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ВОСТОЧНАЯ КОМИССИЯ ГЕОГРАФИЧЕСКОГО ОБЩЕСТВА СССР

# СТРАНЫ И НАРОДЫ ВОСТОКА

Под общей редакцией  
члена-корреспондента АН СССР  
Д. А. ОЛЬДЕРОГЕ

ВЫП. XIV

**ИНДИЯ — СТРАНА И НАРОД**  
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*I. V. Sakharov*

## **INDIAN STUDIES AT THE ORIENTAL COMMISSION OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF THE USSR**

In the USSR comprehensive scientific study of India is being carried on at various research centres of the Academy of Sciences (Institute of Oriental Studies, Institute of Geography, Institute of Ethnography, etc.) and at other research institutions and universities in Moscow, Leningrad, Tashkent, Baku, Erevan and other cities. At the same time, the importance of the voluntary research associations is ever growing. In particular, a substantial contribution to the advancement of Indian studies has been made by the Geographical Society of the USSR.

A considerable activisation in this field took place at the Society after India had gained her independence and established friendly relations with the USSR.

The setting up of the Oriental Commission within the Central Organisation of the Geographical Society in Leningrad (December 1955) was the start of a very important stage in the development of the study of India. In the Commission indologists constitute a numerous and efficient body of workers.

Among the subjects in which the Oriental Commission has particularly interested itself in recent years are the economic regionalisation of India (V. A. Pulyarkin, I. V. Sakharov, G. V. Sdasyuk, a. o.), India's food problem (L. A. Knyazhinskaya a. o.), migration and urbanisation (L. I. Bonifatieva, B. P. Suprunovich, a. o.), the ethnic geography of the country (I. V. Sakharov), the Scheduled Tribes (M. K. Kudryavtsev, S. A. Maretina, B. P. Suprunovich, a. o.), the economic geography of West Bengal (I. V. Sakharov), Indians overseas (G. L. Dmitriev, A. D. Dridzo, Y. V. Maretin, A. P. Raskin, B. P. Suprunovich, I. P. Trufanov, A. D. Yurov a. o.), Russo-Indian contacts and especially Russian travellers to India (A. V. Korolyov, N. G. Krasnodembskaya, G. P. Kurilenko, E. Y. Lusternik, R. R. Orbeli, V. V. Perzmakher, a. o.).

Indologists — members of the Oriental Commission maintain efficient scientific contacts with their Indian colleagues. Some of them have taken part in various international scientific congresses. During the past years the Geographical Society of the USSR has been visited by quite a number of indologists from abroad, mostly from India (S. P. Chatterjee, L. S. Bhat, O. H. K. Spate, A. Mitra, P. Sen Gupta, B. K. Roy Burman, M. R. Ranganatha, A. R. Desai, a. o.), and some of them have read papers at the

meetings of the Oriental Commission and published them in the Commission's transactions.

Now the Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society represents one of the most important centres of the initiation, promotion and co-ordination of comprehensive Indian studies in the USSR and pays great attention to the popularisation of knowledge about India among the Soviet people, with the aim of strengthening friendly relations between our two great countries.

## Part I. List of Meetings

The present chronicle, based on different sources including archive materials, is a complete enumeration in chronological order of all the papers relating to India read at the Oriental Commission's meetings (including the joint meetings of the Commission with other units of the Geographical Society) and at the conferences, sessions etc. in which the Commission has actively participated, with mention of the dates of the meeting, the names of the speakers, and the titles of the papers; of all the visits of guests from abroad; and of all the articles about India published in the Commission's transactions.

At some meetings, along with the reports about India, the reports about other countries were read as well. In such cases the present chronicle deals with the papers on India only, the other papers being omitted.

### 1955

*December 9:* A. V. Korolyov. Russian and Soviet writers and artists on India.

### 1956

*March 29:* G. P. Kurilenko. The first Russian ambassadors to India in the 18th century (Semyon Malenky and others).

*April 12:* V. S. Vorobyov-Desyatovsky. G. S. Lebedev, the first Russian indologist and founder of the European theatre in India at the end of the 18th century.—V. A. Romodin. History and geography of the states of Dir and Swat, inhabited by the Afghans.

*October 12:* Meeting devoted to the memory of V. S. Vorobyov-Desyatovsky. Speeches by A. V. Korolyov, G. A. Zograf and V. A. Romodin.—R. R. Orbeli. Little known traveller Raphail Danibegov and his book «A voyage to India» (1815).

### 1957

*May 16:* V. I. Kalyanov and G. A. Zograf. India (personal impressions).

*June 13:* T. A. Shumovsky. The Arabian marine encyclopaedia of 1490 and the question of the geographical discoveries of the Arabs in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific.

*October 17:* I. V. Sakharov. New administrative set-up of India and its economic significance.

### 1958

*January 10:* I. V. Sakharov. New administrative set-up of India and its economic significance (second reading of the paper read on October 17, 1957).

*February 14:* Discussion of the book «Asia» (Moscow, 1957) by A. V. Korolyov.—V. V. Perzmakher. India in Korolyov's book.

*April 28:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Commission of Medical Geography.—V. N. Latysh. Geography of leprosy in India.

*October 3:* G. N. Roerich. Research work in Mongolia, Tibet and the Himalayas in 1923—1957.

*November 14:* A. V. Korolyov. N. K. Roerich's art inheritance and its value for geography.

*December 3:* I. V. Sakharov. The role of railways in the distribution of productive forces and formation of economic regions in India.

*December 22:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Historical Geography.—A. I. Andreev. N. I. Chelobitchikov, a Russian merchant and traveller to India (18th century).

## 1959

*January 8:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Economic Geography.—L. I. Bonifatieva. Impressions of a tour of India.

*January 15:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Commission of Medical Geography, the Department of Ethnography, the Department of Historical Geography, the Astronomo-Geodetic Society (Lenin-grad Branch), and the Russian Palestine Society. Celebration of the 75th anniversary of birth of A. V. Korolyov, Vice-Chairman of the Oriental Commission.—Speeches by Academician V. V. Struve, G. N. Roerich and others.

*January 30:* R. I. Barannikova. Religious festivals in India.

*March 23:* A. M. Lyubarskaya. English poet and traveller Wilfrid S. Blunt and his struggle against colonialism.

*May 22:* A. D. Dridzo. East Indians in West Indies.

At the end of 1959 the Oriental Commission published a collection of articles (in Russian):

Страны и народы Востока. География, этнография, история. Выпуск I. Под редакцией академика В. В. Струве. Москва. Издательство восточной литературы, 1959, 354 стр. [Академия наук СССР, Восточная комиссия Географического общества Союза ССР]. Countries and peoples of the East. Geography, Ethnography, History. Vol. I. Edited by Academician V. V. Struve. Moscow, Oriental Literature Publishing House, 1959, 354 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. The Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR).

Articles on India: I. V. Sakharov. New administrative set-up of India, pp. 5—29; I. V. Sakharov. Natural conditions and resources of Bihar and West Bengal and their economic evaluation, pp. 66—109; V. A. Romodin. Dir and Swat (A historical and geographical sketch), pp. 110—128.

## 1960

*April 14:* G. P. Kurilenko. Pyotr Trenogin, a Russian traveller to Central Asia and India (17th century).

*May 26:* Meeting dedicated to the memory of G. N. Roerich (1902—1960).—Speech by A. V. Korolyov.

*June 17:* Reception of the famous Indian artist S. N. Roerich and his wife Devika Rani Roerich, arranged by the Presidium of

the Geographical Society and the Oriental Commission, with Academician E. N. Pavlovsky, President of the Society in the chair.

*October 20:* Meeting devoted to the memory of G. N. Roerich.— B. I. Pankratov. G. N. Roerich as a tibetologist.— L. N. Gumilyov. G. N. Roerich as a historian of Central Asia.— A. V. Korolyov. G. N. Roerich as a traveller.

*January 17:* V. I. Kalyanov. Information on the work of the Section of Indology at the 25th International Congress of Orientalists (Moscow, August 1960).

*May 15:* Conference on economic regionalisation of India convened in Moscow by the Institute of Geography with participation of the members of the Oriental Commission.— O. B. Oskolkova (Moscow). Research work in the field of economic regionalisation of India.— L. I. Bonifatieva. Problem of the formation of economic regions in India.— I. V. Sakharov. The basic criteria of the economic regionalisation in India.— V. A. Pulyarkin (Moscow). The application of Soviet experience in economic regionalisation to the Indian situation.

*May 31:* E. Y. Lusternik. First voyages of Russian ships to India in 1871—1872.— G. P. Kurilenko. A Russian traveller in the East (on the occasion of the 125th Anniversary of P. I. Pashino's birthday).— A. V. Korolyov. Names and terms: *India, Indian subcontinent, Indostan; Indians, Hindus, Hinduists.*

*October 11:* A. V. Korolyov. Indian artist S. N. Roerich and the importance of his art for gaining knowledge of India.

*December 15:* M. Y. Ioseleva. The origin of magic numbers in the ancient East (Egypt, Mesopotamia and India).

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At the end of 1961 the Oriental Commission published a collection of articles (in Russian):

Страны и народы Востока. География, этнография, история. Выпуск II. (Под редакцией председателя Восточной комиссии академика В. В. Струве и заместителя председателя А. В. Королева). Москва, Издательство восточной литературы, 1961. 284 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Восточная комиссия Географического общества Союза ССР).

Countries and Peoples of the East. Geography, Ethnography, History. Vol. II (Edited by Academician V. V. Struve, Chairman of the Oriental Commission, and A. V. Korolyov, Vice-Chairman). Moscow. Oriental Literature Publishing House, 1961. 284 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. The Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR). Dedicated to the Memory of George N. Roerich.

Articles on India and on the Indians. In memory of Yuri (George) Nikolaevich Roerich, pp. 3—5; I. V. Sakharov. Economic consequences of the partition of Bengal (1947), pp. 13—29; I. V. Sakharov. Raw materials and fuel for iron and steel industry of East India, pp. 30—60; A. D. Dridzo. East Indians of Trinidad, pp. 89—102; A. M. Lyubarskaya. British poet and traveller Wilfred S. Blunt and his struggle against colonialism, pp. 130—142.

1962

*January 17:* B. V. Bratus. The teaching of the Russian language in India (personal impressions of 1961).

*March 21:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Economic Geography.— K. M. Popov (Moscow). A research trip to India (personal impressions).

*May 17:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Physical Geography, Department of Ethnography and Lecturing Bureau.—A. M. Ryabchikov. India in 1961 (personal impressions).—A. V. Korolyov. Life and work of N. K. Roerich, G. N. Roerich and S. N. Roerich.

*October 24:* F. L. Bogdanov. The art of Ajanta.

## 1963

*February 12:* I. P. Trufanov. Singapore and its population.

*August 23:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Economic Geography.—L. S. Bhat (Research worker of the Regional Survey Unit, the Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi). Regional planning in India.

## 1964

*May 12:* T. A. Shumovsky. The Arabs and Sea.

*May 19:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography.—I. V. Sakharov. Some characteristics of the migration of the Indian population (with particular reference to West Bengal).

*May 25—29:* The 4th Congress of the Geographical Society of the USSR was convened in Moscow. Official delegates of the Congress, members of the Oriental Commission: I. V. Sakharov (Central Organization of the Society), L. I. Bonifatieva and A. M. Ryabchikov (Both of the Moscow Branch of the Society).—Paper on India: *May 26:* L. I. Bonifatieva and A. M. Ryabchikov. Regional problems of multipurpose utilization of natural resources in South Asia.

*August 24:* A visit to the Geographical Society by Dr. (Miss) P. Sen Gupta, The Chief of Cartography Division at the Office of the Registrar General, India (New Delhi).

*October 9:* Meeting commemorating the 90th anniversary of N. K. Roerich's birthday.—F. L. Bogdanov. Suites (paintings) by N. K. Roerich.—A. V. Korolyov. N. K. Roerich and St. Petersburg University.

*November 4:* F. L. Bogdanov. The book by the progressive Indian writer Yashpal about his tour to the Soviet Union.

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In the middle of 1964 the Oriental Commission published a collection of articles (in Russian):

Страны и народы Востока. География, этнография, история. Выпуск III. Под редакцией А. В. Королева и И. В. Сахарова. Москва, издательство «Наука», Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1964. 211 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Восточная комиссия Географического общества СССР.)

Countries and Peoples of the East. Geography, Ethnography, History. Vol. III. Edited by A. V. Korolyov and I. V. Sakharov. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1964. 211 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. The Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR). Dedicated to the 75th birthday of Academician V. V. Struve.

Articles on India: A. M. Ryabchikov. India as seen by Soviet geographers, pp. 5—12; L. I. Bonifatieva. Rural-urban migration of India's population, pp. 13—28; G. V. Sdasyuk. Urgent problems of the geography of electric power generation in India, pp. 29—41.

*April 17—18:* Members of the Oriental Commission met Mr. Asok Mitra, the Registrar General and ex officio Census Commissioner for India (New Delhi).

*September 21:* The Geographical Society was visited by Prof. O. H. K. Spate of the Australian National University (Canberra).

*October 8:* The Oriental Commission took part in the Session arranged by the Institute of the Peoples of Asia and the Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences, by the Oriental Department of Leningrad University, the Geographical Society of the USSR, and the Soviet-Indian Cultural Relations Society, which was devoted to the 125th Anniversary of the birth of the outstanding Russian indologist Prof. I. P. Minayev.—Papers read by the members of the Oriental Commission: E. Y. Lusternik and D. E. Bertels. I. P. Minayev's materials in the Soviet archives.—T. E. Katenina, T. S. Maslov and E. Y. Lusternik. I. P. Minayev and St. Petersburg University.—I. V. Sakharov. I. P. Minayev as geographer.

