YEOTMAL

CENTRAL PROVINCES DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

(FACSIMILE REPRODUCTION)

YEOTMAL DISTRICT

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VOLUME A



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The then Government of the Bombay Presidency undertook the compilation and publication of the Gazetteers in the District and State Series in 1874 and completed the work in 1884. The Series had 27 volumes, some split into two and three parts making a total of 35 books. These Gazetteers compiled over ninety years ago have now become scarce and entirely out of print. Though most of these volumes have now been thoroughly revised and published, the utility of the Gazetteers in the Old Series is still undiminished because they contained authentic and useful information on several aspects of life which had the impress of profound scholarship and learning and which has not lost its utility due to the mere passage of time. It was, therefore, felt necessary to preserve this fund of information for posterity. There was also a popular demand that these Gazetteers should be reprinted even though a much better and informative revised edition is available. With these considerations in view it was thought that the Gazetteers volumes in the Old Series should be reprinted. I am happy to present this facsimile reproduction of the same.

I am thankful to the Director, Government Printing and Stationery, Shri S. A. Sapre and Shri R. B. Alva, Manager, Government Photozinco Press, Pune and the other staff in the Press for expeditiously completing the work of reprinting.

B. G. KUNTE,

Executive Editor and Secretary.

Bombay.

Dated 28th March 1979.

CENTRAL PROVINCES DISTRICT GAZETTEERS

YEOTMAL DISTRICT

VOLUME A DESCRIPTIVE

 $\mathbf{B}\mathbf{Y}$

C. BROWN, Assistant Commissioner

R. V. RUSSELL, GAZETTEER SUPERINTENDENT



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PREFATORY NOTE.

In this volume, Chapter II, History and Archæology is written by Major W. Haig: the sections on Language, Religion, Caste and Social Life and Customs by R. V. Russell, Gazetteer Superintendent; and the remainder of the volume by C. Brown, Assistant Commissioner, Yeotmäl. Information has been borrowed very freely from Sir A. C. Lyall's Gazetteer for the Hyderabad Assigned Districts (1870) and the draft copy of Major W. Haig's volume on Berar in the Imperial Gazetteer of 1906. A number of details about minor castes are taken from Mr. E. J. Kitts' interesting Census Report of Berär for 1881. The sections on Botany, Wild Animals and Forests are based almost entirely on information supplied by Mr. C. A. Von B. Malcolm, Divisional Forest Officer: the medical paragraphs on notes written by Mr. J. Robertson, Civil Surgeon of Yeotmal; and the paragraph about excise on a memorandum by Mr. Raghunāth Prasād, Extra Assistant Commissioner and Excise Assistant. Numerous points of description in the Appendix were recorded by Mr. T. E. Bromley, I.C.S. The Taluk Reports of the original settlement werewritten by Major P. A. Elphinstone and Mr. R. R. Beynon. and those of the revision settlement by Mr. F. W. Francis and Mr. E. Marshall, the latter of whom has also contributed some special notes on settlement operations and agriculture. A great part of the section on Geology is merely abridged from Mr. T. H. Holland's chapter on this subject in the first volume of 'The Indian Empire' in the Imperial Gazetteer of India of 1907. Some interesting information has been taken from a manuscript,

Marāthī History of Wūn, written by the late Mr. Nīl-kanth Lakshman, Tahsīldār. Various official records have been consulted and personal enquiries have been made as far as was possible in the time allotted for the work. Vernacular terms have been given in Marāthī except in cases in which a Hindustāni word is in common official use.

C. B.

R. V. R.

YEOTMAL: 7th February, 1908.

YEOTMAL DISTRICT GAZETTEER.

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