

**“Ekonisavya Shatakateel Maharashtra: Marathiteel Vidnyanvishayak Lekhan Ani Chintan” (Maharashtra in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century : Literature and thinking on science in Marathi).**

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Historians have written extensively on the 19<sup>th</sup> century Renaissance in Maharashtra. But the development of scientific writings, science education and scientific outlook during this period has greatly been neglected by the researchers. The proposed research-project aims at studying and bringing to light this neglected aspect of Renaissance in Maharashtra. It will be based on an interdisciplinary approach.

British rulers introduced modern science and science-education in Maharashtra as a result of which Marathi intellectuals realized the importance of Science. It got new pedagogical value under the new educational system. New institutions were set up for that purpose. A number of translations and school text-books on science-related themes were published through journals and some independent books were also written in Marathi. The processes such as spread of useful education, rise of middle class, rise and growth of modern industries, urbanization contributed to the awareness pertaining to science. Through the proposed research-project, all these developments will be studied carefully.

The science-oriented progress in the 19<sup>th</sup> century Maharashtra could be regarded as a consequence of the British rule. It could also be perceived as an expression of the contemporary ‘War of Position’ launched by Marathi intellectuals. Some such issues will be examined in a wider perspective.

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