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Beautiful Baroda



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PREFACE

This illustrated booklet is intended to serve as a brief guide to tourists and visitors coming to Baroda and to evoke interest of the general public as regards the varied and numerous attractions which the State has to offer.

The undersigned wishes to acknowledge with gratitude the help he has received in various ways, in particular, from Dr. S. M. Pagar, Mr. R. V. Desai, Dr. Hiranand Shastri, Mr. B. T. Kale, Mr. U. P. Rao, Prof. C. V. Joshi and Mr. D. N. Apte, and the cooperation received from the Baroda State Press, the Times of India Press (Process Department) and Messrs. Pawasker Bros., Photographers for getting the work done in a very short time.

Baroda,

Dated 15th January, 1940.

C. A. MEHTA,

Director of Industries and Labour.

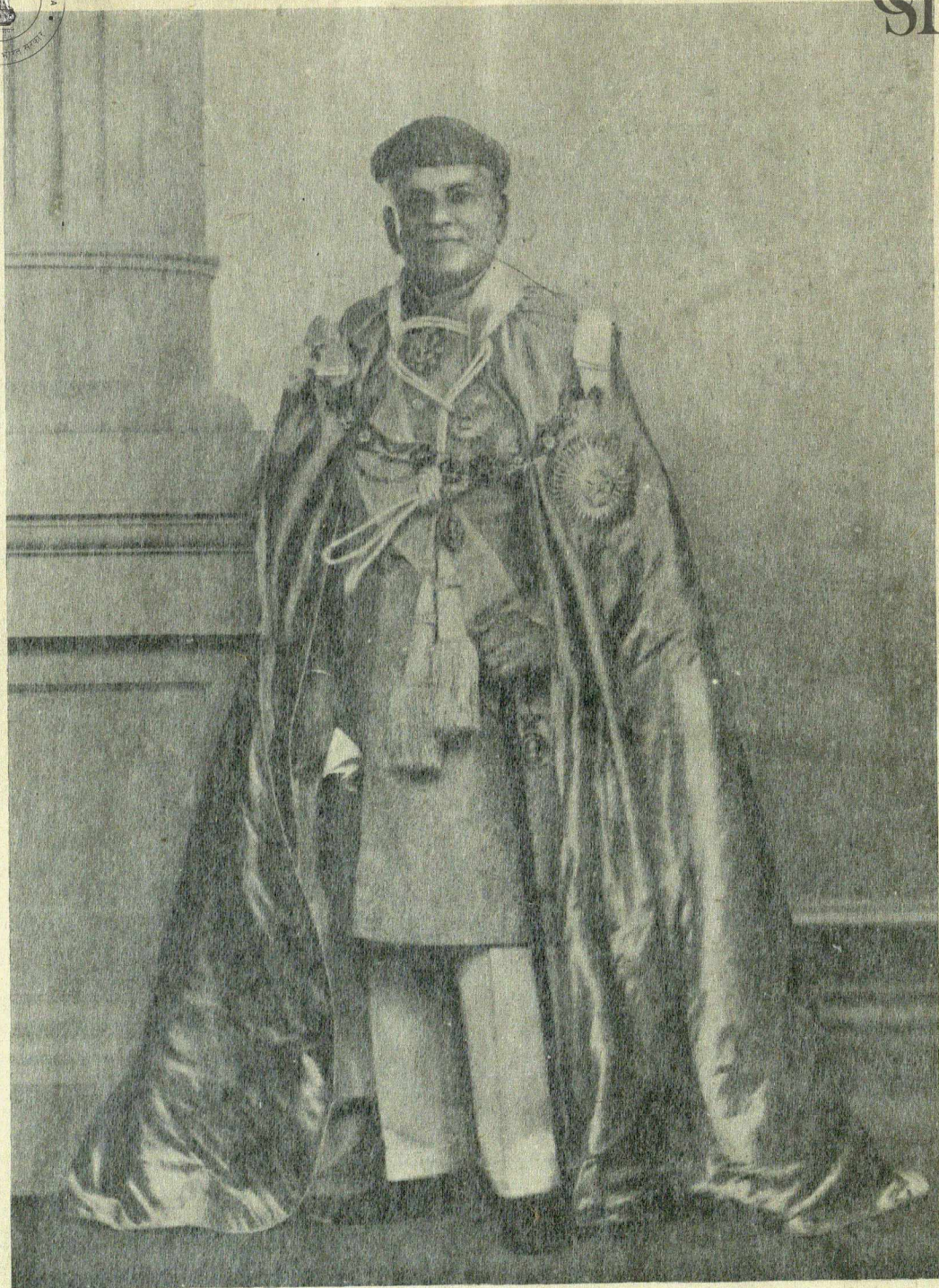
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HIS HIGHNESS THE LATE MAHARAJA SAYAJIRAO III
The Maker of Modern Baroda.

Beautiful Baroda

INTRODUCTORY

The history of modern Baroda begins from the rise of the Marathas under their great leader, Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. The founder of the present Ruling House was Damajirao Gaekwar I. He distinguished himself in the battle of Balapur and won for himself the title of Shamsheer Bahadur from the King of Satara. His nephew, Pilajirao succeeded him in 1721 and obtained the title of Sena Khas Khel from his Chief, the King of Satara. He established himself at Songad in 1723. His son, Damajirao II captured Baroda in 1734, since which date it has remained under the Gaekwars.

His successors expanded the boundaries of the State. In 1802, 1805 and 1817, the State entered into an offensive and defensive alliance with the British Government. This alliance continues even today.

The late Maharaja His Highness Sir Sayajirao III Gaekwar was the fourteenth Ruler in the line. He was a great pioneer in education and social reforms and is fittingly called the Maker of Modern Baroda.

PRESENT RULER

The present Ruler, His Highness Maharaja Pratapsinh Gaekwar succeeded to the Gadi on the 7th February 1939. Born in 1908 of the late Shrimant Yuvaraj Fattehsinhrao and Shrimant Yuvaradni Padmavati Devi, His Highness completed his primary education in the Princes' School, Baroda. Thereafter he spent some time in the Rajkumar College at Rajkot and a public school at Eastbourne in England. He passed his Matriculation examination in 1927 from the Baroda High School and read for the Intermediate Arts examination in the Deccan College, Poona.

His administrative training began in 1929 in the Survey and Revenue departments. In the latter department he filled appointments of increasing responsibility and thus came in

close contact with the people over whom he was to rule. In addition to this intensive administrative training, he received instruction in History, Economics and such other allied subjects, the knowledge of which is so essential to a prospective ruler. In course of time he became Karma Sachiv and a member of the State Executive Council and also worked as Secretary to his grand father, His late Highness Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwar. His Highness held this post for about eight years with great distinction. Here he mastered the details of the working and policy of all the departments in the State and enforced strict discipline in the administration. He had also occasions to deputise his grand father on important ceremonial occasions, and thus became familiar with their routine.

The all round general education which His Highness thus received and the high traditions of the great Royal House in which he has been brought up, have indeed made him a very worthy recipient of a noble heritage; and immediately after assuming powers, he has given ample proof by issuing the Proclamation dated 23-2-1939 that this heritage is not only safe in his hands but is bound to be enriched in lustre and glory in the years to come.

This Proclamation, remarkable in many respects, was generally well received by the press and the public. For the first time, the policy of the State was announced, in unmistakable terms, of the close association of the people with the administration and satisfying, to the fullest possible extent, of the aspirations which are the direct outcome of the enlightened policy of the late Maharaja. Under the new constitutional reforms, the Legislative Assembly (Dhara Sabha) will be enlarged and will have a substantial elective majority; its functions will be widened, and a non-official member will be appointed to the State Executive Council whose status will be similar to that of other official members of that body. In devising the constitution, emphasis has been once again laid on the complete identity of interests between the Ruler and the Ruled and among all sections of the population.

Another notable feature of this important announcement was the permanent reduction of land revenue assessment by over twenty per cent of the land revenue demand of the State. This gave much relief to the agriculturists in the State who were hard hit by the fall in agricultural prices.

The decision to set apart a sum of one crore of rupees to perpetuate the memory of the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao Gaekwar and to utilise its interest for the furtherance of nation building activities, was another important item in the proclamation and was a clear proof of the solicitude of His Highness for the welfare of his subjects.

To give further relief to his poor subjects, His Highness, has recently decided to readjust the incidence of income-tax and to introduce a graduated scale from this year. Out of 24,000 persons paying income-tax last year, about 17,000 persons with income below Rs. 2,000 have been exempted this year from paying the tax as a result of this reform.

The study of the budgets of the last ten years disclosed that vagaries of the monsoon had often upset budgetary calculations. As a safeguard against this contingency, His Highness revised the fiscal system, created a reserve fund of $3\frac{1}{2}$ crores and set apart a fund of Rs. 50 lakhs for equalisation of the land revenue. To give stimulus to mass education and nation building activities, His Highness has voluntarily reduced his own civil list by about six lakhs:

To relieve unemployment to a certain extent among the educated classes, His Highness amended the Service rules which resulted in the retirement of persons who had completed fifty-sixth year of their age. This gave an opportunity to encourage young men in the State Service and also to try younger people in important key positions.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STATE

The territories of the Baroda State cover an area of about 8164 sq. miles and has a population of 24,43,007 according to 1931 census. The people of Baroda are well-known for their great commercial and industrial enterprise. Their

adventurous spirit and commercial genius have taken the Gujaratis not only to all the corners of India but also to the foreign countries of Africa and Asia. The territories of the State are not situated in a compact block as in the case of Hyderabad or Mysore. They can be grouped under four main divisions, three of which—Baroda, Mehsana and the Navsari Districts—lie in Gujarat proper, while the fourth group—Amreli District—lies scattered in the south of Kathiawar, with a detached portion, known as Okhamandal, situated on the northwest corner of that Peninsula. The rather scattered position of the various districts accounts for considerable variations in the character of the soil, rain fall and temperature in the four districts. Generally speaking, in the southern portions of the State the soil is more fertile and rainfall is larger and more regular and the climate is more temperate than in the northern and western portions.

Gujarat is regarded as the garden of India and in respect of the fertility of the soil and wealth of the people, the regions belonging to the Baroda State compare favourably with the other portions of Gujarat. The best cotton in India, viz. F. 1726 is grown in Navsari district; while the Gandevi Taluka of the same district is famous for its vegetable and fruit gardens and sugar-cane cultivation. Baroda District is well-known for its cotton, tobacco, wheat and dairy products. Mehsana District in the North is one of the most important oil-seeds producing areas in India, the chief products being sesame seed, rape seed, and castor seed.

The following description of the Baroda territories of Gujarat, given by the famous Orientalist, James Forbes, who was a high official of the East India Co. in the 18th century is worthy of special note :—

“ If I were to point out the most beautiful part of India I ever saw, I should fix upon the province of Gujarat. If I were to decide upon the most delightful part of that Province, I should without hesitation prefer the purganas of Brodera (Baroda) and Nariad.”

“ The crops in the other districts may be equal in variety and abundance, but the number of trees which adorn



the roads, the richness of the mango topes round the villages, the size and verdure of the tamarind trees which clothe the country with uncommon beauty, are such indeed as I never saw to so great an extent in any other part of the globe. I am almost tempted to say that the lotus covered lakes and their ever-shadowing banyan trees have a more cheerful and brilliant appearance than in the surrounding districts, and the sweet variety of the red, white and blue lotus, gently agitated by the breeze, or moved by the spotted halcyon alighting on the stalks, with the rains and water-hens lightly running over the foliage, are altogether lovely."

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STATE

Baroda State is industrially one of the most advanced States in India. Cotton being the most important agricultural crop, the chief industry in the State is the Textile Industry. There are now 16 cotton mills, and 1 woollen mill. The total number of cotton bales consumed in the cotton mills of the State during the year 1938-39 was 1,08,000.

The big cement factory at Dwarka and the Salt Works at Mithapur in Okhamandal were helped considerably by the State in the early stages. The cement factory produced 81,840 tons of cement during the year 1937-38 and the Okha Salt Works produced 34,000 tons of salt during the year 1938-39. This concern and the Pioneer Magnesia Works which was producing magnesium chloride, potassium chloride and epsom salt, are now taken over by the Tata Chemicals Ltd. This new industrial concern which has been started for manufacturing heavy chemicals like soda ash, caustic soda and chlorine, has been given several important concessions, and will be one of the biggest and most important industrial enterprises in India. The Alembic Chemical Works at Baroda, which was started by the famous scientist, the late Prof. T. K. Gajjar, in cooperation with his colleague Mr. Kotibhasker more than 25 years ago, is one of the principal drugs and chemicals manufacturing concerns in India and is constantly planning new lines of development. The total sales of the Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd. during the year 1938-39 amounted to Rs. 15 lakhs. The sugar factory at Gandevi is



one of the oldest factories started in India. Among the smaller concerns, special mention may be made of the match factories at Petlad and Billimora, the sulphuric acid plants at Baroda and Petlad, the Sayaji Iron works at Baroda, metalware factories at Navsari and Billimora and the china clay works at Ransipur.

This remarkable development is the result of the progressive industrial policy of His Highness' Government which was characterised by (1) pioneering efforts of the Government in starting a cotton mill, and other industrial concerns fifty years ago and by (2) the grant of liberal financial assistance on large scale and other concessions to industries. The policy of the Government of developing the cottage and small industries has been given a new impetus by the starting of the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute in 1938 and the grant of loans free of interest to cottage weavers and rural artisans.

BARODA CITY

Baroda city, the capital of the State, is the most important city in the State and its varied charms and attractions draw thousands of visitors annually, while on the day of Dashera Swari the roads are full of surging humanity coming from far and near. As a city of charm and beauty Baroda has no equal in the whole of Gujarat and Kathiawar. With its broad asphalt roads, long and picturesque avenues, magnificent palaces, beautiful parks and recreation grounds and its newly developed suburbs containing buildings of great architectural beauty and elegance, surrounded by lovely gardens, it may easily be regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in India. The old Baroda city with its narrow lanes and insanitary conditions has changed beyond all recognition and this wonderful transformation was brought about by His Highness the late Maharaja Saheb. As the visitor comes out of the Baroda Railway Station, he is greeted by the sight of the grand statue of His late Highness in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of his reign, which constituted a golden era in the history of Baroda State. Between the Baroda High School and the Baroda College stands Shri Sayaji Diamond Jubilee Science Institute, where are



located the Research Laboratories of the Industries, Agriculture and Health Departments. The Baroda College, which was established in the year 1881, is one of the oldest colleges in India and possesses a magnificent building.

A few yards from the College, the equestrian statue of the late Maharaja at the entrance of the Public Park meets the eyes. The statue which is in bronze was raised by His Highness' grateful subjects and admirers in India and beyond the seas, in commemoration of his Silver Jubilee celebrated on the 15th March 1907. The Public Park on both the banks of Vishwamitri, covering a space of 125 acres, is a delightful centre of recreation, where citizens throng in large numbers particularly in the evening. The State band plays in the band-stand every Tuesday and the Indian Orchestra on every Sunday evening. The Zoo, the Museum and the Picture Gallery all situated within the precincts of the Park are a source of great attraction and interest to the visitor. The Museum contains also the Industrial Arts Section and the Economic Court containing specimens of indigenous arts and crafts and raw materials collected from all over India. The Picture Gallery contains one of the finest collection of Indian and Western Art in the whole of India and a connoisseur of art will find sufficient material to feast his eyes upon in this gallery for a whole day. In the Public Park there is a fine equestrian statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the founder of Maratha Empire. This statue was made by Rao Bahadur Mhatre of Bombay. Between the Public Park and the Kirti Mandir is the historic city bridge built in the 16th century. The bridge is double-decked and was the object of painting by the early English travellers of the 18th century.

The monument known as Kirti Mandir or Temple of Fame, embodies the reverence which His late Highness, great as he himself was, felt for all the past great men of Baroda, who have contributed to the building up of the Baroda State. On the grounds adjoining this fine building are the cenotaphs of previous rulers of Baroda. The nobleness of the conception combined with its exquisite and artistic execution, lends to this building a charm and beauty which are unique.



On the grounds opposite the Kirti Mandir are the various buildings of Shri Sayaji General Hospital, provided with the latest equipment for the various branches of the medical science, and medical facilities for the treatment of the sick. It has accommodation for 302 beds, and also provides treatment to outdoor patients in very large numbers.

On the western side of the Hospital grounds is the beautiful avenue of banyan trees in double rows, known as the Indira Avenue.

Proceeding eastwards, one comes across the Kothi buildings which house the Secretariat of the State. The new wing which was added on the northern side, now provides accommodation for the offices of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, as well as the Dewan and other members of the State Council.

The Sursagar tank is situated in the heart of the city and provides a most picturesque view in Baroda. It is nearly 1,100 ft. in length and 600 ft. in breadth. The reflection of the adjoining buildings and lights presents a sight of great charm at night time.

By the side of the Sursagar tank stands the stately building of the Nyayamandir or the Palace of Justice. In it are located all the principal judicial courts of the State and the Baroda District. Its imposing facade and its high turrets lend to it a striking appearance.

The Central Library near Mandvi is one of the Chief attractions of Baroda. Apart from the large collection of books and the system of free lending of books to the public, it has many striking features of interest. The system of village libraries and circulating libraries which was introduced in the State long ago is one of the most important measures adopted by the late Maharaja Saheb for the spread of education and knowledge among his subjects. The library movement has made the name of Baroda famous throughout India.

The Oriental Institute, near the Kothi Buildings, would be of unfailing interest to a person interested in research in Indian culture, for which this is one of the important centres



in India. The Institute contains a valuable treasure of ancient Sanskrit manuscripts, several of which have been published by the Institute in the Gaekwad Oriental Series.

To most of the visitors and tourists the magnificent palaces of Baroda provide the chief attraction. The Laxmi Vilas Palace is one of the finest Palaces in India and has a splendid collection of works of art in painting and sculpture. It is the residence of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb in Baroda. Going towards the south, beyond the narrow gauge railway line, one sees the Pratap Vilas Palace which was the residence of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb when he was the Yuvaraj.

Passing the Military Parade Grounds, the road finally terminates at the Makarpura Palace which was built by the late Maharaja Khanderao. It has an exquisitely laid out and beautiful garden. The Nazar Bag Palace, inside the old city, was built by the late Maharaja Malharrao and has in the State jewellery deposited there the principal object of attraction.

The main industries of Baroda are the four cotton and one woollen spinning and weaving mills, the Alembic Chemical Works, the Baroda Chemical Works, the Sayaji Iron Works, and the G. B. S. Railway Workshop.

The Technical Institute known as the Kala-Bhavan was founded in 1890. The fine building in which it is housed was built in 1922 A. D. The Institute had on its roll 580 students in 1938-39, who come from the State as well as other parts of India, and imparts training in diploma and certificate courses of four years and two years duration respectively in Mechanical, Electrical and Civil Engineering, Chemical Technology, Weaving, Fine Arts, Commerce and Photography. There are also technical schools at Navsari, Amreli and Patan.

Just near the Kala-Bhavan is the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute where the artisans of the State are given practical training in various handicrafts and arts. The Show Room and Sales Depot, where the finest specimens of arts and handicrafts of the State are exhibited and sold, is an important feature of the Institute and is well worth a visit.

The Agricultural Farm, situated towards north-west of the Baroda Station, to which are attached an Agriculture School and a Museum, the Agricultural Research Station and the Horticulturist's Laboratory represent some of the manifold activities of the Agriculture Department whose development in recent years has been really phenomenal. The expenditure of this department increased from Rs. 2 lakhs in 1934-35 to Rs. 5.8 lakhs in 1938-39.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, who is himself a keen sportsman, takes great interest in the development of physical training and sports in the State. Baroda is an important centre of sports in India [and the various tournaments organised by the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana and the All India Tennis Tournament, attract competitors from all over India. There are several gymnasiums in Baroda, of which the most well-known is that of Prof. Manekrao who has been a pioneer in physical education in Western India.

The principal places of interest within a short distance from Baroda are as follows :—

(1) Sayaji Sarovar at Ajwa from where drinking water is supplied to the people of Baroda. This is a large reservoir of water at the foot of the Pavagadh Hills. It is 14 miles from the City and there is a good motor-road leading to it.

(2) Chandod on the bank of the river Narbada, 26 miles by rail, is an important place of pilgrimage. The scenery along the river is very charming.

(3) Dabhoi, 17 miles by rail, an important Taluka town, is famous for its ancient architectural remains. It was the native place of the famous Gujarati poet, Dayaram.

