CHAPTER - 1

RAIGADH DISTRICT HISTORIC AND GEOGRAPHICAL SITUATION

From Four Regional Division of Maharashtra one Important Regional Division and Natural Beauty Region is Konkan. In between Arabian Sea and Sahyadri Mountain Narrow Scale is called Kankan. Konkan had total 720 km clean and neat sea border. China traveler Yuaanchyang travelling detail earlier in Konkan includes Dharwad, Belgaon, Vanvase etc. Ghat Region.

From Medieval there is three part of Konkan. In that form Tapi to Vasai part called “BARBAR”, from Vasai to Bankot part called “VIRAT” from Bankot to Devgadh part called “KIRAT”. Earlier this part is called “APRANT”. Aprant has called Konkan. For the word Konkan there is different opinion of different Student. In Ancient Book Konkan called PARKONKAN, PASHU KONKAN, KUPAK, KERAL, MUSHAK, AALUK. Also prevalent understand that, the Konkan name made from the name of Parshuram Mother “KUNKNA”. Instead of that KON KON means Dongarmatha on this word create Konkan word. Before forth century found the name in Ancient book. In the Book Chalukya Shilalekh, Vishnupuran, Bramhsanhita, Mahabharat etc. found Konkan reference. Staby, Akhiruni, Tolemi, Peripls, Plini etc. ancient foreign book found Konkan detail. On Konkan area earlier there is power of Baudha, it is found in Konkan available Shilalekh and Brass Roll. In Konkan Thane and Raigad District available Baudha Leni is the witness. On Konkan there is difference power from Ancient time to Modern Time.
End of Forth Century on North Konkan Mourya Suketuvarman had Establish his power. On Konkan area there is more than two century power of Mourya. This information received from Tehole Shilalekh in 634-35 of Badami Chalukya Pulkeshi second. Nearby Mumbai Gahrenpuri or Elephanta means “PURU” is the Capital of Mourya. Badami Chalukya Descendant Kirtiwarman First, Manglesh & Pulkeshi second trying to win Mourya power. In Mourya Vansh Anirjitvarman is last powerful king who is made struggle with Badam Chalukya. He had fight with powerful Chalukya. Mourya impress on Konkan ancient culture. Mourya develop bunder and navy in their period. From that Bunder export Precious diamond, Sainted liquid, Teakwood, Spice material etc.

Pulkeshi Second of Badami had establish fully equipped armada and win Mourya Gharapuri Capital and finish Mourya power in Konkan. After Pulkeshi Second Chalukya power gone down. Hence on Konkan Region Chalukya power control had poor. In the period of Chalukya successor Kirtivarman various area officer challenge to Chalukya Power and trying to establish their power. Dantidurg finish Chalukya power and establish in Konkan Rashtrakut power. By this Rashtrakut power which is established by Dantidurg in 10th century upto four decade having power. Dantidurg known Konkan Political important, hence he appointed Governor for see this area work. After Dantidurg his cousin Krishna First had received Rashtrakut power. Krishna First win South Konkan and after than with north Konkan made power on all Konkan area and appointed Sunful on Sout Konkan as his Tributary. This Sunful is the founder of Shilahar.

As a Rashtrakut Sub ordinate or Tributary made birth of Shilahar. On Karnataka and Maharashtra various part Shilahar had total six branch.
From 800 to 1265 Shilahar Royal Family had control on Konkan Royal Family. In Raigad District Dandrajpuri is the Capital of this Royal Family. Shilahar family is the Shivbhatla. In 1065 Kharepatan Brass Roll Shilahar Sangh had made construction of twelve Temple of Shankar in Chaul area.

In South Konkan Shilahar family establish before fifty year North Konkan Shilahar Family. Rajapur is Centralize centre of Ratnagiri Dist. Royal Family. Regarding this Family information there is three Brass Roll is available.

As per Raigad and North Konkan, Shilahar period is very important. In Shilahar period Baudh, Jain, Hindu region people surviving happily. In Shilahar various article focus on earlier Social, Regional, Financial condition. Shilahar Family is the tributary of Rashtrakut, Chalukya, Parmar, Kadamba. Even though Shilahar is Tributary, they have self power and they recover tax separately and Shihar family is Shaivpanthiya. This information received on inscription of Ambernath Shivmandir and Anandev.

