

HISTORY AND CIVICS

STANDARD SEVEN



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HISTORY AND CIVICS

STANDARD SEVEN



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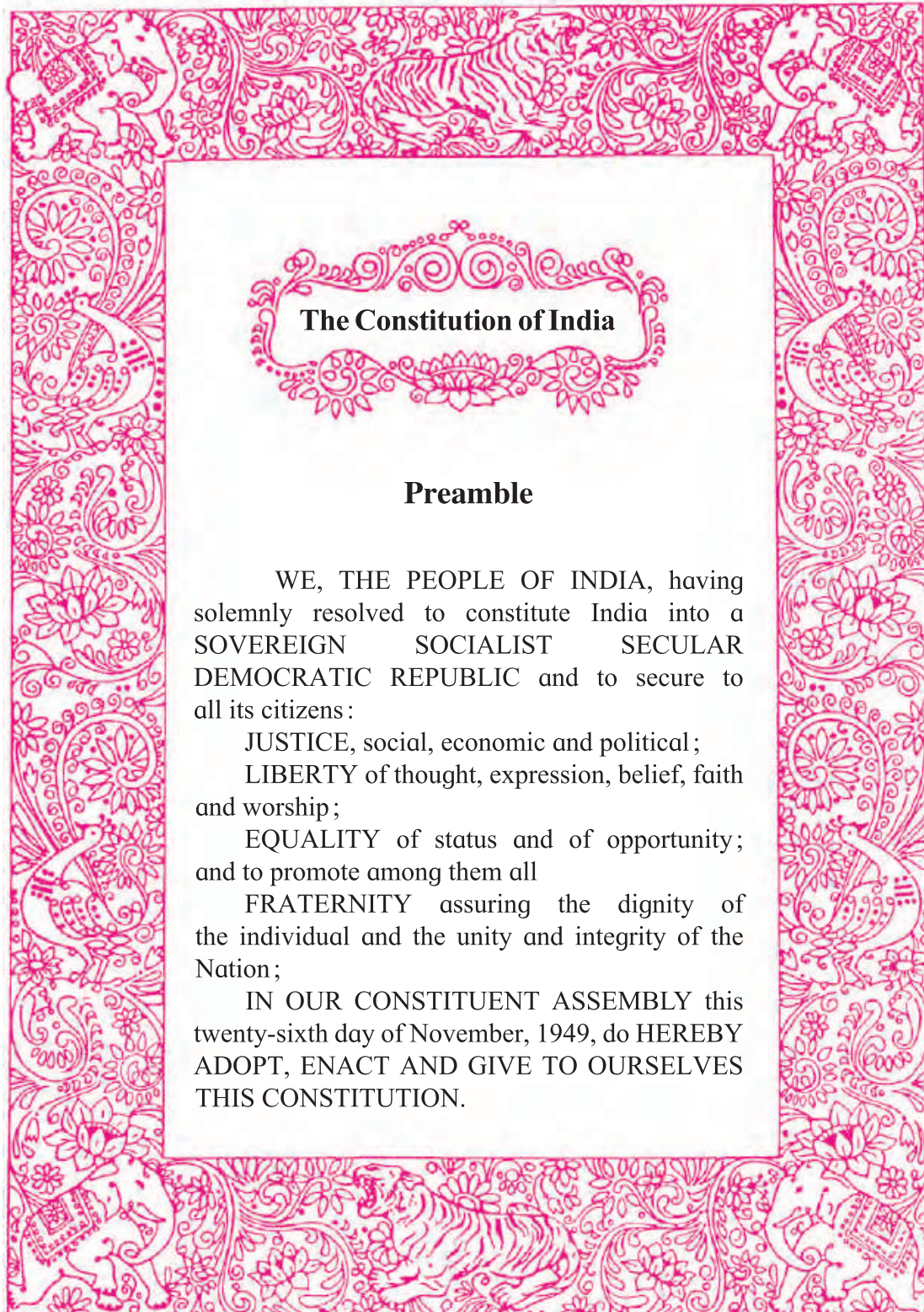
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NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jana-gana-mana-adhināyaka jaya hē
Bhārata-bhāgya-vidhātā,

Panjāba-Sindhu-Gujarāta-Marāthā
Drāvida-Utkala-Banga

Vindhya-Himāchala-Yamunā-Gangā
uchchala-jaladhi-taranga

Tava subha nāmē jāgē, tava subha āsisa māgē,
gāhē tava jaya-gāthā,

Jana-gana-mangala-dāyaka jaya hē
Bhārata-bhāgya-vidhātā,

Jaya hē, Jaya hē, Jaya hē,
Jaya jaya jaya, jaya hē.

PLEDGE

India is my country. All Indians
are my brothers and sisters.

I love my country, and I am proud
of its rich and varied heritage. I shall
always strive to be worthy of it.

I shall give my parents, teachers
and all elders respect, and treat
everyone with courtesy.

To my country and my people,
I pledge my devotion. In their
well-being and prosperity alone lies
my happiness.

Preface

Dear Students,

You have studied History and Civics in Environmental Studies Part I and II from Std III to Std V. The subjects History and Civics are taught separately Std VI onwards. Both the subjects are included in a single textbook. We are happy to place this textbook of Std VII in your hands.

This book is designed in such a way that you will understand the subject clearly, find it interesting and you will get motivated by the work done by our ancestors. We want you to gather knowledge as well as joy when you study it. For that, we have provided coloured pictures and maps in this textbook. Please study each chapter in this textbook carefully. If you do not understand any part, ask your teachers and parents to explain it. The additional information given in the boxes will add to your knowledge. If you consider that history is an interesting subject and is our friend, you will definitely like this subject.

In the History section, we have explained the 'History of Medieval India'. The textbook has been designed by focusing upon the place and role of Maharashtra in the making of Medieval India. When you study this textbook, we expect that you will develop an awareness of being a citizen of India, and also a sense of duty.

In the Civics part, we have introduced the Constitution of India. The background for creating a new Constitution, the Preamble to the Constitution, the Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles in the Constitution are covered in this part. It explains in simple language, that the government system in our country is run as per the Constitution, laws and rules. We have provided many projects so that your learning becomes more activity-oriented. You will enter the next standard with the feeling that you are the future citizens of the country and will build the future of our country.

When we study History, we come to know about the achievements of our ancestors. When it is coupled with the study of Civics, we understand our duties towards building a nation and a society. That is why the two subjects are studied together.



(Dr. Sunil Magar)
Director

Pune

Date : 28 March 2017

Maharashtra State Bureau of Textbook
Production and Curriculum Research, Pune.

- For Teachers -

We have already taught the History and Civics textbook for Std VI. In this textbook for Std VII the History of Medieval India is presented.

The special feature of this presentation is that it focuses on Maharashtra. Even though our State is part of the Republic of India, if we study history from the perspective of Maharashtra, we will understand the position, role and contribution of Maharashtra in the History of India, and the students will develop a more mature national feeling. They will understand what our ancestors have done for the nation and it will enhance their awareness of their own responsibilities and duties towards the nation.





In this respect, the foundation of *Swaraj* by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in the seventeenth century is very important. To understand the foundation of *Swaraj*, the situation in India and Maharashtra before the rise of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj should be understood first, so that one gets a perspective on the history of India. That has been our policy while designing this book. We have discussed how, after the demise of Shivaji Maharaj, Maharashtra faced the attacks on his *Swaraj* and protected it. After they had repulsed the attacks, the Marathas expanded the boundaries of Maharashtra and occupied most of India. The next part covers the expansion of *Swaraj* into an empire. We all know that the British conquered India and ruled here but it is important to understand how Maharashtra was in the forefront in stopping the British. The British had to compete with the Marathas and they had to conquer India by battling with the Marathas. This evokes a sense of our strength and duty. It is expected that teaching-learning should awaken this feeling in the students' minds. This view-point is expressed pictorially on the cover showing the expansion of the Maratha power with the help of a broad outline map of India.

In the Civics part, we have introduced the Constitution of India. As it is not possible to teach this subject in one year, it is distributed across two standards. In this standard, the emphasis is on the need for a Constitution, the values enshrined in the Constitution, the Preamble, Fundamental Rights and Duties and the Directive Principles. The administrative machinery and the political procedures laid down in the Constitution will be taken up in Std VIII. In this sense, the Civics portion in the two standards is complimentary. It is arranged in such a way that the students will be able to understand it easily. The contents have been arranged in an innovative way. It is based on constructivism, but going even beyond, priority is given to making the students (responsible) members of the society by removing the apathy towards the political system. The content has been presented in very simple language. It will increase the readability of the book.

While teaching this textbook, teachers should use newspapers, news on television, the analysis by scholars and should help create a comprehensive vision amongst students. If one studies and teaches History and Civics with reference to current affairs, it becomes more meaningful and helps in inculcating values in students.

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History of Medieval India

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S.O.I. Note : The following foot notes are applicable : (1) © Government of India, Copyright : 2017. (2) The responsibility for the correctness of internal details rests with the publisher. (3) The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line. (4) The administrative headquarters of Chandigarh, Haryana and Punjab are at Chandigarh. (5) The interstate boundaries amongst Arunachal Pradesh, Assam and Meghalaya shown on this map are as interpreted from the “North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act. 1971,” but have yet to be verified. (6) The external boundaries and coastlines of India agree with the Record/Master Copy certified by Survey of India. (7) The state boundaries between Uttarakhand & Uttar Pradesh, Bihar & Jharkhand and Chattisgarh & Madhya Pradesh have not been verified by the Governments concerned. (8) The spellings of names in this map, have been taken from various sources.

Competency Statements

Serial No.	Chapter	Competency
1.	Sources of History	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the sources of Medieval History of India. - Classify the sources of history. - Tell the importance of the sources in writing history. - Make attempts to preserve the sources of history.
2.	India before the times of Shivaji Maharaj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tell the impact of different rulers on the social life of Maharashtra in the period before Shivaji Maharaj. - Analyse the effects of the events in the Mughal period on Maharashtra.
3.	Maharashtra before the times of Shivaji Maharaj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elucidate social life during the period before Shivaji Maharaj. - Explain the different historical events in the Adilshahi and Nizamshahi period. - Analyse the social, political and economic conditions in the period before Shivaji Maharaj.
4.	The Foundation of the <i>Swaraj</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify the similarity between the teachings of Sants. - Analyse the situation that led to the foundation of the <i>Swaraj</i>. - Visit forts/historical monuments and collect information. - Get information about forts with the help of the internet. - Make efforts for conserving the historical heritage. - Recognise the importance of the historical win at Javali. - Become aware that the associates of Shivaji Maharaj were ready to offer their lives for him.
5.	Conflict with the Mughals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study the war tactics of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. - Study the conflict between the Marathas and the Mughals critically. - Analyse and describe the decision making ability and courage of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in times of difficulty.
6.	Coronation of Shivaji Maharaj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give reasons behind the coronation of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. - Explain the expansion of <i>Swaraj</i> after the campaign of the South, with the help of a map.
7.	An ideal Ruler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain the administrative system of the welfare State of <i>Swaraj</i> - Explain the administration and military system of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. - Know the greatness of Shivaji Maharaj in comparison with other contemporary rulers. - Take inspiration from the biography of Shivaji Maharaj - Make proportionate models of forts.
8.	War of Independence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain the changing policies of the Maratha rule after the death of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj. - Become aware of the fact that the Marathas preserved their power in very unfavourable conditions. - Analyse why Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj transferred the capital to Jinji. - Analyse and review the work done by Maharani Tarabai.
9.	The Peshwa Rule and the Expansion of the Maratha Power	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explain with the help of the historical events at that time, that the Maratha power became a dominant power at the all India level. - Analyse the reasons behind the battle of Panipat. - Know about the work done by the Peshwas. - Tell the importance of the work done by the Maratha <i>Sardars</i>.



1. Sources of History

We studied ancient Indian history last year. This year, we are going to study the medieval period of Indian history. Broadly, the period from the ninth century CE till the end of the eighteenth century CE is considered to be the medieval period of Indian history. In this lesson, we are going to study the sources of medieval history.

History gives us a chronological, scientific and systematic account of past events.

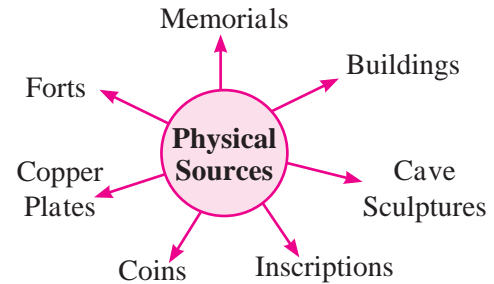
Four factors are very important from the viewpoint of history. They are – Individuals, Society, Place and Time. History must be based on authentic evidence or proofs. These proofs are known as the sources of history.

Let us classify these sources into material sources, written sources and oral sources to learn more about them. Let us also evaluate the sources of history.

We have to consider many factors related to the historical event that we want to study. It is necessary to support our study with historical sources. These sources have to be verified. We have to see whether they are authentic. It is necessary to use these sources judiciously and only after a critical analysis.

Forts have an important place among material sources. Some major types of forts are hill forts, forest forts, sea forts and forts on the plains. Monuments include *samadhis*, graves, *veergala* and buildings include palaces, ministerial mansions, Queen's quarters (*raniwasa*) and also houses of common people. They

Material Sources



all provide insights about that period. Looking at them, we come to know about the development of architecture, the economic conditions, the quality of art, style of the building construction and people's standard of living in that particular period.



Can you tell?

How do coins narrate history?



Let's learn.

Since ancient times, coins like *kavadi*, *damadi*, *dhela*, *pai*, *paisa*, *ana* and *rupee* were used. Some local idioms or proverbs are based on coins. For example;

* 'एक फुटकी कवडी देणार नाही.' Here *phutaki kavadi* means 'the lowest bit of money'.

* सोलह आना सच! means 'Hundred percent true!'

The coins made by different rulers using metals like gold, silver, copper are important sources of history. From these coins we learn about the rulers, their period, governance, religious ideas,



Veergala

personal details, etc. Similarly, we also learn about the financial transactions and economic conditions prevailing at that time. We also see how far metallurgy had advanced in that period. From the images of Ram-Sita on the coins of Emperor Akbar or Shiva Parvati on the coins of Hyder Ali we see the religious co-ordination of those days. The Peshwas used the Arabic or Persian language on their coins. This throws light on the use of language in that period.

An inscription is a carving on a stone, or a wall etc. For example, the inscriptions found in the Brihadishwara temple premises in Tanjavur. Many inscriptions of the period of Chalukya,



A coin of the Peshwa period



A coin of Hyder Ali

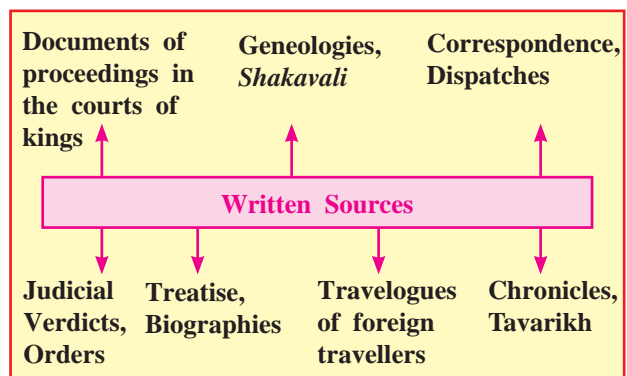
Rashtrakuta, Chola and Yadav kings have been found. An inscription is considered to be a very important and reliable source of history. It helps us to understand features like the language, script, social life of a period. Inscriptions carved on sheets of copper are known as 'copper plates'. Royal edicts, verdicts, etc. are inscribed on copper plates.



Do you know ?

Chaityas, Viharas, temples, churches, mosques, agiaries, durgahs, mukbaras, gurudwaras, monuments, sculptures, wells, minarets, village boundaries and gates, weapons, utensils, ornaments, clothes, decorative articles, toys, implements, musical instruments are all material sources of history.

Written Sources : We learn about significant historical events in the medieval period from sources like the writing styles of scripts like, Devanagari, Arabic, Persian, Modi etc. as also from the varieties of different languages, bhurjapatras, religious manuscripts, treatises, edicts, decrees, biographies, paintings, etc. We can gather information about the food items, attire, conventions and rules of conduct of the people, festivals and about people's life etc. from these sources. Sources of this type are called 'written sources' of history.



During this period, travellers from other countries came to India. They have written travelogues or accounts of their travels. Some of them are Al Biruni, Ibn Batuta, Niccolao Manucci. Babur's biography, 'Shrishivbharat' or the Sanskrit biography of Shivaji Maharaj composed by the poet Paramanand as well as various other biographies of different rulers and their correspondence help us to understand the policies and administrative systems of the rulers and their diplomatic relations with others.

Tavarikh or Tarikh means the sequence of events. Tavarikhs written by Al Biruni, Ziauddin Barani, Maulana Ahmed, Yahya Bin Ahmed, Mirza Hyder, Bhimsen Saxena, etc. are available.

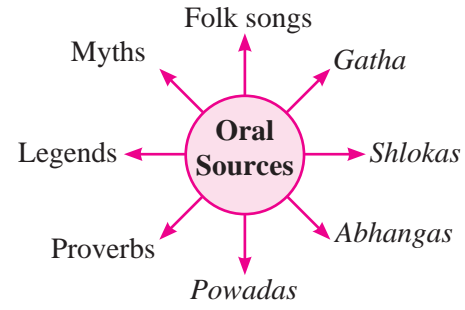
Bakhar is a type of chronicle that originated in Maharashtra. Chronicles help in understanding aspects like the contemporary political happenings, linguistic transactions, cultural life, social conditions, etc. Many of the chronicles in Marathi were written many years after the events had occurred. As a result, they are seen to rely on hearsays. Some of these chronicles are Mahikavatichi Bakhar, Sabhasad Bakhar, Chitnisachi Bakhar, Bhausahabachi Bakhar, etc. The works of contemporary western historians like Robert Arm, M.C.Sprengel and Grant Duff are also important.



Do this.

- Make a collection of *powadas*, tribal songs.
- Present them in the cultural programmes arranged in your school.

Oral sources : We understand various aspects of folk life through folk literature traditionally passed on from generation to



generation. Some examples are – *owis*, folk songs, *powadas*, folk tales, legends, and myths. Such type of sources are called 'oral sources' of history.

History is written with the help of the three types of sources mentioned above. Even after it has been written down, research on it goes on continuously. New sources and information come to light through this research. Then history has to be rewritten accordingly. We can see that our history books and those of our parents and grandparents, differ to a certain extent.



Do you know ?

The Powada of Tanaji : Given below is an extract from a *powada* composed by Tulashidas Shahir. He portrays the Kondhna campaign in it. The *powada* contains beautiful character sketches of Tanaji, Shelarmama, Shivaji Maharaj, Veermata Jijabai, etc.

मामा बोलाया तो लागला । ऐंशी वर्षीचा म्हातारा ॥
 “ लगिन राहिले रायबाचे तो मजला सांगावी ॥
 माझ्या तानाजी सुभेदारा । जे गेले सिंहगडाला ॥
 त्याचे पाठिरे पाहिले । नाही पुढारे पाहिले ॥
 ज्याने आंबारे खाईला । बाठा बुजरा लाविला ॥
 त्याचे झाड होउनि आंबे बांधले ।
 किल्ला हाती नाही आला ॥
 सिंहगड किल्ल्याची वार्ता ।
 काढू नको तानाजी सुभेदारा ॥
 जे गेले सिंहगडाला । ते मरूनशानी गेले ॥
 तुमचा सपाटा होईल । असे बोलू नको रे मामा ॥
 आम्ही सूरमर्द क्षत्री । नाही भिणार मरणाला ॥”



Say your say!

Suggest measures for preserving sources of history.

Evaluating the sources of history :

It is necessary to take certain precautions before using these sources of history. We have to examine their authenticity and see which are genuine and which are fake. Their quality can be determined with the help of internal standards. We also have to study the integrity of the writers, their personal interests, the period

in which they live and the political pressures on them. It is also important to see whether they rely on hearsay or give an eyewitness account. We need to consider the exaggerations, metaphors and other literary devices they use. Their information has to be verified with the help of other contemporary sources. The information may be one sided, contradictory or exaggerated. It has to be seen in a proper perspective. The sources have to be subjected to a critical analysis. The author's impartiality and neutrality are very important in writing history.



Exercise

1. Complete the names of the following sources of history.

l _ _ _ _ d
t _ _ _ _ h
b _ _ _ _ r
p _ _ _ _ a
i _ _ _ _ i _ _ i _ n
m _ _ u _ _ _ t

2. Let's write.

- (1) What do monuments include?
- (2) What is a Tarikh?
- (3) What qualities of the author are important in the writing of history?

