

GULBARGA DIVISION

Gulbarga Division-Division is the south-western corner of Hyderabad State, also known as the Southern Division. It lies between 15° 11' and 18° 40' N. and 75° 16' and 77° 51' E., and is bounded on the west and south by the Bombay and Madras Presidencies respectively. The head-quarters of the *Subadhar* or Commissioner are at GULBARGA CITY. The total population of the Division rose from 1,946,737 in 1881 to 2,430,999 in 1891, and 2,462,834 in 1901. The area in the latest year was 16,585 square miles, and the density of population 149 persons per square mile, as compared with 135 for the whole State. In 1901 Hindus formed 88 per cent. and Musalmans 11 per cent. of the total population, while other religions included Jains (6,163), Christians (1,059, of whom 903 were natives), Parsis (152), Sikhs (64), and Animists (209).

In 1901 the Division included the four Districts of Gulbarga, Lingsugur, Osmanabad and Raichur. Considerable changes have been made under the reconstitution of 1905. Lingsugur District has been divided between Gulbarga and Raichur, and the Yadgir *taluk* has been transferred from Raichur to Gulbarga. Bidar District has been added to the Division, which is now constituted as follows :-

District	Area in square miles	Population 1901	Land revenue and cesses 1901, in thousands of rupees
Gulbarga	6,004	1,041,067	18,36
Osmanabad	4,010	535,027	12,51
Raichur	6,879	932,090	19,18
Bidar	4,168	766,129	11,63
Total	21,061	3,274,313	61,68

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The Division contains 32 towns, or about two-fifths of the total number in the State, and 5,652 villges. The largest towns are GULBARGA CITY (population, 29,228) and RAICHUR (22,165). The chief places of commercial importance are Gulbarga, Raichur, OSMANABAD, LATUR, LINGSUGUR, TULJAPUR, BIDAR, and HOMNABAD. Gulbarga, Raichur, Bidar, KALYANI, UDGIR, PARENDA, MUDGAL, Surapur, Kohir, and ANEGUNDI are famous for their historical or archaeological associations.

Boundries, Configuration & Hill and River Systems

Gulbarga District¹.-District is the Gulbarga Division, Hyderabad State, adjoining Osmanabad and Bidar on the north ; Atraf-i-balda and Mahbudnagar on the east ; Mabhubnagar, Raichur, and Lingsugur on the south ; and part of Osmanabad and the District of Bijapur and the Akalkot State of Bombay on the west. It lies between 16° 40' and 17° 44' N. and 76° 22' and 78° 20' E., and had a total area of 4,092 square miles in 1901, including *paigah* and *jagirs* ; while the area of the *khalsa* and *Sarf-i-khas* lands was 2,428 square miles.

A range of hills enters the north of the District from Osmanabad on the west, and continues in a south-easterly direction for about 60 miles through the Mahagaon and Chincholi *taluks*, which are hilly. The remaining *taluks* are almost flat, the slope of the country being from north to south and south-east.

The principal river is the Bhima, a tributary of the Kistna, which rises near Poona in British territory, and, entering the District near Afzalpur in the west, traverses the *taluks* of Gulbarga and Andola for a distance of 150 miles. The other rivers are the

¹ For the alterations made in 1905 See Section on Population. Except where otherwise stated, the article describes the District as it stood before these were effected.

Kagna, and its tributaries the Benithora, Mullamari, and Kamaluti. The Kagna is itself a tributary of the Bhima, as is also the Awarja.

Geology

The geological formations are the Archaean gneiss eastward, the Bhima series about the centre, and the Deccan trap in the north and west. The region has been fully described by Mr. R.B. Foote (*Memoirs, Geological Survey of India*, vol. xii. pt. i).

Botany

Generally speaking, the District is devoid of forests, except in the hilly portions of the Mahagaon and Chincholi *taluks*, which contain teak (*Tectona grandis*), *eppa* (*Hardwickia binata*), *tirman* (*Anogeissus latifolia*), *sandra* (*Acacia Catechu*), *babul* (*Acacia arabica*), *tarvar* (*Cassia auriculata*) *bijasal* (*Ptero-carpus Marsupium*), *mallamaddi* (*Terminalia tomentosa*), *mm*, tamarind, mango, and several species of fig.

Fauna

In the hills and jungles in the northern portion of the District tigers, leopards, bears, *nilgai*, and wild hog are found ; and in the plains, hares and antelope.

