



## THE SALVATION ARMY INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE CENTRE SUBJECT GUIDE

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### DENOTIFIED TRIBES

This guide offers an overview of the archives and published sources relating to Salvation Army work with Denotified Tribes (also known as Criminal Tribes) in the Indian sub-continent. The overview covers material held at the Salvation Army International Heritage Centre and other institutions. You can find a large number of our records via our online catalogue.

#### *Background*

In 1871 the British Raj in India enacted the Criminal Tribes Act. The Act proposed that certain *adivasi* or ethnic, tribal communities in the Indian sub-continent were 'habitually criminal'. As a consequence of the Act Criminal Tribe settlements were established with the intention of altering the behaviour of these communities. The movement of settlement inhabitants was restricted and they were subject to roll calls several times throughout the day and night.

The Salvation Army had begun evangelical and social work in India, starting with Mumbai, in 1882. They would combat the supposed criminal tendencies of communities with religious faith and in particular through the instruction of children. They argued that settlement work was an integral part of uplifting the depressed classes of the Indian sub-continent. Anglo-Indian Salvation Army officer (minister) Frederick Booth-Tucker was a key exponent of developing agricultural and industrial settlements and work with Criminal Tribes.

At first the British Raj did not agree to the Salvation Army's attempts at rehabilitating Criminal Tribes but by 1908, after years of difficulties in managing settlements, it was willing to utilise missionaries. Thus The Salvation Army opened its first settlement, for the Doms 'tribe', in Gorakhpur, United Provinces in 1908. Within three years the Salvation Army was receiving government subsidies to run 22 settlements with approximately 10,000 residents. These settlements were: Aligarh, Asapu, Bezwada, Baripada, Bareilly, Bettiah, Changa Manga, Chawa, Chanterwa, Danepur, Fazalpur Guntur, Kheri, Kot Mokal, Kodyli, Kammaphuram, Kashirpur, Moradabad, Mokhal, Sahibganj, Sakchi and Sainiyapuram. Other known settlements which opened later include Ferrarganj (Andaman Islands), Jitpur and Kanth. The Salvation Army also ran nearby or on-site industrial homes and schools where adults and children worked and attended lessons.

During the mid-1940s the Salvation Army still ran at least five settlements, including one on the Andaman Islands. It continued to run settlements until the repeal of the Criminal Tribes Act by the newly independent Indian government in 1949. In 1952 Criminal Tribes were officially 'de-notified' when the government introduced a successor act by the name of the Habitual Offenders Act. Thus former Criminal Tribes are now known as Denotified Tribes (DNTs) or *vimukta jati*. It is believed that a considerable proportion of Salvationists in India today are descendants of these settlement communities.

## WHAT MATERIAL DO WE HAVE?

### ARCHIVES

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#### *Officer records: personal papers and career cards*

##### Papers of Colonel W Bramwell Baird

Includes letter to Lt-Col C J Barnes re Criminal Tribes in Bengal, 27 April 1978. [BMB]

##### Papers of General William Booth

Includes 'Police Dept. Progs. No.19. Serial No.3': Transcript (copy) from William Booth to The Secretary of State for India re 'The reformation and employment of criminal tribes in India', 5 March 1912. [PWB/4/13]

##### Papers of Emma, Frederick and Minnie Booth-Tucker

Frederick Tucker was born and raised in India. He became a member of the Indian Civil Service (his father's profession) but left to join the Salvation Army as an officer. In 1888 he married Emma Booth, daughter of Salvation Army founders William and Catherine Booth, and took the name Booth-Tucker.

It was Booth-Tucker who took the Salvation Army to India and instituted the practice of adopting local dress and names, becoming known as Fakir Singh. Booth-Tucker was interested in Indian labour, poverty and overpopulation and developing 'peasant' land settlements. He utilised his contacts within the Raj to promote the Salvation Army as a valuable agent in managing Criminal Tribes and became integral to the leadership of the Salvation Army. From 1907-1919 he held the prestigious rank and appointment of Special Commissioner for India and Ceylon.

The publications and published addresses [BT/4] include:

*Extracts from "The Times" and "Westminster Gazette" on Indian Peasant Settlements* (1895)

*Extracts from letters of prominent Gentlemen regarding Indian Peasant Settlement* (1895)

*A note on General Booth's Indian Peasant Settlements*, G.B. Paranjpe [c1896]

These sources are not directly about Criminal Tribes but offer useful context for Booth-Tucker's development of thought in regards to land settlements.

*India's Millions: Being a summary of a Lecture on the work of The Salvation Army in India*, Mrs Commissioner (Minnie) Booth-Tucker [post-1906]

After Emma's death, Minnie Reid married Booth-Tucker in 1906.

