SYNOPSIS

Chapter - I

THE FIRST DECADE OF SULTAN MAHMUD'S REIGN
(1458-1467)

Early years of Sultan Mahmud's life - His birth -
His mother Bibi Mughali and the story of her marriage
with Muhammad Shah - the Sultan's mother seeks the pro-
tection of Saiyyid Shah Alam - The Sultan's early life
under the protection of the saint.

The political condition of Gujarat at the time
of his accession - The rift among the nobles - The Rajput
kingdoms within Gujarat.

The conspiracy of nobles - The real cause of con-
spiracy - The attitude of the Sultan towards the conspira-
rators - The real conspirators brought to light - The
Sultan masters the situation - The fate of the conspira-
tors.

An assessment of the rebellion - Distribution of
jagirs and titles to the persons who remained faithful
to him during his time.
Gujarat and Malwa and the Bahamani Empire of Deccan (1461-1462)

Niẓām-ul-mulk Ghori leaves the Niẓām Shāhī state in anger — Niẓām Shāh ascends the throne under the regency of Khawajah Jehan or Mahmud Gawan — Request of Niẓām Shāh for help to Sultan Mahmūd Shāh against the Malwa ruler invading at this time — Reasons for Sultan Mahmūd acceding to the request.

The course of the war.

Sultan Mahmūd Khaljī attacks Deccan again — Gujarāt army once again sent — Retreat of Mahmūd Khaljī — A threat from Mahmūd Shāh I to the Sultan of Malwa.

The conquest of Bahrot, Panera and Dun :-

The piratical activities in these places — Its effects on the sea-coast and Gujarāt shipping — The Sultan's march towards the pirates and conquest of these places.

Sack of Sanjan: (1465 or 1491)

Defence by its Hindu ruler and his Parsi subjects — The escape of the Parsis and their settlement at Udwada.
Mahmud Shah helps Usman Khan to recover the throne of Jhalore: (1461-1462)

The source — A Brief history of Jhalore — Usman Khan seeks the help of Sultan Mahmud against his brother Malik Salar — The royal army restores Usman Khan on the throne of Jhalore.

Chapter — II

EXPANSION OF THE KINGDOM — (1467-1484)

The conquest of Junagadh:

Importance of the situation of Junagadh in Saurashtra — Political importance of the place — The origin of the Ra's of Junagadh — Antiquity of Junagadh — Ra Mandalika's early life — Reasons for its conquest — Political and religious — Three expeditions and the causes advanced by the Sultan for these expeditions — Popular belief for the fall of Junagadh — Conversion of Ra Mandalika to Islam — Reasons given by the Persian chroniclers Examination of the validity of these reasons — Junagadh renamed Mustafabad and its important — The importance of the conquest of Junagadh — Political and strategical.
The sack of Kuva:

Khalīl Khān (later Sultan Muzaffar Shāh) as the deputy of Saurashtra - Jhala Vagboji of Kuva - The catastrophe of Kuva.

Cutch and Sind:

Confused and meagre account - Disturbance in Cutch - Easily reasserts his strength - Sind - Relations with the Jam of Sind - Relieves the Jam from the trouble.

The conquest of Dwarka and Sankhodhar:

Religious importance of these places - Causes of invasion - The campaign against Raja Bhim of Dwarka - his execution.

The conquest of Champaner:

Importance of Champaner - Famine in Gujarat - The campaign - Raval Jaysingh seeks the help of the Malwa ruler - Ghāsūd-dīn of Malwa and his retreat after the march of a few miles - Reason for this retreat according to the chroniclers and how far it is acceptable - The likely reasons for the retreat.

The storming of the fort - its fall.

The performance of Jauhar by the Rajputs.
The fate of Raval Jaysingh and his family.

The popular beliefs about the fall of Champaner - The close of the war.

The subjugation of Ranpur:

Source - Relation of the Sultan with Gohel chief Ranji of Ranpur - The causes of the expedition against the Gohel chief - Fall of Ranpur and the Rajput women performed Jauhar - An evaluation of the event.

