

COMPILED NOTES

1. Singimari [714] Pre-1947 mapping depicts this as an enclave of Cooch Behar, containing eight counter-enclaves of Jalpaiguri thana (police station), Jalpaiguri district. Singimari 714 was transferred to Jalpaiguri thana, Jalpaiguri district on 27 June 1952, and it survives as a Jalpaiguri mauza (village). Together with Faridpur, the transfer should have elevated the eight counter-enclaves to being East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, enclaves in Jalpaiguri district. However, no Indian nor Bangladeshi source depicts them as other than Indian. They are therefore depicted here as 8 mauza level Indian internal enclaves, and appear to form a single mauza within Jalpaiguri.

2. Garai [774 & 765] These two chhitis may be joined as one enclave, as per pre-1947 topographic maps, in which the smaller, chhit 765, adjoins the northern boundary of the larger chhit 774. They have been depicted here as separate per 1991 Indian census maps, and Banerjee, 1966.

3. Nazarganj [4925 & 5526] These two chhitis are also depicted as joined in pre-1947 mapping, but as separate in Indian 1991 census maps, and are depicted separate here.

4. Dakkhata [43130] The exact location and shape of this chhiti is uncertain. While definitely within the arm of Berubari that joins Dakkhata 3913, Dakkhata 43130 may be adjacent to its larger namesake as depicted here, or between it and Dakkhata 4012.

5. Gosairhat [894 to 1021] While listed as 14 chhitis, only 13 enclaves have been located on source maps and depicted here. Either there is a 14th enclave not shown on the source maps, or two chhitis form a single enclave.

6. Chitland of Jagbari Nos. 1 to 3 [36 to 38] Pre-1947 maps depict four enclaves of Patgram in this area, as does much less accurate current Bangladeshi mapping. Banerjee (1966) lists only three. The Small Area Atlas of Bangladesh (1989) and a pre-1947 mauza map of Patgram thana updated by East Pakistan show only the southernmost three, while Indian sources show only the easternmost three. Together this would seem to confirm the location of enclaves 37 and 38, but leave that of 36 open to debate, which is how they are depicted here.

7. Purba Masaldanga [86 & 87] A map prepared for the proposed Cooch Behar enclave exchange of the 1930s depicted these two chhitis as a single enclave. Likewise Hartley (1940) implies they form a single enclave. However topographic mapping and other sources suggest two enclaves. They have been depicted as two enclaves here, but if joined, are connected across the narrowest gap separating them, along a level/marshy former river course.

8. The exact location, shape and size of the smallest enclaves may not be accurate. This applies particularly to: Indian enclaves Nazarganj 5024 to 5420, Bewaldanga 3441, Kot Bhujni 2444 to 2446, Bara Kuchibari -59, Jambhata Balaqubari 890, Laganbowa Kuchibari -81, Fullerdabri 700, Parsala -73, Bhograguri 13391, Chensakata 13492, and Banskata 116108 to 116104 & 123109 to 129107 and Bangladeshi enclaves Nazarganj 8 to 10, Jalpaiguri Masaldanga 75 & 77.

9. The entire main boundary depicted here was demarcated by 1972 except for the two sections indicated. Of these, that at Singimari 714 may be related to note #1 above. The second, around Berubari, was delayed until 1971 by legal action over the Benarbari division proposed in 1958. Officials currently claim 6.5km still remains undemarcated, including a section of the southern boundary of Dakkhata 3913, opposite Dhakul 2735. Except Dahagram-Angarpota #27 & 28, none of the enclaves have been redemarcated since the 1930s.

10. All enclaves and known boundary changes since c. 1900 are shown. Thana boundaries around Kurigram, Lalmonirhat and Rangpur are compiled from the best information to hand, but may not be accurate. Due to incomplete information, not all changes in this area are necessarily shown. Similarly, the southern boundaries of Chitabandha thana, south of Falakata are approximate only, as are the boundaries of the Assamese thanas.

11. Rivers have been sourced from pre-1947 topographic maps, available for all except the Rangpur-Lalmonirhat area, for which only more recent information is available. Where more recent information is available, significant changes have been depicted in addition to the courses c. 1930, when being about the time of the first enclave demarcation, are considered more pertinent.