3. Find the odd man out.

- (1) Material sources, written sources, unwritten sources, oral sources.
- (2) Monuments, coins, cave sculptures, stories

(3) *Bhurjapatras*, temples, treatises, paintings.

(4) Owis, tarikhs, folk tales, myths

4. Explain the following concepts.

- (1) Material sources
- (2) Written sources
- (3) Oral sources

5. Is it necessary to evaluate sources of history? Give your opinion.

6. Write why in your words.

- (1) A stone inscription is considered to be an authentic source of history.
- (2) Oral sources reveal various aspects of people's lives.

Activity

Visit any museum that is nearby. Gather information about the sources of history from the period that you are studying and record it in your activity book.





2. India before the Times of Shivaji Maharaj

We shall learn about the various ruling powers in India before the times of Shivaji Maharaj in this lesson. Various ruling powers existed in India during that period.

‘Pal’ in the eighth century was a famous dynasty in Bengal. In Central India, the Gurjar-Pratihara power spread up to Andhra, Kalinga, Vidarbha, West Kathewad, Kanauj and Gujarat.

Among the Rajput dynasties in North India, the Gahadwal and the Parmar dynasties were the important ones. Among Rajputs, Prithviraj Chauhan belonging to the Chauhan dynasty was a valiant King. In the first war at Tarai, Prithviraj Chauhan had defeated Muhammad Ghuri. But Muhammad Ghuri defeated Prithviraj Chauhan in the second war at Tarai.

Rajaraj I and Rajendra I belonging to the Chola dynasty in Tamil Nadu were eminent rulers. The Cholas conquered the Maldives and Sri Lanka using their naval strength. King Vishnuvardhan belonging to the Hoysala dynasty in Karnataka had conquered the whole of Karnataka.

During the reign of Govind III of the Rashtrakuta dynasty in Maharashtra, the Rashtrakuta power spread from Kanauj up to Rameshwara. Later, Krishna III conquered the region up to Allahabad.

Three dynasties of the Shilahars emerged in Western Maharashtra. One dynasty ruled over Thane and Raigad in North Konkan, the second in South Konkan, while the third dynasty ruled over some parts of the present day Kolhapur, Satara, Sangli and Belgaum districts.

The last prosperous power before the period of Shivaji Maharaj was that of the Yadavas. The capital of Bhallama V of the Yadava dynasty was at Deogiri near Aurangabad. He extended his rule beyond the river Krishna.

The Yadava period is considered to be the golden period of Marathi language and literature. It was in this period that the Mahanubhava *Panth* and the Varkari movement emerged.

Invasions from the North-West

Local dynasties like the Yadava and Rashtrakuta ruled in Maharashtra. But invaders from the north-west conquered the local dynasties there and established their own rule.

In the meanwhile, the Arab power had emerged in the Middle-east. Arab rulers turned towards India to expand their empire. The Arab General Muhammad-bin-Qasim, attacked the Sindh province in the eighth century. Notwithstanding the resistance of King Dahir, he conquered the province of Sindh. Due to this campaign, the Arabs came into political contact with India for the first time. In the period that followed, Turks, Afghans and Mughals from Central Asia came to India and established their power here.

In the eleventh century CE the Turks began to invade India. Expanding their territories they reached the north western frontier of India. Sultan Mahmud of Ghazni invaded India many times. He plundered the rich temples at Mathura, Vrindavan, Kanauj and Somnath and carried away enormous wealth with him.

Sultanate in the North

In 1175 CE and 1178 CE, Sultan Muhammad Ghuri of Ghur from Afghanistan invaded India. He appointed Qutubuddin Aibak to look after the governance of the conquered territories in India. Later, after the death of Muhammad Ghuri in 1206 CE, Aibak began to rule the Indian territories under his rule, independently. Aibak, who was initially a slave, became the ruler of Delhi. He died in 1210 CE.



Do you know?

After Qutubuddin Aibak, Iltutmish, Razia, Bulban, Alauddin Khalji, Muhammad-bin-Tughluque, Firuz Tughluque, Ibrahim Lodi and other Sultans ruled over India.

Ibrahim Lodi was the last Sultan. He made many enemies because of his peculiar temperament. Daulatkhan Lodi, Governor of Punjab, invited Babur, the ruler of Kabul to fight against Ibrahim Lodi. Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the battle and thus the Sultanate came to an end.

The Kingdom of Vijaynagar

During the reign of Sultan Muhammad-bin-Tughluque of Delhi, there were many revolts in the South against the central power of Delhi. From these revolts arose the formidable Vijaynagar and Bahamani kingdoms.

The brothers Harihar and Bukka, from South India were *Sardars* in the service of the Delhi Sultanate. Taking advantage of the instability in the South during the reign of Muhammad-bin-Tughluque, they founded the kingdom of Vijaynagar in the South in 1336 CE. Hampi in today's Karnataka was the capital of this kingdom. Harihar was the first king of Vijaynagar.

Harihar was succeeded by his brother Bukka. Bukka brought the region up to Rameshwar under his control.

Krishnadevaraya : Krishnadevaraya ascended the throne of Vijaynagar in



1509 CE. He conquered Vijaywada and Rajmahendri and annexed the regions to his kingdom. He defeated the combined forces of the armies of the Sultans who had united under the leadership of the

Krishnadevaraya Bahamani Sultan Mahmud Shah. During Krishnadevaraya's reign, the kingdom of Vijaynagar extended from Cuttak in the east up to Goa in the west and from the Raichur Doab in the north up to the Indian Ocean in the south. He died in 1530 CE.

Krishnadevaraya was a scholar. He wrote 'Amuktamalyada', a Telugu compendium on polity. The Hazar Ram temple and Vitthal temple were built in Vijaynagar during his reign.

The decline of the Vijaynagar kingdom began with the death of Krishnadevaraya. In 1565 CE, at Talikot in the present State of Karnataka, there was a battle between Adilshahi, Nizamshahi, Qutubshahi, Baridshahi on one side and Vijaynagar on the other side. Vijaynagar was defeated. Thereafter, the dominance of Vijaynagar came to an end.

The Bahamani Kingdom

While Muhammad-bin-Tughluque was still reigning, some of his *Sardars* in the Deccan rose in rebellion against him. The leader of these *Sardars*, Hasan Gangu, defeated the army of the Sultan of Delhi. A new kingdom, known as the

Bahamani kingdom, came into existence in 1347 CE. Hasan Gangu became the first Sultan of the Bahamani kingdom. He made the city of Gulburga in Karnataka his capital.

Mahmud Gawan : Mahmud Gawan was the Chief Wazir of the Bahamani kingdom. He was a good administrator. He strengthened the Bahamani kingdom. He started paying the soldiers their salaries in cash instead of through land grants. He brought discipline in the army. He introduced many reforms in the land revenue system. He opened a *madarsa* at Bidar for Arabic and Persian studies.

After the death of Mahmud Gawan, factionism increased among the Bahamani *Sardars*. The conflict with the Vijaynagar kingdom had an adverse effect on the Bahamani kingdom. The provincial Governors began to act more independently. This led to the disintegration of the Bahamani kingdom into five small powers—Imadshahi of Varhad, Baridshahi of Bidar, Adilshahi of Bijapur, Nizamshahi of Ahmadnagar and Qutubshahi of Golconda.

Mughal Power

In 1526 CE, the Sultanate of Delhi came to an end. Mughal power was established there.

Babur : Babur was the founder of Mughal power. He was the king of Farghana in Central Asia in today's Uzbekistan. He had heard of the wealth in India. So he planned an invasion of India.

The reigning Sultan of Delhi at that time was Ibrahim Lodi. Daulatkhan Lodi was the Governor of Punjab under the Sultanate. The relationship between Ibrahim Lodi and Daulatkhan Lodi was strained. Daulatkhan Lodi invited Babur to march on India. Taking this opportunity, Babur

invaded India. To repel Babur's invasion, Ibrahim Lodi started with his army. There was a battle between Ibrahim Lodi and Babur on 21 April 1526 at Panipat. In this battle, Babur made use of an artillery effectively for the first time in India. He defeated Ibrahim Lodi's army. This is known as the First Battle of Panipat.

After the battle of Panipat, Rana Sanga of Mewad brought all Rajput kings together. There was a battle between Babur and Rana Sanga at Khanua. Babur's artillery and reserved force played a key role in this battle and Rana Sanga's army was defeated. Babur died in 1530 CE.



Do you know?

After Babur, Humayun (1530 CE to 1539 CE and from 1555 CE to 1556 CE) ascended the throne. He was defeated by Shershah. Shershah established the Sur dynasty on the throne of Delhi. After Humayun, Akbar (1556 CE to 1605 CE) ascended the throne. There was a battle between Akbar and Hemu at Panipat in 1556 CE. This is the Second Battle of Panipat. Akbar's ambition was to bring the whole of India under his one central authority. After Akbar, Jahangir (1605 CE to 1628 CE) became the Emperor. During his reign, his wife Nurjahan played an active role in the administration. Jahangir was followed by Shahajahan (1628 CE to 1658 CE) as the Emperor. The next Emperor after Shahajahan, Aurangzeb (1658 CE to 1707 CE) reigned for a very long time. After his death, the Mughal Empire became weak.

Akbar was the most powerful King of the Mughal dynasty. When he tried to bring India under his central authority, he

had to face opposition. Maharana Pratap, Chandbibi, Rani Durgavati struggled against him. Their struggle is noteworthy.

Maharana Pratap : After the death of Udaysingh, Maharana Pratap ascended the throne of Mewad. He continued the struggle for Mewad's existence. Till the very end,



Maharana Pratap

he struggled with Akbar to maintain his independence. He has become immortal in history due to his qualities of valour, courage, self-respect, sacrifice, etc.

Chandbibi : The Mughals attacked Ahmadnagar, the capital of Nizamshah's kingdom, in 1595 CE. The Mughal army put the fort of Ahmadnagar under siege. Chandbibi, the capable daughter of Husain Nizamshah of Ahmadnagar, bravely defended the fort. At this time, there was



Chandbibi

an internal strife among the factions of the *Sardars* in Nizamshahi's kingdom. This resulted in the murder of Chandbibi. Later, the Mughals captured the fort of Ahmadnagar. But, the Mughals could not bring the entire kingdom of Nizamshahi under their control.

Rani Durgavati : Gondvana can broadly be said to comprise the eastern part of Vidarbha, part of Madhya Pradesh to its north, the



Rani Durgavati

western part of today's Chhattisgarh, northern part of Andhra Pradesh and the western part of Odisha.

Durgavati, born in the dynasty Chandel Rajput became the queen of Gondvana when she was married. She was an excellent administrator. The struggle of Gondvana queen Durgavati against the Mughals is important in medieval history. After her husband's death, Durgavati laid down her life while fighting against Akbar, but she did not surrender.

Aurangzeb : Aurangzeb became the Emperor in 1658 CE. At this time, the



Aurangzeb

Mughal empire extended from Kashmir in the north up to Ahmadnagar in the south and from Kabul in the west up to Bengal in the east. To this Aurangzeb added Assam in the east, and the regions of Adilshahi of Bijapur in the south and Qutubshahi of Golconda after he ended these kingdoms.

Conflict with the Ahoms : In the thirteenth century CE, the people of the Shaan community settled down in the valley of river Brahmaputra. They established their Kingdom there. They were locally known as Ahom people.

While Aurangzeb ruled, the Ahoms had a prolonged struggle with the Mughals. The Mughals attacked the Ahoms' region. The Ahoms united under the leadership of Gadadharsinha. Commander Lachit Borphukan gave an intense battle against the Mughals. The Ahoms used the guerilla technique in the conflict against the Mughals. It became impossible for Mughals to create a strong base in Assam.

Conflict with the Sikhs : The ninth Guru of the Sikhs, Guru Teghbahaddar, protested strongly against Aurangzeb's policy of religious intolerance. Aurangzeb imprisoned him and beheaded him in 1675 CE. After him, Guru Gobindsingh became the Guru of the Sikhs.

Guru Gobindsingh organised his followers and encouraged their martial spirit. He organised the Sikh youths into a fighting force called the 'Khalsa Dal'. Their headquarters were at Anandpur. Aurangzeb sent his army to fight the Sikhs. His army attacked Anandpur. Although the Sikhs fought fiercely, they did not succeed. After that, Guru Gobindsingh came to the Deccan in 1708 CE. There was an attempt on his life when he was at Nanded. Soon after, the Guru succumbed to his wounds.

Conflict with the Rajputs : Akbar had secured the cooperation of the Rajputs with his policy of amicable relations.



Guru Gobindsingh

Aurangzeb could not obtain the cooperation of Rajputs. After the death of Rana Jaswantsingh of Marwad, Aurangzeb annexed his kingdom to the Mughal empire. Durgadas Rathod crowned Jaswantsingh's minor son Ajitsingh as the King of Marwad. Durgadas Rathod fought hard against the Mughals. Aurangzeb sent Prince Akbar to Marwad to crush the resistance of Durgadas. Prince Akbar joined hands with Rajputs and rose in revolt against Aurangzeb. An effort was made to seek help from the Marathas in Maharashtra. In this revolt, Durgadas Rathod continued this struggle against the Mughals for the existence of Marwad.

Conflict with the Marathas : In Maharashtra, *Swaraj* was established under the leadership of Shivaji Maharaj. In his efforts to establish *Swaraj*, Shivaji Maharaj had to fight the Mughals too along with the other enemies. Aurangzeb came down to the Deccan after the death of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj with the intention of conquering the whole of South India. But the Marathas offered stiff resistance to Aurangzeb and defended their independence. We shall study this struggle later on.



Exercise

1. Name the following.

- (1) The Queen of Gondvana –
- (2) The son of Udaysingh –
- (3) The founder of Mughal dynasty –
- (4) The first Sultan of the Bahamani kingdom –
- (5) The fighting force established by Guru Gobindsingh –

2. Find the odd one out.

- (1) Sultan Mahmud, Qutubuddin Aibak, Muhammad Ghuri, Babur

- (2) Adilshahi, Nizamshahi, Sultanate, Baridshahi
- (3) Akbar, Humayun, Shershah, Aurangzeb

3. Answer briefly.

- (1) How did the kingdoms of Vijaynagar and Bahamani emerge?
- (2) What reforms did Mahmud Gawan make?
- (3) Why did it become impossible for the Mughals to strengthen their base in Assam?

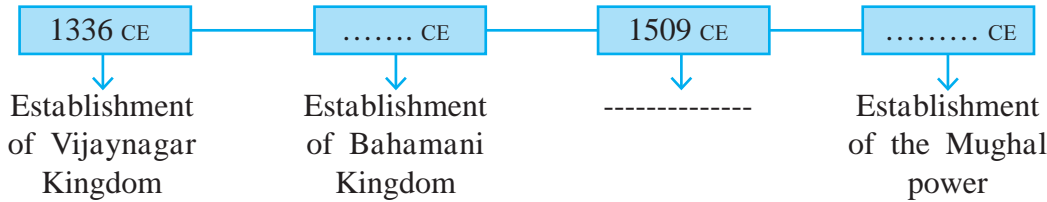
4. Write about them briefly in your own words.

- (1) Krishnadevaraya
- (2) Chandbibi
- (3) Rani Durgavati

5. Give reasons.

- (1) The Bahamani Kingdom disintegrated into five fragments.

6. Complete the timeline.



7. Using the internet, find out more about any one of the personalities you have studied here, and fill in the box below.

I know this :

Activity

Obtain more information about the personalities mentioned in this chapter. Use reference books, the internet, newspapers, etc. Prepare a collage of the pictures information in your activity book and display it in the history cell.



Fort Deogiri



3. Religious Synthesis

Diversity of languages and religions is an important characteristic of the Indian society. Considering this feature, the Indian Constitution has adopted the principle of secularism. In medieval India, too, attempts to bring about religious synthesis in social life were made on the basis of this principle. Among these efforts, the Bhakti movement, Sikhism and the Sufi sect have a significant place. These different streams of thought arose in different parts of India. They emphasized harmony between the different sects and religions along with devotion to God. We shall study them in this chapter.

Initially, rituals and *brahmadnyan* were greatly emphasized in the Indian religious life. In the medieval period, they gave way to *Bhakti Marg* – the path of devotion. *Bhakti Marg* did not give undue importance to hierarchies, which further facilitated religious synthesis. In the different regions of India, we find different forms of the path of devotion, according to the local situation there. The Bhakti movement used the common people's language instead of Sanskrit. This helped the development of regional languages.

Bhakti Movement : It is believed that the Bhakti movement originated in South India. The Naynar and Alawar Bhakti movements emerged in this region. The Naynars were devotees of Shiva, while the Alawars were devotees of Vishnu. There were also attempts to consider Shiva and Vishnu as one and the same and bring them together. 'Harihar' idols which depict half Vishnu and half Shiva were produced in this period on a large scale. People belonging to all social strata had participated in these Bhakti movements. They preached values like love of God, humanity,

compassion, mercy, etc. Ramanuja and other *Acharyas* strengthened the base of the Bhakti movement in South India. They told people that God is for all. God does not discriminate. The teachings of Ramanuja had a great impact in North India also.

Sant Ramanand strengthened the *Bhakti* movement in North India. Sant Kabir is a well-known sant in the *Bhakti* movement. He did not attach any importance to places of pilgrimage, *vratas* or idol worship. For him, Truth was God. He taught that all human beings are equal. He did not believe in any differences based on caste, creed, sect and religion. He wanted to bring about Hindu and Muslim unity. He criticized the extremely orthodox people in both Hindu and Muslim religions in strong terms.



Sant Kabir

In Bengal, Chaitany Mahaprabhu underlined the importance of *Krishnabhakti*. Due to his teachings, people joined the *Bhakti* movement in transcending the boundaries of caste and creed. Under his influence, Shankaradeva spread the *Bhakti* movement in Assam. Narsi Mehta was a renowned Vaishnawa Sant in Gujarat. He was an ardent devotee of Krishna. He gave the message of equality. He is known as the first poet of the Gujarati language.

Sant Mirabai stressed the importance of devotion to Krishna. She belonged to the royal family of Mewad. She renounced all pleasures of the royal family and immersed herself in devotion to Krishna. She composed devotional verses in Rajasthani and Gujarati. Her devotional verses give the

message of devotion, tolerance and humanity. Sant Sena was an influential Sant. Sant Rohidas was a great Sant. He gave the message of equality and humanity. Surdasa, a great poet of Hindi literature, composed the poetical work 'Sursagar'. Devotion to Krishna (Krishnabhakti) is the subject of his work. The verses on Krishnabhakti composed by the Muslim Sant Raskhan are melodious. 'Ramcharita-Manasa' of Sant Tulshidas is a beautiful composition expressing devotion to Rama.

In Karnataka, Basaveshwar spread the *lingayat* stream of thought. He opposed the caste system and stressed the dignity of labour.



Shri Basaveshwar

'Kayakave Kailas' is his well-known saying which means 'Work is Kailas' (Work is worship). He encouraged women's participation in his movement. Men and women belonging to all castes began to participate in the religious discussions conducted in the hall 'Anubhava Mantapa'. Shri Basaveshwar conveyed his teachings in the language of the people, i.e., Kannada, through the medium of 'Vachana' literature. His work had a great impact on society. His followers have composed their work in Marathi also. Of these compositions, 'Paramarahasya' composed by Manmath Swami is very well-known. Great sants in Karnataka include Pamp, Purandardasa and others. They composed many devotional verses in Kannada.

Mahanubhav Panth : In the thirteenth century, Chakradhar Swami founded the 'Mahanubhav Panth' in Maharashtra. This sect preaches devotion to Krishna. Shri Govind Prabhu was the Guru of Chakradhar Swami. The followers of Chakradhara included men and women belonging to all



Chakradhar Swami

castes and creeds. He supported equality. He travelled to all parts of Maharashtra preaching in Marathi. He preferred Marathi instead of Sanskrit. This led to the development of the Marathi language. Many works were composed in Marathi.

This sect mainly spread in the Vidarbha and Marathwada regions of Maharashtra. Riddhipur in Vidarbha is an important place for people of this sect. This sect had reached up to faraway regions like the Punjab and Afghanistan.



Do you know?

Some of the main compositions of the followers of the Mahanubhav Panth are : The treatise 'Leelacharitra' compiled by Mhaimbhat describing the deeds of Chakradhar Swami; 'Dhavale' of the first Marathi poetess Mahadamba, 'Sutrapath and Drishtantapath' compiled by Keshobas, 'Vacchaharan' of Damodar Pandit, 'Shishupalvadha' of Bhaskarbhat Borikar and 'Rukmini Swayamvara' of Narendra.



Do you know?

A conversation between a Hindu and a Muslim written by Sant Eknath is important from the viewpoint of religious harmony. The famous quote of Sant Shaikh Mohammad 'शेख महंमद अविंध । त्याचे हृदयी गोविंद ॥' is an example of this religious harmony.

