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The Regency of Bahadur Shah

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


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

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

There was rivalry for the post of Commander among three other bhardars who were stationed in Tanahu, namely, Naru Shah, Abhimun Sinha Basnyat, and Devadatta Thapa. Because the rivalry would worsen with the addition of Swarup Sinha Karki, Bahadur Shah sent him along with Dalajit Shah, who was appointed Commander. After Dalajit Shah reached Pyuthan, the dispute was resolved, and in mid-June 1785, the Gorkhalis attacked Kaski and occupied it after three days of minor battles. The Raja
of Kaski, Siddhi Narayan Shah, joined Raja Aridaman Shah of Nuwakot along with his troops, weapons, and wealth. On the third day after the conquest of Kaski, the Gorkhali troops attacked Nuwakot, defeated the combined forces of Kaski and Nuwakot, and occupied that principality as well.

Bahadur Shah then sent messages to the rulers of Bhirkot and other petty principalities east of the Kali-Gandaki river to accept the suzerainty of Nepal. But the rulers of Nuwakot, Bhirkot, Garhun, and Paliyun pledged their support to Raja Kirtibhim Mall of Parbat. Bahadur Shah occupied these four principalities and extended the frontiers of Nepal to the Kali-Gandaki river. The rulers of three principalities accepted the suzerainty of Nepal. They were Raja Bhup Narayan Shah of Salyan, Chakrapati Khan of Bhirkot, and Beni Prasad Sen of Rising. Abhimani Simha Besnyat took all of them to Kathmandu, while Dalajit Shah remained in Tanahu to maintain the peace. They were liberally rewarded for their successes. Swarup Simha Karki remained in charge of the administration of Kaski and Nuwakot. Loss thr. in two months later, he was beheaded at Pokhara on the orders of Rajendra Laxmi and Bahadur Shah (August 1785), probably on the charge of having engineered the death of Vamsa Raj Pande and joined hands with Dhwijabhir Sen.

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

At that time, Rajendra Laxmi was ill and so was staying at Gorkha for a change of climate along with Rana Bahadur Shah. Bahadur Shah went to Gorkha from Palpa and made a pujari of the bhadars. It was felt that the other principalities could be occupied easily if Parbat was defeated. Accordingly, plans were made to attack Parbat from two sides and Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande were appointed to implement them. Shiva Narayan Khatri and Jagajit Pande were appointed as Kajs under Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande respectively. Ramakrishna Rana, Anara Simha Thapa, and other Sardars and Companies were apportioned between them. Dalajit Shah stayed at Tanahu for arranging regular supplies of food and weapons. Bahadur Shah planned to stay at Gorkha for the duration of the war, but eventually came to Kathmandu along
with Rajendra Laxmi according to her wishes. Toward the end of May 1786, Jiva Shah crossed the Kali-Gandaki river at Radighat and Gorkhali troops thus reached Gulmi. That principality was occupied without any fighting within a week and the Gorkhali troops established their base at Chandrakot. Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande planned to launch a simultaneous attack on Benisahar, the capital of Parbat, from Chandrakot and Kaski respectively. Accordingly, Damodar Pande marched from Gorkha as soon as the news was received that Gulmi had been occupied.

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

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

Bahadur Shah’s arrest at Kathmandu spread agitation among military commanders in the field. Damodar Pande stopped his march at Lekhara. Dalajit Shah, who was in Syangja was able to keep Jiva Shah and his troops at Gulmi. Kirtibam Mallé had assembled two companies at Argha and Isma to wipe out the Gorkhali troops at Gulmi. As soon as he received the news that Bahadur Shah had become Mukhtiyar, Jiva Shah deputed Shiva Narayan Khatri and Amara Simha Thapa to attack the enemy troops at Argha and Isma. They succeeded in wiping out those enemy troops. Damodar Pande reached the Kali-Gandaki river on his way to Parbat. On the day when Jiva Shah marched his troops into Parbat from Isma, Damodar Pande crossed the Kali-Gandaki river by boat along with his troops. The Parbat forces were brave but they had lost the hope of victory, and there were only 1000 of them prepared to kill and die. On the other hand, the Gorkhali troops, both trained and untrained, numbered about 4,000. Only 45 Gorkhalis and about 200 Parbat troops were killed in the battle of Baglung. Kirtibam Mallé then fled from his principality. (September 25, 1786).
Parbat was the heart of the Chaubisi principalities. After its fall, the Raja Moti Chand of Pyuthan was making preparations to check the Gorkhali advance led by Jiva Shah and Damodar Pande. However, the Pyuthan troops fled after a brief encounter at Badikot. Moti Chand then left the hills and went to Sheoraj. Damodar Pande was welcomed by Raja Krishna Shah of Salyan and marched into Chhillikot, capital of Dang. Raja Nabab Simha of Dang offered no resistance but fled to India. From Salyan Jiva Shah crossed the Bheri river and met Raja Gajendra Shah of Jajarkot at Jahari. Jiva Shah then occupied Jahari, Rolpa, and other petty principalities, because their rulers had sided with the enemy (November 1786).

