

THE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL FAMILY



H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhiswar Shrimant Raja Shivaji IV [Baba Sahib] Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj 1838 - 1866 H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhiswar Shrimant Raja Shivaji IV [Baba Sahib] Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Shahaji Dam Altaphoo, Raja of Kolhapur, KCSI (24.5.1866). b. at the Sarnobat Mansion, 26th December 1830, eldest son of H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhiswar Shrimant Raja Shahaji I [Buwa Sahib] Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj, Raja of Kolhapur, by his fourth wife, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Anandi Bai Tara Sahib Maharaj, educ. privately. Succeeded on the death of his father, 29th November 1838. Ascended the gadi, 13th December 1838 and reigned under a Council of Regency until he came of age. Invested with full ruling powers, 1866. m. (first) at Kolhapur, 26th April 1847, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Sundra Bai Sahib Maharaj (b. 1835; d. at Kolhapur, 21st December 1866), daughter of Meherban Shrimant Khasajirao Sahib Patankar, of Patan. m. (second) at Baroda, 17th May 1854, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Rani Ahilya Bai Barodekarin Sahib Maharaj [Khasai Bai] (b. at the Royal Palace, Baroda, 1842; d. at Kolhapur, 14th December 1895), daughter of H.H. Shrimant Maharaja Ganpatrao Gaekwad, Sena Khas Khel Shamsheer Bahadur, Maharaja of Baroda. He d. at the Old Palace, Kolhapur, 4th August 1866, having had issue three sons:

* 1) Yuvraj Shrimant Shahaji [Bala Sahib] Maharaj. b. at Kolhapur, 24th August 1848 (s/o Sundra Bai). He d. March 1849.

* 2) An unnamed son of Sundra Bai. b. at Kolhapur, 13th November 1855 and d. 26th May 1857.

* An unnamed son of Ahilya Bai. b. at Kolhapur, 18th June 1858 and d. of smallpox, 1863



H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar Shrimant Raja Rajaram I Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Raja of Kolhapur 1866 - 1870 H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar Shrimant Raja Rajaram I Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Raja of Kolhapur. b. at Kolhapur, 13th April 1850, as Meherban Shrimant Nagojirao Patankar, only son of Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Au Bai [Uma Bai] Maharaj, eldest daughter of Raja Shahaji III Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj, by her husband Shrimant Sardar Ramchandrarao [Dada Sahib] Patankar, of Patan. Adopted by Raja Shivaji IV, 1st August 1866 and took the name of Rajaram. Succeeded on the death of his adopted uncle, 4th August 1866. Ascended the gadi, 17th August 1866 and reigned under a Council of Regency. Granted a hereditary salute of 19-guns, 26th June 1867. m. (first) at Phaltan, 21st March 1867, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Rani Tara Bai Sahib Maharaj (b. at Phaltan, 1855; d. at Kolhapur, 15th July 1874), daughter of Meherban Shrimant Sardar Mudhojirao IV Janojirao Naik Nimbalkar, Chief of Phaltan, CSI. m. (second) 13th December 1867, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Rani Sakwar Bai Sahib Maharaj [Krishna Bai] (b. 1854; d. at Kolhapur, 25th May 1912), sister of Meherban Shrimant Gopalrao Nimbalkar, Sar Lashkar Bahadur. He d.s.p.m. at Florence, Italy, 30th November 1870, having had issue an only daughter:

* 1) A daughter born to Sakwar Bai in March but d. in June 1870.



1870 - 1871 Interregnum. H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Raja Shivaji V Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Raja of Kolhapur
1871 - 1883 H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Raja Shivaji V Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Raja of Kolhapur, KCSI (1.1.1877).
b. 5th April 1863, as Shrimant Narayanrao Dinkarrao Bhonsle, son of Meherban Shrimant Sardar Dinkarrao Bhonsle, of Sawarde, by his wife, the sister of Shrimant Sardar Pritirao Ratajirao Chavan, Himmat Bahadur, educ. Rajaram Coll., Kolhapur and Rajkumar Coll., Rajkot. Adopted by H.H. Rani Tara Bai Sahib, senior widow of H.H. Raja Rajaram I Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj, 12th October 1871. Ascended the gadi on the same day and reigned under a Council of Regency until he came of age. Presented with a Sword of Honour by the Prince of Wales (King-Emperor Edward VII) 1875. Placed under protective custody for insanity and a Regent appointed to administer the affairs of the state, 13th March 1882. Rcvd: Prince of Wales's gold medal (1875) and KIH gold medal (1877). m. at Kolhapur, 21st May 1878, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Rani Anand Bai Sahib Maharaj [Yamuna Bai] (b. at Satara, 1868; d.s.p. at Kolhapur, 14th September 1903), daughter of Meherban Shrimant Waghojirao Shirke, of Satara. He d.s.p. from wounds received from his guardian, Private Green, at the Fort, Ahmednagar, 25th December 1883.



