

THE INDIAN RYOT, LAND TAX, PERMANENT SETTLEMENT, AND THE FAMINE.

CHIEFLY COMPILED BY
ABHAY CHARAN DAS.

661 pages. Price. Four rupees.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

“The object of this work is to shew up the evils of the Permanent Settlement, as also the thousand and one forms of oppression practised by the zemindar upon the ryot. It reproduces the substance of almost all the fiscal measures, that have been in force in this country since the days of the Permanent Settlement. The writer’s views on the arbitrary exactions of rampant zemindars, and on the destitute condition of the down-trodden ryots, have been supported by quotations and extracts from Administration Reports, Parliamentary Blue-books, Official Minutes, Newspaper and Magazine articles, and from the writings of thoughtful statesmen, who have thoroughly studied the land question. Comparisons have also been drawn between the Indian ryot and the peasants of Europe and America, and no pains seem to have been spared to point out the evil effects of the present land laws upon the poor tenant in as clear a light as possible.” *The Indian Mirror, October, 1881.*

“We have to acknowledge the receipt of a voluminous disquisition on the law of landlord and tenant in Bengal by Abhay Charan Das, a ryot. The position maintained by the writer is the extreme one, that the ryots were the real proprietors of the soil, and the zemindars the tax-gatherers; that the Permanent Settlement was a gross wrong, which has spread ruin and desolation throughout the land, and which, if not demolished, will, at no distant future, reduce the state itself to bankruptcy; that the land-tax, a consequence of the Permanent Settlement, combined with the extortion of the money-lender, also a result of the same cause, is the source of all the ryot’s wretchedness;

and that this is so great that a general agrarian uprising is only question of time. He would repeal this iniquitous settlement in spite of the breach of faith such a course would involve, and though he does not dispute the right of the zemindar to some compensation, he deprecates its being granted at the cost of the people. Where it is to come from he does not say ; but he urges that those who are responsible for the settlement, that is, the Government, should suffer.

Barring such crudities as this, the work is written with considerable ability, and may be fairly said to set forth exhaustively all that can be brought forward, in the way of either argument or authority, in favour of the writer's views." *The Englishman, February 4, 1882.*

There are abundant advocates of zemindars, who are also themselves well-fitted by their education, position, and wealth, to represent their cause. But unfortunately there are few in this country, who have the courage, the ability, and the heart, to advocate the ryot's cause. We, therefore, welcome "The Indian Ryot" by a ryot, as an attempt to depict the actual condition of the ryot. The book is a very useful compilation containing as it does a vast mass of facts valuable and interesting.....The extracts from different sources—Newspapers, Magazines, Reports, Speeches, Despatches—are copious and interesting.....Before we conclude, we repeat that we would not have devoted so much space for the review of this book, had it not contained much valuable information." *The Brahma Public Opinion, January 12, 1882.*

"We have now had for sometime lying on our table a very useful work by Babu Abhay Charan Das called. "The Indian Ryot." It is a compilation. It does not profess to be anything more than a compilation, but as such it is highly valuable, and places within a moderate compass a vast body of useful information collected from sources, which are in some cases unknown to the ordinary reader. Babu Abhay Charan Das calls himself a ryot. He has done a great service to his brother-ryots by the publication of his compilation. Now and then the book contains observations, which are worthy of attentive consideration " *The Bengalee, January 28, 1882.*

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LAND TAX, PERMANENT
SETTLEMENT, AND
the famine.

CHIEFLY COMPILED

BY

ABHAY CHARAN DAS,

A RYOT.

“The Permanent Settlement has produced” more distress and beggary, and a greater change in the landed property of Bengal, than has, perhaps, happened in the same space of time, in any age or country, by the mere effect of internal regulations.” *The Fifth Report, 1812.*

FIRST EDITION.

PRINTED BY ABHAY CHARAN DUTT AT THE
HOWRAH PRESS.

No. 57, Grand Trunk Road,
HOWRAH.

1881.

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To be had at College Square, Calcutta, and Howrah.

