CHAPTER - II

POLITICAL HISTORY.
For throwing new light on the basis of archaeological material of any geographical area, it is of prime importance to have a broad structural knowledge of the history of that area. In particular the political history of a geographical district is supposed to give the framework in which the succession of archaeological material can be sequentiy arranged and thus enable one to construct a meaningful chronological sequence. The history of Ahmedabad district being a part of the general political history of the State of Gujarat, shares its many aspects.

The first historical dynasty that is known in Gujarat is that of the Mauryas. It appears from a late inscription of Rudradaman 150 A.D. that Gujarat was under the rule of Chandra Gupta Maurya, whose governor, Fushya Gupta built the Sudarshana tank, near Junagadh. This tank carries inscription of the Mauryas, Kshatrapas and the Guptas. From this evidence it can be said that the Mauryas had ruled the intervening Ahmedabad district also.

According to Strabo, the son and successor of Sandrocos (Chandra Gupta) was Allitrochandes whom Athemacus calls Amitrochates (Sanskrit Amitraghata -
slayer of foes) with the reference to Puranas the name of Bindusara which is generally adopted. He ruled for about 300 to 273 B.C.

Ashoka ascended the throne about 273 B.C. His region in Gujarat is attested by Auddradaman's inscription also. Ashoka had to wage war with Kalinga only, and moreover existence of his inscription in Saurashtra clearly indicates Maurya rule in Gujarat. In midst of this vast Empire, Ahmedabad district could not be out of the Maurya domain.

SUNGIAS:

The last Mauryan king Brihadratha was assassinated by his commander-in-chief, Budyomitra Sunga. Mauryan Empire of eastern India thus passed in the hands of the Sungas. But, because of the dearth of material, it is very difficult to say, what relations Gujarat had with the Sungas. If we consider the significance of two Sungas who marched to the south, it leaves no doubt that they might have, if not conquered, at least subdued the kingdoms or principalities existing in the main land of Gujarat.

GREEKS:

Political condition of India was rather disturbed when Bactrian Greeks invaded the North Western India under
Demetrius I, about 185 B.C. Out of the different sources related to this period, the accounts of Strabo and Justin, mentions that Menander surpassed even Alexander by conquering more parts of India. Both these sources state that Demetrius and Menander got possession not only of Patalene (lower reaches of river Sindhu) but also the kingdoms of Saraostos (Saurashtra) Sigerdis (Kachha).¹

Coins of Demetrius and other Greek kings were found from Saurashtra and South Gujarat. From the find spot of these coins it seems that Greeks came from Sind, over-ran Cutch and Saurashtra and by sea reached up to Barygaza (Broach). That Greek rule extended up to Broach can be justified by the evidence of coins of Eucratides, Apollodotus and Menander found in Broach². The author of the "Periplus" (240 A.D.) refers that old drachmæ bearing the Greek inscriptions of Apollodotus and Menander were current in Barygaza till his time³.

After the death of Demetrius, his brother Apollodotus seems to have ruled over the empire. After his Bactria was taken over by Menander, the greatest of Yavana kings, and became the master of the Greek possessions in India. Menander stabilised Indo-Greek power, in addition to extending its frontiers in India. During the years that he
ruled (155-130 B.C.), he is known to have held Swat valley, and the Hazara district and the Punjab as far as the Ravi River. He is also identified with the Milinda of the famous Buddhist work "The Milinda Panho". The Greek rule in India was not lost with the death of Menander, but continued under his son, Sotar-I, who ruled through his general Apollodotus-II. His coins were imitated by the Saka Ksatrapas like Chastan and Nahapan.

All these evidences clearly indicate that the area of Ahmedabad does not have positive evidence for this region.

