PRIMARY SOURCES

Most of the primary sources used for this study are in the form of correspondences in Marathi, Rajasthani, Persian and English by Maratha rulers, their associates, administrators and reporters posted in the local ruler’s courts as well as representatives of British and other powers in the Maratha ruler’s court.

MARATHI

Correspondences in Marathi from the very beginning of Peshwa’s campaign in Central India are the richest collection for the entire period of the study. Separate series of correspondence deal with Peshwa, Holkar and Shinde’s day-to-day engagements ranging from military campaigns, movement of Maratha Sardars in the localities. Of Central India, fast changing situation in the courts of local elites, payment of tribute etc. As the period progresses these correspondences are richer in detail about day-to-day movement of Maratha army on various fronts and results of Maratha military operations against the local powers.

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**RAJASTHANI**

In Rajasthani, Marathas ruler’s official correspondences called _Kharitas_ are addressed to local Rajput rulers and chieftains. The _Kharitas_ sent by Peshwa, Shinde and Holkar for the entire period of study are available in the Rajasthan State Archive, Bikaner. They are very comprehensive and focused messages from Marathas to Jaipur rulers about their demands and requests besides routine letters. Details in the _Kharitas_ pertain to Maratha pressure for regular tribute payment and disputed territories in Rajasthan.

Another set of Rajasthani records called _Dastur Kaumvar_ are records of men from different regions visiting Jaipur state, _Dastur Deekhni_ in the same series lists Maratha visitors of high and low ranks to the Jaipur court. These records add to existing perception of the level of contact between Marathas and Jaipur ruler through out the period of the study.
Unpublished Contemporary Sources

1. *Kharitas* of Gwalior State (1750-1800), Rajasthan State Archive, Bikaner

2. *Kharitas* of Indore State (1750-1800), Rajasthan State Archive, Bikaner

3. *Dastur Deekhni* (1750-1800) under *Dastur Kaumbar* collection, Rajasthan State Archive, Bikaner

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**EUROPEAN LANGUAGE (ENGLISH)**

Among English Sources Foreign Department Records from the late 1750s onwards provides supportive evidence on Maratha campaigns in northern Malwa, Bundelkhand and Doab regions during the period after the Battle of Panipat. Correspondences of English Agents at Shindes court as well as those at Poona Court carry much more analytical information and see Maratha developments very critically. Among all contemporary sources English sources are very mature as far as description of contemporary events are concerned

Unpublished Sources

*Foreign Department Records (Political & Secret), 1756-1783*, National Archive of India, New Delhi
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Translations of Persian *Akhbarats* (newsletters) and correspondences by Jadunath Sarkar for the period after Panipat also provide extensive details on Maratha campaigns in Malwa and Rajasthan. Maratha newswriters stationed at Delhi court wrote most of these Persian correspondences. There are also Persian newsletters from the camps of Mahadji Shinde, Jaipur court as well as from Delhi court for the entire period of Lalsot campaign in 1787 and Mahadji Shinde’s campaign in Rajasthan in 1790-91.

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