

Village Name in Roorkee Tahasil, Saharanpur, U. P.

—A Recharacterization of the Village Society in North India—

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The purpose of this paper is to analyse the suffix pattern of village names in Roorkee Tahasil, Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh. The pattern is further analysed to estimate the increase of the number of villages during the medieval period. The result of the latter investigation reveals an unexpected aspect of the village society in north India, which requires a recharacterization of the concept of Indian society.

I did field work from January 1973 to April 1975 scholarshipped by Indian Government under General Cultural Scholarship Scheme in a village near Mangalour, an agro-commercial center of the southeastern part of District Saharanpur. On the way of writing my doctoral dissertation I realised necessity to give a pseudoname to the village studied. This step is followed usually so unconsciously that one does not pay enough attention as to what kind of village name is to be employed. The majority of names real or unreal selected by the field researchers in north India end with *-Pūr* as shown later in this paper. The name of the village where I did field work ended with *-Kī*. This fact itself was interesting for a foreign student who had expected to do research in a village with suffix *-Pūr*. The process which finally produced this paper was thus commenced with the planning of a pseudoname preserving the suffix *-Kī*. It was premised *a priori* that the preceding part of the name to be selected, such as *Ram-* in case of *Rampur*, should precede *-Kī* frequently in the district. District Census Handbook in the Tahasildar office contained Village Directory listing up all the village names each followed by statistical data. Through counting the village name ending frequency it was recognized that the geographical distribution of some suffices had characteristic tendency which might imply the settlement history of villages. As the conclusion of an etimological analysis it is found that the existing villages which appear to have pre-Mughal roots are roughly 10% of the total *mauza* (Mughal and post-Mughal revenue villages) of the Tahasil.

Although the result of the study in this paper concludes the necessity to reconsider the nature and attribute of the village society, there is not found even a single study of village name in north India as well as in all Indian scale. In the

first part of this paper, therefore, the distribution of village names selected by anthropologists or sociologists for the villages they studied is analysed on the subcontinental scale in order to give the outline. In the second part the regional frequency of suffices in Roorkee Tahasil is studied in detail. Finally in the third part the demographic and historical implication of the village name suffices is discussed synthesising two approaches.

(I)

The name list and code map of Indian villages studied by anthropologists (Map I ; Mandelbaum, 1970) shows that there are characteristic name endings which can be identified as village name suffices. Most of these endings, limited in number, have apparent tendency to concentrate in limited regions. What should be considered before the analysis of these endings is the intrinsic nature of these names. Two underlying problems in Mandelbaum's list-map are not to be overlooked when Indian village name endings are studied from this source of information.

(i) The number of villages cited is far less than the necessary quantity. Mandelbaum listed only 97 names of populations (villages or caste groups) studied. This fact suggests that different villages and caste groups numbered not much larger than 97 offer to anthropologists enough information to draw the generalization of the society of a country which has population the second numerous in the world. It is unscientific to expect statistically that 97 cases gives fairly unbiased sample of 560,000 original population. According 1961 National Census India had about 560,000 villages.

(ii) The names listed and mapped are mostly pseudonyms arbitrarily selected by researchers who did not care for the name ending frequency and distribution of the region under investigation. It is highly probable that a researcher chooses a village name with a suffix that he half-consciously feels frequent in the region. The impressionistic attitude may correct statistically the unreliableness of the small sample of 97 out of 560,000, or must not.

What is remarkable in this context is that the analysis of the village name suffix found in Mandelbaum's list gives a conclusion at least as unbiased as the book itself by the same author.

(a) Characteristic village name endings

Among 97 names listed and mapped by Mandelbaum, 27 end with s. These names are not of village but are to be considered as ones of social groups, mostly of castes. Among remaining 70 we identify 6 or 8 characteristic endings, i. e. the endings each of which occurs more than twice in the list. They collectively terminate 42, a little less than two third of all the village names cited. Six endings are -Pur, -Ola (including -Oli, the feminine form), -Nagar, -Alli, -Ana and -Uru.



Map I

Distribution of Name ending of Village listed by Mandelbaum

- c : non-village name
 x : village name without characteristic name ending
 P : village name with suffix-Pur.
 w : village name with suffix-Wala
 n : village name with suffix-Nagar
 l : village name with suffix-Alli
 a : village name with suffix-Ana
 p : village name with suffix-Pura
 r : village name with suffix-Uru
 w : village name with suffix-Ala

Table I : Village Name Ending of Mandelbaum's List

Village name	70	with characteristic ending	42	-Pur ending	22*
				-Wala ending	7*
				-Nagar ending	4
				-Alli ending	4
				-Ana ending	3
				-Uru ending	2
		without	28		
		characteristic ending			
Non-Village name		27			
Total		97			

* -Pur ending includes three -Pura or -Puram endings

-Wala ending includes two -Ala endings

Two more endings are the variations of above mentioned 6 endings. -Pura (or -Puram) which is more antique form of -Pur is to be amalgamated into the latter ending. The eighth ending -Ala is one of the minor variations of -Ola. Out of 6 characteristic endings 3 are Hindi suffices, or endings which bear meaning in Hindustani.

(i) -Pur : Like *Lame-pur*, *Ram-pur*, *Sung-pur* etc. -Pur is the most frequent ending as expected before. Together with more antique -Pura(m), -Pur terminates 22 village names, more than half of village names with characteristic endings. -Pur occurs at the end of 19 village names, -Pura (including -Puram) of 3 village names. Puram, a Sanskrit word, originally meant "fortress"

deviated from a root "to protect". This word later came to be used to denote "town" like European *borough* or *Burg*.

(ii) -Wala : As in *Tarar-wala*, *De-oli*, *Sar-ola* etc. -Wala is a word in Standard Hindi and in colloquial Hindustani. It has diversified meanings in vernaculars. When it follows some proper noun as in case of village names, it implies "belonging to" or "pertaining to". For example, "Deoli" comes from *Dev-Wali* with original meaning of "(village) belonging to (land-) Lord". The first semivowel is often abbreviated transforming the very ending into -Ola or -Oli.

(iii) -Nagar : e. g. *Shanti-Nagar*, *Ram-Nagar* etc. Nagar has Sanskritic etymology signifying "town".

(b) Geographic concentration of the village name endings

The analysis of Mandelbaum's list reveals many aspects of Indian rural sociology. Glancing at Map I it is obvious that in those states which surround the Mughal core states¹⁾ (Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh) village studies are scattered rather thinly. The states of low study density are Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar (Eastern Maharashtra is to be included). Besides these three, states with less village studies are Assam and encircling states, Jammu & Kashmir and southern Andhra Pradesh. The marginal states at the eastern and western extreme of the huge country do not affect this analysis. But the existence of thinly studied states makes it difficult to observe the distribution of some village name endings, since it is not seldom uncertain whether it is meaningful to isolate a focus of a certain suffix in the Mughal core from another focus of the same suffix in the fringe states beyond the problematic area of sparse study density. The distributional bias of anthropological studies is to be attributed to a few reasons. The population density is so scattered in these states due to the topographic and climatic circumstance, and consequently villages are so thinly distributed comparing with other parts of India that the village studies randomly sampled by researchers become small in number. A more plausible but unscientific reason is that there is not long-established academic institution which is to be the center of anthropological studies within these states. In addition a diachronical explanation is possible. In these states in general the village society itself does not show structural feature due to the rapid and uprooting destruction of short-lived Mughal or other medieval administration. Whatever the underlying reason for the distributional bias may be, the explanation and analysis below bears meaning on the premise that Mandelbaum's list offers significant data even in respect of the thinly distributed study area.

