

## MODULE – 2

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# INDIAN ARCHITECTURE AS TOURIST ATTRACTION

Travelling through the cities of Delhi, Agra, Jaipur, Mumbai and Kolkatta besides many others the Indian and foreign tourist will find many beautiful buildings. These may be monuments, palaces, temples, churches, mosques and memorials. Many generations have been a part of this architecture which stands mighty and lofty reminding us of that glorious past which has been ours. That is why art and architecture forms an important part of Indian culture. Many distinctive features that we find in the architecture today developed throughout the long period of Indian history. The earliest and most remarkable evidence of Indian architecture is found in the cities of the Harappan Civilization which boasts of a unique town planning. In the post Harappan period architectural styles have been classified as Hindu, Buddhist and Jain, The medieval period saw the synthesis of Persian and indigenous styles of architecture. Thereafter the colonial period brought the influence of Western architectural forms to India. Thus Indian architecture is a synthesis of indigenous styles and external influences which has lent it a unique characteristic of its own. It therefore becomes very important for you as a student of this interesting and important course to know more about Indian architecture as well as the monuments associated with it so that you guide yourself as well as your tourist clients.



### OBJECTIVES

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- identify the main characteristics and various styles of Indian architecture and sculpture of different times;
- trace the evolution of Indian architecture over the years;

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- recognize the contribution of Buddhism and Jainism to the development of Indian architecture;
- describe the role played by Gupta, Pallava and Chola rulers in the flourishing temple architecture of India;
- identify the different influences that marked the architectural impressions of the medieval period and
- point out the important architectural style under the colonial regime.

### 8.1 ARCHITECTURE-ORIGINS AND INDIAN PERSPECTIVE

Indian Architecture evolved in various ages in different parts and regions of the country. Apart from these natural and obvious evolutions from the pre-historic and historic periods, evolution of Indian architecture was generally affected by many great and important historic developments. Naturally, the emergence and decay of great empires and dynasties in the sub-continent, each in their way influenced the growth and shaped the evolution of Indian architecture. External influences have also shaped the nature of Indian architecture and so has the influence of different regions of the country. These differences can be seen by the tourists when they go visiting these places.

Architecture is not a modern phenomenon. It began as soon as the early cave man and woman began to build their own shelters to live in. It also awakened their search for larger and better-sheltered spaces which they began to build, with an inherent aesthetic sense, that seemed pleasing to the eye. So there emerged architecture which was a combination of needs, imagination, capacities of the builders and capabilities of the workers. It also accommodated the local and regional cultural traditions and social requirements, economic prosperity, religious practice of different times. The study of architecture reveals to us the cultural diversities and helps us understand the rich traditions of India.

### 8.2 HARAPPAN PERIOD

A very exciting place for the tourists to visit and study are the sites of the Indus Valley civilization some of which are found in India. The excavations at Harappa and Mohenjodaro and several other sites of the Indus Valley Civilisation revealed the existence of a very modern urban civilisation with expert town planning and engineering skills. The very advanced drainage system along with well planned roads and houses show that a sophisticated and highly evolved culture existed in India. Apparently the Harappan people had constructed mainly three types of buildings-dwelling houses, pillared halls and public baths. If you want tourism

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to be a part of your profession you must know some facts to tell the tourists whom you may like to guide.

The most important features of Harrapan architecture are their superior town planning skills and cities that have been built on a clear geometric pattern or grid layout. Roads cut each other at right angles and were very well laid out. As the Indus Valley settlements were located on the banks of the river, they were often destroyed by major floods. In spite of this calamity, the Indus Valley people built fresh settlements on the same sites. Thus, layer upon layer of settlements and buildings were found during excavations. The decline and final destruction of the Indus Valley Civilization, sometime around the second millennium B.C.E. remains a mystery to this day. Lothal, a site in Gujarat also has the remains of a dockyard proving that trade flourished in those times by sea.

Many thick layers of well baked bricks laid in gypsum mortar were joined together for the purpose of making the whole construction very strong. The strength of the buildings can be seen by the fact that they have successfully survived the ravages of at least five thousand years.

The Harappans had the knowledge and skill of sculpting and craft. The world's first bronze sculpture of a dancing girl has been found in Mohenjodaro. A terracotta figure of a male in a yogic posture has also been excavated. Beautiful personal ornaments, soft stone seals with a pictorial script and images of humped bulls, Pashupati unicorn have also been excavated.

The Vedic Aryans, who came next, lived in houses built of wood, bamboo and reeds; the Aryan culture was largely a rural one and thus one finds some examples of grand buildings. This was because Aryans used perishable material like wood for the construction of royal palaces which have been completely destroyed in the course of time. The most important feature of the Vedic period was the making of fire altars which is became an important and integral part of the social and religious life of the people even today. In many Hindu homes and especially in their marriages, these fire altars still play an important role. Soon courtyards and *mandaps* were built with altars for worship of fire which was the most important feature of architecture. We also find references of Gurukuls and Hermitages. Unfortunately no structure of the Vedic period remains to be seen. Their contribution to the architectural history is the use of wood along with brick and stone for building their houses.

In the 6th century B.C.E. India entered a significant phase of her history. There arose two new religions - Jainism and Buddhism which helped in the development

of early architectural style. The Buddhist Stupas were built at places where Buddha's remains were preserved and at the major sites where important events in Buddha's life took place. Stupas were built of huge mounds of mud, enclosed in carefully burnt small standard bricks. One was built at his birthplace Lumbini; the second at Gaya where he attained enlightenment under the Bodhi Tree, the third at Sarnath where he gave his first sermon and the fourth at Kushinagar where he passed away attaining Mahaparinirvana at the age of eighty.

Buddha's burial mounds and places of major events in his life became important landmarks for tourists as they were significant architectural buildings in the country. These became important sites for Buddha's order of monks and nuns - the sangha. Monasteries (viharas), and centres of preaching, teaching and learning came up at such places. Congregational halls (chaitya) for teaching and interaction between the common people and the monks were also built.

From now on religion began to influence architecture. While Buddhists and Jains began to build Stupas, Viharas and Chaityas, the first temple building activity started during the Gupta rule. This knowledge will help you to understand the importance of these places as of tourist interest.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.1

1. What do you understand by the evolution of Indian architecture?
2. How did Harappans protect their civilization?
3. How were the engineering skills of Harappan people evident?
4. When was the first temple built in India?

