CHAPTER-V

THE SISODIAS OF MEWAR

Mewar is situated in the south-west of Rajputana. During Mughal period it constituted Sarkar of Chittor of Ajmer Suba. Mewar was a very important state from economic point of view because the entire trade from the Yamuna-Ganga doab to the ports of the west coasts passed through Mewar or close to its boundary. The country had for centuries been ruled by the Sisodia clan of Rajputs. They undoubtedly were the most respected rulers among the Rajputs and enjoyed the position of unchallenged supremacy for many centuries.

From the very beginning of the establishment of the Mughal rule in India the relation between the Mughals and the rulers of Mewar continued to remain hostile until the year 1615. The founder of the Mughal Empire Babur came into contact of Mewar even before his invasion of India. He had entered into an alliance with Rana Sangram Singh the ruler of Mewar against Ibrahim Lodi. In his memoirs Babur gives details of his alliance in the following passage:

"While we were still in Kabul, Rana Sanga had sent an envoy to testify to his good wishes and to propose this plan: "if the honoured Padshah will come to near Dihli from that side, I from this will move on Agra". But I beat Ibrahim, I took Dihli and Agra, and up to now that pagan has given no sign so ever of moving."

But the alliance remained short lived. Rana Sangram Singh did not come to his help as promised, against Ibrahim Lodi at the battle of Panipat. On the contrary he started making preparations to expel Babur, and at the head of a large army headed towards the plan of Khanva. After this defeat the power and

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1 Baburnama, tr., S. Baveridge, volume 2, p. 98
2 Ibid, II, p. 529
3 Ibid, II, pp. 529-30; Ojha I, pp.373-74
4 For details regarding the development upto Khanva see Baburnama, II, pp. 529-30,545-50,556-58,562-63,568-73; Humayunnama, tr., Baveridge, p.98; M.U. II, p.202
prestige of the state of Mewar considerably declined. Unfortunately Rana Sangram Singh died on 30 Jan. 1527 and after his death succession crisis started among his sons, which further weakened the state of Mewar. Although Ratan Singh succeeded to the throne but Rani Karmeti still espoused the cause of Udai Singh and approached Babur with the offer of submission provided he helped Udai Singh to succeed on the throne of Mewar. But Babur declined to interfere in the internal matters of Mewar. The dissension among Sardars of Mewar however, continued. Ratan Singh died after a brief rule of about four years in 1531 and was succeeded by his half brother Vikramajit. He was an extremely incompetent ruler, and because of that very soon he become unpopular among his Sardars. A group of nobles hatched a conspiracy, killed him and raised Vanbir on the throne in 1536. But shortly afterwards the situation at the court took an ugly turn because a large number of nobles not only refused to accept him as the ruler of Mewar but raised Udai Singh son of Sangram at Kumbhalmer in 1537. Mewar was divided into two rival groups and each group tried to humble the other by its military power. Both group made hectic preparation for a final war to settle the issue of succession, but at the last moment Vanbir left the claim of gaddi and Udai Singh succeeded to the throne of Chittor in 1540.

Due to continuous struggle which lasted for almost a decade (1530-1540) Mewar became militarily so weak that Bahadur Shah the ruler of Gujrat attacked Chittor twice, and in his second attack captured Chittor. On both the occasions the Raja and his mother Karmeti appealed to the Mughal Emperor

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1. Baburnama, II, p.597
2. Baburnama, II, pp.612-13; Vir vinod, II, p.4
3. Vanvir was the prince of the same clan and son of Prithviraj
4. Virvinod, II, p.63; Tod I, pp.253-54
5. Akbarnama, I, pp.130-31; Nainsi Khyat, I, p.54; Vir vinod, II, pp.28-33
Humayun to come to his rescue.\(^1\) In 1535 as soon as he came to know of the attack on Chittor by Bahadur Shah, Humayun immediately proceeded towards Chittor and on the way he also received a message of the ruler of Mewar. As he was already on his way to Chittor, and he continued his journey to that direction, after meeting the emissary of the Rana one may believe that Humayun’s response to the appeal was quite positive.\(^2\) But after reaching Gwalior he did not move any further.\(^3\) It is still a matter of inquiry as to why he did not launch an attack on Bahadur Shah and preferred to follow the policy of wait and watch. However, with the coming of Humayun so close to the theatre of war, Bahadur Shah was forced to accept the terms of treaty already offered by Vikramajit. Although the terms of the treaty were quite humiliating but Chittor was saved from complete defeat.\(^4\) The second attack on Chittor by Bahadur Shah was more serious and was part of a grand offensive launched by Bahadur Shah on Mughal Empire. Humayun took this campaign much more seriously and marched towards Chittor from Delhi at the head of a large army.\(^5\) He is also said to have received an appeal of help from the ruler of Mewar. Rani Karmawati also sends him a Rakhi a mere emotional way for securing help from Humayun. On this occasion again Humayun’s initial response was very positive and he rapidly moved on and reached Sarangpur. However, at this point he received a message from Bahadur Shah who requested him not to attack him at this juncture as he was engaged in a holy war (jehad) with the Rajputs. Whether in response to this appeal of Bahadur Shah or because of some other considerations, Humayun did not move any further until the fall

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1. For details see, K.R.Qanungo, *Sher Shah and his times*, Orient longman, 1965, pp.163-66; Tod, I, pp.360-69; *Vir vinod*, II, p.27
2. *Humayunama*, p.116; Satish Chandra, *Mughal religious policies, the Rajputs and the Deccan*, NewDelhi,1993, pp.11-12
3. *Vir vinod*, II, p.127; *Sher Shah and his times*, pp.163-66
4. *Nainsi Khayat*, I, p.54; *Vir vinod*, II, p.27
5. *Vir vinod*, II, pp.29-30

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Bahadur Shah succeeded in humbling Chittor and in a way he emerged as one of the most powerful ruler of India. He was now in a position to confront Humayun and seriously challenge his position as the ruler of Northern India. It is another matter that he could not capitalise with the advantages, but Humayun gained nothing by remaining neutral even after reaching so close to Chittor that too when Chittor was still in the possession of Rajputs. Had he helped Mewar at that juncture not only Chittor would have been saved, Humayun would have also gained immense loyale and affection of not only the ruling family but also of a large number of Mewar chiefs. Besides that Bahadur Shah would have been defeated in that very battle.

The power and prestige of Mewar among the rulers of Rajputana as a consequence of the humiliation suffered at the hands of the rulers of Gujrat considerably declined. Although Rana Vikramajit recovered Chittor in 1535, but due to internal dissension and growing power of Rao Maldeo of Marwar, Mewar remained a weak state until the emergence of Rana Udai Singh (1540). He made sincere efforts to end internal dissension and taking advantage of the conflict between Sher Shah and Rao Maldeo forced local chiefs to accept his overlordship. After defeating Maldeo in 1544 at Sumel, Sher Shah marched towards Chittor. Rana Udai Singh realising his inability to defend the fort, surrendered its keys without offering any resistance. Sher Shah apparently appreciated this gesture and allowed the Rana to remain in possession of his territories. Rana recovered Chittor and made earnest efforts not only to

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1 Akbarnama, I, pp.130-31
2 Akbarnama, I, p.132; Virvinod, II, pp.32-33; Ojha I, p.400
3 Virvinod, II, pp.32-33; Ojha I, p.400
4 Virvinod, II, p.138; Sher Shah and his times, p.329, 332
5 For details see, Mughal religious policies, the Rajputs and the Deccan, p.15; A.R.khan, p.98; G.N. Sharma, p.62
consolidate but also expand his kingdom.\(^1\) He even supported Haji Khan in his campaign against Marwar in 1556.\(^2\) But this alliance broke down shortly and we find that the region of Rajasthan was divided into two hostile camps comprising Haji Khan and Marwar on the one side and Mewar along with about ten local chiefs including Rao Durga Sisodia on the other side.\(^3\) Rana Udai Singh however, had to suffer a humiliating defeat at the hands of Haji Khan at Harmada in 1557 and lost Merta.\(^4\)

However, situation changed after the reconquest of India by Humayun and his sudden death in 1556. Taking advantage of the internal dissension among Rajputs, Mughal forces under Qasim Khan captured Ajmer and Jaitaran (territories of Haji Khan and Marwar) and in a way left Rana Udai Singh free to strengthen his power and position.\(^5\) However, for about a decade (1556-66) we have hardly any evidence to indicate any direct contact of the ruler of Mewar with the Mughal authorities. In 1559 Akbar sent an expedition under Qasim Khan against Rao Surjan Hada of Ranthambhore an ally of Rana Udai Singh. But the siege on Ranthambhore was raised because of Bairam Khan's revolt and the campaign failed.\(^6\) However, in 1561 when Akbar marched on Malwa and passed through Ranthambhore, Rao Surjan offered his submission but requested exemption from personal presence.\(^7\) Our sources are silent about the details of settlements. But it is important to note that Rana Udai Singh on both the occasions did not come out openly to support his ally. It seems, Rana at that moment was more interested in consolidating his position and therefore avoided

\(^1\) Haji Khan was a distinguished slave of Sher Khan, *Akbarnama*, III, p.20; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.64-65, 69-70; *Nainsi khayat*, I, pp.59-60,127

\(^2\) *Akbarnama*, II, p.46; *Vigat*, II, p.60; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.70-71, 812

\(^3\) *Nainsi Khayat*, I, pp.60-61; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.70-71,812; A.R.Khan, p.99

\(^4\) *Akbarnama*,II, pp.46160; *Vir vinod*, II, p.72, 812; V.S.Bhargava, p.37. But G.N. Sharma writes that Udai Singh and his allies defeated Haji Khan Pathan in 1556. (G.N.Sharma, p.64)

\(^5\) *Akbarnama*, II, p.45-46, 66; *Vigat*, p.495

\(^6\) *Akbarnama*, II, pp.45-46,66, 88

\(^7\) Ibid, II, p.140
any direct confrontation with the Mughal Empire. However, it is important to note that in 1566 Shakti Singh brother of Udai Singh came to Mughal court and joined imperial service.

The Rana was largely successful in his efforts because he was able to bring under his control large areas of Mewar and emerged as the most powerful territorial chief in Rajputana. Abul Fazl writes that:

"whole of the Sarkar of Chittor corresponds to it (Mewar). Its length is 40 kuroh and the breadth is 30 kuroh. It has three very famous forts, Chittor the capital, Kumbalgarh and Mandal. The chief of the country was formerly called Rawat but for a long time past has been known as Rana. He is of the Gehlot Clan and considers himself a descendant of Nausherwan the just.

He further writes:

"the strength of this bumi consists of 16,000 cavalry and 40,000 infantry but formerly they possessed many other territories so much so that Rana Sanga commanded 1,80,000 cavalry and numerous infantry."

As mentioned above Rana Udai Singh had grown much powerful and started behaving in hostile manner against Mughal Empire. He started giving protection to all those elements who were either expelled by the Mughal forces or were rebels against the Empire. In 1562 he welcomed Jaimal of Merta who was defeated by the Mughal commander Sharfuddin Hussain Mirza. He had also given shelter to Baz Bahadur of Malwa in 1563. Therefore, after the suppression of the revolt of Uzbeks, Akbar started making preparations for a campaign in Rajputana and sometimes in 1567 he marched towards that region.

