

Each is under the Mushīr-i-āla as *ex officio* president, and the Bahāwalpur committee has one official vice-president, who also supervises the outlying municipalities. In 1903-4 the municipalities had an income, chiefly derived from octroi, of Rs. 88,000, and an expenditure of Rs. 82,000. Octroi is levied on the principles in force in British territory.

The Public Works department is under the control of the Mushīr-i-tamīrāt, who has a seat on the council. The principal works that have been carried out by the department are the palace at Ahmadpur, and the palace at Bahāwalpur, each of which cost 7 lakhs. A new palace at Bahāwalpur is in course of construction, on which nearly a lakh had been spent up to the end of March, 1904. The total expenditure on public works in 1903-4 was 2 lakhs.

In 1888 the State organized a force of cavalry (two troops) Army. and 450 infantry as Imperial Service troops; but in 1900 this force was disbanded, and an Imperial Service Silladār Camel Transport Corps raised instead. This consists of 355 men and 1,144 camels. There is also an Imperial Service (Camel) Mounted Rifle Company, with 169 officers, non-commissioned officers, and men. The State further maintains the Nizām Infantry Regiment (492 strong), an orderly troop (103 strong), and an Imperial Service Reserve Company of 80 men. There are 13 serviceable guns. The military expenditure is about 2 lakhs annually.

The police force in 1904-5 consisted of 539 officers and men, including 47 camel-riders and 34 trackers, under a Superintendent, controlled by the Mushīr-i-āla. A training school was opened at Bahāwalpur in 1904. Each *tahsīl* is divided into several police circles (*thānas*), under a deputy-inspector. There are in all 30 circles, with 15 outposts. The expenditure on police in 1903-4 was Rs. 56,000. The village watchmen number 873. There is a Central jail at Bahāwalpur in charge of a Superintendent, who is under the Mushīr-i-āla. It contains 17 wards, with accommodation for 2,000 prisoners. Female prisoners are kept in a separate ward, and life-prisoners in separate cells. The jail manufactures include *darīs*, carpets, blankets, and paper.

Bahāwalpur stands thirty-first among the Districts and States of the Punjab in regard to the literacy of the population, of whom 2.8 per cent. (5.1 males and 0.1 females) could read and write in 1901. Higher education is confined to Bahāwalpur, the capital. The State contains a college, called the Sādik Egerton College, and a high school, both at Bahāwalpur,

7 Anglo-vernacular middle schools, 32 primary schools, and 6 Muhammadan theological schools. There is also a Church Mission school at Bahāwalpur, to which the Nawāb gives a grant-in-aid. Public schools are supervised by an Inspector. The total expenditure on education in 1903-4 was Rs. 33,000.

Medical. The State possesses two hospitals at Bahāwalpur, and six outlying dispensaries. The two hospitals contain accommodation for 36 in-patients. In 1904 the number of cases treated was 27,232, of whom 403 were in-patients, and 3,591 operations were performed. The expenditure of the Medical department (including vaccination) in the same year was Rs. 29,000. The department is in charge of the State Medical officer. The number of successful vaccinations in 1903-4 amounted to 21.9 per 1,000 of the population.

Surveys. A revenue survey of the entire inhabited area of the State was made in 1869-74. The maps were revised in 1880, and are now again under revision, those for the Khānpur and Bahāwalpur *nizāmat*s having been completed in 1904. A 4-inch survey of the riverain tracts and a 2-inch survey of the desert portion were carried out in 1869-74, the result being published on the 1-inch scale in 1876.

[*State Gazetteer* (in press); Shahāmat Ali, *History of Bahāwalpur* (1848).]

Bahāwalpur Tahsīl.—Head-quarters *tahsīl* of the *nizāmat* and State of Bahāwalpur, Punjab, lying south of the Sutlej, between 27° 52' and 29° 33' N. and 71° 19' and 72° 36' E., with an area of 3,617 square miles. The population in 1901 was 91,954, compared with 90,031 in 1891. It contains the town of BAHĀWALPUR (population, 18,546), its head-quarters and the capital of the State; and 107 villages. The *tahsīl* is traversed by the Hakra depression, south of which lies the desert. The north lies in the Sutlej riverain, and between this and the Hakra are the central uplands. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to one lakh.

Ahmadpur Tahsīl (or Ahmadpur East).—*Tahsīl* in the Bahāwalpur *nizāmat* and State, Punjab, lying south and west of the Sutlej and Panjnad, between 27° 46' and 29° 26' N. and 70° 54' and 71° 31' E., with an area of 2,107 square miles. The population in 1901 was 111,225, compared with 93,515 in 1891. It contains the towns of AHMADPUR EAST (population, 9,928), the head-quarters, and UCH (7,583); and 102 villages. It is traversed by the depression known as the Hakra, which is supposed by some to be an old bed of the Sutlej. South of this stretches the desert of the Cholistān,

with sand-dunes rising in places to a height of 500 feet. To the north lie the central uplands, and beyond them the alluvial lowlands along the Sutlej and Panjnad. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 2.2 lakhs.