### 8.3 EARLY HISTORIC PERIOD

In the Mauryan period (322-182 B.C.E.) especially under Ashoka, architecture saw a great advancement. Mauryan art and architecture depicted the influence of Persians and Greeks. During the reign of Ashoka many monolithic stone pillars were erected on which teachings of '*Dhamma*' were inscribed. The highly polished pillars with animal figures adorning the top (capitals) are unique and remarkable. The lion capital of the Sarnath pillar has been adopted as the national emblem of the Indian Republic. Each pillar weighs about 50 tonnes and is about 50 ft high.



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Figure 8.1 Buddhist stupa at Sanchi

The stupas of Sanchi and Sarnath are symbols of the achievement of Mauryan architecture. The gateways of the Sanchi Stupa with the beautiful sculpture depicting scenes from Jataka stories are specimens of the skill and aesthetic sense of the artisans. (Figure 8.1)

The blending of Greek and Indian art led to the development of Gandhara art which developed later. Life-like statues of Buddha and Bodhisattvas were made in the likeness of Greek god and were in stone, terracotta, cement like material and clay.



Figure 8.2



Figure 8.3

### Nagarjunkonda

Nagarjunkonda is another place that is famous for Buddhist architecture. The Gupta period marks the beginning of the construction of free-standing Hindu temples. An example of this is the temple at Deogarh (Jhansi district) which had a central shrine or garbhagriha where the image of the deity was placed. Another temple at Bhitargaon (Kanpur district) are two fine examples of this period. (Figure 8.2 and 8.3)

### Cave architecture

The development of caves architecture is another unique feature and marks an important phase in the history of Indian architecture. More than a thousand caves have been excavated between the second century B.C.E. and the tenth century C.E. Famous among these were Ajanta and Ellora caves of Maharashtra, and the Udaygiri cave of Orissa. These caves hold Buddhist viharas, chaityas as well as mandapas and pillared temples of the Hindu gods and goddesses.



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**Figure 8.4 Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram**

### Rock-cut temples

The earliest rock-cut temples were excavated in western Deccan in the early years of the Christian era. The chaitya at Karle with fine high halls and polished decorative wall is a remarkable example of rock-cut architecture. The Kailash temple at Ellora built by the Rashtrakutas and the ratha temples of Mahabalipuram built by the Pallavas are other examples of rock-cut temples. Most probably the stability and permanence of rocks attracted the patrons of art and builders who decorated these temples with beautiful sculptures. (Figure 8.4)

### Free-standing temples

The temple building activities that began during the Gupta rule continued to flourish in later periods. In southern India the Pallavas, Cholas, Pandyas, Hoyshalas and later the rulers of the Vijaynagar kingdom were great builders



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of temples. The Pallava rulers built the shore temple at Mahabalipuram. The Pallavas also built other structural temples like Kailashnath temple and Vaikuntha Perumal temples at Kanchipuram. The Cholas built many temples, most famous being the Brihadeshwara temple at Tanjore. The Cholas developed a typical style of temple architecture of South India called the Dravida style, complete with Vimana or Shikhara, high walls and the gateway topped by gopuram. Magnificent temples were built at Belur, Halebid where the stone engravings reached even greater heights.

In north and eastern India magnificent temples were also constructed and the style followed by them is referred to as the Nagara style. Most of them consisted of the shikaras (spiral roofs), the garbhagriha (sanctum) and the mandap (pillared hall).

Orissa has some of the most beautiful temples such as the Lingaraja temple built by the Ganga rulers and the Mukteshwara temple at Bhubaneswar and the Jagannath temple at Puri. The Sun Temple at Konark was built in the thirteenth century by the eastern Ganga ruler Narshimha Deva I. The temple is dedicated to Surya (the sun god) and has been designed as a twelve-wheeled chariot.

The temple complex at Khajuraho was built by Chandella rulers between the tenth and eleventh centuries in the Bundelkhand region of Madhya Pradesh. Most important among them is the Kandariya Mahadev temple. (Figure 8.5)



Figure 8.5 Kandariya Mahadev Temple

Mount Abu in Rajasthan is known for the Dilwara temple dedicated to Jain tirthankaras. These were built in pure white marble and adorned with exquisite sculpture. These were built under the patronage of Solanki rulers.

Somnath temple at Gujarat, Vishwanath temple at Banaras, Govinda temple at Mathura, Kamakhya temple at Guwahati, Shankaracharya temple at Kashmir and the Kali temple at Kalighat of Kolkata are some other important temples which bear testimony to temple building activity of the Indian sub continent.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.2

1. Name the two stupas that show the achievement of Mauryan architecture.
2. Where were the teachings of Dhamma inscribed in Ashoka's reign?
3. Name some schools of sculptural art in India.
4. Where are Udaygiri caves?
5. Who built the Kailash temple of Ellora?
6. Who built the Ratha temples at Mahabalipuram?
7. What is Dravida style of architecture?
8. Name the temple built by Chola king at Tanjore.
9. Define Nagara style of architecture.
10. Who built the Sun temple at Konark?
11. Name the famous Jain temple at Mount Abu, Rajasthan.

## 8.4 MEDIEVAL PERIOD ARCHITECTURE

### Delhi Sultanate

With the arrival of Turks during the thirteenth century came a new technique of architecture- the architectural styles of Persia, Arabia and Central Asia. The engineering features of these buildings were the domes, arches and minarets. The palaces, mosques and tombs built by the rulers had features which were blended with the features of the indigenous architecture and a new synthesis in architecture was achieved. This happened because the Turkish rulers of Delhi utilized the services of the local Indian craftsmen who were very skillful and had already constructed beautiful buildings. As a result in the buildings that came up, we find the simplicity of the Islamic structure as well as the detailed sculptures and designs they made on their own indigenous structures. A middle path was followed in all their designs in the architecture of this period i.e. there was a blending of the Islamic with the indigenous styles.



