

Ajain Pal and Dharam Pal. While Ajain Pal was away on a pilgrimage, his father died and his birth-right was usurped by Dharam Pal. Finding himself expelled from his home he wandered to the Punjab with his son Sukh Pal, and settled at Babhaur on the Sutlej, in the Hoshiarpur district. His son moved on into the Kangra Hills, and was fortunate in securing the friendship of Sansar Chand, a Katoch Raja of that period, who gave him his daughter in marriage, and appointed him to rule over the country now known as Nadaun. The twentieth Raja after Sukh Pal, by name Jas Pal, is said to have been a powerful monarch, who made himself master of "the whole country west of the Sutlej", an evident exaggeration. This much may be said for Jas Pal, that he was the progenitor of one hundred and one Rajas, counting down to his representative now living at Kutlehr, and excluding younger sons who became chiefs on their own account out of the regular line. One of these, Gajendra Pal, second son of Raja Jas Pal, emigrated to the Simla Hills and founded the houses of Bhaji and Koti, still in existence as independent States.

Coming to modern facts, we find the Kutlehr Rajas holding Chanki Kutlehr, Man Khandi in Nadaun, and Talhati in Hoshiarpur, about the time of the first Mughal Invasion. The Emperors granted Sanads to the Rajas of Kutlehr addressing them as Rai, and recognising their rights in the above-named tracts on payment of a tribute of Rs. 1,600, and subject to their furnishing a contingent of forty horsemen and five hundred foot.

In later times the aggressions of the Katoch, Jaswal and Kahlur Rajas limited the Kutlehr possessions to their present small dimensions. This was immediately before the coming of the great Maharaja, who swallowed up all the Kangra kinglets with the utmost impartiality. Kutlehr had for years past maintained a precarious existence. In the time of the Katoch Chief Ghamand Chand, grandfather of Sansar Chand, one-half the principality had been annexed to Kangra, and during the zenith of Sansar Chand's power, the Kutlehr Raja became entirely dispossessed. But when Sansar Chand was pressed by the Gurkhas, Narayan Pal took the opportunity of recovering the Fort of Kotwal Bab, a hereditary stronghold on the second range of hills overhanging the Sutlej. Then came the Sikhs. In 1825 they laid siege to this fort for two months without making much progress, though they had more than one severe brush with the garrison, commanded by Raja Ghamand Chand in person. Finally,



Jamadar Khushhal Singh compounded by promising the Raja a jagir of Rs. 10,000, should be surrender without further fighting. These terms were accepted, and the Raja duly entered into the enjoyment of his allowances. This jagir comprised the tract called Charatgarh in the Jaswan Dun, Hoshiarpur. During the First Sikh War Raja Narayan Pal, Superintendent of Hill States, expelled at the instance of the the Sikh garrisons and seized Kotwal Bah. Later on, when the valley came to the British, he demanded the restoration of his Chauki Kutlehr property. This was refused; but in consideration of hopes which the Raja alleged had been held out to him by our officers when his alliance was a matter of consequence to us, he was awarded a life-grant of Rs. 10,000 in addition to the jugir of like value he had received from Maharaja Ranjit Singh, which was confirmed to the Raja and his heirs lawfully begotten for ever. An exchange of villages was subsequently effected with the object of giving the Raja a compact jagir in the Kangra district. The new villages were Tapas, Tira, Heru, Thara and Dhiungli in Hamirpur; and as their value exceeded that of the old villages by Rs 1,188, this sum was made payable by the Raja to Government as nazrana. Raja was also allowed three-fourths of the income of the forests within his jagir, subject to a small annual deduction. Raja Narayan Pal died in 1864. His property had become involved from various causes, and two years before his death it was taken over by the Court of Wards, and retained during the minority of the present Raja Ram Pal, which ceased in 1869. Ram Pal received a good education. His estate is well manage ed, and he is always forward in loyal offers of assistance to Government. He exercises criminal and civil judicial powers within the limits of his jagir. His income from miscellaneous sources is estimated at Rs. 1.200 including Rs. 200 paid him in lieu of forest fines, which are now wholly credited to Government. The Raja stands fifth on the local list of Provincial Darbaris. He was granted Sanads in the Darbar of 1877 and in the Delhi Darbar of 1903, and was made a C. S. I. in 1904. The title of Raja was conferred on the head of the family, as an hereditary distinction, in 1908. The Raja's brother Mian Gopal Pal is a Divisional Darbari. Tika Rajendra Pal, who was educated at the Aitchison College, Lahore, is an Extra Assistant Commissioner.

The jagir is exempt from process of attachment by the Civil Courts.

RAJA GAGAN SINGH, PATHANIA OF NURPUR.

RAJA MANDHATA. Raja Daya Datta.

Raja Pirthi Singh (died 1819). Indar Singh.
(died 1824),
vide family of Mian
Raghunath Singh of Reh.

Mian Bhoo Singh.

Mian Mohan Mangal.

Fatch Singh (died 1789).

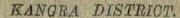
Raja Bir Singh (died 1846),

Raja Jaswant Singh (died 1898).

RAJA GAGAN SINGH (BOEN 1882). Udham Singh (born 1885).

Tika Devendra Singh (born 1901).

Raja Gagan Singh is the representative of the old Rajas of Nurpur, a small State to the west of Goler. The original founder was a Tawar Rajput, Jeth Pal, an emigrant from Delhi. About seven hundred years ago he established himself at Pathankot near Gurdaspur, whence his descendants are called Pathanias. Subsequently the family removed to the hills, probably for seclusion and safety, as the plains were open to incessant attacks. Nurpur became the capital in the reign of Raja Basu, about two hundred and fifty years ago. Between Jeth Pal, also known as Rana Bhet, and the present representative, thirty-one generations have elapsed. The boundaries of the old principality are retained almost entire in the British pargana of Nurpur. During the period of Muhammadan ascendency several members of this family were appointed to places of high trust, and deputed on hazardous expeditions in the service of the Empire. In the reign of Shahjahan, Raja Jagat Chand of Nurpur, at the head of a large body of Rajputs, raised in his own country, conducted a difficult enterprise against the Uzbegs of Balkh and Badakhshan; and in the early part of the reign of Aurangzeb, Raja Mandhata, grandson of Jagat Chand, was deputed to the charge of Bamian and Ghorband, on the western frontier of the Empire. After a lapse of twenty years he was a second time appointed to this honourable post, and created a Mansabdar of two thousand horse.





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In later times Raja Bir Singh of Nurpur fell a victim to Ranjit Singh's aggressions. At the commencement of the cold season of 1815 the Maharaja had appointed a grand rendezvous of all his forces, personal and tributary, at Sialkot. But Bir Singh failed to obey the summons. and as a penalty was fined a sum designedly fixed beyond his ability to pay. After vainly endeavouring to meet the demand, even, it is said, by the sale of his sacrificial vessels, Bir Singh found himself forced to quit his home. He crossed the border into Chamba, whither he was followed by many of his subjects and retainers, who voluntarily shared the bad fortunes of their old chief. Urged by some of the bolder spirits, he presently made a descent upon Nurpur, determined to strike one desperate blow for the recovery of his patrimony. But the tactics and resources of the simple hill chief were of no avail when opposed to the disciplined skill of veteran battalions. He was beaten, and forced to fly in disguise through unfrequented mountain paths to the British posts across the Sutlej.

1816 Bir Singh was at Ludhiana, plotting with Shah Shuja against the Government of Ranjit Singb, who considered their machinations of sufficient importance to make them matter of remonstrance with the British Agent. Bir Singh was requested to leave Ludhiana, as his presence there was objectionable to the Lahore Darbar with which we were on terms of amity. He retired to Arki in the Simla Hills, where he lived for ten years in constant correspondence with his Wazirs, never abandoning the hope of ultimate success. In 1826, encouraged probably by the dangerous illness of Ranjit Singh, he determined on another strucgle for his rights. Starting in the garb of a fakir be reached Fatehpur. a village of Nurpur, bordering on Haripur. The headman recognised the Raja in spite of his disguise, and basely betrayed his presence to the Sikh News was sent by express to Lahore that the hills were in rebellion; for when the arrival of their old chief was known the people rose to a man and joined his standard. Nurpur was invested; but within a week Sardar Desa Singh had arrived at the head of an overwhelming force, and Bir Singh was a second time obliged to seek refuge with the Chamba Raja, who handed the unfortunate man over to his enemies. He was sent to Gobindgarh, and there kept for seven years.

Bir Singh's wife was sister to Raja Charat Singh of Chamba and resided with her brother. At her solicitation, and in remorse for his own



conduct, Charat Singh ultimately ransomed the ex-Raja paying Rs. 85,000 for his release. Ranjit Singh offered him the jagir of Kathlot, a fertile district on the Ravi, just outside the hills, yielding Rs. 12,000; but Bir Singh refused to be pacified with anything less than his old dominions, and these the Maharaja had no intention of giving. He, however, fixed a maintenance allowance for Bir Singh's infant son Jaswant Singh, of Rs. 6,000 per annum, which his mother had the good sense to accept.

The last days of this Prince were worthy of his character and career. In 1846, when the British and Sikh forces were engaged on the banks of the Sutlej, Bir Singh again raised the banner of his race. He had been thirty years asserting his rights, and the present opportunity was not to be foregone. But the excitement proved too much for a frame broken by age and the vicissitudes of fortune; and he died before the walls of his fort at Nurpur, consoled by the assurance that his enemies were overthrown and his wrongs at last avenged. The gallant and obstinate resistance shown by Raja Bir Singh no doubt influenced, and perhaps may be held to palliate, the conduct of his successor towards the British Government. Yet the Raja's infant son could scarcely be regarded as responsible, although from the demeanour then assumed by his officials proceed. ed the misfortunes which subsequently fell upon him. All the other Kangra Rajas had stipends assigned them by Ranjit Singh, and their claims were easily disposed of by the British authorities. But the Raja of Nurpur never acquiesced in the seizure of his birth-right by the acceptance of a jagir. His case was therefore exceptional, and had to be treated on special grounds. The opposition which he had always made, and his repeated attempts to recover his territory, had given him and his advisers a bad name with the Sikhs, who regarded them as turbulent and dissatisfied; and no doubt this character was true, though justified in part by the treatment they had received. Acting upon these impressions Sir Henry Lawrence, Agent to the Governor-General, proposed a jagir of Rs. 20,000 for the young chief, on condition that he should not reside at Nurpur, which the officials, misled by false hopes, most foolishly and insolently refused. For a year the Raja remained without any provision, and in the interval John Lawrence, Commissioner, had lowered the offer by three-fourths; and this the Raja was ultimately obliged to accept.

