

The oldest available information about the family

Rao Ganesh Das : In the year 1662 A.D. who was Mandloi of Kampel whose sons name Was Balram ji.

Rao Raja Balram Mandloi was a great fighter, representative of the people and the best in the land in the art of 'kushti'. His fighting skills were recognized all over the land, he remained undefeated in the whole of Malwa. He was later succeeded by Rao Balram who was ambushed and deceitfully killed by Jeet Singh who had lost to him in kushti and was bitter from his victory.

The only remnant of the family was pregnant wife of Rao Balram ji Mandloi named Goutama Bai, She gave birth to Rao Chudaman.

Rao Chudaman on attaining majority, self-acquainted himself with the background and position of his family from his mother. Rao Chudaman succeeded his father's position on Kampel Pargana. Rao Raja Chudaman Mandloi died at about 1701 A.D.

In the year 1701 A.D. Rao Raja Rao Nandlal Mandloi the son of Rao Raja Chudaman succeeded his father and got a Sanad of succession from the Moghul empor. The Sanad or Farman is still preserved by the family even today. The Mughal emperor, impressed by Rao Raja Nandlal ji's skills gifted him two of his own swords with the sanads, which bear the inscription in Persian characters "Mohammed Azam Shah Bin Alamgir Badshah Bahadur Gazi-Rao Nandlal Choudhary Inayat" He also received a Tugrah with a Soult.

Rao Raja Rao Nandlal ji had spread his empire into most part of Malwa and some of Nemad. In 1715 Rao Raja Nandlal ji to populate this small village of Indore had the concept of what is known today as a Special Economic Zone, In 1716 most Indian States including the Mughals as well as Sawai Raja Jai Singh of Jaipur had accepted this arrangement, and any business done in Indore was tax free through most of India. This strategy attracted many businessmen to this city and the effects of this strategy can be seen even today as this city is known as mini-Bombay due to it being the business capital of the state. The sanad for these tax benefits was received by him on 03 March 1716 A.D.

By this time Malwa was prospering due to the strategies of Rao Raja Nandlal ji, but this prosperity also caught the attention of the Mughals as well as Nizamshahi forces, Marathas and Pindari dacoits who targeted this place for tax extraction. The Mughals had weakened by this time; they did not support the Rao Raja in quashing his enemies being now only interested in collecting taxes. To bring peace and security in Malwa Rao Raja Rao Nandlal later in 1731 A.D. fought the battle of Tirla (Dhar) to free the people of Indore from the excessive levy of taxes. He allowed the Marathas to enter into Malwa which was integral for Hindu Pad – Padshahi when asked by Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur who was very close to Rao Raja Nandlal. Sawai Raja Jai Singh took assurance that the Marathas exist as a brother for the empire of Rao Raja Nandlal. For this he made the Rao Raja Nandlal and Malhar Rao Holkar the Subhedar of Baji Rao Peshwa “Pagdi Badal Bhai”. Rao Raja Nandlal ji died a month after winning the battle of Tirla due to wounds received in the battle. Rao Raja Rao Nandlal wife Rani Mada Bai became Sati with him and their Chhatri is still at Daulatganj Ranipura in Indore.

After a death of Rao Raja Rao Nandlal ji his eldest son Rao Tejkaran Ist succeeded to the throne. Rao Raja Rao Tejkaran I was born in 1718 A.D. he received four Parwanas from the Peshwa-one from Balaji Baji Rao Balal and remaining three from Chimnaji Balal, brother of the Peshwa.

Rao Raja Rao Tejkaran Ist son Rao Raja Rao Nihalkaran Ist Succeeded his father to the gaddi at the Shree Sansthan fort. Rao Tejkaran was born in 1719, In 1768 A.D. Rao Sahab received Sanad for Amba Chandan. He died in 1770 A.D. and was succeeded in son Rao Raja Dule Rao.

Rao Raja Dule Rao was born in 1751 At this time the ruling power was in the hands of Yeshwant Rao Holkar whose era is deemed to be the most dark and disturbed era of Indore. People had started to flee from Indore and the pargana was deserted. Yashwant Rao sought to seek advice on city management from the Rao Raja. Rao Raja Dule Rao was requested by Yashwant Rao Holkar through a Parwana to help populate the deserted places of Indore. The Rao Raja died 1850 A.D.

He was succeeded by his son Rao Raja Madho Rao in 1815 A.D. The Rao Raja was born in 1769. The Residency in Indore came in being during this time, for which the Holkars looked up to Rao Raja Madho Rao for land to give to The British for The Residency, as most of Indore was owned by him. The British kept

the Holkars in their custody till someone agreed to fulfill the British's demands. The Rao Raja was gracious enough to provide land to the British and facilitate the release of Holkars from the British. He also helped Sir John Malcolm for writing his memoirs. He died in 1830.

Rao Raja Madho Rao was succeeded Rao Raja Rao Tejkaran II. He was born in 1813 A.D. during his era the mutiny of 1857 broke out. The Residency Camp at Indore was established in or about 1831 and a Kothi for A.G.G. was erected at The Naulakha which were the private Gardens of the Rao Raja. The Rao Raja's family were the only Indians allowed to visit British Establishments and territory without permission. He died in 1865 A.D. he was succeeded by Rao Nihalkaran II.

