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Maresh C. Regmi

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Regmi Research (Private) Ltd.

Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

Telephone: 4-11927

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Jumla Affairs, A.D. 1844-45
(Continued from the July 1984 issue)

Emoluments of Tharis

Deulu Mahat and Ratibhan Mahat submitted the following petition to Kathmandu:

"No emoluments have been prescribed for us Tharis, even though we have to work according to the orders of the Amali and the military authorities at Chhinasim. How then can we maintain our livelihood?"

A royal order was, therefore, issued on Sunday, Jestha Badi 10, 1901 (May 1844) in the name of the Amali of Jumla directing him to pay emoluments as follows to the following Tharis from income earned by the Adalat of the Chandan Nath Paltan:-

<u>Name of Thari</u>	<u>Amount</u> (in 16-ganda rupees)
Deulu Mahat - - -	Rs 15
Ratibhan Mahat - - -	Rs 3
Kaman Mahat - - -	Rs 3

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, p. 634.

Emoluments of Satadham Shahi

Petition of Satadham Shahi of Galfa division (dara) in Jumla:

"We belong to the family of the former Kalyal Kings of Jumla. These days we work for the government according to the orders of bhardars deputed to Jumla. However, we do not get any emoluments. For the past six or seven years, we have been presenting ourselves at the gates of the royal palace, and have been forced to borrow large sums of money."

The following royal order was then issued in the name of Satadham Shahi:-

"We hereby grant you emoluments (Khangl) amounting to Paisa Rs 25 from the the revenue of Jumla. With full loyalty and honesty, prove true to our salt and provide services to us as directed by our Amali and bhardars at Chhinasim."

Sunday, Jestha Badi 10, 1901 (May 1844)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, p. 627.

Appointment of Jimmawal

In the Vikrama year 1896(A.D. 1839), Basudeva Jaisi was appointed as Jimmawal for the following villages in the Bhurkadil-Badki area of the Sija division(dara) of Jumla.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Bakakigaun. | 2. Saligaun. |
| 3. Agastibada | 4. Phunna. |
| 5. Lohachadi-Bistapatu | 6. Upallo-Gothigaun. |
| 7. Chulyalgaun | 8. Tallo-Gothi |
| 9. Dewargaun-Brahmanpatti | 10. Dewargaun-Rakalpatti |
| 11. Wamgaun | 12. Naregaun. |
| 13. Dhapagaun | 14. Parilihi-Tharmadi |
| 15. Parilihi-Apargaudi | 16. Nayekot. |
| 17. Lihī-Dhitalgaun | 18. Topla. |
| 19. Kadha. | 20. Lohachadi-Chipanyapatti |
| 21. Bodigaun. | 22. Rugagaun |
| 23. Goragaun. | 24. Lungku |
| 25. Ghodyang | 26. Pharse |

Basudeva Jaisi was reconfirmed as Jimmawal after the Vikrama year 1901 (A.D. 1844) also. A royal order issued on Tuesday, Chaitra Sudi 7, 1900(March 1844) accordingly reconfirmed his authority to collect Sirto asmani and other payments according to the Thek-Thiti settlement made in the Vikrama year 1894 (A.D. 1839), and transmit the proceeds in four installments every year to the military unit (Paltan) stationed at Chhinasin. Basudeva Jaisi was also granted Rs 11 from such revenue as his own emoluments.

Tuesday, Chaitra Sudi 7, 1900(March 1844)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 604-5

Mineral Deposits

On Tuesday, Chaitra Sudi 7, 1900(March 1844) officials were sent to Jumla to locate deposits of copper, lead, iron, manganese, cinnabar, salt, steatite,

gold, etc. and arrange for their exploitation. The people who actually exploited these deposits were permitted to retain half of the output for themselves, and supply the balance free of cost to the government.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, p. 606.

