

Conclusion

The present study has explored many critical and micro - level – undiscussed aspects of the socio - economic condition of the people, particularly, the land – related issues and problems, agrarian relations of the district, Jalpaiguri in different phases under the reign of Koch Kings, the Bhutanese, the British and the post colonial period. It has been found that the land revenue systems, agrarian relations, demographic pattern, socio- cultural condition, had been changed time to time in different phases of different rulers.

A lot of changes had been taken place during the colonial period in the field of land and agrarian economy as well as in the society of the district, Jalpaiguri. At the initial stage of the occupation of the Duars and inception of the district, the Britishers could not introduce a uniform system or law in all the parts of the district in the land revenue and agrarian economy. The systems and laws changed time to time. The district was mainly divided into two tracts in accordance with land revenue systems and agrarian economy namely permanent settled portion mostly situated to the Western part of Tista and non-regulated areas mostly situated in the eastern part of Tista called Western Duars.

In the permanently settled portion of the district revenue was settled with the Zamindars who were the proprietors of lands. The Zamindars would give lands to the Jotdars, again jotdars would give land to the Chukanidars and Chukanidars used to give land to the Dar – Chukanidars, in such a way there were four to five stages of intermediaries were created in the land and agrarian economy between Government and the real cultivators. In this agrarian structure, at the bottom there were adhiars or sharecroppers who

cultivated lands directly and who had no right on land, they cultivated lands only for 50% share of crops.

In the western Duars, Government was the proprietor of lands that means all the lands of the western Duars were under control of the Government. As most of the lands were forlorn with full of jungles, somewhere population were meagre, so the British Government captured all the lands, started survey and settlement works since 1871 and after survey and settlement works they used the lands in three ways – firstly they gave lands by lease to the planters for tea-cultivation, the first tea-garden was established in 1874 at Gajaldoba and since then the number of tea-garden increased gradually as the tea-cultivation was huge profitable. Secondly land was granted by lease for agricultural purposes, at the initial stage of creating Jotes after clearing jungles, no tax or revenue was imposed, but after few years revenue was imposed and the revenue increased one after settlement. But there was no sufficient people to cultivate the land, so cultivators or Jotdars had been encouraged to come and obtain land with minimum cost of revenue or rent as a result of which population had been going up for the immigration of different types of people from neighboring state Coochbihar, Rangpur, Dinajpur and Nepal. Thirdly land was declared for reserve forest from where woods and different types of natural resources were obtained by the government.

In the previous chapters of this study, I have analyzed the different systems introduced by the Britishers in the agrarian field. From this study what findings are come out? Or what type of change had been taken place in the colonial rule? Or whether the change had been taken place at all or not?

If we go through the study of all over Bengal as a whole we can follow that there is a debate among the historians about the changing scenario of agrarian structure or systems between pre-colonial and colonial period. Prof. Ram Krishna Mukhopadhyay

showed a changing scenario of agrarian structure and society of the colonial period. According to him a traditional agro-based society and economy of Bengal including land-ownership, agrarian relation between peasants and the government etc had been changed in the colonial period. As a consequence of the introduction of new colonial agrarian economy new classes of land owner appeared who had only intention to obtain capital from land not to see the interest of the peasants, as results of which indebtedness, poverty, landlessness came in the village society.

But the views of Prof, Ram Krishna Mukhopadhyaya has been criticized by Prof, Rajat Kanta Roy and Ratna Lekha Roy pointed out that the Zamindars, originated in the introduction of permanent settlements by British East India Company was not the urban capitalist, rather it can be said that the persons who purchased zamindari or talukdari after 1793 most of whom were intermediaries Bhadrak and they were either talukdars or small zamindars or the workers under zamindars or Government of the company other than this the appearing of intermediaries was not only the phenomenon of the colonial rule the existence of intermediaries was still in the pre-colonial period. The peasants working in their own lands were not completely demolished under colonial rule. (Rajat Kanta Roy and Ratna Kanta Roy, *Banglar Krishak Samajer Garan, Dwitiya Bhag*, p, 76-77)

Moreover there was a debate on the rising, power and nature of the jotdars. Prof, Ramkrishna Mukhopadhyay pointed out that the powerful jotdars appeared during the period of British rule for their new agrarian policy, but Prof, Ratna Lekha Roy and Rajat Kanta Roy showed that the jotdars were rich peasant classes since before the initiation of the colonial rule. Dr. Sugata Bosu also confessed that jotdars were the important classes in the frontier Bengal, but not in West Bengal and East Bengal. According to him the jotdari system was the own features in the agrarian field of

North Bengal where the jotdars brought large size of jotes under their cultivation.

In the perspectives of Jalpaiguri district, particularly in the region of Western Duars, agrarian structure, agrarian relations, nature and characteristics of the jotdars had some discrepancy unlike other parts of Bengal. In this region for having huge number of lands easily available and shortage of actual peasants to cultivate the lands and insalubrious atmosphere for dwelling, there was a demand for actual cultivators, naturally the Jotdars would always try to appertain their cultivators locally known as halua giving them many facilities so that the haluas would not leave the Jotdars and settle in another Jotdars. Other than these, most of the Jotdars belong to Rajbanshi and tribal communities who were very simple in habit and broad minded and there was no caste rigidity with their cultivators (halua). So it has shown in the present study that the relation between Jotdars and adhiars or halua (Sharecroppers) was cooperative like a father and son but for few instances of absentee Jotdars of other professions who obtained Jotes only for commercial purposes.

In spite of having a good relation between Jotdars and adhiars (Sharecroppers) in the Duars, there were many Jotdars, particularly the new immigrated Jotdars of other professions who had no direct relation with land, only intention to obtain financial benefit, oppressed their adhiars in different ways. These types of oppressions were intensive in the permanently settled portion of the district which is shown in the present study. For the age – long oppressions of the adhiars by their Jotdars or Giris, they (adhiars including) broke out into rebellion since 1930s in the permanently settled portion of the district and some parts of western Duars as else where in undivided Bengal. At the first stage they started a movement called Tolagandi or Hat Tola movement in 1939 and being inspired with this movement the adhiars started another movement called adhiars movement in 1940 with the demand of

stacking their crops in a common farmyard instead of the farm house of Jotdars. In continuation of the movement adhiars or share croppers broke out into historical peasant unrest in 1946 called Tebhaga movement in the district as well as in the different parts of undivided Bengal. The Tebhaga movement ultimately, turned into a militant rebellion in many parts of Bengal against all sorts of oppressions of the Jotdars and the administrators. Ultimately the movement, for the time being, became a failure due to weakness of a strong peasant organization in Bengal and all over India to be broken out into a revolt, limitations of the leaders of Krishak Sabha and communist party, on the other hand the attack of the Zamindars / Jotdars with the help of British administration, on the verge of retransferring power from Britishers to Indians and starting a communal and regional covetous politics. There is a impetuous debate on the Tebhaga movement amongst the historians and scholars. Different historians and scholars analyzed the movement and the role of Krishak Sabha and the Communist Party from their point of views. But it can be said getting over all the debates and criticism that the movement had a glorious historical significance in the history of peasant movement of the district as well as in India. The sharecroppers, agricultural labourers and small peasants' attuned courage and belief to protest against all sorts of oppressions of semi – feudal system in the agrarian structure of all over Bengal which procured mental strength to the peasants and adhiars in the future struggle after independence.

After independence in 1947 there was still zamindari and jotdari systems in all over Bengal and elsewhere in India that was feudal system, Zamindars and intermediaries occupied large amount of lands, on the other hand there were so many adhiars, agricultural labourers who had no right on land, they cultivated land only for half share of crops. West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act was passed in 1953 and West Bengal land Reforms Act was passed in 1955, in accordance with these Acts government tried to

abolish Zamindari and intermediary systems and all the lands occupied by the Zamindars, Jotdars or intermediaries were brought under ceiling. But the programme of the Government could not be succeeded because of covetous attitudes of the Zamindars and intermediaries, bureaucratic complexities, hide bound and greedy alliance between landlords and the ministerial level as a result of which government became failure to deliver lands from landlords.

During the period of 1967 and 1969 under United Front Government's regime in West Bengal the programmes of land acquisition and distribution among the landless people were started in a practical way. The present study has shown that a large number of Jotes were acquired and distributed among the landless peasants by the government and in many places in the district as elsewhere in West Bengal. Land acquisition and distribution programmes were started under the leadership of communist parties during this period. The land reforms programmes got a new dimension during the left front regime since 1977, the land acquisition and distribution were going on, the work of recording bargadars (sharecroppers) in the record of right known as "Operation Barga" was also started during Left Front Government. It is found from different sources as well as in the field survey that a large amount of lands including jote lands and different types of Khas lands were distributed among the landless people, side by side lacs of bargadars were recorded in the record of rights during left front regime under the leadership of communist parties. It is also found that the land reforms programmes have not yet been completely succeeded because of the bureaucratic complexities, biasness to the Party-Politics, communicational gap amongst the Panchayets, bureaucrats and the Government. So many cases have been laying under litigation, beside these the lack of proper policy and method for the improvement of cultivators and agrarian economy, as a result of which, in spite of getting lands, the landless people became failure to keep up the lands under their possession due to poverty and lack of employment sources from

where they could have earned for their livelihood. So many of them sold lands and became labourers same thing also happened in the recording of bargadars, sometimes the bargadars sold their right on land to the landlords, some times many bargadars sold their right at a minimum cost for the poverty and want of alternative sources of income.

