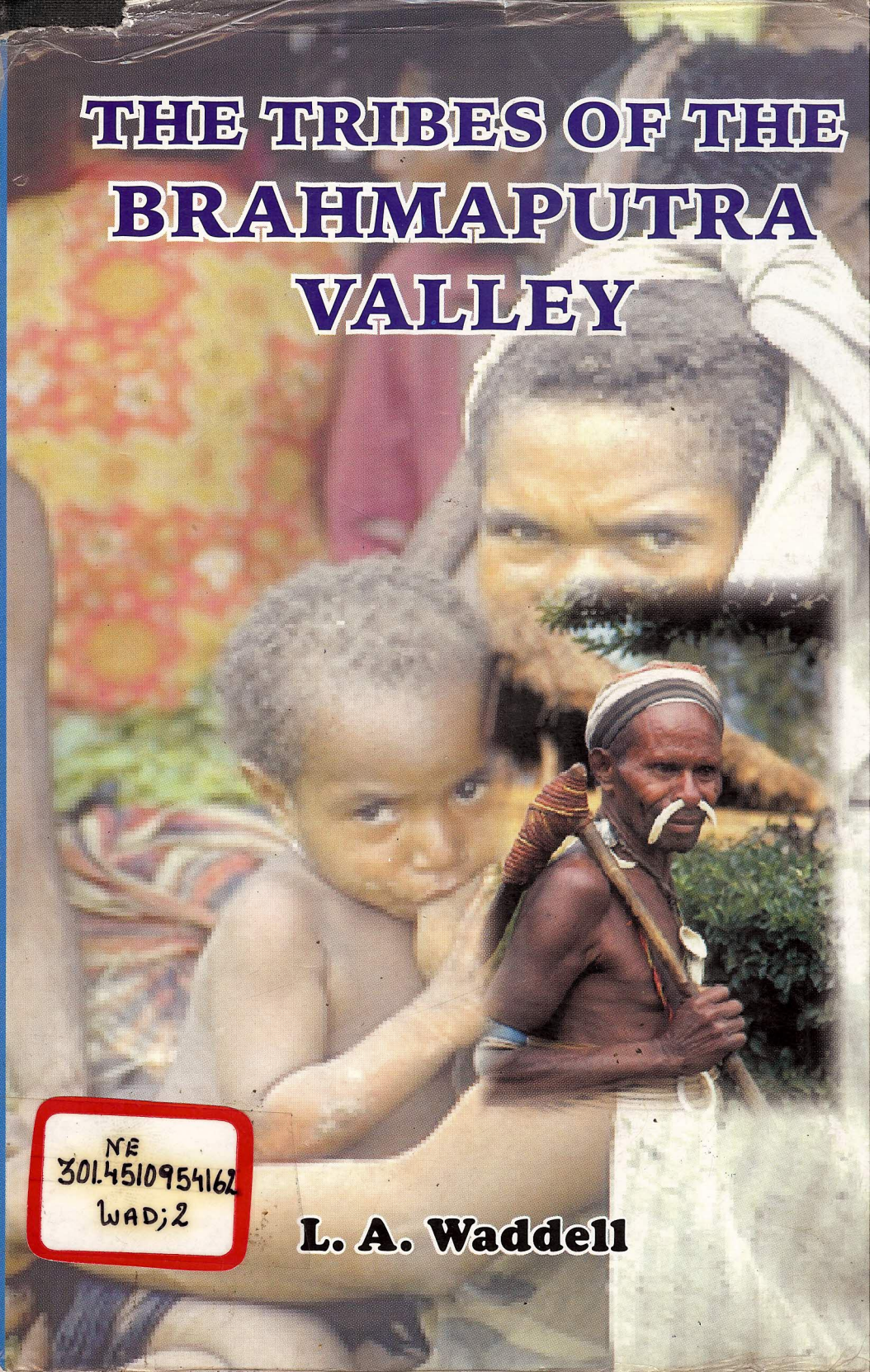


THE TRIBES OF THE BRAHMAPUTRA VALLEY



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L. A. Waddell

Few of the wilder parts of the world preserve such a wide variety of savage tribes of such great ethnological interest as the mountainous valley of the mighty Brahmaputra in its course from Lower Tibet to the Bay of Bengal.

The observations published here relate to about six hundred individuals belonging to over thirty different tribes and tribelets, and of each individual the author made twenty to thirty or more measurements or other physical record. They afford, for the first time, exact details of the physical types of most of the tribes of Assam and the Brahmaputra Valley and also for the first time a systematic record of the colour of the skin and eyes all of which data are comparable, in that they have all been collected with scrupulous care by the same observer.

