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RELIEF AND STRUCTURE OF SANTHAL PARGANA

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ABSTRACT

Relief and Structure

Santhal Parganas is mainly a dissected uplands of ancient crystallive rocks which are covered with thick flows of volcanic lava in the east: The latter froms the Rajmahal Hills. In between these two main geological formation is a narrow strip of lower Gendwana rocks which fringe the lawa formation along its western margin.

The geological structure of Santhal Parganas displays two district aspects, one related to denudation of the precanbrian floor and the other being the a gradational plain around the old uplifted erosional surfaces specially laid down after the truncation of the chhotanagpur highlands and the formation of the Rajmahal-Maldah Gap.

The Rajmahal Hills from a series of flat-topped plateau and ridges which rise abruptly from the palin with esearpments 1000 ft. to 2000 ft. high and run south from near Sakrigali Railway Station for about 100 miles Southwards along the border of the Birbhum district of west Bengal. The massive formation of hard rocks is responsible for forcing the Ganga to flow farther east, before finally taking the southerly course to the sea, round the north eastern adge of the lawa plateau,.

Along its northern margain the Lavas extend for about 30 Km. to Pirpaiti railway station. Along but narrow strip of alluvial plain extends all round the edge of the plateau hemmed in between the river Ganga and the Rajmahal Hills.

KEYWORDS: *Relief and Structure*