

MPPSC Mains

Notes

Paper -1

Part-A , Unit-5

PRINCELY STATES AND TRIBAL HEROES

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UNDERSTANDING THE WORD PRINCELY STATE

A princely state, also called a native state, feudatory state or Indian state, was a vassal state under a local or indigenous or regional ruler in a subsidiary alliance with the British Raj.

A princely state was a nominally sovereign entity of British India during the British Raj that was not directly governed by the British, but rather by an Indian ruler under a form of indirect rule, subject to a subsidiary alliance and the suzerainty or paramountcy of the British Crown. There were officially 565 princely states in India at the time of independence in 1947, but the great majority had only contracted with the Viceroy of India to provide public services and tax collection. Only 21 major ones had actual state governments, and among them only four were large. They acceded to one or other of the two new independent nations between 1947 and 1949.

1. GONDWANA DYNASTY

Gondwana Kingdom was the ruling kingdom in Gondwana region of India. The Gondwana region includes core region of eastern part of the Vidarbha of Maharashtra, the parts of Madhya Pradesh immediately to the north of it, and parts of the west of Chhattisgarh. The wider region extends beyond these, also including parts of northern Telangana, western Odisha and southern Uttar Pradesh.

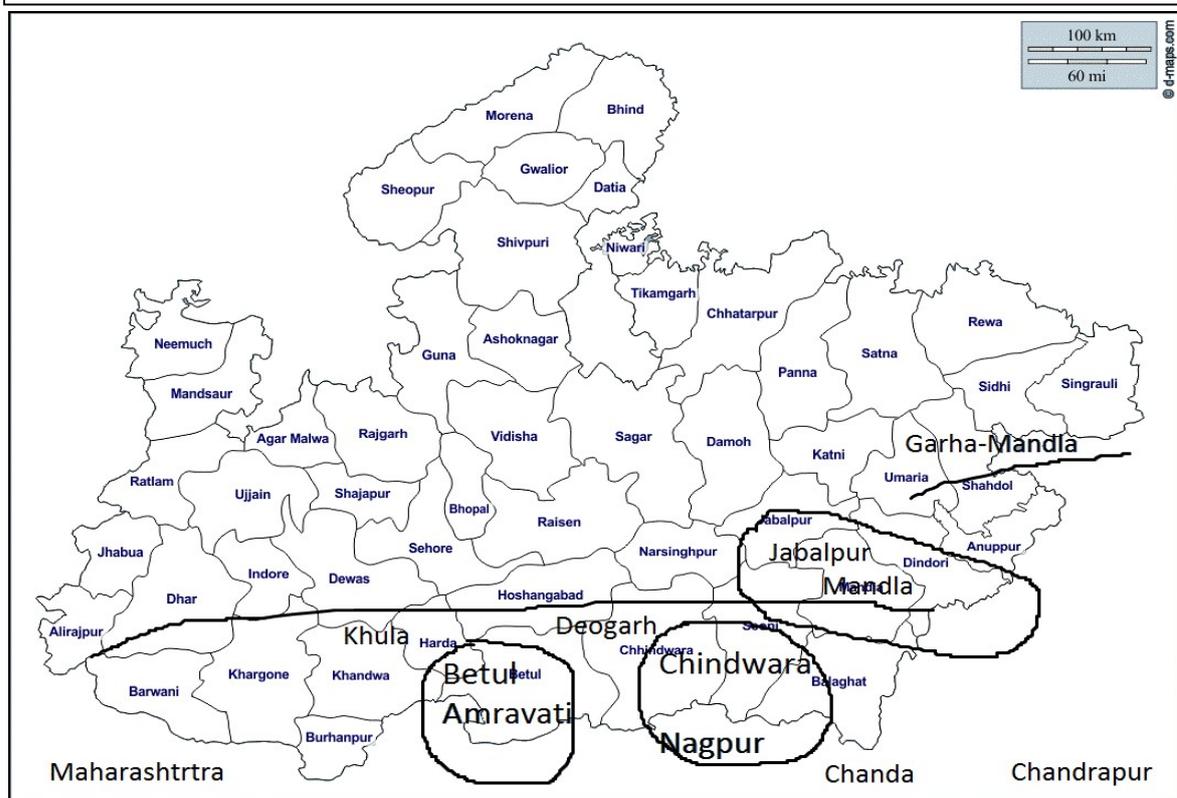
The Gondwana Kingdom was ruled by Rajgonds. The Rajgonds are the ruling class among the Gond tribe. The Gond Tribal is the dominating Community in Gondwana region. The name Gondwana named after Gondi people.

Gondwana means "Country inhabited by Gonds".

In early period Gondwana kingdom consisted of majorly four kingdoms. The Northern Gondwana was Garha Katanga or Garha Mandla Kingdom of Jabalpur and Southern part was Chanda Kingdom of Chandrapur. The western part was Kherla Kingdom of Betul and in 16th century. Devgarh Kingdom of Chhindwara was emerges as strong kingdom.

The Gonds were first mentioned in 14th-century Muslim chronicles. From the 14th to the 18th century the area was held by powerful Gond dynasties, which during Mughal times remained independent or served as tributary chiefs.

Gond Kings of Garha Mandla / Upper Narmada Valley

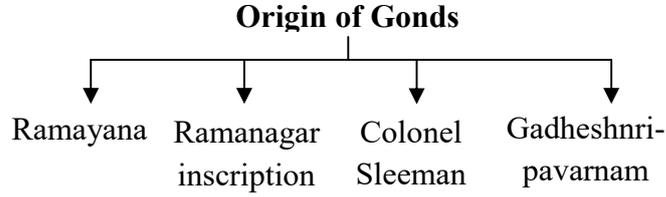


There are different viewpoints regarding the origin of Gonda. Nevertheless historians agree on one aspect, which is, it was the ancient period which witnessed their origin.

The 'Dandkaranya' mentioned in the Ramayana is considered to be the residence of Gonds. The first mention about the 'Political Power' of Gonds is found in a 'Sanskrit article of Ramnagar' in which there is a mention of 54 Gond kings from Yadav rai to Hriday Shah. This article was commissioned by Hriday shah in 1667.

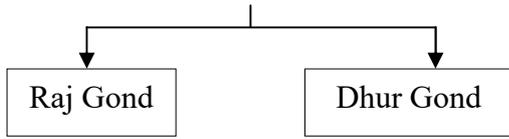
Second description of Gonds is provided by "Colonel Sleeman" in 1837 in which we found the description of all Gond rulers starting from Yadavrai to last ruler Summershah.

Most important description which we found is in a Sanskrit verse collection named 'Gadhesh mripa varnam' in which there is a description of 63 Gonds rulers along with their time period of reign.

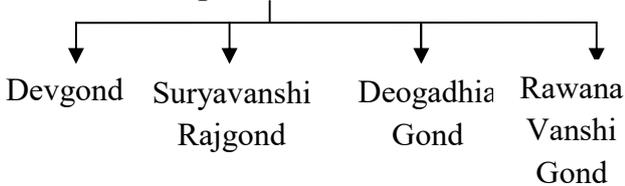


CLASSIFICATION OF GONDS:

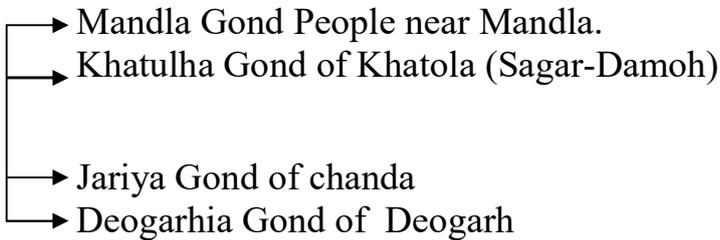
(I) As per the Imperial Gazetteer of India



(II) As Per Stephen Fush



(III) As per Jenkins, (Division based on Geographical aspect)-



(IV) As per two Booklets (Published by an organisation of Rajgonds in 1929) named 'Gond: Dharma Purana' and 'Gondi 'Dharma Vichar'.

In these Booklets, four branches of Gonds, Deogonds, Suryavanshi Rajgonds, Deogarhia Gonds and Ravana-vanshi Gonds are considered to be similar to four varmas viz Brahmins, Kshatriyas, Vaishyas and Shudras.

The first historically recorded Gond kingdoms came up in central India's hilly region in the 14th and 15th century AD. Garha Mandla was the senior Gond kingdom until it came under Mughal domination. The first Gond king was Jadurai, who deposed the Kalchuri Rajputs, at whose court he had earlier worked, to grab the kingdom of Garha Mandla (modern Mandla and Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh). The most illustrious rulers in this dynasty were the iconic queen, Rani Durgavati, whom the Gond community reveres, and Hirde Shah, the first Gond king to adopt Islam.

Sangram Shah expanded his kingdom to cover the Narmada Valley which included Bhopal, Jabalpur and more. He also constructed the fort of Chauragad to guard his possessions.

Gadh Mandla Kings List

JADURAI I
↓
MADAN SINGH
↓
YADAVRAI (1325-1440)
↓
KHARJI (1440-1460)
↓
GORAKSHANK DAS (1460-1480)
↓
SUKHANDAS (1480-1500)
↓
ARJUNDAS (1500-1510)
↓
DALPAT SHAH (1543-1550)
↓
RANI DURGAVATI
↓
CHANDRA SHAH
↓
MADHUKAR SHAH (1576-86)
↓
PREM SHAH (1586-1627)
↓
HRIDAY SHAH (1627-1671)
↓
CHHATRA SHAH (1672-1684)
↓
KESHARI SHAH (1684)
↓
MAHARAJ SHAH (1713-1741)
↓
SHIVRAJ SHAH (1741-1749)
↓
DURJAN SHAH (1749)
↓
NIZAM SHAH (1749-76)
↓
MAHIPAL SINGH (1776)
↓
NARHARI SHAH (1776-1780)
↓
SUMER SHAH (1780-82)

Gond kings of Garha Mandla/upper Narmada Valley (AD. 10th century-1781):-

The Garha Mandla was one of the three Gond kingdoms of Gondwana. It was situated in present day M.P. and Chhattisgarh states Garha Mandla was the senior Gond Kingdom until

it came under Mughal domination. The other Gond Kingdoms, Chandrapur and Deogarh were minor principalities which owed their allegiance to Garha Mandla.

JADURAI: Jadurai was the first king of Garha Mandla. He became the king after disposing Kalchuri Rajput of Garha Mandla. Jadurai earlier worked in the court of Kalchuri Rajput. Jadurai takes the advice of his spiritual guide, a Brahmin by the name of Surubhi Pathak and Jadurai entered into the service of Gond Raja Nagdev. He also married Ratnavali, only daughter of Raja Nagdev, when Gond Raja Nagdev died in Vikrama Samvat 415 (358 CE), his son-in-law become the king of Garha Mandla and founded the rule of his dynasty. Jadurai served as king from 358 to 363 CE.

MADAN SINGH: Madan singh was the 37th king of the Garha Mandla Dynasty or the Gondwana dynasty. Madan singh is credited for the construction of Madan Mahal fort in 11th century AD. Though the fort is not very large but it is an effective fortified garrison and a military outpost. This fort is also well-equipped with rooms, stables and even secret passages for the royal family to enter into or escape from the fort. Thus, this fort was an important military post. It also has ample infrastructural facilities for maintaining the horses and army.

YADAVRAI (1328-1440):

- He was born in Sehalganv near banks of Godavari.
- As per Gadheshvarnama inscription he has been considered as Nagvanshi Kacchawaha.
- As per Akbarnama his heir was Kharji.

KHARJI (1440-1460):

- He has been mentioned in Akbarnama.

GORAKSHAR DAS (1460-1480):

- He was heir of Kharji as mentioned in Akbarnama.
- In his reign, in 1467, military commander of sultan Mehmoud Shah of Malwa defeated the rebel ruler Rai cheeta.

SUKHANDAS OR SANGINDAS (1480-1500):

- The heir of Gorakhshah das, he increased military strength by adding 500 horsemen & constituted army of 60000 infantry.

ARJUNDAS (1500-1510):

- He was 40 at the time of his coronation and as soon as he was seated on the throne he had to face revolt of his son Amhandas (Amandas).
- During his reign, Guru Nanak Devji visited the Garha whose evidences are for available in Sikh Canonical text "Sooraj-Prakash".
- His own son Amhandas killed him.

LANGUAGES, SCRIPT AND COINS:

- Gold, Silver & Copper coins showcase that trade and economy were flourishing. Gold coins were called "Pulatsyavanshi". In many of his coins there is Telegu script which shows his origin from Godavari & South India.

LITERATURE:

- He was a scholar in Sanskrit. His work, the "Rasratnamala" in Sanskrit, which contains political themes.
- He invited scholars from many places to this state. One of them was Damodar Thakur who wrote "Sangramshati Vivek Deepika" & "Divya Nirnay".

SANGRAM SHAH:

After the death of King Arjun Singh (47th king of Gondwana) (1448-1480 CE) his son Sangram Shah became the king of Garha Mandla. He was the 48th king of Garha Mandla. Sangram Shah was the greatest ruler of Garha Mandla. Garha Mandla was earlier a small territory which witnessed rapid expansion under his rule.

Sangram Shah was a brave and mighty ruler. He was never defeated in his whole life. During his reign he had conquered 52 forts called 'Garha's to strengthen and spread the Gond Empire. The initial name of Sangram Shah was Aman Das and after conquering 52 garhs, he later renamed himself. The fort of Chauragarh in Narsinghpur was built in his honour. He served as ruler for almost 50 yrs (1482-1523).

Sangram Shah was best known as a patron of arts and literature and he had great knowledge of Sanskrit. 'Rasratnamala' was written by him. Sangram Singh expanded his kingdom to cover the Narmada Valley which includes Bhopal, Jabalpur and More. The eldest son of Sangram Singh, Dalpat Shah married Rani Durgawati.

Chauragarh fort- The Chauragarh fort is located in the Narsinghpur city. This fort was built by the greatest Gond ruler Sangram Shah. It was built in 15th century and about 19km from Gadarwara railway station. It was built in 1543.

The fort was built on the high mountain amidst dense forest. The most parts of the Chauragarh fort spread over 5km but have been buried in time. The fort has many incredible sculptures, ponds, and lakes and is isolated with one of the finest architectural skills during that time. He constructed Madan Mahal near Garha and also Sangram Sagar.

DALPAT SHAH:

Dalpat Shah was the 49th ruler of Garha-Mandla kingdom. He was the son of the great ruler of Garha kingdom Sangram Shah. Dalpat Singh married Rani Durgawati, Chandel princess in 1542. After three years, Dalpat Shah died. He is better known as the husband of Rani Durgawati.

RANI DURGA VATI -

Rani Durgawati was born on October 5, 1524 in the family of famous Rajput Chandel Emperor Keerat Rai. She was born at the fort of Kalanjar (Banda, UP). Chandel Dynasty is famous in the Indian History for the defense of King Vidyadhar, who repulsed the Muslim attacks of Mahmud Ghaznavi. His love for sculptures is shown in the world-famed temples of Khajuraho and Kalanjar fort. Rani Durgawati's achievements further enhanced the glory of her ancestral tradition of courage and patronage of arts.

In later years she also fought with bazbahadur and Emperor Akbar. (More information on rani durgavati is available on upcoming themes of this chapter)

CHANDRA SHAH -

Chandra shah was the 51st king of garha mandla. He became king after succeeding Rani Durgavati and veer Narayan. He ruled for almost 12 years (1563-1575). Upon his death, his second son, Madhukar, Murdered his eldest son in order to seize the throne.

MADHUKAR SHAH (1576-86):

- He was the first Gond ruler to show allegiance to Moguls by going into the Mogul Court.

PREM SHAH (1586-1627):

- He became the Gond ruler after Madhukarshah.
- Jhujhar Singh of orcha attacked over chauragadh.

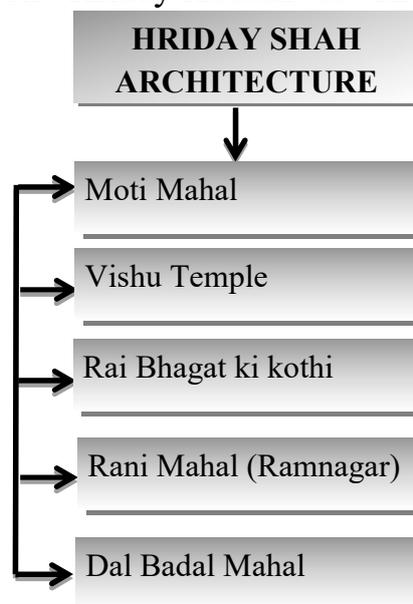
HRIDAY SHAH (1627-1671):

Capital

After The Loss of Chauragarh to Jhujhar Singh of Orcha, Hriday Shah decided to shift capital in a safe place in satpura forests named Ramnagar in 1651-52. It is mentioned in Gadhashvarnanama. Hriday shah was very courageous and he always gave a tough fight to mughals.

Art & literature:

- He was a welfare king, a proficient singer and patron of Art & literature.
- Famous scholars like kamaladatta Thakkur, Vishnu Diskshit, Vaidyanath Dikshit were in his Court. He wrote himself "Hriday Koutuk" & "Hriday Prakash".



CHATTRASHAH (1672-1684)

- He was the oldest son of Hridayshah who was coronated in 1672.
- In 1681, famous saint Mahaprabhu of Pranami sect visited Ramnagar.
- In his reign Aurangzeb started off his southern campaign which ultimately led to the demise of Gond Kingdome.

KESHARI SHAH (1684):

- In masir-i-alamgiri alangiri he has been mentioned as the landlord of Garha.

MAHARAJ SHAH (1713-1741):

- He became ruler in 1713. He suppressed Panpatia revolt with the help of Bhopal Nawab Yar Mohammed.
- The first attack of Marathas over Garha took Place during his reign.
- After this attack, Maharaj Shah died & Garha state became dependent on Marathas.

SHIVRAJ SHAH (1741-1749)**DURJAN SHAH (1749)****NIZAM SHAH (1749-76)**

- Raghuji Bhonsle attacked Deogarh & Chanda & Nizam Shah took help of Peshwa. Peshwa also helped him.
- He made Gajising, the king of Ramgarh.

MAHIPAL SINGH (1776)**NARHARI SHAH (1776-1780)****SUMERSHAH (1780-82)**

Later some rulers ruled till 1784 in Gond state.

MAJOR ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE TIME OF HRIDAY SHAH

He built Moti mahal which is one of finest examples of architecture of that time. He built Begum Mahal, for queen and Badal Mahal for the generals. He also maintained the genealogy of his descendent Jadurai in the form of a sanskrit tablet on the walls of his palace in ramanagar.

It is said that hriday shah loved animals a lot and thus, he had 16 tigers as pet. For these tigers he made 16 caves on mountain called as “**Kala Pahad**” near Ramnagar.

Moti mahal (Ramnagar) - Moti mahal was built by hriday shah, the 54th ruler of garha mandla in 1667 CE. The fort was built along the sides of River Narmada in mandla district. This mahal was also named as 'Raja ka mahal'. The fort was built in rectangle dimensions and also had a big kund in centre. The fort has numerous rooms and it is multistoreg fort. Hriday shah has maintained his kingdoms geneology from jadurai to hriday shah in Sanskrit tablet form which is placed on the walls of moti mahal. This building has been built by making jaggery slurry.

Vishnu Temple- Vishnu Temple is located 30 meter from moti mahal in mandla district which was built by queen of hriday shah. The temple is dedicated to lord Vishnu and the temple was declared as protected monument in 1984.

Rai Bhagat ki kothi-This kothi is located at some distance from moti mahal in mandla district. This kothi was built by hriday shah for his generals and it is called as mantri mahal.

The palace is made of marble. There are beautiful painting remains on the roof of entrance gate. A palatial dome is built around the palace. A wall is built in the palace so that the view inside the palace does not get interfered. This palace was declared as protected monument in 1984.

Rani (Begum) mahal Ramnagar- This palace is located 3km from the Moti mahal in mandla. This palace is also contemporary to moti mahal and Bhagat ki kothi. Rani Mahal was built by hriday shah for Rani Chimni. This palace was built in mughal style architecture. **Dal Badal mahal-** This palace is located in between the moti mahal and Rani Mahal in chaugan. This palace was built by hriday shah for his soldiers and troops.

Narhari shah- Narhari shah was the 62nd king of garha-mandla kingdom. He had been taken as a prisoner by Maratha. During this period, the Gond dynasty of garha mandla remained devoid of office or any political control. Garh mandla itself remained practically a Maratha dependency. Soon Gond rajas eventually emerged as pensioners of the British. Moti mahal is the incredible example of architecture prevailed in the Rajgond dynasty. This palace also shows the focus of Hriday shah on the buildings and architecture.

SOME OTHER FORTS AND BUILDINGS BUILT BY GARHA MANDLA RULERS:

Singorgarh fort- Singorgarh fort is located in Damoh district of M.P. It is a hill fort of garha kingdom. In early times the singorgarh fort was under chandel rulers in 1308. Later it was conquered by sangram shah. The singorgarh fort is famous because of Rani Durgavati. Rohilla khan also invaded this fort but could not win it. This huge fort was built on the top of mountain and the way to reach here is extremely difficult. The whole mountain has ruins of walls and outposting of the fort. It was probably the safest fort. Now, only the ruins of this fort are available. Marriage of Durgavati and Dalpat Shah took place in this fort.

Rahatgarh-The Rahatgarh fort was built by sultan Muhammad khan located in Sagar district. Later it became the 42nd of 52 garha of sangram shah. This fort was built nearby the Bina River.

Dhamoni fort- The Dhamoni fort is located in sagar district. This was the 29th of 52 garhas. This fort has a dreadful gulf in the eastern part. The main gate of the fort is facing North direction. This fort was built by Surat shah.

Garhakota-The Garhakota fort is located in sagar district. It is 32nd Garha of the 52 Garha of maharaja sangram shah. The battle between the Aurangzeb and orchha naresh Chhatrashal was fought here. The garhakota fort has the rivers sunar and godhairi on its two sides. The fort covers 11 acres of area.

Madogarh fort- The Madogarh fort was located in Mandla district and it is the 2nd of 52 gorhas of sangram singh. This fort was built on the top mountain. There is a sacred place of god badadev who exists inside the compound. The Balai river flows through the madogarh area.

Gadpahra- The gadpahra fort is built on a mountain situated nearby NH 26. This fort was the 39th of 52 Garha of sangram shah. The shishmahal fort is located inside the gadpahra

fort compound. The fort has number of rooms, very long and solid pole of stone called "Miyaal" are found on roof. The fort also has beautiful stone work and carvings.

RANI DURGAVATI

Rani Durgavati was born on October 5, 1524 in the family of famous Rajput Chandel Emperor Keerat Rai. She was born at the fort of Kalanjar (Banda, UP). Chandel Dynasty is famous in the Indian History for the defense of king Vidyadhar, who repulsed the Muslim attacks of Mahmud Ghaznavi. His love for sculptures is shown in the world famed temples of Khajuraho and Kalanjar fort. Rani Durgavati's achievements further enhanced the glory of her ancestral tradition of courage and patronage of arts. In 1542, she was married to Dalpat Shah, the eldest son of king Sangram Shah of Gond Dynasty. Chandel and Gond dynasties got closer as a consequence of this marriage and that was the reason Keerat Rai got the help of Gonds and his son-in-law Dalpat Shah at the time of Muslim invasion of Sher Shah Suri in which Sher Shah died.

Rani Durgavati took the reins of Gond dynasty

She gave birth to a son in 1545 A.D. who was named Vir Narayan. Dalpatshah died in about 1550 A.D. As Vir Narayan was too young at that time, Durgavati took the reins of the Gond kingdom in her hands. Two ministers Adhar Kayastha and Man Thakur helped the Rani in looking after the administration successfully and effectively. Rani moved her capital to Chauragarh in place of Singaurgarh. It was a fort of strategic importance situated on the Satpura hill range. It is said that trade flourished during this period. People were prosperous. Like her husband's predecessors she extended her territory and accomplished the political unification of Gondwana, also called Garha-Katanga, with courage, generosity and tact. Out of 23,000 villages in her kingdom 12,000 were directly managed by her government. Her large well equipped army is said to have consisted of 20,000 cavalry and 1,000 war elephants besides a good number of foot soldiers. Durgavati combined beauty and grace with courage and wisdom. She carried out many useful public works in different parts of her kingdom, winning the hearts of her people. She built a great reservoir close to Jabalpur, called Ranital. Following her initiative one of her attendants built Cherital and the Adhartal was built three miles away from Jabalpur by her minister Adhar Kayastha. She is also reputed to have been a liberal patron of learning.

{Warrior Rani Durgavati}

Rani and Bazbahadur -

She distinguished herself as a warrior and fought with unvarying success against Baz Bahadur, the Sultan of Malwa. Stories of her exploits as a warrior and hunter are still popular in area.

After the death of Shershah, Sujat Khan captured the Malwa zone and was succeeded by his son Baz Bahadur in 1556 A.D. After ascending to the throne, he attacked Rani Durgavati but the attack was repulsed with heavy losses to his army. This defeat effectively silenced Baz Bahadur and the victory brought name and fame for Rani Durgavati. In the year 1562 Akbar vanquished the Malwa ruler Baj Bahadur and annexed the Malwa with Mughal dominion. Consequently, the state boundary of Rani touched the Mughal kingdom.



Rani and Akbar-

Rani's contemporary Mughal Subedar was Asal Khan, an ambitious man who vanquished Ramchandra, the ruler of Rewa. Prosperity of Rani Durgavati's state lured him and he invaded Rani's state after taking permission from Mughal emperor. This plan of Mughal invasion was the result of expansionism and **imperialism** of Akbar. To fight a defensive battle, she went to Narrai situated between a hilly range on one side and two rivers Gaur and

Narmada on the other side. It was a battle between two unequal forces with trained soldiers and modern weapons in multitude on one side and a few untrained soldiers with old weapons on the other side. Her Faujdar Arjun Das was killed in the battle and Rani decided to lead the defence herself. As the enemy entered the valley, soldiers of Rani attacked them. Both sides lost some men but Rani was victorious in this battle. She chased down the Mughal army and came out of the valley.

{Choosing death to dishonour}

At this stage Rani reviewed her strategy with her counsellors. She wanted to attack the enemy in the night to enfeeble them but her lieutenants did not accept her suggestion. By next morning Asaf Khan had summoned big guns. Rani rode on her elephant Sarman and came for the battle. Her son Vir Narayan also took part in this battle. He forced Mughal army to move back three times but at last he got wounded and had to retire to a safe place. In the course of battle, Rani also got injured near her ear with an arrow. Another arrow pierced her neck and she lost her consciousness. On regaining consciousness she perceived that defeat was imminent. Her Mahawat (person who driver elephants) advised her to leave the battlefield but she refused and took out her dagger and killed herself. Her martyrdom day (24th June 1564) is, even today, commemorated as "Balidan Diwas".

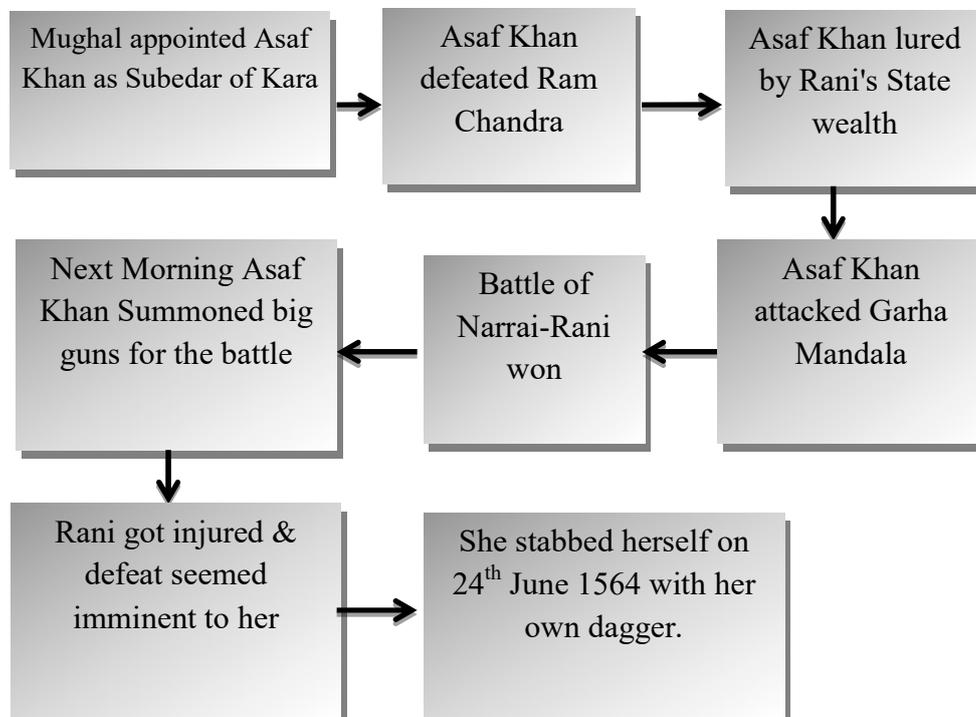
After this, Mughals Captured Garha but chauragarh, the capital of Gonds was & still not subjugated. Virnarayan (Son of Rani Durgavati) escaped to chauragarh but Asaf Khan chased him down & killed him. The first mention of Jauhar in Gond state was also found here.

{Glory of Rani Durgavati}

Rani Durgavati was a personality with varied facets. She was valiant, beautiful and brave and also a great leader with administrative skills. Her self-respect forced her to fight till death rather than surrender herself to her enemy. She, like her ancestral dynasty, built so many lakes in her state and did a lot for the welfare of her people. She respected the scholars and extended her patronage to them. She welcomed the Vitthalnath of Vallabh community and took Diksha from him. She was secular and appointed many eminent Muslims on important posts. The place where she sacrificed herself has always been a source of inspiration for freedom fighters. In the year 1983, the Government of Madhya Pradesh renamed the University of Jabalpur as Rani Durgavati Vishwavidyalaya in her memory. Government of India paid its tribute to the valiant Rani by issuing a postal-stamp commemorating her martyrdom, on 24th June 1988.

In 1670, Mandla was made the new capital of the kingdom, part of Sagar District was ceded to the Mughal emperor, the south of Sagar and Damoh districts to Raja Chhatrasal of Panna, and Seoni District to the Gond raja of Deogarh. Amidst continued political intrigue, Gond power continued to decrease. In 1742 – 1781, The Maratha Peshwa enters Mandla and exacts tribute from the Gonds. Narhar Shah is taken prisoner and held at Fort Khurai in Saugor. During this period, the Gond dynasty of Garha Mandla remains devoid of office or any political control. Garha Mandla itself remains practically a Maratha dependency. Soon, the other independent principalities of Gondwana also succumb to the Maratha domination. These Gond rajas eventually emerged as pensioners of the British.

STRUGGLE BETWEEN RANI AND EMOEROR AKBAR THROUGH A FLOW CHART



RANI AS A CAPABLE RULER

- Rani Durgavati was a wise, Eclectic, accomplished administrator and a great warrior. She showed his leadership Skills & foresightedness during the attack of Asaf Khan.
- In her army there were many Muslims along-with Hindu.shakskhan miyana, Khanjahaan ukeet were great army officers.
- She was also patron of scholars like Mahesh Thakur, Damodar Thakur, and Pop Mahapatra. Etc.
- She was a religious lady. She took initiation from vallabh sampradaya.

FEATURES OF GARHA MANDLA KINGDOM

There is no description of any kind of reference to the administrative system of Gonds. The Gondic literature also gives only hints in this context. According to the Mandla District Gazetteer (1912), there is no written record or and local traditions. Due to not being certified and reliable, it becomes very difficult to study the characteristics of Gond rule based on these sources.

But Sir W. Slyman (1844) found a note in the Narsinghpur archives, which sheds little light on the internal policies of the Gond state. It seems that most of the subordinates of the Gond kings were divided among the feudal chiefs. There was a verbal agreement between the king and the feudatories (Garhpatis) that whenever the king needed, a group of people would reach him. The king was offered forest produce, grains and elephants as a tax. (Not in any monetary form.)

In Gond society, on one hand there was intense love and reverence for the forest produce/forest, on the other hand, there was an absolute or alienation towards the people of the rest of the society. As people like Sama, people entered their areas due to dense growth of population and other reasons; they entered into dense forest and rugged areas and inside.

When outsiders moved south due to famine and external quarrels and claimed their fertile land, they gave them infinitely fertile land in exchange for some food and ghee. The Gonds did not dig the Gadha, nor did the well nor did farming. Subject of the kingdom had no idea of the furnishing his house, the flutter in his personal life. His life was simple, succulent, and imperceptible.

There was a Pacific laziness in his life. He did not have any ambitious idea of wealth, property, convenience and growth. On the strength of the sword, there was confidence in the settlement of the matter by spreading terror in others, robbing them, taking something through the punch rather than snatching it from others. The peasants, however, benefited from these ambivalent policies of the Gond rulers and till the reign of Hirdaisahi the state was endowed with wealth and prosperity.

After the death of Hirdashahi, the royal family became intrinsically weak and the Marathas became the rulers of the region. (Mandla Gazetteer, 1912) The construction of various lakes by Sangram Shah and his protection by the later kings proves that agriculture was good and apart from rain and river, ponds were also irrigated. Abul Fazal has also described the prosperity of the kingdom at the time of Rani Durgavati.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The remote territory of the Gond king was divided among the feudal lords, jagirdars or talukdars, who were called Gadhapatis, they used to do the nominal duty, but whenever the king or the Ghadadhipati needed it for war or other reasons, a certain number of people used to come to the capital. It was a type of feudal system. The king, like ordinary people, was simple and devoid of ambition.

Administrative structure of Gond state (based on survey)

The Gond rulers are responsible for creating a systematic rule in forest areas. Each village in the Gond state had an independent political unit. Village fights etc. were all settled in the village itself. The village headman was called Bhoi Gauntia or Mukaddam.

There was a Chaugan of the village, whose head was called Mukaddam. Chaugan was an administrative of 4 unit villages. Nowadays, the traditional head of the village is also called Mukaddam or patel. or Patel is also called. It seems that the word Mukaddam is later associated with his word, before it has some other name. The Barahi or Pargana of 12 villages, the bastion or bastion of 52 villages and the many bastions are made up of a bastion. Abul Fazl has called Sangram Sahi the lord of 52 strongholds in 'Ain-e-Akbari'. It called Rani Durgavati the master of 57 parganas.

Administrative Structure of Gond State

- **Garha** - Combining several strongholds
- **Garhi or Garh** - 25 grams

- Pargana or Barhi - 12 grams
- Chaugan - Administrative Unit of 04 Grams
- Village - Primary Administrative Unit

Six people believe that the Gond tribe initially had a republican system, under which the village Sayana (elders) chose the village head. The chief and elders around the four villages (Chaugan) used to choose the chief of Chaugan by mutual agreement. The chiefs of several Chaugans chose their ethnic head together. This post was only formal, and the task of settling mutual quarrels and representing society was with the king, the king also led a simple and normal life. Later the posts became hereditary.

Administration of Gondwana was becoming centralised. The kingdom was divided into *garh*; each *garh* was controlled by particular Gond clan. This was further divided into units of 84 villages called *chourasi*. The *chourasi* was further subdivided into *barhots* which are made up of 12 villages each.

52 Garhs of Garha Mandla Kingdom:

1. Garha
2. Singhargarh
3. Kurwai
4. Rahatgarh
5. Ginnorgarh
6. Bhopal
7. Makrai
8. Madogarh (Mandla)
9. Amoda (Jabalpur)
10. Patangarh
11. Chourai
12. Bargi
13. Ghansour
14. Karvagarh (Seoni)
15. Chaiturgarh Korba
16. Raigarh
17. Tipgarh (Balaghat)
18. Kanoja (Jabalpur)
19. Bagmar (Mandla)
20. Dongartal
21. Jhanjhangarh (Jabalpur)
22. Santagarh
23. Diyagarh
24. Bankagarh
25. Amargarh
26. Devhar (Dindori)
27. Nimuagarh (Narsinghpur)
28. Bhanwargarh
29. Pawai Karhi
30. Shahnagar
31. Dhamoni
32. Hatta
33. Madiyado
34. Garhakota
35. Shahgarh
36. Garhpahra (Sagar)
37. Damoh
38. Rehli
39. Itwa (Sagar)
40. Khimlasa
41. Badi
42. Chowigarh (Hoshangabad)
43. Karubag (Raisen)
44. Raisen
45. Bhanwaraso
46. Opadgarh (Bhopal)
47. Punagarh
48. Deori
49. Gourjhamar
50. Partabgarh
51. Fatehpur
52. Pachelgarh

GARH MANDLA & REVOLT OF 1857

ROLE OF AVANTIBAI

- She was the ruler of Ramgarh Jagir under Garha Mandla who participated in the revolt.

- Earlier, the last pratinidhi of Garh Mandla, Shankar Shah helped. Avanti Bai to establish her rule over Ramgarh Jagir. But after listening to the news of death punishment to Shankarshah, she joined the 1857 revolt.
- On 1 April 1858, she alongwith her army fought with lievtenant wartan.
- Later she killed herself with her own sword so that she could not have caught.

SHANKARSHAH:

- He was the ruler of Garh-Mandla who let the revolt of 1857 in Mahakaushal.
- He was a pensioner of company who was living with his son Raghunath shah.
- In Jabalpur, the struggle was started due to his efforts against commander lieutenant General Clarke of 52nd regiment.

On 14 September 1857, British Captured Shankar Shah, his son Raghunath Shah & 12 other revolutionaries & put them into Jail after which they went through the trial in Jabalpur district court which awarded them Capital punishment. So they were tied to the mouth of cannon & the cannon were fired.

SCULPTURES DURING GOND KINGDOM

Different Sculptures of Gods & Godesses are found. They can be classified under following types

- (1) Shiva Sculptures
- (2) Vishu Sculptures
- (3) Shakti Sculptures
- (4) Ganapati Sculptures
- (5) Ganpati Sculptures
- (6) Sun Sculptures
- (7) Other Sculptures

BAWDIS:

- Chauragarh Bawdi in Chauragarh fort.
- Ramnagar Bawdi.
- Bawdi at Chota Tola.

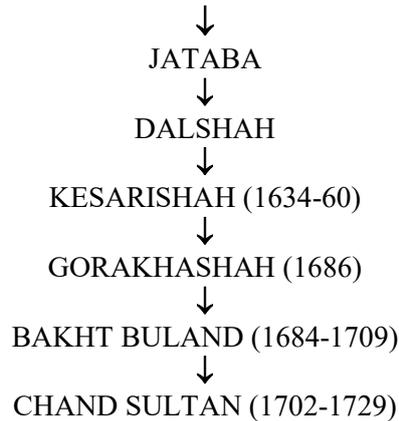
LAKES:

- Sangram Sagar lake, by Sangram Shah for irrigation. A historical palace "Aamkhas" is situated at the centre of this lake.
- Rani Taal
- Cheri Taal
- Dev Taal
- Adhaar Taal

GOND KINGDOM OF DEOGARH (DEVGAD)

The second kingdom of Deogadh (Chhindwada in Madhya Pradesh and Nagpur in Maharashtra), was created by King Jatba in the 15th century. One of his successors, Bakht Buland Shah, converted to Islam to win the favour of Emperor Aurangzeb. However he did not demand conversion from his subjects and married a Gond woman. He fell into disfavor in Delhi after he plundered some Muslim kingdoms of Deccan.

GOND KINGDOM OF DEOGADH



JATABA:-

Jatba's full name, Ajanbahu Jatbasha, is given to him because of his long hands that extended right down to his knees. He started off as a vassal of the Gaoli kings, Ransur and Ghansur, later owed allegiance to the Gond kings of Chandrapur, and later to the Mughal emperor, Akbar. He built the fort at Devgad (twenty-four miles south-west of Chindwara).

BAKHT BULAND:-

Bakht Buland started in the service of the Mughal emperor, Aurangzeb, embracing Islam, and is officially recognised as the raja of Devgad by the Moghul court. He added to his kingdom territories from the neighbouring kingdoms of Chanda and Mandla, and portions of Nagpur, Balaghat, Seoni, and Bhandara. He also annexed the adjoining Rajput kingdom of Kherla. The present districts of Chindwara and Betul also fell under his control, and he established the modern city of Nagpur, naming it Rajapur Barsa.

Bakht Bulund is said to have rebelled later against the Moghuls and snatched portions of their territory during the Moghul war against the Marathas.

The mythical Gond hero Jatba, who founded the dynasty, was born from a virgin under a bean plant and was protected by a cobra, who came and spread its hood over him during the heat of the day when his mother left him to go to her work. When he grew up, he became famous for his feats of strength, and entered the service of the twin Gaoli kings, Ransur and Ghansur, whom he subsequently slew with a magic sword and taking the kingdom in their control. He became the first Gond ruler. The forts of Patansaongi and Nagardhan in Nagpur District are attributed to him.

The Devgarh, a Gond raja reigned till A.D 1035, and was succeeded by a Bhil king who ruled up to A.D. 1085, for a period of fifty years.

In the late 17th century, Prince Bakht Buland went to Delhi, where he entered the service of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. He gained the emperor's favor by his military achievements, and the emperor persuaded him to become a Muslim. He returned from Delhi with a number of craftsmen and farmers, both Hindu and Muslim. He enlarged his dominions at the expense of the states of Chanda and Mandla, and established numerous new towns and villages, including the city of Nagpur.

