

FOREWORD

The Rajput Maratha Relations during the 18th century is a very fascinating theme, but at the same time is a very vast one. It therefore ought to be divided in some convenient sections. Dr. R.K. Saksena has already written and published a book on "Maratha Relations with major States of Rajputana". This work deals with the period 1761-1818 A.D.

The third battle of Panipat is in itself a very good theme and a number of scholars have written on it in Marathi and English. I have therefore asked my student to take up the period from 1707 to 1760 A.D.

Speaking generally a few books are already published on Rajput Maratha Relations for example Dr. G.R. Parihar has written a book "Marwar and the Marathas"; Dr. K.S.Gupta has published a book on "Mewar and the Maratha Relations". Late Sir J.N. Sarkar has devoted some pages to this subject in his book "Fall of the Mughal Empire" in 4 parts. Dr. Maharajkumar Raghubir Singh also has dealt this subject in his 'Malwa in transition' and in his other writings but no book deals with this subject exhaustively. I therefore asked my student Shri A.K. Arora to take up this subject and try to deal with it as exhaustively as possible. I also asked the student to collect some new material useful for his subject. He took up the idea and worked hard to collect such material.

For this purpose he visited every place which in his opinion might yield some material. Some places he

visited even twice and thrice in the hope of new material and for this purpose he spent much of his time and money. It is gratifying that he collected over 3,000 unpublished records in the form of micro films and transcripts. Some of them refer to a later period but the bulk of the material collected by him refers to his own period.

Shri A.K. Arora is working as a Electric Train Driver in Bombay on the Western Railway and has devoted every minute of his leisure time for this work, avoiding all types of amusements etc. He saw me several times and every time he used to bring to me some new material and used to show me his progress regarding this subject. Every time I was satisfied with his work but owing to vast material he took more time to finish up his work.

The material collected by him is so important that it is worth while publishing separately. Out of the vast material he has presented only 315 selected records mostly in Rajasthani in his thesis because of the fear that including more records would make the thesis more bulky as it is already in two volumes extending to 1300 and odd pages.

These records have brought to light so many new facts bearing on this subject that scholars will have to change some of the established views about the relations. I am glad to submit this thesis to the University.

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