

FOCUS *on Global Resources*

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COLONIAL INDIA

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In This Issue

This issue of *Focus* is the first to appear under the Global Resources Network masthead. [The Global Resources Network \(GRN\)](#) supports international studies by expanding the world of sources available to those engaged in scholarship, teaching, and research.

GRN programs preserve important evidence and documentation and make them available worldwide. In the present issue we identify and describe historical and cultural evidence and related source materials on South Asia under British colonial rule. Materials featured here range from the *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, documenting the vast infrastructure of British control in the region, to records of the East India Company's early trading activity, to newspapers and reports from the domestic press in India under the Raj.

The issue also features a report on how one history professor incorporates primary

On page 1: Brahmins of Bengal, from *The Great Indian Religions*, published by Ward, Lock, Bowden and Co., London, 1892.

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source materials into a 300-level seminar, “European Imperialism and Colonial Response: Knowledge, Race and Power in British India.”

Aside from gathering content, GRN programs like the [Digital South Asia Library](#) also support the development of important capabilities in libraries and archives in the source regions. We feature here an announcement of a British Library-funded project to work with [Aligarh Muslim University](#) in Uttar Pradesh, India, to preserve and digitize rare and fragile Urdu-language journals.

These and other activities of the Global Resources Network arise from the belief that libraries, archives, and other memory institutions are essential to civil society.

—Bernard F. Reilly, Jr.
President

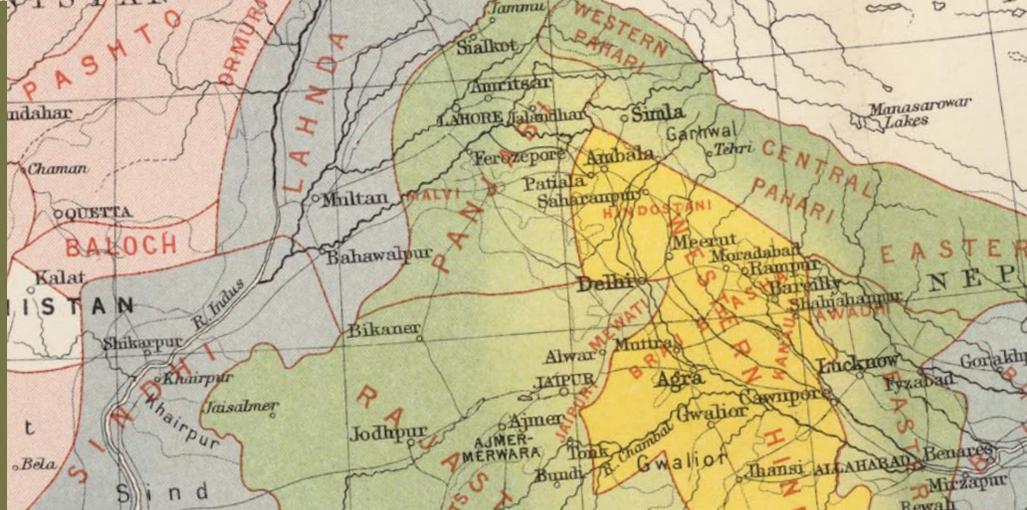
❧ *In Memoriam: Irene Joshi* ❧

Irene Joshi (October 10, 1934–August 16, 2007), a respected librarian and dear colleague of the staff of the Center for Research Libraries, recently passed away. In her capacity as South Asia Librarian at the University of Washington (1970–2000), Irene was heavily involved in the development and direction of the South Asia Microform Project. Her contributions to the Digital South Asia Library (notably the [International Union List of South Asian Newspapers and Gazettes](#)) and the International Coalition on Newspapers (ICON) have served scholars and librarians alike. In honor of her memory, we direct readers to her insightful work on the [history and future of South Asian newspapers](#) presented at the Symposium on Access to and Preservation of Global Newspapers (May 27–28, 1997, Washington DC).

Cartographic Resources for the Study of Colonial South Asia at the Digital South Asia Library

Gerald Hall

Digital South Asia Library



Color-coded illustration of “prevailing languages” from *Imperial Gazetteer of India*, 1909 edition.

Maps and the making of maps are crucial to the study of colonialism in South Asia. Maps not only make narrative descriptions of a place more comprehensible and compelling but also can provide significant evidence for understanding the creators of those maps. For these reasons, the addition of the three important cartographic resources to the Digital South Asia Library will benefit the study of colonialism in the region.

Hunter, William W., James S. Cotton, Richard Burn and William S. Meyer, eds. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Atlas*. 1909 edition. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1909.

Hunter, William W., James S. Cotton, Richard Burn and William S. Meyer, eds. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Atlas*. 1931 edition. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1931.

Schwartzberg, Joseph E. *A Historical Atlas of South Asia*. 2nd impression, with additional material. New York; Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.