Climate

The climate differs materially in the several geological divisions. The Carnatic or trappean portion is hot and dry during the summer, whereas the Telingana or granitic portion, which has wooded hills and tanks, is damp, and not so hot in the dry season. Fever prevails from July to October, and during recent years plague has been prevalent in some *taluks*.

Rainfall

The rainfall is very capricious, causing occasional droughts. Its average amount for the twenty-one years ending 1901 was 29 inches. The great famine of 1900 was result of the abnormally scanty rainfall (14.7 inches) of 1899.

History

Prior to the Muhammadan conquest the District was included in the territory of the Kakatiyas

of Warangal. In the early part of the fourteenth century Ulugh Khan, afterwards Muhammad bin Tughlak, annexed it to the kingdom of Delhi, since which time it has continued under Muhammadan rule. After the death of Muhammad bin Tughlak it fell to the Bahmani kingdom, and, after the break-up of that power, to Bijapur. On the conquest of the Deccan by Aurangzeb it was again included in the empire of Delhi, but was separated from it on the establishment of the Hyderabad State by Asaf Jah.

Archaeology

The fort of Gulbarga, originally built by Raja Gulchand, and afterwards strengthened by Ala-uddin Bahmani, is a remarkable building, containing 15 towers and 26 guns, one of which is 25 feet long. A large mosque, 216 by 176 feet, in the fort, is constructed on the model of the mosque of Cordova in Spain, and is the only one of its kind in India. In the eastern quarter of the city are the tombs of the Bahmani Kings, huge square buildings surmounted by domes. Near the tomb of Khwaja Banda Nawaz are a mosque, a *sarai*, and a college, all built by Aurangzeb in 1687. The forts of Firozabada, on the Bhima river, and of Chincholi and Chitapur are worthy of note, especially the last, where the Portuguese from Goa constructed a curious church, which has now been renovated.

Population

The number of towns and villages, including *paigah* and *jagirs*, is 1,109. The population at the last three enumerations was : (1881) 523,838, (1891) 649,258, and (1901) 742,745. The towns now are GULBARGA, ALAND, SURAPUR, KOSGI, YADGIR, SERAM, SHAHABAD, and KODANGAL. About 81 per cent. of the population in 1901 were Hindus and 15 per cent. Musalmans. Though the District is in the Carnatic division, Kanarese is spoken by only 53 per cent. of the population, Telugu

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being the language of 25, Urdu of 14, and Marathi of 6 per cent. The table on the next page exhibits the details of area, towns, villages, and population, according to the Census of 1901.

In 1905 the Gurmatkal and Mahagaon *taluks* were divided between Seram, Kodangal, Gulbarga, and Yadgir, the last being transferred from Raichur District. Shahpur and Surapur have also been added from the recently abolished Lingsugur District, besides 73, villages from Mahbubnagar District, included in the Kodangal and Yadgir *taluks*. In its present form, the District consists of eight *taluks*-GULBARGA, ANDOLA, CHINCHOLI, KODANGAL, SERAM, YADGIR, SHAHPUR, and SURAPUR ; five *paigah ilakas*, Aland, Firozabad, Afzalpur, Kalgi, and Chitapur ; and two *jagirs*, Tandur and Kosgi. The area of *paigah* and *jagirs* is approximately 976 square miles, and the population 253,349.

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				
Gulbarga	524	1	108	75,512	144	- 11.0	Not available
Mahagaon	307	-	81	43,090	140	- 3.6	
Chincholi	277	-	69	37,671	136	+ 16.0	
Kodangal	141	1	60	31,182	221	- 8.7	
Seram	267	1	72	50,043	187	+ 52.2	
Gurumatkal	304	-	86	51,424	169	+ 8.5	
Andola	608	-	117	73,854	121	+ 24.1	
<i>Jagirs</i> &c.	1,664	4	509	379,969	228	+ 11.1	
District total	4,092	7	1,102	742,745	181	+ 14.4	14,880

Castes & Occupations

The most numerous agricultural caste is that of the Kunbis (2,31,000), of whom 81,000 are Lingayat or Banjara Kapus and 77,500 Kolis. Next in point of numbers are the Mahars or village menials (67,600), the Mangs or leather workers (39,100), the Vanis or trading caste (30,000), and the Brahmans (18,000). The Mahars and Mangs also work as field-labourers. The number directly engaged in agriculture in 1901 was 432,814, or 58 per cent. of the total population.

