



Open Access



The Eroding Significance of Bahawalpur State's Time-Honored Defence Structure: A Case Study of Marot Fort under British Protectorate

Samia Khalid ¹ Imran Majeed ²

Abstract: *The Fort of Marot served as a guardian along the northern frontier of Rajhistan, emblematic of Rajput's authority and resilience. It changed hands several times before coming under the stewardship of the Muslim rulers of Bahawalpur State, who also maintained it meticulously. However, with the onset of colonial dominance and the shift in defense strategies due to the region becoming a British protectorate, Marot, like many other contemporary defense structures, lost its prominence as a formidable border guardian. Instead, it saw a transition to a role primarily as a customs collection center and caravan hub. This article seeks to chronicle the historical and archaeological importance of a particular site, tracing its relevance through various ruling regimes. It aims to delve into the site's potential, the evolution of its functionality, and its role in shaping power dynamics across different eras. The chronological exploration will culminate with the period of British intervention, highlighting how the British control over the defense and trade of Bahawalpur State as a result of their trade treaty of 1833 and defense treaty of 1838, when Bahawalpur's inclusion in the British Protectorate, led to the diminishing significance of these defense structures.*

Key Words: Marot, Fort, Bahawalpur, Rajputs, Cholistan, Desert

Introduction

Fort of Marot, nestled on the outskirts of the Cholistan Desert, is positioned between Fort Abbas and Yazman tehsils within the Bahawalpur division. Marot, located at coordinates 29° 10' North and 72° 28' East, sits on the southern bank of the Hakra River. (Field, 1959) The positioning of Marot Fort within or near this abandoned watercourse of the Hakra River is significant, as it aligns with the availability of sweet water from the fort's wells.

Significance of the Study

The study "The Eroding Significance of Bahawalpur State's Time-Honored Defence Structure: A Case Study of Marot Fort under British Protectorate" holds paramount importance in elucidating the intricate interplay between colonial influence, cultural heritage preservation, and strategic evolution. By scrutinizing the erosion of Marot Fort, a symbol of Bahawalpur's rich history, the research delves into broader questions of historical preservation, cultural identity, and the legacy of colonialism in the Indian subcontinent. Beyond mere academic inquiry, this study informs policymakers, community stakeholders, and heritage conservationists about the imperative to safeguard such historical landmarks for their educational, economic, and societal significance. Moreover, it prompts reflections on the shifting paradigms of warfare strategies and underscores the need for sustainable tourism development and community engagement initiatives to ensure the preservation of Bahawalpur's cultural legacy for future generations.

¹ Associate Professor/Chairperson, Department of History, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan.

² PhD Scholar, Department of History, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan.

▪ **Corresponding Author:** Samia Khalid (samkhameo@gmail.com)

▪ **To Cite:** Khalid, S., & Majeed, I. (2024). The Eroding Significance of Bahawalpur State's Time-Honored Defence Structure: A Case Study of Marot Fort under British Protectorate. *Qlantia Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 5(1), 329–335. <https://doi.org/10.55737/qjssh.560497338>



Historical Significance of Marot Fort

In the past, that was the frontline guardian protecting Rajasthan from Multan armies. However, the present state of Marot Fort exposes a bleak picture as it grapples with decline and neglect, which was initiated by the British advent. In 1833, the British initiated a trade route on Sutlej, so they got control of the defense system of this region by signing different treaties with Punjab, Rajhistan Rajas, Nawab of Bahawalpur, and Mirs of Sindh. Actually, Marot was situated on the historic route from Bahawalpur city to Bhutneer, about 70 miles east of the former. The fort also lay along the ancient road from Multan to Delhi via Sirsa and Hansi. This fort has a diverse history spanning Buddhist-Jain-Hindu eras before transitioning into Muslim rule. Marot was established by Mahrut, known as the ruler of Chittor, who engaged in a battle against Chach, the Sindh usurper, in 621 AD. Mahrut also had ties to Sahi Rai of Sindh. (Beg, 1900). Marot was a significant place under different dynasties. Marot shifted from different hands like the Chandellas of Revasa, the Daliyas, and the Dahiyas held power, successively, in the area of Marot (formerly Maharoth; also known as Maharashtra-nagar), and Parbatsar, likely as vassals of the Chauhans. (Hooja, 2006) The Chandellas were part of the Rajput Dynasty, reigning over central India for 500 years from the 9th to the 13th centuries.

