

Pakistan Languages and Humanities Review www.plhr.org.pk

RESEARCH PAPER

Organization of Bahawalpur Army during First Half of Nineteenth Century

Dr. Samia Khalid^{* 1} Dr. Gulzar Ahmad² Dr. Zahra Akram Hashmi³

- 1. Associate Professor, Department of History, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Panjab, Pakistan
- 2. Lecturer, Department of Pakistan Studies, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalnagar Campus, Punjab, Pakistan
- 3. Assistant Professor, Department of History, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Panjab, Pakistan

Corresponding Authorsamia.khalid@iub.edu.pkABSTRACT

From its inception, this State was a military-entrepreneur which was stabled by a warrior group, the Daudputras. Later, when they became able to cope with the political crises of the State, they adopted the classical *mansabdari* system to deal with the matters of land revenue and military requirements, simultaneously. At local level, they termed this system as *iwaz-e-lashkari*. It was not a true copy of *mansabdari* system but the basic concept was adopted in which state provided land to *jagirdars* in return of their military services. This article is concerned with the military aspect of *iwaz-e-lashkari* system and will not deal with land revenue under this system. This system continued in Bahawalpur State even after the inclusion of Bahawalpur in the British Protectorate areas in 1838. The British did not interfere in this formation rather they benefited by this in their wars of this realm and got control of Sindh, Punjab and Rajputana with the support of Bahawalpur Army.

KEYWORDS Bahawalpur, Daudputras, Military, Jagirs

Introduction

By 1727, a Sindhi group – Daudputras who styled themselves as Abbasi by claiming the uncle of the Holy Prophet (PBUH), Abbas as their progenitor, accepted an invitation from Gilani and Bukhari Makhdums of Uch Sharif, and settled in east of the confluence of the Chenab and Sutlej River in the area of Chaudhari. (Aziz, 1939 & Din, 1908) These Daudputras were good warriors as according to Goldsmith, the Daudputras in Sind were "warrior as well as weavers" (Hunter, 386, 1887). Within short span of twenty years (1720s-1740s), these Daudputras had already spread along both banks of Sutlej, Ghara (joint stream of Sutlej and Chenab Rivers) and Indus rivers and established their petty principalities with tax collection rights by helping local rulers in warfare and in return got the land. From here, Bahawalpur State emerged as a loose confederation of the Daudputras, with ill-defined subordination of Pirjanis, a sub-caste of the Daudputras, this phenomenon prevailed during eighteenth century but Bahawal Khan II annexed all chiefdoms with his Princely State named as Bahawalpur.

Initial Phase of Military Organization

During first decade of twentieth century when Bahawal Khan merged almost all small chiefdoms into his state, he initiated the process of organizing his army into proper regiments with proper uniform and trained them as battalions. For transportation, this force generally used boats in the rivers, horses in the riverine areas and camels in the desert. Arms matchlock, swords, arrows, explosive material and canons were commonly used by Daudputras. These all were indigenous skills as the Daudputras never confronted any European power and till 1808 no European officer was hired to train Bahawalpur army. The corps on camels welcomed first English visitor, Elphinstone, in desert who mentioned about the corps in following words:

Before dark we met a party of one hundred and fifty soldiers on camels, belonging to Bahawal Khan, the chief of one of the king of Caubul's eastern provinces. There were two men on each camel, and each had a long glittering matchlock. They advanced and saluted in three or four very good lines. Their camels seemed as manageable as horses, and their appearance was altogether novel and striking; their commander had a long beard, and was dressed in a Persian tunic of buff broad cloth, with gold buttons, and a low cap like the crown of a hat. He was mounted on an excellent, light, speedy, and easy camel, with a very showy saddle, and two reins, one passing through a hole in each nostril of the camel....(Elphinstone, 25, 1839)

Bahawal Khan II subdued several small chiefdoms to weld them into one princely state, allotting *jagirs* in the form of *iwaz-i-lashkari*, exchange for military services, and *muafis*, for personal services. (Din, 1908)

Regularization of Military Structure

The military organization continued on the lines drawn by Bahawal Khan II. A certain number of cavalry, infantry and artillery were on the payroll as regulars. In peace, these forces acted as royal escorts (Mackeson, 1837) and as guards of important locations and sent to the field when needed. Besides regular forces, there were also militias, provided by landlords for reinforcement of the military. The property owners held *jagirs*, known as *iwaz-i-lashkari*, granted to them in return of timely military help. In times of need, the nawabs could utilize the services of their paid forces, and muster a large number of irregulars. (Din, 1908)