The physical types are freely illustrated by photographs taken mostly by the author himself.

The text of the book was originally published in the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal* in 1900. This edition as a separate book will go a long way in focusing attention on this vital subject when a number of new studies are now being made on the area covered.

Waddell, Lawrence Augustine (Later **Austine**) (1854-1938), Medical Officer in the Indian Government Service, traveller, and orientalist, was born at Cumbernauld, Dumbartonshire, on May 29, 1854, the son of Thomas Clement Waddell, D.D., schoolmaster and author, by his wife, Jean, youngest daughter of John Chapman, of Banton, Stirlingshire.

For ten years from 1885 he was Assistant Sanitary Commissioner and from 1888 to 1895 he was Medical Officer for the Darjeeling District. From 1896 for six years he was Professor of Chemistry and Pathology in the Calcutta Medical College, and for four years editor of the *Indian Medical Gazette*.

Interest in Buddhism, first perhaps kindled by the time in Burma, led to Waddell's explorations of sites in the founder's country, in particular of the ancient capital, Pātaliputra, the Palibothra of the Greeks, and the identification of Buddha's birthplace, on the Nepal border: also in the course of his military services on the North-Western Frontier he acquired material for papers on the early 'Indo-Grecian' Buddhist art of Gandhara.

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*A Contribution on their
Physical Types and Affinities*

By

L.A. WADDELL



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THE AUTHOR

Waddell, Lawrence Augustine (Later Austine) (1854—1938), Medical Officer in the Indian Government Service, traveller, and orientalist, was born at Cumbernauld, Dumbartonshire, on May 29, 1854, the son of Thomas Clement Waddell, D.D., schoolmaster and author, by his wife, Jean, youngest daughter of John Chapman, of Banton, Stirlingshire. From a private school he entered the university of Glasgow, where in 1878 he graduated (M.B., M.Ch.) with the highest honours. After being resident surgeon in the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, he entered the Indian Medical Service in 1880. For ten years from 1885 he was Assistant Sanitary Commissioner and from 1888 to 1895 he was Medical Officer for the Darjeeling District. From 1896 for six years he was Professor of Chemistry and Pathology in the Calcutta Medical College, and for four years editor of the *Indian Medical Gazette*. Accompanying military operations in Burma (1886-1887), Chitral (1895), Peking (1900), and the Mahsud blockade (1901-1902), he won military decorations on each occasion. In 1903 he served with the Malakand expeditionary force. His scientific publications include a memoir 'Are Venomous Snakes Autotoxic?' (*Scientific Memoirs by Medical Officers of the Army of India*, 1889), and an article on the 'Birds of Sikkim' (*Sikkim Gazette*, 1893).

Interest in Buddhism, first perhaps kindled by the time in Burma, led to Waddell's explorations of sites in the founder's country, in particular of the ancient capital, Pātaliputra, the Palibothra of the Greeks, and the identification of Buddha's birthplace, on the Nepal border: also in the course of his military services on the North-Western Frontier he acquired material for papers on the early 'Indo-Grecian' Buddhist art of Gandhāra.

Visits to Darjeeling from 1884 and Waddell's subsequent official connexion with the district, besides leading up to a charming descriptive work, *Among the Himalayas* (1899), drew him to the study of Tibet and Tibetan Buddhism, concerning which he contributed numerous papers to orientalist journals and published a highly substantial and valuable treatise, entitled *The Buddhism of Tibet or Lamaism* (1894, 2nd ed., 1934). As Chief Medical Officer accompanying the Tibetan expedition of 1904, and with a special commission, he superintended the official collections of literature and art, which were later distributed, together with one private collection of his own, to libraries in Calcutta, London, Oxford, and Cambridge. He published in 1905 *Lhasa and its Mysteries*. On his return to England he was, from 1906 to 1908, Professor of Tibetan at University College, London. His retirement to Scotland was marked, until about 1915, by contributions to European journals and encyclopaedias, continuing his studies of Buddhism and Tibet.

In 1917 Waddell began to display interest in a new field, that of ancient relations of India to the Mesopotamian world. This led to large volumes such as *Indo-Sumerian Seals Deciphered* (1925) and a theory of an 'Aryan' origin of the Sumerian and Egyptian civilizations, and, more generally, of the 'Aryans' as *The Makers of Civilization in Race and History* (1929) and the ultimate source of *The British Edda Reconstructed from Mediaeval MSS* (1930).

Waddell received in 1895 the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Glasgow. He was appointed C.I.E. (1901) and C.B. (1904). He married in 1895 Amy Louise-Reeves, and had a son, who was killed in the war of 1914-1918, and a daughter. He died at Craigmore, Rothesay, on September 19, 1938.

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