Appendix: Asylums Operating in the Period 1857–1880

These institutions are arranged by administration and by alphabetical order. The date in the bracket is included if the asylum has been positively identified as founded in this period.

**ASSAM**
- Tezpore (1876)
- Berhampore (1874)
- Cuttack (1864)
- Dullunda

**BENGAL**
- Dacca
- Hazaribagh (1876)
- Moydapore
- Patna
- Ahmedabad (1862)
- Colaba

**BOMBAY**
- Dharwar
- Hyderabad (c.1871)
- Poona (1867)

**BURMA**
- Rangoon (1870)

**CENTRAL PROVINCES**
- Jubbulpore (c.1867)
- Nagpur (1864)*

**HYDERABAD ASSIGNED DISTRICTS**
- Amraoti (1877)
- Calicut

**MADRAS**
- Madras
- Vizagapatam (1863)*
- Agra (1869)

**NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES**
- Bareilley (1862)*
- Benares

**OUDH**
- Lucknow (1859)
PUNJAB

Delhi (1867)
Lahore

Unless otherwise stated the date for the opening of the asylum was found in the records of the period.

* Date available in S. Sharma, Mental Hospitals in India (Directorate General of Health Services, New Delhi, 1990).
Notes

Introduction

1 Civ.Surg.Rangoon to IMDBurma 15 January 1877, GOI (Medical) Procs October 1877, 18–20B.
6 Ibid., p. 15.
8 Ibid., p. 198.
13 ‘This strange republic of the good which is imposed by force on all those suspected of belonging to evil’, in ibid., p. 61.
14 Ibid., p. 62.
15 Ibid., p. 276.
16 Ibid., p. 259.
20 Ibid., pp. 160–1.
34 Y. Ripa, Women and Madness, p. 138.

36 P. Chesler, Women and Madness (Allen Lane London 1984), p. 16.


40 Case Book IA, patient no. 163, admitted 3 April 1865: ‘chumar’ means leatherworker.

41 Case Book IA, patient no. 158, admitted 28 February 1865: ‘ahir’ means herdsman.

42 Chief Commissioner to Gvt.Bengal in Bengal (Military) 3 April 1795.

43 Letters received from Bengal 14 May 1795, paragraph 27.


45 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877, p. 29.

46 See Appendix.

47 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1875, p. 17.


49 Ibid.

50 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1880 p. 8.

51 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1900, p. 8.

52 Annual Report of the Three Lunatic Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 33.

53 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1879–80, p. 29.

54 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1890, p. 10.

55 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1900, p. 20.

56 Ibid.

57 Annual Report of the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1875, p. 28.

58 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1890, p. 2.

59 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1900, p. 2.

60 This does not include the Lucknow Asylum and the three Asylums in the North-Western Provinces, for which figures are not available.

1 The Asylum Archive: the Production of Knowledge at the Colonial Asylum

1 Annual Report on the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1871, p. 83.

2 IGH.IMD to GOI 6 January 1873, GOI (Public) Procs January 1873, 529A.

3 See GOI (Medical) Procs September 1874, 60–3A.

4 For example see the Report on the Lunatic Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1874 (that was prepared and submitted in 1875). This was the year that the Resolution was passed, but the summary for Nagpur includes ten tables, Jubbulpore eleven.

5 For studies of national asylum histories see for example, D. Rothman,


8 It has been argued that statistics are a productive medium which does no more than create new identities rather than transparently relate existing ones. As such it is not at all clear that an exercise in statistical compilation is desirable if the objective is to get an accurate picture of a group or population. See for example, I. Hacking, ‘Making Up People’, in T. Heller, M. Sosna and D. Wellerby (eds), Reconstructing Individualism: autonomy, individuality and the self in Western thought (Stanford University Press Stanford 1986); B. Cohn, ‘The Census, Social Structure and Objectification in South India’, in B.Cohn (ed.), An Anthropologist among the Historians and Other Essays (Oxford University Press 1987).


