

## **:Appendices:**

### **Appendix- A**

#### **The Anglo-Koch Behar Treaty, 1773 A.D:**

Articles of the treaty signed between the Honorable East India Company and Durrinder Narayan, the king of Cooch Behar, 1773.

Durrinder Narain, Rajah of Cooch Behar, having represented to the Honorable the President and Council of Calcutta the present distressed state of the country, owing to its being harassed by the neighbouring independent Rajahs, who are league to depose him, the Honorable the President and council, from a love of justice and desire of assisting the distressed, have agreed to send a force, consisting of four companies of Sepoys and a field piece for the protection of the said Rajah and his country, against his enemies, and the following conditions are mutually agreed on:

1<sup>st</sup> – That the said Rajah will immediately pay into the hands of the Collector of Rungpoor 50000 rupees to defray the expenses of the force sent to assist him.

2<sup>nd</sup> - That is more than 50000 Rupees are expended, the Rajah will make it good to the Honorable the English East India Company, but in case any part of it remains unexpended that it be delivered back.

3<sup>rd</sup> – That the Rajah will be acknowledge subjection to the English East India Company upon his country being cleared of his enemies, and will allow the Cooch Behar country to be annexed to the Province of Bengal.

4<sup>th</sup> - That the Rajah further agree to make over to the English East India Company one half of the revenue of Cooch Behar forever.

5<sup>th</sup> – That the other moiety shall remain to the Rajah and his heirs forever provided he is firm in his allegiance to the Honorable United East India Company.

6<sup>th</sup> – That is order to ascertain the value of the Cooch Behar country, the Rajah will deliver a fair hustobood of his district into the hands of such person, as the Honorable the President and Council of Calcutta shall think proper to depute for that purpose, upon which valuation the annual mulguzary, which the Rajah is to pay, shall be established.

7<sup>th</sup> – That the amount of the mulguzary, settled by such person as the Honorable the East India Company shall depute, shall be perpetual.

8<sup>th</sup> – That the Honorable East India Company shall always assist the said Rajah with a force when he has occasion for it for the defense of the country, and Rajah bearing the expense.

9<sup>th</sup> – That this Treaty shall remain in force for the space of two years, or till such time as advices may be received from the Court of Directors, empowering the President and Council to ratify the same forever.

This signed, sealed and concluded by the Honorable the President and Council at Fort William, the fifth day of April 1773, on the one part, and by the Durrinder Narayan, Rajah of Cooch Behar, at Behyar Fort, the 6<sup>th</sup> Maug 1179 Bengal style, on the other part.

## Appendix – B

### Important Official Letters Related to Narayani Currency:

#### Letter No. 1

To – The Hon'ble Warren Hastings, ESQ., Governor-General of Council of Revenue at Fort William.

Rungpore:  
17<sup>th</sup> June 1779.

Hon'ble Sir and Sirs,

*COOCH BEHAR*, - The balance of Rs. 36,847-14-9 that appears against the pergunnah has, in a manner, been paid, and wants only your approbation to be carried to account. ...Raja Dujjinder Narain, in 1184 petitioned to pay his revenue in Kazannah Shi rupees, which you have honored by your approval in your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup> October 1777. But this year, being unable to accumulate more than half of his revenue in that specie, he deposited the remainder in New Narianny rupees, which are now in the treasury, and for this I want your commands. I take the liberty to observe, I do not think it will be his power to perform his engagement. You may probably require to know the reason of his being able to comply with it for the Bengal year 1184 and not for 1185. The case was in 1184 he had recourse to the shroffs, to whom he paid his revenues in New Narianny rupees, and they deposited their seared bags in the treasury for the amount, but this traffic with the shroffs being abolished as highly detrimental to the Hon'ble Company, the Zemminder has no other resource than to throw himself on your indulgence to release him from his engagement, and to admit the New Narianny rupees now in deposit in the treasury to be carried to his credit. I have the honor to enclose you translation of his petition to this purpose No. 2

*(Translation of the Petition of Raja Dujjinder Narayan, Raja of Cooch Behar)*

AT THE first settlement of the Tanna Beyhar the bundbust was made in New Narianny rupees. In the year 1184 according to my own desire and the favour of the Gentlemen of Council it was altered to Kazannah Shi rupees. At the time I made the request, I was unacquainted with the difficulty of procuring that specie. In that year with the utmost difficulty and trouble I obtained sufficient to pay my rent. In this year 1185, though I have done everything I could not complete my engagements, I have found it impossible, and have therefore deposited New Narianny rupees in the treasury to be carried to account, I humbly

request that you will permit the said New Narianny rupees now in the treasury to be carried to account, and suffer me in future to pay (as formerly) any rents in the specie.