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**Figure 8.6 Qutub Minar, Delhi**

The earliest building of this period is the Mosque in Delhi and the Qutub Minar. The latter is a tower, whose height is 70 metres. It is a tapering tower that has five stories. There are beautiful engravings of calligraphy both in the mosque and on the tower. Many other buildings were later constructed by the Sultans. Ala-ud-din Khalji enlarged the Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque and built a gateway to the enclosure of the mosque. This gateway is called the Alai Darwaja and is one of the most beautiful architectural designs even today. Decorative elements were used to make the building outstanding in its beauty. He also built the Hauz Khas in Delhi which was a hydraulic structure. The tomb of Mohammad Tughlaq, Firoz Tughlaq and the forts of Tughlaqabad are some examples. Though their buildings were not beautiful, they had very strong walls, massive as well as impressive. During the Afghan rule the tombs of Ibrahim Lodi at Delhi and Shershah's tomb at Sasaram were built. The architecture of this period also shows how indigenous styles were adopted and utilized by the builders. During these years, the Turks were still in the process of settling down. The rulers were threatened by the Mongols, who made sudden invasions from the north. This is why the buildings of this period are strong, sturdy and practical.

### Regional Kingdoms

With the establishment of regional kingdoms in Bengal, Gujarat and the Deccan, beautiful buildings having their own style were constructed. The Jama Masjid, the Sadi Saiyyad Mosque and the shaking towers at Ahmadabad are a few examples of this architecture. In Mandu (central India) the Jama Masjid, Hindola Mahal and Jahaz Mahal were built. In the Deccan, the Sultans erected a number of buildings. The Jama Masjid at Gulbarga, the Madarsa of Mahmud Gawan at Bidar, Ibrahim Rauza, Gol Gumbaz at Bijapur and the fort at Golconda are

just a few famous buildings. Gol Gumbaz has the largest dome in the world. All these buildings vary in design and style from the buildings of north India. In Bengal the oblong shape of many structures and the peculiar style of roof construction were some of the distinctive features of the regional architecture of Bengal like the Adina mosque and the tomb of Jallal-ud-din at Pandua, Khil Darwaza and Tantipara mosque at Gaur. In Jaunpur, the Atala mosque built by the Sharqui rulers had a gigantic screen covering the dome while the tomb of Hoshang Shah at Malwa is made entirely of marble and is made of yellow and black marble inlay work beautifully done by craftsmen. The rulers of Vijayanagar, an empire which was established during this period, also erected many beautiful buildings and temples and had a number of achievements to their credit. Though only ruins remain, the temples of Vithalswami and Hazar Rama at Hampi are good examples.

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### **Mughals**

The coming of the Mughals brought a new era in architecture. The synthesis of style which began earlier reached its zenith during this time. The architecture of Mughal style started during Akbar's rule Humayun's Tomb at Delhi is a Mughal architectural masterpiece. In this magnificent building red stone was used. It has a main gateway and the tomb is placed in the midst of a garden. Many consider it a precursor of the Taj Mahal. Akbar built forts at Agra and Fatehpur Sikri. The Bulund Darwaza reflects the grandeur of the mighty Mughal Empire. This building was made following Akbar's victory over Gujarat. The Arch of the Buland Darwaza is about 41 m high and is perhaps the most imposing gateway in the world. The tomb of Salim Chishti, Palace of Jodha Bai, Ibadat Khana, Birbal's House and other buildings at Fatehpur Sikri reflect a synthesis



**Figure 8.7 Agra Fort**

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of Persian and Indian elements. During the reign of Jehangir, Akbar's Mausoleum was constructed at Sikandra near Agra. He built the beautiful tomb of Itimad-ud-daula which was built entirely of marble. Shahjahan was the greatest builder amongst the Mughals. He used marble extensively. Decorative design in inlay work, (called pietra duro) beautiful arches and minarets were the features of his buildings. The Red Fort and Jama Masjid of Delhi and above all the Taj Mahal are some of the buildings built by Shahjahan. The Taj Mahal, the tomb of Shahjahan's wife, Mumtaz Mahal is built in marble and reflects all the architectural features that were developed during the Mughal period. It has a central dome, four elegant minarats, gateway, inlay work and gardens surrounding the main building. The Mughal style of architecture had a profound influence on the buildings of the later period. The buildings showed a strong influence of the ancient Indian style and had courtyards and pillars. For the first time in the architecture of this style living beings- elephants, lions, peacocks and other birds were sculptured in the brackets.

A unique architectural development in the Mughal time was the beautiful gardens developed around the tombs and other buildings. The Shalimar Gardens in Kashmir and Lahore were developed by Jahangir and Shah Jahan respectively. The Mughals encouraged cultural and architectural growth of India.



#### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.3

1. What was the style of architecture of the Turks?
2. Name some of the tombs and mosques constructed during the Sultanate period?
3. Which is the largest dome in the world?
4. What is pietra dura?
5. Which building reflects the grandeur of the mighty Mughal Empire?

#### 8.5 COLONIAL ARCHITECTURE AND THE MODERN PERIOD

Next came the British who ruled the country for 200 years and left behind a legacy of colonial style architecture in their buildings.

Some important Europeans who started coming from the sixteenth century C.E constructed many churches and other buildings. Portuguese built many churches in Goa, the most famous of these are Basilica Bom Jesus and the church of Saint Francis. The British also built administrative and residential buildings which reflect their imperial glory. Some Greek and Roman influence can be observed in the colonnades or pillared buildings. The Parliament House and Connaught Place in Delhi are good examples. The architect Lutyens, designed Rashtrapati

Bhavan, formerly the Viceroy's residence. It is built of sandstone and has design features like canopies and jaali from Rajasthan. The Victoria Memorial in Kolkatta, the former capital of British India, is a huge edifice in marble. It now houses a museum full of colonial artifacts. Writer's Building in Kolkatta, where generations of government officers worked in British times, is still the administrative center of Bengal after independence. Some Gothic elements can be seen in the church buildings like St. Paul's Cathedral in Kolkatta. The British also left behind impressive railway terminals like the Victoria Terminus in Mumbai. More contemporary styles of building are now in evidence, after Independence in 1947. Chandigarh has buildings designed by the French architect, Le Corbusier. In Delhi, the Austrian architect, Stein, designed The India International Centre where conferences are held by leading intellectuals from all over the world and more recently, the India Habitat Centre which has become a centre of intellectual activities in the capital.

