GENERAL

Budaun is an old but backward district in Rohelkhand Division of Western Uttar Pradesh. It is situated between two rivers Ganga and Ramganga in 27° 39' to 28° 27' N and 78° 19' 15" to 79° 41' E. Its elevation from sea level is 497' to 605'.

District Budaun is 144 Km. in length and 60 Km. in width. Hence the area of the district is 5158 Square Km. It is the largest district in Bareilly region.

According to the latest Census Report of 1981 the total population of the district is about 1971946 which comprises of 1090374 males and 881572 females.

It is bounded in the north by district Moradabad, in the north-east district Rampur and Bareilly, in the south-east Shahjahamanpur and in the south-west Ganga divided by the districts of Bulandshahr, Aligarh, Etah and Farrukhabad. It is divided into five tahsils, i.e.
Budaun Sadar, Bisauli, Dātāganj, Gunnaur and Sahaswān.
It has 18 blocks, 1785 revenue villages, 146 Grām Sabhās
and 164 Nyāya Panchāyats. 85% of population depends upon
agriculture but education rate is 26.10%. Even then it
is a backward district due to lack of broad gauge railway
line connection and big factories.

1 - BUDAUN - SADAR TAHSIL

Out of the five tahsils the Sadar has its head
quarters at Budaun proper (Lat 28° 2' 30" North, Long.
79° 9' 45" East) which is situated on Bareilly-Mathura
highway. It is also a station of the N.E. Railway. Budaun
city is divided into two parts:

(i) Qilo or old city.
(ii) The new city.

The old city is situated over the debris of an
old fort built by King Mahlpāl of Tomar dynasty of Delhi.\(^1\)
Sūra-Dhwaj the prime-minister of king Mahlpāl retired to
Budaun and established a theological school here.\(^2\) Some

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1 - A. Cunningham \(\text{Archaeological Survey of India,}
Reports of Tours in the Gangetic Provinces from Badaon
2 - H.R. Nevill \(\text{Budaun - A Gazetteer Being Vol.XV of the}
District Gazetteers of the United Provinces of Agra
and Oudh (Allahabad, 1907), p.131.
remains of the fort walls are still visible in the north-south and west. There are thirteen mohallas in the old city. These have been named after the dominating inhabitants such as Syed bārā, Maulvi ṭolā, Qāzīṭolā, Chaudhari Ganj, Mirzā Ganj etc. The new city covers a large area of the town in the south-east part of the Qila. It has 38 mohallas also named after their inhabitants practicing different professions. About ten of them are known as Sarais and eight as Ganjas. It is alleged that the town is as old as the Mahabharata's period. However, there are still a number of ancient buildings and monuments though comparatively of much later dates. These have been discussed separately in the Chapter on 'Monuments'.

For administrative purposes the tehsil is divided into four blocks, viz.

(i) Jagat
(ii) Sālārpur (Binawar)
(iii) Qādar Chauk, and
(iv) Ujhāni

A brief account of each is given below: 
(1) JAGAT BLOCK:

This block which is connected with the headquarters by a pacca road has yielded rich cultural remains which ranges from the Ocher Colour Pottery (O.C.P.) Period to the Medieval Period. According to local tradition it was known as Garhi before 1957 but the Garhi and the people were destroyed. In 1901 there was a famine, so one Jagat Narain, the Tahsildar of Kannauj came here and dug tanks to give work to the local people. So the place came to be known as Jagat.

Amongst all the villages Gularia¹ (Lat 28° 3' N, Long 79° 14' E) appears very rich in cultural remains. This village is situated at a distance of 7 miles from Budaun on Dataganj-Sadiillah Ganj Road. Remains of a mud fort can be seen on a small mound of the village. Among the other villages Lakhanpur, Majhiya, Utarna have also yielded interesting archaeological finds which have been discussed separately in Chapter IV.

