

HARYANA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

**REPRINT OF
HISAR DISTRICT GAZETTEER, 1883-84**

**GAZETTEERS ORGANISATION
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
HARYANA
CHANDIGARH (INDIA)**

The Gazetteer was published in 1884 during British regime.

1st Reprint : January, 1999

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Price Rs.

Available from :

The Controller, Printing and Stationery, Haryana,

Chandigarh (India).

Printed By :

Controller of Printing and Stationery, Government of Haryana,

Chandigarh.

PREFACE TO REPRINTED EDITION

The District Gazetteer is a miniature encyclopaedia and a good guide. It describes all important aspects and features of the district; historical, physical, social, economic and cultural. Officials and other persons desirous of acquainting themselves with the salient features of the district would find a study of the Gazetteer rewarding. It is of immense use for research scholars.

The old gazetteers of the State published in the British regime contained very valuable information, which was not wholly re-produced in the revised volume. These gazetteers have gone out of stock and are not easily available. There is a demand for these volumes by research scholars and educationists. As such, the scheme of reprinting of old gazetteers was taken on the initiative of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana.

The material available in print for the Gazetteer of this district consisted of the Settlement Reports, notes on certain points supplied by district officers and a draft Gazetteer compiled between 1870 and 1874 by Mr. F. Cunningham, Barrister-at-Law. The draft edition of this Gazetteer was revised by colonels Minchin and Mac-Mohan and Mr. Ogilvie. The gazetteer was compiled under the authority of Punjab Government. It was printed by Shri Ram Das at the Arya Press at Lahore.

The Volume is the reprinted edition of the Hissar District Gazetteer of 1883-84. This is the thirteenth in the series of reprinted gazetteers of Haryana. Every care has been taken in maintaining the complete originality of the old gazetteer while reprinting. I extend my appreciation to Sh. A.K. Jain, Editor, Gazetteer and Sh. J.S. Nayyar, Assistant, who have handled the work with efficiency and care in the reprinting of this volume.

I am very thankful to the Controller, Printing and Stationery, Haryana and his staff in the press for expeditiously completing the work of reprinting.

January, 1999

Jeet Ram Ranga

Joint State Editor (Gazetteers)

GAZETTEER

OF THE

HISAR DISTRICT,

1883-84.

Compiled and Published under the authority of the
Punjab Government.

Lahore :

PRINTED AT THE "ARYA PRESS," BY RAM DAS.

1884.

P R E F A C E.

The period fixed by the Punjab Government for the compilation of the *Gazetteer* of the Province being limited to twelve months, the Editor has not been able to prepare any original matter for the present work ; and his duties have been confined to throwing the already existing material into shape, supplementing it as far as possible by contributions obtained from district officers, passing the draft through the press, circulating it for revision, altering it in accordance with the corrections and suggestions of revising officers, and printing and issuing the final edition.

The material available in print for the *Gazetteer* of this district consisted of the Settlement Reports, and a draft *Gazetteer* compiled between 1870 and 1874 by Mr. F. Cunningham, Barrister-at-Law. Notes on certain points have been supplied by district officers; while the report on the Census of 1881 has been utilized. Of the present volume, Section A of Cap. V (General Administration), and the whole of Cap. VI (Towns), have been for the most part supplied by the Deputy Commissioner; while Section A of Cap. III (Statistics of Population) has been taken from the Census Report. But with these exceptions, the great mass of the text has been taken almost, if not quite verbally, from Mr. Cunningham's compilation already referred to, which again was largely based upon Munshi Amin Chand's Settlement Report of the district.

The report in question was written in 1863, and, modeled on the meager lines of the older settlement reports, affords very inadequate material for an account of the district. No better or fuller material, however, was either available or procurable within the time allowed. But when the district again comes under settlement, a second and more complete edition of this *Gazetteer* will be prepared; and meanwhile the present edition will serve the useful purpose of collecting and publishing in a systematic form, information which had before been scattered, and in part unpublished.

The draft edition of this *Gazetteer* has been revised by Colonels Minchin and MacMohan, and Mr. Ogilvie. The Deputy Commissioner is responsible for the spelling of vernacular names, which has been fixed throughout by him in accordance with the prescribed system of transliteration. The final edition, though completely compiled by the Editor, has been passed through the press by Mr. Stack.

THE EDITOR.

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Table No. I, showing LEADING STATISTICS.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
			DETAIL OF TAHSILS.			
DETAILS	DISTRICT.	Hissar.	Hansi.	Bhiwani.	Barwala.	Fatehabad.
Total square miles (1881)	3,540	841	761	585	580	773
Cultivated square miles (1878)	1,815	200	243	473	332	567
Culturable square miles (1878)	1,457	541	462	82	204	168
Irrigated square miles (1878)	165	17	117	...	23	8
Average square miles under crops (1877 to 1881)	2,013	209	346	471	330	567
Annual rainfall in inches (1866 to 1882) ...	16.3	16.3	16.2	16.3	15.7	15.7
Number of inhabited towns and villages (1881) ...	631	135	115	100	132	149
Total population (1881)	504,183	98,105	130,614	103,556	78,549	93,358
Rural population (1881)	428,065	83,939	112,784	69,794	74,394	87,154
Urban population (1881)	76,118	14,167	17,830	33,762	4,155	6,204
Total population per square mile (1881) ...	143	117	172	177	135	121
Rural population per square mile (1881) ...	121	100	148	120	128	113
Hindus (1881)	384,366	81,200	105,781	91,912	51,279	54,194
Sikhs (1881)	3,143	4	39	3	677	2,420
Jains (1881)	3,102	568	1,775	386	276	97
Musalmans (1881)	113,517	16,290	23,014	11,251	26,317	36,654
Average annual Land Revenue (1877 to 1881)* ...	426,652	89,382	142,807	71,594	56,353	66,516
Average annual gross revenue (1877 to 1881)* ...	508,914	...	...	...	...	...

*Fixed, fluctuating, and miscellaneous. + Land, Tribute, Local Rates, Excise, and Stamps.

CHAPTER 1.

THE DISTRICT

The Hisar district is the central one of the three districts included in the Hisar division, and lies between north latitude 28° 36 and 29° 49, and east longitude 75° 16 and 76° 22. Lying on the confines of Rajputana, and forming a part of the great prairies which stretch between and include Bikaner on the one hand and Patiala on the other, it shares with Rohtak and Simla only among Punujab districts the peculiarity of having absolutely no river-frontage. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the Native State of Patiala, on the east by the Rohtak district, and the State of Jind, on the south and south-east by the Dadri territory of Jind and the State of Luharu, and on the west the prairies of Bikaner and the Sirsa district. It is thus completely surrounded by Native States; save where at its north-western and south-eastern corners it touches the Sirsa and Rohtak kistricts. It is divided into five Tahsils, of which that of Barwala occupies the north-east, that of Fatehabad the north-west, that of Hansi the east centre, that of Hisar the west centre, and that of Bhiwani the south and south-west of the district. Some leading statistics regarding the district and the several tahsils into which it is divided are given in Table No. I on the opposite page. The district contains three towns of more than 10,000 souls, as follows:--

Bhiwani	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,762
Hisar	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,167
Hansi	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,656

The administrative head-quarters are situated at Hisar, which lies nearly in the Centre of the district. Hisar stands 12th in order of area and 21st in order of population among the 32 districts of the province, comprising 3.32 per cent of the total area, 2.68 percent of the total population, and 3.12 per cent of the urban

Population of British territory. The latitude, longitude, and height in feet above the sea, of the principal places in the district are shown in the margin.

The tract under description consists of bast and, for the most part, sandy plains, scrubby towards the north, with rank grass and brushwood, which relieve the dreariness of the prospect by intervals of green. Stretching southwards, the plains become more and more sandy and more and more sterile, and the dead level is interrupted by undulating sand hills. Here coarse grasses and a stunted growth of desert trees and shrubs form the sole trace of spontaneous vegetation. The sands hills increase in height

Chapter I.

Descriptive
General description

General features

CRAP. I.-THE DISTRICT

Chapter 1.

Descriptive.

General features.

towards the south, until at last, some 15 to 25 miles from the Luharu and Bikaner border, they give way to a series of bare rocky hills, which rise like islands out of a waste of sand; the highest of them, however, at the foot of which lies the town of Tusham, does not rise more than 800 feet above the surrounding plain. Such are the general features of the face of the country, as they would strike a passing traveler. It must not, however, be supposed that there are no variations of soil. Indeed, on the banks of the Western Jamna Canal, which passes through the district from east to west, close by the towns of Hansi and Hisar, the soil is of more than ordinary productiveness, except in year; when the canal water fails.

Chak Hariana

The whole area of the district is divisible into three tracts, each with its own characteristics. They are styled respectively *chak* Hariana, *chak* Bagar, and *chak* Nali.* *Chak* Hariana is the largest of these tracts, containing 292 out of the 659 villages into which the district is divided. It occupies the heart of the district, and is traversed by the Western Jamna Canal, which, running through the district from east to west, separates this *chak* into two nearly equal portions. In this part of the district the soil is technically described as *dakar* and *rausli*. The former of these terms is applied to a strong clayey soil, breaking up into large clods, and requiring very abundant rain to saturate it sufficiently for seeding. The latter term implies a very similar soil, but less close and firm, having generally an admixture of sand. It does not require quite the same amount of saturation as the harder *dakar*. Even here, however, in the central portion of the district, the soil is freely interspersed with patches of sand, and towards the south it blends gradually with the sandy plains and hillocks already described. Though rich when sufficiently saturated, it produces almost nothing when there is a failure in the natural rains. Water is only touched in the wells at a depth varying 107 to 133 feet below the surface; and the cost of constructing wells seldom falls below Rs. 1,500. Well irrigation is therefore not attempted, except in very bad seasons, when a few acres of land are irrigated for growing vegetables around the village site. Again, the hardness of the soil renders ploughing a matter of great labour. It is said among the peasants of the tract that that season only is favorable in which the soil becomes moist for 100 inches below the surface. In dry seasons not only is there no harvest, but hardly an ordinary grass crop. In order to make the most of the rain-fall, the farmers leave large tracts uncultivated, and, collecting the drainage from these, by means of water-courses, conduct it on to their cultivated fields. Such uncultivated plots are styled *upradhan*, and the water-courses *agam*. The canal irrigation is confined to 54 villages, lying immediately on either side of the canal. The soil of these is in all respects the same as that of the villages a little further removed from the canal, with the exception that the constant irrigation has rendered it softer and more rich. Even this, however, produces nothing unless irrigated.

* The word *chak* applies to any portion of land divided off, a subdivision.

Chak Bagar lies to the south, and includes the towns of Tusham and Bhiwani. Here nothing interferes with the universal reign of sand. The name is borrowed from the tract of country just beyond the border in Bikaner, which has from time immemorial been called Bagar, and has given its name to the tribe of Bagri Jats, of whom more hereafter. Cultivation in *Chak Bagar* is carried on with no ordinary difficulty. If there is no rain, there is no crop at all, not even a blade of grass. If rain is too heavy the sand is washed down from the sand hillocks upon the cultivated fields and chokes the seed, so that cultivators have not infrequently to sow three or four times for each harvest. Dust-storms often change the appearance of the country, and hills appear where yesterday was a cultivated field; and the farmer, if he wishes for a harvest, must set to work again and plough up the ground which before had underlain a sand hill. But against all these disadvantages, there are compensating benefits; the labour of ploughing is next to nothing, owing to the lightness of the soil, and, camels being used for this work, as much as 40 acres are ploughed up at a time. Again, a very slight fall of rain is sufficient to produce a harvest; and if it rains at any time between March and August, the farmers can raise a crop of *bajra* here, while the same amount of rain may be quite inadequate to affect the richer soil of the country further north; so that the latter will lie barren while the sandy soil of *chak Bagar* will produce a crop, scanty it is true, but sufficient for the wants of its inhabitants. There is neither stream nor canal in this part of the district, nor is well irrigation possible to any great extent. In a few villages the people have *kachcka* (unlined) wells on the banks of the village tanks, by which they irrigate a few fields for vegetables. Masonry wells are not constructed, because the water is liable to become brackish, and it would be a waste of money to build wells, which, a few years afterwards, might become absolutely useless. Cases have been known where village sites have been abandoned owing to deterioration of the wells, the water becoming so salt as to be unfit for use by man or beast.

Chak Nali owes its name to the fact that during the rains it is traversed by two streams, or *nalas*. It lies to the north of the district, and includes the towns of Barwala and Fatehabad. The two streams are the Ghaggar and a smaller branch of the same; The latter separates from the parent stream to the east of the border in Patiala territory, and runs, to the north of it, at a distance of a few miles, through the northern corner of this district, and on into the Sirsa district, rejoining the parent stream not far beyond the town of that name. The soil is classed for the most part as *rausli*. But the population is very scanty, and only a small proportion of the country had been brought under cultivation at the time of Settlement (1864). The uncultivated portion is thickly covered with low brushwood, useful only for fuel; and even where cultivated, the produce is, at best, indifferent. The villages upon the main stream of the Ghaggar are known by the name of *Daban*, on account of the abundance of a kind of grass (locally known as *dab*) which grows upon its banks. The villages

Chapter I ..

Descriptive:

Chak Bagar:

Chak Nail;

Chapter I.
Descriptive
Chak Nali

on the northern branch are called collectively *Sotar*. In all these villages, no crop at all is grown except on land which has been irrigated from one or the other of the branches of the Ghaggar. And as the flow of water in these is most variable and uncertain, the harvests too" if for this reason only, would be highly precarious. But the river irrigation, available at the best for not more than a month or six weeks in the year, is not alone sufficient to ensure the ripening of a crop; and the ultimate result of the harvest is almost as dependent upon timely rains as in the more sterile parts of the district. In the *Daban* villages there is one harvest, that of the spring (*rabi*), which, though sown after irrigation from the river, is entirely dependent for coming to perfection upon rain in December or January. If no rain falls, the out-turn is reduced by one-half. In the *Sotar* villages two harvests are secured in good years; that of the autumn being rice. Well irrigation is carried on to a considerable extent to supplement irrigation from the river, but the farmers never trust to this alone for their crops. Water, however, is plentiful and good, nor is the cost of constructing wells excessive. In Jat villages the wells are of masonry (*pakka*), but the ambition of the Pachhadas, who occupy the greater part of the *clak*, does not soar so high, and they are content to leave their wells unlined (*kachcha*).

The Ghaggar

The Ghaggar, already alluded to, rises in the Himalayas bordering upon the Ambala district, and, passing through Ambala and the Native State of Patiala, enters the district in two branches a few miles to the south-west of Akalgarh, a town in Patiala, and traversing the district, passes on into Sirsa. The flow of water is most uncertain, the stream being entirely dependent for its supply upon the fall of rain in the lower Himalayas. Moreover, a large portion of the water is denied off for purposes of irrigation before the stream enters this district.*

Western Jamna
Canal

The canal enters the district about half-way down the eastern border, and runs through it from east to west passing the towns of Hansi and Hisar. After crossing the western border, any water that remains is swallowed up in the sands of Bikaner. The canal was first constructed by the Emperor Firoz Shah to water his new town of Hisar Firoza about A.D. 1360. It was found closed when the country passed under British rule, and was first reopened in the season of 1826-27, but the people for several years obstinately refused to avail themselves of its advantages, under the impression, not unusual at the time, that the use of its water would be followed by an immediate enhancement of the sum demanded as land revenue. A severe famine in 1832-33 first drove them to it, and since that period irrigation has been steadily progressing.

Lines of drainage

The surface drainage of the district, which is not utilized by water-courses for purposes of irrigation, finds its way through the district by the Western Jamna Canal and the Ghaggar. There are no other water-courses of any significance. The Ghaggar, precarious and uncertain as to flow of water, is the only stream that

*For a more detailed description of the Ghaggar, see the Gazetteer of the Ambala district.

+ See Ambala Gazetteer.

enters the district. The bed of the old Chautang *nala* is utilized for the Western Jamna Canal.*

Near Fatehabad, and again at Mura Khera, a village near the Ghaggar, there are *jhils*, or swampy lakes, caused by the overflow of the Ghaggar in time of heavy rain. The Fatehabad *jhil* is 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles in length by $\frac{1}{2}$ mile broad, with an area, when full, of 15,960 acres, and a depth of from 8 to 9 feet in the deepest parts. The Mura Khera *jhil* is about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long by $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in breadth, having an area of 800 acres, and a depth of 7 or 8 feet. These, however, are not perennial, and do not deserve the name of lakes. They invariably dry up in the hot season. Crops of paddy are grown in the shallows, and, when dry, wheat, gram and barley are sown in their beds.

Table No. III shows in inches the total rainfall registered at each of the rain-

Year	Inches
1862-63	21.9
1863-64	24.8
1964-65	14.3
1865-66	28.1

gauge stations in the district for each year, from 1866-67 to 1882-83. The fall at head-quarters for the four preceding year is shown in the margin. The distribution of rainfall through out the year is shown in table No.s IIIA and IIIB.

Tables Nos. XI, XIA, XIB, and XLIV give annual and monthly statistics of birth and deaths for the district and for its towns during the last five years; while the bight and death-ratse since 1868, so far as available, will be found at page 25 for the general population, and in Chapter VI under the heads of the several large towns of the district. Table No. XII shows the number of insane, blind, deaf-mutes, and lepers as ascertained at the Census of 1881 ; while' Table No. XXXVIII shows the working of the dispensaries since 1877. In the District Census Report for 1881, the Civil Surgeon wrote as follows :—

"The villagers along the canal suffer from malarial fever, dyspepsia, enlargement of the spleen and liver. They look sallow and anemic, whereas the inhabitants of our *barani* tracts, Ranghars, Jats, Bishnois, Gujars and Kaim Khanis are strong, athletic, and healthy looking, with physical development and bodily vigour good. They suffer mostly from skin diseases, guinea worm, gravel, stone in the bladder, and tubercular foot and hand, called *veri nagra*, both red and black parasitic fungi. The level of the subsoil water varies very much. The superficial stratum in the district consists of clay more or less mixed with sand, extending to a depth of 10 to 20 feet, and then impervious clay, having little or no sand intermixed with it, which retains the rain water in tanks for drinking use. The supply of water is sometimes inadequate to the demand during the summer. The superficial stratum in some parts of the district is composed of grey and white *kankar* tree cultivation has either not been sufficiently encouraged or has not thriven in this district, although in the neighbourliood of Hisar and Hansi we have extensive forest *jangal*."

The Civil Surgeon also states that the most prevalent diseases in the district are malarious fever, rheumatic affections, ophthalmia.

* For a detailed account of the canal and its history, see Ambala Gazetteer.

Chapter I. Descriptive Disease	respiratory affections, and skin diseases. Of fever cases by far the greatest number have occurred in the Bhiwani and Hisar <i>tahsils</i> ; respiratory affections are also chiefly confined to those portions of the district, and the same may be said of skin diseases and ophthalmia. Rheumatic affections are pretty evenly distributed.
Geology	Our knowledge of Indian geology is as yet so general ill its nature, and so little has been done in the Punjab in the way of detailed geological investigation, that it is impossible to discuss the local geology. of separate districts. But a sketch of the geology of the province as a whole has been most kindly furnished by Mr. Medicott, Superintendent of the Geological Survey of India, and is published <i>in extenso</i> in the provincial volume of the Gazetteer series, and also as a separate pamphlet.
Minerals	<i>Kankar</i> , or argillaceous limetone in nodules, is found in many localities throughout the district. Soft <i>kankar</i> , fitted for making lime, is dug in villages Barawa, Rawasa, Chhapar Kalan, Katwar, Dhana Narsiyan, Kharkhari, Sindhar, and Ratiya. The annual produce is calculated to be 92,000 maunds. About 200,000 maunds of hard <i>kankar</i> for road-making are also quarried anually in about 15 different places in the district. Saltpetre is manufactured by evaporation in the villages of Talu, Muhammadpur, Mahamra, Shakarpur, Himmatpura and Bahuna. The annual out-turn is estimated to be 15,800 maunds. The number of evaporating pans in use is 17. There is no peculiarity in the mode of manufacture, which resembles that which is in vogue elsewhere. The saltpetre is not refined in the district, but exported in the rough, just as it leaves the pits.
Wild animals Sport	Leopards are occasionally met with, and hyaenas and wolves, and also jackals, foxes, and porecpines, are common. <i>Nilgae</i> , black buck, ravine deer, and pig, abound throughout the district, especially in the Government <i>bir</i> . Hares arc found everywhere. Bustard, florican, partridges of both kinds, sandgrouse Of both sizes, and quail abound; while the village tanks and the <i>jhils</i> on the Ghaggar . contain duck and teal, and in winter the Ghaggar is visited by <i>kunj</i> , heron and by wild geese. Peafowl, half-domesticated, are common round the villages. Altogether Hisar is one of the best shooting districts in the province. During the last five years rewards to the amount of Rs. 1,031 have been given for the destruction of 253 wolves and 4,962 snakes.
Flora	The trees most commonly found are the <i>kikal'</i> and <i>jand</i> These seldom grow in clumps, but are scattered sparsely over the country, the former growing to a height of between 30 and 40 feet, and the latter, in favorable localities, to a height of 25 feet. <i>Pipal</i> , <i>nim</i> , <i>siras</i> and <i>shisham</i> are also to be met with here and there, but are not indigenous to the soil. The commonest shrubs in the brushwood which covers so great a portion of the district, are the <i>jal</i> and the <i>kair</i> or <i>karil</i> . The fruit of these shrubs, called respectively <i>pilu</i> and <i>tend</i> berries, play an importing part in the diet of the common people. The <i>pilu</i> berry begins to appear in the month of <i>Baisakh</i> (April), and ripens by the end of May, attaining the size of a pea. It has a sweetish, insipid taste, and

is generally swallowed in handfuls, skin, seeds, and all. It is eaten generally by the poorer classes, who consider the fruit a good alterative, although it is said to be somewhat heating. In times of scarcity it constitutes the principal food of the poorer classes, who camp out day and night in the *jangals* while the season lasts. The *kair* bush, from which the *tend* berry is produced, is a straggling shrub devoid of leaves. From the commencement of the month of *Chait* (March) to the end of *Jeth* (June), the bush is covered thickly with blossoms (called by the natives *barwa*), of a dull red coral tint, and in this state it presents a very attractive appearance. The poorer classes, especially in times of scarcity, boil the blossoms, which are seasoned with salt and pepper, and eaten as a relish with coarse bread. While in a green and unripe state, the berry is called *tend* or *tent*, and is also boiled and eaten. Occasionally, like the blossom, it is made into a pickle. When the berry ripens, it assumes a red or sometimes a kind of purple tint, and in this stage it is called *pinju*, and is eaten without boiling, but it is not considered very wholesome. In seasons of drought the bush is twice covered with berries, which is not the case in ordinary years; and the people look upon it as a special provision of providence for the succour of the poor. The second time of bearing is from *Sanwan* (August) to *Asauj* (October). The ripe fruit, however, of the second crop is not eaten, being full of worms. Another common and most useful shrub is the *jharberi*. In appearance it is no better than a small prickly bush. Its fruit, however, resembling a small plum, is collected and eaten; and as drought does not affect it, it forms in times of scarcity a valuable resource to the villagers. The leaves are threshed and collected for fodder under the name of *pala* : its briars form excellent hedges, and when no longer required, serve as fuel. It prefers a sandy soil, and is most common in the southern portion of the district.

There is no real forest, in the district. In one portion only, near the town of Hisar, does the scrubby brushwood, described above, become thick enough in any way to deserve the name. Here there is a tract of 42,479 acres; which has been set aside for the use of the Hisar cattle farm, and is known as the *sarkari bir*" (Government forest). Here and there, portions of this tract are cultivated with oats and lucerne for fodder; but the greater part is in a state of nature, and produces nothing but grass and brushwood, which abound with game, and afford excellent pasturage for the cattle belonging to the farm. There is another smaller, but somewhat similar, tract near Hansi the area of which is only 2,068 acres. It is usually leased out for grazing purposes.

