

THE
INDORE STATE GAZETTEER

(Revised and Enlarged)

VOLUME I—TEXT.

COMPILED.

*Under the authority of the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja Holkar.*

BY

L. C. DHARIWAL. M. A. LL. B.



SUPERINTENDENT HOLKAR GOVERNMENT PRESS, INDORE.

1931



His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Sawai Shri Yeshwantrao
Holkar II of Indore.

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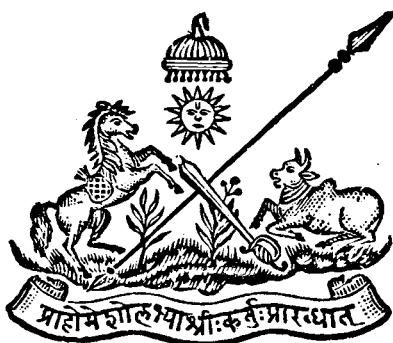
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PREFACE.

The first Gazetteer of the Holkar State was compiled in 1907 by the late Lieut.-Col. (then Captain) C. E. Luard, Superintendent of Gazetteer in Central India, with the assistance of Major Ram Prasad Dube, M.A., LL.B., B.Sc. Everything then was in a state of flux and the State was in a period of rapid transition. A new settlement was then in progress, the forest areas were being demarcated and placed under systematic management and control, public works, roads, buildings, waterworks, electric lighting arrangements were being carried out, and the entire life of the people in the State was being transformed under the influence of modern ideas. This process of evolution, rapid as it was, was considerably accelerated by the world-wide effects of the last Great War. Valuable and of undoubted utility, as was the information that had been embodied in the first Gazetteer of the Holkar State, the vast and important changes that have taken place in the various departments of State activity as also the life of the people, since the time that the first Gazetteer of the State was compiled, provided the stimulus for the publication of a revised State Gazetteer incorporating the latest information available concerning the State and its people.

The idea of revising the Holkar State Gazetteer took definite shape about the year 1922 and Mr. W. T. Kapse and Mashir Bahadur N. S. Rahalkar B.A., were entrusted with the work of collecting new material for the same. During the course of the three years that they were engaged, they collected much valuable information which forms the basis of the present volumes of the Gazetteer. Mr. Shambhunath Sukul, who joined the Gazetteer Office in 1926, coordinated and arranged the material that had already been collected and further supplemented it by additional information. In 1929 it was my privilege to be called upon to revise the drafts as made out by Mr. Sukul, rewrite certain portions wherever necessary, to verify and check the figures, in short, to make out the drafts in their final form for the publication of the revised Gazetteer.

In view of the extensive material that had been collected together it has been decided to publish the revised Gazetteer of the Holkar State in four volumes. The first volume consists of four Chapters which embody the main text. I need not dilate in detail in regard to the additions that have been made in the various sections of the text. As a general rule, it may be stated that as much of information as could be had on the various topics has been incorporated in the various Sections. The Section on Physical Aspects, on History, on Notabilities and Population have been enlarged and brought up to date. As regards the Section on Archaeology a large amount of new information has been made available since the compilation of the last Gazetteer owing to the valuable work done by several officers of the Archaeological Department of the Government of India. The new matter thus brought to light forms the basis of a separate volume on Archaeology, which, containing, as it does, a large number of photographs of the important archaeological remains to be found in the State will, it is hoped, prove to be of considerable interest.

All the Sections in Chapter II have been considerably enlarged. The subject matter of the topics dealt with in these Sections have undergone considerable change since the last Gazetteer was compiled. The methods of agriculture adopted now by the agriculturists are not the same as those that were adopted at the commencement of the century. The authorities in the State have been doing their utmost to bring about the introduction of improved and scientific methods of agriculture. Rents, wages and prices have been appreciably affected during the interval since the last Gazetteer was compiled. Large areas have been brought under the control of the Forest Department. And the State Forests now constitute an important source of revenue to the State and besides supply a large number of useful products. The first three decades of the present century have witnessed a remarkable development of arts and manufacturing industries. Commerce and trade have appreciably expanded. New means of communication have been developed

and famines as usually known before, have become a thing of the past, owing to the modern policy of organising relief works and the liberal policy pursued by the Government in the matter of remissions of land revenue in periods of stress. An attempt has been made to give the latest information available on all these subjects of unquestionable interest and importance in their proper places. The Section on Mines and Minerals has been very kindly re-written by Mr. A. L. Coulson of the Geological Survey of the Government of India. My thanks are due to him for the very valuable assistance given.

