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Indian Princely State records 4079904

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.

New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Title:	Indian Princely States records
ID:	4079904
ID:	MS#0643
Date [inclusive]:	1890-1960
Physical Description:	11 linear feet 22 manuscript boxes
Language of the Material:	English , Gujarati , Persian , Urdu , Rajasthani , Malayalam , Hindi .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Indian Princely State records; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Summary

These are manuscripts and typescript documents of 34 different princely states that existed as distinct political entities in pre-independence India. Although the majority of these states were tiny principalities in western India (primarily in what is now Rajasthan), some (e.g., Hyderabad) were located in other regions of India and represented major powers in the region at that time.

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Summary

The documents date from the 19th century through World War II, and are in English, Hindi, Rajasthani dialects, Urdu, Persian, Gujarati, Malayalam and other languages. The scripts employed include Devanagari, Urdu (Perso-Arabic script), English, Gujarati and Malayalam.

The documents themselves appear to cover many aspects of official life of these states: decrees by local government officials, requests and petitions to the court, commercial permits, trade documents, land dispute documents, court affidavits (sometimes bearing thumb-prints and/or signatures), etc. Almost all the documents are one or two pages in length and bear the colorful imprint of the seal of a given princely state government. (most of these imprinted papers were available in various denominations, sometimes referred to as "court fees", and someone submitting documents to the court had to purchase an appropriately-denominated imprinted sheet on which to write out the document. Many of them, in addition to having the denominated seal or imprint on the sheet, also bear one or more printed "court fee" stamps (affixed to the sheet like postage stamps) to make up the required amount. These court fee stamps are philatelically interesting to collectors, and like the imprinted sheets, were issued by individual princely state authorities, usually bearing colorful symbols or portraits of the local rulers.

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Arrangement

Materials arranged geographically. by princely state, and then subdivided by denomination and language. Where there are significant variations in the seals, imprints and affixed stamps from a given state, these have been kept apart in separate folders.

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Arrangement

Key to the folder numbering system in Series I: Each folder gets a unique number consisting of 4 parts: a princely state code prefix, followed by a denomination or "face value" indication, followed by a decimal point, followed by a language/script code, followed by a sequential number. The Princely state code (see container list) identifies the state or entity that issued the documents in the folder. The denomination indicates the value imprinted on the documents and/or the value of the court fee stamps affixed to them. All denominations (except documents from Travancore State) are in numbers of rupees (R) and annas (A). (There were 16 annas to the rupee, but the codes reflect the values actually used on the documents: i.e. a document with "8 annas" imprinted and three 4-anna stamps affixed is listed as "20A", while a document with "1 rupee" imprinted and one 8-anna stamp affixed is listed as "1R8A", etc.). Documents from Travancore use a different currency, the chakram. (C). (Some of the Travancore documents use annas as well). Some documents have no denomination and so no denomination code is used. Documents from a given state (and even within a given denomination group) are separated into different folders by language or script. Most folders are in English (E), Devanagari Script (D) or Urdu Script (U). Some are in Gujarati Script (G).

Documents from Travancore appear to be Malayalam Script. The Travancore folders are labelled as Malayalam script, but no language code was used in the folder numbers. Within each State/denomination/language grouping, each folder receives a sequential number, when more than one folder exists in the group. Documents are also grouped into separate folders when the stamp or crest or seal or printing color is different. Thus, J6R8A.U5 indicates the fifth consecutive folder of Urdu Script documents denominated at 6 rupees and 8 annas, from Jaipur.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

File created. Box-level inventory and additional description added from printed 1-page finding aid. kws EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. New material added. kws 2009-06-26 2019-04-16 2019-05-20 2024-09-17

Processing Information

Collection acquired and processed by David Magier, South Asia Librarian, Columbia University Libraries.

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Legal documents: Source of acquisition--Embree, Ainslie. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--05/10/1992. Accession number--M-92-05-10.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Legal documents: Source of acquisition--Robbins, Kenneth. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--06/05/1996. Accession number--M-96-06-05.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Prof. Ainslie Embree, 1992.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Dr Kenneth Robbins, 1996.

Processing Information

Legal documents Processed HR 04/08/1998.

