

Historical Background and Present Situation of Tripura

Narottam Debbarma^{1*} Richa Dangayach²

¹ Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Political Science, Maharaj Vinayak Global University, Dhand, Amer, NH-11C, Jaipur Rajasthan

² Ph. D, Assistant Professor

Abstract – The history of the Tripura mentioned in the epic Mahabharata. Turning to the Mahabharata we find that Yudhisthira sent fort conquer and bring to tribute the lesser kings. In the Sabha Parva, chapter XXXI, the sixteenth verse, we read that Sahadeva, the younger brother of Yudhisthira among others, conquered the “immeasurable effulgent Tripura”. This epithet “immeasurable effulgent” clearly proves that Tripura was Kshatriya, as only such ever had this epithet applied to them. The use of the expression “immeasurably effulgent” applied to Tripura shows beyond dispute or Cavil that king of Tripura was recognized Kshatriya of the Royal Warrior Caste at least 600 years before Christ in Vyasa’s time.

That the Rajput princes, though popularly considered the most ancient and honorable of all reigning Feudatory Rulers in India, only came into power as rulers about 750 to 950 A.D. or almost 1200 years after the Tripura kings are cited in at least distinct and far apart verses of the Mahabharata by Vyasa 2500 years ago.

-----X-----

The origin and history of the Tripura Raj is given in the Rajmala (literally meaning the “Garland of kings”) or chronicles of Tripura. It is the oldest specimen of Bengali composition extant. It is in verse and was in a detached form, but was collected and written in sequence by Brahmin official of Raja Dharma Manikya, the 102nd Rajah, who ascended the Tripura Gadi in 1407 A.D.¹

Tripura is only ruling dynasty that has an era of its own. It dates from 590 A.D. when Raja Birraj, from whom the present Rajas is the 117th is descent, extended his conquests beyond the Ganges. The months of the Tripura year are the same as those generally prevailing in Bengal. The **Tripuri** calendar is the traditional calendar used by the **Tripuri** people, especially in the context of **Tripuri** irredentism. Its era, the “Twipra Era”, “Tripura Era” or Tripurabda is set at 15 April AD 590, significantly just ahead (by three years) of the Bangabda or Bengali Era. This “Twipra Era”, is now celebrating as “**Tring**” Festival every on 21st December by the indigenous people of Tripura².

The following corresponding dates illustrate the various Eras clearly:

1 st September 1915	Christian Era
15 th Bhadra 1322	Bengali Era

15 th Bhadra 1325	Tripura Era
8 th Bhadra 1322	Fasli Era
8 th Bhadra Budi 1972	Samvat Era
15 th Bhadra 1837	Saka
20 th Showal 1333	Hijri

184 kings were dominated Tripura since 600 B.C. to till 1947 A.D. but according to Indian historians the historical documents or evidences of the Indian Gazettes, Tripura Estate, at present a state of India, first appears in 14th century, during the last part of Mugal Empire.

Table 1- Mythological or Legendary Kings of Tripura

Sl.	Name of the kings	Years	Achievements
1.	Chandra		1 st King of Tripura
2.	Budh		
3.	Puruoba-I		
4.	Ayu		
5.	Nahush		
6.	Yayati		
7.	Druhyu		About 4000 B.C. established kingdom covering most of

			the North-East India during Druhyu Reign.
8.	Babhru		
9.	Setu		
10.	Anarta		
11.	Gandhar		
12.	Dharma (Gharma)		
13.	Dhrita (Ghrita)		
14.	Durmad		
15.	Pracheta		
16.	Parachi (Shata Dharma)		
17.	Parabasu		
18.	Parishad		
19.	Arijit		
20.	Sujit		
21.	Pururoba-II		
22.	Bibarn		
23.	Puru Sen		
24.	Megh Barna		
25.	Bikarna		
26.	Baseman		
27.	Keerti		
28.	Kaniyan		
29.	Pratishraba		
30.	Pratishtho		
31.	Shakrajit (Shatrujit)		
32.	Pratirdan		
33.	Pramath		
34.	Kalinda		
35.	Kromo (Krath)		
36.	Mitrari		
37.	Baribarha		
38.	Karmuk		
39.	Kalang (Kalinga)		
40.	Bhishan		
41.	Bhanumitra		
42.	Chitrasen (Agha Chitrasen)		
43.	Chitrarath		
44.	Chitaryudh		
45.	Daitya		
46.	Tripur		The 46 th king is called Tripur (Tripura) as a kind of mythological eponymous ancestor of the Sanskrit name of the kingdom. King Tripur was considered tyrannical and debauched. He prohibited worship of deities, instead he asked the people to worship the king. He was brave and great warrior. None of the kings had the courage to fight against him. He could defeat all the kings. What king Tripur proclaimed was that everyone must submit

			oneself to Governing Authority, for there is no authority, other than what God has established. The one who rebels against king is rebelling against God, and against divine power. The theory of divinity of kings was known from the Rama period in India. King Tipur might be the first amongst the kings of Tripura to declare the concept of divinity in king and divine protector of the kingdom, and the ideas had the influence of Aryan emperors of Bharatbarsa.
47.	Subrai (Trilochan)		He was very pious and powerful king. He possessed divine qualities and brought about advancement in spirituality, industrial, cultural revolution, trade & commerce, administrative and financial affairs and all welfare activities. His name and fame spread all over the World. He had married the princess of Hirambaraj. The Reign of King Trilochan is historically very important and the period could be considered the "Golden Period" of Tripura. It is also described in Rajmala that the throne made of gold was presented to king Subrai by the Emperor Judhisthir . The life and cultural tradition and the artifacts what we find still today are flow from Triluchana's era.

