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Regency of Bahadur Shah^x

By

Baburam Acharya.

After the death of Queen Rajendralaxmi, confusion arose at the royal palace as regards the future course of action. The new King was a minor, and Bahadur Shah was in detention. In the meantime, Dalajit Shah had occupied Kaski. Abhiman Simha also had gone to Kaski. All of them subsequently came to Kathmandu and held a meeting. They decided that nothing could be done unless Bahadur Shah was released from detention. Old royal palace officials and members of the nobility also suggested that Bahadur Shah should be invited. Bahadur Shah was released on the eleventh day after the death of Rajendralaxmi. He took over the regency after the end of the mourning period on the advice of all. First of all, Swarup Simha Karki was beheaded, Bahadur Shah then dismissed Balbhadra Shah during the next Pajani.

Kaski had been occupied when Rajendralaxmi was still alive. Bahadur Shah now decided that the Chaubise states across the Kali river should also be conquered. Since the kings of Palpa and Parbat were creating trouble, he summoned his elder sister Vilasakumari, who was married to Prince Rana Bhima Shah of Salyan, to advise on relations with the Chaubise kingdoms. Although Vilasakumari did not come to Kathmandu, she sent her son, Raghunatha Shah. Bahadur Shah did not discuss his plan with anyone in Kathmandu, but went to Gorkha to meet Raghunatha Shah along with the King. In Gorkha, they decided that Bahadur Shah should marry the daughter of Mahadatta Sen, King of Palpa and persuade him to accept the suzerainty of the government of Nepal. They agreed that this would make victory over all the Chaubisi states easy.

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Baburam Acharya, Nepalko Samkshipta Vrittanta (A Concise Account of Nepal). Kathmandu: Pramod Shumshere and Nir Bhanu "Pyasi". 2022 (1966). Chapter XVII, "Bahadur Shahko Mulaktiya" (Regency of Bahadur Shah). pp. 92-101.

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Shiva Shah, uncle of the King of Gulmi, was living in Ramnagar in exile. His son had died. Shiva Shah was living in Ramnagar with a concubine, and a grand-daughter on the legitimate line, Vidyalaxmi. Thinking that it would be easy to conquer Gulmi if Shiva Shah was won over, Bahadur Shah brought Vidyalaxmi to Kathmandu as his betrothed bride. Then he sent Shiva Shah to attack Gulmi along with Gorkhali troops led by Jiva Shah. Damodar Pande, brother of Vamsha Raj Pande, who was then a minister, was sent to invade Parbat. He was also entrusted with the task of subjugating the kingdoms of the west. Similarly, Abhiman Simha Basnyat, another minister, was sent to occupy the kingdoms of the east. However, Abhiman Simha accompanied Damodar Pande up to the banks of the Kali river when the latter was going to invade Parbat. The Gorkhali troops reached the borders of Jajarkot in different groups after occupying Gulmi, Argha, Khanchi, Parbat, Musikot, Gallot and Pyuthan. The small kingdoms adjoining Jajarkot were also occupied. The Terai kingdom of Dang was occupied and given to the King of Salyan. Friendship had been established with the King of Jajarkot from the time of Prithvi Narayan Shah. Jajarkot had been given autonomy on payment of a tribute of Rs 74 annually to the government of Nepal. The Gorkhali troops returned to Kathmandu after having this treaty reconfirmed. Bahadur Shah became very powerful after these victories, which were celebrated with great jubilation in Kathmandu. Feudatory kings like Mahadatta Sen also attended the ceremony. They received elephants, horses and other gifts from the hands of King Ran Bahadur Shah. In return, they presented gifts to King Ran Bahadur Shah. Mahadatta Sen received the kingdoms of Gulmi, Argha and Khanchi as his reward. Angyal Dorje, King of Mustang which was situated near Parbat, also accepted the suzerainty of Nepal. Friendship was maintained with the Kingdom of Juleka by giving away some villages in Mustang. Although Shiva Shah of Gulmi had helped in the war, he did not receive the Kingdom of Gulmi. He therefore became frustrated and died.