SAKAS:

The Greeks were overthrown by the Sakas in India. These nomad invaders, entering India from Sakastana (Seistan), conquered Abhira on the Indus. Advancing southwards, they took Patalene and the Greek sea-provinces of Cutch and Saurashtra. This was their original kingdom in India. By about 80 B.C. they proceeded northwards from Abhira up to the Indus under Maues or Moga and conquered northern India. Their power eventually extended up to Mathura, including the parts of Ujjain. Mathura became the headquarters of Sakas as early as the time of Maues. According to the Indian traditions the Sakas were driven out from Ujjain and pushed southward into the region of Gujarat, Cutch and
Kathiawad by about 58 B.C., Rise of Kusana power in the north might be the main reason for the retreat of Sakas. The available sources do not speak clearly whether Sakas stuck the Gujarat, Cutch and Kathiawad after 58 B.C.

KSHAHARATA - KSHATRAPAS:

The Kshatrapas are divided into two branches. One branch known as the northern Kshatrapas, ruled from Mathura and the other known as western Kshatrapas administered their authority from Ujjain. History of the north is concerned with the western Kshatrapas whose domains occasionally extended between Ajmer and eastern Malwa and upto the Gulf of Cambay. History of these Kshatrapas is derived from inscriptional and numismatic evidences. The earliest member of this dynasty, who is known from his coins was Bhumaka. His coins are found along the coast of Gujarat, Kathiawad and even in Malwa and Rajasthan. He was succeeded by Nahapan. Very few coins of his are found from Gujarat proper but none of them are dated, but on the strength of the inscriptions (all found outside Gujarat) the Ksharata rule over Gujarat is fixed at the first quarter of the second century A.D. The Ksharatas were exterminated by Satakaran Gotamiputra and Gujarat and Saurashtra once
again passed over into the hands of the Andhras. The political change is very clear from the Nasik inscription of Vasithiputra Pulumavi which used the epithet "destroyer of the family of Kshaharatas", for Gotamiputra Satakarni. The Andhra coins found from Karvana, Broach, Anand, Sidhpur, etc. are eloquent testimony to this fact.

**Kshatrapas:**

The Andhras were soon overthrown by another branch of the Kshatrapa dynasty, known as western Kshatrapas or Kardamakas. This dynasty ruled steadily over Gujarat for nearly two hundred years. This was a period of much prosperity and stability in Gujarat as information can be gathered from the distribution of their coins and inscriptions. The power of this dynasty reached its zenith under the rule of Rudradaman I. During his rule the power of the Kshatrapas extended over greater parts of central India, Rajputana, Cutch, Sind, Gujarat and northern Konkan. The Girnar inscription of Rudradaman-I mentions his victory over Satakarni, the ruler of the Deccan. With this victory he won for himself the title of "Mahakasatrapa". Rudradaman's capital was at Ujjain in Malwa, and Gujarat was ruled by his Governor named Savisakha. After the Girnar inscription of Rudradaman-I,
one gets very little information about the dominion of the Kshatrapas. But it is certain that this family was ruling without any break till Saka year 226, i.e. 304 A.D.

Recently Deva Hoard of Kshatrapa coins was found near primary school at Dena Taluka, Petlad, District Kaira. In this hoard one coin of Prithvisena is also found. On this coin the date of the king mentioned is 144 and 146. Among these three kings, only Prithvisena has title of Mahakshatrapa. Here, the question arises what is the relationship of Prithvisena and Sanghadaman and Damsena. Rapson in his catalogue of coins of the Andhra dynasty, the western Kshatrapas, etc. informs that there is no information obtained as to the history of this Kshatrapa beyond the bare fact that he (Prithvisena) reigned in the year 144, the year in which his father Rudrasena I ceased and his uncle Sanghadaman began, to reign as Mahakshatrapa.

The coin ascribed in Deva hoard to Prithvisena also Mahakshatrapa belong to the year 146. Apparently upon the death of Rudrasena I, his son, Prithvisena who worked as a Kshatrapa might have exercised his right as the son of the dead ruler to the throne and he seems to have maintained it as could be informed from the Dena hoard.
All these evidences discussed above and particularly that of coin, positively indicated that the area of Ahmedabad district remained under the rule of Kshatrapa, till coming of the Guptas.

