

the Id of Ramzan (feast after fasting month), the Shabi- barat, the Duazdahum i - sharif (anniversary of the Prophet's death), and the Yazdahum. The Nau- roz or Persian New Year's Day is also celebrated as a State holiday.

The joint family system

Among Hindus the joint family system prevails everywhere, but in most cases it is not maintained beyond one generation.

Nomenclature

In the Maratha Districts the name of a person is usually followed by the name of the village to which he originally belonged, as for example Dada Korlekar, which means 'Dada of the Korla village.' But in Telingana the name of the village precedes the personal name, as Matur Yenka, which means 'Yenka of Matur village.' Maraths and Brahmans usually have three names, the first being the person's own name, the second his father's while the third is the name of his family or village.

Agriculture, general conditions of Soils and Conformation of surface

The soils of the Hyderabad State may be divided into two main divisions. Those of all the Telingana Districts may be classed generally under three kinds, black, red, and sandy; and those in the Maratha Districts may be similarly classed in three divisions, black, red and a mixture of the two. Locally, a number of varieties are distinguished in Telingana. Thus *utcha regar* is dark in colour and plastic when wetted, and consists chiefly of alluvium, with a good supply of lime and little silica. *Katta regar* is a stiff loam, containing less lime than *utcha regar* and little soluble matter. *Raura* is a good garden soil, containing 7 per cent. of lime in a pulverized state. *Rauti zamin* is also a garden soil, containing only 5 per cent. of lime. *Sola zamin* is greyish in colour, and resembles *Rauti zamin*. It is used for the rabi rice crop and is manured by herding cattle, goats, and sheep on it. *Chunaka regar* is a

rough aluminous soil, containing 12 per cent. of lime, and is best suited for *jowar* and pulse. *Chauka regar* or *milwa* is a mixture of red and black soils, with very little lime. *Chalka* or *reva zamin* is a finely pulverized reddish soil, with sand and traces of lime, and is well suited for rainy season crops. *Yerra chauka* is similar in every respect to *chalka zamin*, but not so finely powdered. The Marathwara soils are called *regar* (black), *masab* (red), or *milwa* (mixture). The soils of the higher tracts are heavy and rich in alumina, while those found on the plains are light and loamy; but neither is of very great depth. Broadly speaking, they are derived from the disintegration of basalt and amygdaloid wacke, the former giving rise to the stiff black soil, and the latter forming a friable earth. But when the black soil is mixed with the light friable earth, the result is a rich loam, which is more retentive of moisture than the others.

Climate and Rainfall

The climate of the Maratha Districts is generally hot and dry from March to the end of May, and temperate during the remaining months; while that of Telingana is hot and damp from March to the end of September, and temperate for the rest of the year. More than three-fourths of the total rainfall, or about 23 inches, is generally received between June and September the remainder falling between October and November.

System of cultivation

Yellow *jowar*, *bajra*, sesamum, cotton, *tuar* and other pulses form the *kharif* or monsoon crops; and gram, barley, cotton and linseed are the chief *rabi* or cold-season crops. The total area of Government lands cropped in 1901 was 30,240 square miles, of which 94 per cent was devoted to 'dry crops' and 6 per cent was irrigated.

In the Maratha country only two crops are raised,

the *rabi* and the *kharif*; while in Telingana there are five crops, the *rabi* and *tabi* for rice, and the *kharif*, *rabi*, and *maghi* for 'dry crops,' the last being intermediate between the *kharif* and *rabi*.

As regards Marathwara, the extent of the *kharif* and *rabi* crops depends upon the rainfall. If the monsoon commences in June, *kharif* crops the largely sown at the beginning of the season; but if the rains are late and the time for the *kharif* sowing has passed, then more land is reserved for the *rabi*. In Telingana, where there is a smaller extent of *rabi* lands, the *kharif* sowing proceeds as late as July, closely followed by the *maghi* sowing. Certain kinds of rice may be sown in the *rabi* as late as the beginning of August, if the rains are late; and the *tabi* or hot-season rice crop is sown from December up to the end of February.

Tillage

The cultivator begins preparing his land for the *kharif* sowings in December or January, and for the *rabi* during the monsoon, whenever there is a break in the rains. The *regar* is ploughed with the large plough or *nagar*, drawn by eight bullocks, only once in seven or eight years, the *bakkhar* or harrow being considered sufficient in intermediate years. The Telingana soils, being mostly sandy and finely divided, require only slight ploughing and harrowing. The land is ploughed first in one direction, and the second ploughing is done at right angles to the first. The ploughing is repeated till the soil is perfectly pulverized and clean.

