CHAPTER 1

DEFINING THE REGION
The present chapter aims at delimiting the spatial domain of different houses of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas on the basis of information culled out of different categories of inscriptions relating to them. The focus of the exercise would primarily be on two aspects: I. the geographical distribution of inscriptions relating to the different houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas through time across the space, and II. the locational analysis of places referred to in those inscriptions in different contexts. Apart from delimiting the territorial bases of different houses, an attempt would also be made to look into the nature of

1 Apart from the house of Malkhed, we come across several other houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas located in different parts of the Deccan plateau region. These houses have often been named differently by different scholars. For a discussion on this see A.S. Altekar, Rāṣṭrakūṭas and Their Times, (second revised edition), Poona, 1967; Also 'The Rāṣṭrakūṭas' by A.S. Altekar in The Early History of the Deccan, Part I-VI, G.Yazdani (ed.), New Delhi, 1982, pp.247-314.

2 Writing about the political and cultural regions of Bengal, Morrision stated in detail about the difficulty involved in the locational analysis of the places figuring in inscriptions. It must, however, be said that even though the geographical context of the present study is entirely different from that of Morission, most of the problems he has stated hold good in the case of present work as well. See chapter 'Dates and Locations of the Inscription' in Political Centers and Cultural Regions in Early Bengal, by Barrie M.Morrison, Tucson, Arizona, 1970, pp.19-57.

3 It may, however, be mentioned that an exercise such as this has been one of the important preoccupations of conventional historiography. Dominated by the construction of dynastic history, there was a constant attempt on the part of scholars to situate those dynasties in space by defining areas, as large as possible, as their kingdom/empire/territory/domain etc. In the case of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas also similar exercises have been carried out in the past by different scholars, each of them suggesting different points in space as constituting the boundaries of their kingdom. For example, while editing one of the charters of the house of Mānpura, (the Pāṇḍarangapalli grant of Rāṣṭrakūṭas Avidhēya), Dr. Kṛishṇa built up a theory of a large Rāṣṭrakūṭa empire.
political power that existed within the broader territorial jurisdiction of different houses of Rāṣṭraṅgaṇa at different point of time. The idea extending from the Mahanadi and the Tapi in the north to the Bhima in the south in as early as the sixth century AD. See ‘Pāḍdarangapalli grant of Avidheya’, in M.H.Krishna (ed.), Annual Report of Mysore Archaeological Department for the year 1929, Mysore, pp.197-220. This theory was strongly contested by V.V.Mirashi and A.S.Altekar. For Mirashi's argument see his article 'The Rāṣṭraṅgaṇas of Mānpura', in Studies In Indology, vol. I, Nagpur,1968, pp.195-203, also 'Pāḍdarangapalli grant of Rāṣṭraṅgaṇa Avidheya' in vol.IV, Varanasi, 1966,pp.124-136; A.S. Altekar, Rāṣṭraṅgaṇa, 1967, chapter I. Some scholars often represented the boundary line worked out by them on a single map, without referring to any specific time it would belong to, to show the end point of the political regime of the Rāṣṭraṅgaṇa. Such an approach ignores the important fact that the formation of territory of any dynasty has always been a chronologically phased phenomenon and must be looked as a process. For critical observations of the use of cartography in history see, B. D. Chattopadhayaya, A Survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India, ICHR, Culcutta, 1984,p.39; also see the comments of Richard G. Fox on the paper of Joseph Schwartzberg included in the introduction of the Realm and Region in Traditional India,(Ed.) by Richard G. Fox, New Delhi,1977, pp.xxii-xxiii.

4 Recent researches have shown that contrary to the politically homogenized notion of territory of a dynasty, there is always a possibility of the existence of different power structures within the border territorial domain of a dynasty. The notion of existence of different spatial authority is implicit in many of the writings on the early medieval Indian social formation. Burton Stein in his 'Peasant state and Society in Medieval South India, oxford, 1980, made an attempt to study the Chola state system through its three fold spatial division viz. Core, Periphery and Intermediate. B.D Chattopadhyaya in his 'Political Processes and the Structure of Polity in Early medieval India' in the The Making of Early Medieval India,1994, pp.183-222, speaks of the integration of different authorities of space. In another recent article B.D.Chattopadhyaya has further spoken of the existence of autonomous spaces. See ‘Autonomous Spaces and the Authority of State in his book Studying Early India, Archaeology, Texts, and Historical Issues, Delhi,2003,pp.48-65. For the notion of existence of different spaces in processual model of integrative state, see, 'The Early and the Imperial Kingdom: A Processual model of Integrative State Formation in early Medieval India' in Herman Kulke (ed.), The State in
behind such an exercise is to see whether the territory, often designated as Empire/state/kingdom, represented a politically homogenized entity, as represented in conventional historiography, or it was a conglomeration of segments having differential political configurations. This may also help us to differentiate, within the broader territorial domain of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, the areas of actual control from the areas where authority was merely acknowledged.

The exercise is divided into two sections. The first one covers the time span of about two and a half-century starting roughly from sixth century up to the first half of the eighth century. The second section starts from the second half of the eighth-century and stretches up to the end of the tenth century. The rationale behind dividing the present exercise into two separate chronological segments lies in the fact that the nature and geographical extent of authority enjoyed by different houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas were not one and the same all through the period of their existence. During the timespan of the first phase, what we notice is the existence of different houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas in different localities. They all seemed to have had differential authority status, and the geographical extent of their power was confined to certain localities only. During the timespan of the second phase, the earlier houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas gradually faded away and their place

India, Delhi, 1995, pp.233-62. R.S. Sharma has also spoken of Chahamana Polity in terms of certain spatial pattern. See, ‘The Segmentary State and the Indian Experience’ in Indian Historical Review, Nos.1-2, July 1989 and January 1990, pp.80-108

A look at the recent historiography, especially on state, would suggest that scholars are now more concerned about the quality and organization of powers exercised by central authority within its spatial domain. For a brief review of such writings see, Herman Kulke(ed.), The State In India, 1000-1700, Delhi, 1997, pp.1-47.
was taken by the so called Imperial / Malkhed branch of Rāṣṭrakūṭas who gradually transformed themselves into a trans-local power and continued to remain so till the end of the second half of the tenth century.

Since the broader geographical contours of the territory of different houses of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas kept on changing quite frequently, it has been decided to treat the data of both the sections by organizing them into two chronological brackets, each covering the period of about a century and a half. The idea behind this is to map out, if possible, the changes occurring in the broader geographical contours of the territory through the period under study.

**FIRST PHASE (C. AD 500 to AD 750)**

**I. (C. AD 500- up to AD 600)**

During the time span of the sixth century, we come across the land charters of two houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas viz., I. the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Mānpura and, II. the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Vidarbha. The one which has generally been described as the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Mānpura seems to have come into existence about a century earlier then the second one which has been named as the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Vidarbha. Altekar, however, would like us to believe that both the houses had contemporaneous existence in two different localities. We would

---

6 This branch has been referred to variously by different scholars; see for example A.S. Altekar, Rāṣṭrakūṭas, 1967, A.P. Madan, The History of the Rashtrakuta, New Delhi, 1990.

7 The genealogical table of this house constructed by Altekar is as follows:
first take up the inscriptions of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Mānpura and examine their geographical context.

Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Mānpura

This house of Rāṣṭrakūṭas was brought to the notice of scholars by Pandit Bhagwanlal who first edited the Undikavatika grant of Abhimanyu. In their charters they describe themselves simply as Rāṣṭrakūṭas (rāṣṭrakūṭānāmam) or rāṣṭrakūṭakūtēsvararāṇa-anvavāya. In one of their charters they also claim to be ruling over Kuntala (kuntalānām-prāśāsitā).

Four of the donative inscriptions of this house have been assigned to period of the sixth century. As far as determining the precise dating of these charters is concerned, no help is provided by any of them in this direction. The reason being the fact that these charters are either undated or are dated in regnal year which present problems of its own in determining their precise date. The relevant details of all these inscriptions have been arranged in a tabular form on the page facing this.

Durgaraja (AD 570-590), Govindaraja, son of Durgaraja (AD 590 to 610), Svamikraja, son of Govindaraja (610-6330), Nanaraja Yudhasura, son of Svamikaraja (AD 631 and 710); see A.S. Āṭekar, Rāṣṭrakūṭas...1967,pp.7-8

8 See, Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, XVI,p.88
9 See, Undikavatika grant of Abhimanyu, EI, VIII,pp.163-166
10 Hingni Berdi Plates of Rashtrakuta Vibhuraja, Year 3, EI, XXIX,pp.174-77
11 Pandarangapalli Grant of Rashtrakuta Avidheya, EI, XXXVII,pp.9-24
12 M.G. Diskshit has come up with genealogy of this house starting with Mankana, the founder of the house, and has assigned the date of AD 375 to 400. See, Hingni Berdi plates of Vibhuraja, Year 3, EI, XXIX,pp.174-177.
Of the four donative inscriptions of this house, one has been found in the private possession of a resident of a village which is part of the Pune district\textsuperscript{13}. The charter is purported to have been issued in the third regnal year of Mahārāja Vibhurāja. Since we do not know the date of his accession, the reference to the regnal year hardly helps us in fixing the date of the issuance of this charter. However, on grounds of paleography it has been assigned to the period of 5\textsuperscript{th}-6\textsuperscript{th} century AD.

The charter refers to the donation of an agrahāra called Kamalibūhaka and 50 śalākā of gold. Though the precise identification of the agrahāra has not been possible for want of adequate detail, it has nevertheless been suggested by the editor of the charter that the place might have been located somewhere around the find place of the charter, which is village Hingni Berdi in the Pune district.

The donor of the agrahāra has been stated to be the queen consort of Rāṣṭrakūta Dēvarāja and the mother of Mānārāja. The inscription also records that the grant was made with the consent of Mahārāja Vibhurāja of the Rāṣṭrakūta dynasty who seemed to have had the status of an independent ruler\textsuperscript{14}

\textsuperscript{13} Hingni Berdi plates of Vibhuraja, Year 3,\textit{EI},XXIX, pp.174-177

\textsuperscript{14} One of the indications of his independent status is his title of mahārāja; see D.C.Sircar, \textit{Indian Epigraphical Glossary}, 1966, p.184. This, however, may be contested in the light of the fact that the authority having subordinate status has often assumed the title of mahārāja. However, what really seems to support the independent status of Vibhurāja is the very process of making the grant which conveys the impression that probably he enjoyed the ultimate authority to transfer properties in the concerned locality.
Like the earlier inscription, the find place of the second charter is also not known except the fact that it was also in the possession of certain individuals\textsuperscript{15}. On the ground of paleography, this charter may also be referred to the 5\textsuperscript{th}-6\textsuperscript{th} century AD\textsuperscript{16}. The charter registers the grant of a village from a place called Mânpura, which has been described as the residence of the donor. The recipient of the donation was a temple called Dakšiṇa-Śiva belonging to Pêtha-Paṅgaraka.

These places have been identified variously by different scholars. E. Hultzsch came up with the suggestion that the Dakšiṇa-Śiva temple of Pêtha-Pangaraka may be identified with a temple near Pagâra, which is about four miles north of Pachmarhi. As to the object of donation, he endorsed Dr. Fleet suggestion to identify it with one of the two villages named Oontiya in the same neighborhood of the temple\textsuperscript{17}.

Prof. Mirashi, however, rejects all the proposed identifications of the places by E. Hultzsch and Fleet. He strongly, and convincingly too, argued for locating these places in the area around Mahâbaleshvara in Satara district\textsuperscript{18}. He also rejects the proposed identification of Mânapuram with Mânpur in Rewa and identifies it with a place called Mâṅ, the chief place of the Mâṅ subdivision of the Satara district.

\textsuperscript{15} Undikavatika Grant of Abhimanyu, \textit{EI}, VIII, pp.163-166.
\textsuperscript{16} There has been no unanimity as to the date of the inscription. Bhagwanlal Indraji has assigned the charter to the period of 5th century, see JBBRAS, vol.XVI, p.88.
\textsuperscript{17} For Dr. Fleet's opinion on this matter see \textit{JA}, XXX, pp.509-14
The third inscription has also been reported to be in the possession of a resident of a village near Kolhapur\(^{19}\). This charter has been assigned the date of sixth century on grounds of paleography. It refers to three settlements of different types in the context of donation. These donated settlements have been stated to be located on the bank of a river called Anēvati near the mountain called Kollagiri. All these places have been identified in the modern Satara district.

Apart from these three charters, we have one donative inscription found at a place called Gokak in the Belgaum district\(^{20}\). It refers to a king called Dējja Mahārāja who has been described as ‘born out of the Rāṣṭrapūta dynasty’\(^{21}\). The purpose of the inscription is to record a donation by his favorite adhirāja Indrananda of the Sēndraka family. There is no indication whatsoever in the charter suggesting any linkages of Dējja-Mahārāja with any of the known houses of the Rāṣṭrapūtas. However, there has been continual attempt on the part of several scholars to link him up with the Manpur house\(^{22}\).

The date of the charter has been worked out to be AD 532-33. However, it has also been suggested that this date does not agree with the paleography of the charter and, therefore, it may be ascribed to about the 6\(^{th}\) or 7\(^{th}\) century of Christian era.


\(^{20}\) Gokak plates of Dejja Maharaja, *EI*, XXI, pp.289-292


\(^{22}\) See *Studies in Indology*, vol. I, V.V. Mirashi, ‘Rāṣṭrapūtas of Mānpura’, ...loc.cit.’ Mirashi here argues that Dējja Mahārāja might have been a descendant of Bhavishya. Also see Padarangapalli grant.....loc.cit., p.17.
### (CHARTERS OF THE VIDARBHA HOUSE AND THEIR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>SEAL</th>
<th>LEGEND</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>PLATES</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>LINES</th>
<th>LANGUAGE</th>
<th>ALPHABETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>A symbol</td>
<td>67½ tolas</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7.9&quot; x 4.1&quot;</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>Box headed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>apparently a Goad lying horizontally</td>
<td>Gāḍa-dattih</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not clear</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6.1/4' x 3.1/8'</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>Northern class of alphabets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Śrī Yuddhāsura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>flying Garuda</td>
<td>60.3/4 tolas</td>
<td>3, x</td>
<td>7.13/14 by 3.7/8</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>Southern class of alphabets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Śrī Yuddhāsura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Garuda, depicted with a man's legs, extended as if running, with expanded wings, and with the head and beak of a bird.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Northern class of alphabets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Śrī Yuddhāsura</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>probably a Nandi-pada</td>
<td>Pratāparśasya</td>
<td>852 grams</td>
<td>17 x 8.5 cm</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>Kūṭila or Siddhā matrikā type</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ALPHABETS**

- Box headed
- Northern class of alphabets
- Southern class of alphabets
- Kūṭila or Siddhā matrikā type
The purpose of the charter is to record donation of fifty *nivartanas* of land in a village, which was included in Kasmāṇḍī *vishaya*. Neither the village nor the administrative unit has been identified. The only place, which has been identified, is the place of residence of the donee. It has been suggested that the place may be identified with modern Jamkhaṇḍī in Bijapur, not far away from Gōkak, the find place of the inscription.

As to the status of Dējja Mahārāja, he seemed to have had sovereign status and the donor was certainly his subordinate. However, it seems that even though the donor enjoyed a subordinate status in relation to Dējja-Mahārāja, he exercised enough authority to issue land charter in the region.

**Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Vidarbha**

We have four land charters which have been attributed to the so-called house of Vidarbha. A brief description of these charters has been arranged in a tabular form on the page facing this.

Out of the four charters, only one of them is datable to the period of the sixth century. The charter known as the Nagardhan

---

23 Attempts have been made by A.S. Altekar to connect this house with the Malkhed house of Rāṣṭrakūṭas, See A.S.Altekar, Rāṣṭrakūṭas..., 1967, ....loc. cit, p. 10. However, Prof. Mirashi has strongly argued against it and has also suggested that both the houses were ruling contemporaneously over two different regions. See V.V.Mirashi, 'Tivarkheda Plates of Nannarāja' in Studies in Indology, Vol.II, .....loc. cit, pp.25-30
### CHARTERS OF THE VIDARBHA HOUSE AND THEIR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SR.N O.</th>
<th>CHARTERS REFERENCES</th>
<th>REFERENCES</th>
<th>KING REFERRED</th>
<th>KING TITLE</th>
<th>DONOR’S DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Tiwarkhed Pl. of Nanaraja</td>
<td>E.I.,XI,276-81</td>
<td>Nannaraja</td>
<td>Pañcha-mahāsaabda</td>
<td>1. Nanarāja through Samkaragana; 2. two officials viz. Dharma-kāsa and Mahāsandhi-vigrāhika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Sangalooda plates of Rashtrakuta Nanaraja</td>
<td>E.I.,XXIX,109-15</td>
<td>Nannaraja</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Nanarāja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Multai copper plate grt.of of Nanadaraja</td>
<td>I.A.,18,230-36</td>
<td>Nandarāja</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Nandarāja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bhindon pl of Rashtrakuta Kakkaraja</td>
<td>end of the 7th century</td>
<td>Kakkaraja</td>
<td>Paramasvāmin</td>
<td>Svāmirāja, with the consent of his parama-svāmi Kakkarāja</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
plates of Svâmirâja is datable to AD 573\textsuperscript{24}. It is purported to have been issued from a place called Nândîvardhana and records the donation of a piece of land in Chiñchapaṭṭikâ and a village called Aṅkōllikâ. About Aṅkōllikâ it is stated that it was located on the right bank of the river Śûla, to the west of the agrahâra of Achalapura and to the east of Śrī-Parṇikâ\textsuperscript{25}.

All the places figuring in the charter have been identified in the district of Nagpur. Nândîvardhana, the place of the issue of the grant, has been identified with Nagardhan which has incidentally also been the find place of the charter. It is a small village about three miles south of Ramtek, the chief town of the tehsil of the same name in the in the Nagpur district. Chiñchapaṭṭikâ has been suggested to be the modern village Chichal which is located about a mile and a half north by east of Nagardhan. Aṅkōllikâ, the donated village, is now represented by Modern Aroli about eight-mile south by east of Nagardhan. Aroli is located on the right banks of the river Sur which may be identified with Sulandi of the charter. Achalapura agrahâra

\textsuperscript{24} Nagardhan plates of Svamiraja, El,XXVIII,pp1-16. H.C.Thosar, however, would like us to believe that Svâmirâja of this plate was not a Râṣṭrakûṭa ruler, rather he is the same as Svamiraja of the Châlukya dynasty who was killed by Maṅglesa. See, H.S.Thosar, 'Re-examination of the Historical contents of the Nagardhan Plates of Svâmirâja and the Rithapur grants of Nala King Arthapati', in Journal of the Epigraphical Society of India, XX,1994,pp.12-25.

\textsuperscript{25}Ibid.,p.2. It may be mentioned here that the family to which the donor belonged to has not been mentioned in the charter. It has however been suggested that since the name of the donors mentioned in the grant also figure in two other charters which has been assigned to the house of Vidarbha, it may not be wrong to assign this charter to the same family.
and Śrī-Parṇikā have not been identified, but it may not be wrong to suggest that they may have been located not far from Nāndīvardhana.

As to the donor, we are told that the grant was made by Gaṇa-Samūha, a fact that is also recorded on the seals attached to the charter. However, the approval for the grant came from Nannarāja who has been described as the brother of Svāmirāja who has further been described as having a subordinate status in relation to some one who has not been referred to in the charter.

II. (C. AD 601 to up to C. A.D. 750)

During this period, we no longer hear of the Mānpur branch of Rāṣṭrakūṭas. The house of Vidarbha, however, continues to exist. We also find new houses making their appearance in localities that were not part of any of the earlier existing families of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas.

**House of Vidarbha:** Three of the charters of this period belong to the house of Vidarbha. Chronologically speaking, the one that was discovered at Tiwarkhed in the Multai tahshil of Betul district\(^{26}\) is the earliest one. It is datable to AD 631. Dr. Mirashi has raised serious doubt as to the genuineness of the charter\(^{27}\). However, A.S. Altekar takes this record as a genuine one\(^{28}\). Similarly, the editor of the plate

---

\(^{26}\) 'Tivarkhed plates of the Rashtrakuta Nanaraja, Saka 553', *EI*, XI, pp.276-81

\(^{27}\) 'A Note On The Tivarkheda Plates of Nannarāja', *Studies in Indology*, vol. II, 1961, pp.25-30

Rai Bahadur Hiralal also does not raise any question regarding the genuineness of the records.

Whatever might have been its authenticity, the object of the charter was to record certain donations. The first one consisted of land in the villages Tivèrêkhêṭa and Ghûïkhêṭa which were located on the banks of Amvêviaraka-nâdî. The second donation consisted of ten nivartanas of land of Karañjamalaya on the eastern banks of the Sarasavâhalâ and the Darbhavâhalâ. The grant, though, was made at the Kapilâ tîrtha, the charter seems to have been issued afterwards from Achalapura.

All these places, except Achalapura, can be located in and around the Multai tehsil of Betul district. Tivèrêkhêṭa can easily be identified with Tiwarkhêḍ in the Multi tehsil of the Betul district. The nâdî of the plate can be identified with Ambhôrâ-nâdî on whose south bank Tiwarkhêḍ is presently located. Achalapura may be identified with Ellichpur in Amravati district. Rest of the places have not been identified.

The second charter, which is reported to have been discovered in the district of Akola29, is datable to AD 693. The charter registers the gift of land situated in the villages of Umbarikâ grâma and Vaçapuraka grâma. The boundaries of the land granted in the village Umbarika have also been specified. The grant seemed to have been issued from a place called Padmanagara. The recipient of the grant hailed from a place called Tagara.

---

29 Sangalooda plates of Rashtrakuta Nanaraja, Saka 615, EI, XXIX, pp.109-115
Of the places mentioned in the charter, the village Umbarikā has been identified with modern village Umbari quite near the find place of the inscription. Nāgayayi which was situated on the east of Umbarikā may be Naigaon. Both the places are close to modern Akola. Padamanagara, the place of the issue of the grant, has been identified with modern Padmin lying in the postal jurisdiction of Akola. The other places have not been identified so far. However, considering the manner in which they have been described in the charter, it may not be wrong to suggest that they may also have been located near Umbari.

As to the status of the donor Nannarāja, the charter does not refer to any title with his name which may be indicative of his status. However, the fact that the charter carries the genealogy of his family only and that there is no reference to any overlord, it may not be wrong to assume that he enjoyed independent status.

The third charter of this house comes from the private possession of a resident of Multai of Betul district\(^3\). Altekar has raised doubts about the genuineness of the charter\(^3\). Dr. Mirashi, however, feels that the charter is a genuine one\(^3\).

Whatever may be the truth, the charter, which is datable to c. AD 708-9 / 709-10, records the donation of a village called Jalaūkuhe. The donated village, we are told, was bounded on the east, south, west and north by the village of Kiṇihivatṭāra, Pipparikā,

\(^3\) Multai copper plate grant of Nandaraja, Saka -Samvat 631, IA, XVIII, pp.230-36.

\(^3\) Altekar, A.S, 1967, p.6.

Jalukâ, and Arjunagrâma, respectively. The charter does not carry the name of the place of the issue of the grant.

The precise geographical locations of these places remain uncertain, as none of these places has been identified. However, considering the fact that the charter comes from Multai of Akola district, it may not be wrong to suggest that these places might have been located somewhere in the Akola district.

The donor in this case has been stated to be Nandarâja who has been identified with Nannarâja who figures as donor in the earlier charter as well. Since no title has been attached to his name, the editor takes it to be an indication of his subordinate status.

We have one charter that was discovered at Bhindhon in Aurangabad district. Since this charter has only been a recent discovery, historians like Altekar and Mirashi have not utilized its contents. While editing the Nagardhan plate, Mirashi was not able to decide about the overlord of the Svâmirâja. This charter solves this riddle as it is stated in this charter that Svâmirâja was the follower (anuchara) of Pratâpasîla-Kakkarâja who was the son of Gõvindarâja of Mahâraśtrakûta family.

The charter is not dated but on grounds of paleography, it may be assigned to the end of the 7th or the beginning of the 8th century. It records the donation of a village called Chiñchapallî which was bounded from three sides by two rivers and one side by two aśvattha trees. The banks of Piṅgalikâ have been referred to as the place where the overlord of Svâmirâja was staying at the time of the grant.

33 Tiwarkhed plates of Nanaraja, EI, XI, pp.276-81.
34 Bhindhon plates of Râshrakuta Karkkaraja, JESI, X, pp.30-35.
As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, the donated village has been identified with modern Chincholi near the eastern border of the Aurangabad district. The village is bounded on the east and west by two rivulets, which joins the Godavari river flowing to the south. Piṅgalikā-taṭāka, where Kakkarāja was encamped at the time of endorsing the grant, has been identified with modern Pingli, situated to the south-east of Parbhani in Parbhani district.

The grant, as already stated, was made by Svāmirāja after receiving the assent of his parama-svāmi Kakkarāja.

We have one inscription that comes from a place called Indragadha near Bhānpūrā, about 13 miles from the Jhālāwār station road in the of district Mandasur. Dated in VS 767 (c. AD 710-11), it refers to Naṇṇappa and his father Bhāmāna of the Rāṣṭrakūṭa lineage. The purpose of the inscription is to record the construction of a temple of Shiva by the Pashupata Āchārya Dānarasi during the reign of Naṇṇa. In this context, the inscription records certain endowment made by the ‘daughters of one Kumara of the Pragvata caste’. It is further stated that the responsibility of maintaining the temple was delegated to the city administration (nagare naiva karttavyam) and that the writer of the inscription came from the Gauda country.

Attempt has often been made to connect this Rāṣṭrakūṭas ruler to the house of Vidarbha. However, given the nature of information available to us one would like to agree with the views of Mirashi that

### CHARTERS OF MALKHED BRANCH, PRE-750 AD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REFERENCES</th>
<th>KING REFERED</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>DONAR'S DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ellora plates of Dantidurga</td>
<td>742</td>
<td>E.I.,XXV,25-31</td>
<td>Dantidurga</td>
<td>Samadhigata-pañchamahásabda mahāsāmantādhipati</td>
<td>Dantidurga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Manor plates of Dantidurga</td>
<td>749</td>
<td>Studies in Indology;II;pp.10-15</td>
<td>Dantidurga</td>
<td>Samadhigata-pañcha-mahāsabda prithvīvallabha Khadgāvaloka Śrī Dantidurga</td>
<td>Certain representatives of mahājana of the Traividya of the place (Sripura)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>SEAL</th>
<th>LEGEND</th>
<th>NUMBER OF PLATES</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>LINES</th>
<th>LANGUAGE</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
<th>ALPHABETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A winged figure sitting</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6&quot; X 4½&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Northern class of alphabets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cross-legged, probably a</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garuda</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Sans</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Western variety of southern alphabet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
this house did not have any relation with the house of Vidarbha. Thus, this house may be treated as a separate house of Rāṣṭrakūṭas which was possibly controlling the area around Indragadha in the Mandasur district.

