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Mahesh C. Regmi.

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Regmi Research (Private) Ltd,
Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal.

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Defection Of Troops During Nepal-British War

1. From King Girban,
To Dharmaraj Khatri.

We hereby grant you authority to collect rents on lands assigned (as Jagir) to those salaried troops with Jagir land assignments in the regions east of the Mahakali river who ran away in 1871 Vikrama (1814) and joined the British. Grant remissions for rents payment for which had been arranged by Subedars through loans, and collect the balance. Spend Rs 588 to pay the salaries of 16 persons including collectors, peons, clerks and cashiers as follows and employ them. Remission shall be granted for these expenses:-

For Regions Situated East Of The Bhari River

1 clerk, at Rs 3½ per month	...	Rs 42 per year
1 cashier, at Rs 3 per month	...	Rs 36 per year
6 peons, at Rs 2, annas 13 and one paisa each per month, thus making a total amount of Rs 34 each per year	...	Rs 204
Total ...		Rs 282

For Regions Situated West Of The Bhari River And East Of The Mahakali River

1 clerk, at Rs 4 per month	...	Rs 48
1 cashier, at Rs 3½ per month	...	Rs 42
6 peons, at Rs 3 each per month, thus making a total amount of Rs 36 each per year	...	Rs 216
Total ...		Rs 306

Sunday, Bhadra Badi 8, 1874

(August, 1815)

Regmt Research Collections, Vol. 42, pp. 48-49

Contd....

2. From King Girban,

To salaried troops who have Jagir assignments in the regions situated west of the Bheri river and east of the Mahakali river, or who have been deputed to defend forts in the regions situated west of the Mahakali river.

Officials have been deputed through Subedar Dharmaraj Khatri to collect rents after remitting the loans supplied to those who defected to the British in the year 1871 Vikrama (1814). Transmit the balance due to these traitors, other than those who are still there, to the officials deputed by the Subedar, and obtain receipts. In case anybody makes an attempt to conceal or misappropriate such rents, or causes any obstruction in collection, punishment shall be awarded on his life and property.

Sunday, Bhadra Badi 8, 1872
(August 1815)

Regmi Research Collections; Vol. 42, p. 51.

From King Girban,
To Subedar Dharmaraj Khatri.

Confiscate the entire property of Jamadar Madan Ram Thapa of the Renaihwaj Company, who has defected to the British from Rajgadn. Utilize the proceeds to pay the salaries of company commanded by Subba Jasiwant Adhikari and Subedar Akbar Pandey. Remission shall be granted according to the receipts obtained from them.

Kartik Badi 9, 1872
(October 1815)

Regmi Research Collections, Vol. 42, p. 109.

Political Boundaries Of Nepal During The Licchavi Period¹

By

Jagadish Chanira Regmi.

Although there is no solid evidence regarding the change in the political boundaries of Nepal after the Kiratas were replaced by the Licchavis as the ruling dynasty, the international situation prevailing at that time indicates that changes must have taken place.

Historical factors had caused many changes between India and Nepal during the Kirata period and Licchavi period in Nepal. The downfall of the small republican states of areas adjoining the borders of Nepal had started from the time of the Mauryas. They had totally disappeared many years before the Guptas came into prominence. All the republican communities had to confront their downfall during the development of Kushana and Sunga empires and they could not save their existence until the Guptas established their empire. It is against this background that the political boundaries of the then Nepal must be considered. We should study the manuscripts of the Licchavi period in brief before considering the political boundary of contemporary Nepal.

Skanda-Purana: The Skanda-Purana refers to Nepal also while describing the other provinces of India. It has also one-sidedly described the geographical features of some provinces and famous villages. It has stated that there are 100,000 villages in Nepal.² This is significant. Nepal does not have 100,000 villages even now. As such, Nepal must have been much more extensive than now at the time when the Skanda-Purana was written, (7-10th century A.D.).

1. Jagadish Chanira Regmi, Licchavi Samskriti (Licchavi Culture): Kathmandu: Ratna Pustak Bhandar, 2026 (1969), pp. 95-105.

2. Skanda-Purana - Maheshwara Khanda - Kumarika Khanda, Chapter 39, Verse 127 and after.

Contd...

Varhaspatya Arthasutra: The Arthasutra of Vihiapata has referred to the geographical features of ancient Nepal. It describes Nepal as the "Main Subject" and mentions the area as "400" (Hojarag?). It describes the country as quadrilateral in shape.

This might mean that Nepal had an area of 3,500 sq. miles at that time. The editor of this manuscript, F.W. Thomas, regards the meaning of "Chatushshata" as 104.³ This is undoubtedly wrong. Although the area of the present political boundaries of Nepal is quite different from the area referred to here. It should consider the background against which this figure has been given.