The Daliyas were a branch of the Chauhans, deriving their name from an ancestor named Dala. The Marot region was once referred to as 'Dalati' due to these Daliya Rajputs. Further, the Dahiyas maintained their significance well into the seventeenth century. The regions such as Derawar, Parbatsar, Sawar, Ghatiyani, Harsaur, and Marot were linked with the domain of the Dahiya Rajputs. These sites possessed considerable historical antiquity, particularly emphasizing the importance of the Dahiya lineage in the region. Even into the seventeenth century, the areas of Derawar, Parbatsar, Sawar, Ghatiyani, Harsaur, and Marot remained linked to the Dahiya Rajputs. (Hooja, 2006)

The Dahiyas have been referred to in various terms like 'Dadhichik,' 'Dahiyak,' and 'Dadhich' in literary accounts. Dating back to 999 AD, the Dahiyas trace their origins to the sage Dadhichi. They served as vassals under the Chauhans. In 999 AD, Chach, the son of Vairi Singh, commissioned the construction of the Kevaya-mata (Bhavani) temple. Chach had two sons: Jagadhar Rawal, the elder, and Vilhan, the younger. Vilhan, still commemorated in local traditions, apparently held dominion over the entire Marot region, establishing his capital at Depara, situated approximately six kilometers from Marot, where an ancient fort still stands today. The information suggests that Vilhan, the son of Chach and grandson of Vairi Singh of the Dahiyas, held authority over the Marot region, establishing his capital at Depara, approximately six kilometers away from the ancient fort of Marot. (Hooja, 2006)

Saifur-Rehman Dar finds out that during Illtutmish's invasion of Uch in 1228, Qabacha and his army were stationed at Marot. This indicates that in the thirteenth century, Marot fell under the control of the Sultans of Delhi. Furthermore, Minhaju Siraj visited the fort in 1245 and highlighted its significance during that period. (Dar, 1995) The Dahiyas remained a notable presence during this period back to 1215 and served King Valhandev Chauhan of Ranthambore. Additionally, a later commemorative pillar erected near the Vaya-mata temple in Marot, dating to 1243 AD, references Vikram, the son of Dahiya Kirti Singh, along with his queen, Naeel Devi. (Hooja, 2006)

During the latter part of the thirteenth century, the Marot was under the control of the Johyas. With the commencement of the fourteenth century, Raningdeo, a Bhatti leader, captured this fort from them. According to Tod, from the era of Jaisal Bhatti, the progenitor of Jailasmeer State, Rao Raning Deo, the son of Laliamsi, the grandson of Jethsi (1276-1294 AD), seized Marot from the Johyas. Subsequently, the Dahiyas once again gained control of the Marot. Then, in the early fifteenth century, Kailan, the son of Rawal Kehar II (1335-1402 AD), brought this fort back under Bhatti authority, as elucidated by Tod. (Tod, 1920)

When Raningdeo's sons converted to Islam, seeking retribution for their father's conflict with the Rathor prince of Nagor, they renounced their claims to inheritance over Pugal and Marot. Subsequently, they integrated with the Aboharia Bhattis, and their descendants were identified as Mumin Musalman Bhatti. Following this event, Kailan, the third son of Rawal Kehar, assumed control of forfeited lands. Apart from Bikampur, he recaptured Derawar, which had been seized by their historical adversaries, the Dahya Rajputs. In the wake of Timur's invasion in 1401 AD, a group of Bhattis migrated from Marot and Phulra

under the leadership of Bersi. They launched an attack and seized Bliatner from a Muslim leader, whose affiliation—whether as one of Timur's officers or an ally of Delhi—remains uncertain, though it is presumed to be more likely the former. The name of this leader was Chaghat Khan. (Tod, [1920](#))