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1 Rana captured the territories of Juda, Ogamma, Panwara, phulia, Barod, Bransore, Bhoramand and Badnor during this period (*Vir vinod*, II, p. 87; G.N.Sharma, p.65)
2 *Akbarnama*, II, p.69; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.73-74
3 *Ain*, II, p.128
4 Ibid, p.129
5 *Akbarnama*, II, pp.196-97; *Tabaqat*, II, p. 283
6 *Akbarnama*, II, p.69
at the head of large army with the intention of conquering Chittor, and punishing Baz Bahadur who had taken shelter there. Shakti Singh who had joined imperial service also accompanied the Emperor. After reaching Dholpur, the Emperor asked him to help imperial army in the successful completion of the campaign. Shakti Singh promised to do his best for the success of the imperial army but escaped to Chittor and informed the Rana about the real state of imperial army.\(^1\) In spite of Shakti Singh's flight, Akbar continued his journey towards Chittor. When the Rana came to know of the approach of the Mughal army close to Chittor, he called a meeting of his Sardars\(^2\) and after a discussion decided to retire into deep valley leaving the fort of Chittor to the care of Jaimal and Patta with 5,000 troopers\(^3\). The Mughal forces led by the Emperor marched on and captured Supar, Mandalgarh and Rampur and afterwards laid the siege of Chittor.\(^4\) After a siege of four months, the fort of Chittor was conquered and assigned to Khwaja Abdul Majid Asaf Khan (1568).\(^5\) The capture of Chittor was followed by a short siege and surrender of Ranthambhore in 1569. The conquest of Chittor was quite significant for the young Mughal ruler because soon after this victory almost all important states of Rajputana such as Jodhpur, Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Bundi, Sirohi and Dungarpur accepted the overlordship of Akbar. Rana Udai Singh however still defied imperial authority from his new headquarter at Rajpipli in southern hills of Mewar.\(^6\) But for the moment he could not create any serious problem for the Empire.\(^7\) Akbar also did not take any immediate action against him because he

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1. *Akbarnama*, II, p.302; *M.U.*, II, pp.201-2; *Tod* I, pp.269-70; *Vir vinod*, II, p.74
2. *Virvinod*, II, pp.74-75
4. Akbar rejected all talks of a compromise till the Rana came and tendered personal allegiance. (*Abarnama*, II, pp.303,313-23,395-98; *M.U.*, II, pp.201-2; *Vir vinod*, II,p.76)
5. *Akbarnama*, II, pp.324, 408-9; *Virvinod*, II, pp.72-73,76
6. *Akbarnama*, II, p.358; *Virvinod*, II, pp.82-83
7. In 1571 Rana Udai Singh again gave shelter to Baz Bahadur when he was wandering after his expulsion from Malwa. (*Akbarnama*, II, p.358)
was called upon to tackle problem in Marwar, which at that moment appeared to be much more important.

After the conquest of Gujarat, Mewar again drew the attention of the Emperor. He knew fully well that without resolving the Mewar problem, his alliance with other Rajput states could not become stable. Incidentally in the same year (1572) Rana Udai Singh died and after a brief war of succession Rana Pratap succeeded as the ruler of Mewar at Gogunda.\(^1\) Shortly afterwards he transferred his capital to a much safer place called Kumbalgarh.\(^2\) Anxious to bring Mewar under the subordination of the Mughals on the same terms and condition which were offered to other Rajput chieftains, Akbar sent successive embassies to the court of Rana Pratap\(^3\). The first emissary sent was Jalal Khan Qurchi (sept.1572).\(^4\) The court historian writes that he failed to convince Pratap to accept the overlordship of the Mughals and returned disappointed. Raja Man Singh who was sent in June 1573\(^5\) also failed to achieve the desired result, although according to Abul Fazl he was courteously received by Rana Pratap.\(^6\) In Oct. 1573 Akbar yet another attempt to woo Pratap and dispatch Raja Bhagwant Das the Kachhwaha chief and the leading Rajput noble at the Mughal court. Rana Pratap now responded positively; he agreed to accept the subordination of the Mughals and also agreed to send his son Amar Singh to

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\(^1\) Rana Udai Singh had nominated his favourite son Jagmal to the throne in preference to his eldest son Pratap Singh. Shakti Singh second son of Udai Singh was out of question as during the lifetime of his father he had left Chittor and joined the service of Akbar. But Rana Pratap with the help of his maternal uncle Rai Akhai of Jalor, Ram Prasad of Gwalior and some other leading chiefs of Mewar dethroned Jagmal and succeeded to the throne. Then Jagmal left Mewar and joined the Mughal service. (Akbarnama, II, p.380; Vir vinod, II, p.146; Tod I, p.282)

\(^2\) Virvinod, II, p.146

\(^3\) Akbarnama, III, pp.40, 66-67; Mughal religious policies, the Rajputs and the Deccan, p.25

\(^4\) Mughal religious policies, the Rajputs and the Deccan, p.25

\(^5\) Akbarnama, III, pp.5, 33-34, 40

\(^6\) Albarnama, III, p.40; G.N.Sharma, pp.79-80
serve in the imperial army. But at the same time he requested that he may be excused from personal presence at the court because he himself and his well wishers have certain misgivings. However, he promised that as soon as his apprehensions were removed he would attend the imperial court personally. From the above it is quite clear that Rana Pratap was willing to accept the subordination of the Mughals but before coming personally to court he wanted to see the reaction of his own people to the alliance and the reaction of the Emperor on his request. But when the Emperor was informed about Rana Pratap's reluctance to submit personally, he overreacted and completely rejected the terms of the understanding reached between Bhagwant Das and Rana Pratap, insisting on Rana Pratap's personal presence. After the failure of the attempt made by the embassies, the attitude of Akbar hardened and consequently a powerful army under the command of Man Singh was sent to punish Rana Pratap. The Emperor personally went to Ajmer on March 1576 to supervise the plan of action. As is well known the Mughal forces defeated Rana Pratap in the battle of Haldi Ghati on June 1576. Rana Pratap however, escaped from the battlefield and took shelter at Koliyari a hilly town in the west of Gogunda (southern Mewar).

After this victory the Emperor returned to the capital. Rana Pratap on the other hand after recovering from his injuries too returned to Kumbalgarh and started making efforts to recover his lost position. He also successfully formed

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1 Akbarnama, III, pp.40, 66-67
3 For details see Akbarnama, III, pp.166, 173-75, 185, 191-93, 195, 216-18; Vinod, II, pp.150-53
4 Vinod, II, p.153
5 He harassed the Mughal troops by cutting off supplies and succeeded in re-establishing his power in Gogunda and expelled the Mughal garrison from there. (Akbarnama, III, p.238; Vinod, II, p.155; G.N. Sharma p.107)
an alliance of a group of Rajput chiefs against the Mughals.\(^1\) Having came to know of these hostile activities of Pratap, Akbar personally moved to Ajmer along with Bhagwant Das and Man Singh to take action against him and other hostile Rajput chiefs. The presence of the Emperor at Ajmer followed by strong military action had desired results. The rulers of Idar, Sirohi, Banswara, and Dungarpur surrendered one after the other and accepted the overlordship of the Mughals.\(^2\) Rana Pratap too was forced to flee from Gogunda which was reoccupied.\(^3\) Although he continued to defy the imperial authority until his death in 1597 but he was completely isolated in Rajputana. None of the Rajput chiefs henceforth came out to support him at any stage of his life. However, he continued to offer resistance taking advantage of the imperial campaign in the eastern region.\(^4\) Although several important military commanders such as Bhagwant Das(1577),\(^5\) Shahbaz Khan Kamboh(1577),\(^6\) Abdur Rahim Khan-i-Khanan (1580)\(^7\) and Raja Jagannath (1584)\(^8\) were dispatched against him one after the other, but they failed to compel Rana to join Imperial service. However, the region of Mewar was completely devastated due to these campaigns and Rana’s strength further declined. The Rana however got some respite when after the death of Mirza Hakim (1581) Akbar moved towards Kabul and after returning from their stayed at Lahore for several years to contain Abdullah Khan Uzbeks the ruler of Central Asia. The Rana along with

\(^1\) For further strengthening his position the Rana formed an alliance of a powerful number of chiefs of Rajputana such as Narain Das of Idar, Rao Surtan of Sirohi and Chandra Sen of Marwar. (Akbarnama, III, p.164)
\(^2\) For details regarding these development see Akbarnama, III, pp.164-65,190-92
\(^3\) Akbarnama, III, pp.190-94
\(^4\) For more details see, Akbarnama, III, pp.218, 238-39,413,468; Vir vinod, II, pp.146, 157-59,163-64
\(^5\) Akbarnama, III, pp.169-70
\(^6\) Ibid, pp.204-5, 221
\(^7\) Ibid, p.221
\(^8\) Ibid, p.442

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his son Amar Singh utilised this opportunity in recapturing large portions of Mewar. He also laid the foundation of a new capital at Chauwand.

After his death in 1597 his eldest son and successor Amar Singh continued the policy of his father for some time. But due to continuous wars, his military power considerably declined and he lost much of his territories. As a consequence his feudal chiefs became quite powerful and Chandawats and Shaiktawats started fighting among themselves to extend their power and position. In these circumstances any serious attempts to recover the lost territories of Mewar was not possible. Amar Singh worked hard to improve the internal working of his state and also tried to improve his relationship with his Samants. But while he was still busy in bringing his house to order, Akbar once again launch an offensive on Mewar in 1599. He appointed Prince Salim as the commander of the army along with Raja Man Singh with headquarter at Ajmer. But Salim took no direct interest in the operations as he was more seriously engaged in hatching a conspiracy to capture the Mughal throne. After making a short visit to Udaipur, he left it completely on Man Singh. In these circumstances Mughal forces succeeded only in establishing out post at Untala, Mohi, Bagore, Mandal, Mandalgarh, Chittor and other places, but failed to achieve the desire result. Shortly afterwards Man Singh had to go to Bengal due to Usman's revolt and Salim marched away towards Agra. Akbar was greatly displeased with the outcome of the campaign, but due to Salim's rebellion no action could be taken immediately. In 1603 once again Akbar decided to launch

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1 Akbarnama, III, pp.218, 238-39, 413, 468; Vir vinod, II, pp.146, 157-59, 163-64
2 Vir vinod, II, p.241
3 A clan so called after Chunda (G.D.Sharma pp.120-21)
4 The clan which claimed its descent from Sakta a son of Udai Singh (G.D. Sharma, pp.120-21)
5 Akbarnama, III, pp.575, 763, 831, 1140-41, 1155
6 Iqbalnama, II, p.468
7 Akbarnama, III, p.819
8 Akbarnama, III, p.831; Tuzuk, p.7; Iqbalnama, II, p.468
a campaign on Mewar. Prince Salim along with a number of leading nobles of the Empire (i.e. Jagannath, Madho Singh, Sadiq Khan etc.) was ordered to proceed towards Mewar to complete the task left unfinished in 1599. But Salim refused to comply with the orders. Without waiting any further Akbar appointed Khusrau to take up the command but the campaign could not make much progress because of Akbar’s illness and subsequent confusion at the court following his death.¹

From the above discussion it is quite clear that Akbar during his life time failed to bring his contemporary Sisodia chiefs Rana Pratap and Amar Singh to accept the overlordship of the Mughals. But by his large scale military operations, he was able to established from time to time a number of thanas in the territories of Mewar and the authority of Sisodias was confined to the south-western hilly tracts of Mewar.² Besides that he was also successful in winning over Jagmal and Shakti Singh two prominent princes of Mewar to his side. Rai Durga Sisodia of Rampura and several others vassal chiefs of Mewar such as Dungarpur, Banswara, Jaisalmer and Sirohi also accepted the overlordship of the Mughals. A brief account of Jagmal, Sakti Singh and Rai Durga is being given in the following pages.