Another aspect has been shown in this present study which was Naxalite movement in the 1960s. In 1967, for the formation of united front Government in West Bengal a debate and confrontation was going on amongst the leaders of C.P.I. (M). For the compromising and parliamentary policy of C.P.I.(M), a group of leaders believing in the revolutionary line were getting ready to be broken out into a revolt against the landlords to occupy lands. In north Bengal specifically in the Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri Districts under the leadership of Charu Majumdar, Kanu Sayal, Jangal Santal a revolt was started to occupy land forcefully with arms in the plain areas of Darjeeling district and some areas of Jalpaiguri District. Beside the occupation of lands, the Naxalites took the policy of murdering Jotdars and intermediaries. As a result, many Jotdars or intermediaries were murdered by the Naxalites.

There are so many writings have been published on the Naxalite movement from different angles. It can not be denied that the Naxalite movement was class struggle which stroked the landlords who possessed large amount of the lands illegally, the agitators of the movement, most of whom were subaltern forming with bargadars, small peasants and labourers. The leaders of the movement coming from middle class families devoted their life completely in the revolt to form a classless society. But, want of strong organization, wrong decision to identify class enemy, hesitation and dissidence among the Naxalite leaders, the movement ultimately became failure. But the movement has a historical significance in the peasant movement of West Bengal and Indian as well.

In this study, the present scholar has shown important and debatable aspect of the roots of present socio-political tension in the district, in a broad sense in the North Bengal. It is found from different sources that before coming of the Britishers only some tribal groups namely Mech, Toto, Garo, Rava Drucpa etc lived in the western Duars, in the plain areas of the district and the permanent settled portion most of the people were Rajbanshi and Muslim communities. But after coming of the Britishers and introduction of new economic policy population increased for immigration of different types of people. It is found from the report of, D.H.E. Sunder, J.A. Milligan, J.F. Grunning and the writing of Dr. Charu Chandra Sanyal that the number of Totos, Garos and the Meches decreased for facing an identity crisis. Moreover, it is found from the field survey that many successors of the contemporary Jotdar families now living in a distress condition losing their everything many of them became labourer working in different places for which a lot of discontent and psychic grievances have been growing up amongst these people locally known as "Son of the soil" many of whom are being involved in a militant activities as a result of which the socio – economic and cultural synthesis of this region is going to be demolished. So the present scholar of this study has an intension to show that the root of the present burning – problem of socio – political tensions of this region was originated long ago for losing lands.

On the other hand, it is also found that the people once who were adhiars, small peasants, agricultural labourers and had no right on land, today, they are not confined themselves in a bondage of any Jotdars or Zamindars, they can protest against any kind of oppression.

Glossary

Abwab	– Sub taxes (Taxes other than formal taxes)
Adibasis	– Tribal people who were original inhabitants.
Adhi, Adhiari	– Cultivation with 50% share (50% for sharecroppers and another 50% for Landholders)
Adhiar	– Sharecroppers
Amalnama	– A Written order given to a revenue Collector.
Amin	– Person who measures land
Anna	– An old coin or paisa, one anna is equivalent to $\frac{1}{16}$ rupee or 16 anna is equal to one rupee.
Basti	– Homestead, Land for dwelling place
Benami	– Nameless, persons whose name was recorded falsely to hold land, practically they had no existence.
Batris Hazari	– Baikunthapur Pargana was called ‘Batris Hazari’ for increasing revenue to 32,000/-
Bhuta	– Paddy supplied as a loan by the jotdar or giri to the sharecroppers at the time of cultivation.
Bheri	– Low land with full of water using for fishery and other purposes
Bigha	– A measure of land, one bigha is equal to about $\frac{1}{3}$ of an acre.
Barga, Bargadari	– Cultivation with an $\frac{1}{2}$ share ($\frac{1}{2}$ for sharecroppers and $\frac{1}{2}$ for land holders)
Bodo	– A tribal community of North – eastern region of India, Originated from Indo – mongoloid race.
Bargadar	– Sharecropper
Babu	– Middle class Bengali gentleman
Chhitmahal	– Enclave

- Chakla – An area of land or estate for revenue collection.
- Chira, Chura – One kind of food making of fried paddy, Flatten rice
- Chukani – Holding of a chukanidar (Middle ranking tenure holder)
- Chukanidar – Middle ranking tenure holder, a class of under tenants of the jotdars.
- Coolie – Tea labourer
- Dakhil Kharij – Recording of land in the record of right
- Dar – Chukani – Holding of a dar chukanidar
- Dar-Chukanidar – A class of under tenants of the Chukanidars.
- Danga – High arable land for cultivation.
- Dar-a-dar Chukanidar – A class of under tenants of a dar – Chukanidar.
- Dahi, Dai – Curds
- Debraja – Head of the secular administration in Bhutan.
- Derabari – Interest of the loan given by sharecroppers to the jotdars or giri generally in crops
- Dewniya – Headmen of different villages of North Bengal many of whom became jotdars later on. Particularly the term used in Dinajpur, Rangpur and Sadar Subdivision of Jalpaiguri district
- Dewan Deo, Dewan Deb, - Important designation of Koch Kingdom
who took a vital role in economic issues of the State.
- Dunabari – Interest of the loan given by sharecroppers to the jotdars or giri at the time of cultivation.
- Dharmaraja – A spiritual head in the administration and religion of Bhutan.
- Diwani – A right or deed to collect revenue

- Dihi – A unit or areas of revenue collection in Coochbehar State.
- Duar or Dooar – Door or gate way to enter into Bhutan from outside, mainly British India
- Doba – Low land
- Don – Measuring land, 86 Bigha
- Durbar – A royal place or Court of a king
- Dravida – A human race, particularly dwelling in South India
- Duardar – A title or rank in the Western Duars given by the king of Coochbehar who played a role to protect the boundary area of the State.
- Faringati – High land
- Gabur – A title of the tribal people in the Western Duars who were headmen of the villages.
- Garo – A tribal community originated from Indo – Mongoloid race, and particularly dwelling in the North- Eastern region of India
- Giri – Land owner or intermediaries of the land the term used in North Bengal particularly.
- Gola mochhani – Repeating and cleaning of the store house of paddy.
- Ghora bandha – Levy collected from sharecroppers by jotdars for the maintenance of horses of the jotdars.
- Guerila – A technique of war, attacking from back side or hiding place.
- Harisabha – A religious occasion or gathering of Hindus particularly by the name of lord Hari or Krishna.
- Hathi bandha – Levy collected from sharecroppers by jotdars for the maintenance of elephant of the jotdars.

- Hat – Weekly rural market which assembled in a week or twice in a week.
- Halua – Sharecropper
- Hal – Plough. A measure of land one hal means about 15 bighas of land.
- Haziri – Daily wages
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- Ijaradar – A class of lease holder who obtained land by lease or agreement to collect revenue.
- Jhum cultivation – Shifting cultivation done by the tribal people in the hilly areas or forest.
- Jote – Holding of a land owner, one jote formed with some areas of land particularly the term jote was used in North Bengal.
- Jotdar – A class of tenant or intermediaries or land holder particularly it was used in North Bengal.
- Jagir – A specific area of land granted to the mansabdar during the Mughal period instead of their salary.
- Jotdari, Jotdary – Tenure of a Jotdar.
- Jumma – Payment of a fixed deposit particularly for revenue purposes
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- Karja – A kind of loan, particularly given by jotdar to the sharecropper.
- Kalazar – A disease
- Katham – A class of revenue collector appointed by the Bhutan Government in the Western Duars who played a significant role in collecting revenue during Bhutanese rule.
- Kabuliyat – A written agreement of the tenants by which they were bound to give revenue to their superior.
- Karojan – Bhutani officials in the Western Duars,

	particularly they were appointed to collect revenue
Kabiraj	– A village doctor who treats the patients in a indigenous manner.
Kabulis	– A money – lending business class migrated from Kabul.
Kharif	– Crops harvested in winter season
Khatriya	– A social group of India divided in accordance with their professions (warrior) in the Rig – vedie Age, Later on it turned into a casteism.
Khasland	– land of Government
Khatian	– A map where preserve the record of land
Kirata	– Non – Aryan indigenous people of North east India were called kirata by the Aryans.
Khasmahal	– Crownlands where Government was the owner of lands directly.
Khalisa Land	– Government's land during the mughal period.
Khatian	– Map or record of land in micro level
Kist	– Instalement
Kistabundi	– Record of revenue collection.
Lathi	– A stick
Mahajan	– A money lender
Maisal	– A buffalo keeper
Marwaris	– A business class or community
Madesia	– Tribal people of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling disatrics immigrated from Chhotanagpur.
Mahal	– Unit of revenue collection in Coochbehar state.
Maund	– A measure of weight, one maund is equal to 80 pounds.
Mandal	– A village headman particularly in the tribals.

