



Remembering Maharaja  
for  
Good Governance for  
Some Minor Hints

- 175 villages
- Area 1024 sq. miles
- 2,55,846 population
- Class II state
- Class I state with 11 gun salute

## **Manifesto of Maharaja**

- Justice as well as Law & Order prevail in the state
- Life & property be protected in a better way.
- Framers reap the fruits of their labour
- Traders may earn profit in their business
- Roads may improved & better transportation
- Encouragement to Education
- Relief to underprivileged and patient

## Disaster Management

- The draught of 1899 is still remembered with awfulness with a nickname Chhapniyo Dushkal/akal. Maharaja was in England. Cut short his trip & returned Gondal.
- Veri Dam. Interest free loans to farmers. Relief in land revenue.
- Free grazing for cattle in govt. grassland. Special Shelter House.
- Special Recruitment of 110 police employees for L&O.
- Special DA to Employees !
- “Luckily not a single death occurred in the state.  
[ Gondal State Report on Draught – 1899]
- Had our own government of British India acted upon like Maharaja of Gondal and could have been proud of such fete !

## Passion for Public Works

- 360 miles of all weather metal road
- 12 large bridges, 1000 small bridges & nalah
- Investment of Rs. 5,84,11,336 in roads, bridge & railway
- **Bond for 100 years for Bridge & 20 years for roads form contractors**

Roads of Gondal state are the best in India. Even states with crores of income haven't built such pakka roads.

[Times of India]

## **Meeting & Listening to One & All**

- Maharaja was meeting citizen from 12.00 to 13.00 pm everyday
- Visiting all the villages twice a year

It is far more easier to meet  
Maharaja of Gondal  
than many of the western businessman

# Land Reforms & Agriculture

- Ownership of land and property to farmers without any price, contribution or gift in 1893.
- Land Revenue was assessed permanently. Relief in calamity.
- Average Production per Bigha - Rs. 11 in 1894 & Rs. 20 in 1935
- Land Revenue : **01-05-01**
- Dept of Agri.
- Agri Graduate as Updeshak
- Agri Exhibition

## Is all well ?

- Maharaja established a **telephone network** throughout his state in 1888.
- A telephone at each village office.
- Kheriyat – All Well – allbell message from Chowkidar /Pasayata of the villages to state office every night



## Love for Education

- free & compulsory Girls Education [1918]. Gondal First and Only State in India.
- Even bigger and progressive states like Mysore & Vadodara had not done this.
- Free primary & secondary education to all on his Golden Jubilee [ ***bhar rahit bahnatar*** ]
- Tata Research Institute – 300 acre land, Rs. 5 lakh seed money, Rs.35,000 annuity
- Lilaba Scholarship for Girls, Special Prizes

# BhagvadGomandal

## Unique & Priceless Contribution of Maharaja

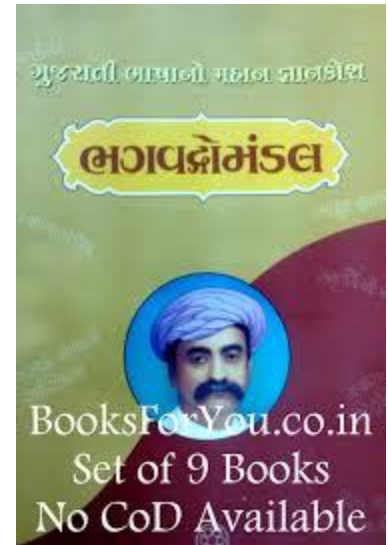
- Well conceived, planned, executed & completed **project** from 1-10-1928 to 9-3-1954
- 9 volumes, 9,270 pages, 2,81,377 words, 28,156 idioms
- 1, 64, 096 office exp + 1,08,353 printing exp = 2,72,449 total exp

It's beyond my ability & competence to write a forward for the kosh.

I am amazed with your courage and conviction.

Your initiative will be a great service to Mother tongue Gujarati Language

- **Mahatma Gandhij**



# Sangramji Highschool Building

- Constructed on the design of Parliament of Italy with local Black & White stone. Earthquake proof. [Bigben London claimed ]



## HRM & D

- Merit based Selection & **training in time !**
- Specific Service Rules & Regulations
- **Special DA** during 1899 draught
- Traditional Uniform - from Divan to Peon
- Strict in attendance & disposal of the work
- Weekly review meeting of officers
- Not calling officers after office hour or on holidays
- 35 % pay hike in 1919 on Lilaba Marriage

## Tree Lover

- Dept. of Forest
- Planting & Raising Trees outsourced to private contractor for a period of five years with full responsibility of survival of plantations
- Each tree was numbered.
- **Village Headman couldn't keep goats!**
- Rejected request for cutting trees for passing electricity cable in the city. Delayed the project and laid underground cable at five times enhanced project cost.
- Approximately Rs. 2 lakh/Year **investment** in trees.

