CHAPTER THREE
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Immigration of Marwaris into Manipur, as reported in the official record, started from the early period of 1880s. The immense economic potential couple with the reluctance of the indigenous people to do toilsome and hard work, and absence of capital and entrepreneurship made such large scale immigration imperative. Most of the Marwaris came direct from the different districts of Rajasthan. The first Marwari traders (families) came to the state were primarily traders, suppliers or agents, engaged in small trade, dealing in basic requirements of the local populace, as also essential commodities required by British companies and army units stationed in Assam.¹

It is said that the Marwari families established their firms in Assam in 1861 for the supply of groceries. Then with the opening of a railway line from Dibrugarh to Sadia they started multifarious business activities like, tea plantations, timber mills, coal mines and exploration of oil at Digboi. It is observed that the Marwari families

entered Manipur from Assam because of compulsions to search for a viable means of livelihood, which would prove a better alternative to that back home, where the proper infrastructure and amenities were not available, and where constraints and hindrances existed in the context of establishing consolidating and expanding business activities.²

Most of the early Marwari families who entered Manipur were from Assam. They came up to the railhead at Golaghat by steamer in the river Brahmaputra. From there they came to Imphal via Dimapur, Kohima by using different means of transportation like bullock carts, horses and dolais etc.³ At that time Dimapur was also another important business centre for the Marwaris. It is mentioned that in the early 1874 there were a few shops of the Marwaris, locally known as 'Khyahs'. James Jonhstone regarded them as "an enterprising race of merchants from Western India".⁴ The Manipuri people called them 'Kania'. The official records mentioned that for the first time the Marwari people came into contact with the Manipuri people at Dimapur when the later visited Dimapur for the purchase

2. Ibid.
3. Swarupchand Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 16.9.2001
of goods and other essential commodities. The Manipuris loaded the goods and essential commodities into hand carts, and subsequently distributed and conveyed to different parts of Manipur.\(^5\)

During the pre-colonial period the means of transportation and communication between Manipur and her neighbouring countries were very bad, slow and primitive. The British government initiated to construct new routes of bridle path in the state to connect with the territories of British India and Burma. In order to give more convenient in the movement of trading industry the British government constructed a road from Cachar to Imphal by touching Jirighat, Makru, Barak, Nungba, Irang, Kaupum, Laimatak, Bishenpur, Foiching and Imphal in the year between 1835 and 1840. It was constructed by Lieutenant Guthrie of the Royal Engineers. This road was maintained by the British authority till 1865.\(^6\) In between Cachar and Imphal many rest houses were constructed by the British. Again in the later part of the 19th century another road project was taken up by Maharaja Chandrakirti Singh to connect Imphal with Golaghat and Kohima. James Johnstone took great interest

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and road between Imphal and Mao was completed in the year 1881 and extended up to Dimapur in the next year. Many rest houses were constructed at the halting stages on the Imphal Dimapur road. The important halting places were at Kohima, Mao, Kangpokpi, Awang Sekmai, etc. Another road which was used as an important trading route was Imphal - Tamu road. It was constructed during the Anglo-Burmese War of 1885-86. It touches the places like Moreh, Lokchao, Tengnoupal, Pallel, Thoubal, Lilong, etc. But by and large the road conditions was bad except up to the Lilong area. It was mainly due to the incomplete stage of earth work. Most portions of the road had been flooded during rainy season. However, the continuous work was going on for the improvement of the condition and thus in the year 1913 the road condition of the Burma road was in a perfectly usable condition. It is said that the costs of the road was recovered from the Chawkidars of Thoubal. Many rest houses were constructed by the British authority at the halting stages on the Imphal Tamu-Raod. The British authority also constructed a rest-house in the year 1894 at the south eastern portion of Thoubal Market. It is recorded that many permanent suspension

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bridges over the important rivers were constructed. The coming from Dimapur to Imphal was a great time consuming work because it took 12 (twelve) days to reach Imphal from Dimapur. For entering into Manipur they used bullock carts. Some adventurous Marwaris used horse-back and others used palanquins or dolais through relay batches of porters. The number of Marwari traders during the Pre-British period was very scanty and so they were not able to involve in a large scale way. From the year 1882 the Marwari businessmen started to enter Manipur. Most of them belonged to the two religious sects i.e. Sanatani and Jain. It is also mentioned that the coming of Marwari people into Manipur were welcomed by the Maharaja and the British authority and they extended help to them. Thus with full security and co-operation from the authority, they settled down at Imphal town (Khwairamband Bazar i.e. Dharmasala, Sadar Bazar and Maxwell Bazar) and started their business.

The establishment of the direct British rule in Manipur just

10. Ibid.

11. Swarupchand Jain of Thangal Bazar, was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 18.9.2001.

12. Nathmal Bakliwal was the informant of the writer. Interview on 5.5.2002.
after the Anglo-Manipur War 1891 was also another significant development in the process of the trading business of Marwari businessmen. That, the British officials, in order to make more convenient in the administration, had developed the roads and construction was made in a permanent structure. The Imphal-Mao cart road was developed and it was opened for traffic in the year 1895. At that time these routes were used for two purposes one for military movement and another for business. The motive of the British was clearly reflected in the report of Captain Pemberton in which he mentioned about the existence of innumerable commercial routes in the eastern frontier of India. The protection of Imphal-Mao cart road was the duty of the unarmed soldiers of the disbanded Manipur army and they were acting as a security people of the travellers.

Thus after 1891 the Marwaris, with full security in their business, started their industry in the British Reserved Area. It is also recorded that in the year 1893 there were a large

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In 1891, the British Reserve was established by the Manipur citadel and palace together with an area of 1.83 sq. miles was taken over from the state and constituted the British Reserve. This area was under the control of the Government of India and was administered by the Political Agent the Agent of the Governor of Assam, the latter being the Agent the Governor General in council. The security and protection of this area was in the responsibilities of the wing of the 42nd Kha Rifles and the lines of the 43rd Gurkha Rifles and they were stationed in the citadel and north-east face of the 'Pat' and the moat. In fact, the early Marwari firms entered in state as suppliers or agents of the British military units stationed in Manipur particularly at Langthabal cantonment British Reserve Area. Though they were given permission to supply foodgrains and other commodities to the military unit, administrative authority had put certain restrictions over them.