In the past few decades, there have been many talented Indian architects, some trained in premier schools of architecture like the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) in Delhi. Architects like Raj Rewal and Charles Correa represent this new generation. Raj Rewal has designed the SCOPE Complex and Jawahar Vyapar Bhavan in Delhi. He takes pride in using indigenous building material like sandstone for construction and also combines steps and open spaces from the plazas of Rome.

In domestic architecture in the last decade, Housing Cooperative Societies have mushroomed in all metropolitan cities combining utility with a high level of planning and aesthetic sense.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.4

1. Which were the most famous churches at Goa built by the Portuguese?
2. Name the architect who designed the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
3. Which architectural style can be observed in buildings built during British Empire in India?
4. What is contained in the Victoria Memorial building in Kolkatta these days?
5. Who designed the city of Chandigarh?
6. Name the architect who designed the India International Centre of Delhi.
7. Name some famous architects of modern India.

## 8.6 TOWNS AND CITIES IN INDIA

In this lesson you have read about the architecture of the ancient, medieval and modern periods in India. In the previous section you read about the School of



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Planning and Architecture in Delhi. You can see that Planning goes with Architecture. Do you know that Planning is actually Town Planning, which is linked with urban development? It is evident that when we think or talk of architecture, we have to think of the related idea of town planning or urban development. In this section we will learn about the growth and development of towns and cities in India. It is indeed an interesting story. We would also spend some time in going into details about the four major cities of contemporary India - Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi. We will trace the origin of these cities and learn about their important structures and buildings.

You would be surprised to know that starting from the Harappan civilization, India has had a very long history of town planning, which can be traced back to 2350 B.C.E. As you have already learnt, the two cities of Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro had an elaborate drainage system, roads which cut each other at right angles, a citadel which was built on a high ground and in the lower parts lived the rest of the population. Kalibangam in Rajasthan and Surkotada in Kutch had similar city structure. From 600 B.C.E. onwards, we come across more towns and cities that were associated with both Aryan as well as Dravidian civilization. These were Rajgir, Varanasi, Ayodhya, Hastinapur, Ujjain, Sravasthi, Kapilavastu and Kausambhi besides many others. We also come across many towns in the Mauryan period known as Janapadas (small towns) and Mahajanapadas (big towns).

With the coming of the Muslims to India, the scene changed. Islamic influence became evident in the towns. Mosques, forts and palaces now dotted the urban scene. According to Abul Fazal, there were 2,837 towns in 1594 C.E. This was mainly because many larger villages were transformed into smaller towns which came to be called qasbas. These qasbas soon came to be occupied by local artisans and crafts persons, who started specializing in their chosen craft, for example leather works and marble in Agra. Sind specialized in cotton textiles, silk etc, while Gujarat excelled in the art of weaving gold and silk threads and made brocades that were often exported to other countries.

Later, during the 16th century, the Europeans came to India through the sea route and thus began the establishment of new port towns like Panaji in Goa (1510), Bombay in Maharashtra (1532), Machilipatnam (1605), Nagapattanam (1658), Madras (1639) in the south and Kolkatta (1690) in the east. The reason why these new port towns were developed by the British was that during this time England had developed into a leading industrial economy of the world, while India was the leading supplier of raw materials for the British industries as well as a potential major buyer of these goods. After 1853, railway lines were also laid out by the British to carry goods from the interiors to the ports or

connecting areas which supplied raw materials or received finished goods. By 1905, nearly 28,000 miles of rail lines had been spread to serve the economic, political and military interests of the British. Post and telegraph lines were also laid which were needed for communication purposes.

By the beginning of the 20th century, Bombay (now Mumbai), Kolkatta (now Kolkata) and Madras (now Chennai) had become well known important cities for administration, commerce as well as industries. Some places like Dalhousie Square in Kolkatta, Fort St. George in Madras, Connaught Place in Delhi and the sea shores of Marine Drive in Bombay reminded the Europeans of their home in England. But they also wanted the coolness of their environs which they had back home in Europe. So new centres developed in the hill stations near these big cities to beat the sultry summer months of India, e.g. Mussoorie, Simla and Nainital in the North; Darjeeling and Shillong in the East; Nilgiri and Kodaikanal in the South.

New residential areas like Civil Lines and Cantonments came up in towns. The area where civilian administrative Officers lived was called Civil Lines, while cantonments were areas meant for the British Army Officers. Do you know that even today these two areas are meant for the elite in the administration and the army as in those days?



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**INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.5**

1. Name 5 cities that came up in the ancient period in India.  
i) ....., ii) ....., iii) .....,  
iv) ....., v) .....
2. Name 5 places where ports were set up by the British.  
i) ....., ii) ....., iii) .....,  
iv) ....., v) .....
3. Name 5 Hill Stations developed by the British.  
i) ....., ii) ....., iii) .....,  
iv) ....., v) .....
4. Who lived in the Civil Lines?
5. What was the Cantonment meant for?



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In this section a list of some famous palaces in India. It will make your study very interesting if you find out some information on them e.g.

- a. Who built them?
- b. Details about these palaces.
- c. What is the position of these palaces now?

If you want to be a tourist guide or open a business for tourism purposes, it will help you, even if you want to know more about these places for your interest it will be good to know about your own culture

#### A) Palaces in India

- Khas Mahal, Agra Fort, Agra
- Mysore Palace, Mysore
- Lake Palace, Udaipur
- Umaid Bhavan Palace, Udaipur
- Agra Fort - former royal residence of the Moghul, Agra
- Aina Mahal - royal residence of ruler of Kutch.
- Amber Palace (Amber Fort) - former royal residence, Jaipur
- Amba Vilas Palace–Mysore
- Bangaluru Palace - Bangaluru
- Chatrapati Shuhu palace - former royal residence of Chatrapati Shahu Maharaj Kolhapur
- Cheluvamba Vilas Palace-Mysore
- Chowmahalla Palace - Hyderabad
- City Palace, Jaipur - Seat of the Maharaja of Jaipur
- City Palace, Udaipur - Seat of the Maharana of Udaipur
- Candra Mahal, Jaipur
- Delhi Red Fort - former seat of the Mughal emperor at Delhi
- Falaknuma Palace - royal residence, Hyderabad
- Fatehpur Sikri - former royal residence of Emperor Akbar
- Gohar Mahal - former royal residence, Bhopal
- Gorbandh Palace, Jaisalmer