Chapter III deals with various branches of State activity. Here too the change since the last Gazetteer was compiled has been immense. All the departments of the State have been reorganised with a view to bringing about greater efficiency in the administration of these and a few new ones have been created. The resources of the State have increased. A fresh settlement has just been completed. New sources of revenue have been tapped. A great stimulus has been given to development of local self-governing bodies by the passing of the Indore City Municipality's Act, the District Municipalities' Act and the Village Panchayats' Act. Extensive public works have been constructed. The Army, and the Police have been reorganised and facilities for providing all classes of education and medical aid have been appreciably enlarged. And last, but not the least, important reforms have been introduced in the departments of legislation and justice so as to enable them to keep pace with the progress achieved in the working of these departments elsewhere. The various sections in this Chapter while tracing briefly the history of the development of these departments of the State also contain an account of the latest changes that have been introduced.

Chapter IV, as in the last Gazetteer, contains an account of the administrative divisions of the State. The district and *pargana* accounts have been brought up to date. Accounts of several places of interest have been added to the Gazetteer of places.

The second volume, as has been stated above, is devoted to Archaeology. The third volume contains appendices and a large number of tables and lists, embodying information on various subjects. The fourth volume will consist of a set of six maps. Besides a map of the State as a whole five large district maps drawn to a scale of 1" to 32 miles will be included. These maps have been prepared in the office of the Director of Land Records.

The volumes of the revised Gazetteer of the Holkar State will, it is hoped, provide a useful compendium of information regarding the Holkar State and its people. They cannot, by any means, lay claim to finality. Vast changes are taking place and with the rapid march of events all round, each year is bound to bring about important changes. It is particularly regrettable that the detailed results of the last Census could not be incorporated in the main body of the Gazetteer. This omission has, however, been partly remedied by the inclusion, at the end of the Section on population, of a table giving the latest figures of population of districts, *parganas* and important places in the State.

Now it only remains for me to acknowledge my indebtedness to officials of the State for the support and co-operation I have received in the discharge of my duties. I cannot adequately express my deep sense of gratitude to Wazir-ud-Dowlah Rai Bahadur S. M. Bapna, C.I.E., B.A., B.Sc., LL.B., for the uniform support that I have had from him during the course of my association with the revision of the State Gazetteer. Despite the numerous calls on his time, he very kindly went through all the voluminous drafts and made a number of suggestions which were very valuable and helpful. For my impertinencies I apologise to Diwan-i-khas Bahadur Lala Shreeman Singh, M.A., (Oxon), the General Minister. Ever indulgent in meeting any demands I made on his time, I cannot recall to mind any instance when he did not support any proposal or recommendation which I made, without which indulgence and support I should have virtually found it

impossible to carry through the work. The work of the officials who have been in charge of the Gazetteer Office such as Mr. W. T. Kapse, Mashir Bahadur N. S. Rahalkar B.A., and Mr. Shambhunath Sukul, and the officers who worked as their assistants from time to time, has been invaluable. Their work provided the material on which the present volumes of the Gazetteer are based. It would be invidious for me to single out names of State Officials for expressing my gratitude to them individually, and if I do not mention all the names it is not because I am not conscious of the valuable assistance and co-operation that I have received at their hands but because the inclusion of all the names would make the list unduly long. To all these officials I take this opportunity of expressing my deep sense of obligation and that of my predecessors in office for the help given.

