

THE
GOLD AND SILVER WARES

OF ASSAM,

A MONOGRAPH.

BY

F. C. HENNIKER,

INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE.



SHILLONG :

PRINTED AT THE ASSAM SECRETARIAT PRINTING OFFICE :

1905.

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APPENDIX.

APPENDIX.

LIST OF GOLD AND SILVER WARES OF EACH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE.

SILCHAR (DISTRICT CACHAR).

(a) The following ornaments are made:—

FOR THE HEAD.

Sithi (সিথি)—A sort of tiara worn across the forehead with a branch over the centre of the head.

Jháptá (জাপটা)—A triangular ornament with tassels which hang over the forehead.

Chiruni (চিরুনি)—An ornamental comb fixed on the knot of hair at the back of the head.

Máthárpul (মথারপুল)—A model of a flower worn in the hair.

Kántá (কাঁটা)—Hair pins.

EAR ORNAMENTS.

Kán (কান)—An ornament of the shape of the ear which hangs from the hair and covers the ear.

Kánbálá (কানবালা)—Shaped like a bangle. Fixed in the hair over the ear.

Jhumká (জুমকা), Kánphul (কানফুল), Máchhi (মাছি), and Tem (টেম)—These are earrings and drops of different shapes.

Mákrí (মাকড়ী)—A large ring with an ornamental edge worn in the ear.

NECKLACES.

Kanthi (কন্ঠি)—A string of barrel-shaped beads.

Sunápuki (সোনাপুকী)—A string of ornamental heart-shaped beads.

Dána (দানা)—A string of small beads. There are sometimes 3, 5, or 7 strings, each longer than the other, and then the necklace is called Tínlari, Pánchlari, and Sátlari, and so on.

Kesli (কেচলি)—A long chain made of very fine gold wire.

Darihár (দড়িহার)—A cable of gold wires.

Hásli (হাসলি)

Chick (চিক)

Dhukdhuki (ধুকধুকি)

} Various designs.

FOR THE NOSE.

Nákphul (নাকফুল)—A small flowery pattern drop, worn on the left side of the nose.

Nath (নথ)—This is a large gold ring ornamented in the middle and worn on the left side of the nose.

Bolák (বোলাক)—A circular pendant worn from the centre of the nose.

Nolak (নোলক)—A small pendant for the nose.

Báli (বালি)—A flat ring worn instead of Nolak.

BRACELETS AND RINGS.

Churi (চুড়ি)—Bracelets of various designs.

Bálá (বালী) or Kháru (খাড়ু)—Bangles of various designs.

Ángti (আংটি)—Rings of various designs.

Ananta (অনন্ত)—An ornamental bangle worn above the elbow.

Tár (তার)—A flat ornamental band for the arm.

Tábij (ভাবিজ), Báju (বাজু) or Hátpáttá (হাতপাট্টা),—are also ornaments for the arm.

FOR THE LEG.

Kháru (খাড়ু) or Mal (মল)—Anklet resembling a bangle.

Benki or Beki (বেঁকি বা বেকি)—A snake pattern anklet.

Chharrá (ছররা)—Ornamental wire anklets.

Ghunghur or Ghughur (গুঁঘুর বা ঘুঘুর)—A string of flat ornamental beads worn round the ankle. The beads are filled with small shot, and make a tinkling noise when walking.

Páopadma (পাপপদ্ম)—A lotus-shaped ornament worn over the instep.

FOR THE WAIST.

Got (গোটে)—A chain for the waist.

Chandrahár (চন্দ্রহার)—A belt of five chains.

The above ornaments are made both of gold and silver, excepting those for the waist and leg. There is a prejudice among Hindus against wearing gold below the waist.

(b) The metal is procured from merchants at Silchar.

(c) The price of the metal varies in accordance with the market rate in Calcutta. The Kayas charge 8 annas to 12 annas in excess of the Calcutta rate per tola of gold and 2 to 3 annas per tola of silver.

(d) The price varies according to the workmanship and ornamentation required. For gold ornaments the charge is from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per tola, and for silver from 3 annas to 6 annas per tola.

(e) The vernacular names of the instruments used are :—Niái or Niháli (নিহাই বা নিহালি), Háturi (হাতুড়ি) of different sizes, Sáráís (সাড়ইস) of different sizes, Káith (কাইত) or Kátáli (কাতালা), Mus (মুস), Son (সোন), Hiair (হিয়াইর), Májni (মাজনী), Chimtá (চিমটা), Jhul (ঝুল), Játi (যাতি), Veshá (বেশা), Phuknal (ফুকনল), Tokná (টোকনা), Ákar (আকর), Kundá (কুন্দা), Dhalni (ঢালনি), Ret (রেৎ), Kuchi (কুচী), Páinjáti (পাইনযাতি), Dhuperkáth (ধুপের-কাঠ Kátá (কাটা), etc., etc.

(f) About 80 persons are employed in this work within the sadr subdivision. Of these, about 60 persons are of the Sudra caste (all foreigners), 15 are upcountry men and about 5 Manipuris.

(g) The ornaments are not offered for sale. They are made to order, the customer ordinarily supplying the gold or silver. But sometimes the workmen also supply the metal.

HAILAKANDI (DISTRICT CACHAR).

FOR MUSALMANS.

Hásli (হাসলি)—Solid silver necklace.

Kákan (কাকন)—Ornamented silver open-work bracelet.

Churi (চুড়ি)—Bangles.

Gunjibalu (গুঞ্জিবল)—A kind of silver ear-drop (used by both Hindus and Musalmans).

Tár (তার)—Silver armlet or bracelet.

Benki (বেংকি)—Silver open anklet.

FOR HINDUS.

Kalib (কলিব)—Necklace of ornamented gold beads.

Málá (মালা)—Necklace of plain gold beads.

Bolak (বালক) } —Different kinds of nose-rings (gold).
Nath (নথ) }

Jal Taranga Churi (জলতরঙ্গ চুড়ি)—Fluted bangles.

Chandrahár (চন্দ্রহার)—A chain worn round the waist.

Golmal (গোলমল)—Solid anklet.

Workmen procure metal from a Kaya in Hailakandi Bazar at Rs. 25 per tola of gold leaf No. 1, and Re. 0-12-3 per tola of pure silver (cháñdi).

The charge for workmanship is—For golden ornaments Rs. 3 per tola; and about 4 annas for silver.

The following are the instruments used in the trade :—Nihá (নিহা), Ákair (আকইর), Hátur (হাতুর), Meri (মেরি), Guti (গুটি), Merichimtá (মেরিচিম্‌টা), Lambáchimtá (লম্বা চিম্‌টা), Muráchimtá (মুড়া চিম্‌টা), Adhágari-chimtá (আধাগড়ি চিম্‌টা), Páinchimtá (পাইনচিম্‌টা), Káit (কাইত) or Gánj (গাঞ্জ), Jámburá (জাম্বুরা) or Siyair (সিওইর), Sára (সারা), Kátáhaláni (কাটাহালানি), Játar (যাতর), Tesá (তেসা), Rek (রেক), Mus (মুস), Cheli Kátani (চেলিকাতনি), Tusanná (তুসনা), Nanna (ননা), Kundi (কুন্দি).

About 30 persons of Sudra class. They are not goldsmiths by caste.

KARIMGANJ SUBDIVISION (DISTRICT SYLHET).

In this subdivision about 200 people are employed in gold and silver work. About 100 are goldsmiths, Sonár by caste, and the rest are of the following castes: Sudras, including ordinary Sudras, blacksmiths and barbers; washermen, Namasudras (Changs), and Yugis (Náths). Usually only gold and silver jewellery are constructed by them. A very small number of them, some three or four, however, also make plates, jugs, etc., of silver and get 8 annas to Re. 1 as wages per tola.

The goldsmiths generally purchase gold and silver from Karimganj, Sylhet, Silchar, Dacca, and Calcutta. They also purchase old and broken ornaments of gold and silver from the residents of the locality.

For silver they pay at the rate of 4 to 12 annas per tola and for gold at the rate of Rs. 16 to Rs. 26 per tola.

They generally get 2 to 8 annas per tola for working in silver, and Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per tola for gold.

The following are the instruments of the trade :—

Niyá or Nihá, Háhuri, Merhi or Meri, Gutimerhi, Barrachimtá, Murhá-chimtá, Láinchimtá, Dátor, Syair, Ghát, Hárhá or Sára, Baishá, Nanná, Tukná, Kátná, Káit, Ákhai, Chungá, Mus, Ret, Bákchungi, Kundi, Kus, Brush, Muran, Shutá, Rek, Páinchipni, Kurum.

The following articles of gold and silver are made :—

GOLD ORNAMENTS.

