Notes from the Archive

GAYĀLĀL PAPERS, 1940–1969 V.S.: LIFE AT A LOW RUNG IN XIX CENTURY MILITARY BUREAUCRACY

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Introduction

This set of thirteen documents are drawn from the Gayālāl Papers within the family collection of late Tīrthalāl Na:ga:bhani (Rājbhaṇḍārī) [1070–1121 NS, or 1987–2058 v.s.].¹ We identified the collection as an important source for understanding the changes in the fortune of Newar aristocratic families of the middling order in Kathmandu, Nepal. The collection was in a sad state due to the vagaries of time, and had it not been for the support of the Endangered Archives Program (EAP) of the British Library, it would have faced a complete loss in April 2015 Earthquake. With assistance from EAP760 of the Program, we managed to rescue the physical copies and prepare a listing. Madan Puraskar Pustakalaya (MPP), the Host Institution for the project, provided basic conservation care. Consent and cooperation from its inheritors/custodians also enabled us to digitize the collection and contribute in our small way to the establishment of the Tīrthalāl Na:ga:bhani Archives. The Archives is a model member of the national network of local archives we hope to build in coming years.

The Papers were generated by Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī, Tīrthalāl's great grandfather. We do not know when Gayālāl was born. The family genealogy kept by Tīrthalāl mentions 1935 and 1958 v.s. as the years Gayālāl hosted the annual Guthi celebrations. The Guthi was established to take care of funerals of its members in the vicinity (or, *Tvā:sanā: Guthi*). The source document has, however, no dates of Gayālāl's birth or death. A published family portrait by Tīrthalāl depicts Gayālāl as the second son of Bīrmānsiṃ (Na:gha:bhani 2058 v.s.). The documents presented here have a few mentions of his elder brother, Janaklāl, and his younger brother, Vasantalāl. According to the

¹ On Tīrthalāl's life and bibliography, see Maharjan and Raj 2013.

family genealogy, Gayālāl himself was the ninth descendant of Tuyuju, to whom the particular Rājbhaṇḍārī clan traces their ancestry. Tuyuju's great grandson, Mānsiṃ, and great-great grandsons, Navamisiṃ and Anantasiṃ, were influential ministers in the Malla court of Yē or Kathmandu. The same genealogy indicates the existence of Gayālāl's family in Jumla but states that the details need to be added.

Gayālāl was a Kharidār/Khardār, a junior officer of the Nepal government posted in various army companies based in Karnali. A private document dated 1929 v.s. bears his name as Nāyav Mukhiyā. Documents from 1934 and 1937 v.s. mention him as a *Taharir Khardār* posted in Jumla-Humla without stating the associated office. We could not ascertain whether the position of *Taharir Khardār* was a *Kharidār* in a temporary charge of the office in the absence of its chief, or was an acting *Kharidār*. In 1942 v.s., he is stated to be a Ṣaridār at the Candannāth Company, whereas by the end of the year he is mentioned as a *Tīn Paṭṭṭikā Suvedār* (lit. *Suvedār* with three stripes) with the same company. Similarly, in a 1944 v.s. document, he is mentioned as a *Taharir Suvedār*, this time posted with the Bhairavnāth Company. A 1950 v.s. document, related to another company, the Nayā Śrīnāth Company, mentions him as a Mukhiyā. Exact meanings of the conferred titles remain unclear. The civil and military aspects of the company complex in the nineteenth and early twentieth century Nepal deserve a fuller analysis in the future. Nevertheless, they show his career trajectory. Gayālāl was at a low rung of a military bureaucracy: a low-ranking civil administrative staff under the military that looked after the government administration of that region. His occasional post as a *Suvedār* perhaps reveal that civil and military setups were not as segregated in the bureaucracy as they seem to be now.

The Gayālāl papers fall into three categories. First, the official documents related to Gayālāl's postings in Karnali. Under this category, we have documents related to several offices. Presumably, Gayālāl worked at these offices or was directly involved in producing the papers, or he had them because his name was mentioned. These include military establishment-related papers such as official rolls, lists of arsenal, weaponry, tools, equipment, and amounts payable to and disputations among different ranks and files of the company; advance payment receipts, loans, amounts to be paid to other army companies; and official correspondence requesting permission to raise troop strength, etc. Other documents relate to annual income and expenditure statements of the revenue districts (Nep. Darā)

in Jumla-Humla, and acquittance of the same by the King in the form of Lālmohars. Miscellaneous documents with the seal of various offices and at times copies of them or draft versions without seals or signatures; routine administrative documents that include handover of the charge of office to the new in-charge; annual salary and allowances disbursements, mostly in monetary equivalent of harvest form the second subset in this category. The third subset under this category includes revenues collected and due from neighboring districts of Doti, Achham, Jajarkot, Humla, Pyuthan, Salyan, Dadeldhura and Dailekh, and fund details for the management of local temple Guthis. The last subset consists of the official documents related to his (senior and junior) colleagues.

The second category includes the documents of personal nature. It consists of letters to and from family members, colleagues and friends (for instance, Documents 8, 11 and 13); papers related to inheritance and property such as details of family property and inheritance, and their division among brothers (Document 2), the property bequeathed to his family in Jumla (Document 9), that include land, gold and silver, livestock, goods and chattel. Other documents within this category relate to financial transactions such as loan-mortgage documents—mostly usufructuary, land deeds (selling and buying), contracts with tenants; small loans to colleagues in Karnali (Gayālāl appearing mostly as creditor and, only in a few, as debtor), and several in which he is mentioned as a witness. Further, the class also includes documents of loans taken by his widow Devi Thakũ Rājabhaṇḍārinī, suggesting that Gayālāl might have passed away around 1970 v.s.

The third category of documents is of legal nature. These include first, litigations during Gayālāl's posting in Karnali such as lawsuits filed against Gayālāl by contractors, government employees, and colleagues accusing him of favoritism, financial misappropriation, and fraud (Document 4). Interestingly, these are then invariably followed by retractions from the plaintiffs admitting that the allegations were false (Document 5). Further, there are Gayālāl's contracts with his assignees for the lawsuits as the cases filed against him were outside of Jumla where he was primarily stationed. in Doti and Dailekh (Document 6). Second, several papers relate to house ownership dispute. It contains a dossier of papers of the legal battle of a house at Bangemudha that Gayālāl bought in the year 1939 v.s. from Vuddhīmānsīm Rājbhandārī—a fifth cousin (Documents 1, 3, 10, 12). The third subset under the category includes receipts for the submission of various taxes for Guthi and other lands in and around Kathmandu.

Documents in Context

The significance of the Gayālāl Papers can be judged by their potential use to clarify several questions in the modern Nepali historiography. For illustrative purposes, we group existing approaches to archival documents related to the nineteenth century military bureaucracy in Nepal under three broad categories. The first is the literature on the civil and military administrative system and bureaucracy of the period. It generally provides an outline in a broad sweep and, to some extent, describes the administrative structure of the period (for instance, Upadhyaya 2029 v.s.; Prajapati 2033 v.s.; Khatri 2041 v.s.; Agrawal 1976; Edwards 1976). Under the second category falls such works which do so through the history of military institutions and some civil ones (such as Khatri 2041 v.s.; Pangeni 2067 v.s., 2068 v.s.b, 2069 v.s.b). These writings help us understand the constitution of particular military institutions (companies, offices), their strength, the battles they participated in, the names and appointment of the officers, salaries and victuals decreed, and operating guidelines for the institutions. Other set of work not strictly belonging to this category but loosely connected to it are helpful in learning about the civil institutions they discuss. Through these writings, we know the role of those institutions in the bureaucratic system, the auditing system, revenue collection, expenditures and their book-keeping (such as Pangeni 2065 v.s., 2069 v.s.a). The third category of literature focuses on particular ranks or positions within the administration or individuals holding those positions (such as Karmacharya [Hada] 2057 v.s.; Bhattarai 2059 v.s.; Pangeni 2064 v.s., 2068 v.s.a). These latter works help us learn about different ranks of officers (Baḍāhākims, Kapardārs, Subbās) during the mid-nineteenth and early twentieth century, and their roles and responsibilities within the bureaucracy. The documents presented here come close to this last category.

The approach to the primary sources taken here, as it was in our earlier notes from the archives, differs from the approach to and treatment of primary sources in the above mentioned literature. Several early works among them derive their information exclusively from secondary sources (Prajapati 2033 v.s.; Upadhyaya 2033 v.s.; Khatri 2041 v.s.). A few are based on primary sources but do not provide the contents of the source materials in detail, perhaps because their concerns are primarily interpretive (for instance,

Agrawal 1976; Edwards 1976). Some however provide the primary sources as Devanagari transliterations (such as Khanal 2035 v.s.; Bhattarai 2059 v.s.), without any possibility of verification against the originals. Recently, historians have shown quite an interest, some even taking pride, in bringing out the facsimiles of the originals in their works (Karmacharya [Hada] 2057 v.s.; Pangeni 2064 v.s., 2068 v.s.a, 2069 v.s.a). Friendlier techniques of reproduction and printing, such as the image processing and graphics enhancing programs, have facilitated the process (Karmacharya [Hada] 2057 v.s.; Pangeni 2064 v.s., 2068 v.s.a, 2070 v.s.). These works also quote primary sources extensively. The attention to the intricacy and nuance in the originals, however, is peripheral even in these, as the original form and content is largely relegated to the "Appendices." However, primary sources thus provided as facsimiles are valuable archives, now more accessible to the readers, in themselves; still they seem largely underutilized and ineffective in altering the narratives.

In cases where the facsimiles are given alongside the transliterations, they often fall short on accuracy. It may be the author's prerogative or the requirement of the research work on the mode of engagement with the primary source, or whether or not to fully deal with it. But when the texts are quoted inaccurately and out of context, they appear more as embellishment than necessity. For instance, one work has provided Devanagari transliteration of a note by Prime Minister Chandra Shamsher (Pangeni 2069 v.s.a). This note, dated Āśvin 1, 1971 v.s., makes budgetary allocations for staff after the Division for *Madhyes Phat* is broken into Division 1 and Division 2. The transliterated portion of the note goes as following:

...कौसीतोसाषानका हाकिम् कारीन्दाले पुर्जि हेरी--- चोक् मध्येस १ फाट भै आयाकोमा २ फाट गरी बक्सेको हनाले सो मध्येस फाटलाइ साबिक² दरीयेको काम्दार कारींदा षर्च ७१ साल कार्तिक मैन्हादेषी षारेज गरी तपसिल वमोजीमका फांट्लाई हाल ठेकीबक्सेका काम्दार कारींदा षर्चमध्ये रकंवाट वाली षाने जवानको वाहेक तलवी षाने जवांको फाट तपसिलमा लेषीवक्सेको छ कम्यांडरी कितापमा दरीया वमोजीम अनु सवालको रीत पुरयाइ मैन्हा मैन्हामा तलव षर्च लेषी दिन्ये काम गर... (Pangeni 2069 v.s.a: 120)

² This is a typo in Pengeni's transliteration.

The facsimile of the original provided in the Appendix 2 (p. 139) reveals that other than several minor errors, Pangeni has misread Kampu as Rakam, as the source of funds for the salaries of a set of staff (see line 5 of Devanagari transliteration, and line 4 of the same as it appears in the facsimile). Consequently, the author writes that "except the soldiers that receive their harvest [pay] from the budget, the [salary] details of the soldiers that get their salaries are given below..." The same detail is repeated on p. 171 while elaborating upon the division of the office under the Kumārīcok. The original clearly mentions that "except the soldiers that get their harvest [pay] from Kampu [i.e., from the express procurements, as was done during the transient camps], the [salary] details of the soldiers that get their salaries are given below..." This error has at least two implications. First, the sources of budget and their allocations for the staff after the division of the office are wrongly attributed. Second, those looking for the history of Office of the Kampu during the Rana rule would be misdirected and deprived of a piece of historical evidence. Further, Pangeni, quoting the same text under the section "With Regard to the Staff of Madhyes First and Second Divisions of the Kumārī Cok," mentions that Prime Minister Chandra, in that Note from 1971 v.s., has provided reasons for having to cleave the Division. The original, however, offers no clue regarding it, thus implying that the text has been quoted out of context.

Pangeni's work is only a representative of the general tendency among Nepali historians of paying inadequate attention to the little voice of the primary sources, as they remain fixated at the louder enterprise of history writing, as it were. The gross treatment of primary sources by Mahesh Chandra Regmi has already been dealt elsewhere (Raj 2014). Clearly, the primary sources deserve better treatment. Providing the faithful summary, accurate transliteration and translations (if possible) should render the text less opaque, increase its readability thereby minimizing the chances of them being misread and misquoted. We consider $\bar{A}dar\acute{s}a$ 1993, 2002 as an exemplar of such practice.

Significance of the Documents

The significance of the documents lies also in their interesting contents, of course. The three letters (Documents 8, 11, 13) presented below were written to Gayālāl between 1945 and 1969 v.s. The letters are all personal in nature, yet, rather brief and matter of fact. The documents provide snapshots

into the day-to-day life of a Kathmandu resident posted in remote Karnali. They reveal interesting facets such as 1) preoccupations and concerns of economically better off people of that time, 2) financial practices, lawsuits and litigations that people belonging to the middle stratum of the society like Gayālāl and his contemporaries had to or could afford to indulge in, 3) interconnectedness between people living in various parts of the country and the scale of mobility of the people within the country for work, and 4) dynamics of power relations between senior officers and subordinates. Similarly, Document 9 sheds light on 1) social life of a government employee posted in far-flung corners of the country, 2) socio-economic status that a government employee had or could attain, 3) gender relations, and 4) material culture of the period.

Four documents (Nos. 1, 3, 10, 12) provide an ownership history of Gayālāl's house from 1845 to 1904 v.s. The complex web of legal arguments developed during the case itself show an interesting history of property in the nineteenth century socio-legal landscape. A summary of the case is thus provided here.

A draft application prepared by Gayālāl's fifth cousin, Vuddhimān Rājbhaṇḍārī, mentions that in 1902 v.s., a part of the house at Vāṅgemuḍhā, once owned by Vuddhimān's father Rājvīr, was mortgaged (usufructuary) to one Subbā Laksmīdās for Rs. 651. Later, the remaining part of the house was mortgaged to Harīhar Josī. When the loan from Harīhar Josī reached Rs. 250, the mortgagee-ship was transferred to Harīhar by paying Lakṣmīdās Rs. 651. Rājvīr then began using the house. The total loan to Harīhar now amounted to Rs. 901.

Later, Rājvīr deeded the house in a "mortgage by conditional sale" to Mahanta Vasanta Gīrī for Rs. 1,001, allegedly to pay off Harīhar's mortgage. However, Vasanta Gīrī gave Rājvīr only Rs. 900 out of the agreed 1,001, for the remaining Rs. 101, he wrote a separate deed agreeing to pay within a month or else the deed of Rs. 1,001 would be deemed void. It appears that Vasanta Gīrī "forcibly" lived in the house for four–five years, without paying the remaining due amount to Rājvīr. Harīhar then filed a lawsuit against Rājvīr with the intent of taking back possession of the house of which the former was the mortgagee. Matters explained in later documents show that Harīhar had not received any amount he was to have received from Rājvīr for vacating the house. Therefore, in this case, in 1928 v.s., the court issued a deed of conquest in favor of Harihar saying that he would get to keep the

house until the due amount was paid to him. After that, Harīhar evicted Vasanta Gīrī from the house and started living in it.