On the outbreak of the Rebellion of 1848, Ram Singh, son of the Wazir of the ex-Raja, collected a band of adventurers from the neigh-



bouring Jammu Hills, suddenly crossed the Ravi and threw himself into the unoccupied fort of Shahpur. That night he received a congratulatory deputation from the neighbourhood, and proclaimed by beat of drum that the English rule had ceased; that Dalip Singh was the paramount power; Jaswant Singh, Raja of Nurpur, and he, Ram Singh, his minister. When the news reached Hoshiarpur a small force was hurried off to the spot and the fort invested. This promptitude frightened the rebels, who fled during the night and took up another position on a wooded range close to Nurpur. Shortly afterwards John Lawrence, Commissioner, and Barnes, the District Officer, came up with reinforcements and stormed the position. Ram Singh was routed and obliged to seek shelter in the camp of the Sikhs at Rasnl. During his occupation of the hills he had been joined by about four hundred men from the surrounding villages, some of them Rajputs of his own family, but principally idle, worthless characters who had nothing to lose.

In January, 1849, Ram Singh persuaded Raja Sher Singh to give him two Sikh regiments, each five hundred strong, and with them made a second irruption into the hills, taking up a position on the Dula heights. A force of all arms under General Wheeler marched to the attack, and the rebels were driven from their fastness with considerable slaughter, though not without loss to the British troops. Ram Singh was taken prisoner and transported to Singapore. But Raja Jaswant Singh was at that time a boy of ten years, and of course in no way responsible for what had happened. In 1861 when the matter of the family allowances was reconsidered on the death of his step-mother, the Raja's pension of Rs. 5,000 per annum was doubled, apparently upon representations made on his behalf in 1854 by the Deputy Commissioner. These were based upon the antecedents of the family, and must have gained strength by the Raja's loyal behaviour during the Mutiny.

In 1867, a part of the Raja's pension was converted into a small agir, consisting of the village of Baranda Ghandwal, yielding Rs. 2,138 in the Nurpur Tahsil, the balance Rs. 7,862 being paid to him as a cash pension. The Raja possesses nearly five hundred acres, revenue-free, of forest and cultivated lands in the Chatroli, Khani, Chach and Ghin Lagor villages of Nurpur. The Kach lands, with a garden called Machi Bhawan, were assigned to him in consideration of his loyal behaviour during the rebellion of 1857. He also holds in proprietary right about

four hundred and fifty acres in village Bhadwar, Tahsil Nurpur.

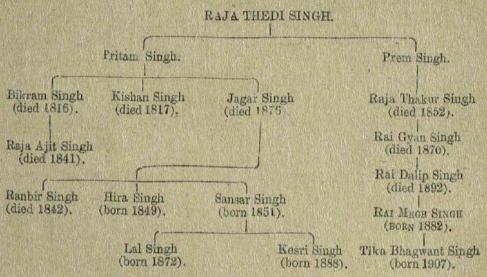
Mian Raghunath Singh, Zaildar of Kharian, and Mian Jagat Singh are also members of the family and hold small jagirs. Raghunath Singh is the descendant of Indar Singh, second son of Raja Daya Dutta who separated from his brother Pirthi Singh upwards of a hundred years ago. The jagir held by Jagat Singh was granted to his grandfather, Wazir Suchet Singh, for services rendered during the Mutiny. It consists of 2,692 acres, yielding about Rs. 1,050, in the villages of Malak, Pundar and Bhadwar, Tahsil Nurpur. Hira Singh, father of Jagat Singh, was a Divisional Darbari.

When Raja Jaswant Singh died in 1898 the present Raja Gagan Singh was a minor and the estate was taken over by the Court of Wards for three years. The Raja, who was educated at the Chiefs' College, Lahore, is a Magistrate and Munsif of the second class. He is the sixth Provincial Darbari of the Kangra District. As head of one of the old Rajput families, he was granted the title of Raja as an hereditary distinction in 1908. His brother, Mian Udham Singh, is a Jamadar in the Army. The jagir is exempt from attachment by process of the Civil Courts.



KANGRA DISTRICT.

RAI MEGH SINGH OF KULU.



Rai Megh Singh, Jagirdar of Waziri Rupi, is the representative of the old Rajas of Kulu. Tradition describes Sudh Singh, founder of the house, as a young Rajput, the banished son of a Raja of Miapuri in Hindustan, wandering in search of adventure, and fortunate in having secured the good graces of a goddess of local fame, with whose assistance he succeeded in overthrowing some unpopular Thakurs and making himself king in their This is the story of their origin put forward by the present stead. The other theory is that Sudh Singh was a peasant of greater chiefs. intelligence and energy than his fellows, and pushed himself into the front rank on some occasion which necessitated the selection of a leader for the common weal. But all are agreed that there was a man named Sudh Singh who raised Kulu to the status of a kingdom, and whose children have since ruled under the designation of the Koli Rajas. Singh's connection with the Waziri Rupi and Parol country dates back about four hundred years. There was at first a struggle for existence. Then succeeded a period of prosperity, when the Kulu Rajas took the lead in hill politics, and made their power felt along the Sutlej in the far Bashahr country and in Lahaul, as well as lower down the Beas and in the upper Kangra Valley. Finally came the fall before Sikh supremacy, and amalgamation with Lahore, forced upon all the Rajput States north and west of the Sutlei.



The Mughals who established themselves as the supreme power in Akbar's reign interfered little with the hill states so long as the gross tribute levied on the chiefs was paid with tolerable punctuality. But the absence of fighting or disturbance of boundaries of the principalities in Kulu, which distinguishes the reigns of Raja Bahadur Singh's four successors, has probably something to do with the general subjection of the Rajputs to the Delhi Emperors. Rai Megh Singh, the present Chief, possesses copies of orders sent by the Emperors to his ancestors, in which they are addressed as "Zamindars of Kulu." This is fair evidence of the estimation in which these kinglets were held by the Muhammadan rulers of Hindustan.

A second period in Kulu history begins with the conquest of Lag by Raja Jagat Singh in concert with the Raja of Mandi, early in the seventeenth century. The Lagwalti Raja possessed Kohar and Sawar in Chota Bangahal as well as all the slopes to the Ul River from the outer Himalaya, now included in the Mandi State, and the country known as Mandi Sahraj. This latter territory fell to the Mandi Raja's share, while what remained was kept by the Raja of Kulu, who shortly afterwards annexed Srigarh and Narayangarh on Suket side. Lahanl was added by Bidhi Singh, son of Raja Jagat Singh, and he also wrested Dhol and Kandi from the Raja of Bashahr. He was succeeded by his son Raja Man Singh, in whose time the fortunes of the Kulu Raj reached their highest pitch. He continued to plunder Bashahr, and eventually annexed Sangri, and took tribute from other petty states, such as Kumharsen and Kotguru, now in the Simla district. Man Singh made himself for ever infamous by condoning the Mandi Raja's assassination of his own son-in-law Pirthi Pal, last Raja of Bangabal, whose sister he (Man Singh) had married, and by accepting as the price of his forbearance, a considerable slice of the kingdom which his murderer had seized. Then he quarrelled with Mandi and took possession of the salt mines at Goma and Dirang, enjoying the revenues for some years. He finally met his death at the hands of the Kumharsen Raja, with whom he had always been on bad terms.

The period of decline begins with a revolt organized against Raja Man Singh's grandson Jai Singh by one of the Dayal Wazirs, who had been banished the country. This family always figured very prominently in Kulu history, and has influence to this day. The result was that Jai Singh was expelled, and his brother Thedi Singh put on the throne.



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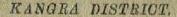
Mandi took advantage of the confusion to seize the greater part of the Choar country; and everything portended a speedy break up of the Kulu Raj, when Thedi Singh resolved upon a desperate measure for recovering the power which, under the Wazirs, had oozed out of his hands. He invited the leading Dayals and their adherents to a royal banquet, and having made them well drunk with drugged liquor, slew them one and all to the number of three bundred and over. This proceeding had the effect of clearing the political atmosphere for some time, and Thedi passed the rest of his days in the undisputed enjoyment of his patrimony. He was followed by his son Pritam Singh, in whose time the power of the Mughals melted away, and anarchy began to show signs of spreading over the land. The Gurkhas in those days issued from their hills and spread along the Himalayan slopes to the edge of the Sutlej; while beyond, to the Ravi, all the Rajputs had become tributary to Sansar Chand Katoch of Kangra. The Kulu Rajas paid tribute to the Gurkhas for Sangri, and to Sansar Chand for Kulu proper; but their geographical position was in itself a protection from the levy of exactions which would have been difficult to realise, and they passed, on the whole, a tolerably independent existence. Their troubles, however, were all before them. They were about to encounter the Sikhs, a nation in those days united and powerful, which no combination of hill chiefs could withstand.

Kangra was invaded by the Gurkhas in 1806, and three years after Sansar Chand, in desperation, sought the assistance of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. In doing so he was unwittingly signing the death-warrant of his own and every Rajput State in Kangra. The Gurkhas were indeed driven back; but Ranjit Singh retained his hold on the hills. Kulu suffered in common with its neighbours. An official of the Khalsa was sent to ask for tribute, and he returned to Lahore with Rs. 40,000. Three years later, when a second demand was evaded, Diwan Mohkam Chand promptly arrived with a following strong enough to enforce it. Rs. 50,000 was the sum named. The Raja urged it was beyond his means, but the Sikhs insisted and took possession of his dwelling at Sultanpur forcing him to fly for safety to the mountains. Eventually the unfortunate prince raised the money and induced his visitors to retire. About this time (1814-15) the Gurkhas were driven back into Nepal by the English, and the Governor-General granted a Sanad for Sangri to the Raja who, like the other Cis-Sutlej hill chiefs, had taken side against the Gurkhas. In 1816 the chiefship was assumed by Ajit Singh, an illegitimate



son of the last Raja Bikram Singh. The succession was disputed by his uncle Kishan Singh, who, with the aid of Raja Sansar Chand, collected a large force in the Katoch country wherewith to invade Kulu. But he was repulsed twice with heavy loss, and was made prisoner on the second occasion with most of his followers, owing to the defection of the Raja of Mandi, who basely went over to the other side at a critical moment in the fight. The Katoch men were stripped naked and sent back over the mountains to their homes, while Kishan Singh died shortly afterwards with mysterious suddenness.

