CHAPTER IV

"SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS OF LINGAYAT COMMUNITY

[IN KOLHAPUR DISTRICT]."
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There are many organizations and associations which have started with the objective of organizing the Lingayat community and awakening its religious sense. Some of them are working at national level. Some are working at state level. But many of them are working at district, taluka and village level. Number of the organizations working at national and state level is less but the number of the organizations working at district, taluka and village level is big.

NATIONAL LEVEL WORKING ORGANIZATIONS:

1. AKHIL BHARTIYA VEERSHAIVA SANGH, BOMBAY, 1954.

This organization was established in 1954, under the presidentialship of Late M.P. Patil, former minister of Bombay presidency and a great leader of Congress Party. He was a great Veershaiva creative writer also. He, with the co-operation of Shri B.D. Jatti, former Vice President of India, Late S.R. Kanthi, Late Dr. D.C. Pawate, Late Magistrate M.S. Patil, Dr. Nandimath, Shri P.D. Palkandwar, registered the organization at Bombay. The main objective of the organization is propagation of the Lingayat faith, among all people. The organization tried to fulfil our motive by circulating the magazine and publishing the books. The magazine, namely, "Veershaiva" was also started in 1954. After two years, in 1956, unfortunately the circulation of the magazine was stopped. Then the magazine, 'Dnyanprasad', was started.
Besides this, organization undertook the work of publication of religious books. Names of the books published by the organization are as follows:

1. *Lilavishambhar alias Prabhulinglile*. Marathi. 1965

The work of the organization is notable as concerned with the Maharashtrian people. Because religion and philosophy of Lingayata is not available in Marathi language. On this ground the work done by the organization is useful for the Lingayata people of Maharashtra. Besides this, two books namely, biography of Dr. B.D. Jatti and *Veerashaiva Dnyankosh* are on the way of publishing.

2. **BASAVA SAMITI, BANGALORE, 1964.**

Basava Samiti is an association of liberal outlook. It was established in the year 1964 in Bangalore in order to study and propagate the universal tenets and teachings of Shri Basava and other saranas, such as kayaka or the concept of "Work is worship" evolution of a casteless and classless society, equal status to women, eradication of untouchability, abolishing of superstition and beliefs.²
Basava samiti publishes 'Basava Journal' quarterly in English, and 'Basava patha' monthly in Kannada in furtherance of the above objectives. These two highlight the lives and teachings of Basava and his associates and welcomes articles of different aspects of the multi-dimensional movement of Basava and his associates, comparative studies on this movement and other movements with a view to promoting national integration and international fellowship and goodwill. Both the journals are thought provoking and interesting. Hence, they should find a place in every family. Jatti (Dr.) B.D.; former, Vice President of India is a president, and Kumbhar (Dr.) Ratnappa from Kolhapur, former minister of Maharashtra state is Vice President of this organization. Besides this, there is a working committee of 26 members including 8 invitee members, and a board of trustees of 10 members.


This is another organization of Lingayats, which was founded in the year 1978 at Pune. Late Namdevrao Rukari was the first president of this organization. This organization has established its branches in all over Maharashtra at district, taluka and village levels. The organization is busy in awakening the Lingayata people with the help of its branches. For fulfilling the objective of spreading the Lingayata philosophy, a magazine, namely, "Veershaiva Darshan" is started by the organization from the beginning. They raised the fund namely, 'Maharashtra Veerashaiva Sabha Shikshan Fund'. Money was collected from donors, banks, common people of Lingayats on occasion of marriage
Organization has the balance of Rs.3,57,677/- as Shikshan Fund upto December, 1985 which is used to give financial help to the poor and the needy students of the Lingayata community. Besides this, a separate unit, namely, 'Vadhu-Var Suchak mandal' (Bride and Bridegroom search mandal) has been working since 28/06/1985. After eight years from the establishment of the organization, the first session held at Solapur on 16th and 17th November, 1985. Lingayata people had come there from all over Maharashtra, in a very short time it got dominant position in the minds of Lingayata people of Maharashtra.


To preach the philosophy of Basaveshwar and organize the society, the Vidharbha Maharashtra pradeshik Basava samiti, Nagpur was established on 22/02/1979. The branches of this organization are opened at Vardha, Akola, Amaravati, Yavatmal, Bhandara, Nanded, Thane, Aurangabad and Jaigaon. They are working under the guidance of this organization. Efforts are made properly for the fulfillment of the motives by this organization.

