

# Chitpavan

## Chitpavan Brahmins

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The Chitpavan Brahmin or the Kokanastha Brahmin is a Hindu Maharashtrian Brahmin community inhabiting Konkan, the coastal region of the state of Maharashtra. Initially working as messengers and spies in the late seventeenth century, the community came into prominence during the 18th century when the heirs of Peshwa from the Bhat family of Balaji Vishwanath became the de facto rulers of the Maratha empire. Until the 18th century, the Chitpavans were held in low esteem by the Deshastha, the older established Brahmin community of Karnataka-Maharashtra region.

As per Jayant Lele, the influence of the Chitpavans in the Peshwa era as well as the British era has been greatly exaggerated because even during the time of the most prominent Peshwas, their political legitimacy and their intentions were not trusted by all levels of the administration, not even by Shivaji's successors. He adds that after the defeat of Peshwas in the Anglo-Maratha wars, Chitpavans were one of the Hindu communities to flock to western education in the Bombay Province of British India.

## List of Chitpavan Brahmins

*This is a list of notable members of the Chitpavan Brahmin community. Balaji Vishwanath and his descendants, Bajirao I, Chimaji Appa, Balaji Bajirao,*

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Balaji Vishwanath and his descendants, Bajirao I, Chimaji Appa, Balaji Bajirao, Raghunathrao, Sadashivrao Bhau, Madhavrao I, Narayanrao, Madhavrao II, and Bajirao II

Nana Fadnavis (1742–1800), regent to Madhavrao II

The Patwardhans, military leaders under the Peshwa and later rulers of various princely states

Balaji Pant Natu, spied for the British against the Peshwa era Maratha Empire and raised the Union Jack over Shaniwar Wada.

Lokhitwadi (Gopal Hari Deshmukh) (1823–1892), social reformer

Vishnubawa Brahmachari (1825–1871), 19th-century Marathi Hindu revivalist

Mahadev Govind Ranade (1842–1901), judge and social reformer. Given the title of Rao Bahadur.

Vishnushastri Krushnashastri Chiplunkar (1850–1882), essayist, editor of Nibandha Mala, a Marathi journal, educator, mentor to Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Gopal Ganesh Agarkar, founder of the Chitrashala press

Vasudev Balwant Phadke (1845–1883), a petty government clerk in Pune who led an armed rebellion against the British. Later an Educator.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856–1920), educator, writer and early nationalist leader with widespread appeal. Described by British colonial administration as the "Father of Indian Unrest"

Gopal Ganesh Agarkar (1856 – June 1895), journalist, educator and social reformer

Keshavsut (Krishnaji Keshav Damle) (15 March 1866 – 7 November 1905), Marathi-language poet

Vaman Shivram Apte (1858–1892), Indian lexicographer

Dhondo Keshav Karve (1858–1962), social reformer and advocate of women's education

Anandibai Joshi (1865–1887), first Indian woman to get a medical degree from a university in the west – Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania – in 1886

Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866–1915), early nationalist leader on the moderate wing of the Congress party

Ramabai Mahadev Ranade (1862–1925), woman social activist, reformer, founder of Seva Sadan Pune and wife of Justice Mahadev Govind Ranade

Chapekar brothers (1873–1899), (1879–1899), brothers who assassinated British plague commissioner Walter Rand for his heavy-handed approach to plague relief in Pune in 1897

Gangadhar Nilkanth Sahasrabudhe, a social reformer, who, along with two other reformers – Chairman Surendranath Tipnis of the Mahad Municipality and A. V. Chitre – helped Ambedkar during the Mahad Satyagraha

Narasimha Chintaman Kelkar (1872–1947), writer, journalist, nationalist leader. served on the Viceroy's Executive Council (1924–29)

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (28 May 1883 – 26 February 1966), freedom fighter, social reformer and formulator of the Hindutva philosophy. Popularly known as Veer Savarkar ("Brave" Savarkar)

Senapati Bapat (12 November 1880 – 28 November 1967), prominent Indian freedom fighter who acquired title of Senapati, meaning "Commander"

Dadasaheb Phalke (30 April 1870 – 16 February 1944), pioneer of Indian film industry

Krushnaji Prabhakar Khadilkar (25 November 1872 – 26 August 1948), editor of Kesari and Navakal

Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande (1860–1936), eminent maestro of Hindustani classical music