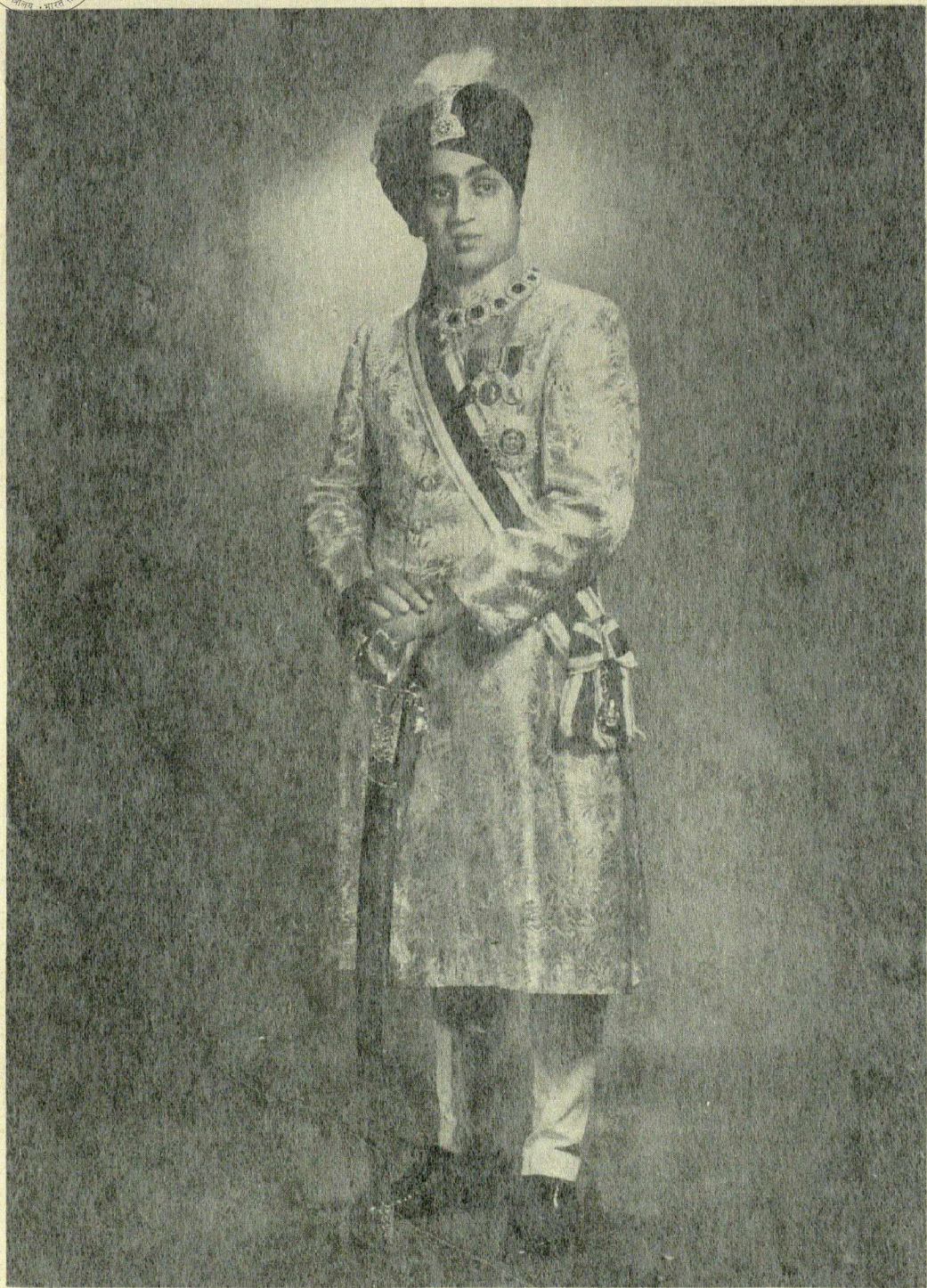
(4) Pavagadh, which is about 30 miles by rail or road, is a well-known historical fortress and a place of pilgrimage.

Sankheda town, 32 miles by rail, in the Baroda District, is famous for its beautiful lacquer work, while Petlad with its 3 cotton mills, one match factory and one acid factory and Dye House, is an important and growing industrial town.

MEHSANA DISTRICT

Mehsana

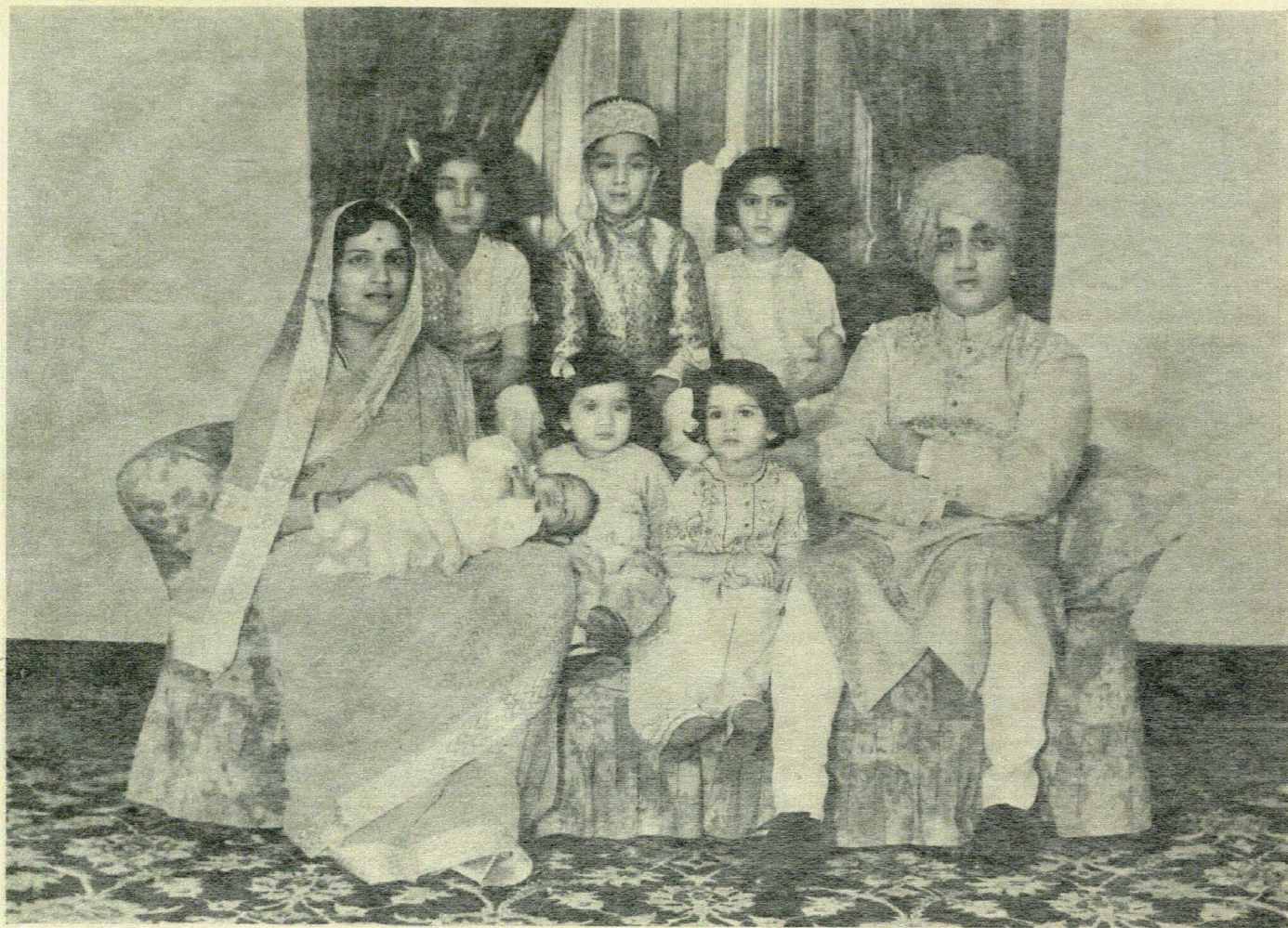
This is the biggest District in the State and is situated in North Gujarat. It is the largest oil-seed producing tract in



1. HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA PRATAPSIKH GAEKWAR
Senakhaskhel, Samsher Bahadur, Farzande-Khas-E-Daulate-Englishia,



2. HER HIGHNESS MAHARANI SHANTA DEVI GAEKWAR.



3. THE ROYAL FAMILY.



4. SHRIMANT YUVRAJ FATESINH GAEKWAR.

Kathiawar. The port was opened to traffic in 1926 and since then is increasing in importance every year. The total value of trade passing through this port was 71.87 lakhs in 1938-39.

Kodinar and the southern coast of Kathiawar in Baroda State is well known for its fishing industry. The Fisheries Department is now engaged in further developing this industry at Kodinar, Okha and the seacoast of the Navsari District. The region round about Dhari is celebrated for its fine fruit gardens and the excellent quality of the Madhubindu papayas and mangoes produced there.

A portion of Gir forest—the only place in India where lions are found—lies within Baroda State territory near Dhari. The district town, Amreli is well known for its public spirit as shown by its many charitable institutions and the greatest progress in the library movement in the whole State.

NAVSARI DISTRICT

The southern portion of the Baroda territory known as the Navsari District is interesting from many points of view. On the western side of the District, the Arabian Sea dashes its waves against the coast, and on the mouths of the Mindhola, Purna and Ambika there are ports like Umarath, Vansi, Navsari and Billimora which have a long history of seafaring traditions extending back to very old times.

Navsari, a flourishing town, is a centre of the Parsee community and the native place of the celebrated Indian leader, the late Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. As an industrial centre it possesses two textile mills, a brass factory and several other concerns.

The town of Billimora is also of considerable importance from an industrial and commercial point of view and is rapidly developing as an industrial centre.

In this fertile district, Gandevi is the most luxuriantly fertile Taluka with its fruit gardens, orchards and mango groves. There is a brisk mango trade going on and a sugar factory has been located in the town of Gandevi.

The cool climate of the district during the hot months makes it a fashionable summer resort, and some of the sea side places, particularly Umarath, are being developed as sea side resorts.

The jungles of Vyara, Songhad and Mangrol lend a picturesque grandeur to this district, which has a large and flourishing timber trade. The primitive tribes of this area known as the "Rani Paraj" open up a remote past which is still lingering in this animistic people with their curious customs and costumes, rites and ceremonies, their dances and dialects. The forts of Songhad and Salher are the historical remnants connecting Gujarat and the Deccan. Songhad was the first capital of Gaekwars in Gujarat and its fine historical fort is very attractive and interesting. Salher is one of the highest peaks in Western India, and except for the difficulty of approach, offers every possibility of being developed into a sanatorium. The jungles of Sat Kashi and Nanchhal are places of big game hunting and members of the ruling family come to these jungles for tiger shooting. The small fort of Vajpur, about 20 miles from Songhad, is situated in the midst of dense forests and commands a very picturesque view of the river Tapti.

The hot water springs of Unai, are well-known for their medicinal properties and are now turned into a sanatorium for bath treatment. It is also a place of pilgrimage and a fair is held on the full-moon day of Chaitra every year and visited by thousands of people.

The Navsari cotton is possibly the best cotton grown in India. The fairly heavy rainfall gives to this tract an immunity from famine.

Apart from the forts of Songhad and Salher there are places like Kamrej, Mahuva and Navsari possessing great historical importance. A number of Kshatrap coins have been found in Kamrej situated on the Tapti river, and the Bagumara copper plate takes us back to the times of the ancient Rastrakuts.

In Kosamba there is the Rural Reconstruction Centre started about seven years ago. Poultry, kitchen garden, cottage



industries like weaving, dyeing, tapemaking are being taught there and concentrated efforts at rural uplift and aiming at increasing the income of the villagers are being made on well-considered lines. Another rural reconstruction centre has been now started at Karjan in the Baroda District.

Baroda has for its area the highest mileage of railway running almost to all the parts of the State.

There are Dak Bungalows in all the important towns of the State, where accommodation is available to the visitors on payment of a small charge. In Baroda, attached to the State Guest House is the Hotel which provides excellent facilities both in Indian and European styles. There are also some fairly good private hotels.

The foregoing brief account would clearly indicate that Baroda offers very great attractions to all types of persons having different tastes and interests. For a man who is fond of sightseeing, there are beautiful buildings, palaces and delightful river scenery alongwith picturesque jungles, mountains, and pleasant sea-side resorts. For an artist there are a number of beauty spots with immense variety of picturesque colours. To a man interested in history and archæology there are several monuments of ancient culture and art of almost all ages which would engage his attention. To a student who is in search of modernity in administration, education and industry, Baroda State will be found to be one of the most interesting places in India.



Gujarat and it was once noted for extensive cultivation of poppy plants which is at present considerably restricted. It has a vivid variety of rural population with distinctive racial characteristics such as Rabaris, Thakardas and Anjanas. The District is well served by the G. B. S. Railways system and the traffic from Okha to Rajputana and Northern India passes through Mehsana which is an important railway junction and a flourishing trade centre.

Patan

There are a number of towns in the Mehsana District which are of great historical and archæological interest. The most important of these is Patan, once the capital of the powerful Rajput kingdom of Gujarat for a period of about 400 years. It was probably the wealthiest city in western India in those days and a great centre of trade and industry and Jain learning and scholarship. The Patola weaving industry of Patan has a unique reputation for exquisite workmanship all over India and abroad. Even now Patan is the second biggest town in the State and is famous for its weaving and pottery industries. Patan contains many relics of great archæological interest, the most important of which are the Sahasraling Tank and Rani Vav. The Archæological Department has successfully excavated a considerable portion of the Sahasraling Tank which, according to tradition, had one thousand temples of Shiva and was built by Siddhraj—the most renowned and powerful ruler of medieval Gujarat, who flourished in the twelfth century A. D. Very interesting remains have been found and they are worth a visit. Patan is also known for its ancient libraries containing important manuscripts in the Sanskrit and the Prakrit languages, well-preserved in the Jain Bhandars. Eighteen miles to the south of Patan is the small village of Modhera. Its ancient, wonderful Sun temple with the adjoining tank is a marvel of architectural beauty and makes it a place of pilgrimage to persons interested in the ancient culture and beauty.

Sidhpur

About 18 miles from Patan is the town of Sidhpur, the home of wealthy Bohras who have trading interests all over



the world, and a place of Hindu pilgrimage from ancient times. It is said to have been the seat of the sage Kapil, the founder of Samkhya philosophy. The town is also famous for its wonderful archaeological relics of an ancient temple called Rudramal, built by the great ruler of Gujarat, Sidhraj Jayasinh, who extended the boundaries of his kingdom far into Rajputana and Central India.

The beautiful Jain temples on the Taranga Hills, the Archaeological relics of Vadnagar and the Kotyark Temple at Mahudi on the Sabarmati are also of considerable interest both from historical and artistic point of view. The temple of Bahucharaji near Chanasma is visited by thousands of Hindu pilgrims every year. Pansar near Kalol also has a beautiful modern Hindu temple. Kalol is a growing industrial town and has now three textile mills. Visnagar is famous since olden times for its metalware and its highly artistic work in brass, copper and silver.

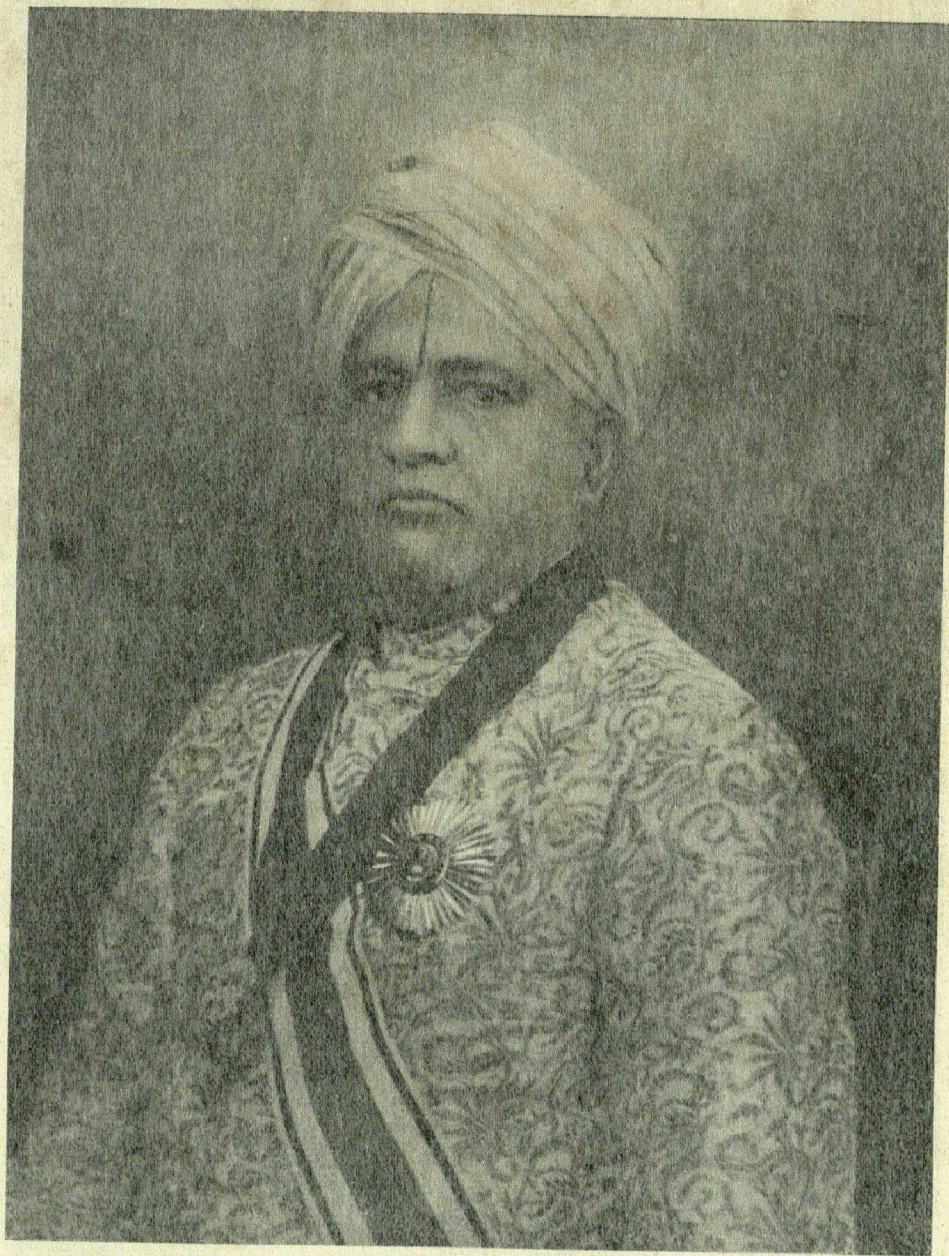
AMRELI DISTRICT

Dwarka

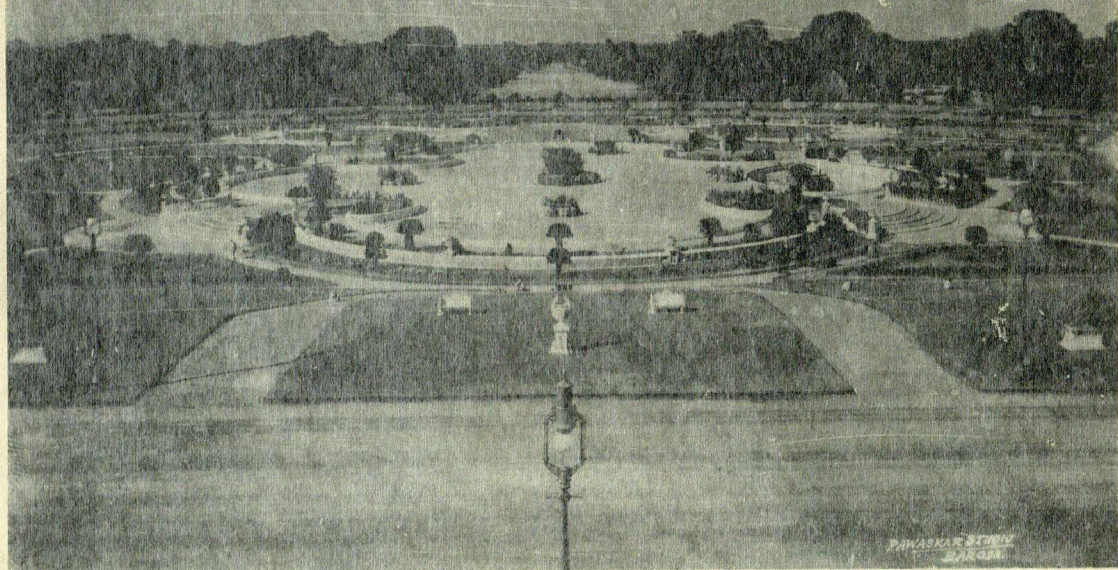
The most important place in the Amreli District is the town of Dwarka, the ancient capital of Lord Shri Krishna. It is one of the holiest places in the whole of India to the Vaishnavites, as well as to all the Hindus. Thousands of Hindu pilgrims of all classes and sects, from the poorest to the richest, come to Dwarka on pilgrimage from all over India. Dwarka is also one of the four principal centres of the Shaivite order, known as Sharda Peeth, founded by the great Shankaracharya in the 8th century A. D. The visitors can also see the cement factory at Dwarka and the Salt Works at Mithapur about 10 miles from Dwarka.