12. Roads depicted are those considered motable in the 1930s, which have become the major roads today. Additional roads have been depicted where known, although sources are mostly poor. Rivers were generally crossed by ferry in the 1930s, and while numerous bridges have since been built, little information is readily available, small-scale road maps being too inaccurate. Bridges have only been depicted if confirmed.

13. Railway information is more complete and current than road information, although individual stations are not shown.

14. Town and settlement outlines are taken from pre-1947 maps. While they will have grown somewhat since, more recent information is unavailable. All important settlements are shown, together with some smaller localities and railway stations mentioned in the text.

15. Ruins depicted are taken from pre-1947 mapping, but are still visible today. Bhatarganj is possibly 1200 years old, a moated and a mud-brick walled settlement. It is of particular note for its influence on the course of the main Indo-Bangladeshi boundary, as well as that of Garai enclave 781. Likewise Dakul Bhatarganj has determined the boundaries of Ghataur 3735 and Kajar Dighr 3636. Kamatapur was the capital of Kamata, the predecessor state to Cooch Behar.

16. The airfield at Lalmonirhat dates to the Second World War, and while still occupied by the military, may now be disused. There was an airstrip just north-west of Cooch Behar town, but this is no longer in use. The nearest public airports are in Bangladesh (Bangladesh), south of Dima, and Bagdogra (India), 10km west of Silguri off the north-west corner of the map. Bagdogra is an Indian airforce base. Airstrips also exist at Hasarna to the north, Rajpur near Gauipur to the west of the map (India), and Thakurgaon (Bangladesh) to the south-west of the map. The operational status of these is unknown.

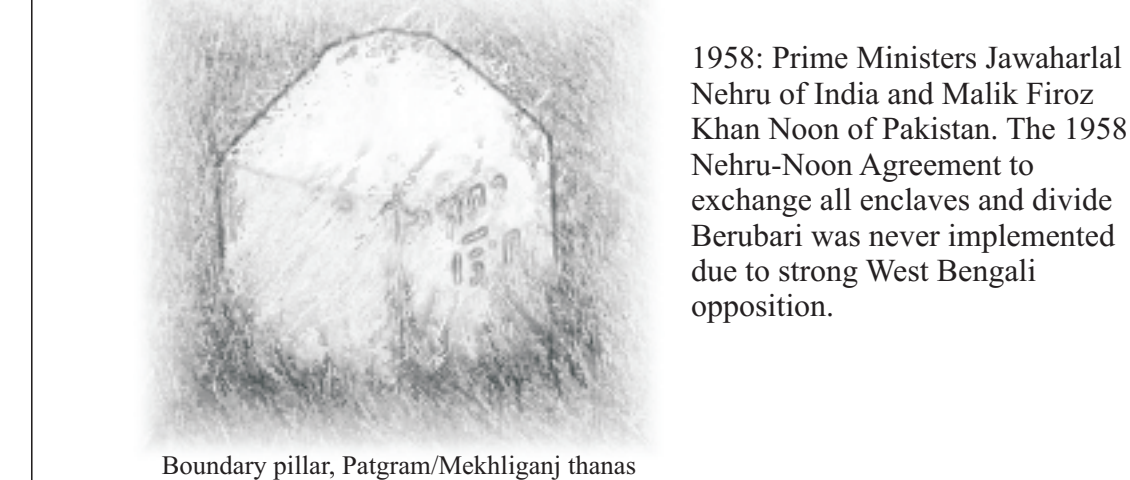
17. Only three boundary crossings exist in the area, all along non-lifted rail sections. Only that at Chitabandha/Banarbari is accessible to vehicles, the other two only to pedestrians.

18. Boundary fencing is progressing along the main boundary, but is full extent is uncertain. The section in the vicinity of the Halibari/Chitahat boundary crossing was fenced by the time of fieldwork (8/2000) but not as far as Benarbari. Tin Bigha is fenced, but neither the Dahagram-Angarpota boundaries nor the main boundary is fenced.

19. Bara Sarakul 50 is joined to mainland Bangladesh by a single point. Pre-1947 mapping shows Jote Nijama 36 as a similarly joined by a single point, but this is unconfirmed.

