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From the Kali to the Yamuna

By

Dr. Shiva Prasad Darbaral "Charan"


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

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

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

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

Mohan Chand's difficulties did not end even after signing a treaty with the Gorkhalis and instigating intranquillity in Srinagar. He had recruited troops in the
Tarmi areas with the objective of recapturing Kumaun, but was not able to pay their salaries, for the royal treasury was empty. So he imposed a new tax-known as marga and started collecting it with great severity. He did not make any exception to supporters of the Mahar and Phartyal factions, whose long-standing rivalry helped to maintain a balance in the politics of Kumaun. Mohan Chand thus succeeded in raising a revenue of Rs 400,000, a part of which he paid to his troops and thus mitigated their discontent. However, the discontent of the people further increased. After pacifying his troops in this manner, Mohan Chand began to live a life of luxury and amusement.

When Pradyumna Shah did not help him, Harshadseva Joshi used the limited resources at his disposal to recruit an army composed of Rohilla fighters, the Thakurs of Barapora, and people from Kumaun who were dissatisfied with Mohan Chand. He then attacked Kumaun. Mohan Chand received news of the attack only when Harshadseva Joshi's army reached Sitauli and Railkot through Hwalbanah. The two sides clashed at Sitauli and Railkot. Bishen Singh, Mohan Chand's son, was killed and Mohan Chand and his brother, Lai Singh, were taken prisoner. Harshadseva Joshi released Lai Singh, who had once saved his life, but Mohan Chand was kept in detention without food. He was later tortured and murdered. The Gorkhalis did not give them any help at all.

Harshadseva Joshi wanted to invite Pradyumna Shah to come back and recapture the throne of Kumaun, but the latter refused to do so because he remembered the misfortunes of the past and because he was asked by Zarkrama Shah not to take such a step. Harshadseva Joshi then installed Shiva Singh, who was related to a former king of Kumaun, Udyot Chand, under the name of Shiva Chand. However, the people of Kumaun were dissatisfied with the never-ending intrigues of the Joshis. The royal treasury was empty. Frequent change of rulers had created confusion among government functionaries and they were afraid to take sides. For all these reasons, Harshadseva Joshi was unable to strengthen his position.

Meanwhile, with the assistance of Nawab Faiz Ulla Khan of Rampur, Lai Singh, and Mahendra Singh, Mohan Chand's son, invaded Kumaun. Gadgahar Joshi, Commander of Shiva Chand's forces, was killed at the Battle of Dhungsai, and his soldiers then fled. Mahendra Singh was able to gain control of the capital, as well as of Kumaun, easily. Harshadseva Joshi and Raja Shiva Chand, accompanied by their remaining troops, fled to Garh, with Lai Singh at their heels. A battle was fought between the two sides at a place called Udkgar on the Kumaun–Garh border. Hundreds of Rohilla troops belonging to Lai Singh's army were killed, and Lai Singh was forced to escape to a village known as Chukam Parakrama Shah, brother of the ruler of Garh, reached there with his army. With his help, Lai Singh defeated Harshadseva Joshi's forces. Harshadseva Joshi fled to Srinagar. Shiva Chand too escaped to some unknown place.
Parakrama Shah then took Lal Singh and Mahendra Singh to Almora, where he crowned the latter as King of Kumaun under the name of Mahendra Chand on payment of Rs 40,000. Lal Singh became Dowan. Parakrama Shah thereafter returned to Srinagar along with his army. These events occurred in 1846 Vikrama Samvat (A.D. 1789).

Lal Singh and Mahendra Chand then began to harass the Joshis. Some of them were placed in detention or exiled, while some were sentenced to death and their property was confiscated. Harshadeva Joshi was not able to stay long in Srinagar for Parakrama Shah, as well as top-ranking civil and military authorities, were opposed to him. Harshadeva Joshi finally took refuge with Mahdi Ali Bag, Subedar of Bareilly, which formed part of the territories of the Nawab of Oudh. Lal Singh felt afraid lest Harshadeva Joshi should hatch another conspiracy in collusion with the Nawab.