*October 25:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography. Discussion on the book «The Population of India. A demographic survey» by V. V. Petrov (Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, 1965).—Participants in the discussion: I. V. Sakharov, T. S. Batalina, V. V. Petrov (Moscow).

*November 3:* I. V. Sakharov. Migration between East Pakistan and India following the partition of Bengal in 1947.—S. A. Maretina. The hill peoples of Assam and Nagaland.—M. K. Kudryavtsev. The Anthropological Survey of India (personal impressions).—R. I. Barannikova. Hindi taught in a Leningrad school.

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In the middle of 1965 the Oriental Commission published a collection of articles (in Russian):

Доклады Восточной комиссии. Выпуск 1 (2). (Под редакцией академика В. В. Струве). Ленинград, 1965. 107 стр. (Географическое общество Союза ССР).

Papers of the Oriental Commission. Vol. I (2). (Edited by Academician V. V. Struve). Leningrad, 1965. 107 pp. (Geographical Society of the USSR). Dedicated to the 80th Anniversary of the birth of A. V. Korolyov, Vice-Chairman of the Commission.

Articles on India and the Indians: F. L. Bogdanov. The book by the progressive Indian writer Yashpal on his tour to the Soviet Union, pp. 6—13; I. P. Trufanov. The ethnic composition and mode of life of the Singapore population, pp. 14—25; on Indians in particular see pp. 23—25.

By the end of 1965 the Commission published a collection of articles (in Russian):

Страны и народы Востока. География, этнография, история. Выпуск IV. Под редакцией академика В. В. Струве и А. В. Королева. Москва, издательство «Наука», Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1965. 264 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Восточная комиссия Географического Общества СССР).

Countries and Peoples of the East. Geography, Ethnography, History. Vol. IV. Edited by Academician V. V. Struve and A. V. Korolyov. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature. 1965. 264 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. The Oriental Commission of



the Geographical Society of the USSR). Dedicated to the 10th Anniversary of the Oriental Commission.

Articles on India and the Indians: L. I. Bonifatieva. Data on towns and cities in «Census of India, 1961», pp. 3—14; I. P. Trufanov. The population of Singapore, pp. 39—56; on the Indians in particular see pp. 53—55.

1966

*January 6:* Y. V. Maretin. The characteristics of Indo-Balinese culture (in connection with the publication of the book «The Island of Bali» by L. M. Dyomin, Moscow, 1966).—G. P. Kurilenko. Some forgotten Russian travellers to India in the 17th century.

*January 24:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography.—I. V. Sakharov. Some problems of Calcutta (in connection with the publication of the book «Calcutta — India's city» by Asok Mitra, Calcutta, 1963).

*February 28:* B. P. Suprunovich. The Scheduled tribes (Adivasis) of India.—S. A. Maretina. The Bodo states in Assam.—M. K. Kudryavtsev. The language problem for the Adivasis of India.

*April 20:* V. V. Perzmaher. Seafaring traditions in India.—I. P. Trufanov. External migrations of the Indian population.

*May 18:* Y. V. Maretin. Indians in Indonesia.—A. D. Yurov. Indians in the Republic of South Africa.

*May 24:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography, the Department of Ethnography, the Department of Historical Geography and the Saltykov-Shchedrin Public Library.—I. V. Sakharov. The acquisition of foreign books and periodicals on geography, ethnography, history and economy of foreign countries (with particular reference to the literature on India) by the libraries of Moscow and Leningrad, and some general problems of acquisition of publications from abroad.

*November 2:* T. A. Shumovsky. The geographical scope of Shota Rustaveli's poem «The Knight in the Panther's Skin».—V. V. Perzmaher. Unknown Russian sailors to India in 1860's.—O. A. Belobrova. India in ancient Russian art.

*November 24—26:* A Conference on problems of economic regionalisation in the developing countries, arranged by the Oriental Commission, the Moscow Branch of the Geographical Society, and the Institute of Geography of the USSR Academy of Sciences took place in Moscow.

Papers on India:

*November 24:* A. M. Ryabchikov and G. D. Bessarabov (Moscow). The typology of changed natural landscapes as a basis for regionalisation of land resources (with particular reference to South Asia).

*November 25:* L. I. Bonifatieva (Moscow). Urbanisation and problems of the formation of economic regions in the developing countries (with particular reference to India).—G. V. Sdasyuk. Some characteristics of the formation of economic regions in the developing countries (A case study of India).—I. V. Sakharov. Some problems of economic regionalisation in India (with particular reference to West Bengal).

*November 26:* A. A. Tolokonnikova. Centres of irrigation as one of the bases for the consolidation of economic regions in the developing countries of Asia.

*December 21:* Meeting commemorating the centenary of the birth of Academician Th. I. Stcherbatsky (1866—1942).—A. N. Zelinsky (Moscow). Academician Th. I. Stcherbatsky and certain problems of the cultural history of the Kushans.—B. I. Kuznetsov. Problems of gnoseology in Dharmakirti's «Samtanantarassiddhi».

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In November 1966 a brochure was published in Moscow (in Russian): Тезисы докладов на тему «Проблема экономического районирования в развивающихся странах»; Москва, 1966. 45 стр. (Московский филиал Географического общества СССР. Восточная комиссия Географического общества СССР. Институт географии Академии Наук СССР).

Summaries of papers on «Problems of economic regionalisation in the developing countries». Moscow, 1966, 45 pp. (The Moscow Branch of the Geographical Society of the USSR. The Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR. The Institute of Geography of the USSR Academy of Sciences).

Summaries of papers on India: A. M. Ryabchikov and G. D. Bessarabov. The typology of changed natural landscapes as a basis for the regionalisation of land resources (with particular reference to South Asia), pp. 12—14; G. V. Sdasyuk. Some characteristics of the formation of economic regions in the developing countries (with particular reference to India), pp. 20—22; L. I. Bonifatieva. Urbanisation and formation of economic regions in the developing countries of Asia (with particular reference to India), pp. 22—24; I. V. Sakharov. Certain problems of the formation of economic regions in India (with particular reference to West Bengal), pp. 40—43; A. A. Tolokonnikova. Centres of irrigation as one of the bases for the consolidation of economic regions in the developing countries of Asia.

1967

*January 11:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Department of Economic Geography. Information about the Conference on the problems of economic regionalisation in the developing countries, Moscow, November 1966 (Reports by the participants of the Conference).—I. V. Sakharov. Papers on India read at the Conference (Information).

*January 25:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Historical Geography, and the Department of Ethnography devoted to Republic Day.—V. V. Perzmakher. A Russian naval explorer Y. F. Lisyansky in India in 1799 (from archive materials).—I. V. Sakharov. Some characteristics of the ethnic composition and the social structure of the West Bengal population (Materials for the paper prepared by the author for the Second All-Union Inter-Departmental Scientific Conference on Population Geography, Moscow, January—February, 1967).

*January 30 — February 4,* Moscow: The Second All-Union Inter-Departmental Scientific Conference on Population Geography, arranged by the Geographical Society and Moscow University.

Papers on India read by the members of the Oriental Commission:

*February 1:* Symposium on Problems of Migration and Formation of Population.—L. I. Bonifatieva. Some characteristics of urbanisation in South and South-East Asia.—B. P. Suprunovich. Rural migrati-

ons and trends in the distribution of population in India.— I. V. Sakharov. Some characteristics of migrations in West Bengal.

*April 5:* Meeting devoted to the 75th Anniversary of the birth of B. I. Pankratov.— V. A. Velgus. On ancient navigation in the Indian Ocean.

*May 24:* T. V. Grek. Durbars at the Court of the Great Moghols (miniatures from the Hermitage collection).— V. I. Kazakov (Moscow). Language problems in India, with particular reference to Maharashtra.

*May 31:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography. Dr. (Miss) P. Sen Gupta (The Chief of the Geography and Cartography Division at the Office of the Registrar General, India, New Delhi). Regional approach to demographic problems and resource development in India.

*June 2:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography, the Department of Mathematical Geography and Cartography, and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography. Dr. (Miss) P. Sen Gupta (New Delhi). Office of the Registrar General (ex officio Census Commissioner for India) and its work in the field of geography and cartography.

*October 17:* Session devoted to the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.— E. Y. Lusternik. The study of Indian history in Leningrad (1917—1967).

*November 22:* V. V. Perzmakher. Unpublished letters from Gerasim Lebedev to I. F. Krusenstern (1797—1802) found in the Leningrad archives.

*December 13:* I. V. Sakharov. Indian studies at the Russian Geographical Society—the Geographical Society of the USSR, 1845—1967 (Materials for the paper prepared by the author for the 21st International Geographical Congress, New Delhi, 1968).

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In December 1967 the Oriental Commission published the first collection of articles on India (India—land and people):

Индия—страна и народ. (Ответственный редактор И. В. Сахаров). Москва, Издательство «Наука», Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1967. 271 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Географическое общество СССР. Восточная комиссия.—Страны и народы Востока. Под общей редакцией академика В. В. Струве и члена-корреспондента АН СССР Д. А. Ольдерогге. Выпуск V).

India—land and people. Edited by I. V. Sakharov. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1967, 271 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. Oriental Commission, Geographical Society of the USSR.—Countries and Peoples of the East. Under the general editorship of Academician V. V. Struve and Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR D. A. Olderogge. Vol. V). Dedicated to the 20th Anniversary of India's Independence (1947—1967).

Contents: I. V. Sakharov. (Leningrad). The Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR and its Indian studies, pp. 5—22; M. M. Saifulin (Moscow) and L. P. Ulyanova (Moscow). Some features of the Indian federation, p. 23—37; I. V. Sakharov (Leningrad). The ethnic composition of the population of West Bengal, pp. 38—49; N. R. Guseva (Moscow). The sects among the

Sikhs, pp. 50—72; B. P. Suprunovich (Moscow). The problem of the minor peoples and tribes (Adivasis) of India, pp. 73—88; S. A. Maretina (Leningrad). The ethnic composition of the hill peoples of Assam, pp. 89—99; M. K. Kudryavtsev (Leningrad). The Anthropological Survey of India, pp. 100—105; M. K. Kudryavtsev. Dr. Verrier Elwin, pp. 106—109; I. P. Trufanov (Leningrad). On the external migrations of the Indian population, pp. 110—128; Y. V. Maretin (Leningrad). On the Indian influence on the Balinese culture, pp. 129—149; A. D. Dridzo (Leningrad). First monograph on the East Indians of Trinidad, pp. 150—154; L. I. Bonifatieva (Moscow). The problem of determining India's urbanisation level, pp. 155—163; G. V. Sdasyuk (Moscow). Industrialisation and the formation of economic regions in India, pp. 164—194; V. A. Pulyarkin (Moscow). Natural conditions and agriculture of the Kashmir Valley, pp. 195—208; R. R. Orbeli (Leningrad). The history of Raphail Danibegov's book «A voyage to India», pp. 209—219; V. V. Perzmakher (Leningrad). Russian sailors in India in the 1760's (from archive materials), pp. 220—228; T. V. Grek (Leningrad). The Portrayal of Kabir in Indian miniatures of the 17th century Mogul school, pp. 229—235; A. N. Zelinsky (Moscow). Academician Th. I. Stcherbatsky and some problems of the cultural history of the Kushans, pp. 236—257; A. N. Zelinsky. Inauguration of G. N. Roerich Monument in Moscow (August 17, 1965), pp. 258—264; V. V. Petrov (Moscow). From ancient Rajputana to present-day Rajasthan, pp. 265—270.

1968

*February 7:* T. A. Shumovskiy. «Great Islands» in marine encyclopaedia written by Ahmad b. Majid (15th century).

*March 25:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography.—L. A. Knyazhinskaya (Moscow). The growth of the population and the food problem in India.

*March 27:* Discussion on the collection of articles: «Countries and Peoples of the East». Under the general editorship of academician V. V. Struve and D. A. Olderogge, Corresponding Member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Vol. V. India—land and people. Edited by I. V. Sakharov. Moscow, 1967. Participants in the discussion: O. B. Osolkova (Moscow), L. A. Knyazhinskaya (Moscow), N. G. Krasnodembskaya, V. L. Afanasiev, A. M. Reshetov, P. M. Dolukhanov, V. A. Romodin, G. P. Kurilenko, V. V. Perzmakher, I. V. Sakharov, D. A. Olderogge. Written reviews by: A. M. Ryabchikov (Moscow), E. Y. Burnashev (Moscow), P. A. Barannikov.

*May 29:* S. A. Maretina. On the so-called «castes» in the Island of Bali.—T. V. Grek. Personal impressions of a tour of India (January-February, 1968).

*November 13:* P. A. Barannikov. The language problem in modern India.—N. G. Krasnodembskaya. Russian indologists and ethnographers I. P. Minayev and A. M. and L. A. Merwarth in Ceylon.

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In 1968 the «Mysl» Publishing House published a collection of articles prepared by the Moscow Branch of the Geographical Society of the USSR with the participation of the Oriental Commission (in Russian):

«Экономическое районирование развивающихся стран», Москва, 1968, 222 стр. («Вопросы географии», сб. 76).

From the contents: G. V. S d a s y u k. Some aspects of the formation of economic regions in the developing countries (A case study of India), pp. 66—95; L. I. B o n i f a t i e v a. Urbanisation and formation of economic regions in India, pp. 96—106; I. V. S a k h a r o v. The ethnic composition of the population and the federative structure as factors in the formation of economic regions in India, pp. 107—124; A. K. V a f a. A series of economic-geographic monographs on the regions of India (Review article), pp. 187—203.

In the same year the Central Department of Oriental Literature of the «Nauka» Publishing House published the book:

«Problems of Economic Regionalisation in the Developing Countries». Moscow, 1968. 196 pp. (In English).

This book consists of the same papers as the above-mentioned one, with the exception of that by A. K. Vafa.