Yuan Chwang's Account

Yuen Chwang, a Chinese traveller who visited India during the 7th century A.D., has written an account of Nepal from the southern side. According to him the area of Nepal was 4,000 li, and it had a circular shape.⁴

Alexander Cunningham has corrected the account of Yuan Chwang and regarded the area of Nepal as 6,000 li, or 3,000 miles, instead of 667 miles or 4,000 li.⁵

Shaktisangamatantra

A geographical description of Nepal is found in the Shaktisangamatantra. According to this text, Nepal extended from Jatesawar to Yogesh.⁶

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3. Varhaspatya Arthashastra - p. 20. (Punjab Sanskrit Series, No.1, F.W. Thomas, 1921); S.B. Chaudhary (Ethnic Settlements in Ancient India, p. 81, (F.N.) has described this country as "Vishaya" while the original text clearly mentions "Mahavishaya."
 4. Si-yu-ki, Buddhist Records of the Western World, Hsuan Tsang. By S. Beal, Vol. III, p. 318, (Book VII).
 5. Alexander Cunningham, The Ancient Geography of India, p. 580.
 6. Shaktisangamatantra, Chapter VII.

Contd...

Dinesh Chandra Sircar has imagined Jalpeshwar in place of Jateshwar and identified it with Jalpaiguri in North Bengal.⁷ He has identified Yogini with Delhi.⁸ The Shaktisangamatāntra has thus presented an outline of the political map of Nepal, which cannot be supported by historical evidence yet. We do not know on what basis it has made such a statement. Since the word "country" (Desha) is clearly mentioned in this text, this description could not have been related to a religious place. Further study in this regard may present more details and explanations.

We cannot have a clear idea regarding the situation of Nepal in the ancient period even by reference to contemporary historical sources. These accounts help us to know more about political stability than about the political boundaries of Nepal.

The history of Nepal becomes clearer during the Licchavi period. We can say something about the political boundaries of Nepal during this period. We have evidence that the southern boundary of Nepal during the Licchavi period touched Muzaffarpur in the west of Darbhanga district. The large number of seals discovered at Basarh (Vaishali) in Muzaffarpur show that it had been the northern boundary of the Gupta Kingdom. The seals discovered in Basarh show that it was an important place during the Gupta period. No reference is available to any historical place of the Gupta period to the north of Basarh, and inscriptions too do not mention any place situated to the north of Basarh. This shows that Basarh was the northern border of the Gupta Kingdom. Evidence regarding Tirabhukti (Tirhut), as well as the above-mentioned facts, reveal that the northern boundary of the Gupta Kingdom and the southern boundary of Nepal extended from Basarh to Tirhut.

We can determine the southern boundary of Nepal during the Licchavi period only after a consideration of the northern boundary of the Gupta empire.

The Prayag eulogy of Samudra Gupta describes Nepal as a country across the border. We can thus understand the independent existence of Nepal.

7. D.C. Sircar, Geography of Ancient and Mediaeval India, p. 97.

8. Ibid.

In this context, it will be appropriate to quote the opinion of R.C. Majumdar:-

The Licchavis founded a Kingdom in Nepal probably as early as the first or second century A.D. Whether they still continued to occupy Vaisali and the neighboring region is not definitely known, but it is not unlikely, for reference to Nepala in Samudra Gupta's inscription proves that it was different from the Licchavi Kingdom which he had inherited from his mother. On the whole, as in the case of the Guptas, although nothing is definitely known, the Licchavi Kingdom of Kumaradevi may be provisionally located in North Bihar, with Vaisali as its center.

We can draw a conclusion only after we analyze this opinion of Ramesh Chandra Majumdar.

It is necessary to study the inscriptions and seals of the Gupta period while determining the northern boundary of the Gupta empire. The inscriptions of the Guptas show that Tirabhukti was the northern boundary of the Gupta empire.⁹ The name Tirabhukti is also meaningful in this context. The word "bhukti" denoted an administrative unit at that time. The prefix "Tira" indicates a border region. The present Darbhanga district is regarded as representing Tirabhukti.¹⁰ Since Nepal is situated to the north of Darbhanga, this region must have been known as Tirabhukti. The south-eastern boundary of Nepal during the Licchavi period may therefore be regarded as adjoining Darbhanga district.

It will be appropriate now to consider where the other boundaries of Nepal during the Licchavi period lay.

As in the case of other aspects of this essay, we can cite outside sources only.

