

Revenue Survey

and



Assessment

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From

H. N. B. ERSKINE, ESQUIRE, C. S., C. S. I.,
Commissioner in Sind.

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
DONALD JAMES MACKAY, LORD REAY, L. L. D., C. I. E.,
Governor and President in Council,
BOMBAY.

*Commissioner's Office,
Karachi, 13th April 1887.*

MY LORD,

I have the honour to submit the further information regarding the Kohistan Taluka of the Karachi Collectorate which Government in Government Resolution No. 4832, dated 13th June 1885, approved of my obtaining.

2. There is not very much for me to say in the matter. The Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey, and the Collector of Karachi are at one in the substantive part of their proposals, and they are worked out on lines which I thoroughly approve.

3. The only difference of opinion is as to a matter of detail. The Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey, considers that the proposed leases should, in the first place, be offered to certain persons whom he names, while the Collector considers that he should be left quite free to exercise his discretion in the matter, and in this view I quite concur.

4. I would ask special attention to the suggestion that an Irrigational Officer be deputed to examine the capabilities of the country and would recommend it to the favourable consideration of Your Excellency's Government, as without such enquiry I do not think much development of revenue can be expected.

5. The leases should be granted in the first instance for five years, and will commence from the expiration of present term of exemption, *i. e.*, from the revenue year 1888-89.

6. Fresh notifications will be necessary in order to modify the boundaries of the Kohistan, Sehwan, Tatta and Karachi Talukas in the manner proposed, and for constituting the villages of the Kohistan Taluka. These will be submitted on the present proposals receiving the approval of Your Excellency's Government.

I have the honour to be,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

H. N. B. ERSKINE,
Commissioner in Sind.

Revenue Survey and Assessment, Sind : Settlement of the hill country of the Karáchi Collectorate commonly called the Kohistán.

No. 3733.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 20th June 1887.

Letter from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 995, dated 12th April 1887—Submitting with his remarks, with reference to Government Resolution No. 4832, dated 13th June 1885, the papers noted in the margin, containing proposals relating to the settlement of the hill country of the Karáchi Collectorate commonly called the Kohistán.

Letter from the Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey, No. 466, dated 10th June 1886.
Letter from the Collector of Karáchi, No. 914, dated 15th March 1887.

RESOLUTION.—Colonel Anderson has submitted a careful and interesting report on the matters referred to in Government Resolution in the Revenue Department, No. 4832 of 13th June 1885, and His Excellency the Governor in Council is glad to find that his proposals are, except in a few minor details, supported by the Collector of Karáchi and the Commissioner in Sind.

2. The first point dealt with is the settlement of the exterior boundary of the Kohistán, which has never yet been authoritatively laid down. Colonel Anderson shows the suitability of the boundary marked on the map submitted by him, which is in accordance with the watershed of the country and may be approved. The proposed transfer to Sehwan Táluka of those portions of the makáns of Baddhra, Chordi and Maliri which drain into the Manchur Lake is also sanctioned.

3. The next point to which reference is made is the demarcation and measurement of the various small and detached pieces of alienated land in the possession of jághirdárs. The “survey area” of these lands is given as 2,463½ acres, of which 1,363½ and 1,026 form the jághirs of Malik Sirdár (now Sobdár) Khán and Malik Doda Khán respectively. It is observed that the “sanad areas” of these jághirs are respectively 1,353 and 1,812 acres. The explanation of the latter discrepancy is probably that suggested in paragraph 10, clause 3, of Colonel Anderson’s report, and any petition to have the area increased should be most closely scrutinized.

4. In the remainder of his report Colonel Anderson explains the arrangements he proposes for making the unalienated land at present unassessed, contribute its share of revenue. He recommends that each of the 28 “makáns” should be let out on a five years’ lease at a small annual rental to lessees who should be authorized, subject to certain limitations and conditions, to levy “batái” on cultivation, at the rate of one-fourth of the gross crop, and grazing fees for animals, whether belonging to residents or outsiders, on the scale mentioned in paragraph 12 of the report, in which also are specified the conditions on which the Collector is to grant or cancel leases. It is estimated that the rents to be levied from the lessees will be equivalent to an assessment of 8 annas per acre on the area cultivated in 1885-86. These recommendations, which are supported by the Collector of Karáchi and the Commissioner in Sind, are approved and sanctioned, and the leases should run from the date of introduction in 1889-90. The lessees may be styled makándárs and should be entitled by virtue of their position to carry a sword and take a chair. The Governor in Council agrees with the Commissioner in the opinion that the Collector should be allowed to use his discretion in the appointments of makándárs.

5. It seems probable that the deputation of an officer of the Irrigational Department will result in the further development of agriculture by enabling

the local authorities to ascertain the capabilities of the country for irrigation by the construction of weirs in suitable positions in the beds of streams, and the subject should receive early attention at the hands of the Public Works Department.

J. DE C. ATKINS,
Under Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner in Sind (with a request that he will be good enough to submit a draft notification regarding the transfer of the makáns together with two copies of the maps showing the changes sanctioned),

The Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey,

The Collector of Karáchi,

The Public Works Department of the Secretariat, Irrigation,

The Accountant General.

The Government of India,

The Secretary of State for India. } By letter.

No. of 1887.

Copy forwarded for information and guidance to



*Proposals relating to the settlement of the Hill country of the Karachi
Collectorate.*

I N D E X.

Paras.

- 1.—Introductory.
- 2.—Present Boundaries of the Kohistan.
- 3 & 4.—Proposed „ „ „
- 5.—Sub-division of the country into “ Makans.”
- 6.—Description of the country.
- 7.—Cultivation.
- 8.—Produce available for export.
- 9.—Area of Ryoti cultivation.
- 10 & 11.—Alienations.
- 12.—Proposals for leasing the country.
- 13.—Remarks on terms of leases.
- 14.— „ on selection of Lessees.
- 15.—Lessees to aid Police, &c.
- 16.—Basis on which assessment of leases has been calculated.
- 17.—Claims for “ Lordship ” over whole region preferred by Sirdars.
- 18.—Location of the different tribes.
- 19.—Relations between the tribesmen and their Chiefs.
- 20.—Disputed Boundary between the Numria and Gabol country.
- 21.—Area of cultivation under-estimated in previous reports.
- 22.—Suggestions for the improvement of the country.
- 23.—Sketch Map of the region under report.
- 24.—List of Appendices.
- 25.—Result of proposals and date from which they should have effect.