Jagmal a younger brother of Rana Pratap, after the death of his father challenged the claims of his elder brother Pratap and organised his own group to seize the throne. But having failed to dethrone Pratap, he left Mewar and with the help of the Subedar of Ajmer, joined Mughal service and obtained Jahazpur in jagir.³ Later on in 1581 he got half of Sirohi in Tiyut.⁴ He was killed in 1583, when a conflict arose between him and Rao Surtan of Sirohi, the

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¹ Iqbalnama, II, p.496; Vir vinod, II, p.243
² Akbarnama, III, p.413; Vir vinod, II, p.146
³ Vir vinod, II, 146; Ojha, Ib, p.424
⁴ Akbarnama, III, p.413; Nainsi Khyat I, pp.131-32
nominee of his father-in-law Rao Man Singh.¹

Shakti Singh alias Sakta another brother of Pratap had joined Mughal service during the life time of his father in 1566. But he left Akbar and joined his father again in 1567.² After the death of his father he rejoined Mughal service as he had no chance of getting the throne of Mewar. But we have very little information about his later career; even the date of his joining Mughal service is not available to us. Ain however, records him among the mansabdar of 200.³

Rai Durga Sisodia is generally called in the Akbarnama as Rai Durga Chandrawat. The home of the family was the Pargana of Rampura near Chittor. Rai Durga Sisodia loyally served Emperor Akbar and Jahangir in various military campaigns.⁴ He was also assigned several important administrative assignments. In 1583 when large scale administrative reforms were introduced, he was associated with the administration Khalsa, specially looking after the appointment and dismissal of the Khalasa officials.⁵ In 1586 he was appointed Subedar of Ajmer along with Jagannath.⁶ From the above it may be suggested that apart from Kachhwahas and Rathors, Akbar also made some efforts to associate Sisodias in his administration. Jahangir in his memoirs writes that Rai Durga served Akbar for about 40 years and held the mansab of 4,000.⁷ He died

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¹ Vir vinod, II, p.146
² Akbarnama, III, pp.442-43
³ Ain, II, p.164
⁴ Tuzuk, p.63; Akbarnama, III, pp.404-5,511; In 1581 he accompanied Prince Murad against Mirza Muhammad Hakim to Kabul. In 1583 he was dispatched under Mirza Khan to Gujrat and in 1586 with Mirza Aziz Koka in the Deccan. In 1592 he accompanied Prince Murad to Malwa and thereafter continued to serve him in the Deccan until his death. He also served Abul Fazl after Murad’s death. (Ain I, p.459)
⁵ Akbarnama, III, pp.404-5
⁶ Ibid, p. 511
⁷ Tuzuk, pp.16-17, 63; But Ain mentioned him among the mansabdar of 1500. Ain I, p.161

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towards the end of the second year of Jahangir's reign.

In an earlier chapter we have discussed that during the closing years of Akbar's reign, due to his serious illness a conspiracy was hatched to enthrone Khusrau by a powerful section of the nobility. Although conspiracy failed and Jahangir succeeded to the throne but the crisis deepened and the attention of all concerned was directed only towards the activities at the court.\(^1\) In these circumstances administrative and military control slackened. Rebels like Amar Singh got an opportunity to reoccupy many of his lost posts.\(^2\) It seems Jahangir was conscious of the fact that due to his indifferent attitude Amar Singh had succeeded in regrouping his supporters. Therefore, soon after ascending the throne he gave top priority to Mewar affairs. In October 1605 a powerful army under the command of Parwez and leading nobles of the Empire such as Asaf Khan and Raja Jagannath were dispatched to punish Amar Singh.\(^3\) Rana Shankar/Sagar a brother of Rana Pratap was also appointed with Parwez. He was given Chittor along with the major portion of Mughal territory in Mewar, with a view that his presence would inspire confidence and hope among the people of Mewar, who would eschew the policy of defiance to the Mughal Emperor and rally round him.\(^4\)

Although the orders were issued to vigorously pursue the campaign but from a comment of Jahangir in his memoirs, it appears that Parwez was also given the latitude of negotiating a settlement to end the war if Rana Amar Singh agreed to send his eldest son Karan to imperial presence.\(^5\) Amar Singh was also

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\(^1\) For details see Chapter, I; *Z.Khawanin* I, pp.81-82; *Vir vinod*, II, p.294

\(^2\) *Vir vinod*, II, pp.222-223

\(^3\) *Tuzuk*, pp.7-8,23,27; *Iqbalnama*, III, pp.512-13; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.222-223

\(^4\) Sagar was called as Shankar by Jahangir. He was step brother of Rana Pratap and uncle of Rana Amar Singh. He had joined the Mughal service on account of his displeaser with Rana Pratap. Akbar had gave him the title of Rana and sent him to Chittor as a Mughal Jagirdar. He was also send with Khusrau against the Rana. (*Tuzuk*, p.7; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.220-23)

\(^5\) *Tuzuk*, pp.11,35
anxious to end the war because he was finding it difficult to maintain his position under the pressure of huge deployment of Mughal army. He himself opened negotiations with Parwez and through Asaf Khan offered to send his son Bagha to serve at the imperial court, provided peace was established. The Prince rejected the proposal but at the same time he showed his willingness to reconsider it if Kr. Karan was send to the imperial court. Unfortunately before further negotiations could take place Khusrau rebelled and he was summoned to the presence. However, the negotiations that took place were a clear indication of a change in Mughal policy towards Mewar and vice-versa. Both the parties were ready to give up their hard positions, and now there was a scope for a negotiated settlement. Although as mentioned above, the proposal of Amar Singh was rejected, but Bagha who had apparently reached the camp of Parwez accompanied him to the court, and was presented at Lahore where the prince met Jahangir.

Parwez along with Asaf Khan returned to court leaving the command of the army to Raja Jagannath. About the same time taking advantage of the rebellion of Khusrau, Rai Rai Singh along with his son Dalip rebelled in the region of Nagore. The imperial administration considered this rebellion as a serious challenge to its authority and immediately ordered the Mughal forces posted in Mewar to proceed along with Jagannath and Muizzul Mulk to punish Rai Rai Singh. As a consequence of the partial withdrawal of forces from Mewar, hardly any progress could be made in the Mewar campaign. However, Rana Shankar who was attached with this campaign was promoted to the rank of 2500/1000. Therefore, in July 1608 Mahabat Khan was given the

1 Tuzuk, pp.11,35
2 Tuzuk, pp.33,35; Vir vinod, II, p.223
3 Tuzuk, pp.33,35; Vir vinod, II, p.223
4 Tuzuk, p.35
5 Ibid, pp.36,40,62
6 Tuzuk, p.54
command. Raja Kishan Singh, Raja Jagannath and Rana Sagar were ordered to accompany him. After making initial gains by capturing some thanas, Mahabat Khan suffered a humiliating defeat at Untala and the Mughal forces were forced to flee leaving their bagge to be plundered by Rajputs. Mahabat Khan was recalled and for the time being Chittor was left under the charge of Sagar and Mandal under Jagannath.

Shortly afterwards (1609) Abdullah Khan Firoz Jung was given the command of Mewar campaign. Although Abdullah Khan achieved some major victories in his war against Rana at Mehrpur and succeeded in setting up thanas but he too failed to achieve the main objectives and as the war prolonged Abdullah Khan also had to suffer defeat at Rampur. However, he recovered his position very soon and inflicted a crushing defeat on Kunwar Karan. In reward for his meritorious service the Emperor raised him to the rank of 5000/5000 and given the title of Firoz Jang. But in 1611 he was recalled and transferred to Gujarat as governor because of the exigencies of the Deccan war and the command of Mewar was now given to Raja Basu. But Raja Basu proved to be a careless commander having failed to achieve any major success. Besides that he was also suspected of being in secret alliance with the Rana. Therefore, he was replaced by Mirza Aziz Koka who had requested the

1 Tuzuk, pp.69-70; Z.Khawanin, p.117; Virvinod, II, pp.224-25
2 Tuzuk, 72; Iqbalnama, III, pp.521-22; Virvinod, II, p.224
3 Z.Khawanin, p.117; Virvinod II, p.225
4 Tuzuk, pp.74-75; Virvinod, II, p.225
5 Tuzuk, pp.74-75; M.U., II, pp.777-789
6 Z.Khawanin, pp.174-75; Tuzuk, p.75
7 Tuzuk, pp.75-76; M.U. II, pp.778-79; Virvinod, II, p.126; Tod I, p.281
8 Virvinod, II, p.126
9 Tuzuk, pp.74-75; Maasir i Jahangiri, pp.62-63; M.U.II, pp.778-79
10 Tuzuk, pp.74-75,97; Maasir-i-Jahangiri, pp.62-63; M.U.II, pp.778-79; Virvinod, II, p.227
11 Tuzuk, p.97; M.U.II, pp.157-60; Virvinod, II, p.22
12 Amar Singh presented an idol, which Mira Bai, a 15th century queen of Chittor used to worship, to Raja Basu as a token of friendship. (M.U.II, pp.157-60; Virvinod, II, p.227)
Emperor that the command be given to him. Although Jahangir was unhappy with Aziz Koka because of his adverse role in the accession crisis but keeping in view his seniority in service and successive failure in Mewar the command was given to him and on his request the Emperor personally came to Ajmer. On his request Prince Khurram was also dispatched to Mewar. The Mughal forces after the arrival of Khurram made good progress in the campaign by occupying Mandal, Ontala and certain other places. But soon after differences arose between Aziz Koka and Khurram, Khurram complained that on account of being Khusrau’s father in law, the Mirza was not acting properly and exploiting the situation. The Prince even took him into custody. Jahangir accepted the version of Khurram and dispatched Mahabat Khan to bring Mirza Aziz Koka from Udaipur. On 15 April 1614 Mirza Aziz was presented at the court and Jahangir ordered that he should be imprisoned in the fort of Gwalior in the charge of Itiqad Khan.

Meanwhile Prince Khurram conducted the campaign with ruthless severity. Fields and orchards were burnt and villages and towns were plundered. He also succeeded in establishing military post to effectively control the movement of the enemy. The rebels were so hard pressed that once again they fled to their hilly shelters. But Khurram did not allow them any respite there too. He sent four divisions of his army under the command of Abdullah Khan, Dilawar Khan, Sayyid Saif Khan and Raja Kishan Singh Rathore and

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1 Tuzuk, pp.114,126; M.U.I, I, p.675-93
2 Tuzuk, pp.124-25; M.U.I, pp.675-93; Iqbalnama, p.72; Maasir-i-Jahangiri, p.89; Vir vinod, II, p.229
3 Tuzuk, pp.125-26
4 Tuzuk, pp.126-28; Iqbalnama, pp.73-74; Z.Khawanin, pp.81, 88-89; Vir vinod, II, pp. 230-31
5 Z.Khawanin, pp.88-89; Tuzuk, pp.127-28
6 M.U.I, pp.402-3; Vir vinod, II, pp.230-31
7 The following were some of the important military posts which were established by Khurram: Kumbhalmer, Jhandal, Gogunda, Anjano, Chawand, Bijapur, and Jawar. (M.U.I, p.402-3; Vir vinod, II, p.232)
Mir Muhammad Taqi\(^1\) into the interior of Mewar to devastate there new shelters. Although the Rajput displayed great courage and vigour but they failed to repulse the Mughal forces due to their superior military power. They suffered very heavy losses and found themselves incapable of any further resistance.\(^2\) The author of *Vir Vinod* writes that the *Samants* of Mewar have suffered so much in these wars that they requested the Rana to come to some kind of understanding with the Mughals. He further writes that Kr. Karan also advised the Rana in the same manner.\(^3\) Rana Amar Singh too tired of prolonged war, opened negotiations with Khurram through Subh Karan his maternal uncle and a prominent samant Hari Das Jhala.\(^4\) He offered to accept the overlordship of the Mughals, provided he was excused from his personal presence at the court. However, he agreed to send Karan to the court to serve in the imperial army ‘in the manner of other Rajputs’.\(^5\) Prince Khurram immediately communicated to the Emperor about these offers of the Rana and along with Mulla Shukrullah Shirazi and Sunder Das his own secretary he sent the envoy of the Rana to the court to Ajmer. He also sent a personal letter requesting him to accept the offer. The Emperor received the Rajput emissaries favourably and authorised Khurram to conclude a peace treaty with Amar Singh. Jahangir remarks: “My lofty mind was always desirous, as far as possible not to destroy the old families”.\(^6\)

The Emperor was so pleased with this information that Mulla Shukrullah was given the title of Afzal Khan and Sunder Das with that of Rai Rayan.\(^7\) He also takes credit of the submission of the Sisodias of Mewar before him, by

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1. *Iqbalnama*, III, p. 536; *Vir vinod*, II, p. 231
3. *Vir vinod*, II, pp. 234-36
5. *Tuzuk*, pp. 133-34; *Vir vinod*, II, p. 236
7. *Tuzuk*, pp. 133-34; *Nainsi Khyat* I, pp. 73-74; *Vir vinod*, II, p. 236

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specially pointing out that they have not submitted before any other ruler of India. Jahangir in his memoirs writes:

"The real point was that Rana Amar Singh and his fathers, proud in the strength of their hilly country and their abodes, had never seen or obeyed any of the Kings of Hindustan, this should be brought about in my reign."