9. The Classical Age, p. 350 (F.N.4).

10. R.C. Majumdar, The Vakataka Gupta Age, p. 283.

Samudra Gupta, while referring to the border countries, mentions Nepal, Bengal, Kumaun and Punjab. Countries like Samatata, Dawak, Kamarupa, Nepal and Kartripur are placed in the same category. Samatata is considered to be situated close to the south-eastern part of Bengal. Dawak is similarly regarded as representing Nagaon district in Assam. Kamarupa is regarded as the upper part of Assam. Scholars have different opinions regarding the location of Kartripur. Some consider the Katuriya province of Kumaun as Kartripur.¹¹

The Prayag eulogy of Samudra Gupta, which refers to many border countries, has created many problems. The first question arises regarding the situation of Sikkim and Bhutan on the eastern boundary of Nepal at that time. There may be reasons why these places were not mentioned. Since political consciousness had not developed there, they might not have been able to achieve an independent existence. They might have been annexed by the adjoining powerful states which had achieved political stability. In such a situation, two possibilities exist. These were either under the states of Kamarupa of Assam and Bengal, Samatata and Dawak, or constituted part of Nepal. But scholars have identified Samatata, Dawak and Kamarupa in such a manner that there does not seem any reason to consider far-away Bhutan and Sikkim as part of these states. Since these two regions can be considered to have remained under the influence of Nepal from the geographical point of view, we should regard them as having been under the suzerainty of Nepal.

The reality of Nepal's suzerainty over Sikkim and Bhutan should be studied in another context also.

The Chandragupta inscription of Manu I (464 A.D.) has stated that he had again controlled the "rebel feudals of Purvadesha"¹². The term "Purvadesha" (eastern region) referred to in the inscription is significant. The Puranas¹³ have referred to Purvadesha several times. Dr. Dinesh Chandra Sircar identifies the eastern part of Uttar

11. The Vakataka Gupta-Age, p. 142.

12. Sanskrit Sandesh, pp 46.

13. Vishnu-Purana, 2, 3, 14, 17; Kurma-purana, 1, 46, 41, 44; Brhmapurana, 25, 15-7.

Pradesh as the ancient Purvadesha.¹⁴ The poet Rajasnekar (10th century A.D.) has taken the name of son, Lauhitya, Ganga, Karatoya and Kapiśa as rivers of Purvadesha in his work Kavya-Mimamsa. If this view is even partially accepted, the region to the east as far as Lohitya (Brahmaputra) seems to have been called Purvadesha. In this way, it is not impossible that Purvadesha may have been situated near the Brahmaputra river east of Nepal. The eastern boundary of Nepal during the Licchavi period thus seems to have adjoined the Brahmaputra river. This is proved by other evidence also. Inscriptions of the Gupta period have been discovered only in the lower parts of Bengal in the east. There is no evidence that the Guptas had directly conducted the administration or sent provincial administrators in the area between Assam and Nepal. Since the boundary extended to Assam, the rulers

of the two countries seem to have maintained cordial relations. The Pashupati inscription of Jayadeva II (733 A.D.) has stated that he had married the daughter of Harshadeva of the Bhagadatta dynasty (an ancient royal dynasty of Assam), lord of Gauṇa (Bengal), Odra (Orissa), Kalinga and Koshala.¹⁵ Since their borders adjoined each other, the King of Nepal had maintained friendship with the Kings of eastern India.¹⁶

S.B. Chaudhary thinks that the Barhaspatya Arthasutra was compiled after the sixth century A.D.¹⁷ Thus this text seems to have referred to the geographical situation of Nepal during the Licchavi period. On the basis of the expansion of Nepal during the Licchavi period towards the east, the west and the south, the description of the Barhaspatya Arthasutra seems nearly correct. Nepal was thus quadrilateral in shape.

14. Geography of Ancient and Medieval India, p. 31.

15. Sanskriti Sandesh, Vol. 1, Part 3.

16. Later, during the Malla period also, King Pratao Malla had established matrimonial relations with King Pranatarayan of Cooch Bihar.

17. S.B. Chaudhary, Ethnic Settlements in Ancient India, p. 89.

Northern Boundary Of Nepal

Although the Himavanta region referred to in the Rigveda represented the countries situated on the southern lap of the Himalayas, it is regarded as indicating Nepal alone afterwards. Fergusson thinks that the Himavanta region referred to Nepal.¹⁸ The Himavanta region is referred to in many ancient texts. Texts such as Mahavamsha,¹⁹ Thupavamsha²⁰ and Mahabodhivamsha²¹ have referred to Nepal several times. Sanskrit texts too have made frequent references to Nepal.