CHAPTER II.
HISTORY

Chapter II
History
Early history

The tract now included in this district, together with parts of the district of Rohtak, are better known to history under the name of Haryana. The origin of the name is attributed by the people to a Raja named Hari Chand, who is said, at some undefined period, to have come from Oudh, and peopled this part of the country. Others derive the name from the word hari (slain), in allusion to a tradition of a great slaughter of Khatrias by Paras Ram, on 21 different occasions, at a village a few miles to the west of Jind. The Settlement Officer, Munshi Amin Chand, derives the name from *hariaban*, the name of a wild plant, with which the country was formerly said to be overgrown. A more probable derivation is from *hara* (green), in allusion to the expanse of brushwood which once covered the greater part of the district, and even now covers large portions of it, giving at certain seasons of the year an aspect of greenness to the whole country. Of the period antecedent to the Muhammadan conquest of Hindustan, the nearest approach to history is to be found in certain vague traditions of the settlement in the district of various branches of the Royal Tunwar Rajput race of Dehli; followed, after the fall of that house, by fresh immigrations under Chauhan leaders. One thing is certain, that at the earliest period of which anything is known, the town of Hansi was the centre of local authority, and the capital of Haryana. The Muhammadan rule was extended to Hansi shortly after the fall of Dehli before Shahab-ud-din. The city of Hisar had not yet been founded, and Hansi still continued for many years the seat of local administration. In the 14th century, however, the attention of the Emperor Firoz Shah Tughlak was drawn to Haryana, and this monarch founded a new town, naming it after himself, Hisar Firoza, or the "fort of Firoz." An interesting account of this incident is given by Shams-i-Shiraz Afif, one of Sir H. Elliot's historians.* "Sultan Firoz," we read, "passed several years after "his campaigns in Bengal (1352-53) in riding about Dehli, and « finding himself in the neighborhood of Hisar Firoza, he "exerted himself actively and liberally in endeavoring to provide " for the needs of the country." The site of the future city was at this time occupied by two villages, called the Little and the

* Shams-i-Shiraz says that " he (Firoz) conducted two streams into the city " from two rivers-one from the river Jamna, the other from the Satlaj. Both " these streams were conducted through the vicinity of Karnal, and after a length " of about 80 kos discharged their waters by line channel into the town." No traces remain of the canal from the Satlaj ; and there is every reason to suppose that there is a mistake in the reading of Shams-I Shiraz which mentiolls the Satlai, Sault of Ambala District, heading " Westem Jamna. Canal."

Large Laras. The neighborhood of this village, "contuse the "historian," greatly pleased Sultan Firoz, and he thought **it** would "be well to build a city there; for it was very deficient in water, and during the hot season travelers who came from Trak and "Khrasan had to pay as much as four *jitals* for a pitcher full. So" the Sultan .resolved to build a city, being filled with hope that, "if he built a town. For the benefit of Musalmans, God would provide "it with water." Finding, however, when his city was completed, surrounded with a wall and ditch, and adorned with a palace" which had no equal, "that his expectations with regard to water remained unfulfilled, he "resolved in his munificence to bring a supply of water thither,"-a resolve which resulted in the construction of the canal now known as that of the Western Jamna. The secret of Firoz Shah's selection of Hisar Firoza as a favourite residence is probably to be found in his passion for sport, which found ample vent in the wild *jangals* with which the district was then clothed. In those. days the Ghaggar . Or Saraswati as it then was called, carried down a far larger volume of water into this part of the country than it does now, and it may be well believed that the country in its neighborhood was a hunting ground of considerable excellence.. Firoz Shah's hunting expeditions extended beyond the Satlaj as far as Dipalpur (now in the Montgomery district), 130 miles to the north-west of Hisar. Another fact of some interest to be gleaned from the account of Shams--i-Shiraz is that in the 14th century the now deserted route across the wastes of Montgomery, Sirsa, and Hisar was much frequented by travelers between Dehli and Khurasan. Whatever amount of truth there may be in Shams-i-Shiraz's rather fulsome account of Firoz Shah's treatment of Hariana., it is undoubted that, both by the construction of a canal and by giving to the industries of the country the incentive always afforded by the residence of a Court, that monarch did much to promote 'the welfare of the country. Besides Hisar, he also built the town of Fatehabad, in this district, naming it after his son, and conducted a small canal from the Ghaggar to supply it with water-a canal which is still in use.

An interesting account of Taim6r's march through Bhattiana and Hariana will be found in Elliot's *-History of India*, III, 428ff, 92ff; Price's *Retrospect of Muhammadan History*, III, 247.ff, and Brigg's *Ferishtah A I*, 489ff

The village of Firoz is still in existence ; it was one of the smaller forts founded by Firoz Shah, and is some 12 miles from Sirsa. The position of Rajabpur and Ahroni is doubtful; but at Dasul, some 12 miles north of Tohana, there are remains of an old fort call Kol, which perhaps mark the site of Ahroni. The local tradition states that Taimur marched from Fatehabad to Kol and attacked the .Pachchadas of that place, driving them out with great loss, and forcing them to retreat to Tohana. and take up a position on the banks of the Ghaggar between the villages of Himmatpur, Puri, and Udipur, where they were again attacked next day by Taimur's troops. When Taimur passed on to Kaithal, they resettled at Kol.

There is but little worthy of notice In the way of architectural remains of this period. Old mosques and other buildings are

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Antiquities

dotted about the country, especially near the town of Hisar, but none are of any archaeological interest. Two stone pillars erected by Firoz Shah at Hisar and Fatehabad must be excepted. These pillars, respectively 30 and 20 feet high, are similar to the well-known monolith called the *lat* of Firoz Shah, at Dehli, of which they are probably imitations (see Archaeological Survey Reports: V. 140-142). The pillar at Fatehabad bears an inscription which is said to be now quite illegible. There are some ancient inscriptions on the rocks of the hill above Tusham. Copies of them have been sent to General Cunningham, who finds the date of one of them to be about A.D. 43. They bear the same standard which characterises the coin of Ghalot Kacha, father of Chandra Gupta I, whose most probable date is 78 A.D. The body of the inscription is a record of a family of religious teachers or Acharjiyas, worshippers of Vishnu. (See Archaeological Survey Reports, V. 136 to 140).

Subsequent history

From the time of Firoz Shah, Hisar long continued to be a city of some importance, and the head-quarters of a *Sarkar* or revenue division. In the time of Akbar, the *Sarktiu* of Hisar Firoza embraced the whole of the present district, together with Sirsa, as far as the river War, and parts of the modern Rohtak district, and of territory now included in Bikaner to the west, and the protected Sikh States to the east. The following list and accompanying account of the *mahals* contained in this *Sarkar* is extracted from Beames' edition of Sir H. Elliot's Supplemental Glossary, pp. 132-55 :--

SARKAR HISAR FIROZA.

1, Agroha; 2, Ahroni; 3, Athkhera; 4, Bhangiwal; 5, Punian; 6, Bharaugi; 7, Barwala; 8, Bahttu; 9, Birwa; 10, Bhatner; 11, Tuhana; 12, Tusham; 13, Jind; 14, Jamalpur; 15, Hisar; 16, Dhatrat; 17, Sirsa; 18, Sheoram; 19, Sidhmukh; 20, Swani; 21, Shanzdeh Dehit; 22, Fatehabad; 23, Guhana; 24, Khanda; 25, Mihun; 26, Hansi.

There are twenty-seven *mahals* in this *Sarkar* (Hisar being counted as two), and four *dasturs-Raveli* Hisar Firoza, Guhana, Mahan, and Sirsa. There are, however, several *parganas* excluded from the *dastur* list, for what reason does not appear.

Of these *mahals*, those which do not retain their old name in our territory are numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6; 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 24.

2. Ahroni is partly in Ratiya and partly in Fatehabad. The historians' of Taimur point out its position, by saying it is on the road from Fatehabad to Tuhana. The place was burnt and pillaged by the conqueror, merely because the inhabitants did not come out to pay their respects. Ahroni has now reverted to its original name of Alurwan, whereas in *Sarkar* Chanar Ahirwara, which derived its name from the same tribe, has now been corrupted into Ahrora.

3. Athkhera is under the Raja of Jind, and is known now by the name of Kasonan.

4. Bhngiwal, so called from the tribe of Jats which inhabited it, is the old name of Darba, in which place the officers of the Raja of Bikaner built a fort, and thenceforward it came to be considered the chief town of a *pargana*.

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No.	Name of pargana or mahal.	Name of tribe who owned the mahals.	Remark showing the changes which have since taken place in these mahals.
14	Shanzdeh Dehat (16 villages)	Tunwar Rajpute and Jats ...	Tahsil Bawals near Bahuna, Kheri, Raien and other village,
15	Sirsa	Joean Rajputs	In a separate district, Sirsa.
16	Dhatrat	Jats and Pathans	Do. Karnal.
17	Khanda	Jats	Do. Do.
18	Gunana	Jats, Sapauidars and Palasians	Do. Rohtak..
19	Mehun	Tunwar Rajputs and Jats ...	Some village of this pargana now belongs to Hisar and some to Rohtak district. Mehun Khas belongs to the latter district.
20	Bhyniwal (Bhangiwal?)	Rajputs and Rathours	Some villages appertain to the Hisar and Sirsa districts, the peincipal portion to the Bikaner <i>ilaka</i> ..
21	Punian	Jats	In Bikaner.
22	Bharinji	Rajhairs, Rajputs and Jats	Do.
23	Bhatner ... ..	...	Do.
24	Sidmukh	Do. Do. .. .	Do.
25	Sheoram	Rathours and Rajputs	Granted by the British to Nawab of Luharu.
26	Jind	Jatu Rajputs and Sayads ...	Belong to the Raja of Jind.
27	Athkhera (8 villages)	Tunwar Rajputs and Jats ...	Do. To the Patiala <i>ilaka</i> .

In the early years of the 18th century, we find Hisar under the rule of Nawab Shahdad Khan of Kasur (1707-1737). In his time the condition of the people and country is said to have been one of considerable prosperity. This, however, was not destined to last for long. In Sambat 1818 (A. D. 1761) Hariana was held in jagir by Rukn-ul-daula, minister to Farrukhsher, who made over the great part of it to, Faujdar Khan, the Nawab of Farakhnagar in Gurgaon, during whose time the country was first ravaged by Nadir Shah, and then distracted by the inroads of the Sikhs, who were at this time making themselves masters of a large tract south of the Satlaj. At the same time the Bhattis, a turbulent Rajput tribe, who have given the name of Bhattiana to a large tract of country now mostly included in the Sirsa district, began to make themselves formidable to the north. The history of the latter portion of the century is one record of confusion and blood shed. Hariana was the battle-field on which met the Marahatas from the south, the Sikhs from the east, and the Bhattis from the north. The whole was nominally subject to the Marahata power, before which the Mughal empire of Dehli had melted away, but the real masters of the greater portion were the Sikhs and Bhattis.

The Bhattis

The Bhattis at this period were a pastoral race, fierce and restless in their habits, and impatient of any control. They were little more than a band of robbers; but their boldness, the rapidity of their movements, and the savage character of their country, saved them from being crushed by their powerful neighbours of Patiala and Jind, whom they continually irritated by their raids. They lived for the mostpart in open villages. or wandered about with their flocks in search of pasture. A few towns, or rather fortified villages, were scattered through the waste, which the Bhatti tribes made their rendezvous on the approach of danger. These were Fatehabad, Sirsa, Raniya and Abohar.* Raja Amar Singh of

*Griffin's "Rajas of the Punjabb," p.179.

Patiala, more than once invaded their country and stormed their strongholds, but the reluctant submission of the chiefs lasted scarcely a moment beyond the withdrawal of the Patiala troops; and after the death of Arnar Singh in 1781 they completely recovered their independence, and retained it thenceforth, almost without¹³ interruption, until their final subjugation by British arms.

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The Bhattis

To complete the ruin inaugurated by these constant struggles, nature lent her aid in the great famine of 1783, known as the *Ckaltsa kal* or famine of *sans chalisa* (1840 of the *Sambat* era), by which the whole country was depopulated. The year previous had been dry and the harvest poor, but in 1783 it entirely failed. The country was depopulated, the peasants abandoning their villages, and dying by thousands of disease and want.* In the neighborhood of Hansi only, the inhabitants held their own, but even here the smaller villages were deserted by their inhabitants, who took refuge in the larger villages, until the severity of the famine should be passed. In other parts of the district none remained who had the strength to fly. No reliable statistics of the mortality are extant but there can be no doubt that the people suffered terribly. Some died helplessly in their villages, others fell exhausted on the way towards the south and east, where they thronged in search of food and employment. Nor was the mortality confined to the inhabitants of the district, for thousands of fugitives from Bikaner flocking into Hariana perished in the vain endeavour to reach Delhi and the Jamna. The price of the commonest food grains rose to five and six seers per rupee. Fodder for cattle failed utterly, and the greater part of the agricultural stock of the district perished. But for the berries found in the wild brushwood, the distress would have been even greater. Stories are told of parents devouring their children; and it is beyond a doubt that children were during this fatal year gladly sold to anyone who would offer a few handfuls of grain as their price. The rains of the previous year had failed entirely, and this year too it was not until September that a drop fell. The heat of the summer was intense, and all through July and August the people looked in vain for relief. At last, in the month of *Asauj* (the latter Part of September and beginning of October) copious rain fell here and throughout the province. There were not many left to turn the opportunity to account, and the few who were found in the district were for the most part immigrants from Bikaner, who had been unable, after crossing the border, to penetrate further eastward. These, however, seized upon the deserted fields and cultivated patches here and there. The result was a spring harvest in 1784 of more than ordinary excellence. The country gradually became re-peopled, but principally from the west, comparatively few of the original inhabitants returning to seek their old homes. Many who did return, found their fields cultivated by recent immigrants. In some cases the immigrants were ousted; in others they submitted to pay a quit rent to the former proprietors. The district has been re-colonized, but it cannot be said that the traces of the famine are yet lost. The

The san chalisa famine

* Griffin's "Rajas of the Punjab," pp.57 and 178.

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The san chalisa famine

George Thomas

Present parched and dried up appearance of the country is popularly said to date from the disastrous effects of the drought of 1783; the fatal year is the era from which every social relation of the people dates. Few villages have a history which goes back uninterruptedly to a period before the famine, and there probably is not one which does not date its present form of tenure from the time when cultivation was resumed.

In 1795, the adventurer, George Thomas,* took possession of Hansi and Hisar. He was an Englishman of some tact and courage, who had come to India in 1781, and had wandered about the country, seeking his fortune for several years, till he was taken into the service of the celebrated Zebun Nisan Begam, more commonly known as the Begam Samru of Sardhana. In 1782, for some misconduct, he was reduced in rank, and left her service in disgust for that of the Marahtha Apa Khandi Rao, a relative of Madhoji Sindhia, and master of the Jhajjar, Dadri and Narnol territory. Thomas raised troops for the Marahtas, and instructed them, as well as he was able, in the European system of drill; and in return the district of Jhajjar was assigned to him as a military fief. He built a fort, which he named Georgegarh, a name which by the people was corrupted into Jahazgarh. When Bawa Rao, nephew of Apa Khandi Rao, succeeded his uncle, Thomas asserted his independence, seized Hansi and Hisar, and began to encroach upon the neighbouring Sikh States. Before the close of 1799, he had extended his authority over all the Hisar, Hansi and Sirsa territory, and a great part of Rohtak. Even the Bhattis paid him a nominal allegiance, though Thomas made no effort to interfere directly with the authority of the Bhatti chiefs over their respective clans. By this time, however, the adventurer, being compelled to resort to constant raids as the only means of supporting his numerous army, had made himself so obnoxious to the Sikh chieftains of the Cis-Satlaj States that, unable themselves to reduce him, they at last in 1801 combined to send an embassy to the French General of Sindhia's army at Dehli, with a prayer for assistance against their common enemy. General Perron received the embassy with conspicuous cordiality. The increasing power of George Thomas had roused in him feelings at once of jealousy and alarm; and, rejoicing in the opportunity of suppressing a rival, whose power, if not checked in time, might eclipse his own, he furnished a force under one of his Lieutenants, Louis Bourquin, to act with the Sikh allies. At first Thomas gained a slight success, but on the arrival of reinforcements from Dehli, he was compelled to retire to Hansi. Here he was surrounded, and after an obstinate defence, surrendered. Abandoning all his conquests, he retired into British territory, never again disturbing the peace of the Cis-Satlaj States. These events occurred in 1802.

The establishment of British
rule

With the remainder of the Delhi territory, Hisar passed nominally under British rule after the victories of Lord Lake over the Marahtas in the following year. But the new owners of the country, either from ignorance of its value, or from sheer apathy, took no steps for many years even to define the borders of their

* Griffin's "Rajas of the Punjab," p. 81.

acquisitions. The strip of country extending from Bhiwani, in a direct line to the north-west as far as the banks of the Satlaj, and now composing the districts of Hisar and Sirsa, was left a prey to the depredations of the Sikhs and Bhattis. The right of the British Government, indeed, was not allowed to lapse. A military outpost was maintained at Hansi, and a series of native Governors, or *nazims*, were appointed to the charge of Hariana, including Rohtak. The successive *nazims* were Mirza Dills Beg, Nawab Mum-ud-din Khan, Ahmad Bakhsh Khan of Luharu, and Abdul Samed of Dujana, who had his head-quarters at Rohtak. For five years confusion reigned supreme. The first *nazim* was killed in a skirmish with the Bhattis. The second, the third and the fourth, after short incumbencies, successively resigned the hopeless task of Government. From 1808 to 1810, apparently, there was no Governor. Meanwhile a Nawab Zabta Khan and Nawab Khan Bahadar Khan, chiefs of the Bhattis, were masters of the situation, and at last proclaimed their independence. The former of the chiefs resided at Sirsa, the latter at Fatehabad, but they had spread their depredations in every direction. At last, in 1810, a force was sent under a British officer to restore order. Bahadar Khan was overpowered and expelled the country, while the tract of Fatehabad, which he had held in possession, was for the first time brought under the British Government.* Zabta Khan gave himself up, swore fealty to the British Government, and was confirmed in his possession of Raniya and Sirsa. In 1818, however, raids were made upon Fatehabad, with the connivance of Zabta Khan, and again a British force was sent to restore order. This time Zabta Khan's estates were confiscated, and the whole territory, now known as the Sirsa district, came under British rule.

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The establishment of
British rule

During these fifteen years, from 1803 to 1818, while the English had paid no attention whatever to the state of the border, the Sikh chiefs had not been idle. Seeing that the time would come when the British would appreciate the value of their acquisitions; they steadily laboured, by gradual encroachments, to manufacture the strongest possible claims to as large a portion as they could annex without opposition. The overthrow of the Bhattis in 1818 removed the last barrier to the inroads of Patiala; and at once all along the western border of Sirsa; and Hisar, the encroachments, itsgrew more and more systematic. The notice of Government was drawn to the unsettled state of the border in 1818 and again a few years later, but it was not until 1835, when Sir C. Metcalfe was Lieutenant-Governor of the North-West Provinces, and Mr. William Fraser, Resident at Delhi, that it was determined to bring the matter to a settlement. The Collector of the district, Mr. Ross Bell, was selected for the duty, and certain principles were laid down for his guidance. These were, that whatever belonged to Patiala at the time of British conquest of Hariana in 1803 should be adjudged to that State, and whatever

Disputes with the Sikh
States

*Griffin's "Rajas of the Panjab," p. 180.

† The following account of the disputes with Patiala. is abridged from pages 80-196 of Griffin's Rajas of the Punjab."

belonged to the Government which the English had superseded, should he adjudged to the latter. With regard to the district of Fatehabad and the portion of the Bhatti country conquered in 1810, and to the remaining portion of that country conquered in 1818, the same principle was to hold good, and the *status* of those years to be maintained, the Sikhs retaining all that they held in these two portions of country, respectively, prior to 1810 and 1818. Bell's report bears date 15th September, 1836. His conclusions may be summarized as follows :-Haryana, including the Bhatti territory (or Bhatiana) was made up of 19 districts, all of which were nominally subject to the Marahas in 1803: Beri, Rohtak, Maham, Hansi, Hisar, Agroha, Barwala, Siwani, Bahal, Aharwan, Fatehabad, Sirsa, Raniya, Bhatner, Safidon, Dhatrat, Jamalpur, Tuhana and Kassuhan. Of these, the first 10 were considered by Mr. Bell to have passed into British possession from the Marahas in 1803, and were at once adjudged to the English Government. Sirsa, Raniya and Fatehabad required subsequent reconquest from the Bhattis, and the question of the right to these was to be decided according to the status of 1810 and 1818. Bhatner never came under British rule, and was not included in the present controversy. It now forms an integral portion of Rajputana. Safidon and Dhatrat had been made over to Bhag Singh of Jind by the Marahas, and were accordingly adjudged to that State. Jamalpur, Tuhana and Kassuhan, together with the forts of Badriki and Kanhauri, alone remained for adjudication. Of districts affected by the conquest of 1803, Kassuhan originally belonged to Patiala. It was wrested from him by George Thomas in 1798, and from George Thomas in turn by General Perron in 1802; but on the cessation of hostilities, was again made over to Patiala. This tract was accordingly adjudged to Patiala. A strip of country adjoining Kassuhan, and known as the Gorakpur *ilaka*, which had been in turn held by Thomas and Bourquin, and had in 1803 been made over to three chiefs by the British, was claimed by the Raja of Patiala, on the strength of four letters from General Perron ordering it to be made over to him. As, however, there was no evidence of a transfer of possession from Bourquin to Patiala, Mr. Bell rejected the claim. The forts of Badrikri and Kanhauri were adjudged to Patiala, on the same grounds as the Kassuhan district. Jamalpur and Tuhana were in the possession of Patiala at the time of Mr. Bell's investigation, but it was clear that that State could not have acquired possession prior to 1809, for they were in the hands of the Marahas in 1803, and the Bhattis held territory till 1809, which intervened between them and the Patiala frontier. These Mr. Bell adjudged to the English Government. Tuhana is included in the present Barwala *tahsil*.

There remained for consideration the effect of the reconquest of Fatehabad, Sirsa and Raniya in 1870 and 1818. In Fatehabad Mr. Bell found 25 villages in the possession of Patiala and 21 in ' possession of Kaithal. Raja Amar Singh of Patiala had conquered Fatehabad, Sirsa and Raniya from the Bhattis, but the famine of 1783 having completely devastated the country, the Bhattis recovered possession in 1784, and retained it until subdued by the British.

The possession of the Sikh chiefs in Fatehabad dated accordingly, from a period subsequent to the conquest in 1809, and the district was adjudged to the English Government. Sirsa, in the same manner, was in the possession of the Bhattis until 1818, and though in 1836 the whole was in the possession of the Sikh States of Patiala, Kaithal and Nabha, their claims were rejected, except as to four villages. In Raniya, the Sikh possession was ascertained to date from 821, subsequent to the conquest of the Bhattis, and the claims of the Chiefs were absolutely rejected.