GUPTAS:

The Gupta sway on Gujarat is attested by inscriptive as well as numismatic evidences. In the Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudra Gupta (C. 330-370 A.D.) it is mentioned that the western Kshatrapas were paying homage to the Gupta emperor, Samudra Gupta. Chandra Gupta II, well known in Indian History as Vikramaditya, planned his campaign against Malwa, Gujarat and Saurashtra. In this campaign he not only defeated the Kshatrapa but completely annihilated their power and annexed their empire to his own dominion. His conquest of Malwa, Gujarat and Saurashtra, after defeating Kshatrapa king, Rudrasimha III of Ujjain, is attested by the Udayagiri, and Sanchi inscriptions.

The coin of the western Kshatrapa Rudrasimha is dated 388-87 A.D. whereas the earliest coins of Chandra Gupta II bear the date 409-10 A.D. Chandra Gupta II bears a coin. It was found in the village Kunarakhan in Viramgam Taluka, and one coin
was found from Karvan. Nine gold coins were found, of which six were of Chandra Gupta II. Now, if the Gupta coins are found in Viramgam, it shows that Gupta emperors must have ruled in Ahmedabad district.

Kumar Gupta-I (C.414-455 A.D.) succeeded Chandra Gupta and continued to rule up to 455 to 465 A.D. Skanda Gupta (455-467) succeeded Kumar Gupta.

Skanda Gupta died in 467 A.D. and Budh Gupta succeeded the throne. By the end of fifth century, after Budh Gupta we do not have any concrete evidence of Gupta rule in Gujarat and particularly, Ahmedabad district. This is probably due to the rise of Bhattarka, the founder of Maitraka dynasty, whose date is assumed to be about 480 A.D. ¹⁴

MAITRAKAS (A.D. 470 to 785 A.D.)

After the decline of Gupta power in India, once again many regional dynasties became powerful. Among these Maitrakas of Valabhi were prominent. Their history is perhaps one of the best documented history. This is due to their copper plate grants which are found in quite a good number.

More than one hundred copper plates are found from Gujarat and 10 stones inscriptions are found. These
copper plates are issued for donation for various purposes, and bear the official seal-seated bull on it. It also records the names of the officers, names of Brahmin's family and dates every plate with the king's lithograph. Thus Maitraka copper plates which are the source of information not only for political history, but cultural study also.

The Maitrakas of Valabhi were one of the most outstanding dynasty amongst the contemporary dynasties of Kalchuris, Maukharies and Gurjaras due to their long rule of nearly 300 years and very rich epigraphical evidence of copper plate grants that were distributed almost on whole of Gujarat.

Formerly, Maitrakas were wrongly identified as Valabhi, but Dr. K. Viriji and H.G. Shastri have correctly identified this dynasty as Maitraka.

These plates are found particularly in Saurashtra and its adjoining region and even from north and south Gujarat. Valabhi, that is modern Vala in Bhavnagar district, was their capital. The distribution map of Maitraka copper plates grants which are discovered as north as Anandpur that is modern Vadnagar in north, Navsari in south, Bhumali in west and Godhra in the
east. It clearly indicates that almost whole of Gujarat was under Maitraka rule. Under such circumstances although no direct epigraphic evidence in the form of copper plate or inscription is discovered from Ahmedabad district, itself, it is almost certain that Maitrakas must be ruling over Ahmedabad district also. It becomes clear from the mention of two place names, Kasendra and Barejadi, which are identified as modern Kasendra and Barejadi.

This modern village of Kasendra (20°-54 N and 72° - 30 E) is about 20 kilometers south-west of Ahmedabad. This village is referred to in the copper plate of Dharasena-III, Here this is mentioned as a Pathaka i.e. political unit. Kasendra must have been an important place during Maitraka rule. So this is the most authentic proof of Maitraka rule in Ahmedabad district.

Moreover, as already noted above copper plate grant of Dharasena II, also mentions Bandarjdi i.e. modern Barejadi (20°-53 N - 72°-41 E). So putting together these two evidences it is certain that Ahmedabad district must have been under Maitraka rule.