A considerable portion of the revenue was assigned in *muafis* that was also known as *dan/dhun*. The *muafi* largely held by the Daudputras, Balochs and Makhdums. The former two held *muafis* in exchange for military services (*iwaz-i-lashkari*). The *muafi* holders realized their dues in kind and used to pay a *nazarana* of one or two *pais* for each *mani* (almost 500 kg) of grain realized. The Makhdums received *muafis* in the form of rent-free lands. (Din, 1908) *Dan* or *Dhun* was a lease at light rates and collected in kind from the Daudputras generally at the rate of 3 *dharries* or 6 *topas* (almost 14 kg) of grain per *bigah*. (Minchin, 52, 1868) According to Hussain Ahmad, the *Sufis* of Bahawalpur helped the nawabs of Bahawalpur in their military expeditions to promote the Islamic traditions and religious identities but, inter alia, these *sufis* were entitled to *iwaz-i-lashkari* and consequently obliged to extend military assistance to Bahawalpur State in the time of war.

By 1820s, the total regular infantry comprised 2,450, organized into 7 battalions of 350 each (see Figure 1). Six guns were attached to each unit and, 400 artillerymen were attached with the infantry battalion. In addition, companies of 100-200 Rohillas and Pashtuns/Afghans, battalions were also attached to the army. The officers of each company had two or three *nishans* (standards), 2000-3000 cavalry regulars meant that total standing army ranged between 6000-7000. According to Masson, the grand total of regulars and irregulars was about 14,000. Some kettle-drums (*nagara*) beaters were also attached to the army for communication. (Masson, 1842)

Figure 1: Army Strength and Division in the 1820s



Source: (Masson, 25-6, 34, 1842)

In 1830, according to Burnes, the total army of Bahawalpur had about 20,000 comprising, 2000 regulars, "a train of artillery", and with irregular feudatory forces (Figure 2).(Burnes, 1834)

Figure 2: Military Composition in the Early 1830s,



Source: (Masson, 25-6, 34, 1842)

It shows that in the beginning of Bahawal Khan II's tenure (1826) the regular and irregular army of Bahawalpur were equal, 7000 each. However, within five years, in 1830, there was a surprising decline in the number of the regular armies from 7000 men to 2000 against an extraordinary increase in irregular troops from 7000 to 18000. Most probably, under Sadiq Khan II, Bahawalpur State witnessed economic problems so Bahawal Khan II reduced the soldiers on the payroll of state to control expenses of Bahawalpur State while

to maintain his military strength he demanded more militia from landlords. Moreover, when Rohillas revolted due to non-payment of their salaries, Bahawalpur Khan II arranged for payment of their arrears and disbanded this force. (Shah, 1959)

Organization of Military

The army was divided into – regular and irregular forces before and after the British advent. Around 1833, according to Major Mackeson, the regular army comprised:

- 1. Five battalions of infantry, numbering 1200-1300. Most of these soldiers were immigrants from the east (*purabi*).
- 2. 1200 *bajgir* horsemen equipped by the state and paid a monthly salary of 6 rupees and 2 rupees for ration.
- 3. 500 foreign horse or *muzuffir/musafirsawars*. These men used their own arms and horses and were paid 10 to 12 rupees a month as salary.
- 4. 2,200 infantry that garrisoned the desert forts and were primarily, *mahrs*by caste.
- 5. The artillery consisted of 40 guns, including those in the fort, though few were functional and only 8-16 were battlefield artillery. (Din, 1908; Shahamet, 1848)

This made a total number of troops in 5200 and in total 40 guns in 1833. After becoming a British Protectorate total strength of the regular Bahawalpur army decreased. In 1837, the infantry was divided into three regiments, (see figure 3) one of these, the largest one, consisting of 1,000 men under McPherson. (Atkinson, 1842)

Figure 3 A and B show the steep increase in the number of Bahawalpur Military. Bahawal Khan III had support and acceptance of British power still his army strength was reasonable in 1837 while Fateh Khan was relatively insecure about his power as he dethroned his brother and occupied the throne so he arranged a large number of army.

