

On return of the commission to Calcutta their advice was soon acted on and the late general (then captain) H. Man was sent to Port Blair to formally re-annex the Andamans. In 1858, Dr. J.P.Walker, Jail Superintendent arrived at Port Blair with four European officers and 773 convicts. They cleared Chatham, Ross Island, Haddo and Atlanta Point. They fixed the head quarter at Ross Island. The convict settlements grew up at South Point, Atlanta Point, Haddo, Junglighat, Hopetown, Etc.

All these activities, of course were towards the well-planned British establishment, which the native people (Great Andamanese) did not like at any degree. Their true love for the motherland and simple tribal minds enforced them to come in attack against the Britishers with their simple bows and arrows. There had been several skirmishes taken place between the aborigines and the Britishers, in most of which the aborigines had to drop the much blood and tears. But their unforgettable valour and gallantry were recognised by the Britishers too.

When the second penal settlement was established on Ross Island in 1858, the adjoining area was thickly populated by the Aka- bea tribes. The Jarawas were not directly affected by the establishment of penal settlements at the initial stage. There were frequent incidents of fighting between the Andamanese and the population of the settlement area. The most horrible and memorable fight was the Battle of Aberdeen. But before the Battle of Aberdeen there were previously two major attacks made by the Great Andamanese.

The first battle by 200 Great Andamanese was organised on 6th April 1859 in which four convict workers were killed (Portman, 1899 (1):276). The second attack was made on 14th April 1859, in which -1500 Great Andamanese attacked the penal settlement killing 3 convicts and took away 12 convicts with fetters on as "Prisoners of war", about whom nothing is known thereafter ((Portman, 1899 (1): 277-8). The third attack, which was notoriously known as "Battle of Aberdeen", was organised on 17th May 1859. let us know actually what happened in the "Battle of Aberdeen". On April 23rd, 1858 two convicts namely Shri Doodhnath Tiwari and Shri Sadloo with 90 other convicts escaped from the British imprisonment. The remaining convicts except Shri Doodhnath Tiwari and Shri Sadloo were killed by the aborigines. As act of mercy, the tribals not only left Shri Doodhnath Tiwari but allowed him to stay with them. Shri Doodhnath Tiwari lived with them for a year and 24 days. During May, 1859 Shri Doodhnath Tiwari came to know about a communal plan of a great attack on the British camps made by the Great Andamanese. Quietly slipping away from the encampment of the aborigines in the night with Shri Sadloo (who was staying with other group of Great Andamanese and came in contact with Tiwari group) Shri Doodhnath Tiwari reached Port Blair and informed the then Superintendent of the convict settlement about the intention of the aborigines. As result in the fight the non-autochthons were armed with modern weapons and had a firmed protection. None of the Britishers was wounded seriously while several attacking Great Andamanese were shot down and seriously wounded. But the valour and act of patriotism to save the motherland shown by the Great Andamanese were no doubt worthy of none but a salutary respect, that they deserve to receive from the free India Govt. and its people.