

## **Quadrant II – Transcript and Related Materials**

**Programme: Bachelor of Arts**

**Subject: History**

**Paper Code: HSC 106**

**Paper Title: History of Marathas (1630-1818)**

**Unit: III**

**Module Name: Balaji Vishwanath**

**Module No: 10**

**Name of the Presenter: Assoc. Prof. Dr Rita Braganza**

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### **Notes**

#### **Summary-**

A civil war ensued in the Maratha country after the release of Shahu. The halo of martyrdom round Shahu's father Sambhaji drew to him many partisans. The Maratha soldiers were not enamored of the mentally feeble Shivaji III, Rajaram's son, whom Tarabai had placed on the Maratha throne. Shahu therefore gathered a good following and he could win a decisive victory against the forces of Tarabai in the battle of Khed near Pune in 1707.

Balaji Viswanath began his career as a clerk under the Marathas in the last quarter of the seventeenth century and rose to the office of Peshwa of Chhatrapati Shahu 1713 by sheer dint of his merit.

The office of peshwa virtually became hereditary in the course of time and it continued in the Bhat family till the collapse of the maratha power in 1818. Balaji Vishwanath the first peshwa strengthened the position of Chhatrapati. His period was one of transition from the royal period of the house of Shivaji to the age of the peshwas.

One of the major achievements of Balaji was the acquisition of the three famous sanads of swaraj chauths and sardeshmuki and babati from the mughal emperor muhammed shah. Besides this treaty of 1719 another achievement of Balaji was the reorganization of the finances of the state.