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Abstract

Jhang a historic city of Punjab is situated at the junction of two rivers Jehlum and Chenab. Its fertile lands have always been a big source of prosperity. During British rule, colonial authorities in Punjab made many reforms in this region. They not only reformed the agriculture sector but also improved infrastructure. Construction of a road network, railway line, postal and telegraph system as well as supply of electricity had positive impacts on the social and economic life of Jhang. Although all these developments were made for colonial interests ultimately these benefitted the peoples of Jhang. Among British reforms, the most important were agricultural reforms. These reforms had a deep impact on the future and socio-economic and political setup of Jhang. After agricultural reforms and establishing canal colonies, Jhang was neglected in terms of establishing agro-based and other industrial units and new agricultural research and science and technology institutions. As a result, the Jhang was denied the chances for advancement and growth that could have driven and propelled it to become a more prosperous and progressed region. Here the question arises of whether the actual purpose of agricultural reforms in district Jhang was only to create certain classes to protect colonial interests and reward them for their loyalties? Did the British Colonial agrarian reforms lay the foundation for the Feudal system in Jhang?

Keywords: British India, Colonial Punjab, Canal Colonies, Agricultural Reforms, Feudalism, Jhang

1. Introduction

1.1. Historical Background of Jhang

The founder of the present Jhang was a Panwar Rajput Rai Shankar. Panwar Rajputs were settled in Dharanagar an area situated between Allahabad and Fatehpur in India. When their population exceeded one of their branches left Dhara Nagar and settled around the city of Jaunpur. Rai Shankar was born here. Rai Shankar had three sons Seu, Teu, and Gheu, and Sials are descendants of Seu. (Chela) After the death of Rai Shankar, due to family disputes, his son Sial migrated to Punjab. Here he met Sufi sage Hazrat Baba Farid Ganj Shukar in Pak Patan and embraced Islam. During his period when Rai Sial was wandering here and there, he married a woman named Sohag, the daughter of Bhai Khan Maken a distinguished landowner, who lived in Shahpur (Sargodha) Sahiwal. (Lahori, 2010) He established here first settlement and then started occupying surrounding areas Between Mankera in the Thal and the river Jehlum, east and west, as well as from Khushab on the north to what is now the Ilaka Garh Maharaja on the south, the Sials lived there. (Steedman, Report of the Revised settlement of the Jhang district 1874-80, 1882) In contrast, another story claims that Sial was Rai Shankar's sole child. Following Rai Shankar's passing, there was a great deal of family discord, and his son Rai Sial moved to Punjab. It was Alaud din Gori's reign. Rai Sial converted to Islam after meeting the revered Baba Farid Ganj Shakar in Punjab. Additionally, it is also said that during the reign of Ala-ud-Din Khilji (1295-1315), the monarch, Rai Shankar embraced Islam and he was given the name of Rai Sial. He captured the area of Thal, the eastern and western regions of the Jhelum River and the region from Khushab to Garh Maharaja in the south. Later, with the permission of Hazrat Baba Farid Ganj Shukar, Rai Sial and his descendants met Hazrat Sher Shah Jalal Surkh Bukhari. On the orders of Hazrat Jalal Shah Surkh Bukhari a new city was founded in 1288 AD, which was named Jhang Sialan. Sials were not well-known from Rai Sial to Chuchak Sial. When Mal Kahn Sial took over the responsibility as their leader in 1460, they rose to prominence. Before the arrival of the Sial clan, Jhang was ruled by the Nauls a Rajput clan. Sial Chief

Mal Khan, the ninth descendant of Rai Sial, defeated Naul Chief Walidad Khan. At that time Sultan Bahlol Lodhi was ruling on the throne of Delhi. He supported Mal Khan. Mal Khan conquered the fort of Brahmangarh of the Naul rulers. In September 1462, after the downfall of Fort Brahmngarh, Mal Khan rebuilt the present city of Jhang which had been destroyed in the war with the Naul tribe. (Zubairi, Tarikh e Jhang, Jhang: Adbi academy, 2002)

A few years later, he was summoned to Lahore and on the condition of paying tribute to the Mughal ruler, the hereditary rule of the Sial tribe was recognized by the Mughal ruler in this region. After the Chenab River destroyed the city, Bawa Lal Nath restored it in 1688. In Jhang City, one of his temples is still standing. (Atmaram, 1921) Among Sial rulers Ghazi Khan was the first ruler of Jhang who recruited a regular army with pay. (Zubairi, Tarikh e Jhang) Jalal Khan took control of the Jhang state upon the passing of Ghazi Khan. Jalal Khan had a great deal of faith in the Lahore ruler. Following Jalal Khan, the successive rulers were Rasheed Khan, Feroz Khan, Kabir Khan, Jahan Khan, Ghazi Khan, Sultan Mahmood Khan, Lal Khan, and Mahram Khan.