Meanwhile, the Nawab of Oudh visited Kheda, east of Kathgodam-Haldwani, on a hunting expedition. Lal Singh met him at that place and convinced him that Raja Mahendra Chand of Kumaun, unlike his predecessors, desired to maintain amicable relations with Oudh and would accept Oudh's claim over the Tarai territories of Kumaun which were then under Oudh's occupation. Lal Singh was accordingly able to get assurances of friendship and assistance from the Nawab. The Tarai territories were then transferred to Oudh through Nandaram, Dewan of Kumaun.

As a result of these developments, Harshadeva Joshi lost all hopes of assistance from either Pradyumna Shah of Varh or the Nawab of Oudh. Nevertheless, he stayed on in Bareilly, where Subedar Mahdi Ali Bag was paying him a daily allowance of ten rupees. By Magh 1846 Vikrama Samvat (January 1790), the Gorkhalis had already conquered the principalities situated between the Karnali and Kali rivers. Their territories thus extended to the Kali river, across which the territories of Kumaun were situated. Harshadeva Joshi, therefore, planned to regain control of Kumaun with the help of the Gorkhalis. With that objective, he invited Bahadur Shah to invade Kumaun.

Bahadur Shah was very ambitious. His ambitions were not fulfilled by extending the Gorkhali control to the Kali river. He was well aware of the political instability prevailing in Kumaun and so wanted to conquer that kingdom. Bahadur Shah, therefore, sent Kaji Jagajit Pande to Harshadeva Joshi with a letter bearing the royal seal which promised to hand over power to him if he helped the Gorkhals conquer Kumaun. Harshadeva Joshi then revealed Kumaun's secrets to the Gorkhalis and assembled an army to help the invaders. Bahadur Shah ignored the fact that only three years previously he had signed a treaty with Mahendra Chand's father, Mohan Chand.

In Magh 1846 (January 1790), Bahadur Shah sent an army commanded by Kaji Jagajit Pande, Sardar Amara Simha Thapa, Captain Golaiyan, Captain Ramavira Khatri, Subba Jog Narayan Challa, Subba Pound Simha, Sugbir Khatri, and others to invade Kumaun. The Gorkhali troops crossed the Kali river. One
The news of the Gorkhali invasion spread a wave of panic and confusion in Almora. Mahendra Chand conscripted an army of all available men of fighting age and, along with his standing army, marched toward Gangoli to repulse the Gorkhali invaders. Lal Singh, on his part, similarly marched toward Kali-Kumaun. Mahendra Chand defeated the Gorkhalis at Gangoli through a surprise attack so that the Gorkhalis were forced to flee toward Kali-Kumaun. At Gaubanda village near Katolgarh, the Gorkhalis, led by Ananta Simha Thapa, defeated Lal Singh's troops. Lal Singh lost 200 men and fled to the Tarai for his life. Mahendra Chand, after defeating the Gorkhalis at Gangoli, proceeded to help Lal Singh, but received news of his defeat and escape on the way. Seeing no hope of defending his Kingdom, Mahendra Chand fled to Kotah. He was joined there by Lal Singh, who had gone to Rudrapur.

The Gorkhali army then proceeded toward Almora without any opposition. The remnants of Mahendra Chand's army were defeated in a battle near Kowalghat. On Chaitra Badi 30, 1846 Vikrama Samvat (February 1790), the Gorkhalis entered Almora. Harshadeva Joshi was then with Kaji Jagajit Pande, and his troops were assisting the Gorkhali invaders. The Gorkhalis thus easily conquered Kumaun with the help of this renegade. The Chaud dynasty of Kumaun came to a final end.

For fifty years the people of Kumaun had been suffering untold hardships because of political instability and conflict between the Joshis and the supporters of Mohan Chande. They had been squeezed dry for filling up the empty royal treasury and paying the salaries of the troops. For these reasons, the people of Kumaun, although distressed by the fall of the Chaud dynasty, did not actively oppose the Gorkhali rule.

Harshadeva Joshi's faction, as well as other opportunistic elements, extended full cooperation to the Gorkhalis, who consequently faced few problems in the fields of administration and revenue collection. Mohan Chande, Lal Singh, and Mahendra Chand had inflicted untold sufferings on the Joshis, who, therefore, welcomed the Gorkhalis. The Gorkhalis appointed members of the Joshi family as revenue functionaries in the villages of Jhinjad, Danya, Dignauli, Kahan, Oliya, and Galli. The Chauharis of Dwar and the Pantas of Gangoli, Uprada, Syunrakot, and Khunt received similar favors. The services of the local Pandits were enlisted for religious and medical functions, while able-bodied Kumaun youths were recruited in the Gorkhali army.