No. 166 of 1886.

From

COLONEL J. W. M. ANDERSON,

Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey.

To

THE COMMISSIONER IN SIND.

*Superintendent's Office,
Karachi, 10th June 1886.*

SIR,

In accordance with instructions contained in Government Resolution No. 4832 of 15th June 1885, I beg to submit the following report and proposals relating to the settlement of the Hill country of the Karachi Collectorate commonly called the Kohistan.

2. The first thing necessary is to settle the exterior boundary of the country under consideration and although I can get no record of this ever having authoritatively been laid down, it appears to be approximately as shown by the thick blue line on the sketch map accompanying this report. From 1 to 2 the Kohistan is bounded by Kalat Territory, from 2 to 3 it has never been determined but may be presumed to run due east from point 2, from 3 to 8 it marches with villages of the Sehwan Taluka, from 8 to 9 the line of hills forms a natural boundary between the Kohistan and the plains of the Manjhand and Kotri Talukas, so far the boundary is undisputed; south to the Tak Nai which runs past point 9 & 10 the Kotwal claims the plain bounded by the Tak Nai, the Dhori Gaj and the Karra Range as part of the Kohistan, the old Revenue Survey maps show this plain as part of the Tatta Taluka and geographically it is outside the Hill region of which the Karra Range is the distinct and natural boundary, the Kotwal's claim is not good and the whole of the plain up to the Karra Range should be considered as forming part of the Tatta Taluka, this brings the boundary down to point 11. From point 11 to point 1 the boundary marches with that of the Karachi Taluka and is open to great doubt; the Mukhtyarkar of Karachi gives the following land-marks as his boundary in this direction:—"From the hill of Kedaji to the hill of Koraiki, to the hill of Mangesir, to the hill of Myher" although there is a hill marked Kedaji on the Revenue Survey map immediately north of the Tak Nai there is also a Kedaji on the Nai of that name, and this latter appears to be the one here referred to, Myher is the name of the high-lying plateau situated between the Hab river and the Mohal Range of Hills; the intermediate points of Koraiki and Mangesir are not marked on any map and are not recognized by the people of the country. Malik Sirdar Khan the Chief of the Numrias claims the whole of the country from the plains on the east to the Hab river on the west, and from the Sehwan Taluka on the north down to Gudap, a well known place fifteen miles from Karachi, on the south, as the boundaries. The Kotwal of the Kohistan shows his boundary pretty nearly as I have shown it in map by thick blue line but also includes the triangle east of points 9, 10, 11 already referred to, and also the Makan of Kand which I have marked on the map. Mr. Watson, who was for many years in charge of this district and probably had a better personal knowledge of it than has had any other officer, told me that in his time the boundary from point 1 ran south along the Mohal Range. The fact of the Kohistan having of late years been exempted from assessment

such as is levied in the adjacent talukas has tended to enlarge the boundaries of the favoured region, but after consideration of the various claims put forward, I conclude that the present recognized boundary is pretty nearly that shown by me with thick blue line on the sketch map which accompanies this report.

3. I beg to propose that the future boundary of the Kohistan be fixed in accordance with the thick blue line shown on the map, except towards the north where the blue line shows the existing, and the red line the proposed, limits. On the north the greater portion of the Makans of Baddhra, Chordi and Maliri drain into the Manchar lake and not into the Baran river, these lands are moreover much more accessible from Sehwan than they are from Bula Khan the Head Quarter Station of the Kohistan, especially is this the case with the most important Makan Baddhra which whilst sloping gradually towards the north and west is only approachable by precipitous foot-paths from the south and east and is thence practically inaccessible to either horses or camels; I propose therefore to transfer these lands to the Sehwan Taluka and let their assessment be fixed when the re-settlement of that taluka comes under consideration, which it does very shortly.

The carrying out of this proposal gives a fairly regular boundary and is in accordance with the watershed of the country, a system of boundary which is well understood by the Hillmen and adopted by them in all subsidiary divisions of lands; thus towards the north the watershed of the Manchar would belong to Sehwan, that of the Baran to the Kohistan.

The valley of Dehring and portions of the Makans of Chordi and Maliri which are not transferred would be amalgamated with that of Pokhan, the inhabitants being all of the same tribe, Gabols, there is no objection on this point.

4. The boundary to the west from 1 to 2, and to the east from 8 to 11 remains unaltered, it remains only to fix the line from 11 to 1, between the Kohistan and the Karachi Taluka. Point 11 is a trigonometrical station on the known hill of Karra, thence the line runs to the Kedaji camping ground (point 12) situated at the side of the old military road and close to the Kedaji Nai.

From point 12 to point 13 on the Kedaji Nai there is no natural boundary but the line must be considered to run in a straight line across the hills to the trigonometrical station of Bolali and then continue straight on up to the bed of the Nai.

From point 13 the bed of the Kedaji Nai forms the boundary up to point 14 where it approaches the Mohal Range close to the trigonometrical station of Piperwari.

From point 14 to point 1 the Mohal Range of hills is a distinct and natural boundary. By the arrangement proposed above the boundary would be as far as possible in accordance with the watershed, the basin of the Manchar lake all goes to Sehwan, the basin of the Hab to Karachi, whilst the Kohistan beside containing the whole of the basin of the Baran river would also contain the Makans of Mohal, Sarising, Uth Palan, Babur Bund, Tak Nai and Hatil Bath which drain into the Malir river. In the original report on the hilly region submitted in 1855 by the Collector of Karachi the area of the entire region was given as about 6,000 square miles, but the district then extended as far as the Hab river on the west, and down to the sea on the south, together with many villages long since transferred to the Sehwan Taluka: according to the boundary now proposed by me the Kohistan will contain about 2,000 square miles.