Allahābād Tahsīl.—*Tahsīl* in the Bahāwalpur *nizāmat* and State, Punjab, lying south of the Panjnad, between $27^{\circ} 42'$ and $29^{\circ} 12'$ N. and $70^{\circ} 38'$ and $71^{\circ} 5'$ E., with an area of 1,355 square miles. The population in 1901 was 57,517, compared with 54,950 in 1891. It contains the town of ALLAHĀBĀD (population, 2,868), the head-quarters, and the two other municipalities of Khān Belā and Jaunpur; and 65 villages. It is traversed by the Hakra, south of which lies the desert. The portion of the *tahsīl* which lies in the lowlands along the river is the most fertile, and also the most unhealthy, in the State. Between this and the Hakra lie the central uplands. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 2 lakhs.

Minchinābād Tahsīl.—Head-quarters *tahsīl* of the *nizāmat* of the same name, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying on the left bank of the Sutlej, between $29^{\circ} 53'$ and $30^{\circ} 25'$ N. and $73^{\circ} 2'$ and $73^{\circ} 58'$ E., with an area of 603 square miles. The population in 1901 was 72,272, compared with 68,070 in 1891. It contains the town of MINCHINĀBĀD (population, 2,558), the head-quarters, and 235 villages. The *tahsīl* lies for the most part in the lowlands of the Sutlej valley. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 2.1 lakhs.

Nahr Sādikīyāh (or Cholistān).—*Tahsīl* in the Minchinābād *nizāmat*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying between $29^{\circ} 29'$ and $30^{\circ} 18'$ N. and $73^{\circ} 7'$ and $74^{\circ} 1'$ E., with an area of 625 square miles. The population in 1901 was 26,758, compared with 23,215 in 1891. It contains 127 villages. The *tahsīl* is called after the Sādikīyāh canal, which runs through it from end to end, and will, when completed, have a total length of 120 miles. The *tahsīl*, which has only recently been formed out of a portion of the Minchinābād *tahsīl*, will have its head-quarters at the new town of Sādikganj, near the McLeodganj Road junction of the main line and the Ferozepore-McLeodganj Road branch of the Southern Punjab Railway. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to Rs. 41,000.

Khairpur Tahsīl.—*Tahsīl* in the Minchinābād *nizāmat*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying on the left bank of the Sutlej, between $28^{\circ} 49'$ and 30° N. and $72^{\circ} 7'$ and $73^{\circ} 18'$ E., with an area of 2,300 square miles. The population in 1901 was

81,871, compared with 74,732 in 1891. It contains the towns of KHAIRPUR (population, 5,013), the head-quarters, and Hāsilpur, which was created a municipality in 1902; and 199 villages. The Hakra depression passes through the southern portion of the *tahsīl*, the remainder of which is divided between the central uplands and the riverain tract along the Sutlej. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 2.2 lakhs.

Khānpur Tahsīl.—Head-quarters *tahsīl* of the Khānpur *nizāmat*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying on the left bank of the Indus, between 27° 43' and 29° 4' N. and 70° 27' and 70° 53' E., with an area of 2,415 square miles. The population in 1901 was 120,810, compared with 115,112 in 1891. It contains the towns of KHĀNPUR (population, 8,611), the head-quarters, GARHI IKHTIĀR KHĀN (4,939), and Ghauspur, which was created a municipality in 1903; and 52 villages. It is traversed by the Hakra depression, south of which lies the desert. To the north lie the central tract of barren soil and the fertile lowlands along the Indus. The *tahsīl* is famous for its date-palms, and is, after Allahābād, the most fertile in the State. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 1.8 lakhs.

Naushahra Tahsīl (or Sādikābād).—*Tahsīl* in the Khānpur *nizāmat*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying between 27° 56' and 28° 54' N. and 70° 7' and 70° 36' E., with an area of 1,690 square miles. The population in 1901 was 80,735, compared with 66,584 in 1891. It contains the town of Naushahra (population, 4,475), the head-quarters, and 71 villages. The Hakra, which traverses the southern part of the *tahsīl*, separates the central tract from the desert. Along the Indus lie fertile lowlands. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 2 lakhs.

