



# KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN AHMEDABAD REGION

केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन



## Journey to Scintillating Gujarat

## જય જય ગરવી ગુજરાત

Gujarat is a state with an amazingly varied topography ranging from the deep green dense forests to stark white salt plains. Its 1660 kilometers coastline is home to some of the most unique marine species and geographical locations of the state makes it an ideal matrix, a melting pot of a vast variety of culture, people, places and history due to eons of migratory influences. Along with all the migrations came in various ritual practices, cuisines, style of dresses, fairs and festivals, celebrations all of which were amalgamated and became a part of what this amazingly diverse state has to offer to us. This was possible as a result of trade, commerce and the dexterity of the people of Gujarat to accept and take in and make a part of all who come in here for succour, conquest or trade. A booklet with information of various aspects of Gujarat State for Kendriya Vidyalaya Students will be helpful in promotion of Indian art and culture in regional context as envisaged in NEP 2020. By collaborating local knowledge our teachers can ensure optimal learning environment while teaching various subjects. After going through local/regional knowledge students will find the concepts more clear and enjoyable during teaching learning process. Such integration of knowledge will help to build up a sense of "Vasudhev kutumbkkam" and acceptance of unity in diversity in this country.

I am very glad to share this booklet with all the students and teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas of Gujarat and am confident that this booklet will be helpful in integrating various subjects and serve as a documented field trip for our students. This booklet will serve as a small supplement for knowing the various flavors of Gujarat state.

I convey my sincere thanks and words of appreciation to the learned, enthusiastic teachers of various KVs across Gujarat who shaped an idea of bringing up this booklet on Gujrat in a presentable form.

With all the best wishes .