It is certain that the traditional northern boundary of Nepal is the Himalayan range. This natural boundary seems to have become an integral part of Nepal from the very beginning. We have historical evidence also to prove this. Our tradition is itself a solid evidence. The manner in which every religious work commences with the words "Himavadakshinapade Nepalaksha" (in Nepal, on the southern slopes of the Himalayas) proves our integral relationship with the Himalayas. This tradition is not a new one. It seems to have continued from ancient times. The Nepali people during 1401 Vikrama (1344 A.D.) used to recite this prayer at religious functions.²²

Such prayers used to be put in stone and copper inscriptions in large numbers. We find this in our Puranas and literary traditions also.

The Gopal Vamshavali,²³ the Manjushri Mulakalpa,²⁴ the Varaha Purana²⁵ and the Pashupati Purana²⁶ have many such references.

18. Cave Temples of India, p. 17.

19. Mahavamsha, pp. 12-13.

20. Thupavamsha, p. 43.

21. Mahabodhivamsha, pp. 114-115.

22. Sanskrit Sandesh, (1-6), p. 4. Kashthamanjap Copper inscription of 455 Nepal Era.

23. "Gopal Vamshavali", In Himavatsamskriti, Vol. 1, p. 6.

24. Manjushri Mulakalpa, No. 549; An Imperial History of India, Ed. by K.P. Jaisawal, p. 49.

25. Varaha Purana, Chapter 115, No. 39.

26. Sanskrit Sandesh, (1-6), p. 16.

We need not refer here to the important role of the Himalayas in our literature, art, folk songs, etc.

Gaurishankar (21,002 ft.); Kanchanjunga (28,146 ft.) and Dhaulagiri are among the highest snow-clad peaks on the northern border of Nepal. Gaurishankar is called the Gauri peak. There is a reference to this peak in Varahapurana also.²⁷ This has been regarded as the highest peak of the world.²⁸ The description of Kanchanjunga as "Kanchanairi" or "Subarnairi" is found in Sanskrit texts also. References to Subarnairi are found also in the Kartika Mahatmya of the Paimapurana.²⁹ The Mithila Mahatmya has described Kanchanjunga as Swarnairi.³⁰ The Yoginitantra has described it as Kanchanairi and described it clearly as a part of Nepal.³¹

That the northern boundary of Nepal has been the Himalayas from ancient times is proved by the geographical situation of Nepal, which is an integral part of the Himalayan region. Moreover, the Yoginitantra has described Kanchanadri or Kanchanjunga as a part of Nepal.

In the light of Nepal-Tibet friendship and trade relations during 600 A.D., Kuti and Khasa, the two routes between the two countries, seem to have been occupied by Nepal. The T'ang annals (618-905 A.D.) of China show in what form trade relations between Nepal and Tibet developed and how these relations affected their economy. According to these annals, the Nepal-Tibet trade had had a great impact on the economy of Nepal during the Licchavi and medieval periods (600 A.D.-1200 A.D.).³² Had there not been political stability in the area between Nepal and Tibet, trade and cultural relations between the two countries would not have been possible.

27. Varahapurana, Chapter 215.

28. Schlagintweit considers Gaurishankar as Mt. Everest. But Captain Wood has argued that Gaurishankar cannot be identified as Mt. Everest. Ref. Lhasa and its Mysteries - By Waddell, p. 37-76.

29. Kartika Mahatmya, 34, 39; 3, 8.

30. Mithila Mahatmya, 8, 24.

31. Yogini Tantra Patala, 11.

32. Le Nepal, Vol. II, p. 185.

The political boundaries of Nepal during the Licchavi period (100-900 A.D.) seem to be more expansive than those of present Nepal. Although Nepal disintegrated during the period after the Licchavis, its political boundaries have become approximately equal to those during the Licchavi period through the efforts of Prithvi Narayan Shah and his successors.

The Reign Of King Pratap Simha^x

By

Baburam Acharya

Prithvi Narayan Shah had named his eldest son, Crown Prince Pratap Simha Shah with the aspiration that he would be a skilled warrior as well as industrious and brave as Rana Pratap Simha of Mewar. The aspiration was, however, belied. Prithvi Narayan had entrusted the task of giving an academic education to the Crown Prince to the learned men of Gorkha. These men made Pratap Simha versed in Sanskrit, but they diverted his mind to the study of Sanskrit literature and music, instead of making him study Sanskrit books on political science and practical life. After his conquest of Kathmandu, Prithvi Narayan Shah made the throne of Kathmandu that of the Kingdom of Nepal. He then constructed the Kailash Darbar and left behind Pratap Simha Shah and his Queen, Rajendra Laxmi, in Kathmandu with a company of troops for the protection of the throne as well as of the city of Kathmandu. As Prithvi Narayan Shah mostly lived in Nuwakot, the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess turned Kailash Darbar into a place of worldly pleasures. Although Pratap Simha Shah worshipped Goddess Kali,

^xBaburam Acharya, Nepaliko Samkshipta Vrittanta (A Concise Account of Nepal). Kathmandu: Pramod Shamsher and Nir Bikram "Pyasi," Chaitra, 2022 (March 1966). Chapter XI: "Shri 5 Pratap Simha Shahko Rajyakal." (The Reign of King Pratap Simha), pp. 70-76.