#### 1969

*March 26:* I. V. S a k h a r o v. Personal impressions of a trip to India and Nepal (February 1969).

*April 14:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography, and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography.—L. I. B o n i f a t i e v a (Moscow). Problems of controlling the development of towns in India.

*October 8:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Commission of Geomorphology and Palaeogeography.—A. Y. S h c h e t e n k o. The role of geographical environment in the establishment of the food producing economy in ancient Hindustan.—Y. A. Z a d n e p r o v s k y. The Ahar culture of South Rajasthan, its genesis and place in India's Post-Harappan history.

*December 10:* P. F. B e l i k o v (Tallin). Nicholas Roerich and India.—V. P. K n y a z e v a. Ascertaining the dates of Roerich's paintings of the Indian period.

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In 1969 the Oriental Commission published a collection of articles:

Страны и народы Востока. Под общей редакцией члена-корреспондента АН СССР Д. А. Ольдерогге. Вып. VIII. География, этнография, история. М., изд-во «Наука», Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1969. 312 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Географическое общество СССР. Восточная комиссия.—Сборник посвящен памяти председателя Восточной комиссии, академика В. В. Струве).

Countries and Peoples of the East. Under the general editorship of D. A. O l d e r o g g e, Corresponding Member, Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Vol. VIII. Geography, Ethnography, History. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1969. 312 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. Geographical Society of the USSR. Oriental Commission.—The volume is dedicated to the memory of Academician V. V. S t r u v e, Chairman of the Oriental Commission).

From the contents:

B. I. K u z n e t s o v. Problems of gnoseology in Dharmakirti's «Samtanantarassiddhi», pp. 186—187.—F. L. B o g d a n o v. Mural paintings of ancient India, pp. 188—203.

#### 1970

*January 26:* Meeting devoted to Republic Day. I. V. S a k h a r o v. Introductory speech.—V. V. P e r z m a k h e r. Changes of place-names

in India after independence.—V. P. Knyazeva. N. Roerich's paintings of India (Commentary with colour slides).

*January 27:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Department of Economic Geography, the Department of Ethnography, and the Commission of Population and Urban Geography.—Dr. Bikram Keshari Roy Burman (Deputy Registrar General of India, New Delhi). Social studies at the Census Organisation of India, with particular reference to the study of the Scheduled Tribes.

*March 16:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Commission of Population and Urban Geography, devoted to Independence Day of Mauritius.—I. V. Sakharov. The ethnic composition of the population of Mauritius.

*May 6:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission and the Leningrad Indological Seminar.—Dr. Magadi Rangaswamiya Ranganatha (Linguist, Office of the Registrar General of India, Calcutta). The language situation in modern India.

*October 28:* A. P. Raskin. East Indian immigrants in the USA.

*December 7—11:* The First Conference of Soviet Indologists took place in Moscow, with the following papers read by the members of the Oriental Commission:

*December 7:* E. Y. Lusternik. Old and new features of the liberation struggle in Central India during the 1880's.—P. A. Barannikov. Polylinguism in India.

*December 9:* V. V. Perzmaher. The Indian Fleet in the struggle against European conquerors in the XVI—XVIII centuries.—G. V. Sdasyuk. The formation of economic regions in independent India.—V. A. Pulyarkin. Problems of agricultural regionalisation of India.

*December 10:* B. P. Suprunovich. On the study of the political geography of India.—L. A. Knyazhinskaya. Population as a factor in the socio-economic development of India.—L. I. Bonifatieva. Characteristics of urbanization in India.—A. N. Zelinsky. On the possibility of constructing a model of Buddhism.

*December 11:* Y. V. Maretin. Indian influences and the problem of the originality of Indonesian culture.—I. V. Sakharov. The influence of politico-administrative boundaries on the ethnic awareness of the population and on the pattern of the ethnic processes in India<sup>1</sup>.—M. K. Kudryavtsev. The main characteristics of the village communities of Northern India.—S. A. Maretina. The formation of social strata and classes among the hill peoples of North-Eastern India.

## 1971

*January 26:* Meeting devoted to Republic Day. E. Y. Lusternik. Introductory speech.—I. V. Sakharov. Recent changes in the administrative-territorial set-up of India.—S. A. Maretina. Meghalaya, the new state of India.

*January 29—February 3:* A Conference was convened in Moscow by the Central Organisation, the Oriental Commission, and the Moscow

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<sup>1</sup> In the published version of the paper distributed among the participants of the Conference, the author deals with general questions of the ethnic geography of India: И. В. Сахаров, Основные особенности этнолингвогеографии Индии (Доклад на I Всесоюзной конференции индологов, Москва, декабрь 1970 г.), Ленинград, 1970. 15 стр. (Географическое общество СССР).—I. V. Sakharov. The principal characteristics of the ethnolinguogeography of India (Paper presented at the First All-Union Conference of indologists, Moscow, December 1970). Leningrad, 1970. 15 pp. (In Russian).

Branch of the USSR Geographical Society jointly with some other organisations and institutions.

Papers on India read at the Conference<sup>2</sup>.

*January 30:* L. I. Bonifatieva and V. G. Bylov. Some characteristics and problems of the geography of manpower resources in South Asian countries.—I. V. Sakharov. Regional economic development of India in the context of ethnic geography<sup>3</sup>.

*February 1:* V. A. Pulyarkin. The influence of natural factors on the agricultural boundaries in the developing countries (with particular reference to India).—V. A. Pulyarkin. The place of animal husbandry in the traditional agricultural economy of South Asian countries.

*February 3:* G. V. Sdasyuk. The territorial combinations of natural resources and the formation of India's economic regions.—A. M. Goryacheva and N. N. Chizhov. Analysis of the statistical surface of India's urban settlement network.

*March 24:* L. B. Alayev (Moscow). A year in India. Results of a research trip to India in 1968.

*March 26:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Group of General Ethnography in the Leningrad Branch of the Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences, and the Leningrad Seminar of Indologists.—L. B. Alayev (Moscow). Communities of castes in rural India and their place in a village communities' typology.

*April 13:* S. I. Averbukh (Kharkov). The significance of ancient Greek sources for the study of the history of North-Western India at the end of the 4th century B. C.

*May 19:* G. A. Zograf. Visiting India's universities (November, 1970 — February, 1971).—E. I. Lubo-Lesnichenko. A trip to India in February-March, 1971. Impressions of an art expert.

*June 22:* Joint meeting of the Oriental Commission, the Leningrad Branch of the Institute of Ethnography, and the Leningrad Seminar of Indologists.—Dr. Akshayakumar Ramanlal Desai (Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Bombay). Some aspects of the language policy in India.

*October 6:* D. A. Olderogge. The Siddis, a tribe of African origin in India.—S. A. Maretina. A Series of Census Monographs on minor peoples and tribes (published in «Census of India 1961»).

1972

*January 27:* Meeting devoted to Republic Day.—E. Y. Lusternik. Introductory speech.—I. V. Sakharov. Analysis of the provisional results of the 1971 Census of India.—A. M. Senkov. The project of constructing the shortest waterway connecting the USSR and India.

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At the beginning of 1972 the Oriental Commission published the second book in the series «India — land and people» (In Russian):

<sup>2</sup> Synopses of all the papers with the exception of that by A. M. Goryacheva and N. N. Chizhov have been published in: География и развивающиеся страны (Проблемы использования природных и трудовых ресурсов). Тезисы докладов (29 января — 3 февраля 1971 г.). Москва, 1971. 142 стр. Geography and the developing countries (Problems of the utilization of natural and manpower resources). Synopses of papers (January 29 — February 3, 1971). Moscow, 1971. 142 pp. (In Russian).

<sup>3</sup> In the published synopsis a wider range of questions of India's ethnic geography is discussed.

Индия — страна и народ. Книга 2. Составитель и ответственный редактор И. В. Сахаров. М., изд-во «Наука». Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1972. 308 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Восточная комиссия Географического общества СССР.—«Страны и народы Востока». Под общей редакцией члена-корреспондента АН СССР Д. А. Ольдерогге. Вып. XII).

India — land and people. Book 2. Compiled and edited by I. V. Sakharov. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1972. 308 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. Oriental Commission, Geographical Society of the USSR.—«Countries and Peoples of the East». Under the general editorship of Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR D. A. Olderogge. Vol. XII). In Russian.

Contents: G. V. Sdasyuk (Moscow). Geographical problems of the Overcoming of Regional Imbalances in India's Economic Development, pp. 5—20; V. A. Pulyarkin (Moscow). Natural Factors and Boundaries of Agricultural Regions in India, pp. 21—35; A. M. Ryabchikov and V. A. Nikolayev (Moscow). Landscapes of Chota Nagpur Plateau and West Bengal Plains, pp. 36—44; L. A. Knyazhiskaya (Moscow). Growth of Population and Food Problem in India, pp. 45—63; P. Sen Gupta (Delhi). Some Characteristics of Internal Migration in India, pp. 64—73; L. I. Bonifatieva (Moscow). The Regional Differences in Urbanisation of India, pp. 74—89; R. C. Nigam (Calcutta). Languages of India and Role of the Census in the Study of the Linguistic Situation in the Country, pp. 90—108; A. M. Dyakov (Moscow), I. V. Sakharov (Leningrad). Some Characteristics of Ethnolinguistic Statistics in India (The Review of Language Volume of 1961 Census), pp. 109—138; A. M. Dyakov (Moscow), I. V. Sakharov (Leningrad). Linguistic Composition of India's Population (A. Brief Regional Survey of the 1961 Census' Data), pp. 139—179; B. K. Roy Burman (Delhi). Some Characteristics of the Distribution of the Scheduled Tribes in India, pp. 180—185; M. K. Kudryavtsev (Leningrad). On the Languages as the Media of Education in the Schools for the Scheduled Tribes in India, pp. 186—195; S. A. Maretina (Leningrad). The Ethnic Composition of Nagaland's Population, pp. 196—203; B. P. Suprunovich (Moscow). Indian Tamils in Ceylon (The Problem and its Solution), pp. 204—218; I. M. Oransky (Leningrad). On the Ethnography of the Parya Group Speaking an Indian Language (Hissar Valley, Soviet Central Asia), pp. 219—233; G. L. Dmitriev (Tashkent). On the History of Indian Settlements in Central Asia (The Second Half of the XIXth — the Beginning of the XXth Century), pp. 234—247; V. V. Perzmakher (Leningrad). Y. F. Lisyansky in India (1799), pp. 248—259; P. M. Dolukhanov (Leningrad). Palaeogeography of the India Stone Age, pp. 260—274; V. A. Rannov (Dushanbe). Soviet Central Asia and India during the Palaeolithic Period (An Attempt of Comparison of the Archeological Periodisations), pp. 275—297; Indian Studies at the Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR (Chronicle of Work, 1967—1971), pp. 298—301.

## **Part II. Summaries of the articles published in «India — land and people» series, books 1—3**

Индия — страна и народ. Ответственный редактор И. В. Сахаров. Москва, издательство «Наука», Главная редакция восточной литературы, 1967. 271 стр. (Академия наук СССР. Географическое общество



СССР. Восточная комиссия.— «Страны и народы Востока». Под общей редакцией академика В. В. Струве и члена-корреспондента АН СССР Д. А. Ольдерогге. Вып. V). Сборник посвящен двадцатилетию независимости Индии (1947—1967).

India — land and people. Edited by I. V. Sakharov. Moscow, «Nauka» Publishing House, Central Department of Oriental Literature, 1967. 271 pp. (USSR Academy of Sciences. Oriental Commission, Geographical Society of the USSR.— «Countries and Peoples of the East». Under the general editorship of Academician V. V. Struve and Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR D. A. Olderooge. Vol. V). Dedicated to the XXth Anniversary of India's Independence (1947—1967). [In Russian.]

I. V. S a k h a r o v

The Oriental Commission  
of the USSR Geographical Society and its Indian studies

Attainment of political independence by India and establishment of friendly relations between the USSR and India were very significant factors in the development of indology in the Soviet Union. In these conditions it became necessary to find new forms of organising research into the problems of India and of other Asian and African countries as well. Therefore in 1955 in Leningrad it was decided to establish the Oriental Commission, a special unit within the Geographical Society of the USSR for further promoting of Oriental studies.

The first part of the article deals with the main principle underlying the work of the Commission. The Oriental Commission is an interdisciplinary scientific organisation, and its work is based on voluntary lines. By and large, its membership is drawn from various research institutions, high schools, etc. Its activities are not limited to the geographical studies only but embrace ethnography, demography, history, culture, etc. The main forms of the Commission's work are reading and discussing of papers at regular meetings of members, and issuing of the transactions containing scholarly articles.

In the second part of the paper the Indian studies of the Commission are discussed in detail. Since its very establishment, the studies of India have occupied an important place in its work. In the Oriental Commission, indologists constitute the most numerous and active body of workers and cover a very wide range of questions such as the economic significance of the linguistic reorganisation of states, the formation of economic regions in the context of the country's federal set-up, the migration of the population and urbanisation process, the ethnic and economic problems of West Bengal, the Scheduled Tribes of India, Indians overseas, Russo-Indian contacts in the past and present (especially Russian travellers in India), etc. The author points out that the Oriental Commission of the Geographical Society of the USSR pays great attention to the initiation, promotion and co-ordination of comprehensive Indian studies and to the popularisation of knowledge about India among Soviet people thus contributing to the strengthening the friendly relations between these two great countries.

The article contains as an appendix a chronological list of all the Commission's meetings (during 1955 to 1966) at which the papers about India have been read.