Christian Missions

An American Methodist mission was established at Gulbarga in 1883, with a branch at Karni. A school connected with it has 200 pupils. The District contained 187 native Christians in 1901, of whom 113 were Roman Catholics and 62 Protestants.

General Agricultural Conditions

Gulbarga falls into two natural divisions, the Carnatic and the Telingana. In the former *regar* or black cotton soil predominates, which is interspersed with *masabor chalka*; in the latter *masab* and *kharab* or sandy soils predominate, though *regar* is not wanting. In the Carnatic portion *rabi* crops, such as white *jowar*, wheat, gram, cotton, and linseed, are extensively grown, while in the latter yellow *jowar*, *bajra*, castor-seed, rice, linseed, and hemp are the common *kharif* crops. In the two Telingana *taluks* of Kodangal and Gurmatkal rice is largely raised with tank-irrigation. The soils of Chincholi and Mahagaon are lateritic, and rank next to the *regar* in fertility.

Chief Agricultural Statistics and Principal Crops

The tenure of lands is mainly *ryotwari*. In 1901, out of an area of 2,428 square miles of *khalsa*, 'crown' lands, and *inams*, 1,955 were cultivated, 43 being irrigated; 138 square miles were cultivable waste and fallows, 126 were occupied by forests, and 209 were not available for cultivation. The staple food-crop is *jowar*, covering 64 per cent. of the net area cropped. *Bajra*, rice, and wheat come next in

importance, the area under each being 206, 32 and 22 square miles. Cotton and oilseeds were grown on 50 and 103 square miles.

On the completion of the settlement of the District in 1893, the whole of the available lands were taken up by the ryots, hence no extension of holdings has been possible. The cultivators have shown no disposition to adopt improved agricultural implements or new varieties of seed.

Cattle & c.

There is no particular breed of cattle, but those ordinarily reared are strong and suitable for ploughing the stiff *regar* and heavy loamy soils. Sheeps and goates are of the ordinary type. Ponies are to be had everywhere for from Rs.25 to Rs.30, but those of the Andola *taluk* command as much as Rs. 100. Two Arab stallions are kept by the State of Gulbarga and Kodangal for the purpose of improving the breed of horses.

Irrigation

The total area of irrigated land in 1900-01 was 43 square miles, or about 2.2 percent. of the cultivated area. The different sources of irrigation and the areas under each are as follows : canals and channels 4.5 square miles, and tanks and wells 38.5. Kodangal and Gurmatkal are the only *taluks* where tank-irrigation is carried on. There are altogether 107 large and 119 small tanks, 5,255 wells, and 196 other sources of irrigation, such as anicuts and channels, all in good repair.

Forests

In the Chincholi *taluk* 51 square miles of land were formed into a 'reserved' forest in 1896, which contains teak and other valuable timber. The *taluks* of Seram, Kodangal, Gurmatkal, and Mahagaon also contain some scrubby jungle and open forests. The total area of protected and unprotected forests is 126 square miles.

Minerals

The most important mineral found and worked extensively in the District is laminated limestone, which occurs at Shahabad on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, Chitapur on the Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway, and also in the Gulbarga and Seram Taluks. The stone is known as 'Shahabad Stone,' from the name of the place where it was first quarried, and is largely employed in roofing and flooring.

Arts and

Among hand industries are the weaving of cotton and silk *saris* and cloth of gold, ordinary cotton cloth, and cotton tweeds. In the Andola and Chincholi *taluks* the shepherds make blankets of very superior quality valued at from Rs. 10 to Rs. 50, which are durable and waterproof. A large spinning and weaving mill, 2 miles west of Gulbarga, began working in 1886, with a capital of 12 lakhs. It contains 21,036 spindles and 224 looms, and gives occupation to 970 persons. There is one ginning factory in the Seram *taluk*.

Commerce

The exports consist of *jowar*, *bajra*, and other cereals and pulses, hides, cotton, jaggery, oilseeds, tobacco, and *tarwar* bark used in tanning. The chief imports are salt, salted fish, opium, spices, gold and silver, refined sugar, sulphur, yarn, raw silk, iron, brass, cotton and wollen stuffs, matches, kerosene oil, and hardware. The city of Gulbarga is the chief centre of trade, to which everything is brought to the Great Indian Peninsula Railway, and thence distributed to all parts of the District. The other centres are Tandur and Sulhpur. The trading castes are Lingayat Vanis and Komatis, besides Momins, Marwaris, and Bhatias. The Bhatias, who come from Bombay, are engaged in the export of grain and oilseeds.