As to the status of Naṇṇappa, the inscription does not carry any title indicative of his status. At one place, however, he has been described as rājā. Though nothing can be said with certainty about the status of authority this house of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas would have enjoyed, it also seems difficult to accept the view of the editor that this house had a feudatory status.

Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas

After the lapse of about three decades from the date of the Indragadha stone inscription, we come across donative inscriptions issued by a new branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas described as the Imperial or Malkhed branch.

We have two donative inscriptions of this house, falling into the pre-AD 750 period. A brief description of both the charters has been given in a tabular form on the page facing this. Both the charters were issued by Dantidurga. It may also be pointed out that in both the inscriptions the title attached to him is that of a subordinate authority.

The first charter, datable to AD 742, records the donation of a village called Pippalāla which was located in Chandrapuri-eighty-

---

37 Ibid., see line 6
38 Ellora plates of Dantidurga, Saka 663, EI, XXV, pp.25-31.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Plate</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Ending</th>
<th>Main</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Daulatabad Pl. of Rashtrakuta Sankargana</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>E.I.,9,193-98</td>
<td>Dhruva</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Śri Sankarganarāja</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Paithan Pl. of Govinda iii</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>E.I.,3,103-110</td>
<td>PMPGovinda III</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Spurious Wadgaon Plate</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>I.A.,30,371-73</td>
<td>Indara III</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Not given</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Anjanvali Pls of Govinda III</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>E.I.,23,8-18</td>
<td>PMP Govinda III</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CHARTERS OF THE MALKHED BRANCH OF THE RĀSTRAKŪTAS (AD 750-760)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>CHARTER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REFERENCES</th>
<th>KING REFERED</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONAR'S DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Samangad Copper plate grant of Dantidurga</td>
<td>753</td>
<td>I.A., XI,109-15</td>
<td>PMP Dantidurga</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>PMP Dantidurga</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Talegaon copper plates of Krishnaraja I</td>
<td>768</td>
<td>E.I.,XIII,275-282</td>
<td>PMP Akālavarsa (Krishna I)</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Akalavarsha, at the request of Gōvindarāja, and two other individuals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Alas Pl. of Govinda II</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>E.I.,VI,208-13</td>
<td>Maharajadhiraṇa Parameshavara Bhattarakas Akālavarsa (Krishana I)</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Samadāhīgata-pañchamaḥāsabdha Sri Gōvindarāja Yuvarāja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bhandak Pls. of Krishnaraja</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>E.I.,14,121-130</td>
<td>PMP Krishana I</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Krishna I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Pimpri Pls. of Dharavarsha Dhruvaraja</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>E.I.,10;81-89</td>
<td>PMP Dhruva</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Dhruva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Pattadakol Inscription, No.CXXII</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>I.A.,11,124-25</td>
<td>PMP Dhruva</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>Harlot of the temple of the queen Lōkamahādevi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dhulia Pls. of Karkaraja</td>
<td>779</td>
<td>E.I.;8;182</td>
<td>PMP Govinda II</td>
<td>Gujarāt</td>
<td>Samadāhīgata-pañchamaḥāsabdha Suvamavarsha Pratāpasila Sri Kakkarāja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Bhor state Museum Pl. of Dharavarsha Dhruvaraja</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>E.I.,22,176-186</td>
<td>PMP Dhruva</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Jethwai Pls. of the Rashtrakuta queen Silamahadevi</td>
<td>786</td>
<td>E.I.,22,98-109</td>
<td>PMP Dhruva</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>PMP sri Silamahadevi, the great queen of Dhruvarājadēva</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
four. Though, the grant was made at Elâpura, it seemed to have been recorded at a place called Badarikâ-âsaka.

All these places have been identified around Ellora which can easily be identified with the place of the issue of the grant. The donated village has been located about 33 miles away from Ellora and 12 miles south-east of modern Chandrapuri which represents the Chandrapuri eighty-four of the record. Badarikâ-âsaka has not been identified, though it has been suggested that it may be located somewhere in Southern Gujarat. The donee has been stated to be a migrant from Navasârika which has been identified with Nausari in the modern Baroda district. Though the geographical context of the inscription is quite large, covering the area of Maharashtra and Gujarat, all we can say with certain amount of certainty is this that the new house Dantidurga belonged to had come to control the area around Aurangabad district by c. AD 742.

As to the status of Dantidurga, he has been described as *samadhigata-pañch-mahâśabda-mahâsâmantâdhipati* which is indicative of his subordinate authority status. The charter, however, does not provide any information as to who his overlord was.

Another charter dated Saka era 671 (c. AD 749-50) refers to the reign of Dantidurga who is stated to have obtained the *pañcha-mahâśabda*. It then mentions Śrī-Aniruddha as his subordinate (*pâd-ânudhyâta*) who was governing the town of Śrîpura. The object of the inscription was to record the donation of a village called Tambasâhikâ which was included in the *vishaya* of Śrîpura. The grant was made in

favour of a temple of Bādesvara, which was caused to be constructed by Bādadi Bhogika. Certain representatives of the Mahâjanas of the Traividyas have been stated to be the donor of the present grant.

All the places referred in the charter can tentatively be located in the vicinity of Mânor in the Ṭhaṇe district. While Śrîpura may be identified with Śirgaon about 14 miles west of Mânor, the donated village may be identified with Tamsâhi, about two miles from Mânor.

SECOND PHASE (c. AD 750 ONWARD)

During the timespan of the second phase, the house of Malkhed emerges as a trans-local / imperial power. The geographical distribution of their donative inscriptions would point to their increasing control over an area larger than those controlled by the other houses of the Râṣṭrakūṭas. Given the increased volume of data and the fact that the process of territorial expansion has been a phased phenomena spread over a period of about two and a half century, it would be better to treat the data by grouping the data into smaller time segments of fifty years. This would help us to trace the trajectory of the formation of so called 'the territory' of the Râṣṭrakūṭas and other related developments.

I. c. AD 750 to AD 800

During the time period under consideration, we see a sudden increase in the frequency of the issuance of land charters by the Malkhed branch of Râṣṭrakūṭas.
The first donative inscription of this house falling into the period under discussion comes from Sâmangad hill fort, located in the Kolhapur district. Purported to have been issued by Dantidurga, it is dated Saka 675 (c. AD 753-4), and records the donation of a village which was located in a bhukti called Koppara five hundred. The boundaries of the village have also been specified. As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, Mirashi has suggested that the donated village and those referred in the context of the boundary specification can easily be located in and around the Karhâd taluka of Satara district. The donor, as stated above, was Dantidurga. His status, however, seems to have changed as in this charter he has been described as prithvivallabha mahârâjâdhirâja-paramêshvara-paramabhaṭṭâraka... which is indicative of his sovereign status.

We have one stone inscription located on the west side of the mandapa in front of the Daśâvatara cave temple at Ellora. Though it is stated in the inscription that Dantidurga conquered many territories

---

41 'Dantidurga, the Founder of Râṣṭrakûta Imperial Power' in Studies in Indology, vol II,pp.16-24
42 In comparison to the earlier two charters of Dantidurga, this charter is different in many ways. To begin with, this is a set of three plates whereas the earlier charter consisted of only two plates. Also, there is marked difference in the physical appearance of the charter, in its composition, and also in the construction of the genealogical detail. As remarked by J.G. Casparis, changes like these needs explanation. See his article 'Inscriptions and South Asian dynastic traditions' in R.T. Moore(ed.) Tradition and Politics in South Asia, 1979,pp.103-4.
43 Das Avatara Inscription, Archaeological Survey of Western India, vol.V,pp.87-89; also see Kielhorn's view in, EI, VII, Appendix, p.13
and subjugated many kings, given the eulogistic nature of the inscription it becomes difficult to accept all the statements made in the inscription to be true.

We have three donative inscriptions pertaining to the reign of Krishňa I who succeeded Dantidurga. However, only in two of them he figures as the donor.

The first one has been discovered from village Talēgāon Dhamdhērē located in the Pune district\(^{44}\). It records the donation of a village that was located in Pūnaka vishaya. It is stated that he made the grant while he was residing in the victorious camp (vijayaskandhāvāra) against the Gaṅga in Maṇṇ-nagara\(^{45}\). The donated village and those constituting its boundaries have been located within the radius of about 15 kms from Pune which perhaps represents the headquarter of the Pūnaka vishaya. The place of the issue of the grant has been identified with Manne in the Nelamangala taluk of Bangalore district.

The second charter of the same ruler comes from a place located in the Chândā district\(^{46}\). Dated Saka Samvat 694 (c. AD 772), it records the donation of a village by him while he was encamped at a place called Nāndi-pura-dvāri\(^{47}\). The donated village, as stated in the charter, was located at the distance of a gavyūti from a place called Udumvara-manti.

---

\(^{44}\) Talegaon copper plates of Krishanaraja I, Saka 690, \(EI,\) XIII, pp. 275-282

\(^{45}\) Ibid., exp. used ‘Ganganan-upai vijaya-skandhāvāra Manna-nagare...(ll. 25-26)

\(^{46}\) Bhandak plates of Krishanaraja, Saka 694, \(EI,\) XIV, pp. 121-130
As far as the identification of these places is concerned, it has not been possible to identify the donated village. However, some of the villages referred in the context of boundary specification have been identified by Rai Bahadur Hiralal\textsuperscript{48}, and on the basis of his identification one may reasonably be sure of the donated village being located somewhere in the Wardha tahshil of Wardha district. The place of the issue of the grant has been identified with a place called Nandora, nine miles south of Antargaon in the Wardha tahsil\textsuperscript{49}.

We have one charter\textsuperscript{50} referring to Kṛishṇa I as the sovereign authority, though the donor is stated to be Gōvindarāja II who has been described as yuvārāja having the title of samadhigata pañchama-mahāśabda. The charter is stated to have been issued by Gōvindarāja from his camp (vijaya-skandhāvāra) located near the confluence of the Kṛishṇa venā and the Musi. The donation consisted of a village, which was located in Alaktakā vishaya. The donated village and the administrative unit have been identified in Kolhapur district.

It seems that Kṛishṇa I was succeeded by Govinda II. Though we do not have any donative inscriptions issued by him in the capacity of a sovereign ruler, nonetheless we have one inscription coming from Dhulia district that refers to his reign.\textsuperscript{51} He has been mentioned in the inscription as sovereign power. The donor in this case, however, has been a Rāṣṭrakūṭas chieflain Karkarāja

\textsuperscript{47} The expression used is as follows "Nāndi-pura-dvārī-samāvāsakē, Bhandak plates, EI,XIV,p.126,II.45-45.
\textsuperscript{48} For identification of the places see 'Note by Rai Bahadur Hiralal, included in Bhandak plates of Krishanaraja, EI,XIV,p.129
\textsuperscript{49} See, Note by Rai Bahadur Hiralal, EI,XIV,p.129-30
\textsuperscript{50} Alas plates of the Yuvaraja Govinda II, Saka Samvat 692, EI,VI,pp.208-213.
Dated Saka Samvat 701 the charter refers to the reign of Govinda II and describes him as *prithvīvallabha-mahārājadhirāja-paramēśvara*. About the donor Karkarāja it is stated that he was the son of Śrī Dhruvarāja and younger brother of Govinda II and had the title of *samadhigata-pañch-mahāśabda*. The purpose of the charter is to record the donation of a village which was located in the *vishaya* of Nāṣikka, the chief place of which has been identified with the modern Nasik. The donated villages and the villages referred in the context of boundary specification have been located in the Nasik taluka of the same district. Sidānagara, the place of the issue of the grant, has been identified with the modern Sinnar.

Dhārāvarsha Dhruvarāja succeeded Govinda II. Though we have several donative inscriptions referring to his reign, only three of the donative charters were issued by him.

The first charter issued by him comes from Pimpri situated in the east Khandhesh region (Jalgaon district)\(^{52}\). Dated Saka Samvat 697, it records the donation of a village, which was located in Vaṭanagarikā eighty-four. A *vijaya-skandhāvāra* located near a place called Śaṅkhāvivarāka has been mentioned as the place of the issue of the grant. All the places referred in the context of describing the location of the donated village have been located in the Malegaon taluka of Nasik district. The headquarter of the *vishaya* has been

\(^{51}\) Dhulia plates of Karkaraja, *Saka Samvat*, 701,*EI*,VIII,pp.182-87

\(^{52}\) Pimpri plates of Dharavarsha Dhruvaraja, *Saka Samvat 697,EI*,X,pp.81-89
identified with modern Wani in the Dindori taluka in the Nasik district\textsuperscript{53}.

The second land charter issued by him comes from state museum of Bhor\textsuperscript{54}. Dated Saka Samvat 702 (c. AD 781), it informs us about the donation of a village which was part of Srimala vishaya. Certain place located at the confluence of the Nirla-nadi (śrī-Nirla-nadi-samgam-samāvāsitena) has been mentioned as the place of issue.

The chief place of the vishaya has been identified with Shirva, a large village about thirty two miles from Pune on Pune-Satara road\textsuperscript{55}. The donated village has been identified with village Viṅga, situated at about three miles to the west of Shirva. The other places referred in the context of the boundary specification have also been identified around the modern village Shirva in Pune district.

The third charter is reported to have come from the possession of a resident of a village in the Nilanga taluk of the Osmanabad district\textsuperscript{56}. Dated Śaka 705 (c. AD 783), it records the donation of a village which was part of Velgali vishaya the headquarter of which has been identified with Belgali, near Mahalingpur on the road in the


\textsuperscript{54} Two Bhor State Museum Copper Plates, A. Bhor State Museum Plates of Dharavarsha Dhruvaraja Saka 702, EI,XXII,pp.176-186.

\textsuperscript{55} As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, it has been suggested that since all of them at present can be located near Shriwal taluk of Bhore, the taluka might have formed the part of the vishaya, see Sumati Mulay, Studies in \textit{Historical and Cultural Geography and Ethnography of the Deccan}, loc. cit,1972,pp.50.
Mudhol taluka of the Bijapur district. The donated village has been identified with Mantur, located at a distance of about fifteen miles to the east of Belgali. Only two of the villages referred to in the context of the boundary specification have been identified and both of them have been located within the radius of about six kms. of the donated village.

We are told that the charter was issued from a place called Nandipuradwåri which has been described as \textit{vijaya-skandhåvåra}^{57}. The editor of the charter takes this place to be the same as Nåndipuradwåri of the Bhandak plates of Krishnaråja discussed above and identifies both of them with Nandurbar, a taluqa town in the West Khandesh (i.e., Dhula district).

Apart from these land charters issued by Dhruva himself in the capacity of a sovereign ruler, there are some other inscriptions referring to his rule, though the donors figuring in them are certain individuals having differential authority status.

The first such charter, datable to c. AD 779, purports to have been issued by Durgahasti of Sendraka family who seemed to have been a subordinate of Dhruva^{58}. The village granted by him has been identified in the area around modern Paithan. It may be noted that the charter is stated to have been drafted by Baladeva, the minister for peace and war of the queen Sîla-Mahâdèvi, the wife of Dhruva.

---


^{57} Ibid., expression used runs as follow, \textit{"sri-Nandipuradvâri-samâvântita-vijayaskadhavâravasthitena"}, 131.104.

^{58} 'Proceeding and Transactions of All India Oriental Conference', 21 session, II, part 1, 1961,pp.168-69
Another charter referring to Dhruva as a sovereign power was issued by his wife who also seemed to have enjoyed imperial status, as she has been described as *paramēśvari-parama-bhaṭṭārikā śrī-Sīla-Mahâdēvī* in the charter. Datable to c. AD 786, the charter records the grant of a village by her which was situated in Nândipuradvâri *vishaya*. Though it has not been possible to identify the donated village, as for as the identification of the administrative unit goes, it has been suggested that it might have included the area around Nandor in the Wardha tahsil of the Wardha district.

Another such inscription, datable to c. AD 793, comes from the personal collection of a resident of Daulatabad. The record mentions a grant apparently of a village, by a person called Samarâvaloka-śrī-Śaṅkaragana-râja of the Râṣṭrâkâta family. He has been described as a cousin of Dhruva who has been referred to as the sovereign power and it was with his consent that the grant was made. Since the second part of the grant has been forged, it has not been possible to identify any of the places referred to in the charter.

The last donative record referring to his reign comes from a temple located at Paṭṭadakal near Kalâdgi in Bijapur district. The

---


62 Ibid, Section of the charter giving information about the donated village has been tempered with, p. 195

inscription refers to the reign of Dhruva and attaches with his name all the tiles indicative of his sovereign status. However, the real purpose of the record was to register the grant of land and an *abhymukhi* by a harlot of the temple. The grant was made in favour of the temple where the inscription has been located. It seems that the donor made the grant all by herself.

Govinda III whose period of rule extends to the next century as well followed Dhruva. However, two of his charters bear the date which fall in the time span with which we are presently concerned.

The first one, which is datable to c. AD 794, comes from the private collection of a resident of Paithan⁶⁴. The charter informs us that the king (Govinda III) was encamped near Pratishṭāna⁶⁵ and having a bath in the river Godavari made a donation of a village which was situated in the village group of twelve which was part of the Pratishṭāna bhukti.

Of all the places referred in the charter only the bhukti has been identified with modern Paithan. The donated village and the village group of twelve may, therefore, be located somewhere around Paithan.

The second one⁶⁶ also comes from the private collection of a resident of Anjanavati village, which is located in the Chandur taluk

---

⁶⁶ Anjanvati plates of Govinda III, Saka Year 722, *EI,XXIII*, pp.8-18
of the same district. Dated Saka Samvat 722 (c. AD 800), it records the donation of a village to a group of brahmanas. The donated village is stated to have been located in Achalapura vishaya. The charter, we are told, was issued from a Vījaya-skandhāvāra located at Mayūrakhaṇḍī. It may be mentioned that though the order for the grant came from Govinda III, who has been described as the sovereign authority (paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-paramēśvara), yet the charter seems to have been issued with the consent of the Great Queen (Mahādevī).67

As far as the identification of these places is concerned, the donated village has been identified with Anjanvati in the Chandur taluka of the same district. The headquarter of the vishaya may be identified with Ellichpur in the Amraoti district.68 The place of issue has been identified with Markaṇḍī on the bank of the Wainganga about 56 miles east of Chanda.69

Rāstrakūṭa house of Kakka70

Apart from Malkhed branch of the Rāstrakūṭas who were gradually spreading their territorial control, we have evidence of the existence of a new branch of the Rāstrakūṭas in the area around Surat-

67 Ibid., see p.171,54.
68 See Sumati Mulay, 1972, p.44
69 Ibid, for a brief discussion on the identification of Mayūrakhaṇḍī, see pp.12-13
70 Attempt has been made to relate the rulers of this house with the Malhed branch of Rāstrakūṭas or with the Gujarat branch of the Rāstrakūṭas. Sankalia has even tried to connect this house with the Rāstrakūṭas of central India who is said to have defeated a king named Nāgāvaloka. See, Hilol plates of year 470, El,XXXIV,p.215. Also see, Pandit Bhagwanlal Indrajī, ‘New Copper-plate grant of the Rāstrakūṭas dynasty’, JBBrAS,XVI,( Reprint),1969,p106. For different views about this house see A.S. Altekar, Rāstrakūṭas, 1962, loc. cit,pp.11-16. In the absence of any clinching evidence to
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REFERENCES</th>
<th>KING REFERRED</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>DONOR'S DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A new copper plate grant of the Rashtrakuta dynasty</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>JBBRAS, XVI, (Reprint), 1969, pp. 10-113</td>
<td>Sri Kakka</td>
<td>Parama-mahesvara samadhi,pataphich mahashabda paramabhattaraka maharajadhira</td>
<td>Sri Kakkaraja</td>
<td>Gujrat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hilol plates of Y. 470</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>E.I., 34, 21, 3-18 &amp; 219</td>
<td>Kakka</td>
<td>Samadhi, pataphichmahasabda mahasamantadhipa ti paramarajadhira parameshvara</td>
<td>Chandraditya</td>
<td>Gujrat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEAL</th>
<th>Nu. Of PLATES</th>
<th>SIZE</th>
<th>LANGUAGE</th>
<th>ALPHABETS</th>
<th>WEIGHT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Garuda</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.7/8&quot; by 13&quot;</td>
<td>Sans.</td>
<td>Same as early Valabhi and early Chalukya grants</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Missing</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.5cm (1.2/5&quot;) x 14.8cm (5.5/8&quot;) x 2cm</td>
<td>Corrupt Sans.</td>
<td>Kutila type</td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Ahemdbad region. The existence of this new house is attested by two of their donative inscriptions, which fall in the timespan under consideration.

The first charter of this house, dated śaka 679 (c. AD 757), comes from a village called Antroli-Chharoli located in the district of Surat. The charter was issued by certain Kakka (II) who claims to have belonged to the Rāṣṭrakūṭas dynasty. He has been described as *paramabhaṭṭāraka-mahārājādhirāja-paramēśvara* which is an indication of his sovereign status. The charter records the grant of a village located in Kāšakula vishaya. The donated village has been identified with Antroli-Chharoli about ten miles to the north-east of Surat. Rest of the places have not been identified.

The second and probably the last charter of this house have been discovered in a field at Hilol in the Degham taluk of Ahmedabad district. Datable to c. AD 788, it records a donation by a *mahāsāmanta* Chandrāditya who was stationed at Harshapura–mahābhīṣṭhan. He has further been described as *vishay-ādhipati* under Kakka who has been described as *mahāsāmanta-ādhipati*

---

71 'New Copper-plate grant of the Rāṣṭrakūta Dynasty, No. II, in *JBBRAS*, vol. XVI, 1883-85, Bombay (reprint 1969), pp. 105-113

72 Scholars have tried to connect this house of Rāṣṭrakūta with the house of Malkhed and other houses of the Rāṣṭrakūta. For a discussion on this, see A.S. Altekar, *Rāṣṭrakūtas*...........loc. cit.p11-15

73 Hilol plates of Year 470, *EI*, XXXIV, pp.213-218, also 'Notes on Hilol plates of year 470, *EI*, XXXIV, pp.219-222
**parama-rājādhirāja paramēśvara**\textsuperscript{74}. Kakka is stated to have been stationed at Khêtaka-mahābhīṣṭhāna.

The donation by *mahāsāmanta* Chandrāditya consisted of a piece of land which was located in two grāmas which have been identified in the Kapadavanja taluk of Kaira/Kheda district. Khetaka-mahābhīṣṭhāna has been identified with the headquarter of the same district. Harshapura, the stated residence of the donor, has been identified with Harsol on the Mehawa river in the Prantij Taluk of the Kheda district.

We have one inscription from Kanheri which speaks of the Puri-Konkan area under the control of Pullaśakti\textsuperscript{75} (the Silāhāra chief) who has been described as the subordinate of Amoghavarsha. The inscription records the donation of certain Drammas (in gold) to a monastery located at the ‘famous mount of Krishna by his old minister.

Apart from these inscriptions we have certain viragals (Hero-stones) assignable to the time span under discussion. They refer to the rule of different kings of the Rāṣṭrakūta branch. These viragals are mainly distributed in the area of Karnataka.

---

\textsuperscript{74} D.C. Sircar is of the opinion that the assumption of both feudatory and imperial title at the same time shows clearly that Kakka of Khetaka was a semi independent subordinate of some imperial ruler who appears to have been none other then the contemporary Rāṣṭrakūta emperor Dhruvā Dharavarsha (780-94 AD); see Note on Hilol plates, loc. cit., p.219
We have two memorial stones referring to the reign of Krishṇa I. One of them has been found on the wall of a tank of a village called Hatti-Mattūr which is situated near Karajgi taluka of Dharwar district. It refers itself to the reign of a king Akālavarsa (Krishṇa I), and then records the death of two heroes in the destruction of the village of Maltavur. Both the heroes have been stated to be residents of the village of Surageyur. It seems that both the places referred to in the inscription were quite close to each other. Maltavur may be identified with either Hatti-Mattur itself or with another place called Mattur, which is about three miles and a half from Hatti-Mattur. Though the resident of the hero has not been identified with certainty, it may be identified with the modern Surangi in the same Karajgi taluk.

Another one, which is badly damaged, has been recovered from the field in Bisalahalli in the hōbali of Udugaṇi, in the Sikarpur taluka of Shimoga district. The inscription records the death of one Agūra Bīra in his attempt to drive out wild elephants during the reign of Kannara Vallabha.

We have several undated vīrgals referring to the reign of Dhruva. They all come from the Dharwar region. It is, however,

---

75 'Three inscriptions from Kanheri', No. 43. B, IA, XIII (May 1884), pp. 135-137
76 'Some records of the Rāshtrakūta kings of Malkhed', A. Hatti-Mattur inscription of the time of Krishna I, EI, VI, pp. 160-62
77 Annual report of Mysore Archaeological Department for the year 1927, (1928), No. 159, p. 139
important to note that in none of them Dhruva has been referred with imperial title.

One of them has been found in a village called Naregal which is situated in the Hângal taluk of Dharwar district\textsuperscript{78}. The inscription refers itself to the reign of a king named Dőra (Dhruva) and also mentions a certain Mârakkararasa who was governing the Banavâsi twelve thousand apparently as the subordinate of Dhruva. The purpose of the inscription was to record the death, on the occasion of the fight about the cows of thousand (Mahâjanas) of Nareyamgal, of a local hero named Dommara-Kâdava. The place Nareyamgal may be identified with Naregal itself.

Another hero-stone found at Sidēnûr in Hirekerur taluk of Dharwar district, has been set up near the temple of Kalleśvara\textsuperscript{79}. The inscription refers itself to the reign of Dôrapparasa (Dhruva) and mentions Mârakka-arasa as the governor of Banavâsi, and Benaëti as the administrator of the town which was probably Sidēnûr itself. It then records the death of a hero in a fight. The context of the fight has not been clearly stated, though reference has been made to Sidiyanûr (modern Sidēnûr) and probably to a fight with the Gaïgas.

Apart from these hero stones, one inscription has been discovered at Lakshmēshwar in Dharwar\textsuperscript{80}. The Inscription refers to the reign of Śrîvallahala, (possibly Dhruva), and records the grant of

\textsuperscript{78} Some records of the Râshtrakûta kings of Malkhed, B. Naregal inscription of the time of Dhruva, \textit{EI,VI},pp.162-63

\textsuperscript{79} \textit{South Indian Inscriptions, XX,(Bombay Karnataka Inscription,) No. 10} (B.K. No. 94 of 1935-36),pp.10-11
the weavers of the mūrunkēri of Purigere which has been identified with Lakshmēshwar.

II. AD 801 to 850

During the period of the first half of the ninth century, we see a relative increase in the number of donative inscriptions issued by the house of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. As is expected, we also notice a corresponding increase in the area of the distribution of these inscriptions.