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the family deity of the Gorkhali royal family, he followed the Dakshinamarga rules of worship. King Pratap Malla of Kathmandu had set up images of Guhyakali or Guhyeshwari and Guhya-Bhairava near the Pashupatinath temple in the forest on the left banks of the Bagmati river for the purpose of conducting the worship of Kali according to the Vamamarga rules also. This system was followed until the time of Jaya Prakash Malla. Pratap Simha Shah worshipped Guhyeshwari, since his preceptor, Brajanath Pandit, had allured him towards the benefits to be had from the worship of Guhyeshwari. Pratap Simha Shah had his first son, Bidur Shahi, during the life-time of Prithvi Narayan Shah, from a Newar woman (daughter of Biranarasimha, a former Minister of Lalitpur ?) brought to the palace as young girls were required for Vamamarga rituals. Some time later, Prince Nagendra Shah was born to Rajendralaxmi. Nagendra Shah, however, died soon. Bidur Shahi survived. Rajendralaxmi began to consider him a great irritant, as his survival enhanced the arrogance of the Newar concubine. Prithvi Narayan Shah had appointed Swarup Simha Karki of Chauhanil district as Sardar of the Company stationed with Pratap Simha Shah, as he considered him an able person. However, these three non-Gorkhalis, Brajanath Pandit, the Newar concubine and Swarup Simha, formed a political group. Prithvi Narayan Shah was aware of this. With a view to keeping Pratap Simha Shah too acquainted with this situation, Prithvi Narayan Shah said in his "Dibya Upadesh", hinting at Swarup Simha from the east and Brajanath from the west (Rising), "If Khas and Brahmans from the east and the west are allowed to gain power in the palace, these outsiders will create disorder in the palace. Do not let (them) be the King's mouth-piece." The group of these non-Gorkhalis actually kept Pratap Simha Shah in their clutches.

Bahadur Shah, the second son of Prithvi Narayan Shah, was only 17 years old when his father died. He had not even been married, since Prithvi Narayan Shah could not pay attention to Bahadur Shah's education. Bahadur Shah could at least write letters in the Nagari script and express his ideas for want of academic education, though he was not an illiterate person like Emperor Akbar. Since his birth, he had been living with his parents. He had obtained a knowledge of practical politics from his father. Thus Bahadur Shah was industrious, courageous, persevering, energetic and strong. He tried to endure any hardship, since he had always lived aloof from luxury. There existed no hostility between the two brothers, as both were sons of the same mother. However, Bahadur Shah was furious at the group surrounding his elder brother.

Prithvi Narayan Shah was at Devighat in Nuwakot when he fell critically ill just before his death. The eldest Chautara, Mahoddhamakirti Shah, had run away from Nuwakot to King Siddhi Narayan of Kaski for asylum, when his elder brother, Prithvi Narayan Shah, fell ill. He hadh reached Kaski by the time Prithvi Narayan Shah died. Other two brothers of Prithvi Narayan Shah as well as Bahadur Shah were in Nuwakot at the time of Prithvi Narayan's death. Pratap Simha Shah was in Kathmandu when Prithvi Narayan Shah died on January 10, 1775. On the same day, his trusted courtier (?) came to Kathmandu with the crown and the royal seal. It was natural that suspicion should arise in the minds of Pratap Simha Shah and Bahadur Shah when Mahoddhamakirti Shah fled to the Chaubisi states. Thus Pratap Simha Shah, on the persuasion of Brajanath Pandit, despatched about a company of troops, probably under Swarup Simha Karki's command, before the 13-day mourning period was over. He also had Bahadur Shah and the youngest Chautara, Dalamardan Shah, arrested for fear that Bahadur Shah and his uncles might flee to the Chaubisi states and start a campaign against the Nepal government. Dalajit Shah, however, escaped and disappeared. Bahadur Shah had to complete the mourning rites while in custody. Pratap Simha Shah was then crowned in Kathmandu on January 25, 1775.

The priests performing the coronation ceremony were Rajguru Shyam Lal Mishra, Rajguru Brajanath Pandit Rajapurohit Shakti Ballabh Arjyal and Rajapurohit Jagannath Bhattarai.

