

The number of cases successfully vaccinated in 1901 was 2,583, or 3.87 per 1,000 of population.

**Boundaries
configuration
and Hill and
River systems**

Osmanabad District (formerly called Naldrug)-District in the west of the Hyderabad State, bounded by the Bombay Districts of Ahmadnagar and Sholapur on the north, west, and south ; by Bhir and Bidar Districts on the north and east ; by the Akalkot State of Bombay on the south ; and by Gulbarga District on the south-east. It encloses the detached Barsi *taluk* of Sholapur District, and lies between 17° 35' and 18° 40' N. and 75° 16' and 76° 40' E., with a total area of 4,010 square miles ; but the area of the *khalsa* and *Sarf-i-khas* ('crown') lands is only 2,627 square miles, the rest being *paigh* and *jagir*. A range of hills, which enters the District at the north-west corner from Ahmadnagar, and continues to the south-east, divides it into two portions : a plateau to the north-east and east, and lowlands to the west, south-west, and south. The *taluks* of Wasi, Owsa, Kalam, and parts of Tuljapur, Osmanabad, and Naldrug are situated on the plateau; the remainder of the District on the lowlands. The general slope of the plateau is from south-west to north-east. The land rises from Tuljapur towards Osmanabad ; thence it begins to descend gradually towards the north-east, terminating in the valley of the Manjra river.

The most important river in the MANJRA, which runs due east along the northern boundary as far as the north-eastern corner of the Owsa *taluk*, where it takes a southerly direction before entering Bidar District. Its length in Osmanabad is about 58 miles. Other streams which traverse portions of the District are the Sina and its tributary the Kheri, the Tirna, and the borna, which all run in a south-easterly direction, the Sina forming part of the boundary between Osmanabad and Bhir District.

Geology and Botany

The geological formation is the Deccan trap. There is no forest in the District, and the trees that are found consist of *babul* (*Acacia arabica*), *nim*, mango, and several species of *Ficus*.

Fauna

The country, being devoid of forests, contains no large game of any note ; but antelope and hares are found in small numbers, as are also wolves, hyenas, and wild hog. Among game-birds, partridges, quail, and wild pigeons are common ; and where there is a tank, wild duck may be seen during the cold season.

Climate and Temperature

Climatically, the district may be divided into three portions: the first, containing the Naldurg and Owsa *taluks*, is hot but dry; the second, consisting of Tuljapur and Osmanabad, is cool and somewhat damp; while the third comprises Wasi, Kalam, and Parendā, the climate being humid. Generally speaking, the temperature of the plateau is much pleasanter than that of the plain.

Rainfall

The annual rainfall for the twenty-one years ending 1901 averaged 33 inches. The amount received in 1897 (14 inches) and in 1899 (20 inches) was abnormally scanty, and resulted in the great famine of 1900.

History

The District has been under Muhammadan rule since the beginning of the fourteenth century, when it was annexed to the empire of Delhi by Alaud-din Khilji. On the foundation of the Bahmani kingdom, it fell to that power, and when that monarchy in turn dissolved, to the Sultans of Ahmadnagar and Bijapur. The conquest of the Decan by Aurangzeb reunited it to Delhi, till the foundation of the Hyderabad State in the early part of the eighteenth century. It was ceded to the British Government with the Raichur *doab* under the treaty of 1853, but was restored to the Nizam in 1860.

Archaeology

The District contains six places of archaeological interest. The fort of NALDRUG, a fortified town on the Bori river, and the headquarters of the *taluk* of that name, belonged to a Hindu Raja during the fourteenth century. The Jama Masjid in the Owsa *talukis* built in the Bijapur style of architecture, with a dome and facade of cusped arches. Groups of caves, known as the Dabar Lena, Chamar Lena, and Lachandar Lena lie around the town of OSMANABAD (Dharaseo), the first mentioned group being Jain and Vaishnava excavations. Roughly the caves may be assigned to the period A.D. 500 to 650. Hasangaon, 40 miles north-west of Naldrug, contains two large caves in a solitary hill, which were Brahmanical rock shirens. PARENDA, an old fortress, 64 miles north-west of Naldrug, was erected by Mahmud Gavan, the celebrated minister of the Bahmani Sultan, in the fifteenth century. TULJAPUR, a town 20 miles north-west of Naldrug, is a famous place of Hindu pilgrimage, and contains a temple dedicated to the goddess Bhavani. There are very interesting Buddhist remains at THAIR (Ter), 12 miles north-east of Osmanabad, which has been identified as the site of Tagara, a city of great antiquity mentioned by Ptolemy.

