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ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



SUNDARGARH

BY

SHRI NILAMANI SENAPATI, i. c. s. (Retd.)

Chief Editor

SHRI DURGA CHARAN KUANR, M. A. (Alld.), O.E.S.

State Editor

GAZETTEERS UNIT
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PREFACE

This is the first District Gazetteer of Sundargarh. The two former Princely States of Gangpur and Bonai constitute the present district of Sundargarh. As none of the ex-States had gazetteers worth the name and there was a dearth of records of the ex-State period, considerable difficulty was experienced in compiling the present volume. L. E. B. Cobden-Ramsay's 'Feudatory States of Orissa' written in 1908 devotes only a few pages to the ex-States of Gangpur and Bonai. All the available references which include the Report on Land Tenures and the Revenue System of the Orissa and Chhatisgarh States by R. K. Ramadhyani, Final Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of the Gangpur State, 1929—36; Final Report on the Land Revenue Settlement of the Bonai Feudatory State, Orissa (1910—12) by W. G. Kelly; the Annual Reports on the Administration of the ex-States of Gangpur and Bonai; Cobden-Ramsay's work and other old-time records have, however, been profitably used in building up the edifice of this Gazetteer. All possible care have been taken to keep abreast of the developments and rapid changes that have taken place in the district since its formation in 1948 following the merger of the ex-States with the Province of Orissa. Latest possible data from diverse sources have been collected and their veracity examined with a view to maintain the high standard of accuracy and thoroughness which are indispensable for a work of enduring nature like this. Useful appendices, a comprehensive index, glossary of Oriya words and terms used in the text, and maps have been provided. The spelling of place names in the maps and the text has followed the maps published by the Survey of India which at times differs from the local spelling, and when such difference occurs both the spellings have been given in the index along with their Oriya equivalent. To avoid repetition in the text and to simplify printing diacritical marks have been used in the Glossary.

The Gazetteer was compiled in the Gazetteer Section of the Revenue Department and was examined by a Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee consisting of the Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Revenue Department; Padmabhusan Dr. Pranakrushna Parija; and Shri Nilamani Senapati, I. C. S. (Retd.), Chief Editor, Gazetteers. It was then placed before the Advisory Committee which consisted of—

- | | | |
|---|----|------------------|
| 1. Adviser-I to the Governor | .. | Chairman |
| 2. Chief Secretary | .. | Member |
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| 4. Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Central Gazetteers Unit | .. | Member |
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| 7. Dr. Manmath Nath Das, Professor of History, Utkal University | | Member |
| 8. Chief Editor, Gazetteers | .. | Member-Secretary |

It was sent to the Central Gazetteers Unit for their scrutiny and comments. We will be failing in our duty if we do not express our thanks to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M. A., Ph. D., Editor, Gazetteers, and the staff of the Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, New Delhi, for their effective role in planning and Co-ordinating the work of preparation of the District Gazetteers. The Unit scrutinized the draft of this volume with meticulous care and made several helpful suggestions with a view to improving the standard and quality of the publication. It may also be mentioned here that a portion of the expenditure incurred on the compilation and printing of the District Gazetteers is being met by the Government of India.

In compiling this volume we have had the ungrudging assistance of the Geological Survey of India, the local officers of the Ministries of Finance, Communications, and Railways, Government of India; all the Departments of Orissa Government, all Heads of Departments; various branches of Sundargarh district administration, and a host of non-official persons and organisations whom we had occasions to approach. We are particularly indebted to Dr. B. D. Prusty, Director of Mines; Shri B. B. Tripathy, I. A. S., Director of Census Operations, Orissa; Dr. B. K. Behura, Professor of Zoology, Utkal University; the authorities of the Hindustan Steel Ltd., Rourkela; officers of the Orissa State Museum, officers of the Director of Public Relation, and the Deputy Director, Map Publications. We are also thankful to Shri Binode Chandra Nayak and Shri Harihar Patel, the noted poets and writers of Sundargarh district for supplying valuable information on the literary situation in the district. Chapter II (History) has been drafted by Dr. Karunasagar Behera, D. Litt., Reader in History, Utkal University.

The following staff of the Gazetteers Section have worked whole-heartedly in bringing out this volume—Shri Amulya Kumar Satpathy, Research Officer, Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Oriya Translator; Compilers—Shri Gour Prasad Patnaik, Shri Prafulla Behera, and Shri Pranakrushna Satpathy; Shri Sarat Chandra Mohapatra, Head Assistant; Shri Jayakrushna Sahu, Assistant; Stenographer—Shri Pratap Kumar Ray; Typists—Shri Satyananda Mahapatra, Shri Durga Charan Mohapatra, Shri Braja Kishore Parida and Shri Akshya Kumar Barik.

Our thanks are due to the Director, and the Deputy Director, Printing, Stationery and Publication, Orissa, and the staff of the Orissa Government Press, Cuttack, who have worked hard and have extended all their co-operation in bringing out this publication in scheduled time.

BHUBANESWAR

NILAMANI SENAPATI

The 26th January, 1975

(REPUBLIC DAY)

DURGA CHARAN KUANR

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN CHAPTER II (HISTORY)

CII	.. Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum
EI	.. Epigraphia Indica
IHQ	.. Indian Historical Quarterly
JAS	.. Journal of the Asiatic Society
JASB	.. Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal
JBORS	.. Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society
JBRS	.. Journal of the Bihar Research Society
JKHRS	.. Journal of the Kalinga Historical Research Society
OHRJ	.. Orissa Historical Research Journal