

# PUNJAB FRONTIER

## ADMINISTRATION REPORT

FOR THE

9490

YEAR 1894-95.

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No. 844.

FROM

H. C. FANSHAWE, ESQUIRE,  
*Offg. Chief Secretary to Government,  
Punjab and its Dependencies,*

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,  
FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

*Dated Simla, 18th July 1895.*

Foreign.  
Frontier.

SIR,

I AM directed to forward, for the information of the Government of India, the Administration Report of the Punjab Frontier for the year 1894-95.

2. The views of the local officers and of the Lieutenant-Governor have been fully before the Government of India upon all the numerous important frontier questions which have arisen during the year, and the present Report has therefore been confined to a very brief narrative, though the events to which they relate will perhaps prove the most far reaching of all which have occurred during a single twelve month on the Punjab border.

3. Copies of the Report have been separately submitted to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India.

I have the honor to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. C. FANSHAWE,

*Offg. Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab.*

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## ADMINISTRATION REPORT OF THE PUNJAB FRONTIER FOR THE YEAR 1894-95.

### I.—HAZARA.

DURING the past year the Hazara frontier has been peaceful and undisturbed save for feuds between trans-border clans, which, however, have not affected British territory.

*Chilas and Kohistan.*—Political relations with Chilas and the surrounding Shinkai tribes have been carried on under the Gilgit Agency. The Shinkai clans of Darel, Tangir and other Indus valleys, at the instigation of the Mullahs, have now and then sought to incite the Kohistanis to join with them in an attack on the Chilas garrison; but these endeavours have been of a very half-hearted nature, and have met with no response from the Kohistanis, who are afraid to risk the profits of their extensive trade with British territory.

2. *Allai.*—As a clan, the Allaiwals have given no trouble. The internal feud between the two great factions of Allai, headed respectively by Arsala Khan and Bahadur Khan, has been carried on intermittently throughout the year.

3. *Nindahar, Tikri and Deshi.*—Nothing occurred during the year to affect the tranquillity of this portion of our border. Occasional fighting has taken place between the rival sections in Nindahar, headed respectively by Muqarrab Khan of Trand and Rahim Khan of Chirmang.

4. *Isazai clans.*—The peace on the Black Mountain border has remained undisturbed. A bitter and protracted feud between two of the clans has occupied the attention of the Isazai tribe throughout the year. The feud arose over a village called Bangri, which is situated on the border between Boner and Hassanzai territories. Both clans claim it, but it has never been decided to whom the right of ownership really belongs. The village had for some time been held rent free from both the clans by two Syads, Barkat Shah and Ghulam Haidar Shah. In May 1894 these two Syads fell out. Barkat Shah sought the assistance of the Hassanzais, while Ghulam Haidar Shah solicited help from the Madda Khels. These two clans espoused the cause of their respective *protégés*, and sought to secure the same by force of arms. This originated the feud that still continues; the fighting has been more determined and the losses more severe than has ever been known in the inter-tribal wars of these clans.

So far the balance of success has perhaps been with the Madda Khel. As is usual in such trans-border quarrels, each of the combatant parties endeavoured to secure the co-operation of adjacent tribes on its own side. Thus the Akazais and the Nasrat Khel Chagharzais have favoured the Madda Khels; while the Bassi Khel Chagharzais and the Azi Khels of Chakesar have espoused the cause of the Hassanzais. The Nawab of Amb at one time seemed disposed to side actively with the Madda Khels; but as such a course might have led to reprisals on the Hassanzai-Tanawal frontier, and thus have led to further complications, the Nawab was directed not to interfere actively in the feud. In February 1895 the Hassanzais, with the help of the Bassi Khel Chagharzais, the Azi Khels of Chakesar and other auxiliaries, formed a coalition that threatened to overwhelm the Madda Khels, and the allied forces actually invested Karor and Manjakot, the two chief Madda Khel villages. The Madda Khels, however, by the offer of a substantial sum of money, secured the assistance of an armed contingent from Boner. Upon the arrival of the Bonerwal force the allies raised the siege of Karor and Manjakot and dispersed. The Ramzan month occasioned a temporary cessation of hostilities, but the feud still remains unsettled.