Petition of Bhats of Jumla

Petition of the Bhats of Jumla: "From former times, we have been paying taxes and providing compulsory labor services (Jhara) in the same manner as others. (Saltais Ka Saraha Sanga --- "in the same manner as the 27." The significance of the term is not clear). Pashire-lands and forests at Chinarasi and other places have traditionally belonged to us. These days, outsiders (arekhi) are encroaching upon our rights in these Pashire-lands and forests, and revenue-collection functionaries are demanding unauthorized payments."

Local functionaries in Jumla(thani, thari) confirmed that the Bhats of that area had been duly discharging their fiscal and other obligations.

A royal order was issued on Sunday, Jestha Badi 10, 1901 (May 1844) directing that the Bhats of Jumla should be allowed to use their Pashire lands and forests in the customary manner if these belonged to them.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp. 630-31.

Appointment of Thanis

On Sunday, Jestha Badi 10, 1901 (May 1844), Harihar Acharjya and Padma Acharjya were appointed as Thanis for the collection of revenue in Manigadhi, Ghodasain, and several other villages in the Chaudhabis division (dara) of Jumla. They were required to hand over the proceeds to the Jimmawal of that dara.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, p. 635.

Emoluments of Thani-Jimmawal

Thani-Jimmawal Vamadeva Jaisi Dhital of Jumla submitted a petition to Kathmandu praying that he be granted emoluments (mana-dana) in the same manner as other Thanis, Thakuris, Tharis, and Jimmawals of the district. A royal order was

accordingly issued on Sunday, Jestha Sudi 2, 1901 (May 1844) sanctioning a yearly payment of Rs 20 (in 16-ganda rupees) from land-tax revenue (Sirto, Pota, Thek) collected in Satigaun village of Sirja division (dara)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 34, pp 636-37

(To be continued)

Mokarri Land Grants in the Eastern Tarai

During the eighteenth and nineteenth century, agricultural lands were often granted to individuals under what was known as mokarri or istimrar - mokarri tenure.

Under the heading "Fixed-rent Tenures," B.H. Baden Powell writes: "Under this class I may consider the 'istimrari,' the 'muqarrari,' and 'maurusi' tenures existing from before the Permanent Settlement. These Persian names ... give no clue to origin, and only describe certain incidental features; but it may be reasonably supposed that they originated in some closer and hereditary connection with the land, either independent of any contract with the Zamindar, or such as to have won recognition in the shape of a special lease or tenure from the local authorities.

" Properly speaking, 'istimrari' refers to the stable or perpetual nature of the tenure, which is not voidable when the estate is sold for arrears. 'Muqarrari' refers to the rent being fixed; and a tenure might be either istimrari or muqarrari, or, more commonly, both. 'Maurusi' merely means that the tenure is hereditary, and implies nothing about the fixity of rent

(The Land Systems of British India (reprint), New Delhi, Oriental Publishers, 1974, Vol. 1, p. 540.

G.A. Grierson (Bihar Peasant Life, reprint of 1875 ed, New Delhi, Cosmo Publications, 1975, p. 324) writes: "A tenure which may be either intermediate or cultivating ... is mokarri, or tenure in perpetuity at a fixed rent. In some parts of the country these are also popularly known as Sikmi tenures, which usually mean under-tenures held by a cultivating raiyat." He has also recorded (p. 325) that "a tenant at fixed rates is istimrari."

Mahesh C. Regmi writes: "Mokarri land grants in the eastern Tarai closely resembled Kut grants to non-cultivators in the hill regions. Under the Mokarri system, the State assigned lands or villages to individuals on payments of a fixed sum of money every year. The Mokarri holder, in consideration of this payment, enjoyed authority to collect land and other revenues and reclaim waste lands in the areas assigned to him. Mokarri grants were both on a temporary and permanent basis. The difference between the amount stipulated for payment and the revenue that the Mokarri holder actually collected constituted his profit."