48.	Dakshin		
49.	Twidakshin		
50.	Sudakshin		
51.	Tardakshin		
52.	Dharmataru (Dharmatar)		
53.	Dharmapal		
54.	Sadharna (Sudharma)		
55.	Tarbong		
56.	Debang		
57.	Narangita		
58.	Dharmangad		
59.	Rukmangad		
60.	Sumangad		
61.	Nojugrai (Nogjog)		
62.	Torjung		
63.	Tor Raj (Rajdharna)		
64.	Hamraj		
65.	Birraj		
66.	Shiraj		
67.	Shriman (Shrimanta)		
68.	Lakshmitaru		
69.	Torlokshmi		
70.	Mailakshmi (Lakshmi)		
71.	Nageshwar		
72.	Jogeshwar		
73.	Ishwar Pha (Neeldhwaj)		
74.	Rongkhai (Basuraj)		
75.	Dhonraj Pha		
76.	Muchung Pha (Harihar)		
77.	Maichung Pha (Chandrashekhar)		
78.	Chandraraj (Tabhuraj or Taruraj)		
79.	Tarfanai (Tripaly)		
80.	Sumanta		
81.	Roopabanat (Shretha)		
82.	Torham (Tarhom)		
83.	Kha Ham (Hariraj)		
84.	Kotor Pha (Kashiraj)		
85.	Kalator Pha (Madhob)		
86.	ChandraPha (Chandraraj)		
87.	Gajshwar		
88.	Beerraj-II		
89.	Nageshwar-II (Nagpati)		
90.	Sikhiraj (Siksharaj)		
91.	Debraj		
92.	Dhusrang (Durasha or Dhara Ishwar)		
93.	Barkeerti (Birraj or Biraj)		
94.	Sagar Pha		
95.	Maloy Chandra		
96.	Surjyaraj (Surjya Narayan)		
97.	Achong Phanai (Indra Keerti or Uttang Phani)		
98.	Beer Singha (Charachar)		
99.	Hachung Pha (Achong Pha or		

	Surendra)		
100.	Bimar		
101.	Kumar		
102.	Sukumar		
103.	Twicharao (Beerchandra or Toksara)		
104.	Rajyeshwar (Rajeshwar)		
105.	Nageshwar-II (Misliraj or Krodheshwar)		
106.	Twichung Pha (Tejong Pha)		
107.	Narendra		
108.	Indrakeerti		
109.	Biman (Paimaraj)		
110.	Yashoraj		
111.	Nabang (Gandhar)		
112.	Gangaraj (Rajganga)		
113.	Sukuraj (Chitrasen or Chhakru Rai)		
114.	Pratit		
115.	Misli (Marichi, Malsi or Marusom)		
116.	Gagan (Kathuk)		
117.	Noaraj or Nabrai		
118.	Hamtor Pha (Jujaru Pha or Himti or Birraj)		He was wise, brave, and very powerful king. He shifted the capital of Tripura at Rangamati on the Northern side of Gumti River (Now Udaipur). The old capital- the Kholongma was lying uncared from that time. He made expedition upto west of Ganga (Now Mushirdabad). Most of the Bongo (Present Bengal) was under his rule. King Hamtor Pha was a noteworthy ruler. He was famous in the history of Tripura for his conquest of the Leekas- a race of people residing to the East of Rangamati (at Arakan / Chitagang hill tract. He ruled the kingdom for many years. As a landmark historical event of his great victory over Bengal, the king Hamtor-Pha introduced Tripurabda-

			TRING in 590 A.D. and the era of Tripura. It was formally introduced in a function by flag hoisting on the western bank of Ganga River. (Kailash Chandra Singh-Rajmala).
119.	Jangi Pha (Rajendra or Janak Pha)		
120.	Partha (Debrai or Debraj)		
121.	Sebrai Pha		
122.	Dongor Pha (Harirai)	635-675	He was wise, brave, and very powerful king. The king brought five Mithila Brahmins to perform Jagya and Worship for rain water crucial drought period in Tripura. The Mithila Raj sent messenger to see whether the country 'Tripura' was civilized as the Mithila Raj was in the impression that the Kirat Desh as uncivilized. The messengers went back to Mithila king with report that th Tripura Kingdom could be considered to be highly modest and civilized. Accordingly, the Mithila Brahmins accepted the offer to come to Tripura. Thereafter, the five Brahmins were donated land with copper inscriptions and the place where those Mithilas settled is known as "Pancha Khanda".
123.	Kharung Pha (Ramchandra)	675-710	
124.	Chengphanai (Nrisingha)	710-745	
125.	Lalit Rai	745-780	
126.	Mukunda Pha (Kunda Pha)	780-815	
127.	Kamal Rai	815-850	
128.	Krishnadas	850-885	
129.	Yas Pha (Jashraj)	885-920	