On the Map numbered 31, 28, 27, 26, 24 & 23.

5. The Kohistan is sub-divided into Makans and these are again sub-divided into Pet Makans, the boundary of each of which is known to all concerned; the boundaries of the Makans are approximately shown in the sketch map.

The inhabitants live for the most part in houses or temporary huts scattered about wherever most convenient for the pasturing and watering of their cattle, the only villages of any size being those at Bula Khan, Ahmad Khan, Karchat and Tong.

6. The country may be described as a succession of broad valleys lying between ranges of hills running generally north to south, the higher ranges are locally called "Takkars," and the lower spurs "Fangs"; the levels both of the plains and hills rise as you go north, the highest range being that of Khirthar recorded by the Trigonometrical Survey as nearly 4,000 feet in height; the valleys are fairly level and more or less covered with grass or brushwood, the hills are bare and mostly composed of limestone; looking at them they give little idea of containing any vegetation but large flocks of sheep subsist on them and select these bare hills as grazing grounds in preference to the more grassy plains. The Baran from near Tong to where it debouches into the plains at Darwazo is a small but flowing stream spreading out in places into large pools; this main stream never dries up, of the smaller streams, its tributaries, few contain water except after rain but the places in which water may be obtained by digging are well known and used for watering the numerous flocks and herds of sheep, goats, cattle and camels which are kept throughout the length and breadth of the Kohistan. In very dry seasons like those of the past two years a good many of the cattle are taken down to graze near the Indus but this custom is not followed to the same extent as regards the sheep.

7. The cultivation is of two kinds, that dependent on Hill springs the extent of which is limited by the position of the springs and supply of water and the ordinary "Barani" cultivation dependent upon rainfall. Of the first there is more under the spring at Tong than in all the rest of the Kohistan put together, this and nearly all the other land dependent on the springs is held in Jagir by Malik Sirdar Khan, on this is grown juari, wheat and cotton. In the neighbourhood of Arab-ji-wahi there is a considerable area irrigated by a small channel led from the Baran on which good Kharif and Rabi crops are produced, this area is susceptible of considerable increase.

Of the second, Barani, the bulk is Government land and is found scattered throughout the whole region wherever there is soil and where the lie of the land permits small embankments to be thrown up for the double purpose of collecting the water and preventing the soil being washed away, only the most favourable positions permitting wheat to be grown in the Rabi, the ordinary crop on this is juari; the most extensive area of "Barani" cultivation is found in the Makans of Tiko Baran and in the vicinity of Bula Khan and Karchat.

8. The wheat grown at Tong and Arab-ji-wahi like all other wheat finds its way to Karachi, and with this exception no grain is, I think, exported from this district, on the contrary in bad years grain is imported from the plains but the population being in proportion to the area, even of cultivation, scanty and subsisting largely on milk the produce of grain is in ordinary years sufficient for the wants of the people; the wealth of the country undoubtedly consists in its flocks and herds: from the sales of wood, ghi, wethers for the Karachi and Hyderabad markets, and cattle and camels to the inhabitants of the adjoining plains, the people whose wants are few, are well off and would be much more so but for the want of energy and dislike to all labour which is inherent to their nature: the shepherds will not even take the trouble to shear their own sheep but sell the fleeces on the sheep's back

to the omnipresent Bania who has to bring his own people to do the shearing; with people of this description it is needless to say the agriculture is of the rudest.

9. The inquiries conducted during the past season showed that irrespective of Jagir in Government land there were 3,139 Bunds containing an area of 13,140 acres, of which this year were actually cultivated 6,438 acres: as the area of each field was not measured but merely estimated these figures cannot be considered to be exact but as this work was carried out by experienced Amins and their work checked by an European Officer it may be taken as fairly correct as far as the condition of things is now visible, but the past two years have been seasons of very bad rainfall, and the marks of previous cultivation, where there were no or only very small bunds, have to a great extent become obliterated and therefore whilst considering the cultivated area as trustworthy I am disposed to think the area of previously cultivated land is considerably under-estimated at 13,140.

10. The alienated land has been all measured and demarcated: the detail of it, the Makans in which situated, &c., is given in Appendix C: the Abstract of it is as follows :—

Name of Jagirdar.	From Hill Stream.		Barani.		Total.	
	Nos.	Area.	Nos.	Area.	Nos.	Area.
		A. G.		A. G.		A. G.
Malik Sirdar Khan	7	783-29	24	579-29	31	1,363-18
Malik Doda Khan .....	...	.....	90	1,025-32	90	1,025-32
Nangar Fakir Gabol, and others.	...	.....	13	40-37	13	40-37
Small Minor Alienations	3	11-31	3	21-19	6	33-10
Total Alienations...	10	795-20	130	1,667-37	140	2,463-17

When these Jagir lands were being measured the Jagirdars were very anxious to have the exact boundaries of cultivation followed so as to exclude every fraction of unculturable land and thus reduce their area to the least possible sum, the expense and trouble of erecting boundary marks for such measurement made me insist on the boundaries being straightened by the inclusion of small pieces of uncultivated or unculturable land, but this idea of picking out all the select pieces as Jagir and leaving the intervening inferior and barren stretches of land as Government, is contrary to the system which has obtained elsewhere in Sind, and is moreover, I am given to understand, contrary to explicit instructions issued by Sir Charles Napier on the subject after the conquest of Sind.