Bahadur Shah then started a war with Tibet on the issue of debased coins. Disputes had arisen during the time of Prithvi Narayan Shah because debased coins for circulation in Tibet had been issued by Jaya Prakash Malla. An envoy from Nepal had gone to Tibet to conclude an agreement in this regard. Prithvi Narayan Shah died by the time the envoy reached Khasa. An agreement was then signed by the representative of the Dalai Lama, the Lama of Sikkim, and other leading Lamas, representatives of the King of Nepal, Kaji

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and the Taksari at Khasa during the reign of King Pratap Simha. That agreement remained in force only during the reign of King Pratap Simha. After his death, the Tibetans stopped supplying pure gold and silver coins, hence Nepal-Tibet trade was totally disrupted.

According to the Khasa treaty, trade between India and Tibet could be conducted only via Nepal. But the Tibetans started conducting trade through the Sikkim route. When a clarification was sought during the reign of Queen Rajendra-laxmi about such violation, Tibet hinted that this had been done because it had to sell silver, but did not send an official reply.

In the meantime, ^a dispute arose at the monastery of the Tashi Lama of Digarcha. The Chief Lama of Digarcha, Palden Yara, died on his way back home after visiting the Emperor of China. His brother, Shamarpa Lama, became the Lama temporarily. Shamarpa Lama misappropriated gold worth hundreds of thousands of rupees. When a new Lama, a minor, was installed there, his father inquired into the property of the monastery. A quarrel ensued between Shamarpa Lama and them. Shamarpa Lama, taking all movable property in his possession, fled to Sikkim, along with fifteen colleagues, through the newly-opened route. On their arrival at the border of Nepal, they informed the Nepal government that they wanted to live in Nepal as refugees.

A war was going on at that time in the west, but Bahadur Shah sent Ranajung Pande to receive these Lamas. They were brought to Kathmandu and kept at Swayambhua. Bahadur Shah made them citizens of Nepal on their request.

When the war in the west ended, Bahadur Shah invaded Tibet on the charge that it had stopped trade with Nepal. Kuti and Kerung were attacked simultaneously. The Tibetans could not face the Nepalis. The Ambans of Lhasa then forced the Tibetans to sign an agreement with Nepal. Nepal demanded that Kuti should be vacated or Rs 10 million paid as reparation. After prolonged discussions, Tibet agreed to pay Rs 50,000 annually to Nepal. The Nepali troops returned after an agreement to this effect was signed in Kerung.

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Tibet was then under the suzerainty of China. During the reign of the Ming dynasty in China, Tibet had become almost independent. The Manchu dynasty succeeded the Ming dynasty in China. The Manchu Emperors could not exert any pressure on Tibet. They sent two Ambans to Lhasa as their envoys. These Ambans only functioned as advisors to the Tibetans. At that time, they expressed the view that representatives of the Nepal government should be sent to the Chinese Emperor along with a copy of the new treaty. Their intention was to utilize this opportunity to suppress the Tibetans.

The simple-minded Gorkhalis agreed to this offer, and a Nepali representative, accompanied by an Amban, left for China via Kuti. The delegation was received in China with great honor. The Emperor of China conferred medals on both Bahadur Shah and Ran Bahadur Shah. The latter was conferred the "Arti-Tiwang", while Bahadur Shah received the "Ghung." The other Amban accompanied the delegation on their return. He came through Kerung and returned via Kuti. Both Ambans surveyed the route during their visit.

Shamarpa Lama too had signed the treaty with Tibet on behalf of Nepal in the capacity of a Nepali citizen in Kerung. The Tibetans were infuriated by the manner in which a refugee from Tibet, who had defalcated property, had signed a treaty to suppress Tibet. The Tibetans paid Rs 50,000 according to the treaty during the first year. But they discontinued payment from the next year. During the third year, a Tibetan representative visited Nepal and demanded fresh negotiations, refusing to pay the amount. It was then decided to hold a meeting in Kuti, and a Nepali representative went there for this purpose. The main aim of the Tibetans was to arrest Shamarpa Lama. Knowing this, Shamarpa Lama did not go to Kuti. When the Tibetans asked why Shamarpa Lama did not attend the meeting, the Nepalis said that he was ill. But the Tibetans refused to talk in the absence of Shamarpa Lama. The Nepalis, realizing that the Tibetans had come not to hold talks but to arrest Shamarpa Lama, arrested them and brought them to Kathmandu.