Imperial Gazetteer of India Atlas Volumes

The first edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* published in 1881 was immediately hailed as a monumental accomplishment. With little exaggeration the *Times* proclaimed the nine volumes produced under the editorship of William Wilson Hunter as, “the completion of the largest national enterprise in statistics which has ever been undertaken.”¹ Yet very soon thereafter nine volumes were considered insufficient to describe the scope and complexity of India to the British public. Even after increasing to 14 volumes in the second edition of 1887, the gazetteer was soon again found lacking in important ways. This dissatisfaction was due in part to the almost complete absence in the work of cartographic representations to accompany the complex cavalcade of essays and statistics presented to the readers. Contemporary critics observed that the 14 volumes of the second edition contained only, “a single map showing the whole of India on a very small scale.”²

Under the direction of a new editor in India, William S. Meyer, the third edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer* published in 1909 remedied this shortcoming. Now grown to 26 volumes and intended, “to be of use to officials in India,” as well as the general public, the third edition included a separate atlas volume comprised of 64 plates organized into three categories:

- 1) 28 general maps illustrating physical, economic, and social characteristics of the whole of India

¹ *Times*, 16 August 1881, 3.

² Burn, Richard, “The Imperial Gazetteer of India,” *Journal of the Royal Society of Arts*, 56 (1907: Nov. 22 —1908: Nov. 13), 366.

- 2) 20 provincial maps and
- 3) 16 maps of important towns.³

The maps were far from an afterthought or simple ornamentation. Although the maps are undoubtedly beautiful, another editor of the gazetteer, Richard Burn, did not overstate the case when he asserted in 1908 that, “no part of the ‘Gazetteer’ has received more careful attention than the Atlas.”⁴ In planning and organizing the atlas volume, Meyer marshaled the expertise and experience of the British administration in India in an unprecedented fashion so that the *Times* reported that, “all the work had received an official Imprimatur from being submitted to the responsible authorities.”⁵ For cartographic detail Meyer drew upon the resources of the renowned Survey of India. These cartographic elements were then combined with data from the research of preeminent scholars and administrators. For example, the data for two linguistic maps were compiled by George A. Grierson, the editor of the *Linguistic Survey of India*.⁶

It was understood that publishing the resulting maps would require an experienced hand, someone capable of representing complex details in an attractive and comprehensible style. To this end the gazetteer employed the foremost map publisher of the period, John G. Bartholomew. Descended from a renowned family of map makers, Bartholomew transformed the family business from “a company producing maps solely for specific customers,” to “a fully fledged publishing house with its own list” of numerous popular titles.⁷ Bartholomew’s experience in producing complex maps for popular audiences is evident in the uncluttered presentation of the atlas volume.

In bringing together the cartographic expertise of the Survey of India, the foremost scholarship of the time, and an experienced map publisher, the atlas volume of the third edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* became an invaluable tool not only for the British public and Indian administrators of the time but also for students and scholars considering British conceptions of India at a particular moment in history. The scheme of the volume was successful enough that it was replicated, with minor revisions to reflect newer data, in the final edition of the gazetteer published in 1931.

Schwartzberg *Historical Atlas of South Asia*

The *Imperial Gazetteer* atlas maps amply demonstrate British conceptions of their imperial possessions in South Asia at the time of their publication, but they do not portray the development of that empire much less its antecedents. Only three of the 64 plates of the 1909 edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer* were historical, two of those dedicated to a demonstration of the expansion of British dominion in South Asia—an ever increasing spread of imperial pink. Perhaps because of a lack of official cooperation and coordination of the kind provided by the Raj for the *Imperial Gazetteer*, no satisfactory scholarly historical atlas of South Asia was produced during the four

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid., 367.

⁵ *Times*, 15 February 1908, 2

⁶ These maps will be of particular value and interest to students and researchers in the context of published volumes and sound recordings from the Linguistic Survey of India that will be added to the Digital South Asia Library during the coming year.

⁷ John C. Bartholomew and K. L. Winch, “Bartholomew family (per. 1805–1986),” in *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, ed. H. C. G. Matthew and Brian Harrison (Oxford: OUP, 2004); online ed., ed. Lawrence Goldman, October 2006, <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/58384> (accessed September 12, 2007).

Sir William Wilson Hunter: A lifetime of service

Sir William Wilson Hunter (1840–1900) was a devoted administrator and historian of India. In 1861, he joined the Indian Civil Service and served as Assistant Magistrate and Collector at Birbhum, Bengal (1862–65) and Superintendent of Labour Transport at Kushtia (1865–1869). In 1869, Lord Mayo, the new Viceroy of India, commissioned Hunter to collect information for an all-India gazetteer. This work would occupy 12 years of his life, the culmination of which is the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* (1881).