### Some Features of the Indian Federation Today

In the first part of the paper written by M. M. Saifulin a short analysis is made of the measures taken in independent India to reorganise the administrative-territorial set-up of the country. In particular, the partition of the former state of Punjab into two new states, Punjab and Haryana, with the constituting Chandigarh as an Union territory, is discussed. It is pointed out that although India's states were reorganised on a linguistic basis, the minor peoples and tribes did not receive regional autonomy. The author tells of the struggle of the minor peoples of North-Eastern India for autonomy within the framework of the Indian Union. The author comes to the conclusion that in general the reorganisation of the Indian Federation is an important step towards a successful solution of the problem of national relations within the country.

In the second part of the paper written by L. P. Ulyanova the basic peculiarities of India's federative structure are discussed. The author thoroughly analyses the constitutional provisions and the latter's practical implementation with special reference to the balance of powers between Federal Government and the states. She points out that though, according to the Constitution, the key positions relating to the vital matters of all-Indian significance are in the hands of the Centre, the Indian states are vested with important and manifold powers and functions in various spheres of political and economic life. It is concluded that a considerable flexibility is inherent to India's federal structure and that within the framework of the Indian Federation can be traced two simultaneous tendencies, one towards unitarianism, the other towards regionalism and decentralisation.

### I. V. Sakharov

#### Ethnic Composition of population of West Bengal

The paper deals with the relationship between the ethnic composition of West Bengal's population (with particular reference to the Calcutta Industrial Region), on the one-hand, and its social and occupational structure, on the other. In this state the non-Bengalis represented mainly by the immigrants from other states, are very numerous and account for a considerable proportion of the general population. The non-Bengali population as a whole as well as individual ethnic groups into which it is subdivided, is unevenly distributed not only over territory of West Bengal but also among different industries and occupations and among different classes and social strata. The social and economic standing of the Bengalis and the non-Bengalis is on the whole quite different in this state. While the peasantry (including the rural elite), the lower strata of bourgeoisie, and the urban middle classes, are here represented mostly by Bengalis, the working class employed in large manufacturing industry, in coal mines, on tea plantations, transport, etc., and the urban lower social groups in general, on the one side, and the upper stratum of bourgeoisie, on the other, come, mainly or to a great extent, from the ethnic minorities. The main regions of the concentration of non-Bengali people even feature some kind of «distribution» of industries, occupations and professions among the various communities. A kind of well pronounced ethnic

«anomalies» in certain branches of the social and occupational structure can be observed here, and some professions and trades are identified with a certain ethnic group or groups. An attempt is made by the author to explain this phenomenon.

N. R. Guseva

### The sects among the Sikhs

Religious movements as well as the emergence of sects within a religion, are often linked with a definite ethnic environment which nurtures these movements or sects. Characteristic examples of this are provided by the Sikh movement which for centuries rested on the Jat ethnic environment, and by the process of the emergence of sects within Sikhism, many of which, according to the author, are associated with certain ethnic subgroups within the Jat population. It is likely that these subgroups are the survivals of the ancient division of the Jats into tribes.

Not all Sikh sects may be traced to their original ethnic sources, since the division of the Jats into tribes has long been erased, and the groups, if any, usually exist in the form of castes. However, if a sect is associated with one of the castes whose tribal origin may be traced, then that caste may be considered the ethnic environment of the sect. Thus, the Namdhari Sikh sect is closely connected with the Ramgarhia caste, the Nihang sect — with the landless lower castes, the Khandalia sect — with an ethnic group of non-Jat origin.

It is maintained that as a religious teaching, Sikhism is a further development of the Vedic doctrine in the form in which it was practised by the Scythian tribes (according to most scholars, the appearance of the Jats in India is connected with the Scythian invasions of this country). The author analyses the sharp anti-caste, anti-Brahman nature of the Sikh doctrine, its non-recognition of polytheism, complex rituals and some other features of Hinduism which were formed chiefly east of the Punjab as a result of the mixing of Vedic cults with local pre-Aryan cults. She sees it as a struggle between new and old forms of Aryan belief.

B. P. Suprunovich

### The Problem of Scheduled Tribes (Adivasi) in India

A sizeable part of India's population is constituted by the numerous peoples and tribes which are the descendants of the most ancient population of India and are usually referred to as the «Adivasis» (aboriginal peoples). Their total numerical strength in 1961, according to the Census, was 30 million which was 6.7 per cent of the general population of the country. These ethnic communities economically and socially lag behind the other India's peoples and differ from them in racial traits, in language, in social organisation, material and spiritual culture, etc. The Indian Parliament striving to help the Adivasis to overcome their backwardness, granted special legal status to them: according to the Constitution, the majority of these communities are classed with the category of the so-called «Scheduled Tribes». The author discusses the demographic, social, and economic characteristics of this heterogeneous group of Indian population and critically analyses different approaches to the solution of the Adivasi problem.

The ethnic composition of hill peoples of Assam

The hilly areas of Assam and of the adjoining regions of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura are populated by many peoples and tribes who trace their origin from East Asia. They speak the languages of the Tibeto-Burmes group of the Sino-Tibetan linguistic family with the exception of the Khasis who speak the Mon-Khmer language of the Austric family. Anthropologically, all of them belong to the South Mongoloid subrace. In the past, one group of these peoples, the Bodos, were the founders of the early-class states that covered a considerable part of Assam.

As regards their economic and cultural type, the aboriginal peoples of Assam and of adjoining regions are hoe agriculturists. All the peoples have attained the stage of neighbour community, although most of them retain many survivals of primitive society in their social organisation.

The hilly areas of the region under review are populated by the following peoples (from West to East): the Garos of the Bodo group, and the Khasis who have a matrilineal social structure; the Mikirs who ethnographically are close both to the Bodo group and to the Nagas; the Dimasas who like the Garos belong to the Bodos but are patrilineal and patrilocal. A group of numerous tribes of Kuki-Chin who occupy the entire southern part of Assam and the bordering areas of Manipur and Tripura are divided into three main subgroups: the Meitheis, the principal people of Manipur, the Chins who include some smaller ethnic communities passing through a comparatively developed stage of feudalism (the most numerous among them being the Lushais, or Mizos), and the Kukis who include, barring the rather developed Tippera, many hill tribes. The hills of Manipur are also populated by some Naga tribes, related to those of Nagaland. Lastly should be noted some ethnic groups who are dispersed amongst other peoples of the Assam plains, particularly the plains Bodos.

At present the minor peoples of Assam are encouraged to develop their culture and economy. Their active participation in the struggle for national autonomy, and in the discussion concerning the problem of the official language of Assam testifies to the growth of their political activity and ethnic consciousness.

M. K. Kudryavtsev

Anthropological survey of India

In carrying out socio-economic and cultural reforms in such a multinational country as India, the Government is grappling with a variety of problems that require a scientific solution. A special scientific body — the Anthropological Survey of India (ASI) — acts as an adviser to the Government and various organisations. During his sojourn in India the author has got acquainted with the structure and work of this body. The ASI has its headquarters in Calcutta and four regional stations in various regions: the Central Indian Station in Nagpur, the Couth Indian Station in Mysore, the Assam Station in Shillong and the Andaman Station in Port-Blair. The ASI has competent specialists, laboratories, museums and extensive libraries and conducts research in physical anthropology, ethnography, sociology, linguistics, folk-lore, and the arts of the so-called Scheduled Tribes and castes. Results of field, laboratory and

theoretical studies are published in the form of monographs and articles in the «Bulletin of the Anthropological Survey of India» and other periodicals. The Central Government, the state governments and many organisations take an interest in these researches regularly consulting with the ASI when they have to prepare bills and carry out practical measures in the fields of economy, public education, and health of the various peoples of India. The head of the ASI is an *ex officio* adviser to the Government on questions relating to social anthropology. All this testifies to the important role which this science plays in India.

M. K. Kudryavtsev

Dr. Verrier Elwin

Dr. Verrier Elwin (1902—1964) greatly contributed to the development of Indian anthropological science. An Englishman by origin he spent a greater part of his life in India, living and working in the very midst of the aboriginal population of Central and Eastern India. Dr. Elwin wrote more than 20 large monographs and many articles on ethnography, folklore, popular art and religious beliefs of many peoples and tribes. For the most part he was a field explorer. His works are noted for the original presentation of material, deep penetration into the internal world of the peoples he studied, sympathy for these peoples and an ardent desire to help them. After he acquired Indian citizenship in 1945, he was appointed in the post of a government adviser to the questions concerning the tribes of the North-Eastern Frontier Agency. His death in 1964 was a grave loss both for Indian ethnographic science, and for the Government whom he consulted for many years.

I. P. Trufanov

### External migration of the Indian population

The emigration of Indians which assumed a large scale in the 1830's has so far been little studied by Soviet scientists. The author tries to outline in this paper the general features of these migrations considering socio-economic conditions peculiar both to India in the colonial period (general economic decline, the break-up of rural communities, dispossession of land, degradation of handicrafts, etc.) and to the countries which attracted Indian immigrants (abolition of slavery in British colonies, the resultant acute shortage of cheap labour, etc.). Attention is paid to the methods of recruiting Indian migrants. The forms of Indian overseas migrations varied but as it is shown by the author the recruiting has always been undertaken in the interests of capitalist entrepreneurs who exploited Indian labourers.

At present Indians constitute a majority or a sizable part of the local population in a number of countries: Mauritius, Guiana, Ceylon, Malaysia, etc. In these countries Indians are socially heterogeneous, but the bulk of them is made up of the working people. The author shows the large contribution made by the Indian immigrants to the economic development of some countries where they constitute a basic labour force in some industries and agriculture. Indians overseas resist the assimilation with the indigenous population. Usually they form separate communities

and retain their specific religion and cultural traditions. In some countries the problem of the citizenship of Indians is now quite acute. To solve it, it is necessary to display a sober and comprehensive approach taking into account both the interests of Indians and the interests of other groups of population.

Y. V. Maretin

### The Indian influences on the Balinese culture

In most works, scholarly and popular, the island of Bali is being referred to as a stronghold of Hinduism, and its culture is regarded either as Hinduist, or Hinduist-Balinese, or Indo-Balinese. Far from denying the immense importance of Indian influences on the formation of the Balinese culture, the author pays attention to another aspect of this problem and tries to reveal the extent of originality of the Balinese culture. He describes the characteristic features of this culture and seeks to prove that the so-called Indo-Balinese culture is an essentially Balinese one though it adopted some elements of the Indian culture, mainly in the sphere of religion. The problem of Indian influences is viewed on the background of the general problem of Indian influences on the Indonesian culture. To confirm his propositions, the author discusses the book *The Island of Bali* (Moscow, 1964) by the Soviet expert on Indonesia L. M. Dyomin, and other sources, and argues that the culture of Bali is not an Indo-Balinese but a quite original one. The analysis of Hinduism on Bali shows that by and large it is made up of animism and ancestor worship with features characteristic for most of the peoples of Indonesia, and that only the philosophico-dogmatic principles, and partly the pantheon were borrowed from Hinduism. The author suggests that the religion of the Balinese should be called Balinese Hinduism.

The indigenous nature of Balinese culture may be proved by an analysis of the material culture of the local population: their tools, abode, clothing, etc. The originality of this culture is traced in the arts as well, despite the presence of a strong Indian stream. In all these spheres the Balinese demonstrate their affinity with the kindred peoples of Indonesia. It is the same with social organisation, with the exception of the castes which are in fact the transformed Indian varnas. However, recent researches by some scholars (first of all C. Hooykaas, and S. A. Maretina) show that these varnas embrace very small proportion of the people and do not play any functional role in the Balinese society.

The study of Balinese culture enables indologists to ascertain how Indian culture spread among other peoples, which of its elements were borrowed, how and to what extent these elements were transformed in new environment. The author insists on the thesis that the culture of a people is the result of its own development though it can be enriched by external influences.

A. D. Dridzo

### First monograph on the East Indians of Trinidad

*East Indians in Trinidad. A study of cultural persistence* (New York and London, 1961) by Morton Klass is the first book devoted to this ethnic group of the island's population. Based on the author's field

investigations, the book contains a comprehensive and detailed description of an East Indian village. Morton Klass is the first scholar to have shed light on many aspects of the way of life and culture of the Trinidad Indians. It would be no exaggeration to say that it is no longer possible to study the ethnography of Trinidad without recourse to the monograph under review. Nevertheless it should be noted that the book does not lack some shortcomings. First of all the reviewer refers to the section on history, which is too brief and contains some factual errors. A much broader presentation of the island's political life is also needed. However, as a whole, the book is interesting and useful.

L. I. Bonifatieva

### Determining India's urbanisation level

The proportion of the urban population in a country's total population is usually regarded as an indicator of the level of urbanisation. In terms of this criterion India ranks among the less urbanised countries of the world. In 1961, only 18 per cent of her total population lived in towns. Such a small percentage reflects certain specific features of India's urbanisation connected with the relatively slow development of her productive forces.

However, this indicator alone is obviously inadequate for determining the level of India's urbanisation because it is a country with a very large population. Therefore it is necessary in this case to take into account both the share of the urban population and its absolute size. In 1961, India had an urban population of 79 million being surpassed only by the United States, the USSR, and China. The great size of urban population makes the urbanisation process in India especially important from economic point of view. It is also necessary to take into account another indicator, namely the degree of the development of large cities. In this respect India has reached the level of the highly urbanised countries. In the first 60 years of this century the population of the large cities (i. e. towns with population of 100,000 and over) increased five times while the total urban population increased three times. At the beginning of this century large cities accounted for less than one-fourth of India's urban population. At present almost half of the town-dwellers are concentrated in such cities. As for the number of the biggest cities with population of more than one million each and for their aggregate population, India stands to the same rank as Great Britain or Japan. Thus, according to the author, while determining the level of India's urbanisation it is necessary to take into account various indicators.