The object of the Jagirdars is clear: according to Sanad a certain area is shown as in the possession of each: by contracting their area to only the choice pieces of land they hoped the total extent in possession would turn out to be less than that shown in the Sanad and thus they would have grounds for putting forward their claims to have the difference made good to them, and I have already received petitions from Maliks Sirdar Khan and

Doda Khan to this effect. The result of the Survey shows the area in possession against the areas recorded in Sanads, for these two Chiefs, to be as follows :—

Name of Jagirdar.	Sanad Area.	Survey Area.	Survey more than Sanad.	Survey less than Sanad.
	A. G.	A. G.	A. G.	A. G.
Malik Sirdar Khan	1,352-31	1,363-18	10-27	...
Malik Doda Khan	1,811-39	1,025-32	...	786-7
Total...	3,164-30	2,389-10	10-27	786-7

The Jagirs are in such small and detached pieces that it has been found impracticable to show them on the map which accompanies this report, but each piece having been measured, demarcated and mapped a register of the holding of each Jagirdar with maps attached will be furnished to the Collector for record in his Office.

11. During the progress of Field operations I received a petition from Malik Doda Khan on the following subject.

Close to Bula Khan in the Makan of Deswi a piece of Jagir of some 20 acres in extent had been destroyed for all purposes of cultivation by the formation of a hill torrent through its centre, and he petitioned that he might be permitted to select a similar area of Government land and have it demarcated as Jagir, in place of this useless piece of ground. I informed him that I had no authority to grant land in Jagir and moreover, that by Sanad he was entitled to 163 acres, 7 guntas in the Deswi Makan and that irrespective of the useless piece of land which could not be demarcated he already possessed 183 acres, 38 guntas in that Makan. In the Kotwal's records was a list of the pieces of Jagir in each Makan but there being no marks round them their boundaries have been now fixed and demarcated in accordance with the limits shown by the Jagirdars themselves, and as apparent by the line of cultivation on the ground.

In a few cases land was claimed as Jagir and measured and demarcated accordingly, but on subsequent inquiry it appeared that the alienations had lapsed to Government.

12. I now come to the question as to what arrangements are most suitable for making this region contribute its share towards the revenue of the country, and a system of leases appears best adapted to meet the peculiarities of the country and people.

The Kohistan, according to the limits proposed in paras. 3 and 4 above, is composed of 28 Makans and as these divisions are already known and recognized by the inhabitants it would be advisable to maintain them as the units on which to carry out my proposals for leases.

The leases should be given as far as practicable to the Headman or Chief of the tribe that principally inhabits the Makan and he will be entitled to levy Battai on all cultivation that takes place in the unalienated land

and moreover to levy grazing fees from all animals that pasture therein under the following rules :—

- a. that the amount of Battai be limited to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the gross crop.
- b. that the grazing fees for animals, whether belonging to residents or outsiders, be limited to the following rates—

Sheep and goat to pay 6 pies per head per annum.

Cattle and horses „ 2 annas „

Camels and buffaloes „ 4 „ „

Animals grazed for a part of a year to pay for a whole year.

All lambs, kids, calves, &c., under one year of age to pay nothing.

- c. that any complaints of excessive demand, &c. &c., against the lessee be investigated by the Kotwal under such instructions as the Collector may deem necessary to issue.
- d. that the Collector be empowered at any time for misconduct, mismanagement, &c., at his discretion to change the lessee and substitute some one else in his stead on the same terms for the remainder of the lease, and that the lessee be at liberty to resign the lease at any time on giving one year's notice.
- e. that the terms of the lease remain unchanged for a period of 5 years from introduction, and be open to revision at the expiration of that period.
- f. that the Collector can, at any time, forbid a lessee from taking in cattle, &c., belonging to others than residents.

13. *As to rules a and b.* The Battai is put at only $\frac{1}{4}$ instead of the usual Sind rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the crop, and the grazing fees are also put at a very low rate so that the introduction of the system may bear as lightly as possible on the inhabitants on first introduction.

As to rule c. Complaints should, in the first instance, be investigated by the Kotwal but it would be advisable that the Assistant Collector in charge of the district should occasionally travel through the country and thus put himself in touch with the people and himself hear what complaints are made; although officials now rarely visit this district and when they do seldom leave the high road to Sehwan and Tong, there is no difficulty in travelling through all parts of the Kohistan during the cold weather when water is obtainable every few miles.

As to rule f. It is possible that the lessee with the view of increasing his receipts might, to the injury of the resident shepherds, bring in more outside cattle than the land would carry; a rule to this effect is, therefore, necessary.

14. In Appendix B, I have given the names of the Makans, amount at which I propose to fix the lease of each, and the names of the individuals to whom the lease should in the first place be offered; should the individual named decline to take it up on the terms settled, or at any time resign it the Collector will use his discretion in giving it to another but on this subject I would strongly deprecate, except under very peculiar circumstances, the lease being given to a man of a tribe different to that of the mass of the inhabitants, and in no case should any of the Gabol Makans be put under a Numria lessee, also in no case should the lease of any Makan be given to any Bania or Hindu whose only object in taking it would be to take money out of it.

In the extreme case of no suitable lessee being found willing to take up the lease I would put in a Tapadar who would, in lieu of Battai, levy 8 annas per acre on actual cultivation and grazing fees according to the scale laid down above : this course would, I think, rarely have to be adopted as the mere threat of the contingency would prevent any combination against the leases being taken up ; the rate of 8 annas per acre is the lowest that I can recommend and is the same rate as obtained in this region 20 years ago, I certainly would not in any case advocate the nominal rate of 4 annas per acre as suggested by the Assistant Collector in the previous correspondence on this subject.

15. The lessees should, to such extent as may be considered necessary, be held answerable for the safety of property within the limits of their respective Makans, give the required assistance to the Police, &c. &c., as to these exact responsibilities in this respect I would suggest reference being made to the Superintendent of Police. I would also suggest that the lessee should have some designation equivalent to Chief or Headman of the Makan conferred on him rather than be merely called Government lessee, the possession of some title of respect, with the right to take a chair and carry a sword would render the position much more desirable and sought after than might be the case when these marks of consideration are withheld. Malik Sirdar Khan and Doda Khan of course already hold positions far above that referred to but I do not contemplate them or their heirs necessarily continuing to hold the leases : whenever a local man of sufficient influence is obtainable I should prefer putting him in as lessee and to such an individual some honorary title would be a valuable consideration.