Chapter - III

INTERNAL AFFAIRS, BAHADUR GILANI & KHANDESH

The administrative divisions of Gujarat - Foundation of Musamudabad - Conspiracy of Khudawand Khan - Reasons for this conspiracy - The Sultan informed about this - The conspiracy failed - The Sultan tests the loyalty of the nobles - An assessment of the conspiracy.

Bahadur Gilani's piratical activities on the sea-coast of Gujarat - Origin of Bahadur - Reasons for his piratical activities in sea - Sultan Mahmud send the armies by sea and land - The failure of the Gujarat navy - Sultan Mahmud's appeal to the Deccan ruler for help -
Bahādūr captured by the Deccan army and executed.

Succession problem of Khandesh — Relations of the Sultan with the Sultan of Khandesh — Rival groups of the nobles and their support to rival candidate — Ṭālam Khān appeal to Gujarat Sultan for help — The Gujarat army occupies Khandesh — Ṭālam Khan restored.

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the joint navy at Div - Results of the battle of Div.

Appointment of Afonso Albuquerque - Change in the policy towards Gujarat - Defensive policy followed by the Sultan - Opening of negotiations with the Portuguese - Fall of Goa to the Portuguese - A further warning to the opponents of the Portuguese.

Embassy sent to Affonso by the Sultan with two letters, one from the Sultan and the other from Malik Gopi - The contents of the letters described - Albuquerque's reply.

League between Gujarat and Egypt broken up.

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Chapter - V

LEGENDS ABOUT SULTAN MAHMUD SHAH

Controversies about his epithet Begada - The opinions of the Persian writers and modern writers about this epithet - The belief of the followers of Imam Shah about this sobriquet - Examination of these references and their possible interpretation.

The Sultan's personal habits - The Story of poison Accounts of Varthema and Barbosa for this habit - Probable political reasons.
The Sultan's appetite - other personal habits.

Chapter - VI

HIS ADMINISTRATION - ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS OF THE KINGDOM - ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS OF JUSTICE.


RELIGIOUS POLICY - A STaunch FOLLOWER OF ISLAM - HIS TRAINING IN THE LAWS OF ISLAM - ATTITUDE TOWARDS HINDUS AND RAJPUTS IN PARTICULAR - NOT VERY HARSH WITH THE HINDUS - SOME POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR THEM - HARSHNESS TOWARDS RAJPUTS PARTLY FOR POLITICAL REASONS - A MODERATE RELIGIOUS POLICY ON THE WHOLE - DISLIKE FOR SHI'AS.

NOTABLE FEATURES OF HIS REIGN - A GENERAL SURVEY OF HIS ACHIEVEMENTS IN MILITARY ENGAGEMENTS - PRESTIGE OF THE SULTANATE RAISED DURING THIS TIME. AN EMBASSY TO GUJARAT SENT BY ISMAIL SHAH, THE RULER OF PERSIA, ALSO
a rebellious Lodi prince takes refuge in the court of Gujarat.

Development of Architecture - A bright period of the Sultanate - Architectural pieces of Sarkhej, constructions in Ahmedabad and its suburbs mentioned herein.

The coins of his reign - Distinctive in the numismatic history of Gujarat - His name given to silver coins.

Horticulture and Arboriculture - Plantation of shady trees and fruits of different kinds, is the result of Sultan Mahmud's efforts.

Close of the reign - Death of the Sultan - Buried at Sarkhej.

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Chapter - VII

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF SULTAN MUZAFFAR SHAH

The family of Sultan Mahmud - Birth of Muzaffar Shah - His education and varied interests.

Political career - Appointments at various places, at Sorath and at Baroda - Appointment as successor sanctioned by the nobles.

Ascends the throne on November 22, 1511 - The dis-
tribution of jagirs and titles.

Persian mission in Gujarat - Presence of Malwa Prince in the capital - Conflict with the prince's men and envoy's suite - Different opinions about this conflict - Portuguese account of the Persian embassy - Departure of the embassy.

