

FOREWORD

In revenue terms, settlement means assessment of land revenue and the liability of a person to pay it. The other objective is framing of record of rights (*Jamabandi*) on a piece of land. Such a settlement is not entirely final or free but has to undergo relaxation/remission owing to natural calamities and destruction of crops by vagaries of weather causing serious loss of capital, and revision due to change in the cropping pattern and the apparent improvement in the sources of irrigation resulting into increase in material prosperity of the landholders and the tenants.

The Settlement Reports pertaining to the British period contain valuable data and give vivid description of a district, its former fiscal history, scope of settlement, statistical and economical examination of the existing conditions, measurement, remeasurement, revision of records etc.

This Settlement Report of Karnal District, 1909 written by A. M. Stow, Esquire, I.C.E., Settlement Officer, is more than 100 years old and being a rare document, has been got reprinted for its easy availability. It would serve as a guiding note to the revenue officials and is of immense use for research scholars, teachers and administrators as well.

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