Population

The number of towns and villages in the District, including the large *jagirs*, is 866. The population at the last three enumerations was : (1881) 543,402, (1891) 649,272, and (1901) 535,027. The towns are OSMANABAD, the head-quarters, TULJAPUR, THAIR, OWSA, LATUR, and MORAM. About 89 per cent. of the population are Hindus, and 84 per cent. of them speak Marathi.

GULBARGA DIVISION

The following table exhibits the principal statistics of population according to the Census of 1901 :-

Taluk	Area in square miles	Number of		Population	Population per square mile	Population of variation population between 1891 & 1901	Number of personal to read and write
		Towns	Villages				
Osmanabad	380	2	78	72,176	189	- 16.5	Not available
Kalam	303	--	70	38,030	125	- 27.1	
Wasi	342	--	78	47,484	138	- 26.9	
Owsa	370	2	104	61,436	166	- 19.4	
Tuljapur	403	1	71	55,385	137	- 16.2	
Naldrug	353	1	57	53,487	151	- 8.1	
Parenda	476	--	106	56,912	119	- 16.9	
Jagirs, &c.	1,383	--	296	150,117	118	- 16.4	
District total	4,010	6	860	535,027	133	- 17.4	16,579

In 1905 Wasi was merged in Kalam, and Naldrug in Tuljapur. In its present form the District thus consists of only five *taluks*-OSMANABAD, KALAM, TULJAPUR, OWSA, and PARENDA- besides the two large *paigah ilakas* of Ganjoti and Lohara, and the *jagirs* of Bhum and Walwad.

Castes and Occupations

The most numerous caste is that of the cultivating Kapus (Telugu) or Kunbis (Maratha), who number 205,000, or 38 per cent. of the total. The Dhangars or Shepherds number 28,700 ; the Mahars or village menials, about 51,000 ; and the Mangs or Chamars, leather-workers, 36,000. The Vanis or trading castes number 42,000 altogether, and the Brahmans 18,000. The population directly engaged in agriculture is 310,000, or nearly 58 per cent. of the total.

General Agricultural Conditions

Christians in 1901 numbered 50, all of whom were natives. The entire District is situated in the trap area, and most of its soil consists of the fertile

regar or black cotton soil, interspersed with red and white or sandy soils. In the *taluks* of Osmanabad, Kalam, Wasi, and Parendā the black cotton soil predominates, favouring the cultivation of *rabi* or cold-season crops to a larger extent than in the remaining *taluks*, where reddish and sandy soils are met with to a greater extent, producing chiefly the *kharif* or rainy season crops. Next to the *regar* in fertility is the *masabor* mixture of white and reddish soils, and last comes the *kharab* or sandy soil. *Regard* produces white *jowar*, gram, wheat, and cotton ; in the *masab* soils yellow *jowar*, *bajra*, and pulse are grown, while the *kharab* is generally utilized for garden produce, which needs heavy manuring in order to produce a good crop, the soil being naturally poor. The soils at the foot of the range of hills running across the District are especially fertile, containing the rain-washed detrital matter from the rocks above, and having all the properties of alluvium.

Chief Agricultural Statistics and Principal Crops

The tenure of lands is mainly *ryotwari*. In 1901, out of a total area of 2,627 square miles of *khalsa* and 'crown' lands, 1,813 were cultivated, of which only 76 were irrigated. Cultivable waste and fallows occupied 648 square miles, while 166 were not available for cultivation. The staple food-grain is *jowar*, grown on 70 percent. of the net area cropped. Wheat, rice, and *bajra* are next in importance, the areas under each being respectively 75, 37, and 29 square miles. Cotton is grown in all the *taluks*, and the total area occupied by it is about 56 square miles. Sugar-cane is raised in small quantities with well-irrigation, the area under this crop being slightly less than 10 square miles.

Since the last settlement in 1883, which resulted in the taking up of all the available lands

by the ryots, no extension of holdings has been possible. The ryots have shown no interest in the introduction of new varieties of seed or of improved agricultural implements.

Cattle & c.

