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1. RĀJĀKHANDA.

This work was composed by Kaviratna in the middle of the 17th century A. D. under orders of Maharaja Prāṇnārayan of Cooch Behar. This work is mentioned in Rājopākhyaṇa of Munshi Joynath Ghose (about 1823 A. D.) and the article ‘Kochbhārer Itihāsa’ written by Anandachandra Ghose (1865 A. D.). But this work is not now found anywhere. It is written in Rājopākhyaṇa that Kaviratna was one of the ministers of Prāṇnārayan and that he was killed by Chhatra Nazir Mahinarayan.

2. VISVASINHA-CHARITAM—(Written in Sanskrit).

This is a Kavya written in Sanskrit. Pages 14 to 23 of this work have been preserved by Srijukta Girirajnanda Chakravarti of Khagrabari, a village near the town of Cooch Behar. No trace of the remaining portion of the work has been found. The fourth canto ends on page 17. In the portion found, one or two incidents in the reign of Maharaja Naranārayan have been described. So this was written after the time of Visvasinha. There is a colophon in page 17 of this manuscript to the effect that it was composed by ‘the young poet Sreenath the son of Bhudev (Brahmin) Ramesvar’. Sreenath was the son of Ramesvar and the grandson of Bhabananda (the reader of Sukladhvāja). Ramesvar was a contemporary of Maharaja Prāṇnārayan. Sreenath wrote many works under orders of Maharaja Prāṇnārayan. So it can be inferred that ‘Visvasinha-charitam’ was composed during the reign of Maharaja Prāṇnārayan, (17th century A. D.).
It is written in page 21 of this work that there was a battle between Maharaja Naranarayan and 'Hazratan Chhilliman-nāmā Yavanendra' (Soleman Kararanī). The Mahāmadan historians have also mentioned this. Soleman bore the title 'Hazrat Ālā.

3. RĀJOPAKHYĀNA.

This work is written in Bengali prose by Munshi Joynath Ghose. The writing of this work began under orders of Kalichandra Labiri, the Dewan of Maharaja Harendranārāyan. The date of the beginning of the writing of this work has not been mentioned in the work. But it is considered from circumstances that composition of this work began between 1230 to 1240 B. S. and it was finished towards the end of the reign of Maharaja Shibendranārāyan (1252 B. S.). The Rungpur Sāhityā Parishat have secured a copy of this manuscript. In it there is a seal of Nilkamal Sanyal, a former Dewan of Cooch Behar. This is bound in leather and is like a modern book containing 298 pages. It is written in the manuscript that this work (up to Adhyāya 18 of Pratyaksa Khanda) was made over to Maharaja Harendranārāyan (1240 B. S.) for reading and he after reading the whole of the same granted 'Panchagrāma' (consisting of five villages) lands as revenue free (Lakhoraj) to the writer as a reward. * This work was also given to Maharaja Shivendranārāyan for perusal but it is not written in the work whether he read it or not. It was the desire of the king to give publicity to this work everywhere but it is not known whether this was really printed or not. It is not clearly mentioned in the Introduction what was the basis on which this work was written.

* There is mention in the Settlement papers of Cooch Behar dated 1872 A. D. that 817 Bighas of Lakhoraj land were held as 'Bakshisi' by Dinanath Ghose and others, the heirs of Joynath Ghose.
There is mention in the introduction quoted above that Joynath Ghose knew the accounts collected during the enquiry of the Commissioners Mercer and Chauvet in 1785 A. D. Many old and important facts about which there was no difference of opinion between the king's party and the Nazir, have been printed in the report of the Commissioners. This report was finished in 1788 A. D. (1195 B. S.) and seven years after this Joynath Ghose joined his post. Still many facts as mentioned in the report, are not found in Rājopākhyāna.

It is mentioned in the Vansāvali of the Durrung Raja Gandharvanārāyan, that Maharaja Harendranārāyan sent a messenger and brought the manuscript of 'Durrung Vansāvali' from Raja Vijaynārāyan but there are many discrepancies between this Vansāvali and Rājopākhyāna.