Tod highlights Kailan's position as a ruler within the lineage, yet the official websites of Jaisalmer States indicate that in 1402 AD, his brother Lakshan Rawal was enthroned. However, there's no uncertainty regarding Kailan's control over Marot. Regarding Kailan, Tod provides further insight. Kailan entered into a matrimonial alliance with the Samma family of Jam and mediated in their succession disputes, which had previously led to significant conflict. He stood by Shujaat Jam, whom he supported in these disputes. Shujaat Jam joined Kailan in Marot, and after Shujaat's demise two years later, Kailan took control of all the Samma territory. This expansion of control extended Kailan's dominion to the river Indus, marking the boundary of his realm. (Tod, [1920](#))

The excerpt indicates that during the reign of Hamir-II, ruler of the Samma dynasty spanning almost 40 years (1400-1440 AD), Kailan, also known as Rao Kailan, had established his authority over nine significant castles and district centers. These included Asini, or Aswinikot, Bikampur, Marot, Pugal, Derawar, Kahrur (located approximately twenty-two coss or about forty miles away from Bahawalpur City), Guman, Bahan, Nadno, and Matela, situated along the Indus. Kailan passed away at the age of seventy-two in 1436. (Tod, [1920](#))

In 1448, Chachakdeo Rawal II (r.1448-1457 AD) ascended to the throne of the Jaisalmer State. Concerning his defense strategy, Chachakdeo selected Marot as his headquarters, using it as a strategic point to safeguard his territories from Multan's potential attacks. The chief of Multan formed a coalition, uniting various historical adversaries of the Bhattis—such as the Langahas, the Johyas, the Khichis, and other tribes in that region—against Chachak. In response, Chachak assembled an army comprising seventeen thousand horsemen and fourteen thousand-foot soldiers. He led this force across the Bias River to confront his adversaries. The battle was intense, yet the Bhattis emerged victorious, securing a significant bounty that they brought back to Marot.

Upon returning through Baru, Chachak was approached by a Janjua Rajput seeking protection from the raids of Birjang Rathor. Upon this report, Chachak met the individual again and learned of another Rathor incursion. He then rallied his kinsmen and formed an alliance with Shumar Khan, the chief of the Seta tribe, who arrived with three thousand horsemen. Chachak noticed that the Rathors of Satalmer habitually stationed their cavalry near a reservoir outside the city while the prominent citizens went about their daily activities. Chachak's forces surprised and captured all of them. Despite offers from wealthy individuals for their release, Chachak astutely decided to liberate them under a condition—they were compelled to settle within the territory of Jaisalmer. The 365 family heads agreed to this proposition.

This diplomatic move significantly enriched the wealth of the Jaisalmer State. These affluent families were dispersed across the principal fort cities of the time, such as Derawar, Pugal, and Marot. Subsequently, Chachak married Sonaldevi, the granddaughter of his collaborator, the Seta chief. As part of the marriage settlement, Haibat Khan, the bride's father, provided 50 horses, 35 slaves, four *palkis* (sedan chairs), and 200 female camels. Chachak returned to Marot with these properties after the marriage. (Tod, [1920](#))

Background of the Study

After a series of successful campaigns, during which he subjugated various regions extending deep into the heart of Punjab, the Rawal resolved to meet his end as he had lived—armed and in battle. However, lacking an immediate adversary, he dispatched an envoy to the Langaha prince of Multan, requesting the "Juddhdan," or the 'gift of battle,' as his final wish—to have his soul liberated by the blade of his foe rather than succumb to a lingering illness. Although the prince suspected deceit, the Bhatti messenger assured that his master sought an honorable death and would bring only five hundred men for the combat. The challenge was accepted. The Rawal gathered his clansmen, recounting his feats, and seven hundred chosen Rajputs, who had been part of all his conquests, volunteered to join him in this ultimate endeavor, offering their lives as an oblation alongside their leader. Before departing, he sent all his wives back to their fathers' home. (Tod, 1920)