(ii) SÁLÁRPUR BLOCK:

The village Salarpur got its name after Syed Salar-i-Masood Ghazal of mythical fame. It has a Ganj-i-
-Sha-hidan in its suburb. This block has been selected by the government for "Small Farmers Development Project Agency (SFDA)". Sālārpur which is one and a half Km. from the main city on Budaun-Ānolā road is a newly formed block. Formerly the block office was at Bināwar. Like Jagat Block this block is also very important for its cultural heritage which may go back to the later Vedic period. Bināwar¹ (Lat 28° 7' N, Long 79° 14' E) which is 14.4 Km. away from the main city in the north-east direction is one of the oldest villages of this block. It lies on the Budaun-Bareilly main road. According to the local tradition, it was founded by Raja Ben a celebrated character of the epic age. A platform with heap of ashes found here is said to be the sacrificial remains of the king. Bangarh, Rafiābād, Kunwargāon² Sirsā Thēr and Mohammadpur Vihār are other important villages to yield noteworthy archaeological remains.

(iii) QĀDAR CHAUK BLOCK

This village Qādar Chauk³ (Lat 27° 52' N, Long

2. Ibid., p. 226.
3. Ibid., p. 229.
79° 5' E) lies to the south of Ujhani at a distance of about 19 Km. from the district headquarters. It was founded by Ghulām Qādir a Rohilla leader. A mud fort, ruins of which may be seen in the south of the village, is ascribed to him. A pacca road runs through the village dividing it into two parts.

Ramzānpur¹ (Lat 27° 56' N, Long 79° 6' E) is another important village of the block which has yielded rich cultural remains. A mazār of Günge Shāh and a mosque of Shahjahani art are also here. There is a metalled road between Sakrī-Kāsimpur and Ramzānpur.

(iv) UJHANI BLOCK :

This village (Lat 28° N, Long 79° 1' E)² is also important. It is situated on the est side of Budaun at a distance of 13 Kms. on Budaun-Kasganj road. The original name of the village was Pipariā because there have been plenty of Pippal trees here. One area of the town known as Pīpal Tēlā even at present reminds us of the old name.³ It is said that king Mahipal of Ujjain (?)

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1. H.R. Nevill, op.cit., p.236.
2. Ibid., p.258.
changed its name to Ujhāni. According to another tradition Ujhāni was founded by the milkmen (Ghosis) about 1400 years ago who had emigrated here from the neighbourhood of Agra. Originally this was a parganah and was allotted to Abdullah Khan, the second son of Ali Mohammad. A number of local extant historical buildings indicate its flourishing past. These buildings include an Imambara, a cenotaph of Bahādur Ganj, Qadam-i-Rasool, a shrine of Naugazā Plr, an unfinished tomb of Abdullah Khan, remains of the fort of Abdullah Khan, and temples of Mahādeva and Bihārijī.

Sheikhpur (28° 1' N Lat, 79° 7' E Long) on south of the Budaun-Mathura road is another important village of this block. Its founder was one Sheikh Parid during the reign of Jahangir (1605-1627). Ruins of this village can still be seen. It is probable that a settlement of some sort already existed on or beside the modern site where the ruins of an older village called Phuliya Kherā are still evident.

2- M.M. Bismil, op.cit., p.96.
4- E. Atkinson, op.cit., p.220.
2. **BISAULI TAHSIL**

Bisauli Tahsil (28° 18' N and 78° 57' E) is situated at a distance of 33.4 Km. towards north from the district headquarters. In its north-west and north is Moradabad district. In the north-east is Rampur district. In the east is Bareilly district. In the south are blocks of Budaun, Kot and Sahaswan. In the west is Asadpur block. The river Sot flows through its two blocks known as Islam Nagar and Bisauli. All the adjoining important towns of other districts are linked with it by metalled roads.

The word Bisauli is perhaps a derivation of Banswari or Bansauri meaning thereby bamboo grooves. It is alleged there were a large number of bamboos grooves in this region.

There are several places of archaeological interest in this tahsil which have been separately discussed.

The town came into prominence during the time of the Rohilla Chieftain Dunde Khan who took over the

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charge in 1750 A.D. after the death of Ali Mohammad, the governor of Budaun in trust for the absent sons of Ali Mohammad, Dunde Khan fixed his headquarters here and had built many buildings here. Some of them are still in existence.

His fort is remembered as the scene of aggressions which were created by the Nawab Wazir Shuja-ud-daulah of Oudh. In 1770 Dunde Khan died.

