

DEVELOPMENT BRIEF
OF
KHYBER AGENCY
(2008 - 2009)

BUREAU OF STATISTICS (FATA CELL)
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,
FATA SECRETARIAT, PESHAWAR.

HISTORICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROFILE OF KHYBER AGENCY

HISTORY

Khyber Agency derives its name from the world famous Khyber Pass which is situated at a height of 3870 feet and forms the most vital and important link between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Khyber itself is a Hebrew word meaning "Palace" or a "Castle".

LOCATION AND TERRAIN

Khyber Agency is located at 33-44 and 34-20 degree North latitudes and 70-26 and 71-30 East Longitudes. It is bordered by the Kabul River and Koh-e-Suffaid range in the North, Peshawar District in the East and Kurram Agency in the West. In the North-West lies Afghanistan, Orakzai in the South and Mohmand Agency in the North-East. The total area of the Agency is 2,576 Sq: Kilometers. The Principal streams that drain through the Agency are Bara River, Chooria River and Khyber "Nullah". All these flow into the Peshawar Valley.

The Agency comprises generally a barren and rugged mountains terrain. It has also some very beautiful Valleys with plain culturable lands. The important Valleys are Rajgal, Maidan, Bara and Bazar. The Valleys lying near the sources of Bara River are generally known as Tirah. Rajgal Stream from Rajgal Valley and Shalobar Toi from Maidan Valley join up at Dwa-Toi, and thereafter it is called as Bara Valley.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The location of this Pass has given the people of Khyber and the Agency itself world wide recognition and has made it the focus of attention of historians. Because of its geographical location, the Khyber has a history dating back thousands of years. Besides the Aryans who came down from Central Asia around 1600 B.C., this route was also used by the Persians in 600 B.C., Alexander in 326 B.C. and subsequently by Changez Khan, Taimurlang and the Mehmood of Ghazni.

The Mughals also came to India through the Khyber Pass and established their Rule over India which lasted for some 300 years. Finally through the Khyber came Ahmad Shah Abdali, the last Invader from the North.

During the Sikh period of occupation of Peshawar, the Khyber Tribes were independent as they were in receipt of allowances from the Amir of Kabul for keeping the pass open for Trade. The British connection with the Afridis began in 1839. After the annexation of Peshawar Valley, the British came into actual conflict with the Afridis in 1854. It was after that the various agreements with various Sub-tribes of Afridis were signed.

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| (a) | Kuki Khels, Zakha Khels, Malikdin Khels and Qambar Khels | 1857 |
| (b) | Sepah and Kamar Khel | 1861 |
| (c) | Aka Khels | 1867 |

Khyber Agency as an Administrative Unit came into being in 1879 with P.L.N. Cavagnari as the first Political Officer.

In 1881 an agreement was signed at Peshawar between the British Government and the Afridis for keeping the Khyber Pass open for trade etc.

In 1897 when there were disturbances in Tochi and Malakand there was a general uprising amongst the Afridis of Khyber against the British also who thereafter succeeded in capturing Ali Masjid, Landikotal and almost the entire Pass. In 1898, the Afridi revolt was quelled and they submitted to the British.

In October, 1898 a representative Darbar was held at Peshawar in which all the Tribes of Khyber participated. The joint Jirga of Afridis accepted the terms of the Government and signed an agreement. The allowances were restored to the tribes.

In the year 1902, the post of Political Officer was converted into Political Agent with Major G.Roose Keppel as the First Political Agent.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The climate of the Agency is extreme, with severe Winters and Summers. The major crops of the Agency are Wheat, Barley, Maize and Rice but the Agency is not self sufficient in food material because of lack of irrigation water.

THE TRIBES

There are four main tribes which are as under:

1. Afridis
2. Shinwaris
3. Mullagoris
4. Shilmanis

The Afridis are the main tribe of the Agency. They are further divided into eight Sub-sections viz Qamber Khel, Malikdin Khel, Kuki Khel, Aka Khel, Zakha Khel, Sepah, Kamar Khel and Adam Khel.

ADMINISTRATION

The Political Agent is the Head of the Agency. He functions as a District Magistrate and Session Judge and also as a coordinator who coordinates the functions of all the Nation Building Departments in the Agency.

