

ASSESSMENT REPORT

OF THE

TERI TAHSIL

OF THE

KOHAT DISTRICT,

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE,

BY

C. A. BARRON, O.S.,

Settlement Officer, Kohat.

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FROM

M. F. O'DWYER, ESQUIRE, I. C. S.,

*Rev. and Finl. Secy. to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner,
North-West Frontier Province,*

TO

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONER,

NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.

Dated Peshawar, 10th October 1904.

SIR,

I AM directed to acknowledge receipt of the Teri Assessment Report, an advance copy of which was received on 14th September 1904, and to convey the following orders and remarks of the Chief Commissioner on Mr. Barron's proposals.

2. The case has had a most chequered and involved history. Since the

Difficulties of the case.

revolt of the Barak section of the Khattak tribe against their Chief, which

first compelled the active interference of Government in 1880, the relations between the Khan and his fellow tribesmen have been either actively hostile or severely strained, and though much was done in the settlement of the Barak tract (1883—1885) and in that of the Khattak tract (1892—1895) to settle the most burning disputes, no enduring agreement can be said to have been arrived at till the Khan's authority came to be based on the laws and rules in force in adjoining British territory rather than on the shadowy traditions of feudal and customary rights. That result has only now been arrived at.

3. The fiscal history of the tract sub-divides itself into two portions,—

Summary of the relations between Government and the Teri Chief.

the relations between Government and the Khattak Chief, and the relations between the Chief and his tribesmen.

The former is simple, and all that need be here said is that prior to annexation the Teri country had been leased to the Khan for an annual payment of Rs. 40,000 in cash, besides ten horses and twenty camels. On annexation the lease was confirmed, and the quit-rent was fixed at Rs. 31,068 in consideration of the Chief's loyalty in the Second Sikh War. In 1851 the quit-rent was reduced to Rs. 25,000 owing to the abolition of certain obnoxious cesses. In 1851 he was granted the lease for a term of five years at Rs. 20,000 per annum. In 1855 the lease was granted to him for life at the same rate, and in 1858 as a reward for the signal services rendered in the Mutiny it was confirmed to him and his heirs in perpetuity at an annual fixed rent of Rs. 25,000 less Rs. 5,000 remitted as *mawajib*, the Khan to keep up 100 sowars for ordinary and 120 for extraordinary occasions, and the maintenance of the lease to be conditional on active and zealous loyalty. The quit-rent was for his services

in the Afghan War reduced from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 18,000 during the life-time of Nawab Sir Khwaja Muhammad Khan, K.C.S.I. On his death in 1889 the temporary remission ceased, and Rs. 20,000 were again realised. On the completion of the Khattak Settlement in 1895 the quit-rent was again reduced to Rs. 18,000 for the term of settlement so as to save the Khan from any pecuniary loss in connection with the Settlement operations. The payment of the full quit-rent of Rs. 20,000 will therefore take effect from the new assessment.

The above summary of our relations with the Khans is a record of unswerving loyalty, ready and willing service on their side, which received prompt and generous recognition from Government. The resources of the country and the income the Khan derives from it have enormously increased within the last 60 years, but the quit-rent which Government now takes is only half what the Sikhs took prior to our occupation of the country, and less than two-thirds of what we took 55 years ago.

4. The history of the relations between the Khan and his tribesmen is not such pleasant reading. It has been related at some length in the previous reports on the Barak and Khattak Settlements, and is well summarised in Chapter II of Mr. Barron's present report.

The Khans of Teri have held the Chiefship of the Western Khattaks since the middle of the eighteenth century in an unbroken line of descent. Prior to our annexation of the country they occupied the position of semi-independent rulers, being allowed to exercise their feudal authority over the tribesmen as they chose, as long as they recognised the central authority for the time being by the payment of revenue or tribute, and by furnishing troops for service when called upon.

Even after annexation and down to the close of the Afghan War in 1880 the same rough-and-ready system was continued, and the late Khan—Nawab Sir Khwaja Muhammad Khan, K.C.S.I., who was Chief from 1849 to 1889—managed his tribesmen pretty much as he liked, taking revenue from them to a large extent in kind, levying cesses of many descriptions, and exacting feudal services in the old-fashioned style. This arrangement, though anomalous in a country directly under our rule, worked at first well enough in this wild and remote tract, where the people though turbulent were simple, and the Khan was a man of strong character, who understood how to manage them.

Meantime the surrounding tracts in the Kohat and adjoining districts had come under settlement, and the Khattaks, who, like all Orientals, at first viewed the new system with suspicion, came to realise that it involved lenient assessments, absence of all irregular and uncertain demands, method in collections, and began to agitate for the extension to themselves of the advantages which their neighbours—the Wazirs and Bangashes—and their fellow tribesmen the Eastern Khattaks were enjoying. The claims made upon them for service during the Afghan War owing to what the Punjab Government in passing orders on the Barak assessment styled “the great and perhaps indiscreet zeal of the Nawab in the service of Government during a time of serious crisis” brought matters to a head, and a summary Settlement of the Barak tract was with the consent of both parties decided upon with a view to a more complete definition of rights and liabilities. By the time this measure was carried out the movement had spread to the Khattak tract, and the death of the old Khan in 1889 encouraged the revolt against the exercise of feudal authority. The demand of the people for a settlement could not under the circumstances be resisted, and with the reluctant consent of the Chief that tract too came under settlement. These settlements, to quote the words of Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick in reviewing the Khattak Assessment Report, were not an ordinary piece of revenue work, but really involved “the adjustment of the terms of what may be called a political and agrarian revolution on a small scale.”

5. The alteration in the position of the Khan from a powerful feudal Chief with indefinite rights over his tribesmen and obligations only to Government, to that of a superior owner

Effect of the Barak and Khattak Settlements on the Khan's position.

entitled only to collect a fixed revenue in cash and to certain other dues sanctioned by Government was probably an inevitable result of the Settlement operations. The transition was, however, accompanied with a good deal of confusion and friction; and thus when rights and obligations came to be defined, the Khan asserted a definite and legal basis for the rather vague and elastic feudal authority hitherto exercised, e.g., by claiming direct proprietorship of the whole Khattak country, while the tribesmen endeavoured to shake off all traces of feudal subordination and to obtain the status of Zamindars holding direct from the State, and successfully asserted in the adjoining Peshawar District as against the hereditary Khans by their brethren the Eastern Khattaks. The tension which led to the settlement of the Barak tract in 1881—1885 had become even more acute when the Khattak tract was settled in 1893—1895. The tact, judgment and knowledge of settlement detail brought to the former task by the Settlement Officer—Mr. Tucker—enabled him to put the relations of the Khan and the Barak Khattaks on a sound and clear footing, which both parties accepted or at least have acquiesced in.

6. The fiscal history of the Khattak tract has not been so fortunate. The

Disputes between the Khan and his tribesmen subsequent to the Settlements.

old Khan had died, and with him disappeared the great prestige and influence attaching to his personality.

The Khattaks of this tract were in closer relations by blood and situation with the Khans than those of Barak, and more inclined to assert what they considered their rights. Hence the definition of rights in the Settlement was the subject of more acrimonious dispute than in Barak, and even after the actual Settlement operations were completed, the controversy on some of the most important points at issue—the Khan's right to collect extra cesses, and the rights of the Akor Khels and Khanzadas in *mufis* and lands—was unfortunately prolonged for years, and thereby made the relations even more embittered. In both tracts the Settlement had been wisely sanctioned for the term of the rest of the Kohat District, and when resettlement operations were started in 1900 the Khattak tract was in open revolt against the Khan's authority, while the movement was rapidly spreading to Barak. The land-revenue, it is true, was being collected, but the Khan's right to realise *tirni* (grazing fees on camels, sheep and goats) and *buha* (a house tax on non-agriculturists) was openly and successfully resisted, and his position as superior proprietor of the tract with the corresponding right to collect *talugdari* dues from all but the Akor Khel clansmen was seriously challenged.

It thus became necessary to put things on an assured legal basis by the passing of the Teri Dues Regulation (IV of 1902), which defined the Khan's immemorial rights in respect of *tirni* and *buha*, and authorised their collection and that of *talugdari* in the same way as arrears of land-revenue. The decided action thus taken to maintain the Khan's authority has had speedy results, the agitation has died away, and the ground has been cleared sufficiently to enable us to determine the fiscal obligations due to the Khan without being drawn into the discussion of a multitude of controversial side-issues. To obviate any danger of those controversies being reopened, it will, however, be advisable to set forth the decisions which have been arrived at and the manner in which they should be given effect to, as this must have an important bearing on the question of assessment.

7. The Chief Commissioner agrees with Mr. Barron that no useful

Effect of past Settlements on the Khan's income.

end would be gained by entering into speculations as to the income derived by

the Khan from the tract before the Settlements were made on a regular cash basis. Those Settlements may have reduced his prestige and authority, but they gave him undoubtedly a larger and more assured income. Colonel Deane as Deputy Commissioner of Kohat remembers that for some years prior to the Khattak Settlement the Khan was unable to collect revenue at all in most of the Khattak tract, whereas since the Settlement the land-revenue at least has been realised with reasonable punctuality throughout the whole tahsil even in bad years. There have been small remissions for hail amounting to only Rs. 288. Suspensions on account of drought amounted to about Rs. 20,000, but none of this has as yet been remitted, and the total outstanding land-revenue

on 30th September 1903 was only Rs. 9,554. Pecuniarily, therefore, the Khan's position has been improved by the Settlements, while the people have benefited by the abolition of a great multitude of semi-feudal dues and cesses and by the substitution of a moderate fixed demand for the old system of short term cash-leases or collections in kind.

8. The working of the Settlement was undoubtedly facilitated by the fact that the zamindars fortunately possess considerable resources outside their lands. They derive (paragraph 25) an income of 2½ lakhs annually from Government service, which in all circles but the Thal is more than double the demand for land-revenue and cesses. In all circles, except the Thal, the zamindars receive salt inams from Government (paragraph 27), which amount to Rs. 37,965, or over half the present land-revenue of those circles, and in the Nari Chauntra Circle cover fully two-thirds of the demand; while individual villages receive inams equal to four-fold the assessment. There is also a considerable income from flocks, herds and camels—which, however, are separately taxed under the *tirni* system (paragraph 26)—and from the excavation and carriage of salt. Were it not for these resources it is doubtful if the revenue demand would have been so promptly met even in bad years, and it is therefore not out of place to examine the pitch of that demand considered separately.

9. Mr. Barron (paragraph 14) considers that the Barak assessment was a lenient one. A reference to paragraphs 72 and 73 of Mr. Tucker's Assessment Report shows that he kept the total demand—including cesses and the *talugdari* allowance of 1½ annas per rupee of land-revenue—just within his half net assets estimate; that he regarded the *talugdari* allowance to the Khan as an integral part of the ordinary assessment, which for historical and sentimental reasons was split up into two component parts; and that the Punjab Government clearly accepted this view in passing orders that "the sum to be assessed on the tappa (exclusive of cesses) will accordingly be divided into land-revenue proper and a *talugdari* allowance thereon at the rate of Rs. 9-6-0 per cent."

All the correspondence shows that the amount assessed—Rs. 41,551-9-0—was to be the same, whether it was all to be called land-revenue as proposed by Colonel Wace (Second Financial Commissioner), or whether it was to be subdivided into land-revenue—Rs. 37,990—and *talugdari* (at 1½ annas per rupee) Rs. 3,561-9-0—as proposed by the local officers and agreed to by Government, and that this amount—excluding cesses—was 15 per cent. below the half-assets estimate of Rs. 48,762. No doubt Mr. Tucker's proposals were moderate and judicious, but he was working on very meagre data—the crop statistics of an exceptionally good year—and though he considerably reduced his estimates to bring out what he considered the results of an average year, it appears (paragraph 13) that his estimate of the average area of crops (92,000 acres) was considerably higher than the actual average (82,420 acres) of the five years (1898—1903), which Mr. Barron has taken as the basis of his calculations. Accordingly the Chief Commissioner considers that the opinion on the assessment which was passed at the time by the late Colonel Wace, Financial Commissioner, was fully justified. Colonel Wace wrote:—

"On the whole I am inclined to think that the assessment is a closer one and pitched at higher rates than would have been assessed in this exposed frontier tract if Government had not assigned its revenue to the local Chief; but it is not in my opinion otherwise than moderate, nor higher than the landowners have in fact hitherto paid, and can in future continue to pay with ease."

10. Colonel Deane readily accepts Mr. Barron's conclusion that the assessment of the Khattak tract was pitched much higher than that of Barak. In the first place the average harvested area then assumed—63,447 acres—was 25 per cent. above the average of the last five years, which Mr. Barron has taken as the basis of his estimates. Not only was the general incidence relatively higher, but the distribution over villages was from the circumstances of the case, as explained in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Punjab Government

review, *viz.* the past history of the tract, the old division into cash and kind paying villages, the situation of certain villages on the Wazir border, necessarily uneven at the time, and this inequality, however inevitable then, has since become a serious hardship to individual villages. Under the orders of Government the assessment of the Seni-Khurram Circle was fixed at Rs. 22,400. This sum was appreciably above the assessment proposed by the Settlement Officer—Rs. 21,000—and also above the half-assets estimate—Rs. 21,335—which was considered to have been pitched too low in the old Khurram Circle. The Rs. 1,400 so added in Seni-Khurram was taken off the more prosperous Darra Circle, which was finally assessed at only Rs. 19,879 against a half-assets estimate of Rs. 30,225, and Rs. 21,300 proposed by the Settlement Officer. The subsequent revenue history of both circles (paragraph 64) shows that this addition to the assessment of the Seni-Khurram Circle was not justified, that the present demand is burdensome, especially in the eastern portion of the tract, and that, so far from any enhancement being now possible, it is necessary to make some reduction in the circle as a whole.

11. The difference between the Barak and Khattak assessments was

Addition of *Taluqdari* to the assessment in Khattak.

further accentuated by the fact that the *taluqdari* allowance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas per rupee, which in Barak had been taken out of the land-revenue, was in Khattak separately calculated and added on to it as if it were an *extra* cess. No reason for the difference of treatment is given in the Assessment Report or the orders thereon, nor is any apparent. The Settlement Officer (paragraph 67, Khattak Report) based his proposals for the grant of the allowance in Khattak on the following facts:—

“The Khan and his late father have exercised the same powers and rights over the tract under report as they did over the Barak Tappa. They (the two tracts) are as a matter of fact one *ilaqa* comprising the Khattak country. Government conferred upon the late Nawab a *taluqdari* allowance at the rate of Rs. 9-6-0 per cent. of the revenue proper of the Barak Tappa (paragraph 73, Barak Settlement Report). It is needless to recapitulate the arguments used in the paragraph quoted, and it will be sufficient to say that they apply with equal force in the present case. A similar *taluqdari* allowance at the same rate and on the same conditions might, I think, be granted to the Khan on the net revenue demand of the tract under settlement, excluding those villages belonging to the Akor Khel.

“All the Akor Khels are descended from the Chiefs of Teri, who have successively ruled the Khattak country. They, like the late Nawab, have always realised all dues in their own proprietary villages. From time immemorial the Akor Khels have never paid land-revenue, but held all their lands in *mafi*. These Akor Khels were besides in receipt of cash allowances from the Nawab's treasure chest for the support of their families. But these allowances have been discontinued by the present Khan since his father's death.”

The Commissioner (paragraph 13 of his Review) supported all the above proposals, and the Financial Commissioner (paragraph 15 of his Review) agreed with him, emphasising the fact that “the conditions of the tract under report are exactly similar to those of the Barak Tappa for which this allowance has been sanctioned by Government.” On this the Punjab Government passed the following order (paragraph 34):—

“*Taluqdari* to be paid by inferior proprietors will be at the rate of Rs. 9-6-0 per cent. on land-revenue as in Barak. It will not, of course, be paid in respect of lands of which the Khan or his family are full proprietors, nor will it be paid by the Akor Khels.”

12. In the application of those orders in Khattak the Barak precedent

Consequent high assessment of Khattak.

which furnished the justification for them was departed from, and the *Taluqdari* allowance, instead of being regarded as a portion of the total assessment considered as suitable on general grounds, was added on to it. This, as pointed out in Mr. Barron's paragraph 17, resulted in an addition of Rs. 3,027 to the revenue of the tract, of which Rs. 1,861 fell on the already highly assessed Seni-Khurram Circle. The action taken, whether justified or not by the orders, was obviously intended to safeguard the Khan against losing pecuniarily by the Settlement. The Chief Commissioner, as already remarked, considers that throughout the whole proceedings too much was made of this argument, and the Khan's statements of his revenue demands were accepted as close approximations to what he realised. How widely the two differed is shown in paragraph 10 of the Khattak Assessment Report, from which on the Khan's own showing it appears that out of a total

demand of about Rs. 8,30,000 in the Khattak tract for the four years 1889-90—1892-93 no less than Rs. 1,54,224, or nearly 50 per cent., was in arrears.

13. As regards the *Taluqdari*, the Chief Commissioner's view is that it should be maintained throughout the tahsil on the lines originally fixed in Barak—the assessment which is decided upon on general grounds being divided into land-revenue proper and *Taluqdari*, and, as in Barak, should be regarded as an impartible property which will descend integrally along with the Khanship to the Khan for the time being. Where lands whether their own or those of others are held by the Akor Khels in *masi* or *jagir*, they will of course receive the full assessment. No difficulty will arise except in the possible case of Akor Khels and Khanzadas holding now or hereafter land in proprietary right of which the assessment is not released to them. This area is at present apparently *nil* and must in any case be very limited, for it appears from Appendix H that the total present assessment of the grants held by the Khanzadas (descendants of Shahbaz Khan II) and Akor Khels (descendants of Malik Ako) is only Rs. 1,105, the *Taluqdari* on which would come to Rs. 104. Though the Chief Commissioner is disposed to agree with Mr. Barron that if the circumstances had been fully appreciated at last Settlement no exemption of the Akor Khels would have been necessary, he considers that it might now be regarded as an infringement of existing rights to cancel such exemption even in name. The assessment of lands, if there are any, held by Akor Khels, of which the revenue is not released to them, should therefore be divided into land-revenue proper and *Taluqdari*, the former alone being realisable, and the latter being shown as an exemption. This arrangement will have the result of placing the Akor Khels' exemption as land-owners from *Taluqdari* on a different footing from their exemption as *masfidars* from payment of land-revenue. This result is under the circumstances inevitable, and it is matter for regret that the question of the status of the Akor Khels was not dealt with as a whole at last Settlement instead of piecemeal. The exemption from *Taluqdari* must now be considered as a privilege attaching to all Akor Khels as regards their hereditary holdings and cannot be interfered with by the Khan, whereas their *masi* rights are held subject to his pleasure.

14. The history of the Akor Khel *masi* has been very clearly summarised in paragraph 18 of Mr. Barron's report, which is further explained by Appendix H. The total value of the grants under the present assessment is Rs. 10,799. Of this no less than Rs. 9,684 is held by the Nawabzadas or descendants of Nawab Khwaja Muhammad Khan under the terms of the latter's will, which, though not officially recognised by Government, has since his death been accepted by the family and given effect to without question by the late and the present Khans. The small balance is held by Khanzadas (Rs. 879) and other Akor Khels—Rs. 236. The final orders of the Punjab Government as regards the tenure of all these grants as contained in paragraph 5 of the Punjab Government letter No. 885, dated 23rd July 1898, are as follows:—

"The Lieutenant-Governor strongly holds that we must insist upon the historical aspect of the case, and point out to *masfidars* and assignees of all classes that as regards rights to land-revenue their position has all along depended upon the forbearance of the Khan, and that in future their tenures will be held subject to the pleasure of the Khan, to whom is due from them loyalty, obedience and service."

