

DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis entitled '*Representing Colonial Masculinity through Hunting (1773-1949): A Study of the Princely State of Cooch Behar*' has been prepared by me under the supervision of Dr. Tahiti Sarkar, Assistant Professor, Department of History, University of North Bengal. No part of this thesis has been formed the basis of award of any degree or fellowship previously.



Tapas Debnath

02/02/2024

Research Scholar (Ph.D.)
Department of History,
University of North Bengal.

Date : 2nd February, 2024

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH BENGAL

Accredited by NAAC with Grade A

Dr. Tahiti Sarkar
Assistant Professor
Department of History



Raja Rammohunpur, P.O. NBU
Dist. Darjeeling - 734013, West Bengal (India)
Phone : 0353 - 2580998(O), Mobile : 8250422275
E-mail: tahiti.sarkar@gmail.com

Ref. No.

Date.....

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that, this Thesis entitled “**Representing Colonial Masculinity through Hunting (1773-1949): A Study of the Princely State of Cooch Behar**”, submitted to the University of North Bengal in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in History, is an original piece of research work of Sri. Tapas Debnath under my supervision. No part of this Thesis has been submitted for any other Degree, Diploma, Associateship, and Fellowship.

Dr. Tahiti Sarkar
25.01.2024

Dr. Tahiti Sarkar

Assistant Professor

Department of History

University of North Bengal

Assistant Professor
Department of History
University of North Bengal



The Report is Generated by DrillBit Plagiarism Detection Software

Submission Information

Author Name	Tapas Debnath
Title	REPRESENTING COLONIAL MASCULINITY THROUGH HUNTING (1773 - 1949): A STUDY OF THE PRINCELY STATE OF COOCH BEHAR
Paper/Submission ID	1365064
Submitted by	nbuplg@nbu.ac.in
Submission Date	2024-01-25 16:44:20
Total Pages	289
Document type	Thesis

Result Information

Similarity **0 %**

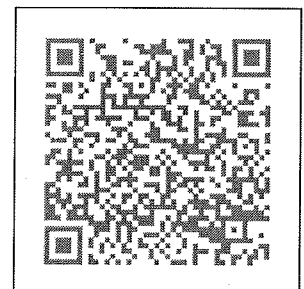
Exclude Information

Quotes	Excluded
References/Bibliography	Excluded
Sources: Less than 14 Words %	Excluded
Excluded Source	3 %
Excluded Phrases	Not Excluded

Database Selection

Language	English
Student Papers	Yes
Journals & publishers	Yes
Internet or Web	Yes
Institution Repository	Yes

A Unique QR Code use to View/Download/Share Pdf File



94 = 02
02/02/2024

Dy. Rakita Sarkar
02.02.2024

Assistant Professor
Department of History
University of North Bengal

PREFACE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The primary purpose of this study, entitled 'Representing Colonial Masculinity through Hunting (1773 - 1949): A Study of the Princely State of Cooch Behar,' is to relate colonial India's Environmental History with the meta historiography of South Asia. The study focuses on the history of hunting as an expression of colonial masculinity in India with special reference to the hunting practices of the princely state of Cooch Behar. The study further explores the inter relationship of hunting with political authority, gender identity, and ecological concerns. Hunting studies on sub-Himalayan North -Bengal have so far not been attempted by the scholars of environmental history. The present micro-level study on hunting of the princely state of Cooch Behar is an honest attempt to put forward several factors that contributed to the hunting by the royals. British education, guardianship and the ideological construction of masculinity brought Cooch Behar royals to masculine sports shooting.

After successful completion of my Research Course Work, Dr. Tahiti Sarkar, Assistant Professor of History, Department of History, University of North Bengal, had kindly consented to act as my Research Supervisor. I am most grateful to her for giving me the scope to work under her supervision. The submission of this work in the form of a thesis would not have been possible without her incessant inspiration, succinct academic insights, proper guidance, help and support. I take the opportunity to express my indebtedness and gratitude to all the Faculty Members of the Department of History, University of North Bengal who have provided me academic space and inspiration for the completion of my research work.

The most challenging and stressful academic journey has made me acquainted with several personalities who gave me lots of academic insights. I am grateful to those revered scholars of repute, academicians and authors whose works I have studied and used extensively during the course of the study. I would like to heartily thank some of the renowned faculties who continuously guided me throughout the course. To name a few are - Dr.VijayaRamadas Mandala, Assistant Professor, University of Hyderabad, Professor Dipak Kumar Roy, Hon'ble Vice. Chancellor, Raiganj University and Professor Madhab Chandra Adhikari, Cooch Behar PanchananBarma University have helped me on various occasions. Some other erudite scholars have helped me providing

academic support, for example, Sri Rishikalpa Paul, Dr.NripendraNath Paul, and Sri Mridul Narayan. I am very thankful to them for their support.

I have been benefited from a number of institutions in the preparation of this work. I owe my gratitude to the Library Authorities and Research Institutions that I have visited during the course of my work. I express my special gratitude to the staff members of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi; National Archives of India, New Delhi; Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Central Library, JawaharLal Nehru University (J.N.U.), New Delhi; Central Library, Guwahati College, Guwahati, Assam; Hem Barua Library, B. Borooah College, Guwahati, Assam; District Library, Guwahati, (Kamrup Metro), Assam, Directorate of Library Services, Guwahati, Assam; National Library of India, Kolkata; State Archives of West Bengal, Kolkata; GolparkRamkrishna Mission Library, Kolkata; North Bengal State Library, Cooch Behar, West Bengal; Cooch Behar Sahitya Sabha Library, Cooch Behar, West Bengal for their kind help in locating documents for this study.