(Mahesh C. Regmi, A Study in Nepali Economic History, 1768-1846, New Delhi: Manjusri Publishing House, 1971, P. 96).

H.H. Wilson has defined Istimrar as "continuance, perpetuity, a farm or lease granted in perpetuity by government or a Zamindar, at a stipulated rent, and exempt from abwabs; Such a lease granted in charity at a quit-rent," and Istimrari as "permanent, perpetual applied especially to a permanent settlement of the revenue, and particularly to the settlement of the lower provinces made by the government of Lord Cornwallis." (A Glossary of Judicial and Revenue Terms, (reprint of 1855 ed), New Delhi, Munshiram Manoharlal, 1968, P. 221).

A few specimens of mokarri land grants in the eastern Tarai region during the nineteenth century are given below:-

(1) Guru Brahmadata Mishra

The mouja of Parsa-Adhar in the Simraungadh area of Rautahat had been granted by the local authorities on mokarri tenure to Guru Brahmadata Mishra on payment of Rs 161 a year. The grant was reconfirmed through a royal order issued on Chaitra Sudi 1, 1859 (March 1803). It entitled Guru Brahmadata Mishra to appropriate income from Mal-jihat, Sair-jihat, Jalkar, bankar, bihadani, Sagaudha, and danda-gunahagari:

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 20, P. 19.

See also: "Mokarri Land Grants in Rautahat,"

Regmi Research Series, Year 9, No. 11, November 1, 1977, P. 173.

(2) Kaji Damodar Pande

On Chaitra Sudi 15, 1859 (March 1803), Kaji Damodar Pande was granted the moujas of Balahiya and Galopatti in the Totani area of Bara district on mokarri tenure on payment of Rs 251 a year. He was authorized to appropriate any income collected in those moujas in excess of that amount.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 20, P. 23.

(3) Gosain Bakhat Giri

On Tuesday, Aswin Sudi 11, 1874 (September 1817), the moujas of Dolathi and Hamsapur in the Koradi Parganna of Mahottari district were granted to Gosain Bakhat Giri on Istimrar-Mokarri tenure. In consideration of the payment of a specified sum of money (figure missing in the text) every year, he was permitted to appropriate revenue from the following sources in the two moujas:

1. Mal (agrarian taxes).
2. Katiyari (taxes on households of occupational groups).
3. Bihadani.

4. Sagaudha.

5. Singarhat.

6. Fees payable to the Amilr

7. Maryo-aputali (escheats).

8. Judicial fines and penalties (danda-gunahagari)

However, Crown levies (raja-anka) and buried treasure (Kalyana-dhana) were not placed under the jurisdiction of the Mokarri-holder.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 43, PP. 37-38.

(4) Ranbir Mahat

On Friday, Poush Sudi 9, 1874 (December 1817), the Kantalasi mouja (that is, a mouja on which taxes are assessed at concessional rates) of Garhaun in the Simraungadh area of Rautahat was granted on mokarri tenure to Ranbir Mahat on payment of 237 Patna rupees a year. He was entitled to appropriate income from mal, sair, bihadani, Katiyari, Sagaudha, hat, danda-kunda, maryo-aputali Singarhat, bhainkharcha, and fees due to the amali (amilan dastur), with the exception of raja-anka levies. The order added, "Promote reclamation and settlement in this mouja with ryots procured from India, as well as from birta and Jagir lands (within the Kingdom). Any loss or profit, as the case may be, belongs to you. No compulsory and unpaid labor services (beth, begar) shall be exacted from the inhabitants of this mouja, except for governmental purposes."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 43, PP. 65-66.

(5) Horil Singh and Others

Half of the revenue of the mouja of Balara in the Simraungadh area of Rautahat had been assigned as Jagir to Horil Singh, Sivaka Singh, Bakhtaur Singh, Ram Bux Singh, Shiva Sahaya Singh, and Bhawani Singhr On Baisakh Badi 1, 1874 (April 1817), the mouja was granted to them on Mokarri tenure against a payment of Rs 601 a year. They were entitled to appropriate income from Mal, Sair, bihadani, Katiyari, falkar, banker, and Sagaudha. Half of the amount, that is, Rs 300-8, was assigned to them as Jagir.