- Mech Assam – A tribal community of Jalpaiguri district and Assam
- Mouza collection. – A unit or specific area for revenue collection.
- Munda – A tribal community
- Mulandar – A class of under tenants of jotdar.
- Narayani rupee – Currency of the Coochbehar State under Koch kingdom
- Nazir Deo or Deb – Important designation of Koch Kingdom who took a vital role in the administrative issues of the State.
- Nij kholan – One's own threshing ground
- Operation Barga – An act or method introduced by the Left Front Government by which sharecroppers were recorded in the record of rights of land
- Oraon – A tribal community emigrated from Chhotanagpur into Duars as a tea labourer.
- Pargana – A unit or specific area of revenue collection.
- Petbhata – Land granted to the relatives by the Kings of Coochbehar as a rent free.
- Patta – A lease or right granted by the Government to the cultivators.
- Pana – A kind of loan that was cattle supplied by the jotdar to the sharecropper for cultivation.
- Panchayet – Administrative system of the villages for the developmental perspectives formed with the people of the villages by election
- Proja – Sharecropper or under tenants of a jotdar.

Pattan, pattani	– Agreement on land given to the intermediaries by the jotdars
Raikot	– Title of the Royal king of Baikunthapur, means head of the fort.
Raiyot, Ryot	– A class of tenant who had customary right in the land.
Rupit	– low land
Sadar	– District head quarter.
Sardar	– Leaders or intermediaries who supplied labourer from Chhotanagpur and Santal pargana in the tea – gardens and obtained commission.
Sal	– A tree botanical name shorea Robasta
Subah	– A class of bhutanees officer who were the highest level of Bhutanese administration in the Western Duars for revenue collection and other purpose.
Santal	– A tribal community
Sanad	– Deed or charter
Sannasi	– Wandering mendicants in Hindu sects.
Suba	– Province, Divided the Mughal State into different provinces or subas.
Tahsil	– A Specific area of land the term used for the collection of revenue
Tahsildar	– A class of revenue collector.
Tolagandi	– A kind of tax or cess were taken by the agents of jotdar or Zamindar for selling goods in the hat (weekly market)
Taluk	– A unit for revenue collection consisting of a number of mauzas
Terai	– Foothill areas of the Himalay.
Thana	– A police station.
Tahutdar	– Revenue collector of Coochbehar State

- appointed by the king into taluk .
- Toto – A tribal community of Toto para in Jalpaiguri District
- Zamindar – Land lord or proprietor of land in a large scale.

Interviews and correspondence

- Adhikari Bhado, 91 years, S/O Late Avay Adhikari, Vill & Po. East Chapani Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former adhiar (Share Cropper)
- Amiruddin, Md. 62 years, S/O Late Osman Ali, Vill & Po. Kshudipara, Dist. Jalpaiguri, Mauza Sikarpur, Pargana Boda.
- Basumata Khrist, 68 years, S/O Late Belachand Basumata (Mech), Vill & Po. Baro Chwakirbash, Dist. Jalpaiguri, P.S Samuktala.
- Biswas, Chandrakanta 55years S/O Late Anath Biswas, Bakla Schooldanga, P.O Bakla Schooldanga Dist Jalpaiguri, P.S. Samuktala.
- Chhetri, Hembahadur, 79 years, S/O Late Kajimohan Chhetri, Baro Chwakirbash, P.O Baro Chwakirbash, Dist Jalpaiguri, P.S Samuktala.
- Das, Bimal Chndra, Rabindra Nagar Colony, P.O Alipurduar Court, Dist – Jalpaiguri, P.S. Alipurduar.
- Das, Khagendra Nath, 77 years, S/O Late Naranath Das, Vill Chaparer Par, Dist – Jalpaiguri, P.S. Alipurduar, a former jotdar.
- Das, Upendra Nath, 63 years, S/O Late Gajendra Nath Das Vill & P.O Bholardabri, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former Chukanidar
- Das, Dharani kanta, 66 years, S/O Late Dolchand Das, Vill – East Chapani, P.O East Chapani, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former jotdar.
- Das, Anna kanta 48 years S/O Late Chitramohan Das, Vill Dewniapara, P.O Satkura, Dist – Jalpaiguri, Secretary of Dakshin Berubari Pratiraksha Committee
- Debnath, Manoranjan, 54 years, S/O Late Amar Chandra Debnath, Local Leader of CPI(M) of Bholardabri, P.O Bholarbabri, Dist – Jalpaiguri P.S. Alipurduar.

- Karji Binapani, 83 years, W/O Late Harendra Bhushan Karji, Vill Paror Par, P.O Tapsikhata, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a house wife of former jotdar family.
- Nath, Promod, 62 years, S/O Late Kumud Bhushan Nath, Vill South Jitpur, P.O. Bholardabri, Dist Jalpaiguri, P.S. Alipurduar
- Narjinary, Hisran, 88 years, S/O Late Farshing Narjinary of Baro Chwakirbash, P.O Mahakalguri, Dist – Jalpaiguri.
- Narjinary, Angasree (Basumata) 84 years, W/O late Rev. Jitnal Narjinary (Paster Saheb), Vill. Baro Chwakirbash, P.O Mahakalguri, Dist – Jalpaiguri, P.S Samuktala.
- Prodhan, Premananda, 76 years, S/O Late Nanibar Prodhan, Vill Takoamari, P.O Rashikbill, Dist – Coochbehar, a former jotdar.
- Rabha, Dina Nath, 60 years, S/O Gaour Hari Rabha, Vill. Paglikuti Forest Basti, P.O. Rashikbill, Dist. Coochbehar, P.S. Baxir Hat.
- Roy Jagadananda, 73 years, S/O Late Gopeshwar Roy, word No. 5, P. O Dhupguri, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former minister (Land and Land revenue in 1968 and Co – Operative minister in 1971)
- Roy, Prosanya Kumar, 86 years, S/O Late Dino Nath Roy, Vill – Majherdabri, P.O Majherdabri, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former jotdar
- Roy, Ramesh, 49 years, S/O Lte Santeswar Roy, Vill & Po. Chapani, P.S. Samuktala, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former Jotdar.
- Roy, Prafulya Kumar, 50 years, S/O Late Haddeswar Roy, Vill Petbhata, P.O Manikganj, Dist – Jalpaiguri.
- Roy, Anil Kumar, 62 years, S/O Late Bijay Kumar Roy, Vill Baro Kamat, Po. Manikganj, Dist – Jalpaiguri
- Roy Nripati Bhushan, 41 years, S/O Gajendra Lal Roy, Chilahati, Dahalapara, Dist – Jalpaiguri

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- Saha Adihar, 55 years, S/O Late Jadunath Saha, Vill – Takoamari, Po. Rashikbill, Dist Coochbehar, P.S. Baxir Hat, a local leader of C. P. I. (M)
- Suba Amarendra Nath, 65 years, S/O late Chandra Singh Suba, Vill – West Satali, P.O. West Satali, Dist – Jalpaiguri Present address – East Netaji Road, P.O Alipurduar Court, Dist – Jalpaiguri
- Suba Ramesh Chandra, 76 years, S/O Late Buduram Suba, Vill – West Satali, Dist – Jalpaiguri, a former jotdar.
- Sutradhar Madhusudan, 79 years, S/O Late Panch Kari Sutradhar, Vill – Takoamari, PO.Rashikbil, Dist.Coochbehar, P.S. Baxir Hat.

