

P R E F A C E

Sir R.V. Sabnis (1857 to 1948 A.D.) B.A., Kt., C.I.E. was one of the important administrator and social worker who was Diwan or Prime-Minister of Kolhapur State under Rajarshi Shahu Chhatrapati and his son Rajaram Maharaj. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur (1884 to 1922) was a skillful organizer, a fearless revolutionary, and one of the great social reformers of modern India. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj implemented his progressive majors with the help of his trusted Diwan Sir R.V. Sabnis who was life long friend, philosopher and Chief Advisor of Shahu Maharaj.

Sir R.V. Sabnis was a Diwan of Kolhapur from 1898 to 1926 and left behind his permanent imprint as a great administrator.

He retired from the post of Diwan in 1926 and later on become the president of Ilakha Panchayat (1927) Honourary Judge of Kolhapur Supreme Court (1931), President of The Bank of Kolhapur, Chairman of the Kolhapur Sugar Mill. Thus he was associated with public institutions. He was called as the Grand old man and Dadabhai Nauraji of Kolhapur.

In this work an attempt has been made to study the life work and achievements of Rao Bahadur.

Sir R.V. Sabnis with the help of original sources such as Administrative Reports of Kolhapur State, State Gazettee, original correspondence of Shahu Maharaj and Family Records, from Sabnis family, and Satyawadi files, Loksevak and Pudhari files etc.

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