Figure 3 A: Total Army of Nawab Bahawal Khan III in 1837



Source: (Leech, 81, 1839)

Figure 3 B: Total Army of Nawab Fateh Khan in 1853



Source: (Din, 80, 334, 1908)

Table 1 provides overall comparison of Bahawalpur army strength, from 1837-1866, under different nawabs before the advent of British.

Comparative Study of Strength of Bahawalpur Army							
1837	1839	1839	1842	1848	1853	1865	1866
Leech	Hough	Atkinson	Orlich	Shahamet	Bahawalpur Gazetteer 1904	Administrative Report	Bahawalpur Gazetteer 1904
4827				13000	23743		
2907	More than 4000		5000	7000	3743	3000	3802
		3	3	5		9	
	Some			1200	589		1005
2000	4000	1100	1800	3500	2083		2797
147							
61				40	23		
760				500	639+432		
1920				8000	20000		
1350				4000			
570				2000			
				2000			
	1837 Leech 4827 2907 2000 147 61 760 1920 1350	1837 1839 Leech Hough 4827 2907 More 1837 2000 4000 147 61 760 1920 1350 570	1837 1839 1839 Leech Hough Atkinson 4827 2907 than 4000 3 Some 2000 4000 1100 147 760 1920 1350 570	1837 1839 1839 1842 Leech Hough Atkinson Orlich 4827 2907 than 5000 4000 3 3 Some 2000 4000 1100 1800 147 61 1 760 1920 1350 570	1837 1839 1839 1842 1848 Leech Hough Atkinson Orlich Shahamet 4827 13000 More 13000 2907 than 5000 7000 4000 3 3 5 Some 1200 2000 4000 1100 1800 3500 147 40 760 500 1920 8000 1350 4000 570 2000	1837 1839 1839 1842 1848 1853 Leech Hough Atkinson Orlich Shahamet Gazetteer 1904 4827 13000 23743 4827 13000 23743 2907 than 5000 7000 3743 4000 3 3 5 Some 1200 589 2000 4000 1100 1800 3500 2083 147 40 23 760 500 639+432 1920 8000 20000 1350 2000 570 2000	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

 Table 1

 Comparative Study of Strength of Bahawalpur Army

Highest number of regular army was recorded in 1848 which was 7000, and lowest was in 1837 with 2907. Highest strength of irregular army was 20000 men in 1853 and lowest was in 1837 with around 1920. This shows in first half of the nineteenth century Bahawalpur State was less insecure but as time passed the nawabs became more insecure and had highest no of army. This insecurity was basically personal in the case of Nawab Fateh Khan. As he dethroned his brother to get the power, so he hired highest no of military in the start of second half of nineteenth century.

Figure 4 explains the detailed division of armies in 1837.



Source: (Leech, 81, 1839)

In 1842, the nawab maintained an army of total 5,000 men, whereas, from these, the regular army comprised around 1,800 men, which was organized in three regiments. (Orlich, 1845) In 1848, the state maintained a standing army consisting of about 7,000 men in all exclusive of the police and district *sibandies* (Shahamet, 1848) In May 1848, the nawab provided around 10,000 soldiers (regular and irregular) to help British in Multan War.

(*Punjab District Gazetteers: Gazetteer of Multan District 1923-24, 2001; Din, 1908*) In 1848, Edwardes appreciated Bahawalpur troops in following words in a letter to his wife: "The Nawab has a very fine little force of from ten to twelve thousand men, well equipped and disciplined, and composed almost entirely of fighting Puthans..." (Edwardes, 106, 1886) That means in 1848 total Bahawalpur army was more than ten thousand.

Figure 5: Details of Irregular and Regular Armies in the 1840s,



Source: (Shahamet, xv, 1848)

The first historical evidence of monthly salaries is given by Shahamet. He says that in the 1840s, 1200 horsemen equipped by the state were entitled to a monthly 2 rupees of rations, and 6 rupees in cash. (Din 1908)

In 1864, the paid forces (Infantry and artillery) divided into nine regiments with an aggregate strength of about 3,000. (Din, 1908) By the end of Bahawal Khan IV reign, the Bahawalpur army comprised of 1,005 cavalry; 2,797 infantry and artillery (see table 2 A & B). (Minchin, 1868)

