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PREFACE

It is my fruitful efforts to the subsequent chapters of dissertation to discuss about the uniqueness of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's administration that is "Secular Policy The Study of this trait of his administration proves an important and interesting subject research for a variety of reasons. As per the history is secular which concerned with temporal, Mundane matters and not with spiritual efforts it also gave us such personalities which adopted the secular policy in the past. Among those Punjab got the Sher-i-Punjab Maharaja Ranjit. He was the great warrior, political conqueror, able administration who adopted equality towards his all communities peoples. Maharaja Ranjit Singh endeavored to usher in an open, pluralistic society characterized by the values of Secularism, Justice, Liberty and equality Secular policy of Maharaja was the new revolutionary step otherwise medieval age was marked by religious bigotry communalism etc. That's why he did not declare Sikhism as the state religion.

INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The particular subject is used to be enlightened by its definition which makes its boundaries and differentiated it from other discipline. As per the definition of History's pioneer, Greeks who defined it as the knowledge obtained as a result of research or inquiry. Actually History is very much concerned with the activities of human beings. It is the study of events in man's struggle for progress. History is that discipline which investigate and unfold the values which age after age have inspired the residents of a country to develop their collective will and to express it through the manifold activities of their life. As the History is Secular, which concerned with temporal, mundane Matters and not with spiritual efforts, it also gave us such personalities efforts, it also gave us such personalities which adopted the secular policy in the past]. Among

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those Punjab got the 'Sher-i-Punjab' Maharaja Ranjit Singh. He was the great warrior, political conqueror, able administrator who adopted equality towards his all communities peoples. Maharaja Ranjit Singh endeavoured to usher in an open, pluralistic society characterized by the values of Secularism, Justice, liberty and equality. Secular policy of Maharaja was the New revolutionary step otherwise, Medieval age was marked by religious bigotry. Communalism etc. that's why he did not declare Sikhism as the state religion.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

1. Khushwant Singh-Ranjit Singh, New Book Society of India, New Delhi-2000, In this book we got the information regarding the ancestors early life of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, while including his political career.
2. Narinderpal Singh- History of the Punjab, Punjabi University Patiala, 1969, In this book he mentioned about the expansionist policy of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
3. Trilochan Singh Gill- Sikh History, Well Wisher Publishers, Delhi, 1998- Through this book we got the knowledge of relations between Maharaja Ranjit Singh and Britishers. The Britishers were the only powerful and contemporary authority of Maharaja.
4. Gopal Singh- A History of Sikh People World Wide University New Delhi,, 1979- In this book writer mentioned about the efficient administration machinery of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
5. Harbans Singh- The Heritage of the Sikhs, Manohar Publishers, New Delhi, 1983- This book reveals the sufficient material regarding the Civil and Military affairs of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.

6. K.S. Duggal- Ranjit Singh, Abhinav Publications New Delhi, In this book writer discussed about the remarkable Secular policy of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
7. Kirpal Singh, The Historical Study of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's Time, National Book Shop Delhi 1994- This book mentioned about the sympathetic behaviour of Maharaja Ranjit Singh towards his enemies.
8. Satbir Singh- Our History Vol.2, New Book Company Jalandhar 1983, In this book writer discussed about the liberal thinking in the matters of religion due to which he did not make Sikhism as his state religion.
9. Gulshan Lal Chopra, The Punjab as Sovereign State, Vishvesharnand Vedic Research Institute New Delhi, In this book he mentioned about the Capabilities of Maharaja Ranjit Singh that how he handled the hindrances in his life.
10. Surinder Singh Johar- The Life History of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, Arsee Published New Delhi-2001. The Book mentioned about the merit based recruitments of Maharaja subjects instead of religion.

