

Glossary

<i>abbala</i>	The best of four land categories (cp. <i>doyama</i> , <i>cahāra</i> , <i>sima</i>), also used for the tenants on such land.
<i>adālata</i>	A law court at the district level or in frontier areas, superordinated to <i>ṭhānās</i> and <i>amālas</i> .
<i>aḍḍā</i>	1) A law court superordinated to <i>adālatas</i> , <i>ṭhānās</i> and <i>amālas</i> ; 2) An office, post or station where state functionaries carry out their duties.
<i>adhiyā</i>	A system of share-cropping in the central hill region, under which the cultivator paid half of the rice-crop as rent.
Aghorī	A group of Hindu ascetics whose spiritual practice is focused on the attainment of a state of non-discrimination characterised as <i>aghora</i> (lit. 'non-terrible').
<i>ahada</i>	(International) treaty.
Ainkhānā	The law office established by Jaṅga Bahādura Rāṇā in 1851 or 1852. It was responsible for amending and cancelling existing laws or for drafting new legislation at the initiative of the prime minister.
<i>akarnanāmā</i>	In legal procedure, a report assembling all evidence brought forth in a case.
<i>akrāra</i>	Written acknowledgement of rights.
<i>alipatra</i>	Deed of relinquishment of title.
<i>amāla</i>	A village level revenue collection office with judicial functions. In the <i>Ain</i> , <i>adālatas</i> , <i>ṭhānās</i> and <i>amālas</i> were the central institutions for judicial administration.
<i>amālī</i>	Chief of an <i>amāla</i> office, a revenue functionary of a regional administrative unit with judicial powers.
<i>amānata</i>	Revenue collection by a salaried official.
<i>ānā</i>	A monetary unit worth 1/16 of a rupee with 4 <i>ānā</i> constituting 1 <i>sukā</i> .
<i>aṅgula</i>	A measure of length equivalent to a finger's breadth.
<i>aputālī</i>	Property in default of a son as heir; escheatable property.
<i>arjabegī</i>	Superintendent of a prison.
Asala Jaisī	A class of Brahmins inferior to Upādhyāya Brahmins, born from the union of an Upādhyāya man and his Upādhyāya concubine or a Jaisī woman ritually married to him.
Asala Rajapūta	Group classified as the highest among the Rajapūtas.

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Asala Śreṣṭha	A clan within the Newar Śreṣṭha caste group considered inferior to Chatharīya Śreṣṭhas and superior to other Śreṣṭhas of lower rank.
<i>asarphī</i>	A gold coin.
Āṭhyā	'a sort of remittent fever occurring on every eighth day, regarded as very fatal' (TND s.v. <i>āṭhe</i>).
<i>āvārje</i>	Abstract account.
Bāḍā	A Newar caste group consisting of Śākyas and Vajrācāryas, considered inferior to the Śreṣṭhas.
Bādi Bhāḍa	See Bhāḍa.
<i>bādhā</i>	Collateral; property pledged by a borrower such as substantial property, valuables or human chattel; a borrower or his family members could also pledge themselves.
<i>baḍhakarāra</i>	A loan agreement secured by a collateral with a stipulated term.
Baghara	An ascetic group wearing tiger-skin robes, probably belonging to a Śaiva sect.
<i>bahī(-patra)</i>	Account, balance sheet.
<i>bajira</i>	(Prime) Minister.
<i>bakasabirtā</i>	A tax-free, inheritable and transferable <i>birtā</i> grant.
<i>baksāunī</i>	A judicial fee levied by the government for settling disputes or permitting sales.
<i>bāṇaliṅga</i>	Egg-shaped pebbles declared to be a <i>śivaliṅga</i> ; a type of self-existing (<i>svayambhū</i>) or natural <i>liṅga</i> .
<i>bārudakhānā</i>	An ammunition magazine.
<i>beḍī</i>	A fee for the initiation of a trial concerning debt recovery.
<i>begārī</i>	Forced labour services for the government, to be provided by tenants, especially for portage or construction works.
<i>bekha</i>	An inheritable <i>birtā</i> grant.
<i>besautyā</i>	Trader.
<i>beṭhī</i>	A type of forced labour service.
Bhāḍa	An untouchable caste whose members work as singers, dancers or live on begging. Their caste status is equal to that of the Vādīs.
<i>bhāibhāradāra</i>	See <i>bhāradāra</i> .
<i>bhalā manisā</i>	Nobles or elders who exercised judicial authority on the local level.
<i>bhāṅga</i>	An eatable or drinkable preparation of cannabis.
<i>bhāradāra</i>	A generic term for a member of the royal family or high-level state functionaries, also <i>bhāibhāradāra</i> .
Bhāṭa	Offspring born from the union of a Brahmin man and his Upādhyāya concubine, or a Jaisī woman with whom he is not related, but who was previously married with two husbands; offspring born from the union of an Upādhyāya or Jaisī Brahmin with a concubine or widow belonging to the Daśanāmī, Jogī, Jaṅgama, Sannyāsī, Sebaḍā, Kanaphaṭṭā, Vairāgī or other kinds of ascetics.

