



GAZETTEER OF INDIA

ORISSA

MAYURBHANJ

ORISSA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



MAYURBHANJ

By

SRI NILAMANI SENAPATI, I.C.S. (Retd.)

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State Editor

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P R E F A C E

A short account of Mayurbhanj appeared in 1907 in the Gazetteer of Feudatory States of Orissa written by L. E. B. Cobden Ramsay, I. C. S. A full statistical account with photographs appeared in the Census Report of Mayurbhanj of 1931 by Mohammad Laeequdd'n. These two publications have been of great use to us in compiling this book. We have also made use of the Annual Administration Reports of Mayurbhanj from 1904 to 1946. We have studied the two volumes of official letters and records relating to the History of Mayurbhanj during the British period published by the Durbar Administration and the typed copy of the proceedings of the State Council of Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo. A fuller use has been made of the Census Reports of 1951 and 1961. With the help of notes received from various departments of the Government of Orissa and various offices of the Government of India the draft compiled in the Gazetteers Section of the Revenue Department (now of the Board of Revenue) was examined by the Chief Editor, and by a Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee consisting of the Member, Board of Revenue, the Secretary of the Revenue Department and the Chief Editor for District Gazetteers. Thereafter the draft was placed before the Advisory Committee consisting of the following :

- (1) Shri Sadasiba Tripathy, Chief Minister, Chairman Orissa.
- (2) Shri Satyapriya Mohanty, Revenue Member Minister, Orissa.
- (3) Shri Chandra Mohan Singh, Deputy Member Minister, Revenue.
- (4) Padmabhusan Dr. P. Parija, I. E. S. Member (Retd.).
- (5) Shri V. Ramanathan, I. C. S., Member, Member Board of Revenue, Orissa
- (6) Shri A. K. Barren, M. C., I. A. S., Member Chief Secretary, Orissa.

- (7) Shri R. P. Padhi, I. A. s., Development Member
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Secretary, Orissa.
- (8) Shri B. K. Mishra, I. A. s., Director of Member
Cultural Affairs Department.
- (9) Shri B. K. Mahanti, I. A. s., Secretary Member
to Government, Revenue and Excise
Departments.
- (10) Shri Nilamani Senapati, I. C. s. (Retd.), Secretary
Chief Editor, District Gazetteers,
Orissa.

In spelling place names scrupulous care has been taken to ascertain the name according to local pronunciation and names have been spelt generally according to the Hunterian system of transliteration. To avoid repetition in the text and to simplify printing, diacritical marks have been placed in the Index. The spellings adopted by the Survey of India in their maps do not at times agree with corresponding spellings in revenue maps and, in the text of the Gazetteer. We have been obliged at times to adopt different spellings. Certain established spellings like Bamanghaty (Brahmanaghati) which have come down from old documents have been accepted in administrative usage had to be maintained. Where, however, a spelling adopted by the Survey of India differs from that given in the text, we have indicated both in the Index and have also indicated the Oriya equivalent.

This Gazetteer would never have been published but for the assistance of a large number of officers of the Government of India and of the State Government. We would be failing in our duty if we do not record our gratitude to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M.A., Ph.D., Editor, District Gazetteers, and the staff of the Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education, who have scrutinised the draft and given valuable suggestions designed to improve

its quality. It would be appropriate to mention here that a part of the expenditure on the compilation and printing of District Gazetteers is being met by the Government of India. The Geological Survey of India and the Meteorological Survey of India supplied all the information we needed. The Railways, Posts & Telegraphs, Income Tax and State Bank of India authorities have also been extremely helpful.

We are particularly indebted to Dr. Basanta Kumar Behura, Professor of Zoology, Utkal University, Dr. Harihar Patnaik, Lecturer in Botany, Shri Bijoy Krishna Mohanty, Deputy Director of Mines, Government of Orissa and Dr. Gopal Chandra Mohapatra, Lecturer, Punjab University, Chandigarh. The Gazetteer owes much to the valuable assistance they have rendered.

We take this occasion to thank Shri Sadasiba Tripathy, the Chief Minister, who evinced a keen interest in the work throughout.

We should also like to place on record our appreciation of the officers and staff of the Gazetteers Section but for whose co-operation and zeal the Gazetteer would not have seen the light of day. The Superintendent and the staff of the Orissa Government Press deserve the gratitude of everyone for sparing no efforts to ensure accurate printing and the publication of the Gazetteer before the Republic Day of 1967.

And finally a word about the map appended to the Gazetteer. On account of restrictions imposed by the Government of India on publication of maps of certain scale the attempt to obtain a map from the Survey of India had to be given up and a very small map had to be prepared in the office of the Survey and Map Publications of Orissa. We are thankful to this office for printing a map as a last minute effort to enable this Gazetteer being available to the public.

NILAMANI SENAPATI

Republic Day, 1967
Republic Day, 1969

NABIN KUMAR SAHU

The Story of Asanpat Inscription is as follows:

In village Asanpat in Champua Subdivision of Keonjhar district Shri Ram Chandra Mahakula, a School Master of village Karanjia in Keonjhar district, found in 1965 an Adivasi worshipping a stone image of dancing Siva with an inscription on it. He sent an estampage of the inscription to Shri Satya Narayan Rajguru, the Epigraphist of the Orissa State Museum at Bhubaneswar. Shri Rajguru studied and interpreted the rough estampage. The officers of the Cultural Affairs Department have brought the Dancing Siva and the inscription to the State Museum. Shri Rajguru has now interpreted the inscription as at page 60.

N. SENAPATI

26th January 1969

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Abbreviation for Chapter II—History

Ep. Ind.	..	Epigraphia Indica
I. H. Q.	..	Indian Historical Quarterly
J. A. S. B.	..	Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal
J. B. O. R. S.	..	Journal of Bihar and Orissa Research Society
O. H. R. J.	..	Orissa Historical Research Journal