This decision having given to the British Government a tract more than hundred miles long and from ten to twenty miles broad, a large part of it, including Sirsa, Raniya and Abohar, was separated from Hisar and formed into a new district, which was administered by an officer bearing the title of Superintendent of Bhattiana, subordinate to the Political Agent at Ambala. The Government, however, while accepting Mr. Bell's conclusions as generally correct, declared itself willing to take a liberal view, of any doubtful points; and the Court of Directors at home, adopting it still more lenient line of argument, sent out directions which. Ultimately led to the re-opening of the whole question. The position taken by the Court of Directors was the less called for by reason of the fact that the Patiala and other Sikh Chiefs had forfeited by their conduct all claim to consideration. The Raja of Patiala had refused to acknowledge the right of Mr. Bell to make enquiries; he had forbidden the cultivators of the disputed villages to give any information as to the time when they were settled: he had thrown every obstacle in Mr. Bell's way, and had thwarted him to the best of his power, The fact was that the Chiefs, being in possession of the whole of the disputed land, could only lose by the enquiry, and they resolved to protract the struggle to the utmost. Mr. Bell. however, received orders to decide on such evidence as he could obtain. He did so, with the results already detailed. But the remonstrances of Patiala had their effect on the Government at home, and on 1st January, 1840, instructions were issued to Mr. Conolly to effect some sort of compromise, not in any way surrendering the principle which had been originally laid down, but pressing it against the Sikhs less rigorously. Mr. Conolly submitted his report in May of the same year. He proposed to give up the most valuable portions of the Hisar district, lying principally in the. Neighborhood of the Ghaggar, and his proposals were accepted by the Government of the Northwest Provinces. The following tabular statement shows the financial result of Mr. Conolly's decision as far as the Hisar district was concerned: _

	No.	Cultivation in acres.	Total area in acres.	Approximate annual value, in Rs.
Villages to be restored ...	119	99,403	272,415	90,000
Villages to be retained ...	147	68,788	255,623	60,000
Total ...	266	168,191	528,038	1,50,000

Mr. Conolly reported also upon the Bhattiana or Sirsa frontier. Here he was inclined to give up forty or fifty villages; but the want of an accurate map prevented him from making definite proposals. The Maharaja of Patiala, though he had obtained so much, still, with characteristic obstinacy, held out, and asserted his right to the whole tract. On receiving, however, a peremptory warning that he must either accept what Mr. Conolly gave or nothing, he came to his senses, and consented to take over the villages assigned to him in Hisar, and was paid their revenue, less 20 per cent. for the cost of management, from the time they had been in English possession. This final transfer was made in 1842. The adjustment of the Bhattiana border was postponed, pending a survey of the country. This being completed, a report, based upon the scheme suggested by Mr. Conolly, was drawn up in 1842, recommending the restoration of 42 villages to Patiala. No action, however, was taken upon this report. The Raja again and again protested against what he considered a deprivation of territory. The Sikh War of 1846, followed by the transfer of the Political Agency to Lahore, and then the second Sikh War and the annexation of the Punjab, combined to postpone a settlement of the question, and it was not until 1856 that final orders were passed. In that and the preceding year the matter was taken up by Mr. G. Barnes, Commissioner of the Cis-Satlaj States, who proposed the restoration of 20 villages only, urging that the offer of 42 villages, made in accordance with Mr. Conolly's proposal, had been rejected by Patiala, and had fallen to the ground. The Punjab Government, however, supported by the Imperial authorities, decided that Mr. Ross Bell's decision having once been re-opened, and Mr. Conolly's award endorsed by the Government, it was necessary to abide by the latter. Government, accordingly, in July 1856, directed 41 villages to be given to the Raja, with arrears of revenue from 1843 to 1856. This arrangement, with the exception of the substitution of a few villages for others, was shortly afterwards carried out. Twenty-six villages were made over by the Superintendent of Bhattiana, and, five villages, yielding a revenue equal to that of the remainder, were transferred by the Bhadaur Sardars, who received as compensation an assignment on the revenues of Government villages. Thus ended this long dispute, memorable on account of its intricacy, and the magnitude of the interests at stake. The origin was in 1803 and its conclusion in 1856, every step being marked by importunity or obstinacy on one side and concession after concession upon the other. The pertinacity of the Sikh almost deserved success and, if the English Government obtained far less than was its clear right, it could at least afford to be magnanimous.

During the early years of British rule the whole of Hariana was managed by "Superintendent," under the orders of the Political Agent at Dehli, who was also Commissioner of the Dehli territory. The first separation of the Dehli territory into districts took place in 1819.* By this arrangement the subdivisions of Hansi and Hisar, together with Sirsa, Rohtak and

* See Delhi Gazetteer.

Panipat (now in Karnal), were included in one district, called the "northern" district (*Zila shimali*). In 1820, Hisar and Hansi, together with Sirsa and the remainder of the present district, except Bhiwani, were constituted into a separate jurisdiction, having its civil headquarters at Hisar. Sirsa was detached in 1837, after Mr. Ross Bell's, adjudication upon the frontier, and placed under a separate officer styled the Superintendent of Bhattiana. In 1861 the district of Hisar attained its present proportions by the addition of the Bhiwani subdivision. Meanwhile the Dehli territory had been transferred to the Punjab, and divided into two divisions, having their head-quarters respectively at Dehli and Hisar. The Hisar division contained at first the districts of Hisar, Rohtak, Sirsa and Jhajjar. The last was, however, soon abolished, part being ceded to the Sikh States and the remainder absorbed into Rohtak.

Chapter II
History
Administrative
arrangements

During the Mutiny, this district, as well as that of Sirsa, was for a time wholly lost to British rule. Up to this time a cantonment had been maintained at Hansi ; and in 1857, soon after the out-break at Dehli, the troops stationed there, consisting principally of a force called the Haryana Light Infantry, threw off their allegiance, and all Europeans were either murdered or driven out as fugitives. Added to this, the Bhattis rose, under their hereditary chiefs, and their example was followed by the greater portion of the Muhammadan population. These wild tribes, reverting to their ancient habits on the removal of the strong hand of English rule, formed plundering bands and ravaged, the country. Before the close of the summer, however, and before the fall of Dehli, a force of Punjab levies, under General Van Cortlandt, crossed the Satlaj, and, being joined by contingents from the chiefs of Bikaner and Patiala, fought and won several actions with the insurgents in Hisar, as well as in Sirsa and Rohtak, dispersed them utterly, and recovered the country to British rule. On the restoration of order, the civil and criminal courts were reopened upon the Punjab system, and the district was administered by Punjab officers. In the following year, with the remainder of the Dehli territory, it was formally annexed to this province.

The Mutiny of
1857

In 1860-61 Hisar suffered, in common with the neighboring districts, from a terrible famine. Little information is available as to details; but it was reported that 192 human beings and 38,000 cattle died of starvations, and that 21,400 souls and 47,500 cattle fled the district. These numbers probably fall far short of the truth.

The famine of
1860-61

The district of Hisar suffered more than any other in the whole province from, the famine of 1869-70, Situated on the border of the Bikaner desert, it shares many of its characteristics. Thus distress was felt here very early, and as early as August, 1868, foreigners from the neighboring independent States came in for food and work. Relief works were sanctioned in October, 1868, when the accounts were already gloomy in the extreme. The *kharif* and grass crop had both entirely failed; the latter more completely than even in 1860-61. The tanks had all dried up, the

The famine of
1869-70

Chapter II
History
The famine of 1869-70

wells in many places had become brackish, and the inhabitants had no choice but to leave their villages and seek food and pasture elsewhere; while the numbers of people flocking in from Rajputana, where affairs were still more gloomy, added to the complication. Government sanctioned advances, first of Rs. 30,000 and then without limit; and private subscriptions were collected to the amount of Rs. 10,000, which was supplemented by a similar grant from Government. In January the local subscriptions, with the Government equivalent, were found sufficient to meet actual requirements. Relief-houses were established, where the infirm received food, cooked or uncooked, and public works were in progress, giving employment to all able-bodied persons who required it. Up to the 20th of February, 106,808 men and 126,970 women and children had received relief, and 80 poor-houses were then open at which food was distributed. During the month of March above 110,000 persons were relieved and about 33,000 were employed, and this average was maintained during the following month; but during May the distress fast increased, the great heat withering up the grass, and the cattle beginning to die in great numbers. Many immigrants from Bikaner again came into the district, and the poor, unable to buy grain, supported themselves on the fruit of the *karil* which was unwholesome when eaten in any quantities, and the berries of the *jail* or *pilu*. But whether the jungle fruits were wholesome or not, they were the means of saving many lives; for this year of famine, the crop of wild fruit was larger than had been ever before remembered, and during the month of June gave food to many thousand people. But the condition of Hisar, in July, became critical in the extreme. The fruit of the *ber*, which had been the chief support of so many, was now exhausted, while the number of immigrants had largely increased, a stream passing through daily from the south, others returning from the neighborhood of Dehli to their homes. The people were losing heart, fodder was almost unprocurable, and wheat rose to 11 or 12 seers the rupee. The rain, which fell so generally during the latter part of July, did very temporary good to Hisar. The weekly number relieved had risen on the 17th of July to 40,000, and the mortality was so severe among the cattle that 118,338 had already died. The state of affairs in August will be seen from the following extract from a letter from the Deputy Commissioner:-

“The district is exposed to the first shock of the migration of the starving population of the Rajputana States. considering then that, being always poor, we have no resources left unused that there will have been no harvest for two years; that for all practical purposes cattle no longer exist in the district ; and that we are being inundated a flood of paupers from Bikaner, Jaipur, and other States, the calculation which gives three-quarters of the people of the district as the number which will have to be fed by Government, if they are not to starve, does not seem incorrect. Indeed, in saying that one-fourth of the population can do without aid, it is only on the supposition that the canal authorities will afford a reasonable supply of water to the district. It appears then that, in case the *kharif* fails, there will be some 350,000 people. to whom relief must be given. It is in vain to expect that every exertion possible can prevent a fearful mortality. The people are so reduced by

starvation and want that their bodies are almost rotten; the least blow brings on a festering sore. To use physical force to such is impossible. Many of them are so wild with hunger, and others wish to get more than their share by scrambling, that orders to keep quiet and to wait till the turn of each person comes are quite unheeded, and as soon as the food is brought, a general rush takes place, and the people shove and scramble like so many wild beasts. "

Early in September a little rain fell, but prices still rose, wheat selling at 8 ½ seers per rupee; and during the last week of August and the first of September 125,710 persons received relief. But about the 7th of September the abundant rain, so long withheld, fell at last. The worst was now over. The immigrants began to move homewards; the number receiving relief fell to 35,939 during the last week of October, and a final grant of Rs. 4,500 on the 29th of November closed the accounts of the Central Relief Committee with this district, to which it had sent during the year Rs. 35,500. It is said that 300,000 cattle died during this famine in the two districts of Sirsa and Hisar.

The record of district officers before the year 1867 is not forthcoming. Since then the following officers have held charge of the district:

Colonel T. F. Forster, 1867-80; Mr. M. Macauliffe, 1880-81 ; Major W. G. Parker, March to October 1881 ; Mr. Ogilvie, October 1881, to date.

Some conception of the development of the district since it came into our hands may be gathered from Table No. II, which gives some of the leading statistics for five-yearly periods, so far as they are available; while most of the other tables appended to this work give comparative figures for the last few years. In the case of Table No. II it is probable that the figures are not always strictly comparable, their basis not being the same in all cases from one period to another. But the figures may be accepted as showing in general terms the nature and extent of the advance made.

Chapter II
History
The famine of 1869-70

Deputy commissioners
annexation

Development since annexation

CHAPTER III

THE PEOPLE

SECTION A.--STATISTICAL.

Chapter III, A
Statistical
Distribution of population

Table No. V gives separate statistics for each tahsil and for the whole district, of the distribution of population over towns and villages, over area, and among houses and families; while the number of houses in each town is shown in Table No. XLIII. The statistics for the district as a whole give the following figures. Further information will be found in Chapter II of the Census Report of 1881:---

Percentage of total population who live in villages	{	Persons	...	...	84.90
		Males	...	...	85.23
		Females	...	...	84.51
Average rural population per village	{	...	...	...	686
Average total population per village and town		...	...	...	799
Number of villages per 100 square miles		...	...	...	18
Average distance from village to village, in miles		...	...	...	2.53
Density of population per square mile of	{	Total area	{	Total population	143
				Rural population	121
	Cultivated area	{	Total population	278	
			Rural population	236	
			Total population	154	
			Rural population	131	
Culturable area	{	Village	1.47		
		Town	1.50		
Number of resident families per occupied house		Village	...	...	7.03
Number of persons per occupied house	{	Towns	...	...	6.22
		Villages	...	...	4.79
Number of persons per resident family	{	Towns	...	...	4.16

Migration and birth place of
population

Table No. VI shows the principal districts and States with which the district has exchanged population, the number of migrants in each direction, and the distribution of immigrants by tahsils. Further details will be found in Table No. XI and in supplementary Tables C. to H. of the Census Report on 1881, while the whole subject is discussed at length in Part II of Chapter III of the same report. The total gain and loss to the district by migration is shown in the margin. The total number of residents

Proportion per mille of total population		
	Gain	Loss
Persons	224	136
Males	229	92
females	188	188

Born out of the district is 112,874 of whom 62,420 are males and 50,474 females. The number of people born in the district and living in other parts of the Punjab is 68,706 of whom 25,105 are males and 43,601 females. The figures given on the opposite page show the general distribution of the population by birth-place.

BORN IN	PROPORTION PER MILLE OF RESIDENT POPULATION								
	Rural population.			Urban population.			Total Population.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
The district	777	801	788	734	686	711	772	782	776
The province	855	927	888	871	861	868	857	917	885
India	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Asia	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000

Chapter III,A.

Statistical
 Migration and birth.
 Place of population.

The following remarks on the migration to and from Hisar are taken from the Census Report: _ .

" The only tracts besides Rohtak which march with Hisar are the Native States, "Rajputana, and Sirsa. From the two first ,it has received a large surplus of population, which is a natural result of the introduction of canal irrigation and the great development of the Hisar district under our rule. The Sirsa district, however, has practically been populated since we received it , and here the movement of population has been in the other direction. Hisar lies between the fertile districts of Karnal and Rohtak on the east, and the far less fertile Native States and Rajputana on the other three sides, and it has given to the former and taken from the latter. The low proportion of males shows that the 'migration in the case of Rohtak and Karnal is chiefly , reciprocal. The same test shows that the emigration, except to Sirsa, is largely of the same type. The moderate proportion of males (neither as high as in temporary nor as low as in reciprocal migration) among the immigrants from Sirsa, the Native States and Rajputana, and the emigrants to Sirsa, shows how largely these movements are permanent. A part of the movement eastwards was probably due to drought which drove the cattle towards the river and canal in search of pasture. Much of the immigration dates from the famine of *Sambat* 1840, when a large portion of the district was almost wholly deserted by its inhabitants."-

The tide of immigration to which the district owes its population has now ceased, all available land having been taken up. But in seasons of drought and scarcity, and these are all too frequent, numbers of the poorer classes from beyond the border :flock into British territory in search of food and employment. With the return of prosperous seasons, however, they find their way back to their homes in Bikaner. As a counterpoise to these immigrations in years of scarcity, numbers of the poor, principally Chamars, Pachchadas and Ahirs, migrate from the district towards Dehli, Ambala and the Satlaj, in search of employment. But instead of remaining, as a few years ago they would have done, in any place where they might find work, they have now become more settled and sufficiently wedded by ties of association to their homes, to return again as soon as a good season gives a prospect of better times.

The figures in the statement given at the top of the next Increase and lie page show the Population of the district as it stood at the three enumerations of 1853, 1868, and 1881. The first of these was-

Increase and
decrease of
population

Chapter III, A
Statistical
Increase and decrease of
population

	Census.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Density per square mile.
Actuals.	1853 ...	330,852	183,211	147,641	100
	1868 ...	484,681	266,847	217,834	137
	1881 ...	504,183	272,267	231,916	143
Percentage- ges.	1868 on 1853	146.5	145.7	147.5	137
	1881 on 1868	104.0	102.0	106.5	105

Unfortunately the boundaries of the district have changed so much since the Census of 1853 that it is impossible to make a really accurate comparison. The area has increased since that date, and the real increase in population is smaller than would appear from the figures. It will be seen that the annual increase of population per 10,000 since 1868 has been 15 for males, 48 for females, and 30 for persons, at which rate the male population would be doubled in 448.3 years, the female in 143.8 years, and the total population in 228.4 years. Supposing the same rate of increase to hold good for the next ten years, the population for each year

would be, in hundreds-							
Year.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Year.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1881	504,2	272,3	231,9	1887	513,5	274,8	238,7
1882	505,7	272,7	233,0	1888	515,0	275,2	239,9
1883	507,3	273,1	234,2	1889	516,6	275,7	241,0
1884	508,8	273,5	235,3	1890	518,1	276,0	242,2
1885	510,3	273,9	236,4	1891	519,7	276,5	243,4
1886	511,9	274,4	237,6				

But it is Probable that the rate of increase will be higher than this, as the Census of 1881 was taken at the end of a period of distress which had reduced the population not only by impairing the fecundity of the people, but also by driving them to move elsewhere in search of pasture or employment. The increase in urban population since 1868 has been smaller than that in rural population, the numbers living in 1881 for every 100 living in 1868 being 102 for urban and 104 for total population. This is probably due to the attractions of the mercantile population to the line of railway. The populations of individual towns at the respective enumerations Are shown under their several headings in Chapter VI. Within the district the increase

Tahsil	Total population		Percentage of population of 1881 on that of 1868.
	1868	1881	
Hisar	107,442	98,106	92
Hansi	126,404	130,614	103
Bhiwani	104,170	103,556	99
Barwala	66,266	78,549	118
Fatehabad	80,466	93,358	116
Total district*	484,748	504,183	104

of population since 1868 for the various tahsils is shown in the margin. On this subject the Deputy Commissioner wrote as follows in his report on the District Census of 1881:---

*These figure do not agree with the published figures of the Census Report of 1868 for the whole district. They are taken from the registers in the district office, and are the best figures now available.

“In the Hisar tahsil there is a decrease of 9,336, which is attributed partly to the large number of deaths from cholera, which occurred in 1879, and partly to the fact of numbers of people having emigrated in consequence of successive dry seasons. In the Bhiwani *tahsil* there is a decrease of 614, which is not of sufficient importance to need remark. In the Hansi *tahsil* there is an increase in the population of 4,210, which is also comparatively unimportant. In Fatehabad and Barwala *tahsils* there is an increase of 12,892 and 12,283 respectively, which is attributed to extensive immigration from Bikaner and Patiala territory, and to a considerable increase in the cultivated area. There has been no alteration in the boundaries of the district or of any of the tahsil since 1868.”

Chapter III, A.
Statistical
Increase and decrease of
population

Table No. XI shows the total number of births and deaths registered in the district for the five years, from 1877 to 1881, and the births for 1880 and 1881—the only two years during which births have been recorded in rural districts. The distribution of the total deaths

Births and deaths

	1880.	1881.
Males	18	21
Females	14	18

and of the deaths from fever for These five years over the twelve months of the Year is shown in Tables Nos. XIA and XIB. The annual birth-rates per mille, calculated on the population of 1868 are shown in the margin.

The figures below show the annual death-rates per mille since 1868 calculated on the population of that year: ---

	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	Average
Males	9	25	15	19	16	12	17	18	12	12	25	41	21	27	19
Females	8	22	14	18	16	12	16	18	12	12	24	43	20	26	19
Persons	9	24	15	19	16	12	16	18	12	12	25	42	20	27	19

The registration is still imperfect, though it is yearly improving; but the figures always fall short of the facts, and the fluctuations probably correspond, allowing for a regular increase due to improved registration, fairly closely with the actual fluctuations in the births and deaths. The historical retrospect which forms the first part of Chapter III of the Census Report of 1881, and especially the annual chronicle from 1849 to 1881, which will be found at page 56 of that report, throw some light on the fluctuations. Such further details as to birth and death-rates in individual towns as are available will be found in Table No. XLIV, and under the headings of the several towns in Chapter VI.

The figures for age, sex and civil condition are given in great detail in Tables Nos. IV to VII of the Census Report of 1881; while the numbers of the sexes for each religion will be found in Table No. VII appended to the present work. The age statistics must be taken subject to limitations, which will be found fully discussed in Chapter VII of the Census Report. Their value rapidly diminishes as the numbers dealt with become smaller; and it is unnecessary here to give actual figures, or any statistics for *tahsils*. The figures given on the next page show the distribution by age of every 10,000 of the population according to the Census figures.

Age, sex and civil
condition

Chapter III.A.
Statistical.
Age, sex and
Civil condition.

	0--1	1--2	2--3	3--4	4--5	0--5	5--10	10-15	15--20
Persons ...	347	221	195	270	284	1,317	1,258	1,110	903
Males ...	328	205	181	247	273	1,234	1,247	1,164	960
Females ...	369	240	210	297	297	1,271	1,271	1,047	836
	20--25	25--30	30--35	35--40	40--45	45--50	50--55	55--60	Over60
Persons ...	1,013	851	855	468	686	319	519	163	538
Males ...	1,007	866	830	484	643	353	520	187	505
Females ...	1,020	834	884	449	737	280	517	135	577

The number of males among every 10,000 of both sexes is shown in the margin. The decrease at each successive enumeration is almost certainly due to greater accuracy of enumeration. In the Census of 1881, the number of females per 1,000 males in the earlier years of life was found to be as shown in the margin.

Populations.	Village	Towns.	Totals
1855	...	...	5,530
All religions... 1868	...	...	5,506
1881	5,421	5,282	5,400
Hindus ... 1881	5,431	5,308	5,414
Sikhs ... 1881	5,665	5,408	5,547
Jains ... 1881	5,300	4,862	5,090

The figures for civil condition are given in Table No. X, which shows the actual number of single, married and widowed for each sex in each religion, and also the distribution by civil condition of the total number of each sex in each age-period. The Deputy Commissioner wrote as follows in his Census Report for the district:---

condition of the total

Year of Life	All religions.	Hindus.	Musal-Mans.
0.1	957	938	1,020
1.2	998	997	1,000
2.3	986	970	1,037
3.4	1,026	...	...
4.5	925	...	...

“ The considerable number of single adult males is due to the fact that the lower castes, such as Jats, Gujars, Ahirs, &c., are poor; and as it is customary among those castes for the parents of

the girl to require the payment of a considerable sum of money by the bridegroom before a marriage can be effected, it is necessary that a man should acquire the means of paying for his wife before he can afford to marry, and hence marriage amongst these classes is either put off to a late age, or the men remain unmarried; while husbands are found for the women amongst the more wealthy people of neighbouring States. The castes among which *karewa* is permitted are the Jats, Vishnois, Kahars, Gujars, Ahirs, Malis, Dogars, Rains and Luhars, and these classes usually marry at a mature age. Among these castes too, it is customary to take money for the daughters, while the Rajputs, on the other hand, give large presents of clothes and jewelry with their daughters. The Vishnois differ from the others as regards *karewa* marriages, in that, such marriages can only be contracted with a woman of the same caste, whereas amongst the other castes named above, *karewa* marriages may be contracted with a stranger, should there not be a woman of the same caste available.”

Table No. XII shows the number of insane, blind, deaf-mutes, and lepers in the

Infirmity.	Males.	Females.
Insane ...	4	3
Blind ...	48	59
Deaf and dumb	9	6
Leprous ..	5	...

district for each religion. The proportions per 10,000 of either sex for each of these infirmities are shown in the margin. Tables Nos. XIV to XVII of the Census Report for 1881 give further details of the age and religion of the infirm.

Chapter III, B.

Religious and
Social Life.

Infirmities.

The figures given below show the composition of the Christian population and the respective numbers who returned their birthplace and their language as European. They are taken from Tables Nos. IIIA, IX, and XI, of the Census Report for 1881:--

European and Eurasian population

Details.		Males.	Female s.	Persons
Races of Christian population	Europeans and Americans ...	25	16	41
	Eurasians ...	4	4	8
	Native Christians ...	5	1	6
	Total Christians ...	34	21	55
Language.	English ...	31	20	51
	Other European languages ...	..	..	...
	Total European languages ...	31	20	51
Birth- place.	British Isles	7	5	12
	Other European countries ...	1	...	1
	Total European countries ...	8	5	13

But the figures for the races of Christians, which are discussed in Part VII of Chapter IV of the Census Report, are very untrustworthy; and it is certain that many who were really Eurasians returned themselves as Europeans.