One result of this feud, which has occupied the attention of the Isazai clans to the exclusion of all other matters, has been to cause Hashim Ali Khan's individuality to fall into the background. He continues to live at Jabbo in Boner territory, where his circumstances grow daily straitened.

5. *Amazais and the Nawab of Amb.*—The Amazais for purposes of political control appertain to Peshawar; but a feud in which they have been involved during the year with the Nawab of Amb has brought them into prominence on the Hazara border. The feud arose over the village of Betgali, which is situated a few miles to the north-west of Amb. This village has long been in dispute between the Amazais and the chiefs of Tanawal. It was held at one time by Jehandad Khan, father of the Nawab; then the Amazais took it; and some years ago the Nawab recovered possession of the village. In August 1894 the Amazais re-asserted their claim to Betgali, and proceeded to enforce the same by an appeal to arms.

Desultory fighting has since occurred from time to time, the balance of fortune being mostly on the side of the Nawab. The feud still continues. The Amazais declare that they will not make peace until possession of Betgali be restored to them. This condition the Nawab will not accept, for he regards Betgali as part of his ancestral territory.

*Hindustanis.*—The colony of Hindustani fanatics is located in Amazai territory. The Hindustanis, however, have not actively joined the Amazais in their feud with the Nawab of Amb, nor otherwise brought themselves into prominence on this border.

*Utmanzais.*—The conduct of the Utmanzais continues satisfactory. The record against them is blank.

## II.—PESHAWAR.

6. *Swat.*—Except by harbouring outlaws and robbers, the Lower Swat clans gave no trouble.

Sarbiland Khan remained in power at Palai. His rival, Sadik Khan, who was turned out after shooting Sarbiland's brother in jirga in 1893, has gone to Thana.

Samat, son of Asf Khan, the old chief of Skhakot, has not been as friendly as his father was.

A large Ranizai Jirga came in shortly before the advance of the Chitral Relief Force, but, though professedly friendly, they were unable or unwilling to prevent determined opposition being offered to the force at the Malakand Pass.

7. *Boner.*—A few offences committed by Bonerwals have been settled by seizure of cattle. For the rest the Boner Jirga, as usual, has held aloof from all dealings with our officers.

A strong contingent of some of the Upper Boner clans was worked up by Mullahs to move to Swat to join in the fighting, but they were too late. They found the Swat people had been defeated and had given in. On this they returned, many of them probably glad of a decent excuse to get home again.

8. *Khudo Khels—Gaduns.*—Beyond some friction between the Khudo Khel and men of our border villages, Chinglai and Shekh Jana, about a murder and grazing disputes, there has been no trouble with the Khudo Khel, and the Gaduns have been quiet and well behaved.

9. *Utman Khel.*—Beyond petty offences this clan gave no trouble, but early in the year a difficulty arose which might have had serious results.

A survey was being made for the new land revenue settlement now in progress, and the opportunity was taken to lay down the boundary on this frontier between our villages and independent clans. Men from Totai had been encroaching upon lands belonging to Dobandi, which had been awarded to our subjects many years ago at the settlement of an old dispute between Totai and our village of Tangi. These lands lay in the Darwazgai Pass, which leads to Spankhara, on the border between Utman Khel and Ranizai, where the well-known Mullah of Manki has settled.

The Mullah resented the demarcation of the boundary, and at his instance many thousand clansmen assembled on the hills prepared to prevent the completion of the survey. The difficulty was tided over by the tact and good management of Mr. Waterfield, Commandant, Border Police, and Abdur Rauf Khan, Subadar-Major.

The Mullah eventually gave way, the survey was allowed to be carried out, and the boundary has been accepted without further dispute.

*Ranizai*.—A heavy fine was imposed upon this clan for a murder in Hashtnagar ; it has not yet been settled.

10. *Mohmands*.—The Burhan Khel and Isa Khel of Pindiali gave no trouble. Robbers from the Tarakzais committed a considerable number of offences, but several of the worst gang have been arrested and imprisoned on conviction by jirga.