The most notable and competent ruler in Sials at the time was the 13th chief, Nawab Walidad Khan (1739 AD). The Mughals were in trouble at the time. He was an outstanding civil administrator as well as a military genius. Inayat-U llah Khan succeeded Walidad Khan as the leader of the Sials after the death of his capable nephew and son-in-law. In those days Sikh chiefs were occupying different states of Punjab. They captured Chiniot and ruined it severely, disgracing sacred places and mosques. They also divided Lahore, Sirhind, Multan, Jhang, Khushab and the whole of the country of Punjab among themselves. (Qazi Noor, Muhammad, Ganda Singh, (edited), 1939)

In 1778, Ahmad Shah Abdali attacked Chiniot and occupied it. Inayat-Ullah Khan made a deal with him and promised to pay ten thousand rupees to him. Along with that the Inayat-Ullah also gave him military aid with two thousand soldiers.

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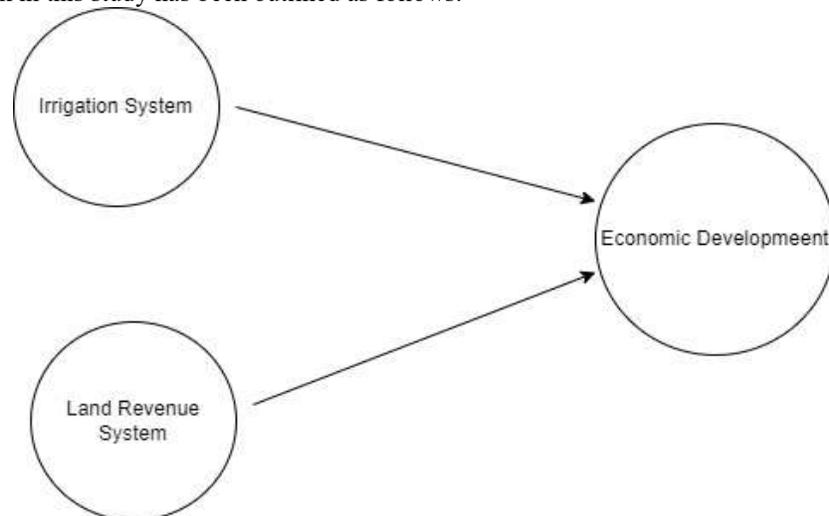
The eighteenth and last ruler of Jhang was Ahmad Khan Sial. During his period Ranjit Singh completely occupied Jhang in 1816. After the annexation of Punjab in 1849 Jhang came under British colonial rule.

1.2. Gap of Study

This study will focus on the problem that why Jhang is still backward after the 76 Years of Independence. Is Jhang's marginalisation due to its feudal background, traditional social setup and British colonial exploitative policies?

1.3. Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework in this study has been outlined as follows:



1.4. Research Methodology and Method/ Research Design

To go through the primary and secondary sources the qualitative method of research will be followed. In addition, in this research, the use of historical research methods will be performed which is a systematic process of analyzing and studying the past events, people and societies using a range of sources.

1.5. Research Questions/Problem

- Is the current marginalization of district Jhang the result of British colonial exploitative policies before the partition of India?
- Whether the foundation of the feudal identity of district Jhang laid in the British Colonial era?

1.6. Aims and Objectives

- To trace the root causes of the marginalization of district Jhang.
- To reveal a significant correlation between the duration of colonial control and economic disparities among different regions within the colony. Moreover, the study will identify specific policies, such as resource extraction and land management practices, that have perpetuated economic inequalities.
- To Present some suggestions that can be implemented to bring Jhang to par with other developed cities and as a result not only all the basic facilities can be available to the people but also opportunities can be available for them to move forward. The youth here can get employment and the brain drain towards big cities can be stopped. In this way, they will not only be able to play their role in the development of Jhang but will also be able to perform services at the national and international levels.

1.7. Significance of study

This study will reveal findings that have important implications for policymakers, historians, and researchers seeking to understand the long-term consequences of colonialism on economic systems and inform present-day strategies for sustainable development and socio-economic equality in post-colonial societies.

2. Data Collection

2.1. Primary Sources

The data collection in this study has been performed using primary sources and the use of various archives has been performed as well in the given research. These archives include governmental records, land revenue records, and historical documents related to irrigation systems and land ownership in the Jhang district during the British period. These primary sources have provided firsthand accounts and statistical data on economic activities and development in the region.

2.2. Secondary Sources

Books, Articles, newspapers and websites will be important sources of information.

2.3. British Rule and Jhang

In 1849, Punjab was acquired by the East India Company on behalf of the Governor General of India, Lord Dalhousie. Conflict between Diwan Mul Raj and the British government had already led to Jhang falling under British rule in 1846. After that, Jhang excluded Ahmad Pur Sial and Garh Maharaja. However, British rule over the entire state of Jhang was established in 1848. After the annexation of Punjab in March 1849, Lord Dalhousie Governor General of India, constituted a Board of administration in Punjab. The members of this Board were very competent and proficient civil servants. Lord Dalhousie provided the team of 'best men' (called

Henry's young men) in India. Out of 56 committed officers 29 were from the army and the rest of them were civilians. (Bangash, 2018) All these persons controlled the situation in Punjab. British administration divided the province into seven Divisions, 1 Ambala, 2 Jalandhar, 3 Lahore, 4 Jhelum, 5 Rawalpindi, 6 Leiah and 7. Multan. www.thesikhencyclopedia.com/the-British-and-Sikhs-1849-1947/) These Divisions were divided into Districts, Districts divided into sub-collectorates called Tehsils and Thanas. In Districts Deputy Commissioners, Extra Assistant Commissioners and in Tehsils and Thanas, Tehsildars and Thanadars were appointed to assist the Commissioners. Under a Tehsildar was a naib or Deputy Tehsildars. The Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners had executive and judicial powers. In this system district Jhang was placed under Multan division. Mr G.W. Hamilton was appointed the first Deputy Commissioner of Jhang in May 1849.