Processing Information

Legal documents Processed HR 04/14/1998.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

Processing Information

Boxes 19-22 were arranged by Gary Hausman and added to the finding aid in September 2024.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mary Jean Linn, 2024. Accession 2024-2025-M028.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Administrative procedure -- India
- Land titles -- India
- Legal instruments -- India
- Representation in administrative proceedings -- India
- Revenue stamps -- India -- States
- Alwar (Princely State)
- Baghat (India)
- Baoni (Princely State)
- Bharatpur District (India)
- Bīkāner (India : Division)
- Bundi (Princely State)
- Dholpur (India : District)
- Dungarpur (India : District)
- Gondal (Princely State)
- Hyderabad (India : State)
- India
- Jaipur (Princely State)
- Jaisalmer (Princely State)
- Jhābua (India : District)
- Jhalawar (India : District)
- Jodhpur (India : District)
- Kolhapur (India : District)
- Koṭā (Princely State)
- Madras (India : Presidency)
- Muhammadgarh (India)
- Muli (India)
- Mysore (Princely State)
- Narsingharh (Princely State)
- Nagod (Princely State)
- Sailana (India)
- Sikar (India : District)
- Tonk (Princely State)
- Travancore (India)
- Udaipur (Princely State)
- Wankaner (India)
- Affidavits
- Agreements
- Certificates
- Claims

- Contracts
- Decisions (judicial records)
- Decrees
- Deeds
- Depositions
- Legal documents
- Legal instruments
- Oaths
- Permits
- Petitions
- Powers of attorney
- Proceedings (reports)
- Reports
- Seals (artifacts)
- Tax stamps
- Judges
- Lawyers
- Notaries
- Chitrakoot (India : District)
- Indragarh (India)
- Thikana Sathin (India)

Collection Inventory

Indian Princely State Legal Documents, circa 1890 - circa 1960

Title/Description	Instances
Alwar	box 1
Scope and Contents	
Code prefix: A	
Bundi	box 1
Scope and Contents	
Code prefix: Bd	
Baghat	box 2
Scope and Contents	
Code prefix: Bg	
Bharatpur	box 2

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Bh

Bikaner box 3

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Bk

Baoni box 3

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Bn

Chitrakuta box 3

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: C

Dholpur box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: D

Dungarpur box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Dg

Gondal box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: G [Gujarati]

Hyderabad box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: H

India box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: I

Indragarh box 4

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: In

Jaipur -- 1A.D1 - 6A.U1 box 5

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 8A.D1 - 8A.D4

box 6

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 8A.U5 - 8A.U9

box 7

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 8A.U10 - 8A.U17

box 8

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 10A - 2RU2

box 9

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 2R4A - J4R8A

box 10

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jaipur -- 5R - 60R

box 11

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: J

Jodhpur

box 12

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Jd

Jodhpur – Rs. 0.25 p (four annas)

box 19

folder 1

Jodhpur - Rs. 0.50 (eight annas)

box 19

folder 2

Jodhpur – Rs. 1.00 (one rupee)

box 19

folder 3

Jodhpur – Rs. 2.00 (two rupees)

box 19

folder 4

Jodhpur – Rs. 2.50 p. (Rs. 2/8)

box 19

folder 5

Jodhpur – Rs. 4.00 (four rupees)

box 19

folder 6

Jodhpur – Rs. 5.00 (five rupees)

box 19

folder 7

Jodhpur – Rs. 6.00 (six rupees)

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	box 19	folder 8
Jodhpur – Rs. 10.00 (ten rupees)	box 19	folder 9
Jodhpur – Rs. 15.00 (fifteen rupees)	box 19	folder 10
Jodhpur – Rs. 20.00 (twenty rupees)	box 19	folder 11
Jodhpur – Rs. 25.00 (twenty-five rupees)	box 19	folder 12
Jodhpur – Rs. 50.00 (fifty rupees)	box 19	folder 13
Jhabua	box 12	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Jh		
Jhalawar	box 12	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Jhl		
Jaisalmer	box 12	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Js		
Kolhapur	box 12	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: K		
Kotah	box 12	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Kt		
Mewar	box 13	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: M		
Madras	box 14	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Md		
Mohammadgarh	box 14	
Scope and Contents		
Code prefix: Mh		
Marwar	box 14	

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Mr

Muli box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Mu [Gujarati]

Mysore box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: My

Narsingarh box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: N

Nagod box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Ng

Sikar box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Sk

Sailana box 14

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Sl

Tonk -- 1A.U12 box 15

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: T

Tonk -- 2A - 7A box 16

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: T

Tonk -- 8A box 17

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: T

Tonk -- 12A box 18

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: T

Travancore box 18

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Tr [Malyalam]

Thikana Sathin box 18

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: Ts

Vankaner box 18

Scope and Contents

Code prefix: V [Gujarati]