Bahkt Buland's successor, Chand Sultan, moved the capital of the kingdom from Deogarh to Nagpur. After Chand Sultan's death in 1739, struggles over his succession led to the intervention of the Maratha leader Raghoji Bhonsle, who governed neighboring Berar in the name of the *Peshwa* of the Maratha Empire. The Gond kingdom was annexed to the Maratha Empire, and ruled by Raghoji's successors.

The Bhonsle kingdom was defeated by the British in the Anglo-Maratha Wars, and became a princely state of British India. The Nagpur kingdom was annexed by the British in 1853 under the Doctrine of lapse, and was governed as Nagpur Province until 1861, when it became part of the Central Provinces. After India's independence in 1947, the Central Provinces became the new state of Madhya Pradesh.

BURHAN SHAH (1743)

There was strife between the brothers. Raghuji of Nagpur came to the assistance of Burhan Khan, and Akbar was exiled to Hyderabad where he was allegedly poisoned. From this point onwards, the real power in Devgad rested with Raghuji Bhosale and Burhan Shah remained only a titular prince. His descendents continued this position, remaining state pensioners.

ARCHITECTURE DURING DEOGARH KINGDOM

Deogarh fort

Deogarh, also known as Devgarh, is a village in Chhindwara District of the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. It is located 24 miles southwest of Chhindwara, picturesquely situated on a crest of the hills.

Deogarh was formerly the capital of a Gond kingdom, which rose to prominence in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. The numerous wells, tanks, and buildings show that the Gond capital once extended over a large area.

In the fort there is the tomb of the kings of Dhurva, the king of Devgarh. If you are fond of knowing about history, then you must go there once. The texture of the kiln is largely related to Mughal architecture. There are pearl stitches, Badal Mahal, Kachari, and Nakarkhana.

Nakkarkhana:-

Sepoys were stationed on the roof of Nakarkhana, who used to guard around the fort. The arrival of the king in Nakarkhana was reported to the common people through beating a drum. The exterior walls of Nakarkhana were decorated with beautiful ornaments, which enhanced its beauty, the remains of which still exist today. Nakarkhana had players present who greeted the king on arrival with a sweet sound.

Kachari:-

The court of the king was organized in the court. Here the king and courtier used to sit on the stage. The public used to stand in front of the stage. The roof of the stage was

based on beautiful wooden columns. There was a cushion on the platform for the king to sit, which was then equipped with beautiful gems. People entered the court as per the permission of the king. Here the common people present in the court were monitored for the safety of the king.

Hamam:-

The locals used to call this room Hamam. This room was built to entertain the queen. The configuration of this cell is rectangular. The fountain in the center of this room adorns the room. Light hail was built on the walls of this chamber.

Mosque:-

After the death of King Jatav, a quarrel started to become the ruler of Deogarh among the sons of his grandson Maharaj Kokva II. As a result, his son Bakht obtained the kingdom of Deogarh with the help of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb to get the throne. In exchange for this assistance, he converted to Islam and assumed the title of Bakht Buland Shah. But on this occasion, a mosque was built here.

GOND KINGDOM OF KHERLA

Around the same time of Deogadh, the Kherla (Baitul in Madhya Pradesh to Chikhaldara in Amravati district in Maharashtra) kingdom also came up. Its first king, Narsingh Rai, who deposed a Rajput ruler, had love-hate relationship with the Rajput and Muslim rulers in his vicinity that attacked his fort due to its geographical accessibility. The kingdom was later annexed by Bakht Buland Shah.

- It was the earliest kingdom of Gondwana, regarded as one of the four 4 ancient Gond Kingdoms.
- A Rajput dynasty is said to have preceded the Gond rule in Kherla.
- It was constantly caught between the conflicts of North Indian Muslim ruler like rulers of Mandu and Deccan sultanates.
- There is a lack of availability of sources regarding this kingdom
- Narsingh Rai was the first ruler and before him Jaitpal built the kherla fort.
- During Narsingh rai, Kingdom stretched in a westerly direction to the hills north of Berar, including the fortress of Gawilghur.
- His reign was marked by constant warfare with Moslem rulers to his north and south.

GOND KINGS OF CHANDRAPUR

The Chanda kingdom (Chandrapur in Maharashtra), a contemporary of the Kherla and Deogadh kingdoms. It was situated in present day Maharashtra state. The capital was initially at Sirpur, then at Ballarshah. It produced several remarkable rulers who developed excellent irrigation systems and the first well defined revenue system among the Gond kingdoms.

The sway of the Gond kings came to an end in the 18th century after Raje Raghuji Bhonsale, a warrior of the Bhonsala Maratha clan, who annexed the Nagpur-Kherla kingdom, while Gadha Mandla was taken over by the Peshwas. Chanda held out for a little longer, but with the advent of the British who first entered into treaties with the Marathas between 1818 and 1853 the greater part of the region passed to the British,

although in some minor states the Gond rajas continued to rule until India's independence in 1947.

The fall of the Yadavas of Devagiri and the Kakatiyas of Warangal at the hands of Ala-uddin Khilji marks a turning point in the history of the Deccan and the peninsular South. In the aftermath of the fall of these two once mighty kingdoms, Devagiri and Warangal, the Gonds of Chandrapur seem to have made their rise as a political power.

The original seat of the Gond kings of Chandrapur is considered to be Sirpur, twenty miles to the south-west of Chandrapur proper, on the southern bank of the Painganga river, also known as Wardha here. From here they shifted their capital to present Ballarsah and finally to Chandrapur of historic fame.

KOL BHILL

Kol Bhill was known as the first Gond Ruler of Chandrapur Gond kingdom. He was a hero with great strength and wisdom. He rallied round the scattered Gond tribes and wielded them in sort of nation. Kol Bhill was credited for teaching the Gonds how to extract the iron from the Ore. Iron is very important for making the weapons.

BHIM BALLAL SHAH (870 – 895 AD)

Bhim Ballal Singh is said to have established a Gond Kingdom with Sirpur (Now in Telangana) as its capital. After Bhim Ballal Shah, Kharja Ballal Shah became the new ruler. Kharja Ballal was the son of Bhim Ballal.

The first three kings who ruled at Sirpur were Bhim Ballal Sing, Kharja Ballal Sing and Hir Sing. Kharja was of gentle nature.

KESHAR SINGH (1027 AD – 1072 AD)

Keshar Singh subdues the rebellions that break out in his kingdom and extends his territory to the edges of the Bhil country. He possessed horses and oxen, and was wealthier than any of his predecessors.

SURAJ BALLAL (1207 – 1242 AD)

Suraj Ballal experiences friction with the court of Delhi and is taken captive. He later assists the Delhi emperor in attacking Fort Kaibur, which belongs to a minor Rajput king of the Chandelas named Mohan Singh. In return the Gonds are granted his territory. The king is also given the title of Sher Sah/Shah which lasts throughout the dynasty.

KHANDKYA BALLAL SHAH (1242 – 1282 AD)

On the death of Suraj *alias* Ser Sah, his son Khandkya Ballal came to the throne. This prince had tumours all over his body. He was looked after by his wise and beautiful wife. He had taken many treatments over the tumours but the tumours remained as the same. One day, as the legend goes, while the king was hunting he grew thirsty and rode up to the dry bed of the Jharpat River in search of water. Next morning the queen was delighted to see that many of the tumours on her husband's body had disappeared. Khandkya Ballal Sah thus founded the city of Chanda or Chandrapur. He used to reside both at Ballalpur. or Ballarsah and Chandrapur. He died at Ballalpur.

HIR SHAH (1282 – 1342 AD)

Hir Sah succeeded Khandkya Ballal. One of the notable achievements of this King was the encouragement he gave to cultivation. Any one constructing a tank was rewarded with as much land as could be watered by the tank. These incentives had their results soon. Land grants were freely made to those who constructed wells and canals.

Hir Sah introduced all these measures having understood the importance of agronomy for the prosperity of his kingdom which traditionally depended upon the forest wealth.

Hir Sah constructed a citadel and within its confines prepared a palace for his own stay. One of the gates of the citadel was styled as *lal daravaja*. It was a common fashion in those days to name a number of gateways and buildings as *lal daravaja* and *lal mahal*. Inside the citadel was built the temple of Somesvar and a tank called Kohinur for the use of the members of the royal family. All these constructions bear testimony to the artistic sense of Hir Sah.

BHUMA AND LOKBA (1342 – 1402 AD)

Sonless Hir Sah's widow, Hirabai, adopted Bhuma and Lokba as successors to the gaddi from the Gond family of Movad. The two brothers Bhuma and Lokba ruled peacefully and were well respected by the people.

KONDYA SHAH (1402 – 1442 AD)

On the death of the two brothers, Kondya Sah *alias* Karan Sah became the chief of Candrapur. He was a great supporter of the Hindu religion and a devotee of Siva in particular. A large number of Telugu Brahmins along with other communities migrated to Candrapur.

Kondya Sah liberally gave rent-free lands and villages to the Telugu Brahmins and conferred upon them *varsasanas* or annual pensions.

BABJI BALLAL SHAH (1442 – 1522 AD)

Babji Ballal Sah mounted the throne after the death of Kondya. This pleasure-loving King entrusted every thing to his ministers who, for him, were fortunately able administrators, and spent his time in the harem and the wine flask. The *Ain-i-Akbari* mentions this King as an independent ruler who paid no tribute to Delhi having under him a force of 10,000 horse and 40,000 infantry.

DHUNDYA RAM SHAH (1522 – 1597 AD)

Babji Ballal Sah died in about 1597, and was succeeded by Dhundya Ram Sah. Dhundya Ram Sah completed the construction of the Canda fort which was commenced by Khandkya Ballal Sah (1470-1495).

KRISHNA SHAH (1597 – 1647 AD)

Krishna Shah the son of Dhundya came to the throne after the latter's death. He governed his subjects well. The practice of sacrificing a cow in honour of Parsapen or Badadev common among the Gonds was banned by Krishna Sah. He substituted a goat for the cow as the traditional Gond practice touched the feelings of the Hindu population. His father is said to have prohibited human sacrifice which was performed per force clandestinely.

During Krishna Sah's reign the Chandrapur Gond house recognised the independence of the Devgad rulers by a treaty. According to the *Ain-i-Akbari* the ruler of Devgad, Jataba, was a feudatory to Akbar. Jataba during Akbar's reign was a well-known Gond ruler. A powerful ruler like Jataba must have ceased to pay allegiance to the weak Chandrapur Gond house.

BIR SHAH (1647 – 1672)

Bir Sah succeeded to the throne on the death of his father Krishna Sah. Bir Sah is described as a valiant prince who ruled successfully.

Bir Sah had only one daughter whom he loved dearly. She was married to prince Durgpal *alias* Durg Sah of Devgad. On learning that she was insulted by her husband, Bir Shah marched on Devgad and killed his son-in-law.

At the court of Bir Sah there was a Rajput called Hiranman who was said to possess a magic sword of wood. Bir Sah often asked him about the sword out of curiosity but never got any reply. On the occasion of his own second marriage Bir Sah pressed Hiranman to show him the magic sword in the presence of the assembled courtiers. Hiranman, however, did not like that the king should press him to show the sword in the presence of the courtiers. He at once grew furious and struck the king down dead while the gathering looked dumb-founded at the tragedy. Bir Sah was celebrating his second marriage as he had no male issue from his first wife Hirai. Thus was ended the life of Bir Sah.

As Bir Sah died sonless his widow adopted a boy from the royal Gond family of Candankheda related to Bir Sah. This boy was the famous saintly Ram Sah.

RANI HIRAI

Hirai took great interest in building temples. In place of the old temple of Acalesvar a new one was built. By the side of the statue of Mahakali was installed the image of Ekavira.

Bir Sah is said to have started the construction of the temple of Ganapati and Hirai carried it to completion. The temple today is known as Ganapati of the Khatis as Ambabal Khati during the reign of Vyankoji Bhosale (1788-1811) donated her wealth to the temple. The seventeenth century was an age of faith. Construction of a temple, a tank or well, a rest house or any building of public utility in the eyes of the public was considered an act of piety, and therefore a matter of achievement. Hirai's place, therefore, as a builder in the history of Chandrapur is the same as that of Ahilyabai Holkar in the eighteenth century India.

RAM SHAH (1672 - 1735):-

Hirai, the mother regent, entrusted the charge of the Chandrapur Kingdom to her adopted son Ram Sah in 1691. Ram Sah was noted for his piety. He is said to have possessed divine qualities as a result of which there was minimum crime during his reign.

RAGHUJI INVADED CHANDRAPUR

Marathas also invaded the Chandrapur kingdom before the invasion of Raghuji on Chandrapur. About 1730, Raghuji marched on Chandrapur but did not wage a war finding its ruler Ram Sah of saintly disposition. Raghuji was so much impressed by Ram Sah.

Ram Shah constructed tanks and ghats. The famous Ramala tank built by him was named after him, Ram Shah died in 1735. He was remembered for a long time for his

saintliness. Ram Shah was succeeded by his son Nilkanth Sah (1735-1751), who was ill famed as a tyrant given to vices.

NILKANTH SHAH (1735 - 1751)

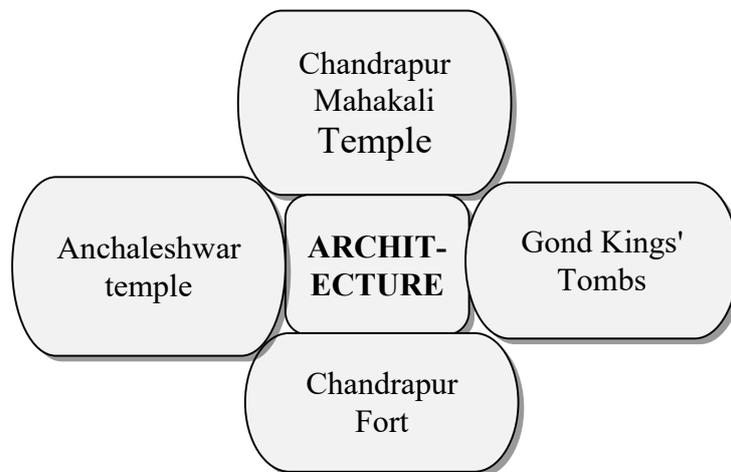
When Raghuji was busy with the Bengal expeditions, Raghunath Sing, the *Diwan* of the Gond King of Devgad, with the help of Nilkanth Sah, tried to overthrow Raghuji's sway. Raghuji in 1748, seeking respite from the Bengal affair, invaded Devgad and killed Raghunath Sing. He next proceeded against Nilkanth Sah and defeated him.

Nilkanth Sah's hereditary *Diwan* Mahadaji Vaidya was not happy with his master and had secretly invited Raghuji Bhosale to invade Candrapur Kingdom. Nilkanth Sah got scent of this treachery and poisoned his *Diwan* Mahadaji Vaidya to death.

With his defeat by Raghuji Bhosale, Nilkanth Sah had to enter into a treaty with him. The treaty is dated 1159 *Phasali* year, i.e., 1749 A.D. According to this treaty Nilkanth Sah surrendered to Raghuji two-third revenue of his kingdom.

In 1751, Nilkanth foolishly took the possession of Candrapur fort by driving the *Diwan* Talkute out. Raghuji immediately swooped upon Nilkanth, defeated him without any difficulty and imprisoned him permanently in the fort of Ballalpur. Raghuji took all the care of the royal prisoner. Thus was ended the Gond house of Candrapur when pitted against the superior power of the Marathas.

ARCHITECTURE DURING CHANDRA KINGDOM



Anchaleshwar Temple:-Queen Hiratani decided that they should build a temple above the healing waters, and the king sent his officers to collect skilled artisans for the project. The temple was later renovated by Queen Hirai in limestone and she added panels of stories from Mahabharat and the Ramayana on the outer wall of the shrine. The Achaleshwar Mahadeva temple is located just outside the Gond fort in Chandrapur town. The temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The sacred bull Nandi is seen near the entrance facing the sanctum sanctorum.

More than 500 years later, Anchaleshwar Temple still stands in memory of the King Khandkya Ballal Shah's restoration to health and happiness.

Chandrapur Fort:-The Chandrapur Fort (earlier known as Chanda Fort) (today called "old city") is a fort located at confluence of Irai and Zarpat rivers. The fort was built by Gond

king, Khandkya Ballal Sah. The fort has four gates: Jatpura Gate to the north, Anchaleshwar Gate to the east, Pathanpura Gate to the south and Binba Gate to the west.

Chandrapur Mahakali Temple:-The ancient temple was built by Dhundya Ram Sah, of Gond Dynasty around the 16th century. Within the mandir complex there is a small Ganesh temple and a Hanuman temple. The temple is beautifully adorned with colourful wall paintings of late medieval times.

Gond King's Tombs (Chandrapur):

Bir Shah, one of the best and bravest of the Gond kings of Chanda, was murdered by his nobleman, Hirman, on the day of the king's second wedding. And to mark the deep sense of loss at his tragic death, the noblest of all the tombs in Chanda was raised over his grave, close to the temple of Anchaleshwar. Bir Shah died at the tender age of 28, his queen Hirai, who was all of 24 years old, started constructing the beautiful and magnificent mausoleum for her husband. The artistic mesh, carvings and illustrations in the mausoleum are stunning. By the 18th century, all the Gond kingdoms, including that of Chandrapur, were conquered and absorbed into the Maratha Empire by the Bhosle rulers of Nagpur.

GENEALOGY OF GOND KINGDOM

Following Kol Bhill, we have Bhim Ballal Sing, who is said to have established a Gond Kingdom with Sirpur (Now in Telangana) as its capital. From Bhim Ballal the line of Gond Kings ruling over Chandrapur-Gadchiroli is as below:

- 1. Bhim Ballal Sing 870-895 A.D.
- 2. Kharja Ballal Sing 895-935
- 3. Hir Sing 935-970
- 4. Andia Ballal Sing 970-995
- 5. Talwar Sing 995-1027
- 6. Kesar Sing 1027-1072
- 7. Dinkar Sing 1072-1142
- 8. Ram Sing 1142-1207
- 9. Surja Ballal Sing alias Ser Sah 1207-1242
- 10. Khandakya Ballal Sah 1242-1282
- 11. Hir Sah 1282-1342
- 12. Bhuma and Lokaba, Joint Rule 1342-1402
- 13. Kondya Sah 1402-1442
- 14. Babji Ballal Sah 1442-1522
- 15. Dhundya Ram Sah 1522-1597
- 16. Krisna Sah 1597-1647
- 17. Bir Sah 1647-1672
- 18. Ram Sah 1672-1735
- 19. Nilkanth Sah 1735-1751

In the light of the historical facts the traditional date of the foundation of the Gond Kingdom of Sirpur, 870 A.D., recorded by Major Lucie Smith has got to be rejected. Some time around 1340 the kingdom was founded at Sirpur by Bhim Ballal Sing. The dates of Babji Ballal Sah who was a contemporary of Akbar, and those of Ram Sah and Nilkanth

Sah who were contemporary personalities of Bhosale Raghuji I, could be determined without any difficulty.

Mughal cavalry pursued Jujhar Singh, his family and fragments of his army into the forested lands of Chanda, another Central Indian Gond kingdom, which had not acknowledged imperial suzerainty.

Akbar, after the conquest of Berar, turned his attention to the rulers of Gondavana to the east of the present Wardha district. The Gond king of Chandrapur accepted the supremacy of Akbar. At one time the territory of the Gond Kings extended as far as the Wardha river up to its eastern bank.

With the changes in the history of Berar one might presume that the Gond Kingdom of Chandrapur after the Bahamanis first passed under Imad Sahi and later under the Nizam Sahi.

Administration under Chandrapur Gond Kings

The history of Candrapur as already observed falls into three distinct periods; the Gond, the Maratha and the British. Between the Gond and the Maratha periods the Bahamanis, the Adil Sahs of Bijapur and the Moghals for sometime established their sovereignty over Candrapur. Whether the Imad Sahi of Berar with its seat at Ellicpur, during its short existence, extend-ed its sway over Candrapur cannot be ascertained for want of evidence. These Muslim rulers were quite content when the Gond rulers of Candrapur accepted their sovereignty and paid them tribute regularly. Owing to the wild nature of Candrapur country they could neither establish their sway there nor had they enough time to undertake the venture as they were pre-occupied with other important political matters. In effect the internal administration of Candrapur remained practically un-affected during the Muslim interlude. In studying the administrative history of Candrapur, therefore, one has to reckon with the Gond, Maratha and the British periods as of consequence. Islamic elements in Canda administration are to be traced to the Maratha rule as it was of a hundred years duration and effective, and when it commenced it was itself impregnated with Muslim influence.

Under the Gonds, land was divided into two categories *Zamindari* and *non-Zamindari* or *Khalsa*. The *Khalsa* part of the country was portioned out into numerous divisions, each of which was governed by a *Kiledar*-Fort Keeper-known as *Divan*. He was named after the fort where he resided. The *kill*a unit was sub-divided into *barsas* or groups of villages, but a village was described according to its main division. Thus Cop in the Wairagad *paragana* was styled *mauza* Cop, *kille* Wairagad. There are no papers available showing these divisions under the Gond Kings.

After the Treaty of Devganv in 1803, the territory to the right bank of Wardha and the Pranahita was ceded to the Nizam. Waroda, Cimur and Brahmapuri were first included in Nagpur but later retransferred to Candrapur-the former in 1837-38 and the later in 1820-21.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Que. Gondwana

Ans.

- Gondwana is a Gond Kingdom

- Established in Central India's hilly regions by replacing the Kalchuri rajputs in 14th – 15th century.

- Founded by Yadavarai.

Que. Chauragarh Fort

Ans.

- Built by Sangramshah, Gond king of Garha mandla
- Located in Narsinghgarh.
- It was attacked by Jujhar Singh Bundela.

Que. Jataba Gond King

Ans. Jataba founded the Deogarh Gond Kingdom., one of the four Gond kingdoms in Chhindwara and Nagpur region. He also established Deograh Fort.

Que. Kherla kingdom

Ans. Kherla kingdom of Gond was founded by Narsimha Rai in Betul & Amravati region. It was captured by Bakht Buland shah of Deogarh

Que. Gadheshnripavarnanam inscription

Ans.

- Sanskrit Shloka Collection
- Related to Sangram Shah, the ruler of Gondwana.
- Description of 52 forts (given in it)

Que. Last Gond ruler

Ans. Narhari Shah, during his time the entire Garhmandala was under the control of the Marathas.

Que. Why the name of Gondwana was called 'Gondwana'?

Ans. Due to the plurality of the Gond tribe and being ruled by the Gond dynasty kings, this region came to be called Gondwana region or Gondwana princely state.

Que. Write the names of three main regions of Gondwana.

Ans.

- Garha Mandla (Jabalpur, Mandla)
- Deogarh (Chindwara)
- Kherla (Betul, Amravati)
- Chanda (chandrapur)

Que. Comment briefly on the Chandra kingdom.

Ans.

- Founder-Ballal Shah (1472-07)
- Located in Maharashtra (Chandrapur)
- Famous for their irrigation system and revenue system.

Que. Sanskrit inscription of Ramnagar

Ans.

- Built in 1667 by the Gond ruler Hridayshah.

- Mention of 54 rulers from Yadavrai to Hridayshah

- Source of information about Gond dynasty rule

Que. For what reasons did Garh katanga become a prosperous state?

Ans.

- By capturing wild elephants and exporting them
- Efficient leadership and good management policies

Que. Write the similarities in the history of Gond and Ahom kingdom.

Ans.

- Both were tribal kingdoms
- Established two empires
- Both were defeated by the Mughals

Que. Write the geographical location of Gond ruled Deogarh state.

Ans.

First developed in Satpura zone, later in the

plains of Narmada and Nagpur; Bhandara, Betul, Chhindwara and Seoni districts of Madhya Pradesh were included

Que. Write a note on the Gonds of Deogarh.

Ans.

- This empire emerged in the 17th century
- The first ruler- Jatba
- Capital- Harayagarh (Chhindwara)

Que. Write a comment on Rani Avanti Bai. [MPPSC 2014, 100 wrds][MPPSC 2004]

Ans.

- Famous as 'Queen of Ramgarh'
- She took over the rule after the death of his husband.
- Actively contributed to the Revolt of 1857

Que. Girdhari Bai

Ans.

- The assistant of Rani Avanti Bai of Ramgarh
- Important role in the Revolt of 1857
- Samadhi- Mandla District

Que. Write a note on Sangram Shah.

Ans.

- Gond ruler of Garah Mandla (1510-1543)
- Conquered 52 Forts
- Wrote – Rasratnamala
- Believe in Tantra Sadhana

Que. Write a note on Dalpat shah.

Ans.

- He took over the rule of Gondwana in 1540.

- Marriage with Durgavati in 1542
- Death after 4 years of marriage due to illness

Que. Write about Hridayshah.

Ans.

- Gond dynasty ruler (1627-71)
- Made Ramnagar (Mandla) the capital
- Built Moti Mahal, Bahel palace.

Que. Who was Gopa Mohapatra?

Ans.

- Scholar sent by Akbar to know about the state of Garha Mandla
- After receiving respect from Aadhar Singh Kayastha, he reached Delhi happily

Que. Who was Narahari Mohapatra?

Ans.

- Scholar sent by Akbar
- Durgavati sent a gift of 1 crore to Delhi

Que. Why is Narai Nala famous?

Ans.

- Secure place to the south of Garha
- Here the battle of Narai (1564) took place between Durgavati and Asaf Khan.

Que. Why was Queen Durgavati named as Durgavati?

Ans.

She was born on October 05, 1524 in family of Chandel King Kirtivarman on Durgaashtami, due to which she was named Durgavati.

**Que. Write a comment on Rani Durgavati.
[MPPSC 2009]**

Ans.

- 1st Gond Female ruler
- Due to the untimely death of her husband, Dalpat Shah, She became the guardian of son Veernarayan.
- Conflict with the Mughal Emperor Akbar (1564)

Que. Ramgarh Fort

Ans.

- Situated in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh
- Built in 1667 by the Gond king Hridayshah

Que. Name the buildings built by Hridayshah in Ramnagar .

Ans.

Dal Badal Mahal, Moti Mahal, Rani Begum Mahal, Ramgarh fort, Baghel palace, Sandur Devalaya etc.

Que. Write a note on Moti Mahal of Ramnagar

Ans.

- Built by Hriday Shah on the banks of Narmada
- The heritage of the glorious tradition of the Gond kings

• Declared a heritage monument by the Madhya Pradesh government in 1984

Que. Write a note on Raibhagat's kothi.

Ans.

- Built by Hriday Shah for his Diwan Raibhagat in Ramnagar (Mandla)
- Famous as Mantri Mahal
- Declared a heritage monument in 1984

Que. Dal Badal Mahal

Ans.

- Built by Hridayshah in Ramnagar
- It was built for the generals and soldiers.

Que. Whose name is Pulsyavanshika?

Ans.

Sangram Shah

Que. Chhatra Shah

Ans.

- Ruler of Gondwana (1672-1684)
- Successor of Hridayshah
- Arrival of Guru Mahaprabhu Prannath in Ramnagar (1681)

Que. Premshah

Ans.

- Successor of Madhukarshah (Ruler from 1576 to 1586)
- Title – Maharajadhiraj
- First Gond ruler to pay gratitude to Mughals.

Que. Rajgond

Ans.

- The noble and feudal class of Gonds
- Famous for political skill and power

Que. Bakht Buland Shah

Ans.

- The king of Deogarh Gond Kingdom
- Established the Nagpur City.
- Embraced Islam to win favor of Aurangzeb
- Merged Kherla Kigdom of Gond into Deograh.

Que. Dhamani garh

Ans.

- Located in Sagar
- Built by Sangramshah

Que. Adhar singh

Ans.

- Minister of Rani Durgawati
- Helped Rani in administratin and battle field also

Que. Madan Mahal

Ans.

- Build by Madan shan, Gond ruler
- Located in Jabalpur
- Firest example of Gond Architecture

Que. Sinaurgh Fort

Ans.

- Located in Daimoh
- One among the 52 forts of Sangram shah
- Marriage of Dalpat shah & Rani Durgawati took place here

- Capital of Dalpat shan

Que. Describe the battle between Rani Durgawati & Mughal army

[MPPSC 2016, 100 words]

Ans.

- Mughal army of Akbar led by Asaf khan marched against Durgawati in 1564
- Queen defended bravely but could not won the battle
- She sacrificed her life on 24 june 1564.

SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Que. Who was Rani Durgavati?

Ans. Rani Durgavati, the Queen of Gonds was a brave and courageous woman who ruled over garha-Mandal; the Gond kingdom in 16th century AD. She successfully repulsed the attacks of Baj Bahadur, the Malwa sultan and defended her kingdom against Akbar's chief Asaf Khan in 1564.

Que. Describe the struggle of Rani Durgavati with Bazbahadur

Ans. After coronation of Rani, Bazbahadur, the ruler of Malwa attacked Garha state in 1556. In this battle his uncle Fateh Khan died & he came back to sarangpur. He attacked for the second time on Garha but due to facing reverses & heavy loss he abandoned the idea of conquering Garha.

Que. Analyse the reign of Bakht Buland of Deogadh.

Ans. Bakht Buland started his servies in the court of Aurangzeb. He embraced Islam & was officially recognised as Raja of Deogarh by Mughals. He added to his kingdom chanda and Mandla. He annexed kherla Kingdom. He Occupied Chhindwara & Betul. He established many towns & villages like Nagpur city which he named Rajapur Barsa. He is said to have rebelled against mughals & snatched Portions of their territory.

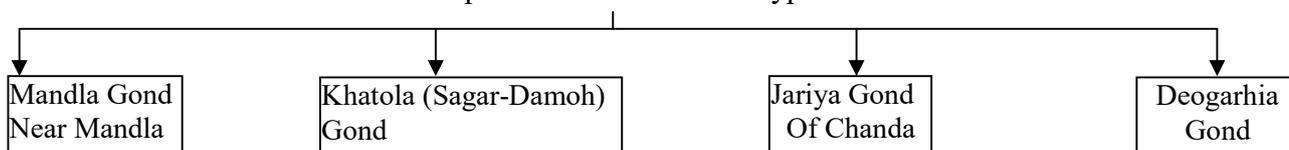
Que. What were reasons of HRIDAY Shah shifting his capital?

Ans. Orccha ruler Jhujhar Singh attacked the fort of Chauragarh. So after the loss of Chauragarh fort to Jhujhar singh Hriday shah decided to shift the capital from chouragarh to a place which would be secured & distant. For this, he selected Ramnagar which was 20 km far from chauragarh in the Satpura forests in 1651-52.

Que. Write a note on division of Gonda.

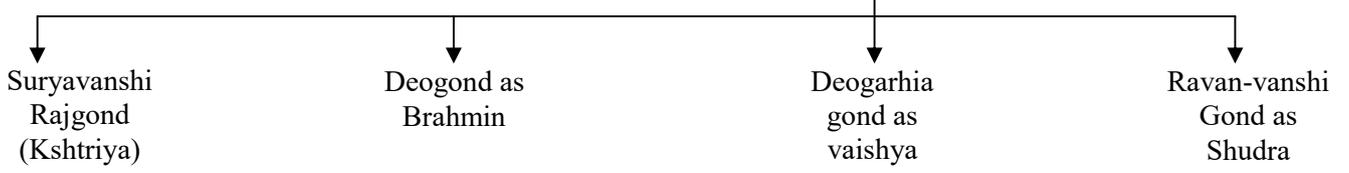
Ans. Different scholars have divided the Gonda who are a prominent tribe of India.

As per Jenkins there are 4 types.



- Stephen Fush divided Gonda into 4 parh-Devgond, suryavanshi-Rajgond, Deagarhia gond & Ravan-vanshi Gond.

- As per "Gondi Dharmapurana" & "Gond; Dharmavichar" - 4 types of Gonds compared with 4 varnas



Que: - Note on coins issued by Sangram Shah.

Ans. Sangram shah also known as Amhan Das was coronated in 1510-13 on the throne of Gond Riyasat.

- During the time of sangram shah we found the coins of gold, silver & copper which is an indication of economic prosperity of the time. He is called "Pultsyavanshi" in Gold coins.
- Both Devnagiri and Telegu script are found on his coins.
- On his coins, primarily, a lion on the Gold coins and a standing lion on the silver coins are conspicuous.
- All these coins are a valuable source to ascertain the economic prosperity & circulation of money at that time.

Que: Amhan Das/Sangram Shah was a patron of Literature. comment.

Ans. Along with having qualities of a great soldier, he was also a patron of Literature & culture.

- He was a scholar of Sanskrit language, wrote "Rasratnamala" in sanskrit. This book has dealt with both political & scholarly topics.
- In the pursuance of his interest in the Literature he invited over the scholars of philosophy and culture from garh-Mithila to his State. One among them was Damodar Thakur who wrote "Sangramshahi vivek Deepika" and "Divya Nirman" which were two essays.

Que. What was role of Dalpatshah as the protector of Art in the Gondwana Riyasat?

Ans. Just like his father Sangramshah, Dalpat Shah was also a patron and protector of Art.

- In his court, there was a scholar named Mahesh Thakur, whom Dalpatshah's mother padmavati gave a village named Vishnupur.
- Mahesh Thakur wrote "Tattva chintamani"
- Keshav Logakshi, a scholar, also resided in his court.

Overall as a king Dalpatshah was a tolerant & cosmopolitan king who used to give liberal donation to both Mahesh Thakur & muslim saint kapoor Baba.

Que: Rani Durgawati was an able administrator Write about her role as an able administrator.

Ans. Rani Durgavati was a wise, tolerant ruler and an able administrator. During the attack of Asaf khan Rani showed her leadership skills foresightedness which was also conspicuous in her speech given during the battle.

The cosmopolitan nature of Rani can be observed from the fact that in her army, top offices were occupied by able Muslim generals like shakshan Miyana.

She also patronised scholars like Mahesh Thakur, Damodar Thakur, and Pop Mahapatra etc.

She was a woman of religion. She followed vitthaldar.

The lines of keshav dikshit summarize her personality as a ruler and able administrator,

"All over the place there is a fertile land, in between lies the Narmada & wise Durgavati is the queen".

LONG QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que. Sangram Singh was not only a great ruler but also a patron of Art & culture.

Ans. Sangram Singh (Amhandas) was coronated in 1510-13 in Gond Kingdom.

Sangram Singh as a great Ruler:

- He was a great diplomat who consolidated his great kingdom & expanded it.
- He secured goodwill of Ibrahim Lodhi & be friended Gujarat ruler Bahadur shah by helping him. This way he secured his kingdom & by using his foresightedness.
- He had amicable relations with Baghel ruler Veersing Dev & had Matrimonial relation with chandels.
- He also expanded his kingdom as he had almost 52 Garhas (forts) under his authority.
- According to sleeman his kingdom stretched from chanda in south to Panna in North & Bilaspur in east to Makdai in west.

SANGRAM SINGH AS A PATRON OF ART

ARCHITECTURE:-For providing security to the state he constructed forts like chouragarh fort, set up Sangrampur village, established Madan mahal Palace near Gadha & near it a lake Called sangram Sagar.

Script, Language & currency: Coins of Gold, Silver & copper have been found which shows economically flourished state. Gold coins were called pulatsyavanshi. There are both Devnagiri & Telegu scripts on coins.

Literature:-He was a scholar in Sanskrit which is proved by a book "Raas Ratnamala" which he wrote himself. (It was a political document). He invited scholars like Damodar Thakur who wrote "Sangram Sahi Vivek Deepika".

Que. Describe the struggle between Rani Durgavati & Mughal King Akbar.

Ans. Rani's contemporary Mughal Subedar was Asal Khan, an ambitious man who vanquished Ramchandra, the ruler of Rewa. Prosperity of Rani Durgavati's state lured him and he invaded Rani's state after taking permission from Mughal emperor. This plan of Mughal invasion was the result of expansionism and **imperialism** of Akbar. To fight a defensive battle, she went to Narrai situated between a hilly range on one side and two rivers Gaur and Narmada on the other side. It was a battle between two unequal forces with trained soldiers and modern weapons in multitude on one side and a few untrained soldiers with old weapons on the other side. Her Faujdar Arjun Das was killed in the battle and Rani decided to lead the defence herself. As the enemy entered the valley, soldiers of Rani attacked them. Both sides lost some men but Rani was victorious in this battle. She chased down the Mughal army and came out of the valley.

Choosing death to dishonour

At this stage Rani reviewed her strategy with her counsellors. She wanted to attack the enemy in the night to enfeeble them but her lieutenants did not accept her suggestion. By next morning Asaf khan had summoned big guns. Rani rode on her elephant Sarman and came for the battle. Her son Vir Narayan also took part in this battle. He forced Mughal

army to move back three times but at last he got wounded and had to retire to a safe place. In the course of battle, Rani also got injured near her ear with an arrow. Another arrow pierced her neck and she lost her consciousness. On regaining consciousness she perceived that defeat was imminent. Her Mahawat (person who driver elephants) advised her to leave the battlefield but she refused and took out her dagger and killed herself. Her martyrdom day (24th June 1564) is, even today, commemorated as "Balidan Diwas".

After this, Mughals Captured Garha but chauragarh, the capital of Gonds was & still not subjugated. Virnarayan (Son of Rani Durgavati) escaped to chauragarh but Asaf Khan chased him down & killed him. The first mention of Jauhar in Gond state was also found here.

Que. Throw light on the role of Hriday shah in the development of Gondwana State.

Ans. After the death of Premshah, his son, Hridayshah became the ruler. From the beginning he served mughals, became their favourite.

- In 1651 Pahadsingh was made the Jagirdaar of Chauragadha, capital of Gonda, Hiridayshah had to run away from there and chauragadh slipped out of Gonda hands. After this, Hriday shah slowly organised his force and re-surrected the lost glory of Gondwana state.
- After loss of chauragadha, he made advances in diplomacy by marital relations with chandel, Parihar & re-organised his forces.

Changing the capital: - After the loss of Chauragadh, he shifted the capital to a safe place in sutpura forests, 20 km far from chauragadh in Ramnagar in 1651-52 whose evidences are available in "Gadhesh-Nripavarnam" Inscription

Uplifter of the State

The most important task in the upliftment of the Gonda was inviting & giving incentives to skilled workers and setting them in the state. As Gond people were neither good in agriculture nor in Art or sculphure making, it was important to increase the production of agriculture given it was the agriculture on which economy of state depended mainly.

- State saw prosperity & surplus after this & Gond people also accepted the immigrants.

Architecture

He made many palaces in Ramnagar. His Baghelin queen made Baghelin Mahal in Ramnagar.

Sunderi Devi whom he had made his partner got constructed sundar Devalaya in which worship of Vishnu, Shambhu, and Ganesha was used to be performed.

His official Bhagwatrai got constructed the great Hall in Ramnagar.

Literature

- In his court there were famous scholars like Kamala dutta Thakkur, Vishnu Dixit etc.
- He Himself wrote "Hriday Koutuk" and "Hriday Pakash"

Hriday Shah, even after the loss of important forts, re-organized & consolidated the Gondwana state. Not only this, he then led the state to the path of development through economic reforms & agricultural reforms and prosperity along with maintaining the image of State as a patron of Art & Culture.

Que : Describe the role of Rani Durgawati in different capacities in the upliftment of Gond State.

Ans. After the death of Dalpat Shah, the ruler of Gond State, Rani Durgawati held in her able hands the reigns of the Gond State. She had to contend the hostile neighbour, Bazbahadur who attached her & the battle with Mughals after her coronation and while doing all that she still had found the leisure to formulate great policies as an able administrator of the state.

Conditions of Neighbours

- Ramchandra of Rewa, Kalchuris of Haihayavanshi in south-east, Karnashah of Chanda state & a muslim-centre of Bear were her neighbors which were not old kingdoms but were consolidating themselves and were on the path to challenge Rani soon.

Struggle with Baz-Bahadur:-

In 1556, Malwa ruler Baz Bahadur attacked over Garha but was defeated & went back to sarangpur after which he launched second attack which was also foiled by Rani so he abandoned the idea of conquering Garha eventually.

Gunsaai vitthalnath's visit in Garha

Rani took the initiation (Deeksha) from vitthal-natha when he visited the Garha, he was from "vallabha sect". Description of this has been found in "Bhav-sindu" book.

Her struggle with Mughals

- In 1564, Asaf Khan was made governor of Kada, who defeated Rewa king Ramchandra & then planned to attack Garha.
- In 1564 he attacked Damoh but Rani went to Narrai & left Chauragadh.
- Rani attacked a personal aid of Asaf, Nazir Mohammed, then after this, second attack was led by Asaf himself in which Rani led the battle with her Mahawat Adharsingh Baghila & Elephant 'Sarman'. Seeing the inevitable defeat she killed herself and became a martyr. But Chauragadh was still not in Mughal control although chasing down her son Veer for to Chauragadh, Asaf eventually attacked & captured Chauragadh where Jauhar was performed the first time in Gondwana.