- (1) Bálá—Bangles. Of various patterns.
- (2) Churi—Bracelet.
- (3) Ananta—A gold bangle worn on the arm above the elbow.
- (4) Báju—A kind of bracelet worn on the arm just above the elbow and below the Ananta.
- (5) Mohanmálá—A string of small oval-shaped gold beads.
- (6) Dáná—Same as above. Spherical beads.

- (7) Kanthi—A necklace of large oval-shaped hollow beads.
 (8) Gallárgutá—Same. Large spherical beads.
 (9) Darihár—A string of gold beads.
 (10) Chik
 (11) Shonámukhi } —Various designs.
 (12) Chain }
 (13) Kesli—A twisted wire necklace (gold).
 (14) Iúring—An earring.
 (15) Kánphul—A small flower-shaped ornament for the ear.
 (16) Jhumká—A pendant. Various patterns.
 (17) Kundal—A kind of pendant.
 (18) Nákpul—A very small flower-like ornament worn on the nose.
 (19) Báli—Nose ring.
 (20) Nolak }
 (21) Nath } —Nose ornaments.
 (22) Bolák }
 (23) Sithi—A tiara. T-shaped, one part encircling the forehead, the other part passes over the centre of the head. The whole is kept in place by strings.

SILVER WARES.

- (1) Mal—Anklets. Of various patterns.
 (2) Ghugur or Ghunghur—Ornaments worn on the ankles. Bells attached give a tinkling noise when the wearer walks.
 (3) Gujri—Ornaments worn on the ankles. In this case the ringing sound is produced by means of beads striking one against the other.
 (4) Beki or Benki—An anklet.
 (5) Churi—Bracelet.
 (6) Kabach—An amulet.
 (7) Háslí—A plain silver collar, crescent-shaped.
 (8) Tár—An ornament worn on the arm above the elbow. It is of plain design.
 (9) Báju—Same as number 4 (gold).
 (10) Shikal—Chain worn round the waist.
 (11) Chandrahár—A loose belt of chains worn round the waist and hanging down behind.
 (12) Ángti—Ring.

- (13) Chulerkát í—A hair-pin.
 (14) Khopárhul—An ornamented silver flower attached to a hair-pin.
 (15) Chiruni—A comb.
 (16) Botám—Buttons.
 (17) Thál—A plate.
 (18) Bádi—A pot.
 (19) Jhári—A jug.
 (20) Pichkári—A syringe.
 (21) Átardán—A highly ornamented vase in which átar is kept and distributed.
 (22) Pándán—Silver pots in which pán and spices are kept and distributed.
 (23) Goláp pásh—A silver sprinkler. It is used only to sprinkle rose water.
 (24) Glass—Silver cup.

Besides all these articles of gold and silver, some of the goldsmiths of this subdivision construct the following ornaments of gold and silver for the Khasias, and sell them to those people :—

Usrong—Pendants of gold worn by Khasia men.

Lakartiang—Pendants of gold worn by women.

Lal Shuniad—A silver ornament of the shape of a cap worn on the head by Khasia women.

Shaishfar—A kind of earring of silver worn by Khasia women.

There are two or three Dacca goldsmiths, who can also construct gold and silver medals and silver caskets to order.

SUNAMGANJ (DISTRICT SYLHET).

GOLD.

1. Málá (মালী)—A string of beads forming a necklace,—the general term for necklace is (মালী) málá.
2. Chik (চিক)—Necklace of diamond-shaped segments hinged together.
3. Hár (হার)—Chain.
4. Bolák (বোলক)—A nose ornament suspended by a ring. A thin round plate edged with diamond-shaped rays.
5. Báli (বালী) } Varieties of nose ornament.
6. Nolak (নোলক) }
7. Nákhul (নাকফুল)—A small gold flower worn in the nose.
8. Báju (বাজু)—A bracelet formed of several diamond-shaped segments.
9. Churi (চুরি)—A wire bracelet of various designs.

10. Kabach (কবচ)—An amulet shaped like a tube about an inch in length, or a locket.
11. Ánguthi (আঙ্গুঠি)—A finger ring.
12. Jhamká (ঝমকা), or Jhumká (ঝুমকা)—Earring. Also called (কুণ্ডল) Kundal.

SILVER.

1. Hásli (হাসলি)—Solid necklace.
2. Báli (বালি)—Nose ring.
3. Gol kháru (গোলখাড়)—Anklet.
4. Beki kháru (বেকিখাড়)—Another form of anklet.
5. Mal (মল)—Anklet. A large form of churi (চুরি).
6. Páópátá (পাওপাতা) or Gujri (গুজরি)—An ornament worn on the foot worked in various designs. Held in place by strings.
7. Bála (বালী)—Bracelet.
8. Churi (চুরি)—Bracelet.
9. Kákan (কাকন)—Bracelet.
10. Ánguthi (আঙ্গুঠি)—Finger ring.
11. Kabach (কবচ)—Amulet.

Charges for work and materials.—Silver at 11 to 12 annas per tola. Gold at 23 to 25 rupees per tola. Silver work costs Re. 1, i.e., they charge wages at 4 to 5 annas per tola. Gold work costs 26 to 28 rupees, i.e., the rate of wages is Rs. 3 per tola.

INSTRUMENTS.

- Háturi (হাতুরি)—Hammer (iron).
- Nihái (নিহাই)—Anvil (iron).
- Gánj (গাঁজ)—Shears (iron).
- Chhipni (ছিপনি)—A perforated plate.
- Sárási (সাড়াসি)—Wrench (iron).
- Chimta (চিমটা)—Pincers (iron).
- Játi (জাতি)—Perforated plate for drawing wire.
- Mush (মুশ)—Crucible made of iron or stone or earthenware.
- Rasun páthar (রাসুনপাথর)—Pumice-stone for polishing.
- Gául (গাঁউল)—An instrument for seizing and pulling the wire through the perforated plate.
- Thásá (ঠাসা)—A brass mould for making crystalline imitations of precious stones, e.g., diamonds.
- Ekai (একই)—A small anvil (iron).
- Chungá (চুণী)—Bamboo pipe.

Brush (ব্রশ)—Brush.

Sohágá (সোহাগা)—Borax.

Chulá (চুলা)—Furnace, etc.

At every establishment from two to four men are employed. They generally belong to the same caste of smiths, but on rare occasions to other castes who take to the trade as a means of their livelihood. In all about 250 people live on this profession in this subdivision.

SOUTH SYLHET.

The following articles of gold and silver are made in this subdivision with the instruments noted below :—

1. Málá—Made of gold or silver, worn round the neck.
2. Kabach—An amulet of gold or silver, worn on the arm.
3. Nákphul—Made of gold, worn on the nose.
4. Kankan or Kákan—A gold or silver bracelet.
5. Angti—Ring of gold or silver.
6. Báli—Nose ornament. Only in gold.
7. Háshli—Necklace of silver.
8. Chará—A silver belt.
9. Báju—Of gold or silver, worn on the arm.
10. Gol kháru—An anklet. Silver.
11. Beki kháru— Ditto.
12. Bolák—Gold nose ornament.
13. Kanthi—A gold necklace.
14. Kundal—Gold earrings.
15. Jhamká or Jhumká—Gold earrings with pendant.
16. Chick—A gold necklace.

(b) The workmen procure metal from the local bazar.

(c) They pay for gold Rs. 25 per tola and silver annas 12 per tola.

(d) The workmen get for gold work from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 3 per tola and for silver work 2 to 5 annas per tola.

(e) Instruments—

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Nihái. | 10. Ret. |
| 2. Háturá. | 11. Compáss. |
| 3. Jámburá. | 12. Panel. |
| 4. Dálani. | 13. Nikti. |
| 5. Hátail. | 14. Mahiser Singer Dhálani. |
| 6. Tháshá. | 15. Shukarer romer kuch. |
| 7. Játal. | 16. Chungá. |
| 8. Dhálani. | 17. Chimtá. |
| 9. Ákai. | 18. Ghurán. |

(f) Only low castes engage in the craft.

HABIGANJ (DISTRICT SYLHET).