SECTION B.- RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL LIFE

The dwellings of the country people, as elsewhere, are mere hovels, built generally of mud ; where the soil is not of sufficient consistency for building purposes, a few thatched poles, often without doors, form the only semblance of a house in a native village. The shop-keepers' houses are, as a rule, somewhat superior. In the houses of the poorer classes, a bed (*charpai*) or two, and a few earthen vessels, form the sole furniture. The better class of peasant proprietor and the village shop-keeper will own a few vessels of brass or copper, but with this exception there will not be found any very great differences in the style of furniture. Houses divided into separate rooms are very rare.

houses

Chapter III, B
Religious and
Social Life
Dress

Food

The only peculiarity worthy of note in the dress of the people of the district is, the winter raiment of the Bishnoi women which consists of a woollen wrap or *Orhna* which covers the head and falls below the knee, a boddice or *angarkha* of cotton cloth, and a woollen petticoat caned *dhubla*

The staple food of the district is spiked millet (*bajra*) and *moth*. These, in ordinary years, form almost the sale food of the rustic population, except in the canal villages, where wheat and rice are grown. Here even the coarser grains are more commonly consumed by the people themselves, the better kinds being taken to the market. The towns-people, too, and the better class of shop-keepers eat wheat. Vegetables form an important article in the people's diet, while sugar and *ghi* (clarified butter) are retained for great occasions, and only indulged in as a treat. The ordinary time for eating is at about nine or ten in the morning and eight or nine at night but there can scarcely be said to be any fixed rule, for the men working in the fields often refresh themselves at odd hours, or take their food whenever they find it most convenient with regard to the exigencies find it most convenient with regard to the exigencies of their daily toil. In a note

Grain.	Agriculturists.	Non-agri- culturists.
	Seers.	Seers.
<i>Bajra</i> ...	1,275	354
<i>Moth</i> ...	255	...
<i>Wheat</i>...	...	237
<i>Gram</i> ...	...	118
<i>Ming</i> ...	...	158
<i>Urd</i> ...	...	78
<i>Total</i> .	1,530	945

regarding the food of the people furnished by the district authorities for the Famine Report of 1879, the average annual consumption of food-grains by a family consisting of a man and wife, two children, and an old person, was estimated to be as shown in the margin.

General statistics
and distribution of
religious

Table No. VII shows the numbers in each tahsil and in the whole district who follow each religion, as ascertained in the Census of 1881, and Table no. XLIII gives similar figures for towns. Tablws Nos. III, IIIA, IIIB of the Report of that Census give further details on the subject. The distribution of every 10,000 of

Religion.	Rural. Population.	Urban population.	Total population.
Hindu	7,707	7,153	7,624
Sikh	40	187	62
Jain	38	195	62
Musalman	2,215	2,459	2,251
Christian	...	6	1

the population by religions is shown in the margin. The limitations subject to which these figures must be taken, and especially the rule followed in the classification of Hindus, are fully discussed in

Part I, Chapter IV, of the Census Report. The distribution of every 1,000 of the

Sect.	Rural population	Total population.
Sunnis ...	998	998
Shiahs ...	0.3	0.3
Other and unspecified	2.2	1.8

Musalman population by sect is shown in the margin. The sects of the Christian population are given in Table No. IIIA of

the Census Report ; but the figures are, for reasons explained in

Part VII, Chapter IV, of the Report, so very imperfect that it is not worth while to reproduce them here. Table No. IX shows the Religious and religion of the major castes and tribes of the district, and therefore the distribution by caste of the great majority of the followers of each religion. A brief description of the great religions of the Punjab and of their principal sects will be found in Chapter IV of the Census Report. The religious practice and belief of the district present no special peculiarities; and it would be out of place to enter here into any disquisition on the general question. The general distribution of religions by *tahsils*, can be gathered from the figures of Table No. VII; and regarding the Population as a whole, no more detailed information as to locality is available. The Muhammadans are chiefly found in the Fatehabad and Barwala *tahsils*, where they form more than a third of the whole population.

The Hindu gods most worshipped appear to be Vishnu, Mahadeo, Durga, Ganesh and Sitla; while among the inferior deities, Hanuman comes in for a large share of adoration. He is especially worshipped at Bhiwani. But perhaps the greatest favourites are Guga Pir and the frontier saint Sakhi Sarwar Sultan, who is largely worshipped especially near Fatehabad, under the name of Lakhdada. Both these, though Muhammadan saints, are extensively revered by Hindus and Musalmans alike. The month especially sacred to Guga Pir' is that of Bhadon (August and September). A branch of peacock's feathers bound upon a *pole* forms the object of adoration at fairs held in his honour. Sir Henry Elliot gives an interesting account of this saint, from which the following is abridged :---

" The local tradition respecting him is that he was the son of a Chauhan Rajput, called Vacha, according to some; according to others, Jewar, whose wife Bachal, a Tuar, produced him, after being long barren, at the kind intercession of Gorakhnath. There is a clan of Musalman Chauhans even now resident in the neighborhood of his tomb; the Gugawats of the desert are descended from him, and the Gugadeo-ka-thal is called after his name. His territory extended from Hansi to the Garra (Ghara), and his capital was Mehera on that river. In a quarrel about land he killed his two brothers, on which account he drew down upon himself the anger of his mother. To escape here imprecations, he fled to the jangals, and there wished that the earth might open and swallow him up, but a voice from heaven declared that he could not have the satisfaction of being buried alive, horse and all, unless he uttered the *kalema* and became a Musalman. He appears to have had no difficulty in doing this, upon which the earth opened before him, and he leaped into its bosom. His claims to saintship are not very distinct. He is said to have been contemporary of Pirthi Raja, and to have fought with desperate valour against the Muhammadans; but there is more reason to suppose that he must have contended with the earlier Ghaznvide monarchs, for several favorite ballads relate how he fell with his forty-five sons and sixty nephews, opposing the great Mahmud on the banks of the Garra. In the eastern portion of these provinces (the North-West Provinces), where distance overcomes the zeal for pilgrimage, it is usual for the Bhangis to carry round the sacred symbols of the Pir in the month of Bhadon,

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and to raise contributions. The Aggarwala Baniyas are particularly sought after on this occasion. Their original emigration from Agroha, beyond Hariana, was no doubt once considered a sufficient reason why the symbols of their illustrious countryman, Guga, should be paraded before their eyes. But perhaps few in these times have ever thought why the Aggarwalas are supposed to be, more than any other class, especially favorable to Guga, and the present continuance of the ceremony on the return of the proper season, after all knowledge of its origin has utterly faded from remembrance, shows the marvelous permanence which usages, in themselves puerile, will sometimes attain' when they are commemorative of an historical fact."

Religious gathering

The goddess Devi is worshipped most commonly under the name of sitla, or small-pox. Her shrines are found everywhere throughout the district, and are visited with the hope of averting small-pox. The principal shrine is at Dhanana, about 15 miles south of the town of Hansi. From 1,000 to 1,500 persons attend a yearly fair at this place in the month of Chait (March-April), 'The Bishnois are separately described below (pages 37, 38).

The religious gatherings of the district are numerous, but none are frequented by strangers from a distance. Some have been already alluded to. Of the others only the following require notice:-At Hansi there is a fair known as *Kutub Shah ka Mela*, held in the month of San wan . (July-August), and another, called *Miran Sahib ka Mela*, held in the month of Chait (March-April), but the concourse of people is not large. A fair called *Devi ka Mela* is held half-yearly in the villages of Banbhauri, Umra and Deosar. At Dhamina, a *Silla Mela* in honor of Devi Sitla (smallpox) is held once a year in the month of Chait (March-April); and at Karmara in the Fatehabad *tahsil* a fair called *Sheoratri ka Mela* is held in Phagan (February-March). At this gathering Mahadeo is the object of worship. The fair is said to date from the time of Yudishtara. The present temple was erected in 1824 by one Hari Singh of Patiala.

Language

Table No. VIII shows the numbers who speak each of the principal languages current in the district separately for each *tahsil* and for the whole district. More detailed information will be found in Table No. IX of the Census Report for 1881 ; while in Chapter V of the same report the several languages are briefly

Language.	Proportion per 10,000 of population.
Hindustani	7,849
Bagri	1,107
Punjabi	1,042

discussed. The figures in the margin give the distribution of every 10,000 of the population by language, omitting small figures. Punjabi is spoken chiefly in the north and Bagri in the South of the district.

Education

Table No. XIII gives statistics of education as ascertained. at the Census of 1881 for each religion and for the total population of each *tahsil*. The figures for female education are probably very

Males	Education.	Rural population.	Total population.
	Under instruction	33	63
Can read and write	256	386	
Females.	Under instruction	0.5	1.1
	Can read and write	0.8	2.2

Imperfect indeed. The figures in the margin show the number educated among every 10,000 of each sex according to the Census returns. Statistics regarding the attendance at Government and aided schools will be found in Table No. XXXVII.

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Education

Details.	Boys.	Girls.
Europeans and Eurasians
Native Christians	1	...
Hindus	695	...
Musalmans	249	...
Sikhs ... ..	...	...
Others ... ..	...	...
Children of agriculturists	600	...
„ of non-agriculturists	345	...

The distribution of the scholars at these schools by religion and the occupation of their fathers, as it stood in 1881-82, is shown in the margin.

It is impossible to form any satisfactory estimate of the wealth of the commercial

Assessment.	1869-70	1870-71	1871-72
Class I. Number taxed	643	530	387
Class I. Amount of tax	6,307	10,335	3,130
Class II. Number taxed	175	112	187
Class II. Amount of tax	3,571	3,024	2,422
Class I.II Number taxed	48	111	48
Class I.II Amount of tax	2,581	4,329	1,493
Class I.V Number taxed	5	44	3
Class I.V Amount of tax	1,258	2,376	427
Class V. Number taxed	1	49	1
Class V. Amount of tax	3,451	4,958	2,423
Class V. Number taxed	872	846	626
Total ... Amount of tax	17,168	25,022	9,895

and industrial classes. The figures in the margin show the working of the income tax for the only three years for which details are available; and Table No. XXXIV gives, statistics for the license tax for each

Poverty or wealth of the people

Year since its imposition. The distribution of licenses granted and fees collected in 1880-81 and 1881-82 between towns of over and villages of under 5,000 souls is shown below:-

	1880-81		1881-82	
	Towns	Villages	Towns	Villages
Number of licences...	293	278	274	273
Amount of fees....	7,465	3,540	5,835	3,505

But the numbers affected by these taxes are small. It may be said generally that a very large proportion of the artisans in the towns are extremely poor, while their fellows in the villages era

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Poverty or wealth
Of the people

scarcely legs depended: upon, the nature of the harvest than are the agriculturists themselves, their, fees often taking the form of a fixed share of the produce; while even where this is not the case, the demand for their products necessarily varies with the prosperity of their customers. Perhaps the leather-workers should be excepted, as they derive considerable gains from the hides of the cattle which die in a year of drought. The circumstances of the agricultural classes are discussed below at pages 44, 45. It is estimated that the ordinary household expenditure of a peasant family in easy circumstances averages from Rs. 8 to 10 per month, while that of a shop-keeper would be as much as Rs. 15 or 20. The ordinary peasant is certainly not so well off as the small shopkeeper, who generally manages to turn a monthly profit at least equal to his expenditure of Rs. 20; while if he is rich enough to turn moneylender, even on the smallest scale, his profits are considerable. It is estimated that in Chak Bagar it would require a holding of 60 acres, or in the Haryana and Nali Chak a holding of 30 acres, to bring in a net income of Rs. 8 to a peasant proprietor. Loans are principally conducted through the village *baniyas*, each of whom has his circle of clients in his own and a few neighbouring villages. The rates of interest vary from 12 per cent. per annual to an per cent. It is always calculated monthly. The peasantry are reported to be much in debt.

SECTION C. ----TRIBES AND CASTES.

Statistics and local
distribution of tribes
and castes

Table No. IX gives the figures for the principal castes and tribes of the district, with details of sex and religion; while Table No. IXA shows the number of the less important castes. It would be out of place to attempt a description of each. Many of them are found all over the Punjab, and most of them in many other districts, and their representatives in Hisar are distinguished by no local peculiarities. Some of the leading tribes, and especially those who are important as landowners or by position and influence, are briefly noticed in the following sections; and each caste will be found described in Chapter VI of the Census Report for 1881. The Census statistics of caste were not compiled for *tahsils*, at least in their final form. It was found that an enormous number of mere clans or sub-divisions had been returned as castes in the schedules, and the classification of these figures under the main heads shown in the caste tables was made for districts only. Thus no statistics showing the local distribution of the tribes and castes are available. The annexed table, taken from the Settlement Report of 1864, shows the distribution of proprietary right throughout the district among the various tribes, as well as the amount and proportion of revenue paid by each.

No.	TRIBE.	No. of villages belonging to			Revenue.			Per cent.		REMARKS.
		Pure tribes.	Mixed tribes.	Total.	Pure tribes.	Mixed Tribes.	Total	Villages.	Revenue.	
1	Rajput	59	44	103	37,707	42,635	80,342	15	19	58 Muhammadan & 45 Hindu Villages. 5 do. The rest do. All Muhammadan, All Hindu. Ditto. Skinner estate cillages. All Hindu. Ditto. Ditto. 3 Muhamadan & 5 Hindu. 1 do. & 3 do. Hindu. Ditto. Muhammadan. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Ditto. Different tribes who are Sukhlambars. *
2	Jat	141	169	310	62,569	1,56,831	2,10,400	48	51	
3	Pachhada	19	11	30	7,914	6,797	14,711	5	4	
4	Bania	27	10	37	10,459	6,048	16,502	6	4	
5	Vishnoi	8	2	10	3,725	1,160	4,885	1	1	
6	Christian	67	1	68	43,520	33	43,553	10	10	
7										
8	Brahman	10	5	15	4,275	2,091	6,366	2	1	
9	Khatri	2	..	2	440	..	440	..	..
10	Gushain	1	1	2	380	530	910	..	..
11	Gujar	6	2	8	2,435	675	8,110	1	1	
12										
13	Kumhar	1	3	4	280	1,270	1,550	1	..	
14	Kamboh	..	1	1	..	85	85	..	..
15	Mali	1	..	1	200	..	200	..	..
16	Rain	3	1	4	2,250	250	2,500	1	..	
17	Dogar	3	4	7	750	5,701	6,451	1	1	
18	Saiyad	3	2	5	620	3,460	4,080	1	1	
19	Shaikh	1	3	4	660	1,295	1,955	1	..	
20	Mughal	..	3	3	..	11,290	11,290	..	3	
	Pathan	14	2	16	4,320	2,800	7,120	2	2	
	Sukhlambars	29	..	29	5,794	..	5,794	5	2	
	Total	395	264	659	1,88,298	2,42,946	4,31,244	..	..

Note.--25 Rohtak villages are also included in this. This shows aU villages and total jama.

The following are the principal Jat tribes, returned in the Census of 1881:--

Baiuiwal	3,726	Sangwan	2,263
Bagri	872	Ghatiwal	2,392
Bhullar	1,571	Gondal	1,437
Pawania.	7,278	Naiu	1,074
ChAhi.l	1,377	SOlan	4,590
Chauhan	677	Killarwan	3,004
Dallal	1,531	GodAra	2,531
Sahrawat	617	Mor	1,249
Sidhu	916	Duhin	1,784

The Jats of Hisar are of two distinct classes--the Deswala or Desi Jats and the Bagri Jats. These classes are included in the Census returns without distinction. The Bagri Jats. They derive their name from the tract known as Bagar, just beyond the border in Bikaner. appear at one time, according to Sir R. Elliot's Glossary, to have been a "tribe of great consideration, as we find "a Bagri Rao mentioned by Chand Bardai as accompanying" Pirthi Raja. They seem to have been originally Rajputs, but are "now held to be an inferior tribe, and are usually denominated "Jats." The Bagris are found in the greatest numbers in the western portions of the district, to which they flocked in numbers to take up the lands left deserted after the *chalisa* famine, as soon as the extension of British rule rendered colonization secure. They are good and careful agriculturalists, and make the utmost possible use of the scanty advantages afforded by the inhospitable lands in which their lot is cast. Only a few families have enigrated into the Hansi and Barwala *tahsils* as proprietors, but

*For an account of this tenure, see pp. 39,40.

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Jats

as tenants they are not unfrequently met with. The Deswala Jats are to be found principally in the eastern portion of the district, in the *tahsils* of Hansi and Barwala. These parts having been less affected by the famine of *san chalisa*, the old proprietary body held their own, clinging through everything to their ancestral lands. The Bagri immigration did not extend, therefore, to this part of the district, and such new settlers as there are were chiefly immigrants from the Sikh States: These Jats, like all their tribe, are hard-working and industrious; they are cultivators *par excellence*. Men and women alike devote themselves to field labour with the most unremitting ardour, the women yielding only to their husbands in such work as involves the employment of bullocks, such as ploughing or drawing water; for they look upon it as improper for a woman to drive a bullock. Most of them are Hindus or Sikhs. The Deswala and Bagri Jats, between them hold 310 villages in the district out of a total number of 659, and pay 51 per cent of the total land revenue.

Rajputs

The following are the principal Rajput tribes, returned at the Census of 1881:-

Bhatti	3,775	Jatu	4,074
Bagri	5,647	Chauhan	6,910
Punwar	4,301	Raghbaasi	1,615
Tunwar	6,102	Sar'oya	1,350
Joya	1,533	Sakra	1,705

The classification of Rajput tribes in this part of the country is somewhat confused by a peculiar local use of the word Ranghar. Properly speaking, the term denotes Rajputs who have been converted to Muhammadanism. In Hisar, however, the name is applied indiscriminately to all Rajputs, both Hindu and Muhammadan.* It is so used in the Settlement Report of 1840, from which one who did not know this peculiar use of the word would gather that the whole Rajput population belonged to a particular tribe named Ranghar, the truth being that the term locally includes all Rajputs alike irrespective of tribal divisions. The officer who conducted the settlement of land revenue in 1860, himself a native, classifies the Rajputs of the district into two main divisions—Tunwars and Bhattis. There are, he says, other Rajput classes to be met with in a few villages, but all are more or less connected with these two classes. The Tunwar Rajputs apparently once held the whole western portion of the district from Bhiwani to Agroha, and had extended their possessions as far south as Kanaund. The present representatives of the clan boast of a time when their ancestors were owners of 1,440 villages; now, however, in all this tract they retain possession of only five or six villages, having been driven from their homes by the *chalisa* famine, and supplanted by the immigration of Bagri Jats from the west. Some members of the tribe acquired in former days the titles of Rai and Rana, and during the Mutiny of 1857 the holders of these titles at once revived their pretensions and declared their independence. In the eastern portion of the district the Tunwars held their own throughout

*The term Ranghar never denotes any particular tribe. See Races, North. "West Provinces (Beame's), 1. p. 4.

the famine. The Rajput of Hisar is described as indolent, and extravagant in his habits. He makes a good soldier, but a most indifferent cultivator, while his real *forte* lies in cattle-lifting

The Bhatti Rajputs are of the Yadubansi stock, and trace their descent from the same Jaisal who is the ancestor, by a left-handed marriage, of the Jat Sikh Rajas of Patiala, Jind and Nabha. Jaisal is said to be the son of one Rasalu, a descendant of Bhatti, or Bhati, a Gadbaun Rajput, who at some distant period emigrated from Mathra to this part of the country. Jaisal raised himself to a position of some importance, and became the ruler of the city and State of Jaisalmer in Rajputana. He is said, however, to have been expelled from his newly founded State* towards the end of the 12th century, and to have settled in Hariana. His grandson, whose name is variously spelt Jumra or Jandra, had 21 sons, the ancestors of 21 tribes. Among other places, Jandra founded the town of Abohar in Sirsa, and there was born Dhum, the ancestor of the Bhatti chiefs, with whom the English came in contact in 1810 and 1818. About a hundred years after the expulsion of Jaisal from Jaisalmer, in 1285. Bersi, the son or grandson of Dhum, seized the celebrated fort of Bhatner "Whether or no this fort took its name from the Bhatti tribe is a moot point. Native tradition says that the name originally was Bharatner, and that it was founded" by one Raja Bharat. The only reason for preferring to accept this derivation, rather than the more obvious derivation from the Bhattis, is that it is less likely to have been invented. However this may be, there is no doubt that the first Bhatti chieftain who established himself at Bhatner was Bersi. The story is that the fort had been neglected for many years, had fallen to ruin, and was in the hands of some Jat marauders. At length, in the reign of Nasir-ud-din Mahmud (1246-1266) it was restored, as a barrier to the inroads of Afghan and other invaders; the fort of Batinda, 40 miles to the north-east, and now in Patiala territory, being restored at the same time. At this period Zangez Khan was in charge of the *Suba* of Lahaur. He was assassinated by order of Ghayas-ud-din Balban, who succeeded Nasir-ud-din on the throne of Dehli; and it was in the confusion that followed that Bersi succeeded in occupying the fort of Bhatner. The fate of Bersi is variously narrated. Sir Henry Elliot's Glossary relates that the son of Bersi was, after his father's death, compelled to sustain three several attacks of the Muhammadans, and on the third occasion was reduced to such straits as to be obliged to consent to conversion as the condition of retaining his conquest. On the other hand, the Settlement Officer of the district relates most circumstantially that Bersi held the fort till 1331, when a force being sent against him from Dehli, his sons took part against him and caused him to be assassinated. One of these sons, by name Bhairu, curried favour by becoming a Musalman, and was left in charge of the fort, Bhairu's 'descendants for four generations continued to hold Bhatner; but at last Fateh Khan, the reigning chief, becoming turbulent, was expelled by a force sent for his reduction by Bahlol Lodi, whose reign commenced in 1450. The Bhatti rule

* Another account relates that the present rulers of Jaisalmer are descendants of this same jaisal.

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The Bhattis

at Bhatner thus lasted for about 160 years. Fateh Khan, after his expulsion, retired in the direction of Sirsa, and betook himself to agricultural pursuits; nor do his descendants again emerge into notice until the reign of the Emperor Muhammad Shah (1719-1748). In this reign Shahdad Khan, *nazim* of Hariana, married a daughter of Muhammad Hasan Khan and procured the grant of certain estates to his father-in-law. Hasan Khan was succeeded by his son Muhammad Amin Khan and this chief in turn, gaining influence by marrying a daughter to the celebrated Najib-ud-daula, procured the title of Nawab and was appointed *nazim* of Hariana. This was a time of disaster for Hariana. What with the incursions of the Sikhs from abroad, and the internal fights and forays of the Bhattis and other wild tribes, the whole country was devastated until, it is said, only eight inhabited villages existed between Hisar and Sirsa.

Nawab Amin Khan died some years before, the English conquest of the Marahatas in 1803, and was succeeded by his two sons—the Nawabs Kamar-ud-din and Khan Bahadar Khan. After a while these brothers divided the Bhatti territory; Fatehabad fell to Khan Bahadar Khan, and Sirsa and Raniya to Aamar-ud-din. The latter died not long after the separation, and was succeeded by his son Nawab Zabta Khan. The Bhatti chiefs, though nominally becoming subjects of the English Government in 1803, in fact maintained their independence for several years. Khan Bahadar Khan was the first to fall, his territory being confiscated in 1810. He afterwards obtained a life pension of Rs. 1,000 per month, and some representatives of his family who still reside at the village of Majra are recorded as proprietors of two or three villages. Nawab Zabta Khan, by a timely submission, escaped punishment in 1810. His turn, however, came in 1818, when, as has been already related, his estates were confiscated. A pension of Rs. 1,000 per month was granted to him for life, which he held until 1827, when it descended, reduced to Rs. 500, to his son Ghulam Farid Khan. Ghulam Farid died at Raniya in 1847, and his pension was divided; Rs.200 per month were given to his son Mir Samad Khan, and the remainder to other members of the family. In the Mutiny of 1857, however, the spirit of the Bhatti blazed up. Mir Samad Khan proclaimed, himself independent, plundered Sirsa, and made incursions in various directions. After the suppression of the Mutiny, he, together with his uncle, Gauhar Ali Khan, was apprehended. Both were tried and hanged, and the family pension, with the exception of small life stipends to the wife and mother of Mir Samad Khan, was finally confiscated.

