Introduction:

According to Carlyle the biography of Great men is half to history or semi-history. While doing the scientific study of the biography of Great Man & their work is important. By their contribution, history becomes enriched. Malharao Holkar was the radiant knight in the history of Maratha. He has expanded the Maratha Empire with bright courage and power of understanding. Not only this, he offered an independent place for Maratha in the politics & the expansion of empire in the North region. It is important to study the background of the courageous tradition of Maratha from Shivaji the king (Maharaj) to the rise of Malharao while doing the study of rise and development of Malharao Holkar. It seems to be bright in the medieval period of Maratha.

Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj has enlightened the self-esteem (Asmitha) in the Marathas. The Marathas have enlightened the confidence in the Indians by getting them to forget the four centuries (1200 to 1600AP) eclipsed by the Turk & Mughals. This greatest expedition had really charged the Indians. The Marathas gave their valuable contribution though there were unfavorable conditions in the medieval century. The great fighters like Chhatrapati Shahu (Satara), Maharani Tarabai (Kolhapur), Santaji Ghorapade and Dhanaji Jadhav etc. have started the battle for freedom of Maratha. In the period of Bajiarao – first (1700- 40) the Maratha empire have expanded in whole North India such as Baroda, Dhar, Indoor, Gwalior. This large empire was called as the ‘Maratha Mandal’. Bajirao Peshwa established the Maratha region in the North India. He also stable the
Maratha rule in the south; Malharrao Holkar gave his memorable and important contribution to the Peshwas.

The strategy which was applied by the Maratha in the 18th century has no another metaphor to judge. It was simply the same. From Tanjaver to Attock, Bengal to Gujarat, the Marathas have spread their vigorous power on the basis of unbound power and courage, the Maratha were free to travel in the whole country. Bajirao Peshwa, Madhavrao Peshwa, Malharao Holkar, Ranoji Shinde, Mahadji Shinde and Nana Fadanwis have established the Maratha power in the whole country. Threat of Maratha for other enemies, liberation of the people who were the prey of Muslim rule & encroachment, Maratha did the excellent job. Major portion of India has won with getting Mughal emperor under Maratha rule. Malharrao was one of them who applied the diplomatic strategies and unbound courage for the country. Malharrao Holkar astonished all the peoples his vigorous deeds.

The ancestors of Malharro Holkar were from Waafgaon of Pune district. Then they were settled in ‘Hol’ village on the bank of Neera River in Phaltan area, on the basis of the name of village they given their surname as ‘Holkar’. Malharrao’s father had good prestige and respect in their village. His mother was from Tarode, Dist. Khandesh. She was daughter of Sabajibaba Bargal (Chougule) at post Tarode. Dist: Khandesh. Malharrao was born on 16th March 1693 AD. His political movements continued till 1660 from 1620 A.D. He has control over the region of the Mughals. Therefore in the north, no one was
against him, no work done without his advice in the Peshwa Darbar. He was the ardent follower of Hindu religion, but he has equal faith in religions like Muslim in his period. He built many **Temples** and **Darghas**.

The powerful and courageous performance of Malharrao Holkar has created the important place in the History of India. He gave loyal contribution to Maratha Empire and developed the relationship and extension of Maratha and finished their foes. Malharrao offered help to the other trustees. According to A. R. Kulkarni, Malharrao didn’t endure anyone’s passiveness and carelessness during the battles, rigidity to the economical side, agricultural development, and building of new temple, importance and motivation to education were some features of Malharrao’s deeds. He was loyal to his master (*The Peshwe*). In order to launch the strategies developed by first Bajirao and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Malharrao was excellent in the Maratha region. Though there were charges applied on his work and loyalty towards Maratha region, this is the main objective finding the facts through this research. Beyond that, this research would give emphasis on Malharrao Holkar’s eminent work. Contemporary to Malharrao Holkar, Shivdev says in a letter “Malharrao Holkar was a stoic person with futuristic vision”. By this it is well explained how was his political contribution in the North and the South.