CHAPTER I.

Geography of Baroda, Broach and Surat Districts.

Boundary.

The northern part of the west coast of India (20°N 26°N - 72.5°E 74°E) from the river Mahi in the north to Damanganga in the south covers the districts of the Baroda, Broach and Surat. They constitute central and southern Gujarat and form a narrow triangular strip with its base in the north and apex in the south where the plain of Gujarat comes to an end at the point near Damanganga where the Deccan trap almost touches the sea. The eastern boundary of this area is marked by the State of Madhyabharat; Khandesh, Dangs and Nasik districts of the Bombay State. The southern boundary is marked by the Thana district, and the Portuguese territory of Daman. To the west of this area is the Arabian sea and the Gulf of Cambay, while the north is bounded by the Kaira and the Panchmahal districts of the Bombay State.

Terrain.

These districts lie in the young coastal plain of Gujarat, which is generally flat. This uniformity is broken by a group of low "loessic" dunes in the Savli and Sankheda talukas of the Baroda district. The deep Kotars and water gulleys that have eroded the banks of larger rivers like Mahi, Narmada and Tapi give an impression of rugged terrain. The
low eninences developed by artificial embankments of ponds, and the villages also break the uniform sky line of this region. Only in the eastern parts of the three districts, hills, hilly region of the eroded edges of Malwa plateau and Western ghats is seen, but in the south the hills at Dungri and Parnera are observed almost near the sea.

Rivers.

From this hilly area a number of rivers spring up, where as only two - the Narmada and the Tapi - come from beyond the boundary of these hills. The rivers of this area are the Mahi, the Dhadhara, the Narmada, the Kim, the Tapi, the Mindhola, the Purna, the Ambika and the Para with their tributaries showing dendritic pattern. No river except the Narmada and Tapi are perennial due to the paucity of water at their source. But after the first rains, the rills, streams and rivers overflow, flooding and eroding the plain. Often these rivers have cut deep ravines and gullies near their banks and turned large areas in bad land. Towards the autumn the rivers become quiet, and flow sluggishly through the plain and almost cease to flow in the summer.

The northern rivers flow from the north-east to the south-west, while the Narmada and rivers south of it flow from east to west more or less forming parallel valleys in the fertile plain.

Soils.

There is a wide variety of soils in this area. Most of them are secondary soils resting on thick deposit of
yellow earth, sand and kankar. The primary soils are seen in the eastern hilly region or on the Nummulitic formations of the Surat and Broach districts. The fertility of the soil shows wide variation. Near the sea the soils are saline, sandy and less fertile, whereas in the plains of parts of Surat, Broach and Baroda districts heavy black fertile soil is seen. But in the Northern part of Baroda district the soil is loamy, brown and fertile. In parts of Broach and Surat districts, where nummulitic formations are met with the soil is reddish brown and less fertile. In the eastern highland the soil mantle is very thin and rest on the rock or rolled pebbles or yellow earth. Here the agricultural activities are of limited nature as a result of the uneven surface and backwardness of the people. The newly broken soil here is fertile but shows a tendency to exhaust rapidly, possibly due to uneven ground and removal of it by natural agencies of rain and wind.

Minerals.

This area in general is devoid of any minerals. The eastern part is rich in stones for buildings, and the agates, and other fine grained stones are found in the later deposits of the rivers Mahi, Narmada, Tapi and their tributaries. Some of these deposits like those of Ratanpur and Ghala are worked for the agate industries of Cambay. Ochre and China clay are the other natural resources in this area. A few hotwater springs are there at Unai, in Surat district. Due to

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1 For details about Minerals, see Sukheshwala R.N., Geological Evolution of Maha Gujrat Section III, p.15 ff.
this lack of minerals the main occupation here is agriculture which is dependant on the rainfall and climate.

Rainfall & Climate.

Rainfall varies from about 30" in parts of Baroda and Broach districts, to more than 50" in the parts of Surat district. The monsoon winds bring rains to this region from June to October. In the summer the temperature goes up to about 112° - 113°. This intense heat of the summer subsides with the break of the monsoon and the dry plains once again become fresh and green. The depressions turn into blue ponds with water lilies and other aquatic vegetation. In the autumn the temperature varies between 50°F-80°F though occasionally the temperature falls as low as 34°F-40°F. This season is cool and pleasant. The daily and annual variation in temperature is in the Surat district is less than that in the Baroda district due to the moderating influence of the sea. In this connection Broach occupies an intermediate position.

Flora and Fauna.

In the eastern hilly region the summer deciduous type of forests occur. The forest timber is utilised for building purpose and manufacture of firewood and charcoal. This forest area abounds in wild life. Tigers, panthers, wolves, foxes, hynas, bears and other beasts of prey, are seen in Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The deer, sambhar, nilgai are the wild herbivirous mammals. The rodents are
the rabbit, squirrels, mongoose, civets and rats. Monkeys are also found in large numbers. The hawk, the vultures, the owl, are the birds of prey. The peacocks, parkettes, mynas, buntings, rosy pastors, sand growse, terns, storks, sarasa cranes, the kingfisher, nilkanthas, huppos, cuckoos and a number of other birds are found all over these districts. The wild ducks, and other migratory birds are also seen. A variety of fowls exists in the forests. The rat-snake, the cobra, the python and a variety of lizards are the residents of this area. The crocodile, fish and turtles are found in the rivers and perennial ponds. Toads and frogs are seen generally during the rains. The cattle consists of the humped cows, bullocks, buffaloes, horses, ponies, asses, sheep and goat which are domesticated.

Natural Divisions.

These districts can be subdivided into three major regions. They are (1) the coastal strip, (2) the Central belt and (3) the eastern highland.

Coastal Plain.

The area of the coastal plain is flat, sandy and saline. The flatness is occasionally broken by sand dunes and mangrove swamps. The soil is unfertile. Juwar, bajri, oilseed, wheat and rice are grown in the patches of alluvium which are less saline. The yield per acre is poor. Edible fish is found in the sea but the fishing industry is rather
underdeveloped due to the lack of facilities and demand.