**Letter No. 2**

To – The Hon’ble Warren Hastings, ESQ., Governor-General, and the Gentlemen of the Council of Revenue at Fort William

Rungpore:  
22<sup>nd</sup> November 1779.

Hon’ble Sir and Sirs,

I AM favored with your commands of 1<sup>st</sup> ultimo.

You will please observe that a very large part of the treasure is in New Narianny rupees, which are current only in Cooch Behar and the country subject to Bhootan. The state of this coin having brought so fully and repeatedly before you, it is unnecessary for me this time to say much on the subject. New Nariannies are nominally estimated at proportion of 13,674 to 100 Siccas, which is much higher than their actual value. The batta at they have continued to be converted, since your orders of the 20<sup>th</sup> January 1778 in six annas in the French Arcot rupee; but the sum exchanged ever at this rate being less during these two last years than the annual revenue received from Cooch Behar, it is likely to require some exertion to prevent their accumulating. The present season of the year, when merchants proceed towards the hills to purchase cotton and other goods, has hitherto afforded the best and indeed almost the only opportunity of realizing them. And as I find it impossible to exchange them at the ideal discount of 3,674 per cent, I shall endeavour to dispose of as large a quantity as possible to the merchants at the rate you were pleased formerly to approve.

I am, etc.  
George Bogle.

**Letter No. 3**

To – William Paxton, ESQ., Mint Master, Fort William.

Rungpore,  
22<sup>nd</sup> December 1779.

Sir,

AS I FIND it will be necessary to address the Hon’ble Board on the state of the coin of this province, and wish to bring the subject before them as completely as possible, I beg leave to transmit your parcels containing specimens of the different kinds of the old and new Narianny rupees marked with the name of Rajahs of denominations by which they pass,

request you will be pleased to assay and furnish me with the account of the quality of pure silver in each class together with that in a sicca rupee, in other that I may be enabled to compare the intrinsic value of the two coins together.

I am, etc.,  
George Bogle.

#### **Memorandum of Classes**

1. Cohna	8 halves or	Rs. 4
2. Metrass	”	4
3. Furcha	”	4
4. Kazanna Shi	6 halves and 1 whole or	4
5. Debender Narain	8 halves or	4
6. Marrinder Narain	”	4
7. Durga Narain	”	4
8. Roopinder Narain	”	4

#### **Letter No. 4**

To – C. Morley, ESQ., Accountant-General.

Sir,

CONFORMABLY to the instruction of Government, conveyed to me in Mr. Secretary Trevelyan's letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> ultimo, I have the honor to inform you that as I presume the introduction of Furruckabad coinage into Assam is a preparatory step to a measure of far greater importance, I would beg to suggest that the Rajah of Cooch Behar should be desired to receive from the Collector of Rungpore or Gowalparah the Furruckabad Rupees in exchange for all the Narainy Rupeea, paid into his Treasury, and be requested to make issues to all his establishment in the new coin only. I am inclined to believe His Highness would not object to this proposition. I observe I have led you into an error. The Rajah is not permitted to have a mint, but a great quantity of spurious Narainy Rupees comes into Assam that is coined out of our territories; the largest portion and the most debased probably from Bhootan.

I have & c.  
(Sd.) F JENKINS,  
*Agent, Governor-General.*  
POLITICAL AGENT'S OFFICE,  
N. E. FRONTIER, *The 8<sup>th</sup> October 1834.*  
POLITICAL AGENT'S OFFICE, N. E. FRONTIER.

## Letter No. 5

The 28<sup>th</sup> June 1835.

To – W. H. MACNAGHTEN, ESQ., Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the Political Department, Fort William.

Sir,

WITH reference to that part of the 12<sup>th</sup> paragraph of the Accountant-General's letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> October last, to the address of the Deputy Secretary Trevelyan, which suggested the expediency of endeavoring to introduce the Furruckabad coinage into Cooch Behar, I have the honor to submit a translation of a letter to me from the Rajah of Cooch Behar, in reply to my letter to him proposing the subject