Table 2 A Armaments in 1837	
Details of armaments	Numbers
Serviceable Field Pieces (portable guns)	22
Serviceable Garrison Guns	4
Dismounted ones	25
Total Guns	51
Golandaz(Gunners)	147
race (Loogh 91 1920)	

Source: (Leech, 81, 1839)

Table 2 BDetails of Guns and Golandaz (gunners) in 1837				
At Ahmadpur East (1837)				
Commander of golandaz	Number of golandaz	Number of attached guns	Salary of commander	
European named Crawford	60	10	One rupee a day	
Telaram	50			
Premdass		10		
At Khanpur fort				
Assaram	14	2		

Source: (Leech, 81, 1839)

A certain number of paid cavalry and infantry were made to act as an escort of the nawab. (Aziz, 1988) At the invitation of Messrs Hansel and John Lawrence, members of the Board of Control, the nawab accompanied by his sons and nobles, with an escort of 1000 foot, 400 *sowars* and 2 guns, visited Multan and had an interview with Lord Dalhousie on the 31 of December, 1849. (Din, 1908)The nawab visited the camp of Fane, a British officer, on 30 December 1838, he was surrounded by 200 tatterdemalions and preceded by a group of his body-guard. (Fane, 1842) Moreover, they worked as guards of towns, forts, treasury and the palaces in time of peace but led to the field when the occasion arose. (Din, 1908) In 1838, Bahawal Khan III sent his eldest son to receive Sir Willoughby Cotton so the young prince was surrounded by a party of more than 150 horsemen. (Havelock, 1840) By 1848, except then the standing army of Bahawalpur, the police and district *sibandies* guards were also functional and active. (Shahamet, 1848)The value of forts declined after 1833 as new riverine trade routes were introduced; and the old desert routes lost importance. After the 1838 treaty, the British guaranteed Bahawalpur's security and the forts were no longer required to guard the borders. (Samia, 2006)

Irregular Army

Most of Bahawalpur's army composed irregular of Bahawalpur, even after becoming a British ally, retained its irregular forces raised by *jagirdrs*. Details of some *jagirdars* and their forces in 1837 given in Table 3 how this system worked:

Table 3Some Commanders of Irregular Army 1837				
Name of Jagirdar	Place of his Jagir	The Annual worth of <i>Jagir</i>	Nos. of cavalryman they were bound to provide	Remuneration of these soldiers in war
Sheram Khan Malajai	<i>jaghire</i> near Qaim-rees-ka- Got	6,000	100 Cavalry	
Sarfraz Khan	jaghire near Malkary	1,000	50 Cavalry	
Imaum Shah	Had a <i>jagir</i> (location is not mentioned)	1,500	60 Cavalry	paid 15 rupees
Moteram			150 Cavalry	10 to 13 rupees in war
Mussa Khan			60 Cavalry	each 15 rupees per man on service

Source: (Leech, 82, 1839)

According to Shahamet Ali by 1848, the Daudputras (*jagirdars*), were reckoned at around 7,000-8,000. Shahamet further divided them: *shutersawars*, or camel-riders (2,000), *ghor-Sawars*, or horsemen (2,000), and *piyada*, or footmen (4,000). Fifty *bigahs* were allocated to each man making them a kind of landed gentry. Whenever the nawab used, each soldier got almost 0.9226 kg (one seer) provisions but no salary (Shahamet, 1848) whereas, in the 1830s, these men drew pay during wartime ranging from ten to fifteen rupees along with ration. (Leech, 1839)

In 1866, Bahawalpur's army comprised 4,000 strong, inclusive of 1,005 infantry and artillery, and 2,797 horsemen. Ford organized two batteries of three guns each with one stationed at Dera Nawab (near Ahmadpur East), the residence of the royal family. (Minchin, 1868)

By 1878, Bahawalpur had a military of 300 cavalry and 1,500 infantry. (Baness, 1881) By 1879, Bahawalpur infantry was reduced in number and converted into military police and the cavalry was disbanded with some of the cavalrymen incorporated with the Contingent cavalry and the rest discharged on pension or gratuity proportionate to the length of service. (Din, 1908)

Simultaneously, British policies reduced the privileges of the landed gentry (mostly the Daudputras) and every one had to pay tax although some relaxations were in practice but these were very limited as compared to previous regimes. Most of the military was disbanded and the services of militia became redundant so a large group of people lost their jobs.