Harshadeva Joshi felt satisfied with his success in destroying the Chaud dynasty. The Gorkhalis respected him and took his advice on important matters. Harshadeva Joshi, however, expected that the Gorkhalis would place him in full political control of Kumaun. He, therefore, started instigating them to conquer Garhwal as well.

(To be Continued)
The following public notification was issued under the royal seal in Palse on Friday, Poush Badi 7, 1862:

"We have designated our maternal uncle (mema) Ishwari Datta Mishra, as Dharmadhikar. He will send his men for expiration rites (Prayashchitta) in that area; perform such rites through them for any offense (cahit) you may have committed without concealing or suppressing anything, and obtain writs (purji). Any one who does not do so, or defaults in payments due to the Dharmadhikar, may be degraded to a caste whose touch contaminates water, and also severely punished."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 688-89.

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Royal Orders of Kartik 1867 Samvat
(Continued from the August 1866 issue).

In this issue:

1. Ban on Bugar Labor in Mahottaria
2. Land Reclamation in Bodeo
5. Revenue Survey in Purbeto, Ismaq and Dhurkot.
6. Jagir Revenues in Mahottaria
7. Scrutiny of Accounts and Records.
8. The Wax Monopoly.

1. Ban on Bugar Labor in Mahottaria

Royal order to the inhabitants of Dhumepr, Wakhari, and seven other moujas in the northern (sir) parts of the Parganna of Mahottari in Mahottari district:

"We have received reports that bugar services are being impressed indiscriminately in those moujas, and that the ryots are shifting to other areas. In the future, you are ordered to provide portage services for our supplies after proper examination, and not to provide such services to the Amali or other persons. With full assurance, reclaim and develop lands in your moujas."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 588-890
2. Land Reclamation in Bode

On Monday, Kartik 10, 1867, a royal order was issued to Dhruba Pradhyā Khamel and Chandrakshēkhar Podhyā Khamel granting them authority to reclaim 1 khat of uncultivated lands in the Bode area, construct irrigation channels, and convert the lands into rice-fields. The royal order added, "Appropriate the entire produce of these lands for the first two years. From the third year, register the lands at the royal palace through Kaji Balnarm sinh Kunwar, and pay rents to the landlord (talsing) on adhīya basis."


3. Guldàd Goats for the Royal Kitchen

On Monday, Kartik 10, 1867, Chaukidars, Jagatis, bhansaris, Umars, Subbas, Subedars, gaurungs, etc., on the Kathmandu-Parsa route were ordered not to hold up, or collect duties on 2,400 guldād goats supplied every year by Chaudhari Laxman for the royal kitchen.


4. Water-Mill in Sanhku

Krishna Das Newar of Kolchohi Tol in Bode village was granted permission to install a water-mill (ghatta) on a plot of raikar land owned by him at Jagatipati in Sanhku on payment of a fee (baksāuni) of eight annas. The grant was made under sama birta tenure. He was required to make payment of 2 muris of paddy and a pota tax of Rs 6 every year to the local amal. Krishna Das Newar was also required to operate the guthi of the temple of Sri Vajra Jōgini and perform religious ceremonies every year.

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,

5. Revenue Survey in Parbat, Isma, and Dhurkot

Amalis, local functionaries, and other inhabitants of Parbat, Isma, and Dhurkot were informed that Madh v Khatri had been deputed to conduct a survey of rice-fields, cultivators (kuriya), newly-reclaimed lands, and serma taxes in each thumba other than sources of revenue covered by assignments (raibandi-dhadda) made under (jagir tenure).

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,
6. Jagir Revenues in Mahottari

Nine moujas in the district of Mahottari, including Dharmapur and Wakhari, had been assigned as jagir to Kaji Jaspen Thapa in the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat. The next year (1867), these moujas were assigned to Kaji Bakhtwar Simha. However, the Subba of the district claimed revenue from Sair dattias and jimidar, loving for himself. Kaji Bakhtwar Simha then complained to Kathmandu. A royal order was then issued clarifying that these revenues belonged to the jagirdar, not to the Subba.