After the battle of Mirāmpur Katrā in April 1774 A.D. Hafiz Rahmat Khan was killed and Nawab Wazir Shuja-ud-daulah conquered Budaun. Thus Bisauli went into the hands of British government later on. The fort of Bisauli was sold to one Donald of Bilsi in 1839 by the British government.

During the reign of Shah Alam II there was a mint in Bisauli the coins issued from here bear the date of 1182-83 H. (1768-69 A.D.)

The Tahsil is divided into four Blocks:

(1) Āsaapur Block
(2) Bisauli Block

(3) Islam Nagar Block
(4) Wazir Ganj Block.

(1) ÄSAFPUR BLOCK:

Asafpur village in $28^\circ 23' \text{ N, } 278^\circ 54' \text{ E}$ is at a distance of 9.6 km. towards north from the tahsil headquarters. In its north flows the Aril river.

The villages Nizamuddinpur Shāh and Afghanā of this block have yielded remains of archaeological interest. The village Laxmipur has a grave of Pir called Naughazāpir. In the village Sīkri there is a Shivalinga.

(2) BISAULĪ BLOCK:

Bisaulī is block as well as a tahsil. Until the time of the Rohilla rule the pargana Bisaulī was a part of a large Mūhān of Mundīā Satāśi,¹ and later on it was included in the district Budaun. In 1774 A.D. Mundīā Satāśi was annexed to Oudh by Shujā-ud-daulāh² and in 1801 A.D. it was given to East India Company along with Budaun district.

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¹ H.R. Nevill, op.cit., p.179; ² Atkinson, op.cit., p.146.
2. Ibid., p.180; ² Atkinson, op.cit., p.146.
In 1824 A.D. Bisauli and Satāl were transferred to the newly constituted district of Sahaswān which later on became Budaun district. The former then turned to be a tahsil of that district.

Before the Rohillas Rajputs\(^1\) Dunde Khan was appointed here after the death of Ali Mohammad to realise the land revenue. However, he made his headquarters and built many buildings here.

The tradition that Firozshah\(^2\) founded Bisauli is not correct. His association with Beoli about 12.8 Km. away from Bisauli has however, been confirmed.

This block is archaeologically very rich. Dunde Khan built several buildings here including a fort\(^3\) Idgāh, Mosque, Shish Mahal in 1750 A.D. However, nothing of the fort has survived, except a massive brick wall. Shish Mahal has totally vanished away.

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2. Ibid., p.175; Atkinson, op.cit., p.147; Tārikh-e-Mohammadi, Trans. by Rizvi, p.204, 135; Tughlaq Kālin Bhārāt II p (204) 135.
Suchauli, Kot Śālvāhan, Shareh Baroliā and Paigā-Bhikampur villages of this block provide some information of archaeological importance.

(3) ISLĀMNAGAR BLOCK:

Islām Nagar\textsuperscript{1} lies in $28^\circ 20'\ N$ and $78^\circ 44'\ E$ on the road from Budaun to Sambhal at a distance of 54.4 Km. from Budaun and 20.8 Km. from Bisaurī.

Originally the name of the village was Nudhana\textsuperscript{2} or Hinudhna\textsuperscript{3} but the name was changed by Rustām Khan Dakhani governor of Sambhal after the name of his son Islām Khan during the reign of Shamsuddīn Altāmish.\textsuperscript{4} (1211-1236).

At this time Nudhana was a mahal of Sarkar Sambhal in the Suba of Delhi. In 1748 Rohillas took its possession from 1774 to 1801 it was governed by the Nawab Wazir of Oudh but in the later year it was ceded to East

\textsuperscript{2} Ibid., p.211; Ibid., p.100; E. Atkinson, op.cit., p.176.  
\textsuperscript{3} Ibid., pp.176, 182.  
\textsuperscript{4} Ibid., pp.176, 182.
India Company and was included in Moradabad district but in 1824 it was transferred to Budaun district. 1

(4) WAZIR GANJ BLOCK:

This village (28° 13’ N and 79° 4’ E) is situated on the road from Budaun to Bisauli at a distance of 15.5 Km. from Bisauli. It is rich in cultural findings. Important villages which throw some light on the antiquity of the region are Beoli, Bagrain, Bankotā and Wazīrganj, the last being very rich in cultural findings. A mother Goddess (Devi) temple is situated here on a mound and a fair is held annually in this connection in the month of Chaitra.