Saturday, Magh Sudi 7, 1874 (January 1818)r

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 43, PP. 71-72.

(6) Manoranjan Das

On Magh Sudi 2, 1874, (January 1818), the mouja of Bahadurpur in the Simraungadh area of Rautahat was similarly granted to Manoranjan Das on Mokarri tenure. The tax assessed on the mouja was then increased from Rs 101 to Rs 141 a year.

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 43, PP. 72-73.

(7) Bhanarsingh Fanet

The mouja of Pipra in the Asibhou Parganna of Bara district, which had been assigned to the Hattisar (Elephant Depot), was granted on mokarri tenure to Bhanarsingh Fanet on Monday, Ashadh Badi 10, 1885 (June 1825).

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 43, PP. 111-12.

(8) Mahant Ballabh Giri

Royal order to Mahanta-Raj Ballabh Giri: "Because foodgrains were required for offerings at the temple of Kapileshwaranatha in Mahottari district, the Thera-Gopalpur area had been granted on mokarri tenure. Later, that mouja was granted as birta to Kuland Jha. (The temple authorities) were then authorized to collect contributions from the people of Saptari and Mahottari for the purpose. However, these contributions were subsequently abolished on the ground that people were unable to pay them. An assignment was then made from the agrarian-tax revenue (Mal) collected there. However, (the temple authorities) represented (to Kathmandu) that the amount of the assignment was not adequate. They prayed that lands be granted instead, since it would then be possible to cultivate such lands and obtain foodgrains for offerings at the temple.

"We, therefore, hereby abolish the cash assignment and grant the mouja of Sakari-Kataiya in the Parganna of Mahottari in Mahottari district on mokarri tenure from Baisakh Badi 1, 1893 (April 1836) on payment of Rs 220, half in mohar rupees and half in Patna rupees, every year. The grant entitles the beneficiary to appropriate income from the following sources; Mal, Sair, Katiyari, bihadani, Sagaudha, Singarhat, daily emoluments (roj-talabana) of the gumasta and the Patuwari, levies due to the Amil (amilan-dastur), rahata-bahata, danda-Kunda, maryo-aputali (escheats, not exceeding Rs 100 in each case), with exception of Crown levies (raja-anka)

Tuesday, Chaitra Sudi 5, 1892 (March 1836)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 27. PP. 371-72.

Registration of Undeclared Lands in the
Madi-Bheri Region

On Ashadh Sudi 1, 1906 (June 1849), the Sadar Dafdarkhana sent an official team to the Madi-Bheri region of western Nepal to perform the following function:-

- (1) Registration of lands and homesteads inadvertently left unregistered during the A.D. 1837 surveys, as well as newly-reclaimed and undeclared lands and homesteads.

(2) Collection of taxes and other payments on Jagera lands and homesteads.

A public notification published in this connection prescribed the following arrangements in respect to Jagera land taxation:

"If it appears that there is scope for enhancing the amount of taxes assessed on old rice lands, the existing tenant shall be allowed to continue if he agrees to such an enhancement. If he does not do so, the lands shall be reallocated to any other person who stipulates payment at the enhanced rate."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 48, pp. 687-88.

Royal Order to Praja Communities

Royal order to Praja communities of Tamang, Murmi, Thami, Sunuwar, Pahari, Hayu and Mijhar in the region situated east of the Trishul-Ganga river and west of Sanga/Sindhu - bhanjyang.