Officers of Military

So far, Bahawalpur was not under British protection its defence was the responsibility of its army. The role of the military in politics was significant as military officers were elevated to the vizier. The army had many tasks inclusive of defense, expansion, internal policies, tax collection, and protecting the royal family and courtiers.

Before Bahawal Khan II, the nawab himself or his favorite Prince performed the duty of *Sipahsalar*, commander-in-chief, of army but Bahawal Khan II appointed his different officers for different expeditions. (Shah, 1959, Aziz, 1938) Then these military commanders were considered for significant positions. The nawabs chose ministers from senior military officers. For instance, Naseer was commander-in-chief before his promotion to the vizier. Next vizier was Yaqub who was previously a Mir Bakhshi (t.1809-1826) of Sadiq Khan II and promoted by Bahawal Khan III in 1826. It implies that the army had a position in the political and administrative machinery of Bahawalpur. Since vizier had been the most reliable follower of the nawab so he had an influence on important matters. Generally, minister prevailed upon the nawab to appoint their relatives to key posts. (*Gazetteer of Dera Ghazi Khan District: A Revised Edition, 1893-97, 2004; Mackeson, 1837; Shahamet, 1848*)

The pays of military officers were fixed per-diem. Appointments were made by the nawab therefore it was his arbitrary right to prescribe any recompense for any officer according to his pleasure. It also seems that ethnicity has a strong influence and important bearing upon determination of economic status of a military officers. Salary of Rahmat KhanRohilla commander, an immigrant from India, appointed as *killadar* of Fazilpur fort who had under his command 100 soldiers mostly belonging to his tribe was fixed at two rupees per diem. Whereas the *bakhshi* (paymaster) of army who was second to Commander-in-Chief in administrative hierarchy, but born of a slave of the ruling family, had registered pay eight of *annas* or half a rupee daily. Such sort of circumstances must

have caused mal-administrative norms. Simultaneously, in second and third decade of nineteenth century, irregular salaries of army-men was a constant problem. (Masson, 1842) Most probably, because of such problems some *Bahawalpuri* troops made an incursion upon the district of Kot Kapura and plundered 1200 heads of cattle belonging to the village of Pupana. (Wade, 118, 1915)

During the administration of Yaqub Khan, the *bakhshi* could not regulate the salaries of military that gave rise to discontentment among soldiers. The nawab reprimanded Yaqub Khan, *vazir* but problem was not resolved. (Gurgani, 1899) Meanwhile, the Rohilla troops mutinied and clamored for pay. To suppress this revolt, State troops were sent to Uch but the mutineers got the patronage of Sher Shah Sayyid Jalal in Khanghar. (Din, 1908)

Initially, Sadiq Khan II promoted the sipah-salarof Bahawal Khan II, Naseer Khan Gurgej, to vizier whereas Yaqub Khan became Foj Mir Bakhshi (r. 1808-1826). Mir Bakhshi was paymaster of the army. Until 1810, Naseer Khan was commanding the forces of Bahawalpur but in 1810, he turned against the nawab in support of the invaders, and Yaqub Khan received command of the army along with Fateh Khan and Ahmad Khan. When Fateh Khan and Ahmad Khan also betrayed the nawab that same year, Yaqub Khan gained the ruler's trust. The official designation of Yaqub was still Mir Bakhshi but he commanded the army when needed between 1812 and 1826. Bahawal Khan III promoted Yaqub to vizier in 1826. Yaqub was a good commander but he could not regularize the salaries of forces (Din, 1908) because he was too busy in campaigns and could not stay in his office and manage finances. Irregular pay bred discontent within the army. By 1826, Muhammad Khan assumed the charge of paymaster when Yaqub was promoted to the vizier. Muhammad Khan could not streamline the salary system and the situation worsened during his command. Although the nawab appointed him paymaster, his registered pay was half a rupee daily, while his subordinate, a Rohilla commander, who had command of 100 military men and governor of Fazilpur Fort, was appointed at two rupees daily. (Masson, 1842) Even though Muhammad Khan's rank was high because of his background and low income, which was indicative of the low esteem he was held in by the nawab, soldiers addressed him rudely and he was reviled. He never led the army in the field as this position of honour was reserved for Yaqub Khan. (Masson, 1842) After the Rohilla forces revolted, the nawab transferred Moti Ram from the portfolio of finance minister (dewan) to Paymaster in order to regulate the financial matters of the army. Moti Ram did not last long as favouritism got in the way. Yaqub Khan, as vizier, influenced the nawab to promote one of his uncles (Qaim Khan) to the paymaster. Qaim Khan was an amateur and ignorant of functions required by this position. Consequently, he could not manage the affairs, which caused despondence in the military.