Before the Tibetan officials were arrested, there had been war with Jumla, because Jumla had assisted Tibet during the Nepal-Tibet war. Jumla had also seized the Kingdom of Mustang, which had accepted the suzerainty of Nepal. Nepali troops, led by Kaji Shiva Narayan Khatri, advanced toward Jumla along the Himalayas via Muktikshetra. These troops occupied Tibrikot first. After some days, Shiva Narayan Khatri occupied

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Chhinasm, capital of Jumla. Seeing no advantage in proceeding further Shiva Narayan Khatri appointed Bhakti Thapa as Subedar and sent him to occupy Dailekh and Dullu along with a Brahman Sardar, Kalu Pande. Kalu Pande attacked Bilaspur, capital of Dailekh. The King fled, and Dailekh was occupied without any difficulty. When the Gorkhalis attacked Dullu, everybody, including the King, fled. They were later persuaded by Kalu Pande to come back. Dailekh was incorporated into the Kingdom of Nepal because it was without a King. Dullu was left intact, because its King, Uttama Shahi, accepted Gorkha's suzerainty. Bhakti Thapa then proceeded toward Jumla. Shiva Narayan Khatri was already in Jumla at that time. They extended their authority over the whole of Jumla. Gorkha's dominions thus extended to the Bheri river.

Bajhang had once formed part of the Kingdom of Kumaun. It became independent following a civil war. The King of Doti then asked the King of Bajhang to accept the status of a vassal but the latter refused. A princess of Bajhang had been married to a son of the King of Doti. The King of Doti then offered to designate this son as successor if he killed his father-in-law, the King of Bajhang. The son actually did so by deceit when he visited Bajhang during the Dashain festival. The infant son of the assassinated King of Bajhang was then in Achham. The officials of Bajhang decided to accept Gorkha's suzerainty, thinking that Gorkha would then punish the King of Doti.

Without the knowledge of the King of Achham, the officials of Bajhang went to Dullu and signed a treaty accepting Nepal's suzerainty and agreeing to pay a tribute of Rs 500 yearly. The King of Achham rejected an offer made by the Gorkhalis to sign a similar agreement. The Gorkhalis thereupon attacked Achham. The King of Achham fled and hid himself in the Mahabharat forests.

Doti was the next target of the Gorkhalis, but it was difficult to attack it. Doti was an extensive kingdom. Raji Shiva Narayan Khatri, Captain Golaiyan Khawas, Sardar Amar Simha Thapa and others had been sent from Nepal to invade Doti. Raji Jagatjit Pande was sent to assist them. A civil war was raging in Kumaun by the time these officials reached their Joshi Brahman ministers. Mohan Chand had been declared King, superseding the old royal dynasty. Mohan Chand was killed in the course of a clash with the Joshis. His son, Mahendra Chand, [Salyan between the Chand Kings and

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expelled the Joshis and became King. Harshadeva Joshi, one of the expelled Joshis, went to Salyan and asked Prince Ranabhim Shah (Prithvi Narayan Shah's son-in-law) to provide him with troops, promising that he would then bring Kumaun under Gorkha. Harshadeva Joshi also requested that he be allowed to accompany the troops. Harshadeva Joshi's offer was accepted, and he proceeded toward Doti along with Gorkhali troops.

Jagajit Pande occupied Depayal, capital of Doti, easily. The King of Doti fled. The troops of Doti sustained a defeat at the battle of Dumrakot at Narayanghat. The whole of Doti was then annexed into the Kingdom of Nepal.