Bhaṭṭa Brahmin	A class of Brahmins who came originally from Maharashtra and were brought to Kathmandu by the Malla Kings.
<i>bhatuvā</i>	A servant working only for his keep.
Bhoṭe	An umbrella term designating Tibetanoid groups classified as Enslavable Alcohol-drinkers; also for a non-ethnically defined legal status.
<i>bicārī</i>	Magistrate, ranked under <i>ḍiṭṭhā</i> .
<i>birtā</i>	A royal land grant with far-reaching privileges in terms of tax-exemption, revenue collection and judicial authority.
<i>birtābitalapa</i>	An often tax-exempted type of <i>birtā</i> grant which obliges its beneficiary to work for the state when called upon to do so.
<i>bisauda</i>	A court fee of 20 percent of the amount involved in litigation, mostly to be paid by the losing party of a lawsuit.
<i>bisaulī</i>	A weight measure equalling 112 <i>tolās</i> .
<i>bitalapa</i>	See <i>birtābitalapa</i> .
<i>boḍī</i>	A weight measure equalling 27 <i>tolās</i> .
<i>boksī</i>	Witch.
Bubhaḍela	Residential Title Office responsible for the registration of land transfers and land disputes.
<i>cahāra</i>	The worst of four land categories (cp. <i>abbala</i> , <i>doḃama</i> and <i>sima</i>), also used for the tenants on such land.
<i>cāka</i>	A low-caste man punished by enslavement for a sexual offence.
<i>cakuī</i>	1) A low-caste woman punished by enslavement for a sexual offence; 2) Cattle confiscated by the state for killing a person or after being a victim in a bestiality case.
<i>cāndrāyaṇa</i>	1) A series of fasts where the food portions increase or decrease according to the lunar fortnights; 2) A fee substituting the performance of this type of penance.
<i>cāradāma (ṭhekī)</i>	A fee to be paid by a tenant upon the confirmation or renewal of his tenure.
<i>caudharī</i>	A headman or landlord vested with revenue-collection rights, especially in the Tarai.
<i>cautariyā</i>	A high-ranking title with no specific functions attached, granted to several male descendents of the Śāha kings at a time.
<i>chaiṭhi</i>	A post-natal ritual on the 6 th day after birth.
<i>chaiṭī</i>	A court fee of 6 percent of the amount involved in litigation.
<i>chāmṅrā</i>	Betrothal gifts offered by a suitor, mostly from an Enslavable or Non-enslavable Alcohol-drinking caste.
<i>chāpa</i>	var. <i>chapelā</i> ; 1) Seal or stamp; 2) Land granted by the state to individuals on a lifetime basis in return for their service.
Chebhaḍela	Building authority, also responsible for building and renovating state houses and properties.
Chipā	A Newar caste whose members are cloth dyers by profession.

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Citrakāra	A Newar caste whose members are painters by profession, considered inferior to the Jyāpu castes.
<i>cumāvana</i>	A levy imposed on occasion of the life-cycle initiation (<i>vratabandha</i>) of the king or the crown prince.
Cunāro/Cunārā	Woodworker castes.
Cuḍyāro (Cuḍāro)	A caste group whose members traditionally work as stonemasons; classified as a Water-unacceptable, but Touchable caste.
Curauṭe	'Hill Muslims'; Muslim community native to Kathmandu Valley, renowned for their bracelet manufacture.
<i>custā</i>	Military riding trousers which are baggy from waist to knee and are tight from knee to ankle, also known as 'jodhpurs'.
Cyāmakhala	A Newar caste similar to Poḍes in occupation, yet considered lower to Poḍes in social gradation; the lowest among the Untouchable castes.
Cyāṅgrākausī	An alternative designation for Sadaradaphadarakhānā.
<i>cyuṭi</i>	A volumetric unit equal to 1/10 of one <i>muṭhī</i> .
<i>ḍagola</i>	A land surveyor.
<i>dakṣiṇā</i>	Sacrificial fee or wage paid to the priest at the end of a ritual.
<i>dāma</i>	1/4 of 1 <i>paisā</i> .
Damāi	A caste group whose members traditionally work as tailors or musicians; the 5 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>dāmala</i>	Replacement for execution for perpetrators from castes exempted from the death penalty; the offender is branded on his left cheek, his entire property is confiscated and he is imprisoned for life.
<i>dānapatra</i>	Deed of gift; the founding charta of a charitable endowment.
<i>daṇḍa(-kuṇḍa)</i>	A generic term for judicial fines and penalties.
Danuvāra	An ethnic group in the lowland.
<i>daphadara</i>	Land registry, cf. Sadaradaphadarakhānā, Kampu Daphadara.
Daphadarakhānā	See Sadaradaphadarakhānā.
<i>daphtarī</i>	A revenue functionary responsible for the accounts of land assignments to army personnel.
<i>darabāra</i>	A royal court.
Darai	An ethnic group in the low land, living as fishermen and farmers.
<i>darbha</i>	A holy grass used in sacrifices, <i>Desmostachya bipinnata</i> (L.) STAPP.
<i>darśanabheṭa</i>	A cash levy paid to the king and principal members of the royal family by civil and military personnel at the time of their (re-)appointment.
Dasaī	Festival to worship the goddess Durgā as slayer of the buffalo demon, held over the bright half of the autumn month of Āśvina (<i>baḍādasāī/mahādasāī</i>) and, on a smaller scale, over the bright half of the spring month of Caitra (<i>caitedasāī</i>).
Daśanāmī	An order of Śaiva ascetics said to be founded by Śaṅkarācharya.
<i>dasauda</i>	A court fee of 10 percent of the amount involved in litigation, mostly to be paid by the winning party of a lawsuit.