In reality, it was difficult to regularize salaries because, before British intervention, in local armies marauded freely and amassed plentiful loot. At this time, the British were planning to open trade routes through the Sutlej so it was imperative for them to maintain law and order in the vicinity. Therefore, the British gained the right to interfere in matters related to the Sutlej in 1809 by signing a treaty with Ranjit Singh. In exercise of this right, British confined and restricted local armies which helped maintain law and order but deprived local forces of plunder. Bahawalpur had to adjust to the new circumstances but lacked the administrative discipline to pay its forces regularly which led to mutinies.

Table 4 shows the designations titles of high ranks officers of the military and their names and figure 6 shows the hierarchy of army ranks:

	Table 4					
	The Military Officers					
	Bahawal Khan III(1825-1852)					
BakhsiFoj	Pay Master	Qaim Khan, Dewan Charkana Mal				
No army officer w	No army officer was appointed by Sadiq Khan III at the time of his coronation					
	NawabFateh Khan					
JernalFoj	General of the	FagirShahnawaz Din (brother of vizier)				
Jernarioj	Army					
Karneal	Colonel in the	Aqqa Iqbal Mukhnas (real name				
Киттси	Army	RamzanKhusra)				
	commander of	Aqqa Muhamad Khan AchraniShahnawaz-				
SipahSalar	the Army	ul-Dn Khan; after some time, he was				
	the Thing	terminated from Qiladari of Derawar.				
BakhsiFoj	Day Master	Muhammad Yar Khan Achrani, Pandat				
Бикпыгој	Pay Master	Shiv Parshad				
BahawalKhan IV						
RakheiDaltan(foi)	Pay Master of	MulviMuzafar Din, Pyara Lal Dulat Ram				
BakhsiPaltan(foj)	Army	Dulat Rai was dismissed				
$(A_{ziz} \ 108 \ 120 \ 1$	(Aziz 108 120 1988)					

(Aziz, 108, 120, 1988)

Artillery

Bahawal Khan II left the army with 115 artillery pieces of diverse calibres. (Shahamet, 1848) In the use of swords and guns, the most skillful tribes were the Daudputras, Chandias, Khosas, Dashtis, Sharrs, and Jatois. (Din 1908) The gunsmiths of Khairpur, Bahawalpur and Khanpur were experts in making good rifle-barrels but the best ones were prepared only against a purchase order. These best quality rifle-barrels were mostly sent to Sindh, Lahore, and other places as gifts. (Mackeson, 1837) Common people used rifles with curved stock in Afghanistan and the territory west of the Indus. The length of the barrels varied but was rarely longer than that of contemporary British muskets. One of Wade's guards proved himself an excellent sharpshooter by taking off the head of a carrion kite with a shot from his rifle at fifty yards. (Mackeson, 1837) As hunting and bearing arms were not proscribed many subjects were adept marksmen. These skills proved useful when irregulars were needed. By 1826, the artillery had 42 cannons, rising to 80 by 1830. By the mid-1820s, cannons were fixed at different forts i.e. Phulra (3 cannons), Marot (6 cannons), and Ahmadpur West (6 cannons). In same year, six cannons were sent along with nearly 3000 cavalry and infantry under the command of Yaqub Khan, the premier to Sanghar (in Dera Ghazi Khan). (Masson, 1842)In May 1830, some cannons were deployed to defend against the Sikh attacks. (Burnes, 1834)

Forts and Armies

Bahawal Khan II built 21 forts in the Cholistan desert. (Shahamet, 1848) Masson described the desert forts in the mid-1820s that lay between the city of Bahawalpur and Bikaner. After the death of Bahawal Khan II, the significance of these forts diminished because of chaotic political conditions and a crumbling economy. By the mid-1820s, when Masson visited, most of the desert forts were no longer garrisoned. (Masson, 1842) By 1826, Phulra fort on the frontier of Bikaner, though poorly maintained, had three cannons.