The Agency has three Sub-divisions viz Landikotal, Jamrud and Bara with three Assistant Political Agents, seven Tehsildars and a number of other administrative functionaries. The Head Quarter of the Political Agent is at Peshawar but has also a Camp Office/Residence at Landikotal. The Assistant Political Agents have their Headquarters at Landikotal, Jamrud and Bara respectively.

The Administration is run through Maliks, Khassadars and Lungi holders (Sufaidresh). The tribal Administration and system of justice is based on the concept of territorial, tribal (collective) and protective responsibility. Adjudication is through the

Jirga system, which is something the tribesmen comprehend and accept. The substantive law is the Pakistan Panel Code (PPC) whereas the Frontier Crimes Regulation (FCR) is the procedural law.

MALIKS AND SUFAID RESH

The Maliki system was introduced by the British to encourage Pro-Government and Pro-Administration tribal elders to exercise a strong hold and influence over their tribes. The Maliks used to work as a media between the Administration and "Qaum". The British had realized that they could not subjugate the independent and fierce character of the tribes by force only and therefore the Maliki system was introduced which not only sent a message to the tribes that any body loyal and accommodating would have a special status, but also, that cooperation with the Government would entail regular benefits, recognition and of course influence in the tribe. A Maliki is hereditary and devolves on the son, and his son so on and so forth.

In Khyber there are 35 Maliks getting Rs.3.6/- million per annum as allowances in the name of Sub-tribe are as under:

Kuki Khel, Zakha Khel, Qambar Khel, Malikdin Khel, Aka Khel, Sepah, Kamar Khel, Shinwari, Mullagori,

Lungi system, commonly known as "Sufaid Resh" in Khyber Agency is also a form of formal recognition although at a slightly lower level. A Lungi signifies the holding of a position of favour with the Government and of influence in the tribe. In Khyber there are 3800 Lungi holders (Sufaid Resh). The Lungi is for an individual and is not hereditary. In practice, however, the Lungi of a deceased Lungi holder is usually granted to his elder son.

KHASSADARS

In the twenties, the British Rulers intended to open strategic roads in different Agencies. To guarantee the protection of the roads, the British agreed to give allowances to the tribes in the form of Khassadaris. Accordingly each tribe/Sub-tribe, through whose area the road was to pass, were given a certain number of Khassadars who were to be paid out of the allowances given to the tribe for the opening of the road. Like-wise, the Khassadars were raised in Khyber as well in the year 1920.

The Khassadars are generally ill disciplined, mostly un-trained and are a loosely organized force who are armed with their own weapon and have to use their own ammunition. They are given a pair of Chapplies and a Mazri Cloth uniform once a Year. They are the representatives of the tribe to whom they owe loyalties rather than to the Political Administration. Every Agency has its own rules and conventions for the Khassadari service. They are also a non-pensionable force.

In Khyber there are 2854 Khassadars ranging in ranks from Subedar Major, downwards upto a Sepoy. They are appointed by the Political Agent who is their Commanding Officer as well. The recruitment is made from amongst the local tribes in the ratio of their tribal distribution which is known as "NIKKAT".

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN KHYBER AGENCY

The Annual Development Programme 2009-10 provides for an outlay of Rs.1105.049 million.

2. Sector-wise details of Annual Development Programme in Khyber Agency are given below:

S.No.	Name of Sector	Allocation for 2009-10 (Rs. in million)	%age Allocation
1	Education	234.354	21.21
2	Health	124.954	11.31
3	P.H.E	105.009	9.50
4	Roads	391.498	35.43
5	Housing	12.538	1.13
6	Power	35.263	3.19
7	Agriculture	13.963	1.26
8	Forests	59.673	5.40
9	Rural Dev	17.902	1.62
10	Regional Dev	22.446	2.03
11	Irrigation	72.531	6.56
12	Technical Education	14.918	1.35
	Total	1105.049	100.00