Govinda III issued several donative inscriptions during this period. The first charter of this century issued by him is datable to c. A.D 802\textsuperscript{81}. It was issued from a place called Mānyapura vijayasandhāvāra. The charter refers to his brother Saucha-Kambha-Dēva and then goes on to records certain donation by Śaucha-Kambha-Dēva, apparently with the consent of PMP Govinda-rāja-dēva (Govinda III). The donation consisted of a village called Pervvadiyūr which was part of Edediṇḍe-vishaya. The charter also speaks of the donation of ‘one part in ten in Paderiyūr’\textsuperscript{82}.

Next come two of his charters which are datable to c. A.D 803. One of them is stated to have been recovered somewhere in Karnataka\textsuperscript{83}. It talks about the renewal of a grant that was made earlier by Kīrttivarm-rāj-paramēśvara who has been identified with Kīrtivarman II (AD.744-757), the Chālukya ruler of Bādāmi. It may

\textsuperscript{80} ‘Some records of the Rāṣṭrakūtās kings of Malkhed, Lakshmeshwar inscription of the time of Srivallabha’, EI,VI,pp.163-67
\textsuperscript{81} EC, IX, Nelamangala Taluq, No.61,pp.51-53
\textsuperscript{82} Ibid., “Pādari-uru pattu-bhāgadol ondu-bhōgam dēvargge koḷṭattu”,p.53.
\textsuperscript{83} No. CXXIII, IA, XI,pp.125-27,
also be mentioned that the charter also refers to the queen (mahādēvi) of Govinda III for the reason not made clear in the charter. It is further recorded that the grant was made when Govinda had fixed his encampments on the banks of the river Tuṅgabhadrā. The name of Rāmēśvara tīrtha has also been mentioned in this connection. As far as the identification of Rāmēśvara tīrtha is concerned, it has been identified with an island in the Tungabhadra, in a bend of the river a few miles to the north of the junction of the Tunga and Bhadra in the Shimoga district. It has not been possible to identify the location of the granted property.

The second grant, dated Saka 725\(^{84}\), was issued from the same place as the first one i.e., the bank of the river Tungabhadra. However, the description of the place is entirely different here. Now we are told that it was a vijaya-skandhāvāra located on the banks of the river Tungabhadra near a place called Alampura\(^{85}\). The purpose of the grant, however, was to record the donation of a village which was included in Pōṇa vishaya.

As for the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, most of them have been identified in the districts of Yeotmal and Wardha. Alampur, the place of the issue of the grant, has been identified with the present Alampur, near the Alampur Road railway station on the Central Railway, about three miles to the north of the Tungabhadra river. The donated village has been identified with modern Zari in the Kelapur Taluk of modern Yeotmal district. Pōṇa,

---

\(^{84}\) Jharika grant of Rashtrakuta Govinda III, Saka 725, EI.XXII, p157-164

the headquarter of the vishaya, may be identified with modern Pōhanā on the banks of the Wardha river in Hinganghat taluk of the Wardha district.

The next charter of Govinda III comes from the private collection of certain resident of the Satara district. Dated Saka year 727 (C. A.D 805), it records the royal gift at the instance of a chief called Nāgahari of the Brihach-Chhinda family of the Phaṅḍra (Nāga) race. The grant consisted of a village which was situated in Chandagada vishaya. The grant was issued from a place called Šûgûḍûru.

These places have been identified in the vicinity of the Kolhapur district. The vishaya has been identified with the present Chandagarh, the headquarter of the taluk of the same name in Kolhapur district (formerly belonging to the Belgaum district). About ten miles to its north is situated a village named Nēsarî which may be Nēsarikā of the grant. Šûgûḍûru, the camping place (samāvāsitēna) of the king from where the grant was issued has not been located. It has, however, been suggested that it might have been situated somewhere around Bijapur-Mysore region which is generally consider to be the area of the Chhinda family at whose instance the grant was made.

We have several charters of Govinda III which have been issued from a single place called Mayûrakhandī. It may also be mentioned here that one of the earlier charter belonging to the last decade of the eighth century was issued by him from the same

---

86 Nesarika grant of Govinda III, Saka 727, EI, XXXIV, pp.123-134, also see Note on the Nesarika grant of Govinda III, Ibid., pp.135-40.
87 Anjanvati plates of Govinda III, EI, XXII, pp.8-18
place. In that case, the place was described as *vijaya-skandhāvāra*. However, in all his subsequent charters of the ninth century the place has not been described as *vijaya-skandhāvāra*, rather invariably we come across expression *samāvāsitena* with Mayūrakhandi.

The first charter of the ninth century issued by him from the same place, *(Mayūrakhandi-samāvāsitena)*, comes from Wani in the Dindori taluk of the Nasik district. It is datable to AD 806-7. The donation recorded in the charter consisted of a village which was included in a Vaṭanagar *vishaya* which in turn was part of Nāsika dēśa. The *vishaya* has been identified with the modern Wani in Dindori taluk of Nasik district. The donated village and those referred to in the context of the boundary specification have been located in the modern Dindori taluka of Nasik district.

Another charter issued from the same place is dated Saka year 729 (c. A.D. 807). It comes from the possession of certain resident of Sirso, a village located in the Murtizapur taluk of the Akola district. It records the donation of a village along with certain site of habitation that was part of another settlement called M órgaṇa. The donated village has been stated to be located in the *vishaya* of Māṇaka.

All these places have been located in the district of Akola. The *vishaya* has been identified with Mana, eight miles east of

---

88 Sanskrit and Old Canarese inscriptions, No. CXXV, *IA*, XI,( June 1882),pp.156-163
89 See Sumati Mulay,1972,p.43
90 Two copper plate inscription from Berar.A. Shisavi grant of Govinda III, Saka Year 729, *EI*,XXIII.pp.204-212
91 Ibid.,exp. used : *Moraganagrama-dhana-samanivitaḥ*,ll.39-40,
Murtizapur. The donated village has been identified with Sirso, which is also the find place of the charter.

Another charter issued from the same place carries the date of Saka Samvat 730 (c. A.D 808)\textsuperscript{92}. The donated village figuring in this charter is stated to have formed a part of Râsiyana bhukti. As to the identification of the places referred in the charter, the bhukti has been identified with Râsin in the Karjat taluk of the Ahmadnagar district\textsuperscript{93}. The donated village has been identified with present Râtanjan, located about twenty four miles north-north east of Râsin. The rest of the places can also be located in the Karjat taluk of Ahmadnagar district.

In another grant, dated S 732\textsuperscript{94} (AD 809), we are told about the donation of pieces of land in villages which formed the part of Khêda vishaya which may be identified with area around modern Kheda in Gujarat.

The next charter issued by Govinda III from the same place comes from the possession of a resident of Dharur in Bhir district\textsuperscript{95}. Dated Saka 728 (c. A.D 809), the village donated through this charter was located in Dhâraûra vishaya which is obviously the same place as modern Dharur. The donated village Añahê has been identified with modern Anegaon, about fourteen miles south-east of Dharur.

\textsuperscript{92} Radhanpur plates of Govinda III, *Saka Samvat 730*, EI, VI, p.239-51

\textsuperscript{93} see Sumati Mulay, 1972........loc. cit.,pp.55-56


\textsuperscript{95} Dharur plates of Rashtrakuta Govinda III, Saka 728, *EI*, XXXVI, pp.285-96
Another charter by the same ruler emanating from the same place is dated Śaka 732\(^{96}\). It records the donation of a village called Bahulavara which has been identified with modern Bahulwad where the plate was found, and which is on the bank of the river Bahula in Panchora taluk of the west Khandesh district (now the Dhule district). The village, as stated in the charter, was located in Bahulâ vishaya, which may be located around the area of Panchora taluka in the Dhule district. Other places referred to in the charter can also be located in the same taluka.

We have yet another charter dated Saka 733 (c. A.D 811)\(^{97}\). Issued from the same place as Mayfirakhandi, it records the transfer of a village, which was located in Dhanka-Pippala bhukti. None of the places has been identified yet.

Possibly the last charter issued by Govinda from Mayûrakhandi is the charter known as Lôhârâ grant of Govinda III\(^{98}\) which is dated Saka year 734 (c. A.D 812). It records the royal donation of a village, which was located in Murumba vishaya.

As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, the donated village has been identified with Lôhârâ, about eight miles to the west of Kârañjâ in the Murtizapur taluka of Akola district. Murumba, the headquarter of the vishaya may be Murambi, three miles southeast of Lôhârâ.

---

\(^{96}\) Râshtrakûta Govinda 3 ra yacha Bahulvad tamrapatra, saka 732 in *Brihat Ithasa Samsodhak Mandal Quarterly*, Vol.XII, No.2(*Asina*),1853, pp.13-22

\(^{97}\) No. IV. A grant of Râṣṭrâkûtas sovereign Govinda III, *JBBRAS*( NS),pp.187-89

\(^{98}\) Two copper plate inscription from Berar., Lohara grant of Govinda III, Saka Year 734, *El*,XXIII.pp.212-222
Apart from these charters issued from Mayûrakhaṇḍī, there are three more charters of Govinda III which were issued from different places.

We have a set of five copper plates, datable to AD 808. It refers to the reign of Govinda III. The donor, however, has been described as Ranâvalôka Kambhayya, who is stated to be the son of Dhârâvarsha and a subordinate of Govinda III. The purpose of the inscription was to record the donation of a village called Vadañneguppi, which was included in Punnâda-Ede-nâd, from his victorious camp at Talavana-nagara. The donation, we are told, was made at the request of his son Sankaragaṇṇa. Though it has not been possible to identify any of the places, yet it may not be wrong to suggest that they may be looked for in the areas around present day Mysore district.

Another set of five copper plates has been discovered at Maṇṇe, a village in the Nelamangala taluka of the Bangalore district. Dated Saka Year 732(c. A.D 810) the charter records the grant of a village at the request of a Mahâsâmantâdhipati Dantivarma and Châkirâja. The donated village is stated to have been a part of Kuruvalke vishaya. It is interesting to note that the encampment on the banks of Tungabhadra has been mentioned in this charter also and possibly, this was the place of issue of the grant.

100 Ibid., "Talavana-nagaram adhivasati vijya-skandhâvarê, p.357,(l.54.)
101 The Quarterly Journal of the Mythic Society,24,1924,No.2, pp.82-88
The donated village in the case of the present charter has been identified with a modern village of the same name in Tumkur taluk. The vishaya has not been identified so far.

The last charter mentioning Govinda as the donor in the capacity of sovereign power comes from Kadamba in the Tumkur district. Datable to c. A.D 812, it records the donation of a village at the instance of Chakirāja who has been called the ruler of the entire province of the Gaṅgas (aśeṣha-Gaṅgamaṇḍal-ādhirāja). The donated village was located in the vishaya of Idigūr. The place of the issue of the charter has been described as Mayūrakhaṇḍī vijayakṣandhāvāra.

About the place of the issue, it has been suggested that it cannot be the same place as Mayūrakhaṇḍī which has been referred in many of the charters of Govinda III. It may therefore be identified with a place called Manipura which is probably the same place as Mānpura which was the residence of the Ganga kings in the eighth century. Lüders also seems to agree with this identification. Rest of the places mentioned in the charter have not been identified.

We also have three stone inscriptions of his period. One of them refers to the reign of Ranāvalokā Kambaya, who has been described as mahāsāmantādhipati. The purpose of the inscription is to record two donations one of which was probably made by a queen of Manasija. The other donation, the nature of which is not clear, was

---

102 A Rāṣṭrakūṭa grant from Mysore, IA, XII, pp.11-19; also see 'Kadamba plates of Prabhūtavāra, Saka Samvat 735', EI, IV, pp.332-348

103 See Kadamba plates....Ibid.,

made by a group of individuals which consisted of a śrīkarna, two gāmunḍas, and one nāl-gāmunḍa etc. The geographical context of the object of the donations remains uncertain.

Another stone inscription datable to c. AD 806 comes from the Kolar district. It records donation of the village Kandamangala by Gōvinda III. The donated village was situated in Kaivāra- nād.

One of the stone inscription of his period has been found at Rāmēśvara near Proddaturu in the taluka of that name in the Cuddapah district of Andhara Pradesh. Though the inscription carries no date, it seems to be assignable to a date about the close of the rule of Govinda III on paleographical grounds. The purpose of the inscription is to record the construction of three temples by a Rāṣṭrakūṭa Mahāsāmanta named Kannayya or Kṛishṇa alias Dhuradaṅkakāra who was a subordinate and probably also a relative of the Rāṣṭrakūṭa Govinda III. The inscription goes on to state that Mahāsāmanta Kannayya (Kṛishṇa alias Dhuradaṅkakāra-Rājamārtanda-Raṭṭakandarpa) obtained Naṅgadûru from Govinda III and donated it to the temple of Rameshvara. We are also told about certain other donations made by him. Though the donated village has not been identified, it may not be wrong to suggest that it might have been somewhere around the Cuddapah district only.

Amoghavarsha I, who succeeded Govinda III, seemed to have issued only one charter during the time span under consideration. Dated Saka 742 (c. A.D 820), the charter is reported to have been discovered at a village called Javakheda in the Shada taluk of the

---

105 EC,XVII, Supplementary Inscriptions in the Kolar District,Mysore,p.105.
106 Rashtrakuta Inscription from Ramesvara, EI, XXVI, pp.57-67.
West Khandesh district (now Dhule district).\textsuperscript{107} It is stated in the charter that a grant of village was made by Amoghavarsha I at the request of one Bhaṭṭārki. The donated village was part of Ėkāṣaya division (Ēkāṣay-āntarggata). The grant was made when Amoghavarsha I was residing at šrī-Nisvapuraka (šrī-Nisvapuraka-grāma- vāsītēna) which has been identified with modern Nisarpur in Kuksi in Madhya Pradesh. Rest of the places have not been identified.

Apart from the donative inscriptions issued by these two rulers belonging to the house of Malkhed in the capacity of a sovereign power, we have certain donative inscriptions, which were issued by their subordinates of different types.

One such subordinate power which makes its appearance during this period is known as the Gujarat branch of the Rāstrakūṭas. The rulers of this branch of the Rāstrakūṭas were lineal descendants of the Malkhed rulers. As far as their authority status is concerned, they had a subordinate status vis-à-vis the rulers of the Malkhed branch of the Rāstrakūṭas. All the rulers of this house carried the title of mahāsāmantādhipati. Their charters, however, indicate that they enjoyed enough authority to make grant on their own. Now we would take up the land charters issued by them to analyze their geographical contexts.

**Gujarat branch of the Malkhed Rāstrakūṭas**

It is believed that the house of Gujarat was created sometime during the reign of Govinda III with the appointment of his younger

\textsuperscript{107} Javakheda plates of Amoghavarsha I, Saka 742, \textit{EI},XXXII,pp. 129-134.
brother Indra as an incharge of southern Gujarat\textsuperscript{108} However, we do not have any inscription issued by Indra. The earliest inscription of this house, which we have at our disposal, is the one that was issued at the fag end of the rule of Govinda III. It is dated Saka Samvat 732 and has been discovered from a place called Bhilodia near Vadaj which was part of the erstwhile Baroda state\textsuperscript{109}.

The charter records the donation by Gôvindarâjâ, son of Indra, who has been described as mahâsâmantâdhhipati. The donation consisted of a village called Usauñaka which was part of Vâhâuala chaturaśīti which has been identified with Vahora, four miles south east of Bhilodia in Baroda. The donated village has been identified with modern Wasan, about two miles north east of Chamarawara in Baroda. Rests of the places, except the home of the donee, have also been located around Bhilodia.

Another land charter issued by him comes from the individual possession of a resident of the village of Devali in the Talaji district\textsuperscript{110}. Dated in Valabhi Samvat 500 (c. A.D 818-19), it records donation of a field (kshêtra) which was situated within the boundaries of a locality called Dêillikâ\textsuperscript{111}. Gôvindarâjâ, the donor, has been described as mahâsâmantâdhhipati. The grant was made from a place called Pâlittâñaka that has been identified with modern Pâlitânâ in Kathiawar district. All the places referred to in the charter in the

\textsuperscript{108} See A.S. Altekar,1967. p.79

\textsuperscript{109} Prince of Wales Museum plates of Govindaraja: Saka 732,\textit{EI},XXVI,pp.248-55

\textsuperscript{110} Devali plates of Govinda, \textit{Valabhi},500,\textit{EI},XXXV,pp.269-280

\textsuperscript{111} Ibid., exp.used : 'Dêillika-simâ-pratibaddha'
context of the boundary specification of the donated land have been identified near Devali, the find place of the inscription.

Apart from these two land charters in which Gòvindarâja himself figures as the donor, we have one charter which, though makes a mention of him, record a donation made by his subordinate mahâsâmanta of Šalukika family.\footnote{112}

The charter begins with reference to Govinda III as a sovereign power and then narrates the genealogy of the Râṣṭrâkûṭas branch till Gòvindarâja. It further states that an estate (prabhujyamân) was given by Gòvindarâja to Mahâsâmanta Buddhavarsha of Šalukika race who donated a village called Gòvaṭṭana. The donated village was located in Sîharakkhî-dvâdaśa which has been identified with modern Serkhi. About the donated village, it has been suggested that it may be identified with a small hamlet called Kôtna. Both the places are located in the neighborhood of Baroda.\footnote{113} Rest of the places have not been identified.

We have five donative inscriptions issued by Karkarâja who has often been described as the brother of Gòvindarâja.\footnote{114}

The first charter of Karkkarâja comes from the private collection of a resident of Baroda.\footnote{115} Dated Saka 734 (c. AD 812),

\begin{footnotes}
\item[112] Torkhede copper plate grant of the time of Govindaraja of Gujarat-Saka Samvat 735,\textit{EI},III,pp.53-58
\item[114] It may be mentioned here that the dates of the charters of Gòvindarâja and those of Karkka II overlap in time. However, like Gòvindarâja, Karkka II has also been described as Mahâsâmanta dhipati. In all his charters, except one, the genealogy of the Malkhed branch of Râṣṭrâkûṭas has been carried upto Amoghavarsha I. Only in his first charter
\end{footnotes}
it records the donation of a village called Vadapadraka which was included in Aṅkoṭṭaka Eighty four. The grant was made when the donor was settled at a place called Śrī-Siddhāsamī. The donated village has been identified with modern Vadodara. Aṅkoṭṭaka and one of the villages referred in the context of the boundary specification of the donated village have been identified with Ankut and Jambava respectively. Both are at present situated about five to six miles to the south of Baroda\footnote{116}. About the geographical extent of the administrative unit, it has been suggested that probably the area to the west of Sankheda taluka formed then a part of Aṅkoṭṭaka -84\footnote{117}.

The second charter of Karkkarāja comes from a place called Nausāri\footnote{118} which is dated Saka 738 (C. AD 816). It records the donation of two villages one of which is mentioned as situated in the region intervening between the Mahī and the Narmadā and another one has been stated to be located in Maṅikaṅika bhukti. The charter was issued from Khetaka (Kheṭaka- avasthithena).

The donated villages and the villages mentioned in the context of their boundary specification have been located around Ankuleshvara. About the bhukti\footnote{119}, it has been suggested that the areas to the north-west of Sankheda was included under this unit\footnote{119}. The

called the British Museum Plates\footnote{114} the genealogy of the Malkhed branch comes to an end with Govinda III.

\footnote{113} Sanskrit and Old Canarese Inscriptions, No.CXXVII., IA,XII,pp.156-64

\footnote{116} For identification also see, Gujarat State Gazetteer, Vadodara district, 1979, p.83.

\footnote{117} see, H.D.Sankalia, Studies in the Historial and Cultural Geography and Ethnography of Gujarat, Poona, 1949, p.27


\footnote{119} H.D. Sankalia, 1949,p.27.
place of issue may be identified with modern Kheda, the chief town of the district of the same name. An alternative set of identifications has also been offered by the editor of Brahamanapalli grant of Karka Suvarnavarsha\textsuperscript{120}. It has been argued that the donated village and the villages forming its boundaries should be located in the Sankheda taluka and the *bhukti* may be identified with Mankni in Sankheda taluka of Baroda. Rest of the places including the object of donation can also be identified in the same taluka.

The third charter of Karkkarâja is dated Saka 739 (C. A.D 818)\textsuperscript{121} and mentions the donation of a village which was part of Bharukachcha *vishaya*. *sri*-Khetaka once again figures as the place of issue of the charter. In the present case however, it has been referred as a *râjadhâni*. The headquarter of the *vishaya* can easily be identified with Baroach. As to the identification of the donated village, it has been suggested that it might have been located somewhere in Surat. *sri*-Khetaka has been identified with Kheda.

The fourth charter of Karkkarâja has been discovered somewhere in Surat\textsuperscript{122}. It records the grant of a field called ‘Hiranyayôgâ’ which is stated to have been situated to the north of the village Ambâpâtaka which was attached to *sri*-Nâgasârikâ. All these places have been identified in the Surat district. While Nâgasârikâ has been identified with modern Nausârî, about twenty miles south of

\textsuperscript{120} Brahamanapalli grant of Karka Suvarnavarsha : saka 746, *EI*,XXII, pp.77-85

Surat, Ambâpâṭaka has been taken to be the same as modern Āmadpur, about five kms way from Nausārī.

The grant was made when the donor was encamped on the bank of the Vaṅnikā which has been identified with the Vanki creek, about thirty miles to the south of Nausārī.

The last charter of Karkkarāja that we have at our disposal is dated Saka 746 (c. A.D 824)\(^{123}\). It records the donation of a village named Brâhmaṇapallikā which was located in the Māhisaka vishaya of forty-two village. One of the peculiarities of this charter is that it carries the signature of both Karkkarāja and his overlord Amoghavarsha.

The donated village has been identified with modern Bāmangām in the Baroda taluka. Māhisaka, the chief place of the vishaya, is identified with Mahisa, a few miles north of Kapadvanja\(^{124}\). Rest of the places has not been identified.

Karkkarāja was succeeded by his son Dhruva II in c. A.D. 830. We have one charter which was issued by Dhruva II\(^{125}\). Dated Saka 757 (c. A.D 835), the charter refers to Amoghavarsha as sovereign power and introduces Dhruva as a Mahâsâmântâdhipati and record the donation of a village by Dhruva II. The donated village was located in Kâsahrada desa, headquarter of which has been identified with Kheda. The grant was issued from

\(^{122}\) Surat plates of Karkkaraja Suvarnavarsha of Gujarat Rashtrakuta Branch, dated Saka year 743, EI, XXI.pp.133-147.

\(^{123}\) Brahanapalli grant of Karka Suvarnavarsha : Saka 746, EI, XXII, pp.77-85.

\(^{124}\) See Sumati Mulay, 1972, ...loc.cit.p.57
‘Sarvamangalásattá outside śrī-Kheṭa’ which is represented by modern Kheda.

One of the records of the period under discussion has been discovered at Kesarabhanī in Hungund taluk of Bijapur district. Dated Śaka 759 (c. A.D 837), it refers to Yeṛagāṅga as the ruler of Edadoṛē and other district. The record is badly damaged and therefore nothing relevant can be made out of it. The place now possibly represents the area around modern Edatore.

III AD 850 to AD 900

During the time span of the second half of the ninth century the numbers of charters issued by of the Malkhed branch is far less than the previous era. Now we have more inscriptions in which local authorities of different types figure as donors of different resources in different localities.

We have two donative inscriptions assignable to the timespan under discussion in which Amoghavarsha I figures as the donor. One of them has been built into the walls of Paramēshvara temple at Dharwar. Since the record has been declared spurious, we would leave it out of discussion.

Another charter emanating from Amoghavarsha I is reported to have been found in Sanjān in the Thaṇe district. Dated Saka Samvat 793, the charter tells us about grant of a village Jharivallikā

---

125 A Copper plate grant of the Gujarat Rāṣṭrakūṭa king Dhruva II, Dated Saka 757, IA,XIV( July 1885),pp.196-203
126 South Indian Inscriptions, XI, Bombay -Karnataka Inscription, Mysore,1986,No.7,p.4
127 Konnur spurious inscription,El,IV,pp.25-38.
by him from Mānyakhēta which has been described as rājadhāni. The donated village was part of Twenty-four village group adjacent to Samjana. All the localities, excepting the place of issue, including those referred to in the context of the boundary specification, have been identified in the northern part of the Thane district. The place of issue is obviously Malkhed.

Amoghavarsha I was succeeded by Krishṇa II (C. AD 880)\(^{129}\). We do not have any charter issued by him. However, there are quite a few stone inscriptions which refer themselves to his reign. These inscriptions largely record transfer of varied resources at local level. However, what is noteworthy about these records are the frequent references to local authorities in the context of resource transfer. These inscriptions would be taken up for discussion later, after the analysis of the inscriptions of Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas.

**Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas (c. AD 851-900)**

We have four sets of property transfer documents issued by different rulers of Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas during the second half of the ninth century.

Two of the charters seem to have been issued at the same time by two different rulers of this house. One of them was issued by Dantivarman who has been described as mahāsāmantaḥdhipati and the younger brother of Dhruva II\(^{130}\). Dated Śaka Samvat 789 (c. A.D 867), it records the donation of a village which was situated in the north-west of , and included in, forty two village group named after

\(^{129}\) A.S. Altekar, Rāṣṭrakūṭas .............loc. cit.,p.90

\(^{130}\) Plates of Dantivarman of Gujarat, Saka Samvat 789, EI.VI, pp.85-294
Sarthātailāta. The grant was made after the donor apparently had a bath in the river Purāvī.

As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, the place of issue may be located in the areas around the river Purṇā in the Surat district. Though the donated village has not been identified properly, it may be looked for around modern Nausārī.

We have another grant whose date has also been worked out to be c. AD 867. The donor in this case is Dhruva II of Gujarat branch who has also been described as mahāsāmantādhipati. The purpose of the charter is to record the transfer of a village which belonged to the group of 116 villages connected with Karmāntapura. As to the identification of the places figuring in the charter, it has been suggested that they all can be located in the Surat district.

We have one more charter of Dhruva II. Dated Saka 806 (c. AD 884), the charter informs us that when Dhruva Dhārāvarsha was encamped at Śrīkhēṇa(ta)ka he made a donation of a village included in a Kāntāragrāma vishaya which has been identified with Katargām, situated at the outskirts of Surat. The donated village has been identified with modern village Dhuṇḍesa, situated in the Mahua taluka of Nausārī. The place of issue is of course modern Kheda.

132 According to Bühler, nearly all the places mentioned in the charter are found on sheet No. 34 of the Gujarat series of map. One of the village called Mottaka can be identified with present Mōta in the Surat district. About Karamāntapura, the chief place of the group of the village to which the donated village belonged may be identified with Kamrēj. See, G. Bühler, 'The villages Mentioned in the Gujarat Rathore Grants, No.III and IV', IA, XVI,March, 1887,pp.100-101.
133 A new copper plate of Dhruva II of Gujarat Rāṣṭrakūṭas ʿorchanch, Dated Saka 806, EI,XXII,pp.64-76.
Apparently, the last charter of this house was issued by Krishṇa II in c. A.D 888\textsuperscript{134}. He has also been described as mahāsāmantādhipati. The charter tells us that he issued the grant while residing at Aṅkûleśvara. The grant consisted of a village which was included in Koṅkaṇa vishaya. The place of issue of the grant has been identified with the modern Aṅkuleśvar. Though the donated village has not been identified, two of the places mentioned in the context of its boundary specification have been identified. One has been identified with modern Variāv, a large village on the Tapi river and another one with modern Vasvāri\textsuperscript{135}.