*Aka Khel Afridis*—This section, the only Afridi clan under the Peshawar jurisdiction, was well behaved and gave no trouble.

11. *Bajaur-Chitral*.—The affairs of Chitral are beyond the scope of an account dealing with the Peshawar border, but as recent events there have led to the despatch of a large expedition through Swat and Dir on the Northern Peshawar frontier, they must be briefly noticed.

Early in January Nizam-ul-Mulk, Mehtar of Chitral, was murdered by his brother Amr-ul-Mulk. Umra Khan of Jandol, who is believed to have instigated this murder, promptly advanced into Chitral at the head of a large force with the avowed intention of supporting Amr-ul-Mulk. When the new Mehtar declined his dangerous help, Umra Khan pressed on giving out he was going to war against the Kafirs.

His lieutenant, Abdul Majid Khan, was at first stoutly opposed at Kila Drosh by Kokan Beg, an uncle of the Mehtar, but after a short siege the Chitralis surrendered.

In the following month Sher Afzal, a brother of Aman-ul-Mulk, the old ruler, and a claimant to the chiefship, who murdered Afzal-ul-Mulk a few years back and seized but failed to hold Chitral, and had since been refugee in Kabul, escaped from there, suddenly appeared in Dir and followed Umra Khan to Drosh. After some days of hesitation the Chitralis, believing apparently there was a large combination against us, joined Sher Afzal, who with his Bajaur allies invested and besieged the Chitral Fort, into which the British Agent threw himself with such reinforcements as could be hurriedly brought up from Mastuj.

To relieve this beleaguered garrison and to drive Umra Khan out of Chitral a large expedition was despatched in the first few days of April. The history of its progress belongs to the current year ; it is sufficient to note here that the Ranizai and Swat clans stoutly opposed the passage of the Malakand Pass and our advance to the river. Fanatics from Totalai and the Utman Khel, and Sheikhs and Mullahs from surrounding clans joined them, but being worsted with considerable loss in two days' fighting the Swat clans quieted down.

The Mullah of Manki has steadily refused to proclaim or preach a *Jihad*. The Mullah of Adda, who lives among the Baizai Mohmands at Jarobai, started for a holy war, and took with him many Shamozaï Utman Khel and some Northern Mohmands to oppose our troops in Bajaur, but his movement came to nothing. As a whole, the Mohmands nearer Peshawar have been remarkably quiet.

### III.—KHAIBAR.

12. There have been the usual murders in the course of feuds between rival families and fighting between hostile sections of the clans, but these have not affected the safety of the Pass road with which we are most concerned.

One of the principal events of the year was the formal submission of Amin Khan, Kuki Khel, son of Abdulla Nur Khan, formerly Malik of his clan, who was deprived of his position and its allowances for his conduct in 1892. He was permitted to come in to ask forgiveness, and was told that it was too soon to consider the question of his restoration, but that he might hope to regain his position by some years of good conduct.

Akbar Khan, one of the leading men among the settled Kuki Khel of Jam, who was appointed Malik and received half the headman's allowance, was murdered shortly before the beginning of the year. His brethren took vengeance on the murderer and on his kinsmen, and this feud has led to fighting at intervals.

For the past year Akbar Khan's half share of the chief's allowance has been given to his brother and cousins, and the other half to some 20 minor Maliks among both the settled and nomad Kuki Khel of Tirah. The question of restoring Amin Khan to a share in the chiefship is under consideration of Government.

13. A feud which may cause trouble has broken out in the family of Sarfaraz Khan, one of the Maliks of the Malikdin Khel. Sarfaraz in his old age used his nephew Firoz Khan as his agent, and Firoz Khan continued to act as Malik on his uncle's death. Sarfaraz Khan's son Darya Khan was then a boy; he has now grown up, and claims a share of the allowance. The rival Zakha Khel headmen have taken opposite sides in this quarrel, and the partisans of each faction are interested in preventing a peaceable adjustment. If the clan cannot settle the matter amicably it will be necessary to interfere and formally recognise one or other claimant as Malik.

