

The District is divided for purposes of administration into the four *tahsils* of MIĀNWĀLI, ISA KHEL, BHAKKAR, and LEIAH, each under a *tahsildār* and a *naib-tahsildār*. The two last form the Bhakkar subdivision, under the charge of an Assistant Commissioner. The Deputy-Commissioner is aided by three Assistant or Extra Assistant Commissioners, one of whom is in charge of the District treasury. For the prevention of the illicit extraction of salt, a preventive establishment supervised by a European officer is located at selected points among the hills, from which all exposed salt can be seen.

The Deputy-Commissioner as District Magistrate is responsible for criminal justice. The District Judge is in charge of civil judicial work, and both officers are under the supervision of the Divisional and Sessions Judge of the Shāhpur Civil Division. There are three Munsifs: one sits at head-quarters, one at Bhakkar, and one at Karor. The Frontier Crimes Regulation is in force throughout the District. The Isa Khel *tahsil* is subject to inroads from trans-border outlaws and their confederates in Kohāt and Bannu. Cattle-stealing is the principal crime. Besides the facilities which the great Thal desert affords for transporting cattle into other Districts, the high jungle along the bank of the Indus makes a most effective hiding-place, especially in the flood season. Crime in the Thal also is very hard to detect, owing to the great distances between police stations. Professional trackers are largely employed, and occasionally accomplish marvellous feats of long-distance tracking.

The fiscal conditions which obtain in the north are very different from those of the southern *tahsils*, and even the two northern *tahsils* have widely different histories. Miānwāli appears to have paid the large sum of $1\frac{1}{4}$ lakhs under Sikh rule. Lump assessments were made on annexation and in 1850, until in 1853 the Deputy-Commissioner of Leiah made a summary settlement of all the country west and south of the Salt Range, including the modern *tahsils* of Miānwāli, Leiah, and Bhakkar. Leiah and Bhakkar had been summarily settled once before, and a careful measurement of all the cultivation was made. The demand for the three *tahsils* was more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs. Various other summary settlements were made in these *tahsils*, but the Leiah District was broken up in 1861.

Isa Khel became subject to the Durrānis on the downfall of the Mughal empire, and paid revenue to them, sometimes without, but more often after, coercion. In 1836 the Sikhs established themselves here. The annual amount they realized is

not known, but after annexation a quarter of the estimated value of the crops was collected for four years. In 1853 John Nicholson made a summary settlement, based on these collections, imposing a severe assessment which lasted for five years. In 1857 another and more lenient summary assessment was made, which remained in force for eighteen years.

The regular settlement of Bannu District, made in 1871-9, treated the *tahsils* of Miānwāli and Isa Khel very lightly. A fluctuating assessment was generally levied in the riverain tracts, Rs. 1-4 per acre being charged on all land sown in any year, except land newly broken up, which paid 12 annas. These *tahsils* came under revision of settlement in 1903, and an increase of Rs. 72,000, or 39 per cent., on the old revenue of 1.9 lakhs is expected.

The regular settlement of Dera Ismail Khān District was carried out from 1872 to 1879. The Thal tract of the Bhakkar and Leiah *tahsils* was assessed at a fixed revenue, but the assessment broke down, and since 1887 a semi-fluctuating system has been in force. The Indus valley portion of these two *tahsils* was originally assessed at a fluctuating acreage rate. At the latest settlement, 1898-1904, the same system of semi-fluctuating assessment, somewhat modified in its details, has been continued in the Thal of both *tahsils*. The principle is that, when a share equal to from one-fourth to three-fourths of the area irrigated by a well falls out of cultivation, a corresponding fraction of the assessment will be remitted. The revenue on the 'dry' cultivation and the grazing revenue are fixed. In the Indus valley a system of fluctuating crop-rates has been introduced, and the whole revenue varies. The demand, including cesses, for the whole District in 1903-4 amounted to nearly 5.7 lakhs. The average size of a proprietary holding is 57 acres, but some very large holdings raise the average.

The collections of land revenue alone and of total revenue are shown below, in thousands of rupees :—

| | 1900-1. | 1903-4. |
|---------------------|---------|---------|
| Land revenue . . . | 4,27 | 4,06 |
| Total revenue . . . | 6,08 | 6,07 |

Local and
municipal.

The District contains six municipalities: Miānwāli, Isa Khel, Kālābāgh, Bhakkar, Leiah, and Karor. Outside these, local affairs are managed by a District board, whose income in 1903-4 was Rs. 40,000, mainly derived from a local rate. The

expenditure in the same year was Rs. 45,000, the largest item being Rs. 17,000 spent on education.