As said earlier, now we would take up those inscriptions which refer to the reign of the kings of Malkhed branch of Rāṣṭrakūṭas, though their real purpose is to record the activities of the local authorities.

Two such inscriptions come from Kaṇheri\textsuperscript{136}. Both the inscriptions mention the erection of certain building and grant of some money. The importance of the inscriptions lies in the fact that it reveals the existence of a subordinate Silāhāra power in this region. In both the inscriptions, Amoghavarsha has been mentioned as a sovereign power.

\textsuperscript{134} Rathore grant No.IV, A grant of Krishṇa II of Ankulesvar of 888 AD, IA, vol (March 1884),p65-69.

\textsuperscript{135} Ibid., sec fn.no.16,p.66. Bühler, however, would like us to believe that the granted village can be identified with modern Kōsad and the other places are now represented by Waawari, Varachha and Utrān. All these places can be found on the sheets Nos.14-15of the maps. See G.Bühler, ' The Villages Mentioned in the Gujarat Rathore Grants Nos. III and IV', IA, XVI, (March, 1887),pp.100-101.

\textsuperscript{136} Three inscriptions from Kanheri, No. 15 and 43 A, IA,XIII, (May 1884) pp.138-36.
We have several inscriptions referring to the reign of Amoghavarsha I. These inscriptions are largely distributed in areas around north Karnataka.

One of them datable to AD 865 has been found near a temple in the village of Mantarwādi in Banākapur taluk of the Dharwar district\(^{137}\). The inscription refers itself to the reign of Amoghavarsha I and mentions his subordinate named Kuppēya as the governor of Purigere district (nādam). It records certain donation by a group of Mahājanas, along with others, probably in the same locality as the find place of the inscription. Though the precise area of Purigere district (nādam) is difficult to decide, it may not be wrong to assume that it covered the areas around modern Lakshmeshvar in the Dharwar district.

Another inscription of Amoghavarsha's I reign has been discovered at Shiggaon, the headquarter of the taluk of the same name in the Dharwar district\(^{138}\). Apart from referring itself to the reign of Amoghavarsha, it mentions his chief Kuppeyarasa as governor of Purigere-300, Maṇlēra Gādīga as the Nāl-gāmuṇḍas, Kallaman of (i.e, the son or the member of the family of) Kargāmuṇḍar as the Ḫurgāmuṇḍa, and Pendaman as in charge of the Kaḷḷavaḷḷa taxes of the 300-division. The purpose of the inscription was to record the remittance of Kaḷḷavaḷḷa tax of Shiggāme with the permission of Kuppeyarasa. It also mentions the remission of all the minor taxes

---

\(^{137}\) Some records of the Rāṣṭrakūṭa king of Malkhed, D. Mantrawadi Inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha I, AD 865, \textit{EI}, VII, pp. 198-202

(kiru-dere) by Kuppeyarasa. As said earlier puri may be identified with Lakshmeswar.

We have two stone inscriptions of the time of Amoghavarsha I which are datable to AD 866. One of them has been found at village Sirur in the Nawalgund taluka of Dharwar. It refers to the reign of Amoghavarsha and then introduces his subordinate/official Dēvaṇṇayya who was residing at Annigere and was governing Belvola three hundred.

The purpose of the inscription was to record assignment of tax on clarified butter by Dēvaṇṇayya. Though the inscription does not tell us who the recipient was, it, however, refers to the washing of the feet of two hundred mahājanas of Śrīvūra which was headed by a person named Ravikayya. As to the identification of the place Srivūra, it is obviously the present day Sirur. Annigere has been identified with modern Annigere in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district.

Another stone inscription comes from Nilgund in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district. Datable to C.A.D 866, it describes Dēvaṇṇayya in the same way as above. It also refers to his brother-in-law Kulappayya as the governor of Mulgunda twelve and then goes on to record the remission of tax on clarified butter by Dēvaṇṇayya. The only difference is that in this case he has been shown obtaining the approval of Amoghavarsha I before granting the remission. Hundred and twenty Mahājanas of Nirgunda has been described as the beneficiary. The place Nirgunda may be identified with Nilgund in Gadag taluk. Mulgunda, the village which lent its name to the group.

140 Nilgund inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha I, AD 866, EI, VI, 98-108
of villages, an be identified with the modern Mulgund, about two miles on the south east of Nilgund.

Another inscription of his reign has been found at Soraṭûr in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district. Dated in Śaka 788, (c. A.D.867-868), it registers a remission of taxes on ghee in favour of the Fifty (gāvunda) of Sarṭapura made by Mahāsārmanta Āhavāditya Kuppeyarasa of Yādava vamsa and gift of ghee made by the (community of) Five hundred. At the time of the grant, Kuppeyarasa was governing the Purigere-nādu. Sarṭapura may be identified with Soraṭûr, which is also the find place of the inscription.

We have another inscription from Soraṭûr datable to c. A.D 869. It mentions ‘Kuppêya’ as governing Purigere (Purigere-nādam-āle) and records the construction of a gateway by a village headman (gāmundā). The place where the gateway was erected may be the find place of the inscription, though it is not stated clearly in the inscription.

Another inscription dated in Śaka 791 (c. A.D 869) comes from Gāvaravād, Gadag taluk, Dharwar district. Apart from referring itself to the reign of Amoghavarsha I, it registers a gift of taxes on ghee made to the Mahājanas of Gavādivāda when Dēvaṇṇayya was governing Beḷvola 300. The place Gavādivāda of the record may be the same as the find place of the record. As to the Beḷvola 300, it has

---

141 SII, XI.....1986,loc. cit.,pp. 8-9

142 Some records of the Rāṣṭrakūṭa king of Malkhed, G.Bühler, ‘Soratur inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha I, AD 869’ EII,XIII,pp.,176-183.

been suggested that it included the areas of Gadag, Navalgund, and Ron talukas of the Dharwar district\textsuperscript{144}.

One of the inscriptions of his time has been located in Sisuvinañahalli in Navalgund taluk of Dharwar district\textsuperscript{145}. Datable to c. A.D 872, it refers to Dëvaṇṇayya as the governor of Belvola-300. He is stated to have exempted the Fifty Mahājanas of Sisuḷahāḷu from taxes on ghee. It is also stated that the Mahājanas had obtained the village as a gift during the Châlukya times. Sisuḷahāḷu can be identified with the find place of the inscription.

Another record of the reign of Amoghavarsha I comes from a place called Nidagundi in Baṅkāpur taluka of Dharwar district\textsuperscript{146}. Datable to AD 874-75, it mentions Baṅkēyarsa as the governor of Banavāsi twelve thousand, Belgali three hundred and Kundarage seventy, the Kundūr five hundred, and the Purigere three hundred. It then mentions his son Kundaṭṭe as the governor of Nidugundage twelve. It also refers to a Nāl-gāmuṇḍa, though the place he belonged to has not been stated. The purpose of the inscription is to record certain donation of land by these authorities.

Of the territorial divisions mentioned in this record, the Purigere three-hundred has already been discussed. The Nidugundage twelve possibly represented a group of villages headed by the modern Nidagundi itself. The Kundarage seventy is probably 'Koondurgee,' in the Yellapur taluka, about nine miles west-by-north from Nidagundi.

\textsuperscript{144} Sumati Mulay, 1972, p.64
\textsuperscript{145} SII, XI, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscriptions), No. 14, p.10
\textsuperscript{146} Nidagundi inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha, AD 874-75, EI, VII, pp.208-214.
We have another inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha I found in the Ron taluka of Dharwar district. Datable to AD 874 it records certain donation by individuals in favour of Mahâjanas.

As stated earlier, we do not have any donative inscription emanating from Kṛishṇa II who succeeded Amoghavarsha I. However, we have certain donative inscriptions which refer themselves to his reign. It may also be pointed out that in all the inscriptions of the period of Krishna II his title is not uniform. In some of them he has been given the imperial title of PMP, whereas in some he has been described as Mahâsâmantâdhipati.

The first inscription referring to his reign records the donation of land in a village that has been identified with Saundatt in Parasgad taluka of Belgaum district. The donor has been described as mahâsâmanta Prithivirâma, son of Mērada of the Raṭṭa family, subsisting on the lotus feet of Kṛishṇa II.

We have one inscription of Krishna II, dated Saka 805 (C. A.D. 883-84) which has been found in village Saratūr in the Gadag taluka of the Dharwar district. It records the gift of a gōsāsa by certain Māsigara-Chidāṇṇa in the presence of the Assembly of Fifty Mahâjanas of Saratavura. It mentions Indapayya as the governor of Purigere-nâdu. Sartavura, identified with modern Soratur, seemed to have formed part of the Nâdu.

We have another inscription of Krishna II which has been found in the village of Kuṇimellihaḷḷi in the Baṅkâpur taluk of

---

147 Ron inscription of the time of Amoghavarsha I, AD 874, EI, XIII, pp.183-184.
148 See SII, Vol. XX, No. 13, pp. 11-12.
149 Two stone inscriptions of Krishna II; Saka 805, EI, XXI, pp. 206-208.
Dharwar\(^{150}\). Dated Śaka 818 (c. A.D 895), the inscription refers itself to the reign of mahāsāmantaḥhipati Kannara-vallaha\(^{151}\) and mentions Lōkade as the governor of Banavāsi twelve thousand, ᪋ōmkāra-Śiva-bhaṭṭāra as administrator of Palasūr and certain Nāl-gāmuṇḍa and Urgāmunda of Aṇṇiga’s hundred of Pāṇugal. The purpose of the record seems to have been to record grant of remission to Dautavūra by ᪋ōmkāra-Śiva and local officials.

As to the identification of the places, Dautavūra has been identified with the find-place of the inscription. Palasūr is modern Halsur, a mile south-west of Kuṇimellihalli Banarasi.

Another record of Kṛishṇa II has been located in Mēvūndi in Mundargi Petha, Dharwar district\(^{152}\). Dated Śaka 818 (C.A.D 897) it mentions a Mahāsāmanta of the Yādava vamsa as the governor of Kōgaḷī five hundred and Māseyavādi one hundred and forty. He is stated to have constructed a temple at the capital town of Melividu and had granted some land. The place Melividu is evidently the modern Mēvūndi where the inscription has been found.

We have quite a few memorial stones referring to the reign of Kṛishṇa II datable to the period under discussion.

One of the hero-stones of the period of Krishna II has been found at Hirebdrī in Ranebennur taluk of Dharwar district\(^{153}\). Datable

\(^{150}\) Some Minor Rāshtrakūtas Inscriptions, I. Kunimellihalli inscription of Saka 818, EI,XVI,pp.277-80

\(^{151}\) Ibid., see the editor remarks on the title of Krishna II,p.278

\(^{152}\) SII, XI, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscription, No. 22,pp.,l3-l4.

\(^{153}\) SII XX, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscription, No. 14,New Delhi,1988,p,13
to c. A.D 878-79, it seems to record the death of certain Nāgati, son of Duggatigauda, in a cattle raid at Sālatti. Some Makara-Ijja has been mentioned as the governor of the place. The place Sālatti has not been identified so far.

We have one hero-stone datable to AD 883. It has been found at a place called Sirumja in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district. It records the death of certain Ereyamman in a cattle raid at Nivudi and the setting up of stone by Gureyamma, the younger brother of Pulidegāvunda.

We have two hero-stones coming from the same place called Beṭgere in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district. The one datable to c. A.D 888 refers to certain Sādēva who attacked Batṭakeṛe and laid the place waste. After referring to this incidence, it goes on to record that certain brāhmaṇa named Gaṇaramma died in defending Batṭakeṛe. About Gaṇaramma it is said that he was instrumental in founding the settlement and he belonged to the twice-born family of Vasiśṭha. The place Batṭakeṛe may be identified with the find place of the inscription.

Another hero stone, datable to c. A.D 893, has been found at the same place i.e., Beṭigēri in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district. It records the death of a hero named Kaligaḷḷa in a battle. The battle seems to have been caused by the attack of Batṭakeṛe i.e., modern

---

154 Two Stone inscription of Krishna II, No.B, EI,XXI,pp.206-08, also see ,SII, XI, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscription,) No. 19,p,12
155 J. - Batgere inscription of the time of Krishna II- AD 888, EI,XIII,pp.187-90
156 SII XI, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscription,) No. 21,pp.12-13
Beṣigêri, by certain Nâgadhôra. Certain Maṅgatôrana has been mentioned as the governor of Beḷvola-nâdu.

Another of them, datable to C. A.D 897, has been found in Chiṅchli in Gadak taluka of Dharwar district. It registers the erection of a memorial stone, probably recording the death of some person. The Fifty-six Mahâjanas of Chimchila and certain Kâlabbe are mentioned. Chimchila can easily be identified with Chiṅchli, the find place of the inscription.

IV. AD 901 ONWARD

During the timespan of the tenth century, even though there is a relative increase in the number of charters emanating directly from the rulers of Malkhed branch of the Râṣṭrakûtas, we do not see any corresponding expansion in the area of distribution of their inscriptions. The only change that we notice is their penetration into the area of Tamil Nadu. However, what is striking is the fact that now inscriptions recording the activities of subordinates and the local authorities are encountered more frequently than before. As far as the area of concentration of such inscription is concerned, once again the area around the northern Karnataka stands out. In fact, the majority of them have been located in areas around Dharwar district.

Though there are several inscriptions of the period of Kṛishṇa II, only one seems to have been issued by him. The sole charter has been found at Kapadvanaj in Gujarat, and it is dated Saka 832 (c. AD 910-11). The charter informs us about the

---

157 SII, XI, (Bombay-Karnataka Inscription,) No. 24, pp. 15.

158 A Râṣṭrakûta grant of Kṛishṇa II, Dated Saka 832, EI, I, pp. 52-58.
donation of a village called Vyāghrāsa or Vallurikā. This village, we are told, formed one of 750 villages, which were designated by their chief town Harshapura. We are further told other smaller units which formed part of 750 villages, such as the 134 villages of Karpatavānijya, and the 10 villages of Rūriddhā, in which the village granted was included. The inscription also mentions the names of seven villages which formed its boundaries159.

About the identification of the places occurring in the grant, Bühler has suggested that the Karpatavānijya represents the modern Kāpadvaṇaj. The village granted, Vyāghrāsa, is the village Vaghās, situated north-east of Kāpadvaṇaj. East of Vaghās lies Panthora, called in the grant Panthodā; in the south there is the Laruji Māuadum which is probably the Araluvaṇaka of the grant. In the North-west we have Abuvel, the Apūvalli of the grant, and north Ambach, corresponding to Ambāuṇcha160.

The real significance of the charter, however, lies in the fact that it tells us about the existence of a new house of subordinates in this region during the period of the tenth century. In the charter, we find the genealogy of the Mahāsāmanta Prachanda and also the mention of his Dandanāyaka in the village of 750 referred above161.

159 Ibid, In verse 20, the 750 villages are stated to have belonged to the king himself, while in the ensuing prose-passage it is also said that in these 750 villages a certain Chandragupta was the dandaṇya of the Mahāsāmanta Prachanda.

160 Ibid., see fn No. 5,p.53

161 Altekar has suggested that this might have been a Canarese family, ruling over the Kapadvanja-Kaira area which was formerly being governed by the Gujarat branch of Rāṣṭrakūtas, See A.S.Altekar,1967,p.98
After Krishna II, Indra III came to occupy the throne sometime around c. AD 915. We have five charters that directly emanated from him. It may be pointed out that all the five donations were made on the same date, on the same occasion and from the same place. In all the five charters, Mânyakhêta has been referred as rājadhâni from where all the charters seem to have been finally issued.

The first one we have at our disposal is a set of two charters datable to C. A.D 915\(^{162}\). Each of the two charters registers the grant of a village at the time when Indra III had gone to Kurundaka from his capital Mânyakhêta for the pattabandha festival. In the charter No. I the donated village Umvarâ has been described as being located near Kammanija in Lāṭa deśa. It is also stated that Tōlejak, Mōgalika, Samkî, Javalakûpa were located on the east, south, west, north of the donated village respectively.

As to the identification of these places, it has been suggested that the granted village may be identified with modern Bagumarâ. Tōlejak and Mōgalika cannot be identified. However, Sankî and Javalakûpa can be identified with Sanki and Jolwa. Both are located quite close to Begumara.

In charter No. II, the donated village Tenna has been identified with modern Ten, and the villages referred in the context of its boundaries have been identified with Bardoli, Nadia, Wanesa and Baben. The donated village has been stated to be located near Kammanija, which is now represented by modern Kamrej. All these places are located in the Nausârî division.

\(^{162}\) Two grants of Indraraja III.; Saka Samvat 836, EI, IX, pp.24-41
As to the place of issue, Mānyakhēṭa is Malkhed and Kurundaka has been identified with Kurundwād at the junction of Krishna and Panñchgaṅgā. As to the identification of Lāṭa deśa it has been suggested that it might have included the modern Kaira on the north, and Daman in the south.¹⁶³

We have another set of two charters which were discovered at Vajirkheda, a village about four miles to the east of Malegaon in the Nasik district.¹⁶⁴ Both of them are datable to c.AD 915. As to the localities mentioned in the grant A, one of the donated village named Mālādah is stated to have been located in Pādalābadha-84. While the donated village has been identified with present Maldhā, two miles to the south-east of Malegaon in Nasik, the administrative unit has been identified with modern Padalada about twelve miles north east of Maldhā. Rest of the settlements referred in the context of the boundaries has been located around Malegaon in Nasik. The other donated village was Pāriyāla which is said to be close to Sihapuri. The donated village has been identified with Pārala now situated in the Vaijapur taluk of Aurangabad district. Sihapura, which has been spoken of as located near the donated village, may be modern Sirur, about eight miles east of Pārala. Other settlements referred in the context of boundary specification can also be located within the radius of 4-5 miles of the donated village.

¹⁶³ Sumati Mulay, 1972, p56
¹⁶⁴ Two grants of Rāśtrakūta Indra III from Vajirkheda, Saka 836, EI,XXXVIII, pp.5-22
Grant B speaks of the donation of six villages and all of them have been identified in the areas in and around the Nasik district. A brief description of the donated villages has been given below.

1. Ruddâṇa in the territorial division of Raṅkâṇa-24. The donated village has been identified with modern Uttarān about ten miles to the north west of Vadner;

2. Dhannāura, in the territorial division of Chhaṭṭhiyâna-32. The donated village is represented by modern Dhannara about five miles south of Talwâda;

3. Tuṅgōṇî, identified with Tungana in the Baglan taluk of Nasik district, in the territorial division of Raṅkâṇa-24;

4. Ajjalōṇî in the vishaya of Vaṭanagara which has been identified with the present Vadner;

5. Chanduhâṇa, identified with Chaundhana in the Baglan taluk of Nasik district, in Ruddâṇa -12 which has been identified with modern Uttarâṅe, about 15 miles to the north west of Vadner;

6. Divâra-grâma, identified with Devargaon, ten miles to the east of Vadner, in the territorial division of Udvalâula which may be identified with Udhrula near the donated village.

All these places are located around the district of Nasik.

We have another charter that carries the same date as above 165. The donated village Khâîrōṇdhî has been stated to be close to Paîṭṭhâṇa, which is evidently the modern Paithan. The donated village has been identified with Khirai, a village that lies about four-miles north by west of Paithan.

165 Jambagaon Plates of Indra III, Saka 836, EI, XXXVI, pp.232-238
Another charter of Indra III has been discovered in the village of Chinchani, in the Dahanu taluka of the Thane district. The purpose of the charter is to record the creation of an endowment by a subordinate of Indra III with his permission. The endowment consisted of a village, which was located in the Kōlimahāra vishaya within Samyāna-māndala and also certain land in another village called Devihara. It has not been possible to locate the donated areas. However, considering the fact they formed part of the part of Samyāna māndala which has been identified with the areas around Sanjana in the Thane district, it may not be wrong to suggest that the donated areas might have been located in the areas of the Thane district.

Apart from telling us about the details of the donation, the charter also tells us about the existence of a subordinate power in the region. We are told that there was a ruler named Madhumati who belonged to the Tajika (i.e., Arab) community, and that he had received the entire māndala of Samyana from Kṛishṇa (Kṛishṇa II). Madhumati seems to have continued to enjoy the same status during the period of Indra III as well, as we are told that Indra III got the present endowment created through him.

Indra III is believed to have been succeeded by Amoghavarsha II. We do not have any charter issued by him. We have, however, several charters of Govinda IV, who succeeded Amoghavarsha II.

---

166 Rashtrakuta charters from Chinchani, I. Grant of the time of Indra III, EI, XXXII, pp.45-55.

The first charter of Govinda IV that we have is dated Śaka 851(c. A.D 929). Discovered at a village called Andura in Balapur Taluk of Akola district, it records the grant of a village, called Ėlaūrî, by Govinda IV. The donated village was included in the territorial division of Vadanēra-300 which has been identified with Vadanēra. The donated village is now represented by modern Yerli. Both are located near Nandura in Buldana district. The charter seems to have been issued from Mānyakhēṭa, which has already been identified.

The next charter issued by him is dated Saka 851 (C. AD 930) and it records the donation of a village near Mānyakhēṭa. The donated village has not been identified. However, considering the fact that it is stated to be near Mānyakhēṭa which has been described as rājadhānī and the place of issue of the charter, it may not be wrong to look for it around modern Malkhed.

Another charter of Govinda IV comes from Cambay in Gujarat and it is dated Saka 852 (c. A.D 930). The charter was issued to record the donation of a village called Kēvaṇja that was situated in the Khēṭa maṇḍala of Lāṭa deśa. The donated village is stated to have been close to the holy place Kâvikā.

As far as the identification of these places is concerned, the donated village has been identified with Kimaj or Kimoj, Kâvikā is well known Kavi and the maṇḍala may identified with area around

---

169 Three copper plate inscriptions from Gaonri, A. Fragmentary grant of the Rashtrakuta Suvannavarsha (Govinda IV): Saka 851, EI.,XXIII, pp.101-108
170 Cambay plates of Govinda IV Saka Sambat 852, EI.,VII. pp.26-47.
Kaira. About the administrative unit Lâṭa deśa, it has been suggested that its area extended up to and including the modern Kaira district as far as Kâpadvanaj in the northeast. Possibly some part of eastern Kathiawar may also have been a part of it.

The place of the issue of the charter seems to have been Mânyakhêta rajadhani, though the grant is stated to have been made at a village called Kapitthaka near the bank of Godavari.

The last charter issued by him has been found in the private collection of a resident of Sangali. Dated 855 (c. A.D. 933-34) it tells us about the donation of Lôhagrâma that was located in Râmpurî 700 circle of village. None of the places mentioned in the inscription has been identified.

Amoghavarsha III succeeded Govinda IV sometime around 935. Though there are some inscriptions which refer themselves to his reign, there is none which was issued directly by him. We, would, therefore, take them up for discussion later.

We have three charters of Krîshña III who believed to have succeeded Amoghavarsha III.

The first of them comes from a place located in the Nagpur district. Datable to c. A.D 940-41 it speaks of the donation of a village named Tâlapurumshaka which belonged to the vishaya of Nâgapura-Nandivardhana. Though the donated village has not been identified.

---

171 Ibid., the inclusion of Kaira in the Lâṭa deśa has made the editor agreeable to Hultsch's suggestion about the geographical extent of Lâṭa, see p.36
172 See H.D. Sankalia, 1949 .....loc. cit.,p.26
173 Sanskrit and Old Canarese inscriptions, No. CXXXIII,IA,XII,pp.247-55.
identified, it may be looked for somewhere around Nagpur which may be identified with the headquarter of the vishaya mentioned in the charter. Mānyakhêta rājadhâni has been referred to as the place of issue of the charter.

The second charter was issued by Kṛishṇa III after the lapse of about nineteen years. The charter which was found in the Satara district is dated Śaka Samvat 880 (c. A.D 959)¹⁷⁶. The donated village Kaṅkēm is stated to have been situated in the Karhâta vishaya which belonged to Kalli group of twelve. The donated village and those referred to in the context of its boundary specification have been identified around Karhâd, which is incidentally also the find place of the charter. As to the spatial limit of the vishaya it has been suggested that its eastern boundary might have been formed by the river Kṛishṇa; the southern perhaps by the river Warna as far as it meets the Kṛishṇa. The northern boundary might have gone somewhere near Koregaon as far as the river Kṛishṇa which is six miles west of Koregaon¹⁷⁷. The headquarter of the vishaya may be identified with Karhâd in Satara.

The charter is stated to have been issued from Mēlpāṭī where his victorious army was encamped. The place has been identified with Melpadi in the Walpet taluka of north Arcot district.

¹⁷⁵ Deoli plates of Kṛishṇa III, Saka Samvat 862, EI, V, pp. 188-97.
¹⁷⁶ Karhad plates of Kṛishṇa III, Saka Samvat 880, EI, IV, pp. 278-90.
¹⁷⁷ see Sumati Mulay, 1972, p. 46.
The third charter issued by Kṛishṇa III is dated Śaka 882 (c. A.D 960)\textsuperscript{178}. It records the grant of the village of Rikkaṭi which was situated in Alatage 700 in the vishaya of Kuhunḍi. As to the identification of these places, Alatage is about 17 miles to the north-east of Kolhapur. About five miles to the south east of Alatage lies Rukadi which may be identified with the donated village. The other places mentioned in the context of the boundaries specification have also been located in the area around Kolhapur district. The charter, we are told, was issued from Melpāṭi (Melpāṭi-sam-āvasita-śrīmad-vijayakaṇṭaṇa).

Kṛishṇa III was succeeded by Khoṭṭiga, but we do not have any charter issued by him. The last charter which seemed to have been issued by the Rāṣṭrakūṭa rulers is the one which was issued by Karka III in AD 972-73\textsuperscript{179}. The charter records the grant of a village Paṅgarikā by him from śrī-Mānyakhêta. The granted village was located in Vavvulatala twelve that was part of Uppalikā three hundred. None of them has been identified so far.

**Donative inscriptions of subordinate authorities (c. A.D. 900 onward)**

We have several inscriptions referring to the different rulers of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Malkhed. The distribution of such inscriptions is though quite uneven in space, they nonetheless offer information about varied authorities who were apparently working as subordinates

---


\textsuperscript{179} Sanskrit and Old Canarese Inscriptions, No.CXXXVI, *IA*, XII, (October, 1883), pp.263-270.
under the sovereign rulers of the Malkhed branch of Rāṣṭrapātas. It may also be mentioned that like the pre-AD 900 phase, most of them come from the region of Karnataka.