<i>daskhata</i>	A missive signed by the prime minister.
<i>dastābeja</i>	Legal document, producible in evidence.
<i>deśī</i>	An inhabitant of the Indian plains.
Devabhāju	A Hindu Newar priest, also known as Rājopādhyāyas.
<i>devāli (guthī)</i>	A <i>guthī</i> of a Newar lineage-group for the performance of the rituals of their clan deity.
<i>ḍhaka</i>	A measure of weight (corresp. to two maunds [or man] or 164 lbs. avdp) made out of bronze or iron.
<i>ḍhākre</i>	A former state employee.
<i>ḍhapoṭ</i>	Personal account entries.
<i>dharmādhikāra</i>	Chief judge in religious jurisdiction whose main duties are to grant expiation and rehabilitation to polluted individuals. The term is exclusively used for Brahmins.
<i>dharmapatra</i>	Religiously solemnised document or deed.
<i>dharmasālā</i>	Pilgrim shelter.
<i>dhārṇī</i>	A measure of weight equal to 2 <i>bisaulī</i> .
<i>dharoṭa syāhā</i>	Deposit ledger.
<i>ḍhikuro</i>	Funeral mound of earth erected after the death of a deceased person.
Dhobī	See Hindu Dhobī.
<i>dhokryā</i>	Grain speculator.
<i>ḍhoti</i>	A loincloth worn by men.
<i>ḍhuṅgo chuvāunu</i>	Lit. ‘to make sb. touch a stone’; probably a rite at the end of a trial where the losing party has to touch a stone representing Viṣṇu or the king and has to place a fee on it, maybe for the purpose of expiation.
<i>ḍiṭṭhā</i>	A loincloth worn by men.
<i>ḍoko-boko</i>	Labour services and payments in cash or in kind due on <i>kīpaṭa</i> land.
<i>ḍolājī</i>	A son-in-law living in the home of his parents-in-law.
Ḍoma	A Water-unacceptable caste group.
Dotyāla Jaisī	A category of low-caste Brahmins inferior to Upādhyāyas, Asala- and Tīna-Liṅga-Jaisīs.
<i>doyama</i>	The second best of four land categories (cp. <i>abbala</i> , <i>sīma</i> and <i>cahāra</i>), also used for the tenants on such land.
Draviḍa Brahmin	A class of Brahmins of South Indian descent.
Ḍuī	A Newar caste whose members are considered inferior to the Jyāpu castes, also known as Putuvāra.
Duī-Liṅga-Jaisī	A Jaisī whose mother was previously married to two other men.
<i>dvāre</i>	A local revenue collection official with minor police and judicial powers.
fakir	A generic term for all sorts of ascetics.
<i>gādīmumārakha</i>	Levy collected on a country-wide basis to finance the expenses of a royal coronation.
Gāine	A caste group whose members were singers and dancers by profession. The 4 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.

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<i>gaṇḍī</i>	A monetary unit consisting of 4 <i>paisās</i> ; equivalent to 1 <i>ānā</i> .
<i>gauḍā</i>	Frontier offices under military administration.
<i>gaurāi</i>	Payment of earnest.
<i>gauruñ</i>	Village agent.
Gāyatrī	Also called Sāvitrī; verse from the <i>Ṛgveda</i> (3.62.10), sometimes considered as essence of the Veda.
<i>ghaḍī</i>	A measure of time equal to 24 minutes.
Ghale	A clan among the Guruṅga, descendants of the Ghale dynasty, who are categorised as Non-enslavable Alcohol-drinkers.
<i>gharabārī</i>	Farmhouse with adjoining land.
Ghartī	An umbrella term to classify people of ‘notorious’ origin such as offspring from certain incestuous or hypergamous unions.
<i>ghāṭa</i>	An access to a river, used for ritual bathing or cremation.
<i>ghiu-khānī</i>	Lit. ‘ghee fee’; additional payment to a creditor or landlord in order to supply him with ghee.
<i>goḍadhuvā</i>	Tax levied to finance the wedding and dowry of the reigning king’s eldest daughter.
<i>godāna</i>	Lit. ‘gift of a cow’; a fine to be paid by a polluted person to the <i>dharmā-dhikāra</i> for expiation.
Golaghara	A cage-shaped prison located in the middle of the central jail of Nepal.
<i>gotra</i>	Line of descent of a mythical seer (<i>ṛṣi</i>), which originally represented a sacrificial community.
Gujarātī Brahmin	A class of Brahmins of Gujarati descent.
<i>gumastā</i>	A revenue collection assistant.
<i>guru</i>	A spiritual master, mentor or teacher.
Guruṅga	A Tibeto-Burman ethnic group in the central hills.
<i>guṭhī</i>	1) Endowment of land or other sources of revenue for financing religious and charitable functions. 2) An organisation responsible to carry out such functions.
<i>guṭhīyāra</i>	Trustee or member of a <i>guṭhī</i> .
<i>hākima</i>	Chief of an administrative unit, government office or court.
<i>hale</i>	A <i>pākho</i> land holding in the hill region which could be ploughed by one ox-team in one day.
Hamāla	The offspring born of extramarital unions of Jaisīs and Rajapūtas.
<i>haṇḍī</i>	An earthen pot of alms given out by the government or other charitable institution to ascetics, students or the poor.
Harivaṃśa	‘Genealogy of Hari’; sacred text of the Hindu tradition dealing with the ancestry and exploits of Kṛṣṇa and believed to be a supplement to the <i>Mahābhārata</i> .
Hijra	Community of eunuchs, intersex and transgender people.
Hindu Dhobī	A washermen caste; the 9 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.

