Nepali, General Bhimsen Thapa Ra Tatkalin Nepal (General Bhimsen Thapa and Contemporary Nepal), P. 203; Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 43, PP. 583-585.

Contd...

It appears that sexual intercourse with the married wife of one's own elder brother is a great sin. What has been done in the past has been done. Since this is a Jungly country, it is necessary to make arrangements relative to caste matters. Henceforth, no person, except among the Kiratis, Limbus, Lapches and Jumlis for the time being, shall knowingly commit sexual intercourse with the married wife of his own elder brother. Any person who does not comply with this restriction shall be punished as follows according to his caste:-

<u>Caste</u>	<u>Punishment</u>
Upadhyaya Brahman, Jaisi Brahman and Sanyasi	... Deprivation of caste, shaving of the head in patches and exile.
Kshatriya castes related to the royal family	... Deprivation of caste and exile.
Other Kshatriya, castes Rajputs, Khas, Vaishya, Magar, Gurung and Ghale	... Cutting of genital
Newar and Shudra castes	... Confiscation of property
Damai, Sunar, Kami, Sarki, Gaine, Hurke, Kadara and other castes water touched by whom cannot be taken, and Balami, Majhi, Danuwar, Sunuwar Mirmi, Bhoté, Chepang, Pahari, Darai, Kūmhal, Baramu, etc	... Enslavement

These regulations were repealed on Chaitra Sudi 6, 1901 (March 1845), however.

King Girban's Letter To Kaji Ranjor Thapa^x

Introduction

King Girban was 17 years of age in the beginning of 1871 Vikrama (1814 A.D.) in The Kingdom of Nepal at that time extended from the Sutlej to the Tista in the Himalayas. The affairs of the administration were in the hands of General Bhimsen Thapa. Kaji Amar Simha Thapa had been deputed to defend the district of Simla in the western part of the kingdom. He was staying at Bogal (Arki), while his son, Kaji Ranjor Thapa, was staying at Nahan, capital of Sirmur. At that time, the British in India were making efforts to annex the hill areas of the Kingdom of Nepal. They were therefore creating border disputes with a view to inciting a war. Major Bradshaw, who had been deputed to demarcate the boundaries, behaved rudely with the Nepali representatives, Rajguru Ranganath Pandit and Kaji Dalabhanjan Paudyal. War appeared imminent.

The following letter was sent by King Girban to Kaji Ranjor Thapa in reply to a letter reporting the death of Capt. Chandra Bir Kunwar, who was the husband of Kaji Ranjor Thapa's sister.

From King Girban Yuddha Bikram

(Royal Titles)

Blessings to Kaji Ranjor Thapa. All is well here. We want the same there. The news here is good. Your letter dated Baisakh Sudi 7 reached us on Jestha Sudi 3. We have noted the contents thereof.

You have reported that Capt. Chandra Bir Kunwar is dead, and that one of his two sons will be deputed to build the fort of Nalapani, while the other will stay at the capital.

One is born in this world in order to undergo the fruits of actions performed in past life. After the fruits of such actions are undergone, the soul is separated from the body. It then departs to another world to undergo the fruits of actions performed by it during its residence in the body. This is the way of the world.

^xBabu Ram Acharya, Aitihāsik Patra (Sankhya 5), (Historical Letter, No. 5), Purusartha, (Nepali, monthly, unpublished from Kathmandu), Year 1, No. 3, Falgun 2006 (February-March, 1950), 113-115 PP.

Contd...

Capt. Chandra Bir Kunwar was our servant. Along with you, he was attending wholeheartedly to our affairs, giving up food and drink. He was lucky enough to renounce his body on the banks of the Ganga.

We have still his sons in our midst. They will be able to learn enough to fulfill our orders. It is good that Balabhadra Kunwar is building a fort at Nalapani.

The doon (valley) area attracts everybody. It appears to be the heart of the kingdom. If a strong fort is built at Nalapani, everything can be properly attended too. When this was reported to us, we issued orders directing that a fort should be built there. But the fort is not yet ready because 2 or 3 persons were given charge of the work and no reminders were sent.

The fort should not be built in an ordinary manner. Perhaps Balabhadra Kunwar does not know everything about a fort. Whenever you have time, go there and direct how it should be built. Go there frequently to find out how much has been completed and how much is still left, and thus expedite the work. The fort can be built in a proper manner if you do so.

You know the position of the Sikhs and the Kabils. Matters relating to the boundary in that area have been written to your father and you too will come to know of them accordingly. If despite your best possible efforts the dispute grows and stiff conflict takes place, we do not know that may happen there. If the boundary dispute is not settled, Kaji Anbar Simha Thapa, who is staying at Bagal, will attend to the matter. You are staying at Nahan, and there is nothing to worry about in that area. If any dispute arises, fighting will certainly take place in the doon area. We had directed previously also that in view of this possibility a regiment of troops should always be stationed there. You may have sent reminders to insure that this directive was implemented. In case soldiers from this regiment have been sent anywhere for any purpose, make arrangements to insure that the regiment stationed in the doon area remains intact. Find out information about that area and send it to us.

Sunday, Jesta Sudi 4, 1871 Bikrama (May 1814).

Comment

This letter has been written on behalf of King Girban. But it is clear that it contains the ideas of Bhimsen Thapa. The speculation that the first attack of the British would be in the doon area, that is, Dehradun later proved to be correct.

Contd...

Chandra Bir Kurwar had been appointed as Subba of Pyuthan in 1844 or 1845 Vikrama. He lived continuously in the hill region since then. Balabhadra Kunwar thus appears to have been born in the western hill region. When he was first appointed in government service, he was given the responsibility of constructing forts. On the auspicious day of Vijaya Dashmi in 1871 Vikrama (October 1814), Bhimsen Thapa had sent Kaji Rewant Rana Kunwar from Kathmandu to defend this fort. But British troops besieged it during the previous night. The skill with which Balabhadra Kunwar resisted the enemy on this occasion has been highly praised even by the enemy.

Reign And Abdication Of King Rana Bahadur Shah¹

By

Chittaranjan Nepali.