Apparently, Vasanta Gīrī, then resorted to "looting" from various properties in Kathmandu owned by Rājvīr, between 1928 and 1929 v.s., allegedly to recoup the money he had lost in the deed with Rājvīr. According to Rājvīr, the loot exceeded the Rs. 900 he owed Vasanta. He provides a list of items looted and their equivalent prices, given according to the year and locations. The details provide for an interesting glimpse into the socioeconomic conditions of the time. They range from household items like padlock and pestle to farm implements like hoe. The prices of male and female slaves, cattle, paddy, corn, roof-tiles, nutcracker, and documents and accounts ledgers are mentioned. In the year 1930 v.s., Rājvīr filed a complaint in the Adālat Ṭaksār claiming that Vasanta Gīrī could not "loot" more than the money he owned, hence the surplus be returned to Rājvīr and the deed torn (rescinded). Vasanta Gīrī was arrested, but the matter was not resolved.

Meanwhile, with the deed of conquest in his favor, Harīhar refused to receive the mortgage amount, and opted to take the house instead. Rājvīr's son, Vuddhīmān then filed a complaint against Harīhar in the court and when it appeared that Vuddhīmān would win the case, but did not have the money to pay Harīhar, Vuddhīmān turned to Gayālāl for help. In 1939 v.s., Vuddhīmān transferred the ownership of the house, still mortgaged to Harīhar (under a usufructuary mortgage) and Vasanta Gīrī (under a mortgage by conditional sale) to Gayālāl for Rs. 1,101 through an *Ali Patra* (mortgage by conditional sale). Harīhar, however, was persistent in his intent for the property.

In 1939 v.s., Vuddhīmān filed a lawsuit in Adālat Ṭaksār against Harīhar, claiming that the latter refused to accept the purse, and did not vacate the house, hence there should be no need to deposit the purse to either court or in Harīhar's custody and that Harīhar be made to pay the rent of the house instead. Harīhar argued that one could not unmortgage by paying less amount than agreed upon, further, the ownership of the house could not be transferred when it still was under a mortgage. Eventually, the court made Harīhar to sign a pledge to accept the purse and vacate the house. However, when Harīhar still declined to accept the money, Vuddhīmān again went to court, where in accordance with legislation on contumacy, Harīhar was fined a tithe, to be deducted from the purse he was due. Vuddhīmān was asked to deposit the purse in the court, to be paid to Harīhar when he vacated the house. Further, Vuddhīmān was fined a twentieth and a fee in accordance

with legislation related to Debtor and Creditor. Yet, Harihar did not accept the verdict of the Adālat Taksār and he filed a complaint against the chief of that office at the higher offices, where he lost the case. When Assembly of Courtiers too endorsed earlier decisions, Harīhar was arrested. In 1940 v.s., the Assembly of Courtiers ordered to keep Harīhar in custody till he tore the deed document and asked the security to forcefully evict the house. if Harīhar did not yield. There are no exact details of how the house was emptied, but we learn that Harīhar was eventually evicted after this order and Gavālāl moved in.

There was one more twist in the story of the possession, however, when Vasanta Gīrī's proceedings reappeared. Documents say that Gayālāl continued living in that house "without any dispute for nearly 18 years." In 1958 v.s., he filed an application to the Prime Minister (?) to retain the ownership of his house and strike off the case at Patan Arrears Office. Apparently, long after both Vasanta Gīrī and Rājvīr had died, and due to reasons not mentioned, Vasanta Gīrī's property was confiscated by the Arrears Office in which the deed made by Rājvīr with Vasanta Gīrī had also turned up. Most likely, to recover the money that Vasanta Gīrī owed to the state, or some other reason, the Office then had affixed a seven-day auction notice at what had now become Gayālāl's house. In 1961 v.s., Vuddhīmān wrote an application to the Commanding General Southern, claiming that Vasanta Gīrī had already looted more than equivalent of the amount Vuddhīmān's father Rājvīr owed Vasanta Gīrī and hence that deed was already void.

The document trail breaks off after 1961 v.s. We do not know if Vasanta Gīrī and Rājvīr's mortgage deed was indeed declared void by the courts as requested by Vuddhīmān. However, we do know that the dispute was somehow resolved and Gayālāl's descendants continued to live in that house.

These documents cover only fifty years of the house, the history of which goes back certainly to the medieval period. In these documents, therefore, we have a snapshot of the history of ownership in the nineteenth century, and the socio-legal landscape in which such ownership was contested or validated. They demonstrate how details on the past ownership of a house, and in this case, complex disputations on the ownership, make a rare and engrossing account of the legal system of the time. Similar significance can be attached to the documents of loans, mortgages, financial settlements, provided we listen sufficiently close to the little voice of the archive.

DOCUMENT 1 Letter of the Adálat Taksár to Vuddhimán Rájbhandári

On Jyeṣṭha Vadi 3, 1940 v.s., the Adālat Ṭaksār (the Court Collections Office) deliberated on the house mortgage dispute between Vuddhīmān Rājbhaṇḍārī and Harīhar Josī. The office now issues a letter to Vuddhīmān Rājbhaṇḍārī thereby acknowledging the receipt of the deposit amount payable by his father Rājvīr to Harīhar Josī as stated in the original contract between them. It also imposes a fine on Vuddhīmān as court fees for starting the dispute. The letter reinstates him as the legal owner of the house since Harīhar continues to refuse the repayment. By the end of the nineteenth century, the core areas of Kathmandu city were already teeming with a large population. The property disputes in the odd quarters of Kathmandu were already many, indicating the emergence of complex competition for residential space.

Image 1: Reinstatement Order, 1940 v.s. (EAP760_142)

Devanagari Transliteration

श्रीअदा. लत टक्सार १९३२

> स्वस्ति श्रीअदालत टक्सारकस्य पत्रम आगे दाषिला आम्दानी चपली गाउ वस्न्या वुद्धिमान रा-जभडारीके मेरा वावा राजवीरको र हरीहर जोसिको घर वंध-कि मुद्दाको झगरा अघी येस अडामा परि घर वंधक लीया-को ठहराइ हरीहर जोसिलाइ जीतापत्र भयापछी सो जी-ता पत्र वमोजीमका रुपैञा तीर्न जादा नली झेल गर्न पा-उने होइन रुपैञा तीरी घर नीषंन पाउने हुँ भंन्या मुद्दाको तम्रो वादि र वंधकको फाछुर्या भयापछि न्हेडीकवाला-ले सकार गर्न पाउछ भन्या नपुग्याको रूपैञा दी फाछ्यां-पत्र म पाउ सकार गर्न पाउदैन भन्या वंधक छदै फाछर्या गर्न पाउने होइन भन्या हरीहर जोसिको प्रतीवादि भ-याका मुद्दामा थैली वृझि घर छाडीदिन्छ भनी नीज हरी-हरले ज्मावंदिमा सही गरी थैली नवुझी धीगनाही ग-र्दा धीगनाहीका अन वमोजीम रपोट जाहेर गर्दा सो रपोट् मर्जी हुकुंले सदर भै आयापछी नीज हरीहर जोसीले येस अडाका हाकिम्का नाउमा हुकुं नीक्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लम्बर अडामा इजहार दिदा नीज अडावा-ट यसै अडावाट गऱ्याको नीसाव सदर ठहराइ रपोट् जाहेर गर्दा नीज अडाका नाउमा भारादारीमा इजहारि दि भारादारीवाट न्याये नीसाव गर्दामा पनी यसै अ-डावाट गऱ्याको नीसाव सदर ठहरायापछी पनी नीज ह-रीहरले थैली नवुझि धीगनाही गऱ्याको हुनाले हुकुंम-नीक्सारी झगरापट्टि १ लम्बर अडाका पुर्जि र येस अ-डावाट हाली हुकुंमर्जिले सदर भयाको रपोट् मुतावी-क तीमिले हरीहर जोसिलाइ तीर्नुपर्न्या जीतापत्र व-मोजीमका ज्मा मोरु ९११॥ ढरौट् र तीमिलाइ ला-गेको डंड मोरु ११। ११ वीसौद मोरू ४५॥ 1१ वुझाया-को हुनाले तीम्रा वावु राजवीरले नीज हरीहरलाइ तीर्नुपर्ने थैली तीरी वंधक नीषनेको जानी आफ्ना

घर भोगचलंन गर भनी वाहालीको पूर्जी गरी दि-ञ्यौ इति सम्वत १९४० साल मिति ज्येष्ट वदि ३ रो ज ५ श्भ्म

English Translation



Hail, letter of Venerable Adalat Taksar

Hereafter deposit of income; to Vuddhīmān Rājbhandārī, a resident of Capalī village; in the house mortgage dispute between my father Rājvīr and Harīhar Josi lodged in this office, after it was ruled that the house had been mortgaged [by Rājvīr to Harīhar], and a deed of conquest was issued in favor of Harīhar;

Whereas "when the mortgagor goes to pay the Rupees in accordance with the deed of conquest, the mortgagee cannot play foul by declining to accept; the house can be unmortgaged by paying due Rupees," is your, the plaintiff's, position and "the mortgagor can repossess the property only after a settlement is reached between the plaintiff and the mortgagor, it cannot settle the deed and by paying less amount, and ask for the settlement; [and] the mortgaged property cannot be deeded [sold, mortgaged to other party] while [one] mortgage is still on" is the position of defendant;

In this lawsuit, when Harīhar, after signing the deed of pledge to accept the purse and vacate the house, acted contumaciously by declining to accept the purse; a report was submitted based on the law regarding contumacy; it was endorsed by the will and order [of the Prime Minister?], Harīhar Josī then filed a petition against the chief of this office at the Office of the Decree Issuance (Hukum Niksārī) Dispute Department, Number 1 Office (Jhagarāpattī 1 Lamvar Adā), which submitted a report endorsing the judgment made by this office; a petition was [again] filed [by Harīhar] against that Office (Dispute Department) at the Assembly of Courtiers (Bhārdārī). The Assembly in their judgement too endorsed the decision made by this office. But

the said Harīhar is still showing contumacy by refusing to accept the purse;

Therefore, as per the missive by Dispute Department, Number 1 Office of Decree Issuance and the report submitted by this office and endorsed by the will and order [of the Prime Minister?], as you have deposited the amount, a total of Moru 911113 payable to Harīhar Josī in accordance with the deed of conquest, and the penalty imposed on you of Moru 111311, the fee of the twentieth of Moru 451111, we have issued this note of reinstatement to cognize that the mortgage has been settled by paying the mortgage amount payable by your father Rājvīr to Harīhar, [you can] possess your house.

In the year Samvat 1940 Jyestha Vadi 3, Thursday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 2 Family Assets, Loans and Incomes

This document drafted by Gayālāl provides details of Moru 1,163 receivable from his elder brother Janaklāl. Though the document is not dated, there are mentions of financial transactions from 1926 to 1939 v.s. They range from division of family coffer to those related to mother's jewelries. There are details of mortgages and loans given and taken for different purposes, socio-cultural functions being the most mentioned, including Daśaĩ, Tihār, the rice-feeding ritual (Annaprāśan), hosting of lineage deity worship (Devālī), wedding expenses of a daughter and expenses for funeral rites. The document reveals a glimpse of the economic conditions under which a fairly well off Newar family like Gayālāl's functioned in the latter half of the nineteenth century. Documents like this should contribute to a more nuanced understanding of economic history of Nepal of that period.

Image 2: Family Financial Statement, c. 1940 v.s. (EAP760_068)

कार्य माना है। दिया माना माना माना 200 अग्राम स्थान हा भीत

न्।महर्मातकार्भनी व्याज ३५ मालमंस 45713 al 9/9HA रहमालमाथ विश्वेका बनांड गर्क 9952

Devanagari Transliteration

दाज्यू जनकलालसंग लेना हीसाव ज्मा मोरु	–११६३/
भींन भयापछी गोलकको असामी उठायी आफूले	
लीयाका ज्मा रु ८०८ को दोवर व्याजस्मेत ज्मोमाहरु (!)	
१६१६ को तीन भागको येक भाग मोरु	
गुरुदमान नघल वस्न्येले षेत नीषनी लीयाको रु १२१	
ठमेलको जोतीमान षेत नीषनी लियाको १०१	
ठहीटीको पारुसीं ज्यापुसंग ह्यैपीको षेतको	
वाली तमसुकको ४५	
पाटंको भीनाज्यू सीनारांलाइ सापटी दिया-	
को कंपनी रु २०० के मोरु	
आमाको वीज(किन?) १ के तोला ५ वेरूवा औठी १ के	
तोला २ तुकीचा जोर १ के तो ३ ज्मा सुं तोला	
१० को मोरु	
कीलागलको जीत्मान अचारसंग तमसुकी १०१	
नीजले येकौटि(!) गरी लीयाका साहु तीरी दीयाको र	
चानचुन पटकपटक गरी गयाको स्मेत ६२५/	
जोगनर्सिं वाडालाइ साहु तीरी दीयाको 🚃 ४३७	
संग छदामा छोरीहरूका अनपासनी-	
मा षेतवंधकको तमसुक १ के रु १७५ म-	
ध्ये दुइ भाग११६॥२॥।	
भींन ^भया^ पछी आफ्नु भाग अलीपत्रको त-	
मसुक १ के१५१	
भीन भयापछी कपाली तमसुकी सा-	
पटी लीयाको र६९। 1	
२६ साल कार्तीक वदी १४ रोज-	
का तमसुक १ के 📉 ४०	
सावा २० व्याज २०	
२९ साल मार्ग विद ११ रोजका	
ऐं १ के 💮 ४०	
सावा २० व्याज २०	

३१ साल आस्वीन सुदी ५ रोज-
का ऐ १ के५९॥२
सावा ===================================
व्याज ३९ सालका मंसी-
रतकको २८॥ २
का ऐ १ के
सावा१५॥•
व्याज ३९ साल मंसीर-
तक रि३॥३
नीजका छोरी ^भेग^ लाइ ^वेहाके^ केलटोलको सुर्जनारांसं-
ग तमसुकी सापटी ली दीयाको भाउज्यूका तम^सुक वमोर्जी^ १३१। ^२
सावा १०१ व्याज वर्ष ३ को ३०।
वेतमसुकी पटकपटक गरी गयाको प्राचित्र
३२ सालमा वसंको छोरालाइ देवाली
पालो पर्दा लीयाको पटक २ के५
ऐ मा वसंका छोरा घाट् लैजादीं प-
टक ३ गरी लीयाको 💮 ४॥•
ऐं का दसै षर्चके
ऐं का तीहार षर्चके
३३ सालमा घर वीग्रेका वनाउनाके <u>४</u> ॥। ^२
बु(हार)ीसंग लीयाको
सुनको फुल नीषंन पुगेन सापटी देउ
भनी लीयाका कंपनी १३ के मोरु १५॥३
मध्ये भर्नाको कीटा थां •।।• के ६ नगद
१॥ ज्मा रु ७॥ कट्टी गरी वाकी८३
पोता तीरी देउ भनी दीयाका आफुले
मासी षायाको मोरु प्राचीत प्राच
३७ सालका दसैमा षर्च छैन भनी व-
संले लीयाको मोरु प
मुन्द्री वंधक राषी झगराको दंड तीर
भनी दीयाकामा वाकी २॥•
षानलाइ छैन धान सापटी देउ भनी ली-
याका पाथी १७ के 📉 ३।२