Before discussing the geographical concentration of village name suffices two outlining distributions are mentioned ; the distribution of non-village names and of village names without characteristic ending (see Table and Map I). Non-village

names, mainly caste names, occur most frequently in the southern state of Kerala where we can not find even a single name of "village" in the list. In other parts of Subcontinent anthropological research selects predominantly the village society as the object of the study. In the southern states (Kerala and Tamil Nadu) which concentrate nearly half of non-village names the village study is the decided minority. Out of 13 listed by Mandelbaum only 3 are village names. The striking concentration of caste studies tells that in the region caste has been more suitable object of anthropological study than in north India. This fact suggests though vaguely that in southmost India caste system is more important element of the social structure than in north India. In the latter, to the contrary, the village society is the more established social category. What is to be expected is that in north India well organized feudal administrations supported by relative dense population of the days increased the importance of the village society as the framework of society in general. North Indian level of socio-political sophistication was not attained in other regions of Subcontinent. In contrast to the northern part the southern kingdoms, though similarly had relatively teeming population, did not develop feudal administration so refined as Mughal. Consequently in the southern polities the political control in the main worked through the status system which later came to be called as "casta" by Portuguese.

Village names without characteristic ending are relatively frequent in the middle part of the peninsular, i. e. in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Orrisa, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh. The randomness of the village naming in these states is to be interpreted as the reflection of historical conditions that in this part of India there was no established and long-lived government during the medieval era in the sense that the royal finance was not able to establish durable and quantified land revenue levy relation with each village. This explanation would sound as an over-interpretation. But it is obvious that a developed revenue administration as in case of Mughal or of Japan, requires lump sum, territorial and infrequently population assessment, which eventually changes the registered village names in many cases and relocates the village itself though rarely. The accumulation of the continuous registry reorganizations makes the village name endings tend to follow several patterns to signify the historical and legal setting of the objects of revenue administration. Under a protracted and refined polity village names come to express the sociological condition of the revenue payers, reflecting the historical relation between the ruling polity and the village propriety body. The political process of systematization is nearly absent in the middle Indian states probably except post-British days. The result is the lack of characteristic village name endings, the village being named sporadically one by one by diversified vernacular groups, or by transitory rulers.

According to tripartite division of India, what has not yet been referred to is

north India. A north Indian village name listed has in most cases characteristic ending. Thus it is observed that north India has the declination of strong conformity in village name ending. North India here consists of the present states of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal, but excluding mountainous states of Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir also with the exception of Pahari districts of Uttar Pradesh. Striking concentration of characteristic village name endings in north India especially in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab reflects the existence of Mughal administration which tended to limit the variety of village name ending as the registered suffix. The villages investigated are too little in number in Rajasthan, in Bihar and in Madhya Pradesh to demarcate clearly the outline of the concentration region. Bengal concentration of characteristic village name ending is problematic since apparently there was not Mughal revenue administration so firmly established as in the Mughal core area from Lahore to Allahabad. Only the plausible explanation for Bengal concentration is that it is due to a revenue administration adjacent to Mughal era and particularly well established in this region. Comparing with other centers of British Raj the population growth in Bengal after the annexation was remarkable.²⁾ The organized method of European administration for colonialism in the course of settlement expansion resulted in patterning the village name. It is also not to be neglected that the medieval idea among Bengal subjects even after Mughal decline unconsciously reproduced the pattern of village naming when they named villages newly born in wide scale.

Another problematic concentration of characteristic name endings is found in Karnataka, especially in its southern districts. The region corresponds with the territory of former Mysore kingdom. The name ending pattern fairly resembles with that of Punjab. These facts in combination would enable some interpretation. Karnataka concentration is not farther studied in this article because my knowledge of Indian socio-economic history is rather confined to north India.

Each characteristic village name ending has its own concentration or concentrations. The most frequent suffix, -Pur determines the geographical distribution of the suffices in general. -Pur has three foci, respectively in Mughal core area, West Bengal and Northern Karnataka. The probable reasons for the concentrations are already mentioned. Mughal core area containing Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (excluding Pahari districts) has 9 -Pur ending villages against total 17. In West Bengal 5 out of 9 terminate with -Pur. Comparing with these two centers Karnataka focus is much vague. -Nagar and -Ana have north Indian concentration, although the number of the villages ending with these two suffices is small. -Nagar is scattered through Gangetic Plain, while -Ana has hypothetical center in Haryana. -Wala, the second frequent suffix, has lineal distribution from West Punjab to Karnataka. -Alli and -Uru are regional suffices. The former concentrates in the southern districts of Karnataka, and the latter is found only in Andhra Pradesh. The geo-

graphic distribution of the village name endings of minor importance is not further analysed in this paper because of the sample scarcity.

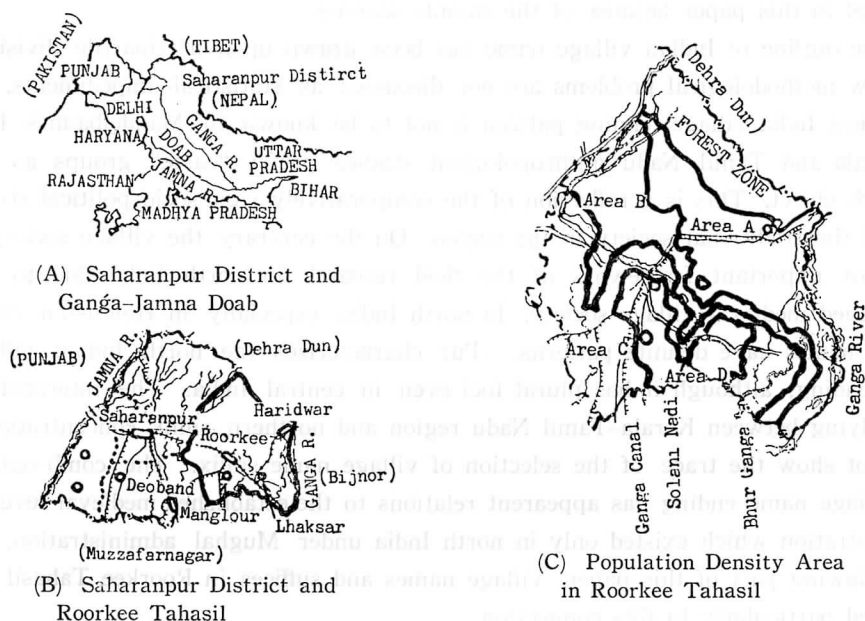
The outline of Indian village name has been drawn upon a tripartite division, if a few methodological problems are not discussed as statistical impediments. In southmost India village naming pattern is not to be known in Mandelbaum's list. In Kerala and Tamil Nadu anthropological studies prefer "caste" groups as the research object. This is a reflection of the comparatively rigid socio-political structure of the traditional society in the region. On the contrary the village society is the most important framework of the field research in north India due to the established medieval village society. In north India, especially in Hindustan states village names have definite patterns. -Pur characterizes the north Indian village name ending, although it has plural foci even in central India. The intermediate zone, lying between Kerala-Tamil Nadu region and northern suffix concentrations, does not show the trace of the selection of village name suffix. The comb-out of the village name ending has apparent relations to the established medieval revenue administration which existed only in north India under Mughal administration. In the following part of this paper, village names and suffices in Roorkee Tahasil are analysed particularly in this connection.

