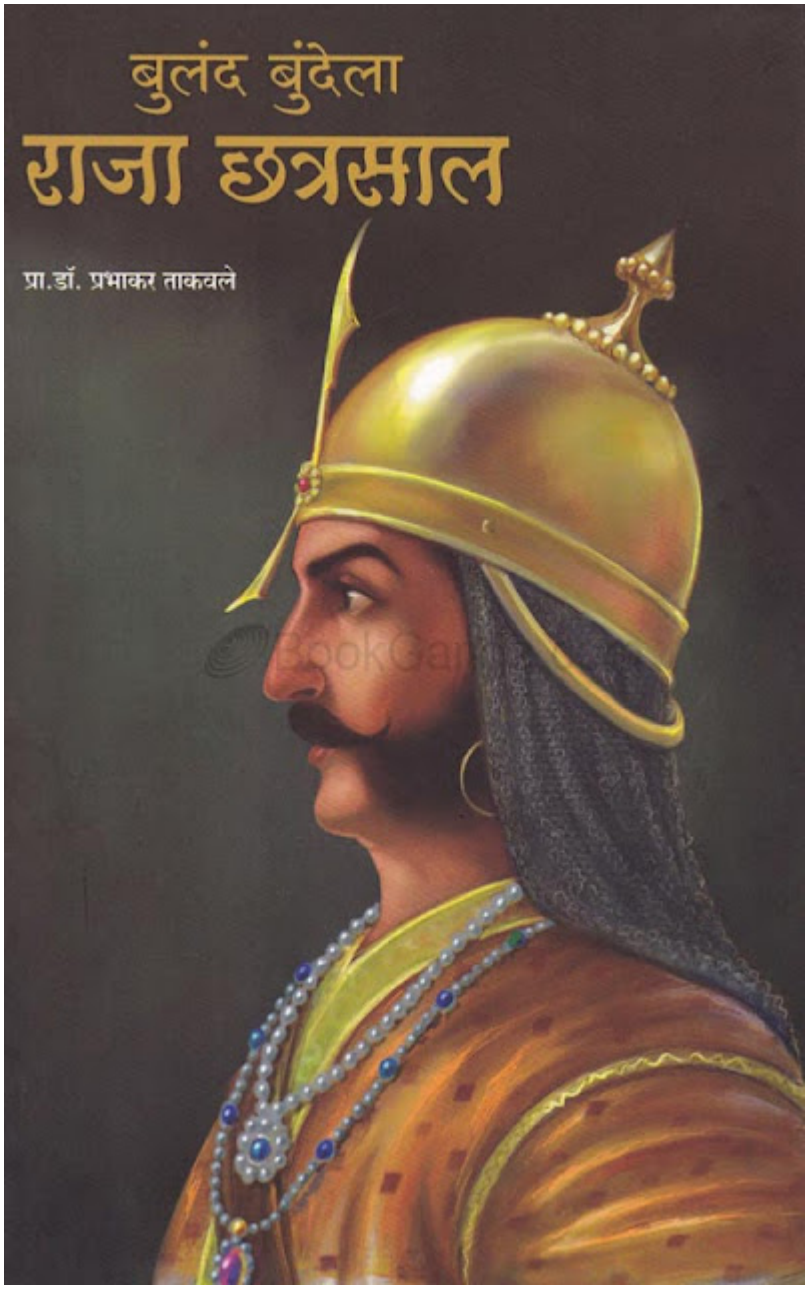
Twitter Thread by Vibhu Vashisth ■■



Vibhu Vashisth ■■
@VIBHU_Tweet

MAHARAJA CHHATRASAL BUNDELA was the great Bundela King who revolted against the Mughal ruler Aurangzeb.
Chhatrasal Bundela was born in year 1649 CE in Maur Hill of Bundela region to Champat Rai and Lal Kunwar. He was the descendent of Rudra Pratap of Orchha.



