CHAPTER V

POLITICAL HISTORY

By the study of the various literary and epigraphical accounts it transpires that the political history of the city of Gulbarga begins from the Mouryan period. According to Farista the cities like Miraj, Bidar, Gulbarga and Vijayanagar, included in the Deccan were earlier under the control of Raja Kalichand (Basheeruddin Ahmed; op.cit. p.450). He further states that a temple in the fort at Gulbarga was constructed by Raja Kalichand and he gave some presents to Iskandar Rumi. Afterwards the kingdom was ruled by Iskandar Rumi.

The reference to some words like "gudi", "Kalburgi" etc., are Kannada words. The "Gudi" means temple. Such Kannada words have appeared only in the records of the late medieval period. But the names Raja Kalichand and Iskandar Rumi are identified with Chandragupta Mourya and Alexndar of the 4th century B.C. Because in the Persian and later Urdu works, Alexander is referred to as Sikandar and many times as Iskandar. Moreover, the contemporary king of Alexndar in India was Chandragupta Mourya who was, in all probability, the same Kalichand, mentioned by the author. The study of the southern records does not reveal any thing about these personalities, but the political history of the Deccan starts from Asoka, the grand-son of Chandragupta Mourya. It is interesting to note that the major edicts of Asoka were found recently at Sannatti, 40 kms. from Gulbarga. An
ancient habitation site with the cultural debris of the 2nd century B.C. to 2nd century A.D. has been noticed by R.M. Shadakshariyah recently in the fort area at Gulbarga. But the temple or fort remains of the earlier period are not found at Gulbarga, while at Sannatti several cultural materials like pottery, northern black polished ware, wall reliefs of stupa, brick structures of the fort wall and stupa remains etc. have been brought to light by some scholars. Among them some northern black polished wares of c. 4th century B.C. are important. At Hampi, the capital of Vijayanagar, some sculptural remains of the Satavahanas were brought to light in the recent years by the officers of the Archaeological Survey of India, Bangalore. The antiquity of these cultural materials goes back to Mourya and the pre-Mouryan period. Therefore, with regard to the mentioning of Raja Kalichand and Iskandar Rumi in the Persian works a thorough perusal is needed to bridge the earlier dark history of South India.

The history of the region tells us that till the beginning of Muslim invasion into South India at the end of the 13th century A.D. the region was under the control of the Mouryas, the Sathavanas, the early Kadambas, the Badami Chalukyas, the Rashtrakutas, the Kalyana Chalukyas, the Kalachuris and the Seunas (P.B. Desai, p.1-315). The Seunas were the last rulers of the Hindu dynasty in the region. During the rule of these dynasties the place Gulbarga occurs in the records...
of 11th, 12th century A.D. as Kalanuburge (V.S. Kulkarni, p.19). The guilds of Kalanuburge were famous during the period.

The foundation for the first ever muslim rule in the Deccan was laid at Gulbarga by the Bahamani dynasty after the advent of the Khiljis and Tughluqs of the Delhi Sultanate into the southern part of India around the 2nd decade of the 14th century A.D. For more than 300 years the Deccan was under the control of the Muslim rulers. (Baseeruddin Ahmed; p.495) Among the Sultans of Delhi, Muhammad Bin Tughluq was the only Muslim ruler who could reach as far into the south as Madura. But on account of repressive measures taken by him, many of his nobles revolted against him. The town Gulbarga had been captured or lost by several officers before the accession of Hasan Gangu Bahamani. (Harunkhan Sherwani;1953, pp.14-69). The neighbouring places like Kalyana, Bidar, located in the north-east about 117 kms. from Gulbarga and Sagar located on the south about 115 kms. from Gulbarga were under the control of the Muslim nobles who seem to be the earliest muslim officers in the province. Ismail Mukh and Qir Khan and Bahuddin Gurshap, the muslim officers of the Sultanate, were ruling over Gulbarga (P.B. Desai, p.409), Kalyana-Bidar (Ibid; p.68) and Sagar (P.B. Desai, p.409).