In 1839 a Sikh force was sent under General Ventura against the neighbouring State of Mandi. It met with only slight resistance, and the Raja was made prisoner and sent to Amritsar. Having penetrated so far into the hills, the opportunity of exploring farther was too good to be lost; so on the pretext that Kulu had shown a disposition to help Mandi, a force under the Sindhanwalia Sardar was sent up the Beas. No resistance was made, and the Raja beguiled by fair promises, and wishing to save Sultanpur and his palace from another sack, allowed himself to be made a prisoner; whereupon the Sikhs set about making themselves comfortable in the country they had practically annexed. As the quickest means of reducing the hill forts of Sahraj, the prisoner Raja was made to march with the army, and personally order the surrender of such as desired to hold out in his name. He was not treated with even common courtesy; and his guards went the length of dragging him about by the beard and offering other indignities to his person whenever it was deemed expedient to hasten the movements of the villagers, who almost worshipped their king, in the supply of food and money. This brutal treatment met with a severe punishment. The hillmen, who could have borne much on their own account, boiled over with fury at the thought of a suffering Raja. A plot to rescue the unhappy chief was devised by Kapuru, Wazir of Sabraj, head of a branch of the Dayals. A sort of fiery cross was sent round, and men were secretly mustered from all parts of the country. The Sikh force was probably about one thousand strong. It had done its work, and had returned from outer Sahraj by the Basleo Pass. A little way below the fort of Tang, the road, a mere foot-path, ran along the bank of a wooded ravine; and here the Sahrajis lay in ambush and awaited the Sikhs, who came marching along in single file, undisturbed by any feeling of insecurity. When



that part of the line which guarded the Raja came opposite the enemy, a sudden rush was made, a few men cut down, and the Raja caught up and carried swiftly up the mountain side. At the same time, all along the line, rocks were rolled down and shots fired from above at the Sikhs, who were seized with a panic and fell back upon the fort of Tang. Here they remained two days until they were forced to move out by the failure of provisions. They were attacked again as they marched down the valley, and made slow progress. At last they struck up the mountain side, hoping to reach uncommanded ground and secure supplies in the villages above. But they did not know the country, and only got on to a particularly barren, steep and rugged hill side, where they could barely keep their footing, and did not find even water to drink. The light and active hillmen kept above them wherever they went, knocking over some with rocks, and driving others like sheep over the precipices. After a night spent in this way the miserable remnaut were forced down again into the valley, and there induced to give up their arms on the promise that their lives should be spared. It is said that four or five men of low caste, dressed as Brahmins, entered the rough entrenchment which the Sikhs had thrown up, and with their hands on a cow's tail, swore that the lives of the Sikhs should be spared. But no sooner were they disarmed than the Sahrajis set upon them and massacred them without pity. One or two camp followers, not regular soldiers, were the only survivors.

At the news of this triumph, which occurred in the spring of 1840, some of the Kulu people gathered on the hills round Sultanpur and made an attempt to rescue the two Ranis who were detained in the palace; but the Sikhs easily repulsed them. Ajit Singh, the rescued Raja, retired across the Sutlej to Sangri. Here he knew he would be safe from the revenge the Sikhs were sure to take on the Sahrajis; for the Sutlej was the boundary line between the Sikh and English governments, and the Raja held Sangri from the latter.

A Sikh force marched to Sahraj shortly afterwards, and found the country completely deserted; every soul had fled into inaccessible places, in the forests high up the mountain sides. After burning and plundering some villages they retired and handed over the country in farm to the Raja of Mandi at an annual rental of Rs. 32,000.

In Kulu, however, a force was retained, and a Kardar appointed to manage the revenue. In the autumn of 1841, the two Ranis escaped from their prison in the palace by a passage which they had secretly dug out under the walls, and fied to the mountains. They were on their way to join the Raja at Sangri when they heard the news of his death, which happened there in September, 1841. Instead of going on to be burnt with his remains according to the custom of the family, they returned to the palace at Sultanpur, and began intrigues with regard to the choice of a successor.

The Sikhs at this time seem to have intended to give up Kulu, and to instal as Raja some one of the family who should hold the country on a heavy tribute. Maharaja Sher Singh, who had succeeded Ranjit Singh about two years previously, had been much in these hills, and was inclined to be lenient towards the chiefs. When Ajit Singh died at Sangri, Mr. Erskine, the Superintendent of the Simla Hill States, reported in favour of Ranbir Singh, infant son of Mian Jagar Singh, who had accompanied his first cousin Ajit Singh to Sangri. Jagar Singh was passed over as being defective in intellect. The Ranis sent for Jagar Singh's child to Sultanpur, and the Sikh officials there admitted his claim, and wished to send him to Lahore to receive investiture. But on the way, at Mandi, he fell sick and died. Thakur Singh, a first cousin of Jagar Singh, was then made Raja and given the Waziri Rupi in jagir. The whole country was offered to him on a heavy tribute; but he was a dull and timid man, and refused the responsibility. Sangri ultimately remained in possession of the imbecile Jagar Singh.

Three or four years later, in 1846, at the close of the First Sikh War, the Trans-Sutlej territory, namely, the Jullundar Doab and the hill country between the Sutlej and Ravi, was ceded to the British Government. Kulu with Lahaul and Spiti became a Tahsil of the new district of Kangra. Thakur Singh was confirmed in his title of Raja and allowed to exercise sovereign powers within his jagir of Rupi. Jagar Singh of Sangri claimed the estate, but was told to rest content with what he had received.

On Thakur Singh's death in 1852, there was some question whether the whole jagir should not be resumed, as the mother of his only son Gyan Singh was not a wife. It was decided to give Gyan Singh the title of Rai instead of Raja, and only half the jagir, with no political



powers; but three years later, on a reconsideration of his claims, the resumed half was restored. Government, however, gave him no judicial or executive powers, and reserved the right to fell timber in the whole

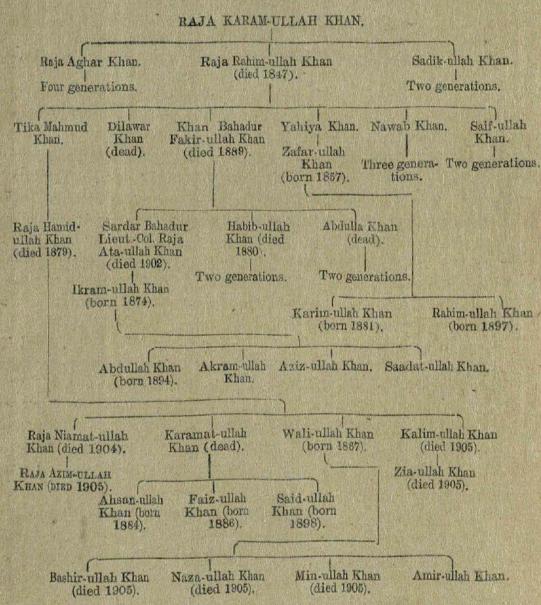
jagir.

Rai Gyan Singh died in 1870, and the succession to the jagir devolved on his son Rai Dalip Singh. He was a minor at the time of his father's death, and the estate, which was then encumbered, was managed under the Court of Wards until 1883, when it was made over to Dalip Singh, greatly improved and free of debt. The jagir, which comprises the villages of Kot Kandi, Chung Harkandi, Kanawar, Bahlan and Sainsar in Kulu, was brought under settlement in 1876-77, and the assessment fixed at Rs. 10,000. The Jagirdar's rights were declared to be those of a superior proprietor. The valuable timber forests situated within the limits of the jagir are reserved as the exclusive property of Government. The jagir contains a great number of subordinate rent-free tenures held under the grantee, who estimates their yield at Rs. 2,000 per annum. Rai Dalip Singh was a member of the Kangra District Board and of the Kulu Local Board, and was allied by marriage with the Nadaun and Mandi Rajas. He died in 1892 and left a son Megh Singh, aged 10 years, who was educated at the Aitchison College. The estate was taken under the Court of Wards until Rai Megh Singh came of age in 1903. He is the seventh Provincial Darbari of the Kangra District, and exercises the powers of a Magistrate and Munsif of the second class. The estate was cleared of debt by the Court of Wards and left with a balance in hand of Rs. 20,000. The Rai married a daughter of Kunwar Bhagwan Chand of Nala Gadh.

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OHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

THE LATE RAJA AZIM-ULLAH KHAN OF REHLU.



Rajas of Rajauri, which was held by them in sovereignty up to the year 1841. The last ruling chief was Rahim-ullah Khan, who on suspicion of attempting the life of the Maharaja Gulab Singh was sent prisoner to Gobindgarh and his lands taken over by the Sikhs. He was shortly afterwards set at liberty; but his country remained with Gulab Singh



and formed part of the territory confirmed to him under the treaty of March, 1846. Fakir-ullah Khan, son of Rahim-ullah, took an active part in conjunction with Nawab Imam-ud-din Khan, then Governor of Kashmir, in resisting surrender of possession to the Maharaja. But his efforts were fruitless. He was exiled to Rehlu in Kangra, where his descendants now live as semi-foreigners, never having been heartily received by the indigenous Rajput princes.

The family were originally Hindus. They claim descent from Raja Jir Rao, a Jiral Rajput of the stock of the Mahabharat Pandavs. They emigrated from Kalanaur many years ago, and after long wanderings and varied fortune, settled down in Rajauri and created bit by bit the kingdom from which the Sikhs ultimately expelled them. They probably changed their faith in the early days of Muhammadan conquest; and they appear to have accepted fiefship under the Mughals without murmur, and even to have assisted them in conquering and holding the country, Raja Mast Khan received lands yielding a revenue of Rs. 50,000 from Akbar for services rendered in connection with the conquest of Kashmir; and some years later Raja Taj Khan gave his daughter Rajbai in marriage to Aurangzeb, who made a short stay at Rajauri in the course of a pleasure-trip to Kashmir. Rajbai bore a son, Bahadur Shah, who succeeded to the throne of Delhi. The Mughal prefix of Mirza, used by the younger members of the family, is said to have originated from this connection with the royal house.

