

**CENSUS OF INDIA, 1911**

**VOLUME II**

---

**THE ANDAMAN**

**AND**

**NICOBAR ISLANDS**

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**Part I—REPORT**

**Part II—TABLES**

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# CENSUS OF INDIA, 1911

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VOLUME II

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## THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

Part I—REPORT

Part II—TABLES

BY

R. F. LOWIS,

*Superintendent of Census Operations*



CALCUTTA  
SUPERINTENDENT GOVERNMENT PRINTING, INDIA  
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## INTRODUCTION.

In the Census Report for 1901, the first ever written for the Andamans and Nicobars, Colonel Sir Richard Temple gave a great deal of information of an ethnological and ethnographic nature, which besides being of great interest, was of considerable scientific value, embodying as it did most of the information available at the time of writing, concerning the races dealt with. The greater part of this information has since been embodied in the administrative Gazetteer. During the last decade, moreover, that is to say since the publication of the Gazetteer, the Andamanese race has been made the subject of scientific observation and study, by an ethnologist of repute, and though the results of his researches have not been as yet published, it is understood that they will very shortly be available for reference. In the present report, therefore, I have avoided as far as possible the repetition of scientific information given in the last report, and have tried to impart general, rather than scientific, information concerning the races dealt with; and of that, only sufficient to enable the reader to form some conception of their general characteristics, so that he may the better understand the questions dealt with in the body of the report.

The population of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands is divided, for purposes of consideration in this report, into three distinct and separate sections, *viz.*—

1. The population of the Penal Settlement of Port Blair.
2. The aboriginal population of the Andamans.
3. The population of the Nicobar Islands.

The methods adopted in taking the census in each of these sections were different. The figures for each section are shown separately in those tables in which they appear. In the body of the report, therefore, each section has been treated separately, both in the chapter on the census, and under the several headings selected for special considerations.

In writing the report it has been found somewhat difficult to adhere to the scheme laid down by the Census Commissioner for the modelling of Provincial Reports. The artificial conditions under which the population of the Penal Settlement has been built up, added to the smallness of the numbers dealt with, render the figures arrived at of little scientific value, and make it impossible to deal with the questions raised on the same lines as in other provinces.

In writing of the Andamanese tribes, I have made use, as did my predecessor in the report for 1901, of the abbreviated form of the tribal names as used among the Aka-Bea tribe. Below are given for reference the full Andamanese tribal names according to the Aka-Bea dialect, with the abbreviations used.

Full.	Abbreviated.	Full.	Abbreviated.
Aka-Chariar (da)	Chariar.	Aka-Kol (da)	Kol.
Aka-Kora (da)	Kora.	Aka-Bojigyab (da)	Bojigyab.
Aka-Tabo (da)	Tabo.	Aka-Balawa (da)	Balawa.
Aka-Yere (da)	Yere.	Aka-Bea (da)	Bea.
Aka-Kede (da)	Kede.	Onge	Onge.
Oko-Juwai (da)	Juwai.	Jarawa (da)	Jarawa.

In the preparation of my report, I have made free use of Sir R. C. Temple's report on the census of 1901, and of his unpublished notes on the Andamans and Nicobars. I have also drawn on Mr. M. V. Portman's work "Our relations with the Andamanese," and on Mr. Boden Kloss' book "The Andamans and Nicobars." I am also indebted to Mr. E. H. Man for his great kindness in looking through the notes for my report, and also for his valuable note on the custom of male couvade in the Nicobars.

I am indebted to Messrs. Evans and Fawcett for their assistance in the work of taking the census of the Andamanese and Nicobarese races; also to Mr. M. C. Bonig, whose personal knowledge of the Andamanese and his experience in the navigation of the Islands were invaluable.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to Captain Emerson of the Bengal Pilot Service, Commanding the B. G. S. "Guide," and to Captain Forteach, R.I.M., who acted as Navigating Officer throughout the trips to the Nicobars. Without their ready assistance in carrying out the programme, entailing as it did much intricate navigation in difficult and practically unsurveyed waters, the operation could not have been carried to a successful conclusion.

R. F. LOWIS.

LONDON:  
*The 10th March 1912.*

*P.S.*—The original of this report, which was written whilst on leave in England, was on the 13th March 1912, posted to India, there to be set up in print, and so was with the Indian Parcel Mails on board the ill-fated "Oceana" when she was lost off Beachy Head on the morning of Saturday the 16th March 1912.

The greater part of the report was in print, and so replaceable, but a certain portion was in type, and the duplicate copies of this part, together with all notes and books of reference from which it was compiled, were with my personal baggage, also on the "Oceana," and were consequently lost at the same time as the report. I was therefore obliged to postpone the reconstruction of the report till after my return to India. The consequent delay in publication has not been altogether disadvantageous, as it has enabled me to include in the report two interesting articles, the one on "Insanity in the Andamans," and the other on "Convict Marriages in the Andamans," for both of which I am indebted to their author, Major Woolley, I.M.S., Senior Medical Officer, Port Blair, with whose consent the notes in question are reproduced in the Appendix to the report.

R. F. L.

PORT BLAIR;  
*The 15th May 1912.*