G. V. S d a s y u k

### Industrialisation and the formation of economic regions in India

Although India is chiefly an agrarian country, industrialisation, especially the development of heavy industry, has become a most dynamic factor influencing the entire national economy and the formation of economic regions. The author discusses the trends of development and the distribution of the leading branches of heavy industry in the post-Inde-

pendence period, such as the electric power production, the iron and steel industry, the non-ferrous metal industry, the engineering, the chemical industry, etc. Industrialisation modifies and accelerates the formation of major economic regions. The most developed maritime territories which gravitate towards the largest sea ports (the North-East region with Calcutta as its main economic centre, the Western region with Bombay and the Southern region with Madras) are gradually becoming full-fledged economic regions. The development of heavy industry makes up the missing links in the older production cycles connected with the processing of agricultural raw materials. The whole economic structure undergoes changes, new production cycles make their appearance. In the colonial period, the regional specialisation was determined chiefly by the unequal division of labour between the colony and the metropolitan country. Now the importance of the industries supplying the home market is ever growing. The regional power grids play the role of an important region-forming factor that consolidates the economic unity of the regions. The process of rapid growth of capitalism is increasingly accompanied by an accelerated economic development of the backward and remote areas of the country. In these areas rich in minerals, power and timber resources, new industrial centres are growing, and they become nuclei of new industrial-territorial complexes. The active participation of the state in the development of heavy industries exerts a great influence on India's economic progress, on change in the spatial distribution of productive forces, and on formation of economic regions.

V. A. Pulyarkin

#### Natural conditions and agriculture in the Kashmir Valley

The author characterises the natural factors influencing the geography of agricultural production in the Kashmir Valley. The main spatial differentiations of the agriculture and of the animal husbandry of the region are associated both with climatic variations at different altitudes, and with the three major elements of the relief (alluvial plain, old terraces, and mountain slopes) at different hypsometric levels. The socio-economic factors, such as feudal survivals in the agricultural economy, low productivity of peasant farms, the poor communications with other regions, etc., also play an important role. The low development of the territorial division of labour, undiversified structure of agriculture and the weak interconnections between branches of economy account for the inadequate utilisation of natural resources. Yet the agrarian reforms carried out in the Valley after India gained independence have opened wide vistas for the advance of agricultural production in Kashmir.

R. R. Orbeli

#### The history of Raphael Danibegov's «Journey to India»

*A Journey to India* written by the Georgian traveller Raphael Danibegov (Danibegashvili) is known only in the Russian translation published in Moscow in 1815. The original manuscript in Georgian has not so far been discovered. Prior to the publication of this work R. Danibegov twice visited India with a diplomatic mission. Besides India where he



lived for many years he also visited Turkey, Burma, Tibet, Sinkiang and Siberia. He went on his first trip which lasted for three years, in 1795; the second trip took place from 1799 to 1813. On his return he stayed in Moscow where he wrote his book.

An analysis of the book on the background of Danibegov's biography shows that it is not a travelling diary polished by the writer, nor autobiographic memoirs, but a literary work specially prepared for publication. The book produces an impression that its author travelled according to an itinerary. However, the route fixed in the book is a fictitious itinerary which does not correspond to the real chronological sequence of Danibegov's travels in India. The book is written in the form of the itinerary of one trip but in actual fact the author used the materials relating to the two trips. Moreover, Danibegov mentions neither any date (except the beginning of his journey in 1795) nor the duration of his sojourn in different places. This may be explained by the fact that the text for translation into Russian had been prepared by Danibegov with a view to provide information on India and the countries contiguous to it for the Russian commercial circles, but for some reasons he decided to conceal the true purposes of his trips and his long sojourn in India. The form of itinerary aptly coincided with his interests and intentions.

Danibegov's notes were based on his own observations and first-hand data. It is unlikely that the book was written from his memory. He seemed to have made notes which he used subsequently. It is possible that the lost Georgian manuscript was more lengthy, and Danibegov's book was an abridged version. The literary polishing broke up the chronological sequence and exactness of the author's observations and distorted the actual facts from his biography. Nevertheless, *A Journey to India* contains much interesting data and is worthy of the attention of historians.

#### V. V. P e r z m a k h e r

##### Russian seamen in India in the 1760's (from archive materials)

The article written on the basis of unpublished archive materials (log books, summaries of log books, reports, financial accounts, etc.) deals with the visits paid by Russian sailors to India in the 1760's when they underwent training on British ships. Lieutenant Nikolai Tulubiev and midshipman Fyodor Dubasov visited Bombay, Surat, and other ports on the Western seaboard of India. Dubasov's log book gives a detailed description of these cities and contains interesting data on the Indian economy and way of life. Midshipmen Prokhor Alisov and Ivan Salmanov made valuable notes about Madras and Calcutta and about the anti-British insurrection in Bengal in 1763—64. The log book of midshipman Nikifor Poluboyarinov contains beautifully drawn views of the Indian coast. In the log book of sub-lieutenant Timofei Kozlyaninov some ports of Southern India are described. The navigation and hydrographic data of the Indian Ocean collected by the sailors were of value for seafarers. The above mentioned materials found in archives testify to a considerable contribution made by Russian sailors to the study of India and the Indian Ocean.

T. V. Grek

Portrayal of Kabir  
in Indian miniatures of the 17th-century Mogul school

The author makes a stylistical analysis of all known miniatures of the Mogul school portraying Kabir, the outstanding Indian poet of the second half of the 15th and early 16th centuries. As all the portraits painted in the 17th century reproduce the same image, the author believes that an earlier original existed. These miniatures are also of interest because they shed some light on the Bhakti religious reformation movement which played an important role in the social life of the Mogul Empire. Kabir's portraits, and the scenes showing visits of the Mogul aristocracy to the poet tell of the spread of his ideas at the Mogul court, apparently among Muslim intellectuals.

A. N. Zelinsky

Academician Th. I. Stcherbatsky and  
some problems of the cultural history of the Kushans

The principal change in the theoretical foundation of Buddhism during the Kushan epoch consisted in the elaboration of an entirely new conception of Nirvana, which holds central place in the Buddhist teaching on salvation. If in the early Hinayana Buddhism of the 5th — 1st century B. C., Nirvana meant a suppression of all vital processes (nirodha), a complete destruction of the personality in what can conditionally be called «absolute nothingness», in the later Mahayana Buddhism the concept of Nirvana merged with the concept of the Buddha as the «absolute completeness» of being (Dharma-kaya) and as the source of great compassion (mahakaruna) and love for people. Once a Teacher, the founder of Buddhism became a Saviour, and was thus endowed with a new, superhuman, godlike aspect. The new theory declared the infinite turnover of the elements of being (dharma), including the world of human passions and sufferings (samsara), illusory and «void» (sunyata) and was not considered as an antithesis to Nirvana as was the case in the Hinayana teaching. On the contrary, faith in the supernatural power and knowledge of Buddha destroyed the very illusion of a manifestation of the world, and also the difference between samsara and nirvana according to the formula: samsara-sunyata-nirvana-dharma-kaya. Thus, the change in the philosophical view, expressed in the recognition of the illusoriness of the world went hand in hand with the emergence of a theological conception that was entirely alien to former Buddhism and differed radically from all other Indian religious and philosophical systems. Comparing the change in Buddhist practice under the Kushans with the changes in its theory and taking into account the role of the Kushan rulers, who supported the new trend in Buddhism politically, the author concludes that we are here faced with a complex process in which the Kushans played a decisive role creating the optimal conditions for the development and spread of Mahayana Buddhism in Asia.

A. N. Zelinsky

### Roerich monument in Moscow

A monument to George N. Roerich, the outstanding Russian orientalist who spent many years in India and made a great contribution to the strengthening of friendly ties between the Soviet Union and India, was opened in the Novo-Devichy Cemetery in Moscow on August 17, 1965. The author outlines briefly the biography of Roerich, points to the landmarks in his cultural and social activities, and describes some aspects of his scientific work associated with the cultural history of the peoples of India and Central Asia. He emphasises Roerich's role as an outstanding traveller and specialist in the history of Russo-Indian cultural relations.

V. V. Petrov

### From Ancient Rajputana to present-day Rajasthan

The author reviews a new monograph in the series devoted to major regions of India, that has been prepared by workers from the Department of the Geography of the capitalist and the developing countries, in the Institute of Geography of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. The monograph *From Ancient Rajputana to Present-Day Rajasthan* was written by L. A. Knyazhinskaya and published in 1965 by the Central Department of Oriental Literature, Nauka Publishing House. The reviewer gives a high appraisal of Knyazhinskaya's study.

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G. V. Sdasyuk

### Geographical problems of the overcoming of regional imbalances in India's economic development

The task of a «balanced regional development» is a core consideration in the development plans of many former colonies and dependent countries. The attainment of economic self-reliance by the developing countries is linked with the transformation of the colonial type of the

sectoral and spatial structures of their economy. The latter is characterized by highly uneven pattern. Regional disparities in social-economic development levels, urban systems and in the stages of region formation process in India are analysed and differences in problems and prospects faced by different regions are stressed. There are limited possibilities to disperse heavy industrial projects. To provide all the backward areas with social infrastructure the mobilization of a country's financial resources is required. The concentration of production is one of the ways of such mobilization. Elaboration of rational balances between concentration and decentralisation of production region-wise during different stages of development is of extreme importance in applied geography as well as in theoretical research.

### V. A. Pulyarkin

#### Natural factors and boundaries of agricultural regions in India

Food crops in India, and most important of them — grains are usually grown far beyond the boundaries of areas with natural conditions most favourable for their cultivation. As for industrial crops, the tendency of their concentration only in regions with optimal conditions is far more pronounced. Cash crops which are produced for export and which should correspond to a world standard of cost and quality have been particularly vulnerable to the pattern of natural conditions. When the production of a crop is oriented to the home market, the areal distribution of that crop depends to a great extent on the comparative advantage of various crops. Therefore, the boundaries of the distribution of the home-market oriented industrial crops are mainly represented not by the critical boundaries resulting from the extremal characteristics of natural conditions (as in the case of grains) but by the boundaries of the equilibrium of different crops.

Thus, the joint effect of several components of natural conditions as well as the impact predominantly exerted by only one of these components influence the localisation of the boundaries of agricultural regions in India. Most important is the role of climatic conditions, namely the amount of precipitation. The winter temperature is also important. At the same time, the distribution of individual crops is closely associated with the crop-pattern characteristic for a certain region as well as for India as a whole, or, in other words, depends on economic factors.

### A. M. Ryabchikov and V. A. Nikolayev

#### Landscapes of the Chota Nagpur Plateau and West Bengal Plain

The characteristics of the landscapes is based on the authors' personal observations. Three peneplanation stages are distinguished on the Chota Nagpur Plateau: 900 m — 1,000 m level — Mesozoic-Paleocene, represented by outliers, or *pats*, 500 m — 700 m level — Oligocene-Miocene, forming the major part of the Plateau, and 150 m — 300 m level — Lower-Quaternary. These surfaces are armoured by lateritic crusts of various ages and thicknesses. A soil section characteristic for the locality situated 30 km south of Ranchi is described, and a table of the analyses of these soils is given. Four landscape types are singled out in this

region and the different ways in which they are used by man are shown: (1) The Chota Nagpur Plateau proper, (2) The marginal belt of the Chota Nagpur erosional low-mountain plateau, (3) Pediment (the western part of the Bengal Plain), and (4) The Bengal alluvial plain.

L. A. Knyazhinskaya

### Growth of population and food problem in India

This paper is a preliminary account of some field observations, sample surveys and personal impressions of the author in her half-year trip to India in 1966—1967. In the first part of the paper a general description of the India's chronic food deficit which in 1966—67 turned into the most acute crisis, is given. This continuing shortage is due to the increasing food demand as a result of the high natural growth of population and some changes in its composition, on the one hand, and the stagnation of agriculture worsened by the recent severe draughts, on the other. The statistical comparison between the rate of population growth and foodgrain production after independence confirms the conclusion about the further worsening of the present low level of per capita consumption which is insufficient for the reproduction of the working force of the nation. The second part of the paper deals with some bourgeois theories for the solution of the «food-population» problem. The author analyses here the two most common for India approaches, which she defines as: (1) demographical determinism and (2) agrotechnological reformism.

The third part deals with various aspects of the «family planning programme» in India, considering it as a progressive measure from the social-hygienic point of view, which is, however, unscientifically treated by some scientists and politicians as a panacea for all ills. The forecast for growth of population in the next two decades is given and the amount of its future food requirement is evaluated. The author stresses that even if birth rate is to some extent slowed down, the huge amount of future food requirements will necessitate the mobilisation of all domestic resources. The last part of the paper contains an analysis of two possible ways of the mobilisation of the country's food resources, viz.: 1) the reclamation of new virgin lands (under the conditions of the active participation of public sector), and 2) the introduction of intensive methods of agriculture.

P. Sen Gupta

### Some characteristics of internal migration in India

In India the proportion of migrants to the total population has remained steady since 1901, but the decennial growth-rate of migrants has been usually faster than that of population in all intercensal periods except for 1931 and 1951. The short-range migrations (within the State boundary) are more intense than the long-range migrations (across the State boundary). Mobility within the State boundary shows the pre-dominance of movements from rural to rural areas, while the movement across the State boundary is pre-eminently from rural to urban areas. The over-

all migratory movements in India still show the characteristic migration-pattern of underdeveloped countries. A considerable amount of mobility is still from rural areas into rural employments.

There has been a heavy in-migration of population to the five States — West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Assam and the Union Territory of Delhi. Except for Assam immigration to these States has been stimulated by the progress in urbanization and industrialization. Outflows exceed inflows in nine States, of which Uttar Pradesh ranks first with Bihar, a close second followed by Madras, Punjab, Kerala etc. The net balance in outmigration is maximum in the Ganga Plain, the most densely populated and overwhelmingly rural part in the country. In intensity of net outmigration, the densely populated Kerala state ranks first. Prior to partition the movement of population in India was lopsided; an overwhelming proportion of the migrants moved towards East. In postpartition period the progress in industrialization and urbanization has stimulated the mobility of population in various directions. The maximum flow of population was, however, towards East and West where lie Calcutta and Bombay, the major industrial magnets of the country.