Port Okha

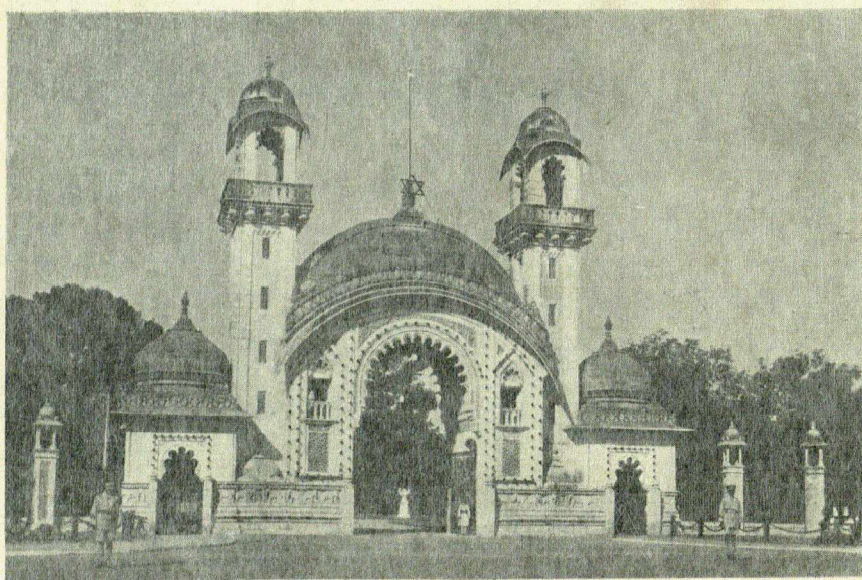
About 19 miles from Dwarka in the northwest extremity is situated the port of Okha with a natural harbour. It is the best equipped port in the whole of Kathiawar and has better facilities for the berthing of ocean-going steamers and the handling of every type of cargo than any other port in



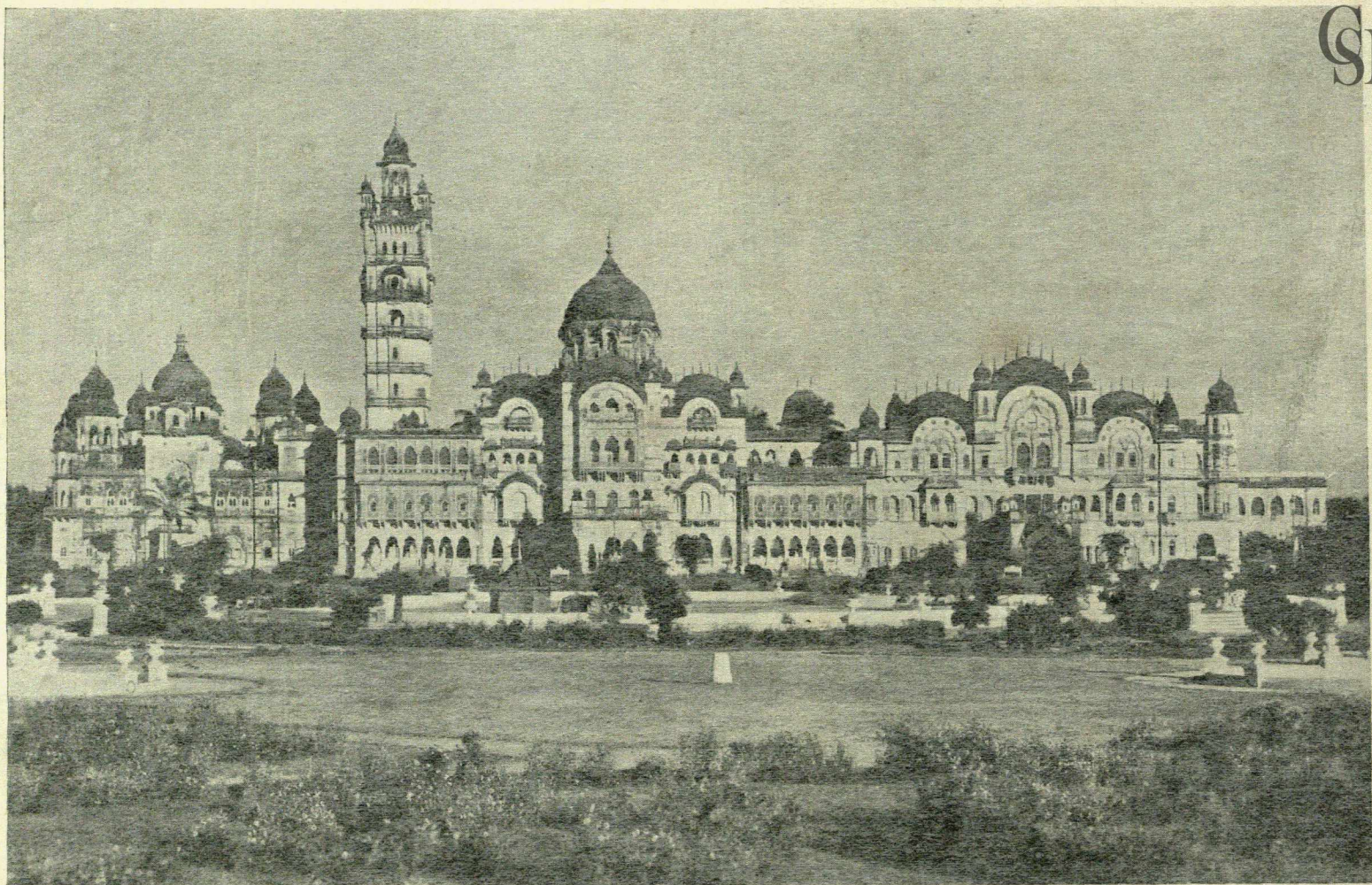
5. RAO BAHADUR SIR V. T. KRISHNAMA CHARI, K. C. I. E.
The Dewan of Baroda.



6. A VIEW OF THE LAXMI VILAS PALACE GARDEN.

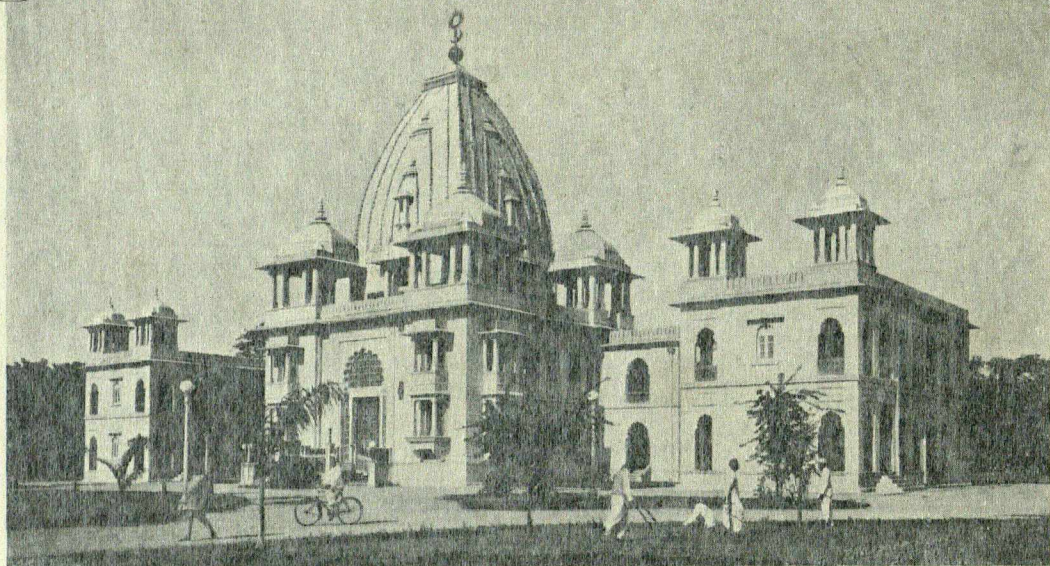


7. LAXMI VILAS PALACE GATE.



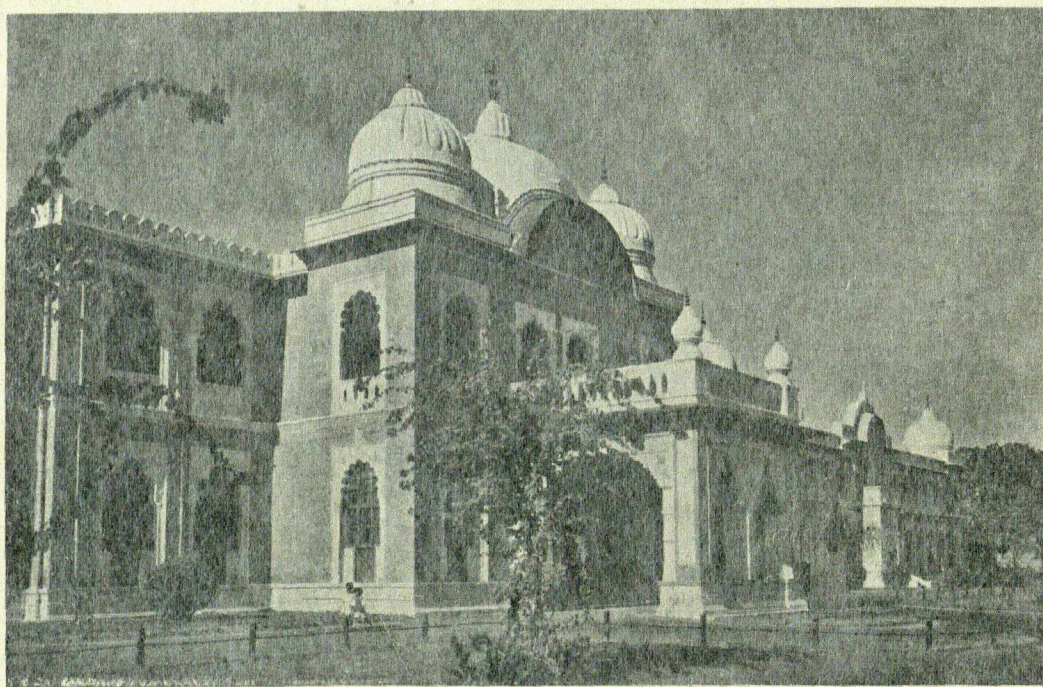
8. LAXMI VILAS PALACE

This was constructed between 1880 and 1890 and is built in Indo-Saracenic style. The beautiful garden surrounding the Palace presents a delightful picture.

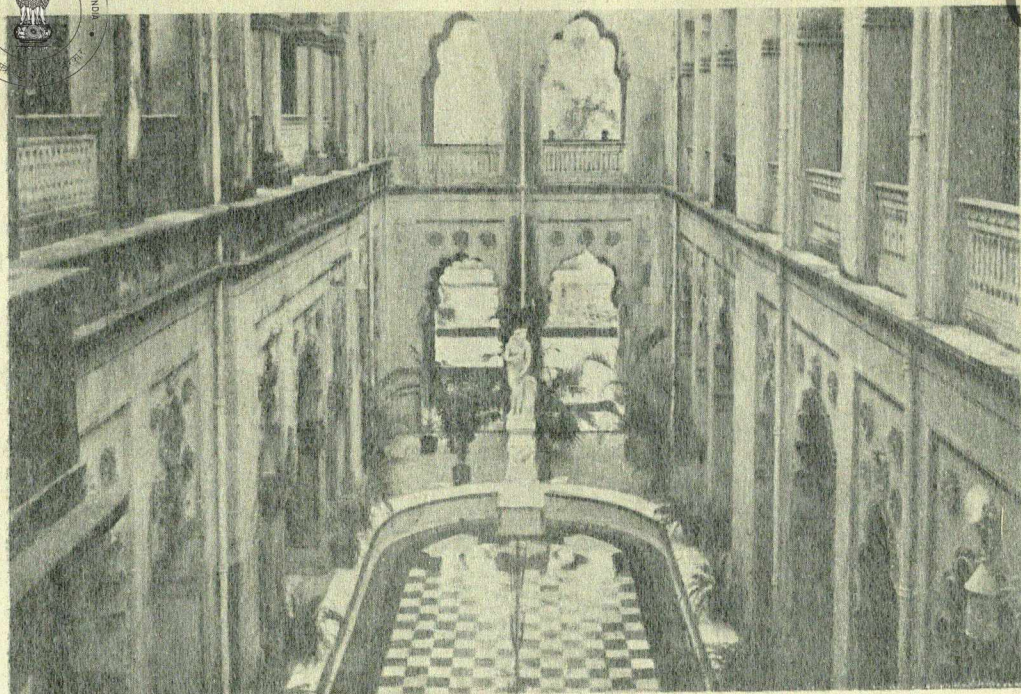


9. KIRTI MANDIR

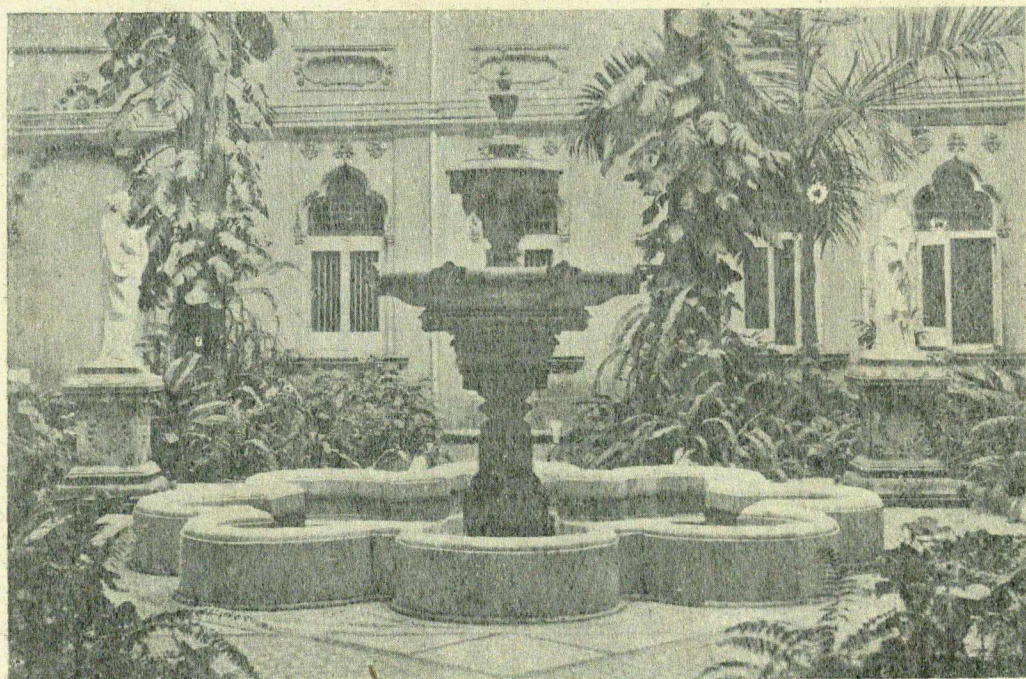
This fine monument was built by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayaji Rao III to commemorate the glory and the achievements of the past great men of Baroda.



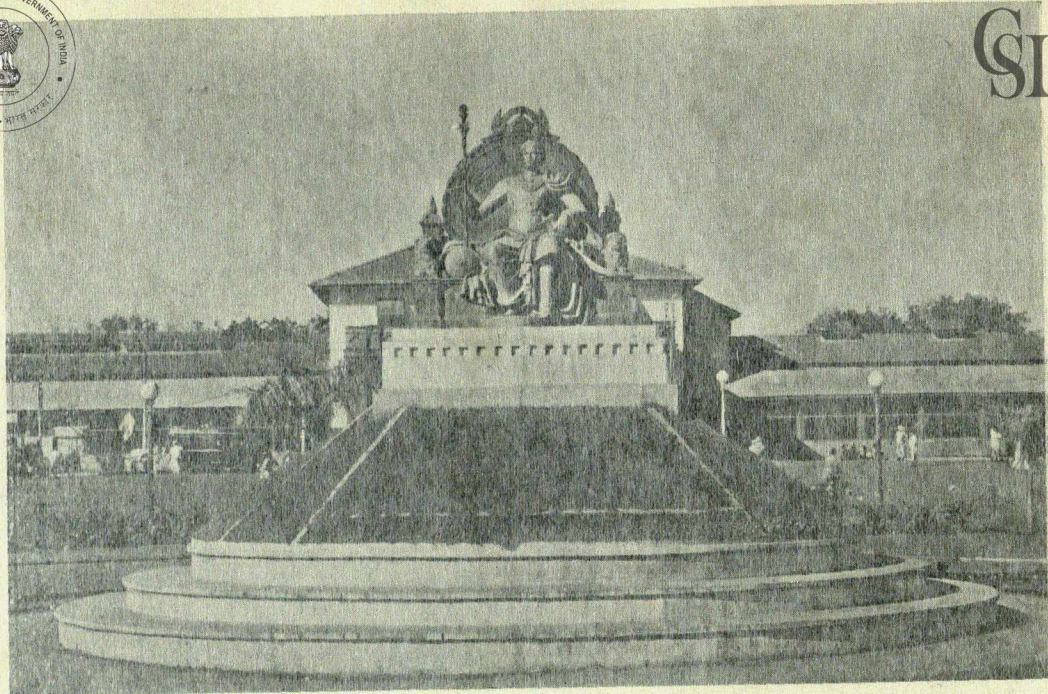
10. SHRI SAYAJI GENERAL HOSPITAL.



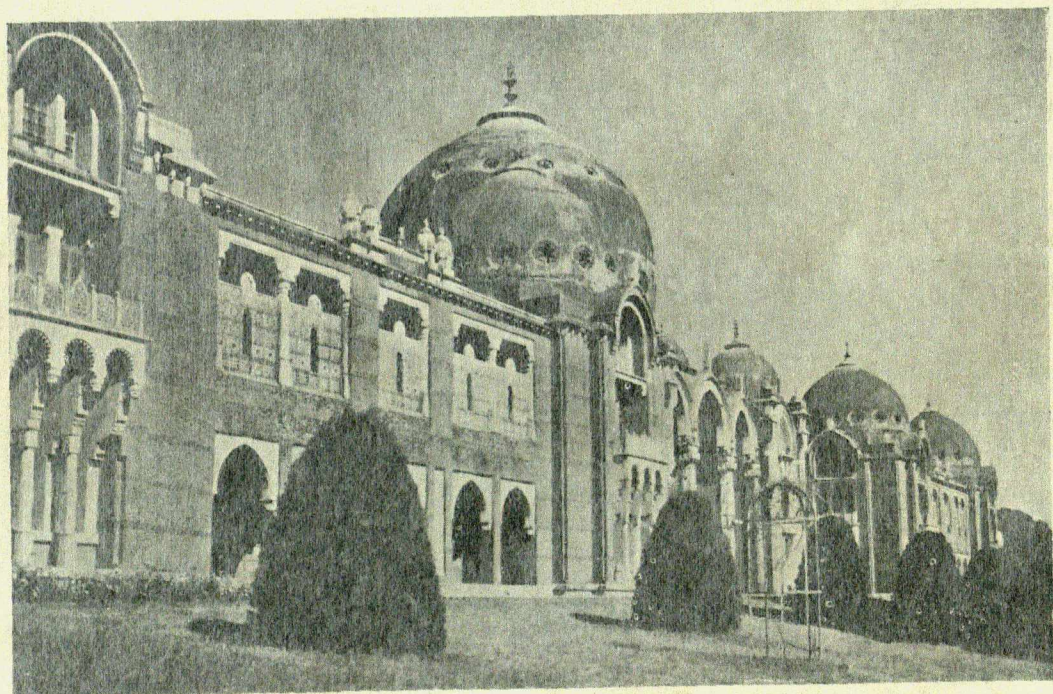
11. A VIEW OF THE CHOWK, LAXMI VILAS PALACE-NORTH WING



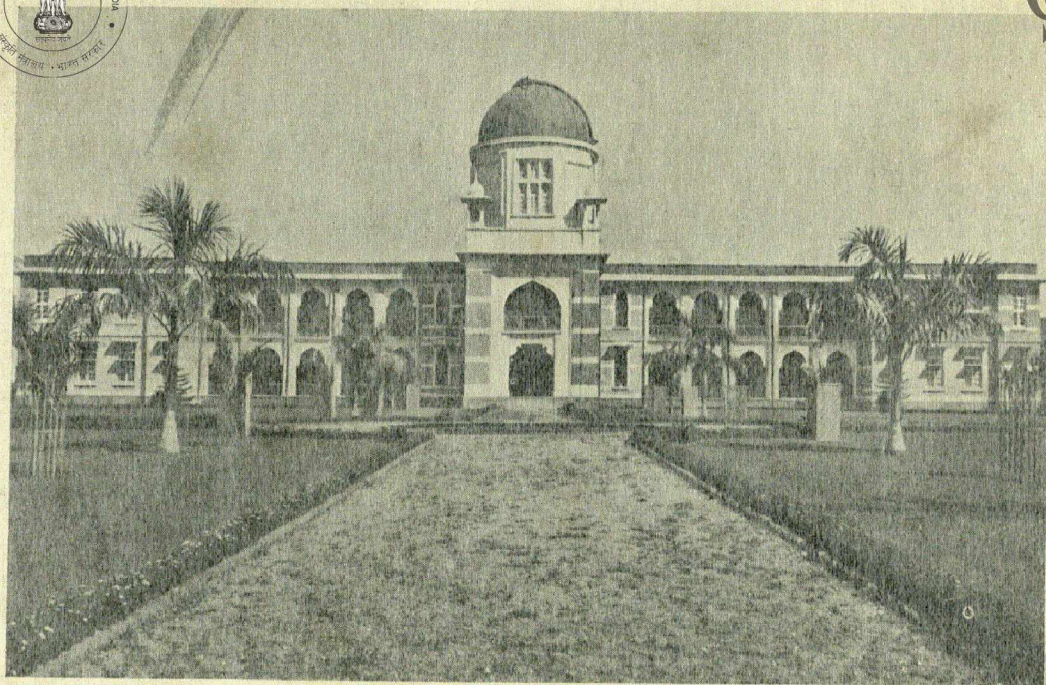
12. A VIEW OF ANOTHER CHOWK, LAXMI VILAS PALACE.



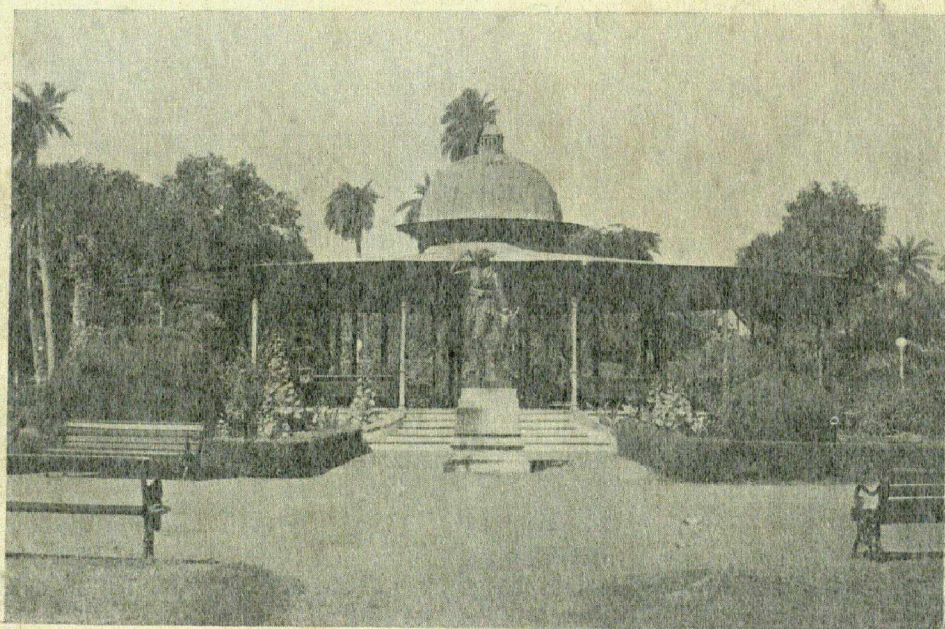
13. STATUE OF H. H. THE LATE MAHARAJA SAYAJIRAO III
Unveiled on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of his reign by
H. H. the Maharaja of Bikaner.