Under these restrictions they were permitted to stay only for a specific number of days. Normally they were allowed to stay not more than one week. If they want to stay further they have to take a permission from the concerned authority. Officially these outsiders were called as 'foreigners'. Each and every foreigner who was not a Government or State servant and who was not a merchants of the Sadar Bazar, have to pay an annual tax of Rs. 5 for himself and his family to the British Government. This kind of tax was known as 'foreigner Tax.' This system rendered, a valuable help in the process of the checking of foreigners into Manipur. This tax was abolished in August 1947. Apart from this, the British authority also introduced the 'Inner Line Permit System'. Under this system every foreigners (including the Marwaris) had to take a permission from the government while coming to Manipur. In order to dealt with the matters of the foreigners, the authority also established a separate department called 'Foreigners Department.' There were five main branches in the department viz (i) Foreigners Tax & Grazing Fees (ii) Income Taxes & Trading license Fees (iii) Cattle Export Tax (iv) Sale

Tax on Cigeratts and Biris and (v) Cart Tax. But inspite of these restrictions the number of Marwari people who entered Manipur was still very high. The following figures given in the Table No. 2 will throw some light about the degree of the volume of the coming of Marwari people in Manipur.21

Table No. 2

| Number of Marwari Emigrants from Rajputana Agency to the State of Manipur. |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Born in Rajputana | 1901 | 1911 | 1921 | 1931 |
| Agency Enumerated in Manipur State | 32 | 174 | 196 | 243 |

These Marwari business people were able to establish their business industry in Manipur with the help of the local people. For the establishment of their business authority they always make a successfull attempt to have a friendship relationship with local people by extending required help to them. As a result of this, the local people began to address them with an affectionate

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appellation of 'Mahajan.' The names of the Marwari business families who entered Manipur were:

1. **SHREE MOTILAL KALAL AND HIS FAMILY**

Shree Motilal Kalal (1853-1920), a Sanatani Marwari from Berri, in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan (Rajputana) was the first group of Marwari traders entered Manipur in the year 1882. Before coming to Manipur he was in Assam and worked very closely with the British authority in Assam. He rendered a formidable support to the British. It is said that he was brought to Manipur by the British officials as supplier and he was even allowed to live together with the British people in Manipur. Thus, even before the out break of Anglo-Manipur War of 1891 he started his business in a very small way. Then after the establishment of the direct British rule Motilal Kalal began to expand his trade industry. As a mark of recognition to his service for the welfare of the British, the government gave him a big concession to start his business in Manipur and he was allowed to settled in the 'British Reserved Area'. It is mentioned that first he lived at Naga Mapal. It is also said that at that time he was about 29 years of age.

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Later he was shifted to the ‘Sadar Bazar, present Masjid road Imphal.23 Thus with the full security of the colonial officials Shree Motilal Kalal had successfully established his business in Manipur. Before coming to Manipur he married a girl from Rajasthan but she was not accompanied with him in Manipur. After some years he married a Manipur girl from Heingang village. Her name was Amubi Devi. To this women he born 3 (three) sons. They were Madhumangol Sharma (1890-1936), Govindram Sharma (1892-1935) and Dulichand Sharma (1905-1935). Amubi Devi and her sons lived at Naga Mapal and established a separate business.

In the year 1914 the sons born by the first wife of Motilal Kalal came to Manipur and they lived at Sadar Bazar (Masjid road). They were (i) Pyarilal Manihan (1896-1942), (ii) Tanulal Manihan (1898-1973) and (iii) Babulal Manihan (1909-1970) and a daughter named Beijentibai. Beijentibai was married to a boy from Rajasthan.24

Then in the year 1915 Madhumangol Sharma and Govindram Sharma, the two sons of Motilal Kalal from his wife Amubi Devi

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23. Likmabam Rameshwor Sharma of Thangmeiband, Imphal, was the informant of the writer. Interview on 3.9.2001.
24. Rupeshkumar Manihan and Dharamshila Devi were the informants of the writer. Interview on 3.9.2001.
came to Wangjing village and settled there. Madhumangol Sharma
married two wives. The name of the first wife was Smt. Paonam
Ningol Tombi Devi and second one was Smt. Heikrujam Angoubi
Devi. Both of them were from Wangjing village. The first wife
Tombi Devi born two sons and two daughters. They were (i)
Maniram Sharma, (ii) Uday Sharma, (iii) Thoibi Devi and (iv)
Malti Devi. Maniram Sharma (1914-1976) settled at Lillong village
and married a girl from that area. Uday Sharma permanently settled
at Wangjing village. The second wife Angoubi Devi born 3 (three)
sons and 4 (four) daughters. The sons were (i) Dhaneshwor
Sharma (ii) Rameshwor Sharma (iii) Kunja Sharma. The daughters
were (i) Maipakpi Devi (ii) Inao Devi (iii) Madhabi Devi and
(iv) Jamini Devi.

Govindram Sharma also married two wives. The name of the
first wife was Smt. Soibam Ningol Agni Devi and second one was
Ngangom Ningol Gulumchat Devi. Both of them were from Wangjing
village. Govindram Sharma had four sons and two daughters. The
first wife Agni Devi born only one son. His name was Bidhu
Sharma. The second wife Gulumchat Devi born three sons and
two daughters. They were Pobitro Sharma, Mapi Sharma, Bidyashwor
Sharma, Radhe Devi, and Damayenti Devi. The four sons of Govindram Sharma were permanently settled at Wangjing. Dulichand Sharma, another son of Shree Motilal Kalal was confined at Nagamapal, Imphal and died at early young age of 30.

