

DRAINAGE PATTERN OF SANTHAL PANGANA

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ABSTRACT

Drainage

The general slope of the country is from north-west to south-except in the small alluvial tract lying between the Rajmahal Hills and the Bhagalpur boundary, where the land slopes towards the north-west and sends it's drainage to the Ganga. The valley of the Barakar separated the south-west of the district from the chhotanagpur plateau but here also the inclination is to the south-east and the Ajai and Mor, while their numerous tributaries arise, carry the drainage of the western half of the region not into the Barakar, but into the Bhagirathi below Murshidabad. The streams which rise with in the Rajmahal hills follow the same general direction as those of the south western uplands with the exception of the Ganga, the rivers of the region are hilly streams, with well defined channels and high banks. In the rains they come down in flood and become rapid torrents, impossible going to the velocity of the current, which gathers force as it sweeps down over rocky beds. In the hot season they are reduced to a mere thread of water not more than 2 feet deep, with a gentle stream trickling through the land.

KEYWORDS: *Drainage Pattern*

INTRODUCTION: GANGA

The Ganga first touch on this region a few miles west of Teliagrahi, and flows eastward as far as Sakarigali where it bends to the south-east leaving the region a short distance below Udhou Nallah. The average width of its bed is about 5 kms. But the stream does not fill its channel in the hot weather and almost invariably overflows it in the rains. There have been considerable changes in this portion of its course within historic times. To the north it formerly ran under the walls of the fort at Teliagrahi, but the main stream is now far away and the Eastern railway line runs along the alluvial deposit it has formed. To the east main stream formerly flowed close to Rajmahal, and about 1640 washed away many of the buildings in the city: but it is clear from Tavernier's account that by 1966 it had taken another course and was fully half a league away from Rajmahal. In 1860, when the loopline of East Indian Railway was extended to this town, an arm of the Ganga ran immediately under the station forming a navigable channel for steamers and boats of all size. In 1912 the main channel left Rajmahal and was on the Maldah side. But in 1929, the river began eroding its right banks and was gradually approaching the railway line between Maharajpur and Sakarigali Junction and the Railway authorities had to acquire land for the diversion of the railway line. At Present the main stream is on the Rajmahal side. In Consequence of these changes in the course of the main stream of the trade has been transferred to Sahibganj. Rajmahal retains only the local traffic across the Ganga with the Maldah distt.

GUMANI

The most important river in the north of the region is Gumani, which rises in the Rajmahal Hills on the extreme east of the

Gods district and makes its way north east through the gorges which it has scoured out for itself. At Barhait it is joined by the Mor River coming down from the north and from this point the Gumani flows a short distance to the east and then turns sharply to the south. Finally, after a winding course of some 30 or 40 miles, it emerges from the hills and flowing eastward makes its way across the plains, falling into the Ganga a short distance beyond the boundary of this district.

BANSLOI

The Bansloi rises at a hill called Bans Pahar in the Gods district and flowing in a general easterly direction, forms the northern boundary of the Dumka district separating it from the Godda and Pakur districts.

It emerges into the Dumka Damin through the Pachwara pass, and then meanders along its northern boundary past sillingi and Kuskira bungalows. It leaves the district, near Maheshpur, and flowing past Murarai station on the Eastern Railway debouches in the Bhagairathi.

BRAHMANT

The Brahmani rises in the west of Dudhua Bills in the north of the Dumka district, and flowing through Pharasemul and Sankara forms the Southern boundary of the Dumka-Damin. It passes by the Jhilimili and Mosnia bungalows in the Damin-i-Koh, and leaving the Dumka district at Darin-Maulashwar enters the Birbhum district and joins the Bhagirathi after crossing the Eastern Railway at Nalhati station. Its main tributaries are the Gumro and Ero which drain the watershed between the Ramgarh and the Damin hills.

AJAI

The Ajai rises in the Munger district and after draining the north west corner of Deoghar district flows in a south western direction through its centre, being joined from the west by the pathro below Sarath, and further South by the Jainti. The Ajai enters at the Jantara Subdivision at Kajra and flowing southwards forms the Kusbedia, a few miles east of Mihijam railway station, to Afzalpur at the Southern point of the Santhal parganas.

MORE

The mor which drains the central portion of Santhal parganas, rises up the Tiur hills at the extreme north-east corner of the Deoghar district. Entering the Dumka district at its north-western corner, it flows a winding south-eastern course. Through it, passing close to Dumka and Kumarabad, where a line of Rocky boulders rises high from its bed. Leaving the district at Amjora, it passes into the Birbhum district and joins the Bhagarathi after crossing the Eastern Railway at Sainthia Station. It is known as the Motihara in its upper course, and it is only after its junction with the Bhurbhin in 'taluk' Nawads that it takes the name of mor. Another name for the stream is Morakhi or Mayurakshi, the peacock-eyed, i.e., having water as lustrous as the eye of a peacock.

The following are the main tributaries of the mor. The Bhurbhuri rises on the east of the Dudhua hills and joins it at Nawada. The Dhobai, which rises in the Godda district, flows eastward and southwards after crossing the Bhagalpur Suri road, and striking the base of Lagwa hill, joins the Mor 5 kms, above its confluence with the Bhurbhuri. The Tipra, coming from the west joins the Mor at Phuljori 3 kms further South, the Pusaro joins it in 'taluk' Dhuria, and the Bhamri in the Beludabar. The Nunbil rises in the east of the Deoghar district and entering the district in 'taluk' Singro follows a South Eastern Course. The passing through Goreala it joins the river sidh at Babupur the sidh rises in the South-East corner of Deoghar district and flows

south-East and then East through the Jamtara Subdivision and Dumka districts, Joining the Mor a few kms north of the borders of Birbhum. The Dauna rises in taluk Sankara North of the Rampur Bat Road, crosses it at the 12 kms then meanders on the east of the suri Road and falls into the Mor, after crossing the latter road at the 16th Kms.

The elevation of study area varies between 80 metre to 300 mt. above sea level. But there are some areas where altitude exceeds 500 mt. for example the altitude of Mahagarhi peak 550 mt. and the slope is more or less steep. The the west of study area highlands with an average altitude of 300 mt. occur in a North-South alignment with steep scarps, whereas the landscape is more open and the water divides are wider in the east. Occasional rises are, however, common in the east. The general topography is rugged to undulating. The Bansloi and Brahmani and the Mor are the Principal Streams which have cut deep valleys on the highlands in the east but their profiles are more or less shallow and smooth. They form dendritic patterns along with their tributaries.

CONCLUSIONS

Detailed study of the geographical conditions specially physical landscape, land use & agriculture and other aspects and its impacts on appraisal of human resource has enabled the investigator to point out some of the findings observed in the present research work. These findings concern impact of physical landscape on land-use agriculture, human habitation, human resource, rural development etc.

The area is marked with rough terrain having number of flat top hills and valleys where different tribal habitations have developed. Hill top settlements of different tribes is the speciality of the study area.

The rough terrain of the area and river has considerably influenced land use pattern. The highly dissected areas or steep slope areas are marked with forest and the low lying areas existing between the hills or ranges are used for agriculture. These low lying area known as 'Don' and relatively higher area known as 'Tanr'. The 'Don' area remain productive and 'Tanr' area remain productive and 'Tanr' area remains relatively less fertile.

Despite the considerable attention of the government the area is least developed. There is lack of proper development of infrastructure facilities like road ways irrigation facilities etc. more particularly villages having tribal dominance lacks proper development.

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