Chachak designated his eldest son, Barsal, as the heir to all his territories, except for Khadal's land, centered on Derawar, which he granted to Randhir. He conferred the "tika," thereby establishing them as separate states. Barisal led a force of seventeen thousand men to Kahrur, his capital. (Tod, 1920) Tragically, Chachak met a heroic end at Dhuniapur. The battle endured for four *gharis*, roughly two hours, and the Jadon prince, along with his kin, fought valiantly before meeting their demise. Two thousand Khans fell by their swords, resulting in bloodshed streaming across the field as Chachak breathed his last. The victorious king eventually returned to Multan after crossing the Bias. Afterward, his family observed the mourning rituals for twelve days at Derawar following Chachak's demise. However, Chachak's son, Kumbha, who was afflicted with insanity, vowed to avenge his father's death. In a state of madness, he severed the head of Kalu Shah and then reunited with his siblings at Derawar. (Tod, 1920)

According to Hoja, Marot was previously under the governance of the Gaur Rajputs. During this period, Marot and its neighboring villages underwent a name change, being referred to as 'Gaurati' or 'Gorawati,' signifying the 'land of the Gaur.' The Gaur Rajputs, once influential Chauhan vassals, held significant power in regions such as Juniya, Sawar, Devaliya, Rajgarh, Srinagar in Ajmer, and Marot. (Hooja, 2006) One of the significant conflicts between Shekha and the Gaur took place around the year 1478 AD. During this period, the area around Ghatwa, approximately twenty-four kilometers from Marot, was under the control of a Gaur leader named Kol Raj. (Hooja, 2006)

In the subsequent decade, both factions persisted in their struggle for territorial dominance. The ultimate clash between Shekha and the Gaur occurred in 1488 AD at the 'Khontiya' water tank near Ghatwa. During the conflict, Rao Ridmal Gaur of Marot engaged in personal combat with Rao Shekha, resulting in injuries to both leaders. Meanwhile, Shekha's sons confronted Nawal Raj Gaur, Kol Raj's son, and his allies. In the intense fighting, Nawal Raj slew Shekha's eldest son, Durga, before succumbing in battle himself. As the day approached its end, Ridmal of Marot withdrew from the battlefield, and most of the Gaur forces retreated towards Ghatwa.

Subsequently, Raimal assumed control at Amarsar. Chandrasen, ruler of Dhoondhar, dispatched his son, Prince Prithviraj, to offer condolences for Rao Shekha's death and to convey that the Kachchwahas of Amber, alongside the Rathores, were poised to unite against and eliminate the Gaur. Sensing the seriousness of the situation, Ridmal Gaur of Marot traveled to Amarsar and pledged peace on behalf of the Gaur, which was accepted. (Hooja, 2006) The inscription on the fort's door reads "Sambat 1548 BirkhiPohSuri, Marot Patha Malik Jam SumraKot Paki Khel Phirai," indicating that in 1548 Sambat or 1491 AD., the fort was under the ownership of Malik Jam Sumra, who initiated repairs on its walls using burnt bricks. After the Battle of Fatehpur in 1519 AD, the Samma rule was displaced by the Arghún. (Dar, 1995)

Saifur Rehman suggests that the title "Jam" is a designation and "Sumra" is a dynastic title without a specific individual's name mentioned as the ruler of Marot. The Sumra or Samma tribe, regarded as Rajputs, held influence. Saifur Rehman infers that Jam Ibrahim, one of the Samma chiefs, served as the Governor of Uch for twenty years (1502-1521 AD), and from that period, Marot likely came under the control of the Sammas. (Dar, 1995) Furthermore, it's mentioned that Umar Sumra, ruler of Sindh, supervised the renovation of this fort. (Auj, 97, 1995)