The police force numbers 492 of all ranks, including 81 municipal and 8 ferry police, under a Superintendent, who usually has 3 inspectors under him. There are 15 police stations and 5 police posts. The District jail at head-quarters has accommodation for 317 prisoners of all classes.

The District stands sixteenth among the twenty-eight Districts of the Province in respect of the literacy of its population. In 1901 the proportion of literate persons was 3.7 per cent. (6.7 males, 0.3 females). The number of pupils under instruction was 7,589 in 1900-1, and 8,290 in 1903-4. In the latter year there were 4 secondary, 72 primary, and 3 special (public) schools, 13 advanced and 208 elementary (private) schools, with 412 girls in the public and 967 in the private schools. The principal school is the high school at Miānwāli town. Industrial schools for girls are maintained at Isa Khel and Mankerā. The total expenditure on education in 1903-4 was Rs. 27,000, of which Local funds contributed Rs. 15,000, municipal funds Rs. 2,600, and fees Rs. 4,000.

Besides the Miānwāli civil hospital, the District has five out-lying dispensaries. These institutions in 1904 treated a total of 98,407 out-patients and 2,349 in-patients, and 4,962 operations were performed. The expenditure was Rs. 15,000, District and municipal funds contributing Rs. 5,000 each, and Government Rs. 5,000.

The number of successful vaccinations in 1903-4 was 10,464, representing 24.7 per 1,000 of the population. The Vaccination Act has been extended to the towns of Miānwāli, Isa Khel, and Leiah.

[D. C. J. Ibbetson, *District Gazetteers of Bannu and Dera Ismail Khān* (1883-4); S. S. Thorburn, *Settlement Report of Bannu* (1879); H. St. G. Tucker, *Settlement Report of Dera Ismail Khān* (1879).]

Miānwāli Tahsīl.—Head-quarters *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, lying between 32° 11' and 33° 2' N. and 71° 16' and 71° 58' E., with an area of 1,478 square miles. The population in 1901 was 111,883, compared with 103,909 in 1891. It contains the town of MIĀNWĀLI¹ (population, 3,591), the head-quarters, and 69 villages. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1903-4 to Rs. 72,000. The northern part of the *tahsīl* is enclosed between the western slopes of the Salt Range on the east and the Indus on the west,

¹ See note on p. 205.

forming a picturesque corner, which contrasts with the monotonous level of the remainder of the cis-Indus territory of the District, in which its southern part lies.

Isa Khel Tahsīl.—Trans-Indus *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, lying between $32^{\circ} 30'$ and $33^{\circ} 14'$ N. and $71^{\circ} 7'$ and $71^{\circ} 44'$ E., with an area of 678 square miles. It contains the municipalities of ISA KHEL (population, 7,630), the headquarters, and KĀLĀBĀGH (5,824); and 43 villages. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1903-4 to 1.6 lakhs. Lying on the west bank of the Indus, this *tahsīl* is cut off from the rest of the District, and would seem to belong more properly to the North-West Frontier Province, but is separated even more completely from Bannu by the semicircular fringe of the Chichāli and Maidāni hills, which leave it open only on the river side. These hills drain into Isa Khel and make it fertile. Its extreme northern portion, known as the Bhangi Khel country, is a wild and rugged region, a continuation of the Khattak hills. The Bhangi Khel are a soldierly, but numerically small, section of the great Khattak tribe, and occupied their present country about 400 years ago. The *tahsīl* derives its name from the Isa Khel tribe, a section of the Niāzai Afghāns, who, settling here during the sixteenth century, long maintained their independence of the Mughal empire, and at last succumbed to the Nawāb of Dera Ismail Khān.

Bhakkar Subdivision.—Subdivision of Miānwāli District, Punjab, consisting of the BHAKKAR and LEIAH TAHSĪLS.

Bhakkar Tahsīl.—Central cis-Indus *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, lying between $31^{\circ} 10'$ and $32^{\circ} 22'$ N. and $70^{\circ} 47'$ and 72° E., with an area of 3,134 square miles. Most of it lies in the desolate plain of the THAL, but the Kachhi or strip of riverain land along the Indus is of great fertility. The population in 1901 was 125,803, compared with 119,219 in 1891. The *tahsīl* contains the town of BHAKKAR (population, 5,312), the head-quarters, and 196 villages. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1903-4 to 1.7 lakhs. Places of interest in the *tahsīl* are MANKERĀ and Muhammad Rājan, at the latter of which is the shrine of Pīr Muhammad Rājan, who died there on a pilgrimage.