In 9th Century Yadav Family birth in Maharashtra Khandesh region. In Yadav Family first king is Drudhprahari. This Yadav King period is 860 to 880 A.D. In Yadav Family’s fifth Bhllam at the time of Rashtrakut power finish in Marathwada Devgad @ Devigiri establish Yadav family Capital and made separate and powerful sovereignty. In Yadav family various King keep this Yadav power on up level. In the period of 1246 to 1261 A.D. on Devgiri there is power of Krishnadev King. To expand Yadav State boundary in North Konkan send his Senapati Mall to North Konkan. In this first try Krishna Dev had not receive anything. After Krishna Dev King come Mahadev Rai King. His political period is 1261 to 1270 A.D. In the year 1265 Mahadevrai had
attack on North Konkan Shilahar King Someshwar. Before of Mahadevrai Army he will not remain, hence Someshwar run to Sea. From Mahadevrai Someshwar failed and in between he is dead. In Yadav period found various Yadav area authorities name in Konkan inscription. From that Yadav area authority Kanheredev had donate land for various Shrikrishna Temple.

In North Konkan Colaba (Raigad) Dist some part is under Vijaynagar Rule upto 1377 A.D. Vijaynagar Rule win Chaul and Dabhol Bundar at 1420 A.D. In Colaba (Raigad) District some area there is power of local authority. They are running their power. On that time at Nagthane there is similar Power centre. On Colaba (Raigad) Dist. there is influence of Vijaynagar. In Colaba dist. Rairi and Raigad there is power of Maratha Palegara and Palegar is under Vijaynagar Rule. Against South Muslim power Vijaynagar power remain upto 1565 A.D. in Talikot war. In Talikot war Vijaynagar failed and after than create small state.

In 1316 A.D. in Konkan Dabhol, Mahim, Sangmeshwar, Palvan, Shrugarpur area King was Bahamani Tributary. In 1390 A.D. Bahamani take possession of various Bunder in Konkan. In 1429 A.D. they had win Konkan Boundary. But they had not won Konkan Region. In the Political period of Bahamani Sultan Allauddin Mahammadshah Main official Mahammad Gawan had invade on Konkan in 1469 A.D. or expand Bahamani power. He had done hard work for three years and win some fort of Konkan Khelna, Rangna & other and Sameshwar King had surrender. He had win complete Konkan Goa region and upto Arabian Sea region take under control of Bahamani State power.

In Bahamani period in East Africa Abesina Habshi people come in India in Fifteenth Century. This Habshi People in Bahamani period receive service in Darbar., In 1490 A.D. Nijamshahi Founder Malik
Ahmed had win Raigad region Dandrajpur and Janjira area and Yakutkhan Sidhi this Habshi Sardar under Nizamshahi by planned take Janjira Fort from local Koli custody. In Sixteenth Century receive importance to Chaul Bunder in Bahamani Period, Hence in 1516 A.D. Portugize had established Business Factory through Nizamshah and enter in Konkan Region.

In 1497 A.D. by Portugize Navy Vasco-de-gama Came in India West boundary Kalikat Bunder by Sea. In South India take benefit of small state dispute create colony in West Boundary by Portugize. On that time Raigad Dist Chaul Bunder famous for important business bunder on West boundary. On that Bunder there is power of Ahmednagar Nizamshah. By the consent of Nizamshah in the year 1516 Portugize establish Business factory at Chaul and Revdanda and also made one Fort. At Revdanda Portugize establish their Army centre. Hence there is dispute in between Gujarat Sultan various times. In 1534 A.D. Portugize taken in custody Gujarat Sultan area and made power on North Konkan. In India West Boundary take in custody Div, Daman, Vasai Goa part and create Fort by Portugize. In this Portugize Colony made ship. Without permission of Portugize in Arabian Sea and Hind Mahasagar Delhi Mughal, Vijapur Adilshah, Govalkonda Kutubshah will not travel. On Goa Div-Daman West Boundary Portugize had power. On this Boundary from Div Daman to Karanja upto 30 km width boundary, Chaul, Sashti, Honawar, Cochin Gagoli, Basrur, Manglore,Kannur, Konduttur and Kollam Portugize had create power on business and also they spread in local people religion work.