घर वनाउदा षर्च भयाको रु २७।^२ म-ध्ये दुइ भाग १८।• मध्ये पंचे ज्यापुसं-ग इछ्याइ (!) दीयाको ८ वाकी ______१०।•

११६३/

English Translation

Venerable

Principal ————20 Interest ———20
Ditto, 1, of year [19]29 Mārga Vadi 11 ()day — 40
Principal 20 Interest 20
Ditto, 1, of year [19]31, Āśvin Sudi 5 ()day59 ³
Principal 31
Interest up to the year [19]39, Mańsira — 2811°1
Ditto, 1, of year [19]31, Kārtik Vadi 14 ()day29113
Principal15 •
Interest of up to year [19]39 Mańsira ——13113
Loan taken from Surjanārām of Kel Ṭol for wedding of his [Janaklāl's]
daughter Bhega,
As stated in Bhāujyū [sister-in-law, Janaklāl's wife?]'s loan deed document
131I ²
Principal 101 Interest for 3 years 3018
Non-deeded money given on different occasions ——56II ³
Loan taken on two occasions in the year [19]32 when it was the turn of
Vaṃsa's son to host lineage deity worship [Devālī] —5
In the same year, when Vamsa's son was taken to river bank for last rites,
loan taken on three occasions 411•
Ditto, for Dasāim expenses 7
Ditto, for Tīhār expenses 2
Loan taken to repair house in the year [19]33 ———4III ³
Taken from daughter-in-law
Citing insufficient money for unmortgaging gold flower [earpiece],
loan taken [for Company 13] Moru 15II ³ ,
out of which 6 as repayment at installment •II• and 1II as cash a total of 7I•
was deducted, the remaining 83
Money given for payment of land tax,
but squandered by him [Janaklāl], Moru 5
Loan taken by Vamsa, citing no money for expenses,
in the Dasāim of year [19]37, Moru 5
By mortgaging Mundri, loan given to pay penalty in a dispute
Remainder repayment 211.
Paddy loaned [to Janaklāl] as he said he had no food to eat
of Pathi 17 31 ²

Of the total expenses of Ru 271? for building [repairing?] house, two parts of 181. [Ru] 8 was contributed by Pance Jyapu, the remaining 101.

1163

DOCUMENT 3 Verdict of the Court Collections Office

In 1940 Śrāvan Sudi (), in the mortgage dispute of a house between Vuddhīmān Rājbhandārī and Harīhar Josī, the Court Collections Office (Adālat Taksār) gave the verdict that Harīhar had acted contumaciously by not accepting the purse offered by Vuddhīmān, not tearing the deed and not vacating the house. The court ordered Harīhar, who was in police custody, to vacate the house, if he did not comply, the court ordered to effect as much by using the police to throw Harīhar's belongings to the courtyard. Further, the verdict mentions that Harihar be released if he tears the deed even if he declines to accept the purse.

Image 3: Favorable Court Order, 1940 v.s. (EAP769_235)



भूजानतः स्वतात् कारुष्कं प्रकृति । ब्यानी गाउँ वहुना ग्रीक्षेत्र विश्वकारी । कोरुः कंग्यानकार राजवान्यार शिर्द्धाने कार्यक्त कार्यकार मान्यकार के वेटेगा कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार नकार स्वापनी जानी जानी कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार कार्यकार

हामनार नाम हर्ज कुमाना विमान समा नेमान मार्ग निविधित्र में अमा माने ने मार्ग निविधित्र में क्रिका मार्ग निविधित्र में क्रिका करिया करि

मिनाकी तमान मतानाना

इति मन्त्र १८४० मानामानिकाम् गामि होत अभ

Devanagarai Transliteration

श्री श्री(?)

अदालत टक्सारका हाकीम कारीन्दाले पुर्जि हेरि चपली गाउ वस्न्या वृद्धिमान राजभडारी-को र वांग्यामुढा टोल वस्न्या हरीहर जोसिका झगरामा तपसिलको वेहोरा चार अदाल-तका सुवा वीस्नुगोपाल पाध्यामार्फत तीमिहरुले हाम्रा हजुरमा वींति पार्दा तपसि-ल वमोजिम गर्नु भंन्या हामीवाट मर्जि हुकुं वक्स्याको छ सो वमोजीम गर्न्या काम गर

तीमीहरुले वींति पाऱ्याको वेहोरा मेरा वावा राजवीरको र हरिहर जोसी को अघी येसै कचहरीमा झगरा पर्दा हाम्रा घरमा म्याद टासी रुपैञा तीर्न प-न्या ठहराइ हाम्रा वांग्यामुढा टोलका घर भोग गर्नु भनी नीज हरीहरलाइ जी-तापत्र गरी दियाको थीयो आज जी-तापत्र वमोजीम रुपैञा तीर्न जादा वुझी लीयेन वालस्मेत भराइ पाउ भंन्या वृद्धि-मानको वादी र वंधक्को घर अरुलाइ फाछुर्या गरी दियापछी हडिकले सका-र गर्न पाउछ भन्या नपुग्याका रुपैञा दी फाछुर्या पत्र पाउ सकार गर्न पाउदैन भ-न्या भोग छदै फाछ्या गर्न पाउने होइन भंन्या हरीहरको प्रतिवादी भयाका मुद्दा मा थैली वुझी ली घर छोडीदिन्छु भनी ज्मावंदी लेषी दीयापछी पनी हरीहरले थैली नवुझी धीगनाही गऱ्याको हुनाले जीतापत्र वमोजीम्को थैली मोरु ९११॥३ हरीहरलाइ भराइ दसौद मोरु ९१२॥२ र तीर्न ल्यायाको थैली नवुझे वावत धीतो लेषाउदाको ८ लंबरका अन्का रोह(?)ले दसैद मोरु ९१२॥२ दंड गरी सो

तपसिल

हामिवाट मर्जि हुकुं वक्स्याको ४० साल श्रावण वदि ११ रोज ३ मा येस्मुद्दामा वादी प्रतिवादी भै प्रमा-णले जीतापत्र वमोजीम्का रुपैञा वृद्धिमानवाट हरीहरलाइ भराइ दसौ-द र तीर्न ल्यायाको थैली नवुझेमा दंड र अडा अदालतमा र तेसरका जींमा-मा थैली नराषी वाल पाउ भनेमा वु-द्धिमानलाइ दंड वीसौद लीने ठहरा-इ अडावाट गऱ्याको नीसावमा ची-त्त वुझ्दैन भनि नीज हरीहरले तेस अडाका हाकीम्का नाउमा हुकुं नीकु-सारी झगरापट्टी १ लंबर अडामा इ-जहार दिदा हुकुं नीक्सारीवाट तेसै अडाले ठहरायाको नीसाव मुना-सीव ठहराइ ठोकेपछी नीज(ले) अडा-का हाकीम्का नाउमा पनी भारा-दारीमा इजहार दिदा र भारादा-रीवाट न्याये नीसाव गर्दा हुकुं नी-क्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लंबर अडावा-ट गऱ्याको नीसाव मुनासीव ठहरा-इ ठोकेपछी पनी नीज हरीहरले थै-

दसौद दंडका रुपैञा नीज हरीहरले पा-उने थैलीमा कट्टा गराइ वुद्धीमानवाट विसौद ४५॥ 1१ र अडा अदालतमा र तेसरका जींमामा थैली नराषी वाल पा-उ भन्यामा साहु असामीका २१ लंवरका अनका रोह(?)ले मोरु ११। ११ दंड गर्ने ठ-हराइ सावीकमा चढायाको रपोट् म-र्जिहुकुंले सझा(?) भयापछी अंन्याये गऱ्यो भनी नीज हरीहरले हाकिंम्का नाउमा हु-कुं नीक्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लंबर अडामा इजहार दियापछी नीज अडावाट येसै अडाले गऱ्याको नीसाव मुनासिव ठह-राइ ठोकेपछी नीज अडाका नाउमा पनी भारादारीमा इजहार दि न्याये नीसा-व हुंदा हुकुं नीक्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लंबर अडाले गऱ्याको नीसाव मुनासीव ठ-हराइ नीज अडाका नाउमा पठायाका पुर्जि वमोजीम नीज अडावाट पनी ये-स अडाका नाउमा पुर्जि पठायाका हु-नाले नीज हरीहरलाइ लाग्न्या दसौ-द दंड र हुकुं नीक्सारी झगरा पट्टी १ लं-वर अडाका नाउमा करायामा भया-को दंडका रुपैञा नीज हरीहरले पा-उने थैलीमा कट्टी भै स्याहा दर्ता भै तम-सुक फारी घर छोरी नदिदां नीज हरी-हर थुन्याको रहेछ दसौद दंडका रुपै-ञा थैलीमा कट्टी भै स्याहा भयाको हु-नाले नीज हरीहरलाइ थुनी राषना-लाइ मनासिव पर्देन छोडी देउ भ-न्या पनी थैली दाषील भयापछी पनी तमसुक फारी घर छोडी नदि-याको हुनाले र येस अडाका नाउमा करायामा भयाका दंड असुल ग-र्नालाइ थैली र नीज हरीहरला-

ली नवुझी तमसुक फारी घर छा-डी नदि धीगनाही गऱ्याको हुनाले नीज हरीहरलाइ लाग्न्या तेस अ-डाको र भारादारीको दंड दसौद-का रुपैञा नीज हरीहरले पाउने थैलीमा कट्टी भै स्याहा भयाको छ तापनी तमसुक फारी नदिया-सम नीज हरीहरलाइ थुनी राषनु सो घ-र नीज वुद्धिमानको चलं गराउनाला-इ नीज हरीहरले मालमत्ता सारी छा-डी नदियाको हुनाले ठानाका मानी-स र नीज हरीहरलाइ स्मेत लगी तीम्रो माल सारी लैजाउ भनी भंनु लगेन भन्या जो भयाको माल चो-कमा फाली घर षाली गराइ नी-ज वृद्धिमानको भोगचलं चलाइदि-नु तेस अडाका नाउमा कराया वावत लाग्न्या दंडका रुपैञा नीज हरीहरले पाउने वाकी थैलीमा कट्टी गरी हुकुं नी-क्सारीमा वुझाइ रसिद ली वाकी थै-ली लीयाका दीन फीर्ता हुन्या भंन्या वेहोरा जनाइ तहवीलमा ढरवट् रा-षीदिनु तमंसुक फारी दियो भने थैली वुझी लीयेन तापनी नीज हरी-हरलाइ छाडी दिनु -

इ हुकुं नीक्सारीमा पठाइदिनु पर्न्या हुनाले छोडी दिनालाइ पनी भये-न येस्मा (के) गर्न्या हो जो मर्जि

्_{छाप} ेहुकंम

र्इति सम्वत १९४० साल मिति श्रावण सुदि रोज शुभ्म

English Translation

Venerable

Venerable (?)

The chief and staff of Court Collections Office, after looking into the missive, in the dispute between Vuddhīmān Rājbhaṇḍārī, resident of Capalī village and Harīhar Josī, resident of Vāṅgyāmuḍhā, the following particulars you submitted to us through Suvā Viśṇugopāl Pādhyā, of Court Number 4 (Cār Laṃvar Adālat), we have willed and ordered you to do as following; act accordingly,

Particulars

Details of your application

"In the dispute between my father Rājvīr and Harīhar Josī earlier in this court, [the court] had affixed a summon to our house and had issued a deed of conquest to Harīhar that allowed him to possess our house at Vāngyāmudhā Tol; Today, when I went to pay the mortgage amount in accordance with the deed of conquest, Harīhar declined to accept it, hence the rent [of the house] also be penalized to Harīhar," this claim by the plaintiff [Vuddhīmān] and the defendant Harīhar's argument that "if a mortgaged house is given to others through a settlement, the

Ordered as willed by us

On Tuesday, Śrāvaṇ Vadi 11, 1940 v.s.

In this lawsuit, after hearing the plaintiff and defendant, based on the evidence of that office, disagreeing with the decision that in accordance with the deed of conquest, Vuddhīmān was to recompense the Rupees to Harīhar, [penalty of] tithe be imposed on for his refusal to accept the offered purse; and to collect twentieth penalty from Vuddhīmān for claiming the rent [of the house] without submitting the purse in the court and with the third party;

mortgagor can take back the house by paying the mortgage amount, allow me to get a settlement by paying the remaining amount as a mortgage cannot be settled while the property is being rightly occupied [under one mortgage];" [In this dispute,] even after giving a written pledge to accept the purse and vacate the house, Harīhar did not accept the money and acted contumaciously; in accordance with the deed of conquest, the purse of Moru 911113 to be recompensed to Harīhar, the Moru 91312, which is a fine of one tenth of the purse for not accepting the offered purse in accordance with Clause 8 of the law pertaining to entering security: [hence] getting the tithe amount deducted from the purse receivable by Harīhar; get Vuddhīmān to pay the twentieth 4511 11 and on the complaint pleading to receive the rent [of the house] on not submitting the purse in the court and with the third party," in accordance with Clause 21 of the law pertaining to debtor and creditor, a fine of 111311 [was] imposed on Harīhar;" after the submitted report was endorsed as it was by the will and order [of the Prime Minister], Harīhar filed a complaint in the Office of the Decree Issuance. Office for Dispute Settlement Number 1. against injustice by the chief [of this court], after that the Office too

Harīhar filed a complaint against the chief of that office in the Office of Decree Issuance Dispute Settlement Number 1: when that office too gave a verdict endorsing the earlier decision. Harīhar then filed a complaint against the chief of the Decree Issuance in the [Assembly of] Courtiers: Even after the assembly of courtiers too endorsed the judgement made by the Decree Issuance. Dispute Settlement Number 1. Harīhar acted contumaciously by not accepting the purse, and not vacating the house by tearing the deed; the penalty thus receivable from him to that office [Decree Issuance, Dispute Settlement Number 11 and Rupees of tithe to the Assembly of Courtiers have been deducted from the purse receivable by Harīhar and entered into register, but still, until [he] tears the deed, keep him in custody; and to enable Vuddhīmān the use [of the house], since Harīhar has not moved the belongings, take people from the police station and Harīhar, ask him to move his belongings, if [he] refuses, vacate the house by throwing to the courtyard whatever belongings there are, and give Vuddhīmān possession of house; deduct the fine for [false] complaint receivable to that office from the remaining purse receivable by Harīhar, submit [the amount] to the Office

endorsed this report, [Harīhar] filed a complaint against that office in the Assembly of Courtiers: When iustice was done, it too endorsed the earlier decision and sent a note to the office [Decree Issuance], based on which that office sent a note to this office as well; "therefore, as the tithe penalty payable by Harīhar, and fine of [false] complaint to be paid to the Office of the Decree Issuance, Dispute Settlement Number 1. have been deducted from the purse receivable by Harīhar and registered in the ledger; as Harīhar has not torn the deed and vacated the house. he has been imprisoned;" "as the penalty of tithe has been deducted from the amount and registered in the ledger, it is not required to keep Harīhar in custody and thus he be released," even though this is requested; after the money has been deposited, [he] still has not torn the deed and vacated the house and he should not be released as he should be sent to the Office of Decree Issuance for collecting the fine for [false] complaint made to that Stamp)office; Order as you will in this case.

of Decree Issuance, take receipt, deposit remaining amount at the treasury by stating that it will be returned on the day Harīhar receives the purse; if he tears the deed, release him even if he does not accept the purse

In the year Samvat 1940 date Śrāvan Sudi () day. Be auspicious!