It refers to the extension of Jaisalmer's territories before Babur's invasion in 1525 AD. The dependencies of Jaisalmer stretched north to the Gara River (also known as the Bias) and west to the Indus River. They were bordered by the Rathors of Bikaner and Marwar to the east and south. Barmer and Kotra in the south were chieftainships of the Rhatti clan, extending eastward to the vicinity of Bikaner itself. Eventually, the descendants of Kailan split and distributed lands on both sides of the Ghara. When Babur conquered Multan from the Langalias and established his governor there, it's suggested that the Bhatti rulers of Kahrorkot, Dhuniapur, Pugal, and Marot likely changed their faith to preserve their estates, a decision potentially sanctioned by religious figures like Manu. (Tod, 1920)

Marot Fort Through the Ages: A Chronicle of Governance, Construction, and Legacy

The historical sources Bahawalpur Gazetteer suggest that the fort was governed by Soda Rai (or Rao), remembered locally as a unique ruler. The Sodas were a renowned martial race in Sindh mentioned in Chach Nama, appearing during the 16th century, particularly during the Arghun period and their

involvement in wars in Sindh. Hence, it's likely that the fort was under the rule of Soda Rai at the beginning of the 16th century. Additionally, Auj mentions Soda Rao Hamir, who also ruled Pattan Minara. After Hamir Bhatti, the fort was governed for an extended period. (Auj, [1995](#))

It's quite plausible that after Akbar's annexation of Multan in 1561 AD, Marot might have fallen under his dominion as well. Tahir Sultan, son of Muhammad Saiful-Mulk, in this context, seems to have been a local governor or administrator appointed by Akbar to supervise the region, which included Marot, as a part of the larger administrative system during that time.

The mosque of Shah-i-Mardan within the fort contains a Persian inscription on a stone wall. It signifies that the construction of this mosque occurred during the rule of Jalal-ud-Din Muhammad Akbar. Muhammad Tahir, the appointed administrator, managed the mosque's establishment at the behest of Sayyid Nasrullah in 1569 AD. (Field, [1959](#))

During the reign of Akbar in 1569, Tahir Sultan constructed the mosque upon the request of Syed Nasrullah. Simultaneously, under the governance of Quli Khan (1562-1593 AD), two mosques were built within the fort, both constructed with burnt bricks, as recorded. (Dar, [1995](#))

According to Abul Fazal's *Ain-i-Akbari*, Marot (referred to as Morat) was one of the 17 mahals situated outside Panjnad in the province of Multan. The land connected to Fort Marot measured 5,456 bighas (equaling 2728 acres), generating an income of 2,04,000 Dams. The fort, constructed with burnt bricks, housed 200 horsemen and 1,000 infantry. The inhabitants of the Marot Mahal were primarily from the Bhatti community. (Dar, [1995](#)) In 1561, Akbar confirmed the estates of Raysal, and Khandela became the seat of Raysal 'Darbari' (r. 1561-1614 AD). Soon, Khandela was referred to as 'Raysalwada' after Raysal himself, leading to his descendants being recognized as the 'Rayasalot' line, derived from his name. Raysal emerged as the first Shekhawat Raja of Khandela. (Hooja, [2006](#)) His stature grew significantly within Akbar's court, becoming one of the emperor's most trusted officers. Raysal accompanied Akbar on crucial campaigns and assumed the responsibility of overseeing the royal harem.