'Lingader Movement' was launched by this organization. Activities like Maharashtra Veerashaiva Parishad, Vedharbha Veerashaiva educational Parishad, Samaj Jagarathi Sapthaha were arranged by this organization. Basava sena was founded in the year 1982. Besides this, 'Vadhu Var Palak Melava' (meeting of the parents of likely brides and bridegrooms) was arranged successfully in 1983.

Like these organizations the Madhya Pradesh Veerashaiva Lingayat Samiti Jabalpur (Madhya Pradesh) is engaged in preaching the Lingayat philosophy.
SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS IN KOLHAPUR DISTRICT:

There are many organizations in Kolhapur district also. They are playing important role in the social and religious life of Lingayat community of Kolhapur district. Popularise the Lingayat faith and organize the Lingayat community are the objectives of these organizations. These organizations are working in at Kolhapur city, Ichalkaranji, Kurundwad, Jaysingpur, Gadhinglaj, Kabnoor, Halkarni, Nesari, Mahagaon etc. in Kolhapur district. They are working under the names like Veerashaiva Samaj, Lingayat Samaj, Veerashaiva Samaja Sanghatana, Basaveshwar Tarun Mandal, Akkamahadevi mandal, Veerashaiva Utakarsha mandal, Veerashaiva Lingayat sanstha. They receive funds from their members, donors, industrialists, banks, merchants etc. The activities like celebrating the birth anniversaries of Basaveshwar, Akkamahadevi and other great personalities. Collective marriages are also arranged by them. Some of the organizations of Kolhapur district have contributed a lot to the spreading of Lingayat philosophy in Kolhapur district. The following pages are devoted to study the history and activities of few important organizations of the Kolhapur district.

1. SOUTHERN MAHARASHTRA VEERASHAIVA LINGAYAT SANSTHA, KOLHAPUR.

(1907)

The efforts of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaja of Kolhapur state were responsible for the establishment of this organization. So far the Lingayats had not made any progress. In February 1907 Shahu therefore encouraged the Lingayat leaders to hold a conference. They met in conference in that month at a hill shrine
called Siddhagiri, eight miles from Kolhapur. Shahu addressed the conference and gave a fillip to their social and educational work. After this preliminary step, he invited the Karnatak leaders of the Lingayats to Kolhapur to discuss plans of starting a hostel. The result of their visit was the starting of Veerashaiva (Lingayat) hostel on the western bank of Rankala tank, providing accommodation for more than fifty students. Thus he provided the backward communities with funds, ideas and inspiration and helped to raise their social and cultural level. Taking encouragement from Shahu Maharaja Lingayat leaders established the organization in 1907. Today Shri Nasthe Baburao Shivapad is the president and advocate Malkar B.B. is the secretary. At present the economic position is sound. This organization is working in social and religious fields. It runs the students boarding also.

A) JAIMURUGHRAJENDRA STUDENTS BOARDING, KOLHAPUR. JULY 1907.

This students' boarding is started by Southern Maharashtra Veerashaiva Lingayat Samaj Kolhapur in July 1907 by the inspiration of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaja of Kolhapur state. The history of this boarding is very interesting. In July 1907, Lingayat boarding was started on the western bank of RANKALA Tank, providing accommodation for more than fifty students. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaja of Kolhapur state had donated annual donation and building for the boarding purpose. but later on the place of this boarding was given to cinema house. So Chhatrapati Rajaram Maharaja of Kolhapur state gave another building to the Lingayat community in the year 1932 for the purpose of building
students hostel which was known as 'Shri Bayasaheb Wada'. But this building was not suitable and sufficient for accommodation of the students. So the 'Indumati Ranisaheb's bungalow at Sheribag in Kolhapur city was taken on rent, but this building was old and was also not suitable for accommodation. The cat carried out its pups from one place to another safe place, like this, leaders of Lingayat community, according to the situation shifted their boarding to different places. The Lingayat leaders Vantmukar, Shintre, Warad, Khot Lande, Shende, Mishrakoti and Mali, etc. were thinking over the permanent settlement of the boarding in the year 1957. The idea for a permanent settlement of the boarding came into existence in the year 1961. The of Rs.21,000/- was raised. Mr. Vantmurkar Sirdesai has donated Rs.12,000/- and Mr. Shintre of Kurli has donated Rs.7,000/-. Besides this, Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur state has sanctioned Rs. 250/- as annual grant. Lingayat organization got 13,500 sq. feet of land, out of open area in the west side of Chitradurga monastery (Matha) at Laxmipuri near Dasara Chowk as a gift from this monastery. In this connection Shri Niranjan Pranav Swarupi Shri Gurushatswami, who was the mathadhipati of Chitradurga monastery from 1936 to 1979 and Niranjan Pranav Swarupi Shri Mallikarjun Swami, who was a 26th Jagadguru of Chitradurga monastery of Karnataka state played an important role. In this place, in the presence of Vidantkesari Shri Mallikarjunswami Maharaja, the corner stone ceremony for the building was laid down in October 1963. The construction of the first storey of fifteen rooms of the building was completed upto June 1965.
fifteen rooms of the building was completed up to June 1965, fifteen rooms second storey of the building was completed in the year 1969, and in the same year Jaimurugharajendra Southern Maharashtra Veerashaiva Lingayat boarding was started in the new building. Today accommodation is available for 112 students on simple rent of Rs. 600/- annually per student. Later on, the boarding became known as Veerashaiva Lingayat Boarding, Kolhapur. The leader of the organization, Shri Shreshtianna M.D. president of the organization, Shri Nasthe Shivpadanna, Shri. Chougule Mahadevappa, Shri Karambli Kashappanna, Shri Malkar Balkrishna were took hard efforts for the establishment of this boarding.