DOCUMENT 4 Accusation of Misappropriation

In Pausa of 1940 v.s., the Special Court, Second Section, Number 1 Office issued a subpoena to Gayālāl in a case related to embezzlement of Suvedār Kulmānsīm Sīlvāl Chetrī's pay. In his lawsuit Suvedār Kulmānsīm had accused Gayālāl, a Taharīr and second-in-command at office at that time, of playing foul and not giving the harvest pay for the year 1937 v.s. and of forging signature and taking rebate from the Kumārīcok. In response to this, the Special Court had sent soldiers with the summons few times earlier but Gayālāl refused to meet them and went into hiding. Therefore, the court affixed a fifteen-day summon at the entrance of Gayālāl's house warning him should he not present himself to the court within the stated time period, the allegations made by the plaintiff would be endorsed and the law would take its course

Image 4: Subpoena on Embezzlement, 1940 v.s. (EAP760_112)



Devanagari Transliteration

श्रीू

श्रीकौमारि

१

श्री षास अदालत दोश्रा १ लम्बर १९४०

> स्वस्ति श्रीषास्अदालत् दोश्राफाट् १ लम्वर अदाकस्य सहर काठमाडौं वांघेमुढा व-स्न्या षरिदार गयलाल (!) राजभडारिके पुर्जि उप्रांत लेफ्टेन् कर्णेल् व्रर्फान सींह वस्न्यात् छेत्रीलाई जुमला गौडाको तैनाथ हुनाले सो गौडाको सुवेदा-रि षान्गी २७ साल्का वालीदेषि मोहर पैसा गरि २०५ षान्गी मलाई दिया-को थीयो ३५ साल्को वाली कृष्नजी झाहस्ते लीयाको थीया भर्पाई पनी गरि दियाको छु ३७ साल्को वाली माग्न जादा नीज गयेलालले झेल वषे-डा गरि वाली नदी वाली वुझेको भर्पाई गरि कीर्ते सही हाली [श्रीकौमारि] चो-कुमा मीनाहा ली राषेछ सर्कारवाट वक्स्याका दर्दाम् वमोजिम्को षा-न्गी हामीलाइ दी हाम्रो भर्पाई गरि [श्रीकौमारि]चोक वुझाई मीनाहा लीनुपर्न्या-मा हाम्रा कंढा परि कीर्त्ये सही गरि हाम्रो वाली षान पाउन्या होइन ३५ साल-को वाली नीज कृष्नजी झालाई मिनाहा र ३७ साल्को वाली मोहर पैसा गरि २०५ नीज गयलालवाट झिकी भराई पाउन्या हुँ भन्या मुद्दाको ग्यानेश्वर वस्न्या स्वेदार कुलमान्सीं सीलवाल छेत्रीले तेरा नाउमा वादी इजाहार दीदा प्र-तीवादी लीनालाई तिमिलाई २।३ पटक् पुर्जि गरि सीपाही पठाउदा तीमी सि-पाहीसंग भेट् नदी भागी लुकीरहंदा फेला नपन्यी झगडीयालाई ७ दीनको म्याद तास्यापछि ३५ दीनको म्याद तासीदिनु भंन्या अन छ तापनि अव उप्रांत १५ दीनको म्याद तासी दिन् भंन्या येस् अडालाई गरिवक्स्याका ७ लम्बरका सवाल वमोजिम तेरा घर्का दैल्हामा दिन १५ को म्यादको पुर्जि तासी दियाको छ तसर्थ सो म्यादभित्र तामेल् भइस् भन्या तेरो प्रतीवादी ली अन वमो-जिम् हक् नीसाफ् पाउन्या छ सो म्याद गुज़्यो भन्या तेरा झगडीयाले दि-याको वादी सदर थहरि अैन वमो^जीं^ हुन्या छ त फेला पऱ्याका दिन तलाई अैन वमोजिम् हुन्या छ पछि मेरो झगडीयासंग जोरि पुर्पछे गरिपाउ भ-नी पछि उजुर गर्ना पाउन्या छैन सो जानी १५ दीनभित्र तामेल हुन आउन्या काम गर इति सम्वत् १९४० साल मिति पौष सुदी रोज

English Translation

Venerable

Venerable Kaumāri

Srī Şās Adālat Dośrā 1 Lamvar 1940

Hail. Venerable Special Court, Second Phāṭ (Department/Section), 1 Number's missive to Ṣarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī, resident of Vāṅghemuḍhā, the city of Kathmandu;

"When Lieutenant Colonel Vrarphāna Sīmha Vasnyāt Chetrī was posted at Jumla Gauda, I was given the Suvedar's victuals of that Gaudā, of [Rs] 205, including Mohar and Paisā, from the Harvest Year [19]27 v.s.; [I] had received the harvest pay of year [19]35 v.s. from Kṛṣṇajī Jhā, have also provided receipt [of the same]; when I went asking for the harvest pay of year [19]37 v.s., Gayālāl played foul, did not give [me] the harvest pay; [Gayālāl had already] made a receipt, forged [my] signature and had taken rebate from [Kumārīcok]; [Gayālāl] should have paid us the victuals amount as per the rate allocated by the Sarkar, made our receipt and submitted that to [Kumārīcok] and taken the rebate; [he] cannot burden us, forge signature, and arrogate our pay; [therefore] I request rebate to Kṛṣṇajī Jhā for the Harvest Year [19]35 v.s. and payment of [Rs] 205, including Mohar and Paisā for the harvest pay of year [19]37 v.s., recompensed from Gayālāl." This is mentioned in the lawsuit filed by plaintiff Suvedār Kulmānsīm Sīlvāl Chetrī, resident of Gyāneśvar, against your name;

To register you as defendant, [the court] sent soldier 2–3 times with the summon, but you did not meet the soldier, and went into hiding; regarding the absconding litigants, after issuance of a 7-day summon, [although] the law requires to issue a 35-day one; however, hereafter, in accordance with Clause 7 of the Savāl (rule) bestowed [by the Government] to this office to affix a 15-day summon [in such

cases], a 15-day summon has been affixed at the entrance of your house. Therefore, if you present yourself [to the court] within the said period, you shall be registered as defendant and shall get rights and justice in accordance with law; if the time-limit is crossed, the charges labelled by the plaintiff will be endorsed and law shall take its course; the day you are found you shall be prosecuted in accordance with law, later you shall not have the right to plead for any enquiry into the plaintiff's claims;

Knowing this, present yourself [at the court] within 15 days. In the year Samvat 1940 date Pausa Sudi (). Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 5 Out of Court Settlement or a Compromise

On Jyestha Sudi 6, 1941 v.s., Lieutenant Kulmānsīm Sīlvāl Chetrī wrote this document retracting the litigation he had initiated against Sarīdār Gayālāl nearly five months earlier, accusing him of embezzling the former's harvest pay. In this document, Kulmānsīm, by now promoted from Suvedār to a Lephten (lieutenant), claims that his earlier accusation was due to a misunderstanding as to who had to be held responsible for him not getting his pay of the year 1937 v.s. Further, he mentions he would settle the issue with the treasurer concerned.

Image 5: Retracting the Litigation, 1941 v.s. [EAP760_108]

तिबातम्ह क्या निव क्यां ले प्रतिकृत मान शिका का के कि है।

जो के भारत का मान मान मान मान कि एक मान शिका के महिले के कि मान मान मान मान मान मान कि कि मान के महिले के मिल के मिल के महिले के मिल के महिले के महिले

Devanagari Transliteration

श्री

में लिषितम् टुकुचापारि वस्न्या लेफ्टेन् कुलमानिसं सिलवाल क्षेत्रि आ-गे ३७ सालका वालि मा(!) जुमलामा सुवेदार षानगी षाई वस्याको थीया तेसै सालको मंसिर मैन्हामा झगडा मुद्दामा नेपाल आउनुपर्दा मेरा सुवेदार षान्गि निज सालका तहिवल जिम्मा लिने तहिवलदार वलै-चं घर्तिक्षेत्रिसंग वुझ्नु पर्न्या हुनाले र सो सुवेदारि षानगीमा वलैच-न् घर्तिक्षेत्रीलाई पग्रन पर्न्यामा तहिरर भयाका षर्दार गयालाल रा- जभडारिका नाउमा षास अदालतमा मैले वादि ईजहार दियाको थीयो पछी नीज तहविलदार नेपाल आउदा म र तहविलदारसंग रोपकार गराउदा नीज षर्दारलाई रुपैया पैसाको तालुक् नभया-का हुनाले तिम्रा नाउमा षास् अदालतका ईजहार पऱ्याको छ ता-पनि अवदेषि तेस झगडामा जोरिन अदालतमा म जाने छैन तिमी पनि जानु पर्दैन मेरा षानगी तहविल्दारसंग हिसाविकतापु गरि-लिउला तिमिलाई पक्रने छैन भनि कागज लेषि नीज षरिदारला-ई दिञ्यं येस वाटका साछि थानि सिवभक्त पाध्या लेषक साछि मरू ई-लाछे टोल वस्न्या सुवेदार सर्ज्यूलाल झा ईति सम्वत १९४१ साल मिति ज्येष्ट सुदि ६ रोज ६ सुभ्म

English Translation

Venerable

Written [by], Lieutenant Kulmānsīm Sīlvāl Chetrī, resident at the other side of Ṭukucā. Hereafter, during the Harvest Year [19]37 v.s., [I] was posted in Jumla with the victuals of a Suvedar; In the month of Mansir on the same year, when I had to come to Nepal [Valley] for a court case, I had to receive from Valacam Gharti Kşetri, the Tahavildar responsible for the treasury that year, my victuals of Suvedar and [I] had to hold him to account for my victuals of Suvedār; instead, I had filed a lawsuit in the Special Court against Şarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī, who was the Taharīr [then]; later when the Tahaviladar came to Nepal [Valley] and a face-to-face was held between me and him, [I came to learn that] the Ṣarīdār has no connection with the money; therefore, even though a lawsuit is filed against your [Gayālāl's] name at the Special Court, henceforth I shall not go the court for litigation, you also need not; [I] shall settle my victuals with the Tahaviladar; I shall not get you arrested; this I have written and handed over to the said Sarīdār. Witness to this is local Sivabhakta Pādhyā, scribe-witness Suvedār Sarjyūlāl Jhā, a resident of Marū Īlāche Ţol. In the year Samvat 1941 date Jyestha Sudi 6, Friday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 6 Legal Representation by a Proxy

On Caitra Sudi 12, 1942 v.s., Suvedār Tulārām Nyaupānyā, a resident of Juku village, Palātā darā, agreed to become assignee for Ṣarīdār Gayālāl to represent the latter in a lawsuit in Muhuḍā Court, Doti. The case was filed by Harī Prasād Acārja and Śrīrām Dhamālā accusing Gayālāl of embezzling Rs. 12,000 of penalty for revenue overdues. The Muhuḍā Court in Doti issued a warrant against him and got him arrested. As Gayālāl was posted in Jumla, he must have needed an assignee to fight his case in Doti. Suvedār Tulārām thus agrees to become an assignee, but with two conditions imposed by Gayālāl. First, if as an assignee, Tulārām is coerced by the court staff to sign on the deed of confession, he shall not put his signature on it and any other document without consulting Gayālāl. Second, if Tulārām is coaxed into signing the deed of confession and Gayālāl is subsequently arrested and or fined, Tulārām shall bear the consequence instead of Gayālāl.

Image 6: Letter of Assignee, 1942 v.s. [EAP760_133]



Devanagari Transliteration

श्रीू

म् लीषीतम पलाता दरा जुकुगाउ वस्न्या सुवेदार तुलाराम न्यौपान्या आगे रू १२ हजार कीस्ता षीलापी षायो भंन्या थानी हरी प्रसाद अचार्जले र रास्को-ट दरा वाहुनथान वस्न्या श्रीराम धमालाले षीलापी टेट्वा रसद उठाइ षायो भंन्या मुद्दास्मेत नीज जना २ ले षर्दार गयालाल राजभंडारीका ना-उमा इजाहार डोटी मुहुडा अदालतमा चहाइ नीज षर्दार (लाइ)का नाउमा पुर्जी र सीपाही ल्याइ पक्रदा यस मुद्दामा नीज झगडीया जना २ संग जो-री पुर्पक्ष गर्न तपाइका वारीस म भञा यस मुद्दामा मलाइ डोटी मुहुडा अदालतका डीठावीचारीले मलाइ सिकीस्त गरी छेकथुन गऱ्यो भन्या र ज्मानवंदी कायलनामामा सहीछाप गर्नुपऱ्यो भन्या अदालती वंदो-वस्तका २८ लंम्बरका अन वमोजीम तपाइसंग साधसोध नगरी ज्मानवंदी कायेलनामामा र अरू केही कुरामा सहीछाप गरी दिन्या छैन कदाचीत नीज हाम्रा झगडीयाका मुलाहीजा पछी लागी ज्मा-नवंदी कायलनामामा र अरू केही कुरामा म हाला भवा भनी सहीछा-प गरी दिञा तपाइलाइ नीज अदालतवाट तेरा झगडीयाले इजाहा-र चह्राया वमोजीम तेरा झगडीया (हा)जीत भै तेरा वारीसले हार हुदा अैन वमोजीमको तक्सीर वुझाउन आउ भनी पछी तपाइलाइ पक्रा-उ भयो भन्या अन वमोजीम म वुझाउला उजुर गर्न्या छैन पछी उजु-र गऱ्या भन्या पनी यसै कागतले मलाइ ^(कचहरिमा)^ ठोकूनु भनी मेरा षुसीरा-जीसंग कवुलीयेत पत्र लेषी नीज षर्दार गयालाल राजभंडारीला-इ दिञा इती सम्वत १९४२ साल मीती चैत्र सुदि १२ रोज ५ शुभ्म्

English Translation

Venerable

Written [by] Suvedār Tulārām Nyaupānyā, a resident of Juku village in Palātā Darā;
Hereafter, claiming that Ru 12,000 of the overdue revenue

installments was embezzled, Harī Prasād Acārja, a local, and Śrīrām Dhamālā, a resident of Vāhunathān in Rāskot Darā, filed a lawsuit against Şarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī in Doti Muhudā Court for misappropriating receipts of overdue revenue installments, got a warrant issued against him and had him arrested by soldiers; in this lawsuit, to litigate against the two plaintiffs, I have become your assignee; during the proceedings, if the judge and staff of the Doti Muhudā Court restrain me to the point of incapacitation and [I] have to sign on the deed of confession; in accordance with Clause 28 of Legislation for the Management of Courts, without consulting you, I shall not sign on the deed of confession or any other document; If I fall for the overtures of our plaintiff, and I give up and sign on the deed of confession or any other document, and the said court [tells you], "your plaintiff in accordance with the lawsuit filed by him has won and your assignee has lost, and thus pay for your crime in accordance with the law" and has you arrested, I shall pay in accordance with the law and shall not litigate; if I litigate later, you can fix me in the court by showing this document;

Willingly I write this letter of agreement and hand it over to Ṣarīdār Gavālāl Rājbhandārī.