The coast line is more or less uniform. The sea is shallow and tide sweeps over a large area, which is turned into saline marsh. Due to this uniformity of coast line, the shallowness of sea and high tide, the only approach to the land is by the river mouths. The approaches to these mouths are difficult due to shoals, tidal currents and lower depths. However, the commerce with the hinterland of Rajasthan, Malwa, parts of North India, and Khandesh has enabled the development of a few river ports. The wooden ship of antiquity could enter these ports from the sea, so, Broach, Cambay, and Surat were flourishing ports. The discovery of monsoons by Hippalus had changed the commercial focus to the south, in early centuries of the Christian Era. Inspite of the adverse circumstances, these ports were flourishing centres of trade and commerce upto the discovery of the sea route to India by the Portuguese, and a few years after that. The final blow came with the discovery of the steam ship requiring deep water ports. To-day the famous ports of Gujarat are of little use for an international trade.

The population in the urban areas in this part make a living by trade and manufacture. But the population in the rural areas is poor. They live in a few single-storeyed mud houses on a single street which often forms a small village. Kolis, kharwas, machhis, and a very few businessmen live here. Their profession is mixed farming, cattle breeding, fishing, manufacture of salt, etc. The scarcity of population and the salty nature of the soil were noted also in the 7th century
A.D. by Hieun Tsang, the famous Chinese traveller. This fact is corroborated by the findings of a very few archaeological sites from this tract.

Central Plain.

This coastal plain gives place to the central belt of Gujarat, parts of which are included in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The alluvium and aeolian deposits with black reddish brown and yellowish soils, with varying amount of humus and fertility are the chief agricultural wealth of the country. The agriculture here depends upon the vagaries of the monsoon. In the southern parts of Surat district where the rainfall is more than 50", the failure of crops is rather a rare phenomena. But in the area of less rainfall in northern parts of Surat and in the Broach and Baroda districts the chances of the failure of the monsoon are comparatively more. Hence the agriculturists are generally at the mercy of the monsoon. It also determines the water supply of this region.

The rivers have cut deep valleys (about 100' - 120') in this plain. The erosion is rapid and many times the immediate vicinity of the river is a waste land with numerous deep kotars and gulleys. Beyond it, the plain again emerges. The population here depends on the river and well water. A few tanks are also found in this area. In the summer when

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water dries up in the rivers, small pits are sunk in the their bed to tap the underground water supply.

In other parts of the plain where river water is not available, shallow ponds, wells and stepwells are used for water supply. In some houses reservoirs are utilised to gather rain water for drinking and house-hold purposes.

The lack of natural resources in minerals have led to the development of agrarian economy. Rice is grown in the wetter area. Where the rainfall is scanty, juwar, bajri, wheat and pulses are grown as food crop. The cotton, oil-seeds, vegetable and garden products are the money crops of this area. Mixed farming and cattle breeding are in vogue. The fertile soil can maintain a thick population varying from 290 to 566 persons per square mile. The villages in this part are often situated on elevated areas, sometimes the height being accounted for by long occupation of the site. Most of the buildings are single-storeyed with mud-walls. The roof is generally gabled. Thatch, country tiles, and corrugated iron sheets are used as the roofing materials. Two or more storeyed brick buildings are rather limited in these villages. Most of these villages are generally surrounded by a small grove of trees and flanked by a shallow pond on which some religious structure is located. Most of the villages have two or more streets. Generally the persons of the same caste occupy the same street. The cattle shed and barn also occupy the area near the houses. Often the cattle shed is in the house itself. The plan of the houses
differs in the Surat and Baroda districts with that of the villages of the Broach district, occupying the transitional position. The houses in Surat district open on both sides. Generally on the back is an open courtyard, while most of the houses in Baroda district open only on one side. The back side is generally closed or open on a small closed courtyard. Often a strong door protects the entrance to the house. The small road leading from this door open in a small courtyard, and the houses face this yard.

Many of the towns, Baroda, Dabhoi, Savali, Sankheda, Zaghadia, Ankleshwar, Kosamba, have developed in this area. These are the administrative and cultural centres of Gujarat. The population of these towns maintain itself by business, government service or manufacture. Cotton growing in this area has developed ginning and textile factories in many towns. Small scale industries, such as dyeing, printing, manufacture of copper vessels, iron implements, tinsel gold wire, handloom weaving and wood work flourish in many of these towns.

This central belt is the nucleus zone of south Gujarat. Here in these fertile alluvial soils, large scale settlements grew up. It was invaded by innumerable tribes and states pouring into the country from other parts of India. They have contributed to the prosperity and cultural development of the districts. The coastal ports compete with the rich central belt in influence and wealth. Many of the
archaeological sites are found from this area, pointing to the importance of this region, from the beginning.

Eastern Highland.

The eastern portion of this fertile belt slowly merges into the highland and plateau of Malwa and the Western Ghats. In the Baroda district, the eastern parts of Sankheda, Naswadi and Chhotaudaipur talukas show a mixture of Trap and quartzite hillocks. Sandstones and marbles come from this area. The eastern parts of the Broach and Surat districts are covered by Trap and forests. The rift valleys of the Narmada and the Tapi are the two gaps in the continuous hilly part. This heavily eroded plateau with dense jungles and valleys make the area difficult to traverse. In summer, the lack of water, and in the monsoon rapids of the nalas and rivulets make the area difficult for travel. Wild life and malaria add to the inconvenience of the travellers. Hence this area of repulsion relatively isolates this region and allows the cultures in the central belt to develop more or less independently, and give them their provincial character.

This uneven area with heavy boulders and thin veneer of soil is extremely poor in agricultural products. Agriculture here is very limited, Maize, Oil seeds, bajri, juwar, etc., are grown by the inhabitants. In the heavy jungles food-gathering and lumbering are practised. The trees are cut
for supplying building material and fuel to the inhabitants of the central plain and coastal region.

This area has acted as a cul-de-sac for the defeated tribes of the plain. The kingdoms of Champaner, Chhota-udaipur, Baria and numerous states of Pandu Mevas, Dharampur and Vansda, developed after the Muslim and Mogul conquests of this area. A number of primitive tribes like the bhils, dhankas, chodharas, gamits, etc. occupy this area. Probably these might have been the remnants of the once powerful tribes of the plain driven to this part by defeat and sense of honour and freedom. The inhospitable environments did not give much scope of development to these tribes who are agriculturists, but also take to hunting and food-gathering.

The villages in these areas are not nucleated. The houses are large mud huts with thatched gabled roofs. They are recently being roofed by semi-circular tiles, that are fast disappearing even in the villages in the plain. The economic condition of this population is wretched. There are very few archaeological sites in this area, suggesting that this area was jungle ridden and was inhabited at a later date.

Communications.