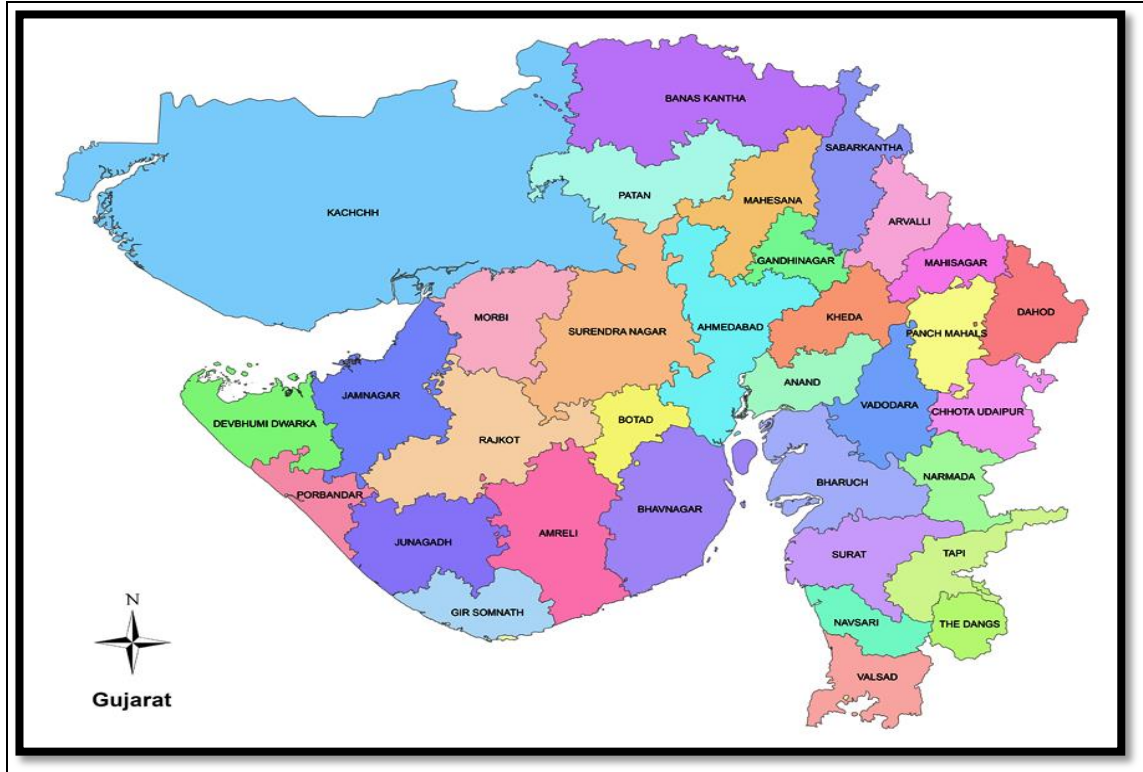
**Shruti Bhargava**

**Deputy Commissioner (KVS RO Ahmedabad)**



જય જય ગરવી ગુજરાત

## POLITICAL MAP

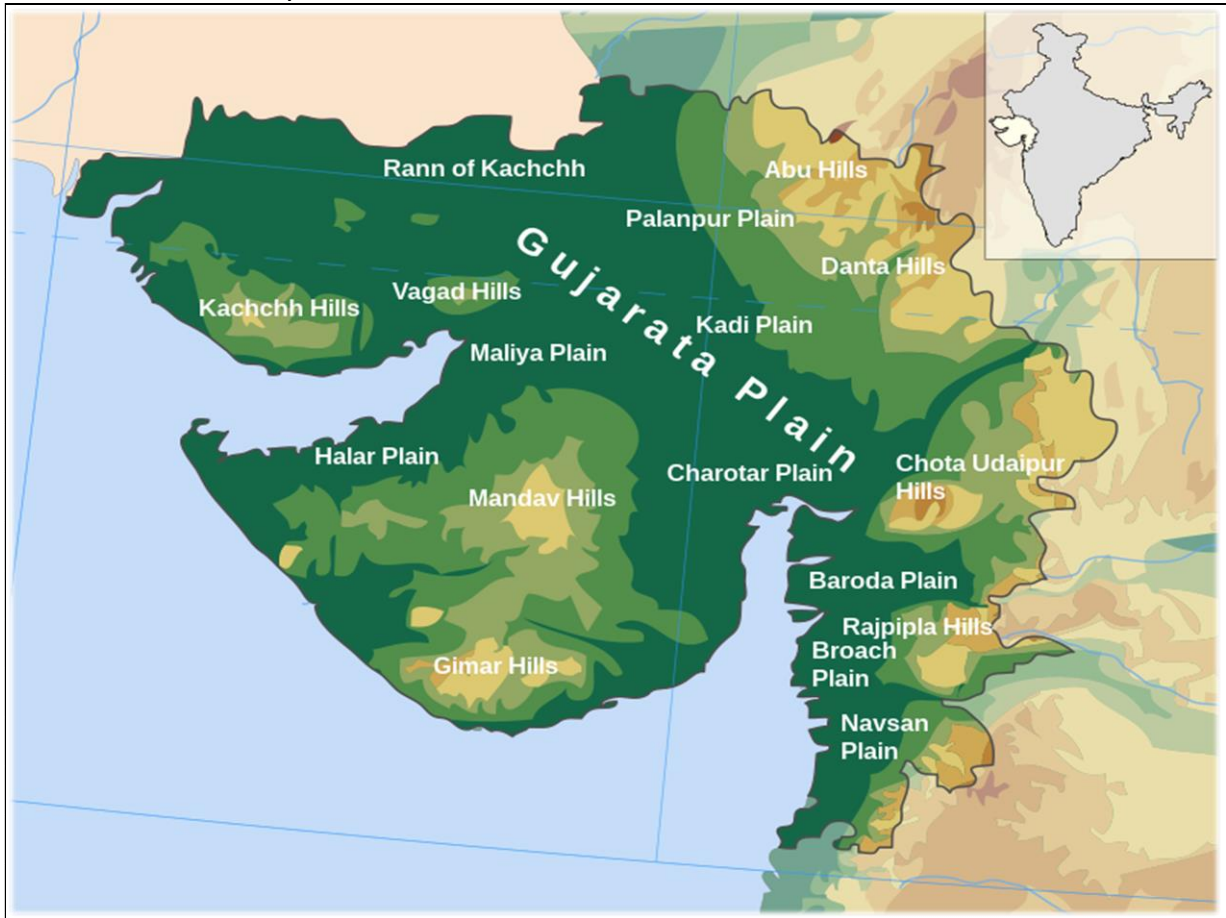


### Gujarat at a Glance

Area : 1,96,024 sq km  
Population : 6,038,3628  
Capital : Gandhinagar  
Literacy Rate : 79.31 %  
Districts : 33

1. On May 1, 1960, Gujarat was created out of 17 northern districts of the former state of Bombay.
2. Located on the western coast of India, has the longest coastline of 1,600 Km.
3. Bounded by the Arabian Sea to the west and south west and by Pakistan in the North.
4. Population of approximately 6.03 Crore (4.99% of Indian Population). It has States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh towards the north east and east, Maharashtra and the Union Territories of Daman, Diu and Nagar Haveli, towards the South.
5. Gandhinagar, the capital city of Gujarat, is located close to Ahmedabad, the commercial capital.
6. Ahmedabad is the most populated district in the State, with 7.20 million people.

7. Diverse climatic conditions with mild and pleasant winters and hot and dry summers and heavy monsoon.
8. The state currently has 33 districts.



**PHYSICAL MAP OF GUJARAT**

#### **A BRIEF HISTORY OF GUJARAT**

- The State took its name from the **Gujjars**, who ruled the area during the 700's and 800's.



**Around 700 CE**



**Modern Map**

- History is the study of past, word history is derived from Greek word "historia" meaning inquiry or investigation. For the convenience to the study, periodisation is adopted in Indian history.
- Ancient history - from Prehistory (stone age ) and Protohistory to 647 CE.
- Medieval history - from 647 CE to 1757 CE.



- Modern history - from 1757 CE to till date.
- Same periodisation can be applied for study of history of Gujarat .
