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Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj's Kolhapur

Mr. D. N. Yadav Patil,

Asst. Teacher,

PDVP Mahavidyalaya Tasgaon,

Sangali (Maharashtra, India)

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Abstract:

Chhatrapati Rajashree Shahu Maharaj was a great social reformer whose thoughts and work were valuable in the formation of modern Maharashtra. Rajashree Shahu Maharaj, who was a multi-faceted personality such as fortune-teller of Maharashtra, holder of untouchables, architect of Marathi theatre, main pillar of wrestling, people oriented king. Thus, in this research paper, an attempt has been made to review their work.

Keywords: Historical heritage, Dakshin Kashi, Land of Chhatrapati Shivaraya

Introduction:

The history of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj is so alive and vivid that it should be written in golden letters. Many buildings are testifying to it today. The pages of this glorious history are found in a large number of written forms. In the development of the cultural network of Kolhapur, Mr. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj has made a valuable contribution.

'Kolhapur District' is an important district in the western part of modern Maharashtra. This district has an ancient historical heritage. Its geographical location is east of the Sahyadri mountains and on the banks of the Panchganga river. The temple dedicated to the holy presence of Ambabai, as well as the Jotiba temple, are reminders of Indian history, culture and piety. It is a matter of pride to be a citizen of the famous Kolhapur which is recognized as 'Dakshin Kashi'. Maharani Tararani, who contributed a lot in the cultural development of Kolhapur, Shri. The fame of this city has spread far and wide due to the venerable personalities like Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj.

Today in the world we find a great diversity with numerous countries found in different regions and each country seems to have a different way of life and history. The culture of India is considered to be the most ancient and unique among all the countries on this earth with a history of

millions of years. In India we find great diversity in different subcultures, languages, history, geographical conditions. The main reason why Maharashtra is one of the most progressive states in India is its long history and this history inspires the people living in this place.

Known as the land of Chhatrapati Shivaraya, today the historical city of Kolhapur is considered important in Maharashtra. Kolhapur city is also known as the land of Chhatrapati Shahu. Shahu Maharaj did the work of developing the city of Kolhapur on a large scale, as a result of which today Kolhapur city seems to be leading in all fields. That is why it is important to know the history of this Kolhapur city.

Objectives:

- 1) In Kolhapur's Jadan Development, Mr. To understand the contribution of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj.
- 2) To know the history of Kolhapur city.
- 3) To know the major historical places in Kolhapur city.

Sources of information collection:

Sources of Educational Information from Bibliography, Ph.D. Dissertation, Internet.

History of Kolhapur:

The influence of the history of each city is strongly felt on the lifestyle of its warriors. Kolhapur's today's glorious expansion can be traced back to its history.

BC From the 1st to the 9th centuries, the main settlement of this city was on the hill of Brahmakumari. During the Satavahana period, this city was inhabited by a prosperous and advanced Ashi population. A.D. The Mauryan dynasty ruled here from 225 to 550 and the Chalukya dynasty of Badami from 550 to 753. A.D. In 634, King Karnadev of this family started the construction of Mahalakshmi temple. Further till 1210, the city was ruled by Shilaharas, during the reign of King Gandaraditya of this dynasty, the construction of Mahalakshmi temple was completed. Most of the Chalukya emperors addressed Kolhapur as 'Dakshin Kashi' and Mahatirtha.

The city of Kolhapur is named after the tribal Koli king Kolasura, who was defeated by Mahalakshmi in a war but was impressed by his prowess and bravery and gave his name to this place.

Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj had a significant hand in the progress of historical Kolhapur. He was the king of this city but he was known all over the world as a great administrator and social reformer. During his period, this city developed to a great extent. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj laid the foundation of the development of Kolhapur that we see today in every area.

Major historical places in Kolhapur:

1) Rankala Lake -

This Lake is also known as Rankala Chowpatty of Kolhapur. It is one of the major tourists

attractions in Kolhapur. A.D. Between 800 and 900 AD, there was a big earthquake here, due to which underground water started flowing, and a big lake was formed here. It has become a tourist attraction in the state.

2) Mahalakshmi Temple –

One of the three and a half Shakti Peethas of the Goddess is the place where Karveer resides Shri Mahalakshmi or Ambabai. Among the Hindu Puranas, Mahalakshmi is mentioned in Kashikhand, Pupurana, Devi Bhagwat, Harivamshapurana and Skandapurana. Mahalakshmi Murti may have been established in 4th to 5th century BC. According to available evidence c. When King Karnadev came to Kolhapur from Konkan in 109 AD, there was this idol in a small temple in the dense forest here. Karna deva cleared the area by clearing the forest and repaired the temple. A.D. There is evidence that the temple was built by the Shilahar dynasty between 600 and 700. In the ninth century, King Gandavadiksha expanded the temple. A.D. Mahadwar was built in 1218 by Yadava Taulam.

There are total five shikharas in Shree Mahalakshmi temple. The construction of the temple is Hemadpanthi and there is a garuda mandap attached to the main temple. The temple faces west and the main entrance is west. Navratri is a big celebration of Goddess. Sampa as a vow-taking goddess

3) Bhawani Mandap –

Located in the heart of Kolhapur city, this place is also known as the mini museum of the city.

4) New Palace –

In this place you can see objects related to the life of Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj. Here you can see pictures, objects, ornaments, insignia, swords, spears, rare weapons commemorating various events in the life of Shahu Maharaj.

5) Khasbagh Maidan –

Kolhapur is famous all over India for the sport of wrestling. The Khasbagh ground has a place of honor in the city and such an excellent wrestling ground is rarely seen.

6) Shivaji Vidyapith –

Shivaji Vidyapith was established in 1962. The statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in front of the attractive building of this university and the forest around it have increased the reputation of this university and this university has to be said to be the pride of Kolhapur city. Kolhapur's rich cultural and historical tradition is equally glorious in its educational tradition.

Historic forts, royal residences like Panhala, New Palace, and Old Palace, Khasbagh wrestling ground, picturesque Rankala Lake, etc. add to the charm of the city. The Dutt temple of Nrisimhawadi, the ship temple which is a masterpiece of architecture in Baahubali are becoming the center of tourist attraction in the state. Kolhapur's rich cultural and historical tradition is equally

glorious in its educational tradition. Kolhapur is known as 'Dakshin Kashi' due to all these things.

Conclusion:

- 1) In the development of the cultural heritage of Kolhapur, Mr. Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj has made a valuable contribution.
- 2) The city of Kolhapur has a great historical heritage.
- 3) It is felt that the history of the city has a great influence on the life of the people of this city.
- 4) The historical glory of the city seems to have increased due to various historical sites.

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