Guru Nanak : Guru Nanak was the founder of Sikhism and the first guru of Sikhs. His work has to be mentioned as a great attempt at religious synthesis. He visited the holy places of both Hindus and



Guru Nanak

Muslims. He had also visited Mecca. He realised that the feeling of devotion is common everywhere. He taught that all persons should be treated equally. His teachings aimed at achieving Hindu-Muslim unity. He emphasized chaste behaviour.

Many people were influenced by the teachings of Guru Nanak. The number of his followers increased day by day. The followers of Guru Nanak are known as 'Sikhs' (*Shishyas*) meaning 'disciples'. The 'Aadigrantha', also known as the 'Guru Granth Sahib' is the Holy Book of the Sikhs. The Aadigrantha includes compositions by Guru Nanak, Sant Namdeo, Sant Kabir and other Sants. Guru Nanak was succeeded by nine Gurus of the Sikhs. Guru Gobindsingh was the

tenth Guru of the Sikhs. After Guru Gobindsingh, Sikhs regard the 'Guru Granth Sahib' as their Guru, as per the orders of Guru Gobindsingh.

The Sufi Sect : This is a sect in Islam. The Sufi saints believed that God is full of love and the only way to reach him is through love and devotion. Their main teachings are love for all living beings, meditation and simple living. Khwaja Moinuddin Chisti, Shaikh Nijamuddin Avaliya were great Sufi Saints. The teachings of Sufi Saints led to unity in the Hindu and Muslim communities. Sufi music has made valuable contribution to Indian music.

The path of *Bhakti* taught by the Sants was easy to follow for the common people. The *Bhakti* movement was open to all men and women. The Sants expressed their thoughts in the language of the people. The common people found them close to their heart. The *Bhakti* movement has contributed greatly to the making of the Indian Culture.



Exercise

1. Write the related word.

- (1) Shri Basaveshwar : Karnataka
Meerabai :
- (2) Ramananda : North India
Chaitanya Maha Prabhu :
- (3) Shri Chakradhar :
Shankaradeva :

2. Make a chart to show the people and works related to -

- (1) *Bhakti* movement
- (2) Mahanubhav Panth
- (3) Sikhism

3. Write about it in your own words.

- (1) Sant Kabir became a renowned Sant in the *Bhakti* movement.
- (2) The impact of Sant Basaveshwar's work on society.

4. Complete the following names.

- G _ _ _ G _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
- S _ _ _ _ S _
- G _ _ _ N _ _ _ _
- M _ _ m _ _ _ _ _ m _
- M _ _ _ _ _ i
- R _ _ _ n _ n _
- K _ _ i _
- P _ _ p

Activity

Obtain a devotional song in the tradition of Sufi music and present it in a cultural programme.





4. Maharashtra before the Times of Shivaji Maharaj

At the beginning of the seventeenth century CE, most of the territory in Maharashtra was under the control of Nizamshah of Ahmadnagar and Adilshah of Bijapur. The Mughals had entered Khandesh. Their objective was to expand their power in the south. There were settlements of Siddi people, who had come from Africa, along the coastline of Konkan. The competition and conflict amongst the Portuguese, the British, the French and the Dutch, who had come from Europe, was getting intense during this period. There was stiff competition amongst them to capture the markets for trade. The Portuguese had already established their rule in Goa and Vasai on the western coastline. The British, the Dutch and the French had found an entry through the medium of trading companies by setting up factories. All these powers assessed the strength of other powers, kept themselves safe and tried to dominate as much as possible. This conflict had created instability and insecurity in Maharashtra. These different people from Europe were called 'Topkar' on the basis of their customary headgear.

It is necessary to get acquainted with the village (*mauja*), *Kasba* and *pargana* to understand the nature of settlements in that period as also of the officers that formed a link between the rulers and their subjects, and also the markets and the craftsmen. *Pargana* was made up of many villages. Generally, the headquarters of a *pargana* was called '*Kasba*'. A village smaller than a *Kasba* was called '*Mauja*'. Let us get acquainted in brief with Village, *Kasba* and *Pargana* respectively.

Village (*Mauja*) : Most of the people lived in villages. A village was also called *mauja*. The chief of the village was the

Patil. He used to try to bring maximum land under cultivation. When there was any dispute in the village, the Patil resolved it and made peace. A Kulkarni helped the Patil in his work. The Kulkarni kept the record of the revenue that was collected. There were various artisans in the village. They had hereditary rights regarding their occupation. The peasants gave a share of their agricultural produce to the artisans for the services they rendered to the village community. This share was known as *baluta*.

***Kasba* :** A *kasba* was like a big village. It was usually the headquarters of a *pargana*, e.g., Indapur *kasba* of Indapur *pargana*, Wai *kasba* of Wai *pargana* were the headquarters of those *parganas*. Agriculture was the main occupation. There were skilled artisans like carpenters, blacksmiths, etc. in a *kasba*. There was usually a market (*peth*) adjacent to a *kasba*. The Shete and Mahajan were the *watandars* of the *peth*. Every village did not necessarily have a *peth*. The setting up of a *peth* was the job of the Shetes and the Mahajans. For that, they received some land from the government and some rights from the villagers. The Mahajan maintained the accounts of the *peth*.



Do you know ?

As per the order of Veermata Jajabai, a *peth* was established in Pashan near Pune. It was called Jijapur. Malpura, Khelpura, Paraspura, Vithapura, in Aurangabad are also new *peths* established in the name of Maloji, Kheloji, Parasoji and Vithoji respectively. 'Shivapur' adjacent to 'Khed' was a *peth* established in the name of Shivaji Maharaj.



Let's learn.

The words 'Budruk' and 'Khurd' are used to show that the two villages are different. The original town is 'Budruk' and the new one is 'Khurd'. For example, Vadgaon Budruk and Vadgaon Khurd.

Pargana : Many villages together made a *pargana*. But the number of villages was not the same in all *parganas*. For example, the Pune *pargana* was a big *pargana*. It consisted of 290 villages. There were 64 villages in the Chakan *pargana*. The Shirwal *pargana* was small. It had only 40 villages. The Deshmukh and the Deshpande were the *watandar* officers of the *pargana*. The Deshmukh was the chief of patils in a *pargana*. The Deshmukh did at the *pargana* level, what the Patil did at the village level. The Deshpande was the chief of all Kulkarnis in the *pargana*. The Deshpande did at the *pargana* level, the work that Kulkarnis did at the village level. These *watandar* officers were the link between the people and the government.

In case of enemy invasion or drought, these *watandars* represented the grievances of the people to the government. Sometimes, these officers misused their powers. They collected more money from the people than was due or did not remit the money so collected to the government in time. On such occasions, the people suffered harassment.



Do you know ?

Vatan is an Arabic word. In Maharashtra, it is used to refer to hereditary land for which the holder does not have to pay revenue.

The calamity of a famine : Agriculture was dependent on rainwater.

If it did not rain, crops would fail. The prices of foodgrains rose. It became difficult for the people to get foodgrains and other things. There was no fodder for the cattle. Water became scarce. It became difficult for people to live in the village. They were forced to leave the village. A famine was a great calamity for the people.

A great famine occurred in Maharashtra in 1630 CE. People were greatly distressed due to this famine. It has been described in these words – 'People were ready to sell themselves for a piece of bhakri, but there was nobody to buy them'. There was a severe scarcity of foodgrains. Entire families were destroyed. Cattle and farm animals died. Agriculture was devastated. The famine put an end to industries. All financial transactions came to a standstill. People had to wander to faraway regions in search of a livelihood. It was a great challenge to bring back to normalcy, the devastated life of the people.

The work of the Varkari movement :

Society was greatly influenced by blind beliefs and rituals. People had become fatalistic and inert. They had lost all initiative. The condition of the common people was miserable. In such circumstances, the Sants in Maharashtra endeavoured to inspire the masses.

In Maharashtra, the tradition of Sants which began with Sant Dnyaneshwar and Sant Namdeo was carried on by Sants coming from various strata of the society. People from all strata of society were part of the Sant tradition. For example, Sant Chokhamela, Sant Goroba, Sant Sena, Sant Sawata, Sant Narhari, Sant Shaikh Muhammad, etc. Sant Chokhoba's wife Sant Soyraibai, and sister Sant Nirmalabai, Sant Muktabai, Sant Janabai,

Sant Kanhopatra, Sant Bahinabai Siurkar and other women were also among them. Pandharpur was at the centre of the Sant movement. Vitthal was the object of their worship. On the banks of the river Chandrabhaga at Pandharpur, the Sants and pilgrims (*varkari*) used to rejoice in their devotion (*bhakti*). There, equality was propagated through *bhajans*, *keertans*, and unity meals (*kala*).

Sant Namdeo : He was a great Sant of the Varkari movement. He was a skilled organiser. He performed excellent *keertans*

as well. He awakened the sense of equality in men and women belonging to all castes through the medium of *keertans*. His pledge was 'नाचू कीर्तनाचे रंगी । ज्ञानदीप लावू जगी ।।' His *abhangas* compositions are well-known. Many

Sants as well as common people were influenced by his teachings. He went up to the Punjab, propagating his thoughts. His compositions are included in the 'Guru Granth Sahib' of Sikhs. He propagated the message of Bhagwat religion in all quarters. He built a memorial to Sant Chokhamela at Pandharpur. His work is unforgettable.

Sant Dnyaneshwar : He was a great Sant in the Varkari movement. He wrote the 'Bhavartha-deepika' or 'Dnyaneshwari' which elucidates the meaning of the

Sanskrit 'Bhagavad Geeta'. He also composed the 'Amrutanubhav'.

He preached the importance of the path of devotion through his works and compositions. He showed a simple

way of worship and conduct which the common people could follow easily. He gave the prestige of a religion to the Varkari movement. Though his life was spent in extremely adverse circumstances, he never lost the calm of his mind and never harboured bitterness. His 'Pasayadaan' in Dnyaneshwari uplifts the mind. The poetic compositions of his brothers Sant Nivruttinath and Sant Sopandev and sister Muktabai are well-known.

Sant Eknath : He was a great Sant of the

Bhakti movement in Maharashtra. His compositions are many and diverse. They include *abhangas*, *gavalana*, *bharud*, etc. He has stated Bhagvat Dharma in detail and in a simple manner. He has portrayed people's life in

Bhavarth Ramayana through the story of Ram. He explained in Marathi, the *Bhakti* part of the Sanskrit work 'Bhagwat'. His *abhangas* show the warmth of devotion. He demonstrated through his own conduct that there is no need to renounce worldly matters for attaining the highest truth, *Paramarth*. He was a teacher of the people in the true sense of the term. He believed that our Marathi language was inferior to no other language. He asked the Sanskrit Scholars forcefully. 'संस्कृत वाणी देवे केली । तरी प्राकृत काय चोरापासुनि झाली ?' He heavily criticised those who hated other religions.

Sant Tukaram : He belonged to Dehu near Pune. His compositions or *abhangas* are very pleasing and lucid, reaching the greatest poetic heights. His 'Gatha' is a precious treasure of the Marathi language. He asks us to find



Sant Namdeo



Sant Eknath



Sant Dnyaneshwar

God by showing love to the unhappy and the tormented in the following lines : 'जे का रंजले गांजले । त्यांसी म्हणे जो आपुले । तोचि साधु ओळखावा । देव तेथेचि जाणावा ॥' With this viewpoint, he threw in the river Indrayani, the documents of the loans that people had borrowed from him and



Sant Tukaram

freed many poor families from the bonds of loan. He criticized the hypocrisy and superstition in the society in very strong terms. He stressed that devotion (*Bhakti*) should be coupled with morality. His teachings can be summed up as 'जोडोनिया धन उत्तम व्यवहारे । उदास विचारे वेच करी ॥' Some dogmatic people opposed the social awakening that he had undertaken, and sank his *abhangas* in the Indrayani. Sant Tukaram faced the opposition with noble courage.

Sant Tukaram's disciples and associates were of different castes and creeds. They include Navji Mali, Gavnarshet Wani, Santaji Jagnade, Shivba Kasar, Bahinabai Siurkar and Mahadajipant Kulkarni. An important task completed by Gangarampant Maval and Santaji Jagnade was writing down the *abhangas* of Sant Tukaram.

Work of Sants : Sants gave the message of equality to people. They taught humanity. They preached that people should live together in harmony, unity and love. Their work resulted in social awakening. They taught how to live in the face of foreign invasions, drought-like situations or any other natural calamities. Their teachings proved to be a big support for people. Their work created self-confidence among the people

of Maharashtra.

There was a deterioration of ethics and religion in the society. At such a time, the Sants came forward to protect the society. They taught the true meaning of religion. They showed the path of devotion by living amongst people and sharing their joys and sorrows. Some orthodox and dogmatic people opposed them. But the Sants believed that facing this opposition was a part of their duty. Sant Tukaram has explained the mark of a true Sant in these words – 'तुका म्हणे तोचि संत । सोशी जगाचे आघात ॥'

The Sants elucidated the complex *dharma* of the scholars (Shastris and Pandits) in the language of the people. They prayed to God using simple, everyday terms. They took the view that all are equal before God. They taught society to do away with the pride arising out of caste and *varna* and see everyone as God's children. A characteristic of the Sants was that they did not forget their duties on the path of devotion. They found God in their work. Sant Sawata said, 'कांदा मुळा भाजी । अवघी विठाई माझी ॥' This statement refers to farm work but applies to work in all walks of life. The Sants carried on with their duties even as they were engaged in devotion, teaching and composing verses. They developed the moral sensibilities of the society.



Let's discuss.

Collect more information about the Pandharpur *vari* and discuss the following topics.

- In which month do the *Varkaris* go on the *vari*?
- How is the *Vari* planned?

Ramdas Swami : He was from Jamb in Marathwada. He explained the

importance of physical fitness to the people, 'मराठा तितुका मेळवावा । महाराष्ट्र धर्म वाढवावा ।' This message of Ramdas Swami is famous. He gave practical education and lessons in good conduct through his works like *Dasbodh*, *Karunashtaka*, *Manache Shlok*. He stated the importance of people's movement and organisation and founded the Samarth Sampradaya. Chaphal was the centre of this Sampradaya.



Ramdas Swami

He propagated the worship of Ram and Hanuman. He travelled far and wide to propagate his thoughts.

Inspiration for independence during foreign rule : Such was the political, social, cultural, situation, etc. in Maharashtra before the times of Shivaji Maharaj. In that period, Maharashtra was under the control of Adilshahi and other powers. It was not independent. Even so, some personalities and streams of thought were dreaming of freedom. Among them, Shahaji Maharaj, who is considered to be a visionary of *Swaraj* was on the forefront.



Exercise

1. Complete the following chart.

	Village (<i>Mauja</i>)	<i>Kasba</i>	<i>Pargana</i>
What it means
Officers
Example

2. Write the meaning.

- (1) Budruk –
- (2) Balut –
- (3) Vatan –

3. Find out and write.

- (1) People from Africa who had settled along the Konkan coastline –
- (2) The author of 'Amrutanubhav' –
- (3) Sant Tukaram's place –

(4) He composed *Bharuds* –

(5) He explained the importance of physical fitness –

(6) Women Sants –

4. Write about these personalities and their work in your own words.

- (1) Sant Namdeo (2) Sant Dnyaneshwar
- (3) Sant Eknath (4) Sant Tukaram

5. Why were droughts a great calamity for the people?

Activities

(1) Plan how you will help a Varkari *Dindi*.

(2) Dress up as Sants and present their compositions.





5. The Foundation of the *Swaraj*

In the first half of the seventeenth century, an epoch making personality emerged in Maharashtra – Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He established *Swaraj* by challenging the unjust ruling powers here. Shivaji Maharaj was born at the Shivneri fort near Junnar in Pune district on the day of Phalgun Vadya Tritiya in the Shaka year 1551, that is on 19 February 1630. In this chapter, we will study how he founded *Swaraj*.

Shahajiraje : Shahajiraje, the father of Shivaji Maharaj was a pre-eminent *Sardar* in the Deccan. The Mughals had launched a campaign to conquer the Nizamshahi Kingdom. The Adilshah of Bijapur allied with the Mughals in this campaign. Shahaji Maharaj did not wish



Shahajiraje

the Mughals to get an entry into the South. So he tried to save Nizamshahi by offering stiff resistance to the Mughals. But he could not withstand the combined might of the Mughals and the Adilshah. The Nizamshahi was defeated and came to an end in 1636 CE.

After the Nizamshahi was wiped out, Shahajiraje became a *Sardar* of the Adilshah of Bijapur. The region comprising Pune, Supe, Indapur and Chakan *parganas* located between the Bheema and Neera rivers was vested in Shahajiraje as a *jagir*. This was continued by the Adilshah, and he also granted the *jagir* of Bengaluru

and the neighbouring areas in Karnataka to Shahajiraje.



Do you know?

Jahagir or *jagir* means the right to enjoy the revenue of a region. The *Sardars* in the service of rulers used to get the revenue of the region as income instead of getting salaries directly. The region was chosen in such a way that the revenue would be equal to the salary.

Shahajiraje was valiant, courageous, intelligent and a great political expert. He was an excellent archer. He was also an expert in using the sword, *patta* and spear. He loved his subjects. He had won many regions in Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. South India was in awe of him. While Shivaji and Jijabai were at Bengaluru, he had arranged for providing excellent education to Shivaji so as to enable him to become a king. He himself aspired to establish *Swaraj* by ousting the powers of foreign people. That is why, he is known as *Swaraj* visionary. He sent Shivaji and Jijabai from Bengaluru to Pune with loyal and competent associates.

Veer mata Jijabai : Jijabai was the daughter of the great *Sardar* Lakhujiraje Jadhav of Sindkhedraja in Buldhana district. At a young age, she had received military training as well as education in various subjects. She helped and encouraged Shahaji Maharaj to realise his dream of establishing *Swaraj*. She was a competent and visionary political expert. She constantly guided Shivaji in the mission of establishing *Swaraj*. At times,



Veermata Jijabai

she undertook the task of giving verdicts for resolving the problems of people. She was very particular about giving excellent education to Shivaji. She instilled in him values like modesty, truthfulness, oratory, vigilance, courage and fearlessness. She saw that he was trained in the usage of weapons and inspired in him, the will to win and the dream of *Swaraj*.

Shivaji's Companions and Associates:

Shivaji Maharaj started the work of founding the *Swaraj* in the Maval region. The Maval terrain is full of hills and valleys and is not easily accessible. Shivajiraje made use of these geographical features of Maval very skilfully for the purpose of the foundation of the *Swaraj*. He created a feeling of trust and affection in the minds of the people. Many companions and associates joined him in his work of founding the *Swaraj*. Among them were Yesaji Kank, Baji Pasalkar,

Bapuji Mudgal, Narhekar Deshpande brothers, Kavji Kondhalkar, Jiva Mahala, Tanaji Malusare, Kanhoji Jedhe, Bajiprabhu Deshpande and Dadaji Narasprabhu Deshpande. On the strength of these associates, Shivaji Maharaj undertook the cause of the *Swaraj*.



Do this.

Find more information about these associates of Shivaji Maharaj : Jiva Mahala, Tanaji Malusare and Bajiprabhu Deshpande.



Royal seal (Rajmudra)

Royal seal (Rajmudra) : The objective of Shivaji Maharaj of establishing *Swaraj* is clearly expressed in his royal seal. The following Sanskrit lines are inscribed on this royal seal (*Rajmudra*).

प्रतिपच्चंद्रलेखेव वर्धिष्णुर्विश्ववंदिता ॥

शाहसूनोः शिवस्यैषा मुद्रा भद्राय राजते ॥

Meaning : 'This seal will grow in splendour like the new moon. This seal of Shivaji, the son of Shahaji, receiving homage from the whole world denotes the welfare of the people.'

The meaning of this inscription on the seal is important from many angles. Through this inscription, Maharaj has expressed his gratitude towards his father,



Always remember -

Bara Maval : (1) Pavan Maval (2) Hirdas Maval (3) Gunjan Maval (4) Paud Valley (5) Muthe Valley (6) Mose Valley (7) Kanand Valley (8) Welwand Valley (9) Rohid Valley (10) Andar Maval (11) Nane Maval (12) Korbarse Maval

Maval valley in the Sahyadris was a region in the Pune *jagir* of Shivaji Maharaj. It is also known as 'Bara Maval'.

his confidence that *Swaraj* would expand continuously, his own experience of the respect that the Seal, that is, *Swaraj* commanded from all, his commitment to the welfare of his subjects, and the certainty of ruling over his land independently. This short inscription covers the entire concept of *Swaraj*.



Let's learn.

- Observe the official seal of our country.
- What features do you observe?
- In which places is the official seal used?