The land thus prepared is then ready to receive the seed; and after the first shower or two, on the breaking of the monsoon in June, *kharif* sowings are commenced. In Telingana, after a few good showers have fallen, the land for rice cultivation is ploughed by buffaloes and left for a few days. The seed, which

has been soaked beforehand and has sprouted, is now sown broadcast in the fields and ploughed in. But in fields irrigated from large tanks, the preparation of the 'wet' lands begins even before the monsoon. For the *rabi* sowings, the land, which has been ploughed during the breaks in the rainy season, is sown in September or October, as at this time there are usually autumn showers which help the germination of the seed. For the *tabi* or hot-season rice crop, the land is first soaked with water from tanks and wells. The sowings proceed for two and even three months, from the beginning of December to the end of February.

The Maratha cultivator has his *kharif* and *rabi* crops weeded three or four times during the season; the Telingana ryot, on the other hand, is generally careless, weeding both crops only once or twice. His attention is chiefly devoted to the rice crop, which pays him best, and he weeds that three or four times during the season.

Yellow *Jowar*, *bajra*, and the rainy season rice ripen about December; and white *jowar*, gram, wheat, barley, and the hot-season rice ripen from April to the end of May.

Cotton is extensively raised in all the black-soil Districts, as well as in Telingana, wherever there is a suitable soil for its production. The short-stapled variety is the only kind which the cultivator grows, as he finds it easiest to produce. In the Districts served by railways, cotton-ginning and pressing factories are taking the place of the old system of handginning; and within the last four years several of these factories have been opened in those Districts, the railway having made it possible for the machinery required to be conveyed to parts where it was impossible to transport it in carts. Railway

extension has also given an impetus to the cultivation of cotton and superior cereals.

Population engaged in, and dependent on, agriculture.

Of the total population of the State in 1901, 5, 132, 902, or 46 per cent., were supported by agriculture. Of these, 58, 858 were landholders or rent receivers, 3, 454, 284 were rent payers, 186, 671 were farm-servants, and 836, 972 were field labourers.

Principal Crops

The principal crops in the Maratha country consist of *jowar*, *bajra*, wheat, cotton, linseed, and pulses; and those in Telingana are rice, yellow *jowar*, *bajra*, castor-seed, sesame, and pulses. The staple food of the people of Marathwara consists of *jowar*, *bajra*, and to some extent, wheat; while in Telingana, rice, *jowar*, and *bajra* are consumed. Pulses and inferior grains of many kinds are grown everywhere. Oilseeds include linseed, sesame (gingelly), *karar*, and castor-seed, the two last being grown very largely in the Telingana Districts. Besides cotton, *san*-hemp and *ambari* are the principal fibre-plants, while aloes and bhendi fibre not unknown. Large quantities of chillies are grown everywhere, and *zira* (caraway) and *ajwain* (*Ligusticum Ajouan*) are also grown in the Districts of Bidar, Atraf-i-balda, and Sirpur Tandur.

In 1901 the areas occupied by the several important crops and their percentages to the total area cropped were as follows:-

HYDERABAD STATE

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------------|-----------------|
| <i>Jowar</i> | 12,531 | square miles | or 41.4 percent |
| Cotton | 3, 226 | " | 10.7 " |
| <i>Bajra</i> | 2, 487 | " | 8.2 " |
| Rice | 1, 358 | " | 4.5 " |
| <i>Til (Sesamum orientale)</i> | 1, 263 | " | 4.2 " |
| Wheat | 914 | " | 3.0 " |
| Castor-seed | 883 | " | 2.9 " |
| Gram | 768 | " | 2.6 " |
| Linseed | 622 | " | 2.0 " |
| <i>Tuar</i> | 561 | " | 1.9 " |
| <i>Karar</i> | 531 | " | 1.7 " |
| Maize | 484 | " | 1.6 " |
| <i>Rala or kangni</i> | 425 | " | 1.4 " |
| <i>Mung (Phaseolus Mungo)</i> | 307 | " | 1.0 " |
| <i>Kodro (Paspalum scrobiculatum)</i> | 177 | " | 0.6 " |
| Chillies | 149 | " | 0.5 " |
| Tobaco | 125 | " | 0.4 " |

Average yeild

The yield per acre of different crops varies so much that it is difficult to give a fair average; the weight of rice, for instance, ranges between 3 cwt. and 23 cwt. per acre. An attempt, how ever, has been made to give an average from figures obtained from the several Districts. Raw sugar, 18¹/₂ cwt.; rice 10¹/₄ cwt.; jowar, 2 and wheat, 2¹/₂ cwt.; *bajra*, 2¹/₄ cwt.; sawan, 2¹/₄ cwt.; *kulthi*, 2 cwt.; castor-seed, 2cwt.: gram, 1³/₄ cwt.: sesame, 1¹/₂cwt; linseed 1¹/₂ cwt and cotton, 641 lb.

