REPORTS OF THE DIVISIONS

Report from Pakistan on activities in the Standardization of Geographical Names

Asia South-West Division (other than Arabic)

Submitted by Maj(R) Muhammad Ilyas Choudhary, Survey of Pakistan
INTRODUCTION

Pakistan is attending the Eighteenth Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names after a long time. However, a regional meeting of South West Asian Countries was attended from 24-26 October 1994 in Tehran.

NATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AUTHORITIES

In Pakistan we do not have any National Geographical Names Authority. It falls under the authority of the Surveyor General to print the names on maps. Now we are thinking of constituting an Authority for the standardization of geographical names.

COLLECTION OF NAMES IN THE FIELD

The names are recorded in the field by the surveyor in vernacular on form "22 topo" - List of Names. A specimen of this form is attached as an Annex. These Names are verified by the local officials and corrected where necessary. They are then transliterated into the Roman script by the officer in charge of the survey in accordance with the "Hunterian System". This translation is thoroughly checked and corrected in the office before these names are printed on the map.

NATIONAL GAZETTEERS

The National Gazetteer of Geographical Names has been published. It contains the names from the maps at the 1,000,000 scale and the names are compiled from material described above in Para "Collection of names in the field".

NAMES IN MULTILINGUAL AREAS

There is no problem in reading and understanding the names appearing on maps covering multilingual and border areas. There is Punjab in both India and in Pakistan. Similarly, we have Baluchistan, and in Iran is also a Baluchistan, where the spoken language is the same, i.e. Baluchi. We have a greater number of common geographical names, because Pakistan is using the English language, and therefore, we do not face any problem on international level.

REGIONAL MEETINGS OF THE ASIA SOUTH-WEST DIVISION

It was agreed in the meeting between Pakistan and Iran held in 1994 at Tehran that there is no difference in the transliteration of 23 letters of both the Urdu and the Persian languages.

Three Urdu letters and eleven aspirated consonants do not exist in the Persian alphabets. They will continue to be transliterated in Pakistan System.
It was in the regional meeting between Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan that these three countries have the same system of transliteration for most of the letters, although there are some differences between them in some cases. This is due to the reason that they are pronounced differently in different countries. Efforts are being made by the respective countries to minimize the differences in the transliteration of names as fast as practicable.

TRAINING

Considering the importance of the standardization of geographical names at the national and international levels, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names might assist Pakistan in its effort to receive training of staff for systematic name collection.

PAKISTAN'S FUTURE PROGRAMME

Pakistan plans to do the following:

1. Constitute an Authority for the standardization of geographical names;

2. Print the Gazetteer of Pakistan containing the names from the 1:50,000 map series;

3. Prepare a list of country names and capitals in both Urdu and the English language.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vernacular written by the Surveyor</th>
<th>Vernacular written by a local official</th>
<th>Spelling in English by the camp officer</th>
<th>Corrected spelling in English</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number of Houses</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Tahsil, Distrib.</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>Village</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>Manschra</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>Locality</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>Stream</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 イムナグリオ</td>
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<td>イムナグリオ</td>
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<td>Tribe</td>
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<td>5 イムナグリオ</td>
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<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>イムナグリオ</td>
<td>Hill</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: In column 5, names, the spelling of which has been taken from the Imperial Gazetteer, should be underlined. In column 6, it should be stated whether a name refers to a town, village, temple, hill, lake, &c. Column 7 and 8 only refer to towns, villages &c.; this information is required to determine their relative importance. In column 11, it should be stated whether, in a town, village, &c., there is a market, hospital, P.O., T.O., P.S., D.I., &c.