In the year Samvat 1942 v.s. date Caitra Sudi 12, Thursday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 7 Red Seal of Approval on Office Expenditure

On Śrāvan Sudi 9, 1944 v.s., King Pṛthvivīravikram issued a Lālmohar to Kaptān Indramānsimha Vasnyāt Kṣatrī of the Bhairavnāth Company, approving the income and expenditure statement of the direct works done from 1936 Vaisāsa Vadi 1, 1936 v.s. to Caitra Sudi 15 of the same year, submitted to the Kumārīcok Office through Tahaviladār Valacangharti Kṣetrī, and Taharir Suvedār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī. This document reveals 1) revenue portfolios of the military unit stationed in Jumla; 2) recent fiscal reforms introduced by Ranauddip Simha in 1922 v.s.; and 3) a complex procedure of settling the accounts of the local office.

Image 7: Red Seal on Financial Statement, 1944 v.s. [EAP760 201]



सहरामाधिरामं भी महाराज याहे थे। विक्रम मंद्रभार साह बहार र सस्त मह देगा में अस्परिकारितार स्थान कि स्थान है अन्याद्या १८५ए स्थान के स्थान कि स्थान

क्षर्यनाम्बर्धान्य देशकार्यः नाम्बर्धान्य देशकार्यः नाम्बर्धान्य देशकार्यः

Devanagari Transliteration

	श्री दुर्गाज्यू	
श्रीभैरवनाथ े	छाप	श्रीकुमारी २

स्वस्तिश्री गिरिराजचक्रचूडामणिनरनारायणेत्यादिविविधविरुदावलीविराजमानमानोन्नतश्रीम-न्महाराजाधिराज श्रीश्रीश्रीमहाराजपृथ्विवीरिवक्रमजङ्गवहादूरसाहवहादूरसम्सेरजङ्गदेवानां स-दासमरविजयिनाम्

आगे कपतान इन्द्रमानसिंह वस्न्यात क्षत्रीके जुम्ला हुम्ला १८ दरामध्ये त्रीपुराकोट् दरा १ वाहेक दरा

१७ को २५ सालका महाजाचले दियाका तहसिल्या छाप्पे ढडावमोजीम र १५ सालमा भयाका ठे-कथीतिका लाल ढडामा दरीयाको जगात कपडा छपाइ मदभट्टी ११।१२ सालमा भोट्संग अहद भै-आयाका फुट् जगात र वढस्मेत नञा विह्वायाका षेत घट्टको वाली किस्तामा आइनपुग्याका रूपैञा-को किस्ता षीलापी सुत [श्री भैरवनाथ] कंपनीका षारेजि षानगी हुलाकघर अडाका चीठिको महसुल औ

साविक् ३६ साल वैसाष विद १ रोजदेषी चैत्र सुिद १५ रोजतक्मै मलेमास वर्ष १ का ज्मा षर्चवाट जी-मावारी लेषिआयाका स्मेतको श्रीमदितप्रचण्डभुजदण्डेत्यादि श्रीश्रीश्रीमहाराजरणउद्दिप-सिंहराणावहादूर के सि येस आइ थोङ् लीङ् पीम्माको काङ् वाङ् स्यान प्राइमिमिनष्टर यांड कम्यां-डरइनचिफ्वाट पुराना ढाचाको स्याहा ढपोट् षारेज गिर २२ सालदेषी तजविज गिर चलायाका आम्दानीमा दिन्याको सिहछाप षर्चमा लीन्याको सिहछाप वाकीमा तहविल जींमा लीन्याको स-हि छाप वमोजीम आम्दानी षर्च भयाको दफदरषाना [श्री कुमारी]चोक्का कारीन्दाले जाची सहि-

छाप गऱ्याका रोजनामा स्याहा र ढपोट् वमोजीम् दस्तक सम्वत १९३७ साल वैसाष विद १ रोजदेषि चैत्र

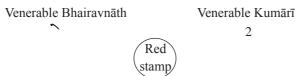
सुदि १५ रोजतक वर्ष १ को अमानत कामकाज गऱ्याको तहविल जींमा तहविलदार वलचं-न् घर्तिक्षेत्री तहरिर सुवेदार गयालाल राजभडारी कच्चावाहेक ज्मा षर्च गरि वाकी दाम दाम वुझिली-ञ्जूं फारषित गरिवक्स्यौं इति सम्वत १९४४ साल मिति श्रावण सुदी ९ रोज ६ शुभम्

पछाडि पाना

मार्फत नाएवसुवा रूद्रमान मार्फत् षरीदार देवीवहादुर मार्फत मुखिया हेमवल्लभ पाडे पंडीत्

English Translation

Venerable Durgājyū



Hail, [a decree] of him who is shining with manifold rows of eulogy [such as] "the venerable crest-jewel of the multitude of mountain kings" and Naranārāyaṇ (an epithet of Kṛṣṇa) etc., high in honor, the venerable supreme king of great kings, the thrice venerable great king, Pṛthvi Vīravikram Jaṅga, the brave swordsman, the divine king always triumphant in war.

Hereafter, to Kaptān Indramānsiṃha Vasnyāt Kṣatrī, [revenues] from 17 Darās, of the 18 Darās in Jumla, Humla, excepting the Trīpurākoṭ Darā, in accordance with the stamped collection ledger [prepared during] the Great Assessment in the year [19]25 v.s.; taxes on textile dyeing and arak, as mentioned in the Red Book of the contractual arrangement in the year [19]15 v.s.; incomes from miscellaneous taxes and additional accruements earned after the war against Bhoṭ in the year [19]25 v.s.; revenues from newly-cultivated land, stone mill, interest on the overdue revenue installments, scrapped victuals of the Venerable [Bhairavnāth] Company, income due to stamp sale in the post office;

And the attested copies of the daily account books and ledgers of the total expenditures, including those that was assigned, in the current period of [19]36 Vaisāṣa Vadi 1 to Caitra Sudi 15, and of one additional lunar month, [in the new form] as implemented with discretionary power by the Venerable Supreme etc. [with the title such as] the furious penalising hands, the Thrice Venerable Great King Raṇauddipa Siṃha Rāṇā Vahādūr KCSI Thong Ling Pimmako Kang Wang Syan, Prime Minister and Commander in Chief, after having scrapped the old model account-ledger, with giver's signature on the expenditure [statement], and with a signature of the person taking responsibility of the treasury, and examined and signed by the staff of the [Venerable Kumārīcok Office], the direct works done from the year Samvat 1936 Vaisāṣa Vadi 1 to Caitra Sudi 15, [through] responsible for

the treasury, Tahavildār (treasurer) Valacangharti Ksetrī, Taharir Suvedār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī, except unverified records;

We have received the remaining amounts after deducting total expenditure and settled the accounts

In the year Samvat 1944 date Śrāvan Sudi 9, Friday. Be auspicious.

Verso

through Nāevsuvā Rudramān through Sarīdār Devīvahādur through Mukhiyā Hemvallabh Pāde Pandīt

DOCUMENT 8 Mrs. Major Captain Aims to Recover

In Mansir of 1945 v.s., wife of a Major Captain, wrote to Sarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī asking for the money he had borrowed from her. The woman probably wrote from Karnali, where Gayālāl (now in Nepal Valley) had worked under her husband, the Major Captain. It appears Gayālāl was making excuses when it came to paying back the loan. So, in a dejected tone Mrs. Captain writes to him that when a boss is poor even the subordinates are contemptuous (to the boss), that she does not know any other individuals who might have been delaying Gayālāl, and asks for the money back. The one Panditji, mentioned in the letter is perhaps the letter bearer to whom she asks Gavālāl some amount to be handed over to.

Image 8: Exchanges among the Military Bureaucracy, 1945 v.s. [EAP760_116]

AP/60_116]

सिन भी बदा ग्रियाला (तृत भी प्राप्त के निक्र के मी है का स्तान के की निक्र की भी है का स्तान के की निक्र की नि

taken my Moru 10, help recover that as well l hear that Puranbhaḍārī is coming there, he has

Devanagari Transliteration

स्वस्ति. श्री. षर्दार.गयालारल(!) राजभंडा.री के इत श्री. मेजर कप्तांन्नी-को सलाम् . उप्रांत्त. तिमि त्याहा गयेपछी. येउटा चीठी पनी प-ठा.येनौ रूपै()ञाका कुरालाइ. रूपैञा लीयेपछी. येक सालको वाली तिमिसीत मैले लियेपछी. म अजम्मर. यो पनि जान्दी.-न अरु पनि जान्दीन. ति रुपैञा उठाइकन दीन्छौ तपनी तिम्रा घरवाट दीन्छौ तपनी, तिमी जान, मैले ता आर्को मानीस पनी जाने-कौ छौन तीम्रा हातवाट लियेका छौ जसो गर्छों गरने कां गर, म.-लाइ षर्च षाचो छ. मालीक् गरीप भयेको वषत्मा आफ्ना कारि.-न्दा. वाट पनि हेला गर्दा रहेछन् मोहर्रु १५० () पनी पण्डित्जी-लाइ वुझाइदेउ मोहरु ५०० पनि . उठाइदेउ. उठाइदीन्नौ भने चाडो उत्तरा पठाउ ञाहा पछी. तिम्रो धर्म येत्तिकै र.हेछ भनी चीन्हुला ज्यादा वीस्तार के लेषु जान्न्या आफु छौ. इति सम्वत् १९४५ साल मार्ग वदी ६ रोज ७ श्भम्

English Translation

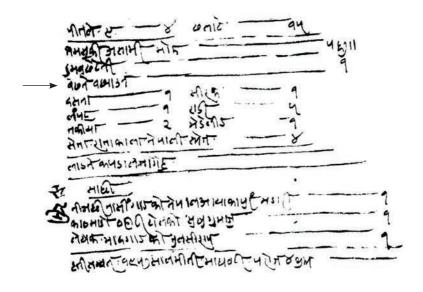
Venerable

Hail. To venerable Şarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī, salutation from Mrs. Major Captain. Hereafter, after you went there, [you] have not sent even a single letter; regarding the matters of monies, after your taking money [from me], as I took from you the harvest pay of one year; I do not know this Ajammar, neither do I know others; whether you recover me those money, or you give me from your own house, you decide yourself; I do not know other person/s; you have taken [the money] with your own hands, do as you like; I need the money to expend; [I realize that] when the master is poor even the staff are contemptuous; hand over Moru 150 to Panditji; help recover Moru 500; if you cannot, reply early, thereafter I shall know the limits of your Dharma. What more should I write, you know better. In the year Samvat 1945 date Mārga Vadi 6, Saturday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 9 Contexts of Child Adoption

When Ṣarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī was posted in Jumla, he had taken Subhadarī, a local woman, as his other wife with whom he had four children, a son and three daughters. The eldest daughter lived in Nepal (Valley) and the other three children in Jumla. For his children in Jumla and as inheritance for his son, he had bequeathed some property there, including a house, some land, farm animals, jewelries and other goods. Few years after Gayālāl moved back to Kathmandu to live with his wife and children, leaving behind his Jumla family, Jādū Kaṭhāyet, a resident of Jumla informed Gayālāl that his wife Subhadarī had eloped with someone leaving his three children guardian-less. Gayālāl then asked Jādū to adopt his son Kāle. In the document, Jādū adopts Kāle and agrees to recover from Subhadarī the inheritance bequeathed for the kid. Further, while Jādū also agrees to get Kāle married, the document is silent on Gayālāl's two daughters in Jumla.

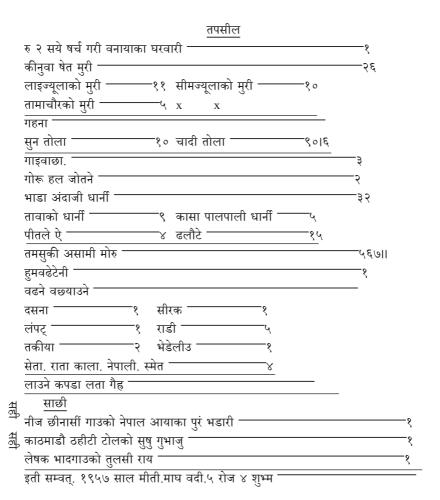
बा-



Devanagari Transliteration

श्री

लीषीतम. जुम्ला असी दरा. छीनासीं गाउ वस्न्या. जादू कठायेत. आगे षर्वार. गयालाल राजभंडारी. जुम्लामा जागीरे भैआउदा. जुम्लाकी सुभदरी भंन्या-लाइ. स्वास्नी तुल्याइ. राषेका ^थीयो^ नीजवाट जन्मेका छोरा. १ छोरी. ३ ज्मा ४ मध्ये जेठी छोरी. नेपालमा रहदा र. छोरा १ छोरी. २ जुम्लैमा रहदां (!). नीज छोराछोरी. लाइ तपसील वमोजीमका. घरषेत सुनाचादीका गहना. भाडावर्तं गाइ गारू (!) वढेटनी-स्मेत गरी छोरालाइ अंस भनी नीज सुभदरी.का जीमा छोडी आयाको हो नीज छोराछोरी नस्यारी तपसील वमोजीमका घरषेत मालमत्ता गेह हिनामीना पार्री अंत पोइल जादा र. छोराछोरी. वेसंभार हुदा मैले नीज षर्वारसंग वीस्तार गर्वा तीम्रा घर पनी. वही हो. नीज छोरा पनी तीमीलाइ धर्मपुत्री भयो. भनी. नीज षर्वारले भंदा हुंछ म धर्मपुत्री पालछु. भनी. भंदा. नीज काले. धर्मपुत्री. मैले. लीज्यूं. नीज छोरालाइ. जुम्लामा दीयाका. अंसको. घरषेत्त(!) मालमत्ता. गैह. पनी नीज. सुभदरी.का जीमा.दीयाका. तपसिल वमोजीमको घरषेत. मालमत्ता गैह नीज-का आमासंग वुझी. सो धर्मपुत्री लीयाका छोरा. पनी मैले. धर्मपुत्री जानी. पालु-ला. नीजलाइ वेहा पनी. गरी दीउलीं. छोरालाइ. वेसंभार गर्ने छैन. भनी कागज लेखी. नीज षर्वारलाइ दीज्यं



English Translation

Written [by], Jādū Kathāyet, resident of Chīnāsīm village, Asī Darā, Jumla; hereafter, when Ṣarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī arrived in Jumla as an employee, [he] had kept a woman called Subhadarī as his wife; out of the total of four [children], one son, and three daughters, for the eldest daughter, who was living in Nepal [Valley], and for the son and two daughters living in Jumla, the following details of house, land, gold and silver jewelry, utensils, cows and bullocks, accruements included, as inheritance for the son, he has left in the responsibility of Subhadarī, when she, without taking care of the children, embezzling the following particulars of house, land, gold and silver, goods and others, eloped to somewhere else, and children were left unattended; when I apprised this to the Ṣarīdār, the Ṣarīdār said [to me], "your house is also there [in Jumla], the son is also now your godson," and when I said "Ok, I will adopt him as my godson;" I take the said Kāle as my godson; the inheritance bequeathed to him [by Gayālāl] in Jumla, land, house, goods, others, [I] shall receive from his mother, this adopted son, I shall raise as my godson, shall also get him married, shall not neglect the son, this I have written and handed over to the said Ṣarīdār.

