CHAPTER II

THE RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY.

THE STUDY:-

In the previous chapter an attempt has been made to explain the concept of political development. The survey of the literature on the studies in political development reveals that there are variety of meanings attached to the concept. The scholars have developed different models to explain the concept. It is to be noted in this regard that these models of political development explain the concept in national perspective. 'Nation' has been considered as a basic unit of a study and the political development is regarded as some thing which takes place in the national context.

A study of the political development in a national context is certainly advantageous to understand the process of change in totality. But in the case of big countries like India, where one comes across diversities of various kinds, the study at the national level may not help to understand the peculiarities of different regions and sub-regions, in which the change might have taken place in a different manner than it might have taken place at the national level. Hence the need for the study of political development at the regional and sub-regional level is immensely felt.
This is an attempt to apply the concept of political development to a sub-region and not to a nation. This involves modification in the theory itself. The models of development as developed in the west cannot be applied in the study of a sub-region in toto. In the case of a region or a sub-region, we find that, as a part of a larger entity of a nation, it cannot avoid the influences of the happenings at the national level, and at the same time the peculiarities of the area cannot be avoided, as they also influence the course of change to a large extent. Hence to understand the complex process of political development at the national level, the study of the process at regional and sub-regional level would also be useful. The proposed study is the study of the political development of a very small part of India. It is essentially a sub-regional study.

RELEVANCE OF MODERNIZATION TO THE PROPOSED STUDY:

The various meanings attached to the concept of political development, and the different approaches taken have their own limitations. Without going into the controversies over the correctness and usefulness of the different approaches and meanings, it has been proposed to accept political development as a part of broader process of modernization. The reason for accepting this proposition is that the political
development means political modernization - is that the process of modernization is relevant to the process of change in the area under study. The process of change set out in the region since Independence was quite comprehensive affecting different aspects of the life of the people in the region.

The process of modernization implies the movement of a society from traditional stage to modern stage. So the traditionality is a starting point and the attainment of the characteristics of a modern society is the result of the process.

Marathwada - a sub-region under the proposed study - was a part of the princely State of Hyderabad ruled by the Nizam before the Independence. The process of change that set out in the Nizam's dominion, after its subjection by the British had its impact on all walks of life of the people in it as elsewhere in India. But the rate of change was very slow and it was introduced at a very late stage in this princely dominion as compared to other parts of the country.

The State was quite backward in all respects and represented almost all the characteristics of a backward society - such as, economy based on agriculture, technological backwardness, predominance of a rural area, very low percentage of literacy, inadequate and rudimentary facilities of
communication, dominance of religion, importance to ascriptive status, principle of heredity as a source of political authority and personal rule of a monarch as a form of government, less participation of the people and concentration of power in the hands of a small group etc.

Against this peculiar background a study of the process of change in the region, especially in the political field is of a great relevance. As a result of the contacts with the British, the political system in the dominion began to change. In the initial stage the change was limited to the governmental mechanism, through the changes in the legal and administrative system. It was only an external change and the basic contexts of the polity remained unchange.

The change in the political situation in the area was a result of the Freedom Movement in the British Indian Provinces, the contacts of the educated people in the dominion with the political activists of the other parts of the country and the spread of liberal ideas among the educated class as a result of western education.

The establishment of local self-government, introduction of democratic element in their formation, slow rise in the degree of democratization of these institutions, the formation of political organizations such as Indian National Congress in the British Indian Provinces, resulted in the demand for more democratization of polity and speedily
mobilized the masses. All these developments had their influence on the educated people in the dominion. So they set before them the model of political development in British India and started efforts to mobilize the people for the demand of a responsible government. Thus the movement for the democratization of polity was the characteristics of the political development of the region before Independence.

The demand of a responsible government, establishment of political organization on the lines of the Indian National Congress, association of the people with the politics through the methods like Satyagrah, establishment of the regional conferences was the clear indication of the influence of British Indian Model. It was certainly a movement of change from traditional polity towards a modern polity which is democratic, participative, and broad based.

Integration with the national mainstream was also one of the aims of the political activity in the dominion before Independence. The effort of the Princely Government was always to bring obstacles in the way of political activists and prevent them from any contact with the developments in the political field outside the dominion. Whereas the political activists were consciously trying to establish contacts with the outside world. Their attempt was to establish a close link with the national movement which was broader in its scope. Thus the process was also directed towards an integrated nation state, which also can be considered as an important feature of a modern polity.
On the basis of the above discussion an attempt has been made to testify the following hypothesis in the proposed study of political development in the region.

1. That the political change in the region was from an autocratic political system converting itself into a relatively democratic one.

2. That the direction of the political movement was from an insular system converting itself into a more integrated national state system.