No particular breed of cattle is characteristic of the District, but those found are strong and robust, and well suited for deep ploughing, which is essential to the heavy loamy and argillaceous soils prevalent. Sheep and goats of the common kind are reared. Ordinary ponies are to be had for from Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 ; but the better sort, well-known for their staying powers and sure-footedness, fetch as much as Rs. 100. For some years past the State has kept two Arab stallions at Osmanabad and one at Parenda, for the purpose of improving the local breed.

Irrigation

The irrigated area amounts to only about 76 square miles, supplied by wells, of which 8,800 are in good repair. Such tanks as exist are used for drinking purposes only, while the beds of the rivers are too low to permit of their water being used for cultivation.

Minerals

There are no minerals of any economic value, beyond the ordinary granite and basaltic rock, used in building and road-metalling. Near Katri, Kamta, and Wadgaon in the Osmanabad *taluk*, reddish earth is found, which is used by the Hindus for plastering floors.

Arts and Manufactures

No important industry is carried on in the District. Coarse cotton cloth and *dhotis*, *saris*, and *cholis* used to be manufactured locally, but for some years past cloth of all kinds and yarn have been imported at cheaper rates. The shepherds ususally manufacture blankets from the wool of their sheep, which are sold at from Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 a piece. At Latur in the Owsa *taluk*, which is a large trade centre, a

small ginning mill was erected in 1889, and two more have been started since 1901. There are no regular tanneries, but the Chamars generally prepare leather for the water-buckets largely used for irrigation purposes.

Commerce

The chief exports consist of *jowar*, other cereals and pulses, cotton, oilseeds and oil, chillies, cattle, sheep, bones and horns, tobacco, leather, and *tarvar* bark. The principal imports are salt, salted fish, opium, spices, gold and silver, copper and brass utensils, refined sugar, iron, kerosene oil, sulphur, raw silk, and silk and cotton cloth of all kinds.

The chief centre of commerce is Latur, from which almost the whole of the imported articles are distributed throughout the District. Osmanabad is next in importance. The principal trading castes are the Vanis, Marwaris, Komatis, and Bhatias, who also engage in banking business. In all the *taluks* weekly markets are held, where a brisk trade is carried on.

Railways

The Great Indian Peninsula Railway line passes through a minute portion of the *taluk* of Tuljapur. Barsi, in the Bombay District of Sholapur, on the Barsi Light Railway, is the nearest station to the District head-quarters, from which it is 32 miles distant. There are two stations on the same line at the villages of Sendri and Uptai in the Parenda *taluk*.

Roads

The total length of roads in the District is 272 miles, of which 144 miles are metalled and 128 miles unmetalled. The principal roads are : Latur to Doki, Yermala to Amba in Bhir District, Barsi to Sholapur, Osmanabad to Tandulwadi, Parenda to Barsi, and Naldrug to Tandulwadi.

Famine

No reliable records exist of any famines prior to the restoration of the District by the British in 1860, with the exception of what has been said by Colonel

Meadows Taylor, in his *Story of My Life*, regarding the distress that prevailed during 1854-55 owing to the influx of famine-stricken people from the adjoining tracts. The great famine of 1877-78 affected one *taluk* only, while in 1896-97 a portion of the District suffered. In 1897 the local rainfall was less than half the usual quantity and in 1899 less than two-thirds; and the District, which had suffered from previous failure of crops, was among those most severely affected during the famine of 1900. Both the *kharif* and the *rabi* crops failed, and at one time about one-fifth of the total population were in receipt of relief. An attack of cholera supervened, and the Census of 1901 showed a decrease of 17.3 percent. in the population. The District also lost about 40 per cent. of its cattle, and the total cost of the famine to the State amounted to 22 lakhs.

District Sub- divisions and Staff

The District forms two sub-divisions : one comprising the *taluks* of Kalam, Oswa, and Parendā, under the Second Talukdar ; and the other consisting of the *taluks* of Osmanabad and Tuljapur, under the Third Talukdar, the First Talukdar having a general supervision over the work of all his subordinates. Each *taluk* is under a *tahsildar*.

Civil and Criminal Justice

The District civil court is presided over by a Judge styled the *Nizam-i-Diwani*. The subordinate civil courts are those of the *tahsildars* of Osmanabad, Tuljapur, and Parendā, and of a Munsif for the *taluks* of Oswa and Kalam. The First Talukdar is the chief magistrate, and the District Civil Judge is also a joint-magistrate, who exercises powers as such in the absence of the First Talukdar from head-quarters. The second and Third Talukdars and the *tahsildars* exercise magisterial powers of the second and third class. Serious crime is not heavy in ordinary years, but in times of scarcity dacoities and cattle-thefts increase in proportion to the severity of the season.