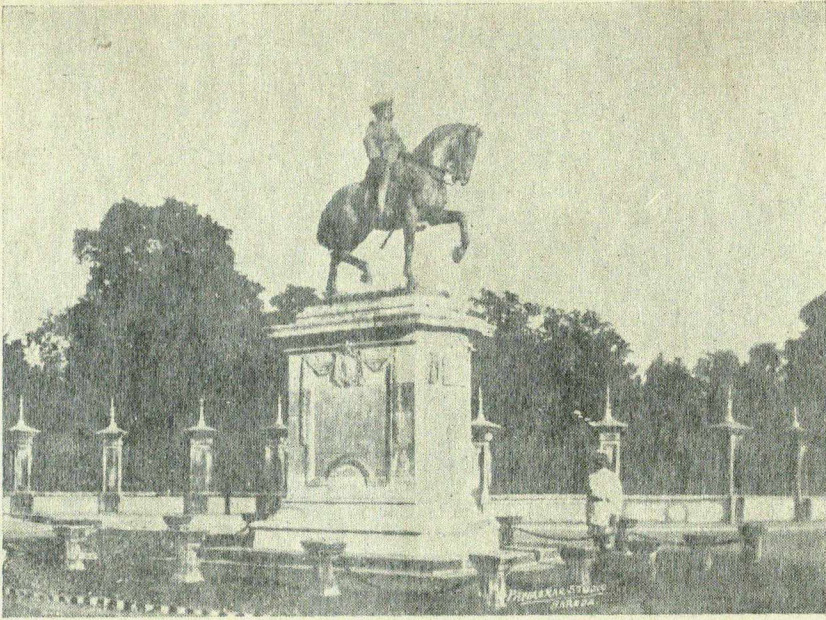
14. THE BARODA COLLEGE



15. SHRI SAYAJI DIAMOND JUBILEE SCIENCE INSTITUTE
 The Dome is constructed for astronomical observations.

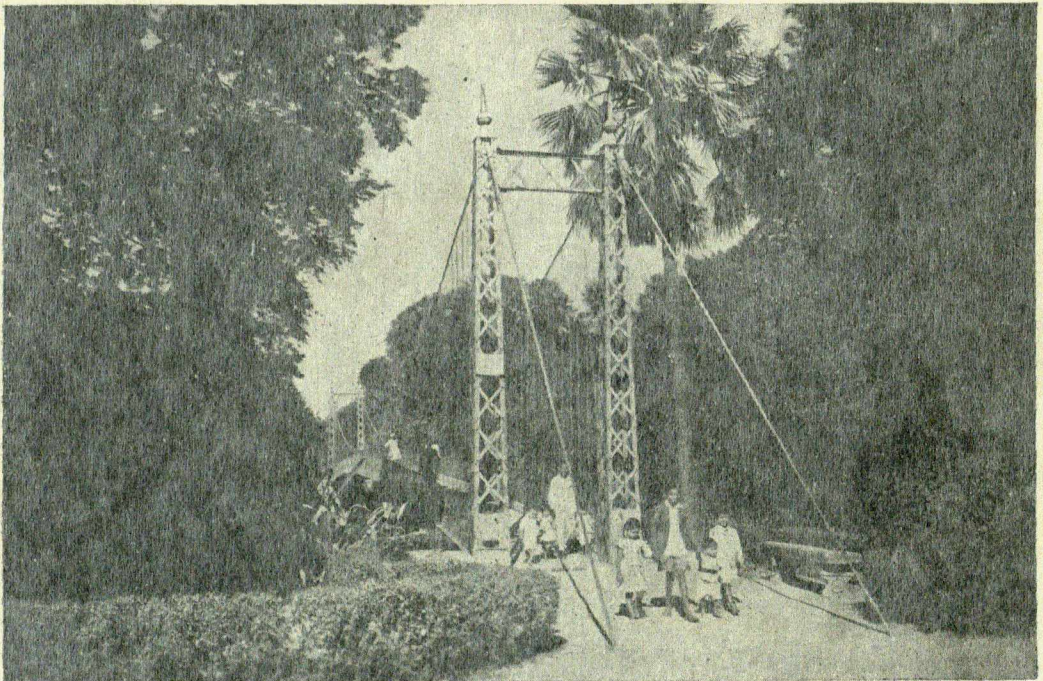


16. THE BAND STAND, PUBLIC PARK

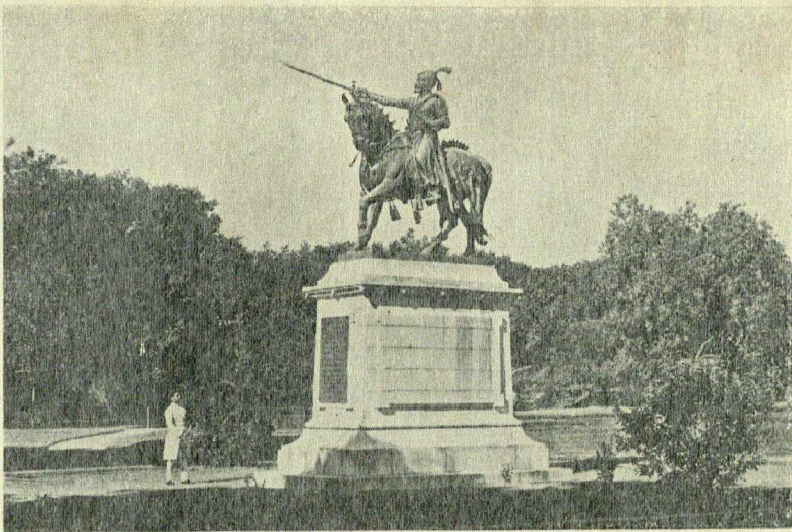


17. EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF H. H. THE LATE
MAHARAJA SAYAJIRAO III

Erected by his subjects and admirers to commemorate the
Silver Jubilee of his reign.

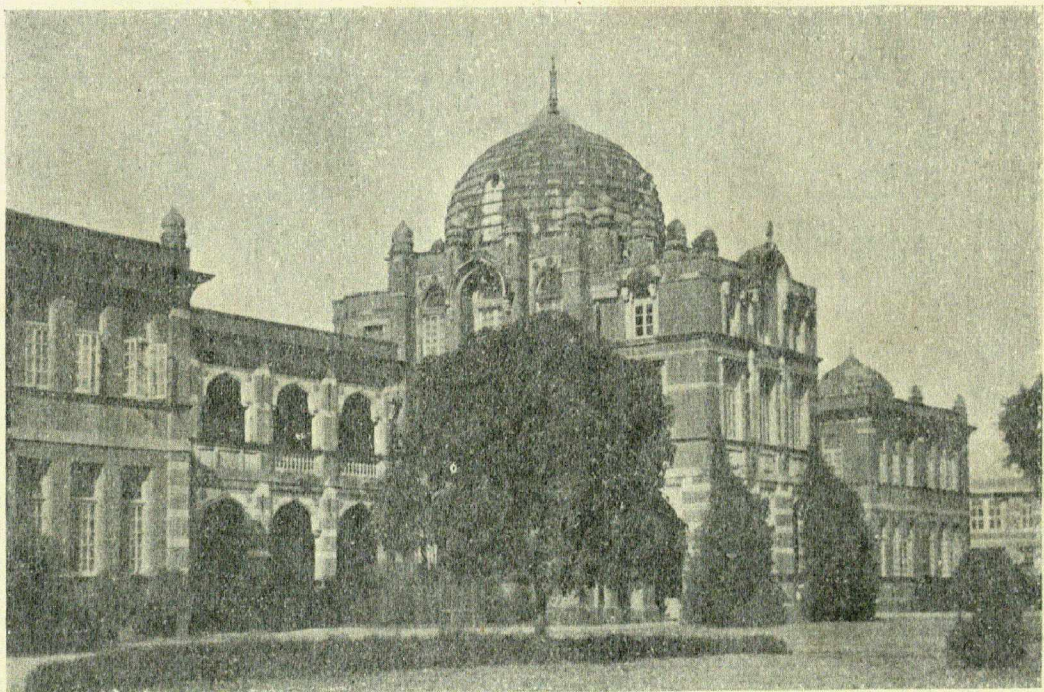


18. SUSPENSION BRIDGE OVER THE VISWAMITRI RIVER
IN THE PUBLIC PARK



19. EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF SHIVAJI MAHARAJ

This fine statue of the founder of the Maratha Empire is in front of the Museum in the Public Park.

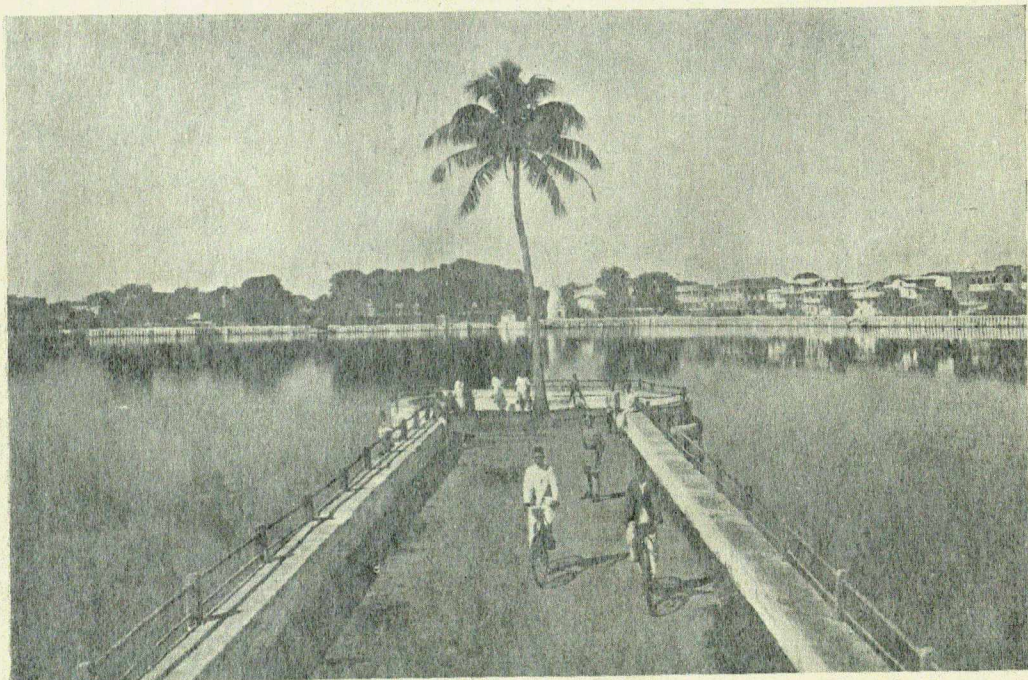


20. THE BARODA HIGH SCHOOL

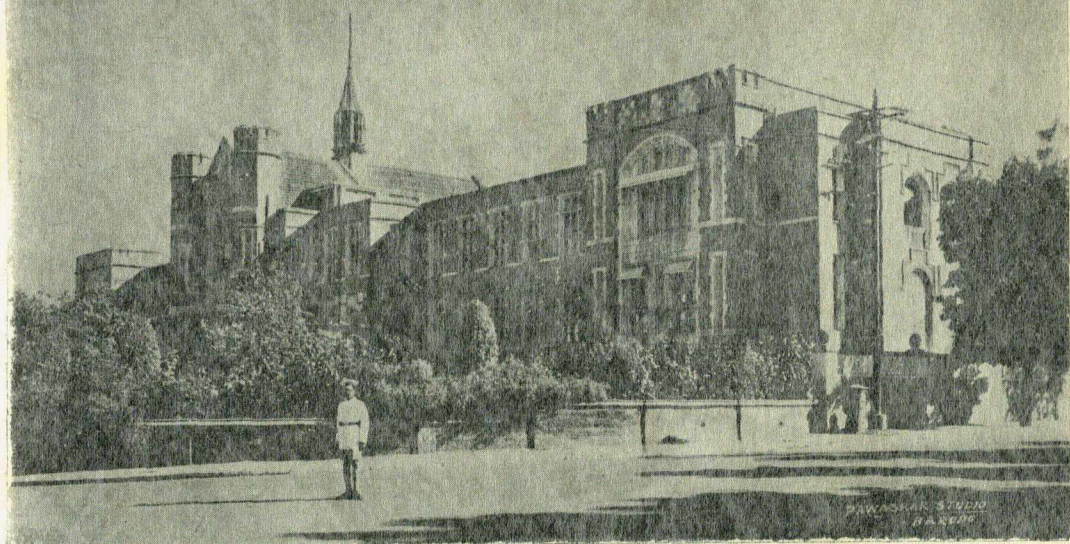


21. LEHERIPURA GATE

These arches were erected in 1911 A. D. in the place of the old Leheripura Gate which was the principal entrance to the fortified City of Baroda.

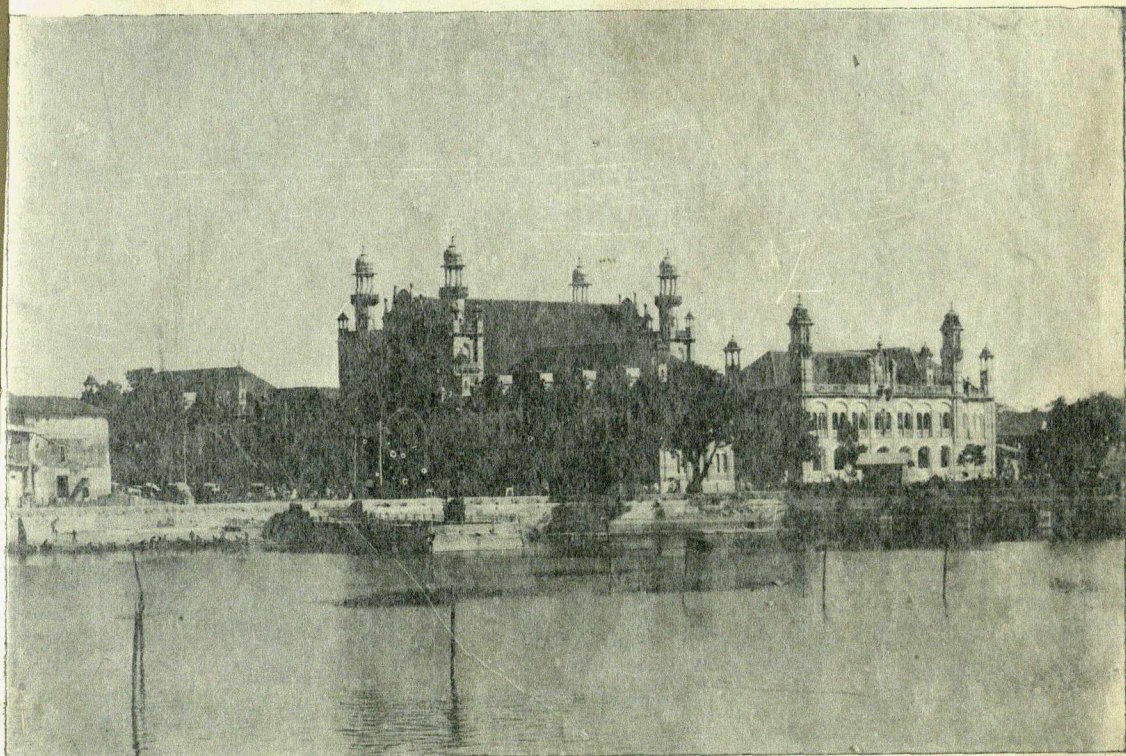


22. SURSAGAR TANK



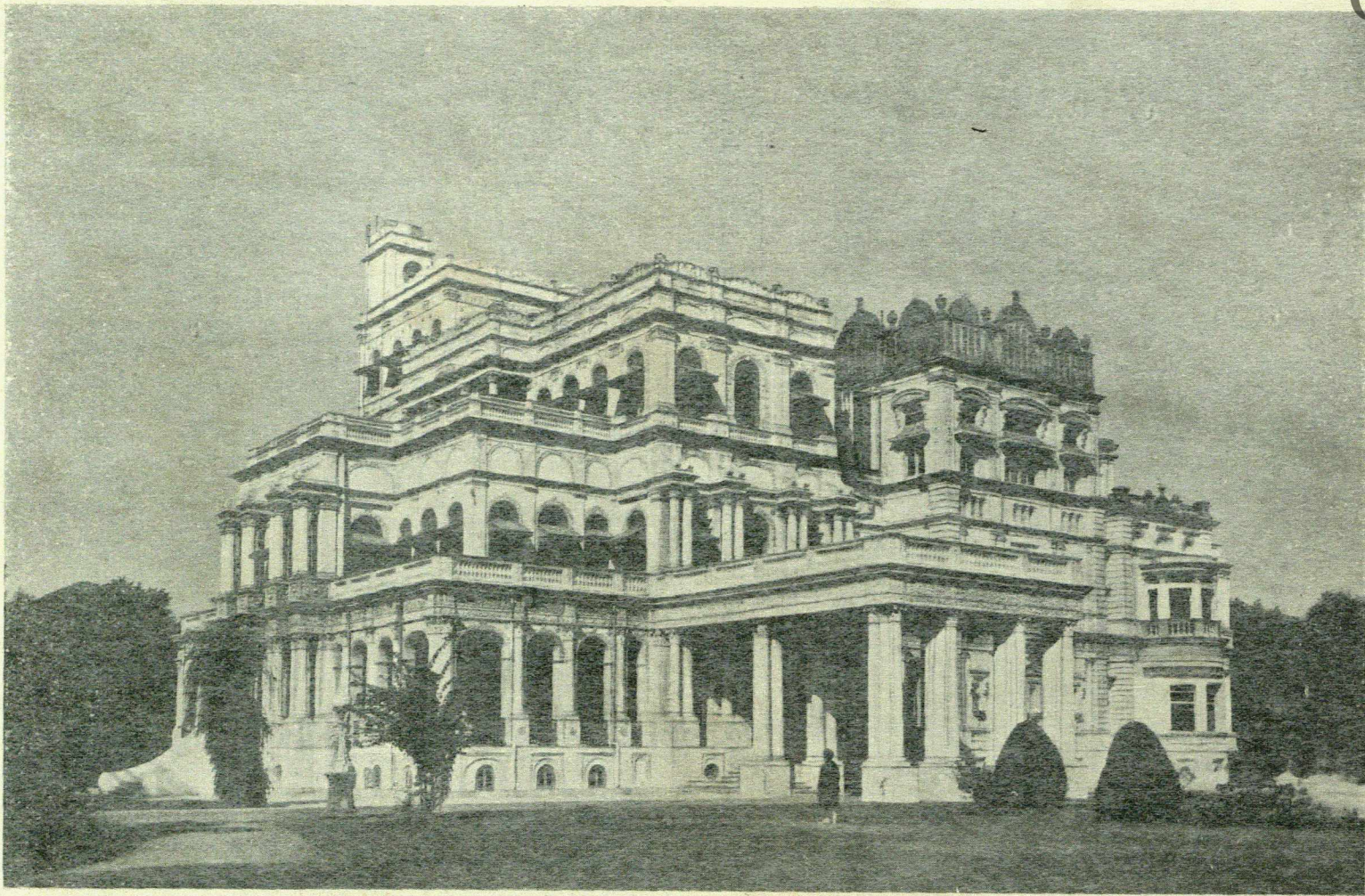
23. SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat is accommodated in a group of buildings popularly known as Kothi. The North view of the principal building is seen here.



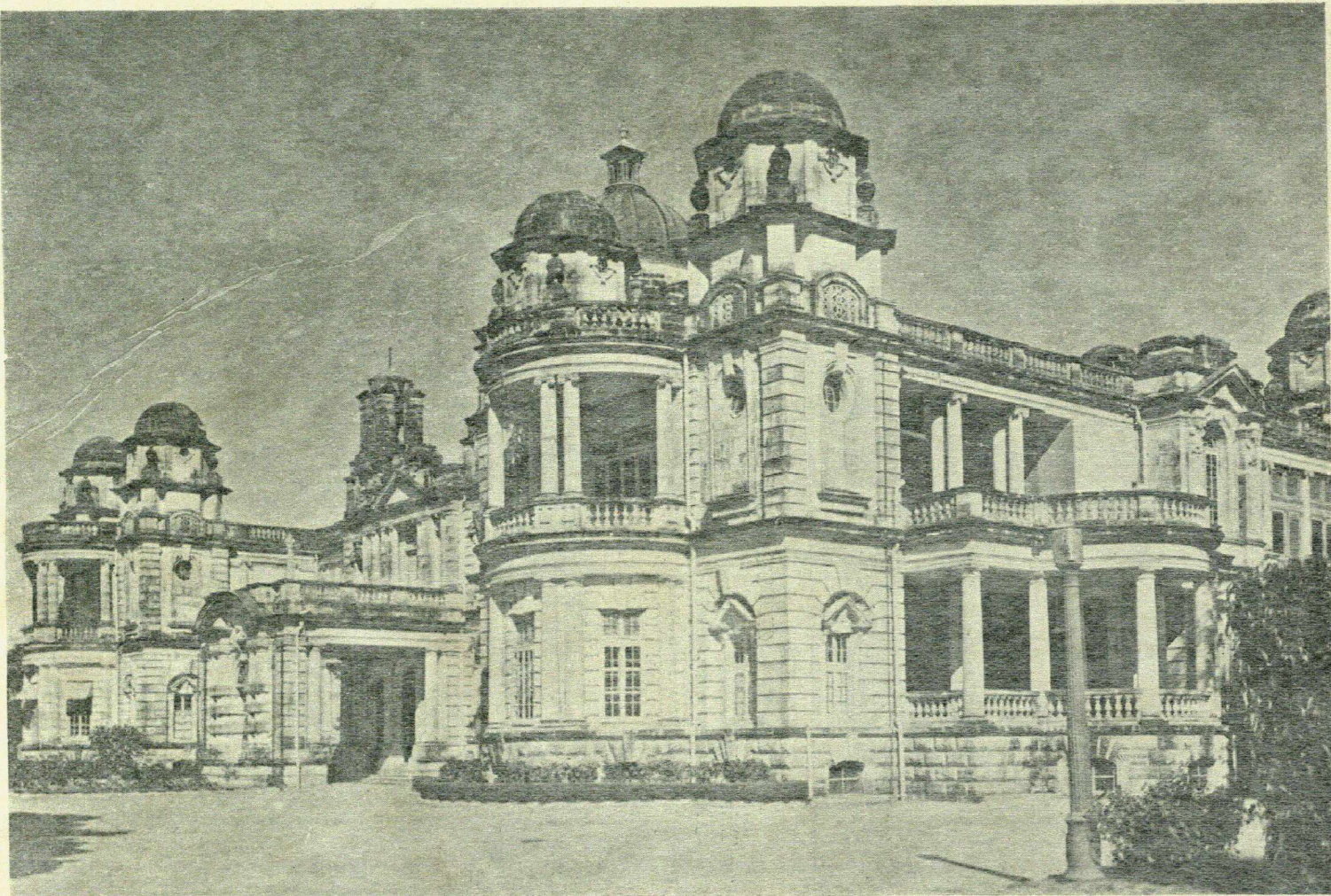
24. NYAYA MANDIR

This fine building where the High Court of Baroda is located was completed in 1895 A.D. The big Central Hall is used on important occasions for holding public functions.



