

GAZETTEER OF INDIA

ORISSA

KORAPUT

*With the best compliments of
the Chief Editor
and
the State Editor,
Orissa District Gazetteers,
Bhubaneswar*

ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



KORAPUT

By

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**PRINTED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT
ORISSA GOVERNMENT PRESS
CUTTACK
1966**

PREFACE

Life and administration in the district of Koraput have changed rapidly since 1945 when the first Gazetteer of the district (compiled by Mr. R. C. S. Bell, I.C.S.) was published. Instead, therefore, of attempting a revision the Gazetteer had to be practically rewritten completely. The drafting has been along the lines indicated by the Government of India and followed by the other States. A questionnaire was framed and circulated to District Officers of the various Departments, the Heads of Departments and certain officers of the Government of India. The answers received were processed and a preliminary draft was prepared. It was examined at various levels in the office and in the field and sent to the Government of India for their general approval which was obtained. The draft was examined by a small Committee consisting of (1) Sri V. Ramanathan, I.C.S., Member, Board of Revenue, Orissa, (2) Sri Bimal Kishore Mishra, I.A.S., Secretary, Revenue and Excise Departments, Orissa, and (3) Sri Nilamani Senapati, I.C.S., (Retd.), Chief Editor, District Gazetteers, Orissa. At this stage the Committee secured the able assistance of Sri Ramakanta Rath, I.A.S., Secretary, Board of Revenue, Orissa, who attended all its sittings. Sri T. Sanganna, Minister for Tribal & Rural Welfare, Orissa, was good enough to take pains to go through the draft and offer his suggestions which were included in the text. It was then placed before the Advisory Committee on revision of District Gazetteers and approved of. The Advisory Committee consisted of :

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| (1) Sri Sadasiba Tripathy, | Chief | Chairman |
| Minister, Orissa. | | |
| (2) Sri Chandra Mohan Singh, | | Member |
| Deputy Minister, Revenue. | | |
| (3) Padmabhusan Dr. P. Parija, | I.E.S. | Member |
| (Retd.), Vice-Chancellor, Utkal | | |
| University. | | |

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| (4) Sri V. Ramanathan, I.C.S., Member,
Board of Revenue, Orissa. | Member |
| (5) Sri A. K. Bairan, M.C., I.A.S., Chief
Secretary, Orissa. | Member |
| (6) Sri R. P. Padhi, I.A.S., Development
Commissioner and Additional Chief
Secretary, Orissa. | Member |
| (7) Sri B. K. Mishra, I A. S., Secretary to
Government, Revenue and Excise
Departments. | Member |
| (8) Sri Nilamani Senapati, I.C.S. (Retd.),
Chief Editor, District Gazetteers,
Orissa. | Secretary |

In spelling place names scrupulous care has been taken to ascertain the name according to local pronunciation and names have been spelt generally according to the Hunterian system of transliteration. To avoid repetition in the text and to simplify printing, diacritical marks have been placed in the Index. The spellings adopted by the Survey of India in their maps do not at times agree with corresponding spellings in revenue maps and, in the text of the Gazetteer, we have been obliged at times to adopt different spellings. Certain established spellings like Jeypore (Jaypur) which have come down from old documents and have been accepted in administrative usage had to be maintained. Where, however, a spelling adopted by the Survey of India differs from that given in the text, we have indicated both in the Index and have also indicated the Oriya equivalent.

This Gazetteer would never have been published but for the assistance of a large number of officers of the Government of India and of the State Government. We would be failing in our duty if we do not record our gratitude to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Editor,

District Gazetteers, and the staff of the Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education, who have scrutinised the draft and given valuable suggestions designed to improve its quality. It would be appropriate to mention here that a part of the expenditure on the compilation and printing of District Gazetteers is being met by the Government of India. The Geological Survey of India and the Meteorological Survey of India supplied all the information we needed. The Railways, Posts & Telegraphs, Income Tax and State Bank of India authorities have also been extremely helpful. To the Dandakaranya Development Authority we are indebted for the information contained in the Supplement and for some photographs. Their assistance for subsequent Gazetteers, we hope, would be equally generous and quick.

