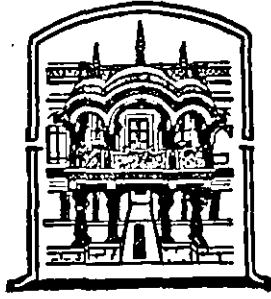


POONA : LOOK & OUTLOOK

1951 OTURKAR, ED.

G. I. P. E.,



Poona : Look and Outlook

1951

Editor-in-chief

Prof. R. V. OTURKAR, M. A.

THE POONA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION,
POONA CITY

PRICE RS. 4

"A city is not simply a static geographical concept indicating limitation in space. It represents a dynamic growth as a product of history, always enriching itself by assimilating all that is best and ever justifying its existence by freely placing itself at the service of the region in which it is situated."

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PREFACE

The need for a single book describing in full the civic and institutional life of the Poona City was keenly felt for a long time. The Poona Municipal Corporation was contemplating to bring out such a publication when the organisers of the XXVI Indian Philosophical Congress to be held in Poona in December 1951, expressed a wish that the book be published in time for the Session of the Congress so as to be useful to the large number of distinguished visitors coming to the town for the occasion. I am glad this has been possible. The best thanks of the Corporation are due to the Editorial Board who have expended much of their valuable time and taken great pains over the compilation. It has been a labour of love with them. But for their assistance, it would hardly have been possible for the Corporation to produce this volume so soon.

The civic life of a City throbs and is lived largely in its many institutions. Those who would know Poona well, must acquaint themselves with the aims, purposes and achievements of Poona's many institutions in all fields of cultural activity. As the first civic institution of the City the Poona Municipal Corporation feels great pleasure in publishing this conspectus of Poona's civic life.

Vishrambag wada,
Poona 2.
21st December 1951.

S. G. BARVE,
Municipal Commissioner,
for
the Poona Municipal Corporation.

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INTRODUCTION

Poona is growing rapidly both in size and importance, and outsiders from all parts of the country continue to pour into this city in large numbers and in all seasons.

The object of this book is to introduce Poona, social and cultural, to outsiders, in a volume at once moderate in size and price. This is not a Directory or a Guide, though a special chapter under the title Information for Visitors has been included to meet such a purpose, enumerating informative details useful to a traveller. It is an effort to represent the life of Poona in words and in pictures.

This is not the first attempt of its kind. As the bibliography at the end will show, books on Poona have been written from time to time since 1868. Publication of many of them, however, was only incidental and they have since then become out of date. The object of this volume is to give a balanced picture of Poona life and to serve more than a passing purpose.

The idea of preparing such a volume started with Prof. D. D. Vadakar, the Local Secretary of the 26th Session of the Indian Philosophical Congress to be held in Poona in December 1951, who requested some of his friends and colleagues to prepare a handbook of Poona for the use of the delegates attending the Session. A somewhat similar Guide to Poona was, at the same time, being contemplated and planned by the energetic Commissioner of the Poona Municipal Corporation. As there was a good deal that was common to both these plans, the two were assembled together and a common plan was evolved. A joint editorial committee was formed in July 1951 to work out the details. It was a happy idea that the Professors of the University and the authorities of the Corporation should co-operate for a common end to present a concise picture of Poona life for all those that are attracted to this historic city.

Poona is a city of institutions. A general appeal was, therefore, made inviting information from all of them with the object of incorporating

the volume. Other sources were also tapped for the purpose. It is possible, however, that with the best of efforts, there may still remain a few omissions. We request the indulgent reader to bring them to our notice. Naturally, in a work like this to be executed according to a schedule within a period of less than four months, it was not possible to begin with everything anew. Information from previous publications has, therefore, been very freely used and full liberty has been taken to reproduce a number of passages from them. We take this opportunity to express our indebtedness to them. We are specially obliged to Sardar S. C. Moodliar and his son Rao Bahadur N. S. Moodliar for having sent information of a number of institutions in the eastern part of the city. Our thanks are also due to Principal S. V. Dandekar and Dr. M. G. Dikshit who helped the Editorial Board in preparing portions of this book.

I cannot conclude this brief Introduction without expressing our sincere thanks to Prof. R. S. Joag, M. A., for going through the final proofs and thus rendering invaluable help to the editors.

Full credit must go to Mr. S. G. Barve, I. C. S., the present Commissioner of the Poona Municipal Corporation, for having seized the idea of bringing about the combination and harnessing the academic forces of the city for the realisation of a worthy civic purpose.

S. P. College, Tilak Road,
Poona 2.
October 15, 1951.

R. V. OTURKAR,
Editor-in-Chief.

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