Regmi Research Series
Year 18, No. 11
Kathmandu; November 1986
Edited By
Mahesh C. Regmi

Contents

1. Introducing: An Economic History of Nepal, 1846-1901 ... 161
2. Miscellaneous Documents ... 163
3. Revenue Collection in Salyan ... 166
4. Recognition of Gorkhali Rule in Kumaun ... 167
5. Sheoraj Affairs ... 169
6. Doti Administration ... 169
7. Copper and Iron Mining Ijaras A.D. 1901-2 ... 172
8. Rents and Tenancy on Jagir Lands ... 173

************

Regmi Research (Private) Ltd.
Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal.
Telephone: 4-11927

(For private study and research only; not meant for public sale, distribution and display).
Introducing:

An Economic History of Nepal, 1846-1901

By

Mahesh C. Regmi.

(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: Vishwakarma 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 1877-March 1877), Ranodip 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 Nepalese 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 Greek-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 *historyein*, 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.
Reconfirmation of Udayapur - Birta, A.D. 1810.

2. Exemption from Forced-Labor Obligations in Bhadgaun, A.D. 1810.


5. Appointment of Chaudhari and Rais in Surkhi, A.D. 1833.


8. Amanst System in the Tarai Region, A.D. 1850.


**1. Reconfirmation of Udayapur-Birta**

Royal order to Rudramani Karlti of Udayapur in Dang:
"Formerly, after the conquest of Pyuthan, our father (That is, King Han 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 (benda) 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 Tachhe-Tol, and 3 in Thimi.

Wednesday, Kartik Sudi 11, 1867 (October 1810).
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 615.
3. Appointment of Chaudhari in Saptari

Royal order to Bhawabnath 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 Mouja of Maheshpuri and Sakhwa-Itaharu 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, Asibha, Kodraha, Sarlahi, and Brahmapuri during the Panchasala settlement (of Vikrama 1885). In Vikrama 1889 Dharmani Khan was appointed Chaudhari of the parganna of Asibha. 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 (malkusar) in a mutually satisfactory manner on the basis of available documentary evidence.


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 behk or birta nor covered by the thek-thiti settlement for
that area, under tanker 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.


7. Forced Labor in Jumla

Royal order to dhakras, jagirdars, jimmawals, thanis, tharis, and Thakuris travelling through Mache-Bhanjyang.

"The inhabitants of Parstthkholo 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 Mache-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. Subbas, Naib-Subbas, and Kumbhedsans 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 discards 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 Chhatri, Kharider Yamyanidhi Padhya, Kharider Sinchebir Rajbhandari, Kharider Devidas, and Kharider Jujuman:

"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 (Jammabhendi) for the Tarai."
"In the Butwal region, situated west of the Kailigandaki river and east of the Aran 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

Order to the Mukhiyas, Katuwaels, and ryots of Kot-Jahari, Darma, Bafi, and Gotam (in Salyan): "The Jimma-vals of these four areas have been dismissed, and a royal order has been issued granting a revenue-collection contract (theek) to Vrishadhwaj Shah of Jajarkot. You are hereby ordered to collect revenues, and administer justice, under the jurisdiction of Vrishadhwaj Shan."

Aswin Badi 4, 1919 (September 1862).
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 29, p. 528.

On Aswin Sudi 3, 1881, Dilaram Mohat and Khalu Kanwar were granted an ijara for the collection of revenue from the following sources in the Gurwakot area of Salyan: Ghari (grazing tax); customs and transit duties (saif), taxes on riverine products (jaker), taxes on forest products (bancer), gold-mining (sun-dhuwei), duties on (export of) boats, sal and catechu timber, and foodgrains (galla) and duties on the sale of miscellaneous local produce (dhi-saif). 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vikrama Year</th>
<th>Amount (In Mohar Rupees)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>Rs. 285</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>Rs. 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>Rs. 301</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 Dupkhuri, Sunar, and Rajapur-Patwari parganas of Salyan. Raj-Ainka 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 (Dadurkhana) of the Srinath Kampu every year.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 35, pp. 10-11t.

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 maris of rice-lands assigned to them in the villages of Tistung, Palung, Agra, and Lele, were reassigned to the Srinath Kampu.

