

fortifications form a square of large stones 12 feet long by 3 feet thick, laid on one another without any cementing material. They consist of two walls, an inner and an outer, and are surrounded on three sides by a deep ditch, while on the fourth or southern side there is a hill. The outer fortifications and the gateways were constructed by Ibrahim Adil Shah about 1549. The inner fort has two gateways and the outer three. The fort contains an old gun over 20 feet long. Outside the eastern gate is a mosque having a single minaret 240 feet high and 30 feet in circumference, with a winding staircase, which was built in 1503 during the reign of Mahmud Shah Bahmani. A good view of the surrounding country is obtained from the top of this minaret. The Jama Masjid in the town was built in 1618. Raichur has three cotton-presses, a tannery, and a distillery, and is a rising commercial centre.

**Sindhur Town** : Head-quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Raichur District, Hdyerabad State, situated in 15° 47' N. and 76° 46' E. Population (1901), 5,242. The town contains a post office and a school. Country cloth, grain, and especially cotton are largely exported. Half a mile from the town is a stone mosque said to have been erected during Aurangzeb's reign.

**Boundaries  
configuration  
and Hill and  
River systems**

**Bidar District** : District in the Gulbarga Division of Hyderabad State, lying between 17° 30' and 18° 51' N. and 76° 30' and 77° 51' E., with a total area of 4,168 square miles, of which 2,120 square miles are *jagir*<sup>1</sup>. It is bounded by Nander District and the *paigah* estates of Nawab Sir Vikar-ul-Umara, on the north ; by the *paigah* estates of Nawab Sir Khurshed Jah, on the east and south ; and by the Districts of Bhir and Osmanabad and the *paigah* and Kalyani *jagirs*, on the west.

From Khanapur, 8 miles west of Bidar, a range of low laterite hills, forming a plateau which terminates towards the north above the valley of the Manjra, extends due east as far as sadaseopet in Medak District ; otherwise the country is almost flat, with a gentle slope towards the east.

1. These figures relate to the district before the alterations made in 1905; see paragraph on population

Besides the Manjra, the largest river in the District, which enters it from Osmanabad, and runs almost due east, there are ten minor streams : the Ghirni and Bahnar, both tributaries of the manjra ; the Tiru, Urgi, Reondi, Manmuri, Lendi, Tirna, Madhura, and Karanja. The Manjra is the only perennial river, all the others running dry during the summer months. None of these rivers is utilized for irrigation purposes.

### Geology

The District is occupied almost entirely by the Deccan trap, the underlying gneiss appearing along its eastern border.

### Climate and Rainfall

Bidar is noted for its healthy climate. The waters of the Climate lateritic region are chalybeate, and possess tonic properties. The southern half of the District being a high plateau about 2,350 feet above the sea, and well drained, the climate is very dry and healthy. The temperature is much lower here and in the west than towards the east. The western and northern *taluks* are generally more favoured as regards rain than the southern and eastern. The annual rainfall averages about 37 inches. In 1899 and 1900 it was scanty, the latter being a famine year.

### History

The history of the District commences with the capture of the capital by Muhammad bin Tughlak in 1321. In 1347 Bahman Shah Gangu, the first Bahmani king of Gulbarga, took Bidar. In 1430 Ahmad Shah Wali Bahmani founded the modern town, built the fort, and removed his capital here from Gulbarga. On the dissolution of the Bahmani kingdom, the District fell to the Barid Shahis of Bidar, who reigned from 1492 to 1609 ; afterwards it was included in the Adil Shahi kingdom of Bijapur. The city was plundered by Malik Ambar, the Nizam Shahi minister of Ahmadnagar in 1624, but was recovered by the king of Bijapur, and remained part

of his realm till about 1656, when Aurangzeb took it. The District was included in the Hyderabad State on its foundation early in the eighteenth century.

### Archaeology

The District contains numerous relics of its palmy days, prominent among them being the fort of Bidar, which is surrounded by a wall and ditch. Though the fortifications and battlemented walls are very strong and are still well preserved, the old palaces are more or less decayed. On the bastions are a number of guns, formed of bars of metal welded together and bound by hoops. Bidar contains many ruined palaces and mosques, among the latter being two large mosques known as the Jama Masjid, a handsome building, and the 'sixteen-pillared' mosque. Outside the town and to the west of it are the tombs of the Barik Shahi dynasty. The tombs of twelve Bahmani kings lie to the north-east of the town. Numerous ruins of temples, caves, and mosques are to be found near KALYANI, the capital of the Chalukyas, and at the villages of Nilanga, Karusa, Kaulas, Narayanpur, Sakol, Siruri, Sitapur, and Tivrath.