Land Revenue

Nothing is known of the revenue history of the District, beyond the fact that Malik Ambar's revenue system was in force from the beginning of the seventeenth century. His settlement was based upon an actual survey of the lands, and upon the productiveness of the soil. Villages were formerly leased by the State to revenue farmers, who received $1\frac{1}{2}$ annas per rupee for collection. So far as is known, the revenue has always been collected in money and never in kind. In 1866 the sub-divisions of the District were formed, though they have been much altered since by frequent transfers. In 1883 a revenue survey was completed, and an assessment fixed for thirty years. The rates fixed approximated to those in the adjoining Bombay Districts of Ahmadnagar and Sholapur. The enhancement of revenue which resulted from the survey was 1.2 lakhs, or over 11 per cent., the revenue having risen from 10.22 to 11.4 lakhs. The average assessment on 'dry' land is Rs. 1 (maximum Rs. 2, minimum Rs. 0-1) and on 'wet' land Rs.3 (maximum Rs. 5, minimum Rs. 1).

The land revenue and total revenue of the District for a series of years are given below, in thousands of rupees :-

	1881	1891	1901	1903
Land revenue	10,21	11,67	11,80	11,77
Total revenue	10,41	12,79	22,19	12,71

Local and
Municipal
Government

Since 1888 a local cess of one anna in the rupee has been levied on land revenue for local purposes. Boards have been formed in every *taluk*, except Osmanabad, consisting of official and non-official members, with the *tahsildars* as chairmen. A District board with the Fist Talukdar as president supervises the working of the *taluk* boards, as well as the

Osmanabad municipality. A small conservancy establishment is maintained at all the *taluk* headquarters. The local cess in 1901 yielded Rs. 87,500, one-fourth of which was set apart for local works and the municipal establishment.

Police and Jails

The First Talukdar is the head of the police, with a Superintendent (*Mohtamim*) as his executive deputy. Under him are 8 inspectors, 41 subordinate officers, 376 constables, and 35 mounted police. These are distributed among 16 police stations, and guard the *taluk* treasuries. A small special police establishment, called the *rakhwali*, guards carts carrying merchandise, and any cattle or animals that bivouac at certain appointed places. This force is paid out of funds collected from the cartmen and owners of cattle at fixed rates. There is a District jail at Osmanabad, besides lock-ups in the outlying *taluks*. Only short-term prisoners are now kept in the District jail, those whose terms exceed six months being sent to the Central jail at Gulbarga.

Education

Osmanabad occupies a fairly high position as regards the literacy of its population, of whom 3.1 per cent. (6 males and 0.12 females) could read and write in 1901. There were 44 public educational institutions in 1903, of which 12 were State and 32 local board schools. The number of pupils under instruction in 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1903 was 947, 2,055, 3,407, and 2,839 respectively, including 74 girls in 1903. No information is available regarding private schools. Of the 12 schools managed by the Educational department, 3 were girls' schools with 77 pupils, and 5 were secondary boys' schools. The first State school was opened in 1866, and the local board schools were started after the establishment of the local boards in 1888. The total amount spent on education in 1901 was Rs. 26,000, of which Rs.

16,600 was met from State funds and the remainder from Local funds. Of the total 52 per cent. was devoted to primary schools. The fee receipts for the year were Rs. 1,102.

Medical

The District has one hospital and three dispensaries, with accommodation for 40 in-patients. In 1901, 23,900 cases were treated, of whom 104 were in-patients; and 391 operations were performed. The expenditure was Rs. 10,800, of which Rs. 9,400 was paid by the State, and the balance by the local boards.

In 1901 the number of persons successfully vaccinated was 1,516 or 3 per 1,000 of the population. Vaccination is gaining favour with the people, though slowly.

Osmanabad Taluk : 'Crown' *taluk* in the centre of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, formerly known as Dharaseo. The area, including *jagirs*, is 417 square miles ; and the population in 1901 was 77,533, compared with 92,829 in 1891, the decrease being due to the famine of 1900. It contains two towns, OSMANABAD (Population, 10,607), the head-quarters of the District and *taluk*, and THAIR (7,327); and 87 villages, of which 9 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.5 lakhs. Osmanabad is composed wholly of *regar* or black cotton soil.