- (1) Kánbálá—An ear ornament set with precious stones. Gold. About 2 or 3 tolas gold is used to make Kanbálás.
 - (2) Jhumká A cluster of gold pendants interspersed with stones. It requires about 3 tolas of gold, besides stones.
 - (3) Tiká—A sort of tiara or coronet. It consists of several square gold plates, say 15 or 16, aggregating 7 or $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. From the middle of it there branches upwards a row of 7 square plates. The longer part encircles the brow, while the smaller passes over the head. The breadth of the plate is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. It requires about 3 tolas of gold. Cf. the Sitipáti of Jorhat and elsewhere.
 - (4) Khupírphul—A gold or silver butterfly worn in the khupá or hair.
 - (5) Mákri—Gold earrings. In the middle of each is a star surrounded by smaller stars. It requires $1\frac{1}{2}$ tolas of gold.
 - (6) Bolák—A gold ornament hanging from the nose. It vibrates as the wearer walks. It requires about half a tola of gold.
 - (7) Nákpshul—Is a star set with small precious stones. Worn in the nose.
 - (8) Chik—A necklace of small gold square plates half an inch in breadth, strung together. It requires about 3 tolas.
 - (9) Pánch lahari—A necklace of 5 lahars. Each "*lahar*" consists of a string of gold beads. The lahars are of different lengths, so as to hang one below the other. It requires about 6 tolas of gold. Tin *lahar* or chúr *lahar* also are made.
 - (10) Chámpákali—Also a necklace. It is a chain of golden rosettes, resembling the buds of the champaka flower. It requires two tolas of gold.
 - (11) Dariá hár—A necklace. It requires 5 tolas of gold.
 - (12) Bálá
 - (13) Kúkan or Kankan
 - (14) Churi
- } Varieties of bracelet. These require 4, 10, and 5 tolas respectively.
- (15) Baju—Is worn on the right arm. It is of gold. A baju requires 4 tolas.
 - (16) Khalsi—A wristlet. It requires $2\frac{1}{2}$ tolas of gold.

- (17) Chandrahár—A belt. There are five chains or strings of beads. There are generally four bosses or circular plates like the buckle of a European belt. It requires 12 tolas. Chandrahár may be made of either gold or silver, usually of silver.
- (18) Surjahár—Is also worn round the waist. It is one broad chain of gold or silver. It requires 12 tolas.
- (19) Banka—Is a leg ornament of silver. It is worn by Hindu ladies only and it is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches broad. It consists of silver plates, hooked or strung together. It requires 12 tolas of silver.
- (20) Gujri—Another leg ornament fringed with pendant beads, which jingle as the wearer moves. Made of silver.
- (21) Pájeb—Hindu ladies wear Pájeb of silver, whereas Muhammadan ladies of the highest class wear Pájeb of gold. It consists of a lotus-shaped plate, which lies on the instep. To it are attached strings of variegated beads. To the lotus are attached five rings which fit over the five toes, and so keep the ornament in place.

The workmen purchase their metal from local traders, who indent for it from Calcutta. One tola of gold is sold nowadays at Rs. 25, and of silver at annas 11 or 12.

The workmen get about Rs. 3 per tola for their work in articles of gold and annas 3 or so per tola in silver articles.

The following instruments are used in making the ornaments :—

- (1) Nihai, (2) Háthurá, (3) Gaj, (4) Shán, (5) Sáráis or Sárási, (6) Játí, (7) Tholá, etc.

About 500 persons are employed in making ornaments. They are of the class known as Svarna Baniks (gold merchants). Muhammadans do not work at this trade.

Rich Muhammadan ladies wear gold ornaments only, whereas middle class ladies wear gold and silver both. The poorer classes are generally satisfied with silver articles. Hindu ladies do not wear any article of gold below the waist.

Hookáh, pándán, átardán, and gulábpásh, cups, etc., are not made here. In days gone by, the local goldsmiths could make them. These are now brought from Dacca or Calcutta. Fashionable ladies get their ornaments ready made from those places, as the workmen there are more skilful and endowed with greater artistic tastes.

SYLHET SADR.

The gold and silver ornaments made by the Sonárs for the Hindus and Muhammadans of this district are as follows :—

A.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE WAIST.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| 1. Chhikal. | 2. Gut hár. |
| 3. Chandrahár. | |

B.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE NECK.

- | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Telari. | 10. Chaudáná. |
| 2. Sátilari. | 11. Surjyahár. |
| 3. Chik. | 12. Chhelari. |
| 4. Gallárgutá. | 13. Dulari. |
| 5. Sunápuki. | 14. Daráhár or Dariáhár. |
| 6. Chámpákali. | 15. Chain hár. |
| 7. Háshli. | 16. Dhuk dhuki. |
| 8. Mohan málá. | 17. Málá. |
| 9. Kanthi. | 18. Máduli. |

C.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE FOREHEAD.

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Shitipáti. | 2. Shitihár. |
| 3. Tiká. | |

D.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE HAIR.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| 1. Shishphul. | 3. P nkátá. |
| 2. Chiruni. | 4. Bhramar. |
| 5. Sharpa. | |

E.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE EAR.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Khutiálá. | 8. Kánphul. |
| 2. Jhumká. | 9. Mách. |
| 3. Khilá. | 10. Pátbáli. |
| 4. Taksalai. | 11. Mákri. |
| 5. Pipalpáth. | 12. Phul jhumká. |
| 6. Kán. | 13. Jhár earring. |
| 7. Kánbálá. | 14. Half earring. |
| 15. Chaudáni. | |

F.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE NOSE.

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. Nákhphul. | 4. Báli. |
| 2. Bolák. | 5. Nath. |
| 3. Nolak. | 6. Beshar. |

G.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE HAND.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Bálá. | 4. Háthpáttá. |
| 2. Churi. | 5. Bájuband. |
| 3. Jashang. | 6. Kankan. |
| 7. Kháru. | |

H.—ORNAMENT FOR THE WRIST.

1. Ratanchur.

I.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE ARMS.

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. Bájú. | 2. Tábij. |
| 3. Ananta. | |

J.—ORNAMENTS FOR THE FEET.

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Gol kháru. | 6. Ghugur. |
| 2. Beki. | 7. Tural. |
| 3. Pájeb. | 8. Charan padma. |
| 4. Chharrá or mal. | 9. Banka. |
| 5. Gujri. | 10. Árbeki. |
| 11. Árkhemtá. | |

All the silver and gold used by the local Sonárs is imported from Calcutta. The gold imported is of three qualities, and is purchased at the following rate per tola :—

I. Chinápát, or leaf gold, Rs. 24-13-0 to Rs. 24-14-0.

II. Bar gold, Rs. 24-2-0 to Rs. 24-3-6.

III. Guinea gold, Rs. 23-2-0 to Rs. 23-3-0.

Silver is procured for Rs. 71 or Rs. 72 per 100 tolas.

Most of the Sylhet Sonárs employ three or four workmen, besides taking part in the work themselves. Some of these workmen receive as much as Rs. 25 as wages. But the average wage works out from Rs. 12 to Rs. 14.

In the Manipuri shops most of the workmen are relatives and part owners of the shop. They do not, as a rule, employ regular workmen, but they engage a few apprentices, to whom they teach the work and only give food in lieu of wages.

All the goldsmiths in their gold work use an alloy (púin) of copper and silver. In silver work the alloy used is a metal called dastá (zinc). What proportion of alloy is used is uncertain, the question depends more or less on the honesty of every individual Sonár.

The instruments employed in the trade are noted in the subjoined list :—

1. Háthurá or goldsmith's hammer used for beating the metal into a thin plate, leaf or foil.—These hammers are of various sizes. A small hammer used by Manipuri goldsmiths is called "Khulai machá."

2. Nihái, or anvil on which métal is beaten and shaped.—A Nihái usually has a steel face. The Manipuri name for this instrument is " Lungpal."
3. An Ekai, or small anvil.—Besides the Nihái and Ekai, the Manipuris have two or three other peculiar-shaped anvils, for which they have no separate names.
4. Kátani, or chisel, used for cutting or paring gold and silver, called by the Manipuris Káti.
5. Chimtá, or pincers.—The Manipuri name is " Chegap."
6. Kalam, or iron style or graver used for engraving designs on metals.—These styles or gravers are of various sizes, the Manipuris call this instrument a " Paija."
7. Sáráisi, or Sáráis, heavy pincers, used for gripping and' drawing out the gold and silver wires that are passed through the Jantri, called by the Manipuris " Kari Chegap."
8. Jantri, an iron plate with three rows of holes, all of different sizes.
9. Kitkitá, a brass mould, called " Thásá " by the Manipuris.
10. Káshalla, a great brass mould made in the shape of a cube, the Manipuri name is Khalni.
11. Mahishersingh, or buffalo-horn.
12. Ret, a file or rasp used for smoothing and polishing metals.
13. Nikti, or scales, called by Manipuris " Khan."
14. Pliers, used for seizing and bending small things, called by the Manipuris " Apisa Chegap."
15. BáknaI, or blow-pipe, called by Manipuris " Thangmoi Kamnanaba."
16. Beki Sáráis, pincers with bent clips called by Manipuris " Akhoiba Chegap."
17. Dhálani, or mould made of brick.
18. Chhinni, or small punch for cutting gold and silver threads, called by Manipuris " Achoba paija."
19. Compass, or dividers.
20. Sun, or pincers of a small delicate shape, used for taking up small particles of metal, called by Manipuris " Tumseth."
21. Lastly, there are earthen melting pots, or crucibles.