Price. Four Rupees only.

PUBLISHED BY ABHAY CHARAN DAS

TO
BABU SURENDRA NATH BANERJEE
THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED AS A TOKEN
OF
RESPECT AND ADMIRATION
FOR SYMPATHY WITH THE RYOTS
BY
THE COMPILER,

He most firmly believes, that the assumption of the title of Empress of India by Her Most Gracious Majesty would be the fore-runner of the emancipation of "millions on millions living and millions on millions unborn" from the grasping slavery of the zemindars, and of her reigning in their hearts for ever. His belief is certainly not unfounded, when their care and protection are entrusted in the hands of the kind-hearted and noble-minded Lords Hartington and Ripon. The book was compiled in the year 1877, but there were serious obstacles to its earlier publication. In conclusion, the compiler begs to state, that he will deem himself amply rewarded, if this volume secures their ease and happiness.

HOWRAH
The 5th August, 1881. }

ABHAY CHARAN DAS,
 THE COMPILER.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
The Fiscal Divisions of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, including Assam. The Definition of Ryot ...	1. 3
The Ryots were the Real Proprietors of the Soil, and the Zemindars the Tax-gatherers ...	3
The Land Settlement by the English Previous to the Permanent Settlement. The Permanent Settlement	22. 23
The Sale of Estates for Arrears of Revenue and the Consequences thereof to Under-tenures ...	24
The Huptum and Panchum Regulations ...	32
The Sub-letting System. The Zemindar ...	44. 57
The Bengal Villages and the Underlings of the Zemindars	79
The Destitution of Education ...	85
The Evil Effect of the Educational Destitution ...	87
The Necessity of Imparting Education to the Mass of the People ...	88
The Ryots are Unable to Protect their Rights through the Courts of Justice ...	93
The Ryots are Mere Tenants-at-will ...	100
Security of Property. The Police ...	102. 105
The Zemindari System, the True Cause of the Failure of Police. The Insecurity of Property ...	118. 126
The Operation of Lord Cornwallis's Code as it Affected the Ryots ...	132
The Disadvantages of Lord Cornwallis's Code ...	137
A Few Examples of Oppressions of the Ryots by the Zemindars. The Lattyal System ...	141. 179
The Increased Value of Land is Due to the Labor of the Ryot, and not to the Expenditure of Capital by the Zemindar ...	208
The Rates of Rent. The Illegal Cesses ...	228. 242
The Zemindar's Visit to his Estates ...	272
The Wealth Squandered by the Zemindars ...	275
The Act X. of 1859 and the Enhancement of Rent ...	282
The Titles. The Indigo-Planters ...	288. 291
The Money-lenders. The Ryot's Loss of Time	316. 322
Capital at the Disposal of the Ryots Essential to Improved Agriculture. The evil Effect of Heavy Assessment	326. 332
The Improved Agriculture in Bengal Impossible ...	338
The Rice Cultivation and the Income of the Ryot ...	340
The Inundation ...	349
The Illegal Attachment and Seizure of Crops ...	353
The Rent Suits ...	357
The Evils from the Joint Management of Estates ...	359
The Wages for Agricultural Labourers ...	359
The Salt Duty. The Condition of the Ryots...	362. 370
The Material Condition of the Ryots ...	430