When the Gorkhali troops reached Kumaun, Amara Simha Thapa was defeated in a minor battle. However, Amara Thapa and Jagajit Pande jointly defeated the King of Kumaun in another battle. The King of Kumaun then fled. Kumaun was occupied easily. The Gorkhalis then proceeded towards Garhwal. They marched toward Srinagar, capital of Garhwal, along the banks of the Alaka river. The ministers of Garhwal then fled to an inaccessible fort in the Mahabharat mountains along with the infant king. The Gorkhalis occupied Srinagar, and then besieged the mountainous fort. The siege continued for a year with sporadic fighting. One year later, the Gorkhalis were defeated in a minor skirmish at Paniyakheta. The defeat was due to the fact that a large number of the troops of Doti were assisting the Gorkhalis.

As soon as news of this defeat reached them, the kings of Kumaun, Doti, Jumla and Lohham made attempts to reoccupy their kingdoms. The King of Lohham did so immediately and killed two companies of Gorkhali troops which had been stationed there. As a result, Nepal's contacts with the west were broken.

At this time, Bahadur Shah faced great difficulties. The Tibetans remained intransigent even after their representatives were arrested. The Gorkhali troops then attacked Digarcha and the gumba of the Panchen Lama. The Gorkhali troops were led by Damodar Pande and Bam Shah. The Gorkhali officers plundered the gumba when the Lamas fled. However, the Gorkhalis sustained a heavy loss of life when they were coming back through Syartangpo, as winter was approaching. Even then, the Gorkhalis were able to come back to Kathmandu along with the plunder. The plunder provided an excuse to the Chinese.

The Chinese general who had come to Kerung wrote a strong letter to the King of Nepal, demanding that the plundered goods should be restored, because these had been given as presents by the Chinese Emperor to the Panchen Lama. The Chinese courier was taken into custody. Discussions then started at the royal palace as regards the next step. On one side was the Chinese invasion, and, on the other, a defeat in Garhwal. Gajaraj Mishra, who was in Banaras at that time, realized that there was no alternative but to sign a treaty with the English. He met Mr. Duncan, the English Trade Representative in Banaras, and raised the question of signing a trade treaty. Gajaraj Mishra and Mr. Duncan then drafted a treaty with the help of Munshi Abdul Kader. The treaty was signed by both sides in a hurry (in order to please the government of Nepal. The Nawab of Oudh

The English were waiting for an opportunity to send an English officer to Nepal in order to study its actual condition. Accordingly, terms were formulated which would cause no harm to Nepal. However, Nepal did not permit any English officer to visit its territory. It permitted only Munshi Abdul Kader to visit Nepal. After the treaty was signed, the English government wrote a letter to the Nawab of Oudh, who was persuaded to write to the Nawab of Rampur exerting pressure on the King of Garhwal to accept the suzerainty of Nepal. Because of his difficult position, the King of Garhwal agreed that an envoy of the Government of Nepal should be appointed in Garhwal, that Garhwal should not maintain contacts with any other state, that it should not maintain contacts with any other state, and that it should accept Nepal's suzerainty.

Meanwhile, the Chinese Commander-in-chief, Tung Thang, entered into Nepal through Kerung along with 9,000 troops. There was an encounter between the Gorkhalis and the Chinese at Kuti, in which the Gorkhalis were defeated. The Chinese army then encamped at Listi, which is situated at a distance of approximately 30 kos east of Kathmandu. The Gorkhali troops too encamped nearby, determined not to allow the Chinese to march farther. Fighting came to an end when the Chinese raised the question of signing a treaty. They proposed that the Chinese troops should be shifted to Dhaibung for the purpose of holding negotiations. The Gorkhalis therefore vacated Dhaibung and encamped on the other side of the Betrawati river. Negotiations continued for one month, but without any result. The Chinese then proposed that negotiations should be held in Nuwakot. The Gorkhalis did not accept

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this proposal, as they were afraid lest the Chinese should proceed slowly toward Kathmandu. They were determined not to allow the Chinese to cross the Betrawati river

In this situation, a Chinese commander crossed the Betrawati bridge along with 3,000 troops. The Chinese force was attacked by the Gorkhali troops stationed at Gerku and Chokda under the command of Damodar Pande and Kirtiman Simha Basnyata. The Chinese were defeated. The Gorkhalis destroyed the Betrawati bridge so as to prevent the Chinese from coming back. Nearly 1,000 Chinese soldiers fell into the Betrawati river and were killed.