2. SHRI AKKAMAHADEVI MANTAP - 1969.

Another notable work of the organization is the establishment of the above mantap in the year 1969 at Raviwar peth, Kolhapur. This place was donated by Chhatrapati Rajaram maharaja of Kolhapur state to the organization for students boarding purpose. But the organization had constructed a new building at Dasara Chowk and previous student boarding which was in Raviwar peth, Kolhapur was shifted in this new building. Then organization had decided to construct a multi-purpose hall on that place in the changing circumstances of the social life of the society. The corner stone ceremony of Akkamahadevi mantap and ladies boarding was accomplished, in the presence of Vedankesari Shri Mallikarjunswami of Shivanand Monastery (Matha), Gadag on 4/9/1969, following notable persons were present for this ceremony. Advocate Shri Shreshthi, President, Southern Maharashtra Veerashaiva Lingayat Samaj, Shri Mahadevapp Todkar,
President, Kolhapur Veerashaiva Samaj, Shri Shivarudra Swami, secretary, Kolhapur Veerashaiva Samaj, Gurushantswami, Mathadhipati, Chitradurga monastery, Kolhapur Shri Virupax Doejed, M.V. Sultanapure, president, welcome samiti of this ceremony D.B. Shri Ratnappanna Kumbhar, and local Lingayat people of Kolhapur city. The construction of the building of Akkamadevi mantap was completed from 1969 to 1973. At present this mantap is useful for the people of all the communities for marriage and seminar purpose. The construction of ladies boarding is on the way of progress. The fund of Rs. 2,09,107/- was raised for this purpose. 10

2. KOLHAPUR VEERASHAIVA SAMAJ, KOLHAPUR (1967).

Kolhapur Veerashaiva Samaj, Kolhapur is another organization which is devoted to the work for Lingayat community. In 1967 it was established by Shri Mahadev Kallappa Todkar, from Kolhapur city with the help of other Lingayat leaders. The Sanstha was registered and its office is in 2965, 'C' Chitadurg Matha, Dasara Chowk, Kolhapur. From the beginning it has got powerful leadership. So at present it turned into a big tree from little plant. Though this organization has not its own building but its social and religious activities are great. At present it's activities are continued from Shri Akkamahadevi Mantap, Raviwar peth, Kolhapur. Before turning towards activities of organization it is essential to take a review of presidents and secretaries period under whose leadership it has made progress. 11

Presidents:

1. Shri Mahadev Kallappa Todkar 23.6.67 to 10.2.70.
2. Shri Kashappa Shivalingappa Karambali 11.2.70 to 28.10.79.
3. Shri Bapuso alias Ramchandra 29.10.79 to 27.2.82
   Mahadev Chougule.

SECRETARIES:
1. Shri Mahadev Ramchandra Sadguru 23.6.67 to 6.3.76.
   (Gavali)
2. Shri Vasant Balkrishna Sangvadekar 7.3.76 onwards.

ACTIVITIES OF ORGANIZATION:

For the systematic study of Indian national Congress the period of this Congress is divided into three phases. Like that we can divide the period of this organization in three phases for our easy study. It is helpful for us to know the expansion and activities of the organization.