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,

7. Scrutiny of Accounts and Documents

A royal order was issued on Monday, Kartik 10, 1867 assigning the task of scrutinizing official accounts and records all over the Kingdom to Sardar Bakhat Simha Basnyat and Ditha Pitambar of the Dafdarkhanae. The order added, "Do not show any favor to any royal Preceptor or Priest, Chautariya, Kaji, Sardar or other bhardar, or any revenue functionary (rakmadar). Collect revenues that are actually due and transmit the proceeds to us. Recruit local employees on monthly salaries (darmahadar) with revenues collected locally. Do not do anything to reduce revenue by manipulating records in collusion with any one. Collect the Farakhtana fee at the rate of five rupees for each Rs 1000 worth of accounts of that amount, Rs 2½ shall belong to the government, Rs 1½ shall be apportioned among the mukhiyas, and the balance of Rs 1½ shall be shared by the sardar and the pitthas."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 38, pp. 593-94.

8. The Wax Monopoly

Public notification issued under the royal seal separately for the following regions:

(1) East of the Dhobikhola river.

(2) West of the Bishnumati river.

"A monopoly has been imposed on the trade in wax. No one other than the monopolist shall, therefore, be allowed to deal in that commodity. The monopolist will send his men there. Any person who is in possession of wax shall give it to them with one hand and receive cash payment with the other at locally current prices. Any person who holds out or conceals supplies will be punished. Any person who takes wax for sale to the madhesh, and the person who purchases the commodity, shall both be severely punished. Any person who adulterates wax shall be punished. Loads being taken to the Madhesh shall be opened and examined, and if any wax is detected, it
shall be confiscated and handed over to the monopolist's men. Wax being brought to Nepal from outside shall be free from any duty, and shall be allowed to come in without any restriction. Any one who holds it up shall be considered guilty."

Monday, Kartik 10, 1867,

9. Property Transactions

(1) Matang, a resident of Midhyatol in Tokha, sold one ropani of rice-land, known as Pasikhat, which was purchased by Manaman Simha of the same place, the price being Rs 25, of which Rs 2½ has been paid as baksaudi fee at the rate of ten percent.

(2) Nhalche Lohekarni, a resident of Jonbahal at Nhal gapati in Patan town, sold a house under suna-birta tenure, with a plinth area of 3½ Jawa, and situated on a plot of 1 khat, at Kuntitol north of the Jhatapol road, which was purchased by Bhaudatta Acher of Kuntitol, Jhatapol, the price being Rs 400, of which Rs 40 has been paid as baksaudi fee at the rate of ten percent.

Monday, Kartik Badi 10, 1867,

10. Jhara Levy in the Eastern Hill Region

Royal order to the inhabitants of the Chainpur region:
"A royal order had been sent previously directing you to provide jhara labor for the construction of a bridge on the Bagmati river by our Mother in the name of our Father. The royal order had also promised you exemption from Jhara obligations for a period of five years thereafter. You have now represented to us through the Amil, Sirdar Bhairava Simha, that since much money has to be spent on travelling between Chainpur and Kathmandu, the labor obligation be commuted to a cash payment. You have also represented that such commutation, if sanctioned, will enable you to reclaim new rice-fields. Accordingly, you need not provide Jhara services in the future. Instead, soldiers of the Kumariyal Company have been sent to collect payments at the following rates from each household:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Payment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abel</td>
<td>Rs 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>Rs 1½</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>Rs 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chcher</td>
<td>8 annas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Wednesday, Kartik Sud 11, 1867,
Rägni Research Collection, Vol. 38, p. 598.

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(To be Continued)
Four Documents on Kipat Tenure

1. Manthali.

Royal order to Dam Rai: "A tract of land known as Betyani, situated in the Manthali area, has been in your possession under kipat tenure from the time of your ancestors. We now appoint you as Mijhar. Provide constant service and use the lands as kipato."

Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866,
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 75.

2. Majhkirato

On Monday, Kartik Badi 14, 1866, a royal order was issued to Asik Ram Rai of Bhangding granting him permission to reclaim 87 muris of uncultivated lands in his holding, other than rice-lands which had been assigned to the army, under kipat tenure.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 106.

