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LAND-SYSTEMS  
OF  
BRITISH INDIA

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THE  
LAND-SYSTEMS  
OF  
BRITISH INDIA



BEING

*A MANUAL OF THE LAND-TENURES AND OF THE  
SYSTEMS OF LAND-REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
PREVALENT IN THE SEVERAL PROVINCES*

BY

B. H. BADEN-POWELL, C.I.E.

F.R.S.E., M.R.A.S.

LATE OF THE BENGAL CIVIL SERVICE, AND ONE OF THE JUDGES OF THE  
CHIEF COURT OF THE PANJÁB

*WITH MAPS*

VOL. I

BOOK I: GENERAL.    BOOK II: BENGAL

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TO

SIR DIETRICH BRANDIS, K.C.I.E., PH.D., F.R.S.

(LATE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF FORESTS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)

I DEDICATE THESE VOLUMES

AS A TRIBUTE OF PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP

AND OF ADMIRATION FOR AN OFFICIAL CAREER

WHICH, MARKED THROUGHOUT BY DEVOTION TO THE PUBLIC GOOD

HAS BORNE FRUIT IN LASTING BENEFITS

TO THE INDIAN EMPIRE

## NOTICE

---

IN 1882, the Government of India printed at Calcutta a *Manual of the Land-Tenures and Land-Revenue Systems of British India*, which was written by me under the orders of Government. The edition was exhausted in two or three years; but as about that time great changes in the law were under consideration, it was thought desirable to await the passing of the Bengal Tenancy Act (1885), the Oudh Rent Act (1886), and the Panjáb Land-Revenue and Tenancy Acts (1887)—to say nothing of minor enactments—before preparing a new edition.

When (in 1888-9) things seemed ripe for a new issue corrected and brought up to date, I found that so much had to be altered and added, and that such improvements might be made, especially in the chapters on Land-Tenures, that it would be better to write a new book. The present work is therefore independent of the original volume, except as regards a very few pages. It has also been illustrated by maps. In this form it is much larger, and may be less adapted for the purposes of some officials who have to pass an examination in Land-Revenue subjects: on the other hand, it will have become, I hope, much better suited to the needs of others; and it is certainly more

complete as a general handbook of the Land-Systems of British India.

As regards Forest-Officers and others for whom the present work is too detailed, or contains too much on branches of Revenue work—such as Assessment—with which they are not practically concerned, it will be easy to meet their requirements by the subsequent issue of a 'Primer' or Shorter Manual especially written for them.

B. H. B. P.

OXFORD :

*March, 1892.*



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

L.R. = Land-Revenue. S. = Settlement.

## VOL. I.—GENERAL, BENGAL.

### BOOK I.—GENERAL.

CHAP.	PAGE.
I.—INTRODUCTORY . . . . .	1-29
II.—OF THE PROVINCES UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, AND HOW THEY WERE CREATED . . . . .	30-75
III.—OF THE INDIAN LEGISLATURES, AND THE LAWS BY WHICH INDIA IS GOVERNED . . . . .	76-93
IV.—A GENERAL VIEW OF THE LAND-TENURES OF BRITISH INDIA . . . . .	94-240
SECT. I.—Nature of the Subject . . . . .	94
„ II.—The Village . . . . .	104
„ III.—Tenures arising out of L.-R. grants and L.-R. farming . . . . .	179
„ IV.—Modification of tenures by superim- position of new interests . . . . .	191
„ V.—The relation of Landlord and Tenant . . . . .	206
„ VI.—The nature of property in land . . . . .	216
V.—A GENERAL VIEW OF THE LAND-REVENUE SYSTEMS . . . . .	241-386
SECT. I.—Introductory . . . . .	241
„ II.—Origin of the L.-R. . . . .	246
„ III.—Ancient authorities regarding the ‘King’s share’ . . . . .	264

CHAP.	PAGE
SECT. IV.—The beginning of regular Assessment under Native rule . . . . .	274
„ V.—The beginning of British Systems . . . . .	281
„ VI.—The main principles of the Bengal Settlement and what has resulted from them . . . . .	286
„ VII.—Results of the acquisition of other Provinces . . . . .	291
„ VIII.—The machinery of British L.-R. Administration . . . . .	323
„ IX.—Résumé of the principles of L.-R. Assessment . . . . .	328
„ X.—The modern question of a general Permanent Settlement . . . . .	340
„ XI.—The Department of Agriculture and Revenue . . . . .	349
„ XII.—Reform in Procedure for Re-Settlements . . . . .	355
„ XIII.—Suspension and remission of Land-Revenue . . . . .	369
„ XIV.—Conclusion . . . . .	373
<i>Appendix.</i> —(Extract from the <i>Gazette of India</i> of 31st March, 1888, being a review of the later L.-R. Administration by the Finance Member of the Governor-General's Council) . . . . .	376