The Three Villages	...	...	...	433
The Opinions of Eminent Persons on Permanent Settlement				477
The Evil Effect of the Luxury of the Zemindars	...			528
The Fallacious Doctrine that Mutual Necessities will drive the Zemindars and the Ryots to an Amicable Settlement				529
The Evil Effect of the Low Salaries of the Zemindars' Underlings	...	...	...	529
The Foolish Doctrine that the Extension of Advantages to the Ryots would make them Indolent and less Productive				531
The Impossibility of Putting a Stop to the Arbitrary Exactions of the Zemindars by a Reference to the Courts of Justice	...	...	...	532
The Sacrifice of Truth by the Zemindari System	...			533
The Permanent Settlement, the Greatest Obstacle to Commerce. The Famine and the Zemindars	537.			539
The Zemindars are the Opponents of the Ryots	...			551
The Oppressions of the Ryots by the Zemindars have excited Sympathy from Various Quarters	...			554
The Agrarian Rising. The Punjab Agrarian Rising	556.			557
The Disputes between the Zemindars and the Ryots	...			560
The Ryots are not Primarily Responsible for the Excesses They Sometimes Commit	...	...	...	578
The Zemindars do not Command the Sympathy of the Public	...	...	...	585
Who will Charge the Government with Breach of Trust, if it Cancels the Permanent Settlement?	...			586
The Demands of the Poor	...	...	...	587
The Hindoo Patriot and Sir George Campbell	...			590
The Central Provinces. The Ryotwar System	596.			598
The Productiveness of Small Farms	...	...	...	600
The Social Effects of Peasant Proprietorship	...			604
The Moral Effects of Peasant Proprietorship	...			605
Extracts from the Etudes, Vol. II., p. 169	...			607
The Condition of the French Peasantry before the Revolution of 1785-88	...	...	...	610
The Condition of the French Peasantry after the Revolution				612
The Effects of Peasant Proprietorship on New England, Russia, North America, and Norway, and on the Continent Generally	...	...	...	614
The Condition of the Irish Peasantry	...			623
The Land Tenure	...	...	...	624
The Moderate Assessment of Land Revenue Essential to National Prosperity	...	...	...	625
The Extreme Necessity of Conferring Proprietary Rights upon the Indian Cultivators	...	...	...	627
England's Duty to India	...	...	...	632

THE INDIAN RYOT, LAND TAX, PERMANENT SETTLEMENT

AND THE FAMINE.

The Fiscal Divisions of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, including Assam.

DIVISION OR COMMISSIONERSHIP.	DISTRICTS.	DIVISION OR COMMISSIONERSHIP.	DISTRICTS.
Burdwan Division.	1 Burdwan.	Dacca Division.	20 Backergunge.
	2 Bankura.		21 Mymensing.
	3 Beerbhoom.		22 Sylhet with Jynteah plains.
	4 Midnapur.		
	5 Hughli with Howrah.		
Presidency Division.	6 24 Pergunnahs.	Chittagong Division.	23 Chittagong. Chitg. Hills.
	7 Nuddea.		24 Noakolly.
	8 Jessore with Soonderbms.		25 Tipperah. Hill Tipperah (portion of)
Rajshahi Division.	9 Moorshedabad.	Patna Division.	26 Patna.
	10 Dinajpur.		27 Gya.
	11 Maldah.		28 Shahabad.
	12 Rajshahi.		29 Tirhut.
	13 Rungpur.		30 Sarun.
Cooch Behar Division.	14 Bograh.	Bhaugulpur Dn.	31 Chumparun.
	15 Pubna.		32 Monghyr.
	16 Darjeeling.		33 Bhaugulpur.
Dacca Division.	17 Julpieguri Cooch Behar State.	Bhaugulpur Dn.	34 Purneah.
	18 Dacca.		35 Sonthal Pergunnahs.
	19 Furreedpur.		

*The Fiscal Divisions of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa,
including Assam— (Continued).*

DIVISION OR COMMISSIONERSHIP.	DISTRICTS.	DIVISION OR COMMISSIONERSHIP.	DISTRICTS.
Orissa Division.	36 Cuttack. 37 Puri. 38 Balasore. Cuttack Tributary Mehals.	Chota Nagpur Dn.	Tributary Mehal of Chota Nagpur.
Chota Nagpur Division.	39 Hazareebaugh. 40 Sub-division Palamow, &c., Pergunnah of Tree of Loharduggah. 41 Shingboom. 42 Manbhoom.	Assam and adjacent Hills.	43 Goalpara. 44 Kamroop. 45 Durrung. 46 Nowgong. 47 Seeksagor. 48 Luckimpur. 49 Naga Hills. 50 Khalsa Jynteah Hills. 51 Garrow Hill.