Kalam : 'Crown' *taluk* in the north of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901 was 38,030, and the area 303 square miles; but in 1905 the Wasi *taluk* was incorporated in it. The total area is now 658 square miles, of which the population in 1901 was 87,701, compared with 120,081 in 1891, the decrease being due to the famine of 1900. The Manjra river separates the *taluk* from Bhir District on the north, and the soil is chiefly *regar*, with some alluvium. It contains 151 villages, and yields a land revenue of 3.7 lakhs. The *jagir taluks* of Bhom and Walwad lie to the west with 31 and 13 villages, and populations (1901) of 11,416 and 6,997 respectively. Their areas are about 143 and 61 square miles.

Wasi : 'Crown' *taluk* in the north of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, which was absorbed in the Kalam *taluk* in 1905. The population

in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 49,671, and the area 355 square miles. The land revenue was 1.9 lakhs.

Owsa Taluk (*Ausa*) : Eastern *taluk* of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, with an area of 478 square miles. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 71,365, compared with 88,484 in 1891, the decrease being due to the famine of 1900. The *taluk* has two towns, OWSA (population, 6,026), the head-quarters, and LATUR (10,479), a great commercial centre ; and 130 villages, of which 26 are *jagir*. The Manjra river separates it on the north from Bhir and on the east from Bidar District. Near the village of Gharosa, 11 miles east of Owsa, is a small range of hills. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.7 lakhs.

Tuljapur Taluk : Western *taluk* of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 58,415 and the area was 411 square miles ; but in 1905 the Naldrug *taluk* was added to it. The combined area is now 781 square miles, of which the population in 1901 was 114,750, compared with 121,799 in 1891, the decrease being due to the famine of 1900. The *taluk* contains two towns, TULJAPUR (population, 6,612), the head-quarters, and MORAM (5,692) ; and 134 villages, of which 6 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 3 lakhs. The *paigah taluks* of Lohara, with 126 villages and a population of 60,936, and of Ganjoti with 76 villages and a population of 44,644, are situated in this *taluk*. Their areas are 610 and 361 square miles respectively.

Naldrug Taluk : A *taluk* formerly in the south of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, amalgamated with the Tuljapur *taluk* in 1905. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 56,335, the area was 370 square miles, and the land revenue was 1.3 lakhs.

Parenda Taluk : 'Crown' *taluk* in the west of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, with an area of 501 square miles. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 59,685, compared with 71,860 in 1891, the decrease being due to the famine of 1900. The *taluk* contains 112 villages, of which 6 are *jagir* ; and PARENDA (population, 3,655) is the head-quarters. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.8 lakhs. The soil is chiefly *regar* or black cotton soil.

Latur : Town in the Owsa *taluk* of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad

State, situated in 18° 25' N. and 76° 35' E. Population (1901), 10,479. Latur is a great centre of the cotton and grain trade in communication with Barsi railway station, 64 miles distant. It has three ginning factories, a British sub-post office, and a State post office, as well as a vernacular school and a travellers' bungalow.

Moram : Town in the Tuljapur *taluk* of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 47' N. and 76° 29' E. Population (1901), 5,692. Large quantities of grain and jaggery are exported via Sholapur and Akalkot. Two weekly markets are held—one on Sundays for general trade, and the other on Mondays for the sale of cloth only. A new bazar, Osmanganj, is under construction. Moram contains a school.

Naldurg Village : Village in the Tuljapur *taluk* of Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 49' N. and 76° 29' E. Population (1901), 4,111. The fort of Naldurg is situated above the ravine of the Bori river, and is one of the best fortified and most picturesque places in the Deccan. Before the Muhammadan invasion in the fourteenth century it belonged to a local Raja, probably a vassal of the Chalukyas. It fell to the Bahmani dynasty, who built the stone fortifications. After the division of the Bahmani kingdom in 1482, it was seized by the Adil Shahis of Bijapur, and was a bone of contention between them and the Ahmadnagar Sultans. Adil Shah in 1558 not only added to the fortifications, but erected a dam across the Bori, which afforded a constant supply of water to the garrison.