2. SHREE AGARWAL FAMILY (JAMUNALAL MANGILAL FAMILY)

The family of Shree Agarwal (popularly known as Jamunalal Mangilal) migrated to Manipur in the year 1884 from the district of Sikar (Shekhvati) Rajasthan. It is said that the family rendered a great support to the British authority in Assam. Jamunalal Agarwal came with the British officials in Manipur and the family was allowed to live together with the British subjects. In the beginning he started his business in a very small way. But just after the year 1891, he began to expand his trade business. Jamunalal Agarwal had two sons. They were Mangilal Agarwal (died before 1953) and Harakchand Agarwal. Both of them were born in Manipur and settled at Sadar Bazar. Mangilal Agarwal had no male issue. Harakchand Agarwal born four sons namely Mohanlal Agarwal (b. 1934), Omprakash Agarwal (b.1935), Krishna Narayan Agarwal (b.1947) and Rameshkumar Agarwal (b.1949).

25. Likmabam Ashokumar Sharma was the Informant of the writer. Date of Interview 24.9.2001.
All of them were born in Manipur and settled at Sadar Bazar.\textsuperscript{26}

3. **PITRAM JAIN AND HIS FAMILY**

Pitram Jain (1870-1960), a Jain Marwari came to Manipur in the year 1885 from Sapra Village of Jhunjhunu district, Rajasthan. It is said that he came with the British officials as a food supplier of British army and accordingly he was allowed to settle there. He started his trade industry at Sadar Bazar. His three younger brother namely, Devkaran Jain (1885-1935), Rameshlal Jain (1895-1965) and Harakchand Jain (1901-1975) came into Manipur in the years 1901, 1910 and 1917 respectively. The youngest brother was only 16 years of age when he came to Manipur.\textsuperscript{27} Pitram had three sons namely Ramkumar Jain (1893-1940), Mohanlal Jain (1894-1957) and Champalal Jain (1918-1970). They were also came into Manipur in the early 1910s and 1930s respectively. After some years they again went back to Kohima then to Dimapur. All of them died in Dimapur. Devkaran Jain, the younger brother of Pitram Jain born three sons and three daughters. They were Shivchand Jain (1922-1982), Mahamal Jain (1927-1967), Jhuthalal Jain (1930-1988), Mohini Devi (1920-1960), Kamiti Devi (1921-1971)

\textsuperscript{26} Rameshkumar Agarwal was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 3.5.2002.

\textsuperscript{27} Secy. Radha Krishna Mandir Prabandhak Karya Karini Committe Vs Purnananda Sharma, a case file relating to Thakurbari Mandir, p.56.
and Basanti Devi (1930-1995). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Rameshlal Jain, the younger brother of Pitram Jain had two sons namely, Manalal Jain (1928-1998) and Ratanlal Jain (b.1939). Rameshlal Jain brought his eldest son Manalal Jain to Manipur after the Second World War. Harakchand Jain, the youngest brother of Pitram Jain born only one son. His name is Gourilal Jain. Gourilal Jain came to Manipur just after the Second World War and he settled at Maxwell Bazar.²⁸

4. TODARMAL MAHWAR AND HIS FAMILY

Todarmal Mahwar (1897-1976), a Sanatani came to Manipur from Alwar district of Rajasthan in the year 1885. He entered Manipur as the food supplier of British army and he was attached to the British regiments. Then he settled at Sadar Bazar and later shifted at Maxwell Bazar (Thangal Bazar). Todarmal Mahwar born four sons and four daughters. They were Kaluram Mahwar (Sadaram Mahwar) (1919-1985), Bhuramal Mahwar (Yaima) (1924-1999), Ramjilal Mahwar (b.1936), Radheshyam Mahwar (1944-1999), Hukum Devi (b.1929); Indramani Devi (b.1930), Keshri Devi (b.1932) and Sabitri Devi (b.1934). Todarmal's first two sons Kaluram Mahwar and Bhuramal Mahwar also came in the state before

²⁸. Gourilal Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 24.10.2001.
the outbreak of Second World War and settled at Maxwell Bazar. Hukum Devi, the eldest daughter of Todarmal Mahwar was married to a boy from Rajasthan.  

5. SHERMAL SADASUKH MONSUHK SARAOGI AND HIS FAMILY

Shermal Sadasukh Monsukh Saraogi (1856-1938), a Jain Marwari entered Manipur in the year 1885 from Deb village of Nagaur district, Rajasthan. He came to Manipur as a ration supplier of the British Regiments and settled at Sadar Bazar. He had two sons. They were Harakchand Jain (1903-1955) and Jhumarmal Jain (1910-1965). Both of them were born in Rajasthan. They also came in the state in the years 1907 and 1915 respectively with their father at young ages. They settled at Sadar Bazar and in later period shifted at Maxwell Bazar. Harakchand Jain, the eldest son of Sadasukh Monsukh Saraogi had no male issue. Jhumarmal Jain, the youngest son of Sadasukh Monsukh Saraogi born five sons namely Sampat Rai Paharia Jain (b.1944), Mahabir Prasad Jain (1946-1999), Padam Chand Jain (b. 1947), Mahipal Jain (b.1949) and Yaspal Jain (b.1950). All of them were born in Rajasthan.  

29. Hariprasad Mahwar and Pradip Gupta Mahwar were the informants of the writer. Interview on 29.10.2001.  
30. Arun Pahariya was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 5.11.2001 & 10.11.2001.
6. Kaluram Saraogi and His Family (Ganeshlal Kaluram Family)

The two brothers, Kaluram Saraogi and Jaisukhlal Patni (later popularly known as Ganeshlal Kaluram Family) came to Manipur in the year 1885 from Berri, Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan. They entered the state as the food suppliers of British army. According to the record, at that period of time some army of the British was station in Manipur and they were attached to this regiments.

Kaluram Saraogi born six sons namely Mangalchand Saraogi (1860-1940), Prabhumal Saraogi (1884-1959), Hazarimal Saraogi (1885-1978), Kisturchand Saraogi (1888-1971), Dulichand Saraogi (1893-1955) and Phulchand Saraogi (1896-1955). All of them were born in Rajasthan. In the year 1892, same family members of Kaluram Saraogi including Mangalchand Saraogi, Prabhumal Saraogi, Hazarimal Saraogi and Kisturchand Saraogi entered Manipur as the ration suppliers of the British Rajputna Regiment. Another two sons of Kaluram Saraogi, Dulichand Saraogi and Phulchand Saraogi came to Manipur during the First World War. Mangalchand Saraogi, the eldest son of Kaluram Saraogi born only one son. His name
was Meghraj Saraogi who entered Manipur just before the First World War. He left Manipur for Dimapur during the First World War. He born two sons. They were Chiranjmal Saraogi and Ratanlal Saraogi. Chiranjmal Saraogi entered Manipur in the later part of 1920 and Ratanlal Saraogi came in the year 1930 and they were settled at Maxwell Bazar.

