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(For private study and research only, not meant for public sale, distribution and display).
Forest Protection in the Hill Region

1. Gorkha

Royal order to the Subba and Thargars of Gorkha: "You have reported that a forest adjoining the Sanghu (fort) 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 Ghalala-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."
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 forests. 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 Dasain 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."


3. Parbat

Petition of Navanidhi Pandit of Balewa, Parbat district: "Forests located above the confluence of the Dhawakhola 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 (Ganda, Bhat), e. 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, Beisakh 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."

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 out 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 Suwaro (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 Chawagain, Jayamangal Padhyac, Tulasiram Padhyac, 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 Khasiya in the east, Syalhunga in the west, Bhar-Suwaro and Bhaisyadi in the north, and the track through Sholyadanda 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.

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, nigale, khar" and babilo 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 (Chitai dar) and the Amalit. Anyone who forcibly procures supplies, including the Chitai dar, shall be punished by the Amal."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 79, pp. 277-79t

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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 those 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 porterage 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
(5) Doti
(6) Pyuthan
(7) Dullu-Dailekh
(8) Sindhuili
(9) Dhankuta
(10) Ilam
(11) Chitwan
(12) Chisapani-Gadhi


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The Parbat Copper Mines

Appointment of Ijaradar

The ijaras for the Parbat mines and the Beni and Baglung-Chaur mints had been held by Prabhd Thapa and Mahabir Karki. Dittha Laxmi Narayan and Laxman were granted the ijaras after Prabhd Thapa and Mahabir Karki were dismissed.

Sunday, Jesta Sudi 11, 1872.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 10.

Collection of Arrears

Royal order to Prabhd Thapa and Mahabir Karki: "From former times, ijaradars in the Saiskhani 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.

Repayment of Loans

On Sunday, Jestha Sudi 4, 1872, a royal order was sent to the mukhiyas of different mines in the Baishkhan 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 Padhy. 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 Gahan 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 Baishkhan 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 Baishkhan 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1872</td>
<td>Rs. 901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1873</td>
<td>Rs. 1001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>Rs. 1902</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Daramkhani Mines

- Mukhiya Sahadev Pun
- Mukhiya Bandeo Siris
- Mukhiya Jitari Gharti
- Mukhiya Dhurochs Pun
- Mukhiya Badhya Pun
- Mukhiya Ajya Pun
- Mukhiya Sanya Siris
- Mukhiya Banya Gharti
- Mukhiya Panchya Sharti
- Mukhiya Bagmatya Siris
- Mukhiya Jaysirath Thapa

Pandokhani Mines

- Mukhiya Juktya Siris
  - Amber Siris
  - Ravi Pun
  - Rangya Pun
  - Jairam Pun
  - Bandeo Gharti
Thadakhani Mines

Mukhiya Shuraj

Jalya

Maitu

Kholekhani Mines

Mukhiya Hiramani

Wednesday, Jestha Sudic 7, 1872
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, ppc 6-8.

Restrictions on Copper Trade

Royal order to the inhabitants of Thak 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 Camalis of Chimribot and Kotgaun-Pakhapani: "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 Aachho (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 MintSa 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.
Enslavement in Jumla

Ram Chandra Khatri, Subba of Jumla, had purchased a musk-pod from Jadhuv Padhya at the price of twenty rupees.

Lakshya Budha had been convicted of adultery with a Badi woman of Migalibot 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 Jadhuv Padhya in lieu of payment for the musk.

(Yogi Naraharinath, Itihasa Prakasha; Kathmandu; Itihasa-Prakasha Sangha, h2013 (1956), vol. 2, bk 2, hp. 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 Tripurasal Company in the Dhawa and Tundrung areas of Gorkha. On Thursday, Falgun Sudi 1, 1868, these lands were allotted for cultivation under kut tenure to five Brahmins. 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 "ghikhane," 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 ghikhane are given in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allottee</th>
<th>Area (in muri)</th>
<th>Kut Rents -- (in paddy)</th>
<th>Ghikhane Rs/Annas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Raghunath Padhya</td>
<td>435</td>
<td>105 muris and 11 pathis</td>
<td>10-7½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Vishwamitra Padhya</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>69 muris and 2 pathis</td>
<td>7-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ramanand Padhya</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>100 muris and 4 pathis</td>
<td>7-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Srilal Padhya</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>114 muris and 10 pathis</td>
<td>8-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Chamu Padhya</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>49 muris and 6 pathis</td>
<td>3-10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong> 1,472</td>
<td></td>
<td>458 muris and 13 pathis</td>
<td>Rs 36-6½</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thursday, Falgun Sudi 1, 1868
(Feburary 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 Dudhkosri 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 jagara tenure. Such jagara lands and homesteads were usually given out to cultivators on fixed-rent tenure under what was known as the kut system.