"You are hereby ordered to proceed to the Tarai region under the command of Subba Gambhir Singh Ale and Jamadars Dala Singh Gurung, Parath Khadka, and Kasiram Thapa in fulfillment of your Jhara obligations. Attack or ambush convoys of the Firangis (i.e. British) along routes through which they transport arms and ammunition, and blockade such routes. You are hereby exempted from forced-labor obligations (Jhara, Beth, begar for other purposes, as well as from payment of miscellaneous taxes (Udhamni, Padhamni). You are also permitted to appropriate for yourselves whatever property you can plunder from the Firangis, including elephants, horses, utensils, coins, etc. In case you attack the Firangi troops in this manner, we shall restore your confiscated Kipat lands and also grant you other rewards. With due assurance, take along your weapons with you and proceed to the front en bloc."

Tuesday, Falgun Sudi 6, 1872
(March 1816)

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, pp. 224-25

On Tuesday, Falgun Sudi 6, 1872 (March 1816), Subba Gambhir Singh Ale, and Jamadars Dala Singh Gurung, Parath Khadka, and Kashiram Thapa were ordered to impress the jhara services of Praja communities such as Tamang, Murmi, Thami, and Sunuwar, have them take along with them bows and poisoned arrows, and proceed to the Tarai region for ambushing convoys of the Firangis transporting arms and

ammunition , and blockading the routes,"Appropriate for yourselves one-fourth of all property looted from the Firangis, including elephants, horses, utensils, coins, etc. In case you successfully complete your mission, we shall grant you suitable rewards."

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 42, p. 224.

Revenue Settlement in the Bheri-Mahakali Region

On Kartik Sudi 8, 1908 (October 1851), Bada Captain Rana Mehar Simha was deputed to the Bheri-Mahakali region to perform the following functions:-

1. Register lands and homesteads inadvertently left unregistered during the A.D. 1846 Survey, as well as newly-reclaimed and undeclared lands, and assess taxes on such lands and homesteads.
2. Reconfirm all Chhap, manachamal, and halbandi grants if the owner can produce documents bearing the seal of the then reigning King. As regards other grants of these categories, reconfirm them subject to an income ceiling of fifteen rupees each if the owner has a house with tile or stone roof and has made his village populous.
3. Scrutinize all chhap, manachamal, and halbandi grants made under the royal seal, or through the orders of bhardars and other officials, to rajas and other prominent persons in the Bheri-Mahakali region. If any grant should be reconfirmed, in your opinion, submit a report to the Prime Minister along with necessary particulars. Abolish those grants that are being used without performing any service at your discretion, and remit the income to us.
4. Conduct a fresh measurement of any lands and homesteads in respect to which complaints are received of discrepancies in area because of corruption in the course of the previous survey, or of damage as a result of floods and washouts, or the death of the owner without leaving behind any heirs, and assess taxes accordingly.
5. Ascertain if any Jimmawal has appropriated for himself income from judicial fines and penalties in villages where such income must be incorporated into the stipulated amount of revenue according to regulations, realize the amount so appropriated, and transmit it to us.

Any Jimmawal who has imposed fines in contravention of regulations shall be punished with a fine of an equal amount.

Collect all arrears of the Salami levy imposed during surveys held from time to time since 1898 Vikrama (A.D. 1841), and impose a fine of an equal amount on any Jimmawal or government employee who is found to have collected the levy from the people but not transmitted the proceeds to us.