These orders are clear, and of course will hold good in the future as in the past.

15. The above grants to Akor Khels, Khanzadas and Nawabzadas are confined almost entirely to the Khattak tract, where the various branches of the ruling family reside. In Barak such grants (paragraph 16, Report) are very few, but their place is taken by the *inams* and *birads* originally granted by the Teri Chiefs to leading men as a reward for past military services or as remuneration for collecting the revenue and otherwise assisting the Chief.

In passing orders on the Barak Settlement the Lieutenant-Governor decided that the whole matter of the continuance of both *masi* (including

inams) and *birāts* should be left entirely to the Chief's own disposition, existing grants being entered in the Settlement Record, and any changes thereafter made being intimated by the Chief to the Deputy Commissioner, who might make any representation which he deemed necessary in individual cases. It appears from paragraph 19 of the Report that the Khan has as a rule resumed these *inam* and *mafi* grants on the death of the incumbents, and their value in Barak has fallen from Rs. 8,804 at Settlement to Rs. 4,568 now. In the Khattak tract the orders of the Punjab Government were that "in regard to *mafis* and *inams* the Barak system will be followed." *Inams* and *birāts* (as distinct from petty *mafis* to mosques, shrines, and *Sayads*) appear however to have been more sparingly given in Khattak, and those that existed were resumed at or before the Settlement owing to the friction between the Khan and the Zamindars. The total amount in Khattak is now only Rs. 107.

16. To complete this branch of the case reference may be made to the miscellaneous dues levied by the Khan in addition to land-revenue and *Taluqdari*. Up to the Settlements the Khan had levied a great number of miscellaneous imposts and semi-feudal dues—about 13 in number—which are fully described in the previous Assessment Reports. All these cesses were abolished under the orders of Government as oppressive or unjustifiable, with the exception of *turni* (a grazing tax on sheep, goats and camels) and *buka* (a house tax generally of Rs. 2 per house per harvest on non-agriculturists, except Mullahs and Brahmins performing religious duties in mosques and temples and persons dependent on daily labour for their living).

In Barak the cess or tax known as *Kulhari*—levied at the rate of one rupee per axe from the wood cutters of the Lawaghar Range—was also recognised by Government, while in Khattak, being of recent origin, it was abolished by the orders contained in Punjab Government letter No. 1140, dated 25th September 1895, and confirmed in letter No. 1489, dated 18th November 1898. The tax in Barak averages Rs. 490 per annum, and is paid only by certain villages of the Chauntra and Thal circles.

The *turni* and *buka* cesses are of general application. The strike against payment of these dues and the measures taken to place their collection on a legal footing by the passing of Regulation No. IV of 1902 and the issue of rules for their realisation (Notifications Nos. 538 G., 539 G. and 540 G., dated 18th March 1904) have been referred to in paragraph 6 (*supra*) and in paragraph 7 of Mr. Barron's report.

Buka is paid entirely by non-agriculturists, and has therefore no direct bearing on the assessment. The average demand under the rules above quoted, which are designed to give complete exemption to all true agriculturists, even when they eke out a living by other means, is estimated at Rs. 4,000.

Turni is payable chiefly by agriculturists on account of their camels and flocks of sheep and goats, and may therefore be considered as a tax on the waste or grazing land. The average demand is estimated at Rs. 7,800 per annum, viz.,—

	Rs.
Seni-Khurram	1,500
Darra	2,000
Nari Chauntra	2,500
Thal	1,000
Lawaghar	800
Total	7,800

and this has to be taken account of in considering the total demand on the land. The tax is not however exceptional or peculiar to Teri, for a similar tax on all classes of animals is imposed by Government in the Nowshera Tahsil of Peshawar and the Khwarra-Zira tracts of Peshawar and Kohat, where grazing is abundant and the income from cattle considerable as it undoubtedly is in Teri.

17. The question whether the Akor Khels generally are exempt from the payment of *tirni* as they are exempt from *Taluqdari*, and further whether they have a right to collect the *tirni* and *buha* for themselves in the villages or portions of villages which they hold in jagir or proprietary right, has for the last 15 years been the subject of acute controversy. The matter has been discussed fully in the separate correspondence relating to the passing of Regulation IV of 1902 and to the issue of the notifications which give effect to it. The decision finally arrived at is embodied in Notification No. 539-G., dated 18th March 1904, which declares that the levy of *tirni* and *buha* shall be subject to the following exceptions—

- (1) The grant by the Khan of Teri of the land-revenue of a holding or holdings in *masi* to the owner of the land in respect of which such land-revenue is due shall be held to carry with it the exemption of that owner from the payment of *tirni* in respect of any camels, sheep or goats owned by him.
- (2) The grant by the Khan of Teri of an assignment of the land-revenue of an estate or part of an estate in *jagir* shall be held to carry with it the grant to the *jagirdar* of personal exemption from payment of *tirni* and *buha*, and also the grant of the right to collect for his own enjoyment the *tirni* and *buha*, which but for the assignment of the *jagir* would be due to the Khan of Teri himself from the landowners and inhabitants of the estate or part of estate assigned.
- (3) The exemption of *masfidars* and *jagirdars* from the payment of *tirni* and *buha*, and the right of *jagirdars* to collect *tirni* and *buha*, shall cease with the lapse or resumption of their *masis* or *jagirs*.
- (4) Nothing in the foregoing rules shall prevent the Khan of Teri from making or resuming exemptions and assignments of *tirni* and *buha* apart from exemptions, assignments and resumptions of land-revenue, but in such cases the provisions of Section 7 of the Regulation must be complied with (*i.e.* the previous sanction of the Local Government is required).
- (5) In this notification the words owner and *jagirdar* shall be held respectively to include all owners of a joint holding, and all share-holders in a joint *jagir*.

These rules place the exemption from payment of and the right to collect *tirni* on the same footing as the exemption from and the right to collect land-revenue, so that the former exemption like the latter (see paragraph 14) is dependent upon the pleasure of the Khan.

This arrangement secures the prestige and authority of the Khan and at the same time maintains the exemption of Akor Khels as regards their *masi* holdings and their right to collect in their *jagirs* as long as the latter are continued to them by the Khan.

18. It has been necessary to discuss at some length the many administrative questions which have a direct or indirect bearing on the future assessment, and the proposals as regards the latter will now be considered.

The tahsil consists of 166 estates with a total area of 1,525 square miles, of which one-fifth is under cultivation. Since Settlement the total area under cultivation has declined by 2 per cent. In the Darra and Lawaghar circles it has practically remained stationary; in the Thal there has been an increase of 7.5 per cent., while in the Seni-Khurram the new measurements bring out a falling-off of 13.6 per cent., and in Nari Chauntra of 5 per cent. It is probable that in Seni-Khurram some of the poorest land on the margin of cultivation had been abandoned, but it is more probable that the decrease elsewhere is mainly due to errors in the previous survey, which have now been corrected, so that the decrease is really a paper one. The point is not however of much importance, as the Settlement Officer has rightly based his assessment mainly on the average of harvested crops for the last five years.

There is still a considerable area of culturable waste. In the Seni-Khurram it is equal to the area under cultivation. In the Darra and Nari Chauntra it amounts to 60 per cent. and 45 per cent of that area; while in the Thal it is only one-fourth, and in Lawaghar only one-third. In the latter two circles there is consequently little or no margin for expansion, and the failure of an industrious and relatively dense population to break up any new waste since Settlement in circles other than the Thal shows that the waste must be very inferior. At the same time the agitation which has prevailed in the Khattak Circles ever since last Settlement must have hindered development, and now that tranquillity has been restored and the people guaranteed a longer term of settlement, an expansion of cultivation, wherever possible, may be looked for.

On the whole there seems to have been an improvement in the quality of the cultivation as indicated in the classification of soils. The area of *bandiza*, i. e. land occasionally irrigated from ravines or hill torrents, has indeed decreased on the whole, the increase in Darra and Nari Chauntra being more than counterbalanced by the falling off—due to more stringent classification—in the remaining circles. The area of *dagoba* land, on the other hand, has increased considerably in all circles, which proves that the people are more careful to hold up the drainage from the hills and waste lands by field embankments. This has been accompanied by a corresponding decrease in the pure *barani* soil, which receives only the rain that falls upon it.

The irrigated area is only 1 per cent. of the whole. The proportion has increased though slowly, but the more liberal policy now pursued in the matter of takavi is causing a rapid increase of irrigation wells in the rather limited area where they can be worked with advantage.

19. The severe climate, great extremes of heat and cold, scarcity and bad quality of the water, and inhospitable surroundings have developed a hardy and vigorous race, which manages to wring a livelihood from a soil which, except in a few valleys, is by no means generous, and have also given rise to those qualities of enterprise and industry which bring the Khattak to the front all along the frontier from Gilgit to Quetta as a soldier and a carrier.

The soil, though generally light, is carefully worked, and chiefly owing to this cause shows extraordinary power of retaining moisture and of withstanding drought. Hence, in spite of the light rainfall, varying from about 15 inches in the Thal Circle to 20 inches in the Nari Chauntra and 22 inches in the Darra, and the absence of irrigation, the variations in cropping are less than might be expected, and are greatest in the north-eastern circle—Seni-Khurram—as the following table shows:—

	Seni Khurram	Darra	Nari Chauntra	Thal	Lawaghar	Tahsil	Area	Percentage of <i>sharaba</i> .
1898-99	18,988	23,325	31,280	40,959	5,899	120,376	47,519	28.3
1899-1900	21,350	19,190	26,816	37,801	6,210	111,367	59,359	34.7
1900-01	31,900	26,379	31,003	50,847	7,554	127,683	39,418	20.7
1901-02	28,858	26,818	30,079	45,481	7,280	138,511	46,221	25
1902-03	30,228	24,831	31,253	47,762	7,890	141,964	43,404	27.5
Average harvested	26,270	24,135	30,991	44,477	6,961	132,823		
Failed	9,962	7,113	11,621	15,676	2,812	47,184	47,184	26.2
Percentage of failed to sown	27.5	22.8	27.5	26.1	28.8	26.2		

20. The rainfall and other agricultural conditions varied considerably in the above cycle, but the widest fluctuation in the area sown was from 168,000 acres in 1898-99 to 190,000 acres in 1900-01, the average being 180,000 acres. The greatest variation in the area of harvested crops within the same period was from 111,000 acres in 1899-1900, when over one-third

of the sown area failed, to 150,000 acres in 1900-01, when the proportion of failure was only one-fifth.

On the average out of 180,000 acres sown 47,000 acres or 26.2 per cent. failed, and 133,000 acres or 73.8 per cent. came to maturity. The rainfall statistics (paragraphs 3 and 43) show that the cycle was rather below the average, the failure of the winter rains in two successive years out of five—1900-01, 1901-02—being very unusual, so that there need be no hesitation in assuming that an average of 180,000 acres are sown, of which 75 per cent. or 135,000 acres came to maturity. In the year just closed—1903-04—which did not come into Mr. Barron's calculation, 191,000 acres were sown, of which 156,000 acres or 81.5 per cent. were successfully harvested. That year, however, was an exceptionally favourable one.

21. In the Khattak tract (Seni-Khurram and Darra) the kharif crop—57.6 and 56.8 per cent. respectively—is the more important. In Barak the rabi has a preponderance, which is slight in Nari Chauntra—53.4 per cent.—and Lawaghar—53.4 per cent., but very marked in the Thal—77.5 per cent. In all circles the kharif crop is more precarious than the rabi. A failure of rains in September involves the ruin of a large portion of the kharif; whereas the rabi if it once sprouts can hold its own during the long cold winter with little or no rain up till February or even March; and though there have been two exceptions, as above noted, in recent years, good winter rains from January to March can generally be reckoned upon—the average being over 4 inches at Banda.

Bajra in the kharif (30.6 per cent.), wheat (42.1 per cent.), and gram (12.2 per cent.) in the rabi are the chief crops, and occupy 86 per cent., or nearly seven-eighths, of the total crop area. The only other crops of any importance are jowar (3.9 per cent.), moth (3.7) and mung (1.7) in the kharif and barley (1.7) in the rabi. A little cotton and oilseeds are grown, but 98 per cent. of the area is under food crops. The agriculture is therefore, as might be expected in a purely unirrigated tract, simple in character. The more valuable crops are not grown, and double-cropping is practically unknown. To ensure success, however, great labour is required in embanking the land, so as to catch and hold up the surface drainage, and in ploughing it after each fall of rain, so that the moisture should penetrate to the subsoil. In the Thal Circle owing to the abundance of land and the comparative sparseness of the population this course cannot be adopted. Hence 83 per cent. of the Thal cultivation is pure *barani*—dependent on its own moisture—and consequently, as pointed out by Mr. Tucker (paragraph 42, Barak Report), “the wheat crops in the Thal are heavier in good years than the Chauntra crop, but are more dependent on rain, and in consequence suffer more in dry years.” This fact must be borne in mind with reference to the *kharaba* allowance and the rates of yield in the Thal. Mr. Barron, following the statistics, has allowed 26.1 as the average area of *kharaba*, which is a fraction below the tahsil average (26.2), but in his paragraph 67 he admits that he is doubtful whether this allowance is sufficient, and whether it should not be put at one-third.

22. Between 1881 and 1901 population increased from 81,374 to 96,012, or by about 18 per cent., and the increase was more rapid in the later than in the earlier decade.

Within the same period there has been no corresponding increase in agricultural production, and the Settlement Officer is no doubt right in thinking (paragraph 22) that the extra mouths are fed from the profits of employment outside agriculture, and especially from Government service, the field for which has extended enormously since the Afghan War. The pressure of population is now 319 persons per square mile of cultivation, which gives 2 acres of cultivation per head. Mr. Barron has made no estimate to show whether the local production is sufficient to feed the local population and leave a surplus for export. Such a calculation is of special value in a tract where the population is almost exclusively agricultural, and which grows practically nothing but food-grains.

The following table shows the population of each circle in 1901, the average outturn of food crops for the five years 1898-99—1902-03 as calculated in Appendix B, and the resultant average of food-grains in maunds and sers per head of population after deducting one-fifteenth of the produce for seed :—

Circle.	Population in 1901	Average yield of food-grains	Deduct one-fifteenth for seed.	Balance	Average per head of population	
					Mds	Sers
Seni Khurram	23,800	150,482	10,082	140,450	5	36
Darra	20,600	141,720	9,448	132,272	6	16
Nari Chauntra	22,200	148,176	9,878	138,298	6	9
Thal	22,700	227,823	15,188	212,635	9	15
Lawaghar	6,700	27,574	1,838	25,736	3	33
Total	96,000	695,775	46,384	649,391	6	31

No less than 98 per cent. of the cultivation is under food crops, and the average all-round yield is about 4 maunds per acre sown and about 5 maunds 15 sers on the harvested area. For a Pathan population entirely rural in character, with a large preponderance of males—the proportion for the Kohat District is 5 males to 4 females—growing almost exclusively food-grains, and none of the crops—sugarcane, vegetables, &c.,—which supplement food-grains as an article of diet, a very moderate estimate of annual consumption is 6 maunds per head. Applying this standard the Seni-Khurram and Lawaghar circles do not produce enough food for local consumption; the Nari Chauntra and Darra have an inconsiderable surplus of 5,000 and 9,000 maunds annually, and the Thal with its sparse population and large area of cultivation grows a surplus of about 75,000 maunds. This is possibly an over-estimate, but in any case the surplus of the Thal goes largely to meet the deficiency of other circles, the inhabitants of which come to cultivate there, taking away their share of the produce to their homes.

Even accepting the Thal figures, the excess of production over consumption for the whole tahsil is only 73,391 maunds, the value of which may be estimated at a lakh of rupees. Assuming that this goes to meet the land-revenue, cesses and *talugdari*—about Rs. 1,05,000 at present—the people have to meet the *tirni* demand, and all expenditure on other than food-grains from their miscellaneous sources of income, *viz.* cattle, salt *inams*, carrying trade, Government service, and the above facts no doubt explain their industry, and enterprise in the latter directions.

23. The conclusion arrived at in the last paragraph must have an important bearing on the question of assessment. Communications have no doubt been immensely improved by the metalling of the Kohat-Bannu road through the centre of the tract in 1889, and by the construction within the last two years of the Khushalgarh-Kohat-Thal Railway to which all circles but the Thal and Nari Chauntra have easy access. Improvement of communications is, however, a factor in the calculation of assessment only when it leads to the breaking up of new lands (which has so far not occurred in this instance) or provides facilities for the export of surplus produce, which in this case does not exist at least outside the Thal in an average year.

Similarly as regards prices. The same rates have been assumed for Teri (paragraph 53) as for Kohat and Hangu, and the Chief Commissioner agrees that while those rates were low for Kohat and Hangu, which are now traversed from end to end by a railway and a metalled road, they are fair and certainly not unduly low for Teri.

Colonel Deane does not see that any useful end will be gained by a discussion of how the actual and assumed prices of the Barak and Khattak Settlements compare with the actual and assumed prices as now calculated. The matter would be of importance if the tract had a large surplus available for export. In the absence of any such surplus the rise in prices so far from benefitting the producer may be a positive disadvantage to him in so far as he has to purchase food-grains to supplement his home-grown produce. This is certainly the case with a large proportion of the Teri zamindars. However, Mr. Barron's conclusion that prices have risen in Barak by 30 per cent. and in Khattak by at least 10 per cent.—which agrees closely with the Financial Commissioner's estimate in the Forecast Report—may be accepted.

The rise in the price of fodder, *i.e.* *bhusa* and jowar stalks, has been greater than that of grain, and in this tract has been more beneficial to the zamindar, who can readily dispose of fodder at the various encamping-grounds or in Kohat and Bannur. As, however, the landlord rarely receives a share of the straw except on irrigated land, this is not an item which can be taken into account in calculating the State share, which is limited to the value of one-half of the landlord's share.

24. The only two factors remaining for the calculation of the half net assets are (a) the rates of yield, (b) the landlord's net share. Mr. Barron's calculations of the former are based on continuous and careful observation of the harvests of several years, and appear to be well-reasoned and judicious. Colonel Deane has no hesitation in accepting the results with the remark that, having regard to the peculiar conditions of agriculture in the Thal, and the doubt whether the area of *kharaba* allowed is sufficient, the yield assumed for *barani* wheat ($4\frac{1}{2}$ maunds) and bajra (4 maunds) seems rather high. In regard to rent rates (paragraph 49) there appears to have been an upward tendency all round as compared with last Settlement. In Seni-Khurram and Lawaghar the rise has been slight. In the Darra and portions of the Nari Chauntra Circle it has been more marked—but this may be partly due, as the Settlement Officer explains, to differences in the method of calculation; while in the Thal it has been very great, the average rent having risen from one-fifth to '28, which is intermediate between one-fourth and one-third.