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আবিগায়ে

আলিপুরদুয়ার

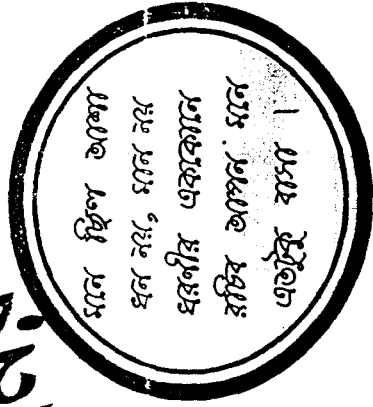
লীজ জমির

সমস্ত

বায়তী

স্বত্ব দিতে হবে।

আলিপুরদুয়ার নাগরিক কমিটি



প্রাচীরিত
প্রাচীপক শ্রীসুধীর রঞ্জন ঘোষ এবং শ্রীঅপূর্ব কুমার সেন কর্তৃক প্রচারিত
ও লিপিকা কম্পিউটার হইতে মদ্রিত।

আলিপুরদুয়ার শহরের ভূমি সমস্যা ও তার প্রতিকার সম্পর্কে

আলিপুরদুয়ার নাগরিক কমিটির প্রতিবেদন

১২৫ বছরেরও বেশি পুরানো আলিপুরদুয়ার মহকুমা শহর। আজ থেকে ৪৫ বছর আগে ১৯৫৭তে এখানে গঠিত হয় পুরসভা। এই শহরের আয়তন প্রায় দশ বর্গ কিলোমিটার, ওয়ার্ড ২০টি, জনসংখ্যা পৌনে এক লাখ, যাদের অধিকাংশই পূর্ববঙ্গ থেকে আগত। সরকারী ভূমি-ব্যবস্থার জটিলতার জন্য এই শহরের দিন-চতুর্থাংশ মানুষের নেই বাস্তবিতা ও দোকান-জমির বৈধ অধিকার। ফলে কয়েক দশক ধরে স্থায়ী বাড়ির তৈরী করে বসবাস করলেও রায়তী জমি ছাড়া অন্যান্য জমিতে বাড়ি ও ব্যবসার জন্য সরকারী বা খাদ্য ও বীমা কোম্পানীর ঋণ পাওয়া যাচ্ছেনা, পেলেও অন্যান্য বহু শর্ত পূরণ করতে হচ্ছে। যদিও সাধারণতঃ ১২ বছর ভোগদখল করলে এমনিতেই জমিতে বৈধ অধিকার প্রাপ্য হয়।

শহরের জমি সমস্যার মূলে রয়েছে জমির বিচিত্র শ্রেণীভেদ, যার মধ্যে রয়েছে খাসমহল বিভাগের লিজ জমি, ওয়েস্টার্ন ড্রয়ার্স মার্কেট ফাজলে জমি, উদ্বাস্ত কলোনী জমি, রেলের প্রতাপিত জমি, নদীর চরের জমি ও রায়তী জমি (ওয়ার্ড ভিত্তিক জমির বিচিত্র অবস্থান সংযোজিত মানচিত্রে দৃষ্টব্য)। আলিপুরদুয়ার মৌজার প্রায় সবটাই লিজ জমি বা হাট প্লট (মার্কেট ফাভ) চর জমি এবং রেলের প্রতাপিত জমি, যাকে মাঝে ছিটে ফেঁটা রায়তী জমি; পশ্চিম জিৎপুর মৌজার যে অংশ এই শহরের অন্তর্ভুক্ত তার অধিকাংশ উদ্বাস্ত কলোনী, মাঝে এখানে ওখাত্ত, কিছু রায়তী প্লট। একমাত্র দমনপুর মৌজার যে অংশ শহরের মধ্যে তার প্রায় সবটাই রায়তী জমি।

আলিপুরদুয়ার মৌজার ১০৬৪.৫২ একর জমি বর্তমানে বাতিল ১৯৩২ সালের ক্রাউন ম্যানুয়েল অনুযায়ী ১৯৩৩ থেকে ১৯৬০ পর্যন্ত বিভিন্ন সময়ে জেলা কালেক্টর সিভিল স্টেশন প্লট হিসেবে ৩০ বছর মেয়াদী লিজ দেন। সেই লিজ বহু বছর আগেই উত্তীর্ণ হয়েছে কিন্তু তার নবীকরণ হয়নি (যদিও লিজ শর্ত অনুযায়ী আরো ২বার লিজ নবীকরণের সুযোগ রয়েছে) এবং ১৯৮৩ সাল থেকে সরকার এই সব জমির খাজনা নেওয়া বন্ধ করে দেন। এখাপারে অনেক আবেদন-নিবেদন ইত্যাদির পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে ১৯৯১ সালের ল্যান্ড ম্যানুয়েলের ২২৬(১) ধারা এবং বোর্ড অব রেভিনিউর ১২/৮/৯৩ তারিখের ৪৬০৪(৩৯)-জিই-২ মেমো অনুযায়ী আলিপুরদুয়ার মহকুমা ভূমি ও দুমিসংস্কার আধিকারিক ১৪/১২/৯৪ তারিখের ১৩৪৪/১৩-৪(পি)/৯৪ মেমোতে লিজ জমি নবীকরণের শর্তবলী ঠাপন করেন, যাতে বলা হয় পুরনো লিজ হোল্ডাররা পূর্বতন বার্ষিক খাজনার ১৫ গুণ বার্ষিক খাজনা দিয়ে নবীকরণ করতে পারবেন; কিন্তু যারা লিজ জমি কিনেছেন তাদের উক্ত জমির বর্তমান বাজার দরের ৪% বার্ষিক খাজনা ও ৪০% সেলামী দিয়ে লিজ নিতে হবে। যেহেতু মূল লিজ-হোল্ডারের সংখ্যা গোটা শহরেই নগণ্য (কারণ অনেকেই জমি বিক্রি/হস্তান্তর করে দিয়েছেন) এতো বেশি খাজনা ও সেলামী দিয়ে তখন কেউই লিজ নেননি। সম্ভ্রতি সেই অবস্থারও পরিবর্তন হয়েছে; সরকার জমির বাজার দরের ৯৫% সেলামি ধার্য করেছেন লিজ মঞ্জুরীর জন্য।

কিন্তু যারা রেজেষ্ট্রি করে লিজ জমি কিনেছেন গত ৫০ বছর ধরে এবং স্ট্যাম্প ফি বাবদ সরকারকে রাজস্ব জমা দিয়েছেন, তাদের নতুন করে সেলামী দিতে হবে কেন? তাছাড়া এই সব জমির খাজনাও অনেক বেশি। অথচ একই শহরে, হয়তো আপনাদের মতো রাস্তার ও পাশের রায়তী জমির খাজনা শতক প্রতি ১টাকাও কম (১৪০৯ এর ১লা বৈশাখ থেকে বেড়ে হবে ২টাকা মাত্র)। তাই লিজ জমি ক্রেতাদের ক্ষেত্রে সেলামী ধার্য করাটা অন্যায় ও ন্যায় বিচারের পরিপন্থী।

আমরা এই সন্দেহকে নানি ওনিয়োছি, লিও নয়, অবিলম্বে আমাদের অমির স্থায়ী বন্দোবস্ত (গায়তী সত্ৰ) দেওয়া হোক, যাতে এগাপারে কোন বৈষম্য না থাকে ।

অতি সম্প্রতি সরকারী কতৃপক্ষ লিও জমির ব্যাপারে যে উদ্যোগ গ্রহণ করেছেন, জানা গেছে, তাতে বিভিন্ন স্তরে প্রতি শতকে জর্নিম মূল্য ১০০০ থেকে ১০০০০ টাকা ধার্য করার প্রস্তাব করেছেন । এই ধরনের বৈষম্যমূলক মূল্যায়ন হতাবতই নাগরিকদের ক্ষোভ সৃষ্টি করবে এবং এই উদ্যোগও শেষ পর্যন্ত ব্যর্থ হতে বাধ্য । আমরা গোট শহরের জন্যই একইধার এবং ব্যবস্থার পক্ষপাতী এবং একমাত্র স্থায়ী রায়তী সত্ৰই সেই সমতা সুনিশ্চিত করতে পারে । অবশ্য রায়তী জমির ক্ষেত্রে বাস্তব ও কমার্শিয়াল এই দুই ধরনের রাজনার হার ধার্য হতেই পারে । আমরা চাই জমির স্থায়ী বন্দোবস্ত, রায়তী সত্ৰ, চাই লিও ব্যবস্থার অবসান ।

গত প্রায় ২০ বছরে সরকার শহরে ভূমি-রাজস্ব অনাদায় বাবদ বেশ কয়েক কোটি টাকার খাজনা হতে বঞ্চিত হয়েছেন । ১৯৯৩র সর্বগ্রাসী প্রলয়ঙ্করী বন্যায় ক্ষতিগ্রস্ত এই শহরের নাগরিকদের বকেয়া রাজস্ব দেবার ক্ষমতা প্রায় নেই । তাই দ্রুত রায়তী বন্দোবস্ত দিয়ে খাজনা নিয়মিত আদায়ের ব্যবস্থা করা দরকার ।