(II)

Saharanpur, locating at the dead end of Ganga-Jamna Doab, appears to have been settled by the ancestors of present population largely later than Middle Doab districts which has been a center of north Indian history at least since the days of Delhi Sultanate. The forest zone along the northern border of the District adjacent to Dehra Dun is the evident remnant of Terai jungle which was once the predominant flora of the cis-Siwalik humid belt. Detailed analysis of Village Directory clarifies that the area along the forest zone (Area A in Map II-c) has lower population density (0.48-0.75 person/acre). This area has two projections toward the fluvial plain of Ganga and into the center of Tahasil (Pitri Forest). In contrast to it there is an area of dense population (Area D in Map II-c : 1.34-1.54 person/acre) centered on Roorkee-Manglour line and Lhaksar. Area A and D are intermediated with Area B (0.82-1.00 person/acre) and with Area C (1.00-1.28 person/acre) which have a little larger expanse in the western part of Tahasil.³⁾ This is due to the infiltration of demographic accumulation in the central Tahsils (Saharanpur and Deoband) of District. Higher population density in the southwestern part of Tahasil is due to the infiltration of the accumulation in the middle Doab and Delhi regions in macroscopical perspective.

The population density which show geographical diversification within a small tahasil is supposed to reflect the settlement history of villages in each Area. Obviously villages in densely populated area have in general longer history which has

Map II Saharanpur District and Population Density Areas of Roorkee Tahasil



enabled the demographic accumulation within the area, if the population growth roughly keeps a same ratio in historical time and Tahasil space, and if the variations of replacing movement are negligible. The supposition is supported by the existence of the forest zone which happens to have not cleared yet. Some oral traditions also support this hypothesis. When asked about their ancestral place, the villagers of Tahasil unanimously, if not persuasively, answer that their forefathers came from Hariana or Doab regions not far from Delhi or Indraprastha. Another tradition is that even in later Mughal days there was few villages found on the way from Mangalour to Hardwar, although this seems to be an exaggeration. The analysis of village names in Roorkee Tahasil depends on the hypothesis of the diachronical interpretation of synchronical distribution or on higher-density-longer-history theory.

The analysis of Roorkee village names is based on Village Directory of *District Census Handbook*. It was first noticed that there were several name endings which occurred frequently in the Directory. The most frequent was obviously -Pur. In addition to it -Wala etc. were expected to be probable suffices. In order to analyse the name endings of numerous villages within Tahasil it was necessary to employ a systematic method to identify village name suffix. Mandelbaum's list does not require the device because the number of villages cited was small enough to isolate suffix from preceding proper part, like *Ram* preceding -Pur in case of Rampur. At first name ending list of all the villages is made, listing up the last two

syllables. The tentative definition of village name ending is necessary because the exact forms of suffices are not known. In the next step meaningful suffices are isolated from the exhaustive list of the endings considering the plurality and the meaning as a word. In respect of "meaning" the etymology is also considered. Generally the meaning in *Hindustani* is referred to. As the terms of etymology four words are employed. Two terms, Arabic and Persian, are of West Asian languages. Other two terms, Sanskrit and Hindustani are of Hindi language. "Hindi etymology" does not always mean that a word has the origin in ancient Indian language, e. g. Sanskrit or Pali. The term "Hindi" is of different nature, being an allround category including dubious or unknown etymology. This is the reason the term Sanskrit or Sanskritik Hindi is adopted for modern Sanskritized Hindi distinguished from colloquial Hindustani.

A preparatory processing is required before analysing the village names in Directory. The definition of the village name is necessary in order to select a word or words as the village name when a few words are found corresponding to a village in Directory. A village name is defined as a word with the ending which terminates elsewhere in Directory a village name without any other word. In many cases two village names are connected with *urf* (= alias), e. g. Akbarpur urf Mohammadpur. Noun combination with *urf* denotes both are village names. *Urf* is often omitted, and the cases of two village names cited at once are most frequent among the plural word expression in Directory. The second frequent type is a village name plus postpositived adjective. Suffix NGL- as mentioned below always has a postpositived word. NGL-, although included as suffix, is really a prefix because without exception it is followed by a word modifying. Other than NGL- 3 pairs of adjectives are found frequently; *Pert-All*, *Kalan-Khurd* and *Majbata-Khalsa*. They imply the ramification or depopulation-resettlement of the residents. *Pert-All* means "parent-child". The etymology of *Pert* is Persian and of *All* Arabic. It is quite clear that *Akbarpur All*, for example, was originally a ramified village from *Akbarpur Pert* for some revenue reasons or due to population increase etc. *Kalan-Khurd* means "big-small." Again the etymology is diversified. *Kalan* is of Arabic origin, while *Khurd* comes from Persian. It does not require detailed explanation that *Akbarpur Kalan* was the larger part and *Akbar Khurd* was the smaller part of a greater Akbarpur when divided because of the population growth, the expansion of the agricultural field etc.⁴⁾ *Majbata-Khalsa* means "populated-vacant". This pair is of Persian. *Akbarpur Khalsa* was originally an area without any population (deserted or unsettled) separated from a greater *Akbarpur* for some revenue levy reason, remaining part being named as *Akbarpur Majbata*. It is also probable that an adjacent village to *Akbarpur Majbata* was deserted, depopulated area being attached to A. *Majbata* hence named as *Akbarpur Khalsa*.

Perso-Arabic pair adjectives suggest the instability of village boundary. The

remnant of renaming and rebounding is inconsistent with the conventional idea of Indian village society. The instability interpretation is justified, however, not only with the vocabulary itself but also with the regional frequency of the pairs. 57 adjective pairs occur on the whole ; 34 *Pert-Alli*, 14 *Kalan-Khurd*, 4 *Majbata-Khalsa* and 5 others. Slightly over the half (28 pairs) are found in Area A. Population density and adjective pair frequency have mutually reverse tendency ; in Area B there are 15 pairs, nearly half of the occurrence in Area A, and in Area C we find 6 pairs, less than half of the number in Area B. Thus the instability explanation is cross-checked positively by the distribution. More recently cleared and settled areas have relatively lax village boundary since occupancy right is less rigid due to the abundance of the uncultivated cultivable. The flexible occupancy on the side of the ruled facilitates the reorganizational interference by the authority, which resulted in the regional distribution of adjective pairs.