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

Mahadatta Sen reinstated the rulers of Gulmi, Argha, and Khanchi in their principalities, hence they remained satisfied. Raja Kirtibhan Malla of Parbat went to India and asked the British General, Sir Byro Coote, for help. However, he did not get any. Motichand of Seoraj asked Nawab Asafuddowlah of Oudh for help. The Zemindar of Bansai also laid claim to Seoraj, and Bahadur Shah too did not want to relinquish that territory. In August 1787, therefore, he sent troops from Butwal under the command of Dhaulkal Simha Basnyat and Jagajit Pande and drove out Motichand. Nawab Asafuddowlah used to get some money as tribute (salami) from Seoraj, so he was ready to resist the Gorkhalis. Thanks to the mediation of Mahadatta Sen, that Territorial territory was given to the government of Nepal. Raja Nawab Singh of Dang joined hands with the fugitive rulers of Dhurkot and other principalities and surrounded the forces of Salyan at Chaughara-Madi. The attack was repulsed by Subba Hastedal Shah, who went there from Pyuthan, and the Salyan forces were saved. Thereafter, Gorkhali troops were stationed in Palpa, Salyan and Jajarkot, which thus became full-fledged vassal principalities.
An agreement had been signed during the time of Pratap Simha Shah on the question of minting coins for Tibet. But neither the Tibetan government nor Tibetan merchants were willing to use debased coins or reduce the rate of exchange. The Tibetan government then started collecting duties on imports from Nepal in contravention of existing laws, while Tibetan merchants began to adulterate the salt they supplied to the border areas of Nepal in exchange for foodgrains. They also doubled the rate of exchange between salt and foodgrains, thereby hurting Nepalis. During the time of Rajendra Laxmi, the Tibetan government had even threatened to go to war. Trade was disrupted for about ten or twelve years as a result of the dispute, and Bahadur Shah waited for a favorable opportunity.

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

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

After Tibet declared war, Bahadur Shah appointed Balabhadra Shah and his brother, Srikrishna Shah as Chief Kaji and Commander respectively and despatched them to attack Kuti and Karung. As Balabhadra Shah fell ill, it was Srikrishna Shah who first marched toward Kuti in early July 1788. He was accompanied by Kaji Ranajit Pande and four Captains, namely, Sri Harsha Pande, Shiva Narayan Khatri, Nehar Simha Basnyat, and Ban Shah along with 1500 troops, both trained and untrained. After winning a minor battle at Chhossey, they finally occupied Kuti. In mid-August they entered Tibet and attacked Sikhrajung fort, but failed to occupy it and were forced to retreat to Kuti where they started building a fort.
Although Balabhadra Shah was ill, his deputies, Kaji Kirtiman Simha Basnyat, Captain Bhotu Pande, and Amara Simha Thapa, left Kathmandu eleven days after Sikrishna Shah's departure. Two days after Kutitwas occupied, they occupied Kerung. Toward the end of August 1768 they entered Tibet and occupied Jhunagadhi. One month later, a large enemy force besieged them. For 25 days, the Nepali troops faced a critical situation as a result of that siege. Bhotu Pande was captured and held prisoner. However, Kirtiman Simha Basnyat and Amara Simha Thapa kept on fighting the enemy and saved the fort. On being informed of this, Balabhadra Shah rushed there with about 2000 trained soldiers. He drove off the enemy troops who were besieging the Gorkhali troops at Kerung. In this manner, he raised their morale. He then proceeded toward Jhunagadhi and drove out the enemy troops and freed Bhotu Pande. It was no small bravery for him to repulse the enemy and lift the siege against the Gorkhalis at Jhunagadhi barely twelve days after his departure from Kathmandu.