6. If it is found that lands and homesteads belonging to any person had been registered in the course of the settlement made (at the Palace in Kathmandu) in 1903 Vikrama (A.D. 1846), make arrangements to have such lands and homesteads registered in the name of the actual owner.
7. Abolish the posts of Dafdari and Jimmawal with effect from the Vikrama year 1909r (A.D. 1852), and resume their Jagirs. Appoint an honest and prominent local person, who is trusted by the people of the village and also liked by you, as Mukhiya for the collection of taxes. Obtain a stipulation in writing from the people of the village that they will undertake liability if revenue is not collected properly.
8. Establish offices at places where rajas reside, and appoint two honest and efficient huddas and sipahis in each such office. The rajas shall provide four manas of rice a day to each such hudda and sipahi, dispense justice in their presence, forward the written confessions to the bhardars at Silgadhi for necessary instructions, and impose fines and penalties in accordance with such instructions. Income from such fines and penalties shall be appropriated by the rajas themselves. In case the huddas and sipahis take gifts and bribes, work under the pressure of the rajas, suppress information relating to injustice committed by them against their subjects, and do not report the matter to the bhardars at Silgadhi, the latter shall dismiss them and withdraw their Jagirs.
9. Scrutinise the asmani levy assessed collectively on each village during the revenue settlement of the Vikrama year 1903 (A.D. 1846) in the Bheri-Mahakali region, and apportion the total amount of the levy on each household. Also assess land tax on thek or pota basis on households that had been granted exemption previously on the ground that they belonged to slaves.
10. Do not let the lands of persons who have vacated their holdings and gone abroad (Moglan) without paying taxes and other payments (bhota-pota) due from them remain uncultivated. Reallot such lands to

another ryot belonging to the same village, and assess ther Pota tax on such lands in his name. In case no local ryot is available, the lands may be reallocated to a ryot belonging to another village. Unclaimed (ukas) lands may be reallocated to a newcomer only after giving the first option to a local ryot.

11. Resume such area from Jagir assignments as is in excess of the prescribed area in the Bheri-Mahakali region, and use such excess area to meet shortfalls in other Jagir assignments, if any. Reconfirm such royal orders and official orders as are appropriate in your opinion, and cancel the rest.
12. Scrutinise Khet and Pakho lands in the raiya of Jajarkot. Assess Serma tax on Pakho lands according to the hale, pate, and kodale categories. Measure rice lands (Khet) and assess Pota tax according to the quality. Reconfirm lands yielding an annual income of Rs 3,000 to the Raja of Jajarkot, and place the rest under his jurisdiction. Arrange for the collection of taxes through Mukhiyas, and transmit the proceeds to us.
13. Inspect Kagate-Hulak and Thaple-Hulak posts in the Bheri-Mahakali region, and make appropriate arrangements in respect to number and distance. Submit the draft of an order to be issued by the Prime Minister in this regard.
14. Enforce the regulations adopted by our Bhardars in respect to slaves in areas up to the Mahakali river. Similarly, enforce the regulations adopted by our Chautariyas in respect to the Khawas (slaves) of Thakuris.
15. Place in detention any Jimmawal, Thani, Thari, Dafdari, Mukhiya, or other prominent person (bhala-admi) who creates obstacles or withholds cooperation while you are performing the work mentioned in these regulations, and submit a report to the Prime Minister for necessary action.
16. In case any person makes a one-sided representation and succeeds in obtaining a royal or other order accordingly with the intention of creating obstacles in your working in accordance with these regulations, submit a petition to the Prime Minister giving the actual facts. We shall then take both versions into consideration and issue orders accordingly.