Along with the whole of Gujarat, Baroda, Broach and Surat districts enjoy a peculiar position in relation to other parts of India.

This area has a main artery of communication running
in the north south direction, along the coast. It crosses the river Mahi and runs towards the north Gujarat. At three points on this road, inland routes bifurcate. The northern one passing from Baroda moves eastwards and goes to Malwa. It is known as the Malwa-Dohad route. The other two are the river valley routes. That of the Narmada connects the Nimar district of Madhyabharat with Gujarat, while the Tapi valley gap connects Gujarat with Khandesh. Except these three gaps the whole eastern area with its rugged terrain and forests is the boundary of comparative isolation. This boundary has helped the independent development of culture in this area, while the three routes connecting this area with other parts of India help to spread the cultural influence in both directions.

**Malwa-Dohad route.**

The route between Baroda and Malwa through Panchmahals was perhaps the earliest route used in the historical times. It was through this route that Ujjain was possibly connected with Gujarat. This led to much commercial and military activity during the Maurya, Kushtetrapa and Gupta period. It might have also been the route used by the Parmars of Malwa. Today the north-east main line of western railway runs along this route.

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Narmada valley route.

The other branch of this route is the Narmada valley route. It is today used by the pilgrims who circumambulate the river Narmada. This route led the travellers to Malwa through the Nimar district of Madhya Bharat. The difficult terrain between Nimar and Gujarat on this route make this relatively useless for large scale movements.

Tapi Valley Route.

This is the most convenient route from Central India and Northern Deccan in to coastal Gujarat. The Tapi valley connects Gujarat with Khandesh. This route was the main artery of communication between Surat and Burhanpur during the Mogul period. Even Batuta might have used this route while coming to Gujarat from Daulatabad via Nandurbar and Songarh. It might also have been used in early period of Indian history for trade and commerce. Besides this route Gujarat was connected with Maharashtra by more difficult routes that passed through the ghats.

Coastal Route.

This route was very important in the mediaeval period when the political centres were in North Gujarat and beyond in Rajasthan or U.P.

This route also might have been used by the Indo-Greeks and Sākṣas. Later on it was the main route leading to Bhinnamala, and Anhilwada Patan. Even in the Muslim period
this route was followed by innumerable travellers and military generals.

All these routes terminated at the ports like Broach, Navasari, Bilimora, Surat, Bulsar, for the international trade. These ports of Barīgāza, Akabarow and Nausarippa, carried on trade with the countries like Persia, Arbia, Egypt, and even with distant Rome and Europe.

The roads are, however, far from satisfactory. In winter and summer many of them are dusty with occasionally very little water supply, while in the rainy season the torrential tropical rains cut off all traffic. The heavy clay of Surat and Broach districts hamper the movement of vehicles to such an extent that darts are also not able to move. Several cart tracks run in eroded basins of streamlets, which further obstruct the movements. The main routes were also in the same condition making travel more difficult.

But the sea-trade was the chief attraction of travel. Many of the modern towns in these districts are either old ports or have developed probably as road side stations situated along the highways.
Geology of the Baroda, Broach and Surat Districts.

The following geological periods are noted in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts:

Archaean System.

These are the earliest rocks, which are the basis for the development of the later rock-systems. They are mostly gneisses and granites. They are seen as the rock out-crop in the Orsang Valley. Here it is grey or pinkish granite.\(^1\) Near Bhulvan, "the rock has more gneissoïd structure, due in a great measure to lines of fluxion and a very strongly developed parallel jointing."\(^2\) These are cut by trap dykes of moderate size. Quartz and brecciated quartz also occur as intrusive rock in the granites.\(^3\)

The gneiss beds are seen near Bhadrali and Dhabarpura in the Sankhed taluka of the Baroda district. These gneissic and granitic rocks extend to both the west and the east from the Orsang track under the alluvial flat, but they are exposed in a few stream sections and offer no point of


interest.\textsuperscript{1}

**Dharwar System.**

After this formative era of crustal evolution, the new series of sedimentary rocks which are much metamorphised are seen. They are known in Indian Geology as Dharwar system.\textsuperscript{2} This series is well represented near Champanir, and is seen exposed in the Baroda District, specially in the Sankheda Taluka. The best known of these out-crops are the marble beds of Motipura and Harikua. Besides these, the Gugalpur hill, the Achali ridge, and Lachharas hill of quartzites are well-known. A number of inliers occur in the Heran valley. The marble beds are of blue, grey, black, white and greenish colour. Besides marble and quartz schists with auriferous quartz also are found in the Sankheda Taluka.\textsuperscript{3} The quartzites and quartz of this period were used as raw material for the tools of the palaeolithic folk.

**Gondwana and Jurassic Systems.**

The next two phases are not represented in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The Gondwana series are found in Cutch and Saurashtra, while the Jurassic is best

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\textsuperscript{1} Ibid., p.18
\textsuperscript{3} Foote, *op.cit.*, p.20 ff.
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represented in the Umia deposits of Cutch. During this period the area of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts was under the ocean.

Cretaceous System.

During the cretaceous period another sea, the Tethys, inundated this area. The massive transgression deposits, together with some deposits of fluvatile origin of the Narmada, constitute a group of rocks called the cretaceous system of Gujarat. They are classified under four different heads according to their occurrence and lithological characteristics. These are (1) Ahmednagar sandstone, (2) Lameta beds and (3) the Bagh beds and (4) Nimar sandstone.

Ahmednagar sandstones are a thick horizontally bedded series of deposit. This consist of sandstones, shales and conglomerates of pink, red and brown colour. These rocks assigned to the lower cretaceous age on the evidence of plant fossils are probably represented in the Songir sandstones in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. These sandstones rest with marked unconformity on the underlying slates and schists of the Champaner series. The Lameta beds are represented in the scattered patches in Chhotaudaipur and Revakantha areas of the above mentioned districts.

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1 Sukheshwala, op.cit., p.12.
2 Ibid.
3 Poote, op.cit., p.30
4 Wadia, D.N., Glory That Was Gurjara Des'a, p.8.
The Bagh beds are represented in the Sankheda Taluka, and are also found in the Vajiria, Agar, Naswadi, Boriad, Chhotaudaipur and Rewakantha Agency near the margin of the Deccan trap. The maximum thickness attained by these beds is about a thousand feet in the Rajpipla area. The Nimar sandstones are seen in the S.E. of Pawagarh hill on the border of the Baroda district. The sandstone of this period was extensively used as the sculptural and building material.

