

## Chief Editor's Note

Karnataka is noted for a rich tradition of preparing and publishing Gazetteer volumes. For the princely state of Mysore and Coorg Benjamin Lewis Rice edited and published three volumes in 1877-78. They presented remarkable studies and served a model. For the Bombay and Madras Provinces District Gazetteers were brought out between the last quarters of the 19th century and the first decade of 20th century. The districts of Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwar and Kanara (Uttara Kannada) came to be covered in separate Gazetteer volumes being compiled and edited by James Macnabb Campbell or popularly known as J.M. Campbell. These volumes comprehensive in nature contains chapters on General Description, Climate and Seasons, History etc., Since these volumes were published over hundred and fifteen years ago. it is hardly available in good condition. Understanding the immense reference value of these stupendous volumes The Department of Karnataka Gazetteer decided to reprint these volumes as per the resolution of the advisory committee under the chairmanship of Sri B.K. Bhattacharya, I.A.S., the then Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka. The purpose of reprinting these volumes is to help the research scholars and interested readers spread all over the world.

The Department is now bringing out this volume on Bijapur District (which includes Bagalkot district also) then under Bombay presidency (Published in 1884) as a first step and plans to publish all such volumes published earlier to independence era, stage by stage. I hope this stupendous task will receive good encouragement. I specially thank Mahabharatha Samshodhana Pratisthanam for processing mutilated pages of this volume by using a new Software Technology called 'Vyasa - e restoring tool' for preserving old and ancient manuscripts. In order to maintain the antic value of this volume we have used old photographs from Archaeological Survey of India report on Belgaum and Kaladagi Districts by James Burgess, Architectural Remains of Bijapur District by Henry Cousins, Art and Architectural volumes by Stella, Percy Brown and James Fergusson and a Pictorial Album of original photographs dating back to sixty to seventy years, obtained from Sri K.N.V. Shastry collections preserved at Mythic Society, Bangalore. We thank Dr. Jitendra Das, Superintending Archaeologist Archaeological Survey of India, Bangalore Circle, Bangalore for permitting us to use photographs under his custody. I express my deep sense of gratitude to the honourable Minister of State for Kannada and Culture. Smt. Rani Satish for encouragement given to us. My thanks are specially due to Smt. Teresa Bhattacharya I.A.S. Chief Secretary to Government of

Karnataka and Chairman of Gazetteer Advisory Committee for her genuine interest and encouragement for the Gazetteer work. I thank Sri A.R. Chandrasaha Gupta I.A.S. for his continuous guidance and encouragement to bring out this rare volume. We acknowledge Sri N.C. Desai for providing art work to this volume. Special thanks are due to the Gazetteer staff, especially to Sri S.A. Jagannath, Senior Editor, (in-charge) and Dr. A. Lakshminarasimhan, Investigator for seeing this volume through the printing work with dedication. I wish to place on record the services of M/s. Abhimani Prakashana for neatly printing this volume within a stipulated time.

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