Inayat-ullah Khan, grandson of Taj Khan, was made a Panjharari or Governor, and appointed to the charge of Ghorband on the western frontier. He was granted Punch, Bhimbar and certain other tracts. He laid out handsome gardens at Rajauri, built a palace and a sarai at Inayatpur, and forts at Naushahra and Manuwar. His grandson Rafi-ullah Khan quarrelled with Raja Dharb Dev of Jammu over a boundary dispute and in the fight which ensued he worsted the Raja and beat him back to his capital. To commemorate the victory he removed some bricks from the Mandi Palace at Jammu and placed them in the walls of his own house at Rajauri, whence they are said to have been removed and restored to their original position by Maharaja Gulab Singh. After Rafi-ullah the Rajauri power began to decline. His successor Asmat-ullah had been brought up in luxury at Delhi and was enervated and unfitted to give and take the hard knocks which were the portion of a ruler in those days. Early in

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the eighteenth century the Rajauri Rajas were being worsted on all sides. Manawar was seized by Jammu, the people of Bhimbar and Karial openly refused to pay revenue, and the outlying districts transferred their allegiance to chiefs better able to guarantee them a peaceful existence. Raja Karam-ullah was a man of energy and ambition, and might have restored the family fortunes; but he was persistently crushed and kept under by Sardar Abdullah Khan, whom Timur had appointed Governor of Kashmir. Abdullah had reason to be angry with Karam-ullah for the latter refused him his daughter in marriage. Then came Karam-ullah's son Aghar Khan, who was unfortunate in having to resist the attempt of Maharaja Ranjit Singh in 1813 to seize Rajauri. He fled and was captured, and died in prison. Raja Karam-ullah Khan's second son Rahim-ullah Khan was allowed a jagir of Rs. 12,000. He made friends with the Maharaja and was employed in many military expeditions, including one against Kashmir which proved successful, and for which he received a jagir worth Rs. 50,000. This was held by him until his expatriation in 1841.

Rahim-nllah rendered service to the British Government during the First Afghan War by sending his son Yahiya Khan, under Maharaja Ranjit Singh's orders, with a force of about one thousand men to keep the road open between Peshawar and Ali Masjid. But in the Sikh Wars he sided against the English, and fought with our enemies at Ferozepore and Ferozeshah. He died shortly after settling at Rehln, and was succeeded by his grandson Hamid-ullah Khan. His third son Fakir-ullah Khan took up his residence at Wazirabad in Gujranwala and died there in 1889. His descendants are noticed below.

Zafar-ullah Khan, son of Yahiya Khan, is an Extra Assistant Commissioner and a Divisional Darbari of the Gujranwala District.

Since annexation the family has always evinced a spirit of active loyalty. During the Mutiny, Hamid-ullah Khan, grandson of Raja Rahim-ullah Khan, furnished levies who were employed in Hoshiarpur, Kulu, Kangra and Dharmsala, under the orders of men of the Rajauri clan. They behaved in an exemplary way, and a relation of Hamid-ullah Khan had charge of all the posts of trust at Dharmsala. His uncle Nawab Khan fought on our side at Multan, and accompanied General Taylor with a body of retainers when that officer proceeded to Nurpur to disarm a wing of the 4th Native Infantry. In recognition of these



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services Hamid-ullah Khan received a khilat of Rs. 1,000 and the title of Raja Bahadur, while a khilat of Rs. 500 was conferred upon Nawab Khan.

The pension of Rs. 16,000 which had been assigned to the family was subsequently converted into a jagir of eight villages in the Kangra Tahsil. The pension had been divided as follows:—

Hamid-ullah Khan		 Rs.	5,000
Fakir-ullah Khan	70 S.	 ,,	3,300
Yahiya Khan		33	2,800
Nawab Khan		 3,	2,500
Saif-ullah Khan		33	2,400

The jagirs are held by the original sharers or their heirs in the above proportions. The income is realised by the head of the family and distributed by him to the several recipients. Succession is regulated by the Muhammadan law of inheritance, as modified by the rules prescribed for the conquest tenure jagirdars of the Punjab.

Hamid-ullah Khan took service under Government, and died as an Extra Assistant Commissioner in 1879. He was succeeded by his son Niamat-ullah Khan, who was given the title of Raja as a personal distinction and made an Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner. Niamat-ullah Khan was a Divisional Darbari, and his younger brother Karamat-ullah Khan was a Tahsildar. To enable him to pay off the large debts left by his father, Niamat-ullah Khan obtained and subsequently repaid a State loan of Rs. 29,000. He died in 1904 and his son Raja Azim-ullah Khan, who succeeded him, was killed with many of his relatives in the earthquake of 1905, when the old fort at Rehlu was practically destroyed. No one has yet succeeded to the family seat in Darbar.

Mirza Fakir-ullah Khan, as the head of a separate branch, deserves some further notice. He was an Honorary Magistrate at Wazirabad and a Provincial Darbari of Gujranwala; and for services as Magistrate he received the title of Khan Bahadur in 1877. He died in 1889. His eldest son Ata-ullah Khan was appointed Risaldar of Irregular Cavalry and with twenty-five men of his own clan joined Hodson's Horse at Delhi, serving with credit throughout the Mutiny. He was also in Abyssinia, and took part in the second Afghan War, receiving the Orders of Merit and of British India. In special acknowledgment of his services, a grant of six hundred acres in Rukhanwala, Tahsil Kasur, Lahore, was made to him and his heirs in perpetuity. He was subsequently promoted to the hona-



rary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in his Regiment, the 10th Bengal Lancers, and held the important post of British Envoy at Kabul on a salary of Rs. 13,000 per annum. For his services at Kabul he was granted the personal title of Raja. He died in 1902 and his son, Ikram-ullah Khan, who is an Honorary Magistrate in Gujranwala, has been granted his father's seat in Provincial Darbars.

Ata-ullah Khan, younger brother of Abdullah Khan, who entered the service with him was Risaldar-Major in the same Regiment; his son Khalil-ullah Khan is a Jamadar and his step-son Ghulam Ahmad Khan was a Risaldar in the 9th Bengal Lancers. Mirza Fakir-ullah Khan owned four hundred and thirty-two acres in the Mitranwali and Nika Khel villages, Tahsil Daska, Sialkot, and about one hundred acres in Radala, Tahsil Wazirabad, Gujranwala.

The jagir at present amounts to about Rs. 17,000 and is distributed as follows:—

		Rs.
M. Ikram-ullah Khan		2,997
M. Zafar-ullah Khan		8,507
M. Azmat-ullah Khan an grandsons of Nawab	d Amin-ullah Khan, Khan	851
M. Firoz-ud-din Khan, so	n of Nawab Khan	1,878
M. Nasir-ullah Khan, sor	of Saif-ullah Khan	1,273
M. Amanat-ullah Khan	ditto	909
M. Inayat-ullah Khan	ditto	824
A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	- Total	. 11,744

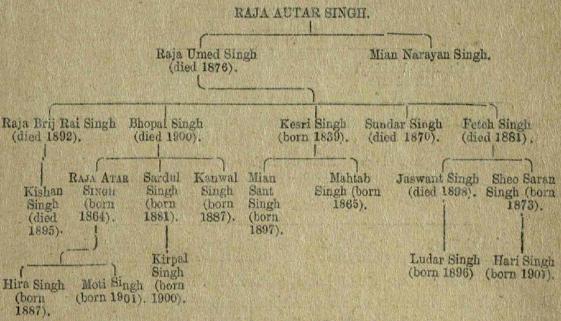
The amount to be given to M. Ahsan-ullah Khan son of Karamat-ullah Khan and to M. Wali-ullah Khan has not yet been finally settled.

The following members of the family are in civil employ under Government:-

Mirzas Zafar-ullah Khan and Amin-ullah Khan (grandsons of Nawab Khan) are Extra Assistant Commissioners, M. Asad-ullah Khan was a Tahsildar who retired after nearly forty years service in 1908, M. Inayat-ullah Khan and Fateh-ullah Khan, Naib-Tahsildars, M. Wali-ullah Khan an Inspector of Police, and Hafiz-ullah Khan is in the office of the Deputy Commissioner of Kangra. Of these, Asad-ullah Khan, Fateh-ullah Khan, and Hafiz-ullah Khan are descendants of Raja Aghar Khan.



RAJA ATAR SINGH, BHADWAL, OF TILOKPUR.



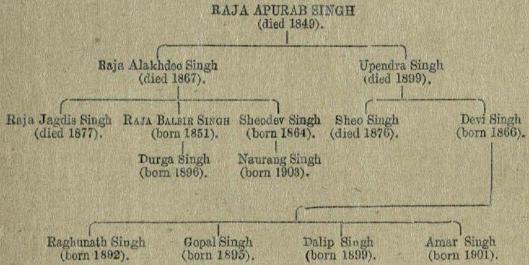
Raja Atar Singh, the twelfth Provincial Darbari of the Kangra District, is the descendant of the ex-Rajas of Bhadu in Kashmir. His uncle Brij Rai Singh elected to reside in British territory on the cession of that country to Maharaja Gulab Singh, receiving perpetual cash pensions from Government in lieu of lands ceded for this special purpose by the Maharaja.

The pension for the Bhadwal family was fixed at Rs. 5,000 per annum. Of this sum Rs. 500 were allotted to Bir Singh, the younger brother of Autar Singh, who was the first pensioner, as the former chose to remain in Kashmir. The balance is paid to Autar Singh's descendants, of whom Atar Singh is the present head. When a dispute arose some years ago regarding the distribution of the shares among the brothers, an authoritative partition was effected. The pension is now drawn by the present Raja Atar Singh and shared by him with his consins and the widows of the family.

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CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

RAJA BALBIR SINGH, MANKOTIA.



Raja Balbir Singh, Mankotia, a Provincial Darbari of the Kangra District, is the grandson of Rai or Raja Apurab Singh of Mankot, who left Kashmir on its cession to Maharaja Gulab Singh, and was granted a perpetual pension of Rs. 1,500 in lieu of land annexed to British Territory. The family has settled in the jagir of the Raja of Kutlehr with whom they are allied by marriage.

Balbir Singh was a Risaldar in the 13th Bengal Lancers and receives an annual pension of Rs. 360. M ian Sheodev Singh, his younger brother, is Risaldar on Rs. 200 per mensem.



KANGRA DISTRICT.

MIAN AMAR SINGH, KISHTWARIA OF TILOKPUR.

RAJA TEGH SINGH.

Jaimal Singh (died 1871).

Zorawar Singh (died 1873).

Dilawar Singh (died 1890).

Sardar Singh Mian Amar Singh (died 1891). (BORN 1883).

Mian Amar Singh is the son of Mian Dilawar Singh and the grandson of Raja Tegh Singh of Kishtwar in Kashmir, who elected to leave his home when the country was made over to Maharaja Gulab Singh. As in the cases of the other Rajput exiles, an allowance was fixed for the maintenance of this family, to be paid by the British Government from the revenues of certain lands assigned by the Jammu Darbar.