- Grand Palace, Srinagar - former royal residence, today hotel, Srinagar
- Hawa Mahal (Palace of Winds) - former royal residence, Jaipur
- Hill Palace, Tripunithura, Cochin - former Royal Residence of Maharaja of Cochin, now one of the largest archaeological museums in India
- Jag Mohan Palace-Mysore
- Jag Mandir - former residence of Shah Jahan, Udaipur
- Jag Niwas (Lake Palace) - former royal residence, Udaipur
- Jal Mahal - former royal residence, today hotel, Jaipur
- Jaya Lakshmi Vilas Palace-Mysore
- Jai Vilas Palace - Seat of the Maharaja of Gwalior
- Jaisalmer Fort - Seat of the Maharaja of Jaisalmer
- Karanji Vilas Palace-Mysore
- Kangra Fort - Seat of the Maharaja of Kangra-Lambagraon
- Khasbagh Palace - Palace of the Maharaja of Rampur
- King Kothi Palace - Palace of VII Nizam, Osman Ali Khan
- Kowdiar Palace- Residence of the Travancore Royal Family
- Lalgarth Palace - former royal residence, today hotel, Bikaner
- Laxmi Vilas Palace - Seat of the Maharajah of Baroda
- Laxmipuram Palace - Kerala
- Lalith Mahal Palace-Mysore
- Lokranjan Mahal-Mysore
- Marble Palace - Kolkata
- Mattancherry Palace (Dutch Palace), Cochin - former Royal Residence of Maharaja of Cochin, archeological museum at present.
- Narain Niwas Palace - former royal residence, today hotel, Jaipur
- New Palace - Seat of Maharaja of Kolhapur
- Padmanabhapuram Palace - Seat of the Maharaja of Travancore
- Prag Mahal - royal palace of rulers of Kutch
- Purani Haveli - Seat of the Nizam of Hyderabad



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- Rajendra Vilas Palace - Mysore
- Raj Mahal Palace - former royal residence, Jaipur (today hotel)
- Rajbari - Seat of the Maharaja of Cooch Behar
- Rambagh Palace - former residence of the Maharaja of Jaipur (today hotel)
- Samode Palace - former royal residence, today hotel, Jaipur
- Shaniwar Wada, Pune - royal residence of Peshwas
- Shaukat Mahal - former royal residence, Bhopal
- Thanjavur Nayak - Thanjavur (Tanjore) Nayak Palace, Thanjavur
- Umaid Bhawan Palace - Seat of the Maharaja of Jodhpur
- Uparkot Fort - former seat of the Nawab of Junagadh, Gujarat
- Vasanth Mahal Palace-Mysore
- Vijay Vilas Palace, Mandavi - royal residence of rulers of Kutch.

### B) Museums

Museums form the part of Conservatories. India has large number of museums which are pull factors for Tourists. Therefore, only major and most popular museums have been described here.

#### Top Museums in India

**Hawa Mahal Museum:** It is inside the confines of the Hawa Mahal situated in Jaipur City. Built by Maharajah Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799, it has a honeycomb structure just like the Palace itself with the windows so made for the easy passage of air throughout the year. Famously known as the Palace of Winds, it has thousands of small windows. If you look from outside, from a distance, it looks like a beehive. It has been so made that the winds can come and go through the Palace throughout the year keeping the Palace temperature as per the changing seasons. Manuscripts Gallery, Armory Gallery and Coin Gallery are the main attractions of this museum.

**Kolkata Indian Museum** has many surprises. There are six sections - Archeology, anthropology, geology, zoology, industry and art. It is so large that it takes at least three days to see the entire Museum.

**Jaigarh Fort Museum** gives a splendid image of the Rajputana and Mughal architecture and way of their lives. It is one of the unique showcases of the

Rajasthani Culture and regime. One can see the royalness of Rajasthan not only in this museum but also in the sands which surround the roads of Rajasthan.

**Karnataka Government Museum** is the oldest Museum in the country. It is one of the best showcases of the heritage of Karnataka. It represents the best and the unique examples of the museum.

### **Maharaja Sawai Singh Museum**

One of the most elegant and well kept museums. Constructed in 1959, it depicts the bygone era in a contemporary manner, filled with the aura of the royals.

### **National Museum at New Delhi**

It is one of the largest museums in India. Established in 1949, it holds a variety of articles ranging from pre-historic era to modern works of art. The museum has 200,000 works of art, both of Indian and foreign origin, covering over 5,000 years.

It also houses the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology established in 1983 and now a Deemed University since 1989, and run Masters and Doctoral level courses in History of Art, Art Conservation and Art restoration.

Its rich collection of various creative traditions and disciplines represents a unity amidst diversity, an unmatched blend of the past with the present and strong perspective for the future, brings history to life. The Buddhist art section has the most known for sacred relics of the Buddha (5th-4th century B.C.E.) unearthed from Piprehwa, Basti district-Uttar Pradesh.

The collections cover archaeology, arms, armour, decorative arts, jewellery, manuscripts, paintings, etc.

**National Archives Museum** is an entity of the office of Department of Culture under the ministry of Tourism and Culture. It is the depository of the old records of the Govt. of India. The documents kept here for the use of the administrators and the scholars. But it is also open for the common man to see. It has one of the oldest records of India, as old as when India was known to the world as Bharat.

**Nehru Memorial Museum** is a reflection of the lifestyle and life of Jawaharlal Lal Nehru. It also houses a huge library to be accessed by research scholars.

**Red Fort Archaeological Museum** The personal belongings of the Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar like his silk robe and hookah have been kept here. The swords, embroidered carpets, chess boards and the carved swords are some of the things to look out for.



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**National Philatelic Museum** has a collection of old stamps which marks this place as one of the unique places of Delhi.

**Prince Of Wales Museum** Set up in the 20th century it has been recently renamed as Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharajah Museum. It was built to commemorate the arrival of the Prince of Wales by some prominent citizens with the help of the Indian Govt. Lying near the Gateway of India it tells the tale of the era gone by.

After the Victoria Terminal, it is the main attraction of the happening city of Mumbai.