**Bhatarka:**

The founder of Maitraka dynasty was one Bhatarka, who was probably a general in Gupta army. There is no
direct evidence to prove the beginning of his rule. For this we have to refer the copper plate grants of his second son, Dhruvsena (A.D. 502). This Dhruvsena had come to power after his elder brother, Dharasena-I. The latest date of Gupta power in Saurashtra according to Junagadh inscription of Skanda Gupta is 455 A.D. hence date of Bhatarka is suggested as 470 A.D. There is no evidence about how Bhatarka achieved power but from the title Parama-maheshvara seems that he was Shaiva. Moreover, two or three of the nineteen Maitraka rulers, call themselves as Parama-maheshvaras.

Though Bhatarka may have been a general in the beginning, he did become an independent king during later part of his career.

After Guhasena Dharasena II (A.D. 571, 590 to 595) son Shiladitya-I (A.D. 595 to 612) came to power. According to Young-Chwang reference, his kingdom was extended upto Malwa. He was a man of literary test. He assumed the new title of "Parmaditya", which indicates his active interest in religion.

Although, Shiladitya had a son, called Dharmaditya, his immediate successor was his younger brother,
Kharugraha-I (A.D. 615 to 620). During his reign he had a victorious campaign up to Ujjain. Against whom his campaign was launched, cannot be ascertained.

Dharasena III succeeded his father Kharugraha-I. His rule lasted eight years only. One of his inscriptions is known. This copper plate refers to Kasahrrada i.e. modern Kasindra which is about 20 kilometers south-west of Ahmedabad. Here, this Kasadrahra is mentioned as Pathak i.e. political unit like district. So Kasahrrada must have been an important place during Maitraka rule. It refers him as a learned devotee of Maheshwara religion. His rule coincides with the great struggle between Harsha and Pulkeshin II, but to whom he was attached cannot be attested with certainty. According to some scholars, he was subdued by Pulkeshin-II27.

About Dhruvasena II who had also a title of Baladitya we have seven copper plate grants dated from 629 A.D. to 640 A.D. Although he was a Maheshwara, he had donated for Buddhist monastery27.

Harsha of Kanuja had conflict with Dhruvsena-II who had to take revenge with Duddia-II of Broach, but later on when Harsha was with Pulkeshin-II, he gave
his daughter in marriage to Dhruvsena. According to Nogarva plate, from Rajasthan near Ratlam, about the prosperity of his subject, Haentsang mentions that "there are hundreds whose wealth assessments to a million, and merchandise of distant countries is found there in abundance".

Dhruvasena-II was an able ruler and military leader. He was succeeded by Dharaseha IV. He was the most outstanding ruler among Maitrakas. He assumed his title of Chakravati. This was possible due to the death of Harsha after whom he must have gained more territory and power (648 A.D.). His kingdom extended from Saurashtra to Ujjain in east-west and Anandpur (Vadanagar).

After Dharasena IV, his son Dhruvasena III came to power, but now the Maitrakas seem to have lost title of Maharaja Dhiraja. According to Viriji, this loss of power was due to Vikramaditya-I, son of Pulakesin-II.

Dhruvasena II was succeeded by his elder brother Khargrah-II who also died without a male child, Siladitya-II, son of Siladitya-I came to power and ruled from 658 to 655 A.D. A number of copper plate grants of him are found. During his reign first Arabs raid of Gogha was driven back. Siladitya III
defeated the Gurjaras of South Gujarat, but he was again defeated by the Chaulukyas. His follower Shiladitya IV was also defeated by Chaulukya King Vikramaditya II, as a result South Gujarat again went under the Gurjaras who were under Chaulukyas. But this has nothing to do with Ahmedabad District.

The Arab invasion of 735 A.D. conquered the territory of Maitrakas along the coast of the Arabian sea.

The Maitraka power was weak for 20 years, but Shiladitya VI ruled from 740 to 762 A.D.

The Gurjara-Parthihara took away Malwa from the Maitrakas. Again the Arabs raided in 760 and 776 A.D. making Maitrakas rule weaker and weaker and gradually it was completely destroyed.