Afterwards the study of the region indicates that the place was under the control of the Bahamanis, Adil Shahis and Mughals for three centuries from 1347 A.D. to 1707 A.D. (Joshi and Haroon Khan Sherwani;1974, p.277-306). In this long period, the
Bahamanis made Gulbarga their capital for about 75 years (1347 A.D. to 1422 A.D.) afterwards they shifted the capital to Bidar which became their capital for about 116 years (1422 A.D. to 1538 A.D.). After the decline of the Bahamani dynasty, five Shahi dynasties emerged. (During the Shahi period the Shahi dynasty was divided into five principalities.) such as (1) Imad Shahi of Berar (2) The Barid Shahi of Bidar (3) Nizam Shahi of Ahmednagar, (4) Adil Shahi of Bijapur and (5) Kutub Shahi of Golconda. At this juncture Gulbarga came under the control of Adil Shahi of Bijapur for about 76 years (1538 A.D. to 1612 A.D.). After the decline of Adil Shahis of Bijapur the Gulbarga city came under the control of new rulers i.e. the Mughals for about 95 years (1612 A.D. to 1707 A.D.). After this period till the end of 19th century A.D. the region was under the control of the Nizams of Hyderabad.

Bahamanis

During the early period of Mohammed bin Tughalaque in 1327 A.D. the southern land of the empire was divided into 23 provinces, of which Jajnagar (Orissa), Marhat (Maharashtra), Tilang (Telangana), Bidar, Kampli and Dwarasamudra (Karnataka) are important in the Deccan. In 1327 A.D. Bahauddin Gurshap, Sultan's maternal cousin, held the jagir at Sagar which is located about 115 kms. south of Gulbarga. (Ferishta; p.135) Shihabi Sultani Nusrat Khan was appointed as the governor of Telangana at Bidar (Rih II, 62).
Hasan Gangu:

Before the accession of Hasan Gangu Bahamani the political situation was not stable in the Deccan during the later period of Mohammad bin Tughalaque. Therefore, the local officers of several towns were disturbed by the revolutionaries. In this region the town Gulbarga had been taken and lost by the loyal officers of the Sultan.

The study of different works indicate that Pocha Reddy, Bairun and Kandhra were some important officers of Gulbarga earlier. During the period of Muhammad bin Tughlaque Pocha Reddy was an officer in charge of Gulbarga. He was defeated and captured by Qutubul Mulk (Isami; p.542). On the second occasion, Ali Shah Nathu, a nephew of Malik Hizhbaruddin Zafar Khan, vice president or Naib, was sent to Gulbarga to collect the taxes by Viceroy Qutlugh Khan. But instead of carrying out the orders of the Sultan, Nathu proclaimed himself king at Dharur with the title of Alauddin Malik Shah (Isami; p.463). He was joined by his three brothers Hasan Gangu, Ahmed and Muhammad. They killed a Hindu, Bhairun, who was a local royal officer of the Sultan there and captured Sagar and Bidar. (Isami; p.464). Immediately Qutlugh Khan defeated Malik Shah at Dharur. On the third occasion as per the direction of the Sultan, the Viceroy of Daulatabad, Alimul Mulk, called the amirani-sadah of Raichur, Mudgul, Gulbarga, Bijapur, Gujrat, Birar and other places to Daulatabad to accompany the troops of Gujarath which was to be led by the Sultan (Isami; p.575). These amirs doubtful of their...
strength and their lives, after moving some distance, returned to Daulatabad. There they defeated Alimul Mukh and took possession of the granary, treasury at Dharagir, palace and citadel in 1346 A.D. (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.130). This resulted to elect Ismail Mukh as the first independent ruler of the Deccan (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.147).

During the period Ismail Mukh who is also called Khwajaal Jahan Nuruddin, had moved to Gulbarga and besieged Kandhra and defeated his forces, as Kandhara had killed a number of muslims including the saints, Shaikh Zaman, Izzuddin (Isami; p.408). Finally Kandhra shot up in the unsubdued citadel at Gulbarga. In this situation Zafar Khan moved to Sagar, defeated the Sultan's army there and took possession of the fort (Isami; p.502) and marched to Gulbarga and put Kandhra to fight and victoriously returned to Daulatabad.