We are particularly indebted to Dr. B. K. Behura, Professor of Zoology, Utkal University, Dr. B. Samantaray, Principal, Ravenshaw College, Dr. K. C. Sahu, Scientist, Regional Research Laboratory and Dr. Gopal Charan Mohapatra, Lecturer, Punjab University, Chandigarh ; the Gazetteer owes much to the valuable assistance they have rendered. Sri Kulamani Mahapatra, Assistant Director, Tribal & Rural Welfare Department, has been closely associated with the drafting of Chapter III and has contributed considerably to its utility.

We take this occasion to thank Sri Sadasiba Tripathy, the Chief Minister, who evinced a keen interest in the work throughout.

We should also like to place on record our appreciation of the officers and staff of the Gazetteers Section but for whose co-operation and zeal the Gazetteer would not have seen the light of day. The Superintendent and staff of the Orissa Government Press deserve the gratitude of everyone for sparing no efforts to ensure accurate printing and the publication of the Gazetteer before the Republic Day of 1966.

A new subdivision with headquarters at Jeypore has been created, with effect from the 1st of January 1966. It comprises the tahsils of Jeypore, Borigumma and Kotpad. As the text of the Gazetteer was sent to the Press earlier, this information could not be incorporated therein.

And, finally, a word about the map appended to the Gazetteer. It has been prepared by the Survey of India and, we believe, would be of considerable utility to all those who may need it. We are thankful to the Surveyor-General of India, the Director, Eastern Circle, Survey of India and Sri M. W. Kalappa, Deputy Director of Surveys and Map Publication, Orissa, for the promptness with which they have attended to the task. We would, however, like to add that the inter-State boundary at three places on the Western Sector following the Kolab river (known as Sabari downstream), viz :

(i) from Latitude $18^{\circ}55'$ and Longitude $82^{\circ}15'$ to Latitude $18^{\circ}46'$ and Longitude $82^{\circ}08'$,

(ii) from Latitude $18^{\circ}40'$ and Longitude $81^{\circ}54'$ to Latitude $18^{\circ}35'$ and Longitude $81^{\circ}58'$,

(iii) from Latitude $18^{\circ}21'$ and Longitude $81^{\circ}40'$ to Latitude $17^{\circ}49'$ and Longitude $81^{\circ}24'$

and at one place on the Eastern Sector (from Latitude $18^{\circ}41'$ and Longitude $83^{\circ}04'$ to Latitude $18^{\circ}36'$ and Longitude $83^{\circ}03'$) has not been accepted by the State Government who have been contending that the western and eastern boundaries at these places should be shown further to the west and to the east respectively. The above portions of the boundary have been shown by the undemarcated State boundary symbol. The correct alignment of the boundary was pointed out to the Survey of India, but the time at our disposal being limited, no decision could be obtained. The Survey of India have, as pointed out above, shown the boundary at the above places as undemarcated, and have indicated that this symbol relates to areas under dispute.

We would like to place it clearly on record that the boundary at the above places shown in the map does not commit the State Government in any manner and the undemarcated State boundary symbol is used, according to paragraph 154 of Handbook of Topography (Chapter VI, Eighth Edition, published by the Survey of India) "for such State boundaries as are known to be undemarcated, or in dispute". It is in the latter sense that the undemarcated State boundary symbol at the above places should be interpreted. The map does not also include the group of villages known as Borra Mutha which is an enclave inside the Visakhapatnam district ; whether the enclave belongs to Orissa or to Andhra Pradesh is yet disputed and the State Government's position is independent of the exclusion of the Borra Mutha from the map.