1. First phase : 1967 to 1970
3. Third phase : 1980 onwards

1. First Phase 1967 to 1970:

It was established with the objective of bringing about a general awakening in the society regarding social welfare. Besides celebrating Basav Jauyanti and other national festivals, it could not do anything more. But it was the period of beginning. Without strong foundation any organization cannot make its expansion and for this, some period is essential. It seems, that in the beginning, long period has gone into it.
2. SECOND PHASE 1971 TO 1980.
In the beginning activities were going slowly but after this period it was taken speed. Religious, cultural and social in all these fields it has done a remarkable work and definitely its impressions are landmarks in the history of organization.

1. RELIGIOUS WORK:
From establishment of organization religious works are carried out through it. Since 1970-71 it has started a new custom of celebrating the Shri Mahayogini Akkanahadevi, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Mahatma Basaveswara Jayantis simultaneously, for national integration this work of organization is praiseworthy. It has made special efforts to broadcast lecture on Mahatma Basaveswara through All India Radio since 1972. It has arranged the 'Bhavya Mahotsav Samarambh' of Jagadguru Rambhapuri from 22nd May, 1980 to 28th May 1980. According to the invitation of Kolhapur Veerashaiva Society, Rambhapuri Shrimad Jagadguru Veer Sambhasarishwar Rajendra Shivacharya Mahaswamiji Mahasansthan Balehonnur, district Chikkamangalur, Karnataka state came for the first time to Kolhapur, which is known as Southern Kashi on 22nd May, 1980. In his eight days living in Kolhapur different programmes like 'Adda Palakhi', 'Veerashaiva Melava' Kumbhaishak, Dipotsava, Mahashivapuja, Sarvadharm Parishad, Shivdiksha, Sarpalankar samarpan, manpatra Arpan, pravachanas were accomplished.
Programmes were completed in the area of Shri Chitradurga monastery, Kolhapur. At that time area of Chitradurg monastery looked like a holy place. In all these programmes, the programme
of 'Conference of all Religions' is a peculiar programme in the history of this organization. Way of all religions is a way of human welfare in this world. All rivers lastly meet to ocean like this, all religions in the world are giving the message of peace. This festival was benefitted to not only Lingayats but all the people of the other community. In this festival following speeches were arranged.

2. Shri Prof M.D. Nalavade : Buddhism religion.
   Dept of History, Shivaji University, Kolhapur.
4. Shri Advocate Nanasaheb Nandrekar : Jain Religion.

This conference, not only accomplished with speeches. But 6' x 3' feet 25 pictures in oil painting were decorated in bullock cart and a procession proceeded on the main streets in Kolhapur city. These portraits were of all apostles and founders of religion like Jesus Christ, Islam's holy place Makka, Mahavir, Gautam Buddha, Adya Shankaracharya, Guru Nanak, Basaveshwar, Panchacharya etc. and others. This procession of all religions are equal is peculiar and remarkable.

Through this organization, Jagadguru RambhapuriMahaswamiji on 28.5.1980 and Shri B.D. Jatti, former Vice President of India, on 20th September, 1985 were honoured by citation.
PUBLICATION OF BOOK:

Organization has published a small book in 1974, viz., "Ath Lingapuja Vidhi", which is useful for awakening the religious sense of community.

EDUCATIONAL WORK:

Organization has turned its attention towards educational mission. Since 1975, it has started competition of oratory to encourage good qualities in students, nature of the competition is as below:

These competitions are taken in three groups: Primary, Secondary and Higher.

PRIMARY GROUP ORATORY COMPETITION:

For this group Shri Mahadevrao Ganpatrao Banchhode, Director of Veerashaiva Bank, Kolhapur, has put a running shield in the memory of his third son, Late Rajkumar alias Balasaheb Mahadeo Banchhode and also donated.

SECONDARY GROUP ORATORY COMPETITION:

For this group Shri Tukaram Shankar Lakade alias Kaka Lakade, Director of Veerashaiva Bank, Kolhapur has put a running shield in the memory of his father, Late Shankar Tukaram Lakade and also given the hard cash.

HIGHER EDUCATION GROUP COMPETITION OF ORATORY:

For this Group Shri Ramchandra alias Bapusaheb Mahadev Chougule, Director of Veerashaiva Bank, Kolhapur and president of Veerashaiva Samaja, Kolhapur has put a running shield in the memory of his mother, Late Bhagirathibai and donated hard cash.
1. DRAWING COMPETITION:

For this competition, Shri Shantaram Mahadev Kagale, worker of Lingayat community has put a running shield in the name of his mother, paravatibai Mahadev Kagale, and donated hard cash.