As an able Administrator

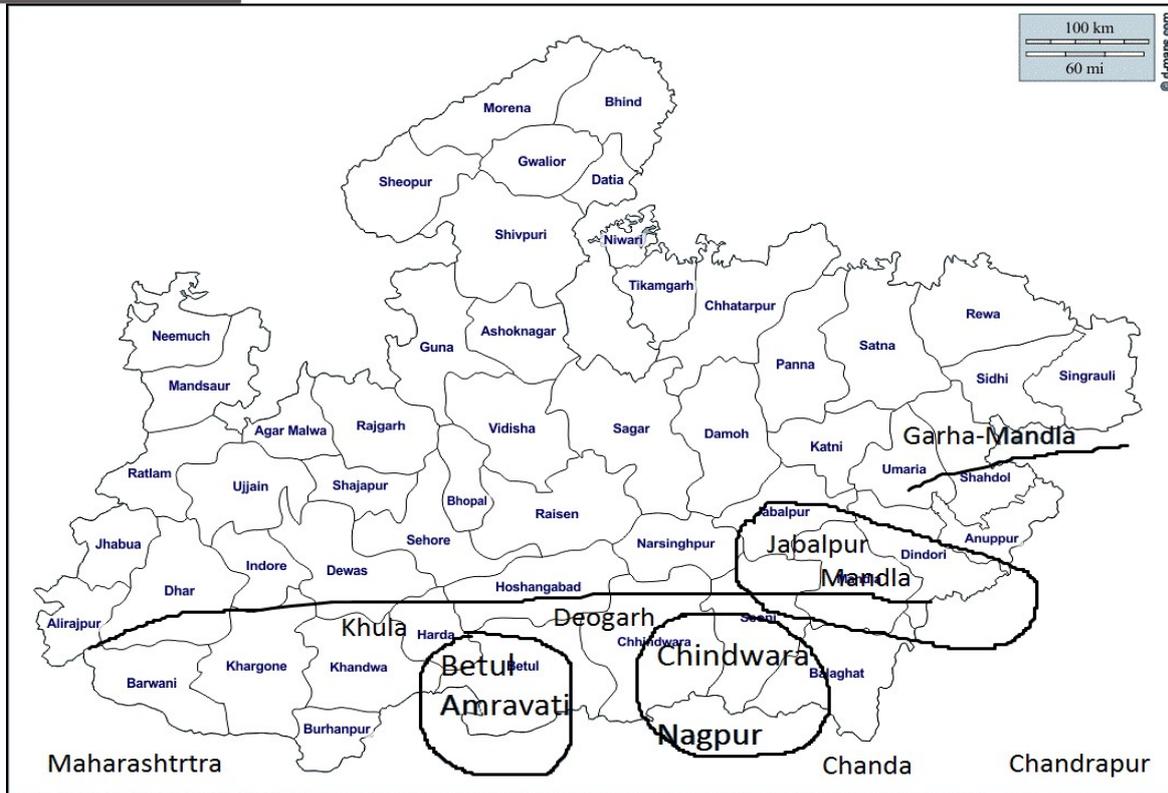
Rani was a wise & able administrator. During Asaf Khan's attack her leadership skills were conspicuous during the speech in the battle. She gave opportunities to everyone as she was a cosmopolitan ruler in whose army able Muslim generals were there like Shakshani Miyan. She was also a woman of religion who respected the feeling of all his subjects of other religions also.

The lines of Keshav Dikshit conclude the reign of Rani - "All over the place swathes of fertile land can be seen, in between is Narmada and there lies the wise Durgawati who is the queen"

Que- Gondwana

Ans- Unlike other tribes, Gonds didn't restrict themselves to forest life. They took up the power into their hands and established Gondwana in the central-Indian hilly regions after replacing Kalchuris in 14th-15th century AD.

Jadurai, the first Gond King established Garha-Mandla, one of the four Gond Kingdoms. Other kingdoms were- Deogarh (Chindwara & Nagpur), Khula (Betul & Amravati) and Chanda (Chandrapur).



Garha-Mandla is known for its rulers who were men of valor like **Sangram Shah** for his expansionist Policies & also built chauragarh fort. **Rani Durgawati**, defended her kingdom against Mughal forces & Prem Narayan who got martyr while defending his kingdom against Bundelas.

Deogarh was founded by **jatba** who established Deogarh fort. He was succeeded by **Bakht Buland Shah** who founded Nagpur city, plundered Deccan Muslim kingdoms & rebelled against Mughals to expand his empire.

Kherla was founded by **Narsingh Rai**. It was attacked by various Muslim kingdoms due to its geographical accessibility & later merged into Deogarh kingdom by Bakht BULAND SHAH.

Chanda, known for its remarkable rulers who laid down the excellent irrigation system and first well-defined revenue system.

The Gond kingdom was ended around 18th century AD when Raja Raghuji Bhonsale annexed Deogarh, Peshwa captured Garha-Mandla & Britishers took over the control of Chanda Gond kingdom.

2. BUNDELI DYNASTY

Bundelkhand (earlier known as Jejakbhukti) is the north part of M.P. This land has a glorious history which can be traced through its culture and architecture.

This land was under Chedi Mahajanpada, Mauryan and Gupta Empire during ancient times later the land came under the influence of Gurjar Pratiharas. In this region there were Chandelas, who declared themselves independent in 10th century. Chandelas immensely contributed in the evolution of architecture. UNESCO world heritage site of khajuraho is the finest example of it. (Declared UNESCO world heritage in 1986)

The major parts of weak Chandelas were taken over by Rajput clan of Bundelas hence Bundela dynasty came into picture in early 16th century. Due to Bundela's rule over the land, the name Bundelkhand emerged. Under Bundelas there were following kingdoms.

ABOUT BUNDELKHAND

Bundelkhand is a geographical and cultural region and also a mountain range in central & North India. The hilly region is now divided between the states of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, with the larger portion lying in the latter state.

Jhansi is the largest city in Bundelkhand and is a major cultural, educational, transport and economic hub. Another major city of Bundelkhand is Sagar being second largest city of Bundelkhand and headquarters of Sagar Division. Other towns are Konch, Kalpi, Chirgaon, Datia, Dabra, Mauranipur, Panna, Banda, Chitrakoot, Tikamgarh, Rath, Lalitpur, Damoh, Jalaun, Orai, Hamirpur, Mahoba, Banda, Maudaha, Ashoknagar, kalinjar, Chhatarpur and Gwalior. Among the well-known places of Bundelkhand is Khajuraho, which has numerous 10th-century sculptures devoted to fine living and eroticism. The mines of Panna have been the source of magnificent diamonds; a very large one dug from the last active mine was kept for a long time in the fort of Kalinjar.



BUNDELAS

The Bundelas are a Rajput clan of central India. The families belonging to this clan ruled several small states in the Bundelkhand region from the 16th century.

MYTHICAL ORIGIN

The mythical accounts of the Bundela dynasties trace their ancestry to the Suryavansha (solar dynasty). An example of such an account is that of Gorelal or Lal Kavi (c. 1700 CE), who composed a poetic biography of the Bundela king Chhatrasal.

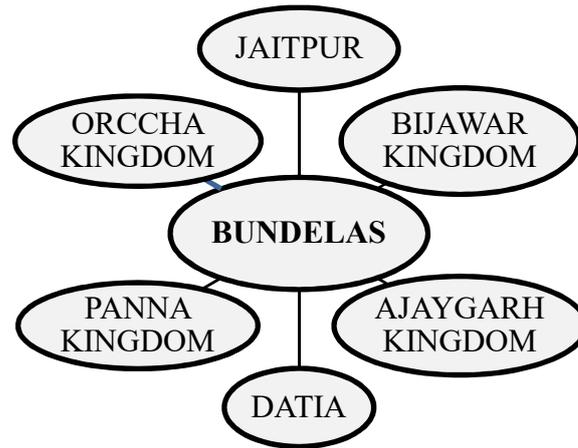
The Bundelas claim descent from Manu Vaivasvata and Ikshvaku, through Lava, the elder son of Lord Rama. From Lava were descended two brothers named, Gaganen or Gaganaspati and Kanaksen. The latter is said to have founded Vallabhipura in Gujarat around 144AD, while the former is said to have migrated eastwards and founded a kingdom for him in 182 A.D. Of the descendants of Gaganen, nothing is known till Kartraj appears in around 674AD, and who proceeded to Kashi or Banaras where he contrived to oust the local chief, a Sani Rajput. He then married Vara, daughter of the local chief, Magha, and was ancestor of the next 20 Gaharwar rulers of Banaras (674-1048), of whom nothing but only the names are known, as follows below. Tradition ascribes the name Bundela to Raja Pancham Vindhyela (also known as Hem Karan), son of the Gaharwar ruler of Benares, Raja Karan Pal, themselves a branch of the early Kannauj Dynasty. He was expelled from his kingdom by his brother, then retired to the shrine of Bindachal and became a votary of Bhawani.

He intended to sacrifice himself to that deity, but after inflicting a wound upon himself Bhawani herself appeared and he was stopped from doing further injury by Bhawani and was promised that his kingdom would be restored, and that in commemoration of the blood already spilt, his descendants were to be called Bundela, derived from 'bund'. It is probable that the founder of the clan was **Hardeo**, a son of one of the Gaharwar rulers of Kantit. He took up his residence near Orchha and by treachery acquired the lands of the Khangar Raja of Karar. The Bundelas first settled at Kalinjar, Kalpi and Mahoni, and in the 14th century, Raja Malkhan, founded Orchha. They became a ruling family in the 16th century and gave their name to the tract in which they ruled.

The account goes like this: Brahma originated from Vishnu. The descendants of Brahma were: Marichi, Kashyapa, Surya (the sun; son of Kashyapa and Aditi), Ikshavaku, Dilipa, Raghu, Aja, Dasharatha, Ramachandra, Kusha, Haribrahma, and Vihagaraja. The seventh-generation descendant of Vihagaraja was Kiratdeva, who was the ancestor of Kashi king Virabhadra. The founder of the Bundela dynasty was a descendant of Virabhadra's son Jagdas (also known as Pancham, Devadasa or Hem Karan).

Jagdas was a son of Virabhadra's junior queen. After being denied a share in the Kashi kingdom by the four sons of the elder queen, he came to the shrine of the goddess Vindhyavasini. There, he engaged in a long tapasyato seek the goddess' blessings. After failing to evoke response, he decided to sacrifice his head to the deity. As soon as the first drop of his blood fell on the ground, the goddess appeared before him. She declared that his son, a brave hero and a future ruler, would appear from the drop of the blood. This son – Bundela – was named after the drop (bund). The Bundela dynasties worshipped the Vindhyavasini as their kuladevi (family deity)..

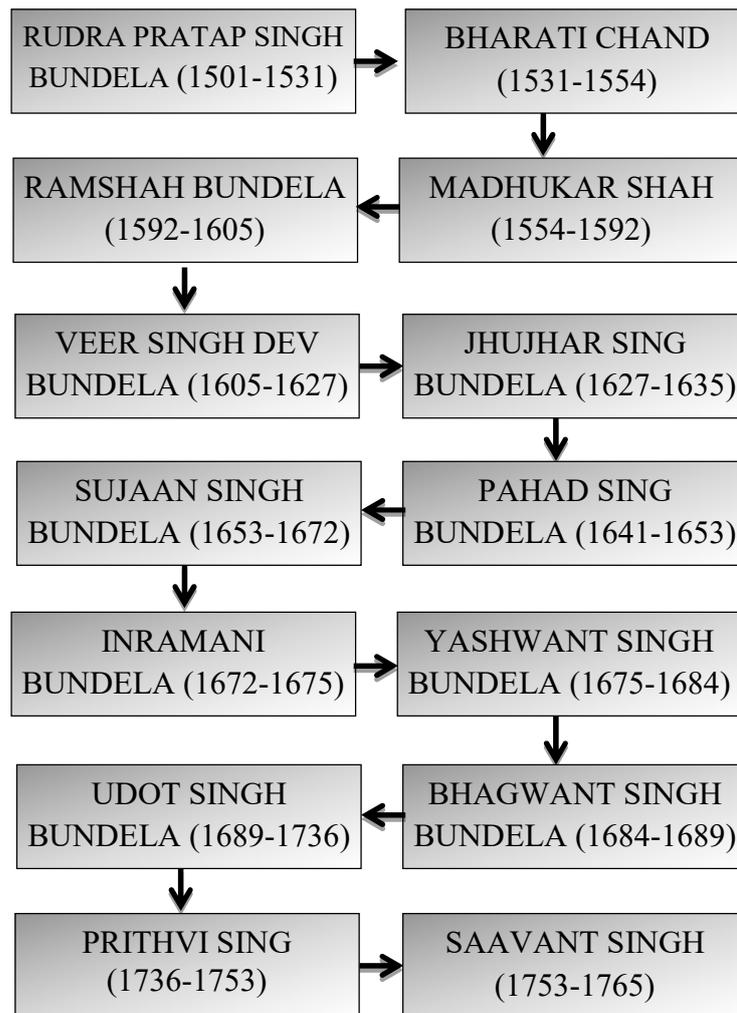
BUNDELA KINGDOM WAS DIVIDED INTO



HISTORICAL KINGDOMS

ORCCHA KINGDOM

CHRONOLOGY OF KINGS OF ORCCHA KINGDOM



- Extended in 5387 km sq. area with capital **Orchha**.
- Currency – Gaja Shahi
- Founded by Raja Rudra Pratap Singh in 1500. He also established orchha on the bank of river Betwa.
- Raja Bharti Chand, the successor of Raja Rudra Pratap Singh tried to oppose Sher Shah Shuri in his kalinjar expedition in 1545.

RUDRA PRATAP BUNDELA (1501-1531)

- In earlier times, the origin of Bundela thakurs is also associated with elder son of Rama, Luv.
- In 8th century, ruler of Kashi, Karnaraj performed a yojna for "Grah-Nivarana" (Home-remedies). So his successors were called Gahirwaar.
- From the same Gahirwaar clan, there was fifth successor with name Bundela whose son was veer Bundela who occupied Mho-Mahoni region & established his state.
- From same clan there was King like Arjundev, Malkhan Singh etc.
- After Malkhan Singh, his son, **Rudra Pratap** Bundela emerged as the successor (Although orchha was only a cantonment centre and administrative work was performed from Garhkundar.)
- He established new capital orchha on 3rd April 1531 near Betwa Bank. Later his kingdom was called orchha kingdom.
- He won over region stretching from kalinjar to kalpi.
- He died in 1531.

BHARATI CHAND (1531-1554)

- After Rudrapratap he became the next king.
- Orchha became the full-fledged capital of Kingdom.
- He constructed orchha fort, Rajmandir & Rani Mahal.
- Due to attack of Sherah over Baghel King Veerbhanu, Veerbhanu escaped to kalinjar fort held by chandelas. Bharti chand helped chandelas in the ensuing battle against sher shah.
- He died in 1554 at Tikamgarh.

MADHUKARSHAH (1554-1592)

- He was the brother of Bhartichand & became the successor of the Bundela state.
- He came into conflict with Mogul ruler Akbar due to the fact that he attacked over sironj, Gwalior & Narwar.
- But Madhukarshah used diplomacy & asked for Akbar's pardon. Everytime he came into conflict with the Badshah, he asked for Akbar's mercy & protected his kingdom. It was a strategic move on his part.
- He was also called Madhukar shahi Tilak.

RAMSHAH BUNDELA (1592-1605)

- He had 8 sons. One of his sons Veer Singh Dev Bundela was given Badoni estate in Datia.

VEER SINGH BUNDELA – (1605 – 1627)

- A ruler of strong principles, amassed wealth and property, not only a great warrior but also an enthusiastic builder who constructed many monuments, forts, and bevples
- Some of his architectural achievements are Like Jahangir Mahal, Laxmi Temple in Orchha, Datia Fort etc.

- He assassinated Abul fazl (One of the Navratnas of Akbar) on the instigation of mughal prince Jahangir.
- He patronized a poet Keshavdas who wrote Rasikpriya and Virsimhdevkarit.
- Veer Singh Bundela died in 1627.

JHUJHAR SINGH BUNDELA (1627-1635)

- He was the successor of veer singh bundela, often considered as a weak ruler.
- Folklore of Hardol (brother of Jhujhar singh) is associated with his reign.
- Initially he served mughal court and his son Bikaramjeet singh used to look after orchha's administration.
- Shah Jahan (contemporary mughal king), found that Bikaramjeet is levying heavy unethical taxes on his subject. He attacked Orchha state in order to teach a lesson to them. Jhujhar Singh had to surrender and pay heavy fine. They were pardoned by Saha Jahan.
- Later Jhujhar Singh attacked Gond king Prem Narayan, which irked Sahajahan. Gond asked for justice and as a consequence, Aurangzeb attacked and conquered Orchha.

PAHAD SINGH BUNDELA (1641-1653)

- He had amicable relations with mughals because Shah Jahan gave him the authority to rule over Budelkhand state.
- He participated in Balkh & other campaigns of mughals
- He had the rank of 5000 Zat & 2000 Sawar.

SUJJAN SINGH BUNDELA (1653-1672)

- The Successor of Pahad Singh, had the rank of 3000 zat & 2500 sawar
- He participated in Kashmir, cooch Bihar campaigns of mughals.
- In 1658, due to controversial religious policies, there was on huge upheaval in whole Bundelkhand.

INDRAMANI BUNDELA (1672-75)

- He was the brother of Sujan Singh Bundela.
- He went with Mughals in Kashmir campaign.
- Sengar Rajputs attacked over the state.
- He defeated this attack with mughal's help.

YASHWANT SINGH BUNDELA (1675-1684)

- Son of Indramani Bundela, Yashwant, was recognised as the king by mughal Baadshah Aurangzeb.
- During his reign, chhatrasaal revolted against the mughals.
- Chanderi & Datia Kingdom got separated & supported Aurangzeb afterwards.
- His reign is known for rise of popularity of chhatrasaal.

BHAGWANT SINGH BUNDELA (1684-89)

- Aurangzeb decided to choose Bhagwant for coronation who was the son of Yashwant.
- Real ruler was wife of Indramani Bundela Rani Amarkunwari.

UDOT SINGH BUNDELA (1689-1736)

- In his reign, Aurangzeb died & later mughals came.
- He defeated the attack of Peshwa Balaji Bajirao in Bundelkhand in 1708.
- 1710, he helped mughals against sikhs.
- Panna kingdom's cornerstone was laid in his reign chhatrasaal emerged as a popular figure.

- He made Niwas Bagh, Udor Gauj, in orchha.

PRITHVI SINGH (1736-53)

- He constructed a fort named Prithvipur near orchha.

SAAVANT SINGH (1753-65)**VIKRAMAJEET SINGH (1776-1817)**

- After death of Bharti chand, his brother vikramjeet singh was coronated.
- In 1783 he shifted capital from orchha to Tehri (Teekamgarh).
- In 1785 he renamed Tehri as Teekamgarh.
- He appointed Makhan Khan as his commander of Army to strengthen his military.
- To get rid of Marathas' invasion fear, a treaty was signed between Bundelas & British on 23 December 1812.
- **Battle of Baghat-** It happened between Bundelas & Gandharv singh, Jagirdaar of Baghat. (Gandharv attacked Tarichar in Datia state & Datia sought Bundela's help). There were other rulers also after Vikaramjeet Singh like Dharmpal Singh & Soon. But these rulers had very little significance as for as history is concerned.

Orchha became princely state under British rule in 1811 and Bundelkhandagency was merged into Indian union in 1947. After this, it became part of Vindhya Pradesh and ultimately its one part got merged into Madhya Pradesh in 1956 and remaining with Uttar Pradesh.

KINGDOMS OF BUNDELA

Other than the orchha Branch of Budelas two other branches became popular. One was of Baar-chanderi and Datia. Other branch was panna state established by Chhatrasaal.

KINGDOM OF BAAR-CHANDERI

- Jahangir dethroned the elder son of Madhukarshahu, Ramshah Bundela, from the throne of Orchha and made him ruler of Chanderi.
- The grandchild of Ramshah, Bharatshah, is credit for the establishment of the Chanderi state.

BHARAT SHAH BUNDELA (1612-1634)

- He became ruler in 1612 with the permissions of Mughal Badshah Jahangir and shahjahan and participated in the Battle of Telangana in the South.
- Bharatshah defeated chanderi's subehdaar Godarai and shifted the capital in Chanderi.

DEVISINGH BUNDELA (1634-1670)

- He was granted the tittle of "Raja" by mughal king Shahjahan with 2500 zat and 2000 sawar rank.
- After the death of orchha king Jujhar singh he was entrusted with responsibility to manage Orchha.
- He was made the Faujdaar of vidisha by Mughal Badshah.
- He annexed great part of sagar.

DUGSINGH BUNDELA (1670-1687)

- In his region people of Banajara Community immigrated into chanderi and disturbed the peace and order. He dealt with them swiftly and successfully.

DURJAN SINGH BUNDELA (1687-1736)

- He had amicable relations with Datia and Orchha rulers.
- He had friendly relations with Sawai Raja Jai Singh. He established friendly relations with many rulers which is a sign of great diplomacy.
- In 1734 Chanderi came under the sway of Marathas and became a state under them.
- Malhar-rao Holkar annexed Vidisha, Udaipura Basoda, Sirunji.

MAAN SINGH (1736-1750)

- He forfeited Mehroni near Lalitpur.

RAMCHANDRA (1775-1802)

- Due to his tender age, his uncle Harsh Singh became the de-facto ruler.
- Due to some conflicts of his mother with Harsh Singh her mother took Ram Chandra to Achalgarh Jagirdar Keerat Singh.
- Keerat Singh put Ramchandra on the Chanderi throne again & defeated Harsh Singh.

MOR PRAHLAD (1802-1842)

- In 1810, French commander, Jean Baptiste, of Schindia annexed two-third part of Chanderi.
- MOR PRAHLAD then made his capital Kaligunwa, and then he made Banpur his capital.

CHHATARPUR KINGDOM

- Kamdar, Soneju Pawar, of Sarnet Singh who was a rebel of Panna state established Chhatapur as his capital by annexing & merging Bijawar of Bundelkhand and some areas of Panna and Charkhar.
- Just like other kings of Bundelkhand Soneju Pawar also befriended and signed a treaty with English representative. He signed treaty of 1806 with English representative John Valley on 4 April, 1806.

CHARKHARI STATE

- Charkhari state was founded in 1765 by Khuman Singh.
- In 1857 Raja Ratan Singh received a hereditary salute of 11 guns, a khilat and a perpetual jagir of £1300 a year in recognition of his services during Revolt of 1857.
- Earlier in 1804 under Raja Bikramjit Singh (1792-1829) rule, the state became a British protectorate.
- The last ruler of this princely state signed the accession to the Indian union on 15th August 1947.

TIKAMGARH STATE

- Tikamgarh is a town in Tikamgarh district, MP. The earlier name was Tehri K consisting of three hamlets (Tehari meant a triangle)
- Until 1947 it was called Tehri which was a part of Orcha kingdom founded in 16th century by Bundeli Chief Rundra Pratap Singh Bundela.

- In 1783 the capital of the Bundelkhand state was moved to Tehri, about 64 km south of orcha, which was home to the fort of Tikamgarh.
- This town now is famous for its rich historical traditions.

JAITPUR

- Chhatrasaal gave his state Jatipur to his son Jagatraj in which keerat singh got the throne of Jaitpur.
- After the death of Pahadsingh in in 1765, Gajraj singh got the throne.
- Eventually King Naresh Kesari Singh signed a treaty with Britishers on 13th September 1812 to get the support against the hostile Marathas and Himmat Bahadur & Ali Bahadur.

RAGHOGARH

- Raghogarh, also known on Raghugarh and Khichiwra, was a princely state of Gwalior Residency under the Central India Agency of British Raj. The capital was at Raghogarh in present-day Guna district of Madhya Pradesh.
- It was established in 1673 by Lal singh Khichi a Rajput of Chauhan Khichi clan. Raghogarh state propered for a century, but saw it's fortune wane owing to Maratha attack led by Mahadji Shinde around 1780.

RULERS

HINDUPAT RAJA LAL SINGH –

- Founder of the state, usually resided in Jharkon in Ahirwar in Pargana Balabhent.

RAJA DHIRAJ SINGH (1697–1726)

- He had good relation with Jai Singh Kacchawaha of Amber (Jaipur). He was good at diplomacy.
- He built temples, tanks, and baoris & built greater portion of Raghogarh fort.
- He was a parton of learning music & paintings.
- He got a copy of prithvirajraso transcribed commissioned paintings of Rag-Ragina, Ramayana among others on the wall, of charbhujaji temple in Dhirpur village.

RAJA VIKRAMADITYA (1730-1744)

- He annexed chhabra Gugor.

RAJA AJIT SINGH (1818-1856)

- He patronized pundits & poets. He supported Nana saheb peshwa, Tanhya Tope and shadat khan of Indore.

RAJA JAI MANDAL SINGH (1856-1900)

- He was quite hostile in mutiny of 1857.

RAJA BALBHADRA SINGH II (1945-1967)

- The state was annexed into India during his time. He was elected in 1952 as a member of Madhya Bharat Legislative Assembly from Raghogarh constituency.

RAJA DIGVIJAY SINGH (1947)

- Present Raja Saheb since 1967, born in Indore, did his graduation from S.G.S.I.T.S. Indore.
- He entered politics in 1971 & became MLA in 1977.
- Cabinet Minister in M.P. govt in 1980 until 1984. Elected as MP in 1984, 1991
- CM of MP for 1993 to 2003 (two terms).

DATA KINGDOM

- Extention – 2362 sq., capital – Datia
- Datia had formerly been a state in the Bundelkhand region founded in 1626.
- The ruling family was Rajput of the Bundela clan. The younger son of Veer Singh Deo of orchha Bhagwan Das received Datia and Baroni from his father to establish his own state.
- It was the second highest rank in the rank of all the Bundela states after Orchha.
- The motto of the family is *Wir dalap Sharandah* ("Lord of the Brave Army, Giver of Refuge").
- "Rao was the nickname used for rulers of Datia.

Raos

- Rao Bhagwan singh (1626-1640)
- Rao Subha Karan (1640-1678)
- Rao Dalpat Singh (1678-1707)
- Rao Ramchandra Singh (1707-1733)
- Rao prithvi singh
- Rao Indrajit Singh(1736-1762)
- Rao Shatrujit Singh (1762-1801)

Rajas

- 1801 – 1839: Raja Parichhat Singh
- 1839 – 20 Nov 1857: Bijai Singh
- 1857 – 1865: Bhavani Singh

Maharajas

The following rulers carried the title "Maharaja Raja Raja ".

- 1865 – Jul 1907: Sir Bhavani Singh Bahadur

5 August 1907 – 15 August 1947: Sir Govind Singh

It came under British control, with other territories in Bundelkhand, by the **Treaty of Bassein**, concluded with the Peshwa in 1802. The ancient title of the family was Maharaja Rao Raja, but in 1865, the Government recognised only the title of Maharaja as hereditary. Its population in 1901 was 53,759. It enjoyed estimated revenue of £2, 00,000. The state suffered from famine in 1896–97, and again to a lesser extent in 1899–1900.

After India's independence in 1947, the Maharaja of Datia acceded unto the Dominion of India; it later merged with the Union of India. Datia, together with the rest of the Bundelkhand agency, became part of the new state of Vindhya Pradesh in 1950. In 1956, Vindhya Pradesh state was merged with certain other areas to form the state of Madhya Pradesh within the Union of India

From 1893 there were primitive stamps bearing the name 'DUTTIA STATE' and also 'DATIA STATE'. The first issue is among the rarest of all Indian princely state stamps. A total of 29 series of stamps were issued until 1920. From 1921 only Indian Stamps were valid.

PANNA KINGDOM

- Extension – 6724 km sq. , capital Panna
- Founder – Raja Chhatrasal (son of champat rai)
- Founded in year 1680.

- This state was established by Chhatrasaal but the initial phase or the cornerstone was laid by Champat Rai Bundela, the grandson of Udayjeet (third son of Rudrapratap who was the founder of Orcha).

CHRONOLOGY OF KINGS

Champat Rai Bundela (1626-1661)



Raja Chhatrasaal



Subhag Singh (1739-1752)



Amaan Singh (1752-1758)



Hindupat (1758-1776)



Aniruddh Singh (1776-1780)



Dhaukal Singh (1785-1798)



Kishor Singh (1798-1834)

CHAMPAT RAI BUNDELA (1626-1661)

- He occupied estate of Mhow-Mohani & then organised many feudal lords against Mughals after which he occupied Orcha in between 1636-1640.
- He started the work for the establishment of Panna state which was completed by Chhatrasaal.

RAJA CHHATRASAAAL

- The Bundelkhand region of the state of Madhya Pradesh is among the most interesting areas in India. Dotted with splendid monuments, scenic rivers, medieval palaces and temples each area is full of legendary stories about people. Among the most famous names is that of Maharaja Chhatrasaal who is counted among other greats such as Chatrapati Shivaji and Maharana Pratap. "Veer Chhatrasaal" a name that he is often referred to by, is considered the bravest fighter that the Mughals faced in the region. (Mastani was his daughter, from his Persian wife Ruhaani Bai)
- Bundelkhand Kesri Maharaja Chhatrasaal (May 4, 1649-December 20, 1731), was a Bundeli warrior who chose to turn against Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb and established his own kingdom in Bundelkhand. Born in Kachar Kachnai (present day Tikamgarh District) to Champat Rai (a descendent of Rudra Pratap of Orcha) and his wife Lal Kunwar, Chhatrasaal raised the banner of revolt against the Mughals in Bundelkhand.

His bravery was acknowledged by all when at the early age of 22, he managed to scare a team of Mughal soldiers away with his army of just 5 horsemen and 25 swordsmen. During the first ten years of his revolt he conquered a large tract of land

between Chitrakoot and Panna on the east and Gwalior on the west. His domain stretched from Kalpi in the north to Sagar, Garah Kota and Damoh in the south.

- In the years that followed, **Chhatrasal** kept up a nonstop war against the Mughals in Bundelkhand. He was highly respected for his independent spirit, sense of honour, love for his land and people. He finally managed to carve out an independent state of his own with its capital at Panna. In a last desperate attempt, the famous Pathan warrior Muhammad Khan Bhangash was sent with his fighters in 1730. Aged Chhatrasal, with his sons and warriors and with the help of the Maratha Peshwa Baji Rao I, won a final victory over the Mughals in 1730. As a sign of his appreciation, Chhatrasal gave his beautiful daughter Mastani as a bride to Baji Rao. Later when Chhatrasal passed away in 1731, at the ripe old age of 81 years, bequeathed the area known as Mahoba and its surroundings to his son in law Baji Rao I, in return for his assistance against the Mughals.
- Maharaja **Chhatrasal** gave a third of his kingdom to the Marathas for their assistance, while the other areas of his kingdom were divided as states amongst his sons. His eldest son was given the most important area, Panna State and the others Ajaigarh State, Bijawar State and Charkhari State. Chhatarpur town, its district in Madhya Pradesh and other important places are named after Maharaja Chhatrasal, including the Maharaja Chhatrasal Museum. The Chhatrasal Stadium in Delhi has also been named in honour of Maharaja Chhatrasal.
- Today also, he is a symbol of bundelkhand's identity, a medieval hero who inspired the youth.

SUBHAG SINGH (1739-1752)

- In his reign only the panna diamond mines were discovered for the first time.

AMAAN SING (1752-1758)

HINDUPAT (1758-1776)

ANIRUDH SINGH (1776-1780)

- He became ruler at a tender age after Anirudh Singh.

DHAUKAL SINGH (1785-1798)

KISHOR SINGH (1798-1834)

DATIA KINGDOM

BHAGWANRAO BUNDELA (1626-1640)

- He was coronated in 1626.
- He suppressed the revolt of mahavat khan during the time of Jahagir.
- From the side of & shahjahan he suppressed the revolt of his brother JuJhar Singh Bundela.
- Later he supported JuJhar singh Bundala's rebellion against Mughals religious policies.

DALPAT RAI BUNDELA (1678-1707)

- After shubhkaran Bundela, Daplat Rai was the most famous ruler.
- Original name was Pratap Singh.
- He made a huge fort named pratapgarh in Datia.
- He renamed Datia as Daleepnagar
From 1665 to 1705 he worked under Mughals & led the Haraawal unit against Marathas.

- Raja Ali Nivpal Singh suppresses the revolt of 1857

AJAYGARH KINGDOM

- Extension - 2,077 km sq. (Panna and Chhatarpur)
- founded in 1765 by Kunwar Guman Singh (grandson of Raja Chhatrasaal)
- Capital – AJAYGARH , (near panna)
- Became princely state in 1809 under bundelkhand agency of Britisher.
- Signed instrument of accession on 1st Jan 1950 merge into Vindhya Pradesh, India.

BIJAWAR KINGDOM

- Extension – 2520 km sq. (Chhatrpur region)
- Capital Bijawar
- Founder – Raja Bir Singh Deo (1765 – 1793) (grandson of Raja Chhatrasaal)
- Became princely state in 1811.
- Supported britishers in revolt of 1857.
- Merged into Indian union 1950.

BUNDELA REVOLT

- In 1842 there was an upsurge in the Sagar Narmada territory against the British tyranny which became bundela rebellian in Madhya Pradesh history.
- Jawahar Singh Bundela of Chandrapur & Madhukar shah of Narhat was the leaders of this revolt.
- They were also Joined by Gond Raja Dilhan Shah of Madanpur, Raja Hirda Shah of Hirapur, & Several other chiefs, including those of Narsinghpur.
- The main reason of discontent was the land revenue policy of British which was arbitrary & tyrannical . All the king & lords were not happy with the policy of British.
- First Jaitpur king Parichat organised landlords like Madhukar Shah of Narhat, Lodi ruler of Narsinghpur Hirdeshah & started revolt in sagar region. Parichat then sent messages to King in Jabalpur about the struggle.
- Madhukar Shah occupied regions of British influence in sagar and Narsinghpur. Raja Parichat & Raja Hirdeshah also occupied other regions.
- As a result, battle of Bilgaon and then battle of panwadi was fought between Raja Parichat & British in which latter was defeated.
- Later British for the policy of divide & Rule. They won over Jaitpur's Deewan & Raja Ratansingh of Charkari state & Later British Captured Hirdeshah.
- With the help of Raja Mardansing, Hamilton captured Madhukar shah.
- On 14th october 1844 Raja Parichat surrendered before British & thus ended Revolt.

This revolt kindled the fire in the hearts of people against the British which took the form of first war of independence in 1857 in which Bundela Participated full fledgedly.

ARCHITECTURE DURING BUNDELA STATE

- Architecture during the medieval Bundela state is called Bundelhi Architecture. This Style is an admixture of both Rajput and Mughal Style of Architecture.

PALACE AND FORTS

(1) Raja Palace/Mahal

It is situated in orcha surrounded by thick wall built by Rudrapratap who started it and Bharati Chandra, Madhukar Shah completed it.

It is a three storey palace which is the oldest building in orcha.

(2) Jahangir Mahal/Palace

- Foundation of this palace was laid by Madhukar Shah. Some parts of this palace were later built by Ramshah & veersingh.
- It was built in the honour of Jahangir during his visit to orcha.
- It is a Five-storey palace with 236 rooms
- Based on Hindu-Muslim Style of Architecture.

(3) Sheesha Palace/ Mahal

- It is situated in Orcha between Jahangir palace and Raja Palace.
- It was built by Udotsingh in 1760.
- Completely built on mughal style but eight pillars inside it are based on Hindu Style.

(4) Raipraveen Palace

- In orcha it is an two-storey palace which was built by Indramani Bundela
- Raipraveen is called **Nightingale** of orcha.

(5) Kirti Fort

- It is situated in Chanderi built in 11th century.
- It is surrounded by a thick wall & during bundela region. Devisingh Bundela built Naukanda palace in this fort.

(6) Jama Masjid

- It is situated in chanderi, built in 13th century. It is the biggest mosque of Bundelkhand.
- This mosque was renovated by Budelas.

(7) Senvdha Fort

- It is situated in Datia, also known as Kanhargarh. It is situated in Senvdha Tehsil of Datia near Sindh river.

(8) Isanagar - Rampur Fort

- It is situated in Isanagar, near chhatarpur, near Dhasan river. It was built by Chhatrasaal.

(9) Talbet Fort

- It was built by Chanderi ruler Bharatshah or Jhansi-Lalitpur road.
- This fort has a temple of Narsingh (an incarnation of Lord Vishnu).

(10) Satkhanda Mahal

- It is situated in Datia in the shape of a swastik.
- It was built by Veersingh Bundela during the visit of Shahjahan in 1635. Percy Brown called the piece of Architecture the best in the whole stock of Bundela Architecture.

Temples

(1) Ramraja Temple -

- It is situated in Orchha which is a prominent centre of faith in Hindu religion. It was initially constructed as Bharti Chandra palace.
- Ganesh Kunwari who was a queen of Madhukarshah brought the idol of Lord Rama from Ayodha and installed that idol in the palace. From then on this palace is called Ramraja Temple.
- In this campus of temple there are palace of Jhujhar Singh, Phoolbhag, Savan-Bhando palace.

(2) Laxmi Temple

- This temple was made by Veersingh Bundela in Orchha on a mountain. The prominent feature of the temple is its paintings which are triangular in shape.

(3) Jugal Kishore Temple

- It is situated in "Haat ka pura" which is situated outside the Chanderi Town.

(4) Chaturbhuj Temple

- It is situated in Orchha, built by Veer Singh Bundela.
- Red Sandstone is used in the construction of this temple. Near this temple we can find the Jugal Kishore temple.

LAKES

- Lakes were also constructed by the Bundelas.
- They constructed lakes inside the precincts of the palace and forts, temples etc.
- They also renovated many old lakes.
- Some of the lakes which were constructed are - Veer - Sagar lake, Karan Sagar, Radha Sagar, Samandar - Sagar Lake, Barua Sagar Lake etc.

ADMINISTRATION OF BUNDELAS

The ultimate head of the whole Riyasat was king. Almost all Riyasats of Bundelan had similar pattern of Administration whose primary constituents were –

King

- He was used to be the head of the departments. Ultimate authority resided with him.
- His powers had no limitations.

Deewan

- He was used to be the head of finance department and administrative head.
- He also performed duties of king when the king left the capital.

- He was also used to be the head of correspondence department.

Brahmin

- They were used to be the teachers and the philosophers of king.
- For performing rituals Rajpurohits were used to be appointed.
- Although there was no direct involvement of these Brahmins in administration they had some influence over the policies.

Darbar-khas

- He used to control, on behalf of king, all the officials, jagirdaars & Chaudharis or landlords of the villages of state.

Durg-Mahal

It was an administrative unit just like the pargana of the mughal administration. In every fort (Durg) a kiledaar or Dugdaar was appointed to protect that particular fort.

Revenue system

- Income of state/Riyasat was constituted with Revenue, Forest wealth, chungi, (a tax on the border while entering the Bundelkhand state territory). Haat Bazar (a local market), war booty etc.
- Revenue consisted of the income received from the agricultural field.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que. Bundela dynasty

Ans.

- Establishment - 1501, by Rudra Pratap Singh Bundela
- Comprises Orcha kingdom, Panna kingdom, Ajaygarh kingdom etc.
- Ruled over Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

Que. Who established Orchha as the capital for the first time ?

Ans. Rudra Pratap Singh Bundela founded orchha in 1531

Que. Which Bundela ruler did transfer capital from Orchha to Tehar (Tikamgarh)?

Ans. In the year 1783, Vikramaditya Singh Bundela transferred the capital after got frightened by the power of the Marathas.

Que. Geographical location of Bundelkhand?

Ans.

- Yamuna in the north, Vidhya ranges in the south, Chambal in the north-west and Panna Ajaygarh ranges in the south-east
- Situated in both the states of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh

Que. Name the major districts of Madhya Pradesh included in Bundelkhand kingdom. Write.

Ans. Sagar, Damoh, Tikamgarh, Chhatarpur, Panna, Datia, Niwadi

Que. Alha - Udal

Ans.

- Commander of Chandela King Parmal
- Belonging to the Banafar (Ahir) lineage
- Famous in Bundelkhand due to bravery and valor

Que. Alha Khand

Ans.

- Wrote by Jagnik
- Folk witting
- Description of 52 battles fought by Alha-Udal

Que. Write a comment on Orchha King Jujhar Singh.

Ans.

- Eldest son of Veer Singh Bundela
- Received the title of Raja from Jahangir a mansab of 4000
- Took over the rule in 1627

Que. Write a note on Chandela dynasty.

Ans.

- Founder- Nannuk (831 AD)
- 8th to 12th century
- Extended between Yamuna and Narmada
- Well known for architecture, sculpture and architecture

Que. Write a comment on the Vokpati Chandel.

Ans.

- Ruler of Chandela dynasty from 848 to 865
- Successor of Nannuk
- Mauprasfar inscription is related to him.

Que. Dhang Dev.

Ans.

- Ruled in Jejak Bhukti region (950–1008 AD)
- Established the sovereignty of Chandela
- Established Vishwanath temples

Que. Write the names of three temples established by Prasna-Dhang Dev.

Ans.

- Vishwanath Temple of Khajuraho
- Parsvanath (Jinnath Temple) Temple of Khajuraho
- Ghantai Temple

Que. Jejakbhukti

Ans.

- Old name of Budelkhand
- Named after Chandela king Jayashakti Jejak

Que. Write a comment on Paramardidev.

Ans.

- Chandela king in last 12th century
- In 1182 defeated by Prathviraj Chauhan
- Alah- Udal were his military commander.

Que. Write a comment on Rudra Pratap Singh Bundela.

Ans.

