

HILL STATION IN THE KHIRTHAR RANGE OF SINDH

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Since 1860, the British were trying to have a hill resort at Dharhiaro (Taluka Kamber), just 5 miles north of the present Dadu-Larkana District border. The senior British officers who visited Dharhiaro with this specific propose were:

- Dr. Lalor and Captain MacDonald 1860
- Sir, Mereweather, commissioner in Sindh 1872
- Mr. Lucus, Commissioner in Sindh 1916

The last wrote even a minute; “In this age, when civil aviation is being introduced, it would be easy to reach this site”.

The table below gives comparative data on Dharhiaro and Gorakh

Sr. No.	Information	Gorakh	Dharhiaro
1.	Height of plateau	4,300 ft.	5,700 to 6,500 ft.
2.	Type of soil	Stoney gravel and sandy.	Alluvial and light sandy
3.	Area available for settlements & landscaping	430 Acres	5850 Acres in Sindh 650 Acres in Balouchistan
4.	Ground water	No possibility	Same possibility, but needs drilling to verify.
5.	Nearest source of surface water	Gaj gorge about 20 miles north	Rain runoff water can be collected over the plateaus and stored for use, but quantum is not estimated.
6.	Quality of nearest source of water	Contains salts most of the year, except in rainy season.	Free of salts.
7.	Height through which water needs to be pumped.	About 4000 ft. and 15-20 miles away.	A few hundred feet at the maximum and within 3 miles distance from remotest place.
8.	Reliability of water.	Source of water i.e. the Gaj gorge, some time can dry up for 2 months of May to July. Quantity of water too is limited, except in rainy	Stored water can get exhausted but ground water if located can be reliable.

		season.	
9.	Approach road to the site.	Road can get the blocked and washed away. During the rainy season it would be difficult to reach right bank of the Gaj. Bridge on the Gaj gorge will be costly and road running on the left bank will make a long detour	No such problem will occur, as the Mazarani and the Sita Nais are very small and can be crossed by ordinary cause ways any time even in rainy season.
10.	Danger of floods	Once in 20 years the Gaj discharges enormous quantities of water, to flood the whole Johi, and parts of Dadu, Sehwan and Khairpur Nathan Shah Talukas. This happened in 1956 and 1977. It would cut off the hill resort.	There is no such fear at Dharhiaro or en-route.
11.	Official peak height	5700 ft., but this is the height of peak, which is un-approachable and plateau is only 4300 ft. high i.e. as much as Quetta.	6500 ft, but plateau slop remains between 6500 and 5700 ft. Kute-ji-Qabar 2 miles away is 6800 ft. It is slightly less than Murree and Ziarat.

Gorakh got its name projected, as it was considered abode of a Buddhist reformer Gorakh Nath and is reverend by Sufis and Bhagats, Modern Sindhis got name form a poem of shah Latif.

Dharhiaro was spotted by the quarter Master General (Predecessor of Survey of India) and the British knew it's potential.

The project has not started as yet but is under investigation. Dharhiaro has not been considered as alternate site. Ranking study for different sites needs to be done.

I only wanted to apprise you of the facts, as I had visited both sites years ago.

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