During the subsequent reshuffle of Bhardars, Brajanath Pandit was appointed to work under the second prince, Bahadur Shah. Shortly after Swarup Simha Karki was appointed as minister, Bansharaj Pande too arrived. He was nominated as the second minister, and both of them began to be known as "Kaji Diwan."

During the reign of Prithvi Narayan Shah, the British Political Agent appointed to supervise Oudh State, which was ruled by Sujaul-aulah, had begun to stay in Banaras. Prithvi Narayan Shah despatched Gajraj Mishra, son of nephew of his preceptor, Sriharsha Mishra, to Banaras for the purpose of maintaining contact with the British Political Agent in order to keep an eye on political developments in India.

Gajraj Mishra was distressed to see that Bahadur Shah had been taken into custody when he visited Kathmandu to offer his compliments to the new King. He therefore urged on Pratap Simha Shah to allow Bahadur Shah to live a free life in exile. Pratap Simha Shah accepted this proposal and granted Bahadur Shah an allowance, Bahadur Shah thus remained loyal to Pratap Simha Shah, and both carried on correspondence with each other.

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In the meantime, Queen Rajendralaxmi gave birth to Crown Prince Rana Bahadur Shah on May 25, 1775. As a result, the Queen's prestige went up and the hold of the Newar concubine weakened in the palace.

Pratap Simha Shah seeing that it would take him about 2 years to complete the task left incomplete by his father, directed his attention first on improving coins minted for use in Tibet in order to revive trade with that country. Since he believed that no community in Nepal was more skilled than the Newar in commerce, he appointed Pratap Simha Pradhan as Chief (Taksari) of the Mint and Customs Collector (Bhansari). He recalled the consular representatives who had been sent to Tibet during the reign of Prithvi Narayan Shah and who were then stranded in Khasa. Rupanarayan Kerki, brother of Kaji Swarup Singh, was then appointed consul (Wakil) and a delegation consisting of Jagadhar Pande, nephew of Banshadhar Pande, Pratap Simha Pradhan, Chief of the Mint, and others was despatched to Khasa. Yajirim Pachhe, Wakil of Tibet, and Sardar Dhewa Yachhal of Syaly-khampomu, chief aide of the Dalai Lama, were among those who were present in Khasa. In September 1775, these representatives concluded a trade treaty.

The major provisions of the treaty were as follows:-

- (1) There shall be no change in the alloy.
- (2) The alloy shall be determined by negotiations between the two governments.
- (3) In case any other King circulates coins by smelting or imitating the coins of Nepal in Tibet, the Tibetan government shall hand over such coins to the government of Nepal.
- (4) Sanyasis, foreigners, traders, etc shall not be permitted to carry bullion through any route other than Kuti and Kerung.
- (5) Other arrangements shall continue as before.

The treaty also stipulated that the party which did not abide by the above conditions would be under obligation to supply 50 dharnis of gold to the other party.

Accordingly, within the first few years of the reign of Pratap Simha Shah, coins worth Rs 850,000 were minted according to the agreed specifications for the purpose of circulation in Tibet. Tibetan traders continued selling gold and other merchandise against these pure coins.

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The treaty, however, did not solve the problem of debased coins which had reached Tibet during the rule of the Malla Kings. For this reason, it had not yet been possible to begin a two-way trade between Nepal and Tibet.

Subba Dinanath Upadhyaya, who had been deputed from Kathmandu to deal with the problem of the Tarai areas of Vijayapur, had gone to Raipur in Bengal also to keep a watch on the activities of Karna Sen, a former King of Kirat, and Chautara Buddhi Karna Rai. There he learnt that Karna Sen and his Dewan, Bhuwaneswar Upadhyaya, had secretly arrived at an agreement with Peacock, the local British officer, under which the British would provide aid to Karna Sen on the condition that they would be paid three-eighths of the revenue of the Kirat region as their share, have a hand in the administration of the state, and be permitted to open a factory in Vijayapur. Dinanath Upadhyaya then met Peacock. In the meantime, Karna Sen died. Peacock, accompanied by Bhuwaneswar Upadhyaya, went to Calcutta to seek permission to have the agreement renewed by Karna Sen's minor son. However, the moment he reached Calcutta, Karna Sen's minor son too died. Peacock's plans thus failed to materialize.

Dinanath Upadhyaya, who was with Peacock at the time, now enlisted his help. Peacock, on his part, made arrangements to have Dinanath Upadhyaya introduced to Governor-General Warren Hastings and deliver a message to him on his behalf. Dinanath Upadhyaya remained in Calcutta for about 5 months in this connection.

