

Administration System of Belagavi (1800 TO 1947 CE)

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INTRODUCTION

The Belgaum region played an important role in the history of ancient, medieval and modern Karnataka. Belgaum is situated in North- West of Karnataka surrounded by Maharashtra and Goa at the borders. Belgaum lies between 15°29 north latitude to 16°58 and 74°5 to 75°75 east longitude. Its temperature is generally 13 to 35 and it receives average 100cms, Rainfall every year. The climate is pleasant and it is popularly known as 'Kashmir of Karnataka'. It is fifth largest city in Karnataka having two universities, two medical colleges, four dental colleges and six engineering colleges. Thus Belgaum is educational, economical, cultural hub of Karnataka. In the year 2006 the govt, of Karnataka declared as second capital of Karnataka. Belgaum, in fact is situated as a middle post in the Arabian Sea and plains of north Karnataka.

Key words : BELAGAVI, COLONIALISM

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF BELAGAVI

From second century B.C. it was already a town under the Satavahanas and served as an administrative unit under various ruling dynasties. Later, the kadambas of Banavasi (c345 A D to 540 A D) started ruling over the district and Halasi (Khanapur *taluk*) was their secondary capital. The region came under the Chalukyas of Badami (540 to 753 A D) and the Rashtrakutas of Malkhed in succession (753 to 973 A D). The Rattas, claiming to be the descendants of the Rashtrakutas, started ruling from Saundatti and later from Belgaum. When the district came under the Chalukyas of Kalyana, who inherited the region from the Rashtrakutas in 973 A. D. Many parts of the district were being administered by the Kadambas of Goa and Halasige -12000 was one of the provinces under them. After the eclipsing of the Kalyana Chalukyan power by the close of the 12th century, the region was ruled by the Kadambas of Goa till their overthrow by the Seunas (Yadavas) of Devgiri. Goa Kadambas did not accept the over lordship of the Kalachuris. The Seunas

secured full control over the region by the middle of the 13th century. Later, the district was overrun by the army of the Delhi Sultan and became a part of their territory till the year 1347 when Alla ud-din Bahman Shah revolted against them and started his rule from Gulbarga, and his sway extended over this region also. According to one view, he hailed from Kudachi in this district. Parts of the district had fallen in to the laps of Vijayanagara, but in 1472 the Bahamanis conquered almost the whole district including the Belgaum town. It was inherited by the Adilshahis of Bijapur when Yusuf Adil khan 1 revolted against the Bahmanis in 1489. By the middle of the 17th century certain tracts in the district were conquered by the Mughuls and certain others by Shivaji. With the over throw of the Bijapur rulers; all regions under Bijapur came under the Mughals, the Marathas, including those of Satara and Kolhapur having sway over some other parts. Southern parts of the district were entrusted to the Nawab of Savanur who rose to prominence during the early part of the 18th century. From the 16th century onwards some feudatory Desais like those of Kittur, Belavadi, Sirsangi, Wantumuri, etc. ruled over certain regions under the Marathas, there were administrators of Ramdurga and the Patawardhanas having control over some regions. During the whole of the 18th century, political conditions in Belgaum district were kaleidoscopic in character with various powers among the Marathas like the Peshawas, the Chatrapati of Kolhapur and the Savanur Nawab (who some time was a sub ordinate of the Marathas, and later of Haider and Tipu) holding some areas or the other and engaged in aggrandizement at the expense of the others and the Mysore power also entering the fray directly and clashing with the Marathas at Kittur and surrounding territories. By the beginning of the 19th century major parts of the present Belgaum district fell in to the hands of the British after the defeat of the Peshwas in 1818, but some other parts were under the Maratha chieftains like Kolhapur, the Patwardhanas of Sangli, Miraj etc. and the Desais of Nippani, Kittur, Ramdurga and Sirsangi. Kittur was taken over by the British in 1824. These areas which were directly under the British were

in Dharwad district of the British in the Bombay presidency. Chikodi and Manoli taluks which originally belonged to Kolhapur but changed hands several times during the second half of 18th century and early part of the 19th century till their final take-over by the British in 1827. In 1836, the new district of Belgaum was created by splitting Dharwad, to the 21st century Belgaum became bone of contention between the various ruling dynasties of north as well as south.

ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM AT THE TIME OF COLONIALISM IN BELAGAVI

The administrative policy of British brought ‘Bissen agreement’ according to this instead of cavalry regiment Peshwa had made ‘Pune agreement’ with British company in 1817 as this agreement Dharwad and Savanur district were hand over to British. Later in 5th November 1817 Peshwa had fought with British in Kirki war. He had given command to his army chief to acquire the places which were given according to Puna agreement but Munro had gone to Dharwad with his huge army on 5th February 1818. In 18th February 1818 he captured Badami. In 7th march 1818 he captured Gokak. In 14th march 1818 he captured Shahapur with this Belagavi had gone to the hands of British. Villages around Belagavi were gone under british government. In 1820 8 villages of Sangli dynasty, Beedi and Sampagov in 1824, Chikkodi and Munavalli in 1827, Gokak, Yadwad, Terdal, Kokatanur, Athani, Bidari in 1836, 2 villages of Terdal in 1837, 12 villages of kagwad in 1839, Soudi, Yadwad villages in 1884 were acquired by British. Belagavi region was ruled by British from 1818 to 1947. They called Bombay karnatak area as “South Maratha Jahangeer” in order to look after administration they appointed a collector. In 1819 mister Chaplin appointed Elpinstone as collector to