On Baisakh 1851 Vikrama (April 1794) Rana Bahadur Shah dismissed Regent Bahadur Shah and assumed direct control of the reins of administration. Ranodyot Shah and Sher Bahadur Shah were then appointed Chief Chautariya and Chautariya respectively. The Chief Chautariya occupied a leading position in the administration at that time. He was usually appointed from among the close relatives of the king. He discharged the same functions as a Prime Minister does under a cabinet system. Subordinate to the Chief Chautariya was a Council of 4 Kajis, which assisted him in running the administration of the State. Apart from the members of the Council of Kajis, there were other Kajis, who ranked below them in order of precedence. The junior Kajis were in charge of one department each.

Although the main duty of these 4 Kajis was to assist Chautariya in the discharge of his state function, they wielded considerable influence on the administration. Most well-known and influential among the four members of the Council at that time was Damodar Pande. But according to the order of precedence, Kirtiman Basnet occupied the topmost position. Till then the convention of entrusting all powers to a single person and designating him as Mukhtiyar (that is, Prime Minister) had not emerged. Instead, the functions of Prime Minister of the present days were performed by the Chief Chautariya, who was selected from among the brothers or sons of the king other than the heir-apparent. The institution of Mukhtiyar evolved in Nepal only after Rana Bahadur Shah returned to Nepal from Varanasi to resume his reign after living as a Swami. It was later converted into the Prime Ministership. The view expressed by some historians that the post of Prime Minister and the modern system of administration originated in Nepal with the emergence of Damodar Pande does not appear to be correct.²

1. Chittaranjan Nepali, Shri 5 Rana Bahadur Shah (King Rana Bahadur Shah), Kathmandu: Mary Rajbhandari, 2020 (1969), Chapter II: "Shasan Sanchalan Evam Rajyatyag (Samvat 1851-1855)," (Reign and Abdication, 1794-1798), 22-33 PP.

2. Balachandra Sharma, Nepal Ko Aitihāsik Ruprekha.

Rana Bahadur Shah, even after assuming control of the administration, could not rule the country peacefully for long. After only a few years, a struggle began between him and his nobles. The swift and bold steps initiated by Rana Bahadur Shah after assuming power to break orthodox and superstitious practices faced stiff opposition from the then conservative society. The nobles began to exploit this social opposition to the king for attaining their own political ends. This led to a struggle between the king and the nobility. It assumed such serious proportions that ultimately the king had to abdicate and renounce worldly life.

The main cause of the conservatives' revolt against the youthful king was his marriage to Kantiwati, the daughter of a Brahman. Rana Bahadur Shah was first married to Rajeshwari Devi in 1846 Vikrama (1789 A.D.). The first queen had no offspring, Rana Bahadur Shah's second queen was named Suvarnaprabha, who gave birth to a son named Ranodyot Shah. Ranodyot Shah, however, was not declared the heir to the throne. But he was appointed as Chief Chautariya when Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah ascended the throne. He remained in this post throughout his life. Historians are not unanimous about Queen Suvarnaprabha. Some say that she was the married queen of Rana Bahadur, but that her son was not declared the heir to the throne because she came of Kshetriya family. According to another historian, Ranodyot Shah was not declared the heir to the throne because his mother was only a concubine.³ However, these conflicting opinions have been set at rest by the inscription on a big bell installed by Rana Bahadur Shah at the Hanuman-Dhoka palace in Kathmandu, which refers to Suvarnaprabha as "Bhogya Rani." (Concubine).

Kantiwati was the third woman whom Rana Bahadur Shah had married. She was the daughter of a Brahman belonging to the Mishra caste. Rana Bahadur's marriage to Kantiwati was the result of a romance. It was from this Brahman woman that a son was born to Rana Bahadur Shah on Sunday, Ashwin 12, 1854 (October 27, 1794). The child was named Girvanyuddha Bir Bikram Shah. He was proclaimed the heir to the throne.

Some historians have concocted the story that Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah was not the son of Kantiwati, but was actually the son of a Chautariya. According to them, the son of a Chautariya had been secretly lifted by a man and substituted for that of Kantiwati.⁴ However, the historians who have made this claim have not produced any evidence to support it. Instead they

3. Hamilton, An Account Of The Kingdom Of Nepal, P. 20.

4. (1) Kashi Prasad Shrivasti, Nepal Ki Kahani, P. 38.

(2) Ranji Upadhyaya, Nepal Ko Aitihāsik Dīdarshan, P. 181.

have admitted that it is based on hearsay. It appears that those who could not appreciate the revolutionary and progressive ideas of the youthful King Rana Bahadur Shah have concocted this story. In a copper inscription he issued while abdicating the throne in favor of Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah, Rana Bahadur Shah himself described the latter as the son of his youngest queen, Kantiwati. Moreover, in his book Satkarma Ratnawali,⁵ King Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah has described himself as the son of Kantiwati. This shows that the story is completely baseless.

Rana Bahadur Shah's marriage to the daughter of a Brahman was regarded as intolerable by the orthodox-minded society at the time because it was a violation of the prevalent social as well as of religious customs. The union between a Kshetriya and a Brahman girl was in itself an immoral thing in the eyes of the society at that time. When the child born from the same Brahmin girl was proclaimed as the heir to the throne, it was but natural that the conservatives should have felt all the more infuriated. However, nobody had dared voice their opposition to the king. They merely circulated rumors that the king had gone mad. They started the propaganda depicting the anti-traditional steps of the king as the result of his madness and of his blind lowliness. The propaganda had gained currency to such an extent that for a hundred years Rana Bahadur Shah continued to be labelled as insane and his measures were depicted simply as an outcome of his madness.

But a careful study of every move of Rana Bahadur Shah would clearly reveal that it did not even have the trace of madness or blind prurience. This is also proved by the fact that in the area around the temple of Jagannath which he constructed in Falgun 1853 (March 1797) in southern Kathmandu along with the Bhairavi-Chakra, he sought to abolish all caste barriers as at the temple of Jagannath Puri in India. The words inscribed on the Bhairavi-Chakra installed at the temple are as follows: "People belonging to all castes are like Brahmans when initiated with the Bhairavi-Chakra." This inscription, as also his courage in declaring as his heir his son by the Brahman girl Kantiwati proves his opposition to caste discrimination. It was a different matter if the contemporary society did not approve of his actions.