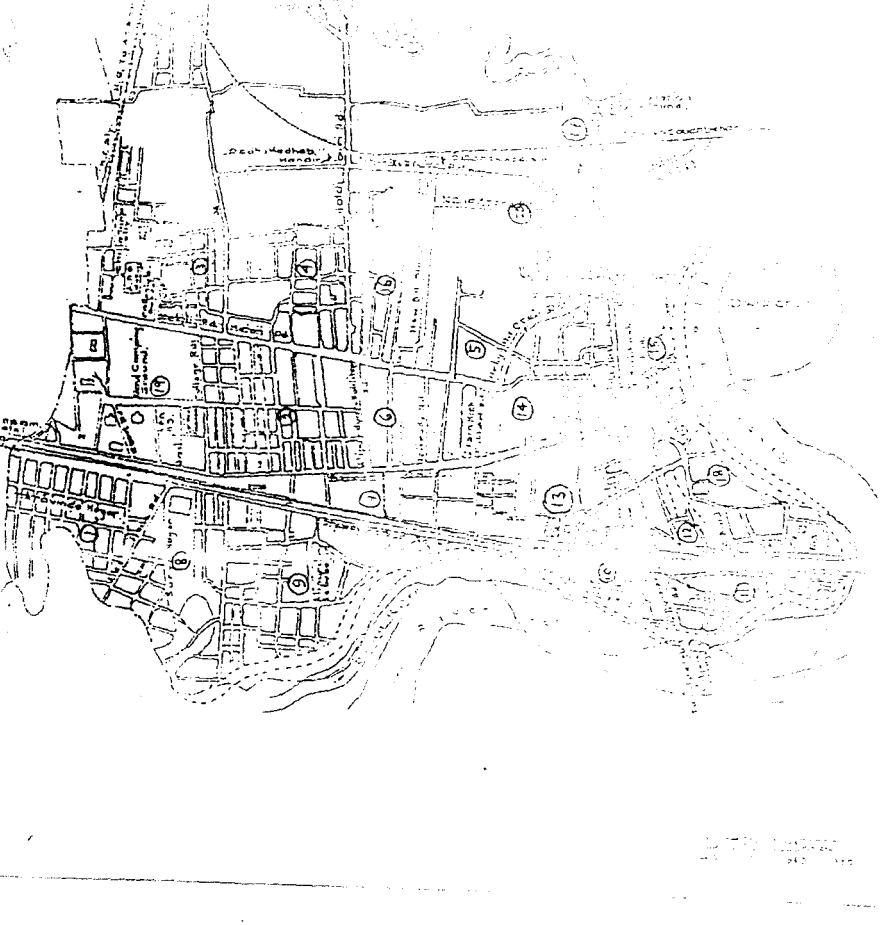
ওয়েস্টার্ন ডুয়ার্স মার্কেট ফান্ড ল্যান্ড বা হাট স্ট্রটের ৪৪.৩৬ একর জমি বাস্তব হিসেবে এবং প্রায় ১০ একর জমি হাট বা বাজারের কাজে ব্যবহৃত হচ্ছে । প্রধানতঃ উদ্বাস্তরাই এই সব বাস্তব হাট স্ট্রটের বাসিন্দা, যাদের একটা অংশ মাত্র ২ বছরের লাইসেন্স বা পাট্টা নিয়েছিলেন, অন্যের তাত নেই । কিন্তু সেই লাইসেন্সও আর নবীকরণ হয়নি । তাই প্রাণ্ডন এনপ্রা এনডি ওথা মন্ত্রী প্রয়াত ননী শুট্টাচার্যের উদ্যোগে এগাপারে ক্যাপিটেল ডিসিশন হয় এবং তদনুযায়ী বোর্ড অব রেভিনিউ ২৭/২/৮৭ তারিখে ৩২৭৪-WDMF নং সরকারী আদেশনামায় সেলামী না নিয়ে, ১৯৪৮ সালের মূল্যায়ন ভিত্তিক খাজনা নিয়ে পজন দেবার নির্দেশ জারি করলেও আজ পর্যন্ত তা হয়নি । এর মধ্যে হাট স্ট্রটের জমিদার ও বসতিদের প্রতিনিধিত্ব করে গঠিত পাত পালকো সমিতির জেনারি পরিষদ বা টুনি সাকারি দপ্তর কোন কার্যকর পদক্ষেপ গ্রহণ করেনি । বাস্তব হাট স্ট্রটের ক্ষেত্রেও আমরা চাই রায়তী বন্দোবস্ত ।

উদ্বাস্ত কলোনীর জমি পঞ্চকের দশকের গোড়ায় লেখাও ১৫/৩/৩০, কোথাও ১২ বছরের পাট্টা দেওয়া হয়েছিল, মেয়াদ উত্তীর্ণ হলে সে সব পাট্টা নবীকরণ হয়নি । কোচবিহার জেলাপাইন্ডি ডি-দাভিগিং জেলাসমূহের স্টেটলস্টেট অফিসার ২৬/৫/৭৭ তারিখের আদেশনামায় নির্দেশ দেন 'Collector granted them paltas and they are in possession that's all. Record them as raiyals' (চার্জ অফিসারের ৭/৬/৭৭ তারিখের ২৬-৫-৩৩/১৬-৬/৭৭ সংশ্লিষ্ট হুক) । কিন্তু সে নির্দেশ এত দিনেও কার্যকরী হয়নি । গত ২/৩ বছরে কেন্দ্রীয় সরকারের পুনর্বাসন প্রকল্পের অধীনে এই কলোনী জঙ্গলের জমির উদ্বাস্ত ও রায়তী বন্দোবস্তের উদ্যোগ চলছে । অফিল্ডে এই রায়তী সত্ৰ দানপত্র সম্পূর্ণ করার দাবী জানাই আমরা ।

রেভেনের প্রত্যাশিত ও জমি এবং রাজস্ব সরকারের মাপ্ত । এই সব জমির রায়তী বসতি-ব্যবস্থার উন্নয়নে গুরু ভেদে নীপইতা সম্পূর্ণ করার দাবী জানাই আমরা ।

দাবীদ চরের ওমির পরিষদেরও রায়তী সত্ৰ দ্রুত হুকুম করার দাবী জানাই আমরা ।
এই পত্রের মতামত প্রকাশিত হোথানে রায়তী সত্ৰ দেওয়া হয়েছে যা হচ্ছে সেনাগে লিও ও হাট সত্ৰের ক্ষেত্রেও রায়তী সত্ৰ দিয়ে সমতা আনার দাবী জানাই । এত ব্যাপারে গনতান্ত্রিক অঙ্গদেখানে সাপোর্টের সাহায্য, সমর্থন ও সহযোগিতা অস্বীকার করা ।

এই পত্রের প্রকাশিতব্য শংকায় ওয়াশিংটনের মাদ্রাসার
আইনজ্ঞ শ্রীমতি : ২, ৭, ১০, ১১, ১২, ১৩, ১৪, ১৫, ১৬, ১৭, ১৮, ১৯, ২০, ২১
হাট স্ট্রট : জয়পুর ২, ৩৩
ক্রমিক : স্বাক্ষরিত : ১, ৮, ১৫ (অনুস্মিত)
বেইস্ট প্রত্যাশিত : ১১, ১২, ১৩ (")
৪৭ হাট সত্ৰ : ১, ২, ৩, ৪, ৫, ৬, ৭, ৮, ৯, ১০, ১১, ১২, ১৩, ১৪, ১৫, ১৬, ১৭, ১৮, ১৯, ২০, ২১



ময়নাগুড়ী কৃষি ও শিল্প প্রদর্শনী
(ভূটান পশ্চিম-ভূয়ার)
জেলা জলপাইগুড়ি।

অভ্যর্থনা কমিটির সম্পাদকের অভিভাষণ

সঙ্গেনত ভদ্রমণ্ডলী ও সাংগোপনরা—

ময়নাগুড়ীতে আজ এই কৃষি ও শিল্প প্রদর্শনীর উদ্বোধন উৎসব উপলক্ষে আমি আপনাদিগকে স্বাগত জানাচ্ছি।

আজ আমাদের পরম সৌভাগ্য যে আপনাদের হ্রায় সুধীবৃন্দ এই ক্ষুদ্র নগরীতে পদার্পণ করে এই প্রদর্শনীকে ধ্বং করেছেন।

মাদ্রাস নগরী ও অযোগ্য একজন কৃষি-জীবির উপর আপনাদের অভ্যর্থনার গুরুদায়িত্ব অর্পিত না হয়ে যোগ্যতর অভিজ্ঞ ব্যক্তির উপর এই দায়িত্ব ক্রান্ত হলে শোভনীয় হতো। কিন্তু স্থানীয় জনগণের বিশেষ করে প্রদর্শনী কমিটির ঐকান্তিক ইচ্ছা ও অনুরোধ উপেক্ষা করতে না পেরে অতি-দুঃসাহসে ভুড় করেই এই দায়িত্ব শিরোধার্য্য করতে বাধ্য হয়েছি।

