This is a case study in municipal finance in the Bombay State over the period of 17 years from 1930 to 1947. The municipalities selected for study are:

Ahmedabad, Poona, Surat, Cholapur,
Nasik, Hubli, Dharwar and Katera City.

All these municipalities were situated in different parts of the State of Bombay as it stood in 1933.

This study constitutes an attempt to ascertain and analyse different aspects of municipal finance and the concurrent problems confronting the local authorities. A series of socio-economic developments which took place during and after World War II brought in their wake changes in the fiscal and administrative patterns of local bodies; and as consequence there arose financial difficulties in the proper organisation and functioning of the municipal machinery.

The statistical data was collected from the municipal authorities concerned after paying visits to the towns mentioned above, among the other sources of information, the All-India Local-Government Institute of Bombay and foremost and I made considerable use of its library. I also drew heavily upon the library of the Geohale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.

In the course of my study, I had the advantage of discussing on various municipal problems with some of the officers of the municipalities whose finances are covered in this monograph. I also contacted quite a few social
workers who possessed first hand experience and knowledge of evil affairs.

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