

डॉ० शक्तिनाथ झा

कुलसचिव

कामेश्वरसिंहदरभंगासंस्कृतविश्वविद्यालय, दरभंगा।



दूरभाष सं. 06272-222178
मो. सं-

:: अधिसूचना ::

दिनांक- 03.04.2017 दिवसीय अभिषद् की कार्यवाही की प्रस्ताव सं. 03 में लिए गये निर्णय के आलोक में धर्मसमाज संस्कृत महाविद्यालय, मुजफ्फरपुर की स्थापना दिवस 1917 के स्थान पर डिस्ट्रिक्ट गजेटियर, मुजफ्फरपुर में अंकित तथ्यों के आधार पर है।

कुलपति के ओदश से,

५८/१
(डा. शक्तिनाथ झा)
कुलसचिव

झापांक ॥ ३२ ॥ दरभंगा, सं.सं. १७८/९९, शाखा ॥ दिनांक ४.७.२०१७/१७

प्रतिलिपि:-

- प्रधानाचार्य, धर्मसमाज सं.म.वि., मुजफ्फरपुर को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यार्थ प्रेषित।
- प्रधान सचिव, राज्यपाल सचिवालय, बिहार, पटना को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।
- प्रधान सचिव, समन्वयक, का.सिं.द.सं.वि.वि., दरभंगा को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यार्थ प्रेषित।
- प्रधान सचिव, राज्यपाल सचिवालय, बिहार, पटना को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।
- निदेशक, (उच्च शिक्षा), शिक्षा विभाग, बिहार, पटना को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।
- संयुक्त सचिव, विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग, पूर्वी क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, एल.वी.-०८, सेक्टर- 03, साल्ट लेक, कोलकाता- 700098, (पश्चिम बंगाल) को सूचनार्थ एवं आवश्यक कार्यार्थ प्रेषित।
- कुलपति, कुलसचिव, का.सिं.द.सं.वि.वि., दरभंगा को सूचनार्थ प्रेषित।

५८/१
(डा. शक्तिनाथ झा) ६-९६
कुलसचिव

सोमनाथ ८७१७

५८/१
६-९६

Bihar District Gazetteers

MUZAFFARPUR

By

P. C. ROY CHAUDHURY, M.A., B.L.,
*Special Officer, Gazetteer Revision Section,
Revenue Department, Bihar, Patna.*



PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT
SECRETARIAT PRESS, BIHAR, PATNA
1958

[Price—Rupees Ten only.]

PREFACE

The last District Gazetteer of Muzaffarpur by Mr L S S O'Malley, I C S, was published in 1907 At that time Muzaffarpur district formed a part of the Province of Bengal

The Preface of Mr O'Malley's book (168 pages) was as follows —

“ When the Statistical Account of Bengal, by Sir W W Hunter, was published, the district of Muzaffarpur had only recently been constituted, and it was treated as part of the district of Tirhut, in which it was comprised until 1875 The present volume is, therefore, the first Gazetteer in which Muzaffarpur has been treated as a separate district

I desire to acknowledge the very great assistance I have derived in compiling this volume from the Muzaffarpur Survey and Settlement Report by Mr C J Stevenson Moore, I C S, an exhaustive review of the economic conditions of the district, my obligations to which will abundantly appear in the various Chapters of the Gazetteer ”

Mr O'Malley's book had 15 Chapters as follows —

Physical Aspects, History, The People, Public Health, Agriculture, Natural Calamities, Rents, Wages and Prices, Occupations Manufactures and Trade, The Indigo, Means of Communication, Land Revenue Administration General Administration, Local Self Government, Education and Gazetteer

Some detailed Statistics were published in a separate brochure

When the last District Gazetteer of Muzaffarpur had appeared in 1907, one of a series compiled by O'Malley, Bihar was part of Bengal Much water has flowed down the Ganga and Gandak since In 1912 a new Province called “ Bihar

and Orissa" was carved out from the old Bengal Presidency. In 1936 the Province of Bihar was separated from Orissa on the basis of race, language, economic interest and geographical position.