আমি জানি, আমরা সকলে আপনাদের হ্রায় মহানুভবগণের সমুচিত সতর্কতা করতে পারবো না। এ বিষয়ে আমাদের যোগ্যতা কিছুই নেই। আদরে অপ্যায়নে, অভ্যর্থনায় আপনাদের প্রতি আমাদের প্রতিটি পদে পদে ক্রটি বিচ্যুতি ঘটিবার আশঙ্কা রয়েছে। তাই আমাদের এত অযোগ্যতার বিষয় চিন্তা করে আমরা নিতান্তই সন্ত্রস্ত হয়ে পরেছি। আমাদের দোষ ক্রটি অনেক হবে—তজ্জন্ম মার্জনা ভিক্ষা চাই।

আজ আপনারা প্রদর্শনী উপলক্ষে যে ক্ষুদ্র পল্লীতে উপস্থিত তার কিছু পরিচয় আপনাদের কাছে নিবেদন করা বোধ হয় অপ্রাসঙ্গিক হবে না।

মহাভারতের যুগে “ময়নাগুড়ী” প্রাক্‌জ্যোতীষপুর রাজ্যের অন্তর্গত ছিল। আহম, কোচ, মেচ এবং পরে ইহা ভূটীয়াদের কবলিত হয়ে পরিশেষে ইংরাজ শাসনে ইহা ভূটানের পশ্চিম-ভূয়ার ভুক্ত হয়। ওয়েস্টার্ন ভূয়ার জেলার সদর স্টেশন ময়নাগুড়ীতে নির্দিষ্ট হয়েছিল। ইহা ইং ১৮৬৫ সালের কথা। মিঃ ডেনাক্‌ নামক একজন ইংরাজ কর্ণচারী এসিষ্টেন্ট কমিশনার নিযুক্ত হয়ে একাধারে দেওয়ানী ও ফৌজদারী কার্য পরিচালনা করতে থাকেন। অতঃপর ইং ১৮৬৬ সনে মিঃ টুইডি সর্ব প্রথম এই জেলার ডেপুটী কমিশনার নিযুক্ত হয়ে আসেন। পরে ইং ১৮৬৯ সনে এই ভূয়ার ও রংপুর জেলার অংশ নিয়ে জলপাইগুড়ি নামে এক নতুন জেলা গঠিত হয় এবং ময়নাগুড়ী জলপাইগুড়িতে স্থানান্তরিত হয়। ইহা সর্বপ্রথম ভূটান জাতির ইহা জমিদারীতে নিশ্চিন্ত হওয়া।

ভূটানের ইতিহাসে পাওয়া যায়—খৃষ্ট জন্মের কয়েক শত বছর পূর্বে তৎ পঞ্চদশ শতাব্দীর শেষ পর্যন্ত আহম জাতীয় রাজগণ পশ্চিম কামরূপ অধুনা ভূটান পশ্চিম-ভূয়ারের দিগ্বিদিক অধিকার করতেন। এই সময় মানিকচাঁদ নামক জনৈক আহম নৃপতি পশ্চিম-কামরূপের (ভূটান পশ্চিম ভূয়ারের) রাজা ছিলেন। রাজা মানিকচাঁদ-মতিবী রাণী ময়নামতী ককশা নগরের রাজা তিলকচাঁদের কন্যা ছিলেন। রাণী ময়নামতীর নামানুসারেই এই স্থানের নাম “ময়নাগুড়ী” হইয়াছে বলিয়া জনশ্রুতি আছে। “গুড়ী” শব্দের ব্যাখ্যা প্রাক্‌জ্যোতীষ ইতিহাসে নগর বা বন্দর বলে পাওয়া যায়।

ময়নাগুড়ীর উত্তরাংশে ৩সর্কেশ্বর দেবের যে ভয় মন্দির দেখতে পাই সেই দেবাদিদেবই ঐ রাজপুত্রীর গৃহ-দেবতা ছিলেন এবং মন্দিরের সম্মুখেই বিপুল রাজশাসনের ভয়ানক অসংখ্য দেবতার পাওয়া যায়।

সংগ্রামের ভিতর দিয়েই গড়ে উঠেছে এই ডুমুরা অঞ্চল। আহম, কোচ, ভূটীয়া এবং ইরাজগণের সহিত সংগ্রাম চালাইয়াছিল এই ডুমুরা বাসী। পূর্বে শঙ্কেশ নদ এবং পশ্চিমে তিস্তা বিশেষত ঘন বনানী সমন্বিত প্রকৃতির লীলাভূমি এই ডুমুরা অঞ্চলে ময়নাগুড়ী একটি সামান্য ভূখণ্ড মাত্র নহে—ইহা আমাদের মাতৃভূমি—দেবভূমি। কেদার, বদরিকা, কচ্ছা-কুমারিকা, দ্বারকা, গঙ্গা, গোদাবরী আমাদের তীর্থ। কিন্তু ভূটান পশ্চিম ছয়ারের ময়নাগুড়ী এলাকা আমাদের কাছে তেমনি তীর্থ ভূমি। ভূটানের পশ্চিম ছয়ারস্থ এলাকার মধ্যেও আমরা প্রভাহ বিস্তর দেব মন্দিরের শঙ্খধ্বনি শুনতে পাঠ। প্রাচীন দেবালয় বা মন্দিরগুলির অধিকাংশই ভগ্ন, লুপ্ত এবং অসংস্কৃত থাকলেও উহা আর্ধ্য অনাৰ্য্য সর্বিজ্ঞানের নমস্কার দেবপীঠ।

ময়নাগুড়ি পুরাকীর্তির আকর-ভূমি। অদূরে “জলেশ্বর ৩শিবমন্দির” আহমরাজ জলেশ্বরের কীর্তি ঘোষণা করছে। শিব বংশীয় রাজগণের এবং রাজবংশী জাতির ইহা একটি পরম তীর্থস্থান। প্রতি শিবরাত্রি উৎসবে এখানে লক্ষ লক্ষ হিন্দু যাত্রীর আগমন হয়। ইতিপূর্বে তিনবার এই মন্দির ধ্বংস হয়েছিল। বর্তমানে ইহা নবকলেবরে পুরাকীর্তি ঘোষণা করছে। এতবড় দেব মন্দির বাংলা দেশে আর নেই।

জলেশ্বরের মল্লিকহাটের “মাটিকেল্লা” বা প্রাচীন ছুর্গ বা কাটনমেট সেকালের কীর্তি ঘোষণা করছে।

তম্বিকটে বটেশ্বর ৩শিব মন্দির বর্তমান অবস্থায় ভগ্নস্থাপ। ময়নাগুড়ির পশ্চিমে জলেশ্বর ৩শিব মন্দির উত্তরে বেংকান্দি গ্রামে ৩সর্কেশ্বর মন্দির এবং দক্ষিণ পূর্বাংশে মল্লিকহাটের ৩নিলটাদ মন্দির প্রাচীন যুগের স্থপতি বিচার ও কারুশিল্পের প্রমাণ দিচ্ছে।

৩সর্কেশ্বরদেবের অদূরে দেবী ধূমাবতীর প্রস্তর নির্মিত কঙ্কালসুতি (পেটকাটি দল) অত্যাধিক কামরূপের তান্ত্রিক যোগীদের সাক্ষ্য দিচ্ছে।

পানীয় জলের ক্ষুদ্র বিপুলকায়া দীর্ঘকাসমূহ ও স্নদৃশ দেওমাল্লি বা রাজপথসমূহ ছয়শত বর্ষ পূর্বেকার রাজপুরুষগণের প্রজ্ঞাতীতি ঘোষণা করছে।

বহুর পর্বতগাত্র ও জঙ্গলময় বিস্তীর্ণ প্রান্তরক্ষেত্রে শিল্প সম্ভারের কোন প্রচেষ্টাই ডুমুরা সে যুগে হয়নি। ইরাজগণের এদেশে আগমনের পর ডুমুরার জঙ্গলাকীর্ণ ভূভাগে চা-শিল্পের শ্রামল শোভায় অপরূপ সৌন্দর্য্যে মণ্ডিত হয়েছে। একমাত্র চা-শিল্প ব্যতীত ডুমুরা উল্লেখযোগ্য আর কোন শিল্প অগ্রসর হতে পারেনি। পাটের সূতায় স্নদৃশ ঝালোক (সুজনী) গুটীসূতার চাষে এণ্ডি চাদর এবং তাঁত শিল্পে স্থানীয় তাঁতিগণ ফোতা সাড়ী তৈরীর কবচন সে সমসুই আজ অন্তর্হিত। কারণ যন্ত্রযুগের প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিতায় তাহারা বিফল হয়েছে।