In 1867 Vikrama (1840-11 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. 589 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, Madhes, 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 khangi 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 khangi 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 (Benkar) products, as well as bijadani, sagrauda, judicial fines and penalties (dande-kunda), eschets (marvo-srutai), raheta-baheta, mines, taxes on kurya-akariya (?), sabato, kachha, and sirto. Appoint your own men to dispose of cases relating to panchakhat crimes and collect fines and penalties.

"We approve administrative expenses (masuland) as during the time of Subba Naru Shahi. Spend money for such purposes in a reasonable manner.

"Revenue from buried treasure (kalyansadhana), 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 Khâliṣa 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 Fouzdaras and Peskas 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."

Bhâdra Sudi 1, 1864
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 1032-33.

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Aftermath of the Kot Massacre

I

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sardar Bal Bahadur Pande: "You have been replaced by Sardar Ranabhadrâ 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 Bhairov Pande have been sent into exile from here through the Chisapani route."

Aswin Sudi 11, 1903
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 7, pp. 92-93a

II

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sri Taradal Paltan:

"Kaji Jungbir Pande and Captain Bhairov 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 Ranabhadrâ 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 Palten:

"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 ordered. 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 (Palten). 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 trucks reopen."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903

IV

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Dittha Chatur Ale, Mukhiya Mangal Singh Das, and Mukhiya Srinivas Ariyal:

"Wezir Singh has been appointed as General, with Sri Sabuj Palten and Sri Bardwani Palten 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 Renasur Khadka and Jagajit Basnyat:

"If you have captured Chautariya Guru Prasad Shah and Kaji Trivikrama Sinha 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 Kulman 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 intranquility that has occurred here, you will be punished according to your caste status by His Majesty. The Ranasadral Company has been deputed to the munitions factory here; their duties shall be taken over by two units (patti) of the Sri Barakh Paltano Despatch the Ranasadral Company (to Kathmandu) along with their colors and rifles."

Friday, Aswin Badi 13, 1903

VII

Commander-in-Chief Jung Bahadur's order to Sardar Hastabir Shah:

"You have been replaced by Sardar Patte 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 intranquility 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 signature, 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.


Meghavarna Thapa's Complaint

In the Vikrama year 1884, 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 Bedi 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.


Unauthorized Collection of Mahanta-Mandali Levies

The jogi priests of the Sri Kalabhairava Temple in Ismokot 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 Ismokot, as well as taxes and levies collected from the Kumheladinhabitants, 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, Santosi 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 Bedi 10, 1901 under the signature of Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa, to the Dithas and Richars 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 Kumhelads. If the facts are otherwise, take an appropriate decision in the matter."

Rights Over Slave's Property

Petition of Lal Nath Jogi of Isma: Balu Bhendari and Rane abetted the escape of my slave, Nibhannya. His property and goods had remained in my possession. However, Johar Nath, Bhana Padhya, and Hira Devi, 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 Dithaiand 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 Balu Bhendari and Rane had abetted the slave's escape, realise the value of the slave from them and hand over the amount to Lal Nath Jogii. 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 Kampu had been assigned lands as jagir in the Tarai region. These lands were administered by an office known as the Srinath Kampu Kot Tashabili. 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 Amal, Dwara, Mohinaika, and other functionaries not to exact jharga services from the slave if this had not been the customary practice.


Transportation of Timber

Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief Mathbar Simha Thapa's order to the Mijhar, Gaurung, and Chaukiders of Okhargaug village in Sikarkot (Makwanpur district):

"Porters (khalsi, pita) and jharga laborers will pass through that checkpost (chauki) on their way to Bhains-Khani and Bhains-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 Kamisah 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. 421, 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 (Powa) 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 Bhoté, 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 Dwara, 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

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.


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 Bishankhu, other than those under the jurisdiction of Sri Maiya Sahob (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

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 Ravaldar Sarup Gharti."

Saturday, Chaitra Sudi 12, 1901

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