### Population

The number of towns and villages in the District, including large *ilakas* and *jagirs*, is 1,464. The population at the last three enumerations was : (1881) 788,827, (1891) 901,984, and (1901) 766,129. The decrease during the last decade was due chiefly to famine, but partly to the transfer of the Jukal *taluk*, with a population of 15,789, to Atraf-i-balda District. The head-quarters are at BIDAR, the other towns being KALYANI, HOMNABAD, KOHIR, UDGIR, BHALKI, and ALIKHER. More than 87 per cent. of the population were "Hindus, 14 per cent. being Musalmans, with only 15 Christians. The District lies at the junction of three linguistic division, and about 34 per cent. of the people speak Marathi, 35

percent. Kanarase, more than 16 percent. Telugu, and about 15 percent. Urdu.

The following table gives the chief staistics of population in 1901

<i>Taluk</i>	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				
Bidar	114	1	46	29,005	254	- 0.5	Not available
Karamungi	150	--	57	31,412	209	- 7.3	
Aurad	158	--	54	16,330	103	- 24.0	
Kohir	147	1	42	32,041	217	- 0.3	
Nilanga	248	--	63	39,830	160	- 17.5	
Udgir	544	1	153	78,642	144	- 16.7	
Varval - Rajura	687	--	211	74,637	109	- 41.2	
<i>Jagirs &amp;c.</i>	2,120	4	831	464,232	219	- 15.3	
District total	4,168	7	1,457	766,129	181	- 15.1	14,564

In 1905 the Kohir *taluk* was merged in Bidar, and Aurad in Karamungi, while minor changes have been made in the Udgir, Nilanga, and Varval-Rajura taluks. The District in its present form comprises five *taluks*. BIDAR, KARAMUNGI, NILANGA, UDGIR, and VARVAL-RAJURA. It was formerly part of the Bidar Division.

**Castes and Occupations**

The most numerous caste is that of the agriculturist Kapus or Kunbis, 113,800, besides other agricultural castes, numbering 71,000, including 28,000 Munnurs. The Banias, or the trading and money-lending caste, number 13,000. Next come the Dhangars or shepherds, 52,000. The Mahars and Mangs number 68,000 and 60,000 respectively ; the former work as agricultural labourers and the latter in leather. The Velmas number 32,000. The number of persons

- directly engaged in agriculture is 54 per cent. of the total. There were only four native Christians in 1901.
- General Agricultural Conditions**      The soils of the District consist of *regar* or black cotton soil, and *masab* or red soil. The *regar* is generally met within basins, valleys, and hollows, while the *masab* or red soil is found in high country. The *regar* is derived from schistose and gneissose rock (trap), and the red soil from laterite; both are very fertile.
- Chief Agricultural Statistics and Principal Crops**      The tenure of lands is entirely *ryotwari*. *Khalsa* and 'crown' lands covered 2,048 square miles in 1901, of which 1,788 were cultivated, while 51 were fallows and cultivable waste, 20 were forests, and 189 were not available for cultivation. The staple food-crop consists of the various kinds of *jowar*, grown on 44 percent of the net area cropped. Next come wheat, rice, and *bajra*, the areas under which were 91,50 and 2 square miles respectively. Rice is grown in all the *taluks* except Kohir. The area under pulses of different kinds was 159 square miles.
- Cattle & c.**      There is no special breed of cattle, but those reared locally are sufficient for the needs of the cultivators. Maratha ponies sell for from Rs. 40 to Rs. 200, and the State maintains two Arab stallions at Bidar for the purpose of improving the breed. Sheep and goats of the ordinary kind are reared.
- Irrigation**      The area irrigated is only about 34 square miles, distributed as follows: canals and channels supply 4 square miles, wells 28 and other sources 2. Though there are eight tanks and ponds, they are used, with one exception, for drinking purposes only. The chief supply of water is derived from wells, of which there are 2,980.
- Forests**      The district contains no 'reserved' or 'protected' forests, but there are 20 square miles of unprotected forests.