16. It is desirable on first introduction of a system such as proposed that the demands both from the tribesmen and from the lessee should be as moderate as possible, the rate of Battai on cultivation and the scale of grazing fees has, therefore, been purposely put at a very low rate and I propose to fix the amount of the lease proportionately low, the past year having been one of unusually bad rainfall the cultivated area of the year 1885-86 may be considered to be, it not the minimum, at all events below what may be expected during an average of years. I therefore take the cultivated area of that year at 8 annas per acre, as the basis of my calculations and to it have added such sums as appear advisable in accordance with the information I have been able to collect as to the value of the grazing and pastoral advantages of the various Makans. It will be noticed that except in specially favourable situations the amount added to the lease on account of grazing is very small but although in the majority of cases the grazing is really more valuable and of greater interest to the people than is the agriculture yet as the " maldars " or shepherds are also the cultivators the incidence of the revenue even if levied on only one or the other of their means of livelihood would be pretty even on all.

The value of the $\frac{1}{4}$ Battai is, I need scarcely say, very considerably more than 8 annas per acre even on the very poorest land.

17. Malik Sirdar Khan, the Chief of the Numrias, puts forward claims to Zamindari, &c., over the whole of the Kohistan and asserts that his " Raj " extends from Sehwan in the north down to Gudap which is within 15 miles of Karachi on the south, and from the eastern plains up to the Hhab river on the west, *i. e.*, over the whole Kohistan Region as described in the " Report " by the Collector of Karachi on the Hilly Region forming the western part of " that Collectorate," his claims are somewhat indefinite and are merely to the effect that " it is all his," he states that he has not put forward these claims before as the land has been granted free of assessment for the past 25 years and that one proof of his " lordship " is that he now levies Battai of $\frac{1}{2}$ of the fish caught in the Baran ; Malik Doda Khan also puts forward a similar claim to the Makans south of Bula Khan stating that so much belongs to him and the remainder of the Kohistan belongs to his cousin Malik Sirdar Khan.

These claims appear to me preposterous, had the whole country belonged to these Sirdars what object could there have been in granting a portion of it only to them in Jagir. Twenty years ago Government did levy assessment on the cultivation other than Jagir and only forewent it because it did not pay the expense of collection and that they wished to encourage the spread of cultivation; as far as I can ascertain during that period no claim of the nature of that now made was ever admitted or even put forward; as regards the fish in the Baran with the local influence which Malik Sirdar Khan possesses it is not likely the people on the Baran who are his own clansmen would refuse to give him any portion he might ask for of the fish caught or enter into any discussion with him on such a trifling matter; the fishing in the Baran is practically valueless and could a price be put on the fish caught I doubt if they would be worth Rs. 10 a year. Unless the Malikhs have very much better proofs than any they have hitherto produced I do not think it is worth while entering further into their claims.

18. Broadly speaking the tribes in the Kohistan are located as follows:— All the country south and west of the Baran river, together with the strip intervening between the Baran and the eastern hills nearly up to the south-end of the Jating and Yetting Ranges is inhabited by the Numrias of whom Malik Sirdar Khan, the Chief, resides at Thana Ahmad Khan; all that about the Khirthar and Daphro Ranges of hills including the Makans of Pokhan, Maliri, Baddhra is the Gabol country, the chief of this tribe, Rassul Bakhsh Gabol, lives in the Johi Taluka; the valleys to the east of the Daphro and Jating Ranges are occupied by a mixed lot amongst whom are Rhinds, Khosas, Jokias with a few Gabols and still fewer Numrias; Karchat in which in some years the cultivation is very extensive is also inhabited by a mixture of Numrias, Gabols, Rhinds, &c., of which the first named predominate, thus of the whole region about 4/5ths is inhabited by Numrias who are said to be of Rajpar origin and 1/5th by Gabols and Rhinds who are Baluchis.

Under the head of Numrias are included many sub-tribes, of these the Burfat are by far the most numerous in this country.

Between the Numrias and the Gabols there has always been great antagonism and before the British occupation they were in a chronic state of petty warfare: the last fight is stated to have taken place about the year 1840 when the Numrias, rallying from a defeat received from the Gabols, under the command of Malik Jiand Khan, who died last year, aided by the Rhinds, defeated their adversaries with great loss at Chordi on the Sehwan road.

In any settlement that takes place care must be taken not to submit the people of the one tribe to the rule of the other: Malik Sirdar Khan is specially anxious that the Gabols in some way should be subordinated to him and includes their country in that which he describes as “all mine” and to which he puts forward the claims referred to in para. 17 above.

19. In the country inhabited by his own tribe the influence of Malik Sirdar Khan is very great and were he of a more energetic nature would be far greater even than it is: he levies a poll-tax “baraho” of one rupee per head on every male of his tribe which is said to be punctually and willingly paid: in return for this, he in a general way, acts as their protector and assists them at their marriage and funeral feasts and ceremonies: as far as I could learn this is not a very expensive infliction on him, as it generally consists in directing the nearest shepherd in the adjoining valley to send one or more sheep to the parties concerned, a request which none of his people would dream of disputing. I heard at first that he also levied Battai on the crops grown in Government lands but after considerable inquiry do not think that this is the case and that the contributions to his income consist of the poll-tax above mentioned and presents in the way of sheep, &c., whenever he requisitions them.

The Gabols and other Baluchis pay no poll-tax to the Malik or to any one else but when their own Chiefs, who are non-resident in the Kohistan, visit them they receive presents of sheep, &c., from all their own tribesmen which are given as marks of respect and allegiance: on this subject I remark that the clanish feeling is much more prevalent in the hills than it is in any part of the plain country.