In the case State versus Bikramānanda Chakravartī (Settlement Case No. 439 and 490 of 1871 A. D.) when an objection was raised against the genealogical table as written in Rājopākhyāna, the then Dewan Rai Calicadas Dutt Bahadur wrote: "Joynath Munshi's book is not always quite correct". The claimants in that case urged that there are genealogical tables in possession of the contemporary Maharani Bara Aye Devati, Kumar Munindranārāyan, Babu Ratidev Bakshi and pleader Babu Chandranath Tarafdar and these were different from what was mentioned by Joynath Ghose. The work named 'Rājavansāvali,' written by Durgadas Mazumdar, a relative of Ratidev Bakshi, has been found in possession of the sons of Ratidev Bakshi. The work named 'Beharodanta' composed by Maharani Brindesvari Bara Aye Devati has also been found. But these two Vansāvalis are in comparison with Rājopākhyāna full of mistakes. No trace of the two other genealogical tables as mentioned above has been found. The genealogical table given in the colophon of Banaparva by Paramānanda Tarkālankar (1204 B. S. = 1797
A.D.) is similar to that given in Rajopakhyanan. Mr. Moore, the Collector of Rungpur, in his report dated the 3th June 1781 A. D. gave a genealogical table of the royal family of Cooch Behar. No genealogical table written before this, has yet been discovered. But even this table is full of mistakes in comparison with that given in Rajopakhyanan.

Joynath Ghose has written that when the manuscript Rajopakhyanan was made over to Maharaja Harendranarayan for perusal, he passed a remark "The moon of fame of the old kings who were my predecessors was almost devoured by the Rahu (who causes eclipse) of time. By your work, the lost fame is again made permanent". Dewan Kalichandra Lahiri told Joynath Ghose "Even now many are unable to mention all who became kings and whom they succeeded and for what period they reigned and how many generations of kings have passed since the days of Shiva". From these circumstances and remarks, it is inferred that an authenticated genealogical table of the royal family of Cooch Behar was almost lost and Joynath Ghose composed Rajopakhyanan collecting his materials from various sources. He has mentioned in the introduction that he even depended on tradition.

Rev. Mr. R. Robinson, formerly the Superintendent of Education, Cooch Behar State, translated Rajopakhyanan into English. This was printed in the Baptist Mission Press, Calcutta, in 1874 A. D. The size is demy 8 vo and there are 214 pages in this work. In the title page of the translated work the name of the writer has been mentioned as "Jadunath Ghose". There are also many mistakes like this in the translation which cannot be overlooked. Some works have been written on the basis of this translation. The writers of some of these works have only increased the number of such mistakes in their attempt to express in their own language this incorrect translation.
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Joy Nath Ghose, the writer of Râjopâkhyâna was a Bhnath by caste and a resident of village Banesjuri in the Sub-division of Manikganj in the district of Dacca. In 1202 B. S. he was appointed a tutor of Maharaja Harendranârâyan to teach him Bengali and Persian. The Maharaja appointed him as his own Munshi (writer) after he attained majority. Later on he became the Sheristadar of the Khalsâ Mehal. The next Maharaja Shrivendranârâyan appointed Joynath as Sheristadar of the Rajsabhâ. Towards the end of his service, he held the post of the Tehsildar. The period of service of Joynath in Cooch Behar was for more than 50 years. Even at the time of the installation of Maharaja Narendranârâyan, he was in service. He died in Benares in 1265 A. D.

4. SANGITSANKAR.

This manuscript was composed by Jagatdurlabh Biswas in Bengali verse under orders of Maharaja Harendraâyan in the beginning of the 19th century A. D. but the date of composition is not mentioned in the work. An account of the reign of Maharaja Harendraâyan is given in this work. This is finished briefly in 15 pages and in several places there are songs bearing in the colophon the name of Maharaja Harendraâyan. The writer Jagatdurlabh Biswas was a resident of the district of Mushidabad. His father was Brajamohan. His residence was in village Kahikpur on the banks of the Ganges. This work being bound along with another work 'Harabhaktitaranga' written by Durgadas in one Volume is preserved in the Mahafeskhana of the Maloutchery in Cooch Behar. There is no historical value attached to this work. The discrepancies with other Vansâvalis are also very great. The cover has pictures painted in colours. There are coloured portraits of Mahadeva, Haria Mandal, Hira and Jina Devi, the boys Bisu and Sisu, Maharaja Naranârâyan, Dhairyendranârâyan, Harendranârâyan and
Shivendranârâyan. Names have been put down under the pictures to identify the portraits. Coloured portraits of Maharaja Harândranârâyan and Shivendranârâyan are preserved in the State Library, Cooch Behar. The Cooch Behar Sahityasabha has published the 'Syâmasangita' of Maharaja Harendranârâyan with his portrait.† There is similarity of this portrait with the figure painted on the cover of the manuscript but no such similarity is apparent in the portraits of Maharaja Shivendranârâyan. The other pictures appear to be drawn from imagination.

5. Harabûakti-tarânga.

Written in Bengali verse by Durgadas and containing 73 pages. At the end of the work an account of the installation of Maharaja Shibendranârâyan (1139 A. D.) is given. This manuscript also has no historical value.