### L. I. Bonifatieva

#### The regional differences in urbanisation of India

There are many specific peculiarities in the process of urbanisation in different regions of India. Proceeding from Indian statistics one can select a group of principal indicators capable of bringing out the regional features of urbanisation. Among those indicators are the share of urban dwellers in the total population, the absolute size of the urban population, and the level of development of the cities. The development of urbanisation exerts a substantial influence on the occupational pattern of the active population. Non-agricultural, «urban» sectors: manufacturing industry, construction, transport and trade services are coming to the fore, located chiefly in towns but gradually becoming widespread also in the countryside which is being increasingly subjected to diverse urban influences.

Different social indicators can be used for determining the level of urbanisation. The process of urbanisation is directly linked with the migration of the population. One can use such an indirect indicator of the size of migration as the sex ratio. The larger the migration the bigger the numerical preponderance of men. Among the indirect indicators of urbanisation may be considered the level of literacy. The analysis of the above mentioned indicators allows to determine the two most urbanised regions. The first of them comprises the northern part of the country (the states of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and the territory of Delhi). The second region includes the states in the South and West (the states of Madras, Mysore, Maharashtra and Gujarat). Regional differences in urbanisation depend on the level of economic development and national, cultural, religious, and historical peculiarities. The influence of natural conditions is also rather important.

Languages of India and the role of the Census in the study  
of the linguistic situation in the country

Languages of India are quite numerous and belong to four distinct language families, viz., the Austro-Asiatic, Dravidian, Sino-Tibetan and the Indo-European. Independent India, ever since 1947 has been tackling the emerging socio-cultural problems which had their origin in linguistic diversity of the country. The question of spreading education among the masses, devising suitable language instructional media, and development of official and link languages of the country have been engaging the attention of the government. Therefore it is necessary that basic data on the languages of the country should be made available. This data should be of three kinds, one, correct figures for all the languages speakers, secondly, technical information on the language structure of India and thirdly, informations on the socio-cultural aspects of the particular language speakers including the use and functions of different languages current in the country.

The history of the Indian Census has shown that only through the agency of Census India has been able to collect most of the linguistic informations of this country. Ever since 1881 the Indian Census has been instrumental in supplying information on the languages and the strength of different languages speakers. In the 1961 Census once again work on language census was done on an elaborate scale, and comprehensive scrutiny of Census data was conducted. The results of the same were published in 1964 through the widely acclaimed publication which is entitled as «Census of India 1961, Vol. I, Part II C(ii). Language Tables». In addition, the Census Organisation took up further programmes of linguistic survey in specified areas and made further progress in the field of linguistic knowledge by collecting more field data so that these informations may be used in filling the gaps of knowledge by the time the 1971 Census again comes up.

During the 1971 Census, the Census Organization proposes to continue language work on a more comprehensive scale. Efforts will be made to prepare the language census report in such a way that no language may remain «unclassified». Further care will be taken to gather more detailed information on linguistically difficult areas like Himalayan, Pahari, Kuki, NEFA, Gondi etc. Further efforts are proposed to be made to analyse and tabulate subsidiary languages data of the 1971 Census more meaningfully. This bilingualism data is further proposed to be supplemented by language situational studies in each of the states and union territories so that the use and functions of important languages in the specific areas of multi-lingual character could be suitably determined.

A. M. Dyakov and I. V. Sakharov

Some characteristics of ethnolinguistic statistics of India  
(the review of language tables of 1961 Census)

The Indian demographic and social statistics do not provide any data on nationalities or ethnic groups (with the single exception of the so-called Scheduled Tribes). Therefore, the data on languages is used as

the main source of information on the national (ethnic) composition of India's population. Such data is collected during population censuses, and the statistical publications of the Census Organisation (i. e. the Office of the Registrar General, India) represent the main source of information on this matter. The paper contains a detailed analysis of the 1961 Census volume specially devoted to the languages spoken in India («Census of India 1961. Vol. I. India. Part II-C(ii). Language tables». With an Introductory Note on Classification by R. C. Nigam, Linguist, Office of the Registrar General, India. [Edited by] A. Mitra. Delhi, 1964. VI, CCXLIV, 534 pp., 9 maps). It is pointed out that as a source of information on the language situation in India, the 1961 Census is in many respects much superior to the previous ones. This Census was more thoroughly prepared and was conducted on a much wider scale than that of 1951. The 1961 Census returns have been much more thoroughly processed and rationalised (for example, for systematizing and grouping of the primary linguistic data, use was made of a new and generally improved, though sometimes unnecessarily simplified classification of languages elaborated by R. C. Nigam) and are on the whole notable for higher trustworthiness, reliability and accuracy.

At the same time, the volume under review is not free from some deficiencies. Criticism is levelled, in particular, at the basic structure of the volume, and at its contents such as the absence of a unifying principle in the grouping of material, the insufficiency of the information on mother tongues when compared to languages, etc. The methods of presentation of the linguostatistical material from the viewpoint of the requirements of spatial interpretation (the incompleteness of data for districts, and almost total absence of maps) are also criticised. The authors propose some suggestions for improving the structure and methods of presentation of statistical material which could be used in the preparation of the analogous volume (or volumes) of the 1971 Census.

However, the All-India language volume of the 1961 Census should be considered a great success on the part of the Office of the Registrar General, as it is the result of a great deal of painstaking work that brought valuable results, and due credit should be given to R. C. Nigam and his colleagues (Dr. M. R. Ranganatha and others) who spared no efforts in carrying out this Herculean task. Thus, the authors conclude their paper with the following words by Asok Mitra on the volume: "In fact it is a matter of great pride that so much should have been done in so many directions by so few in so short time with such devotion and dedication".

A. M. Dyakov and I. V. Sakharov

Linguistic composition of India's population (a brief regional survey of the 1961 Census' data)

The linguostatistical data of the Indian Censuses provide the most valuable materials for the study of national question in India, and their importance can scarcely be overestimated. However, although many years have elapsed since the language data collected during the 1961 Census has been published, this material has, strange to say, not yet been properly and adequately discussed (at least, from the ethnolinguogeographical point of view) in academic literature both in India and abroad. Using the data published in the All-India language volume of the 1961 Census,



the authors analyse in detail the linguistic make-up of the population of India as a whole and of her states and union territories, and in a condensed and generalised form give a rich reference data relating to the size and distribution of Indian peoples speaking different languages.

B. K. Roy Burman

Some characteristics of the distribution of the  
Scheduled Tribes in India

The first part of the paper deals with the pattern of distribution of the tribal people by states, districts, and territorial units of lower order. The statewise statistical data give the impression that the tribals constitute only a small proportion of the population almost throughout of India. The author points to the fact that the data by such lower administrative units as talukas and their equivalents give much more reliable and meaningful information. They show that there are 287 units of lower order than districts where the Scheduled Tribes make up more than half of the local population, and that almost a half of India's tribal people live in the territorial units where they are the majority people. This is of great significance for the cultural orientation of the Scheduled Tribes and for formulation of strategies of their social and economic development.

In the second part of the paper it is noticed that the main regions of the concentration of the tribal people in India are located in the contact territories where two or more national regions populated by other peoples border on each other. The author suggests that the survival of some «pockets» of tribal concentration in the border areas is not due to the tribals' isolation from the neighbouring peoples; on the contrary, it was facilitated by the fact that some of the tribes played a specific role either as *bridge* communities (e. g., the Totos between the Bhutias and the Koches) or as *buffer* communities (e. g., the Kukis between the Mizos and the Nagas). In such cases the political and economic interests of those dominant peoples between which these tribes were placed contributed to the stability of the ethnic identity of these tribes. As in the past India was divided into a large number of princely states, and correspondingly there were much more border areas in the country than now, many tribes, as B. K. Roy Burman suggests, were likely to have played the roles of «bridges» and «buffers», and it would be of great interest to examine the location of the existing pockets of tribal concentration with reference to the political boundaries of different kingdoms at different periods of India's history. It is quite possible that many of the Scheduled Tribes could preserve their separate culture, not because they were isolated, but because they had to maintain a special type of contact or they had to perform a special role.

The author comes to the conclusion that the views expressed by some people, that the tribals are bound to gradually shed their distinctive traits in the near future, as they live very much interspersed with other peoples, are not always based on a realistic appraisal of the situation. He maintains that the pockets of tribal concentration are more likely to function as the areas of regeneration of tribal socio-cultural and political aspirations in the present day context of democratisation of national life.

On the languages as the media of education in the schools  
for the Scheduled Tribes in India

The paper is devoted to one of the important social problem of contemporary India, viz., the cultural development of ethnic minorities, particularly of those belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. This group of India's population comprises over 200 ethnic communities with a total population of 30 million. To help these peoples overcome their economic and cultural backwardness, special government and social organisations have been set up. A lot has already been done in combating illiteracy among the tribals. Several tribal communities have now abandoned the nomadic life and turned to agricultural cultivation, while others have been attracted by industry. However, much still remains to be done. The author having acquainted himself with rural and urban schools for many of these peoples tells of his impressions of the effect of elementary education amongst the various tribes in the context of their ethnic and linguistic peculiarities. The greatest effect is achieved in those areas where instruction is given in the native language which is at the same time the language of the majority of the population (for example, the Khasis of Assam). A lower effect is obtained when instruction is given not in the native language of the respective Scheduled Tribe but in the language of the surrounding peoples (the Hindi schools for the Mundas and the Orzons in the Ranchi region). In those areas where instruction is given in some third language (the schools for the Birhors and the Asurs in South Bihar, in the Munda linguistic environment with the instruction in Hindi) that is of no use to them in their daily life, the effect is practically insignificant. Those who receive their elementary education in this way are forced to make use of it in some other regions. The author comes to the conclusion that the unification of all these peoples in the one category of the Scheduled Tribes and the attempt to work out one approach to such different tribes as the Birhors and the Khasis, is unjustifiable, at least as far as education is concerned. The approach should be more differentiated in this case.

S. A. Maretina

The ethnic composition of Nagaland's population

The numerous tribes (with the combined numerical strength of 360,000) which are known as Nagas make up the bulk of the population of Nagaland, the state lying in the north-east of India. Being long isolated from the rest of India in almost inaccessible hills and facing constant local migrations of people and resettlement of tribes, the Nagas have developed a peculiar way of life and an original culture. The existence of many languages and dialects is a factor that hinders the consolidation of the Nagas into one nationality. They practice hoe cultivation and retain many institutions of the patrician in their social organisation. So far the Nagas have not been systematically studied.

The main tribes of Nagaland (from South to North and then to North-East) are as follows: the Kachhas (very poorly studied); the Angamis, one of the largest and most consolidated tribes; the Rengmas who are kindred to the Angamis; the Semas who differ from most Nagas due to the reten-

tion of strong hereditary chiefs; the Lhotas who preserve their communal way of life to a great extent; the Ao tribe whose characteristic features are collective administration and a developed system of age classes. The smaller tribes include the Sangtams, Yachumis, Changs, Phoms, Kalyo-Kengyus, etc, who are poorly investigated. The Konyaks are the largest tribe in the north-eastern part of Nagaland.

The last few decades in Naga history were very turbulent. Their struggle for autonomy was very long and was crowned by the setting up of their own State only in 1962. Notwithstanding serious complications, this young State scored some success in developing its own culture and raising the political consciousness of its people.

## B. P. Suprunovich

### Indian Tamils in Ceylon (The problem and its solution)

This article deals with the question of the place of the Indian Tamils in the economic and political life of Ceylon. The problem of Indian Tamils is considered in relation to Indo-Ceylon relations. Indian Tamils in Ceylon are persons born in India and their descendants. Although they produce a large part of the national income and an overwhelming part of the export production, most of them have no rights of citizenship, and are the most oppressed and exploited group of the population of the island. The immigration of Indians to Ceylon that began in the 1830's, was closely connected with the development of tea plantations. Only in the period between the censuses of 1871 and 1946 did the net immigration of Indians exceed one million, but it was greatly shortened after the world depression during the 1930's. In the 1950—60's emigration exceeded immigration. Nearly two thirds of the Indian Tamils were born in Ceylon. The great majority of them are employed in the tea gardens and concentrated in the plantation districts of the Central Highland.

Unsuccessful attempts to solve the problem of the Indians in Ceylon were undertaken as early as the pre-independence period. In 1947, 1953, and 1954 J. Nehru negotiated with the Prime Ministers of Ceylon. The Shastri-Bandaranayike agreement signed on October 30, 1964 envisaged some measures for the solution of the problem. In spite of some political and economical difficulties the agreement came into being. This agreement consolidates the legal status of the Indian Tamils and removes the main obstacle in the further improvement of the relations between India and Ceylon.

## I. M. Oransky

### On the ethnography of the Parya group speaking an Indian language (Hissar Valley, Soviet Central Asia)

The distribution, occupations, ethnographical peculiarities, and folklore of the Paryas, an ethnic group speaking an Indian language, that was recently discovered in Central Asia are discussed in the article. This small agricultural community migrated to the Hissar Valley from Afghanistan, however linguistic evidences and certain legends point to the fact that the starting point of their migration was one of the regions in North-Western India. Various names applied to the Parya group and its subdi-

visions are met with in the literature on the tribes and castes of the Punjab and North-West India. It is quite probable that this community is one of the offshoot groups of the Changars which were registered in Indian Censuses at the end of the last century. However, the final solution of the problem of to which ethnic and language group are the Paryas linked by descent perhaps will only be attained when some reliable data on the languages and ethnography of similar groups in North-Western India, Pakistan and Afghanistan are obtained.

