

**LAND TENURES AND LANDED RELATIONSHIPS IN BRITISH
GUJARAT AND BARODA STATE: 1800-1960**

**ABSTRACT OF THESIS
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Abstract

In India, the land was and still is a symbol of power and authority. It has been the most significant among the means of production in the agrarian economy. For the proper distribution and utilization of land, various land tenures were introduced. Landed relationships in regions of Gujarat were defined by land tenures which had evolved since the ancient and medieval periods. These tenures were continued with certain modifications during the nineteenth and first half of twentieth centuries and were finally abolished during the post-independence period. The current research is attempting to explore, analyze and describe the evolution of land tenures from its origin to abolition and the nature of landed relationships due to the changes accrued. The target areas of the current research are British Gujarat and Baroda due to their historical and geographical potentials.

Objectives of the Current Research:

1. To trace evolving land tenures in the region of Gujarat and to examine the landed relationships which were forged between state and village community.
2. To analyse whether there were any changes in the land tenures because of the state policy that was revised from time to time in British Gujarat and Baroda state or the fact that at the grassroots level there was a continuity in the pre-existing systems.
3. To examine whether there was any change in the landed relationships that had evolved after the introduction of so called new tenurial policies by British Gujarat and Baroda State.

4. To analyse changes which shaped the land administration in the post-independence period in Gujarat.

The research work on “LAND TENURES AND LANDED RELATIONSHIPS IN BRITISH GUJARAT AND BARODA STATE: 1800-1960” is divided into eight chapters. These are as follows:

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

The chapter includes an introductory description of the current research containing the meaning and concept of terms such as Land Tenures, Landed Relationships, Gujarat, British Gujarat and Baroda State. It further includes hypothesis, major objectives of the current research and review of literature.

CHAPTER 2: STATE POLICIES AND LAND MANAGEMENT IN THE PRE-MODERN GUJARAT: A HISTORICAL SURVEY

The chapter includes a historical survey of state policies and land management with special reference to the land tenures and landed relationships in pre-modern Gujarat. It also includes a brief discussion to the formation of British Gujarat and Baroda State. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

Ancient Period

Medieval Period

1. Land Administration (1297-1403)

2. Land Administration (1403-1573)

3. Land Administration (1573-1707)

Land Administration (1707-1800)

1. Maratha Expeditions in Gujarat

2. *Mulkagiri* Expeditions in Gujarat
3. Partition Treaty
4. Settlement of Land Tenures
5. Formation of British Gujarat and Baroda State
6. Walker Settlement

CHAPTER 3: CHANGING NATURE OF LANDED RELATIONSHIPS UNDER COMPANY'S RULE (1800-1850)

Using the narrative of 'change' and 'continuity' of the eighteenth century, the chapter make an attempt to understand and analyse the interface between land, landed relationships and policies of English East India Company. A study is carried out to understand the evolving structures of land tenures and its impacts on agrarian relationship. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

Land Administration Under Company's Rule (1800-1827)

1. Management of Government Villages
2. Management of Alienated Villages

Land Administration Under Company's Rule (1827-1850)

1. The Regulation XVII of 1827 and Settlement of Land Tenure
2. Survey Tenure
3. Type of Survey Tenure
4. Survey and Settlement in Bombay Presidency
5. Settlement of Inam Tenure

CHAPTER 4: COLONIZING LAND AND THE SETTLEMENT OF LAND TENURES IN BRITISH GUJARAT (1850-1947)

The chapter carries forward the debate of ‘change’ and ‘continuity’ after the rule of the English East India Company is abolished and India formally became a part of the British Empire. The chapter gives a comprehensive analysis of survey and settlement carried out at various points of time in the 19th and 20th centuries respectively. This includes the settlement of various land tenures and their impact agrarian society and economy. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

1. Chronology of Survey and Settlement

2. Method of Survey and Settlement

Original Survey and Settlement (1851-1885)

1. Introduction

2. Survey Number and Classification

3. Assessment

4. Bombay Survey and Settlement Act I of 1865

5. Settlement of Land Tenures: Change and Continuity

6. Financial Impact

7. Limitations and Conclusion

Revision Survey and Settlement (1888 to 1910)

1. Introduction

2. Survey Number and Classification

3. Assessment

4. Bombay Land Revenue Code (Act V of 1879)

5. Settlement of Land Tenures: Tenures: Change and Continuity

6. Financial Impact

7. Limitations and Conclusion

Re-Revision Survey and Settlement (1911-1938)

1. Introduction

2. Survey Number and Classification

3. Assessment

4. The Bombay Tenancy Act, 1939

5. Settlement of Land Tenures: Change and Continuity

6. Financial Impact

7. Limitations and Conclusion

CHAPTER 5: REVENUE FUNCTIONARIES AND LANDED RELATIONSHIPS IN BARODA STATE (1800-1875)