3. Sangakot

Royal order to Sarba Singh Mijhar: "The former king of Bhadgaun, Hanajit Malla, had confiscated a part of the kipat lands owned by Mijhar, Gajya, Shimamarain, Kalu, and Hawaiya, at Sangakot (Kabhrepalanchok), and granted those lands to Fulal Thapa as birta. The birta was later confiscated and granted as kipat to your elder brother, Birsing Mijhar. It was found that the boundaries of the kipat holding of Gajya Mijhar and others, as confirmed under the royal seal, overlapped those of the kipat holding granted to Birsing Mijhar. We, therefore, grant you as kipat the remaining area which had been confiscated from Fulal Thapa. The holding is bounded by the Khanikhola–Rosikhola confluence in the east, the Khanikhola stream in the south, Golmathanu in the west, and Rurchidaha and Chihandenda in the south. Provide customary payments and services (dastur, doko-boko), remain under the jurisdiction of the amal, and use the lands as your kipat."

Jestha Badi 11, 1890,
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 26, p. 299.
Hare Kumhal, Dhanuram Kumhal, Laxmimaran Kumhal, Dharmya Kumhal and Sirya Kumhal owned 7 khets (i.e. 700 mavis) of rice-lands under kipat tenure in the Arghau area (of Kaski district). (Particulars of these lands, including boundaries, follow).

The following royal order was issued in their names on Wednesday, Magh Badi 3, 1895:

"You have been using these lands under kipat tenure from the time of your ancestors. You had been paying mahsul tax amounting to Rs. 30 to the Rama- dal Company on these lands, according to a royal order issued by our father (i.e. King Girban Yuddha Bikram) in the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat. That order had also placed you under the obligation of providing hulak services as well as porterage services for the transportation of cardamom to the royal palace.

"During the year 1893 Vikrama Samvat, the settlement officers deducted excess lands from your kipat holding. You then submitted a complaint to us against such action. The excess lands were then reconfirmed as part of your kipat holding.

"You have now submitted a petition praying that a new royal order be issued, because the old one had been carried away by the Tadi river. We accordingly reconfirm the kipat grant on the original terms and conditions. With full assurance, pay mahsul taxes and other customary dues to the amal, provide hulak services as well as porterage services for the transportation of cardamom, and use the lands as your kipat."

Wednesday, Magh Badi 3, 1895,

For a similar reconfirmation of kipat lands in Arghau, Kaski district, on the same terms and conditions, on Bhadra Badi 4, 1866, see Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp 95-96.

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Regulations for the Dharmathali-Jamuna Region

The following regulations were issued under the royal seal on Saturday, Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866 (June 1809) for the region west of Dharmathali (Kathmandu) and east of the Jamuna river in the names of Subedar Balabhadra Khatri and Subedar Dharmanananda Khasas.
1. Inspect hulak posts for the transportation of official mail in the region west of Dhamathali and east of the Bheri river, and find out whether or not such posts have been maintained according to the royal orders. According to these orders, hulakis have been granted 50 percent exemption in the saune and fagu levies, and full exemption from forced labor obligations (beth, begar), and the same tax on their homesteads. They have also been granted protection from eviction from rice-fields cultivated by them under achieve tenure from the year 1866 Vikrama Samvat, we hereby order that the remaining 50 percent of saune and fagu levies shall also be waived, and that each hulaki household be allotted ...1 muri of rice-fields for cultivation. Prepare the draft of a royal order to that effect, and send it along with the previous royal order, and we shall affix our seal on it.

2. Submit a report on the amount needed for payment according to the previous royal order to hulakis transporting official mail in the region west of the Bheri river and east of the Jamuna river, and the additional amount needed according to this year’s arrangements, along with the previous royal order, and we shall affix our seal on it.

3. Establish hulak posts for the transportation of official supplies on the main route between Dhamathali and the Bheri river at four places on each day’s journey and assign 20 hulaki households for each such post. These households have been granted exemption from the saune, fagu, and other levies, as well as from forced-labor obligations (jhari, beth, begar). Make necessary arrangements accordingly and submit a report; we shall affix the royal seal on it.

4. Porterage services under the hulak system shall be provided only for military supplies and sick people between Kathmandu and the western (front). Such services shall on no account be provided to any other person, including any Royal Preceptor, Royal Priest, Chautariya, Kaji, Sardar, Subba, Subedar, Jamadar, or Soldier, except under royal orders or orders signed by Kaji Bhimsen Thapal. In case any person uses hulak services for his supplies, falsely representing them to be those of the royal palace, arrest him, seize the goods, report the matter to us, and take action as ordered.