The message brought by Dinanath Upadhyaya was presented before the Governor-General's Council. At the meeting, the Company government decided that it should give up its claim to the Tarai regions of Ambarpur and Vijayapur, i.e. Saptari and Morang districts, in case the Nepal government undertook to ban the entry into its territory of armed Nagas who plundered people in the area from Hardwar to Dinajpur. An agreement along these lines was actually concluded between the Nepal government and the East India Company. The Company government felt satisfied when the areas ravaged by the Naga bandits inside its territories were resettled. The Company government had good relations with the Nepal government when it was engaged in a protracted war with the Marhattas.

In view of the continuing dispute over the Tarai areas, notwithstanding the annexation of the Kirat states, the troops under the command of Abhiman Simha Basnyat stayed on in Vijayapur for nearly 18 months. In the meantime, Buddhi Karna Rai was indulging in plunder inside Nepali territory from Chilamahi in British territory just

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across the Nepali border. Finally, Gorkhali troops captured Buddhi-karan Rai. Abhiman Simha Basnyat ordered him to be executed on the charge of having been responsible for the murder of Kama Datta Sen. A period of tranquillity then ensued in the Kirat region.

In the wake of the tussle within the Royal Palace in Kathmandu, Bahadur Shah, Dalamardan Shah and Daljit Shah were banished from Nepal, while Mahoddhamkirti Shah took shelter in Kaski. The Kings of Lamjung and Parbat took this development as a sign of weakness of the Nepal government and started preparations to invade Gorkha. Pratap Simha Shah thereupon sent Kaji Bamsharaj Pande and Sardar Balih Baniya to Gorkha. After this development, tension continued between them and the rulers of Lamjung and Parbat.

Pratap Simha Shah ordered Bamsharaj Pande to occupy Kaski at an opportune moment as a way of winning over the King of Parbat to the Gorkhali side in order to expand the frontiers of the Kingdom. He asked Bamsharaj Pande to try to win over the King of Kaski to the Gorkhali side even by offering money to him, if this could help in the annexation of Lamjung. In view of such nature of fickleness of King Pratap Simha Shah, Bamsharaj Pande acted according to his own discretion. He just kept confusing King Biramardan Shah of Lamjung.. Dalamardan Shah thought it inappropriate to fight against Lamjung or Kaski without first occupying Tanahu. He even defected to Lamjung and wrote a letter to Pratap Simha Shah advising him against seeking to annex Lamjung. Bahadur Shah too was not keeping quiet on the question of territorial expansion.

Bahadur Shah had first thought that it would be easy to attack the hill region of Tanahu from the inner Tarai area. The plan for such invasion had been drawn up during the last days of Prithvi Narayan Shah. Bahadur Shah, however, thought it proper to keep this secret from Swarup Singh Karki. Instead, he wrote a letter to Pratap Simha Shah, telling him that British invasion of Chitawan was imminent and Nepal should therefore occupy it first. The fact was that it was the policy of Warren Hastings at that time to maintain commercial relations with Nepal and refrain from interfering in its political affairs until the conflict with the Marhattas had come to an end. Neither Pratap Simha Shah, nor Brajanath Pandit, nor Swarup Singh Karki, was farsighted enough to take this fact into consideration. Pratap Simha Shah showed unusual haste in ordering Abhiman Simha Basnyat to withdraw the troops despatched to the Kirat region through the Tarai area for an attack on Chitawan. The order had been issued during the rainy season of 1777. Swarup Singh Karki did not want Abhiman Simha Basnyat to be given the sole credit for the conquest of Chitawan. He therefore took a small contingent from Kathmandu, and early in July he reached Jogimara, where he stayed for some days.

In the meantime, Abhiman Simha Basnyat, who was based in Vijayapur, took his troops to Chitaur during the rainy season, braving floods on the turbulent Koshi river and malaria in the Tarai. As he reached Chitaur, Sardar Bichitra Sen was staying at Kabilaspur-Gadhi, a fort situated a little to the south of Upardanga-Gadhi, as commander of the troops despatched by the King of Tanahu. On receiving reports of Abhiman Simha Basnyat's troops having arrived in Chitaur, Swarup Singu Karki along with the troops under his command, joined them. They together besieged and attacked Kapilaspur-Gadhi. After a day-long fighting, the fort was breached, a large number of Tanahu's troops commanded by Bichitra Sen were killed in this fighting, and the fort was finally captured (July 14, 1777).

The Tanahu troops had been deployed at Summeshwar-Gadhi, another fort located on the Chure hills along the southern frontiers of Chitaur district. Swarup Singu Karki sent Abhiman Simha Basnyat to occupy that fort, while he himself stayed at Kabilaspur. Abhiman Simha Basnyat defeated the Tanahu troops at this fort as well after a minor fight (August 6, 1777).