25. As this rise in the rent rate is, after the rise in prices, the main factor in bringing out the increase in the half-assets estimate, it may well be examined in more detail. The statistics in paragraphs 29 and 47 show that the tract is essentially one of small holdings, and peasant proprietors who work three-fifths of the land themselves. The proportion would be even higher were it not that in the Seni-Khurram and Darra circles several villages are owned by a few large landlords—the Khan and his relations—who cultivate entirely through tenants. It has also been seen that within the last 20 years population has increased by 18 per cent., while there has been no corresponding increase in cultivation outside the Thal Circle.

The subdivision of holdings has, therefore, been rapid, and the average area of cultivation per proprietary holding is now only $5\frac{1}{2}$ acres and per proprietor 6 acres. If the area owned by the Khan and the Nawabzadas were excluded the averages would be reduced to about $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 acres respectively. The increase in the rent rate is therefore due mainly to the pressure of a rapidly growing population on a soil where there is little margin for expansion. As there are very few tenants as apart from proprietors in Teri, except in the villages owned by the Khan and Akor Khels, the rise in the rent rate when examined in the above light merely means that, owing to the increased demand for land, the Khattaks have now to pay a higher rent for the land which they cultivate as tenants in addition to their own proprietary holdings. The rise in rent, therefore, benefits only the limited number of large landlords, most of whom hold their lands free of revenue from the Khan. It is of no benefit to the vast majority of peasant proprietors, who work their own lands, and in so far as they cultivate as tenants the land of others it is actually a disadvantage to them.

26. The rise in rents and prices has, of course, entered into the half-assets estimate, and in deciding how closely we should approach that estimate in fixing the future assessment the

Summary of considerations affecting the future assessment.

above considerations have to be kept steadily in view. It has also to be remembered that the people pay in addition to land-revenue and *Taluqdari* a sum of about Rs. 8,000 annually as *tirni*, of Rs. 500 as *kulhari* in Lawaghar and Chauntra, and that though they derive a large income from Government in the form of salt *inams*, service and pension, and from the excavation and carriage of salt and the sale of fuel, this income merely supplements the precarious and hard-won returns from the land, and should in justice be left out of consideration in fixing the demand on the latter. Finally, in a tract with a light rainfall, where nearly all the cultivation is unirrigated and the profits of agriculture are consequently low and precarious, we cannot in imposing a fixed cash assessment approach so closely to the half-assets estimate as we should be justified in doing where agriculture is more secure, the returns from it greater, and where the owner of the land has a surplus to dispose of, which enables him to benefit by the rise in prices and rent and the improvement of communications.

27. As regards the method of assessment (paragraphs 61-62), the Chief Commissioner agrees that the demand

Principles of the new assessment

must be a fixed one; that to encourage the sinking of wells they should be assessed lightly as in Kohat and Hangu, and that protective leases should be granted to katcha-pakka wells for 20 years as if they were masonry wells; also that rules should be framed for remitting the assessment of abandoned or disused wells while they are out of use. He sees, however, no necessity for the grant of frontier remissions in border villages—at least from Government. Such remissions were not given at last Settlement, and the necessity for them has certainly not increased since. The number of estates in which they could possibly be justified would be a few in the Seni-Khurram Circle along the Jawaki border on the extreme north-east of the tahsil, and a few on the extreme west of the old Nari and present Darra circles, which march with the trans-border Wazirs. Partly for this reason the Darra villages were leniently assessed at last Settlement, and there is no reason why some similar consideration should not be extended to them and other border villages now without the grant of formal frontier remissions.

28. The specific proposals for the assessment of each circle will now be considered separately following Mr. Barron's order.

Assessment to be imposed

Seni-Khurram Circle.

The present assessment, including *Taluqdari*, is Rs. 24,016. The new half-assets estimate is Rs. 23,326. As explained in paragraphs 10 and 11 (*supra*), this circle was very highly assessed at last Settlement. Since then it has not prospered. While population increased 15 per cent. between 1891 and 1901, the cultivated area has decreased appreciably and does not grow enough to feed the population. Many estates are now very depressed. Alienations have been considerable, but the selling and mortgaging value of land is extremely low. The Settlement Officer's proposal to reduce the total demand to Rs. 22,400, which represents 79 per cent. of the net assets, is fully justified and is accepted. Here, as elsewhere, of the new demand $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas per rupee will be shown as *Taluqdari*, the rest as land-revenue.

Darra Circle.

The half-assets estimate is Rs. 30,176. The present assessment, including *Taluqdari*, is Rs. 19,541, and is undoubtedly lenient. Cultivation has been stationary since Settlement, but the soil is on the whole good, and the rainfall less uncertain than in other circles. The people are generally well-to-do. The income from service is considerable. There is little or no debt, and nearly all the alienations have been among zamindars. The Settlement Officer's proposal to assess Rs. 24,000, *viz.* land-revenue Rs. 21,750, *Taluqdari* Rs. 2,250, is accepted. This represents 80 per cent. of the half net assets. Were it not for the exposed position of the villages on the Wazir border and the consequent necessity for

border service, the Chief Commissioner would have been prepared to raise the assessment to Rs. 26,000 in this circle.

Nari Chauntra.

The half-assets estimate is Rs. 34,248. The present assessment, which was fixed in 1885, is Rs. 24,859. Cultivation has decreased by 5 per cent., but this is probably on paper only.

The soil, though light, is fairly fertile and retentive of moisture, and the harvests are therefore more secure than anywhere else in the tahsil. Alienations are very numerous now as at last Settlement, but they are almost without exception among agriculturists, and are probably due in some measure to the consolidation of holdings. The value of land is high and steadily rising, but this is largely due to the smallness of the holdings, which average only three acres. The Settlement Officer proposes a total assessment of Rs. 27,200, which is just below 80 per cent. of his half-assets estimate. Colonel Deane thinks we might go a little higher in this circle, and would fix the demand at Rs. 28,800—land-revenue Rs. 26,100, *Taluqdari* Rs. 2,700. This result might be attained by a slight increase to the *barani* soil rate—8½ annas—which can stand a rise.

Thal.

The present demand, including *Taluqdari*, is Rs. 17,123. This circle was let off very light at last Settlement. Mr. Tucker proposed an initial assessment—including *Taluqdari*—of Rs. 15,000, rising by progressive enhancements to Rs. 21,000 or by 40 per cent. The Financial Commissioner proposed to limit the progressive enhancement to 20 per cent., but the Lieutenant-Governor in passing orders on the proposals reduced the enhancement to 12½ per cent. or 2 annas per rupee to be taken after five years.

The half-assets estimate is now Rs. 50,844 against Rs. 20,000 at last Settlement, cultivation having increased in the meantime by only 8 per cent. As already remarked, there is reason to think that sufficient allowance has not been made for *kharaba*, and the rates of yield assumed are rather high in some cases. But the main reasons for the increase in the half-assets estimate are the rise in prices and in the rent rate. The rise in the rent rate, as above explained, is of no benefit to the self-cultivating owners, who hold 54 per cent. of the area, but it does benefit the owners who have surplus land which they let out to tenants. The rise in prices is of more importance here than elsewhere, as the circle, which is thinly populated, has a considerable surplus available for export, and its vicinity to Bannu secures a ready market. The Settlement Officer proposes a new demand of Rs. 34,400, which represents 68 per cent. of the net assets, and would more than double the present demand.

For the reasons above given the Chief Commissioner would limit the assessment to Rs. 30,400—land-revenue Rs. 27,550, *Taluqdari* Rs. 2,850—of which a sum up to Rs. 5,000 might be deferred for three years. The reduction can best be arranged by lowering the *bandiza* and *barani* rates proposed.

Lawaghar.

The Chief Commissioner readily accepts Mr. Barron's conclusion that this wretched out-of-the-way tract occupied by an excessive number of poor self-cultivating peasants must be treated very lightly in the matter of assessment. The circle does not raise nearly enough to feed the population; there are no salt *inams* and little income from Government service to supplement the miserable returns from the soil. The people eke out a living by the sale of wood and charcoal and by hiring out camels. But both these sources of income are separately taxed.

The present demand, including *Taluqdari*, is Rs. 2,862. The new half-assets estimate is Rs. 6,887. Cultivation has not increased, nor is any increase likely, as there is very little cultivable land. The rise in the price of food-grains is a positive calamity to a tract like this, which has to purchase nearly half what it consumes. It would be most dangerous to assess here on theoretical grounds.

The Settlement Officer has realised this, and proposed an assessment of only Rs. 4,900. Colonel Deane considers even this too high, and would fix

Rs. 3,200—land-revenue Rs. 2,900, *Taluqdari* Rs. 300. The *dagoba* and *barani* rates might be reduced accordingly.

29. The application of the above orders will slightly modify the financial results of the assessment as summarised in paragraph 71 of the Report. This will now stand as follows:—

Circle.	Present land-revenue.	Jama <i>Taluqdari</i>	Total	New land revenue	Jama <i>Taluqdari</i>	Total	Difference + or -	Percentage of + or -
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	
Seni-Khurram	22 176	1,810	24,016	24,300	2 100	22 490	- 1,016	- 0.7
Darra	18,494	1,047	19,541	21,750	2,250	24,000	+ 4,459	+ 22.7
Nari Chaurra	22 737	2,122	24 859	26,100	2 700	23 800	+ 3,041	+ 15.8
Thal	15,657	1,400	17,123	27,550	2 850	30,400	+ 13,277	+ 77.7
Lawaghar	2,015	247	2 862	2 900	300	3,200	+ 338	+ 11.8
Total Tahsil	81,679	6,722	88,401	98,650	10,200	1,08,850	+ 20,369	+ 23

In the Thal Circle a sum up to Rs. 5,000 can be deferred for three years. In comparing the present and new demand it must be remembered that the present *Taluqdari* Rs. 6,722—represents what is actually realised, while the new demand—Rs. 10,350—includes the *Taluqdari* on the Akor Khel holdings, which will in practice be remitted. The amount of this (paragraph 72 of Report) is about Rs. 1,180.

The proposed soil and crop rates (paragraph 69) are accepted subject to the few modifications required in the last three circles, which should be noted in submitting the statement of detailed village assessments. The new assessments should be introduced with effect from kharif 1901, and provisionally announced for a term of 20 years. With effect from the same harvest the quit-rent payable by the Khan will be raised to Rs. 20,000 per annum.

The cesses will be levied at the rate of Rs. 21-11-0 per cent, or 3½ annas per rupee, against Rs. 21-10-8 per cent. at present, as in Kohat and Ilangu, and will be payable as heretofore on the land-revenue, but not on the *Taluqdari* portion of the assessment.

As proposed by the Settlement Officer, there should in future be only one instalment for each harvest, viz.—

15th December for the kharif.

1st July for the rabi.

30. The arrears of land-revenue due to the Khan up to rabi 1903 are Rs. 7,745-6-0. The amount is not serious. All sums outstanding for over three years should now be remitted in accordance with the general rules on the subject, and the Settlement Officer and Deputy Commissioner should decide in communication with the Khan what portion of the balance should be realised and wipe off the residue. A similar course should be taken as regards the arrears of *tirni* and *buka*. All sums—nominally Rs. 16,822 *tirni* and Rs. 10,874 *buka*—outstanding prior to kharif 1901 should ordinarily be remitted, as the Khan was himself responsible for their collection up to that date. The arrears—Rs. 2,589—due from kharif 1901, when Government undertook to collect on behalf of the Khan, should be treated as realisable. It is believed that the Khan will readily accept the above proposals. The action of Government in passing Regulation No. IV of 1902 not only secured the subsequent punctual collection of these dues, but also enabled him to collect a large amount of arrears which would otherwise have been unrealisable. Moreover, the present Settlement will give him a handsome increase to his revenues and place his relations with the Akor Khels and his Khattak tribesmen generally on a sound and indisputable basis. For the maintenance of his own influence and prestige he should be encouraged to pursue a liberal policy, which, by improving his relations with his tribesmen, will place him in a better position to render

that loyal and willing service to Government for which the family has always been conspicuous.

31. The Settlement operations in Teri were peculiarly delicate and difficult. Mr. Barron's conduct of them *General.* has been marked throughout by tact, judgment and common sense, and the Chief Commissioner is confident that his work has won the confidence of all parties.

His report is clear and complete, and apart from assessment questions it gives a lucid exposition of all the administrative problems arising out of the relations of the Khan with his tribesmen, which in the absence of some such authority had hitherto been the subject of much doubt and confusion of thought. It will therefore be of special value for future reference. Owing to the wide range of subjects discussed the report is necessarily lengthy, and for the same reason the Chief Commissioner has thought it desirable to pass detailed orders which will prevent any risk of old controversies being reopened.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

M F O'DWYER,

*Rev. & Finl. Secy. to the Hon'ble the Chief Commr.,
North-West Frontier Province.*

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ASSESSMENT REPORT OF THE TERI TAHSIL.

PART I.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

1. The Teri Tahsil occupies the southern portion of the Kohát District. To the north lie the Kohát and Hangu Tahsils—the settlements of the Baizai and Miranzai Bangashes. In the extreme east the tahsil touches the territory of the independent Jowákis, and the Kohi Circle of the Kohát Tahsil, occupied by the eastern branch of the Khattak tribe. On its south side Teri Tahsil adjoins the Ráwalpindi District of the Punjab, the Shakardarra Circle of Kohát, and the Isa Khel Tahsil of the Miánwáli District in the Punjab. The western boundary runs with that of the Marwat and Bannu Tahsils of the Bannu District, and the territory of the independent Kábul Khel Wazírís.

These boundaries have undergone no alteration since the previous revenue settlement of the tahsil.

The area of the tahsil is 976,265 acres, or 1,525 square miles, divided into 166 estates. Of this area about one-fifth is cultivated. A small tract of country near Dallan still remains to be measured.

Teri is the ancient home of the Khattak tribe of Patháns and is now occupied by the western branch of that tribe. The remainder of the tribe, now known as the Eastern or Akora Khattaks, live along the right bank of the Indus above Khushhálgarh, the greater part of their country being included in the Pesháwar District.

The Chief of the tribe, the Khan of Teri,—at present Khan Bahádur Abdul Ghafúr Khan,—holds the whole tahsil in perpetual *jágír*. He receives the entire income from land revenue and extra dues, and pays a quit rent of Rs. 20,000 (temporarily reduced to Rs. 18,000) per annum.

The land revenue assessment of this tract is therefore of an exceptional nature. It is mainly concerned with the investigation of the respective rights and liabilities of the Khan and his tribesmen. Government gains no pecuniary advantage from the re-assessment proceedings under report. This factor in the case has to be borne in mind throughout the subsequent discussion.

2. Nearly the whole of the tahsil consists of a series of valleys of varying width separated by rugged mountain ranges whose main characteristic is their desolate and inhospitable appearance. Though difficult, and in some places, dangerous to climb, these ranges are not lofty enough to have any valuable forest growth. The highest is the double range known as the Lawaghar on the Isa Khel boundary. This range can be easily seen from Kohát at a distance of from 35 to 40 miles looking almost due south. Other important ranges are the Mirandai running east into the centre of the tahsil from the Wazíri border, the hills which divide the Teri and Hangu Tahsils, and the Gargalot south of Gumbat. Through the last named the road and railway run from Khushhálgarh to Kohát by the Sheikh Ali Pass. The hills in the centre of the tahsil consist largely of rock salt, which is quarried at certain fixed places under the supervision of the Salt Department, and forms a very valuable asset to Government and the country side.

There are no rivers in Teri and hardly any streams worthy of the name. The upper portion of the tahsil drains eastward into the Indus. The only stream with a perennial supply of water is the Teri Toi which drains the valleys

of the Darra Circle. Below Teri the water becomes so brackish from the salt in the hills through which it flows, that it is quite useless for purposes of irrigation. South of the Mirandai range lies the Bārak tappa, the western and southern portions of which drain into the Kurram. Except after rain the nullahs are practically always dry. A little brackish water runs past Karak, and the Khushai nullah usually has a little water in it, but it is impregnated with salt, the banks being covered with a white crust of salt. These streams lose themselves in the sands of the Thal. The eastern portion of the Lawaghar Circle drains through a picturesque gorge called the Chichāli Pass across the Isa Khel country to the Indus; there is generally a trickle of water derived from springs in this nullah and a few small patches of land are irrigated from it.

The Kohāt-Bannu Road, which with many twists and turns runs in a general south-westerly direction from Kohāt, gives an exaggerated idea of the barren desolateness of the country. With the exception of the tract between Gumbat and the Indus which may be seen from the Kohāt-Khushhālgarh Road, the Bannu Road traverses the worst parts of the tahsil. The Chauntra plain—the “granary of Kohāt”—to the south is hidden by a range of hills, and the Gurgurri and Karbogha valleys with their stretches of excellent embanked corn lands are not visible. The Thal plain stretching away south-east of Latambar looks a dreary waste of sand, incapable of producing the fine crops of wheat and gram which a good rainfall furnishes. The Lachi plain also is a fertile tract of country.

Throughout the tahsil there is a great absence of trees. Only here and there near holy places, or in villages belonging to Sayads—such as Shiwakki and Sarajkhel—are shady places for camping in to be found. The Khan owns a few *rakhs* where there is some forest growth, and in the more secluded valleys running up to the Hangu Tahsil a little jungle scrub maintains a precarious existence. Round Karak there are clumps of trees surrounding the wells, and many of the more open villages possess a fair number of *ber* trees, but anything in the nature of a forest is unknown on the hills. The trees and shrubs found are the palosa (*Acacia modesta*) the gurgura (*Reptonia buxifolia*) and the sanatha (*dodonæa viscosa*) with groves of shisham and wild olive round shrines.

3. In 1887 after the completion of the Bārak settlement a sub-tahsil, with a Naib Tahsildar in charge, was located at Karak in the centre of the Chauntra Valley. A rain-gauge was maintained there until 1891, when it was transferred to Banda Dāūd Shah, the present head-quarters of the tahsil. The following table shows the average rainfall and that of recent years:—

Months.	Average for 5 years to 1893.	1893-1894.	1894-1895.	1895-1896.	1896-1897.	1897-1898.	1898-1899.	1899-1900.	1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	Average for 10 years 1893-1894 to 1902-03.	Average for 15 years 1889 to 1903.
April—June ...	4.19	4.64	6.95	3.65	2.25	6.18	3.58	1.94	4.02	7.75	5.83	4.67	4.45
July—September ...	11.72	13.44	15.87	9.28	18.96	18.31	14.17	8.59	6.32	13.39	8.18	12.35	11.51
October—December	.78	.90	1.88	...	.50	.59	.28	...	.50	.82	.67	.59	.82
January—March ...	3.38	3.83	6.90	5.21	5.22	4.65	4.93	5.25	3.14	.48	.41	4.00	4.25
Total ...	30.07	33.71	31.90	18.14	31.93	29.63	23.95	15.78	16.04	22.24	15.08	21.51	21.03
		Average 24.51.					Average 18.48.						

The average annual rainfall at Banda Dāūd Shah is about 21 inches, while at Kohāt it is 18 inches and at Hangu 26½ inches. Banda Dāūd Shah, situated at the mouth of the Darra Valley with the Mirandai range on the west,

probably gets more rain than the greater part of the tahsil. Towards Gumbat the rainfall is probably below the Kohat average, while the Thal Circle cannot get much more rain than Bannu with its annual average of 12 inches. The drainage of Chauntra and Lawaghar, however, runs over the Thal.