He further adds that on the request of his son he pardoned the Rana of his offences and for the satisfaction of the Rana issued a farman with the impression of his palm. Khurram who had also received a farman immediately dispatched the royal farman addressed to Amar Singh. After meeting the officials of the Prince, Rana agreed to come to the presence of Khurram to offer his submission along with his sons. Jahangir in his memoirs further adds that Rana on his arrival presented himself before the Prince in the manner in which the servants offer their homage and offered a ruby, seven elephants and nine horses. Khurram on his part also treated the Rana with princely generosity. He offered him a chair by his side and also presented him dresses of honour and other rarities of the court. Vir Vinod adds that along with Amar Singh three of his sons, two brothers and five leading Rajput sardars also offered their submission. To each of them costly presents were given by the Prince.

Following the tradition of Rajputs, Kr. Karan who was the higher apparent came to offer his submission after the departure of his father Amar Singh. Next day Khurram along with Kr. Karan proceeded towards Ajmer to meet the Emperor and Amar Singh was given leave to go to his homeland.

1. Tuzuk, p.134
2. Tuzuk, p. 134; Iqbalnama, III, p.536; Vir vinod, II, pp.236-37
3. Tuzuk, p.134; Vir vinod, II, p.236
5. Three sons were Bhim Singh, Surajmal and Bagh Singh. Vir vinod, II, pp.237-38
6. Tuzuk, p.135; Vir vinod, II, p.237; Tod I, p.288
7. Tuzuk, p.135; Vir vinod, II, p.238
On his arrival and after presenting himself before the Emperor, Khurram requested him to allow Karan too, to present himself before him. The Emperor agreed to his request and Karan was presented before the Emperor, in the traditional manner of the presentation of servants. But soon after, again on the request of Khurram, the Emperor ordered him to be brought on the right side of the royal pavilion. Jahangir writes:

“As it was necessary to win the heart of Karan who was of a wild nature and had never seen assemblies and lived among the hills, I every day showed him some fresh favours so that on the second day of his attendance a jewelled dagger and on the next day a special Iraqi horse with jewelled saddle were given to him.”

He was brought to female apartment where Nurjahan Begum presented him with ‘a rich dress of honour, a jeweled sword, a horse and saddle and an elephant.’ Not satisfied with what had already been given to him, Jahangir awarded him with more presents. In this connection he writes:

“At the end of the month I ordered that all sorts of cloth stuffs, with carpets and cushions and all kinds of perfumes with vessels of gold, two Gujrati carts and cloths should be placed in a hundred trays. The ahadis carried them in their arms and on their shoulder to the public audience hall, where they were bestowed on him.”

Shortly afterwards at the time of the celebration of tenth year of his reign Kr. Karan was also assigned the rank of 5000/5000. On the same day Jahangir writes that Khurram who had come to pay his respect presented the same ruby which Rana Amar Singh had offered in submission before Khurram. He also

1 Tuzuk, p.135; Iqbalnama, p.277; Vir vinod, II, p.239
2 Tuzuk, p.135-36; Vir vinod, II, p.239
3 Tuzuk, pp.135-36; Tod I, p.288
4 Tuzuk, p.136
5 Tuzuk, p.136; Vir vinod II, p.239
6 Tuzuk, p.136; Vir vinod, II, p.239
7 Tuzuk, p.138; Iqbalnama, III, p.535, 553; Vir vinod, II, p.239
8 It was sold by Chandrasen Rathor to Rana Udai Singh. From him it went to Rana Pratap and afterwards Rana Amar Singh. (Tuzuk, p.140)
writes as to how that precious stone had reached him (Karan) and also that the ruby was not of a very high quality. He adds that "I ordered them to engrave on the ruby that at the time of paying his respect Rana Amar Singh had presented it."¹

Few days after this Jahangir again writes "As the hour of the leave taking of Kr. Karan was at hand, I was desirous of showing him my skill in shooting with a gun."² On the same day on his request Karan was given a Turkish gun. He was also given 100,000 darab. Shortly afterwards twenty horse, a qaba of Kashmiri cloth, twenty deer and ten Arabian dogs were also given to him.³ In the next three days 101 more horses were presented to him. Sometimes in the Nov. 1616 after a stay of about eight months at the court Karan was granted leave to visit his watan. He was given a dress of honour, a horse, special elephants and a strung of pearls of the value of 50,000 and a dagger costing 2000 rupees.⁴ On this occasion Jahangir writes:

"from the time of his waiting on me till he obtained leave what he had in the shape of cash, jewellery, jewels, and jewelled things was of the value of 200,000 rupees with 110 horses, five elephants, in addition to what my son Khurram bestowed on him at various times."⁵

After the departure of Karan his son Jagat Singh came to Emperor’s presence. Jahangir writes that he was only twelve years old but "signs of nobility and high birth were evident on his face."⁶ He presented himself before the Emperor and handed over petitions of his father and grandfather. Although Mansab was not assigned to him but Jahangir writes that "I pleased him with a

¹ Tuzuk, p.140
² Tuzuk, p.140; Vir vinod, II, p.250
³ Tuzuk, pp.140-42; Vir vinod, II, p.250
⁴ Tuzuk, p.144; Vir vinod, II, p.250; Tod I, p.289
⁵ Tuzuk, p.144; Vir vinod, II, p.250
⁶ Tuzuk, p.145; M.U.II, pp.203-4; Tod I, p.289
dress of honour. After a stay of few days he was allowed to go to his native country. A dress of honour, a horse, an elephant and 20,000 rupees were presented to him. Hari Das Jhala his guardian was also given 5000 rupees. Jahangir adds that through him he sent a mace of gold (Shashpari) to Karan.

Thus Jahangir completed the task left unfinished by his father Emperor Akbar. After the conclusion of the treaty all the territories of Mewar which were captured by the Mughals including the fort of Chittor were restored to Rana Amar Singh. The rulers of the principalities of Dungarpur, Banswara and Sirohi who were subordinate chiefs of Mewar and during Akbar’s reign when war with Mewar was going on have directly accepted the subordinates of the Mughal imperial authority, were now again placed under the overlordship of Mewar. In addition to the territories which already belonged to the Ranas of Mewar the Emperor also assigned him jagir of Ratlam in Malawa and Phullia in Suba Ajmer. Vir Vinod had given complete details of the Jagirs assigned to Amar Singh at this time.

Rana Shankar brother of Amar Singh who held the title of Rana and was also recognized as ruler of Chittor was now removed from that position. He was now given the title of Rawat and assigned Jagir in the eastern region of Mewar (Umri Bhadaura). Jahangir also established a new tradition by exempting the Rana of Mewar from personal presence at the court as well as from imperial service. In this connection it may be pointed out that Rana Amar Singh was not offered a rank, thus making it quite obvious that the Rana was not an imperial servant despite having accepted the subordination of the Mughals. It was indeed a great favour given to Mewar. The Emperor also made no proposal for a

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1 Tuzuk, p.145
2 Tuzuk, p.152; Vir Vinod, II, p.252
3 Nainsi Khyat, I, p.74; Vir Vinod, II, p.252; Gehlot I, p.448
4 Vir Vinod, II, pp.240-49
5 Tuzuk, p.7,138; Khyat, p.64; Vir Vinod, II, p.252
matrimonial relationship with the Mughal imperial family, a practice which was regously followed both by Akbar and Jahangir.

From the above it is quite clear that Jahangir accepted almost all those proposal which Pratap had offered to Akbar, and a peace treaty was signed broadly on those terms. In accepting these terms Jahangir had already shown extraordinary courage and common sense. Not only an unnecessary war which had destroyed Mewar and incurred heavy burden on the Mughal exchequer, came to an end but also the last and most important state of Rajputana accepted Mughal overlordship.

We have extensively quoted Tuzuk in our discussion on the treaty with Mewar. We have also referred to other contemporary and near contemporary Persian and non-Persian sources in this connection. But in none of them we find any reference pertaining to the clause that Rana will not repair the fort of Chittor. Although, the clause formed as part of the treaty as we will discuss in the next section of the chapter.

The question thus arises as to why this clause was not clearly mentioned at the time of settlement. To my mind it appears that the understanding in this regard was reached at the highest level but as by putting it in writing would have created bad blood among the Sisodias chiefs, it was not discussed in public. Jahangir was so anxious to make this settlement as a model of a settlement by giving unusual favours and concession to Sisodias that he ignored the reference of this clause altogether. Jahangir was anxious to end the war in Rajputana because the affairs in the Deccan were not moving satisfactorily and demanded his full attention.

In the settlement with Mewar, Jahangir’s relation with Kachhwahas also played a very important role due to Man Singh’s open support to Khusrau at the time of Akbar’s serious illness. Jahangir became extremely unhappy with Man Singh and in a way lost confidence in the Kachhwahas. It seems to counter
them he was eager to establish cordial relations with Mewar and also he wished to admit them in his service. It is clearly born out by his advise to Parwez in his first Mewar campaign that:

"if the Rana himself and his eldest son who is called Karan to should come and wait upon you and he preffer service and obedience, you should not do any injury to his territory"\(^1\)

Although the campaign as well as the proposal of peace settlement at that time failed as mentioned above, but the Emperor was so anxious to have more Rajputs in his service that inspite of Rai Rai Singh's poor records of loyalty, he was promoted to higher rank and assigned important duties. Raja Suraj Singh Rathor and Rao Ratan Hada were also given higher ranks and important assignments.\(^2\) But these Rajput houses were inferior in prestige as compared to Mewar and with all of them Akbar had already established friendly relations. By compelling Rana to accept the overlordship of Mughals, Jahangir wanted to show that he had achieved something that no other ruler before him could achieve. In his memoirs he actually mentions this aspects more clearly:

"The real point was that as Rana Amar Singh and his father, proud in the strength of their hilly country and their abodes, had never seen or obeyed any of the Kings of Hindustan, this should be brought about in my reign."\(^3\)

After the settlement cordial relations were established between the Mughals and the Sisdias. In 1616 Kr.Karan returned to court and presented himself before the Emperor. But shortly afterwards he was given leave to visit his \textit{Watan} to solemnise his own marriage.\(^4\) The Emperor built two life size statues of Rana Amar Singh and Kr. Karan and placed them in the imperial

\(^1\) \textit{Tuzuk,} p.11
\(^2\) See chapters, II, III and IV for more details. \textit{Tuzuk,} pp.49, 76, 84, 131, 140-41, 153; \textit{Virvinod,} II, p.294
\(^3\) Tuzuk, p.134
\(^4\) \textit{Tuzuk,} pp.155,159; \textit{Vir vinod,} II, p.365
garden below the jharokha at Agra.¹ After the departure of Karan, his son Jagat Singh also came to the court and presented himself before the Emperor.² He was received graciously and after a few days granted leave for his native place.³