The anti-traditional steps initiated by King Rana Bahadur Shah were opposed in different ways. Brahman astrologers predicted that the "immoral relationship" between the king and Kantiwati would not last long and that either the king or the queen would die soon.⁶ At the same time, they spread the rumor that Girvanyuddha Bir Bikram Shah would die of small-pox. The nobles then started engaging themselves in political maneuvers as well as in exercising pressure on the king to abdicate.

5. Itihas Prakash, Part I, P. 63.

King Rana Bahadur Shah was confronted with a serious crisis when opposition to him mounted on all sides. He had no special advisor to reassure and comfort him. Bhimsen Thapa had not yet started his political career, nor was he present in Kathmandu during this crisis. He was then staying in the eastern hills. Ranganath, the Chief Royal Priest, who later emerged as Rana Bahadur Shah's supporter, was also not in Kathmandu at that time. He had gone to Varanasi to meet his father, who had been expelled by Bahadur Shah. It was really difficult for Rana Bahadur Shah to face the crisis under these circumstances. Naturally, Rana Bahadur Shah even began to doubt whether Crown Prince Girvanyuddha Bikram would be able to ascend the throne after his death in case the crisis prolonged. Hence he thought it proper to enthrone his son while he was still alive. The few supporters he had also advised him to abdicate.⁷

Accordingly, Rana Bahadur Shah decided to abdicate in favor of Girvanyuddha Bir Bikram, who was the hardly 18 months old. He then asked the ruler of Palpa, Prithvipal Sen, who was the most powerful among the rulers of principalities, to put the Rajatilak (auspicious mark to be affixed on the forehead of the king on his coronation). Rana Bahadur Shah did so in order that his adversaries might not be in a position to dispute the legality of the enthronement of his son, and no principality too might object to it when he retired from the scene. Palpa was the principality with which Bahadur Shah had established matrimonial relations. Thus Rana Bahadur Shah's success in having Girvanyuddha crowned by the ruler of Palpa represented a diplomatic tactic.

By persuading the ruler of Palpa to put the Rajatilak, Rana Bahadur Shah morally obliged him to recognize Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah as king. Rana Bahadur Shah also succeeded in compelling other nobles in Kathmandu to sign a document on Magh Sudi 15, 1855 (January 1799) pledging themselves to remain loyal to King Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah.

Chautariya Sher Bahadur Shah, Kaji Damodar Pande and all other Chautariyas, Kajis and Sardars, as well as military officers, signed this pledge. Among the nobles, only Rajguru Gajaraj Mishra did not sign it.⁸

7. Hamilton, op. cit., P. 251.

8. Itihas Prakash, Part I, P. 21.

After securing this pledge of loyalty to King Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah, Rana Bahadur Shah abdicated by means of a proclamation issued on Falgun 2, 1855 (B.S.) (February 13, 1798) and renounced worldly life. The proclamation indicated who should function as Regent, and also explained the functions of the administration and the duties of employees at the royal palace. It authorized the junior queen to act as Regent until Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah attained maturity.

Some historians have claimed that all nobles had agreed to recognize Girvanyuddha Bikram as their king even though he was born of Kantiwati, so, with the desire of getting themselves rid of an insane (?) king.⁹ Some other historians have put forward this claim in an exaggerated form, describing the abdication of Rana Bahadur Shah as the "victory of the people."¹⁰ It would even be no exaggeration to say that by distorting historical facts in this manner these historians have tried to undermine the bonds traditionally existing between the king and the people in Nepal.

The skillful arrangements made by King Rana Bahadur Shah before abdicating in favor of Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah and the methodical and systematic steps initiated by him against social traditionalism show that he can by no stretch of the imagination be regarded as half-mad. That he could persuade the entire nobles to sign a document pledging themselves to remain loyal to King Girvanyuddha Bikram and issue wide-ranging instructions in regard to the administration through a proclamation fully reveals his statesmanship.

For some historians to interpret this event as the "triumph of the people's power over the government", is not only a gross exaggeration, but also ridiculous. In the first place, the significance of this event should be assessed in the light of the prevailing circumstances, not from the viewpoint of modern political thinking. Moreover, it is difficult to imagine that there existed any organized popular force during those days. If even the "nutiny" that occurred 50 years later against foreign domination in India was not an organized one, the popular force in Nepal could hardly be organized at that time. The claim that there existed any popular force in Nepal originated mainly from British sources. Hence there is ample room to doubt the truth of the claim made by British sources who have never shown themselves impartial in their assessment of Rana Bahadur Shah and his measures.

9. (1) Balachandra Sharma, Nepal Ko Aitihāsik Ruprekha, P. 244.

(2) Surya Bikram Chyrawali, Amar Singh Thapa, P. 19.

10. Kashi Prasad Shrivastav, Nepal Ki Kahani, P. 38.

On July 24, 1837, in accordance with the instructions of Brian H. Hodgson, Dr A. Campbell, Acting Assistant at the British Residency in Kathmandu, sent a detailed report on the death of Bhimsen Thapa to the British government. The report cast some aspersions on Rana Bahadur Shah, who had been assassinated 37 years earlier. According to it, "having been tormented by the death of the queen (i.e. Kantiwati) and under the pressure of the public opposition, Rana Bahadur Shah abdicated in favor of his son in 1802."¹¹ Slightly altering this statement, the author of Nepal Ki Kahani has said that this event took place in 1800.¹²

As a matter of fact, Rana Bahadur Shah abdicated in favor of his son in 1855 Vikrama (1798 A.D.) and Queen Kantiwati died a year later, in 1799. Hence there is no shred of truth in the claim that King Rana Bahadur Shah abdicated because his heart was broken by the death of his queen and yielding to the pressure or organized strength of the people who were opposed to his "lunatic acts."

