

**REPORT ON INDIGENOUS EDUCATION
AND VERNACULAR SCHOOLS, IN
AGRA, ALIGARH, BARELI, ETAWAH,
FARRUKHARAD, MAINPURI, MATHURA,
SHAHJAHANPUR, FOR 1850-51**

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Report on Indigenous Education and Vernacular Schools, in Agra, Aligarh, Bareilly, Etawah, Farrukhgarh, Mainpuri, Mathura, Shahjahanpur, for 1850-51 by Henry Stewart Reid

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HENRY STEWART REID

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IN
AGRA, ALIGARH, BAREILY, ETÁWÁH, FARRUKHÁBÁD, MAINPURI,
MATHURA, SHÁHJAHÁNPÚR, FOR 1850-51.

BY
HENRY STEWART REID, B. C. S.,
Visitor General of Schools, N. W. P.

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OF THE NORTH WESTERN PROVINCES.

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1852.



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TABLE OF ERRATA.

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11,	18,	27853,	27736.
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65,	3,	574,	514.
75,	25,	66,	76.

After the sheets had been struck off, many Errata were discovered in the Report, some of which are rectified above; others of a trifling nature, but the correction of which would have entailed a tedious examination of the original District statements, and a further delay, may still be found. As some of the Errata here corrected are important, I beg that they may be rectified in the body of the Report.

Owing to the adoption in the Report of Sir W. Jones' system of converting the Hindi and Persian into the Roman Character, while that of Dr. Gilchrist is more familiar to most compositors, many mistakes, attributable to this fact, may be found, but it is scarcely worth while to swell out the table of Errata with all the corrections which would be necessary.

H. S. R.

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REPORT.

FROM

H. STEWART REID, Esq.,
Visitor General of Schools, N. W. P.

TO

J. THORNTON, Esq.,
Secretary to Govt. N. W. P.
Dated 10th of October 1851.

SIR,

1.—*Submits Report and Tabular Statements.*—I have the honor to submit herewith a Report on the state of Indigenous Education in the eight Districts noted in the margin,* (selected by Government as the field for the operation of the Educational scheme, set forth in Resolution of Government, North Western Provinces, No. 149 A of 1850, dated 9th February,) together with the accompanying Tabular Statements, exhibiting the most important of the statistical information, collected on the subject of Vernacular Schools.

* Agra.	Farrukhabad.
Alighr.	Mainpuri.
Bareil.	Mathura.
Bikaner.	Shahjahanpur.

2.—*Arrangement of the subject.*—I purpose, *Firstly*; to state the principles, on which the provisions of the scheme have been carried out, and the mode in which the enquiries, &c., contemplated therein, have been conducted.

Secondly; to exhibit, by means of statistical details, the actual state and extent of Vernacular Education; to describe the condition of, and customs prevailing in, Village Schools,

the mode of teaching followed, and nature of the instruction afforded.

Thirdly; to show the working, progress, and prospects of the Tahsil schools, the course of instruction prescribed, books read, &c.

Fourthly; to describe the steps taken, and in contemplation, for providing a supply of Vernacular School Books, and the extent to which Educational works, published by order of Government, have been disposed of by the several District Educational Officers.

Fifthly; to review summarily the proceedings of the past year, the plans adopted for the encouragement and improvement of Village School Masters, and the measures which it is proposed to carry out for increasing the efficiency and number of Village Schools.

Sixthly, and lastly; briefly to notice the support and assistance which have been afforded by the local authorities, in charge of the several districts, without whose aid, the efforts of myself and of my subordinates would have been comparatively ineffectual. In conclusion, I beg to recommend to the favorable notice of Government those Zilâ and Parganah Visitors, and Tahsil School Masters, whose exertions, during the past year, call for commendation.

CHAPTER I.

3.—*Assumes charge of Office of Visitor General of Schools, N. W. P.*—Having made over charge of the office of Joint Magistrate of Hamirpûr, on the 26th February 1850, on my arrival at Agra, I proceeded to fill up the appointments vacant in the several districts.

4.—*Number and nature of the appointments to be filled up.*—In three out of the eight districts selected, viz., in Agra, Bareilly, and Mainpuri, Zilâ and Parganah Visitors had been for some time carrying on operations, while in Mathura, Parganah Visitors only had been employed under the orders of the Collector.

5.—*Ditto.*—Five Zilâ Visitors, Parganah Visitors for four districts, and all the Tahsili School Masters, remained to be appointed.

6.—*Ditto.*—There was no lack of candidates, but the majority were possessed of qualifications, far from commensurate with their ambition.

7.—*Ditto.*—The success of the scheme being in no slight degree dependent on the agency employed, the appointments were made out with as much care as possible, though not always with proportionate success.

8.—*Result of inspection of the work of the subordinate Officers.*—During the last cold season, I have seen the work of all parties employed, with the exception of that of three or four Tahsili School Masters. The inefficient, whether from want of capacity, or of attention to their duty, have been weeded out; the present incumbents are as a body up to their work, though in too many instances wanting in zeal.

9. In filling up appointments in the several grades, many considerations presented themselves.

10.—*Considerations influencing the selection of subordinates—fears entertained by the people.*—The people of India who cling with unreflecting reverence to the "*bâp dâda kâ dastur*," with whom "Custom serves for Reason," have always re-