The writing in this book in many places is similar to that of the manuscript entitled ‘Râjvansâvali’—in places these are almost identical. If we take that Durgadas Mazumdar, the writer of ‘Râjvansâvali’ and this Durgadas were one and the same person, we must hold that this work was first composed and that it was subsequently corrected and came to be known as ‘Râjvansâvali’.

6. Major Jenkins’ Report 1849.—

(Selections from the records of the Government of Bengal, No. 5).

Major Francis Jenkins was the Agent to the Governor General in the North Eastern Frontier Province. The report

† The work is edited by S. C. Ghoshal, M. A., B. L. The work is named Gîtâvali. It does not contain songs on Syâma only but also on other deities and subjects. (Tr.)
which he wrote in 1849 regarding Sikkim, Morang and Cooch Behar was printed in Calcutta in 1851 under orders of the Government. The account regarding Cooch Behar begins in page 19 and ends in page 51. The account previous to Maharaja Devendranârâyan was very briefly written and that following 1772 A. D. was given in detail.

7. MAHARÂJA-VANSAVALI.—

Written in Bengali prose under orders of Maharana Kamesvari Devi (Dangar Aye) the eldest queen of Maharaja Shibendranârâyan, by Ripunjay Das, a resident of village Gobrachhara in Cooch Behar and a Pundit holding the title of Vidyâratna. The date of composition is not given in this manuscript. It is inferred that it was written after the death of Maharaja Shibendranârâyan (1847 A. D.). Though the history of Cooch Behar is very briefly given in this work, we find the names of twenty-one sons of Maharaja Visvasinha in it, which we do not find in any other Vansâvali. There are many variations between this manuscript and Râjopâkhyâna. Joynath Ghose wrote the last few Chapters of Râjopâkhyâna under orders of Maharaja Shivendranârâyan this Vansâvali was written under the orders of the queen of Shibendranârâyan. But it is clearly seen that the two writers of this manuscript did not read Râjopâkhyâna or they composed this work in rivalry with the same.

There are some particulars in this work which are not found in other Vansâvalis, e. g. ‘Composition of Malladevi Abhidhâna by Maharaja Malladeva’, ‘Discovery of Lolarka Kunda in Benares’ by Maharaja Laksminârâyan’. ‘Establishment of some images of Gods and Goddesses by Maharaja Prânnârâyan’ etc.

8. BEHARODANTA.—

8 Vo. 55 pages. In 1880 B. S. the Cooch Behar Sahitya-sabha has reprinted this work.

The authoress Maharani Brindavanti (Bans Aye Devati) was the queen of Maharaja Shibendranarayan. She has given her account in the colophon of this work as follows:

"Rajendranarayan (is) a resident of Parvat Joar. He is richer than Kuvera... . I am his daughter. I do not know anything but misery. To whom shall I mention the same? What is the good of mentioning the same?... . The ruler of Behar married this unfortunate self along with Sree Sree Kamesvari". Pages 12-13.

Parvat Joar is situated on the northwest of the district of Goalpara (Dhubri). There are many mistakes in the genealogical table given in this work.

9. RAJYANSAVALI.

Written in Bengali verse by Durgadas Mazumdar. Contains 176 pages. The work was completed in 1270 B. S. (1863 A. D. = 354 Raja sakta). At this time Maharaja Nripendranarayan was only one year old and he had just been installed on the Gaddi. There are many statements in this work which are against history. Still, after Rajopakhyana it is fit to be considered by historians as a Rajyansavali of Cooch Behar. Many incidents not noted in Rajopakhyana are described in this work. Like Joynath Ghose, Durgadas has mentioned the date of installation of each king in Raja sakta in this work. This manuscript is preserved in the custody of Sarat Kumar Dev Bakshi of Cooch Behar.

Durgadas has written that in 58 Raja sakta, Sukladhabaja brought 13 Kayasthas from Purvadesa and established...
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there is Coorah Bahar granting them lands. He was the
descendant of one of them:—

"Fourteen persons were his subordinates. Thirteen of
those died intestate. Only I am remaining. The land which
was granted for maintenance, is nearly washed away by the
river. Anxiety for maintenance fills the mind". Page 56.

"He is the son of Shiva. His name is Sankar. The son
of Sankar bears the name Manohar. I, Durgadas, possessing but
little knowledge, am the son of Manohar and the only one
remaining out of the fourteen and the most wretched of
the family". Page 65.