10 Case Book IA, patient no. 110, admitted 30 May 1861.

11 Case Book IV, patient no. 54, admitted 31 August 1868.

12 Case Book II, patient no. 106, admitted 10 June 1864.
14 Robertson Milne-Collection LHB7/58/2 (20).
17 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1867, p. 60.
19 Ibid., p. 135.
20 Ibid.
21 A. Digby, Madness, Morality and Medicine, p. 136.
22 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1885, p. 3.
23 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1867, p. 42: The five headings referred to here are moral insanity, monomania, mania (acute and chronic) and amentia.
24 Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1878, p. 2.
26 T. Turner, ‘Schizophrenia as a Permanent Problem’, p. 427
31 R. Parker et al., ‘County of Lancaster Asylum, Rainhill’, p. 105.
37 C. Coleborne, “She does her hair up fantastic ally”: the production of femininity in patient case books of the lunatic asylum in 1860s Victoria’, in J. Long (ed.), Forging Identities: bodies, gender and feminist history
(University of Western Australia Press Nedlands 1997), p. 48.


41 Case Book IA, patient no. 194, admitted 13 May 1862.

42 Case Book IA, patient no. 94, admitted 16 April 1861.

43 Case Book IV, patient no. 231, admitted 12 November 1870.

44 Case Book II, patient no. 6, admitted 24 January 1863.

45 Case Book II, patient no. 172, admitted 27 April 1865.

46 Case Book II, patient no. 147, admitted 5 January 1865.

47 Case Book II, patient no. 143, admitted 17 December 1864.

48 Case Book II, patient no. 1, admitted 8 January 1863.

49 Case Book II, patient no. 12, admitted 23 March 1863.

50 Case Book II, patient no. 14, admitted 10 April 1863.

51 Case Book IV, patient no. 85, admitted 8 July 1869.

52 Case Book II, patient no. 139, admitted 17 November 1864.

53 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877*, p. 33.

54 Minute by Pres.Madras, 29 October 1868, GOI (Public) Procs Feb 27 1869, 105–7A.

55 Chief Sec.Gvt.Madras to GOI, 26 November 1867, GOI (Public) Procs Feb 15 1868, 96A.

56 Off.Super.Bareilly.LA to IGP.NWP, 21 May 1868, GOI (Public) Procs Dec 19 1868, 49A.

57 *Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1875*, p. 2.


60 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1872*, p. 65.

61 Ibid., p. 65.


63 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1870*, p. 7.

64 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1876*, p. 4.

65 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1873*, pp. 25–6.

66 *Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1878–9*, p. 12.

67 Author of, for example, *The Treatment of the Insane without Mechanical Restraints* (London 1856).
68 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1878–9, p. 14.
69 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–78, pp. 15–18.
71 Author of, for example, Observations on the Structure of Hospitals for the Treatment of Lunatics as a Branch of Medical Police (Edinburgh 1809).
72 Author of, for example, The Borderlands of Insanity (London 1875).
73 Author with Daniel Tuke of, for example, A Manual of Psychological Medicine (London 1874).
75 Ibid., p. 241.
77 Ibid., p. 167. This is a quote from Bucknill and Tuke, A Manual of Psychological Medicine.
78 Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1880, p. 3.
80 Indian Medical Gazette review, viii, 1873, p. 135.
83 Ibid.
85 Ibid., p. xxx.
86 Case Book IA, patient no. 15, admitted 13 May 1860.
87 Case Book IV, patient no. 20, admitted 14 December 1868.
88 Case Book IV, patient no. 22, admitted 30 December 1868.
89 Case Book IV, patient no. 36, admitted 20 February 1869.
93 Case Book IA, patient no. 6, admitted 11 February 1860.
94 Case Book IV, patient no. 50, admitted 20 March 1869.
2 ‘The Lunatic Asylums of India are Filled with Ganja Smokers’: Asylum Knowledge as Colonial Knowledge

3 Studies which examine attitudes towards opium and alcohol use in nineteenth century Britain include T. Parssinen and K. Kerner, ‘Development of the disease model of drug addiction in Britain 1870–1926’, in Medical History, 24, 1980; G. Harding, ‘Constructing addiction as a moral failing’,

4 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, p. 7.