Hunter traversed the country in his position, and himself undertook the supervision of the *Statistical Account of Bengal* (20 vols., 1875–1877) and the *Statistical Account of Assam* (2 vols., 1879). In addition to these duties, Hunter pursued his scholarly interests in languages and peoples of India. His writings during this period and after his retirement from the civil service in 1887 focused on many aspects of Indian culture and Britain's impact on the region. Of note was his controversial work *The Indian Musalmans: are they bound in conscience to rebel against the queen?* (London: Trübner and Co., 1871), in which he accused Muslims in India of being “seditious masses in the heart of an Empire.” One of Hunter's lifetime desires was to compile a comprehensive history of India, though he was to realize only two volumes of the work before his death (*A History of British India*. London; New York: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1899–1900).

Sources

Riddick, John F. *The History of British India: A Chronology*. Westport, Conn: Praeger, 2006.

Cotton, J. S. “Hunter, Sir William Wilson (1840–1900),” rev. S. Gopal, in Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, ed. H. C. G. Matthew and Brian Harrison (Oxford: OUP, 2004), <http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/14237> (accessed September 12, 2007).

decades after the publication of the 1931 edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer* atlas.⁸ The want of an historical atlas prompted a group of scholars at the University of Minnesota in 1964 to inaugurate a project to rectify this lacuna.

Under the ultimate editorship of Joseph Schwartzberg, *A Historical Atlas of South Asia* was finally published in 1978 to considerable critical acclaim.⁹ It is the second impression of the atlas published in 1992 that is presented at the Digital South Asia Library. An extra large folio volume comprised of 155 plates of images and more than 200 pages of accompanying text, the *Historical Atlas* is divided into 14 sections containing cartographic illustrations of the social, economic, and political history of South Asia from prehistory until 1971.

Like the *Imperial Gazetteer*, the *Historical Atlas* is the monumental product of an alliance of preeminent scholars, skilled cartographers, and an experienced map publisher supported, at least in part, by government funds in the form of grants from the United States Office of Education. The cartographic expertise was provided by the American Geographical Society whose work was then prepared for publication by the renowned map publishers Rand McNally and Company. A striking difference between the *Imperial Gazetteer* atlas volumes and the *Historical Atlas* is their contrasting approach to the authority of their maps. Schwartzberg chose to acknowledge and extensively document “conflicting and doubtful interpretations,” before coming to a decision about where a boundary might be drawn rather than simply cite the imprimatur of bureaucratic expertise.¹⁰

Perhaps because the *Historical Atlas* attempts to portray the developments of a region through time while also considering conflicting interpretations, the maps might seem, as some critics have complained, somewhat cluttered.¹¹ It is hoped that the *Historical Atlas* will be invaluable to users because the maps reflect both the complexity of historical places and the complicated social enterprise of attempting to represent those places cartographically. Taken together, the atlas volumes of the *Imperial Gazetteer* and the *Historical Atlas* will inform and elucidate scholarship on South Asia. ❖

⁸ B. H. Farmer, “The Mapping of South Asian History,” *Journal of Historical Geography*, 6, 3 (1980), 325–329.

⁹ John E. Brush and Stanley Brush, “Review: *A Historical Atlas of South Asia* by Joseph E. Schwartzberg,” *Geographical Review*, 70, 4 (1980), 478–481.

¹⁰ John E. Brush and Stanley Brush, “Review: *A Historical Atlas of South Asia* by Joseph E. Schwartzberg,” *Geographical Review*, 70, 4 (1980), 479.

¹¹ B. H. Farmer, “The Mapping of South Asian History,” *Journal of Historical Geography*, 6, 3 (1980), 327.

European Imperialism and Colonial Response

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The composing room of the *Times of India*, 1898. Photo courtesy of the British Library.

The purpose of this brief article is to demonstrate how the Center for Research Libraries' (CRL) South Asia collection can be used to enhance classroom pedagogy and provide vast reserves of primary documents for undergraduate research. Before going into the specifics of the research agenda, a brief overview of the undergraduate seminar may be in order to more fully convey the expectations placed upon the students. The course is titled History 304, "European Imperialism and Colonial Response: Knowledge, Race & Power in British India."

Imperial conquest and control dominated European politics for three centuries. It was emblematic of European *power* over the far corners of the world. Few countries remained independent and for those that did their independence was dependent upon European approval. Imperialism also fed the industrial engines of Europe, providing the raw materials for production as well as the markets for commodity exchange. On the response side, colonialism had a more profound global impact than nationalism, industrialism or militarism, for it incorporated them all and stamped them with its particular effigy. In fact, colonialism ushered in modernity for more people than any other ideology or shared experience. All of this is to say that imperialism/colonialism is a historical phenomenon worthy of intense scrutiny and is nowhere more dramatically illustrated than with the British Raj in India.

This seminar asks the question: How did so few Englishmen rule over such a vast population in India for so long? The class attempts to assess how the British assembled *knowledge* to geographically map India, to separate the Indian population on the basis of religion and caste, to economically dominate all roadways and waterways of the subcontinent, and to construct alternate interpretations of Indian culture in order to more effectively divide and rule.