Chapter - VIII

RELATIONS OF GUJARAT WITH MALWA

The war of succession in Malwa - Rise of Medini Rai The nobles of Malwa seek the help of Sultan Muṣaffar Shāh - Muṣaffar Shāh to Malwa with a large army - Gives up the idea of attacking it - Reason for this retreat explained.

Muṣaffar Shāh renews the attack on Mandu - A successful attack - Rai Pithora, the son of Medini Rai, in the fort with a band of Rajput soldiers - Medini Rai to Rana Sanga - Underestimation of Rajput strength by Persian chroniclers - Fall of Mandu - Muṣaffar Shāh restores Maḥmūd Khaljī - Jauhar in the fort - Grand entertainment for the Sultan of Gujarat.

An attempt by the Rajputs for the recovery of Mandu Maḥmūd Khaljī taken of by Rana Sanga - a chivalrous
treatment by the Rana - Rana Sanga once again restores Mahmud on the throne.

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Chapter - IX

RELATIONS WITH THE RAJPUTS

Relations with the Rajput state of Idar - The Raja of Idar raided the territory of Gujarat and defeated the army under 'An-i'l-mulk - The Sultan marched in person and so peace concluded -

Succession dispute in Idar - The Sultan and Rana Sanga in the dispute - Rana Sanga in Gujarat - Defeats Nizam-i'l-mulk - and goes to Visnagar - His return.

Gujarat attack on Chitor - Long and indecisive fight at Mandsore - Peace concluded - Some controversial points regarding the attitude of Malik Ayaz and Rana Sanga.

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Chapter - X

RELATIONS WITH THE PORTUGESE, THE SECOND PHASE

(1511 - 1526)

Introduction - Albuquerque's appointment and his
policy and fall of Goa and its effects - The change in the policy of the Sultans of Gujarat towards the Portuguese.

Embassy from Gujarat to Goa - Albuquerque's meeting with Malik Ayāz, 1513.

Albuquerque despatched an embassy to Gujarat, 1514 - Arrival of envoys in Surat and Champaner - Received instructions from Malik Gopi - The embassy in Ahmedabad - Discussion about their demands - Some of them turned down by the Sultan - Unsuccessful - Return to Goa.

Albuquerque succeeded by Lopo Albergaria - succeeded by Diogo de Sequeira - Reopens the question of Div - Arrives at Div, 1520 - Malik Ayāz frustrates the Portuguese plan - Sequeira renews the attack, 1521 and fails.

Portuguese Governor and his negotiations with Nizām Shāh of Ahmadnagar, against the commerce of Gujarat - Failed to change Gujarat policy - Malik Ayāz as the Governor of Div - His death in 1521 - His policy.

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Family of Sultan Muzaffar Shah - political influence of Bibi Rani on the Sultan - Prince Bahadur's flight from Gujarat - Succession dispute between Sikandar Khan and Bahadur Khan - The role of Shah Shikhji, the Saiyyid of Batwa - The reasons given by the Persian chroniclers for the flight of Bahadur Khan from Gujarat - Bahadur towards the North - Received hospitably by Rana Sanga - The Prince went towards Delhi - Returns to Gujarat.

Muzaffar Shah II - An appraisal:

His accomplishments - His religious piety - His mild nature - His "clemency" might be good point in his character but it weakened the Sultanate of Gujarat - Weak administration - Rift among the nobles - Rivalry between Malik Ayaz and Malik Gopi.

Chapter XII

NOBILITY UNDER THE SULTANS AND THEIR PRINCIPAL NOBLES (1458-1526)

Constitution of nobility:

Rajputs, Persians, Turks, Abyssinians, Egyptian and a Russian - The converted Rajputs and their position in the administration of the Sultanate - Malik Gopi, Hai-Rayan etc. were Rajputs - Malik Ayaz was probably a
Russian.