We have one inscription found in front of the ruined Basavaṇṇa temple at Bandalike, Shikārpur taluk in the Shimoga district. Datable to c. A.D 902\(^{180}\), it refers to the reign of Akālavarga (Kṛishṇa II) and then introduces mahā-sāmanta Lōkaṭeyarasu as the governor of 31,102 villages (bāda) . The bāda, we are told, comprised of the Banavasi 12,000, the Palasige12,000, the Mānyakhēda-6,000, the Koḷanu-30, the Lōkâpura-12 and the Toregare-60. It also tells us about the gāvugda of the Nāgarkhaṇḍa-70. The purpose of the inscription seems to have been to record the donation of Daṇḍipalli, included in the Nāgarkhaṇḍa-70, by Lōkaṭeyarasu to Biṭṭayya for the construction of a basadi. About Biṭṭayya, we are told that he was the perggede of all the nādu governed by Lōkaṭeyarasu.

As to the places mentioned in the inscription, Mānyakhēda-6000 covered part of the present Gulburga district with Mālkhēda in Chitāpur taluk as its centre. The Nāgarkhaṇḍa-70 of the inscription comprised part of Sorab and Sāgar taluka in Shimoga district and Hangal and Hirekeur taluka in the Dharwar district. Rest of the places has not been identified properly.

Another inscription referring to the reign of the same ruler has been found at the shrine of the god Mukadeva at Nandawadige, in the Hungund taluk of the Kaladgi district. The purpose of the record seems to have been to register certain donations of land by the Mahâjanas of the place and also by a person named Châvuṇḍayya.

Another inscription of the period of Kṛishṇa II has been located at Chikka Sârangi in Tumkur district. Datable to AD 903, the inscription refers to the reign of Kṛishṇa II and mentions his Prachṇda-daṇḍanâyaka Dâmapiya who was stationed at Mane as a general of the entire south. The inscription records the donation of certain due to the Mahâjanas by certain groups of people.

Next inscription of his reign, datable to c. A.D 904, comes from Chiñchli in Gadak taluka of Dharwar district. It mentions Vatasayya as the incharge of the sumuka of Belvola 300. It registers a gift of tolls made to the local temple.

Another inscription has been found at Aihole in the Hungund taluka of Kaladagi district. Datable to AD 910-11, it records the building of a cell probably in the area of the find place of the inscription.

---

182 Ibid., The wording in the inscription, which has been damaged at many places, runs as follow, '...the Mahâjanas headed by his own three, who were equal to the saint Kapila, together with the children and old men, allotted ... of the eastern field'. (1. 3.)p. 221.
184 SII, XI, Bombay-Karnataka... loc cit., No.27, p.16
185 No.CXXX, IA, XII,( August,1883),p.222
Yet another inscription comes from Kavajgeri, Ron taluk of Dharwar district. It refers to the reign of Akalavarsha (Krishna II) and seems to record the gift of a gōsāsa. It is datable to AD 912.

We have some inscriptions assignable to the reign of Indra III. One of them, datable to c. A.D AD 916-17, has been found at Hatti-Mattur in the Karajgi taluka of the Dharwar district. It records the donation of a village by a mahāsāmanta Lendeyarsa who was governing Purigere 300. It also refers to the Mahājanaś of Paltiya Maltavura as witness to the grant. Though the actual geographical extent of Purigere 300 cannot be determined, it may be said with reasonable certainty that the area around modern Lakshmeshvar would have been included in it.

We have one inscription which is datable to AD 918. Though the sovereign ruler on this given date was Indra III, the inscription does not refer to his reign. Rather it refers to Prabhutavarsha (Govinda IV). The editor has suggested that probably Govinda IV was controlling this area as Yuvaraja. The purpose of the inscription was to record various donations such as land, income from revenue etc. in favour of a local tank. The list of donors included Nanivedanga, the chief brāhmaṇa (dvija mukhyar), the resident members of street (kēri), Kēsabe. The grant made by Kēsabe was

---

186 SI, XI,(Bombay Karnataka Inscriptions, No. 29.
187 Old Sanskrit and Canarese Inscription, No. CXXXII, IA, XII, pp. 224-25
188 See, Sumati Mulay, 1972, p. 52
made at the request of certain Dhôra whose status is not stated in the
inscription. The record ends by stating that 220 members (of the
mahâjanas) had assembled there who asked for the inscription to be
written.

Another inscription of his reign has been found at Malepadu,
Proddatur taluk, Cuddapah district190. It is stated in the record that
during the reign of Nityavarsha, the queen of Vallavarâja and others
made a gift of land capable of yielding a certain quantity of rice to the
one hundred and eight of Vripariti. In this connection, it also names
the several persons- male and female.

One inscription of the period of Govinda IV has been
discovered in Kalas, a village which is situated in Bankapur taluka of
Dharwar district191. Datable to c. A.D 929-30, it refers itself to the
reign of Govinda IV and then introduces two of his Daṇḍanâyaka
who were given a town called Ereyana-Kâdiyûr in sarvva-namasya
 tenure by the king. The purpose of the inscription was to record
certain donation by two hundred brâhmaṇa households of Kâdiyûr
for the maintenance of some local cult. The inscription also refers to
Purikara-jaṇapada/ Puligere-nâd and a place called Brahmasvarapura.
As to the identification of these places, Purikara-jaṇapada ,which has
also been defined as two six hundred districts . This only means the
combination of Puligere-300 and Belvola-300. Purigere-nâd can be
identified with modern Lakshmeshwar. Ereyana-Kâdiyûr is evidently
modern Kalas. Brahmasvarapura seems to have been a quarter of
Kâdiyûr.

190 SII, X, (Telgu inscriptions from AP), 1986,Mysore, No.29,pp.13-14
191 Kalas inscription of the Rashtrakuta Govinda IV:Saka 851,EL,XIII,p326-338
As stated earlier, though we don't have any charter that emanated directly from Amoghavarsha III, there are certain donative inscriptions which refer themselves to his reign.

Two such inscriptions have been found in the Chitradurga district. One of them dated Saka 859 (AD 937) mentions Amoghavarsha III with imperial title and introduces Mahāsāmāntādhīpati Kannayyaas as the ruler of Kadambalige. The object of the inscription seems to have been to record donation of four settlements (bada), under the supervision of the five mathas of Kakambal, some of whom have been described as Gāvūṇdas. It is stated that the sasana was composed by Senabhova Kachayya' by desire of Kannara' which is same as Kannayya.

The second inscription datable to AD 940 refers to Amoghavarsha as PMP, and also to the same Kadambalige and its ruler Kannayyas. It speaks of the donation of land in the presence of Gāvūṇda of Kakambal.

In another inscription, the same Mahāsāmāntādhīpati has been referred. The only difference is that in this case he has been described as the ruler of Banvasi. The inscription also mentions Nalgavunda of Edevolal and Poliga.

The last inscription of Amoghavarsha III available with us is dated Saka 863 (AD 941-42) and it has been discovered from Indi.

---

192 EC, XI, pp. 29-30
193 Ibid., Below the same inscription it is stated that ' in Palyar..., this Kannara... slew Ganga-permadi and donated a land.
194 Ibid., p. 17, 30
195 The name of the ruler is spelled here as Kannarasa.
taluka of Bijapur. Since the inscription is badly damaged nothing much can be made out of it.

Though there are only three land charters issued by Krishana III himself, there are several inscriptions referring to his reign which record transfer of properties/ resources in different areas by the local authorities of different kinds.

One of the inscriptions attributed to his reign comes from Kandahar, the headquarter of the taluk of the same name in the district of Nanded. Though the extant parts of the inscription bear no date, on grounds of paleography it has been assigned to the reign of Krishna III. The inscription, which is inscribed on a stone slab, is not a donative inscription.

The purpose of the inscription is little different from the inscriptions discussed so far. The inscription begins with the prasasti of the Rāṣṭrakūta kings and takes the genealogy of the dynasty up to Krishna I. It has been suggested that the later part of the genealogy has been lost.

The text of the record, which has been labeled as B, records the meritorious and munificent activities probably of Krishna III which includes making certain payments to bards (vamdi-jana), to the reciter of the Vedas, and to the palace servants. It then refers to the supply of different articles of daily consumption for a vidyāsthāna and sattrā-sala. In the inscription, labeled as C we are further told

---

196 EI,XVI,p.85
197 SII,XX,No.7,pp.14-15
198 Fragmentary Rāṣṭrakūta inscription from Kandhar, EI,XXXV,pp.-114
about the construction of different structure for the welfare of the people.

Such activities seem mostly to have centered around certain religious establishment such as the temple of the God of Kālapriya, temple of Kāmadeva, temple of Chhallēśvara, Bānkēśvara temple, Vira Nārāyan etc.

Two donative charters of the period of Kṛishṇa III have been recovered from the private possession of a resident of village Harsola in the Parantij taluka of the Ahmedabad district199. Though both the charters were issued by Siyaka II of Parāmara, two of the kings of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, viz., Amoghavarsha and Akalavarsha with the epithets PMP have been mentioned in the record. The donor has been described as Mahāmandalika-chūdamaṇi and also as maharājādhirājapati.

The grant consisted of two villages, both parts of Mōhadavāsaka vishaya, out of the sva-bhujayamāna of Siyaka II. The grant was made, we are told, at the request of šrī-Kheṭaka-mandal-ādhipati. Though nothing more has been said about the identity of šrī-Kheṭaka-mandal-ādhipati, it has been suggested that he might be the descendent of the Dandanāyaka Prachanda who figures in the Kāpadvanaj charter of Akalavarsha200.

As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter is concerned, Khēṭaka mandala is roughly equivalent to the modern Kaira and parts of Ahmadabad district. Mōhadavāsaka may be

199 Two Harsola copper plate grants of the Parmara Siyaka of V.S. 1005, EI, XIX, pp. 236-244.
200 see, A Rashtrakuta grant of Krishna II, Dated Saka 832, EI, I, pp. 52-58.
identified with Môhadása or Modasa in Prantij Taluka of the district of Ahmedabad. The villages granted can be identified with present Kâmroj and Sikâ, situated at a distance of thirteen miles to the east and 8 miles to the south of Modasa.

One of the undated inscriptions of the reign of Kṛishṇa III has been found in the Konkan region. The purpose of the inscription seems to have been to record certain arrangements (vyavastha) relating to a dispute between two religious institutions over a piece of land. Though the place where these two authorities were located has not been specified in the charter, yet we have enough reasons to believe that they were located somewhere in Samyâna within the domain of the Râṣṭrakûta king Kṛishṇa III. It may be pointed out that it the same Samyâna mandala where the Tajikas were ruling as subordinates during the period of Indra III. What is, however, important to note is that the decision-making authority as represented in the charter are not the royal one, but the deity and its attendants.

One stone inscription of his reign has been found at Saltogi, in the Indi taluka of Bijapur. The inscription is inscribed on a pillar. The first eighty-three lines of the writing on the first, second and third faces of the pillar are called No. A and is dated Saka 867 (AD 945). It mentions Akalavarsha (Kṛishṇa III) as residing at Manyakhêta. The purpose of the inscription was to record certain donations by the

---

201 Rashtrakuta Charters from Chinchani, 2. Grant of the time of Kṛishṇa III, EI, XXXII, pp.55-60. Also see, D.C. Sircar, ‘Note on Chinchani plates of Krishna III,’ EI, XXXVII, pp.277-8.

202 Rashtrakuta charters from Chinchani, 1. Grant of the time of Indra III, EI, XXXII, pp.45-55.

203 Salotgi Pillar Inscriptions, EI, IV, pp.57-66
grama-pati of Pāvītta of Pāvītta204 who was joined by the chief of the 200 dvijas. The locale of the resource transfer seems to have been Salotagi which can easily be identified with the find place of the inscription.

Apart from these inscriptions, several other inscriptions of the reign of Kṛishṇa III have been found in the area falling in the Dharwar district.

One of the inscriptions of his reign has been located in the village of Kayasnur, which lies in the Hungal Taluka of Dharwar district205. Inscription marked as A206, datable to c. A.D 945, refers itself to the reign of Kṛishṇa III and then introduces mahāsāmanata Kali-Viṭṭa of Chellakētana lineage as the Governor of Banavāsi (Banavāsi-nāṭ-āle) and Gāmundiga as nāl-gāmundu of Edevolal Nādu. The purpose of the inscription was to record transfer of revenue of a field for the upkeep of the local tank by Gāmundiga.

Another inscription coming from the same place, marked as B, bears the same date207 as A. It mentions Kṛishṇa III, Kali-Viṭṭa and Gāmundiga almost in the same words as in A and then announces a charity service performed in the same year. In this connection, three individuals are also mentioned.

Inscription marked as C208 once again refers itself to the reign of Kṛishṇa III. It however introduces the mahāsāmantādhīpata Śaṅkaragāṇḍa as the governor of Banavāsi-nāḍ,( Banavāsi-nāḍ-ālutt-

---

204 Ibid., exp used : pāvītta-gramapati, ll. 33-34, p.61.
205 Some Minor Rashtrakutas Inscription, EI, XVI,2. Kayasnur Inscriptions of Śaka 868 etc, pp.280-83.
206 Ibid., pp.280-81.
207 Ibid., pp.281-83.
ire) and Gāmundiga as Nāl-gāmundā of Edevolal 70. It records certain donation of land.

Another inscription has been found in a village known as Tuppad- Kurhatti in the Nawalgund taluk of Dharwar district209. Date Śaka 868, the inscription mentions the reign of Kṛiṣṇa III and then introduces Satyavākya Koṅguṇivarman Permânadi, entitled 'lord of Kōḷālapura etc. as the governor of Puligere and Beḷvola210. It then goes on to introduce a subordinate of Permânadi211 named Āyachayya as administrating Karṇa-Guṇipatī212. The inscription then tells us about certain donation of land by Nāl-gāmuṇḍa of Beḷvola three hundred along with six Gāmuṇḍas. The grant was made in favour of a local temple.

The places mentioned in the inscription seemed to have included area beyond the Dharwar district. The Kōḷālapura of the inscription is modern Kolar, Nadigiri is Nandidurg in the same Kolar district. Purigere 300 included parts of modern Lakshmeshwar and Miraj district. Beḷvola 300 included parts of Dharwar and Belgaum, Karṇa-Guṇipatī is Tuppad-Kurhatti, the find place of the inscription.

The next inscription, about a year later then the one discussed above213, records a gift of land to the temple at Kurṭakūnte by Lōkkayya. The place may be identified with the find place of the

208 Ibid.,p.283.
210 Exp. used. ‘śrīmat-Permmanadigal-Puligere-mūnāruvam Beḷvola-mūnāruvam.āḷutt-uva.’
inscription. The inscription mentions Nanniya-Ganága Butuga II as the governor of Belvola 300 and Purigere 300.

Another inscription datable to AD 950\textsuperscript{214} mentions Bútayya Permádi as the governor of the 'Gaṅgavâdi- 96,000 extending as far as Peḍdore (i.e., the great river). It records a grant of a tank in favour of the dāna-śâle attached to a basadi. The donor has been described as Na[majyara Mârâsinghayya. It is also stated that the grant was to be protected by the (Body of the) 18 members (Padineþbaru) and the body of the 16 members (Padinaþvañu).

The next inscription of Krishna III comes from Soratúr in Gadag taluka of Dharwar district\textsuperscript{215}. Dated Śaka. 873 (c. A.D 951-2) it mentions Sri Ruddapayya as the governor of Soratúr\textsuperscript{216}. He has also been described as Angaraka (bodyguard) of Křishña III. The donors in this case are: 1. village headman, II. 50 Mahâjanas, III. certain individuals, IV. Pergade of Sri Ruddapayya. The inscription also stated that the donation would be protected by the body of 50 Mahâjanas. Soratúr sof the inscription is evidently the find place of the inscription.

Another inscription has been located in Devihosur village in the Krajagi taluka of Dharwar\textsuperscript{217}. The record refers to the reign of Kṛishña III and introduces his subordinate Garvindara as the governor of Banvasi- nādu. It then states that an impost of 55 gadyanas was

\textsuperscript{215} No. CXXXV,IA, XII,pp.256-258.
\textsuperscript{216} exp. used : Sarjavuraman-angarakam Śri-Ruddapayyan-āluttire.
\textsuperscript{217} Devihosur Inscription of Saka 884, EI,XVI,pp.285-86.
required of the Mahâjanas of Posavur. The village Posavur has been identified with the find place of the inscription.

A set of five copper plates has been found in the possession of a resident of village Hire Kogilur, in Channageri taluk of the Shimoga district. The charter which is dated Śaka 873 (c. A.D 951) tells us about a grant by the king Râjâditya who is said to have belonged to the Châlukya line. He has been described as mahâsâmanta. It is stated in the charter that he was given Kadanbalige thousand (Kadambalige-dēśa-sahasra) as sva-prabhujyamâna by Krishṇa III, who has been referred to in the charter as his overlord.

The donation consisted of two villages which were part of Kadabalige thousand. One of them was included in Kukavâdi 300 and another one constituted the part of Sûlgal 70. As to the identification of the places mentioned in the charter, Kadambalige lay to the east of Tungabhadra river and extended down to Holalkere. Kukavâdi 300 might have included the area around Chtradurga district. It has been suggested that the area of Sûlgal 70 might have been contiguous to the area around Chtradurga distr..

Another inscription of his reign has been located in Atakur which is located about fifteen miles to the northeast by east from the headquarter of the present day Mandaya district. The inscription datable to c. A.D 949-50 refers to the reign of Krishṇa III and introduces the Western Gaṅga prince Satyavâkya Bûtuga II who has

---

219 C. Atakur inscription of Krishana III and Butuga II- AD 949-50, EI, VI, pp.50-57.
been described as the governor of Gaṅgavādi 96,000. It then introduces a subordinate of Būtuga called Maṇalera.

There is a subsidiary record round the top of this inscription. The purpose of this inscription seems to have been to record that in recognition of his valor in the battlefield, Kṛishṇa III gave to Būtuga II Banavāsi 12,000, Belvola 300 and Purigere 300, Kisukāda 70 and Bāgenad 70. The inscription further states that Būtuga II, impressed by the valor of Maṇalera, gave him Aatukūr 12 and Kādiyūr which were located in the Belvola district.

As regards the places mention in the record, Aatukūr is obviously the same as the find place of the inscription. Belatur has been identified with modern Belatur, about five miles away from Atakur. Kādiyūr of the Belvola may be located somewhere near Huli in Belgaum, or Annigere in Dharwar. The Bāgenad seventy represents areas around Bagalkot in Bijapur district.

One inscription of the reign of Krishna III has been found near Vēlappādi, a suburb of the town of Vellore\textsuperscript{220}, north Arcot district in Tamil-nadu. The inscription refers itself to the reign of Kṛishṇa III and record the gift of Vēlūrppādi to, a shrine located on the hills of Šūdādupārai in Paṅgala-nādu. It has been suggested that Vēlūrppādi must be an old form of modern Vēlappādi and Sudaduparai might have been the ancient name of the Bāvāji or Bhagvatī hill. The donor was the Nulamba Tribhuvanadhira whose son, we are told, had received Vēlūrppādi together with the hill of Šūdādupārai from Vira –Chôla.

\textsuperscript{220} Velur Rock Inscription of Kannaradeva, EI, IV, pp.81-83
As to the status of Vîra-Chôja and Tribhuvanadhira, it has been suggested that he might have been a subordinates of Kṛiṣṇa III as no regal title has been attached to them. About Tribhuvanadhira, who has also been described as Pallava Murari, it has also been suggested that he might have been connected with the Pallava rulers of Nolambavâdi 32,000.

Two other inscriptions have been found in an area near Vellore. The inscription marked as C. refers to the seventeenth regnal year of Kṛiṣṇa III and records the grant of a perpetual lamp to the local temple.

Inscription D. refers to the nineteenth regnal year of Kṛiṣṇa III. It records the building of a hall at the same temple complex and grant of some land to the same. About the donated land, it is stated that it was purchased from a person and then it made tax-free by the members of Sabhā after taking money for it.

We have another inscription of the period of Kṛiṣṇa III from the same region. It talks about certain activities of the Assembly of Kāliyur-kōṭṭam relating to the sale of certain landed properties. The place Kāliyur-kōṭṭam has not been identified.

As stated earlier, Khoṭṭa, who appears to have succeeded Kṛiṣṇa III, did not seem to have issued any charter. However, there

---

222 Ibid., p. 284
223 Ibid., p. 285.
are some records which refer themselves to his reign. Four of such records come from the Dharwar district.

Chronologically speaking the first of them comes from a place called Kyasanur in Hangal Taluka of Dharwar district\(^\text{225}\). The record refers itself to the reign of Nityavarsha-Amoghavarsha who has been identified with Nityavarsha Khoṭṭīga. The inscription has been assigned the date of c. A.D 970. The record mentions Śaṅkargaṇḍa as the governor of Banvāsi-nāḍ\(^\text{226}\), Gāmuṇḍiga as the nāl-gāmuṇḍa of Edevolal 70. The purpose of the inscription was to record certain arrangements regarding a place called Kēsalūr. The place Kēsalūr is evidently the modern Kyāsanūr, which is also the find place of the record.

Another inscription dated Śaka 892 (c. A.D 971)\(^\text{227}\) mentions Mārasiṅgha-Permāṇadi as the governor of Kisukāda 70 and records the donation of some land by a person called Beṇgi Gaḍugarayya.

One inscription of the period of Khoṭṭīga has been found at Adraguṇči, in the Hubbali taluka of the Dharwar district\(^\text{228}\). Dated Śaka 893 (c. A.D. 971-2), the inscription refers itself to the reign of Khoṭṭīga and introduces his subordinate Permāṇadi-Mārasiṅghdhēva who has been described as mahāmandalēśvara of the Gaṅga family. He is stated to be governing Gangvādi 96,000, the Purigere 300, Belvola 300\(^\text{229}\). The inscription records the donations made by certain

---

\(^{225}\) Kyasanur Inscriptions of Śaka 868 etc., No. D. ,EI,XVI,pp.284-85.

\(^{226}\) Ibid., Expression used : Śamkaragandam Banavasi-nāḍ-aṭutt-ire


\(^{228}\) No. CXXXIV, IA. XII,( September ,1883),pp.255-56.

\(^{229}\) exp.used: ..Marasimgha-dēva Gaṅgavādi-tombhattarāsātrimuṇum Purigere-munāram Belvola mūnārumam, (1. 11-12.)
Pañchaladēva, who was governing the Sebbi 30, and by Malliga Gadaya. The body of Mahājānas has also been mentioned. The Sebbi 30 of the inscription may be identified with Chaṇḍi or Chebbi, in the Hubbali taluka, four miles to the south of Adraguṇi.

Another inscription of the reign of Khotṭigadeva comes from a field of Allikatti at Huglur, a village near Shiggaon in the taluk of the same name in the Dharwar district. The inscription introduces Khotṭigadēva as the ruling king and mentions Guttiya- Ganga (Marasimha) as the governor of 96,000, Kisukāda 70, Purigere 300, and Belvola 300. It further mentions his wife Aṅkabbarasi as the governor of Pulluṅgūr. She is stated to have renewed grant to a local temple at the request of Mārasāṅghayya of Maṇalara family who was the Nāl-gāmunda of Purigere 300. The place Pulluṅgūr has been identified with modern Hulgūr which is also the find place of the inscription.

We have one inscription, datable to c. A.D. 972, which refers to a king by the name of Kannaradeva. The inscription has been discovered in a field at Harshi, a village about twenty miles north west of Soraba, the headquarter of the taluk of the same name in the Shimoga district. The said ruler has been described as Mahārājādhirāja Paramēshvara Paramabhattāraka and stated to be the son of Koṭṭigadeva.

---

230 Huglur Inscription of Khottiga, Saka 893, EI, XXXIV, pp59-62


232 This ruler has not been mentioned by Altekar in his monograph on the Rāṣṭrakūtas. See A.S. Altekar, 1967.
The record has been badly damaged and it is difficult to make out its real purpose. It, however, refers to certain locality and its rulers such as Chaṭṭayyadēva\(^{233}\) as the ruler of Banavāsi 12000, certain Dēvayya, of Nūrūr who was probably a gāmunda of the place. As to the identification of these places, Nurur may be identified with modern Narur, a village near Banvasi and Nerase of the record may be the present Nyarse, about ten miles to the south of Harishi, where the inscription have been found.

We have one inscription of the reign of Karkka II. It comes from a temple of Bana-samkari at Gundur, five miles to the east of Shiggaon in the Bankapur taluk of Dharwar district.\(^{234}\). Dated in Saka 896 for 895 (c. AD 973-74), it refers to the reign of Kakka II and then mentions Permāṇḍi-Mārasiṅghadeva as the governor of Two six hundred (Purigere 300 and Belvola 300)\(^{235}\) and Paṅchaladēva as the governor of Ninety-six\(^{236}\). It then introduces Muṅgūla Voja, who has been described as a hero in the battlefield and the governor of Kadekēri\(^{237}\).

Apart from these donative inscriptions, we have certain other inscriptions, which talks about the transfer not of land but of certain other resources. In the process of the transfer of resources of various

\(^{233}\) The editor of the record would like to identify this ruler with Kadamba chief Chattayya, A.V. Narsimha Murthy et al *Studies in Indian Epigraphy* ..loc. cit, p.97.

\(^{234}\) No. CXXXVII, *IA*, XII,263-70. The editor of the record identifies the Rashtrakuta ruler mention in the record with Kakka III who is evidently the same who has been called Karkka II by Altekar. See A.S. Altekar, 1967,p.125.

\(^{235}\) Ibid., exp. used: *Permāṇādī-Mārasiṅghadēvan-erad-aru-nūruman-āle*

\(^{236}\) Ibid, exp. used:Panjaladēvam tombhatt-āruman-āle

\(^{237}\) Ibid,exp. used: *Mungūla-kadekēriyan-āle*
types, they also refer to different places and the nature of authorities existing there.

One such inscription of the reign of Kṛishṇa III has been found at Bagli in Harpanahalli taluk, Bellary district. Dated Saka 878 (AD 956) it mentions Mahāsāmanta Roṭṭayya, ruling over Māsivādi hundred and forty, Kāgaḷī five hundred, and Kukkanūr thirty. It then records a grant by the Mahāsāmanta of the whole of the revenue raised from Bābondi to the ārodeya of Bālguli.

We have several hero-stones assignable to the period of the tenth century. The details about them are given in a tabular form at the end of this chapter.

Concluding remarks:

The conclusion emanating out of the exercise done above would be taken up in greater detail at the end of the section II of this chapter. We can however summarize some of the major points as follows.

1. During the timespan of the first phase of our study several houses of Rāṣṭrakūṭas were located in different parts of the Deccan region. They all were essentially a local power within different parts of the Deccan region. During the period of the second phase one of the houses called the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Malkhed transformed themselves into a supra-local power and the rulers of this house acquired the imperial status.

