

**AGRARIAN CHANGE IN THE BRAHMAPUTRA
VALLEY (1826-1947)**



**THESIS SUBMITTED TO BODOLAND UNIVERSITY FOR THE
AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN
HISTORY**

By

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CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the present thesis “**Agrarian Change in the Brahmaputra Valley (1826-1947)**” is result of the original research carried out by **Bijit Brahma** under my supervision and that to the best of our knowledge and belief, neither this thesis nor any part of it forms the basis of any research degree either in this University or anywhere else.

I am pleased to forward the thesis to Bodoland University for its evaluation by the concerned examiners.

(Dr. Jaysagar Wary Ph.D)

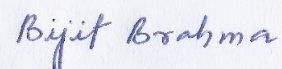
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DECLARATION

I do hereby declare that this work entitled **AGRARIAN CHANGE IN THE BRAHMAPUTRA VALLEY (1826-1947)** submitted by me to Bodoland University has been originally carried out by me. This work has not been earlier submitted for any other research degree in any other University or Institution.

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bijit Brahma".

(Bijit Brahma)

Date: 07/04/2020

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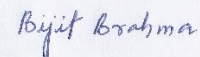
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Place: Bodoland University

(Bijit Brahma)

Date: 07/04/2022

Glossary

Adhiyar- landless labourer who receives half of produce.

Bigha- Unit of measurement of land equivalent to one third of an acre.

Basti- Homestead land or home surrounding land.

Bora/Borah- An officer assigned with military duty over twenty *paiks*.

Brahmottar- Rent free grant for the support of the Hindu religious priests.

Chamua- Rich peasants who serve as members of *paik* without physical presence by direct payment of tax to the government's treasure.

Chukanidar- under tenant.

Debottar- Rent free land granted for maintenance of religious deity.

Dharmottar- Rent free grant land owned by religious institutions.

Duar- Mountain pass. Adjacent place of foothills and plain area.

Gamati- Usufruct land given to *paiks*.

Gola- Depot, store.

Got- Squad or Unit of *paik* consisting of three to four members.

Kala Azar- Black Fever.

Kani- Opium.

Kharikatana- Crown land.

Khat- Tract of waste land of their own.

Khel- Ahom state service of voluntary organization or a unit or division of people for specific purpose.

Khiraj- Fully assessed tax estate.

Khelwari- System of assigning duty to the male person for utilization of land and military service to the Ahom.

Lakhiraj- Tax exempted estate or rent free land.

Maund- Wight Measurement equivalent to 40 kg.

Moouza- A Revenue Circle or a Fiscal Unit.

Nal- Stick used for measurement of land.

Nisf-khiraj- Half assessed tax estate.

Paik- Voluntary labour and militiaman of Ahom.

Pharingati- Dry highland.

Pura- A measurement of land equivalent to two acres of land.

Rajkhowa- An officer under Ahom rule commanding over three thousand *paiks*.

Rupit- Arable land or wet paddy growing land.

Ryot- A peasant whose main occupation is cultivation.

Ryotwari- Land and Revenue Settlement directly established with the actual cultivators.

Saikia- An officer under Ahom government supervising over hundred *paiks*.

Satgharia- Seven clan of the Ahom royal family.

Satra- Religious temple of Vaishnavism.

Zamindar- A hereditary collector of revenue.

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