The wares of Sonárs are purchased by all sections of the public. The very poor, who cannot afford to pay a Sonár, get their rude ornaments of silver fashioned by the blacksmiths. The prices obtained by Sonárs vary considerably, and it is impossible to strike any average. The charge for making ornaments depends entirely on the amount of labour to be expended and on the delicacy of the work. The Dacca men who keep jewellery for sale have their own fancy prices, just as European firms have.

Where the metal is supplied to the Sonárs for fashioning into ornaments, an arrangement is entered into beforehand after estimating the amount of labour and time that will have to be expended. The Sonárs of Sylhet have the usual goldsmiths weights, *vis.*—

1 dhán	=	$\frac{1}{8}$ grain Troy.
4 dháns	=	1 rati ($\frac{1}{2}$ grain Troy).
8 ratis	=	1 máshá (15 „ „)
12 máshás	=	1 tola (180 „ „)
5 tolas	=	1 chhatak.

Ordinarily, it is never necessary to go below the rati; the rati, or seed of the *Abrus precatorius*, varies slightly, but the average weight is about as given above.

DHUBRI (DISTRICT GOALPARA).

(a) The following ornaments are made :—

GOLD.

1. Nath—Worn in the nose as a pendant.
2. Nákhul—Worn in the nose.
3. Onti—Worn in the ear.
4. Ángut—Ring.
5. Máduli—Elliptical in shape, worn round the neck, also on the arm.
6. Báju—Bracelet.

SILVER.

1. Kháru—Bracelet.
2. Háshli, or Hásha.—Necklace.
3. Chandrahár—A loose belt.
4. Mohan málá—Necklace.
5. Kankan—Bracelet.
6. Muthi kháru or churi—An ornamental bangle.
7. Báju—Worn on the arms.
8. Páer kháru—Anklet. Resembles the Bengali mal.
9. Nath—Worn in the nose as a pendant.
10. Ángut—Rings.

(b) Gold and silver are generally purchased from Kaya dealers. Price Rs. 26 to Rs. 28 per tola of gold and silver at annas 12 per tola.

(c) The wages are Rs. 3 and Rs. 4 per tola for gold ornaments and annas 2 to annas 4 per tola for silver ornaments.

(d) Instruments of the trade are—

Hátur—Hammer.

Nei, Chowki, or Ekoi—Sort of anvil.



Fig 1.
BARPETA NECKLACE.

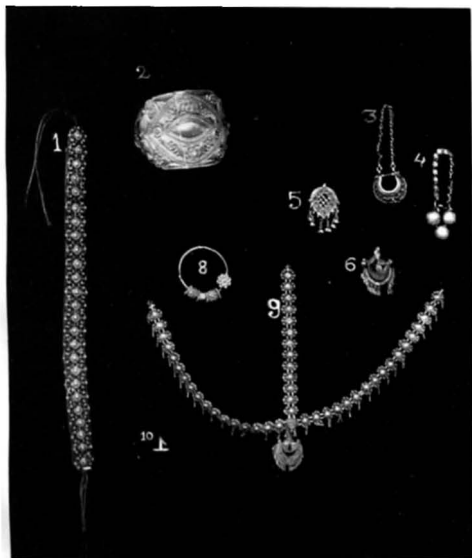


Fig. 2.
GOLD GOALPARA JEWELLERY.

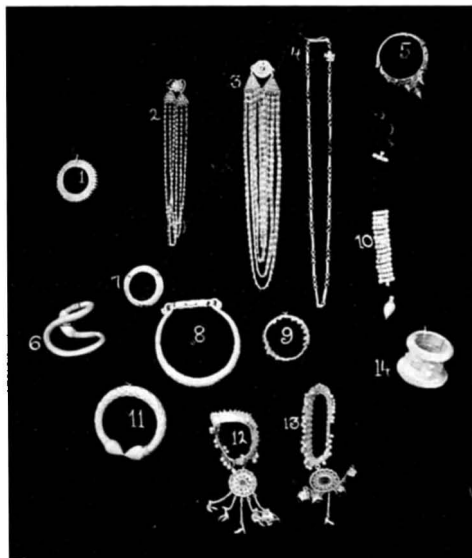


Fig 3.
SILVER GOALPARA JEWELLERY.

Kátani—Scissors for cutting silver and gold leaf.

Sharáshi—Tongs for seizing heated metals or for holding the crucible.

Kitkirá and Kashellá—Anvils of various shapes.

Játi—For drawing gold or silver wire.

Ukhá—File.

Mush—Crucible.

(e) The people who engage in the trade in Goalpara Sadr are generally of the Rájbansi, Madáshi, Baniá, or Kátani caste.

(f) The ornaments are purchased by Rájbansi, Madási, Joldhá, Kátani, Noluá, Badiar, Hári, Mech, Rábhá, and Musulmans alike.

**EXPLANATION OF PHOTOS SHOWING GOLD AND SILVER
WARE OF GOALPARA (PLATE I, FIGS. 2 AND 3).**

GOLD.

- Fig. 1. Chik, or necklace.
 „ 2. Bájú, or bracelet.
 „ 3. Thek, or earring. The chain is worn round the ear.
 „ 4. Kadam, or earring.
 „ 5. Pát, worn on the upper part of the ear.
 „ 6. Bolák, worn in the nose.
 „ 8. Nath, or nose ring.
 „ 9. Shitipáti—tiara. The central chain is placed on the middle of the head; the lower chain is taken round the forehead, the ends resting on the ears.
 „ 10. Nákpul, worn on the nose.

SILVER.

- Fig. 1. Kankan—
 „ 7. Panchi—
 „ 14. Khuli, or bahu— } Various bracelets.
 „ 2. Chandrahár—Necklace.
 „ 3. Chandra hár—
 „ 4. Got— } Belt.
 „ 5. Tár—
 „ 10. Kátábaju— } Worn on the arm
 „ 8. Hásuli—Necklace.
 „ 6. Bák kháru—
 „ 11. Bharir kháru— } Anklet.
 „ 9. Arbeki kháru—
 „ 12. Pájáp—
 „ 13. Pátámal } Worn on the foot.

(b) The workmen procure their metal from the Kayas.

(c) The price of silver per tola is from 11 to 12 annas and of gold (China leaf No. 100) is Rs. 24-6 now. The price paid is according to the rates prevailing in the market.

(d) The wages obtained by the workmen are for silver from 1 to 6 annas per tola, according to the nature of the work, and for gold from 8 annas to Rs. 4 per tola.

(e) The following instruments are in use :—

Nihári, háturi, keichi, son, topua háturi, jamburá, jati sárás, kalam, afar, dháluá, shabal, ret, doba, pachir kalam, chari, sakua majua-sárás, kás-khalini, kitkiri, compass, and hatina.

(f) In Goalpara town there are 19 shops of local goldsmiths. About 40 people are employed; about 100 to 150 men are employed in the interior. There is no particular caste for the goldsmith's calling. Muhammadans, Kalitás, Nadiyáls, Rájbanis, Baniás carry on the profession.

(g) All classes of people purchase the wares, or more correctly speaking, order them to be made.

The gold and silver wares in this district are not of very superior workmanship, and do not call for any detailed notice.

BARPETA (DISTRICT KAMRUP).

GOLD.

1. Sitipáti—A sort of tiara (*cf.* similar article under Jorhat). Charge for workmanship Rs. 2-8 per tola.
2. Jankár Chakeli—Ornament for the ear, worn at the top of the ear. A pin with a rosette. The thin end is inserted in a hole in the ear. Takes 10 to 12 annas of gold. Wages Re. 1-4 per tola.
3. Hijeri or jijeri—Links used to unite parts. Takes 8 to 12 annas (*i.e.*, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ tola). Wages Re. 1-4 per tola.
4. Kánor soná—An ear pendant. Takes $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 tolas. Wages Rs. 3 per tola.
5. Nákpul—A nose ornament. Takes 6 to 8 annas of gold. Wages Re. 1 per tola.
6. Galkanthei or Galpatá—A necklace of 9 to 11 stars, each about half an inch in diameter. Each star has two eyelets, by which it is strung. The stars are kept equi-distant by inserting a minor piece called puti (পুতি). Takes $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 tolas of gold. Wages Rs. 3 per tola.
7. Jon Málli—A crescent-shaped pendant suspended from a necklace. Ornamental work on the face. The necklace itself consists of alternate gold beads and putis (পুতি). Takes 3 to 4 tolas of gold. Wages Re. 1-8 per tola.

8. Keselurá Hár.—A necklace of five chains $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch apart; about 22 inches long; united by five pieces of fine wire. Takes 6 to 10 tolas. Wages Rs. 3 per tola.
9. Cheek Hár—Known as the Barpeta necklace. Takes 5 to 10 tolas. Wages Rs. 4 per tola.
10. Báju—Worn on the arm. Takes $1\frac{1}{2}$ tolas of gold. Wages Rs. 2 per tola.
11. Muthi (see "silver Muthi")—Takes 12 to 16 tolas. Wages Rs. 2. per tola.