The district of Muzaffarpur was a part of the Division of Patna when the last Gazetteer was published. It may be mentioned here that Muzaffarpur or Tirhut district comprising of the districts of Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga formed a part of Bhagalpur Division till 1856. After the Santhal Revolt in 1855 when the district of Santhal Parganas was carved out, Tirhut district was placed under the Patna Division as a matter of administrative convenience. In 1875 Darbhanga was separated and was given the status of a district. Administrative exigency again brought about the division of Patna Commissionership.

From the original documents preserved in the National Archives, New Delhi, it appears that Lord Morley gave his sanction to the division of Patna Commissionership into two Commissioners' charges in his letter no 65, dated the 15th May, 1908, issued from India Office, London. The move for the partition was made by the Governor-General of India in Council in their no 348, dated Simla, the 5th September, 1907, after measuring public opinion. One of the reasons for making the administrative change was the prevalence of famine conditions in part of the Patna Division. Sir Andrews Fraser, the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, felt strongly about the necessity of the division of the existing Patna Division into two Commissioners' charges as a matter of urgent administrative expediency.

Before this step was taken, for several years an Additional Commissioner had been employed to assist the Commissioner. In Resolution no 202 Appointment, dated Calcutta, the 10th January, 1908, the proposal for splitting the Patna Commissionership was circularised. Criticisms and suggestions were invited and after duly considering them the Government decided that the districts of Patna, Gaya and Shahabad south of the river Ganges (Ganga) be known as Patna Division with headquarters at Patna and the districts of Saran, Champaran, Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga on the north of the river Ganges be known as Tirhut Division with headquarters at Muzaffarpur. There was some controversy as to the name of the new Division. Sir Andrews Fraser

proposed the name of Muzaffarpur Division. But the Government accepted the suggestion of Mr. Ridgley, Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department, that the name of the new Division should be Tirhut Division.

In the last 50 years there have been such fundamental changes in almost every aspect of life that it was not considered proper to merely revise the old Gazetteer and the present book is a completely re-written volume. O'Malley's Muzaffarpur Gazetteer shows his intimate knowledge of local details and deep scholarship. But the basic changes, discovery of new facts and the present set-up of a Welfare State indicated that there should be a re-written Gazetteer from a slightly different angle of vision. The plan of contents followed in the book does not basically differ from the plan followed by O'Malley. It was thought more advisable to print the Statistics as an appendix to the book and not separately.

A book like this could only be produced by the pooling of resources and personal observations. A mass of literature had to be looked into including crumbling old documents and books that have become very rare. My contact with the district of Muzaffarpur in my previous official capacity has been particularly useful. There have been no further Survey and Settlement Operations since Mr. O'Malley's time. Had there been such operations recently my task would have been easier.

The excellent source materials in the old English Correspondence Volumes of the 18th and 19th centuries in the Record Room of Muzaffarpur have been partially utilised for this work. The study of the Old Correspondence Volumes in Muzaffarpur Record Room is being followed by the publication of a separate write-up as 'Muzaffarpur Old Records'. That volume forms a sister volume to this Gazetteer and may be useful as a source material for the future research workers.

I am obliged to the collaborators, officials and non-officials, including the District Magistrates (Messrs. S. C. Roy, R. Hoda and V. Jha) and Dr. H. R. Ghoshal of L S. College, Muzaffarpur. Under orders of Government Shri S. V. Sohoni, I.C.S., who was once Commissioner of Tirhut Division had looked into the drafts and helped me with some suggestions.

I am particularly grateful to Shri Mahesh Prasad Sinha who as Minister of Transport and Industries had always been helping me with his valuable guidance. Shri Laliteshwar Prasad Shahi, M.L.A. (now Deputy Minister of Industries) and Shri Dip Narain Singh, Minister for Power and Irrigation had also looked into the drafts and given me their suggestions.