In 1617 when Prince Khurram proceeded towards the Deccan and entered Rana’s country, Rana and his sons presented themselves before the Prince at Dodpur on the border of Udaipur.⁴ Khurram honoured the Rana and his son with dresses of honour. It was also decided that Kr. Karan should accompany the Prince along with 1500 horse and serve in the Deccan campaign.⁵ We are not informed about the activities of Kr. Karan during the campaign, but apparently after the completion of the campaign he was given leave to visit Mewar.⁶ In 1618 when the Emperor was returning from Gujrat to Agra and reached Sindla Kr. Karan came to his presence and congratulated on the victories achieved in the Deccan.⁷ He also made an offering of 1000 muhrs and 1000 rupees, jewels, horses and elephants. The Emperor also presented him a dress of honour, horses and elephants.⁸ Thereafter he accompanied the Emperor to the capital. But as the capital city at that time was affected with plague, Jahangir decided to stay at Fatehpur and Karan was granted leave to go to his jagir.⁹ It is important to note that on all those occasion when Jahangir met Karan he remembered Rana Amar Singh and specially sent for him in gift elephants and horses.¹⁰

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¹ Tuzuk, p.162
² Tuzuk, p.163; Vir vinod, II, p.365
³ Tuzuk, p.169
⁴ Tuzuk, p.170; Iqbalnama, p.93; Vir vinod, II, p.265; Tod I, p.292
⁵ Tuzuk, p.170; Vir vinod, II, p.266; But Shahnawaz Khan writes that Jagat Singh son of Karan accompanied Prince with 1500 horses. (M.U.II, pp.203-4)
⁶ Tuzuk, p.189; Vir vinod, II, p.266
⁷ Tuzuk, p.253; M.U.II, pp.204-5; Vir vinod, II, p.303; Tod I, p.290
⁸ Tuzuk, p.253
⁹ Tuzuk, p.260; Tod I, pp.290-92
¹⁰ Tuzuk, p.261

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Although, as discussed above Jahangir was over courteous towards Amar Singh and his sons and grand son, but except for Kr. Karan none of them were given a rank; and because they were not admitted it imperial service, none of them were given any important administrative duty. Kr. Karan like other Rajput nobles was also sent to serve in the Deccan.

In 1620 Amar Singh died and was succeeded by Kr. Karan Singh. Jagat Singh his grand son and Bhim his other son at that time were in attendance of the Emperor.\(^1\) The Emperor offered them his condolences and immediately sent them to Chittor with Raja kishan Das with a gracious farman conferring the title of Rana on Karan. A dress of honour, a horse and an elephant were presented to Karan along with a condolence message.\(^2\) In the same year (1620) Bhim was honoured with the title of Raja.\(^3\) On the recommendation of Khurram he was also assigned jagir of Jalore.\(^4\) Karan’s son Jagat Singh was also summoned to the court and sent as an auxiliary to the army of the Deccan.\(^5\) After the completion of the Deccan campaign Jagat Singh returned to Mewar. Rana Karan had been camping at Mewar since 1620 when his father Amar Singh died. Raja Bhim who was in the service of Khurram stayed in the Deccan along with Khurram.\(^6\) Therefore, shortly after the arrival of Jagat Singh to Mewar Jahangir issued a farman to Karan Singh asking him to send his son along with his contingent to court.\(^7\)

Meanwhile Khurram rebelled in Deccan in 1623 and at the head of a large army proceeded towards Agra and Delhi. He had the support of a number

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1. *Tuzuk*, p.289; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.266, 304
2. *Tuzuk*, p.289; *Iqbalnama*, III, p.559; *Tod I*, p.290
3. *Tuzuk*, p.308; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.270, 304
4. *Vigat*, II, pp.105-6; G.D Sharma, p.28
5. *Tuzuk*, pp.322-23; *Vir vinod*, II, p.304
7. *Tuzuk*, p.347
of nobles, including Raja Bhim brother of Rana Karan.\(^1\) But in the famous battle of Bilochpur Khurram was defeated and fled towards Gujrat via Rajputana.\(^2\) About this time Jahangir summoned important nobles of the Empire to his presence.\(^3\) But we have no information about Rana Karan Singh. Had he been summoned to the court at that time, the Emperor must have made some adverse comments about him also. But he is not referred at all in the Tuzuk during this period of grave crisis. The complete silence of Jahangir in this connection is really intriguing. However, Khurram on his way to Mandu stayed for sometime in Udaipur, probably to get his help.\(^4\) Some Rajasthani sources mention that Rana Karan Singh accorded a friendly welcome to the fugitive Prince and exchanged his turban with that of Khurram as a symbol of friendship and brotherhood. He is also said to have allowed his brother Bhim to continue in the service of the rebel Prince.\(^5\) But the Persian chronicles make no such reference, although Khurram’s presence in Rajputana on his way to Mandu is mentioned in all these works.\(^6\) Jagat Singh, Rana Karan’s son during this period remained in the presence of the Emperor. He was however, granted leave in Nov. 1623 after the rebels have preceded towards Bangal.\(^7\) But the attitude of Jahangir towards the Rana of Mewar during the period Khurram’s revolt is unexplainable.

It is really a matter of enquiry as to why Karan was not called to court; although farmans were issued to other Rajput chiefs to come to the court as

\(^1\) Tuzuk, p.357; Vir vinod, II, pp.274-80
\(^2\) Tuzuk, pp.357,359-60,361-62; However, after this battle Raja Bhim was promoted by Khurram to the rank of 5000/5000 with the title of Maharaja.(Inayat Ali Zaidi, ‘The Rajput chiefs and Prince Shahjahan’s revolt: consequences’. Islamic Culture, 1987, p.66
\(^3\) Tuzuk, pp.357-58; Vir vinod, II, p.30
\(^4\) Vir vinod, II, p.270; Tod I, p.295
\(^5\) Vir vinod, II, pp.270-73; Tod I, p.295; Gehlot I, pp.448-49
\(^6\) For details regarding his movement in that direction see, Tuzuk, pp.358-62; Dutch Chronicle, p.160; Afzal Husain, pp,156-57,173
\(^7\) Tuzuk, pp.367,374; M.U. II, pp.204-5; Vir vinod, II, p.306
early as possible. It is also important to note that inspite of Bhim’s open support to Khurrum no action was taken against Mewar. On the contrary Jagat Singh was given leave to visit Mewar and at the time of his departure he was presented a dress of honour and jewelled dagger.

Kr. Bhim however remained close to Khurrum and accompanied with him in his campaign to Bengal and Bihar. He had such a strong influence on Khurrum that on the teeth of opposition of Abdullah Khan he forced the Prince to fight the imperial army at Tons. The rebels were completely defeated and Kr. Bhim himself was killed (1624). After this defeat the Prince suffered several other reverses and forced by circumstances appealed the Emperor for clemency which was granted; he was also assigned Balaghat in Jagir.

Sisodias were on very friendly terms with some of the Mughal nobles such as Mahabat Khan. Farid Bhakkari writes that when Mahabat Khan left Burhanpurr in great despair from the court by way of Chanda Pass and reached the fort of Ranthambhor (which was his fief), he was helped by the Rana of Chittor with one thousands fully equipped and well armed horsemen. With the help of these Rajput retainers Mahabat Khan made Jahangir prisoner in his own camp. But he could neither maintain his control over Mughal administration nor on his own Rajput retainers. As a result within a short period of time, he was forced to leave the imperial camp and proceeded towards the territory of the Bhils between Mewar and Gujrat by way of Marwar. On reaching Pokhran (forty Krohs south side of Jaisalmer) a dependency of Jaisalmer, he stayed there.

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1 Tuzuk, pp.357,368; Vir vinod, II, pp.286-87
2 Tuzuk, pp.367,374; M.U., II, pp.204-5
3 Iqbalnama, pp.221-22; Z.Khawanin, pp.122-23; Maasir i Jahangiri, p.198; M.U. III, pp.428-30
4 For details see Tuzuk pp.357,368,378,381-82,384-85,388-89; Z.Khawanin pp.122-23
5 Z.Khawanin, pp.132-33; Tod I, pp.294-95
6 Z.Khawanin, pp.132-33; Iqbalnama, p.252
7 Z.Khawanin, p.141
for some time to pass the rainy season. He married the daughter of the Pokhran Chief (a relative of Rawal Kalyan of Jaisalmeri) to his son. After the rainy season he went to the Rana of Mewar, but the Rana did not show him much courtesy. Thereafter he fled into the territory of the Bhils.1

During the entire period of the revolt of Khurram and in the last years of Jahangir’s reign we hardly get any information about Rana Karan. Apparently he was at his watan and deliberately avoided taking any position in the struggle, and on occasions even sympathised Khurram in his exploits.

As mentioned in an earlier chapter, Jahangir’s death was followed by quarrel for succession between Shahryar a son of Jahangir and Dawar Bakhs son of Khusrau. While the contest was going on Asaf Khan secretly informed Shah Jahan about these developments and requested him to hurry immediately towards Agra.2 Soon after receiving the message Shah Jahan marched towards Agra by way of Gujrat. On reaching Gogunda he was warmly received by Rana Karan.3 As a matter of fact he openly came out to support his candidature. Shah Jahan too responded favourably by bestowing a robe of honour and confirming him on his previous rank of 5000/5000.4 Rana went a step further by deputing his brother Arjun with a contingent of troops to accompany him to fight for the throne.5 This was a very significant development in Mughal-Mewar relation; for the first time the Sisodias took active part in court politics to decide the issue of succession.

However, Rana Karan died within two months of Shah Jahan’s succession to throne.6 He was succeeded by his eldest son Jagat Singh whom

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1 *Z.Khawanin*, pp.141-42
2 For details see chapter, I
3 Lahori, *ia*, p.80; *M.U.*, II pp.204-5; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.270, 290
5 *Iqbalnama*, p.598; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.270, 290
6 Shyamal Das writes that Rana Karan Singh in 1628 defied the settlement of 1615 and started repairing the fort of Chittor. (*Vir vinod*, II, p.290)
Shah Jahan not only recognised as the hereditary ruler of Mewar but also assigned him the rank of 5000/5000 and conferred the title of Rana. Rana Jagat Singh unlike his father was very ambitious. Immediately after the completion of Tika ceremony he began interfering in the affairs of neighbouring Rajput states of Dungarpur, Dewliya, Sirohi and Banswara. In 1628 he sent a strong army under the command of Akhay Raj against Dungarpur. The town of Dungarpur was plundered and Mahrawal Punja finding himself unable to resist fled his chieftaincy and proceeded to Mughal court personally to lodge a complaint against the Rana. Soon afterwards the relation between Jaswant Singh the ruler of Devliya, who had been under the nominal suzerainty of Mewar since 1615 also got strained. Being apprehensive of Rana Jagat Singh’s hostile activities, Jaswant Singh instigating Jan Nisar, Mughal faujdar of Mandsore to attack Rana’s territory. Jan Nisar without seeking permission of Shah Jahan sent a large force against Mewar and captured Pargana Bastar on the out post of Modi. Rana Jagat Singh did not offer any resistance to the invading army but immediately brought the matter to the notice of the Emperor. Shah Jahan immediately issued a farman on 29 November 1628 ordering Jan Nisar to hand over the Pargana to the Rana. Although the matter was settled in favour of Jagat Singh but he was extremely unhappy with Rana Jagat Singh. He hatched a conspiracy, inviting Jaswant Singh to Udaipur and got him killed. Thereafter he sent an army and the city of Devliya was plundered. Emboldened with the success achieved by his forces in Dungarpur and Dewliya, he sent his army to Sirohi which was also sacked. Shortly afterwards Bhag Chand Kayastha led an

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1 Lahori, Ia, p.161; Vir vinod, II, p.318
2 Vir vinod, II, p.319
3 Vir vinod, II, p.318
4 Tirmizi, pp.42-43, s.no.8; Vir vinod, II, pp.1058-59
5 Vir vinod, II, p.319
6 Ibid, pp. 318-319
7 Vir vinod, II, p.320
army against Rawal Samar Singh of Banswara who was compelled to surrender.\(^1\)