As winter was approaching, the Chinese raised the question of a truce. They demanded that the goods plundered from the gumba of the Panchen Lama in Digorcha should be restored, but did not specify the quantity. The government of Nepal therefore accepted the proposal. The Chinese also demanded that Shamarpa Lama should be given back to them. However, the government of Nepal replied that it would not surrender refugees. Tung Thang then promised that he would not harass Shamarpa Lama, but let him stay at his monastery along with his comrades. Nepal thereupon agreed to give Shamarpa Lama back to the Chinese.

The Tibetans who had been arrested in Kuti, as well as the Chinese courier who had been taken into custody, were then released and sent away from Kathmandu. However, Shamarpa Lama took poison and committed suicide at the first halt. The Chinese took away his dead body, saying that it would be buried at his monastery. The treaty was then signed. The Chinese took Kuti and Lhasa.

During the war with China, the King of Sikkim fought against Nepal on the Chinese side. Gorkhali troops therefore reached Sikkim and inflicted a defeat on the Sikkimese army. The capital of Sikkim was occupied. The Chinese did not pay any attention to Sikkim, which was situated on the southern side of the Himalayas. The government of Nepal relinquished Kerung when the Chinese made a demand to this effect. Kuti had always been a part of Tibet. Khasa belonged to Nepal, but Nepal was forced to relinquish it. Bahadur Shah agreed to sign the treaty accepting all these conditions.

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Bahadur Shah committed a blunder by invading Tibet. Prithvi Narayan Shah had directed that war should never be fought on two fronts. However, Bahadur Shah started a war on the Garhwal front also. He had thus to face difficulties on both fronts. The English arranged for the signing of a treaty with Garhwal. In any case, after the treaty with China was signed, the English were not in a position to interfere in Nepal, because they did not understand the intentions of China. The gains of the war with China thus almost equalled the losses.

Since a trade treaty had been signed, the English tried to send Captain Kirkpatrick to Nepal as their trade representative. Bahadur Shah had signed this trade treaty with the English hoping that he would be able to buy arms for the war with China. But when the English refused to supply arms to the agent sent by the government of Nepal to Patna against payment in cash, the Nepalis felt displeased, realizing that the English were opportunists. Bahadur Shah was actually not happy with the English. But he remained silent, as his displeasure would have been interpreted as the official displeasure of the government of Nepal. Because of the opposition he faced, Bahadur Shah summoned Captain Kirkpatrick not to Kathmandu but to Nuwakot, where he took King Rana Bahadur Shah also. Kirkpatrick remained a few days in Nuwakot, and then came to Swayambhu. He stayed a few days in Kathmandu before returning to India in March 1793 A. D.

A few months after Kirkpatrick's departure from Kathmandu, Rana Bahadur Shah attained the age of eighteen years. Traditionally, it was necessary to entrust the reins of the administration to him, now that he had attained majority. However, Rana Bahadur Shah could not accept this responsibility. Considerable expenditure had been incurred in war. It was necessary to recruit additional troops at different places, and dismiss them at other places. Moreover, it was necessary to give rewards to those who had displayed bravery in war. All this could not be completed within a year. Accordingly, Bahadur Shah and Rana Bahadur Shah ruled jointly for about a year. In actual fact, the wishes of Rana Bahadur Shah always outweighed those of Bahadur Shah.

Calendar of Historical Documents

(1237 Vikrama)

Ijara for Revenue Collection

(Jestha Sudi 15, 1837)

Ijara granted to ... Chaudhari for revenue collection in Mahottari district for a three-year term. Total amount Rs 7,503. (36/472-73) X

Appointment of Chaudhari

(Jestha Sudi 15, 1837)

Appointment of Bhanu Chaudhari for revenue collection in Koradi Parganna of Mahottari district. (36/473-74) a

Exemption from Payment of Chumawan Levy

(Ashadh Sudi 5, 1837)

Royal order to Mahanta Tetar Shaiwa granting exemption from payment of Chumawan levy on Birta lands belonging to the Pindeshwar temple in Morang. (5/582) a

Restoration of Property of Lama

(Ashadh Sudi 15, 1837)

Royal order to Karma Rayake Lama, reincarnation of Ghelung Sera Yabago Lama. "Ghelung Sera Yabago Lama had placed some property in the charge of a Jajman. This was appropriated by Jaisi Taudhik. According to custom, the disciple of a deceased Lama inherits his property, and vice versa. We hereby reconfirm this custom, and accept a fee (Bhetghat) in consideration thereof." (5/583).