Mohammad bin Tughaluke on hearing the mutiny of the amirs in Daulatabad, rushed with a huge army to put it down (the amirs etc. i.e., revolutionaries of Daulatabad). Finally Hasan Gangu was defeated. Knowing the might of the Sultan's force, and being fully aware of the impossibility of success, Hasan Gangu and his men fled towards Gulbarga and remained there. The scene of the army in the battle field is graphically described. Then Hasan Gangu moved straight from Gulbarga to his earlier jagir at Miraj and stayed at Arka for three months. (Isami; p.514). He moved to Sagar and other chiefs joined him (Ibid; p.515). There they
heard that Imadul Mulk Sartez had occupied Gulbarga (Ibid; p.516). Immediately he marched with other chiefs by making a plan and finally defeated Sartez. On the battle field Sartez was wounded by an arrow and when he tried to escape, he was caught by a soldier who chopped off his head. (Isami; p.518). The results of the war had made Ismail realise the situation and later he abdicated the throne and selected Zafar Khan as the king with the title of Sikandar who is called Alauddin Hasan Bahman Shah-al-wali (Barani; p.14). Hasan Gangu was crowned as per the suggestion of a Hindu astrologer by his preceptor, Shaik Sirajuddin Junaidi (Ferishta; p.277) on Friday, 3.8.1347 in the mosque of Qutubuddin Mubarak Shah Khilji at Daulatabad.

Hasan Gangu established his residence at Hasnabad within the proximity of Gulbarga. It became the first capital of the Mohammadan Kingdom of the Deccan.

Hasan Gangu Bahamani is called Zafar Khan or Alauddin Hasan Gangu Bahamani Shah Sultan. He was crowned on (August 3rd, 1347 A.D.) 24th Rabi San, II 748, Hijri.

Some works furnish interesting account of his early life (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.53-55). Hasan, was a native of Isfandar in Iran (Isami; p.476). He was a servant of a Brahman named Gangu at Delhi. Once Hasan while ploughing the field found a copper pot full of gold coins which was handed over to his master. Impressed by his honesty, the Brahman brought the fact
to the notice of the Delhi Sultan who appointed him to the command of 100 horses (Ferishta; p.13). Afterwards he was named as Alauddin Hasan Gangu (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.55) Bahamani. The name Bahmani is derived from Brahmana. This story is treated as semi-legendary by the scholar P.B. Desai; (p.408).

At the time of his death he expanded his kingdom by conquests. He extended the kingdom up to the western sea including the ports of Goa and Dabul. The eastern boundary line of the kingdom was Bhongir. The kingdom was bounded in the north and south by the rivers Painganga and Krishna respectively. For the purpose of administration the entire kingdom was divided into four large dominions called Tarafs, each under a governor. They were (1) Hasnabad i.e. Gulbarga along with Raichur and Mudgul. This dominion was given to minister Malik Saifuddin Ghori; (2) Daulatabad, with Bir Junair and Chaul regions was put in the charge of his nephew Muhammad Ali Shah; (3) Berar and Mahur provinces were given to Safdar Khan Sistani; and (4) Indore, Kaulas and the Bahmani Tilangana province was a separate dominion under Azam-i-Humayun, son of Malik Saifuddin Ghori (Gurti Venkat Rao; p.266). On accession to the throne, the King distributed 400 pounds weight of gold and 1000 pounds weight of silver in charity in the name of a Delhi Saint Nizamuddin Aulia who had predicted his good fortune earlier (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.54-56).

According to Basheeruddin Ahmed (p.495) Hasan Gangu Bahamani lived 68 years and according to other scholars like Haroon Khan
Sherwani (p.468) he lived 66 years. Their opinions show the difference of two years. But he ruled as the king of the Bahamani dynasty for about 11 years 2 months and 7 days (Basheeruddin Ahmed; p.495). He had five brothers: Abdullah, Ali Shah, Ahmed Shah, Malik Ikhtiyar-ud-din and Mohammad Shah (Syed Asgar Hussain; 1960; p.23). He married Malik Jahan (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.55). Malik Saifuddin Ghori was his Prime Minister. He had three sons: Mohammad, Mahmood and Dawood (Haroon Khan Sherwani; p.65) and one daughter named Shah Begum (Ibid; 454). He was the disciple of Hazrath Sheikh Sirajuddin Junaidi Raihmatullah Alia of Kudchi.