Ahmadpur Lamma Tahsīl.—*Tahsīl* in the Khānpur *nizāmat*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, lying on the left bank of the Indus, between 27° 53' and 28° 45' N. and 69° 31' and 70° 20' E., with an area of 1,206 square miles. The population in 1901 was 77,735, compared with 63,833 in 1891. It contains the town of AHMADPUR WEST (population, 5,343), the head-quarters, and Sabzal Kot, which has recently been constituted a municipality; and 66 villages. The portion of the *tahsīl* which lies in the Indus lowlands is damp and unhealthy. The southern portion lies in the desert. The land revenue and cesses amounted in 1905-6 to 1.1 lakhs.

Ahmadpur East Town.—Head-quarters of the Ahmadpur *tahsīl*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in 29° 8' N. and

71° 16' E., 20 miles south-west of Bahāwalpur town on the North-Western Railway. Population (1901), 9,938. Founded in 1748 by a Daudputra chieftain, it was given in dower to Nawāb Bahāwal Khān II of Bahāwalpur in 1782. The town possesses an Anglo-vernacular middle school, a theological school, and a dispensary. Its trade, chiefly in carbonate of soda, is considerable, and it manufactures shoes and earthenware on a large scale for export. The town is administered as a municipality, with an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 12,100, chiefly derived from octroi.

Ahmadpur West Town (*Ahmadpur Lamma*).—Head-quarters of the Ahmadpur Lamma *tahsīl*, Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in 28° 18' N. and 70° 7' E., 4 miles north-west of Sādikābād on the North-Western Railway. Population (1901), 5,343. It was founded by Ahmad Khān of the Daudputra tribe, which ruled Bahāwalpur, about 1800, and was originally the capital of a separate principality annexed to that State in 1806. The town possesses an Arabic school and some Muhammadan buildings of interest. It is administered as a municipality, with an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 4,300, chiefly from octroi. It is noted for its mango gardens.

Allahābād Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in 28° 57' N. and 70° 53' E., 56 miles south-west of Bahāwalpur town. Population (1901), 2,868. It was founded about 1730 by Nawāb Sādik Muhammad Khān I of Bahāwalpur. The town contains a rice-husking mill and has a large trade in rice and dates, and is administered as a municipality, with an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 3,100, chiefly from octroi.

Bahāwalpur Town.—Capital of the Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, and head-quarters of the Bahāwalpur *nizāmat* and *tahsīl*, situated in 29° 24' N. and 71° 47' E., on the North-Western Railway, on the south bank of the Indus, 65 miles south of Multān. Population (1901), 18,546. Founded in 1748 by Nawāb Bahāwal Khān I, it replaced Derāwar as the capital of the State. The town is surrounded by a mud wall 4 miles in circuit. The palace built by Nawāb Sir Sādik Muhammad Khān IV in 1882 is a vast square pile, with towers at each corner. The reception hall in the centre is 60 feet long and 56 high, the vestibule being 120 feet high. The palace contains underground apartments, where the thermometer remains at about 70°, while it rises to 100° and even 110° in the upper rooms. From the roof an extensive view is gained over the vast desert of Bikaner, which stretches away

waterless for 100 miles. Five miles from Bahāwalpur, the North-Western Railway crosses the Sutlej by the magnificent iron-girder Empress Bridge, opened in 1878, 4,258 feet in length, consisting of 16 spans, each 250 feet long. The guesthouse or Nūr Mahal, built in 1875 at a cost of 12 lakhs, is a handsome building in the Italian style. The town possesses the Sādik Egerton College, the high school of the same name, an Anglo-vernacular middle school and a theological school, an orphanage, and two hospitals, one of which is the Jubilee Hospital for females, opened in 1898. It has a considerable trade and some flourishing industries, and contains a rice-husking mill, to which is attached a cotton-ginning factory. The municipality was constituted in 1874. In 1903-4 the income was Rs. 32,500, chiefly from octroi. The cantonment contains the lines of the Nizām regiment and the Imperial Service Camel Corps.

Bijnor (*Winjhrot*).—Ancient fort in the Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 5' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 45' E.$ According to tradition, it was erected by Rājā Wanjho or Bija Bhātia, and demolished by Shahāb-ud-dīn Ghori in 1175, its first mention in history. Another tradition preserved by Colonel Tod assigns its foundation to Tunno, father of Bija Rai (the Bija of the former legend) and grandfather of Deorāj, the founder of Derāwar. It was included in a fief of the Delhi empire under Altamsh, and subsequently formed part of the *Sūbah* of Multān.