2. COMPETITION OF PLAY SONGS:

For this competition, Shri Anant Gurupad Awate, worker of Lingayat community, has put a running shield in the name of his father, Late Gurupadappa Shivbasu Awate, and given hard cash. This educational mission continued successfully since 1971.

3. SOCIAL WORK:

Lingayata community is scattered. Because of many reasons Lingayat people cannot come together. Day by day human life is becoming mechanical, there is lack of time for everyone to wait for others. Besides this traditional religious names and surnames of Lingayats are changing. And also because of other reasons they cannot come together. Lingayat samaj of Kolhapur has arranged a programme get together on 28.1.1984 with the objective to bring Lingayat people together, who are scattered. This programme was successfully completed. To find out bride and bridegroom is another problem which Lingayat community is facing at present. This is very important thing in the family life of every one. Day by day this affairs is becoming difficult. To solve the problem to some extent organization arranged a conference of brides and bridegrooms on 28.1.1984. In this work organization has taken the role of a guardian. At present moment 250 names of brides and bridegrooms are registered on record of the organization. This is a need of time.
The activities taken by the organization in the religious, social and educational field in the second phase has been continued for the third phase continuously.

3. VEERASHAIVA UTAKARSH MANDAL, ICHALKARANJI, 1973:

Ichalkaranji is regarded as a Manchester of India. Cotton industry of this city is popular in India. In this city, Veerashaiva Utakarsh mandal was established in the year 1973. Mergedranna Sultanpure was the first president of this organization. At present, Shri Dhyana Basappa Dattwade is acting as president from last 15 years. He is well known and popular leader of Lingayata community. He was born at Shirdhon, taluka, Shirol of the Kolhapur district in the year 1920, but he came to Ichalkaranji city and settled down. He started the working for community since 1963. He established a trust for Lingayat community in 1967 with the help of Appaya Swami from Ichalkaranji. In the foundation of Shri Basaveshwar Nagrai pathsanstha, Ichalkaranji, he played an important role. He took an acting part in establishing the Jijamata Housing Society, Kasturba Housing Society and Bharatmata Housing Society in Ichalkaranji. He acted as director of industrial estate and Shri Veerashaiva Bank, branch Ichalkaranji. At present he is working as a director of Ichalkaranji Urban Co-operative Bank and the founder member of Shri Basaveshwar Nagari Pathsanstha, Ichalkaranji.

As a president of the organization he took hard labour for the development of this organization. In the beginning the organization suffered from some problem, but under the leadership
of Dattwade it made progress at present. Totally eight acres land was purchased by the organization. Among it two acres land is near the modern highschool, Ichalkaranji. Here a beautiful Shivmandir was erected. It is a fine Shivamandir. Organization has turned its attention towards the educational field also. The school from first standard to seventh standard, only for girls was started by the organization in 1988 on the same place. It is a notable work of the organization that, within a very short period they built a building for this purpose. Among the eight acres land, remaining six acre land is near Yadrava spinning mill on the way of Ichalkaranji, Sangli road. Due to the lack of money any work was not done by the organization on that place.


This is a branch organization of Maharashtra Veerashaiva Sabha, Pune. This branch was established in 1979. The first president was shri Bapusaheb Hindurao Patil from Takavade Taluka Shirl Dist. Kolhapur. Organization has 35 persons district executive. At present Shri Mahadev Ramchandra Sadguru (Gavali) from Kolhapur city is president and Shri Vasant Balkrishna Sangavdekar from Kolhapur city is the secretary of this organization.

To awaken the Lingayat community in all the scene and show them proper way for solve their problems is the main objective of this organization. Efforts were made for the fulfilment of the objective properly. Out of twelve talukas of Kolhapur district in nine talukas Lingayat people are inhabited. Organization had arranged tours for the contract of these people. This programme
is continued in every year. Like the other organizations Vadhu Var Palak Melava were arranged by the organization. Besides this they are giving financial help to the poor and needy students from its educational fund at every year. Following students are earn the financial help from the organization in the year 1981-1982:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Name &amp; Address</th>
<th>Education &amp; Name of the Institution</th>
<th>Amount Sanctioned. Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Vijaykumar Shivling Vader Alate, Tal.Hatkanangale</td>
<td>M.B.B.S. Miraj medical College, Miraj.</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thus amount of Rs.3595/- was distributed among 8 students. The number of students and the amount is increasing day by day. In the year 1982-1983 amount of Rs.6420/- was distributed among 22 students. In the year 1983-84 amount of Rs. 4230/- was distributed among 12 students. And in the year 1984-85 the number of students was 32 and the amount was Rs.7100/-. This number is increased in the year 1990 upto students number 45 and amount upto Rs.9800/-.