কৃষি সমস্ৰা। ডুমুরার কৃষি সম্পদ বাংলার অগ্রাণ্ড জেলার তুলনায় অত্যন্ত হীন। অমূর্ব্বির ভূমি ও জন বিরল প্রান্তর সমূহে ত্রিশ ও বহু জন্তুর বিভীষিকায় এবং অস্বাস্থ্যকর জলবায়ুর প্রকোপে ডুমুরা চাষাবাদের উপযুক্ত কৃষক পাওয়া যেত না। ইরাজগণের শাসনে আসার পর বিভিন্ন জেলা হইতে নানা প্রলোভনে ডুমুরা কিছু কিছু কৃষক সরকারী ব্যয়ে আমদানী করা হয়েছিল। তাহাদের মধ্যে প্রাক্ আর্ধ্যযুগের আদিম অধিবাসী, উরাও, মুন্ডা, সাওতাল এবং কোচবিহারের রাজবংশী জাতির কৃষকগণ উল্লেখযোগ্য। ইহাদের জীবন প্রণালীর মধ্যে আদিম যুগের সরলতা এখনও বর্তমান। আর্ধ্য সভ্যতার সহিত বহু সহস্র বৎসরের সান্নিধ্য সত্ত্বেও ধর্মে ও সমাজ সেবায় ইহাদের বৈশিষ্ট্য বজায় রেখেছে। ইহারা ই ছিল এখানকার জোতদার এবং ভূস্বামী। কিন্তু আজ ইহারা অনেকেই ভূমিহীন, নিজেদের বণিতে আর কিছুই নেই। এই জেলার আধিয়ার শ্রেণী বলে যে এক শ্রেণীর কৃষক সৃষ্টি হয়েছিল তাহা স্বভাবতঃই এই জোতদারগণের সাহায্য পুষ্ট কৃষক সম্প্রদায়। বর্তমানে জীবন সংগ্রামে তাহাও দাঁড়াতে পারছে না। কারণ সরকারের সূমি ব্যবস্থা বহুল ক্রটীপূর্ণ। বর্তমানে এই জেলায় জন সংখ্যা বৃদ্ধি হয়েছে। খাড়াভাবের নিদারুণ কষ্টও উপস্থিত হয়েছে। এই জেলার ভূমিশস্য সে অভাব পূরণ করতে পারছে না।

বর্তমানে এষ্ট জেলার শতকরা ৭০ জন কৃষিকর্মী। কিন্তু ভূমির পরিমাণ সীমাবদ্ধ। ভূমির উর্বরতা শক্তি বৃদ্ধিরও প্রয়োজন হয়েছে। এ বিষয়ে সরকারী যে প্রচেষ্টা চলেছে তাও ক্রটিপূর্ণ। সুতরাং খাদ্য শস্য সমাধানে আমরা অপারগ হয়ে পরছি।

জাতীয় সরকার আমাদের সমন্বয় কৃষিকার্যে অগ্রসর হতে বলছেন। কিন্তু সে বিষয়েও আমরা প্রকৃষ্ট উপদেশক বা নিয়ম প্রণালী পাচ্ছি না। সুতরাং কৃষির মানা দিকেই আমরা হতাশ হয়ে পরছি।

আজিকার প্রদর্শনীতে আপনারা সকলে যে কৃষি সম্ভার দেখতে পাবেন সেসকল কৃষি সম্পদে আমাদের দেশ ভরে উঠুক—শ্রীভগবান আমাদের কল্যাণ সাধন করুন।

বাংলার মাটি, বাংলার জল
বাংলার বায়ু, বাংলার কল
সত্য হউক, সত্য হউক, সত্য হউক
হে ভগবান—

ময়নাগুড়ি
কৃষি শিল্প প্রদর্শনী
২/২/৬০ইঃ

নিবেদক—
কালীপদ বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়
জেলা জোতদার সমিতি। (কৃষি-সংসদ)

Standard Form of Long-Term Lease of Town Khas nihal Land for non-Agricultural purpose.

(See Rule 213 of the Bengal Crown Estates Manual 1932)

Lease granted by THE GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF BENGAL to Anbha ... son of ... of ... in the police-station ... in the district of ...

THIS INDENTURE made on the ... day of ... 1936 between THE GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF BENGAL (hereinafter called the lessor, which term, unless there be anything repugnant in the context, shall include his successors representatives) of the one part and the abovenamed (hereinafter called the lessee, which term, unless there be anything repugnant in the context, shall include his heirs, executors, administrators, representatives) of the other part.

WHEREAS the lessee has applied for permission to occupy for the purpose of building a residence the land hereinafter mentioned and such application has received the sanction of the Collector or Deputy Commissioner of ...

NOW THIS INDENTURE witnesseth that in consideration of the payment to the lessor of the sum of Rs. 18/- (on or before the execution of these presents) (by the instalments on the dates hereinafter mentioned) and of the rent and covenants on the part of the lessee and conditions hereinafter reserved and contained the lessor doth hereby demise unto the lessee all that piece or parcel of land in the first part of the schedule hereto more particularly described to hold the same unto the lessee for a term of 30 (thirty) years, from the ... day of ... 1936 paying therefor the rent at the times and in manner hereinafter in the second part of the said schedule specified (with successive rights of renewal for periods of 30 years in perpetuity for two further terms at such terms as may be fixed).

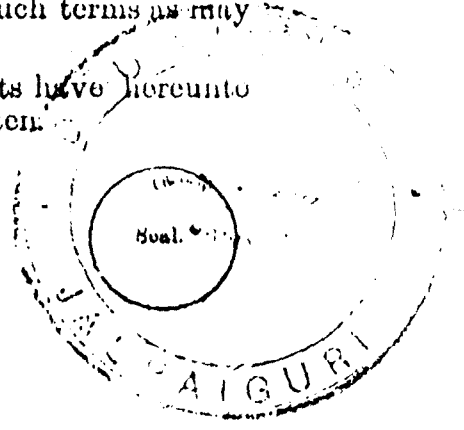
One of the two copies of this indenture should be submitted as the case may be.

WR

*Optional.

IN WITNESS whereof the said parties to these presents have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed and delivered by the Collector or the Deputy Commissioner of ... acting in the premises for and on behalf of the Governor of the Province of Bengal, in the presence of



First witness

Second witness

Handwritten signature of the first witness, Talildar.

Signature of Collector, Deputy Commissioner.

Signed sealed and delivered by the
abovenamed, in the presence of

First witness *Sachin Kumar*
Second witness *Jahinur Ral. Ganyal*

Krishna Lal
Jayannath
Guardian - Rani
Tej Lal

(Signature of ...)

The Schedule above referred to.

PART I. -Particulars of the holding and instalment of rent.

1. Number of plot
2. Tausi No.
3. Area of plot

Boundaries of plot.

North -
East -
South -
West -
Name of mauza *Alipandma old*
Name of pargana *Buxa*
Name of thana *Alipandma*
Sub-Registration district
District *Jalpaiguri*

Instalment of rent, etc.

	Rs.	A.	P.	
First instalment	7-8-			on <i>30th Nov.</i>
Second instalment	12-8-			on <i>28th Feb.</i>

PART II.

1. The lessee including his heirs and representatives shall carry out the terms embodied in this lease and will continue to be bound thereby.
2. The lessee shall pay the rent of the holding in the Collectorate in equal half-yearly instalments as shown in the first part of the schedule and shall also pay the premium fixed in the manner stated below.
3. In default of payment of any instalment of rent or premium on the date fixed in the schedule, the lessee shall be bound to pay in addition to the arrear interest at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum on the amount of arrears till the day of payment and the arrears shall be realisable as public demand.
4. If the lessee dies before the expiry of this lease his heirs, or if the land leased be transferred then assigns shall register their names in the Collectorate within three calendar months after obtaining possession of the holding and will possess and use the land abiding by all the terms and conditions of this lease.
5. The lessee shall not be at liberty without previous sanction of the Collector in writing to transfer or sublet the whole or portion only of the land leased nor in any manner to divest himself of whole or part of the land demised. He shall also pay fee which for transfers will equal to 25 per cent. of the market value of the land so transferred for sub-leases (for a period longer than 10 years) will be equivalent to 1 month's rent for each 2 years of the sub-lease subject to a maximum of 6 months' rents.
6. The lessee shall not make any deep ditch or excavation without the consent of the Collector, nor in any way injure or damage the land or property hereby leased out. In the event of his making any ditch or excavation which causes injury to the property without the consent of the Collector it may be filled in after due notice to the lessee by the Collector.

7. The lessee shall keep the land free from jungle and all sorts of nuisance. On his failure to do so, after due notice to the lessee they will be removed by the Collector, and the expenses incurred for the removal shall be recovered from the lessee as an arrear of rent.