The marriage festival of prince Muhammed Shah, the eldest son of Hasan Gangu Bahmani, with Shah Begum, the daughter of Malik Saifuddin Ghori took place on 20.6.1351 A.D. The rejoicings of the marriage ceremony lasted for a whole year till 8.6.1352. During the period the king distributed a thousand pieces of cloth, gold, velvet and silk, a thousand Arab and Iraqi horses and twelve bejewelled swords to the nobles of his entourage and also distributed grains to all and sundry, and distributed food to the poor and the needy of the capital. (Ferishta; p.121). It may be noted that the Rayas of Tilangana, Shakarkhera and Mudgal were invited to the royal party. As per the request of the queen, Malika-i-Jahan, her sister was invited to attend the marriage function from Multan to Gulbarga.
The King visited Ellora caves on 4.2.1352 A.D. (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.147). He built a rest house at Macca in 1354 A.D. (Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.214). He gave money, articles of use and ordered his three sons to go to the great mosque at Gulbarga to distribute these things among the needy. When the three sons came back after distributing the materials he breathed his last (Ferishta; p.281).

Hasan Gangu had enlarged the capital town Gulbarga by new constructions like fortifications, palace and state buildings. Immediately the town was turned into a beautiful city (P.B. Desai; p. 409). He was credited with the foundation of a great mosque at Gulbarga.

Different works give us the names of two ministers and eight officials. They are Prime Minister or Wakil-i-mutlaq, Malik Saifuddin Ghori and the Deputy, Sikandar Khan Hisam Dawal. The officers are Amirul-Umara-Samsuddin Ismail Mukh, private secretaries or Barbak, Bahauddin, Lord Chamberlain or Hajibi Khas, Rafiuddin; Master of the ceremonies or Sar-pardar-Ali; Shah who was the brother of the king Hasan Gangu Bahamani, Accountant General Gangu, the Brahman (Isami; p.525-527), Abdul Jabbar Malkapuri; p.188, mentions the names of eight more officers. They are Imadul Mulk Tashquandi, Mubarak Khan Lodhi, Syed Raziuddin Qutubul Mulk, Moinuddin Khaja Jahan, Safdar Khan Sistani, Qir Khan and Salabath Khan Sistani etc.
Coins of silver and copper were issued during the period. The coins were manufactured at a mint at Asnabad which was the residence of the king. The name of Asnabad is mentioned in the coins.

Muhammad I (1358-1375 A.D.)

Hasan Gangu Bahamani was succeeded by his eldest son Muhammad in 1358 A.D. Muhammad instituted a council of eight ministers to look after the administration in the beginning of his reign (1358 A.D.). During the period he maintained a splendid court for which he arranged daily darbar and ceremonies. Carpets of silk of the highest order were spread. Shamians of cloth of gold were erected for the reception of all and sundry except on Friday.

The silver throne maintained by his father was replaced by a magnificent turquoise throne which was sent to him by the ruler of Telangana. The throne was originally painted with enamel of turquoise colour. The successors of Muhammad added fresh jewels and ornaments to the throne.

During the reign of Muhammad, four important wars took place with Telengana and Vijayanagara. The war took place with Vijayanagar due to the main demand of Krishna and the Tungabhadra Doab. In this connection, Bukka invaded the Raichur Doab in 1362 A.D. Finally Muhammad had to concede the demand of Vijayanagar. The war with Telangana lasted for about two years and finally a
treaty was concluded. The treaty was to fix the boundary between the Bahmani Kingdom and Telangana.

After the campaign, there was peace and prosperity in the kingdom. Towards the end of his reign, according to Ferishta, every one in the kingdom was happy and prosperous.

The study of the works indicate that there were fifteen officers in the Kingdom of Muhammed Shah. They were Malik Saifuddin Ghori - Prime Minister, Bahadur Khan bin Ismail Mukh - Commander (Ameerul-Umera), Mubarak Khan bin Safdar Khan Sistani - Astrologist (Meerafish) Musu Khan. Afghan - Military officer, Issa Khan - officer in charge of army (Meesara Fauj), Md. Ismail Naheta - officer in charge of endowment Dept. (Darawega Juharkhan), Malik Mahmood Mushadi - officer in charge of grade (Meersanan), Bayazed Khan Sistani - officer in charge of .... (Khasa Qail), Kaleemula Khan Maznodrani - officer in charge of ... Jawan Yaka, Syed Sherif -e-Samar Khandi - president, Mula Md. Bin Malana Ainuddi, Bijapur, officer in charge of religious affairs (Mufti Askar), Mahmood Afghan - officer Salahadoran, Syed Jalal Hameed - Chief officer in charge of accounts (Maba) and Shah Mulk Ghori - officer in charge of accounts (Masab).