On the contrary, Swami Nirvananda, as Rana Bahadur Shah called himself after his abdication, enjoyed considerable public support. This is evident from the preparations made by him from Patan for a conflict against the nobles of Kathmandu and the fear this evoked among such brave nobles as Damodar Pande. Of course, there were people who saw in his marriage with Kantiwati evidence of his atheism, lunacy or prurience. But there was no dearth of persons ready to join him in the event of a civil war. The Nepali people have been following the Chakra cult and establishing all kinds of social intercourse with their teachers or priests covertly, if not overtly. It was therefore not surprising that they should have supported the cause of Rana Bahadur Shah. Another reason why it was natural for him to get public support was that he had to participate actively in politics even after renouncing worldly life in order to insure that those nobles who had not signed the pledge of loyalty did not engage themselves in anti-national activities in the name of the child King Girvan with British support.

Instead of concocting such a story, these historians should have been able to write that Rana Bahadur Shah had been compelled to abdicate as a result of the conspiracy of some powerful nobles who wanted to keep their position secure with the help of foreign elements, that he achieved his aim of safeguarding the sovereignty of Nepal with the support of his own people, even though in the process he had to become a martyr, and that all those relying on palace intrigues were ultimately defeated by the combined strength of the king and the people.

11. H. Hunter, Life of Hodgson, P. 51.

12. Kashi Prasad Shrivastav, op. cit., P. 38.

The author of 'Nepal Ki Kahani' has also claimed that Rana Bahadur Shah had murdered Ranoddip Shah (Ranodyot Shah), son of his elder queen, out of anger over the death of his queen. This claim too is false. It is another attempt to defame Rana Bahadur Shah in keeping with the pattern set up by the British for hundreds of years. The truth is that Ranodyot Shah was alive during and even after the assassination of Rana Bahadur Shah.

After abdicating in favor of Girvanyuddha Bikram Shah, Rana Bahadur Shah renounced worldly life and accompanied by his two queens, moved to Devapatan. He changed his name to Nirvanananda and adopted the following titles:-

Swastishri Samasta Yogakalakovid Yogindragana Chintaniya Sachchidananda Swarup Paripuraa Parabrahmanuchitanatadekatadhigamaikalasa Samsarika Sakalavishayavinimukta Manasetyadivividhalokottara Gunagramabhirama Shri Mahaniravananda Swamiram Sadasatkarmashalinam.

He was addressed as "Swami" or Swami Maharaj."

The Fall Of Bhimsen Thapa And The Rise Of Jung Bahadur Rana

Baburam Acharya writes:-*

General Bhimsen Thapa, who had become all powerful in Nepal, fell from power because of the ambitions of his brother, General Ranabir Singh Thapa, the autocratic attitude of his nephew, General Mathbar Singh Thapa, and the intrigues of the British envoy, Brian H. Hodgson. However, King Rajendra Bikram Shah proved himself incapable of running the administration. As a result, his two queens, Samrajyalaxmi Devi and Rajyalaxmi Devi, started interfering in the administration.

The Senior Queen, Samrajyalaxmi Devi, has been bring to been about the downfall of Bhimsen Thapa since 1837. Bhimsen Thapa was accused of having poisoned her infant son, Devendra Bikram Shah. He was therefore arrested and put in irons. The physician who had treated the infant Prince, Bhajuman Baidya, was also arrested. Soon afterwards, Bhimsen Thapa's relatives were also arrested, along with the royal physicians, Sardar Ekadev Upadhyaya and Ekasurya Upadhyaya. Their property was confiscated. Bhajuman Baidya confessed under torture that he had treated the infant Prince with medicine given by Ekadev Baidya. But Ekadev Baidya did not plead guilty even when his cheeks were burnt with red-hot iron, his eyes taken out, his skin flayed and salt and pepper applied thereon. Bhajuman Baidya was impaled. Both Ekadev Upadhyaya and Ekasurya Upadhyaya were then sentenced to rigorous imprisonment.

King Rajendra wanted to appoint Kaji Dalabhanjan as Mukhtiyar on the same day that Bhimsen Thapa had been arrested. However, Rajajung Pande became Mukhtiyar through the influence of Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi. He began to be called Diwan. As he was the grandson of Kalupande, his family was called Kala Pandes.

However, Ranajung Pande did not command the support of the majority. He was therefore unable to control the Bhardars who supported the King. He was therefore compelled to resign after only 3 months.

King Rajendra then appointed Rajguru Ranganath Pandit as Mukhtiyar and made him commander of a regiment. Dalabhanjan Pande too was given the command of a regiment. The command of the rest of the army was given to Ranajung Pande

*Baburam Acharya, "Bhimsen Thapa Ko Patandekhi Jung Bahadur Rana Ko Utthan Nabhayesamma Nau Varsha Ko Halchal." (Developments During The Nine-Year Period Between The Fall Of Bhimsen Thapa and The Emergency of Jung Bahadur Rana), Ruprekha (Nepali, monthly): Year 3, No. 5, Aswin 2019 (September-October 1962), 9-16 pp.

During the previous year, Ranganath Pandit had been entrusted with the task of curtailing Jagir land assignments. The new schedules of Jagir assignments had already been finalized. By reducing the emoluments of military officers by 50%, Ranganath Pandit increased the revenue. But the proposal to reduce the emoluments of ordinary soldiers also was abandoned because of the pressure of Ranajung Pande. The large Jagir holdings assigned to members of the Thapa family were resumed.

In March 1838, the charges against Bhimsen Thapa were withdrawn. He was permitted to stay at Borlang in Gorkha. Ekadev Upadhyaya and Ekasurya Upadhyaya also were released.

After the appointment of Ranganath Pandit as Mukhtiyar, Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi appointed Kulachandra Shah and Pushkar Shah as Chautariyas, Dala Bahadur Pande (who belonged to the other branch of the Pande family known as Gora Pande) was appointed as Kaji. In the mean time, Guru Krishnarām Mishra too went over to the party of Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi. Ranajung Pande developed contacts with military officers. Since the party had become powerful in this manner, Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi made Ranajung Pande Mukhtiyar again in October 1838.