**Minerals**

The minerals found are soapstone, red ochre, and a gypsumlike mineral, the last being used for plastering flat roofs to make them waterproof. Blocks of red and yellow laterite and black basalt are generally used for building purposes. The latter is largely utilized for tombstones and takes a very good polish.

**Arts and Manufactures**

Bidar town is celebrated for its *bidri* ware, to which it has given its name. This consists of an alloy of copper, lead, tin, and zinc, inlaid with silver and occasionally gold. *Hukkas*, *pandans* (betel-boxes), tumblers and goblets, washing basins and ewers, and other vessels are made of this ware. Unfortunately the industry is dying out, owing to want of support. Some fine specimens of this work were made for presentation of His royal Highness the Prince of Wales (His present Majesty) in 1875, and others have been sent to various exhibitions from time to time. Some embroidery and needle work is also prepared. Ordinary coarse cotton cloth and *saris*, & c., formerly manufactured to a considerable extent, are being gradually displaced by the importation of cheaper mill-made cloths. Black blankets made by the Dhangars (shepherds) fetch from Rs. 1-8 to Rs. 6 a piece. Formerly several sugar refineries existed in the District, but the importation of cheap refined sugar has ruined the local manufacture.

**Commerce**

The principal exports are *jowar* and other food-grains, cotton, oil, chillies, oilseeds, sheep, jaggery, tobacco, and horns. The chief imports consist of hardware, salt, salted fish, opium, gold and silver, copper, brass and copper vessels, refined sugar, iron, mineral oil, sulphur, raw silk, and all kinds of woollen, silk, and cotton fabrics. The centre of trade is the town of BIDAR. HOMNABAD, which was once the chief market, has lost its importance

since the opening of the Nizam's State Railway. The principal trading castes are the Vanis, Komatis, and Baljawars, who are also money-lenders. Weekly markets are held in different parts of the District. A great horse and cattle fair used to be held annually at MALEGAON, in November and December, which lasted for a whole month. Upwards of 4,000 horses and ponies were sold at the last fair in 1897, but it has not been held since the outbreak of plague.

#### Roads

There is no line of railway in Bidar. The metalled road from Osmanabad to Hyderabad passes through the District, and is lined on both sides with avenues of acacia.

#### Famine

The famine of 1876-78 affected Bidar only slightly, but the District suffered severely from that of 1899-1900. The rainfall in 1899 was only 15 inches, while prior to that year there had also been droughts. Six relief works were opened in the *taluks* of Varval-Rajura, Udgir, and Nilanga, which suffered the most, the highest daily attendance being 29,262. The out-turn of the *Kharif* and *rabi* crops was about 28 per cent., while the early rice crop yielded 37 per cent and the late or *tabi* crop was a total failure. The population at the Census of 1901 showed a decrease of 15 per cent., largely due to famine, while the loss of cattle was estimated at more than one-half. The total cost of the famine amounted to nearly 3 lakhs.

#### District Sub-divisions and Staff

There are two sub-divisions in the District. One, consisting of the *taluks* of Udgir, Varval-Rajura and Nilanga, is in charge of the Second Talukdar; and the other, comprising the *taluks* of Bidar and Karamungi, is under the Third Talukdar, the First Talukdar exercising a general supervision over their work. Each *taluk* is under a *tahsildar*.

#### Civil and Criminal Justice

The District civil court is under a Civil Judge styled the *Nazim-i-Diwani*. There are seven

subordinate civil courts, each under a *tahsildar*. The First Talukdar is the chief magistrate of the District, and the Civil Judge is also a joint-magistrate, who exercises 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. There is no much serious crime in ordinary years; dacoities vary according to the state of season.

### Land Revenue

No information is available regarding the revenue history of the District. According to the old system, villages were farmed out to contractors who received  $1\frac{1}{2}$  annas per rupee for collection. In 1866 this system was abolished throughout the Nizam's Dominions, and administration by District officials was introduced. In 1885 the District was surveyed and settled for fifteen years. The average assessment on 'dry' land is Rs. 2 (maximum Rs.3, minimum Rs. R-1), and on 'wet' land Rs. 8 (maximum Rs. 15, minimum Rs. 2-8).