**State Museum of Tripura** was established in 1970, in Agartala it is a multi purpose Museum with four galleries, namely the Tribal and cultural gallery, Painting gallery, Photo gallery, Indian Sculpture through all ages. Its being take care of by the Directorate of Art and Culture.

Let us now read about the four metropolitan cities of India – Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi. Surely, you know these cities.

#### 8.6.1 Chennai

Chennai, formerly known as Madras, is the capital of the state of Tamil Nadu, and is one of the four metropolitan cities of India. The city grew up around Fort Saint George, and with time, absorbed the surrounding towns and villages. In the 19th century, the city became the seat of Madras Presidency, the southern division of British Imperial India. After independence in 1947, the city became the capital of Madras State, which was renamed as Tamil Nadu in 1968. It has retained its traditional Tamil Hindu culture, and has been able to provide a unique blend of foreign influence and Indian culture. Chennai's British influence is evident in various cathedrals, buildings, and wide tree-lined avenues.

The High Court Building, built in 1892, was said to be the largest judicial building in the world after the Courts of London. The main hallmark of Fort St George, was its decorative domes and corridors, which are reminiscent of the new architecture.

The Ice House was used to store enormous blocks of ice cut from the Great Lakes in northern USA and shipped to India for refrigeration purposes during the colonial rule.

Another beautiful structure that came up during this time was the Church of St. John. It had wide Gothic arches and beautiful stained-glass windows. It had the nave and aisles, a tower and a spire. The walls are made of rubble, faced with coarse Kurla buff stone while the piers, arches, and dressings are of Porbunder Stone; the roof is built of teak wood and the floor of tiles imported from England. (Figure 8.8)



**Figure 8.8 St John Church**

Yet another structure worth mentioning that was built during this period was the General Post Office. Completed in 1872, the General Post Office in Chennai has a vast central hall, with a very high dome. It was built in local basalt with dressings of yellow stone from Kurla and white stone from Dhrangadra. It is an important tourist attraction. Inside, the marble topped tables, the high vaulted ceilings, and the sweeping staircases are designed for an ostentatious show of wealth and power of the British. (Figure 8.9)



**Figure 8.9 General Post Office**



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### 8.6.2 Kolkata

It is interesting to explore the origin & history of Kolkata. Do you know that it was the capital of British India till 1911? It was established as Kolkatta in the year 1686, as a result of the expansion plans of the British. The city kept progressing until 1756, when Siraj-ud-Daula (Nawab of Bengal) attacked it and succeeded in driving the British away from the town. In 1757, the following year, The Battle of Plassey took place, in which Robert Clive took over the city by defeating the Nawab.



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Figure 8.10 Supreme Court of Kolkatta

With the establishment of the Supreme Court at Kolkatta in 1774, it became the seat of justice (Figure 8.10). The capital of British India was transfer from Kolkatta to New Delhi in 1911. You may be aware that Kolkatta was officially renamed as Kolkata in 2001. Let us now take a look at the famous structures and buildings of Kolkatta that exist till today.

Howrah Bridge is located over the Hooghly River. It connects the city of Howrah to Kolkatta. It stands on two 270 feet high pillars and was constructed without using any nuts and bolts. This bridge is an important symbol of Kolkatta. It is probably the busiest bridge of the world. (Figure 8.11)



**Figure 8.11 Howrah Bridge**

Located in north Kolkatta, **Marble Palace** was constructed in 1835. It serves as an exquisite art gallery. It displays marvelous objects of art, sculptures, pictures & oil paintings. It also has a zoo, where you can find different kinds of birds and animals. In fact, it has a rare collection of birds.



**Figure 8.12 Fort William**

Fort William is situated at the banks of river Hooghly. It was established by the British, initiated by Robert Clive in 1696; it got completed by 1780. The basic purpose of setting up Fort William was to prevent attacks from invaders. The



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area that was cleared around the fort has become a maidan, where several exhibitions and fairs take place till today. (Figure 8.12)

Victoria Memorial Hall (Fig. 8.13) in Kolkatta is a fabulous museum that was established in the year 1921. It is a fantastic place that takes visitors into the world of past history. Today, the Victoria Memorial is one of the finest art museums in Kolkata. It is a 184 ft tall edifice that was constructed on 64 acres of land.



Figure 8.13 Victoria Memorial

Do you know that **Eden Gardens Cricket Club** in Kolkatta came into existence in the year 1864. Today it has the capacity to accommodate about 1, 20,000 persons. Eden Gardens of Kolkatta definitely falls into the category of must see places for all tourists who visit Kolkata. (Figure 8.14)



Figure 8.14 Eden Garden

The construction of **Writers Building** began in 1690. It got its name owing to the fact that it served as the dwelling place for the junior writers of the East India Company. This Gothic structure came into existence during the tenure of Lt. Governor Ashley Eden (1877). (Figure 8.15)



**Figure 8.15** Writer's Building

### 8.6.3 Mumbai

Mumbai is located on the shores of the Arabian Sea, on the West Coast of India. You will be surprised to know that it was once a group of seven islands. Although its site has been inhabited since pre-historic times, the city of Mumbai dates only to the arrival of the British in the 17th century, when it came up as Bombay. However, it really took shape in the 19th century. It was the first Indian city to have railways. Along with Kolkatta, it was one of the first two Indian cities where newspapers came into existence.

During the second half of the 19th century many civic and public buildings were constructed in Bombay in Victorian Gothic Style e.g. the Secretariat (1874) the Council Hall (1876) and Elphinstone College (1890). But the most impressive style was the Victoria Terminus now known as Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus, but it looks more like a cathedral than a railway station. It contains carved stone friezes and stained glass windows. (Figure 8.16)



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**Figure 8.16 Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus**

The famous Gateway of India was built with yellow stone in Indo-Saracenic style of architecture to honour the visit of King George V and Queen Mary to India. It was completed in 1924 at a cost of Rupees 24 lakhs, which was a fortune in those days. It has a 26 metre high archway and is complete with four turrets and intricate lattice work carved into the yellow basalt stone. (Figure 8.17)



**Figure 8.17 Gateway of India**

Since independence, Mumbai has continued to be India’s leading commercial and industrial city. The stock exchange, the business centres, the famous film industry called Bollywood and anything you call in the name of westernization and modernization is all here. As you know, today it is the most important financial city of India with important industries like textiles, finance and film making. You are aware of the famous Bollywood, the biggest film industry in the world, where so many Hindi films are produced. Once known as the Gateway to India, traces of British rule are still evident in the city of Mumbai.



