

# BUILDERS OF MODERN INDIA

*Edited by* { KANAKARAYAN T. PAUL, B.A.,  
NICOL MACNICOL, M.A., D.Litt.

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## *IN PREPARATION*

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D.Litt.

RĀJĀ RĀM MŌHAN RĀĪ. By J. N. C. GANGULY,  
M.A., DARŚAN ŚASTRI.



Lupatinski

## PREFACE

IN 1902 Rāo Bahādūr G. A. Mānkar published an account of Rānāde, entitled,—*A Sketch of the Life and Works of the Late Mr. Justice M. G. Rānāde*. In 1910 Mrs. Rānāde wrote a book of *Recollections*—आमच्या आयुष्यातील कांहीं आठवणी—which affords much important material dealing with the more intimate and personal side of her husband's life. In 1924 there appeared the comprehensive and detailed work by Mr. N. R. Phātak, entitled,—न्यायमूर्ति महादेव गोविंद रानडे यांचे चरित्र. I desire to acknowledge my indebtedness to these three books. They have been the chief mines out of which the facts of Rānāde's career have been digged. A few other subsidiary sources of which use has been made are acknowledged in footnotes. It only remains to mention here a helpful article by Mr. V. V. Thākūr, which was published in the विविधज्ञानविस्तार of February, 1913.

The significance of Rānāde's life is to be found mainly in the far-spreading web of his mind—in his diagnoses of India's social, political, economic, and religious ills, and in the remedies that he both propounded and endeavoured to apply. It was an apt comparison when Professor Selby, of the Deccan College, referred to Rānāde as "Our Socrates." He challenged prevalent attitudes and stimulated thought, and the answers to India's complex problem, which in his mind were grasped as an inter-related whole, flowed out afterwards in divergent streams. There is fortunately much material available by means of which we can become

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acquainted with Rānade's mind and thought. There are his contributions on a wide variety of subjects to the *Quarterly Journal of the Poona Sārva-janik Sabhā*; his annual addresses at the meetings of the Indian National Social Conference, which are to be found in the volume, *Indian Social Reform*, edited by Mr. C. Y. Chitāmaṇi; and his writings on economic subjects, the chief of which have been collected together in a volume entitled, *Essays on Indian Economics*. Then there are the essays and speeches on religious questions and on social problems, which Mr. M. B. Koḷāskar has compiled in a book that goes by the name of *Religious and Social Reform*, and the collection of his Marāṭhī religious addresses called धर्मपर व्याख्यानैः. Also we have his *Rise of the Marāṭhā Power*, and his *Introduction to the Sāḷārā Rājā's and the Peshwā's Diaries*.

I have tried to get my own mental picture of Rānade true in its colouring and right in its proportions by talking with people who had some personal contact with him. In this connection I am grateful to Mr. K. Natarājan, Mr. G. K. Devadhar, Sir Lalubhai Sāmaldās, the late Mr. Goculdās Pārekh, Sir Lalubhai Shāh, Sir Hormasji Wādyā, Captain S. G. Rānade, and a few others, for many illuminating side-lights.

In writing the book I have received much helpful counsel from the Rev. Dr. Macnicol, some useful suggestions from Mr. K. T. Paul, the explanation of several matters from Mr. N. R. Phāṭak, and sundry assistance from my wife. The Rev. B. K. Uzgare and Mrs. Marybai Williams gave me help from time to time with language difficulties, and Mr. C. S. Deoli kindly put at my disposal a complete set of the *Sārva-janik Sabhā Journal*. To these and to the many other friends whose interest and whose

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ready assistance helped me in my task, I tender warm thanks.

With regard to the treatment of Indian names, it may be well to say for the benefit of readers who are quite unfamiliar with Indian pronunciation, that "Rāṇaḍe" is a three-syllabled word, the vowel in the first syllable sounding like the "a" in *father*, the vowel in the second syllable like the "u" in *but*, and the vowel in the last syllable like the "ai" in *bait*. For the benefit of those who appreciate having the precise Marāṭhī vowels and consonants indicated by the English letters, I have adopted the following system of transliteration in the case of those letters where there is some ambiguity as between the two languages,—  
अ a, आ ā, इ i, ई ī, उ u, ऊ ū, ए e, ऐ ai, ओ o, औ au, ङ ṅ, ट ṭ, ठ ṭh, ड ḍ, ढ ḍh, ण ṇ, त t, थ th, द d, ध dh, न n, य y, र r, ऋ ṛi (or ṛu), ल l, ळ ᳚, श ś, ष ṣh, स s.

*Bombay,*  
*July, 1926.*

J. K.

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