After listing up all the last two syllables of the village names defined above, real suffices are established, taking the meaning of each ending into account, and expanding or curtailing the extracted parts. The most important suffices other than dominating -Pur are -Wala, -Hera, -Mazra and -Khera. -Pur, including its Sanskrit form -Pura and other variations, terminates 53 % of all the village names found in Roorkee Tahasil. This rate is highly remarkable because we have calculated the percentage of -Pur ending villages in Punjab-Haryana-Delhi-U. P. region as 52.9 % (9 out of 17) of all the villages listed by Mandelbaum. -Wala, the next frequent suffix, occurs 57 times in Roorkee Tahasil, accounting for 8 % of the total. -Wala includes such endings as feminine -Wali etc. -Hera, Mazra and -Khera are not identified as suffix in the analysis of Mandelbaum's list. -Hera occurs 50 times accounting for about 7 % of the entire village in Tahasil (including feminine form Heri etc.), Mazra (including Hindustani form *Majara*) 22 times for 3 %, and -Khera (including feminine form -Kheri) 20 times for roughly 3 %. Five most frequent suffices terminate a little more than three fourths of the Tahasil village names. Other four suffices occur more than 10 times : -Ka (including -Ki, the feminine form), Grant, Bad and NGL (vowelless expression). In addition to these 9 suffices, Bans, Nagar and Chak each found more than 5 times in Directory are considered in following analysis. 12 suffices, namely -Pur, -Wala, -Hera, Mazra, -Khera, -Ka, Grant, -Bad, NGL-, Bans, Nagar and Chak, terminate slightly more than five sixths, or 575 village names.

The lexicon of 12 suffices is as following:

- (i) -Pur : Etymology and meaning are already mentioned. In Roorkee Tahasil most frequent variation is -Pura (11 cases). The Sanskrit outlook of this deviation would suggest pre-Islamic or pre-Mughal origin of -Pura, and eventually of -Pur. In spite of this conjecture the etymology of the proper part preceding -Pura reveals its non-Sanskritic etymology. Five out of 11 cases are preceded

by Perso-Arabic proper part, 5 follow Hindustani and only one coordinates with Sanskritic proper part. This observation concludes that generally accepted Sanskritic etymology of Pur is no less implausible than Persian etymology similarly transformed from the common ancestry of Perso-Indian language. At the same time it is more probable that some revenue administration employed this antique suffix for unknown reasons. The fact that 10 out of 11 -Pura ending villages concentrate in Area A suggests that Sanskritic -Pura is a modern or Snaskritized form of -Pur, applied to those villages in Area A settled rather recently, and named after the Sanskritization had been set in motion. -Puri is included into -Pur regarded as the feminine form of -Pura, although this deviation is at least not orthographic.

(ii) -Wala : Etymology and meaning are already mentioned. In Roorkee Tahasil village name Lodiwala occurs twice. Lodi, most famous as one of the Sultanate dynasties, originally was the name of an Afgan tribe. Lodiwala therefore, is a village where Lodi tribesmen resided, or where Sultanate relations settled. The derivations of -Wala are feminine -Wali, -Wal (the last vowel-omitted) and -Ola (including -Oli, the feminine form).

(iii) -Hera : -Hera has more colloquial origin than -Wala which has been adopted as standard Hindi. Hera, of which meaning is similar to -Wala, is locally used as -Wala. The proper part preceding -Hera is as ambiguous in etymology as -Hera. Jhinwarhera is found twice in Tahasil. This name simply means a village where Jhinwar, the watercarrier caste lives. The derivations of -Hera are -Heri (feminine form), -Hara, -Hari, -Ehra. -Hara and derivated -Hari are more orthographic as employed in dictionaries. -Hara is not adopted in this paper because -Hera and its derivated forms occur far frequently in comparison with the orthographic types. -Ehra is conventional scription of -Era which is the h- abbreviation of -Hera.

(iv) Mazra : Mazra has an Arabic etymology. It means "(the land) granted".⁵⁾ There are two villages *Kalanmazra* in Roorkee Tahasil. As *Kalan* is an Arabic word denoting wide, huge etc., the village name means a vast land, or a populous village, granted to someone. The variations of this suffix is Majra, Majara and -Njra. The first two forms are of Hindustani which has not phonem /z/. Whenever /z/ appears in an imported word, Hindustani substitutes it for /j/. -Njra is also a Hindustani derivation through following change : e. g. *Kalan-mazra* → *Kalanmajra* → *Kalanmjra* → *Kalanjra*. *Mazra*, *Buzurg* and *Grant* signify "(the land) granted". The etymology of these "grant" is Arabic, Persian and English. We cannot find any Sanskrit word for "grant" which implies that no Sanskritic authority granted land.

(v) -Khera : This suffix is of Hindustani origin, and means "a hamlet". *Mundakhera* appears twice in Directory. The name means "small hamlet". As

the derivations of Khera, -Kheri (feminine form) and -Kher (the last vowel omitted) are included.

(vi) -Ka : Etimologically Hindustani. It means English "of". -Ka is a post-position used daily in vernabulars as well as standard Hindi. Some noun equivalent to village or land granted seems to have followed. For instance in the case of Dhadeki, some word like "Jagah" (location) probably is omitted from Dhadeki Jagah, land granted to (given to, resided by, owned by etc.) Dhada.

(vii) Grant : Only suffix which has English etimology. The land of which ownership was granted by British Raj was termed for example, *Ahmadpur Grant*. No derivational form. Mazra (Arabic see iv) and Buzurg (Persian see xiv) have same meaning employed by preceding authority which had cultural connection with Arabic and Persian. This polity is to be identified with Mughal without doubt. -Ka also have similar political background.

(viii) -Bad : Arabic. City or town. Used as a village. No derivation.

(ix) NGL- : Hindustani. Although there is room for reinterpretation, the meaning seems to be "a plough". There are many variations of this consonantal structure, nagal, nagla, nogla etc. These are derivated from NGL- because when we write these words in Urdu, the spelling remains almost same. Proper part is postposited like Persian adjective. Plough implies agriculture, so that a village. Nagla Daud is found twice in Directory. This name means "the plough of the noble".

(x) -Bans : Sanskritic Hindi. Family property to be inherited through genealogical line. Hence a village owned by a family.

(xi) -Nagar : Sanskritic Hindi. Originally a town, loosely used as a village.

(xii) Chak : Hindi. Agricultural field, so a village.

These twelve suffices appear in Directory more than five times. In addition to these the following suffices are obtained that occur less than five times.

(xiii) Jat : four times. Hindustani. The village of Jat, the most numerous cultivator caste's name.