2.4. Economic Development of Jhang

British Colonial administration made many changes in the boundaries of district Jhang. The new imperialist administration believed that landowners and farmers would support the British government if a paternal district officer ruled with an iron fist, followed by a moneylender or political agitator. (wikipedia.org/wiki.) Moreover, the new government needed to increase revenue, so they planned to commercialize agriculture.

2.5. Canal Colonies project

Punjab was a very important province of the British Empire in India. Its fertility and human resources had a great attraction and opportunities for British colonial authorities to get huge amounts of revenues and taxes and strengthen their rule by rewarding some classes. To achieve their targets and goals they introduced a wide range of reforms.

The engineering for a massive irrigation system was started by Mr. Charles Umpherston Aitchison, the Lieutenant Governor of Punjab. By building canals, this plan enabled the cultivation of a sizable portion of Western Punjab. Nine canal colonies were built in Punjab as part of this project. These were 1. Sidhnaï Colony, 2. Sohag Para Colony, 3. Chunian Colony, 4. Chenab Colony, 5. Jhelum Colony, 6. Lower Bari Doab Colony, 7. Upper Chenab Colony, 8. Upper Jhelum Colony, 9. Neeli Bar Colony. In accordance with the plan, lower Chenab Canal was built. It debuted in 1887. This project will get better throughout the next years. In 1891, the entire idea was shown. The secretary of state authorised the entire project in July 1892. Consequently, a vast region was made arable. The greatest colonisation plan in Punjab, which was started in 1892, was the Chenab colony plan. It was built on a sizable portion of Jhang and a little portion of the Gujranwala and Lahore districts. The total area of Chenab colony was comprised of 3855 sq miles including 3427 sq miles of district Jhang and the allotted area consisted of 2817 sq miles including 2491 sq miles of Jhang district. (Gazetteer of the Chenab colony 1904, 1905) The majority of the ex-soldiers that lived in the Chenab colony in Punjab were Sikhs. For their contributions to British rule, the government granted them estates in this dry but irrigated region. (Wasti, 1993) The boundaries of district Jhang underwent significant change by the British authorities, and new administrative divisions were established. In the Jhang district, Lyallpur Tehsil was established in 1896. In Jhang, Toba Tek Singh and Samundri Tehsils were established in 1900. In the year 1904, the Lyallpur district (now known as Faisalabad) was created. All these changes brought economic impacts on district Jhang. The land of district Jhang was fertile due to the rivers Chenab and Jhelum. So when the projects of canal colonies especially the Chenab colony launched the economic activity in district Jhang enhanced. The lower Chenab and lower Jhelum canals and their tributaries irrigated a vast area of land in district Jhang.

Till 1860, the area of Jhang district under cultivation was 253,003 acres. From 1860 to the settlement of 1874-1880 area expanded up to 329,527 acres and irrigated area increased from 190,883 to 227,299 acres. In this the area flooded by rivers was 98,748 acres. The number of wells increased from 8710 to 11018. By 1934 total cultivated area increased to 924,182 acres. With this, not only the price of land but the number of cattle also increased. This progress generates and expands government revenues. Besides that produced raw material in big amount. This generation of revenue and production of raw materials in the shape of crops directly and indirectly benefited the colonial rulers and also strengthened their power.

Before the canal colony project, in 1874 a new canal was dug in Shorkot at the suggestion of Niamat Rai. Mr Wakefield Deputy Commissioner Jhang (May 1866 - May 1870) approved this plan. In his name this canal was famous G E Wakefield wah canal it was 16 miles long. All the expenses of this canal are borne by zamindars.

In 1892 a lower Chenab canal was dug which origin of the water was Chenab from Khnaki headworks. Its branches were the Gogera branch, the Jhang branch and the Rakh branch. During the British period, two permanent canals irrigated a large number of villages in the Jhang district. One of them is the Lower Chenab Canal and the other is Lower Jhelum Canal.

A big water project in district Jhang was Trimun Headworks and Haveli canals. The foundation stone of this Barrage was laid on 10th February 1938 by Sir Herbert William Emerson Governor of the Punjab. (The Trimmu Gazette, Lahore). The contractor of the Haveli Canal Project R.D 162500 was Sardar Zorawar Singh. (Ch. Abdul Aziz, Register, Manuscript, Sher Muhammad Hameed, Chak 694/36 G.B, Pir Mahal District Toba Tek Sing)

Although the land was irrigated by tube wells, wells, streams, tanks and flood water the great mainstay of the district was the Chenab Canal. (Imperial Gazetteer of India provincial series Punjabvol II.)