### BOOK II.—BENGAL.

I.—THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT . . . . .	389-442
II.—THE TEMPORARY SETTLEMENTS . . . . .	443-500
SECT. I.—Introductory . . . . .	443
„ II.—The Temp. S. Law and Procedure . . . . .	450
„ III.—The Orissa Settlements . . . . .	473
„ IV.—The Waste Land Rules . . . . .	479
„ V.—The L.-R. System of Chittagong . . . . .	489
„ VI.— „ „ of the Chutiya Nagpur Districts . . . . .	493

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

xi

CHAP.	PAGE
SECT. VII.—The L.-R. System of the Santál Pergunnahs . . . . .	496
„ VIII.— „ „ of Jalpaigúri and Darjiling . . . . .	498
III.—THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .	501-597
SECT. I.—General remarks . . . . .	501
„ II.—The Zamíndár Landlord . . . . .	504
„ III.—Other proprietary tenures . . . . .	524
„ IV.—Revenue-free Holdings . . . . .	527
„ V.—Proprietary tenures of modern origin . . . . .	532
„ VI.—‘Tenures’ (in a special sense) . . . . .	533
„ VII.—Land-tenures of Chittagong . . . . .	554
„ VIII.— „ „ Orissa . . . . .	561
„ IX.— „ „ Chutiya Nágpur . . . . .	574
„ X.— „ „ Santál Pergunnahs . . . . .	588
IV.—THE RELATION OF LANDLORD AND TENANT . . . . .	598-661
V.—THE LAND-REVENUE OFFICERS . . . . .	662-680
VI.—LAND-REVENUE BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .	681-699

VOL. II.

BOOK III.—THE SYSTEM OF VILLAGE OR MAHÁL SETTLEMENTS.

PART I.—THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES AND OUDH.

I.—THE L.-R. SETTLEMENT (N.-W. P.) . . . . .	1-97
SECT. I.—Introductory . . . . .	1
„ II.—Early Revenue History (1801-1833) . . . . .	11
„ III.—L.-R. Settlement Procedure . . . . .	27
„ IV.—Principles of Assessment . . . . .	41
„ V.—Arrangements following the Assessment . . . . .	81
„ VI.—Land Records prepared at S. . . . .	84
Appendix.—Rules for Assessment framed under Act XIX of 1873 . . . . .	92

CHAP.	PAGE
II.—THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .	98-194
SECT. I.—General Remarks . . . . .	98
,, II.—The Village-Tenures . . . . .	108
,, III.—Revenue-free Holdings . . . . .	154
,, IV.—The Taluqdárf or Double Tenure . . . . .	157
,, V.—Tenants . . . . .	167
III.—THE OUDH LAND-SYSTEM . . . . .	195-267
PART I.—The Land-Tenures . . . . .	196-255
,, II.—The L.-R. Settlement . . . . .	255-267
IV.—LAND-REVENUE OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE (N.-W. P. AND OUDH) . . . . .	268-305
V.—ON CERTAIN SPECIAL DISTRICTS IN THE N.-W. P. . . . .	306-318
SECT. I.—South Mirzapur . . . . .	306
,, II.—Kumáon and Garhwál . . . . .	308
,, III.—The Taráí . . . . .	315
,, IV.—Jáonsar Báwar . . . . .	316

#### PART II.—AJMER-MERWARÁ.

I.—HISTORY OF THE PROVINCE . . . . .	319-326
II.—THE TENURE OF LAND . . . . .	327-330
III.—THE BRITISH LAND SYSTEM . . . . .	331-341
IV.—ADMINISTRATIVE AND L.-R. SYSTEM . . . . .	342-367

#### PART III.—THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

I.—THE OLD SETTLEMENTS . . . . .	368-405
II.—THE NEW SETTLEMENTS . . . . .	406-439
III.—THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .	440-499
IV.—THE L.-R. OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .	500-531

#### PART IV.—THE PANJÁB.

I.—THE L.-R. SETTLEMENTS . . . . .	532-608
II.—THE LAND TENURES . . . . .	609-726
SECT. I.—General Considerations . . . . .	609
,, II.—The N.-W. Frontier Tract . . . . .	633

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

xiii

CHAP.		PAGE
SECT. III.—The Southern River Tract . . .		657
„ IV.—The Central Districts . . .		665
„ V.—The Cis-Sutlej Districts . . .		677
„ VI.—The S.-E. Frontier (Delhi Districts) .		684
„ VII.—The Hill Districts . . .		692
„ VIII.—The Double Tenure . . .		697
„ IX.—Revenue-free Holdings . . .		698
„ X.—Tenants . . .		703
„ XI.—The Special Law and Local features of the Hazára District . . .		722
III.—THE L.-R. OFFICIALS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . .		727-771

✓ VOL. III.