Over time, Akbar honored Raysal with the title of 'Raja' and granted him territories, including Rewasa and Kasli, previously held by the Chandella Rajputs. By 1602, he held a mansab of 1,250 *sawar*. Raysal expanded his domain by acquiring villages in the Udaipurwatiz area, 12 villages near Didwana, and nine villages belonging to the Tanwars. Additionally, he was granted the administration of Marot *Paragana*, along with its fort and 112 villages, under the kingship of Jahangir. (Hooja, [2006](#)) Gaj Singh was initially ranked at 3,000 *zat* and 2,000 *sawar*, which was later elevated to 5,000 *zat* and 5,000 *sawar* during Shah Jahan's rule. He engaged in battles against Bijapur between 1631 and 1636. Acknowledging his contributions, the emperor honored Gaj Singh with the title of 'Maharaja' and awarded him the pargana of Marot. (Hooja, [2006](#)).

Strategic Shifts and Power Struggles: Marot Fort in the Turmoil of Eighteenth and Nineteenth-Century Politics

The passing of Ishwari Singh Rathor of Jaipur in 1750 created a significant loss for Ram Singh. Within a year, in July 1751 AD, Bakhat Singh ascended to the throne of Marwar, securing Jodhpur. Subsequently, Ram Singh relocated to Marot and sought support from the Marathas and Madho Singh of Jaipur. A settlement was reached by February 1756 AD, wherein Bijay Singh retained control over territories like Jodhpur, Nagaur, Merta, and Ram Singh was confirmed rights to half of Marwar's territory, encompassing Jalore, Marot, Sambhar, Parbatsar, and Sojat. The Marathas received fifty-one lakh rupees and gained possession of Ajmer. (Hooja, [2006](#))

Adhering to this principle, Baji Singh secured the willing recognition and allegiance of almost all the Marwar feudatories, pledging to uphold the claims of his successor, Bijai Singh. As a result, Bijai Singh was officially declared and established at Marot, later escorted to Merta around 1759 AD. Simultaneously, Ram Singh, his rival, experienced substantial support in other regions where most of the territory, including Marot, Parbatsar, Pali, and Sojat, acknowledged his authority by raising his flag.

In the border town of Marot, he observed the period of mourning. There, the separate branches of his family from Bikaner, Kishangarh, and Rupnagarli offered their condolences and felicitations. From there,



he proceeded to the capital, concluding the ceremonies for both death and accession by presenting gifts and making charitable donations that exceeded everyone's expectations. At that time, Marot was situated on the northern frontier of Jodhpur. (Tod, [1920](#))

Ajit Singh made a journey to Delhi in the year 1774 AD amidst the ongoing internal conflicts between the Sayyids and their adversaries. During his march, he fortified the garrisons of Nagor, Merta, Pushlmer, Marot, and Sambhar before reaching Delhi. Abhai Singh was sent back to oversee the protection of Jodhpur from Marot. (Tod, [1920](#))

In 1749, Nawab Mubarak Khan conquered Marot from the ruler of Jaisalmer. An anecdote goes that the Commandant of Marot, dismissed for wrongdoing, appealed to Nawab Muhammad Bahawal Khan III to be reinstated, saying, "*Ya maut ya Marot*," humorously implying, "Either death or Marot." Amused by this wordplay, the Nawab promptly approved his request. (Field, [1959](#)) In 1749 AD, following his ascension, the Nawab, assisted by Muhammad Maruf Khan Wadera of Khairpur, Qaim Khan Arbani of Qaimpur, and Haisil Khan of Hasilpur, seized Marot from Jaisalmer. (The Punjab Government, [2001](#))

According to Shahamet Ali, after the passing of Nawab Bahawal in 1749 A.D., his younger brother, Nawab Mobarik Khan, ascended to power. One of Nawab Mobarik's initial tasks was to reclaim the Marot fortress from the Mareeja tribe, who had taken control of it during the late Nawab's illness. Mobarik dispatched Wadera Mohammed Maroof to suppress the rebellion and regain control of the fortress, a task Maroof executed with exceptional success. Delighted with this accomplishment, the Nawab celebrated by hosting feasts and entertaining the people. (Ali, [1848](#)) In 1751 AD, Sardar Jahan Khan, a general under Ahmad Shah Abdali, launched an attack on Uch. Nawab Muhammad Mubarak Khan stationed troops from Maujgarh, Marot, and Phulra with Daudpotras. He then ordered his troops to assemble in Khairpur. (The Punjab Government, [2001](#))

