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## Voicing the Indus Delta in Colonial History

### Abstract

This project aims to understand British colonial government policies regarding the Indus Delta in the India Office Records at the British Library. The Indus Delta has been an important region of trade and sea transportation in the region and trans-regionally. However, with the advent of a modern irrigation system by the British colonial government, the Indus Delta region has receded and its ecological and social landscape has slowly and gradually changed. In connection to the above, this project will investigate how policies initiated by the British colonial government to develop a modern irrigation system and capitalist economy in Sindh became the basis for the degradation of the Indus Delta. To understand this history, I will conduct research on the India Office Records at the British Library to locate the Indus Delta in the history of irrigation in Sindh and the development of Karachi as an important seaport of the region, and to understand conceptually how such policies over time became standard rules of water management of the Indus River in colonial and post-colonial times.