Muhammed married the daughter of Malik Saifudin Ghori, who was the Prime Minister of Bahamani kingdom during the reign of his father Hasan Gangu Bahamani. The celebration of his marriage is graphically described in several works. He had one son named Mujahid.
Muhammed Shah I is credited with the completion of a splendid mosque at Gulbarga. He issued coins of gold, silver and copper during his period. These coins were manufactured in the mint at Asnabad.

III Alauddin Mujahid Shah (1375 -1378 A.D.)

Muhammad Shah I was succeeded by his son Mujahid Shah on 21st April 1375 A.D. He was crowned at the age of 19 (Basheeruddin Ahmed: 1915, p.469). He ruled barely for three years (1370-78 A.D.). He was the disciple of the Saint Sheikh Sirajuddin Junaidi who was the preceptor right from his grandfather Hasan Gangu Bahmani. The Saint sent his own shirt and turban which he wore on the occasion of his coronation ceremony, to Mujahid Shah for ensuring the support of the Muslim divines of his day (Taz -fol.8a).

According to Jabbar Mankapuri, (368) Mujahid Shah was fully instructed in all the aspects of arts of peace and war, and Turki and Persian languages. Drinking was strictly prohibited in the city of Gulbarga (Ibid 254).

His contemporary ruler at Vijayanagar was Bukka who was succeeded by Harihara II (Sherwani, 119) owing to an internal conspiracy.

King Mujahid Shah was murdered by his own uncle Dawud (on 16.4.1378 A.D.) who had been scolded by the king for leaving his
post at Adoni, when the king was asleep in the tent (Ferishta I: p.300).

During the reign of Mujahid Shah, various coins of copper, silver were struck (Wali Khan M.A., 1964; 2-3).

The tomb of the king Alauddin Mujahid Shah is located at Hafth Gumbad.

Daud Shah I (1378 A.D. for 17 days)

After the murder of Mujahid Shah his uncle Dawud proclaimed himself as king on 16th April 1378 A.D. There was, however, real turmoil in the kingdom. During this situation, Safdar Khan Sistani and Azam-i-Humayun, the great officers of the kingdom, heard the news on the way from Bijapur. They did not proceed to the royal camp to pay the usual homage to the new king but continued their way to the north (Sherwani; p.124). During this situation Harihar II of the Vijayanagar crossed the Tungabhadra and laid siege to Raichur.

In the kingdom of the Bahamani two factions were working for the succession of the throne, one in favour of Dawud and the other led by a woman Ruhparwar Agha who was the sister of Mujahid Shah. The former faction wanted to place Muhammed, the youngest son of Bahmanshah on the throne (Sherwani; p.124). In this plot Ruhparwar Agha managed to get Dawud stabbed through a royal slave Bakah while Dawud was attending the Friday prayer in the great
mosque of Gulbarga fort. Bakah was immediately beheaded by Musnad Ali Khan Muhammed who was present at the mosque. This was followed by the fight between rival factions within the premises of the mosque itself. Finally knowing the defeat of his partisans, Dawud who was in a precarious condition, gave up his hope and breathed his last on 21.5.1378 A.D. (Tab.410) Obviously, Dawud had ruled only for 17 days, from 16.4.1378 A.D. to 21.5.1378 A.D. The tomb of the king Dawud is located at Haft Gumbad.

V. Muhammed II (1378 - 1397 A.D.)

After the death of Dawud there was a rivalry for the succession to the throne. One side Khan Muhammad was trying to place Sanjar, a nine year old boy who was the son of Dawud on the turquoise throne, and on the other side Ruh Parwar Agha was opposing the proposal and declared that a usurper's son had no right whatsoever to succeed his father. In this regard, Khan Muhammad made an effort through Malik Saifuddin Ghorī. But Ghorī said that it was impossible for him to do anything in the matter. In the meanwhile Sanjar was blinded by Ruh Parwar and she put Muhammad, the grand son of BahmanShah on the throne (Ferishta I: p.303).

Muhammed ruled for 19 years. After accession to the throne Muhammad first imprisoned Khan Muhammad as he was supporting Mujahid's murder, at Sagar. And he reappointed Malik Saifuddin Ghorī as Prime Minister. He found means to end the hostilities
with Vijayanagar. He also appointed Bahauddin, son of Ramazan Daulatabadi to the Thanadari of Sagar.