Railways

The Great Indian Peninsula Railway line

enters the District at dudneh in the west and leaves it near Wadi junction, with a length of 50 miles. The Nizam's Guaranteed State Railway, starting from Wadi junction, runs north-east and east for 115 miles.

Roads

The total length of road is only 79 miles. These run from Gulbarga to Homnabad ($37\frac{1}{2}$ miles), Tandur station to Kosgi (26 miles), Nawandgi station to dichkanpalli ($11\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and the Malkhaid road (4 miles).

Famine

Altogether eight famines were recorded during the last century, in 1804, 1819, 1833, 1854, 1873, 1877-78, 1897 and 1899-1900. The famine of 1804 was partly due to struggles with the Marathas, and partly to excessive rain, which prevented sowings; and that of 1873 was caused by the influx of people from the adjoining famine-stricken districts; all the others were the result of local drought and the failure of crops. The rainfall in 1899 was less than half the average, causing the failure of both the *kharif* and *rabi* crops, which resulted in the famine of 1900. The distress was intense, and relief measures were carried out at a cost to the State of $3\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. The loss of cattle was computed at 28 percent.

District
Sub divisions
and staff

The District is divided into three subdivisions: the first comprising the *taluks* of Seram, Kodangal, and Yadgir, under a Second Talukdar; the second comprising the *taluks* of Chincholi and Gulbarga, under a Third Talukdar; and the third comprising the *taluks* of Andola, Shahpur, and Surapur, under the head-quarters Second Talukdar. There is a *tahsildar* in each *taluk*.

Civil and
Criminal Justice

The District civil court is under a Judge called the *Nazim-i-Diwani*, and each *tahsildar* sits as a subordinate civil court. The First Talukdar is the chief magistrate of the District, and the *Nazim-i-*

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Diwani is a joint-magistrate, who exercises magisterial powers during the absence of the First Talukdar from head quarters. The Second and Third Talukdars and the *tahsildars* exercise second and third-class magisterial powers. As Gulbarga city is the head-quarters of the Division, the *Subahdar* and the *Nazim-i-Subah* or Divisional Civil and Criminal Judge also hold their courts there. Serious crime in ordinary years is light, but cattle-thefts and dacoities increase in adverse seasons.

Land Revenue

The District was formed in 1873, and then consisted of only six *taluks*; but on the breaking up of Surapur District in 1883 the Andola *taluk* was transferred to Gulbarga. Prior to 1866, *taluks* were made over to revenue farmers who received 10 per cent. on the collections; but in 1866 regular officials were appointed for revenue and judicial work. The first regular settlement was completed in 1893 and the assessment was fixed for fifteen years, resulting in an increase of Rs. 1,76,970, or nearly 18 per cent. The average assessment on 'dry' land is Rs. 1-2 (maximum Rs. 2-2, minimum R. 1), and on 'wet' land Rs. 11 (maximum Rs. 14, minimum Rs. 5).

The land revenue and the total revenue of the District are shown below, in thousands of rupees

	1881	1891	1901	1903
Land revenue	7,49	11,32	11,77	11,27
Total revenue	13,92	21,82	23,84	25,67

Owing to the changes in area effected in 1905, the land revenue demand is now about 17.4 lakhs.

Local and Municipal Government

The levy of a local cess of one anna is the rupee on land revenue was commenced from 1890, five-twelfths of the total being set apart for roads and

public purposes. Boards were constituted for every *taluk*, except Gulbarga, where a District board was formed, which supervises the working of the *taluk* boards and municipalities of Gulbarga and all *taluk* headquarters. The total income in 1901 was Rs. 66,300, and the expenditure Rs. 48,600.

Police and Jails

The first Talukdar is the head of the District police, the *Mohtamim* or Superintendent being his executive deputy. Under him are an assistant, 9 inspectors, 96 subordinate officers, 600 constables, and 30 mounted police distributed among 34 *thanas*. The Central jail at Gulbarga is capable of accommodating 1,000 prisoners. Convicts with sentences exceeding six months from Osmanabad, Raichur, and Lingsugur are sent here. The six outlying *taluk* offices have lock-ups for temporary confinement. The prisoners in the Central jail are taught various industries ; and carpets, *shatranjis*, counterpanes, towels of sorts, cotton tweeds and other cloths, tents, and furniture of all descriptions are made, most of which are sold locally.