In 1801, Bikaner's troops, in conjunction with Khudabaksh Daudputra, who had lost his Mojgarh estate due to Bahawal Khan, captured several forts along the vital Multan-Delhi route, including Walar, Balar, Phulro, Mirgarh, and Marod. Subsequently, the Bikaneri forces advanced toward Bahawalpur itself. However, a settlement between Khudabaksh and his chief led to the Bikaner army being compensated with two lakhs of rupees, marking the end of the temporary alliance between Khudabaksh and Surat Singh. This fort was formerly under Maharaja Surat Singh of Bikaner (r. 1788-1828 AD).

From that time onward, Nawab Bahawal Khan II (r. 1775-1809 AD) regained control of this fort, and since then, it has remained under the ownership of the Nawab of Bahawalpur. (Auj, [1995](#)) In 1848, a British Assistant Political Agent recorded that this fort was reconstructed within the last thirty years, and that means in the first decade of the nineteenth century, Marot was repaired by Nawab Bahawal Khan II. (Mackeson, [1845](#))

Conclusion

The above discussion reflects that this fort had a long history of significance. No ruler of this realm could neglect this fort, and it was the center of attention and power. But in the early modern era, the British appeared in this area, changed the defense mechanism, got control of the boundaries, and held the responsibility of the defense of local power through their forces. The year 1838 marked the elimination of all external threats with the signing of the treaty establishing Bahawalpur as a British Protectorate state. Following the establishment of Bahawalpur as a British Protectorate state, the defense structures in Cholistan lost their significance as defenders of the boundaries. Unfortunately, it appears that these forts were not adequately repaired or maintained. Over time, the lack of attention and upkeep has taken its toll, leading to a state of gradual deterioration akin to the melting of ice. The once robust and historic forts in Cholistan, including Marot, seem to be succumbing to the passage of time, underscoring the challenges associated with preserving such cultural and historical treasures without sustained efforts for restoration and conservation.

References

Ali, S. (1848) *The History of Bahawalpur, With Notices of the Adjacent Countries of Sindh, Afghanistan, Multan, and the West of India*. London: James Madden.

- Auj, N. Z. A. (1995). *Legacy of Cholistan*. Multan: Carvan Book Center.
- Dar, Saifur-Rehman. (1995). Marot A one - time Guardian Fort of Cholistan Desert. *Journal of the Research Society of Pakistan*, 32.
- Field, H. (1959). *An Anthropological Reconnaissance in West Pakistan, 1955 with Appendixes on The Archeology and Natural History of Baluchistan And Bahawalpur Papers of the Peabody Museum of Archeology and Ethnology, Harvard University* Vol. III, Massachusetts: The Peabody Museum Cambridge.
- Fredunbeg, M. K. (1900) *The Chachnamah: An Ancient History of Sindh, Giving the Hindu Period down to Arab Conquest*. Translator from the Persian. Karachi: The Commissioner Press.
- Hooja, R. (2006). *A History of Rajasthan*, Calcutta: Rupa & Company.
- Mackeson, F. (1845). Survey of The Country Between Bhawalpore and Sirsa. *The Asiatic Journal and Monthly Miscellany*, IV. (Third Series). London: Wm. H. Allen.
- The Punjab Government, (2001) *Gazetteer of the Bahawalpur State with Map 1904*. Lahore: Civil and Military Gazetteer, 1808 Reprinted Lahore: Sang-e-Meel Publications.
- Tod, J. (1920). *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan or the Central and Western Rajput States of India*. (In three volumes) Bombay: Oxford University Press.