SILVER.

12. Muthi—Bracelet of hinged segments. Takes 16 to 20 tolas. Wages 4 annas per tola.
13. Bálá—Bracelet of hinged segments. Smaller than above. Takes 8 to 10 tolas.
14. Chandra Hár—A belt of small circular plates joined with rings. Takes 8 tolas. Wages 4 annas per tola.
15. Mal kháru—Thick circular kháru worn on the leg. Common all over Assam—3 inches in diameter. Takes 10 to 12 tolas. Wages 4 annas per tola.
16. Beki kháru.—Similar to Mal kháru.

INSTRUMENTS.

- Háturi (হাতুরি)—Hammer.
 Sára chimta (সারা চিমটা)—Pincers.
 G.ij (গাজ)—Scissors.
 Bháti (ভাতি)—Bellows.
 Niyeri (নিয়েরী)—Anvil.
 Chhená (চেনা)—Chisel.

KAMRUP SADR.

(a) The following are ornaments made in this district :—

1. Keru, ear ornament—An ornament made of gold or amber. Shape cylindrical, thicker at the front end, and tapering slightly toward the other end. About an inch in length. The front end is set with rubies, diamonds, or other valuable stones. Worn in a hole in the lower lobe of the ear. Becoming obsolete with the respectable classes of the Assamese nowadays, although formerly worn by the rajas, nobles, and others.
2. Lokápara, ear pendant.—This ornament is made of gold and enamel and set with stones. Two pairs of miniature fan-tailed pigeons of gold make one earring; one pair is placed in front and the other pair

at the back. Rubies, emeralds, or diamonds are set in the pigeons. The whole earring is suspended by a hook to a piece of gold wire which passes through the lower lobe of the ear. It is worn only at weddings.

3. Unti—ear pendant—Made of gold. A piece of flattened gold, broad and curved into a crescent. The horns are pointed and drawn together till there is just sufficient space to admit the lower lobe of the ear. Held in place by a wire.
4. Dáná—Chains of gold of different designs.
5. Málá Mani—Sets of gold beads or gold and coral beads threaded together, with a central bead of rudrak (or elæcarpus ganitrus) set in gold.
6. Tarjani angathi—Gold ring set with valuable stones worn on the forefinger. Gold rings, plain or set with stones, are also worn by men on the third and little fingers.
7. Kati sutra—Belt made of silver of different designs. It may be one chain or a set of two or three chains.
8. Gám kháru—Wristlet. Made of gold or of silver. As the name implies, it is the wristlet worn by the Gams or head men of the hill people, such as Miris, Mishimis, Akas, Daflas, Nagas, etc. Gold Gám khárus as worn by the Assamese people on marriage days are set with stones, such as rubies, emeralds, and diamonds.

The above ornaments are worn by men only.

(b) The following articles of gold and silver are made in the district for women :—

1. Keru or Thuriá (ear ornaments)—A cylinder generally of gold about 1 to 1½ inches long by ½ to ¾ inch in diameter. A rosette about ¾ inch across set with rubies, and other valuable stones is attached to the lower end. Stones are set at the other end also. It is worn in the lobe of the ear.
2. Soná, earrings.—The soná is only made in gold. Worn by women in place of keru or thuriá. It is made of plain gold leaf, or of gold filigree work.
3. Galpatá, Necklace—Made either of gold or silver. This often consists of coins strung on two threads. Between the coins occur gold, silver, or coral beads. When made with plain gold or silver, the pieces, about ½ inch in length and breadth, are set with stones, such as rubies and emeralds.

4. *Thopá mani*—A pendant worn at the throat. A drum-shaped or crescent-shaped pendant $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, both plain or set with stones on the face. Flanked with beads of gold or coral.
 5. *Biri*, a pendant—A set of 15 or 16 drum-shaped filigree pendants strung on a thread passing through rings attached at the upper side in the middle. Interspersed with gold and coral beads.
 6. *Dugdugi*—A heart-shaped ornament of various sizes from 1 inch to 2 inches in length and 1 inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width in the middle. It is made of gold and set with valuable stones mostly rubies and at the centre a diamond or emerald. At the upper end there is a ring attached to it, by means of which it is threaded together with gold or gold and coral beads to form a set. A minor pendant of gold or emerald or ruby is attached.
 7. *Angathi*—Rings.—It is the custom of well-to-do women to wear ten rings on every finger. They are made of different designs, some plain and some set with stones. Coins, whether old or new, both gold and silver, are freely used to make the face of the ring.
 8. *Chipátmani*.—A gold bead necklace. The beads are in the shape of the *Hilikhá* fruit threaded alternately with gold or coral beads. Two strings make a set.
 9. *Málá mani*—Another form of necklace made of gold beads and gold and coral beads of the size of large peas, threaded together with a gold-capped *rudrakh* or a large golden bead set with stones for the centre-piece.
 10. *Kháru*—Bracelet—Made of either gold or silver worn on the wrists. Gold ones are sometimes set with precious stones.
 11. *Balayás*—Bangles—Made of both gold and silver.
 12. *Báju*—Armlet—An oval-shaped gold ornament worn on the arms.
 13. *Kati sutra*—Waist chain made of silver, rarely of gold, similar to No. 7 in (a).
 14. *Bhari kháru*—Anklets of silver.
 15. *Ujati*—Rings worn on the toe made of silver, with ornamental facings.
 16. *Batá*—Raised plate of silver.
 17. *Báti*—Bowl made of silver.
 18. *Temá*—Silver box for betel-nut.
 19. *Temi*—Small silver boxes for lime taken with betel-nut.
- (c) The workmen procure their metals from the local shopkeepers (chiefly Marwaris), who import the same from Calcutta.

(d) The price of the metal varies. Gold averages Rs. 25 per tola and silver annas 12 per tola.

(e) The usual charge for making gold and silver ornaments is Rs. 2 per tola weight of gold and 2 to 4 annas per tola of silver, but when gold ornaments are set with valuable stones, the charge is made according to the size and number of the stones. For filigree the charge is generally double that of ordinary work.

(f) The following instruments are used by goldsmiths :—

1. Niyari (নিয়ারি)—Anvil.
2. Háturi (হাতুড়ী)—Hammer.
3. Máthani (মাথনি)—Small hammer, to polish articles of gold and silver.
4. Rekhani (রেখনি)—Tweezers for setting stones and fitting gold leaf round them.
5. Dheká (দেকা)—An anvil with a raised point at one side.
6. Kitkitá (কিটকিটা)—Perforated iron plate for drawing wire.
7. Saráh (সরাহ)—Tongs.
8. Chorohá (চোরোহা)—Red mould.
9. Kúchi (কঁচি)—Scissors.

GOLAGHAT (DISTRICT SIBSAGAR).

(a) The following articles of gold and silver are made in this subdivision :—

SILVER.

- Bálá (বালী)—A sort of bracelet.
 Churi (চুরি)— Ditto.
 Kháru (খাড়ু)— Ditto.
 Máni (মনি)—String of beads.
 Kánphul (কানফুল)—Flower to be worn in the ear.
 Nákful (নাকফুল)—Nose ornament worn on the side of the nose.
 Mákri (মাকড়ি)—Nose ornament worn on the top of the nose.
 Ángathi (আঙঠি)—Ring worn on the finger.
 Biri (বিরি)—A pendant or string of pendants forming a necklace.
 Kardhani (করধনি)—A sort of chain worn round the waist.

GOLD.

- Thuriá (থুরিয়া)—An ear ornament.
 Biri (বিরি)—A necklace of pendants.
 Mani (মনি)—String of beads.
 Gejerá (গেজেরা)—Necklace of large beads.
 Galpatá (গলপটা)—Necklace of flat segments.