G. L. Dmitriev

On the history of Indian settlements in Central Asia  
(the second half of the XIXth — the beginning of the XXth century)

This article deals with the life and activities of Indians who settled in the territory of Turkestan and Bukhara in the second half of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. It contains information on the factors responsible for the appearance of Indian settlements in Central Asia, on the size of the population of the settlements, the religions, castes and the social status of Indians. Drawing on archive materials and literature, the author characterises the internal life of the Indian settlements, their relations with the Russian colonial administrators and the Bukhara rulers, their activities in home and foreign trade, in capitalist enterprise, money-lending operations, etc. The article highlights the ethnographical characteristics of the Indians, their role in the history of cultural relations between the peoples of India and the peoples of Central Asia and Russia.

V. V. Perzmakher

Y. F. Lisiansky in India (1799)

This article deals with the voyage of the famous Russian naval explorer Y. F. Lisiansky to India in 1799. The unpublished diaries of Lisiansky used by the author contain a detailed description of the cities of Madras and Bombay. Y. F. Lisiansky writes about the life and original culture of Indian people with great insight and deep respect. The information on the struggle of Mysore against the British, which is to be found in the diary is of considerable interest. The data on navigation and the hydrography of the Indian Ocean and in particular the directions concerning the navigation near the coasts of India and Ceylon were of great value. Lisiansky's records of his voyage to India show the Russian people's great interest in this country, its culture and its people. They also illustrate the fact that Russian navigators made a considerable contribution to the study of India and the Indian Ocean.

P. M. Dolukhanov

Palaeogeography of the Indian Stone Age

Extensive geological and geomorphological studies have proved the existence of four glacial phases in the Himalaya mountains and the Kashmir valley. There are many reasons for believing that these phases

were contemporaneous with the main glacial stages in Europe (Gunzian, Mindelian, Rissian and Wurmian). The earliest Stone Age remains in the Northern India (the Pre-Soan tools) are held to be synchronous with the second glacial phase. The evolution of the Soan chopper — chopping industries was taking place during the Middle and Upper Pleistocene age and only towards the end of the 4th glacial phase did the Middle Stone Age industries make their appearance. New investigations made by A. P. Khatri in the Narbada valley date the earliest pebble stage there (the Mahadevian industry) to the Mid Pleistocene Age. The evolution of the Chellean-Acheulian hand-axe complexes takes place during the Mid and Upper Pleistocene Ages. The appearance of the Series II industries is attributed to the final stage of the Upper Pleistocene Age. The comparison of India with Soviet Central Asia, on the one hand, and with Africa, on the other, reveals a striking similarity of these territories as far as Stone Age evolution is concerned. These areas make part of a hypothetical zone of the Emergence of Man. These areas are characterised by the existence of Pebble Cultures thought to be the earliest industries created by the tool-producing Hominidae. With the course of time the evolution of the Stone Age cultures in these areas takes a somewhat different pace when compared to the periglacial Europe and the Near East. Mostly due to environmental conditions neither Mousterian nor Upper Palaeolithic techniques of European type appear in these areas.

#### V. A. R a n o v

Soviet Central Asia and India during the Palaeolithic period  
(an attempt of comparison of the archaeological periodisations)

The author examines the periodisation of the Palaeolithic Age in Central Asia and India and compares the principal cultures of the period in these areas. In Central Asia the following Palaeolithic cultures can be distinguished: pebble cultures of the Soan type, and Levallois-Mousterian industries subdivided into several local types,— two variants of the upper Palaeolithic. In India this period can be divided as follows: Chelles-Acheul group in the South, and Soan group in the North. Then comes a scarcely studied Middle Stone Age that ends by the Late Stone Age connected with microliths of geometrical forms.

The resemblance between the Palaeolithic industries in these vast areas is primarily evident in the existence of special methods of chipping stones, methods different from those which could be met with in Europe and Africa. They can briefly be summed up in the following way: 1) The development of special techniques for the preparation of core and the production of chipped stones and tools by «pebble-techniques», 2) the broad use of the pebble-tools survives here, in contrast to Europe, until the final stage of the Palaeolithic Age, 3) a percentage correlation between Levalloisien and Tayacian-Clactonien flakes in India and Central Asia is different from that characteristic for Europe, and 4) the existence of «pebble-techniques» leads to the appearance of special forms of tools functionally identical but typologically different from European ones. The similarity between the remains of the Soan type and pebble-tools of Central Asia is beyond doubt. Judging by materials from the Sangao cave, the Levalloisien technical traditions developed late in the Soan stage and in the early stages of the other cultures of the Middle Stone Age in India. and this permits one to suppose the probable strong influence of the

Central Asia's Levalloiso-Mousterian culture upon the neighbouring territories including India. As to the Upper Palaeolithic, this stage is usually not distinguished in the periodisation of the Palaeolithic Age in India. According to the author, further researches will reveal a greater resemblance between the Upper Palaeolithic Age of Central Asia and the later part of the Middle Stone Age of India.

In conclusion, it is pointed out that Palaeolithic cultures of the territories under consideration developed in their own way. At the same time, there is no doubt that contiguous areas exerted a reciprocal influence on each other's development. However, this influence was stronger in certain periods and weaker in some others.

Indian Studies of the Oriental Commission  
of the Geographical Society of the USSR  
(Chronicle of Work, 1967—1971)

In this chronicle a complete enumeration of all the papers relating to India read at the Oriental Commission's meetings and at the conferences, sessions, etc., in which the Commission has actively participated is given. The dates of the meetings, the names of the speakers, and the titles of the papers are mentioned.

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Индия — страна и народ, книга 3 — настоящий том.  
India — land and people, Book 3 — the present volume.

I. V. Sakharov

Population of India: an analysis of the provisional  
results of the 1971 Census

In 1971 a Census has been successively conducted in India by the Census Organisation headed by A. Chandra Sekhar, the Registrar General of India. After giving a brief account of the Indian Census Organisation, the author analyses the provisional results of the 1971 Census of India as reflected in two publications recently issued from the Office of the Registrar General (Census of India 1971. Series I. India. Paper 1 of 1971. Provisional population Totals. New Delhi, 1971. 57 pp., maps; and Supplement, 230 pp., maps). In particular, the size and distribution of the population, its growth rate, density, sex ratio, and the extent of literacy are discussed. Special attention is paid in the paper to the demographic data concerning cities, i. e. towns with a population of 100,000 and over.

I. V. Sakharov

The ethnic geography of India: a brief sketch

Writing about India, the ethnologists, much like demographers, linguists, economists etc., usually disregard the geographical spatial approach. On the other hand, in geographical works on India, including even

those devoted to population geography, little attention, as a rule, is paid to the ethnic problems. As a result, the ethnic geography of this country remains up-to-now inadequately studied.

The investigation of the spatial aspect of the ethnic situation in present-day India is of great theoretical and practical importance. An attempt is made in this paper to describe briefly the ethnolinguistic situation in contemporary India from the viewpoint of ethnic geography. The first part is devoted to the study of the ethnolinguistic composition of India's population. The complex situation which is peculiar of Bihar, Hindustan and Rajasthan is discussed in greater detail. None of the censuses has so far been capable of showing the real ethnolinguistic diversity of this vast area (for which, according to the author, *the territorially continuous ethnic transitionality* is characteristic), and in order to help to overcome this data gap, the conducting of a special additional census or sample survey is suggested. In the second part of the paper the author analyses the ethnolinguistic Census statistics in spatial terms and establishes basic features of the ethnic geography of India. Two types of *intermediate* ethnic regions, the *mixed* and the *transitional* ones, are distinguished which differ from each other by the character of the interaction of the ethnic components of their population. The third part of the paper contains a study of the relationship between ethnic geography, on the one hand, and natural geographical environment, the politico-territorial division of the country, and her economic geography, on the other. In particular, the author deals with the remaining non-conformity of the existing administrative-territorial set-up of India to the ethnic pattern of her population. At the same time, the problem of the reverse influence which is exerted by the federal structure of India on the character and direction of ethnic processes and on the formation of ethnic regions and of their boundaries is analysed. The author briefly discusses India's inter-regional economic disparities in the context of ethnic geography, considers the relationship between the ethnic breakdown of the population, on the one hand, and its social and occupational structure, on the other, that are characteristic for some multi-national regions and cities, and examines the influence exerted by the ethnolinguistic composition of India's population upon the formation of economic regions in this country in the context of the existing federal structure, etc. In conclusion, the directions are traced in which, in the author's opinion, special ethnogeographic research should be undertaken.

G. V. S d a s y u k

Problems of economic regionalization and regional  
planning in India at the XXIst International Geographical  
Congress (New Delhi, 1968)

Problems of regionalization for planning in India were among the leading topics discussed at the XXIst International Geographical Congress In Delhi (December 1968). The paper contains a detailed account of these discussions. There are several concepts and hierarchy levels of regional systems developed so far: physiographic, resource-based, administrative, economic, integral, etc.; macro and micro approaches are used to study them. Economico-territorial «dualism» typical for the developing countries, and influence exerted by large public sector undertakings on the backward areas are among the most complicated issues dealt with. Mathematical

methods (factor analysis, component analysis, general field theory, etc.) are increasingly applied to delineate regions and to forecast trends in their development. The author comes to the conclusion that Indo-Soviet scientific co-operation in the field of geography was fruitful and proved applicability of the Soviet economic regionalization theory and methods to the specific conditions of India and the other «third world» countries.

L. I. Bonifatieva

#### The prospective growth of India's capital

The proportion of urban population in India is low (about 20 per cent in 1971). But at the same time there are few great conurbations in this country. Among them Delhi is to be noted the population of which has been increasing rapidly (1.4 million in 1951, 2.4 million in 1961, and 3.6 million in 1971). The preparation of a master development plan for Delhi has been undertaken. It embraces a special National Capital Region with an area of 52 thousand square kilometres and a population of 11.1 million in 1961. The towns in the National Capital Region are intended to develop in an integrated manner with Delhi, so that their planned expansion will not only help them to achieve a better economic and social base but also simultaneously to help Delhi to overcome some difficulties and problems to which it is subjected now.

T. B. Lahiri

#### Urban canvas of West Bengal

The paper deals with some peculiarities of the formation, modern state and perspective changes in urban pattern of the state of West Bengal against the background of its economic development. Two main urbanized areas are distinguished in West Bengal: the Calcutta — Hooghly and Asansol-Durgapur conurbations. Development of new towns is embarrassed due to high cost of infrastructure and due to great capital investments which are necessary for arranging new jobs in basic industries. The author maintains that it is necessary to intensify the rise of urban population and industrial development. According to the author, by 1981 the urban population would achieve about 20 million, with 3.2 million engaged in industries. So in agricultural areas the urban population may rise four or five times while in the industrial employment about eight — ten times, and in industrially developed areas about two times only. Despite this, the dominating position of the Calcutta Metropolitan District will remain both in urban network and in industrial development. The construction of Haldia New Port in the lower reach of the Hooghly river will fortify this.

B. P. Suprunovich

#### Rural migrations and changes in the geography of rural population in India

Rural migrations made certain alterations in the population geography of rural India during the XXth century. According to 1961 Census data, 108.8 mln of migrants were registered in rural areas.



and 19,7 mln of rural born people were registered in urban areas. The main regions of out-migration of the rural population include Bihar, eastern districts of Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and also Orissa, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and modern Punjab. The rural areas attracting in-migrants are Assam Valley and Tripura, the western districts of Mysore State, plantation region of West Bengal, the Himalayan districts of Kumaon division, Canganagar district in Rajasthan State etc. The author examines three main directions of rural migrations: 1) migrations of plantation labourers, 2) migrations of colonizing type for the purpose of developing land for cultivation, and 3) the resettlement of displaced persons in rural areas. Such migrations lead to settling of scarcely populated territories, creation of new agricultural areas, development of productive forces in agriculture in the regions of in-migration, at the same time relieving rural overpopulation and pressure on the land in the areas of old settlement. Rural migrations have contributed to the formation of plantation economy. They have acted to intensify the ethnic consolidation and ethnic interaction. In future rural migrations are most likely to occur between neighbouring areas due to the development of irrigation projects and reclamation of waste lands for agriculture.

V. A. Pulyarkin

#### Animal husbandry in the framework of India's traditional peasant farming

In traditional peasant farming in India cattle breeding is completely subordinated to the interest of crop cultivation. Cattle are primarily kept as draught animals and not for the products to be obtained from them. In these conditions the cow becomes merely the means by which the livestock is reproduced. Without rejecting conclusions on the bad state of animal husbandry in India, it must be recognized that these conclusions are often exaggerated because they are based on an European approach to the evaluation of cattle productivity. The problem of a fodder base is fundamental for any improvement in this branch in India. Its solution is complicated by the sharp seasonal variation in ensuring grazing land, by a constant reducing of the pasture area, and by worsening of grass cover. Only an intensification of agriculture can create the prerequisites for the development of specialised and effective animal husbandry.

S. A. Maretina

#### The formation of social strata and classes among the peoples of North-Eastern India

Among the hill peoples of N.-E. India the formation of a class society is a mostly complicated and uneven process. Among some of them (of the Bodo group) this process was going on at the beginning of the II millennium A. D. and was connected with the early-class units of these tribes. During that period the gradual transformation of the old clans into socially privileged groups and the establishment of a class society took place.

Other peoples that had not created their own states in medieval times evolved rather independently, without intensive contacts with the more

developed peoples of the surrounding plains. Among them the process of class-formation took place inside of the neighbour community and manifested itself in the stratification of the latter, firstly into social strata, and later into classes. This process progressed unevenly in different regions, and in some regions the equality in the community only began to break down towards the end of the XIXth century. Peculiar to this period is a more or less developed hierarchy of social groups which is a result of the transformation of the blood-related clans. Mostly the emergence of the social strata on the base of clans was connected with the problem of the elder and younger branches of clans, which originally had only prestigious meaning. As the primitive society had been converted into an early-class society, so this division into superior and inferior clans became the base for the rise of social inequality inside the community. The process led to the elevation of the noble clans and to the establishment of a clan hierarchy. The next step was the usurpation of the community lands by the ruling group, and this testifies to the beginning of the transformation of the social strata society into a class one.