NILAMANI SENAPATI

Republic Day, 1966

NABIN KUMAR SAHU

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER I

General

PAGES
1—38

Introducing the District—Origin of the name of the District—Location, General Boundaries and Population—History of the District as an Administrative Unit—Sub-divisions, Tahsils and Police-stations—Natural divisions—Hill system—River system—Lakes and Tanks—Geology—Mineral Wealth—Botany—Forests—Zoology—Climate—Tables I to IV.

CHAPTER II

History

39—78

Pre and Proto History—Archaeology—Early History—The Satavahanas—The Ikshvakus—The Vakatakas—The Nalas—The Matharas—The Eastern Gangas—The Somavamsis—The later Gangas and the Kalachuris—The Chindaka Nagas—The Matsya family—The Silavamsa—The Suryavamsa—Muslim occupation—Anglo-French conflict—British occupation—National Movement—Appendices I and II.

CHAPTER III

People

79—154

Population—Languages—Difference of language within the same linguistic group—Tribal dialects—Scripts used—General structure of Caste—General structure of Tribes—Religious beliefs—Customs and practices—Customs and practices regarding occupations and economic activities—Intercaste relationship—New Religious Movements—Property and Inheritance—Marriage and Morals—Home Life—Communal Life—Festivals—Impact of abolition of Zamindari system on social life—Appendices A to E.

CHAPTER IV

Agriculture and Irrigation

155—187

Land reclamation—Irrigation—Rainfall: degree of dependance—Soil conservation—Soil types—Cropping pattern—Crops—Cultivation—Agricultural implements—Seeds—Manures and fertilisers—Pest and plant protection—Extension of improved methods of agriculture—Agricultural Farms and Research Station—State Assistance—Animal Husbandry—Poultry—Animal diseases—Fisheries—Forestry—Forest-produce—Markets for forest-produce—Rights and concessions—Exploitation of forest-produce—Exploitation of minor forest-produce—Present system of management—Forest revenue—Development of forests—Natural calamities—Appendices A to E.

CHAPTER V

Industries

PAGES

General—Old-time industries—Power—Mining—	188—200
Large-scale industries—Medium-scale industries—Small-scale industries—Cottage industries—Other minor industries—Panchayat industries—Labour and Employers' Organisation and Welfare of industrial labour.	

CHAPTER VI

Banking, Trade and Commerce

History of indigenous banking—Rural indebtedness—	201—220
Co-operative Credit Societies and Co-operative Stores—	
Banking—Life Insurance—Currency and Coinage—Course of trade, imports and exports of the district—Trade centres—Regulated markets—Important retail marketing centres—Fairs, Melas and other rural marketing centres—State trading, Fair-price shops, etc.—Consumers' Association and Labour Organisation and organs for dissemination of trade news—Weights and measures—Appendix.	

CHAPTER VII

Communication

Old-time trade routes and highways and modes of conveyance—National Highways and other roads—Vehicles and conveyances—Road Transport—Rail roads—Ferries, waterways and bridges—Transport by Air, other means of Transport, travel and tourist facilities—Post and Telegraphs, Telephones—Radio and Wireless Stations—Transport and Communications as a means of employment—Organisation of Employers and Employees in the field of Transport and Communication—Appendices A and B.	221—244
--	---------

CHAPTER VIII

Miscellaneous Occupations

General—Public Administration—Legal Practice—Medical Practice—Teachers—Men of Arts, Letters and Science—Priests, Astrologers and Palmists—Fishermen—Drivers—Tailors—Cobblers—Blacksmiths—Goldsmiths and Silversmiths—Carpenters—Potters and Brick-layers—Bakers and Sweetmeat-makers—Beedi and Tobacco preparers—Hair cutters—Washermen—Basket-weaving—Domestic Servants—Tattooing.	245—256
---	---------

CHAPTER IX

Economic Trends

PAGES

General level of prices—General level of Wages— 257—269
Standard of living—Employment Exchange—Appendix.

CHAPTER X

General Administration

Historical background—Present administrative 270—277
set-up.