This organization has been working jointly with the Kolhapur Veerashaiva samaj, Kolhapur. The Maharashtra Veerashaiva Sabha, Pune is helping this branch in all the directions. Some financial help also comes from the main organizations to this branch. This organization does not have its own building. Even economical position is not sound. It is necessary for the Lingayat people of the district to come forward with financial help to the organization.

4. JAYSINGPUR VEERASHAIVA SAMAJ, JAYSINGPUR (1989)

The organization of Jaysingpur Veerashiva Samaj, Jaysingpur was founded on November 18, 1989 at Jaysingpur, in taluka Shriol of the Kolhapur district. The motive behind the organization is economic, social, religious and cultural development of the Lingayat community of the Kolhapur district. From the foundation of this organization Shri Patil Shivagonda Shankar, Shri Doejad Vilas Shankarrao and others, from Jaysingpur town took much labours. The office of this organization is situated at Late Durgade Akkubai Sabhagrah, 12th Lane,
Jaysingpur. The organization is newly established, but different types of necessary work was done by this organization.

CENSUS WORK:

The population of Lingayat community living in Jayasingpur city is big. But it is impossible to state the definite population of the Lingayats in Jayasingpur town. So the census work of Lingayata people situated at Jayasingpur is taken by this organization. Separate forms were printed for this purpose. These forms were distributed among the Lingayata people. After recollection of these forms the work of census will be completed. Census of the Lingayata people is very necessary. In the beginning no one gave attention towards this work, because of this we are unable to get the number of definite population of Lingayata people. In this ground the attempt made by the organization is very important. It is necessary to spread this type of work in other organizations on Lingayata community.

RELIGIOUS WORK:

From establishment of organization religious works are carried out through it. Activities like celebrating the birth anniversaries of Basaveshwar, Akkamahadevi and other great personalities are carried out by the organization. For this purpose money is collected from the members of the organization and people of the community. The functions were carried out with the motive of organising the Veerashaiva Lingayat community try to solve their problems and awaken its religious sense.
COLLECTIVE MARRIAGES:

The collective marriages were arranged by the organization for the first time on 10.2.1990, Vadhu Var palak Melava was arranged by the organization. Seven hundred people from Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara and Belgaum districts were present at that time. Thirty marriages were fixed in this melava. Today this work is continued. About this Vadhu Vara palak melava Shri Parmane, Shakarrao, incharge of this department has stated, Vadhu Vara Palak melava is the necessity of society. It is becoming difficult day by day to search the bride and bridegroom, because of this we have started this department by our organization. We arrange this type of melava every year. In this melava names were registered. 700 bride and bridegrooms were registered their names upto date. The Veerashaiva Co-op. Bank Ltd., branch Jaysingpur has given financial assistance for this melava.

CREMATORIUM:

Organization has tried its best and has earned the one hectare 60 area land for the crematorium. Shri Datta Shetkari Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd. Shirl has co-operated, the organization for land levelling by giving their bulldozer machine. The land was bounded by compound. Shri Kothavale Shivarudra and Shri Patil M.S., Shri Shahapure Prakash from Jaysingpur have given financial assistance for this purpose.

Late Duragade, Akkubai has donated her own house situated at Lane No.12 in Jaysingpur town to the organization. But in this house some families are living and are not ready to leave the
house. So the organization has gone into court for the justice. So the building is not useful for the organization at present.  

Besides this, prizes were given by the organization every year. The work done by the organization is not very big one but it is necessary work.

Thus these social organization has been doing very good activities in the Lingayat community of Kolhapur district and generating new interest in religion. Moreover young generation of this community is also taking interest of these social institutions and fulfil the need of the society.
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8. Interview with Shri Chndraskhhar Devaru, Mathadhipati, of Chitradurga monastery, Kolhapur.


11. Interview with Sangavedkar Vasant Balkrishna, Secretary, Kolhapur Veerashaiva Samaj, Kolhapur.

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18. Interview with Davanba Basappa Pattwade, President, Veerashaiva Utakarsh Mandal, Ichalkaranji.


22. Interview with Advocate Balaso Bapuso Malkar, Joint Secretary, Kolhapur Zilla Veerashaiva Sabha, Kolhapur.


26. Ibid. p.2.

27. Interview with Shankar Shivagonda Patil, President, *Jaisingpur Veerashaiva Samaja, Jaisingpur*. 

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