Hiṭṭcoka	The office for meeting the sudden and petty expenses of the royal court in kind.
<i>huddā</i>	A low-ranking military or police functionary who could also be assigned to civilian offices.
<i>hukuma</i>	Order, especially from the king or members of the Rāṇā family.
<i>hulāka</i>	A system of transportation for official mail and civil and military supplies through relays of porters.
Hurkyā	An untouchable caste which ranks below the Sārki, Kāmī, Cunāro and Cunārā castes.
<i>ijārā</i>	System under which the government granted to an individual the exclusive right to collect revenue from a specified source, subject to the payment of a sum stipulated in advance.
<i>ijārādāra</i>	Holder of an <i>ijārā</i> .
<i>insāyena</i>	Junior military officer.
<i>istihāra</i>	Public proclamation.
Iṭācapali	Criminal Court. One of the four central courts (<i>cāra adālata</i>) located in Kathmandu, others being Koṭīliṅga, Ṭaksāra, and Dhanāsāra.
<i>jabānabandī</i>	Written statement of the acceptance of a court decision.
<i>jagerā</i>	Land held in reserve by the state for special appointments, rewards or endowments.
<i>jāgira</i>	Land assigned to government employees in lieu of salaries.
<i>jāgīradāra</i>	A government employee who is remunerated for his services by the assignment of taxation rights on land.
<i>jamādāra</i>	A low-ranking commissioned officer in the army who could also be assigned to civil offices.
<i>jamānipatra</i>	Written declaration of suretyship.
<i>jaminadāra</i>	Landholder, zamindar.
<i>janai</i>	Sacred Thread differentiating the Twice-born (<i>dvija</i>) from the Single-born (<i>ekaja</i>) castes.
<i>janai supārī</i>	Betrothal ritual where the bride receives the Sacred Thread (<i>janai</i>) and betel nuts (<i>supārī</i>) from the groom.
Jaṅgama	A group of wandering Liṅgāyat ascetics.
<i>japhatī</i>	Land confiscated by the government which is converted into state-owned land and reassigned to a new landlord or tenant.
<i>jethā-budhā</i>	A village headman responsible for local affairs such as the maintenance of law and order.
<i>jethāka</i>	The share of the joint-family property received by the eldest wife or son during property partition.
<i>jhākrī</i>	Wizard.
<i>jhannā-pannā</i>	Probably a certain unorthodox doctrine rejected by Hindus.
<i>jhārā</i>	Forced labour, unpaid work or assistance exacted from the people by the government or a landlord.

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<i>jhāraphuka</i>	Shamanic treatment by which mantras are blown on the body of a sick person.
<i>jhuttāvāla</i>	A subordinate to a <i>mukhiyā</i> .
Jhelakhānā	State prison authority.
<i>jillā</i>	A category of land rights.
<i>jimmāvāla</i>	A revenue collection functionary in the hill districts.
<i>jitāpatra</i>	Certificate of court victory or of exoneration.
<i>jitāuri</i>	Court fee to be paid by the winning party in a lawsuit.
<i>jiunī</i>	Land or other property meant to ensure subsistence; in the course of the sub-division of ancestral property, it refers to additional wealth transferred to a co-parcener on top of the share he or she is legally entitled to.
Jogī	An ascetic, religious mendicant; specif. a follower of the Nātha tradition. See also Kanaphaṭṭā.
Jumli Jaisī	A Brahmin caste group of low status, inferior to Upādhyāyas, Asala Jaisīs, Uhī-Liṅga-Jaisīs, Duī-Liṅga-Jaisīs, Tīna-Liṅga-Jaisīs and Dotyāla Jaisīs.
Jyāpu	A Newar clan consisting of different caste groups whose main occupation is agriculture; considered to be inferior to Udāsas.
<i>kabuliyata</i>	Written agreement, contract or consent.
<i>kacaharī</i>	An administrative office with judicial powers.
Kaḍārā	The 6 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>kājī</i>	An official of ministerial rank in the civil and military administration.
Kalavāra	A Water-unacceptable but Touchable caste group, predominately settling in the Tarai.
<i>kaldāra</i>	See <i>kallāra</i> .
<i>kallāra</i>	A gold coin issued under the Mughal emperors.
<i>kāmadāra</i>	A steward, manager, agent.
Kāmī	The 7 th lowest among the Untouchable castes; often blacksmiths, iron-workers or armourers by profession.
<i>kampanī</i>	A military company. One of three categories of army units, the other two being <i>palṭana</i> and <i>kampu</i> .
<i>kampu</i>	Regular army. One of three categories of army units, the other two being <i>palṭana</i> and <i>kampanī</i> .
Kampu Daphadara	Registry responsible for land assignments of the military personnel belonging to a <i>kampu</i> .
Kanaphaṭṭā	Ascetics with pierced ears; followers of Gorakhanātha.
<i>kānugoi</i>	A local official responsible for tax collection and record-keeping in the Terai regions.
<i>kanyādāna</i>	Lit. 'gift of the virgin girl (daughter)'; climax of the marriage ritual when the girl is handed over to her husband.
<i>kapālī tamasuka</i>	Deed for an unsecured loan agreement.
<i>kapardāra</i>	Chief of the royal household, chamberlain.

<i>kāringdā</i>	An official under the authority of a <i>hākima</i> .
<i>kariyā</i>	A servant.
<i>karpana</i>	A fee of five rupees taken by the court from each party. By paying, the litigants express their will to have the case decided by ordeal.
Kasāī	An untouchable caste group whose members live by selling meat and fruits; the 11 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>kāṭhamahala</i>	Forestry office, responsible for timber management.
<i>kaṭuvāla</i>	A civil functionary.
Kausala	State Council, court of judicial review consisting of the most important state officials.
Kausītoṣākhānā	Central state treasury which served several additional functions, such as the expenses for and storage of goods for the royal palace and the appointment of <i>subbās</i> in the Tarai.
<i>kāyelanāmā</i>	A written confession.
<i>khāḍī</i>	A type of blanket, often worn as a cloak, knitted on a loom.
<i>khajāñcī</i>	Chief royal treasurer and <i>hākima</i> of the Kausītoṣākhānā.
<i>khānagī</i>	Emoluments of government employees and functionaries, often in the form of land assignments.
Khāna-Khavāsa	Royal slaves recruited from orphans, cp. Khavāsa.
<i>kharaḍāra</i>	Writer, secretary, official scribe.
<i>khātā</i>	An account book, ledger, especially of a creditor.
<i>khatachita</i>	Sexual offence.
Khavāsa	An umbrella term for current or former slaves of the nobility and the offspring born of unions between nobles and slave women
<i>kheta</i>	Irrigated land in the hill region suitable for the cultivation of rice and wheat.
Khusalamusala	A Newar caste considered inferior to Jyāpu caste.
<i>khuvā</i>	Land given as emolument for <i>jāgīra</i> holders.
<i>kipaṭa</i>	A system of communal land tenure traditional amongst several ethnic groups.
Kirāti	An umbrella term for the Limbus and Rāīs of eastern Nepal.
<i>kodāle</i>	A <i>pākho</i> holding in the hill region which was too small to be ploughed by oxen and therefore was cultivated with spades.
<i>kośa</i>	A measurement unit of distance varying between 3.2 and 3.6 kilometres in ancient India, equivalent to a quarter of a <i>yojana</i> .
<i>koṭa</i>	A fort or arsenal.
<i>koṭavāla</i>	Chief police officer of a town or a district.
<i>kote ḍiṭṭhā</i>	An officer in charge of arms and ammunition, ranking above a <i>mukhiyā</i> , but lower than a <i>subbā</i> .
Kṣatriya	Member of the warrior estate (<i>varṇa</i>).
Kulu	An Untouchable caste group whose members are leather-workers; the 8 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.

