

PREFACE

In the history of modern India, press has played a very important role. The contribution of the press is very substantial in the national freedom struggle. It also has played a very important role in the history of the Princely State of Kolhapur, right from its beginning in 1864.

There are important Works on the history of the press, such as 'A History of Press in India' by S.Natarajan. So far, Marathi press is concerned, Ramchandra Govind Kanade wrote its history under the title 'Marathi Niyatkalikancha Itihas'. Similarly, R.K.Lele also wrote the history of the press under the title 'Marathi Vruttapatrancha Itihas'. Both have dealt extensively on the Marathi and also refer to the press in Kolhapur State. However, no in-depth study is done so far on the press in Kolhapur. Therefore, the theme on the press in the Princely State of Kolhapur is chosen for M.Phil.Dissertation.

The said theme is divided into Five Chapters:

- I. Growth of the Press from 1864 to 1930 - Pre-Rajaram Era to the first decade of Rajaram Era);
- II. Growth of the Press from 1931 to 1940 (the second decade of Chhatrapati Rajaram Era);
- III. Growth of the Press from 1941 to 1949 (Post-Rajaram Era);
- IV. Eminent Personalities associated with the Press in Kolhapur State;
- V. Epilogue.

The Nineteentwenties, 'thirties and 'forties stand distinct in the history of the Princely State of Kolhapur, as emphasis changes from social to political concerns. In the light of these changes, an attempt is made to trace the growth of the press from various angles. The factors which influenced it - government policy, finance, etc. The changes occurred in it from time to time.

The decade-wise growth of press from these various angles is presented in the first three Chapters and they are based on files of 'Pudhari' (1939-1949), 'Satyavadi' (1926-1949), 'Maratha Navjeevan' (1935-1937), 'Sevak' (1933-35), 'Hunter' (1925-1930), etc. as well as special issues, administration reports of the Kolhapur State, 'Marathi Niyatkalikancha Itihas' of R.G.Kanade, 'Marathi Vruttapatrancha Itihas' of R.K.Lele, 'Marathi Niyatkalikanchi Suchi' published by S.G.Date Suchi Mandal and other sources.

Chapter Four deals with some of the important personalities who were directly associated with the press, such as Gokhales, Bagals, Balasaheb Patil, G.G.Jadhav, S.B.Bhosale, etc. This Chapter is based on the biographies, such as "'Hunter'kar Khanderao Bagal Yanche Nivadak Lekh' edited by Madhavrao Bagal, "'Pudhari'kar G.G.Jadhav Gaurao Granth", "Jeevanchakra" of Balasaheb Patil edited by Dr.S.S.Bhosale, etc.


Chapter Five is the Epilogue and deals with the factors behind the appearance and the disappearance of the various periodicals, the impact of the increasing competition, etc.

Besides, the files of the concerned periodicals, administrative reports are also used extensively and an attempt is made at a graphic presentation of the growth of the press.

While preparing this Dissertation, I received valuable co-operation and help from many respected persons. In the first place, I would like to heartily thank my Guide Dr.M.P.Patil, who guided me at every stage of this research. I also thank the librarians of the Barr.Balasaheb Khardekar Library of Shivaji University; and of Rajaram College, Kolhapur, for having extended their library facilities to me. I would also like to thank Mr.Toraskar, Superintendent of the Government Archives, Kolhapur, who provided valuable records and other information to me. More importantly, I would like to thank Mr.Rajkumar Patil, editor of 'Satyavadi'; Rambhau Bhosale, editor of 'Loksevak'; Shri.Deshpande and Shri.Kumbhar of 'Pudhari' office and Shri.T.S. Patil, Curator of Chh.Shahu Research Institute, who all extended their help to me in collecting the information regarding the respective periodicals. I also thank Mr.Prakash Gokhale, who provided me with valuable information on the Gokhale Family and their 'Vidhyavilas'.

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Kolhapur.
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