A pension of Rs. 3,000 per annum was granted to the three sons of Raja Tegh Singh in the following proportion:—

 Jaimal Singh
 ...
 ...
 Rs. 1,380

 Zorawar Singh
 ...
 ...
 ,, 1,380

 Dilawar Singh
 ...
 ...
 ...
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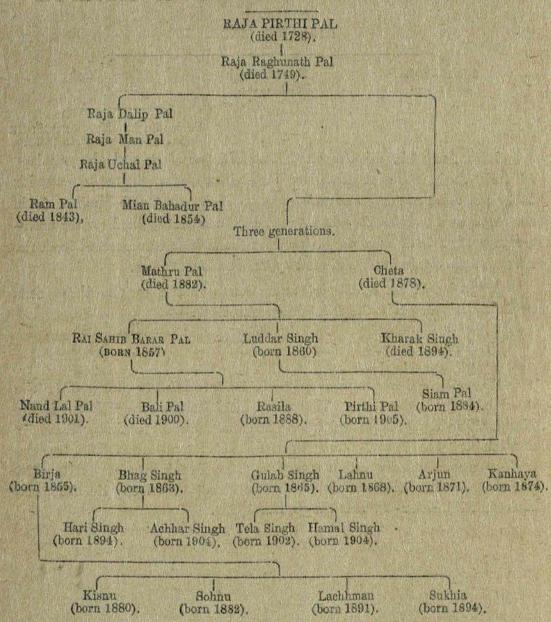
The whole allowance passed over in 1875 to Dilawar Singh after the death of his elder brothers. He resided at Tilokpur, near Kotla, in the Nurpur Tahsil. Though originally Hindus and still retaining the suffix of "Singh," the family have professed the Muhammadan faith for the last seven generations. Mian Amar Singh receives a pension of Rs. 750 per annum. Lal Devi, widow of Sardar Singh, receives Rs. 750, and Hussain Bibi, sister of Amar Singh, Rs. 1,500.

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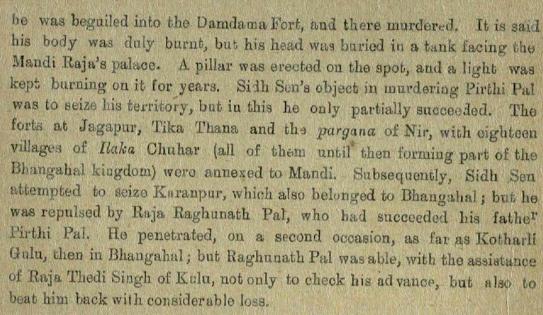
CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

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RAI SAHIB BARAR PAL OF BIR.



Rai Sahib Barar Pal, Kotwal (or Zaildar) of Bir, is a descendant of the Rajas of Bhangahal, who appear to have maintained their rights until the time of Raja Pirthi Pal in the early part of the eighteenth century. Raja Pirthi Pal fell a victim to his father-in-law Raja Sidh Sen, who, in 1728, invited him to Mandi on the pretext of seeking his assistance against the Raja of Suket. He was kindly received, but within a month of his arrival



The Mughal Emperors always appreciated the loyalty of the Bhangahal Chiefs, and when news of the repeated aggressions of the Mandi Raja on Bhangahal reached the Emperor at Delhi, he deputed Adina Beg, Governor of Juliandur, to drive him off. But the Khan died on the road at Dinanagar in 1732. The affair ended unfortunately for Raghunath Pal, who went to meet the Governor, as Sham Sher Singh, then Raja of Mandi, took advantage of his absence to seize the much-coveted Ilaka of Karanpur.

Raghunath Pal died in 1749, and was succeeded by his son Dalip Pal, whose reign was rendered memorable by a combined, though unsuccessful, attack made on Bhangahal by the Rajas of Mandi, Kulu, Kahlur, Nalagarh Goler and Jaswan. The united forces of these chiefs encamped at Tika Changar, and made an attempt to capture the Raja and his brother Mian Bhim Pal, but were eventually driven back with great loss. The Raja commemorated the victory by erecting several mounds composed of the heads of his slaughtered foes. One of these mounds exists in the pine forest in Bir, and another stands on the banks of the Pun river within the limits of Bhangahal.

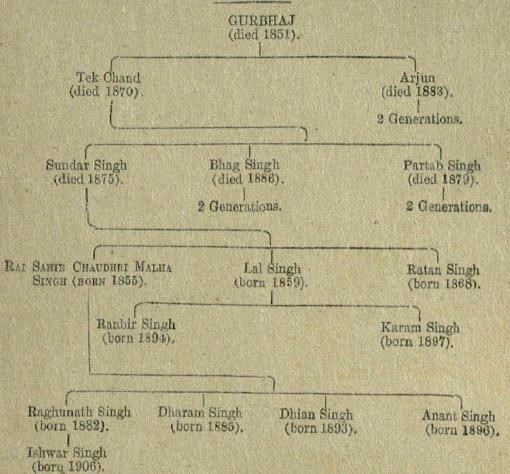
Taluka Bir was annexed in 1749 by the Raja of Kulu shortly before the death of Dalip Pal, whose son Man Pal succeeded only to the Talukas of Land and Paprola. He died on his way to Delhi, whither he was proceeding with the object of enlisting the sympathies of the Mughal

Emperor in an attempt he intended to make for the recovery of his patrimony. The Rajas of Kangra and Goler took advantage of Man Pal's absence to seize villages and lands; Kangra appropriating Lanod and Paprola, and Goler the remaining property. Man Pal's widow and her infant son Uchal Pal sought refuge at Rehlu with Raja Rai Singh of Chamba, who gave her a home and allowed her a small jagir. In 1785, when Raja Sansar Chand of Kangra married a daughter of Man Pal, he lent Uchal Pal a small force to help him in recovering his lands from the Mandi Raja. This latter chief had recourse to stratagem. He bought off Sansar Chand's principal officer and persuaded Raja Rai Singh of Chamba to carry war into the Katoch dominions. When Sansar Chand found that Rai Singh had advanced within a short distance of Kangra, he had to muster all his available forces, including the portion he had lent to Uchal Pal. After the battle of Nerti, in which Raja Rai Singh was defeated and killed, the Mandi and Kulu Rajas secured themselves in possession of Bhangahal by paying Sansar Chand five lakhs of rupees. Some time after this Uchal Pal died, leaving three sons and a daughter. who lived under Sansar Chand's protection. The girl subsequently married the Raja of Siba. Ram Pal, eldest son of Uchal Pal, died childless in 1843. The efforts of Bahadur Pal, his younger brother, to recover the family estate were always opposed by the Raja of Mandi. Mathru, father of Barar Pal, the present representative, succeeded in obtaining from the British Government a pension of Rs. 500 per annum for his cousin Mian Bahadur Pal, and this he enjoyed until his death in 1854.

Barar Pal was given the title of Rai Sahib in 1895. He is a Divisional Darbari, Lambardar and Kotwal of his circle, and a member of the Local and District Boards. His family hold eighty acres as proprietors in Bir Bhangahal and Bir, yielding Rs. 2,200 per annum.



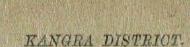
RAI SAHIB CHAUDHRI MALLA SINGH OF INDAURA.



Chaudhri Malha Singh is the head of the Indauria clan of Rajputs, and possesses considerable local influence.

The family claim descent from Raja Indu Chand, a Katoch Prince. About two hundred years ago Malla Chand, grandson of Indu Chand, left the Trigart country and settled in the valley of the Beas to the south-east of Nurpur. He founded the villages of Indpur and Indaura, calling them after his grandfather. Chaudhri Gurbhaj, the great-grandfather of the present Chaudhri, was kindly received by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who granted him the villages of Shahpur in Gurdaspur, and Hajipur in the Hoshiarpur District. When the Raja of Nurpur was deprived of his territory, Ranjit Singh employed Gurbhaj in its management. It was in his time that the country passed into the hands of the British; and he was among those who helped us at the time of annexation. The village of Chanaur in Nurpur, of the value of Rs. 1,000, was granted to him revenue-free.

His son Tek Chand rendered good service during the rebellion of 1848-49. and again in the Mutiny, when he assisted in the capture of rebels, and furnished a number of men for patrol duty. In acknowledgment of these services the village of Chanaur was conferred upon him and his male heirs in perpetual tenure, subject to the usual conditions of service and good conduct. Tek Chand was succeeded in the Chaudhrayat by his son Sundar Singh, who, however, died soon afterwards, leaving his son Malha Singh, the present Chaudhri. He is a Kotwal and member of the Local and District Boards. The family owns about 9,000 acres of land in ten villages of the Nurpur Tahsil, yielding about Rs. 3,000 per annum, and in addition to this Chaudhri Malha Singh was granted 10 squares of land in the Chenab Canal Colony in 1900. He is Sub-Registrar of Indaura and his jagir is exempt from attachment by process of the Civil Courts. He received the title of Rai Sahib in 1906 and was made a Provincial Darbari in the same year. His eldest son Raghunath Singh was in 1907, appointed Sarbarah Zaildar.



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MAIN DEVI CHAND OF BIJAPUR.

NARPAT CHAND.

Parag Chand.

Agar Chand (died 1732).

Nigahi Chand (died 1796).

Molak Chand (died 1874).

Mordhaj Chand (died 1887).

DEVI CHAND (BORN 1881).

Mian Devi Chand, a Divisional Darbari, is the representative of a branch of the Katoch dynasty, which is descended from Narpat Chand, a nephew of Raja Bhim Chand of Kangra. About two hundred and fifty years ago Raja Bhim Chand gave Narpat Chand a jagir of the value of Rs. 20,000. When Narpat Chand died the jagir was continued to his four sons in equal shares. On the death of one of them without issue, his portion was resumed by the Raja, but the descendants of the others enjoyed their shares until the conquest of Kangra by Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who confiscated the whole. Subsequently, Mian Molak Chand, representing the younger branch, had Rs. 2,000 of his jagir restored to him, and this is now enjoyed by his grandson Devi Chand. Molak Chand originally received an assignment in Mahal Mori in lieu of that in Rajgiri, and a cash grant in lieu of that in Changar Bhaliar, but he had actual possession of the present jagir from the time it was granted to him. Molak Chand was one of the few Katoches of rank who took no part in the rebellion raised by Parmodh Chand. He adhered to the British under circumstances peculiarly trying, his house having been plundered and burnt down by the rebels. He was confirmed in the possession of his jagir situated in the Talukas Changar Bhaliar and Rajgiri. The grant was in perpetuity to Molak Chand and his heirs male.