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Kumāla	An ethnic group of the inner Terai whose traditional main occupation is pottery.
Kumārīcoka	Central office and court of audit.
<i>kuruvā</i>	Volumetric unit equivalent to two <i>mānā</i> , or 20 <i>muṭhī</i> .
<i>kuśa</i>	Sacrificial grass, <i>Desmostachya bipinnata</i> (L.) STAPF.
<i>kuśabirtā</i>	Land grant made to Brahmins with religious motives, following a commitment (<i>saṃkalpa</i>) made with holding <i>kuśa</i> grass.
Kusle	An untouchable caste group whose members work as sweepers and musicians in royal households or temples; the 10 th lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>kuta</i>	A system of tenancy under which a cultivator paid a fixed quantity of produce or a fixed amount of money as rent to the owner of the field.
<i>lagata</i>	Register.
<i>lājimā diṭṭhā</i>	Auxiliary or non-combatant personnel in a military company.
<i>lākha</i>	One hundred thousand.
<i>lākhā-(supārī)</i>	A Newar engagement ritual of offering a set of 10 betel nuts and a coin presented in a small pot, mostly made of silver, by the groom's family to the bride's family as a token confirming the marriage.
<i>lāla</i>	A unit of weight equalling $\frac{1}{10}$ <i>māsā</i> .
<i>lālamohora</i>	Royal order or decree bearing a red seal.
<i>lamī</i>	A matchmaker or procurer.
Lavaṭa	A term used for mixed castes originating from hypergamous unions among Newars and Non-Newars.
<i>lekhata</i>	Document, written statement.
<i>lephṭena</i>	Lieutenant.
Limbu	An ethnic group in the far-eastern hill region.
<i>liphā</i>	A blank document bearing a client's signature, thumbprint or seal.
Madhise	Residents of Madhesa.
Madhise Brahmin	Brahmin castes inhabiting or originating from Madhesa.
Magara	An ethnic group in the central hills.
<i>mahājāca</i>	Auditor general.
<i>mahānāike</i>	A chief or principal leader of a community or locality entrusted with judicial authority.
<i>mahāne</i>	A local revenue functionary in the Kathmandu Valley.
<i>mahāpātaka</i>	A grievous sin causing the loss of caste. Five are enumerated: killing a Brahmin, drinking liquor, theft, committing adultery with one's teacher and associating with anyone guilty of these crimes.
<i>mahārāja</i>	Great king.
<i>mahārogī</i>	Lit. 'heinous disease'; white leprosy.
<i>mahasūla</i>	A certain type of land tax.
<i>mahasulyā</i>	Irrigated paddy or unirrigated upland-fields in the hill regions, which were taxed in cash.

<i>mahatau</i>	A village headman in the Tarai districts.
Mājhī	An ethnic group of the inner Terai whose traditional main occupation is boat building and river transportation service.
Mālī	A Newar caste whose members are gardeners by profession.
<i>mālika</i>	Lord, master; head of a family, office or state.
<i>mānā</i>	A volumetric unit equivalent to 0.568 litres, or 1/8 of a <i>pāthi</i> .
<i>mānācāmala</i>	A land grant given to a <i>bhāradāra</i> or a high-ranking officer in order to provide him with daily supplies of food; given under the condition that it shall become state-owned (<i>raikara</i>) land upon his death; also known as <i>khuvā-birtā</i> .
<i>mañjuranāmā</i>	Letter of consent.
Marahaṭṭā Brahmin	A class of Brahmins of Maharashtrian descent.
<i>marauṭa</i>	A governmental land grant endowed to the family of a person who gave his life for the welfare of the kingdom.
<i>marjī</i>	(Prime ministerial) order.
<i>māsā</i>	A measure of weight, equaling 1/10th of a <i>tolā</i> .
<i>mayāyu</i>	A type of land grant made to a person out of compassion or love.
<i>megajina</i>	Military arsenal where weapons and armory were stored or produced.
<i>mijhāra</i>	A headman of ethnic groups of low caste status; responsible for the collection of levies, fines or escheats from the families falling under his jurisdiction.
<i>misākhata</i>	Illicit sexual intercourse among or by Newars.
Mleccha	‘Foreigner’, an outsider to the Brahmanic socio-ritual order, also used for Christians.
<i>mohora</i>	See <i>lālamohora</i> and <i>mohora rūpaiyā</i> .
<i>mohora rūpaiyā</i>	A monetary unit equivalent to two eight- <i>ānā</i> silver coins (<i>mohoras</i>), 4 <i>sukās</i> , 16 <i>ānās</i> or 64 <i>paisās</i> .
<i>mohoratāmrapatra</i>	Royal copperplate deed.
<i>mohorū</i>	See <i>mohora rūpaiyā</i> .
<i>moṭha</i>	Consolidated sum, tax assessment.
Moṭha Tahabila	Land tax registry and assessment office.
<i>muculkā</i>	1) Report; 2) Witnessed written declaration.
Mugalāna	Lit. ‘land of the Mughals’; The Indo-Gangetic plains of North India.
<i>mukaddama</i>	Headman of a village, caste or corporation, usually charged with the realisation of revenue.
<i>mukhiyā</i>	A designation for an administrative post used at the local, district and central level. At the local level <i>mukhiyās</i> functioned as village headmen and revenue functionaries. District headmen were also called <i>mukhiyās</i> . In the central administration, <i>mukhiyās</i> were writers who kept accounts or supervised officials of lower ranks.
<i>mukhtiyāra</i>	Prime minister and commander-in-chief.
<i>mulukī</i>	1) Pertaining to a realm; 2) Royal.