130.	Muchang Pha (Udwab)	920-955	
131.	Sadhu Rai	955-980	
132.	Pratap Rai	980-1010	
133.	Vishnuprasad	1010-1045	
134.	Baneshwar (Baneeshwar)	1045-1075	
135.	Beerbahu	1075-1100	
136.	Samrat	1100-1125	
137.	Champakeshwar (Champa)	1125-1140	
138.	Meghraj (Megh)	1140-1160	
139.	Sengkwchak (Dharmadhar)	1160-1225	
140.	Chengthum Pha	1225-1250	
141.	Achong Pha	1250-1270	
142.	Khichung Pha (Mohon)	1270-1280	
143.	Danger Pha (Harirai)	1280-1300	
144.	Raja Pha	1300-1325	
145.		New Era	
146.	Ratna Pha (Ratna Manikya)	1325-1350	Tripura kingdom had shown landmark progress both socially and politically from the period of king Ratna Manikya.
147.	Pratap Manikya	1335-1375	
148.	Mukut Manikya (Mukunda)	1375-1400	
149.	Maha Manikya	1400-1430	He was pious, learned king.
150.	Dharamma Manikya	1431-1462	The period of Dharma Manikya rule was marked by all round peace and prosperity. He was established Tripuraswari Temple at Udaipur in 1501.
151.	Pratap Manikya-II (Interregnum)	1462-1490	
152.	Dhanya Manikya	1490-1520	He was the king of the kingdom. His coquest recaptured within short time Meherkul, Patikara, Gangamandal, Bagasair, Bejura, Bhanugach, Bishnajuri, Longla, Bardakhar and Khandal. The war of Dhanya Manika with

			Husien Shah, Nawab of Gaur, for supremacy of Chitagang is the most memorable historical event. The king had driven out the Nawab armies in terrible war. About four wars during invasions of Nawab armies were badly defeated in all wars.
153.	Dhwaja Manikya	1527-1528	
154.	Deva Manikya		
155.	Indra Manikya		
156.	Vijay Manikya	1528-1570	He was contemporary to Emperor Akbar and ruled the Tripura Kingdom with great credit, by doing many noble deeds for the people. He conquered Sylhet, Khasia and Joyantia hills and drove away the muslimans from Chitagang in a terrible battle.
157.	Ananta Manikya	1577-1596	
158.	Udai Manikya		
159.	Jai Manikya (Loktor Fa)		
160.	Amar Manikya		
161.	Rajdhar Manikya	1597-1600	
162.	Jashodhar Manikya	1600-1623	
163.	Kalyan Manikya	1623-1660	
164.	Gobinda Manikya **	1660-1661	Internal conflict broke out for the throne, after the sad demise of his father. He left the kingdom to his brother he went out.
165.	Chhatra Manikya (Nakhshatra Rai)	1662-1667	He was a brother of Govinda Manikya. He was contemporary to Shah Jahan, the famous mugal emperor.
166.	Gobinda Manikya **	1667-1673	He was ideal king and respected by all sections of the people. He was tolerant, great, religious and also built mosque for Islam faiths at Comilla.
167.	Ramdev Manikya	1673-1683	
168.	Ratna Manikya-II **	1684	

169.	Narendra Manikya	1684-85	
170.	Ratna Manikya-II **	1685-1712	
171.	Mahendra Manikya	1712-1713	
172.	Dharma Manikya	1713-1725	
173.	Jagat Manikya	1726-1729	He was a puppet king.
174.	Dharma Manikya-II	1714-1733	Chakla Rosanabad area under covered by the Mughal Emperor. The Mahabharata was translated in Bengali in his encouragement.
175.	Chandramani (Mukunda Manikya)	1729-1738	He was a pious king and donated land to Brahmins and Khatriyas.
176.	Jai Manikya **	1739-1744	
177.	Indra Manikya-II	1744-1745	
178.	Jai Manikya **	1746	
179.	Vijay Manikya-II	1767-1747	Samser Ghazi played role to snatch the Tripura throne but failed as the people did not recognize him as king of Tripura.
180.	Krishna Manikya	1748-1783	Snatched Chakla Rosanabad area by the British and Reja Kha in 1761. Rafal Lik appointed as resident Tripura for the first time. He shifted capital from Udaipur (Rangamati) to old Agartala (Purana Haveli) in 1761 the he ruled only independent Hill Tripura.
181.	Queen Jahnabi Devi	1783-1785	After the death of Krishna Manikya there were quarreling over the throne among the princes of Royal Families by Rajdhar, son of Vijoy Manikya, younger brother of Krishna Manikya and Lakshan Manikya- titular king made by Samser Ghazi. To avoid civil war, Queen Jahnabi Devi ruled for three years.