My thanks are also due to Shri S. N. Chatterji and his staff of Secretariat Press, Gulzarbagh for their personal care in the printing of the texts and the photos and to Shri A. C Sarkar, Deputy Director of Surveys for the printing of the maps.

PATNA :

The 29th March, 1958. } P. C. ROY CHAUDHURY.

PLAN OF CONTENTS.

| CHAPTERS. | PAGES. |
|---|---------|
| I—PHYSICAL ASPECTS ... | 1—16 |
| II—CLIMATE AND RAINFALL ... | 17—30 |
| III—DAILY LIFE ... | 31—45 |
| IV—ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE | 46—57 |
| V—AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION. | 58—67 |
| VI—OCCUPATION, MANUFACTURE AND TRADE. | 68—78 |
| VII—EDUCATION ... | 79—91 |
| VIII—SOCIAL WELFARE ... | 92—95 |
| IX—PUBLIC HEALTH ... | 96—108 |
| X—LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT ... | 109—120 |
| XI—COMMUNICATION ... | 121—141 |
| XII—HISTORY ... | 142—165 |
| XIII—NATURAL CALAMITIES ... | 166—184 |
| XIV—LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION ... | 185—199 |
| XV—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION ... | 200—220 |
| XVI—DIRECTORY ... | 221—243 |
| ENCLOSURE I ... | 244—252 |
| ENCLOSURE II ... | 252—262 |
| ENCLOSURE III ... | 263—273 |
| APPENDIX—STATISTICS ... | 275—294 |
| GLOSSARY ... | 295—301 |
| INDEX ... | i—vii |
| PLATES ... | 1—7 |
| MAPS ... | 1—4 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL ASPECTS

| | PAGES |
|---|-------|
| GENERAL DESCRIPTION—BOUNDARY—ORIGIN OF NAME— GENERAL CONFIGURATION—NATURAL DIVISIONS— RIVER SYSTEM—The Ganga—The Great Gandak—The Baghmati—Tributaries of the Baghmati—The Little Gandak—The Baya—GEOLOGY—EARTHQUAKE—VEGE TATION—Vegetation Zones—THE INTERESTING PLANTS OF THE DISTRICT—FLUNA—AVIFAUNA—The Ducks— FISH—REPTILES | 1—16 |

CHAPTER II

CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

| | |
|--|-------|
| CLIMATE—RAINFALL—Temperature—Humidity—SURFACE WINDS—STATISTICS Rainfall, Temperature, Cloud | 17—30 |
|--|-------|

CHAPTER III

DAILY LIFE

| | |
|--|-------|
| RECENT TRENDS—URBAN AND RURAL—FESTIVALS—Ram Navami—Vivah Panchami—MELAS AND FAIRS—DAILY LIFE—FOOD—ENTERTAINMENTS—INFLUENCE OF COURTS—LADIES—TOILET—DRESS, ETC—SALUTATION —EATING PLACES—COMMON FOODSTUFF AND COOKING— TEA AND SMOKING—HOBBIES—PASTORAL SONGS— FOLK LITERATURE AND SONGS—WITCHCRAFT—SNAKE WORSHIP—TREE WORSHIP—HOUSING AND HOUSEHOLD —ORNAMENTS—MIDDLE CLASS—THE BAR—THE PLAN TERS—THE ZAMINDARS | 31—45 |
|--|-------|

CHAPTER IV

ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

| | |
|---|-------|
| INTRODUCTION—AREA—LAND TENURE—TENURES—CESS AND RENT—CROPS—CONDITION OF CULTIVATION—LARGE FARMS—PLANTERS—POPULATION—INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR—FACTORIES—AGRARIAN POLICY—ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARI—AGRICULTURAL INCOME | 46—57 |
|---|-------|