- Founder of the princely state of Orchha
- Became king in 1501
- War with Sikandar and Ibrahim Lodhi
- Establishment of Orchha city in 1531

Que. Write a comment on Vidyadhar.

Ans.

- The most glorious king of the Chandela dynasty (1018-1029 AD)
- Conquered Kalchuri and Paramaras
- Construction of Kandariya Mahadev Temple of Khajuraho

Que. Write a comment on Ganddev.

Ans.

- Ruler of Chandela dynasty (1002-1119 AD)
- Kundeshwar copper plate inscription belongs to him

• Participated in the union formed by Anandpal against Mahmud Ghaznavi

Que. Write a note on Rai Bahadur Maharaj Singh.

Ans.

- Wrote the history of Bundelkhand
- Mentioned the names of the jagirs and rulers of Bundelkhand
- This work was done in the early decade of the twentieth century

Que. Maharaja Chhatrasal. [MPPSC 1994]

Ans.

- Famous as Bundelkhand Kesari
- Son of Champatrai
- Established an independent state in Bundelkhand in 1680

Que. Comment on Chhatrasal Dashak.

Ans.

- Book written by Bhushan
- Description of Chhatrasal's brave war
- Source of social, political information during Chhatrasal period

Que. Write a comment on Orchha.

Ans.

- Establishment- by Rudra Pratap Singh in 1530
- Situated on the banks of Betwa in Niwari district of Madhya Pradesh
- Famous for Ramraja Temple, Jahangir Mahal, Rajmahal

Que. Write a note on Rajmahal.

Ans.

- Palace located in Orchha
- Built - By Madhukar Shah, Rudra Pratap & Bharti Chandra.
- Famous for Chhatris, interior murals

Que. Ajaygarh princely state

Ans.

- Located in Panva
- Came into existence in 1765
- Established by Bundela Rajput Guman Singh
- It was included in India in 1950.

Que. Bijawar State

Ans.

- Founder Raja Bir Singh Dev (1765)
- It supported the British in the revolt of 1857.

- Joined the Union of India in 1950

Que. Garh-Kundar Fort

Ans.

- Situated in Niwari district of Madhya Pradesh
- Relating to the reign of Yashovarman Chandela
- Capital of Bundela in 13-16th century

Que. Jahangir Mahal.

Ans.

- Situated on the banks of Betwa river in Orchha
- Built by Vir Singh Dev Bundela in 1518
- Symbol of friendship of Raja Veer Singh and Jahangir

Que. Write a note on Chaturbhuj Temple Orchha.

Ans.

- Located in Orchha, dedicated to Vishnu
- Built by Bundela Raja Madhukar Shah
- Similar to the European Cathedral of its time

Que. Write a note on Laxminarayan temple.

Ans.

- Built in Orchha by Veer Singh Dev
- Scenes from the battle of Jhansi and figures of Lord Krishna
- Vibrant colors were used in pictures

Que. Datia state

Ans.

- One of the states in Bundelkhand dynasty
- founded by Rao Bhagwan Rao in 1626
- Datia-Baroni region.

Que. Keshavdas

Ans.

Keshavdas was the court poet of Veer Singh Bundela of Orchha state. His famous creations include 'Rasikpriya' and 'Veersimhadevakarita'

Que. Raja Bharti Chandra

Ans.

Raja Bharti Chandra, the second ruler of Orchha state succeeded Rudra Pratap Singh. He unsuccessfully opposed the Sher Shah in his march to Kalinjar (1545).

Que. Gaja Shahi

Ans.

Currency of Bundela dynasty of orchha.

SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que: Short note on establishment of Orchha State.

Ans: Arjun Pal Bundela had 3 sons and Arjun Pal made his eldest son, Veerpal, the ruler of Mow-Mahoni.

- Veerpal banished his brothers Sohanpal & Dayapal out of the state after which sohanpal along with Pavaya & Shahbaad rulers killed Khangaar ruler Hurmat Singh & established a new state on his territory and made Garh-kundaa his capital.
- Later Rudra Pratap shifted capital to Orchha & whole state came to be called as Orchha Kingdom.

Que: Rudra Pratap Singh Bundela.

Ans: Rudra Pratap laid the foundation of new capital orchha on April 3, 1531 which later came to be called as Orchha Kingdom.

- He expanded his swathe from Kalpi to Kalinjar.
- His period of reign was contemporary of the fall of lodi empire and rise of Mughal.

Que: Veer Singh Bundela.

Ans: He was a small Jagirdaar in Datia, who in 1592, looted some areas like Gwalior, which were under Mughals.

- On the command of Jahangir he killed Akbar's Minister Abul Fazl near Narwar-Antri border in 1602. After this, Jahangir gave the throne of orchha and whole Bundelkhand to veersingh.
- He gave birth to Bundela architecture, mixture of both mughal and Rajput Style.
- He got constructed Jhansi fort, Karera forts, Dhamoni fort at Sagar, Jahangir Mahal in Orchha.

Que- Jhunjhar Singh.

Ans- Jhunjhar Singh, one of the rulers of Orchha state in Bundelkhand dynasty Known for its turbulent reign.

- He served Mughal Court and his son Bikramjeet Singh looked after the Orchha administration.
- He surrendered before Shahjahan, paid heavy fine and was pardoned when Shahjahan attacked his state due to inefficient administration

He also attacked Prem Narayan; Gond ruler which irked Shahjahan as a result Aurangzeb attacked Orcha and conquered it.

Que: Dalpat Rao Bundela.

Ans: After Shubhkaran Bundela, the only ruler who was more popular than Shubhkaran was Dalpat Rao, coronated in 1678 in Datia, his original name being Pratap Singh.

- He constructed a great fort at Datia, whose name was changed to Dalipnagar.
- In 1665, working under Mughals, he led Harawale unit against Marathas.
- He was killed in 1707 near Dholpur at Jajau.

Que: Chattrasaal Bundela.

Ans: He founded Panna state in 1675 in Gond tribal area & made Panna his capital.

- In 1672 he conquered Raisen, Rath, Mahoba, Gwalior etc & made a united Panna state.
- In 1679 he expanded his Kingdom's boundaries in North to Kalpi, Sagar-Sironj in South & Orcha-Datia in West.
- He also met Shivaji in 1667 after running away from a Mughal campaign. The lot of Keerat Singh, after whom Pahad Singh became the ruler
- He was the greatest ruler of Panna state.

Que: Comment on Jaitpur state under Bundelas.

Ans: Chattrasal gave Jaitpur state to his second son Jagatraj. In Jaitpur throne came into them Gajraj Singh was coronated who faced attacks of Himmat Bahadur & Ali Bahadur.

Eventually for the safety of the state from the Ali Bahadur, Ruler Kesari Singh signed a treaty on 13th September, 1812 with East India Company.

QUESTION AND ANSWERS (11 MARKERS)**Que. Write a Note on the revolt of 1842 in Bundela state**

Ans. In 1842 there was an upsurge in the Sagar Narmada territory against the British tyranny which became Bundela rebellion in Madhya Pradesh history.

- Jawahar Singh Bundela of Chandrapur & Madhukar Shah of Narhat were the leaders of this revolt.
- They were also joined by Gond Raja Dilhan Shah of Madanpur, Raja Hirda Shah of Hirapur, & several other chiefs, including those of Narsinghpur.
- The main reason of discontent was the land revenue policy of British which was arbitrary & tyrannical. All the king & lords were not happy with the policy of British.
- First Jaitpur king Parichat organised landlords like Madhukar Shah of Narhat, Lodi ruler of Narsinghpur Hirdeshah & started revolt in Sagar region. Parichat then sent messages to King in Jabalpur about the struggle.

- Madhukar Shah occupied regions of British influence in sagar and Narsinghpur. Raja Parichat & Raja Hirdeshah also occupied other regions.
- As a result, battle of Bilgaon and then battle of panwadi was fought between Raja Parichat & British in which latter was defeated.
- Later British for the policy of divide & Rule. They won over Jaitpur's Deewan & Raja Ratansingh of Charkari state & Later British Captured Hirdeshah.
- With the help of Raja Mardansing, Hamilton captured Madhukar shah.
- On 14th October 1844 Raja Parichat surrendered before British & thus ended Revolt.

This revolt kindled the fire in the hearts of people against the British which took the form of first war of independence in 1857 in which Bundela Participated full fledgedly.

Que. Give a brief description of forts and palaces constructed during bundela state.

Ans. The forts and temples constructed during bundela state constitute a part of Architectural style of Bundelas. They used to be bigger, strong and with all basic facilities of water, air, light etc.

They were constructed using the styles of architecture of both mughals & Rajputs.

Jahangir Mahal/Palace

- Its construction was started by madhukarshah and completed by veersing bundela.
- It was constructed on the occasion of visit of Jahangir in Orcha.
- This palace is based on Hindu-muslim style.

RAJA PALACE

- It is situated inside the city and Surrounded by big, heavy walls.
- Construction started by Rudrapratap and later completed by Madhukarshah.
- It is the oldest monument of orcha state.

SHEESH MAHAL

- It is situated between Jahangir palace and Raja Palace and constructed of Blue-green tiles.
- It is completely based on Mughal architechral style but it's pillars are based on Hindu traditions.

KIRTI FORT

- It is situated in chanderi. (in 11th century)
- This fort is surrounded by thick wall & Naukhanda palace inside it was constructed by Devisingh Bundela.

JAMA MASJID

- It is situated in chanderi & was constructed in 13th century.

PRATAP GARH FORT-It is located in Datia constructed in 17th century by Dalpat Rau.

Que: Analyse the role of Bundela state in the revolt of 1857.

Ans: After 1757, Dalhousie came, British company followed policy of expansionism, imperialism & Doctrine of Lapse. So in 1853 EIC annexed Jhansi on the pretext of no heir after death of Raja Gargadhar Rao, so Laxmi Bai joined the revolt with Tatya Tope, Nana saheb of Kanpur and Raja Mardan Singh.

- On 10th May 1857 revolt being started from Meerut reached Jhansi on 4th June and killed some britishers.

- Britishers wanted to go to Sagar hence sought help from Raja Mardan Singh, after reaching Lalitpur-Banpur, where revolt was going on already and Raja helped to shift them to Tehri Riyasat.
- On 1st July 1857 revolt started in Sagar and Britishers hid in Sagar fort but rebels like Raja Mardan Singh of Banpur and raja Bakhatbali of Shahgarh surrounded the fort.
- In Bundelkhand, Laxmi Bai led the revolt from North; Taty Tope & Nawab of Banda Ali Bahadur II also took reins in North. In middle of Bundelkhand, Mardan Singh and Bakhat Bali, and in South Rani Avanti Bai of Ramgarh led the revolt.
- Eventually General of British company founded the Central India force to combat rebels.
- In 1857 Laxmi Bai got Martyrdom, Bakhatbali and Mardan Singh surrendered, and Taty Tope was hanged till death.
- States like Charkhari and panna helped British to suppress the revolt.

Due to the discontent among the soldiers in Particular and Public in general against Britishers revolt started and many princes and kings of states Participated in revolt like Rani Laxmibai, But some kings took the side of Britishers. At the end Britishers, overall if we observe, succeeded in suppressing the revolt and almost thirty princely states were absorbed into the British ambit in **Subordinate Union**. But this revolt laid the strong foundation on which National struggle started and Britishers left the country after Ninety years.

Que- Write a brief note on Bundela State

Ans- Bundela state ruled in the Bundelkhand (earlier Jejak bhukti) region, north eastern part of M.P. Its glory and long history can be traced in the regions through its architecture and culture.

It was under Chedi Mahajanapada. Mauryan Empire & Gupta empire during ancient period later it came under the influence of gujar pratiharas and their administrators chandelas who established themselves independent in 10th century AD. The Rajput clan of Bundelas conquered regions of Chandelas and established Bundela state. The Kingdoms under Bundela state are as follows.

- **Orchha Kingdom**
- **Datia Kingdom**
- **Panna state**
- **Ajaygarh State**
- **Bijawar State**

Orchha Kingdom- founded by Rudra Pratap Singh in 1501 with orchha as his capital, on the banks of River Betwa.

- Prominent rulers- Veer Singh Bundela, Jhunjhar Singh, and Bikramajeet Singh etc.
- Became princely state under British Union in 1950.

Datia Kingdom- founded by Rao Bhagwan Rao in 1626 in the Datia- Baroni region after Treaty of Bassein

- It became princely state in 1802 and merged into Indian union in 1950 in Vindhya Pradesh.

Panna state- It was founded by Raja Chhatrasal in 1731 with Panna as his capital in Panna-Chhatarpur region.

- Chhatrasal played an important role in the extension of Panna by conquering Mahoba, Chitra Koot, and Chhatarpur etc.
- Later became princely state in 1811 and merged into Indian union in 1950.
- It was broken down into small kingdom like Ajaygarh, Bijawar, Panna, Charkari etc. that later became princely states.

Ajay garh- Founded by Raja Guman Singh Baghel in 1765 in panna- Chhatarpur region and became princely state in 1809 in British India, later merged into Indian union in 1950.

Bundelkhand dynasty is known for its efficient rulers who laid down the good administration in the region along with its development. They contributed in the art and architecture of the region by further developing temples in the Khajuraho complex. Their legacy can be seen in the naming of Roads, colleges, universities etc, after their names for ex- Raja Chhatrasal Athlete stadium in New Delhi.

3. BAGHELI DYNASTY

Baghelkhand is a historical region in eastern Madhya Pradesh state, central India. Known as Dahala before the Muslims, Baghelkhand was held by the warlike Kalacuri dynasty (6th–12th century), whose stronghold was at Kalinjar. With the advent of the Baghela Rajputs (warrior caste) in the 14th century, after whom the tract is named, it was absorbed into Rewa state. Baghelkhand Agency, a subdivision of the British Central India Agency, was created in 1871 and included Rewa and several other states, with headquarters at Satna. It merged with Bundelkhand Agency in 1931 and formed the eastern half of Vindhya Pradesh, created at Indian independence in 1947.

The area is divided into two natural regions by the Kaimur Range. To the west lie elevated plains, and to the east is a rough, hilly tract intersected by a succession of parallel forested ridges of the Vindhya Range. Within the region, the more prominent relief features are the Vindhyan scarplands (consisting of the Bhandar Range, Rewa Plateau, Sonapur hill ranges, and Son trough). The rest of Baghelkhand is a plateau terrain underlain by granite in the south and the east. Sections of the historical Gondwana region and the ancient Deccan Traps (lava outpouring) lie in the central part and the Vindhya are in the northeast. The Tons and Son rivers and their tributaries drain the area. An alluvial cover is found in the narrow Son trough.

Baghelkhand has traditionally been neglected because of its isolated location. The population of the region consists chiefly of tribal Gonds and Kols. Agriculture is underdeveloped; rice is the principal crop, and some wheat, corn (maize), and gram (chickpeas) are also grown. Deposits of coal, limestone, bauxite, clay, and quartzite are in the region, but only the first two have been mined extensively.

Rewa, Rajgarh, Satna, and Shahdol are the major administrative and commercial centres. Other locales include Umaria, Burhar, and Gaurela, in the Sohagpur basin; Ambikapur, Manendragarh, and Baikunthpur which are rice-growing regions; Singrauli, Renukut, Pipri, and Dudhi known for coal mining; and Obra, Dala, Sidhi, and Agori which are transportation centres.

HISTORY OF BAGHELKHAND

This is not very clear but there are few theories that how the name Baghel came and those are:

The King of Anhilwada, Gujarat King Kumarpal VIII had given a village to his same cast thakurs in a village called Vyaghrapalli and it was also called as Baghel. When the Thakur of Baghel had his son, he gave him the name as Baghel and in this way the Baghel came in existence. As the first King of Baghel dynasty in Central India (Bandhavgarh) was Maharaja Vyaghradev so the name of Baghel came after his name.

The first man of the Baghel Dynasty (Maharaja Vyaghradev) was saved because of the blessings of Maa Durga and she was also called the Vyaghradevi and so the name of her Bagh was attached with the name of the first Maharaja and he was called Maharaja Vyaghradev Singh Ju Deo Baghel and in this way this Dynasty was called the Baghel dynasty.

A question arises that when Maharaja Vyagradev did come to Vindhya (The first Baghel Ruler of Vindhya region). It is found that Maharaja Vyagradev entered in this region in 1117 A.D. He stayed in Chitrakoot and the scenic beauty of Chitrakoot attracted him and in this way he decided to spread his kingdom in this region. As there was no strong kingdom in this region so his feeling increased more. He found a vacant old fort Marfa 16kms far from Kalijar. This fort was earlier under the possession of Chandel kingdom of Mahoba. Today also we get the ruins of the old temples made around it. The Fort was made of the red stones and there was a big pond near it. He appointed the people who came with him for the security and made their residence around the fort. He named this Place as Baghelwari.

BHIMAL DEV

In 1236 A.D., Bhimaldev established the Bagheli Dynashy in Gahora (Chitrakoot). He was an ethical, Scholar and mighty ruler.

VEERAMDEV BAGHEL (1389-1438).

- He was the heir of Bullardev.
- He extended his Kingdom upto Southern Part of Kaimur Parvat including Bandhavgarh & Amarkantak.
- He occupied the fort of Bandhavgarh.
- Tarikh- i - Muhammad called him "Yug ka Niram" (Irani wrestler).

VEERSINGH BAGHEL (1500-1535)

- He established friendly relations with sikandar lodhi instead of his ancestors who be friended Sharki rulers.
- He helped Rana sanga in battle of Khanwa against Babur.
- Baburnama mentions about the friendship of Babur with Baghel Kingdom.

VEER BHANU BAGHEL (1535-1555).

- He was the contemporary of Shershah suri and Humayun.
- The creator of Veer-bhanu-daya-Kavyam, poet Madhav was his court poet.
- He helped humayun in the battle of chausa.

To teach a lesson to Bheerbhanu for helping Humayun, Shershah suri surrounded the Kalinjar fort.

RAMCHANDRA DEO (VIKRAM SAMVAT 1555-1591)

He was born in 1536 A.D. When he sat on the throne he gave custody to the world famous musician Tansen. He was married with the granddaughter of Gaudhraj kirti Singh, Yashoda Devi. On behalf of Jaunpur's king Gaji Khan was the Governor of Soor, Akbar's Sardar Asaf Khan attacked on him but he ran to the Maharaja Ramchandra and Maharaja Ramchandra provided him shelter. This annoyed Akbar and he ordered to attack on Gahora also. As Maharaja Ramchandra came to know about this he took Asaf Khan to Bandhavgarh with him. As Akbar came to know about it, he ordered his Sardar Asaf Khan to attack on Bandhavgarh also but Gaji ran from Bandhavgarh before Asaf Khan could reach there. But after this Gahora (the capital of Baghels) and Kasauta came under the possession of

Mughals forever. And this was the period when Bandhavgarh became the new capital of Baghel Dynasty (1564 A.D).

When Akbar in 1584 asked for the famous musician Tansen and pearl “Alwal” from his treasury, king Ram chandra firstly denied for it and prepared himself to fight with Akbar, but when Beerwal, who had come to take Tansen and Tansen himself convinced him that it would not be good to fight with Akbar because it can damage the kingdom in many ways, he agreed and gave Tansen to Akbar. Akbar got very happy and when Maharaja Ramchandra went to Prayag he invited him to Fatehpur Sikri and gave him the Title of “Rajendra Shiromani” with 101 horses and Canon named Ramprasad. He also gave him the Itawa area as a gift. He had given Tansen 1 horse and a gold coin when he had sung in his Darbar for the first time. Famous historian Badayun also has written about him as “Bharat Ka Vilakshan Dani Raja”

VEERBHADRA DEV (1592-1593)

- He wrote two sanskrit treatises namely **kandarpa-chudamani & Dashak-kumar poorvakathasaarah**
- Court poet Padmanath Mishr wrote VEER BHADRA DEV Champu.

THE 21ST KING VIKRAMADITYA DEO (1597-1624)

This was the period when the Baghels really became very weak because when Maharaja Veer Bhadra died, his both sons were not very mature and that is why Akbar made Patradas, the Governor of Bandhavgarh and in this way Bandhavgarh went in the hands of Akbar for few years. Somehow Akbar agreed and made Vikramaditya the king of Bandhavgarh again in 1617 A.D. With the thought of insecurity Maharaja Vikramaditya went out for hunting and reached Rewa, saw the half made fort of Rewa by Salim Shah the son of Sher Shah Soori and decided to make it his capital and started the work of Rewa fort.

ANIRUDDH SINGH

- The son of chhatrasaal Hirdeyshah attacked over Rewa state.
- During his reign Jironha, Kyoti rebellion took place.
-

RAJA AJEET SING (1755-1809)

- The important event in his reign was the attack of Nawab Alibahadur over Rewa.
- There were two battles between Baghelkhand & Bauda Nawab.

JAI SING (1809-1833)

- In 1812, Pindaris under karim Khan attacked Rewa.

RAGHURAJ SINGH (1854-1880)

- Important Event Of His Reign Was Revolt Of 1857.
- He Invited Deevaan of Gwalior, Sir Dinkar Rao for help in financial matters.
- In 1875 he left the administration of his state in the hands of Government of British India.

THAKUR RANMAT SINGH

- Led the revolt of 1857 in Rewa, Jabalpur, Raipur & Nagpur.

- He was a lieutenant in British army & was promoted to captain.
- Due to betrayal of Heera Singh, he was captured by British.

VYANKAT RAMAN SINGH (1895-1918)

- In 1895 he established a famine relief fund in Rewa.
- In 1902 he established Darbar Press & he also started Bharat-Bhrata Newspaper.
- He also banned the hunting of tigers.

MAHARAJA GULAB SINGH (1918-1946)

- He suppressed the Chauhan revolt in 1931 in Seedhi.
- He established Praja Parishad for the welfare of people. (Praja Parishad was a kind of council for people).
- In 1942 he commissioned publication of magazine "Bandhav".
- He contributed to Hospital construction & educational reforms.
- He established a chief court in 1933 in Rewa.
- In 1934 he started Bank of Baghelkhand to provide Taccabi (loans) to farmers.
- In 1934 he established an education Board.

MAHARAJ MARTAND SINGH JU-DEV (1946-1995)

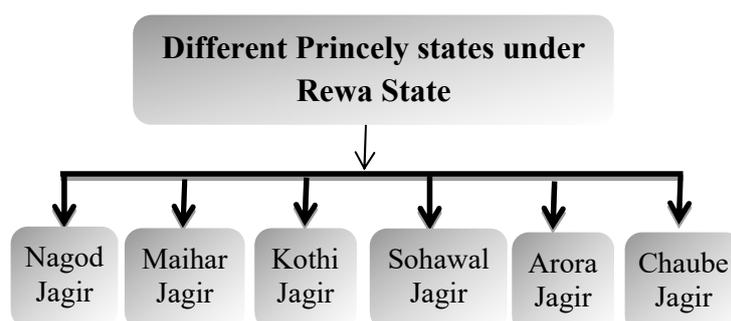
- An important event was accession to India of Rewa state.
- He contributed in the establishment of Mango research centre in Govindgarh.
- He constituted 7-membered constitutional reform committee.

MAHARAJ MARTAND SINGH JUDEV (1946-1995)

He was coronated in 1946. Accession to India was an important event in his reign. He contributed and supported the foundation of Mango research centre in Govindgarh. He also constituted "Constitutional reform committee" consisting of 7 members.

OTHER IMPORTANT PRINCELY STATE UNDER BAGHEL KINGDOM

As per the treaty of Bassein of 1803, the Britishers recognised many small princely states under Rewa State and accorded them the status of a 'State'.



NAGOD ESTATE (JAGIR)

- Upto 18th Century the capital of this state was ucchera.
- In 1478, Raja Bhoj occupied Ucchera.
- Raja chain singh shifted the capital from Ucchera to Nagod.
- In 1809, Lala Yashraj Singh was provided a separate sanad and status of an isolated state was accorded to Nagod.
- In 1857 rebellion (war of independence), Raja Raghvendra singh helped the British.
-

MAIHAR ESTATE (JAGIR)

- Initialty kacchawaha ruled over Maihar.
- During the time of chhatrasal, Thakur Bheemsingh occupied this region.
- In 1788, King of Rewa killed Maihar's Ruler Benisingh.
- After all this, Nawab Ali won over Maihar & son of Beni Singh, Durjan Singh was Coronated.
- In 1814, British accorded the states of a Separate State to Maihar.
-

KOTHI ESTATE

- Kothi was a small estate under Raghuraj Nagar Teshil.
- In 1810 Britishers accorded it the status of a separate state by giving a sanad (Deed) to Lal Dayaniyapati.

SOHAWAL ESTATE

- It was established by the rebellious son, Fateh Singh, of Maharaja Amar Singh. Later n hiredey shah the son of Chattrasaal ruled over it.

1809, British accorded the status of a separate state to sohawal Jagir/Estate.

BANDHAVGARH FORT

Bandhavgarh Fort was an ancient fort. It was the business centre for the traders travelling between Kaushambi and Bharhut, at that time known as Bardawati (Bhaudhya root). Talem has called Bandhavgarh and Balentipur, which is the Yunani translation of Balendupur. In the rein of kalchuris it was called "Haihay Kshetra". The Wakatak used to live in this palace and various stone Writings are found written by them. They made the place to live by cutting stones. The Word Bandhavgarh means the Fort of Laxman and on the way of the Fort we get the stone carved Shesh Shai also, which proves this name more. There is a book called "Bandhavanchal Mahatm", which proves this fact more and give the information about the ancient history of this place. There are some ruins, found, of the Fort in the Bamania Hill near Bandhavgarh and there are many sculptures and coins found in the nearby villages near Bandhavgarh, Bijhariya, and Mala which prove the economical and artistic situation of the kingdom. In the rein of karan Deo Bandhavgarh was the capital of his Southern part of the Gahora kingdom.

BAGHEL ADMINISTRATION**King**

- All the powers of the State rested with the king. He was supreme in legislative, judicial and executive organs of state, he appointed all the officials of state.
- He used to consult with his ministers and officials in the consultation room for framing policies.
- Consultations were used to be very secretive.

Raj-Sabha/State Assembly

- Important assembly members were Amatya, Sachiv, Mantri, Raj-purohit and Raj-vaidya.

Justice and Penal system

- All the rulers were justice-loving.
- Rulers, during the hearing, used to hear arguments from both & consulted with jurists after which they gave their judgment.
- The criminals were punished as per the law of land.

Village administration

- Every village had its own chowkidaar (watchman) which used to monitor law & order.
- Panchayats used to settle village matters.
- There was existence of caste-panchayats
- Ultimate appeal rested with the king.

Agricultural system

- Main economic activity was agriculture in the Baghel riyasat.
- The crops were divided into Siyari and Unhari. These two groups had different crops which were sown and harvested in different months of the year.

ARCHITECTURE

- Primarily Baghel, Architecture has the usage of Sandstone in their Structures.
- Influence of Mughal style is prominent but some older forts & palaces shows Rajput influence too.
- The influence of western style is conspicuous in structure made during Raja Ajeet Singh.
- They were very keen on making irrigation system & garden.

TEMPLES, BUILDINGS & CHHATRIS

- Vullar dev got constructed Raj Bhavan in Gohora and Temple of Sheetla mata.
- Mrityunjay Temple was constructed in the precincts of Rewa fort by Raja Bhavsingh.
- Rani Lake (Queen lake/Rani Talab) was constructed by queen of Bhavsingh.
- Chhatris constructed by heirs of Thakur Ranmat Singh.

Keoti fort

- Hamirdev got constructed it near Mehna River.

Maihar fort

- Foundation was laid by Raja Bhaidchandra.

- Later Rudrapratap expanded the area of fort.
- Later renovation was done by the Bundelas.

Bandhavgarh fort

- This fort is situated in an area of 8 square km, having only one entrance gate.
- It has in its precincts Motimahala, Koshalay, Chhavi, Kabir Chauraha.
- It has 12 lakes in it.

Rewa fort

- This fort was constructed by Jalal Khan, son of Shreshah suri on the confluence of Bichiya and Beehad River.
- Baghel ruler expanded this fort.
- Mrityunjai Temple was constructed inside this fort by Bhav Singh.

Sohawal fort

- Renovation of this fort was done by Fatehsingh on the banks of Satna River.
- Hathi Dwar (Gate) is the entrance of this fort.

ART & LITERATURE

- Baghel rulers were patrons of the Art & literature.
- Tansen sang the "Dhrupad" raga in the court of Raja Ramchandra.
- Literature tradition started during veer singh whose court poet Ramchandra Bhatt wrote "Radha Charit" in Sanskrit.
- Raghuraj Singh wrote "Bhaktmaal".
- Court poet of Veebhanu, madhav, wrote "Veer Bharudaya-Kavyam".
- Court poet of Ramchandra, Govind Bhatt, also known as Akhari Kalidar, wrote "Ramchandrayashah in sanskrit.
- Ruler Veerbhadra wrote "kandarpchoodamani" and "Dashakumaarpoorvakathaasaarah". His court poet wrote "veerbhadradev champu".
(Court poet was padmanath Mishr)
- Court poet of Amar Singh, Neelkanth Shukl, wrote Amresh Vilas."
- Roopani sharma wrote "Baghelvansh varnanam".

REVOLT OF 1857

- During the revolt of 1857 the king was Raja Raghuraj Singh.
- Raja helped Britishers by giving 2000 soldiers.
- Initially kunwar singh tried to enter Rewa but couldn't due to colonel Hide. So Britishers established central India agency to manage affairs of Rewa.
- First mutineers came to sohagpur, Revolutinary Narayan singh got gilled here.
- On 16th Dec. 1857, Colonel Durand suppressed the revolt in Rewa.
- In sohagpur Thakur Duniyapati singh led the revolt.
- In January 1858, sergent Major sidbell of 2nd regiment was killed by Hanuman singh & motivated rebels.
- In Maihar, Raja Raghuveer singh led Thakurs of Raghaugarh & for suppressing this Rewa king sent Deewan Deenbandhu pandey.

- Under Thakur sarju prasad revolt happend in Vijay raghavgarh for whose suppression Rewa king sent an army.
- Thakur Ranmat singh led the revolt in Mankehri, later, after his arrest in Jhansi he escaped.
- Raja of Rewa was awarded with territory of sohagpur, Amarkantak, in lieu of his services to the crown, by Lord canning in 1859.

Thakur Ranmat Singh

- During the revolt of 1857 he led the revolt in Rewa, state.
- His Jaagir was in Rewa & panna State.
- He led the revolt in Nagod, Bhillsaai, chitrakoot & Nauganv.
- He was given the task of capturing Mardan singh & Bhakhtbali but he didn't & was suspended.
- He rallied 300 soldiers behind him & revolted.
- He was captured, due to treachery of Heera singh and on 1 August, 1859 he was hanged till death.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**Que. Bagheli princely state****Ans.**

- Established by Vyaghradev
- Region Rewa and Vindhya during 12th century
- Capital- Gahova (Chitrakoot)

Que. Thakur Ranmat Singh**Ans.**

- Major rulers of the princely state of Bagheli
- Actively participated in the revolt of 1857
- Famous for his bravery and loyalty

Que. Maharaja Martand Singh**Ans.**

- Ruler of Rewa princely state
- Went to parliament after independence
- Famous as 'Rimhi Awam Annadata'

Que. Raja Karan Dev**Ans.**

- The first son of Vyaghradev
- Married to 'Padam Kumari'
- Received Bandhavgarh as gift

Que. Write a note on Maharaja Raghuraj Singh.**Ans.**

- Dynasty Ruler of Bagheli dynasty
- Supported the Britishers in the revolt of 1827
- Suppressed rebellion in Mandla and Jabalpur

Que. Vyaghradev**Ans.**

- Son of Raja Veer Singh Solanki
- Founder of the princely state of Bagheli
- Won the kingdoms of Mandiha and Gahora

Que. Veerbhanuday- Kavyam.**Ans.**

- Wrote by poet Madhav.
- Sanskrit Court poet of Veerbhanu Baghel

Que. Write a note on Ramchandra Deo Baghel**Ans.**

- Successor of Veerbhanu, ruled from 1555 to 1592.
- Tansen was his court poet
- Bought Kalinjar Fort from Ali Khanse

Que. Raja Gulab Singh**Ans.**

- After Venkataraman he took over the rule of Rewa, ruled from 1918 -46
- Famous for social and administration reform
- Founded "Bank of Bundelkhand"

Que. Maharaja Gulab Singh and Tripuri session**Ans.**

- Gulab Singh sent many elephants from the state for the convention.
- Showed his faith in Congress

Que. Give other names of the princely state of Baghel Khand.**Ans.**

Bhatta - in the 12th century

Bandhav kingdom - in 15-17th century
Rewa State - 17th century
Baghelkhand - in the 18th century

Que. Veer Singh Baghel

Ans.

- Ruled from 1500-1535
- Important ruler of the Baghel dynasty
- Build friendly relations with Sikandar Lodi
- Gave military aid to Rana Sanga in the battle of Khanwa

Que. Veer Bhadra Dev

Ans.

- SBaghel dynasty ruler
- Kandarpa –Chudamani and Daskumarup Urvakathasarah were composed by him.
- The court poet Padmanath Mishra wrote Virbhadra Dev Champu

Que. Vikramjit Baghel

Ans.

- The mighty ruler of Baghel dynasty, ruled from 1503 to 1624
- Capital- Rewa
- Military Headquarter- Bandhavgarh

Que. Venkata Raman Singh

Ans.

- Ruler of Baghela dynasty from 1895 to 1918
- Establishment of Famine Victims Fund in Rewa State
- Published a newspaper called India Audience

- He Banned Tiger hunting

Que. Baghel Vansh Varshanam

Ans.

- A Sanskrit text
- Composed by Rupani Sharma
- In this, the mention of the Navaratnas present in the meeting of Bhav Singh

Que. Rajendra Shiromani

Ans.

Akbar gave the title of Rajendra Shiromani to Raja Ram Chandra Deo Bhaghel of Rewa on receiving Tansen from him.

Que. Architecture of Bhaghela dynasty

Ans.

Bandhavgarh fort
Rewa fort
Sohawat fort
Sohagpur Garhi
Kevati fort
Maihar fort

Que. Literature of Bhaghela dynasty

Ans.

- Radha Charit (Sanskrit text) – By Ramchandra Bhatt
- Ramchandrayasha Prabandha- By Govind Bhatt
- Bhaktmal by Raghuraj singh
- Bhagwant Bhaskar by dNeelkanth Bhatt.

SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Que: Describe the role of Thakur Ranmat Singh in the revolt of 1857.

Ans: During the revolt of 1857 he led the revolt in Rewa State.

- His Jagir was in Rewa and Panna state.
- He led the revolt in Nagod, Bill saai, Chitrakoot, and when earlier he was given task of capturing Mardan Singh and Bakhtbali, he didn't and was suspended by the company.
- He rallied 300 soldiers behind him and revolted.
- He was captured due to treacherous Heera Singh and on 1 Aug 1859 he was hanged till death.

Que: Describe the contribution of Baghel state in Art and literature.

Ans: Tansen in Ramchandra's court discovered Dhrupad Raag.

Literature-

S.No	Writer	Ruler's Court	Work/Book (Sanskrit)
1.	Ramchandra	Veersingh Dev	Radhacharit in Sanskrit
2.	Madhav	Veer Bhanu	Veebhanudaya- Kaavyam

3.	Govind Bhatt	Ramchandra	Ramchandrayashah Prabandhu
4.	Padmanath Mishra	Veer Bhadra	Veerbhandradev Champu
5.	Rupani Sharma	Bhav Singh	Baghelvansh-varnanam

- Neelkanth Bhatt wrote Bhagwant-Bhaskar.
- Ruler Veerbhadra wrote "Kandarpachudamadi" and "Dashkumar poorva akhathaasaarah".

Que: Throw light on origin of Baghel Kingdom.

Ans: Baghels, originally, were chalukyan who were related to solanki clan of Anhilwada (Gujrat).

- Lavan prasad, who was the son of landlord of Vyaghra (Baghelbari), being described as "Vyaaghrapalliya", which later changed to Baghel.
- Due to the connection with Baghelbari village, the heirs of Arnoraj, who was a ruler later, were called Baghel.

Que- Ramchandra deo Baghel

Ans- Ramchandra deo Baghel is the prominent ruler of Baghela dynasty who ruled over Rewa state with capital Gahora. The Mughal Army Sardar Asaf Khan attacked gahora and captured it. Hence, Ramchandra deo Baghel transferred his capital to Bandhavgarh.

He gifted Tansen and pearl 'Alwal' to Akbar. Hence, he was confused with the title '**Rajendra Shiromani**' and got **101 horses & canons**. Historian Badaun remarked about him - "**Bharat ka Vilakshan Dani Raja.**"

Que- Who was Maharaj Gulab Singh Baghel?

Ans- Maharaj Gulab Singh Baghel, the famous Baghel ruler ruled over Rewa, is known for his welfare activities

- He shared dams: rights with famous in the ratio of 55:45.
- Constructed an orphan house in 1923.
- Established 'Bank of Baghelkhand' in 1934.
- Electricity in Rewa came in his reign.
- Introduced self Government by giving rights to his subjects to question monarch's decisions.

Que: Describe the expansion of Baghel Kingdom during the reign of Veeramdev Baghel.

Ans: He became the ruler in 1389.

- He expanded the rule in the south of Kaimur mountain to Bandhavgarh and Amarkanthak.
- First time the fort of Bandhavgarh was annexed by the veeramdev.

- Impressed by his valour and gallantry he was called "Yug ka Neeram" (Irani wrestler") in Tarikh-i-Muhammad.
- He also had amicable relations with the Sultan of Turkey Ibrahim Sharqi.

Que: Veerbhanu Baghel.

Ans: He became the ruler, in 1535 and ruled till 1555, of Baghel state of Central India.

- He was the contemporary of Humayun and Shershah suri.

In the pursuance of Baghel Mughal friendship, he helped humayun in the battle of Chausa against shershah.

- When Shershah got to know about the support given by Veerbhanu to Humayun, he got angry and attacked over Kalinjar fort in 1544. Later during the attack an explosion happened in which Shershah died.
- Poet Madhav, who is the writer of "Veerbhanu daya- Kavyam" was the court poet of Veerbhanu.

Que: Ruler Vyankat Raman Singh of Baghel Kingdom.

Ans: Vyankat Raman Singh became the ruler in 1895 and ruled till 1918.

- In 1895 he commissioned a famine relief fund for Rewa state.
- He also established "Darbar press" in 1902 and published a newspaper named "Bharat Bhrata".
- He participated in Delhi Darbar held in 1903.
- He put a ban on the killings or poaching of tigers in his state which was progressive step considering those times.

LONG QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que. Write a Note on the Architectural masterpieces commissioned during the Baghel kingdom reign.

Ans. During the reign of Baghelkhand state, edifices were mostly constructed using sandstone. The Baghelkhandi architectural style was influenced by Mughal style. Aslo it was influenced by Rajput style.

FORTS**Bandhavgarh fort**

- It is spread in 8 km² area.
- It has only one entry door called "karna Dwar"
- There were 12 Lakes inside the fort.

Rewa fort

- This fort is at the confluence of Beehad & Bichiya River.
- It was constructed by Jalaal Khan who was the son of shershah suri.
- This fort has Ghariyari Gateway which was constructed by Raja Bhav Singh.

Sohawal fort

- It is situated near Satna River. This fort was renovated by Fatehsingh who was the elder son of Amarsing.
- This fort has chiksari, Raja Niwas, Badi Baradari etc.

Keoti fort

- It is situated near Mehera River constructed by Hamirdev.
- Nagmal constructed Jalkund (Lakes) inside the fort.

PALACES, TEMPLES AND CHHATRIS

- Vullar dev constructed Rajbhavan in Gahora and Temple of clan goddess of Baghels (Sheetla).
- Bhavsingh established Mrithunjay temple in Rewa fort.
- Bhavsing's wife constructed a lake in Rewa which is known as Rani Lake.

Baghel Rulers greatly emphasised on constructing lakes & other water resources to help the tillers in farming.

Que. Comment on the development of Art and culture in Baghelkhand Riyasat.

Ans. Baghel Kings were patrons of Art and where.

- Tansen was the singer in the court of Raja Ramchandra Dev.
- Tansen invented "Dhrupad Raag" in the court of Raja Ramchandra.
- The court poet of VEERBHANU wrote veerbhanudaya-kavyam.
- The court poet of king veersingh dev wrote Radha-charit in Sanskrit. The name of that Poet was Ramchandra Bhatt.
- Raghuraj Singh wrote Bhaktmaal.
- Court poet of Raja Ramchandra, Govind Bhatt wrote Sanskrit treatise "Ram Chandrayashah Prabandh". Govind Bhatt is also known as "Akbari Kalidas".
- Baghel Ruler Veerbhadra wrote two Sanskrit treatises.
 - Kandarp chudamadi
 - Dash Kumar poorvakathasaar
- King Veerbhadra had his court poet whose name was Padmanath Mishr who wrote-veerbhadradevchampu.
- The court poet of King Amar Singh, Neelkanth Shukla, wrote Amresh Vilas.
- Roopani sharma wrote Baghel vansh varna-nama.
- Roopani Sharma had Bhav Singh as his Patron.
- The above book also mentions about the nine jems (Navratnas) available in the court of Bhav Singh.
- Neel Kanth Bhatt wrote Bhagwant- Bhaskar in 18th century.