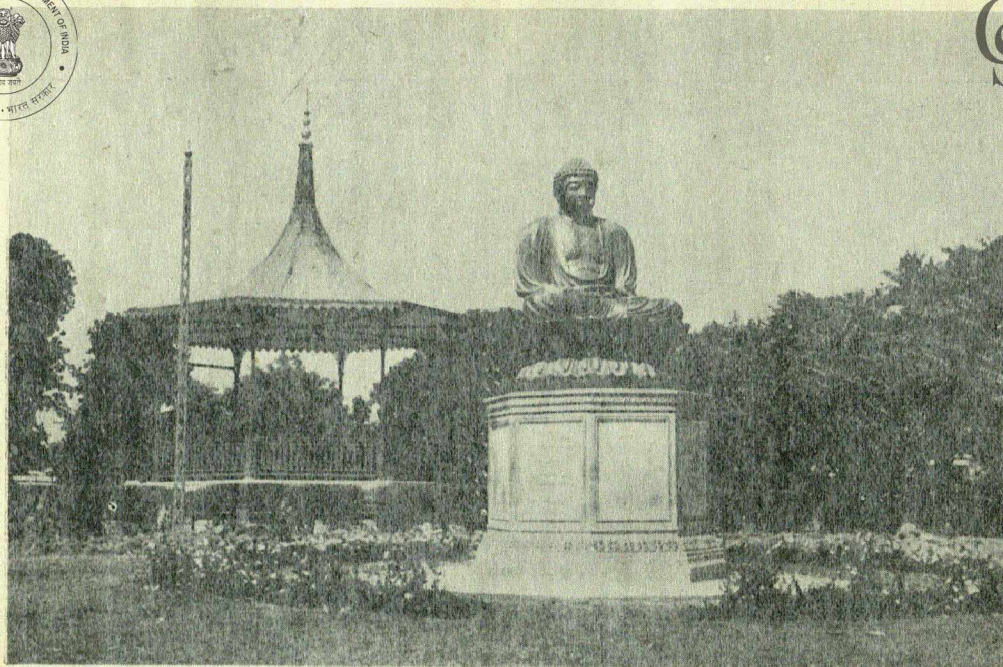
25. NAZARBAG PALACE

This is the oldest Palace in Baroda. State Jewellery is deposited here.



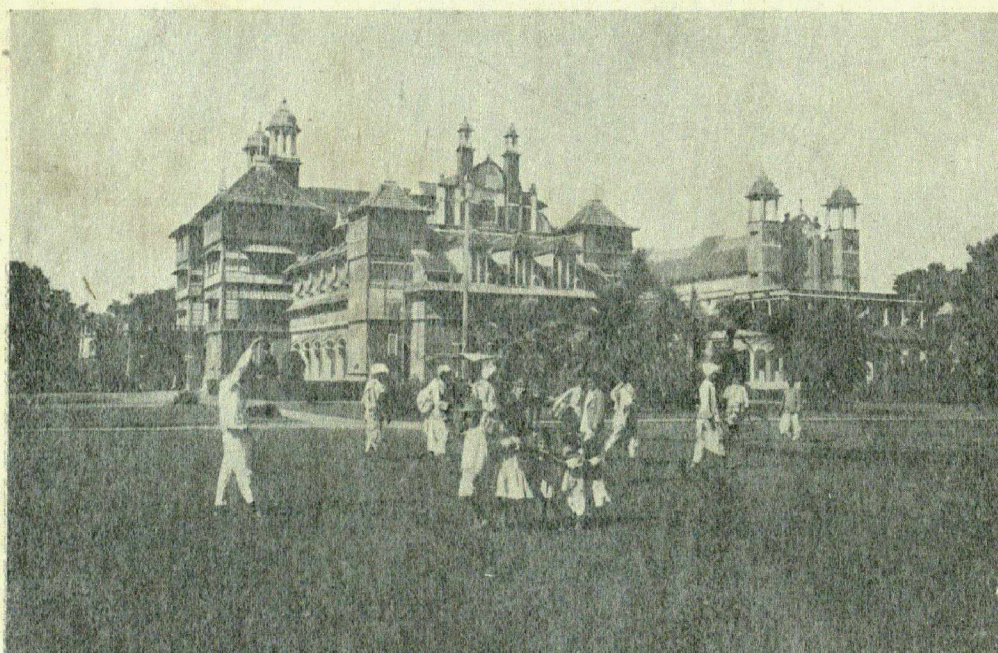
26. PRATAP VILAS PALACE

This was the former residence of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb when he was the Yuvraj,



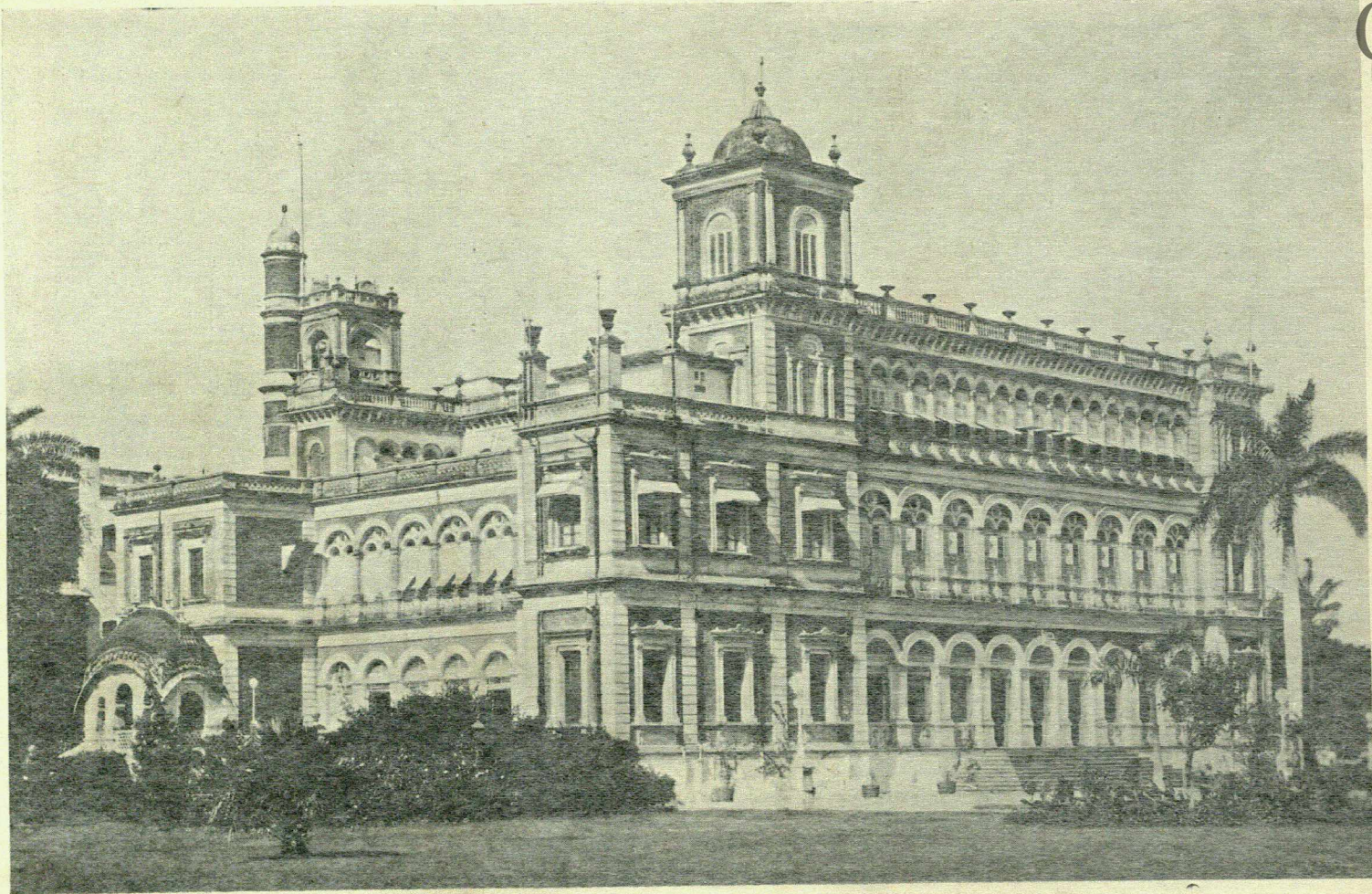
27. STATUE OF BUDDHA

This bronze statue of Lord Buddha was brought from Japan by the late Maharaja and placed in the Jubilee Garden. It symbolises the reverence felt by the late Maharaja towards the Founder of Buddhism. On the panels round the pedestal are inscribed the basic teachings of Lord Buddha.



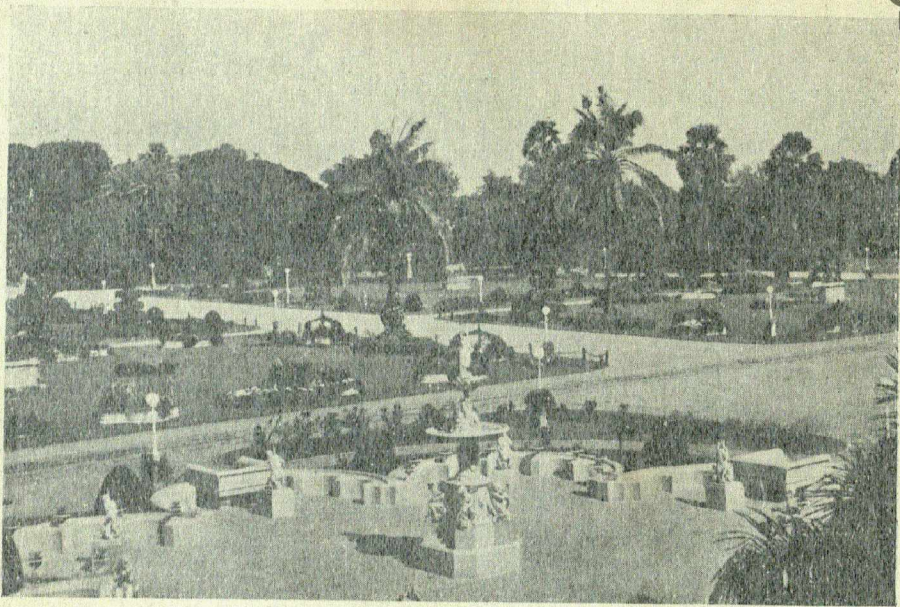
28. MUSEUM & PICTURE GALLERY

These are situated in the Public Park and contain an interesting collection of beautiful works of art.

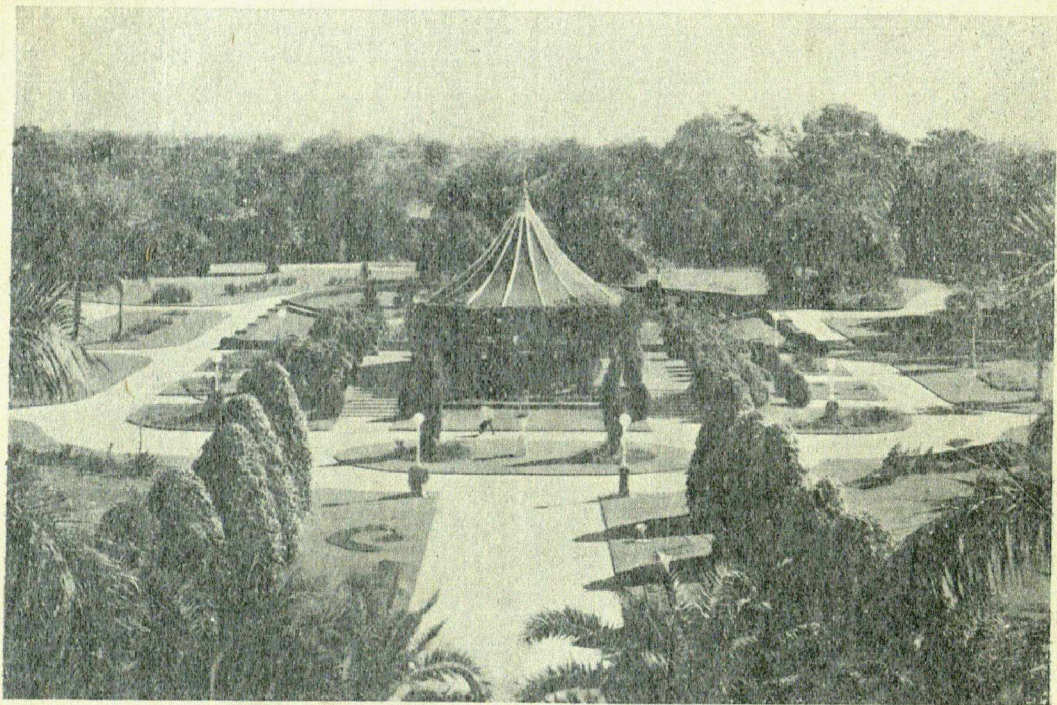


29. THE MAKARPURA PALACE

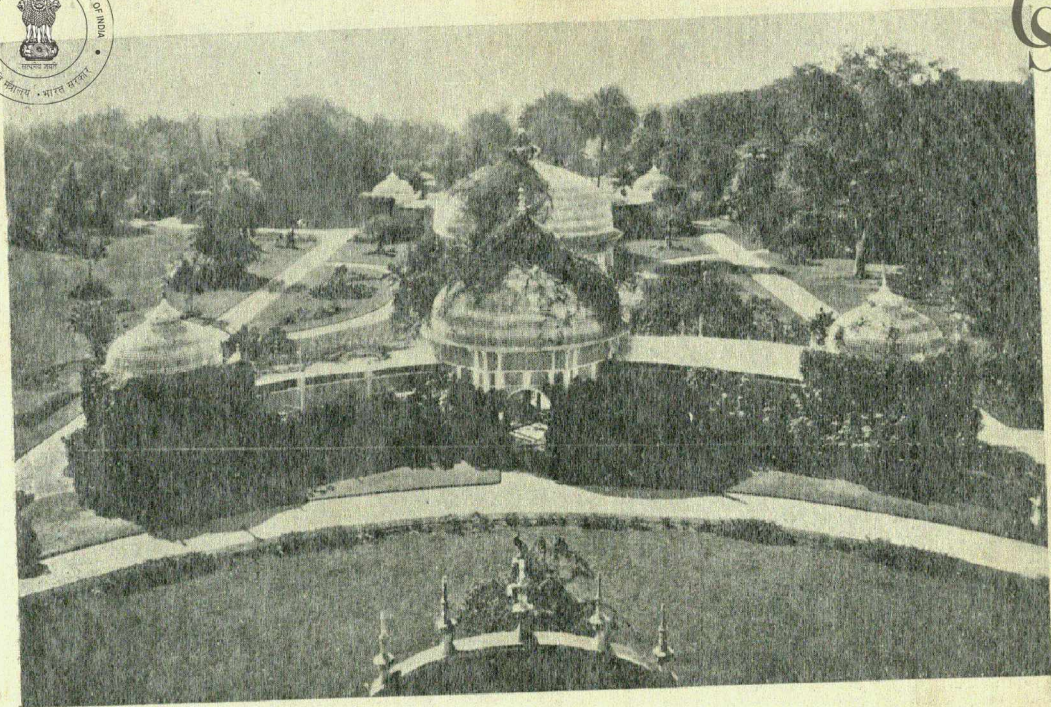
This Palace was built by H. H. the late Maharaja Khanderao Gaekwar in the Italian Renaissance style. It is surrounded by a beautiful garden covering an area of 130 acres. Its nicely trimmed lawns, delightful flower beds and beautiful fountains provide a picture of charming colours which cannot easily be forgotten.



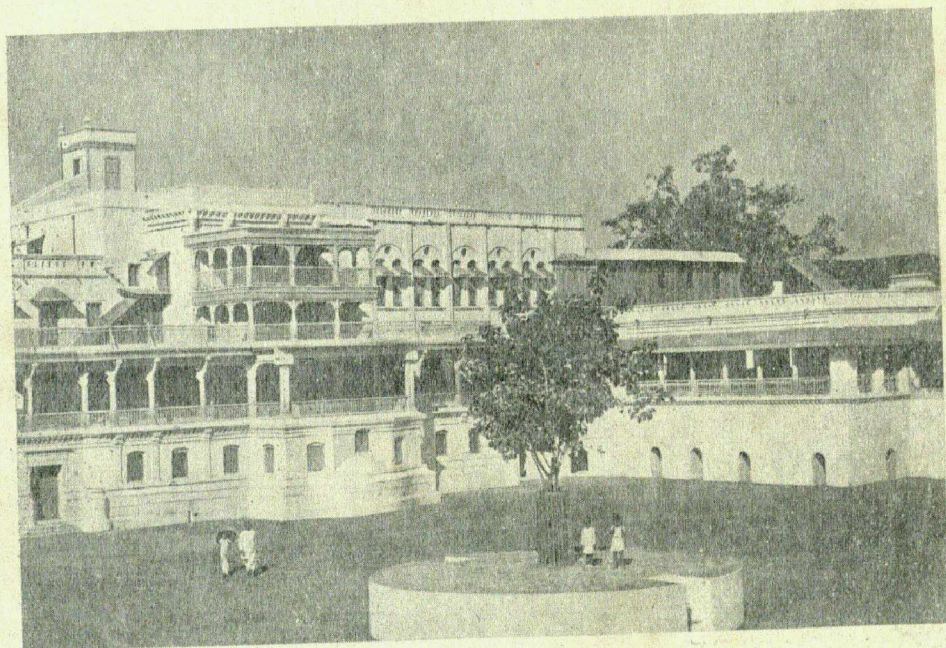
30. A VIEW OF THE MAKARPURA PALACE GARDENS



31. ANOTHER VIEW OF THE MAKARPURA PALACE GARDENS



32. SUMMER HOUSE, MAKARPURA GARDEN



33. ARENA

Elephant fights, wrestling matches and other sports are held at this place on important occasions which are witnessed by huge and enthusiastic crowds.

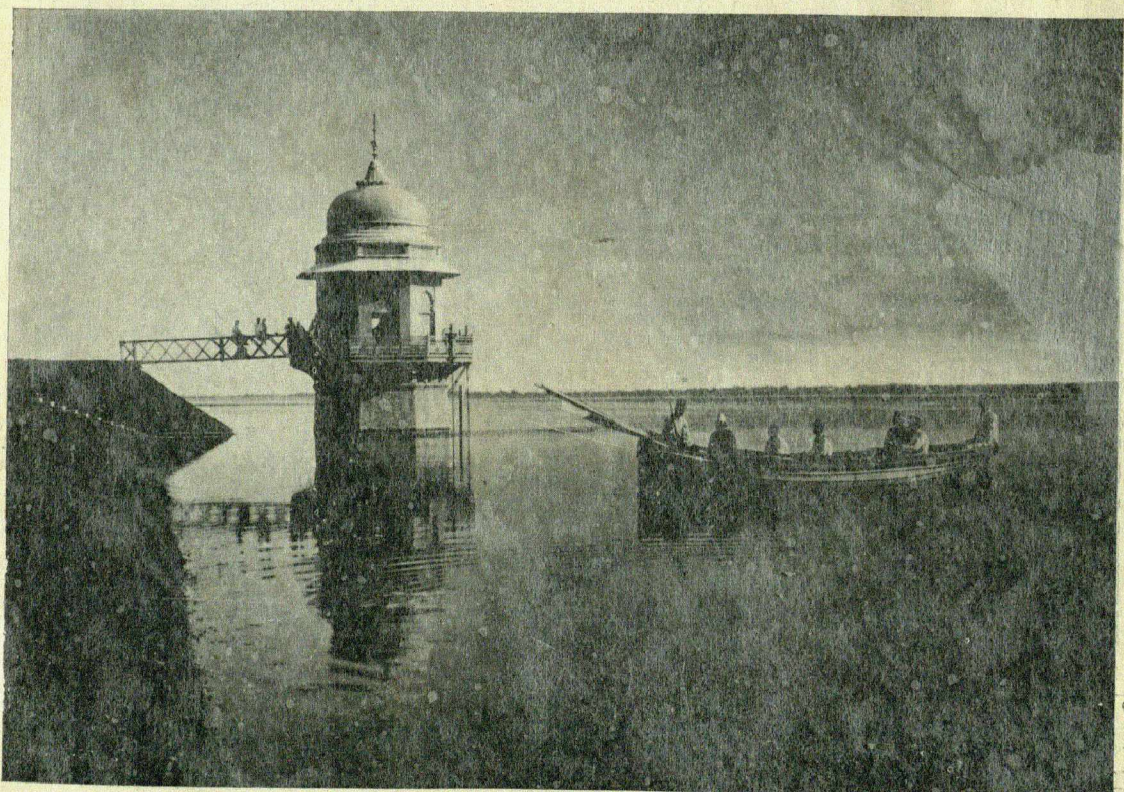


34. KALABHAVAN TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

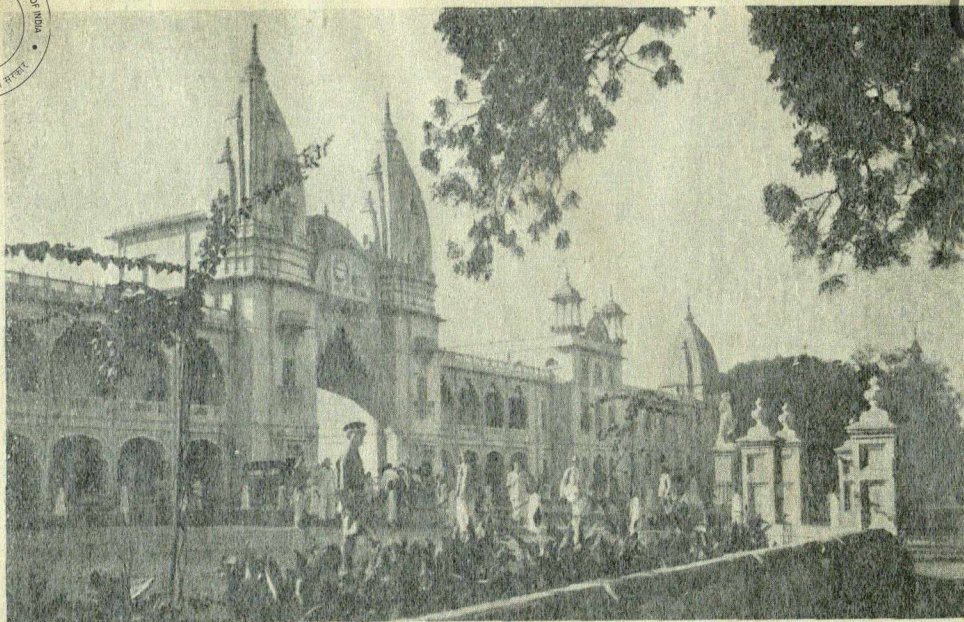


35. A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE OLD CITY WITH MANDVI IN THE FRONT

The square pavilion in the front, called Mandvi, was built by Malojirao Gaekwar in 1736, to mark the triumphal entry of his nephew, Damaji Rao II into the City of Baroda. It is in the centre of the old city.