Rao Raja Rao Nihalkarn II was born in 1834 A.D. was lived a glorious life till 1870 A.D. at the age of 36. His child Rao Raja Rao Chhatrakaran (Mandloi) Zamindar was born posthumously on 22 March 1871 in his minority his Mother's Her Highness Ma Sahab Gajra Bai Sahab managed the estate efficiently. She increased the revenue by leaps and bounds. Maa Sahab Gajra devi was a very charismatic person, her courage and valour is well documented. In absence of the Rao Raja, Maa Saheb rode on horseback with her trusted officers to oversee the properties. Her futuristic vision can be seen by the fact that she is responsible for construction of majority of Ranipura and Siyaganj, the beautiful buildings there still stand a testimony to the fact and still house tenants.

Rao Raja Rao Chhatrakaran (Mandloi) Zamindar completed his education from The Daly College Indore. By this time the Indore Residency had almost become ruling authority in Indore and most of this Residency was built over lands of The Rao Raja. Rao Raja Chhatrakaran was a renowned agriculturist and planted 9 Lack mango trees to foster the different varieties of Mangos as well as to maintain the ecological balance of his city, due to the planting of these 9 lack trees his gardens came to be known as Naulakha Gardens. He was well received in the Imperial Darbar due to his charisma and the immense knowledge he possessed. Rao Raja Rao Chhatrakaran died in 1948 A.D. he was succeeded by his son Rao Raja Nihalkaran III.

Rao Raja Rao Nihalkaran ji (Mandloi) Zamindar III was born in on 23 March 1923. He was educated at home by the Principal of Daly College, Professor Dobson. He was a B.A. LLB and as a testimony to his immense ability to consume knowledge he made it in the Gold Medal list. He was also a renowned intellectual

with many books to his name, his personal collection of books is now one of the biggest libraries in Madhya Pradesh consisting of 23,000 books and counting, all these books had been read by him and most had his classic notations in them. He had written about 21 books and many articles. His articles were regularly published in newspapers. His research on any subject was so complete and authoritative that if he gave an opinion on a subject that scholars took it as gospel, this is mostly attributed to the fact that he never spoke without analyzing the documentary evidence on the subject, this was testimony to his superior intellect . He encouraged art and culture and provided his Mahal premises for the staging of many plays, where many stalwarts of Indore stage like Baba Dike, staged plays. Kumar Gandharva was also a regular visitor in his early years, many of his performances staged here. Being a man of his intellectual stature he had regular exchange of letters with the Mahatma, he had also gone to Sewagram to give his sewa to Gandhi ji during a protest. His Khadi clothes were his choice attire till he lived and reflected his simplicity. Rao Raja Nihalkaran ji provided for the deaf and dumb and left no stone unturned to ensure them a better lifestyle. Rao Sahab created the deaf and dumb school for them to learn the skills needed. The Rao Raja was born of the fourth wife who died when he was an infant, of an aging father. He was brought up with a support family of his maternal uncle who were brought to live in the same residence to ensure his safety by his father. The year he succeeded his father, New India was just one year old. After independence Rao Raja changed his life style to that of the common man. This was a time when many intellectuals found their way to the Rawala to engage in philosophical discussions. He died in 1996 and was succeeded by his son, the current descendant Rao Raja Rao Shreekant (Mandloi) Zamindar.

Rao Raja Rao Shreekant (Mandloi) Zamindar was born in the year 1959 and was educated in Bal Niketan initially and later in Shree Vaishnav School. He completed his B.Com LLB in India and for further studies he went to the US. He did MBA & MIS from Texas University. Presently he is keenly involved in managing his state he also built the biggest puff panel cold storage of his time in India. His is a keen agriculturist like his Grand Father. The US President Barack Obama on his visit to India invited him for a meeting to understand Indian agriculture better. In his free time he likes to visit his extensive garage where he looks over the cars that are in his custody. He was married to Madhavi Sharma in 1990 and now has a son Varadraj & a daughter Shriya Zamindar.

Rani Sahab. Madhavi Zamindar born 1965, wife of Rao Raja Rao Shreekant Ji, has studied from Modern School in Delhi, graduated from Delhi University and has also done Textile Designing. She is a known water color artist and loves gardening. Her paintings grace the walls of the Rawala where they come alive with the vibrant colors and flowy lines that she incorporates. She also manages the various farms on the outskirts of Indore, where she has been successfully practicing organic farming, simultaneously trying to make people aware about going green.

Kunwar Varadraj Zamindar, born in the year 1993, has completed his school education from Daly College. After completing BBA from DCBS, he is presently pursuing Law from Jindal Law College. He is interested in F1 motor sports and has participated as a member of the crew in a number of races; just like his father, he has a peculiar fondness of cars and has honed that fondness into a skill over the years. While he was in school Varadraj successfully built a go-cart that runs on fuel, at the age of 14 or while he was in 10th standard.

Kumari Shriya Zamindar born in 1997 has also completed her schooling from Daly College. During her school life, she had always been interested in the fashion industry and true to her goals, is now pursuing Fashion Journalism from Pearl Academy of Fashion. She has a love for horse riding and has been an avid rider since she was 15. She is currently in the middle of writing a book.