Education

Gulbarga District takes a low place as regards the literacy of its population, of whom only 2 per cent. (3.8 males and 0.11 females) could read and write in 1901. The first State school was opened in 1866, and local board schools were established in 1890. The total number of pupils under instruction in 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1903 was 323, 2,130, 3,600, and 3,317 respectively. In 1903 there were 43 primary schools, one middle, and one high school, 273 girls being under instruction in that year. The total amount expended on education in 1901 was Rs. 26,750, of which 52 per cent. was devoted to primary schools.

Medical

The District possesses one hospital and four dispensaries, with accommodation for 24 in-

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patients. In 1901 the total number of cases treated in all these institutions was 34,438, of whom 204 were in-patients. The number of operations performed was 652. The total expenditure was s. 15,580, or which Rs. 12,555 was contributed by the State and Rs. 3,025 from the local cess. Besides these, there is a *yunani* dispensary in Gulbarga city, at which the total number of patients treated in 1901 was 24,295. The expenditure was Rs. 2,088, met wholly from the local cess.

The number of persons successfully vaccinated in 1900-01 was 1,766, or 2.37 per 1,000 of the population. Compared with previous years, the proportion has risen.

Gulbarga Taluk: Central *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State. In 1901 the area was 674 square miles, and the population 103,051, including *jagirs*. The population in 1891 had been 115,699, the decrease being due to plague. The *taluk* contains GULBARGA CITY (population, 29,228), the head-quarters of the Division, District, and *taluk* : and 145 villages, of which 37 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 2.8 lakhs. In 1905 the Mahagaon *taluk* was merged in Gulbarga. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway passes through the *taluk*, which is composed of black cotton soil. The two *paigah ilakas* of Afzalpur and Kalgi, with populations of 34,909 and 30,610, and 47 and 43 villages respectively, lie to the west and east of Gulbarga. Their areas are about 151 and 136 square miles.

Mahagaon: Former *taluk* in the north of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State. The population, including *jagirs*, was 61,179 in 1901, and the area 379 square miles, the population having decreased from 63,438 in 1891. It contained 104 villages, of which 23 were *jagir* ; and Mahagaon (population, 3,155) was the head-quarters. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.4 lakhs. In 1905 the *taluk* was merged in the Gulbarga *taluk*. The *paigah taluk* of Aland is situated to the north-west, with 74 villages and a population of 84,795. It contains one town, ALAND (Population, 10,130), the head-quarters, and has an area of about 245 square miles.

Chincholi: North-eastern *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State,

with an area of 413 square miles. The population in 1901 was 58,860, compared with 50,737 in 1891. Chincholi (population, 4,008) is the head-quarters ; and the *taluk* contains 110 villages, of which 41 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.5 lakhs. Chincholi is hilly, and composed of lateritic and black cotton soils. In the rearrangement of 1905 the *taluk* received a few villabes from Kodangal.

Kodangal Taluk: Eastern *taluk* of Gulbarga district, Hyderabad State, with an area of 211 square miles and population in 1901 of 62,091, including *jagirs*, compared with 67,983 in 1891. It had three towns, KODANGAL (population, 5,099), the head-quarters, TANDUR (5,930), and KOSGI (8,228); and 95 villages, of which 35 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.1 lakhs. In 1905 the *taluk* was enlarged by the addition of 59 villages from Gurmatkal and 15 from Koilkonda in Mahbubnagar, while it lost 21 villages to Chincholi. Rice is largely grown with tank-irrigation. The two *jagir taluks*, Tandur and Kosgi, with 62 and 11 villages, and 23,725 and 15,344 inhabitants respectively, lie to the north and south-east. Tandur and Kosgi are their head-quarter towns, and their areas are 202 and 25 square miles respectively.

Seram Taluk : Eastern *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 82,349, compared with 54,106 in 1891 ; the area was 404 square miles. Up to 1905 the *taluk* contained one town, SERAM (population, 5,503), the head-quarters ; and 117 villages, of which 45 were *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.8 lakhs. In 1905 ; 21 villages from Gurmatkal were added to Seram. Rice is grown in the *taluk* with tank-irrigation. The *paigah taluk* of Chitapur, with a population of 28,930 and 38 villages, lies to the east of this *taluk*, and has an area of about 121 square miles.