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF KHYBER AGENCY

S.No.	Indicators	
1	AREA & POPULATION	2008-09
a.	Area (Sq.Km) (1998 Census)	2576
b.	Total Population (Nos) (Estimated)	829210
c.	Male Population (Nos) (Estimated)	431664
d.	Female Population (Nos) (Estimated)	397546
e.	Density (Persons/Sq.Km)	322
f.	Annual Growth Rate (%) (1998 Census)	3.92
2	AGRICULTURE	2008-09
a.	Reported Area (000 Hectares)	257.7
b.	Cultivated Area (000 Hectares)	20.0
c.	Culturable Waste (000 Hectares)	53.3
d.	Culturable Area (000 Hectares)	73.3
e.	Irrigated Area (000 Hectares)	11
f.	Forest Area (000 Hectares)	2
g.	Cultivated Area as % of Reported Area. (%)	7.7
h.	Irrigated Area as % of Cultivated Area. (%)	55
i.	Forest Area as % of Reported Area. (%)	0.8
j.	Land Use Intensity (%)	27
k.	Population per Cultivated Area (Persons)	42
l.	Population per Irrigated Area (Persons)	75
	<u>Yield Per Hectare</u>	2008-09
m.	Maize (Kgs)	1715
n.	Rice (Kgs)	0
o.	Wheat (Kgs)	1532
	<u>Animal Husbandry</u>	2008-09
p.	Veterinary Hospital (Nos)	3
q.	Veterinary Dispensaries (Nos)	9
r.	Civil Veterinary Centers (Nos)	13
	<u>Forest/Fisheries</u>	2008-09
s.	Fruit Plants Distributed (Estimated) (Nos)	15100
3	ELECTRICITY	2008-09
	Villages Electrified (Repeated) (Nos)	643

4	EDUCATION	2008-09		
	Indicators	Male	Female	Both Sexes
	Educational Institutions			
a.	All Primary Schools (Nos)	397	280	677
b.	Middle Schools (Nos)	23	14	37
c.	High Schools (Nos)	29	4	33
d.	Higher Secondary Schools (Nos)	2	2	4
e.	Degree Colleges (2007-08) (Nos)	3	1	4
	Participation Rate			
f.	Primary Level (5-9) (%)	63	32	47
g.	Middle Level (10-12) (%)	48	10	31
h.	High Level (13-14) (%)	10	1	6
	Teaching Staff			
i.	All Primary Schools (Nos)	896	581	1477
j.	Middle Schools (Nos)	211	117	328
k.	High Schools (Nos)	511	59	570
l.	Higher Secondary Schools (Nos)	67	25	92
	Enrolment by kind			
m.	Primary Schools (Nos)	46911	37330	84241
n.	Middle Schools (Nos)	8972	3816	12788
o.	High Schools (Nos)	19302	2493	21795
p.	Higher Secondary Schools (Nos)	2144	1245	3389
q.	Literacy Ratio (%) (1998)	39.86	4.46	22.96
5	HEALTH	1.1.2009		
a.	Hospital (Nos)	4		
b.	Dispensary (Nos)	26		
c.	R.H.Cs (Nos)	0		
d.	B.H.U.s functioning (Nos)	13		
e.	Hospital/Dispensary & R.H.C Beds (Nos)	250		
f.	Population per Hospital & Dispensary Bed (Nos)	3317		
g.	Doctors (Nos)	76		
h.	Population per Doctor (Nos)	10911		
i.	Nurses (Nos)	55		
j.	Population per Nurse (Nos)	15077		
6	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING	2008-09		
a.	Tube wells (Nos)	164		
b.	Drinking Water Coverage (%)	66.58		

7	COMMUNICATIONS	2008-09
a.	Total Roads (Kms)	794.77
b.	High Type(Kms)	573.23
c.	Low Type (Kms)	221.54
d.	Road per Sq. Km. of Area (Kms)	0.31
e.	Post Offices (Nos)	18
f.	Population per Post Office(Persons)	46067
g.	Telephones (Nos)	4829
h.	Population per Telephone (Persons)	172
8	MINERAL (In Tonnes)	2008-09
a.	Barite	51
b.	Chromites	0
c.	Coal	0
d.	Fluorite	768
e.	Graphic	0
f.	Iron Ore	0
g.	Limestone	1156822
h.	Magnesite	0
i.	Marble	17336
j.	Quartz	0
k.	Serpentine	0
l.	Soapstone	1396