14. The old-standing feud between Khawas Khan and Wali Muhammad Khan, Zakha Khel, was for a while interrupted in order that both might join in a movement by which they wished to get into their hands the control of the Zakha Khel Companies of the Khaibar Rifles. These companies comprise men of other tribes as well, and the movement was not supported by leading men of any other section or clan, nor is the idea popular among the bulk of the Zakha Khel, whose friends in the ranks of the Khaibar Rifles have no desire to be at the mercy of one or two intriguing Maliks.

This temporary alliance was of short duration; ere long quarrels about women among the followers of the rival Maliks led to a renewal of the clannish feud and to several murders. At one time, towards the end of the year, there was some apprehension lest the Zakha Khel sepoys in the companies at Landi Kotal should join in the strife and fight it out among themselves. This was prevented by moving them down to Jamrud, and as this happened to occur in the fast month a truce was arranged until the 'Id or festival, 29th March 1894.

15. The old-standing feud between Kuki Khel and Malikdin Khel has gone on as usual. The former having to run the gauntlet of their enemies in their annual migrations to and from Tirah lost some men and cattle. This condition makes it useful to the Tirahwal Kuki Khel to have as their chief a man of some repute, standing and wealth, who can conduct for them the negotiations which are necessary to secure a passage through the hills and defiles of other Afridi clans when their families are *en route* to Tirah, and this circumstance strengthens the position of Amin Khan, the Malik above mentioned; if not essential, he is so useful to his clan that he can always count upon a number of followers.

16. Of the other Khaibar Afridi sections there is little to report. Kambar Khan, son of Akbar Khan, late Malik of half the Kuki Khel, and Muhammad Amir, chief of half of the Kambar Khel, did good service in recovering Martini rifles carried away by deserters from the 20th Punjab Infantry in Waziristan.

The Shalmanis, the Shinwaris of Luargai, and the Mullagoris have given no trouble.

The Khaibar tolls amounted to Rs. 53,769, and Rs. 1,840 is still due from the Amir's Almond Agent.



Goods said to belong to the Amir of Afghanistan, of which the tolls amounted to Rs. 4,733, were passed free.

17. The Khaibar Rifles continued to work well, and the services of their Commandant, Colonel Muhammad Aslam Khan, as usual have been conspicuous and valuable.

#### IV.—KOHAT.

18. *Adam Khel Afridis*.—The sections of this clan who occupy the Kohat Pass and the hills between the Peshawar and Kohat Districts behaved well and gave no serious trouble. The conduct of the Hassan Khels, Jawakis and Ashu Khel was particularly satisfactory. Seven petty cases of theft and robbery were laid to the charge of the Galai or Pass Afridi sections. The majority were settled by fine or recovery of the property stolen.

19. *Orakzai tribe*—(i). *Daulatzai clans*.—These include the Bizotis, Firoz Khel and Utman Khel. There were no offences pending against them in the beginning of the year. The only serious one of the past year was a murder committed in the course of a blood feud with the Bosti Khel section of the Kohat Pass Afridis.

(ii). *Sipaya, Sturi Khel*.—There is nothing of importance to note of these clans.

(iii). *Muhammad Khels*.—These clans are Shiahs. The only event worthy of record is that the Bar Muhammad Khel formally applied to be taken under the protection of the British Government and offered to place their country under its suzerainty. These Shiah clans occupy one of the principal routes to Tirah and hold the Mazioghar Hill, a point of great strategic importance. Their request was refused.

(iv). *Samil clans*.—These are Mishtis, Shekhan, Mammuzai Darrádar, Malla Khel and Rabia Khel. These clans on the whole behaved well. A certain number of offences, chiefly cattle theft, were committed by the Mishtis and Rabia Khel. Three cases of murder by Rabia Khel in independent territory were taken up and settled because they were found to have been abetted or instigated by members of the clan living south of the Samana in country now formally recognised as British territory.

The tribal allowance of the Shekhan has been raised from Rs. 648 to Rs. 1,008 with effect from 1st April 1895, and they now hold another tower on their border.

(v). *Miranzai border*.—The Akhels, Ali Khels, Massuzai, Mammuzai gave little trouble, and there is nothing special to record of them.