Towards the establishment of *Swaraj* : The forts situated within the *jagir* of Shivaji Maharaj were not under his control, but were under the control of Adilshah. In those days, forts were of special significance. With a firm hold over a fort, it was possible to control the surrounding area. If one had forts, one ruled the land. Therefore, Shivaji Maharaj decided to acquire the forts that were within his own *jagir*. Such an attempt to capture the forts amounted to challenging the Adilshahi power. He captured the forts of Torana, Murumbdev, Kondhana and Purandar, and laid the foundation of *Swaraj*. He repaired the fort Murumbdev and renamed it Rajgad. Rajgad was the first capital of the *Swaraj*.



Fort Rajgad – Pali Gate

There were the Mores of Javali, the Ghorpades of Mudhol, the Sawants of Sawantwadi, and other *Sardars* in the Adilshahi. They were opposed to the cause of the founding of *Swaraj*. It was necessary to bring them and other likeminded *Sardars* under control for the purpose of founding the *Swaraj*.

The capture of Javali : Chandrarao More of Javali in Satara district was a powerful *Sardar* in the Adilshahi. He opposed the founding of the *Swaraj*. Shivaji Maharaj attacked Javali and captured that region in 1656 CE. He established his post there. Then he also captured Raigad. He attained a huge amount of wealth from Javali. After this victory, his activities in Konkan increased. He built the Pratapgad fort in the Javali valley. In this way, the conquest of Javali increased his strength in all respects. After this, Shivaji Maharaj captured Kalyan and Bhiwandi on the Konkan Coast. There he came into contact with the Siddi, Portuguese and British powers on the Western Coast. Shivaji Maharaj realised that in order to fight these powers, it was necessary to have a strong naval force. Therefore, he concentrated on building a navy.

Defeat of Afzalkhan : Shivaji Maharaj had started capturing the forts in his *jagir* and the surrounding area in the Adilshahi territory. He had crushed the opposition of the Mores of Javali. The work of founding the *Swaraj* had gathered momentum on the Konkan coast. All these matters were a challenge to the Adilshahi. At that time, the Badi Sahiba was looking after the administration of the Adilshahi. She sent Afzalkhan, a powerful and experienced Adilshahi General, to curb Shivaji Maharaj.

Afzalkhan came from Bijapur to Wai. He knew the Wai region well. A meeting of Shivaji Maharaj and Afzalkhan took place on 10 November 1659 at the foot of Pratapgad near Wai. At the meeting, Afzalkhan attempted treachery. In retaliation, Shivaji Maharaj killed Afzalkhan. He routed the Adilshahi army.

Shivaji Maharaj paid compensation to the soldiers who were wounded in the battle. He rewarded those who had fought well. Those soldiers and officers of Afzalkhan's army who fell into the hands of Shivaji Maharaj's army were given a good treatment.

The expedition of Siddi Jauhar :

After the annihilation of Afzalkhan, Shivaji Maharaj captured the Adilshahi forts of Panhala, Vasantgad and Khelna. He renamed Khelna as 'Vishalgad'.

Shivaji Maharaj had posed a big challenge before the Adilshahi. Therefore, the Adilshah sent Siddi Jauhar, the *Sardar* of the Karnul region, against Shivaji Maharaj in 1660 CE. The Adilshah gave Siddi the title 'Salabatkhan'. Rustum-e-Jaman, Baji Ghorpade and Afzalkhan's son Fazalkhan were also there to help Siddi Jauhar. In these circumstances, Shivaji Maharaj took shelter in the Panhala fort. Siddi's soldiers laid siege to the fort for about five months. Shivaji Maharaj found himself trapped inside the fort. Netoji Palkar tried to raise the siege by attacking Siddi's army from outside, but he couldn't succeed in it as his forces were meagre. Siddi showed no signs of relenting. So, Shivaji Maharaj opened talks with him. This led to slackness in the siege round Panhalgad.

Shivaji Maharaj took advantage of this situation.

On this occasion Shiva Kashid, a brave youth came forward. He resembled Shivaji Maharaj in looks. He dressed up like Shivaji Maharaj and sat in a palanquin. The palanquin left by the 'Rajdindi' gate. It was captured by the Siddi's army. It was a difficult situation. Shiva Kashid sacrificed himself on this occasion for *Swaraj*. In the meanwhile, Shivaji Maharaj left the fort using another difficult route. He was accompanied by Baji Prabhu Deshpande, Bandal Deshmukh and some chosen soldiers. The Siddi came to know that Shivaji Maharaj has escaped the siege round Panhalgad and proceeded to Vishalgad. His army pursued Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji Maharaj entrusted the responsibility of stopping Siddi's army at the foot of Vishalgad to Bajiprabhu Deshpande. Bajiprabhu Deshpande checked Siddi's army at the Ghod pass near Gajapur. He fought with the greatest valour. Bajiprabhu died a hero's death in this battle. Because Bajiprabhu's army held Siddi's army at bay, Shivaji Maharaj could proceed to Vishalgad. While going to Vishalgad, Maharaj also crushed the opposition of the Adilshahi *Sardars* Dalvi of Palwan and Surve of Shringarpur. Maharaj reached Vishalgad safely.

While Shivaji Maharaj was trapped at Panhala, Aurangzeb, who had ascended the throne of Delhi, had sent Shaistakhan, a Mughal *Sardar* to the Deccan. He had invaded the Pune province. The conflict with Adilshahi continued even as the Mughal army invaded the *Swaraj*. Maharaj realised that it would not be prudent to fight two enemies at one and the same time. Therefore, after reaching Vishalgad safely, he entered into a treaty with the Adilshah. As per the treaty, he returned the fort of Panhala to the Adilshah.



Exercise

1. Find the odd man out.

- (1) Pune, Supe, Chakan, Bengaluru
- (2) Jadhavs of Phaltan, Mores of Javali, Ghorpades of Mudhol, Sawants of Sawantwadi
- (3) Torana, Murumbdev, Sinhgad, Sindhudurg

2. Write about in your words:

- (1) The efforts Veermata Jijabai took for Shivaji Maharaj's education.
- (2) Shivaji Maharaj started his work of founding *Swaraj* in the Maval region.

3. List the companions and associates of Shivaji Maharaj.

4. Find out and write.

- (1) Why Shahaji Maharaj is termed a *Swaraj* visionary.
- (2) Shivaji Maharaj paid attention to building a Navy.
- (3) Shivaji Maharaj entered into a treaty with the Adilshah.
- (4) How Shivaji Maharaj escaped from Panhalgad.

Activities

- (1) Describe a fort you have seen. Suggest measures for conserving a historical site.
- (2) Find out what a 7/12 extract means and relate it to the words in the chapter.



Fort Panhala - Teen Darwaja



6. Conflict with the Mughals

So far, Shivaji Maharaj had successfully fought the Adilshahi; but for expanding the *Swaraj*, conflict with the Mughals was inevitable. The Mughals posed a great threat to the *Swaraj* even as it began to expand. Maharaj triumphed over this threat too. He regained his forts and territories from the Mughals. He got himself crowned. He took up a campaign of the South. We shall learn about all these events in this chapter.

Shaistakhan's Invasion : In February 1660, Shaistakhan left from Ahmadnagar and entered the Pune province. He ravaged the territory of the *Swaraj* by sending small units of his army to the neighbouring areas. He encamped at Chakan. Firangoji Narsala, the *Killedar* of the fort of Chakan offered a strong resistance to Shaistakhan's army. Finally, the Mughals captured the fort of Chakan.

Shaistakhan set up his camp at Lal Mahal in Pune where Shivaji Maharaj had lived in his childhood. Khan sent his forces in the regions around Pune. These forces looted the people. Two years passed, but he would not think of leaving Pune. Naturally, this had an adverse effect on the people's morale. In these circumstances, Maharaj drew up a bold plan.

Shivaji Maharaj decided to raid Lal Mahal secretly under his own leadership. On 5 April 1663, Maharaj raided Lal Mahal at night with a select band of soldiers. In this raid, Shaistakhan lost his fingers. He suffered great humiliation. He left Pune and shifted his camp to Aurangabad. Due to this episode, he incurred the displeasure of Aurangzeb. Aurangzeb transferred him to the province

of Bengal. The successful attack on Shaistakhan had an impact on the people and their faith in the capability of Maharaj was strengthened even further.



Can you tell?

If you want to visit the city of Surat, what route will you take? Show it with the help of a map.

- Visualise how Shivaji Maharaj must have reached Surat.

The Surat Campaign : In three years' time, Shaistakhan had ravaged large territories of the *Swaraj*. It was necessary to make good this loss. For this, Shivaji Maharaj devised a plan for teaching the Mughals a lesson. Surat was a big trade centre and port under Mughal control. The British, Dutch and French had their factories there. Maximum revenue was being generated by this city for the Emperor. It was a rich city. Maharaj marched on Surat. Inayat Khan, the *Subhedar* of Surat could not put up any resistance. Maharaj obtained plenty of wealth from Surat without bothering the common people. His campaign of Surat was completely successful. This campaign was a stunning blow to Emperor Aurangzeb's prestige.

Jaisingh's Invasion : With a view to curbing the increasing activities of Shivaji Maharaj, Aurangzeb sent Mirzaraja Jaisingh, an experienced and powerful Rajput *Sardar*. Jaisingh came to Pune. He started rallying all the forces against Shivaji Maharaj. To the Portuguese of Goa and Vasai, the Dutch of Vengurla, the British of Surat and the Siddis of

Janjira, Jaisingh suggested that they should start a naval campaign against Maharaj.

Jaisingh drew up a plan of capturing the forts in possession of Maharaj. Mughal forces were sent to various parts of the *Swaraj*. They ravaged the territories of the *Swaraj*. Maharaj endeavoured to resist the Mughals. Jaisingh and Dilerkhan laid siege to the fort of Purandar. When the Mughals put the fort of Purandar under siege, Murarbaji Deshpande fought with the greatest of courage. He died a hero's death. Considering the seriousness of the situation, Maharaj began talks for a treaty with Jaisingh. He met Jaisingh personally. A treaty between Jaisingh and Maharaj was signed in June 1665. It is known as the 'Treaty of Purandar'. In accordance with the terms of the treaty, Maharaj gave to the Mughals, twenty-three of his forts and the adjoining territories yielding an annual revenue of four lakh *hons*. He also assured the Mughals of help against the Adilshahi. The Treaty was ratified by Aurangzeb.



Gather information.

Find out how Shivaji Maharaj escaped from his house arrest at Agra.

Agra visit and escape : After the Treaty of Purandar, Jaisingh launched a campaign against the Adilshahi. Maharaj helped Jaisingh but this campaign of Jaisingh was not successful. Jaisingh and Aurangzeb felt that Shivaji Maharaj ought to be kept away, at least for some time, from the Deccan politics. Jaisingh proposed to Shivaji Maharaj that he should visit Agra and meet the Emperor. He guaranteed the safety of Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji Maharaj set out for Agra. He was accompanied by Prince Sambhaji and a

few of his trusted people who were ready to risk their lives for him.

Shivaji Maharaj reached Agra. Aurangzeb did not treat him with due honour at his court. Maharaj gave vent to his rage. The Emperor then put him under house arrest. Undeterred by this action of the Emperor, Maharaj devised a plan of escaping from this house arrest. He adroitly escaped from Agra and reached Maharashtra safely after a few days. He reached Rajgad. While returning from Agra, he had left Sambhaji Raje at Mathura. Later, Prince Sambhaji was brought safely to Rajgad. While Maharaj was away from *Swaraj*, Veermata Jijabai and the associates of Shivaji Maharaj looked after the administration of *Swaraj*.

On the offensive against Mughals :

Immediately after returning from Agra, Maharaj did not want any conflict with the Mughals. However, he wanted to recapture the forts and territories given to the Mughals as per the Purandar treaty. For this, he prepared a comprehensive and bold plan. It was his strategy to capture the forts by sending a well-equipped army on the one hand, and on the other hand, to keep the Mughals unstable by invading the territories of the Deccan under their control. Maharaj attacked the Mughal territories of Ahmadnagar and Junnar. Then, he recaptured several forts such as Sinhgad, Purandar, Lohagad, Mahuli, Karnala, and Rohida, one after the other. Then Maharaj attacked Surat for a second time. While returning from Surat, he fought a great battle with the Mughals at Vani-Dindori in Nashik district. Maharaj defeated the Mughal *Sardar* Daudkhan in the great battle. After that, Moropant Pingale captured Triambakgad near Nashik.

Thus Shivaji Maharaj was successful in the offensive that he had launched against the Mughals. *Sardars* such as Tanaji Malusare, Moropant Pingale, Prataprao Gujar etc. made a valuable contribution in these offensives. Krishnaji Anant Sabhasad, a contemporary chronicler, thus describes this campaign : ‘(He) took as many as twenty-seven forts in four months and earned a great reputation for himself’.

Maharaj ascended the throne of *Swaraj*. He now became the Chhatrapati of the *Swaraj*. As a symbol of sovereignty, the *Rajyabhisheka shaka* (the coronation era) was started. Maharaj became the founder of a new era. On the occasion of the coronation, special coins were minted – a gold coin called *Hon* and a copper coin called *Shivrai* with the legend ‘Shri Raja Shivachhatrapati’ inscribed on them. Thereafter, all royal correspondence



Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

Coronation : The founding of the Maratha *Swaraj* involved a relentless struggle for over thirty years. Maharaj realised that now it was necessary for the *Swaraj* to win general recognition as a sovereign independent State. For this, a formal coronation was necessary. On 6 June 1674, he had himself coronated at Raigad by Gagabhatt, a learned Pandit.

(*Rajpatra*) carried the words, ‘Kshatriyakulaavantansa Shri Raja Shivachhatrapati’. A dictionary showing Sanskrit alternatives for Persian words was prepared. It is known as *Rajya-vyavahara-kosha*.



Fort Raigad



Do you remember?

Which Indian King started a new calendar?



Remember this-

Some equivalent words in the Rajya-vyavahara-kosha are worth mentioning. For example,

उदा., किताब - पदवी, फर्मान - राजपत्र,
जामीन - प्रतिभूती, हाली - सांप्रत,
माजी - पूर्व, फिलहाल - तत्काळ,
वाहवा - उत्तम,
वकूब - प्रज्ञा, बेवकूफ - मूढ,
दस्तपोशी - हस्तस्पर्श,
मुलाखत - दर्शन, कदमपोशी - पादस्पर्श,
झूट - मिथ्या, कौलनामा - अभय,
फतेह - विजय, फिर्याद - अन्यायवार्ता,
शिलेदार - स्वतूरगी.

The coronation of Shivaji Maharaj was a revolutionary event in the history of Medieval India. While explaining the importance of this event, Sabhasad (a contemporary chronicler) writes, 'It was no mean achievement for a Maratha King to become such a great Chhatrapati.'

Shortly after this, on 24 September 1674 Shivaji Maharaj had his second coronation performed under the guidance of Nischalpuri Gosavi. There were two traditions of religious ceremonies in India - Vedic and Tantric. Maharaj honoured both the traditions and had two coronation ceremonies performed.



Do you know?

Prince Sambhaji Raje was 17 years old at the time of the coronation of Shivaji Maharaj. He has described the coronation ceremony in the treatise 'Budhabhushanam'. It is based on his own experience.

Without measuring or counting, plenty of money, clothes, elephants, horses were donated to the great scholars who had come to attend the coronation ceremony from different regions.

Thus, Shivaji Maharaj spread his fame in different directions.



Do you know?

An extremely valuable and grand throne was made for the coronation of Shivaji Maharaj. There were eight bejewelled pillars on eight sides of the throne. This throne made of thirty-two 'mann' of gold had been studded with precious jewels.

- Learn about the unit 'mann' from your teacher.

The Campaign of the South : Three years after the coronation, in October 1677, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj undertook a campaign of the South. He went to Golconda. There he called on the Qutubshah. He entered into a treaty of

friendship with him. Later, Maharaj won Bengaluru, Hoskote in Karnataka, Jinji Vellore, etc. forts in today's Tamil Nadu and some other territories of Adilshah. He appointed Raghunath Narayan Hanamante the chief administrator to look after these conquered territories.

Vyankoji, the half-brother of Shivaji Maharaj, was then ruling at Tanjavur. Shivaji Maharaj tried to get him to participate in the activities of the *Swaraj*. After Vyankoji Raje, the rulers of Tanjavur encouraged art and learning. The Saraswati Mahal library there is world famous.

In this campaign of the South, Maharaj had annexed the fort of Jinji in Tamil Nadu to his *Swaraj*. This proved to be of great importance in later years. When the Mughal Emperor stayed put in Maharashtra to destroy *Swaraj*, the then Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj had to

leave Maharashtra for reasons of safety. At that time, he took shelter in this southern fort of Jinji and ran the administration of *Swaraj* from there.

Soon after the victorious campaign of the south, Shivaji Maharaj passed away on Raigad on 3 April 1680. His death at the age of fifty was a great loss for *Swaraj*. A great era came to an end.



The Samadhi of Shivaji Maharaj – Raigad



Exercise

1. Arrange in chronological order.

- (1) Southern campaign of Shivaji Maharaj
- (2) Raid on Lal Mahal
- (3) Escape from Agra
- (4) Coronation
- (5) Treaty of Purandar
- (6) Shaistakhan's invasion

2. Find the names from the chapter.

- (1) A dictionary containing Sanskrit words –
- (2) He won Trimbakgad –
- (3) This *Sardar* was defeated at Vani-Dindori –
- (4) A place where the British Dutch and French had their factories –

3. Write about these in your own words.

- (1) The Coronation of Shivaji Maharaj
- (2) Escape from Agra

- (3) Shivaji Maharaj's campaign of the South
- (4) Shivaji Maharaj's preparation for the coronation

4. Give reasons.

- (1) Shivaji Maharaj entered into the Treaty of Purandar.
- (2) Shivaji Maharaj took an aggressive stand against the Mughals.

Activities

- (1) How do you prepare for the special programmes on Independence Day/ Republic Day? Make a list with help of your teacher.
- (2) Visit a historical place in your neighbourhood and write a report on your visit.





7. The Administration of the *Swaraj*

Shivaji Maharaj founded *Swaraj*. He had himself crowned. After the coronation, Maharaj accomplished 'Dakshin Digvijay', the conquest of the South. The *Swaraj* expanded comprising large areas of Nashik, Pune, Satara, Sangli, Kolhapur, Sindhudurg, Ratnagiri, Raigad and Thane districts of Maharashtra. It also included parts Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu States. To ensure the smooth management of the affairs of the *Swaraj* and to ensure people's welfare, Shivaji Maharaj set up an efficient administration. We shall get some information about it in this chapter.

Ashtapradhan Mandal (Council of Eight Ministers) : At the time of his coronation, Shivaji Maharaj appointed a council of eight ministers. The administration was divided into eight departments. A Head was appointed for each department. These eight Heads of department constituted the Ashtapradhan Mandal. Maharaj alone had the power to appoint a minister or to remove him from

his position. The ministers were answerable to Maharaj for the administration of their respective departments.

Shivaji Maharaj selected the Council on the basis of their merit and achievements. He did not give them *jagirs*, *vatans* or gifts or fiefs. They were paid handsome salaries instead.

The policy regarding agriculture : Agriculture was the main occupation in villages. Maharaj knew the importance of agriculture. That was why he paid attention to the welfare of farmers. He entrusted the responsibility of organizing the land revenue system to his capable and experienced office bearer Annaji Datto. He warned the officers that they should not collect more revenue than the amount that was fixed. He encouraged peasants to bring uncultivated land under cultivation. If the crop was lost due to excessive rains or drought, or if an enemy army had devastated the area of the village, remissions were granted in land revenue and other

Ashtapradhan Mandal of Shivaji Maharaj

	Name of the Minister	Designation	Work
1.	Moro Trimbak Pingle	Pradhan	Running the administration and making arrangements for the conquered territories
2.	Ramchandra Nilkanth Muzumdar	Amatya	Keeping the accounts of the State
3.	Annaji Datto	Sachiv	Preparing royal edicts
4.	Dattaji Trimbak Waknis	Mantri	Correspondence
5.	Hambirrao Mohite	Senapati	Organisation of the Army and protection of the kingdom
6.	Ramchandra Trimbak Dabir	Sumant	Foreign relations
7.	Niraji Rawaji	Nyayadhish	Dispensing justice
8.	Moreshwar Panditrao	Panditrao	Looking after religious matters

taxes. Maharaj had instructed his officers to provide peasants with bullocks, ploughs and good seeds for sowing.

Village economy of that period:

Agriculture was the backbone of the rural economy. In villages, many occupations developed to supplement agriculture. Artisans in the village produced goods and fulfilled the needs of the local people. In this sense, a village was a self-sufficient unit. Farmers gave a definite share from their produce to artisans. This share was called 'Baluta'.

Trade and business : Maharaj knew that a kingdom does not prosper without an increase in trade. Merchants bring novel goods as also certain necessities into a kingdom. Goods become available in plenty. Trade prospers adding to wealth. The view that Maharaj took of merchants is seen in the *Ajnyapatra* where merchants are described as follows: 'Merchants are the ornaments of the kingdom and the glory of the king.'