The Bhattis of the present day are all Muhammadans. The date of their conversion is differently attributed to the reign of Akbar and the reign of Taimur. The most probable epoch, however, of the change is the conquest of Bhatner in the time of Bersi at the end of the 13th century, as it is clear that either Bersi himself or his son Bhavin accepted the creed of Islam as the price of retaining Bhatner. In character there is little to distinguish the Bhattis from their Rajput neighbours already described.

Together with the Tunwar Rajputs they hold 59 villages in this district.

Another section of the Rajputs of the district is often confused with the Bhattis. These are the Pachhadas or "men of the west." * who are also called Bhattis -as inhabitants of Bhatiana. They have still another name, that of *rath* or "hard-hearted," which they owe to the heartless cruelty of their violence in bygone days when they ravaged the country under Bhatti leaders. The term *pachhada* is purely relative, and in various parts of the Panjab and Northern India is applied to totally different tribes, but always in reference to a western origin, and generally as a distinctive appellation of later immigrants from the west. A very little to the south of Haryana, in the neighborhood of Dehli, the term is extensively applied to later immigrations of Jats. In Hisar, however, the appellation is the peculiar heritage of a degenerate race of Rajputs, distinct on the one hand from the Rajput tribes to which they trace their origin, and on the other hand from the Jats, upon whom they look as social inferiors. There are four principal clans of Pachhadas, named respectively Sukera, Sahu, Hinjraon and Chotia or Bhanka. Each clan claims Rajput origin, the second and fourth from the Chauhan Rajputs, and the first and third respectively from Tunwars and Saroha Rajputs. The Pachhadas are pastoral in their tendencies, and are not good cultivators. Prior to British rule they were professional plunderers, acting usually in concert with the pure-born Bhattis; and on the introduction of order under the British rule, they became cultivators more from necessity than choice. They hold 19 villages in the district. They are said to be all Muhammadans.

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Tribes and Castes
Pachhadas

Another class requiring special mention in the district is that of the Bishnois, a religious sect which took its rise during the 15th century A.D. The legend told of the founder is as follows :-He was born in 1451 at Pipasar in Bikaner, of the family of Punwar Rajputs. When a lad of five years old, he used to take his father's herds to water at the well, and had for each head of cattle a peculiar whistle, which it knew and recognized; at the sound of his whistle, the cows and bullocks would come one by one to the well, drink and go away. One day a man, named Udaji, happened to witness this scene, and, struck with astonishment, attempted to follow the boy when he left the well. He was on horseback and the boy on foot, but, gallop as fast as he would, he could not keep up with the walking pace of the boy. At last, in amazement, he dismounted and threw himself at his feet. The boy at once welcomed him by name, though he then saw him for the first time. The bewildered Udaji exclaimed "*Jambhaji*" (omniscient), and henceforth the boy was known by this name. On attaining manhood, Jambhaji left his home, and, becoming a *fakir*, or religious mendicant, is said to have remained seated upon a sand hill called Samrathal, in Bikaner, for a space of 51 years. In 1485 a fearful famine desolated the country, and Jambhaji gained an enormous number

Bishnois

* The term may be derived either from *pachcham*-the west, or from *pichche*-afterwards.

Chapter III, C.

Tribes and
Castes.
Bishnois

of disciples by providing food for all that would declare their belief in him. He is said to have died on his sand hill, at the good old age of 84, and to have been buried at a spot about a mile distant from it. His tomb remains to this day, and twice in the year is the scene of a well-attended fair. Jambhaji is worshipped by his followers as an incarnation of Vishnu. Their tenets in most points do not materially differ from those of orthodox Hindus. Some peculiarities, however, deserve notice. They do not burn their dead, but bury them in a sitting posture, in the floors of their houses or of the family cattle-shed. They avoid tobacco, considering it unclean, and the mere touch of it polluting. Their marriage ceremony is a curious mixture of Hindu and Muhammadan rites, passages from the Kuran and the Shastars being indiscriminately recited during its progress. They avoid taking life of any sort, and, should any animal be accidentally killed, they bury it. The Bishnois are found also in some numbers in the Sirsa district. Here, in Hisar, they hold 10 villages as proprietors. They are said to be mostly either Jats or Tarkhans (carpenters) by origin. They are good cultivators, and of thrifty, careful habits. They prefer camels to cattle, using them even for agricultural purposes.

Banias

There are 37 villages in the district owned by Banias, but they appear to require no special mention, beyond the fact that the town of Agroha in this district is said to be the original seat of the great Aggarwala sub-division of the Bania caste, to which almost all the Banias of the district belong. The Aggarwalas are said to be descended from one Raja Uggar Sain, the founder of Agroha. On the capture of Agroha by Shahab-ud-din Ghauri, the Aggarwalas emigrated to all parts of India.

Brahmans

The Brahman caste is represented in the district by Gaur' Sarsut and Gujrati Brahmans ; also by a clan locally known as Khandelwals, who assert that they came originally from Nathila. But the vast majority are Gaur's. These branches are all separated from the other by caste prejudice, and will not eat or smoke together. Each of the tribes mentioned. is represented among the agriculturalists of the district, and, together, they are recorded as owning 15 villages. The rustic Bra.hmans are said to think much less of the caste distinctions between their several sub-divisions than do the dwellers in the towns. The Sarsut Brahmans are said to eat meat, and are altogether not so particular as the Gaur Brahmans. They will take charity from castes from whom the Gaur Brahmans would refuse it. Some few of the Gaur Brahmans belong to the Taga sub-division. They state that they were brought into the district by Raja Janamajaya for the purpose of exterminating snakes,-a tradition which Sir H. Elliot explains by supposing it to refer to wars waged against a Scythian race, the founders of the serpent dynasties of northern India.

SECTION D.—VILLAGE COMMUNITIES AND
TENURES.

Table No. XV shows the number of villages held in the Chapter III, D. various forms of tenure, as returned in quinquennial Table No. XXXIII of the Administration Report for 1878-79. But the accuracy of the figures is more than doubtful. It is in many cases Tenures. Simply impossible to class a village satisfactorily under anyone Village tenures; of the ordinarily recognized tenures; the primary division of rights between the main subdivisions of the village following one form, while the interior distribution among the several proprietors of each of these sub-divisions follows another form which itself often varies from one sub-division to another. The village communities of the district are all of the standard *zamindari*, *pattidari* and *bhayachara* types, the last named being by far the most prevalent. The *zamindari* tenures are for the most part in villages which were farmed out when in a deserted state, and were peopled and brought under cultivation by the exertions of the farmer. In such cases the proprietary right of the farmer was recognized and confirmed at the time of Settlement. In other cases, the owners of the village are the ancient Jat or Rajput proprietors, who, though ousted from the actual cultivation by recent settlers, have nevertheless retained such a footing in the village that their claims at the time of Settlement could not be overlooked. In the majority of cases, however, the ancient proprietors and recent settlers are found holding together on a footing of perfect equality, having, during the troublous times of the last century, been so completely amalgamated that it could not be said that one class was proprietor to the exclusion of the other. In such cases, old proprietors and more recent settlers have been treated as one community, and dealt with as a corporate whole, the tenure being technically described as *bhayachara*. Occasionally a small sum has been awarded to the old inhabitants from the recent settlers, as a recognition of their rights, but ordinarily the revenue is distributed over all by an equal rate.

Table No. XV shows the number of proprietors or shareholders and the gross area held in property under each of the main forms of tenure, and also gives details for large estates and for Government grants and similar tenures. The figures are taken from the quinquennial table prepared for the Administration Report of 1878-79. The accuracy of the figures is, however, exceedingly doubtful; indeed, land tenures assume so many and such complex forms in the Punjab that it is impossible to classify them successfully under a few general headings.

The *sukhlambari* tenures of Hisar and Sirsa were created in 1819 by the grant of waste lands to the officers and men of nine disbanded cavalry regiments, for whom some provision was required. The lands were granted in holdings, varying according to the rank of the recipient, from 300 to 60 acres, and were to be held revenue-free for three lives. On failure of the third life, the estate was to be brought under assessment and settled with the heirs of the original *sukhlambari*, succession being

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Village communities
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Village tenures

Proprietary tenures

Sukhlambars

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Villages Communities
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Sukhlambars.

Regulated by Muhammadan or Hindu law, as the case might be. The persons to whom these grants were made were for the most part residents of other districts, and have left the cultivation in the hands of tenants. The original number of *sukhlambars* was 636 holding 30 whole villages and plots in 3 more. Most of the allotments have now fallen in, and, having been assessed with land revenue, are held by the descendants of the original recipients on the footing of ordinary proprietors, or rather on that of *malik kabzas*, as the *sukhlambar* has no share in the common property of the village:

The Skinner family

The Skinner family owns large estates in the Dehli territory and the North- West Provinces. Its holdings in this district are shown in the tribal table on page 33 under the head "Christians." Colonel James Skinner, the founder of the family fortunes, was born in 1778. His father was a native of Scotland in the Company's service, and his mother a Rajputni, from the neighbourhood of Banaras. In 1796 he took service in the Marahtha army under General De Boigne. He soon distinguished himself, and rose to an independent command. He took an active part in the endless campaigns of the period, and was serving under General Perron at the commencement of the campaign against the English, which ended in the conquest by the latter of the Dehli territory. Some English officers in the Marahtha service having refused to act against their countrymen, General Perron dismissed all officers of English blood in his army. Skinner, with several companions, reluctantly claimed protection from Lord Lake. He was well received, and offered a commission in the English army. This he at first refused, being unwilling to serve against Sindhia or General Perron. After the battle of Dehli, however, he accepted the command of a body of horse, on the express stipulation that he should not be employed against Sindhia. He distinguished himself no less under the English than under his former master, and before his death acquired a considerable reputation as a leader of irregular horse. The estates now owned by the family were in part granted to him from time to time by way of reward for services; the remainder was acquired by purchase. He died in December 1841, leaving five sons, Joseph, James, Hercules, Alexander and Thomas. By his will the property remains undivided, being managed by one member of the family on behalf of the remainder. The present manager is Mr. Alexander Skinner, the fourth son. The other sons are all dead. The management of the estate is conducted principally at Hansi, in this district.

Tenants and rent

Table No. XVI shows the number of tenancy holdings and the gross area held under each of the mainforms of tenancy as they stood in 1878-79, while Table No. XXI gives the current rent-rates of various kinds of land as returned in 1881-82. But the accuracy of both sets of figures is probably doubtful; indeed, it is impossible to state general rent-rates which shall even approximately represent the letting value of land throughout a whole district.

Kirsan kadim

The relation between proprietor and tenant in this district is entirely the growth of the present century, and is marked by peculiarities which owe their origin to the depopulation of the

villages in the famine of 1783. The paucity of cultivators induced the original proprietors to associate immigrants with themselves on most favourable terms; the pressure of the revenue, on the other hand, and of fines under the track laws,* which in the early part of the century were rigorously enforced, caused many, who of right were proprietors, to procure the entry of their names in the village records as cultivators only. From these causes it was found at the time of Settlement that a large number of cultivators existed who could not rightly be classed as proprietors, as they had no share in the village common; and could not, on the other hand, be styled tenants, as they paid no rent, and had the right of selling their holdings. Such persons were locally known as *kirsan kadim*. They are now recognized as proprietors of their holdings, and correspond in almost every particular with the class known in other districts as *malik scabza*. They have complete proprietary right over their holdings, pay revenue on them upon equal terms with the full proprietors, and can sell or mortgage them with no further restraint than results from the general custom of pre-emption. They have, however, no rights whatever in the village common, whether cultivated or waste, and if they use it for garzing purposes, have to pay a grazing tax at the same rate as ordinary cultivators and the non-proprietary classes generally.

The tenants proper of the district are locally known as *boladars*. Here, as elsewhere, they are of two classes, hereditary (*maurrsi*) and non hereditary (*ghair-maurusi*); the latter are popularly called *bolador-nar-sala*. The rules under which the status of tenants was decided at the time of the last Settlement were shortly as follows :—(1) Those who had held at fixed rates from a period prior to the Settlement of 1840 ; (2) those who had paid no more than the revenue assessed on their holdings for a period exceeding 12 years; and (3) those who had formerly been proprietors, but had lost proprietary right by voluntary or involuntary alienation; were recorded as hereditary. All others were recorded as tenants-at-will.

The figures in the margin show the numbers of headmen in the several *tahsils* of

<i>Tahsil.</i>	Village head	The district. The village headmen succeed to their office by hereditary right, subject to the approval of the Deputy Commissioner' each village, or in large villages, having one or more who represent their clients in their dealings with the "Government, are responsible for the collection of the
Hisar	262	
Hansi	409	
Bhiwani	279	
Fatehabad	285	
Barwala	306	
Total	1,541	

revenue, and are bound to assist in the prevention and detection of crime. The headman, by way of remuneration, collect a cess of five percent. called *pachotra* in

*The principle of the track law is that if the tracks of a body of thieves are traced into a village, and not beyond it, that village becomes liable to a fine unless it can give up the offenders or prove that every effort to find them and give them up has been made.

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Villages
Communities and
Tenures
Kirsan kadim

Tenants proper

Village officers

addition to the revenue for which they are responsible. There are no chief headmen (*ala lambardar*) in the district; and *zaildars* have not yet been appointed.

The village income, made up in the main of the rents of common lands, the sale of timber, &c., is swelled by certain village cesses, of which the following list is given by the Settlement Officer:—“*Ang charai*.—Grazing dues levied upon the non proprietary classes for the right to graze their cattle upon the village common. *Kuri-kamini*.—A hearth tax, levied at a rate usually of Rs. 2 per house upon all non-proprietary residents of the village. *Daranti-gandasi*.—Dues paid for the right to cut grass and *pala*. *Dhologoar*.—Marriage procession dues, generally Rs. 2. Besides these there is in many villages a small income derived from letting the right to construct and use saltpeter pans. The produce of these cesses is divided among the whole proprietary body.

The *chaubachha* or fourfold rate is the name given to a mode, peculiar to this part of the country, of effecting the distribution over the individual member of a village community, of the sum levied by way of revenue upon it as a corporate whole. The process of distribution is usually left, as much as possible, to the community itself. The sum total of the assessment is announced, and the community, through its headmen, or *lambardars*, is then consulted as to the manner in which the distribution is to be effected. The method of distribution differs with the tenure; where all the land is held in common (the *zamindar's* tenure), no distribution is necessary. Where ancestral right forms the basis of the village economy, and each man's right and liability is regulated by his relation to a common ancestor (*pattidari* tenure), then, each man's ancestral share being ascertained, the amount of revenue to be paid by him is deduced from that share/ If, on the other hand (as is most commonly the case in this district), possession forms the basis for calculation of the rights and liabilities of the members of the community, each man's liability being proportionate to the amount of land in his possession (*bhayachara* tenure), then the distribution is effected by rates calculated in various ways, but ordinarily having this in common, that the land is, in the main, made the basis of the calculation. Some of these modes of distribution are exceedingly complicated, and among them, perhaps, there was none more complicated than the *chaubachha*, now fortunately a thing of the past. Its peculiarity lay in the fact that it aimed at bringing within its operation not only the owners of land but also the whole community, including the shopkeeper, the weaver, the potter, and all the non-agricultural hangers on of the village. In order to effect this object, the land was not made the sole basis of distribution, but a rate was also levied upon every head of cattle, upon every house, and upon every head of the population. It was, in fact, a combination of four rates. Given the total assessment, it was divided, according to the exigencies of the season, into four parts, each of which was raised by its own rate, one by a rate upon the land, another by a rate on the cattle, another by a rate upon the land, another by a rate on the cattle, another by a rate upon the houses, and the fourth by a poll rate.

The object to be gained by this arrangement was that no one might escape altogether from contributing to the revenue, and yet that the greater share of the burden should fall upon the land. Thus, while the village shop-keeper and the village artizan fell under the two latter rates only, the owner of land fell under all four. This method was introduced into the Hisar district during the currency of the first 10 years settlement (1816-25) by Mr. Fraser, the Collector, in order, as he thought, to facilitate the collection of the revenue. There was, however, no fixed rule for regulating the proportion of the several rates; but each year, according as the season was good or bad, the amount to be levied by rate upon the land was increased or diminished according as the village authorities might determine, the other rates decreasing or increasing in proportion. This naturally gave rise to much injustice and oppression to the weaker members of the community. Attention was drawn to this fact by the Settlement Officer of 1840; and the system was so far modified that rates for the levy of grazing dues and the hearth-tax were definitively fixed, the power being removed from the *lambardars* of arbitrarily increasing them. The *chaubachha*, thus modified, was still in vogue in a few villages up to the time of the Settlement of 1864. It has now been replaced by a rateable distribution of the assessment over the land alone. The relics, however, of the system are still extant in the grazing dues and rates already mentioned. The revenue is now distributed over the land alone, but the proprietors receive the dues, in deference to the custom which in former years relieved them of a portion of the burden of the revenue. The *chaubachha* was most prevalent in the Hansi and Barwala *tahsils*, where the original proprietors--- Desi Jats and Rajputs--held their own. In other parts of the district it was only introduced in the older villages held by the same classes, and not among the recent Bagri and other settlers. The four items upon which the rate was levied are given as described by the Settlement Officers both of Rohtak and Hisar. The former officer gives the four headings as follows:--*Kuri*--a hearth rate payable by each separate family (*kuri* signifying a hearth). *Pag*-a poll rate payable by each grown up male (from *pagri*, a turban), *Ang*-a cattle or grazing rate (a buffalo being reckoned a full *ang* and generally taxed 1 rupee, and a cow half an *ang*, 8 annas). *Dharti*-(meaning soil) a rate upon the land .

Sir H. Elliot, in his Glossary, gives the heads somewhat differently. He describes the *chaubachha* as "a levy of revenue on four" things, under the ancient regime, in the Delhi territory; namely, "*pag*, *tag*, *kuri*, or *lucid*, and *punch* ; i.e., *pagri*, a turban; *tag*, a " rag or thread worn by a child round its waist; *kuri*, a hearth; and " *punchh*, animals' tails, as of buffaloes, bullocks, etc .

The following, is a list of the menials usually found in the villages with their local names: carpenter (*khati*), blacksmith (*luhar*), leather-worker, (*chamar*), barber' (*nai*), potter (*kumhar*), water-bearer (*sakka*), sweeper (*churha*). These menials reside in the villages under the patronage of *lambardars* and proprietors,

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Village Communities and
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Chaubachha

Village menials

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Village menials

and by custom receive a certain portion of grain at harvest time. The amount is usually distributed on ploughs, and varies from 30 seers to 10 seers. Potters, carpenters and blacksmiths receive the largest shares. The *chumars*, who are, as a rule, numerous in, every village, receive the skins of all dead cattle in addition to their share of grain. Many members of these menial castes, and especial the *chumdrs*, are also agriculturists, and cultivate plots of the village land as tenants-at-will of the proprietors.

Agricultural
Labourers

The subject of the employment of field labour, other than that of the proprietors or tenants themselves, is thus noticed in answers furnished by the District Officer, and inserted in the Famine Report of 1879 (page 712):—

"It is customary for the agriculturists in the districts to employ hired field laborers; they are generally employed in weeding, and harvesting, and receive two annas a day, and one meal. The persons usually so employed are *chumdrs*, *dhanks*, *ahirs*, and *kurnkars*; they do not form a class by themselves, and are not dependent on field labor only, but earn their livelihood by handicrafts as well. The condition of such field laborers is not inferior in respect of their ability to subsist with fair ease, from harvest to harvest in average years. They usually live on what they earn by field labour and handicraft, but in times of scarcity they look to the *zamindar* who is in the habit of employing them for assistance; besides what they earn by handicraft and field labour they also get from the village their allowance of grain as *hakk kamini* at the end of each harvest."

The wages of labour prevailing at different periods are shown in Table No. XXVII, though the figures refer to the labour market of towns rather than to that of villages.

Petty village
Grantees

The last two lines of Table No. XVI show the number of persons Holding services grants from the village, and the area so held out the figures refer only to land held free of revenue, which is by no means the only form which these grants assume. Sometimes the land is leased to the grantee at a favorable rent, or on condition of payment of revenue only; sometimes the owner, cultivates and pays the revenue, making-over the produce to the grantee while occasionally the grant consists of the rights of property in the land, which, subject to the usual incidents, such as responsibility for revenue and the like, vest in the person performing, certain specified services at such time and for so long as he performs them. These grants are most commonly made to village menials and watchmen on condition of, or in payment for, services rendered; to attendants at temples, mosques, shrines, or village rest houses, so long as they perform the duties of the post; and for maintenance of monasteries, holy men, teachers at religious schools, and the like.

Poverty or wealth
of the proprietors.

Table No. XXXII gives statistics of sales and mortgages of land; Tables Nos. XXXIII and XXXIII A show the operations of the Registration department; and Table No. XXXIX the extent of civil litigation. But the statistics of transfers of land are exceedingly imperfect; the prices quoted are generally fictitious; and any figures which we possess afford but little real indication of the economical position of the landholders of the district.

The size of holdings varies with the nature of the country, being naturally largest in the wild sandy tracts to the west of the district. In *chak* Begar 250 acres would be considered a large holding for a proprietor. The average holding is about 125 acres, while very few have as little as 30 acres. In *chaks* Nali and Haryana the average area belonging to one proprietor is about 30 acres, while 75 acres would form a large holding. In these parts some proprietors hold as little as 18 or 19 acres. For a tenant in *chak* Bagar, 60 acres would be a large holding; 18 would be considered very small, the average being about 32 acres. In *chaks* Nali and Haryana a large holding for a tenant would be 25 acres, a middle sized one 12 ½ and 6 acres a very small holding.

There are no families of note in the district. The following is a list of those entitled to a seat at *darbars*.—

Mirza Hyder Beg, Rais, of Hansi; Lala Sohan Lal, Treasurer, of Hisar; Lala Rameshar Das, Notary Public and Banker, of Bhiwani; Sardar Khan, ex-Jamadar, Military Department, now a pensioner, Rais of Hisar; Jairam Das, Banker, Bhiwani.

Chapter III, D
Village Communities and
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Size of holdings

Leading families



CHAPTER IV.

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

SECTION A- AGRICULTURE AND LIVE-STOCK

Chapter IV, A.
Agriculture
and Live-stock
General statistics of
Agriculture

Table No. XIV gives general figures for cultivation and irrigation, and for Government waste land; while the rainfall is shown in Tables Nos. III and IIIA and IIIB. Table No. -VII shows statistics of Government estates. label No. XX gives the areas under the principal staples, and Table No. XXI the average yield of each. Statistics of live-stock will be found in Table No.XXII. Further statistics are given under their various headings in the subsequent paragaraphs of this Chapter. Land tenures, tenants, and rent, and the employment of field labour, have already been noticed in Chapter, III Section D.

The seasons rainfall

The total annual fall of rain and the manner in which it is distributed throughout the year are shown in Tables Nos. III, IIIA, IIIB. The table below shows the season of seed time and harvest for the principal staples:--

	Name in English or Latin	Name in vernacular	Season for sowing	Season for reaping
Rabi	Wheat	Gandum	Katik and Maghar (October, ovember, December)	Baisakh (April-ay)
	Barley	Jau	Do	Do.
	Gram	Nakhud	Asauj (September – October)	Chait (March-pril)
	Mustard	Chana Sarson	Do.	Phagan (February-March)
Kharif.	Paddy, Rice	Dhan	Asarh (june-July)	Katik (October-November).
	Great Millet	Juar	Sanwan (July-Aug)	Do.
	Spiked do.	Bajra	Asar (June0-July).	Do.
	Phaseolus anitifolius	Moth	Do.	Do.
	Do. Mungo	Mung	Do.	Do.
	Do. Radiatus	Mash	Do.	Do.
	Indian Corn	Makkai	Do.	Do.
	Sesamum	Til	Do.	Do.

Irrigation

Table No. XIV gives details of irrigation. Further information will be found at pages 177 to 203 of Major Wace's Famine Report, compiled in 1878. At that time 5 per cent. of the cultivation was irrigated from canals, 0.11 per cent. from wells, 23 per cent. Was flooded, and the remaining 72 per cent. was wholly dependent upon rain. The following figures show the number of wells then existing in the district, with certain statistics regarding them.