Garhi Ikhtiār Khān.—Town in the Khānpur *tahsīl* of Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 40' N.$ and $70^{\circ} 39' E.$, 84 miles south-west of Bahāwalpur town. Population (1901), 4,939. Founded by a governor of the Kalhora rulers of Sind, it was originally named Garhi Shādi Khān after him, but in 1753 a Daudputra chief wrested it from the Kalhoras. In 1806 Nawāb Bahāwal Khān II of Bahāwalpur annexed it, and founded Khānpur in its vicinity. It has a considerable trade in dates, large groves of palm-trees surrounding the town, and formerly had a great reputation for the manufacture of arms. It is administered as a municipality, with an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 1,150, chiefly from octroi.

Khairpur Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $29^{\circ} 35' N.$ and $72^{\circ} 18' E.$, 38 miles north-east of Bahāwalpur town on the Southern Punjab Railway. Population (1901), 5,013. It is a decaying town, as the sand from the desert of Cholistān has for years been encroaching on it, but contains a school and

a dispensary. The municipality had an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 6,200, chiefly from octroi.

Khānpur Town.—Head-quarters of the *nizāmat* and *tahsīl* of the same name in Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 39' \text{ N.}$ and $70^{\circ} 41' \text{ E.}$, on the North-Western Railway, 63 miles south-west of Bahāwalpur town. Population (1901), 8,611. Founded in 1806 by Nawāb Bahāwal Khān II as a counterpoise to Garhi Ikhtiār Khān, which lies 6 miles to the west, the town is now the chief centre of the trade in agricultural produce in the State, and contains three steam rice-husking mills, in one of which cotton-ginning is carried on as well. It possesses a middle school and a dispensary. The municipality had an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 12,800, chiefly from octroi.

Marot.—Ancient fort in the Khairpur *tahsīl* of Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $29^{\circ} 10' \text{ N.}$ and $72^{\circ} 28' \text{ E.}$, on the south bank of the Hakra depression. It was probably erected by Mahrūt, king of Chitor, an opponent of Chach, the Brāhman usurper of the throne of Sind. It was a place of some importance in the early Muhammadan period, lying on the direct road from Multān to Delhi via Sarsuti (Sirsa). It was wrested by the Nawāb of Bahāwalpur from Jaisalmer in 1749.

Minchinābād Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* and *nizāmat* of the same name in Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $30^{\circ} 10' \text{ N.}$ and $73^{\circ} 34' \text{ E.}$, on the Southern Punjab Railway, in the north-eastern corner of the State. Population (1901), 2,558. It was named after the late Colonel Charles Minchin, Political Agent in Bahāwalpur, 1866-76. The town contains a dispensary, has a large manufacture of saltpetre, and is a great centre of the export trade in grain. The municipality had an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 6,100, chiefly from octroi.

Naushahra Town.—Head-quarters of the *tahsīl* of the same name in Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 25' \text{ N.}$ and $70^{\circ} 19' \text{ E.}$, 109 miles south-west of Bahāwalpur town. Population (1901), 4,475. The town contains a rice-husking mill, founded in 1901, and a dispensary. The municipality had an income in 1903-4 of Rs. 3,700, chiefly from octroi.

Pattan Munāra.—Ancient ruin in the Naushahra *tahsīl* of Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 15' \text{ N.}$ and $70^{\circ} 22' \text{ E.}$, 5 miles east of Rahīmyār Khān. At the close of the eighteenth century the remains of four towers surrounding the central tower of a Buddhist monastery still existed here, but only the lower storey of the central tower now remains. Tradition avers that it had three storeys, and that the extensive mounds around it are the ruins of a city which was over 100 square miles in

extent. It is possible that the ruins mark the site of the capital of Mousicanus, who, after a brief submission to Alexander, revolted and was crucified in 325 B.C. The name Mousicanus probably conceals the name of the tribe or territory ruled by the chieftain, and it has been suggested that it survives either in the tribal name of the Magsi or Magassi Balochs or in that of the Māchkās. Another theory identifies the capital with Aror in Sind. A Sanskrit inscription, now lost, is said to have recorded the existence of an ancient monastery. The town was refounded by the Sūmras in the tenth century, but it is now a desolate ruin.

Sarwāhī (*Seorai, Siwrae*).—Ancient site in the Ahmadpur Lamma *tahsīl* of Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $28^{\circ} 10' N.$ and $70^{\circ} 2' E.$, 8 miles north-east of Kot Sabzal. It was identified by Sir A. Cunningham with the Sodrai or Sogdoi of the Greek historians. It was one of the six forts repaired by Rai Sahāsi of Sind in the sixth century, and was destroyed by Shāh Husain Arghūn in 1525. It is still a place of considerable sanctity to Muhammadans.

Sui Vehār.—Site of a ruined Buddhist tower, in the Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $29^{\circ} 18' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 34' E.$, 6 miles from Samasata station on the North-Western Railway. An inscription found here is dated in the eleventh year of Kanishka's reign.