Another key component was *race*. Colonialism had the effect of reformulating notions of race. For the British, service in India caused them to radically alter their self-conception and construct new identities that were at once as foreign to England as they were to India. Likewise, many Indians assumed identities that were equally alien. Yet the racial gulf between an Englishman and an Indian was huge, but not necessarily separate. Recent historiography indicates that both Englishmen and Indians were influenced by one another, mutually borrowing customs, costumes and ideas.

The seminar begins by looking at racial and class stereotypes in order to understand the sociology of the British Raj. One aim is to construct as detailed a picture of the British colonial population as possible, including their diets, dress, housing, pastimes (sports) and work in order to see how different they were from their relatives

who had remained in Great Britain. The bulk of the class, however, focuses more intentionally on the power dynamic, that is to say how knowledge was used more effectively than weapons to rule over India. The intention is to disassemble “indirect rule” to look at its constituent parts. Moreover, in this section we will be assessing how when certain indigenous customs, for example, *sati* (widow burning) did not fit into colonial moral codes they were abolished. In other instances, like the Durbar ceremony, Indian traditions were simply changed or even fabricated by the British to enhance their prestige and “Indianize” the Raj. The seminar comes full circle and concludes by looking at racial and caste stereotypes in order to understand the sociology of the subaltern under the British Raj. In other words, we will be looking at how the Indian populations adapted to British colonialism.

As stated at the outset, one of the goals is to enhance pedagogy. In attempting to understand how British society changed over time from *nabob* to *sahib*, British newspapers, such as the *Indian Spectator* (Bombay), are used to assess British self-conceptions. These same newspapers, found variously on microfilm and microfiche, indicate much about the social, culinary and recreational habits of the British population. By scanning the job advertisements one can also demonstrate how the technical demands and specialization within the colonial administration increased from the *nineteenth* to the early *twentieth* centuries. Perhaps an easier task is showing Indian reactions to British laws, taxes and general heavy-handedness. The CRL has a substantial collection called “Report on native papers” published in almost every corner of the British Raj. These are translations of Indian newspapers systematically compiled by the colonial administration for intelligence purposes. As a tool to illustrate what the Indian population was thinking about the British overlords, it is invaluable and brings a sense of intimacy between the student and the historical subject that lectures and secondary sources are incapable of generating. One thorny issue, that incidentally a student alerted me to, was over *sati* and British attempts to abolish it. For class discussion, I had assigned Lata Mani’s *Contentious Traditions: the Debate on Sati in Colonial India*, when one student pulled out photocopies of editorials on a court case from Calcutta that showed the confusion even among the Indian population over *sati*.

As a seminar, emphasis is placed on the research paper. To summarize these expectations, I will reproduce the paragraph describing them from the syllabus.

The research paper should be between 12 and 15 pages long, excluding citations. The paper *will* be based on primary documents. (No secondary sources are allowed other than for general information you deem absolutely necessary). We will be devoting considerable time to looking at how documents can be used as historical texts. The research paper is your opportunity to write original history. This means that you are required to burrow into microfilms, microfiches, archives and or original documents available over the internet to devise a thesis about the British Raj and then marshal the evidence to support it. Much of the interlibrary loan material from the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) has either been placed on reserve or is available on the CRL web site. Moreover, you will have an opportunity to report your findings to the class at the end of the seminar.

The challenge of this assignment is preventing it from becoming overwhelming. With that in mind, I encourage students to formulate a simple thesis. In some instances I have encouraged students to simply look at the advertisements listed on the back pages of the British newspapers, then categorize and quantify them—the simplest exercise in quantitative methods for historians. Yet the results have been quite spectacular in terms of historical analyses of consumerism in India both for necessities and luxuries, origins of commodities, marketing techniques, and even attention to social status within the British community itself. Other student papers have focused on editorials and political cartoons which provide ample historical material once the initial

fear of doing original research is overcome. Some students have looked at sermons and other Christian pamphlets to comprehend how Christian missions viewed the Hindu, Sikh and Muslim populations and whether or not there were differences between denominations. Parenthetically, the CRL [Digital South Asia Library \(DSAL\)](#) contains some excellent sources on this very topic which I am certain my current students will be interested in.

A few ambitious students have tried to compare British newspapers with the translations of Indian newspapers (*Report on Native Papers*). The task is finding an event that was sufficiently noteworthy to be reported in both the British and Indian media. Some located military campaigns, though these appear to have been better reported in the British press than in the Indian. More fruitful has been famines or other natural calamities. In some instances students have found reports on some kind of pandemic which has illustrated radically different understandings of disease and health care. While these compare and contrast papers reveal much about cultural differences, they do not necessarily address the historical dimension. Through much cajoling I badger them into finding a similar event 10, 20 or 50 years later and determine whether the discourse has changed in the intervening time period and which group has changed the most.

In one exemplary paper, a student found a court case in which a young woman objected to her arranged marriage when she became of age. The court case illustrated the cultural divide prior to the passage of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929 and was so sensational that it was even picked up by the London press. By following the court case and the various appeals and contrasting them with the Child Marriage Restraint Act, the student produced an exceptional piece of undergraduate research.

