

# Chitpavan

## Chitpavan Brahmins

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The Chitpavan Brahmin or the Kokanastha Brahmin is a Hindu Maharashtrian Brahmin community inhabiting Konkan, the coastal region of the state of Maharashtra. Initially working as messengers and spies in the late seventeenth century, the community came into prominence during the 18th century when the heirs of Peshwa from the Bhat family of Balaji Vishwanath became the de facto rulers of the Maratha empire. Until the 18th century, the Chitpavans were held in low esteem by the Deshastha, the older established Brahmin community of Karnataka-Maharashtra region.

As per Jayant Lele, the influence of the Chitpavans in the Peshwa era as well as the British era has been greatly exaggerated because even during the time of the most prominent Peshwas, their political legitimacy and their intentions were not trusted by all levels of the administration, not even by Shivaji's successors. He adds that after the defeat of Peshwas in the Anglo-Maratha wars, Chitpavans were one of the Hindu communities to flock to western education in the Bombay Province of British India.

## List of Chitpavan Brahmins

*This is a list of notable members of the Chitpavan Brahmin community. Balaji Vishwanath and his descendants, Bajirao I, Chimaji Appa, Balaji Bajirao,*

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Balaji Vishwanath and his descendants, Bajirao I, Chimaji Appa, Balaji Bajirao, Raghunathrao, Sadashivrao Bhau, Madhavrao I, Narayanrao, Madhavrao II, and Bajirao II

Nana Fadnavis (1742–1800), regent to Madhavrao II

The Patwardhans, military leaders under the Peshwa and later rulers of various princely states

Balaji Pant Natu, spied for the British against the Peshwa era Maratha Empire and raised the Union Jack over Shaniwar Wada.

Lokhitwadi (Gopal Hari Deshmukh) (1823–1892), social reformer

Vishnubawa Brahmachari (1825–1871), 19th-century Marathi Hindu revivalist

Mahadev Govind Ranade (1842–1901), judge and social reformer. Given the title of Rao Bahadur.

Vishnushastri Krushnashastri Chiplunkar (1850–1882), essayist, editor of Nibandha Mala, a Marathi journal, educator, mentor to Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Gopal Ganesh Agarkar, founder of the Chitrashala press

Vasudev Balwant Phadke (1845–1883), a petty government clerk in Pune who led an armed rebellion against the British. Later an Educator.

Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856–1920), educator, writer and early nationalist leader with widespread appeal. Described by British colonial administration as the "Father of Indian Unrest"

Gopal Ganesh Agarkar (1856 – June 1895), journalist, educator and social reformer

Keshavsut (Krishnaji Keshav Damle) (15 March 1866 – 7 November 1905), Marathi-language poet

Vaman Shivram Apte (1858–1892), Indian lexicographer

Dhondo Keshav Karve (1858–1962), social reformer and advocate of women's education

Anandibai Joshi (1865–1887), first Indian woman to get a medical degree from a university in the west – Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania – in 1886

Gopal Krishna Gokhale (1866–1915), early nationalist leader on the moderate wing of the Congress party

Ramabai Mahadev Ranade (1862–1925), woman social activist, reformer, founder of Seva Sadan Pune and wife of Justice Mahadev Govind Ranade

Chapekar brothers (1873–1899), (1879–1899), brothers who assassinated British plague commissioner Walter Rand for his heavy-handed approach to plague relief in Pune in 1897

Gangadhar Nilkanth Sahasrabudhe, a social reformer, who, along with two other reformers – Chairman Surendranath Tipnis of the Mahad Municipality and A. V. Chitre – helped Ambedkar during the Mahad Satyagraha

Narasimha Chintaman Kelkar (1872–1947), writer, journalist, nationalist leader. served on the Viceroy's Executive Council (1924–29)

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar (28 May 1883 – 26 February 1966), freedom fighter, social reformer and formulator of the Hindutva philosophy. Popularly known as Veer Savarkar ("Brave" Savarkar)

Senapati Bapat (12 November 1880 – 28 November 1967), prominent Indian freedom fighter who acquired title of Senapati, meaning "Commander"

Dadasaheb Phalke (30 April 1870 – 16 February 1944), pioneer of Indian film industry

Krushnaji Prabhakar Khadilkar (25 November 1872 – 26 August 1948), editor of Kesari and Navakal

Vishnu Narayan Bhatkhande (1860–1936), eminent maestro of Hindustani classical music

Vishwanath Kashinath Rajwade (1863–1926), historian

Pandurang Vaman Kane (1880–1972), Indologist and Bharat Ratna awardee

Anant Laxman Kanhere (1891–1910), Indian nationalist and revolutionary, hanged for the assassination of British Collector of Nashik, A. M. T. Jackson in 1910

Vinoba Bhave (1895–1982), Gandhian leader and freedom fighter

Dattatreya Ramachandra Bendre (1896–1981), poet and writer in the Kannada language. Winner of the Jnanpith Award

Narhar Vishnu Gadgil (10 January 1896 – 12 January 1966), Congress leader and Member of Nehru's cabinet