5 Ibid.


8 W. O’Shaughnessy, ‘On the Preparations of the Indian Hemp, or Gunjah (Cannabis Indica): their effects on the animal system in health, and their utility in the treatment of tetanus and other convulsive diseases’, in *Transactions of the Medical and Physical Society of Bengal*, 1838–1840. This paper was available in the Fitz-Hugh Ludlow Hypertext Library at website <http://www.nepenthes.com/Ludlow/> 1996. References are to page numbers of the text when downloaded and not to the original page numbers of 1838–40.

9 Ibid., p. 7.


11 *The Encyclopaedia Britannica or Dictionary of Arts, Sciences and General Literature*, eighth edition 1856. This paper was available in the Fitz-Hugh Ludlow Hypertext Library at website <http://www.nepenthes.com/Ludlow/> 1998.

12 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, pp. 7–8.

13 Ibid., p. 17.

14 Ibid., p. 29.

15 Ibid., p. 27.

16 Ibid., p. 35.


19 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, p. 11.

20 Ibid., p. 65.

21 Ibid., p. 92.

22 Ibid., p. 78.

23 Ibid., p. 88.


25 Ibid., p. 319.

26 *Annual Report on the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1874*, p. 16.

27 Ibid.

29 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, p. 48.
32 Case Book IV, patient no. 38, admitted 23 February 1869.
33 Case Book II, patient no. 4, admitted 17 January 1863.
34 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, pp. 14–15.
36 Ibid., p. 380.
38 Ibid., p. 139.
40 Case Book IA, patient no. 15, admitted 13 May 1860.
41 Case Book IV, patient no. 20, admitted 17 November 1868.
42 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, p. 15.
43 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1868, p. 37.
44 A. Appadurai, ‘Number in the Colonial Imagination’, p. 326.
45 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1867, p. 10.
46 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1870, p. 35.
47 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1875, p. 24.
48 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1871, p. 75.
49 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1872, p. 65.
50 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1874, p. 16.
51 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1871–72, p. 2.
53 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1873, p. 63.
54 Ibid., p. 3.
55 ‘Papers relating to the consumption of ganja and other drugs in India’, p. 9.
56 Ibid., p. 12.
57 Ibid., p. 15.
58 Ibid., p. 88.
59 Ibid., p. 92.
61 Ibid., p. 231.
62 Ibid., p. 232.
63 Ibid.
64 Ibid., p. 236.
3 Disciplining Populations: British Admissions to ‘Native-Only’ Lunatic Asylums

1 Home (Public) December 19 1868, 46–59A.
2 Home (Public) December 19 1868, 51A.
5 Annual Report of the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 34.
6 Case Book II, patient no. 151, admitted 7 February 1865.
7 Gvt.Ben. to GOI 21 July 1868 in Home (Public) 8 August 1868, 56–9A.
8 Case Book II, patient no. 7, admitted 12 February 1863.
9 Case Book II, patient no. 1, admitted 8 January 1863.
10 Case Book IA, patient no. 168, admitted 19 February 1862.
11 Case Book IV, patient no. 186, admitted 29 April 1870.
12 Case Book IA, patient no. 124, admitted 2 August 1861.
13 Case Book IA, patient no. 139, admitted 4 October 1861.
17 Ibid., p. 6.
18 Ibid.
19 Ibid.
21 Case Book IA, patient not numbered (between 94 and 95), admitted 27 November 1861. This case note appears to have ended up out of sequence as the dates on 94 and 95 are for earlier in the year.
22 Oudh (General) 19 July 1876, 430B.
23 Oudh (General) 1 July 1874, 36B.
24 Order 3 February 1873 in Home (Public) June 1873, 78–9A.
28 Case Book II, patient no. 113, admitted 25 June 1864.
29 Case Book IV, patient no. 42, admitted 27 February 1869.
30 Case Book IV, patient no. 32, admitted 9 February 1869.
31 Case Book IA, patient no. 148, admitted 21 October 1861.
37 The development of racism as an ideology in British India has been described as a process where, 'the ideas forged in the crucible of 1857 were hammered into shape on the anvil of racial and political theory', in T. Metcalf, The Aftermath of Revolt, p. 310.
38 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877, p. 41.
39 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1879, p. 19.
40 Statements attached to Report on Dispensaries and Lunatic Asylums in the Province of Oudh for the Year 1875.
44 Annual Report on the Jails of Bengal for the Year 1879, p. xiii; Report on the Jails of the Central Provinces for the Year 1879, p. 4; Report on the


49 Ibid., p. 121.

50 This is explored in greater detail in Chapter 1.

51 This is explored in greater detail in Chapter 6.

52 ‘The labelling of the mad African as carried out in the colonial court room then, was often a confused and hesitant business’, M. Vaughan, Curing their Ills: colonial power and African illness (Polity Press Cambridge 1991), p. 107.