8. The lessee shall pay and discharge all existing and future rates, taxes and assessment duties, impositions, outgoings and burdens whatever assessed, charged or imposed upon the demised premises or upon the owner or occupier thereof in respect thereof or payable by either in respect thereof. And as long as there is no municipal laws in force the lessee shall pay such local taxes and charges for the purpose of conservancy, lighting, water-supply and the like as shall be fixed from time to time by the Collector or the Deputy Commissioner.

9. The lessee shall preserve intact the boundaries of his holdings and will keep them well demarcated according to the requisition of the Collector and shall point them out when required by the lessor to do so to any officer duly authorised by him in writing to inspect them. Should any boundary work be missing, the lessee shall report the fact to the Collector.

10. If the said land or any part thereof shall at any time, be required by Government for a public purpose the lessee shall give up the same or demand, without any claim to compensation in respect of the said demised land. If the land is required permanently the lease shall forthwith be determined and the lessee shall be entitled to such fair and reasonable compensation for buildings and improvements effected by him as shall be decided by the Collector/Deputy Commissioner. If a part of the land is required, whether permanently or temporarily, or if the whole land is required temporarily, the lease shall not determine, but in the former case the lessee shall be entitled to proportionate reduction of rent, and in the latter to total remission of rent, and to such compensation in either case as shall be decided by the Collector/Deputy Commissioner.

11. The lessor reserves to himself the right to all minerals on the lands, together with such rights of way and other reasonable facilities as may be requisite for working, gathering and carrying away such minerals.

12. That no houses privies or latrines shall be built or any additions to or alterations therein made until the plan thereof has been approved by the Chairman of the Municipal Commissioners and the Collector of the district. A breach of this condition will render the lessee liable to ejection.

13. To permit the lessor and his agents on giving 24 hours' notice at all reasonable times both during the erection of the buildings and subsequent thereto enter upon the demised premises to view the condition of the buildings for the time being erected or in course of erection thereon and for all other reasonable purposes.

14. On breach or non-observance of any of the foregoing covenants, terms or conditions this lease and the tenancy hereby created may at the option of the lessor, to be signified in writing, at any time be determined, but without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the lessor that may have accrued hereunder provided that on any such determination under the provisions of this clause the lessee shall be entitled to compensation for houses erected, trees planted or other improvements made by him with the written consent of the Collector or Deputy Commissioner and the amount of such compensation shall be fixed by the Collector or Deputy Commissioner whose decision shall be final, conclusive and binding on the parties hereto.

... Kulo 2
... B. L. R.
... Indian
... Stamp

Excepted

~~...~~
12/1/1976

THIS Indenture of Lease made this 8th day
of April 1976 one thousand nine hundred and seventy between the
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL hereinafter referred
to as the "LESSOR" (which expression shall unless excluded by or repugnant
to the context be deemed to include his successors-in-office and assigns) of
ONE PART; AND

SRI/SM *Aganbanti Karman*
SON/WIFE/DAUGHTER of *Late Ramari Mohan Karman*, Hindu,

residing at *Mahakalimani Farm Colony*
(known as Anubanti Nagar)
hereinafter called the "LESSEE" (which expression shall unless excluded by
or repugnant to the context be deemed to include his/her heirs, executors,
administrators, representatives and assigns) of the Other Part:

WHEREAS after the Partition of India a large number of residents
of East Bengal crossed over and came to the territory of the State of West
Bengal from time to time due to force of circumstances where they considered
lives and property insecure;

AND WHEREAS the Government of West Bengal (hereinafter referred
to as the "Government") offered all reasonable facilities to such persons
(hereinafter referred to as "refugees") for residence in West Bengal;

AND WHEREAS certain areas of land belonging to the Government
and/or acquired or requisitioned by the Government were allowed to
be used by such refugees for their residence after construction of structures or
using structures or buildings already existing on such lands;

AND WHEREAS the Lessee is one such refugee who has been
occupying the piece or parcel of land mentioned and described in the schedule
hereunder with the concurrence of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the Government has agreed to grant and demise the said piece of land to the Lessee for ninety-nine years from the date of these presents for use as homestead upon the Lessee agreeing to pay the rent hereinafter reserved;

AND WHEREAS the Government has agreed to bear the Stamp Duty payable on these presents as also the registration fees, if any be payable.

Witnesseth as follows:

1. In consideration of the indigent condition of the Lessee, the Lessor doth hereby, subject to the terms and conditions hereinafter stated, grant and demise to and unto the Lessee

ALL THAT the piece or parcel of land measuring 7 (Seven) cottahs 8 chattaks X sq. ft. be the same a little more or less recorded in the C. S. Dag No. 1881 P Mouza Khewra sheet No 4 within Police Station Kotwali in the district of Jhelum and more particularly described in the schedule hereunder written. To Have and To Hold the same unto the Lessee for the period of ninety-nine years as from the date of the presents, yielding and paying the annual rent calculated at the rate of Rupee One per one hundred sq. yds. amounting to the total sum of Rs. 100 (in six only) as annual ground rent.

2. The Lessee to the extent that the obligation shall continue throughout the period of the demise agrees and covenants with the Lessor as follows:

- (a) The Lessee shall use the land for homestead purposes;
- (b) The Lessee shall duly pay the annual rent at the end of every year of the tenancy from the date of the tenancy;
- (c) The Lessee shall not allow within the demised premises any activities subversive of the Government established by law in India;
- (d) The Lessee shall not allow any encroachment to be made on the demised land;
- (e) The Lessee shall keep the demised land and the structures that may be erected thereon by the Lessee in a clean and sanitary condition;
- (f) The Lessee shall have proper boundary marks erected of the demised land which shall be easy of identification;
- (g) The Lessee shall, upon the expiration of the period of the demise or the early determination of these presents, yield up quiet, vacant and peaceable possession of the demised land with any structures that may be erected thereon by the Lessee to the Government.
- (h) The Lessee shall not have any right or be entitled to alienate the land in any manner whatsoever or part with possession of the same without prior written permission of the Government, which may be granted at the discretion of the Government only in special circumstances to avoid undue hardship to the Lessee. In case such consent is given, the Lessee shall pay to Government an amount equal to fifty per cent of the sale price of the land. After the land demised is transferred by the Lessee as above on one occasion, there shall be no subsequent transfer except with the previous written permission of the Government and on such terms and conditions as the Government may deem fit to impose in each particular case.

3. The Lessor doth hereby agree and covenant with the Lessee that upon the Lessee duly and punctually paying the rent aforesaid and observing, fulfilling and performing the terms, covenants and conditions herein on his part contained, the Lessee shall peacefully enjoy the said demised land without any interruption of the Lessor.

4. Provided always And it is hereby agreed that should the Lessee fail and neglect to observe and fulfil any of the major terms and conditions on his part herein contained, or in case the lease is not renewed, the Lessor shall have the right and be entitled to determine the lease forthwith and re-enter into possession of the demised land and the structures that may have been erected there by the Lessee; and upon the Government taking over possession of the premises, compensation for the structures constructed by the Lessee as also for the improvement and development of the land, if any, done by the Lessee will be paid at a valuation to be made by the Government on the basis of the costs of such construction and development less depreciation or on the basis of the market value thereof, whichever is less.

Schedule

ALL THAT piece or parcel of land situate lying at and being in
Mouza *Khasra* *Plot No. 4* J. L. No. *5*

C. S. Plot No. *1021 P* LE/P. No. *46* P. S. *Kotwali*

in the District of *Jamshedpur* Sub-Registration Office *Jamshedpur*

containing an area of *8* Cottahs *8* Chattaks *X* Sq. ft.

be the same a little more or less and

Butted and bounded in the manner following, that is to say,
on the North *Matha passage*

on the East *Plot No. 46*

on the South *Road*

on the West *Road*

In WITNESS WHEREOF the parties to these presents have hereunto set and subscribed their respective hands the day month and year first above written.

Signed and Delive

for and on behalf of the

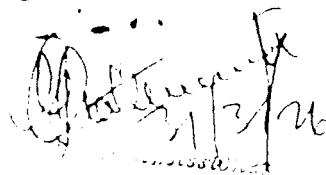
Governor of West Bengal

by the Secretary, Refugee
Relief and Rehabilitation Department
Government of West Bengal

by the Collector,

u

District,



In the presence of :

First witness..... *[Signature]*.....

Addl. Rehabilitation Officer
Jalpalguri

Address.....

Occupation.....

Second witness..... *[Signature]*.....

29/3/86

Address..... Surveyor R. R & R
Jalpalguri

Occupation.....

Signed by (Lessee) *[Signature]*

In the presence of :

First witness..... *Rijush Kanti Karmaaker*.....

Address..... *Post. Mahabudhagar*

Occupation..... *Gold Smith*.....

Second witness..... *Kalin. P. Sarker*.....

Address..... *Post. Mahabudhagar*

Occupation..... *Gold Smith*.....