5. We have issued orders to Bhardars, Subbas, and Subedars at different places that in case any person forcibly encroaches upon the facilities and privileges provided to hulaki mail-carriers (Kagato-hulaki) or porters under royal orders, and oppresses them, he should be arrested, and the matter reported to us. Send instructions accordingly to the following headquarters for the following regions:

1. Pokhara ... Marsyangdi-Kali region
2. Pyuthan ... Kali-Sakhi region
3. Salyan ... Sakhi-Bheri region
4. Achham ... Bheri-Karnali region
5. Dipayal (Doti) ... Katagaun (Doti)-Mahakali region.

6. Almora ... Mahakali-Gurh Regional.

7. Srinagar ... Kumaun-Bhagirathi region.

8. Doon ... Bhagirathi-Jumuna region.

6. Inspect whether or not forts (gadhi, killa) at different places are being maintained and manned properly. Make arrangements for their construction or repair according to need, and submit a report to us.

7. Inspect tarpahats (for crossing rivers) at different places, and if these have not been installed or maintained properly, order the local Bhardars and Amalids to do so without any delay. Submit a report to us.

8. Submit reports on the number of men, high or low, attached to Bhardars, Subbas, Subedars, etc. at different places, as well as on the arrangements that have been made for them.

9. Inspect whether or not gunpowder and munitions factories at different places are being operated properly. Submit reports to us regarding their performance, the number of muskets or quantity of gunpowder produced, and the number and description of the mechanics and workers.

10. Submit reports regarding the following matters:

   (a) The quantity of arms and ammunition supplied to the front from Pyuthan and Kumaun.

   (b) The points at which the movement of arms and ammunition supplied from Kathmandu, Pyuthan, and Kumaun is obstructed, and the reasons for such obstruction.

   At all points where the movement of arms and ammunition is obstructed, direct the local Bhardars, Subbas, Subedars, chiefs of feudatory principalities, and amalis, to expedite such movement.

11. Persuade the people of villages situated on the main route, who have fled to other places because of oppression by persons travelling through such villages, to come back and recapture their lands and homesteads. Do not let any person exact free porterage services, or free provisions, in villages adjoining the main route, except those who travel on official business on our orders. Prepare a report on action taken according to this regulation, retain one copy yourself, and send one copy to us.

12. Check the attendance of military companies at different places. In case a shortfall in the assignment of rice-lands is detected in any company, realise such shortfall from the appropriate Subedar at the rate of Rs. 25 for each khet (100 maris).
13. In case the movement of mail between Kathmandu and the front, or of arms and ammunition, including cannon, shells, flints, and gunpowder, is obstructed at any place, punish the person exercising jurisdiction over the area—where such obstruction occurs.

14. Allot rice-land holdings ranging between 40 miris and 1 khet (100 miris) on adhiya tenure to each hulaki household according to the size of the family. The regulations prescribe that hulak posts for the transportation of supplies shall be maintained at intervals of one day's journey. You are now ordered to maintain two to four posts over this distance according to the nature of the terrain. Send the draft of an order to this effect and we shall affix our seal on it.

15. The fiscal exemptions granted to hulakis of both categories have been adjusted against the emoluments assigned to amalis of different areas. As regards losses due to similar exemption for newly-enrolled hulakis, submit particulars and we shall arrive at a decision.

16. In the case of kayaka-hulaki mail-carriers, draft orders granting them exemption from payment of the sera tax subject to a limit of one rupee for each household, and we shall affix our seal on it.

Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866 (June 1809) e

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On Kumaun

1. The Chumawan Levy.

2. Ban on Gambling.

1. The Chumawan Levy

A levy known as mudahi was imposed on each individual in Kumaun in the year 1865 when that territory came under Gorkhali occupation. However, it was incorporated into the regular tax assessment records, so that the people of Kumaun were placed under the obligation of paying it every year. They, therefore, submitted a petition to Kathmandu through Subba Karna Simha protesting against such discrimination.