The rainfall during the past five years has been unsatisfactory. For the three years 1899-1900, 1900-01 and 1902-03 the fall has been between five and six inches below the average. But it is not the total quantity of the rainfall for the twelve months that is of importance from the agricultural point of view, but its distribution. Over the greater part of the tahsil the people have embanked their fields, and wherever possible dams are constructed in the beds of the torrents to divert water on to the culturable lands, but even so, nearly the whole of a heavy and continuous downpour escapes down the nullahs to the Indus and the Kurram. Though doing a vast amount of good, heavy rain also does harm by carrying away the dams and breaching the embankments. So that a year of moderate and well-distributed rainfall, like 1900-01, is far more favourable to the zamindar than one in which the total fall for the year is swelled by exceptional downpours lasting two or three days at a time.

The ordinary spring rainfall is nearly always sufficient to enable land which is to bear a *kharif* crop to be properly ploughed. The extent of the sowings depends on good showers in April and May, while good rain in July and August followed by an inch or so of rain in September ensures a bumper *bajra* crop. October and November are practically rainless months and December is nearly so. The soil in the western half of the tahsil is however extraordinarily retentive of moisture. The land intended for a *rabi* crop is carefully ploughed throughout the summer whenever it rains, and the wheat and gram are sown after the September showers. If rain falls in the first half of January the crop is safe, while further rain in February and March of course improves the outturn both of grain and of straw. In the more exposed eastern parts of the Seni-Khwarram Circle it is, however, hardly worth while sowing wheat except after a December or early January shower.

Hailstorms which come sweeping down from the Samana occasionally do a great deal of damage; but as is usually the case with hail, the damage is fortunately confined to narrow strips of country.

4. The tahsil lies between $32^{\circ} 45'$ and $33^{\circ} 20'$ north latitude, and between $70^{\circ} 40'$ and 72° east longitude. The latitude of the village of Teri is about $33^{\circ} 16'$, and its height above sea-level is 1,900 feet. The dry bracing climate of the cold weather is excellent. A breeze is generally blowing down the valleys, and when it rains it can be bitterly cold. In the hot weather the climate varies a good deal. On the bare hills in the east of the tahsil the heat is almost intolerable to an Englishman, the Chauntra Valley is hot and stuffy, but farther north at night a breeze usually springs up and mitigates the discomfort. The sandy soil of the Thal keeps the nights there fairly cool, though the days are rendered most unpleasant by the dust.

Perhaps the worst feature of the country is the scarcity of palatable drinking water. Good springs are not numerous, and muddy water, collected in tanks and at the bottom of ravines, is often all that is procurable. Only a Khattak can thrive on it. Even when not brackish, its use is attended with various discomforts such as guinea-worms. In several villages the effect of having to drink bad water is most marked on the physique of the inhabitants. In some of the large Thal villages the women spend the greater part of the hot weather nights in going distances of 8, 10 or more miles with donkeys to fetch water scooped up from little holes dug in the beds of nullahs near the hills. A scheme for providing the unfortunate dwellers in the Shinewa Gudi Khel and Thatti-Nasrati hamlets with a pipe water-supply from a spring near Saraj Khel had to be abandoned on account of the expense.

During the autumn malarial fever is very prevalent, and if the October and November rain holds off the people suffer from lung complaints owing to the dust. Epidemics of small-pox and occasionally of cholera are not unknown, though not very common.

5. The arrangement of assessment circles was sanctioned by the Financial Commissioner of the Punjab in his Junior Secretary's letter No. 551, dated 26th January 1901. In the previous settlements the tahsil was divided into eight circles for assessment purposes. The number has been reduced to five by grouping small circles together where feasible.

Assessment circles.

The Seni-Khwarram Circle comprises the eastern half of the more recently settled Khattak tract. As its name implies it contains the old Seni and Khwarram Circles, i.e., the locations of the Seni and Khwarram Khattaks. The Seni portion of the circle consists of the open lands round the large villages of Gumbat and Lachi and the two Mahramzai valleys running west of Lachi. The Khwarram portion runs round the Seni villages to the south from Khushbálgarh to Jatta Ismail Khel. The cultivation of some of the Khwarram villages is very poor, being broken and scattered, but several of the villages are equal to the Seni average, and such differences as exist can be allowed for in the village assessments. The methods of agriculture are the same throughout and the conditions are not sufficiently varied to necessitate the maintenance of separate circles.

The Darra Circle runs from Mansúrgarh on the east to Dallan on the Hangu-Wazíri border. It contains the level lands round Teri, owned chiefly by the Khan's family, and the large Mandu Khel and Gurgurri valleys or "darra." The soil varies from a light sandy one to a stiff reddish clay, well embanked and yielding fine crops. The circle gets a good rainfall, and is in as good condition as any part of the tahsil.

The northern portion of the Bárak tappa was at last settlement subdivided into three circles: Nari, Bar Chauntra and Kuz Chauntra. *Chauntra* means a table-land, and *nari* a level plot of land surrounded by hills. The soil throughout is a light sandy one wonderfully retentive of moisture. The cultivation is carried on on a series of open plateaus, separated by low hills and ravines, and is sufficiently homogeneous to justify its being all treated in one circle. Mr. Tucker himself, in paragraph 14 of his report, remarks that as regards the soil and the character of the cultivation the Nari Circle, especially in its eastern portion, closely resembled Chauntra. The small specially fertile strip round Karak watered by wells will be differentiated in the village assessments.

The Thal Circle occupies the open country on the Bannu border. The soil is sandy and yields very fair crops with moderate rain. The conditions here are quite different from any other part of the district. The villagers have more land than they can cultivate by themselves, and in this circle alone has there been any real increase in cultivation since settlement.

The extremely broken country south of the Chauntra plain, from which it is separated by a low range of hills, is called the Lawaghar (large hill) Circle. The villages lie in mountainous gorges and there is a great dearth of culturable land. The cultivation is scattered about in small plots separated by yawning chasms or hidden away in mountain recesses. This tract is the poorest and most inaccessible in the district.

6. The classification of land and soils at the two previous settlements was not identical. Mr. Tucker adopted the following classes:—(1) Land irrigated from wells; (2) land irrigated from springs; (3) *band-gora*; (4) *band-bárání*; (5) *bárání*. He further sub-divided the cultivated area into (i) land yielding two crops in each year, i.e., *dofasli*; (ii) land yielding two crops in two years; (iii) land yielding one crop in each year; (iv) land yielding one crop in two years. Very little land was found to belong to classes (i) and (iv); the bulk of the land in Chauntra, Lawaghar and Nari fell under class (ii) and in the Thal under class (iii). In assessing, Mr. Tucker framed rates for six classes of soil, viz.:—*Cháhi*, *chashmái dofasli*, *chashmái ekfasli*, *band-gora dofasli*, *band-gora ekfasli*, and *band-bárání* and *bárání* together. In the measurements of the Khattak Settlement the cultivation was classed as:—(1) *cháhi*; (2) *ábi*; (3) *bári* (land situated near habitations and

Soils.

receiving village drainage); (4) *gandi* (lowlying land in which rain is collected by closing the drainage exit; (5) *bandiza*; (6) *dagoba*; (7) *khális bārání*. But in the actual work of assessment Major Leigh framed rates for only two classes—irrigated and unirrigated.

The natural soils of the tahsil vary from a hardish clay found in the north round Lachi and in the Darra valleys, through the light friable soil of the Nari-Chauntra Circle to the sandy soil of the Thal. The clay soil is for the most part reddish in colour; it needs a lot of working and also a lot of water and is all the better for manure. Given these conditions it produces beautiful crops, chiefly, as one would expect, in the kharif harvest. Its local name is *mattina*. The lighter soils on the other hand do better in the rabi; cultivation on sandy lands (*shigga*) being almost entirely confined to that harvest. These soils are unable to protect the roots of the crops during the fierce heat of the summer, and in many places they are too thin to stand manuring, which only results in the artificially forced crops being burnt up before acquiring any strength to resist the effects of the sun. In Upper Chauntra and Lawaghar this thin soil is covered with stones which keep the land cool, though they make the fields look as if they were almost unculturable. Further details regarding soils will be found in the paragraphs describing the cultivation in each circle.

For the present settlement a uniform system of soil classification has, with the approval of the Financial Commissioner, been adopted throughout the district. In framing it attention has been almost entirely confined to differences in water-supply, and to the extent to which fields are assisted by floodings from mountain torrents or by drainage from higher lands.

The definitions of the various classes of soil are as follows :—

CULTIVATED.

A.—IRRIGATED LANDS.

- | | | | | | |
|------|------------------|-----|-----|--|---|
| (1). | Cháhi | ... | ... | Land irrigated from wells. | |
| (2). | Chashmái dofasli | | | Land irrigated from perennial springs, | { and producing 6 or more crops out of 8 ;
and producing less than 6 crops out of 8. |
| (3). | Chashmái ekfasli | | | | |
| (4). | Abi dofasli | ... | | Land irrigated from streams (<i>tois</i>), | { and producing 6 or more crops out of 8 ;
and producing less than 6 crops out of 8. |
| (5). | Abi ekfasli | ... | | | |

B.—UNIRRIGATED LANDS.

- | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-----|-----|--|
| (6). | Sailáb | ... | ... | Lands flooded by overflow of <i>toi</i> water, or kept permanently moist by percolation from springs or <i>jhils</i> . |
| (7). | Talábi | ... | ... | Land occasionally watered from tanks dependent on rainfall. |
| (8). | Bandiza or band-gora | ... | ... | Embanked land receiving occasional irrigation from ravines or hill torrents. |
| (9). | Dagoba | ... | ... | Embanked land assisted by drainage of rain water from higher ground. |
| (10). | Bárání | ... | ... | All land dependent on its own rainfall only. |

UNCULTIVATED.

- | | | | | | |
|-------|--------------|-----|-----|-----|--------------------------------------|
| (11). | Banjar jadid | ... | ... | ... | } As defined in the Patwáris' rules. |
| (12). | Banjar kadim | ... | ... | ... | |
| (13). | Ghair mumkin | ... | ... | ... | |

PART II.

FISCAL HISTORY.

7. Nothing is known of the history of the country before its occupation by the Khattaks. The original settlement of this tribe was at Shwál, a valley in the Wazíri country lying to the west of Bannu. The Khattaks migrated thence eastwards to Bannu and the country on the left bank of the Kurram River, but during the 14th century were driven further east by an allied tribe—the Shitaks. They consequently spread over the southern portion of the Kohát District, and in conjunction with the Bangashes drove the Orakzais out of the north-eastern portion and occupied the Gumbat, Pattiála and Zíra tappa. This occupation was probably completed during the 15th century.

Under the leadership of Malik Akorai or Ako (about 1550—1600) the founder of the long line of Khattak Chieftains, a contemporary of the Emperor Akbar, the tribe extended its territory through the Khwarra into the Pesháwar Valley, and became noted free-booters on the Pesháwar-Attock Road. In 1581 Malik Ako concluded an agreement with the Emperor by which the Khattaks were allowed to levy a transit duty on all cattle passing along the road and became responsible for its safety. They were granted the country south of the Kábul River from Khairabad to Nowshera. Here Malik Ako founded the village of Akora which became the capital of the Khattak tribe.

During the 17th century Malik Ako's descendants maintained a somewhat chequered career as Chiefs at Akora. The more famous of the Khans were Khushál Khan (1641—58) the poet, and Afzal Khan (1682—1741) the author of the "Tárikh-i-Murassa," a history of the Khattaks and their Chiefs. Afzal Khan's son, Sadulla Khan, did not get on well with his father and moved to Teri which from that time became an important place. On Sadulla Khan's succeeding to the chiefship at Akora, it became the custom for a member of the family to remain at Teri as a sub-chief, or Naib, to the head of the family at Akora. But after the murder of Sadulla Khan in 1748, the Teri branch of the chiefship under his sons, Khushál Khan II (1748—1759), and Sháhbáz Khan II (1759—1799) became practically independent. The latter Khan, generally known as Sardár Sháhbáz Khan, was a powerful Chief, and may be looked on as the real founder of the present line of Khans of Teri. It is from his time that most of the villages in the tract trace their history. His younger son, Násir Khan, succeeded in ruling the country with a strong hand until 1812. After his death, however, the history of the Khanship for the next quarter of a century is simply a series of murders, rebellions and inter-necine strife between a number of claimants, none of whom attained any permanent power. Ultimately in 1844 a woman, the Lady Farkhunda, the widow of two Khans, Khushál Khan III and Rasúl Khan, succeeded in placing upon the *gaddi* her adopted son Khwája Mahomed Khan, who was credited with being a posthumous son of her first husband, Khushál Khan III.

At the annexation of the Punjab in 1849, Khwája Mahomed Khan was confirmed by Government in the Chiefship which he held until his death in November 1889. The Khan was distinguished for his loyalty to Government, and for the eminent services he and his family rendered in border affairs, in the mutiny in 1857, and in the Afghán War of 1879-80. In 1873 he was made a K.C.S.I. and given the title of Nawáb. He was succeeded by his eldest surviving son, Khan Bahádur Mahomed Zafar Khan, who died without issue on the 2nd September 1895. The Nawáb's next surviving son, Khan Bahádur Abdul Ghafír Khan, then became Khan of Teri, and still holds that position. The Khan exercises minor civil and criminal powers within the limits of the tahsil and has a voice in the selection of the Revenue Establishment.

8. In Mughal times the tenure of the Khattak Chieftains appears to have been of a purely feudal nature. The succeeding Khans apparently sought confirmation in the Chiefship from the Emperor at Delhi, and later on from the Duráni rulers of Kábul, but no regular tribute seems to have been levied. The Khattak *lashkar* became

available to fight for the sovereign, and there are records of its having on several occasions rendered conspicuous service. Inside the tribe the Khans levied revenue on the land and taxed the salt mines at Jatta and Malgin. Malik Ako is said to have taken one-fourth of the produce as revenue from the Boláks, while in Chauntra this was commuted to a cash payment of Rs. 5 per house. His salt duty varied from seven to twelve bullock loads and one to three camel loads for a rupee. Such revenue rates when sanctioned by custom tend to become stereotyped. No doubt the more powerful of the later Chiefs collected revenue at much the same rate. Sardár Sultán Muhammad Khan, Barakzai, of Pesháwar, was the first to demand tribute as the price of his interference between rival claimants to the chiefship. About 1830, he recovered sums varying from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 16,000 from the Khans Biland Khan and Rasúl Khan, and a third lessee Mír Saidan Sháh, a Banuri Sayad of Kohát.

In 1832 the Sikhs finally conquered Pesháwar and in 1834 the first Sikh Governor, Autár Singh, Sindanwála, was sent to Kohát. He introduced the idea of an established Government to the Khattaks by locating a Sikh *thána* at Teri. In 1836 Sardár Sultán Mahomed Khan became *jágirdár* of Kohát, Hangu and Teri under the Sikhs. For the seven years following, he leased out the Teri country to the Khan, Rasúl Khan, for an annual payment of Rs. 40,000, ten horses and twenty camels.

At annexation the lease of the tahsil was given to Khwája Mahomed Khan for Rs. 31,068. The Khan had taken the side of the British Government in the second Sikh War. In 1850 certain obnoxious taxes included in the lease were abolished by order of Government, and the tribute was lowered to Rs. 25,000. In 1851 Khwája Mahomed Khan was given a lease for five years at Rs. 20,000 per annum. In 1855 the lease was granted to him at this rate for life, and in 1858 for his services in the Mutiny, the grant was confirmed to him and his heirs in perpetuity. In 1881 in consideration of his services during the Afghán War the amount payable by the Nawáb was reduced for his lifetime to Rs. 18,000. This reduction lapsed with his death, but was re-granted to the present Khan in 1895 in connection with the Khattak Settlement for the term of settlement. The full amount of the lease, Rs. 20,000, will now become payable by the Khan from the date of the introduction of the new assessment.

9. No summary settlements of the usual type common in the Punjab were made in the Teri Tahsil after annexation. In 1850 Lieutenant Pollock, who was in charge of the district as Assistant Commissioner under the Deputy Commissioner of Pesháwar, made a rough enquiry into the amount of revenue the villages were paying to the Khan. No attempt was apparently made to settle the revenue which the Khan might fairly demand from the villages. A short record was simply made of the Khan's receipts for that year. But as rough agreements were taken in 1850 for the Barak tract, and in 1851 for the rest of the tahsil, stating for cash-paying villages the amount of revenue payable to the Khan, and for others the share of the produce to which he was entitled, the proceedings may be regarded as a sort of summary settlement. Though no formal authority attached to Lieutenant Pollock's notes, the mere fact that specified sums were recorded by a British Officer must, for all practical purposes, have been regarded by all the parties in this wild country as fixing the revenue demand. The amount the Khan could exact in the way of extra cesses and dues must, on the other hand, have continued to depend on the relative strength of himself and the villagers, and on the honesty of his servants. Lieutenant Pollock as a result of his enquiries estimated the Khan's revenue at Rs. 50,000 or Rs. 60,000 (Kábuli).

An account of the revenue arrangements in Teri, as they existed in 1883, is given in paragraphs 369 to 371 of the Kohát Settlement Report. Mr. Tucker then estimated the Nawáb's net income from revenue and cesses, after deducting the numerous *indáms* enjoyed by headmen and others, to be about Rs. 72,000. This sum he apportioned to the different tappas as shown in the margin.

	Rs.
Seni ...	10,000
Khwarram ...	14,000
Darra ...	12,000
Barak ...	36,210
Tahsil ...	72,210

	Rs.	
Seni Khwarram ...	24,800	Settlements, the Tahsildar made, in the statement of the
Darra ...	4,502	zamindárs attached to the genealogical tree, a note of the
Nari-Chauntra ...	20,832	amount of revenue realised by the Khan in all cases in
Thal ...	7,633	which there was a cash assessment or lease. I have had
Lawaghar ...	2,220	these figures abstracted and arranged as far as possible
Tahsil ...	59,987	according to the present system of assessment circles.

The result is given in the margin. The figures deal only with the land revenue proper and make no allowance for sums remitted by the Khan to muáfidárs and inámjár. They do not agree with the figures quoted in previous Assessment and Settlement Reports. For this there are several reasons. One is that in the Bárak tract a number of small plots of land, some reckoned as estates and others not, used not to be assessed separately, but were considered as attached to the main holding of the tribal section and paid revenue as part and parcel of the parent village however distant that might be. Another reason is the inaccuracy of the former returns. For instance, the small hamlet of Sarobi, in the Lawaghar Circle, is shown in Appendix V of the Bárak Settlement Report as formerly paying a revenue (including cesses) of Rs. 325, whereas in reality its revenue was included in that of the village of Sarat Khel in the Nari-Chauntra Circle.

In the Bárak Circles the figures just quoted give a very fair idea of what the old Nawáb's cash revenue demand probably was. In addition he realised about Rs. 1,400 worth of kind rents. Eight small villages were held revenue-free by Sayads, members of the Nawáb's family and others. But over the rest of the tract a cash assessment at a fixed number of rupees per *lúgah* was the rule. The word *lúgah* means smoke, hearth or house. This system of assessment was simple and effective in a country where ancestral shares were but lightly recognised, where there was no method of measuring land, and where one man professed to be as good as his neighbour. The house was a natural unit of taxation.