- Dugđugi (दुग्दुगि)—A large elaborate necklace.
- Chipatmani (चिपातमनि)—Bead necklace, each bead shaped like the fruit of the hilikhá (*Terminalia citra*).
- Kháru (खारु)—A sort of bracelet.
- Bálá (बाला)— Ditto.
- Churi (चुरि)— Ditto.
- Kánphul (कानफुल)—Flower worn on the ear.
- Nákhpul (नाकफुल)—Nose ornament worn in the side of the nose.
- Mákri (माकुरि)—Nose ornament worn in the dividing cartilage of the nose.
- Ángathi (आङ्गुठी)—Ring worn on the fingers.
- Kariá (करिया)—Earring.
- Gámkháru (गामखारु)—A sort of bracelet worn by males.
- (b) The workmen of this subdivision generally purchase their metals from Kayas of Golaghat.
- (c) They pay Rs. 25-4 for a tola of gold, annas 12 or 14 for a tola of silver.
- (d) The workmen get the following prices for their work, *viz.*, 1 anna per tola of silver and Rs. 2 per tola of gold.
- (e) The following are the instruments used in the trade :—
- Niyári (निरारी)—Anvil.
- Háturi (हातुरी)—Hammer.
- Saráh (सैराह)—Tongs.
- Birimothá (बिबीमथा)—Mould for making beads.
- Fali (फली)—Perforated piece of iron by which wire is drawn.
- Káti (काटी)—Shears.
- Ghatani (घटनी)—An iron implement for stirring liquid metals.
- Dhálná (ढालना)—Crucible.
- Cháná (चाना)—Chisel for cutting metal.
- Kechi (केचि)—Scissors.
- Lep (लेप)—Pincers (of iron).
- Reti (रेति)—File.
- Peleich (पलेइह)—A sort of tongs.
- Compass (compass)—Divider.
- Máthani (माथनी)—Small hammer.
- Thihá (थिह)—Fine iron wire for stringing beads.
- Kasti (कास्ती)—Touchstone.
- Rahan (रहन)—Hone for polishing.
- Kuchi (कुची)—Brush of hog's bristles.
- Báharchunga (बाहबछुङ्गा)—Blow-pipe.
- Bhátí (भाँटी)—Goatskin bellows.

(f) Eighty-four people are employed in making gold and silver articles in this subdivision. They are of different classes, *vis.*, Britiyál Kalitá, Koch, Keot, Chutiá, Ahom, and Dom.

JORHAT (DISTRICT SIBSAGAR).

(a) The statement appended hereto contains the names of articles of gold and silver wares with a brief description and the prices at which they generally sell.

Except those that are worn on the hands and waist, they are principally made of gold.

(b) The workmen procure their metal from the local Kayás, and they occasionally order it by post from Calcutta.

(c) The local price of silver is annas 12 to annas 13 per tola and the price of gold from Rs. 20 to 25.

(d) There are no hard-and-fast rules about the charges made by the workmen. It generally depends on the nicety of the work. For plain silver work the charge is annas 2 to annas 4 per tola, and it may go up to annas 10 per tola.

For gold work, the lowest rate is Rs. 2 per tola and the highest Rs. 10.

(e) The instruments they use are the following :—

1. Háturi (হাতুড়ী)—Hammer.
2. Niyári (নিয়াৰী)—Iron block or anvil.
3. Naranee (নৰনী)—A small sharp cutter.
4. Reti (ৰেটি)—Small file.
5. Lep (লেপ)—Tongs.
6. Máthuni (মাথুনি)—Fine hammers made of bell metal or brass.
7. Rekháni (ৰেখানী)—Tweezer.
8. Sách (সাঁচ)—Mould.
9. Mahi (মহি)—Earthen crucible.
10. Bháti (ভাটি)—Goatskin bellows.

(f) About 1 per cent. of the population are engaged in this business and any class of people may do it ; but generally it is restricted to the Kalitás of Charigaon, Titabar and Tarájan, the Britiyáls and to a less extent the Chutiás.

(g) The following ornaments are made in Jorhat :—

1. Thuriá (থুৰীয়া).—Ear pieces $\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter from $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 2 inches long. The largest are generally worn by Doms and people of low caste. Some are set with rubies. Price Rs. 80 to Rs. 120 the pair.

The following are varieties of Thuriá :

- (a) Kársipi Minákará (কার্সিপি মিনাকরা)—Embossed gold with blue, green or red and white enamel.
- (b) Minákara (মিনাকরা)—Enamelled gold. Price Rs. 70 to 90.
- (c) Nejpata (নেজপটা) { These are set with stones on the portion
behind the ear and sometimes at the back
- (d) Talpatá (তালপটা) { in which case they are called Talpatá. Price
Rs. 30 to Rs. 50.
- (e) Sách (সাঁচ)—These are plain Thuriás with stones only in the front. Price Rs. 15 to 25.
- (f) Jángphái (জাংফাই)—Amber mounted with gold. Prices range from Rs. 24 to Rs. 120.
- (g) Lángkeru (লংকরু)—These are small Thuriá-shaped ornaments, with only five stones in the front, worn by males occasionally or by children. Price Rs. 5 to Rs. 12.
2. Mani—or necklace—
- (a) Kotmani (কটমনি)—This has a biri (a drum-shaped hollow gold pendant about 2 to 3 inches long, the middle portion being an inch in diameter) suspended to a string of 12 corals interspersed with 4 gold beads and a cluster of small glass beads of different colours. Price Rs. 25 to Rs. 70.
- (b) Báná (বানা)—Almost the same as the above, with the difference that instead of a biri, a crescent-shaped gold ornament is suspended to the string, with corals, etc. The crescent-shaped thing has small gold pendants at the lower edge. The ends of the crescent are often shaped like the mouth of an alligator (hangar) and the crescent is always set with stones. Price Rs. 80 to Rs. 150.
- (c) Gejerá (গেজেরা)—Same as a báná, but the crescent in the former is flat, and in this case it is hollow like a pod and filled with lac; both may or may not be enamelled. Price Rs. 80 to Rs. 150.
- (d) Dharia biri (ধারিয়া বیری)—Strings of biris, from 9 to 11, each biri is 1 to 1½ inches long and decorated with stones on the front and enamel at the back. Price Rs. 40 to Rs. 500.
- (e) Olomá (ওলোমা)—These are strings of small coral and gold beads alternately generally in three strings. Price Rs. 20 to Rs. 40.
- (f) Lep biri (লেপ বیری)—Strings of biris generally from 9 to 13 in number and flat at the back. Price Rs. 500 to Rs. 600.
- (g) Cháki or Galpatá (চার্কি অথবা গলপটা)—They are square or oblong segments of gold set with stones strung together, so as to lie flat on the neck. Price Rs. 50 to Rs. 150.

3. Worn on the forehead—

Kapáli (कपालि) —Similar to but smaller than the “Cháki,” but having a crescent-shaped pendant in the middle and a flat projecting limb attached in the middle in such a way that when worn it lies on the parting of the hair. Price Rs. 100 to Rs. 150.

4. Worn on the hand—

- (a) Kháru or bracelets (खरु) —Of solid gold or silver inlaid with gold, in which case they are called Son Khatoá Kháru. When made of gold, they are sometimes set with stones at the edges ; often enamelled in blue ; length 2 to 2½ inches. They are in two pieces and hinged. Price, silver Rs. 20 to Rs. 40, including Son Khatoá, and gold Rs. 250 to Rs. 1,000.
- (b) Patiá kháru (पटिआखरु) —The same as the above in one piece quite plain. Price, silver Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 and gold Rs. 200 to Rs. 300.
- (c) Bálá (बाला) —Only worn by females except on the occasion of a marriage, when the bridegroom wears them. Simple in make. Price, silver Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 and gold Rs. 150 to Rs. 300.
- (d) Bájú (बाजू) —Segments strung or hinged together. Each segment set with stones and enamelled ; worn on the arm. Sometimes the segments are made in the shape of a rose leaf. Price Rs. 20 to Rs. 50.

5. Rings—

- (a) Chamchow (चमचु) —Like a signet ring. In place of a seal, a rosette set with rubies. Price Rs. 20 to Rs. 40.
- (b) Sen (सेन) —A bird set with stones. Price Rs. 20 to Rs. 30.
- (c) Pohári (पोहारी) —A square piece of gold set with stones generally worn by Doms. Price Rs. 10 to Rs. 25.
- (d) Tarjani (तरजनि) —A rosette with stones. Price Rs. 10 to Rs. 25.
- (e) Tarjani (तरजनि) —A small ring only for men set with stones. Price Rs. 10 to Rs. 15.
- (f) Páni Paruá (पानि पारुआ) —Same as the above, but the portion set with stones is rounded and not pointed as in the other two. Price Rs. 10 to Rs. 15.

6. Worn round the waist—

- (a) Kardhani (कर्धनि) —Generally made of silver and rarely of gold. Six parallel chains. Price, silver Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 and gold Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000.
- (b) Chandrahár (चन्द्रहार) —Fine gold or silver wire plaited. Price, silver Rs. 10 and gold Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.

7. Miscellaneous (for men only)—

Lokápára (লোকপাৰা)—Pigeon earrings; four pigeons, two on each ear in the form of a pendant set with stones; worn by a bridegroom in the ear. Price Rs. 80 to Rs. 150.

Makar Kundal (মকৰ কুণ্ডল)—Same as above, with alligators instead of pigeons. Price Rs. 100 to Rs. 200.

LAKHIMPUR DISTRICT.