Under the different projects of canals irrigated and cultivated area of Jhang district was as under in table 1:

These canal projects greatly contributed to the economic development of Jhang district. By ensuring a reliable water supply for irrigation, they facilitated agricultural productivity and allowed for the cultivation of a larger area. The availability of water for irrigation led to increased agricultural yields and improved farming practices. As a result, the district experienced enhanced agricultural production, which in turn stimulated the local economy.

In Chenab, the colony area was allotted to three types of people. Until the year 1925 Peasants, (Abadkar), were allotted from half a square to two squares 78.3%, Yeoman (Safaidposh) two to five squares 8.2 % and Capitalist (Rais), from six to twenty squares 7.0%. One square consisted of 27.7 acres. Thus British created a contented class of society in the Chenab colony. In these allottees, needy persons remained landless and poor. The aim of colonization was to the commercialization of agriculture and take the benefits from

land and landholders. Imperialism did not have any desire to change the structure of society. As a consequence, the structure of society became more rigid. (Ali I., 1889)

Table 1

Year	Crops irrigated area(Agnihotri, 1987)	The cultivated area in acres	Land revenue	Revenue % (Agnihotri, 1987, p. 188)	Increase
1888	267941	345651	367681	24.81	
1908	534771	719348	751187	154.99	
1933	674093	664652	1349026	337.93	
1938	726862	714194	1434312	386.88	

Wells were another source of water besides canals. Whether it was necessary to raise water from a well or as a Jhallar, from tanks and river creeks, employing the Persian wheel was the only way of doing so that was ever used in the territory. It was also used to lift water from a canal supply channel in areas where the soil was not controlled by flow.. (Punjab District gazetteers volume XXXII Jhang district., 1929)

In Jhang, experiments with tube wells were also conducted. One was put in at Maghiana, while the other was in the Chiniot tehsil. The construction of tube wells began in further areas of the district. However, the quantity of wells and tube wells decreased after the introduction of canal irrigation.

Mr Field, Superintendent Engineer, suggested a weir beneath the meeting of the Chenab and Jehlum rivers as early as 1902. There were three canals built as part of this project. (The Trimmu Gazette)

2.6. Land Revenue System

Three major systems of Land revenue collection existed in India.

- Zamindari System
- Ryotwari System
- Mahalwari System

2.6.1. Zamindari system (permanent Land Revenue Settlement of Bengal)

This system was implemented by Lord Cornwallis in the provinces of Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Banaras, and Northern Karnataka in 1799 as part of the Permanent Settlement Act. Zamindars were acknowledged as the lands' owners under this arrangement. They were granted permission to extort money from the farmers. 11 shares totaling the realised value were created. Zamindars own 1/11 of the stake, whereas the British East India Company owns 10/11.

2.6.2. Ryotwari System

Thomas Munro created this method in 1820 in British India's Madras, Bombay, and portions of the Assam and Coorgh provinces. The peasants were granted ownership rights under this system. Peasants' taxes were directly collected by the British East India Company. Revenue rates were 50% for dry fields and 60% for irrigated areas under the Ryotwari System.

2.6.3. Mahalwari System

Holt Mackenzie first proposed the Mahalwari method in 1822. Later, in 1833, under William Bentick, it underwent reorganisation. Gangetic Valley, Agra, Central Province, North-West Frontier, and Punjab all adopted the Mahalwari system. The Mahalwari system had many traits with the Zamindari and Ryotwari systems. The land was split into Mahals (one or more villages) under the Mahalwari system. The Mahal served as a unit for tax collection. The farmers received ownership rights. Tax collection was under the control of local committees. In 1822, Britain established this system in the Gangetic Valley, the North-West Provinces, a portion of central India, and Punjab in response to the Industrial Revolution's increased need for raw resources. Within this framework, the (Ali A., Judicial and land revenue administration under British rule)

Besides this, In 1887 they passed the Land Revenue Settlement Act to establish a transparent land ownership structure, assessment and collection of land revenue based on surveying. The British introduced the Permanent Settlement System in Punjab, where a fixed land revenue tax was imposed on farmers which was a burden on small peasants.

3. Land Settlement System/ Land Revenue System

Under the treaty of Bhyrowal, which was signed on December 26, 1846, British management was running the administration of Punjab on behalf of Khalsa Sarkar. In those days, a revenue dispute was going on between Diwan Mulraj of Multan and Lahore Darbar. As a result, the government occupied Jhang in 1846 and excluded it from the province of Multan. Only the villages surrounding the Garh Maharaja and Ahmadpur remained under the authority of Diwan Mulraj.

3.1. The First Summary Settlement

The first summary land settlement was prepared by Mr. Cocks (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880) He was an officer of the British East India Company. It was the pre-annexation period of Punjab. His settlement summary affected 1847- 48. The settlement was for the period of three years from 1847- 48 to 1849-50. In this revenue settlement, the Ilaqa of Garh Maharaja and Ahmadpur were not included in Jhang. Fixed cash assessments were introduced based on Sikh's returns. (Punjab District Gazetteers VolumeXXXII A Jhang District with maps 1908) on which a 20 per cent reduction

was allowed. But Mr Monckton writes that Jama was assessed based on the previous average collection with a reduction of 10 to 15 per cent. (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880) In the rest of the district and 20 per cent in the Kalowal villages. In 1849-50 all these assessments broke down. (Government) In his report 1851-52, Monckton writes that the first summary settlement of Mr cocks for revenue was very lenient and indulgent principles. For this cultivation decreased and difficulties arose for revenue collection. As a result, the first summary settlement broke down in the district.