From the above it becomes quite clear that Jagat Singh was determined to bring its earestwhile feudatory states of Dungarpur, Devliya, Sirohi and Banswara under his complete subordination. It is important to note that in spite of complaints made by the chiefs of these states, the Emperor took no notice. Therefore, it may be conclude that the Mughal Emperor also recognised the right of Mewar over these states. On the other hand as mentioned above when Jagat Singh lodged a complaint that Jan Nisar Khan had captured one of his Parganas, the Emperor ordered Jan Nisar to immediately hand over that Pargana to the Rana. However, Rana Jagat Singh being apprehensive of adverse reaction of the Emperor for his aggressive policies continued to maintain close contact with the court. He sent Jhala Kalyan of Delwada with offering and with a request that he be pardoned of any omissions and commissions.\(^2\) He also sent his uncle Arjun with 500 troopers to render service in the Deccan against Khan i Jahan Lodi.\(^3\) For some time Arjun personally served in the expedition and thereafter it was decided that Mewar would continue to serve Mughal army in the Deccan with 500 troopers under the command of a responsible officer.\(^4\) Therefore the Rana dispatched Bhopat Rai of Dhariyawad with a contingent to the Deccan to assist the Mughal army.\(^5\)

Shortly afterwards Rana dispatched Kalyan Jhala to Mandu to congratulate the Emperor on his victory in the Deccan (1636) and when the Emperor along with Dara Shukoh reached Ajmer on his way to the capital, the Rana also sent Kr. Raj Singh along with his senior nobles to offer his

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1. *Vir vinod*, II, p.321
2. Ibid, II, p.321
3. Lahori, Ia, p.518; *M.U.*, II, pp.205-6
4. Inayat Khan, p.196; *M.U.*II, pp.205-6
5. Lahori, II, pp.370-71; *Vir vinod*, II, p.322

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The Emperor was much pleased and sends a dress of honour, a horse and elephants to Rana Raj Singh. Two of his prominent nobles Ballu Chauhan and Rawat Man Singh were also given robes of honour, horses and elephants.

Thereafter, we do not get references of any direct contact between the Emperor and Rana Jagat Singh until 1643. Although during the same period several Sisodia chiefs such as Sujan Singh, Gharib Das, Duda, Rai Singh Jhala, Gokul Das, and Sadadi came to Mughal court after leaving the service of Rana and joined imperial army. They were also assigned ranks. Although the relations between the Sisodias and the Mughal imperial authority appeared more or less normal, but the Emperor was not happy with Rana’s attitude towards his feudatories. As a result in 1644 when the Emperor was informed that during the course of a pilgrimage under taken by Rana Jagat Singh’s mother some untoward incident leading to clashes between Rana’s men and the Muslim of the area took place and some Muslims were killed, the Emperor immediately marched towards Ajmer to take action against him. Realising the gravity of situation Rana Jagat Singh immediately dispatched Kr. Raj Singh to Ajmer to apologise for the unfortunate incident and also convinced him of the complete loyalty of the house of Mewar. The Emperor received him favourably and after a stay of few days Kr. Raj Singh was granted leave with the usual exchange of gifts and offering. It seems that the Emperor got satisfied with the conduct of Jagat Singh because he also returned to court without taking

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1 Inayat Khan, pp.195-96; Vir vinod, II, p.322
2 Inayat Khan, p.202; Vir vinod, II, p.322
3 Ranawat Manohar Singh, Shahjahan ke Hindu Mansabdar, p.45, 47
4 At that moment the Emperor had not reacted strongly against him but from the account of Vir vinod it appears that the Emperor was not happy with these actions. (Vir vinod, II, pp.321-323)
5 Her name was Jambuwati Bai (Vir vinod, II, pp.322-23)
6 Inayat Khan, pp.303-4; Lahori, II, p.345; Vir vinod, II, p.324
7 Inayat Khan, p.304; Vir vinod, II, p.324
any action against the Sisodias. Although presently the crisis was averted but it seems Jagat Singh was not sure of the future of this truce. Therefore, shortly after the departure of the Emperor, in Sep. 1644 he sent Kalyan Jhala to the court with costly presents to appease the Emperor\(^1\) and also to make efforts to clear misunderstanding that may have cropped up because of the partisan role of some elements at the court.

By and large Rana Jagat Singh’s relation with Mughal imperial authority remained cordial for most part of his reign. With the cooperation of the imperial authority he was able to establish peace and prosperity in the region and also succeeded in bringing the earstwhile feudatory states under his subordination. Being anxious to retrieve the glory of Mewar state he wanted now to repair the fort of Chittor at any cost.

Therefore, sometimes in 1652 he secretly started repairing the fort.\(^2\) It was certainly an act of defiance of the treaty 1615 and as soon as the matter was brought to the notice of the Emperor, he instituted an enquiry to look into the whole affairs of the repair of the fort.\(^3\) But in the meantime after a rule of 24 years Rana Jagat Singh died in Oct. 1652. The Emperor on being informed of the sad demise of the Rana recognised Raj Singh as ruler of Mewar.\(^4\) While the enquiry was still in progress and from all account it was quite clear that repair of the fort was in progress, he was given \textit{Tika} and assigned rank of 5000/5000 with the hereditary title of Rana.\(^5\) Dresses of honour and other mark of favour were also sent to the new Rana through Pardoman Gaur and Kalyan Das Jhala. The Rana was further ordered to proceed to Qandhar to join the campaign with

\(^1\) \textit{M.U.}, II, pp.205-6

\(^2\) Inayat Khan, p.501; \textit{M.U II}, pp.205-6; \textit{Khulasat i Shahjahanam}, Zahid Khan, p.239; However, Shyamal Das in \textit{Vir vinod} writes that Rana Karan Singh in 1628 defied the settlement of 1615 and started repairing the fort of Chittor. (\textit{Vir vinod}, II, p.290)

\(^3\) \textit{M.U. II}, pp.205-6

\(^4\) \textit{Vir vinod}, II, pp.342, 401; Tirmizi, II, p.102, s.no.252

the full contingent of 1000 troopers.\(^1\) He was also informed that as he had failed to depute 1000 troopers as per the agreement after the return of the Emperor from the Deccan (1636) the revenue of the *Pargana* of Mandalgarh and Badnaur were being resumed and transferred to *Khalisa*.\(^2\) As soon as these orders were received, Rana informed the court authorities that 500 troops under the command of Bhupat son of Sambha had already been dispatched and remaining troops would be send soon. The Rana also promised to send 1000 troops to Qandhar. When these reports were confirmed by the *Faujdar* of Ajmer, the Emperor pardoned him and the *Parganas* mentioned above were bestowed again on the Rana for his personal expences.\(^3\)

The Qandhar campaign of Dara Shukoh (1653) as is well known miserably failed and he was recalled by the Emperor. Sometimes afterwards Emperor was informed that the two gates out of the seven gates of the fort have been repaired by the Rana.\(^4\) The Emperor who was already unhappy with the Rana because of his failures to report on duty in Qandhar and also his failure to send full quota of 1000 troopers for service, immediately ordered Saadullah Khan to launch an attack on Chittor and dismantle all the gates and other buildings recently constructed.\(^5\) Raja Jai Singh was asked to join Saadullah Khan with a well equipped army to assist him in the campaign.\(^6\) The Emperor himself moved to Ajmer professedly on a pilgrimage but actually to supervise the operations personally.\(^7\) After reaching Ajmer the Emperor further ordered

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1. Inayat Khan, pp.478-79; Tirmizi, II, p.102, s.no.252
2. Ibid
3. Tirmizi, II, p.102, s.no.252; Inayat Khan, pp.478-79
4. *M.U.II*, pp.205-6
5. Inayat Khan, pp.500-501; *M.U.II*, pp.205-6
6. Tirmizi, II, p.107, s.no.275
7. Inayat Khan, p.501
Saadullah Khan to declared a full scale war on Mewar if the Rana did not apologise for his misconduct and offer complete subordination.¹

On his being informed of the march of imperial army towards Mewar followed by Emperor himself, the Rana got alarmed and immediately send his wakil to the presence of the Emperor. The wakil met the Emperor in his camp at Khalilpur and requested him to withdrew the invading army from Mewar. He also met Dara Shukoh and appealed him to act as an intercessor.² The later events indicate that on the request of Dara Shukoh the Emperor agreed to postpone the hostility for the time being, and dispatched Chandra Bhan to Chittor to apprise Rana of his wrong doings which had forced the Emperor to take military action against him.³

Munshi Chandra Bhan sent a detailed report to the Emperor pointing out that following ‘faults and blunders’ have been committed by him.⁴

1. Rana had got repaired the fort of Chittor in complete defiance of the agreement reached in 1616.
2. The Rana after the departure of imperial army to Akbarabad led a large army from Udaipur into the imperial territory on the pretext of ziarat (pilgrimage and ghusl (Holy bath). This act of Rana was a breach of faith and ‘blunder of the most heinous type’.
3. Rana had not send the required number of troops to Qandhar.
4. Rana had send a very small number of troopers to Deccan against the agreed 1000 troopers to be posted there regularly.⁵

¹ Inayat Khan, p.501; M.U.II, pp.206
² Inayat Khan, p. 501; Vir vinod, II, pp.402-3
³ Tirmizi, II, p.108; Inayat Khan, pp.501-2; Vir vinod, II, pp.403-8
⁴ Tirmizi, II, pp.108-9; Inayat Khan, pp.501-2; Vir vinod, II, pp.403-405
⁵ Tirmizi, II, pp.108-9; Inayat Khan, pp.501-2; Vir vinod, II, pp.403-5
After receiving this report the Emperor ordered Chandra Bhan to communicate to Rana that the imperial army will attack Mewar and devastate the whole of it, if he failed to carry out the following orders of the Emperor:

1. To demolish all the new constructions in the fort of Chittor.
2. Sahib Tika (Crown Prince), should immediately be despatched to present himself before the Emperor at Ajmer.
3. The required number of troops under the command of his brother should immediately be sent to Deccan. Regarding the assignment of Parganas in Jagir in the vicinity of Ajmer, the Rana was informed that the Emperor will decide this issue in due course of time.¹

Rana agreed to accept all these terms, although he pleaded that ‘his father was more responsible for these blunders than he was’. He also gave an assurance that in future he would do nothing against the wishes of the Emperor and that he would be more loyal and faithful to the Emperor than his ancestors.²

Chandra Bhan adds that after the discussion that he had with him, Rana held a separate meeting with his chiefs and informed him that he had decided to send an Arzdasht through Ballu Chauhan to the Emperor to the effect that ‘it would be possible for him to send his son only after the departure of the imperial army which had arrived at Chittor and had struck fear in the hearts of all’.³

However, in the meantime Saadullah Khan who reached Chittor on 17 October 1654 started making preparations for the demolition of the fort

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¹ Tirmizi, II, pp.108-9; Inayat Khan, pp. 501-2; Vir vinod, II, pp.403-8
² Tirmizi, II, p.109; Vir vinod, II, pp.408-409; Inayat Khan, p.503
³ Tirmizi, II, p.109; Vir vinod, II, pp.409-10; But Shahnawas Khan writes that Rana Raj Singh himself went to Prince Dara Shukoh to plead his case. He agreed to send his son to the court and also agreed to demolish the repaired and newly constructed portion of the fort. (M.U.II, p.206)
while the negotiations were in progress. Therefore, Rana Raj Singh dispatched Madhusudan Bhatt and Ram Singh Jhala to Saadullah Khan with the request that the destruction of the fort be postponed till the outcome of the negotiations. However, it is really surprising to note that while negotiations at the highest level as mentioned above were in progress, Saadullah Khan without any provocation launch an attack on the fort and in a matter of fifteen days raised it to the ground. Inayat Khan adds that the imperial troops were so ruthless in their action that the Rana withdrew his army to save the peasantry and inhabitants of the area from their wrath. But what is more intriguing is the attitude of the Emperor who took no notice of Saadullah Khan's action and allowed the fort to be destroyed. Inspite of these unfortunate developments the Rana fully co-operated and his crown Prince who had started for imperial court continued his journey and presented himself before the Emperor at Malpur. In the meantime Munshi Chandrabhan sent an Arzdasht to the Emperor through Jamal Aquil Khan with all the details of his discussion that he had with the Rana. He also informed the Emperor that Raghunath Singh a servant of Raj Singh had agreed to join the imperial army. Thereafter, Rana also addressed an Arzdasht to Prince Dara Shukoh, requesting him to send his Diwan so that under his care his heir apparent might be sent to the court. Dara Shukoh agreed to the request and dispatched Shaikh Abdal Karim his Diwan to escort the Prince to the court. Sometimes in Nov.1654 the Emperor issued a Farman to the Rana informing him that on the request of Dara Shukoh and the assurances given to Chandrabhan the imperial emissary, the imperial army had been

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1 Inayat Khan, p.503; Tirmizi, II, p.109; Vir vinod, II, pp.402, 412
2 Virvinod, II, p.412
3 Inayat Khan, pp.502-3; Vir vinod, II, p.413-14
4 Inayat Khan, p.503
5 Inayat Khan, p.503; Vir vinod II, p.413; M.U.II, p.206
6 Tirmizi, II, p.109; Virvinod, II, pp.407-9
7 Inayat Khan, p.502; Tirmizi, II, p.110,s.no.281; Vir vinod, II, pp.409,413

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withdrawn from Mewar. Further, he was asked to send his brother along with a fully equipped contingent as agreed, to the Deccan to perform imperial service. Chandrabhan who was present at the court of Rana informed the Emperor that the Rana, after getting the information of the withdrawal of the imperial forces, had sent his son to the imperial presence in the company of Shaikh Abdal Karim and other imperial servants.