3. DATAGANJ TAHSIL:

This is the eastern sub-division of the district and comprises of a long and narrow stretch of country extending from the district of Bareilly on northern side upto Ganges. The southern side of the country beyond the river belongs to the district of Etah and

Farrukhabad inkandur Division. Dataganj Tahsil lies in the east of Budaun and west of Shahjahanpur. More than half of its boundary is formed by the river Ramganga.

In the south of the Tahsil there is fertile Khādir of Ganges. The river Sot flows in the northern side of it. Beyond this we find high and sandy land called 'Bhūr' which yields poor crops. Thereafter lies a stretch of land consisting of light loam which is the most fertile area. Once there has been dense forest in the basin of the Aril river. Here people depend mostly upon agriculture. No considerable trade has developed here. The tahsil comprises of many large villages containing mixed population. During medieval period these settlements viz. Alāpur, Kakralā and Dātaganj were of purely mohammedan population. 1

In the early days there were only two parganas: Salimpur and Usehat. Now there are four blocks in the Tahsil as named below:

(1) Dātaganj Block
(2) Miaūn Block

Before the present system of administration
the block Dātaganj fell in the Salimpur Pargana. In the
time of Akbar the pargana was included partly in Budaun
and partly in Sansa of the present Bareilly district.
The village was under Sambhal Sarkār. When Rohillas
obtained the possession in 1748 of that track, Salimpur
was made a separate pargana. After that Hafiz Rahmat Khan
obtained possession of it. Later on after his death,
passed on to Nawab Wazir and finally in 1801 it was in the
hands of British rulers. In 1844 Azimābād from pargana
Budaun and Nazratpur Tāluqā from Usāwan were annexed in
it. It was the Janghara Rajputs who dominated the area
and affected its history. They are still found in large
number in Bakṣenā, Chitri and Jamālpur villages. The
leading families among the Jangharas at present are those
of Bhaṭauli and Sambalpur. In Āīn-e-Akbari Salimpur is
described with the name of pargana Sansā. Nawab Ali
Mohammed Khan made it a separate pargana and it was given

1. H. R. Nevill, op. cit., p. 249.
2. Ibid., pp. 252-53; M. M. R. Simil, op. cit., p. 100.
to Hafiz Rahmat Khan. In settlement of 1833 A.D. the Tahsil was transferred to Dātāganj proper. Now it is called Block Dātāganj.¹ This town is located in 28° 24' N and 29° 24' E on the road from Budaun to Belā Dāndi ferry on Ramganga and from there to Fatehgarh and Shajahanpur at a distance of 28 Km. from Budaun. It was selected as the headquarter of the tahsil in 1833 A.D. Dātāganj was actually the name of a bazar in the village Arelā after the name river Aril.² It flows in the west at a distance of 4.5 Km. from here.

The block has got many relics of ancient origin right from Grey ware to medieval period. Among the villages of archaeological importance Baselā has yielded rich remains and Bhatauli has an old Shiva temple. Dhilwāri is also rich as it yields cultural remains of early historic period. The uninhabited village of Kurkhera is also rich as far as cultural and archaeological relics are concerned. Of all these Suījānī mound is most important one since it has got a sequence of ancient cultures but unfortunately it has been bisected by a

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¹ H.R. Nevill, op.cit., p.100.
road. Sallmpur has a mud fort\textsuperscript{1} and many wells and a
tunnel of great importance.

(2) **MIAÜN BLOCK**: Under the new scheme of administration it is
a block of the same name.\textsuperscript{2} It lies in 27° 53' N and 79°
17' E at the junction of the metalled roads leading from
Usehat to Dātāganj. It is 22.5 Km. from the district
headquarters. The block has got remains of a rich
cultural heritage.