SCOPE:

Maharaja Ranjit Singh is an important personality of Sikh history. Ranjit Singh's reign period introduced many reforms, modernization and general prosperity. His Khalsa army and government included Sikhs, Hindus, Muslims, Europeans which gave birth to Secular policy. Maharaja Ranjit Singh is remembered as for uniting the all communities of society. He is also reminded for his conquest and building a well-trained, self-sufficient Khalsa army to protect a prosperous sikh Empire. While reading the foregoing facts about Ranjit Singh it would have become clear that this extraordinary person having begun his career as a child of a small

principality established a vast kingdom within in short period. Having remained he was the only ruler who established cordial and friendly relation with a powerful neighbour like britishers. As a ruler, he never tried to convert anyone to Sikhism by force.

NEED OF STUDY:

Maharaja Ranjit Singh was such a personality which came into existence when anarchy was prevailed in this country, no facilities were provided common peoples. Punjab was grasp into different misls, it was Maharaja Ranjit Singh who protect and preserve the strength of the Khalsa, it was necessary at that time to provide cohesion to the power of Sikh Misls. Many of the times historians mentioned about the political field or conquest, expeditions of Maharaja but did not make a view of his unique Secular policy which was earlier not adopted by any ruler. Through such high thinking of Maharaja he announced equality for all religious people of his Society. Maharaja Ranjit Singh by virtue of his high courage, bravery and god-gifted intelligence succeeded in his high resolve and within forty years he established a stupendous state of the Khalsa. To assess the religious life of a person in those times that man's personal morals and his private life were not the only criteria but his moral standards were assessed from his daily routine and observances of social customs and religious rites.

Objectives:

- To introduce the ancestors of Maharaja Ranjit Singh and about his early life and society.
- To tell about the political career of Maharaja Ranjit Singh that how he expanded his kingdom with his fruitful efforts.
- To tell about the remarkable administration and its efficient functioning.

- To tell about the unique secular policy of Maharaja that how he unite the all communities.
- The foremost objective of this research is to reveal the hidden facts of Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
- To provide the sufficient material about the Maharaja Ranjit Singh empire and its all - round development.
- To describe about the elegant personality of Maharaja that how he handled smoothly the both civil, military affairs.

CHAPTERIZATION:

1. The Rise of New Power- Maharaja Ranjit Singh- In this chapter, I will explain the handful information about the existence of Punjab and its historical background. The early life of Maharaja Ranjit Singh while explaining some important aspects of his forefathers. In this historical analysis I will enlighten the factors of that time's Social, Political condition. In political condition, I will explain that how Maharaja Ranjit Singh started his outstanding expeditions towards different territories and included them into his kingdom through expansionist policy.
2. Administrative Institution of Maharaja Ranjit Singh - In the second chapter I will explain about the administrative machinery of Maharaja Ranjit Singh that how he flourished his kingdom with the capabilities of administration whether it was civil, Military, Judicial, economical etc.

3. An Astute Administration- In the third chapter, discussed about the Zenith position of Maharaja and his empire. Not only the Sikh community rather. Hindu and Muslims both showered their blessings to Maharaja Ranjit Singh.
4. Secular Outlook- In the fourth chapter, I explained about the unique trait of Maharaja Ranjit Singh that was only and only secular outlook of Maharaja. He was the only personality who took efforts to unite the all communities of society to run it efficiently.
5. Conclusion - After the discussion of above chapters I would like to conclude that Maharaja Ranjit Singh was an elegant personality which gave the New concept to society so that a country should become liberal for all communities without any discrimination.

The Secular Maharaja book. Read reviews from world's largest community for readers. The Secular Maharaja: by Surinder Singh Johar. Other editions. Want to Read saving error. Error rating book. Refresh and try again. Rate this book. Clear rating. 1. Maharaja Ranjit Singh held sway over a large territory. Starting out as a chief of Shukerchakia, a Sikh group, he founded the first Sikh empire whose territorial boundaries extended across Pakistan, parts of Afghanistan, Punjab-Haryana plains in North India and at places it even touched the fringes of Tibet. 2. Inflicted with smallpox, Ranjit Singh lost vision in one eye as a child. Advertisement. Lack of education and loss of an eye was not enough to stop him from turning out to be a great strategist who was also an able and farsighted administrator. yting. 3. Strongly built, he was a proficient swordsman and swimmer.