2. The political domain of the house of the Malkhed extended to wider areas during the second phase. As far as the extent of the territorial domain of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas is concerned, considering the geographical distribution of the inscriptions of this house and the locational analysis of the places figuring in them, their spatial domain can well be stretched up to the areas delineated by A.S. Altekar as the end point of 'Rāṣṭrakūṭas Empire'\textsuperscript{239}. It may however, be mentioned that those end points of the empire, as drawn by Altekar, were not immutable, rather, the exercise done above shows continual change in them.

3. What is important is the internal dynamic of the territorial domain of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of the Malkhed, a point that has never been an important concern in the conventional historiography. We notice the growth of a lineage network to manage the territorial domain as well as a process of

\textsuperscript{239} "The empire usually extended over southern Gujarat, Marathi districts of the central provinces, Konkan, the whole of the state of Hyderabad, karnatak and portions of the state of Mysore. Its northern boundary extended from cam bay to Houshangabad; the eastern boundary, which is rather difficult to determine precisely, probably ran through Houshangabad, Nagpur, Chanda, Warangal and Cuddappah. The southern boundary was formed partly by the northern Pennar, beyond which extended the Bana(diacritical) and the Nolamba principalities and partly by an imaginary line starting from the sources of the Northern Pennar and passing through Chitladurg to the Arabian Sea. The western boundary was, of course, the Arabian Sea." Rastrakutas and their Times,( reprint), 1967,p.135.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Place</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Hero</th>
<th></th>
<th>Stone</th>
<th>Places</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinchli, Gadag taluka, Dharwar</td>
<td>c. A.D. 897</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Chimchila, same as Chinchli.</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>SII, XI, No. 24, p15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amigari, Navalgund taluk, Dharwar</td>
<td>c. A.D.</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hirekerur T, Sidenur</td>
<td>904</td>
<td>1. Lokate, = Gov. of Banvasi 12,000 2. Nagavarma = Administrator of Sidiyanuru, 3. Bijja = Gov. of Saltyilage</td>
<td>Pombulacha</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>No.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devikosur Haveri T, Dharwar</td>
<td>c. A.D. 907</td>
<td>Raja (Rajaditya) = Gov. of Banvasi Nada</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>No.16, SII, XVIII, 1975, p.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakshimpur, Dharwar</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>1. Baikkeya &amp; Shankaraganda, governing Banvase-pannichchhasa which was divided into two parts, 2. Kadambakula Ajavarmunurasa, in charge of the nahu (nadh-a), 3. Enbadimbaru of Madagade were in charge of peruvantu</td>
<td>1. Kesangere, 2. Kamduvu belonging to Talagavali 3. Muvattichchhisira (These may be located around the find place of the inscriptions) 4. Madagade=Village Mantagi, located near Lakshimpur</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>Lakhipari Inscription of Indra III, Svasti Sri (B. Ch. Chhabra felicitatio n volume), Delhi 1964, pp.329-34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sirunja Gadag T,</td>
<td>c. A.D. 928</td>
<td>Kalivitarasa (Gov of Belvola - 300)</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Hero</td>
<td>Stone</td>
<td>No. 24, SII, XVIII, pp.14-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron, Ron taluka, Dharwar</td>
<td>c. A.D. 942</td>
<td>1. Mahamandalika Permadhi Batura, (Bhatiga II), governor of Gaagavadi-96,000, Belvola-300, Puligere 300 provinces</td>
<td>Roga = Roon, the find place of the inscriptions</td>
<td>SII, XI, Bombay-Karnataka Inscriptio ns, 1986, No. 36, p.21-22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saṅgūr, haveri taluka, Dharwar</td>
<td>Undated d, (c. A.D. 9th century)</td>
<td>[Da]ntūga= Gov of Nadu</td>
<td>Samgavuru</td>
<td>Hero-stone No 10, SII, XVIII, 1975, pp. 5-6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navalgunḍ T, Annīgore</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Hero-stone No 32</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilogal Haveri T, Dharwar</td>
<td>Undated (c. A.D.)</td>
<td>Rājāditya= Governor of Banvasi-12000</td>
<td>Hero-stone No.34 SII, XVIII, pp. 21-22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nilogal Haveri T, Dharwar</td>
<td>Undated (c. A.D. 9th)</td>
<td>x</td>
<td>Piga= not clear</td>
<td>Hero-stone No.35, SII, XVIII, p. 22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yali-Sirūr, Gadag taluka, Dharwar district</td>
<td>c. A.D. 901</td>
<td>Mahā-Śrīmanta, ruler of Belvala-300</td>
<td>Hero-stone SII, XI, Bombay-Karnatak Inscriptio ns, Mysore, 1986, No. 25, pp. 15-16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
integration of local powers into trans-local one represented by the house of the Malkhed.

4. Our exercise brings out the differential nature and the organization of power within the territory. These different powers had their own spatial domains, which are also not fixed, rather they were also undergoing through the process of constant alignments and realignments.

As stated in the beginning, we would elaborate upon these points at the end of the section II of the chapter.
SECTION-II

The territory of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, as defined in the earlier section, does not represent geographically a homogenous unit of space. Rather, it embraces the areas falling within different physiographic zones such as the Deccan plateau, the Western littoral, the Vidarbha region, the Malwa region etc., each having a geographical profile different from others. Each of them has its specific river systems, soil typology, settlement pattern etc. Further, even within each physiographic zone, the geographical detail varies from one locality to another. Hence, it may not be methodologically correct to treat the territory of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas as one undifferentiated spatial unit of analysis\(^1\) as these geographical variations have their own role to play in shaping the nature of agrarian economy\(^2\).

\(^1\) Writing a survey report on the progress of historical geography in India, B.D. Chattopadhyaya pointed out the lack of use of properly defined region as unit of analysis in historical research. See, A Survey of Historical Geography of Ancient India, Cucutta, 1984,p.42. Chattopadhyaya’s observation holds good particularly in the context of historical writings on the Deccan. In conventional historiography Deccan was rarely treated as an independent unit of historical analysis. Rather it was treated as an appendage to a larger spatial unit known geographically as peninsular region and represented in historical literature as ‘south India’. Those who took up this region as an independent unit of analysis largely treated it as an undifferentiated land mass. For example, see the different writings of D.R. Bhandarkar on the history of the Deccan. Notwithstanding his pioneering contribution, even he did not show particular consciousness to bring out in his writings the kind of bearing local variations could have had on the development of historical processes of the region. See, D.R.Bhandarkar, *Early History of the Deccan (Collected works)*, Poona, 1972. The lack of awareness to the importance of local variations in conventional historiography has often led to a curious situation in some of the best works on the history of the
An attempt, therefore, would be made in this section to mark out smaller territorial segments or regions, within the broader territory of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, which would be treated as the basic spatial unit of study. It is expected that by doing so the range of geographical variations obtainable within each region would be minimized, if not eliminated altogether. A region-wise geographical description of the territory would also bring out the varied resource potential of different regions. This may help us to explain the variations, if any, obtainable in the agrarian system of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas at local level.

Apart from marking out regions and the description of their geographical detail, an attempt will also be made in this section to see the nature of authority that existed in different regions at different points of time. The idea behind it is to find out if the areas of these regions correspond to the areas controlled by different houses of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas and the other categories of authority that existed under them.

Deccan. A case in point would be the history of the Deccan edited by G.Yazadani. That book carries an outstanding essay on physical and historical geography of the Deccan by H.C. Raychoudhary which, apart from other thing, clearly brings out the variations obtainable within the Deccan region. However, none of its contributors thought it necessary to make use of this in their writings. See, The Early History of the Deccan, vol.1,part I-VI, (ed), G.Yazdani , (First Indian Edition), 1982,section I-IV,pp.1-63.

2 See Marc Bloch, French Rural History: An Essay on Its Basic Characteristics, 1931, Translated by J.Sondheimer, Berkeley,1966. The text throws up many valuable insights as to the role of physical environment in shaping the agrarian economy of a given region.
For the present study we have decided to define regions and sub-regions, within the broader territory of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, on the basis of the river system\(^3\). The idea is to treat the basin area of a river as a region, and in the case of a large river, its tributary area as sub-region. This may call for some justification, especially if seen in the light of the fact that there already exists many sets of regions and sub-regions formulated primarily by geographers and frequently used by historians\(^4\).

\(^3\) Despite increasing awareness of the importance of region as a viable unit of historical analysis, attempts are rarely made to define the region in terms of its attributes. Regional studies are generally made to correspond to contemporary political / administrative boundaries which did not existed in the past. It may, however, be also pointed out that literature on the various dimensions of regional studies, including the methods and problems of defining the region itself, is still a rarity. One of the text which has frequently been quoted for this is Robert I. Crane (ed.), *Regions and Regionalism in South Asian Studies; An Exploratory Study*, Durham, 1967. This book is the outcome of seminar on region and regionalism held at Duke university in 1967. It contains different articles dealing with different aspects of regional studies. In some of the recent writings also, this issue has been discussed briefly. For example, see, B.D.Chattopadhyaya, 'Geographical Perspectives, Cultural Change and Linkages: Some Reflection on Early Punjab' in B.D. Chattopadhayay (ed.), *Archaeology, Texts, and Historical Issues*, Delhi, 2003,pp.48-65; Jayshree Gokhale-Turner 'Region and Regionalism in the Study of Indian Politics', in *Images of Maharashtra, A Regional Profile of India*, N.K.Wagle (ed.), London, 1980, pp.88-101, Romila Thapar, 'Significance of regional History with Reference to Konkan', in *Medieval Deccan History*, A.R.Kulkarni et al (eds.), 1996, Bombay, pp.19-29.

\(^4\) One of the earliest set of regions within the Deccan region was offered by E. Simikins in his book the *Agricultural Geography of the Deccan Plateau of India*, published from London in 1926. His scheme of regionalization of the Deccan was based primarily on soil typology, crops, rainfall etc. Another 'tentative' set of
The justification for delineating regions and sub-regions on the basis of river systems can largely be sought in the nature of the problem under discussion. Since the present study seeks to focus on the agrarian issues, the choice of river system as the main criterion of defining regions appears to be useful. Apart from the fact that the river had important role to play in almost all pre-industrial societies, it offers certain other methodological advantages. A river basin, and in the case of a large river, a sub-basin is a natural unit. It has a defined watershed boundary and within it, there is certain degree of physical homogeneity and inter-relationship between the agricultural regions in India was offered by Daniel and Alice Thorner way back in 1962 in *Land and Labour in India*, Bombay, Culcutta (et al.)1962, (Reprint), 1964, see p.40. The different agrarian regions suggested by them have now been published in the form of maps as well. However, two different sets of regions, one offered by B.Subbarao and another by OHK Spate and Learmonth seem to have found favour with of those historians who are conscious of the importance of micro-regional study and also of the hazards of accepting modern administrative boundary as historical reality. See, B.Subbarao, *The Personality of India*, Baroda, 1956; O.H.K. Spate and A.T. A. Learmonth, *A Regional Geography of India and Pakistan A General and Regional Geography*, 1954(third revised edition.), Great Britain, 1967, pp.611-727. Another scheme of regionalization which has often been used for historical study is the one offered by R.L Singh. See, R.L.Singh (ed.) *India : A Regional Geography*, varanasi., 1971. Singh offers a three tiered regional scheme which, as he claims, are based on physical and cultural factors. However, in majority of the cases the physical feature remains a dominant criterion. Further, his third order region is sometimes too small and therefore suffers from the problems of excessive specificity. Bernard Cohn has also proposed a typology for the classification of regions based on variables such as historical, linguistic, socio structural etc., see, 'Regions Subjective and Objective: Their Relation to the Study of Modern Indian History and Society' in *Regions and Regionalism in South Asian Studies*; 1967, pp.5-38.
surface and ground water resources. These elements always have important bearing on the nature of agrarian economy. A river basin, therefore, seems to be a more logical and relevant unit of study for understanding agrarian economy of a given region.

We would begin our exercise by taking up those areas which were the early nuclear areas of Rāṣṭrakūṭas.

**THE GODAVARI BASIN**

Looking at the geographical distributions of the inscriptions, this area seems to have been one of the important regions all through the period of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. One of the early nuclear areas of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas was also located in this region only.

The Godavari is the largest river of the peninsular India, covering an area of about 312,812 sq. km. The landscape of the basin is marked by a series of ridges and valleys interspersed with low hill ranges. Barring the delta area in the lower part of the basin, large flat surface, so characteristic of the Indo-Gangetic basin, are rare in this region. In terms of the soil distribution the region consists mainly of black soil (regar), red soils, laterite soils, alluviam, mixed soils and saline and alkine soils. A district wise breakup of the distribution of soils is given in the table No. II A. Agriculture in this region is largely dependent on the rain, which varies in time and space, which has important bearing on river flow and agricultural operation. In terms of agricultural output, this

---

region is a low-yield area. The main crops of this region are given in the table No. II A. More than half of the irrigated area (about 1.16 million hectares) grows paddy.

Geographically speaking, the Godavari basin is not a homogenous spatial unit. One notices a scene of considerable diversity resulting from the interplay of historical and geographical factors. On the basis of the elements of diversity obtainable at local level, the region of the Godavari basin can be divided into five sub-regions. However, out of these, only two of them are relevant for us which are: 1. the Wardha-Wainganga basin and, 2. the upper Godavari basin.

A. THE WARDHA-WAINGANGA BASIN SUB-REGION

The Wardha and Wainganga are the two important tributaries of the Godavari river. The Wardha rises in the Betul district of M.P. It enters Maharashtra after traveling about 32 km from its source and joins the Wainganga at an elevation of 146 mts. draining an area of about 24,087 km². The Wainganga rises in the Seoni district of M.P. and drains an area of about 61,093 sq.km.

The combined drained area of these two tributaries includes a distinct physical and cultural region known as the Vidarbha plain. This area used to be thickly forested and inhabited by primitive

---

7 The five sub-basin regions are: 1. the upper Godavari basin, 2. the middle Godavari basin, 3. the lower Godavari basin, 4. the Wardha-Wainganga basin and 5. the Manjara basin. Each basin area falls into the drainage area of the Godavari or its tributaries.

The main districts of this sub-region are given in the table No.II A. Agriculture in the area depends on the typology and the distribution of soils. The black or medium black soils occupying the valley is the most fertile zone. The area of grey soil is generally reserved for cotton and jowar.

The area of Wainganga basin is devoid of thick soil cover and much of the cultivated area is under food crops. Forest covers the sizeable part of this area. A district wise details of the soil typology is given in the table No. II A.

As stated in the beginning, from the point of view of the distribution of the inscriptions of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, this is an important region. It is in this region that we see the emergence of one of the early house of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, popularly known as the Vidharbha branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. All the property transfer documents issued by the rulers of this house relate to this region. Even their centers of authority issuing the charters were located in this area only. The area however, did not remain with them for longer period as it was appropriated by the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas towards the close of the eighth century. A list of the donative inscriptions issued by these two houses of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas is given in a tabular form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REF.</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONOR TITLE</th>
<th>O D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nagardhan Pis of Svamiraja</td>
<td>c.A.D. 573</td>
<td>E.I.XXVIII, 1-11</td>
<td>Vidarbha</td>
<td>I.Gaja-samūha II.Nannarāja</td>
<td>I.Assembly of the Corporation; II.subordinate authority</td>
<td>Nagpur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhidon pls of Rashtrakula Kakkaraja</td>
<td>c.A.D. 7th century</td>
<td>JESI,10,30-35</td>
<td>Vidarbha</td>
<td>Svāmirāja, anuchara of Kakkarāja</td>
<td></td>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OD = District in which object of donation was located

CHARTERS	DATE	REF.	BRANCH	DONOR	DONOR TITLE	O D

Tiwarkhed Pls. of Nannaraja	c.AD 631 E.I.,XI,276-81	Vidarbha	I. Nannaraja; II. Govinda and Narasimha	I. Not certain, (possibly subordinate); II. Dharamakaśa & Mahāsandhīvīraḥin	Betul

Sangalooda Pls. of Nannaraja	AD 693 E.I., XXIX, 109-15	Vidarbha	Nannaraja	Subordinate authority (No title)	Betul (?)

Multai copper plate grant of Nanadara	AD 708 I.A.,(1889), 230-36	Vidarbha	Nanadara, also called Yuddhasura	No regal title	Betul (?)

Bhandak Pls. of Krishnaraja-I	AD 772 E.I.,XIV, 12, 1-130	Malhked	Krishna I	PMP	Wardha

Jethwai Pls. of the queen Silamahadevi	AD 786 E.I.,XXII,98-109	Malhked	Silamahadevi	Paramēśvarī-paramabhāṭārikā	Wardha

Anjanvati Pls. of Govinda III	AD 800 E.I.,XXIII,8-18	Malhked	Govinda III	O.M.P.	Amravati

Jharika grant of Govinda III	AD 803 E.I.,XXII,1,57-64	Malhked	Govinda III	P.M.P.	Yavatmal

Deoli plate of Krishana III	AD 940 E.I.,V,188-197	Malhked	Krishna III	P.M.P.	Chindawara

---

THE UPPER GODAVARI BASIN SUB-REGION

The upper Godavari basin sub-region covers an area of about 33,502 sq. km, ranging from its source to its confluence with its tributary the Manjara at the border of Maharashtra and AP. In between these areas, the Godavari is joined by the Darha on its right bank, Kadawa from the left side. The combined water of the Parvara and the Mula, which rises in the hills of Akola, joins the river about at a distance of about 217 km from its sources. After this the combined water of the Purna and Dudha rivers joins the Godavari in Maharashtra. A little further (about 138km) the river is joined by the Manjara.

---

11 Ibid., p.117.
Physiographically, the area consists mainly of what is known as the Maharashtra plateau\(^{12}\), occupying a large chunk of the Maharashtra region. The main districts of this region are given in the table No. II A.

The dominant soil of this region is alluvial and the main crops are Jowar and Bajara (millet). Cultivation of wheat and cash crops like sugarcane and cotton are done in certain pockets.

In terms of agricultural output the source region (roughly the area around the Nasik district) is more well off than its eastern counterpart (roughly the Marathwada region). This imbalance at micro level has been the result of geographical as well as historical factor\(^{13}\). The greater rainfall in the source region makes this area agriculturally more lucrative. The region has also experienced almost a continuous existence of some of historically important commercial and political centers, which has helped this area to be in the mainstreams of history.

Marathwada region remains a poor yield area and, because of serious limitation of irrigation, cotton is the main cash crop. Larger holdings and extensive cultivation are typical of this region. Fields are generally located on high level and are not far from the village\(^{14}\).

\(^{13}\) Ibid.,p.727.
\(^{14}\) Ibid.,p.727.
Linear development of the village in the piedmount zone under the shelter of the plateau that protects them from the westerly winds is a striking phenomenon of this region. In terms of the distribution of the donative inscriptions of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, this is possibly one of the important nuclear regions. Several land charters belonging to the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas record transfer of properties in this sub-region. Not only that, one of the early supra-regional centres of authority, referred in the charters as Mayūrakhindī, might have been located in this region. A list of the donative inscriptions relating to this sub-region is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTER</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONOR TITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
<th>REF.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ellora Pl. of Dantidurga</td>
<td>AD 742</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Dantidurga</td>
<td>Mahāsāmantādhipati</td>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>E.I.;XXV;25-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pimpri Pls. of Dharavarsha Dhruravara</td>
<td>AD 775</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Dhrurājādeva</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>E.I.,X;81-89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sinnar Pls, of Durgahasti</td>
<td>AD 779</td>
<td>Sendraka family</td>
<td>Durgahasti family</td>
<td>Subordinate of Dhruravara</td>
<td>Aurangabad(Palthan)</td>
<td>G.H.Khare,pp.167-171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhulia Pls, of Karkaraja</td>
<td>AD 779</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Karkarája</td>
<td>Paṭcā-mahāśabda...sri-Karkarāja</td>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>E.I.,VIII;182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Palthan Pl. of Govinda III</td>
<td>AD 794</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
<td>Ahmad Nagar</td>
<td>E.I.,III,103-110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A grant of...Govinda III</td>
<td>AD 801</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
<td>Parbhan(?)</td>
<td>JBKRAS,(NS)3,No4,167-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N0. CXXV (Wani plates)</td>
<td>AD 806</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
<td>Nasik</td>
<td>I.A.,XI,156-63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dharur Pls. of Rashtrakuta Govinda III</td>
<td>809</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Bhir</td>
<td>E.I.,XXXVI,285-96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jambagaoon plates of Indra III</td>
<td>AD 915</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Indra</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Aurangabad</td>
<td>E.I.,XXXVI,223-38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15 Ibid.,p.727.
16 Though it has been suggested that the place was located somewhere in the Nasik district, not many scholars are ready to accept this. For various identification see, The Early History of the Deccan, Vol.-I,parts I-VI, G.Yazdani, (ed.),1962 (first Indian edition),pp.257-58.
THE KRISHNA BASIN

Like the Godavari basin region, the area of the Krishna basin region also represents one of the early nuclear areas of the Rāṣṭrakūtaṇas. Two of the early houses of the Rāṣṭrakūtaṇas viz. the Rāṣṭrakūtaṇas of Māṇpura and the House of Dējja Mahārāja, were located in this region.

As far as the geographical profile of this region is concerned, the area of the Krishna basin lies between east longitude 73°21' to 89°9 and north latitudes 137° to 19°25'. Roughly triangular in shape, it is separated from the Godavari basin by the Balghat and Mahadeva range on the north. On its eastern and southern sides are located the broken ranges of the Eastern Ghats which separates it from the western boundary.

Barring a few exceptions, the face of the land of the Krishna basin is not much different from that of the Godavari basin. Like the Godavari basin, the entire basin of the river comprises of rolling
and undulating country\textsuperscript{17}, marked by ridges and valleys with low hill ranges. Large area of the type seen in the Ganga basin are rare, if we exclude the delta region, a fact also true of the Godavari basin area\textsuperscript{18}.

The soil typology of the area consists of the deep, medium and shallow black soils, red loamy and red sandy soils and mixed and black soils\textsuperscript{19}. A district-wise distribution of soil-typology is given in the table No. II A.

Forest and agrarian activities are the mainstay of economy of this region. Out of the total area of 26 million hectares, nearly 3 million hectares are under forest and about 16.4 million hectares constitutes the cropping area\textsuperscript{20}. Agriculture is generally rain-fed with relatively low yield. The main source of irrigation is canals, tanks and well. The main crop in the irrigated area is paddy, which covers about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the irrigated area. Details of the other crops are given in the table No.II A.

The basin is not a homogenous geographical-cultural region. Variations, sometimes too sharp, are noticed from one area to another, each having its own distinct identity. Based on the local variations, we can identify the following sub-regions in the region of the Krishna basin.

\textsuperscript{17} R.L. Singh (ed.)1971, p.727.
A. THE UPPER KRISHNA BASIN SUB-REGION

The area situated between the source region of the river and its confluence with the Dudhaganga river constitutes the upper Krishna basin. It covers an area of 6,939 sq. miles of which about 6,613 falls into Maharashtra and 326 sq. miles in Karnataka\(^\text{21}\). The main districts of this sub-basin are given in the table\(^\text{22}\) No.II A.

The fertile flood plain of the river and the availability of water have made this area agriculturally one of the most important zones of the plateau area. The fertility of the soil and the availability of irrigational facilities largely guide the crop distribution in this sub-region. The alluvial terraces are the most fertile areas occupied by sugarcane. The \textit{rabi jowar} is grown mainly in the flood plain areas. Millet is grown in the outer zone of the valley area. Paddy is confined to the source region where the rainfall is high.

From the point of view of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas inscriptions, this region is an important area. This seems to have been the area of the Manpura house of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. The geographical contexts of two of their earlier donations relate to this area. The centre of authority of this house was also located in this region. By the eight-century, however, they seemed to have been driven out of this area by the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. About the charters of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas

recording donations in this sub-region, what is noteworthy is the fact that all of them were issued by the sovereign ruler of the house. The list of the inscriptions recording donation in this sub-region is given in a tabular form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REF.</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pandrangepalli grant of Rashtrakuta Avidheya</td>
<td>AD 6th century</td>
<td>E.I., XXXVII, 37, 9-24</td>
<td>Mânpura</td>
<td>Avidheya</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Satara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undikavatika grant of Abhimanyu</td>
<td>AD 7th century</td>
<td>E.I., VIII, 163-68</td>
<td>Mânpura</td>
<td>Abhimanyu</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Satara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alas Pl. of the Yuvaraja Govinda II</td>
<td>AD 769</td>
<td>E.I., VI, 208-13</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govindarâja</td>
<td>Samadhigata pâlica-mahâśabda Govindarâja Yuvarâja</td>
<td>Kolhapur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhor state Museum Pls. of Dharavarsha Druvarâja</td>
<td>AD 781</td>
<td>E.I., XXII, 176-86</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Druvarâja</td>
<td>P.M.P</td>
<td>Satara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daulatabad Pl of Rashtrakuta Sankargana</td>
<td>AD 793</td>
<td>E.I., IX, 193-98</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Sankargana râja (with the consent of Dhruvâ) None described as son of Nanna</td>
<td>Kolahapur?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spurious Wadgaon Plate</td>
<td>AD 798</td>
<td>I.A., XXX, 371-73</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Indra III</td>
<td>Not given</td>
<td>Satara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nesarika grant of Govinda III</td>
<td>AD 805</td>
<td>E.I., XXXIV, 123-40</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>Kolhapur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. CXXXIII (Sangali plate of Govinda V)</td>
<td>AD 933</td>
<td>I.A., XII, 247-54</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Nitâyavarsha</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Sangali (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karhåd plates of Krishna III</td>
<td>AD 959</td>
<td>E.I., IV, 278-90</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Krishna III</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Satara</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22 The district of Belgaum though technically falls into the region of the upper Krishna basin the agrarian economy of this area is more oriented to the Malprabha river. Hence, the district of Belgaum has been included in the Malpraha-Ghatprabha sub-region.
B. THE BHIMA SUB-REGION

The Bhima river is one of the most important tributaries of the Krishna. The major area of this sub-region is included in Maharashtra state. It also covers relatively smaller areas in Karnataka and AP. The main districts falling in the area of this sub-region are given in the table No. II A.

The major agricultural activities in this sub-basin are centered on its river channels, which are bordered with fertile ribbons and terraces. Some pockets of the higher plateau are also high yielding areas depending on the availability of underground water resources for irrigation.

The sub-basin is known for the production of cash crops. However, in the areas not well equipped with the irrigational facilities, millet (Jowar) remains the main crop.

Much of the area, however, falls into scarcity zone, from agro-climatic point of view. The scanty rainfall (50 to 70cm) and its uneven distribution limit the agricultural activities. The area is prone to water crisis.