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

Realising that war with Nepal was imminent, the Potala Lama requested the Chinese Emperor, Chien Lung, and the British Governor-General, Lord Cornwallis, for assistance. Bahadur Shah too had written to Emperor Chien Lung soliciting assistance. Cornwallis sent a vague reply to the Potala Lama and evaded the matter. Chien Lung, however, sent troops under the command of a bhawan named Patsung in order to resolve the issue. After listening to both sides, Patsung persuaded the Lamas of Tibet to conclude a treaty in view of China's suzerainty over the trans-Himalayan region. Bahadur Shah agreed to sign a treaty with Tibet, and accordingly, dispatched a team led by Ben Shah to Kerung. Patsung sent representatives of the Potala Lama, the Tashi Lama, and Sakya Lama of Tibet to Kerung. Syamharpa Lama accompanied Ben Shah as a mediator. At that time, Nepal was incurring considerable losses due to prolonged dislocation of trade. This was over and above the losses being suffered by Nepali traders. The loss of life and property suffered during the war was no less small. The Nepal government, therefore, proposed that the Tibetan government pay an annual tribute of
Rs. 100,000 to Nepal as reparations and allow trade to be resumed without any obstacle. The Tibetan representatives said that they too were suffering much losses. Patsung, however, persuaded Tibet to pay an annual tribute of Rs 50,000 only in the interest of lasting amity and commercial intercourse between the two countries. Bahadur Shah agreed to accept half of what he had claimed as tribute, and affixed the seal of Rana Bahadur Shah on the draft of the treaty. On receiving news of the treaty, Balabhadra Shah left Jhunga and came back to Kathmandu leaving two companies of troops behind at Kerung. He received a warm welcome.

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

Land Taxation in Garhwal, A.D. 1809

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

I

Royal order to local revenue functionaries (Raut, Nogi, Chaudhari, Pradhan), Gossains, and ryots in the pargannas of Kalyanpur-Kilakhar, Sataur, Jaundi, Basantapur, and Sahajpur, situated in the Tarai district of Doon in Garhwal west of the Bhagirathi-Ganga river and east of the Jamuna river:

"We hereby prescribe the following land tax assessment rates effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866. With due assurance, promote reclamation and settlement in these areas and pay taxes at these rates every year to the Tosakhana or Potakhana through the appropriate Subba or Amil, submit accounts, at the end of each year, and obtain clearances. Ryots shall not make payments, and amils shall not make collections, in excess of these rates. Ryots shall make payments in cash on the basis of prices current in the month of Ashadh. Any person who indulges in highhanded or oppressive actions shall be severely punished according to his caste status. Payments shall be made in cash at a price which is less by five seers per rupee than the price at which crops are harvested in the month of Barga if bought by merchants in the month of Ashadh."
In-kind Kut Rates for each bigha (60x60 cubits) of Junar lands, that is, lands long under cultivation in existing (Sanbati) moujase

Half of the produce for the following crops:

1. *Same* (Millet, *Panicum milaceum*)
2. *Mas* (urd, *Phaseolus roxburghii* or *Phaseolus radiatus*)
3. *Tur* or *rahar* (Cytisus indicus or cajanus)
4. *Til* (Sesame, *Sesamum orientale* or *indicum*)
5. *Kodo* (Millet, *Paspalum frumentaceum*)
6. *Gahat* (pulse)
7. *Kouni* (Millet, *Panicum italicum*)
8. Wheat
9. Barley
11. Peas
12. Mustard
13. Gram
14. Linseed

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

1. Cotton
2. Sugarcane

**In-kind Kut Rates on Tapad lands per Bigha**
(Tapad: Lands under cultivation for the second year)

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

**In-kind Kut Rates on Wakhal Lands per Bigha**
(Wakhal: Newly-reclaimed lands)

| Government's Share per maund | 10 seers |
| Ryot's share | 30 seers |
Cotton 6 annas per bigha
Sugarcane 6 annas per bigha

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Mouja</th>
<th>Lokhwar's Fee</th>
<th>Bhetee Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abol</td>
<td>Rs. 5</td>
<td>Rs. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs. 4</td>
<td>Rs. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Rs. 3</td>
<td>8 annas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>Rs. 2</td>
<td>4 annas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

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

II

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

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

III

Royal order to Hari Singh: "We hereby appoint you as Dittha and grant you authority to reclaim and settle virgin lands in the Tarai pargannas of Doon district. We also grant you as jagir one village comprising virgin lands in the parganna of
Sataur, other than lands which have already brought under cultivation there. The jagir grant shall be effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1866. With due assurance, bring back the ryots who have gone over to the Moglan, issue them pattas for reclamation of virgin lands for five years or seven years, according to the nature of the lands, promote reclamation and settlement according to the prescribed arrangements, and use your jagir."