Leiah Tahsīl.—Southernmost cis-Indus *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, lying between $30^{\circ} 36'$ and $31^{\circ} 24'$ N. and $70^{\circ} 46'$ and $71^{\circ} 50'$ E., with an area of 2,417 square miles. The population in 1901 was 122,678, compared with 113,451 in 1891. The *tahsīl* contains the towns of LEIAH (population,

7,546), the head-quarters, and KAROR LĀL ISA (3,243); and 118 villages. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1903-4 to 1.6 lakhs. The *tahsīl* is divided into the Thal and the Kacchi, the former a high sandy tract to the east and the latter a low-lying strip of country along the Indus.

Kālābāgh Estate.—Estate in the District and *tahsīl* of Miānwālī, Punjab, with an area of 107 square miles. It is held by Muhammad Khān Malik Yār, the Awān Malik of Kālābāgh. Over 300 years ago the Awān Malik settled at Dhankot, a natural fastness on the Indus above Kālābāgh. They forced the Bhangi Khel Khattaks of the hills on the north to pay tribute, and at the close of the eighteenth century were recognized as chiefs of the Kālābāgh territory by Tīmūr Shāh Durrānī. The Sikhs annexed the estate in 1822, but Malik Allah Yār Khān retained it as their feudatory. He assisted Lieutenant (afterwards Sir Herbert) Edwardes to construct the Dalīpnagar fort at Bannu, and his son Muzaffar Khān was taken prisoner there by the Sikhs in the second Sikh War. During the Mutiny he raised 100 men and was entrusted with the charge of one of the gates of Peshāwar city, receiving the title of Khān Bahādur as a reward. The present Malik, Yār Muhammad Khān, succeeded in 1885. He holds a *jāgīr* worth Rs. 6,000, and his income is about Rs. 22,000 a year, of which Rs. 1,000 is derived from the manufacture of alum.

Bhakkar Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Miānwālī District, Punjab, situated in 31° 37' N. and 71° 4' E., on the North-Western Railway. Population (1901), 5,312. It stands on the left bank of the Indus, on the edge of the Thal or sandy plain overlooking the low-lying alluvial lands along the river, a channel of which is navigable as far as Bhakkar during the floods. To the west of the town the land is low, well cultivated, and subject to inundation, while to the east the country is high and dry, treeless, and sandy. A rich extent of land irrigated from wells lies below the town, protected by embankments from inundations of the Indus, and produces two or three crops in the year. The neighbouring riverain is full of date groves and fruit gardens, and in it stands a famous mango tree, the fruit of which used to be sent to Kābul in the old days of Afghān rule. Bhakkar was founded probably towards the close of the fifteenth century by a body of colonists from Dera Ismail Khān, led by a Baloch adventurer, whose descendants held the surrounding country till ousted by the grantees of Ahmad

Shāh Durrāni. The municipality was created in 1874. The income and expenditure during the ten years ending 1902-3 averaged Rs. 7,700. The income in 1903-4 was Rs. 7,500, chiefly derived from octroi; and the expenditure was Rs. 8,600. The town contains a dispensary and a municipal vernacular middle school.

Isa Khel Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Miānwāli District, Punjab, situated in $32^{\circ} 42'$ N. and $71^{\circ} 17'$ E., on the right bank of the Indus, about 8 miles west of the present main channel. Population (1901), 7,630. The town was founded about 1830 by Ahmad Khān, ancestor of the present Khāns of Isa Khel, who are the acknowledged heads of the trans-Indus Niāzai; and it takes its name from Shāh Isa Khel, a religious teacher, whose descendants still live in the town. The municipality was created in 1875. The income and expenditure during the ten years ending 1902-3 averaged Rs. 4,400. The income in 1903-4 was Rs. 5,100, chiefly derived from octroi; and the expenditure was Rs. 4,600. A small cattle market is held weekly. The town contains a dispensary and a municipal vernacular middle school.

Kālābāgh Town.—Town in the Isa Khel *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, situated in $32^{\circ} 58'$ N. and $71^{\circ} 33'$ E. Population (1901), 5,824. The town is picturesquely situated at the foot of the Salt Range, on the right bank of the Indus, at the point where the river debouches from the hills, 105 miles below Attock. The houses nestle against the side of a precipitous hill of solid rock-salt, piled one upon another in successive tiers, the roof of each tier forming the street which passes in front of the row immediately above. Long before the British annexation of the Punjab, Kālābāgh was famous for its salt; and some of the wonders told of it by travellers as long ago as 1808 may still be seen in its houses built of and on rock-salt, its roads cut out of the solid salt rock, and its immense exposures of salt, sometimes closely resembling alabaster. The Kālābāgh hills are a continuation of the cis-Indus portion of the Salt Range, but are remarkable for the quantity of salt exposed, and the purity, closeness of grain, and hardness of a great proportion of it. Unlike the operations elsewhere in the Salt Range, which are purely mining, the salt is here quarried at the surface. There are twelve quarries, some situated on the right bank of the Indus, and some on the right bank of the Lūn Nullah, which runs into the Indus on the right bank, at the base of a hill known as the Saudāgar hill. Enormous quantities of salt lie exposed