Que. Throw a light on the administrative Setup of Baghel Riyasat.

Ans. Baghel Dynaty ruled over Baghelkhand region. All the small states under Baghel Dynasty in Baghelkhand had same administrative setup. It had following Paits.

KING

- He was the ultimate head of state.
- He was considered supreme in Judiciary, Legislative & executive heads of state.
- For Planning and Administration-related subjects he used to discuss with his ministers in the conference rooms.
- He had the power to appoint his own ministers.

ROYAL ASSEMBLY

- The main members or ministers of Royal assembly were Amatya, Sachiv, Mantri, and Rajpurohit and Rajvaidya.

JUDICIAL & PENAL SYSTEM

- All the rulers were supreme when it comes to taking judicial decisions.
- Kings were justice-loving and used to take the help of Law-experts.
- He used to punish as per laws.

VILLAGE SETUP

- Every village had a chaukidaar.
- This chaukidaar used to guard, for the whole night, the whole village.
- Local level disputes were solved through the Panchayats of villages.
- There was caste Panchayats in some lower castes which used to decide the local caste disputes.
- At village level the punishment was usually monetary in nature.
- The final appeal rested with the king himself.

Que. Critically analyze the role of Rewa state in the first war of Independence.

Ans. The effects of 1857 revolt were also visible on Rewa State. Raghuraj Singh helped British by providing 2000 soldiers.

Revolutionaries attacked sohagpur to free Zamindaar Sona Khan who was prisoner in Raipur Jail. But in this struggle Narayan Sing was hanged to death.

On 16th December Colonel Durand suppressed the revolt in Rewa state. In Sohagpur, the revolt was led by Thakur Duniyapati Singh.

In January 1858, Sergeant Major Sidbell was killed by Lashkar Hanuman Singh & he provoked soldiers to revolt.

In Maihar Raja Raghuveer Singh Participated in the revolt. To suppress this revolt, Raja of Rewa sent army under Deewan Deenbandhu Pandey.

Thakur Sarju Prasad led the revolt in Vijay-raghavgadh & Rewa king sent his army to the revolt.

Thakur Ranmat Singh led the revolt in Mankahari. He was captured later but he escaped.

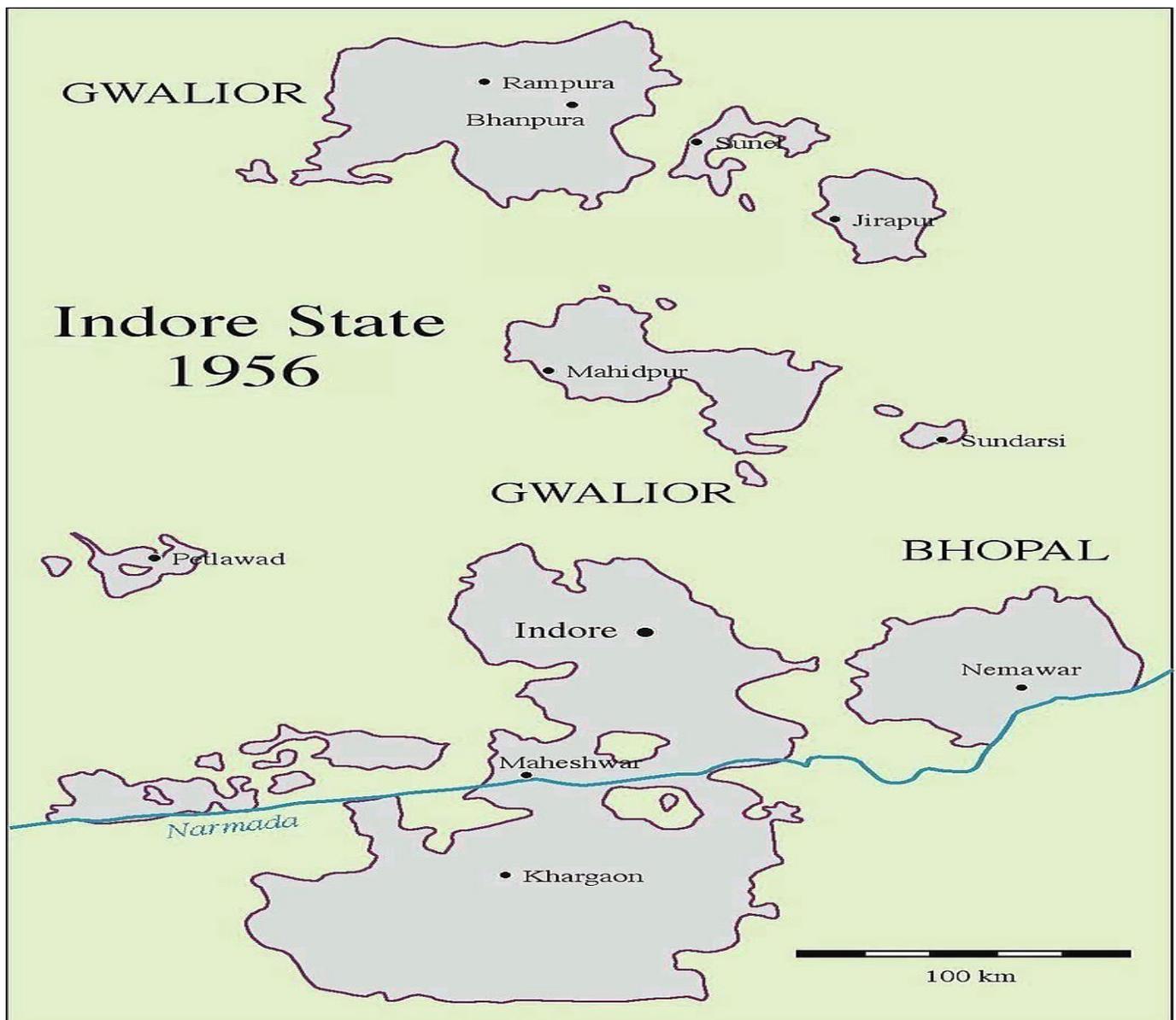
Shyamshah, who was the uncle of Ranmat Singh, was killed by British with the help of Thakur Devi Singh.

After the suppression of revolt, in 1859, Lord canning organised a great Durbar at Kanpur. Here he gave Raja Raghuraj Singh regions of sohagpur, Amarkantak & singhbada for the help he had provided to British.

4. HOLKAR DYNASTY

The Holkars were perhaps one of the most popular royalties in the history of Madhya Pradesh, particularly because they contributed greatly and also had a distinctive style of their own. The Holkar clan of Indore is basically from the Dangar clan that is found in Maharashtra. The origin of the Holkar dynasty was initiated with Malhar Rao who worked under the Peshwas of Maratha in 1721. He later was promoted as a Subedar, however, it was later that Malhar Rao and his descendents, who became Maratha kings, went on to become the rulers of Indore as an independent kingdom. However, after 1818, Indore was recognized as a princely state under British rule until it became a part of the state of Madhya Pradesh after Indian independence.

The family of peasant origin and of shepherd caste was said to have migrated from the Mathura region to the Deccan village of Hol or Hal, the name of which, coupled with *kar* (“inhabitant of”), became the family surname.



RISE OF MARATHAS IN MALWA

Maratha attacks over the malwa region started earlier but the battle of Amjhera was the incident which gave a boost to the final establishment of Maratha Power in Malwa.

Battle of Sarangpur (1724)

- This battle was fought between Marathas & the then Mughal Subedar of Malwa, Girdhar Bahadur.
- In this battle Marathas were led by Chimnajee-appa & Malhar-rao & other prominent Maratha Sardars.

Battle of Amjhera (1728) :

- This battle was fought between Mughal Subedar Girdhar Bahadur and Marathas. Marathas were led by Peshwa Bajirao & his cousin Chimna Jee Appa in 1728 (29 Nov.)
- Marathas emerged as victorious & foundation of Maratha's control over Malwa was established.
- In 1729, Peshwa divided the Malwa & distributed its constituent parts to Holkar, Scindhia & Pawars.

Battle of Tirla (1731) :

- Battle was fought between Mughal Subedar Dayabahadur & Marathas.
- Marathas were led by Chimnajee Appa, Scindhia & Malhar-rao Holkar.
- Marathas won in this battle & Peshwa parcelled out the Malwa between Malharrao Holkar, Ranoji Scindhia & Pawar.

Battle of Bhopal (1737):

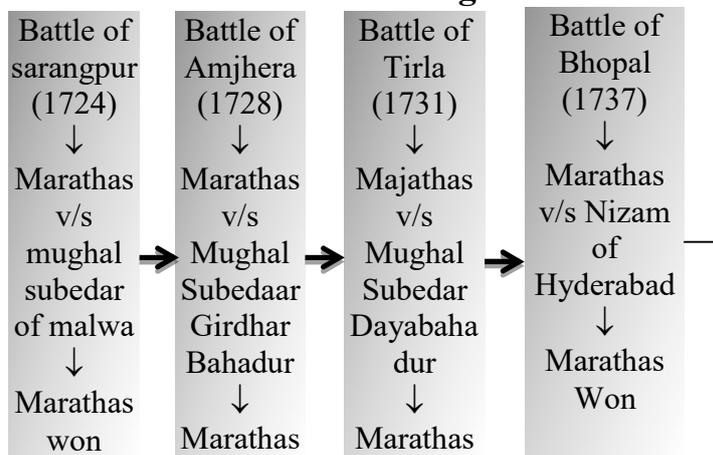
- This battle was fought between Nizam of Hyderabad & Marathas.
- Nizams lost the battle.

Treaty of Dorahsarai:

After the battle of Bhopal, this treaty was signed between Nizam & Marathas in which Nizam recognised the rights of Marathas over Malwa.

HOLKAR STATE

Establishment of Holkar And battles fought



RAMPURASTATE :

It is situated at North- West of Malwa. Under British it was Rampura-Bhanpura Paraganaa under Holkar State.

- In 1716, it was given to Maharana Sangram Singh by Mughal king Farrukhsiyar and then Sangram Singh Gave the paraganaa of Rampura to Rajkumar Madhosing.
- Malhar Rao Holkar got this pargana from Madho Singh.

CHRONOLOGY

1.	Malhar Rao Holkar I	2 November 1731 – 20 May 1766
2.	Male Rao Holkar	23 August 1766 – 5 April 1767
3.	Ahilya Bai Holkar (first as a regent on 26 May 1766)	27 March 1767 – 13 August 1795
4.	Tukoji Rao Holkar I	13 August 1795 – 29 January 1797
5.	Kashi Rao Holkar	29 January 1797 - January 1799
6.	Khande Rao Holkar	January 1799 - 22 February 1807
7.	Yashwant Rao Holkar I (first as a regent from 1799)	1807 - 27 October 1811
8.	Malhar Rao Holkar III	27 October 1811 –1833
9.	Marthand Rao Holkar	17 January 1833 – 2 February 1834
10.	Hari Rao Holkar	17 April 1834 – 24 October 1843
11.	Khande Rao Holkar II	13 November 1843 –1844
12.	Tukoji Rao Holkar II	27 June 1844 – 17 June 1886
13.	Shivaji Rao Holkar	17 June 1886 – 31 January 1903
14.	Tukoji Rao Holkar III	31 January 1903 –1926
15.	Yashwant Rao Holkar II	26 February 1926 - 1948

MALHAR RAO HOLKAR

- Malhar Rao Holkar was a valuable man of the Maratha army serving the Peshwas.
- In 1724 Baji Rao I, the *peshwa* (prime minister) of the Maratha state, gave him command of 500 horses.
- He soon became the *peshwa*'s Subedar (chief general) of Malwa (9 parganas in the territory) headquartered at Maheshwar and Indore.
- The township of Indore had already existed as an independent principality established by Nandlal Mandloi of Kampel, Nandlal Mandloi was won over by the Maratha force and allowed them to camp across the Khan River.
- He was posted to realise 'Chouth' and 'Sardeshmukhi'.
- Later in 1727, He established Holkar dynasty in Indore under Peshwa's suzerainty.
- In 1747, he started the construction of his royal palace, the Rajwada.
- During the Third battle of Panipat (took place on 14 January 1761), Marathas faced a hard time with the invader Ahmad Shah Abdali. The Marathas were soundly defeated and soon Peshwa no longer had his powers. This turn of events made Malhar Rao the general of Malwa region and then Malhar Rao Holkar established his independent rule in Malwa region with capital Rajbada (Indore).
- His son **Khanderao Holkar** had died before him by a cannon ball in a battle of Bharatpur (24 March 1754) during seize of Kumher Fort of Jat Maharaja Suraj Mal

of Bharatpur. After khande-rao died in 1754, nine of his ten wives committed Sati, but his father, Malhar Rao, prevented khanderao's first wife, Ahilya Bai, from committing Sati.

- Malhar Rao died in 1766, 12 years after his son Khanderao died.

EFFECTS OF THIRD BATTLE OF PANIPAT ON HOLKAR

- In Malwa region, chandraavats established their role on Rampura-Bhanpur. Vidisha, which was the centre of Maratha Power, also got away.
- Although Malhar Rao come back safely from battle of panipat but the death of his son Khanderao (during the seize of Kumbher fort) and his old age had detrimental effects over his prestige & growth as a ruler.
- To fill this small vaccum of power, scindhias emerged as a great power, especially in North India.

Achievements of Malhar Rao Holkar:

- (1) Led the Maratha army in battle of Sarangpur, in 1724, to victory against Girdhar Bahadur.
- (2) In 1731, in the battle of Tirla, he had an important role to make Maratha establish their power.
- (3) Important role in the victory of his army in the Bhopal battle.
- (4) In 1739, he occupied the fort of Bassein.
- (5) In 1743 he was given the Rampur-Bhanpur Paragana.
- (6) Constructed the Rajwada in 1747.
- (7) Proved his capabilities in the battleof Ajaygarh, Kalinjar etc.
- (8) He helped Shuja-ud-daula against the British in the battle of Buxar in 1764.

He was a Great War strategist & master of qualified qualities. On 20th May 1766, he died at Alampur (Bhind).

KHANDE RAO HOLKAR

- He was the son of Malhar Rao Holkar.
- He married to Ahilya Bai in 1735.
- Khande Rao died during the Battle of Kumbher in 1754 near Rajasthan.
- His son Male Rao Holkar Succeeded to throne in 1766 but died in 1767.

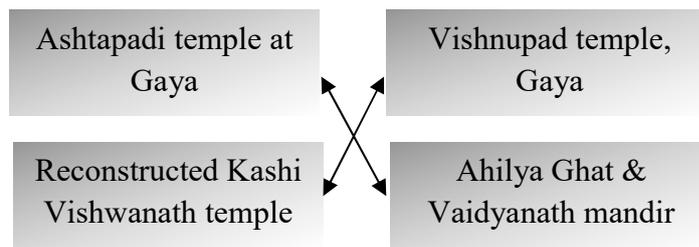
AHILYA BAI

- Malhar Rao's grandson and Khanderao's only son **Male Rao Holkar became the ruler of Indore** in 1766, under the regentship of Ahilyabai, but he too died within few months on 5 April 1767. Ahilyabai became the ruler of Indore after the death of her son.
- Maharani Ahilya Bai Holkar (1725 – 1795) was the Holkar Queen of the Maratha who ruled Malwa kingdom, India.
- Rajmata Ahilyabai was born in the village of Chondi in Jamkhed, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.
- She moved the capital to Maheshwar south of Indore on the Narmada River.
- Ahilyabai petitioned the Peshwa after Malhar's death, and the death of her son, to take over the administration herself. Some in Malwa objected to her assumption of rule, but the army of Holkar supported her leadership. The Peshwa granted her permission on 11 December 1767.

Her administration is considered as that of a Model ruler. She was ably assisted by Tukoji Rao Holkar I(1795-97) the commander of her army and was also the adopted son of Malharrao.

- Ahilyabai's accomplishment was the development of Indore from a small village to a prosperous and beautiful city; her own capital, however, was in nearby Maheshwar, a town on the banks of the Narmada River.
- She also built forts and roads in Malwa, sponsored festivals and gave donations for regular worship in many Hindu temples.
- Outside Malwa, she built dozens of temples, ghats, wells, tanks and rest-houses across an area stretching from the Himalayas to pilgrimage centres in South India.
- Her rule became proverbial for justice and wisdom. She contributed a lot to the heritage of India by establishing several religious edifices remarkable in architecture. The Kashi Vishweswar temple at Varanasi being notable among them.
- The Bharatiya Sanskritikosh lists sites she embellished like Kashi, Gaya, Somnath, Ayodhya, Mathura, Hardwar, Kanchi, Avanti, Dwarka, Badrinarayan, Rameshwar and Jagannathpuri.
- Ahilyadevi also supported the rise of merchants, farmers and cultivators to levels of affluence and did not consider that she had any legitimate claim to their wealth, be it through taxes or feudal right.
- There are many stories of her care for her people. In one instance, when her minister refused to allow the adoption unless he was suitably bribed, she is said to have sponsored the child herself, and given him clothes and jewels as part of the ritual.
- She died at Maheshwar where a large mousoleum stands in her memory.
- To honour the memory of Ahilyadevi Holkar, in 1996 leading citizens of Indore instituted an award in her name to be bestowed annually on an outstanding public figure. The Prime Minister of India gave away the first award to Nanaji Deshmukh.

Temples constructed by Rani



Dharmshalas Constructed By Rani/Hospices Constructed by Rani

- Mathura, Ayodhya, Tehri of Amarkantak, Haridwar, Prayag, Badrinath Hospices.
- She Constructed Pondat "Jijuri" near Gautameshwar Temple, Gyaneshwar Pond in Nizam State.
- Reconstructed Dwarika & Somnath temple.
- She constructed Road from Gaya to Rameshwar at tamil Nadu.
- Her Capital Maheshwar was known for literary, musical & industrial enterprise.
- There were famous poets in her reign like Moropanth, Sanskrit Scholar Khusali Ram & Shatir Ananti Phandi.

Note- She died on 13th August 1795 at the age of 70. Her reign is remembered as "Golden Age" of Indore's history. She was succeeded by Tukoji Rao

RULERS AFTER AHILYA BAI

Tukoji Rao Holkar (r. 1795-1797) briefly succeeded Rani Ahilyabai upon her death. After Tukoji Rao, his son Yashwant Rao Holkar (also called as Jaswant Rao) took control over the empire. Yashwantrao is another name that is known for his generosity, helping nature and bravery. He was given the title of 'Maharajadiraj Rajrajeshwar Alija Bahadur' in honour of his bravery that he portrayed by shaking hands with Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II to free Delhi from the British in the unsuccessful Second Anglo-Maratha War.

- He always assisted Rani Ahilya in the official work.
- He modernized his army by the European methods.
- He defeated Colonel Godard in the first Anglo Maratha War.
- In 1785 he Joined Nana Phadnawis in campaign against Tipu Sultan in which Tipu was defeated.
- He shifted the capital from Maheshwar to Indore.

KASHIRAO HOLKAR (1797-1799)

- He was an incompetent ruler but was coronated with the help of Peshwa & Daulat Rao Scindhia.
Malhar Rao II & Yashwant Rao Holkar revolted during his reign & de-throned KASHIRAO.

He was succeeded by **Yashwant Rao in 1797**. Jaswant Rao Holkar was a brilliant guerrilla leader. After the defeat of Scindias (of Gwalior) in 1803, he took on the British forces and defeated Col. William Monson and beseiged Delhi. He tried to free the Delhi Mughal Emperor Shah Alam II from the British in the unsuccessful Second Anglo-Maratha War. The Mugal king Shah Alam gave him the title of Maharajadiraj Rajrajeshwar Alija Bahadur in honor of his bravery.

He was, however, defeated by Gen. Gerard (Lord) Lake at Dig and Farrukhabad in November of 1804, and was compelled to make peace for a year. Later the Treaty of Rajpur Ghat was signed with the British in 1805, the first treaty signed between the Holkars and the British. Soon after, he died in 1811.

Treaty of RajpurGhat of 1805

- Signed between Yashwant Rao & Wellesley in 1805. Yashwant Rao had to give away Northern portion of Chambal & Bundelkhand.
- Signed after the 2nd Anglo Maratha war.
- With the help of British Bajirao II got the peshwai. (He became Peshwa again).

MALHAR RAO II (1811-1833)

- He succeeded the throne at an early age
- His mother Tulsi Bai looked after administration on his behalf.

- He fought Battle of Mahidpur (1817). This battle was fought between Thomas Hislop & John Malcolm from British front & Maharaja Malhar Rao & Bhima Bai Holkar from Maratha front.
- Result of this battle- Holkar was defeated due to treachery of Ghafur Khan. Tatya & Malhar Rao III escaped through this battle.
- He constructed the old Palace (Purana Mahal) & Padhrinath temple at Indore.
- He Participated in third battle with British (Third Anglo-Maratha war) from 1817 to 1819 in which Marathas were defeated.
- In 1818 he shifted the capital from Bhanpura, Mandsaur to Indore.
- Mhow contonment of British was constructed during his reign.

After **Malhar Rao II** (1811-33) was defeated in the battle of Mahidpur under Third Anglo-Maratha war, the Treaty of Mandsaur was signed on January 6th, 1818 which hence forth governed relations between the Holkars and the British Indore. British Resident stationed at Indore.

Treaty of mandsaur (1818)

- It was signed between English & Marathas.
- Signatories- Executive head of Malhara-Rao, Tatya Jog Keebe & from British side Brigadier General Sir John Malcolm.
- Terms of the treaty were-
 - a. British got Two-third portion of the state.
 - b. Formation of Mhow contonment.
 - c. Holkar state transferred into British protection.
 - d. The existence of Peshwa was abolished in Holkar state.
 - e. A British resident & Army to be kept in Indore.

MARTAND RAO HOLKAR (January 1834 to february 1834)

- He was coronated os ruler but was rejected by the subjects of Indore state as Ruler.

HARIRAO HOLKAR (1834-1843)

- He was the son of Maharaja Yashwant Rao's brother Bithaji Rao Holkar.
- He adopted Khande Rao in 1841.

KHANDE RAO HOLKAR III (1843-1844)

- He was coronated on 13th November 1843 but the defacto ruler was his Deewan "Rajabhas Phanse".
- He died at an early age in 1844.

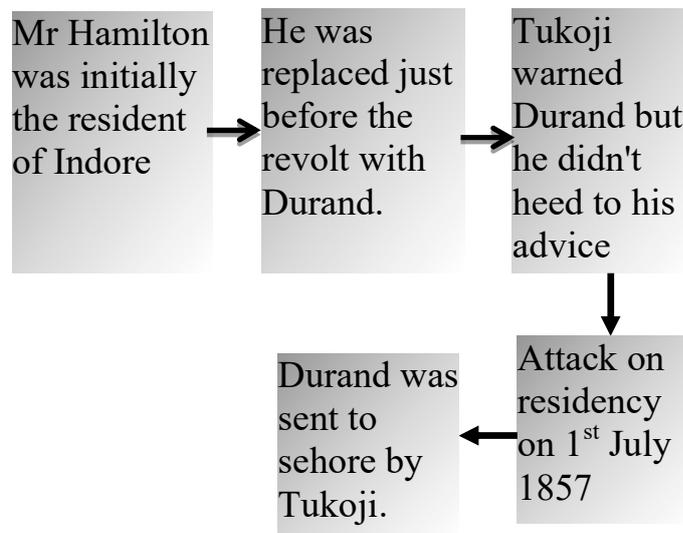
TUKOJI RAO HOLKAR II (Jaswant Rao Holkar) (1844-1886)

- He was coronated on 27 June 1844.
- British resident Hamilton praised about his capabilities in front of Higher authorities of the East India company.
- The important event in his reign was the revolt of 1857.
- He helped British and so he was praised by the then viceroy Lord canning in 1800 at Jabalpur Darbar.

Role Of Tukoji Rao in 1857 Revolt

- The fire of revolt of 1857 spread in many parts of India. It reached in Indore also.
- The Indian force which was stationed at Indore by British also got involved in the revolt.
- During this revolt popular Resident Mr. Hamilton was replaced by Colonel Durand.
- Maharaj advised Durand to leave Indore but Durand did not follow his command. Ultimately the Indore residency was attacked by the mutineers on 1st July 1857. Tukoji Rao shifted Durand to sehere. Tukoji also helped British political agent Colonel Hatchison at Amjhera & Sardarpur.

Tukoji was not given the due credit by Britishers for his help. Also the Indians & mutineers looked upon him with hatred for helping the British to suppress the revolt. This can be understood with the help of flowchart.



Administrative & Social Achievements

- He appointed the famous politician Sir T.R. Madhavrao as his Deewan. Due to his economic reforms the Indore state's revenue increased manifold.
- For Agricultural reforms, he commissioned the metering of state land & Provided Taccavi (loan) to farmers to incentivise them for farming.
- He implemented Panchayat system, brought judicial reforms & promoted gender equality.
- For promoting commerce, he gave financial help to traders & moneylenders.
- He constructed "State mill" in 1867.
- He gave instructions to Tehsildaars & Patwaris to ensure no one in the state remain hungry.
- Established many schools & brought educational reforms.
- He also made contribution to Railway development. He constructed Indore-Khandwa Railway line in 1857.
- Lord Northbrook came to state in 1872 & commissioned the cornerstone of a Bridge over Narmada.

Economic reforms brought by tukoji rao holkar

- At the time of his coronation, the Indore Treasury was empty. Primary reason was military expense. He opted a two pronged approach to solve this. First he reduced the military expenditure & second he tried to increase the revenue of state. Using this two-pronged approach he made Indore state flourish.

SHIVAJI RAO HOLKAR (1886-1903)

- He was a qualified, intellectual & Capable King in Holkar Dynasty who was coronated in 1886.
- He appointed Raghunath Rao, a qualified administrator from Madras as his prime minister.
- He established Tukoji Rao Hospital & Institute of Higher education which is presently known as Holkar College.
- The Lal Bagh Palace was constructed by him in Indore.

TUKOJI RAO HOLKAR III (1903-1926).

- He was coronated at the age of 13 due to his ailing father Shivaji Rao.
- For Administration a council was appointed whose head was British resident.
- He made different reforms via his council in the field of Taxes, Judiciary, Police, education, forests, Health etc.
- He re-constituted the Urban department.
- Provided scholarships to eligible students.
- Established Hospitals, tribunals etc.
- Constituted Electricity Power plant & Roads.
- Provided cost free land for Nagda-Mathura Railway line.

Other Reforms & Achievements of Tukoji Rao Holkar III

- Constructed a sanatorium for Tuberculosis in 1914 in Indore.
- Hukumchand mill was constructed in 1914.
- He gave loans to farmers during the famine.
- He constructed Navratna temple in 1923. (Presently known as central Museum).
- For peasants' welfare, he established Banks at Indore, Patelawaad & Maheshwar.
- For education, he established sanskrit university, Girl's University & Ahilya Ashram Schools.

MAHARAJ YASHWANT RAO HOLKAR (1926–1947)

- Due to his tender age, administration was handled by cabinet.
- Yashwant Rao Cricket Club or Holkar Cricket Association was set up in Indore.
- During his reign Indore acceded to India.

The Holkars inhabited a region that was the most fertile in arid Central India and made Indore their capital. After a tumultuous period during their war with the British and the Scindias, the Holkars signed the Treaty of Mahidpur in 1818 in which they settled down to rule peacefully. This is the time when the Holkars amassed a huge collection of jewellery & wealth which was later lost and vanished without a trace.

As the results of the war didn't turn to be in Holkar's favour, the outcomes were to be faced. A treaty was signed with the British; the treaty of Rajghat. It was signed in 1805 and since then he was recognised as a Sovereign King.

Later the state was ruled by many successors of the Holkar Dynasty. With time capitals also kept on shifting until the Third Anglo-Maratha War, when the territory was

incorporated into the British Raj and the capital was shifted to Indore for the last time before the partition of India.

After the British rule, Holkars continued to rule Indore state for a long time with frequently changing rulers. The last ruler Yashwant Rao Holkar II ruled Indore state until India's Independence. After 1947, Indore became a district of Madhya Pradesh state in 1956.

On 22 April 1948 the Maharaja of Indore signed a covenant with the rulers of the adjoining princely states to form a new state known as Madhya Bharat. Madhya Bharat was created on 28 May 1948. On 16 June 1948, the princely state of Indore, which the House of Holkar ruled, merged with the newly independent Indian states.

ADMINISTRATION OF HOLKARS

PARGANA- Main administrative unit whose head was kamavisdaar who was responsible for peace maintenance, social-economic works & Judicial works.

- For kamavisdaar's help there were Majumdaar, Fadnavis, and Havildaar who maintained peace in their spheres of influence.
- **City & Police system-** Kotwal was responsible for maintaining law & order.
- **Village-** village was the smallest administrative unit which were self-sufficient & whose head was "Patel" who was a link between subjects & senior Administrative officers.
- Below Patel, there was Kulkarni who managed the record-keeping department.
- Chaukidaar & Patwari used to help kulkarni.

ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM OF HOLKARS

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT	DETAIL
PARGANA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biggest unit• Head-kamavisdaar• Other administrators-Majumdar, fadnavis Havildaar
City	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kotwal maintained peace• city was under pargana.
Village	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Smallest administrative unit• Head = Patel• Below Patel - Kulkarni• Other administrators - Patwari and chaukidaar

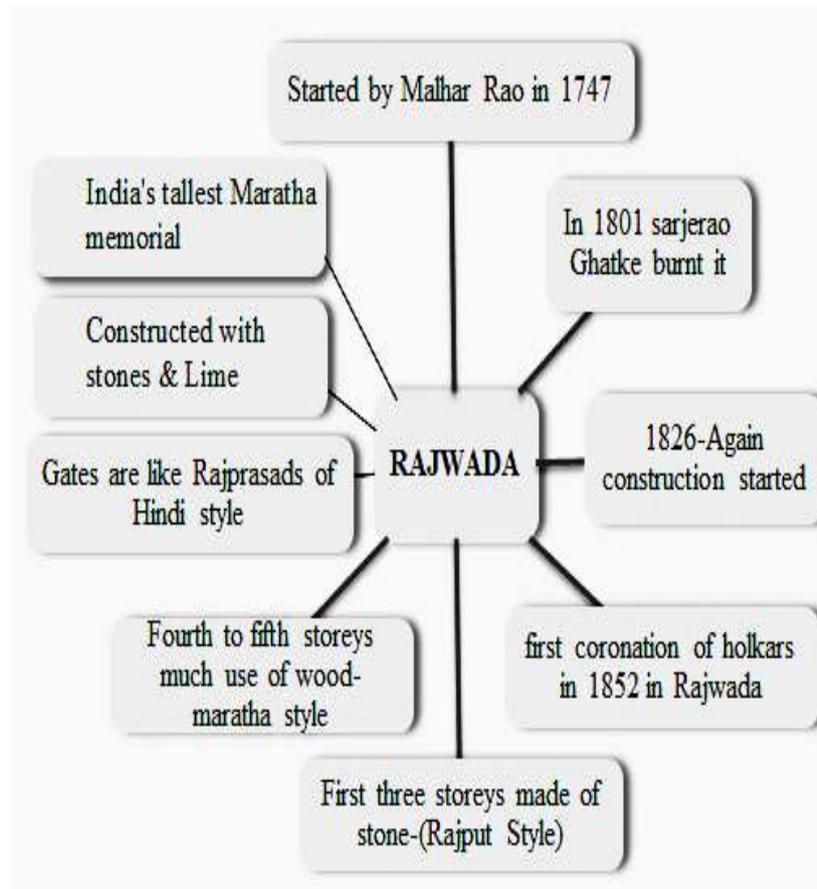
ARCHITECTURE

RAJWADA

Rajwada is a historical palace in the city of Indore, Madhya Pradesh. It was built by the Holkars of the Maratha Empire about two centuries ago. This seven storied structure is located near the Chhatris and serves today as a fine example of royal grandeur and architectural skills.

Rajwada was built around 1730 when Malhar Rao Holkar requested Chattrapati Shahu to build a place for his family when he was out for strengthening the hold of the Maratha Empire. It was in 1734 that Indore was declared the official base of the Holkars. Interestingly in 1807 Sarje Rao Ghatke, the chief of Scindhias had got this mansion burnt. Between 1818 and 1826 the top five floors of the palace were renovated.

This seven-storey structure has a unique mix of Mughal, Maratha and French architecture, which gives it a character of its own. The first three floors of the Rajwada have intricate stone-work while the top four floors have been embellished with interesting patterns on wood.



CHHATRI

The first mention of construction of chhatris can be found in the construction of malhar rao chhatri which is made in alampur, bhind.

Contribution of holkar rulers in chhatri construction-

- These chhatris are slightly different from the chatris generally made under other Rajput State. In some chhatris, the effects of Muslim architecture can also be noticed.
- There are beautiful Chhatris, in Indore Chhatribagh, of Khanderao Holkar, Goutambai, Harirao Holkar etc. which are decorated with embellishments.
- In Maheshwar there are chhatris on a tall platform of Ahilyabai & Vithhoji Holkar built by Yashwant Rao Holkar & Krishnabai Holkar.
- The big chhatri at Bhanpura built in honour of Yashwant Rao gives a feel of temple.
- There are beautiful chhatris of Holkars near Khan river in krishnapura (Indore).

MAHESHWAR FORT

- Maheshwar, a town in Khargone on the banks of Narmada, has a fort built by Ahilya Bai Holkar.
- Historians H.D. Sankalia & P.N. Bose discovered Maheshwar.
- Rani Ahilya shifted capital of Holkars to Maheshwar.
- Ahilya Bai commissioned two architect brothers Bhujdhar & Gajdhar Rao from Rajasthan for constructing the fort.
- The fort has massive arched gateway approached by a long flight of stairs.
- On top of gateway, a sculpted figure of musician is there. Gateway leads to open courtyard having couple of cenotaphs of members of Holkar family. The fort has Ahilya-wada, the palace of Ahilya Bai.
- Important temples at Maheshwar fort
 - ☞ Sahastrarjun temple
 - ☞ Raj Rajeshwar temple
 - ☞ Jaleshwar temple
 - ☞ Chaturbhuj Narayan temple.

LALBAGH PALACE

Lalbagh Palace is a residence of the Holkar Maharaja of Indore State in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Construction began in the late 19th century and was completed in 1926. It was built in the Italian Renaissance Revival architecture style.

It is inscribed by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) as a protected monument. It will be renovated by the World Monuments Fund.

MANIK BAGH

Manik Bagh, also spelled Manig Bagh, is a palace of the Holkar Maharaja of Indore State in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The name means "Ruby Garden" or "Gem Garden". [1] It was designed and built by the German architect Eckart Muthesius on behalf of Maharaja Yashwant Rao Holkar II in 1930. On the outside and the inside it was in the Bauhaus and Art Deco style, making it a Gesamtkunstwerk.

MAHATMA GANDHI HALL

Built in 1904 this is one of the beautiful buildings in the city. This Indo Gothic structure has domes and other structures that make it very special. Originally called Sir Edward Hall, this hall was renamed in 1948.

REVOLT OF 1857-HEROES

Bheema Nayak:

- Bheema Nayak has been credited for raising awareness and organising the tribes to participate in the revolt of 1857.
- He was born in 1840 in west Nimar state (Khargone). His birthplace was Panchmohli village in Badwani district.

- He is also called Robinhood of Nimad because his first revolt was against rich Moneylenders and he distributed whatever booty he amassed to the poor tribes or common people.
- After meeting with Tantya Tope, he led the revolt of 1857 in M.P. from sendhwa region of Badwani district.
- During the revolt, the teerkamaan unit of Bhima defeated the British in the Battle of Ambapani.
- He was arrested on 2 April 1868 from Forests of satpura & was sentenced to prison in Port Blair in Andaman.

He was hanged till death on 29 December 1876 in Andaman.

Saadat Khan:

- He was a soldier in the army of Tukoji Rao who participated in the first war of Independence.
- He alongwith his unit attacked on the colonel Durand residency during the revolt of 1857 and looted the residency's wealth also.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS**Que. Maratha Confederacy****Ans.**

- Maratha Confederacy was founded by Bajji Rao-I in Maharashtra.
- It includes following kingdom- Scindias of Gwalior, Holkars of Indore, Peshwa of Pune, Raghuji Bhonsle of Berar and Gaekwad of Baroda.

Que. Holkar dynasty**Ans.**

- Founder- Malhar Rao Holkar (1727)
- Ruler over Indore region from 1727 to 1947
- Prominent rulers – Malhar Rao Holkar, Ahilyabai etc.

Que. Ahilya Bai Holkar**[MPPSC.2016, 30 Words]****Ans.**

- Queen Holkar dynasty, ruled from 1767 to 1795
- Ruled as the successor of Malhar Rao Holkar
- Capital- Maheshwar
- Popularly known as "Lokmata"
- Made Tukoji Rao the commander

Que. Who was Malhar Rao Holkar?**Ans.**

- Founder of Holkar dynasty
- Ruled over Malwa from 1727 to 1766 with capital Rajbada (Indore)

- Participated in the third battle of Panipat

Que. By whom and why Indore was given to Malhar Rao Holkar ?**Ans.**

- Fought many battles on behalf of Peshwa Bajirao I
- Indore was given to him in 1734 as an award by Peshwa.

Que. Construction works of Rani Ahilyabai ?**Ans.**

- Road from Calcutta to Banaras
- Annapurna Temple in Banaras
- Vishnu Temple in Gaya
- Kashi Vishwanath Temple (Varanasi)

Que. Write a note on Holkar State Railway.**Ans.**

- Tukoji Rao Holkar II understood the importance of railways
- Gave a loan of one crore rupees to the British for the construction of Khandwa-Indore railway line.

Que. Tukoji Rao Holkar I**Ans.**

- Commander of Ahilyabai Holkar
- Became the ruler after his death
- Shifted the capital from Maheshwar to Indore

Que. Tukoji Rao Holkar II**Ans.**

- Maharaj belonging to the Holkar dynasty

- Birth Name- Shrimant Ukaji Jaswant Holkar

- Installed Railway line (1875)

Que. Who was Yashwant Rao Holkar I?

Ans.

- Signed 'Treaty of Basin' with the British in 1802.
- Shifted capital from Indore to Bhanpura
- Famous as Napoleon of Central India

Que. Khanderao Holkar

Ans.

- Son and successor of Malharrao Holkar
- Marriage with Ahilyabai in 1735
- Death in the war against Surajmal

Que. Malrao Holkar

Ans.

- Son of Khanderao and Ahilyabai
- Ahilyabai Holkar became its patron
- Death due to meningitis

Que. Shivajirao Holkar

Ans.

- The son and successor of Tukojirao Holkar
- Established 'Tukojirao Hospital'
- During the famine of 1899, Garib Khana was established for public service.

Que. Tukojirao Holkar III

Ans.

- Ruled from 1903 to 1926
- Opened sanatorium for tuberculosis patients
- Agriculture Center Research opened in Pipalya
- Indore high court building was constructed by him.

Que. Yashwantrao Holkar

Ans.

- Successor of Tukojirao III, ruled from 1926 to 1947.
- During his reign, India got independence
- Signed the Treaty of Accession to the Indian Union

Que. Battle of Sarangpur

Ans.

- This war took place in 1724
- Between the Marathas and Malwa Subedar Girdhar Bahadur
- The Marathas were led by Chimnaji Appa and Malhar Rao.

Que. Battle of Amjera

Ans.

- It took place near Dhar in 1728.
- Between the Mughal Subedar Girdhar Bahadur and Peshwa Bajirao
- Maratha became victorious in the battle

Que. Battle of Bhopal

Ans.

- In 1737 AD
- Between the Nizam of Hyderabad and the Marathas
- Maratha army got success

Que. Treaty of Daurah-Saram

Ans.

- Completed in 1737 after Bhopal war
- Between Nizam and Marathas
- Nizam accepts Maratha authority over Malwa

Que. Treaty of Rajpur Ghat

Ans.

- Completed in 1805 after the Second Anglo-Maratha War
- Between Yashwant Rao Holkar I and Lord Wellesley
- Yashwantrao had to leave the northern part of Chambal, Bundelkhand

Que. Treaty of Mandsaur

Ans.

- Between Malharrao II and the British government in 1818.
- The British got 2/3 part of the Holkar state.
- Holkar state went under British protection

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (5 MARKERS)

Que: Battle of Tirla.

Ans: This Battle was fought between Mughal governor (subehdaar) Daya bahadur and Maratha powers in 1731.

Dayabahadur got defeated in this battle and Marathas control was established in Malwa.

Peshwa divided Malwa among Malharrao Holkar, Ranoji Scindhia and Pawar.

Que: Treaty of Rajpur Ghat.

Ans: This treaty was signed in 1805 between Yashwant Rao Holkar and Wellesley in Rajpur Ghat. In pursuance of this treaty Yashwant Rao Holkar had to abandon Northern Portion of Chambal and Bundelkhand.

- This treaty was signed after the second Anglo-Maratha war.
- Later, with the help of Britishers Bajirao II got the seat of Peshwa.

Que: Treaty of Mandsour (1818)

Ans: This treaty was signed in 1818 between Tatyajog Khebe who was the executive chief officer of Malhar Rao Holkar and Brigadier-General Sir John Malcolm on behalf of Malhar Rao 2nd and British Government respectively.

Provision of treaty:

- Britishers got two-third area of territory.
- Holkar state came under British Protection.
- The existence and influence of Peshwa abolished in state.
- A British Resident and Army were posted in the Indore state.

