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**Gorakhpur Division.**—Division in the north-east of the United Provinces, extending from the borders of Nepāl to the south of the Gogra, and lying between  $25^{\circ} 38'$  and  $27^{\circ} 30'$  N. and between  $82^{\circ} 13'$  and  $84^{\circ} 26'$  E. The northern portion includes a damp alluvial tract in Gorakhpur District, containing forests. It is crossed by the RĀPTĪ, and skirted on the north-east by the GREAT GANDAK. The headquarters of the Commissioner are at GORAKHPUR CITY. Population increased rapidly from 1872 to 1891, but received a check in the next decade, owing to mortality from an epidemic of fever, increased emigration, and the effects of the famine of 1896-7. The numbers at the four enumerations were as follows: (1872) 4,810,016, (1881) 5,852,386, (1891) 6,508,526, and (1901) 6,333,012. The total area is 9,534 square miles, and the density of population is 664 persons per square mile, compared with 445 for the whole of the United Provinces. This Division, though it contains a smaller area than any other, ranks second in population. In 1901 Hindus formed 87 per cent. of the total, and Musalmāns nearly 13 per cent. Christians numbered 1,721 (1,197 being natives), and Sikhs 1,646. The Division contains three Districts, as shown in the following table:—

District.	Area in square miles.	Population, 1901.	Land revenue and cesses, 1903-4, in thousands of rupees.
Gorakhpur . . . . .	4,535	2,938,176	29,38
Bastī . . . . .	2,792	1,846,153	23,21
Azamgarh . . . . .	2,207	1,548,683	20,69
Total	9,534	6,333,012	73,28

Gorakhpur and Bastī are situated north of the Gogra, and Azamgarh south of that river. The Division contains 19,135 villages, but only 34 towns, and is remarkable for the manner in which houses are scattered about in small hamlets, instead of being collected in central sites, as in the western portions of the United Provinces. The only town with a population exceeding 20,000 is GORAKHPUR (64,148, with a small area which was till lately a cantonment). GORAKHPUR, AZAMGARH, BARHAJ, BARHALGANJ, USKĀ, PADRAUNĀ, and GOLĀ are at present the chief trading centres, but the recent improvements in railway communications are changing the former conditions. The site of KAPILAVASTU, where Gautama Buddha was born, is now known with some degree of certainty to lie close to the northern border of Bastī District, and both Bastī and Gorakhpur contain many ruins dating from Buddhist times. The site near KASIĀ is especially interesting. MAGHAR is connected with the life of the great reformer, Kabir.

**Gorakhpur District.**—Eastern District in the Division of the same



name, United Provinces, lying between  $26^{\circ} 5'$  and  $27^{\circ} 29'$  N. and  $83^{\circ} 4'$  and  $84^{\circ} 26'$  E., with an area of 4,535 square miles. It is bounded on the north by Nepāl territory; on the east by the Champāran and Sāran Districts of Bengal; on the south by the Gogra, which divides it from Balliā and Azamgarh; and on the west by Bastī. The

**Physical aspects.**

District lies a few miles from the most southern slopes of the lower range of hills in Nepāl, but no greater elevation than a few sandhills breaks the monotony of its level surface. It is, however, intersected by numerous rivers and streams, and dotted over with lakes and marshes. The water-supply is abundant, and the moisture of the soil gives a verdant appearance to the country which contrasts strongly with the arid aspect of the Districts south of the Gogra. In the north and centre extensive tracts of *sāl* forest diversify the scene, though the trees are not as a rule of any great size. In the south the general expanse of close cultivation is diversified by shady mango groves or intersected by frequent small lakes. The west and south-west are low-lying plains subject to extensive inundations. In seasons of heavy rain the water collects in the valley of the Amī, and, joining the lakes to the east, forms an immense inland sea. The District is drained chiefly into the GOGRA, a large and rapid river which forms the southern border. Its main tributary is the RĀPTĪ, which winds across the west with a very tortuous and shifting channel, and receives a number of affluents, including the Rohini and Amī. West of the Rāptī flows the Kuwānā, and east of it the LITTLE GANDAK. The eastern border is skirted in places by the GREAT GANDAK or Nārāyanī, a large and rapid stream which receives very little drainage from Gorakhpur. The chief perennial lakes are the Nadaur, Rāngarh, Narhar, Chillūā, Rāma Bhār, Amiār, and Bheorī Tāls.

The District exposes nothing but alluvium. As is usual in the submontane tract, even the calcareous limestone commonly found throughout the Gangetic valley is rare.

The flora of the District resembles that found in the submontane tract of Northern India. Outside the forests, which are described separately, the principal trees are mango, various kinds of fig, *shisham* (*Dalbergia Sissoo*), *mahuā* (*Bassia latifolia*), guava, jack-fruit, and *jāmun* (*Eugenia Jambolana*).

Tigers and leopards are fairly common in the north of the District, and a few wild buffaloes and a single rhinoceros have been shot within the last few years. Spotted deer and hog deer, and occasionally sloth bears, are found in the same locality. Wild hog, *nālgai*, wolves, and jackals occur all over the District. The numerous lakes are the homes of an immense variety of water-birds. Snakes are found everywhere, and the python is sometimes seen in the forest. Fish are plentiful in