After becoming Mukhtiyar, Ranajung Pande sent emissaries to Burma, China, Lahore and Gwalior with letters from King Rajendra. He repaired forts in the Mahabharat region, recruited an additional 7,000 troops and accumulated stocks of food supplies and arms and ammunition, 8,000 troops were kept ready in Kathmandu, ready to march down to the Terai wherever necessary. This led the British Resident, Brian H. Hodgson, to report to his government that Ranajung Pande was anti-British. Governor-General Lord Auckland then made a display of strength by sending troops to the Nepal-India border.

In an effort to pacify the Governor-General, King Rajendra recalled Bhimsen Thapa. Bhimsen Thapa accordingly came to Kathmandu in April 1839. Lord Auckland then recalled his troops from the Nepal-India border.

On the pretext of deceiving the English, Bhimsen Thapa advised King Rajendra that Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah and Kaji Prasad Singh Basnet should each be given the command of the regiment. 2 other regiments had already been placed under other persons. As a result, the strength of the army under the command of Ranajung Pande declined. This of course was the main objective of Bhimsen Thapa.

At this, Queen Samrajyalaxmi revived the charge against Bhimsen Thapa that he had poisoned the infant Prince Devendra Bikram Shah. 2 more charges were added. A forged document was produced as evidence to substantiate the charges. The charges were once more

Earlier, after his release, Ranabir Singh Thapa has become a Sanyasi, while Mathbar Singh Thapa had gone to India. However, Sher Jung and others were imprisoned. Their property was confiscated.

Meanwhile, it was reported to Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi that the youngest wife of Bhimsen Thapa had abused her. She was accordingly arrested. On July 20, 1839, Bhimsen Thapa heard the rumor that his wife was going to be disgraced. He therefore cut his throat with a Khukuri. Thereupon King Rajendra and Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi ordered that he should be taken to the banks of the Bishnumati river and left there. Bhimsen Thapa died there after 9 days. His dead body was given to dogs and jackals. His wives were taken to the hills bare-footed and imprisoned there.

A period of intranquillity, lawlessness and corruption followed the suicide of Bhimsen Thapa. Unable to control the situation, Ranajung Pande became insane in March 1840. In early April, 1840, Queen Samrajyalaxmi appointed Pushkar Shah as Mukhtiyar.

Neither Ranajung Pande nor Pushkar Shah was anti-British. Even then, they made necessary preparations to offer resistance in the event of aggression. But Brian H. Hodgson described them as anti-British in his reports to his government.

At this time, there was a dispute between the British and Nepal on the question of the ownership of 18 villages in the Sahodara area of Parsa district. In April 1840, Subba Bhakhatwar Khadka sent officials to collect taxes at a fair being held in the disputed area. This confirmed the reports of Brian H. Hodgson and Lord Auckland sent Colonel Oliver with troops to that area. Pushkar Shah then transmitted the revenue collected there to Brian H. Hodgson and suggested that the border should be surveyed.

Meanwhile, the army had not been given Jagir emoluments for 2 years. King Rajendra had decided to replace Jagir land assignments with cash salaries. On June 21, 1840, the soldiers raided the houses of 7 Bhardars, including Pushkar Shah and Ranganath Pandit, who had supported the idea of abolishing their Jagir land assignments, and destroyed official documents.

Apprehending an unpleasant situation, King Rajendra and Queen Samrajyalaxmi invited Brian H. Hodgson to the royal palace and kept him there through the night. The next morning, they went to the Tundikhel and announced that Jagir land assignments would continue to be made as before.

Brian H. Hodgson, however, reported to his government that King Rajendra had made an anti-British speech before the soldiers. Lord Auckland then wrote a letter to King Rajendra suggesting that he remove his ministers. King Rajendra accordingly dismissed Pushkar Shah and appointed Fatte Jung Shah as Mukhtiyar on November 1, 1840. This was what Brian H. Hodgson wanted.

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The dismissal of Pushkar Shah from the office of Mukhtiyar did not please Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi. She therefore expressed her desire to pass the rest of her life in Banaras. In the beginning of 1842, she left for Banaras. King Rajendra followed her in an attempt to persuade her to return. The East India Company Government did not permit her to enter Indian territory. Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi then came back to Kathmandu and suggested that King Rajendra become should abdicate so that she might carry on the administration as Regent with Prince Surendra Bikram Shah on the throne. But King Rajendra Bikram did not agree to this proposal. Samrajyalaxmi Devi then again left for the Tarai. This time King Rajendra did not follow her. Samrajyalaxmi Devi later returned to Kathmandu because she was suffering from malaria. No physician was ready to treat her at the risk of his life. The result was that she died in October 1842.

King Rajendra then began to dance to the tune of the Junior Queen, Rajyalaxmi Devi. Previously, Rajyalaxmi Devi had felt afraid that the eyes of her infant sons, Ranendra Bikram and Birendra Bikram, would be taken out in case King Rajendra abdicated in favor of Surendra Bikram and handed over the reins of administration to Queen Samrajyalaxmi Devi. Queen Rajyalaxmi Devi now tried to depose Rajendra, place Prince Ranendra Bikram on the throne, take out the eyes of Surendra Bikram and his brother, Upendra Bikram, and take over the reins of administration herself. She decided to implement her plan with the help of Mathbar Singh Thapa. She manipulated things in such a manner that King Rajendra and Fattu Jung Shah began to act according to her advice. In July 1842, Sher Jung Thapa and other Thapas were released. The funeral rights of Bhimsen Thapa were performed on a grand scale August 1842, with an effigy made of Kusha grass. The Bhardars, including Fattu Jung Shah, extended cooperation in this move.

Two brothers of Ranajung Pande, Karabir Pande and Kapardar Kularaj Pande, remained safe for two years because they had been employed as bodyguards of Crown Prince Surendra. Kularaj Pande started showing himself as anti-British. He began to organize mock battles before Surendra Bikram between the Nepalis and the British, in which the later were invariably defeated.