3.2. First Summary settlement of Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur

Before 1861, Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur were not part of the Jhang district and they were the part of Muzaffargarh district. So the first settlement of these two areas was made by Mr Wedderburn in 1850. Taluqa of Ahmadpur was in the Jagir of Imam Shah, after him this area was included in the farm of Diwan Sawan Mal. During this period the taxes were very heavy. The settlement of Mr. Wedderburn remained until 1857. After Mr. Wedderburn, Captain Graham was appointed to revise this settlement.

3.3. The Second Summary Settlement

In 1849 Punjab was annexed with the British territory. Under British rule, Punjab was partitioned into divisions and districts. Under the new division, the boundaries of Jhang changed. In 1854 taluka Faruka (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880) and the trans-Chenab villages of the Chiniot tehsil transferred to Shahpur and Garh Maharaja and Ahmadpur included in Rangpur now in district Muzaffargarh. A considerable arable area on the right bank of river Ravi is included in Multan. However, in 1861 Garh Maharaja and Ahmadpur transferred from Muzaffargarh and Klowal transferred from Shahpur to Jhang. In 1851-1853, Major Hamilton, Mr. Monckton, and Mr. Ouseley wrote the second summary settlement for Jhang in the Ilaka Kalowal.. Major Hamilton started to revise the first summary settlement. And Mr Monckton finished it. Under this settlement, detailed Khasras were prepared and minute statistics were collected about each village. These statistics showed that the number of wells and area of cultivation were decreasing. In addition, it also unveiled fraud in the measurement of land. Ilaqa Kalowal was formerly under Raja Gulab Singh, then Diwan Sawan Mal took the farm revenue for one or two years. During their period revenue was collected under the batai, kankut or leasing system. (Gazetteer of the Jhang district 1883-84,142.) Punjab was annexed before the second summary settlement was took placed. Major Hamilton first made the required adjustments to the evaluations in Jhang, then Mr. Monckton.(Punjab District Gazetteers Volume XXXII part A Jhang District 1929,134.)Second Summary Settlement of Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur.

The second summary settlement was made by Captain Graham. The second summary settlement was a revision of the first summary settlement made by Mr. Wedderburn. The second summary settlement was an enhancement of the revenue. These enhancements were not justified. This settlement failed in a year and a half period.

3.4. Third Summary Settlement of Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur

The second summary settlement of Captain Graham was again revised by Captain Tighe and Marwell. In the new assessment, revenue decreased 10.7 per cent to the second summary settlement. As a result, the cultivated area and the number of wells increased.

3.5. Fourth Summary Settlement of Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur

In 1861, under the instructions of Financial Commissioner order no. 1832 of 29 April 1861, Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur transferred to Jhang from Muzaffargarh district. (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880). Major Dwyer, the Deputy Commissioner Jhang, prepared the summary settlement of these areas, in addition, the Record of Rights was also prepared. On the design of Mr. Monckton, the previous data of revenue collected, new statements prepared and old assessment revised This settlement was treated as a regular settlement, But Major Lane, in 1865, after some three years, sent this report.

3.6. The Regular Land Assessment of Kalowal.

The regular settlement of this area was started in 1854 under the control of Mr. Temple, Deputy Commissioner and Settlement Officer of Gujrat and Muhammad Baksh Extra Assistant. Later, Mr Oseley took charge of a settlement with Mr Thomson, Extra Assistant Commissioner. The first step was the determination of village boundaries and drafting the field map which had been fixed and drafted during the settlement of Shahpur district. Mr. Oseley made revenue settlements for 113 villages in the Chiniot tehsil on the right bank of the Chenab.

Mr Oseley made his assessment of the following data.

- Classification of soil.
- Estimation of produce.
- Experiments as to crop production.
- Rent rates.
- Categorization of villages (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880,).

The land was classified into three categories 1. Chahi, 2. Sailabi, 3. Barani.

Chahi land was of two types 1. Chahi Khalis and Chahi-Sailabi.

After the third summary settlement's outstanding performance, a fourth one was made in 1862. Major Dwyer, the Deputy Commissioner Jhang, provided another evaluation.

Mr. Steedman made changes to these settlement reports between 1874 and 1880. The Rakh delineation in the Ilakas of Garh Maharaja and Ahmad Pur was altered shortly after the settlement of 1880 got underway. (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880,).

3.7. First regular Settlement of District Jhang

The normal land income Initial responsibility for the settlement of district Jhang was given to Mr. Morris, the settlement officer for Gujranwala, and Mr. Izzat Ali, one of his superintendents. In November 1853, both were sent to Jhang. Mr. Monckton assumed control of the settlement officer in April 1854 and held the position through the beginning of 1857.

The initial step in the normal settlement process was to identify and categorise the state land, individual land property, and to demarcate the territory that belonged to each person into communities. (Gazetteer of the Jhang District 1883-84), and to prepare the field map. Moreover the fixation (had best) of villages. For this purpose, Mr Morris rapidly visited and surveyed the whole district and assigned their work to relevant officials. The work of a portion had been completed but he was replaced by Mr. Monckton.