182.	Rajdhar Manikya-II	1786-1804	Act of Permanent Settlement returned him Chakla Rosanabad area and then it formed as Tripura Zilla.
183.	Ramganga Manikya **	1804-1809	
184.	Durga Manikya	1809-1813	Ramganga Manikya left the capital and remained at Sylhet. Durga Manikya went out for pilgrimage, erected siva temple at Banera on his way he died on 6 th April 1813.
185.	Ramganga Manikya **	1813-1826	
186.	Kashi Chandra Manikya	1826-1829	
187.	Krishna Kishore Manikya	1830-1850	He was a luxury king. He shifted new capital from old Agartala to New Agartala. Borrowed loan and Expended huge money. He was an expert Persian Scholer, skilled athletes and famous wrestler. He was killed in 1850.
188.	Ishan Chandra Manikya	1850-1862	He was a heavy burden to recover of Rupees 11 (Eleven) Lakh loan recovery. He helped to the British Government during the sepoy revolt in 1857. He was arrested by the British Government but the mercy of the Judge (Mat Kape) saved him.
189.	Bir Chandra Manikya	1862-1896	Modern era starting from his period. He was proficient in music, literature in Sanskrit, English, Urdu, Bengali, Manipuri and Arts. Introduced as "Hill Tripura" instead of "Swadin (Independent) Tripura". He follows the British administration

			and passed Law and Order, Punishable offence, Jail, Code, Stamp Law, Khas Apeel Adalat etc. First political agent appointed in Tripura to A.W.B. Power by the British Government. Tripura divided tree parts for better administration and development of the state, for the land Re-demarcation he lost 80 miles to the western and agreed & signed as the last border up to the Longai River of Tripura.
190.	Radha Kishore Manikya	1896-1909	Ujjayanta Palace built in 1901, Rabindra Nath Tagore came Tripura for the first time in 1901, Introduced Education in Tripura, formed Victoria Memorial Hospital (Now IGM), established Comilla Victoria College, granting financial assistance to the great people viz. Scientist Jagadish Chandra Base, Hema Chandra Bandopadya, Dr. Dinesh Chandra Sen and others.
191.	Birendra Kishore Manikya	1909-1923	The scientific way of cultivation, industrial growth, legislation, educational institutes and other development brought in his period. Built Kunjaban Palace (Now Raj Bavan), Laxmi Lanrayan Bari Temple. Estate 40 no. Tea Garden. Declared "khas

			Land" to all the forest covered land area of Tripura.
192.	Birbikram Kishore Manikya	1923-1947	Last king of Tripura was established M.B.B. Degree College in 1947, built Nirmahal, "Bharat Bhaskar" prize awarded to Rabindra Nath Tagore in 1939.
193.	Kirrit Bikram Kishore Manikya Debbarma	1947-1949	Ended of power of Tripura Kingdom. He was a minor when his father (Birbikram) passed way. Maharani Kanchan Prava Devi ruled the Kingdom by constituting Privi Council and Tripura merged with Indian Union on 15 th October 1949.
194.	Kirrit Pradyot Debbarma	Present	

Rajmala presents that the first king of Tripura was Chandra. The name of Tripura was kept in the name of 46th king is called Tripur (Tripura). Bir Bikram Kishore Bahadur Manikya was the last king of Independent Hill Tripura who expired on 17th May 1947.

Survey of Twipra or Tipperah or Tripura boundary from 7th century to till 1947:-

Early History of Tripura

In the 1st century B.C. the **Tripura Kingdom** was established around the confluence of the Brahmaputra River (Twima) with the Meghna and Surma Rivers in today's Central **Bangladesh** area. The **capital** was called **Khorongma (Kholongma)** and was along the Meghna River in the Sylhet Division of present-day **Bangladesh**. It was one of the kingdoms of the ethnic Bodo, Kachari, Garo, Tipera, Dimasa, Koch people, besides Kachari Kingdom in Assam, Koch in West Bengal, Garo in Meghalaya, Dimasa in Nagaland and Assam, Bodo in Assam and Tipera in Tripura.

