

**GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA  
COMPRISING AN ACCOUNT OF  
BRITISH  
INDIA, AND THE VARIOUS STATES  
ENCLOSED OR ADJOINING**

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**D. T. A.**

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# GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA;

COMPRISING AN ACCOUNT OF

## BRITISH INDIA,

AND

THE VARIOUS STATES ENCLOSED OR ADJOINING.

*D. T. A.*

FOR THE USE OF SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS.



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## INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

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In the absence of any convenient and correct account of Modern Indian Geography, the following pages are submitted with some confidence as adapted for general use both in England and India.

The admirable gazetteers of Mr. Thornton, based on information obtained from the most accurate sources, and prepared with great care, have served as the basis of the present work, and have been freely drawn upon. Various blue books, and statements published by authority, some of them during the present year, have been made use of to bring the accounts down to a recent period, and changes in the distribution of districts and provinces are duly noted. Other works on India have been referred to, and valuable assistance has been obtained, in the revision of the pages, from those best informed on the subject in this country.

The spelling of proper names has been rendered as simple as possible. Unnecessary letters have been suppressed. Thus *u* replaces *oo*, and *i* replaces *ee*; *h* is generally omitted after *d* and *g*, and *st* the ends of words. Both *h* and *r* are left out where the pronunciation is not affected.

A full Index, containing more than 2,000 references, and a careful Table of Contents, will render the work useful for reference. It is hoped that, it may be found available as a class-book, not only for English instruction but in native schools where English is taught.

D. T. A.

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# GEOGRAPHY OF INDIA.

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## CHAPTER I.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION.

**Position, Boundaries, and Extent—Mountains—Plateaux—Plains and Valleys—Rivers—Lakes and Lagoons—Climate—Vegetable and Animal Life—Mineral Resources—Population and Races of Men—Language—Religions—Government—Revenue—Trade and Commerce—Means of Communication—Canals and Irrigation Works—Political and Natural Divisions—Progress of British Power in India.**

**Position, Boundaries, and Extent.**—The peninsula of India occupies nearly the same relative position with regard to Asia that Italy does to Europe. It consists of a spur projecting southwards from the central and loftiest part of the great mountain axis of the Old World. This spur is wide towards the mountains, and gradually narrows till it terminates southward at Cape Comorin. The large island of Ceylon represents Sicily. The great River Ganges conveys the drainage of the southern face of the Asiatic Alps into the Bay of Bengal, just as the Po does that of the European Alps into the Adriatic. The mountains of Arracan on the east, and of the country beyond the Indus to the west, form, with the Himalaya, the land boundaries of India; and within these limits and the shores of the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal