

CHAPTER-VII

CONCLUSIONS

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The study of juridical administration in Kolhapur State from 1894 to 1922 has been divided into five main Chapters. The first chapter is way of introduction to the subject. The main thesis of the dissertation has been included in Chapters from second to sixth. The second chapter entitled the 'Administration of Civil Justice', deals with the system of civil judiciary in Kolhapur State proper and its feudatories. The hierarchy in the Courts and their respective jurisdictions have been also outlined in the second chapter. The 'Administration of Criminal Justice', is the title of the third chapter. In which the powers and jurisdictions of Criminal Courts in Kolhapur State and its feudatory have been analysed. The working of the these criminal courts has been examined and elaborated with the help of tables and other relevant details.

The fourth chapter deals with most important facet of the judicial system viz. 'Judicial Principles and Practices'. An attempt has been made to understand the judicial principles and practices followed by Rajarshi Shahu in Kolhapur State. These principles and practices adopted by Shahu Chhatrapati formed the basic of his socio-economic reforms.

The socio-economic legislation made by a State is important because it is essentially through this legislation that the Government can bring about change in socio-economic matters in the society. This legislation is implemented through the executive and judiciary. The socio-economic legislation is, therefore, closely related to the judicial system in the State.

In the fifth chapter an attempt has been made to understand the role of socio-economic legislation, which primarily originated through the orders of Shahu Chhatrapati in the judicial administration in Kolhapur State.

The police and jails are an inherent part of the judicial administration and therefore, 'Administration of Police and Jail', has been analysed in the sixth chapter.

These five chapters deal with the core of the judicial administration in Kolhapur State. The study of the judicial administration in Kolhapur State under Shahu Chhatrapati thus deals with the most important period in the history of Kolhapur in the 19th and 20th Century. Kolhapur as an independent State continued to exist from 1710 to 1826 when, the British imposed its authority over Kolhapur State. In this period the judicial system of Kolhapur was essentially traditional and guided by traditional law expressed through Sastras and Customs. With the introduction of British influence

the western ideas and principles were super imposed on the traditional system. Therefore, by the beginning of the 19th century some changes in the judicial administration were made by the British. These changes were, however, not revolutionary because the British wanted to maintain statusquo in the princely state. The real and significance changes in Kolhapur State were made by Shahu Chhatrapati 1894 to 1922, and continued by his son and successor Rajaram Chhatrapati 1922 to 1940. A continuous study of judicial system in Kolhapur State reflecting upon the traditional nature of the judicial system and the successive changes that occurred in it in the 19th and 20th century, would be an interesting subject worth analyses and study.