## Rule of Law

- Prince to pay pension to widow of the deceased in car accident
- Prince was punished for violation of prohibition law.
- Lord Linlithgow's special train not exempted
- Rabindranath Tagore & Mahatama Gandhi billed for overstay in state guesthouse
- Police constable dismissed for injuring an innocent

## Suvarntula of Maharaja

- On the occasion of Maharaja's 50 years reign, citizen of the Gondal State collected funds, weigh Maharaja with Gold and gifted it to Maharaja.
- Employees donated 2 salaries & Farmers 25 % of Land Revenue
- Maharaja weigh 134 ser 27 tola [**67 kg**], 100% pure gold was purchased @ Rs. 1,85,515/-

## **Self Appraisal**

**The ultimate happiness of a person lies in the self assurance that one has done his best in performing his duty.**

I know that my administration is not without drawbacks and I feel sorry for that.

Your kind words may help to keep motivated me in my attempt to make my rule more successful rather than believing that it has succeeded as you say.



## Scorecard [1934/1884]

- Income – 79 lakhs [14 lakh]
- Length of roads – 7 times
- Length of bridges – 11 times
- Number of schools - 6 times [191/30]
- Students – 19,780 [5, 496]
- Police Checkpost – 250 [50]
- Wells – 8000 [2800]
- Uncultivated land – 12,209 acre [ 1,15,673]

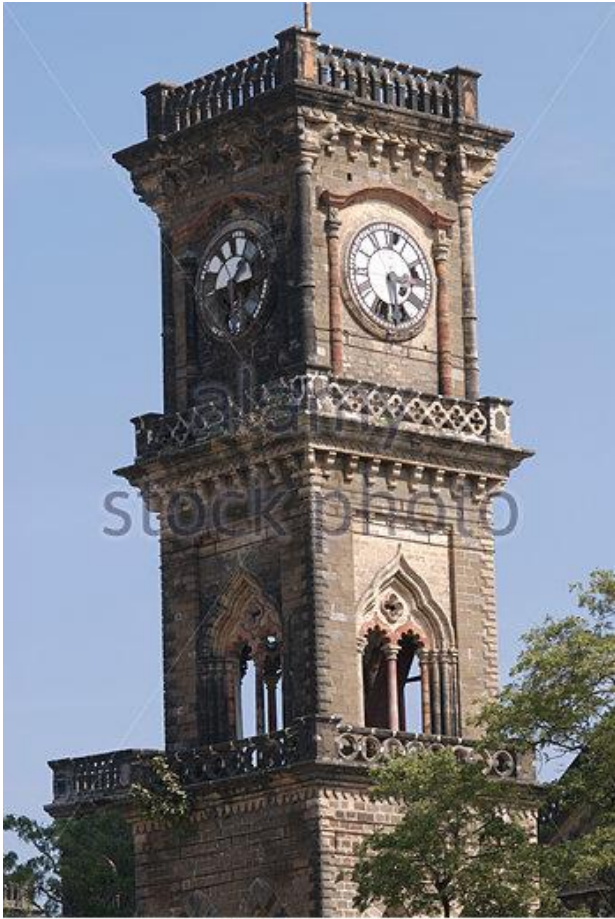
## Performance Appraisal

- **The Tmes [London]** – Subheadings of an article published on 03/05/1934 -
- A scholar of wide attainments
- An enlightened educationist
- A tax less state
- Justice & order in realm
- Emancipation of Women
- The people's tribute
- Progressive policy in public service
- BBC & Roiter covered his Suvrnatula Vidhi. The daily Telegraph [London] published an article “ the great ruler in india’ Illustrated Week Weekly of India published a special issue on 05/05/1935.



[www.alamy.com](http://www.alamy.com) - ERYEOP





www.alamy.com - F3H2XE



*Bhagavad Gita Mandap, Gondal Theatre,*

# Few Questions to my OT friends !

Whether it can be said Good Governance ?

Shall I remember him ?

What's about Maharaja bhagavatsinhji Insitite of  
Good Governnace ?

I believe that duty of a king is to make the people prosperous and happy, to address their grievances, enhance their esteem as subject and develop state resources.

Gondal state is and only can be for the welfare of citizen of the state

Others before me, and duty before all



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