**Deccan Trap.**

Following the cretaceous period, volcanic activity manifested itself on the land of Gujarat. Tremendous discharge of volcanic material (lava, ashes, etc.) spread in sheets. This formation is the most extensive one and is found in all the eastern talukas of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The lava flows occur as horizontally bedded sheets and have carved a peculiar scenery of flat topped hills and step like terraces. The old fixtures forming dykes and walls, which are considered to be like feeders for the lava flows are recognised in the Rajpipla, Vyara and Songadh areas of the Broach and Surat districts. Specially the dykes are developed on a very great scale in the track north of the river Tapi. These rocks are dominantly basic and they weather in round boulders and gravels and yield on

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1 Foote, _op.cit._, p.29 ff.
2 Sukheshwala, _op.cit._, p.12.
3 Ibid., p.13.
4 Foote, _op.cit._, p.43.
complete weathering and decomposition highly fertile black soil. At the same time, the trap was occasionally used for the tools in the palaeolithic period.

**Tertiary Period.**

In the early part of this period, the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts were still under the sea. The Eocene rocks of these districts rest unconformably on the lava and include the nummulitic limestones of Tarakeshwar, gravels of Kosamba, conglomerates of Ratanpur and Ghala, sandstones and shales. These Eocene rocks are exposed in two out-crops separated by the alluvium of the river Kim. The conglomerates of Ratanpur contain agate and other silicates, that were brought down from the denuded lava. These pebbles are worked as semi-precious stones. They were also the raw material for the microlithic tools.

**The Pleistocene.**

The pleistocene is marked by the great fluctuations in climate and wide-spread glaciation in the temperate regions and in the Himalayas. In Baroda, Broach and Surat districts, various fluctuations in the climate are also noted.

The earliest phase before the formation of the palaeolithic gravels is represented by probably the local lateritic phase which requires further work for correlation. Then the climate oscillated around the present day condition. First it was moderately humid and then it became progressively drier.
It again fluctuated towards the moderately humid condition, which is represented by the red soil seen in the river cliffs. After this condition the climate again became dry, and almost desert conditions prevailed, when much earth was blown in dust storms and dunes accumulated. Finally the modern climatic conditions set in.\(^1\) In the Pleistocene period, the alluvium and the loessic formations developed.

It is the Mid-Pleistocene period in which the human artefacts are discovered in the implementiferous gravels of the rivers Mahi, Orsang, Narmada and Karjan. This phase therefore marks the definite traces of human activity. As such, it is the earliest period for archaeological and historical studies in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts.

**History of Baroda, Broach and Surat Districts.**

The history of modern Baroda, Broach and Surat districts, is still not completely known. The sources for the early history of these districts are mainly two, literary and archaeological. With the very meagre sources at our disposal, it is not possible to give a connected account of the history of the region under review. Hence where direct evidence is lacking, the general picture of South Gujarat or the neighbouring areas, has been used to infer the political history of the Baroda, Broach and Surat Districts.

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\(^1\) Zeuner, F.E., *Stone Age and Pleistocene Chronology of Gujarat*, pp. 42-44.
The literary sources are the various Puranas, which mention the towns lying in the area. Similar references are also found in the Buddhist and the Jain literatures. The periplus of the Erythraean sea also refers to this part of the country, and mentions the rivers Mals (Mahi), Namnadios and the towns and villages like Barugaza, Kammoni and Akabarou. Ptolemy, the geographer also mentions the places like Pakidare, Cape Maleo, Kamane, Mouths of the rivers Mophis and Namados, Nausaripa and Poulipoula and Gulf of Barygaza in this area. The Chinese traveller, Hieun Tsang also noted the area around Broach, when he visited it. We also read about this area in the travel accounts of the Arab travellers.

Besides these references, our knowledge of the history of this area depends upon a number of inscriptions that mention towns, villages, fields, etc. in the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The earliest is possibly the inscription

1 Joshi, Umashankar, Purāno Ma-Gujarat, Gujarat Vidya Sabha, Ahmedabad 1946
3 Sandesara, B.J., Jain Āgama Sāhitva Ma-Gujarat, Gujarat Vidya Sabha, Ahmedabad, 1951.
5 Mcrindle, J.W., Ancient India as described by Ptolemy, p.38.
of Saka Uṣhavatāta from Nasik. In this inscription, he mentions the rivers such as Eba, Taipi, Damaṇa, and Karbena, where free ferry service was arranged by him. These rivers are indentified as Ambika, Para, Damanganga, and Tapi in Surat District. The Mandasor inscription of the Gupta period refers to this area under the terms Lāṭa, which had varying connotations in different periods. The various copper plate grants of the Traikūṭaka, Chālukya, Gurjara, Raṣṭrakūṭa, and Chālukyas of Lāṭa give interesting social and political information about this region.

The traditional history of this area during the rules of the Chālukyas of Patan and of the Vaghelas is narrated in a number of Prabandhas, Rasmala, and literary works of this period.

Besides these written documents, the archaeological remains from the Baroda, Broach, and Surat districts help us to get some idea about the various cultures that existed in these districts. The coins specially help one to know the various rulers of this area.

All these sources put together give us the idea of the political history of the Baroda, Broach and Surat

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1 Senart, E., Ushavatāta's Inscription from Nasik. E.I.VIII, p.78 ff.
2 B.G., I. p.25.
3 Sartar D.C., Select Inscriptions bearing of Indian History and Civilization, p.290.
4 Acharya, G.V., Gujarāt Na Aitihasika Lekho, (Three Volumes) Bombay.
districts.

Paurāṇik Kings.

According to the Paurāṇic traditions, the history of coastal Gujarat and therefore the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts begins with the migration of Ānarata, the son of Saryati to this area. It is then traced to the aryansation of the coast. A long line of rulers have been also noted. The war of Parasurāma, the Bhrugu and Sahastrārjuna, the Haihaya ruler of Mahismati are often repeated by the Purāṇas which suggest possibly a struggle of power over the famous port of Bhrugukaccha. This Paurāṇi evidence, however, in the present state of our knowledge can neither be proved nor disproved by the pre and proto-historic finds from this area. It is possible that this area might have been under Canda Pradyota of Ujjain and Broach might have been under him, in about 6th century B.C.

Mauryas.