To Mr. Narsimayyah, however, I am particularly indebted. He was in charge of the Gazetteer Office throughout the course of my association with the Gazetteer work; and it is no exaggeration to state that without his valuable assistance in various directions from revising certain sections to the untiring industry which he brought to bear in the correction of proofs, it would not have been possible to expeditiously complete the work.

Even at the risk of being a little weary I cannot close without expressing my gratitude to the staff of the Gazetteer Office for their co-operation and help.

I have also to acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. H. C. Sharma, Superintendent Stationery and Printing and the staff concerned under him for the prompt and efficient manner in which they carried out the work relating to the printing of these volumes.

I also acknowledge my indebtedness to the various authors of the books which I have had occasion to consult. A list of these authors and their works is given on a separate page.

L. C. DHARIWAL, M.A., LL.B.
Gazetteer Office, Indore, the 20th April, 1931.

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ARMS OF THE INDORE STATE.



ORIGIN.—At the Imperial Assemblage, Delhi, in 1877, a banner with Armorial Bearings blazoned thereon was presented to His Highness the Maharaja Tukoji Rao II by His Excellency the Viceroy on behalf of her Imperial Majesty Queen-Empress Victoria.

The arms given at Delhi were, Gules: *two lances in saltire surmounted or, a horseman's sword point upwards argent; in chief three poppy heads proper seeded or.* Crest.—*A bay horse trapped.* Supporters.—*Horses trapped proper.*

ARMS.—The arms at present used by the State are a modification of those mentioned above and consist of a *khanda* (broad-sword) and lance saltire-wise over a field of poppy and wheat in which a sacred bull (*nandi*) couchant and a horse rearing are depicted.

CREST.—A sun in splendour under a *chhatri* or royal umbrella.

N.B.—These may be explained as follows:—The Holkars claim descent from Udaipur, of which house, as being the greatest of the *Suryavamsi* clans, the Sun is the emblem. The umbrella, besides being an emblem of State, also refers to a legend bearing on the early life of Malhar Rao I, the founder of this house, according to which a cobra once sheltered him from the sun, while asleep, by expanding its hood over his head; the bull is sacred to Shiva who is specially adored by the Holkars; the horse and sword being similarly emblematic of the warrior-god Khande

Rao, an *avatara* of Shiva, and the tutelary deity of the family, whose chief temple stands at Jejuri near Poona; the Spear was the favourite weapon of the founder of this dynasty, and wheat and (until recently) poppy, the principal products of the State.

MOTTO.—Prahomeso labhya Sri kartuh prarabdhat.

“Umesh (Shiva) has said, success attends him who strives (*lit.* Prosperity proceeds from the congenital *karmic* potential of the doer.)” The same motto was given on the Delhi banner. The letters doubly underlined spell the surname Holkar.

BANNER.—The State banner now consists of red and white stripes being that of the Bande family given to Malhar Rao.