The Emperor received him favourably and presented him a robe of honour and other gifts. It appears that the Prince who had yet not been named by the Rana, was now styled as Sohag Singh by the Emperor. The Samantas who accompanied him were also favoured with robes of honour and horses. After staying for a few days at the imperial camp on 6 Dec. 1654 Sohag Singh was given leave to return to his Watan. A Farman addressed to Rana Raj Singh ordering him to send his son forthwith to the Deccan, was also handed over to him. Although once again peace was established in Mewar but Rana’s prestige had suffered a great set back; not only the fort of Chittor was demolished again but a large part of Rana’s territory comprising Pur, Mandal, Khairabad, Mandalgarh, Jahajpur, Sawar, Phullia, Banera and Badnaur were taken away and merged in Suba of Ajmer.

Vir Vinod writes that ‘though Rana had accepted these humiliating conditions, but this renewed submission was very painful to the Rana’s sense of honour,’ and from then onwards he started making preparations to take a revenge at an opportune time. However, for the next four years we did not get any reference of hostile activity on the part of

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1 Tirmizi, II, p.110, s.no.281
2 Ibid, p.110, s.no.281
3 Ibid, p.110, s.no.282; Vir vinod, II, pp.411-12
4 Inayat Khan, p.503; Vir vinod II, p.413; M.U.II, p.206
5 Ibid
6 Ibid
7 Vir vinod, II, p.414
8 Ibid, pp.413-414
Rana Raj Singh. Apparently relations with Mewar in all these years remained normal.

Mewar again came into limelight when the war of succession among the sons of Shah Jahan started and each Prince started making efforts to enlist the support of the leading nobles and chieftains of the Empire. In earlier chapter we have mentioned that Raja Jai Singh and Jaswant Singh the two noted Rajput nobles of Kachhwaha and Rathor houses respectively were summoned to court and were dispatched against Shuja, Aurangzeb and Murad to check their advance towards Agra. But it is quite strange to note Rana Raj Singh of Mewar was not summoned to the court even at this critical juncture, although Dara at the request of Raj Singh had played a very crucial role in the settlement of 1654. On the contrary, soon after Aurangzeb started from the Deccan, he contacted Raj Singh and a regular correspondence between the two continued throughout the period of struggle.

In the first Nishan of 1657 Aurangzeb informed the Rana that Udai Karan Chauhan and Shankar Bhatt have been given leave as desired by him. He further informed him that he was proceeding on the campaign of Bijapur and that whole contingent of Mewar was with him. He added that Indra Bhatt one of his most trustworthy servant who had also gone with Udai Karan and Shankar would inform him all the details verbally. This Nishan clearly indicate that Rana Raj Singh and Prince Aurangzeb had very close relations much before the beginning of war of succession.

In the second Nishan Aurangzeb informed Rana that he had send some verbal massage through Indra Bhatt and requested him to send reply within three days. A robe of honour and a ring of Almas was also send for the Rana.

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1 Salih, b, p.6; Adab-i Alamgiri, I, pp.157-169
2 Vir vinod, II, pp.416-24
3 Vir vinod, II, pp.415-16; Tirmizi, II, p.118, s.no.314
4 Vir vinod, II, p.417; Tirmizi, II, p.110, s.no.283
The third *Nishan* which was issued after he (Aurangzeb) started towards Agra to fight for the throne. These documents clearly indicated that Aurangzeb was not only in regular correspondence with the Rana but some understanding had already been reached between them. In this *Nishan* Aurangzeb had actually assured him that *Pargana* of Mandal along with the *Pargana* of Idar will be assigned to him after he fulfills his commitments. He was further asked to immediately send a well equipped army under some close relation to join the advance guard of his army. He was also informed that his (Rana Raj Singh’s) letter send through Raghunath had been received with favour. He showed his concern for the delay in dispatching an army to assist him. Rana was also assured that he would enjoy the same position at his court that Rana Jagat Singh enjoyed earlier. Aurangzeb in this *Nishan* also claimed himself as *Khalifa-i-Bhaq* and *Sarbarah-i-Mumlikat.*

In the next *Nishan* Aurangzeb acknowledged the receipt of the letter as well as verbal message through Indra Bhatt and Brajnath. It appears that the Rana had promised to send a well equipped army under the command of his son. In the *Nishan* Aurangzeb had also assured him that if the commitments would be fulfilled, he would be given much more favours than what were given to Rana Jagat Singh and he would enjoy much higher position than Rana Sanga ever enjoyed. He advised him to remain firm on his commitment and dispatch his son to join his army as soon as it crosses Narmada.

After his victory at Ujjain Aurangzeb once again send a *Nishan* to Raj Singh informing him of the details of the battle fought with Jaswant Singh and the great victory achieved by him in the war. He again asked him to fulfill his commitment of sending an army under the command of his son. Besides that he also requested him not leave Udaipur at this juncture. Further he ordered him to

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1 *Vir vinod,* II, pp.418-21
2 Ibid, pp.421-22
immediately occupy those *Parganas* which were taken away from him and merged in Ajmer *Suba* by the order of Emperor Shah Jahan.¹

In the meanwhile Aurangzeb and Murad after their victory in the battle of Dharmat marched towards Agra.² A decisive battle was fought at Samugarh (7 June 1658) where Dara was defeated and fled towards Shahjahanabad and then towards Lahore.³ Immediately after this battle Rana Raj Singh send his son Sohag Singh along with his brother Ari Singh to congratulate Aurangzeb on his victory at Samugarh.⁴ Sohag Singh and Ari Singh met Aurangzeb at Salimpur, who was marching in pursuit of Dara Shukoh and congratulated him.⁵ They have also brought an *Arzdasht* of Rana Raj Singh which they handed over to the Prince. Aurangzeb received them favourably and presented robes of honour and other usual gifts. Both of them accompanied Aurangzeb up to Mathura from where Sohag Singh was given leave to go back to Udaipur.⁶ Ari Singh however, accompanied Aurangzeb and stayed with him until his first coronation. He was granted leave at a place called *Ray Rayan Ki Srai* on 16 Aug. 1658.⁷ While Ari Singh was leaving for Udaipur Aurangzeb issued a *Farman* addressed to Rana Raj Singh.⁸ The *Farman* acknowledged the receipt of his *Arzdasht* and informed him that as per his request he had been granted all those territories which were held by his father Jagat Singh. His *mansab* was raised from 5000/5000 to 6000/6000 (1000, *do aspa*, *sih aspa*)⁹ and two crore **Dams** were also given to him in *Inam*.¹⁰ The *Pargana* of Badnaur, Mandal, Dungarpur,

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¹ *Vir vinod*, II, pp.423-24; *Timizi*, II, p.111, s.no.285
² Inayat Khan, pp.549-50; *Waqiat i Alamgiri*, pp.16-17
³ Inayat Khan, pp.550-51; *Waqiat i Alamgiri*, pp.20-23
⁴ Sometimes he was also called Sultan Singh. *Vir vinod*, II, p.424; *Alamgirnama*, pp.166-67
⁵ *Vir vinod*, II, p.424
⁶ Ibid, pp.424-25
⁷ Ibid, p.425
⁸ Ibid, pp.425-26
⁹ *Alamgirnama*, p.194; *Vir vinod*, II, pp.426-27
¹⁰ *Vir vinod*, II, pp.426-31; *Timizi*, II, p.140, s.no.421

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Banswara, Ghyaspur and Basawar were also conferred upon him on account of an increase in his mansab and Inam. In the end Rana was asked to remain faithful and loyal to him. The farman was handed over to Ari Singh to be personally handed over to the Rana. Aurangzeb thereafter set off with the main army in pursuit of Dara Shukoh. When he reached Multan, he was informed that Shah Shuja was marching towards Allahabad at the head of a large army. Therefore, Aurangzeb left the pursuit of Dara Shukoh in the hands of his able officer and hurried back towards Shahjahanabad and then towards Allahabad to check the advance of Shuja. While Aurangzeb was on his way to Allahabad, Sardar Singh youngest son of Raj Singh joined his army and fought against Shuja in the battle of Khajwa. Leaving the charge of the army in the hands of Muazzam Khan and Sultan Muhammad to pursue Shuja he himself rapidly marched towards Gujrat to take action against Dara Shukoh who in the meanwhile on receiving an invitation from Jaswant Singh proceeded towards Ajmer. After reaching Sirohi, Dara Shukoh sent a letter to Rana Raj Singh, informing him that he had reached Sirohi and within a short time will reach Ajmer. He appealed for his help in the war against Aurangzeb. He also informed him that Raja Jaswant Singh had agreed to join his army shortly. He further added that as Prince Sardar Singh had now returned to Mewar, he should rally all the Rajputs under his banner and render all possible help in releasing His Majesty (Shahjahan) from imprisonment. Dara Shukoh pleaded that his help at this juncture will be remembered for years and decades by his family. In the end Dara wrote that if he finds it difficult to come personally, he

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1 Vir vinod, II, pp.426-27
2 Inayat Khan, p.556; Waqiat i Alamgiri, p.36
3 Vir vinod, II, p.432
4 Inayat Khan, p.557; Waqiat i Alamgiri, p.47
5 Alamgirnama, pp.229, 300, 311; Inayat Khan, p.557; Waqiat i Alamgiri, pp.41, 81-82; Vir vinod, II, p.434
may dispatch some of his relations along with two thousands troopers to join
him at Merta.¹

But these pleading of Dara Shukoh had no effect on Rana’s attachment
to the cause of Aurangzeb. He maintained his close contact with him and while
Aurangzeb was on his way to Ajmer, at Fathpur, (in the territory of Mewar) he
was received by Raj Singh’s *Samants* and presented jeweled swords and other
valuable gift.² Jaswant Singh on whose assurance Dara had come to Ajmer also
did not join him. Therefore Dara Shukoh had to fight Aurangzeb alone at
Deorai (22nd march 1659) near Ajmer, where he was completely defeated and
his career was finally sealed.³

From a study of the events of war of succession particularly the *Nishans*
of Aurangzeb issued to Raj Singh from time to time it becomes quite clear that
ever since 1657 Raj Singh and Prince Aurangzeb were in close contact with
each other and exchanged letters regularly and in the war of succession the
Rana openly sided with Aurangzeb. However, it is also important to note that in
spite of his repeated assurances to send troops and Aurangzeb’s repeated
reminders for such a help, the Rana did not oblige him with troops. Even then
Aurangzeb remained very friendly towards him and soon after his first
coronation, promoted him to the rank of 6000/6000 (1000x2-3h) and also
assigned all those territories which were held by Rana Karan in Jahangir’s
time.⁴

It is also important to note that several other Sisodias of the house of
Mewar were admitted in imperial service specially during the reign of
Shahjahan and rose to higher ranks. Prominent among them were Rai Rai Singh
Sisodia, Sujan Singh Sisodia, Biram Deo Sisodia, Sabal Singh Sisodia, Rao

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¹ *Vir vinod*, II, p.433; *Tirmizi*, II, p.138, s.no.412
² *Vir vinod*, II, p.434
³ Inayat Khan, p.558; *Waqqat -i- Alamgiri*, pp.42-43; *Hukumat ri Bahi*, p.252
⁴ *Vir vinod*, II, pp.425-31; *Alamgirnama*, p.194

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Duda, Hathi Singh, Rup Singh, Amar Singh and Gokul Das Sisodia. Besides that several other Sisodia Rajputs were also admitted in Mughal service during this period.¹ We have briefly discussed the career of these nobles in the following pages.