Under Portugize power there is complete Raigad Dist boundary. Further Dutch and Englishman East India Company coming in India hence Portugize power had fall down and Dutch and Englishman had take
sea part and Fort, Factory custody. Before establish Maratha Swarajya in Raigad Dist. various part there is power of Vijapur Adilshah, Ahmednagar Nizamshah, Janjira Sidhi, Goa Portugize, Mumbai Englishman. In Adilshah Javli region there is area of Mahad, Mangaon. On Javli region there is power of Chandrarao More. Murud, Shrivardhan, Mhasla, Roha this west boundary power of Janjira Sidhi. Panel, Uran Dist. North Part there is power of Mumbai Englishman. Shiv Chatrapati enter in Konkan Region after finish Javli More. After win Javli Shiv Chatrapati make attention on Raigad Dist. North part. After taken Raigad Fort there is open way for expand Shiv Chatrapati power in Konkan region. In Konkan Janjira Sidhi, Rajapur Englishman and Wadikar Sawant had relation with Chatrapati Shivaji. On 31st July 1657 Shiv Chatrapati had send to Ballal Korade to attack on Janjira Sidhi and in October Month Shiv Chatrapati enter in Konkan Region. Alongwith Colaba Dist. Shiv Chatrapati win Ratnagiri Dist. Alongwith internal enemy outside power not create any risk to swarajya, hence Shiv Chatrapati start to create on Sea boundary well equipped Army. Made reconstruction of Colaba Fort and made strong. Make repairing of Suvarndurg and Vijaydurga Fort. On that time Shiv Chatrapati had main centre of Army was Colaba Fort. Shiv Chatrapati Army Chief was Mainak Bhandari, Daulatkhan Ventaji Sarangi @ Daryasarang. In the year 1660 Shiv Chatrapati start to construction of 20 Guraba at Kalyan, Bhiwandi & Pen. To make tough to Goa Portugize and Padmadurgi Mumbai Englishman to show their power Shiv Chatrapati established Khanderi Fort.

After Shiv Chatrapati and Sambhaji Maharaj to create terrorism take name of Kanoji Angre. Kanoji Angre name is taken in History as a Very powerful and hard worker man. Kanoji’s hardwork entry made in
Mumbai Englishman Factory. Portigize, Dutch, French, Englishman this outside power not tolerate Kanoji power on West Boundary. They are made together and some time separately war, but every time they are fail. To prevent them Kanoji stolen their Ship and kept their person hostage. On the sea Kanoji Angre had much power and its detail written in “HINDUSTAN” book by English Writer Victor Sarij.

On dt. 4th July 1729 Kanoji expired by illness. In Angre family internal dispute Angre power has loose and their power had less from sea. Alongwith Angre family Peshwa family internal dispute Maratha power had failed. Because of incompetence Second Bajirao Englishman had defeat them and finish Maratheshahi. In May 1818 English Senadhikari Prather had win Raigad Fort and finish Shiv Chatrapati created Swarajya.


In Colaba Dist. alongwith spread education create in Society ideological awakening start newspaper & Magazine in English period. In 1870 A.D. Hari Athwale had start “Satyasadan” Magazine in Alibaug. Pen Govind Vithal Kunte and Bhau Mahajan had publish Prabhakar Newspaper from Mumbai. From Prabhakar newspaper publish Lokhitwadi Shatpatre. Instead of that Sindhuyugam (Murud 1876), Modiator (Alibaug 1877), Satdharm (1878), Abla Mitra (1879), Sharabh (1881), Sudhakar (1888), Matheran Joutings (1892) Pen Samachar (Pen 1894), Brahmodaya (Mahad 1906), Colaba Samachar (Pen 1919),
Rashtratej (1935), Karishival (Pezari 1937), Arogya Mandir (Panvel 1938), etc. small big newspaper had published. In that Krushival, Colaba Samachar was very famous. From Krushival fortnightly Narayan Nagu Patil publish agricultural question, and from Colaba Samachar weekly Rambhau Mandlik publish Khoti question.