It was the policy of Maharaj to protect industries. An excellent example of this is the salt industry. He protected the salt industry in Konkan. At that time, traders imported salt from the Portuguese territory and sold in *Swaraj*. That affected the local trade in Konkan areas. So, Maharaj charged heavy duty on the salt imported into *Swaraj* from the Portuguese territory. The intention was that the salt imported from the Portuguese territory would then cost more and as a result, its import would decrease and the sale of the local salt would increase.

The Military Organisation : There were two main divisions of the army of Shivaji Maharaj : infantry and cavalry. In the infantry there were officers such as the *Havaldar*, *Jumledar*, etc. The chief of the infantry was called *Sarnobat*. He

was the highest officer in the infantry.

In the cavalry, there were two types of cavalymen, namely *Shiledars* and *Bargirs*. The *Shiledar* had his own horse and weapons. The *bargir* was provided with a horse and weapons by the State. In the cavalry, *bargirs* were more in number. The ranks of the cavalry officers were similar to those of the infantry officers. The highest officer in the cavalry was the *Sarnobat*. Netoji Palkar, Prataprao Gujar, Hambirrao Mohite were some of the famous *Sarnobats* of the cavalry.



Let's learn.

Obtain information about the Armed Forces of India.

- State the names of the three Armed Forces.
- What is the designation of the head of each Force?
- Who is the Head of all the three Forces?

Intelligence Department : It was necessary to protect the *Swaraj* from its enemies. For this, it was necessary to get precise and timely information about the movements of the enemy. It was the job of the intelligence department to obtain information about the movements of the enemies and submit it to Maharaj. The intelligence service of Maharaj was very efficient. Bahirji Naik was the Head of the intelligence department. He was extremely skilled in his job. He collected accurate and detailed information about Surat before the raid on Surat.

Forts : Forts were of great importance in the medieval age. Possession of a fort made it possible to keep an eye on the surrounding area. In case of foreign invasion it was possible to protect the people taking shelter in the fort. It was

possible to stock the fort with foodgrains, war materials, ammunition and military garrison. The importance of forts in the foundation of *Swaraj* is well stated in the *Ajnyapatra* : ‘This kingdom was created by the late revered and exalted Majesty forts alone.’



Do you know ?

The description of the building of forts by Shivaji Maharaj in the treatise ‘*Budhabhusanam*’ composed by Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj is remarkable. It is as follows:

‘Shivaji Maharaj built many impenetrable forts on the ridge of plateaus in the Sahyadri mountain range, in many places from Karnataka up to Baglan. The intention behind it was to protect this earth. Under his successful leadership, these forts were built from the banks of the river Krishna up to the sea in all the four directions. In the Rayari fort, Raje Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj remained on the forefront among all kings and was victorious’.

There were about 300 forts in the *Swaraj*. Maharaj spent a considerable amount of money on the building and repairs of these forts. He built hill forts like Pratapgad, Pavangad and Rajgad. There was a *Killedar*, a *Sabnis* and a *Karkhanis* on every fort. The *Karkhanis* looked after the storage of foodgrains and the maintenance of war material on the fort.

Sea forts : Maharaj knew the importance of sea forts, too. One of the sea forts that he built was Sindhudurga at Malwan. It is an excellent sea fort. To give strength to the construction of the fort, five *khandis* of lead was poured into



Fort Padmadurg

its foundation. A sea fort called Padmadurga was built in front of Rajapuri in order to counter the Siddi power. About this fort, Maharaj has said in a letter that by constructing Padmadurga, he had set up ‘another Rajapuri to overshadow the Rajapuri of the Siddi.’

Navy : Enemies on the west coast of India, the Portuguese of Goa, the Siddi of Janjira and the British factors of Surat and Rajapur, created obstacles in the work of expanding the *Swaraj*. It was necessary to curb their activities and to protect the west coast. For this purpose, Maharaj raised a navy. He realised that the one who has a navy, controls the sea Maharaj had great foresight.



Gurab



Galbat



Do this.

Obtain information about the warships in the Indian Navy and make a collection of the pictures of ships.

There were four hundred ships of various kinds in his navy. They included battle ships like the *gurab*, *galbat* and *pal*. Ships were built in the creek of Kalyan Bhivandi, Vijaydurga and Malvan. Maynak Bhandari and Daulatkhan were the chief naval Commanders.

Concern for the welfare of his subjects : Maharaj did not work only with the limited ambition of conquering enemy territories and establishing

dominance like other things. His main objective was to make his subjects independent. He was aware that if his subjects were to really get the joy of freedom, it was necessary to have a disciplined administration, take comprehensive care of people's welfare and protect the conquered territories.

Maharaj was not merely a ruler, he was a watchful administrator who cared for his people's welfare. This is clearly seen in his administration of the State.



Exercise

1. Can you tell?

- (1) A Council with eight departments –
- (2) Bahirj Naik was the Head of this department –
- (3) The sea fort built by Maharaj near Malvan –
- (4) He looked after the war materials on the fort –

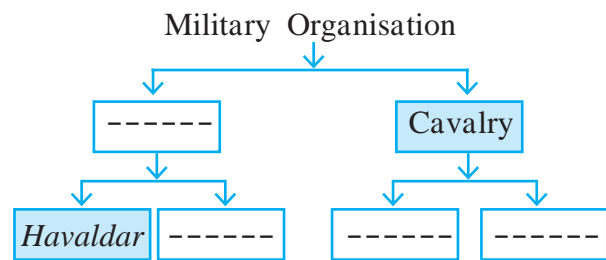
2. Write about it in your own words.

- (1) Shivaji Maharaj's policy regarding agriculture
- (2) Shivaji Maharaj – a ruler concerned about the welfare of his subjects.

3. Give reasons.

- (1) Shivaji Maharaj established the Council of Eight Ministers.
- (2) Shivaji Maharaj raised a navy.

4. Complete the chart.



Activities

- (1) Interview a person in your neighbourhood who has served in the armed forces.
- (2) Visit a market in your town. List the items prepared/grown in the neighbourhood and those that come from outside.



Fort Sindhudurg



8. An Ideal Ruler

Before the foundation of *Swaraj*, Maharashtra was under the domination of the Adilshahi, Siddi, Portuguese and Mughal powers. Shivaji Maharaj struggled against these powers. He faced all kinds of adverse circumstances. He founded an independent and sovereign *Swaraj*. He set up a system for the administration of this *Swaraj*. He turned *Swaraj* into a *Surajya*, a kingdom that sought the welfare of all. Maharaj created a new order with his capability. In the course of the conflict for the founding of the *Swaraj*, he himself had to face many grave dangers. Events like the meeting with the Afzalkhan, the siege of Panhala, the attack on Shaistakhan, the escape from Agra, all involved a great amount of risk. Shivaji Maharaj emerged successful in all these events. No harm came to him.



Think about it.

Shivaji Maharaj could establish *Swaraj* due to his loyal and dedicated associates.

Collect proverbs from different languages that state the importance of friendship. For example, A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Organisational Skill : Maharaj inspired the people around him to work for the *Swaraj*. His organisational skill was unparalleled. With this skill, he drew around himself brave people who were also extremely loyal. These close associates of Maharaj performed their duty, even by risking their own lives. There are many instances of this in the founding of the *Swaraj* – Jiva Mahala,

who killed Bada Sayyad at a critical moment during the meeting with Afzalkhan; Shiva Kashid who crossed the siege of Panhalagad in the disguise of Shivaji Maharaj; Bajiprabhu Deshpande, who blocked the advances of the enemy on the way to Vishalgad; Murarbaji Deshpande, who defended the fort of Purander, Tanaji Malusare, who sacrificed his life while conquering Sinhagad; Hiroji Farjand and Madari Meheter, who risked their lives during the escape of Maharaj from Agra, etc. Maharaj took great care of his associates. For example, Kanhoji Jedhe was associated with Maharaj in the work of the *Swaraj* from the very beginning. When the ageing Kanhoji fell ill, Maharaj told him not to neglect his medicines or treatment on any account.

Caring for the *ryot* : While establishing the *Swaraj*, Maharaj had to constantly struggle against his enemies. His subjects suffered due to enemy invasions. At such times, Maharaj used to take utmost care to protect the *ryot*. At the time of Shaistakhan's campaign, Maharaj warned the Deshmukh of the Rohida valley not to fail in his duty towards the *ryot*. He told Deshmukh to visit every village and shift people to a safe place down the ghats. He strictly told him not to delay even for a moment. He further warned the Deshmukh that if he did not thus take care of the *ryot*, the Mughal army would take the people prisoner and then it would be seen as the Deshmukh's doing. Maharaj also saw to it that the soldiers did not in any way cause any harm to the *ryot*.

Policy regarding the army : Maharaj maintained a strict discipline in the army.

He was particular about paying the salaries of the army in time. He made arrangements to pay the salaries of soldiers in cash. In various kingdoms in Medieval India and elsewhere, there was a system of making payments to soldiers in the form of *jagirs*. Maharaj set this practice aside. There was a strict order to the army that any valuables collected during the campaigns in enemy territories were to be deposited with the Government. Soldiers were honoured for their bravery in a campaign. He looked after the maintenance of the families of soldiers who died in battle. He took care of the wounded soldiers, he treated well the enemy soldiers who had surrendered themselves or who had been captured.



Do you know ?

If war broke out during the period of sowing-growing-reaping of crops, there would be no limit to the loss of farmers. Not only would the movements of army interfere with the work of sowing, but the soldiers would cut off and take away standing crops or would destroy them. They would rob the houses of farmers. Shivaji Maharaj had ordered the officers to prohibit his soldiers from such actions. The letter written by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in 1674 CE to his military officers is very important in this regard. It shows how minutely Shivaji Maharaj thought about the discipline in the army.

“If you harass and trouble the subjects belonging to different castes by robbing them of their grains, fodder, grass, vegetables, etc., those subjects would leave their houses and migrate elsewhere. Many of them would starve

to death. It would be as if you are more atrocious than the Mughals. There would be great uproar.”

A policy of tolerance : Maharaj had to struggle against his enemies - the Adilshah, the Mughals and the Siddis. They were Islamic powers. While Maharaj struggled against them, he considered the Muslims in the *Swaraj* as his own subjects. At the time of the meeting with Afzalkhan, Siddi Ibrahim was a trusted servant in his army. Siddi Hilal was a *Sardar* in the army of Maharaj. Daulatkhani was an important officer in the navy of the *Swaraj*.

Maharaj followed a tolerant religious policy. In the enemy territories that he conquered, he continued the facilities that had been given to the Muslim places of worship. His contemporary historian Khafikhan writes about the tolerant religious policy of Maharaj; ‘Shivaji had framed strict rules for his soldiers that during the campaigns, they should not harm a mosque. If they came in possession of a copy of the Holy Quran, they should hand over the same, with reverence, to a Muslim.’

The inspiration for freedom : The efforts that Maharaj made to establish the *Swaraj* have a special value. It is the value of freedom. He aimed at establishing and maintaining an independent and sovereign existence that did not accept the dominance of any other power. While struggling against the foreign powers, Maharaj inspired others too, for freedom. When Chhatrasal, who was in the service of the Mughals, came to see Maharaj, Maharaj inspired him to create an independent kingdom in Bundelkhand.

Greatness of Maharaj’s work : Maharaj established *Swaraj* while fighting

against many enemies. This action itself proves that he was a pioneer of a new era. But besides this action, many other noble qualities are found in his personality.

Maharaj was very intelligent. He had mastered many arts. He was conversant with many languages and scripts. The teachings of his parents towards the establishment of *Swaraj* and ethics were deeply instilled in his mind. There was a blend of character and strength, nobility and valour in his personality. He had innumerable qualities like leadership, management, foresight, political diplomacy, effective policy about regional and military administration, commitment to truth and justice, attitude of equality, visualisation of future activities, the skill of seeing his planned ventures through, rising over the calamities without giving up, alertness, vigilance and so on.

He used to punish those severely who would misbehave with women. He used to take care of all sections of the society like farmers, craftsmen, soldiers, traders, merchants, etc. He used to harbour the same respect for people of other religions that he had for people of his own religion, without any discrimination. He even established family bonds with them. He brought back into *swadharma*, their original religion, persons who had converted to another religion though there was an opposition to such a reconversion at that time. At that time, there was opposition on religious grounds to crossing the seas. Yet he built sea forts like Singhudurg and created a navy. This means that he had made preparation for countering foreign invasions that came from the sea. He became the ruler of *Swaraj* officially through his coronation, he later, had a second Coronation from

a different religious perspective. All these actions show his revolutionary aspects in the field of religion.

When there were threats to *Swaraj*, he would face them with or without his associates. Due to this, even his associates were ready to sacrifice their lives for *Swaraj*. Of course, his greatness was not confined to the quality of facing calamities bravely and fearlessly. He wanted to have an ethical, qualitative base to the *Swaraj*. That is why he would give orders, even regarding minor issues along with the important ones. The order that prohibited soldiers from taking vegetables from the fields of the peasants by force, is exemplary from this point of view. The restrictions on the cutting of trees enforced by him are also noteworthy.



Think about it.

Why is it necessary to grow trees?

He had ordered that the garbage on the fort should be burnt in an allotted space without dumping it elsewhere, and vegetables should be grown on its ash. It becomes clear from this fact that he would pay close attention to the minutest details while establishing *Swaraj*. He was not just a warrior, but also a sculptor who created a new, independent, ethical and cultured society. His greatness is comprehensive.



Can you tell?

- How is the waste in your area managed?
- State the name of the machinery that looks after waste management.

In our national movement, Maharaj was a great source of inspiration. In his struggle for equality, Mahatma Jotirao Phule described in his *powadas* the greatness of Shivaji Maharaj. Lokmanya Tilak brought about national awakening through the medium of Shivajayanti celebrations. Lala Lajpatrai has written a

book about the greatness of Maharaj. The great Tamil poet Subramanyam Bharati has written a poem about an imaginary incident in which Shivaji Maharaj talks to his associates. Vishwakavi Rabindranath Tagore has written a long poem on Maharaj. Tagore sees his efforts to found *Swaraj* as efforts for realizing a noble cause. Sir Jadunaath Sarkar has praised his achievements in his book 'Shivaji and His Times'. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has said that Maharaj did not belong to Maharashtra alone, he belonged to the whole Indian nation. ... he was a symbol of many virtues, more especially of love of country.



Do you know ?

Mahatma Jotirao Phule composed a *Powada* in 1869 CE on Shivaji Maharaj. A part of it is given here.

॥ शिवाचा गजर जयनामाचा झेंडा रोविला ॥
॥ क्षेत्र्याचा मेळा मावळ्याचा शिकार खेळला ॥
माते पार्यीं ठेवी डोईं गर्व नाहीं काडीचा ।
आशिर्वाद घेईं आईचा ॥
आलाबला घेईं आवडता होतो जिजीचा ।
पवाडा गातो शिवाजीचा ॥
कुळवाडी - भूषण पवाडा गातो भोसल्याचा ।
छत्रपती शिवाजीचा ॥३॥

All Indian languages have works that talk about him as an ideal ruler and a source of inspiration.

Future generations too, will continue to look upon this work of Shivaji Maharaj of founding the *Swaraj* and turning it into *Surajya* as a source of inspiration, as an ideal. Shivaji Maharaj was a great national hero.



Exercise

1. Find it from the chapter.

- (1) Grave dangers in the life of Shivaji Maharaj.
- (2) They risked their life at the time of Maharaj's escape from Agra.
- (3) What warning did Shivaji Maharaj issue to the Deshmukh of Rohida Valley?
- (4) What inspiration can future generations draw from the life of Shivaji Maharaj?

2. Write about it in your own words.

- (1) What warning did Shivaji Maharaj issue to his soldiers to avoid any loss to the *ryot*?
- (2) How do we know that the religious policy of Shivaji Maharaj was that of tolerance?

- (3) Explain Shivaji Maharaj's policy regarding the army.

3. Give one word for.

- (1) An important officer in the navy of *Swaraj* -
- (2) A Tamil poet who composed a poem on Shivaji Maharaj -
- (3) He created an independent kingdom in Bundelkhand -
- (4) He composed a *Powada* on the greatness of Shivaji Maharaj -

Activities

- (1) Tell how you help your friend in his need.
- (2) List the places named after famous personalities.





9. The Maratha War of Independence

After the death of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the Marathas fought with great valour with the Mughals under the leadership of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj and Maharani Tarabai to protect the *Swaraj*. This long war that lasted for twenty seven years is called the 'Maratha War of Independence'. In 1682 CE Emperor Aurangzeb himself led the invasion of South. Even then, despite enormous difficulties, the Marathas emerged victorious in this struggle. This war is an exciting and glorious period in the history of India. In this chapter, we shall learn about this war of independence.

The word 'Maratha' used here means the 'people who speak Marathi' or 'Maharashtrian people'.



Do this.

Sambhajiraje speaking... Present a role play.



Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj

Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj:

Sambhaji Maharaj was the eldest son of

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He was born on 14 May 1657 on the Purandar Fort. After Shivaji Maharaj, he became the Chhatrapati. At this time, the Marathas were battling against the Mughals. During the same period, Emperor Aurangzeb's son Shahajada Akbar rebelled against his father. The Emperor crushed his rebellion. Then Akbar came to the Deccan to take shelter with Sambhaji Maharaj. Then the Emperor himself descended on the South in 1682 CE to vanquish Akbar. He had with him a huge army and a powerful artillery. He asked the Siddi of Janjira to undertake an expedition against the Marathas. He also won over the Portuguese to his side. Consequently, Sambhaji Maharaj had to face many adversaries at one and the same time.

The reign of Sambhaji Maharaj marks the first chapter of the Maratha War of Independence after Shivaji Maharaj. Shivaji Maharaj had given him excellent education in civil administration and military campaigns. Sambhaji Maharaj had begun to take interest in the administration of the State and the command of the army from the age of fourteen years. While he was still a prince, he had led attacks on many territories of the Mughals and the Adilshah. Then French traveller Abbe Carrey says about his battle skills, "Even though the prince is young, he is courageous and brave like his father was famous for...."

When Sambhaji Maharaj became Chhatrapati, the war with the Mughals became fiercer. Aurangzeb wanted to occupy regions from Kabul to Kanyakumari and create a grand unified Mughal empire. His dream was to destroy the Maratha State completely using his

military and financial prowess. But Sambhaji Maharaj shattered his dreams with his bravery and military skills. Troops of the Maratha army attacked many of the Mughal territories. Though the Emperor's generals tried very hard for a long time, they couldn't win the Maratha fort of Ramsej near Nashik. Thus, Sambhaji Maharaj's valour brought Aurangzeb to his knees. Once he removed his turban in frustration and threw it on the floor. He made a vow that until he had vanquished Sambhaji, he would not wear his turban. Sambhaji Maharaj had rendered Aurangzeb helpless to this extent.



Do you know ?

Aurangzeb thought that once the Maratha forts were captured, their rule too, would come to an end. So he put a siege around Ramsej fort near Nashik. Aurangzeb's army was huge. The Maratha army was small. But they fought with perseverance. The siege continued for the next five years. This bravery of a handful Maratha soldiers was unparalleled. This resistance offered by the Marathas made Aurangzeb realise the difficulty of fighting with them.

Campaign against the Siddi : The Siddi of Janjira used to harass the people in the Maratha territory. He used to raid, burn, and loot the Maratha territory and commit atrocities. Sabhasada has described him as a rat in the house. Sambhaji Maharaj started a campaign against him in 1682 CE. His army laid a siege to Siddi's Dandarajpuri fort, and battered the fort of Janjira with the artillery. But at the same time, the Mughal army invaded *Swaraj*. Sambhaji Maharaj had to abandon the Janjira campaign and turn back.

Campaign against the Portuguese :

The Portuguese of Goa joined hands with the Emperor against Sambhaji Maharaj. So, Sambhaji Maharaj decided to teach a lesson to the Portuguese. He attacked the Revdanda fort of the Portuguese in 1683 CE. To counter this, the Portuguese laid a siege to the Fonda fort of the Marathas on the Goa border. The Marathas broke through the siege and attacked Goa. In this battle, Yesaji Kank showed great valour. The Portuguese Governor got wounded and retreated. Sambhaji Maharaj followed him. The Portuguese were in deep trouble. At this time, Sambhaji Maharaj got the news that the Mughals had attacked South Konkan. Therefore, he had to abandon the winning campaign of Goa and return to fight with the Mughals.

The end of Adilshahi and Qutubshahi : Aurangzeb did not succeed in his campaign against the Marathas. Therefore, he suspended that campaign. Then he turned towards the kingdoms of Adilshah and Qutubshah and conquered them.

