



# GAZETTEER OF INDIA

ORISSA

DHENKANAL

# ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



DHENKANAL

BY

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GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA



## P R E F A C E

This is the first District Gazetteer of Dhenkanal. The present district, which came into existence in 1948, comprises five ex-princely States, namely, Athmallik, Dhenkanal, Hindol, Pal Lahara, and Talcher; and the Angul subdivision of old Angul district. These ex-States had no gazetteer except what Mr. L. E. B. Cobden Ramsay had written in 1909, which was very sketchy. In only one volume, running into 381 pages, he wrote the gazetteers for all the 24 ex-Feudatory States of Orissa. Nonetheless, it has been profitably utilised. Mr. L. S. S. O' Malley wrote in 1908 a full-scale gazetteer of old Angul district, which contained the Angul and Khondmals subdivisions of the present Dhenkanal and Baudh-Khondmals districts respectively. The edifice of the present work is built on material collected from these publications other published and unpublished references, recent findings, and numerous other sources. As none of the ex-States had gazetteers worth the name and as there was dearth of records of ex-State period, considerable difficulty was experienced to search out and collect the base-material for compiling the present volume.

While the book was already in the Press, there was news of the discovery of some primitive stone implements at Sana Kerjang, a village in Angul subdivision. It could certainly throw a flood of light on the history of Stone Age. The site awaits fuller research. So at this stage, an appendix giving an account of this discovery has only been added to Chapter II (History). We are thankful to the Sub-Divisional Officers of Angul subdivision for their ungrudging assistance in the matter.

A glossary has been added to explain many Oriya and other indigenous words/terms used in the text, and the Index has been split into three parts, General, Person Names, and Place Names—the object being to open up research into their meaning. It may have important bearing on the cultural history and geography of the country. The spellings of place names in the maps and in the text, as far as possible, followed the spellings adopted by the Survey of India in their maps, which some times differ from the local spellings and pronunciation. In a few cases, such spellings have been given within brackets in the Index of Place Names.

The maps given are in scale 1:1,250,000 (or 1 cm: 12½ km.). Printing of maps on bigger scales could not be possible on account of restriction imposed by the Government of India. In order, therefore, to show details in particular subjects, two smaller maps, one showing general administrative divisions, roads, etc., and the other showing forests and forest roads, have been given.

There are many references in the text to Five-Year Plans. The periods covered by the Plans are :

- 1st Five-Year Plan .. April 1951 to March 1956  
 2nd Five-Year Plan .. April 1956 to March 1961  
 3rd Five-Year Plan .. April 1961 to March 1966

After three years of annual plans, the Fourth Five-Year Plan started from April 1969.

The Gazetteer was compiled in the Gazetteers Section of Revenue Department and placed before the Advisory Committee which consisted of—

1. Chief Minister .. Chairman
2. Minister, Revenue Member
3. Deputy Minister, Revenue .. Member (Vacant)
4. Chief Secretary .. Member
5. Member, Board of Revenue .. Member
6. Secretary, Revenue Department Member
7. Dr. P. N. Chopra, Editor, Member  
Central Gazetteers Unit
8. Dr. Pranakrushna Parija, Member  
Padmabhusan
9. Dr. Manmathanath Das, Prof. Member  
of History, Utkal University
10. Chief Editor, Gazetteers .. Member-Secretary

We will be failing in our duty if we do not express our thanks to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M. A., Ph. D., Editor, District Gazetteers and the staff of the Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education and Youth Services, New Delhi, for their effective role in planning

and co-ordinating the work of preparation of the District Gazetteers. The unit scrutinized the draft of this volume with great care and made several helpful suggestions with a view to improving the standard and quality of the publication. It may also be mentioned here that a portion of the expenditure incurred on the publication and printing of the District Gazetteers is being met by the Government of India.

We have had unflinching assistance of local officers of Ministries of Finance, Communications, and Railways ; and all Departments of Orissa Government, all Heads of Departments and their local officers whom we had occasions to approach ; besides a host of non-official persons and organisations. We are particularly thankful to Shri Nrusingha Charan Behuria, I. A. S., Director of Land Records and Surveys ; Shri Purna Chandra Hota, I. A. S., Director of Public Relations and his staff ; Census Organisation, Orissa ; Deputy Director, Map Publication, for printing the maps ; Shri Santanu Kumar Mohapatra, Deputy Director of Mines ; Superintendent, Orissa State Archives ; officers of Orissa State Museum ; Divisional Forest Officers of Angul, Deogarh, Dhenkanal, and Rairakhol for supplying forest maps etc. Poet Shri Radhamohan Gadanayak of Angul for supplying life sketches of some poets belonging to Dhenkanal district ; Dr. G. C. Mohapatra of Deccan College, Poona ; and Dr. (Miss) Anncharlott Eschmann of Heidelberg University (W. Germany), Member, Orissa Research Project. Chapter II (History) had been drafted by Dr. Nabin Kumar Sahu (now Professor of History, Sambalpur University). It has now been printed with some additions here and there.

Shri Kalyan Ray, I. A. S., who has recently joined as State Editor has been in charge of administration of the Gazetteer Section and has given us much valuable assistance.

The following staff of the Gazetteers Section have worked wholeheartedly to complete the task and to go through the tedious and tiring work of proof reading—Shri Jamini Kanta Jagadev, Research Officer ; Shri Mahendra Chandra Das, Officer on Special Duty ;

Compilers—Shri Amulya Kumar Satpathy, Shri Basanta Kumar Das, Shri Gour Prasad Patnaik, Shri Prafulla Behera and Shri Pranakrushna Satpathy; Shri Sarat Chandra Mohapatra, Senior Assistant; Stenographers—Shri Pratap Kumar Ray and Shri Nrusimha Charan Satpathy; Typists—Shri Satyananda Mohapatra, Shri Durga Charan Mohapatra, Shri Braja Kishore Parida and Shri Akshaya Kumar Barik.

Finally, we acknowledge the valuable work of the Superintendent, Orissa Government Press, and his staff who have worked hard to keep to the time schedule. We are thankful to them.

**BHUBANESWAR**  
*The 26th January, 1972*  
**(REPUBLIC DAY)**

**NILAMANI SENAPATI**  
**PREMANANDA TRIPATHY**

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## ABBREVIATIONS

B. N. R.	..	Bengal Nagpur Railway
C. D.	..	Community Development
Ep. Ind	..	Epigraohia Indica
H. E.	..	High English
J. A. H. R. S.	..	Journal of Andhra Historical Research Society
J. A. S. B.	..	Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal
J. B. O. R. S.	..	Journal of Bihar and Orissa Research Society
M. D. R.	..	Major District Road
M. E.		Middle English
N. C. D. C.	..	National Coal Development Corporation
O. B. C.	..	Other Backward Classes
O. H. R. J.	..	Orissa Historical Research Journal
P. W. D.	..	Public Works Department
Sr.	..	Series
U. P.		Upper Primary

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