Raigad Dist. original name was Colaba. After Geographical Science Colaba means land Bamboo or Bhushir which is goes in the sea. In 1869 Colaba Dist. create separate Dist. Raigad Dist. north side Thane, East Side Pune South side Ratnagiri and West side Arabian Sea. Raigad Dist. Area expansion is 7,148 sq.mt. and south north is 150 km and east west is 24 to 28 km. Raigad Dist. had receive 240 km Natural clean boundary. From Maharashtra total area Raigad had receive 2.32% area. In Raigad Dist. Uran, Alibaug, Murud, Shrivardhan Taluka various part in boundary area. In Central Division some part of Panvel, Pen, Rohe and Tala and Mahad Mangaon Mhasala part is fertile and outdoor and Karjat, Khalapur, Sudhagad, Mangaon & Mahad some part is in Sahyadri Hill line. Raigad Dist. spread on Arabian Sea boundary 17° 51’ North to 19° 80’ degree and 72° 51’ East to 73° 40’ East degree. In Raigad Dist. there is three division North Raigad, Central Raigad, South Raigad. As per Indian West Boundary environment Raigad Dist. environment is special. In Mansoon there is more and regular rain, in summer heat environment, and whole year in air more wet.

In Raigad Dist. there is much forest property. Dist. Forest area is 1606.48 sq.km and working in two forest division. In Roha Forest Division there is Roha, Mangaon, Mahad, Poladpur, Murud, Mhasla and Shrivardhan Taluka. In Alibaug Forest Division there is include Karjat, Khalapur, Panvel, Uran, Pen, Sudhagad and Alibaug taluka. In Dist.
1. Alibaug is Head office of District. Nearby there is Khandari, Underi, Jaldurg and Sagargad. Hirakot Talav, Hirakot Fort, Colaba Fort and Kanhoji Angre statue at Alibaug. Before one and half Hundred year establish Magnet observatory is Alibaug attraction.

2. In Uran Taluka Garapuri Bet is famous for Leni. Which is famous as a Elephanta Caves.

3. Recognize as a Dakshin Kashi at Harihareshwar famous for Shiv Mandir. In this place main attraction is Picturesque and Pulan.

4. At Murud there is Janjira Fort, this Fort had not win by Maratha.

5. At Varandh Ghat base on Bhor Mahad way there is Shivtharghal which is famous because of Shri Swami Samarth stay. In this place Shivtharghal Ramdas Swami tell Dasbodh and written by Kalyan Swami.

6. In Karjat Taluka there is place of Matheran, in this area famous for Cold Air. In Matheran there is attraction Small Railway train.

7. Social Samta Sangar and Human Right made Passive Political Resistance at Chavdar Tale, which is at Mahad. Earlier Mahad known as Mahikavani and Mahad west side there is Hot Spring at Sav Village.

8. Karnala Fort at Panvel Goa highway from Panvel 100 km distance and there is Wildlife sanctuary.

9. From Ashtavinayak two place is there i.e. Pali Ballaleshwar and Mahad Varadvinayak.

10. In Mahad North side there is Raigad Fort as a Marathi People Identity Centre. Raigad is the Capital of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Swarajya. Instead of that in this Dist.---

Beach etc. beautiful Sea Border. This sea Border attract to Visitors. Alongwith Sea Border -----

There is Shivkalin Gad-Fort and alongwith this Gad- Fort there is Garapuri Lani, Thanale, Kondane, Kude, Ambivali, Gandhar Pale, Kol, Khadsamble, Ramdharme in this place there is Baudh caves.

From Historic era Raigad Dist. is Political movement centre and it is known as Shetkari Kamgar party balekilla. After independent till today in District politics there is power of Shetkari Kamgar party. In district Shetkari Kamgar Party prove their political power. After receive Swatantra for Land holder right various fight made by Shetkari Kamgar Party. Narayan Nagu Patil, Prabhakar Patil, Dutta Patil, Dattusheth Patil, D.B. Patil etc. had made more hard work for make power of Shetkari Kamgar Party in District.

Raigad had received two chance to make leadership of Maharashtra. Barrister A. R. Antuley and Shri Manohar Joshi had done excellent work as a Chief Minister. Before that Shri C.D. Deshmukh had done work as Country First Finance Minister. Shri
A.R. Antuley also work as a Health Minister in P.V. Narsinhrao Magistrate.