Sale of Kush Birta

(Shrawan Sudi 1, 1837)

Damodar Pande had been granted 6.25 ropanis of land as Kush Birta. He sold this land to Harikrishna Vaidya for Rs 75. The sale has been confirmed through royal order. (5/582).

X These figures refer to the volume and page numbers in the Regmi Research Collections

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Reconfirmation of Nankar Lands

(Shrawan Sudi 10, 1837)

Royal order reconfirming the Nankar lands of Devanarayan Chaudhari in Sidhmata Parsu district (36/471) a

Collection of Chumawan Levy

(Shrawan Sudi 15, 1837)

Royal order to Indramani Basnyat and Garbhu Khawas, Fouzdars of Saptari district. "We have received reports that the ryots of Saptari district have been put to hardship because of the high rates of the Chumawan levy. We therefore order you to make collections at the rates prescribed for Mahottari district" (5/583) a

Reconfirmation of Homesite

(Bhadra Badi 5, 1837)

Reconfirmation of the homesite of Jasadhar Thapa in the Deurali area. (36/472);

Collection of Buffalo Levies

(Aswin Badi 2, 1837) (36/476-77)

Three-year Ijara granted to Mahindra Singh Newar for the collection of buffalo levies (Bhainsi-Bhansar) all over the kingdom. (36/476-77) a

Collection of Buffalo and Pasturage Taxes

(Aswin Sudi 5, 1837)

Hridaya Ram Chaudhari and Adham Chaudhari granted one-year Ijara for the collection of pasturage (kascharai) and buffalo (Bhaisodha) taxes in Mahottari. Total Amount: Rs 2,667. (36/475-76) a

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Jagir Land Grant

(Aswin Sudi 15, 1837)

One mouja of waste land in Koradi (Mahottari district) granted as Jagir to Bichitra Mahanta (36/480)@

Reconfirmation of Birta Grant

(Aswin Sudi 15, 1837)

Reconfirmation of Kush Birta granted by King Bhupalendra Malla to Durga Das Padhya to the latter's descendant, Chamu Padhya Ghimireo (36/477)@

Appointment of Peshkar

(Kartik Badi 1, 1837)

Royal order reconfirming Narepati Das as Peshkar in Vijayapur-Morang to discharge functions relating to correspondence, revenue accounts, etc at the office of the Subbae (5/585-86).

Guthi Management in Kathmandu

(Marga Badi 13, 1837).

Rajnath Upadhyaya was granted a three-year contract (Ijara) for the management of 26 Guthi endowments on payment of a yearly fee (Mahasul) of Rs 261 to the government. (36/479)@

Guthi Management in Patan

(Marga Badi 13, 1837)

Nanda Ram Upadhyaya granted contract (Ijara) for the management of Guthi endowments in Patan (previously operated by Ganga Bahadur) on payment of a yearly fee (Mahasul) of Rs 351a (36/480)@.

Appointment of Mokaddam

(Poush Badi 14p 1837)

Royal order appointing Baladas Mokaddam in Bhardah, Khalisa (Saptari district)@ (5/592).

Contd...@

Jagir Land Grant

(Magh Badi 14, 1837)

Royal order granting virgin lands (Kalabanjari) in a Terai district as Jagir to Bakhat Singh. (5/590).

Appointment of Munsiff

(Magh Badi 30, 1837)

Royal order appointing Jamadar Ramachandra Khawas as Munsiff in Morang to measure lands and compile tax-assessment records. (5/587).

Regulations for Munsiff in Morang

(Magh Badi 30, 1837)

Regulations issued through royal order in the name of Ramachandra Khawas defining his functions as Munsiff. (5/587).