20. As I have mentioned above the boundaries of each Makan are known to all and the only dispute raised was as to the boundary between the Makans of Pokhan and Karchat, *i. e.*, the southern boundary of what may be called the Gabol country; as this was a subject which would be certain to lead to discussion hereafter I requested my Assistant, Mr. Cole, to investigate the matter and settle the boundary. In case of future dispute on this point I here record the decision arrived at. "Starting from the south corner of the Yetting Range it runs nearly due north following the course of the high road to 'Achi Buthi,' thence nearly due west to 'Juderi Buthi,' thence rather south of west to 'Ghari Buthi,' thence following the course of the pass up to the highest point of Khirthar ('Lahaout') where there is a trigonometrical station."

21. It will be seen that the extent of cultivation in this region was very much under-estimated by the Kotwal in the figures which he supplied to the Assistant Collector and given in the statement attached to that Officer's Report No. 1295 of 15th December 1884; that for the year 1882-83 is there given as 4,789 acres and that for 1883-84 as 2,188 acres; against these figures we find that when submitted to detailed estimate, carried out field by field, that in 1885-86 it was 6,438 acres and this year was one of the worst as regards rainfall and consequently cultivation that has occurred for many years past. The fact of the matter is that the Kotwal, notwithstanding his 13 years' service in the same district, knows little or nothing about the country except from hearsay, his movements are pretty well confined to the high road from Karachi to Sehwan with occasional trips as far as Tong: the information he gave me last year of places I wished to visit showed plainly that he had no knowledge of any places off the high road, and his returns of cultivation must have been made up from what the people chose to tell him, aided possibly in some cases by reports from his Kotars, and were not in any way the result of his own inspections.

22. Little or no revenue has ever been derived from the Kohistan and probably for this very reason, except for the construction of the old military road from Karachi to Sehwan, no public expenditure has ever been incurred on it; its requirements are few but as soon as any revenue is realized I would suggest some being spent on the following objects. Some attempt should be made to increase the irrigation from the Baran, at present the only channel led from that stream is at Arab-ji-wahi where some 294 acres are now under perennial irrigation; with a little improvement this area could probably be considerably increased and a little examination by a qualified officer would, I have no doubt, show that there are other places where similar streams could be led off the river, especially is there one near Pir Gaibi but in this case some aid would have to be given in cutting through a ridge of rock which intervenes between the pool, caused by a natural dam on the river, and the culturable land; in other places improvements in irrigation appeared to me possible on a very small expenditure but whether these are feasible or not could best be determined after inspection by a specially qualified officer.

No expenditure appears necessary on roads or communications; the only road used by travellers is the high road already in existence and even that is little frequented except by the few "Kafilas" from Afghanistan which still find their way down to Karachi by that route in the cold weather; travelling up and down the valleys is so easy that no improvement is called

for and considering the small amount of local traffic roads from west to east to cross the hills would be too costly to be worth making; the high road is already well supplied with drinking water at all the camping grounds but in the back country the construction of a few wells would be a great boon and often save the people going miles for drinking water for themselves and their flocks. Were a young and energetic irrigation officer deputed to travel through this country for a few months in the cold weather and report on its capabilities Government would be in a better position to judge of the advisability of incurring any expenditure on these suggestions: if by channels constructed at Government expense land was brought under new irrigation the lessee of the Makan should, over and above the terms of his lease, pay water-rate of say Re. 1 per acre and a proviso to this effect might be entered in his lease: the additional Battai that he would receive would much more than recompense him for this extra payment.

23. The map which accompanies this report is reduced from the mile to the inch Topographical Survey Map and the boundaries of the Makans are filled in approximately from local information collected during course of inquiry instituted during the past field season: although far from absolutely correct it is sufficiently so for all the purposes now required.

24. Attached to this report are appendices as follows:—

- A. Sketch map of the district.
- B. Statement giving estimated areas of each Makan, amount for which it should be leased, &c. &c.
- C. Statement showing location and area of alienated land.

25. Under Government Resolution No. 4832 of 13th June 1885, the Kohistan is exempt from all assessment up to the year 1888-89. I propose that the system of leases recommended above be introduced with effect from the year 1889-90, and continue in force for 5 years, at the expiration of which term the leases can be renewed, with such modification as may by experience gained in the meantime, be found advisable.

The result of the proposals would give a yearly revenue of Rs. 3,890, for the collection of which no increase to the existing establishment would be needed: the payments on each lessee are placed at such a moderate figure that except under very peculiar circumstances no application for remission should be entertained.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

J. W. M. ANDERSON, Colonel,
Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey.

APPENDIX B.

STATEMENT showing details of cultivation in the Kohistan, also the amount and to whom leases for the Makans should be offered.

Name of Makan.	Approximate gross area square miles.	Estimated area of Ryoti cultivation 1885-86.						Alienated land actual.		Tribe of inhabitants.	Name of tribal Chief or local Headman.	Amount of lease proposed. Rupees.	Name of individual to whom lease should be offered.	REMARKS.
		Irrigated.		Rainfall.		Total.		Survey Nos.	Acres.					
		No. of fields.	Acres.	No. of fields.	Acres.	No. of fields.	Acres.							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1 Maliri	100	...	...	17	7 20	17	7 20	...	...	Gabols, Rhinds, &c...	Nangar Khan, Gabol...	}	Propose to transfer the bulk of these to Schwan & absorb the remainder into Pokhan No. 9.	
2 Chordi	130	...	...	30	58 34	39	58 34	...	...	Gabols, Rhinds, &c...	Nangar Khan, Gabol...			
3 Baddhra	230	...	...	258	143 36	258	143 36	13	40 37	Gabols.	Do.	}	420	Malik Sirdar Khan ...
4 Tiko Buran	110	442	838 30	442	838 30	6	65 35	Numria, Gabols, &c...	Do.				}	100	Do.
5 Beli Tap	70	...	...	92	135 10	92	135 10	3	21 19	Numira.	Do.	}	200	Do.
6 Tong	120	113	230 10	113	230 10	4	746 1	Do.	Do.				}	40	Jhindo Khan, Rhind...
7 Kotraeh	20	...	...	32	30 0	32	30 0	...	...	Rhinds.	Bahawal Khan, Rhind...	}	100	Malik Sirdar Khan ...
8 Pat Karchat	20	129	78 20	129	78 20	1	18 28	Numira, Rhinds, &c...	Malik Sirdar Khan ...				}	150	Nangar Khan, Gabol...
9 Pekhan	80	96	125 8	...	...	96	125 8	...	...	Gabols.	Khan Muhd. Gabol ...	}	60	Khan Muhammad, Gabol or Khudadad, Gabol
0 Rani-je-kot	100	66	66 23	66	66 23	2	9 13	Rhinds, Gabols, &c...	{ Khan Muhd. Gabol. } { Khudadad, Gabol. }				}	50	Malik Sirdar Khan ...
1 Karchat Bathoro	60	...	...	25	39 20	25	39 20	1	20 23	Do.	Hyder, Gabol.	}	150	Do.
2 Khajuri	15	59	279 0	59	279 0	Numria.	Malik Sirdar Khan.				}	150	Do.