The peaceful atmosphere was provided during the reign of Muhammad II excepting one or two small incidents. When there was a revolt from the Thandan's two sons, Muhammad and Khwaja, the King appointed a Turkish slave Yusuf Azhdar against the two and finally the fort of Sagar was captured (Ferishta I; p.301).

Muhammad II died due to typhoid fever on 20.4.1397 A.D. The next day the grand old man Malik Saifuddin Ghori who lived through five rojas died (Ferishta I, 303). He had two sons Dawud II and Tafantan and three daughters Khunjah Sultan and two others whose names are unknown. The tomb of the King Mohammad II is located at Haft Hambad.

VI Ghiyasuddin Tahamtan (1397-1397 A.D.)

Muhammad II was succeeded by his elder son Ghiyasuddin called Ghiyasuddin Tahamtan without any difficulty. He had conferred the governors of provinces in their office. After the death of Safdar Khan Sistan he went from Ellichpur (Ellora) and appointed Safdar's son Salabat Khan as Governor of Berar. He appointed many Persians to high offices. That was not liked by a section of the Gulbarga aristocracy which consisted mostly of the old nobility and the Turkish faction in the capital. In this regard Teghalchin who wished to be the Prime Minister could not
possibly get appointed to the high post (Ferishta I, 304). The king was blinded by Teghalchin in a plot and was sent to Sagar as a prisoner. Afterwards Shamsuddin Dawud II, the step brother of Ghiyasuddin was put on the throne on 14.6.1397 A.D. (Ferishta I, 304). The king Ghiyasuddin ruled two months and 3 days (Baseeruddin Ahmed: 1915; p. 495). Some scholars state that he ruled one month 26 days. During his reign copper coins were issued (Wali Khan: 1963; p. 4). His tomb is located in the Haft Gumbad area.

VII Samsuddin Dawud II

Ghiyasuddin was succeeded by his step brother Samsuddin Dawud II on 14.6.1397 A.D. Soon after the accession Samsuddin Dawud II promoted Taghaldin as Malik Naib and Mir Jumla of the kingdom (Burani Rasi: p. 63). Samsuddin's mother Makhdumai Jahan was also promoted to the rank and title of 'Makhduma-i-Jahan or Dowager Queen.

After the accession to the throne by the boy Samsuddin, some internal conspiracies were created. Taghalchin tried to imprison the two brothers Firoz and Ahmad who were the brothers-in-law of Ghiyasuddin since they married the sisters of Ghiyasuddin. On hearing of the conspiracy, these two brothers went to Sagar, and fought with the army of the king. Finally they managed to return to Gulbarga and killed Taghalchin's son. They fought with the king. Thus the king fled to the basement of the palace (Burani Rasi; p. 39). Firoz took the opportunity to
ascend the throne and immediately he ordered to arrest Samsuddin and Taghalchin. The former was killed by Ghiyasuddin and the latter was blinded. Afterwards he was allowed to go to Mecca with his mother and was given an annual allowance of 5000 gold pieces. Samsuddin died in 1414 A.D. at Madina (Baseeruddin; 1915: p.474).

Samsuddin had ruled for five months and two days (14.6.1397 A.D. to 16.11.1397 A.D.). His mother was Queen Makhduma-i-Jahan.

Tajuddin Firoz (1397-1422 A.D.)

Firoz ascended the throne in middle age on 16.11.1397 A.D. He was the son-in-law of Muhammed II. It may be noted that in order to counteract the influence of Iran and Iraq, the king put the responsibility of the government on the Hindus, especially the Brahmans. Besides, the king had married many Hindu wives of Vijayanagar, Kherla and Plebaian. He married the daughter of Deva Raya of Vijayanagar dynasty in 1408 A.D. It had helped to cement the relations with Vijayanagar. According to Ferishta, he had 800 temporary wives of various sects.