Particulars

House and garden built by expending Rs. 200 Purchased land Murī 26 From Lāijvūlā, Murī 11, From Sīmajyūlā, Murī __10 From Tāmācaur, Murī -5 Jewelry -Gold, Tolā Silver, Tolā 9016 10: Cows and calves Ox pairs for ploughing field Utensils, estimated Dhārnī 32 Copper (utensils), Dhārnī -9. Bronze (from Palpa), Dhārnī 5 4, Dhalaute (copper alloy) (Dhārnī) Receivable from loan deeds, Moru 56711 Hum accruements (?) Ouilts and mattresses Mattress **Ouilt** Lampat (Thin-elongated mattress) 1. Rādī (woolen carpet) ⁻⁵ Pillow 2, Bhedelīu (sheep-wool carpet) Including white, red, black, and Nepali Clothes and others Witness Puram Bhadarī from the Chīnāsīm village, currently visiting Nepal [Valley]-1 🗠 Suşu Gubhāju from Thahītī Tol Kathmandu Scribe Tulasī Rāya from Bhādgāu In the year Samvat 1957 date Māgh Vadi 5, Wednesday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 10 Ownership Requests to the Office of the Prime Minister

On Fālgun Sudi 1, 1958 v.s., Gayālāl Rājbhandārī submitted a petition to the Prime Minister (?) regarding a notice affixed by Pāṭaṃ Vakyautā (Patan Arrears Office) to auction off the house deeming it as one Vasanta Gīrī's property. In the document, Gayālāl argues that he is the legal owner of the house and requests the Prime Minister to retain his ownership and strike off the case at Patan Arrears Office. The Prime Minister's Office then forwards it to the Commanding General Southern, General Juddha Shamsher Jang Rana Bahadur to look into the matter and do in accordance with law.

Image 10: Petition for Ownership of a House, 1958 v.s. [EAP760 146]



अयात्माहार में कृष्णानी यान्नी अवदान्याविष्यासीर मासीर में अहारिका सामास

वाठानी प्रमी गिरिदार निमहिस्ति मा समाइ विकान स्वाहान कार विद्या मान करें के से का के निमहिस्ति मा सिन के से का के सिन मा कि म

ध्वनाक्रित्र हैं स्वनाक्रित्र हैं

इतिसम्वर्ग १९५७ साम्यानिस्थानी त्राम र १४४

विश्वपद्व वृद्धातानाहनीतामहन्तागोकारहद्वन्ति अन्ति। मिड्री। प्राप्तिन भनीति प्राप्ति । प्राप्ति ।

Devanagari Transliteration

श्री

विन्तीपत्र

उप्रान्त माहाराज करूणानीधान् वांग्यवृढा(!)वस्न्या वृद्धिमान्सीं राजभडारिका आफ्ना सोवासी घर नीजका वावु राजवीरले हरिहर जोसिलाई मोहरु ९११॥^३ मा भोगवंधक दी साहुले भोगचलन गऱ्याका रहेछं नीज राजवीरले सो न्हेदीक नतीरि जवरजस्ती भोगचलन् गर्दा निज हरिहर जोसिले अदालत टक्सारमा वादी दीयेछ र वादी प्रतीवादी परि पु- र्पक्ष हुदा निजको न्हेदीक तिर्न पर्न्या थहरि १९२८ सालमा निज हरिहर जोसिका नाउमा जीतापत्र भयापछि घरै लीन्छु भनी घर ताकी आफ्ना रूपैञा नवझी जवरजस्ती चलन गरि घर नाछार्दा (!) नीज राजवीरका छोरा वृद्धिमानले सो मुद्दामा सोही अदालत्मा वादी दी वुझीयाका प्रमान् नीज वुद्धीमानले जीतन्या भयापछी र सो न्हेदीक तीर्न रुपैञा नपार्उ-दा नीज वृद्धिमान मसंग आई भयाको व्यहोरा सुनाई रूपैञा माग्न आर्उदा उस्वषत् मलाई वास नपाई घर चाहीन्या हुनाले सो घर ३९ साल वैसाष सुदी १५ रोज ४ का दी-न फार्छापत्र गरि दीदा मोरु १९०१ नीजलाई दीयापछी पनी निज हरिहरले घर न-छाडी रूपैञा नवुझी धिग्न्याहि गर्दा ४० साल जेष्ट वदी ३ रोज ५ मा सो अदालतुवाट वाहाली पुर्जी गरिदीदा निज हरिहर जोसिलाई निकाली सोही सालदेषी आज-तक् कसैको उज्र नपरि १८।१९ वर्षसम्म अछिन्न(!) भोगचलन् गरि आयाको घर-मा हाल वाटन् (!) वक्यौतावाट यो गयाका माघ सुदी ४ रोज ४ का दीन वसंत् गीरिका ता-येजातमा आयाको भनी लिलामी पुर्जी तास्दा मेरो चीत्त नवुझी सर्कारमा जाहेर गर्न आयाको छुं प्रभू लेषीयाका परिवंद भै निज वुद्धिमानको घर पक्का ठहराई अदालत् तक् सारवाट वाहाली पुर्जि समेत् भयाको देषी मैले फार्छा गरि ली १८।१९ वर्षसम्म अछि-न्न(!) भो^ग^ गरि वस्याका घरमा १६ वर्षसम्म भोग भयाको रहेनछ भन्या सनद छ भनी उज्-र गर्न पाउदैन १६ वर्षसम्म जस्ले भोग गरेको छ उसैको हुंछ भंन्या अनले पनी मेरा वा-स नर्उठनेमा लिनेदीने पनी मरिसकेको ३७ वर्षसम्म भोग नभयाको येस्ता उल्फा फार्छे-पत्र वसंन्त गीरिका जायेजातवाट(!) निस्केपछि यो घर वसंत गिरिको ठर्हर्छ(!) भनी पाट-न् वक्यौटावाट लेषीया(?)का व्यहोरासंग लिलामी पुर्जी तास्न पर्न्या होइन निज वसंत गी-रिको फार्छे घर भया आजसम्म भोग नभै रहन पर्न्या पनी होइन प्रभू फार्छेपत्र छदाछदै ३७ वर्षसम्म भोगनभैयाको(!) फार्छेपत्र रहेछ भन्या सो फार्छेपत्रले दुनीयाको वास उठ्-न सक्तैन सो फार्छेपत्र वदर गरि भोगवालाको घर थामी दी लगत् काती दिनु भं-न्या पाटन् वक्यौटाका नाउमा प्रमांगी गरिवक्स्या अैन वमोजीम् हक इन्साफ् पाई वा-स थामी बस्दा हुं प्रभु जो मर्जी हुकुम्

ईत सदा सेवक गयालाल राजभडारिको कोटी २ स्यवा कुर्णेस् ३

ईती सम्वत् १९५८ साल फागण (!) सुदी १ रोज ३ शुभ्म् लं १५५६१

यस्मा स्वघर के हिसावले वक्यौतावाट लीलाम् हुनलागेको रहेछ वुझी औन वमोजीम् गरिदीनु भनी पाटं श्री दक्षीणतर्फका कम्यांडीङ् जनरल जुधसम्सेर जङ्ग राणा वाहाद्रसंग (!) पठाईदीनु

English Translation

Venerable

Petition

Hereafter, the Great King, Reservoir of Compassion, a resident of Vāṅgyavuḍhā (!) Vuddhīmānsīm Rājbhaṇḍārī's father Rājvīr had given his residence in a usufructuary mortgage deed to Harīhar Josī for Moharu 911||1, which the mortgagee possessed;

When Rājvīr, forcibly possessed the house, without repaying the mortgage amount, Harīhar Josī filed a complaint in Adālat Ṭaksār and after hearing the arguments of both the plaintiff and the defendant, the court issued a deed of conquest in the name of Harīhar Josī in the year, 1928 ruling that the mortgage amount had to be paid [by Rājvīr];

Eyeing the house itself, Harīhar declined to accept the purse [owed to him], forcibly possessed the house and did not vacate; based on the evidences submitted by Vuddhīmān, son of Rājvīr, while filing a complaint in the same court [against Harīhar Josī], when [it appeared that] Vuddhīmān would win, and could not manage the mortgage amount, the said Vuddhīmān came to me, apprised about the situation and asked for money;

At that time, as I did not have a shelter and needed a house, on Wednesday, Baisāṣa Sudī 15, in the year 1939, I paid him [Vuddhīmān] Moru 1,101 [to pay off the mortgage] and got the ownership of the house transferred to me [through a mortgage by conditional sale]; but when Moru 1,101 was offered, the said Harīhar acted contumaciously by not vacating the house and not accepting the money; on Thursday, Jeṣṭa Vadī 3, in the year 1940, that court issued a note of reinstatement after which Harīhar was evicted and since that year till today, without anyone's complaint, I have possessed and enjoyed the house without interruption;

When on that house, recently on Wednesday, Māgh Sudī 4, an auction notice was affixed by Pāṭaṃ Vakyautā (Patan Arrears Office), as the house had to be confiscated, reportedly for being under Vasanta Gīrī's possession, I could not agree to it and have come to apprise to the Sarkār, Lord;

In the aforementioned predicament, after ascertaining the ownership of house as Vuddhīmān's, [and] observing that the Adālat Ṭaksār had issued the note of reinstatement, I got the ownership [of the house] transferred to me, and have lived uninterruptedly in it for 18–19 years; one cannot claim ownership

of a house stating there is the Order, if the house is not possessed for 16 years, the house will belong to whosoever has been possessing it for the period; one cannot be rendered homeless by the law which states that; [in such context] after the giver and taker have also died, [when] a void deed not consummated for 37 years emerged from Vasanta Gīrī's list of property, Pātam Vakyautā should not have affixed the auction notice deeming the house as Vasanta Gīrī's property; if it were Vasanta Gīrī's house by that deed, it should not have been unpossessed [by him] Lord; even if there happens to be a deed that has not been consummated for 37 years, that document cannot render people homeless:

If you bestow an order to Pātam Vakyautā to retain the house [ownership] of the dweller by rescinding that deed and striking off the case [at Pātam Vakyautā], I would, in accordance with the law, get justice and my habitation would be retained, Lord, order as you will

Here, ever your servant Gayālāl Rājbhandārī's 2 times 10 million ministrations, 3 times salutations

In the year Samvat 1958, Phāgaṇa(!) Sudī 1, Tuesday. Be auspicious.

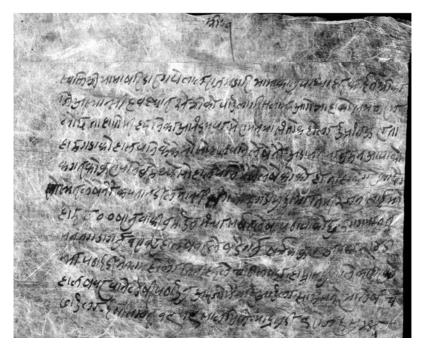
Number: 15561

In this case, [send the message] "after inquiring on what basis the house is about to be auctioned by Vakyautā, do in accordance with law" to Pātam Venerable Commanding General Southern, General Judhasamser Janga Rānā Vāhādur.

DOCUMENT 11 Complex Web of Exchanges

In Bhādra of 1959 v.s., Kāji Asmānsīha Vasnyāt Kṣetrī wrote to Ṣarīdār Gavālāl and Kālu Pādhyā, both of whom are addressed as "maternal uncle." One can safely claim that the term "maternal uncle" was an honorific and Kāji Asmānsīha was not the biological nephew of the two addressees. It is not clear where the sender and the addressees were at that time, but we know that Asmānsīha's in-laws were living nearby where Gayālāl and Kālu Pādhyā were. The letter is regarding a legal dispute on which Asmānsīha asks for update from the two addressees. In the lawsuit with one Kaptān Dīlmānsīm, the three seem to be expecting monetary gains from win, after which the addressees are asked to share a certain amount among them and send the rest to the sender.

Image 11: Enquiry about a Legal Dispute, 1959 v.s. [EAP760_140]



Devanagari Transliteration



स्वस्तिश्री मामा षरिदार गयेलाल राजभडारी मामा कालु पाध्याहाके ईत श्री का-जि अस्मान्सीह वस्न्यात् क्षेत्रीको पार्उ लागी सलाम् आगे जाहाको समचार भ-लौ छ ताहा तिमीहरू निका आनंद भया मेरा मनमा संतोक होला. ऊप्रांत कुरा ता-हा झगडाको हाल पिन के के भो सो हाल पिन लेषेनौ. अदालत्मा बुझन आयाको कगत्को(!) कुरा पिन वुझेथ्ये. सो हाल पिन मैले लेषेको हो ताहा के गरेका छौ सो स्मेत् लेषेनौ. कपतान् दीलमान्सीं संगका झगडा मुद्दामा तिमी २ जनालाई मो-होरू ८०० षानु वाकी वुझाउनु भंन्या सर्षत लेषी पठायाको छु. झगडामा तन्-मन् जगेडा गर्नु वरावर हालषवर लेषदै गर्नु षर्चका कुरा अवका २।४ दी-न्मा पठाईदीने काम् होला तिमीहरूले चाही लेषदा. हाम्रा ससुरालिका घरको हालषबर पिन लेषी पठाउनु अरू जो भैपिर आर्जला साझसवेरमा लेषी च ढाउना. ईति सम्वत् १९५९ साल मिति. भाद्र सुदी ९ रोज ६ सुभ्म

English Translation

Venerable

Hail, [to] Venerable maternal uncle Sarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhandārī, maternal uncle Kālu Pādhyāhā; salute touching your feet, from Kāji Asmānsīha Vasnyāt Ksetrī here; thereafter, the news here is fine, if you are also healthy and happy there I would be satisfied. Henceforth on the matter, you did not write about the status of the dispute there; I had inquired about the document sought after in the court, I wrote about the status of that as well. You did not write what you have done there. In the lawsuit against Kaptān Dīlmānsīm, you two take Moru 800 and submit [to me] the remaining, [this I] have written a promissory note and sent; save your heart and body for the dispute; keep updating the status from time to time; matters regarding expenses will be sent within the next 2–4 days; when you write, also write the news about our in-laws; [I] shall apprise you on the happenings [on my side]. In the year Samvat 199, date Bhādra Sudī 9, Friday. Be auspicious.

DOCUMENT 12 Appeal to the Merciful

Regarding the measurement of the house (inhabited by his fifth cousin Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī) by a surveyor from Pāṭaṃ Vakyautā Office on 23 Asvin 1961 v.s., and the seven-day auction notice affixed by the same office in 1958 v.s., in Kārtik, 1961 v.s., Vuddhīmān Rājbhandārī drafted an application to the Commanding General Southern, arguing how his "brother" Gayālāl Rājbhandārī was the legal owner of the house (which Vuddhīmān had earlier sold to Gayālāl) and why the mortgage deed of the same house found at Vasanta Gīrī's was void. Vuddhīmān narrates past ownership details. mentions that Vasanta Gīrī had already looted from him more than the amount of Rs. 900 that he owed Vasanta. To support his claim, Vuddhīmān provides a list of items including slaves, cattle and chattels allegedly looted by Vasanta from properties owned by the former. The details shed an interesting light on the kinds of possession of a lowly state employee in the first decade of the twentieth century Nepal.