Prabhulal Saraogi, the second son of Kaluram Saraogi born five sons. They were Madanlal Saraogi, Sohanlal Saraogi, Nirmalkumar Saraogi, Sampatkumar Saraogi and Mahabilir Prasad Saraogi. Prabhulal Saraogi left Manipur for Dimapur during the First World War and did not returned into Manipur. But his first four sons, Madanlal Saraogi, Sohanlal Saraogi, Nirmalkumar Saraogi and Sampatkumar Saraogi entered the state before the Second World War.

Hazarimal Saraogi, the third son of Kaluram Saraogi had only one son. His name was Mahadev Saraogi (1915-1987). He came from Rajasthan to Manipur when he was about 15 years old and settled at Maxwell Bazar. Kisturchand Saraogi, the fourth son of Kaluram Saraogi had three sons. They were Joharimal Saraogi (1906-1965), Manikchand Saraogi (1911-1966) and Tarachand Saraogi (b.1927) and they settled at Maxwell Bazar.31 Dulichand

31. Mahendrakumar Saraogi was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 18.9.2001.
Saraogi, the fifth son of Kaluram Saraogi had only one son. His name was Kundalmal Saraogi (1920-1985). However they did not settle in Manipur. They were permanently settled at Dimapur. Phulchand Saraogi, the youngest son of Kaluram Saraogi had only one son. His name was Trilokchand Saraogi who was born in Manipur and settled at Maxwell Bazar (now Thangal Bazar).32

7. THE FAMILY OF JAISUKHLAL PATNI

Jaisukhlal Patni, the younger brother of Kaluram Saraogi had two sons. They were Ganeshlal Patni and Motilal Patni. Both of them were born in Rajasthan, but they came to Manipur before the First World War and they lived at Maxwell Bazar.

Ganeshlal Patni, the eldest son of Jaisukhlal Patni born Premsokh Patni (1894-1949). He was born in Manipur. Premsokh Patni had five sons. They are Gulabchand Patni, Balchand Patni, Jhumarmal Patni, Deepchand Patni and Gyanchand Patni. And then, later on they shifted at Sadar Bazar (now Paona Bazar).33

Motilal Patni, the youngest son of Jaisukhlal Patni had only one son. His name was Chigganlal Patni (1900-1980). He was

32. Swarupchand Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 18.9.2001.
33. Gyanchand Patni was the informant of the writer. Interview on 11.9.2001.
born in Manipur. Chiggalal Patni had two sons Champalal Patni (b. 1921) and Kishanlal Patni (b. 1924). They were also born in Manipur and lived at Maxwell Bazar. 34

8. GANESH SINGH RAJPUT AND HIS FAMILY

The family of Ganesh Singh Rajput (1865-1920) came to Manipur in the year 1892 from Berri village of Jhunjhunu district, Rajasthan as a ration suppliers of the British army and they settled down at Sadar Bazar. In later years his resident was shifted to the Maxwell Bazar and started his trade business. 35 He had two sons Giga Singh Rajput (1887-1941) and Rakha Singh Rajput (d.1972). Both of them were born in Rajasthan. They were brought by their father to Manipur in the late 1890s. Giga Singh Rajput had two sons and one daughter. They were Mahabir Singh Rajput (1911-1987), Prithi Singh Rajput (b.1923) and Gulap Kawar. All of them were born in Rajasthan. Mahavir Singh Rajput and Prithi Singh Rajput came to Manipur before the outbreak of Second World War. 36 Giga’s daughter Gulap Kawar was married to a boy from Rajasthan.

34. Champalal Patni was the informant of the writer. Interview on 11.9.2001.
35. Om Prakash Singh Rajput was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 21.10.2001.
9. **MINARAM MAHWAR AND HIS FAMILY**

Minaram Mahwar, a Sanatani Marwari entered Manipur in the year 1891 from Tasing village of Alwar district, Rajasthan. The family came as a supplier of ration to the British army stationed in the state. Later, he settled at Maxwell Bazar along with his family and started his trade industry. He had two daughters and two sons. They were Vawani Devi, Manvari Devi, Prabhudayal Mahwar (1908-1970) and Surajmal Mahwar (1915-1971). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Vawani Devi, the eldest daughter of Minaram Mahwar was married to a boy from Kanpur. Manvari Devi, the second daughter of Minaram Mahwar was also married to a boy from Orissa. Prabhudayal Mahwar, the first son of Minaram Mahwar born Chhotmal Mahwar who born in Rajasthan. Surajmal Mahwar, the youngest son of Minaram Mahwar born six sons and three daughters. They were Ratanlal Mahwar (b.1941), Keilashchand Mahwar (b.1948), Prakashchand Mahwar (b.1949), Mohendrakumar Mahwar, Rameshkumar Mahwar, Asokumar Mahwar and Bimala Devi, Rajkumari Devi, Uma Devi. All of them were born in Manipur.\(^{37}\)

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37. Keilash Mahwar was the informant of the writer. Interview on 3.5.2002.
10. **RAM GOPAL AGARWAL AND HIS FAMILY**

Ram Gopal Agarwal (1862-1938), a Sanatani Marwari came to Manipur from Narayanpur village of Alwar district, Rajasthan in the year 1892. Ram Gopal Agarwal came to Manipur along with the Rajputana regiment of British as a supplier of the army and settled at Maxwell Bazar. Ram Gopal Agarwal born three sons namely Baluram Agarwal (1899-1965), Ramsurup Agarwal (1913-1993) and Babulal Agarwal. All of them were born in Rajasthan. Baluram Agarwal, the eldest son of Ram Gopal Agarwal came to the state during the time of the First World War. Baluram Agarwal had two sons and three daughters namely Badri Prasad Agarwal (1940-2000), Keilash Agarwal, Puspa (b.1947), Muni (b.1950) and Manju (b.1952). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Another two sons of Ram Gopal Agarwal namely Ramsurup Agarwal and Babulal Agarwal came in Manipur in the year 1930. Ramsurup Agarwal had no male issue and he born only on daughter. Her name is Manvari. Their family lived at Maxwell Bazar and started their business.  