CHAVDAS (A.D. 720-940)

After the Maitrakas again there is some dark period in the history of Gujarat. But again after the beginning of 8th century A.D. new dynasty of Chavdas is mainly based on literary sources such as Prabandhachintamani, Ratnamala, etc. which were written during Chaulukya rule (940 to 1242) A.D.) of Gujarat only. Navsari grant of Chaulukya king Pulakeshi Janasraya
mentions the Chapotkata territory. They had established their capital in north Gujarat first at Panchasara and then shifted to Anahila Pataka i.e. modern Anvadoda near Patan in North Gujarat. But it seems that Chavda rule was confined to north or part of north Gujarat, hence their rule in Ahmedabad district cannot be ascertained. Anyway, Ratnamala gives detailed account of how Chavda king was attacked by Bhuvada of Kalyanakataka and how his queen ran away to forest with her brother Surapula and delivered a son called Vanraja.

This Vanraja was trained by a Jain monk, Silagunasari. Prabandhachintamani also mentions about the duties of Vanraja. He had robbed royal treasure and established capital at Anahilapataka. According to his book, Vanraja came on throne in V.S.802 i.e. 746 A.D. He was 53 at that time. He died after a long rule at about 780 A.D.

After Vanraja's rule history of Chavdas is not clear. But after him Yograja, Kshemvaja and finally Samantarinha ruled. Samantarinha was killed by his nephew, Mulagraja who usurped the throne in 941 A.D. and established the famous dynasty of Chalukyas.
History of Gujarat becomes clear after the rise of the Chalukyas. Because this powerful dynasty produced conquerers like Siddharaja, whose rule extended from Konkan in south upto Rajasthan in north. Hence, Ahmedabad district must have been under their rule at least after some years of beginning period.

Their history is derived from their own inscriptions which is supported by contemporary literary work like Prabandhachintemani, Ratnamala, Kirtikaumudi, etc.

Mulraja: (A.D. 942 to 997)

Mulraja usurped the throne after killing his maternal uncle Samantasimha in 942 A.D. This is mentioned in the Sambhar inscription of Siddharaja. Mulraja's kavi grant states that he conquered Sarasvatmandal i.e. area around Anahila Patak by his own strength.

After this Mulraja was attacked simultaneously by Vijgraharaja of Sakambhari and Barappa of Lata from north and south, Mulraja had to run away to Cutch, but after he sent his son, Chamundaraja against Barappa, who was killed.
Thus, Mulraja had a successful military career and extended his kingdom. According to Balera plates, his kingdom was spread upto Sambhar in north which is doubtful.

Mulraja-I was an ardent devotee of Siva. This is testified by the symbol of Nandi on his copper plates and by the donations given to the two Saiva-caryas. The Kadi grant informs that Mulraja built a temple on Mulanatha or Mulesvara in Vardhivisaya. He also seems to have built the Rudramahalaya at Sristhada (Sidhapur). According to Merutunga, Mulraja-I built the temples of Muladenaswami and the Triparasa temple at Anhilabataka. Prabandhachintamani also records the relation of Muliraja with Kanthadinatha, the great saint of the Nath cult.

On stylistic and palacographic evidence, H.G.Shastri and M.A.Dhaky believed that after defeating Graharipu of Saurashtra, Mulrajra-I probably rebuilt a large and superb temple of Somnath at Prabhaspatan. At Vadnagar too, he built a Siva temple.

CHAMUNDARAJA (A.D. 99 to 1010)

As stated above, after Mulrajraja, Chamundaraja came to throne. His history is mainly derived from
literary sources, Vastupala, Tejapala Prashati states that he had killed many enemies. According to Vadnagar inscription, Chamunda had defeated Sidhrajya of Malwa. He has also defeated Yogiraja, son of Barappa. During his last days, Chamundaraja retired to Shuklatirtha and entrusted the throne to Vallabharaja.

VALLABHRAJA (A.D. 1010).

Vallabharaja was in power only for six months. His name is not there even in geneological list except in Vadnagar-prasasti.

DURLABHARAJA (1010 to 1021 A.D.)

Like Vallabharaja, Durlabharaja also ruled for short period of 1010 to 1021 A.D. No other details of his reign are available.