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

	1881	1891	1901	1903
Land revenue	10,04	10,96	10,94	10,22
Total revenue	13,24	15,54	15,30	13,89

### Local Boards

A local cess of one anna per rupee is levied on the land revenue, three pies of which are set apart for local purposes. There is a District board at Bidar, and six *taluk* boards have also been formed. The District board supervises the working of the *taluk* boards as well as that of the municipality of Bidar. The total expenditure of these boards in 1901 was



Rs. 12,200. There is a small conservancy establishment at each of the *taluk* head-quarters.

**Police and Jails**

The First Talukdar is the head of the District police, with a Superintendent (*Mohtamim*) as his executive deputy. There are 27 police stations in the district ; and the force consists of 446 constables, 75 subordinate officers, and 52 mounted police under 7 inspectors. there is also a small special police force called *Rakhwali*. The District jail at Bidar has accommodation for 100 prisoners, but those with sentences of upwards of six months were until recently transferred to the Central jail at Nizamabad.

**Education**

The District takes a low position as regards literacy, only 1.9 per cent. (3.7 males and 0.6 females) of the population being able to read and write in 1901. The total number of pupils under instruction in 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1903 was 655, 2,849, 2,742, and 2,559 respectively. In 1903 there were 30 primary and 2 middle schools and one high school, with 304 girls under instruction. The total expenditure on education in that year amounted to Rs. 25,800, of which Rs. 4,365 was contributed by the local boards, Rs. 12,857 by the State, and Rs. 1,560 from school fees.

**Medical**

There are four dispensaries, including one *yunani*, in the District, with accommodation for 12 in-patients. In 1901 the number of cases treated in all these dispensaries was 34,900, of whom 194 were in-patients. The number of operations performed was 503 and the total expenditure was Rs. 11,248.

In 1901 only 1,773 persons were successfully vaccinated, representing 2.3 per 1,000 of the population.

**Bidar Taluk :** *Taluk* in Bidar District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 105,392, and the area ws 487 square miles.

In 1891 the population was 105,781. These figures include the totals for the Kohir *taluk*, merged in Bidar in 1905, which had an area of 236 square miles and a population in 1901 of 52,558. The *taluk* contains two towns, BIDAR (population, 11,367), the head-quarters of the District and *taluk*, and KOHIR (6,379), besides 177 villages, of which 89 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.6 lakhs. The *taluk* is situated on a plateau, composed mainly of lateritic soil, and is crossed by the Manjra river. The *paigah taluks* of Chincholi (population, 42,971 ; villages, 47), Ekeli (population, 24,324 ; villages, 53), and Chitgopa (population, 80,929 ; villages, 93), and the *jagir* of Kalyani (population, 36,205 ; villages, 72) adjoin this *taluk*. KALYANI (Population, 11,191), HOMNABAD (7,136), and ALIKHER (5,740) are the chief towns in the Kalyani *jagir* and Chincholi *taluk*.

**Karamungi :** 'Crown' *taluk* in bidar District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 51,808, and the area was 362 square miles. In 1891 the population had been 60,341, the decrease being due to the famine of 1899-1900. The *taluk* contains 130 villages, of which 19 are *jagir*; and Janwada (population, 2,165) is the head-quarters. since 1905 the *taluk* has included the old *taluk* of Aurad, which had an area of 189 square miles, a population in 1901 of 19,301, and 65 villages. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.7 lakhs. The Manjra river flows through the *taluk*. The *paigah taluk* of Narayankher (population, 42,792) lies south of this *taluk*, and consists of 106 villages. Farther south again is the *paigah taluk* of Hasanabad (population, 21,563), with 45 villages.

**Nilanga :** *Taluk* in Bidar District, Hyderabad State, with an area of 315 square miles. The population in 1901, including *Jagirs*, was 48,002. In 1891 the population had been 59,148, the decrease being due to the famine of 1899-1900. The *taluk* has 89 villages, of which 26 are *jagir*; and Nilanga (population, 3,343) is the head-quarters. The land revenue in 1901 was 1.6 lakhs. In 1905 the *taluk* received a few villages from the Varval-Rajura *taluk*. Nailanga is composed chiefly of *regar* or black cotton soil. South and East lie the three *paigah taluks* of Partabpur, Bhalki, and Ghorwadi (population, 42,761, 20,784, and 35,178), containing 63, 21, and 56 villages respectively. BHALKI (5,788), the only town, is situated in the *paigah taluk* of the same name.

