ABSTRACT

The present thesis is an attempt to focus the diverse roles the Raja of Amber had in relation to the Mughal Court - the duties expected of him, the manner in which he carried these out, the balance he maintained being simultaneous incumbent of some very significant offices, whether or not he operated for his interests while representing the Mughal Court are some of the aspects covered.

The topic suits more to the period mentioned in the sense that this is when the relations of the Raja with the Mughal Court became more dense -- Jai Singh Sawai is known for his statesmanship as also his innovative genius, the time was most suited for the application of both. From the rich nature of documents the above and the related aspects are concentrated upon.

With his submission at the Mughal Court the Amber Raja became mansabdar and his ancestral domain was treated as his watan. His obligations in this role towards the Mughal Court and the position he enjoyed is studied in the first chapter.

The second chapter relates to the extension of watan area wherein the ijara system and other revenue assignments
played a vital role to overpower the petty jagirdars and bhomias.

The third chapter provides a comparison of the abovesaid condition and the non-watan area. The hypothesis being that the position of Raja in the latter areas would be vulnerable as compared to his watan. His role in the capacity of an ordinary jagirdar, where he had to function in coordination with the shirkat jagirdars and the Emperor's representatives officiating at the khalisa is studied in the selected sample parganas.

The fourth chapter encompasses the study of such important officials as the wakil and the diwan who acted as the communication channel between the Raja the Imperial Court. Their role, correspondence with the Raja, status, duties, and remuneration are discussed in detail.

The subsequent chapter relates to the relation that the Raja had with the Emperor. The manner and instances where paramountcy was exercised by the Emperor, as also where the latter proved accommodating and allowed concessions to the Raja.

The sixth chapter is a study of the relations the Raja had with the nobles of the adjoining areas. How and when it effected the Raja's attitude and the outcome of such
confrontation whenever it occurred. The relations of the Raja with the other Rajputs are also taken into consideration, how the Raja came to exercise vital importance is also focussed upon. The change and developments in the relations viz-a-viz the former nobles is also summarily treated.

The next chapter relates to one of the most essential obligation of the Raja - the maintenance of army for imperial service. The expected strength as indicated by the sawar rank the maintenance of descriptive rolls of the jamiatdars and their subordinates, the remuneration per sawar, details of the remaining contingent, their salary and weaponry are incorporated.

The eight chapter concerns the maintenance of karkhanas at Amber for imperial and domestic usage. The organisation, administration, manufacture, storage and catering are brought out at length, these in turn reflect the margin of autonomy allowed to such an establishment.

The nature of decline of the Mughal Empire and its long ranging effects are attempted to be studied in the ninth chapter to observe the extent of its effects on the Amber state.

Finally the last chapter shows the impact of Mughal administration on the Amber state. Amber being the watan area
had to conform where the maintenance of uniformity in administration was concerned. The data shows the extent to which the impact is reflected in the local administration run by the sub-assignees and sub-lessees of the Raja.