Among all the most important villages from the
archaeological point of view are Alāpur, Bamanpurā,
Nablganj, Sehā and Sāndi; since these have got a lot of
traces and remains of ancient cultures (See Chapter III).
In Alāpur\textsuperscript{3} a Jama Masjid of Alauddin Alam Shah's time is
still there as a witness to the dignity and grandeur of
its past.

(3) **SAMRER BLOCK**: It is a block headquarter of the same name

\textsuperscript{1}Afurhar: op.cit., p.24 IIb7.
\textsuperscript{2}H.R. Nevill: op.cit., p.227.
\textsuperscript{3}Ibid., p.163.
Journal of Asiatic Society of Bengal, Vol.XLI, p.113;
which has recently formed. Its importance is because of its mound which has yielded rich cultural material. It stands on the Dātaganj Sadullahganj Road at a distance of 5 Km. from Dātaganj. Its villages Naiṭā Jhuksā, Baurā, Dharell and Samrer are considerably important because of their archaeological remains.

(4) USĀWĀN BLOCK:

The village lies in 79° 49' N and 79° 21' E on a metalled road at a distance of 32 Km. from the district headquarters and 27.2 Km. from the tahsil headquarters.¹

According to tradition its original name was Ushāwān² or Ushnapuri. An ancient temple at the border of the block in the Shahjahanpur district is the witness of the story of its origin. It is said that Shukrāchārya the Guru of Rākṣasas observed penances at Usāwān. At this very place Kacha the son of Brihaspati the Guru of Devatas (deities) came to learn the lore of Sanjivini i.e. making alive after a fetal blow. As the place was associated with Shukrāchārya, so it got its nomenclature Ushnapuri.

As Ushna is a synonym of Shukra. During Muslim reign the name was changed as Vasawan or Basawan and subsequently due to phonetic changes the present name Usawan became popular. At a distance of 3.5 Km, lies a mound in the village Nabiganj of Miaun block, which is said to be the fort of Devayani the daughter of Shukracharya and her maid servant Sharmishtha, who were married to the King Yayati, a descendant of Chandra Vansh. But at present there are no structural remains of the old fort as an Intermediate College has been built on the mound.

From the archaeological point of view some of the villages are very important in this block. Usehat yielded many interesting archaeological and cultural relics. Kakra is big village of Muslim period but now it is of little archaeological importance. Usehat was the capital of Pargana lying in 27° 47' N and 79° 14' E on the road from Budaun and Kakra to Farrukhabad at a distance of 28.8 Km. from Dataganj. In the centre of the village remains of an old Fort,¹ can still be witnessed. In the time of Afghans it was a separate pargana. In 1747 A.D. Rohillas defeated the Bangash Pathans near Budaun and took possession of it and Fateh Khan Khansama held

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control here he built a fort and a mosque here which is still in existence.

4. **GUNNAUR TAHSIL**

Gunnaur or Ginnaur is a small town area and Tahsil headquarters of the district Budaun. It lies in 28° 14' N and 78° 27' E at a distance of 78.5 Kms. in the North-West from district headquarters. It is the westernmost Tahsil of the district. River Ganges forms almost the whole of the western boundary of this Tahsil. Its northern limit is contiguous with District Moradabad while in South it is adjoined with District Aligarh. The eastern demarcation touches the boundaries of Saheswan and Bisauli Tahsils of the District.

Its original name was Bamanpuri² and it was a settlement of Brāhamans. Some Brahmans held it revenue free from Rāja of Majholā. A Persian pilgrim named Sheikh Tahir Majīd-ud-din better known as Makhdoom Sāhib Wilāyat settled here with his two disciples - Tājud-din and Muizzuddin. Brāhamans of Gunnaur agitated against the stay of these alien saints. They approached the Rāja of Majholā

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to chastise the intruders and drive them out. Raja of Majhola acceded their demand and proceeded against them but when he reached the river Bardmār he along with his forces became blind. Later on Raja begged pardon to the saint and he with his army regained their sight. The Raja in return bestowed upon the saint Bamanpuri and other adjoining villages. The saint Mokhdoom Sahib named the place Gunnaur on his native town in Iran known as 'Ginnaur' near Sabzwār.¹ In Tārikh-1-Firozshāhi Gunnaur is described by the name of Ghinnaur as after the conquest of Lakhanauti passing through the district Budaun Balban crossed the Ganges at Ghinnaur.²

The grave of Mukhdoom Sahib Wilayat is still in the vicinity of an old mosque of the same period.