Vishwanath Kashinath Rajwade (1863–1926), historian

Pandurang Vaman Kane (1880–1972), Indologist and Bharat Ratna awardee

Anant Laxman Kanhere (1891–1910), Indian nationalist and revolutionary, hanged for the assassination of British Collector of Nashik, A. M. T. Jackson in 1910

Vinoba Bhave (1895–1982), Gandhian leader and freedom fighter

Dattatreya Ramachandra Bendre (1896–1981), poet and writer in the Kannada language. Winner of the Jnanpith Award

Narhar Vishnu Gadgil (10 January 1896 – 12 January 1966), Congress leader and Member of Nehru's cabinet

Babasaheb Apte (1903–1971), an early RSS pracharak

Irawati Karve (1905–1970), anthropologist

Nathuram Godse (19 May 1910 – 15 November 1949), Mahatma Gandhi's assassin

Narayan Apte (1911–1949) – co-conspirator in the assassination of Gandhi

Gopal Godse (1919–2005) – co-conspirator in the assassination of Gandhi and Nathuram Godse's younger brother

Ramachandra Dattatrya Ranade (1886–1956) was an Indian philosopher, spiritual leader, and social revolutionary

Pandurang Shastri Athavale (1920–2003) was an Indian activist philosopher, spiritual leader, social revolutionary and religion reformist who founded the Swadhyaya Parivar (Swadhyaya Family) in 1954

Madhuri Dixit (born 1967) – Bollywood actress

List of Brahmin dynasties and states

*[better source needed] Patwardhan dynasty, Indian dynasty established by a Chitpavan Brahmin Patwardhan family. [citation needed] Shunga Empire, of Magadha was*

Brahmins make up one of the four varnas (social classes) within traditional Hindu society. The traditional occupation of Brahmins is that of priesthood, and the performing of rite of passage rituals. There have also been Brahmins rulers, zamindars and holders of other administrative posts.

Abhyankar

*to the Indian state of Maharashtra. Abhyankar surname is found among Chitpavan Brahmin community. Abhyankar is a Sanskrit word which means One who removes*

Abhyankar is a surname native to the Indian state of Maharashtra. Abhyankar surname is found among Chitpavan Brahmin community.

Marathi Brahmin

*Brahmin subcastes that come under Maharashtra Brahmins include Deshastha, Chitpavan (Konkanastha), Saraswat, Karhade, and Devrukhe. Maharashtrian Brahmins*

Marathi Brahmins (also known as Maharashtrian Brahmins) are communities native to the Indian state of Maharashtra. They are classified into mainly three sub-divisions based on their places of origin, "Desh", "Karad" and "Konkan". The Brahmin subcastes that come under Maharashtra Brahmins include Deshastha, Chitpavan (Konkanastha), Saraswat, Karhade, and Devrukhe.

Vartak

*a Hindu surname found among the caste of Chitpavan Kokanastha Brahmins, the origin of the Vartak chitpavans supposedly was in the small coastal village*

Vartak is an Indian surname found in the Konkan in Kelshi Maharashtra.

Ganesh Chaturthi

*the installation of Murtis of Gauris. In some communities such as the Chitpavan, and the CKP, pebbles collected from river bank are installed as representations*

Ganesh Chaturthi (ISO: Gaʔeʔa Caturthʔ), also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi (Vinʔyaka Caturthʔ) or Vinayaka Chavithi (Vinʔyaka Cavithʔ) or Vinayagar Chaturthi (Vinʔyagar Caturthʔ), is a Hindu festival celebrating the birthday of Hindu deity Ganesh. The festival is marked with the installation of Ganesh's

murtis (devotional representations of a deity) privately in homes and publicly on elaborate pandals (temporary stages). Observances include chanting of Vedic hymns and Hindu texts, such as prayers and vrata (fasting). Offerings and prasada from the daily prayers, that are distributed from the pandal to the community, include sweets such as modak as it is believed to be a favourite of Ganesha. The festival ends on the tenth day after start, when the murti is carried in a public procession with music and group chanting, then immersed in a nearby body of water such as a river or sea, called visarjana on the day of Ananta Chaturdashi. In Mumbai alone, around 150,000 murtis are immersed annually. It is a state festival of Indian state Maharashtra.