The reign of the next king, Bhima-I (1022 to 1964 A.D.) is probably the most remarkable as far as building of temples in Gujarat and Rajasthan is concerned. Bhima-I, to his eternal credit, built the temple of Somnath after its destruction by Mahmud Gazni. This fact has been recorded in the Prasasti of Bhavabrhaspati. According to Prabandha-chintamani, he constructed the temple of Tripurasaptasada for the welfare of his dead son at Anhilvad Patan.
Hemchandra and other writers of that age state that Bhimadeva had subdued Hammuka of Sindh. Bhima also subdued Dhandhuka of Abu. He also wedged war with Chamanas of Naddula, but was not successful. His most outstanding achievement is his defeat of Parmar king Bhoja of Malwa.

Two copper plates of Karna-I (c. 1066 to 1094), one from Navsari (dated viz. 1148 to 1092) and another from Sunaka (viz. 1148 to 1096) refer to the donations given by him after worshipping Maheshwar and Bhagavana Bhavanipati. These inscripional evidences show that Karnadeva was devotee of Siva. According to the Prabandhachintamani Karnadava after defeating the Bhila leader Asa, received an omen from Bhairavidevi and built at Asapatti (now merged in the city of Ahmedabad) a devi temple along with temples of Karnasara (Sivalaya) and Jayanti (devi temple). The well known Nilakantha Mahadeva temple at Sunak (District Mehsana) and the Pasupati temple at Pavagadh (District Panchmahals) are attributed to the time of Karnadeva.

Siddharaja Jayasinha, the son and successor of Karna-I who was the greatest patron of art, architecture, learning and literature, was a militant Saiva. His
religious preceptor was Bhavabrhaspati to whom he had brought from Tribhuvanpala, Malwa after defeating the Parmar king.

His adventures and achievements are recorded in inscriptions, literature and Bardic legends. As already noted above, Siddharaja was installed on throne when he was very young. In the beginning he had to declare war against Khengar of Junagadh who was killed in the battle. Sajjana a minister was appointed viceroy of Saurashtra, but not for along.

After Saurashtra he invaded Chauhans of Nadduta and Sakambari. Sudha hill inscription mentions how Chauhans were made vassals. Sambhara inscription, also mentions his victories against Chauhan kings, Amoraja and Asaraja.

Duyasraya Kavya Kirti Koumadi and Prabandhachintamini gave colourful story of how Siddharaja conquered the Parmar Yashovarma of Malwa. This is supported by Gadha inscription. He put a garrison at Dhod which was on strategic portion between Gujarat and Malwa.

Chandellas of Kalchuri of Central India also paid tributes to Siddharaja. He had also defeated a tribal chief called Barbaraka which is evident in his title Barbarkajishnu.
His domains stretched from Gwalior to the Arabian sea east-west and Sambhar in Rajasthan to north Konkan north-south. He was a great patron of literature and arts. The famous Jain monk Hemchandracharya composed famous work on grammar with his patronage and added Siddahema name in the title of 'that book Siddhahance Vyakarana'. He died childless in 1143 A.D. After him Kumarapala his cousin came to throne.

**KUMARPALA (A.D. 1143 to A.D. 1172)**

In his early life Kumarpala had to hide himself from Siddharaja. Jains had helped him at that time. So in his later life he had embraced Jainism. So naturally Jain chronicles give colourful accounts of his life and achievements. But this can be changed from inscriptions of his own.

In the initial years of his power he had to overcome some family funds. After this, he defeated Arhoraja of Sakambhari. He also captured Vikramaditya of Abu and Pat Yashodharma place. He also defeated and killed Ballala of Malwa. He sent some invasions against Kallikarjuna of Konkana. He died due to poisoning in 1172 A.D.
After Kumarapala Chalukya power became weak. Chahimans Chaulukyas and Parmars once again became independent. Ajayapals and Mulâraja who succeeded Kumarapala ruled only for three years, up to 1180 A.D. But during Mulâraja reign Muslim invasion under Maizz-uddin was driven back in 1178 A.D.

BHIMADEVA-II (A.D. 1178 - A.D. 1241)

Under Bhimadeva II some glory of Chaulukya power was re-established.