3. That the direction was from a narrow communal base of political power to a wider popular base.

4. That the change generated by political movement created ambitions and aspirations among the people, which remaining unfulfilled, created dissatisfaction with the changed circumstances.

THE METHODOLOGY

The study is a library-cum-empirical work. Hence while collecting information on the subject library method and survey method have been used. However, the emphasis is mainly on the use of the material - published or unpublished - available in the library and outside of it. The information, thus collected through the different sources have been supplemented by in-depth interviews with prominent personalities in the politics of the region. The object of these interviews
was to understand the attitudes and the opinions of the leaders in the region on various problems the region is facing and also to get information from them about the process of change that took place in the past as well as the trends and currents of the process of change at present.

THE SOURCE MATERIAL

While surveying the availability of literature on this topic it was found that there was no sufficient information available on the politics in the region. No systematic efforts to collect and process the information about the subject have been made earlier. Therefore, an attempt has been made to collect the necessary information through published books, newspapers, government publications and statistics published by the government.

(1) Published Books: There are a very few books available in English as well as in Marathi on the politics in the region. The books like memoirs of Swami Ramnund Tirth or Mr. K.M.Munshi deal mainly with the period before Independence. There is also paucity of published literature on the subject because no enough research has been conducted on the different aspects of the politics of the region since Independence. However, certain studies dealing with the state politics in India throw light on the current trends in the politics of the region, but their number is very small. Hence while collecting the data, the help of the newspapers has been taken to a greater extent.
(ii) **The Newspapers and Periodicals:** In this category, mainly the newspapers published in Marathi were quite useful. Apart from newspapers published from Bombay or Poona, the regional newspapers were of immense help. Till 1938 there was only one Marathi bi-weekly from Hyderabad and later on from Aurangabad. The number of newspapers and periodicals increased subsequently, but there is no proper maintenance of files of these periodicals available for reference and record. Apart from regional newspapers the articles published in the 'Economic and Political Weekly', 'Navbharat', and other daily newspapers have been used.

(iii) **Statistical Data:** The statistical information used in the study is collected mainly from the statistical abstracts of Hyderabad State before and after Independence. Regarding the elections, the reports of the Election Commission on different elections have been used. Statistics on Co-operatives, Census Reports, Reports of the Audit Bureau of Circulation have also been referred to whenever required.

(iv) **Unpublished Material:** The information regarding the performance of the people's representatives has been collected from the unpublished record of the Council Hall Library, Bombay. Also the statistical information about the revenue and expenditure of Zilla Parishads has been collected from the Audit Books which are not published. Apart from these the pamphlets, booklets, which are published for limited circulation have also been used.
(v) The Survey: As indicated above to supplement the data collected through different sources, and to fill up the gap of information or missing link in the events, some indepth interviews have also been conducted. It was also the object of the interviews to know the opinions of these individuals on certain important issues in the politics of the region. In all, 40 persons were interviewed. These interviews were conducted on the basis of a structured questionnaire. This survey of 40 persons is fairly representative as these persons belong to from all districts of the region and are of different shades of political opinion.

THE PLAN:

The present study of political development of the region, begins from 1948, as it is a landmark in the history of princely state of Hyderabad. After the Police Action the state was acceded to Indian Union and a new system of government was introduced in the state. Personal rule of Nizam was replaced by a democratic government responsible to the people. The masses were thus exposed to the new political situation, new values and new set up of a democratic system. This change had its effect on the informal aspect of the politics in the region. Different political parties began to function openly, the principle of elections was introduced at the national and the state level in the first instance and later on at the local level. This was a major political change which had far reaching repercussions.
on the politics of the state in general and Marathwada region in particular. Therefore it was thought necessary to start from this point.

The period of study roughly covers 24-25 years from 1948. During this period the region has experienced three major political changes in its association with larger units. i) From 1948-1956 the region was one of the part of the Hyderabad State which was in Part 'B' State. ii) From 1956-1960 it was a part of bilingual Bombay State. iii) From 1960 onwards it is a part of Maharashtra State. The study is in this chronological order from 1948 onwards.

The process of change that started in the region was quite comprehensive, affecting socio-economic, cultural and political aspects of the life of the people in the region. The focus of the study is on the political changes that took place in the region since Independence. But the changes that took place in socio-economic and cultural fields have also been taken note of; and an attempt to find out correlation between them has been made.
CHAPTER II: NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. For details see Chapter III.

2. The economic condition of the Miran's dominion has been discussed in detail in Chapter III.

3. For details see 'Political background' in Chapter III.

4. A copy of a structured questionnaire has been attached separately in Appendix.

5. For details see Chapter VII.