Durgadas died in 1298 B. S. at the age of 76. No
descendant of him is surviving at present. So the family of
the Kayasthas brought by Sukladhvaj is extinct.

10. Lecture by Babu Ânanda Chandra Ghose.—

Babu Ânanda Chandra Ghose read a paper named
"Kochbiharer Itihâs" in Kochbihar Hitaisini Sabha. He was
a member of this Sabha. This article is wrongly called as
"the lecture of Ram Chandra Ghose". Ananda Chandra was
the natural son of Munshi Joynath Ghose, the writer of
Rajopâkhyâna. He was the adopted son of Gopinath Ghose,
the elder brother of Joynath Ghose. Ânanda Chandra worked
as the Sieristadar in the office of the Commissioner of Coorh
Bahar. and in 1869, the charge of the office of the Dewan
was for some months placed with him.

rest place of pilgrimage arising in Pravarsana'). Barahakara-mahâyam. The
Barahakara is now known as Barak. It forms Sribhat (Sribhat). Sukia-
Krishna conquered Sermath in 1291 A. D. (31 Rajaska). In a Waja granted by
Maharajah Rupârîyan in 361 Rajaska it is mentioned that 11 families of kayas-
thas were brought from Kamarupa and that Maharajah Rupârîyan made
them of land to them in 37 Rajaska. The ancient Ulka Sribhat was within
Kamarupa.
This article, (along with others) was printed at State cost in 1787 Saka (1865 A. D.) in the Gupta Press, Calcutta. A Copy of this was with Rai Chaudhuri Satis Chandra Mustafi. This article occupies 29 pages of Demy 8 vo. In it, the boundaries of the kingdom, origin of the name of Cooch Behar, geographical condition of the country, account of crops grown on the soil, account of the capital and famous places and the dynasty of kings have been briefly and separately described. Probably it was Anandachandra Ghose who for the first time showed the way to write history in this manner in Cooch Behar. In this article, the Vansâvali of Râjopâkhyâna was briefly given. The style of the writer is like that of his father and there is evidence of independent criticism in this article.

11. One authoritative paper on the early History of Kuch Behar, which unsigned and undated, was published as Appendix B in "Selections from unpublished records of Government of Bengal". Edited by Rev. J. Long (Calcutta, 1869).

This work has not been found.

12. COMPLETION OF SETTLEMENT REPORT.

Mr. W. A. O. Beckett wrote this report. Mr. Beckett came as the Assistant Commissioner of Cooch Behar in 1871 A. D. Afterwards he was placed in charge of Settlement work and wrote this report in English in 1874 A. D. This was written regarding the first Settlement of Cooch Behar and in it a short history of the State has been given. The historical portion of the report was compiled from Râjopâkhyâna and the report of Major Jenkins. This report is preserved among the State papers and in the State Library. The Vansâvali is finished in 8 pages of royal folio size.
13. **Account of the Cooch Behar.**

This was written in English in 1876 A. D. by Captain T. H. Lewin. This work too has not been traced. In 1884 Bhagabati Charan Bandyopadhyaya wrote a work named ‘Kochbiharer Itihas’. He took help from the above work. This work was also in existence when Srijukta Harendranarayan Chaudhuri wrote his history (Work No. 17, 1903 A. D., page 225), but in the Preface to it Rai Calica Das Dutt Bahadur mentioned it as out of print.

14. **Kochbihar Itihas.**

By Bhagavati Charan Bandyopadhyaya and printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar in 1882 A. D. This work was printed for the public. In the Preface to the work, the author has mentioned that perusing the work ‘Kochbihar Bibaran’ written by him, the then Dewan Rai Calica Das Dutt Bahadur requested him to write a systematic history of Cooch Behar and accordingly he engaged himself in this work. As ‘many people of this country’ objected to certain portions of the work, these were omitted according to the wishes of Sreejukta Kumar Govindanarayan Saheb in a second edition consisting of 170 pages Demy 8 vo. which was printed in 1884 A. D.

15. **Kochbihar Rajyer Sankipta Bibaran.**

This work was compiled in 1889 A. D. by Jadah Chandra Chakravarti, the Foudari Ahilkar (Magistrate) of Cooch Behar. This was written on the occasion of the installation of Maharaja Nripendra Narayan and printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar and distributed free. The work contains 79 pages Royal 16 vo.

*In 1879 A. D. ‘Kochbihar Bibaran’ was printed to meet the necessity of students. It contained 26 pages Demy 12 vo. The State officers Srijukta Nibaran Chandra Bhattacharya in 1922 A. D. and Srijukta Ksetramohan Brahma in 1924 A. D. composed treatises for the same purpose and printed the same.*
Two copies of this work are found in the State Library, Cooch Behar. In it, accounts of the geographical condition of the country, the rivers, people, climate, animals and arts and trade were given. The historical portion of this work was written mostly on the basis of Rajopakhyan.