(xiv) Buzurg : thrice. Persian, the land granted.

(xv) Kot : thrice. Hindustani, a castle or a huge room, hence a village.

(xvi) Kuri : thrice. Hindustani, barren land, so that a village of poor soil.

(xvii) Baqqal : twice. Arabic, a vegetablemonger, a grain merchant : a village of the caste.

(xviii) Bichpari : twice. Hindustani, "on-the-way" : a relatively new village settled between two parental villages.

(xix) Chandi : twice. Hindustani, wealth : a wealthy village (an euphonistic expression), or a village owned by a person or by a family as the property.

(xx) Jurra : twice. Hindustani, "combined" : a village consisting of plural hamlets.

- (xxi) Kaliyar : twice. Unknown.
- (xxii) Makhyala : twice. Unknown.
- (xxiii) Padli : twice. Hindustani, border (?) : a village at border.
- (xxiv) Panyala : twice. Hindustani, a kind of cloth with bright colour : a metaphor of agricultural field coloured by crops around a village.

Several suffices show peculiar behaviour. Among five most important suffices -Hera concentration is found in population density Area D. While Tahasil percentage of -Hera ending village is 7 %, Area D percentage is 14 %. Among four relatively important suffices NGL- has Area D percentage of 3 % in contrast to Tahsil's 1 %. All the secondary suffices have regional bias. -Bans and Chak concentrate in Area A, and -Nagar has focus in Area D. Among others Jāt is unique : all occur in Area D. Four suffices appear to be relatively peculiar in distribution, -Wala ending villages are thinly distributed in Area D, although comparatively frequent in Area B and Area C. We find more Mazra and Grant ending villages in Area A and B than in Area C or D. -Khera occurs often in Area B and C in comparison with others. -Bad has much higher density in Area A and B but not so in Area C. The distributional bias of these suffices leaves only two suffices -Pur and -Ka ubiquitous.

Summizing observation above, twelve suffices are classified as following :

- (a) Omnipresent suffices : -Pur and -Ka.
- (b) Suffices frequent in sparsely populated area : Mazra, Grant, -Bad, -Bans and Chak.
- (c) Suffices frequent in intermediate area : -Wala and -Khera.
- (d) Suffices frequent in densely populated area : -Hera, NGL- and Nagar.

If the hypothesis that more densely populated area (i. e. Area C and D) was settled earlier than the more thinly populated area (Area A and B) is to be accepted, a chronological sequence of the suffices is expected as following : -Hera, NGL-, -Nagar → -Wala, -Khera, → -Mazra, Grant, -Bad, -Bans, Chak.

What is meant by the "chronological sequence" is that a suffix, for example -Bans, is selected as the name of villages newer than ones ending with -Khera or -Wala, *in most case*. It does not deny that a village ending with a suffix newer in the order happens to be older, though infrequently, than a village ending with a suffix older in the order. The etymology of the suffices is almost Hindustani except in group (b) where Arabic Mazra and -Bad, English (Grant) and Sanskritik Hindi (-Bans) words are intermingled. The foreign etymology found in group (b) supports the diachronical interpretation of synchronical population density. Three-grouped chronological sequence is modified in detail with considerations below. Among three suffices in group (d) the number and variation of the derivated forms of NGL- and -Hera is far abundant in comparison with -Nagar, which suggests that these two have more ancient origin than -Nagar which has not any transfor-

mation. This morphological divergence implies that -Nagar is often employed when a new village is settled and named in already densely populated Area D during modern time. This assumption appears reasonable because the demographic capacity which now supports the relatively dense population in Area D was not existent during Medieval era, so that large number of villages were to be settled influenced by the introduction of commercialized crops, by industrialization etc. -Nagar ending villages are five among which three locate in Area D where the demographic increase of suburban nature is estimated to be steeper than Area B and C, while 2 are found in Area A where the populational growth is likewise noticeable due to agricultural colonization. -Nagar is, therefore, to be regrouped into modern suffices like Mazra, Grant etc. Comparing the stability of NGL- as a word with that of -Hera it is obvious that NGL- is the ending in vogue in more ancient days than -Hera. As a result regrouped choronological sequence is as following : NGL-, → -Hera, → -Wala, -Khera, → -Mazra, Grant, -Bad, -Bans, Chak, -Nagar

The absence of -Pur in the sequence is very problematic. The overwhelming predominance of -Pur in numerical sense does not permit easy comparison with other rather infrequent (in contrast only with -Pur) suffices. But the locus of -Pur is determined by following method though indirectly. (a) Single majority of -Pur is observed in Area A and D. In Area B and C the majority is realised by the coalition with -Wala, the second frequent suffix. (b) The variety of the derivation of Pur is poor in relation to the numerical strength. The distributional pattern and the derivational scarcity of Pur have resemblance to -Nagar. At least this may imply the usage of -Pur belongs to more recent era than -Khera, -Wala etc. Synthesizing these two interpretation it is concluded that -Pur is somehow between -Nagar and -Wala in the chronolgical sequence. As -Pur has very long history and is not cofined to a few centuries, the locus in the chornological sequence is at the best understood as the era in which -Pur was almost only the suffix used in village naming. Considering the implication of the locus and the numerical significance of -Pur, it is expected that the era of -Pur monopoly in village naming is the era of country-wide colonization. The tentative sequence covering eleven suffices including -Pur is as following : NGL-, → -Hera, → -Wala, -Khera, → -Pur, → -Mazra, Grant, -Bad, -Bans, Chak, -Nagar

The chronological sequence of 12 suffices is established except (vi) -Kā. In following analysis the locus of -Kā and the correspondance between relative chorology in the sequence and historical period is to be studied. The method is to check up the proper parts preceding each suffix and its etimology which have been neglected in the paragraphs above. At first proper parts before -Pūr is studied. This suffix is selected primarily simply because of the numerosity and of the central locus in the sequence, which bridges all the suffices in the order. In following

analysis of proper part or of prefix the way to count the number of villages is slightly different from the suffix study above. In earlier part of this paper village names with adjectives like All-Pert, Khurd-Kalan etc. are counted as two separate existances. For example Dhadeki All and Dhadeki Pert are regarded as different villages. In the analysis of proper part one of pair Dhadekis is considered as a village ramified from another and is not reckoned as a separate object. According to this counting, the most frequent proper part preceding -Pur are Akbar and Mohammad. There are seven *Akbarpurs* and *Mohammadpurs*. The next frequent is *Bahadurpurs* (six cases). It is interesting that three frequent proper parts are found among the names of later Mughal emperors : Akbar Shah II (1806-1837), Muhammad Shah (1719-1748) and Bahadur Shah (or Mu'azzam Shah 'Alam I : 1707-1712) are the sixteenth, the twelfth and the seventh emperor respectively. These proper names are so popular at least in modern times that the special connection between the emperors and Roorkee villages is not necessary. With regards to Mughal emperors, there are two very famous names Jalal-ud-din Akbar (1556-1605 : the third emperor, Akbar the Great) and Bahadur Shah II (1837-1858 : the last) which bear the same proper nouns. Mere overlapping of the Mughal emperor names after 1700 and most frequent Roorkee village names is to be noticed here.

