

LONGMANS' REGIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIES OF INDIA

# THE INDIAN EMPIRE

PART III. NORTH-WEST INDIA

F. G. FRENCH  
AND  
L. DUDLEY STAMP

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BY

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## PREFACE

THIS book is the fourth of a series embracing the whole of India and Burma. Like its predecessors (*A Geography of Burma for Schools* and *Longmans' Regional Geographies of India, Parts I and II, North-East and Peninsular India*) it has been written with two objects in view. A prime-essential in the equipment of every educated person is a knowledge of his own country and an appreciation of its relationship with other countries in the life and work of the world. The first book aimed at giving the boys and girls of Burma that instruction. The authors considered that India is too vast to be treated as a whole, for it is just as difficult for the boy or girl living in the Gangetic Plain to picture life in the arid north-west or the hills of Peninsular India as to picture conditions in a foreign country. The present book is therefore divided into two very distinct parts. The first part aims at imparting a knowledge of that part of India which to the boy living in the north-west may be called 'his own country'; the second part (which forms Part IV of *Longmans' Regional Geographies of India*) will extend the principles learnt in the first part to the whole of India and indicate the relationship between India and the world beyond.

The second object which has been kept in mind is that of presenting the matter in such a way as will, it is hoped, afford the teacher every possible help in his lessons, so that he may feel assured that his pupils thoroughly understand the great fundamental principles underlying the study of geography as exemplified in North-western India.

The general plan of each of the first nine chapters is the same—a simple introduction to the main geographical

principle involved followed by a study of how that principle works in North-western India. Chapters X to XIX treat in detail each Natural Region. Here the teacher may, if so desired, select first those which fall within the Province in which the school is situated. The chapter devoted to Political Divisions will assist in this respect. These are followed by a chapter on Communications which serves to link up what has gone before. The last chapter sums up the whole by a study of local trade, including foreign trade from the area studied. Part IV, where the whole of India is treated, will then follow on naturally, but if the teacher has omitted any of the Chapters X to XIX they should be taken before Part IV or during the work of Part IV.

A word is necessary on the exercises at the end of each chapter. Help for both teacher and pupil has been the great consideration in the wording and arrangement of every paragraph in the book and various teaching devices of proved value have been enlisted in this cause ; simplicity of presentation (by no means an easy task in the case of many important geographical principles), maps, diagrams, comparisons, and homely illustrations—aids which have proved of use in the actual teaching of the subject have been included. But it is not possible to put every question that the teacher must ask his pupils, or to give every exercise possible and necessary for a thorough 'driving home' of every point. Therefore the exercises are meant to serve as guides only. The teacher should draw up at least twenty more exercises on each chapter similar to those given. Original exercises are the life and soul of good teaching, and the study of geography offers a most delightful field for this work. Questions which demand merely a reproduction of the text are deadly dull and unprofitable, and mark the teacher who sets them as a failure. Original exercises are a pleasure to the teacher who invents them, and a source of delight to the pupils who solve them.

This volume follows the scheme originally drawn up by one of us (F. G. F.), elaborated and used by both of us in the volume for Burma, but the present work has been written entirely by one of us (L. D. S.) who must be considered responsible for the facts therein. The work is based almost entirely on Official Publications, especially Census Reports and Annual Reports on Rainfall, Agriculture, Irrigation, Railways, Sea-Borne Trade, Commerce, etc., published by the Government of India and some Provincial Governments. The authors wish, however, to record their indebtedness to Douie's 'Kashmir, Punjab and N. W. F. Province' (*Provincial Geographies of India*).

Mr. H. L. Chhibber, M.Sc. (Lahore), F.R.G.S., has kindly read through the regional part and assisted the authors by placing at their disposal his wide knowledge of his native land.

Finally, the book contains nothing which is beyond the comprehension of Middle School pupils. Special attention has been paid to the requirements of the various Middle School Syllabuses in the Provinces of the North-West, Punjab, Bombay, etc. and the States of Kashmir, Rajputana, etc., and every attempt has been made to include all information on the Province or State and India required by the varied curricula in the different Provinces and States.

Rangoon, 1926.

L. D. S.

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