
Chapter - V

GENERAL

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

TORGAL JAHAGIR

(1710 to 1853)

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INTRODUCTION:

In this chapter an attempt has been made to study in brief the general administration of Torgal Jahagir for the period 1710 to 1853. The major difficulty to make the study of general administration of this period ~~is~~ is that whatever sources and evidences are found, most of them give information about political history of the Jahagir and very few give information about the administration. So it is difficult to present in detail the administration of this jahagir.

After 1853 an important event took place about Torgal jahagir. The chiefs of Torgal jahagir were the Senakhaskhels of Kolhapur State and the Kolhapur State itself came under the dominance of British power. The effects of this drastic change were on the Kolhapur State as well as the jahagirs under it. Later in 1862 an agreement was signed between the Chhatrapati of Kolhapur and the British, by which all the higher feudatories were brought under the supervision of the British. Eventually, Torgal jahagir also came under the British supervision.

This political change also changed the administration of Torgal jahagir. The chief of Torgal had to depend upon the approval of British Officers and all

the correspondence about the administration was done with the British Political Agent of Kolhapur State. In this correspondence some important sources and evidences about administration are to be found by which an effort is made to present the administration during the period 1710-1853. Though the sources and evidences are of later period they give some definite idea of the administration of the former period.

EXTENT OF JAHAGIR:

Narsojirao Shinde founded Torgal jahagir about the year 1690. This jahagir was located about 100 miles south-east of Kolhapur in Belgaum District. The boundaries of this jahagir were as Ramdurg jahagir at the east and the south, the Mudhol jahagir at the north and Parasgad Taluka at the west.¹ The total area of the jahagir was about 167 square miles.² The headquarter of jahagir was at Torgal. There was a solid and huge fort at Torgal. In the record different figures are found about the number of total villages consisted in the jahagir.

Major D.C.Graham, the Political Agent of the Kolhapur State, in "Statistical Report of Kolhapur Principality" had given the following information of that time of Torgal jahagir.³

TOREGUL

- I. The name of the present chief is Subhanrao Shinde. This chief bears the title of 'Senakhaskhel'. He succeeded to the Estate in the year 1853.
- II. This chief's usual place of residence is Toregul which is situated at the distance of 90 miles from Kolhapur.
- III. He has three legitimate sons.
- IV. The chief is tributary of Kolhapur and serves the State by quota of 2 horse and 20 ~~f~~foot.
- V. The estimated gross annual revenue of the country amounts to Rs. 32820/-
- VI. The Estate is situated in the heart of the Belgaum Collectorate and completely separate from this State as to locality. Its area is about 24 square miles.
- VII. Its soil is ~~pxx~~ chiefly rocky, with a very little black. The Malprabha runs through it but its water is scarcely at all used in irrigation and with the exception of a few wells the Estate depends wholly on the annual fall of rain.
- VIII. Its production are chiefly Bajree. There are no manuff-
-atures.
- IX. No made road intersects this small Estate, but there are smaller roads running to Ramdurg, Kulludghee, Dharwar and Belgaum.
- X. The climate is temperate

- XI: The average annual fall of rain has not been ascertained.
- XII. The estimated population of the country amounts to 30000 souls.
- XIII. The description of religion, tribes and ~~castes~~ castes as given for Kolhapur, applies also to this Estate.
- XIV. The chief conducts the civil and criminal administration in accordance with the spirit of the regulations.
- XV. He has the same power in awards and punishments as granted to the other dependent jageerdars.
- XVI. With the exception of one or two private school, there is no other educational establishment.
- XVII. vasscination is carried out under the orders of the Superintendent in the sourthern Maratha country, and owing to the distance from Kolhapur, the arrangements have not been so carefully supervised as those in the other dependent jageers.
- XVI. The prevalent disease is intermittent xfever. 3

INDEPENDENT NATURE OF JAHAGIR:

Torgal jahagir, since its foundation by Narsojji Shinde in 1690 was fully independent jahagir. It means that the creation of this jahagir was even beofre the independent establishment of Kolhapur State. Generally, in a Kingdom the King himself is the highest authority, in the same way in the Torgal jahagir, the chief was

the highest authority. Later, matrimonial alliance was established between Torgalkar Shinde family and the Chhatrapati of Kolhapur and so the chief of Torgalk received the honour and prestige. The chief also received the title Senakhaskhel from the Chhatrapati of Kolhapur. However, this jahagir was not under the dominance of the Chhatrapati of Kolhapur or any one else till 1853. So the administration of Torgal Jahagir was fully independent.

The chiefs of Torgal supposed themselves independent rulers and granted vatans and inams to many persons. e.g. (1) Shankarrao Shinde (1793-1828), Senakhaskhel granted the inam heretedly in 1809 of Mouje Kesargop, Tal-Chandargi to Rajeshri Jagdeorao Nimbalkar for his brothers' bravery in the battle of Sawgaon (1808).⁴ (2) Laxmanrao Shinde I (1753-93), Senakhaskhel granted the inam heretedly in 1786 of 'Totagatte' Tal-Chandargi to Sadashivpant Joshi, Satarkar for his valuable service of supplying the material to the jahagir.⁵

The chiefs permitted the adaptations for the heritage of inam. They also granted vatans and inams for religious matters.⁶ It is learnt that they also struck their own coins for ^{some} time. By the above evidences it seems the chiefs of the Torgal exercised their authority independently and they practically enjoy full authority and freedom over all the administration of the jahagir.

SYSTEM OF ADMINISTRATION:

There was a definite system of administration in the Torgal jahagir. There were four layers of the

administration of the jahagir namely (1) Jahagirdar
(2) Karbhari (3) Other officials and (4) Village Officer.

(1) JAHAGIRDAR:

The Jahagirdar was the master in the administration. He had full control over each and every departments. Every department of administration worked according to his orders only. He was fully independent in all matters. He was the whole sole authority of the jahagir.

(2) KARBHARI:

The Karbhari was the next important person to the Jahagirdar. He was appointed on some payment by the Jahagirdar of his own choice. The Karbhari helped the Jahagirdar in the administration. The Karbhari managed all the correspondence and the seal of the Jahagirdar was impressed on it. The seal was prepared for the first time in the period of first Senakhaskel Subhanrao Shinde (1731-1749) The words " श्री लखी सिंह सहायक सहायक " were carved on the seal. With these words the name of the ruling Senakhaskhel was also carved. ⁷ The correspondence was mostly in 'Modi' script, some times Marathi or Deonagari script was also used.

(3) OTHER OFFICIALS:

There were different departments in administration. Some officials and Karkoons (Clerks) were appointed in each and every department. They carried out the

administration. The following were some of the departments and designations:

(1) Khasagi Khata (Department):

" Shimpj, Hujare, Sovalekari Mashalji , Mali, Nagarchi, Soorsanai, Tashewala, Marphewala, Panakhi, Kunabin, Molakarin"

(2) Paga Khata (Department):

" Hawaldar, Swar, Motadar, Molakarin and Bhangi. "

(3) Mulaki Khata (Department):

" Karbhari, Avval Karkoon, Karkoon, Mojani Karkoon, Daftarband, Jamadar, Naik, Kha. Jamadar, Sipoi, Pharas, Panakhi, Labekarin, Bhaladar, Parit and Harkami "

(4) Potgaon useful servants' Khata (Dept.):

" Sanadi, Police Patil, Kulkarni and Mang."

(5) Jungle Khata (dept.):

" Forest Inspector, Head Forest, Naka Karkoon, and Forest Sipoi." 8

These officials and clerks were paid in cash or were granted inam lands ~~according to~~ according to the type of their works.

(4) Village Officer:

Though there were different officials working in the revenue (Mulki) department, the actual collection of

the revenue was done by village officer (Kulkarni Vatan) appointed by the Jahagirdar. The Kulkarni was paid in Vatan in every village for this work.

The following were the villages where the Kulkarni had his Vatan:

Sidnal, Salapur, Torangatti, Bhadaklur,
Kasabe Chandargi, Mouje Chandargi, Godachi,
Bijkupi, Gudkati, Khanpeth, Bochabal,
Kesargop, Murkatnal, Totgatti, Udupudi,
Sunal, Mangnur, Haloli, Kandapur, Jokhabal
and Bhandarhali = 21 villages. 9

THE VILLAGES AND THE REVENUE OF THE JAHAGIR:

THE VILLAGES:

Narsojirao Shinde founded the Jahagir in 1690. At that time the Torgal fort and surrounding villages were included in the territory of the jahagir. In the course of time the number of villages was increased. The following were the villages recorded in the 'Dehzada' of Torgal Jahagir in 1841, during the period of Laxmanrao II (1828 to 53), Senakhaskhel:

Bannur	Mouje Guchgunnal	Mouje Kullur
Mouje Kadapur	Mouje Gudkati	Mouje Changudhati
Mouje Udupudi	Mouje Badaki	Mouje Dadhibhavi
Mouje Bijgupi	Mouje Khanapur	Haralapur
Kankanwadi	Mouje Arebenchi	Mouje Halholi
Mouje Ramapur	Mouje Chilmur	Mouje Sunal
Mouje Totkati	Mouje HaleTorgal	Chandargi
Mouje Gudigop	Mouje Sidnal	Mouje Kesargop

Mouje Godachi	Kasaba Katkol	Mouje KaniChandargi
Mouje Torankat	Mouje Murkat	Mouje Bhadaklur
Mouje Murkatnal	Mouje Bochabal	Basidoni
Gonagnur	Mouje Mangnur	Mouje Mallapur
Mouje Kamankop	Majare Hasur	Mouje Budnur
Majare Timapur		10

REVENUE:

There were some groups of the village in the manner of modern Tahasil (Taluka) which were known as Peta, Tarf, Kuryat etc., in order to collect the revenue of the jahagir.

The 'Taleband of Mulki Hisheb ' of the year 1210 F. (1800 A.D.) shows following groups and the villages in the groups:

<u>Peta</u>	: Jijapur (Junipeth), Sambhapur (Navepeth) and Khanpeth.
<u>Haralapur Tarf:</u>	Haralapur, Halholi, Sunal, Aribenchi,
<u>Chandargi Tarf:</u>	Kasaba Chandargi, Kesargop, Sidanal, Godchi.
<u>Katkol Tarf:</u>	Katkol, Bhandarhali, Bochabal, Jakhabal, Torangatti, Bhadaklur, Murkatnal, Mouje Chandargi.
<u>Kuryat Bannur Tarf:</u>	Bannur, Chanahatti, Kandapur, Gudgammal, Mouje Gudkati, Dadibhavi, Kullur, Desgat Inam Gav (Budanur, Kamankop), Udapudi, Bidaki.

The total revenue of the Jahagir according to 'Jamabandi' of the year 1827 was Rs. 21325/- The following chart shows the village and its revenue of the year 1827: when Laxmanrao Shinde II, Senakhaskhel was in power.

<u>Name of the village</u>	<u>Revenue Rs.</u>
<u>Torgal Peta</u>	
Juni Peth	100
Khan peth	500
Nave peth	600
<u>Sivnur Vadi</u>	
<u>Tarf Haralapur</u>	
Haralapur	150
Mouje Ramapur	125
Kankanwadi	150
Chilmur	600
Aribenchi	800
Mouje Sunal	400
Mouje Haloli	500
Mouje Hale Torgal	400
<u>Tarf Chandargi</u>	
Chandargi	700
Mouje Totkate	400
Mouje Gudgop	250
Mouje Kesargop	75
Mouje Sidnal	900
Mouje Godchi	1300
<u>Kasaba Bannur</u>	
Bannur	4000
Mouje Udapudi	700
Mouje Gudgumnal	150
Mouje Bidaki	500
mouje Kullur	800
Mouje Dadebhavi	1500

Mouje Kadampur	300
Mouje Bijakupi	400
Mouje Chengudkati	300
Mouje Gudkati	400
Mouje Khanapur	600
<u>Tarf Sindogi</u>	
Mouje Basaragi	500
Mouje Gonagnur	500
Mouje Mangnur	75
Mouje Mallapur	250
'Foot Gav's	2000
	----- 12
Total Rs.	21325/-

The following chart shows the 'Inam Gav Akar' of the year 1846: total Rs. 37302-8-6

<u>Name of the village</u>	<u>Inam Akar Rs.</u>
Junipeth Torgal	159-1-0
Majare Sarvapur Kille Torgal	4502-1-0
Navipeth kille Torgal	2372-0-0
Mouje Sunal	872-12-0
Kasaba Haralapur	293-0-0
Mouje Arebenchi	691-12-0
Chilmur	717-4-0
Mouje Ramapur	243-0-0
Mouje Haloli	496-8-0
Kankanwadi	141-0-0
Kasaba Chandaragi	613-12-0
Mouje Gudgop	498-11-0
Mouje Totkate	100-9-0
Godchi	2440-2-0
Kojalini	503-0-0
Kesargop	50-0-0
Sidnal	1024-0-0