On Molak's death in 1874, the jagir devolved on his son Mordhaj Chand, who was a good specimen of a high-born Rajput, simple and retiring but thoroughly loyal, and possessing much local influence. He lived by good management within his moderate means, and when he died in 1887,

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CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

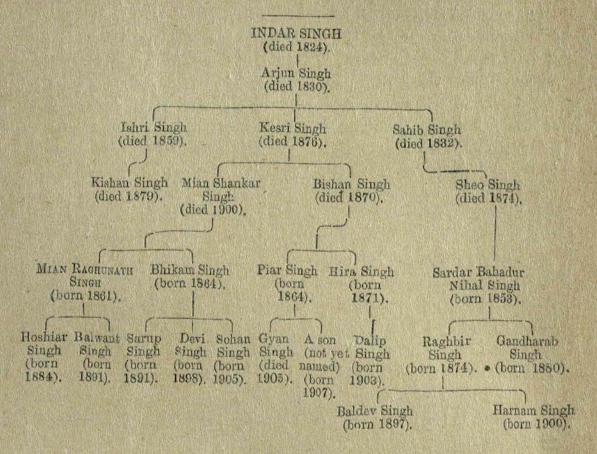
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he bequeathed to his successor an unencumbered property. Devi Chand was then only six years of age, and it was deemed necessary to bring his estate under the Court of Wards. Provision was made for his education, and Mian Hem Chand, a Katoch Rajput of the same stock, was appointed guardian. The estate has now been released from the management of the Court of Wards. Mian Devi Chand was made a Divisional Darbari in 1904.



RANGRA DISTRICT.

MIAN RAGHUNATH SINGH OF REH.



Mian Raghunath Singh is the representative of a branch of the Nurpur family, which seceded from the parent house upwards of a hundred years ago. His ancestor Indar Singh was felt to be a rival of his brother Raja Pirthi Singh, owing to a doubt as to which was the elder, and because of Indar Singh's marriage with the daughter of Katoch Raja, who asserted a kind of suzerainty over the other hill chiefs. Indar Singh, in consequence of this ill-feeling, was obliged to reside at Kangra as a pensioner of the Katoch Raja Ghamand Chand. His son Arjun became a favourite of the celebrated Sansar Chand, who granted lands to him and to his brothers Bijaor Singh and Surat Singh.

In the next generation Ishri Singh, the eldest son of Arjun succeeded to his father's jagir, and secured the protection of the Lahore Government by giving his daughter to Raja Dhian Singh, the Prime Minister. Through him he obtained a jagir in Nurpur territory, at this time annexed by the Sikhs. On the other hand, his nucle's children remained attached to the Katoch Rajas, who were reduced by the Maharaja Ranjit Singh to the



position of small jagirdars; and they lost everything when the holdings of the chiefs were confiscated by the British Government for participation in the rebellion of 1848. Ishri Singh's jagirs were in a different country, and he was not of the Katoch faction, or concerned in the rebellion; so his jagirs remained untouched.

Ishri Singh was succeeded by his son Kishan Singh, on whose death, sonless, in 1879, the jagir lapsed under the terms of the grant. In consideration, however, of the high rank and lineage of the family, the jagir in the village of Reh, Nurpur, yielding Rs. 1,800 per annum, was released to Shankar Singh, senior representative of the elder branch, subject to payment of one-fourth of the revenue as nazarana and to provision of maintenance for the widows and the junior members of the family.

Shankar Singh was a General in the Kashmir army, and his son Raghunath Singh is the present head of the family. He is a Divisional Darbari, a Kotwal or Zaildar in the Nurpur Tahsil and a member of the Lecal Board of Nurpur and of the District Board of Kangra. The family owns 637 ghumaos of forest and cultivated lands in the village of Reh, and about 2,000 ghumaos in Riali, both in the Nurpur Tahsil.

Mian Raghunath Singh also received a grant of 5 squares of land in the Chenab Colony. The jagir is exempt from attachment by process of the Civil Courts.

Mian Hira Singh is a Risaldar in the 19th Bengal Lancers, and the following members of the family are in the service of the Kashmir State:-

Sardar Nihal Singh, is a General in the State army. He received the title of Sardar Bahadur in 1897.

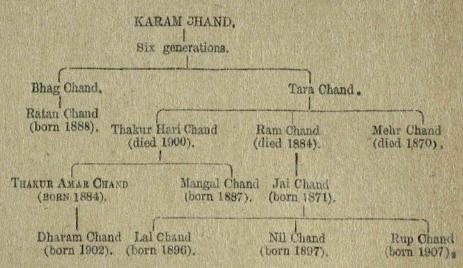
Mian Raghbir Singh and Gandharb Singh are Majors and Mian Hoshiar Singh is Aide-de-Camp to the Commander-in-Chief of the State.

Mians Bhikam Singh and Piar Singh are Forest Officers.



KANGRA DISTRICT.

THAKUR AMAR CHAND WAZIR OF LAHAUL.



Lahaul and Spiti do not form a part of the country described by Mr. Barnes as "hills from time immemorial inhabited by Hindu races living under the government of their native kings." On the contrary, they are Tibetan countries which originally had no connection with India, and were included in the Empire of Great Tibet. On the dissolution of this Empire in the tenth century many of the outlying districts were formed into independent kingdoms; and in this way a chief of the name of Palgyi Gon formed the kingdom of Ladakh, of which Lahaul and Spiti were the southernmost provinces. The first occasion within historic times on which Ladakh became in any degree politically connected with India was in 1687-88, when in return for aid in repelling an invasion of the Sokpas or Kalmach Tartars, a small tribute was paid to the Governor of Kashmir as representative of the Emperor of Delhi; but a similar tribute seems to have been levied at the same time by the Government of Lhasa. After the break-up of the Delhi Empire, the Rajas of Ladakh continued to pay the tribute to Kashmir till their country was conquered and annexed to the Punjab in 1835 by a Dogra force under Wazir Zorawar, sent by Rajas Dhian Singh and Gulab Singh, Jammuwala. In what manner and at what time the separation from Ladakh took place it is impossible to ascertain; but the traditions of the Lahaulis go to show that the connection was severed many years ago. It is probable that in the confusion preceding the re-consolidation of the Ladakh kingdom by Chang Namgyal, Lahaul became independent and remained for a short time governed by the Thakurs or



petty barons of small clusters of villages. Four or five of these families have survived up to the present day, and are still in possession of their original territories which they hold in jagir, subject to payment of tribute or nazarana. It is believed that soon after its separation from Ladakh, the whole of Lahaul became tributary to the Raja of Chamba, and that the part now forming British Lahaul was subsequently transferred from Chamba to Kulu. According to the account given by the present Kulu Raja, his ancestor in the seventh generation, Bidhi Singh, acquired Lahaul from Chamba. Bidhi Singh was son of Raja Jagat Singh, who was a contemporary of Shahjahan and Aurangzeb; and the date of the acquisition may therefore be placed approximately at 1700. It would appear, however, that subsequently to this the Lahaulis continued to pay a small annual tribute to Ladakh, probably to avert forays and to keep the roads open for trade. Indeed the Lahaulis, without orders, continued to pay this tribute to the Governor at Leh up to 1862, when our Government, being informed of the fact, prohibited the practice.

When Lahaul passed into the possession of the British, the jagirs enjoyed by the Thakurs were continued to them. Tara Chand, grandfather of the present representative, had governed Lahaul under the Sikhs and under the Ruja of Kulu. He was appointed Negi or chief village headman in administrative charge of the valley. This title was subsequently changed to that of Wazir. In 1861 he was appointed an Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner. He died in 1877, and was succeeded by his eldest son Wazir Hari Chand. He had charge of the Wazarat for many years before his father's death, as his father abstained from active interference after 1871 owing to advancing years. Hari Chand on several occasions made himself useful to the Government. In 1858 he procured information regarding the death of Mr. Schlagentweit of the Survey Department, who was murdered in Yarkand by Wali Khan of Kokan. These services were suitably rewarded. In 1863-64 he travelled through Tibet and reported on the resources of the country. the routes, and the possibilities of developing trade. He accompanied Sir Douglas Forsyth's Mission to Yarkand in 1870, and collected much valuable information concerning the countries through which their route lay. He was the fifteenth Provincial Darbari of the Kangra District, and was a member of the Local Board of Kulu. He exercised judicial powers, and was Sub-Registrar in Lahaul. In consideration of

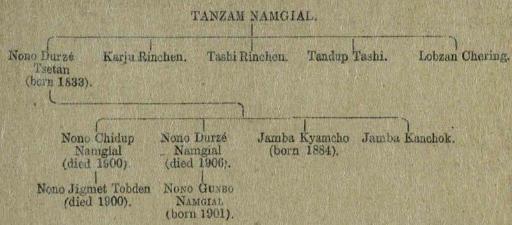
the public duties performed by him, Hari Chand received an allowance of Rs. 550, or one-fourth the revenue of Labaul; and he appropriated as his perquisite all the fines and fees received in criminal and revenue cases that came before him. He estimated his income at about Rs. 2,000. He died in 1900 and was succeeded by his eldest son Amar Chand, the present Thakar, whose guardian during his minority was Thakur Jai Chand, British Trade Agent in Gantok. Amar Chand was invested with 3rd class powers in 1903 on attaining his majority. He accompanied Mr. Calvert, Assistant Commissioner, on his expedition to Western Tibet and was rewarded and thanked by Government for his services. He has succeeded to the whole jagir and has in addition income as under:—

h share of revenue in Kh			***		Rs. 758
Compensation for share	of fine	es in cr	riminal	cases	
originally credited to t	he fam	ily			160
th of grazing tax					400
10th proceeds of sale of t	rees				10
Pay as Sub-Registrar			Par.		350
		Total		1	,678

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CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

NONO GUNBO NAMGIAL OF SPITI.



The None, or "Great Noble," Gumbo Namgial is the representative of the hereditary Governors of Spiti, formerly one of the southernmost provinces of Ladakh, and now a portion of the Kulu sub-division of the Kangra District. Spiti is an outlying Tibetan valley among the external ranges of the Himalayan system; it is shut in to the north and divided from Ladakh and Chinese Tibet by the great snowy range of the Western Himalayas. From its remote and inaccessible situation, Spiti was always left to govern itself, and affairs are managed in much the same way at the present day.