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Mulukīkhānā	Central Treasury.
<i>munsī</i>	Writer, author, teacher or a translator. <i>Munsīs</i> were properly trained scribes and secretaries of the courts.
<i>murī</i>	Unit of land measurement in the hill region, comprising $\frac{1}{4}$ <i>ropanī</i> with 100 <i>murīs</i> in 1 <i>kheta</i> .
Musalamāna	Muslim; Muslims were classified as a Water-unacceptable but Touchable caste group.
<i>muṭhī</i>	A volumetric unit equivalent to $\frac{1}{10}$ of a <i>mānā</i> .
Nāgara Brahmin	A class of Brahmins, probably the one which is primarily found in Gujarat and Rajasthan.
<i>nāike</i>	A leader of any kind of group or locality, especially of a Newar village.
<i>naivedya</i>	Offering of eatables presented to a deity.
Nakarmī	A Newar caste group, blacksmiths by profession.
<i>nāmardī</i>	Lit. 'unmanliness (fee)'; 1) a compensation to be paid by an adulterer to the aggrieved husband; 2) a fine to be paid by an aggrieved husband who continues to have sexual intercourse with his adulterous wife.
Nānaka	Sikh.
<i>nānakāra</i>	Land-revenue rights enjoyed by <i>chaudharis</i> , <i>guraus</i> , <i>kānugois</i> and the likes in the Tarai districts.
Nepāla	Kathmandu Valley.
<i>pagarī</i>	The turban worn by high-ranking civil and military personnel, also a term for the class of officials wearing it.
Paharī	An ethnic group in the vicinity of Kathmandu Valley speaking a Tibeto-Burmese language.
<i>paisā</i>	A monetary unit equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of an <i>ānā</i> .
<i>pākho</i>	Unirrigated high or hillside land on which only dry crops can be grown.
<i>pala</i>	A measure of weight equal to 1 <i>tolā</i> .
<i>paḷāna</i>	Regiment, battalion. One of three categories of army units, the other two being <i>kampu</i> and <i>kampanī</i> .
<i>pānaphula</i>	A small fee (lit. for <i>pāna</i> , i.e. paan, a preparation combining betel leaf with areca nut) offered in compensation.
<i>panaunī</i>	Reward handed over to the finder of a lost object by its owner.
<i>pañca</i>	A assembly of elders forming a local judicial body.
<i>pañcaḡavya</i>	A mixture of the five products of a cow (milk, curd, ghee, urine and dung); often used for ritual purification.
<i>paramabhaṭṭā</i>	A deed, prepared by the seller, formalizing the sale of a slave.
Pāre Ghartī	Caste group consisting of former slaves and their offspring; assigned to the Enslavable castes.
Parjā	An umbrella term for Bhoṭe, Cepāṅga, Darai, Mājhi, Hāyu, Danuvāra, Kumāla and Paharī, who are classified as enslavable.
<i>parvatīya</i>	The Nepālī-speaking population of hill origin.

<i>pasuvana</i>	Lit. '(fee) for animal-like (behaviour)'; a compensation to be paid to an aggrieved husband by his wife's paramour.
<i>pāthī</i>	A volumetric unit equivalent to 4.546 litres comprising 8 <i>mānās</i> .
<i>patiyā</i>	A penalty through which one keeps or regains one's caste status, see also <i>prāyaścitta</i> .
<i>patra</i>	Letter, document.
<i>paṭṭā</i>	Deed of lease.
<i>peṭiyā(-kharca)</i>	A category of governmental land grant endowed for maintaining the recipient's livelihood.
<i>pevā</i>	Dowry; the private property of a married woman, often bequeathed to her by her husband or the paternal side of her family, but also self-earned.
<i>phāarakatī,</i> var. <i>phāarakha</i>	Quitclaim deed, a written receipt or acquittance.
<i>phārchyāpatra</i>	Quitclaim letter.
<i>pharmāisī</i>	A non-inheritable <i>birtā</i> grant to members of the royal or Rāṇā family.
<i>phaujadāra</i>	An officer invested with the charge of police, jurisdiction and tax collection in the Tarai.
<i>phikadāra</i>	Inheritable <i>birtā</i> grant made to persons of status below Brahmin castes in appreciation of services, for which the <i>lālamohora</i> bore the mark of betel juice spat by the king.
<i>phukādāma</i>	A monetary unit of small denomination, equivalent to ¼ of a <i>dāma</i> .
<i>piṇḍa</i>	Rice-balls offered to ancestors during the <i>śrāddha</i> rites.
Poḍe	The second lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>potadāra</i>	Weigher and assayer of coins.
<i>pradhāna</i>	A low-ranking local state functionary or community headman.
<i>pramāṅgī</i>	Order or authorisation letter from the king, prime minister or a high-ranking government official.
<i>prāṇāyāma</i>	Blocking the correct nostril while controlling the breath.
<i>prasāda</i>	(Food) gifts for gods, part of which the giver retains.
<i>prāyaścitta</i>	Ceremony of penance undertaken by a polluted person for absolution.
<i>puchryā chāpa</i>	Seal or stamp affixed at the bottom margin of a deed or document.
<i>pūjā</i>	Ritual worship, mainly of a divinity.
<i>purjā</i>	Rent collection receipt, cp. <i>tirjā</i> .
<i>pūrjī</i>	Writ, a written notice.
<i>pustā</i>	Degree of kinship between two persons determined by the most remote shared male ancestor; especially important in the marriage and incest law.
<i>pyāja-khāni</i>	Lit. '(a fee) in order to consume onion'; a small fee to be paid by a plaintiff as food allowance to the bailiffs arresting the defendant at the plaintiff's request.
<i>rāhādāni</i>	Travel permit, passport.
<i>raibandī</i>	A system of redistribution of rice-land among local tenants in proportion to the size of their families.