Functions of nobility:

Division of the Kingdom - Appointments of nobles on each "Thana" - Administrative and Military powers of the nobles - Nobles maintained their own forces - Main civil function was to maintain peace and order.

Military duties:

Army divided into different batches, each under individual nobles - The final control of army remained with Sultan - The soldiers loyal to their immediate masters.

The Principal nobles of the Sultan:

Malik Ayaz Sultanī - His origin - His career - His work as the Governor of Div - His wealth and liberality - His death - Muḥāfīz Khān - Dāwar-ūl-mulk - Malik ʿAlīm - Khudāwānd Khān - Malik Sārang - His political career. Malik Shābān - Malik Gōpī - His origin - political career - Rivalry with Malik Ayaz and his tragic end - Khush Qadam - A noble of Sultan Muzaffar Shāh purchased a slave.

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Chapter - XIII

SAIYYIDS OF BATWA AND THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE SULTANS OF GUJARAT (1458 - 1526)

Ancestry of Saiyyid Shāh 'Alam - Saiyyid Jalāl Bukhārī from Bukhara settled in Punjab - Buried at Uchh near Bhavalpur - He is known as Maḥdūm-i-Jahāniyān
His influence at Delhi - His successors became the patron saints of the independent Sultanate of Gujarat.

Saint Burhān-ud-Dīn Qutb-ud-Ālam: He came to Gujarat at a very young age - Muzaffar Shāh I, the Sultan, receives him with due honour - Ahmedabad, the new city founded by Ahmad Shāh, the blessed by the saint - The Sultan gave him Batwa, as a jagir and since then Batwa became the residence of Bukhārī Saiyyids.

Shāh 'Alam: His birth - received "Sūfī" robe from Shaikh Ahmad Khattu - His relations with Sultan Qutb-ud-Dīn - His marriage with Bidār Sīrkī, the daughter of Jam of Sind - His second marriage with Bidī Mughalī, second daughter of Jam of Sind and formerly the wife of Sultan Muhammad Shāh - He becomes a guardian and protector of Fath Khān (Sultan Mahmūd Shāh I) - Daūd Shāh and Shāh 'Alam - Mahmūd Shāh I and Shāh 'Alam - His political influence during his reign - His death.
Salyyid Shāh Shaikhī and Muzaffar Shāh - II - His strained relations with Muzaffar Shāh II - The Persian accounts of how they come to an understanding - His influence in political life of Gujarat.

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Chapter - XIV

AN ANALYSIS OF THE SOURCES USED IN THIS THESIS

Classification :

(1) The Persian works, (2) The non-Persian works, (3) Foreigners' accounts.

(1) Persian works : The Persian chroniclers compiled during the reigns of Sultan Mahmud Shah I and Muzaffar Shah II - Dhamiāb-i-Māḥḍir-i-Maḥmūd Shāhī - its worth as a contemporary source book - Tārikh-i-Muzaffar Shāhī - the importance of this chronicle - its translations in Urdu and Gujarati - Tārikh-i-Saltān-i-Gujarat - more a scrap book than a historical work - It is valuable for dates - Mīrāt-i-Sikandarī - A note on this work. Tābdīt-i-Akbārī Tārikh-i-Firishtah - An Arabic history of Gujarat.

The other Persian works : 'Ain-i-Akbārī - Akbarnāma and Mīrāt-i-Aḥmadī.
The non-persian histories :- Ras Mala - Bardic account - It gives the other side of story.

Mandalika Nripa Charitra - Sanskrit poem dedicated to Raja Mandalika - The early career of Raja Mandalika is described in it - useful source.

Foreigners' Accounts : The works of Ludvico di Varthema and Duarte Barbosa are used - Their accounts are based on first hand informations - Commentaries - of Affonso de Albuquerque - another contemporary work of the period in review - we have to depend on this work to know the Portuguese activities in Gujarat.

Other important works :-

Pt. Ojha's several volumes on the "History of Rajasthan" have been referred to examine the other side of the story - Col. Tod's "Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan", being a pioneer work, has been consulted.