In 1866, First British Agency rule was established in Bahawalpur in which whole army was disbanded and only around 250 persons were kept as military Police. Actually, British used Bahawalpur as buffer zone in Afghan War, the Sikh wars, Sindh annexation and to build relationship with Rajputana's Rajput Princely States. British established First Agency Rule in Bahawalpur in 1866 till than they became successful to maintain their hegemony all over India now they did not need military assistance from anyone. They maintain military police and only camel corps to look after the desert areas. Remaining whole army was left unemployed, dislocated, disoriented. These was unfortunate destiny of the Bahawalpur forces.

Conclusion

By the start of nineteenth century, Bahawalpur State developed its indigenous mechanism, to furnish military force, under the tile of *iwaz-e-lashkari*, on the lines of classical *mansabdari* system. Later, Bahawalpur included in the group of the British Protectorate State in 1838, British let the status quo prevail and benefited from this arrangement. Actually, British used Bahawalpur as buffer zone in Afghan War, the Sikh wars, Sindh annexation and to build relationship with Rajputana's Rajput Princely States. In second half of nineteenth century they had already controlled most of India so now they need only peace maintainer forces not a powerful attacker force so they discontinued a time honored institution of *iwaz-e-lashkari* and all military men: regulars as well as militia lost their jobs and State could never again gather its military strength and became totally dependent on the British Raj.

Reference

- Bahawalpuri, Molvi Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman Aziz (1942) *Tarikh Qila Derawar*. Bahawalpur: Aziz UlMatabea Press.
- Bahawalpuri, Molvi Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman Aziz (1988) *Subha Sadiq*. 3rd ed. Bahawalpur: Urdu Academy.
- Ali, Shahamet (1848) The History of Bahawalpur, With Notices of the Adjacent Countries of Sindh, *Afghanistan, Multan, and the West of India.* London: James Madden.
- Atkinson, James (1842) The Expedition into Affghanistan: Notes and Sketches Descriptive of the Country, Contained in a Personal Narrative During the Campaign of 1839 & 1840, up to the Surrender of Dost Mahomed Khan. London: Wm. H. Allen & co.
- Bahawalpuri, Molvi Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman Aziz (1938) *Tarikh-ul-Wuzra*, Bahawalpur: Barki Press.
- Bahawalpuri, Molvi Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman Aziz (1939), *Hayat-e-Muhammad Bahawal Khan Khamis Abbasi*. Bahawalpur: Al-Aziz-ul-Matalib.
- Baness, J. Frederick (1881) Index: Geographicus Indicus Being a List, Alphabetically Arranged, of the Principal Places in Her Imperial Majesty's Indian Empire, with Notes and Statements: Statistical, Political, and Descriptive of the Several Provinces and Administrations of the Empire, the Native States, Independent ad Feudatory, Attached to and in Political Relationship with Each; and other Information Relating to India and the East, with Maps (Names Spelt in Accordance with recent Authorized Orthography). Calcutta: W. Newman & Co.
- Boileau, A. H. E. (1837) Personal Narrative of a Tour Through the Western States of Rajwara, in 1835: Comprising Beekaner, Jesulmer, and Jodhpur, with the Passage of the Great Desert, and A Brief Visit to the Indus and to Buhawulpoor, Accompanied by Various Tables and Memoranda Statistical, Philological, and Geographical. Calcutta: N. Grant Tank Square.
- Burnes, (1834) Travels into Bokhara; Being the Account of A Journey from India to Cabool, Tartary, and Persia: also Narrative of a Voyage on the Indus, from the Sea to Lahore, with Presents from the Kimg of Great Britain ; Performed under the Orders of the Supreme Government of India, in the Years 1831, 1832, And 1833. London: John Murray.
- Din, Muhammad. (2001) *Gazetteer of the Bahawalpur State with Map 1904*. Lahore: Civil and Military Gazetteer, 1808 Reprinted Lahore: Sang-e-Meel Publications.
- Elphinstone, Mountstuart (1839) *An Account of Cabul and its Dependencies, in Persia, Tartary, and India: Comprising a View of the Afghan Nation and a History of the Dooraunee Monarchy.* New and Revised Edition, Vol I, London: Richard Bentley.
- Fane, Henry Edward (1842) Five Years In India; Comprising A Narrative Of Travels In The Presidency Of Bengal, A Visit To The Court Of Runjeet Sing, A Residence In The Himalayah Mountains, An Account Of The Late Expedition To Cabul And Affghanistan, Voyage Down The Indus, And Journey Overland To England. Vol II, London: Henry Colburn.
- From Captain C. M. Wade, (1915) Political Assistant Ludhiana, To Sir J. E. Colebrooke, Bart, Resident, Delhi, Abstract subject 'Attack made by Bahawalpur troop on the district of KotKapura. Press List of Record of the Ludhiana Agency – 1829, dated 17th July 1829, Book no. 97 and Serial no. 108, Paragraph no. 569. The Punjab Government, Press Lists of Old Records in the Punjab Secretariat, Vol. V, Ludhiana Agency Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1816-1840. Lahore: The Superintendent, Government Printing, Punjab.