Que- Which Holkar rulers are referred as Makes of Modern Indore?

Ans- The Last four rulers of Holkar Dynasty-

- Tukoji Rao II, installed Railway line from Khandwa to Indore.
- Shivaji Rao, built Holkar Science College, Indore.
- Tukoji Rao III, gave a High Court to Indore
- Yashwant Rao, Maharaja Yashwant Hospital in Indore

are often called as Makes of Modern Indore for their contribution.

Que- Who was Malhar Rao Holkar

Ans- Malhar Rao Holkar was initially the Malwa chief

appointed by Peshwa of Pune in 1724. Later, he established an Independent Holkar Dynasty in the name of Indore state in 1727 and led the foundation stone for the development of Indore and its surrounding regions.

Que: Yashwant Rao Holkar.

Ans: He became ruler in 1797 in Indore state and ruled till 1811. Historian N.S. Inamdar called him "Napoleon of Middle/Central India".

- In 1802 he attacked and defeated Peshwa and Scindia.
- During this time Peshwa signed "Treaty of Bassein" in 1802 with Britishers.
- After prolonged battle with British, Treaty of Rajput Ghat was signed between Yashwant Rao and Britishers in 1805.
- He also participated in 2nd Anglo-Maratha war between 1803-1805.

- He understood the need of modern weapons and so he established an ordnance factory in Bhanpura as he had earlier shifted his capital from Indore to Bhanpura.

LONG QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

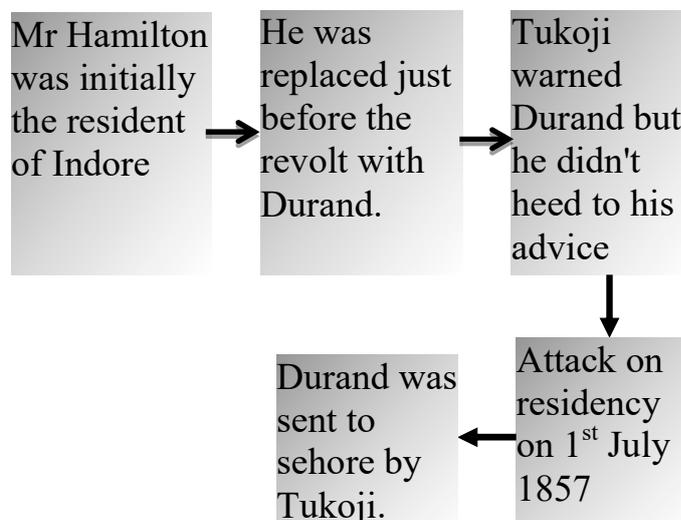
Que: Critically analyse the role of Holkar state and other characters in the great revolt of 1857.

Ans: The revolt of 1857 was the first war of Independence from British. The wave of the this revolt also came to Indore state, and the role of both Holkar state in general and the then ruler Tukoji Rao Holkar II in particular along with other heroes like Bheema Nayak and Saadat khan came into light.

Revolt and Tukoji Rao Holkar II:

Holkar state completely supported the Britishers in the first war of Independence.

- Mr. Hamilton was initially the resident of Indore but just before the revolt he was replaced with colonel Durand.
- Tukoji warned Durand to leave Indore in the apprehension of attack, but durand did not heed to the warnings of TUKOJI
- Eventually Saadat Khan attacked over the Durand's residency on first of July 1857 but Durand was saved by Tukoji by Sending him to sehere. On the orders of Tukoji himself.



Que. Write a short Note on "Makers of Modern India" in the context of Holkar rulers.

Ans. Holkars ruled over malwa with their capital Indore. The four rulers consecutively who ruled over Indore are together called Makers of Modern India because their progressive and modern policies which they implemented in their state. Makers of Modern India were as follows-

(1) Tukoji Rao Holkar II (1844-1886)

- In the **Economic field** he appointed famous Sir T.R. Madhavrao as his Deewan, due to which state revenue increased. For Agriculture, metering of land, Taccavi to larmers were given fiancial help given to traders & constructed state mill in 1867. & made Indore-khandwa Railway line in 1857.

- **Political field-** He implemented panchayat system & brought Judicial reforms & gender equality.
- **Social field-** Established many schools & brought education reforms.

(2) Shivaji Rao Holkar (1886-1903)

- Established Tukoji Rao Hospital & institute of higher education.
- Appointed Raghunath Rao, a qualified administrator from Madras as his prime minister.

(3) Tukoji Rao Holkar III (1903–1926)**Economic field-**

- He constituted Electricity power plants & Roads.
- Provided cost free land for Nagda-Mathura Railway-line.
- Hukumchand mill was constructed in 1914.
- He gave taccavi (loans) to farmers during familes.
- Established Banks for farmers in Indore & Maheshwar

Social Field

- Re-constituted urban department.
- Provided scholar-ships to eligible swdenls.
- Established hospitals, tribunals, Sanskrit university, Ahilya Ashram Schrols.

(4) YASHWANT RAO HOLKAR (1926-1947)

- Yashwant Rao cricked club aka Holkar cricket association was set up in Indore.
- Gave Indore the famous six stories Maharaja Yashwant Rao Holkar Hospital.
- Indore acceded to India during his reign.

Que- Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar

Ans- Devi Ahilya Bai Holakar, the Queen of Holkar dynasty ruled over Indore state with her capital at Maheshwar in the 18th century AD.

- She was born in 1725 AD in the **Chondi Village Jamakheda**, Ahmadnagar Maharashtra and married to Khanderao Holkar (son of Malhar Rao Holkar) who died in 1754.
- She ascended the throne in 1767 AD after the death of Malhar Rao Holkar and laid down the effective adminstration in state.
- She was very poplar among the mases as she was always available to their thicks and thins' Hence, she was conferred with the title of '**Lokmata**'.
- She also supported the rise of artisians, peasants, and cultivator's legitimacy over their wealth through feudal rights or taxation.
- She devloped 'Maheshwar' as a centre of learning, art & craft, industry etc and she patronised Marathi poet 'Morpant' and Sanskrit scholar '**Khusali Ram**'. She paid **salaries in cash** and **honoured the craftsmen & artisans** as well as she established the **textile industry in Maheshear**
- She developed '**Indore**' into a city. it is sightly said in those times, "**indore was an island of prosperiyty in Ocean of violence**"
- She also constructed **Maheshwar fort, various ghats, various temple** like Kashi Vishwanath temple. she established **Charitable institutions** at gaya, Banaras etc and **Anna Chhatras** in Dwarka, Puri, UJJAIN, Omkareshwar.
- She was **bold, responsible, compassionate, Justice & Peace. lovingpersonality** who sets an example for theefficent administration under **woman leadership in male dominating society**

5. SCINDIA DYNASTY

Gwalior has been ruled by the Scindia clan and also has the distinction of having been one of the most developed states of India. Gwalior has a very old and magnificent history as its name is derived from the erstwhile town of Gwalior also known and Gwalior has been ruled by many Rajput dynasties and also by the Mughals. The Scindia dynasty was founded by Ranoji Scindia. However, the association of the Scindias with Gwalior commenced at a time when the Mughals started to lose their prominence due to the rise of the Marathas under the leadership of Shivaji. However, Shivaji's untimely death passed the power on to the Peshwas which was later grasped by Mahadji Scindia, who was a great statesman and a general. He opposed the English, but later initiated an alliance with them, which brought about a lot of advantages to him in terms of his career and power.

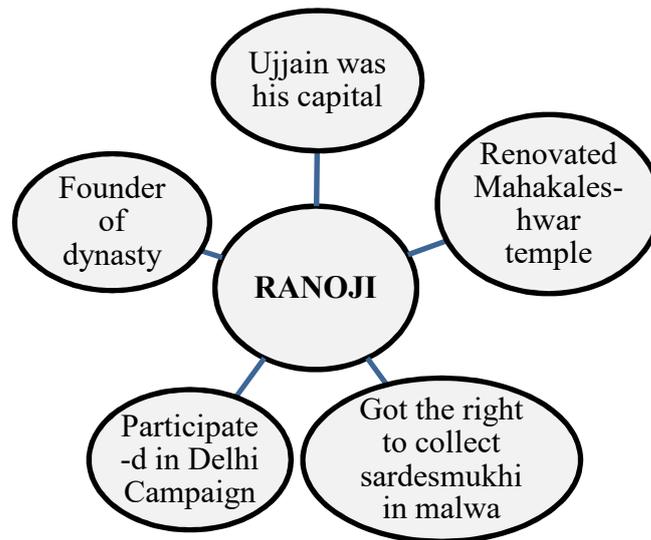
Scindia dynasty (anglicized from Shinde and also spelled popularly as Shinde in Maharashtra), is a Hindu Maratha dynasty that ruled the erstwhile State of Gwalior. The Gwalior state was a part of the Maratha Confederacy in the 18th and 19th centuries, and a princely state of the colonial British government during the 19th and the 20th centuries. Scindia were the part of Maratha confederacy who ruled over the Gwalior state. Later, they emerged as independent in the gird region. They laid the foundation stone for the development of Gwalior and its surrounding region. The state was founded in the early 18th century by Ranoji Scindia, an influential Maratha Sardar with capital Ujjain. The Scindia dynasty was founded by Ranoji Shinde, who was a Maratha sardar of Peshwa Bajirao and from a younger branch of Shinde Patils from Kanherkhed. Prior to this they served as shiledars (cavalrymen) under the Bahmani Sultanate.

GENEALOGY

- Ranoji Scindia, Maharaja (1731–1745)
- Jayappa Rao Scindia, Maharaja (1745–1755)
- Jankoji Rao Scindia, Maharaja (1755–1761)
- Kadarji Rao Scindia, Maharaja (1763–1764)
- Manaji Rao Scindia, Maharaja (1764–1768)
- Mahadaji Shinde, Maharaja (1768–1794)
- Daulat Rao Scindhia, Maharaja (1794–1827)
- Baiza Bai, Regent (f) (1827)
- Regent (f) (1827–1832)
- Jankoji Rao Scindia II, Maharaja (1827–1843)
- Tara Bai, Regent (f) (1843–1844)
- Jayajirao Scindia, Maharaja (1843–1886)
- Sakhya Bai, Regent (f) (1886–1894)
- Madho Rao Scindia, Maharaja (1886–1925)
- Chinku Bai, Regent (f) (1925–1931)
- Gajra Rajebai, Regent (f) (1931–1936)
- Jiwajirao Scindia, Maharaja (1925–1948)

RANOJI SHINDE/SCINDIA (1731-1745)

- Ranoji was considered as the founder of present house of Gwalior (Scindia dynasty).
- He was the personal aid to Peshwa Balaji Baji Rao I.
- In 1726, Ranoji along with Malhar Rao Holkar & Udat Ji Pawar was given right to collect sardeshmukhi in malwa region & Ujjain became the capital of his dominion.
- He renovated Mahakaleshwar temple destroyed by Iltutmish.
- He also participated in Delhi campaign conducted by Peshwa Baji Rao I.

**JAYAPPA RAJE SCINDHIA (1745-1755)**

- He made efforts to improve the revenue system so that the revenue of state increased to 65 lacs.
- At that time, Maratha Power was at its Peak in which Jayappa raje also contibuted significantly.
- He was assassinated by Raja Vijay Singh of Nagour in 1755

DATTAJI SCINDHIA (1755-60)

- Dattaji was the brother of Jayappaji. To avenge his brother's death, Dattaji attacked over Nagour & defeated Raja Vijay Singh.
- To improve the financial condition of his state, he wanted to attack over Bengal & for this reason he sought help from Najeeb Khan which he refused. In the ensuing battle Dattaji was defeated & also lost his life in 1760 in the battle of shukrataal.

JANKOJI SCINDHIA (1760-61)

- He the oldest son of Jayappa Ji and when he ascended the throne, scindhia state was not in a strong position.
- He also participated in third battle of panipat (14 Jan. 1761).
- He was captured in this battle and was murdered afterwards.

MAHADJI SCINDHIA

- Born on 3rd December 1730 as the fifth and the youngest son of Sardar Ranoji Rao Scindia, Mahadaji Shinde was a lieutenant of the Peshwa and went on to become a

Maratha ruler in the state of Gwalior. He was responsible for strengthening the Maratha Empire in North India after the Third Battle of Panipat in 1761. It is believed that Madhavrao I, Nana Fadnavis and Mahadji Shinde were responsible for the comeback of the Maratha Empire. Gwalior slowly became one of the most important states for the Marathas under his leadership. During his reign, the Maratha Empire also became one of the leading military powers in India.

- He defeated the Jats of Mathura and Pashtun Rohillas in Rohilkhand and captured Najibabad in 1772–73. He also defeated the British in the First Anglo-Maratha War which led to the Treaty of Salbai in 1782. Later on, the Treaty of Salbai was signed between the Peshwa and the British. Sawai Madhavrao became the Peshwa and Raghunath Rao was given a pension. The territories west of the Yamuna were returned to Shinde and he was asked to come back to Ujjain. He also defeated the Rajput states of Jodhpur and Jaipur through the Battle of Patan and Battle of Merta. He got tributes from Sikh sardars of the cis-Sutlej region as well.
- Mahadji became the regent of Mughal affairs and also got the title Amir-ul-Umara in 1784. He was also responsible for limiting the Nizams to south of Deccan. He signed a peace treaty with Tipu Sultan of Mysore in 1792 after which he used his influence to protect Tipu Sultan from the Nizams and the British.
- In his later years, there were constant conflicts between Mahadji, Nana Fadnis and Tukoji holkar. However, his control over North Indian territories remained untouched after the Battle of Lakheri. On 12th February 1794 Mahadji died in Wanavdi near Pune due to high fever without an heir. Daulat Rao Scindia succeeded the throne after Mahadji's death.

DAULATRAO SCINDHIA (1794-1827)

- Maharaja Daulatrao Scindia, the son of Anandrao, a cousin of Mahadji Shinde, was adopted by the latter as his heir. Daulatrao Scindia shifted the capital from Ujjain to Gwalior.
- He signed the Treaty of Subsidiary Alliance with Lord Wellesley. After the defeat of the allied Maratha states by the British in the Third Anglo Maratha war of 1818, most of the former Maratha Empire was absorbed by British India. Daulatrao Scindia was forced to accept local autonomy as a princely state within British India and to give up Ajmer to the British in exchange for Shivpuri, Narwar and some parts of Malwa.
- After the death of Daulatrao, Maharani Baiza Bai ruled the empire and protected it from the British power, until the adopted child Jankojirao took charge. Daulatrao Scindia built the Gorkhy Palace and the Temple in Maharaj Bara.

GWALIOR- RAGHOGARH CONFLICT

- The Raghavgarh Royals versus Gwalior Royals history goes back to 18th & 19th century.
- Daulat Rao scindhia defeated the hindu path Raja Jai Singh, the 7th Century ruler of Raghavgarh in 1802, & made his state the vassal state of Gwalior.
- When British crown subdued all Indian princes, Gwalior remained a 21 gun salute state & Rajhavgarh was a no gun salute state

JANKOJIRAO SCINDHIA II (1827-1843)

He was born in 1805 as Mugat Rao Scindia, son of Sardar Patloji Rao Scindia, by his wife, the sister of Sardar Krishnaji Rao Kadam (Mama Sahib), sometime Regent of Gwalior. Daulat Rao Scindia died in Lashkar, Gwalior, on 21 March 1827 without heir (his only son Yuvraj Maharaje Sahib Maharaj Shrimant Madhorao Scindia had died in Gwalior in 1812 with only 8 months) and without having adopted successor. On his death bed he left the State and succession in the hands of the British Government but noting his desire that the widow Baiza Bai was treated with respect Baiza Bai was made the Regency from 21 March 1827 to June 17, 1827. Jankojirao scindhia was adopted by Maharani Baiza Bai, and ascended the gaddi on 18 June 1827.

JAYAJIRAO SCINDHIA (1843-1886)

Jankojirao died in 1843 and in the absence of an heir, his widow Tara Bai adopted Bhagirath Rao, a son of Hanwant Rao, commonly called Babaji Sindhia. He succeeded under the name of Jayajirao Sindhia, the Mama Sahib being chosen as regent. Tara Bai, however, came under the influence of Dada Khasgiwala, the comptroller of her household, an unscrupulous adventurer who wished to get all power into his own hands. A complicated series of intrigues followed, which is impossible to unravel. The Dada, however, succeeded in driving Mama Sahib from the state and became minister. He filled all appointments with his relatives, and matters rapidly passed from bad to worse, ending in the assemblage of large bodies of troops who threatened an attack on Sironj, where Mama Sahib was then residing. War was impending in the Punjab, and, as it was essential to secure peace, the British Government decided to interfere. Colonel Sleeman, the Resident, was withdrawn, and the surrender of Dada Khasgiwala was demanded.

Jayaji Rao Scindhia's Role in the first war of independence of 1857

- The role of Scindhia dynasty of Gwalior in the first war of Independence is quite controversial.
- When queen Laxmibai reached Gwalior fighting the Britishers, Jayaji Rao left his entire army & treasury in Gwalior & fled to Agra.
- Dinkar Rao Rajwade was the representative of British in his army. In the absence of Jayaji Rao, he supported the British.
- Jayaji Rao died on 28th June 1886 & succeeded by his son Madhav Rao Scindhia I.
- A council of regency was appointed which conducted affairs of state till 1894 when Maharaja was granted power & became "de-facto" ruler

MADHAV RAO SCINDHIA I (1886-1925)

- He is also known as "**father of Modern Gwalior**".

- He did a great deal to encourage development of modern industry & improve farming methods.
- He was also enlightened enough to introduce democratic government to Gwalior. An elected municipal council was introduced in 1903 & panchayat system of governance in 1907.
- He is the author of **Policy Darbar**, an authoritative work on administration.
- He also setup postal department & land document department in Gwalior.
- He also established Department of Archaeology under Home Department.
- With an objective of Transparency & administration for representative institutions, Majlis-e-Aam & Majlis-e-Kanoon was established.
- He founded Scindhia School (the sardar's school) in 1897.
- He died in Paris in 1925 & was succeeded by his son George Jiwaji Rao Scindhia

SHRIMANT JIWAJI RAO SCINDHIA (1925-1961)

- He was born in 1916.
- He ruled upto 1947 as last ruler of Gwalior.
- In 1948, Gwalior became a part of Indian Union & upto 1956, Jiwaji Rao acted as Raj Pramukh or Head of Madhya Bharat Government.
- In 1941, he married to Lekha Divyeshwari Devi (renamed Vijiya Raje Scindhia)
- He died in 1961. He lived upto his death in Nav Talab palace (presently Usha Kiran Palace)
- Jiwaji Rao created a bicameral legislature and on 11th Nov 1940, Mr. Takhtamal Jain was appointed as minister for 3 years.

Vijaya Raje Scindhia

- She was born in sagar district on 11th october 1919.
- She was the main political leader of BJP & represented Guna constituency in Lok Sabha.
- She died on 25th Jan 2001.

The royal Scindia family is well known for its glorious chhatris and palaces in Gwalior & Shivpuri. They introduced a new style of architecture mixing Western and Indian styles for instance Jai Vilas palace, Maharajbada, and Italian garden of Gwalior. They patronized Gwalior Gharana of classical music.

Scindias also constructed social infrastructure like – Scindia school (1897), Victoria college (Jaya Arogya hospital (1899), Gajraraje Raje medical college (1946), etc. Nowadays Scindia is not only the symbol of wealth and luxury but also social welfare as they actively participate in politics. They are working for social and economic wellness of society of the gird.

SHRIMANT MADHAV RAO SCINDHIA II

- He was educated at Scindhia School endowed by his family in Gwalior & then oxford varsity.

- He followed political traditions of his mother & got elected for Lower house of India.
- He won his first Lok Sabha seat at the age of 26 & got elected for 9 Home (Never lost any election).
- Earlier he contested as an Independent candidate (Jan Sangh Supported him).
- Later he Joined INC.
- He defeated former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee from Gwalior constituency in 1984. Then he became minister of railway ministry & also civil aviation ministry. But he resigned in 1992.
- He became minister of Human resources & development ministry in 1995.
- He established Indian Institution of technology & management, Gwalior Which got renamed as Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute.
- He was the president of BCCI during 1990-1993.
- He died in 2001.

ART AND CULTURE DURING SCINDHIAS

ARCHITECTURE CHHATRIS OF SCINDIA DYNASTY, GWALIOR -

Chhatris of Scindia Dynasty are the memorials built in the memory and honour of the rulers of the Scindia Dynasty. The first one was constructed in the memory of Jayaji Rao Scindia in 1817 CE. The attraction is famous for its architectural beauty.

Chhatris of Scindia Dynasty, Shivpuri -

The Chhatris of Shivpuri are set in an elaborate Mughal Garden and are dedicated to Scindias. One of these belongs to Madhav Rao Scindia, and the other to his mother Maharani Sakhya Raje Scindia facing each other. The Chhatris are spectacular fusion of Hindu and Islamic architectural styles with Mughal pavilions.

Sir Dinkar Rao

- He was amongst the first non-british members of the legislative council of India appointed in 1861 under Indian council act 1861 and an estate was conferred upon him.
- In 1852 Dinkar Rao became minister of Jayaji Rao Scindia and under his able management radical reforms were introduced into every department of the administration in Gwalior state.

Jai vilas mahal

The **Jai Vilas Mahal** also known as the **Jai Vilas Palace** is a nineteenth century palace in Gwalior, India. It was established in 1874 by Maharajadhiraj Shrimant Jayajirao Scindia Alijah Bahadur, the Maharaja of Gwalior. While the major part of the palace is now the "Jiwajirao Scindia Museum" opened to the public in 1964, a part of it is still the residence of his descendants of the former royal Maratha Scindia dynasty. Jayajirao Scindhia built this in 1874 during the arrival of British officer King Edward.

It is a fine example of European architecture, designed and built by Sir Michael Filose. A combination of architectural styles, the first storey is Tuscan, the second Italian-Doric and the third Corinthian. The area of the Jai Vilas palace is 124,771 square feet and it is known for its large Durbar Hall. The interior of the Durbar Hall is decorated with gilt and gold furnishings and adorned with a huge carpet and gigantic chandeliers. It is 100 feet long, 50 feet wide and 41 feet in height.

George castle

- It was built by Jiwajirao in 1911 in Madhaw National Park in shivpuri.
- It was built keeping in mind the various requirements of Hunting.
- It was built in Persian& Italian style.
- Both sandstone & bricks were used.

Baijataal

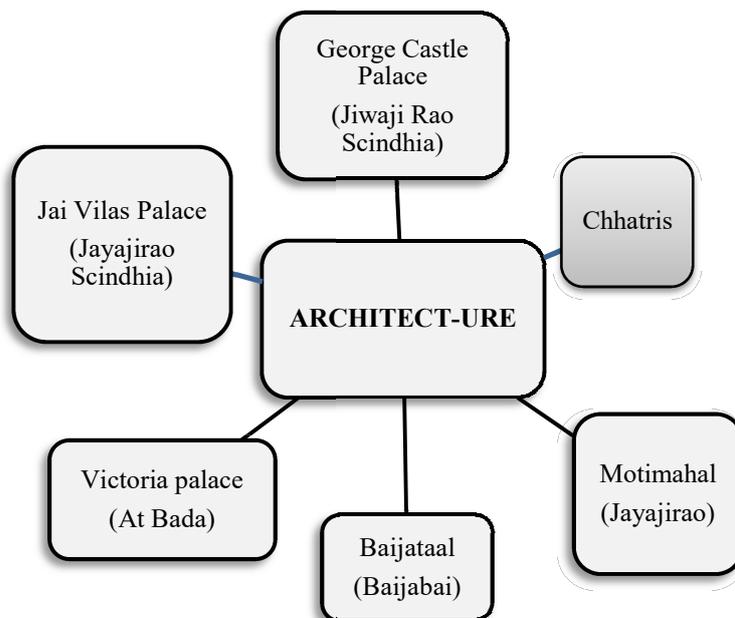
It is a floating stage for various performances which was made by Baijabai.

Moti Mahal - It was built in western style. It has a very important role in political history of MP also.

- From 1947 to 1956, Vidhansabha of Madhya Bharat was used to be organised here.
- It was built by Jayajirao Scindhia.

Victoria Palace

- Situated in Gwalior, It was built in western style.
- It was built during the arrival of George-V in Gwalior.
- Red Limestone & white Marble are used in this building's construction.

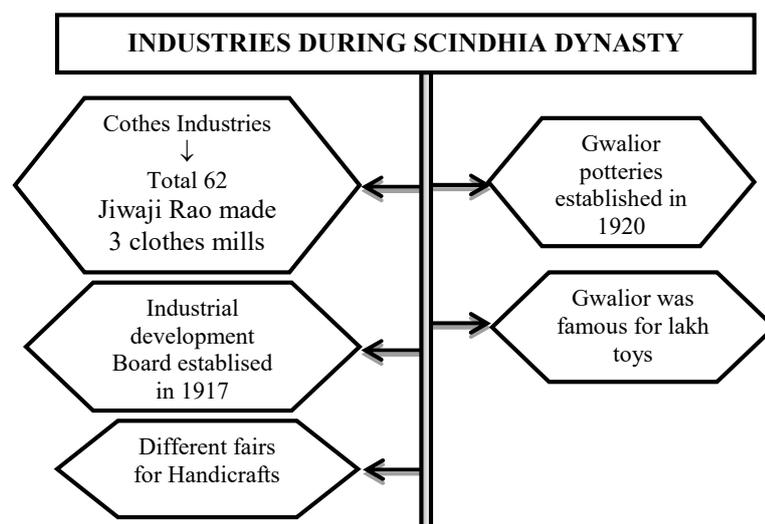


PAINTINGS

- There are various specimens in kamalaraja Girls University. It has Paintings of both Indian & British artists decorated with gold & silver work.
- In Jaivilas palace we can see many paintings related to battles and hunting. The significance of these paintings is that they are in European style based on Bundelkhandi background with Maratha costumes.
- In Ujjain, Baija Bai commissioned paintings of Ras Leela & Krishna leela in Gopal Temple.

INDUSTRIES DURING SCINDHIA DYNASTY

- Most important industries were of clothes & wood. There were 62 industries in which wooden furniture was made using Teak.
- There were 3 clothes mill in Gwalior namely-Jiwaji Rao cotton Mills limited
Motilal Agrawal Mill limited.
Adarsh Clothe Mill.
- Madhavrao Scindhia established "Gwalior Potteries" in 1920. There was a leather factory also in Gwalior.
- In 1917, Madhav Rao I established "Industrial development Board".
- Gwalior state was famous for Lakh toys.
- To promote handicrafts, different fairs were also organised by scindhia rulers. Gwalior trade fair is a successor to these fairs.



ADMINISTRATION

Urban Administration system

- In the context of decentralisation of administrative power, Gwalior was the first such state to do so. For the first time panchayat & municipal systems were established here.
- In 1887 Laskhar Nagar Palika, a municipal body was established whose first head was Madhav Rao Scindhia I

- This body developed infrastructure in Health & public works. Due to expansion of work field of this body the revenue of Nagarpalika increased.

Village administration system

In villages, Panchayat Board was established in 1911-12. These Panchayats were given authority to try cases of Deewani (Revenue/civil) and Foujdari (criminal) upto Rs. 20.

The responsibility of providing water and irrigation facilities was also bestowed upon panchayats.

- In 1925 there were 150 panchayat boards and they administered area with population ranging from 500 to 1000.

AGRICULTURE SYSTEM

- The Economy of Gwalior was based on Agriculture primarily. 75% of people were dependent on it for their livelihood.
- There was extensive development of irrigation system in Gwalior. Jayaji Rao established 12 Rajmahal Lake & Madhav Rao Made Harsi, Tighra & Kakote Dam.

ARMY ORGANISATION

STRUCTURE AND RANKS

The general structure in the army of schindia had resemblance with other class of Marathas also like Bhonsle or Holkars.

A General structure was -

At the higher level **centuary** was divided into two –

Shikdar - Brought his own horse & equipment & converged into sarnobat.

Bargir - One of the lowest ranks of caualryman who was provided with horse & equipments from state.

Infantry

Hetkari - Musketeers who possessed matchlocks

Mavales - Foot soldiers

Infantry ranks (starting with senior - mast)

- Sarnobat (Army chief)
- Saat (Seven) Hazari
- Hazari
- Jamdar
- Havaladar
- Nayak
- Paek.

From the 1761, after third battle of panipat, Mahadji, Shindhia focussed on European artillery & secured services of french man **Benoit de Boigne**.

SCINDHIA INFANTRY ORGANISATION AND WEAPONS UNDER DE BOIGNE

One Campoo = 10 infantry batallions

1 batallion = 400 infantrymen with flintlocks

Each batallion, had 5 guna, commanded by a European gunner. (1 howitzer gun & 4 field guns) Each campoo had 30 siege guns.

Training of soldiers There was emphasis on Training & infantrymen were trained on handling gun & firams.

Ambulance corps Another navelty was ambulance corps in charge of providing aid to wounded soldiers (including enemies).

Composition of Army Under Mahadji : Rajput & Moslen infartrymen were recroited in Army.

Dress: - long trousers as opposed to shorter Deccani mes.

Militany - Industrial complex

Circa 1784, Mahadji established this complex for armies of Maratha near Agra.

Mahadji created one of the finest armies in India with the help of frends & portugesse focussing on modernising the army

Employment of Pindaris

Pindaris were irregular horsemen and their primary role was to plonder the region in return of Payment. Scindhia took their help during their different campaigns in return for plunder and pay. (Pindaris composed of both Hindoos and Moslems).

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que. Scindia dynasty

Ans.

- Founder- Ranoji Scindia in 1726
- Also called Shinde Shahi Vansh
- Initially under the Marathas

Que. Ranoji Scindia

Ans.

- In charge of the Maratha conquest of Malwa in 1726.
- Founder of the Scindia dynasty
- Ujjain was made the capital of the state.

Que. Sir Dinkar Rao

Ans.

- Minister of Jayaji Rao Scindia
- He Improved department of administration
- One of the first non-British members of the Legislative Council of India

Que. Baijabai

Ans.

- The chief queen of the Scindia dynasty
- Daulat Rao Scindia's wife
- Constructed 'Scindia Ghat' in Varanasi

Que. Maharani Tarabai Scindia

Ans.

- Ruled after the death of Janko ji Rao Scindia (Widow of Janko Ji Rao)
- He took over the rule at the age of 14

Que. Write a note on George Castle building.

Ans.

- Constructed by Jiwaji Rao Scindia
- Located - Madhav National Park (Shivpuri)
- King George V of England stayed here for a night.

Que. Moti Mahal

Ans.

- Built in Gwalior by Daulat Rao Scindia
- Example of unique architecture
- The assembly of the Central Provinces used to be here.

Que. Maharaj Bada

Ans.

- Constructed by Daulat Rao Scindia at Gwalior.

- Famous for architectural building and market

Que. Mahadji Scindia

Ans.

- Son of Ramoji Rao scindia .
- Defeated Jat ruler Lokendra Jat to capture Gwalior fort
- The greatest ruler of the Scindia dynasty

Que. Vijayaraje Scindia

Ans.

- Known as the Rajmata of Gwalior
- Wife of Jiwaji Rao Scindia
- Elected as member of parliament

Que. Shaheed Amarchand Banthia

Ans.

- Treasurer of the princely state of Scindia
- Helped Rani Laxmibai by providing ration and money during freedom struggle 1857
- Hanged in the Sarafa market Gwalior

Que. Write the role of Mahadji Shinde in the first Maratha war.

Ans.

- Mediator in the First Maratha War
- Peace was re-established through the treaty of Salbai.

Que. Due to which treaties the rule of Daulatrao Shinde was famous

Ans.

- Treaty of Basin 1802
- Treaty of Surji Arjungaon 1803

Que. With whom did the rule of Jankoji Rao go through conflict?

Ans.

- Daulatrao's successor and weak ruler
- Participated in the third battle of Panipat

Que. Write the original name and reign of Jayaji Rao.

Ans.

- Original Name- Bhagirath Rao
- Reign 1843 to 1846 AD.

Que. Write the names of Architecture developed during the reign of Jayajirao Scindia

Ans.

Jaivilas Palace, Gwalior
Kamalaraja Bhavan, Gwalior
Victoria College, Gwalior
Gwalior Gharana of Classical Music

Que. Why was Madhavrao Scindia I become the king at the age of ten years?

Ans. Because Britishers want to merge Gwalior (Scindia) state into British Indian so to stop them Madhav rao I made the king immediately

Que. Which Scindia ruler was given the title of 'Sir' by the British?

Ans. Madhavrao Scindia I

Que. Write a note on Lekha Deveshwari.

Ans.

- Birth – Sagar District of Madhya Pradesh
- She is married to Jiwaji Rao Scindia
- Popularly known as Vijayaraje Scindia

Que. Where did Jayappaji Rao Scindia die?

Ans. Nagor, Rajasthan

Que. Who was made the head of the residency for governance during the time of Jankoji Rao Scindia?

Ans. Dattaji Rao Shinde, uncle of Jankoji Rao Scindia

Que. Which Scindia ruler made Gwalior as his capital?

Ans. Daulatrao Scindia in 1810

Que. In which war Maharaja Mahadji Scindia defeated Rajput rulers ?

Ans.

- In 1790
- In the battle of Pattan and Merta
- The kings of Jodhpur, Jaipur were defeated

Que. Which Maratha Sardar helped Mughal emperor Shah Alam II on the throne of Delhi ?

Ans. Mahadji Scindia in 1788

Que. Battle of Lakheri

Ans.

- In 1793
- Mahadji Scindia defeated Tukoji Holkar

Que. Barari Ghat war

Ans.

- Near Delhi in 1760
- Battle of Burari Ghat
- Between the Afghan invaders and the Maratha general Dattaji Rao

Que. Which ruler of Gwalior played an important role in the Second and Third Anglo-Maratha Wars?

Ans. Daulatrao Scindia ji

Que. Treaty of Surji Arjungaon

Ans.

- Treaty in 1803

- Que. Government of Gwalior**
- Ans.**
- Between the British and Daularao Scindia
 - Established in the last decade of the 19th century.
 - Joint committee of nine members.
 - Founded by Madhava Rao I

SHORT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Que. Write a short Note on Ranoji Scindhia as the founder of scindhia state.

Ans. Ranoji Scindhia was born in 1726 in in koregaon Paragana in Kanherkhed village. First he made **Ujjain** his capital (Not Gwalior) and re-built the Mahakaleshwar temple, earlier destroyed by Iltutmish (the sultan of Delhi). For the welfare of state he collected 35% of the taxes from the tax collected by Peshwa. Ujjain was the capital from 1750 to 1810.

Que. Write a short Note on Mahadji Scindhia.

Ans. After the third battle of panipat, Mahadji was coronated in 1761. He won over Gwalior fort in 1765. In 1772 he re-established the Mughal emperor shah Alam in Delhi. Emperor gave him the designation of "Naib Vakeel". He fought first Anglo Maratha war. As a result treaty of salbain was signed in 1782. British gave him the title of "maharaja".

Que. Analyse the reign of Madhavrao Scindhia I as an accomplished ruler.

Ans. He was fondly called "Madho Maharaj" by his subjects. He established 9 departments to make administration efficient. He established Government of Gwalior. Nagar Palika was constituted for the first time in 1887 & in 1912 panchayats were formed. He established Archacological department under Home department He also made "Majlis-i-Aam" & "Majlis-i-Kanoon" These two were bodies/organisations to make administration transparent.

Que. Describe the state of industries in scindhia state.

Ans. Most important industries were of clothes & wood. There were 62 industries in which wooden furniture was made using Teak.

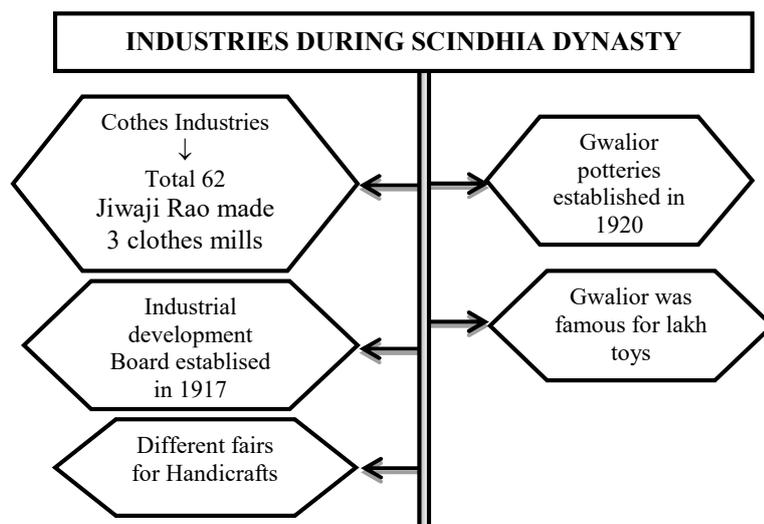
- There were 3 clothes mill in Gwalior namely-
 - ✓ Jiwaji Rao cotton Mills limited
 - ✓ Motilal Agrawal Mill limited.
 - ✓ Adarsh Clothe Mill.
- Madhavrao Scindhia established "Gwalior Potteries" in 1920. There was a leather factory also in Gwalior.
- In 1917, Madhav Rao I established "Industrial development Board".
- Gwalior state was famous for Lakh toys.
- To promote handicrafts, different fairs were also organised by scindhia rulers. Gwalior trade fair is a successor to these fairs.

Que- Short note on Scindia Dynasty

Ans-Scindia Dynasty was established by Ranoji Scindia in 18th century AD in Gird region as Gwalior state. Prominent rulers of this dynasty are-

- Daulat Rao Scindia- established as Chief Sovereign
- Madhav Rao II Scindia- T.C. mills, Scindia Steam Navigation Company etc.
- Jayaji Rao Scindia- Artist of Gwalior Gharana classical music.
- Scindia contributed in art and arcitecture by establishing chhatris and palaces like Jai Vilas Palace.

After Independence, they became the integral part of Indian Union.



Que. Jiwaji Rao Scindhia.

Ans. He became ruler at the tender age of 9 years.

- Till he became adult & capable the administrator was handled by Maharani Chinkuraje' appointed "Council of regency"
- He got the administration into his hand on 2nd November 1936. He ruled till accession of Gwalior Princely state into India.

Que. Madhav Rao Scindhia was the "father of Modern Gwalior". Comment on the statement.

Ans. He became ruler in 1886. He is rightly called father of Modern Gwalior as he developed modern Industry & improved farming, introduced democratic government as on elected municipal council was introduced in 1903 & panchayat system of governance in 1907.

- He also established postal department, land department, Archaeology department; Majlis-e-Aam & Majlis-e-Kanoon established for Transprency in administration founded scindhia school in 1897.

LONG QUESTIONS - ANSWERS

Que. Explain the important events which happened during the reigh of Daulat Rao Scindhia.

Ans. Daulat Rao was coronated in 1794. He was a great ruler and important events during his reign were as follows under the following heading-

Daulat Rao and Holkars, Marathas & British

- Holkars looted the regions of scindias and in retaliation scindhia did the same & then in a battle scindhia lost the battle & Holkars won.
- He signed treaty of Surji-Arjun Ganv after the defeat in second battle of Panipat in 1803.
- In the treaty of Burhanpur British promised to help the scindhia. This treaty was signed in 1804.
- After 3rd Anglo-Maratha war, Lord Hashtings signed treaty of Gwalior in 1817 in which scindhia lost cannot over south-west of Chambal region.

A Patron of Art and Culthere

- Daulat Rao Scindhia was not just an acomplished ruler but also a patron of Art and culture.
- He established Lashkar and shifted the capital from Ujjain to Lashkar in Gwalior.
- He created a proper background for the opening of Jewellery shops in the Lashkar which later developed into Sarrafa Bazaar.
- Daulat rao also established a garden named Phoolbagh in Gwalior.
- Daulat Rao also patronised literature in his state.
- He patronised many scholars and poet in his court or state.
- He provided the status of "Court Poet" to great poet of Hindi "Padmakar".

Daulat rao was a ruler with a good political accumen and also a ruler intended to make his state prosperous. He died in 1794 in Banbadi on 12th febraury.

Que. Madhav Rao Scindhia I was fondly called "Madho Maharaj" by his subjects. Explain the reasons.

Ans. Madhav Rao was born in 1876 and was coronated in 1894.

Subjects of Gwalior state fondly called him "Madho Maharaj" because they respected him because of his works in the nature of the welfare of state. His works can be discussed under the following headings

As an accomplished ruler

- He is also known as "father of Modern Gwalior".
- He did a great deal to encourage development of modern industry & improve farming methods.
- He was also enlightroned enough to introduce democratic government to gwalior. An elected municipal council was introduced in 1903 & panchayat system of governance in 1907.
- He is the author of **Policy Darbar**, an authoritative work on administration.
- He also setup postal department & land document department in Gwalior.
- He also established Department of Archaeology under Home Department.
- With an objective of Transprency & administration for representative institutions, Majlis-e-Aam & Majlis-e-Kanoon was established.
- He founded Scindhia school (the sardar's school) in 1897.
- He died in Paris in 1925 & was succeded by his son George Jiwaji Rao Scindhia

Contribution in the Irrigation system

- In 1905 he established a separate department for this.
- He got constructed three dams Harsi, Tighra and Kakaito in Gwalior State.