CHAPTER V

AGRICULTURE LIVESTOCK AND IRRIGATION

| |
|---|
| NATURAL CONFIGURATION—SOIL—RAINFALL—AGRICUL TURAL STATISTICS—PRINCIPAL CROPS—FOOD CROPS— RICE—TRANSPANTATION AND BROADCASTING—OTHER |
|---|

PAGES

| | |
|--|-------|
| FOOD GRAINS — Barley — Maize — Marua — Wheat — Gram — Non food CROPS — Sugarcane — Oil seeds — Tobacco — Other Crops — EXTENSION OF CULTIVATION — IMPROVED METHODS OF CULTIVATION — LIVESTOCK — FODDER — CATTLE FAIRS — DISEASES — VETERINARY AID — BREEDING — GOSHALAS — IRRIGATION — METHODS OF IRRIGATION | 58—67 |
|--|-------|

CHAPTER VI

OCCUPATION, MANUFACTURE AND TRADE

| | |
|---|-------|
| AGRICULTURAL LABOUR — INDIGO AND SALT PETER — SUGAR FACTORIES — RECENT INDUSTRIALIZATION — AUTOMOBILE REPAIRING WORKSHOPS — HOSEY MILLS — RICE, OIL AND DAL MILLS — OTHER MISCELLANEOUS FACTORIES — OTHER OCCUPATIONS — HORTICULTURE — COMMUNICA TION — MELAS — WEIGHTS AND MEASURES | 68—78 |
|---|-------|

CHAPTER VII

EDUCATION

| | |
|---|-------|
| PROGRESS OF EDUCATION — ORGANISATION AND ADMINIS TRATION — COLLEGIATE EDUCATION — SECONDARY EDUC TION — MIDDLE SCHOOLS — PRIMARY EDUCATION — TECHNICAL EDUCATION — SPECIAL SCHOOLS — BASIC EDUCATION — SOCIAL EDUCATION CENTRES — LIBRARIES — EDUCATION OF THE BACKWARD COMMUNITIES — YOUTH WELFARE ACTIVITIES — JAIN PRAKRIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE | 79—91 |
|---|-------|

CHAPTER VIII

SOCIAL WELFARE

| | |
|--|-------|
| CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTIONS — CO-OPERATIVE HEALTH ASSOCIATION — THE COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION — SEI RAM KRISHNA VIVEKANANDA SEVASEAM — THE MAHILA SHILPA KALA BHAWAN — THE DISTRICT SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND AIRMEN'S BOARD — HOME FOR THE HOMELESS — MUZAFFARPUR CLUB — THE ORIENT CLUB — THE TOWN CLUB — SHERIDAN SANGH — THE ROTARY CLUB — HARI SABHA — KALI BARI | 92—95 |
|--|-------|

CHAPTER IX

PUBLIC HEALTH

| |
|--|
| NUTRITION — VITAL STATISTICS — PRINCIPAL DISEASES — Fever — Malaria — Plague — Cholera — Small pox — Other fevers — Kala azar — Other Diseases — SANITATION IN THE |
|--|

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| TOWNS—ADMINISTRATION AND MEDICAL RELIEF— MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE—PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANISATION—MEDICAL PERSONNEL— MEDICAL STATISTICS | ... | ... | ... | 96—108 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--------|

CHAPTER X.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| DISTRICT BOARD—LOCAL BOARDS—GRAM PANCHAYAT— MUZAFFARPUR MUNICIPALITY—HAJIPUR MUNICI- PALITY — LALGUNJ MUNICIPALITY — SITAMARHI MUNICIPALITY—DUMRA NOTIFIED AREA COMMITTEE, SITAMARHI—STATISTICS | ... | ... | ... | 109—120 |
|---|-----|-----|-----|---------|

CHAPTER XI.