Assessments of Mr Monckton were on the data of the following basis.

- proportion of under-cultivation land.
- The volume of unploughed and barren land.
- Soil
- Evaluation of produce.
- Categorization of wells.
- Several uses for good oxen.
- Personal examination.
- Data of population.
- Ex-revenue history.
- Assistance from landowners (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880).

Mr. Monckton divided the district into assessment zones. These zones were created on the same principles. The names of the assessment zones were River or Hethar, Center or Wast, and Upland or Bar. The land was also classified into three categories, 1. Chahi, 2. Selabi, 3. Barani. The fixed rates of revenue were formulated for each circle (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880,) throughout the district. Mr. Monckton also prepared the Record of land property rights for villages. In some villages of Shorkot Kachi and in some over-assessed villages of other tehsils, revisions in revenue were made. As a result, agricultural resources and assets increased, cultivated area expanded and 914 more wells sunk. The settlement of revenue by Mr. Monckton remained successful and he appreciated it.

3.8. Second regular Settlement of Jhang

Mr. Fryer started the district's second official settlement in 1874, although Mr. E.B. Steedman handled all of the land assessment work. This new assessment was imposed in 1880. As Kalowal, Gargh Maharaja and Ahmadpur had included in Jhang district, the total area of cultivation and resources of agriculture had increased and old data had become quite inaccurate, so the whole land of the district was re-measured. In the second settlement, the boundaries of villages on opposite sides of the rivers were determined and the river beds were also mapped. As this work had not been done in the previous settlement. (Punjab District Gazetteers Volume XXXII A Jhang District with maps 1908,). In the new settlement, Mr. Steedman relied upon the rates in the previous assessments. New wells remained revenue-free for three years, and old wells were repaired. Rates were revised in only the villages where previous revenue assessments were stressful. The Chahwari system was expanded and canal irrigation was implemented as the differences between the second and third villages. (Punjab District Gazetteers Volume XXXII part A Jhang District 1929,).

3.9. Third regular Settlement of Jhang

The assessments of 1880, were approved for twenty years. Due to the launching of irrigation through the canals of Lower Chenab and Lower Jehlum, the re-settlement of the district was postponed. The re-settlement of the district started on October 1st, 1901, In this settlement all the area of the district was included except Chenab Colony which work was started in 1892. For the third assessment, the whole district excluding Thal was re-measured (Punjab District Gazetteers Volume XXXII A Jhang District with maps 1908,). In this settlement, a new thing Killabandi system was introduced. The Killabandi system was devised by Captain Popham. Under this system, each square was divided into 25 small squares (killas), and a Murabba/ square was of 25 Killas. (Gazetteer of the Chenab Colony 1904, Lahore) . The three methods for the assessment of revenue were operational

- The fixed assessments.
- The fluctuating assessments.
- Chahwari assessments (Punjab District Gazetteers Volume XXXII A Jhang District with maps 1908,).

3.10. Fourth regular Settlement of Jhang District

Mr. Abbott's assessment reports were created by circles rather than tehsils. The report was created by the tehsils on the Financial Commissioner's instruction. A second assessment report was created for the district's lower Chenab colony part.

The third revised settlement of the colony section and the fourth regular settlement of the non-colony component of the Jhang district are both discussed in the final report of the fourth regular settlement of the district. Operations began on January 1st, 1922, in the colony section, and on April 1st, 1923, in the non-colony portion. The settlement was completed on March 31st, 1927. (Aziz, 1928) In this settlement, the extensions of Abadis of Jhang - Maghiana and Chiniot, were first time measured. In addition after the settlement, a Dastur ul Amal was also designed for the guidance of Revenue Officers and a village directory was also compiled for the entire district including the colony portion.

4. Measurement of Thal.

This portion of district Jhang was not measured before and maps were not available. In 1909 under the survey of the India department the whole of the area of Thal was divided into rectangles of 4,000 acres. These acres are further divided into 10 acres and in some areas 20-acre blocks. Thus under a rectangular system, the Thal portion of the Jhang district was measured and the map was prepared on a special scale.

The original map for Saddar and a copy for the tehsil were prepared on the cloth-backed mapping sheet. The copy for Patwari was prepared on Latha.

4.1. Revenue Courts

Since Punjab was annexed in 1849, the provincial government has relied on a low rate of revenue and the support of the Zamindars to ensure its prosperity and, consequently, the loyalty of the rural classes. However, over time, debt and the loss of land to money lenders have weakened their position socially and economically. Consequently, in 1900, the Punjab Alienation of Land Act was enacted. The statute removed the Zamindars' right to sell or mortgage their property without the district office's prior consent. (Ali A., Judicial and Land Revenue Administration under British rule, 9-10). Revenue cases were tried by Tehsildars and Extra Assistant Commissioners during the British era, under the collector's supervision.

4.2. Chak system

Chak means village. This system was introduced in 1874-75 in the villages which were irrigated by new canals constructed in Punjab during the British period. Under this Chak or Block system, the desert land of Thal, the wasteland of government in Bars and Vichanh (the area between Jehlum and Chenab) divided into Chaks. Under this division, the area of tehsil Jhang was a Chak and the area of tehsil Chiniot was another. The remaining portion of the district was distributed in many Chaks (Gazetteer of the Jhang District 1883-84).