Bachani	15	...	...	44	77	20	44	77	20	...	...	Do.	...	...	50	Do.
Thano Arab	45	...	...	67	185	20	67	185	20	...	...	Do.	...	...	120	Do.
Kundi Tarai	30	...	...	34	214	0	34	214	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	130	Do.
Wahi Arab	25	31	294	...	...	...	31	294	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	250	Arab Khan, Numria
Deswi	80	...	...	178	670	0	178	670	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	360	Malik Doda Khan
Gangaro	30	...	...	46	187	20	46	187	20	...	...	Do.	...	...	120	Malik Sirdar Khan
Bhal	150	...	...	199	159	6	199	159	6	...	...	Do.	...	...	200	Do.
Loyach Malik Doda Khan.	40	...	...	89	104	5	89	104	5	...	...	Do.	...	...	70	Malik Doda Khan
Dhanach	20	...	...	88	232	0	88	232	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	130	Do.
Kohar Kala	30	...	...	55	128	0	55	128	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	75	Do.
Kappat	25	...	...	31	97	0	31	97	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	65	Do.
Tak	15	...	...	26	49	0	26	49	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	40	Do.
Hatil Bath	25	...	...	13	15	0	13	15	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	30	Do.
Babar Band	50	...	...	76	382	0	76	382	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	200	Do.
Uth Palan	35	...	...	27	70	0	27	70	0	...	...	Do.	...	...	50	Do.
Sarsing	90	...	...	138	274	5	138	274	5	...	...	Do.	...	...	160	Do.
Loyach Malik Sirdar Khan.	35	...	...	65	99	25	65	99	25	...	...	Do.	...	...	70	Malik Sirdar Khan
Rik	90	...	...	98	263	20	98	263	20	...	...	Do.	...	...	150	Do.
Mohal	270	...	...	231	430	30	231	430	30	...	...	Do.	...	...	350	Do.
Kand	140	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Myher	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mohidan .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Excluded from Kohistan as it is supposed to belong to Karachi Collectorate.

J. W. M. ANDERSON, Colonel,
Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey

APPENDIX C.

STATEMENT showing location, area, &c., of Alienated lands in the Kohistan of Karachi Collectorate:—

Number.	Names of Makan.	Detail of alienated lands.						Jagirdar's.			Class of Jagir.	REMARKS.	
		Irrigated.		Rainfall.		Total.	Name.	Father's Name.	Tribe.				
		Survey No.	Acre.	Survey No.	Acre.								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
3	Baddhra ...	...	A. G. ...	13	A. G. 40 37	13	A. G. 40 37	{ Nangar Khan and 7 others.	Almad Khan	Gabol	...	} 4th
4	Tiko Baran ...	1	34 1	5	31 34	6	65 35	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Sobdar Khan	...	Numria		1st
5	Beli Tap	3	21 19	3	21 19	Sanasi ...	Gul Muhammad	...	Barejo		...
6	Tong ...	1	656 35	3	89 6	4	746 1	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Sobdar Khan	...	Numria		1st
8	Pat Karchat ...	1	18 28	1	18 28	Do.	Do.	...	Do.		1st
10	Rani-jo-Kot...	{	4 10	...	...	1	4 10	Khan Muhammad ...	Dato...	...	Gabol	1st
11	Karchat Bathoro ...	1	5 3	...	...	1	5 3	Khudadad ...	Allahdad ...	...	Do.	1st
14	Thano Arab...	2	10 25	2	30 20	4	41 5	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Sobdar Khan	...	Numria	1st	
15	Kundi Tarai ...	...	...	2	95 35	2	95 35	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	1st
16	Wahi Arab ...	1	42 7	2	25 0	3	67 37	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	1st	

Doubtful as to whether
this has not lapsed.

17	Deswi ...	...	...	...	15	183 38	Malik Doda Khan ...	Sobdar Khan	...	Do.	...	1st
		...	...	...	3	53 24	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Sobdar Khan	...	Do.	...	1st
		1	2 18	...	1	2 18	Syed Bakar Shah ...	Pir Azim Shah	...	Huseni Syed...	...	Mafi garden.
18	Gangiaro ...	...	...	...	1	191 12	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Sobdar Khan	...	Numria	...	1st
19	Bhal...	...	...	...	5	57 25	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
20	Loyach Malik Doda Khan.	...	...	...	18	151 27	Malik Doda Khan ...	Sobdar Khan	...	Do.	...	1st
21	Dhamach ...	...	...	...	8	80 15	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
22	Kuhar Kalu ...	...	...	...	15	139 15	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
23	Kappat ...	...	...	...	8	81 30	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
25	Hatil Bath ...	...	...	...	4	65 2	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
28	Sarising ...	...	...	...	22	323 25	Do.	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st
31	Mohal ...	...	...	...	1	4 33	Malik Sirdar Khan...	Do.	...	Do.	...	1st

NOTE.—The areas shown above are only approximately correct, and are subject to correction on examination and re-calculation of the measurements taken in the field.