None Durzé Tsetan succeeded his father Tanzam Namgial in 1878. when the latter resigned office through old age. He exercised limited magisterial powers, and was responsible for the collection of the land revenue of Spiti, receiving an allowance of six-sixteenths of the revenue, equivalent to Rs. 282. He also held about fifty acres of land, revenue-free, Durzé Tsetan was the sixteenth Provincial and in proprietary right. Darbari of the Kangra District. He resigned in 1890 on the plea of short sight and since then events have moved rapidly in this family. He was succeeded by his son Nono Chidup Namgial, a minor, with Tashi Rinchen as guardian and officiating Nono. Chidup Namgial attained his majority and succeeded to his office in 1898 but died in 1900. His son Nono Jigmet Tobden, a child, was recognised and his uncle Durzé Namgial officiated for him. He died, however, in 1900 and Durzé Namgial became Nono in 1901. Durzé Namgial died in 1906, and was succeeded by his son Nono Gunbo Namgial, a child of five years

of age. His uncle Jamba Kyamcho carries out his duties. Jamba Kyamcho was brought up in the Tangyut monastery. He has travelled as far as Tisi Lumbo near Lhassa and visited the celebrated Nor monastery. He finds it difficult to assert his authority in Spiti.

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WAZIR KARAM SINGH OF BIR.

CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

WAZIR GOSAUN (died 1871).

WAZIR KARAM SINGH (born 1854).

> Bhup Singh (born 1871).

Wazir Karam Singh, Divisional Darbari, is the son of Wazir Gosaun, the well-known Finance Minister and Regent of Mandi. At the time of annexation Wazir Gosaun was without exception the most influential man in these hills. When the garrison of Fort Kangra refused to surrender, he brought about a peaceful solution of the difficulty by his own personal exertions. During the Mutiny of 1857, as Regent of Mandi, he placed the resources of the State at the disposal of Government, adding a considerable contribution from his own private funds. He supplied one hundred and twenty-five matchlock-men to the local authorities of Hoshiarpur, and pested some fifty men with the Commissioner at Jullundur. He had also made arrangements for furnishing an additional batch of five hundred men if any call had arisen for their services. In reward, a jagir, consisting of lands situated in the villages of Bir Kohr and Sansal in the Palampur Tahsil, of the annual value of Rs. 2,000, was granted to him and his lineal male heirs in perpetuity, on condition of good behaviour and service.

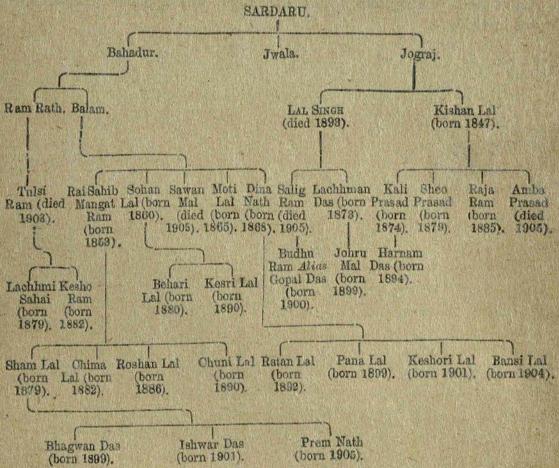
On Gosaun's death, Karam Singh succeeded to the jagir and the extensive landed and other property acquired by his father; but through carelessness and prodigality the greater part of his patrimony has either been alienated or is heavily encumbered.

The jagir is exempt from attachment by process of the Civil Courts.

RANGRA DISTRIOT.

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THE LATE LAL SINGH OF NAGROTA.



Lal Singh, Provincial Darbari, was the son of Jograj, Kanungo of Nagrota. Jograj, who served as Tahsil Kannngo, inherited several petty muafis granted to the family by the Rajas of Kangra; and on his death some of these, consisting of about one hundred acres, valued at Rs. 215, were continued to his sons during the pleasure of Government and on condition of service as Kanungos. Lal Singh served Government for many years, and became Naib Tahsildar. The family owns much land in proprietary right, paying a revenue of Rs. 4,600 per annum, and has some local influence.

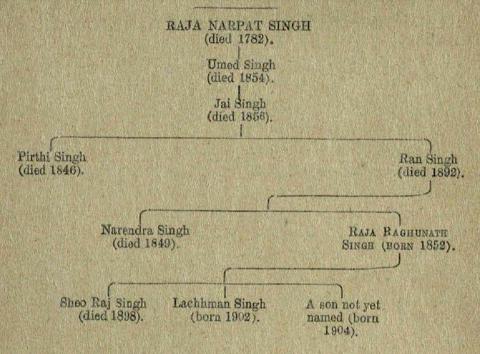
The following members of the family are in service :- Rai Sahib Mangat Ram is Wazir of Rampur Bashahr on Rs. 200 per mensem; Lala Sohan Lalis a Tahsildar on Rs. 200; Moti Lal, Kaistha, Bar.-at-Law, is Honorary Secretary of Dharmsala Municipal Committee and a member of the

CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

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District Board; L. Sham Lal, M. A., is a Pleader. Other members of the family hold appointments in the Subordinate Revenue Establishment of the district. Salig Ram, son of Lal Singh, was appointed Zaildar and died in 1905.

RAJA RAGHUNATH SINGH OF JASWAN.



Raja Raghunath Singh belongs to the Kasib got of the Chandarbansi Rajputs having a common origin with the old chiefs of the Kangra district.

Towards the middle of the thirteenth century the Jaswan branch separated and established a principality in the lower hills with Rajpura as their capital. They were, however, obliged to acknowledge the supremacy of the Mughal Emperors, and paid tribute at irregular intervals down to the time of Raja Narpat Singh, who died in 1782. His son Umed Singh was then an infant, and offered but a feeble resistance to the encroachments of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who a few years later began to extend his power along the north of the Sutlej. In 1815 the Maharaja, not content with a simple acknowledgment of his suzerainty, compelled Umed Singh to yield his territory by keeping him in confinement at Lahore until he had signed a surrender of his rights. Thus reduced to a state of vassalage, the Raja became a mere Jagirdar of twenty-one villages in the Jaswan Dun, valued at Rs. 12,000 per annum.

Hoshiarpur, with the rest of the Jullundur Doab, was annexed at the close of the Sikh War in 1846. The Raja of Jaswan and the other Rajput Princes, judging doubtless by the liberal treatment the Simla hill chiefs had received at our hands, were under the belief that with the

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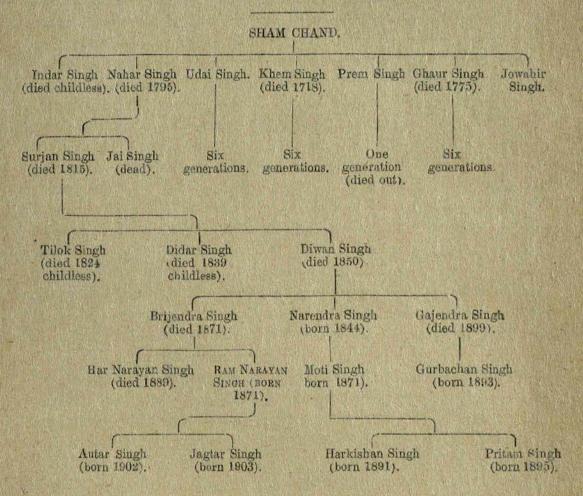
coming of the English the powers of sovereignty formerly enjoyed by them would be restored. But no such hopes had ever really been held out, and they had done nothing to entitle them to privileges which they had not exercised for years. Yet they felt bitterly disappointed when they discovered that a change of rulers had brought with it no amelioration of their condition; and all of them no doubt sympathised with the attempt made in 1848 by Raja Umed Singh and some other petty chiefs of the lower Sawaliks to break free from the new yoke. The revolt was speedily suppressed. John Lawrence, then Commissioner of Hosbiarpur, attacked the Raja's forts at Amb and Akhrot, took them and razed them to the ground. His possessions were confiscated, and he and his son Jai Singh were deported to Kumaon, in the North-West Provinces. Ran Singh, son of Jai Singh, was, however, permitted to reside in Jammu with his son Raghunath Singh, who was married to the daughter of the Maharaja Ranbir Singh. He was afterwards allowed to return to his home at Amb, receiving a cash pension of Rs. 200 from the British Government until his death in 1892. Raja Raghunath Singh is Ran Singh's only surviving son. He usually resides at Ramkot, in the Jammu State. In 1877, at the Maharaja's earnest solicitation, His Excellency the Vicerov assigned to him the land revenue derived from the villages constituting the Jaswan Principality at the time of its annexation to the British Government. In accordance with the terms of this grant, the jagir originally held by Raja Umed Singh, consisting of twenty-one villages in the Jaswan Dun, yielding a revenue of Rs. 18,442 per annum, was assigned to Raja Raghunath Singh, besides the revenue-free proprietary right in twenty-five acres of the family garden at Amb, Tahsil Una, Hoshiarpur, and the buildings at Rajpura close by, which formed the old palace of the late Raja Umed Singh. Raja Raghunath Singh has a daughter who is married in the family of H. H. the Raja of Chamba.

He is a Provincial Darbari and on account of his ancient lineage and connection by marriage with the Maharaja of Kashmir he was granted the personal title of Raja in 1895.



HOSHIARPUR DISTRICT.

SODHI RAM NARAYAN SINGH OF ANANDPUR.



The Anandpur Sodhis are Andh Khatri Sikhs, and claim descent from Guru Ram Das, fourth in succession to Baba Nanak. It was he who built the famous temple known as the Darbar Sahib at Amritsar, thus securing to that city the honour of being the permanent head-quarters of Sikhism throughout the Punjab. Guru Ram Das had three sons, Pirthi Chand, Mohandeo and Arjun, of whom the youngest took the gadi on his father's death. Most of the Sodhis of the Ferozepore, Jullundur and Shahpur districts and of Patiala and other Punjab States, are descended from Pirthi Chand, while those of Anandpur in Hoshiarpur, and Kartarpur in Jullundur are of the children of Arjun. Mohandeo was an ascetic and did not marry. Guru Arjun devoted himself to the compiling and arranging of the Granth Sahib, or Sacred Volume, in its present form. His son Guru Har Gobind is said to have possessed both spiritual and temporal excellence.