4.3. Trade

British railway, road infrastructure and communication had a positive impact on trade. Jhang was an importing district of Punjab during the early years of the British period. Different kinds of food grains and other things were imported from different cities. But in later years the condition of exports improved. Due to the canal irrigation system, the production of wheat and other produce increased. So in the later years especially the wheat which was an article of import began to be exported to other cities. Cotton, Oilseed, hides, hair, bones were also exported and mostly through the railway. Khaddar and Ghi were major exporting items.

In the year of 1879 the Khaddar of eight lac rupees was sold in the market of Maghiana (Steedman, Report on the revised settlement of the Jhang district of the Punjab 1874-1880,)

The Khojas of Chiniot were export Ghi, Cotton, Wool, Leather and Horns to Calcutta and Bombay whereas, indigo, silk and cloths were imported from there. There were many Katras and Koochas in Jhang. In these Katras different kinds of things were brought. Names of some famous Katras were, Katra Bair Wala, Katra Sehgal Wala, Katra Dana Mandi Chauk Bazaar, Katra Gur Mandi and Katra Noor Shah Bazar in Jhang City. Jhang-Maghiana and Chiniot were the main and busy trade centres. However, markets in Shorkot City, Kot Isa Shah, Wasu Astana Lalian and Ahmadpur were also important.

In the past, there were not as such factories in Jhang except weaving. However, by 1929, almost 13 factories had been established in the district. Besides this woodwork and wood carving of high quality in Chiniot tehsil was famous. Different kinds of things were made of wood. Handicrafts, spinning and grinding of corn were the professions for women. In Kot Isa Shah coloured legs of cots were shaped. Best Saddles, embroidered shoes of gold work were made in Jhang and Maghiana (Gazetteer of the Jhang District 1883-84,)

Table 2: Major Imports

S.No	Name of Kind	City of Import	Means of Import
1.	Wheat	Multan, Ferozpur, Wazirabad, Jalalpur, Khushab Chunian	Boats and Camels
2.	Jawar, Gram, Barley, Moth, Mung, Oilseeds	Kamalia, Sirsa, Firozpur	Camels
3.	Rice	Lahore, Amritsar	Camels
4.	Moist Sugar	Muzaffarnagar, Jalandhar, Amritsar	Rail and Camels
5.	Raw Sugar (gur)	Sialkot, Muzaffarnagar	
6.	Lump sugar	Multan	
7.	Fruits	Kandahar	
8.	Spices, Condiments, Drugs	Amritsar	
9.	Timber	Wazirabad, Kashmir	Floated down by the river
10.	Cotton, Thread	Multan, Ferozpur, Dibalpur, Shahpur	
11.	Hardware	Karachi, Amritsar	Boats
12.	Salt	Khushab, Pind Dadan Khan	
13.	Alum	Kalabagh	
14.	Cloth and Manchester goods	Multan, Calcutta	Rail and camels
15.	Lime and Iron	Jehlum, Khushab.	

4.4. Non Agricultural professions

Mostly the population of Jhang lived in villages. So they were enclosed to the profession of cultivation and cattle grazing. However, there were many Non-agricultural professions in rural and urban Jhang. People were engaged in trade, shop-keeping, Confectionery, green grocery, boatmen-ship, barbers government service and some other small industries. Basket and mat makers were also in Jhang.

4.5. Non-agricultural professions and number of professionals in District Jhang (E.B)

1. Weavers 28460, 2. Labourers 28019, 3. Shopkeepers 17256, 4. Shoemakers 12137, 5. Potters 9186, 6. Sweepers 8735, 7. Carpenters 6070, 8. Barbers 4718, 9. Musicians 4119, 10. Cotton cleaners 3866, 11. Village officers 3679, 12. Merchants 3560, 13. Bakers 3127, 14. Washermen 2951, 15. Ropemakers 2729, 16. Blacksmiths 2594, 17. Goldsmiths 2270.

4.6. Type and Number of Factories in District Jhang

Kind of Factories and small mills Number of mills or Industries(Gazetteer of the Jhang district 188-84, Table No. XXIV)

1. Cotton 8144, 2. Wool 10, 3. Wood 1730, 4. Iron 463, 5. Brass and Copper 22, 6. Paper 5, 7. Leather 1952, 8. Dyeing and manufacturing of Dyes 235, 9. Oil pressing and refining 58, 10. Building 89, 11. Pottery common and glazed 1501, 12. Carpets 1, 13. Gold, Silver and Jewellery 470, 14. Other factories 2, 15. Other manufactures 1496.

Table 3: Chief Exports of District Jhang during the British Colonial Period

S.No	Name of Kind	City of Export	Means
1.	Cloth of Khaddar	Powindah of Afghanistan, Dera Ismail Khan, Dera Ghazi Khan, Sakhi Sarwar, Multan.	Camel, Boats
2.	Soap	Kalabagh, Nurpur in Shahpur district, Dera Ismail Khan and salt range country	Camels, Donkeys
3.	Wool	Karachi, Ferozpur.	
4.	Ghee	Amritsar, Ferozpur, Bannu, Dera Ismail Khan and Karachi.	Camels and Boats
5.	Sajji (Barilla) (use for making Soda)	Amritsar, Sialkot, Gujranwala, Wazirabad.	
6.	Hides		
7.	Chubb locks		
8.	Leather, Cotton, Horn	Calcutta, Bombay.	