Loose stamps box 21

Scope and Contents

Loose stamps

Conditions Governing Access:**Conditions Governing Access**

Special permission required to access.
 Digital surrogates are being prepared. Email
 rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Title/Description	Instances	
Samdaḍi	box 20	folder 1
Samdaḍi	box 20	folder 2
Kota, Siyat?	box 20	folder 3
Jalamsinghi? Ganeshpet? Siyat? (Marwar) (2 annas, 4 annas, 8 annas)	box 20	folder 4
Badu (Marwar) (red colored: 1 rupee, 3 rupees; blue colored: 2 annas, 8 annas, 1 rupee)	box 20	folder 5
Chanoud (Marwar) (1 rupee, 8 annas, 12 annas, 1 rupee 2 annas)	box 20	folder 6
Jasnagar (8 annas)	box 20	folder 7

Khejadla (Marwar) (1 anna, 8 annas, 12 annas)	box 20	folder 8
Kuchaman (Marwar) (8 annas, 12 annas, 1 rupee)	box 20	folder 9
Kucāman (4 annas)	box 20	folder 10
Pokaran (8 annas)	box 20	folder 11
Pokaran (1 anna, 8 annas)	box 20	folder 12

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Indian Princely and District documents, 2024 donation

Title/Description	Instances	
Allahabad Bank (6 annas) 28-5-1867	box 22	folder 1
Baroda [25 nP, 50 nP, 1 Re., 1 Re. 50 nP, 2 Rs., 4 Rs., 5 Rs., 10 Rs.]	box 22	folder 2
Bank of Bengal [4, 6 annas]	box 22	folder 3
Bhopal Govt., His Highness the Nawab Sikandar-Saulat Iftakhar-ul-Mulk (1 anna; 2 annas; 8 annas; 12 annas; 2 rupees)	box 22	folder 4
Bikaner State (2 annas; 6 annas)	box 22	folder 5
Bombay State [Rs. 1507 and 8 annas; Rs. 3000]	box 22	folder 6
Calcutta, (quarter anna; 1 anna; Rs. 350 annas 14)	box 22	folder 7
Dhar State (one anna; 2 annas; 4 annas; 2 rupees)	box 22	folder 8
Dindigul [Kodaikanal, Tamilnadu; 25 paise]	box 22	folder 9
Gondal [Gujarat, 2 annas]	box 22	folder 10
Gwalior State [2 annas; 4 annas; 8 annas]	box 22	folder 11
Holkar State (one hundred rupees)	box 22	folder 12
Hyderabad [1 anna, 4 annas]	box 22	folder 13
Government of India (1 anna; 2 annas; 4 annas; 1 rupee 8 annas; Rs. 200, annas 6; Rs. 1074; Atomic Reactor, Trombay, 10 Rs.)	box 22	folder 14
Jaipur Government (2 annas; 6 annas)	box 22	folder 15
Jodhpur Government (25 rupees)	box 22	folder 16
Karachi [Sindh province 1905; now Pakistan] (4 annas)	box 22	folder 17
Khairagarh State India (1/16 R = 1 anna)	box 22	folder 18
Khandwa [4 annas, 8 annas, 1 rupee, 2 rupees]	box 22	folder 19
Khetri (present day Rajasthan: 1 anna; 8 annas; 1 rupee)	box 22	folder 20

Kolar [2 rupees, 3 rupees]	box 22	folder 21
Kota State (2 paisa)	box 22	folder 22
Kurwai State (1 anna; 750/)	box 22	folder 23
Kutch (1/4 kori)	box 22	folder 24
Madhya Bhārat [Malwar Union, including Indore sub-district, 2 annas, 4 annas, 8 annas, 2 rupees]	box 22	folder 25
Government of Madras {also including Madurai, Ramnad, and Tanjore districts} [2 annas, 3 annas, 4 annas, 8 annas, 70 P., 75 naye paise, 1 rupee, 1 rupee 50 naye paise, 2 rupees, 2 rupees 50 naye paise, 4 rupees, 5 rupees]	box 22	folder 26-29
Mysore [1 anna, 2 annas, 4 annas, 8 annas, 10 annas, 1 rupee and half, 1 rupee 8 annas, 3 rupees, 4 rupees 8 annas, 7 rupees]	box 22	folder 30
Nabha State (1 anna, 2 annas, 4 annas, 8 annas, 1 rupee, 1 rupee 8 annas, 2 rupees, 3 rupees)	box 22	folder 31
Nagpur [4 annas]	box 22	folder 32
Raipur [Rs. 400]	box 22	folder 33
Ramnad at Madura [folder]	box 22	folder 34
Ghāsīlāla mulcand Rāyapura [1 anna]	box 22	folder 35
Salem district	box 22	folder 36
[Travancore] Huzur court	box 22	folder 37
Thayetmyo, Rangoon (Burma, present day Myanmar: multiple denominations)	box 22	folder 38
Miscellaneous (Confederate States:-The State of Alabama (5 cents); Australia (24c, 35c, 55c, 60c))	box 22	folder 39

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