CHAPTER XI

Revenue Administration

Jeypore estate—Management of the estate—Various 278—313
Land-revenue systems—Present systems of survey ;
assessment and collection of land-revenue—Legal position
and preparation of Khatas under different status—Land
Reforms—Restriction on alienation of land—Bhoodan—
Rural wages and agricultural labour—Administration
of other sources of revenue—Appendices I to V.

CHAPTER XII

Law & Order and Justice

Introduction—Incidence of crime in the district— 314—331
Organisation of the Police Force—Regular Police, Railway
Police, Prohibition squad, etc.—Jails and lock-ups—
History of judicial organisation—Organisation of Civil and
Criminal Courts—Nature of cases handled—Legal
professions—Statement.

CHAPTER XIII

Other Departments

Public Works Department—Electricity Department 332—335
—Agriculture Department—Veterinary Department—
Forest Department—Industries Department—Co-operation
Department.

CHAPTER XIV

Local Self-Government

History—Union Boards—District and Local Boards— 336—357
Jeypore Municipality—Notified Area Councils—Town-
planning—Grama Panchayats—Panchayat Samitis—Zilla
Parishad—Appendices A to F.

CHAPTER XV

Education and Culture

	PAGES
Historical background—Beginnings of Western Education and pioneer work done—Growth of Literacy—Spread of Education among Women and Backward Classes and Tribes—General Education—Technical Education—Other Educational Activities,	358—368

CHAPTER XVI

Medical and Public Health Services

Survey of Public Health and Medical facilities in early times—Vital statistics—Diseases common to the district—Public Hospitals and Dispensaries—Private Hospitals and Dispensaries—Medical and Public Health Research Centres and Institutions for disseminating knowledge on public health—Sanitation—Activities of Health and Sanitary Organisation—Appendix.	369—392
--	---------

CHAPTER XVII

Other Social Services

Prohibition—Advancement of Backward Classes and Tribes—Religious Endowments.	393—398
--	---------

CHAPTER XVIII

Public Life and Voluntary Social Services Organisations

Representation of the district in the State and the Union Legislatures—Newspapers published in the district and their importance—Voluntary Social Services Organisations.	399—404
---	---------

CHAPTER XIX

Places of Interest

Alamanda—Ambadola—Bagara—Balimela—Bandhugan—Bhairabasingpur—Bissamcuttack—Boipariguda—Borigumma—Chandrapur—Chatikona—Devagiri—Gorakhpur—Govindapalli—Gudari—Gunupur—Gupteswar Cave—Hathi Pathar—Jalapur—Jalatar—Jeypore—Kalyansingpur—Kashipur—Kechala—Kendupada—Kondakamberu—Koraput—Kotpad—Kujendri—Lakshmipur—Machkund waterfall—Malkangiri—Mathili—Minnajhola—Motu—Nandapur—Narayana—Napatna—Nowrangpur—Padmapur—Padwa—Papadahandi—Payakpada—Pottangi—Rayagada—Sankrida—Semiliguda—Suai—Sunabeda—Sunki—Tentulikhunti—Umarkot.	405—429
---	---------

SUPPLEMENT I

Note on the Activities of the Dandakaranya Project ..	430—438
---	---------

SUPPLEMENT II

Kashipur ..	439—457
GENERAL TABLES I to VI ..	459—472
PLATES	
INDEX ..	475—511

 Abbreviations for Chapter II—History

Ep. Ind.	..	Epigraphia Indica
Ind. Ant.	..	Indian Antiquary
Ind. Arch.	..	Indian Archaeology
JAHS	..	Journal of Andhra Historical Research Society
JASB	..	Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal
JBORS	..	Journal of Bihar and Orissa Research Society
JPRASB	..	Journal and Proceedings of Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal.
KHRJ	..	Kalinga Historical Research Journal
OHRJ	..	Orissa Historical Research Journal
SII	..	South Indian Inscriptions