*Bridging the Gap: Frederick Booth-Tucker of India*, Madge Unsworth (Eagle Books No.52, 1943 and 1948)

##### Papers of Colonel Muriel Booth-Tucker

Muriel, Frederick's daughter, collected papers relating to her family. Includes two volumes of *The Panjab Colony Manual* by L French, which belonged to Frederick (signed), 1907-1908. [MBT/4/1]

### Papers of Bertie Hants

A scrapbook [of a Salvationist] containing personal photographs and Salvation Army press cuttings. Includes loose Salvation Army postcard depicting 'Drum and Fife band at one of The Army's Homes for Criminal Boys, India'. [BEH]

### Papers of Majors Maria and Alphonse Lutz

The Lutzs were German officers who were appointed to India and ran the Sansiaganj Settlement for Sansiah people in Kheri District, Uttar Pradesh from April 1911 to November 1915. Their papers include copies from the settlement Visitors' Book, stamps postmarked 'Sansiahganj' and photographs. [AML]

### Assorted Career Cards

The IHC also holds individual Career Cards for officers, some of whom are known to have been appointed to 'Criminal Tribes' and for whom there are no other papers. The Cards cover officers' backgrounds, skills, appointments and promotions. [IC/3/1, ISE/3/2, OD/1, SAZ/7, SFD/1, STF/1]

## ARCHIVES

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### *Territorial records: from the Indian Territories*

#### India North Territory

Typescripts. *Criminal Tribes Work and Ferrarganj Colony, Andaman Islands and Saidpur Settlement* by Commissioner Charles Baugh, c1942. [IN/2/1]

Baugh and his wife Nellie were appointed to India in 1915. Baugh was India North Territorial Commander from 1927-1930 and was active in the establishment and inspection of settlement work in the Andaman Islands.

Typescripts. *Life among Lifers and A Model Convict Settlement* by Brigadier Arthur Hughes c1934-c1940. [IN/2/1]

Hughes and his wife Jenny were appointed to the Indian sub-continent from 1921-1940 and specifically to the Andaman Islands from 1932-1934. These typescripts are reflections on Salvation Army work in the Andaman Islands.

Annual report, 1940. [IN/1]

Includes outline of current political 'out look' for Depressed Classes and provides details of recent political social movements such as the Arya Samaj and Harijan Uplift Movement.

Photographs of settlements, officers and residents. Includes Bareilly, Fazalpur, and Moradabad. [IN/5/1 and IN/5/4]

#### India Central Territory

Photograph of officers' quarters and statue of Frederick Booth Tucker at Stuartpuram Settlement, Andhra Pradesh. [IC/2/3/1]

### India West Territory

Typescript. *The Criminal Tribes work in India - As an economic experiment* by Commissioner Baugh, 1930. [IW/2/1]

Baugh wrote this article for the October 1930 issue of the *Salvation Army Staff Review*.

Report and correspondence by Colonel Edwin Sheard reflecting upon his life and work in India, 1942-1943. [IW/2/1]

Sheard was appointed to India from 1913-1947. He and his wife Elizabeth ran settlements in Gorakhpur, Najibabad, and Moradabad before being transferred to establish settlement work in the Andaman Islands in 1927. The report is specifically about the Andaman Islands.

## ARCHIVES

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### *Territorial records: from the UK Territory*

#### Darkest England Fund

Annual reviews, 1914-1931. [IFD/2/2/2]

The Darkest England Fund arose out William Booth's Darkest England scheme which was established in 1890 to address the problems of daily living circumstances for the poorest tenth of the UK population. The annual reviews contain photographs and updates on aspects of international social work, including Criminal Tribes settlements. See for instance *Pictures of Joy and Sorrow* (1913-1914).

#### Red Shield Services

Booklet. *Service for the Services* [1939-1946]. [ERS/5/1/2]

The Red Shield, formerly the Naval and Military League, was the Salvation Army's armed forces and emergency services department. This promotional booklet is about the Red Shield's wartime work in India. It includes information about the Ferrarganj settlement in the Andaman Islands and statistics for the total number of active settlements in India.

## ARCHIVES

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### *International Headquarters Departmental records*

#### South Asia Zonal Department

Typescript. *History of Stuartpuram settlement*, c1948. [SAZ/6/1]

Stuartpuram settlement in Andhra Pradesh was opened in 1913.

Typescript. *The Salvation Army and the Criminal Tribes of India*, by Commissioner Henry Gore [1945]. [SAZ/6/1]

Gore and his wife Elsie were appointed to India from 1937-1954.

### The General's Office

Brief, itinerary and report. Tour of India, Pakistan and Ceylon, 1948-1949. [GEN/4/3]

This brief and report relate to General Albert Orsborn's tour across the Indian sub-continent from November 1948 to March 1949. They include demographic statistics relating to 'Tribes' and Orsborn's daily diary which refers to settlement work and his fears for its future following the repeal of the Criminal Tribe Act and ending of Salvation Army subsidies.