53 NWP Judicial (Criminal) Proceedings July 1861, 89–91A: the account of this case is taken from the Session Judge's correspondence with the Government of the North-Western Provinces, 89–90A.

54 This is explored in greater detail in Chapter 2.

55 NWP Judicial (Criminal) Proceedings February 1861, 82–4A.

56 Deposition on Oath of the Civil Surgeon Saugar 13 December 1860, 83A.

57 R.B. Morgan's Opinion 8 January 1861, 83A.


59 NWP Judicial (Criminal) January 1861, 32–4A.

60 Abstract of the Examination and Grounds and Date of Commitment for Trial 23 March 1860, 34A.


63 Deposition of Henry King 16 March 1860, 40A.

64 Gvt.NWP to Sessions Judge Saugar and Nerbudda 3 November 1860, 35A.

65 Translation of Evidence 8 November 1860, 40A.

66 Case Book IA, patient no. 10, admitted 14 March 1860.

67 Case Book IA, patient no. 156, admitted 14 December 1861.

70 Ibid., p. 50.
72 Ibid., p. 226.
73 Note on Jails and Jail Discipline in India 1867–68 by Arthur Howell in Home (Judicial) 9 January 1869, 39–52A.
74 Ibid.
75 This summary relies on details from the annual reports of the prisons mentioned which are summarised in Arthur Howell’s Note.
76 Ibid.
77 Memorandum by Sir George Couper in Home (Judicial) 9 January 1869, 39–52A
78 ‘Punitive labour – one of the essential conditions of prison administration – appears often to have been made subsidiary to the introduction of remunerative forms of industry’, from Gvt.Bengal to GOI in Home (Judicial) August 1875, 27–47A.
79 NWP Judicial (Criminal) 20 February 1864, 15–17B.
80 NWP Judicial (Criminal) 23 September 1865, 26B.
81 Home (Judicial) August 1875, 27–47A.
82 Gvt.C.Provs. to GOI 6 April 1875 in Ibid.
83 IGP.NWP to Gvt.NWP 22 March 1875 in Home (Judicial) August 1875, 27–47A.
84 IGP.NWP, to Gvt.NWP 11 December 1861 in Home (Judicial) 19 May 1862, 18–19A.
85 Resolution in Home (Judicial) 19 June 1869, 53–6A.
86 Oudh (General) 20 September 1872, 402B.
87 Case Book IA, patient no. 141, admitted 14 October 1861.
88 Case Book IA, patient no. 136, admitted 20 September 1861.
89 Case Book IA, patient no. 218, admitted 6 August 1862.
90 Case Book II, patient no. 184, admitted 29 May 1865.
91 Case Book IV, patient no. 216, admitted 20 August 1870.
92 Case Book IV, patient no. 101, admitted 17 August 1869.
94 Case Book IV, patient no. 101, admitted 17 August 1869.
95 Case Book IV, patient no. 156, admitted 2 February 1870.
97 Case Book II, patient no. 11, admitted 21 March 1863.
98 Case Book II, patient no. 124, admitted 8 August 1864.
99 Case Book II, patient no. 93, admitted 16 April 1864.
100 Case Book IV, patient no. 145, admitted 6 December 1869.
101 Case Book IA, patient no. 110, admitted 21 May 1861. Section 312 of the Indian Penal Code dealt with unlawful termination of pregnancies and stipulated that, ‘A woman who causes herself to miscarry is within the meaning of this section.’