COMMUNICATION.

| | |
|--|---------|
| COMMUNICATION IN THE EARLY YEARS OF BRITISH ADMINIS- TRATION—ROAD CESS COMMITTEE—O'MALLEY'S DESCRIPTION OF THE ROADS, 1907—ROADWAYS NOW— NATIONAL HIGHWAY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ROADS—EARTHQUAKE—DIFFICULTIES IN ROAD MAINTEN- ANCE—BRIDGES AND CULVERTS UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD—PRINCIPAL ROADS—ARBORICULTURE—ROAD FINANCES—VEHICULAR TRAFFIC—WATER TRANSPORT— LOCAL FERRIES—BRIDGES—REST HOUSES—RAIL- WAYS—AVIATION—MOTOR TRANSPORT SERVICE— Posts, TELEGRAPHS, TELEPHONES AND WIRELESS | 121—141 |
|--|---------|

CHAPTER XII.

HISTORY.

| | | |
|--|-----|---------|
| REPUBLIC OF VAISALI—VAISALI IN JAIN AND BUDDHIST LITERATURE—ANNEXATION OF VAISALI TO MAGADHA— VAISALI DURING MAURYA AND SUBSEQUENT TIMES— UNDER PALA AND SENA DYNASTIES—MUSLIM INVASION—SUGAONA DYNASTY—MUSLIM INFLUENCE— MUGHAL PERIOD—EARLY BRITISH PERIOD—TRADE WITH NEPAL—NEPALESE INCURSIONS—EXTENSION OF PER- MANENT SETTLEMENT—MOVEMENT OF 1857-58—INDIGO MANUFACTURE—ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF 1876-77— CRIMES AND JUSTICE—BOMB CASE OF 1908—POLITICAL MOVEMENTS—EARTHQUAKE OF 1934—ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS—ASOKA PILLAR AT KOLHU—STUPA-MOUND AT KOLHU—BASARI MOUND—A SECOND MOUND | ... | 142—165 |
|--|-----|---------|

CHAPTER VIII

NATURAL CALAMITIES

PAGES

| | |
|---|---------|
| FLOODS—CALMFS—EARLY FLOODS IN 1780—1932—FLOOD IN 1953—MANAGEMENT—FLOOD CONTROL SCHEMES—RIVER TRAINING SCHEMES—FAMINE AND SCARCITY—PROTECTIVE SCHEMES—Gandak Project—ANTIQUAKE OF 1931 | 166—181 |
|---|---------|

CHAPTER XIX

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|--|---------|
| EARLY HISTORY—EARLY COLLECTORS OF REVENUE—DECENNIAL AND PERMANENT SETTLEMENTS—NINETEENTH CENTURY REVENUE HISTORY—PARTITION OF STATES—RATE OF REVENUE—REVENUE SURVEYS—PRIVATE LAND OF PROPRIETORS—DIFFERENT CLASSES OF RAJATAS—SIZE OF ESTATES—TENURES AND UNDER TENURES—CONDITION OF THE TENANCY—TWENTIETH CENTURY REVENUE HISTORY—MARRIAN LAWS—RENT REDUCTION—LAND REFORMS ACT 1950—ABOLITION OF ZAMINDARI—DEVELOPMENT WORK | 185—193 |
|--|---------|

CHAPTER XX

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

| | |
|--|---------|
| ADMINISTRATIVE CHANCES—SET UP IN 1907—PRESENT SET UP—POLICE—GRAM PANCHAYAT—HOME GUARDS—JAIL—CIVIL JUSTICE—CRIMINAL JUSTICE—INCOME TAX—COMMERCIAL TAXES—REGISTRATION—EXCISE—CENTRAL EXCISE—LAND REFORMS SECTION—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS | 200—220 |
|--|---------|