16. INTRODUCTION TO DAMODARACHARITAMRITA

(UNPUBLISHED).

Written by Govindadeva Goswami. With the object of printing 'Damodara-charitamrita' written by Ram Ray, the author prepared a press copy of this and made over the same on the 20th Sravan 1877 Saka (1895 A. D.) to Rai Calica Das Dutt Bahadur, the Dewan of Cooch Behar. With that press copy, there was an Introduction covering 22 pages written by himself and in it a short history of the royal dynasty of Cooch Behar and the Saka era of the beginning of reign of each king were given. This 'Damodaracharitamrita' or its introduction was not printed. In 1915 A. D. this press-copy was in the Mahafezkhana of the Malcutchery in Cooch Behar.

17. THE COOCH BEHAR STATE AND ITS LAND REVENUE SETTLEMENT.

This work is generally known to the public as the Cooch Behar Settlement Report. It was composed in English in 1903 by Srijukta Harendranarayan Chaudhuri, B. L., the then Settlement Naib Ahikar (Assistant Settlement Officer) and printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar. It contains 705 pages Royal 8 vo. This work was compiled for requirements of the State and the work was also distributed to some unofficial gentlemen. The author received Rs. 2,000 from the State as honorarium. As many necessary illustrations and maps were appended, the work has become appropriate and attractive. The then Dewan Rai Calica Das Dutt Bahadur, C. L. E., wrote a
Preface covering 16 pages to this work. There is no additional information in the Preface except a short summary of the work. Though the historical portion of the work is short, there are some mistakes in the accounts newly collected.

18. THE RESETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN OF COOCH BEHAR.

This work gives an account of the resettlement of CoochBehar, the Capital of the State. This is written in English by Pramathanath Chatterjee, M. A., B. L., Naib Ahilkar. It was printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar at the cost of the State. Its size is Royal 8 vo. The historical portion covers only 10 pages. The names mentioned in the work of Munshi Joynath Ghosh as the former capitals of Cooch Behar have been attempted to be identified by the author, but many mistakes are found in the statements made in the narrative.

19. COPY OF THE DECREE OF THE CHAKLAJAT CASE.

At the end of the 18th century under Chhatra Nazir Khagendranarayan, Fakirchand and Harinarayan were Chaudhuris or collectors of rent in Boda, Deviprasad was the Collector for Patgram and Alimohammad was for Purbabhang Chakla. With the intention of misappropriating the three Chaklas, they instituted a case in Rungpur against the Maharaja of Cooch Behar and the Nazir but were defeated. This is the decree of that case (1778 A. D.).

These three Chaklas came under the territory of the Mughal emperor 66 years before this case. It is mentioned in the copy of this decree that Mughal supremacy was established on these three Chaklas and Ijara of the same was given in the name of the Nazir to the king. It is written in the decree that these accounts were written on the basis of an old document preserved in the Caneongo’s Cuffter, at the time of the case (1778 A. D.). This portion of the history of Cooch Behar is in the dark. During
the enquiry by Commissioners Mercer and Chauvet, a copy of a decree of this case was filed on behalf of the king, but as there was no signature and seal on the same, the Commissioners did not accept it.

An old copy of the decree of this case has been found (in 1920 A.D.) among the old records preserved in the State Council. There is no signature on it. The accounts given in this decree tally with those written in the report by Mr. Glazier in Rungrpur and with those collected by Commissioners Mercer and Chauvet regarding the occupation of the three Chaklas by the Mughal emperor. There are many additional particulars given in this copy but there is no means to test their truth. The discrepancies found in some places might be due to mistakes in copying. The Jalusi and Bengali eras mentioned in the same, mostly tally with historical dates.


(Messieurs Lawrence Mercer and John Lewis Chauvet's Report).

At the end of the 18th century there was a quarrel between Chhatra Nazir Khermandranârîyan and Rajguru Sarbânanda Gosvami (on behalf of the minor Maharaja Harendranârîyan) of Cooch Behar. Messieurs Mercer and Chauvet, Commissioners appointed by the East India Company, enquired into this (1788 A.D.). Besides the statements of the parties before the Commissioners, English translation of necessary documents, genealogical table and oral evidence, the report of the Commissioners and the finding of the Government are preserved among the old records of the Government. The authorities of the State of Cooch Behar brought copies of these and had these printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar in 1869 A.D. The work consists of 205 pages, Royal quarto (contents 8 pages). The
name of this work is "Cooch Behar Select Records in 1788, Vol. II". This is commonly known as "Mercer and Chauvet's report". The first volume of this work has not been traced but the volume available though named as the second volume includes the full report of the abovementioned enquiry. The complaint against the Nazir written by the king (received on the 19th December, 1787 A.D.), the report of the Commissioner dated the 10th November 1788 and the Resolution of the Board dated the 13th May 1789 have been printed in this work.

