

# GAZETTEER OF INDIA

ORISSA

BOUDH-KHONDMALS

# ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



13,994 E

## BOUDH-KHONDMALS

*By*

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## PREFACE

The present district of Boudh-Khondmals is constituted of the three subdivisions of Boudh, Khondmals and Baligurha. Boudh was a feudatory State which merged with Orissa on the 1st January, 1948. Khondmals was an independent subdivision which was tagged on to different districts at different times. The district of Boudh-Khondmals was created in the year 1948 with the two subdivisions of Boudh and Khondmals. Later, in 1949, the Taluks of G. Udayagiri and Baligurha of the Ganjam district, which now form the Baligurha subdivision, were added to the district. In the same year Panchara ex-Zamindari of Sonepur subdivision of the Balangir district, which formerly formed a part of Boudh ex-State, was brought under the jurisdiction of the Boudh subdivision of the Boudh-Khondmals district. Having three subdivisions of different origin the revenue system of the district was complicated.

The ex-State of Boudh had no gazetteer worth the name. L. E. B. Cobden-Ramsay in his Feudatory States of Orissa (1908) has given only a sketchy account of the ex-State of Boudh. In compiling this volume, all available references which include Cobden-Ramsay's book, L. S. S. O' Malley's Bengal District Gazetteer, Angul (1908); Ganjam District Manual; Final Report on the Survey and Settlement Operations in Khondmals subdivision (District Angul, 1921—25); Completion Report of the Settlement of Boudh, 1907; Completion Report of Survey and Settlement of the Boudh Feudatory State, 1950; Administration Reports of Boudh State; Land Tenure and Land Reforms in Orissa and various other records and references have, however, been profitably used.

The district has a predominant Kandha population. The Kandhas are an ancient hill tribe and very hospitable. Formerly the practice of human sacrifice, known as *meriah* sacrifice, and female infanticide were prevalent among them. During the British rule these cruel practices among the Kandhas were stopped with much difficulty. While writing on the Kandhas of the district the reports on the Kandhas of the area by Lieut. Macpherson, Colonel Campbell, E. T. Dalton's book : Tribal History of Eastern India, etc., have also been referred to.

All possible care have been taken to incorporate in this volume the rapid changes and various developments that have taken place in this district since its inception in 1948. Useful appendices, a comprehensive index, glossary of Oriya words and terms in the text, and a map of the district have been provided.

The spelling of place names in the map and the text has followed the map published by the Survey of India and the list of place names of the district supplied to us by the Director of Land Records and Survey, Orissa. The spelling of some place names in Oriya script has also been given in the index. To avoid repetition in the text and to simplify printing diacritical marks have been used in the glossary.

The Gazetteer was compiled in the Gazetteers Section of the Revenue Department and was circulated for approval to the members of the Gazetteers Advisory Committee which is constituted as follows :

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Bhubaneswar,  
The 2nd May, 1983

NILAMANI SENAPATI  
DURGA CHARAN KUANR

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