here, underlying Tertiary strata in workable seams of from 4 to 20 feet thick, alternating with seams of impure salt and marl. The deposits rise to a height of about 200 feet above the bed of the Gor gorge, the seams striking south to north and dipping to the west at an angle of about 70° . The salt is slightly better in quality than that of the Mayo and Warcha Mines, and is in high favour with traders; but it is handicapped in competition with those salts, because the Indus lies between it and the Māri station of the Kundiān-Campbellpore Railway. The quarries lie from half a mile to a mile from the sale dépôt at Kukrānwāla Vandah on the right bank of the Indus, where the miners deliver the salt at the rate of Rs. 4.2 per 100 maunds. The whole of the operations connected with the salt up to the time that it is deposited in store in the dépôt are in the hands of the miners. At the dépôt the salt is weighed out to purchasers, and cleared under the supervision of the inspector in charge. The total quantity issued in 1903-4 amounted to 191,750 maunds, of which 150,062 maunds were removed by rail and 32,161 by river. Alum also occurs in the neighbouring hills, and forms a considerable but decreasing item of local trade, the out-turn in 1904 being about 3,500 maunds, which sold for Rs. 3 per maund ($82\frac{2}{7}$ lb.). The town possesses a manufacture of striped cloth (*sūsi*), and of iron instruments and vessels from metal imported from the Kānigoram hill.

The municipality was created in 1875. The income and expenditure during the ten years ending 1902-3 averaged Rs. 7,100 and Rs. 6,600. The income in 1903-4 was Rs. 5,600, chiefly derived from octroi; and the expenditure was Rs. 6,700. The town contains a dispensary and a municipal primary school. An Awān family, which resides in Kālābāgh, has a certain supremacy over the whole of the tribesmen, the representative of the family bearing the title of Malik.

Karor Lāl Isa (*Kahrar*).—Town in the Leiah *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, situated in $31^{\circ} 13' N.$ and $70^{\circ} 57' E.$, on the high bank of the Indus east of that river. Population (1901), 3,243. Founded by Makhdūm Lāl Isa, Kureshi, a descendant of Bahāwal Hakk, the saint of Multān, in the fifteenth century, the town still preserves the massive tomb of its founder, and a large fair is held yearly in his honour. It is first mentioned in history as included in the government of Multān under Sultān Husain in 1469. The municipality was created in 1887. The income during the ten

years ending 1902-3 averaged Rs. 3,600, and the expenditure Rs. 3,900. The income in 1903-4 was Rs. 3,400, chiefly derived from octroi; and the expenditure was Rs. 3,600. The town contains a dispensary, a municipal board school (primary), a private Anglo-vernacular middle school, and two municipal girls' schools.

Leiah Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Miānwāli District, Punjab, situated in $30^{\circ} 58' \text{ N.}$ and $70^{\circ} 56' \text{ E.}$, on the high bank of the Indus, east of the river. Population (1901), 7,546. Founded by Kamāl Khān, a Mirāni Baloch and a descendant of the founder of Dera Ghāzi Khān, about 1550, the town was taken about 1620 from the Mirāni rulers by the Jaskāni Balochs, who held it till 1787. After that year Abdun Nabi Sarai was appointed governor by Tīmūr Shāh Durrāni, but three years later it was included in the governorship of Muhammad Khān Sadozai, who transferred his seat of government to MANKERĀ. In 1794 Humāyūn Shāh, the rival claimant to the throne of Kābul, was captured near Leiah and brought into the town, where his eyes were put out by order of Zamān Shāh. Under the Sikh government the town once more became the centre of administration for the neighbouring tract, and on the British occupation in 1849 it was for a time the head-quarters of a District. In 1861, however, the District was broken up, and Leiah became a part of Dera Ismail Khān, but in 1901 was transferred to the new District of Miānwāli. The municipality was created in 1875. The income during the ten years ending 1902-3 averaged Rs. 9,900, and the expenditure Rs. 10,100. The income in 1903-4 was Rs. 10,000, chiefly derived from octroi; and the expenditure was Rs. 10,600. The chief industry of the town is the manufacture of blankets. The town contains a dispensary and a municipal Anglo-vernacular middle school.