Menures and rotation of crops

All the rice and sugar-cane fields are manured, the latter very heavily. The manure generally used is

that obtained from the village cattle, and the sweepings from the village, and from leaves and branches of trees. *Jowar* and wheat in the *regar* receive no manure. Rotation of crops in the Telingana Districts is followed in the kinds of soils called *chalka*. When waste lands are first prepared, oilseeds are sown for the first year; the next year yellow *jowar* is grown, and in subsequent years they are put under *sawan* (*Panicum frumen taceum*) and *kodro* (*Paspalum scrobiculatum*). In lands of a better description, if the soil has become exhausted, *jowar* is followed by cotton. Yellow *jowar*, being a very exhausting crop, is never grown for two successive seasons on the same land. Where new land is of better quality, such as *regar* and *milwā*, and is suited for *rabi* crops, it is usual first to sow *kulthi* (*Dolichos biflorus*), lakh, or castor-seed. These are followed in the next year by *kulthi*, gram, or peas. In the third year *jowar* is grown, mixed with linseed or *kardi* gram; after that, *jowar* and *kulthi* are sown every alternate year. In rice lands no regular rotation is followed, but sugar-cane and betel-leaf are sometimes raised. In the Maratha Districts the rotation is as follows. When waste land is prepared for the *kharif* sowing, it is first put under *bajra* or cotton; and for two or three years afterwards only *bajra* is raised. Then, successively, *mung*, *urd*, *matt*, or *san*-hemp is grown; and when the land is in a fit condition for being ploughed a *tuar* crop follows. The roots of this crop strike deep into the soil and loosen it, thereby making ploughing easy. When waste land is prepared for *rabi* cultivation, *jowar* or *khardi* is sown first, followed by wheat or *jowar* for the next four or five years. In 'wet' cultivation sugar-cane is followed by rice in the next year.

Fruit and vegetables

Oranges are extensively grown in and around Aurangabad, Osmanabad Parbhni and Normal, but at Hyderabad and other places they are found only in private gardens. Ordinary mangoes are produced everywhere, but very superior grafted mangoes are grown in gardens around Hyderabad. During the rainy season, country vegetables are raised in all parts, but English vegetables are grown only at Hyderabad, its suburbs and Secunderabad, and also at some District head-quarters. Excellent grapes were formerly grown at Daulatabad, and an attempt is being made to revive their cultivation.

Extension of cultivation and agricultural improvements

The area under cultivation has considerably increased during the last twenty years. Large tracts of unoccupied cultivable land are still to be found in the Sirpur Tandur, Mahbubnagar, Warangal, Elgandal and Indur Districts of Telingana. In the Maratha districts the whole of the cultivable land has been taken up. The ryots have taken no interest in improving the quality of their crops by selection of seed, or by the cultivation of new varieties, or by introducing improved agricultural implements.

Implements

In the Maratha tract a large heavy plough is used for breaking up the hard black soil, which is drawn by four or five yoke of cattle, but in Telingana a light plough is employed. Other implements are bullock-hoes, the *bakkhar* (harrow) and the *tippan* (seed-drills). The ordinary *mot* or leathern bucket is the most common water-lift, and is worked by a pair of bullocks. On the banks of rivers and streams, the pair of bullocks. On the banks of rivers and streams, the *yatam* or *bhudki* (a lever-like contrivance) is used by one or two men.

Miscellaneous

There is no agricultural department in the State at present. The duties of a department of Land Records are performed by the Revenue department.

Advances for the construction of wells are given by the State in times of scarcity and famine. The well and field are assigned as security, and the loan is repaid by instalments, with interest at 6 percent per annum. The cultivators are often largely indebted to the money-lender, and frequently become tenants of their creditors. Money is usually advanced by professional money-lenders, but wealthy agriculturists also lend money. Agricultural banks established on sound principles would probably succeed and would be beneficial to the cultivators. The ordinary rate of interest on money advanced is nominally 25 per cent. for the season. The money-lender advances a loan on the security of the future crop, and at harvest time receives 25 per cent. as interest in cash or in kind, at prices ruling at the time, so that the real interest is about 50 per cent. per annum.

Cattle, ponies,
sheep & goats

With the exception of the white cattle of Eastern Telingana, the Khammamett and Devarkonda cattle, and the small bullocks of Adilabad and the Amrabad *taluk*, no special breeds are to be found in the State. The white cattle are indigenous to the country, and are a hardy stock, with black-tipped tails. The Khammamett and Devarkonda breeds are much stronger than the white cattle, and resemble the Mysore breed. The Sirpur Tandur and Amrabad bullocks are of small size, but are fast trotters. The waste lands and forests of the Telingana Districts from the pasture grounds where they are bred. Horses adapted for military and general purposes were formerly reared in large numbers, but the importation of Arabs and Australian horses has diminished the demand. The Government maintains a few Arab sires in some of the Maratha and Telingana Districts, and it is believed that the result has been satisfactory. The Deccan ponies are still