Yadgir Taluk : *Taluk* in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, Till 1905 the *taluk* was attached to Raichur District. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 42,996 and the area 355 square miles. In 1891 the population was 62,264, the decrease being due to the transfer of certain villages to the adjoining *taluks* and Districts. The *taluk* contains one town, YADGIR (population, 6,271), the head-quarters ; and 64 villages, of which 14 are *jagir*. The Bhima river flows along the western border. The land revenue in 1901 was Rs. 86,000. In 1905 the *taluk* was enlarged by the addition of some villages from Gurmatkal and from mahbubnagar District.

Gurmatkal: Former *taluk* in the south-east of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State. In 1901 it had an area of 320 square miles and a population of 52,480, compared with 48,348 in 1891. The 91 villages it contained were divided in 1905 between the Seram, Yadgir, and Kodangal *taluks*. The land revenue in 1901 was a lakh.

Shahpur : *Taluk* in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, with an area of 585 square miles, including *jagirs*. The population in 1901 was 104,274, compared with 93,210 in 1891. It contains one town, SAGAR (population, 5,445), and 150 villages, of which 40 are *jagir*; Shahpur (3,251) is the head-quarters. The Bhima river flows along the south-east border. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.7 lakhs. The soil is chiefly of the black cotton description.

Surapur Taluk: *Taluk* in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State. The area in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 664 square miles, and the population 105,702, compared with 101,185 in 1891. It contains one town, SURAPUR (population, 82,71), the head-quarters ; and 181 villages, of which 48 are *jagir*. The Kistna river forms the southern boundary. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.7 lakhs.

Andola : Southern *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, with an area of 740 square miles. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 84,731, compared with 68,279 in 1891. Andola contains 147 villages, of which 30 are *jagir*, Jevargi (population, 2,194) being the head-quarters. The land revenue in 1901 was 2.1 lakhs. The *paigah taluk* of Firozabad lies to the north, with a population of 35,035, and contains 29 villages and one town, SHAHABAD (population, 5,105) the head-quarters. The area is about 96 square miles.

Aland : Head-quarters of the *paigah taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 34'N. and 76° 35'E., 20 miles north-west of Gulbarga city. Population (1901), 10,130. Aland is a commercial centre of some importance.

Gulbarga City: Ancient city and head-quarters of the Gulbarga Division and District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 21'N. and 76° 51' E. The population in 1901 was 29,228, compared with 28,200 in 1891 and 22,834 in 1881. Gulbarga was formerly a Hindu city of some importance, and before the Musalman conquest formed part of the dominions of the

Raja of WARANGAL. Warangal, Gulbarga, and Bidar were successively captured by Muhammad bin Tughlak early in the fourteenth century. About 1345 the Deccan governors rebelled against Muhammad bin Tughlak ; and in the confusion that followed Zafar Khan assumed royal dignity and, proclaiming his independence, took possession of the Deccan provinces, including Daulatabad, Gulbarga, and Bidar, and establishing his capital at Gulbarga commenced to reign in 1347 under the title of Ala-ud-din Hasan Shah Gangu Bahmani, or according to some historians Ala-ud-din Bahman Shah. Gulbarga remained the capital of the Bahmani kings from this date until the reign of Ahmad Shah Wali, who removed his capital to Bidar. Gulbarga then rapidly lost its importance. In 1504 it was occupied by the Bijapur troops ; and, though recovered by Amir Barid in 1514, it was shortly after again taken by the Bijapur troops, and remained in the possession of the Adil Shahi kings until the Mughal invasion of the Deccan, when Mir Jumla besieged and took it in 1657. From this period Gulbarga formed part of the Deccan possession of the Delhi rulers, till the surrender of Hyderabad to the first of the Nizams. The old palaces and mosques which were erected by the Bahmani kings were suffered to fall into ruins and decay after the removal of the capital to Bidar.