There are no indigenous Assamese of Dibrugarh carrying on the profession of a gold or silversmith. There are about 20 Jorhat men who have settled in the town of Dibrugarh and its suburbs, and make gold and silver ornaments for the Assamese. A few upcountry Sonaris, of Muzzafferpur, Arrah, and Chapra, 100 or thereabouts in number residing in tea gardens, railway stations, outlying stations, and Dibrugarh town make only silver ornaments for the coolies employed in tea gardens and other concerns. The greater number of these Sonaris are found in Dumduma Bazar, where there are 30 or 35 of them. In other stations not more than three or four reside in one place. Also about 10 Nepalese, who have settled themselves in villages here, occasionally do gold and silver work and make ornaments for coolies, their principal occupation being cultivation.

The following is a list of gold and silver ornaments—

I. ORNAMENTS FOR THE HEAD.

Kapáli (কাপালি)—This ornament is in the form of an inverted "T." Square plates of gold, the face set with stones round a large centre stone. 16 to 20 such segments are strung together on two fine threads. In the centre another row of 8 to 10 similar plates is attached, representing the perpendicular leg of the letter "T." The horizontal row crosses the forehead. The perpendicular passes over the head and keeps the whole in place. The charge for such an ornament is Rs. 200. (Elsewhere called a "Sitipáti," see under other districts *passim*).

Phul (ফুল)—A butterfly of silver or gold. Price, silver Rs. 3 and gold Rs. 30.

2. EAR ORNAMENTS.

Thuriá (থুরিয়া)—For a description of the Thuria see under Jorhat and in paragraph 6 of the monograph. The charge at Dibrugarh for a pair of Thuriás is Rs. 100 to Rs. 120.

Lokápára (লোকপাৰা)—Described under Jorhat. Price at Dibrugarh Rs. 80 to Rs. 100. See also Kamrup sadr.

3. ORNAMENTS FOR THE NOSE.

Nákphul (নাকফুল)—Nose ring. Value Rs. 3.

4. ORNAMENTS FOR THE NECK.

Cháki (চাকি)—Value Rs. 60 to Rs. 80.

Galpatá (গলপতা)—Golden coins of the Assam Rajas strung together in the form of a necklace. Value Rs. 50 to Rs. 60.

Phutimani (ফুতিমানি)—A necklace of golden and coral beads strung together with a biri (বিরি) or hanging locket studded with stones. Value Rs. 50 to Rs. 60.

Gezerá (গেজরা)—A necklace of gold and coral beads and having a hanging crescent-shaped locket studded with stones on the front but either plain or enamelled on the back. Value Rs. 120.

Dhariábiri (ধরিয়াবিরি)—This is a set of amulets or pendants made of gold, either plain or studded with stones, strung together with coral beads interspersed. It forms a necklace. Value Rs. 150 to Rs. 200, according to size of the amulets.

Dugdugi (দুগ্‌দুগী)—A necklace. Gold plates as in the Kapáli, each set with rubies, strung on five parallel delicate gold chains. Fastened with a buckle and a screw. A locket or pendant in the middle. A very handsome ornament, costing as much as Rs. 500.

5. ORNAMENTS FOR THE HANDS.

Muthi kháru (মুঠিখারু)—This is like the Bengal choori, but much heavier. Studded with stones. Value Rs. 400 to Rs. 500.

Bálá (বালা)—Gauntlet. Value Rs. 200 to Rs. 300.

Ángathi (আঙাঠি)—Rings with or without stones. Value Rs. 20 to Rs. 30.

6. ORNAMENTS FOR THE WAIST.

Kardhani (কর্দহানী)—This is made of five or six chains of delicate silver threads interwoven. Value Rs. 10 to Rs. 15.

(b) The workmen buy their metal at the Kaya's shop at Dibrugarh.

(c) Gold per tola Rs. 24 to Rs. 25, and silver annas 12 to annas 14, according to the fall or rise in the price.

(d) Wages of the workmen—Gold per tola if of plain work Re. 1-8 to Rs. 3, gold per tola when stones are added Rs. 10 to Rs. 15. Silver per tola annas 4 to annas 8.

(e) Names of the instruments used are given below :—

Niyári (নিয়াঁরী)—Anvil.

Háturi (হাতুরী)—Hammer.

- Saráh (সরাহ)—Forceps.
 Chiári (চিয়ারী)—Pincers.
 Káti (কাটি)—Scissors.
 Fali (ফালি)—A perforated iron plate for drawing wire.
 Akowá (আকোয়া)—
 Gatamahá Goá Akowá (গতামহল গোয়া আকোয়া)—
 Mahá Goá Akowá (মহল গোয়া আকোয়া)—
 Káti Akowá (কাটি আকোয়া)—
 Birimaká Akowá (বিবি মাকা আকোয়া)—
- } Moulds of various sorts.
- Dháka (ধাকা)—
 Feti chátuli (ফেতি চাতুলি)—
 Ákuri (আকুরি)—
 Gotáli mariyá (গোতালি মরিয়্য)—
- } Various-shaped blocks on which the ornament is hammered.
- Kákon (কাকোন)—Small forceps.
 Narani (নারনি)—
 Darjakará Narani (দরজা করা নারনি)—
 Máná Narani (মানা নারনি)—
 Resani (রসনি)—
- } Pliers or tweezers used in fixing stones.
- Gunadhará resani (গুণাধরা রেসনি)—
 Dumur resani (দুমুর রেসনি)—
 Fulkatá resani (ফুলকতা রেসনি)—
 Aghaiyá resani (অঘৈয়া রেসনি)—
 Tinsukiá resani (তিনিচুকিয়া রেসনি)—
 Básani resani (বাসনি রেসনি)—
 Upaná resani (উপনা রেসনি)—
- } Chisels used in engraving.
- Bar máthani (বড় মাঠনি)—
 Saru mathani (সক মাঠনি)—
 Majaliyá mathani (মজালিয়া মাঠনি)—
 Charah (চরাই)—
- } Hammers, big or small.
- Mani sajúkholani (মনি সজুকোলনি)—A piece of buffalo horn with holes for moulding beads in gold.
 Ghuti (ঘুটি)—Instrument used for boring beads.
 Kit kitiá (কিটুকিটিয়া)—A perforated plate for drawing wire.
 Marapá (মরাপা)—A polisher.
 Salpatá (সালপতা)—Enamelling.
 Sán (সান)—The same as marapá, but it is somewhat smaller.
 Minákarághar (মিনাকরাঘর)—See paragraph 4 of monograph.

Besides the above, which are pure Assamese work, Nepalis and Sonaris make a number of wares of foreign design. They need not here be described, as they are nearly identical with articles described in the Bengali districts of the province.

MANIPUR (NATIVE STATE).

ARTICLES MADE OF GOLD.

NECKLACE.

1. Kiyang likphang.
2. Likphang tairen mapansaba.
3. Sanapung ngangoi.
4. Sanapung haiyai thangbi.
5. Sanarik pumdarik.
6. Khang sarik.
7. Marei.
8. Bokul parengsabi.
9. Liksoi chengumthinbi.
10. Sanarik heikru sabi.

BRACELETS.

1. Sana khuji mayek.
2. Fora saba mayek.
3. Samjok ngumba mayek.
4. Sen saba mayek.
5. Lairen tangkhai mayek.
6. Rahu saba mayek.

RINGS.

1. Khudop parei.
2. Khudop mamai thambal saba.
3. Khudop uttari saba.

OTHER ARTICLES OF GOLD.

1. Khongji ananba—
 2. Khongji marei saba—
 3. Khongji tin saba—
- } Anklets.
4. Kwagok khunu saba—Pán case.
 5. Kaosel—Spittoon.
 6. Khudeisel—Towel rack.
 7. Kwagok leichil saba—Pán case.
 8. Kwagok rahu saba—Pán case.
 9. Chaithasel—Jug.

10. Khujai—Lota.
11. Pukham—Tháli or dish.
12. Tengot—Cup.
13. Thambal saba hidakfu—Hookah.
14. Poompha saba hidakfu—Hookah.
15. Lolei saba hidakfu—Hookah.
16. Gokhur saba hidakfu—Earring.
17. Chomai—Head ornament for women.
18. Sana nayil—Earring.
19. Kumdar nayil—Earring.
20. Sana chingchup—Pipe for smoking.

ARTICLES MADE OF SILVER.

1. Khang sarik.—(Necklace).
2. Khongji ananba—
3. Khongji marei saba—
4. Khongji tin saba—
5. Khuji mayek—
6. Khuji fora saba mayek—
7. Khuji samjok ngamba mayek —
8. Khuji sensaba mayek—
9. Khuji lairen tangkhai—
10. Kwagok khunu saba—Pán case.
11. Kaosel—Spittoon.
12. Khudeisel—Towel stand.
13. Kwogok leichil saba—Pán case.
14. Chaithasel—Big cup used when bathing.
15. Khujai—Lota.
- * 16. Pukham—Tháli or plate.
17. Tengot—Cup.
18. Hidakfoo thambal saba—Hookah.
19. Pumpha—Hookah.
20. Chomai—Earring.
21. Chinchup—Hookah pipe.