Number of wells.	DEPTH OF WATER IN FEET.		COST IN RUPEES.		BULLOCKS PER WHEEL OR BUCKET.		Cost of gear.	ACRES IRRIGATED PER WHEEL OR BUCKET.	
	From	To	Masonry.	Without masonry.	No. of pairs.	Cost in Rupees.		Spring.	Autumn.
522	20	30							
322	30	40	2,000	200	2	100	18	4	6

Chapter IV, A
Agriculture
And Live-stock
Irrigation

The most usual depth of water below the surface is some 80 feet, but irrigation is not practiced at this depth. All wells are worked by the rope and bucket. Of the, 844 wells shown above, 428 are unbricked.

Table No. XXII shows the number of cattle, carts, and ploughs in each *tehsil* of the district as returned in 1878-79. The implements required to cultivate a small holding are a plough, a pair of bullocks, a *por* (or seed-sower), a *kassi*, a *sohaga*, or board for smoothing and leveling the furrows after grain has been sown; a *kulhari* or hatchet; a *darnarti* for mowing long grass crops, &c. ; a *khurpa*, for digging up grass; a *kasola*, for weeding; a *jeli*, or long wooden prong, for lifting and stacking the harvest; a *gandasa*, or large coarse knife, for cutting *jeli* ; some rope and a wooden yoke. The ordinary cost of these implements represents a capital of perhaps Rs. 100. One plough is calculated to cultivate 18 acres of unirrigated and 9 acres of canal or *sotar* land.

Agricultural implements and appliances

The following description of the use of manure and the system of rotation of crops as practised in the district, was furnished for the Famine Report of 1879 (page 248) :—

Manure and rotation of crops.

"Percentage of cultivated area which is manured:—

	Constantly Manured.	Occasionally manured.	Not manured.	Total.	Percentage of previous column which bears two or more crops annually.
Irrigated land	2.85	7.06	90.09	100	14.90
Unirrigated land	...	...	100.	100	1.16
	0.16	0.38	99.46	100	0.89

"The average weight of manure given to the acre per annum on land constantly manured, is about 500 maunds. On land occasionally manured, the amount of manure per acre given is 200 maunds, and the interval at which it is given is six months. The usual course of cropping prevailing in this district is as follows :—The land is first ploughed, then harrowed, and after that seed is sown by the aid of the plough and tube, The unmannered lands in this district are the *bardni*; the greater portion of it yields but one crop, which is the *kharif*. and is allowed to remain (allow for six months, and is seldom or never ploughed during that time. there is but a slight difference between the treatment of irrigated and unirrigated lands. The irrigated lands have to be ploughed and harrowed four times and manured as well, before seed is put down, and the greater portion of it yields but one crop (*rabi*). In same places the irrigated land is not allowed to rest, as vegetables, cotton, tobacco, &c., are always being sown. "

No improvements are noticeable in the quality of the crops or the mode of agriculture. The only change that has taken place since the time of British Occupation of the country is the introduction of cotton cultivation. This has of late years been on the increase

Chapter IV, A
Agriculture and Live-
stock
Manure and rotation of
crops

in the canal villages. The agricultural knowledge of the people is at a stand-still. Rotation of crops, though to a certain extent understood, as a rule, is not practised. It is never attempted except upon land which is capable of producing the superior and more valuable crops. Manure is used, but only in the cultivation of small plots near wells, or round the village site, set aside for vegetables and other garden produce.

Principal staples

Table No. XX shows the areas under the principal agricultural

Crop.	1880-81	1881-82
Mash (Urad)	4,377	4,434
Mung	26,770	34,716
Masur	...	31,109
Turmeric	60	45
Coriander	1,114	1,064
Chillies	997	1,160
Other drugs and spices	529	527
Mustard	6,684	7,894
Til	6,978	7,401
Tara Mira	4	5
Hemp	275	380
Kasumbh	1,103	10
Other Crops	31,364	5,554

staples. The remaining acres under crop in 1880-81 and 1881-82 were distributed in the manner shown in the margin. The staple products of the district are bajra (spiked millet); jawar (great millet); and gram (*vicer arietinum*). The latter is the only crop grown to any great extent for the spring harvest, and its cultivation is entirely dependent upon the seasons. Rice, wheat and barley are grown canal or the

Ghaggar, the first for the autumn, the two latter for the spring harvest. The other items of produce in the autumn harvest on unirrigated tracts are the common pulses *moth* (*phaseolus aconitifolius*), *mash* (*phaseolus radiatus*), and *mung* (*phaseolus mungo*). Of drugs and spices, tobacco and coriander are grown to some extent for the spring harvest, and chillies for that of the autumn. The tobacco grown is probably not more than enough for local consumption, but coriander appears to be cultivated here more largely than in any other district. The oil-seeds- *sarson* (mustard), and *til* (*sesamum, orientale*) are grown somewhat largely for the autumn harvest. Cotton, also in favorable seasons is grown extensively as an autumn crop in canal villages.

Average yield. Production
and consumption of food
grains.

Table No. XXI shows the estimated average yield in pounds- per acre of each of the principal staples as shown in the Administration Report of 1881-82. The average consumption of food per head has already been noticed at page 28. The total consumption of food per head has already been noticed at page 28. The total consumption

Grain.	Agricultu rists.	Non- agriculturists.	Total.
Wheat	...	159,201	159,201
...	2,221,735	238,803	2,460,538
Inferior grains ...	455,054	238,803	693,857
Pulses	...	...	...
...	2,676,789	636,807	3,313,596

of food-grains by the population of the district as estimated in 1878 for the purposes of the Famine Report is shown in maunds in the margin. The figures are based upon an estimated population of 484,681 souls. On the other hand,

the average consumption per head is believed to have been over-estimated. A rough estimate of the total production, exports, and imports of food-grains was also framed at the same time; and it was stated (page 151, Famine Report) that there as an annual average surplus of some nine lakhs of maunds available for export, consisting chiefly of *bajra mung*, *moth*, and gram, and sent to Bikaner, Jaipur, Jodhpur, and Dehli.,

Table No. XXII shows the live-stock of the district as returned in the Administration Report at various periods. Haryana has always been famous for its cattle. A good specimen of the breed stand six feet high, and is a splendid animal. These bulls are for the most part white, with massive head and forehead, and a chest and back that would delight the eyes of an English farmer. A selected pair of these bullocks will fetch as much as Rs., 400. They are bought by native gentlemen and merchants from all parts of Northern India. The Government cattle farm has done much to improve and perpetuate the breed. Bullocks, buffaloes and even camels are employed in agricultural operations. It is by no means uncommon to see camels drawing the plough. The price of an ordinary plough bullock is on an average about Rs. 50, and the lowest price Rs. 20. The price of a buffalo ranges from Rs. 10 to Rs. 30. Camels for burden fetch from Rs. 60 to Rs. 100. Sheep and goats are reared for wool, of which there is a large export, even more than for food, and their prices range from Rs. 3 to Rs. 1 each. Milch-cows are worth from Rs. 15 to Rs. 50 and 60, and milch-buffaloes from Rs. 30 to Rs. 70 each. A recent estimate by the Deputy Commissioner states the "stock of the District as follows:-Cows and bullocks 295,508; buffaloes 50,616; sheep 47,749; camels 17,001.

Chapter IV, A
Agriculture and Live-
stock.
Cattle

The principal fair of the district, in fact the only one at which it is officially estimated that more than 10,000 persons usually assemble, is the cattle fair held at the town of Hisar twice a year in March and October. The fair on each occasion lasts for 20 days, and the usual attendance is estimated at 25,000, of which number about 10,000 are estimated to be strangers from a distance. Food is obtainable to the local merchants, but no arrangements are made for housing the visitors. Large numbers of cattle are brought in for sale from Rajputana, especially from the Bagar country. Purchasers attend from all parts of the province, and from the direction of Saharanpur and Meerut in the North-West Provinces, and a brisk business is always done. Year by year the fairs are increasing in importance and popularity. The municipalities derive a considerable revenue from the dues collected, only one-tenth of which is credited to Government.

Hisar Cattle Fair

The Hisar farm dates from the year A.D. 1813, when it was instituted by Major Livingstone. The objects of the farm are, first, to breed bullocks of superior size and quality for ordnance purposes; and, secondly, to provide and to distribute generally for breeding purpose, high-class bulls. The locality is in every respect well chosen. The grazing lands comprising an area of 6,763 square miles, or 43,287 acres, afford excellent pasturage for the cattle good and nutritious grasses all the year round, except in seasons of drought; and numerous tanks scattered over the country give a full supply of drinking water. The district is noted for a breed of cattle called *Harianah*. Cross-breeding between cows of this sort and other kinds of good bulls is much practised. They produce powerful cattle for heavy draught. The pure breeds of cattle for heavy in the farm are: Gujrat, Ungole, Nagore and Mysore. These breeds are good in themselves. It is with

Hisar Cattle Farm

bulls of the first three kinds that the *Harianah* cows are usually crossed. There is a constantly increasing demand for Hisar bulls for breeding purposes an indication that their excellence is appreciated. They are certainly superior to the produce of any other farm. The farm lands lie east, west and north of the town of Hisar. The boundary is marked by masonry pillars. There are three farms, called the Home, the *salli* and the *Chaoni* farms. The Home farm lies east of the town, about 200 yards from the Mori gate. The *Sal/i* farm is 5½ miles to north-west, and the *Chaoni* farm about 2 miles to the south-west of the town. The farm lands are classed as culturable waste. The soil is *rausli*. There is no irrigation except of a small area, about 300 *bigahs*, from the 'Western Jamna Canal. On this are raised fodder crops. The natural productions are various kinds of grasses, of which in ordinary years there is a most luxuriant crop. The best kinds, yielding both grain and fodder, are the following :-*Anjan samak* and *palinjee gandhi*, *surwila palwa*. and *lamp*.

Besides the above, the *birs* or *rakhs* (grazing lands) abound with, *Jai kair*, *jant* and *ber* trees (wild plum), the first predominating; all of these bear fruit. The fruit of the tree is called *pil*, and is much eaten by the poor people. The fruit of the *kair* tree is called *faint*, and is used by the people generally for pickling; when young and green, it is like capers; when ripe it is called *pinju*, and, being of a sweetish flavour, is eaten by the poorer classes. The fruit of the *jant* is called *sangar* resembling a bean; when tender and green it is used as a vegetable. The *ber* tree (*zizyphus jujuba*) or wild plum has a fruit like the cherry. The fruit also is called *ber*. The dried leaves, called *pala*, are excellent fodder. The present strength of cattle on the farm is given in the

Herd bulls	61	Brought forward	7,636
Other bulls	229	Young bullocks	78
Cows	3,078	Rams	235
Plough bullocks	235	Sheep	687
Ordnance bullocks	366	Lambs	295
Bull calves	1,715	Mares	4
Heifer calves	1,972	Camels	12
Carried over	7,656	Total	8,967

margin. The number of calves born during the year beginning 1st January 1883 to date is---

Bull calves	...	568
Heifer ,,	...	599

A certain number of bull calves are reserved for breeding purposes, some to recruit the farm stock and others for distribution to districts and village proprietors. The rest are castrated and are kept separately from the other cattle. When they are four years old a careful selection is made, and those that are fit for the purposes of artillery draught are made over to the Commissariat Department at Ferozpur. The heifer calves are reserved at the farm for breeding purposes. As many as are rendered unfit for breeding purposes, whether by age or by natural faults, are cast and sold by public auction.

Sheep and goats

The statistics regarding sheep and goats are shown in Table No. XXII already referred to. A recent estimate by the Deputy Commissioner gives the number of sheep in the district as 47,794. Sheep-breeding from Government rams is at present confined to

the cattle farm. The table given of the farm stock shows that there are in the farm 235 rams, 687 sheep, and 295 lambs. The rams are of English stock (Southdown and Leicestershire), and are distributed generally to improve the breed of sheep.

Horse-breeding on the branded mare system was introduced in the Hisar district in the winter of 1882-83, when 373 mares were branded. Six stallions were sent to the district, of which three were thoroughbred English, two Arabs, and one a Nortolk trotter. Operations have been fairly successful; but bad seasons and scarcity of grass and fodder have impeded the development of the system. A *salutri* and *zilahdar'* are entertained on the district establishment. Mule-breeding is not carried on in the district. There are no horse fairs.

SECTION B.-OCCUPATIONS, INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE.

Table No. XXIII shows the principal occupations followed by males of over 15 years of age as returned at the Census of 1881. But the figures are perhaps the least satisfactory of all the Census statistics, for reason explained fully in the Census Report; and they must be taken subject to limitations which are given in some detail in Part II, Chapter VIII, of the same Report. The figures in Table No. XXIII refer only to the population of 15 years of age and over. The figure in the margin show the distribution of the whole population in

Occupations of the
People.

Population.	Towns.	Village
Agricultural	18,113	309,171
Non-agricultural.	58,005	118,894
Total	76,118	428,065

in to agricultural and non agricultural, calculated on the assumption that the number of women and children dependent

occupation. These figures, however, include as agricultural only such part of the population as are agriculturists pure and simple; and exclude not only the considerable number who combine agriculture with other occupations, but also the much larger number who depend in great measure for their livelihood upon the ield of agricultural operations. More detailed figures for the occupations of both males and females will be found at pages 79 to 87 of Table No. XIIA and in Table No. XIIB of the Census Report of 1881. The figures for female occupation, however, are exceedingly incomplete.

Table No. XXIV gives statistics of the manufactures of the district as they stood in 1881-82. The district of Hisar has no manufactures of importance. Then manufacture of saltpeter has been already alluded to. It is made by *bantias*, who pay small fees as seignorage to the owners of the village where it is made. It is not refined in the district, but sent in the rough to Farrukhabad in the North- West. Provinces. The traders of Farrukhribad

Principal industries and
manufactures

Chapter IV, B.
Occupations,
Industries, and
Commerce
Principal
industries
and manufactures

refine it and send it on to Calcutta. A refinery has lately been established at Dehli, but the manufacture and the trade have fallen off remarkably of late years. Coarse country cloth is made more, or less in every village, both for local use and for export, but the chief seat of this industry is at Fatehabad. In this town, too, and in a few others, a caste, called *Dabgars*, are famous for the manufacture of leather scales, and *kuppas*, or leathern vessels for oil. These have a wide local reputation, and their handiwork is exported to considerable distances. Mr. Lockwood Kipling, Principal of the Lahore School of Art, has kindly furnished the following note on some of the special industries of the district:-

"Mr Ogilvie has given an account of the brass and bell-metal (kansi) trade off Bhiwani in this district, from which it appears that about 200 artizans are employed, and that their earnings vary from Rs. 7-8 to Rs. 8 per mensem. The ware is exported to all parts of the Punjab and to Rajputana. Ornamental work does not appear to be made, but the kansi cups and platters sent to the Punjab Exhibition were fairly well finished. Brass is imported from Calcutta, but mainly for re-export to Bikaner; and old broken brass (*phut*) is chiefly used for local purposes. Some brass is manufactured from imported copper and zinc in the proportion of 24 seers of copper to 16 seers of zinc in the maund of 40 seers. The cost of the metal thus manufactured is calculated at Rs. 39-8 per maund. Besides its brass trade, Bhiwani has a name for carved chaukats or doors. Elaborately carved models mounted with brass were sent to the Exhibitions at Lahore and Calcutta, and one is now in the Lahore Museum. In this district the leathern hukka, metal-bound, common in many parts of the Punjab, is quaintly adorned with strips and studs of copper, brass, and sometimes silver, roughly engraven. The execution is rough, but no fault can be found with the design. Good hukkas thus adorned cost from Rs. 5 to Rs. 12, and last a long time.

"The embroidered woollen *ohrnas* or *chadars* of the district are worthy of mention, for, though nothing could be more homely than the material, or more simple than the design, they are thoroughly good and characteristic in effect. Two breadths of narrow woollen cloth are joined with a curious open work, sewn and covered with archaic ornaments in wool and cotton thread of different colours, needle-wrought in a sampler stitch. The cloth is a fine red, though somewhat harsh and coarse in texture; and though all the designs are in straight lines, human figures and creatures are sometimes oddly indicated. The price of these chadars was originally about Rs. 4, but since a sort of demand has arisen among amateurs interested in Indian fabrics, the rate has been doubled. It is scarcely likely that the woollen phulkari will grow. Like the silk and cotton one, from a domestic manufacture for local use, into a regular production for export trade. Similar chadars are made and worn in the Sirsa district. The better known cotton phulkari embroidered with silk is of exceptional excellence in this district. From Hisar and Hansi chadars and ghagras, of dark indigo or madder-dyed rough country cloth with orange coloured silk in bold patterns diversified by the insertion of small circular mirror, have been sent to various exhibitions. The mirrors come from Karnal, where globes of thin glass, about four or five inches in diameter, are blown and silvered on the inside. These are broken up, and the fragments are used for *shishadar phulkaris*, and formerly in the shishadar plaster work, to be seen in

buildings of the last century. In the Amritsar district are merchants who have pushed the *phulkari* to such good purpose that it has become a profitable industry. It is possible that the extension of the railway may do something for the hitherto purely local and domestic industries of this district."

The chief centres of trade are Bhiwani, Hansi, and Hisar. The town of Fatehabad in the north-west part of the district also acts to some extent as a trade centre for the country in its neighborhood; but the greater portion of the agricultural produce of the northern part of the district would probably find its way direct to Hisar or Hansi without going through Fatehabad. Practically, we may consider that all the trade of the district, except a very small part, comes to one or other of these centres of distribution. With regard to Hansi and Hisar, it may be said goods traffic is all on a line between east and west. The produce of the surrounding country comes from all directions towards the central marts but the trade with the countries outside the district, and also the through traffic, passes along the main road between Dehli and the western Punjab. The greater part of this trade will now doubtless be diverted from the Sirsa and Dehli road, and will go and come by rail *via* Rewari and Bhiwani. As to the portion between Hansi and the west, the whole traffic will, without doubt, be transferred to the railway, which at this part follows the same direction as the existing road. The trade routes to and from Bhiwani are more complicated. The statements printed on the next pages show the trade of Bhiwani. Imports from the east are either from Dehli or from the Rohtak district. The former will doubtless come wholly by rail. Also the produce of the western agricultural districts may be expected to come by rail via Hisar and Hansi. A very large export trade, especially in grain and salt, will pass from Bhiwani to Dehli and the east generally by the railway. The trade with Bikaner and the States of Rajputana and the south-west will continue to follow the present existing routes; but it is expected that it will be largely developed by the facility of transport between Bhiwani and the east and north-west which is afforded by the new line.

The statements printed on the next pages show the quantity of average yearly imports to be 1,767,900 maunds, and of exports 1,033,000 maunds. It is calculated that out of this total quantity, 789,700 maunds of imports and 520,800 maunds of exports will be carried by the new line. The traders at Bhiwani are sanguine as to the extension of trade owing to the opening of the Railway. The increase of imports under the heads of sugar and saccharine products, grain, cloth, and method is calculated at about 4 ½ *lakhs* of maunds, or more than half as much again as the existing imports; while the increase in exports is estimated under the same heads at Dearly six *lakhs* of maunds. Although these anticipations may be too sanguine, there can be no doubt that the through trade of this town will be greatly enlarged.

Sugar and other saccharine products are among the chief staples of trade. Sugar to the quantity of 100,000 maunds comes

Chapter IV, B
Occupations,
Industries, and
Commerce

Course and nature of
trade.

Trade of Bhiwani

Statement showing imports to Bhiwani for one year.

Articles.	IMPORTS.											
	FROM EAST.		FROM WEST.		FROM SOUTH.		FROM NORTH.		TOTAL.			
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.		
Sugar	100,000	10,00,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,00,000	10,00,000	Rs.	10,00,000
Gur and shakkar	275,000	8,25,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	275,000	8,25,000	...	8,25,000
Rice	75,000	2,25,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	75,000	2,25,000	...	2,25,000
Grains of all kinds	100,000	2,00,000	300,000	4,50,000	50,000	75,000	...	...	450,000	7,25,000	...	7,25,000
Groceries, drugs and colours	25,000	3,40,000	5,000	10,000	...	...	...	...	30,000	3,50,000	...	3,50,000
Cloth, Europe	14,000	17,00,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,000	17,00,000	...	17,00,000
Do. country	2,000	80,000	...	...	1,000	40,000	...	...	3,000	1,20,000	...	1,20,000
Metal	30,000	4,00,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,000	4,00,000	...	4,00,000
Tobacco	200	1,000	...	...	1,300	6,500	...	...	1,500	7,500	...	7,500
Salt	400	2,000	...	...	150,000	5,25,000	...	...	150,400	52,700	...	52,700
Sarsaf	1,000	2,000	21,000	42,000	...	...	...	...	22,000	44,000	...	44,000
Flax, ban, munjh, &c.	2,000	12,000	...	...	23,000	46,000	...	...	25,000	5,800	...	5,800
Bamboos, karis, &c.	25,000	12,500	15,000	15,000	...	...	...	...	40,000	27,500	...	27,500
Stone	1,000	500	...	...	40,000	20,000	...	...	41,000	20,500	...	20,500
Cotton, cleaned and uncleaned	8,500	1,02,000	...	...	...	...	...	16,500	25,000	2,34,000	...	2,34,000
Wool	3,000	60,000	15,000	3,00,000	10,000	20,000	...	...	2,800	5,60,000	...	5,60,000
Ghi	...	...	4,000	80,000	4,000	80,000	...	...	8,000	1,60,000	...	1,60,000
Salpette	20,000	40,000	20,000	40,000	...	...	...	...	40,000	80,000	...	80,000
Cotton seed, oil, cakes and guar	2,000	3,000	8,000	12,000	15,000	12,500	...	...	25,000	37,500	...	37,500
Leather	2,000	50,000	2,500	62,500	4,500	1,12,500	...	...	9,000	2,25,000	...	2,25,000
Threads, country and Europe	2,000	80,000	1,000	20,000	...	...	...	...	3,000	1,00,000	...	1,00,000
Fruits, country	30,000	60,000	10,000	20,000	...	...	...	...	40,000	80,000	...	80,000
Do., Kabul	3,000	30,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	30,000	...	30,000
Muliani clay	...	...	30,000	30,000	...	...	...	...	30,000	30,000	...	30,000
Miscellaneous	...	...	150,000	50,000	150,000	50,000	...	...	300,000	1,00,000	...	1,00,000
Total	721,100	52,25,000	501,500	11,31,500	448,800	11,77,500	16,500	1,32,000	1,767,900	76,66,000	...	76,66,000

Statement showing exports from Bhiwani for one year.