The city is situated on an undulating plain, presenting a somewhat dreary expanse of black soil. It was made the head-quarters of a Division about 1874, when a new era of prosperity commenced. It now contains the residence of the *Subahdar*, several large buildings for state offices and officials, a Central jail, a public garden, a large tank, an extensive market-place, schools, post office and other public offices, a cotton-spinning and weaving mill and a christian mission with a school attached to it. The south-eastern line of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway has a station 2 miles from the city. Gulbarga is a large centre of trade, and has of late years become a prosperous place and a rival of Sholapur. In the eastern quarter of the city and the tombs of the Bahmani kings. They are huge square buildings surmounted by domes, and are roughly but strongly built. Not far away is the shrine of Khwaja Banda Nawaz, a celebrated Musalman saint, who came here during the reign of Firoz Shah Bahmani in 1413. To the north-west is the old fort of Gulbarga, the out walls and gateways of which, together with most of the old buildings in it, are in a dilapidated condition. The *bala hisar* or

citadel is in a better state of preservation. One of the most remarkable buildings in this part of India is the unfinished mosque in the old fort, built in the reign of Firoz Shah and modelled after the great mosque of Cordova in Spain, measuring 216 feet east and west, and 176 feet north and south, and covering an area 38,016 square feet. Its great peculiarity is that the whole area is covered in.

Kondangal Town: Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 7' N. and 77° 38' E., 12 miles south of Tandur station on the Nizam's State Railway. Population (1901), 5,099. Besides the *tahsil* office, the office of the police inspector, a *taluk* post office, and a vernacular upper primary school with 232 pupils are located here. Kodangal has a mosque said to be 300 years old.

Kosgi : Head-quarters of the estate of the same name belonging to Sir Salar Jang's family, in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 59' N. and 77° 43' E. Population (1901), 8,228. The town contains a dispensary, a police station, a school with 50 pupils, all maintained by the estate, and three private schools with 140 pupils. Silk and cotton *saris* are extensively made, there being 1,500 looms at work.

Sagar.-Jagir town in the Shahpur *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 37' N. and 76° 48' E., 6 miles south of Shahpur town. Population (1901), 5,445. Two large tanks and the shrine of Sufi Sarmast, a Musalman Saint, lie close to the town.

Seram Town : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 11' N. and 77° 18' E., on the Nizam's State Railway. Population (1901), 5,503. Seram contains many old temples and mosques, notable among them being the old Jama Masjid, constructed in the pillar and lintel style, and the temple of Panchalinga, the pillars of which are richly carved, while the ceilings are well decorated. It has a ginning factory also.

Shahabad : Town in the *paigah taluk* of Firozabad, Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 8' N. and 76° 56' E. Population (1901), 5,105. Laminated limestone, known as 'Shahabad stone,' is largely quarried in the vicinity, and takes its name from the town. It is an important station on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. An elegant masonry enclosure in the centre of the town is supposed to be the wall

of a royal palace, and encloses a large mosque and a well. The town contains two post offices, British and Nizam's, a police station, a dispensary, and three primary schools.

Surapur Town : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 31' N. and 76° 46' E. Population (1901), 8,271. The town belonged to the Rajas of Surapur, the last of whom revolted during the Mutiny of 1857, and the *samasthan* was made over to the Hyderabad State as a gift after the restoration of order. It contains a Munsif's court, a dispensary, an English middle school, a girls' school, a post office, a branch British post office, and the 'New Darbar,' a large building built by Colonel Meadows Taylor during his residence here.

Tandur : Head-quarters of the *jagir taluk* of the same name is the Kodangal *taluk* of Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 15' N. and 77° 34' E., on the Nizam's State Railway. Population (1901), 5,930. The Kagna river flows one mile south of the town.

Yadgir Town : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Gulbarga District, Hyderabad State, situated in 16° 46' N. and 77° 9' E., on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The fort of Yadgir was built on a hill by a Yadava king. An inscription on the Nizam Burj gives an account of Nizam Ali Khan's visit to the governor of the place. In the town are a Jama Masjid and another mosque with an inscription. Yadgir also contains a post office, a middle school with 237 pupils, and a police inspector's office.

**Boundaries,
configuration
and hill and
River Systems**

Lingasugur District¹.-Frontier District in the Gulbarga Division of Hyderabad State, situated in the south-west corner adjoining the Bombay Districts of Bijapur and Dharwar, which bound it to the west ; Gulbarga and Raichur, which border it to the north and east ; and the Madras District of Bellary, from which it is separated by the Tungabhadra river to the east and south. It lies between 15° 3' and 16° 20' N. and 75° 48' and 77° 2'

1. In 1905 the District of Lingasugur was abolished, the Shahpur and Surpur *taluks* been transferred to Gulbarga and other four to Raichur