Mankerā.—Village in the Bhakkar *tahsīl* of Miānwāli District, Punjab, situated in $31^{\circ} 23' \text{ N.}$ and $71^{\circ} 27' \text{ E.}$ It lies in the heart of the Thal, the desert of the Sind-Sāgar Doāb. A large fort, said to have been founded by the Siāls of Jhang, still exists in the village. Mankerā was once the great stronghold of the Jaskāni Balochs, who in the beginning of the seventeenth century held the country from the Indus to the Chenāb, and from Bhakkar to Leiah on the Indus. They appear to have lost Mankerā to the Bhangī Sikhs about 1772, but to have soon recovered it. In 1792 it became the capital of the Pathān Nawāb, Muhammad Khān Sadozai, who governed the Sind-Sāgar Doāb, and subsequently also Dera, for the

Durrāni kings of Kābul, Bhakkar being his second capital. Muhammad Khān gradually became independent, and was not molested by the Sikhs; but after his death in 1815 Ranjīt Singh invaded his territories, and in 1821 took Mankerā by siege. Mankerā then became the seat of a Sikh governor, and at the annexation of the Punjab was made the head-quarters of a *tahsīl* till 1853-4.

Māri.—Village in the District and *tahsīl* of Miānwāli, Punjab, situated in $32^{\circ} 57' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 39' E.$, on the east bank of the Indus. Population (1901), 1,490. Māri is the terminus of a branch line of the North-Western Railway, and serves as a *dépôt* for the salt and alum of KĀLĀBĀGH. Near it are the ruins of several Hindu temples, similar to those at KĀFIRKOT in Dera Ismail Khān, but larger and better preserved.

Miānwāli Town¹.—Head-quarters of the District and *tahsīl* of Miānwāli, Punjab, situated in $32^{\circ} 35' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 31' E.$, on the high left bank of the Indus, 655 feet above sea-level. It is the residence of a notable Saiyid family, the Miāns of Miānwāli, descended from a local Muhammadan saint, and themselves possessing a great reputation for sanctity. Population (1901), 3,591. Miānwāli was long the head-quarters of the Miānwāli subdivision of Bannu District, and was made the head-quarters of the new Miānwāli District in 1901. The civil lines are situated about half a mile from Miānwāli, which is little more than a village, and has no commercial importance. It was made a municipality in 1903-4, and contains a hospital and a model Government high school.

Jhang District.—District in the Multān Division of the Punjab, lying between $30^{\circ} 35'$ and $32^{\circ} 4' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 37'$ and $73^{\circ} 31' E.$, with an area of 6,652 square miles. It is bounded on the north-west by the District of Shāhpur; on the north-east by Shāhpur and Gujrānwāla; on the south-east by Montgomery; on the south by Multān and Muzaffargarh; and on the west by Miānwāli. It consists of an irregular triangle, artificially constituted for administrative purposes from portions of three separate tracts. Its eastern half embraces a large part of the dorsal ridge in the Rechna Doāb; thence it stretches across the Chenāb into the wedge of land between that river and the Jhelum, whose waters join the Chenāb a few miles below the town of Jhang; while westward again the boundary runs, beyond the joint river, some distance into the THAL or desert of the Sind-Sāgar Doāb. Southward the District stretches almost

Boun-
daries, con-
figuration,
and hill
and river
systems.

¹ Created a municipality since the last Census and hence not shown as a town in the table on p. 192.

to the confluence of the Chenāb with the Rāvi, but does not actually reach the latter river. Along the rivers are strips of fertile lowland, rising with a more or less defined bank into the uplands of the Doābs. The Bār or upland plain of the Rechna Doāb, until recently a desert inhabited only by nomad tribes, has been changed into one of the most fertile tracts in India by the CHENĀB CANAL. The nomads of the Bār and immigrants from other parts of the Province have been settled on the newly irrigated land; and, for the proper administration of the tract, it has been found necessary to divide Jhang District into two, the eastern and south-eastern portions being formed into a separate District with its head-quarters at LYALLPUR. The present article, for the most part, describes Jhang as it existed before the change.

North-west of the Chenāb, the upland, which runs like a wedge between the lowlands of the Chenāb and Jhelum, and was once a desert like the Bār of the Rechna Doāb, is being fertilized by the JHELMUM CANAL. West of the Jhelum river the alluvial plain after a few miles rises abruptly into the desert of the Sind-Sāgar Thal. With the exception of some isolated low hills on either side of the Chenāb at Kirāna and Chiniot, the District is almost flat.

Geology. Jhang consists entirely of alluvium, with the exception of two small patches of quartzite which form the Kirāna and Chiniot hills. These are geologically interesting as probably belonging to the Alwar quartzite of the Delhi system, and thus constituting the most northerly known outcrops of rocks of Peninsular type.