Three Arabic words occur five times preceding -Pur. *Jamal*, *Rasul* and *Salha*, respectively meaning "beautiful", "prophet" and "good". Four *Hassanpurs*, *Sherpurs* and *Raipurs* are found in Directory. Hassan is very popular proper noun of Islamic origin, and Sher is a Persian word denoting "Lion". Among top nine proper parts used most frequently only word of plausible non-Islamic etymology is *Rai*. Rai is regarded as Hindi "headman". But Rai also has an Arabic isomorphic equivalent to "advisor, shephard". Eleven proper parts precede -Pur thrice, nine of which are of West Asian etymology remaining only two Hindi, or standard Hindustani nouns. Ali- (proper noun), Alwar- (progenitive ?), Mir-, Mubarak- (auspicious), Nasir- (friedly), Qabad- (narrow), Qutab- (proper noun), Sikander- (Alexander), Sultan- and Salem- (perfect) are of Urdu etymology. In contrast to abundant West Asian proper parts, Hindi or Sanskritized Hindustani has only two, Kishan and Raj. Among the proper parts which occur twice in Directory, a little more than two thirds are definitely Arabic or Persian while non-west Asian words which are rarely Sanskritic occupy a little less than one third.

The proper parts of village names ending with -Pur which occur more than thrice in Roorkee Tahasil have 89.7 % of Arabic or Persian etymology. The same ratio for the names which occur more than twice is 75.8 %, and for the village names of single occurrence is 51 %. As a whole 65 % proper parts preceding -Pur are Arabic or Persian, remaining 35 % being of Hindustani. What is to be concluded from this analysis is that the proper part preceding -Pur is predominantly of definite West Asian origin, in spite of the surfacial Sanskritic etymology of -Pur

itself. Even in case of Hindustani proper parts the direct relation to Sanskrit or to other ancient South Asian languages is not frequently established. Another observation discourages the direct Sanskritic etymology of -Pur. Area B, C and D have the Perso-Arabic etymology percentage more than 70, while in Area A the ratio is much less. This fact reveals that in Area A, where villages are settled comparatively recently and are named even under the influence of modern Sanskritization, -Pur is combined with Hindustani or Sanskritic Hindi words, though this was not traditional. The explanation paradoxically suggests that -Pur had currency as a village name ending in combination with Persian or Arabic proper parts. The Perso-Arabic percentage, predominant Arabic etymology and overlapping with the names of Mughal Emperors, especially with ones after 1700, allude that -Pur ending villages in Roorkee Tahasil were largely settled during Mughal era (from the sixteenth to the middle nineteenth century), probably during in the latter part (1700-1850). As Saharanpur was one of the loyal districts which remained within Mughal territory in the last years, and because this district had relatively large tract of uncultivated cultivable land in the latter part of Mughal era⁷⁾, many villages ending with -Pur were settled in relation to Mughal revenue policy to increase the royal income. The administrative effort was necessary for Mughal court since it had lost the colonial front from which they could exact increased revenue. The policy of the promotion of agriculture by Mughal administration⁸⁾ resulted in the ubiquity of village name ending.

Synthesising the analysis mentioned above, the chronological sequence of suffices corresponds with absolute chronology as following:

NGL-, → -Hera, → -Wala, -Khera, → -Pur, → Mazra etc.

-17 c. 17 c. -19 c. 19 c. -20 c.

The absolute chronology corresponding to suffix or suffices gives rough idea of the centuries when the endings were employed most frequently. The currency of a suffix has longer history than a few centuries mentioned above. For instance -Pur was used during Medieval and well after, when they newly named a recently settled village. The correspondance, therefore, signifies that the majority of present -Pur ending villages appear to have been named during three centuries, or very probably during 18 c. and 19 c..

The chronological sequence regrouped is cross-checked and refined by calculating the ratio of the common proper parts between -Pur ending village names and ones with each suffix other than -Pur. Some suffices are more often preceded by the proper parts which occur before -Pur than other suffices. -Nagar, -Bans, -Bad and -Khera has the higher ratio of proper parts shared with -Pur (15-20 %). These suffices were used frequently in the period not very far from the centuries of -Pur. The suffices with medium ratio are -Wala, Mazra and -Hera. These were current suffices of a little earlier or later date than -Nagar, -Bans and -Khera. Four

suffices, -Ka, Grant, NGL- and Chack, do not share any proper parts with -Pur. They are used in vogue in centuries far from the -Pur's days. The common proper part ratio modifies the chronological sequence regrouped as following : NGL-, → -Ka, → -Hera, → -Wala, → -Khera, → -Pur, → -Nagar, -Bans, -Bad, → Mazra, → Grant, Chack

The etymology of proper parts supports this sequence. The proper parts which precede the suffices estimated as older than -Pur have Perso-Arabic etimological percentage of 28, while that of Hindustani is 72. 65 % of the proper parts of -Pur ending villages are of West Asian etimology while 35 % are of Hindustani origin. 89 % of the proper parts of post-Pur suffices come from Persian or Arabic and 11 % from Hindustani. It is observed that West Asian percentage of proper part etimology increases steadily. This fact does not imply that the villages with archaic suffices have ancient origin, because Sanskrit proper part, though conventionally included in Hindustani in this part of analysis, occupies only negligible position, even when its existance is confirmed exclusively among post-Pur group. Each suffix other than -Pur has a few proper parts which occur twice before the suffix. Only exception is -Bad : there are three *Mustafabads*. Pre-Pur suffices collectively have eight "twice-born" proper parts, of which six are of Hindustani etimology and two are Persian. They have three bridging proper parts, i. e. ones occur before two different suffices of the group. Three are Hindustani words. In contrast to it all the proper parts (3 cases) which precede bridgingly two different post-Pur suffices are of Perso-Arabic origin. These etimological distributions verifies the chronological sequence. But two cases of bridging between post-Pur Mazra and pre-Pur -Hera or -Ka are problematic, since there is supposed time gap between these according to the sequence. This can not be explained except with precarious renaming (e. g. Malwahka → Malwah Mazra). This interpretation would distort the logical integrity of this paper on the premise that village name is continual since the day of its first naming and settlement. It is more resonable to leave unexplained the fact which does not affect the general conclusion of this paper.

The etimological distribution of all the proper parts preceding twelve suffices under study is 57 % either Persian or Arabic and 43 % Hindustani. It is difficult to estimate the exact percentage of Sanskrit Hindi here included among Hindustani, because there are different interpretations where to draw the border between Sanskrit languages and non-west Asian tongue in Hindustan. But we can safely conclude that Sanskrit form accounts for less than 3 %. 57%-43 % distribution is of five sixths of the total Roorkee villages. Even if all the remaining one sixth, non-suffixed villages have non-west Asian etimology, Perso-Arabian words amount 48 % while 52 % are of Hindustani. Due to geographical bias of non-suffixed villages, West Asian etimology accounts for nearly 52 %. What is appearant so far is that the majority of Roorkee villages are named after Muslim advent, excep-

tionally archaic from being the product of modern Sanskritization.

