

MY TRAVELS IN
CHINA, JAPAN
AND JAVA, 1903



Allen & Co. Jr.

Jagjit Singh
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MY TRAVELS IN CHINA, JAPAN AND JAVA, 1903

By H.H. THE RAJA-I-RAJGAN
JAGATJIT SINGH of Kapurthala

WITH 56 ILLUSTRATIONS
A PHOTOGRAVURE FRONTISPIECE
AND A MAP

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H. H.
Rani
Sahiba.

Dr.
Païra
Mal.

Lala
Shivnarain,
His Highness,
Acting Secretary.



HIS HIGHNESS AND PARTY.

[Facing p. 1.

P R E F A C E

THIS book is written chiefly as a record of my brief visit to the Far East and for the purpose of presentation to my friends. It makes no pretension to literary excellence, being designed more as a record of facts and personal impressions of people and places seen, than to emphasise any claim, on my part, to consideration from the public as an author.

It may, I hope, be found interesting to those who are now following the course of the war between Russia and Japan, as it describes, to a certain extent, some things about the latter country, and it gives a brief account of some interesting parts of Manchuria and other places, on which, owing to the war, public interest is now centred. Impending hostilities rendered my visit to Japan peculiarly opportune, and the study of the people of that country an unusually interesting one.

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From the standpoint of the traveller, Japan is perhaps one of the most interesting countries in the world; the country itself is full of delightful and varied scenery, while its people possess a charm of appearance and manner unlike anything of the kind to be met with elsewhere.

Parts of China and Java were also visited by me ; but of the people of those countries I have little to say in praise. The Chinese appear to be indifferent to the course of present events ; they seem to possess no national ideals, and I was much struck by the obvious individual selfishness of the people, among whom patriotism and public spirit had no existence. The Javanese are absolutely apathetic ; a display of energy on their part seems an impossibility. Both countries are, however, interesting and well worth a visit.

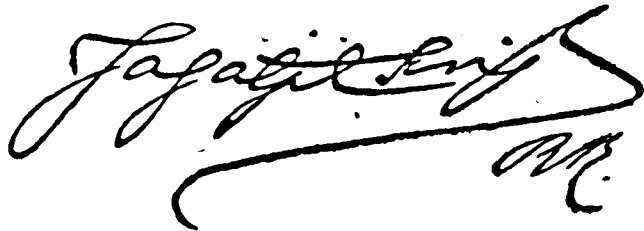
My only regret, in connection with this record, is that the time at my disposal having been very limited, I was perforce able to give a short and usually insufficient time to the observation of the habits and thoughts of the different people I came in contact with ; a whole year could easily have been spent on this quest.

It now only remains for me to acknowledge the

Preface

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invariable kindness and hospitality with which I was met on all hands during my travels, and to thank all those who assisted me in my search for information and particulars of the different places I visited.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jagajit Singh". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line. Below the line, there are some additional scribbles or initials.

KAPURTHALA,

December 1, 1904.

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