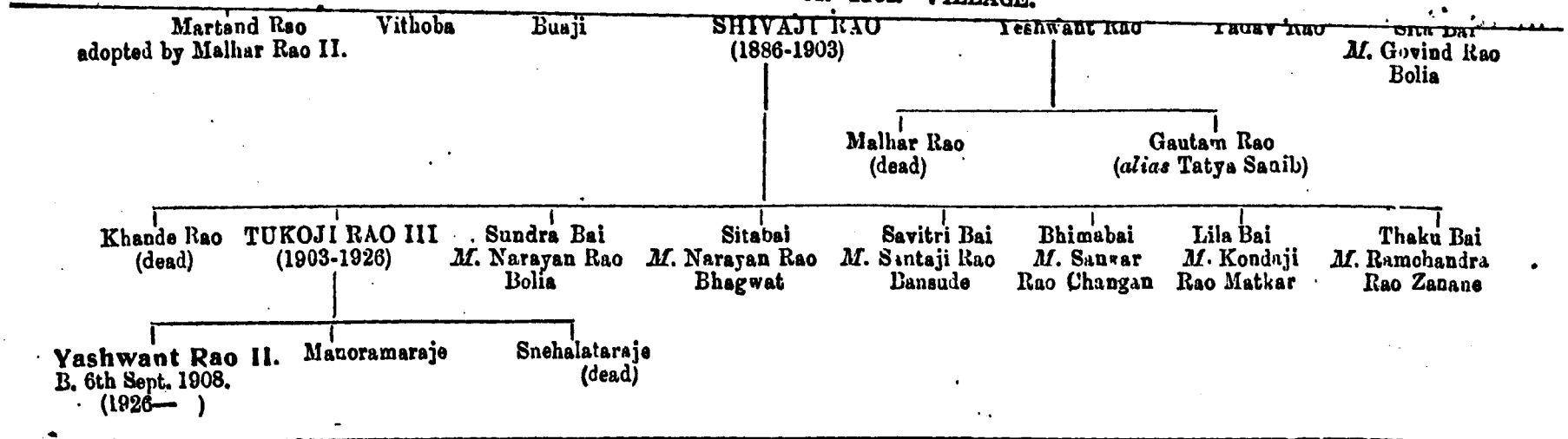
GOTRACHARA.—This house has no proper Gotrachara. The ordinary *gotra* used is the *Vishnu Charana*.

The Holkars are Hindus of the Shaivite sect, their principal deity, as has been noted above, being Khande Rao (Khandoba or Martand) of Jejuri, near Poona.

A more detailed note on this subject prepared some years ago by the Chief Minister of the State and already on record in the Buckingham Palace archives in London is reproduced at pages 33-34, Volume III, as deserving perusal in this connection.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE OF THE HOLKAR FAMILY.

MALIBA OF HAL OR HOL VILLAGE.



* Killed in 1754 at Dig (Bharatpur).

THE HOLKAR STATE.

The Holkar State consists of territory mostly in Malwa and Nimar and partly in Rajputana and Bundelkhand, and comprises the present districts of (1) Rampura-Bhanpura, (2) Mahidpur, (3) Indore, (4) Nemawar and (5) Nimar, and the isolated Parganas of Nandwai and Alampur.

PRESENT RULER.

Yashwant Rao Holkar II, born September 6, 1908, son of Maharaja Tukoji Rao III and Maharani Chandrawati Bai Saheba; married, February 9, 1924, Sanyogita Bai Saheba, born December 10, 1915, daughter of *Meharba* Sarje Rao Ghatge, Chief of Kagal, Junior, (Kolhapur); succeeded to the *gaddi* on the abdication of his father, February 26, 1926.

LIVING SISTER OF THE PRESENT RULER.

Princess Manorama Raje, born September 9, 1909.

LIVING COUSIN OF THE PRESENT RULER.

Tilottama Bai daughter of Shrimant Sardar Narayan Rao Bolia and Princiss Sundara Bai (own sister of Tukoji Rao III), born November 3, 1906, married May 22, 1925, to Baburao Bingley.

FATHER OF THE PRESENT RULER.

Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar III, born November 26, 1890; married (1) March 16, 1895, Chandrawati Bai Saheba, born September 24, 1887, daughter of Raoji Gawde and (2) December 8, 1913, Indira Bai Saheba, born June 11, 1896, grand daughter of Rao Bahadur Mukund Rao Ramchandra of Bombay (*both consorts being alive*); abdicated February 26, 1926, (*now living in retirement*).

LIVING COUSIN & HALF

SISTERS OF TUKOJI RAO III

(Father of the Present Ruler).

1. Shrimant Sardar Tatya Saheb Holkar, born April 25, 1882, son of Yashwant Rao Holkar (half-brother of Maharaja Shivaji Rao Holkar); married (1) March 30, 1894, Rakama Bai, daughter of Lahilaji Bansude, and (2) May 12, 1912, Sushila Bai, daughter of Bhau Saheb Gaode. Living offspring:—(1) Vatsalabai, born February 17, 1917; (2) Subhadra Bai, born, March 30, 1919; (3) Malhar Rao, born July 26, 1922; (4) Tarabai, born July 9, 1927.