His ancesters were the vassals of Mughal Emperor. He drew inspiration from his father and revolted against the alien rule of Mughals. He was just 12 yrs old when his parents died in fight against the Mughal Army of Aurangzeb in 1661.

When his beloved father attained martyrdom in the year 166, the young Chatrasal was present in the last battle of his father against the Mughal and from these valiant campaigns,..

..he gathered the courage to free Bundelkhand from Aurangzeb's rule.
He joined the Mughals initially, and was recommended by the Rajput King Mirza Jai Singh to be recruited in the Mughal Army in order to support their Deccan Campaigns.



But serving the alien rule of Mughals which brought chaos and misery to Bundelkhand was unacceptable for Chatrasal Bundela and his father’s incessant struggle against the Mughals kept the fire of independent Bundelkhand alive in his heart.

A powerful Maratha rose in the Sahyadri at around the same time whose name was Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. While serving the Mughal campaigns in Deccan Chatrasal Bundela got inspired by Shivaji Maharaj as he was the one who gave India the idea of Hindawi Swaraj.

He was the one who killed Afzal khan and defeated the Adil Shahis in the battle of Pratapgad. These acts inspired Chatrasal to revolt and fight for the freedom of Bundelkhand.
He joined the campaign of Mughals in the year 1665 which was led by Mirza Jai Singh and Diler Khan.

After this the siege of Purandar happened in May 1665 which completely changed the mindset of this young king forever.
In 1670, he finally met the hero he admired.The meet with Shivaji Maharaj was his dream come true after which he decided to follow the path of 'Hindawi Swaraj'.



The **Famous** meet.

The great Maratha Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Maharaja Chhatrasal

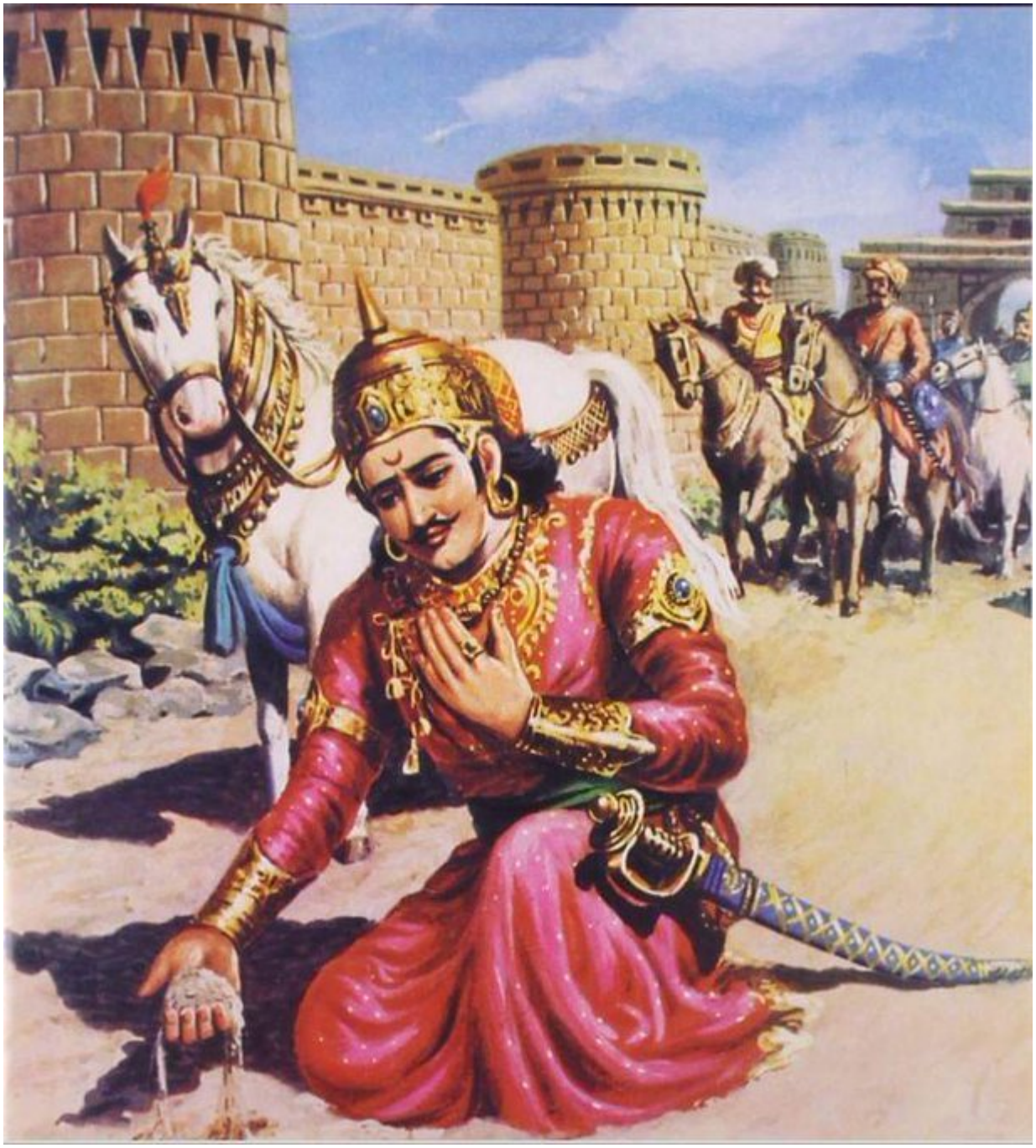
Its believed that Shivaji granted him a'Bundel Sword'.

Chhatrasal later launched a revolt in his kingdom against Mughals. This was very difficult as Mughals under Aurangzeb were crushing every head that was raised against them.Besides,many Hindu Kings already became Mughal Allies



But then Aurangzeb launched his prejudiced temple destruction policy. The maligning campaigns of Mughals against Hindus and Hindu Temples helped Chhatrasal to gain some followers in the Bundelkhand Malwa region.B'coz of it, the nationalistic and freedom movement against Mughal...

...rule gained momentum and Chhatrasal took full advantage of it. Initial campaigns of Chhatrasal were on Dhamuni district and eastern part of Bundelkhand.
He defeated the Mughal forces there and people now claimed him as the saviour of Hindus.



King Chhatrasal raided several Mughal forts between 1668-78 &defeated some established Faujdars like Randaullah Khan, Hashim Khan,Fidai Khan to name a few.He also started to collect taxes from the defeated Mughal Territories.Later he annexed Dhamuni,Kalinjar & also raided Bhilsa.



औरंगजेबके विरूद्ध संघर्ष का शंखनाद

Chhatrasal formed a large powerful Kingdom in the Eastern part of Bundelkhand. From all these defeats Mughals became more and more conscious and Aurangzeb wanted to end Chhatrasal at any cost. As a result of it, Mughals were able to stop Chhatrasal and forced him to surrender.

Mughals forced him to accept Aurangzeb's suzerainty which he did as a strategic move to live today and die tomorrow. This was the biggest mistake of Mughals as Chhatrasal again launched his revolting campaigns against the Mughals in 1686. In the year 1696, he captured the forts..



...of Kalinjar,Banda,Hamirpur, Jhansi,Jalaun,Kalpi etc.He continued his incessant struggle against the Mughals who were fed up with him.Mughals launched several campaigns to subdue him in 1700 but they were of no use.
In 1705,a peace treaty was signed between him and the Mughals.