He had to struggle with Yadavas and Hoyasalas. His third conflict was with Pruthviraja Chauhan, a cousin brother. But peace was established in 1187 A.D. He was now confronted with a Muslim invasion under Kutb-ud-din (A.D. 1197-1200). This was followed by Parmara and Yadava invasions. After this Jayantasimha one of his nephew tried to usurp the throne, but Bhima could overthrow him with the help of Lavanaprasada and Viradhavals, who became prominent figures.

TRIBHUVANPALA (A.D. 1242 to A.D. 1244)

Bhima was succeeded by Tribhuvanpala whose inscriptive evidence is available in his own Kavi copper plate grant. He had no son. After him, Vaghelas came to power.
VAGHELAS (A.D. 1243 to A.D. 1298)

Origin of the Vaghelas is not clear. According to Kirti-Kaumudi they belonged to a branch of Chalukya. The earliest known member of their family is Dhavala who was married to Kumarapala's maternal aunt of whom was born Arnoraja. Arnoraja was a Sumanta only. Lavanaprasada who had helped Bhimadeva II was Arnoraja's son.

Lavanaprasad was gradually raised to a status of Mahasumanta of Dhavlakka i.e. modern Dholka. Thus Ahmedabad district had his first almost independent ruling line at Dholka. His son, Viradhavala was a powerful administrator and general. After him Visaladeva came to power at Dholka A.D.

VISALADEVA:

He was the younger brother of Viradhavala. His title of Maharana suggests possibly that he had suppressed Tribhuvanpala and usurped that throne in 1241-42. But there is no proof of this. But it is almost certain that he was on the throne in A.D. 1245.

The Kavi grant and Dhubhoi Prasasti refer to his victory on Yadav king, a Sinhana. Vastupala and Tejpala the famous Jain builders of Abu temples of Delwada were
his ministers. Visaladeva had no son, so his nephew Arjanadev came to throne. He was succeeded by Rama. Only one instruction of Murlidhar temple refers him as king.

**SARANGADEVA:**

Karana, son of Rama was very young. So Saranadeva, Rama's brother, came to power. He had also defeated Yadava king Ramchandran. So from these evidence it is very clear that whole of Gujarat including Ahmedabad district must have been under him.

**KARNA (1296-1298-99)**

Karna, son of Rama came to throne in A.D.1296. But he was the most unlucky king to be last Hindu ruler of medieval Gujarat.

Alauddin Khilji's armies attacked Patan. Karna had to run away. Alauddin's army under Ulighkhan and Nasaruj Khan destroyed Hindu army and towns and villages. According to Jinaprabhasuri, Karna gave a last battle at Ashapalli i.e. Ashwal, near Ahmedabad. Anakahilapataka, Cambay and Somnath were located and massacred and temples destroyed. According to Mecuttangas Vicharareni, Karna was victim of treachery of his minister Madhava. After Karna's defeat his family escaped towards south to seek refuge with Yadavas of Devagiri. Muslim historian give
colourful description of Devaldevi's capture and her love with Khijar Khan and final marriage. But this is not historical truth.

Kama died in some unknown spot and thus ended the Hindu rule of Gujarat in 1298.
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22) Epigraphic Indica X, 78

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24) Indian Antiquary vol. VI, P.191-193 (Kadi copper plate dated vis. 1043).

25) DV-VI-VV-100-10


27) Dryusraya Karya VIII vv.97-108


29) Epigraphia Indica, I.297

30) (Ed) Acherya Girajashankar V.Historical inscription of Gujarat, 2 no. 141-142 (Gujarat).

31) Ibid - 143

32) Prabandhachintamani (Gujarati translation by Shastri D.K., P.115-116

33) Dhaky M.A. op.cit. p.3, 41

34) Prabhendachintamani (Gujarati translation p. 115

35) Indian Antiquary - L VII 234

36) Journal of Bombay Branch of Royal Asiatic Society - 324

37) Majumdar A.R., Chalukya's of Gujarat P.76-77

38) Indian Antiquary XI, 11, 258, Ujjain inscription.