17. If there arises any matter which is not provided for in these regulations, do what you think necessary in our interests, or else report the matter to the Prime Minister for necessary instructions. Maintain an attendance register of military employees and submit it through the Prime Minister. Collect payments on vacant Jagir assignments.
18. Obtain statements from the concerned persons in respect to sources of revenue not mentioned in royal orders prescribing thek-thiti arrangements for the collection of revenue in the Bheri-Mahakali region, as well as to the proceeds of the sale of enslaved persons which may have been misappropriated. Collect such amounts until the Vikrama year 1908 (A.D. 1851) along with fines. Make necessary arrangements so that after the Vikrama year 1909 (A.D. 1852) revenue from sources ~~not~~ incorporated in thek-thiti arrangements is collected through bhardars who are in charge at Doti.
19. Issue instructions to rajas in the Bheri-Mahakali region to abolish Jimmawals and arrange for the collection of revenue through Mukhiyas in each village from the Vikrama year 1909 (A.D. 1852). Compile a list of slaves provided by rajas, Jimmawals, and Mukhiyas to Bhardars since the Vikrama year 1904 (A.D. 1847).
20. In case any person has settled a village on lands granted to him by the former rulers, which have been reconfirmed in his name after that territory came under our authority, assign him the responsibility of collecting taxes from such lands and do not appoint any other person as Mukhiya.
21. A sum of Rs 1,122 from the income collected in the course of the revenue settlement is hereby sanctioned as follows to pay the salaries of the following employees:-
- | | | | |
|--------------|-----|------------------|--------|
| 1 Ditttha | --- | Rs 500 | a year |
| 1 Tahabildar | -- | Rs 150 | ,, |
| 4 Nausindas | --- | Rs 432 | ,, |
| 1 Tahaluwa | --- | Rs 40 | ,, |
| | | <u>Rs 1,122.</u> | |
22. The following military personnel shall be employed for clerical duties for the duration of the settlement operations:-

1. One Patti headed by a Jamadar of the Chandan Nath Paltan.
2. One Patti headed by a Jamadar of Jwaladal Company.
3. do. Bhawani Bux Company
4. do. Srinath Company
5. do. Aridaman Company.

Saturday, Kartik Sudi 8, 1908
(October 1851)

Regmi Research Collection, Volr 48, pp. 693-704.

Jagir Land Assignments. A.D. 1796

On Ashadh Sudi 2, 1853 (June 1796), separate official teams were sent to the following areas to inspect rice-lands (Khet) and income from homesteads (Khuwa) which had been assigned as Jagir to different companies of the army:-

- (1) Bhadgaun (urban and rural areas).
- (2) Patan (do).
- (3) Kathmandu (do).
- (4) Areas west of the Sanga/Sindhu region and east of the Chepe /Marsyangdi regions
- (5) Areas west of the Dudhkosi river, including Sindhu, Naldum, Dhulikhel, and Panauti.
- (6) Areas west of the Chepe /Marsyangdi and east of the Kali/Modi.
- (7) Areas west of the Kali/Modi and east of the Bheri river.

The inspection thus covered the entire central hill region west of the Dudhkosi river and east of the Bheri river. It did not extend to the Kirat region east of the Dudhkosi river and the far-western hill region west of the Bheri river, or, more explicitly, the Dudhkosi-Mechi region in eastern Nepal and the Bheri-Mahakali region in the west. The reason was that in these two regions, Jagir assignments were usually made in the form of revenue, rather than of lands and homesteads as in the central hill region.

The objective of this measure seems to have been to check discrepancies between the registered area and the actual area of Jagir holdings, and resume the surplus area, if any, for fresh Jagir assignments.

A new schedule of Jagir assignments was prescribed on the same day (Ashadh Sudi 5, 1853). (The document from which a copy was made for the Regmi Research Collection was damaged by insects and several letters or words are, therefore, missing. The following is a free translation).

Royal order to Jagirdars, including Subedars, Jamadars, Majors, etc. of all companies:-

"We hereby prescribe a new schedule (raibandi) of land and cash assignments to Jagirdars of all ranks in the army. Everyone shall accept assignments according to this schedule. Any person who renders meritorious services will be suitably rewarded.

"Do not dismiss soldiers with a long record of service. In case any soldier is guilty of murder or any other crime, refer the case to us, and appoint new persons only with our orders.

"In case there is any surplus of paddy or wheat left after appropriating incomes according to this schedule, deposit it with the Tosakhana. In case lands are damaged by floods or washouts, we shall meet the shortfall. But you shall not receive anything if you are unable to cultivate the lands assigned to you and so leave them uncultivated.

"Any Subedar who lets Jagir lands be reallocated to others, or granted as birta, without obtaining other lands in exchange shall be held guilty.