In the past I have ordered boxes and boxes of microfilm and microfiche to be sent to Valparaiso University's library. Inventorying them and placing them on reserve has been an enormous undertaking for the library staff. While the CRL's Digital South Asia Library (DSAL) will naturally mean that I will be ordering less and my students will have access to more, I am not wholly convinced that I want to abandon the microfilms and microfiche. First of all there is something tangible and unique about using microfilm and microfiche readers. They are laborious and often frustrating but the very fact that students have to scroll through vast amounts of unrelated material and data often gives them a more comprehensive picture of what was going on than if a search engine was able to refine their search for them.

Second, because data collection from microfilm and microfiche is so time consuming, groups of students have set aside time to meet in the reader room where they would yell back and forth if they found something of interest for another student's project. Collaborative projects are difficult to develop for historical research for it is such a solitary undertaking, yet the CRL microfilm and microfiche material spontaneously generated collaboration the first time, while every subsequent time I have taught the seminar I have encouraged it.

The quality of research papers of course varies; however, if the oral presentations are a barometer, each student appears vested in his or her material and committed to their own historical interpretation. Admittedly a chronologically accurate history of the British Raj is seldom produced; instead students attempt to make their own judgments about power, race and the assemblage of knowledge by Brits in India and equally nuanced understandings about Indians' responses. As a practicum in doing history, I remain indebted to the Center for Research Libraries. ❖

In one exemplary paper, a student found a court case in which a young woman objected to her arranged marriage when she became of age.

Some Sources on Early Colonial South Asia



Official British involvement in South Asia spans four centuries, from the first voyage of the English East India Company in 1601 to establish direct trade with ‘the Indies,’ through partition and independence in 1947/1948. Of the early records relating to the region, CRL and the [South Asia Microform Project](#) (SAMP) hold an extensive range of primary and secondary sources. The following are a few CRL collections in print, microform, and/or electronic versions, covering the period up to 1900.

Early Colonial Records

 **Great Britain. India Office. India Office records, home miscellaneous series, 1631–1859.**

This 814-volume collection of primary resources highlights the early trading activity of the East India Company, expansion of territory and Company administration in the region, and transfer of governance to the crown following the Indian Rebellion of 1857. It includes the “East Indies Series,” consisting of correspondence on Indian affairs from 1748–1784 received by the Secretary of State’s office.

 **East India Company. Selection of papers from the records at**

The links provided in this section will take you to full-text source materials on British India, by way of the catalog records for those resources found in the online CRL collections catalogue. Use the “Online version” link in the catalogue records to connect to the text.

“Native pastors” featured in *American Madura Mission, Jubilee Volume*, published by S. P. C. K. Press, Madras, India, 1834–84.

the East-India House relating to the revenue, police, and civil and criminal justice, under the Company’s governments in India. London: Printed by order of the Court of Directors, 1820–1826.

The period from the Battle of Plassey (1757) to the Sepoy Mutiny (1857) brought consolidation of power and territorial control for the Company, which was transformed from a mainly commercial endeavor into a governing body headquartered in Calcutta. By 1833, the Company was divested of its commercial functions, but maintained its political and administrative authority.

 **Memorandum upon current land revenue settlements in the temporarily-settled parts of British India. Calcutta: Printed at the Home, Revenue and Agricultural Dept., Press, 1880.**

A vast body of valuable data can be found in the [land settlement reports](#) issued by the Company and the British Raj. The system of land taxation in India was an ancient tradition by which a predetermined portion of revenue would be returned to the state for public use. The system was taken over by

the British by the mid-19th century, and land revenue accounted for nearly 39 percent of the total income for the state.

“Settlement” generally refers to the cadastral survey of the land and surrounding environment, and the fixation of an assessment for revenue generation. These survey and settlement reports contain information on a variety of subjects, including boundaries and administrative divisions existing at the time, their physical features, quality of soils, condition of communications, markets, population growth, and information about caste and social groups.

The “[Imperial Gazetteer of India](#)” (vol. 4, pp. 204–240) provides a detailed history and summary of the settlement process. SAMP holds a near-comprehensive set of available reports, and numerous items are now available in electronic format.

South Asian Culture

As England integrated its civil servants and population into the region, the need for greater knowledge of the culture of the subcontinent produced a large quantity of material relating to India. Early

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publications included primers, grammars, and readers in various languages. Early vernacular publications include early Bible translations from mission presses and texts for educational instruction. Academic societies “for inquiring into the history and antiquities, the arts, sciences, and literature of Asia” were formed in Calcutta, Bombay, and Colombo.

 **Garcin de Tassy, M. (Joseph-Héliodore-Sagesse-Vertu), 1794–1878. *Mémoire sur des particularités de la religion musulmane dans l’Inde d’après les ouvrages hindoustanis*. Paris: Imprimerie royale, 1831.**

Garcin, considered one of the foremost Orientalists of his period, devoted himself to the study of Arabic, Hindi, and other Muslim languages. Many of his early publications were drawn from contemporary Muslim accounts, such as Hindustani and Urdu poetry, rather than Western sources.