Contribution in the domain of Industries

- He helped in the establishment of the "Gwalior potteries" in 1920.
- He also established Gwalior Industrial development council in 1920.
- He helped in the establishment of many cottage industries in Gwalior & Lakh toys are famous which are made in Gwalior.

Contribution in the field of Education

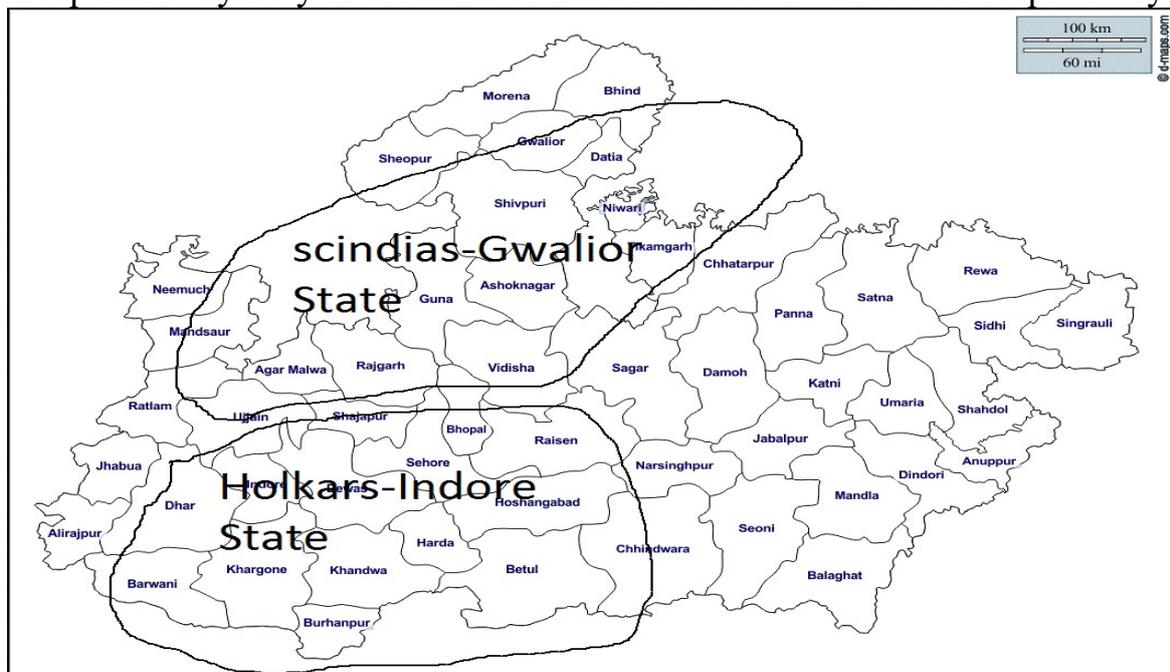
- He promoted education in his state.
- He established Victoria College in Gwalior later re-named as Rani Laxmi Bai Collage.
- He established Sardar College in 1897 for the training of civil servants in Gwalior which later developed as "Scindhia School".

He was also a ruler for all of his subjects regardless of their creed. He constructed temples, mosques, Gurudwara & churches in Phoolbagh. That is why he was fondly called "Madho Maharaj".

Que- Write a brief note on Maratha Rule in Madhya Pradesh.

Ans- Marathas were basically the violent tribes of Maharashtra who established themselves independent mainly after the death of Aurangzeb, the Mughal king. **Maratha Union** was established by a local leader **Shivaji in 1674**.

The spread of Marathas in Madhya Pradesh can be seen in the form of Holkar and Scindias who were initially the part of Maratha confederacy but later established themselves as independent dynasty in the name of Indore state & Gwalior state respectively.



Holkars:-Holkar Dynasty was established by Malhar Rao Holkar in 1727 that laid the foundation stone for development of Indore. The famous rulers were Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar, Jaswant Rao, and Tukoji Rao II etc. Architecture of the region like construction of

Lal bagh palace, Rajbada palace, Maheshwar fort, Kashi Vishwanath temple, several colleges hospitals etc are also notable.

Scindias:-Scindia Dynasty was established by Ranoji Scindia in the 18th AD that ruled over the GIRD region of Madhya Pradesh. Prominent Rules of the dynasty include Daulat Rao Scindhia, Jayaji Rao Scindhia, and Madhav Rao Scindhia etc.

Scindias Contributed not only in effective administration but also innovated a new style of architecture by amalgamating Indian, Italian & English style. For eg- Jaivilas Palace, Italian Garden, Maharaj Bada etc. They also laid down social infrastructure like Scindia School, Victoria College, Jaya Arogya Hospital, Gajra raja medical college & Economic infrastructure like T.C. Mills, Tighra dam, Gwalior light railway etc.

After Independence both the ruling dynasties Holkars & Scindias became an integral part of Indian union.

Que. Write a Note on art and architecture of Scindhia dynasty of Gwalior.

Ans. Scindhia state was located in the central India, founded by Ranoji with earlier capital Ujjain & later Gwalior as shifted by Mahadji. The rulers of this dynasty were patrons of art and culture but the two aspects which emerged the best were architecture & paintings. The unique features of all the masterpieces by the artist were that they mixed both Indo-Islamic & Gothic style in architecture. In other facets of art like paintings also they mixed both India & western styles.

Architecture

Chhatris of scindia dynasty, Gwalior -

Chhatris of Scindia Dynasty are the memorials built in the memory and honour of the rulers of the Scindia Dynasty. The first one was constructed in the memory of Jayaji Rao Scindia in 1817 CE. The attraction is famous for its architectural beauty.

Chhatris of Scindia Dynasty, Shivpuri -

The Chhatris of Shivpuri are set in an elaborate Mughal Garden and are dedicated to Scindias. One of these belongs to Madhav Rao Scindia, and the other to his mother Maharani Sakhya Raje Scindia facing each other. The Chhatris are spectacular fusion of Hindu and Islamic architectural styles with Mughal pavilions.

Jai vilas mahal -

The **Jai Vilas Mahal** also known as the **Jai Vilas Palace**, is a nineteenth century palace in Gwalior, India. It was established in 1874 by Maharajadhiraj Shrimant Jayajirao Scindia Alijah Bahadur, the Maharaja of Gwalior. While the major part of the palace is now the "Jiwajirao Scindia Museum" opened to the public in 1964, a part of it is still the residence of his descendants of the former royal Maratha Scindia dynasty. Jayajirao Scindhia built this in 1874 during the arrival of British officer King Edward.

It is a fine example of European architecture, designed and built by Sir Michael Filose. A combination of architectural styles, the first storey is Tuscan, the second Italian-Doric and the third Corinthian.

George castle

- It was built by Jiwajirao in 1911 in Madhav National Park in Shivpuri.

- It was built keeping in mind the various requirements of Hunting.
- It was built in Persian & Italian style.
- Both sandstone & bricks were used.

Baijatal:-

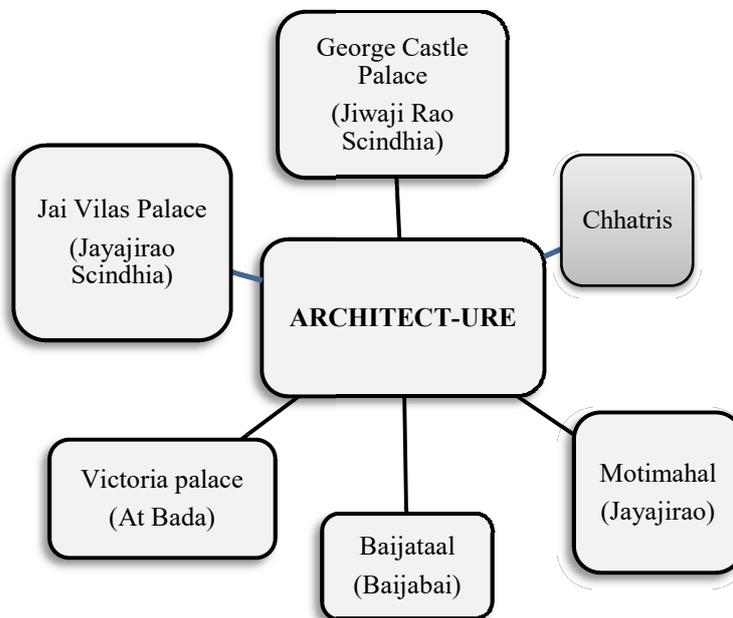
- It is a floating stage for various performances which was made by Baijabai.

MotiMahal

- It was built in western style. It has a very important role in political history of MP also.
- From 1947 to 1956, Vidhansabha of Madhya Bharat was used to be organised here.
- It was built by Jayajirao Scindhia.

Victoria Palace

- Situated in Gwalior, It was built in western style.
- It was built during the arrival of George-V in Gwalior.
- Red Limestone & white Marble are used in this building's construction.

**Paintings**

- There are various specimens in kamalaraja Girls University. It has Paintings of both Indian and British artists decorated with gold & silver work.
- In Jaivilas palace we can see many paintings related to battles and hunting. The significance of these paintings is that they are in European style based on Bundelkhandi background with Maratha costumes.
- In Ujjain, Baija Bai commissioned paintings of Ras Leela & Krishna leela in Gopal Temple.

Literature-

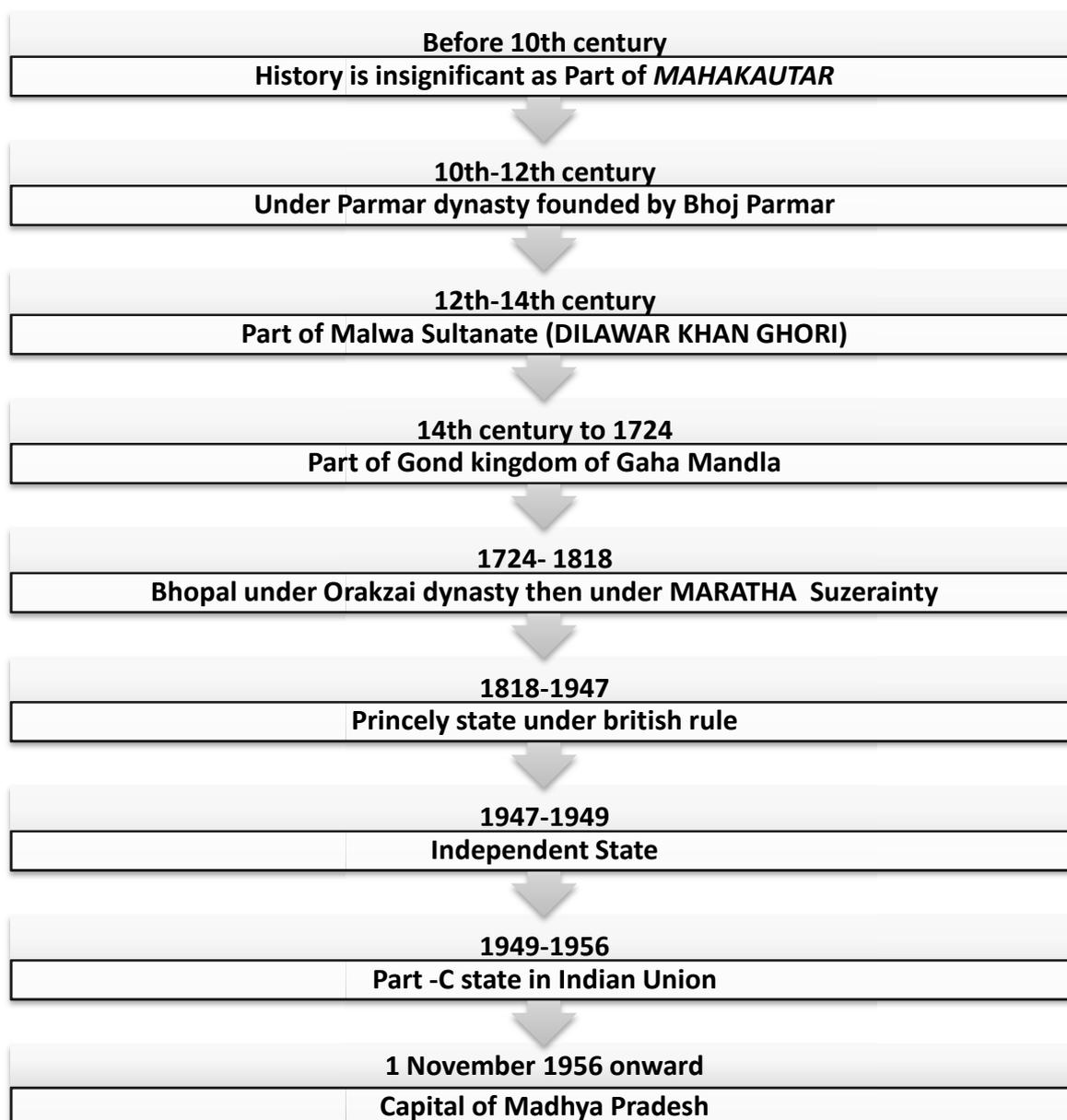
Daulat Rao Scindhia promoted Literature in his court. The famous poet Padmakar, of Hindi, was the court poet of Daulat Rao Scindhia.

Not only Scindhia dynasty had great generals like Ranoji, Mahadji, they had great rulers with immense interest in Art and culture. Architecture & paintings were the two most prominent facets of their art patronising activities. There was also harmony between different cultures at social level which is reflected in the art works of scindhias.

6.**BHOPAL STATE**

“The name (Bhopal) is popularly derived from Bhojpal or Bhoj’s dam, the great dam which now holds up the Bhopal city lakes, and is said to have been built by a Minister of Raja Bhoj, the Parmar ruler of Dhar. A great work which formerly held up the Tal (lake) IS attributed to this monarch himself. The name is, however, invariably pronounced, Bhupal and Dr. Fleet considers it to be derived simply from Bhupala, a King, the popular derivation being an instance of the striving after a meaning so common in such cases.”

Initially the lake was quite big but as time had elapsed only a small portion of it has remained to be seen as “Bada Talab” i.e. the upper lake. Since then there is a famous saying about Bhopal lake, “Talon mein tal Bhopal tal, baki sab tallaiya”.



ESTABLISHMENT OF BHOPAL DYNASTY

There is a legend that Bhopal, for long, was a part of "Mahakautar" a barrier of dense forests and hills, outlined by the Narmada separating the north from south. Early history of the territory comprising Bhopal district is in oblivion. It was in the tenth century that the names of Rajput clans began to appear in Malwa. The most notable of them was Raja Bhoj who was both a great scholar and a great warrior. After the invasion by Altamash (Iltutmish of Delhi sultanate) the Mohammadans began to infiltrate into Malwa which included Bhopal. In 1401 Dilawar Khan Ghorri took charge of this territory. He made Dhar as the capital of his kingdom. He was succeeded by his son.

In the beginning of 14th century, a Gond warrior called Yadoram established the Gond Kingdom with his headquarters at Garha Mandla. The Gond dynasty had a number of powerful kings like Madan Shah, Gorakhdas, Arjundas and Sangram Shah. During the Mughal invasion in Malwa, a sizeable area of the territory comprising Bhopal state was under the possession of Gond Kingdom. These territories were known as Chaklas of which Chakla Ginnour was one consisting of 750 villages. Bhopal was a part of it. The Gond king Nizam Shah was the ruler of this area.

Nizam Shah died of poisoning by Chain Shah. His widow, Kamlavati and son Naval Shah became helpless. Naval Shah was a minor then. After the death of Nizam Shah, Rani Kamlavati came to an agreement with Dost Mohammed Khan to manage the affairs of the state. Dost Mohammed Khan was a shrewd and cunning Afghan Sardar who began acquiring smaller principalities. After the death of Rani Kamlavati, Dost Mohammed Khan seized the fort of Ginnour, curbed the rebels, bestowing the grants according to their degree of control upon the rest of the chiefs and earned their gratitude.

By treachery and deceit, Dost Mohammad destroyed the Deora Rajputs and also slaughtered and drowned them down into a river; which since then is known as Halali, the river of salughters. He shifted his headquarters to Islamnagar and built a fort. Dost Mohammed died in 1726 at the age of 66. By this time he had carved out the state of Bhopal and placed it on a firm footing. It was Dost Mohammed Khan who had decided to build his capital at Bhopal in 1722.

Chronology

S.No.	Name of the Bhopal Ruler	Ruled Time
1	Nawab Dost Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1724-1728
2	Nawab Yaar Mohammad Khan	Ruled from 1728-1742
3	Nawab Faiz Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1742-1777
4	Nawab Hayat Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1777-1807
5	Nawab Ghaus Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1807-1816
6	Nawab Nazar Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1816-1819
7	Qudsia Begum, Regent of Bhopal	Ruled from 1819-1837
8	Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1837-1844
9	Begum Sultan Shah Jehan (Regent Nawab Sikandar Begum)	Ruled from 1844-1860
9	Nawab Sikandar Begum	Ruled from 1860-1868
10	Begum Sultan Shah Jehan (second tenure)	Ruled from 1868-1901
11	Begum Kaikhusrau Jahan	Ruled from 1901-1926
12	Al-Haj Nawab Sir Hafiz Muhammad Hamidullah Khan Bahadur	Ruled from 1961-1995
13	Begum Sajida Sultan	Ruled from 1926-1947



State symbol of Bhopal state

DOST MOHAMMED KHAN (1724-1728)

- Dost Mohammad Khan was the founder of Bhopal State (Orakzai dynasty) in central India. He founded the modern city of Bhopal in 1724.
- Dost Mohammad Khan joined the Mughal Army at Delhi in 1703. He rapidly rose through the ranks, and was assigned to the Malwa province in central India. After the death of the emperor Aurangzeb, Khan started providing mercenary services to several local chieftains in the politically unstable Malwa region.
- In **1709, he took on the lease of Berasia estate**, while serving the small Rajput principality of Mangalgarh as a mercenary. Khan successfully protected Mangalgarh from its other Rajput neighbors, married into its royal family, and took over the state after the death of its heirless dowager Rani.
- During the early 1720s, he transformed the village of Bhopal into a fortified city, and claimed the title of Nawab, which was used by the Muslim rulers of princely states in India.
- Aside from the city of Bhopal, which was his capital, Dost Mohammad Khan also renovated the nearby fort of Jagdishpur and renamed it Islamnagar. Yet, Dost Mohammad was fated to suffer defeat in his declining years. After Khan's death in 1728, the Bhopal state remained under the influence of the Orakzai dynasty.
- During 1720–1726, Dost started surrounding the city with a protective wall. Thus, Bhopal was transformed from a village to a fortified town with six gates:
 1. Ginnori (the gate leading to Ginnorgarh)
 2. Budhwara (Wednesday gate)
 3. Itwara (Sunday gate)
 4. Jumerati (Thursday gate)
 5. Peer (Monday gate)
 6. Imami (used for Tazia possession on the day of Muharram)
- Construction of Fatehgarh fort, named after Fatah Bibi, wife of Dost Mhammad Khan. The foundation of the fort was laid on 30 August 1723. The first stone was laid by Qazi Mohammad Moazzam of Raisen, who later became the qazi (Islamic judge) of Bhopal. The fort was eventually expanded to encircle the village of Bhopal. It never fell to an enemy, and as late as 1880, the city was mainly confined to this fort.
- The first mosque of Bhopal, the Dhai Seedi Ki Masjid, was also built during this time, so that the fort guards could perform namaaz (prayers).
- Khan's support to the Sayyid Brothers earned him the enmity of the rival Mughal nobleman Nizam-ul-Mulk. The Nizam invaded Bhopal in March 1724, forcing Khan to

cede much of his territory, give away his son as hostage and accept the Nizam's suzerainty.

- In his final years, Khan sought inspiration from Sufi mystics and saints, veering towards spiritualism.

OTHER EARLY SULTANS

NAWAB YAR MOHAMMAD KHAN(1728-1742)

- Dost Mohammad Khan's son and successor, Nawab Yar Mohammad Khan (r.1728-1742), moved the capital from Bhopal to Islamnagar. In 1737, Marathas under the leadership of Peshwa Baji Rao I, defeated the forces of the Mughals and the Nawab of Bhopal in the **Battle of Bhopal**. Following the victory of the Marathas, Bhopal came under the suzerainty of the Maratha Empire as a semi-autonomous state and remained so until the Third Anglo-Maratha War in 1818.
- Marathas had a contest with Yar Mohammed Khan in which many lives were lost. The Marathas were making inroad to Malwa in 1737, Yar Mohammed Khan tried to make friendship with the Marathas by paying them handsome ransom, requesting however that his territories not to be devastated. Yar Mohammed Khan ruled for fifteen years. He died in 1742 and was buried in Islamnagar where his tomb is still standing.

NAWAB FAIZ MUHAMMED KHAN(1742-1777)

- On the death of Yar Mohammed Khan, his eldest son Faiz Mohammed Khan succeeded him with the assistance of Diwan Bijai Ram. In the mean time Sultan Mohammed Khan, the brother of Yar Mohammed Khan proclaimed himself as a ruler and obtained possession of Fatehgarh Fort at Bhopal. Again with the help of Bijai Ram, Faiz Mohammed denounced all claims on Bhopal in lieu of some Jagirs elsewhere. Faiz Mohammed Khan attacked Raisen Fort and took possession of it. Nawab Faiz Muhammed Khan moved back to Bhopal, which would remain the capital of Bhopal State until its fall in 1949.
- Faiz Muhammad Khan was a religious recluse, and the state was effectively ruled by his influential stepmother Mamola Bai.
- It was in 1745, that the Peshwa made inroads in Bhopal territory. He got help from Sultan Mohammed Khan. The Bhopal army was unable to resist the onslaught of Marathas and thus some areas viz, Ashta, Doraha, Ichhawar, Bhilsa, Shujalpur and Sehore etc. were ceded to them.
- Faiz Mohammed Khan died on 12th December, 1777.

HAYAT MOHAMMED KHAN (1777-1807)

- Faiz Mohammed Khan was childless; his brother Hayat Mohammed Khan succeeded him with the help of lady Mamola, the widow of Yar Mohammed Khan.
- Begum Salaha, widow of Faiz Mohammed Khan wished herself to take the command of the state. Rivalries had started brewing and chaotic conditions prevailed.
- To pacify the deteriorating conditions, lady Mamola took active part in making Hayat Mohammed Khan as the deputy of Begam Salaha. This arrangement was discarded by Hayat Mohammed Khan who revolted and assumed the title and power of Nawab.

- Nawab Faulad Khan was the Diwan but developed the enmity with lady Mamola and was slain by a member of the royal family. Chhota Khan was appointed Diwan in his place. In a fierce fight which took place at Phanda, there was a loss of troops and Chhota Khan lost his life.
- It is Chhota Khan who had built a stone bridge to dam the lower lake which is still known as “Pul Pukhta”. Ameer Mohammed Khan succeeded his father. Since his behaviour was not good he was ousted by the Nawab.
- Due to internal disturbances Nawab Hayat Mohammed Khan confined himself to his palace without taking any active part in the affairs of the state. He died on 10th Nov. 1808.

GHAUS MOHAMMED (1807-1816)

- After the death of Hayat Mohammed Khan, his son Ghaus Mohammed became the Nawab but he was not so effective.
- He appoints Wazir Mohammad khan as prime minister of Bhopal.
- Wazir Mohammed Khan in fact wielded power and tried to influence the Britishers.
- Qudsia begum was the daughter (only child) of Ghaus Mohammed khan.

NAZAR MOHAMMED KHAN

- Nazar Mohammed Khan (son of Wazir Mohammad khan) became his successor and remained in power from 1816 to 1819. On 28th February, 1818, he married Gauhar Begum who was also known Qudsia Begum. By persistent endeavour, he succeeded in entering into a pact with the Britishers.
- ***In February-March 1818, Bhopal became a princely state in British India as a result of the Anglo-Bhopal treaty between the East India Company and Nawab Nazar Muhammad.*** The important provisions of the treaty were that the British Govt. will guarantee and protect the principality of Bhopal against all enemies and will maintain friendship with it.
- Gauhar and Nazar had one daughter (only child) Sikandar Jaha. Nazar Mohammed Khan died accidentally on 11th November 1819. On the death of Nazar Mohammed Khan Gohar Begam was vested with the supreme authority in the state by the political agent in Bhopal.
- Sikandar begum got married with Jehangir Mohammed Khan (nephew of Nazar Mohammed Khan).

BHOPAL STATE AND BRITISH

- In 1778, during the First Anglo-Maratha War, when the British General Thomas Goddard campaigned across India, Bhopal was one of the few states that remained friendly to the British.
- In 1809, during the Second Anglo-Maratha War, General Close led a British expedition to Central India.
- The Nawab of Bhopal petitioned in vain to be received under British protection. In 1817, when the Third Anglo-Maratha War broke out, a treaty of dependence was signed between the British Government of India and the Nawab of Bhopal. Bhopal remained a friend of British Government during the British Raj in India.

- In February-March 1818, Bhopal became a princely state in British India as a result of the Anglo-Bhopal treaty between the East India Company and Nawab Nazar Muhammad (Nawab of Bhopal during 1816-1819). Bhopal state included the present-day Bhopal, Raisen, and Sehore districts, and was part of the Central India Agency.
- Bhopal Agency was formed as an administrative section of Central India, consisting the Bhopal state and some princely states to the northeast, including Khilchipur, Narsingarh, Raigarh, and after 1931 the Dewas states. It was administered by an agent to the British Governor-General of India.

QUDSIA BEGUM (1819-37)

- Daughter of Nawab Ghous Mohammad Khan.
- Married to Nawab Nazar Mohammad Khan in 1817.
- In 1819, her husband was assassinated. Thus, the 18 year old Qudisia Begum became the Nawab.
- Qudisia's reign began when she stood up in front of the congregation at her husband's *soyem* (post-death ritual) and addressed the gathering by stating how the legacy of their family must be maintained, thus declaring her 15-month-old daughter Sikandar as the rightful heir. Qudisia was appointed as regent until her daughter was old enough, the assumption being that Sikandar would marry and her husband would become the Nawab of Bhopal.
- Qudisia's speech, coupled with the fact that she took off her veil before making it, was an act of courage that was unprecedented for Muslim women of that time.
- Qudisia took many clever steps to guarantee her position: she made deals with her rivals for power, approached a British agent to legitimize her status and garnered support from religious authorities to combat the widely held belief by Muslims that women could not rule.
- The state *Qazi* (judge) and *Mufti* (an expert on muslim Jurisprudence) signed a document acknowledging women's right to political power.
- Qudisia Begum was the first female ruler of Bhopal, to successfully assert the right of Muslim women to legally be the ruler of a state. Being a devout Muslim herself, Qudisia showed that Islam does not exclude women from gaining political power. She commanded the army and would be at the forefront of battles.
- She was far ahead of her times, though illiterate. Hence, she refused to follow the purdah tradition.
- She declared that her two-year old daughter Sikander will rule after her. Being all powerful, her decision was accepted by all the male family members without any questions or objections.
- She had a lot of concern for her people. In fact, she used to take her dinner only after receiving the news every night that all her people had taken their meals.
- She built her palace by the name 'Gohar Mahal'. It is a magnificent expression of fusion of Hindu and Mughal architecture. Today, after proper restoration, it serves as a popular venue for organising art and craft fairs attracting artisans from all over Madhya Pradesh



- She also built the famous Jama Masjid of Bhopal in 1837. Gold spikes crown the minarets of this beautiful mosque. She ruled till 1837. Before her death, she had adequately trained her daughter to rule.

NAWAB JEHANGIR MOHAMMED KHAN (1837-1844)

In November 1837, Nawab Jehangir Mohammed Khan was vested with powers of chief of the state. It was Nawab Jehangir Khan who built a new colony which is known as Jehangirabad. His relations with Sikandar Begum became strained after some time. The Begum moved to Islamnagar and gave birth to a daughter who was known as Shah Jahan Begum. After his death **Shahjehan (minor Daughter of Jehangir Mohammed Khan and Sikandar Begum) became the next Begum of Bhopal , and Sikandar Begum acted as regent from 1844-1860.**

REVOLT OF 1857 in Bhopal

During the Indian rebellion of 1857, **Sikandar Begum (the regent)** sided with the British and crushed all those who revolted against them. But real ruler on throne was **Shahjehan begum.**

The outbreak of the rebellion in Bhopal was not spontaneous because there was an ongoing effort to arouse the anti-British feelings among the masses on various pretexts. However, the rumour of mixing of bone-dust in the sugar provided the fuel to the fire like greased cartridges that was highly obnoxious to the religious susceptibilities of the Indians. This suddenly brought the latent spirit of revolt into action and set the spark that kindled the embers of discontent among the Indian sepoys of the East India Company's Army who took advantage of the rumours of mixing of bone-dust for producing the desired effect among the masses like the greased cartridges. The general discontent and widespread rebellion in other parts of India provided an impetus for them to rise in arms to overthrow the East India Company's rule either through the Nawab of Bhopal or mastermind her ouster from power to put an end to this 'petticoat' government.

The rebellion was declared as jihad against the British and the Maulvis and Afghans began to preach holy war against them in the mosques of Bhopal. The overthrow of the British yoke was aimed at the formal continuance of the Mughal supremacy and the establishment of an autonomous state under the leadership of the chief rebels like Fazil Muhammad Khan and Adil Muhammad Khan. The rebellion was not in isolation but had close relationship with rebel leaders of other states like Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi, Taty Tope, Nawab of Tonk, Nawab of Banda and others who had maintained rapport and secret contact with them.

The surrounding regions like Indore and Mhow were inflamed by the sentiments of rebellion that erupted like a volcano at Neemuch on June 3, 1857. In the beginning of July 1857 Bakhshi Murawwat Muhammad Khan informed Nawab Sikandar Jahan Begum that the rebel forces were marching towards Bhopal from the above-mentioned territories. Accordingly, Begum issued instructions to Bakhshi to repulse the army of Mhow. Nawab Sikandar Jahan Begum also took precautionary measures by strictly prohibiting the circulation of all seditious notices either found lying on the road or stuck on the walls. She immediately instituted an enquiry against Maulvi Abdul Qayyum, Darogha of Fatehgarh Fort who was charged of collusion with the rebels and distributing 500 copies of a pamphlet issued by the rebels of Cawnpore (Kanpur), inciting the Hindus and Muslims to overthrow

the British because they were interfering with their religious sentiments. She also tried her best to counteract this belief by publishing a pamphlet from Sikandari press, Bhopal denying such charges.

One Mama Qahhar Khan, Jamadar in the Vilayatian Regiment, revolted along with the sepoys working under him and refused to accept pay; as a result their services were terminated. Later, the most incurious sepoys gave vent to their pent up feelings under the leadership of Wali Shah, Risaladar and Mahavir, Kotha-Havaldar by burning and ransacking the bungalows of the English.

The rebellion against British Raj led by Risaladar Wali Shah and Havildar Mahaveer Singh in January 1858 paved way for India's independence struggle. The soldiers captured Sehore town and brought down the Union Jack. Others who led the attack included Kotha Havaldar Mahavir, Arif Shah, Ramju Lal. The British political agent's offices were taken over. For almost five months, it was Sipahi Bahadur that ran the administration instead of Company Bahadur. Two separate courts were set up in Sehore.

Two flags - Nishan-e-Mohammadi and Nishan-e-Mahaviri were hoisted. Risaladar Wali Shah represented Nishan-e-Mohammadi while Havildar Mahaveer Kotha represented Sipahi Bahadur government. In its five months of existence, it provided one of the first instances of a parallel secular Indian government within British Raj. The two symbols were raised together to symbolise Hindu-Muslim unity.

Hugh Rose, Baron Strathnairn had personally commanded sepoy mutineers to be shackled to mouths of cannons before the weapons were fired. Hundreds were ranged in one long line and shot dead. Imperial army led by General Hugh Rose and Robert Hamilton executed sepoys of Bhopal contingent and patriots in a haste without a fair trial as Rose was determined to lay siege and defeat Queen of Jhansi.

General Hugh Rose led a combined force of British military and Bhopal princely state to rout Sipahi Bahadur. The movement was crushed brutally with killing of 356 soldiers on January 14, 1858. They were shot en masse in Sehore. It was the highest number of soldiers executed during Revolt of 1857 in Madhya Pradesh.

Nawab Sikandar Jahan Begum had tried her best to restore peace and order in Berasia and its suburbs and forced the rebels to take flight. It is said that during the 1857 uprising Nawab Sikandar Jahan Begum used to say that Bhopal state was not a creation of the Britishers but she adopted a middle path of not alienating the masses and at the same time saving her empire from being annexed by the ruthless foreign power.

SIKANDAR BEGUM (1860-68)

- Sikandar Begum ruled as regent for the first 13 years of her reign, standing in for her nine-year-old daughter Shahjehan and then as a fully-fledged ruler for the last eight years. Her reign began after the death of her husband, Nawab Jahangir Muhammad Khan Bahadur, who was able to rule for six years. It appears as if fate was on the side of the Begums as Sikandar brought Bhopal's rule in the hands of women once again.
- Since childhood, Sikandar had been raised in a way so that she could survive being a woman of power in a man's world. She was trained in martial arts and, like her mother, never



observed *pardah* as she believed it was a voluntary act. Before her reign, she had already suffered at the hands of men, with her husband having planned a murderous plot against her. As a ruler, she was a wise and tough woman.

- Sikandar set out to prove she was just as capable as any male ruler by aggressively asserting her presence in public life. She played polo, went hunting and was a swordswoman, archer and lancer as well. She would personally go to villages to look over the welfare of people and the state of her agrarian reforms.
- **Founded Postal service in Bhopal**
- She also commanded the army and would inspect district offices, the courts and the treasury herself to make sure that the state was running smoothly.
- Sikandar divided the state into three districts and 21 sub-districts.
- A revenue officer was appointed for each district and an administrator for each sub-district. She repaid the state's ₹3 million (US\$42,000) debt.
- Sikandar also established a customs office, a secretariat, an intelligence network, a mint, a postal service which connected the state with the rest of India, and a modern judiciary with a court of appeal.
- She founded the Victoria School for girls and at least one Urdu and Hindi middle school in each district of the state.
- Sikandar introduced a Majlis-e-Shoora (parliament) in 1847. Consisting of nobles and intellectuals, its purpose was to pass and recommend laws and to suggest reforms.
- In 1862, she replaced Persian with Urdu as the court language.
- She did a lot of public welfare too – she built roads and reconstructed the fort. She also built the **Moti Masjid** (meaning the Pearl Mosque), andhaukat Mahal.

SHAHJEHAN BEGUM (1844-1860 AND 1868-1901)

- She was the Begum of Bhopal (the ruler of the princely state of Bhopal in central India) for two periods: 1844–60 (her mother acting as regent), and secondly during 1868–1901.
- She was recognised as ruler of Bhopal in 1844 at the age of six; her mother wielded power as regent during her minority.
- However, in 1860, her mother Sikandar Begum was recognised by the British as ruler of Bhopal in her own right, and Shahjahan was set aside. Shahjahan succeeded her mother as Begum of Bhopal upon the death of the latter in 1868.
- Unlike her mother and grandmother, Shahjehan was distinctly feminine. She did not train in traditionally masculine arts as a fighter or hunter and instead, wanted to be a poetess. She encouraged the development of the arts in Bhopal and under her rule, the state became a cultural and literary centre. She even patronized a number of female poets and tasked a male poet in her court to form an anthology comprising the writings of female poets.
- She founded **Shajahnabad** in Bhopal.



- Shahjehan was a **strong administrator**. She improved the tax system, built many palaces, mosques and monuments and made notable contributions to housing, education, health, technology and women's upliftment.
- She founded new Department **siho kirohi** for grain distribution.
- Mapping of Bhopal state started in her reign.
- She divided agricultural land into 18 types and she decided tax according to variety of crop and fertility of land.
- **Tanjmaat -i- Shahjahai** (a new Law making department) and **Sadar -us- Sudur** (a judicial department) was established by her.
- She raised the salaries of her soldiers, modernised the military's arms, built a dam and an artificial lake, improved the efficiency of the police force and undertook the first census after the state suffered two plagues (the population had dropped to 744,000). To balance her budget deficit, she commissioned the farming of opium.
- She has been credited with the authorship of several books in Urdu. Among them are the **Gauhar-i-Iqbaal**, which describes the major events between the 1st and 7th years of her regime and the socio-political conditions of Bhopal at that time. An Account of My Life is the English translation of Sultan Shah Jahan Begum's autobiography, Gauhar-e-Iqbal. She wrote the **Akhtar-i-Iqbaal** which is the second part of Gauhar-i-Iqbaal.
- She **married to Syed Siddiq Hassan** which led Shahjehan to retreat behind her husband's decisions, at though her contributions cannot be disregarded.
- Shahjehan also wrote a reformist manual for women titled **Tahzib un-Niswan wa Tarbiyat ul-Insan** (The Reform of Women and the Cultivation of Humanity). It is considered the first women's encyclopedia in India and contained topics on women's work and their status in Islam.
- Separate Hospital for Male (Prince of Wales hospital) and female (Lady Lansdowne hospital) was established in her reign and Vaccination for immunization started.
- She was instrumental in initiating the construction of one of the largest mosques in India, the **Taj-ul-Masajid**, at Bhopal. The construction however remained incomplete at her death and was later abandoned; work was resumed only in 1971.
- She also built the **Taj Mahal palace** at Bhopal. While Shahjehan had desired to perform the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, frail health and her phobia of shipwrecks prevented her from ever doing so.
- She also contributed generously towards the founding of the **Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College at Aligarh**, which developed into the Aligarh Muslim University.
- She also subsidized the cost of a **railway to be constructed between Itarsi and Bhopal (1884)**.
- During her reign the **first postage stamps** of the Bhopal state were issued.
- She issued **Shahjahani coin**.
- In order to generate employment, she founded **Textile mill at Shahjahnabad in 1882**.

SULTAN JAHAN BEGUM/KAIKHUSRAU JAHAN BEGUM 'SARKAR AMMA' (1901-26)

- At 43-years-old, Sultan Jahan was the oldest Begum of Bhopal. Her years as the heir were spent in immense difficulty due to the tension between her and her mother.
- By the time of her reign, the court was divided in loyalty between Sultan Jahan and her mother. Even during such a time, Sultan Jahan was able to establish a successful administration under her rule.
- Inspired by her predecessors, Sultan Jahan became a reformer and established many educational institutions, focusing on public instruction and female education. **She is the founding and (till today) only female chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University.** She founded Hamidia library in Bhopal. Donated wealth for education – schools, madarsas etc.
- She was a pioneer in the field of education and even authored a book, *Dars-e-Hayat*, about the education and parenting of young girls. There was a time when almost every city of the country had one or more educational institutes for girls which were funded by Begum Sultan Jahan.
- To encourage parents to educate their daughters, she set up several schools. However, most of the people initially resisted the idea, as at that time it was considered socially acceptable to teach their daughters at home only.
- Undeterred, she started the Sultania School and also improved the condition of two existing schools — Madarsa Bilqisia and Madarsa Victoria. She even revamped the syllabus and added subjects such as English, Urdu, Arithmetic, Home Science and crafts. These schools were meant for underprivileged children and hence their expenses were borne by the Bhopal state. Even in those times, she got the Madarsa Sultania affiliated to the Allahabad Board. This Madarsa was well equipped and even had an ambulance and sections for medicine and nursing. Later she also started a nursing school called Lady Minto Nursing School.
- Begum Sultan Jahan did not solely focus on uplifting Muslim girls. She famously founded the Barjeesiya Kanya Paathshala' and even instituted a scholarship for the underprivileged students of Jain Shwetambar Paathshala.
- That's why she is referred as **Bagdad –ul- hind.**
- Apart from education, she also reformed taxation, the police, the army, the judiciary, agriculture, health and sanitation. In 1914, she became the president of the *All-India Muslim Ladies' Association*.
- The Nawab Begum reformed taxation, the army, police, the judiciary and the jails, expanded agriculture, and constructed extensive irrigation and public works in the state. Also, she established an Executive and Legislative State Council in 1922 and began open elections for the municipalities.
- The reign of the Begums of Bhopal ended when Sultan Jahan's son took the crown. However, their dynasty is memorable for their achievements as women, particularly



Muslim women in colonial India and inspirational for women today as we continue to struggle in a male-dominated world.

- A prolific author, she wrote several books on education, health and other topics, including Hidayat uz-Zaujan, Sabil ul-Jinan, Tandurusti (Health), Bachchon-ki-Parwarish, Hidayat Timardari, Maishat-o-Moashirat.
- She had her own palace **Sadar Manzil** (the present headquarters of Bhopal Municipal Corporation). But she preferred the quiet and serene environment at the outskirts of the city.
- She developed her own walled mini-city, named **Ahmedabad** after her late husband (not to be confused with Ahmedabad, Gujarat). This city was situated at Tekri Maulvee Zaiud-din, which was at located a distance of a mile from the fort.
- She built a palace called **Qaser-e-Sultani** (now Saifia College). This area became a posh residency as royalty and elite moved here.
- The Begum installed the first water pump here and developed a garden called '**Zie-up-Abser**'. She also constructed a new palace called '**Noor-us-Sabah**', which has been converted into a heritage hotel.
- The peaceful rule of Begums led to the rise of a unique mixed culture in Bhopal. The Hindus were given important administrative positions in the state. This led to communal peace and a cosmopolitan culture took its roots.
- In 1926, after a reign of 25 years, Sultan Jahan abdicated the throne in favour of her youngest child and only surviving son, Hamidullah Khan. She died four years later, aged 71.