[*Journal, Asiatic Society, Bengal*, vol. xxxix, pp. 65–70; *Indian Antiquary*, vol. x, pp. 324–31].

Uch (*Uchh* = 'high place').—Town in the Ahmadpur *tahsīl* of the Bahāwalpur State, Punjab, situated in $29^{\circ} 14' N.$ and $71^{\circ} 4' E.$, 38 miles south-east of Bahāwalpur town, on the south bank of the Sutlej opposite its confluence with the Chenāb. Population (1901), 7,583. The municipality had an income in 1903–4 of Rs. 2,000, chiefly from octroi.

Archaeologically and historically Uch is a place of great interest. Sir Alexander Cunningham identified it with the city which Alexander the Great built near the meeting of the Punjab rivers. He believed that it is also the town mentioned by Rashīd-ud-dīn as the capital of one of the four principalities of Sind under Ayand, the son of Kafand. This identification is, however, far from certain. Uch was in the twelfth century known as Deogarh, 'the gods' stronghold'; and its ruler Deo Singh fled to Mārwar, when the great Muhammadan missionary and saint Saiyid Jalāl-ud-dīn Bukhārī came to the place, converted Sundarpuri, Deo Singh's daughter, to Islām, and bade her build a fort called *uchha* or *uchh* ('high'). Since

then it has been known to Muhammadans as Uch-i-Sharīf or 'Uch the Sacred.' In spite of its undoubted antiquity, Uch is not mentioned by the earlier Muhammadan historians under that name. Raverty, however, identified it with the town of Bhātiāh near Multān, mentioned by the historians of the Ghaznivid period as taken by Mahmūd of Ghazni in 1006. Subsequently recaptured by Muhammad of Ghor, it became the chief city of Upper Sind under Nāsir-ud-dīn Kubācha, and was burnt by Jalāl-ud-dīn Khwārizmī in 1223. It was afterwards taken by Altamsh. Uch was a great centre of Muhammadan learning; for in 1227 we find Minhāj-ud-dīn, the Persian historian, made chief of the Fīrozi college there. Changes in the courses of the rivers gradually robbed it of its strategic importance; and after many vicissitudes it was permanently annexed to the Mughal empire under Akbar, being included by Abul Fazl among the separate districts of the *Sūbah* of Multān. Uch is now a group of three villages, built on as many mounds, the débris of successive cities. It is still a place of great religious sanctity in the eyes of Muhammadans, and contains countless shrines, in charge of the Bokhāri and Gilāni Makhdūms, who are descended from its original founders. Sir A. Cunningham compiled an interesting but unreliable account of Alexander's operations in the country round Uch.

[A. Cunningham, *Ancient Geography of India*, pp. 242-8.]

Sirmūr (or Nāhan).—Hill State in the Punjab, under the political control of the Commissioner of the Delhi Division, lying amid the Himālayas, between 30° 20' and 31° 5' N. and 77° 5' and 77° 55' E., on the west bank of the Jumna and south of Simla. It has an area of 1,198 square miles, and its greatest length from east to west is 50 miles, and its extreme width from north to south 43 miles. It is bounded on the north by the Jubbal and Balsan States; on the east by the Dehra Dūn District of the United Provinces; on the south by Ambāla District and the Kālsia State of the Punjab; and on the west by territory of the Patiāla State and Keonthal.

Boun-
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With the exception of the Kiārda Dūn or valley which forms its south-eastern part, the whole State is hilly. Its southern border runs along the crest of the Outer Siwāliks. Parallel with these lies the Dhārthi range; and the intervening valley is traversed by the Mārkaṇḍa river which flows west, and by the Bāta which flows east. North-east of the Dhārthi range lies the valley of the Jalāl, a tributary of the Giri, which traverses the State in a winding course from north-west to south-east,

dividing it into two natural divisions, the cis-Giri on the south-west and the trans-Giri on the north-east. In the centre of the northern border rises the CHAUR peak (11,982 feet), from which radiate several spurs, those on the west and south filling the whole trans-Giri tract with their outliers. These extend far to the south-east, rising to 8,800 feet at Haripur, 8,233 feet at Gurwāna, and 6,691 feet at Guma. On the north-east the Tons, a tributary of the Jumna, forms the boundary, separating Sirmūr from Dehra Dūn. Thus, the slope of the country is from north to south, the confluence of the Giri with the Jumna being only 1,500 feet above sea-level; and the whole, with hardly an exception, drains into the latter river.