BOOK IV.—THE RAIYATWÁRÍ AND  
ALLIED SYSTEMS.

PART I.—MADRAS.

I.—THE EARLY SYSTEM OF L.-R. ADMINISTRATION	1-50
II.—THE MODERN SETTLEMENT SYSTEM . . .	51-83
III.—THE L.-R. OFFICIALS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . .	84-107
IV.—THE LAND-TENURES . . .	108-194
SECT. I.—History of the Madras Village . . .	109
„ II.—The Raiyatwárí Tenure of the present day	128
„ III.—The Zamíndarí and other Landlord Tenures . . .	130
„ IV.—The Tenures depending on L.-R. grant	139
„ V.—The Tenure of Waste Lands . . .	141
„ VI.—Tenancies and Under-Tenancies . . .	142
„ VII.—South Canara . . .	143
„ VIII.—Malabár . . .	151
„ IX.—The Nílگیری District . . .	184

CHAP.		PAGE
	✓ PART II.—BOMBAY (AND SINDH).	
I.—	THE SURVEY SETTLEMENT . . . . .	197-247
II.—	THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .	248-306
	SECT. I.—Introductory . . . . .	248
	„ II.—Village Tenures . . . . .	251
	„ III.—Modern legal definition of the Village Landholder's right . . . . .	269
	„ IV.—Double Tenures . . . . .	275
	„ V.—'Alienated' Lands . . . . .	298
	„ VI.—Rights in Trees . . . . .	304
III.—	THE L.-R. OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .	307-320
IV.—	THE LAND-TENURES AND S. OF SINDH . . . . .	321-344
	✓ PART III.—BERÁR.	
I.—	THE SETTLEMENT . . . . .	345-356
II.—	THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .	357-382
	SECT. I.—Introductory . . . . .	357
	„ II.—Village Tenures . . . . .	358
	„ III.—Tenure by Office . . . . .	372
	„ IV.—Tenure by Grant . . . . .	376
III.—	THE L.-R. OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .	383-391
	PART IV.—ASSAM.	
I.—	INTRODUCTORY . . . . .	392-395
II.—	THE ASSAM VALLEY OR ASSAM PROPER (History, Land-Tenures, L.-R. Settlement) . . . . .	396-429
III.—	THE SPECIAL DISTRICTS . . . . .	430-457
	SECT. I.—Goálpára . . . . .	430
	„ II.—Cachar . . . . .	433
	„ III.—Sylhet . . . . .	443
	„ IV.—The Hill Districts . . . . .	451
IV.—	THE L.-R. OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .	458-464

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

XV

CHAP.	PART V.—COORG.	PAGE
I.—GENERAL HISTORY . . . . .		465-468
II.—THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .		469-479
III.—L.-R. ADMINISTRATION . . . . .		480-482
PART VI.—BURMA.		
I.—GENERAL FEATURES OF THE PROVINCE . . . . .		483-488
II.—THE LAND-TENURES . . . . .		489-508
III.—THE L.-R. SETTLEMENT . . . . .		509-526
IV.—THE L.-R. OFFICERS, THEIR BUSINESS AND PROCEDURE . . . . .		527-533
V.—UPPER BURMA . . . . .		534-544
VI.—THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS . . . . .		545-548
INDEX OF SUBJECTS (ENGLISH) . . . . .		549-587
INDEX OF SUBJECTS AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS (VERNACLULAR) . . . . .		589-632

LIST OF MAPS, ETC.

VOL. I

India, showing the sequence of Territorial acquisition	<i>in a pocket.</i>
India, showing the different systems of Land-Revenue Settlement . . . . .	<i>in a pocket.</i>
Table showing Surveyed and Assessed Area in 1886-87.	<i>to face page 375</i>
Sketch map of Bengal . . . . .	" 389

VOL. II.