CHAPTER XVI

DIRECTORY

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ambari—Chauk—Bairagni—Baruraj—Batesar—Asthan—Bela—Bela Muchpakauni—Belsand—Chak Ramdas—Charaut—Deokali—Goraul—Hajipur subdivision—Hajipur town—Sonepur fair at Hajipur—Hazrat Jandaha—Jaintpur—Jurdih—Kanti—Katra—Khudiram Bose Memorial—Kolhua—Konharaghata—Lalganj—Mahnar Bazar—Matila—Motipur—Muzaffarpur town—Nanpur—Palmani—Parihar—Parsauni—Patepur—Asthan—Rajpara—Sadar subdivision—Sahebganj—Sarkhandi Bhita—Shakra—Sitamarhi subdivision—Sitamarhi town—Subhegarh—Tirhut—Turki—Vaisali—VELAS | 221—243 |
|---|---------|

ENCLOSURE I
RENTS, WAGES AND PRICES

| | PAGES |
|---|---------|
| PRODUCE RENTS—BATAI SYSTEM—BHAOLI SYSTEM— MANEKHAP SYSTEM—CASH RENTS—ENHANCEMENT OF RENTS—PAYMENT OF RENTS—WAGES—LABOUR SUPPLY —PRICES—FAMINE PRICES—MATERIAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE | 244—252 |

ENCLOSURE II
THE INDIGO INDUSTRY

| | |
|---|---------|
| PROGRESS OF THE INDUSTRY—CULTIVATION—SOILS AND MANURES—MANUFACTURE—LANDED INTERESTS— SYSTEMS OF CULTIVATION—INFLUENCE OF THE INDUSTRY —THE BIHAR PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION—FACTORIES | 253—262 |
|---|---------|

ENCLOSURE III
THE PEOPLE

| | |
|---|---------|
| GROWTH OF POPULATION—CENSUS OF 1901—GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS—MIGRATION—Towns and Villages— Sex—Language—Written character—Literature— RELIGIONS—PRINCIPAL CASTES—GROWTH OF POPULATION SINCE 1901—Urban population—Rural population —Emigration and Immigration—Density—Sex and Civil Conditions, etc | 263—273 |
|---|---------|

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| APPENDIX—STATISTICS | 275—294 |
|---------------------|---------|

| | |
|----------|---------|
| GLOSSARY | 295—301 |
|----------|---------|

| | |
|-------|-------|
| INDEX | i—vii |
|-------|-------|

| | |
|--------|-----|
| PLATES | 1—7 |
|--------|-----|

| | |
|------|-----|
| MAPS | 1—4 |
|------|-----|

LIST OF PLATES

- 1 Figure of Lord Buddha at Kolhua
- 2 Ashoka pillar at Kolhua
- 3 Terracotta figures from Vaisali
- 4 Ivory and Bone objects from Vaisali
- 5 Beads and weights from Vaisali
- 6 New Bridge on Burhi Gandak
- 7 Shaojee's temple at Muzaffarpur

LIST OF MAPS

- 1 Population map
- 2 Isoseismal map of Bihar Earthquake, 1934
- 3 Embankments of the district
- 4 Roads of the district

E R R A T A.

Page 8, line 17—*for 'Azella' read 'Azolla'.*

Page 38, line 1—*for 'Snaks' read 'Snick's'.*

Page 41, line 16—*for 'work' read 'word'.*

Page 45, line 12—*for 'them' read 'him'.*

Page 79, line 37—*for '1941-52' read '1941-42'.*

Page 91, line 17—*for 'had' read 'has'.*

Page 95, line 11—*for 'warshippers' read 'worshippers'.*

Page 164, line 25—*for 'I A S B., Vol. XI' read 'J.A S B., Vol. XI'.*

Page 183, line 18—*for 'bumber' read 'bumper'.*

Page 248, line 3—*for '1 th' read $\frac{1}{80}$ th'.*

Page 256, line 10—*for 'Sumatrana' read 'sumatrana'.*

Page 262, line 14—*for 'Munden' read 'Minden'.*

Page 283, line 2—*for 'intoxicant' read 'intoxicants'*