38. Keilash Agarwal was the informant of the writer. Interview on 18.10.2001.

11. **LAKHMICHAND SETH AND HIS FAMILY**

Lakhmichand Seth came to Manipur in the year 1892 from Berri village of Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan. He settled at
Sadar Bazar. The name of his father was Sherbox Seth (1870-1950). But Sherbox Seth did not come to Manipur. Lakhmichand’s four younger brothers namely Manmal Seth, Motilal Seth, Hardeolal Seth and Suwalal Seth also came to the state in the 1900s and 1910s respectively. Lakhmichand Seth had two sons. They were Balchand Seth (1916-1982) and Jhumarmal Seth (1924-1990). Both of them were born in Rajasthan and they came to Manipur in the year 1930s. Manmal Seth, the younger brother of Lakhmichand Seth had only one son. His name was Ghisalal Seth (1924-1990) and he was also born in Rajasthan. He came to Manipur after the Second World War. Motilal Seth, another younger brother of Lakhmichand Seth had three sons. They were Mahabir Seth, Keshrichand Seth and Vinod Kumar Seth. All of them were born in Rajasthan. They came to Manipur before the outbreak of the Second World War. Hardeolal Seth, another younger brother of Lakhmichand Seth had only one son. His name was Tansukh Rai Seth (b.1923). He also came to Manipur just after the Second World War.\textsuperscript{39} Suwalal Seth, the youngest brother of Lakhmichand Seth also born only one son. His name was Manikchand Seth. He was born in Rajasthan. Manikchand Seth came to Manipur just after the Second World War.

\textsuperscript{39} Tansukh Rai Seth (Raiji) was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 9.12.2001.
12. FATELALL JAIN AND HIS FAMILY

Fatelall Jain (1860-1930) came into Manipur in the year 1892 from Sikar district, Rajasthan, as a ration supplier of the British Rajputana Regiment and he settled at Sadar Bazar and then shifted to Maxwell Bazar. He born three sons namely Champalall Jain (b.1910), Motilal Jain (b.1924) and Chandmal Jain (1925). All of them were born in Rajasthan. His eldest son Champalall Jain came in the state in the late 1920s. Fatelall's another two sons, Motilal Jain and Chandmal Jain also came into the state in the late 1930s. They lived at Maxwell Bazar.\(^{40}\)

13. TARACHAND PATNI AND HIS FAMILY

Tarachand Patni (1865-1930), a Jain Marwari also entered the state in the year 1892 as a food supplier of British army. Then he settled at Maxwell Bazar. Tarachand Patni had only one son. His name was Chandanmal Patni (1899-1999). He came with his father in the year 1914 and started his trade business.\(^{41}\)

14. BISHNULAL SHARMA AND HIS FAMILY

Bishnulal Sharma (1865-1920) entered Manipur in the year 1897 from Bikaner district, Rajasthan. He had four sons Panalal

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\(^{40}\) Champalall Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 11.3.2002.

\(^{41}\) Sunil Patni was the informant of the writer. Interview on 17.10.2001.
Sharma (1895-1990), Suganchand Sharma (1897-1952), Chunnilal Brahmin (1907-1972) and Ganapat Rai Sharma (1915-1990). All of them were born in Rajasthan. They came to Manipur in the late 1910s and lived at Maxwell Bazar. In the year 1919, the British authority gave a plot of land to the family of Bishnulal Sharma at Bishenpur Bazar.42

Panalal Sharma, the eldest son of Bishnulal Sharma shifted his house at Bishenpur Bazar. He had only one son named Radheshyam Sharma. He was born in the year 1933 at Bishenpur. Suganchand Sharma, the second son of Bishnulal Sharma also shifted his residential area at Bishenpur Bazar with his elder brother. He had only one son. His name was Rameshwor Sharma. He was born at Bishenpur in the year 1940. Chunnilal Sharma, the third son of Bishnulal Sharma had one son and three daughters. They were Rangaram Sharma (d.1939) and Mohini Devi (1926-2001), Saraswati Devi (b.1931) and Sabitri Devi (b.1932). Ramgaram Sharma died due to an accident at Bishenpur just after the Second World War. Chunnilal's eldest daughter, Mohini was married to a boy from Rajasthan. Ganapat Rai Sharma, the youngest son of Bishnulal Sharma born two sons, Murlidhar Sharma and Om Prakash Sharma. Both of them were born in Manipur.43

42. Murlidhar Sharma was the informant of the writer.
43. Murlidhar Sharma was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 24.10.2001.
15. **BHEIROBDAN MOHTA AND HIS FAMILY**

Bheirobdan Mohta (1870-1942), a Sanatani entered Manipur from Bikaner district of Rajasthan in the year 1897 as a supplier of the British army and he settled at the Sadar Bazar of British Reserved Area. He started his trade business from the British Reserved Area. Bheirobdan Mohta had only one son Nathmal Mohta (b.1923). Nathmal Mohta born at Bikaner district, in Rajasthan. He had three sons and two daughters. All of them were born in Manipur. But all the family members of Bheirobdan Mohta left Manipur in the year 1965. They never came back to Manipur.

16. **DEVKARAN JAIN AND HIS FAMILY**

Devkaran Jain (1885-1935) came in Manipur in the year 1900. He settled at Maxwell Bazar. He had three sons and three daughters. They were Shivchand Jain (1922-1982), Mahanmal Jain (1927-1967), Jhuthalal Jain (1931-1983), Mohini (1920-1960), Kamili (1921-1971) and Basanti (1930-1985). Shivchand Jain, the eldest son of Devkaran Jain came just before the outbreak of Second World War in the state. Mahanlal Jain and Jhuthalal Jain, other two sons of Devkaran Jain also entered Manipur with their eldest brother, after the Second World War in the year 1947.