From the point of view of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas inscription, this sub-region also seems to be an important one. As the distribution of donative inscriptions suggests, initially a part of

---

23 Those part of Karnataka and AP would technically fall into the region of what is generally known as the lower Krishna basin
this area was under the control of Mānpura house of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. However, this house seems to have been replaced from the area by the Malkhed house of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas by the second half of the eight-century. It may also be mentioned that one of the centres of authority of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas, described in the charters as the capital city (rājadhānī), was located in this sub-region. It is also important to note that most of the property transfer documents belonging to the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas in this region were issued by the sovereign rulers of the house. However, at the fag end of the period the situation seems to have changed as we see land transfer being effected by the local authority of different types. The relevant details of all the donative inscriptions have been presented in a tabular form below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REF.</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DO.TITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hengni Berdi Pl.of Vibhuraja</td>
<td>AD 501</td>
<td>E.I.,XXIX,174-77</td>
<td>Mānpura</td>
<td>Syāvalaṭī Māhādevī,with the consent of Vibhurāja</td>
<td>The queen of Rāṣṭrakūṭa Devarāja and mother of Nannarāja</td>
<td>Pune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talegaon Copper Pls. of Krishnaraja I</td>
<td>AD 768</td>
<td>E.I., XIII,275-82</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Krishna I</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>Pune</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radhanpur Pls. of Govinda III</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>E.I.,VI,239-51</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Ahmad nagar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. 8 and 9, (B.K. No. 92, 93 of 1929-30)</td>
<td>862</td>
<td>SI, XI,(Bombay Karnataka Inscriptions),4-5</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Amoghavarsha I</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>Bijapur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A fragmentry grant of Rashtrakuta Suvarnavarsha</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>E.I.,XXIII,106-8</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda IV.</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salotgi pillar inscriptions # A</td>
<td>945</td>
<td>E.I.,IV,57-66</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Chakrāyudhabudha</td>
<td>Pāvīṭṭage-grāmapati</td>
<td>Bijapur</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
B. THE MALPRABHA-GHATPRABHA SUB-REGION

The area covered by these two tributaries of the Krishna consists largely of what may be called the Middle Krishna basin. The area of this sub-basin is largely composed of the Deccan trap and represents a monotonous extensive plateau landscape. The region is largely covered with rich black cotton soils that are retentive of moisture.

The Krishna-Ghatprabha irrigated tract is the most populous zone in this region. The main districts of this sub basin are given in the table No.II A.

The profile of the Rāštrakūṭas inscriptions found in this sub-basin is entirely different from those which have been found in other regions. This sub-region has yielded the maximum numbers and varieties of donative inscriptions. However, as far as the authority behind the resource transfer in this sub-region goes, it is the local authorities of different types which figure dominantly in most of the inscriptions. In fact, in comparison to other regions discussed so far, the cases of resource transfer by the sovereign
authority appear to be a rarity in this region. A summary statement of the donative inscriptions relating to this sub-region is given in a tabular form on the page facing this.

Apart from the inscriptions recording the transfer of the landed property, this area has also yielded many inscriptions recording the transfer of other resources such as revenue of certain localities or certain products such as ghee etc. However, even in cases of such transactions, the local authority or social groups have been shown playing the prominent role.

Another category of inscription coming from this region is the hero-stones. This region has also yielded several hero-stones which also refer to the existence of a variety of local authorities in this sub-region.

C. THE LOWER KRISHNA BASIN SUB REGION

The area between the confluence of the Krishna river with the Bhima to the sea is included in this region. The area, which covers the diverse physical zones, is not as important as other sub-basin from the point of view of the present study. Only two donative inscriptions of the Rashtraugas have been discovered from this sub-region and in both of them the donors have been stated to be the subordinates of the Malhed branch of the Rashtraugas. The main districts of this sub-region and other relevant of this sub-region are given in the table II A.
**LIST OF INSCRIPTIONS IN THE LOWER KRISHNA BASIN**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FINDPLACE INSCRIPTIONS</th>
<th>A_D</th>
<th>REF.</th>
<th>KING_REF</th>
<th>OTHER_AUTHO</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kazipet,WarangalT., warangal</td>
<td>872</td>
<td>Inscription of A.P.,N# l,Kazipet</td>
<td>Amoginavars ha l</td>
<td>Satyarsha Bhimarasa</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Satyasara Bhimarasan</td>
<td>Pancham hasabda mahasam antadhipati</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. THE TUNGBHADRA SUB -BASIN SUB-REGION

The Tungabhadra is another important tributary of the Krishna. The basin of this sub-region covers an area of about 18,466 sq.km. The area consists mainly of the central Karnataka plateau. It also includes some parts of Telangana peneplain and Rayalsima physiographic zones in AP. The main districts of this sub-region and the distribution of soils are given in the table No. II A.

Several inscriptions of the period under study record transfer of land and its varied resources in this region. As far as the nature of authority involved in the process of transfer of resources in this region is concerned, it is quite similar to what we see in the sub-region of the Malprabha-Ghatprabha basin. This region has also yielded some hero stones. In some of the charters, the river Tuṅgbhadrā have been mentioned in the context of the place of issue of the grant by the sovereign ruler of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas of Malkhed. A tabular statement of the inscription recording transfer of resources in this region is given below.
LIST OF SOME OF DONATIVE INSCRIPTIONS IN THE TUNGABHADRA BASIN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSCRIPTIONS</th>
<th>AD REFERENCE</th>
<th>KING REFERRED</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONATION</th>
<th>SETTLEMENT AND IDENTIFICATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No.CXXIX</td>
<td>902 IA,XII,p.2 20-21</td>
<td>Akalavarsha (Krishna II)</td>
<td>Mahájanas</td>
<td>grant of some land</td>
<td>not mentioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayasnr Inscription,#A</td>
<td>945 E.I.,16,28 1-82</td>
<td>Kannara (Krishna III)</td>
<td>Gamundiga, the nál-gámundu, at the request of Poravayya</td>
<td>The remission of a field of 2 matálas within aragadda</td>
<td>Kyásnr=Kayasnr, Hangal taluka, Dharwar,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayasnr Inscription,#C</td>
<td>945 E.I.,16,28 3-84</td>
<td>Kannara (Krishna III)</td>
<td>not stated</td>
<td>Field,2 matatt,4 matatt,bellow Pulil tank, 1 Matt</td>
<td>Kyásnr=Kayasnr, Hangal taluka, Dharwar,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.40, Copper plate grant of the Chalukya Chief Rajaditya</td>
<td>951 ARMAD-1935, Bangalor e, 1936 pp1 17-130</td>
<td>Akalavarhsa (Krishna II)</td>
<td>mahásámanádhipati Rajaditya of Cháluuka family</td>
<td>grant of two villages</td>
<td>1.Kodagavalli = Kodagavalli, Holalkere taluka, 2.Nigumbur=x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayasnr inscription ,No.D</td>
<td>970 E.I.,16,28 4-85</td>
<td>Kannara (Krishna III)</td>
<td>not stated</td>
<td>x(It records fixation of tax on various things)</td>
<td>Kásalúr =Kyásanúr, Hángal taluka, Dhánwár</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KAVERI BASIN REGION

The area of the Kaveri basin is spread over the states of Kerla, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. Falling between the longitudes 75°30' and 79°45' and north latitudes 10°5' and 13°30', it covers an area of about 87,900 sq. km. The basin area is bounded on the west by the Western Ghats, on the east and south by the Eastern Ghats and on the north by the ridges separating it from Tungabhadra and Pennar basin.

The upper part of the Kaveri basin mainly consists of the Mysore plateau region. The area has an average elevation of about

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSCRIPTION</th>
<th>A_D</th>
<th>REFERENCES</th>
<th>KING. REF</th>
<th>OTHER AUTHORITY</th>
<th>ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT</th>
<th>SETTLEMENT</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONOR TITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>61. Nelamangala taluq</td>
<td>AD 802</td>
<td>EC, IX, 61, pp. 51-53</td>
<td>Govindarajadēva (Govinda II)</td>
<td>1. S'aucha-Kamba-dēva (referred to as the subordinate of the king(Prabhutavarsah-anujānānumatīna); 2. Mahāsāmantaṭhapiṁ śri-Srīvijaya Rāja</td>
<td>Edĕndēde vishya</td>
<td>Pervvadiyōr grāma</td>
<td>1. Govindarajadēva (stated to have made land to the temple (dēva-bhōga); 2. Mahāsāmantaṭhapiṁ śri-Srīvijaya Rāja</td>
<td>1. PMP</td>
<td>Area around Banglore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32(35) Chikka Betta.</td>
<td>8th century</td>
<td>EC, II, 1973, 14-15, 370</td>
<td>None, (it refers to the rule of Mahāsāmantaṭhapiṁ śri-Rājavaloka Kambaya</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none (grant was made somewhere near Belgola)</td>
<td>1. Not clear; 2. Śrīkama, several gāmundas, the Nālgāmund of Navilūr,certain individual</td>
<td>1. not clear</td>
<td>Mysore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>278. MAR., 1927-122, Devanur, Nalgamunda Taluka</td>
<td>c. AD 608</td>
<td>EC, III, 1974, 352-57</td>
<td>Govindarajadēva (Govinda II)</td>
<td>Punnāda Edēndōu vishya</td>
<td>Badanaguppe grāma</td>
<td>Rājavaloka Kambharaja</td>
<td>None described as subordinate of Govindarajadēva</td>
<td>Area around Mysore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A new Rashtrakuta copper grant</td>
<td>AD 810</td>
<td>QJMS, 24, No. 2, 1924, 82-88</td>
<td>Govindarajadēva (Govinda II)</td>
<td>Kuruvale vishaya</td>
<td>Sangāmi grāma</td>
<td>Govinda III, at the request of Mahāsāmantaṭhapiṁ Dantivarman and Chakkiraja</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Mysore</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kadamba pl. at Prabhuvarasha</td>
<td>AD 812</td>
<td>E.I, IV, 332-349</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>Idigūr vishaya</td>
<td>Jālamaragala grāma</td>
<td>King, at the request of śrī-Chakkiraja</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>(?)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atakur ins of the time of Krishna III and Būtuga II</td>
<td>AD 947</td>
<td>E.I., VI, 167-74</td>
<td>Kannaradeva (Krishna III)</td>
<td>1. Satyavākya- Būtuga II = ruler of Gaṅga vāḍi 96,000, (he is stated to have received Banvāsi 12,000, Belvōla 300, the Purīger 300, the Kāsirādā 70, and the Bāgenādā-70 from Kannaradeva) 2. Maḷjera who was given Ātkūr-12 and Kādiyūr in the Belvōla by Būtuga II</td>
<td>Gaṅga vāḍi 96,000, (Banvāsi 12,000, Belvōla 300, Purīger 300, Kāsirādā-70, and the Bāgenādā-70 from Kannaradeva) 2. Maḷjera who was given Ātkūr-12 and Kādiyūr in the Belvōla by Būtuga II</td>
<td>Atakur</td>
<td>Satyavākya - Kōtpugirvarman (Būtuga II)</td>
<td>Odhamma-mahārājādhirāja, Kolālapuravarpavēvāra...</td>
<td>Chittoor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Velur Rock ins. of Kannaradeva</td>
<td>AD 956</td>
<td>E.I., VI, 81-83</td>
<td>Kannaradeva (Krishna III)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Nulamba Tribhuvanadīra (Tribhuvanadīra)</td>
<td>(Possibly a subordinate of Krishna III)</td>
<td>Arcot (?)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inscription of Kannaradeva, D</td>
<td>AD 957</td>
<td>E.I., III, 285-6</td>
<td>Krishna III</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Sāṭṭan Sēnnippērayan of Karari who purchased the land from Śaṅkāśīva</td>
<td>Veillore</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukkal inscription No.7, On the south wall of the shrine</td>
<td>c. AD 956-57</td>
<td>Sīl,vol-III, (Part I &amp; II), 11-12</td>
<td>Refers to the 16th year of the reign of Kannaradeva</td>
<td>Village Assembly</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>The inscription records the the right of the village assembly to sell certain land</td>
<td>Not clear</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
750 mts. and slopes gently towards the east and the southeast. Agriculturally, the upper Kaveri basin is not as rich as the Delta region. It has a moderate climate with greater variability of rainfall. There are broadly three categories of cultivation: I. Wet land irrigated from the Kaveri river and tanks, II. Garden land irrigated from wells, and III. Dry land dependent entirely on rain\textsuperscript{27}.

In the Wet land area, paddy is by far the most important crop, whereas \textsl{ragi}, Jowar and other millets constitute the important crops under rainfed conditions. Coconut, arecanut, betel leaves, pepper, oranges etc. are grown as Garden land\textsuperscript{28}. The main districts of the region and the pattern of soil distribution are given in the table No. II A. Predominance of tanks and compact villages amidst irrigated gardens of coconut, areca, pepper and betel vines are common sight, especially in the Mysore plateau region.

The profile of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas inscriptions obtainable in this region is little different from rest of the region. The area initially was placed under \textsl{mahāsāmantādhipati} who came from the family of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. However, they did not have the right to transfer property on their own. Towards the close of the tenth century, however, we find the emergence of local authority who belonged to this region. This region has also yielded inscriptions depicting the important role played by the local authority or the local social groups in matters relating to the transfer

\textsuperscript{27} Ibid., p.310.

\textsuperscript{28} Ibid., also see R.L. Singh, (ed.), 1971, p.819.
of resources of this region. A list of donative inscriptions and the authority figuring in them is given on the page facing this.

THE PENNER BASIN REGION

The Penner basin extends over an area of 55,213 sq.km. and lies between east longitudes 77°4' and 80°10' and north latitudes 13°16' and 15°52'29. It is bounded on the north by Erramala range, on the east by the Nallamala and Velikonda range of the Eastern Ghats, on the south by the Nandidurga hills and on the west by the narrow ridge separating it from the Vedavati valley of the Krishna basin. The basin has meager water wealth utilized only for limited irrigational use, and additional support has to be obtained from the adjoining Krishna basin. The main district of this region is given in the table.

The basin lies largely in a semi arid region with low rainfall. The dominant soils of this region are red black sandy and mixed soils. A district wise distribution of soils is given in the table No. II A.

The main crops of the basin are paddy, Jowar and ragi. Paddy is mainly grown in Nellore and Cuddapah district where irrigational facilities exist. Jowar is grown extensively in Kurnool and Kolar. Of the non-food crops, oilseeds are the most important. Anantapur, Cuddapur and Karnool have large area under oilseeds.

Apart from agriculture, forest products are another important aspects of the economy of the region. Nearly 1/5 of the total area of the basin is forested. The luxuriant forest cover is largely confined to Cuddarpah, Chittoor, Anantapur and Kurnool district, consisting mainly of dry deciduous or mixed deciduous types. Teak, red sanders, sandalwood and bamboo are the important economic species.

The area cropped annually in the region is about 2.22 million hectares. Agriculture is generally rainfed with relatively low yields except for about 0.48 million hectares of irrigated area, which grows mainly paddy and ragi.

This area seems to become part of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas territory during the period of Govinda III. Not many inscriptions of our relevance have been reported from this area. However, what is noteworthy is that this area was also placed under the charge of a Mahāsāmanta who claimed to have been related to the family of the Malkhed branch. A list of inscriptions coming from this region is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSCRIPTION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REF</th>
<th>KING</th>
<th>OTHER AUTHORITY</th>
<th>Main purpose of the record</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rashtrakuta inscription from Ramesvara</td>
<td>9th-10th cen AD</td>
<td>ELXXXVI, p.57-67</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>Krishna alias Dhuradakakāra</td>
<td>Donation of land by Cuddapah</td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Kannelu epigraph No. 108</td>
<td>Not available</td>
<td>ARE,1967,Hyderabad, 1975,p.2</td>
<td>Govinda II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.188, Kamalapuram in Cuddapah</td>
<td>AD 925</td>
<td>ARE,1967,Hyderabad, 1975,p.2</td>
<td>Indra III</td>
<td>Certain subordinate of Pallava lineage</td>
<td>It records the construction of the doo-way by certain subordinate of Pallava lineage.</td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chennura epigraph No.1 (Adilabad)</td>
<td>940</td>
<td>ARE,1967,Hyderabad, 1975,p.2</td>
<td>Akalavarsha (Krishna III)</td>
<td>1. Subordinate</td>
<td>The inscription records the donation, by Baddeg, of some grant of money and</td>
<td>Cuddapah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE TAPI RIVER BASIN

This is another important region in terms of the distributions of donative inscriptions of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. This was also the area where a new branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas represented by the house of Kakka was located in the eight century.

As to the geographical profile of the Tapi basin region is concerned, the area lies between east longitudes 72°38’ to 78°17’ and north latitudes 20°5’ to 22°3’. It represents a transitional zone between Central India and Deccan. In terms of its historical importance, the area has also been termed as one of the areas of "debatable marcher"\(^{31}\).

The area of the river basin is spread over the states of M.P., Maharashtra, and Gujarat. Elongated in shape, it is surrounded on the three sided by the mountains range viz.; on the north by the

\(^{31}\) O.H.K. Spate and A.T. A. Learmonth, p.117,639
Satpura range, on the east by the Mahadeo hills, on the south by the Ajanta range and the Satmala hills. The Arabian sea constitutes its western boundary.

The whole area of the Tapi basin consists mainly of black soils, most of them being confined in the modern Maharashtra State. The coastal plains of Gujarat, which lies in the upper Tapi sub basin, has alluvial clays with a layer of black soil in the surface. The majority of agricultural activity is concentrated in the deep black soil region\textsuperscript{32}. The Khandesh region, western part of the Purna sub- basin and plains of Gujarat are a few highly fertile zones in the Tapi basin region.

Settlement in the region avoids the banks of the Lower Tapi, but on the broad valley floor there is a concentration of small towns and larger compact villages\textsuperscript{33}.

The spatial characteristics of the area vary considerably from one locality to another and based on this we can divide the whole area in to two sub-regions;

1. Tapi west sub-region
2. Tapi east sub-region

The Gwaligarh hills may be consider as constituting the dividing line between these two sub-regions.

\textsuperscript{32} R.L.Singh(ed.),p.724

### I The Tapi west sub-region:

This area comprises the plain region. It includes the traditional Khandesh (now divided into Dhulia and Jalgaon districts) and the Gujarat plains. The main districts of this region are given in the table No. II A.

All the charters of the eighth and the ninth century recording transfer of property in the Gujarat plain area of this sub-region belong to the Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrapūtas. We do have some charters relating to this region which emanated from the sovereign rulers of the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrapūtas. However, the locale of the property transferred by the sovereign rulers through their charters were largely confined to that area of the sub-region which is popularly known as the Khandesh area. This area has also yielded one inscription which has been ascribed to a different house of the Rāṣṭrapūtas represented by Kakka. A chronological list of the inscriptions recording donations in this region is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONAR'S TITLE</th>
<th>O.D</th>
<th>REF.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A new copper Pl. grant of the Rashtrakuta Dynasty</td>
<td>AD.757</td>
<td>New house</td>
<td>Sri Kakka rajan</td>
<td>Parambhattaraka maharajadhira rajya parmesvara Sri Kakka rajan</td>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>JBBRAS,16, XLII,10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rāṣṭrapūta Govind 3 rd yāchā bahulāvād tamrapatra</td>
<td>AD 809</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Govindaśaj(deva)</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Jalagaon</td>
<td>BISMQ,12,(46),N o.2&amp;3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Javakheda plates of Amoghavarsha - I</td>
<td>AD 820</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Amoghavarsha</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Dhule</td>
<td>E.I., 32 , 129- 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surat Pl. of Karkkaraja Suvarna varsha</td>
<td>AD 821</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Karkka Suvarṇavarsha</td>
<td>Mahāsāmantādhipati</td>
<td>Valsad</td>
<td>E.I.,XXI,133- 147</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A copper pl. grant of ...Dhruva II</td>
<td>AD 835</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Dhruvardajadeva</td>
<td>Mahāsāmantādhipati</td>
<td>Valsad</td>
<td>I.A.;XIV ; 195-203</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
II The Tapi East sub-region: This region mainly consists of what is popularly known as the region of the Purna basin. It is a hilly region; forest and mountain ranges being the dominant feature of the landscape. The Satpura, the Satmala, the Ajanta and the Gwaligarh are located in this region only. The main district included in the area are given in the table No. II A.

In terms of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas land charters, this area is not as significant as its western counterpart. There are only two property transfer documents of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas recording donations in this sub-region and both of them belong to the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. The detail of both of them is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plates of Dantivarman of Gujarat</th>
<th>AD 667</th>
<th>Gujarat</th>
<th>Dantivarman</th>
<th>Mahāśāmantaḥdhipati</th>
<th>Valsad</th>
<th>E.I.,VI,285-294</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rathore grant No.III,IA,(July,1883),p179-90</td>
<td>AD 667</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Dhruvājadeva</td>
<td>Mahāśāmantaḥdhipati</td>
<td>Surat</td>
<td>I.A.,XII,179-186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A new Copper Pl.of Dhrusa of the Gujarat</td>
<td>AD 884</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Dhrusadvrārshka</td>
<td>Mahāśāmantaḥdhipati</td>
<td>Valsad</td>
<td>E.I.,XXII,64-76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rathore grant No.III,IA,(July,1883),p179-90</td>
<td>AD 888</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Śri Krishnaśarja</td>
<td>Mahāśāmantaḥdhipati</td>
<td>Surat (?)</td>
<td>I.A.,14,65-68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two grants of Indraraja III, #2</td>
<td>AD 915</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Indra</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Valsad</td>
<td>E.I.,IX,24-41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andura plates of Govinda</td>
<td>AD 929</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Govinda IV</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Buldana</td>
<td>E.I.,XXXVI,257-72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karoda plates of Kakka III</td>
<td>AD 972</td>
<td>Main</td>
<td>Kakka III</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Bhir</td>
<td>I.A., XII,263-270</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>O.D</th>
<th>REF.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sisavi grant of Govinda III</td>
<td>AD 807</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Govinda III</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Akola</td>
<td>E.I.,XXIII,204-12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SABARMATI & MAHI BASINS

DESIGNATED BEST-USE CLASSIFICATION OF STREAMS

REFERENCES

Stream Classification (as per designated best-use)

- Drinking water source without conventional treatment but after dechlorination: A
- Drinking water source with conventional treatment followed by disinfection: B
- Wastewater or industrial waste discharge: C
- Municipalities, industrial areas, etc.: D
- Commercial fishing, recreation: (Sea water) (Non-contact): SW
THE MAHI BASIN REGION

This is yet another region important from the point of view of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas inscriptions. As the charters relating to this region show, the area was under the controle of the Mahāsāmantadhipatis of the Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. One of their centres of authority called Khetka was possibly located in this region.

The Mahi river basin includes an area of about 34,842 Sq. Km\(^{34}\). The area of the basin is bounded on the north and north west by the Aravalli hills, on the east by the ridge separating it from the Chambal basin, on the north by the Vindhaya and on the west by the Gulf of Cambay.

The upper half of the basin lies in the state of M.P. The landscape of the part is represented by “undulating country with ridges and valley”. The lower part of the basin in Gujarat represents semi-developed land and flat, fertile, well-developed alluvial tract.\(^{35}\)

---


\(^{35}\) To be more specific, the area in Gujarat upto the confluence of the Mahi and the Panam river consists mainly of semi developed lands. Beyond Wonakbori right upto the Gulf of Cambay we have fertile flat and well-developed alluvial tract.
The basin mainly consists of red and black soil\textsuperscript{36}. A district wise break up of the distribution of the soil is given in the table No.II A

The economy of this region depends mainly on the forest and agricultural. Nearly 14.4\% of the total area of the basin is covered with forest, largely concentrated in the district of Jhabua, Durgapur etc.

Agriculturally this area may be called low yield area, expect for about 0.15 million hectares of irrigated area, which grows wheat and cotton.

The basin especially its upper part is dominated by tribal people.

As stated earlier, most of the property transfer documents in this region were issued by the rulers of the Gujarat branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas. It is only in the tenth century that we see the Malkhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas making donation in this area. A list of the land charters recording transfer of land/village in this region is given below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHARTERS</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REFERENCE</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONOR TITLE</th>
<th>D. O.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prince of Wales Museum plates of Govindaraja</td>
<td>AD 810</td>
<td>EI,XXVI,248-55</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Govindaraja</td>
<td>Mahāsāma ntādhipati</td>
<td>Baroda(?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Torkhede Co.Pl. of the time of Govindaraja</td>
<td>AD 812</td>
<td>E.I.,III,53-58</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Mahasamanta Buddhavarsa</td>
<td>Mahāsāma nta</td>
<td>Baroda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Museum Plates of Sri Karkarajadeva</td>
<td>AD 812</td>
<td>I.A., XII, 156-65</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Suvarga varsha šrī Karkarajadēva</td>
<td>Mahāsāma ntādhipati</td>
<td>Baroda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nausāri copper Pl. charter of Karka I</td>
<td>AD 816</td>
<td>JBBRAS; XX 135-149</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Suvarga varsha šrī Karkarajadēva</td>
<td>Mahāsāma ntādhipati</td>
<td>Broach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brahamanpalli grant of Karka Suvarṇavarsha</td>
<td>AD 824</td>
<td>E.I.,XXII,77-85</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Suvarga varsha šrī Karkarajadēva</td>
<td>Mahāsāma ntādhipati</td>
<td>Baroda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inscription from Kavi,II.The grant of Govindaraja</td>
<td>AD 826</td>
<td>IA. May,1876, 144-52</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Govindaraja also called Prabhūtavarsha</td>
<td>Mahāsāma ntādhipati</td>
<td>Baroda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two grant of Indraraja III, # 1</td>
<td>AD 915</td>
<td>E.I.,IX,24-41</td>
<td>Malkhed</td>
<td>Nityavarshanar ēndradēva (Indra III)</td>
<td>PMP</td>
<td>Brdoli</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### III. THE SABARMATI BASIN

This area of this basin also seems to have been an important one in terms of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas inscriptions. However, the charters relating to this region would like us to believe that this
area was controlled by different authority during the period of our study.

As to the geographical profile of this region, basin area of the river Sabarmati is well demarcated by natural boundaries. On the north-east lies the Aravalı hills, on the eastern side is the ridge, separating it from the Mahi basin, on the south lies the gulf of Cambay and on west again we have the ridge, separating it from the basins of minor streams. A list of the main districts of this region is given in the table No. II A.

The main economic resources of the area are forest and agriculture. Nearly 8.9% of the total area of the basin is covered with forests, mainly of tropical variety, largely confined to the northern portion of the basin in the districts of Banaskantha, Sabarkantha and Mehshana 37. The area annually cropped in the basin in about 1.37 million hectares.

The dominant soil consists of black, alluvial and sandy. A district wise breakup of the soil pattern is given in the table No. II A.

