



THE SALVATION ARMY INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE CENTRE SUBJECT GUIDE

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

Personal papers

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 Commissioner David Crichton Lamb

Commissioner David Lamb, who served as International Social Secretary from 1920-1932, wrote a book about the Salvation Army's International Social work which was never published. Two versions of the unpublished typescript of this book, *Social Maladies. Causes: Conditions: Cures*, are held in the Lamb family collection. It includes a chapter on Criminal Tribe Settlements. [LAM/14]

Papers of Commissioners Alfred and Clara Barnett

The Barnetts were the officers in charge of a Criminal Tribes weaving school for boys in the first decade of the twentieth century and later, in the 1930s, Alfred served as Territorial Commander of India West Territory. One of their photograph albums contains a photograph of Willingdon Boys' Home, a weaving school for boys from Criminal Tribes. [BAR/3]

Papers of Colonel William Bramwell Baird

Includes a copy of the typescript of his 'The Call of the Jackals,' c1970s, and a letter to Lt-Col C J Barnes re Criminal Tribes in Bengal, 27 April 1978. [BMB]

Papers of Majors Maria and Alphonse Lutz

The Lutzes 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]

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,' c1920s. [BEH]

ARCHIVES

Officer records

We hold career records and biographical material for many of the Salvation Army officers who worked in Criminal Tribes settlements. For information on finding and using these records, please see our second subject guide in this series: Officer Records.

ARCHIVES

Territorial records: from the Indian Territories

India Central Territory

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

Postcard. 'Daughters of Indian Tribespeople' ['criminal' tribes], No. 104 from International Series: People Amongst Whom The Salvation Army Works, from Adjutant and Mrs Argyle, 1932-1933. [IC/3/3]

India North Territory

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.

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.

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

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

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

International Headquarters Departmental records

South Asia Zonal Department

Reports, statements and memos re Criminal Tribes, c1920s-1944 [SAZ/1/1/3]

Includes:

- Statement by Commissioner Baugh - *Criminal Tribes work*, c1920s
- Report of the Criminal Tribes Committee, 1938
- Report. *Criminal tribes - India* by Commissioner Chas. F. A. Mackenzie, c1940s
- Report. *Criminal tribes - India* by Commissioner Anandham (McKenzie), c1940s
- Typescript. Article published in *The War Cry*, 'At work among India's criminal tribes' by Dr. Krupavathie, 1940
- Memorandum on criminal tribes by Commissioner A. R. Blowers, 1942
- Report. *Criminal tribes work* by Major Khuda Baksh, 1943
- Report. *The criminal tribes of India* by Commissioner Henry Gore, 1944

Typescripts re India, Pakistan, Ceylon and Burma, 1940s-1950s [SAZ/1/1/4]

Includes:

- *Madras and Telegu Territory: A short history of the Stuartpuram Settlement*, 1948
- *History of Stuartpuram Settlement*, undated
- Untitled typescript re North-East India (includes references to Saidpur Criminal Tribes' Settlement and Nilphamari Criminal Tribes' School)
- *Northern India Territory* (includes references to Criminal Tribes Settlements Schools and Criminal Tribes Settlements)

Letter to Commissioner Gore re Criminal Tribes History from India Northern Territorial Headquarters, 1945 [SAZ/2/1]

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.

Typescript. *History of Stuartpuram settlement*, c1948. [SAZ/6/1]
Stuartpuram settlement in Andhra Pradesh was opened in 1913.

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.

The Chief of the Staff's Office

Correspondence concerning Indian Harijans ('untouchables'), August-December 1949 [COS/2/1/6]

Editorial and Literary Department

Correspondence re Colonel W Bramwell Baird's 'Work Among Criminal Tribes' and 'The Call of the Jackals'. 1968-1974 [EDL/7/6/1]

ARCHIVES

Glass lantern slides

Two series of magic lantern slide shows produced by The Salvation Army in the first half of the twentieth century include images of their work with Criminal Tribes.

'Salvation Army Work Abroad' [GPS/1/1]

Includes images of Bhil and Doms people, and a Criminal Settlement at Port Aligarh.

'The Social Dream of William Booth' [GPS/1/2]

Includes images of people from Criminal Tribes, the Criminal Tribe Settlement at Guntur, an 'expert Dacoit', and the school of weavery.

PUBLISHED SOURCES

Salvation Army periodicals

Salvation Army periodicals provide the most detailed information we have about The Salvation Army's work with Criminal Tribes and are the most comprehensive surviving source.

We hold back series of all Salvation Army newspapers and magazines published in the UK and some international periodicals. Subject indexes are available for most UK-based periodicals but these are not complete.

The most relevant periodicals in relation to this subject are:

Indian / South Asian War Cry (1882-present). English-language newspaper for South Asia. No index available.