Revenue Regulations

(Magh Sudi 4, 1837)

Regulations in the name of Fouzdars Abaya Singh Khawas and Garbhu Khawas for Septari and Mahottari. (36/497).

Assurance of Protection

(Magh Sudi 11, 1837)

Royal order granting protection to Parashuram Thapa so long as he remained loyal. (5/591).

Contd...

Appointment of Kanugoye in Bara

(Magh Sudi 13, 1837)

Nandalal Das was appointed Kanugoye of Tokani Parganna in Bara district and given the waste mouja of Pakari as his Nankar holding. (36/486)᳚

Revenue Collection Contract

(Magh Sudi 13, 1837)

Nandalal Das was given a five-year contract (Ijara) to reclaim Simhapur, a waste mouja in Tokani (Bara district) on payment of the following amounts yearly:-

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Payment</u> Rs
1837	5
1838	7½
1839	15
1840	26¼
1841	52½ (36/485)

Kush Birta Grant

(Magh Sudi 13, 1837)

Sarba-anka-bitalab-Kusha-birta grant to Raghunath Pandit in Charbant, Bara district. "Any person who misappropriates the produce of this land shall be deemed to have eaten beef if he is a Hindu, and pork, if he is a Mussalman." (5/589)᳚

Jagir Land Grant

(Magh Sudi 13, 1837)

Royal order granting 3 moujas of virgin lands (kalabanjar) at Khesraha in Mahottari district as Jagir to Jayanta Khawas and Manya Khawas. (5/588)᳚

Contd...᳚

Appeal to Emigre Chaudharis

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Manbodhi Chaudhari and Satar Chaudhari of Saptari-Mahottari, who had fled to India, were asked to come back and reoccupy their lands. (36/492)᳚

Land-tax-assessment Records in Saptari-Mahottari

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Fouzdars Abhaya Singh Khawas and Garbhu Khawas were directed to compile land-tax-assessment records on a provisional basis without measuring lands, taking into account the existing level of collections and the views of the local Chaudharis, Kanugoyas, Mokaddams, and ryots. (36/492)᳚

Payment of Salaries

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Order to Fouzdars Abhaya Singh Khawas and Garbhu Khawas regarding payment of salaries amounting to Rs 2,832 with the revenues collected in Saptari and Mahottari to troops stationed in the forts of Bhadaruwa, Naraha, Rupaitha and Bhewa. (36/490)᳚

Appointment of Peshkar

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Khelapati Das was appointed Peshkar for Saptari and Mahottari to handle official records and correspondence at the district headquarters office under the Fouzdar. (36/493)᳚

Appointment of Priest

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Royal order appointing Damodar Padhya as priest of the Narayan temple in Machhegaun (Kathmandu)᳚. (5/591)᳚

Contd.᳚.

Management of Sera Lands

(Magh Sudi 14, 1837)

Royal order placing Crown (Sera) lands in different areas under the management of Dharmananda Vaidya. "Supply such commodities from the produce of these lands as are required by the (royal household), utilizing the portorage services of the tenantsa Dig irrigation channels." (5/591)n

Appointment of Jamadar

(Falgun Badi 1, 1837)

Royal order appointing Kanhaiya Khatri Jamadar of 12 peons (halkara) on a monthly salary of Rs 12. The peons were paid Rs 4 every montha (5/595).

Appointment of Fouzdar

(Falgun Badi 6, 1837)n

Royal order appointing Abhaya Singh Khawas as Fouzdar jointly with Garbhu Khawas, replacing Indramani Basnyat in Saptari and Mahottari. (5/588). Three other documents of the same date giving notice of dismissal to Indramani Basnyat anda informing the local Chaudharis of the change. (36/488-89).

Appointment of Dware

(Falgun Sudi 13, 1837)

Royal order appointing Ram Prasad Dwarenof musicians (at the royal palace)n (5/594)n

Appointment of Nausindas

(Chaitra Badi 1, 1837)

Bhola Das and Pirthi Das were appointed Nausindas at the office of the Munsiff in Saptari and Mahottari. (36/495).

Contd...