The festival celebrates Ganesha as the God of New Beginnings, the Remover of Obstacles and the God of Wisdom and Intelligence, and is observed throughout the Indian subcontinent by Hindus, especially in the states such as Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Goa, as well as Sri Lanka. Ganesh Chaturthi is also observed by the Hindu diaspora elsewhere such as in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Suriname, other parts of the Caribbean, Fiji, Mauritius, South Africa, the United States, and Europe. In the Gregorian calendar, Ganesh Chaturthi falls between 22 August and 20 September every year.

Although the origin of Ganesh Chaturthi remains unknown, it became increasingly popular after a public celebration was initiated by the prominent Anti-Colonial Freedom Fighter, Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, in Maharashtra in the year 1893. It was a means to form a Hindu nationalist identity and rebel against British rule. Reading of texts, feasting, athletic and martial arts competitions are held at public venues.

## Maratha Empire

*Peshwa. His sons, grandsons, and great-grandson succeeded him. They were Chitpavan Brahmins. Madan, T. N. (1988). Way of Life: King, Householder, Renouncer :*

The Maratha Empire, also referred to as the Maratha Confederacy, was an early modern polity in the Indian subcontinent. It comprised the realms of the Peshwa and four major independent Maratha states under the nominal leadership of the former.

The Marathas were a Marathi-speaking peasantry group from the western Deccan Plateau (present-day Maharashtra) that rose to prominence under leadership of Shivaji (17th century), who revolted against the Bijapur Sultanate and the Mughal Empire for establishing "Hindavi Swarajya" (lit. 'self-rule of Hindus'). The religious attitude of Emperor Aurangzeb estranged non-Muslims, and the Maratha insurgency came at a great cost for his men and treasury. The Maratha government also included warriors, administrators, and other nobles from other Marathi groups. Shivaji's monarchy, referred to as the Maratha Kingdom, expanded into a large realm in the 18th century under the leadership of Peshwa Bajirao I. Marathas from the time of Shahu I recognised the Mughal emperor as their nominal suzerain, similar to other contemporary Indian entities, though in practice, Mughal politics were largely controlled by the Marathas between 1737 and 1803.

After Aurangzeb's death in 1707, Shivaji's grandson Shahu under the leadership of Peshwa Bajirao revived Maratha power and confided a great deal of authority to the Bhat family, who became hereditary peshwas (prime ministers). After he died in 1749, they became the effective rulers. The leading Maratha families – Scindia, Holkar, Bhonsle, and Gaekwad – extended their conquests in northern and central India and became more independent. The Marathas' rapid expansion was halted with the great defeat of Panipat in 1761, at the hands of the Durrani Empire. The death of young Peshwa Madhavrao I marked the end of Peshwa's effective authority over other chiefs in the empire. After he was defeated by the Holkar dynasty in 1802, the Peshwa Baji Rao II sought protection from the British East India Company, whose intervention destroyed the confederacy by 1818 after the Second and Third Anglo-Maratha Wars.

The structure of the Maratha state was that of a confederacy of four rulers under the leadership of the Peshwa at Poona (now Pune) in western India. These were the Scindia, the Gaekwad based in Baroda, the Holkar

based in Indore and the Bhonsle based in Nagpur. The stable borders of the confederacy after the Battle of Bhopal in 1737 extended from modern-day Maharashtra in the south to Gwalior in the north, to Orissa in the east or about a third of the subcontinent.

Ranade

*Ranade is a family name, common among the Chitpavan Brahmin community in Western Maharashtra, India. Ranade family originated from Bhatgaon, Guhagar Ratnagiri*

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Ranade family originated from Bhatgaon, Guhagar Ratnagiri.[2]

Each year Ranade family celebrates Mahashivratri utsav at Asud , Vyaghreshwar Near Dapoli, Ratnagiri [3].

Shobha Fadnavis

*Shobha Madhavrao Fadnavis ( Chitpavan brahmin) is an Indian politician from the Bharatiya Janata Party. She is a member of the Maharashtra Legislative*

Shobha Madhavrao Fadnavis ( Chitpavan brahmin) is an Indian politician from the Bharatiya Janata Party. She is a member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council and a former minister in Government of Maharashtra. She hails from Mul, Chandrapur district. She represented Saoli Vidhan Sabha constituency from 1990 to 2004 until the constituency was abolished in 2008. She is the aunt of Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis.

She has written several books during her political career such as Pratyancha ???????? (Biography) and Dhandola Sheticha (On Farmers).

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