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<i>raikara</i>	State-owned land.
<i>rāiṭara</i>	Writer or clerk.
<i>rājaguru</i>	A preceptor or guru to a member of the royal family.
<i>rājaguṭhī</i>	Royal <i>guṭhīs</i> ; trusts set up by a reigning king or queen of Gorkhā following the performance of a <i>saṃkalpa</i> .
<i>rājakhata</i>	A heinous crime such as Brahmin murder or incest, maybe considered either as a crime against or punishable by the king.
Rajapūta	A member of the royal family or other high class Kṣatriya castes, such as Ṭhakurīs.
<i>rājīnāmā</i>	1) A deed of relinquishment of rights; 2) A declaration of will.
<i>rakama</i>	1) Contract for the exclusive rights to the income generated from a revenue item; 2) Land held in return for providing labour services to the government.
<i>rakamī</i>	A holder of a <i>rakama</i> contract.
<i>ramatā</i>	An individual itinerant ascetic.
<i>rasāda</i>	Receipt.
<i>rudrākṣa</i>	Seeds of the <i>Elaeocarpus ganitrus</i> used as prayer bead.
<i>rukkā</i>	Missive of high-ranking officials, often the king and prime minister.
Sadaradaphadara (-khānā)	General registry office for land and revenue assignments in lieu of pay.
Sadaramulukīkhānā	See <i>Mulukīkhānā</i> .
<i>sadāvarta</i>	A charitable foundation for the provision of food to the poor, mendicants and pilgrims.
<i>sādhaka</i>	Written verdict.
<i>sāheba</i>	Honorific to address a high-ranking person, sir; especially used for British dignitaries.
<i>sāhipāṭa</i>	Marriage contract.
<i>śālagrāma</i>	Black-shale ammonite fossils worshipped as representations of Viṣṇu.
<i>salāmi</i>	Payments due to the government, including fines, levies, fees.
Sālamī	Lit. 'oil-presser'; a sub-caste among the Newar, also known as Mānandhar.
<i>saṃkalpa</i>	Ritual declaration, ritual commitment.
<i>sanada(-patra)</i>	A grant, charter, appointment or endorsement, often signed by a ruling authority.
Sannyāsī	A generic term for ascetics or their male heirs leading a householder life.
<i>sapiṇḍa</i>	Lit. 'Having common <i>piṇḍas</i> '; kinsman connected by the offering of the funeral oblation to the deceased male ancestor (<i>piṇḍa</i>), i.e. any person of seven generations in direct line of ascent or descent
<i>sardāra</i>	A top-ranking official next in hierarchy to a <i>kājī</i> .
<i>sardu</i>	A type of blanket, probably worn as a cloak, knitted on a domestic loom.
<i>sarkāra</i>	1) King, monarch; 2) government.
Sārki	A caste group whose members work as leather workers. The 7 th lowest among the Untouchables castes.

<i>satī</i>	1) Widow, concubine or female slave who follows her deceased husband or master into death by immolating herself either on her husband's or master's fire, or on a separate funeral pyre; 2) the ritual of self-immolation.
<i>sāunephāgu</i>	A homestead levy collected in the hill districts, including Kathmandu Valley, during the months of Śrāvaṇa and Phālguna every year.
<i>savāla</i>	Ordinances; a set of directives issued especially for administrative purposes.
<i>sāyeradāra</i>	Holder of customs and market duties collection rights.
<i>Sebaḍā</i>	A Jaina ascetic.
<i>serā</i>	Crown lands, lands assigned for the supply of provision to the royal households.
<i>serāguṭhī</i>	Land endowed to a <i>guṭhī</i> in order to provide the supply for members of the royal household.
<i>sermā</i>	An annual homestead tax collected in cash on <i>pākho</i> land.
<i>sevābirtā</i>	A category of <i>birtā</i> grants made to individuals for the performance of specified services, especially in the Kathmandu Valley and usually of religious nature.
<i>sidhā</i>	1) A plate of uncooked rice, lentils, vegetables, salt, turmeric powder and ghee, etc. given to a Brahmin priest by his patron during a ritual or sacrifice; 2) Alms or food rations regularly given by the government or charitable endowments to poor people, ascetics, students and prisoners.
<i>silakhānā</i>	Office responsible for securely storing military arsenals.
<i>silāpatra</i>	Stone inscription.
<i>sima</i>	The worst of four land categories (cp. <i>abbala</i> , <i>cahāra</i> and <i>doyama</i>), also used for the tenants on such land.
<i>sinko kāṭṇu</i>	Lit. 'to cut a twig'; splitting a bamboo twig into two pieces to effect a divorce.
<i>sipāhī</i>	A soldier or a non-combatant person employed as policeman or office attendant.
<i>sirabandī</i>	Written authorisation, especially issued by the parties of a legal dispute, empowering the jury to decide their caste.
<i>sirako banda</i>	Compilation of account headings.
<i>sirto</i>	Tribute paid by vassal states to the Central government.
<i>śrāddha</i>	Periodic ancestor worship.
<i>śrāddhaguṭhī</i>	<i>Guṭhī</i> endowed for the performance of the periodic worship of common ancestors.
<i>śrestā</i>	Account book, ledger.
<i>śrestādāra</i>	An accountant, registrar.
<i>Śreṣṭha</i>	A Newar caste group comprising different clans with varying caste status, such as the Asala Śreṣṭhas or the Chatharīya Śreṣṭhas.
<i>subbā</i>	Governor or chief administrative officer of a province or district.
<i>subedāra</i>	A military official, in charge of a <i>ṭhānā</i> .