20. For an explanation of chhit/enclave numbering, see the main thesis.

The Indo-Bangladeshi enclaves at Cooch Behar, West Bengal including past enclaves, Berubari and the Tin Bigha Corridor.



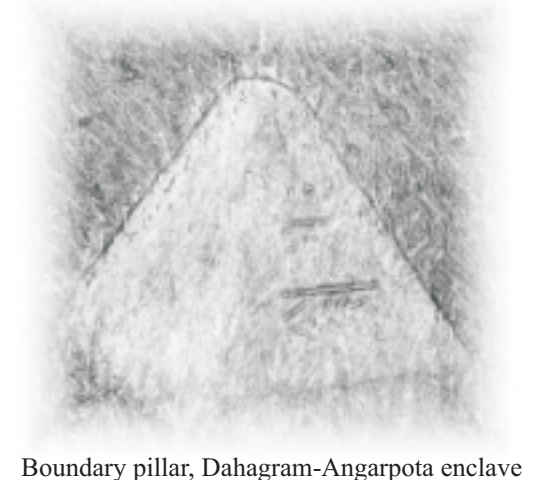
1958: Prime Ministers Jawaharlal Nehru of India and Malik Feroz Khan Noon of Pakistan. The 1958 Nehru-Noon Agreement to exchange all enclaves and divide Berubari was never implemented due to strong West Bengali opposition.



Indian watchtower near Dahagram



1974: Prime Ministers Indira Gandhi of India and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman of Bangladesh. Replacing Nehru-Noon, the Indo-Mujib Pact of 1974 left all of Berubari to India, in return leaving the Tin Bigha corridor and leaving Dahagram-Angarpota #27 & 28 to Bangladesh. Exchange of remaining enclaves still awaits Indian ratification 27 years on.



Boundary pillar, Dahagram-Angarpota enclave

KEY:

- International boundary (India-Bangladesh)
- State boundary (West Bengal-Assam)
- Previous State boundary (Cooch Behar-British India*)
- District boundary
- Previous District boundary*
- Police Station (Thana) boundary
- Previous Police Station boundary*
- Chhit, Mauza or Union boundary of relevance to the enclaves
- * with date of change or date of source
- Road (main/other), new road = post-1947 construction.
- Railway (metro/railroad gauge)
- Discontinued railway
- Rivers c. 1930
- Rivers c. 1990 (where known & significantly different from c. 1930)
- Towns, and settlements of relevance to the enclaves.
- C C Official border crossing (3 only)
- f Ferry, c. 1930. May now be bridged.
- F Dahagram 27
- Bangladeshi chhit(mahal), with Banerjee's Serial number
- Indian chhit(mahal), with Chhit No./Banerjee's Serial No.

Compiled mainly from:

Maps:

- Survey of India 1/4-inch sheets 78-B, -F (1943-4 editions) & 78-G (1914), & equivalent Survey of Bangladesh 1:250,000 sheets (1968-83);
- Survey of India 1/2-inch sheets 78-B-NE, -SE, 78-F-NW, -SW, -SE, 78-G-NE, (1926-33);
- Survey of India 1-inch sheets 78-B-10, -11, -12, -14, -15, -16, 78-F-2, -3, -4, -7, -8, -11, -12, -15, -16; preliminary editions (1921-27), 1st editions (1928-31), & parallel Survey of Bangladesh 1:50,000 sheets (1972-1993) including 78-G-5 & G-9;
- Census reports & maps;
- Census of India District Census Handbooks, for Cooch Behar and Jalpaiguri, for 1951, 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991 censuses;
- R. Banerjee, 'An Account of Enclaves - Origin and Development', in Census 1961, West Bengal, District Census Handbook, Cooch Behar, West Bengal Govt., 1966;
- Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Small Area Atlas of Bangladesh, 1989;
- Bangladesh Population Census 1991 Zila Handbooks for Panchagarh, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat and Kurigram;
- Other:
- A.C. Hartley, Final Report of the Rangpur Survey and Settlement Operations 1931-1938, Bengal Govt., 1940. Fieldwork, 2000.

Scale: c. 1:130,000

0 2 4 6 8 10 15 20 km

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