It is unimaginable that village renaming was forced coersively since this kind of affairs contradicts the idea of Indian traditional society and with the existance of stable Islam rule in this district. Chronological bias of village naming is, therefore, resulted from the naming tendency of the period of the first settlement. If this premise is accepted, following estimation is obtained :

- (i) The villages settled earlier than “-Pur period” account for one fourth of present Tahasil villages. In Area B the ratio is the highest (about two fifths), and in Area A the lowest (roughly one fifth). The regional difference is due to dilution by -Pur ending villages in Area C and D, which eventually increased the population density, while in Area A the number of pre-Pur villages was originally smaller because of the uncomfortable Terai circumstance.
- (ii) The villages settled mainly during Mughal, or period when -Pur was exclusively used as name suffix for newly settled villages, account for three fifths of present Tahasil villages. In Area A the ratio is a bit higher.
- (iii) The villages settled after “-Pur period” account for 10 % of present Tahasil villages. In Area A the ratio is one fifth, while in Area C and D it is less than 5 %. The regional difference is due to the post-Mughal settlement of Area A.

The conclusion of the analysis of Village Directory is that 75-80 % of Roorkee villages are Mughal or post-Mughal villages. The majority of these villages were to be settled during the latter half of Mughal era. Remaining 25 % is to be regarded as ones named mainly before the establishment of the empire by Akbar the Great at the end of the sixteenth century. The slight trace of standarization found in the usage of -Wala suggests that some part of pre-Pur groups is the survival of pre-Mughal administration, probably Khilji-Tugluk dynasties. It is at least sure that village name with few exception cannot ascend further than Perso-Islamic advent into north India because the suffix estimated the oldest, NGL- has Persian characteristic, the postposition of adjective proper part, and fluid derivation interpretable as the results of vowelless scription. This conclusion, although very tentative, implies that the object of anthropological field works in north Indian plain is in general the Mughal village, precisely the village settled during the era under the rule of the empire. Even if a village has longer history, the society has been under the transformative influence of Mughal administration, especially of the revenue collection. When a scholar investigates a north Indian village society within the framework of Sanskritik culture, it should be noticed that the existant aspects of the culture is considerably influenced by Mughal administration from “upward”. The diachronical nature of the rural society is omnipresent all over the area under the established administration of Mughal empire. Mughal Subah of Lahore, Delhi, Agra and Illahabad are the area which corresponds with present stated of Punjab

(including Pakistani Punjab), Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (except Pahari and Oudh districts).

(III)

The conclusive synthesis of the observation in all Indian scale (I) and in a district level (II) is summarized as following. Most frequent and typical village name suffix -Pur shows distribution similar to the established territory of Mughal Empire of which revenue administration had decisive influence upon the ubiquitous and standardised patterning of village name. In northern India, here narrowly defined as the present states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (except Oudh districts and with marginal exclusions), the percentage of -Pur ending villages is a little more than 50 %. Centering -Pur and -Pur ending villages, village name suffices and the villages themselves are demarcated chronologically into three groups. (A) The villages with the suffices which are considered to be older than -Pur account for roughly one quarter of present *mauza*. (B) The villages ending with -Pur and contemporary suffices amount to nearly two thirds of the total revenue villages. (C) The villages terminating with suffices which are regarded as newer than -Pur comes to 10 %. The interpretation of three village groups (A), (B) and (C) is that each group corresponds with pre-Mughal, Mughal and post-Mughal villages respectively, although -Pur seems to be widely adopted to the villages settled freshly in the most recent decades. The estimation is valid on the premise that the number of the villages with the suffices of a certain chronological division but settled during divisions other than the 'proper' one of the suffices is almost same as the number of the villages with the suffices of the latter divisions but settled during the former division. Though the proportion of villages settled during three different eras is originally known in Saharanpur District, it is reasonable to identify it with the median ratio for the area of established Mughal administration, because the district locates in the most backward position of the most advanced region (Ganga-Jamna Doab) of the imperial territory.

Although there are various estimations, following one is moderate and acceptable Mughal demography :

in 1601	107,000,000.
1711	151,000,000.
1751	168,000,000.
1801	175,000,000.
1871	255,000,000. (Okada 1965, p 43)

It is striking that the population at the beginning of the seventeenth century is about 24 % of that of 1961. This coincides very well the percentage of pre-Mughal settled villages, precisely one of the village names with the suffices estimated as older than -Pur which is regarded as the indicator of established Mughal administration after the reign of Akbar roughly around 1600. The population at the very

beginning of Mughal rule at the early second quarter of the sixteenth century is lineally computed as very roughly about 70,000,000. This population is equivalent to 16 % of Census total in 1961. The ratio is to be equated with the percentage of the villages ending with three oldest suffices, NGL-, -Ka and -Hera.

One should not, however, regard the population as the number of villages. The villages settled by the beginning of the seventeenth century, i. e. at the time of the establishment of Mughal administration, are estimated as 30 % of the present mauza. This suggests that the village of the days had average residents equivalent to 80 % of the mean population per village in 1961 (24 % population divided with 30 % villages). According to the tentative estimation the population per village in the early seventeenth century would be about 520, and the village consisted of very roughly 100 households. This calculation does not meet the general expectation that a village in early Mughal was inevitably smaller because the situation preceded overall demographic expansion during Mughal period. Although the estimation is a guesswork in nature, it seems that the household number within a village was no less than 50. If the half size villages (with 50 households) prevailed during the reign of Akbar, nearly half of the total villages of the days were demolished later, which was an apparent nonsense. In an early Mughal village the families of the primary zamindars were small in number, accounting for only a few households, which has been demonstrated by existing genealogies. All the remaining population was of their rayats or of half-independent and semi-tribal "peasants". This composition of a village society is remarkably different from North Indian village society studied by modern scholars.

If the estimation above is correct the village during Mughal period was smaller population than pre-Mughal one. The population at the end of the Mughal days was somewhat around 211 million which is equivalent to 48 % of Census population in 1961. The number of mauza at Mutiny is estimated as 95 % of the number in 1961. The division of 48 (%) by 95 (%) is almost 0.5. This calculation evidently suggests that the population per village was just half of present one. As mentioned in sentences above that the population per village in the early sixteenth century is estimated as 80 % of present figure. Thus it is obvious that the population per village decreased from 520 (1600 ca.) to 325 (1850 ca.) in spite of demographic expansion. Two alternative interpretations of this inconsistency are possible: whether the conditions and conclusion of this analysis is invalid, or the decrease in population per village in contrast to the population growth at national level really happened. The second explanation is to be accepted with difficulty if the socio-economic phenomena generally found in modern India prevailed during medieval era, where the population is accumulated within the framework of revenue village and the decrease of population per village has not been experienced in national scale. As long as the modern image of north Indian village is expected the analysis

of this paper would be unscientific.

