

PRABHA IAS IPS COACHING ACADEMY

MARATHAS

SHIVAJI MAHARAJ (1627-1680)

Born at Shivneri fort.

Bhonsle Clan

Father Shahaji Bhosle-Mother Jijabai.

He inherited the jagir of Poona from his father in 1637. At the age of 16 he captured the Torna fort

He created an independent Maratha kingdom with Raigad as its capital after capturing Torna in 1646

At the Battle of Pratapgarh (1659) he killed Afzal Khan (Adil shah's general).

Battle of Pavankhind (1660) – smaller Maratha force led by Baji Prabhu Deshpande held back the larger enemy to buy time for Shivaji to escape.

Shivaji was defeated by Shaista Khan (sent by Aurangzeb). Later He made a bold attack on Shaista Khan's military camp at Poona in 1663 & wounded him.

Treaty of Purander (1665)

Signed between Raja Jai Singh (under Aurangzeb) and Shivaji.

Shivaji ceded some forts to Mughals(23 out of his 35 forts) & visited Agra to meet Aurangzeb.

He defeated Mughals in Battle of Salher (1672). He was crowned & assumed the title Maharaja Chhatrapati in 1674 at Raigad fort.

He died in 1680 at the age of 52.

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ASHTAPRADHAN MANDAL:

Peshwa (Mukhya Pradhan)	Finance & general administration. Later became prime minister
Senapati (Sar-i-Naubat)	Military commander
Majumdar (Amatya)	Accountant General
Waqenavis (Mantri)	Intelligence, posts and household affairs
Sachiv (Surnavis)	Correspondence
Dabir (Sumant)	Foreign minister & Master of ceremonies.
Nyayadhish	Justice
Panditrao (Sadar)	High Priest, managing internal religious matters

REVENUE	The revenue system of Shivaji was based on that of Malik Amber of Ahmednagar. Land was measured using measuring rod called Kathi. Discouraged revenue farming
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Chauth (1/4th of land revenue) paid to Marathas to avoid Maratha raid.

Sadeshmuki-1/10th of standard revenue for all in recognition of maratha kings as their Sardeshmukh

Appointed own revenue officer called Karkuns.

SAMBHAJI (1680-1689)

Sambhaji was the son of Shivaji Maharaj and as per Treaty of Purandar was a Mansabdar of Mughals.

In 1687, at the Battle of Wai he defeated Mughal forces.

In 1689, Sambhaji was captured, tortured and executed by the Mughals at Sangameshwar

He was succeeded by his brother Rajaram I.

SHAHU (1707-1749)

Shahu's reign saw the rise of Peshwas & reducing Bhosale's to mere figureheads.

By the time of Rajaram II/Ram raja the power of Chhatrapati was almost overshadowed by that of Peshwa.

Balaji Vishwanath (1713-1818): First Peshwa

He started his career as a small revenue official.

He was given a title of Sena Karte in 1708 by Shahu.

He became a Peshwa in 1713 & made the post most important and powerful as well as hereditary.

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Signed Treaty of Magna Carta of Marathas with Faruksiyar

Baji Rao I (1720-40)

Succeeded Balaji Vishwanath. Maratha power reached its zenith under him.

Was one of the greatest exponents of guerrilla tactics after Shivaji.

He captured Salsette and Bassein from Portuguese in Battle of Vasai (1733). He defeated Nizam-ul-Mulk in 1737 & concluded Treaty of Durai Sarai.

He said about Mughal: “Let us strike at the trunk of the withering tree and the branches will fall of themselves”.

KINGDOMS	TERRITORY
Scindia	Gwalior
Holkar	Indore
Pawar	Dhar
Gaekwad	Baroda
Bhosale	Nagpur
Peshwa	Poona

Balaji Bajirao

Defeated Nawab of Bengal Alivardi Khan in 1751 and 1/3rd of Indian Subcontinent came under Maratha empire.

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Signed agreement with Ahmad Shah (Mughal emperor) –
Peshwas assured to protect the Mughal from internal and external enemies in return for the Chauth of the north-west provinces, total revenue of Agra & Ajmer provinces.

Defeat at the 3rd Battle of Panipat 1761 by Ahmad Shah Durrani checked the expansion of Marathas and fragmented the empire.

He and his son Vishwas Rao died in Panipat battle.

Successor: Madhav Rao à Narayan Rao à Sawai Madhav Rao à Baji Rao II.

MARATHAS ADMINISTRATION:

Kingdom divided into

Provinces(Mahal or Suba)

Pargana

Turfs

Mauza

Shivaji had well organized Army & Navy. The regular army was called Paga, while the loose auxiliaries called silahdars & were supervised by havildars.

He was assisted by a council of ministers called “Ashtapradhan” Mandal. Each minister was directly responsible to Shivaji. (No collective responsibility).

All ministers except Pandit Rao and Nyayadhis participated in War

Saranjami System-Soldiers given revenue grants instead of their salaries.