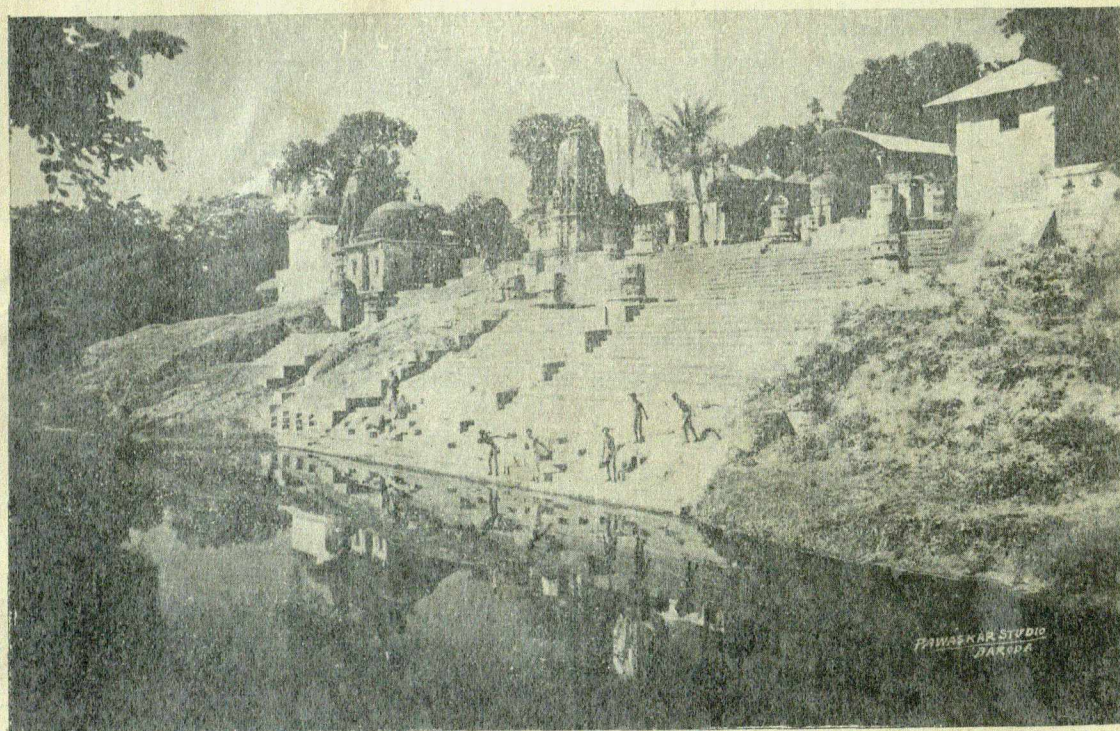


36. SAYAJI SAROVAR (AJWA)



37. KHANDERAO MARKET

The Baroda Municipal offices are also situated in this building. A new wing has been added recently.



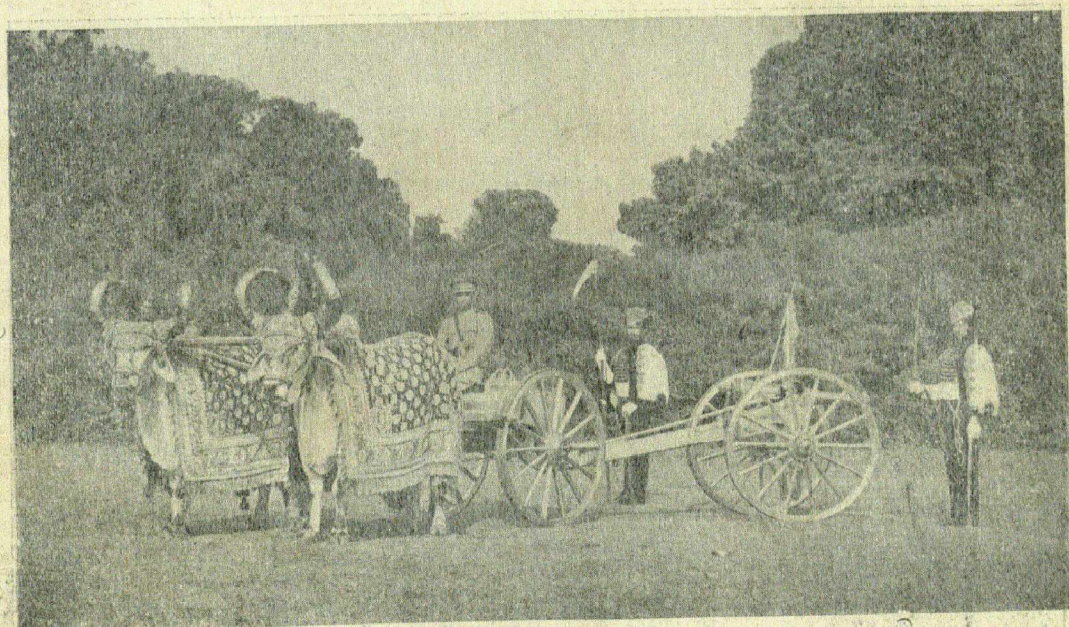
38. KAMNATH MAHADEO TEMPLE

This temple was built by the famous Nagarsheth Haribhakti. It is situated on the bank of the river Vishvamiuri opposite the Public Park.



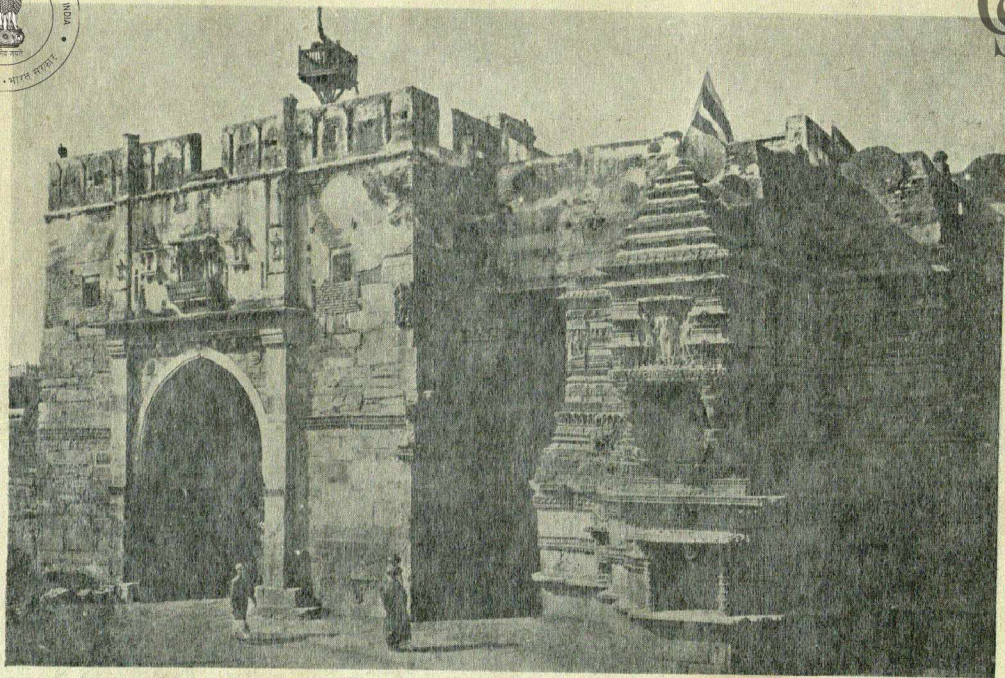
39. DASERA SWARI

A view of a section of the long State procession on the Dasera day. Thousands of visitors flock to Baroda City to see the Dasera procession.



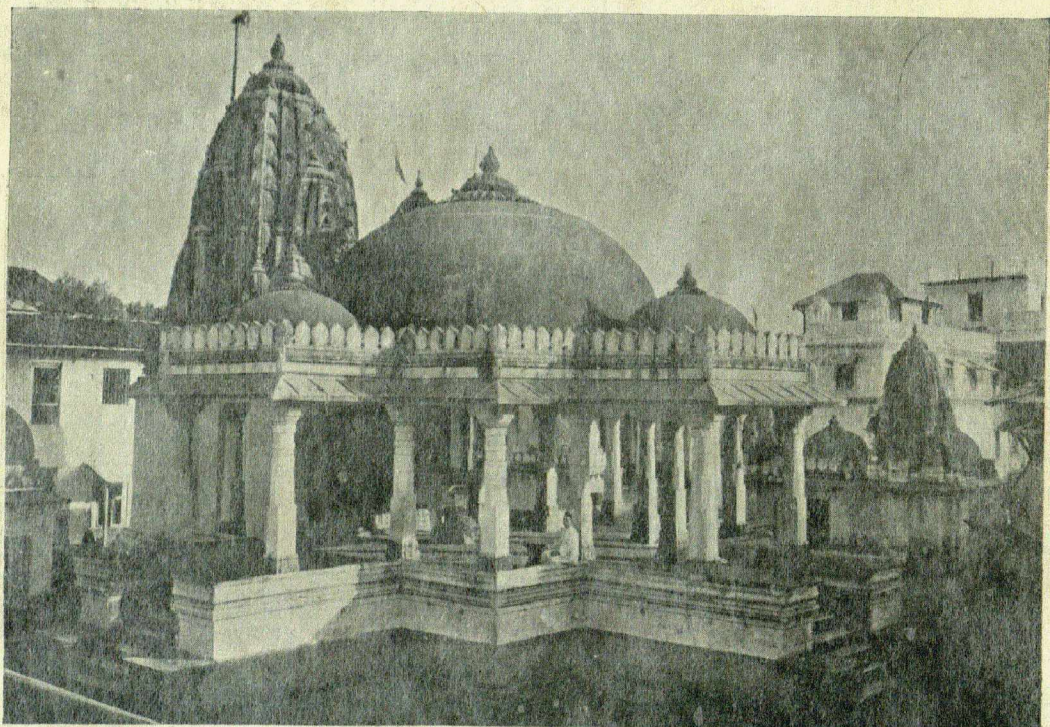
40. GOLD GUN

The famous gold and silver guns are now kept at the new stables and attract the visitors.

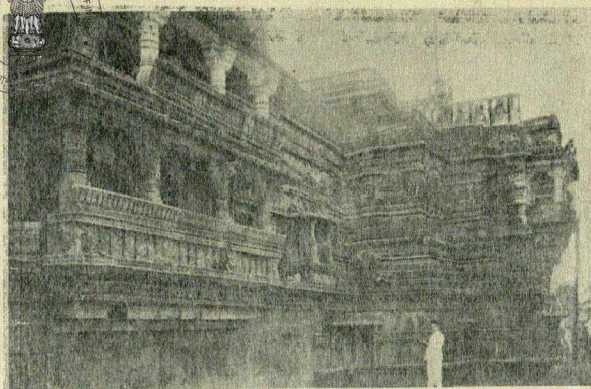


41. HIRA GATE, DABHOI

This is a famous historical gate of the old fort at Dabhoi. There are many legends about the person who executed this magnificent piece of work and after whom the gate is named.

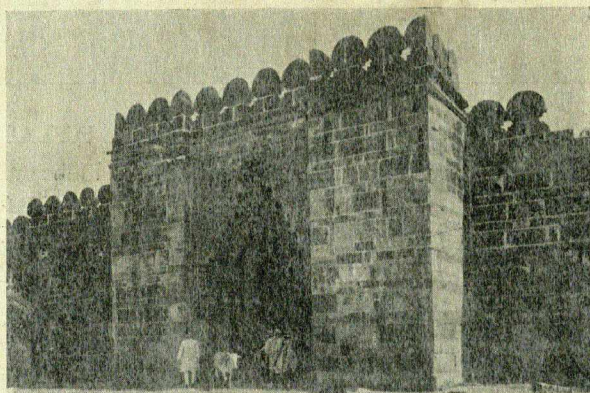


42. KASHIVISHVANATH TEMPLE, CHANDOD

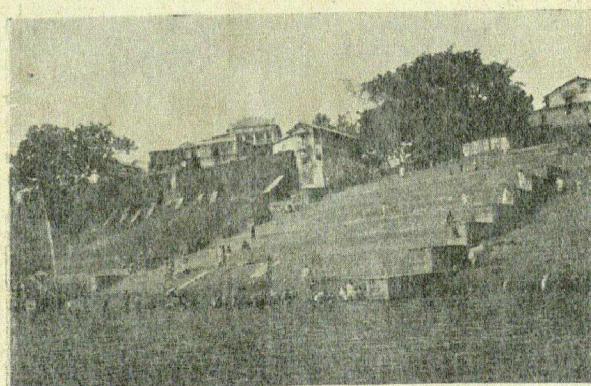


43. KALIKA TEMPLE

This temple which is inside the walls of the Dabhoi fort is very interesting for its beautiful stone work.

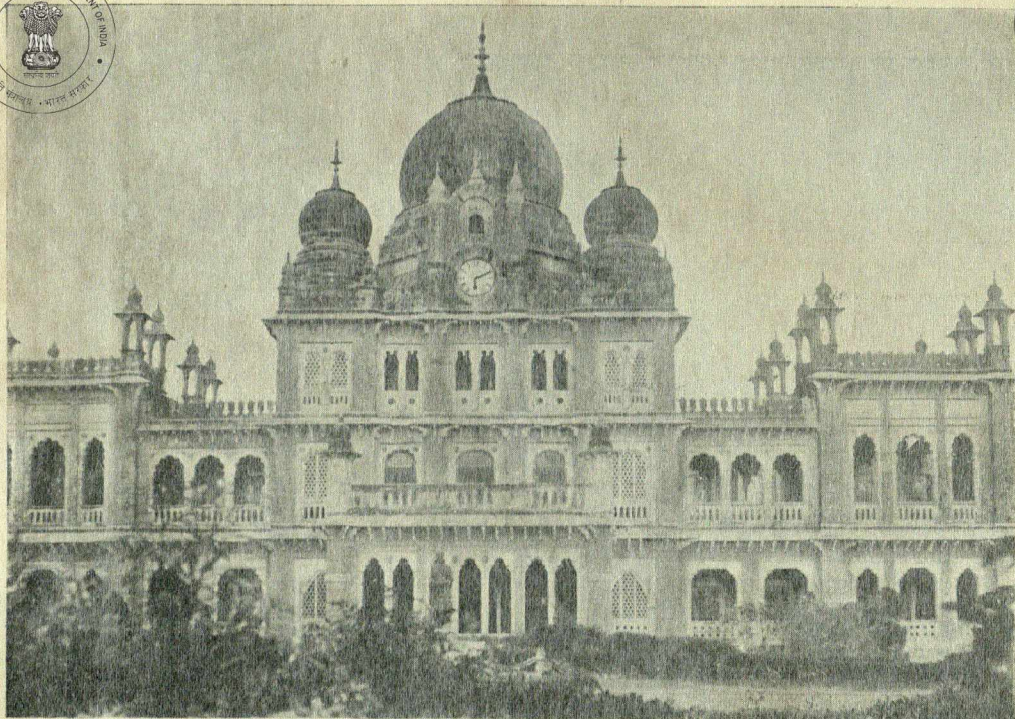


44. BARODA GATE, DABHOI



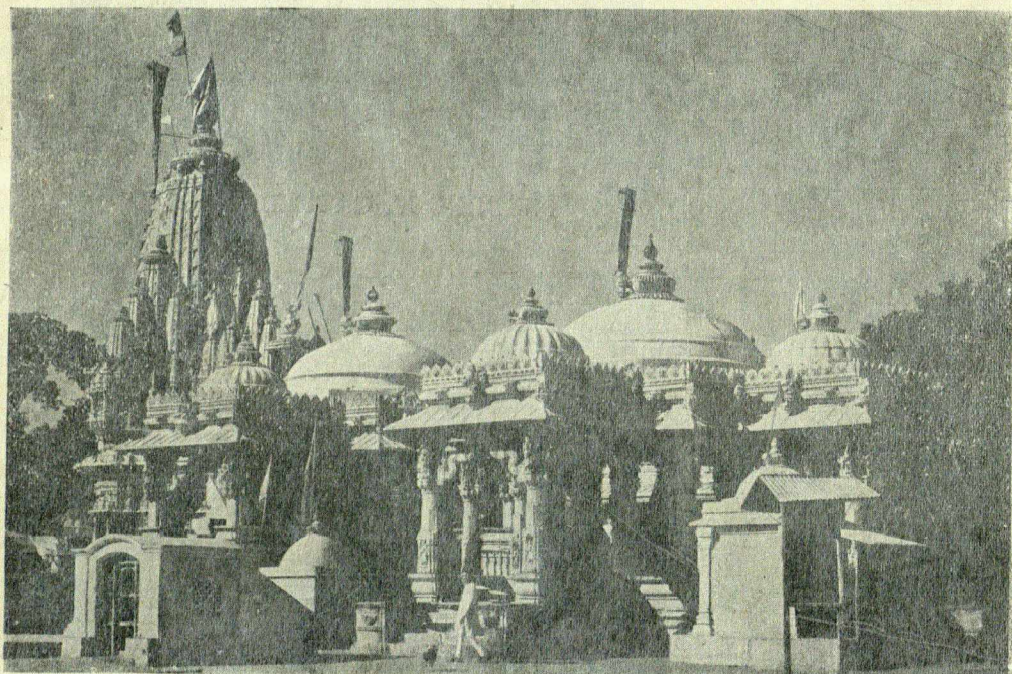
45. MALHARRAO GHAT, CHANDOD

This imposing flight of stone leading to the waters of the river Narmada was constructed by Maharaja Malhar Rao.



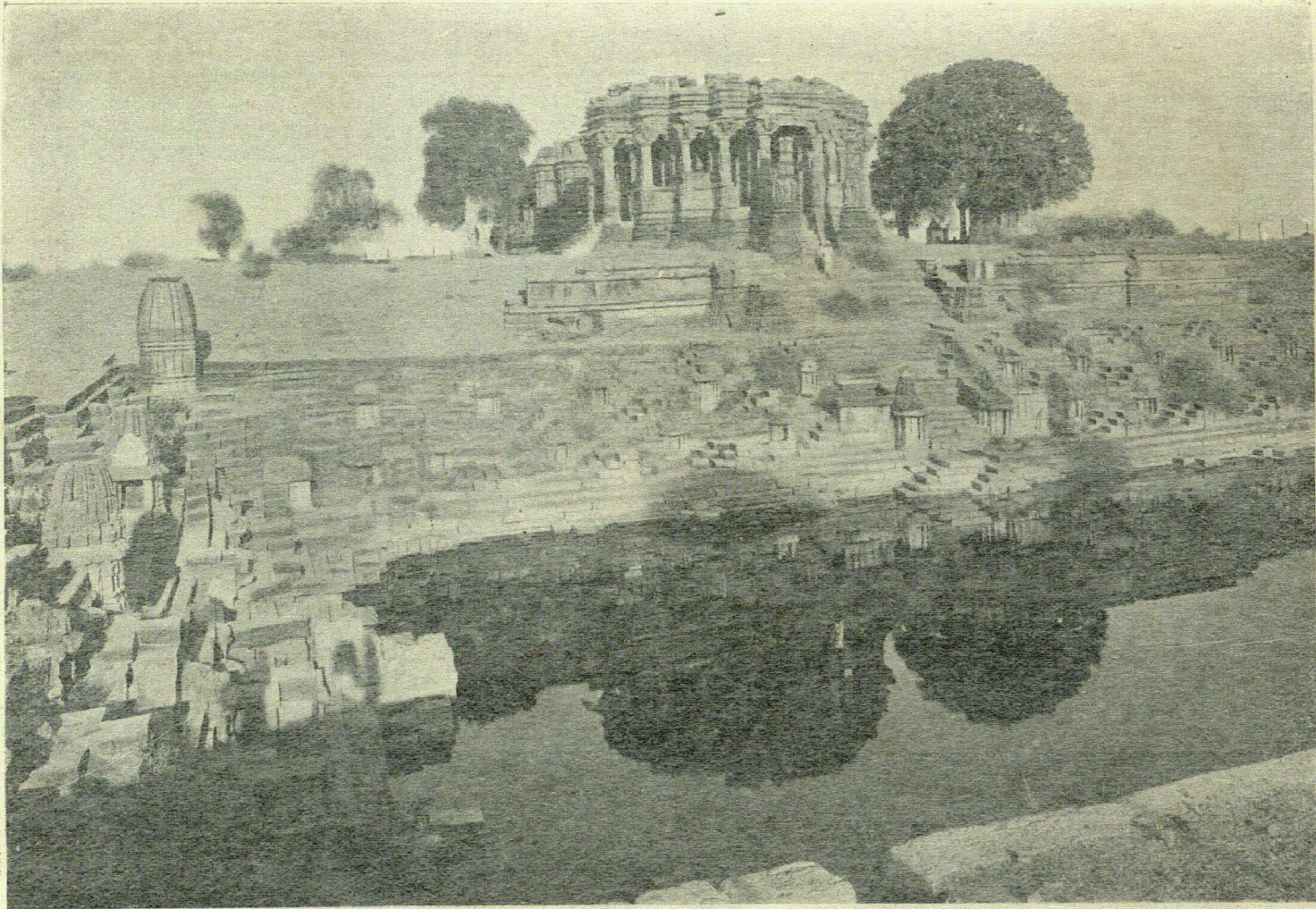
46. MEHSANA PALACE

The Revenue and Judicial offices of the Mehsana District are now situated in this beautiful building.