In the meantime, one Kasinath Mal, who had been declared guilty of some offense, took asylum at the British Residency. Brian H. Hodgson refused to extradite him. King Rajendra Bikram personally went to the Residency to arrest Kasinath Mal. Surendra Bikram and Kularaj Pande too followed him. However, Brian H. Hodgson intervened, and King Rajendra had to go back empty-handed. Kasinath Mal was handed over to the Nepali authorities after a few days, however.

Brian H. Hodgson then started instigating Fattu Jung Shah against King Rajendra, Crown Prince Surendra and the Kala Pandes in an effort to have administrative authority transferred to Queen Rajyalaxmi. Possibly, his plan has already been approved by the Governor-General, Lord Ellenborough.

Sensing the designs of the English Resident, Sher Jung Thapa formulated a plan to destroy his enemies, the Kala Pandes. An anonymous letter was sent to King Rajendra informing him that Fatte Jung Shah, Ranganath Pandit and Prabhu Shah, acting in collaboration with Brian H. Hodgson, had decided to share the kingdom among themselves. Prabhu Shah was the father of Queen Rajyalaxmi. King Rajendra, acting upon this anonymous letter, arrested Karabir Pande and Kalaraj Pande and put them in irons. The property of these two persons, as well as of Ranajung Pande, who had gone mad was confiscated. However, Kaji Ranadal Pande, another brother of Ranajung Pande, was allowed to remain in office in Palpa for a few months more.

At the time when Fatte Jung Shah was Mukhtiyar, King Rajendra tried to win over Crown Prince Surendra Bikram by conferring on him the title of Maharajadhiraj. However, Prince Surendra began to indulge in despotic and tyrannical activities. After the Kala Pandes had been arrested, Fatte Jung Shah drafted a petition and led a delegation of nobles and officers to King Rajendra demanding that the administrative authority should be handed over to Queen Rajyalaxmi. Finding no way out, King Rajendra complied with this demand in the beginning of January 1843. Queen Rajyalaxmi then invited Mathbar Singh Thapa to come back to Nepal. Mathbar Singh Thapa left Simla on his way to Nepal. However, he stopped at Gorakhpur to study the situation. By that time, his sister's son, Jung Bahadur Kunwar, had already become a Kaji. Queen Rajyalaxmi sent Jung Bahadur Kunwar to Gorakhpur to persuade Mathbar Singh Thapa to return. Mathbar Singh Thapa accordingly came to Kathmandu in the middle of April 1843.

After arriving in Kathmandu, Mathbar Singh Thapa stayed at a public rest-house, declaring that he would not enter into his residence until his family was cleared off the charges that had been framed against it. In July 1843, therefore, the poison case was discussed again at the Council of Bhardars in the presence of King Rajendra and Queen Rajyalaxmi. The Thapas were declared innocent and their confiscated property was restored. The case was proved to have been concocted by the Kala Pandes. Although the sons of Damodar Pande were opposed to violence and had not put anybody to death, Mathbar Singh Thapa treated them with great cruelty. He poisoned the insane Ranajung Pande after disgracing him publicly. On the same day, Ranajung Pande's two brothers, along with four other persons, were executed. Devi Bahadur Kunwar was also executed along with them. Kulachandra Shah was banished to the hills, while Krishnaram Mishra was exiled. The property of these persons, as well as of 40 others who fled, was confiscated.

In November 1843, Mathbar Singh Thapa became Mukhtiyar as well as Minister and Commander-in-Chief. In December 1843, Major Lawrence replaced Brian H. Hodgson as British Resident in Nepal.

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Queen Rajyalaxmi Devi had appointed Mathbar Singh Thapa as Mukhtiyar with the hope that he would help her to carry out her plans. However, Mathbar Singh Thapa spent one whole year in organising the army. He took over the command of the regiments under Fatte Jung Shah and others. He also added 5 other regiments to his command. Thereafter, sure of his strength, he instigated Surendra Bikram Shah against King Rajendra and Queen Rajyalaxmi Devi to demand administrative powers.

Conflict naturally ensued. Surendra Bikram, on the advice of Mathbar Singh Thapa, proceeded towards the Tarai in December 1844. Mathbar Singh Thapa then told King Rajendra that the treaty with the British would be abrogated if Surendra Bikram crossed the Chure hills. King Rajendra, Queen Rajyalaxmi and Mathbar Singh Thapa then followed Surendra Bikram and overtook him in Hitaura. At Hitaura, Mathbar Singh Thapa persuaded King Rajendra to sign a document delegating all his powers to Surendra Bikram.

* 16 persons who had tried to prevent King Rajendra from relinquishing his authority in this manner were executed. Surendra Bikram then came back to Kathmandu along with King Rajendra and Queen Rajyalaxmi.

Mathbar Singh Thapa then became all-powerful, since Surendra Bikram was not capable of running the administration. He dismissed top-ranking Bhardars such as Fatte Jung Shah, Ranganath Pandit and Kaji Abhiman Rana who had been the advisers of King Rajendra. However, Kaji Gagan Singh Bhandari, who was the advisor of Queen Rajyalaxmi as well as the personal attendant of Prince Narendra Bikram Shah, was restrained, although he was removed from the position of Kaji. Fatte Jung Shah then left Nepal for India, and therefore his property was confiscated.

Notwithstanding these developments, Queen Rajyalaxmi did not lose heart. She decided to put an end to the life of Mathbar Singh Thapa with the support of King Rajendra. But it was not possible to arrest Mathbar Singh Thapa like Bhimsen Thapa. Accordingly, Queen Rajyalaxmi hatched a plot to kill Mathbar Singh Thapa, with the advice of Gagan Singh Bhandari and the active support of Jung Bahadur.

At 10:00 in the night of May 17, 1845, King Rajendra summoned Mathbar Singh Thapa to the royal palace on the pretext that Queen Rajyalaxmi had had a severe attack of colic. Kaji Kulman Singh Basnet was sent to the residence of Mathbar Singh Thapa to ask him to hurry.

Mathbar Singh Thapa accordingly went to the royal palace alone. He was shot dead as soon as he entered the royal apartments. One of the brothers of Jung Bahadur helped his sons and nephews to flee the same night.