102 Case Book IA, patient no. 18, admitted 13 May 1860.


104 Ibid.


106 Ibid., p. 128.

107 R. Smith, Trial by Medicine, p. 144.


109 Ibid.

110 J. Wilson, History of the Suppression of Infanticide in Western India under the Government of Bombay (Smith and Taylor Bombay 1855), p. 430.

111 L. Panigrahi, British Social Policy and Female Infanticide in India (Munshiram Manoharlal New Delhi 1972), p. 121.

112 Ibid., p. 123.

113 It is interesting to note that when the Act was finally passed in 1870 the law member of the Government of India was Sir James Fitzjames Stephen, whose attitudes regarding insanity in cases where mothers murdered their children was mentioned earlier in this chapter and dealt with in N. Walker, Crime and Insanity in England, volume I.

114 L. Panigrahi, British Social Policy and Female Infanticide, p. 173.

115 Case Book IA, patient no. 76, admitted 10 January 1861.


4 Disciplining Individuals: Treatment Regimes Inside ‘Native-Only’ Lunatic Asylums

1 S. Sharma, Mental Hospitals in India (Directorate General of Health Services New Delhi 1990), p. 52.

2 Ibid., p. 53.


8 Ibid., p. 266.
11 Ibid., p. 205.
13 Ibid., p. 72.
14 M. Foucault, Madness and Civilization, p. 248.
16 Ibid., pp. 145–6.
18 Ibid., p. 82.
19 Y. Ripa, Women and Madness, p. 125.
20 M. Foucault, Madness and Civilization, p. 259.
22 ‘Asylums at Bareilly and Benares for the Year 1867’, p. 58.
24 Ibid.
26 Minute by President Madras 29 October 1865 GOI (Public) Procs, 27 February 1869, 105–7A.
27 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1871–2, p. 5.
28 Annual Report of the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1863, p. 3.
30 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1867, p. 93.
31 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 29.
32 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1874, p. 1.
34 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 3: The decision to administer ‘beef-tea’ may have been taken as the patient in question was a Parsee rather than a Hindu. However it does seem to be an odd choice given the attitude of certain sections of the Indian community to vegetarian diets and cow products, so the decision to use the preparation may have reflected the ignorance of British medical officers about Indian diets or indeed may suggest something altogether more disciplinary. The superintendent may have had Eurocentric convictions about the benefits of meat in a diet and could have been attempting to force ‘beef-tea’ into the body against the will of the Indian patient in the belief that the Indian body must be
Notes

built and formed as the British wished it to be even if the Indian individual wanted to resist that form.
35 Ibid., p. 32.
36 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 66.
39 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1873–4, p. 22.
40 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1868, p. 3.
41 Asylums in Bombay for the Year 1876, p. 9.
42 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1871–2, p. 3.
43 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1875–6, p. 11.
44 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 66.
45 Civ.Surg.Rangoon to IMDBurma 15 January 1877, GOI (Medical) Procs October 1877, 18–20B.
46 Case Book IA, patient no. 114, admitted 8 June 1861.
48 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 12.
49 Asylums at Bareilly and Benares for the Year 1867, p. 58.
50 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1871–2, p. 1.
51 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1868, p. 3.
52 Ibid.
53 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 4.
54 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1877, p. 18.
55 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 6.
56 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1867, p. 15.
57 Case Book IA, patient no. 175, admitted 6 March 1862.
58 Case Book IA, patient no. 56, admitted 24 September 1860.
59 A. Digby, Madness, Morality and Medicine, p. 128.
60 Comm.Rawul Pindee to Gvt.Punjab 2 January 1869, GOI (Judicial) 22 May 1869, 86A.
61 President Committee of Jail Enquiry to Gvt.Punjab 7 August 1869, GOI (Judicial) 9 October 1869, 27A.
62 Gvt.Punjab to GOI 17 August 1869, GOI (Judicial) October 9 1869, 26A.
64. Civ.Surg.Rangoon to IMDBurma 15 January 1877, GOI (Medical) October 1877, 18–20B.
65. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 3.
66. Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 11.
67. Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1876–7, p. 22.
68. M. Foucault, Madness and Civilization, p. 266.
69. Case Book IA, patient no. 103, admitted 9 May 1861.
70. A seton was a strip of bandage sewn into the body to act as a counter irritant.
71. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 15.
72. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 16.
73. Consider the paternalistic tone of Dr. Penny; ‘Luxuries in the way of sweetmeats and fruit and the remains of public suppers have been constantly given in my own presence and by my own hands’, in Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1870, p. 3.
76. M. Foucault, Madness and Civilization, p. 252.
77. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1874–5, p. 28.
78. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 16.
79. Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1876, pp. 18–19.
80. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 66.
81. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 44.
82. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1863, p. 3.
83. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 72.
84. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 29.
86. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 30.
88. Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 45.
89. Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1875, p. 3.
90. R. Inden, Imagining India (Blackwell Oxford 1990), p. 133.
92. Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1874, p. 2.
93. Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 28.
97. Asylums at Bareilly and Benares for the Year 1867, p. 57.
5 Indians into Asylums: Local Communities and the Medical Institution