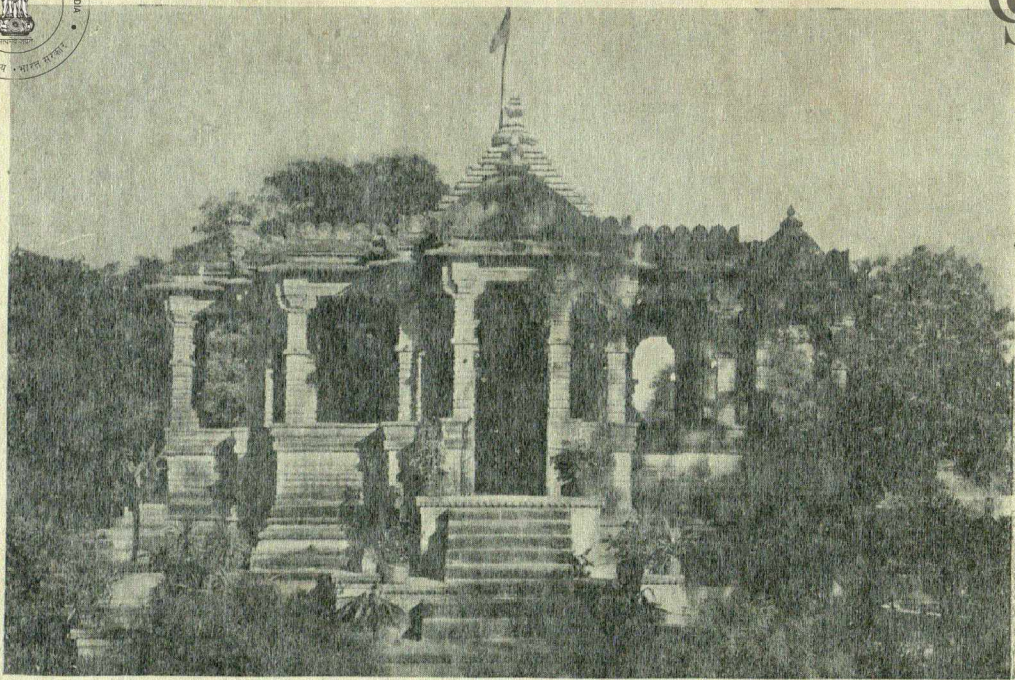
47. BECHARAJI TEMPLE

This is an important place of pilgrimage in the Mehsana District and thousands of people from all over Gujerat come here every year. There is a railway line from Mehsana to this place.



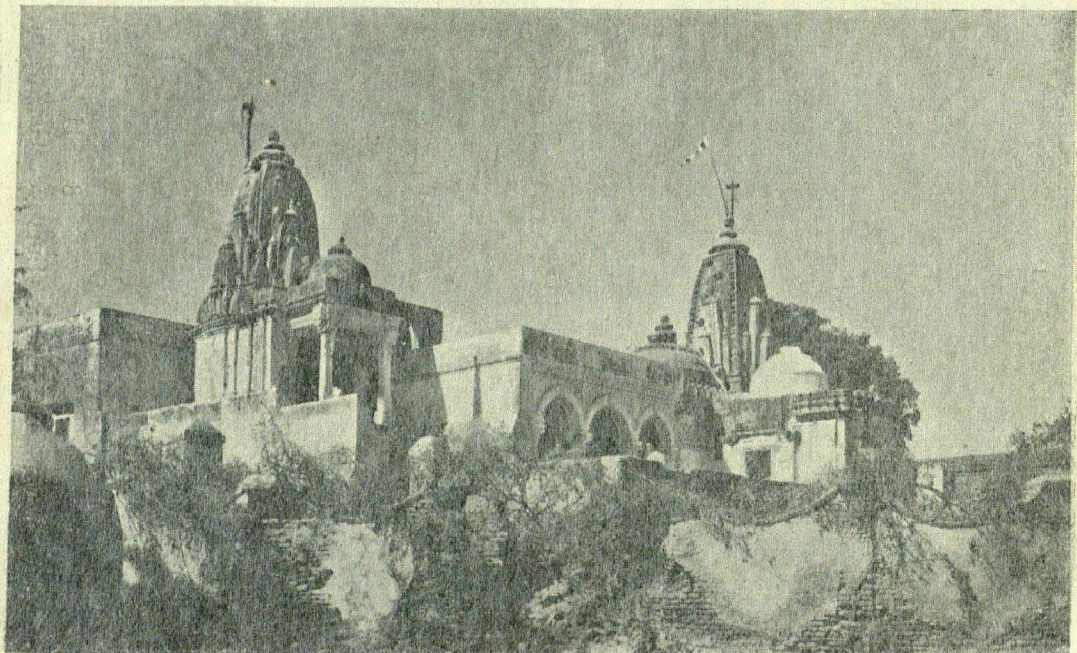
48. SUN TEMPLE AT MODHERA

Colonel Monier Williams, Surveyor-General of Archæology, considered this to be one of the finest specimens of ancient Hindu architecture.

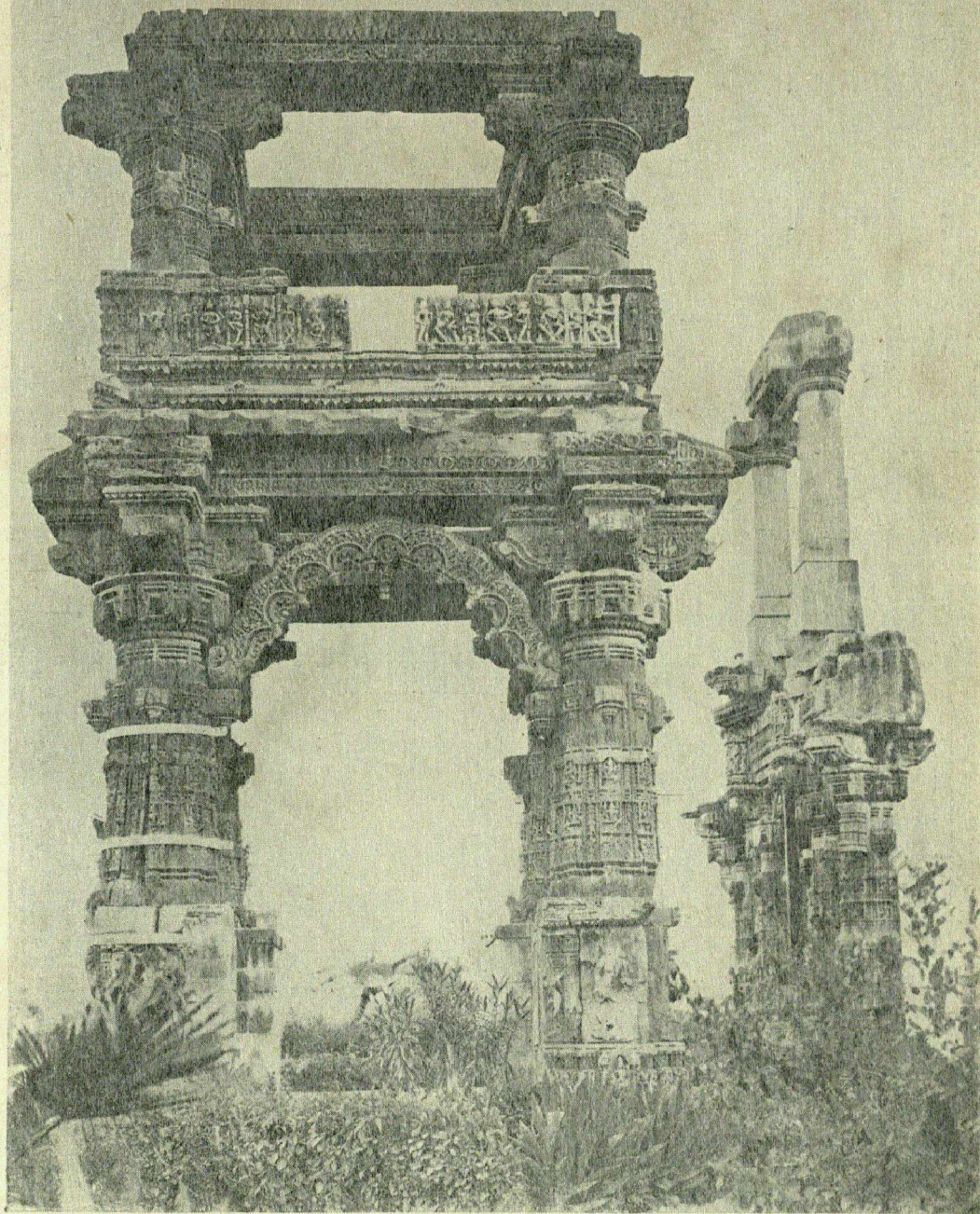


49. DAMAJIRAO'S CHHATRI

The Chhatri or temple dedicated to the memory of Maharaja Damajirao II by his son Govindrao. It is built entirely in stone on a high plinth and represents the sculptural art of mediaeval Gujerat.

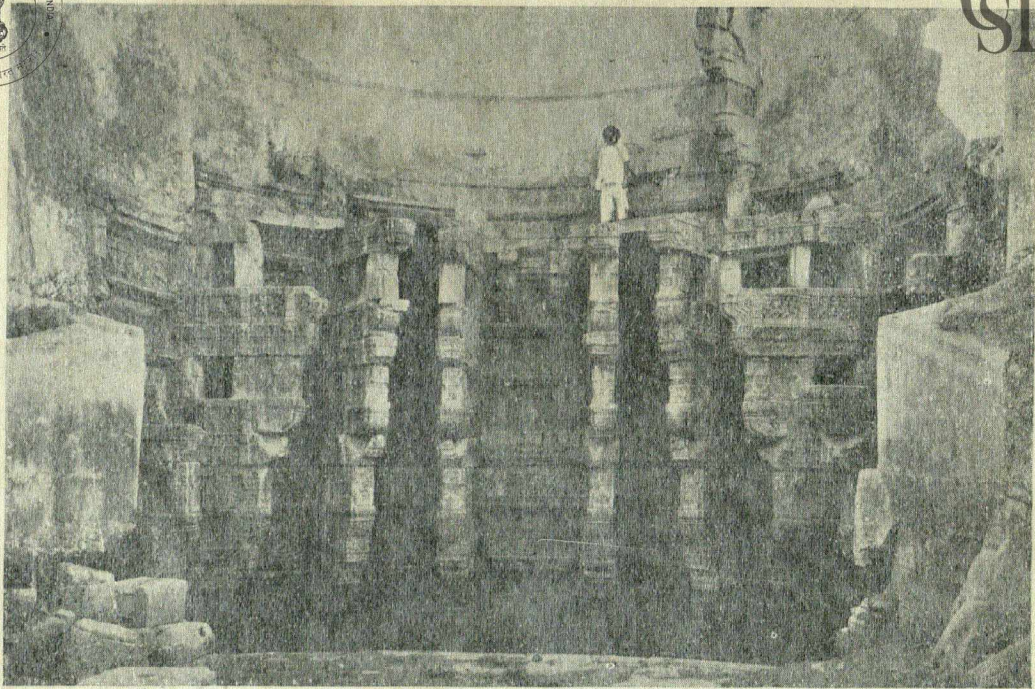


50. KALIKA TEMPLE, PATAN



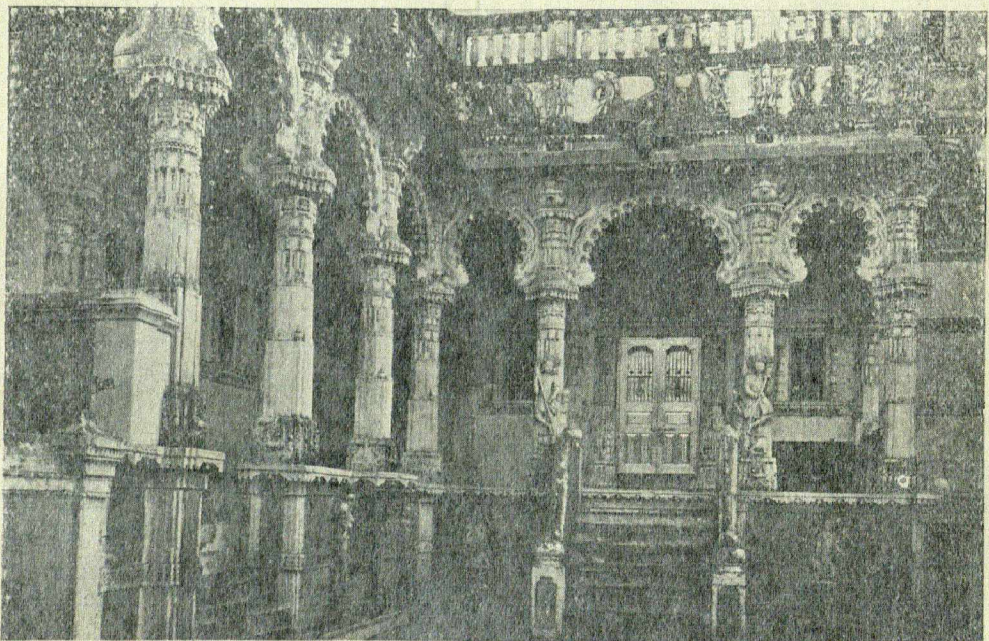
51. RUDRAMAL, SIDDHPUR

These stupendous arches & pillars are the remains of a Shiva temple commenced in the 10th century A. D. by King Mularaj, the founder of Solanki dynasty and completed by King Siddharaj Jayasinha in the 12th century.



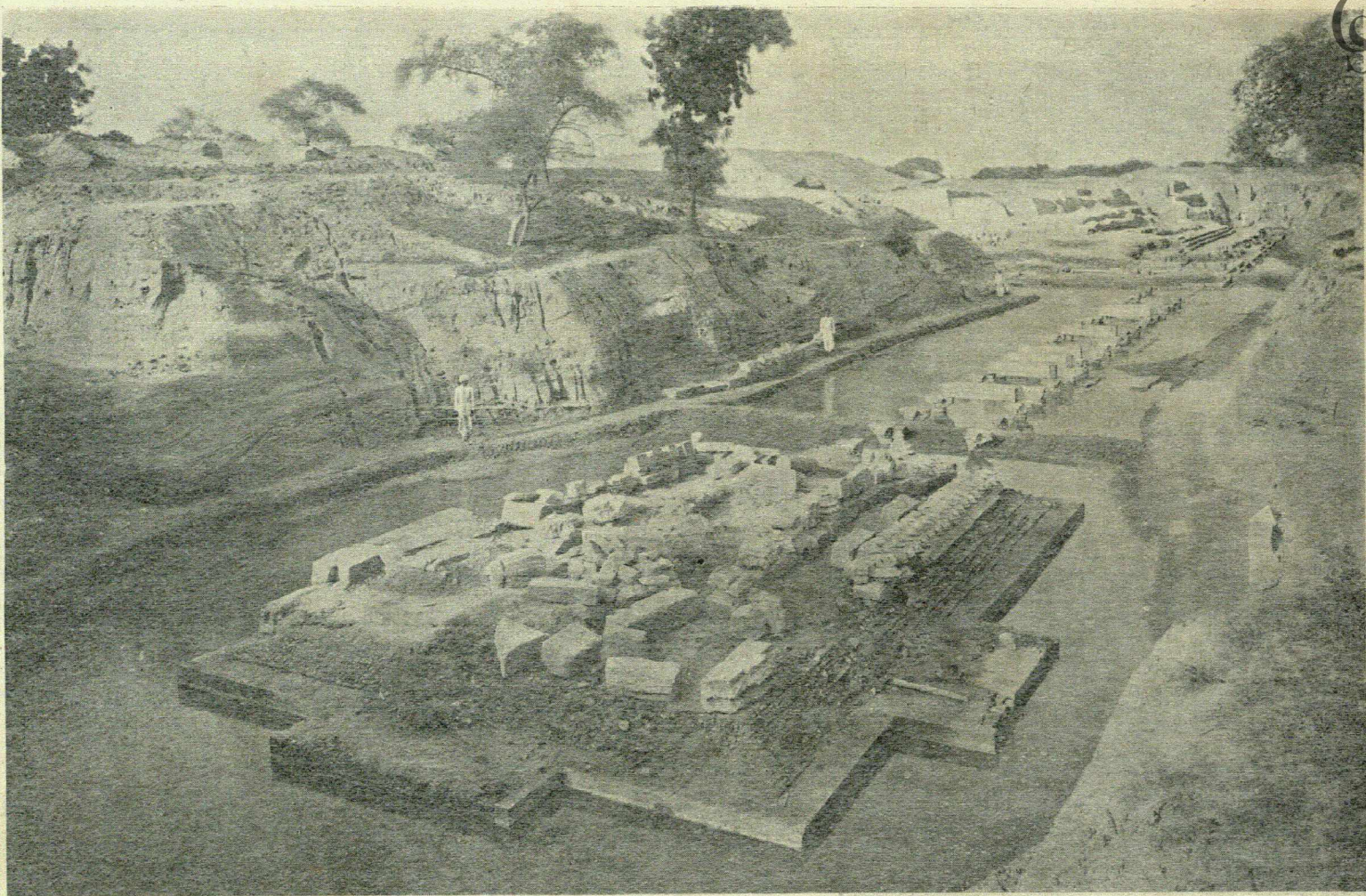
52. RANI VAV, PATAN

This ancient well contains some magnificent ruins of the original beautiful stone work.



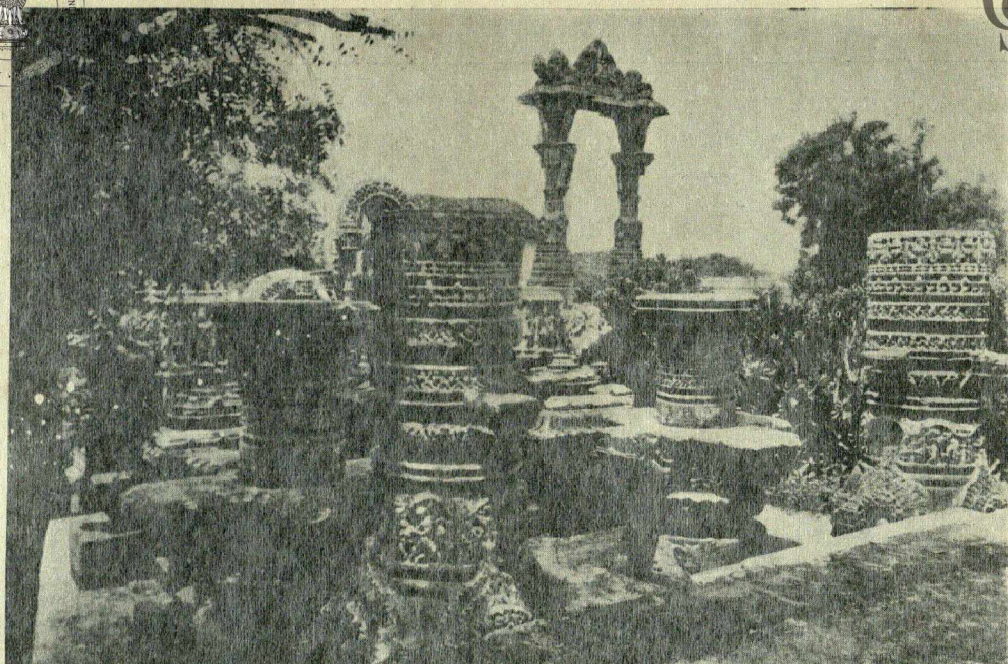
53. PARASNATH JAIN TEMPLE, PATAN

Patan which was and is one of the great centres of Jainism in India, possesses some Jain temples which are famous for the beautiful carving in stone and marble.

