HARYANA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

REPRINT OF KARNAL DISTRICT GAZETTEER, 1883-84



GAZETTEERS ORGANISATION
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
HARYANA
CHANDIGARH (INDIA)

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The Gazetteer was published in 1884 during British regime.

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT

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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 Editor obtained the material and information for the drafting of this gazetteer from the Settlement Reports 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 Major Roberts and Messrs. Benton and Douie. The gazetteer was compiled under the authority of Punjab Government. It was printed at the Arya Press, Lahore in 1884.

The Volume is the reprinted edition of the Karnal District Gazetteer of 1883-84. This is the twelfth 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, Gazetteers 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)

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Compiled and Published under the authority of the Punjab Government.



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PREFACE.

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 utilised. Of the present volume, Section A of Chap. V (General Administration), and the whole of Chap. VI (Towns), have been for the most part supplied by the Deputy Commissioner; and Section A of Chap. III (Statistics of Populaion) 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. Ibbetson's report on the southern parganahs,* and from the volume of extracts from old Settlement Reports of the Thanesar District. These latter afford very inadequate material for an account of that portion of the district to which they relate.

No better or fuller material, however, was either available or procurable within the time allowed. But when the settlement operations now in progress are finished, 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 Major Roberts and Messrs. Benton and Douie and by the Irrigation Department so far as regards the canals of the district. 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 compiled by the Editor, has been prepared for and passed through the press by Mr. Stack.

THE EDITOR:

Note. -Mr. Ibbetson's text has very often been modified by the district authorities, especially in details.

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