**Udgir Taluk :** *Taluk* in Bidar District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 101,228, and the area was 681 square miles. In 1891 the population had been 121,467, the decrease being due to the famine of 1899-1900. The *taluk* contains one town, UDGIR (population, 5,984), the head-quarters ; and 207 villages, of which 54 are *jagir*. The land revenue in 1901 was 3.1 lakhs. The soils are chiefly *regar* or black cotton soil and some laterite. In 1905 some villages were transferred to the Dgulur *taluk* of Nander District, while other villages were added from Varval-Rajura. The *jagir taluk* of Mirag, with a population in 1901 of 21,734, containing 45 villages, lies between this *taluk* and the Bidar *taluk*.

**Varval Rajura :** *Taluk* in Bidar District, Hyderabad State. The population in 1901, including *jagirs*, was 87,503, and the areas was 772 square miles. In 1891 the population had been 148,805, the decrease being due to the famine of 1899-1900. The *taluk* contains 244 villages, of which 33 are *jagir* ; and Varval-Rajura (population, 3,998) is the head-quarters. The land revenue in 1901 was 3 lakhs. The Manjra river flows through the southern portion of the *taluk*, which is composed of black cotton soil. In 1905 the *taluk* was reduced by the transfer of some villages to Udgir and Nilanga.

**Alikher :** Head-quarters of the *paigah taluk* of Chincholi, Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 51' N. and 77° 17' E., 21 miles north of the Manjra river. Population (1901), 5,740.

**Bhalki :** Head-quarters of the *paigah taluk* of the same name in Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 3' N. and 77° 12' E., about 9 miles east of the confluence of the Karanja with the Manjra. Population (1901, 5,788.

**Bidar Town** Head-quarters of Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 55' N. and 77° 32' E., on an elevated and healthy plateau 2,330 feet above the sea. The population has increased during the last twenty years : (1881) 9,730, (1891) 11,315, and (1901) 11,367. According to local tradition, the Kakatiya Rajas of Warangal endowed a temple of Mahadeo which existed here, and a town sprang up in its vicinity in the middle of the thirteenth century, which became the capital of a large province. Ulugh Khan, afterwards Muhammad bin Tughlak, besieged and took it in 1321 ; but subsequently, when the governors of

the Deccan rebelled, Ala-ud-din Hasan, the founder of the Bahmani dynasty, annexed the town to his new kingdom in 1347. Ahmad Shah Wali, the tenth Bhamani King, founded the modern city and built the fort, removing his court here from GULBARGA in 1430. Bidar continued to be the capital of the Bhamani kings until the extinction of that dynasty, when Amir Barid founded an independent State in 1492. Amir Barid ruled over Bidar and the surrounding country, and was succeeded by his son Ali Barid, in 1538, who was the first to assume the title of Shah and died in 1582. Three other kings, Ibrahim, Kasim Barid, and Mirza Ali Barid, followed, the last of whom assumed the title of Amir Barid II. This short-lived dynasty became extinct when Amir Barid II was made a prisoner and sent to Bijapur by Ibrahim Adil Shah. In 1624 the Nizam Shahi troops under Malik Ambar attacked and plundered Bidar, but it was retaken by the Bijapur king. In 1656 Aurangzeb besieged and took Bidar, changing its name to Zafarabad. The town remained in the possession of the Mughals till the first of the Nizams declared his independence, early in the eighteenth century.

The town of Bidar must have been of great extent in its prosperous days, as appears from its palaces, mosques, and other buildings. Among these may be mentioned the great *madrassa* or college built by Mahmud Gavan, the Bahmani minister, which is now in ruins, the Jama Masjid, and the Sola Khamba or 'sixteen-pillared' mosque. The last of these is in the citadel, which also contains the ruined Rang Mahal or 'coloured palace, the remains of a mint, a Turkish bath, an arsenal, and several powder magazines. The fortifications and battlemented walls of this place are very strong, and are still well preserved. On its numerous bastions pieces of ordnance are mounted, some of very large size; one of them is specially remarkable as having been brought here from Bijapur. West of the town are the tombs of Ali Barid, Kasim Barid, and others of the same dynasty, while twelve tombs of the Bahmani kings are situated to the north-east in the village of Ashtur. Most of the old buildings in the fort are now used as offices.

Bidar is the chief trade centre of the District, and has given its name to a class of metal-work made of an alloy of copper, lead, tin, and zinc, inlaid with silver or gold. This industry is, however, not very flourishing.