In the Seni-Khwarram Circle eight villages were held revenue-free, but allowing for this the sum of Rs. 24,800 is probably a close approximation to the real demand. Here the Nawáb's revenue system was one of leasing out villages or groups of villages to the proprietors as a body, or to some powerful Malik or Maliks as lessees. In the former event the proprietors divided the demand according to *bakhras* or ancestral shares; in the latter case the lessee paid the cash value of the lease, and recovered as much as he could from the villages in kind generally at the rate of one-fourth or one-fifth *bataí*.

In the Darra Circle on the other hand the cash revenue gives no clue to the Nawáb's realisations. In 18 out of the 39 villages the revenue was collected in kind at rates varying with the quality of the soil, and in many others, situated on the Wazíri border, the assessment was merely nominal, some of the villages being practically independent of the central power at Teri, and the real obligation of the others being to render service to the Nawáb and his family, and protect their frontier.

10. The annexation of the district was not followed by any interference in the internal affairs of the Teri Tahsil. Small military posts were established at Narri and Latambar to protect the road to Bannu. In 1850 work was commenced on a more direct route via Bahádur Khel and the Surdag Pass. This road enabled us to control the large salt mines at Bahádur Khel. A heavy increase in the salt duty introduced in January 1850 excited the Khattaks and the neighbouring Wazírís and necessitated Lieutenant Pollock's taking a small force to Latambar. The country was, however, quieted without opposition, and a reduction was granted in the salt duty. Further slight disturbances took place in this part of the tahsil in the latter part of 1850 and in 1851, followed by a serious insurrection on the part of the Khattaks of Bahádur Khel, Karak and Lawaghar in 1852. The village of Bahádur Khel was dismantled by Captain Coke, whereupon most of the malcontents submitted. In 1853 a strong military detachment was placed in a good new fort built at Bahádur Khel, and the new road to Bannu was completed without further disturbance. The Khattaks gave no more trouble till 1880.

History of the Khattaks
from 1849 to 1882.

A police *thána* had been established at Teri in 1849, but the revenue administration remained entirely in the hands of the Khan, Khwája Muhammad Khan. Civil litigation about land seems to have been almost entirely unknown, cases about women and ordinary criminal offences being settled by the Khan in the old fashioned way according to tribal custom. In 1878 and 1879, however, the Nawáb, as he had then become, true to his loyalty to the British Government, made large demands on his tribesmen for transport for the Kurram Field Force. Throughout the Afghán War large numbers of Khattaks were employed as guards and labourers on the road up the Kurram Valley and near Thal. In March 1880 the Bárak Khattaks ran away to their homes, the movement subsequently developing into a revolt against the Nawáb's authority. The execution of civil and criminal processes south of the Teri Toi became difficult, prisoners were forcibly released and during the months of June and July all government came to a standstill. In August 1880 Major T. J. C. Plowden, the Deputy Commissioner, marched with a small force to Jandrai and Karak, when the majority of the Báraks at once submitted. The Lawaghar tract was not, however, completely pacified for more than a year afterwards. A police *thána* was now stationed at Karak where it had been much needed.

11. This outbreak terminated the ancient patriarchal relations between the Khattak Chief and his tribesmen. The latter continued to assert that they had been driven into rebellion by the oppressive nature of the Nawáb's revenue administration. The state of feeling remained so unsatisfactory that it was resolved with the consent of both parties to carry out a summary settlement of the Bárak tract. The Punjab Government accordingly in its Notification No. 540½, dated the 4th October 1883, directed the commencement of settlement operations under the charge of Mr. H. St. G. Tucker, the Deputy Commissioner of the district. Mr. Tucker submitted his Assessment Report in May 1885. Orders were received in 1886 in Punjab Government letter No. 168, dated 22nd March. The new assessments were introduced from Kharif 1886. The Settlement Report was submitted by Captain Leigh, Deputy Commissioner, in November 1887, and the settlement was finally sanctioned by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, in his Revenue Secretary's letter No. 348, dated 15th July 1890, to run for a period of fifteen years until Rabi 1901, when the settlement of the Kohát and Hangu Tahsils expired.

Though only sanctioned as a summary settlement Mr. Tucker's proceedings took the form of a regular settlement in all but in name. Village maps were prepared, and records-of-rights after the regular pattern were drawn up. Though some of the work was rough, the results were on the whole eminently satisfactory. It was not to be expected that either the Nawáb or the Khattaks would accept without demur the findings and orders on vague rights then being defined for the first time. But matters soon settled down, and the position created by the settlement is now generally acquiesced in by all parties. Even after the lapse of nearly twenty years the quotation of an order recorded by Mr. Tucker is accepted by the villagers in this tract as the last word to be said on almost any disputed point.

12. The inevitable result of the Bárak Settlement followed in the demand of the zamíndárs of the remainder of the tahsil for a similar settlement of their rights and liabilities. The demand received an impetus from the death of the powerful old Nawáb. The Khattak villagers very generally refused to pay any revenue to his successor Muhammad Zaffar Khan, who being a grasping man aggravated matters by attempting to realise in kind revenue which had been collected by his father under the system of leases described above. The Khan was eventually brought to give a reluctant assent to a settlement, the commencement of which was ordered by the Punjab Government in August 1890. Like the Bárak Settlement, this new settlement was carried out under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner in addition to his ordinary duties. The Assessment Report was submitted by Major Leigh in May 1894. The orders of the Lieutenant-Governor were received with his Revenue Secretary's letter No. 103,

Settlement of the rest of the tahsil, 1890-1896.

dated 28th January 1895. Owing to the commencement of settlement operations no collections of revenue had been made since Rabi 1893. The new assessments were accordingly introduced from Kharif 1893. The final Settlement Report was submitted by Major Leigh in February 1896, and received the sanction of the Panjab Government in its Revenue Secretary's letter No. 603, dated 6th June 1898. The assessments were confirmed for a term of eight years ending with Rabi 1901, in order that the whole district might come under re-settlement at one and the same time.

From various causes, most of them entirely unconnected with the manner in which it was carried out, this settlement was not so successful in allaying friction as the Bárak one had been. Both the Khan and the people realised more clearly than they had ten years before, the importance of the description of their rights recorded in the settlement papers, and each side pressed for every advantage. The Khan was grasping, and the people were excited by having forced on a settlement by the resistance they had, for three or four years, successfully offered to perfectly legitimate demands. In the tract near Teri there were many villagers intimately connected with the Khan's domestic economy, which he regarded almost in the light of his private property, corresponding to home farms. He bitterly resented the abolition of all collections of revenue in kind and the substitution of cash assessments. In Bárak the Akor Khel, the relatives near and remote of the ruling family, were in possession of but little land, and this they had had no hesitation in admitting that they held at the favour of the Nawáb, consenting in some cases to be recorded as tenants-at-will under him. In Khattak the more distantly related Akor Khels had acquired greater importance and strenuously resisted the idea that they were in any way subordinate to the Chief, asserting their perfect equality as landowners and their freedom from the payment of extra dues. The treatment of the status of these Akor Khels was not happy, the question being allowed to drag on under discussion until 1898. A still more vexatious subject, the levy by the Khan of *tirni* and *buá*, was dealt with in an even more unfortunate manner, and was not settled until the passing of Regulation IV of 1902. The prolonged controversy over points so important to the Khan's prestige, already greatly weakened by the settlement and its attendant circumstances, kept alive the resentment on both sides. All this without doubt prevented the orders passed by the Deputy Commissioners who dealt with the Khattak Settlement, from obtaining the implicit confidence which had been placed in the orders of Mr. Tucker, an officer who came to Kohát from the Dera Ismail Khan Settlement exceptionally well versed in every phase of settlement procedure. Finally the settlement was sanctioned for a very short period, which disturbed all parties by raising hopes of a re-consideration of unfavourable orders. My enquiries have proved the urgent necessity of a revision of the assessment in order to allow of the removal of serious inequalities in the distribution of the revenue. On the other hand the re-opening of questions already disposed of after adequate enquiry has not been permitted. Still in discussing the unpopularity of the Khattak Settlement, allowance must be made for the unsettling effect of a short term on the mind of these pertinacious Patháns and their somewhat aggrieved Chieftain.

13. In both the Bárak and the Khattak assessments the usual principles were followed. Half net assets soil rates, deduced from the previous assessments, the average kind rents found to prevail, were applied to the cultivated area ascertained by measurements. The theoretical full assessment thus obtained was modified in application according to the Settlement Officer's knowledge of the country.

In Bárak measurements were carried out in 1884 and the beginning of 1885. A large series of crop experiments were conducted in Rabi and Kharif 1884. According to these experiments the value of the crop grown in the year 1884 was estimated to be Rs. 7,28,900. But Mr. Tucker considered that the period during which measurements took place was exceptionally favourable as regards the extent of land under cultivation, and also as regards the yield per acre. He therefore declined to accept the above return as fair, and struck an average based to a great extent on his own observations of the state of the crops during the three years 1881-1884. The system on which he calculated

the average yield of the various circles is explained in paragraphs 36—42 of his Assessment Report. The result was that the value of the average produce was computed to be only Rs. 3,94,666. It is interesting to compare Mr. Tucker's estimate of the average area likely to be cropped in an average year, with the returns afforded by the system of crop inspections now in vogue.

								Mr. Tucker's estimate of the average area of crops.	Average area cropped during the last five years, 1898-99 to 1902-03.
								<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Nari-Chauntra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	42,000	30,990
Thal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,000	44,470
Lawaghar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,000	6,960
Total Barak								92,000	82,420

• Mr. Tucker, therefore, exaggerated the probable crop-bearing capabilities of the tract by 9,600 acres. In fact it was only in the Thal Circle that he made any substantial distinction between the cultivated and the probably cropped area. It was only in this circle that his estimate fell within the margin of safety, and it is only in this circle that any extension of cultivation has taken place since settlement. In other words Mr. Tucker estimated that 80 per cent. of a cultivated and fallow area of 114,350 acres bore a crop regularly, whereas our more accurate crop returns show that the average cropping only amounts to 69 per cent. of a cultivated and fallow area of 118,979 acres.

In the Khattak tract the measurements were carried out in 1892 and 1893. Crop returns were kept for the two years 1891-92 and 1892-93. The outturns of yield assumed for the various crops were applied to the average harvested area of these two years, the total value of the gross annual produce being thus estimated to be Rs. 4,60,100.

A comparison between the harvested area on which the assessment was based, and that of the last five years, gives the following results :—

								Average har- vested area 1891-92 and 1892-93.	Average har- vested area 1898-99 to 1902-03.
								<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>
Seni-Khwairram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,425	26,270
Darra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33,022	24,130
Total Khattak								63,447	50,400

The method of ascertaining the harvested area which had necessarily to be adopted in 1891-93 was somewhat speculative, as may be seen from paragraph 30 of the Assessment Report. It gave an over-estimate of some 13,000 acres. Major Leigh was led by his figures to estimate that out of a total cultivated and fallow area of 85,845 acres 74 per cent. was the annual harvested area, but the later statistics show that only 63 per cent. of a total area of 79,967 acres bears a crop regularly every year.

For the whole tahsil we find that at the previous settlements the cropping was thought to be 155,447 acres, whereas it now turns out to be only 132,820 acres, the area being over-estimated by as much as 17 per cent.

It is impossible to ascertain what the land-revenue demand of the Khan was prior to these settlements, and therefore no proper comparison of their results can be made. There was no system of accounts; the amount payable by each village was in a large number of cases but vaguely known; many villages paid in cash not in kind; numerous extra dues and cesses were inextricably mixed up with the land-revenue proper; and lastly the open-handed old Nawáb made large grants of both revenue and cesses in *ináms*, *biráts* and *mudfis*. The estimates which have from time to time been framed and the results of the settlements are brought together in the table below. The figures refer only to land revenue proper, and show, as far as is possible, the full demand.

Assessment Circle.	Mr. Pollock's estimate of 1850.	Mr. Tucker's estimate of land revenue demand in 1884.	Major Leigh's estimate of land revenue demand in 1893.	Assessment imposed at the settlements.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Seni-Khwarram	29,070	...	31,300	22,400
Darra ... ..	...	...	23,800	18,569
Nari-Chauntra ... ..	...	21,600	...	22,746
Thal	20,930	7,775	...	13,917
Lawaghar ... ..	...	2,625	...	2,615
Total	50,000	32,000	55,100	80,247

Mr. Pollock's estimate in Kábuli rupees has been converted into Government rupees. It is useless in this connection to quote Mr. Tucker's estimate of Rs. 36,000 net for the Seni-Khwarram and Darra tappas, as he deducted *ináms* which according to paragraph 365 of the Kohát Settlement Report amounted to something considerable, and it is not clear whether he was excluding cesses, presumably not. The estimate quoted as Major Leigh's is the one finally adopted in paragraph 16 of the Punjab Government Review based on paragraph 71 A of the Assessment Report. Though the Khan put his demand from land revenue proper for the year 1892-93 at Rs. 60,637, the above estimate, calculated on the average supposed demand for the ten years 1883-84 to 1892-93, was in my opinion very excessive. Considering the fact that many of the large villages in the Darra Circle were admittedly very lightly assessed, I do not believe for a moment that the Khan ever got anything like Rs. 55,000 in cash and grain as land revenue out of the Khattak tract. He must, I should think, have considered himself lucky in any year in which the nominal value of his rental, including the numerous assignments, reached Rs. 40,000. A great deal was written on the subject at the time, more especially in the reviews on the final Settlement Report, but no very clear result was arrived at. It would, therefore, be waste of time to discuss the matter now. If we put the former demand from the Khattak tract as high as Rs. 45,000 and add the Rs. 32,000 due from Bárák, we get a total of Rs. 77,000 for the tahsil. At the settlements Rs. 80,247 were assessed as land revenue, and in addition *talugdári* amounting to Rs. 6,586 was imposed, or a total of Rs. 86,833. It has to be remembered that the introduction of cash assessments and of regular arrangements for the collection of this fixed amount, has altered the state of affairs in Teri completely. The actual amount of land revenue, which used to be theoretically due to the Khan is, therefore, a matter of merely academic interest. It is moreover one upon which no information of any real value is now available, while it is practically certain that a considerable proportion of the sum due never reached the Khan's treasure chest at all.

14. There need be no hesitation in describing the Bárák Settlement as a lenient one. The demand was one which the people have easily met. The later Khattak assessment was on a much higher scale, and with *talugdári* imposed, as we shall pres-

ently see, over and above the land-revenue, it has pressed more hardly on the people. Moreover, owing to the reasons given in paragraphs 13 to 19 of the Punjab Government review of the Khattak Report, it was a difficult matter to adjust the burden equally upon the zamíndárs. Fortunately suspensions have occasionally been granted in the villages where the pressure of the land-revenue is at present heaviest, *viz.*, the eastern portion of the Seni-Khwarram Circle. On the whole, however, the existing assessments are easily, though not punctually paid. A considerable increase can and should be taken in Bárak, but the proposals which follow do not contemplate any appreciable rise in the revenue from the Khattak Circles.

The land-revenue in Teri is credited to the Khan's treasury. The amount of the quit rent, Rs. 18,000, is therefore all that appears in the accounts periodically submitted to Government. It is only quite recently that the idea of granting suspensions and remissions to the zamíndárs as distinct from the Khan has been entertained. In the Khattak Circles of course no such question could arise until within the last ten years, when a cash assessment was regularly imposed. In Bárak, however, there must have been calamities of season calling for leniency in revenue collection. But the only harvest in which any revenue has been suspended there is Kharíf 1899. It is fortunate that Mr. Tucker's assessment was a moderate one, and no doubt that very moderation can be taken to justify the steady collection of the revenue without regard to particular seasons. Latterly suspensions and remissions have been granted by the Collector with the sanction of the Commissioner of Pesháwar, and since November 1901 with that of the Revenue Commissioner.

The amount thus suspended since settlement is shewn below : —

Harvest.					Seni-Khwarram.	Darra.	Chautra.
					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Rabi, 1896	...	...	...	...	9,054	455	...
Kharíf, 1896	...	...	...	...	8,218	...	...
Rabi, 1897	...	...	...	...	904	56	...
Kharíf, 1899	...	...	...	...	796	353	727

Drought was the reason for these suspensions in all cases. No suspended revenue has subsequently been remitted.

The only remissions granted have been Rs. 90 in two villages in the Darra Circle in Rabi 1902, Rs. 88 in one Seni village in Kharíf 1902, and Rs. 110 in six Seni-Khwarram villages in Rabi 1903, all on account of damage done by hail. Hail storms apparently did not afflict the tahsil until after the commencement of the new settlement proceedings.

It cannot be said that for an unirrigated tract there has been any tendency to excessive liberality in this matter. The large suspensions of the two harvests of 1896 were really necessitated by the collection with the demand for Rabi 1895 of the arrears due for 1893-94, and the collection in Kharíf 1895 of the arrears due for 1894-95. In Rabi 1896 the revenue for the whole year 1895-96 was due, *vide* paragraph 16 of the Khattak Settlement Report. It was only natural that time had to be given to bring all the arrears up to date.

For the future it is, I consider, essential that it should be authoritatively laid down that the same care and attention is to be paid to the collection of the new assessment in Teri as in Kohát and Hangu. The fact that the revenue is due to the Khan should not be taken as relieving the Collector of his responsibility towards the zamíndár revenue-payers. We are assessing the Teri Tahsil on exactly the same principles as we should adopt if it were a *khálsa* tahsil. The assessment in Teri is, if any thing, somewhat higher than it would otherwise be, because we have abolished a number of minor obligations and petty exactions which the Khan and his ancestors used to levy from the people. But having been forced to step in between the Khattaks and their Khan and give them a fixed cash assessment, we are bound to see that its collection is conducted with the same consideration for the revenue-payers as

if the money were coming into the Government treasury. The Khan can have nothing to complain of in this. His revenue used to be a very uncertain quantity; it is now collected steadily and regularly for him. Where the Khan used to take *batái*, the quality of the harvests acted automatically on his receipts. Finally, in granting to the Nawáb the *istamrari* of the Khattak country Government had no intention that his position should be felt in an oppressive manner by the people. On the contrary our policy has always been, while maintaining the Khan's authority, to minimise, as far as circumstances permit, the friction which is almost inseparable from the semi-fendal relations existing between him and the Khattaks. A judicious system of revenue collections is one of the means to our hand. The Collector should each harvest consider for the district as a whole the necessity of suspending or remitting revenue, and report his proposals to the Revenue Commissioner in the usual way, without regard to the fact that, as far as the Teri Tahsil is concerned, the Government revenues are not thereby affected.