Osmanabad Town : Head-quarters of the District and *taluk* of the same name, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 11' N. and 76° 3' E., 43 miles north of Sholapur and 32 miles east of Barsi. Population (1901), 10,607. It lies in the Balaghat, and was formerly known as Dharaseo. The offices of the First, Second, and third Talukdars, the District engineer, Customs Superintendent, and the District civil court are all located here. Besides these, Osmanabad contains several schools, a State and a British sub-post office, and a dispensary. While the District was temporarily ceded to the British, from 1853 to 1860, the head-quarters were removed here from NALDRUG, owing to the healthy climate of the place. It is a great centre of trade. Two miles north-east of the town is a group of seven caves, four of which are Jain, while the others are probably Vaishnava.

Owsa Town (Ausa) : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 15' N. and 77° 30' E. Population (1901), 6,026. Malik Ambar, the Nizam Shahi minister, captured the fort here and named it Ambarpur, which was corrupted into Amrapur. The fort is square in shape, surrounded by a double wall and a moat all round, and is said to have been built by the Bijapur kings. It contains a large gun, 18 feet long, with the name of Nizam Shah engraved on it. Most of the old buildings are in ruins, but an extensive underground building measures 76 by 50 feet, the roof of which forms the bottom of a large cistern. An old mosque was built during Aurangzeb's viceroyalty of the Deccan, as appears from an inscription it bears. The town is a flourishing centre of the grain trade, the exports being sent to Sholapur and Barsi.

Parenda Village: Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 16' N. and 75° 27' E. Population (1901), 3,655. The fort, erected by Mahmud Gavan, the celebrated Bahmani minister, contains several large guns mounted on bastions. Parenda was the capital of the Nizam Shahis for a short time after the capture of Ahmadnagar by the Mughals in 1605. It was besieged unsuccessfully by Shah Jahan's general in 1630. It was, however, reduced by Aurangzeb during his viceroyalty of the Deccan. The fortifications are in good order, but the old town is in ruins. Numerous ruins in the neighbourhood and the fort testify to the former populousness of the place. It now possesses a *tahsil* and police inspector's office, a customs-house, a school, and a *taluk* post office.

Thair (Ter) : Town in the District and *taluk* of Osmanabad, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 19' N. and 76° 9' E., on the Tirna river, 12 miles north-east of Osmanabad. Population (1901), 7,327. There are some very interesting remains, said to be connected with the ancient city of tagara. It contains a police station and a school, and is composed of twelve *wadis* or hamlets, being really an overgrown village. A project is under consideration for the construction of a canal from the river close by.

Tauljapur Town : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Osmanabad District, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 1' N. and 76° 5' E., 28 miles from Sholapur and 14 from Osmanabad. Population (1901), 6,612. It contains a police inspector's office, a customs-house, a

dispensary, a *taluk* post office, a travellers' bungalow, and a school. Tuljapur is a centre of trade. In a ravine at the foot of the hill is the temple of Tulja Bhavani, which is visited by Hindus from all parts of India, especially on the full moon of the Dasara festival, when a great *jatra* is held. It is said to have been built by the Rajas of Satara and Kolhapur. A weekly market is held here on Tuesdays.

**Boundaries
configuration
and Hill and
River system**

Raichur District¹ : District in the Gulbarga Division of Hyderabad State, adjoining Mahbubnagar and Gulbarga, which bound it east and north, and the Madras Districts of Bellary and Kurnool in the south, from which it is separated by the Tungabhadra river. Before the extensive changes made in 1905, referred to below, it lay between 15° 50' and 16° 54' N. and 76° 50' and 78° 15' E., and had an area of 3,604 square miles, *khalsa* lands covering 2,319 square miles and the rest being *samasthans* and *jagirs*.

A range of hills traverses the yadgir *taluk* from west to east for a length of 20 miles, and enters the Seram and Kodangal *taluks* of Gulbarga District in the north-east. There are three other ranges, one extending from the north-west of Raichur towards Yergara for 15 miles, another in the Raichur and Manvi *taluks* 10 miles long, and the third 19 miles long in the south of the District in the Raichur and Alampur *taluks*. These really form a single range, extending for nearly 60 miles from the north-west of Raichur to Alampur, with two breaks. The general slope of the country is from the north-west towards the south-east.

The most important river is the Kistna, which enters the Deodrug *taluk* and flows for a distance of 130 miles in a south-easterly directions. The Tungabhadra forms the southern boundary up to

1. (J.F. Fleet, Journal, Royal Asiatic Society 1901). H. Cousenes, Archaeological Survey of India, Annual Report (1902-03), P-195

1. This article, except where otherwise stated, describes the district as it stood before the changes made in 1905