The history of Gujarat and Saurastra is definitely well corroborated for the first time during the period of the Mauryas. The great Maurya conqueror Candra Gupta spread his power far and wide in India. He brought under his suzerinity the whole of North India, and included parts of Afghanistan by defeating Selukos Nikator in C. 305 B.C. and had possibly overrun Gujarat and Saurastra. Because his Governor Vaiśya Pusyagupta has been mentioned by Rudradāman as the builder of the lake Sudarasana at Gilmer.

2 Rayachandhari, H.C., Political History of Ancient India. Synchronistic table.
inscriptions of his grandson Asoka have been discovered at Junagarh\(^1\) and Sopara,\(^2\) suggesting that coastal Gujarat was under him. Rudradaman mentions that Tusaspha, a yavana was a Governor of Asoka.\(^3\) During this period Girinagara (Junagarh) in Saurastra and Bhrukacch (Broach) were important towns in Gujarat.

**Dark Age.**

There is no definite evidence to know whether the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts continued to remain under the Mauryas after the death of Asoka. With general collapse of the Mauryan power, their control over Gujarat was lost latest by circa 200 B.C.

In the east the Maurya Empire passed to the hands of the Sungas, but it is difficult to trace what relations these rulers had with Gujarat. Literary references suggest two Sunga marches to the south, one to the north-west and thence to the southern ocean under Pusyamitra,\(^4\) the other to the Sindhu with the As'vamedha under Vasumitra, the grandson of Pusyamitra.\(^5\) Tarn thinks that the Sindhu will

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2. Ibid.
very probably be the river Chambal. If this is true, then any possibility of the Sunga entry into the areas of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts may be ruled out.

Even though the direct evidence of the early Andhra rule over Gujarat is lacking, the probability of their rule over it during the time of Kṛṣṇa, the second king of the Pauranic list is suggested by Dr. Sankalia. He mentions that "They might have ruled over it (including Kathiawar) during the height of their power under Kṛṣṇa, the second king of the Pauranic list when Andhra rule extended to Nasik and Western Ghats. Especially this is probable under Śrī Sātarni who is known from Khārvela's inscription as the "Protector of the West (C.168 B.C.)." But from the context of Khārvela's inscription it is clear that Satakarni was ruling in the west of his state. But Khārvela does not indicate the western boundary of the kingdom of his neighbour Satakarni. However the hold of Andhras over Nasik district, on the eastern border of Gujarat is well corroborated by their inscriptions in this district. In absence of any data about the rulers of Baroda, Broach and

1 Tarn, W.W., Greeks in Bacteria and India, p.228. Cambridge University Press, 2nd ed. 1951.
2 Sankalia, on.cit., p.8.
3 Sarcar D.C., Select Inscriptions, p.207.
Surat district during this period, it is inferred that Andhras ruling in the Nasik district might have the control over them. If there was any Andhra control over them in this period it was extremely short lived and influences of other rulers was soon felt.

Greeks.

The political conditions of north-west India was rather disturbed because of the advance of Bactrian Greeks in India. About 185 B.C., they marched down under Demetrius. They moved on the Indus and took Pataline, and then moved to coastal Gujarat probably through Cutch and Saurashtra. Here they established themselves first under Apollodotus, probably a brother of Demetrius, who ruled the whole country from Gandhar to Barygaza (Broach), where his coins were under circulation.1 Probably the house of Demetrius might have ruled in this area upto its downfall.

The house of Demetrius was overthrown by the Eucratides, who also invaded India. It is uncertain whether they ruled in the coastal Gujarat or not. It is, however, suggested that the greeks continued to rule over Gujarat even during the time of Soter I, the son of Menander. He ruled over this country through his general Apollodotus II, whose coins were imitated by the S'aka Satraps, Gaṣṭana and Nahapâna.

1 Tarn, W.W., op.cit. p.149.
The political power of the Greeks was destroyed by the S'akas who advanced from Seistan, conquered Abiria on the Indus and advanced on Cutch and Saurashtra after conquering Pataline. From this base in India, they moved to the north under Maues or Moga and conquered Northern India. According to local traditions the S'aka power was annihilated in 58 B.C. and they were driven away out of Ujjain.

Kṣaharātas.

There is very little evidence to show who the rulers in these parts were up to 100 A.D., when we meet with another branch of S'akas. This dynasty was known as Kṣaharāta and Bhumaka is the earliest member of this line who is known from his coins that were current in coastal Gujarat, Kathiawar and Malwa. He was a satrap of the Kuśāṇas of Kaniska's house. These conquerors of the Broach region and of Maharashtra seem to be identical with "Karatai", the designation of a famous S'aka tribe of the North as mentioned by the Geographer Ptolemy. Nahapana, it is held, succeeded him. Very few of his coins are found from Gujarat proper, but the Jain tradition preserved in Ávasyaka curni a Ruler of Broeck.

1 Ibid., p.320.
3 Majmudar, R.C., op.cit., p.179.
4 Mecrindle, Ancient India as described by Ptolemy, p. 284-85.
Broach, named Nabhovana who was an enemy of Satakarni. This Nabhovana might be the Ksaharata ruler Nahapana. The references to the rivers and places in Gujarat in the Nasik inscription of Ustavatata, his son in law, suggest that Nahapana's rule might have spread over the coastal Gujarat and supports the Jain tradition.

Andhras

The later tradition also gives an evidence that he was defeated by a Satavanah ruler. This is clear from the Nasik inscription of Vasishthiputra Pulumavi which used the epithet "destroyer of the family of Ksaharatas" for Gotamiputra Satakarni. After this conquest Baroda, Broach and Surat districts came under the hands of the Andharas in the 2nd century A.D., somewhere after 124-125 A.D. The Andhra coins discovered in Baroda, Broach and Surat districts also belong to this period.

Ksatrapas

The Andhras were soon overthrown by another branch of the Ksatrapa dynasty, known as the Western Ksatrapas or as Kardamakas. This dynasty ruled steadily over Gujarat

1 Sandesara, B.J., op.cit., p.91-93.
2 Saraker D.C., Select Inscriptions bearing on Indian History, p.197.
3 Infra., p.176
4 Majmudar, R.C., op.cit., p.182.
for nearly two hundred years, and held the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts under their control. This was a period of much prosperity in Gujarat as can be gathered from the distribution of their coins and inscriptions. Their history is mainly traced from the numismatic evidence.