J. W. M. ANDERSON, Colonel,
Superintendent, Sind Revenue Survey.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From

Lieutenant-Colonel R. I. CRAWFORD,

Collector of Karachi.

To

H. N. B. ERSKINE, ESQUIRE, C. S., C. S. I.,

Commissioner in Sind.

*Collector's Office,**Camp Buhara, 15th March 1887.*

SIR,

In submitting the Superintendent Survey's proposals for the settlement of the Kohistan country, received for report under your memo. of endorsement No. 2759, dated 6th August last, I have the honour, in the first place, to explain that the papers have been so long detained by me because I wished, when on tour, to have the opportunity of questioning some of the headmen of communities on the spot, and to sound them as to their feelings regarding the leasing of their Makans.

2. The external boundaries of Kohistan proposed by Colonel Anderson are simple and suitable, following, as they do, well-defined and recognized lines, and being in accordance with the watershed of the country.

The plain bounded by the Tak Nai, the Dhari Gaj and the Kharra range is the natural boundary, moreover, it was shown in the old Survey, maps as part of the Tatta Taluka, to which it will revert under the present proposals.

Again, on the north, Colonel Anderson has shown sufficient reasons for detaching from Kohistan the greater portions of Makans Buddhra, Chordi and Maliri, which drain into the Manchar, and are much more accessible from Sehwan than from Bula Khan's Thano.

3. In para. 17 of his report the Superintendent treats of the claims put forward by the Malik (then Sirdar Khan, now Sobdar Khan,) of the Numrias to the whole of Kohistan, from Sehwan to the north down to Gudap, near Karachi on the south, and from the eastern plains up to the Hab river on the west. He concludes with the expression of his opinion that unless the Maliks have very much better proofs than any they have hitherto produced it is not worth while entering further into their claims.

In this opinion I coincide—the claims may be disposed of in a few words. They are identical with those preferred before Sir Charles Napier at the time of the conquest, and which were based apparently on two Sanads issued by Nur Muhammad and Murad Ali Shah Kalhoros, dated respectively 1741 and 1763

A settlement of the above Kohistan claims on the following basis was however then agreed to by Malik Ahmad Khan, and a Sanad issued to him accordingly under the seal of the Governor of Sind. Terms of Sanad—"All the lands in the hill tracts which have been cultivated by Ahmad Khan, or his followers, within five years of this date to be measured, and the same to be made over to him under a new Sanad bearing His Excellency the Governor's seal. The rest of the hill country belongs to Government."

4. Thirty years ago it was considered that any measures taken by Government for the extension of agriculture in favourable localities in Kohistan "should be calculated to meet the demand which may spontaneously arise, rather than to create such demand." Now, however, I venture to think the time has arrived when, for the further development of agriculture, which has steadily increased of late years, some steps should be taken for deputing an Engineer Officer of judgment and experience on special duty for the purpose of enquiring into the capabilities of the country for irrigation by the construction of weirs in suitable positions in the beds of mountain streams and so retaining considerable heads of water.

5. For the present I can see no better scheme for making the hillmen pay something towards the revenue than that sketched out by the Superintendent of Survey. I am not in favour of a proposition for exchanging the Kohistan country with the Malik for his Jagirs in the Tatta Division. Inter-tribal disputes would assuredly result from such an arrangement, and, apart from this, I question whether it would be desirable that the Malik or any other Chief should wield so extended an authority in the hill country.

6. As regards the rates proposed by Colonel Anderson I think they are very reasonable. Eight annas per acre was the rate imposed 20 years ago, and although, as observed by an Assistant Collector of Sehwan (Mr. Edgerley) "it would be necessary to impose at first such a rate as would not compare unfavourably with the Jagir batai, a heavier assessment would certainly check the spread of cultivation, and tend to transfer what already exists to Jagir lands." I do not think (S) eight annas per acre too high for cultivated land, and the rate of batai on cultivation and the scale of grazing fees seem both very reasonable.

7. Condition (d) of para. 12 of the Survey Superintendent's report gives the Collector the power to cancel a lease at his discretion for misconduct on the part of the lease-holder, and I do not think any reference to the District Superintendent of Police is needed in the matter of special conditions to be observed with regard to the assistance to be rendered by the police, and the responsibility of lease-holders for the safety of property within the limits of their Makans. Lease-holders might, in default of a more appropriate name, be called "Makandars," and by virtue of their position they should be entitled to carry a sword and to take a chair.

8. Colonel Anderson, in para. 12 of his report, proposes that the leases should be given, as far as possible, to the headman or Chief of the tribe that principally inhabits the Makan, but in column 15 of Appendix B. it will be seen that out of 28 Makans to be dealt with he proposes that the leases of 14 should be offered to the Malik (now Sobdar Khan), and 10 to his cousin Doda Khan.

On the whole I am inclined to think it would be better that column 15 should be left blank for the present, and that the Collector should be authorised to give out the Makans on lease, offering the leases in the first place to the heads of communities, and failing these to the Chiefs of tribes.

The occupants of lands in each Makan should be allowed the opportunity of putting forward a "Makandar" of their own, it being notified to

them that failing to do this within a fixed period the leases would be offered to the Chiefs of tribes.

The above suggestion is made because besides Numrias and Gabols there are Rhinds, Khosas, Jokias, &c., in Kohistan, and wherever these might preponderate in a Makan it would be well that they should have a chance of representation. And, again, should the communities in Makans fail to put forward headmen as "Makandars," it would not be open to them afterwards to urge as a grievance that their interests had been arbitrarily subordinated to those of the Jagirdars.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

R. I. CRAWFORD, Lieutenant-Colonel,

Collector of Karachi.