Articles.	EXPORTS									
	FROM EAST		FROM WEST		FROM SOUTH		FROM NORTH		TOTAL	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.
Sugar	...	...	50,000	5,00,000	30,000	3,00,000	....	....	80,000	8,00,000
Gur and shakkar	...	...	225,000	6,75,000	10,000	30,000	....	....	235,000	70,500
Rice	...	...	64,000	1,92,000	....	....	....	....	64,000	1,92,000
Grains of all kinds	300,000	4,50,000	50,000	75,000	....	....	....	....	350,000	5,25,000
Groceries, drugs and colours	5,000	10,000	13,000	78,000	2,000	12,000	...	....	20,000	1,00,000
Cloth, Europe	...	...	2,000	2,40,000	7,000	8,40,000	....	....	9,000	10,80,000
Do., Country	...	...	6,000	24,000	....	....	....	....	600	24,000
Metal	...	...	8,000	1,20,000	20,000	80,000	....	....	28,000	2,00,000
Tobacco	...	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Salt	100,000	3,50,000	...	....	....	....	20,000	70,000	120,000	4,20,000
Sarsaf	...	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Flax, ban, munjh, &c.	...	...	4,000	8,000	....	....	....	....	4,000	8,000
Bamboos, karis, &c.	...	...	12,000	6,000	10,000	5,000	....	....	22,000	11,000
Stone	...	...	2,000	1,000	....	....	....	....	2,000	1,000
Cotton, cleaned and uncleaned	...	...	5,000	60,000	10,000	80,000	....	....	15,000	1,40,000
Wool	15,000	2,00,000	....	....	....	....	....	....	15,000	2,00,000
Ghi	...	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	...	....
Saltpetre	25,000	1,00,000	....	....	....	....	....	....	25,000	1,00,000
Cotton seed, oil cakes, and guar	...	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	...	....
Leather	6,000	1,50,000	...	....	....	....	....	....	6,000	1,50,000
Threads, country and Europe	5,000	1,00,000	...	....	....	....	....	....	5,000	1,00,000
Fruits, country	...	....	...	....	....	....	....	....	...	....
Do., Kabul	...	....	2,000	20,000	....	....	....	....	2,000	20,000
Multani clay	25,000	25,000	....	....	....	....	....	....	25,000	25,000
Miscellaneous	...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Total	481,000	13,85,000	443,000	22,15,000	89,000	13,47,000	20,000	70,000	1,033,000	50,17,000

entirely from the direction of Dehli, and will be carried by rail. It is expected that the quantity imported will be largely increased. It is chiefly exported "towards Bikaner; but a small quantity will be carried by rail towards Hisar and Sirsa. Unrefined sugar and molasses (*shakkar* and *gur*), are imported partly from Dehli and partly from the Rohtak and Karnal districts. The Dehli portion only, estimated at about 90,000 maunds out of 275,000 maunds total import, will be transported by rail; but it is expected that the quantity imported by this route will be very largely increased. At present the export of this article is exclusively in the direction of Bikaner and the south-west; but it is thought that a trade may be developed in the direction of Hisar and the north-west also, now that the country is opened up by the railway.

The through trade in grain is very considerable. It is estimated that one *lakh* of maunds is imported from the east, of which 25,000 maunds (of wheat) come from Dehli, and will be carried by rail. The rest comes from Rohtak. Three *lakhs* of maunds of grain and oil-seed are imported from the direction of Hisar and Sirsa, all of which will now be conveyed by rail, and the same amount will be exported to the eastward, also by rail. It is expected that the opening of the railway will stimulate this traffic.

The total import of rice from the Dehli direction (all of which will come by rail) is 75,000 maunds. The greater part of this, 64,000 maunds, is exported to Bikaner.

Drugs.-The import of drugs and spices and kindred articles from the Dehli side is 25,000 maunds drugs; and that from the Sirsa side 5,000 maunds (colours). The drugs not consumed in the town are exported to the south-west (Bikaner), and the colours to the east. The import trade will now come by rail; and a considerable extension of the export trade in the direction of Ferozepore is anticipated.

European cloth.-14,000 maunds of European cloth are imported from the Dehli side, and after allowing for local consumption, the balance is exported towards Bikaner and also Hisar and Sirsa. A very large increase in this trade is anticipated, and European piece-goods will probably be largely imported direct from Bombay.

Country cloth.-2,000 maunds of country cloth is imported from the Dehli side, and 1,000 maunds from the countries to the South. In addition, about 4,000 maunds are made in the town. The export is entirely to the north-west.

Metals.-The imports amount to 30,000 maunds, all from the Dehli side; about 20,000 maunds are now exported towards Western Rajputana, and 8,000 maunds to the direction of Sirsa. A large development of this trade is anticipated.

Tobacco.-The import for local consumption is 1,500 maunds, of which 200 maunds come from Dehli.

Salt.-Bhiwani was once the great local salt emporium, but since the opening of the Dehli and Rajputana line the Sambhar salt is carried direct to Dehli and also southwards from stations nearer to the locality of production. About 150,000 maunds of Didwana salt, however, are still imported, and 100,000 maunds are exported to the east. About 400 maunds of Lahauri salt is imported from

Dehli. It is possible that an export trade in Didwana salt in the direction of Ferozepore may be developed by the railway. Occupations, *Sarsaf, &c.*- (or mustard oil), flax, bamboos, and stone Industries, and do not call for special remark.

Cotton.-The import and export of cotton will probably not be Trade of Bhiwani. affected by the rail way, unless an export trade of cleaned cotton should be established with districts down the line. Cotton is imported from the surrounding agricultural districts, and is exported towards Bikaner.

Wool.-The import of wool is chiefly from the west and south. It is calculated that 15,000 maunds are exported eastwards.

Ghi, cotton-seeds, &c.-The trade in these articles will not be influenced by the railway, the supply for local consumption being derived from the surrounding' country.

Saltpetre.-About 25,000 maunds are exported in the Dehli direction.

Country and European threads, country and Kabul fruits, Multani Clay.-These articles do not call for special remarks.

Leather.-9,000 maunds of leather are imported chiefly from the surrounding country. About 2,500 mauuds from the west may be expected to come by Hisar by rail and 6,000 maunds to be exported by rail towards the east.

Coined money.-Money (called by the traders rokar) will probably be freely sent by rail between Dehli and Bhiwani, and finds a place in the list of exports and imports.

The total quantity of imports of Hansi is calculated at 185,000 maunds, and the export at 260,700 maunds. There is a through trade in sugar, molasses, rice, metals, tobacco, and flax, &c., between Dehli and the west. There is a large export trade in grain (gram and *mung*) towards Dehli; and a through trade in leather between the west and Dehli. Indigo, cotton and wool, the produce of the neighbouring country, are exported eastwards. All this heavy traffic may be expected to be diverted from the direct road to the railway route *via* Rewari.

The total imports of Hisar town are estimated at 117,500 maunds, and the exports at 46,800 maunds. Being the headquarters of the district, the retail trade is large; and this accounts for the disparity between exports and imports. There is an export trade towards Dehli in grain, saltpetre, cotton, and leather, which will be carried by rail. Similarly the whole of the imported goods from the Dehli side will now be carried by rail. There is a small export trade in wool and cotton towards the west. It goes by river from Fazilka to Karachi.

The railway does not touch Fatehabad itself. Fatehabad however, will probably continue to be the trade centre of that part of the district, and will be connected by a straight road with the nearest station. All the local trade which goes entirely east and west may be expected to be carried by rail. There is an export trade in grain (gram and oil-seed) and in hides and leather; cloth, sugar, and rice are imported from the east. The through trade from Sirsa has been mostly accounted for in the estimates for Hansi and Bhiwani, which are the chief marts for this trade.

Trade of Bhiwani.

Trade of Hansi.

Trade of Hisar town

Trade of Fatehabad

Chapter IV, C
Prices Weights and
Measures, and
Communications
Prices, wages, rent-rates,
interest

SECTION C.—PRICES, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES, AND
COMMUNICATIONS.

Table No. XXVI, gives the retail bazaar prices of commodities for the last twenty years. The wages of labor are shown in Table No. XXVII, and rent-rates in Table No. XXI; but both sets of figures are probably of doubtful value. The figures of Table No. XXXII give the average values of land in urpees per acre, as shown in the margin, for sale and mortgage; but the quality of land varies so enormously, and the value returned is so often

Period.	Sale.	Mortgage.
1868-69 to 1873-74	4-5	3-15
1874-75 to 1877-78	5-8	3-5
1878-79 to 1881-82	5-4	3-7

ful value. The figures of Table No. XXXII give the average values of land in urpees per acre, as shown in the margin, for sale and mortgage; but the quality of land varies so enormously, and the value returned is so often

fractionous, that but little reliance can be placed upon the figures.

Coin and gold weights.

Grain weights—continued.

Local weights and
measures

8 rattis	...	1 masha.
12 mashas	...	1 tola.
5 tolas	...	1 chitack.
<i>Grain weights.</i>		
5 tolas	...	1 chitack.
4 chhitacks	...	1 pausera.
2 paseras	...	1 adhsera
2 adhseras	...	1 seer.
5 seers	...	1 pansera.

4 panseras	...	1 dhaun.
2 dhauns	...	1 maund.
<i>Cloth measure.</i>		
4 ungals	...	1 girah.
16 girahs	...	1 yard.
<i>La nd measure.</i>		
20 kachwansis	...	1 biswansi.
20 biswansis	...	1 biswah.
20 biswahs	...	1 bigah.

Communication

The figures in the margin show the co

Communications.	Miles.
Railways ...	75
Metalled roads ...	42
Unmetalled roads ..	509

urned in quinquennial Table No. I of the Administration Report for 1878-79; while Table No. XLVI shows the distances from place to place as authoritatively fixed for the purpose of calculation traveling allowance. Table No. XIX

shows the area taken up by Government for roads and railways in this district.

Railways

The State Railway from Rewari to Firozpur runs through the, district for 75 miles. With stations at Bhiwani, Bowani Khera Hansi, Satraud, Hisar, Jakhaud, Adampur, and Bhattu.

Roads

The following table shows the principal roads of the district, together with the halting places on them, and the conveniences for travelers to be found at each:--

Route	Halting place.	Distance in miles.	Remarks.
Delhi to Sirsa.	Mundahal	...	Unmetalled. Encamping ground and sarai.
	Sorkhi	4	Partly metalled. Police bungalow.
	Hansi	10	Metalled. Dak bungalow, police bungalow, sarai and encamping-ground.
	Hisar	16	Metalled. Dak bungalow, sarai and encamping-ground.
	Agroha	13	Partly Metalled. Police bungalow, sarai and encamping-ground.
Hansi to Bhiwani	Badopal	8	Encamping-ground.
	Fatehabad	9	Unmetalled. Dak bungalow, sarai and encamping-ground.
	Hansi	..	(As above).
Bhiwani to Delhi	Bowani	12	Unmetalled. Encamping Ground.
	Bhiwani	12	Unmetalled. Police bungalow, sarai and encamping-ground.
Bhiwani to Delhi	Bhiwani		(As above) metalled. Next halting place is Kharak in the Rohtak district.

There are also unmetalled roads from Hisar to Bhiwani, 34 miles ; Hisar to Tuhana (*vid* Barwala), 43 miles ; Tuhana to Ratiya, 21 miles; Ratiya to Fatehabad, 16 miles; Hansi to Barwala, 22 miles, on which there are no fixed halting places. A good unmetalled road runs along the right bank of the Western Jamna canal. The dak bungalows are completely furnished and provided with servants. The police bungalows have furniture, crockery and cooking utensils, but no servants.

There are Imperial post offices at Hisar, Hans, Bhiwani, Tusham, Kairu, Bahal, Ratiya, Fatehabad, Tuhana, Barwala and Balsamand ; Money Order Offices and Savings Banks also exist at these places.

A line of telegraph runs along the whole length of railway, with a telegraph office at each station.

Chapter IV, B.

Prices, Weights
And measures.
And Communica-
-tions.

Roads.

Post Offices.

Telegraph

CHAPTER V.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Chapter V
Administration and Finance
Executive and Judicial

The Hisar district is under the control of the Commissioner of the Hisar

Tahsil.	Kanungoes and Naibs.	Patwaris and Assistants
Hisar	2	48
Hansi	1	52
Bhiwani	1	35
Fatehabad	1	41
Barwala	1	84
Total	6	220

division. The head quarters staff of the district consists of a Deputy Commissioner and two Extra Assistant Commissioners. Each tahsil is in charge of a tahsildar assisted by a naib. The village revenue staff is shown in the margin. The statistics of devil and revenue litigation for The last five years are given in Table No. XXXX.

Criminal, Police and Gaola.

The executive staff of the district is assisted by neither cantonment

Class of Police.	DISTRIBUTION		
	Total Strength.	Standing guards	Protection and detection
District (Imperial)	388	196	192
Cantonment	144	...	144
Municipal	...	...	...
Canal	...	...	...
River	...	...	...
Ferry	...	...	...
Total	532	196	336

distributed as follows:---

Tahsil Hisar.--- *Thanas.*—Hisar, Siwani, and Balsamand: *chauki* Agroha. *Tahsil Hansi.*—*Thanas*—Hansi and Narnaund; *chauki* Madanheri. *Tahsil Bhiwani.*—*Thanas*—Bhiwani, Tosham, Kairu, and Bahal; *chaukis*—Dinaud, Bamla, Sungarpur, Bajina and Rodan. *Tahsil Fatehabad.*—*Thanas*—Fatehabad and Ratiya' *Chaukis*—nil. *Tahsil Barwala.*—*Thanas*—Barwala and Tuhana; *chaukis*—nil.

There is a cattle-pound at each *thana*, and also at Hisar attached to the Government Cattle Farm, and at Landa Khera, Mengni Khera and Narnaund under the management of the Canal Department. The district is within the Ambala police Circle, under the control, of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police at Ambala.

nor Honorary Magistrates. The police force is controlled by a District Superintendent. The strength of the force, as given in Table No. I of the Police Report for 1881-82 is shown in the margin. In addition to this force, 988 village watchmen are entertained, and paid by the village headmen from a village house tax. The thanas or principal police jurisdictions, and the *chaukis* or police outposts, are

Table No. XLI of police inquiries, and Table No. XLII of convicts in gaol for the last five years. There are no criminal tribes in the district.

The gross revenue collections of the district for the last 14 years, so far as they are made by the Financial Commissioner, are shown in Table No. XXVIII; while Tables Nos. XXIX, XXXV, XXXIV and XXXIII give further details for land revenue, excise, license tax and stamps respectively. Table No. XXXIIIA shows the number and situation of Registration offices. The land revenue of the district is separately noticed below. The central distilleries for the manufacture of country liquor are situated at Hisar, Hansi and Bhiwani. The cultivation of the poppy is forbidden in this district. Table No. XXXVI gives the income and expenditure from district funds, which are controlled by a committee consisting of 30 members selected by the Deputy Commissioner from among the leading men of the various *tahsils*, and of the Civil Surgeon and District Superintendent Police, as *ex-officio* members, and the Deputy Commissioner as President. Table No. XLV gives statistics for municipal taxation, while the municipalities themselves are noticed

Source of income.	1877-78	1878-79	1879-80	1880-81	1881-82
Staging bungalows ...	276	389	277	258	294
Encamping-grounds ...	57	45	59	54	71
Cattle-pounds ...	3,934	3,451	2,600	2,303	3,194
Nazul properties ...	94	89	98	115	133
Total ...	4,361	3,974	3,034	2,730	3,622

in Chapter VI. The income from provincial properties for the last five years is shown in the margin.

The bungalows and encamping-grounds have already been noticed at page 59 and the cattle-pounds at page 60. Figures for other Government estates are given in Table No. XVII, and they and their proceeds are separately noticed below.

The Imperial Customs' Preventive Line which formerly passed through this district has been abolished.

Table No. XXXVII gives figures for the Government and aided, middle, and primary schools of the district. There are middle schools for boys at Hisar, Hansi, Bhiwani and Tuhana; while the primary schools are situated at Hisar, Nangthala, Kayla, Balsamand and Kurri in the Hisar *tahsil*; at Hansi, Sisae, Narnaund, Mamrezipur, Khanda, Petwar, Bowani and Jamalpur in the Hansi *tahsil*; at Bhiwani, Tusham, Kairu and Tigrana in the Bhiwani *tahsil*; at Fatehabad, Aharwan and Ratiya. in the Fatehabad *tahsil*; and at Barwala, Tuhana and Jamalpur in the Barwala *tahsil*. The district lies within the Ambala circle, which forms the charge of the Inspector of Schools at Ambala. Table No. XIII gives statistics of education collected at the Census of 1881, and the general state of education has already been described at pages 30, 31.

The Bhiwani district school was established in 1864. It teaches Lundi and Mahajani, as well as the ordinary Urdu course. The staff consists of six English, six Persian, three Urdu, and one mathematical teacher, and three Hindi monitors.

The table at the top of the next page indicates the work of the schooling for the last five years :-

Chapter V
Administration and
finance
Revenue, Taxation and
Registration

Customs

Education

Bhiwani District
School.

Chapter V
Administration
and Finance
Bhiwani District
School

Year.	Amount of expenditure.	No. of pupils.	Middle School Examination.		Examination by Upper Primary standard.		Examination of Lower Primary standard.	
			Candi dates.	Passes.	Candi dates.	Passes.	Candi dates.	Passes.
1878-79	Rs. 3,583	511	5	5	...	...	17	13
1879-80	4,185	467	+	+	10	5	18	7
1880-81	4,575	518	5	3	10	6	17	10
1881-82	4,689	534	4	4	5	4	20	18
1882-83	4,512	545	2	2	9	7	17	14

* There was no Upper Primary Department until the year 1879.

* On account of new classification there was no 3rd class formed this year.

Medical

Table No. XXXVIII gives separate figures for the last five years for each of the dispensaries of the district, which are under the general control of the Civil Surgeon, and in the immediate charge of Assistant Surgeons at Hisar and Bhiwani, and of native doctors, *i.e.*, Hospital Assistants, at Hansi and Fatehabad. The dispensary at Hisar is situated on the south side of the town, and contains accommodation for 40 male and 8 female in-door patients. It is attended annually by some 7,500 out-door and 300 in-door patients. The staff consists of an Assistant Surgeon, a Hospital Assistant, a compounder, dresser, and menials.

Ecclesiastical

There is a small church -Saint Thomas's-at Hisar capable of seating some 60 persons. The Chaplain at Dehli visits the station once in every three months.

Head-quarters of other departments

The portion of the Rewari and Ferozpur Railway which runs through the district is in the charge of the District Traffic Superintendent at Rewari; while the District Traffic Manager at Ajmere controls the line. The head offices of the Railway are at Ajmere. The Western Jamna Canal, as far down as Bahadra, is under the charge of the Executive Engineer, Hansi Division, stationed at Hisar; the Superintending Engineer of the Canal has his head-quarters at Dehli. The main Dehli and Hisar road is under the Executive Engineer, General Branch, at Dehli. The telegraph lines and offices of the district are controlled by the Telegraph Superintendent at Bandi Kui; and the post offices by the Superintendent of Post Offices at Hisar. The Government Cattle Farm under the Military Department is under the charge of a Superintendent, and is controlled by the Deputy Commissary General at Ambala.

Statistics of land revenue

Table No. XXIX gives figures for the principal items and the totals of land revenue collections since 1868-69. Table No. XXXI gives details of balances, remissions, and agricultural advances for the last fourteen years; Table No. XXX shows the amount of assigned land revenue; while Table No. XIV gives the areas upon which the present land revenue of the district is assessed. Further details as to the basis, incidence, and working of the current Settlement will be found in the last pages of this chapter.

Summary Settlement, 1816
A.D.

When first the attention of the British Government was seriously turned to Haryana, in 1810, the country, with the exception of the sub-division (*pargana*) of Hansi and a few of the

larger villages in other parts of the district, was either lying waste, or, if occupied, was held on a precarious tenure by recent settlers, unattached by ties of association to the soil, and ready to fly at a moment's notice, beyond the border. In Hansi even, where the effects of the *chalisa* famine had been less severely felt, the inhabitants were mostly found crowded together in masses, in the larger villages, where they had been taken themselves for the sake of mutual security. The smaller villages were completely deserted. The change of rule, however, attracted large numbers of immigrants, principally from Rajputana, and the population rapidly increased; while in Hansi the people began to leave the large villages and spread themselves once more over the face of the country, re-occupying their old homes. It was not, however, until 1816 that any attempt was made to bring the district under a land revenue Settlement. In that year a Settlement for 10 years was effected by Mr. W. Fraser, which was followed by a 5 years' Settlement in 1825, and by another Settlement for 10 years made in 1831-32. The revenue assessed at these various Settlements ranged somewhat above 4 lakhs of rupees. The average demand for the five years preceding 1840-41 amounted to Rs. 4,88,609. It must not be supposed, however, that this sum was collected. Mr. Brown, the officer who conducted a revised Settlement in 1840-41, ascertained that, of the seventeen years from 1824 to 1840, no less than nine were years of either total or partial failure of the crops, attended by a deficiency in the collections, aggregating more than 50 per cent., below the revenue assessed, and two more were seasons so bad as to render considerable remissions of revenue necessary, though not quite to the same extent. He embodies the results of his inquiries in the following remarkable table: _

Chapter V
Administration
and Finance
Summary Settlement,
1816 A.D.

Year.	Revenue demand.	Balances.	REMARKS
A.D.	Rs.	Rs.	
Fasli 1233=1825	4,51,916	.....
" 1234=1826	4,50,386	19,247	
" 1235=1827	4,59,624	5,660	
" 1236=1828	4,67,113	25,312	
" 1237=1829	4,73,524	46,796	
" 1238=1830	4,17,434	2,78,960	The balance partly owing to a bad season and partial failure.
" 1239=1831	4,60,359	8,367	
" 1240=1832	4,69,284	2,23,870	Ditto ditto.
" 1241=1833	4,77,658	4,28,205	A total failure and famine.
" 1242=1834	4,77,127	8,137	
" 1243=1835	4,85,678	2,50,317	A bad season and partial failure.
" 1244=1836	4,91,337	12,306	
" 1245=1837	4,88,377	3, 63, 141	An almost total failure.
" 1246=1838	4,86,718	1,62,225	A partial failure throughout the district.
" 1247=1839	5,03,013	64,079	Ditto ditto

NOTE.- To the above 15 years may be added the year 1832 F.S. (1824) when the failure was also so total that not a fraction of revenue was collected, the whole having been remitted; and the last year 1248 F. S. (1840) when a balance equal to that of 1247 F. S. accrued from a bad season and partial failure.

Taking an average over the 15 years from 1825 to 1839, the collections fell short of the assessment by 18 per cent. The assessment was in fact a farce. No means existed of enforcing payment from the then shifting population ever ready to fly beyond the border,

Chapter V
Administration
and Finance
Summary Settlement,
1816, A.D

if in any season they found the British money rates press more heavily than the collections in kind made by the neighbouring Native States. The collection of the revenue, in fact, was, as the Settlement Officer of 1840 expresses it, "a mere yearly juggle between the *tahsil* officers and the people." In the sandy tracts to the west, another cause tended to cause fluctuations of revenue. The soil, though productive in good years, and especially after having lain fallow for several years, is very easily exhausted. The settlers from Bikaner would at first plough up every acre, leaving not a corner of their allotment uncultivated. This would continue for a few years, until the land was exhausted, and then the Bagris would leave their village and seek a new settlement elsewhere, sure of finding wasteland on every side only waiting to be brought under cultivation.

Regular Settlement
1840 A.D.

Such was the state of things upon which the proceedings of the First Regular Settlement of the land revenue opened in 1839-40.*At first a revised demand was assessed, amounting to Rs. 4,47,315, giving only a small reduction upon the average demand for the past five years. During the course of his investigations, however, the Settlement Officer became convinced of the impossibility of assessing the country so highly; and that owing to the nature of the soil and climate, and the character of the people, heavy balances were inevitable, except under circumstances which experience had shown to be most exceptional. He accordingly again revised his own assessments throughout the district, excepting only in those villages which enjoyed the use of canal water; and this time, basing his calculations, not upon the demands but upon the collections for the past five years, he fixed an assessment aggregating upon the non-irrigating villages Rs. 2,58,255, granting a reduction of $37\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. from the average of the previous assessment. Adding Rs. 1,20,000 for the canal villages, the new assessment stood, in round numbers, at Rs 3,80,200. This Settlement was completed in 1841, and confirmed for a period of 20 years, to expire on 1st July, 1860. The district at that time contained a total of 654 villages. Of these, however, only 442 were settled by Mr. Brown. Of the remainder, thirty villages were held as military fiefs (*jagir*), and excluded on that account from Settlement; and the dispute, already detailed, between the Government and the Patiala State, and the desire, to gain further experience as to the action of the river Ghaggar, rendered it advisable to postpone the Settlement of 182 villages lying along the north-east border of the district. These were not brought under Regular Settlement until 1852. During the currency of this Settlement 32 villages were abandoned, but the addition of the Bhiwani *pargana* in 1861 again brought up the number of villages to 659, at which figure they now stand. In 1860-61 a summary Settlement was effected for three years, in order to give time for preparations for a revision of the assessment, which was made by Munshi Amin Chand and reported by him in 1864. A variety of causes, most prominent among which was the destruction of the records during the Mutiny, tended to complicate the Settlement proceedings, but the whole was completed and sanctioned in 1863 for a term of twenty years, to expire on July 1st ;

Regular Settlement,
1852 A.D.