Geology. The greater part of the State lies on rocks of Tertiary age, with beds belonging to the Carbonaceous system (Krol and Blaini groups) on the north and north-east. The Lower Tertiary rocks are particularly well developed; and the Sirmūr series, which includes the Sabāthu, Dagshai, and Kasauli groups, takes its name from the State. The Upper Tertiary, or Siwālik series, is largely developed in the neighbourhood of Nāhan, where the lower beds consist of a great mass of sandstones, the Nāhan group; these are overlain by sandstones and conglomerates (middle and upper Siwālik) containing a rich mammalian fauna of pliocene age¹.

Botany. The lower valleys of the Jumna, Tons, and Giri have a true Siwālik flora, corresponding to that of the Dūns and *tarai* east of the Jumna. The Chaur mountain has a remarkably alpine vegetation at the higher levels—more so, for example, than the ranges intervening between it and the main ridge of the Inner Himālaya in Bashahr.

Fauna. Tigers are occasionally, and elephants rarely, met with in the Dūn. Bears abound in the hills, and *sāmbār*, *chital*, hog deer, and musk deer are plentiful, but wild dogs have much diminished the game in the Dūn and low hills. The fishing in the Giri is famous.

Climate. The climate in the Dūn is feverish in the rainy season and autumn, but otherwise the country is healthy and the hills enjoy a temperate climate. In the trans-Giri tract snow falls every winter, but it is rarely seen elsewhere. After December it is highly beneficial to the crops. The annual rainfall varies from 59 inches at Paonta to 65 inches at Pachhād, but generally more rain falls trans-Giri than in the west and south.

History. The early history of Sirmūr is almost a blank. Tradition

¹ Medlicott, 'Geological Structure of the Southern Portions of the Himālayas,' &c., *Memoirs, Geological Survey of India*, vol. iii, part ii.

says that its ancient capital was Sirmūr, now a mere hamlet surrounded by extensive ruins, in the Kiārda Dūn, whose king was of Sūrajbansi or Solar race. Once, the legend runs, a woman boasted to the Rājā of her acrobatic skill, and he challenged her to cross and recross the Giri river on a rope, promising her half his kingdom if she succeeded. The woman crossed in safety ; but as she was returning, a courtier, to save the kingdom from dismemberment, cut the rope, and the woman perished in the stream. For this act of treachery a flood swept away Sirmūr, and the Rājā perished with all his kin, leaving the realm without a ruler. But by chance a prince of Jaisalmer shortly after visited Hardwār as a pilgrim, and was there invited by one of the minstrels of the kingdom to assume its sovereignty. He accordingly sent a force under his son, the Rāwal or prince Sobha, who put down the disorders which had arisen in the State, and became the first Rājā of Sirmūr, under the title of Subhans Parkāsh, a title which the Rājās have ever since adopted. Rājban became the capital of the new king in 1095. The eighth Rājā conquered Ratesh, now a part of the Keonthal State, about 1150 ; and his successor subdued Juhhal, Balsan, Kumbhārsain, Ghond, Kot, and Theog, thus extending his dominions almost to the Sutlej. For many years these territories remained feudatories of the State ; but its capital was at Kālsi, in Dehra Dūn, and the Rājās' hold over their northern fiefs appears to have been weak until in the fourteenth century Bīr Parkāsh fortified Hāth-Koti, on the confines of Jubbal, Rāwain, and Sahri, the last of which became the capital of the State for a time. Eventually in 1621 Karm Parkāsh founded NĀHAN, the modern capital. His successor Māndhātā was called upon to aid Khalīl-ullah, the general of the emperor Shāh Jahān, in his invasion of Garhwāl, and his successor Sobhāg Parkāsh received a grant of Kotāha in reward for this service. Under Aurangzeb this Rājā again joined in operations against Garhwāl. His administration was marked by a great development of the agricultural resources of the State, and the tract of Kolagarh was also entrusted to him by the emperor. Budh Parkāsh, the next ruler, recovered Pinjaur for Aurangzeb's foster-brother. Rājā Mit Parkāsh gave an asylum to the Sikh Gurū, Gobind Singh, permitting him to fortify Paonta in the Kiārda Dūn ; and it was at Bhangāni in the Dūn that the Gurū defeated the Rājās of Kahlūr and Garhwāl in 1688. But in 1750 Kīrat Parkāsh, after defeating the Rājā of Garhwāl, captured Naraingarh, Morni, Pinjaur, and other territories from the Sikhs, and concluded an alliance