In the beginning there were two parganas as Asadpur and Rajpura. Now the tahsil is divided into three Blocks as:

(1) Gunnaur Block
(2) Junawai Block
(3) Rajpura Block

¹ M.M.R. Bismil, op.cit., p.102; E. Atkinson, op.cit., p.175.
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(1) GUNNAUR BLOCK

The block of the same name is also the tahsil headquarter. In the beginning it was in Asadpur block. It is merely a large village on the road from Budaun to Anupshahar consisting of some mud built huts and shops. The city is about 1 Km. from the bus stand. It is some 4.8 Km. away from the bank of Ganges about 78.4 Km. from Budaun and 4.8 Km. from Babrala Rly. Station connected by a metalled road. 28° 14' N and 78° 27' E from district headquarters.

Its original name was Bahmampuri which was changed by Makhdoom Sähib Wiläyat in thirteenth Century A.D. on his native place 'Ginnaur'. In the city near Tahsil the graves of saints still stand recently renovated. The descendents of Makhdoom Sähib are known as Pirzådås and Chughanis Sheikhs claim descendents from Tåjuddin and Muiz-ud-din disciples of Makhdoom Sähib. The other clans are called Sheikhzadas and Qazizådås but they do not have any definite account of their origin. Some Mohallas are on the name of saints such as Mohalla Majnû Shåh on the

name of saints Majnu Shāh. There are three main mohallas as Chaudhari, Julahapura and Sarāī.

Except the graves of the saints there are no archaeological remains of historical importance. The only town in the Tahsil is Gunnaur. In the reign of Akbar¹ pargana Gunnaur was one of the Mahals of Sarkar Sambhal in 1748 Rohilla chief Ali Mohammad seized it on his death the pargana passed into the hands of Pathan General Dundī Khan till 1774 A.D. In that year it was annexed with the rest of Rohilkhand by Nawab Wazir of Oudh. In 1801 it passed into the hands of British rule.

(2) JUNAWAI BLOCK

It is a newly constituted block. The village is along the western side of the road from Gunnaur to Badaun at a distance of 9 KM. from Tahsil headquarters. The village is somewhat developed and has a higher secondary school. Village Chabūtrā is famous for the Ziarat of the sister of Makhdoom Sahib Wilayat known as the Mazār of Bibi Pātimā. The village does not bear any other ancient archaeological finds. The village Sikaraurā (Khādar) bears a survey Pillar and a stone marked R. + S.

¹Atkinson: op.cit., p.142.
(3) RAJPURA BLOCK

It is a considerable village and the block of the same name. It lies in $28^\circ 20' \text{N}$ and $78^\circ 24' \text{E}$ on the metalled road leading from Gunnaur to Gawan at a distance of one hundred and twenty eight Km. from district headquarters.

It is said that the village was founded by Raja Dharm Singh, the head of the Bargujars in the time of Akbar.¹ The block bears little of archaeological interest except a grave of a saint at the Bagha Khera which itself is not very old.

5. SAHASWAN TAHSIL

Sahaswan is the west central sub-division of the district Budaun. It is bounded on the north by Bisauli, on the north-west by Gunnaur on the east and south-east by Tahsil Budaun and on the south by the Ganges. It is a considerable town standing in $28^\circ 4' \text{N}$ and $78^\circ 45' \text{E}$ at a distance of 38.5 Km. from the district headquarters. It is situated on either sides of the metalled road leading from Budaun to Gunnaur. It comprises of a number of

¹ H.R. Nevill, op. cit., p.231.
scattered villages. The main population of the city is in Qazi Mohalla on the shore of Dhañá Jhíl.