Botany. Before the foundation of the Chenāb Canal and Colony, the District was the Bār tract *par excellence*; but the flora of that tract is fast giving way to close cultivation, and saltworts are being driven out by irrigation. The annual weeds, however, are still mainly those of the west Punjab flora. Along the rivers are found the usual coverts (*belas*) of reed-grasses (*Saccharum*, &c.) and the lesser tamarisks (*jhau* and *pilchi*). The date-palm is grown near the Jhelum, but the produce is usually inferior.

Fauna. The wolf, hyena, and wild cat are found in decreasing numbers as cultivation advances. Wild hog and 'ravine deer' (Indian gazelle) are confined to the wilder parts of the lowlands.

Climate, temperature, and rainfall. The climate of Jhang is that of the south-west Punjab, the rainless tract comprising Multān, Montgomery, and Dera Ismail Khān, which is said to have the highest mean temperature in India between June and August. The dry air makes the

District unusually healthy, except in the canal tracts, where it is malarious and trying to Europeans. The annual rainfall is light, ranging from 8 inches at Shorkot to 11 at Chiniot.

The Districts of Jhang and Montgomery were the scene History. of Alexander's operations against the Malli in 325 B.C., and SHORKOT has been identified by some authorities with one of the towns captured by him during the campaign. After his withdrawal, the country seems to have come successively under the sway of the Mauryas (c. 321-231 B.C.), the Graeco-Bactrians (c. 190 B.C.), the Indo-Parthians (c. 138 B.C.), and the Kushans or Indo-Scythians (c. A.D. 100-250). About A.D. 500 it was conquered by the White Huns, whose capital of Sākala should, according to recent authorities, be identified with CHINIOT or Shāhkot, a village in Gujrānwāla District, or with Siālkot. Their power was short-lived, and at the time of Hiuen Tsiang's visit (A.D. 630) the District was included in the kingdom of Tsehkia, the capital of which was close to Sākala. In the tenth century it was subject to the Brāhman kings of Ohind and the Punjab, and under the Mughals it was included in the *Sūbah* of Lahore.

In modern times, the history of Jhang centres in the tribe of the Siāls, who ruled over a large tract between Shāhpur and Multān, with little dependence on the imperial court at Delhi, until they finally fell before the power of Ranjīt Singh. The Siāls are Muhammadans of Rājput descent, whose ancestor, Rai Shankar of Dārānagar, migrated early in the thirteenth century from the Gangetic Doāb to Jaunpur. His son, Siāl, in 1243 left his adopted city for the Punjab, then overrun by Mongol hordes. Such emigrations appear to have occurred frequently at the time, owing to the unsettled state of Northern India. During his wanderings in search of a home, Siāl fell in with the famous Muhammadan saint Bāba Farīd-ud-dīn Shakarganj, of Pākpatan, whose eloquence converted him to the faith of Islām. He afterwards sojourned for a while at Siālkot, where he built a fort; but finally settled down and married at Sāhiwāl, in Shāhpur District. It must be confessed, however, that his history and that of his descendants bear somewhat the character of eponymous myths. Mānik, sixth in descent from Siāl, founded the town of Mankerā in 1380; and his great-grandson, Mal Khān, built Jhang Siāl on the Chenāb in 1462. Four years later, Mal Khān presented himself at Lahore, in obedience to a summons, and obtained the territory of Jhang as a hereditary possession, subject to a payment of tribute to the imperial treasury. His family continued

to rule at Jhang, with the dynastic quarrels and massacres usual in Indian annals, till the beginning of the last century.

Meanwhile the Sikh power had arisen in the north, and Karam Singh Dulu, a chief of the Bhangī confederacy, had conquered Chiniot. In 1803 Ranjīt Singh took the fort there and marched on Jhang, but was bought off by Ahmad Khān, the last of the Siāl chieftains, on promise of a yearly tribute, amounting to Rs. 70,000 and a mare. Three years later, however, the Mahārājā again invaded Jhang with a large army, and took the fort, after a desperate resistance. Ahmad Khān then fled to Multān, and the Mahārājā farmed the territories of Jhang to Sardār Fateh Singh. Shortly afterwards, Ahmad Khān returned with a force given him by Muzaffar Khān, Nawāb of Multān, and recovered a large part of his previous dominions, which Ranjīt Singh suffered him to retain on payment of the former tribute, as he found himself too busy elsewhere to attack Jhang. After his unsuccessful attempt on Multān in 1810, the Mahārājā took Ahmad Khān a prisoner to Lahore, as he suspected him of favouring his enemy, Muzaffar Khān. He afterwards bestowed on him a *jāgīr*, which descended to his son, Ināyat Khān. On the death of the latter, his brother, Ismail Khān, endeavoured to obtain succession to the *jāgīr*, but failed through the opposition of Gulāb Singh. In 1847, after the establishment of the British Agency at Lahore, the District came under its charge, and in 1848 Ismail Khān rendered important services against the rebel chiefs, for which he received a small pension. During the Mutiny of 1857, the Siāl leader again proved his loyalty by raising a force of cavalry and serving in person on the British side.