Firoz Shah was a good calligraphist, well-versed in the commentaries on the Quran, Persian, Arabi, Turkish, Telugu, Canarese, Marathi, Gujarathi books of Sufism, geometry, mathematics, philosophy etc. He used to take classes three days in a week. His preceptor was Mulla Fazli-u-lah Inju. He ruled
for 25 years from 1397 A.D. to 1422 A.D. The city of Gulbarga was the capital till the period of Firoz Shah. The old silver throne which was received from the Raya of Tilangana by Muhammed I was broken up. It was distributed among the needy and other pious men. (Ferishta I, p.288). Firoz's tomb is of a single storey bearing the styles of Iran, Hinduism and Delhi. The reputed saint Bande Nawaz came to Gulbarga at the age of more than 90 (1413 A.D.). He gave high respect to the saint at the beginning (Burani, 44). Afterwards as per the suggestion of the king the saint Bande Nawaz shifted to the spot where his tomb now stands.

During the period several monuments were constructed at Gulbarga and other places in the kingdom. At Gulbarga he constructed four gates in different localities, rooms for the kings, kitchen rooms, palace i.e. Kanchinmahal, a gate near langer ki masjid in Sultanpur, his tomb (before his death), a mosque and fort, a woman (Janana) room of Water Mahal in Firozbad.

During the period the king issued coins of gold, silver and copper. The mint was located at Asnabad in Gulbarga.

During the regime of Firoz Shah the capital of the Bahmanis was shifted over to Bidar, on 22.9.1422 A.D. After shifting the capital to Bidar Firoz Shah died on 28.9.1422 A.D.
Soon after shifting the capital to Bidar due to several reasons the city of Gulbarga gradually lost its political importance. But it became a great religious centre in the Deccan for the Muslims. Firoz Shah was succeeded by Ahmed Shah I in Bidar on 22.9.1422 A.D. He ruled for about 12 years from 1422 A.D. to 1436 A.D. During this period, the city of Gulbarga was under the control of a viceroy Khalandar (Sherwani, p.146) and also a tomb was erected over the mortal remains of Saint Bande Nawaz. Besides, he constructed the tomb of Akbar Hussain, who was the son of Bande Nawaz, and Sikandaria Masjid, near the tomb of Kalandar Khan.

After the period of Ahmed Shah I, the works do not give indication about the construction of monuments at Gulbarga. Ahmed Shah I was succeeded by his second son Allauddin Ahmed II. He ruled for about 22 years from 1436 A.D. to 1458 A.D. Afterwards, five independent Shahi kingdoms were established in the Deccan on 13th Feb. 1458 A.D. on the ruins of the Bahmani kingdom (Baseeruddin, p.484). They are; 1) Adil Shahi of Bijapur; 2) Nizam Shahi of Ahmednagar; 3) Barid Shah of Bidar; 4) Imad Shahi of Birar and 5) Khutub Shahi of Golconda (Sherwani, Z.A. Desai and Joshi, p.253). After the establishment of five new kingdoms, the city of Gulbarga came under the control of the Adil Shahi of Bijapur. During the period of the Adil Shahis, the Vijayanagar ruler Krishna devaraya invaded Gulbarga in 1523 A.D. (P.B. Desai; p.384).
The political history of the place after the shifting of the capital from Gulbarga to Bidar by the Bahmanis is almost dark. The farmans and epigraphs of the place disclose some information of the place. The farmans of our study give us the names of some rules and the officers with the help of the impression of varieties of seals. They furnish the names of certain kings and officers of the period. The names of the kings during the regime of Bahmanis of Bidar are Muhammed Shah III and Ibrahim Shah Nadenuill (1347 A.D. and 1478 A.D.) The names of the kings of the Adil Shahi of Bijapur are Muhammad Shah (1659 A.D. to 1660 A.D.), Sultan Mahmmed Shah, son of Badshah (1669 A.D. to 1671 A.D.), Ali Adil Shah (1646 A.D. and 1671 A.D. to 1672 A.D.). The names of the officers of the Adil Shahi of Bijapur are Muhammad Badshah (1664-1666 A.D.), Muhammad Hussain, son of Ameeruddin (1565 A.D.), Muhammad Badshah, son of Shahi Raza Hyder Ali (1661 A.D. - 1640 A.D.), Humayun Muhammad Ashraf Zaibhath Khan (1658 A.D.), Syed Muhammad Nadir Shah, possibly another son of Hyder Ali (1640, 1663-1664 A.D.) and Syed Muhammad Hussain (1687 A.D.).