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On May 28, 1845, King Rajendra and Prince Surendra Bikram delegated all administrative powers to Queen Rajyalaxmi at a meeting which was attended by the Rajgurus, Chautariyas, Kajis, Sardars and other Bhardars.

Queen Rajyalaxmi thereupon reinstated Gagan Singh Bhandari as Kaji. Jung Bahadur was given charge of the Kumarichok (Audit Department), as well as the Basantapur and Bhandarkhal treasuries. In addition, he was given the command of 3 military regiments. Gagan Singh Bhandari functioned as acting minister for 4 months.

Since King Rajendra had delegated all administrative powers to Queen Rajyalaxmi, the Lal Mohar (Royal Seal) was also handed over to her. However, all royal orders were issued in the name of King Rajendra. As such, the country was governed under a dual system of administration.

In September 1845, Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah, General Abhiman Rana and Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande were taken into the government from King Rajendra's group. Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah became Prime Minister, while the other two persons became ministers. Queen Rajyalaxmi appointed General Gagan Singh Bhandari also as minister. The 3 ministers belonging to King Rajendra's group were given command of 2 regiments each, while 7 regiments were placed under Gagan Singh Bhandari. This arrangement continued for a year.

Jung Bahadur became general in the beginning of 1846. Meanwhile, Queen Rajyalaxmi was planning to remove the supporters of King Rajendra who had been included in the government, and accomplished her plans with the help of Gagan Singh Bhandari. However, it was not a simple matter to arrest 3 ministers who were commanding 6 regiments. In the meantime, Gagan Singh Bhandari was assassinated in the night of September 14, 1846. Jung Bahadur then organized a horrible massacre and finally took over the reins of administration from the hands of King Rajendra and Queen Rajyalaxmi. He thus established the Rana regime which lasted more than a century.

Balchandra Sharma writes:^x

On November 1, 1840, Ranajung Pande was dismissed from the Prime Ministership. A new Cabinet consisting of Ranganath Poudyal, Rajguru Krishnaraj, Guru Prasad Shah, Dalabhanjan Pande and Abhiman Rana, with Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah as Prime Minister, was then formed. King Rajendra was compelled to take this step because of British opposition to the government of Ranajung Pande. However, the dismissal of Ranajung Pande angered the Senior Queen, Samrajyalaxmi Devi. She left Kathmandu for Banaras, and King

^xBalachandra Sharma, Nepal Ko Aitihāsik Ruprekha (Historical Outline Of Nepal), Banaras: Krishnakumari, 2008 (1951), PP 25-288.

Rajendra followed her. However, the East India Company Government did not permit them to cross the border, on the advice of the British Resident in Kathmandu, Brian H. Hodgson. The king and the queen returned to Kathmandu. The warm welcome which they received in Kathmandu encouraged Samrajyalaxmi Devi to make fresh efforts to consolidate her authority. She tried to persuade King Rajendra to abdicate in favor of her minor son, Surendra Bikram Shah. Since these efforts proved unsuccessful, Queen Samrajyalaxmi again left Kathmandu for Banaras, and again King Rajendra followed her. But the queen died at Hitaura on the way on October 6, 1840.

Meanwhile, the Crown Prince, Surendra Bikram Shah, had developed a peculiar character. He started indulging in cruel and insane deeds. Even then, King Rajendra made no efforts to control him.

After the death of Queen Samrajyalaxmi, the Pande faction took the side of Surendra Bikram Shah and encouraged his tyrannical acts.

King Rajendra, Crown Prince Surendra Bikram and the Junior Queen, Rajyalaxmi Devi, all tried to exercise administrative authority. Because of the contradictory orders issued by them, the Bhardars as well as the common people had to suffer much.

On December 6, 1842, a meeting was held under the joint chairmanship of Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah and Guru Prasad Shah. 67 persons, including top ranking Bhardars, military officers and respectable citizens attended the meeting. The meeting expressed regret over the tyrannical acts of Crown Prince Surendra Bikram as well as the manner in which the administration had deteriorated. It then formed a committee to draw up a petition to be submitted to King Rajendra. The petition described the hardships of Bhardars and the common people and demanded that immediate action should be taken to remove them.

On December 7, 1842, a massive procession reached the Hanumanboka palace with the petition inscribed on a gold plate. High-ranking civil and military officials, as well as the common people, took part in the procession. King Rajendra received the petition. He wanted to share the administrative authority between him and Crown Prince Surendra Bikram Shah. But influential people wanted that all powers should be vested in Queen Rajyalaxmi.

King Rajendra Bikram Shah was eventually compelled to accept the demand of the majority.

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On January 5, 1843, he issued the following proclamation:-^x

"Henceforth, the people shall comply with the orders of Queen Rajyalaxmi Devi. I have conferred on her the following powers voluntarily:-

- (1) To issue orders for imprisonment, mutilation, exile, capital punishment and dismissal of any person other than members of the royal family,
- (2) To appoint and dismiss government employees, and to effect changes in their titles and posts,
- (3) To maintain diplomatic relations with China, Tibet and Britain, and
- (4) To wage war and negotiate treaties as necessary with these foreign powers,

I solemnly vow that I too shall do nothing without the consent of Queen Rajyalaxmi Devi. The common people are hereby directed not to comply with the orders of the Crown Prince. In case anybody does so, he shall be punished by the Queen."

Documents

1. Conferment of Administrative Authority on Crown Prince Surendra.

A. From King Rajendra^x

We hereby bestow the title of Maharajadhiraj on our son, Surendra Bir Bikram Shah. While retaining my throne and the royal authority, I shall give commands to Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah, who in turn shall issue commands to the Mukhtiyar and Bhardars and conduct the affairs of the administration. I shall retain the dignity and prestige of the throne and the royal authority that have come down from our ancestors. Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah shall exercise the administrative authority and all such authority as has been exercised so far by me. He shall also exercise my royal authority after duly submitting a representation to me, while exercising his own authority over the Mukhtiyar and Bhardars. He shall conduct the affairs of the administration in this manner.

