

Dr. A.R.
Rajwade

GWALIOR, SCINDIAS &
THEIR SARDAR OLIGARCHS



Parag Books

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This book chronicles the families of the famed Scindia rulers of the kingdom of Gwalior in Central India and their Oligarchs. The Princely state of Gwalior was one of the five biggest independent kingdoms of British India, accorded a 21 gun salute. The Scindias were one of the most powerful and influential rulers from the late 18th to mid- 20th century India. It covers Maharaja Scindia and the Princely State of Gwalior. Beginning with a short introductory write-up about the princely states of the Indian sub-continent, it is followed by a pictorial introduction to the Gwalior state and greater Gwalior city, the Scindia Dynasty and the growth of the 37 Sardar-Oligarch families of Gwalior.

A detailed write-up about the royal house of the Scindias with rare historical facts, anecdotes, fables and legends, connected with members of the family, followed by an introduction to the historical build-up of the Gwalior Oligarchy will hold the reader spell bound. An extensive account of the privileges, honours, titles of the ruler and of his Sardar-Oligarchs is detailed by the author, himself a descendant of the Sardar Rajwade family.

A historical background and comparative introduction has been drawn of the three contemporary dynasties viz. the Shivajis, Peshwas and later Mughals. The book also has detailed historical accounts with genealogical charts of the thirty-seven Sardar-Oligarch families of Gwalior who looked after the administration of Gwalior under the authority and leadership of Maharaja Scindia.

The book is lavishly illustrated with historical and contemporary images and is a visual treat.

- Uma Devi Jadhav

Dr. Anant rāo R. Rajwade



Born in 1939, to Sardar R. G. Rajwade of the Gwalior Oligarchy and Rani Indumati, the eldest daughter of the Raja of Sangli, Sardar Anant Rajwade did his schooling at the Scindia School, Gwalior and joined Trinity College, Cambridge in 1958. Here, he did his Mathematical Tripos parts I, II and III and completed his Ph.D. degree in Mathematics in 1966.

He joined the Centre for Advanced Study in Mathematics, Panjab University, Chandigarh in 1967 as a lecturer and retired as Professor from the same institute in 2001.

He has published more than 45 Mathematical Research papers in various international journals and written 4 books; one of them being SQUARES published by the London Mathematical Society.

He enjoys life with a wide range of hobbies like philately, music (plays the Sitar) and maintains a beautiful garden at his home in Chandigarh.

He married Smt. Nirmala Apte, the daughter of Sardar M. S. Apte of the Gwalior Oligarchy, in February, 1964 and now lives with his son and his family in Chandigarh.

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“An interesting illustrated history of the Gwalior Court. I have personally known the last three generations of the Scindia’s. The Book is also valuable as a sociological study of the feudal order that has now disappeared.”

- **Dr. Karan Singh**

“The Marathas, who all but became the rulers of India in the 18th century, it is surprising that no historian has devoted enough research to produce an entire volume on them. This thorough pictorial work on them is timely because many of the memories are still alive. This book is unputdownable!”

- **Aman Nath**, historian and architectural restorer

“We know something about the princely families but not enough about their feudatory sardars and jagirdars. This large-Format book by an accomplished mathematician, mystic and proud member of a distinguished Sardar family evokes an era when two fifths of India was under their rule and which is largely forgotten in today’s democratic India.”

- **Gurcharan Das**, author of *India Unbound*, *The Difficulty of Being Good* and *Kama, the Riddle of Desire*



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