Image 12: Draft of an Application for Consideration, 1961 v.s.

[EAP760_245]

हतीः सदन्यमानीम्कानकत् दुन्नद्वभन्यानीन महनः को तरिवापग् गर्दती नी कतर मीनारीक माने के माने के महत्व हिंदा नामी ना करी नारी मानी मानी मुदाम भेताकी बाजािल्ड भने । नेहार निमान मानि गामि गर लाने दुई मनील न न भगाका ना हुन भारत ती मान करिता मीता हरियों भीतायन ब्रेमानी म को जमांक एववाए की दार नीमिलाह नाग मेंई डेर्क ववार्य की मेंड ठेवा 19 इरामाही हुमाले केंद्रा वा ब्राइकी ने हिंदि गह मेरे मेरे केरी में देव की वर्ग की वर्ग की मारी भाषा वि भिगवती में भाषा बहार की रेशान में बही में तेन मामे ताता ब हारी के प्रमा अभाषा वह तात्मा नेजर कि तो मीताह है में हुती में है वह अभी में लयाके को क वृश्व मांता दिने ता दूबर में का निवास के वर्ष ना के वर्ष ने के वर्ष के वर्ष के वर्ष के वर्ष के वर्ष कारियोत्रयोत्र रात्रेत भारीनक्षेत्र तात्रातम् इक्लेकी मे । भार गया तात्रात्र भा वितासिकी में काल माजामाना वाने ने मानिकी मान सम भागवते में मानिकी राप्य वर्ष को बाब काला करें के या के केन पर मान मा वस्तानी 'की जीपाति हैं टमोरा होनगर्न नारो जनमाभाषा कामनी । दे अया नम्बक्ते में मेंवा मा विनी गर्ना मुंगी या मन मठाड वा. में, एभाइ नोज नेवालात ले इन पत्रें वी प्रमुश काबाकार मामनियर केर में क्रमें नेता के क्रिका ने क्रोना मार क्रिका में इनकार बार्टक १ थे भेन बमो असग भिक्तम में बारि 🕂 सम्प्राटक रूप सामे समेगाना मारामान्य प्री अपदार्शनेती हराह यहानपाता आसीत र गनेवा के पार्व बीताना मार्कन के महत्व ए ते खाना जाता है नेता के नह नाह है । जा इनका वाकारि अवनामा शिनाहरे ए वावा वाला नेह १०० माने वा वाका वाहर मने भागवान भागिते ते वी पड माका वृश्य को तमक को भी भारती गरित में दश्य की त नामतनातेनी माना जानजा नात द्वीर गर्मिती महेते एक ममसह सन वमनि क्रमार्थनान हुन आयानानम् म मार्थने क्रोमाञ्च प्रमाना ना माइलाने ते पहनम्बर मारमेले में तथा हा माता ताता ताह भारत में महात के प्राप्त के प्राप्त में निवार गर्मा गर्भाता मी भारत गाउन माउने लेखन तपार समाले भी प्रामाल के जी में मी वाको गद्रमममक्रकोक्षेत्रामा राजावा कालम गर्न केले क्रेना कर प्रमालहरू. भीत्रमान भी भिने ने मामाधी ने की यात्रा ठाउठाउमान द्यारा में भी गाता मा मंदी ने जी नी को गांड की मार्ग कर के कार्य के तम मान का कर मा मान मान कर ना मान कर मुद्दारमा का को की अपने मानवी नपाम ते माने थी पा के मान अर्थ माने हिस्मना होते ते तर्व हुन नहीं ताया नावना ना लाग बनाई महिन की ना हातान कार वितन में के की नानी तोन तार प्रमाड में गर्न भना हुई मुनी का प्रमान के समा परिवत्ता वका को अवनाइय लाह प्रभार के मती

वहत्रविते नेरेन जनगामा तद्विद्य विश्वाको भानः त्रमान का गान प्रमुक्त 050 4750

Devanagari Transliteration

श्रीू

श्रीदक्षीणतर्फका कम्यांडीङ्जनरल

विंतिपत्र

उप्रात महाराज करूणानीधां मेरा वावा राजवीर राजभडारीले २ सालमा सुवा लक्ष्मीदासलाइ मेरा सोवासी थायेमदु न्हुवहालका घरमध्ये भोग गर्न भनी पैरु ६५१ ली भोगवंधक दीयाको थीयो पछी वाकी घर पनी हरीहर जोसिसंग सोही घरको लालमोहर लीनालाइ रु १६६ र पटक २ गरी लीयाको रु

८४ जमा रु २५० भयापछि लक्ष्मीदासलाइ पैरु ६५१ तीरी लषवंधक ली जमा घर नीज हरीहरले भोग

चलं गरेको थीयो पछी वसंत गीरीले तेरा घर मलाई फाछ्या गरी दे हरीहरीका (!) रुपैञा म तीर्छु भनी मेरा वा-

वुलाइ भंदा लौ भनी वसंत गीरीका स्वास्नीका नाउमा मोरु १००१ मा अलीपत्रको तमसुक लेषिदिदा

नीजले मोरु ९०० मात्र दियाका हुनाले अलीपत्रको रु १००१ मध्ये भर्ना दीयाको रु ९०० वाकी न-पुग्याको रु १०१ देउ भंदा आजका मैन्हा दिनमा तीरुला सो भाषामा रुपैञा तीर्न सिकन भन्या रु १००१ को अली वेसदर भनी रु १०१ को नीज वसंत गीरीको तमसुक लेषाइ ली नीज हरीहरलाइ भोगवंधक्को रूपैञा नवुझाइ तेसै जवरजस्तिसंग ४।५ वर्षसंम घरमा वसेपछी नीज हरीहर-ले मेरा वावा राजवीरका नाउमा अदालत टक्सारमा वादि दी इन्साफ़्(?)ले नीज हरीहरले घर पा-उने भै नीजका नाउमा रुपैञा नवुझायासंम घर भोग गर्नु भंन्या जीतापत्र हुदा नीज हरीहरले वसंत गीरीलाइ घरवाट नीकाली हरीहर वसेपछी नीज वसंत गीरीले मेरा कमारे गाउ १ वाग-द्वारको गोठ १ चपली गाउ १ सहरको घर १ स्मेत ठाउठाउका तपसिलमा लेषीयाको धान कमारा कमारी गाइ गोरु भैसि पाडा पाडी भाडाकुडास्मेत लुट्पिट् गरि नीज वसंत गीरीले ल्या-उदा सुल भंन्या कमारी १ नीजका घरमा मरी अरु नीजैसंग थीयो गाइगोरु भैसि नघ-लटोल ग्वाथननीमा १५।२० दीनसम राषि छोऱ्याको थीयो पछी कहा राषनु लगे थाहा थीयेन ३० सालमा लुट्पीट् गरेका मुद्दामा हामीसंग लेना रुपैञादेषी वढता हाम्रा ठाउ-ठाउमा रहेको तपसिलमा लेषीयाका मालको अंक लेषीयाको र अंक नलेषीयाका स्मे-त लुट्पीट् गरि लीन पाउने होइन नीज वसंत गीरिले तपसिलमा लेषीयाका माल नीज-का रुपैञामध्ये भर्ना गरि वाकि वढता गयाको रुपैञा फीर्ता भराइ तमसुक फारी पाउ भं-न्ये मेरा वावाले अदालत टक्सारमा इजहार दि पक्राउ गरि लैजादा प्रतीवादी उजुर केही गर्न सिकनं म नीर्धा हुनाले सो झगरा छिनीयाको थीयेन ३९ सालमा नीज हरीहरका जी-

तापत्र वमोजीम नीजलाइ रुपैञा तीर्न जादा रुपैञा पनी नली घर पनी छाडी निददा अदालत टक्सारमा वादी इजहार दि पुर्पक्ष हुदा रुपैञा वृझि ली घर छाडीदिन पर्ने ठहरी नी-ज हरीहरका ज्मावंदि भै दंडस्मेत हुदा टक्सार का नाउमा हुकुं नीक्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लम्बर अडामा इजहार दिदा हुकुंमी अडावाट पनी अदालत टक्सारले गरेको नीसाव सदर ठहराइ ठो-किदा हुकुंमिका नाउमा भारादारीमा इजहार दिदा भारादारीवाट पनी अदालत टक्सारले गऱ्याको नीसाव हुकुंमर्जीले सदर ठहराइ ठोकी वक्सीदा वसंत गीरीको कुरा परी नीज वसंत गीरीलाइ झीकी सो फाछ्यपित्र हेरी येस्मा तेरो उजुर के छ भनी सोधनी हुदा नीज वसं-त गीरीले मेरा फाछ्यपित्रका तमस्कि रूपैञामा नीज राजवीरको कमारे गाउ वागद्वारको गोठ चपली गाउ सहरका घरको स्मेतका ठाउमा रहेका कमारा कमारी गाइ गोरु भैसि पाडा पाडी भाडावर्तन तपसिलमा लेषीयाको मालहरु मैले तमसुकका वोलीले हात हाली लीयाको छु नीजका वढता आयाको हीसावले फीर्ता दीउला सो घरमा मेरो उजुरात दै-या केही छैन भंदा भारादारीका लेफटें वीजैराम उप्रेतीले सो तमसुकका नकल लेषा-इ ली सकल वमोजीमका नकल दुरुस्त छ भंन्या नीज महंतको सहीछाप गराइ ली सो न-कल हामीलाइ दियाको हुनाले सो नकल र हरीहर जोसीसंग प्रतीवादी वादी भयाका मुद्दामा थैली वुझी घर छाडीदिन्छु भंने नीज हरीहरले ज्मावंदीमा सही गरी थैली नवुझी धीगन्याही गऱ्याका हुनाले हुकुं नीक्सारी झगरापट्टी १ लम्वर अडाको पुर्जी र येस अडा वाट हाली हुकुंमर्जीले सदर भयाका रपोट् मुतावीक तीमीले हरीहर जोसीलाइ तीर्नुपर्ने जीतापत्र वमोजीमको ज्मा रु ९११॥ वरौट्र तीमिलाइ लागेको दंड रु ११। ११ वीसौद ४५॥ ।१ वुझायाको हुनाले तीम्रा वावु राजवीरले हरीहरलाइ तीर्नुपर्ने थैली तीरी वंधक नीषनेको ठानी आफ्ना घर भोगचलं गर भंन्या वहालीको ४० साल जेष्ट वदी ३ रोजमा मेरा नाउमा व-हालीको पुर्जी भयापछी ३९ सालमा नीज हरीहर जोसीलाइ न्हेडीक तीर्नाके र घरषर्च गर्नाके लीयाको मोरु ११०१ मा सोही मेरा न्हुवहालका वीर्ता घरमध्ये पुर्व २ नाले ३ कवलको घर वाहे-क गरी चोक् चौघरास्मेत ३५ दीनको अलीको तमसुक लेषी मेरा भाइ गयालाल राजभडा-रीलाइ वीक्री गरेको हो नीज गयालालले ३९ सालदेषी आजसंम भोगचलं गरेको पनी २२।२३ वर्ष भयो घर षीचोला कसैको परेको छैन ५८ सालमा वसंत गीरीको जायजातवा-ट सोघरको तमसुक तायेदातमा आयाको भनी रद्दी भयाका तमसुकले मेरा घरमा ७ दीने लीलामी पुर्जी टासन पठाउदा मेरा भाइ नीज गयालालले उजरातको वींतीपत्र पनी चढायाको हो सो वीतीपत्रको तोकमा सो घर के हीसावले वक्यौतावाट लीलामी हुन लागे को रहेछ वुझी अैन वमोजीम गरी दिनु भनी पाटं [श्रीदक्षीणतर्फका कम्यांडीङ जनरल]संग पठाइदीनु भंन्या तोक् भैजादा

सो वीतीपत्र पनी वीपट्टा हुदा तेसै रहेको छ यही गयाका आस्वीन २३ गतेमा फेरी पाटं व-क्यौता अडामार्फत छेभडेलवाट सो घर नापजाच गरी लैजादा चीत्त नवुझी जाहेरी वीती चढा-उन आयाका छौ प्रभु वसंत गीरीलाइ मेरा वावा राजवीरले रु १००१ मा लेषीदियाका तमसुक मध्ये नीज वसंत गीरीले लेषीदियाका रु १०१ को तमसुकको रुपैञा कट्टी गरी वाकी रु ९०० पसिलमा लेषीयाका ठाउठाउमा लुट्पीट् गरी भर्ना लीसकेको रद्दी तमसुक नीज वसंत गीरी-का तायेजात हुदा आयाका तमसुक पाटं वक्यौता अडामा आयाका हुनाले सो रिद्द तमसुक-वाट मैले मेरा भाइ गयालाललाई वीक्री गरेको थायेमद् न्हुवहालको घर छेभडेलवाट नाप-जाच गराइ लीलामी वीक्री गराउन पाउने होइन तपसीलमा लेषीयाका मालले भर्ना भै सकी-याको रिद तमसुकको रुपैञामा हाम्रो घर लीलाम गर्न र दोहोरो रुपैञा तीर्न पर्न्या होइन नीज वसंत गीरीले मेरा माथी लेषीयाको ठाउठाउमा लुट्पीट् गरी लीयाका सरजमीन जा-ची सो ठाउको जानेसुंने मानीस वुझी तपिसलका कमारा कमारी चौपाया मालमत्ताहरु लुट्पीट् गरी लीयाको वुझी तमसुकमा अघी तपसिलमा लेषीयाको माल भर्ना भयाको रहेछ भंन्या दोहोरो लीन हुदैन वुझी सो घर नापजाच र लीलाम नगर्नु पाटं वक्यौताको लगत काटी रिद तमसुक फिर्ता दी नीजलाइ पक्राउ नगर्नु भंन्या हुकुं मर्जीका प्रमांगीको सनद गरी वक्स्या सर्कारको जये मनाइ वस्ता हु प्रभु जो हुकुं मर्जी

वसंत गिरीले मेरो जगाजगामा लुट्पिट् गरी लीयाको माल					
२८ सालमा सहरका घर	को 💮				
तालचा जोर 💳 ः	तमसुक र कागजपत्रको	फलामे पन्यौ ——१			
षुकुरी	चीत्राको पेतरा ——१	गाग्री ——-२			
संदुस =====३	गोलफु ——— २	भेगोट् =====३०			
पेतारो ==== ३	सतीसालको षाट् 💛 १	संगार ठेलो वाट्टास्मे-			
कहतारा२	० षसि वाहा२	त जीर — १			
धिकया — २	ऽ॥ दर्को फ्ल्याक [─] ९०	माटाका आरी ———४			
नरीवलका हुका — १	दलीन	चीलीम ——			
भऱ्याङ =====३	कुचो ———३	चीमता१			
नञा झीगटि — १००	० घ्यामपो — १०	झीर —१			
फलामे ठरौरो २	ठूलो मस्यान ——२	चनौतो — २			
षरूवाको वालीष्ट 💛 १	सिलौटो — १	षलवट्टा (?) स्मेत 💛 १			
३ पाटे राडी१	लोहरो — १	कारवारको षाता वही 🗝१			
फाटेका तकीया — १	कुरिं डल्ला 💛 १	रकंरकंका ज्मा षर्च फा-			
फाटेका सुकुल ——१	स्याहा मोहर सही सन-	रक को पोका ——१			
पोस्तकको पेतरा — १	दका पोका ——१	हस्तीहारका तुक्रा पोका ⁻ १			
नली१	ढुंगाको सीहासन [—] १	कुसग्रेथी (?) ——१			
गयाका ढुंगा ——१	छीट्का फरीया ——१	पीहा — ३			
चुलेसि 💮 ४	जातो जोर ——१	नागलो — १			
गुड्दानी १	x x x	X			