The adopted alternative is that the pre-Mughal village was really larger than Mughal village both in population and in area. The village name which bears pre-Mughal characteristics was used for a larger tract of agricultural field including the vast waste. There were plural hamlets or residential groups within a named area in most cases. This condition resulted in the small number of villages with larger population. Mughal revenue policy of establishing the right of zamindars as revenue payers to increase the imperial income inevitably fragmented the land of a pre-Mughal village. The right of the pre-Mughal village's zamindar was not substantially encroached upon, because very extensive land usage had been practised on the large uncultivated tract where new-comer zamindar was to settle. Moreover, as the zamindar status was practically limited to certain castes, though the castes set varies continually from one region to another, the newly established zamindards belonged to the same castes as the former occupant zamindars'. It occurred not very infrequently that new settler was the brother or brother-in-law of the adjacent zamindar. Thus the right of the zamindars was, at least as a castes' privilege, maintained. The victim of this multiplication of the primary zamindari was, if existed, the 'peasant', i.e. tenant-artisan middle caste people or small scale self-sufficient semitribal agriculturalist castes, because the enlargement of zamindar management was apparently benevolent to the ancestors of landowner-cultivator castes and harijan landless agricultural labourer castes of today.

The explanation adopted above is one of possible models which can be interpreted with socio-economic historical theory, but exaggerates the continuity of pre-Mughal village upto today. The correction of the ratio is necessary when the resettlement is considered. The village names studied are the name of *mauza* which is the revenue administrative framework, and not a social continuity. We know many villages whether with antique suffix or with West Asian one were resettled after a duration of depopulated condition, only the name being continual since the former days⁹). The desertion-resettlement was more frequent under unstable governments. Even a rough idea of the ratio of resettled villages among all the villages settled during Mughal period has not been given. The situation of the study compels us to hypothesize three plausible models, 33 % model, 50 % model and 67 % model. 33 % model means the hypothesis that one third of the villages settled during a period was once deserted and resettled during the following eras. Such model is meaningful in a region where nominal existence of a "village" was worth registering. If not, the name should have been changed by the renewal of the residents and have been forgotten. According to 33 % model 20 % villages ($30\% - 30\% \times 0.33$) are continual from pre-Mughal days, 45 % villages from Mughal period (commutively 65 %) and remaining 35 % belong to post-Mughal days. 50 % model changes these rates into 15 %, 35 % and 50 %. 67 % model which seems to be

apparently disproportioned at least for post-Mughal days about which we have vague idea, puts the ratio to an extreme of 10 %, 25 % and 65 %.

The range of the corrected ratio of the hypothesised pre-Mughal, Mughal and post-Mughal villages is 10-20 %, 25-45 % and 35-65 % respectively. The last percentage is checked with socio-economic historical study. Habib (1963, p 10) estimates that in seven of total 17 Subahs in the reign of Aurangzeb the increase of the number of villages was around 100 %, in other Subahs being 20-25 %, during 18-19c., i.e. through post-Mughal days except this century. In order to get rough idea about the increase in all Mughal scale following calculation is to be done :

$$\frac{100 \% \times 7 \text{ (Subahs)} + 22.5 \% \times 10 \text{ (Subahs)}}{17 \text{ (Total Subahs)}} = 55 \%$$

This means that nearly one third of present villages are settled during post-Mughal days, because the village number increased 1.5 time. Habib's study obviously supports that 33 % model should be employed as far as post-Mughal period is concerned. In contrast to post-Mughal days to which 33 % or relatively stable model is to be applied, pre-Mughal situation is notorious for the insecurity. The most unstable model (that of 67 %) mentioned above is adopted for the period, provisionally determining the survival rate of pre-Mughal villages as 10 %. The model to be selected for relatively stable but long Mughal period is the intermediate one of 50 %. Thus an adjusted proportion is obtained as a combined estimation of three probable models : (A) Pre-Mughal villages, 13 %, (B) Mughal villages, 44 % and (C) post-Mughal villages, 44 %. The last figures is remarkably larger than Habib's estimation, which is to be justified by the fact that 60 years of our century is added in the analysis of 1961 Census. The estimation of the settlement chronology is apparently of very tentative nature beyond the scientific scope of statistics, nevertheless the social, if not cultural, continuity of north Indian village is doubtlessly shorter than generally expected.

The aspects of Indian society revealed by quantitative considerations in this paper are not of static nature. The population increase which is considered to be more than quadrupled during 1600-1961 is not due to some fanciful demographers, but is confirmed as a village level phenomenon. The chronological estimation of village names in Roorkee Tahasil based upon the distributional and morphological study agrees fairly well with the medieval growth rate. Indian society had the quantitative dynamics which was common to all Asian medieval societies. Anthropological field works in most case (nearly 90 % if unbiased) study the villages which are continual since the days of Mughal rule in north India, and which are not older than the Islam polity with few exceptions. It is reasonable to define north Indian village society even as Mughal village, in a sense that the majority of pre-British or traditional villages were established during the period under Mughal of which policy influenced the metamorphosis of the rural society. The Indian village

mostly has a history shorter than 500 years. The historical length is by no means short in global comparison, but still so insufficient to know the reality of Indian civilization, of which life span is considered to expand for millenia, that it is inadequate to explore some evidence of orientalist studies. North Indian village study should be considered as an independent sphere of academic activity from Indology.

Notes

- 1) The Mughal core area corresponds with the area of thorough *zabt*, or Mughal land survey. (cf. Sasaki 1977, p 65)
- 2) In early 19 c. "... one-half to two thirds of Bengal was uncultivated at the time of the Permanent Settlement. ..." (Neal, 1961 p 46)
- 3) Much of north and east Saharanpur was sparsely populated because of malarious environment. (Roselli, 1971 p 155, 159)
- 4) "... The village names often bear the addition *khurd*, or *kalān*, not meaning 'small' or 'great', as the persian words imply, but 'younger' and 'elder'..." (Baden-Powell, 1896 p 278)
- 5) "... the *majra*, or offshoot villages, are generally groups of the same descent..." (ibid. p 279)
- 6) The situation is similar in Punjab (Bist Doab): "... It has a very dense concentration associated ... with intensive agriculture ... this region accounts for nearly seventy percent of the urban population ... about a half of the rural workers of the upland plain are engaged in non-agricultural activities ..." (Mehta, 1974 pp 97-99)
- 7) (Saharanpur and Gorakhpur) "... included large tracts of sparse cultivation and population; backed as they were against the jungles at the foot of Himalaya..." (Roselli, ibid. p 136)
- 8) "... In pursuance of their policy of extending the cultivated area, the emperors freely bestowed zamindari rights to those who could bring forest and waste under cultivation: ..." (Hasan 1969 p 27)
- 9) "... The type of villages is ancient, but actual villages have had short histories in the constant process of founding, conquest, destruction, and depopulation ..." (Neal, ibid. p 47)

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