During the time of enquiry the oral and documentary evidence produced by one party were not acknowledged as true by the opposite party. But still there were many independent statements recorded in this report. The incidents in the time of Maharaja Upendranārāyan as seen by eye-witnesses have been printed in this report. There are some accounts in this report which are not found in any other Vansāvali. This report was mentioned in the resolution of Colonel Haughton. When the present history was compiled, help from this work was taken, but subsequently this work was not found when an attempt was made to verify the accounts. Another edition of this report was printed in the same year in the State Press, Cooch Behar. One copy of this is in the Maharaja's office and a second in the office of the State Council. It contains 190 pages of double foolscap quarto size. Accounts about the subject matter of the enquiry and the report of the Commissioners have been printed in this work. The complaint, resolution of the Board and Contents have not been printed in this edition. It is also not mentioned whether this is the first or the second volume.


Two other volumes in English named 'Cooch Behar Select Records' were printed and preserved in the Mahafekhnah of
the State Council. These were printed in the State Press, Cooch Behar, the first volume in 1882 A. D. and the second in 1884 A. D. The authorities of the Cooch Behar State brought from the Government Dufiar copies of most of the letters in English or Bengali exchanged between the king, the Commissioner, the Political Agent and the Government from 1877 to 1864 A. D. and had these printed. The English copies are preserved bound in twenty volumes and the Bengali copies in three volumes. The former Dewan Rai Calica Das Dutt Bahadur selected the English letters and these have been printed and preserved in two volumes in the name of 'Cooch Behar Select Records' in double foolscap quarto size. In the first volume there are 359 pages and in the second 279 pages. Many historical facts in the fourth quarter of the eighteenth century and the first half of the 19th century have been collected in these letters.

Maharajkumar Victor Nityendra Narayan brought copies of some other old letters in English regarding Cooch Behar from the Government Dufiar (1922 A. D.). Many incidents which took place after the establishment of relations between the king of Cooch Behar and the East India Company have been rendered in these copies. Accounts which are not mentioned in the 'Select Records' have also been found in these copies.

22. BAHIRISTAN-I-GHALBI.

History of Bengal and Orissa in the first part of the 17th century A. D. It is written in Persian by Mirza Nathan Alauddin Ispahani Shetab Khan. * Malek Ali Ehtaman Khan, the father of the writer was a General of

* 'Setab Khan' is a title granted to the author by the Badsaha. In 'Puran Rajshah Serajee' and 'the Banerjee of Khunlung and Khuntal' we find the name of a contemporary Mughal General as 'Mirza Nathan' or 'Nathal'.

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the army under the Mughal emperor. Detailed descriptions of battles which took place in the kingdoms of Kâmata and Kâmarupa during the rule of Subedar Eslam Khan, Kasem Khan and Ibrahim Khan (1608 to 1624 A. D.) are given in this work. The writer personally took part as a General in many of these battles. It appears that at that time he had close intimacy with Laksminârayana the king of Cooch Behar. There is no great discrepancy between the accounts given in this work and those mentioned in ‘Bâdsâhanâmâ’ and ‘Purâni Asama Buranjee’.

The original ‘Baharistan-i-Ghaibi’ in the handwriting of the writer himself is now preserved in a Library in Paris. It contains 656 pages. There are 21 lines in each page. The Dacca University and Professor Sir Jadunath Sarkar, M. A., C. I. E., have brought photographs of this work. The account has been given from the manuscript prepared from the photograph brought by Sir Jadunath.

23. RUDRASINHER BURANJEE.

Many Buranjees (histories) were compiled during the reign of the Ahom kings of Assam. Even in later times, some Buranjees on modern methods have been compiled and printed. The Government of Assam have printed some old Buranjees without any alteration. Sir Edward Gait in his work ‘History of Assam’ has highly praised the Assam Buranjees. There was a manuscript Buranjee in the office of the Director of Ethnography, Assam Government (1915 A. D.). This was “1634 Sakat (1712 A. D.) Sree Sree Rudrasinha ñdeve puthi vichâri Guhâtîr ksetra parvat Lithâkara” (‘written in ksetra Parvat of Gauhati by the efforts of Sree Sree Rudrasinha Deva in 1634 A. D.’). This manuscript is mentioned as ‘Rudrasinher Buranjee’. Accounts of rulers
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of Kāñcatā previous to Visvasinha and some kings of Cooch Behar contemporary of the Āhom kings have been found in this work.