The wealth and army of both the kingdoms was now acquired by the Mughals and it made Aurangzeb even stronger. Then he concentrated all his might on defeating the Marathas. He attacked their territory from all sides. The Maratha army General Hambirrao Mohite got killed during an encounter with the Mughal army. Due to this blow the military strength of Sambhaji Maharaj was weakened.

Administration of Sambhaji Maharaj : Even though Sambhaji Maharaj was busy fighting on various battle fronts, he did not ignore his administrative responsibilities. He continued the prompt justice and revenue system, which was a characteristic of Chhatrapati Shivaji

Maharaj's era. He severely punished the landlords who harassed common people and who rebelled against the *Swaraj*. He gave administrative powers to Maharani Yesubai. He gave her, her own stamp. He continued the legacy of Shivaji Maharaj's welfare policies.

Sambhaji Maharaj knew Sanskrit and many other languages well. He studied many ancient books on polity and wrote their gist in a book called 'Budhbhushanam'.



Do you know ?

Sambhaji Maharaj composed 'Budhbhushanam' in the Sanskrit language. The second chapter of this book discusses polity. It includes information about the virtues of a king, prime minister, princes and their education and functions, the advisers to the king, forts and the goods and materials needed on a fort, the army, the duties of a king, espionage, etc.

Death of Sambhaji Maharaj :

Aurangzeb was trying very hard to defeat Sambhaji Maharaj. He had placed Mukarrabkhan in charge of the Kolhapur province. Mukarrabkhan learnt that Sambhaji Maharaj was at Sangameswar in Konkan. He raided the place and captured Sambhaji Maharaj. When Sambhaji Maharaj was taken to the Emperor, he faced him fearlessly. By the Emperor's orders, he was brutally put to death on 11 March 1689. This Maratha Chhatrapati did not compromise his self respect and faced his death nobly and bravely. The Marathas took inspiration from his sacrifice and intensified their fight against the Mughals.

Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj :

Rajaram Maharaj was the second son of

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. He was born on 24 February 1670 on Raigad. He became Chhatrapati after the death of Sambhaji Maharaj. Now Aurangzeb thought that his



Chhatrapati
Rajaram Maharaj

dream of winning the Maratha kingdom would be realised. He sent Zulfikarkhan to put Raigad under siege. That time Rajaram Maharaj and his wife Maharani Tarabai and Sambhaji Maharaj's wife

Maharani Yesubai and his son Shahu were on Raigad. It was risky for all members of the royal family to stay at one place. Maharani Yesubai tackled this unprecedented calamity very bravely. Resolving that, she would not surrender to the Mughals under any conditions, she took many important political decisions on Raigad. It was decided that Rajaram Maharaj should escape from Raigad and if necessary, go to a far off place like Jinji. It was decided that the fight to defend Raigad would continue under the leadership of Maharani Yesubai. Maharani Yesubai chose to make Rajaram Maharaj and not her own son the Chhatrapati. Her decision is a shining example of her love for *Swaraj* and her extreme selflessness. She kept the Maratha Chhatrapati secure without regard for her own life or that of her son.



Let's find out.

Find Jinji on a map of India.

Rajaram Maharaj leaves for Jinji :

On 5 April 1689 Rajaram Maharaj escaped from the besieged Raigad with a few of his associates. He decided to go

south to Jinji. The Jinji fort was invincible. It was not an easy task for the Mughals to capture this fort. Rajaram Maharaj took his faithful *Sardars* like Pralhad Niraji, Khando Ballal, Rupaji Bhosale and managed to reach Jinji.

The Movements of the Marathas :

It was difficult to defend the Raigad fort against the might of the Mughals. The Mughals captured Raigad in November 1689 and arrested Maharani Yesubai and Shahu. While going to Jinji, Rajaram Maharaj had assigned the duty to fight against the Mughals to Ramchandrapant Amatya, Shankaraji Narayan Sachiv, Santaji Ghorpade and Dhanaji Jadhav.

From the Maratha point of view, the situation was critical. Aurangzeb had enticed many Maratha *Sardars* to his side by giving them *watans* and *jagirs*. Rajaram Maharaj also used the same tactics to thwart the Mughal plans. It was promised that if a Maratha *Sardar* captured Mughal territory it would be given to him as a *jagir*. Due to this promise, many capable Maratha *Sardars* came forward. They started invading the Mughal territory with vigour and defeated Mughal Generals. Santaji and Dhanaji were at the forefront in these actions. Against their surprise attacks and guerrilla tactics, the enormous amount of war material and heavy artillery of the Mughals were of little use. The Mughal forces were at their wits' end. On one occasion, Santaji Ghorpade and Vithoji Chavan even cut and carried away the golden pinnacle of the Emperor's own tent in a surprise attack.

Siege of Jinji : Once Raigad was captured, the Emperor sent Zulfikarkhan to the South on the campaign of Jinji. He laid siege to the fort of Jinji. The



Do you know ?

The Mughal soldiers were so scared of Dhanaji that when their horse baulked while drinking water, they would say: "Why, do you see Dhanaji in the water?"

Marathas defended the fort bravely for nearly eight years. The Mughal forces engaged in the siege were fiercely attacked from outside by Santaji and Dhanaji. Rajaram Maharaj escaped through the siege, and returned to Maharashtra. Later Zulfikarkhan captured the fort of Jinji.

The return of Rajaram Maharaj to Maharashtra gave a boost to the Maratha activity. The Marathas attacked the Mughal territories of Khandesh, Varhad and Baglan. Rajaram Maharaj inspired hundreds of brave Maratha warriors like Santaji and Dhanaji with his understanding nature and statesmanship. He motivated them to protect the *Swaraj* and thus performed a very valuable task. But even as all this was taking place, Rajaram Maharaj died on 2 March 1700 on Sinhgad after a short period of illness.

Rajaram Maharaj was thoughtful and kind-hearted. He brought together all the capable people in the Maratha empire. He united them created a new enthusiasm amongst them. After the death of Sambhaji Maharaj, he fought against Aurangzeb for 11 years with great courage and tenacity. Rajaram Maharaj's greatest achievement is that he protected *Swaraj* in those extremely difficult times. While describing Rajaram Maharaj, noted historian Riyasatkar G. S. Sardesai has used the adjective 'Sthirbuddhi' (Level Headed). He cannot be described in better words than these.

**Do this.**

- Interview the women in your neighbourhood who have made great achievements in various fields.

Maharani Tarabai : After the death of Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj, Aurangzeb thought that he had won the war against the Marathas. But it was not so. Aurangzeb was winning battle after battle, but he could not win the war. Maharani Tarabai, the capable wife of Rajaram Maharaj, came forward to lead the *Swaraj* movement in the extremely unfavourable circumstances.



Maharani Tarabai

Contemporary Mughal historian Khafikhan describes Maharani Tarabai as an intelligent and knowledgeable woman. Her management of the army and administration had won renown even during the rule of her husband.

After the death of Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj, Maharani Tarabai continued the

Swaraj struggle bravely with the help of her *Sardars*. Aurangzeb captured Satara and Panhala from the Maratha territory, but at the same time the Marathas dashed up to the Mughal areas of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. Tarabai expanded the war areas further. *Sardars* like Krishnaji Sawant, Khanderao Dabhade, Dhanaji Jadhav and Nemaji Shinde opened battles against Mughals on various fronts outside Maharashtra. This was a sign of change in the outcome of the war.

Maharani Tarabai fought for seven years. She kept the Maratha kingdom strong. She took charge of the administration singlehandedly and encouraged the *Sardars* to participate in the mission of *Swaraj*. Maratha *Sardars* fought against the Mughals up to Sironje, Mandsaur and Malwa. Khafikhan has recorded that Rajaram's wife Tarabai achieved great things and displayed the

**Do you know ?**

Maharani Tarabai used the Guerrilla technique very effectively. Marathas were comparatively weaker than Aurangzeb in army power. Aurangzeb used his army to put siege to the forts to capture them. Marathas used to fight for the fort as long as they could. But when the rainy season approached, *Killedar* of the fort pretended to side with Aurangzeb. A bribe was accepted from Aurangzeb and the fort was handed over to him. The *Killedar* used to deposit this bribe amount in the Maratha treasury. When Aurangzeb repleted the wealth, grains and ammunition on the fort, Tarabai used to capture that fort again. This strategy of Tarabai is described as 'Safe deposit locker system'.

qualities of leadership of the army and management of campaigns. It added force to the Maratha campaigns.



Do you know ?

While describing Tarabai's great achievements, Poet Devdatta (who was the son of Paramanand, the author of Shivbharat) says,

ताराबाई रामराणी । भद्रकाली कोपली ।
दिल्ली झाली दीनवाणी । दिल्लीशाचे गेले पाणी ।
रामराणी भद्रकाली । रणरंगी क्रुद्ध झाली ।
प्रयत्नाची वेळ आली । मुगल हो सांभाळा ॥

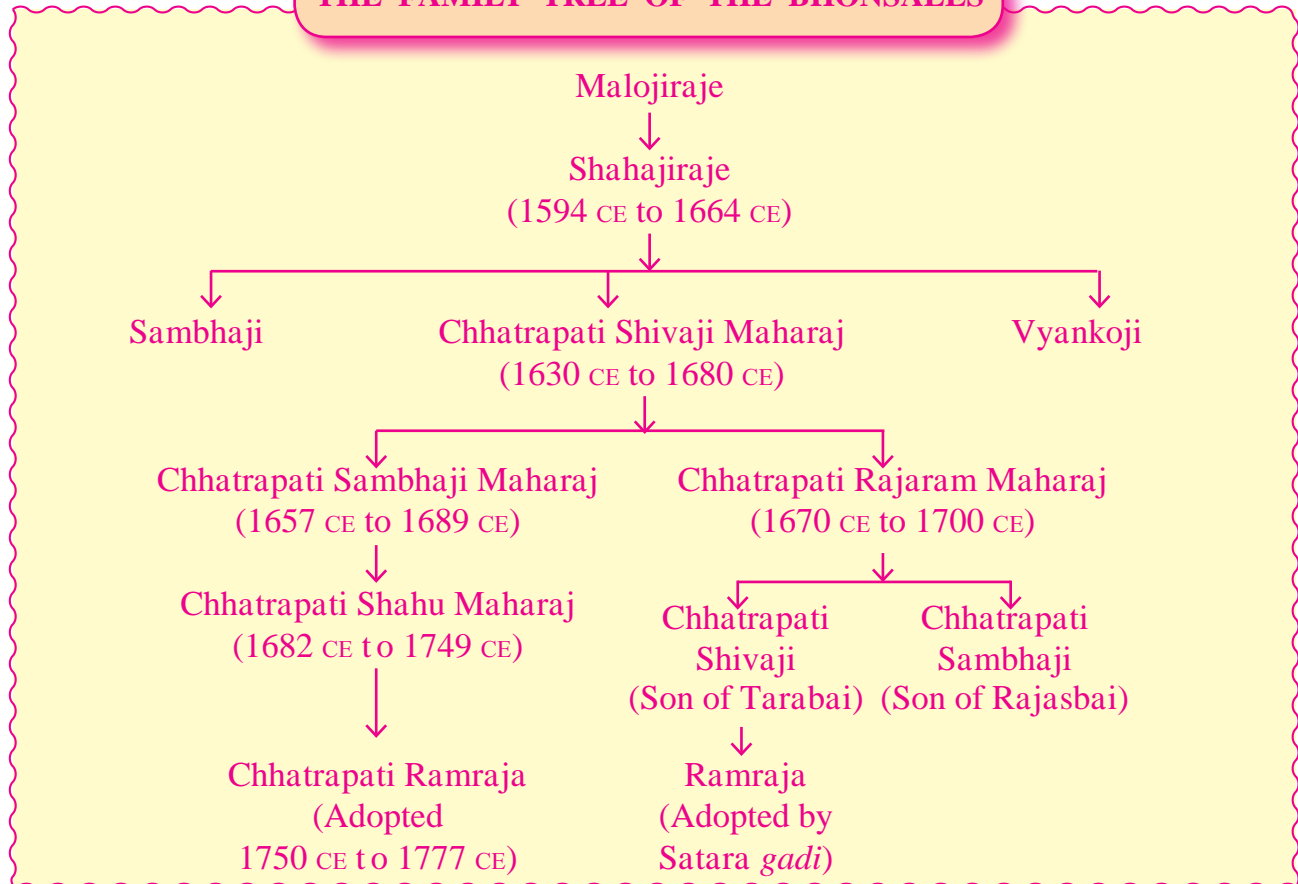
Thus, Maharani Tarabai kept up the legacy of valour inherited from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Due to the forceful campaigns of the Marathas, Aurangzeb was frustrated. The

Mughal-Maratha fight had continued for 25 years. Still the Mughals could not defeat the Marathas. In these circumstances, Emperor Aurangzeb died in 1707 CE at Ahmednagar. The Maratha War of Independence ended with his death.

This Maratha war for independence was the fight between the Mughal Emperor's greed to expand his empire and the spirit of independence of the Marathas. The Marathas emerged victorious in it. After the death of Aurangzeb, they led others in filling the vacuum in the political arena. They controlled the throne of Delhi, ran the affairs of almost all parts of Hindusthan and protected it. Therefore, the 18th century is known as the century of the Marathas. In the next chapters, we will see the achievements of the Marathas in that century.

THE FAMILY TREE OF THE BHONSALES





Exercise

1. Choose the correct option.

- (1) Aurangzeb was frustrated by his bravery.
 - (a) Shahajada Akbar
 - (b) Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj
 - (c) Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaj
- (2) They cut the golden pinnacles the Emperor's tent.
 - (a) Santaji and Dhanaji
 - (b) Santaji Ghorpade and Vithoji Chavan
 - (c) Khando Ballal and Rupaji Bhosale
- (3) He fought bravely in the Goa battle.
 - (a) Yesaji Kank
 - (b) Nemaji Shinde
 - (c) Pralhad Niraji

2. Find in the text in the lesson and write answers.

- (1) Why did Sambhaji Maharaj return halfway from the Janjira Campaign?
- (2) Why did Sambhaji Maharaj decide to teach a lesson to the Portuguese?

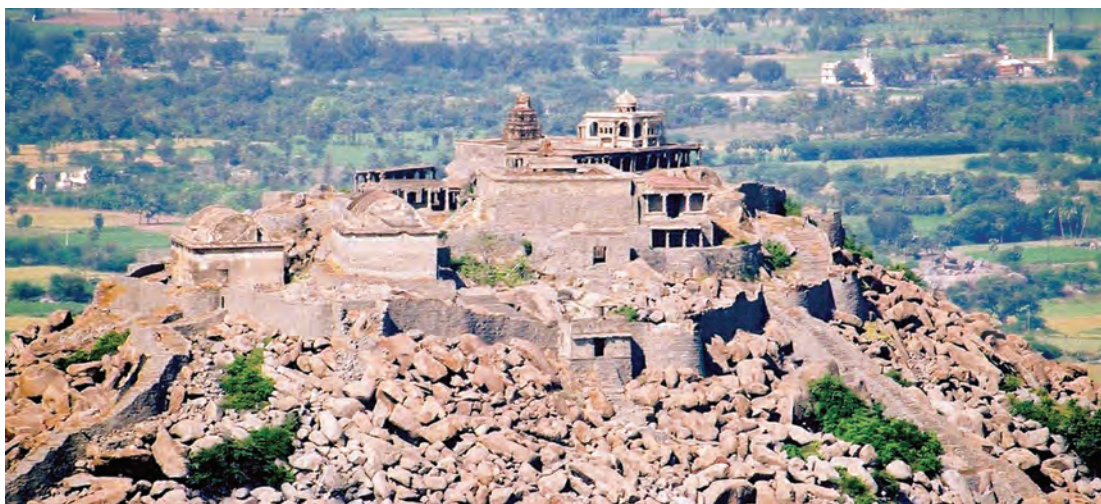
- (3) To whom did Rajaram Maharaj entrust the responsibility of protecting the *Swaraj* when he went to Jinji.
- (4) Devdatta has described Maharani Tarabai's valour in these words.

3. Give reasons.

- (1) Aurangzeb turned his attention towards Adilshahi and Qutubshahi kingdoms.
- (2) After the death of Sambhaji Maharaj, the Marathas intensified their war with the Mughals.
- (3) It was decided that the Raigad fort should be fought under the leadership of Maharani Yesubai.

Activity

Show Goa, Bijapur, Golconda, Jinji, Ahmadabad and Ahmednagar on a map of India.



Fort Jinji



10. The Expansion of the Maratha Power

At the beginning of the Maratha war of independence, the Mughals were on the offensive whereas the Marathas were on the defensive. This situation however was reversed at the end of the war of independence. The Mughals were thrown on the defensive against the Marathas. In the latter half of the eighteenth century, the Marathas subdued the Mughals and extended the Maratha power to cover practically the whole of India. We shall study this in the present chapter.

Release of Shahu Maharaj : After the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, there ensued a struggle among his sons for the throne of Delhi. Prince Azamshah was in the South. At once, he marched towards Delhi to seize the imperial throne. Prince Shahu was in his captivity. Azamshah believed that if Shahu Maharaj was released, there would arise a conflict between him and Maharani Tarabai for the *gadi* of the Maratha Chhatrapati. Azamshah felt that this would sap the Maratha strength and therefore, released Shahu Maharaj.

Coronation of Shahu Maharaj : Immediately after his release, Shahu Maharaj marched towards Maharashtra. He was joined by some Maratha *Sardars*, but Maharani Tarabai did not accept his claim to the throne. The armies of Shahu Maharaj and Maharani Tarabai fought a battle at Khed on the bank of the Bheema. Shahu Maharaj



Shahu Maharaj

won the battle. He captured Satara. He got himself crowned. Satara became the capital of the Maratha kingdom.

For a while, the mutual opposition between Maharani Tarabai and Shahu Maharaj continued. Maharani Tarabai proclaimed her minor son Shivaji II as the Chhatrapati at Pahnala in 1710 CE. This gave rise to an independent Maratha Kingdom at Kolhapur besides the one at Satara.

The early part of Shahu Maharaj's life was spent in Mughal camps. So, he had seen Mughal politics from close quarters. He knew the finer points of Mughal and especially North Indian politics.

He knew the strengths and weaknesses of the Mughal empire very well. Also, he was acquainted with the influential people in the Mughal Court. All these factors helped him deciding the new direction of Maratha politics in the changing circumstances.

Aurangzeb's successors had given up his policy of destroying the Maratha power. So the Marathas adopted a new policy. Instead of fighting with the Mughal power, they decided to protect it and expand their own empire in that role. They believed that restoring an old temple is as good as building a new one.

The Mughal power faced the threat of the Irani and Afghani invaders from the north-west and also of the local Pathan, local Rajput, Jat and Rohilas rulers. The internal competition and tussle in the court had also weakened the Mughal power. Due to all these the Delhi Court needed the help of the Marathas.

Balaji Vishwanath : After Shahu Maharaj was released by the Mughals, he

made Balaji Vishwanath, a Peshwa. Balaji hailed from Shrivardhan, in Konkan. He was competent and experienced. He convinced many *Sardars* that Shahu Maharaj was the real heir of the Maratha empire and made them join hands with him.

Kanhoji Angre was the chief of Maratha Navy. He chose to side with Maharani Tarabai and attacked the territories of Shahu Maharaj. This gave rise to a difficult situation. Under these circumstances, Shahu Maharaj sent Balaji to fight against Kanhoji Angre. Balaji avoided the war and won Kanhoji over to Shahu Maharaj's side.

Chauthai and Sardeshmukhi rights :

After strengthening the position of Shahu Maharaj in Maharashtra, Balaji turned his attention to the politics in the North. The Delhi court, after the death of Emperor Aurangzeb, was marked by bickering and confusion. The Sayyid brothers, Abdulla (Hasan) and Hussein Ali had become very influential. With their help, in 1719 CE Balaji obtained from the Mughal Emperor, the grants or *sanads* to collect *chauthai* and *sardeshmukhi* from the Mughal territory in the Deccan. These *sanads* gave the Marathas the rights to collect one fourth part (*chauthai*) and one tenth part (*sardeshmukhi*) of the revenue from the Mughal territory in the Deccan.



Bajirao I

Bajirao I :

After the death of Balaji Vishwanath, Shahu Maharaj appointed Balaji's son, Bajirao I the *Peshwa* in 1720 CE. He expanded the Maratha Empire during his term of 20 years.

Nizam's defeat at Palkhed : The Mughal emperor Farukhsear appointed Nizam – ul – Mulk the Subhedar of Deccan. In 1713 CE Nizam tried to establish his separate existence at Hyderabad. The Emperor had given the Marathas the rights to recover *Chauthai-Sardeshmukhi* from the Mughal areas. Nizam was against it. He captured some part of the Pune *Pargana*. Bajirao decided to checkmate the Nizam. He defeated the Nizam at Palkhed near Aurangabad. The Nizam accepted the Maratha right to collect *Chauthai-Sardeshmukhi*.