**Homnabad** : Town in the *paigah taluk* of Chincholi, Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 47' N. and 77° 08' E. Population (1901), 7,136. It has declined considerably in prosperity since the opening of the Nizam's State Railway, which has diverted trade.

**Kalyani** : A *jagir* town in Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 53' N. and 76° 57' E., 36 miles west of Bidar town. Population (1901), 11,191. About the middle of the eleventh century Someshwar I made Kalyani the capital of the Chalukyan kingdom. A hundred years later the power was usurped by Bijjala Kalachuri, the commander-in-chief, and before the close of the twelfth century the Chalukya power was at an end. While Kalyani remained a great capital, it was noted as the residence of Vijnaneshwar, the author of the treatise on law known as the *Mitakshara*, and of Basava, who founded the Lingayat Sect. Further particulars about Basava and the Lingayats will be found in the article on Mysore State. The Kalachuris were succeeded by the Yadavas Deogiri (DAULATABAD); and after the establishment of the Bahmani dynasty, Kalyani passed into their possession in the fourteenth century, and subsequently into that of Bijapur. The Mughals sacked it in 1653. In 1656 Aurangzeb invested the fortress, which surrendered after an heroic defence. During the contests which followed the decline of Chalukyan power, and the struggles between various Muhammadan rulers, the magnificent temples which once adorned the place were demolished or converted into mosques.

**Kohir** Town in the District and *taluk* of Bidar, Hyderabad State, situated in 17° 36' N. and 77° 43' E., 24 miles south-east of Bidar town. Population (1901), 6,379. It contains the tombs of two well-known Musalman saints, besides numerous mosques; the Jama Masjid, erected during the reign of the Bahmani kings, is a building of note. The town contains a middle and girls' school, a post office, and the police inspector's office. Kohir is celebrated for its mangoes.

**Malegaon** : A *jagir* village in the north-east of Bidar District, Hyderabad State, situated in 18° 41' N. and 76° 58' E. Population (1901), 270. It was once celebrated for its annual horse fair, where upwards of 4,000 horses and ponies were disposed of at prices ranging up to Rs. 700. Piece-goods, cloth of all kinds, hardware, &c., were among other things exposed for sale. Owing to plague and famine the fair has not been held since 1897.

Udgir Town : Head quarters of the *taluk* of the same name in Bidar District, Hyderabad State, Situated in 18°24' N. and 77°7'E. Population (1901), 5,984. The fort belonged to the Bijapur kings, and was besieged by Shah Jahan's general in 1635, and surrendered to him. In 1760 a great battle was fought here between the Nizam and the Marathas. Nizam Salabat Jang and his brother occupied Udgir with 7,000 cavalry, but were surrounded by 60,000 Marathas. Desperate fighting continued for days, and the Nizam was forced to agree to the terms of peace imposed by the Marathas. The fort was built about 1493, and has a ditch all round. Two palaces are situated inside, and two outside, but all are in ruins.

### ESTATES

Paigan Estates : A group of estates in Hyderabad state, comprising 23 *taluks* dispersed over the Districts of Bidar, Nander, Osmanabad, Gulbarga, Medak, Atraf-i-balda, and Nizamabad, and a few scattered villages in Aurangabad, Warangal, Mahbubnagar, and Nalgonda. They consist of 1,273 villages and towns, with an aggregate area of 4,134 square miles and a total revenue of about 40 lakhs. These estates belong to the representatives of three deceased noblemen, Sir Asman Jah, Sir Khurshed Jah, and Sir Vikar-ul-Umara.

The following table shows details of the estates according to the Census of 1901

Names	Number of <i>Taluks</i>	Area in square miles	Number of villages	Population 1901
Sir Asman Jah	7	1,232	396	265,194
Sir Khurshed Jah	8	1,512	468	268,902
Sir Vikar-ul-Umara	8	1,390	409	240,315
<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4,134</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>774,411</b>

The history of the Hyderabad *paigah* nobles dates back to the reign of Akbar. *Mulls Jalal-ud-din*, the founder of the family, came to Shikohabad from Lahore during the reign of that emperor. His son, Muhammad Baha-ud-din Khan, was appointed head of the treasury of Akbarabad (Agra) in Aurangzeb's reign. Muhammad Abul-Khair