20. *Waziris*.—A large score was outstanding against the Kabul Khel and Malikshahi clans for old offences committed principally near Thal. In the past summer the Miyamai and Paipali section of the former and the Malikshahi paid up over Rs. 3,000, practically settling the demand against them. The Saifali clan of the Kabul Khel, comprising the Bada Khel sub-division, who have been the chief offenders, remained obdurate. In January, fearing punishment might be at hand, as it was likely that troops of the Waziristan Field Force might march from Bannu to Kurram by the river route past their settlements, they paid up Rs. 2,000. A large sum still remains to be made good, and it was proposed to settle scores by seizing Bada Khel *kirris* or camps passing up the Tochi Valley towards Birmal. The Government of India, however, refused to sanction any military operations against the Saifalis, and the Bada Khel passed up the Tochi Valley before the Tochi demarcation escort could reach them.

#### V.—KURRAM.

21. Relations with all tribes on the border of Kurram have been peaceful, except with the Para Chamkannis, a small clan who live to the west of the Massuzai Orakzai in glens of the Sufed Koh drained by the Kirman and Khurmana

streams. The Khani Khel, settled in Thabai on the upper waters of the Khurmana, are the worst behaved of this clan, and are responsible for a long series of offences committed chiefly in 1893 and 1894. They have refused to make any reparation, and it was proposed to coerce them by military force, but in the circumstances created by the movement of Chitral Relief Force into Bajaur the Government of India were unable to sanction any military operations on the Kurram side.

22. The Zaimusht and Alisherzai have given no trouble. Sarwar *alias* Chikai, the freebooter, now a leading man among the Manattuwal Zaimushts, has been of assistance in keeping his clan in order, and arrangements are being made to settle men of this tribe in new hamlets and villages on the line of road between Thal and Alizai, which is dangerous and open to attack because it runs through a desolate, wild and broken country.

The Mangals, Muqbils, Jajis and other clans on the western or south-western border of Kurram, who are subjects of the Amir of Afghanistan, have given no trouble beyond the ordinary cases of theft and robbery, which are settled by the Officer on Special Duty in communication with the Governor of Khost.

23. A land revenue settlement, based upon the old Durani assessment of Rs. 2 Kabuli per jarib, was completed and introduced in the past year.

It was found necessary to provide a system for dealing with murders and certain of the more serious kinds of crime, for which fines awarded by a jirga according to Turi custom are not adequate punishment, while since our occupation of the country private revenge by which such offences were checked has of course had not free play. The Officer on Special Duty was accordingly invested with authority under notification of the Government of India to take cognisance of heinous offences committed in Kurram by persons who are not British subjects.

The Kurram Militia has reached a high state of efficiency, and is a popular and effective instrument for maintaining order in the valley and protecting it from outside enemies.

24. Mr. Donald, C.I.E., the Officer on Special Duty in Kurram, completed the delimitation of the boundary between Afghanistan and the Turis in November last after experiencing great obstruction on the part of his colleague, Sardar Shirindil Khan, Governor of Khost. The line demarcated, which extends from the far western end of the Safed Koh below Sikaram to the Laram peak above the Tochi Valley, has since been accepted by the Amir.

25. From the beginning of December to the middle of April, Mr. R. Udney, C.S.I., was engaged in delimiting the Afghan-Bajaur boundary with Sardar Ghulam Haidar Khan, Sipah Salar of His Highness the Amir. In the end a line of a length of 130 miles from the north of the Bashgul Valley, which joins the right bank of the Kunar River some 24 miles above Asmar, down to a point three miles north-east of Nawa Kotal, situated on the high mountain range by which the Kunar Valley is hemmed on the left, and lying nearly opposite Chigan Serai, was demarcated and accepted by the Afghan Commissioner. As it was impossible to come to any preliminary agreement regarding the prolongation of this line through the Mohmand country down to the Kabul River, the question of further delimitation in that direction has been allowed to stand over for the present. Mr. Udney was in camp at Nashagan, 11 miles north of Asmar, during the occurrence of the events which preceded the siege of Chitral, and communications with Umra Khan of Jandol and Dr. Robertson were carried on for a time through him.