44. Ibid.
45. Gyanchand Patni was the informant of the writer.
46. Binod Kumar Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 24.10.2001.
17. **BAGLALL PATNI AND HIS FAMILY**

Baglall Patni (1880-1950), a Marwari Jain entered Manipur in the year 1900 from Sikar, Rajasthan. He settled at Awang Sekmai till 1937 and started his trade business there. Then, he shifted to Thangal Bazar in the year 1938. Baglall Patni had only one daughter and two sons. They were Mohini (1926-1961), Banalal Patni (b.1931) and Javarmal Patni (b.1938). Sebox Patni, the younger brother of Baglall Patni (1900-1974) was born in Rajasthan. He entered the state during First World War and he settled at Maxwell Bazar.\(^{47}\) Sebox Patni had born six sons Karanjilal Patni (1939-1974), Madanlal Patni (b.1948), Kailash Patni (b.1949), Dilip Patni (b.1953), Inder Patni (b.1955), Monohar Patni (b.1956) and Asok Patni (b.1957). All of them were born in Manipur.\(^{48}\)

18. **RAMESHLAL JAIN AND HIS FAMILY**

The family of Rameshlal Jain (1877-1942) came in Manipur in the year 1900 and the family settled at Maxwell Bazar. He

\(^{47}\) Banalal Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 5.10.2001.

\(^{48}\) Javarmal Patni was the informant of the writer. Interview on 5.10.2001.
born two sons, Manalal Jain (1928-1998) and Ratanlal Jain (b.1937). Manalal Jain came to the state in the year 1947.\(^{49}\)

19. JUTHA RAM JALAN AND HIS FAMILY

Jutha Ram Jalan, a Sanatani Marwari came into Manipur for business in the early 1900s. He settled at Maxwell Bazar (Khoyathong side). He had five sons and one daughter. They were Murlidhar Jalan (b.1991), Laduram Jalan, Lalchan Jalan, Rambalal Jalan, Ramniwas Jalan and Luxmi Jalan. Murlidhar Jalan, eldest son of Jutha Ram Jalan born only one son and two daughters. They were Bhagawan Jalan, Shushila and Prava. The two daughters were married in Assam. Murlidhar Jalan and Laduram Jalan, the first two sons of Jutha Ram Jalan came to Manipur before the outbreak of the Second World War and another son Lalchand Jalan came to the state in the late 1940s.\(^{50}\)

20. GOPAL RAM SHARMA AND HIS FAMILY

Gopal Ram Sharma(d.1934) came in Manipur in the year 1901 from Bawali-Ka-bas, Alwar of Rajasthan for settlement. His family settled at Sadar Bazar. Gopal Ram Sharma had one

\(^{49}\) Karpurchand Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 24.10.2001.

\(^{50}\) Naresh Jalal was the informant of the writer. Interview at Thangal Bazar, Khoyathong Road, Imphal, on 1.11.2001.
daughter and two sons namely Parbati Devi, Purnananda Sharma (b.1923), Shyamsunder Sharma respectively. All them were born in Manipur. Gopal Ram Sharma was a pious Hindu professing the Sanatan Dharmist faith. In that time there was no Hindu Temple, and Jain Mandir in the Bazar area. Gopal Ram Sharma insisted the Maharaja and the then Political Agent of Manipur to give a plot of land to him for the construction of a temple. The Maharaja allowed him to construct the Temple at Sadar Bazar and it was constructed in the year 1910. He became the Shebait of the said Radha Krishna Mandir popularly known as 'Thakurbari Mandir.' Beikharam Sharma (1876-1956), Gopal Ram's nephew also came in Manipur in the year 1911. He had one son and two daughters namely Radheshyam Sharma (d.1956), Durga Devi and Kamlia Devi. All of them were born in Rajasthan. During the minority of Purnananda Sharma (the eldest son of Gopal Ram Sharma), Beikharam took charge the Shebaitship of the Mandir.\textsuperscript{51} He had two sons namely Mahendra Sharma and Patu Sharma. Both of them were born in Manipur. In fact, the said Gopal Ram Sharma of Sadar Bazar was closely related with the Thakurbari Mandir.

\textsuperscript{51} Patu Sharma was the informant of the writer. Interview on 20.7.2001 & 24.3.2002 respectively.
21. THE FAMILY OF BAKLIWAL

Another family who entered Manipur in the first decade of the 20th century was the family of Rai Bahadur Chunnilal Bakliwal. Before the establishment of their trade industry in Manipur Chunnilal's family had already established a large business centre in Assam. And he had a close relationship with the officials of the British colonial government and he also extended a maximum help and services to the administration of that area. It is recorded that he extended financial help to the British in the time of oil drilling, construction of railroads, etc. For his valuable services the British government conferred the title of Rai Bahadur to Chunnilal Bakliwal.

For quite long time Chunnilal Bakliwal had no male issue, therefore he adopted one Mohanlal Bakliwal of his own relative as his son. Later on he born two sons, they were Nihalchand Bakliwal and Ghanashyamdas Bakliwal. Another interesting noteworthy development in the context of their family genealogy is that Mohanlal Bakliwal, the adopted son of Chunnilal Bakliwal had two elder brothers of the same father and mother. Their name were Khubchand Bakliwal and Chhogmal Bakliwal. The first members of the Bakliwal family who entered Manipur was Mohanlal Bakliwal and his two
elder brothers Khubchand Bakliwal, and Chhogmal Bakliwal. The other two sons of Chunnilal, Nihalchand Bakliwal and Ghanashyamdas Bakliwal did not entered Manipur. Mohanlal Bakliwal and his two brothers lived at Maxwell Bazar and started their trading business. After living for quite sometime Mohanlal Bakliwal left Manipur for Assam and his two elder brother Khubchand Bakliwal and Chhogmal Bakliwal continued their business. Khubchand Bakliwal had four sons. They were Bhaurilal Bakliwal, Nemichand Bakliwal, Indrachand Bakliwal and Ashulal Bakliwal. All of them were born in Rajasthan. Then in the year 1922 Baurilal Bakliwal, the eldest son of Khubchand Bakliwal came to Manipur. He had four sons, Nathmal Bakliwal (b.1926) Prasankumar Bakliwal (b.1932) Mannalal Bakliwal (b.1934), Chainrop Bakliwal (b. 1941) respectively.