2 S. Sharma, Mental Hospitals in India (Directorate General of Health Services New Delhi 1990), p. 49.
5 S. Sharma, Mental Hospitals in India, p. 49.
6 S. Kakar, Shamans, Mystics and Doctors, pp. 60–5.
8 Ibid., p. 257.
9 Ibid., p. 259.
10 S. Kakar, *Shamans, Mystics and Doctors*, p. 274.
12 Ibid.
13 S. Kakar, *Shamans, Mystics and Doctors*, p. 287.
18 S. Sharma, *Mental Hospitals in India*, p. 49.
19 Case Book IA, patient no. 92, admitted 22nd March 1861.
21 Bhagooie would not necessarily have to have acted oddly to have gained admission. ‘Weak intellect’ as a diagnosis seems to describe behaviour involving reluctance to speak or answer questions. Dullee (Case Book IA, patient no. 9, admitted 4 April 1860) is described as ‘of weak intellect’, and the only symptom noted is, ‘very quiet, indeed never opens his mouth.’ For Khooda Buksh (Case Book IA, patient no. 10, admitted 24 April 1860) the conclusion is that ‘his intellect seems weak but he does not appear to labour under any delusion.’ The behaviour noted on admission on which this is based is that he ‘is very quiet and well-conducted’. It would seem then that had Bhagooie behaved as would be expected on her meeting with the European doctor, that is if she had displayed the reticence that would be natural for an Indian woman being addressed by a white, male official, she could have been diagnosed as of ‘weak intellect’, especially as the doctor had noted her dishevelled state on the basis of which he would have decided that her behaviour fitted into the familiar category of madness brought on by want. This was a link explicitly made in other cases, such as Madarow (Case Book II, patient no. 167, admitted 12 April 1865). The opinion is that ‘this girl appears to have gone mad from starvation and bad treatment.’
22 Case Book IA, patient no. 97, admitted 20 April 1861.
23 The case note for Zahoorun (Case Book IA, patient no. 4, admitted 16 December 1859) is a good example of this. On admission her ‘many hallucinations, such as the existence of a large snake in her belly’, are remarked upon. Each entry thereafter makes reference to her beliefs. In December, three months after admission, a note is made that ‘she fancies that she is possessed of great wealth and is the proprietress of hundreds of villages.’ Three months later the entry observes that there is ‘no alteration in her symptoms – the same fanciful notions about the snake + her imaginary wealth’. The next note adds that she thinks ‘she is utterly starved in the asylum and is fed with dead men’s flesh’, and the final entry is that ‘this woman continues to believe that she is fed with abominable filth. The snake left her 1000 years ago, that is to
say when she was 500 years old’. The fascination with the details of delusions is evident elsewhere. Whenever there is a lengthy note on Aluf (Case Book IV, patient no. 187, admitted 29 April 1870), his peculiarities are remarked upon. In 1870, ‘hallucinations of a religious nature’ are noted, in 1874, his remark, ‘my eyes are burst from looking at the sun’, and his statement that ‘his penis is as big as his arm’, are recorded and in 1878 the fact that he ‘presents himself with a white flower stuck in each nostril’, is put down. The delusions of Khooshhal (Case Book II, patient no. 115, admitted 28 June 1864) are noted in each lengthy report on him after they come to light in 1868. ‘Seems to have exalted ideas about his possessions. States that he has some lacs of horses and velvet harnesses’, is followed up later with ‘Is full of illusions as to immense wealth and possessions’, and on other occasions his comments that ‘I have 9 lacs of elephants’ and ‘Formerly I used to eat gold and silver’, are recorded.