Gurgani, Mirza Ashraf (1899) Sadiq-ul-Tawarikh, Bahawalpur: Saiq-ul-Anwar Press.

- Havelock, Henry (1840) Narrative of the War in Afghanistan in 1838-39, vol. I, London: Henry Colburn, Publisher.
- Hough, W. (1840) A Narrative of the March and Operations of the Army of the Indus in the Expedition into Afghanistan the Years 1838-1839 under the Command of H. E. Lieut. General Sir Jhon (Now Lord) Keane: Illustrated by a Map with Views of Candhar, Ghuznee and Cabool, and by Various Tables, also the History of the Dooranee Empire from its Foundation (1747) to the Present Time. Calcutta: W. Thacker and Co.
- Leech, R. (1839) "Report on the Sindhian, Khelat, and Daoodputr Armies, with a Collection of Routes", in Burnes, Alexander, Lieutenant Leech, Doctor Lord, and Lieutenant Wood. *Reports and Papers, Political, Geographical, and Commercial, Submitted to Government, Mission in the Years 1835-36-37.* Section I "Political", report no. XI. Calcutta: G. H. Huttmann, Bengal Military Orphan Press, 80-82.
- Leopold von Orlich, (1845) *Travels in India: including Sinde and the Punjab*. vol. I, Translated from the German by H. Evans Lloyd. London: Longman.
- Mackeson, F., (January to June 1837) "Journal of Captain C. M. Wade's Voyage from Lodiana to Mithankot by the River Sutlej, on his Mission to Lahor and Bahawalpur in 1832-33" *The Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, Vol. VI. Part I. Calcutta: The Baptist Mission Press, 169-217.
- Masson, Charles (1842) *Narrative of Various Journeys in Baluchistan, Afghanistan, the Panjab.* vol. I, London: Richard Bentley.
- Minchin, C. (1868) "Report on the Re-Organization of the Bahawalpur State, for the Year Ending 30th June 1867" in Selections from the Records of the Government of the Punjab and its Dependencies, vol. VI, no. 2, Lahore: The Punjab Printing Company's Press.
- Mrs. Herbert B. Edwardes, (1886) *Memorials of the Life and Letters of Major-General Sir Herbert B. Edwardes.* Vol. I, London: Kengan Paul, Trench.
- Rustam Ali Bijnori and Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui (n.d.) An Eighteenth-Century History of North India: An Account of the Rise and Fall of the Rohilla Chiefs in Janbhasha. Delhi: Manohar Publications.
- Samia Khalid, (2006) "Derawar through the Ages: A Military and Dynastic History" in *Ancient Pakistan*. Vol. XXVII, 121-2.
- Shah, Nazeer Ali, (1959) Sadiqnamah: The History of Bahawalpur State. Lahore: Maktaba Jadeed.
- Sir F. G. Goldsmid from his Historical Memoir of Shikarpur, written in 1854 in W. W. Hunter, (1887) *The Imperial Gazetteer of India. Ratlam to Sirmur.*, Vol. XII., 2nd ed. London: Trubner & Co.
- The Punjab Government, (2001) *The Punjab District Gazetteers: Multan District 1923-24*. Lahore: the Government Printing, Punjab, 1926, reprinted by Lahore: Niaz Ahmad, Sang-e-Meel Publication.
- The Punjab Government, (2004) *Gazetteer of the Dera Ghazi Khan District: Revised Edition, 1893-*97, Lahore: Civil and Military Gazetteer Press, 1898, reprinted by Lahore: Niaz Ahmad, Sang-e-Meel Publication.