

VISITOR'S GUIDE TO BARODA

COMPILED & PUBLISHED BY

RAO BAHADUR GOVINDBHAI H. DESAI,

B.A., LL.B., F. R. A. I.

Sayaji Gunj—BARODA.



Baroda:

Printed at the "Lakshmi Vilas" Press, by Mr. C. L. Patel,
in Bhau Kale's Lane, BARODA.

on 1-9-1916.

increasing its capacity from 1,200 to 1,717 mille c. ft. Out of 1,717 mille c. ft. of water stored in the reservoir, 1,682 mille c.ft.—10,512 mille gallons are available for water supply to the city, deducting 35 mille c.ft. which are below the sill level of the outlet. Taking into consideration the loss by evaporation and absorption, this quantity is enough to supply water to Baroda City and the Cantonment for three years, even if there be no rainfall. The total cost of the project is Rs. 34,00,000 and the annual revenue derived therefrom is about Rs. 70,000.

69. Passing through the Champaner Gate, we come to **Fatepura.** the suburb called Fatepura. It is a long wide street, on both sides of which the principal grain merchants have their godowns and stores.

70. It is in this street that the weekly market called **Friday Market.** *Shukarwar* (Friday Market) is held every Friday, for the sale of vegetables, cloth, utensils, old ware, cattle, &c. A visit to it may be the means of securing for only a nominal price, old arms, old china, &c., which are so much prized by lovers of the curious and the antique.

71. Along the northern walls of the city and to the left of the Champaner Gate is the **Nava Bazar.** (new) Bazar, where the Marwadi merchants have their cloth shops.

72. Among the places of interest in Fatepura are **Elephant stables.** the Elephant Stables. Formerly the stables, possessed 55 elephants on which were spent annually about a lac and a half of rupees. But the number has been much

reduced by the present Maharaja and the money saved diverted to useful purposes.

73. To the east of Fatepura is situated the Warsia Parade ground made at great expense by Maharaja Khanderao. It is a wide expanse artificially levelled and raised above the surrounding country and supported by a wall of great height and strength in the form of a buttress. Along one side of it are the barracks of the 3rd Regiment and on another side, the Medical Storekeeper and Chemical Analyser's Office.

74. Returning to Mandvi *via* Champaner Gate and proceeding straight towards the south, Gendi Gate. the visitor will arrive at the Gendi Gate, so called because a Gendi (rhinoceros) had her stable near it.

75. Beyond this south end of the Sheher or city proper is the Burhan Pura and to the east of it is the Mahmad Wadi which is also a square walled in. Several well-known families in the history of the State have their mansions in this quarter. The principal among these are the Fadnis, the Chief Record Keeper, Gopalrao Mairal, the well-known banker, and Sardar Pandhare.

76. The road to the south of the Gendi Gate is continued for some four miles out of the city to the village called Makarpura. Here is a Palace called after the village, "Makarpura Palace." It was originally built by Khanderao Maha-

raja who delighted to live in it. From Makarpura, he daily issued forth to hunt in the magnificent deer preserves which adjoin it. The Makarpura Palace has been much enlarged and improved by the present Maharaja, who uses it as his country residence.

77. The fine garden which surrounds the Makarpura Palace occupies about 130 acres. It is oblong in shape and is enclosed by wall and ornamental railings on the west and by plain wall only on the south, east and north. The garden was laid out by Mr. Goldring, partly in English and partly in Italian style, at a cost of 3 lacs of rupees and is eminently adapted for promenade by numerous intersections of grass lawns and gravel walks. It contains highly embellished fountains, basins, grottoes, chinese pagodas, bridges, lakes, wooden pavilion, vases with design, statues in bronze and marble and numerous other embellishments. It has got good lines of polyalthia longifolia near the entrance and between the Palace and the bandstand. The trees are clipped in French style and form good pyramids. There is a small sunk garden with marble kiosk in the middle and marble path leading to it.

78. The Palaces and the grounds on which they stand are strictly private. The visitor may Passes to view the Palaces and gardens. be admitted to view them on procuring passes from the Khangi Karbhari (Minister of Household) which are generally granted for those places where the Maharaja does not reside.