### PUBLISHED SOURCES

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#### *Salvation Army books and pamphlets: India and Criminal Tribes*

Begbie, Harold, *Other Sheep: A Study of the Peoples of India, with Particular reference to the Collision between Christianity and Hinduism* (Hodder & Stoughton: London, 1911) [H/IND.5, H/IND.5a]

Begbie, Harold, *The children of India* (The Salvation Army Book Department: London, 1913) Includes chapter re 'The Doms.' [H/IND.24]

Booth-Tucker, Frederick (Commissioner), *Criminocurology or The Indian Crim, and what to do with him: Being a review of the work of The Salvation Army amongst the criminal tribes of India* (The Royal Army Temperance Association Press: Simla, 1911, 1914, 1916) [Pam/R.16, Pam/R.17 and Pam/R.18]

Booth-Tucker, Frederick (Commissioner), *Darkest India: A supplement to General Booth's 'In Darkest England, and The Way Out'* (Salvation Army: Bombay, 1891) [RARE BOOKS/113]

Booth-Tucker, Frederick (Commissioner), *Muktifauj, or, Forty Years with The Salvation Army in India and Ceylon* (SP&S Ltd.: London, 1923) [BOO/751]

Das, Eshwar, *Jungle Trophies* (Salvation Army Printing and Publishing Department: London, 1888) [H/IND.1]

Hatcher, Matilda (Lt-Colonel), *The Untouchables: A Story of Indian Girls* (SP&S Ltd.: London, 1920) [H/IND.10]

Hatcher, Matilda (Lt-Colonel), *The Uplifters: An account of Salvation Army missionary work* (SP&S Ltd.: London, 1930) [H/IND.11]

Smith Henry P (Brigadier), *Capturing Crims for Christ* (Salvation Army Challenge Books: London, [1945]) [Pam.145]

## PUBLISHED SOURCES

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### *Salvation Army books: biographies*

*Liberty booklets* and *Trophy booklets*. Mid-twentieth century Salvation Army published series of inspiring stories about officers and their work. Includes Edwin Sheard [X/12 and X/15]

Various biographies about Frederick Booth-Tucker e.g. Gould, Jean, *Servant of India: Frederick Booth-Tucker* (Salvation Army International Headquarters: London, 1964) [Pam.344]

## PUBLISHED SOURCES

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### *Salvation Army books: international social work*

Booth, William (General), 'The duty of The Salvation Army towards the criminal populations of the world' in *International Social Council Addresses 1911: Part I* (The Salvation Army: London, 1912) [S.71]

Booth-Tucker, Frederick (Commissioner), 'The Criminal Tribes of India' in *Social Problems in Solutions* (Salvation Army International Headquarters: London, 1921) [S.25]

Sowton, Charles (Colonel), 'Indian Criminal Tribes' in *Some aspects of Salvation Army social work* (Salvation Army: London, 1917) [S.15]

See also photograph of children 'born into life of crime' in *Social Problems in Solutions* (Salvation Army: London, 1927) [S.25]

## PUBLISHED SOURCES

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### *Salvation Army periodicals*

*All The World* (1884-2003). Bi-monthly International Headquarters publication re international work. With in depth articles about officers and Criminal Tribes.

*Indian / South Asian War Cry* (1882-present). English-language newspaper for South Asia.

*The Officer* (1893-2013). Bi-monthly International Headquarters publication for Salvation Army officers. With in depth profiles of officers.

*Year Books* (1906-present). Annual International Headquarters publication. Includes news, statistical information and individual entries for all Territories.

## PUBLISHED SOURCES

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### *Non-Salvation Army publications: India and Criminal Tribes*

Fischer-Tiné, Harald, *Reclaiming Savages in Darkest England and Darkest India: The Salvation Army as Transnational Agent of the Civilizing Mission* (In: Watt, Carey and Mann, Michael, 'Civilizing Missions in Colonial and Postcolonial South Asia' (Anthem Press: London, 2011) pp125-164)

Keer, Mrs General, *The Salvation Army in India: Letters from Mrs General Keer* (London, 1894). Concerns work with Pariah and Bhils. [Pam/R.13]

Tolen, Rachel J, *Colonizing and Transforming the Criminal Tribesman: The Salvation Army in British India* (In: American Ethnologist, Volume 18, Issue 1, February 1991, pp106-125) [Pam.663]

## THESES

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Berry, Emily, *From Criminals to Caretakers: the Salvation Army in India, 1882-1914* (Northeastern University, 2008)

Williams, Harry (Commissioner), *Frederick Booth-Tucker Called it Criminocurology: Or Has the Salvationist any Specific for the Treatment of the Offender?* (1989)

## WHAT MATERIAL IS ELSEWHERE?

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### ARCHIVES

The most substantial British archives for the study of India are The British Library, which holds the records of the India Office [IOR], and The National Archives, which hold the records of the Colonial Office, [CO]

## WHAT MATERIAL IS ELSEWHERE?

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### PUBLISHED SOURCES

Arora, Saurabh, *Gatherings of mobility and immobility: itinerant "criminal tribes" and their containment by the Salvation Army in colonial South India* (In: Transfers, 4 (1), 2014, pp8-26)

Radhakrishna, Meena, *Colonial Construction of a 'Criminal Tribe': The Itinerant Trading Communities in Madras Presidency* (In: Chandhoke, Neera (ed.), 'Mapping Histories: Essays presented to Ravinder Kumar' (Anthem Press: London, 2002) pp128-161)

Schwarz, Henry, *Discipline, Labour, Salvation: Repression, reform and the Thuggee precedent* (In: Schwarz, Henry, 'Constructing the Criminal Tribe in Colonial India: Acting like a Thief' (Wiley-Blackwell: London, 2010) Chapter 3)