noted for their surefootedness, hardiness, and powers of endurance. The other animals, such as buffaloes, goats, and sheep, are all of the ordinary type. The Marathwara buffaloes are very superior milch cattle, and fetch double or treble the price of the buffaloes of Telingana. Sheep and goats of the ordinary kind are bred everywhere. In most of the Maratha districts, goats of the Gujarat breed are reared, which generally yield a good supply of milk. The price of cattle varies from Rs.40 to Rs.150 or even Rs.200 per pair ; that of ponies from Rs.15 to Rs.150 each. Milch buffaloes in Telingana from Rs. 15 to Rs. 150 each. Milch buffaloes in Telingana are worth from Rs.30 to Rs.45, but in the Maratha Districts they fetch from Rs. 50 to Rs.150. Sheep and goats are sold at from Rs.2 to Rs.3-8 per head, and milch goats at from Rs. 7 to Rs.20 or Rs. 25.

The last famine caused great mortality among cattle in the famine stricken Districts. Grazing lands have been set apart, but in dry seasons the grass in them is very poor. *Kadbi*, or *jowar* stalks, form the chief fodder supply, of which more than sufficient is raised in good years, and large quantities are stacked to meet requirements in times of scarcity.

Fairs

Until recently (1897), a great horse fair was held annually at MALEGAON, in Bidar District, at which a large number of horses and cattle were sold; but for several years past the fair has not taken place owing to the prevalence of plague. At Hyderabad city there is an extensive horse mart. In every District weekly or monthly horse and cattle fairs are held.

Irrigation

The Maratha country being composed of black soil, there is not so much necessity for irrigation as in Telingana; the black soil has the power to retain moisture, which is further supplemented during the cold season by a copious deposit of dew, which

supplies the crops with moisture sufficient for their growth and maturity. Where rice, sugar-cane, and garden produce are raised, the chief sources of supply are wells. The Telingana soils being sandy, it becomes of paramount importance to store water; and for this purpose advantage has been taken of the undulating character of the ground. Dams have been thrown across the valleys of streams and gorges between hills, and rain-water which falls over a large catchment basin is thus collected, and made available for purposes of irrigation by means of sluices.

Besides the tanks and *kuntas* or ponds, irrigation is carried on by means of wells generally, and by means of canals and anicuts in certain Districts. For rice, sugar-cane, and turmeric the land is constantly watered as long as the crops are standing while *baghat* or garden lands require only occasional irrigation. Wheat and barley are usually sown near wells, and are watered from them once a week. Across the Tungabhadra, in Lingsugur District, a series of anicuts have been constructed to hold up the water, which is directed into side channels and is used for supplying tanks and fields along the banks of the river. There are several anicuts in a length of 30 miles on the Tungabhadra, the principal one being at Kuragal, which extends completely across the river. All of these anicuts were built many years ago, and no statistics are obtainable regarding their cost. A new project is now under construction for taking water from the Manjra river in Medak District for irrigation purposes and the supply of tanks.

Tanks

The water from Government tanks is utilized for irrigating the 'wet' lands, which pay a water tax. There are altogether 370 large tanks and 11, 015 *kuntas* or ponds, besides 1, 347 channels, in the State.

The large tanks are maintained by the Public Works department, while the smaller ones, as well as the *kuntas*, are in charge of Revenue officers; but since the introduction of the *dastband* system, *zamindars* and local officials and others have taken up some of the breached tanks, receiving a certain percentage for their maintenance after reconstruction. These, however, are mostly tanks of no very large size.

Most of the tanks- such as the Husain Sagar, the Ibrahim patan, the Mir Alam, the Afzal Sagar, the Jalpalli, and many other large tanks, as well as irrigation channels - were constructed by the former rulers or ministers of the State. The minor tanks are the work of *zamindars*. No complete record is available as to the actual capital outlay, but those constructed in recent years will be described in dealing with Public Works.

Wells

The land served by wells is irrigated by the primitive method of lifting the water by means of large buckets drawn by bullocks. The total number of wells in the State is 123, 175. Where any supply channels from a river or a perennial stream are constructed to carry water to tanks, the ryots sometimes bail out water on either side of the channel by means of hand buckets called *bhurki* or *guda*, and so get a constant flow. Masonry wells cost between Rs.400 and Rs.600, and those lined with stone without any mortar between Rs.200 and Rs.300; such wells have two bullock runs and two buckets, and are capable of irrigating 4 to 5 acres of rice or sugar-cane and 10 acres of garden land.

Rents, wages and prices, Rents

As *ryotwari* is the prevailing revenue system throughout Hyderabad, the sum paid by the cultivator represents the land revenue, which will be dealt with later. In the case of deserted villages, which have been leased by the State, the holder is