The remaining three sons of Khubchand Bakliwal namely Nemichand Bakliwal, Indrachand Bakliwal and Ashulal Bakliwal also came into Manipur before the outbreak of the Second World War. But during the time of the Second World War all of them left Manipur for Rajasthan. Then in the year 1946, Nathma Bakliwal, the eldest son of Baurilal Bakliwal came to Manipur and started his trade business at Maxwell Bazar and Dharmasala
The other three younger brothers of Nathmal Bakliwal also came into Manipur just after the Second World War. Chhogmal Bakliwal, the younger brother of Khubchand Bakliwal had two sons. They were Jabrilal Bakliwal (b. 1943) and Ladulal Bakliwal and they lived at Maxwell Bazar. But they left Manipur during the Second World War and never returned.52

22. SHIVDAYAL MAHWAR AND HIS FAMILY

Another Marwari Sanatani family who entered Manipur in the year 1903 was the family of Shivdayal Mahwar (1874-1939). Shivdayal's family came from Alwar district, Rajasthan. His family was settled at Maxwell Bazar. He had four sons and one daughter. They were Bhagawandas Malwar (1920-1987), Badri Prasad Mahwar (b.1928), Mohanlal Mahwar (b.1932), Makhanlal Mahwar (b.1934) and Janki Devi (1933-1972). They were born in Manipur. The family of Shivdayal Mahwar left Manipur during the Second World War and returned in the year 1947.53

23. RAM DAYAL AND HIS FAMILY

The family of Ram Dayal Mahwar (1880-1938) from Kanti, Patiala (Haryana) entered Manipur in the year 1905 and his family

52. Nathmal Bakliwal was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 5.5.2002.

53. Mohanlal Mahwar and Jagadish Mahwar were the informants of the writer. Interview at Thangal Bazar, Imphal, on 24.3.2002.
settled at Maxwell Bazar. He had one son and one daughter, namely Ram Actar Mahwar (1902-1961) and Dakhili Devi. They were born in Patiala, Haryana. Ram Actar Mahwar, son of Ram Dayal Mahwar born four sons and one daughter. The four sons were Iswarlal Mahwar (b.1943), Om Prakash Mahwar (b.1949), Harishchand Mahwar and Tikkamchand Mahwar. Dakhli Devi, daughter of Ram Dayal was married to a boy from Bombay.  

24. JAI NARAYAN GUPTA AND HIS FAMILY

Jai Narayan Gupta (1890-1965) entered Manipur in the year 1905 from Mahendragrah district of Haryana. He settled at Thakurbari side, Sadar Bazar. He had three sons and four daughters. They were Devakinandan Gupta (1924-2001), Rameshwor Gupta (1925-1997), Omkar Gupta (b.1938), Keshri Devi (1920-1966), Sita Devi (1932-1973), Pista Devi (1932-1973) and Ramkali Devi (b.1947). Sita Devi and Pista Devi were twin daughters of Jai Narayan Gupta. Jai Narayan's first two sons Devakinandan Gupta and Rameshwor Gupta came to the state just after the Second World War. All the family members of Jai Narayan were born in Rajasthan.

54. Ishworlal Mahwar was the informant of the writer. Interview on 29.20.2001.

55. Hanuman Singh was the informant of the writer. Interview at Alugali (Thangal Bazar), Imphal, on 08.02.2000.

56. Shyamsunder Singh was the informant of the writer. Interview on 12.4.2002.
Ramjilal Gupta (1909-1979), the younger brother of Jai Narayan Gupta also came into the state in the year 1923 at the age of 14. He born only one son and four daughters. They were Shyamsunder Gupta (b.1945), Ramdulari Devi (b.1941), Sabitri Devi (b.1946), Rammetri Devi (b. 1947) and Sharla Devi (b.1948). All of them were born in Rajasthan.\textsuperscript{57}

25. \textbf{GANGARAM AND HIS FAMILY}

In the year 1910 Gangaram Jain (1894-1976), a Jain faith from Bhivani, Haryana came to Manipur. He lived at Maxwell Bazar and started his business activities. Gangaram Jain married with the daughter of Kaluram Saraogi of Maxwell Bazar. She was the eldest sister of Kisturchand Saraogi. Gangaram had two sons namely Madanlal Jain (b.1921) and Ratanlal Jain (b.1928). Both of them were born in Rajasthan. Madanlal Jain, son of Gangaram Jain had two sons. They were Padam Jain (1949-1997) and Pradipkumar Jain. Ratanlal Jain, the youngest son of Gangaram Jain born only one son. His name was Lalit Jain. All of them were born in Manipur.\textsuperscript{58}

\textsuperscript{57} Charan Singh was the informant of the writer. Interview on 11.03.2002.

\textsuperscript{58} Sri Madal Lal Jain and his son Pradipkumar Jain were the informants of the writer. Interview at Dharmasala, Imphal on 26.09.2001 & 27.09.2001 respectively.
26. **LAKHMICHAND JAIN AND HIS FAMILY**

Lakshmichand Jain, (1876-1946) a Jain faith entered Manipur from Berri, Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan in the year 1912. He lived at Maxwell Bazar and started his trade business. He born eight sons and four daughters. They were Meghraj Jain (1905-1999), Nemichand Jain (1906-1982), Chunnilal Jain (b.1921), Jhumarmal Jain (b.1923), Kisturchand Jain (b.1924), Madanlal Jain (b.1927), Sugamchand Jain (b.1930), Rajendrakumar Jain (b.1932) and Jadai (b.1926), Gulmala (b.1931), Bohori (b.1936) and Tiji (b.1941). All of them were born in Rajasthan. All the four daughters of Lakshmichand Jain were married in Rajasthan.

