While delivering lectures to students on the political and cultural history of Gujarat, I, not infrequently, realised that the administrative organization in Gujarat during the Ancient Period has not received adequate study.

Hence when I chose to do research for the degree of Ph.D., I selected that subject for my thesis.

As regards the previous works on the administrative organization in the Ancient History of Gujarat, it may be noticed that the various designations of officers of the Maitraka kingdom were enumerated and explained in brief in Vol. I of Bombay Gazetteer and in Professor R.C. Parikh's Introduction to Kavyamud-sā-sāmanā. A small chapter was devoted to the Administration of the Maitraka Period in the published works of Dr. H.G. Shastri and Dr. K.J. Virji. Similarly Dr. A.K. Majumdar contributed a chapter on the Administration of the Chaulukya kingdom in his 'Chaulukyas of Gujarat.' Dr. M.K. Bhatt and Dr. N.A. Acharya dealt with the
Administration of the Post Maitraka Period and Vaghela Period respectively but their theses are not published. Dr. Sankalia also made a cursory survey of administration in his works on Archaeology and Historical Geography of Gujarat.

Here I have studied the Administrative Organization of all these successive periods in detail, presented it in a linked form and tried to trace the adoptions of common concepts from the preceding kingdoms and note the innovations introduced by the different kingdoms.

The general features of Administrative Organization of Gujarat are well studied on the basis of epigraphic and literary records. A detailed study of its salient features requires a minute and exhaustive investigation into all available data. But the region of Gujarat is so spacious and its history is so extensive and varied that the data must first be studied chronologically as well as territorially. With this view I have aimed at collecting and examining all the available data supplied by the epigraphic, numismatic and literary records of Gujarat.
The documented history of Gujarat commences with the Mauryan Period but the information available about the administrative organization is meagre for early times up to the end of the Gupta period in the history of Gujarat. It is with the rise of the Maitraka dynasty in circa 470 A.C., that the ancient kingdoms of Gujarat have left considerably profuse data for an intensive study of the Administrative Organization and its working. The copper-plate grants of land have proved to be a copious and valuable source of information for the Maitraka kingdom and the contemporary kingdoms in Gujarat as well.

After the fall of the Maitraka dynasty the Rashtrakutas attained prominent power in mainland Gujarat, while peninsular Gujarat was divided into several local kingdoms. The main source of information continues to be copper-plate grants even for this period, designated here, 'The Post-Maitraka Period' (788 A.C. to 942 A.C.).

The Chaulukya dynasty of Anahilwad Patan in North Gujarat gradually developed into an extensive and powerful kingdom in Western India. It extended its sway over almost all the parts of Gujarat and even over several adjoining territories. The copper-plate grants are now
supplemented by Stone-inscriptions and Literary records like Lekha-paddhati. Even the numismatic source comes forth to a certain extent.

In some parts of Gujarat, especially the South Gujarat, some other kingdoms continued to exist, but their power remained to be subordinate comparatively.

Thus I have here commenced with the Maitraka period in the history of Gujarat and proceeded up to the end of the Chaulukya (Solanki) period, which makes an outstanding landmark in the history of Gujarat as it witnessed the end of Hindu rule and the establishment of Muslim rule in the region. On the whole the entire period covers a long span of about eight centuries (from circa 470 A.C. to 1304 A.C.).

As for the Ancient Period in the History of Gujarat there is no systematic work on administrative organization left by any author of those times. Hence we have to collect information from the stray and incidental references contained in the epigraphic and literary records of those periods and an analysis of the material supplied by the available sources indicates that some detailed information is available only with respect to certain
aspects of Administrative Organization, especially the king and his titles, the civil and local officers and the units of administration. I have drafted the respective chapters according to the topics of the material available about the corresponding periods.

In this work I have tried to collect all the available data and classified them according to different periods and kingdoms.

In this study I have generally relied on the contemporary records of the different periods, published works, journals, collections and lexicons. The sources of information are indicated in the foot-notes. Necessary particulars about the sources are enumerated in the Bibliography and Abbreviations.