LIST OF INSTRUMENTS.

1. Khutlai mathak makha	...	...	...	2
2. Thamjet malba	...	...	...	1
3. Cheidem khutlai	...	...	...	3
4. Yotkoi pung laknaba	...	...	...	2

* Nos. 11-21 used by Royal family and high officials of the State.

5. Kori chegap	...	...	...	...	1
6. Senadang pung laknaba	...	...	...	...	2
7. Kati	...	...	...	...	3
8. Yotpi luthumba	...	...	...	...	1
9. Yotpi thambalsaba	...	...	...	...	3
10. Yotkoi kangsaba	...	...	...	...	1
11. Yotkoi hangkut hantha	...	...	...	...	1
12. Jayantri chegap nganuchin saba	...	...	...	...	2
13. Yotkol lutumba	...	...	...	...	1
14. Yotkol thamjet saba	...	...	...	...	1
15. Yotkoi khadang saba	...	...	...	...	1
16. Yotkoi thangong saba	...	...	...	...	1
17. Liklak larei temnaba	...	...	...	...	1
18. Senadam lutumba chai tengot hutnaba	...	...	...	...	1
19. Senadam khong sangba lutumba	...	...	...	...	1

KHASI AND JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT.

The following gold and silver ornaments are common in these hills. The number opposite each denotes its number in the illustration (plate II):—

GOLD.

- U Kunopad ksiar (4).—A necklace of solid gold.
- U Mynjli (27).—A necklace of gold beads and corals. Three crescents in place of three of the beads.
- U Kynjri ksiar (13).—A gold chain worn round the neck.
- U Paila suhpieng ksiar (14).—A string of gold beads.
- U Shan-ryndang (25).— Ditto.
- Ki 'Siar Niangbyrnai (5).—Ear pendants (a pair).
- Ki Kynjri Wahdong ksiar (6).—Ear ornaments (a pair).
- Ki Lyngkyrneng ksiar (7).— Ditto.
- Ki Khaila ksiar (8).—Earrings (a pair).
- Ki Shohshkor ksiar (9).— Ditto.
- Ki 'Siar Shrong (24).— Ear pendants (a pair). Worn by men only.
- Syngkha Shreng-Sohphan ksiar (10).—A bracelet
- Khadu ksiar (11).— Ditto.
- Syngkha ksiar (28).— Ditto.
- Sahti ksiar (9).—A ring.

SILVER.

- U Kynjri rupa (15).—A silver necklace of four or more strings.
- U Kynjri Lyngk iap (26).— Ditto ditto.
- U Rupa-tylli (18).—A silver collar.

KHASI JEWELLERY.



ng instruments are used in the trade :—

anvil—U ryniang.

nd and pointed anvils of various shapes—Reng.

mmers of sizes—Tyrnem.

ire guages—Phar.

called Knap and wire cutters called Kaid.

s moulds called Ka Ther.

all crucibles called “ Mapthap-kpieng.”

punches for engraving or ornamenting jewellery called
liar.”

If there are about 40 to 50 working jewellers. They are
mple name U Bania.

I purchasers of the wares are Khasias, Syntengs, Bhois, and
d before, jewellers do not stock their manufactures, but
ler of traders, who supply the material.

“ Nar ” is Khasi for iron, but all the punches are made of brass.

U Kynjri-tabah (20).—Silver chains worn across the shoulders by men.

M Kynjri Syngkai (21).—Silver waistbelt for men.

U Kynjri Saipan (22).— Ditto.

Ka Pansngiat (1)→ } A crown (sometimes made of gold). No. 2
U 'Tiew-lasubon (2)→ } is the peak. As the crown is worn, the peak
is at the back.

U 'Sai Khyllong. (3).—A head ornament.

Ka khady rupa (12).—Bracelet of solid silver (sometimes made of gold). In Synteng.
1. Horu myn-
jli.
2. Muin.
3. Mon mala.
4. K h a n g -
dang.

Ka Mahu (16).—Bracelet worn just below the elbow (sometimes made of gold).

Ka Tad (17).—Bracelet worn on the arm (sometimes made of gold).

Ka Khadu Khir (23).—Bracelet worn by men only.

Gold and coral bead necklaces are also manufactured. The gold is generally fashioned into plain round balls, or an elongated tube, slightly oval, a coral bead being placed between each gold ball or tube. The balls are hollow, but filled with lac. These necklaces are called Kpieng ksiar, they usually consist of 13 to 14 balls, and vary in price from Rs. 60 to Rs. 120.

Silver necklaces, called Kpieng rupa, are usually made of round octangular silver beads, or tubes with a little ornamentation interspersed with coral or glass beads. These vary in price from Rs. 15 to Rs. 40.

Both the gold and silver necklaces fasten with an ornamented oval-shape clasp, otherwise a plain hook. This ornament is much like the English brooch, having in the centre a piece of cornelian, in some half of the wing of the Indian beetle called *Catoxdutha gigantea* (green with yellow spots). This ornament runs from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30.

Rings, called Sah-kti—The most common form in which these are made, is a hoop formed of three gold wires called by English jewellers "gold twist keepers." Some are set with common moss-agate or cornelian stone. Plain gold rings are now manufactured to order on occasion of marriages among the Christian community. Gold rings range in price from Rs. 15 to Rs. 30.

Silver rings, usually made quite plain, varying in price from 4 annas to 8 annas.

Silver chains, plain pattern, used by women, called Kynjri rupa, range in price from Rs. 30 to Rs. 50, and silver chains, called Kynjri tympong, worn by males round their loins, are usually manufactured for Rs. 8 to Rs. 10, and chains attached to chimati lime box from Rs. 5 to Rs. 10.

The jewellery manufactured of gold is obtained in square shape solid bars called "Ksiar tylli" and leaf gold called "Ksiar sla." Ordinary jewellery is made out of the bar gold, but for articles made to order, leaf gold is preferred and used. Jewellers do not make up and keep in store articles for sale. The usual custom is for traders to order so many sets of various articles, supply the jeweller with the metal, and on completion of the order to take them away for sale throughout the hills. The gold is purchased from various traders in Shillong and Calcutta. Silver jewellery is generally manufactured out of coins melted down.

The price of the metal all depends on the class of work ordered. For making rings, the charge is from 8 annas to Rs. 2. Plain wire gold earrings Re. 1 a pair. Ornamented earrings Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 a pair. The price of bar gold runs from Rs. 20 to Rs. 26 a tola, leaf gold, Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 a tola.

JOWAI (KHASI AND JAINTIA HILLS DISTRICT).

The following is a list of gold and silver ornaments commonly worn :—
Earrings (gold=sah-shkor) of 4 kinds, *vis.*—

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Karlla laharuim— | } These are worn by adult women. |
| 2. Karlla jongpynar— | |
| 3. Sah-shkor— | } These are worn by girls. |
| 4. Sah-shkor lakadom— | |

They are of different patterns made up according to the quality of the gold. Pure gold Rs. 26 a tola down to Rs. 20.

A gold earring or pin called Longkyrneng is just a long pin with ornate top, value ranging between Rs. 15 to Rs. 30. Manufacturing charge is a separate item, varying from Re. 1 to Rs. 10 a pair.

Silver earrings, called Kyrlla Bhoi, worn by women and children, vary in price from 8 annas to Rs. 10.

Gold bracelets, called Khadu, are made plain and ornamental. These vary in price from Rs. 250 to Rs. 500. Some are hollow, filled in with a composition of lac, others are solid, the hollow kinds are most in vogue.

Silver bangles, called Syngkha, from 2 to 2½ inches wide, semi-oval in shape, are made to the value of Rs. 30 to Rs. 40. The common silver bangle, as worn by the middle classes, is just a simple plain round solid article, the value of which is between Rs. 40 to Rs. 50.

A silver cone-shaped cup, called Shyriid-rupa, an ornamented article costing Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, is worn by both males and females and is used for keeping pan leaves.

The following instruments are used in the trade :—

1. Square anvil—U rnyiang.
2. Ten round and pointed anvils of various shapes—Reng.
3. Five hammers of sizes—Tyrnem.
4. Seven wire guages—Phar.
5. Pincers, called Knap and wire cutters called Kaid.
6. Six brass moulds called Ka Ther.
7. Very small crucibles called “ Mapthap-kpieng.”
8. Various punches for engraving or ornamenting jewellery called “ Nar-liar.”

In Jowai itself there are about 40 to 50 working jewellers. They are known by the simple name U Bania.

The principal purchasers of the wares are Khasias, Syntengs, Bhois, and Wars. As stated before, jewellers do not stock their manufactures, but only make to order of traders, who supply the material.

N.B.—“ Nar ” is Khasi for iron, but all the punches are made of brass.

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