

SUN-BABIES

STUDIES IN THE CHILD-LIFE
OF INDIA

BY CORNELIA SORABJI

LONDON

JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET, W.

1904

Y11:3.2

D4

891

CONTENTS

CHAP.	PAGE
I. MY MASTER'S SLAVE	1
II. THE CHOTA CHAUKIDAR	22
III. FLEETFOOT	47
IV. THE DOLL FESTIVAL	74
V. CEREMONIES AND GREEN ROOMS	92
VI. MERA—THE STUDY OF A PARSEE CHILD	111
VII. SON-OF-THE-WIND	123
VIII. THE FEAST OF LIGHTS	133

GLOSSARY

<i>Badmaāsh</i>	. . .	An evil character : a worthless one : a rake
<i>Badzat</i>	. . .	Ignoble one.
• <i>Bak-bak</i>	. . .	Chatter : foolish talk.
<i>Banawat</i>	. . .	Invention.
<i>Chaudhari</i>	. . .	(lit.) A headman.
<i>Chaukidar</i>	. . .	A watchman.
<i>Chaprassi</i>	. . .	A messenger (so called from his wearing a <i>chaprās</i> or plate engraved with the name of his master).
<i>Dustoori</i>	. . .	Commission.
<i>Dhobi</i>	. . .	A washerman.
<i>Ekka</i>	. . .	A cart.
<i>Gareeb-par-war</i>	. . .	Protector of the poor.
<i>Guriya</i>	. . .	A doll.
<i>Gururu</i>	. . .	A magic circle.
<i>Guru</i>	. . .	A religious teacher.
<i>Hugga</i>	. . .	Indian smoking-pipe.
<i>Jhilmili</i>	. . .	Shutters.
<i>Ji</i>	. . .	An honorific suffix of respect.

<i>Khansamah</i>	.	.	The master of the stores.
<i>Khidmatgar</i>	.	.	Service man.
<i>Kōs</i>	.	.	Two miles.
<i>Mashalchi</i>	.	.	Torch-bearer.
<i>Riayots</i>	.	.	Cultivators.
<i>Sais</i>	.	.	Groom.
<i>Saudagar</i>	.	.	Merchant.
<i>Shiva</i>	.	.	The name of the third god in the Hindu Triad—the Destroyer.
<i>Thanadar</i>	.	.	A police officer.
<i>Wala</i>	.	.	A suffix denoting man.
<i>Wali</i>	.	.	A suffix denoting woman.
<i>Zemindar</i>	.	.	Landlord.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

<p>CEREMONIES AND GREEN RUSHES. THE PLAY HOUR</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From a Photograph by RAI VARMA, India.</i></p>	<p><i>Frontispiece</i></p>
<p>THE KHANSAMAH</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From a Drawing made at Allahabad by Miss E. A. MANNING.</i></p>	<p><i>To face page 50</i></p>
<p>CEREMONIES AND GREEN RUSHES. UMA TEACHING HER MOTHER TO COUNT</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From a Photograph by RAI VARMA, India.</i></p>	<p>” ” 100</p>
<p>CEREMONIES AND GREEN RUSHES. A DRESS REHEARSAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From a Photograph by RAI VARMA, India.</i></p>	<p>” ” 106</p>
<p>MERA</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>From a Photograph by RAI VARMA, India.</i></p>	<p>” ” 120</p>