24 The reasons for seeking transfer from prison to asylum are discussed in greater detail in Chapter 3.

25 Case Book II, patient no. 130, admitted 30 August 1864.


27 Case Book IA, patient no. 193, admitted 5 May 1862.

28 Indian Medical Gazette, Vol. XII, March 1877, p. 76.

29 Case Book II, patient no. 222, admitted 28 September 1865.

30 Case Book IA, patient no. 128, admitted 24th August 1861.

31 Case Book II, patient no. 158, admitted 28th February 1865: case note transcribed as on original.

32 Deposition of Seetul Sonar in NWP Judicial (Criminal) March 1864, 14A.

33 Super.Police Goruckpore to I.G.Police Benares 22 October 1863 in NWP Judicial (Criminal) March 1864, 26A.


35 Ibid. For the importance of the family in asylum admissions see also M. Finnane, ‘Asylums, Families and the State’, in History Workshop Journal, 20, 1985; P. Bartlett, The Poor Law of Lunacy: the administration of pauper lunatics in mid-nineteenth century England, with special emphasis on Leicestershire and Rutland (unpublished thesis University College London 1993); D. Wright, ‘Getting Out of the Asylum: understanding the confinement of the insane in the nineteenth century’, in Social History of Medicine, 10, 1997. Wright goes as far as to argue that in the UK in the nineteenth century ‘although small numbers of inmates may indeed have been arrested and confined for vagrancy, the majority were admitted to asylums by family members’, p. 145. This is certainly not the case in India in the period of this study.

36 Case Book II, patient no. 149, admitted 1 February 1865.

37 Case Book IA, patient no. 202, admitted 10 June 1862.

38 Case Book II, patient no. 70, admitted 8 December 1863.

41 Ibid., p. 100.
42 Case Book IV, patient no. 202, admitted 15 June 1870.
43 For example, Hanooman’s notes (Case Book IA, patient no. 222, admitted 20 August 1862) record that he ‘had previously been an inmate in the Asylum and was discharged in July 1861’. The tracing of previous admissions seems to have been so efficient that those treated in the Jail Hospital for insanity before the establishment of the Asylum have it noted when admitted into the Asylum. Kurreem Buy (Case Book IA, patient no. 40, admitted 20 July 1860) was ‘once in the Asylum in the Jail’.
44 For example, another puerperal maniac is admitted 3 months after Mosst. Goolaba. Mosst.Rhuman (Case Book IV, patient no. 220, admitted 15 September 1870) was ‘Certified by the Magistrate Violent’. She was handed over to her husband 8 months later.
45 Case Book II, patient no. 3, admitted 15 January 1863.
46 N. Waxler, ‘Is Mental Illness Cured in Traditional Societies?’, p. 239.
48 Ibid., p. 248.
49 Case Book II, patient no. 38, admitted 16 June 1863.
53 Ibid., p. 248.
54 M. Harrison, *Public Health in British India*, p. 89.
55 D. Arnold, *Colonizing the Body*, p. 250
56 The multitude of duties that the Civil Surgeon was required to attend to is discussed further in a focus on the staffing arrangements of the asylums in Chapter VI.
57 For dispensary finance see M. Harrison, *Public Health in British India*, p. 88: for asylum finances see the Conclusion.