Meghraj Jain, the eldest son of Lakshmichand Jain born three sons Gyanchand Jain, Babulal Jain and Bijaykumar Jain. Meghraj Jain and Nemichand Jain, the first two sons of Lakshmichand Jain came to Manipur in the late 1910s. Another three sons of Lakshmichand, Chunnilal Jain, Jhumarmal Jain, Kisturchand Jain were also came to the state in the late 1930s. The last three sons of Lakshmichand Jain namely Sugamchand Jain and Rajendrakumar Jain were also came in the state in the year 1947.59

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59. Chunnilal Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 19.09.2001.
27. THE FAMILIES OF MOKCHAND SHARMA AND KESHRICHAND SHARMA

In the year 1914 Mokchand Sharma (b. 1930), a Sanatani Marwari entered Manipur from Ganganagar district, Rajasthan. He lived at Kangpokpi and then in the year 1919 his family shifted at Maxwell Bazar. Mokchand’s sons were not came to the state. His younger brother also did not come to Manipur. Mokchand brought three nephews, Chimanram Sharma (1873-1975), Bhagawanchand Sharma (1895-1955) and Kesherichand Sharma (1910-1989). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Bhagawanchand Sharma, nephew of Mokchand Sharma had four sons and two daughters. They were Mahanlal Sharma (1928-2000), Punamchand Sharma (b. 1944), Gopiram Sharma (b. 1946), Kachiram Sharma (b. 1947), Suhani Devi (b. 1942) and Saraswati Devi (b. 1945). All of them were born in Manipur. Kesherichand Sharma, another nephew of Mokchand Sharma born three sons and only one daughter. They were Nathmal Sharma (b. 1949), Rishikumar Sharma (b. 1954) and Basanti Devi (b. 1958) all of them were born in Manipur.

28. TARACHAND BAGRI AND HIS FAMILY

Tarachand Bagri (1898-1973), a Sanatani Marwari entered Manipur from Bikaner district, Rajasthan in the year 1915. It

60. Nathmal Sharma was the informant of the writer. Interview on 11.11.2001.
is reported that Tarachand Bagri and his family came to Manipur as the ration suppliers of the British Regiments and the family settled at Maxwell Bazar. Tarachand Bagri had three sons Manikchand Bagri (1921-1977), Ramchandra Bagri (1925-1995) and Mulchand Bagri (b.1949). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Tarachand Bagri's first and second sons Manikchand Bagri and Ramchandra Bagri came to the state in the year 1936.61

29. GULAPCHAND JAIN CHHABRA AND HIS FAMILY

Gulapchand Jain Chhabra (1887-1946) entered Manipur in the year 1920 from Mandota village of Sikar district of Rajasthan and settled at Sadar Bazar. Then shifted to Maxwell Bazar. He had four sons. They were Madanlal Jain Chhabra (b.1930), Mahabir Jain Chhabra (b.1936), Sohanlal Jain Chhabra (b.1939) and Kundanmal Jain Chhabra (b.1944). All of them were born in Rajasthan. Gulapchand Jain Chhabra's daughter was married to Kalyanmal Bakliwal Jain, a Marwari Jain businessman who lived at Maxwell Bazar. The four sons of Gulapchand Jain Chhabra had entered Manipur in the year 1947.62

61. Bijay Bagri was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 30.10.2001.
62. Mahabir Prasad Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 18.10.2001.
30. DEVIDUTTA SHARMA AND HIS FAMILY

The family of Devidutta Sharma (1900-1978), a Sanatani Marwari family entered Manipur from Sikar district, Rajasthan in the year 1928 and the family settled at Dharmasala. He born two sons and two daughters. They were Sureshkumar Sharma, Mahesh Sharma, Sabitri Devi and Parmeshwari Devi. All of them were born in Manipur. Sabitri Devi and Parmeshwari Devi, the two daughters of Devidutta Sharma married in Rajasthan.⁶³

31. KALYANMAL BAKLIWAL AND HIS FAMILY

The family of Kalyanmal Bakliwal (1918-1999) came to Manipur in the year 1934 from Renwal (Karar) village, Sikar district, Rajasthan. Kalyamal’s father did not come into the state. The family of Kalyanmal Bakliwal settled at Sadar Bazar and started their trade business. Kalyanmal Bakliwal married with the daughter of Gulapchand Jain Chhabra of Maxwell Bazar.⁶⁴

Some other Marwari business families also entered Manipur during the British period. They were Sonai Ram Chaudhuri, Mahorilal Madanlal, Jawala Prasad Bansilal Agarwal, Gobindlal Chunilal,

⁶³. Mahesh Sharma was the informant of the writer. Date of interview 1.11.2001.

⁶⁴. Dharamchand Bakliwal Jain was the informant of the writer. Interview on 10.1.2001.
Khetraj, Ramkumar Agarwal, Ranglal Rameshwor, Isher Singh Bhaktawar, Charturbhuj Jhumarmal, Lakshichand Begrj, Mithanlal Mahwar, Suwalal Agarwal and Zotilal Saraogi. These business families or firms settled inside the British Reserved Area at Maxwell Bazar, Dharmasala and Sadar Bazar respectively.

From the year 1942 to 1945, these Marwari traders left Imphal for their native state, Rajasthan or other destinations in Indian states due to the bombardment of Imphal area. In the year 1946, they again started to come back at in Manipur. But some families were never returned to the state.

Thus from the year 1882 to 1949 the state witnessed a considerable scale migration of Marwari businessmen in Manipur. But the actual number of Marwari migrants in Manipur state were not so high. Many Manipur born Marwaris were also settled at Imphal city and surrounding areas like Lilong, Wangjing and Bishenpur etc. However, the official records also did not mentioned the specific number of Marwari families coming to Manipur. Therefore, because of this absence of official figures it is very difficult of give the exact position of the Marwari families coming
to Manipur. But it is suggested by the year 1947 their numbered was roughly 2000.65 Although the Census report of 1951 recorded only 203 Rajasthan born (Marwari) elements in Manipur State.66

66. See Appendix No. C.