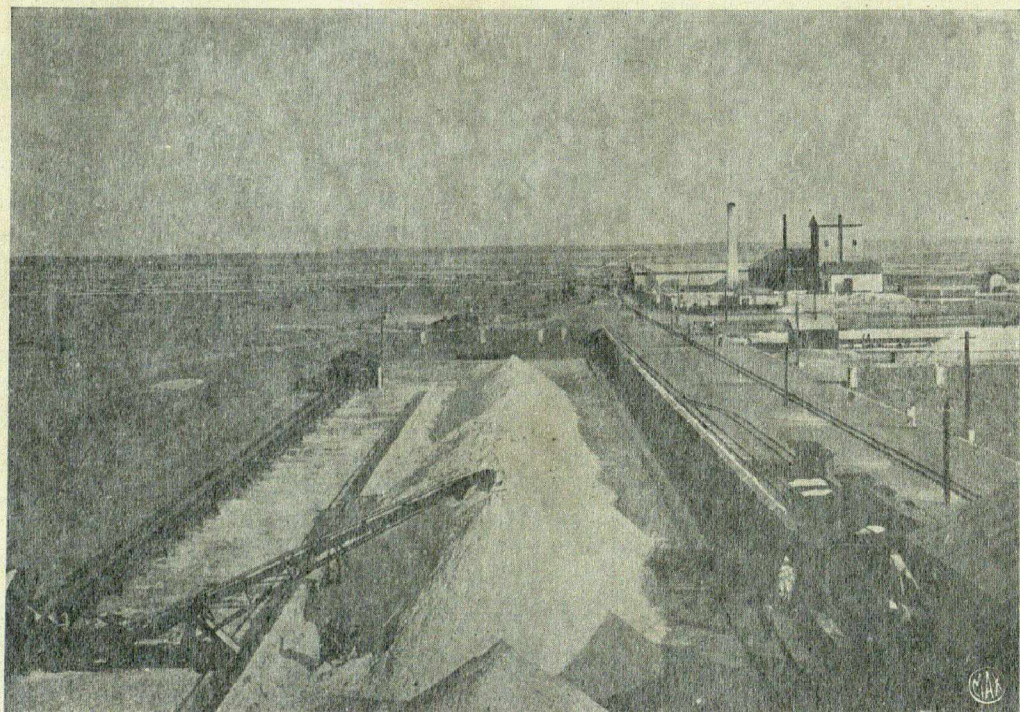


54. SAHASHTRALING TALAV AT PATAN

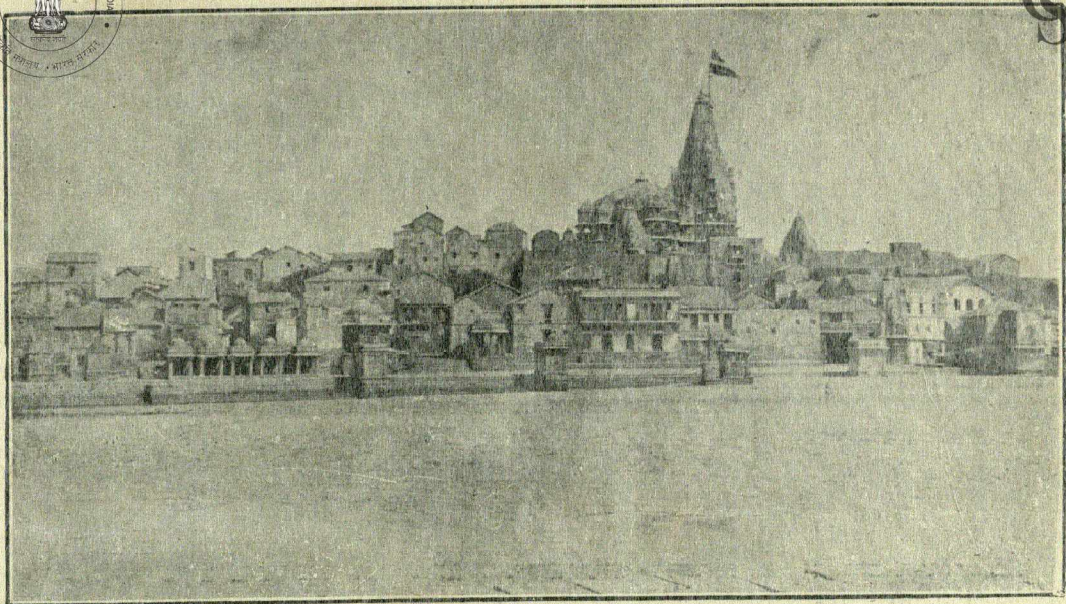
This is a view of the recent excavations of the famous historical monument by the Archæological Department.



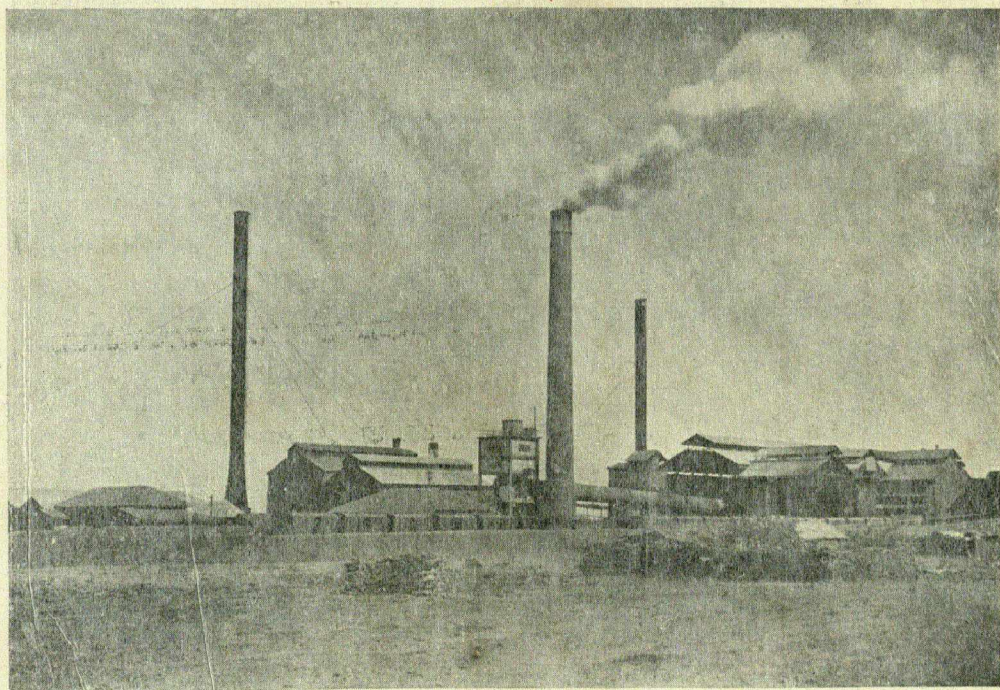
55. A VIEW OF SOME ARCHÆOLOGICAL
 REMAINS AT VADNAGAR



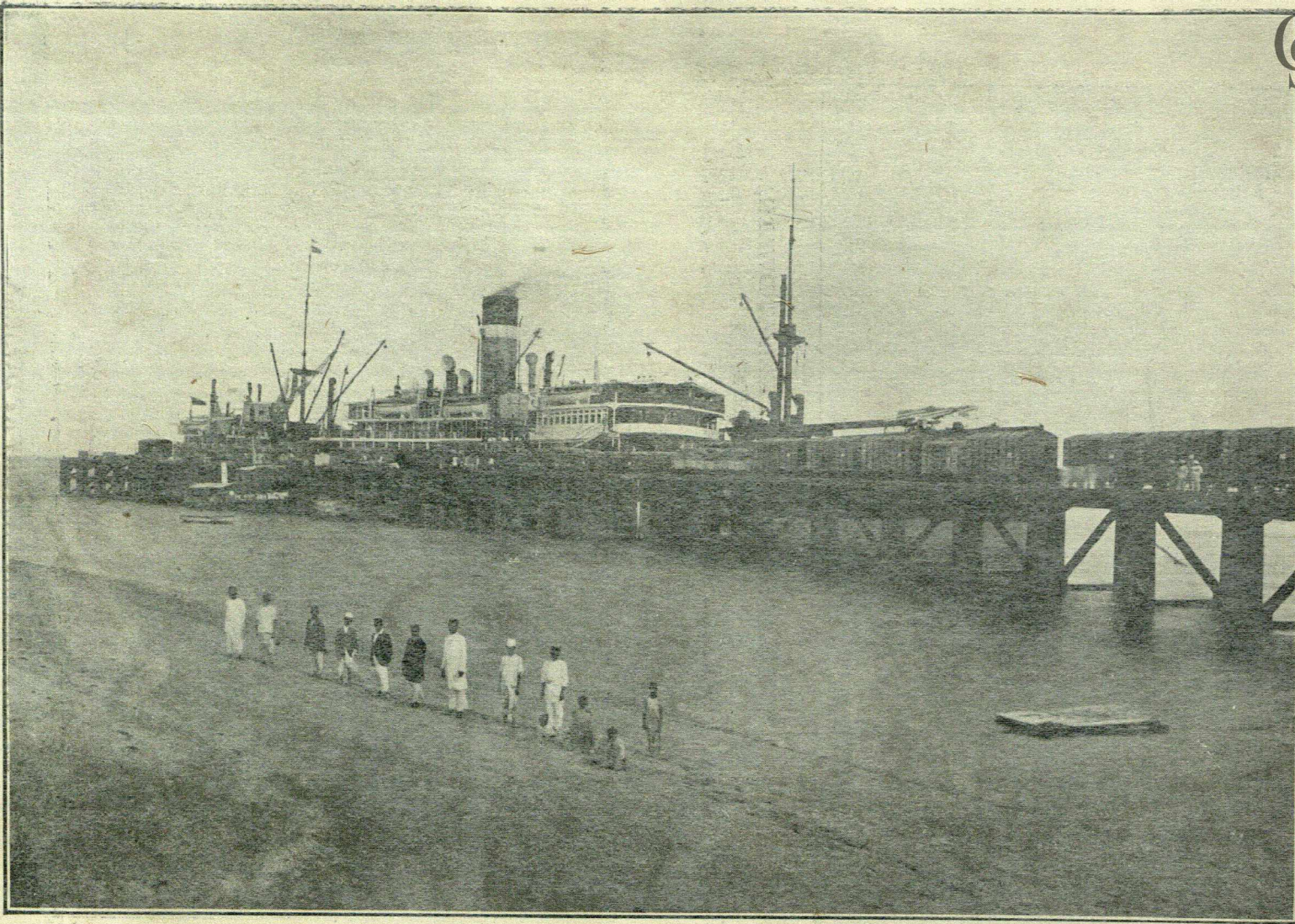
56. OKHA SALT WORKS, MITHAPUR
 The factory of the Tata Chemicals Ltd., is being constructed here.



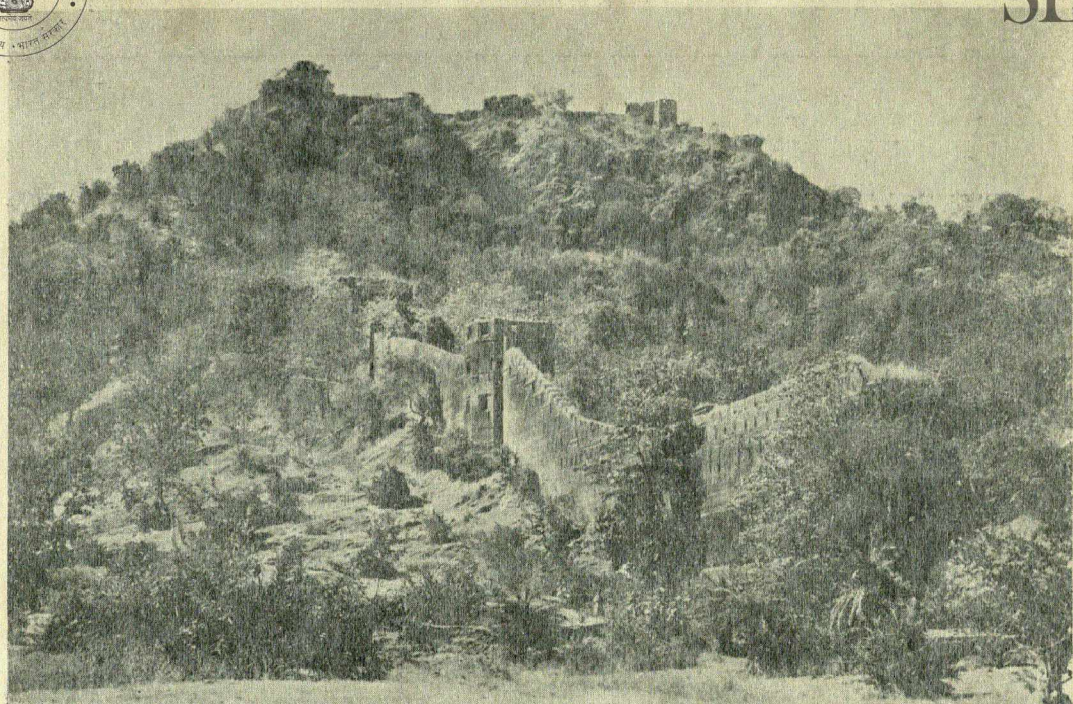
57. THE TEMPLE OF LORD SHRI KRISHNA AT DWARKA.
In front are the waters of Gomati.



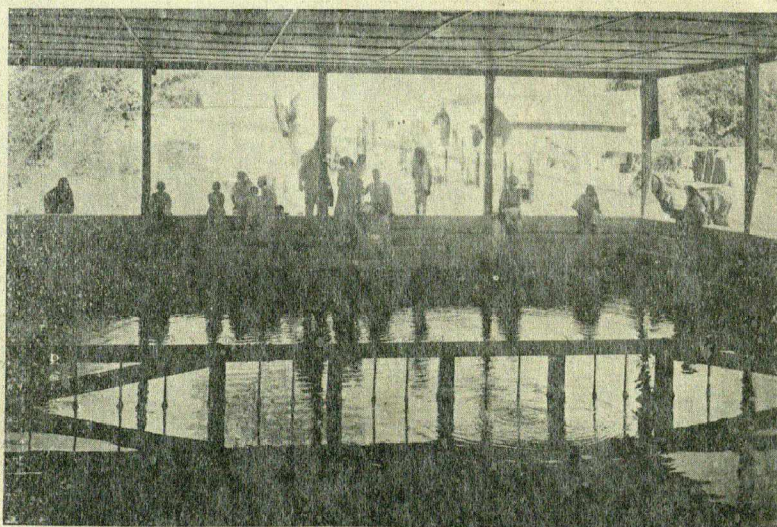
58. THE CEMENT FACTORY AT DWARKA.



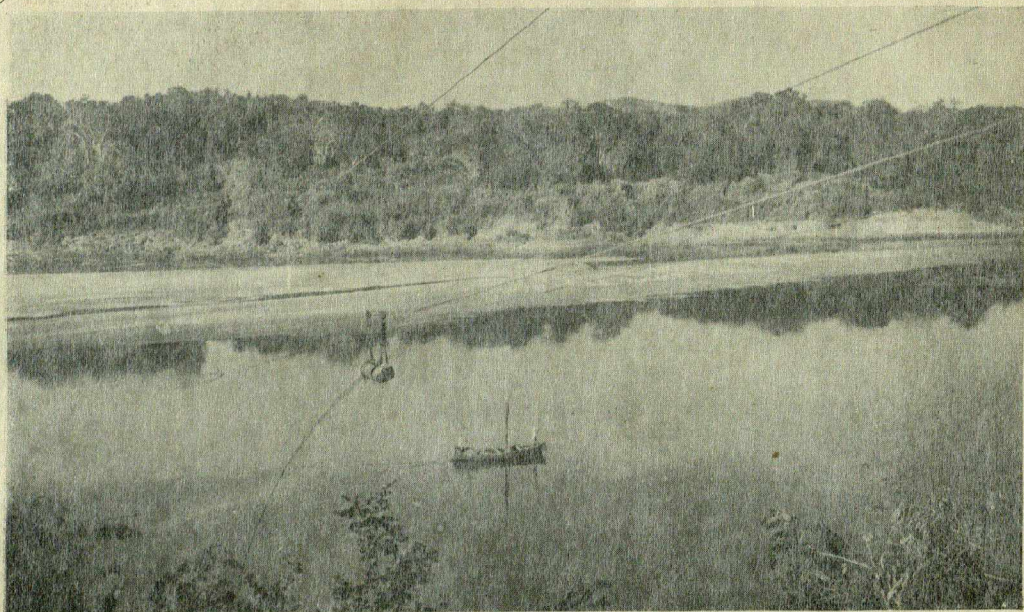
59. "S. S. CITY OF NAGPUR" (GROSS REGISTERED TONS 10,138) ALONGSIDE THE PIER AT OHKA.



60. THE HISTORICAL FORT OF SONGHAD



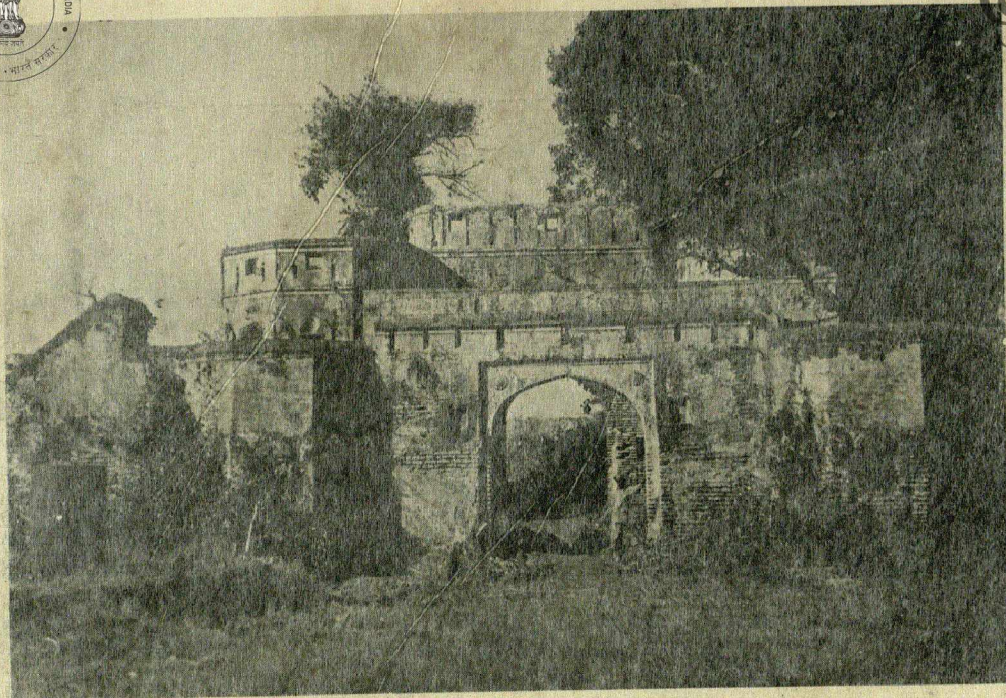
61. HOT WATER SPRING AT UNAI



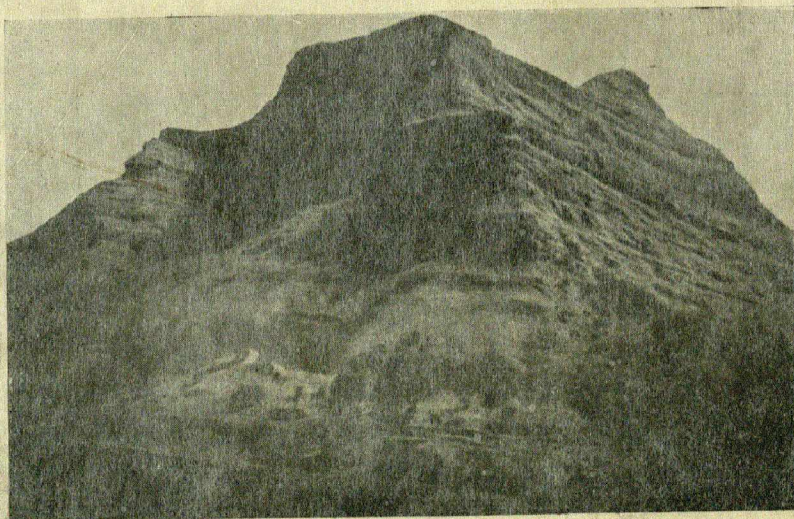
62. WIRE ROPE-WAY
 For carriage of timber over the Tapti River near Ukai.



63. BASKET MAKING
 In a Rani Paraj village in Songhad Taluka.

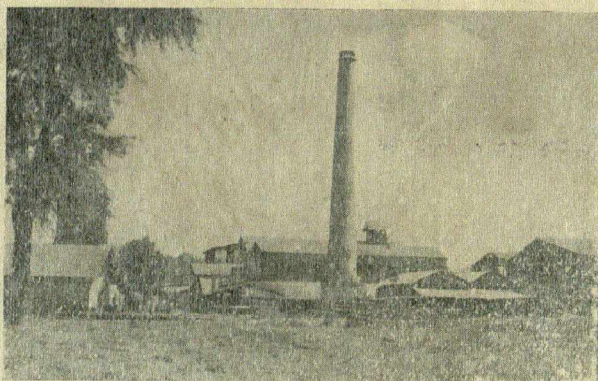


64. THE MAIN GATE OF THE OLD FORT OF VAJPUR

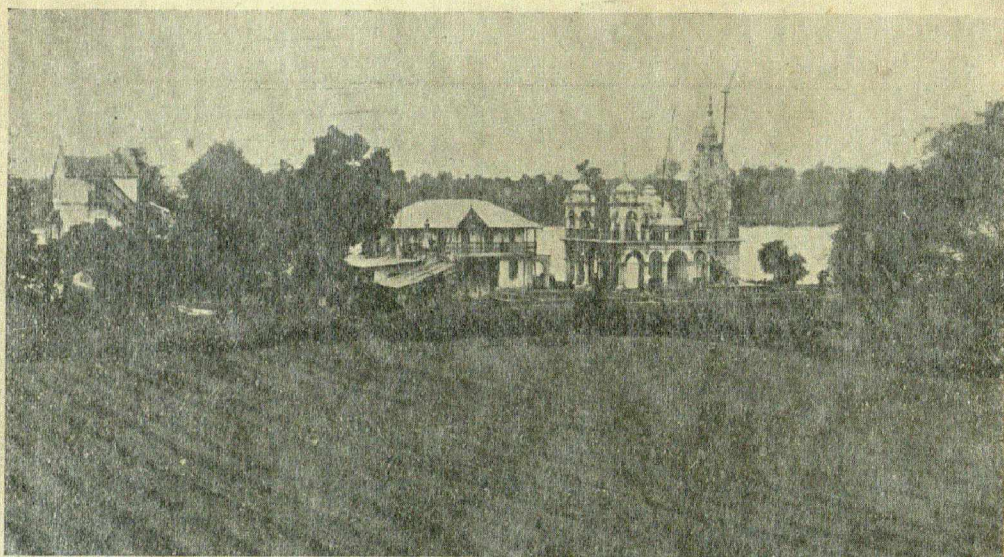


65. SALHER FORT

This imposing mountain can be most conveniently approached from Chichpada Station on T. V. Rly., from where there is a motor-road of about 50 miles to Mulher, which is about 8 miles from Salher.



66. SUGAR FACTORY AT GANDEVI



67. THE TEMPLE AT MALSAR
On the bank of the Narmada.

KLB

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