6 Indians inside Asylums: Staff, Patients and Power

6 Case Book IV, patient no. 42, admitted 27 February 1869.
11 Ibid., p. 76.
12 N. Dirks *et al.*, *Culture/Power/History*, p. 18.
19 *Annual Report of the Insane Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1880*, p. 36.
22 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1878*, p. 23.
23 Ibid., p. 27.
25 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1869*, p. 4.
26 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1869*, p. 5.
27 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1876*, p. 35.
28 *Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1876*, p. 19.
29 Extract of letter from IGP British Burma 28 September 1870 in GOI (Public) Procs 8 April 1871, 38–9A.
31 *Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877*, p. 134.
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32 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1878, p. 23.
33 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1874, p. 12.
34 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1869, pp. 4–5.
35 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1870, p. 18.
39 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 25.
40 ‘Asylums at Bareilly and Benares for the Year 1867’, p. 47.
41 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1878, p. 7.
42 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1870, p. 12.
43 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1876, p. 11.
44 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1870, p. 15.
45 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1871–2, p. 5.
46 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1875, p. 3.
47 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877, p. 29.
48 This is discussed in greater detail in Chapter 4.
49 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1877, p. 27.
50 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1878, p. 24.
51 Ibid., p. 15.
52 Dispensaries in Oudh for the Year 1869, p. 2.
53 Dispensaries in Oudh for the Year 1873, p. 3.
54 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1869, p. 7.
55 Gvt.Oudh to GOI 12 August 1868 3403, in GOI (Public) Procs December 19 1868, 25A.
56 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1880, p. 37
57 Ibid; Cuttack produced goods sold off for Rs 1223 in 1880 with an average asylum population of just 51 patients.
58 Asylums in the Punjab for the Year 1880, p. 3.
59 Asylums at Bareilly and Benares for the Year 1866, p. 33.
61 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1863, p. 3.
62 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 44.
63 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 31.
64 Case Book IA, patient no. 142, admitted 14 October 1861: underlining in original.
65 Case Book IA, patient no. 210, admitted 24 July 1862.
67 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1863, p. 29.
68 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1862, p. 14.
69 Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1877, p. 1.
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70 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1877–8, p. 14.
71 Asylums in the Madras Presidency during the Year 1878–9, p. 14.
72 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1876, p. 18.
73 Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1879, p. 2.
74 Case Book IA, patient no. 75, admitted 7 January 1861.
75 Asylums in the Central Provinces for the Year 1880, p. 2.
76 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1878, p. 7.
77 IGH Lower Provinces to Gvt.Bengal 27 July 1868 288, in GOI (Public) Procs December 19 1868, 30A.
78 It is safe to assume that the staff member was Indian as European staff exclusively occupy the posts of Deputy Superintendent, Overseer or Matron in the records.
81 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1873–4, p. 3.
82 Gvt.C.Provs to Dr. Beatson 23 February 1875, 675–31 in GOI (Medical) Procs November 1875, 16A.
83 This is discussed in greater detail in Chapter 4.
84 Dr. Beatson to Gvt.C.Provs 23 February 1875, 12 in GOI (Medical) Procs November 1875, 20A.
85 Minute by W.B. Jones 25 October 1873 in GOI (Medical) Procs November 1875, 16A.
86 Dr. Beatson to Gvt.C.Provs 23 February 1875, 12 in GOI (Medical) Procs November 1875, 20A.
87 Asylums in the Bombay Presidency for the Year 1877, p. 52.
88 Ibid., p. 11.
90 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1873, p. 38.
91 Case Book IA, patient no. 2, admitted 14 November 1859.
92 Case Book IA, patient no. 81, admitted 1 February 1861.
93 Lahore Lunatic Asylum for the Year 1868, p. 4.
94 Asylums in Bengal for the Year 1863, p. 29.
96 Case Book IA, patient no. 152, admitted 21 November 1861.

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2 Gvt.NWP to GOI 2155A of 1862 in GOI (Public) 20 October 1862, 26A.
3 IGP to Gvt.NWP 30 June 1862 in GOI (Public) 20 October 1862, 27A.
4 Report on the Lunatic Asylums in Bengal by the Committee appointed to inquire into medical expenditure in Bengal.
8 Officer Southern District to Officer Northern District 21 January 1879 in GOI (Port Blair) May 1879, 42–3B: the ‘asylum’ at Haddo was in fact no such thing as understood by the standards of the day. Correspondence in 1876 (Home [Port Blair] November 1876, 4–7A) established that there was simply a separate shed at Haddo in which all the convicts ‘who will submit to no discipline’ were sent to separate them out from the other prisoners.
15 Ibid., p. 216.
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GOI Home (Medical) Proceedings.
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