Sketch map of the North-West Provinces and Oudh . . . . .	<i>to face page 3</i>
{ Soils classified by Settlement officers . . . . .	" 78
{ Tract as further classified by Settlement officers for purposes of assessment . . . . .	" 78
Sketch map of Central Provinces showing distribution of area . . . . .	" 368
Panjab and surrounding countries . . . . .	" 532
Sketch map showing distribution of tribes in the Gujrat district . . . . .	" 671

VOL. III.

Madras Presidency . . . . .	<i>to face page 3</i>
Bombay Presidency . . . . .	" 197
Assam . . . . .	" 392
Burma and adjacent countries . . . . .	" 483

# ERRATA

## VOL. I

- P. 15, l. 26. Panjáb also, *dele* also
- P. 19, l. 6. The closing bracket should be at the end of the sentence, just before the full stop.
- P. 103, l. 6 from the bottom, *for for* read from
- P. 104, l. 1, *for has read* have
- P. 110, l. 9, *for is read* are
- P. 118, l. 3, *for for* instance read possible
- P. 172, l. 3, *for and* read or
- P. 183, *note* (last line but one), *for were* read was
- P. 197, l. 20, *for for* read from
- P. 232, l. 11, *after Malleon says insert (?) note* reference.
- P. 301, l. 11, *for* Sec. VII. read Sec. VI.
- P. 323 (heading of section), *for* Sec. IX. read Sec. VIII. and so on, to the end.
- P. 407, § 8, *should be headed* SECTION II: THE PROCEDURE OF THE SETTLEMENT.
- P. 412, l. 29, *for were read* had been
- P. 466, l. 1, *for from* read for
- P. 552, l. 18, *for it at all* read it all



## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EMPLOYED TO INDICATE CERTAIN WORKS FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO.

FULL TITLE.	REFERRED TO AS
<p>Fifth Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Affairs of the East India Company (1812). This was reprinted at Madras in 1866 and 1883 (2 vols.)</p>	<p>'Fifth Report.'</p>
<p>Harington's Analysis of the Bengal Regulations, 1821 (3 vols.). (I have used also a Reprint of the portion relating to the Revenue System, published at Calcutta, Government Press, 1866)</p>	<p>'Harington.'</p>
<p>A Memoir of Central India, including Malwa and adjoining Provinces, &amp;c., by Major-General Sir John Malcolm, 1824. (Reprint from the 3rd Edition. 2 vols. Calcutta, Thacker &amp; Spink, 1880)</p>	<p>'Malcolm.'</p>
<p>Annals and Antiquities of Rajast'han, or the Central and Western Rajpoot States of India, by Lieutenant-Colonel James Tod, 1829. (Third Reprint. 2 vols. Madras, Higginbotham, 1880)</p>	<p>'Tod.'</p>
<p>The Present Land-Tax in India, &amp;c. (Lt.-Col.) John Briggs. (1 vol. London, Longmans, 1830)</p>	<p>'Briggs.'</p>

FULL TITLE.	REFERRED TO AS
The Administration of the East India Company. John William Kaye. (London, R. Bentley, 1853) . . . . .	'Kaye.'
The Land Tax of India, by Neil B. E. Baillie. (London, Smith & Elder, 1873) . . . . .	'Baillie.'
Lectures on Indian Law, by W. Markby, M.A., one of the Judges of the High Court. (Calcutta, 1873) . . . . .	'Markby.'
The Law relating to the Land-Tenures of Lower Bengal. Tagore Law Lectures, 1874-75, by Arthur Phillips. (Calcutta, 1876) . . . . .	'Phillips.'
Report on the Land-Revenue System, Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, 1882-83, submitted by the Board to Government of Bengal, October 31st, 1883. (Calcutta, Secretariat Press)	'Report, 1883.'
Landholding and the Relation of Landlord and Tenant in Various Countries, by C. D. Field, LL.D. 2nd edition. (Calcutta, Thacker and Spink, 1885) . . . . .	'Field.'
The Bengal Tenancy Act, VIII of 1885 (as amended by Act VIII of 1886), with notes and rulings, &c., by R. F. Rampini and M. Finucane. 2nd edition. (Calcutta, Thacker, Spink & Co., 1889) . . . . .	'R. and F. Tenancy Act.'
'Settlement Report' (of various districts) . . . . .	'S. R.'

*BOOK I.*  
GENERAL.

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CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTORY.

- „ II. THE PROVINCES UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND HOW THEY WERE CREATED.
- „ III. THE INDIAN LEGISLATURE AND THE LAWS BY WHICH INDIA IS GOVERNED.
- „ IV. A GENERAL VIEW OF THE LAND-TENURES OF INDIA.
- „ V. A GENERAL VIEW OF THE LAND-REVENUE SYSTEMS OF INDIA.