Glossary

<i>sudāmata</i>	A kind of levy to be paid by farmers.
Śūdra	Member of the servant estate (<i>varṇa</i>).
<i>sukā</i>	A monetary unit worth ¼ of a rupee and comprising 4 <i>ānās</i> .
<i>sunābirtā</i>	Land ownership emerging when <i>raikara</i> (state-owned) land is sold to individuals.
<i>sunāguṭhī</i>	A type of <i>guṭhī</i> ; probably when <i>birtā</i> land bought from the state is endowed as <i>guṭhī</i> .
Sunāra	A caste of gold workers, classified as an Untouchable caste.
Sunuvāra	An ethnic group in the eastern hills of Nepal.
<i>suvāro</i>	Hillside land.
<i>syāhā</i>	Account book, ledger.
<i>tahabila</i>	Office for revenue accounts.
<i>tahabiladāra</i>	Government treasurer, cashier.
<i>tahasiladāra</i>	Revenue collector.
Tailaṅgī Brahmin	A class of Brahmins with descent from Telangana.
<i>talsiṅboṭī</i>	The landlord's share of the crop or income derived from his land and to be collected from his tenant.
<i>tālukadāra</i>	A local revenue collector, such as an authorised landlord or a community headman.
<i>tamasuka</i>	Loan agreement.
Tehraūte Brahmin	A class of Brahmins with descent from the Tirhut region, especially Jhā or Miśra Brahmins.
Telī	A caste of oil sellers from the Terai, classified as a Water-unacceptable, but Touchable caste.
<i>ṭhānā</i>	A police or military office with judicial functions.
<i>ṭhāni</i>	A local non-official tax collection functionary.
<i>ṭharaghara</i>	1) A member of one of the six ruling clans of Nepal (the Pādes, Panthas, Aryjālas, Khanālas, Rāṅā, and Bohorās); 2) Nev. Syasyaḥ, the highest group among the Śreṣṭha castes.
<i>ṭharī</i>	A clan elder or headman functioning as a tax collector.
<i>ṭheka</i>	Contracts given out for revenue and tax collection rights.
<i>ṭhekadāra</i>	Holder of a <i>ṭheka</i> ; a contractor to whom rights to revenue, tax collection or land usage are transferred by the government for a stipulated period.
Ṭhokryā	A caste group whose members work as producers and sellers of metal vessels and utensils.
<i>thuma</i>	An administrative subdivision comprising a number of villages in the hills.
Tihāra	Festival celebrated over five days, from the 13 th of the dark fortnight to the 2 nd of the bright fortnight of Kārttika.
<i>tihāu</i>	A system of tenancy under which a cultivator paid ⅓ of the produce as rent to the owner of the field.

<i>tīkā</i>	An ornamental spot applied on the forehead as part of rituals or worn as a sectarian mark.
Tīna-Liṅga-Jaisī	A Jaisī whose mother was previously married to three men in her life. Among other criteria, Jaisīs were hierarchised according to the number of the mother's former husbands.
<i>tirjā(-purjā)</i>	A certificate empowering <i>jāgiradāras</i> to collect the rent from their land.
<i>tolā</i>	A unit of weight and standard measure for gold and silver comprising 100 <i>rati</i> , 10 <i>māsās</i> and being 1/80th of a <i>sera</i> .
Toṣākhānā	See Kausī(-toṣākhānā).
Udāsa	A Newar caste group considered inferior to Bāḍās and superior to Jyāpus.
Udāsī	An ascetic affiliated to the Sikh tradition.
<i>ujarāta</i>	Suspense account.
<i>ukāsa</i>	Unclaimed land.
<i>umarāva</i>	High-ranking (military) official.
Upādhyāya	Preceptor in Vedic texts; the highest status group among Brahmins in the officially endorsed caste hierarchy.
<i>urdī</i>	An official written order.
Vādī	A caste group whose members who made their living as singers and dancers. The 3 rd lowest among the Untouchable castes.
<i>vaidya</i>	Physician; also name of a caste.
Vairāgī	A Vaiṣṇava ascetic of the Rāmānandī Sampradāya.
<i>vājavi</i>	A homestead tax.
<i>vaṃśāvalī</i>	Chronicle.
<i>vāsila bāki</i>	Collections and balances, total account.
<i>veśyā</i>	1) 'Common woman', a woman who has had sexual intercourse with more than two different men; 2) A prostitute.
<i>vijayāhoma</i>	Initiation rite after which the novice becomes a full member of an ascetic community.
Viṣṭa	Name of a particular clan of Chetris; a general name for all higher castes, especially when addressed by Damāis and Kāmīs.
<i>vratābandha</i>	Hindu investiture ritual.
<i>vṛṣotsarga</i>	Symbolic release of a bull, touching a bull, a cow or gold; also performed on the 10 th or 11 th day of the Hindu death ritual.
<i>yādadāsta</i>	Memorandum.
Yamapañcaka	See Tihāra.
<i>yantra</i>	Holy, power-charged diagram.