As the Mughal power had become weak, Bajirao knew that there was more scope to expand the empire towards northern side. Shahu Maharaj supported his policy.

Malwa : Malwa in today's Madhya Pradesh was part of the Mughal empire. Bajirao sent Malharrao Holkar, Ranoji Shinde and Udaji Pawar under the leadership of his brother Chimajiappa to Malwa. There, they strengthened the posts.

Bundelkhand: Bundelkhand means some part of today's Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh – areas around Jhansi, Panna and Sagar.

King Chhatrasal had established his own kingdom in Bundelkhand. The Mughal Subhedar Mohammad Khan Bangush of Allahabad attacked Bundelkhand and had defeated Chhatrasal. Chhatrasal appealed to Bajirao for help.

Bajirao took a large army and went to Bundelkhand. He defeated Bangush. Chhatrasal honoured Bajirao. This is how Marathas established their supremacy in Malwa and Bundelkhand.

Bajirao demanded from the Emperor the office of the *Subhedar* of Malwa. As the Emperor declined this demand, Bajirao

marched on Delhi in 1737 CE. The Mughals were taken by surprise.



Do you know ?

Chhatrasal wrote a letter to Bajirao. In that he wrote, जो गत आह गजेंद्र की वह गत आई है आज. बाजी जान बुंदेल की, बाजी राखो लाज. (My situation is like the elephant whose leg is caught by the crocodile. You are the only one who can save me.)

The battle of Bhopal : The Emperor felt uneasy on account of Bajirao's Delhi expedition. He invited the Nizam to protect Delhi. Nizam marched against Bajirao with his huge army. Bajirao defeated him at Bhopal. Nizam agreed to secure the *sanad* of Malwa *subhedari* for the Marathas from the Badshah.

The defeat of Portuguese : The territories of Vasai and Thane on the Konkan coast were in the possession of the Portuguese. The Portuguese rulers oppressed their subjects. Bajirao sent his brother Chimajiappa to subdue the

Portuguese. Chimaji conquered Thane and the adjacent areas. In 1739 CE, he laid siege to the Vasai fort. The fort was very strong. The Portuguese had a powerful artillery. In spite of all this, Chimaji continued the siege with perseverance and forced the Portuguese to surrender. The fort of Vasai and large parts of the Portuguese territory passed into the hands of the Marathas.

Death of Bajirao : Nadirshah, the Emperor of Iran, invaded India. Following the order of Shahu Maharaj, Bajirao set out for the North with a big army to defend the Mughal power. By the time he reached Burhanpur, Nadirshah had returned to Iran with an enormous booty looted from Delhi. In April 1740, Bajirao breathed his last at Raverkhedi on the banks of the Narmada.

Bajirao was a great General. With his valour, he established the Maratha supremacy in the North. He won status for the Maratha power as a formidable power in the whole of India.

In his time, the Shinde, Holkar, Pawar, Gaikwad families attained prominence.



Exercise

1. Write the meaning.

- (1) Chauthai –
- (2) Sardeshmukhi –

2. Write the answer in one word.

- (1) Balaji was from this town in Konkan
- (2) He ruled Bundelkhand
- (3) Bajirao died at this place
- (4) He defeated the Portuguese

3. Write about them in your own words.

- (1) Kanhoji Angre
- (2) The Battle of Palkhed

(3) Balaji Vishwanath

(4) Bajirao I

4. Give reasons.

- (1) Two separate Maratha States were formed.
- (2) Azamshah released Chattrapati Shahu Maharaj from his custody.
- (3) Delhi needed the help from the Marathas.

Activity

Get a biography of Maharani Tarabai and present an inspiring event in her life.





11. Marathas – The Protectors of the Nation

After Bajirao I, Shahu Maharaj appointed his son Balaji Bajirao alias Nanaasaheb the *Peshwa*. Following the invasion of Nadirshah, there was instability in Delhi. In these circumstances, Nanaasaheb tried to stabilize the Maratha rule in the North. Ahmadshah Abdali posed a challenge to the Marathas at Panipat. We shall learn about these developments in this chapter.

Situation in the North : The region to the north-west of Ayodhya province at the foothills of the Himalayas was called Rohilkhand in the 18th century. The Pathans who had migrated from Afghanistan had settled in this region. They were known as Rohillas. The Rohillas had wrought havoc in the Doab region of the Ganga and Yamuna rivers. The Nawab of Ayodhya invited the Marathas to subdue the Rohillas. The Marathas chastised the Rohillas.

Conflict with the Afghans : Ahmadshah Abdali, the ruler of Afghanistan, was attracted by the riches of India. He marched on the Punjab in 1751 CE. There was anarchy in the Mughal territory. The Mughals were facing the threat of Abdali's invasion. In these circumstances, the Mughals found it necessary for their own protection, to seek the help of the Marathas. The Emperor was sure of the Maratha strength and integrity. There was no other power strong enough to protect Delhi. Therefore, the Emperor entered into a treaty with the Marathas in April 1752. According to this treaty, the Marathas agreed to protect the Mughal power from enemies like the Rohillas, the Jats, the Rajputs and the

Afghans. In return, the Marathas were to get cash money, the right to collect *chauthai* in the territories of the Punjab, Multan, Rajputana, Sindh and Rohilkhand and the *Subhedari* of Ajmer and Agra provinces.

As per the treaty, the Peshwa sent the Shinde-Holkar armies for the protection of Delhi on behalf of the Chhatrapati. When Abdali learnt that the Marathas were marching to Delhi, he went back to his country. Because the threat of Abdali was thus thwarted due to the Marathas, the Emperor gave them *Chauthai* rights to the Mughal *subhas*. These *subhas* included Kabul, Kandahar and Peshawar. Though the *subhas* were previously a part of the Mughal empire, now they were part of Abdali's Afghanistan. As per the treaty, it was a duty of the Marathas to win the *subhas* back from Abdali and annexe them to the Mughal Empire. Abdali however, wanted to bring under Afghan control, the region up to the Punjab. So a conflict between the Marathas and Abdali was imminent and inevitable.

Raghunathrao, brother of the Peshwa Nanaasaheb, accompanied by Jayappa Shinde and Malharrao Holkar, undertook the campaign of North India to combat Abdali.



Peshwa Nanaasaheb

The local rulers in the north saw the Marathas from the South as their competitors. They did not take into account

the broad vision of the Marathas and

remained neutral, offering no help to the Marathas. They did not like the Maratha supremacy and interventions in the Delhi court. Surajmal Jat and Rani Kishori were the only ones who helped the Marathas wounded in the battle of Panipat.

Also, some of the orthodox sects in the North saw Marathas as people belonging to other religions. They, too, left aside the broad vision of the Marathas. They persuaded Abdali to invade India with a view to reducing the Maratha might. They expected that Abdali would defeat the Marathas and drive them away back to the South, beyond the river Narmada.

The Maratha standard on Attock : Najibkhan was a Rohilla chief. He found it hard to tolerate the Maratha supremacy in the North. At the behest of Najibkhan, Abdali invaded India again. This was the fifth time he had invaded India. He captured Delhi. He returned to Afghanistan with a huge booty. Raghunathrao and Malharrao Holkar marched to the North again. They captured Delhi. Then, driving out Abdali's officers, they captured the Punjab. The Marathas pursued Abdali's soldiers right up to Attock in 1758 CE. The Maratha standard was raised at Attock. Attock is in present day Pakistan. From Attock, the Marathas pushed the campaign up to Peshawar. However, they did not make proper arrangements to look after this newly conquered territory.

Dattaji's valour : To get a firm hold over the Punjab and to crush Najibkhan, the *Peshwa* sent Dattaji Shinde and Janakoji Shinde to the North. Dattaji went to the North. Keeping Dattaji engaged in negotiations, Najibkhan established contacts with Abdali. He requested Abdali

to come to his help. On receiving the message from Najibkhan, Abdali invaded India again. Dattaji and Abdali confronted each other at Buradi Ghat on the banks of the Yamuna. A fierce fight ensued. Dattaji showed tremendous valour. He met with a heroic death in this battle.



Do you know ?

Dattaji fought very bravely. At last, he was severely wounded and collapsed on the battleground. Najib Khan Rohilla's adviser Qutub Shah stepped down from his elephant and came towards Dattaji. He asked Dattaji, 'क्यों पटेलजी, हमारे साथ तुम और भी लढेंगे?' Dattaji was in a wounded state. But after hearing these words of Qutub Shah, he replied with pride, 'हाँ, बचेंगे तो और भी लढेंगे।'

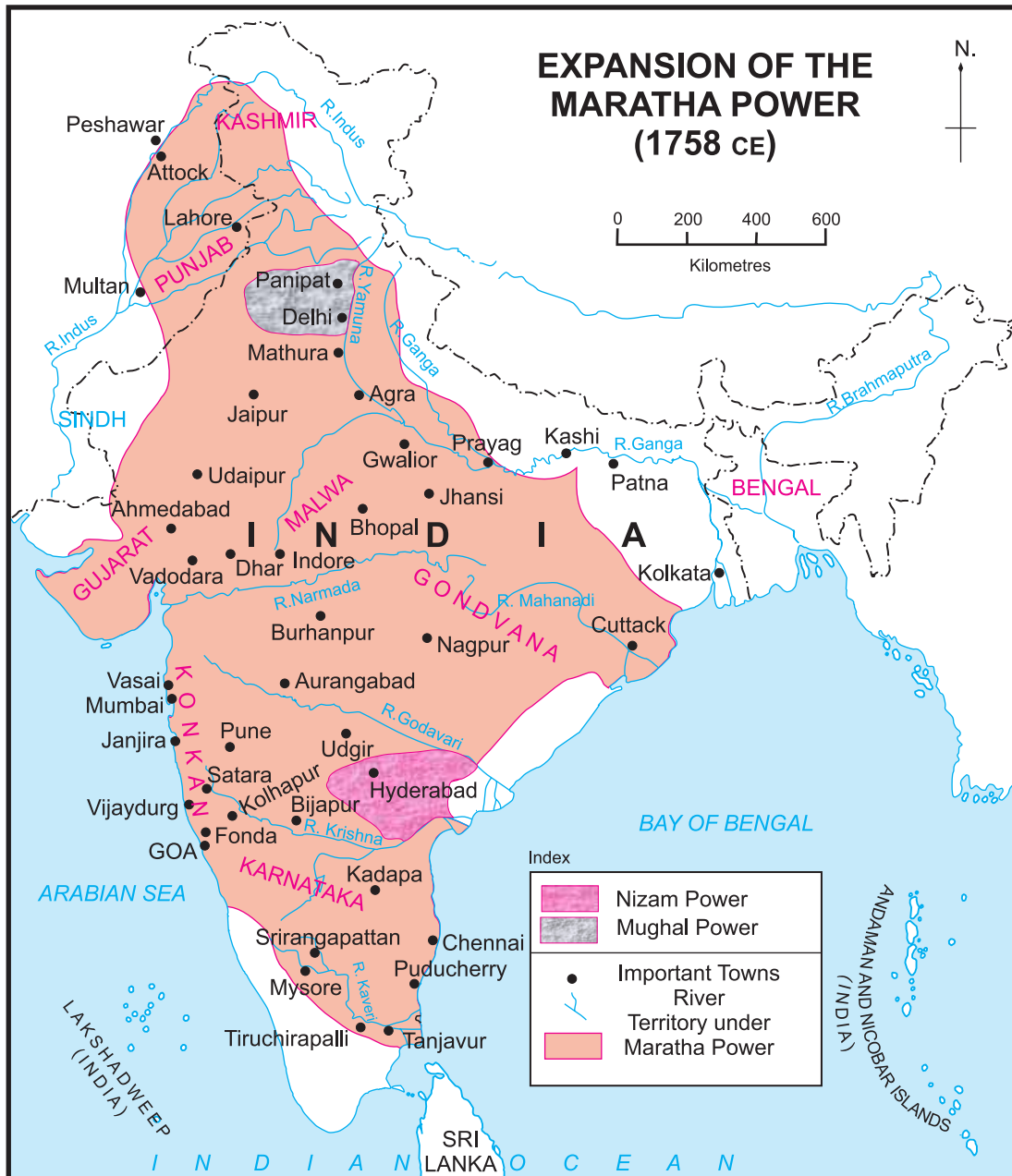
Sadashivraobhau : Nanasaheb sent his cousin Sadashivraobhau and eldest son Vishwasrao to the North to crush Abdali.

Sadashivraobhau was Chimajiappa's son. He had with him, a huge army and a powerful artillery.



Sadashivraobhau

Ibrahimkhan Gardi was the chief of the artillery. He had defeated the Nizam in the battle of Udgir in 1760 CE, on the strength of this artillery.



The Battle of Panipat : In his campaign of the North, Sadashivraobhau captured Delhi. The armies of the Marathas and Abdali confronted each other at Panipat. On 14 January 1761, the Marathas opened the battle by attacking Abdali's army. This was the Third Battle of Panipat. Vishwasrao fell a victim to an enemy bullet in the battle. When Sadashivraobhau learnt this, he fiercely attacked the enemy in a frenzy. He disappeared in the battle fray. Seeing that

their leader had disappeared, the Maratha soldiers lost courage. At that very moment, the reserve contingents of Abdali launched an attack on the Marathas with a fresh vigour. The Marathas were defeated. A whole generation of young men in Maharashtra was killed. Many brave *Sardars* fell on the battlefield. The Marathas believed that an outsider like Abdali had no moral right to rule here. The Marathas fought at Panipat with the broad perspective that India is for Indians.

**Do you know ?**

Approximately 1,50,000 people were killed in the battle of Panipat. One letter describes this in a poetic way.

“दोन मोत्ये गळाली. सत्तावीस मोहोरा
हरवल्या! आणि रूपये, खुर्दा किती गेल्या याची
गणतीच नाही.”

Sadashivraobhau had explained the broad, all-inclusive viewpoint of the Marathas in his correspondence with the rulers in the North, saying that they were all native to the land and Abdali was an enemy from a foreign country. But the rulers in the North did not respond favourably to him and took a neutral attitude. Naturally, the Marathas had to shoulder the responsibility of protecting India. We can say that the Marathas were the first in our history to realise that India was one country and it was necessary for all to lend support to the king irrespective of his religion.

Peshwa Madhavrao : After the death of Peshwa Nanasaheb, his son Madhavrao succeeded him to the office of the Peshwa. Madhavrao kept the Nizam and Hyder Ali at bay. He established the supremacy of the Marathas in the North again.

After the defeat of the Marathas at Panipat, the Nizam once again resumed his anti-Maratha activities. He invaded the Maratha territory. Madhavrao defeated the Nizam



Peshwa Madhavrao

at Rakshasbhuvan near Paithan.

Hyder Ali was the Sultan of Mysore. Taking advantage of the Maratha defeat at Panipat, Hyder Ali attacked their territory in Karnataka. The Marathas defeated Hyder in a battle at Moti Talav near Srirangapattan. He then agreed to cede the region north of the river Tungabhadra to the Marathas.

Peshwa Madhavrao died in 1772 CE. In the history of the Marathas, he is described as an honest, hard-working, determined administrator who was keen on public welfare. The death of this capable *Peshwa* was an irreparable loss to the Maratha State.

**Do you know ?**

Peshwa Madhavrao provided special attention towards the welfare of farmers. He dug many wells in Pune and increased the water supply to the city. Administrators like Nana Phadnavis and judges like Ramshastri Prabhune emerged under his rule. He reformed the judiciary for better justice to the common people. He started artillery and ammunition factories. He also established a mint to make coins.

The two Peshwas who succeeded Peshwa Madhavrao, namely Narayanrao and Sawai Madhavrao, did not live long. During their term, Peshwa was in the grip of family feuds. Raghunathrao, who had once raised the Maratha standard at Attock, sought shelter with the British to satisfy his greed for power. This led to a war between the Marathas and the British.

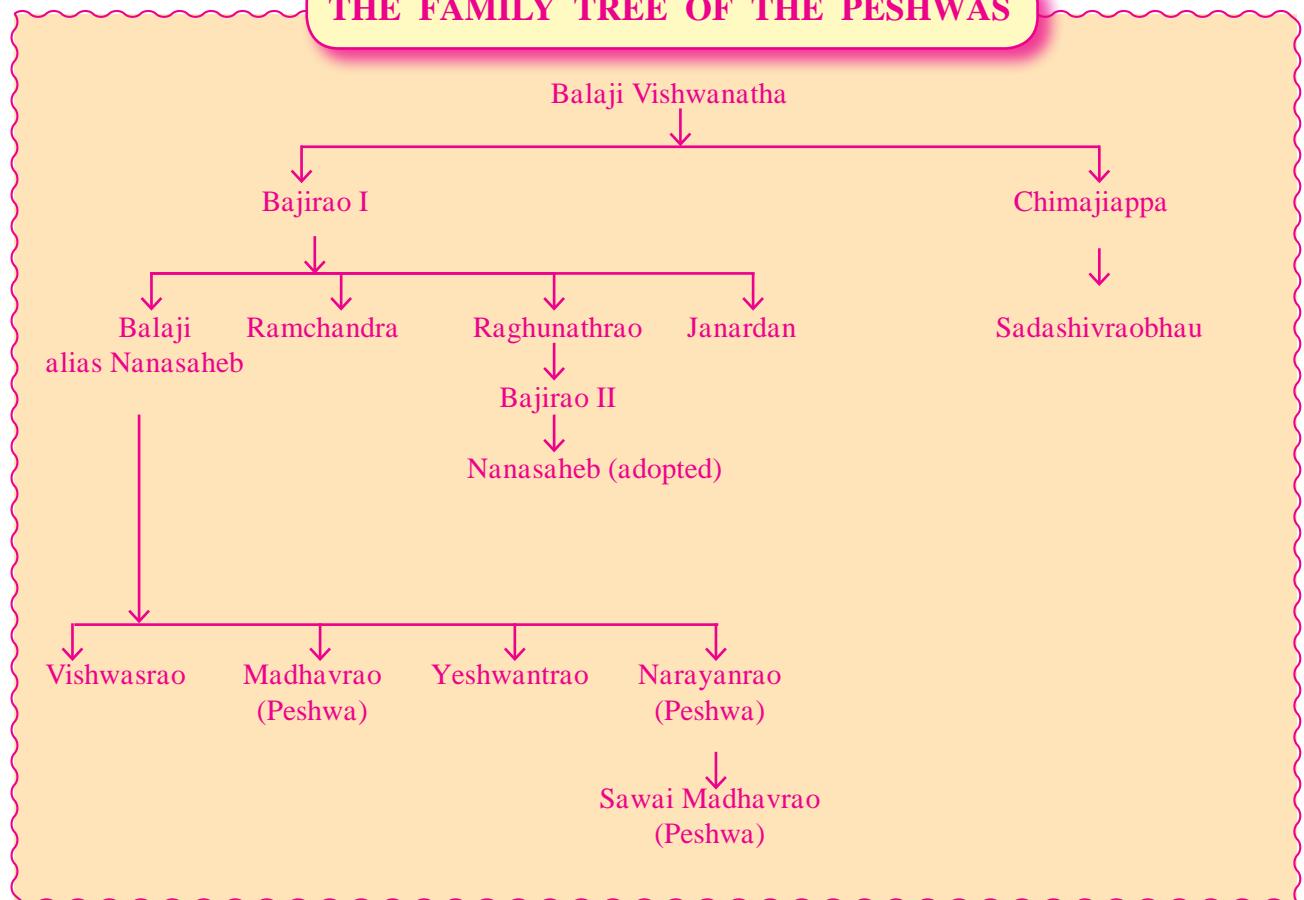
Hyder Ali died in 1782 CE. After him his son Tipu became the Sultan of Mysore. He was a skilled warrior, a scholar and a poet. He used his competence to increase the might of his Kingdom. He established contact with French and shook the foundation of British supremacy. He died in 1799 CE in a battle against the British.

The Maratha Supremacy Rises Once Again : The Maratha prestige in the North had suffered a severe setback because of the debacle at Panipat. Madhavrao dispatched Mahadji Shinde, Tukoji Holkar, Ramchandra Kanade and Visajipant Biniwale to re-establish the Maratha rule in the North. The Maratha army defeated the Jats, the Rohillas and the Rajputs. The Marathas restored the Emperor Shah Alam to the throne of

Delhi under their own protection. The Maratha power was revived in the North.

The Marathas suffered a heavy loss in the battle of Panipat. Abdali's army also suffered losses. He did not benefit financially in the battle. In fact, Abdali or his descendants did not muster enough courage to invade India again. They realised that only the Marathas had the strength and capacity to control the anarchy in the North. They expressed their wish that the Marathas should protect the Empire. They sent a messenger to Pune to establish cordial relations. It is important to note that the Marathas overcame the great defeat at Panipat and successfully revived their supremacy in the politics of the North. Malharrao Holkar, Ahilyabai Holkar and Mahadji Shinde had a lion's share in all this.