1884 - 1922 Colonel H.H. Kshatriya- Kulawatasana Sinhasanadhiswar, Kshatriya-
Kulawatasana Sinhasanadhiswar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahu Bhonsle Chhatrapati
Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahu Bhonsle
Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI (1.1.1895), GCIE
(12.12.1911), GCVO (1.1.1903). b. at The Circuit House, Kolhapur, 26th July 1874,
eldest son of H.H. Meherban Shrimant Chiranjiva Rajashri Jaisinhrao [Abba Sahib]
Ghatge, Sarjerao Vazarat, Ma-ab, Chief of Kagal (Senior), by his first wife, Shrimant
Akhand Soubhagyavati Radha Bai [Baba Sahib] Maharaj, only daughter of Meherban
Shrimant Balwantrao Venkatrao Raje Ghorpade, Chief of Mudhol. Educ. Rajaram
Coll., Kolhapur and Rajkumar Coll., Rajkot. Chosen by the GOI as successor to the
Kolhapur gadi, 22nd February 1884. Adopted by H.H Rani Anand Bai Sahib, widow of
H.H. Raja Shivaji IV, 17th March 1884 and ascended the gadi on the same day.
Reigned under the Regency of his father until 20th March 1885, and thence under a
Council of Regency until he came of age. Invested at Kolhapur with full ruling
powers, by the Governor of Bombay in person, Lord Harris, 2nd April 1894. Attended
the Coronation of H.M. The King-Emperor Edward VII 1902 (medal), Delhi Durbar
1903 (gold medal), Coronation of H.M. The King-Emperor George V 1911 (medal)
and the Delhi Durbar 1911 (gold medal). Granted the title of Maharaja as a
hereditary distinction, 24th May 1900 and a personal salute of 21-guns, 1st January
1909. Hon Colonel 103rd Mahratta Light Infantry, IA 1/1/1915. Hon LL.D.
(Camb.1903), MRAS (Lond.). m. at Kolhapur, 1st April 1891, H.H. Shrimant Akhand
Soubhagyavati Maharani Lakshmi Bai Sahib Maharaj (b. 1st January 1880; d. at
Kolhapur, 12th March 1945), daughter of Meherban Shrimant Gunajirao [Mama
Sahib] Khanvalkar, of Baroda by his wife, Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Anandi

Bai Sahib. He d. at Kolhapur, 6th May 1922, having had issue two sons and two daughters:

* 1) H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar Shrimant Maharaja Sir Rajaram II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur - see below.

* 2) Shrimant Shivaji Sahib Maharaj. b. at Kolhapur, 15th April 1899, educ. King Edward's Sch, Bromsgrove and Ewing Christian Coll., Allahabad. Rcvd: Silver Durbar Medal (1911). m. at Kolhapur, 6th June 1917, Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Indumati Bai Sahib Maharaj [Jamnakha Bai], daughter of Shrimant Sardar Shankarrao Jagtap, of Saswad, Poona District. He d.s.p. at Miraj, 12th June 1918, from injuries received from a fall from a horse.

* 1) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Radha Bai [Akka Sahib] Maharaj (H.H. The Maharani of Dewas Senior). b. at Kolhapur, 10th March 1894, educ. privately. m. at the Old Palace, Kolhapur, 21st March 1908, H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatana Sapta Sahasra Senapati Pratinidri, Meherban Shrimant Maharaja Tukojirao III Puar, Maharaja of Dewas (Senior), KCSI (b. 1st January 1888; d. at Pondicherry 21st December 1937), eldest son of Shrimant Sardar Anandrao [Nana Sahib] Puar Maharaje, Vishwasrao Bahadur, by his wife Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Annapurna Bai Sahib Maharaje. She d. 22nd September 1973, having had issue, an only son:

o a) H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahaji II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur - see below.

* 2) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Au Bai [Akka Sahib] Maharaj. b. 23rd May 1895, but d. young.