Tuesday, Jestha Badi 8, 1882
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 5-6.

*****

Recognition of Gorkhali Rule in Kumaun

By
Dr. Shiva Prasad Dabral "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 Cliquet.
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 Bog 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 Chandhhat 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 Tikut 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 Garwhal, 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 Lal Singh - 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 Garwhal. He also handed over a memorandum describing the oppression that the people of Kumaun and Garwhal 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.

****
I

Royal Order to Subba Gossen 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 (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 operativet.

"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)

II

Royal order to Bharadars in Pyuthan

"You are hereby ordered to deputesix 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 (manachal) (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 Chaitrat (March 14-Apri 12).

Marga Badi 3, 1895 (November 1838)

*****

Doti Administration

I

Regulations relating to the administration of Doti in the name of Subedar Devendra Pahya 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 Kumunt. 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 bhadars have run away, do not let them be recaptured notwithstanding orders from anybody. Reinstate such persons as free peasants (Kuriyā).

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)

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 their basis. During that time, your father, Narapati Shahi, and you worked according to the orders of Pahad Shahi's agent (karobarī), 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 Bem Shah that you would not be able to produce the litigants because Pahad Shahi had taken custody of all your accounts and records. Chautariya Bem 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 (Garkajanch 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 Dittha, Sarup Bista, and Major Ram Nath Upadhyaya.

"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, Jestha 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 Sodi 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 (*korana*) 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.

*****
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. 237-15¼ to the Mulukikhana. The payment was previously collected by the local Bakyanita Tahsil 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 150 arzis of copper to the Sader Jinsikhana and Rs. 3½ in cash to the Mulukikhana.

Marga Sudi 11, 1958 (November 1901)
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 87, pp. 444-454

VI

Abiichhamuni 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
Rent Exemption

Kashiram Pande's Complaint: "A plot of 15 muri 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 Dwarai Thari, and prominent inhabitants (Bhala-maendi) 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, ppi 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 (Tilence) 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 renti. 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 renti. 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 DurgetPax Company, as well as Mohinaikes, Tharis, mohis, and respectable people (bhala-bomi) of lands assigned (as Jagir to that company).

"Rana Sur Karki, Bhimraj Thapa, Bhimal Gurung, and Nahar Singh Gurung made a false representation of the amount of rent 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 Dwaaret, Pradhun, and Mohinaik of Pharping in the names of General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewonta 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 Chauhtariya Prana Shah, General Bhimsen Thapa, Kaji Dalabhanjan Pande, Kaji Ranadhoj Thapa, and Kaji Rewonta Simha Kunwar to Bhola Nath Jaisi, Narad Pahya, Joga Jaisi, Parsa Pande, Jogya Jokaya, and Suka Jokaya on Shrawan Sudi 4, 1875: "For long you have been indulging in intactivities designed to render Jagir lands of the army uncultivated, flout royal orders, and preventing amity between cultivators (raiti) and rent-receivers (amsali). 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 troubles 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."


Rights of Local Peasants

From General Bhimsen Thapa to the Amsali Thari, and other respectable people (whala-manush) of Chiti (Lamjung): Gyananidhi 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 Anali. 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-theki fee for allotment in his name. An order was then issued according to which payment of the Chardam-theki fee would not nullify the original allotment. Disregarding that order, Bichari Chamu Paudhya and Khadga Simha Karki are planning to confirm the rights of the outsider who had paid the Chardam-theki fee. They have also appropriated the cultivator’s share (mohti-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 Paudhya and Khadga Simha Karki informing them that "mere payment of the Chardam-theki fee cannot nullify a royal order." It added, "Refund 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 muri 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-theki 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 kur 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
Lend Allotment

I

Royal order to Birabhadr Pandit: "A royal order had been issued granting you an ijara for the collection of kuri rents. The bhadars 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 (pajuni) (cultivators). With due assurance, fear nobody, allot the lands to cultivators (kuriye) 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 Padhye, Vamsharaj Thapa, and Birabhadr 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

Cultivation of Jagir Lands

Royal order to people belonging to the four castes and thirty-six sub-castes in the Chetnupur region: "We have received reports that you leave the Jagir lands of military companies uncultivated, but cultivate pahkho 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.