15. Since the regular assessment of the whole tahsil the number of warrants issued for the collection of arrears of revenue in each year has been—

Year.						No. of warrants.	Year.	No. of warrants.
1893-94	...	...	...	...	...	207	1898-99	256
1894-95	...	...	...	...	...	259	1899-1900	166
1895-96	...	...	...	...	...	66	1900-01	161
1896-97	...	...	...	...	...	460	1901-02	1 1
1897-98	...	...	...	...	...	597	1902-03	1
Average	...	...	...	...	...	318	Average	141

The number of processes issued is small, but it must not be taken to imply that the revenue is punctually paid. For Statement IV shows that out of an annual land-revenue demand of Rs. 64,500, as much as Rs. 49,800 are not paid by the proper date. It means, I am afraid, that the lam-bardárs have not been receiving the help they required and were entitled to expect from the tahsil officials. I have had numerous complaints to this effect and in some villages it is at present difficult to get men to undertake the duties of lam-bardárs, or rather to keep men in the posts they hold. Seeing how tenacious Patháns are of their rights as *maliks*, this can only mean that lam-bardárs are unable to recover from the zamíndárs the revenue they have paid in or given security for on their behalf.

The figures for land-revenue due but not paid by the end of the agricultural year, i.e., by the 30th September, for the last five years are—

Previous arrears.	And out of demand for	Amount in arrears.	Total arrears.	Arrears collected.	During	Balance due at end of year.
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
14,207	1898-99	1,663	15,870	13,581	1899-1900	2,289
2,289	1899-1900	6,371	8,660	5,759	1900-01	2,901
2,901	1900-01	7,513	10,414	6,886	1901-02	3,528
3,528	1901-02	7,129	10,657	5,645	1902-03	5,012
5,012	1902-03	4,542	9,554	not avail- able yet.	1903-04	...

During these five years the people have been behind hand in paying their revenue to the extent of Rs. 5,444 on the average per annum. From the tahsil accounts it appears that annually some Rs. 7,750 are realised during

the months of August and September, *i.e.*, long after the revenue is due. The slight increase in the balances shown in the last column of the above table for the years 1901-02 and 1902-03, may be accounted for by the great effort that was then made to realise effectually, once and for all, the amounts the people owed to the Khan for *tirni* and *bud*. The amount payable under these dues was first cleared off, the people being made to understand that only the balance left of their payments was being credited to their land revenue liabilities. They now comprehend, it is to be hoped, that they can no longer evade the payment of *tirni* and *bud*. This temporary reason for ineffective collections of land-revenue has passed away, and, making every allowance for it, it cannot be doubted that the same attention has not been paid in the past to collecting the revenue promptly in the Teri Tahsil that would be displayed in a *khalsa* tahsil. The recoveries shown against Teri in the annual revenue papers only show the quit rent paid by the Khan. The amount due to him which may remain uncollected does not appear in the Annual Report and the zeal of the tahsil officials is correspondingly less ardent. Now that attention has been directed to the matter the necessary remedy will no doubt be applied. The main point to be borne in mind is that the *lambardars* in Teri should receive at least the same assistance in collecting revenue as is given to their brethren in the Kohat and Hangu Tahsils.

16. In the following table the revenue imposed at their commencement is compared with the demand of the last year of the expiring settlements —

CIRCLE.	FIXED LAND-REVENUE.						Taluq-dári.
	Total.	Akor Khel grants.	Ináms.	Birats.	Petty muafis.	Recover- able by Khan.	
AT SETTLEMENT.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Seni-Khwarram	22,400	145	11	...	366	21,878	1,861
Darra	18,569	...	96	...	213	18,260	1,053
Nari-Chauntra	22,746	123	3,634	2,872	484	15,633	2,122
Thal	13,917	36	378	1,585	...	11,918	1,303
Lawaghar	2,615	...	255	80	361	1,919	247
Tahsil	80,247	304	4,374	4,537	1,424	69,608	6,566
*1902-03.							
Seni-Khwarram	22,176	2,619	11	...	366	19,180	1,840
Darra	18,494	7,812	96	...	236	10,350	1,047
Nari-Chauntra	22,737	428	2,047	1,235	448	18,579	2,122
Thal	15,657	281	242	837	...	14,297	1,466
Lawaghar	2,615	...	177	30	293	2,115	247
Tahsil	81,679	11,140	2,573	2,102	1,343	64,521	6,722

Since settlement there has been an increase in the total land-revenue of Rs. 1,432. This is due to the progressive demand sanctioned for the Thal Circle, where after five years, *i.e.*, from Kharif 1891, the revenue was raised by 12½ per cent., or 2 annas in the rupee. The only decrease calling for

notice has taken place in the Seni-Khwarram Circle. Here a spring from which the lands of the village Ali Kach were irrigated dried up, and a *bārāni* assessment had to be substituted for an *abi* one. A little cultivated land in this circle has been acquired by Government for the Kohát-Khushálgarh Railway and for a camping ground at Lachi.

In spite of the increase in the total demand, and notwithstanding resumptions of *ināms*, *birāts* and petty *muāfis* amounting in all to Rs. 4,339, the income of the Khán from land-revenue has fallen by Rs. 5,086. This, however, is only nominal, because, although the large sum now shown as expended in Akor Khel grants had not been put on a regular footing at settlement, and was not, therefore, entered in the revenue papers, still the Akor Khels remained all along in enjoyment of the grants. The grants are not new since settlement, but were brought on to the revenue papers after the receipt of Government's orders as to their treatment. They are discussed in the next paragraph but one.

17. In addition to the land-revenue proper the Khan enjoys a *taluqdāri* allowance of Rs. 9-6-0 per cent., or $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas on the rupee of land-revenue. This was sanctioned for the Bārak tappa by the Punjab Government in its letter No. 168, dated 22nd March 1886. Nawáb Sir Khwāja Muhammad Khan at the commencement of the Bārak Settlement put forward a claim to be the sole proprietor of the Khattak country comprised in his *istamrari* tenure. This claim to full ownership, in the sense in which it is understood in our revenue records, could not be sustained and was rejected. But the Lieutenant-Governor accepted it as indisputable that the Nawáb had exercised certain rights for which our revenue system has no precise equivalent, and which it was necessary in some form to recognise and work into the settlement arrangements. Sir Charles Aitchison considered that there could be no reasonable doubt that the Nawáb, as Chief of the Khattak tribe, had exercised certain prerogatives distinct from those of an ordinary jagírdár or istamrárdár, and not easily distinguishable from rights of over-lordship. The best and most convenient form of recognition of these facts was held to be the grant of a *taluqdāri* allowance. It was to be clearly understood that the allowance was given in recognition of the Nawáb's position as Chief of the Khattak clan. The allowance was also declared to be an impartible property to descend integrally along with the Khanship to the Khan for the time being.

In the Khattak Settlement the Settlement Officer recommended (paragraph 69 of his report) the recognition of precisely similar facts by the grant of a similar allowance on the net revenue demand, excluding villages belonging to Akor Khels, descendants of Khattak Chiefs, who had, it was stated, always held their lands free of revenue. The orders of the Punjab Government contained in paragraph 34 of the Revenue Secretary's letter No. 103, dated 20th January 1895, were as follows:—“*Taluqdāri* to be paid by inferior proprietors will be at the rate of Rs. 9-6-0 per cent. on land-revenue as in Bārak. It will not of course be paid in respect of lands of which the Khan or his family are full proprietors, nor will it be paid by the Akor Khels.” The latter part of this order should be regarded as an *obiter dictum*, rather than as a positive order passed after full consideration of the facts. In the first place, it pre-judged in one respect the status of the Akor Khel revenue-free holdings, a matter which was under separate discussion. This discussion was protracted until 1898, when the revenue-free grants were unreservedly declared to be subject to the pleasure of the Khan for the time being. The result of both sets of orders, as they stand at present, is to give the exemption from payment of *taluqdāri* a higher status than the exemption from the payment of the revenue of which the *taluqdāri* should strictly be considered to form a part. In the next place, the orders of 1895 appear to lose sight of the reasons so clearly stated in 1886 for granting the allowance, and of the integral and impartible nature the allowance was declared to possess. It is unnecessary to say more on the subject at present, as the treatment of *taluqdāri* has been separately reported on, in connection with the rules framed under the Teri Dues Regulation, No. IV of 1902.

There is another and, from the point of view of the Khattak zamíndárs, a much more important particular in regard to which *taluqdāri* in the Bārak and Khattak Settlements was treated differently. In Bārak the land-revenue

proper and the *talugdārī* were together supposed to represent the full assessment the land should pay; in Khattak the *talugdārī* was superimposed on the full land-revenue assessment. It is curious that this disparity was not noticed at the time of the Khattak Settlement, but that it took place is, I think, evident from the reports and orders on the subject. Mr. Tucker in paragraph 71 of his Bārak Assessment Report remarked: "If, for the future, he (the Nawáb) continues to take cesses, such as *dhart*, *tirni*, and *buá*, and is allowed in addition a percentage as *talugdārī*, the amount of the land-revenue must be correspondingly reduced." He, therefore, proposed a revenue assessment of Rs. 37,990 plus *talugdārī* amounting to Rs. 3,561. Lieutenant-Colonel. Wace, second Financial Commissioner, in reviewing the report considered that of the cesses only *buá* should be allowed to be continued, and that *talugdārī* should not be introduced, but in consequence of the disallowance of *talugdārī*, he thought (paragraph 17 of his note) that the land-revenue assessment should be raised by a corresponding amount, and proposed a revenue of Rs. 41,000. The first Financial Commissioner (Colonel W. G. Davies) supported Mr. Tucker's proposal to give the Nawáb a *talugdārī* allowance. Sir Charles Aitchison, the Lieutenant-Governor, concurred in the latter view and sanctioned the allowance in the following terms:—"The sum to be assessed on the tappa (exclusive of cesses) will accordingly be divided into land-revenue proper and a *talugdārī* allowance thereon at the rate of Rs. 9-6 per cent." The Government orders went on to say that Mr. Tucker's proposed assessment of Rs. 41,551-9 was sanctioned, and that out of this sum Rs. 37,990 were to be assessed as land revenue proper, and Rs. 3,561-9 as *talugdārī*.

A perusal of the Khattak Assessment Report and the orders thereon shows, on the other hand, that the full land-revenue assessment was discussed quite apart from the amount to be levied as *talugdārī*, which was treated as on the same footing as an ordinary cess. The land-revenue assessment sanctioned was Rs. 42,300, and upon this (excluding Akor Khel lands) *talugdārī* was levied.

In giving the results of these different methods of assessment in tabular form, the figures quoted in the last paragraph have to be altered by including the assessments of the two villages of Drish Khel, and Shahidan Darga in the Darra, instead of the Nari-Chauntra Circle in which they are actually situated. In each instance only the initial demands are quoted below.

CIRCLE.	ASSESSMENT ACTUALLY IMPOSED.			Land-revenue assessments sanctioned.
	Land-revenue.	Talugdārī.	Total.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nari-Chauntra	21,436	2,009	23,445	41,551
Thal	13,917	1,303	15,220	
Lawaghar	2,615	247	2,862	
Total Bārak Settlement	37,968	3,559	41,527	41,551
Sepi-Khwarram	22,460	1,861	24,261	42,300
Darra	19,879	1,166	21,045	
Total Khattak Settlement	42,279	3,027	45,306	42,300

Had the misconception about the true nature of the *talugdārī* allowance, as originally sanctioned, and the consequent difference in treatment in the Khattak Settlement been avoided, no one would have dreamt of supporting the members of the Akor Khel family in their untenable claim to exemption as of right against the Khan of Teri.

It must be borne in mind in the subsequent comparison between the existing and proposed assessments, that in the Bārak Circles the old revenue *plus taluqdārī* represents the full assessment; while in the Khattak Circles the land-revenue was the full assessment of the time apart from *taluqdārī*.

18. In a country with a history like that of the settlement of the Khattak tribe with its chequered succession of chieftains, one would expect to find a large number of collateral branches of the main family holding subsidiary feudal tenures with an obligation to support the Chief for the time being. But the anarchy which prevailed in the latter half of the 18th century during the downfall of the Moghul Empire after the invasions of Ahmad Shāh, Durāni, prevented the establishment of any central power among the Khattaks. The different branches of the ruling family, which, under a strong Government from either Delhi or Kābul, might have found mutual advantage in combination under one Chief, were each led into forming separate semi-independent Khanships in their inaccessible valleys. Thus we find the Akora Khattaks under the Khans of Khwarra, Nilāb and Khushālgarh, while Sardār Shāhbāz Khan carved out for himself the Chiefship of the Western Khattaks at Shāhbāzgarh and Teri. At Gumbat Sharāfat Khan, a half brother of Sardār Shāhbāz Khan, was unable apparently to establish any independence, and remained as Naib to the Khan at Teri.

This short excursion into comparatively ancient history enables us to understand the position of members of the Akor Khel settled in the Teri Tahsil. The Khans of the Eastern Khattaks, as well as many others, all belong to the Akor Khel, descendants of Malik Ako (Akor Khan), but it would be a great mistake to invest all the members of the family settled in the Teri Tahsil with the prerogatives attaching to the leading branches. In Teri we have only to do with the branch of the Akor Khel descended from Sardār Shāhbāz Khan, (Khān of Teri—1759—1799) and with those descendants of his grandfather Mohamed Afzal Khan (Khān of Teri—1682—1741) who chose to follow Shāhbāz Khan's fortunes at Teri. In the following discussion I propose, therefore, to apply the term Akor Khel to the descendants of Mohamed Afzal Khan who are settled in the Teri Tahsil. Within the term Akor Khel, the term Khanzada is applied to the descendants of Sardār Shāhbāz Khan himself; while the descendants of Nawāb Sir Khwāja Mohamed Khan, K. C. S. I. (Khan of Teri—1844—1889) can conveniently be further distinguished by being styled Nawābzādās.

During the Bārak Settlement the old Nawāb was alive. The members of the family either had no reason to dispute his statement of the terms on which they held their lands, or did not dare to do so. They were in possession of very little land in Bārak, and consented in some cases to be entered as tenants-at-will under the Nawāb. The case was very different in the Seni-Khwarra and Darra Circles. It was there that, as described by Mr. Tucker in his Bārak Assessment Report, the junior members of the family had received a few fields or wells in the home villages round Teri for their maintenance. The Nawāb, foreseeing disputes between his numerous sons, had in 1870 made a will allotting specified lands to the different members of his family. This will could not for various reasons be officially recognised by Government, but it was acted on by the family, who on the 21st June 1892 agreed in the presence of the Deputy Commissioner (the Hon'ble the present Chief Commissioner) to abide by its provisions. The Nawābzādās have remained in possession of their grants ever since; neither Mohamed Zafar Khan nor the present Khan has evinced any serious desire to deprive the other members of the family of the maintenance assigned to them by their father, the Nawāb. Nor is there any reason why Government should interfere with these arrangements.

Apart from the land thus held by the Nawābzādās there are several villages and numerous plots of lands expressly excluded from division by the Nawāb in his will, which attach to the Khanship, and in which the Khan for the time being possesses only a life interest. On the death of Mohamed Zafar Khan, the Deputy Commissioner, Captain C. B. Rawlinson, passed an order dated 28th August 1896, directing mutation of these lands in favour of Abdul

Ghafúr Khan, the successor to the *gaddi*. But on appeal the officiating Commissioner of Pesháwar took an erroneous view of the case, and by his order dated 13th February 1897, reversed the Deputy Commissioner's proceedings. All the land of which Mohamed Zafar Khan had been in possession, was accordingly entered in the revenue records as the property of his widow, Mussammát Memna of Darmalak. This lady, though without a shadow of a claim to the property attaching to the *riásat*, was supported in her opposition to the Khan by her other male relations, the descendants of Biland Khan, who was Khan of Teri for various temporary periods in 1827—29. The Khan was forced into litigation, which lasted for six years, to recover possession of the *riásat* lands. The Civil Courts all along the line found in favour of the Khan, a decree of the Chief Court of the Punjab, dated 16th April 1903, and another of the Judicial Commissioner of the North-West Frontier Province, dated 21st May 1903, finally putting him in the position he should have held since 1895. This lamentable piece of mismanagement on our part cannot have been without an effect in the attitude of other members of the family towards the Khan.

The question of the status of the Khanzádás and the Akor Khels generally on their revenue-free tenures was not settled either till after prolonged discussion. In paragraph 36 of his Revenue Secretary's letter No. 103, dated 28th January 1895, the Lieutenant-Governor directed that in regard to *muáfis* and *indáms* the Bárak system (under which their grant and resumption were left to the pleasure of the Khan) was to be followed, but added that the grants of the Akor Khels must not be resumed except under Government sanction. Against these orders the Khan submitted several representations. On the matter being again reported to Government, Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick stated in the Revenue Secretary's letter No. 731, * dated

* Proceedings Nos. 229—
239 A., Foreign-Frontier,
for June 1896.

12th June 1896, that his inclination was to leave matters entirely alone, and to allow the Khan and the grantees to settle them as best they could, simply recording the grantees as holding their *muáfis* from the Khan subject to fidelity to him and to the performance of the customary services due to him. But he yielded to the consensus of opinion expressed by the Financial Commissioner, the Commissioner, and the Deputy Commissioner, that the grantees should be protected against the probable exercise by the Khan of his power of resumption in an indiscriminating and ruthless manner, by maintaining the provision that the grants should not be resumed without the consent of the British authorities.

The Khan was still not satisfied and again pressed for a re-consideration of the orders. An order of Sir John Lawrence's, dated 25th April 1854, was discovered in the Punjab Government records disposing of a claim to a *jágir* in Teri put forward by Fateh Jang Khan, a son of Rasúl Khan, who has already been mentioned as the Nawáb's predecessor in the Khanship. Sir John Lawrence held that Fateh Jang Khan enjoyed no *jágir*, but was in receipt of an allowance, like others, on condition of his rendering service to the Khan; as he refused to render such service the Chief Commissioner held further that it was improper that he should continue to enjoy the allowance, and the Khan was informed accordingly that he had the power to grant or withhold it as he pleased. In view of the unqualified assertion then made by Government of the powers of the Khan, Sir Mackworth Young, whose first inclinations coincided with those of Sir Dennis Fitzpatrick, ruled that as regards rights to land-revenue the position of *muáfíds* and assignees of all classes had all along depended upon the forbearance of the Khan, and that in future their tenures would be held subject to the pleasure of the Khan, to whom are due from them loyalty, obedience and service. These orders are contained in Punjab Government letter No. 858, † dated 23rd July 1898. The

† Proceedings Nos. 175—
178 A., Foreign-Frontier,
July 1898.

Khan and the *muáfíds* were informed of their purport, and in practice no particular inconvenience has been experienced during the past five years. The only large resumption brought to my notice has been that of the revenue of Mussammát Memna's privately owned lands, but after her long opposition to the Khan she could expect nothing else, and her case was not one calling for interference. No doubt in future the Khan will be prepared to follow the advice of the Deputy Commissioner, and he could easily, if necessity demanded, be forced to do so. On the other hand, if we wish to continue to endeavour to rule the Khattaks through the Khan, the

present position of dependence on him on the part of Akor Khels, Khanzādās and Nawábzādās alike is the only practicable solution of the matter.

This account of the Teri family's *jāgirs* has run to considerable length, and it may be said that it has no direct connection with the assessment. But an assessment report affords a convenient place for focussing attention on important points bearing on the revenue administration. The foregoing summary of controversies which lasted for thirteen years, i. e., from the commencement of the Khattak Settlement to last year, will, it is hoped, prove useful in the future. Attached to the report are two Appendices (G and H), one showing the villages and lands which have been held by judicial decisions to attach to the Khanship, and the other showing the lands and revenues at present assigned by the Khan to the different members and branches of the family. The mere recording of the *de facto* position can affect no one's rights or privileges, while the want of a clear statement of the income and liabilities of the Khan has been felt in more than one direction in the past. Many of the alleged grievances of the Akor Khels disappear when we look at the amounts they enjoy from the Khan, and reflect what their grants would probably be if the tahsil were a *khālsa* one.