Management of Guthi Endowments

(Chaitra Badi 1, 1837)

Royal order placing four Guthi endowments in Deopatan, Kathmandu, under the charge of Dware Shashidhar. (5/592)h

Collection of Levy from Weavers

(Chaitra Badi 12, 1837).

Royal order to Sainbu Buki, granting him a three-year Ijara for the collection of a levy of nine annas per year from each weaver in Kathmandu Valley and the hill regions on payment of a total amount of Rs 22,503 at the rate of Rs 7,503 per year. The Ijara was previously operated by Melhama Banda. (5/584)h

Jagir Land Grant

(Chaitra Sudi 3, 1837)

Royal order granting lands in Mahottari as Jagir to Nandal Das to maintain himself and his family. Exemption was granted also from forced-labor obligations. (5/595-96).

Jagir Land Grant

(Chaitra Sudi 3, 1837)

Royal order granting 3 khets (i.e. 300 muris) as Jagir to Manik Raj Khawas. The lands had previously been assigned to Abhaya Singh Khawas. (5/608).

Appointment of Munsiffs

(Chaitra Sudi 3, 1837)

Royal order appointing Manik Raj Khawas and Biru Padhya as Munsiffs in Saptari and Mahottari. Also two orders of the same date informing Fouzdars Abhaya Singh Khawas and Garbhu Khawas of this appointment, and directing them to pay salaries to the employees and peons of the Munsiffs, and a public notification regarding the appointments. (5/606-07)h

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Land Measurement

(Chaitra Sudi 3, 1837)

Royal order authorizing Munsiffs Manik Raj Khawas and Biru Padhya to assess taxes in Saptari and Mahottari without measuring lands, if this helped to increase the revenue, and if the local ryots were willing. (5/607)n

Royal Order to Bhuwaneshwar Padhya

(1837)

Royal order summoning Bhuwaneshwar Padhya and assuring him of the gradual restoration of his property. (36/470-71)n

Reconfirmation of Jagir Holding

(1837)

A Sen King of Makwanpur had granted the mouja of Kadari in Khalisa (Saptari district) as Jagir to Anup Dhamin. After the Gorkhali conquest, another mouja was added to this Jagir holding. These lands are now reconfirmed in favor of Anup Dhamin (36/487).

Cancellation of Land Grants
(1897 Vikrama)

From King Rajendra,
To the Srinath Kampu.

We have received reports that when royal land grants made irregularly (throughout the kingdom) between the Mechi river in the east and the Mahakali river in the west during the period from 1894 to 1896 Vikrama (1837 to 1839 A.D.) were all cancelled, disputes arose regarding the rights of cultivation (Adhiya), several persons claimed rights to the same plot of land, and therefore submitted complaints.

We therefore order that with effect from the year 1897 Vikrama (1840 A.D.) :-

- (a) All fresh grants cancelling old ones, that have led to the loss of the rights of any actual occupant, and deprived him of his homestead, shall be cancelled.

Provided that:-

Grants of the following categories shall not be cancelled:-

- (i) Allotments of lands in consideration of labor services (Gole, Ghansi, Byang, Barudkhana, Kagat, Hulaki, and Thaple - Hulaki),
- (ii) Grants of lands confiscated from Brahmans, and
- (iii) Allotments of lands on Raibandi basis to ryots of all categories in the village.

^xYogi Naraharinath (ed.), Itihasa Prakashama Sandhipatra-Sangraha (A Collection of Treaties in Light on History), Dang: the editor, 2022 (1966), p. 453..

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The central office of the Srinath Kampu shall restore to the actual occupants all rice lands and homesteads of which they had been deprived through grants that have now been cancelled. It shall also make arrangements to have the rice lands cultivated.

- (b) Any person who cultivates lands forcibly in contravention of this order shall be punished.
- (c) In case any person had obtained a royal land grant in his name and paid the necessary fees, but has not been able to cultivate the lands, the fees shall be refunded to him.
- (d) For the Vikrama year 1898 (1841 A.D.) all previous royal land grants (made between 1837 and 1839 A.D.) shall be procured and scrutinized to ascertain whether or not they had been made in an equitable manner.

Jestha Badi 9, 1897
(May 1840)

(S.B. Maharjan).