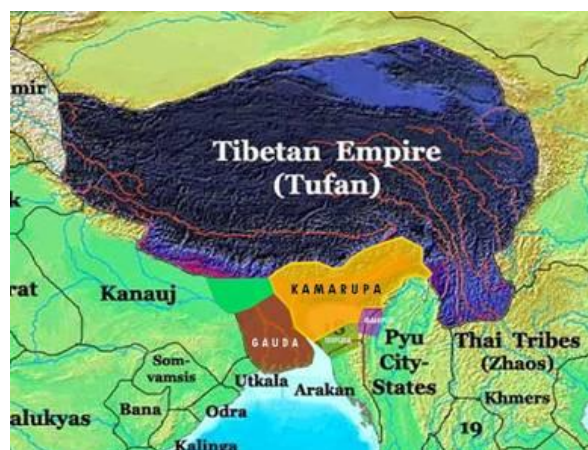
In the 7th century the Tripuri kings with the title of 'Pha' which means father, started to rule from the Kailashahar region in Noth Tripura. The present Greater Comilla was once under ancient Kingdom of [Samatata](#) and was joined with [Tripuri Kingdom](#). Rajarajabhata was perhaps successes by Balabhata whose name has of late been disclosed by a copper-plate as well as by a few gold **coins** ³ found at mainamati (Comilla District).

By Narottam Debbarma

The duration of the rule of the Khadga Kings extended from about 650 to 700 A.D. Chronologically close to or contemporaneous with, the Khadgas were two more families, designated as the Nathas and Ratas. The kingdom of Tipra areas were Sylhet, Dhaka and Chitagong of Bangladesh, Cachar valley of Assam, Mizoram states of India. A map of "Twipra" or "Tippera" or Tripura in 7th the century has shown (Figure-1).

A certain Samanta Lokanatha is known is known from the Tippera (Modern Comilla) copper-plate grant. Lalmai Mainamati was ruled by Deva dynasty (eighth century AD), and (during tenth and mid-eleventh century AD). In 1732, it became the center of the Bengal-backed domain of Jagat Manikya.

Figure 1 -Map of Tripura Kingdom in 7th and 8th Century



The Kailashahar was the ancient capital of the Tripuri kingdom. The history of old Kailashahar is associated with Unakoti, a tourist place reputed for its 7th - 9th century A. D. stone and rock cut images. A Shiva disciple, who started the Tripurabda (Tripuri Calendar), prayed for Lord Shiva in a village called Chhambulnagar on the banks of the river Manu. It is speculated that Chhambulnagar, which is mentioned in Rajmala, was situated near Unakoti Hill. The Prince prayed for Mahadeva in Unakoti. For this some people believe that the previous name of Kailashahar was Chhambulnagar. Some believers thought that Har (Shiva) resides in Kailash. Therefore the place was known as Kailash Har which was later on transformed to Kailashahar. A Tripura king named Adi-Dharmapha ruled here in 7th century. He performed a great Yagna with much pomp and gaiety. The name Kailashahar found currency since that time.⁴

The Tripura Manikya dynasty originated in the **1279 A.D.** when the King of Tripura Ratna Fa assumed the title of Manikya. In the 14th Century the Capital

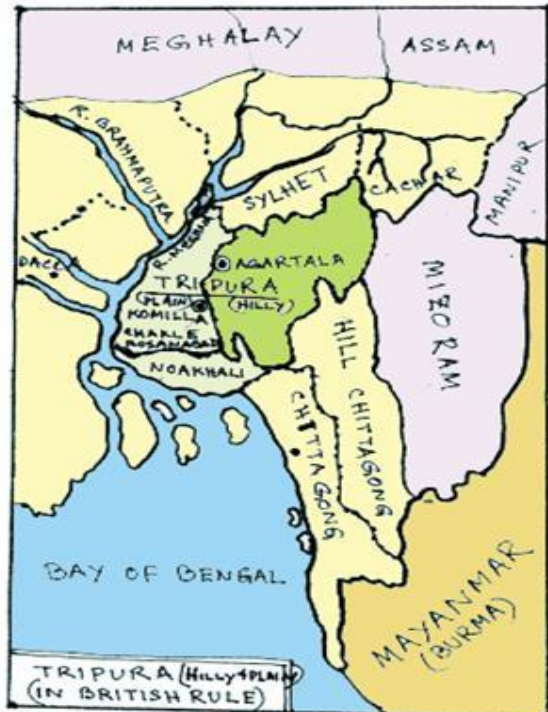
of Tripura was shifted from Kailashahar to Rangamati (Udaipur).

Uday Manikya (1585 to 1596) changed the name of the capital from Rangamati to Udaipur. In the year **1760 A. D.** Maharaja Krishna Manikya shifted the state capital from Udaipur to Old Agartala.

Old Agartala is also called Puran Haveli. Udaipur was the capital of Tripura for **1170** years. Indo-Mongolian in origin, the Tripura Manikya dynasty ruled over the region for hundreds of years. "the Tripura Raj existed previous to 600 B.C. 2500 years ago, and was considered a kingdom of sufficient importance to have been invaded and made to pay tribute to Yudhisthira and to Duryodhana, the Samrats of India, and to have taken part in the great battle of Kurukshetra"⁵

The Peasants Movement against the king of Tripura in 1764, which originally formed under the leadership of [Shamsher Gazi](#) is a notable historical event in Comilla. It came under the rule of [East India Company](#) in 1765 and was established as **Tippera district** (also known as [Chakla \(administrative division\) Roshnabad](#)) in 1790. Tripura was divided into two parts viz. Plain Tripura or Chaklaroshanabad and Hill Tripura ⁶ (Figure-2).