Like the Mahi basin region, the area of the Sabarmati basin seems to have been under the control of the mahāsāmantaḥdhipatī of the Gujarat branch of the Rāstrakūtas until the end of the ninth century. However, by the beginning of the tenth century we see the sovereign authority making transfer of village in this region. A tenth century charter of Siyaka II, who appears to have been a

37 Ibid.,p. 394.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSCRIPTIONS</th>
<th>A.D.</th>
<th>REF.</th>
<th>BRANCH</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONARTITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hilol plates of Y.</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>AD 788</td>
<td>E.I.,34,213-18 &amp; 219</td>
<td>House of Kakka</td>
<td>Chandradiya</td>
<td>Kheda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devali Plate of Govinda, Vallabhi</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>AD 819</td>
<td>E.I.,XXXV,2</td>
<td>Gujar</td>
<td>Prabhūtavarsa a Gōvindarāja</td>
<td>Mahāsāmantādhipati</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Rāṣṭrakūta grant of Krishṇa II</td>
<td>AD 910</td>
<td>E.I.,1,52-58</td>
<td>Makhed</td>
<td>Vallabharāja Akālavarsha(Kri- shana II)</td>
<td></td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combay plate of Govinda IV</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>E.I.,VII,26-47</td>
<td>Makhed</td>
<td>Suvarṇavarshad ēva-Prthvivallabha.((Gōvinda IV)</td>
<td></td>
<td>PMP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Harsola copper plate grant of Parmara Siyaka</td>
<td></td>
<td>949</td>
<td>ELXIX.,236-44</td>
<td>Parmāra Siyaka Sīyaka II</td>
<td>Sīri Sīyaka</td>
<td>Mahāmaridalka- chūdāmanī mahārājādhirāja -pati</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

subordinate of the Makhed branch of the Rāṣṭrakūtas, also comes from this region. A list of donative inscriptions recording land transfer in this region is given below:

THE CHAMBAL BASIN

This region is insignificant in terms of the distribution of the Rāṣṭrakūta inscription. Only one inscription belonging to one of the early houses of Rāṣṭrakūtas has been discovered in this region.38

Situated in the north of the Vindhaya range, it extents over an area of 139,468 Kms. The area lies between east longitude 73°20’

---

to 79°15' and north latitudes 22°27' to 27°20'. The main district and their soil typology is given in the table No. II A.

**THE KONKAN SUB REGION**

Part of the coastal region, it lies between 20° and 16° north latitudes and administratively part of Maharashtra state. The main districts of this sub-region are given in the table No. II A.

Physiographically the area is lowland with flat alluvial belt along the coast. The main rivers of this sub-region are the Vaitarni, the Ulahas, and the Amba. The main districts of the sub-basin and the pattern of soil distribution are given in the table.

The dominant crops of the area are rice. Ragi, pulses and fodder crops, coconuts are also important, especially in the southern part. The hills and the area below the Ghati are dominated by semi-evergreen forest. The economy of the area is centered towards Bombay that is one of the most important commercial centres of India.

This sub-region has many small ports which handles bulk of foreign trade from the days of the early historical period.

Several donative inscriptions relating to this sub-region belong to the period of the Rāṣṭrakūṭas comes from this region. These inscriptions tend to convey the impression that different parts of the area remained largely under the control of authority subordinate to

---


40 O.H.K. Spate and A.T. A. Learmonth, see figure 22-23.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSCRIPTION</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>REF</th>
<th>KING REF.</th>
<th>DONOR</th>
<th>DONOR TITLE</th>
<th>OD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manor Pl. of Dantidurga</td>
<td>AD 749</td>
<td>Studies in Indology Vol. II, 1961, pp. 11-15</td>
<td>Samadhibata-pañca-mahā-sabda Dantidurga</td>
<td>Representatives of the Mhājanas of the Traividyas of Śrīpura</td>
<td>Bodavarma Bhogika, Durga Bhogika, Devamma Bhogika, Goviyasagga Bhogika, Goviya (All were cited as the representatives of the Mahājana.)</td>
<td>Thane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanheri Cave Inscription N#43 B (It records money grant)</td>
<td>AD 843</td>
<td>IA, XIII, pp. 135-37</td>
<td>1. PMP Amoghavarsha; 2. Mahāsāmanta Puraśkti, the ruler of the Purī-Konkana</td>
<td>Vishṇu</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Area around Ratnagiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanheri cave Inscription N#15 (It records money grant)</td>
<td>AD 854</td>
<td>IA, XIII, 133-35</td>
<td>1. PMP Amoghavarsha; 2. Mahāsāmanta Puraśkti, the ruler of the Purī-Konkana</td>
<td>Gomin Avighnākara</td>
<td>Sugata, came from Gauda Vişashaya</td>
<td>Area around Ratnagiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanjan Plates of Amoghavars ha</td>
<td>AD 871</td>
<td>EI, XVIII, 235-257</td>
<td>PMP Amoghavarsha</td>
<td>Amoghavarsha</td>
<td>P.M.P.</td>
<td>Thane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kanheri cave Inscription N#43 A (It records money grant)</td>
<td>AD 877</td>
<td>IA, XIII, 135-35</td>
<td>1. Amoghavarsha; 2. Mahāsāmanta Kaparadin (Koṅkāpa valabha)</td>
<td>Vishṇu</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Area around Ratnagiri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rashtrakuta charters from Chinchani. 1. Grant of the time of Indra III</td>
<td>AD 928</td>
<td>EI, XXXII, 45-55</td>
<td>1. Indra III 2. Madhumati, who had received Samyana mandala from Krishna II</td>
<td>Madhumati, with the permission of Indra</td>
<td>Gov. of Samayana mandala</td>
<td>Thane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rashtrakuta grant from Chinchani (B), Grant of the time of Krishna III (vyavastha charter)</td>
<td>(939-67)</td>
<td>EI, XXXII, 55-60</td>
<td>Krishna III</td>
<td>The charter records the settlement (vyavastha) between two religious institutions</td>
<td></td>
<td>Thane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the rulers of the Malkhed branch of Rāstrakūtas. This area also provided the evidence of transfer of local community having certain role in matters of property transfer. The relevant details of the donative inscriptions of this region have been given on pages facing this.

Concluding remarks:

The exercise done above has sought bring out with as much clarity as the resources would allow the fact that the Rāstrakūta domain cannot be conceptualized the way it has been usually done in the conventional historiography i.e., a segment of space with static boundaries with a largely homogenous authority structure. Contrary to such notions, our exercise shows that given the uneven distribution of the inscriptions in terms of time and space, it would be rather hazardous to assume that the end points of the temporal domain of the Rāstrakūtas remained static all through the period of their existence. What has generally been termed, as the territory/kingdom/empire of the Rāstrakūtas is better viewed in our opinion as an open-ended, dynamic spatial unit the end points of which kept shifting.

Our exercise also brings out the internal dynamics of the territory. The data at our disposal clearly indicate that the nature of authorities within the territorial domain of the Rastrakutas was not homogenous and the level of control exercised by the central authority was not uniform everywhere. The spatial domain of the differential authorities existing within the territory was also not static. We notice a constant process of alignment and realignment in the spatial domain
of the different authorities all through the period. Even the locus of authority of the central power was not permanent, rather it kept shifting from one region to another which in turn must have necessitated a fresh orientation of relationships between the central authority and the rest.

Given this dynamic character of the territorial domain of the Rāstrakūtas, it would be hazardous to look for any single set of boundary lines, which would define their spatial domain for the entire period of their existence. Therefore, all that we can venture to do is to work out a tentative picture of the spatial domain of each house in broad terms. Our attempt here would be to state the area more in terms of the regions and sub-regions, that we have delineated in the previous section (section II) rather than in terms of modern administrative units.

During the time span of the first phase of our study, we come across four different houses of Rāstrakūtas, each of them located in different localities of the Deccan region. On the basis of the geographic provenance of charters of each house and the geographic areas with which they relate to, a tentative idea of the temporal domain of each house can be worked out as follows:

**I. House of Manapura:** Notwithstanding the claims of Mananka, the supposed founder of this house, to be the ruler of the country of Kuntala (*Mananka-nripatih srīman-kuntalānamprasasita*), the geographical canvass as revealed by their charters cannot be stretched beyond two sub-regions viz. the sub-regions of the upper Krishna and the Bhima sub-regions of the Krishna basin
region. In terms of modern district, their area control seems to have been limited to areas of modern Pune and Satara only. Manapura, the only center of authority that figures in their charter, was also located in the Satara district itself. As far as the authority status of the house is concerned, it seems to have enjoyed independent status.

II. **House of Vidharbha:** This house seems to have come into existence sometime around the 6th century AD with Nandivardhana in the Nagpur region as the center of authority. The rulers of this house seem to have started their career in the capacity of subordinate authority. In the very first charter, the ruler of this house has been described as 'meditating on the feet of a *bhattaraka* (*bhattarakā- pad-anudhayata*). Despite the subordinate authority, however, the rulers of this house seemed to have enjoyed enough authority to issue charter on their own with their own seal. All the charters issued by the rulers of this house during the 6th and the 7th centuries do not carry any reference to their overlord. However, by the beginning of the 8th century, rulers of this house seem to have lost autonomy in the matters of property transfer. This change is reflected by the Bhindon plates of this house (*JESI, X*, pp.30-35), which is datable to the beginning of the 8th century. This charter not only mentions the name of the overlord of this house but also shows the ruler of this house seeking the consent of the overlord before making grant. Not only that, unlike the earlier charters of this house, this one
(Bhindon plates) does not carry the seal of the house but of the overlord.¹

As far as the spatial extent of their authority is concerned, the geographical distribution of their inscriptions and also the locale of the places figuring in them point to their control over areas around modern Nagpur, Aurangabad, Betul and Akola. In terms of river basin these areas would roughly correspond to the region of the Wardha – Wainganga basin. The centers of authority of this house were also located in the same region.

III. The third house of the Rāstrakūtas is represented by Dejja Maharaja. We do not have any charter issued by Dejja Maharaja himself who has been described as Rāstrakūt- anvaya-jata-sri-Dejja Maharaja in the charter, which was issued by his atmaja who came from the family of Sendraka and enjoyed the status of adhiraja. However, whatever, little information we get from the charter of his atmaja adhiraja, all that we can say is that Dejja Maharaja possibly controlled the area around modern Jamkhandi, which now falls in the district of Bijapur. This district formed the part of the Upper Krishna basin sub-region.

IV. The fourth house of the Rāstrakūtas seems to have existed in the area around Mandasor. Our information about his house is confined to the solitary reference to this house in an inscription,

¹ It has been suggested by mirashi that this was a feudatory family, which rose after the disappearance of the Vakataka. They owe their first allegiance to the Kalacuri and, like them, used the Abhira (or Kalacuri) era in their grants. After the overthrow of the Kalacuris they transformed their allegiance to the Chalukya of Badami and like them began to date their records in the Saka era. Studies in Indology, II, pp.189-90. If information provided by this charter is correct, then it can safely be assumed that by the beginning of the 8th century this house came to enjoy subordinate authority status in relation to Pratapasila- Kakkaraja of the Maharastrakuta family.
which has been located in Mandasor. This information provided by the inscription is too scanty to allow us to say anything regarding the authority status of this house or the area they controlled. The only tentative assumption that can be made is that Indragah, the find place of the inscription might have been under their control.

V. House of Malkhed: The first charter of this house that we have at our disposal indicates that this house came into existence sometime around the first half of the eighth century. At the time of the issuance of the Ellora plates by Dantidurga, this house enjoyed a subordinate status \(^{11}\), though we are not told anything as to who the overlord was. The geographical contexts of the properties transferred by the rulers of this house relate to the areas falling in the sub regions of the Wardha- Wainganga basin (districts Aurangabad), the Upper Godavari basin (Nasik district) and the Konkan region (Manor in Thane).

However, what makes the authority status of this house different from the rest of the subordinate houses of the Rāṣṭrākūṭas is the fact that they had their own subordinates through which they were managing their territorial control.

The geographical proximity of the territorial bases of the Rāṣṭrākūṭas of Vidharbha and the Rāṣṭrākūṭas of Malkhed on the

\(^{11}\) In the first charter (Ellora plate) he has been described as one who has obtained the *pancamahasābda*. In the second charter (Manor plate) he has been described in the same manner.
one hand, and the House of Manapura and the one represented by Dejja Maharaja on the other, has led many scholars to connect one house with the another. However, it may be pointed out that the genealogical details as given in the charters do not help us in visualizing any relationship among them. They all seemed to have existed in different localities, essentially as local powers with differential authority status.

The situation seems to have been altered radically by the time we reach the second phase of our study. All local houses of the Rāṣṭrakūtas of the first phase, except the house of the Malkhed, seemed to have disappeared by the second half of the eighth century. Their disappearance coincides with the emergence of the Rāṣṭrakūtas of the Malkhed as a supra local power and the rulers of this house becoming powerful enough to start assuming titles such as PMP, which is indicative of their rise to the sovereign status. The geographical provenance of the charters issued by the rulers of this house and the geographical context of the properties transferred through them during the second phase indicates not only the extension of their spatial domain into areas where earlier houses of the Rāṣṭrakūtas were located but also areas lying between the Krishna – Kaveri basin which were largely dominated by local powers of different types. Considering the differential nature and organization of power and the level of control exercised by the central authority, we may venture to divide the territory into following categories.

A. Area of direct control: This would include regions where property transfer was affected by the sovereign authority of
Malkhed house. In terms of regions that we have defined, this area would include the area of the Upper Godavari sub-basin (Nasik, Paithan) Upper Krishna basin (Kolhapur, Sangli, Satara) Bhima basin (Ahmadnagar, Pune) and the Wardha Wainganga basin (Wardha Aurangabad)

B. Lineage territory: In this category we may include those areas, which were placed under the control of the members of the Malkhed branch of the Rāstrakūtas in different capacities such as samanta, mahasamanta etc. Towards the close of the eighth century we see parts of the Upper Godavari region (parts of Nasik) under the control of Kakkaraja who belonged to Gujarat branch of the Malkhed house of Rāstrakūta. No title has been attached to his name. He has simply been described as the brother of the reigning monarch Govinda II. The area around Kolhapur seems to have been under the charge of Govinda II who has been described as samadhigata-pancamahasabda...yuvaraja. It may also be noted that the grant in this area was made by him at the request of another family member of this house. In the area around Daulatabad we hear of a grant made by one king Śankaragana, (samaravaloka-sri-sankaragana-raja) with the consent of the reigning monarch Dhruva II. Śankaragana has been identified as a cousin of Dhruva II. The region of the Wardha Wainganga basin (area around
Wardha) seems to have been under the control of Sila-Mahadevi, wife of reigning monarch Dhruva II.\footnote{Many scholars have found it difficult to explain the Sila-Mahadevi, making grant on the basis of her own authority when her husband Dhurva II was the reigning monarch. Scholars have found it rather intriguing the fact that the grant made by Govinda III (see Anjavati plates of Govinda III) required the approval of Sila-Mahadevi or why the charter was issued by a vassal of Dhruva II should have been written by the minister for war and peace of Sila-Mahadevi. All these can easily be explained if seen in terms of controlling the territory through the network of members of the same house. All the grants relate to region of Wardha Wainganga basin, which was placed under the control of Sila-Mahadevi.}

C. Areas beyond direct control: This would include areas where the authority of the rulers of Rāstrakūtas was acknowledged, though the control was largely in the hands of the local rulers. This includes the area Malprabha – Ghatprabha sub-basin, Tungabhadra basin and the area of the Kaveri basin. It may be mentioned here that till the end of eighth century, such areas seems to have been quite limited in these regions.

D. There were certain pockets which have yielded hero-stones. They were confined in the regions of the Malprabha – Ghatprabha and the Kaveri. In the absence of any appropriate term to describe such pockets, we may tentatively term those pockets as areas of autonomous authority or area of contesting authority.

We also hear of a new house of Rāstrakūtas whose territorial base was confined to parts of Gujarat.
The new house of the Rāstrakūta is represented by Kakka who, as his title indicates was probably a semi-independent subordinate of some imperial ruler whose name is not given in the charter. We come to know of the existence of this house only in the second half of the eighth century and their area of control was confined to the regions of Surat and Kheda area, which would largely fall in the sub-regions of the Western Tapi and Sabarmati basin. This house had its own subordinates (samantas) located in the area around Kheda.

During the ninth century, the number of inscriptions, both donative and memorial increases and there is a corresponding increase in the area of their distribution. Some of the areas, which were relatively isolated in terms of distribution of inscriptions, emerged as the areas of concentration. Also, some of the areas yield Rāṣṭrakūtas inscriptions for the first time, indicating thereby the integration of new areas into the territory of the Rāṣṭrakūtas.

The geographical expansion of the territory seems to have been accompanied by a realignment of the areas controlled by differential authorities:

**A. Area of direct control:** This area consisted of the Konkan region (Thane), Tapi basin (Dhule, Jalgoan and Akola),

---

Kakka has been described in the first charter as *paramesvera samadhitagata-panc-mahasabda parambhattaraka maharajadhira raj paramesvera* and in another charter as *paramesvera samadhitagata-panc-mahasabda parambhattaraka maharajadhira raj paramesvera*.
the Godavari basin (Parbhani, Nasik, Bhir), the Wardha Wainganga basin (Yavatmal), The Upper Krishna basin (Kolhapur, Bijapur), the Bhima basin (Ahmadnagar), Malprabha- Ghatprabha basin (Dharwar) the Upper Kaveri basin (area around Mysore)

B. Lineage territory: Like the area of direct control, the areas controlled by the members of the Malkhed family seem to have expanded further. Now there seems to have also started the practice of designating different members of the lineage as mahasamanata, samanta etc.

During the timespan of the ninth century, larger areas were placed under the Gujarat branch. The area of their control included the regions of Sabarmati Mahi basin and the Surat part of the Tapi basin. In terms of district the charters issued by the members of this house were located in Surat, Baroda, Broach, Bhavanagar and Ahmedabad. They also came to have their own center of authority at modern Kheda.

The rulers of this house were designated as mahasamantadhipati. They had their own set of subordinates (mahasamanta Budhha varsha) and enjoyed autonomy in terms of property transfer.

mahasamantadhipati- arama-rajadhiraj paramesvera.

^ Area around Kathiawar.
A new area that was converted into lineage territory was the area around Cuddappah, which would roughly cover the Pennar basin region. We are told about *mahasamanta* Kannayya making grant in this region. He has been described as Dhuradankakara- Rajmartamda- Rattakandarpa. His *viruda* Rattakandarpa only goes on to show that he was scion of the Râstrakûta dynasty.

In the areas around the Upper Kaveri we hear of *mahâsâmanta* Ranavaloka Kambhayya who has been stated to be brother of Govinda III. He, however, seems to have been replaced by *mahamandalika* Chakkiraja.

It may be mentioned that these *mahasamantas* did not enjoy the authority to make donations on their own.

C. We also come across larger areas, which were placed under the charge of local authority of different types who bore different designations such as *Samanta, mahasamanats*, etc. and whose bases of power were local. This would include area in the regions of Kaveri, Malprabha- Ghatprabha basin and the region of the Tungabhadra.

D. Autonomus area: During this period we find more pockets in the Malprabha- Ghatprabha basin and the
region of the Tungabhadra yielding hero stones. In the region of Karnool also we see certain pockets. During the tenth century there was no significant change in terms of the territorial boundaries of Rāstrakūtas, except its stretching further to the area of Pallar basin. However, changes within the territory seem more active and significant.

One such change was the proliferation and the realignment of subordinate areas. Now parts of Bhima basin (Poona and Junar) became subordinate area. Also the area of Upper Krishna basin (Pavittage and Bijapur) were given to a mahasamantadhipati. In the Konkan region we see the existence of two subordinate authorities. The area of North Konkan was placed under the Control of Madhumati. The right to transfer the property in this region, however, seems to have been retained by the sovereign rulers as all property transfers in this area were effected with their approval only.

In the region of Sabarmati basin the rule of Gujarat branch was replaced by the house of another subordinate called mahasamanta Pracanda. The right to transfer the property, however, seemed to have been retained by the sovereign authority.
The area beyond the direct control seems to have spread over the regions of Malprabha- Ghatprabha, Tugabhadra and the Kaveri basin. Though we hear of formation of administrative units of various dimensions, ruled by subordinate authorities of various types owing allegiance to the rulers of Malkhed house, yet it was the local authorities of various types, which seem to have controlled the local resources.
## LIST OF Districts FALLING in the Areas of Different River Basins and Their Soil TYPOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Physical Zone</th>
<th>Soil Typology</th>
<th>River Basin</th>
<th>Sub River Basin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHMAD NAGAR</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Western Plateau</td>
<td>Black, Red and Gray white</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AKOLA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>TAPI BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMRAVATI</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Tapi-purna valley</td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>WARDHA WAINGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AURANGABAD</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>medium black and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHANDARA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Wardha-Penganga plain</td>
<td>Red loamy</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHIR</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>Shallow and medium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BULDANA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>TAPI BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHANDA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Wardha-Penganga plain</td>
<td>Red loamy and medium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>WARDHA WAINGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NANDED</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NASIK</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Western Plateau</td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PARBHANI</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAGPUR</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Wardha-Penganga plain</td>
<td>Shallow and medium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>WARDHA WAINGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHOLAPUR</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARDHA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Wardha-Penganga plain</td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>WARDHA WAINGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YEOTMAL</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Wardha-Penganga plain</td>
<td>medium black and mixed red and black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>WARDHA WAINGAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAITHAN</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANMAD</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER GODAVARI</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KOLHAPUR</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER KRISHANA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSMANABAD</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POONA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Western Plateau</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RATNAGIRI</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td></td>
<td>laterite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SANAGLI</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Eastern plateau</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER KRISHANA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATARA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Western Plateau</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER KRISHANA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHULIA</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Tapi-purna valley</td>
<td>TAPI BASIN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JALGAON</td>
<td>Maharashtra</td>
<td>Tapi-purna valley</td>
<td>TAPI BASIN</td>
<td>TAPI WEST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADILABAD</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.GODAVARI</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Godavari delta</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KARIMNAGAR</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Godavari depression</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDAK</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**LIST OF DISTRICTS FALLING IN THE AREAS OF DIFFERENT RIVER BASINS AND THEIR SOIL TYPOLOGY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Soil Type</th>
<th>Basin</th>
<th>Sub-Basin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NIZAMABAD</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VISHAKAPATAN AM</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>red loamy, red sandy and coastal alluvium</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARANGAL</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Middle Godavari</td>
<td>red sandy, red loam and deep black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MIDDLE GODAVAR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W.GODAVARI</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Godavri delta</td>
<td>red sandy, mixed red and coastal alluvium black</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER GODAVARI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ANANTAPUR</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Rayalseema</td>
<td>red and black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GUNTUR</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Krishna delta</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HYDERABAD</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>red and shallow</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KHAMKHAM</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Godavari depression</td>
<td>sandy loam, clayey loam, and loam</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KRISHANA</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Krishana delta</td>
<td>deep black, red sandy and black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KURNOOL</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Rayalseema</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADARA B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAHBOOBNAGAR</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Telangana Plateau</td>
<td>deep, shallow black and red sandy loam</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADARA B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NALGONDA</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Krishna Piedmont plain</td>
<td>sandy loam, clayey loam, and loam</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARANGAL</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Godavari depression</td>
<td>red sandy, red loamy and deep black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>LOWER KRISHANA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUDDAPAH</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>Rayalseema</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NELLORE</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>coastal plain</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
<td>PENNER BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Region</td>
<td>Soil Type</td>
<td>Basin 1</td>
<td>Basin 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chittoor</td>
<td>AP</td>
<td>coastal plain</td>
<td>Penner Basin</td>
<td>Enner Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balghat</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Godavari Basin</td>
<td>Wardha Waingan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bastar</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>red loamy and red and yellow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chhindawara</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>shallow black and skeletal</td>
<td>Godavari Basin</td>
<td>Wardha Waingan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durg</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>red loamy and red and yellow</td>
<td>Mahi Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandala</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>red and yellow shallow black and skeletal</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raipur</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>red and yellow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seoni</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Godavari Basin</td>
<td>Wardha Waingan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betul</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>shallow black and skeletal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoshangabad</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>medium and deep black</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Nimar</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Nimar</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shadol</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Upland east</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandala</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jabalpur</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Narshimapur</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Narmada region</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sagar</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Sagar plateau</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td>Narmada Basin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Basin Area</td>
<td>Soil Type</td>
<td>River Basin</td>
<td>Soil Basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>---------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAMOH</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Sagar plateau</td>
<td>medium and deep black and medium</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAISEN</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Bhopal Plateau</td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEHORE</td>
<td>MP</td>
<td></td>
<td>medium black</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELGAUM</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>North Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red and black and laterite</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>MALPRABHA-GHATPRABHA BAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIDAR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>North Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red, sandy, laterite and medium</td>
<td>GODAVARI BASIN</td>
<td>MALPRABHA-GHATPRABHA BAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BELARY</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Central Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red and black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIJAPUR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>North Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIKMANGLUR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td></td>
<td>red and laterite</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHITRADURGA</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Central Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHARWAR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Central Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red, black and brown</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>MALPRABHA-GHATPRABHA BAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GULBURGA</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>North Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>BHIMA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KANARA</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Karnataka Coastal</td>
<td>laterite</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAICHUR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Central Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red and black</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHIMOGA</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Central Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red, black and alluvium</td>
<td>KRISHANA BASIN</td>
<td>TUNGABHADRA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COORG</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td></td>
<td>red loamy, clay, laterite</td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# LIST OF DISTRICTS FALLING IN THE AREAS OF DIFFERENT RIVER BASINS AND THEIR SOIL TYPOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Soil Type</th>
<th>River Basin</th>
<th>Sub-Basin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MYSORE</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Southern Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red</td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDAYA</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Southern Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td></td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HASSAN</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Southern Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>loam</td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BANGLORE</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Southern Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>light brown and red soil</td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUMKUR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td>Southern Karnataka Plateau</td>
<td>red soil</td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GOONNOR</td>
<td>Karnataka</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CAUVERI BASIN</td>
<td>UPPER CAUVERI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROACH</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td></td>
<td>black and coastal alluvium</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
<td>NARMADA BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SURAT</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarat plain</td>
<td>medium black and deep black</td>
<td>TAPI BASIN</td>
<td>WESTERN TAPI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARODA</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarat plain</td>
<td>medium and deep black and coastal alluvium</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PANCHAMAHAL</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Eastern Hilly region</td>
<td>medium black and grey brown</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SABARKANtha</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td></td>
<td>medium black soil and rich loam</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
<td>MAHI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAPADWANJA</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SABARKANtha</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarati plain</td>
<td>medium black soil, rich loam</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BANASKANtha</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarati plain</td>
<td>shallow andy soils and sandy loam</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIST OF DISTRICTS FALLING IN THE AREAS OF DIFFERENT RIVER BASINS AND THEIR SOIL TYPOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Soil Type</th>
<th>River Basin</th>
<th>Soil Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEHSANA</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarat plain</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AHMEDABAD</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Gujarat plain, sandy, rich loam</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KAIRA</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>black soil and rich loam</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMNAGAR</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Kathiawar Peninsula</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAJKOT</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Kathiawar Peninsula</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SURENDRANAGAR</td>
<td>Gujarat</td>
<td>Kathiawar Peninsula</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
<td>SABARMATI BASIN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>