2. Princess Sita Bai, born November 14, 1876; married March 27, 1891, to Narayan Rao Bhagwat who died April 25, 1924. Living offspring:—(I) *Captain* Martand Rao Bhagwat, B.A., (Oxon), born October 14, 1895; married March 16, 1921, Radhabai daughter of Krishna Rao Bargal, Jagirdar. Living offspring:—(1) Bhimdeo, born April 17, 1922; (2) Mirabai, born August 11, 1923; (3) Sindhu Devi, born October 20, 1925; (II) Indira Bai, B.A., (Oxon), born October 21, 1897.

3. Princess Savitra Bai, born May 6, 1881; married March 20, 1889, to Santaji Rao Bansude who died May 28, 1921.

4. Princess Bhima Bai, born September 30, 1882; married March 9, 1889, to Shankar Rao Changan, Bar-at-Law. Living offspring:—Shakuntala Bai, born December 5, 1893; married February 11, 1912, to Shreemant Viquarul-Umara Sardar Narayan Rao Bulia. Living Offspring:—(1) Madalasa Bai, born June 21, 1914; married February 17, 1925, to Sivappa son of Tippana Sivappa of Pandharpur; (2) Sumitra Bai, born March 2, 1916.

5. Princess Lila Bai, born October 10, 1889; married March 4, 1895, to Kondaji Rao Matkar who died January 14, 1928. Living offspring:—(I) Fateh Singh, born August 1, 1904; married June 13, 1927, Viramati Bai, daughter of Dajiba Vithoji Karde. (II) Narbada Bai, born September 24, 1910; married July 5, 1927, to Eknath Rao Shinde.

6. Princess Thaku Bai, born November 20, 1897; married December 23, 1913, to Ramchandra Rao Zanane, B.A. Living offspring:—(1) Sharatchandra Zanane, born in October 1914, (2) Chandraprabha Bai, born in April 1919; (3) Indumati Bai, born in April 1921; (4) Kumudini Bai, born in June 1923; (5) Varanashi Bai, born in June 5, 1927.

LIVING GRAND MOTHERS OF THE PRESENT RULER.

1. Girjabai Masaheba, born May 23, 1875,
2. Chandrabhagabai Masaheba,
3. Sitabai Masaheba.

TITLES.

The Ruler of Indore bears the titles of His Highness Maharajadhiraj Raj Rajeshwar Sawai Shri Ali Jah Bahadur.* He also enjoys a salute of 21 guns within the limits of his own dominions and of 19 guns elsewhere.

* [Note:—Now abbreviated into "Bahadur"].

ERRATA.

Volume I.

Page.	Line.	For,	Read.
4	1 from top	West	Western
8	5 from bottom	Chambal	Sipra
15	8 from bottom	civilsation	civilisation
57	12 from top	held	hold
73	20 from top	inserperable	inseparable
156	24 from top	norcotie	narcotic
158	21 from bottom	grown	sown
160	4 from bottom	antiscarbutio	antiscarbutic
169	11 from top	165	27225
270	10 from top	Tukoji Rao I	Tukoji Rao II
402	19 from bottom	specilise	spécialise
506	11 from top	amalgamted	amalgamated
513	4 from bottom	Insert 'at' between	'are' & 'Kasraward'
518	3 from bottom	3,858	38,858
531	7 from bottom	rother	brother
..	8 from bottom	f	of
541	14 from bottom	distrt	district
544	4 in para 2	Gunnea	Guinea
545	11 from bottom	souhern	southern
560	16 from top	bounadry	boundary
567	8 from top	circumstance	circumference
574	14 in para 2	country	17th century
580	6 from bottom	Chandra	Chanda
587	8 from bottom	Nimar	Nimawar
594	4 from top	Gogan	Gogaon
605	16 from bottom	be	by
..	18 from bottom	be	by
606	1 from bottom	erly	early
646	15 from bottom	chief	fief