Marga Sudi 1, 1901 (November 1844)

^xRegmi Research Collections, Vol. 1, PP. 808-809.

From Minister And Commander-In-Chief General Mathbar Singh Thapa Bahadur,
B. To Captain Yuddhadal Shah and Officers of the Shri Chandra Nath Company
Greetings.

We have received your previous letter. All is well here. We want the same there. The news here is good. Shri 5 Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah said that Bekh Birta lands granted by His Majesty to all other had been confirmed, but the lands granted to him had not been confirmed. He therefore said he would go to Kashi. Accordingly, he proceeded to Dhup wabas.

His Majesty then said that Surendra Bir Bikram Shah did not go away in this way. He pointed out that previously also he had bestowed on Surendra Bir Bikram Shah the authority of Maharajadhiraj, and that now also he would bestow his authority on Surendra Bir Bikram Shah so as to be exercised in consultation with him, while exercising his own authority over the Mukhtiy and Bhardars. His Majesty then issued a royal order to this effect in the name of Shri 5 Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah.

According to this royal order, all the 5,200,000 people of the kingdom along with Bhardars, signed a pledge of loyalty and submitted it to Shri 5 Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah. I am sending herewith a copy of this royal order, as well as the pledge signed by us.

A salute of 51 guns were fired here to celebrate this conferment of authority on Shri 5 Maharajadhiraj Surendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev, who has ordered that a salute of 21 guns should be fired there.

Have all Jagirdars, common people and government employees, as well as officers up to the rank of Hudda, in the company, and Dwares, Tharis and respectable people belonging to different areas, write down their names and affix their seal or signature on a document prepared according to the copy of the pledge mentioned above, and send the documents here soon.

Marga Sudi 15, 1901
(December 1844)

^xIbid, pp. 806-807.

Contd...

C. From His Majesty King Surendra^x

To Gurus, Purohits, Chautariyas, Kajis, Bhardars, Military officials and the 5,200,000. people.

On Kartik Sudi 8, 1899 (November 1842), when Chautariya Fatte Jung Shah was Mukhtiyar, our father granted a royal order bestowing on us the title of Shri 5 Maharajadhiraj, as well as authority to issue coins, weights and measures in our name.

Later, on Marga Badi 1, 1901 (November 1844), when General Mathbar Singh Thapa was Mukhtiyar, we beheaded 16 persons and issued notices to all that our authority had been established. On this day, our father had granted the title of Shri 5 Maharajdhiraj in our name through a royal order, and thus our authority had been established.

In 1903 (1846), when our father left for Kashi, he granted a royal order to the effect that the entire administration should be conducted under our authority.

Now our father's name shall be retained in letters sent to China and the British, in the throne, in coins, weights and measures, and in administrative affairs conducted according to the orders of Prime Minister and Commander-In-Chief General Jung Bahadur Kunwar under our authority.

In case any order is issued by our father or ourselves on unjustified grounds sentencing the Prime Minister and Vazir and any member of the Kunwar family to death, disgrace, or confiscation of property, it shall not be complied with unless they have acted against our person, our throne, or our treasury.

If we issue an order sentencing them to death; disgrace or confiscation of property on unjustified grounds, and if any person harms their interests out of enmity, we shall sentence him to capital punishment, or deprive him of his caste, according to his caste status.

Baisakh Sudi 1, 1904
(May 1847)

^x Naya Raj Pant, "Prithvi Narayan Shah Ko Sainik Prabandha Ra Unko Rajniti." (Military Organization and Politics of Prithvi Narayan Shah). Simhanad, Year 1, No. 5, Asadh-Shrawan 2020 (June-July, 1963), 17-23 PP.

2. Appointment Of Mathbar Singh Thapa as Prime Minister^x

From King Rajendra,

To Mathbar Singh Thapa Bahadur, son of Nain Singh Thapa, grandson of Ambar Singh Thapa, resident of Gorkha.

We hereby appoint you as Mukhtiyar of all civil and administrative affairs throughout our country, as well as Prime Minister, Commander-In-Chief and General with Jagir emoluments amounting to Rs 12,401. Remain in attendance during war and other occasions as commanded by us, be faithful to our salt and utilize the following lands and revenues as your Jagir with due loyalty.

(Particulars of lands and revenues follow).

Aswin Badi 7, 1901
(September 1844)

3. Appointment Of Jung Bahadur as Kaji^{xx}

From King Rajendra,

To Jung Bahadur Kunwar, son of Balanarsingh[!], and grandson of Ramakrishna Kunwar,^{xxx} resident of Kathmandu.

We hereby grant you the office of Kaji, with 1,160 muris of Khet lands and Rs 3,500.00 as your Jagir emoluments. Remain in attendance during war and on other occasions as commanded by us and be faithful to our salt. Utilize the following lands and revenues as your Jagir.

(Particulars of lands and revenues follow).

Poush Sudi 4, 1902
(January 1846)

Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 26, P. 23.

^{xx}Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 26, PP. 41-42. Jung Bahadur had been Kaji previously also, but had been replaced by Karnabir Pande on Chaitra 1900 Vikrama. (Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 33, PP. 544-570.)

^{xxx}This is a mistake, for Jung Bahadur was the grandson of Ranajit Kunwar, a son of Ramakrishna Kunwar.

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4. Appointment of Jung Bahadur as Prime Minister^x

From King Rajendra,

To Shri^{xxx} Jung Bahadur Kunwar, son of Balanarsingh and grandson of Ranajit Kunwar, resident of Kathmandu.

We hereby appoint you as Mukhtiyar of all civil and administrative affairs throughout our country, as well as Prime Minister, Commander-In-Chief and General with Jagir emoluments amounting to Rs 12,401. Remain in attendance during war and other occasions as commanded by us, be faithful to our salt and utilize the following lands and revenues as your Jagir with due loyalty.

(Particulars of lands and revenues follow).

Marga Badi 10, 1903
(November 1846)

^xRegmi Research Collections, Vol. 26, PP. 142-163.

^{xxx}The honorific term "Shri" was not used in the letter confirming Jung Bahadur's appointment as Kaji.

(S.B.M.)