According to tradition it is a town of undoubted antiquity. It is said that it was founded by a Hindu King Sahasraváhu, of the State Sankisá in Farrukhabad district. He reached here while on hunting expedition. He made a Fort for himself and the settlement was named 'Sahasraváhu Nagar'. As the time lapsed and owing to the difficulty in pronounciation it was called 'Sahaswán'. The Fort, now in the shape of a huge mound stands near Qazi Mohalla at the bank of the Dhañá Jhíl. Sahasraváhu was killed by one Paraśuráma, a mythical name in Rámáyana.

Sahaswán had been a proper place for hunting because of the proximity of the Dhañá Jhíl and jungles for shooting. Later on it attracted other people as well. In 1748 A.D. Sahaswán came under the possession of

Rohillas. After the death of Ali Mohammad it was held by Abdullah Khan. In 1774 A.D. it was captured by Nawab Wazir of Oudh and in 1801 A.D. it was ceded to the British. At first it was included in Bareilly district. The year 1824 A.D. had been a fortunate one to Sahaswan when it was promoted to the status of the district headquarters. But in 1838 A.D. the district headquarters were permanently fixed at Budaun and subsequently Sahaswan lost its prominence.

There are a number of ancient monuments pertaining to various periods. The Hindu temples at different places are, no doubt, ancient. The most important and ancient temple stands at the bank of the Dhand Jhil. By the side of this temple is a Pakka Tank by the name 'Sarsotā'. Fresh water always oozes from the streams. Hindus take sacred dip in it and have fair every year for two days in the month of Phalgun (February, March). Mention have been made of Satl Monuments but at present there is no remains as such.

There are three ancient Mosques. The biggest

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1. H.R. Nevill, op.cit., p.245; M.M.R. Bismil, op.cit., p.94.
one is on the mound near the Qazi Mohalla. It was built by Mohammad Shah Tughlaq in 750 A.H. The second mosque is in Shahwazpur and third one is in Chamarpura.¹

One temple is in Bhagta Nagala and a mazar of Mián Sāhib. A Rauza of Pîránpir is situated in Patti Yaqin Mohammad.²

In the beginning there were two parganas in Sahaswán Tahsil viz. Kot and Sahaswán. In 1894 A.D. some changes took place. As a result thirty villages of Pargana Kot were transferred to Bisauli Tahsil. At present Kot itself is the part of Bisauli Tahsil.

Now Sahaswan Tahsil has been divided in three Blocks viz:

(1) Ambiapur Block
(2) Dahgawan Block
(3) Sahaswan Block

(1) AMBIAPUR BLOCK

The village of the same name is block headquarters. It stands in the north-east at a distance of

¹ Atkinson, op.cit., p.290.
19 Km. from Tahsil headquarters on the Mujariā-Bisauli road. It is a considerable village. Khonsārā is also an important village in the block. It has been adopted by the State Govt. as a Project Block under the Small Farmers Development Project Agency.

(2) **DAHGAWĀN BLOCK**

Dahgawān is a considerable village and block of the same name. It lies in 28° 3' N and 76° 36' E about one and half Km. north-west on the Budaun to Gunnaur road at a distance of 53 Km. from the district headquarters. It is a developing village under the Small Farmers Development Project Agency. The village Bhagta Naglā has ancient monuments such as a Tomb of Mīān Sāhib and a temple of Sahasravāhū's time.

(3) **SAHASWĀN BLOCK**

It is a block and tahsil headquarters of the same name. It is an old city. Its origin has been related with the King Sahasravāhū, who came here for a hunting expedition. He founded here a 'Fort' and the settlement was named 'Sahasravāhū Nagar'. The remains of the fort are near Qazi Mohallā at the bank of the Dhānd Jhil. At
present the mound has been bisected by a road. Municipality has constructed a water works by cutting a major portion of the mound. The mound has yielded ancient findings and sherds ranging from P.G.W. and N.B.P. to Glazed Ware Periods.

There are several temples of different ages. The most important and ancient one stands at the shore of the Ḍhand Jhill. It is said to be of the time of Sahasravāhu. Hindus hold it in great veneration. An ever oozing tank is situated by the side of the temple. The tank is called by the name of 'Sarasotā'.

There are three ancient mosques and some Mazars. The tomb of Mian Sahib in Bhagtā Naglā and a Rauzā of Pirānpīr is situated in the Pattī Yaqlūn Mohammad.