It may be noted that none of the rulers of other contemporary dynasties in the Deccan etc., had made any grant or built any monuments at Gulbarga during the period of our study. Because the contemporary available do not disclose any details of the place. With regard to the seals they are either square, rectangular or circular in various dimensions. Some with wavy edges and small knob at the top. It is interesting to note here
that the farmans have the impression of the seals from 1 to 7. Besides, they contain the signatures of the kings and the other members.

During the period of the Adil Shahis of Bijapur and the Mughals, several monuments had been built by them at Gulbarga. Among them seven monuments are important. These rulers also continued to support the religious activities of the place.

During the period of Adil Shahi of Bijapur, six religious and secular monuments were erected at Gulbarga. For example, the gate, arches and six bastions were built to the fort of Gulbarga during the reign of Yusuf Adil Shahi. Besides, the Darga of Sheikh Sirajuddin Junaidi Darga with two minarets of the gate was built during his period. A tomb of Chand Bibi Sultan without grave was also built at Gulbarga. It is known that Chand Bibi, a queen of Adil Shahis of Bijapur was murdered at Ahamadnagar. Possibly to commemorate the death of the queen Chand Bibi Sultan this tomb was erected at Gulbarga. There is another tomb of the 17th century A.D. in payan area at Gulbarga. Afzal Khan, a governor of Adil Shahis of Bijapur had constructed a mosque on the premises of Bande Nawaz Darga at Gulbarga in the 16th century. It was named after him. There is a big gate of the 17th century A.D. called Badi Kaman in payan area. That was built during the Adil Shahis of Bijapur.
During the rule of Aurangazeb of the Mughals, a mosque was built at Gulbarga. The mosque is named after him.

These five principalities were defeated by the Mughals in 1612 A.D. During the reign of the Mughals especially during the reign of Aurangazeb several monuments were constructed. Among them the mosque, located inside the Bande Nawaz Darga, and another mosque called Massjide Gadai are important.

The earlier Gulbarga was a small town. It was under the control of small officers like Hindu and Muslim Amirs. Later it became the capital of the Bahamanis under the control of Hasan Gangu Bahamani. During the period of 300 years from 1347 A.D. to 1703 A.D. several rulers of different dynasties patronised construction, building a large number of religious and secular monuments at Gulbarga. Though the city lost its political importance after the transfer of the capital to Bidar, it became the religious centre for the Muslims and the city retains the religious significance in the Deccan.

During the Bahmani period, several rulers were blinded in connection with the succession of the throne. In the critical situation some of the ladies of the royal family members like Ruh Parwar Agha and Mallika Madduma Jahan took active role in the politics. Besides they fought with the neighbouring kingdoms like Rayas of Vijayanagar and Telangana etc. But during the period of Firoz Shah the Hindu Muslim matrimonial alliances took
place that altered the atmosphere afterwards. Besides the rulers gave much importance for the development of Islamic culture. Gradually the people, saints and architects of different countries started moving to Gulbarga. It resulted in the emergence of sectarian groups among the Muslims. The Muslim rulers, right from Tughlaque period encouraged the building of monuments like tombs, mosques, fortresses, wells etc.
### BAHMANI KINGDOM

#### GENEALOGICAL CHART OF BAHMANI DYNASTY GULBARGA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.NO.</th>
<th>Names of Kings</th>
<th>Coronation</th>
<th>Death</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Place of death body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Alauddin Gangu Bahmani</td>
<td>24 Rabiwal 748</td>
<td>1st Rabiwal 759</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>2 months Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Muhammed Shah Awal</td>
<td>4 Rabiwal 759</td>
<td>9 Zikhaida 772</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>17 years</td>
<td>Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Mujahid Shah</td>
<td>11 Zikhaida 776</td>
<td>17 Zihajja 779</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Dawud Shah</td>
<td>17 Zihajja 779</td>
<td>2 Muharram 780</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>17 days</td>
<td>Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Muhammad Shah I</td>
<td>13 Muharram 780</td>
<td>1st Rajjab 799</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>19 years</td>
<td>2 months Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Ghiyasuddin</td>
<td>4 Rajjab 799</td>
<td>7 Ramzan 799</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>Gulbarga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Shamsuddin</td>
<td>7 Ramzan 799</td>
<td>780 Rabiwal</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Some days</td>
<td>Madina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Munnawara</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Feroz Shah</td>
<td>30 Safar 800</td>
<td>5 Shawal 625</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>25 years and some</td>
<td>Munnawara months</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>