1. It will be perceived that the Rajah is very averse to the adoption of the measure in question, which he alleges would be derogatory to his dignity, and injurious to the agricultural and commercial interests of his territory, particularly in stopping the trade with Bhootan.
2. The Narainee Rupees, the current coin of Cooch Behar, formed the coinage of ancient Kamroop, the kingdom of the Narayan family, of which the principal branch extant is the family of the Rajah of Cooch Behar. The coinage now is one of the oldest now current in India, and we may readily suppose that the Rajah eagerly clings to retention of the coin, as to one of the only remaining tokens of the sovereign independence of the house. It will be for the Government to judge, whether he can with propriety be indulged in his wishes, in reference to what has been prescribed elsewhere relative to the coinage of other dependent princes, for the general benefit of the people of our Indian Empire.
3. It will be recollected that our Government has never allowed the Rajah to coin Narainy Rupees, and though it has entrusted to him the internal management of his country, it has never admitted any pretensions *independent*. The Government has indeed placed the Rajah on a superior footing to that enjoyed by his ancestors under the Mahomedan Government, which only permitted the family to assume the title of zeminder.
4. Notwithstanding that no open coinage of the Narainee Rupees has been acknowledged for a half century at least, and the constant consumption of this coin at our mints and in other ways, yet the number of these Rupees is still apparently undiminished, which naturally leads to the conclusion that extensive forgeries of them must take place somewhere, and with so rude a coin, it might be expected that its falsification would be common, as is certainly the case within the Bhootan frontier, if not in the Raja's and our country. It appears to me, therefore, that the coinage will never be exhausted, as long as the Government continues to receive the tribute of Cooch Behar in its Rupees.

5. With regard to the effect of an altered currency upon the inhabitants of Cooch Behar, I cannot apprehend any injurious tendency, as far as their payment of revenue is concerned, if the exchange is made in good faith by the Rajah; as to their internal communication, those with our immediate subjects are most important to them and these must now be effected through the medium of the Sicca or Sonat Rupees, their intercourse with the Bhooteahs being principally confined to barter; but if much coin is exchanged, no falling off of the trade is likely to take place from the exchange of the Rupees, Judging from the result of the alteration which has already taken place on the much longer frontier Bhootan, east of Cooch Behar, into which the Sonat Rupees has now been introduced, and to take which the Bhotas, to my knowledge made no objection whatsoever.

6. I beg to mention that I am of opinion that, whether as regards the well – being of the inhabitants of Cooch Behar, who are really our subjects, though under the Rajah’s separate management, or the general good of the surrounding districts, that the abolition of the Narainee coinage is equally desirable, and the only question is whether the great object of establishing a uniformity of coinage throughout our territories is to be delayed or hindered by a regard for the personal feelings of the Rajah of Cooch Behar, as, I conceive by any engagements.

7. At the present Rajah is very old and debilitated man, his decease cannot be long deferred, and possibly the Government may think proper to postpone till that event any arrangement on the subject in question. The personal character, however, of the Rajah is not such, I fear, as to entitle him to much consideration from the Government, and he is in such a state by many accounts, as to be scarcely able to estimate any kindness, the Government may intend to show him.

I have & c.  
(Sd.) F. JENKINS,  
Agent, Governor – General.

### **Letter No. 6**

Translation of a letter from the Rajah of Cooch Behar dated 27<sup>th</sup> Bysac, 325 Rajshaka (A.D. 9<sup>th</sup> May 1835) to the Governor – General’s Agent of Assam.

AFTER COMPLIMENTS:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 17<sup>th</sup> Aughun 1241, on the subject of the abolition of the Narainee Rupees and institution in their place of the new Furruckabad Rupees, (as established in the territories south and west of Benaras and now in Gawalparah and Assam), and recommending to send in my Narainee Rupees in order to have them

exchanged, as the coin will not be current after one year; also yours of the 25<sup>th</sup> Falgoon requesting a speedy answer to the foregoing. In truth, I am at a loss for a reply on this subject, as my ancestor subjected himself to the Honorable Company, in the hope that our old laws and institutions would, in some measure be respected and no alteration in them be exacted, and no change has yet been required that, should your present intention be carried into effect, my dignity and rank must very materially be affected, since in the impression on the coin must be considered as the first distinguishing rank of royalty. I must, therefore, beg of you to reflect on the injury such a change will bring on me. Former Commissioners have frequently written to me to pay my revenue in the current Sicca Rupees, proposing to deduct 36,000, some hundreds of Rupees, as the difference in Coin, but I have never consented to the proposal solely with the view to preserve the currency of my coin, and in this have met with the support of the Court. Should the Narainee Rupee be entirely done away with, my ryots and merchants will also be injured, if not totally ruined, as a very considerable trade is carried on between us and the Bhooteahs, with whom none but Narainee Rupees would pass, and should this lead to a stoppage of our trade with them, it will be very difficult to pay my revenue at all. The delay in writing must be attributed entirely to the difficulty of giving a suitable answer to your proposal, and perceiving that none but yourself can assist me in this dilemma, I have laid open my condition. I acknowledge myself subject to the Company, who can never be benefited by insisting on a change, must so materially injure me. I would, therefore, beg you to stop the measure proposed by yourself, or write to the Court in such a manner or term, that it may not take place.