Figure: 2-Map of Tripura (Hilly and Plain) in the British Rule



"On the side of Tipperah the boundary between the hill territory and the plains was quite as ill-defined as it had been on the Sylhet frontier; but this had not given rise to the same amount of mischief, as the zemindary of Roshanabad belonged to the lord of the hills, whose interests were identical on upland and

lowland. In 1848, doubts were entertained whether the general indebtedness of the Rajah would not speedily bring the settled estate to the hammer, and in view of this contingency a speedy demarcation of the boundary line was urged upon Government.

The measure was sanctioned, and the survey was ultimately carried on till the whole boundary between independent Tipperah and the British Districts of Tipperah, Bullooah, (or Noakhali) and the remaining portion of Sylhet had laid down. It was completed in December 1852, and arbitrators were immediately appointed to settle all disputed lines. Every obstacle was thrown in the way of a final settlement by the Rajah were represented or on that any actual progress was made and the Raja's arbitrator attended ⁷.

In January 1855 the results were reported. It had been discovered that no definite boundary between the hills and the plains had heretofore existed; but as the government arbitrator liberally gave the Raja the benefit of every doubt, no application to a referee was found necessary. Agurtalla, the Rajah's place of residence, was by the line now down included in the hill territory".

It will be seen from above, that, in spite of the decision of the Sardar Dewani Adalat of 24th March 1809, "declaring the Zemindari an integral portion of an impartible Raj," the local Officials still arrogantly maintained the pleasing fiction, on which Government had cated in recognizing and installing Ramganga Manikya, Kashichandra Manikya and Krishnakishor Manikya as Rajahs, whether the general indebtedness of the Rajah would not speedily bring the settled estate (Roshanabad) to the hammer" this only shows, that the local officials were not only ignorant of the highest Civil Court of the land, in even imagining, that "an integral portion of an impartible Raj" and not only an ordinary Zemindari Raj but the state an Independent Power, with whom the government had not even a Treaty, could be sold to pay the Rajah's debts to money lenders, or even for the Government revenue for the payment of which the Company had forced the Rajahs to make settlements, if the Rajah did not choose to pay. No doubt a Revenue Official would be horrified at such a proposition! But if he will only think instead of blustering, he will begin to see, that, the proposition, that, Chakla Roshanabad cannot be sold for arrears of Government Revenue are perfectly legal proposition, in as much as:

- (1) Chakla Roshanabad is not a permanent settled estate, as ordinary Zemindaries area.
- (2) that no permanent settlement exists or ever has existed
- (3) that an engagement was made with each individual Rajah from Rajdhar Manikya

(1785-1874) to Ishanchandra Manikya (1849-1862) to pay the revenue

- (4) that no such or similar contact has been entered into by the last three Rajas, and
- (5) that without a specific contract for payment no payment could be enforced by attachment, sale or otherwise by government or private persons, like money lenders under any Revenue or other Law or Regulation, or in plain language – if the Rajah were to refuse to pay the Revenue demand could not be enforced by any law or regulation.

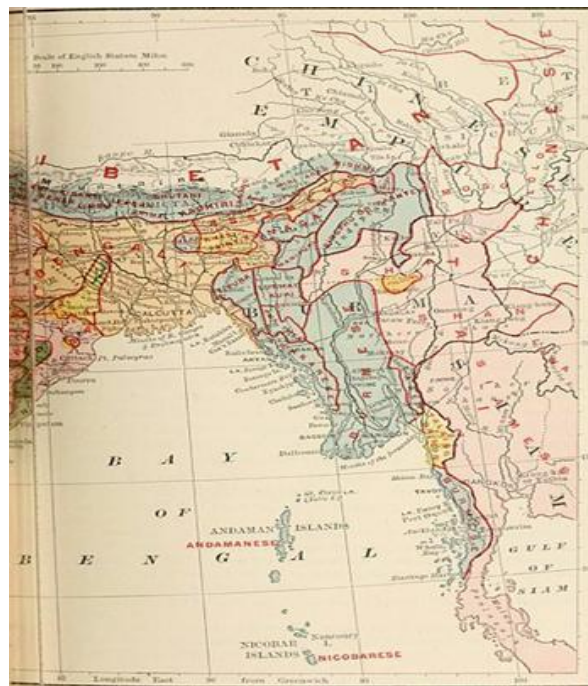
On this flimsy excuse, that, the settled estate might be brought to the hammer a boundary was laid down,” “the Arbitrator (with gratuitous generosity) liberally gave the Rajah the benefit of every doubt (and the Capital of the State) “Agartala, the Rajah’s place residence, was by the line now laid down included in the Hill Territory”.

On page 285 Machenzie gives his version of how the Southern boundary was fixed in his own amiable way!