D.C. Sarkar mentions that this northern family received its name according to some source from the Kardama river in Persia.1 These rulers as known from their title 'Kṣatrapa and Mahāksatrapa' were feudatories of some northern power, probably the Kusānas. The first ruler of this dynasty was Caṭana, the son of Ghṣamotika. The power of this dynasty reached its zenith under the rule of Rudradāman I. During his rule the power of the Kṣatrapas extended over greater part of Central India, Rajputana, Cutch, Sind, Gujarat and Northern Konkan.2 The Girnar inscription mentions his victory over Satakarni,3 the ruler of the Deccan. He won for him the title of Mahāksatrapa. His capital was Ujjain in Malwa and Gujarat was ruled by a governor Suvisākha. After his Girnar inscription, very little information is available about the dominion of the Kṣatrapas. The change of their title from Kṣatrapa to Mahāksatrapa or vice versa suggests the rise and fall of their power. It is

1 Ibid., F.N.1
2 Raychaudhary, op.cit., p.505
3 Sarkar D.C., op.cit., p.117.
certain that this family was ruling without any break till S'ake year 226 i.e. 304 A.D. and that Ksatrapa Visvasena was the last ruler of this line. It is probable that these rulers suffered reverses and were overthrown by the Sassanians.\(^1\)

The next Ksatrapa ruler Rudrasimha II, the son of Swāmī Jīvādāmana is not directly related to Visvasena. Perhaps he was his relative. The last ruler in the line of Rudrasimha II is Swāmī Rudrasimha III. This ruler had to oppose the advancing Guptas. He was overthrown, and the Ksatrapa rule was exterminated by the Gupta ruler Chandra Gupta II.

**Guptas.**

The Gupta coins so far discovered from Baroda, Broach and Surat districts suggest that Chandra Gupta II, Kumārgupta and Skandagupta ruled here. One have not come across coins of any other Gupta king after Skandagupta. Hence it is very likely that the Guptas lost the control of central and southern Gujarat after Skandagupta.

**Traikūtakas.**

After the downfall of the Guptas, a number of new dynasties sprung up in this area. In the Surat district Traikūtakas ruled in the second half of the 5th century A.D.

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\(^1\) Majmudar, R.C., *op.cit.*, p.190.
Their dynasty is known from the inscriptions and coins. Dahrasena, son of Indradatta ruled over the area in the south of the river Tapi, as an independent ruler. This is probably the first known dynasty of Surat district, the coins and copperplates of which are known, Dahrasena was an independent ruler, as he describes himself as a performer of an Asvamedha. He and his successor Vyāghrasena used an independent era known as Trikūtaka, which was known later as Cedi or Kalacuri Era. Vyāghrasena, the son of Dahresena extended his kingdom further to the south into Konkan.

Vākātakas.

The power of the Traikutakas was probably crushed by the Vākātaka king Harisena, who conquered Tāta and Traikūta, according to an inscription at Ajanta. With this conquest Tāta might have come under the control of the Vākātakas.

Śaṅkaragana and Kattaccūra.

Their power however was short lived and by about 540 A.D. they had lost it, because by this time Śaṅkaragana a feudatory was already ruling between the Narmada and Tapi, i.e. the parts of Broach and Surat districts. His capital was Broach. It is not known who his over-lord was.

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1 ASWI., IV. p.127.
2 Sunao Kala plates, E.I., X, p.72.
Probably it was the Kaṭaccuri king Kṛṣnarāja, as we learn from the records of his son Śankaragana, and his grandson Buddharaṇa that their dominion included modern Nasik, Broach and Baroda districts. Probably Surat district was also under their control. They might have been connected with the family of the Traikutakas, because their epigraphs show certain relations with those of the latter. They used the same era, that was used by the Traikutakas, but without naming it. Kaṭaccuris were overthrown by the Western Chālukyan ruler Mangalarāja (Mangalesa), by defeating Buddharaṇa. Since then parts of Surat district south of the Tapi passed into the hands of the Western Chālukyas.

Gurjaras.

What happened to other parts of Surat, Broach and Baroda districts is not certain. But about 630 A.D. the Broach and Baroda districts and possibly some parts of Surat district to the north of the Tapi, were under a Gurjara king Dadda II. These Gurjaras are supposed to be a branch and feudatories of the Gurjaras Pratihara dynasty of Jodhpur.

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1 The term Kaṭaccuri is of non-sanskritik origin and is equated with the Turkish word 'Kulchur' indicating an office of high rank of Sarkar, D.C., The classical Age, p. 194
3 Nerur Plates, I.A., VII, p. 161
and Dadda I of the Broach branch is identified with Dadda, one of the sons of Harischandra, the founder of the Jodhpur branch. It seems that they were a branch of the Gurjara Pratiharas of Rajputana, though it must be said that none of their records gives the slightest hint to this. They were the feudatory, in the beginning perhaps of the Kadaccuris, later of both the Gurjara Pratiharas and Chalukyas of Badami and lastly the Maitrakas of Valabhi.

The genealogy of this dynasty is rather problematic. Sankalia explains it as follows: "The earlier grants of Dadda (II) mentions three rulers whose names Dadda, his son Jayabhata and his son Dadda II are identical with those mentioned in the later grants, but their epithets, Saumana, Vitaraga and Prasantaraga are not only not mentioned in the later grants but new ones, "protector of the lord of Valabhi" and Bahuashaya, are applied to Dadda I and Dadda II in the grant of 456 and in the recently published grant of 486. So the natural presumption is that the earliest and later grants refer to two different sets of individuals by the name of Dadda (I) Jayabhaṭa and Dadda (II). However, Dadda I of the late grants must be identified with Dadda II of the earlier grants. For the later lived in 630-40 A.D., exactly the time when Harsa attempted to invade western and southern India, but was held back by Dadda (I) of the later grants and by Pulakesin (II) in or before A.D. 634. He might, on account of his claims of being the protector of the Valabhi lord, be credited as a member of the alliance against Harsa."
Likewise we have also to identify Jayabhata II of the grant of 456 with that of the grant of 486 as their descriptions are identical. The Gurjara genealogy should then stand as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dadda I</th>
<th>Saṃanta</th>
<th>c.580 A.D.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jayabhata I</td>
<td>Vitarāga</td>
<td>c.605 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dadda II</td>
<td>Prasāntarāga</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayabhata II</td>
<td></td>
<td>655 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dadda III</td>
<td>Bāhusahāya</td>
<td>c.680 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayabhata III</td>
<td>Mahāsaṃantādhipati</td>
<td>c.704-5 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahirale I</td>
<td>Mahāsaṃantādhipati</td>
<td>c.725 A.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jayabhata IV</td>
<td>Mahāsaṃantādhipati</td>
<td>c.734-35 A.D.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Gurjara dominions included the Broach and Baroda districts, as suggested by the find spots of their grants, and the names noted therein. If we take into account the spurious grants, the southern border of their dominion may extend to the Surat district. The capital of Gurjaras seems to be Nandipuri, from which majority of the grants are issued. It is identified with Nandod, the capital of Rajpipla State laying about 34 miles to the east of Broach.²