Revision of Settlement,
1864 A.D.

* The First Regular Settlement was conducted by Mr. Brown.

1883. The new assessment amounted to Rs. 4,10,225, or, deducting Rs. 60,478 as the assessment of the newly added territory of Bhiwani, to Rs. 3,49,748. This shows a further reduction, below the Settlement of 1840, of Rs. 80,454, or almost exactly 8 per cent.

The Settlement now current is sanctioned for a term of 20 years, from 1st July 1863. The result of the Settlement was to assess the fixed land revenue of the district at the amount of Rs. 4,10,226, being a reduction of 8 per cent, on the previous demand. The incidence of the fixed demand per acre as it stood in 1878-79 was Rs. 0-5-10 on cultivated, Rs. 0-3-3 on culturable, and Rs.0-3-0 on total area.

Class of land.	Highest Rate.			Lowest Rate		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Irrigated from canals	1	4	0	0	12	0
Most (sailab)	0	10	0	0	3	0
Dry	0	8	0	0	3	0

The general revenue rates used for purposes of assessment are thus stated (as shown in the margin) at pages 635 *ff* of the Famine Report (1879).

The areas upon which the revenue is collected are shown

in Table No. XIV ; while Table No. XXIX shows the actual revenue for the last 14 years. The statistics given in the following tables throw some light upon the working of the Settlement:--Table No. XXXI.---Balances, remissions, and takavi advances. Table No. XXXII.---Sales and mortgages of land. Tables Nos. XXXIII and XXXIIIA.--- Registration.

Table No. XVII shows the area and income of Government estates; while Table No. XIX shows the area of land acquired by Government for public purposes.

Table No. XXX shows the number of villages, parts of villages and plots and the area of land of which the revenue is assigned, the amount of that revenue, the period of assignment, and the number of assignees for each tahsil as the figures stood in 1881-82.

CHAPTER VI,

TOWNS & MUNICIPALITIES.

Chapter VI
Towns and
Municipalities
General statistics of
towns

The three large cities are all situated in the southern portion of the district, which came earliest under the direct influence of British rule. The distribution by religion of the population of these towns and the number of houses in each are shown in Table No. XLVIII, while further particulars will be found in the Census Report in Table No. XIX and its appendix, and Table No. XX. The remainder of this chapter consists of a detailed description of each town, with a brief notice of its history, the increase and decrease of its population, its commerce, manufactures, municipal government, institutions, and public buildings; and statistics of births and deaths, trade and manufactures, wherever figures are available.

Hisar Town;
description

The town of Hisar lies in north latitude 29° 9' 51" and east longitude 75° 45' 55," and contains a population of 14,167 souls. It is situated on the Western Jamna Canal, 102 miles west of Dehli, The country in the immediate neighborhood is well wooded; and numerous fruit gardens surround the town. The town itself is completely surrounded by an old wall with four gates, viz., the Dehli and Mori to the east; the Talaki, to the west; and the Nagauri, to the south. The streets are wider and less tortuous than in most native towns. They are, as a rule, well metalled, and the drainage and sanitary arrangements generally are in a fairly satisfactory condition. Straggling suburbs stretch irregularly beyond the walls in every direction, mostly composed of houses of a poorer description. The civil station lies to the south of the city, on the opposite side of the Western Jamna Canal, and contains the residences

of the district, canal; and railway officials stationed here. The Hisar Cattle Farm, described at pages 49, 50, is celebrated over all India. It is managed by a Superintendent (an officer in the Commissariat Department) whose charge extends over an estate of 43,287 acres, chiefly laid down in pasturage. The farm supplies bullocks for the second line. of artillery wagons for the whole of upper India. Bulls for breeding purposes are also reared here and distributed all over the Punjab; as well as rams of a superior class. The principal building of antiquarian or architectural. interest, within the walls, is the Jama Masjid built by Firoz Shah Tughlak; while immediately outside the town, to the west beyond the Talaki gate, are the ruins of what must have been a handsome building called the *Gujri Mahal*, said to have been built by Firoz Shah, for the residence of a Gujri mistress. Certain inscriptions, within the building, seem to bear out this story. Within the town is the

palace of the Emperor Firoz Shah. Immediately under the building a spiral staircase leads to a series of rooms, said to be connected underground with a similar building in Hansi, though this is exceedingly improbable. The gateway and guard-rooms of the old palace and the underground apartments exist in a state of good perservation. It is said that these apartments were so arranged, that a stranger wandering among the dark passages that connected them, would inevitably be drawn towards a small and dark room in the centre, to which, if he tried to extricate himself, he would invariably return. Colonel Minchin, who made a partial-exploration, believes this. account to be true. A modern building, occupied by the Superintendent of the Cattle Farm, now stands on the site of the palace. There is a good supply of excellent drinking water from the city wells, whose depths vary from 20 to 100 feet. There are also numerous tanks for drinking and washing purposes.

In the year 1354 A. D. Firoz Shah erected the fort and founded the town of Hisar; he had a canal cut from the Jamna. The place was known as *Hisar Firozah*, i.e., the "fort of Firoz Shah." He erected a red limestone pillar here, somewhat similar to the *Lat* of Firoz .Shah at Dehli. It is still standing (see Archaeological Survey Reports V., 140-142). Prior to that time, Hansi had been the principal town of the neighborhood. The new town, however, becoming the political and fiscal centre of its district, soon supplanted Hansi in importance, and for many years continued to be favourite resort of the Emperor, who made it the starting point for his hunting expeditions along the banks of the Ghaggar. The *debris* of Firoz Shah's town are still visible in the mounds and broken bricks and tiles which lie scattered profusely on the plain to the south of the modern city; and tombs and temples still remain standing to tell of by-gone splendour. These remains cover a wide area. During Muhammad Shah's reign at Dehli, Shahdad Khan resident of Kasur, was Nawab of *Hisar Firozah* for 30 years, i.e. from 1707 to' 1737 A.D. He was succeeded by three others, who ruled 22 years, i.e., till 1760.

In 1747 disturbances arose which attracted the attention of the Sikhs to this portion of the Punjab. They plundered the town

Chapter VI
Towns and
Municipalities
Hisar Town;
description

History

Chapter VI
Towns and
Municipalities
History

on several occasions between 1754 and 1769 In 1769, Nawab Taj Muhammad Khan became ruler of Hisar, which he governed for three years, being succeeded by Nawab Najaf Khan. The Mubammadans were defeated at the battle of Jind by Rajah Amar Singh of Patiala, who established his rule at Hisar and erected a fort, now known as the "old jail."

In 1783 the terrible *chalisa lcal* or famine completed the ruin which the inroads of marauding Sikhs had begun, and depopulated the town, which did not recover its prosperity for some 20 years after. About this time the Muhammadan rule at Dehli lost its vitality, and the Marahatas appeared on the scene. This period was one of constant strike in which the famous adventurer, George Thomas, the Sikhs and the Marahatas alternately gained the upper hand. There was a celebrated fort here, one of the oldest in upper India, and known as "the virgin" as it boasted to have never been taken. George Thomas repaired it: and before long a few of the old inhabitants returned, and a new town began to spring up. In 1802 Hisar passed to the British. Since then its history has been uneventful, except during the days of the mutiny, when it suffered in common with the rest of upper India, The division was transferred shortly afterwards from the North-West Provinces to the Punjab,

Taxation and trade

The municipality of Hisar was first constituted in 1867. It is now a municipality of the second class. The committee consists of the Deputy Commissioner as President, and the Civil Surgeon and District Superintendent of Police as *ex-officio* members, and other members, all of whom are appointed by the Deputy Commissioner. Table No. XLV shows the income of the municipality for the last few years. It is chiefly derived from octroi levied at a general rate on the value of all goods brought within municipal limits. There is no special local manufacture worth noticing. The trade is not extensive. Grain, *ghi*, sugar, oil, cotton, tobacco, country cloth, and English piece-goods are imported, but only in sufficient quantities to meet the local demand. It is hoped that the trade will improve on the completion of the Rewari-Firozpur (State) Railway, which is now open between Hisar and Rewari, thereby connecting the place with the Western railway system of India.

Population and vital
statistics

The population as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868,1875 and 1881, is shown below:-

Limits of enumeration.	Year of census.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Whole town ... {	1868	14,133	7,911	6,222
	1881	14,167	7,827	6,340
Municipal limits {	1868	14,133		
	1875	14,162		
	1881	14,167		

Town or suburb.	POPULATION	
	1868.	1881.
Hisar Town	14,133	13,251
Civil Lines		525
Commissariat Lines		391

It is difficult to ascertain the precise limits within which the enumerations of 1868 and 1875 were taken. The details in the margin give the population of suburbs.

Chapter VI
Towns and
Municipalities.
Population and vital
statistics

The constitution of the population by religion and the number of occupied houses are shown in Table No. XLIII. details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881. The annual birth and death-rates per mille of population since 1868 are given below, the basis of calculation being in every case the figures of the most recent Census:--

Year.	BIRTH-RATES.			DEATH-RATES.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1868 ...	...	...	...	6	7	5
1869 ...	...	...	...	72	70	73
1870 ...	12	13	11	43	42	44
1871 ...	24	25	22	44	44	44
1872 ...	23	14	9	38	37	40
1873 ...	21	10	10	28	28	28
1874 ...	35	19	16	37	35	34
1875 ...	33	19	14	44	41	48
1876 ...	35	18	17	36	33	38
1877 ...	30	15	14	34	32	37
1878 ...	27	16	11	81	82	79
1879 ...	18	10	8	45	45	45
1880 ...	22	12	9	25	29	22
1881 ...	31	17	14	37	37	36
Average ...	27	15	12	43	48	44

The actual number of births and deaths registered during the last five years is shown in Table No. XLIV.

Hansi is a town of 12,656 inhabitants, situated in latitude 29° 6' 19" north, and longitude 76° 0' 19" east. It lies on the Western Jamna Canal and on the Dehli and Hisar road, 16 miles east of Hisar. The foundation of the town of Hansi is variously attributed to Anang Pal and Rai Pithaura, the former a Tunwar, and the latter the famous Chauhan Rajput king of Dehli; and also, by another tradition, to a Chauhan chieftain named Manak Chand. The fort, at any rate, is attributed to Rai Pithaura. Prior to the foundation of Hisar in 1354, Hansi, under Hindus and Muhammadans alike, was a centre of local administration and the chief town of Haryana. In the famine of 1783 it shared the fate of the rest of the district, and lay almost deserted and in partial ruin for several years. In 1795, it became the head-quarters of the adventurer George Thomas, who had seized upon the greater part of Haryana. From this period the town began to revive. On the establishment of English rule in 1802, the town was selected as a site for a cantonment, and for many years a considerable force, consisting principally of local levies, was stationed there. In 1857, however, these levies broke into open mutiny, murdered every European

Hansi Town.

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Hansi Town

upon whom they could lay hands, and combined with the wild Rajput tribes of the district in plundering the country. On the restoration of order, it was not thought necessary to maintain the contourment, the houses of which have since fallen into decay. Hansi is well situated on the Western Jamna Canal, which flows close under the town, and contributes much to its appearance by the belts of fine trees which adorn its banks. The town is surrounded by a high brick wall, loop-holed and bastioned for defense. The houses are chiefly of brick, but many have fallen into ruins since the mutiny, the population being reduced by the removal of the garrison. The town seems to be falling to decay, and the streets seem quiet and comparatively deserted. On its north are two wide streets, running through the town, and crossing each other at right angles. Half their breadth is paved, the other half being left unpaved for the use of carts. The other streets are carried off by masonry drains in the main streets; the greater part finds its way out by the Delhi gate, and there collects and forms a marsh, impassable for months after the rainy season. The water-supply is principally derived from the canal. Water in the wells is brackish.

The town has no foreign trade. There is a sleepy traffic in country produce, cotton, ghi, and cereals, but this is all. It has no manufactures. The public buildings are the usual tahsil buildings, a police station (thana), Municipal Committee house, dispensary, a school-house, and a sarai. There is every hope that the local trade will largely increase as soon as through Railway traffic has been established between Rewari and Firozpur. The line passes close to the town, which is thus connected with the head-quarters of the district in one direction, and with the Rajputana Railway system in the other. The Municipal Committee consists of seven members appointed by the Deputy Commissioner. The income for the last few years is shown in Table XLV, and is chiefly derived from octroi.

Limits of enumerations.	Year of Census.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Whole town ...	1868	13,563	6,958	6,605
	1881	12,656	6,388	6,068
Municipal limits ...	1868	13,563		
	1875	12,210		
	1881	12,656		

population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868, 1875 and 1881, is shown below:-

It is difficult to ascertain the precise limits within which the enumeration of 1868 and 1875

Town or suburb.	POPULATION.	
	1868.	1881.
Hansi town ...		11,205
Mandi ...	13,563	862
Minor suburbs...		59

were taken. The details in the margin, give the population of suburbs. The figures for the population within municipal limits according to the Census of 1868 are taken from the published

Vital statistics

tables of the Census of 1875 ; but it was noted at the time that their accuracy was in many cases doubtful. It would appear from information supplied by the Deputy Commissioner that the enumeration of 1868 included all the small suburbs known as *dhanis*, which were excluded in 1875 and 1881. The Deputy Commissioner in the district report on the Census of 1881, attributes the falling off in population, partly to the abolition of the Customs line, and partly to the fact that on the Census night many labourers from the town were working on the canal. The constitution of the population by religion, and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881. The annual birth and death-rates per mille of population since 1868 are given below, the basis of calculation being in every case the figures of the most recent Census: -

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Vital statistics.

Year.	BIRTH-RATES.			DEATH-RATES.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1868 ... ..	...	...	...	11	11	16
1869 ... ..	...	...	...	32	33	36
1870	25	27	23	44	39	31
1871	36	39	32	52	51	56
1872	32	17	15	39	40	50
1873	26	14	12	27	27	40
1874	36	20	17	30	30	39
1875	40	20	19	37	35	50
1876	40	21	19	38	34	23
1877	31	16	15	23	26	32
1878	22	11	11	61	59	43
1879	18	9	9	44	45	42
1880	30	16	14	25	25	24
1881	33	17	17	30	30	35
Average... ..	31	16	15	37	36	39

The actual number of births and deaths registered during the last five years is Shown in Table No. XLIV.

Sisae is a very large village, situated at a distance of about five miles to the north-east of Hansi. It contains 5,174 inhabitants. It is simply an agricultural village, remarkable only for its unusual size. It is not municipal town.

Sisae Town

The Population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1886 and 1881, is shown in the margin. The constitution of the population by religion and the

Year of census	Persons	Males	Females
1868	4,951	2,678	2,273
1881	5,174	2,705	2,459

number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881.

The town of Bhiwani lies in latitude 28°46'0" north, and longitude 76°11'45" east, and is situated at a distance of 35 miles south east of Hisar. The city may be said to be a creation of the

Bhiwani Town

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Bhiwani Town.

British regime. At the beginning of the present century, when the Dehli territory came under British rule, Bhiwani was an insignificant village. The tradition runs that one Nim, a Rajput, founded the village in honour of his wife Bahni, who had saved his life from treachery, and called it by her name. In 1817 Mr. William Fraser, Political Resident of Dehli, selected the village for the site of a *mandi* or free market. Up to that time the seat of the commerce of the neighbourhood had been the town of Dadri, a few miles to the south-east of Bhiwani, and at that time under the rule of an independent Nawab.*The exactions and excessive duties extorted by the Nawab were a source of constant fear and annoyance to the resident traders; and upon the establishment of a mart at Bhiwani, all the principal firms at once transferred their business thither. The rise of the city to importance was rapid. It was, till recently, the main channel through which all the trade from Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Jaipur and other States of Rajputana has flowed into Hindustan, and the principal mercantile firms of every part of Southern India had agents or *gumashtas* there. The opening of the Rajputana Railway diverted its trade, and enormously decreased its commercial importance. But it is hoped that the construction of the Ferozpur Railway, which passes close to the town on its west side, will restore its former prosperity. The town stands in an open sandy plain interspersed with low sand-hills, and bare, save in the immediate neighbourhood of the town and in favorable seasons, of trees or cultivation. Even round the town, containing though it does a large number of wealthy merchants, there is not a single garden of any description. Owing to the rapidity with which the town was increasing in size, it became necessary five years ago to throw back the old enclosing wall for a considerable distance, so as to allow room for extension. The new wall is assed by 12 main gateways. The vacant space between the new and old walls is rapidly being covered with mud hovels and enclosures, huddled together with no order or arrangement. The houses of the older part of the town are built of brick, and are frequently of several storeys. Good streets, of from 15 to 40 feet wide, extend through the town in all directions. The larger are well metalled with *kankar*, the smaller are generally unpaved and sandy. There are open outer drains on both sides of the streets; but the situation of the town being lower than the surrounding country, great difficulties lie in the way of organizing a complete drainage system. Most of the drainage at present finds its way into tanks, which are to be found both inside and outside the town; and form almost the sole supply of drinking water. The largest of these tanks is outside the old town but inside the new walls. A suggestion has been made for the formation of a public garden in its vicinity. The water-supply is deplorably bad. The wells are 60 feet deep, and the water in them is generally brackish and undrinkable. There are 82 inside and 19 outside the town, but only 26 are fit for use; in some of these even the water becomes

* The estates of the Nawab were confiscated in "1857 on account of his rebellion at the time of the mutiny, and were bestowed upon the Raja. of Jind as a reward for his fidelity.

offensive and undrinkable in the hot weather, or runs dry altogether. The only other water obtainable is from the *johars*, or water holes, already mentioned, of which there are 9 within and 17 outside the town. The greater part of them are merely irregular pits out of which the soil has been removed for making bricks. The majority of them, however, are freely used by the inhabitant.

Bhiwani is a municipal town. The committee consists of nine members. The municipal income is raised at present entirely from octroi levied on imports. Table No. XLV shows the income of the municipality for the last few years. The town still has a considerable trade in grain, cloth, and brass vessels; and is by far the largest and most important town in the division. The principal institutions of the town Bhiwani are the school and dispensary, and the remaining public buildings and offices are the, *tahsil*, *post* office, police station and committee hall. It contains many temples and *dharrnsalas* built by Hindu merchants.

The population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868, 1875 and 1881, is

Limits of enumeration	Year of census	Persons	Male	Females
Whole town....	1868	32,254	18,228	14,026
	1881	33,762	17,631	16,131
Municipal limits..	1868	32,254		
	1875	33,220		
	1881	33,762		

and 1881, is shown in the margin. It is difficult to ascertain the precise limits with in enumerations of 1868 and 1875 were taken. The figures for the population within municipal limits, according to the Census of 1868, are taken from the published tables of the Census of 1875; but it was noted at the time that their accuracy was in many cases doubtful. The constitution of the population by religion, and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881. The annual birth and death-rates per mille of population since 1868 are given below, the basis of calculation being in every case the figures of the most recent Census :-

Year.	BIRTH-RATES.			DEATH-RATES.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1868 ...	...	...	...	15	15	16
1869 ...	...	...	...	34	33	36
1870 ...	47	45	50	29	28	31
1871 ...	55	51	60	52	49	56
1872 ...	47	24	23	45	41	50
1873 ...	44	22	22	36	34	40
1874 ...	55	29	26	35	31	39
1875 ...	43	23	20	45	41	50
1876 ...	39	21	18	22	21	23
1877 ...	40	21	18	33	34	32
1878 ...	35	19	16	45	46	43
1879 ...	31	17	14	42	42	42
1880 ...	39	20	19	23	22	24
1881 ...	42	22	20	33	32	35
Average...	43	22	20	36	35	39

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Tuhana Town

The actual number of births and deaths registered during the last five years is shown in Table No. XLIV.

Tuhana. is a small town of 4,155 inhabitants, mostly Pathans, and is situated 40 miles north of Hisar. It was once a city of some size and importance, founded, according to tradition, in the sixth century A.D. by Anang Pal, Tunwar Raja of Dehli. Ruined during the Chauhan supremacy, ill recovered its prosperity in the early Musalman period, but having suffered many vicissitudes of plunder and famine, it has now sunk into an inferior position. The town is surrounded by a wall, and contains one central *bazar*. It possesses a police station, and is a municipal town. The committee consists of five members. Tuhana has but little trade; its income for the last few years is given in

Limits of enumeration	Year of census	Persons	Males	females
Whole town...	1868	3,533	1,856	1,677
	1881	4,155	2,111	2,044
Municipal limits	1868	3,533		
	1875	3,455		
	1881	4,155		

Table No. XLV. The population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868, 1875 and 1881, is shown in the margin. The constitution of the population by religion,

and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881, 1875 and 1881, is shown in the margin. The constitution of religion and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881.

Ratiya Town

Ratiya is a small municipal town of 3,212 inhabitants, distant from Hisar 40 miles, north-west. It is now scarcely more than an agricultural village. It was originally held by Tunwar Rajputs, and conquered from them by the Pathan invaders. It was devastated by the terrible "*chalisa* famine" in 1783; and has been colonized since British occupation by its present inhabitants. The municipal committee consists of five members. Ratiya has a small trade in grain, leather, and wool, and is the seat of a considerable manufacture of raw-hide jars or *kupas*. Its income for the last few years is shown in Table No. XLV. The population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868, 1875 and

Limits of enumeration	Year of census	Persons	Males	females
Whole town...	1868	2,745	1,516	1,229
	1881	3,212	1,730	1,482
Municipal limits	1868	2,745		
	1875	3,120		
	1881	3,212		

1881, is shown in the margin. The constitution of the population by religion, and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII Details of sex will be found in Table No.

XX of the Census Report of 1881.

Fatehabad Town

Fatehabad is a small municipal town of 2,992 inhabitants situated in latitude 29° 31' north, and longitude 75° 30' east 30 miles to the north-west of Hisar. This town was founded by the Emperor Firoz Shah, and named after his son Fateh Khan. There were three other forts built at the same time by Firoz Shah in the neighbourhood of Fatehabad, named, after his other three sons Muhammadpur, Zafarabad and razabad. Villages bearing the

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above name still mark the sites, but the forts have long ago disappeared. At the opening of the present century, Fatehabad was the seat of the Bhatti chieftain Khan Bahadar Khan, who has been alluded to elsewhere. On the northern side of the town runs a cut from the Ghaggar, constructed by Firoz Shah, which is still in use for purposes of irrigation. The town is well built, and stands on an eminence slightly above the level of the surrounding country. The bulk of the inhabitants are Rains, who were the former proprietors, but lost their status several years ago, on account of a default in payment of the Government revenue.

The town contains a police station, school, dispensary, bungalow; and *sarai*. The Municipal Committee consists of seven members. Fatehabad has a considerable manufacture of country cloth; grain and *ghi* are exported to Bikaner, and there is also a brisk trade in leather. The town contains some small *bazars*, but the greater part of it is inhabited by agriculturists. At the northeast end there are the remains of the fort of Firoz Shah, within which is situated a small *minar* of that period. The main road between Sirsa and Hisar runs past this town; but traffic is now diverted to the line of rail. Bhatti is the station on the line which is nearest to Fatehabad, the distance being 12 miles. Fatehabad is a municipality, and its income for the last few year is shown in Table No.

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Fatehabad Town

Limits of enumeration.	Year of census.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
Whole town	1869	3,175	1,818	1,357
	1881	2,922	1,613	1,379
Municipal Limits	1868	3,175		
	1875	3,084		
	1881	2,992		

XLV. The population, as ascertained at the enumerations of 1868, 1875 and 1881, is shown in the margin.

The details in the margin give the population of suburbs. The

Town or suburb.	POPULATION.	
	1868.	1881
Fatehabad town	} 3,175	} 2,320 672
Basi Thakur		
Total	3,175	2,992

Constitution of the population by religion, and the number of occupied houses, are shown in Table No. XLIII. Details of sex will be found in Table No. XX of the Census Report of 1881.