with Amar Singh, Rājā of Patialā, whom he aided in suppressing his rebellious Wazīr; and he also fought in alliance with the Rājā of Kahlūr when Ghulām Kādir Khān, Rohilla, invaded that State. He supported the Rājā of Garhwāl in his resistance to the Gurkha invasion, and, though deserted by his ally, was able to compel the Gurkhas to agree to the Ganges as the boundary of their dominions. His son Dharm Parkāsh repulsed the encroachments of the chief of Nālāgarh and an invasion by the Rājā of Garhwāl, only to fall fighting in single combat with Rājā Sansār Chand of Kāngra, who had invaded Kahlūr, in 1793. He was succeeded by his brother Karm Parkāsh, a weak ruler, whose misconduct caused a serious revolt. To suppress this he rashly invoked the aid of the Gurkhas, who promptly seized their opportunity and invaded Sirmūr, expelled Ratn Parkāsh, whom the rebels had placed on the throne, and then refused to restore Karm Parkāsh. Fortunately his queen, a princess of Coler and a lady of courage and resource, took matters into her own hands and invoked British aid. Her appeal coincided with the declaration of war against Nepāl, and a force was sent to expel the Gurkhas from Sirmūr. On the conclusion of the Gurkha War the British Government placed Fateh Parkāsh, the minor son of Karm Parkāsh, on the throne, annexing all the territories east of the Jumna with Kotāha and the Kiārda Dūn. The Dūn was, however, restored to the State in 1833 on payment of Rs. 50,000. During the first Afghān War the Rājā aided Government with a loan, and in the first Sikh War a Sirmūr contingent fought at Hari-kāpattan. Under Rājā Sir Shamsheer Parkāsh, G.C.S.I. (1856-98), the State progressed rapidly. *Begār* (forced labour) was abolished, roads were made, revenue and forest settlements carried out, a foundry, dispensaries, post and telegraph offices established. In 1857 the Rājā rendered valuable services, and in 1880 during the second Afghān War he sent a contingent to the North-West frontier. The Sirmūr Sappers and Miners under his second son Major Bīr Bikram Singh, C.I.E., accompanied the Tirāh expedition in 1897. The present Rājā (Sir Surindar Bikram Parkāsh, K.C.S.I.) has remodelled the courts of the State. He has been a Member of the Supreme Legislative Council of India. The Rājā of Sirmūr is entitled to a salute of 11 guns.

The
people.

The only town is Nāhan, the capital. There are 973 villages, or groups of hamlets, and the population of the State at the three enumerations was: (1881) 112,371, (1891) 124,134, and (1901) 135,626. It rose by 9.3 per cent. during

the last decade, the rate of increase being greatest in the Paonta *tahsīl*. Anciently divided into *bhojs*, which were grouped into twelve *wazīris*, it is now divided into four *tahsīls*: Nāhan, Rainka, Paonta, and Pachhād. More than 95 per cent. of the people are Hindus. By far the most numerous caste is that of the agricultural Kanets, who form more than 30 per cent. of the total. Western Pahārī is the language of 78 per cent. of the population.

In 1895 the American Presbyterian Mission of Ludhiāna sent evangelists to commence mission work in the State, ^{Christian missions.} ordained missionaries being also posted to Nāhan from time to time. In 1902 mission work was, with the Rājā's assent, made over to the Scandinavian Alliance Mission Society, which now has two missionaries posted at Nāhan. The only Christians in the State are immigrants.

The Kiārda Dūn differs greatly from the rest of the State in ^{General agricultural conditions.} its agricultural conditions. Formerly a wilderness of swamp and forest, constituting a bulwark against aggression from the plains, it was colonized by the late Rājā with cultivators from the submontane districts and is now one of the richest tracts in the State. It is a fertile alluvial plain, naturally well watered by numerous streams, and receiving a regular and sufficient rainfall. Its principal products are wheat and gram in the spring, and rice, maize, sugar-cane, ginger, and turmeric in the autumn. The hill tracts generally are less rich agriculturally, though poppy, ginger, tobacco, and turmeric are grown extensively. The forest products are also a source of considerable wealth to the people. The prevalent form of tenure may be described as *ryotwāri*, village communities like those of the plains being unknown, but the ancient *bhoj* still exists in name. The area for which particulars are on record is 1,108 square miles, of which 388 square miles, or 35 per cent., are forest, 10 per cent. are not available for cultivation, 42 per cent. are cultivable waste other than fallows, and 4 per cent. are current fallows. The net area cropped in 1904 was 130 square miles. The staple food-grains of the State are wheat, rice, gram, maize, *chulai*, and *manduā*. The State is absolutely secure against famine.

As already noted, the main feature in the agricultural ^{Improvements in agricultural practice.} development has been the colonization of the Kiārda Dūn in the Paonta *tahsīl*, the cultivated area of which rose from 11,253 acres in 1878 to 27,505 acres in 1904. Sugar-cane cultivation was introduced into the Dūn by the late Rājā, and he also established the well-known Nāhan foundry.