"In case any military employee is dismissed without any reason and without voluntary resignation, he shall be entitled to rents from the wheat crops.

"The allotment of Jagir lands on adhiya tenure shall be valid if made to the person who has paid the Chardam - theki fee first during the appropriate season.

"A military employee, once his appointment is confirmed, shall not be dismissed without any reason. Any person who appropriates for himself a part of Jagir incomes, without paying the concerned employee in full, shall be severely punished.

"A company which comprises more than 160 rifles shall discharge the functions of two small companies.

Schedule

<u>Description</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Rate of Khet assignment (in muris) for each</u>	<u>Rate of Khuwa (homestead- tax revenue) for each</u>
1. Subedar	1	1,100	Rs 400
2. Jamadar	4	600	Rs 55
3. Major	1	400	Rs 25
4. <u>Ajitan</u>	1	400	Rs 25
5. <u>Kote</u>	1	400	Rs 25
6. <u>Front Nissan</u>	1	280	-
7. <u>Rear Nissan</u>	1	260	-
8. Hawaldar	8	280	-
9. Ambaldar	8	260	-
10. Sipahi	85	200	-
11. Pipa-Jamadar	1	200	-
12. Tabale (Drummer)	1	200	-
13. (Missing)	2	180	-
14r do.	2	160	-
15. do.	2	140	-
16r do.	2	180	-
17. do.	16	160	-
18r do.	1	160	-
19. do.	2	200	-
20. do.	2	180	-
Total member of personnel	142
Total area of Khet land assignment	31,760 muris
Total amount of Khuwa revenue	Rs 695

Regmi research collection,
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Brahman Settlement in Bhotgaun, Morang

On Thursday, Shrawan Sudi 13, 1868 (July , 1811), virgin lands in the Hattighisa Parganna of Morang, South of Islimba hill, were granted for reclamation and settlement to the following Brahmans. The Grants were tax-free, with the exception of Crown levies (raja-anka), the allotments were known as gachha

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Chhabilal Padhya | 2. Kamalapati Padhya Pandit |
| 3. Vidyapati Padhya Dahal | 4. Vamshidhar Padhya Timilsina |
| 5. Gangadhar Padhya Adhikari | 6. Laxman Padhya Adhikari |
| 7. Narayan Padhya Rijal | 8. Bhagirath Padhya Nyaupane |
| 9. Dhruva Padhya Pokhrel | 10. Dharmananda Padhya Khatiwada |
| 11. Nandikeshar Padhya Ghimire | 12. Dharmananda Padhya Khatiwada |
| 13. Baijanath Padhya Bhattarai | 14. Vishnuhari Padhya Dhakal |
| 15. Tikaram Padhya Arjyal | 16. Jayanarayan Padhya Lamsal |
| 17. Dayaram Padhya Arjyal | 18. Tikaram Padhya Chilkhada |
| 19. Bhawani Shankar Padhya Adhikari | 20. Siddilal Padhya Lamsal |
| 21. Jokhu Padhya Koirala | 22. Laxman Padhya Khatiwada |
| 23. Kalu Padhya Pandit | 24. Kanthu Padhya Regmi |
| 25. Khumakarna Padhya Tewari | 26. Radha Padhya Pandit |
| 27. Harivansha Padhya Khanal | 28. Chandrashekar Padhya Adhikari |

Regmi Research Collection, Vol. 40, Pp 246-47.

No information is available about the fate of this colonization scheme. We do not know what social, economic factors impelled these high-caste Brahmans, obviously belonging to the adjoining hill region in eastern Nepal, to settle in what was then a wild and virtually unexplored territory. Nor do we know what political factors impelled the government to try to establish a Brahman settlement in those inhospitable surroundings. Indeed, the scale and character of the colonization scheme seems to be unprecedented. Further information in this regard will be presented in the Regmi Research Series as and when available.

July 30, 1984.

Mahesh C. Regmi.
