

A Science Service Feature

Released upon receipt
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July 26, 1933

? WHY THE WEATHER ? Mailed July 19, 1933

A TORNADO IN INDIA

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As a good many North Americans suppose that their continent enjoys -- if that is the word -- a monopoly of tornadoes, attention is called to a remarkably fine picture of one of these storms taken on April 5 of this year at Peshawar, in northwestern India, and published in the Meteorological Magazine (London) for June. Except for showing some oriental-looking buildings, the photograph might have been taken in Kansas or Nebraska. There is the typical funnel cloud dangling from an angry sky and enlarged as usual, at the base, where doubtless a good deal of dust and débris was whipped up. The cloudy column is inclined at a considerable angle to the vertical.

The tornado occurred in the early afternoon and was preceded by a light hailstorm. The funnel was first seen protruding down from a dense mass of towering thunderclouds. It soon reached to the ground as a curved twisting column of vapor, then became distorted and attenuated, and finally disappeared. Its diameter was estimated at about 30 yards and the length of its path was about 5 miles. Some damage was done to crops, trees and buildings but the path was mainly over open country where there was nothing to be injured.

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