Cattle, &c. The cattle, as elsewhere in the hills, are small but hardy. The trans-Giri cows are by far the best. Buffaloes have been imported of recent years, but are only kept by the well-to-do and by the Gūjar immigrants from Jammu, who form a separate community and often own large herds. Goats are kept both for food and the hair, which is exported, and sheep for the sake of the wool and for sale, those of the *khādu* kind being the best and fetching high prices. Ponies are bred only in the Dūn, and the State keeps a pony and a donkey stallion at Paonta.

Irrigation. The State contains no irrigation wells or canals, but a scheme for taking a small canal out of the Giri river to irrigate the Dūn is in contemplation. Springs and torrents, however, afford ample means of irrigation, especially in the Rainka and Pachhād *tahsils*, in which over one-third of the area is irrigated. The streams are diverted into *kūhls* or watercourses.

Forests. The State forests are valuable. Along the western face of the Chaur range runs a compact belt of forest 20 miles long by 1 to 5 wide, mostly of oak, but also stocked in parts with fir, spruce, birch, and yew. *Deodār* occurs pure in 12 blocks, and occasionally blue pine. Below this belt oak and pine (*P. longifolia*) occur in places. Another but narrow belt of oak, 23 miles long, covers the slopes of the Chandpur, Mārōlāni, and Harīpur ranges below 7,000 feet. The ridges between the Giri river and the Dhārthi range are covered with scrub jungle, interspersed with pine, and, on the lower slopes, are sub-tropical in character. The lower hills, including the Kiārda Dūn and the northern face of the Outer Siwāliks, have an area of 176 square miles, of which 104 square miles are stocked with *sāl*, pure or mixed, 67 with tropical species, and 3 with pine. The Forest department is controlled by a Conservator, under whom is a considerable staff of officials, mostly trained foresters. The State is divided into two forest divisions, the Rājgarh or upper and the Nāhan or lower, each with five ranges. In the former division the forests are classed as protected, in the latter as 'reserved,' many of those in the Dūn being absolutely closed. Nearly all have been demarcated. The forest revenue in 1904 was Rs. 80,000.

Minerals. Iron is found in several places, but none of the mines is worked, and iron for the foundry is imported. Lead, copper, alum, and ochre are also known to exist, but only the last is mined at two places. Gold is found in minute quantities in the Rūn, Bātā, and other streams. Slate quarries are worked in the Pachhād and Rainka *tahsils*.

Arts and The only important industry is the foundry at Nāhan, which

belongs to the State. Started in 1867, magnetic iron, obtained from the Chheta mine in the Rainka *tahsīl*, was at first smelted; but the wrought iron produced could not compete with English mild steel, and the foundry was accordingly utilized for the manufacture of sugar-cane crushing mills, which found a ready market throughout the Punjab and United Provinces. The foundry employs 600 men, and its capacity is 75 tons per week. Much modern machinery has been erected. Persian carpets, floorcloths, and mats are made in the State jail. The only other industries are the making of wooden vessels, churns, blankets, &c., in the hills, and of coarse cotton cloth. Some cane furniture is also made.

There is a considerable export of agricultural and forest produce. Wheat, maize, and gram are sent from the Kiārda Dūn to Dehra Dūn and Ambāla, the hill produce going mostly to Simla and the neighbouring cantonments. Timber is also exported via the Jumna. Cloth, utensils, sugar, salt, drugs, and articles of European and Indian manufacture are imported. In bad years the Nāhan *tahsīl* has also to import grain from the plains.

A good road leads from Barāra on the North-Western Railway to Nāhan, the capital of the State, which is also connected with the Rāmpur ferry on the Jumna by a good road. There are 82 miles of cart-roads in the State and, for a hilly country, communications are good.

The administration is closely modelled on that of the Punjab, the Rājā personally exercising administrative control over the departments, divided into administrative, judicial, military, police, accounts, public works, medical, forests (including tea and other estates), jail, and foundry. Most of the principles of British law are observed, and almost all the Indian Acts applicable to the Punjab have been adopted.

The State is divided into four *tahsīls*. These are Nāhan, comprising the old Dhārthi and Khol *wazīris*; Pachhād, the 'western' tract, in which is the Sain range; Rainka, comprising the hilly country to the east; and Paonga, which contains the Kiārda Dūn. Each *tahsīl* is under a *tahsildar*.

The highest court is that of the Council, which consists of the Rājā as president, and five members nominated by him. The court of the Rājā sitting alone is known as the *Ijlās-i-Khās*. This exercises full jurisdiction in civil and criminal cases, and appeals from it lie to the Council, but sentences of death require the confirmation of the Commissioner of Delhi. Below it are the courts of the district judge and district magistrate.