A detailed study of the available data collected from epigraphic and literary records of the successive periods reveals not only an interesting history of the development and expansion but also some innovations and modifications in the boundaries of the respective periods.

To the best of my knowledge, the Administrative Organization given in the epigraphic and literary records of Gujarat was not examined before so minutely and critically.
The following points deserve special consideration as many of them embody results of my original contribution:

1. I have collected the various titles assumed by feudatories, independent kings and Emperors and classified them according to the various stages of their political power. (Ch.1.)

2. The virtues and duties of the king are inferred from the emolgy of the kings. (Ch.2.)

3. The peculiar principle of royal succession in the Maitraka dynasty is compared to that of the Western Kshatrapas. (PP. 50 ff.)

4. The various designations of officers are classified and elucidated more exhaustively (Ch.3). In this context special attention may be drawn to the new interpretation of ' Baladhiikrita'. (P.75)

5. Dr. Miss Virji's observation about inter se relation between the Dranga and the Sthali is shown to be untenable. (P.150)

6. The various units of land measurements and the numerous types of state revenue are discussed in detail. (Ch.6)
7. The later types of coins bearing the name of S'arvva are ascribed to the Maitraka kings and the continuance of the name of the progenitor on coins is compared to that on the royal seal. (P.198)

8. The exact denotation of the word 'Rupaka' given in a copper-plate grant is suggested. (P.201)

9. The contents of the Maitraka copper-plate grants are analysed and classified into Three Main Groups. (Chapter 7.)

10. The various data supplied by the recently discovered charter of Vishnushena, especially regarding forced labour, fines, currency, weight measures, sources of state revenue and rules about legal action, are here presented in the context of Administrative Organization. (PP. 213 ff.)

11. The available administrative data pertaining to the other kingdoms of the Maitraka period are studied kingdomwise. (Ch.8)

12. A similar study is made about the various kingdoms of the Post-Maitraka Period. (Ch.9)
13. I have suggested the probable meaning of 'Vaitanki' given in the Saindhava grants. (p.333)

14. The administrative data supplied by the Rashtrakuta copper-plate grants are studied in detail. (Ch. 10). In this context it is observed that the various groups of villages mentioned here bear testimony to the maxim of groupifying villages given in the Literary works. (PP. 352 - 353).

15. Data about the designations of various officers of the Chaulukya kingdom are collected from the available literary and epigraphic sources, and classified according to the different departments. (Ch. 11 and 12).

16. I have pointed out that the department of Sri Kama was mentioned since the reign of Jayasimha and not that of Kumarapala as mentioned by A.K. Majumdar. (p.393 and n).)

17. Here I have discussed inter se relation between Sachiva and Mantrin (PP. 341 ff.) and elucidated the significance of 'Sarvesvara' (PP. 343 f.)
18. According to A.K. Majumdar Nagada was holding some minor ministry prior to V.S. 1517, but I have shown that he was already Mahamatya in V.S. 1510. (PP. 395 f.)

19. I have suggested the distinction between Mahamatya and Mahamantrin (P.398).

20. I have explained the significance of 'Mahamauhurtika' (P.399).

21. I have pointed out the distinction between S'ayyapala and S'ayyagrahaka, differing from D.C. Sircar who takes both terms synonymously. (P.409 and n.)

22. The high status of Mahapradhana is re-assessed. (P.416).

23. The meaning of 'Tantrapala' is discussed in detail. (PP. 416 - 421).

24. I have suggested the meaning of 'Kheta-mantri' (P.427).
25. The meaning of 'Paṭṭakila' is discussed in detail. (P.429)

26. A new meaning of 'samasta-māndavi-pathakīyakānām pratisārinām' is suggested. (PP.435 ff.)

27. I have suggested a new meaning of 'Des'ādhikārī' and 'ādhikārī'. (P.437)

28. I have explained the denotation of 'Bhandārī' (P.439) and 'Selahatha' (P.445)

29. It is shown that the term 'Bhaṭṭaputra' denotes a military officer rather than a judicial one. (P.457)

30. A detail account of the corporate bodies for Urban and Rural administration is given. (PP.459 ff)

31. I have enumerated the functions of Pañchakula exhaustively. (PP. 477 ff)

32. I have enumerated the thirty two Karanās in L.P., slightly differing from Shrigondekar and A.K. Majumdar. (PP.491, 498, 512, 521, 522)
33. I have corrected the meaning of 'Vyaya-karaṇa' (P.488)