Sylhet having become a British District, the Government ordered the boundaries to be ascertained, and for this purpose Lieutenant Fisher, of the survey department, was deputed and sent in a report and map through the Magistrate of Sylhet. Mr. Secretary Princep, writing on the 6th June 1822 to the Magistrate of Sylhet, that “The map would seem to comprise the whole Southern and Eastern Frontier of the Zillah as well as that towards the Cachar territory as the boundary line between the Company’s districts and the Independent country of Tipperah”.

States, “that the boundary was laid from the Chattachura Hills to the Western extremity of the Zillah Sylhet. “And it has been seen from the above cited that the Eastern boundary between Sylhet and Cachar (then an Independent Raj) was also laid. Consequently Chattachura (a peak marked on the maps as 2,069 feet high) was, and still is, the junction of the boundary Sylhet and Cachar with that of Tripurah.

Figure 3-British India map of Northeast India and Myanmar, Bengal Assam Meghalaya Arunachal Pradesh Nagaland Manipur Mizoram Tripura regions 1891



Cachar, or as it was known in Hindoo times as Hiramba, formerly belonged to the Tripura Rajahs. It would appear that a Cachar Rajah married a daughter of the Rajah of Tripura and received the valley of Cachar as **her dowry** ⁸ (Figure-3) In the region of Pratit, the 67th Rajah of Tripura, a treaty was made with the king of Cachar, the object of which was to prevent disputes as to the boundary between the territories of the **two sovereigns** ⁹.
By Narottam Debbarma

During the period when Cachar was governed as an Independent State by its own hereditary line of princes its area was far more extensive than now. In 1809 a complicated series of disputes arose between the Rajah of Cachar and the Rajah of Manipore and the Burmese. The two latter powers successively ravaged the country for years, and the Burmese ultimately succeeded in maintaining possession, the legitimate Prince being compelled to take refuge in the district of Sylhet.

In 1824, when the British declared war against the Burmese, the Cachar Rajah Govinda Chandra applied to the British for assistance, and a series of operations were undertaken against the Burmese, which resulted in their expulsion from the country, and Govinda Chandra was assassinated in 1830, and as he left no heir, the British took possession of the country in accordance with the conditions of the treaty. Captain Fisher, of the Survey Department, was appointed the Superintendent, subordinate to the Governor General’s Agent in Assam ¹⁰.

Though the two occupied areas viz. Sylhet and Cachar were dominant by the Tripura Raja but the British Government snatched these and included with India ruled it.

Once upon a time the kings of Tripura were under control of Mughal emperor of Delhi. This was the time India was undivided, and an elephant tax had to be paid, supplying 100 numbers of elephants each year.

Another king Dharma Manikya-II (1713-1729), who was the head of Chakla Roshanabad Estate (Plain Tripura), was under control of the Nawab Mirzafar and Mirkasim (Provincial Governor of rural) of Bengal (former undivided Bengal of undivided India) also had to pay the Rs. 50, 000.00 (Rupees Fifty Thousand only) as revenue to the Nawab. It was until the beginning of the 17th century which the "Mughal Empire" extended its sovereignty over Tripura Estate in 1761; the British forces of East India Company took over or invaded and ruled everything in Tripura Estate the king of the whole of Tripura was Maharaja Plain and Hill sectors. At that time, the king of the whole of Tripura was Maharaja Krishna Manikya. Indeed, the present size of Tripura was not always like this. From the last period of Mughal rule till the time of Indian independence (from the period 1772 A.D. to 14th August, 1947) it was a vast land of plains and hills. The eastern hilly part i.e. the present position was called "Hilly Tripura". The western plain part up to the Bank of Meghna River, was called the "Chakla Roshanabad" or "Plain Tripura". Even, during the colonial rule, Tripura remained divided into two (02) parts the hill-, which was commonly called by the British as "Hill Tippeera" (after 1920 as Tripura) and the Chakla Roshanabad" covers an area of 533.77 square miles.

Tripura continued to be a princely state until it merged into the union of India on 15th October 1949. The last king of Tripura Maharaja Bir Bikram Kishore Manikya Bahadur, as luck would have it, suddenly died a premature death at the age of 39 years on the 17th May, 1947. His son Yuvaraj Kirit Bikram Kishore Manikya was a minor boy. In that period the royal palace was vacuum, meanwhile the Pakistan was declaring as independent country on 14th August, 1947 by the British Government the rulerless Chakla Roshanabad which the part and parcel of Tripura was snatched away by Pakistani Forces to be added to East Pakistan (now Bangladesh). From the independence of India and her partition on 15th August, 1947 to the amalgamation of Tripura with the Indian union on 15th October, 1949 the period two years were considered as the "Period of Regency".

The year 1947 is historically remarkable not only from Indian perspective but from the view point of Tripura too. India attained her independence in the year instead of partition. The long-desired independence never came to the Indians in a form of delight or pleasures rather it brought a night-mare for

them in the form of 'partition' especially for the people of Punjab and Bengal.