The chapter includes the description of *izaradari* and *poetdari* systems which were two administrative mechanisms of the Baroda State during the period 1800-1875. The chapter contains a narrative of intermediary revenue functionaries and their relationships with land and peasantry. The chapter also deals with changes made by state between 1857 to 1875 and their impacts on agrarian society. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

Izaradari System

1. Functioning of the *Izaradari* system

2. Status of *Izaradars*

3. Assistance of *Izaradar*

4. State, *Izaradar* and Peasants

5. Limitations of *Izaradari* System

6. Abolition of *Izardari* System

Potedari System

1. Nature and Evolution of *Potedari System*
2. British and *Potedari System*
3. Status of *Potedars*
4. Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad-II and *Potedari System*
5. Abolition of *Potedari System*

Intermediary Revenue Functionaries and Their Relationships with Land and Peasantry

1. *Bhagdar* and *Narwadar*
2. *Ankdedar*
3. *Mulgirasia*
4. *Matadar*
5. *Mehwasi*
6. *Talukdar*
7. *Watandar*

Changes Made by State During 1857-1875 and Its Impact on Land Tenures and Landed Relationships

1. Maharaja Khanderao Gaekwad (1857-1870)
2. Maharaja Malharrao Gaekwad (1870-1875)

CHAPTER 6: STATE CONTROL AND THE SETTLEMENT OF LAND TENURES IN BARODA STATE (1875-1947)

The chapter deals with abolition of *izaradari* and *potedari system* and the establishment of *kacha vahivat* (temporary administration). The chapter primarily deals with Survey and Settlement (Original, Revision and Re-Revision) carried out at various points of time in the

19th and 20th centuries. It includes the settlement of various land tenures and their impact agrarian society and economy. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

Sir T. Madhavrao's Reforms in Land Administration (1875-1881)

1. Abolition of *Izaradari* and *Potedari* Systems
2. Introduction of *Kacha Vahivat*
3. Settlement of Alienated Land
4. Reorganization of Administrative Divisions
5. Reduction in Revenue Demand
6. Early Survey and Settlement

Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III's Reforms in Land Administration (1881-1939)

1. Revenue Department
2. Survey and Settlement
3. Type of Survey and Settlement
4. Chronology of Survey and Settlement
5. Principle and Method
6. Occupancy Right Over Land
7. Settlement of Alienated Land

Original Survey and Settlement (1884-1904)

1. Introduction
2. Principle and Method
3. Reorganization of Administrative Divisions
4. Settlement of Land Tenures: Change and Continuity
5. Financial Impact

Revision Survey and Settlement (1904-1922)

1. Introduction
2. Principles and Method
3. Agricultural Change
4. Settlement of Land Tenures: Change and Continuity
5. Financial Impact

Re-Revision Survey and Settlement (1922-1947)

1. Introduction
2. Principles and Methods
3. Reorganization of Administrative Divisions
4. Agricultural Change
5. Settlement of Land Tenures: Change and Continuity
6. Financial Impact

Conclusion of Original, Revision and Re-Revision Survey and Settlement

CHAPTER 7: LAND SETTLEMENT, REFORMS AND CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS (1947-1960)

The chapter focus on formation of Gujarat State, examination and settlement of land tenures. It also discusses on introduction of new land revenue legislations and tenancy reforms and abolition of land tenures. An attempt is made here to understand landed relationships that were forged as a result of these changes. Following is an outline of the chapter:

Introduction

Formation of Gujarat State

1. Areas of Formation
2. Administrative Stages of Formation

Measures for Tenures and Tenancy Reforms

1. Settlement of Land Tenures
2. Land Revenue Legislation and Tenancy Reforms
3. Abolition of Land Tenures
4. The Impact of Abolition Acts

CHAPTER 8: CONCLUSION

The chapter outlines the important points emerging from the discussions in the previous chapters. It highlights the significances and limitations of the present work and future scope in the current field.

A closer examination of land administration in Gujarat reveals that most of land tenures had originated during the ancient and medieval periods and had continued with certain modifications under British Gujarat and Baroda State. These tenures were finally abolished during the post-independence period. In the current research, it is found that land tenures and landed relationships in British Gujarat and Baroda State showed the element of continuity from the pre-colonial to the post-independent period.

The other sections of the thesis are:

APPENDIXES

GLOSSARY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

References: Primary, Secondary, Books, Thesis, Articles etc.

Gazetteers/Directories

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Land Revenue Administration Reports of Bombay Presidency

Administration Reports of Baroda State

Jamabandi Settlement Reports of the Baroda State

Historical Selections from Baroda State Records

Selections from the Records of the Bombay Government

Books on Land Administration

Books on India/Bombay Presidency/Gujarat/British Gujarat/Baroda State

Census Reports of Bombay Presidency

Census Reports of Baroda State

Ph.D. Thesis

Research Articles