#### VI.—BANNU.

26. The tribes on the Bannu frontier behaved well during the year and the border was more quiet than in the year previous.

Only 7 offences were committed by trans-border people in British territory against 10 in 1893-94. Five of these were committed by the Bhattannis and one each by the Jani Khels and the Bakka Khels.

Only one case, *viz.*, that of kidnapping of Mussammat Gulkhima, was of any importance, while all the others were ordinary cases.

Of the 8 cases outstanding at the close of the year 1893-94, 5 have been settled, and measures are being taken to dispose of the remaining 3.

The new post in the Khalboi Pass has proved of great use in keeping the Bizan Khels in check, and the presence of troops in the hills has also diminished the number of offences.

There was no organized fighting in the hills between the Darwesh Khel and Mahsud Waziris during the year, though there existed a sort of desultory warfare near Razmak between Abdullai Mahsuds on one side and the Tori Khel and Muhammad Khel Waziris on the other. Four Tori Khel and one Muhammad Khel were killed and some three Mahsuds. The flocks plundered by the Tori Khels were restored and those carried off by the Mahsuds were not returned.

The Mohmit Khels living near Razmak were also plundered by the Mahsuds twice. The truce made in 1893-94 between the Tori Khels and the Mahsuds was kept up partially only.

The Border Military Police worked well under the management of Ghulam Muhammad Khan, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, and the reduction in the amount of border crime is mostly due to their exertions.

27. In October 1894 the Waziristan Delimitation Commission entered Wano and early in the following month events occurred which resulted in the Mahsud Expedition. In connection with this a column of troops was despatched to the Mahsud country through the Khysore Valley, when the conduct of the tribes in the valley was very satisfactory. Later on in February troops entered the Tochi with the object of enabling the northern portion of the Indo-Afghan boundary to be demarcated from Charkiaghar to Khwaja Khidar on the one side and to Laram on the other. The demarcation was most satisfactorily carried out by Mr. H. A. Anderson, and all the tribes concerned, and more especially the Madda Khels, Tori Khels, Mohmit Khels and Dauris, gave very useful assistance in carrying out the work. They supplied carriage for transport of supplies, ran convoys on their own responsibility without military escorts, and provided forage, firewood and the other products of their country, and took the place of military picquets at night around the camp of the Delimitation Commission. After the close of demarcation operations all the tribes living in the Tochi and beyond up to the new boundary presented a petition praying for the occupation of the country by the British Government. Their request is still under the consideration of Government, and pending a decision of the question the troops have been retained in the country.

#### VII.—DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

28. The cases of border offences pending from the year 1893-94 have all been disposed of.

There was an increase of only 8 in the number of cases registered during the year under report, while the alleged value of the property carried off was less by Rs. 1,023, and it is satisfactory that almost all the offences committed were of a trivial nature. The trifling increase in the number of offences occurred among the Mahsuds, and was due to the excited state of the tribe consequent on the substantial sentences of imprisonment passed on certain of their number who were convicted of the murder of British subjects as explained below. Forty-six cases remained unsettled at the close of the year, and these together with others which had since been brought up were taken up and disposed of by the Commissioner of the Derajat at Kundiwam at the close of the Waziristan Expedition.

29. The behaviour of the Bhattani, Dotani, Powindah and Shirani tribes, as well as of the minor tribes—Ustranas, Kasranis, Mianis and Ghorezais—has been excellent during the year. The Bhattanis committed only 6 offences against 12 in the previous year. The general conduct of the Mahsuds may be said to have been bad. In the cases of Mr. Kelly's murder committed in 1893 and the Zam outrages five accused persons were brought in by the Maliks and surrendered for trial. They were convicted by a tribal jirga and sentenced two to seven years' rigorous imprisonment each, and three to two years' rigorous imprisonment and fine of Rs. 5,000 each, or in default five years further imprisonment. This was the first occasion on which actual Mahsud offenders were punished with long substantive sentences on being surrendered by the tribal Maliks. The result of this was that the relations of the persons convicted killed three leading Maliks who had been instrumental in procuring the surrender of and in bringing home conviction to the offenders, and this was one of the principal causes of the Mahsud Expedition, the young bloods and bad characters of the tribe having sided against the tribal Maliks.