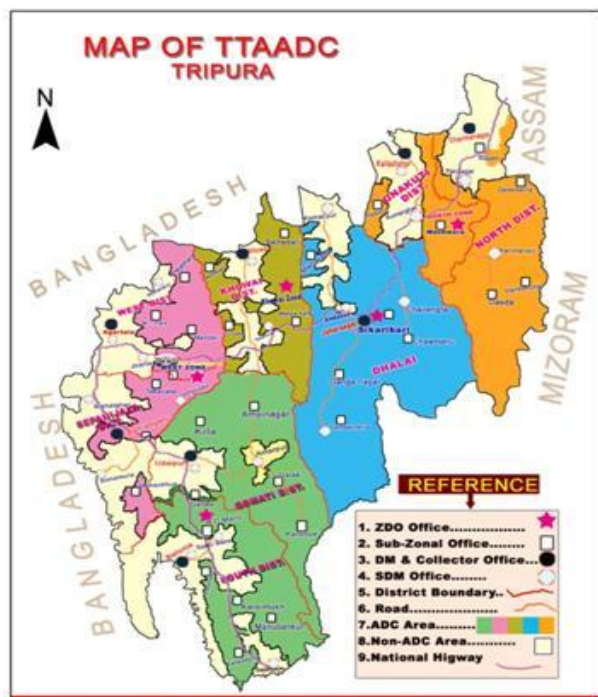
These two states of independent India witnessed the worst effect of partition in the form of mass butchery of common people due to communal riots and refugee. However, the unfortunate event on the part of Tripura was that, though the state was an independent princely state, she had to face the adverse effect of partition of India in the form of displaced person and refugee. Tripura had to face the adverse consequence of migration. These flows of immigrants increased to their zenith during the independence moment of Bangladesh in 1971.

Tripura was an independent state ruled by 184 kings. 2nd largest reign kingdom then Japan in the world history. It was a very peaceful state in the world, with her people from different ethnic and religious backgrounds living in relative harmony. Most of the indigenous people were self-sufficient and owned their land. Having the own culture and custom. With an area of 10,491 sq. km and bordered by Bangladesh to the north, south, west and the Indian states of Assam and Mizoram to the east.

According to 2011 census report the total population is 3,671,032 which 0.3% of the country's population. As demonstrated by 2011 data records, Hinduism is the prevailing religion in the state, followed by 84%, Muslims comprise of 9%, Christian 4.45% and Buddhists are 3.41%. The sex proportion of Tripura is 961 females for each 1000 males. The population density is 350 persons per square kilometer.

The *Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council (TTAADC) Act 1979* was passed by the [Indian parliament](#) after a series of democratic movements launched by the Indigenous people of Tripura, under the provision of the 6th schedule of the Indian constitution. The principal objective behind setting up the [Autonomous District Council](#) is to empower the Indigenous people to govern themselves and also to bring all-round developments of the backward people so as to protect and preserve their culture, customs and traditions. But it actually came into being from 18 January 1982 and later it was upgraded under the provision of the 6th schedule to the Indian constitution with effect from the 1 April 1985 by the 49th amendment to the [Constitution of India](#).

Figure 4- Map of TTAADC (The Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council and yellow in colour is Non- ADC area)



TTAADC (Tripura Tribal Areas Autonomous Districts Council) (Figure-4) area is 7,132.56 sq. km which covers about 86% of the total area of the state. It is an independent Council administering the Tripuri-dominated areas of the state of Tripura. Now a regional political party IPFT (Indigenous People Front of Tripura) has been demanding a separate state under section 3 of Indian Constitution as "Tipraland" since long.

REFERENCES:-

1. History of Tripura by E.F. Sandys Published by Tripura State Tribal Research Institute and Museum Govt. of Tripura, p.9
2. idbi, p.8
3. One of them is mixed alloy (Imitation of Gupta Archer type with goddess on the reverse), See BL, I, I. 1975, P.56-7
4. Unakoti Sculptures: A Bewitching Tourists Attraction (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tripura>)
5. History of Tripura compiled by E. F. Sandys, compiled and edited by R.G.Singh & Arun Deb Barma Tripura State Tribal Research Institute and Museum Govt. of Tripura, p.3
6. <http://priyocomilla.blogspot.com/.../comilla-comilla-is-city-...>

7. History of Tripura compiled by E. F. Sandys, compiled and edited by R.G.Singh & Arun Deb Barma Tripura State Tribal Research Institute and Museum Govt. of Tripura, p.59-60.
8. Aitcheson's Treaties, page 231.
9. Hunter's Bengal Vol.VI page 464.
10. History of Tripura compiled by E. F. Sandys, compiled and edited by R.G.Singh & Arun Deb Barma Tripura State Tribal Research Institute and Museum Govt. of Tripura, p.63.

Corresponding Author

Narottam Debbarma*

Ph.D. Scholar, Department of Political Science, Maharaj Vinayak Global University, Dhand, Amer, NH-11C, Jaipur Rajasthan.

narottam1972@gmail.com