Since Jogimara was already under the occupation of the Gorkhali troops, the Tanahu troops found the route to Chitaur entirely closed. They were afraid of despatching troops to Chitaur through Nawalpur, since that area was infested with wild animals. Nor could they cross the Narayani river. Thus the entire Chitaur area was easily occupied by the Gorkhals and annexed to Nepal. Sardar Ram Krishna Kunwar was appointed commander of this area. He stayed there for nearly 6 years.

Barely 3 months after the celebration of the conquest of Chitaur, Pratap Simha Shah died of small-pox in Kathmandu in the prime of his life (November 17, 1777).

Pratap Simha Shah was peaceful by temperament. He had maintained an envoy in Bettiah with the objective of maintaining cordial relations with the Christian priests stationed there, besides keeping an eye on the activities of Golding, the local British officer.

Income And Expenditure Of The Guthi Corporation

1965-72

(Source: Guthi Corporation)

	<u>Total Income</u>	<u>Total Expenditure</u>	<u>Balance</u>
1965-66	x 3,873,577	x 3,362,654	510,923 (surplus)
1966-67	3,652,024	4,648,475	996,451 (deficit)
1967-68	5,007,022	3,569,955	1,437,462 (surplus)
1968-69	x 5,838,548	x 4,410,523	1,428,025 (surplus)
1969-70	Not Available		
1970-71	4,339,418	5,904,989	1,565,571 (deficit)
1971-72	x 6,015,747	x 5,268,409	747,338 (surplus)

Particulars Of IncomeINCOME

<u>Source</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Land Revenue	x 3,417,854	3,461,747	4,667,986	x 5,448,993	3,809,063	x 5,718,363
<u>Chhut Guthi</u> <u>Revenue</u>	-	124,746	107,886	x 122,612	46,788	x 109,680
Interest on loan bonds	-	39,989	47,953	x 79,707	110,795	x 80,870
Compensation for acquired <u>Raj Guthi</u> <u>Land</u>	x 400,038	-	60,000	-	-	-
Rents from <u>Raj Guthi</u> <u>buildings</u>	-	24,542	81	x 7,417	4,649	x 2,538
Miscellaneous	x 55,685	1,000	123,116	x 179,619	369,123	x 104,296
	3,873,577	3,652,024	5,007,022	x 5,838,548	4,339,418	x 6,015,747

Particulars Of Expenditure

<u>Particulars</u>	<u>1965-66</u>	<u>1966-67</u>	<u>1967-68</u>	<u>1968-69</u>	<u>1970-71</u>	<u>1971-72</u>
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
Religious functions	x 1,586,334	x1,542,399	x1,387,525	x1,455,352	1,600,460	x1,762,275
Administration	x 847,679	x1,042,376	x1,117,783	x1,307,575	1,600,806	x1,840,862
Land tax	-	-	-	-	50,261	82,449
Repair and renovation of temples, etc.	x 700,000	x1,354,500	x 697,668	x1,411,010	2,392,625	x1,102,190
Miscellaneous	x 228,631	x 709,200	x2,556,591	x 236,586	260,835	x 480,633
Total	x3,362,654	x4,648,475	x5,769,567	x4,410,523	5,901,989	x5,268,109

Guthi Revenue From Different Regions

In 1971-72, the total land revenue of the Guthi Corporation from different regions of the country was estimated as follows:-

Tarai	...	Rs 4,413,523
Kathmanu Valley	...	Rs 1,198,136
Hill Region	...	Rs 106,704
Total	-	Rs 5,718,363

These figures are inclusive of land revenue in both cash and in kind. In-kind revenue has been converted into cash at Rs 25.00 per maund in the Tarai and Rs 50.00 per muri in the hill districts and Kathmanu Valley.

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Notes And Explanations

1. Estimated figures have been marked with an asterisk (*).
2. During 1965-66, the Guthi Corporation admitted that "statements of income and expenditure have not been received from Raj Guthi offices in many outlying areas because of transport difficulties." It is possible that the Corporation had not been able to get complete particulars from all such offices even by 1971-72.
3. Revenue on lands assigned to Guthi functionaries, on which they collect rents directly, is not included.
4. The income and expenditure of the Pashupatinath temple offices are not included in the 1965-66 figures. The 1966-67 figures include Rs 118,058.00 collected and disbursed directly by these offices. No information in this regard is available for subsequent years.
5. In Mahottari and other areas in the Tarai, revenue on Guthi lands was partially collected by government revenue offices during 1970-71 because of administrative confusion. It is possible that this had been done in other years also.
6. The allocation of Rs 2,662,299.00 under the heading of "Miscellaneous" during 1967-68 includes Rs 2,566,591.00 for "contingencies."

(S.B. Maharjan).