

PREFACE

Since childhood I was hearing stories about Chhatrapati Shahu's rule in Raibag area which is neighboring taluka of my native place. Since then the question was lingering in my mind that, Chhatrapati Shahu rule might have brought change in the life style of this Raibag area. So I began searching the contemporary and later works and after that I came to the conclusion that there is history at Raibag 19th century with special importance of Shahu's period not hitherto covered by scholars may be because of this area after reorganization of states was merged with Karnataka and vice-Versa by the Karnataka state scholars as it is a history of Maharashtra state. Then I made frequent visits to the same place, made also a survey of the area, interviewed the people, and finally under the guidance and along with research guide again visited with a camera and captured all the photos of monuments both secular and religious as well as the water tank which is used by the public even today.

So I also found much original material related to this topic in Kolhapur record office itself. I have made effort to give a clear picture of only the nineteen century and early 20th century of Raibag and Shahu as a social reformer in India in my dissertation.