From Appendix G it will be seen that an area of 26,932 acres, assessed at Rs. 3,110-1-3, attaches to the Khanship, and is according to the judicial findings inalienable by the Khan for the time being. The revenue assessed on the grants enjoyed by Nawábzādās amounts to Rs. 9,683-9-6, by Khanzādās to Rs. 879-7-6, and by Akor Khels to Rs. 577-0-3. Many of the grants are worth much more than the revenue assessments, as the grantees collect their rents in kind and also receive cesses which form part of their rents, but, as far as the Khan is concerned, out of the total revenue of the tahsil a sum of Rs. 11,140 is absorbed by these family grants and does not reach his treasury.

19. In the table in paragraph 16 the amount of revenue remitted by the Khan in the shape of *ināms*, *birāts* and petty *muāfis* has been shown separately. The value of the petty *muāfis* has not altered much since settlement. This is only natural. The *muāfis* consist chiefly of grants to Sayads, mosques, shrines and the families of Pathāns who had acquired a reputation for sanctity. These the Khan for the time being, however grasping, would, as a good Muhammadan, have no desire to run counter to public opinion by resuming.

The meaning of the terms *inām* and *birāt*, as used in the Bārak tappa of Teri, requires explanation. An *inām* is theoretically the remission of the land revenue on a man's own land, or what we would ordinarily call a *muāfi*; a *birāt* is the grant of the revenue due on other people's land, i. e., a small *jāgír*. At the time of Mr. Tucker's settlement the majority of the *ināms* had been held by the same families for generations, having been granted in the middle of the 18th century by the then Chiefs to their leading adherents in reward for service in the Punjab and Hindustán during the wars of Ahmad Sháh and Timur Sháh. They were held by numerous sharers, the share of each being generally very small. The *birāts* were held by smaller groups and were intended as allowances to the headmen who enabled the Chief to realise the revenue. Even the *birāts* had, however, a tendency to become hereditary and to be divided on the death of the original holder among all his sons. The distinction between *ināms* and *birāts* was in many cases difficult to draw clearly.

In the course of the early *muāfi* investigations, conducted under Sir John Lawrence, soon after annexation the great mass of useless grants were swept away. After the introduction of the arrangements sanctioned at settlement for the collection of revenue a further considerable number of *birāts* were rendered unnecessary. The village headmen now received the usual *pachotra*, or allowance of 5 per cent. on the land-revenue, as recompense for their assistance in collecting revenue. Mr. Tucker proposed that a certain proportion of the existing grants should be recognised by Government and made perpetual, while the remainder should be left to the discretion of the Nawáb to confiscate or continue. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, decided that it was better policy to leave the whole matter of their resumption or continuance entirely in the Nawáb's own disposition, subject only to the condition that the existing grants

should be entered in the Settlement Record, and that any changes made should be intimated by the Nawáb to the Deputy Commissioner, who might make any representation to the Nawáb which he might deem necessary in individual cases. In pursuance of these orders the Khan submits half yearly statements of lapsed or resumed *ináms*, *biráts* and *muáfis*. As a rule grants are resumed by him on the death of the incumbent. The result is that the amount granted in *ináms* and *biráts* in the Bárák tract has sunk from Rs. 8,804 at settlement to Rs. 4,568 now. This was the inevitable consequence of the decision of Government and, though the people are only too ready to urge as a grievance the resumption of grants given as rewards for services rendered by their forefathers to the Khan's ancestors, there is really not much hardship involved. It must be remembered that we have secured to the lambardárs an allowance which they did not get before, and this allowance is paid in full to the individuals who now do some work in return, instead of being frittered away in inappreciable doles to a miscellaneous crowd of men, women and children who would be surprised to hear that any present obligation was thereby imposed upon them. It is, moreover, difficult to urge a much larger measure of leniency on the Khan when, as it is, he only recovers 79 per cent. of his nominal revenue.

In the Khattak tract the events which led to the settlement, and the practical refusal of the people to pay any revenue to the Khan from 1889 to 1893, brought about the resumption of all *biráts* and almost all *ináms*. By the orders of Government the Bárák system was to be followed in regard to *muáfis* and *ináms*. There was, therefore, no necessity to cavil at or interfere with this wholesale exercise of the Khan's powers.

At present the Khan remits Rs. 4,675 in *ináms* and *biráts* and Rs. 1,343 in *muáfis*, viz., 5·7 and 1·6 per cent., respectively, of the land revenue of the tahsil. I have no proposals to make as to any alteration in the existing system under which continuance and resumption are left in his hands subject to report to the Deputy Commissioner.

PART III.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Classification of total area.

20. The area of the Teri Tahsil has been classified as follows in the present measurements:—

	Circle.	Seni-Khwarram.	Darra.	Nari-Chauntra.	Thal.	Lawaghar.	Tahsil.
PERCENTAGE OF AREA.							
Total area in acres	...	282,124	182,297	230,012	175,635	106,197	976,265
Forest and unculturable	...	70.4	70.0	74.3	52.5	87.2	69.8
Old waste	...	13.8	10.7	7.3	9.6	3.1	9.8
Waste recently abandoned	...	1.2	.7	.4	.4	.3	.7
Cultivated, 1902-03	...	14.6	18.6	18.0	37.5	9.4	19.7
Total	...	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The Kohát and Hangu Tahsils together comprise an area of 723,819 acres. The whole district, therefore, contains 1,700,000 acres, of which 57 per cent. are in the Teri Tahsil.

Only one-fifth of the land in Teri is cultivated, but this is a higher proportion than in the two other tahsils. The Khattaks have but little irrigated cultivation. They, therefore, devote more attention and labour to their unirrigated lands than the Bangashes. The latter tribe owns large stretches of good waste land which in the hands of the harder working Khattaks would undoubtedly be cultivated.

It would appear from paragraph 96 of the Bârak Settlement Report that the cultivated land only was properly measured, and that the area of the hill tracts was roughly calculated from the Topographical Survey Maps. This was indeed the idea with which Mr. Tucker started, but, as the work went on, he found that it was impossible to fix the positions of the different plots of cultivation, and to settle the numerous boundary disputes which were brought to light, without a regular survey of the hill tracts. *Thak-bast* maps on the usual system were, therefore, prepared. Allowing for the area contained in the two villages of Drish Khel and Shahidan Darga (38,254 acres), which, though in Bârak, were measured at the Khattak Settlement, we find that the total areas given at the former settlements were Bârak 512,624 acres, and Khattak 464,600 acres against 511,844 and 464,421 acres, respectively, now. The differences are unimportant.

The system of classification of the cultivated and uncultivated areas at the former settlements was the same as the one now in vogue.

21. In the following table the cultivated area at settlement is compared by soils with the cultivated area as now ascertained:—

Circle.	Year.	Châbi.	Chashmâi dofaali.	Chashmâi ekfaali.	Abi dofaali.	Abi ekfaali.	Total irrigated.	Saikh.	Talâbi.	Bandiza.	Dagoba.	Bârâni.	Total unirrigated.	Total cultivation.
Seni-Khwar-ram	1893-94 ...	55	90	38	254	110	547	..	53	7,648	21,588	18,112	47,401	47,948
	1902-03 ...	100	63	38	172	69	442	78	28	5,399	24,527	10,955	40,987	41,429
Darra	1893-94 ...	92*	1	41	479	72	685	...	...	3,251	12,031	17,966	33,248	33,933
	1902-03 ...	121*	1	11	456	154	743	...	...	3,539	15,986	13,684	33,209	33,952
Nari-Chauntra	1886-87 ...	320	63	74	4	...	461	...	...	979	933	41,189	43,101	43,562
	1902-03 ...	395	61	96	3	11	566	...	...	2,339	10,112	28,290	40,741	41,307
Thal	1886-87 ...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	9,312	...	51,975	61,287	61,289
	1902-03 ...	5	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	7,848	2,573	55,449	65,870	65,875
Lawaghar	1886-87 ...	4	16	69	...	2	91	...	...	553	...	9,479	10,032	10,123
	1902-03 ...	6	124	67	...	5	202	...	...	319	4,409	5,028	9,756	9,958
Tahsil	Settlement	473*	170	222	737	184	1,786	...	53	21,743	34,552	138,721	195,069	196,855
	Now	627*	249	212	631	239	1,958	78	28	19,444	57,607	113,406	190,563	192,521

There has been an increase since last settlement of 172 acres, or 9.6 per cent., in the irrigated area, a decrease of 4,506 acres, or 2.3 per cent., in the unirrigated area, and in the total cultivation a decrease of 4,334 acres, or 2.2 per cent. In the Forecast Report it was estimated that a 4 per cent. increase had taken place in the cultivated area. The patwáris cannot have been excluding land going out of cultivation properly in their annual records.

The area irrigated from wells is very small, but it is satisfactory that it shows an increase. At the time of settlement there were 235 wells in use; there are now 285. They are all of the variety known as *kacha-pakka*, i.e., lined with stones sunk in mud without any bricks or plaster. There are in addition 26 *kacha* wells, *jhallárs* and *dhenklís* (in which the wheel is worked by hand or foot). The average area watered by a well is, therefore, just about two acres.

There has been a slight improvement in the area irrigated from springs, counterbalanced by a falling off in the area served by the various small streams in the tahsil. The total area thus assisted is, however, so small that the tract under assessment must for almost all practical purposes be considered a *bárání* one.

In the Seni-Khwarram Circle the classification of the cultivated area made ten years ago has been made more lenient, some 2,000 acres then classed as *bandiza* having been treated as *dagoba* in the special attestation now made. The people have allowed 6,400 acres of the poorer *bárání* lands to go out of cultivation. Part of this decrease has only occurred on paper, for at the Khattak Settlement large plots containing cultivated, culturable and unculturable land were measured in one field number, and sufficient care was not taken to distinguish the areas of each class; such fields have now been divided up and the areas of the cultivated portions have been accurately calculated. A gross miscalculation of area was also made in the large village of Nakband, and a little cultivated land has been acquired for the Kohát-Khushálgarh Railway. At the same time a certain amount of the land situated some distance from the village sites has not been kept in cultivation after its ownership had once been recorded in the village papers.

In the Darra Circle, on the other hand, the total cultivation has remained what it was at settlement, but a more careful, though not necessarily more stringent, classification shows a larger proportion under the more valuable *bandiza* and *dagoba* soils.

In the Nari-Chauntra Circle there has been a considerable improvement in the nature of the unirrigated cultivation. The irrigated area has increased by 100 acres only. But the people have devoted a lot of attention to banking up their fields and damming up ravines with the result that while at settlement less than 1,000 acres were classed under each of the two *bandiza* and *dagoba* soils, the areas now so classed are 2,339 and 10,112 acres, respectively. This more than counterbalances the decrease of 2,360 acres in the total unirrigated cultivation.

The Thal Circle, as Mr. Tucker anticipated, is the only one which shows any appreciable increase in cultivation. The increase is nearly 4,600 acres, or 7.5 per cent. Three-fourths of this increase has taken place in the pure *bárání* area on the great level stretch of open plain. At settlement all the assisted area was classed as *bandiza*; a more lenient classification has now recorded nearly a quarter as *dagoba*.

In the Lawaghar Circle the irrigated area has doubled, but is not important. The *bandiza* area has fallen, and the *bárání* cultivation has now been correctly distributed between the *dagoba* and pure *bárání* soils. Much of the land is, however, so poor and stony that the improvement is more nominal than actual.

Thanks to the Thal the unirrigated cultivated area in the Bárak circles has increased in the last eighteen years from 114,420 acres to 116,367 acres. The unirrigated cultivation in the Khattak Circles has fallen in ten years from 80,649 acres to 74,196 acres.

The difference in classification of the unirrigated soils in the previous and present settlements is shewn in the following table :—

Percentage of soils to total unirrigated cultivation.

Circle.	Period.	Bandiza.	Dagoba.	Bárani.	Total.
Seni-Khwarram	Settlement	16	46	38	100
	1902-03	13	60	27	100
Darra	Settlement	10	36	54	100
	1902-03	11	48	41	100
Nari-Chauntra	Settlement	2	2	96	100
	1902-03	6	25	69	100
Thal	Settlement	15	...	85	100
	1902-03	12	4	84	100
Lawaghar	Settlement	6	...	94	100
	1902-03	3	45	52	100
Tahsil	Settlement	11	18	71	100
	1902-03	10	30	60	100

22. The population of the tahsil on the last three occasions on which a census has been taken was—

Population.

Census 1881	...	...	...	...	...	81,374
Census 1891	...	...	...	...	...	85,460, increase 5.0 per cent.
Census 1901	...	...	...	...	...	96,012, increase 12.3 per cent.

Greater security within and without the tahsil, and more steady employment, especially in the army, with the consequent rise in comfort give presumably the explanation for the larger proportionate increase in the latter decade.

Classified by religion the population consists of—

	1891 Census.	1901 Census.
Muhammadans	82,737	91,642
Hindús	2,626	3,826
Sikhs	47	418
Others	50	126
	85,460	96,012

There are no towns in the Teri Tahsil. With the exception of a few large villages the country is essentially one of small hamlets and scattered farms. Practically the whole of the population depends on agriculture and its connected trades. The pressure of the population is only 63 persons per square mile of total area, and 319 persons per square mile of cultivation. It is only natural that the density of population should be much less in this unirrigated tract than in the Kohát and Hangu Tahsils. Chauntra and the Darra Circle are the more thickly populated tracts. The different circles may be roughly estimated to contain the following number of inhabitants :—

Seni-Khwarram	...	...	...	...	...	23,800
Darra	...	...	...	...	...	20,600
Nari-Chauntra	...	...	...	...	...	22,200
Thal	...	...	...	...	...	22,700
Lawaghar	...	...	...	...	...	6,700

The census tables do not give any useful distribution of the population into tribes, but the vast majority of the people in the Teri Tahsil are Khattaks. There are also some Awans, Sayads, miscellaneous Patháns and the Hindús noted above. The proportion of village menials is smaller than usual and in many tracts there is not a Hindu shopkeeper to be found for miles.

Attached to the report will be found a map showing the tribes, and in the case of the Khattaks the main branches of that tribe, to which the proprietary body of each village belongs. The Teri Khattaks are divided into four main sections, the Manzais, Lands, Mashi Khel Uzds, and Mandáns. These are generally known as the Bárak clans. But it will be observed that the greater part of the Darra Circle also is peopled by Mandáns. The Khwarram, Malramzai and Sagri Khattaks are allied to one another as being the descendants of Boláq. The Senis are said not to be true Khattaks at all but outsiders, and the descent of the Nasratís in Thatti Nasrati is not quite clear.

23. The Khattaks are a hardy race and are well known as excellent fighting men. Most of the recruits for the army come from the Seni-Khwarram Circle. The Darra Khattaks are fine well set up men, very troublesome and unruly, but well able to hold their own with their neighbours, the Wazirís. The Báraks are a tall, heavily built simple set of men, sturdy and independent, and with a strong clannish feeling. Their rebellion in 1880 was not the first time they had shown that they were not inclined to bow tamely to the authority of the Khan. Quite at the beginning of the century during the Khanship of Nasir Khan (1799—1812) they attacked and captured the strong natural fortress of Sháhbázgarh, of which the ruins are still standing, in order to release a half-brother of the Khan's who was imprisoned there. Even now the Báraks do not enlist to any great extent in the army though they would furnish splendid material.

Living as the people do in a rugged country with practically no irrigation to secure their crops such as their easy going neighbours the Bangashes enjoy, the Khattaks are throughout hard working agriculturists. They have embanked and reclaimed the lands lying along the foot of their hills with great industry and skill. They have also done their best in many places to make full use of the water which rushes down the innumerable nullahs with which the country is seamed. From the force of circumstances they are a thrifty practical people. Disputes about land and women lead to crimes as they do in all Pathán countries, and the villagers do not display that want of sympathy with outlaws, robbers and murderers which one could wish to see. But according to their lights their standard of morality among themselves is on a distinctly respectable level. Much allowance must be made for a rough and ready set of people, living in a country like theirs, to whom law and order have been introduced practically within the last twenty-five years.

Besides their agriculture the Khattaks go in largely for keeping sheep and goats, cattle and camels. These graze on whatever they can pick up in the hills and carry such wood and grass as is procurable. The Teri salt mines and the carrying trade connected therewith afford a means of subsistence to large numbers of Khattaks who would otherwise be hard put to it to maintain existence in the wilder and more barren parts of the tahsil.

24. The Kohát-Khushálgarh Railway, opened in May 1902, cuts through the north-eastern part of the Seni-Khwarram Circle. There is a station at Ghorzai Payan, but the effect of the Railway extends little, if at all, beyond Lachi.

The roads in the tahsil have been immensely improved since the Bárak Settlement. Most of the improvements were carried out before the Khattak Settlement. In 1883 the Kohát-Bannu road was only metalled for the first three miles out of Kohát. It was then described as kept in fair repair and as practicable for carts and ekkas, but often impassable during rainy weather as the main streams were unbridged and the road ran in places along the bed of mountain torrents. All this was altered in 1889, when an excellent metalled road was constructed which for 52 miles runs through the centre of the tahsil; all the ravines and large nullahs were bridged with the exception of the broad sandy Changosh Nullah beyond Latambar.

From this main artery unmetalled roads and paths of varying excellence branch off on both sides. A fair road connects Lachi with Gumbat across the intervening Kohát Tahsil. From Jatta Ismail Khel a Salt Department road runs east to Malgin, and thence on past Nakband to Jabbar in the Kohi Circle, where it joins the road to Attock and Khairabad. The salt from the Malgin Mines passes up this road to the eastern part of the Pesháwar valley. Malgin is further connected with Kohát by a good road. Another road maintained by the Salt Department takes off at Jatta to the right up the Lilan Toi Valley to Shakkar Khel; thence a very indifferent path leads up the nullah and across a low range of hills to Togh in the Miranzai Valley. Still another salt road goes south from Jatta across the hills past Chakhtu to Dhand Idal Khel where it connects with the road from Shakardarra to Karak through the Chauntra plain. The latter road is in its eastern portion very rough and much in need of improvement. In places it is a mere track across the bare rocky surface of the hills, and still answers

the description given in the Kohát Settlement Report in 1883 that "there are ravines which must be hit off at the right places, and even the right places often want a little repair before they can be considered safe for camels." In the Chauntra plain itself to Karak the road is easy enough for pack animals, but too sandy and stony to be of any use for wheeled traffic. Karak, the main village in the Chauntra, the location of the old sub-tahsil and now of a Police *thāna* and Salt Depôt is a centre from which roads radiate. A very fair road 16 miles long leads north-east to Banda Dáúd Sháh; another one 10 miles long runs across rocky hills and along nullah beds north-west to Bahádur Khel where it meets the Bannu road. But the traveller to Bannu would take the road due west to Garozi and thence past Surdagh Banda to Latambar. The road which runs south from Karak to Thathi Nasrati at the edge of the Thal plain is in places a mere hill track. This open sandy plain requires no roads. There are two or three paths across the hills from Chauntra into the Lawaghar Nullah, but the only road up this nullah and down through the Chichali Pass is the bed of the nullah itself, a picturesque though dreary track winding round large boulders and shut in by high precipices.