24. SAMUDRAPARĀYANER VANSĀVALI.

Written in verse in the Assamese language under orders of Raja Samudranārāyan of Durrung, and written on Agarbark. The name of the writer is Balaḍeva. His title is 'Suryakhari Daivaṇja'. The date of composition of the work is about 1791 A.D. In the first part of the work, from 1-6 pages, there are accounts of killing all Kshatriya kings in the world by Parasurama and the previous history of the dynasty of Visvasinha. In this work there are accounts of events up to the reign of Laksminarayan the king of Cooch Behar (page 100). The last portion of the manuscript deals with the visit to Assam of Balinārāyan, the brother of Pariksitnārāyan. In this manuscript in different places the Cooch Behar dynasty has been mentioned as 'Shivavansāvali' or 'Rājavansāvali'. Under most of the pages there are coloured pictures illustrating the subject described in the work. It is inferred that the portraits of Visvasinha, Hira Devi, etc. are all drawn from imagination.

This manuscript was brought from Durrung to the office of the Director of Ethnography, Assam. As this was received from Laksminārāyan, the king of Durrung, Sir Edward Gait has called it 'Laksminārāyan's Vansāvali'. As no special name was given to this work, we have mentioned this work as Samudranārāyan's Vansāvali. This manuscript was preserved in the office of the Director of Ethnography, Assam and the Assam Government has printed this as Durrung Vansāvali in 1917 A.D.
25. Rājavansavāli. (Kharganārāyan’s Vansāvali).

Written in verse in Assamese language by Ratikanta under orders of Kumar Kharganārāyan of Durrung in 1722 Saka (1800 A.D.). A copy of this manuscript was preserved in the office of the Director of Ethnography, Assam in the town of Gauhati (1915 A. D.). There are 82 pages double foolscap quarto size, in this work. The account of Maharaja Laksmi-nārāyan ends in page 66. No accounts of late kings are found in this work. In pages 1-6, there are accounts of the reign of Sambarāsura in Kāmarupa, Bāra Bhuiyas and the dynasty of Visvasinha. Sir Edward Gait has not mentioned this Vansāvali in any of his works.

26. Kāmarupa-vansāvali.—

Written in Assamese prose on Agār bark. This manuscript was preserved by Srijukta Krisnakanta Sarma Adhikari in Takubari in the town of Gauhati in 1915 A. D. Accounts of the kings of Kāmarupa preceding Maharaja Visvasinha have briefly been mentioned in this work. The history of kings following Maharaja Laksminārāyan is not given in this work. The work is incomplete and was not systematically done. There are only pages 18—58 available in the manuscript. The same account has twice been given (though not in the same language) in pages 54 to 58. The time of composition of this work has nowhere been mentioned but from the writing and condition of leaves, the manuscript appears to be old. The name of the writer has nowhere been found in the work. This work tallies in many places with the work named ‘Kāmarupar Buranjeś’ printed by the Assam Government in 1930 A. D.

27. Shivavansavāli or Bijnivansavāli.—

Written in verse in the Assamese language by Virupākṣa Nyāyabāgīs under orders of Balīnārāyan, the king of Bijnī
(within the district of Goalpara.). Virupâksa was a resident of village Hadi in Perganna Habraghat in Bijnì. This Vansâvali was filed as evidence in the case*—Lalitnarayan Kunwar, Plaintiff versus Rani Abbayesvari Devi. The plaintiff had printed it. The whole Vansâvali consists of 8 pages containing two columns in each page double foolscap quarto size. The original manuscript is in Bijnì. The time of its composition is not given in the manuscript (Raja Balitnârâyan was the Raja of Bijnì from 1201 B. S. to 1236 B. S.). The parties of the abovementioned case filed also several other genealogical tables. A report written on the 25th Sraban 1215 B. S. was filed in that case. It is written therein that Maharaja Visvasinha was born in ‘Visvasinha Mokam’ in the north and his throne (‘Rajtakta’) was established there. †

28. Gandharvanarâyan’s Vansâvali.—

Written in verse in the Assamese language under orders of Gandharvanarâyan the son of Jagatnârâyan, king of Durrung. The name of the writer is Suryadev Sidhantabagis. He was a resident of Mangaldai. The writer was the Guru of Gandharvanarâyan. He mentioned himself as a descendent of Pitâmbar Sidhantabagis who was the Court Pandit of Maharaja Naranârâyan. The time of writing of this work has nowhere been mentioned. Gandharvanarâyan was living in 1840 A.D. So the manuscript was composed about that time. In the first part of the manuscript it is written:

“...The king of Durrung always honours (me) as belonging to the family of Mahanta. I composed Vansâvali which...