A royal order was then issued on Ashadh Sadi 13, 1866, abolishing the mudahi levy in Kumaun from the year 1865 Vikrama Samvat. At the same time, the Chumawan levy was imposed on each household on a one-time basis on the occasion of the sacred-thread-investiture ceremony (of King Girban Yuddha Bikram).
The rates of the Chumawan levy for households which were granted exemption from the mudahi levy were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade of Household</th>
<th>Rate of Chumawan Levy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abal</td>
<td>one rupee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doyam</td>
<td>12 annas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sim</td>
<td>8 annas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chahar</td>
<td>4 annas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, pp. 64-65.

2. Ban on Gambling

Public notification in Kumaun: "We have received reports panic has spread among you because gamblers have been arrested and brought to the royal palace (in Kathmandu). We have taken such action against those who disobey our orders. So far as you are concerned, we hereby decree that there shall be no gambling in our territories. Any person who gambles shall be severely punished. However, those who had gambled in the past have been pardoned. With due assurance, remain in your lands and homesteads and continue engaging in agriculture, trade, or other occupations."

Saturday, Ashadh Sudi 4, 1866.
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, p. 73.

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Preparations for the Garhwal Campaign

1. Royal Order to Ambar Simha Rana

Royal order to Ambar Simha Rana: "On hearing that Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa has been deputed to the western front, you accompanied him. We have received a report to that effect from the Kaji; and so appointed you in the post of Subedar. This is how an ambitious person belonging to an old thak family should do. We shall promote you according to your work on the recommendation of the bhardars. Obey their orders faithfully and accompany Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa along with a large number of men to join the bhardars in Garhwal."

Sunday, Aswin Sudi 13, 1862
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 564-65.
2. Royal Order to Kaji Jaspa Thapa and Others

Royal order to Kaji Jaspa Thapa, Sardar Bhotu, Subba Toran Dhwaj Shahi, and Subba Prahlad Gurungo

"You had left here at the same time as Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa. Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa has already reached Ridi along with seven pieces of cannon and ammunition, and we have already received a report he had sent from there. On the other hand, you are still on the way. You should not make such delay at a time of action. You are, therefore, ordered not to make a single day's delay, but to proceed expeditiously along with your men and meet the Kaji in Pyuthan. From there you are ordered to proceed ahead along with the cannon and ammunition and join Kaji Ambar Simha Thapa on the tenth or twelfth day of the month of Marga. We have appointed you in high-ranking posts, but if you cannot reach the front in time we shall consider you to be imbeciles and send you women's blouses (guniyo-cholo) to wear. We shall also replace you by other men Understand this and march ahead quickly. Report to us from wherever you meet Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa.

Aswin Sudi 13, 1862

3. Conscription in Western Hill Region

I

Public notification in Tanahu, Bhirkot, and 23 other areas.

"A royal order had been sent previously directing you to join Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa on the western front. People belonging to all castes and communities shall join the bhandaris in Gadhwal along with their weapons on Jhara basis. Any person who disobeys this order shall be severely punished according to his caste status."

Aswin Sudi 13, 1862
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, ppo. 566-67.

II

On Magh Sudi 1, 1862, the following royal order was sent to Tanahu, Bhirkot, and thirty other places: "We had earlier ordered you to accompany Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa to the western front on Jhara basis. Many of you have obeyed that order, while others have not. We have now sent Kaji Ajembar Simha Pantha and Sardar Anirudra Baniya to the front. Join them on Jhara basis along with your weapons. Any smalli who does not send the men under his jurisdiction, or any one who does not provide Jhara services according to this order, will be severely punished according to his caste status. Kaji Ajembar Simha Pantha and Sardar Anirudra Baniya have been empowered to inflict such punishment."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 722-23.
4. Training in Artillery

On Aswin Sudi 12, 1862, Roshan Khan was appointed Jamadar of the Artillery on a monthly salary of twenty rupees. The appointment was effective Baisakh Badi 1, 1863.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, p. 562.

Kaji Amara Simha Thapa and Kaji Nayan Simha Thapa were informed of Roshan Khan's appointment the same day. They were ordered to use his services in training Subedars, Jamadars, and Huddas of different companies in operating cannon and pay his salaries from the general revenues (Sarb rekam).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 562-63.

Roshan Khan was sent to Garhwal along with Mahabal Rout, a Jamadar of the Naya Srinath Company. Kajis, Sardars, Subbas, Subedars, and other officials stationed in Garhwal were ordered to let him train them in operating cannon, and to send a list of the trainees to Kathmandu.

Wednesday, Kartik Badi 1, 1862
Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 6, pp. 580-81a

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