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He acquired lands, founded villages and met his natural foes, the Muhammadans, in many pitched battles, adding all the time to the strength of his own sect by proselytising on a large scale wherever he went. Guru Tegh Bahadur, youngest son of Har Gobind, also proved a vigorous missionary, doing much to strengthen the position of the Sikhs, though he often endangered their existence by his fiery zeal and blind trust in Divine support. His head was cut off by the Emperor Aurangzeb, who perceived the necessity of suppressing the young sect and did his best to check its growth. With his father's death to avenge, Guru Gobind Singh was the bitter enemy of all Muhammadans. He was the last of the Gurus; the favourite hero in Sikh history, whose miracles rival the older records, and whose acts of bravery and charity are sung by every Sikh mother to her son. Gara Gobind Singh was, in his turn, crushed and broken by the Muchals. His four sons were slain in their father's lifetime, and for a moment the flame of fanaticism appeared to have been stamped out, for there was no one worthy to succeed the Guru and his place still remains unfilled. A spiritual successor is believed to be on his way, and the Sikhs watch constantly for his coming; but Gobind Singh is still the last of the recognised heads of the faith. He was nominally succeeded as temporal leader by his uncle Suraj Mal, a man of no energy or character, who never had the people with him, and under whose weak sway the cause only suffered harm. It is unnecessary to follow the family history step by step. Gulab Rai, grandson of Saraj Mal, rebuilt the town of Anandpur, destroyed by the Muhammadans in the time of Guru Gobind Singh, and purchased extensive plots of land from Raja Bhim Chand of Bilaspur, thus largely helping to restore the social position of the family, upon which much of their religious influence depended. From his four nephews, Nahar Singh, Udai Singh, Khem Singh and Chaur Singh, are descended the Anandpur Sodhis in four branches known as the Bari, Dusri, Tisri and Chauthi Sarkars. The Anandpur Sodhis have always been treated with the greatest respect as representatives of the fountain head of the Sikh faith. In the Khalsa days it was a matter of importance to secure their co-operation when an expedition on a large scale was being organised south of the Sutlej; and the four brothers mentioned above were constantly out on the war-path towards the end of the eighteenth century. They were usually present in the exercise of their spiritual functions, taking no active part in the fighting, and merely exhorting the more fiery Jats to go in and win. But their share of the plunder

was always handsome, a sure proof of the high value attaching to their services. At annexation they held jagirs valued at a lakh and a half per annum. They were naturally dissatisfied at the coming of the English.

It meant loss of dignity and comparative ruin to them; and they did all their timid natures permitted to thwart our officers and discredit our actions in the eyes of the people. But the people failed to respond: they had been too completely crashed to be in much spirit to resist a power that had recently broken to pieces a disciplined army. The Sodhis found themselves temporarily paralyzed. They were obliged to accept the new rule, tardily and sulkily, and to secure the best terms they could for themselves. Weapons had been found concealed in their villages in disobedience of the order requiring the immediate surrender of all arms; treasonable letters came to light which might justly have led their writers to the scaffold; but every consideration was shown to a family that had some reason for objecting to a change of Government, and the Sodhis were dealt with in a spirit of liberality which they could hardly have expected, and which no doubt has since been gratefully acknowledged by the whole Sikh nation. Cash allowances, aggregating Rs. 55,200, were made to the different members of the Anandpur house in 1847. These, however, gradually lapsed with the lives of the holders and had thirty years later dwindled down to Rs. 9,924. But it was not the desire of Government that the family should sink into poverty after a generation. The question was taken up and settled in 1884 by the sanctioning of a scheme regulating the scale of pension for each recipient, and securing succession to next heirs on fixed principles. Under this scheme the head of the house was declared entitled to an allowance in perpetuity of Rs. 2,400 per annum, descending integrally to the representative of the family for the time being. The heirs of all other recipients were permitted to succeed to one-half subject to the commutation of all pensions of less than fifty rupees, provision for the widows and unmarried daughters being in all cases made from the other half of the allowances.

Prominent among the representative Sodhis of Anandpur are Ram Narayan Singh and his uncle Narendra Singh and also Narendra Singh Kuraliwala, so called from Mauza Kurali, in the Ambala district which was once in possession of the family. They are all three Darbaris, the first and last being Provincial, and are descended from Sodhi Sham Chand. Narendra Singh Kuraliwala is the great-grandson of Chaur Singh.

Ram Narayan Singh represents the senior branch, descended from Nahar Singh, and known as the Bari Sarkar. Sodhi Nahar Singh held a large number of jagir villages yielding more than a lakh of rupees. He died in 1795. His grandson Diwan Singh was at the head of the family in 1846 when the Jullandur Doab was annexed. As already stated, the conduct of the Sodhis generally was unsatisfactory at that period and they suffered in the confiscation of their estates. Diwan Singh was awarded a cash allowance of Rs. 8,400 per annum. He died in 1850. His grandsons Har Narayan and Ram Narayan were minors and their estates were placed under the management of their uncle Narendra Singh, who was appointed guardian by the District Judge of Hoshiarpur, Sodhi Har Narayan Singh, the elder son, died in 1889. Sodhi Narenda Singh, uncle of Ram Narayan Singh, is a gentleman of position and substance, and has much local influence. He is an Honorary Magistrate and a member of the Municipal Committee of Anandpur and of the

There is a jagir assignment in Patiala of Rs. 10,000 per annum shared in proportion by Ram Narayan Singh, his uncle and his cousin. Sodhi Ram Narayan Singh also holds a village in jagir from the Raja of Faridkot, yielding Rs. 475 per annum; and Narendra Singh and his nephew Gurbachan Singh enjoy a small jagir in the Nalagarh State. The uncle and nephews are joint owners of Chak Guru, Tahsil Nawashahr, Jullundur, and of small plots in Gangawal, Kiratpur and other villages in Tahsil Una, Hoshiarpur. Ram Narayan Singh also draws the fixed cash allowance of Rs. 2,400 per annum as head of the family. He is an Honorary Magistrate and Civil Judge and also a Provincial Darbari. He is married to a daughter of the late Bawa Sir Khem Singh, Bedi, K.C.I.E., of Rawalpindi.

District Board and a Divisional Darbari.

The late Maharaja of Patiala and the present Raja of Kapurthala received the Pahal or ceremony of initiation into the Sikh religion at the hands of the late Sodhi Har Narayan Singh.

The second branch descended from Udai Singh, called the Dusri Sarkar, is represented by Narayan Singh and Puran Singh, neither of whom is a Darbari. They enjoy pensions from Government.

Sodhis Nihal Singh and Ishwar Singh were the most prominent representatives of the third branch, descended from Khem Singh, known as the Tisri Sarkar. Nihal Singh was a Darbari. He received a pension

of Rs. 600 per annum, and held in jagir Mauzas Jhabkara and Maheshpur in the Gurdaspur district, yielding Rs. 2,095 per annum. He died in 1891. Kahan Singh, the eldest son of Kesar Singh and grandson of Khem Singh, died in 1846. His son Partab Singh inherited a jagir of Rs. 19,900. This was resumed on annexation with the other Sodhi jayirs; but as it subsequently appeared that Partab Singh's behaviour was not such as to deserve the entire resumption of his estate, he was allowed to retain a portion, yielding Rs. 2,500, in sixteen villages in Tahsils Gurdaspur, Batala and Shakargarh of the Gurdaspur district, and in Mauzas Gobindpur and Chahnat of the Gujranwala district. His son Hardit Singh and grandsons Ishwar Singh and Kishan Singh succeeded to this jagir. Hardit Singh received a pension of Rs. 800 per annum. Ishwar Singh was a Darbari and an Extra Assistant Commissioner. He and his brother enjoyed each a family pension of Rs. 200 per annum. Hardit Singh died in 1901 and Ishwar Singh in 1899, both without issue. Kishan Singh is an Honorary Magistrate at Anandpur.

The fourth branch, descended from Chaur Singh, called the Chauthi Sarkar, is at present represented by Narendra Singh Kuraliwala, who was born in 1841. He enjoyed a large jagir until the annexation in 1846. A portion in the Ambala district was confiscated, and in lieu thereof he received a cash allowance of Rs. 4,800 per annum. The jagir in the Hoshiarpur and Jullundur districts detailed below is still held by him:—

Sansowal Naloti Ahlgraon	{	Tahsil Una.	District Hoshiarpur,	
Muhammadpur	{	Tahsil Garbshankar.	j po	Value Rs. 1,625,
Barnala	{	Tahsil Nawashabr.	} Jullundur.	

He also has proprietary rights in two villages in the Una Tahsil aggregating one thousand *ghumaos*. He is an Honorary Magistrate at Anandpur, and a Provincial Darbari.

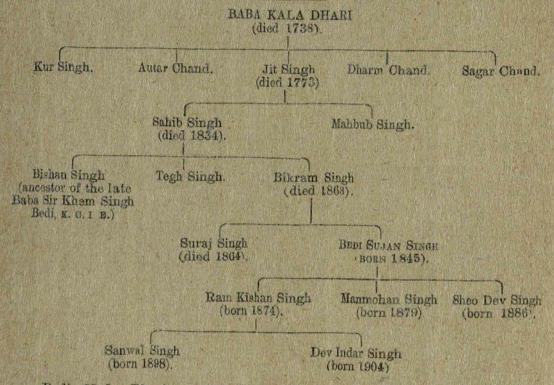
The offerings at Gurdwaras Damdama and Tegh Bahadur go to all Sham Chand's descendants in ancestral shares. The pujaris of the Anandpur Gurdwara take the receipts of the Lohgarh shrine. Sodhi Khem Singh's descendants exclusively enjoy the offerings of the Aganpur Gurdwara. Kahan Singh's surviving descendants are allowed a small share of the takings of the Darbar Sahib at Amritsar. Nahar Singh's descendants receive the offerings of the Baba Gurditta Gurdwara at Kiratpur, and share equally with the descendants of Khem Singh in the receipts of the two Parthalpuri temples in the same place.

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CHIEFS AND FAMILIES OF NOTE.

BEDI SUJAN SINGH OF UNA.



Bedi Kala Dhari, a descendant of Baba Nanak, crossed over from Dera Baba Nanak, Gurdaspur, early in the last century, and after wandering about the Jullundur Doab for some years, finally settled down at Una, Hoshiarpur, where he attracted a crowd of followers, who flocked to hear his eloquent disquisitions on the Granth Sahib, a book as difficult of understanding then as in the present day. The Jaswal Raja Ram Singh made himself popular by granting the Bedi the revenues of seventy ghumous of land. Kala Dhari's sons scattered after his death in 1738. Autar Chand settled at Barian in the Garhshankar tahsil, where his descendants still hold a muafi. Dharm Chand returned to Dera Baba Nanak. Sagar Chand died without issue. Jit Singh succeeded his father in spiritual matters; but there was little religious zeal in him, and had it not been for his celebrated son Bedi Sahib Singh, the family would in all likelihood have sunk into insignificance. Sahib Singh was fortunate enough, shortly after his father's death, to be chosen as arbitrator by the parties in a land dispute between Sardar Gurdit Singh of Santokgarh and Raja Umed Singh of Jaswan; and so pleasantly did he arrange matters that he received for his trouble the taluka of Una from the Raja, while Gurdit Singh made him jagirdar in the rich village of Kulgaraon.