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**INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.6**

1. Name 4 famous places in Chennai.
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ ii) \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii) \_\_\_\_\_ iv) \_\_\_\_\_
2. Name 4 famous places in Kolkata.
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ ii) \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii) \_\_\_\_\_ iv) \_\_\_\_\_
3. Name 4 famous places in Mumbai.
  - i) \_\_\_\_\_ ii) \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii) \_\_\_\_\_ iv) \_\_\_\_\_

**8.6.4 Delhi**

Do you know that Delhi became the capital of British India in 1911! That is why Delhi celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2011. Evidently, it was in 1911 that the modern city, now called New Delhi, came up. However, Delhi has a history much older than that. It is believed that there are at least seven important old cities that have come together to form Delhi. The first city of Delhi is believed to have been established on the right bank of the Yamuna by Yudhishtira, the eldest of the Pandava brothers by the name of **Indraprastha**. Surely, you remember the story of *Mahabharata*, which tells of the great war between the Pandavas and Kauravas.

According to folklore, Delhi was founded by Raja Dhilu. During the 2nd century C.E, Ptolemy, the Geographer marked Delhi in his map as **Daidala**. From that time onwards, Delhi has continued to grow. Today it has expanded so much that it is now one of the largest cities, not only in the country, but in the whole world.



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A very interesting legend is associated with Delhi. The story goes like this: A snake Vasuki was pushed underground by an Iron Pillar in the Qutab Minar Complex during the time of King Ashoka. Several years later, when the Tomar king Anang Pal of **Lal Kot**, established his rule in Delhi, he pulled out this pillar and set the serpent free. At that time, it was predicted that no dynasty would now be able to rule over Delhi for long. After the Tomars came the Chauhans, who built a city called **Qila Rai Pithora** in the Lal Kot area, near Mehrauli. Prithvi Raj Chauhan of this dynasty ruled from **Mehrauli**.



Figure 8.18 Qutub Minar

Delhi again came into prominence when the Slave Dynasty came into power. You will remember reading that Qutb-ud-din had started building the famous Qutub Minar, (Fig. 8.18) which was later finished by Iltutmish. Later, when Alauddin Khilji became the Sultan, it was **Siri** that became the centre of power. The Siri Fort still exists and this area in Delhi is known as Shahpur Jat.. Siri also has an interesting story to tell. Alauddin Khilji's rule was constantly threatened by the Mongol invasions. Some of these Mongols who stayed back in the city rebelled. Alauddin Khilji got them beheaded and their heads were buried under the walls of the city. That is how the place came to be called Siri. As you know the word *sir* means head. We still use that word for head.

Some years later, when the Tughlaq dynasty came to power, Sultan Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq constructed the city called **Tughlaqabad**. This was designed as a fortified town. After Ghiyasuddin's death, Mohammed Bin Tughlaq (1320-1388) enclosed the earlier cities of Delhi into a single unit and named it **Jahanpanah**. (Figure 8.19)



**Figure 8.19 Tughlaqabad Fort**

Ibn Batuta, who served in the court of Mohammed Bin Tughlaq, has given a very interesting description of this city. He has described it as “.....the metropolis of India, a vast and magnificent city, uniting beauty with strength. It is surrounded by a wall that has no equal in the world, and is the largest city in India, nay rather the largest city in the entire Moslem Orient.”

Another important ruler of Tughlaq dynasty was Firoz Shah. During his reign, Delhi had an enormous population and covered an extensive area. He constructed **Firozabad**, located near Firoz Shah Kotla. However, the invasion of Timur, the king of Samarkand, in 1398, destroyed its glory, including the city of **Jahanpanah**. Timur took with him Indian architects and masons to build the mosques at Samarkand. The succeeding rulers shifted their capital to Agra.

It was the Mughal ruler Humayun, who built **Dinpanah** on the mound of ancient Indraprastha. However, it was Humayun’s great grandson, Shah Jahan, who revived the lost glory of Delhi. He started building the Red Fort in 1639 and finished it in 1648. In 1650, he started the work of building the famous Jami Masjid. Shah Jahan’s city was called **Shahjahanabad**. Great poets such as Dard, Mir Taki Mir and Mirza Ghalib, etc. made ghazals and the language of ghazals, i.e. Urdu famous during this period. It is believed that Shahjahanabad was more beautiful than Baghdad in Iraq and Constantinople in Turkey. Over the centuries, the city was looted and destroyed by the armies of Nadir Shah (1739), Ahmad Shah Abdali (1748) as well as continuous attacks from within. All these weakened the city. But, in spite of all these problems, Delhi still had much to offer - music, dance, drama and variety of delicious food along with a rich cultural language and literature.

It was said that Delhi was the home to at least 24 Sufis of which the most famous were from the Jahanpanah area. Some of them were:

1. Kutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki whose khanqah or dera was at Mehrauli;



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2. Nizamuddin Auliya, whose khanqah was at Nizamuddin;
3. Sheikh Nasiruddin Mahmud, who is popularly known today as Chiragh-e-Delhi;
4. Amir Khusro, who was a great poet, musician and scholar.

After 1707, the Mughal power weakened and Delhi became a pale shadow of itself. In 1803, the British occupied Delhi after defeating the Marathas. The areas around Kashmere Gate and Civil Lines became important centres, where the British built many structures. In 1911, the British shifted their capital to Delhi and built an entirely new city called New Delhi. It was made on a majestic scale. The large structure of the India Gate, the Viceroy House which is now the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Parliament House and the North and South Blocks were all made to impress the Indian subjects of the British rule. They were meant to show the supremacy, the majestic power as well as the regality of the British. This new city was completed by 1932. The Connaught Place still remains an important commercial centre of the city. Delhi remains an important commercial, cultural and political centre of India. Massive buildings, beautiful parks, flyovers, the Metro, a beautiful airport, educational centres, museums, big wholesale markets, Embassies and High Commissions of all countries of the world, large malls, major industries, etc. all contribute to making it a beautiful city. It is said: *Dilli hai dil walon ki* (Delhi belongs to those who have a large heart).



#### INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.7

1. Match the cities within Delhi with the king who built them

S. No.	Name of the City	Name of king who built it
1.	Indraprastha	Prithvi Raj Chauhan
2.	Lal Kot	Mohammed Bin Tughlaq
4.	Mehrauli	Yudhishtira
5.	Siri	Firoz Shah Tughlaq
6.	Jahanpanah	Humayun
7.	Tughlaqabad	Shah Jahan
8.	Firozabad	zabad Alauddin Khilji
9.	Dinpanah	Anang Pal Tomar
10.	Shahjahanabad	Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq

2. Name 4 famous Sufi saints of the Jahanpanah area.

- i) \_\_\_\_\_ ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
iii) \_\_\_\_\_ iv) \_\_\_\_\_



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- The history of Indian architecture and sculpture is as old as the civilization of Indus Valley.
- Architecture holds the key to the understanding of the cultural diversity of any part of India as it is influenced by the cultural traditions and religious practices of different times.
- Buddhism and Jainism helped in the development of early architectural style of India in building stupas, viharas and chaityas.  
During the time of Gupta, Pallavas and Cholas temple architecture flourished.
- Delhi Sultanate and Mughals brought with them Persian influence and we witness an Indo-persian style of architecture.
- The British and other colonial powers brought the European impact on Indian architecture and effected a synthesis of those with indigenous styles and also instituted the typical colonial style of architecture where materials were used to fashion majestic buildings and offices.
- Starting from the Harappa civilization, India has had a very long history of town planning, which can be traced back to 2350 B.C.E.
- Several towns have come up since then.
- There were 2,837 towns in 1594.
- By the beginning of the 20th century, Bombay (now Mumbai), Kolkatta (now Kolkata) and Madras (now Chennai) had become well known important cities for administration, commerce as well as industries.
- Delhi became the capital of British India in 1911. However, Delhi has a history much older than that.
- It is believed that there are at least seven important old cities that have come together to form Delhi. These are probably Indraprastha, Lal Kot, Mehrauli, Siri, Tughlaqabad, Firozabad and Shahjahanabad



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### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Describe architectural styles of Harappan civilization.
2. Elaborate the contributions of Gupta, Pallavas and Chola rulers to the temple architecture of India.
3. What were the different styles of architecture and sculpture found in India?

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4. Buddhism and Jainism had contributed in the architectural development in India - Discuss.
5. How would you view the construction of monuments during the regime of Delhi Sultanate?
6. The architecture during Mughal period was a synthesis of the Indian, Persian, Mongol and Mughal style. Elaborate.
7. Narrate the story of Delhi in your own words.
8. Find out the truth about the saying *Dilli hai dil walon ki*. Write an essay on it. You can search on the internet or get books from a library.



### ANSWERS TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 8.1

1. The emergence and decay of great empires and dynasties in the sub-continent influenced the growth and shape of Indian culture.
2. Many thick layers of well baked bricks laid in gypsum mortar were joined together for the purpose of making the whole construction very strong. The strength of the buildings can be seen by the fact that they have successfully survived the ravages of atleast five thousand years
3. The Public bath at the site of Mohenjodaro is an evidence of their engineering skills.
4. During Gupta period

#### 8.2

1. Sanchi stupas and Sarnath stupas
2. On Monolithic stone pillars
3. Gandhara School, Mathura School, Amaravati School
4. In Orissa
5. The Rashtrakutas
6. The Pallavas
7. A temple architecture style having vimana or shikara, high walls and the gateway topped by gopuram.
8. Brihadeshwara Temple

9. Temples constructed with shikaras (spiral roofs), the garbhagriha (sanctum) and the mandap (Pillared Halls)
10. Narshimha Deva I
11. Dilwara Temple

### 8.3

1. Domes, arches, minarets
2. Quwwat-ul-Islam mosque at Delhi, Qutab Minar - At Delhi Tomb of Mohammad Tuglaq Tomb of Firoz Tuglaq, Tomb of Ibrahim Lodhi - At Delhi Sher Shah Tomb at Sasaram
3. Gol Gumbaz
4. Decorative design in inlay work in building constructed during mughal period.
5. Buland Darwaza

### 8.4

1. Basilica Bom Jesus and the church of Saint Francis.
2. Lutyens
3. Greek and Roman architectural styles.
4. It houses museum full of colonial artefacts.
5. French architect Corbusier.
6. An Austrian architect Stein
7. (i) Raj Rewal (ii) Charles Correa

### 8.5

1. Harappa, Mohenjo-Daro, Kalibangam, Surkotada Rajgir, Varanasi, Ayodhya, Hastinapur, Ujjain, Sravasthi, Kapilavastu, Kaushambi or any other not mentioned in this lesson.
2. Any 5 out of Panaji, Bombay, Machilipatnam, Nagapattnam, Madras, Kolkatta or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.
3. Any 5 out of Mussoorie, Simla, Nainital, Darjeeling, Shillong, Nilgiri, Kodaikanal or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.
4. Civilian Officers
5. Army Officers



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#### 8.6

1. The High Court Building, The Ice House, Church of St. John, General Post Office or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.
2. Any 4 out of Howrah Bridge, Marble Palace, Writer's Building, Fort William, Eden Gardens, Victoria Memorial Hall or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.
3. Any 4 out of Secretariat, Council Hall, Elphinstone College, Victoria Terminus (modern Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus), Gateway of India or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.

#### 8.7

1.

S. No.	Name of the City	Name of king who built it
1.	Indraprastha	Yudhishtira
2.	Lal Kot	Anang Pal Tomar
4.	Mehrauli	Prithvi Raj Chauhan
5.	Siri	Alauddin Khilji
6.	Jahanpanah	Mohammed Bin Tughlaq
7.	Tughlaqabad	Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq
8.	Firozabad	Firoz Shah Tughlaq
9.	Dinpanah	Humayun
10.	Shahjahanabad	Shah Jehan

2. Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki, Nizamuddin Auliya, Sheikh Nasiruddin Mahmud, Amir Khusrau, or any other/s not mentioned in this lesson.