The Gurjara kings maintained cordial relations with their neighbours, the Maitrakas of Valabhi, and the Cālukyās

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¹ Sankalia, op.cit., p.16.
² Sankalia, op.cit., p.17.
of Navasari. Dadda II went to help the Maitrakas against the emperor Harsa, and won the title of the "protector of Valabhi". The last Gurjara ruler Jayabhata III also rendered help to the Valabhi kingdom against the Arab raiders.\(^1\) Arabs later on possibly under Junaid, exterminated the Gurjara Kingdom, but their southern advance was checked and they were defeated and driven away by the Cālukyas of Navasari.

Cāhamāns.

After the end of the Gurjara rule in Baroda and Broach districts, Cāhamāns ruled for some time. These Cāhamāns were the feudatories of the Gurjara Pratihāras of Avanti. A member of this family ruled at Broach in A.D. 756 under Nāgāvaloka, who is identified with the Gurjara Pratihar king Nāgabhata I of Avanti.\(^2\) The names of these rulers suggest acquaintance or connection with the Ksatrapas\(^3\) and the Maitrakas of Valabhi.\(^4\)

Cālukyas.

When the territories of the Baroda and Broach districts and some parts of the Surat district were from time to time having different ruling dynasties generally associated with northern and central India, the area south of Tapi was coming

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1. Before the grant of S.486 was published it was believed that the Gurjara king went to fight with the Māitrakas of Valabhi.
2. Hansot Grant of Bhartrvaddha, E.I.XII, p.197-204.
under the influence of the Southern kingdoms of the Cālu-
kyas, Rāstrakutas and Cālu kyas of Lāṭa, till it passed under
the rule of the Cau lu kyas of Anhilwada Patan.

Parts of Surat district, south of the Tapi were
conquered from Kaṭccuri king Buddharāja by Mangalēśa as
mentioned above. After Pulakesin stopped the advance of
Harṣa in the south, the Cālu kyā rule might have been firmly
established in this area. With this conquest of Surat dis-
trict by the Cālu kyas it must have been influenced by the
Southern Culture.

However, there seems to be an earlier infiltration
of their authority. Cālu kyā rule in the Surat district can
be ascertained from 670 A.D., the traces of earlier pene-
tration in Gujarat can be found in the copper plates of
Nikumbhāllāsaakti of the Sendraka family. This commander
seems to be a Cālu kyā feudatory. From A.D.670-740 sons of
Dhārāsraya Jayasimhavarmā (brother of the Cālu kyān Emperōr
Vikramāditya I). Śrīsraya Silāditya (619-692 A.D.). Jana-
sraya Mangalarāja (731 A.D.), and his son Avani Janāsraya
Pulakesirāja (738-39 A.D.), and perhaps Nāgavardhana are
found to have ruled over the Surat district.

1 Buhler, G., "Bagumra grant of Nikumbhallasakti dated in
the year 406," I.A., XVIII, p.266.
2 Ibid.
Their kingdom extended up to the Narmada, so that some parts of the Broach district were also under their rule. In the south, their area was linked up with that of the main Cālukya rule. In the east it might have included the Nasik district. The capital of this Cālukyan kingdom was Navsari.

No information about their relation with Gurjjaras is available from their inscriptions. It can be inferred that the latter were for sometime nominal feudatories of the Cālukyas, possibly after Pulakesin II. The only politically important episode in the closing years of their rule was the defection of the Arab hoard by Pulakesin Janāśrīya. Arabs this time attacked Baroda, Broach and Surat districts, after marching from Sindh via Marwad, Mandal, Dahnaj, Broach and Surat. They had overrun the contemporary kingdoms of Sindh, Cutch, Saurashtra, and those of Cāpotkaṭas, Mauryas of Chitor and Gurjaras of Bhinmal.

Rāstrakutas.

The main Cālukya line at Badami was exterminated by the Rāstrakutas of Malkhed. These Rāstrakutas carried their arms successfully against the Gujarat branch and destroyed their rule in about 740 A.D. From this date Rāstrakuta...

1 Nadvi Abuzafar, History of Gujarat, p.96,97. Also Ray, op.cit., where he has cited from Kitab Futul Al Buldan. This raid seems to have been implied in the Gurjara Pratihara Inscription of Bhoja I which refers to the defeat of Mlechhas. E.I. XVIII, pl.102-107. Also, I.A. 1911, p.240.
occupation in these districts lasted for a period of about 230 years, upto 974 A.D.

The first period of the Rastrakuta rule in this area is marked by the evidence of advance of Danti-durga. In one of his expeditions to Central India, he overran the area of the Surat, Broach and Baroda districts, as he went upto the river Mahi. The rulers at this time probably were the Cahmanas and not the Gurjaras. These Cahmanas might have been the feudatories of the Gurjara Pratihara ruler Nagabhata I. After Dantidurga, the two succeeding rulers Dhruva I (795 A.D.) and his son Govind III were very powerful and the position of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts might have remained steady. Govind III handed over the kingdom of Gujarat to his brother Indra III in c.808 A.D. so that the area of the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts passed to his hands.

This incident marks the second period in the relations of the Rastrakutas with Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. The rulers considered themselves as independent.

Indra’s rule was very short, as we find his son Karka ruling from 812 A.D. During this period, he defeated a Gurjara king. His son Karka ruled for a period of about

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1 Supra, p.54.

15 years (812-824) A.D.), and had become the feudatory of the Imperial Rāṭrakuta ruler Amoghavarsa I. At this time his younger brother Govindrāja also issued grants. The contemporary grant of both these rulers raised the questions about the actual ruler at this time. Two explanations for this problem were offered.1

It is possible that Govindrāja might have ruled in the absence of his elder brother Karka, who had gone to assist Amoghavarṣa or he might have become hostile in 813 A.D. and therefore Karka was forced to seek the help of Amoghavarṣa. But from Govindrāja's grants the relations between the two brothers do not appear to have been strained, so it is very likely that he might have ruled once during the life time of Karka and again during the minority of Karka's son Dhruva.2 Govindrāja was a Mahāsāmantādhipati of Karka as we know from his grant of Devali.3 It suggests that he might have issued the grants possibly as a feudatory of his brother Karka.