२९ सालमा		११४२३		
कमारे गाउका घरको		 ६५५ ^३		
कमाराकमारी ज्यू ६ के षाला-	गाइगोरू ६ के	–६५॥.		
साला मोल मोरु५६०	गल गोरु २ के 📉	— ₹0		
धान मुरी ५ के दर ।८ ले ——१२॥	वहर २ के 📉	—१ <i>५</i>		
मकै मुरी २।के दर ।७ ले ——५॥ ^३	गाइ २ के	<u>-</u> ₹०॥.		
तावाको ताप्के १ के 🚃 ३।।	कोदाली १ के	<u>_</u> γ		
ऐ. कर्नाल १ के५	कादालो(!) १ के			
पीतले वटुका १ के 📉 ॥.	थाल १ के	<u></u> 8		
वागद्वारका गोठको भैसि रागा ल्यायाको	१२ के	 3८२		
चुल भैसि कमलायाको — १ के ६०	गाने माउपाडो २ के 💳			
मेते माउ पाडो ———१ के ५०	रागा ——१ के —			
टिके ऐ ऐ १ के ५०	थोरे ——१ के —	- ·		
गोरे ऐ ऐ १ के ५०	भुटि माउपाडो २ के 💳	<u> </u>		
सुइरे ऐ ऐ१ के ३५	x x x			
चपली गाउका घरवाट ल्यायाको		 १०५		
कंठे भैसि माउ पाडो २ के ५०	साभु गाइ कमलायाको			
गोरू २ के ३०	१ के	 24		
इत सदा सेवक चपली गाउ वस्न्या वुं	द्धिमान			
राजभडारीको कोटि २ साष्टाङ्ग दंडवत सेवा				
कुर्नेस् ३				
इती सम्वत १९६१ साल कार्तिक गते शुभ	म्			

English Translation

Venerable

Venerable Commanding General Western



Petition

Hereafter, Great King, Reservoir of Compassion,

My father Rājvīr Rājbhaṇḍārī in the year [190]2 v.s. had given a part of my residence in Nhuvahāl, Thāyemadu, to Suvā Lakṣmīdās in usufructuary mortgage for PaiRu 651; later, mortgaging the remaining part of the house

to Harīhar Josī, as Ru 166 was borrowed from him to acquire a Red Insignia (Lālmohar) for the same house, and Ru 84 taken on several occasions, the total being Ru 250. Then Harīhar possessed and used the house by paying Laksmīdās Ru 651, [with a Lakhabandhaki] transferring the mortgagee-ship to himself

Later, when Vasanta Gīrī told my father, "transfer ownership of the house to me, I shall pay the [mortgage] Rupees owed to Harīhar," [my father] said yes, [and when he] wrote the Alipatra [a mortgage by conditional sale: mortgage in which, if the debtor does not pay the loan by certain date, the sale becomes absolute, or, upon payment of the mortgage the sale becomes void] for Moru 1,001 in the name of Vasanta Gīrī's wife, he [Vasanta Gīrī] gave only Moru 900; out of the Moru 1,001 for the Alipatra, [he] paid Ru 900. When [my father] asked for the remaining Ru 101, Vasanta Gīrī signed a deed for Ru 101, stating, "I will pay by a month from today, if unable to pay, the Ali [patra] of the amount [Ru] 1,001 will be rescinded; [however, when] without paying the loan amount of usufructuary mortgage deed to Harīhar, Vasanta Gīrī forcibly lived 4-5 years in the house, Harīhar filed a complaint against my father Rājvīr in Court Collections Office (Adālat Taksār), [in which] a deed of conquest was issued in favor of Harīhar, he would get to keep the house and could use it until the due amount is paid to him; then Harīhar evicted Vasanta Gīrī from the house and started living in the house himself [Harīhar]; [after that] Vasanta Gīrī looted the following particulars including paddy, male and female slaves, cows, bullocks, water buffaloes and calves, utensils from different places including my house in Kamāre village, cattle farm at Vāgdvār, Capalī village, city house; when the said Vasanta Gīrī brought these, a female slave named Sula died at his house, the rest [of slaves] were with him; [he] had kept cows, bullocks and water buffaloes at Gvāthananī in Naghal Tol for 15–20 days, where he transferred them later, [we] did not know;

In the looting related lawsuit in the year [19]30 v.s., my father filed the information at the Adālat Ṭaksār stating, "more than the money owed from us, [one] cannot loot the following particulars of items, including for which the numbers are given or not, kept at our house/properties at different places and after reimbursing the money owed to Vasanta Gīrī from the following particulars of goods/items looted [by him], the surplus be returned and the deed torn," and Vasanta Gīrī was arrested, I could not pursue [the matter] as I was powerless, and the dispute had not been settled. In the year [19]39

v.s. when [I] went to pay Harīhar the money in accordance with the deed of conquest, he declined to accept the purse, did not vacate the house; during judicial inquiry in Court Collections Office (Adālat Ṭaksār) upon my complaint [over the issue], when it was decided that Harīhar had to vacate the house by accepting the purse, he was made to sign a deed of pledge to that effect and he was also penalized; Harīhar [then] filed a complaint against the Office at Office of the Decree Issuance (Hukuṃ Nīksārī), Dispute Settlement Office No. 1; Hukummī Aḍā too endorsed the judgement made by Ṭaksār; [then Harīhar] filed a complaint against Hukuṃmī at the Assembly of Courtiers, the Assembly too endorsed the judgement made by Adālat Ṭaksār; [then] Vasanta Gīrī's name came up;

When Vasanta Gīrī was produced [in the court], his mortgage deed [with Rājvīr] was examined, and [when] he was asked, "what complaint do you have in this?," Vasanta Gīrī said, "in the amount mentioned in the mortgage deed is included male and female slaves, cows, bullocks, water buffaloes and calves, utensils and following particulars of goods, from places including Rājvīr's Kamāre village, cattle farm in Vāgdvār, Capalī village, city house, I have taken them with my hand; [I] shall return the surplus amount, and have no claim on that house;" then Vījairām Upretī, Lieutenant of Courtiers' Assembly got a copy of that deed written, got the said Mahanta [Vasanta Gīrī] sign [on it] attesting the copy, and since we were given that copy, [based on] that copy and in the lawsuit against Harīhar Josī as defendant, as Harīhar had signed a deed of pledge to accept the purse and vacate the house, [but] Harīhar acted contumaciously by declining to accept the purse, [therefore] in accordance with the note of Hukum Nīksārī, Dispute Settlement Office No. 1, and the report submitted by this office, endorsed by the will and order "since you have submitted: the amount you have to pay to Harīhar Josī in accordance with the deed of conquest, a total of Ru 911113 deposit and the amount penalized to you Ru 11131, twentieth (Ru) 4511/1, [you] assume that by paying the purse your father Rajvīr had to pay Harīhar, the mortgage has been settled, [therefore] possess your house," after this was mentioned in the reinstatement note issued to me on Jyestha Vadi 3, year [19]40 [v.s.], for Moru 1,101 borrowed [from Gayālāl] in the year [19]39 v.s. to pay the mortgage amount to Harīhar and household expenses, of my Virtā house in Nhuvahāl, excluding the 2 nāle (2-flanked) and 3 kaval (units of ground-floor space for shop) house in the east, including the courtyard and four sides, writing a 35-day Ali deed, [I] sold it to my brother Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī;

from the year [19]39 v.s. it has been 22/23 years since Gayālāl possessed the house, there has been no dispute; in the year [19]58 v.s. when Vasanta Gīrī's property was confiscated, from the list of his property, a deed [of Rājvīr's house] was found; when based on that void deed, a 7-day auction note was affixed at my house, my brother Gayālāl also submitted a complaint, to which an order was issued that said "inquiring on what basis the house is going to be auctioned by Vakyautā (Arrears), do in accordance with the law and send with Pātam Vakyautā (Patan Arrears Office)," the application went missing and the case remained as it was; recently again on 23 Āśvin, a surveyor from Pātam Vakyautā office measured the house, not agreeing to it, we have come to submit this application, Lord; Out of the deed of Ru 1,001 my father Rājvīr wrote to Vasanta Gīrī, [after] deducting [from it] the deed that Ru 101 Vasanta Gīrī wrote, the remaining Ru 900, for which the recompense has already been taken from looting in different places as written in the following details [thus rendering the deed void]; as this [void] deed emerged during confiscation of Vasanta Gīrī's property and came to Pātam Vakyautā, based on that void deed, the house at Nhuvahāl, Thāyemadu, that I sold to my brother Gayālāl, cannot be assessed by a surveyor and auctioned off; the deed rescinded by recompense from the goods mentioned in the particulars below, cannot [be used to] auction our house, make [us] pay two times; by conducting an inquiry on the looting done by Vasanta Gīrī at my aforementioned places, ascertaining the fact from knowledgeable people from those places, inquiring into the looting of the following male and female slaves, cattle, goods, if the amount written in the deed has been recompensed, knowing that one cannot take payments two times [for the same transaction]; if the Sarkar bestowed the [aforementioned] Order by your will and command stating, "do not conduct the survey and auction of that house, strike off the case from Pātam Vakyautā, return the rescinded deed and not arrest him [Gayālāl]," I would live chanting Sarkār's victory; Lord, order as you will

Particulars

Goods looted by Vasanta Girī from my properties				
In year [19]28 v.s. from the city house				
Padlock pairs 3	bundle of deeds	iron spatula 1		
Khukurī ——1	documents and paintings_1	pitcher 2		
Chest 3	Golafu (small pitcher)—2	clay bowl 30		

wickerwork container3 Indian rosewood bed1 jir (!) including doc	r			
shallow wide clay bowl 20 khasi baṭṭā (!) 2 threshold baṭṭā	л 1			
* * * /	- ₄			
wickerwork basket 2 plank at the rate sll 90 clay vessels coconut hookah 1 beam 2 clay hookah head	Ċ			
ladder 3 broom 3 fire tongs	⁻ 2			
6	_			
new clay roof-tile 1000 big clay pitcher 10 poker	⁻ 1			
iron oil lamp 2 big torch 2 nutcracker	⁻ 2			
	-1 -1			
Triple-ply woolen carpet.1 fire-kindling pipe—1 transactions ledger—				
Torn pillow 1 pestle 1 Package of differen				
documents, expense				
settlement	1			
Books package 1 documents, orders 1 package of elephan				
tusk pieces	-1			
Pipe (for hookah?) 1 stone throne 1 bundle of Kus	-1 -2			
Stone from Gaya 1 Chit saree 1 wooden seats	-3			
cured in minoral part	-1			
molass container(?) ⁻¹ x x x x				
In year (19)29 v.s. 114	-2³			
Of the house at Kamāre village 655 ³				
Male and female slaves 6 persons cows, bullock, of 6 6511				
Estimated price Moru 560 Plough bullock, of 2 30				
Paddy, Murī 5 at 18 1211 male calf of 2 15				
Corn, Murī 2 at 17 511 ³ Cow of 2 2011				
Copper pan, of 13 flat-wide hoe, of 11				
Ditto, Karnāl of 1 5 hoe, of 1 1				
Brass bowl, of 1 Plate, of 1				
Water buffaloes brought from the cattle farm in Vāgdvār, of 12 382				
Sula, female (buffalo), Gāne, heifer (buffalo), of 2 ⁻ 50				
less calvings, of 1——60				
Mete, heifer (buffalo), of 1 ⁻ 50 male buffalo, of 1 ⁻ 22				
Tike ditto ditto, of 1 50 Thore, of 1 15				
Gore ditto ditto, of 1——50 Bhuti, heifer (buffalo), of 2_50				
Suire ditto ditto, of 1 35 x x x				
Brought from the house at Capalī village 105				
Kanthe heifer (buffalo) of 2 ⁻⁵⁰ Sābhu cow, less calvings				

In the year Samvat 1961 date Kārtik (). Be auspicious.

[and] salutation

DOCUMENT 13 Gift of Western Medicine

On 29 Māgh 1969 v.s., Vaṣat Vāhādur wrote to "elder brother" Gayālāl, from somewhere "far" away from the Nepal Valley. The purpose of the letter seems to inform Gayālāl that Vaṣat Vāhādur had sent him a "bundle" of western medicine through one Kṛṣna Vāhādur Josī, who also happened to be the letter bearer. One cannot say for sure whether the mentioned "western medicine" was the medicine from the West or that from western part of Nepal although our guess is on the former. Further, Vaṣat Vāhādur mentions that he would be coming home for Ghoḍā Jātrā in the month of Caitra that year. The overall tone of the letter exhibits wistfulness on having to be far away from one's home (town).

Image 13: Sending Western Medicine, 1969 v.s. [EAP760 145]



Devanagari Transliteration

श्रीू

स्वस्तिश्रीसर्वोपमाजोग्यत्यादीसकलगुणगरीष्टराजभारासामर्थ श्रीदाजैज्यू षरीदार गयालाल् राजभंडारीकै ईत श्री वषत्वाहादुरको रोज २ को दंनवत्(!) स्येवा जाहा नीक ताहा तपाजीका गाठपाउँमा सदा आरामी
रिहबक्से मेरा चीत्त संतोष होला जाहा हामीहरूलाई संचै छ आग्ये
याहाका समचार भलो छ उँप्रांत् यही चीठीवाला नानी कृस्नवाहादुर जोसी हात पछीमा औसदी मुठा १ पठाई दीयाको छ बुझाउँने छ के गरू
समझंनास्म हो ताढा हुनाले यही चैत्र घोरा जातरालाई नेपाल्मा आउँने छु भरोसा तपाईहरूकै हो आरामी हालात् भाईको समझना वरावर लेषनालाई झीजो नमांनु होला ६९ साल माघ २९ गते रोज १ शुंभ्म

English Translation

Venerable

Hail, [to] Venerable, fit for all similes etc., embodied with all virtues and able to bear royal duties, Venerable elder brother Ṣarīdār Gayālāl Rājbhaṇḍārī, bowed salutation and service every day from Venerable Vaṣat Vāhādur here. Here [I am] fine; if there is good health forever at your body and feet there, my heart would be contented; Here we are fine; thereafter, we are in good health, hereafter, in the hands of the bearer of this letter, [this] lad Kṛṣna Vāhādur Joṣī, [I] have sent a bundle of western medicine, [he] will hand it over to you; what can I do, as we are so far, it is only remembrance [that is left now]; for the coming Ghoḍā Jātrā in Caitra, [I] will come to Nepal [Valley], [my] reliance is upon you all; do not hesitate to write from time to time about your well-being and remembrance of [your] younger brother; In the year 1969 date Māgh 29, Sunday. Be auspicious.

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