At the beginning of the XXth century all the hill peoples received a new stimulus for the class-formation processes when commodity — money relations began to penetrate their territory. The impact of this factor which brought new forms of stratification became universal. If the intrinsic development of the process of social stratification was very specific, the influence of commodity — money relations acted in a levelling way, stimulating similar phenomena among different peoples and forcing all communities to follow the same pattern of development. The very character of stratification changed. The formation of social strata in the conditions of autochthon development did not necessarily mean property stratification. The social factor (that is the affiliation to a certain clan or strata) remained the leading one, and it was social position that provided the opportunity for economic privileges. On the contrary in modern conditions property stratification plays the leading role. It means that in a social body new relations of economic inequality evolve which sooner or later lead to the appearance of classes peculiar to the capitalised village. This process is primarily connected with the emergence of private landownership that itself leads to the breaking down of the equality principle in the community and to the gradual disintegration of this institution.

Modern trends resulted in a greater unevenness of development. Many of the peoples that previously occupied a lower level from the point of view of social development began to develop faster leaving behind their neighbours. The levelling influence of the new economic factors removes the specific forms of social stratification and gives way to the further property stratification and disintegration of the community.

#### D. A. Old er og ge

##### The Siddis, an ethnic group of African origin in India

It was only in the middle of the XIXth century that as a result of the research by R. F. Burton the existence of the Siddis, a minor ethnic group of African origin, came to light. However, for a long period of time this community remained unstudied. In 1969 Prof. R. K. Trivedi (India, Delhi University) published an ethnological description of the Siddis of

Gujarat, and in 1970 Prof. D. K. Bhattacharya presented an anthropological study of them.

Reporting the results of their investigations, the author gives a comparison of the Siddis and the Africans who had been brought to America and who lost their languages, accepted the manners and customs of the surrounding peoples but preserved their anthropological type and certain traits of culture: some of their cults and rites survived as well as the rhythm, melodies and musical instruments connected with them.

L. B. Alayev

Landless labourers in agriculture in the 19th century,  
North-Western Provinces of India

The paper is based on the Settlement and Revenue reports of 1816—1881 and Census reports of 1872 and 1881 on the districts of the contemporary state of Uttar Pradesh in India. The attempt is made to evaluate the percentage of landless labourers in agricultural population and the role of their labour in agriculture. Three ways of calculation are suggested: 1) through the interpretation of the Census data of 1872 and 1881; 2) through the summing-up of local figures from various districts; 3) through the counting of the lowest castes population which formed the main part of landless labourers, according to the 1881 Census report. The conclusion is that landless labourers constituted on the average 30% of agricultural population. In some places of Upper Doab landless labourers performed more than half of the total amount of agricultural labour. The author is of the opinion that these labourers were of medieval and even ancient origin, most of them were unconnected with the modern processes of pauperization of peasants and development of capitalist relations in agriculture. They were in a state of personal or collective dependence on the land-holders and constituted from a remote time an integral part of the Indian village community.

E. M. Medvedev

The towns of Northern India during the 6th—7th centuries  
(according to Hiuen Tsiang).

Drawing from the description of India by Hiuen Tsiang — a Buddhist pilgrim from China, the author shows the decline of the towns of North India in the 6th—7th centuries A. D. and at the same time points that this decline was characteristic not for all regions of India and took place in different areas for different reasons: in the North-Western part of the country it was brought on by the invasion of the Ephtalites, in the Himalayan belt it was connected with the historical backwardness of this area during the pre-Gupta period, in Magadha it was the result of destructive wars in the 6th and early 7th centuries. In other parts of India towns were flourishing and many could be distinguished by their large population, wealth and size. On this basis the author considers that in the majority of the areas of North India, and specifically in those which played a crucial role in the Middle Ages, town life and culture generally continued to develop. The author polemicalises with those indolo-

gists who see as absolute the naturalisation of the Indian economy in the 6th—7th centuries in connection with the development of feudalism. An attempt is also made in the paper to delimit the major cultural-economic zones in North India.

M. K. Kudryavtsev

### The Buddhist university in Nalanda

In ancient and medieval India there were many higher educational institutions of different types. In some of them, especially in those attached to one of the Buddhist monasteries, people could get not only general but specialised education as well. Such an institution was the famous Nalanda University which flourished in the VIIth—XIIth centuries. Thousands of monks and other people received education there in grammar, logic, mathematics, astronomy, medicine, etc. Nalanda was also the centre of research in various fields of science. Scholars of different schools and religions, from different parts of the country regularly assembled here to discuss scientific problems. Nalanda and other similar universities graduated highly qualified officials, teachers, physicians, and other specialists for the rulers of different states. Nalanda housed a very rich library with thousands of manuscripts in different languages. The manuscripts were not only read and studied but copied and translated into some other languages to be dispersed in India and other countries. Nalanda was a big international centre of education and science. Students from neighbouring as well as from remote countries, such as Tibet, Indo-China, Indonesia, China, etc., arrived in Nalanda. Scholars, for the most part Buddhists, for example, the famous Chinese pilgrims Hiuen-Tsiang and I-Tsing, came here to improve their knowledge.

Y. A. Zadneprovsky

### The protohistoric Ahar culture of South Rajasthan

One of the most important cultures of the post-Harappan period in India is the Ahar culture in South Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. It is represented by more than 50 sites which were thoroughly investigated by such well-known archaeologists as R. C. Agrawal, B. B. Lal, H. D. Sankalia, S. B. Deo, Z. D. Ansari and V. N. Misra.

A detailed report on the results of the excavations at Ahar by Sankalia, Deo, Ansari (1969) is the main source of scientific research on Ahar culture. The full description of stratigraphy, dwellings, and so on, the classification of the pottery discovered in these sites presents an important contribution to the protohistoric archaeology of India. However, critical analyses show that the subdividing of Ahar I period into 3 phases is not stratigraphically proven. This division into phases is insufficiently substantiated in published graphical documents.

Some contradictions and errors are noticeable in the study of the pottery of Ahar site. For example, the occurrence of about 40 sherds of Buff ware in phase Ia is not sufficient proof for making a separate sub-phase. There should be more substantive evidence for the distinction of cultural traits. Again the occurrence of some painted sherds and of lustrous red ware may only mean contact with Gujarat but not actually

a separate cultural sub-phase Ic. To sum up, there is a remarkable homogeneity in the pottery complex of Ahar I, which distinguishes it from other chalcolithic cultures of India.

The chronology of Ahar is based on a comparative study of its pottery and other finds, with those of Lothal and Rangpur and also on the carbon-14 dates of Ahar. It is highly significant that Kayatha has yielded evidence of an Ahar culture between the Kayatha cultural deposit and the Navdatoli (Malwa), thus providing us with a clear chronological picture. Despite the carbon-14 evidence for a date ranging from 2000 to 1200 B. C., D. P. Agrawal (1971) has shortened the chronology of Ahar by 400 years, i. e. from 2000 to 1600 B. C.

D. P. Agrawal and D. K. Chakrabarty have advanced different theories of the origin of Ahar culture. At present we can only presume that it is a product of three elements, namely, autochthonous, Harappan and foreign. Thus, in our present state of knowledge of the protohistory of India, the Ahar culture appears to be one of the earliest. All available evidence supports the opinion that the Ahar culture first appeared in a fully-developed state and seems to have been introduced into South Rajasthan from outside.

P. F. Belikov

#### Nicholas Roerich and India

This article concerns the close ties of the outstanding Russian artist Nicholas Roerich (1874—1947) with India. The author discusses N. Roerich's scientific, literary and artistic activities in India, his connections with Indian cultural and political personalities (Rabindranath Tagore, Jawaharlal Nehru, etc.), the latter's opinions about Roerich and his role in the cultural and scientific life of India.

The impact of some Indian philosophical systems on Roerich's world outlook, as well as the influence of Indian mythology on his art are also briefly analyzed.

A special place is given to Roerich's progressive anticolonial views, his contribution to the propaganda of Soviet achievements, his efforts to establish scientific and cultural contacts between India and the Soviet Union, and his patriotic activities during the Second World War.

T. V. Grek

#### The Mogol Miniatures of the XVIIth Century Depicting Scenes of the Court Receptions (Durbars): Comparative • Characteristics of Group Portraits

On the basis of a comparative analysis of official group portraits, it can be concluded that the early multi-figured compositions are a result of the artist's direct observation of reality, and his striving to adequately represent it. As early as the second decade of the XVII century, the official group portrait can be seen to be assuming representational characteristics. The characteristic peculiarity of these works is the inclusion of people who were absent or even dead at the time when the ceremony was depicted, but whose noteworthiness heightened the importance of the reception at the Court of the Shah. However, even here, in the

official (representative) portraits of the first thirty years of the XVIIIth century, one comes across traces of the artists' sober reflection of reality. In the third decade of the XVIIIth century, the representation of people in group portraits loses its documentary precision. They become rather generalised, sometimes idealised. The lush palace surroundings are of greater importance for the painter than people present at the reception. The people standing before the palace, only serve to enhance the might of the Shah, and often look like nothing more than a smart crowd.

A. P. Raskin

### Immigrants from India in the USA (1900—1946)

This article deals with the problem of immigration from India to the U.S.A. during the first half of the 20th century. The objects of study are the social structure and the direction of the Indian immigration stream, as well as the numerical strength, the principal occupations and the social and legal status of East Indian immigrants in America. Small groups of East Indians constituted mostly by the Sikhs settled chiefly in the Pacific States (Oregon, Washington and California). The majority of them were engaged in timber cutting, railway construction, and in the manufacturing industries. During the period preceding the First World War the East Indian workers shifted towards agriculture where they were employed mainly as hired labourers though some of them succeeded in setting themselves up as small independent farmers. Though not large in number, the immigrants from India contributed a great deal to the agriculture of the Pacific States as pioneers in the development of virgin and unused lands. They cultivated many valuable crops among which rice was of particular importance.

The author pays considerable attention to an analysis of the East Indian immigration and naturalization policy of the U.S.A. Even the first small groups of East Indians which arrived to the American Continent at the beginning of the 20th century were confronted with racist discrimination and became the object of persecution and badgering. The racist elements often started direct violence against the newcomers which resulted in such incidents as the merciless slaughter of 200 Indian wood-cutters in Billingham. The anti-Indian campaign was supported by official representatives of the United States Government. They came out with malicious attacks against the East Indians even in the US Congress. This resulted in a considerable diminishing of the immigration from India to this country in the years preceding the First World War. After the War the U.S. Government tried to exclude from American citizenship those East Indians that had been naturalized in previous years. The Third case offered a precedent which gave the US Government the possibility for the total prohibition of further immigration and naturalization of East Indians in this country. The revocation of this bill was obtained during the years of the Second World War as a result of the persistent struggle of the immigrants from India for their rights. The East Indians obtained the right for immigration within the limits of a small quota of 100 persons a year. This compromise may be partly explained by the growth of India's international importance during the years of the Second World War and also by new strategy in the foreign policy of the U.S.A.

## A. D. Dridzo

### The beginning of East Indian immigration to the West Indies

The introduction of indentured workers from India into the West Indies is connected with the abolition of slavery in the Antilles and the exodus of the ex-slaves from the plantations. The bulk of East Indians went to Trinidad and to British Guiana. During 1845—1917 (when this system was abolished) about 150,000 people came from India to Trinidad, and now East Indians compose about 40 per cent of the Island's population. For the most part, the early immigrants came not from the maritime provinces of India but from the inner parts of the country, mostly from the North-West Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) and Bihar. The majority of them spoke Hindi and related dialects as mother tongues and were Hindus by religion. There was a high percentage of the Brahmins among them (in some years up to 18 per cent); the members of low castes constituted only about 50 per cent of immigrants. The number of those belonging to artisans' castes was very small. Therefore the author concludes that economic motives for emigration from India were the strongest factor, and the caste affiliation played a relatively minor role.

## A. A. Dekhtyar

### The awarding of the Jawaharlal Nehru Prize to citizens of the USSR

In April 1967, in connection with the 20th anniversary of the establishing of diplomatic relations between India and the Soviet Union, the Indian Government decided to set up an annual Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Prize for Soviet scientists and artists who made a notable contribution to Indo-Soviet friendship. In order to award the Prize, a Committee was created in which representatives of both countries take part. The honorable presidents of the Committee are President of the Council of Ministers of the USSR A. N. Kosygin, and the Prime Minister of India Mrs. I. Gandhi. The article contains a brief information about the awarding of the Prize to Soviet writers, poets, journalists, artists, sculptors, composers, scientists, etc. The author points out that the awarding of the Nehru Prize has a great significance in the further development of friendly relations between the peoples of the USSR and India.

## V. V. Annenkov

### Indo-Soviet Monograph on the Economic Regionalisation of India

The author discusses the structure and content of the book «Economic Regionalization of India. Problems and approaches», New Delhi, 1968 (Census of India 1961. Monograph Series. Vol. I. Monograph № 8), written by late Dr. (Miss) Phulrani Sen Gupta (Head of the Geography and Cartography Department at the Office of the Registrar General, India) and by Dr. (Mrs) Galina Sdasyuk (Senior Research Worker in the Institute of Geography, USSR Academy of Sciences) and edited by Asok Mitra, with scientific consultation of Prof. V. V. Pokshishevsky. The volume under review which has been brought out just on the eve of the 21st International Geographical Congress, represents a good example of true collaboration of Indian and Soviet co-authors.