(True translation)

(Sd.) F. JENKINS,  
Agent, Governor – General.

### **Letter No. 7**

To – CAPTAIN F. JENKINS, Agent to the Governor – General, N.E. Frontier.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> June last, submitting translation of a letter from the Rajah of Cooch Behar, stating his dissent to the proposed introduction of the Furruckabad currency in his country, I am desired to forward to you for your information the accompanying copy of a letter to my address from the Accountant – General, dated the 20<sup>th</sup> ultimo.

2. The Rajah of Cooch Behar cannot be considered in any respect entitled to exercise an act of sovereignty, and his personal objection to a measure of such general importance cannot be permitted to prevent its being carried into effect.

3. You are accordingly authorized to require the Rajah to pay his tribute in the standard coin of British India, and you will consult his convenience by offering to his new Furruckabad Rupees in exchange for all the Naraynee Rupees, now in his Treasury, at the proper rate exchange, though His Honor doubts the expediency of holding out the same indulgence with regards to all such Rupees, as may hereafter accumulate previous to their absolute prohibition.

4. It will be time enough to consider the further measures, proposed by the Accountant – General, should the measure of requiring the Rajah’s tribute to be paid in Furruckabad Rupees fail of producing the effect anticipated.

I have & c.  
(Sd.) W.H. MACNAGHTEN,  
Secy. To the Government of Bengal.  
FORT WILLIAM  
3<sup>rd</sup> August 1835

### **Letter No. 8**

To – W. H. MACNAGHTEN, ESQ., Secretary to the Government.

Sir,

I HAVE the honor to acknowledge the receipt of an extract from proceedings of the Government of Bengal in the Political Department, under date the 31<sup>st</sup> instant, desiring me to report my opinion on the subject of the address of Captain Jenkins, the Agent to the Governor – General on the North East frontier, dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> ultimo, communication the translation of a letter, written to him by the Rajah of Cooch Behar, in which the Rajah expresses his aversion to the payment of his tribute in new Furruckabad Rupees, and to the extinction of the Naraynee Rupees.

2. The argument adduced by the Rajah for the continuance of the Naraynee Rupee are so ill – grounded and ill – sustained, as shown by Captain Jenkins (who is under no apprehension of injury either to agriculture or commerce from the introduction of the new Furruckabad Rupee), and the object on view of such paramount importance, that I have no hesitation in expressing my entire concurrence in the propriety of making it peremptory upon the Rajah, to pay his tribute in the standard coin of British India, which measure will, I

apprehend, induce him, for his own sake to waive his objections and receive the same from his ryots in payment of their revenue.

3. With the view to the Rajah's convenience, new Furruckabad Rupees might be offered to him at the prescribed rate, in exchange for all the Naraynee Rupees, now in his Treasury and which may hereafter accumulate, until the receipt of the Naraynee Rupees be altogether prohibited, but with the understanding that unless he co-operate with the British authorities in the object of giving general currency to the Furruckabad Rupee, and eventually to the Company's Rupee by disbursing it to his establishments, such accommodation will not be accorded in future, and that he will be left to procure the same as he may be able, he being held liable to interest and penalty in default of payment of his tribute at the regulated period. By this means he will be compelled to encourage the tender of the said Rupees and receive them from his Ryots.

4. Should these measures fail of procuring the Rajah's concurrence; the only alternative will be to declare the new Furruckabad and Company's Rupees to be legal tenders throughout Cooch Behar by a proclamation to this effect, which would compel his acquiescence in the views of Government. I have taken the liberty of recommending measures of a prompt and determinative character, from an opinion that the Rajah of Cooch Behar, who is apparently rather a subject of the British Government than an independent Sovereign, should not be permitted to interfere with a financial measure of the comprehensive and beneficial nature, just resolved upon by the Supreme Government of India, of having an uniform coin for the whole of British India, and likewise from a conviction that in the state of imbecility, in which he is represented to be by the Agent to the Governor-General, and surrounded probably by sinister influence, such an unequivocal expression of the intentions of Government is necessary to remove his repugnance to the contemplated change of currency.

I have & c.  
(Sd.) C.MORLEY  
Accountant – General  
FORT WILLIAM  
20<sup>th</sup> July 1835  
(True Copy)(Sd.) W.H. MACNAGHTEN,  
Secy. To the Government of Bengal.