Rai Rai Singh Sisodia son of Bhim after the accession was taken into imperial service. His father Bhim had been a close associate of Shah Jahan and lost his life in his cause in 1624.² Rai Rai Singh was granted the mansab of 2000/1000 and the title of Raja was also conferred upon him soon after the accession of Shah Jahan.³ In 1633 he was again raised to the rank of 3000/1200⁴ and shortly afterwards dispatched against Jujhar Singh Bundila.⁵ In 1637 he was again promoted to the rank of 3000/1500⁶ and dispatched to serve Prince Dara Shukoh in Qandhar. After returning from Qandhar he was sent along with Said Khan to suppress the rebellion of Jagat Singh Zamindar of Jammu. In the second Qandhar campaign also he was dispatched to serve under Dara Shukoh. At the time of departure he was promoted to the rank of 4000/2000.⁷ Rai Rai Singh also served in Balkh and Badakhshan campaign under Prince Murad (1646) and Aurangzeb (1647), and Qandhar campaign under Aurangzeb (1649, 1653) and Dara Shukoh (1653).⁸ In these campaign he showed rare feats of valour and in reward for his meritorious services was raised to the rank of 5000/2500.⁹ Rai Rai Singh was also dispatched to the Mewar expedition along with Saadullah Khan to demolish those portions of the fort of Chittor which

¹ See Appendix A5 and B3 for details of their mansab and appointments.
² Ḩeqalayna, pp.232-34; Z. Khawanin, pp.122-23
³ Lahori, Ia, p.195; M.U. II, pp.297-98; T.U., p.261
⁴ Lahori, Ia, p.421; M.U.II, pp. 297-98
⁵ Lahori, Ia,p.535, Ia, p.99
⁶ Ibid, p.142,299
⁷ Lahori, II, p.294; Waris, p.276; M.U.II, pp.297-301
⁸ Salih, III, p.71; M.U. II, pp.298-99
⁹ Waris, p.276; M.U. II, pp.298-99
were recently repaired.1 There after he was deputed to serve in the Deccan under Aurangzeb. In the battle fought against Adil Shahis of Bijapur Rai Rai Singh played very important role and in appreciation of his service, he was promoted to the rank of 5000/4000.2 During the war of succession he was on Dara’s side and was appointed along with Jaswant Singh against Prince Aurangzeb and Murad. But in the course of battle (at Dharmat) he left the battle field and proceeded towards his Watan.3 After Aurangzeb’s victory at Samugarh, he came to Agra and offered his submission before Aurangzeb.4

Biram Deo Sisodia son of Surajmal and grandson of Rana Amar Singh apparently had good relation with both Jagat Singh and Raj Singh and remained with them until 1648. But sometimes in 1648 he joined imperial service and was granted mansab of 800/400.5 Shortly afterwards he was raised to the rank of 1000/500 and deputed to serve in Qandhar under Prince Aurangzeb.6 Biram Deo Sisodia continued to serve in all future military campaign of Shah Jahan’s reign and attained the rank of 3000/1000.7 In the war of succession he was on Dara’s side and fought against Aurangzeb in the battle of Samugarh.8 But shortly afterwards like Rai Rai Singh, he also joined Aurangzeb and actively participated in the campaign against Shuja and Dara.9

Sujan Singh was another important Sisodia noble of Rana’s family in imperial service. He was also a son of Suraj Mal and grandson of Rana Amar Singh. For some time he served the Rana Jagat Singh but in 1637 he left his

1 M.U. II, pp.298-99
2 M.U. II, pp.298-99; T.U. p.262
3 Alamgirnama, pp.70-71; M.U.II, pp.300
4 M.U., II, p.142, 144, 300
5 Salih, III, p.18
6 M.U., II, pp.452-54; T.U., p.282
7 Salih, III, p.188, 204; Waris, a, p.261; M.U. II, pp.452-54
8 Alamgirnama, p.95
9 M.U., II, pp.452-54

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service and joined imperial service. He was assigned the rank of 800/300.\(^1\) He was given promotion of 1000/400 in 1644 and 1000/500 in 1645.\(^2\) Like several other Rajput nobles he was also deputed to serve in Balkh-Badakhshan and Qandhar campaigns, and received promotions in rank. At the closing year of Shah Jahan’s reign he held the rank of 2000/800.\(^3\) During the war of succession he was sent with Jaswant Singh against Aurangzeb, where in the course of battle he was killed (April, 1658).\(^4\) After his death his son Fateh Singh was admitted in service and granted the mansab of 500/200.\(^5\)

Sabal Singh Sisodia a grand son of Rana Amar Singh seems to have been in the personal service of Dara Shukoh for quite sometime. In 1650 he was formally admitted in imperial service and given mansab of 2000/1000.\(^6\) He was deputed to serve in the Balkh-Badakhshan and Qandhar campaigns and by earning promotion reached to the rank of 2500/1500.\(^7\)

Rao Duda son of Rao Chanda and grandson of Durga Das Sisodia like his father and grand father served the imperial Mughals. Soon after the accession of Shah Jahan he presented himself before the Emperor and received the rank of 1500/1000.\(^8\) The title of Rao and the hereditary Jagir of Rampura was also assigned to him.\(^9\) Thereafter he was appointed against Khan i Jahan Lodi and as a reward for his service he was promoted to the rank of 2000/1500.\(^10\) He also served in the Deccan campaign under Asaf Khan and

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\(^1\) Lahori, Ib, p.315
\(^2\) Salih, III, p.394; M.U.II, pp.452-54
\(^3\) Waris b, pp.74-76, 90-91, 166-69; M.U. II, pp.452-54
\(^4\) Waris a, p.270; M.U. II, pp.452-54
\(^5\) Ibid
\(^6\) Waris a, p.261; M.U. II, pp.468-69; T.U. p.294
\(^7\) Lahori, II, p.747; Alamgirnamai, p.847
\(^8\) Lahori, Ib, p.302
\(^9\) Lahori, Ia, p.299; M.U. II, pp.142-48; T.U. p.259
\(^10\) Lahori, Ib, p.302; M.U. II, pp.142-43

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Mahabat Khan where during the siege of Daulatabad he was killed (1634). After his death his son Hathi Singh was admitted in service and given the $mansab$ of 1500/1000. The title of Rao and Rampura was also conferred on him. Like his father he also served in Deccan where he died in 1644. As he died childless he was succeeded by Rup Singh son of his father’s uncle Rup Mukund. He was given the $mansab$ of 900/900 and the hereditary $Jagir$ Rampura was also conferred on him. He was deputed to serve in the Balkh-Badakhshan and Qandhar campaign and rose to the rank of 2000/1200. In 1651 after his death, as he was also childless, Amar Singh son of Hari Singh along with other grand children of Rao Chanda came to court with Rup Singh’s contingent and presented themselves before the Emperor. Amar Singh was recognised as successor of Rup Singh and the hereditary title of Rao, the territory of Rampura was also conferred on him. He was also given $mansab$ of 1000/900. His brother also received suitable $mansab$ and gifts. Amar Singh was deputed to serve in the Qandhar campaigns under Aurangzeb and Dara Shukoh and received the promotion of 1500/1000 (1653) and 2000/1000 (1656). In 1656 he was dispatched to the Deccan to serve under Prince Aurangzeb. After the end of Bijapur campaign (1657) he was summoned to court and during the war of succession he was appointed to serve under Jaswant Singh against Aurangzeb. But soon after the beginning of the hostility he left Jaswant Singh and fled towards his native country Rampura. After the battle of Samugarh he came to Agra and presented himself before Aurangzeb. He was

1 Lohri, Ia, pp.304-5; Ib, pp.302; M.U. II, pp.142-43; T. U. p.259
2 Lohri, Ib, p.305; M.U. II, pp.144-46
3 M.U. II, pp.144-46
4 M.U. II, pp.144-46; Umrai Hunood, p.228; T.U., p.276
5 Waris, a, p.202; M.U. II, pp.145-46
6 M.U. II, pp.146-47; Waris, b, p.106
7 Waris, b, p.156; M.U. II, pp.146-47
8 Waris, a, pp.202-5; b, p.262

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admitted in service and was appointed along with Prince Muhammad Sultan to pursue Shuja.\(^1\)

Besides the Sisodias of the house of Mewar, several other Sisodia Rajputs were also admitted in imperial service. They were given ranks and important assignments. Prominent among them were Gokul Das Sisodia (1500/800),\(^2\) Fateh Singh son of Mansingh (800/200),\(^3\) Madho Singh son of Shyam Singh (500/250),\(^4\) Hari Singh younger son of Chandu Singh (500/400),\(^5\) Fateh Singh son of Sujan Singh (500/200),\(^6\) and Narain Das Sisodia 700/700.\(^7\)

The account of the Mewar house discussed above makes it abundantly clear that the Sisodias chiefs ever since their submission in Jahangir’s time by and large remained faithful to imperial authority. Jahangir as discussed above had very special regard for Rana Amar Singji and Kr. Karan remained favourite of both Emperor Jahangir and Prince Khurram. However, during the reign of Jahangir besides Karan only two other Sisodias were admitted in service and their total rank was only 6000/600.

During the rebellion of Khurram Karan was the only Rajput chief who openly supported him and after the death of Jahangir too when Khurram, on his way to Delhi reached Gogunda Karan again came out openly in his support and despatched Arjun with a contingent of troops to accompany him to fight for the throne.

Shah Jahan after his accession specially favoured Sisodias. After Karan’s death Jagat Singh was immediately recognised as the ruler of Mewar. During Shah Jahan’s reign besides the members of the family of Sisodia chief several

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1. *M.U.*, II, pp.146-47
2. Lahori, Ia, p.323, Ib, p.312; *Umrai Hunood*, p.310
3. Lahori, Ib, p.316
4. Lahori, Ib, p.323
5. Lahori, Ib, p.322
6. Waris, a, p.270
7. *T.U.* p.275

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other Sisodias were also admitted in service and their strength in the nobility considerably increased. Table given below will show that as many as sixteen Sisodias were in service and the total mansab held by them now reached to 30500/20250.

Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total No</th>
<th>Zat</th>
<th>Sawar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1616</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>8200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1626</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>5600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1628</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10200</td>
<td>7700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1641</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>13800</td>
<td>8930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1657</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30500</td>
<td>20250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, none of them were given any important administrative duty and after the death of Rana Jagat Singh for a brief period on the problem of the repair of the fort of Chittor relation were strained. Even after prolonged negotiations, the repair portion of the fort of Chittor was destroyed. However, working relationship was established by the Rana who was extremely unhappy with Shah Jahan and probably during that time he established close relationship with Prince Aurangzeb.