* Title Suit No. 100 of 1894 A.D. in the Court of the First Sub.-Judge, 24 Pargannas.

† Ruins of ‘Killa Visvasinha’ or ‘Killa Bisensinha’ are still in existence at the extremity of the kingdom of Bhutan and about 42 miles to the north-west of Sidli within Goalpara.
was sent by Vijaynârâyan to Behar. Raja Harendranârâyan of Behar sent a messenger and took away this Vânsâvali. I wrote another Vânsâvali later on for being given to a Saheb by Raja Vijaynârâyan. You know all these facts, I shall write the Vânsâvali according to my knowledge.

From the extract quoted above, it is known that this manuscript was composed after two others were written and transferred. There is a mention that a Vânsâvali was brought by Maharaja Harendranârâyan of Cooch Behar. Maharaja Harendranârâyan was living at this time and his officer Joynath Ghosh went to Hajo and Kamakhya. Joynath Ghosh wrote Râjopâkhyâna, but many of the accounts given in this work are not mentioned in Râjopâkhyâna.

This manuscript was brought from the descendants of the Durrung king and was preserved in the office of the Director of Ethnography, Assam (1915 A.D.). Sir Edward Gait has named this work as connected with Prasiddhanârâyan who followed Gandharvanârâyan. For reasons mentioned above we have called it Gandharvanârâyan's Vânsâvali.

When writing his 'History of Assam' Sir Edward Gait had the Vânsâvalis of Gandharvanârâyan and Sumudranârâyan (Prasiddhanârâyan and Lakshminârâyan) translated into English. He got much information regarding the Cooch Behar royal family from these works. This is understood from the following:—

"I caused a translation to be prepared of the Bangababali, or family history, of the Durrang Rajas, which contains a great deal of information regarding the Koch dynasty." (page iii).
There is no doubt that the Durrung Vansâvalis are older and more reliable than the Vansâvalis written in Cooch Behar; and in the former, more information has been furnished. But all the statements made therein are not historically accurate and some of them were really exaggerated."

29. Bijniraja-Vansa.—

Written by Tariniprasad Sen. Printed in 1876 A. D. in the Hitasadhani Press in Goalpara.

This Book has not been found.

30. An Account of Assam.

The English manuscript of this work was prepared in 1792-94 by Dr. John Peter Wade. Dr. Wade was at that time a surgeon of a regiment of the East India Company in Assam. He sent this manuscript to Lieutenaut Colonel Kirk Patrick and this was preserved in the India Office Library in England. Recently (1927 A. D.) Srijukta Benudhar Sarma, a resident of Sibsagar, has edited this. It contains 310 pages demy 8 vo. In this printed book there is a Geographical description of Assam (34 pages) written by the editor and a long index.

The history of the reign of the dynasty of Visvasinha is given in this work in pages 184-246. But information regarding the Cooch Behar royal dynasty in the same is meagre. Accounts up to the reign of Maharaja Laksminârâyâyan are given in this work. This work is older than the Durrung Vansâvalis and there are no appreciable discrepancies in the accounts given in those works and in this work.
31. THE KOCH KINGS OF KAMARUPA.

In 1893 A. D. Mr. (afterwards Sir) E. A. Gait published an article in this name in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (Vol. LXII, Part I, No. 4) and this was printed in book form in 1895 A. D. in the Shillong Secretariat Press and published. This work contains 53 pages royal 8 vol. size. In it, an account of the kings of Kâmarupa preceding Maharaja Visvasinha has briefly been given. This book was compiled from works on Tantra, Purana, local manuscripts of Vansâvalis, Assam Buranjees and works of Mahomedan historians. Accounts of Maharaja Bissvasinha and his descendants (kings of Cooch Behar, Bijni and Durrung) have also been briefly mentioned in this work. No account regarding Cooch Behar of the period later than the time of Maharaja Naranârâyan has been given in this work. The whole account of this work has subsequently been included in the fourth Chapter of the History of Assam and this Chapter contains 22 pages Demy 8 vol. size (1906 A. D.). The author while writing this portion of the 'History of Assam' specially depended on the manuscript of the Durrung Vansâvali.
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