 **SAMP 19th-century Hindi project.** A large variety of vernacular works have been preserved and acquired in partnership with the South Asia Microform Project (SAMP). Through a series of grant-funded efforts, SAMP preserved major collections of 19th-century regional language literature. One example of these efforts is the “[SAMP 19th-century Hindi project](#),” which microfilmed critical early source material held by the British Library.

The Sepoy Revolt or Indian Mutiny of 1857

The Indian Rebellion of 1857 precipitated a major change in the history of British colonial rule in India. Sparked by the vast cultural difference between the East India Company and Indian troops, known as “sepoys,” the conflict became known as the Indian Mutiny to the British, and the First War of Indian Independence to the Indians. Although the revolt was suppressed, it did bring about the end of the East India Com-

pany’s rule, and the beginning of the British Raj.

 **Roy Choudhury, Pranab Chandra, 1903–. *Muzaffarpur old records*, by P. C. Roy Chaudhury.**

 **Roy Choudhury, Pranab Chandra, 1903–. *Gaya old records* [by] P. C. Roy Chaudhury.**

These two publications contain official documents and correspondence from the 18th century up to and including the Indian Mutiny of 1857. These documents cover economic, social, communication, and other aspects of the two regions.

 **Sherer, John Walter. *Private correspondence of J. W. Sherer, collector of Fatehpur, 19th May 1857 to 28th July 1857*. Editor: O. P. Bhatnagar.**

This collection contains letters written by J.W. Sherer to his wife and brother. The letters describe his personal experiences in India during the Indian mutiny, as well as movements and events of the actual revolt.

 **Barrow, E. G. *The sepoy officer’s manual (Lieut. Barrow’s) [microform]: a book of reference for infantry officers of the Indian Army* [by E.G. Barrow].**

This manual was given to all military officers. Although written and distributed after the Indian Rebellion, it provides valuable insight into British attitudes and the opinions of native inhabitants.

Rise of Nationalism

 **India. Imperial Legislative Council. *Proceedings of the Legislative Council of India (1854–1927)*.**

Following the events of 1857, the British abolished the East India Company and replaced it with direct rule under the British crown. The administration was accountable to the newly created Secretary of State for India, with a governor-general overseeing administration in India, assisted by executive and legislative councils. The British Raj moved to

include more participation from native populations in local governance. In a series of legislative acts starting with the Indian Councils Act of 1861, the British widened participation in legislative councils and provincial affairs to Indian representatives.

 **Banerjea, Surendranath, Sir, 1848–1925. *Speeches*. Calcutta: S.K. Lahiri & Co., 1890–1891.**

Surendranath Banerjea founded the Indian Association in 1876, the first political organization of its kind and a forerunner of the Indian National Congress. As a moderate voice, Banerjea favored dialogue with the British on the path to Home Rule. In later years his strong opposition to the partition of Bengal in 1905 led to its eventual reversal.

 **Indian National Congress. *Proceedings of the . . . Indian National Congress. . . . Bombay: The Congress, [1886]*.**

 **Indian National Congress. *Detailed report of the proceedings of the . . . Indian National Congress. . . . Calcutta: The Congress, [1887–1892]*.**

The continued rise in political awareness brought about the birth of national political parties. In 1885, the Indian National Congress was formed as an outlet through which Indians could voice their political views and concerns. The Congress was largely comprised of moderates in its early sessions, with limited influence over British governance. In later years, however, the INC became increasingly radical resulting the face of continued resistance from the government. The INC came to be the dominant organization in the freedom struggle in India. ❖

—James Simon, Mary Wilke,
and Lawrence Mancini,
Center for Research Libraries

Preserving Urdu Journals: Center for South Asia Libraries Receives British Library Grant



February 1, 1887 cover of *The Aligarh Institute Gazette* containing the Queen's speech, in English and Urdu, formally opening Parliament.

The Center for South Asia Libraries (CSAL), whose U.S. home is the Center for Research Libraries, has received a British Library [Endangered Archives Programme](#) grant to preserve and make accessible rare and fragile early Urdu periodicals. The two-year “Endangered Urdu Periodicals: Preservation and Access for Vulnerable Scholarly Resources” project will preserve 75 of the most important Urdu periodical titles and make them accessible to the scholarly community through microfilm archives and digital images deposited with the British Library, Center for Research Libraries, and Aligarh Muslim University in Aligarh, India, where the project will be based.

More information about the project is available in the [project description](#) at the British Library web site. ❖

More information about CRL and South Asia Microform Project (SAMP) collections and activities is available in the [Spring 2005 Focus issue](#).