Mouje Torankati	1668-4-0
" BMadaklur	416-0-0
" Bhandarhali	765-2-0
" Murkatnal	255-10-0
" Jakhabal	380-0-0
" Bochabal	503-7-6
" Dadibhavi	1867-4-0
" Udapudi	1083-12-0
" Bidaki	807-0-0
" Kadampur	613-8-0
" Gudkate	389-8-0
" Bijkupi	310-0-0
" Ganaganur	938-12-0
" Mangnur	201-0-0
" Mallapur	275-0-0
Prant Shahapur	930-8-0
Prant Angol	1743-8-0
Kasaba Bach Bannur	2490-10-0
Majare Changodanhatti	376-12-0
Mouje Kullur	1500-10-0
" Gudgomnal	257-8-0
" Kamankop	574-6-0
" Budnur	615-6-0
June Torgal	2551-8-0

Total Akar Rs.	37302-8-6

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The above chart shows that the revenue income of the jahagir was increasing accordingly.

For the collection of revenue the villages were divided into different groups, and these groups were allotted to the Kulkarni. It seems from the record that there were eleven groups of the villages.¹⁴

On the whole the general administration system with a village officer (Kulkarni) at the bottom and the Jahagirdar at the top, would have been convenient.

RECEIPT AND EXPENDITURE ASPECTS OF THE TORGAL JAHAGIR:

The land revenue was the main source of the income of the Jahagir. However, there were many other sources of income prevailing in the Jahagir. The income thus received by various sources was spent on various items. The Jahagirdar had his annual budget. Such ~~budgets~~ budgets were sent to the Chhatrapati of Kolhapur for approval. After 1878. Some such budgets are found in the records. With the help of these budgets we can guess the receipts and expenditure of the period before 1878.

The following were the departments of the

RECEIPT SIDE:

1. Land Revenue
2. Sayar Revenue : Snuff, Shri Veerbhadra God Godchi income.
3. Jungle Dept. : Regional Monopolies, Assessment of Inam service lands, Miscellaneous
4. Excise Revenue: Shindi, Country spirit, Ganja.
5. Tasalmat Dept.
6. Garden Dept.
7. Khasagi Dept.: Assessment of Jahagir Raytava lands, Assessment of Paga servant Inam lands, Assessment of Khasagi Khata Servants land. etc.

8. Shivay Department
9. Mulaki Department: Fines, Assessment of Servant inam lands, Auction sale etc.
10. Mulaki Kheri Department
- * 11. Interest Department: Interest on Tagai, War bonds, Promisory notes and forest monopolies.
12. Amanat Department
13. Mokas Bab Department
14. Khas Jama Department
15. Service commutation Department: Bannurkar brothers.
- * 16. Tagai Department
- * 17. Rent Department
- * 18. Huzur Khazina Department. 15

The following were the departments of the expenditure side:

EXPENDITURE SIDE: DEPARTMENTS:

1. Khasagi Department:
 - i) Deosthan, Salary of servants, Daily Expenditure, weekly and annual expenditure, Vyankatesh Deo, Bhutanatha Deo, Moharam Sikali, Uru s festivals.
 - ii) KHASE MANDALI Expenditure: Jahagirdar, his relatives, Shradha.
 - iii) Servants: payments.
 - iv) Paga , Gadi Kharkhana-
 - v) Thatti (Cattle Shed)
 - vi) Purchasing new things for Khasagi Dept.

2. Garden Department
3. Revenue Department
Payment of Karbhari, Pension, Sadilwar,
Furniture, Remission, office expenditure
etc.
4. Mulaki Kherij Khate
5. Mahal Majakur Department
6. Jungle Department
Servant's payment, allowances etc.
7. Refund Department
8. Shilaki^{and} Chalu Amananatpaiki Dene
9. Amanat Department
10. Pension Department
11. Police Department *
12. Education Department
13. Dispensary Department
14. Engineering Department.
15. Donation Department
16. Lighting Department
17. Khas Jama Khate
18. Shivay³ Department
19. Sweeping Department
20. Service commutation Department *
21. War Loan Department
22. Interest Department *
23. Nazarana Department *
24. ~~Non~~ Non-recognisable Expenditure

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* These departments came into existence probably after 1853.