30. *Gomal Pass*.—Thirty-two offences were committed in the Gomal Pass as against 17 in the previous year. The increase is attributed chiefly to the excited state of the Mahsuds. The most noticeable case was the robbery of 59 Powindah camels and the murder of Lajmir, Powindah, and the wounding of his companion Ghazi between Nili Kach and Kashmir Kar, which took place after the attack on the troops in Wano.

31. *Shirani Hills*.—The offences committed by Shiranis and other trans-border tribes against British subjects and by other tribes against Shiranis numbered 19 against 12 in 1893-94, and all except 2 were disposed of. The causes of the increase were the same as those given in the last report, namely, the increase of traffic in the Zao and Chuhar Khel Dhana Passes. The Chuhar Khel Dhana route between the Bargha and Largha Shirani countries is now used much more than formerly, and travellers pass by it safely, even during the night. When the road now under construction through it has been completed it will become the highway between Fort Sandeman and Dera Ismail Khan.

32. *Bhattani Hills*.—The offences committed during the year numbered 12 against 10 in 1893-94. All were cases of theft of cattle or camels by Mahsud bad characters, and all were disposed of except one, which remained pending at the close of the year.

33. *Zhob District*.—The offences committed during the year in this district by trans-border tribes connected with the Dera Ismail Khan District numbered only 24 as against 41 in the preceding year.

Of the 24 offences, 7 were committed by Abdul Rahman Khels and the rest by other Mahsuds or tribes unknown. Two only were of a serious nature, namely, the murder of two dāk sowars near Girdao and attack on three sowars between Mughal Kot and Mirali Khel, in which one sowar was wounded, one horse killed, and a carbine carried off. Darwesh Khels of Shakai are accused of both these serious offences. The accused persons have been surrendered and are awaiting trial.

Of the 10 cases outstanding from the previous year, 8 were disposed of and 2 remained pending at the end of the year, *viz.*, the murder of four Zhob levy sowars near Girdao and robbery of two mares.

The result of the enquiries and orders passed in the well-known case of the murder of Mr. Kelly and his sowar, which occurred in 1893-94, were noted in the report for that year, and have been referred to above.

The occupation of Wano by troops put an entire stop to the commission of offences in Zhob from the Gomal side, and the permanent retention of troops in that tract will, it is hoped, prove an effective remedy against raids in Zhob.

34. The most important occurrences of the year were the despatch of a Commission into the Waziri country with a military escort for the purpose of demarcating the Afghan-Waziri boundary, the attack on the escort at Wano on the 3rd November by the Mahsuds, the consequent punitive expedition against that tribe and the occupation of their country between December and beginning of March, the delimitation of the boundary in the end from Domandi on the Gomal River to Khwaja Khidar by Mr. L. W. King, and the final settlement of the boundary between Zhob and the Dera Ismail Khan District. All these have been fully reported to Government and it is not necessary to set forth the history of them in detail here.

#### VIII.—DERA GHAZI KHAN.

35. The conduct of the border tribes has been good. The hill tribes continue to settle down to cultivation within the mountain ranges, and disputes regarding culturable lands are consequently increasing year after year.

The boundary between the Kasranis and the Isots and Jafirs was settled by Mr. Dames, Deputy Commissioner, and Captain Archer, Political Agent, Zhob, and the settlement has been approved by the Government of India. It is hoped that a serious family quarrel which has arisen between Sardar Fazal Ali Khan, Tumandar of the Kasrani tribe, and Sardar Massu Khan, Inspector and head of the Nutkanis, will be settled amicably. Although there was a large number of civil and criminal cases against the Bozdar tribe, there were only 3 murders among these as against 6 in the previous year. The important case of the murder of Rahim Shah, Kharsin, mentioned in the report for 1893-94, was settled in March. It is to be regretted that the feud between Sardar Bahadur Khan, the Tumandar of the Khosa tribe, and his cousin Mubarak Khan has continued. The latter proposes to quit the district, and if he does so it will be necessary to arrange for the management of his property.