Returning to the main Kohát-Bannu Road there are two roads for pack animals taking off to the north, one from Banda Dáúd Sháh past Teri and up the Darra to Amankot, where it branches into two, one running to the right through Karbogha to Sarozai in Upper Miranzai, and the other to the left past the Gurguri *thāna* to Dallan and Thal. The other road takes off at Bahádur Khel and passing Drish Khel crosses the Manzalai Range to Gurguri; the road has not only a steep ascent on both sides and is very narrow at some precipitous places, but it lies across the track usually supposed to be followed by outlaws coming into and leaving the tahsil; it is, therefore, not popular.

Though many of these roads are in places very rough and might be much improved, it will be seen that considering the hilly nature of the country the tahsil is fairly well provided with connections between its principal places. The Salt Department has done a great deal in recent years to facilitate traffic in the neighbourhood of its depôts. Further improvements will no doubt take place in time as funds permit, but the roads as they are, are well suited to the nature of the traffic carried on camels, donkeys and bullocks. In such a country it is sheer cruelty to the unfortunate bullocks to make roads along which carts can be driven unless they are really well aligned and metalled, and the expenditure on carrying out such schemes could hope for very little return. A few years ago a survey was made for a railway from Kohát to Bannu which would have run through Chauntra, but the cost is I believe prohibitive. The connection between Kohát and Bannu when it is made may possibly run from Thal *viâ* the Tochi Valley.

25. It was noticed in the Kohát and Hangu Report how important a part in the prosperity of the people of this district is played by the Government itself as an employer. In the Kohát Tahsil it was found that Government distributed an annual sum of Rs. 3,09,700 in pay and pensions and in Hangu Rs. 1,25,235. A similar table shows that the Khattaks earn the sum of Rs. 2,22,743.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Circle.	Number of men with pay.	Army and Reservists.	Police and Border Militia.	Other Departments.	Pensioners.	Total.
Seni-Khwarram ...	Number of men ...	456	121	31	58	666
	Pay Rs.	67,053	19,608	5,660	6,181	98,502
Darra ...	Number of men ...	80	100	32	11	223
	Pay Rs.	15,842	20,628	4,240	1,542	42,252
Nari-Chauntra ...	Number of men ...	201	247	133	19	600
	Pay Rs.	22,946	28,988	11,988	1,235	65,157
Thal ...	Number of men ...	13	27	30	1	71
	Pay Rs.	1,400	3,968	2,586	99	8,053
Lawaghar ...	Number of men ...	47	30	3	4	84
	Pay Rs.	4,856	3,408	324	191	8,779
Tahsil ...	Number of men ...	797	525	229	93	1,644
	Pay Rs.	1,12,097	76,600	24,798	9,248	2,22,743

The average annual stipend earned by Government employes is Rs. 135. or Rs. 11-4 per mensem. Among the "other Departments" is included the Salt Preventive Establishment which employs 134 men as guards, &c.

These returns were prepared by the patwáris who were told to note the number of men in Government service in each village. I had such grave doubts as to the accuracy of the figures, that I have had the enumeration done twice over. The Khattak is such a well-known recruit that it is difficult to believe that there are only 645 men from the Teri Tahsil serving in the army and only 152 reservists. But though the second count made during March and April shows a considerable increase under the second and third heads in the table, the total for the army and reservists only varies by seven men from the number counted last October. It may be that the Teri Khattak is not so popular as his brother from the Akora or Sagri country, or that he only enlists for a short term of service. In any case the figures give no idea of the enormous number of men in the tahsil who have passed through some period of military training and service. The Khan of Teri also maintains a small body of sowars and rough frontier militia.

26. As explained in the Kohát-Hangu Report the enumeration of live-stock made in the cold weather in accordance with general orders, gives false results in this district owing to the presence of nomad tribes with their animals from across the border. A special cattle census was therefore made by the settlement staff in October 1903 along with the kharif *girdawari*.

The agricultural stock of the tahsil now and at settlement is compared in the following table:—

Circle.	Date.	Bullocks, Cows and Buffaloes.	Sheep and Goats.	Horses, Males and Donkeys.	Camels.
Seni-Klwarram	Settlement	12,348	27,268	936	385
	Now	13,052	20,290	1,346	409
Darra	Settlement	14,036	27,872	349	303
	Now	12,146	23,880	1,368	393
Nari-Chauntra	Settlement	13,750	10,842	2,344	222
	Now	13,080	30,787	2,523	239
Thal	Settlement	9,515	8,707	4,619	108
	Now	10,266	8,148	5,529	129
Lawaghar	Settlement	4,273	9,808	843	85
	Now	3,987	8,828	672	73
Tahsil	Settlement	53,922	83,797	9,591	1,103
	Now	52,531	91,928	11,438	1,343

The number of cattle has decreased by 2.6 per cent., being exactly the same result as was found to have occurred in the Kohát Tahsil. The number of sheep and goats has increased by 9.7 per cent, due entirely to the flocks in the Nari-Chauntra Circle—the only circle in which there has not been a decrease—having trebled in numbers. There are in the tahsil 543 horses, ponies and mules, and 10,895 donkeys.

As in the rest of the district the cattle are poor miserable little creatures. They are given but little green fodder picking up what they can by browsing in glens and on the shady sides of the hills. Many of the hills are however very bare, and in the salt area produce nothing at all that is edible.

The estimated income of the villagers from the profits of their live-stock has been calculated in the manner described in detail in the Kohat-Hangu Report. The earnings of donkeys must be taken into account in this tahsil. These animals are largely used by the people in their agricultural operations, to carry manure and so forth; but the main object with which they are kept

is to carry water. Practically all the donkeys in the Thal and Lawaghar Circles, and five-sixths of those in the Nari-Chauntra are used for carrying water. The rest are used in the wood-carrying and salt trades. The Settlement Tahsildar calculates that donkeys thus employed earn about Rs. 3 per mensem, the rate of hire in the Thal being Rs. 4. The total earnings at these rates come to Rs. 32,500, or practically an average of Rs. 3 per annum on all the donkeys in the tahsil.

The income from live-stock is tabulated below :—

	Sout-Khwarra.	Darra.	Nari-Chauntra.	Thal.	Lawaghar.	Tahsil.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sale of Ghee	5,800	4,475	4,875	4,775	1,875	21,800
Do. Wool and Hair	2,850	3,000	4,325	1,075	1,150	12,400
Do. Surplus Sheep and Goats	1,000	1,200	1,550	400	450	4,600
Do. { Hides	2,700	2,650	2,650	2,075	775	10,850
{ Skins	900	1,050	1,350	350	400	4,050
Hire of Camels	12,250	11,800	7,175	3,875	5,200	40,300
Do. Donkeys	7,000	7,000	14,000	4,000	500	32,500
Total	32,500	31,175	35,925	16,550	10,150	1,26,300

If this estimate is anything like accurate—it is admittedly only a very rough guess,—the profits from live-stock yield to the people a sum equal to one and a-half times their present land revenue. The disproportion is greater than in the Kohát and Hangu Tahsils, as the Khattaks are a much more pastoral people than the Bangashes.

These profits must not be taken into account in considering the revenue-paying capacity of the people, because the Khan receives his due share in the shape of *tirni* on camels, sheep and goats. This due amounts as will be seen in paragraph 57, on the average to Rs. 7,120, and is equivalent to a percentage of 11·6 on Rs. 61,350 the estimated profits from these animals.

27. An account of the resources of the Khattaks which omitted the profits from salt trade— profits they derive from the salt mines, and from the *ināms* granted to them by Government would be quite incomplete. The mines, or more correctly quarries, are situated in the villages of Jatta Ismail Khel, Bahádur Khel, Malgín and Karak. A fifth mine in the village of Nari Panos was closed in 1898; in former times nine other mines scattered about the salt hills used to be worked, but they had been closed prior to annexation. The management of the mines remained for a long time of a very rough and ready description, as was only natural considering the state of the country. The Deputy Commissioner controlled the working, and was head of the Preventive Establishment, with a native superintendent stationed at the mines. Allahyár Khan, Titular Khan of Hangu, held this post for a considerable period. But in this, as in everything else, improvements have been gradually introduced and the management has been rendered more efficient. Finally the control of the mines was transferred to the Commissioner, Northern India Salt Revenue, from the 1st January 1899, the Deputy Commissioner of Kohát being now consulted on all matters which have a political significance or which affect the administration of the district, but having little to do with the departmental management of the mines.

The duty levied on Kohát salt in Sikh times was very low. In 1850 after an abortive attempt to introduce an uniform duty of Re. 1 per maund, the duty was fixed at four annas at the Jatta, Malgín and Nari mines, three annas at

Karak and two annas at Bahádur Khel per maund. From the 1st July 1883 the duty was enhanced to an uniform rate of eight annas per Lahori maund of $102\frac{1}{8}$ lbs. This was again raised on the 12th June 1896 to a duty of Rs. 2 per maund of $102\frac{1}{8}$ lbs, and in 1898 the old Indus Preventive Line Force was disbanded. Last year on the general reduction of the salt duty throughout India the duty on Kohát salt was fixed at Re. 1-8 per British maund of $82\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. The income to Government from Kohát salt duty during the last two years has been Rs. 6,00,240 in 1902-03 and Rs. 6,73,965 in 1903-04, which shows what a very valuable property the mines are.

The excavation of the salt is done by the villagers at the mines. The rate they charge is generally two pice per *tabbi* (or block) of from half-a-maund to a maund, or one anna for one and-a-half maunds. The average amount of salt dug out of the mines during the last three years (1901-02 to 1903-04) has been 416,832 maunds. The earnings of the miners are therefore Rs. 17,368 per annum. This cannot be, however, regarded as an asset of the whole body of zamíndárs in the tahsil. It is confined to the men living in the immediate vicinity of the mines.

The *ináms* granted by Government out of the salt revenue affect a large body of people. These were first awarded by the Board of Administration in March 1850, under the name of *málikána*, or seignorage, in order to enlist the sympathies of the headmen of the villages, in preventing smuggling and otherwise in aiding Government to realize as large an income as practicable from the salt duties. The *málikána* was granted in the form of a percentage of the gross income of each mine to the lambardárs of the villages within whose limits the mines were situated. The allowances were 5 per cent. at Jatta and Malgín, 4 per cent. at Nari, and 25 per cent. at Bahádur Khel. The *maliks* of Karak were subsequently awarded 4 per cent. of the income of their mine from 1st January 1855, and with them the *maliks* of Latambar were associated to the extent of another 2 per cent. for their services in protecting camels engaged in the salt trade from Wazíri raiders. The Khan of Teri was awarded 3 per cent. of the income of the Nari and 10 per cent. of the income of the Bahádur Khel mines.

The Khan of Makhad, who had been given an allowance of 5 per cent. on the income of the Malgín Mine, as compensation for the loss sustained by him from the closing of the salt mine at Nadraka in Shakardarra and for his services in the second Sikh War, was in 1859 granted a consolidated allowance of Rs. 1,000 per annum from the general salt income on condition of good service. Another allowance of Rs. 360 per annum which had been enjoyed by the family of the Naibs of Gumbat, in lieu of a portion of the revenue of the Malgín salt mine perpetually alienated to them by a former Khattak Chief, Saidulla Khan (1741—1748), was confirmed to them by Government in 1869. And to complete the story two lambardárs in Nari Panos received an allowance of Rs. 230 per annum for services rendered to British Officers in the first days of our rule when Nari was a Military outpost.

The average annual amount granted in these allowances in 1872, when the Deputy Commissioner, Captain T. C. Plowden, prepared an interesting and exhaustive memorandum on the Kohát Salt Mines, is shewn in the table below. In 1883, when the salt duty was raised, it was laid down that the Khan of Teri and the villagers should receive the same percentages of the new income as before. The distribution of the village allowances was re-arranged to some extent; the cash allowances remained at their old figures. The result is shown in the second column below. In 1896 it was decided that the system of percentages should be abolished, as the villagers and others were not entitled to profit proportionately in the increase in duty imposed by Government for purely revenue purposes. The existing *ináms* were enhanced throughout by 50 per cent., certain villages receiving increments of as much as 100 per cent., and the *ináms* were turned into cash allowances. These were introduced from the 13th July 1896, and are still in force; their amount is entered below. The allowance of the Khan of Teri was raised to Rs. 10,000 by a letter from the Government of India No. 2546-S.R., dated 12th June 1896, in which the enhancement of the village and other *ináms* was also sanctioned.

Holder of Salt Ináms.	In 1872.	From 1883-1886.	From 1896.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
The Khan of Teri	1,590	4,764	10,000
The Khan of Makhad	1,000	1,000	1,500
Family of the Naibs of Gumbat	360	360	540
Selected Malikis of Panos, Jatta and Malgín and			
Khanzádas of Lachi	230	1,472	2,207
Zamíndárs of Salt Tract	7,879	20,596	35,218
Total	11,050	28,192	49,465

Arranging the *ináms* now held by the villagers, and by Khanzádas and selected *maliks* by assessment circles, we find they are held as follows:—

	Villagers.	Khanzádas and Malikis.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Seni-Khwarram	13,196	2,252	15,448
Darra	2,257	150	2,407
Nari-Chauntra	16,055	345	16,400
Thal	3,710	...	3,710
Lawaghar ... ..	...	...	...
Total	35,218	2,747	37,965

We are not at present concerned with the principles on which these *ináms* have been apportioned to different villages, though the Commissioner, Northern India Salt Revenue, in a recent letter remarked that they had apparently been distributed in the first instance in rather a haphazard way, some villages having been left out which are close to important out-crops, and likely to be often used as halting places by Salt Officers. But it is important from the assessment point of view to note the large sum of money which certain sections of the revenue-payers receive annually in cash from Government, to whose action the large increase in the payments during the last thirty years is solely due. In the matter of the detailed village assessments the question of these salt *ináms* assumes still greater importance. For instance the adjoining villages of Jatta Ismail Khel and Ali Khan Khel pay at present Rs. 370 and Rs. 140, respectively, as land revenue and receive between them a salt *inám* of Rs. 1,558; the two Lachi villages pay Rs. 2,900 revenue and receive an *inám* of Rs. 1,684; Malgín pays Rs. 315 and has an *inám* of Rs. 1,434; Drish Khel pays Rs. 1,210 and has an *inám* of Rs. 4,454; and Bahádur Khel with an assessment of Rs. 1,146 receives an *inám* of Rs. 4,676. I do not mean to suggest that the *ináms* should, or will be considered assets of these and similar villages, when fixing the land revenue assessment. But the knowledge that the villagers receive such enormous sums in cash every six months (*ináms* are paid half-yearly), removes all doubt as to their being able to readily find the money to pay a fair revenue. Recourse to the money-lender should be unnecessary even after the worst possible harvest.

Though originally intended as *málikána* for the *maliks* or lambardárs, the *ináms* have, from the first, been shared by the whole body of village proprietors. It could hardly be otherwise in a purely Pathán tract. The system of division varies, but as a rule the lambardárs appropriate one-fourth of the *inám*, the other three-fourths being divided between the villagers on ancestral shares. Some villages even allow men who are not *daftarís*, i.e., do not belong to the original proprietary body, to share in the *inám*.

The duties for which the salt *ináms* are granted have lately been revised, and have been put, if I may say so, on a sensible and reasonable footing. In the old days, with a free and easy administration and a nominal duty, it was feasible to make the people supply free unskilled labour on depôts and roads, and free carriage for Government treasure and property; the demands thus made were regulated by the standard current in the country-side. But with the introduction of a highly specialised department working up to standards quite foreign to Khattak notions of sufficiency, the rigid enforcement of obligations, old in themselves but

interpreted in a different spirit, became impracticable. Not that I think that Government now gets fair value for the money spent in *ināms*, which must far exceed the wildest dreams of the people 25 years ago. But in such cases, the pendulum, after being forced too far one way, is apt to swing too far in the other, and, in using an argument such as keeping people contented, one is inclined to lose sight of the line which can be drawn to keep people from being discontented. However, it is satisfactory to know that Government has treated the question of these *ināms* in no niggardly spirit, a knowledge which will give confidence in enforcing the duties to which the people are now liable. These, as laid down in a letter No. 5233-S. R., dated 2nd October 1902, from the Government of India in the Finance Department are :—to ensure the safety of the roads; to render every assistance to the establishment of the Salt Department for their protection, for the prevention of smuggling and for keeping the salt out-crops secure; to provide sites on waste land for salt buildings and roads free of cost; to provide *chaukidárs* for the protection of Government property and for officers of the Salt Department when in camp; to provide carriage at reasonable rates for Government treasure and property, and to escort the same; and to carry out the work of excavation and supply of salt to traders in accordance with the directions of the Salt officials.

28. The 166 villages under assessment are classified as follows by

Tenures.

tenures :—

Class of Tenure.	Seni-Khwarran.	Darra	Nari-Chauntra.	Thal.	Lawaghar.	Tahsil.
Zamindari	14	17	2	1	...	34
Bhayachara	40	22	45	8	17	132
Total	54	39	47	9	17	166

Of the *zamindari* villages only one (Sweri Banda in Seni-Khwarran) is owned by Khattaks. At the previous settlements the tribesmen partitioned their cultivated lands as far as possible, and recorded them in separate ownership. Possession became the measure of right in the land and of liability for revenue. The vast majority of holdings consist of scattered fields situated in the different *wands* of a village and even in different villages. In Bārak in fact considerable difficulty was experienced in grouping the scattered holdings and farmsteads into suitable *mauzas* or villages. The old distribution of the settlements of various sub-sections of the Khattak tribe into *tarafs* and *pattis*, each including a certain number of *bakhras* or ancestral shares, was maintained in the *lambardari* arrangements, and in apportioning each owner's share of *kār-begār* (*badraggas*, *chighus* and the like). But though each tribal sub-section recognises the tract in which it originally settled, the displacement of communal holdings in cultivated land by the idea of individual ownership must have taken place at a very early date. The unculturable hill area used for grazing remained undefined, adjoining settlements having almost invariably the right to graze their cattle indiscriminately over common areas. In the Bārak country, prior to the Land Revenue Settlement, the revenue taken by the Nawāb was distributed on *lugahs*, or houses. In 1850-51 it was explained that this custom had descended from a very barbarous time, when the ruling power took revenue from any one from whose house smoke (Pashtu *lugah*) issued, it being presumed that as the owner could cook a dinner, he could afford to pay revenue also. It is, I think, more reasonable to suppose that it originated in the notion that as each man set up for himself a separate house or hearth he became liable to a share in the tribal or village responsibilities. There are traces still to be found that at one time a custom prevailed, by which a man, on growing up and marrying, could claim a redistribution of the cultivated lands of his section and the allotment to himself of his proportionate share. In Bārak, as long as culturable land was available, a man probably went off and built himself a house on spare land with the tacit consent of his fellow-tribesmen; the only convenient way to tax him was to assess the new house. Several villages in the Darra Circle thus trace their origin to the migration of a family from the over-crowded Chauntra Valley. In the tract held by the Senis and Khwarrans, even at annexation, the system of leasing villages to the proprietors or to lessees for fixed annual sums was found to prevail. If leased to the proprietors they