Preface

The present study was undertaken by me on the suggestion of my teacher Professor Satish Chandra, when I was in the Department of History, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. Later on I became an Associate Fellow, in the Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, where I continued my studies and research.

The region under study, during the second half of the eighteenth century, has been one of internal instability and external incursions affecting the agricultural economy. It led to certain developments and new trends in agrarian relations and revenue administrations of a state faced with crises.

The work is entirely based on original records. I have mainly concentrated on the agrarian society, the agricultural production, the revenue system, and the local administration. In all there are nine chapters. The conclusions arrived by me are embodied therein. Methodology adopted for analysing and interpreting the copious statistical data has been explained by me in the Chapters concerned itself. For this I have taken pargana as well as the sample villages as the basis. These have been further explained by me with the help of numerous graphs, diagrams and tables to draw a clear picture of the trends in the agricultural economy.

I owe a deep sense of gratitude to Professor Satish Chandra, my supervisor, under whose inspiring guidance and supervision, the present work has been completed. He gave me constant encouragement. His personal kindness sustained me all through these years.
of research and preparation of the thesis. Inspite of his numerous engagements he scrutinized my source material and offered various suggestions. He enabled me to analyse and interpret the sources, in particular the statistical data which had been quite baffling for me. His rigorous academic discipline made it possible to give this final shape to my thesis.

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