Archaeo-
logy.

The presence of numerous mounds, especially in the south of the District, testifies to the former existence of a large and settled population. The remains which have received most attention are those at SHORKOT, consisting of a huge mound of ruins surrounded by a wall of large-sized bricks. Most of the pre-Muhammadan coins that have been found here are of the Indo-Scythian period. The finest building in the District is the Shāhi Masjid at Chiniot, built in the reign of Shāh Jahān.

The
people.

The population of the District at the last three enumerations was: (1881) 390,703, (1891) 432,549, and (1901) 1,002,656. It increased by no less than 132 per cent. during the last decade, almost entirely owing to the opening of the Chenāb Canal and the colonization of the canal tract. The District is divided into six *tahsīls*: JHANG, CHINIOT, SHORKOT, LYALLPUR,

SAMUNDRI, and TOBA TEK SINGH. The head-quarters of each are at the place from which it is named. The towns are the municipalities of JHANG-MAGHĪĀNA, the head-quarters of the District, CHINIOT, and LYALLPUR. The following table gives the principal statistics of population in 1901 :—

| Tahsil.* | Area in square miles. | Number of | | Population. | Population per square mile. | Percentage of variation in population between 1891 and 1901. | Number of persons able to read and write. |
|----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| | | Towns. | Villages. | | | | |
| Jhang . . . | 1,438 | 1 | 414 | 194,454 | 135.1 | † | 11,362 |
| Chiniot . . . | 1,328 | 1 | 406 | 200,676 | 151.1 | † | 5,693 |
| Shorkot . . . | 927 | ... | 177 | 95,136 | 102.6 | - 2.9 | 5,023 |
| Lyallpur . . . | 1,084 | 1 | 255 | 229,421 | 211.6 | † | 6,593 |
| Samundri . . . | 1,053 | ... | 310 | 157,285 | 149.3 | † | 3,526 |
| Toba Tek Singh | 1,007 | ... | 334 | 125,684 | 124.8 | † | 3,937 |
| District total | 6,652 | 3 | 1,896 | 1,002,656 | 150.7 | + 131.8 | 36,134 |

NOTE.—The figures for the areas of *tahsils* are taken from revenue returns. The total District area is that given in the *Census Report*.

* The *tahsils* of Lyallpur, Toba Tek Singh, and Samundri, with their boundaries somewhat modified, form the new district of LYALLPUR, which was constituted on December 1, 1904. Earlier in the same year, the Kirāna Bār was transferred from Jhang to Shāhpur, and subsequently villages were transferred from Toba Tek Singh to Jhang and from Chiniot to Lyallpur.

† Not available owing to changes in *tahsil* boundaries since 1891.

Muhammadans form 68 per cent. of the total population, Hindus 24 per cent., and Sikhs 7 per cent. The density is only 150.7 persons per square mile, which is considerably lower than the average (209) for the British Punjab. The language of the nomad tribes who originally inhabited the Bār is called Janglī, a form of Western Punjābi. Every variety of Punjābi is represented among the colonists.

The most numerous tribe is that of the Jats, who number 231,000, or 23 per cent. of the total population. Next to them in numerical strength come the Rājputs, numbering 90,000, and then the Arains with 62,000. Other important agricultural tribes are the Balochs (29,000), Khokhars (24,000), and Kambohs (11,000). The Saiyids number 10,000. The Aroras (68,000) are the strongest of the commercial classes, the Khattris returning 21,000. The Brāhmans number 9,000. Of the artisan classes, the Julāhās (weavers, 40,000), Kumhārs (potters, 32,000), Mochīs (shoemakers and leather-workers, 29,000), Chamārs (shoemakers and leather-workers, 23,000), Tarkhāns (carpenters, 23,000), and Lohārs (blacksmiths, 10,000) are the most important; and of the menials, the Chūhrās and Musallis (sweepers and scavengers, 105,000), Māchhis (fisher-

Castes and occupations.

men, bakers, and water-carriers, 21,000), Nais (barbers, 13,000), and Dhobis (washermen, 10,000). Other castes worth mentioning in view of their numerical strength are the Mīrāsīs (village minstrels, 16,000) and Fakīrs (mendicants, 13,000). About 49 per cent. of the people are supported by agriculture.