5. Conclusion

After the annexation of Punjab British rulers brought major administrative, political, and socio-economic changes in Punjab. To run their administration smoothly, stronghold, firm control over the province and fulfilment of colonial interests they not only needed to generate revenue and taxes but also a loyal class.

Being the land of five rivers they focused on the agriculture sector of Punjab which was the backbone of the province. They commercialized agriculture, encouraged the cultivation of cash crops, and introduced modern technology, the latest machinery, types of equipment and new seeds. They discouraged traditional farming. This introduction of modern farming, the latest techniques, improvement of irrigation systems, and new varieties of crops, led to increased production and commercialization of agriculture in the region. However, the policy of cash crops and commercialization of agriculture created food shortages and increased poverty in the region. They controlled the prices of agricultural produce and often manipulated the market prices to benefit themselves and the British traders. Although British colonial policies have positive impacts to some extent but infact, all these agricultural reforms and development works of British colonial rulers were means of exploitation.

As a consequence of British colonial policies district Jhang also went through a transition phase that was traditional ways of cultivation to modern and witnessed a shift from subsistence farming to cash crop cultivation. Although from the very beginning agriculture was one of the primary sectors in the economy of district Jhang. But as the result of British reforms productivity and profitability enhanced in the agricultural field of the district. In district Jhang four summary and four regular settlement systems were introduced by British Colonial rulers.

British colonial rulers initiated the project of canal colonies. They introduced new irrigation systems and constructed headworks, Barrages, canals and bridges in the Jhang district. They established nine canal colonies in Punjab. Through this project, they not only generated a large amount of revenue and taxes rather succeeded in securing their colonial interests and creating loyal feudal and non-feudal elite classes. In the canal colony project, the largest colony was the Chenab colony. This colony was established on the large part of district Jhang and some parts of Gujranwala and Lahore districts. They constructed lower Chenab and many other canals and their branch lines for smooth water supply and allotted land to settlers of different cities of Punjab and outside Punjab. To enhance trade and commerce activities in Jhang the British colonial authorities also established marketplaces, known as Katras and Mandis, where farmers could sell their produce directly to purchasers. These marketplaces, Katras and Mandies provided a fair and transparent system of trade, attracting merchants from surrounding areas and helping boost economic activities in Jhang.

Moreover to accelerate and rapid economic growth, the British administration developed infrastructure in Jhang. They constructed and improved road networks, connecting the district to major trade centres and transportation routes. Additionally, the British introduced railways, enabling faster and more efficient transportation of goods and people. These infrastructural developments played a significant role in boosting trade and commerce activities in district Jhang.

British colonial authorities also established small-scale factories in Jhang. Thus they laid the foundation for industrial development of Jhang and created job opportunities in the region.

British land settlement, agricultural progress, infrastructure development and reforms looked for the betterment of the public of Jhang but improbably these reforms and works strengthen the feudal and non feudal elite classes of Jhang. Agrarian reforms established deep and collaborative relations between feudal lords and colonial rulers. The agrarian reforms of British colonial rulers laid down the foundation of feudalism in district Jhang. The War of 1857, World War I and World War II are historical examples of interrelationship and cooperation between colonial rulers and the feudal of Jhang. Both were looking after each other's interests. Thus the agricultural development in the Jhang district during British colonial rule served as a potent tool for exploitation by the British rulers. Besides that, through the implementation of land revenue systems, manipulation of market prices, the promotion of cash crop cultivation, and absentee landlords, the British successfully extracted economic benefits while suppressing the local population. Although British colonial rulers also established some small industries in the district establishing agro-based big industries Jhang was neglected. Thus job opportunities are confined to agriculture. British colonial rulers focused on the progress and development of their own established Chenab colony. This colony later named Lyallpur was developed as a big market and trade center. British authorities connected it to major cities in India. This policy created great disparity among Jhang and other cities of Punjab.

The establishment of British colonial rule in Punjab, and subsequently in Jhang is a turning point in the history of Punjab and Jhang as well. No doubt it was the beginning of a new era. The British colonial period was a transition period of Jhang from an old traditional system to a new and modern system. But unluckily this change was superficial and temporary. British Colonial rulers focused all their attention on the development of their newly established Chenab colony, later named Lyallpur, as compared to Jhang. While establishing railway and road network in Punjab although a railway line was laid and roads were constructed in Jhang too, but it was not connected with any major commercial center. British colonial discriminatory policies in region laid the foundation of the backwardness of district Jhang. British colonial exploitation extended beyond the economy, affecting the livelihoods and socio-economic conditions of the agricultural community of district Jhang for generations.

Feudal mindset has its own properties. This mindset did not let Jhang progress. Even today, after the 76 years of independence Jhang is still a backward district of Punjab with its feudal identity. Time has moved on and Jhang has been left behind.

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