I met some energetic co-scholars at the University of North Bengal - TarunaSinghanian and SahabubAlam. Their support became a boon to the research work. I also thank all my friends, especially Dr.Tausif Biswas, Assistant Professor, Jadavpur University, who has encouraged and guided me in each stage. My journey would be incomplete without silent inspiration of my mother, sisters and my late father.

Last but not the least, I am indebted to everyone, from whom I have taken direct or indirect help for the completion of this academic work.

Tapas Debnath
 Doctoral Student,
 Department of History,
 University of North Bengal

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

I.C.C. - Imperial Cadet Corps

E.I.C. - East India Company

J.N.U. - Jawaharlal Nehru University

V.I.P. - Very Important Person

A.D.C. –Aide-de-camp

H.R.H –His Royal Highness or Her Royal Highness

A.D. –Anno Domini

K.C.I.E. –Knight Commander of the Indian Empire

I.N.C. – Indian National Congress

M.C.C.- Marylebone Cricket Club

Capt. – Captain

Lt. – Lieutenant

c. – Circa

Ft. - Feet

In. – Inch

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

<i>Khubber</i>	:	News
<i>Khubberia</i>	:	Bearer of News
<i>Fasan</i>	:	Quicksand
<i>Nullah</i>	:	A stream or drain or marshy ditch land
<i>Gadlah</i>	:	Pad
<i>Nimrod</i>	:	A mighty hunter. According to the Bible, he was a mighty hunter before the Lord.
<i>Purdah</i>	:	It was a practice of seclusion or using a veil in front of outsiders.
<i>Quorn hunt</i>	:	Fox hunting
<i>Covert shooting</i>	:	It was a shooting practice in England where the ‘stops’ and ‘beaters’ would be used.
<i>Mahout</i>	:	Elephant rider, trainer and keeper.
<i>Jemadar</i>	:	A junior or minor official or a person who does menial jobs.
<i>Shikari</i>	:	Hunter
<i>Pelku</i>	:	A Shikari
<i>Singbir</i>	:	A Shikari
<i>Bholi</i>	:	A Shikari
<i>Poku</i>	:	A Shikari or News Bearer
<i>Hatasu</i>	:	A Shikari
<i>Gedra</i>	:	A Scavenger
<i>Jogin</i>	:	Perhaps a Mahout
<i>Asgar</i>	:	He was Jemadar.
<i>Kala</i>	:	A Shikari
<i>Tangru</i>	:	Perhaps Mahout.
<i>Bagh</i>	:	Tiger

<i>Goru</i>	:	Bison
<i>GulzarPiyari</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Rung Bahadur</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>MotiPershad</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Ram Pershad</i>	:	Nripendra Narayan's Elephant
<i>Gulzar</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Sunker Das</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Kennedy</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Kamalini</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Nurjahan</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Secunder</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Bissen Singh</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Dalton</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Sagaria</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Runjit Singh</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Bathani</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Smith</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>TimurSaha</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>MohunLal</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Ganesh</i>	:	Elephant
<i>Dhura</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Indrajit</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Gajeri</i>	:	A Female Elephant
<i>Kate</i>	:	Elephant
<i>Suliman</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Peabody</i>	:	An Elephant
<i>Oranzeb</i>	:	An Elephant

<i>Pollen</i>	:	Photographer
<i>Gordon</i>	:	Commissioner of Cooch Behar
<i>Kneller</i>	:	Tutor and guardian of Nripendra Narayan
<i>Jai</i>	:	Sawai Man Singh II, Maharaja of Jaipur.
<i>Jit</i>	:	Jitendra Narayan
<i>Rajey</i>	:	Rajendra Narayan
<i>Jyotindro</i>	:	Jyotindro Narayan. Brother of Nripendra Narayan
<i>Sujey</i>	:	Relative of SunityDevee.
<i>Sukriti</i>	:	Elder daughter of Nripendra Narayan
<i>Maharani</i>	:	Queen of Maharaja
<i>Victor</i>	:	Victor Nityendra Narayan
<i>Gajendra</i>	:	Gajendra Narayan
<i>N. Sen</i>	:	Nirmod Sen. Relative of SunityDevee.
<i>P. Sen</i>	:	Piter Sen. Relative of SunityDevee.
<i>Gurh</i>	:	Tough or Deep
<i>Mahaseer</i>	:	Fish
<i>Chala Gaya</i>	:	Gone
<i>Jhow</i>	:	Tree
<i>Line Shooting</i>	:	The shooting by making a line of beaters (mainly pad elephants).
<i>Stop Shikari</i>	:	Those hunters or shooters who would stay calmly on standby position mainly on howdah elephants.
<i>Howdah</i>	:	The howdah is a carriage placed on the back of an elephant. It is used to transport important people during hunting and warfare.
<i>Pad Elephant</i>	:	An elephant that is furnished with a pad for carrying mainly burdens instead of carrying passengers.
<i>Halal Karo</i>	:	Slaying
<i>Kheddah Operation</i>	:	Elephant capturing expedition.

- Hands* : A unit of length. 1 hand is equal to 4 inches.
- Dum Dum Bullet* : The ammunition (bullet) was named after the Indian town Dum Dum near Kolkata.
- Stone* : A unit of weight. 1 stone is equivalent to 6.35029 kg.
- Tel-el-Kebir* : It was a decisive battle in 1882 between the British and the Egyptian. The British army won the battle in a sudden assault preceded by a march under cover of darkness.