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

IV

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

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, P. 13

V

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

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Land Tax (daal)</th>
<th>Increment (dari)</th>
<th>Total (pustur)</th>
<th>Fee (pastur)</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First year</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2-8</td>
<td>7-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second year</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1-4</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>9-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third year</td>
<td>6-4</td>
<td>3-2</td>
<td>9-6</td>
<td>4-19</td>
<td>14-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth year</td>
<td>9-6</td>
<td>7-0-3</td>
<td>16-6-2</td>
<td>8-3-1</td>
<td>24-9-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rs./Anna/Paisa
Fifth year  16-6-2  16-6-2  32-13-  16-6-2  49-3-2
Sixth year  32-13-  16-6-2  49-3-2  23-12-  72-15-2e
Seventh year  49-3-2  18-6-2  67-10  23-8  91-2-

Regmi Research Collection, Vol.9 40, PP. 10-11.e

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

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

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

III
Royal order to the jimiders of Desauli: "We have granted authority
to Narayan Rawal to collect rents and other payments from lands
offered by us to the temple of Sri Badrinath, and demarcated
accordingly by the Subbas, and use the income to operate
Sadavartas and regular and ceremonial religious functions at the
temple. We have now received complaints that you do not obey the
authority of the Rawal. Make the prescribed payments to men
deputed by him every year and deliver supplies at the temple of
Sri Badrinath and Joshimath. You shall be severely punished if
you disobey these orders."
Royal order to Sardar Chandrabir Kanwar, Sardar Bhakti Thapa, and Subba Shrestha Thapa: "In the Sambat year 1861, we had commanded subbas in Srinagar to demarcate the boundaries of lands yielding an income of Rs. 1,200 a year for financing a Sadavarta for pilgrims visiting the temple of Sri Badrinath. The lands have been demarcated, but documents relating to the boundaries have not yet been received. You are, therefore, ordered to demarcate lands at Deasuli yielding an annual income of Rs. 1,200, and forward the relevant documents here. We shall then issue a copper-plate inscription."

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

Jostha Bedi 9, 1866
Regmi Research Collection Vol. 40, pp. 28-31e

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Market Towns in the Tarai Region

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Bazaar</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Birgunj Bazaar</td>
<td>Parsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Golaghat Bazaar</td>
<td>Bardiya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Morung-ograh Bazaar</td>
<td>Morung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Butwal Bazaar</td>
<td>Butwal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Nepalgunj Bazaar</td>
<td>Banke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Hanuman-nagar Bazaar</td>
<td>Septari</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upadhyaya Brahmans and Jaisis

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

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

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

Royal Order

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

Rates of Fines

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

Rs. 130 on each household of Abal grade.
Rs. 80 do. Doyam grade.
Rs. 50 do. Sim grade.
Rs. 30 do. Chahar grade.

"For taking boiled rice from the hands of a Upadhyaya Brahman who has tilled the land with an ox-drawn plow:--
Rs. 80 on each "household of Abal grade."
Rs. 55 do. Doyam grade.
Rs. 30 do. Sim grade.
Rs. 15 do. Chahar grade.

"For returning obeisance offered by a person belonging to the Jaisi Caste:--
Rs. 4½ on each household of Abal grade.
Rs. 3 do. Doyam grade.
Rs. 1½ do. Sim grade.
12 annas do. Chahar grade.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tahasildar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahidar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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


On Counterfeit Coinage

Royal order to Taksari Laxmi Narayan: "Obtain confessions in the presence of local persons as Panchas from persons, including amalis, who are guilty of the following offenses in the region situated between the Marsyangdi river and Ramshah, and punish them in the manner mentioned below:--
(1) "In case any person instigates another to make coins without any authority, his property shall be confiscated.

(2) "Fines shall be collected at the following rates according to his wealth from any person who instigates another to make coins at the instigation of any one."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Rates of Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abal</td>
<td>Rs. 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Rs. 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>Rs. 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(3) "In case any person makes coins on his own initiative without being instigated by anyone, his property shall be confiscated.

(4) "Fines shall be collected at the following rates according to his wealth from any person who instigates another to make coins on the instructions of any one:"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Rates of Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abal</td>
<td>Rs. 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Rs. 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>Rs. 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Rates of Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abal</td>
<td>Rs. 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs. 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Rs. 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>Rs. 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(6) "Persons who make counterfeit coins of gold, silver, brass, bronze, or ashta-dhatu (alloy of eight metals) shall be punished with fines at the following rates for each mohar coin made by them:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Rates of Fine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abal</td>
<td>Rs. 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs. 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sin</td>
<td>Rs. 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>Rs. 12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

(To be continued).