Christian
missions.

The Church Missionary Society began work in the District in 1899, and has two stations, at Gojra and at Toba Tek Singh. A considerable number of native Christians are scattered through the villages of the colony. At the last Census (1901) the number of Christians in the colony was 8,672. The Church Missionary Society owns two villages: Montgomerywālā, the larger, where there is a native church, with a population of 1,021; and Batemanābād, with a population of 337. The Roman Catholics hold the villages of Khushpur, founded in 1899 (population, 1,084), and Francispur, founded in 1904. The American Reformed Presbyterians have a mission at Lyallpur established in 1894, and they were followed by the American United Presbyterians in 1896. A few Salvationists are settled at Lyallpur and the neighbouring villages.

General
agricul-
tural con-
ditions.

The soil is an alluvial loam, more or less mixed with sand; but agricultural conditions depend not on distinctions of soil, but on the facilities afforded for irrigation, and less than one per cent. of the cultivation is unirrigated. At the same time the District, while not dependent on the rainfall, benefits largely by seasonable rain, which enables cultivation to be extended by supplementing the supply available from irrigation, and also secures an abundant supply of fodder.

Chief agri-
cultural
statistics
and princi-
pal crops.

The main agricultural statistics for 1903-4 are shown below, areas being in square miles :—

| <i>Tahsil.</i> | Total. | Cultivated. | Irrigated. | Cultivable waste. |
|------------------|--------|-------------|------------|-------------------|
| Jhang . . . | 1,414 | 401 | 340 | 891 |
| Chiniot . . . | 1,311 | 474 | 400 | 745 |
| Shorkot . . . | 917 | 214 | 157 | 638 |
| Lyallpur . . . | 1,024 | 700 | 697 | 257 |
| Samundri . . . | 962 | 649 | 649 | 265 |
| Toba Tek Singh . | 934 | 556 | 556 | 324 |
| Total | 6,562 | 2,994 | 2,799 | 3,120 |

More than half the area of the District, or 3,531 square miles, is the property of Government. Of this area, nearly two-thirds is leased to crown tenants in the Chenāb Colony, and a large portion of the remainder will soon be commanded by the Jhelum Canal and leased to tenants. The Thal alone will

thus remain uncultivated. Nearly all the proprietary villages are held by communities of small peasant owners. The area in square miles under each of the principal food-grains in 1903-4 was: wheat, 1,333; great millet, 170; and maize, 143. The principal non-food crop is cotton (354). Oilseeds covered 188 square miles.

The construction of the Chenāb Canal has entirely revolutionized the agricultural conditions of the uplands between the Chenāb and Rāvi, and the Jhelum Canal is doing the same for the Bār north of the Jhelum. Thus the District, ^{Improvements in agricultural practice.} once one of the most sterile and thinly populated, is now one of the first in the Punjab, in both cultivation and population. The experimental farm at Lyallpur, established in 1901, is chiefly utilized for the study of Punjab crops, and their improvement by cross-fertilization and selection; but it has hardly been in existence long enough to produce any result as regards the quality of the crops generally grown in the District. In spite of the important part played by wells in the cultivation of the lowlands, loans for their construction are not popular. Twelve lakhs were advanced under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the five years ending 1901; but these advances were taken almost entirely by incoming colonists, to pay expenses due from them to Government under a system which has now been given up.

Before the introduction of canal irrigation, the population of the Bār was largely pastoral. The breed of cattle, however, ^{Cattle, ponies, and sheep.} was never greatly esteemed, and the large numbers now required for agricultural purposes are purchased from outside the District. Cattle fairs are held at Jhang and Lyallpur. The District is famous for its horses, and a good deal of horse-breeding is carried on. The Remount department keeps nine and the District board seven horse stallions, and the District contains more than 1,000 branded mares. Ten donkey stallions are kept by the Remount department and four by the District board. Important horse fairs are held at Lyallpur and Jhang. A large number of camels are bred, and many of the colonists are bound by the conditions of their grants to furnish camels for transport work when required. Sheep and goats are kept in large numbers.

Of the total area cultivated in 1903-4, 2,799 square miles ^{Irrigation.} were irrigated, 453 square miles being supplied from wells, 23 from wells and canals, 2,319 from canals, and 4 from streams and tanks. In addition, 154 square miles, or 5 per cent. of the cultivated area, are subject to inundation from the rivers. The great mainstay of the District is the CHENĀB CANAL. The