Brigadier H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Rajaram II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur 1922 - 1940 Brigadier H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Rajaram II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI (1.1.1931), GCIE (3.6.1924). b. at Kolhapur, 31st July 1897, elder son of Colonel H.H. Kshatriya- Kulawatasana Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahu Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI, GCIE, GCVO, by his wife, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharani Lakshmi Bai Sahib Maharaj, educ. St Edward's Sch, Oxford and Ewing Christian Coll., Allahabad. Succeeded on the death of his father, 6th May 1922 and ascended the gadi, 31st May 1922. Attended the Coronation of H.M. The King-Emperor George V 1911 and the Delhi Durbar 1911. Hon. Brigadier, IA (Hon. Lt-Col. 30/3/1927). Hon Col. 8th (Territorial) Btn. 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, IA 10/12/1937. Rcvd: Coron. (1911), Delhi Durbar (1911) Silver Jubilee (1935) and Coron. (1937) medals. m. (first) at Baroda, 1st April 1918, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharani Tara Bai Sahib Maharaj [Indumati Devi] (b. at Baroda, 24th June 1904), Regent of Kolhapur 13th July 1942 to 31st March 1947, eldest daughter of Shrimant Maharaj Kumar Fatehsinhrao Shavajirao Gaekwad, Yuvraj of Baroda, by his wife Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Padma Bai Maharaj Sahib, daughter of Shrimant Ramchandrarao Jagdeorao Naik Nimbalkar of Phaltan. m. (second) 1st June 1925, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharani Vijayamala Bai Sahib Maharaj [Rajas Bai] (b. 1916; d. at Kolhapur, 14th July 1993), daughter of Meherban Shrimant Atmaramrao Mohite, by his wife Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Ladu Bai Ammai Raje Sahib, daughter of Meherban Shrimant Nadaraja Mahadik Raje Sahib. He d.s.p.m. at Shivatirth Palace, Bombay, 26th November 1940, having had issue an only daughter:

* 1) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Padmaraje Bai Sahib Maharaj. b. at Kolhapur, 11th October 1940. m. February 1959, Meherban Shrimant Raghojirao Kadam Bande, jagirdar of Torkhed. She d. 22nd March 1997, having had issue, two sons



Maharaja Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar Shrimant Shivaji VI Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur. 1941 - 1946 H.H. Maharaja Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar Shrimant Shivaji VI Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur. b. 22nd November 1941, as Pratapsinhrao Shankarrao Bhonsle, youngest son of Meherban Shrimant Shankarrao [Nana Sahib] Bhonsle Khanwatkar - see India (Satara). Selected by the GOI, 31st December 1941. Formally adopted by H.H. Maharani Tara Bai Sahib, widow of H.H. Maharaja Shrimant Sir Rajaram II, 18th November 1942 and ascended the gadi on the same day with the name Shivaji V. Reigned under the Regency of his adopted mother. He d. at the Marina Nursing Home, Bombay, 28th September 1946.



Major-General H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahaji II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Hindupat Padshah, Maharaja of Kolhapur 1947 - [1983] Major-General H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahaji II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Hindupat Padshah, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI (14.8.1947, KCSI 12.6.1941). b. at Kolhapur, 4th April 1910, as Vikramsinhrao [Nana Sahib] Puar of Dewas (Senior), only son of H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatana Sapta Sahasra Senapati Pratinidri, Meherban Shrimant Maharaja Tukojirao III Puar, Maharaja of Dewas (Senior), KCSI, by his wife, Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Radha Bai [Akka Sahib] Maharaj, elder daughter of Colonel H.H. Kshatriya- Kulawatasana Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahu Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI, GCIE, GCVO, educ. Christian Coll., Indore; Rajaram Coll., Kolhapur; Officer Cadet Sch, Indore, and at OTS, Mhow. Presdt. Dewas State Cncl. and administrator after his father flight to Pondicherry, 26th July 1934. Presdt. Exec. Council and acting C-in-C, Indore State 20/9/1942-15/5/1943. Mbr. National Defence Council, New Delhi 1943-45. Hon ADC to H.M. King George VI, 25/1/1946-1950. Cmsnd as 2nd Lieut. 2nd Btn. Mahratta Light Infantry, IA 4/8/1942, served in WW2 as coy. cdr. Western Desert (including the dash to the Gazala line) 1941-42 and bde. liaison officer and acting Capt. 1942, prom. Hon Capt. 11/7/1944, Hon Maj. 24/1/1946, and Hon. Maj-Gen. IA 1962. Rcvd: Silver Jubilee (1935), Coron. (1937 and 1953), and Indian Indep. (1947), 39-45, Africa and Italy stars, Defence, War and IGS medals (1945), and the Star of the Order of Ahilya Holkar Sultanat (1943). He abdicated Dewas in favour of his only son, 23rd March 1947 and was formally adopted by H.H. Maharani Tara Bai Sahib, widow of H.H. Maharaja Shrimant Sir Rajaram II, 31st March 1947 and ascended the gadi as Shahaji II. Signed the instrument of accession to the Dominion of India, 14th August 1947. Merged his state with Bombay, 1st March 1949. m. at Dewas, 30th December 1926, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharani Pramila Bai Maharaj Sahib (b. at Jath, 4th August 1910), Regent of Dewas 11th August 1941 - 15th May 1943 and 23rd March 1947 - 27th June 1948, eldest daughter of Meherban Shrimant Ramrao Amritrao Sahib Dafle, Desmukh of Jath, by his wife Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Bhagirathi Bai Sahib, daughter of Meherban Shrimant Shahaji III Raje Sahib Bhonsle, Raja of Akalkot. He d. 9th May 1983 (succ. by his grandson and adopted son), having had issue, one son and three daughters:

* 1) H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatana Sapta Sahasra Senapati Pratinidri, Meherban Shrimant Maharaja Krishnajiraorao III Puar, Maharaja of Dewas (Senior) - see India (Dewas Senior).

* 1) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharaj Kumari Shaliniraje Sahib. b. 3rd July 1929. m. 6th March 1945, Meherban Shrimant Sardar Rajaramsinhrao Bhonsle, of Nagpur. She had issue, a son:

o a) Shrimant Dilipsinhrao Rajaramsinhrao Bhonsle, who succeeded as H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Shahu II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Maharaja of Kolhapur - see below.

* 2) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharaj Kumari Vijayaraje Sahib. b. 24th July 1937. m. 26th November 1952, Shrimant Pratapsinh Shitole.

* 3) Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharaj Kumari Urmilayaraje Sahib. b. 9th July 1943. m. Rajkumar Shrimant Vijayasinhrao Yeshwantrao Raje Ghorpade (b. 18th October 1937), third son of Major H.H. Shrimant Maharaj Shri Yeshwantrao Venkatarao Sahib Ghorpade, Hindurao, Mamlukatmadar Senapati, Raja of Sandur, by his wife, H.H. Rani Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Sushila Devi Raje Sahib, eldest daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Umdat ul-Mulk, Raj Rajendra Malojirao Narsinhrao Shitole, Desmukh, Rustam Jang Bahadur, of Gwalior



H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Shahu II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Hindupat Padshah, Maharaja of Kolhapur[1983] H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Shahu II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Hindupat Padshah, Maharaja of Kolhapur. b. 7th January 1948, son of Meherban Shrimant Sardar Rajaramsinhrao Bhonsle, of Nagpur, by his wife by Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Shaliniraje Bai Sahib Maharaj, daughter of Major-General H.H. Kshatriya Kulawatasana, Sinhasanadhishwar, Shrimant Maharaja Sir Shahaji II Bhonsle Chhatrapati Maharaj Bahadur, Hindupat Padshah, Maharaja of Kolhapur, GCSI, educ. Bishop Cotton High Sch., Bangalore and Christian Coll., Indore (BA). Adopted by his grandfather as his son and successor with the name of Shahu Chhatrapati, 28th June 1962. Succeeded as head of the Royal House of Kolhapur on the death of his grandfather, 9th May 1983. m. 9th March 1970, H.H. Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Maharani Yadanaseni Maharaj Sahib, daughter of Meherban Shrimant Sardar Dhairyashilrao Bhojiraj Pawar Mangulkar. He had issue, two sons:

* 1) Yuvraj Shrimant Sambhaji Chhatrapati Maharaj Sahib. b. 11th February 1970, educ.

* 2) Shrimant Malojio Chhatrapati Maharaj Sahib. b. 1976, educ. m. 11th December 1999, Shrimant Akhand Soubhagyavati Dhawalshri Raje Sahib, daughter of The Hon. Digvijay Khanwailkar, Ex- Minister for Health, Maharashtra State