From the above departments of receipt and expenditure it seems that the income of the Jahagir was collected by various items and it was spent accordingly. The Jahagirdar spent the income on social and religious items like garden, dispensary, education, engineering, festivals etc. Though the Jahagirdar was the sole owner of the income he showed social outlook and paid attention to social wellbeing and uplift .

RELIGIOUS CONDITION:

The Jahagirdars in Torgal Jahagir inspite of their political activities showed a great religious interest. We come across many temples and Masjids of Hindu and Muslim people in Torgal Jahagir, especially at Torgal. Among all these temples the temple of Bhutanath at Torgal is the oldest one. It was built by King Bhutankush in 1100 A.D. Inspite of this temple we find the following religious seats from the records of the Jahagir:

1. Shri Vyankatesh Deo, Haralapur *
2. Mohram Alava Peer
3. Zul Phakir Peer
4. Kasim Peer
5. Navi Peth Peer
6. Nalsab Peer
7. Lagdek Peer
8. Ganesh Deo

9. Sangameshwar Deo
10. Narayan deo
11. Durga Devi
12. Yallamma Devi
13. Panchlingeshwar God
14. Vashishtashram
15. Parashuram etc.

* It is the family deity of Torgalkar Shinde family. The Jahagirdars paid tribute to this deity in all their correspondence writing at the top as " Shri Vyankatesh Prasanna".

Some of the temples are of the period of Chalukyan, Yadavs and of Vijayanagara. These temples and Masjids , Peers are in a good condition even to-day, and religious ^{rites} ~~rights~~ (Pooja) are performed by the Pujaris . The Jahagirdars have granted the land inams to such Pujaris.¹⁸ The following are some inam sanadas:

1. Laxmanrao Shinde I (1755-93) had given the sanad of Mallapur village to Vedshashtrasampanna Anantachari Krishnachari in 1780 for the religious work of Vyankateshwar God of Haralapur.¹⁹
2. Subhanrao Shinde (1853-78) renewed the sanad given to Shrinivas Acharya, for the religious purpose.²⁰
3. A sanad was given to Shankaraji Gokhale, for his religious work at Torgal.²¹

RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS:

Various religious festivals were celebrated in all the twelve months of the year. We can find a record of these religious festivals as follows:

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>FESTIVALS</u>
Ashadh-	Kark Sankraman
Shravan -	Nagpanchami, Gokulashtami
Bhadrapad ^m	Ganesh Chaturthi, Rishipanchami Anant Chaturdshsi
Ashvin-	Khandenavami, Kojagiri Laxmipuja
Kartik-	Bhutanath Deo, Pandavpanchami, Tulsivivah.
Magh-	Shivaratra
Poush-	Makar Sankrat
Falgun-	Holi
Chaitra-	Padva, Ramnavami
Vaishakh-	Akshaytritiya
Jeshta-	Gramdevi Otibharan. ²²

The Jahagirdars were Hindu (Maratha) by caste, but the Durgah, Peers and Masjids of the Muslims were very secure as the temples of Hindus. This shows that the Jahagirdars were secular minded and had their patronage to the Muslims also. All subjects were treated on equal terms. The rulers were tolerant and assylum of all religions. From social point of view taking into

account the past times, this secularism of the Torgal Jahagirdars was a remarkable thing.

In addition to this the Jahagirdars were aware of law and order in the Jahagir. There was a court at Torgal for judiciary.²³ Both civil and criminal cases were dealt with in this court. One had to pay the court fee before filing a suit. The cases were heard before the Jahagirdar and his Karbhari. The proofs and evidences were submitted before the Karbhari and the person had to take an oath in the name of God and his religion and he had to say that he was speaking the truth and not the lie.²⁴ The Karbhari declare the judgement with the consent of the Jahagirdar. The Jahagirdar had the right to punish or fine the criminal according to his crime. It is learnt that the Jahagirdars also had powers to give death sentence.²⁵ This power of death punishment was withdrawn later in the British Period.

Taking into account all the above aspect of administration it seems that the Torgal Jahagir was on par with the time, regarding the administration of jahagir.

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