Babasaheb Apte (1903–1971), an early RSS pracharak

Irawati Karve (1905–1970), anthropologist

Nathuram Godse (19 May 1910 – 15 November 1949), Mahatma Gandhi's assassin

Narayan Apte (1911–1949) – co-conspirator in the assassination of Gandhi

Gopal Godse (1919–2005) – co-conspirator in the assassination of Gandhi and Nathuram Godse's younger brother

Ramachandra Dattatrya Ranade (1886–1956) was an Indian philosopher, spiritual leader, and social revolutionary

Pandurang Shastri Athavale (1920–2003) was an Indian activist philosopher, spiritual leader, social revolutionary and religion reformist who founded the Swadhyaya Parivar (Swadhyaya Family) in 1954

Madhuri Dixit (born 1967) – Bollywood actress

List of Brahmin dynasties and states

*[better source needed]* Patwardhan dynasty, Indian dynasty established by a Chitpavan BrahminPatwardhan family.*[citation needed]* Shunga Empire, of Magadha was

Brahmins make up one of the four varnas (social classes) within traditional Hindu society. The traditional occupation of Brahmins is that of priesthood, and the performing of rite of passage rituals. There have also been Brahmins rulers, zamindars and holders of other administrative posts.

Abhyankar

*to the Indian state of Maharashtra. Abhyankar surname is found among Chitpavan Brahmin community. Abhyankar is a Sanskrit word which means One who removes*

Abhyankar is a surname native to the Indian state of Maharashtra. Abhyankar surname is found among Chitpavan Brahmin community.

Marathi Brahmin

*Brahmin subcastes that come under Maharashtra Brahmins include Deshastha, Chitpavan (Konkanastha), Saraswat, Karhade, and Devrukhe. Maharashtrian Brahmins*

Marathi Brahmins (also known as Maharashtrian Brahmins) are communities native to the Indian state of Maharashtra. They are classified into mainly three sub-divisions based on their places of origin, "Desh", "Karad" and "Konkan". The Brahmin subcastes that come under Maharashtra Brahmins include Deshastha, Chitpavan (Konkanastha), Saraswat, Karhade, and Devrukhe.

Shobha Fadnavis

*Shobha Madhavrao Fadnavis ( Chitpavan brahmin) is an Indian politician from the Bharatiya Janata Party. She is a member of the Maharashtra Legislative*

Shobha Madhavrao Fadnavis ( Chitpavan brahmin) is an Indian politician from the Bharatiya Janata Party. She is a member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council and a former minister in Government of Maharashtra. She hails from Mul, Chandrapur district. She represented Saoli Vidhan Sabha constituency from 1990 to 2004 until the constituency was abolished in 2008. She is the aunt of Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis.

She has written several books during her political career such as Pratyancha ????????? (Biography) and Dhandola Sheticha (On Farmers).

Vartak

*a Hindu surname found among the caste of Chitpavan Kokanastha Brahmins, the origin of the Vartak chitpavans supposedly was in the small coastal village*

Vartak is an Indian surname found in the Konkan in Kelshi Maharashtra.

Limaye

*Limaye is a family name, common among the Chitpavan Kokanastha Brahmin community in Kokan, Maharashtra, India. The names Karandikar, Dixit and Khasgiwale*

Limaye is a family name, common among the Chitpavan Kokanastha Brahmin community in Kokan, Maharashtra, India. The names Karandikar, Dixit and Khasgiwale are supposedly derived from the same clan. The origin of the Limaye/Karandikar/Dixit and Khasgiwale family is believed to be from the Western Coast of India, Maharashtra - Ratnagiri, a Southern District of Konkan - Maharashtra region.

The Kul Daivat (family deity) of this clan is Lakshmi-Keshav situated at Karle, a small village near Ratnagiri. The Kula Devata (female deity) of this family is "Amba Jogai" situated in Central- Eastern Maharashtra- India. The gotra of people named Limaye - Karandikar - Dixit or Khasgiwale is Kapi. This group of people is said to belong to the Chitpawan Kokanasth

In the past, several Limayes were royalty in the Maratha court. The Limaye family maintains an intergenerational history book, the Limaye Kulavrittanta. It is published regularly in Marathi using the Devnagiri script.

The Chitpavan Brahmins story of shipwrecked people is similar to the legendary arrival of Bene Israel Jews in the Raigad district. The word "Limaye" actually means "a sailor" in Hebrew "?????", which could lend credence to this hypothesis.

Apte

*Apte is an Indian surname native to Maharashtra found in Chitpavan Brahmins belonging to the Kaushik gotra. The surname may have come from the word &quot;Apta&quot;;*

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Agashe

*surname used by Marathi Chitpavan Brahmins of the Kaushik gotra in the Marathi-populated Deccan in India and by the Chitpavan Brahmin diaspora across*

Agashe (Marathi: ?????; IAST: ?g??e) is a surname used by Marathi Chitpavan Brahmins of the Kaushik gotra in the Marathi-populated Deccan in India and by the Chitpavan Brahmin diaspora across the globe.

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