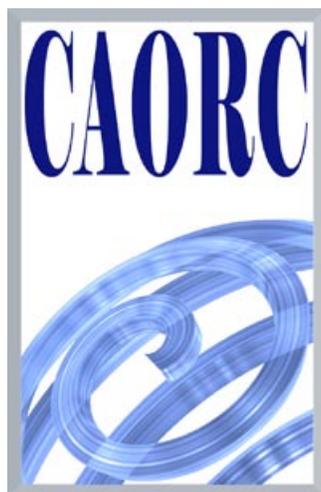
A Library Survey Tool for South Asia

Diane Ryan

Digital Library for International Research



Henna painting designs for display on Indian women on festive occasions. From *Membadi Race Mere Hatha*, Jayapura: Pramukha Vikretā Vāni Mandira, [n.d.].



Survey data on South Asian libraries from the [Center for South Asia Libraries \(CSAL\)](#) has recently become accessible through a new [online research tool](#). The [Council of American Overseas Research Centers](#) funded the CSAL survey in 2004 and then went on to develop a project with the [American Institute of Yemeni Studies](#) to conduct library and archive surveys in other global areas, notably Israel, Mongolia, Pakistan, Turkey, and Tunisia. This new project, called [Local Archives and Libraries at American Overseas Research Centers \(LALORC\)](#), was funded by the US Department of Education's TICFIA program in 2005 and will be completed in 2009. The LALORC project created an online survey instrument with the assistance of [MATRIX](#), a technology research division of Michigan State University. This instrument is designed to collect comprehensive library data that can be updated over time. Each participating library and archive will have access to their data. Internet users may browse a directory of libraries or register to see the complete set of data entered for that institution. In addition, a wiki is planned so that researchers will be able to contribute data about using the listed institutions and their resources. The LALORC surveys are currently in progress; their complete data will be available in 2009.

CSAL is an American overseas research center designed to facilitate scholarly research and teaching on South Asia in all academic disciplines through improved preservation of and access to the heritage of South Asian countries. The present survey, funded by the Council of American Overseas Research Centers, was conducted between November 2005 and May 2006. It focuses on major libraries and bibliographic holdings primarily in the region of eastern South Asia and includes the states of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, the city of New Delhi, and the countries of Bangladesh and Nepal. It follows on an earlier survey conducted by the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, on libraries in West Bengal in India and in Bangladesh, which is currently available on <http://dsal.uchicago.edu/csdl/surveys/bengali-survey-india.doc>.

The CSAL project had four overarching objectives:

- 1) to record the libraries/archives that exist in South Asia
- 2) to record the items that are held by libraries/archives in South Asia
- 3) to discover ways by which libraries/archives in South Asia can be effectively interconnected both regionally and internationally
- 4) to develop long-range planning for certain libraries/archives in South Asia.

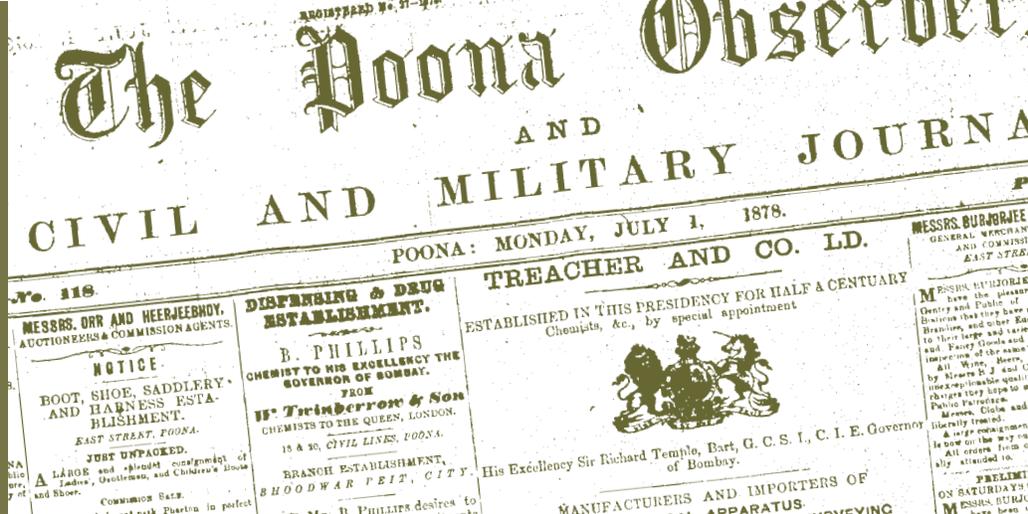
Taken as a whole, the common fields of the CSAL surveys are:

- name of library/archives

- size (*e.g.*, a number or qualifiers such as large/small)
- languages in Collection
- condition of the collection
- format of items.