NAWAB HAMIDULLAH KHAN (1926-47)

- Sultan Kaikhusrau Jahan Begum's son, Nawab Hamidullah Khan, ascended the throne in 1926.
- Hajji Nawab Hafiz Sir Hamidullah Khan was the last ruling Nawab of Bhopal, which merged with the state of Madhya Pradesh in 1956.
- He ruled from 1926 when his mother, Begum Kaikhusrau Jahan Begum, abdicated in his favor, until 1949 and held the honorific title until his death in 1960.
- A delegate to the Round Table Conference in London, he served as Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes from 1944–1947, when India became independent.
- Nawab Hamidullah, as he was popularly known was very close to Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the founder of Pakistan. He also had very good terms with Louis Mountbatten, Viceroy and Governor General of India.
- In spite of pressure from Jinnah, he reluctantly agreed to have Bhopal as a part of Indian Union. At his death, he left no sons and so was succeeded by his second daughter, Sajida Sultan, Begum of Bhopal.

ARCHITECTURE OF BHOPAL

Bhopal is home to magnificent heritage structures that reflect the grand architecture of its Delhi counterpart. Its Mughal roots and colonial influences are evident in its architecture. One can feel the different time warps from different eras morphing together to form a unique eclectic city.

Here is a list of Architectural masterpieces in and around Bhopal

➤ **Chaman Mahal, Islam Nagar**

- Islam Nagar was earlier called Jagdishpur and it was the capital of the Dewra Rajputs. Dost Muhammad Khan, who was the founder of Bhopal city have tricked this place out from the Rajputs, and had it renamed as Islam Nagar. He also got constructed here a fort in the year 1715.
- **From 1715 to 1722, Islam Nagar was the capital of the province of Dost Muhammad Khan.** The tombs of Nawab Yaar Muhammad Khan and Nawab Ghaus Muhammad Khan are both at the Islam Nagar Fort.
- The Gaur Mahal, Parkota Fort, the royal bathhouse of Chaman palace and the two-storey Queens Palace is sites worth visiting.
- There is a beautifully laid out garden central to Chaman Mahal, and its terraces are a beautiful example of both Hindu and Muslim architecture.

➤ **Dost Muhammad Khan and Fateh Bibi ka Makbara, Bhopal**

The tomb of Sardar Dost Muhammad Khan, the founder of Bhopal province and his wife Fateh Bibi is situated in the campus of Gandhi Medical College. Their son Yaar Muhammad Khan built this tomb in the year 1742 A.D.

➤ **Shahjahanabad of Bhopal**

- Built by: Sultan Shah Jahan Begum
Style: Indo-Saracenic architecture (Indo-Gothic or Mughal-Gothic).
- Revivalist architectural style used by British in India in 19th century.
- Under this site, the Gol Ghar has been converted into a Museum followed by **Taj-ul-Masjid** which is the largest mosque in India. This massive structure is made of red sandstone with white marble domes and minarets. This mosque was unfinished due to the war of 1857 and hence was finished with crowd funding in 1985. The mosque is complemented with the Motia Talab.
- The site also includes **the Bab-e-Ali Cricket Stadium** – built in Indo-Saracenic Style, Benazir Palace—the summer capital of the Bhopal Estate, Taj-ul-Masajid Library and the Alexandria Middle School.

➤ **Gulshan – e – alam (Golghar), Bhopal**

- Situated in Shahjahanabad area of the city near Pari market, this building is more popularly known as Golghar.
- It had been constructed by Nawab Shahjahan Begum during her reign as a zoological park, and many species of birds and animals had been kept here.

➤ **Central Library (Edward Museum Building), Bhopal**

- This is magnificent building of red stone.
- Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum had built the Edward Museum Building in 1908 to display the various gifts and artifacts presented to the royal family on various occasions.

- The Museum had been inaugurated in 1909 by the Viceroy of India, Lord Minto but due to lack of maintenance, had to be closed down during the royal reign itself.
- In 1955, Maulana Azad Central Library was established in this building.

➤ **Gohar Mahal**

- Built in: 1820
- Built by: Gohar Begum
- Style: Indo-Mughal Architecture.

➤ **Sadar Manzil, Bhopal**

- The erstwhile ruler of Bhopal province, Nawab Shahjahan Begum had got started the construction of this magnificent building in 1898 A.D.
- In 1901, after the death of Nawab Shahjahan Begum, her only daughter Nawab Sultanjahan Begum after ascending the throne of the province converted this building into the royal durbar hall.
- The architecture of this building is quite similar to the diwan-e-khaas at the Delhi Red Fort.
- In the year 1953, during the Chief Ministership of late Dr. Shankar Dayal Sharma, the Bhopal City Municipal was started in its Durbar Hall.
- Presently, the City Municipal Board of Bhopal city is established in the Sadar Manzil.

➤ **Shaukat Mahal**

- Built in: 1830s
- Built by: Sikander Jahan Begum
- Style: Fusion of Indo-Sarcenic and Rococo Style of Architecture

➤ **Moti Mahal, Bhopal**

- West to Iqbal Maidan in the city is a huge two-storey building known as Moti Mahal.
- It had been built by the ruler of Bhopal province Nawab Kudasiya Begum and was the first darbar hall of the province.

➤ **Taj Mahal of Bhopal (Not an imitation of Taj Mahal of Agra)**

- Built: 1868-1871
- Built by: Nawab Shah Jahan Begum
- Style: Eclectic Architecture
- Taj Mahal of Bhopal was built for Shah Jahan Begum's residence.

➤ **Jama Masjid**

- Built in: 1832-1857
- Built by: Qudsia Begum
- The mosque follows the famous Char-Bagh style planning and bridges the northern and eastern gates.
- The complex is divided into two equal parts by the column layout. The octagonal minarets on either side of the prayer hall are five storeyed high.

INTEGRATION OF BHOPAL IN INDIA

The Kingdom of Bhopal was ruled by the Muslim Monarch, Nawab Hamidullah Khan on the eve of independence. Nawab Hamidullah was an influential figure in the political ring. He was close to Mohammad Ali Jinnah and was good friends with Lord Mountbatten. In fact, Jinnah had offered **Hamidullah Khan** the position of Secretary General of Pakistan. On *11th August 1947*, Lord Mountbatten sent a letter to Hamidullah Khan requesting him to reach a decision to sign the Instrument of Accession before 14th of August 1947.

However, the latter wrote back to him stating that “no ruler could run away from the dominion closest to him”.

In case the Nawab chooses to reverse his decision or make amendments he can do so by *25th August 1947* after which the Instrument of Accession would be passed to the Ministry of State Affairs. Hamidullah Khan, who had a history of being a staunch opposer of Indian Congress, in his letter to Sardar Patel on *14th August 1947* expressed his willingness to join the Indian dominion and signed the Instrument of Accession.

POST-INDEPENDENCE SCENARIO

When India gained independence from the British, Nawab Hamidullah Khan was the ruler of Bhopal. The following events of this period are noteworthy :-

- In May 1948, an interim government was formed by the Nawab
- The government was called as Praja Mandal
- The Praja Mandal was headed by Pt. Chatur Narain Malviya as Prime Minister
- It was sworn in at Qaser-e-Sultani Mahal by the Chief Justice of the princely state of Bhopal, Justice Salamuddin Khan
- Gradually, the merger movement (for Merger of Bhopal with the Indian Union) gained ground.
- The merger movement was actively supported by the Praja Mandal
- For this reason, the Praja Mandal was dissolved on 29th January 1949 by the Nawab of Bhopal.

COMMISSIONER PERIOD

- Shri V P Menon arrived and stayed in Lal Kothi. He was advisor to the Indian government on proposed merger of princely states with Indian Union,
- Finally, after a princely rule of 250 years, Bhopal was merged with the Union of India on 1st June 1949.
- Nawab Hamidullah was the ruler of Bhopal at the time.
- Bhopal became a Centrally Administered State under "Part C" for a period of 5 years.
- Bhopal State included the present-day districts of Bhopal, Raisen, and Sehore.
- Tri-colour of independent India was unfurled at the Lal Kothi for the first time on 1st June 1949.
- The government of India appointed an administrative head for Bhopal, called the Chief Commissioner
- Lal Kothi was chosen as the official residence of the Chief Commissioner and was renamed Commissioner House.

VERY SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS**Que. Orakzai dynasty****Ans.**

- Founded by Dost Mohammad Khan in 1724 in India
- Ruled over the Bhopal State
- Prominent rulers include Dost Mohammad Khan, Yar Mohammad Khan etc.

Que. 'Dost Mohammad Khan'.**Ans.**

- Founder of the princely state of Bhopal
- Ruled from 1724 to 1728
- Constructed Fateh-garh fort of Bhopal.

Que. Write a note on 'Fatehgarh Fort'.**Ans.**

- Fort located in the princely state of Bhopal
- 'Dost Mohammad Khan' and his wife 'Fatah Bibi' were buried here.
- Dhai Seedi ki Masjid is located here.

Que. Write a note on Qudsia Begum.**Ans.**

- Famous as Gauhar Begum
- First female ruler of Bhopal.
- Ruled Bhopal from 1819 to 1837
- Gaur Mahal, Jama Masjid was built by her

Que. Write a note on Qazi Mohammad Muazzam.**Ans.**

- The first stone in the fort of Fatehgarh was laid by him.
- Served as Bhopal Qazi (Islamic Judge)

Que. Write a note on the Anglo-Bhopal Treaty.**Ans.**

- In 1818
- Between 'East India Company' and 'Nazar Muhammad Khan'.
- Bhopal became a princely state in British India.

Que. Write a comment on Hamidullah Khan.**Ans.**

- Last Nawab of Bhopal (1926-1948)
- Chancellor of the Chamber of Princesses
- During his time, the State Praja Mandal was formed in 1938.

Que. Write a note on Sikander Begum.**Ans.**

- Second woman ruler of the princely state of Bhopal from 1847-1868 A.D. (recognised as Begum in 1860)

- During her time there was freedom struggle of 1857.

- Awarded 'Knight Grand Commander' for her Pro-British stance in 1857 freedom struggle

Que. Modern Bhopal State**Ans.**

- Establishment- 1723-24
- By Dost Mohammad Khan
- Sehore, Ashta, Khilchipur, Ginnaur, Raisen, included

Que. Islam nagar**Ans.**

- Located in Bhopal.
- Dost Mohammad Khan made his capital
- Situated 10 kms from Bhopal

Que. Which areas of Madhya Pradesh were included in the princely state of Bhopal?**Ans.**

Bhopal
Raisen
Sehore

Que. Bhopal princely state**Ans.**

- Establishment of the princely state of Bhopal in 1724 AD
- Founder-Dost Mohammad Khan
- Famous for the rule of Begums

Que. Sultan Mohammad Khan**Ans.**

- The successor of Dost Mohammad Khan
- Ruled from 1728-1742
- During his time Nadir Shah attacked India.

Que. Nawab Faiz Mohammad Khan**Ans.**

- The eldest son of Yaar Muhammad Khan
- Became Nawab after succession struggle
- Ruled from 1742 – 1777
- Known as Sufi Navab.

Que. Nazar Mohammad Khan**Ans.**

- Nawab of Bhopal princely state from 1816-1819
- Husband of Qudasia Begum
- Signed Anglo- Bhopal treaty 1818

Que. Nawab Jahangir Mohammad Khan**Ans.**

- Patron of the arts scholars
- British government placed him on the throne in 1837.

- Played role in suppression of Bundela rebellion (1842-43)

Que. Shahjahan Begum

Ans.

- Ruled from 1844-60 and from 1868-1901
- Founded department Siho Kirohi for grain distribution.
- Authored book Gauhar-i-Iqbaal
- Constructed Taj-ul-Masjid of Bhopal

Que. Sultan Jahan Begum

Ans.

- Ruled Bhopal state from 1901-26
- First and only chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University.
- Authored a book Dars-e-Hojat
- Built Sadar Manzil and Saifia college

Que. Majlis-e-Shura

Ans.

- An organization of the princely state of Bhopal.
- Used to recommend rules and regulations
- Formed 134 laws

Que. Treaty of Raisen

Ans.

- In February 1818
- Between British rule and Nazer Mohammad Khan.
- British government took guarantee of Bhopal's security

Que. Name some Influential Nobles of Bhopal

Ans. Chhota khan, Diwan Faulad Khan, Diwan Amir Mohammad Khan etc. were the influential Nobles of Bhopal.

Que. Fatehgarh fort

Ans. Fatehgarh fort was constructed by Dost mohammad khan, an afghan sardar of Mughal army near bada tal Bhopal. It was also his capital.

Que. Abida sultan

Ans. Abida sultan, daughter of Hamidullah Khan was the princess of Bhopal who migrated to Pakistan in 1947 and also joined foreign services of Pakistan.

Que-Dhai seedi mosque

Ans

- First mosque of Bhopal & the smallest mosque of Asia.
- Constructed by Dost Mohammad khan (1716) in Fatehgarh Fort.

Que- Name six gates of Bhopal.

Ans

- From 1720-26, Dost Mohammad khan fortified Bhopal with 6 gates – 1. Ginnori 2. Budhwar 3. Itwari 4. Jumerati 5. Peer 6. Imami.

Que-Hayat Mohammed khan

Ans

- Ruler of Bhopal From 1777 of 1807.
- During his regin, Nobels became powerful.

Que-Chhota khan

Ans

- Influential Diwan of Hayat Mohammad khan.
- Constructed 'Pul Pukhta' (Bridge on dam) in Bhopal.

Que-Ghaus Mohammed khan

Ans

- Ruler of Bhopal from 1807 to 1816 , father of Qudsia begum.
- Weak ruler and Strong Prime minitster Wazir Mohammad khan in his reign.

Que-Wazir Mohammad khan

Ans

- Influential Nobels of Bhopal and was appointed as the Prime Minister of Ghaus Mohammad khan.
- Father of Nazer Mohammad khan(Ruler of Bhopal).

Que-Nazar Mohammad khan

Ans

- Ruler of Bhopal from 1816 to 1819, husband of Qudsia Begum.
- Signed Anglo-Bhopal treaty in 1818 to made Bhopal a princely State. (Raisen treaty).

Que-Jama Masjid

Ans

- Mosque constructed by Qudasia Begum in 1837-57 near Peer Gate, Bhopal.
- Finest example of Bhopal state Architecture.

- Also known as Friday Mosque.

Que-Gohar Mahal

Ans

- Constructed by Qudasia Begum in 1821 at Bhopal.
- Unique Amalgamation of Hindu & Mughal Architecture.

Que-Begum Mamola

Ans

- Wife of Yar Mohammad Khan.
- Influenced politics of Bhopal in the reign of Hayat Mohammad Khan.

Que. Who founded Bhopal state?

Ans-The State of Bhopal was founded in 1724 by Sardar Dost Muhammad Khan, an Afghan warrior.

Que. Nai Raha Newspaper

- Published by Ratan Kumar in 1948 from Bhopal.
- To provoke masses for merger of Bhopal in Indian Union.

Que. Taj ul - Mosque

- Construction started by Shah Jahan Begum in 1866 and completed by Maulana Shahid Hasmat Ali in 1971.
- Biggest Mosque of Asia (capacity wise).
- Pink colour sandstone used in its construction.

SHORT QUESTIONS - ANSWERS**Que-What is the significance of Begum rule?**

Ans Significance of Begums Rule

- Peaceful rule led to the rise of a unique cosmopolitan society in Bhopal.
- Rule of Begums challenged orthodox male dominating society & its harms.
- Women empowerment & promotion to girls education especially by Kaikhusran Jahan Begum.
- Effective administrative system & welfare of public took place.
- Architectural development system unique amalgamation of Hindu & Mughal style originated.

Que-Qudasia Begum

Ans

- First women ruler of Bhopal (1819 to 1837), succeeded her husband Nawab Nazar Mohammad Khan.
- Daughter of Nawab Ghous Mohammad Khan.
- Illiterate but brave, refused to follow purdah tradition.
- Kind for her subjects as she assured herself that no one remains hungry.
- Constructed- Jama Masjid of Bhopal (1837), Moti Mahal and Gohar Mahal (1820).

Que-Comment on 1857 Revolt in Bhopal.

Ans

- Sikandar Jahan Begum was regent of Queen Shahjehan Begum during 1857 revolt, she took the side of British.
- Chief leaders of Revolt in Bhopal were Faiz Muhammad Khan & Adil Muhammad Khan.
- Begum crushed the revolt and also repulsed the rebellion army of Mhow marching towards Bhopal.
- Risaldar Walil Shah and Havildar Mohaveer Singh run an autonomous government in Sehore for 5 months with the name "Sipahi Bahadur"

- Forces of Bhopal & British crushed it brutally under leadership of General Hugh Rose & 356 soldiers were killed.

Que-Sikandar begum.

Ans

- Ruler of Bhopal from 1837 to 1860 as regent of Sahajahan Begum & from 1860 – 68 as Queen.
- Helped British in crushing revolt of 1857. She founded Majlis-i-shor (Parliament).
- She founded postal services in Bhopal and divided Bhopal into 3 districts.
- For education- Victoria school for girls education (Bhopal) & ensured construction of at least one Urdu & one Hindi medium school in all districts.
- Moti Masjid was constructed by her.

Que. A short note on merger of Bhopal state

Ans. Hamidullah succeeded as Nawab in 1926. He signed the instrument of accession with the Dominion of India in 1947, but was left to administer his state as a separate entity. However, two years later local agitation encouraged the central government to merge Bhopal into Madhya Bharat.

LONG QUESTIONS - ANSWERS**Que- Write a short note on Establishment of Bhopal state.**

Ans- The Bhopal state was established in 1724 by the Afghan Sardar Dost Mohammed Khan, who was a commander in the Mughal army posted at Mangalgarh. Taking advantage of the disintegration of the Mughal empire, he usurped Mangalgarh and Berasia (now a tehsil of the Bhopal District). Sometime later, he helped the Gond Queen Kamalapati by executing her husband's assassins and restoring the little Gond kingdom back to her. The Queen gave him a princely sum of money and the Mouza village (which is situated near modern Bhopal city).

After the death of last Gond queen, Dost Mohammed Khan took his chance and seized the little Gond Kingdom and established his capital 10 km away from modern Bhopal, at Jagdishpur. He named his capital Islamnagar, meaning the city of Islam. He built a small fort and some palaces at Islamnagar. He named this new fort Fatehgarh ("the fort of victory"). Later the capital was shifted to the current city of Bhopal.

Que- Write a note on works of Shahjahan Begum.

Ans Shahajahan Begum ruled over Bhopal (1844-1860) and (1868-1901). She was an able administrator who worked for welfare of subjects & was also a patron of literature.

Works of Shahjahan Begum**Administrative Reform**

- Implemented 4 tier system in State instead of 3 tier system.
- New Department siho-kirohi for grain distribution.

Revenue Reform

- Mapping & scaling of land started.
- Divided agricultural land into 18 types and imposed tax as per the variety of crop & fertility of land.
- Shahjani coin issued by her.

- To balance budget deficit, she commissioned the farming of opium.

Judicial Reform

- Tanjmaat-i-shahjahani, a new law making department.
- Sadar-us-sudar, a new judicial department was established by her.

Military Reform

- An imperial Service troop was established.
- Baks Mohammad khan (Cheif of Military)

Economic Infrastructure

- Printing press
- Itarsi to Bhopal Railway line(1884)
- Postal Reform.
- Textile Mill at Shahajahanbad in 1882

Welfare work

- **Health** – Prince of Wales hospital for male & lady lansdown hospital for female.
- **Education** - Madarsa –i- Bilkisia (Bhopal)
- Contributed in construction of Muhammad Anglo – oriental College at Aligarh.
- **Other** – Construction of Waterworks, roads etc.

Literature

- She wrote Gohar-i-Iqbal in Urdu, a historic account of reign of Qudsia begum.
- Reformist Manual for women-Tahzib-un-Niswan-wa-Tarbiyel-ul-Insan (The reform for women and the cultivation of humanity).

Construction works

- Taj-ul-Masjid (Bhopal)
- Taj Mahal palace
- Shahajahanabad town
- Nawab Manzil
- Khawasoura Mughal Pura
- Ali Manzil
- Amir Ganj

Que-Short note of Sultan JahanBegum.

Ans Sultan Jahan Begum was ruler of Bhopal from 1901-1926. During her reign modern era of Bhopal Started. She had a special focus on social reform and public works which is reflected in her social, administrative, education and religious works.

Educational Reforms

- Promoted women education by donating wealth and establishing girls school like. Barjeesiya kanya paathshala, Madarsa Victoria.
- Lady Minto Nursing School.
- Hamidia Library (1901) Bhopal
- She was appointed as first & only female chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University in 1920.
- She made primary education mandatory for government jobs & free for all in (1918).

Economic infrastructure

- **Expansion** of Railway & Postal service.
- Cotton textile mill in Bhopal, floor mill and Sugar mill at Ikshawar , Bhopal to generate employment.

Welfare works

- She opened more than 30 unani hospitals.
- Skill development centre for widows & orphans.
- She took steps for improving public health, sanitation and water supply.
- Encouraged promoted handicraft by organising exhibition "Numaish-Masunad-e-Hind".
- Meeting hall for ladies in Lahore.

Administrative Reform

- Set up Municipality system & even introduced municipal election.
- She established Executive & legislative state council in (1922)
- More than 40 courts for fast judicial process
- Appointed Hindus on higher administrative posts.

Literature

- She was a great writer. She wrote more than 20 books.
- **Dars-e-Hayat** a book she wrote about education & parenting of young girls.

7. Struggle of Tribal Heroes of Madhya Pradesh and contribution in History

The amount of sacrifice and struggle that the tribes have made for self-respect and autonomy such an example is not found anywhere in the world. In India the tribes were the first to raise their swords against every foreign invader. In the British rule, the tribes were the first to pick up bows and arrows and fought against the British to protect their autonomy and self-respect. In the Indian independence movement, the tribals of the country as well as tribes of Madhya Pradesh also played a special role and contribution in the struggle waged by the community, which is as follows-

Bhil Rebellion (1817)

- In 1817, there was a rebellion of Bhils in Khandesh
- Leader- Sevaram
- Main reason increasing interference of the British in agriculture and forest produce.
- The British said that Peshwa's Mantri Trimbak was behind this rebellion.
- Trimbak took refuge in the region of Bhils and continued the rebellion against the British by inspiring the Bhils there.

Bundela Rebellion (1842)

- Sagar-Narmada Territories were formed by the British in 1820 from the areas acquired from the immediate ruler of Nagpur, Apaji Bhonsle
- The responsibility of administration of Sagar-Narmada Territories rested with the Agent of the Governor General. The headquarters of this agent was Sagar.
- The main inhabitants of Sagar-Narmada territories were Gond, Kurmi, Lodhi and Bundela Rajputs.

Reasons for rebellion

- In 1833-34, the land tax rate was increased by the committee formed under the chairmanship of Martin Bird.
- The Twenty Years' Settlement of 1835. Reduction in the rights of Malgujars and landlords and eviction from landlords and issuing decrees against them.
- Prohibition on possession and sale of Weapons without police permission.

Beginning of Rebellion

- Raja Parichhat of Jaitpur proposed to organize an event like Budhwa Mangal of Kashi in Bundelkhand.
- In which the idea was given to inspire all the kings to fight against the British.

Major Rebels

- Narhat's landlords Madhukar Shah and Ganeshju.
- Zamindar of Chandrapur, Jawahar Singh Bundela.

- King Hridayashah/Hirdeshah of Hirapur taluka.
- Thakur Vikramjeet of Gudha.
- Bakhat Singh of Chirgaon.
- Raja Parichhat of the ruler of the princely state of Jaitpur.
- Dhillon shah of Madanpur.

Major Tribal Rebels

Shivraj Singh Gond

- He was the Jagirdar of Deori Tehsil, Sagar.
- He supported Raja Parichhat of Jaitpur in the Bundela rebellion of 1842.

Dilraj Singh Gond

- Dilraj Singh Gond, the hero of Bundela revolution, fought against the British in Bundelkhand.
- The British could never catch them.

Raja Arjun Singh Gond

- Jagirdar of Fatehpur, Damoh.
- He helped Raja Parichhat in the Bundela rebellion in 1842 and Taty Tope in 1858.

Consequences

- Sleeman, the agent of Bundela state, was made the commissioner of Sagar and Narmada Territory in place of Seefrezer.
- To remove the defects of the civil justice system, separate officers called Civil Judge and Session Judge were appointed.
- Civil and Sessions Judges were placed under Nizamat Court for criminal cases.
- Among those who took part in the great rebellion of 1857, there were many Talukdars, Zamindars and Jagirdars who had also participated in the Bundela rebellion of 1842.

Contribution of the Tribes in the Revolution of 1857

- The background of the revolution of 1857 in Madhya Pradesh had been created after the Bundela rebellion of 1842.
- The Revolution of 1857 first started in Neemuch Cantonment in Madhya Pradesh on June 3, 1857.
- Raja Sarju Prasad Singh led the rebels in Vijayraghvargarh (Katni). He was captured by the British in Jabalpur in 1864. They were charged with treason and sentenced to black water.
- The revolution of 1857 in Sagar was started by the soldiers of the 3rd Regiment of the Bengal Native Infantry deployed in Sagar on 1 July
- In the rebellion that took place in Sagar district in 1857, Raja Bakhtbali of Shahgarh (Sagar) played an important role.
- The revolution of 1857 was led by Widow Rani Avanti Bai of Ramgarh princely state in Mandla district (now Dindori district).
- During the attack on Mandla, a conflict took place between Captain Waddington and the Rani in a village named Khairi. In which Waddington was defeated.
- On March 20, 1858, on possibility of the defeat in the battle with the British commander Warton, Rani Avanti Bai sacrificed her life by stabbing her bodyguard Girdharibai with a dagger.

- In Betul, Patel brothers Shivdin and Ramdin revolted against the British.
- The revolution of 1857 in Datia district of Madhya Pradesh was led by Daulat Singh Rao and Barjor Singh.
- Devi Singh Gond fought the British in May, 1857 at Shahpur, Jabera, Sangrampur, Majhauri and Katangi.
- Imrat Bhoi openly fought a fierce battle against the British along with Mahavir Singh, the Jagirdar of Tatyatope HARRAKOT.
- Sarwar Singh Gond in the revolution of 1857 in the princely state of Bhopal, Sarwar Singh along with Gond and other communities opposed the British.
- Sitaram Kanwar rebelled in the Nimar region during the freedom struggle of 1857.
- Raghunath Shah rallied the soldiers of the 52nd Regiment to his side and connected the people with the revolution through poetry.
- Raja Shankar Shah was a descendant of Maharani Durgavati, who led the revolution of 1857 in Jabalpur. Raja Shankar Shah, on July 11, 1857, included the disgruntled soldiers, landlords, peasants as well as the 52nd platoon of the British and spread the revolution in the entire Mahakaushal.
- In the revolution of 1857, Khajya Nayak also led the revolution among the tribals of Nimar region. Khajya Nayak joined the Bhil battalion of the British, where he was given the responsibility of guarding the 24-mile long route from Sendhwa-Jamti post to Sirpur post.
- The British government announced a reward of Rs 1000 on Khajya Nayak. On April 11, 1858, there was a battle between the British and the Bhil army in Ambapani village situated between Barwani and Silavad, in which Khajya Nayak's son Daulat Singh was killed and Khajya Nayak was also killed by Colonel James Outram.
- On February 13, 1859, in the battle fought at a place called Panchvavali, north of Ramgarh Fort in the Satpura Mountains, revolutionaries were defeated and 10 tribals including Bhima Nayak's mother were killed.
- In the tribal movement, the tribals living in Satpura hills along with Appa Saheb and Tatyatope fought against the British.
- The name of Bhima Nayak is paramount among those who awakened the consciousness of the revolution of 1857 among the tribals in Madhya Pradesh.
- The following notable battles that took place between **Bhima Nayak** and the Britishers are-
 - Battle of Panchsaval on August 24, 1857
 - Battle of Ambapani of April 11, 1857
 - In the battle of Ambapani, the archer troop of Bhima Nayak defeated the British.
 - Battle of Dhababawadi on 4th February, 1859
 - Battle of Panchbawali of February 9, 1859
 - Infact Bhima played an important role in Ambapani battle.
 - On April 2, 1868. the British arrested August 9, 1930. a meeting of Bhima Nayak from the Satpura forests and sent him to Port Blair
 - He was hanged on December 29, 1876 in Kalapani, Andaman

Tribal contribution in Non-cooperation Movement

- Many Malgujars of Dindori participated in the non-cooperation movement. These Malgujars propagated the movement by selling their Malgujaris

- Gandhu Gond led the revolutionary activities by selling his land revenue and also looted the government treasury located at Dindori.

Tribal contribution in Civil Disobedience Movement

- Salt law violation, foreign cloth boycott and liquor ban movements were also conducted in Betul district during the civil disobedience movement.
- During the Jungle Satyagraha in Betul, a procession of 500 tribals was taken out under the leadership of Shri Deepchand Gothi
- Due to taking out the procession, the prominent Satyagrahi Shri Deepchand Gothi was arrested by the British Government and he was sentenced to one year rigorous imprisonment. After this, the Jungle Satyagraha was led by Ganjan Singh Korku.
- On 19 September, a meeting was organized in 'Chikhlad under the leadership of Ganjan Singh Korku. Police opened fire at the meeting in which many people were martyred and about 40 people were injured.
- Ganjan Singh Korku was also arrested and punished. Satyagraha was also carried out in many places of Betul like Sital Dehi, Khar, Nigad, Jawado etc.
- Shri Garra Gond was martyred in the firing during Satyagraha in Jawado and Shri Vishnu Singh was arrested and sentenced to death.

Jungle Satyagraha

- On August 9, 1930, a meeting of the Managing Committee of the Congress was held in Bombay in which a resolution to break the salt law as well as **run Jungle Satyagraha** was passed.
- The objective of which was to simplify the forest laws and to put pressure on the government to freely use the produce of safe and protected forests.
- This Satyagraha was especially suited to the geographical conditions of the Central Province in the forest areas. The farming class and tribal people participated in this movement.
- This movement took place widely in the forests of **Betul, Chhindwara, Orchha, Seoni-Turia and Harda.**

Activities

- Leaving domestic animals to graze in protected forests
- Collecting wood from the forest without government permission
- Social boycott of forest and revenue employees
- Every day a group of five Satyagrahi go to cut the forest with non-violence by giving information to the local police.

Ghoda-Dongri Jungle Satyagraha

- Place- Ghoda-Dongri (Betul), 1930
- Leader- Ganjan Singh Korku
- Activities-
 - Thousands of tribals of Gond and Korku caste participated with sticks and spears in the meeting organized on the occasion of Jungle Satyagraha in Betul district.
 - Violated the forest law by cutting grass from the forests.

- Like the Jungle Satyagraha of 1930, the tribal community of Betul had revolted.
- Ganjan Singh Korku, resident of Banjari Dhal near Shahpur, was leading this rebellion.
- When the police reached Banjari Dhal to arrest Ganjan Singh Korku, the tribals opposed the police. The police opened fire on those tribals in which Koma Gond was martyred on the spot.
- Ganjan Singh Korku was successful in breaking the police cordon and escaping. On the other hand, in Jambada, Ramu and Makdu Gond were martyred in the brutal use of force by the police on the united crowd to free the tribals from the police custody.

Seoni-Turia Jungle Satyagraha

- Place- Seoni district in 1930.
- Leader- Durgashankar Mehta.
- Activities-
 - This Satyagraha was started by cutting grass in the government sandalwood garden, 9-10 miles away from Seoni.
 - The police officers misbehaved with the Satyagrah is participating in the general meeting being held in Turia (Seoni) due to which the public got agitated and the police opened fire.
 - In this Satyagraha, three women Guddo Bai, Raina Bai, Bema Bai and Virju Gond were martyred at the spot itself.
 - The bodies of these martyrs were also not given to their families for last rites.
 - This incident lit the flame of freedom in the Harijan community of Madhya Pradesh also.

Tribal Contribution in Quit India Movement

- On August 12, a market was organized in Prabhat Pattan of Betul district, in which people from nearby villages had gathered in large numbers.
- Meanwhile, more police personnel arrived from Multai, who opened fire on the procession, in which Mahadev Teli was sacrificed on the altar of freedom.
- Ghoradongri-Shahpur area- In 1942, a large group of tribal fighters from Ghoradongri- Shahpur area of Betul district united near Ghoradongri railway station under the leadership of Vishnu Gond on August 19, 1942.
- This tribal group uprooted railway tracks, set fire to the police station and a huge timber depot. Police and forest officials came to the spot.
- The police opened fire without warning. Birsa Gond was martyred on the spot.
- Freedom fighters protesting during the Quit India Movement were imprisoned in Mandleshwar jail, which is called Mandleshwar Incident 1942.
- On August 19, 1942, Birsa Gond also participated in the freedom movement in Ghoradongri of Betul district.

8. TRIBAL HEROES

The tribal communities in Madhya Pradesh, like in many other parts of India, played a significant but often overlooked role in the freedom movement against British colonial rule. Their contributions were diverse and multifaceted, encompassing various forms of resistance and participation in the struggle for independence. Here are some key aspects of the Madhya Pradesh tribals' involvement in the freedom movement:

The tribals in Madhya Pradesh's Seoni and Betul districts contributed to the freedom movement by initiating the Van Satyagraha in 1930. They fought the British for a long time against forest rules, giving their lives for freedom.

Shankar Shah and Raghunath Shah

- Shankar Shah was born Garha Mandla (presently in Mandla district) in 1783.
- Raja Shankar Shah was the great-grandson of Nizam Shah, the only son of Sumedh Shah.
- Wife- Phool Kunwar Devi
- Son- Raghunath Shah
- Raja Shankar Shah was very popular among the zamindars and general public.
- Shankar Shah was the titular king of Garha Kingdom and pensioner of East India Company.

Role in 1857 Revolt

- Shankar Shah has participated in the great revolt of 1857 with his son Raghunath Shah.
- He has participated in revolt of 1857 against British commander lieutenant general Clark (52 Regiment Commander).
- He has revolted in entire Mahakasha region of Madhya Pradesh including Jabalpur.
- The 52nd Regiment of Bengal Native Infantry was called to put down the rebellion in Jabalpur, but the injustice of the execution of Shankar Shah and Raghunath Shah convinced them to mutiny instead.
- The aged Shankar Shah, his son Raghunath Shah along with thirteen other followers were arrested and jailed in the prison at the cantonment, accused of "hatching a plot to foully murder the English residents of Jabalpur".
- Kushal Chandra was a traitor in his court who used to provide entire information of his court to the British.
- The 13 followers were executed the next day.
- Even though no incriminating evidence was found against them, the British blew up Shankar Shah along with his son, Kunwar Raghunath Shah with a cannon mouth on 18 September 1857 in a crime of provoking an uprising through their patriotic poems.
- The contribution of Shankar Shah were described by W.C. Arkain in his book "Narratives of events attending the outbreak of disturbances and the Restoration of authority in the Sagar and Narmada territories in 1857-58".

Bhima Nayak

- Bhima Nayak was one of the Important Tribal Personalities of Madhya Pradesh and popularly known as the “Robinhood of Nimar”.
- He belonged to the Bhil tribe.
- He was born in 1840 in Panchmohali village in Western Nimar (Present-day Barwani).
- In 1857, Bhima Nayak took up arms against the Britishers and led the revolt in Barwani alongside Khawajya Nayak.
- When Britishers were unable to capture him they arrested his mother and sent her to Mandleshwar fort. Later she died because of Police brutality.
- He was arrested by British forces in Satpura forest and sent to Port Blair jails.
- On 29 December 1976, he died in the Port Blair jail.
- Major activities of Bhima Nayak during the revolt of 1857 are mentioned below.
 - He led the revolt against the moneylenders in the Nimar region.
 - He also took part in the Battle of Ambapani on 11 April 1858.
 - He met with the Taty Tope and helped him to cross the Narmada river.

Tantya Bhil

- Nickname – “Robin Hood” and uncle
- Birth - 1842 in Badda of Pandhana tehsil of Khandwa district.
- Father – Bhausingh
- Tantya Bhil was married to Kagazbai.
- Tantya Bhil (Tantya Mama) was a revolutionary leader active in British India between 1878 and 1889.
- Tantya was first arrested around 1874
- Haji Nasrullah Khan was arrested by Yousafzai for the second time in 1878.
- Tantya Bhil used to loot the public treasury of the British government and distributed the wealth of their sycophants among the poor and needy.
- He was an expert in guerrilla warfare and escaped capture by the British forces for 15 years.
- The British formed a special team under the leadership of Ishwari Prasad to capture him.
- However, he gets arrested due to the betrayal of his friend Ganpat.
- He was kept in the Central India Agency jail in the British Residency area in Indore.
- Later he was taken to Jabalpur under strict police security. The Sessions Court, Jabalpur sentenced him to death on 19 October 1889.
- He was again hanged on 4 December 1889, thus Tantya Bhil died.

Khwaja Nayak

- He was one of the Important Tribal Personalities of Madhya Pradesh and was born in the Sangri village of Nimar region.

- He belonged to the Bhil tribe. Earlier he was in the service of British forces. However later he picks up arms against the British forces in the revolt of 1857.
- He fought alongside Bhima Nayak and other revolutionaries in the Battle of Ambapani on 11th April 1858.
- During the battle, he was surrounded by the British forces in Amba Pani between Barwani and Silwad.
- He was martyred on 11th April 1858 AD. Madhya Pradesh government celebrates Khwaja Nayak Day on the 11th of April every year.

GANJAN SINGH KORKU

- Born in Betul district
- Ganjan Singh Korku was one of the prominent leaders of Godadongri jungal satyagraha.
- On 22nd August 1930, Ganjan Singh led a crowd of hundreds of Gond and Korku people armed with axes and lathis to the reserved forests.
- They broke the law by entering the forest.
- The police immediately attempted to arrest Ganjan Singh, but the people did not allow them to touch their leader.
- In the ensuing clash one person died due to police firing, but Ganjan Singh managed to evade capture.
- But a month later, Ganjan Singh was arrested by the Pachmarhi police and was sentenced to five years of rigorous imprisonment.

Shri Badal Bhui

- Badal Bhui was a freedom fighter and one of the Important Tribal Personalities of Madhya Pradesh.
- He was born in the year 1845 AD in Dugaria Titra village in the Chhindwara district.
- He participated during the mass movement phase of India's freedom struggle.
- In 1923, he gathered many tribals for the Congress meeting held in Tamia. Followed by the surrounding residents of the British official's residence in Chhindwara. For which he was arrested.
- On 21 August 1930, he participated in the jungle Satyagraha' and broke the Forest laws at Ramakona. The Satyagraha was organized under the leadership of freedom fighter Shri Vishwanath Salpekar.
- He was arrested for this disobedience.
- He was sent to the Maharashtra Jail, where he died due to poisoning in 1940.
- To acknowledge the great contribution of Badal Bhui in the freedom struggle the Madhya Pradesh government named the tribal museum located in Chhindwara 'Shri Badal Bhoi State Tribal Museum'.

Pema Falya

- He was one of the important tribal personalities of Madhya Pradesh and was born in Chandrashekhar Azad town of Jhabua.
- He was a great artist of "Pithora Art", which is the famous painting art of Bhil tribe.
- He received the highest honor from the Government of Madhya Pradesh in 1986.
- He was awarded the Tulsi Samman in 2017 by the Cultural Department of Madhya Pradesh in Tribal Arts.
- He died on 5 April 2020.

Other leaders-

Veersa Gond

- On August 19, 1942 he LED a movement in Ghoda Dongri (Betul) railway station where the tribesmen have removed railway line, set fire on a wooden depot in Ghoda Dongri. Jangarh Singh Shyam He was born in Patan garh Village in Dindori district. Contribution– He invented a tribal art named as Jungle Kalam. His notable painting was Jung garh. In 1986 Jung garh painting was awarded buy Shikhar Samman.

Durga Shankar Mehta

- Durga Shankar Mehta led Turiya Satyagraha in Seoni district in 1930 .
- It is also known as Jungle Satyagraha. Jungle Satyagraha of Betul and Seoni both have initiated after Mahatma Gandhi initiated Dandi March in 1930

Ramadheen Gond

- He led Jungle Satyagraha in 1939 in Dongargarh presently in Chhattisgarh where imperial police have a bred on tribes man and Ramadheen Gond died.
- Naresh Chandra Singh He was the ruler of Sarangarh princely state presently in Chhattisgarh. He was chief minister of Madhya Pradesh (13 days only).

Lal padmadhar Singh

- He was born in Kripalpur village of Satna district. He has participated in quit India movement 1942.
- He was leader of Tribes of Rewa region during the National movement.
- He died during a protest of student union during quit India movement.

Kantilal Bhuria

- He was born in Jhabua district in 1950 he was elected as member of parliament from Ratlam Jhabua constituency in in 1998 ,1999 ,2004, 2009 and 2015.
- He was a cabinet minister in Manmohan Singh government.

Faggan Singh kulaste

- He is a politician born in mandala presently he is minister of state in Modi government. He has elected from Mandla constituency 7 times. Raja bakhtawar Singh He was a ruler of Amjhera state Dhaar. He has participated in the great revolt of 1857 and lead the movement in Dhar district.