Dhruva who succeeded his father Karka tried to throw off the yoke of the main line, but he lost his life in this effort. After him his son Akālavarṣa Subhatunga succeeded him according to the grant of the latters son Dhruva.4 His

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1 Bhattacharyya, B., "Brakmanpalli Grant of Karka Suvarnavarsa: Saka 746", E.I., XXII, p.78.
3 Upadhyaya, op.cit.
grants refer to the wars with Vallabha (Amoghavarsa), the Gurjaras, his relatives and a mihir king possibly Mihira Bhoja of Kanauj. He was successful in these wars except that against Amoghavarsa as the unpublished Baroda grant would show.

The contemporary records of Dantivarma, brother of Dhruva, raises the question as to who the actual ruler was. But the conjoint signature of both the brothers at the end suggests cordial relations and not a revolt as was suggested.

Dantivarman's son Krsna is at present considered to be the last king in the second phase of Rāṭrakutā occupation in Gujarat.1 Probably after the reverses met by Dhruva at the hands of Amoghavarsa, this branch remained as a feudatory branch of the main line. It is believed that after Krsna the Baroda, Broach and Surat Districts again passed over to the direct control of the main line of the Rāṭrakutā rulers, because after his grant of 888 A.D. one does not come across any other grant of this dynasty. But in 910 A.D. from Kapadvanj grant of Krsna II, we learn that the feudatories in Kaira district had changed. This area was ruled over by Gujarat branch of the Rāṭrakutas before this time, hence one can infer that by this time the Baroda Broach and Surat districts came under the control of the Imperial Rāṭrakutas.

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1 Hultzsch, "Rathor Grant No. IV. A grant of Kṛṣṇa II of Ankules'vara, of 888 A.D." I.A.XIII, p. 65 ff.
This is confirmed by the regranting of about 400 villages in Lāta by Indra nityavarsa in A.D. 914 at the time of his coronation.1

The Imperial Rāstrakutas ruled normally upto the border of Ahmedabad district, to this were added Malwa and some territories in the north-east and south-east, by their victory over the Gurjara Pratiharas and others. It appears that the early emperors considered Lāta as the outlying province of their empire but from the time of Amoghavarṣa,1 we find that the emperors took interest in it.

Cālukyas of Lāta.

The Rāstrakutas were overthrown in their home province by the Western Cālukyas of Kalyani. Their struggle with them considerably weakened their power in Lāta. Here in the north Siyaka, a Parmān, possibly the feudatory of the Rāstrakutas became independent.2 This branch was ruling in the north upto at least 1011 A.D. as evidenced by the Modasa grant of Vatsarāja.3 We do not know whether these Parmārś conquered the parts of Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. Here the Cālukyaś rulers from Kalyani forced their way under Bārappa. He was probably the feudatory,

3 Modasa grant of Vatsarāja (Unpublished). These were kindly shown to by M.R. Majmudar.
of the ruler of Kalyani. According to the Dvyaśraya Kāvya of Hemachandra, he was attacked by Mulraja and his son Camunda, the Caulukya rulers of Anhilwad Patan. According to the Rāsamāla, this Bārappa was killed by Camunda.\(^1\) In spite of this defeat the dynasty established by Bārappa did survive in the districts. Kirtirāja, the grandson of Bārappa, is seen donating villages in the Vaghodia Taluka of the Baroda District in 999 A.D.\(^2\) These Gālukyas had to fight with their neighbours. Baroda, Broach and Surat districts were attacked repeatedly by the Parmāra of Malwa, the Haihayas of Tripuri, and the Caulukya of Anhilwad Patan\(^3\).

Probably the dynasty finally succumbed to the rising power of the Caulukyas of Anhilwad Patan, and they retreated to the hilly track of the Surat district, where they continued to rule as local chieftains, at least up to the 12th century.\(^4\)

**Caulukyas of Patan.**

The Baroda, Broach and Surat districts remained under Patan for about a century from about 1074-1175-6 A.D. After

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2. Unpublished copper-plates of Kirtiraja from Jambuvada. They are in possession of Hirabhai Patel of Dandiapura.
the death of Kumarpala (1175-6 A.D.), the condition of the Caulukyas of Patan was unsteady.

**Paramāras.**

Taking advantage of this confusion at Patan, Parmar king Subhaṭavarṇa attacked and conquered this area. The Parmāre retained their power under his successor Arjunvarman, according to his grant dated 1213 A.D. issued from Broach. He advanced further to the North and defeated the king Jayasimha of Anhilwad, and this fact is corroborated by Paramara records.

The Parmāra power was weakened by the Yadavas of Deogiri. Sīṁhāna, the Yadava ruler of Deogiri, marched in the Surat, Broach and Baroda districts and laid the country waste. He also killed Sangramsimha, the feudatory chief of Parmāra ruler Arjunvarmadeva. The devastating horrors of the invasion of the Yadava ruler are vividly described in Kirti Kaumudi. ¹ A number of memorial stones of the 13th century suggest the weak political power and wide spread disturbances

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¹ Sandesara, B.J., *Literary Circle of Vastupāla where he has sited from Kirti Kaumudi* - IV, p.43-46.
The Patan rulers were much weakened; but Virdhavala from Dholkā, a feudatory of Patan connected with the Caulukyas, regained sufficient power and his able ministers Vastupāla and Tejahpāla slowly succeeded in curbing other powers, re-established the political supremacy of Patan in whole of Gujarat, including the Baroda, Broach and Surat districts. Visaladeva, the successor of Virdhavala, ended the house of Patan and began a successful career of expansion. He defeated the Parmārs of Malwa in 1250 A.D. His son Sārangadeva also repeated the success in 1290 A.D. But after eight years, the brilliant career of these Vāghelā rulers came to an end, when Karnadeva was defeated by Alapkhan, the commander of Allauddin Khilji. Patan was conquered and the political power of this branch-line of the Caulukyas came to an end. Gujarat passed to the hands of the Muslims. The Hindu nobles and princes moved to the inaccessible parts of the country specially in the eastern parts of Gujarat and continued to rule for a pretty long time.