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GEOGRAPHICAL STRUCTURE

This region forms part of the Gangatic plain. Due to the flow of rivers it has got at some places uneven land. The level of the district is from north-west to south-east. Hence all the rivers flow in the same direction.

Topographically the district is divided into four divisions i.e.

(i) Bhūr (Sandy land)
(ii) Khaḍar (low land)
(iii) Koṭhor (hard land)
(iv) Bankītī (forest land)

(i) Bhūr:

About sixty per cent of the land is bhūr. It is sandy hence unfertile. The belt of bhūr begins from Asadpur Pargana in Gunaur tahsil covering both the sides of the river Chhōiyā. It touches Pargana Islâm Nagar, north of Mahāwâ in Bahūwâl, Budaun, Dātâganj, Rasūlā, Buṭlā, Kankrālā and passes through Ushēt up to the eastern boundary of the district.

This belt of bhūr is famous for bajra and ground-nut crops. At some places cotton and sugarcane can be grown.
(ii) **KHÂDAR**

Khâdar is a low lying land specially made of silt. It is most fertile. This type of land is found in Pargana Rajpurâ of Gunnaur tahsil, Usâwân and in the north east of Dâtâganj. This type of soil is good for the crop of wheat, paddy and sugarcane etc.

(iii) **KATHOR**

This type of land is formed out of the mixture of sand and hard soil. It is found in Bisaull and Ujhanl. It is good for all types of crops.

(iv) **BAUKATI**

This is a land of forests having uneven surface. It is found in the west of the river Arîl in Dâtâganj tahsil. It is good for paddy.

**IMPORTANT RIVERS AND LAKES**

There are six important rivers in the district flowing from north west to south east.

(i) **The Ganga** - It forms the western and souther boundaries of the district covering about 84.8 km of the district.

(ii) **The Mahâva** - It rises from Morâdâbâd and enters the district at Gawan in Gunnaur tahsil and flowing through
Sahaswán and falls in the Ganga at Kachhalā. The Bardmår and the Tikṭā Chhoiyā are its tributaries.

(iii) The Sota / Srota:— It is the main river of the district and is also called Yāre Wafādār. It rises from Morādābād and enters the district at Bisaull tahsil flowing through Sahaswán, Budaun and Dātāganj tahsil. It fall into the Ganga at the district Shāhjahānpur.

(iv) The Aril:— It rises in the district Morādābād and enters the district at Bisaull tahsil. Thence flowing through the district Bareilly it enters the district at Dātāganj tahsil and flows into the Rāmgangā at Piplā.

(v) The Rāmgangā:— It is also called by the name of Chhoti Gangā (small Gangā). It flows by the eastern boundaries of the district and separates the district from the district Bareilly and Shāhjahānpur at the village Sallmpur.

(vi) The Bhainsor:— It is a small river of rainy season. It rises in Bilsī and flows into the Ganga at Budaun tahsil.

The Bajhā, the Andhiyārī and the Narhā are famous small streams carry little volume of water in rainy season in the tahsil Dātāganj.
Lakes

The lakes cover the area about 16 km in the district. The lakes are mostly found at Noorpur in the tahsil Budaun, Singthara in the tahsil Bisauli, Dhand in the tahsil Sahaswan, Usawan lake in the tahsil Dattaganj and Puraniya lake at Gunnaur.

CHART SHOWING THE BLOCKS AND VILLAGES OF THE DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sl. No.</th>
<th>Tahsil</th>
<th>Blocks</th>
<th>No. of villages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Bisaull</td>
<td>Wazirganj, Bisaull, Islāmnagar, Asafpur</td>
<td>343</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Budaun</td>
<td>Jagat, Sālārpur, Ujhāni, Qādar Chauk</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Dattaganj</td>
<td>Dattaganj, Miāūn, Usāwan, Samrer</td>
<td>388</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Gunnaur</td>
<td>Gunnaur, Rajpurā, Junāwai</td>
<td>313</td>
</tr>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Sahaswan</td>
<td>Sahaswan, Daḥgawān, Ambiāpur</td>
<td>368</td>
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