As a result of the treaty, he was given the 4 Hazari Mansab

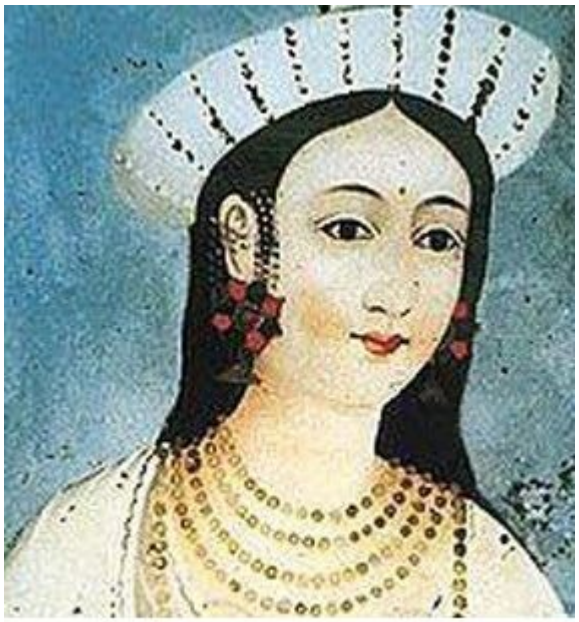
In 1730, the Subedar of Allahabad, Mohd. Khan Bangash launched a final attack on Chhatrasal's Capital Jaitpur.

He was around 80 yrs then. Facing a defeat at Jaitpur, Chhatrasal sent a long letter to the Peshwa Baji Rao asking him to come and help him to protect the honour of Bundelas. Chhatrasal reminded Baji Rao of the assistance that Bundelas gave the Marathas in time of their need...

...so now its Marathas turn to return the favour. With the advent of Baji Rao's army, Bangash's Army had to suffer a humiliating defeat and he himself had to run away from the Battlefield in disgrace.
In Gratitude, Chhatrasal adopted Baji Rao as his 3rd son and also gave...

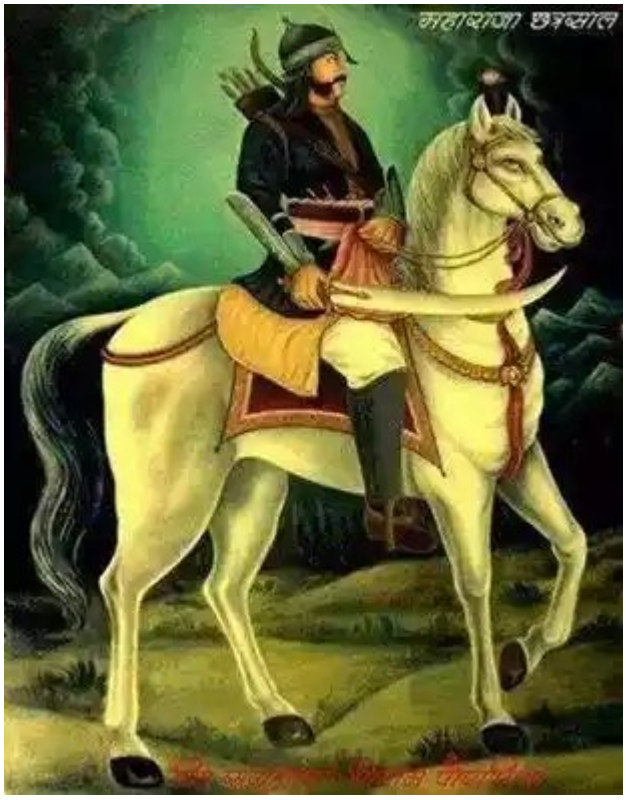


...him the entire Bundelkhand region of Jhansi,Kalpi etc and also his daughter from a Muslim Courtesan Mastaani.The unity shown by the Bundelas and Marathas in repelling the Mughal forces and creating an independent kingdom in Deccan is to date an exemplary episode in History.



Mastani

Chhatrasal was not just a great warrior but an able and wise ruler too, whose governance ensured the prosperity of his Kingdom. He died on Dec 20 1731, less than two years after the battle with Bangash at a fulfilled age of 81, near Chhatarpur.



However, the story of thus valiant King and his rebellions against the Mughals didn't catch the attention of the modern distorians.

We must never forget that when the Great Chhatrapati Shivaji was working tirelessly to build our nation&fighting for the 'Hindawi Swaraj', at the same time a Hindu Warrior fought with the Mughals in Northern India and threatened Aurangzeb's rule.