34. I have explained the denotation of 'Karmakara-karaṇa' (PP. 512-513)

35. I have corrected the view of A.K. Majumdar about the function of 'Mahākṣapatālika' (P.518,n.)

36. I have given the denotation of 'Suvāma-karaṇa' (P.522)

37. I have indicated the propriety of the variant reading 'Kosādi' in place of 'kosṭikā' (P.522).

38. I have suggested a correct version for 'Ihakeka-mandala' (P.531,n)

39. The significance of 'sva-bhujya-māna' and 'nija-bhuja-upārjita' is explained (PP.544-547).

40. I have suggested the significance of the maxim of gift (P.548).
41. The term 'Kalasikā-vapa' is explained. (PP. 557-558)

42. I have suggested the meaning of 'Chhaṁhā' (P. 559)

43. 'Pāśa' is identified with 'Rajju' (PP. 560 ff).

44. The correct meaning of 'Mallaka' is given. (P. 573).

45. I have discussed the various weights and measures of the Chaulukya Period in detail (PP. 595 ff).

46. The significance of the term 'Maṇa' is elucidated (P. 599)

47. I have collected all the available data about coins - numismatic, epigraphic and literary. (Ch. 16)

48. I have discussed the significance of 'Jīrṇa' in association with 'Vishvamallapriya' and suggested a new meaning (PP. 635 ff)
49. I have discussed the intersection relation between 'Pana' and 'Karshapana' and that between other types of coins. (PP. 648-649, 671-676)

50. The significance of 'Iohita' as material of coins is elucidated. (P. 666)

51. I have examined the association of the Emblem of Laxmi with the Chaulukya coins and explained the significance of the Emblem in this context. (PP. 676-78).

52. To the best of my knowledge the contents of the Chaulukya grant edicts are analysed and classified for the first time. (Ch. 17)

53. The assumption about the correspondence between the plates and inscribed sides, made by the editor of the Navsari plate of Karṇa I is corrected. (P. 682)

54. An exhaustive study of all the known contemporary kingdoms of the Chaulukya Period and their Administrative Organization is made here for the first time. (Ch. 18)
55. I have given the correct meaning of 'Marun - mahi - mandala' (P.752).

56. From a comparative study of the records I have suggested the impact of Marcella copper-plate on the Ganadevi Stone Inscription. (P.777)

57. I have discussed the correct number of the plates of the grant of Chamundaraja. (PP.796-97)

58. In the last chapter I have endeavoured to trace the probable sources of the various aspects of Administrative Organization in the different periods as well as indicate the innovations made therein by the different kingdoms of Gujarat from the Maitraka Period to the Chaulukya Period. Almost the entire chapter embodies my original contribution. Special attention may be drawn to various designations of officers (PP.825-830, 860, 861, 892-894, 939-943), units of administration (PP.830-833, 906-907, 946-950), revenue terms (PP.833-835, 932, 950-954), documentary form of grants (PP.836-847, 856-867, 908-923, 962-978, etc.), benedictive and imprecatory verses quoted in grants (PP.847-855, 865-867,
The date of the Arab attack mentioned in the grant of Avanijana-raya Pulakesi is examined critically and the view of V.V. Mirashi is corrected (PP. 876-77).

60. I have discussed the meaning of 'Nibaddha' used in grants (PP. 881-82).

61. Attention is drawn to the elevation of the 'Mahasandhivigrahanika' in the Chaulukya kingdom (P.975).

62. I have explained the significance of 'Vadi 30' (P.981).

63. The different charters of Chaulukyas of Mandipura are compared internally and the impact of the difference in their forms is accounted for (PP.994 ff).
64. The impact of the Chaulukya kingdom of North Gujarat over some of the contemporary kingdoms in other parts of Gujarat is indicated. (PP. 979-982, 984 - 986, 990 - 991, 994, 995 - 997).

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