All The World (1884-2003). International Headquarters magazine re international work. Known relevant articles include:

- 'The Criminal Tribes of India', August 1912, pp395-400
- 'The Secret of The Army's success among Criminal Tribesmen', August 1914, p453
- 'The Criminal Tribes', August 1914, p511-512
- 'Settlement Work in India', April 1916, p177-180
- 'The Criminal Tribes of India', April 1917, p179-182
- 'Chats with Missionary Officers IX: Adjutant and Mrs. Mabe, the Criminal Settlements', January 1918, pp45-48, p54
- 'The Criminal Tribes of South India', September 1918, p419-422
- 'Young People's Criminal Tribes Settlement', December 1919, p561-564
- 'Snapshots from the Punjab: Our Shantinagar Colony', February 1920, pp67-69
- 'Criminal Tribes-People of Saidpur', April/June 1922, p251-253
- 'India's Criminals', October 1922, p397-400
- 'Indian Criminals - Army Officers' (by non-Salvation Army missionary Miss Dora Tickell), October 1926, p383-385
- 'Latest Settlement', June 1927, p263
- 'First Criminal Tribesman MA', October 1939, pp37-38
- 'The boys are "Criminals" no longer', July/Sept 1941, pp24-26
- 'Day at a Criminal Tribes Settlement', October 1941, p28
- 'Criminal Tribes Settlement - Stuartpuram', April 1953, p202

The Officer (1893-present). International Headquarters magazine for Salvation Army officers. Known relevant articles include:

- 'A World-Survey of Salvation Army Activities II: Our Work Among Criminals', January 1914, pp27-29
- 'The Making and Mending of "Crims"', May 1914, pp334-335, 354
- 'Missionary Aspects IV: Industrial Work among Indian Criminal Tribes', November-December 1933, pp517-521
- 'Two Oceans', January-February 1936, pp6-8
- 'Reforming Robbers in the Andamans', November 1937, pp535-540
- 'Spheres of Special Services XIV: Work Among Children of Criminal Tribes', March-April 1940, pp123-126
- 'Fifty Years of Social Redemption', January-February 1951, pp38-41
- 'The Romance of the Criminal Tribes', August 1969, pp512-517

The Staff Review (1922-1931). International Headquarters quarterly magazine for Salvation Army staff officers. Known relevant articles include:

- 'The Women of Our Criminal Settlements', July 1926, pp317-320
- 'The Criminal Tribes Work in India as an Economic Experiment', October 1930, pp391-396

The War Cry (1879-present). UK-based evangelistic newspaper, published weekly or bi-weekly. Known relevant articles include:

- 'Criminal Tribes Commission', 2 May 1914, p4
- 'Dom Pen Pictures: Year of progress at Gorakhpur Criminal Settlements', 8 August 1914, p10
- 'Criminals no longer', 17 September 1932, p4

The US edition of *The War Cry* is also known to contain articles about work with Criminal Tribes. Back copies of this periodical are held by The Salvation Army's US National Archives. Contact Archives@usn.salvationarmy.org for access.

Year Book (1906-present). Annual International Headquarters publication. Includes articles, statistical information and annual updates about recent work in all Territories. The annual updates from Indian Territories are the most useful source in these volumes, but other known relevant articles include:

'The Political Significance of The Salvation Army', 1922, pp21-22

'The Army tackles an Oriental problem', 1925, p44

PUBLISHED SOURCES

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]

Booth-Tucker, Frederick (Commissioner), *The Salvation Army and the Indian Criminal* (In: *The Police Journal*, 1 (4), October 1928 pp578-593) [Pam.824]

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

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 Solution* (Salvation Army International Headquarters: London, 1921) [S.23]

Also includes photograph of children 'born into life of crime'.

Gauntlett, S. Carvosso (Lt-Commissioner), 'India's Criminal Tribes' in *Social Evils The Army Has Challenged* (Salvationist Publishing and Supplies: London, 1946) [S.29a & S.29b]

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

PUBLISHED SOURCES

Salvation Army books: biographies

Coutts, Frederick L, "*I Had No Revolver*": *Edwin Sheard* (Salvationist Publishing and Supplies: London, 1943) [X/12]

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

McKenzie, Fred Arthur, *Booth-Tucker, Sadhu and Saint* (Hodder and Stoughton Ltd: London, 1930) [X/BOO.801]

Sheard, Edwin H., *Sergeant-Major in the Andamans: Kanhaiya Gariba* (Salvationist Publishing and Supplies: London, 1957) [X/15]

Unsworth, Madge, *Bridging the Gap: Frederick Booth-Tucker of India* (Edinburgh House Press: London, 1943) [Pam.343]

Williams, Harry, *Booth-Tucker: William Booth's First Gentleman* (Hodder and Stoughton Ltd: London, 1908) [X/BOO.804]

PUBLISHED SOURCES

Non-Salvation Army publications: India and Criminal Tribes

Anderson, Clare, 'The Andaman Islands Penal Colony: Race, Class, Criminality, and the British Empire' (In: *International Review of Social History*, 63, 2018, pp25-43) [Pam.818]

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) [H/IND.26]

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

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?

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?

PUBLISHED SOURCES

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

Brown, Mark, *Race, Science and the Construction of Native Criminality in Colonial India* (Theoretical Criminology, 5 (3), 2001, pp345-368)

Hinchy, Jessica, *Gender, Family, and the Policing of the 'Criminal Tribes' in Nineteenth-Century North India* (Modern Asian Studies, 2020, pp1 -43)

Major, Andrew J, *State and Criminal Tribes in Colonial Punjab: surveillance, control and reclamation of the 'Dangerous Classes'* (Modern Asian Studies 33 (3) 1999, pp657-688)

Nigam, Sanjay, *Disciplining and policing the 'criminals by birth', Part 1: The making of a colonial stereotype— The criminal tribes and castes of North India* (The Indian Economic and Social History Review, 27 (2), 1990, pp131-164)

Nigam, Sanjay, *Disciplining and policing the 'criminals by birth', Part 1: The development of a disciplinary system, 1871-1900* (Indian Economic and Social History Review, 27 (3), 1990, pp257-287)

Radhakrishna, Meena, *Dishonoured by History: "criminal tribes" and British colonial policy* (Orient Longman: Hyderabad, 2001)

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)