These types of library documentation projects are important in countries where financial commitments to library development in support of scholarly activities have been minimal. Especially in South Asia, there have been few successful knowledge sharing programs or programs that promote awareness of the many important library/archives collections. CSAL hopes to foster library cooperation through its participation in strategic projects like the South Asian library survey and the [South Asian Union Catalog \(SAUC\)](#). Key partners in these projects are the [Library of Congress](#), the [South Asia Microform Project](#) at the [Center for Research Libraries](#), the [Roja Muthiah Research Library](#) in Chennai, and the [University of Chicago Library's South Asia Language and Area Center](#). ❖

Some Recent CRL Acquisitions Related to Colonial India



July 1, 1878 issue of *The Poona Observer, and Civil and Military Journal*.

Researchers often use CRL's [Acquisition Programs](#) to gain access to material that would otherwise be unavailable to them. Spencer Leonard, a student pursuing a joint-degree Ph.D. in South Asian Languages and Civilizations and History at the University of Chicago, used this program to obtain access to copies of manuscripts from the Asian and African Studies room of the British Library. The British Library holds the massive East India Company and India Office papers, the archival legacy of three and a half centuries of British commercial and colonial activity in South Asia and the East Indies more generally, as well as substantial manuscript collections, in both Asian and European languages.

Specifically, Leonard requested CRL acquire microfilms of two of the large European manuscripts collections. These under-studied materials illuminate internal dynamics of the East India Company both in Britain and in Bengal in the 1760s, the period during which the Company consolidated its control over what is today Bangladesh and the Indian provinces of West Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. CRL acquisition of a very substantial part of the Verelst and Sutton Court collections allows for patient investigation here in America, and Leonard reports that this has contributed substantially to his research. He also plans to request that CRL acquire the remainder of these collections, as

he knows their presence in the U.S. will “undoubtedly contribute to the growing body of scholarship emanating from the country’s research universities on the long and varied course of British imperial rule on the South Asian subcontinent.”

Recent CRL acquisitions of material in this field follow.

Adam Matthew Publications

- [Church Missionary Society Archive, Section VI—Missions to India.](#)

The Church Missionary Society Archives on Missions to India are important for scholarship on the subcontinent, on missions themselves, and on empire. Missionary reports are among the earliest European reports for many parts of India, including geographic descriptions, notes on local flora, and on the languages, customs, and religions of the inhabitants themselves. Including both manuscript and printed materials, the Archive enables investigation into mission and empire, a complex—in some respects paradigmatic—interplay of power and knowledge in full colonial sway.

- [Curzon India and Empire Part 1: the papers of Lord Curzon 1859–1925 from the Oriental and India Office Collections at the British Library London.](#)

The Papers of Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India, 1898–1905, and British Foreign Secretary, 1919–1924, from the British Library (MS.EUR F111 & F112) document all aspects of his involvement with the Middle East and South Asia and provide a rich source for historians of Empire.

- [Empire and Commonwealth. Part 1: The Colour Question in Imperial Policy, c. 1830–1939.](#)
- [Empire and Commonwealth. Part 2: Imperial and Commonwealth Conferences, 1887–1955.](#)

The archives of the Royal Commonwealth Society are the most extensive record in existence of the British Empire and its evolution into the modern Commonwealth of Nations.

- [Nightingale, Public Health and Victorian Society from the British Library, London Part 1: Correspondence relating to the Crimea, India and Public Health Reform.](#)

This set contains communications between Florence Nightingale and successive Viceroys of India, Secretaries of State, and other prominent figures in the colonial government of India.

British Library

- [Dacca Factory records](#)

These are the East India Company's records for their Dacca "factory" or trading post for 1595–1858.

- [East India Company, general correspondence, 1602–1859](#)

This includes general correspondence records from the period when the East India Company governed many parts of India.

- [Letters from Major James Rennell](#)

Rennell was the surveyor-general of East India Company dominions in Bengal from 1764–1777.

- [Minutes of the Court of Directors](#)

The East India Company was led by one governor and 24 directors who made up

the 'Court of Directors'.

- [Poona Observer and Civil & Military Journal, February 1876–December 1906.](#)

The journal covers a critical period in India's history. It is post-Sepoy Mutiny and covers developments and British colonial thought leading up to World War I and the recruitment of Indians for the Military.

- [Sutton Court Collection](#)
- [Verelst collection \(British Library, Oriental and India Office Collections\)](#)

The above two collections illuminate the politics and dynamics within the East India Company both in Britain and in Bengal in the 1760s.

- [Times of India \(1874–1915, 1936–1940\)](#)

The *Times of India* has been the newspaper of record for over a century of Indian history. Acquisition of these time periods fill gaps in CRL's holdings.

Gale Group

- [The Newcastle Papers from the British Library, London](#)

The Papers of the Duke of Newcastle document in detail a period for which few other substantial series of records exist aside from the Hanoverian State Papers Domestic. Included in this set are Newcastle's correspondence through the time period Britain competed with France for superiority over colonies in North America and India. ❖

—*Mary Wilke and Lawrence Mancini, Center for Research Libraries; Spencer Leonard, University of Chicago*

More information about CRL and South Asia Microform Project (SAMP) collections and activities is available in the Spring 2005 Focus issue.

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