THE FAMILY TREE OF THE PESHWAS





Exercise

1. Name them.

- (1) They came from Afghanistan ...
- (2) They settled at the foothills of the Himalayas...
- (3) The brother of Nanasahab Peshwa...
- (4) The chief of Jats at Mathura...
- (5) Defeated Nijam at Rakshashbhuvan near Paithan...

2. Write in brief about.

- (1) Raising the Maratha standard at Attock.
- (2) Conflict with the Afghans
- (3) The after effects of the battle of Panipat.

3. Arrange chronologically.

- (1) The battle of Rakshashbhuvan.
- (2) The death of Tipu Sultan.
- (3) The death of Madhavrao Peshwa
- (4) The battle of Panipat
- (5) The battle of Buradi Ghat

4. Find the names of people in the chapter :

N _ _ n _ _ _ _ _

D _ _ _ _ _

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Activity

Find more information about the battle of Panipat on the internet and make a presentation in your class.



The Court of Sawai Madhavrao Peshwa



12. Progression of the Empire

Till now we have learnt about the rise of the Maratha power and its expansion. We studied the developments from the foundation of the *Swaraj* till its expansion into an empire. In this chapter, we take a brief review of the *Sardar* families, who gave their valuable contribution for expanding the Maratha kingdom in the northern parts of India.

The Holkars of Indore : Malharrao was the founder of the Holkar rule at Indore. He served the Maratha state for a



Malharrao Holkar

long time. He was well-versed in guerrilla warfare. He proved his valour in the northern campaigns of the Marathas at the time of Bajirao I and Nanasaheb Peshwa. He was instrumental in establishing the Maratha supremacy in Malwa and Rajputana. He proved to be of great help to Peshwa Madhavrao in reviving the Maratha prestige in the North after the defeat at Panipat. *Punyashloka* Ahilyabai Holkar was the wife of Khanderao, who was Malharrao's son. Khanderao died in the battle of Kumbheri. After a few days, Malharrao also passed away. After him, Ahilyabai assumed the reins



Ahilyabai Holkar

of the Indore administration. She was a capable, astute and excellent administrator. She made new laws for agricultural cess, revenue collection etc. and put the affairs of the State in order. She strove to bring more land under cultivation, digging wells for farmers, promoting trade and industry, building lakes and tanks.

She built temples, *Ghats*, *Maths*, *Dharamshalas*, drinking water facilities at all important places of pilgrimage in the four quarters of India. This effort of hers was important for the cultural integration of the country. She looked into judicial matters personally and dispensed justice. She was very generous. She had great love of books. She ruled ably for twenty-eight years and enhanced the Maratha prestige in the North. She brought peace and order to her Kingdom and made her people happy. Yashwantrao Holkar tried to save the Maratha Kingdom when it was on the decline.

The Bhosales of Nagpur : Parasoji was given the *jagir* of Varhad and



Raghuji Bhosale

Gondawan during the reign of Shahu Maharaj. Among the Bhosales of Nagpur, Raghuji was the bravest and the most capable. He brought the area surrounding Tirucherapalli and Arcot in the South under Maratha dominance. Shahu Maharaj had assigned to him the *chauthai* rights of Bengal, Bihar and Odisha. He brought these territories under the Maratha dominance. In 1751 CE the Bhosales of Nagpur won

the Odisha territory from Ali Vardi Khan. Till 1803 CE Marathas dominated Odisha.



Do you know ?

The Maratha ditch – The British at Kolkata used to fear the Bhosales from Nagpur. So, to protect the city of Kolkata from a possible Maratha attack, they dug a ditch around the city. That ditch came to be known as the Maratha ditch.

The Shindes of Gwalior :

Bajirao I had rightly judged the capabilities of Ranoji Shinde and made him a *Sardar* in the North. After Ranoji's death, his sons Jayappa, Dattaji and Mahadji, too, proved their valour and strengthened



Mahadaji Shinde

the Maratha rule in North India.

Peshwa Madhavrao conferred the family title on Mahadji. Mahadji was a brave General and an astute statesman. Mahadji was instrumental in re-establishing the Maratha supremacy and prestige in North India after the Maratha defeat at Panipat. He realised that the guerilla tactics of the Marathas would not be suitable for the warfare in the plains of the North. He trained his army and modernised his artillery under the guidance of a French military expert de Boigne. With the help of this trained army, he subdued the Rohillas, the Jats, the Rajputs and the Bundellas.

The British began to take interest in the

politics at Delhi, when they felt that the Marathas might have become weak after the battle of Panipat. They managed to get Diwani rights of Bengal province and wanted to capture the Emperor of Delhi. In these adverse circumstances, Mahadji Shinde defeated the British and reinstated the Emperor on the throne. The emperor was pleased with his bravery and conferred the title of 'Vakil – i – Mutlak (Chief agent of the emperor) upon him, which meant that he had the authority of civil and military rights. He accepted that position on behalf of the minor Peshwa Savai Madhavrao. Due to this, the Marathas gained full control of the Empire. It was very difficult to save the tottering empire. Mahadji managed the difficult affairs with strong determination and looked after the Delhi affairs during 1784 CE to 1794 CE.

The heirs of Najib Khan, responsible for the Panipat battle, were still plotting against the Marathas in Rohilkhand. Najib's grandson Ghulam Kadir captured the Red Fort and tortured the Emperor and his *begums* for their wealth. He gouged out the Emperor's eyes and took hold of the royal treasure. In these circumstances, Mahadji defeated Kadir. He confiscated the wealth from him and returned it to the emperor. He reinstated the Emperor on the throne of Delhi. Thus, Mahadji recovered the Maratha prestige which was lost after the battle of Panipat. He controlled the politics of India by putting the Emperor under Maratha control.

Due to the family feuds amongst the *Peshwas*, Raghunathrao opted to go to the British camp. He wanted to become a *Peshwa* with the help of the British. It was not acceptable to the Maratha Statesmen. This led to an inevitable conflict between the Marathas and the British. The conflict between the two great powers. The

Marathas and the British would finally decide who the ruler of India would be.

From Mumbai, the British marched on the Marathas via Borghat. The Maratha army gathered under the leadership of Mahadaji Shinde. The Marathas blocked the supply of foodgrains to the British, using guerrilla tactics. Both the armies met at Wadgaon (on today's Pune-Mumbai Road). The British were defeated in this battle and were forced to surrender the custody of Raghunathrao to the Marathas.

Delhi was under Maratha control till 1803 CE. When we note that the British conquered India after battling with the Marathas, we understand the importance of Mahadaji's achievements. After setting in order, the affairs of Delhi, Mahadaji came to Pune. He died at Wanawadi near Pune where a memorial is built to him.

Like the Shindes, the Holkars and the Bhosales, some other prominent Maratha *Sardars* also rendered noteworthy service to the Maratha *Raj*.



Shinde Chhatra, Wanawadi, Pune

The navy raised by Shivaji Maharaj was strengthened by Kanhoji Angre and his son Tulaji. With this strong navy, they contained the naval powers of the Portuguese, the British and the Siddhis. They defended the coastline of the Maratha State.

Khanderao Dabhade and his son Trimbakrao laid the foundation of Maratha power in Gujarat. After the death of Khanderao, his wife Umabai routed the Mughal *Sardar* of Ahmadabad. She conquered the fort there.

Later, the Gaikwads made Vadodara in Gujarat a seat of their power. The Pawars of Dhar and Dewas in Madhya Pradesh rendered valuable assistance to the Shindes and the Holkars in expanding the Maratha power in the North.

The Maratha State was in disarray after the death of Peshwa Madhavrao. Nana Phadnavis, the famous administrator of the *Peshwas* and a Maratha statesman,

set right the affairs of the State with the help of Mahadaji. While Mahadaji was busy restoring the Maratha supremacy in the North, Nana managed the affairs of the South. In this, he was helped by the Patwardhans, Haripant Phadke, the Rastes and other *Sardars*. As a result of this, Maratha supremacy was established in the South.

The Holkars of Indore, Bhosales of Nagpur, Shindes of Gwalior, Gaikwads of Vadodara brought glory to the Maratha power on the basis of their valour, leadership qualities and capability. They were the pillars of the Maratha power in its last phase.

The Maratha *Sardars* were successful in establishing the influence of the Maratha power both in North and South India. After the death of Mahadaji Shinde



Nana Phadnavis

and Nana Phadnavis, the Maratha power began to wane.

At that time, Bajirao II, the son of Raghunathrao was the Peshwa. He did not have leadership qualities and had many vices. He was unable to unite the Maratha *Sardars*. The internal strife between the *Sardars* weakened their power.

During the reign of Bajirao II, the Maratha influence in the North and South waned further. The British replaced the Marathas.

The British captured Pune in 1817 CE and hoisted their flag 'Union Jack' there.

In 1818 CE the British defeated Marathas in the battle of Ashti in Solapur district and finally the Maratha power came to an end. This event marks a major change in the History of India. After this, the British managed to gain control over a major part of India. India came into contact with the Western world. That led to many changes in India's social system. Many old things became redundant or were pushed aside. This was a major transformation. A major change took place. The medieval period of Indian history came to an end. The Modern period began.



Exercise

1. Answer in one word.

- (1) She took the charge of the Indore administration.
- (2) The most capable and brave man in Bhosale family of Nagpur.
- (3) He reinstated the Emperor on the throne of Delhi.
- (4) He managed the politics in South.

2. Arrange chronologically.

- (1) The battle of Ashti.
- (2) Maratha dominance over Odisha.
- (3) The British flew the Union Jack in Pune.

3. Write briefly.

- (1) The work done by Ahilyabai Holkar.
- (2) The valour shown by Mahadji Shinde.
- (3) The Maratha rule in Gujarat.

4. Discuss the reasons behind the end of Maratha rule.

Activity

Create a pictorial chart to show the families that contributed to the expansion of the Maratha power. Exhibit it in your school.



Shaniwarwada, Pune



13. Life of the People in Maharashtra

The Hindawi *Swaraj* formed by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was a State for the people, founded with the noble intention of the welfare of common people, removal of oppression and the protection of Maharashtra *Dharma*. In the period after Shivaji Maharaj, Maratha power spread to all parts of India. It lasted for about 150 years.

We gathered information about the Maratha administration in the last few chapters. In this chapter, we shall study the social conditions and life of the people in that period.

Social conditions : Agriculture and occupations based on agriculture were the major sources of production at the village level. The *Patil* was responsible for the protection of the village and the *Kulkarni* handled the revenue. The *Patil* received land as *inam* for his work as a *Patil*. He also received a part of the village revenue. The *balutedars* were paid in kind (in the form of objects, foodgrains, etc.) for the work they did for the village people. The village occupations were divided into *kali* and *pandhari*. Peasants worked in their fields in the *kali* (land, earth or soil) and others, in *pandhari* – within the village precincts. It was considered important to conduct the affairs of the village with mutual understanding. Joint family system was prevalent.



Do you know ?

There were twelve *balutedars* such as the blacksmith, carpenter, potter, goldsmith, etc. in a village. They worked for the village people.

Customs and traditions : Child marriages were prevalent. It was acceptable to have many wives. There are a few examples of widow marriages in this period. To perform the last rites, burning, burial and immersion methods were used as per tradition. *Muhurta*, or auspicious occasions were sought for every little thing, and also to open battles. People believed in dreams and omens. '*Anushthans*' were performed to avoid the wrath of gods and planets. Charitable deeds were also done for the same purpose. People believed in astrology. There was a general lack of a scientific attitude and offerings to god (*navas*) were considered more important than medical treatment.

Standard of living : A majority of people lived in villages. The villages were mostly self-sufficient. Only salt had to be imported from other places. The needs of farmers were limited. They grew jowar, bajra, wheat, *ragi* (*nachani*), maize, rice and other grains in their fields. The daily diet consisted of *bhakari*, onion, chutney and an accompaniment. Barter system was used for everyday transactions. Village houses were simple mud and brick constructions. *Wadas* with one or two storeys were seen in cities. Rice, dal, chapatis, vegetables, salads, milk and *dahi* products were mainly included in the rich people's diet. Men wore a *dhoti*, *kurta*, *angarakha* and *mundase*. Women wore nine-yard sarees and blouses.

Festivals : People celebrated Gudhi Padwa, Nagpanchmi, Bail-pola, Dasara, Diwali, Makarsankrant, Holi, Eid and other festivals. In the *Peshwa* period, Ganeshotsava was celebrated in many homes. The *Peshwa* himself being a

devotee of Ganesha, these celebrations acquired importance. Every year these celebrations lasted from Bhadrapad Chaturthi up to Anant Chaturdashi.

Dasara being considered as one of the three and a half most auspicious occasions, many new things were started on this day. Weapons were offered *puja*, and it was customary to cross the boundaries ceremoniously (*seemollanghana*) and distribute 'apta' leaves on Dasara. The Marathas launched their campaigns after Dasara. During Diwali, Balipratipada and Bhau-beej celebrations had special importance. In most of the villages, fairs were held. Wrestling bouts were a common feature of the fairs, (*jatras*). *Gudhis* were raised to celebrate Gudhi Padwa. Celebrations included entertainment programmes like songs and dances. *Tamasha* was a popular form of entertainment.



Bailpola

Education : *Pathshalas* and *madarasas* were the institutes that imparted education. Reading, writing and arithmetic was taught at home. The *modi* script was used in most transactions.

Travels and communication : Transport was carried out by roads, through *ghats* and across bridges on rivers. Cloth, foodgrains, groceries were transported by loading them on the backs of bullocks. Small boats were used in rivers. Messengers and camel riders carried letters to and fro.



Mallakhamb

Sports : Various sports were popular in this period. They were a means of entertainment. Wrestling and martial arts were very popular. *Mallakhamb*, *dand*, *lathi*, *dandpatta*, *bothati* were practised. *Hututu*, *kho-kho*, *atyapatya* were the popular outdoor games and chess, *ganjifa*, dice were popular indoor games.

Religion and conduct : The two major religions seen in this period were Hindu and Muslim. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj had a liberal religious policy. The general understanding was that everyone should follow their own religion and should not impose it on others. The government gave grants to *pathshalas*, temples, *madarasas* and mosques. Followers of both religions took part in the celebration of each other's festivals. Varkari, Mahanubhav, Datta, Nath and Ramdasi *panths* were prevalent.

Women's life : Women's life in those days was full of hardships. Their world was confined to the house of first their father, and then their husband. Their education was neglected. Only a few exceptional women had achieved any progress in literacy, administration and battle skills. They include Veermata Jijabai, Maharani Yesubai, Maharani Tarabai,

Umabai Dabhade, Gopikabai, Punyashlok Ahilyabai. Customs like child marriage, unequal marriage, widowhood, *keshwapan*, *sati*, polygamy had imposed harsh restrictions on the way women lived.

The period from 1630 CE to 1810 CE is broadly defined as Maratheshahi. Let us review the art and architecture of this period in brief.

Sculpture : We find references to restoration of Kasba Ganapati Mandir, building of the Lal Mahal, construction on Rajgad and Raigad, building of sea forts, etc. that are related to architecture. Hiroji Indulkar was a famous architect of that period.

While setting up a village, the usual pattern was : roads cutting one another at right angles, stone construction along the sides and extensive *ghats* (steps) along the river bank. During the Peshwa period, a drinking water supply system was built like the one at Ahmadnagar and Bijapur. The Peshwas built underground pipes, small dams, gardens and courts, tanks, fountains, etc. The Mastani Talav at Diveghat, Hadapsar near Pune city is worth a mention in this regard.

Shaniwarwada and Vishrambagwada in Pune, Sarkarwada in Nashik, Raghunathrao Peshwa's *wada* at Kopargaon, the *wadas* of the Satara Chhatrapati, as also the old *wadas* at Wai, Menvali, Toke, Shrigonde, Pandharpur are symbols of the medieval *wada* culture.

Baked as well as unbaked bricks were used to build the *wadas*. Wooden columns, rafts, boards, dressed stones, arches, finely prepared lime, round tiles for the roof, mud and bamboo were all used in the construction. The *wadas* were decorated with sketches, paintings, wooden sculptures and mirrors.

Temples : The temples of this period are built in the Hemadpanti style of the

Yadav period. The *shikhar* of the Ambabai temple at Kolhapur, the temples on the Jotiba hill, Shambhu Mahadev temple at Shikhar-Shinganapur, Ghrishneshwar temple at Verul are excellent specimens of sculpture. The Bhavanidevi temple on Pratapgad and the Saptkoteswar temple at Goa were built by Shivaji Maharaj. Other temples of the Peshwa period are



Ghrishneshwar Temple

the Kalaram temple at Nashik, the Shiva temple at Trimbakeswar, the Shiva temples at Kaygaon and Toke on the confluence of the Godavari and Pravara, and the Mohiniraj temple at Newase.

Ghat : Stone *ghats* built on a river or at the confluence of rivers are characteristic of Maratheshahi. The most remarkable specimen of a *ghat* is the one at Toke, Pravara Sangam on the confluence of the Godavari and Pravara. In a flight of steps, there would be one wide step at regular intervals. This would lend beauty to the entire *ghat* construction. Strong bastions were built at regular intervals so as to prevent damage due to water currents.

Painting : The paintings on the walls of Shaniwarwada are the important ones of the Peshwa period. Ragho, Tanaji, Anuprao, Shivram, Mankoji are some of the important painters of this period. The painter Gangaram Tambat was famous at the time of Sawai Madhavrao Peshwa.

The Peshwas encouraged painting. *Wadas* in the Pune, Satara, Menvali, Nashik, Chandwad and Nipani regions during the Peshwa period had paintings on their walls. Temples at Pandeshwar, Morgaon, Pal, Benwadi, Pashan near Pune have paintings on the walls. The themes of those paintings were Dashavatara, Ganapati, Shankar, Rampanchayatana, mythological stories, Ramayana, Mahabharata, festivals and so on. At Jamod in Vidarbha, Jin Charitra paintings adorned the Jain temple. Illustrations in the *pothis*, minatures, portraits, scenes, etc. were also painted.

Sculpture : Important specimens include the sculpture of the meeting between Mallamma Desai and Shivaji Maharaj at the time of his Karnataka campaign, the sculpture at Bhuleshwar temple including sculptures of individuals and animals (e.g., elephant, peacock, monkey), the sculptures on the Toke temple and the idols within, the Trishund Ganapati

temple in Pune, the memorial to Punyashlok Ahilyabai in Madhya Pradesh, the sculptures at the Mohiniraj temple at Newase.

Metal idols : The Peshwas had specially commissioned the metal idols of Parvati and Ganapati in the Parvati temple for the purpose of *Puja*. Wooden sculptures were also seen.

Literature : Important forms of literature include the compositions of the Sants, mythological narratives, '*teeka*' literature, *owi*, *abhanga*, treatises, narrative poems, biographies, *aartis* of deities, *powadas*, *bakhars*, historical letters, etc.

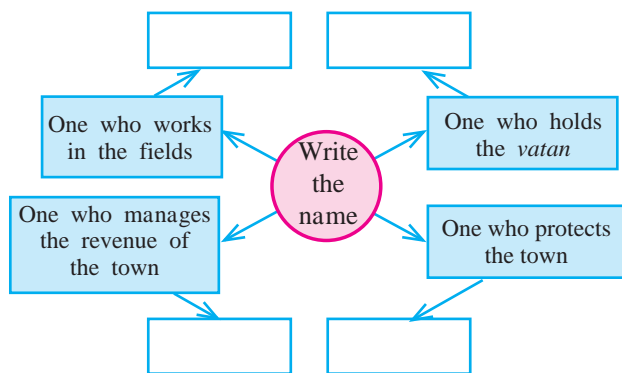
Drama : At Tanjavur in the South, Marathi plays has emerged near the end of the seventeenth century. Sarfoji Raje encouraged this art. Songs, music and dance were prominent parts of these plays.

So far we reviewed the medieval period of history and the rise and expansion of the Maratha power. Next year, we shall study the modern period.



Exercise

1. Complete the chart.



2. Which undesirable customs are prevalent in today's society? Suggest measures for their eradication.
3. Make a detailed note about the festivals celebrated in your area.
4. Use the following points to compare life in the era of Shivaji Maharaj and today's life.

Sr. No.	Point	At the time of Shivaji Maharaj	Today
1.	Transactions	.....	.....
2.	Houses	.....	Permanent, well - constructed cement-concrete multi-storeyed houses
3.	Transportation	.....	Bus, railway, aeroplanes
4.	Entertainment	.....	.....
5.	Script	.....	.....

Activity

Gather information about the capable women of our country and read it aloud in your class, e.g. information on P.V. Sindhu, Sakshi Malik.