Bombay karnatak region. Protest took place in Belagavi region against laws and acts of British. Kittur revolution in 1824. Between 1824-26 Sangolli Rayanna fights against British. In 1836 Dharwad district divided in to two regions. One is Dharwad district and another one is Belagavi district. It had consisted 10 taluks Parasagad, Sampgov, Pashapur, Chikkodi, Bagalakote, Indi, Muddebihal, Hungund, Badami, Beedi. Later Indi and Muddebihal merged in Solapur district. Then Athani and Gokak merger in belagavi. In 1864 Indi, Hipparagi, Bijapur, Muddebihal, Bagalakot, Badam, Hungund Included in Kaladagi district. In 1884 Kaladagi district changed as Bijapur district. April 28 1836 Belagavi district was formed. Parasaghad, Sampgov, Paschapur, Beedi, Chikkodi, Bagalakot, Muddebihal, Indi, Hungund, Badami were Talukas. May 3 1836 mister Rovenscroop became Assistant collector of Belagavi district. Head office was started in 1838 march 9. In 1864 Paschapur, Beed, Parasagad, Sampagov, Chikkodi, Athani, Gokak taluk were included in Kaladagi district. After 1901 British appointed district commissioner. At the time of colonialism commissioner had many responsibilities as king of the district. He was the head of economical duties and district magistrate, president of local board, president of municipals, 2-3 Europeans worked as assistant under them.

Europe assistant collectors and districts deputies looked after taluk financial activities and 1st and 2nd bench judge and deputy collectors looked after district financial activities. Belagavi district had 7 talukas Mamedar was the head of each talukas they were used to collect tax from all concerned villages and paid to district collectors. If talukas were in wider they were sub divided into “Mahala”. There was 3 Mahalas in Belagavi district. In village gouda looked after duties of mulkipoujadari he would got 6 to 130 rupees per annual.

BELAGAVI DISTRICT COLLECTOR LIST 1901 TO 1947

| Sl.No | Name | From | To |
|-------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| 01 | Shri. A. R Bonus | 23/02/1901 | 14/10/1901 |
| 02 | Shri. R.C Brown | 15/10/1901 | 26/03/1902 |
| 03 | Shri. E Lawrence | 27/03/1902 | 17/12/1903 |
| 04 | Shri. A.M.T Jackson | 18/12/1903 | 17/08/1904 |
| 05 | Shri. G.W Hatch | 18/08/1904 | 14/01/1905 |
| 06 | Shri. A.M.T Jackson | 15/01/1905 | 22/10/1906 |
| 07 | Shri. E.G.L Ledmakregor | 23/10/1906 | 15/11/1906 |

| | | | |
|----|----------------------|-------------|------------|
| 08 | Shri.B.A Brendon | 17/11/1906 | 14/05/1912 |
| 09 | Shri. R.C Brown | 15/05/1912 | 09/04/1915 |
| 10 | Shri. M.Webb | 10/04/1915 | 05/05/1915 |
| 11 | Shri. E.L Saale | 06/05/1915 | 1919 |
| 12 | Shri.G.LMakregor | 1919 | 1922 |
| 13 | Shri.C.H.Blathpeth | 1922 | 1924 |
| 14 | Shri.W.W.Makee | 1924 | 1925 |
| 15 | Shri.H.L.Fox | 1925 | 1925 |
| 16 | Shri.W.Dillon | 15/07/1925 | 12/1925 |
| 17 | Shri.G.Monteth | 01/1926 | 13/10/1926 |
| 18 | Shri.V.B.Mardekar | 14/10/1926 | 09/12/1926 |
| 19 | Shri.G. Monteth | 01/1927 | 1927 |
| 20 | Shri.M.Webb | 1927 | 05/03/1927 |
| 21 | Shri.S.S.Koimuttur | 06/03/1927 | 21/08/1929 |
| 22 | Shri.H.Mantgomari | 22/08/1929 | 08/04/1931 |
| 23 | Shri.R.S.Hiremath | 09/04/1931 | 08/1931 |
| 24 | Shri.R.P.Pandit | 08/1931 | 17/10/1931 |
| 25 | Shri.Mantgomari | 18/10/1931 | 10/09/1932 |
| 26 | Shri.A.M.Macmillan | 11/09/1932 | 09/11/1933 |
| 27 | Shri.J.A.Madan | 09/11/1933 | 11/03/1934 |
| 28 | Shri.R.S.Hiremath | 12/03/1934 | 14/11/1934 |
| 29 | Shri.C.H.Koverntan | 15/11/1934 | 11/02/1935 |
| 30 | Shri.A.C.Saldana | 12/02/1935 | 15/02/1935 |
| 31 | Shri.R.S. Hiremath | 16/02/1935 | 29/08/1937 |
| 32 | Shri.A.H.Drakup | 30/08/1937 | 06/10/1939 |
| 33 | Shri.E.G.Tailor | 07/10/1939 | 06/11/1939 |
| 34 | Shri.B.Venkatappayya | 07/11/1939 | 27/05/1940 |
| 35 | Shri.C.N.Millard | 28/05/19 40 | 10/04/1943 |
| 36 | Shri.G.G.Drivyu | 11/04/1943 | 17/09/1944 |
| 37 | Shri.A.E.Shields | 18/09/1944 | 14/03/1946 |
| 38 | Shri.V.Ishwaran | 15/03/1946 | 22/04/1947 |
| 39 | Shri.A.U.Shaik | 23/04/1947 | 19/05/1947 |
| 40 | Shri.E.H.Halt | 20/05/1947 | 19/10/1947 |
| 41 | Shri.N.K.Dravd | 20/10/1947 | 25/01/1948 |

CONCLUSION:

After 1901 British were looked after Belagavithrough district collectors. In1901 A R bonus became D.C of belagavi. Only british people were appointed as District Collector later in 1926 non-british V V Mardekar became DC of Belagavi district. In 1947 E.H.Halt was the DC of belagavi District.

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