- The fossil of ichthyosaur was found in Lodai village of Kutch .The ichthyosaur (**Greek for “fish lizard”**) was a marine reptile that lived between 157 to 152 million years ago.



- The fossils of 135-million-year old herbivorous dinosaur were also found in Kutch, Gujarat.
- Scientists have found a **10.8 million-year-old** jawbone in Gujarat’s Kutch region belonging to an extinct ape called **Sivapithecus**, previously documented only from sites in the northern Indian subcontinent.

### **Prehistory (no written evidences is available)**

- Prehistory(stone age) is divided into three periods
- Paleolithic age (old stone age ) 2 million to 12000 years ago
- Mesolithic age (middle stone age) 12000 to 10000 years age
- Neolithic age (new stone age) 10000 years ago

#### **Paleolithic Sites in Gujarat**

- Sabarmati river valley, Hirana river valley Mahi, Visadi
- **Sandhav** in the Naira Valley, (Kutch) 15 km from the shoreline, the **Paleolithic** site with an antiquity of 114,000 years.

#### **Mesolithic Sites in Gujarat**

- Tarsang (Panchmahal)
- Langhaj (Mehsana )
- Undrel (Ahmedabad)

### **Proto Historical Period of Ancient History**

**Indus Valley civilization or Harappan civilization** –(2600-1900 BCE mature phase )

- Also known as **Bronze age** civilization ( This period is divided into pre harappan, mature harappan and post harappan period on the basis of development of civilization )

- These are some important sites of Indus Valley civilization ( Harappan) found in Gujarat.

Sites	Major archaeological findings
Dholavira	Sign board (script), water harnessing system, a well, a stadium
Desalpur	Copper seals
Lothal	Dockyard, fire altar, rice husk, different terracotta models- horse, ship, Persian and Iranian seals , painted jar
Surkodka	Bones of horse special burial
Rangpur	Husk and unbaked brick wall
Rozadi	Stonewall
Khirasara	Fortified settlements, pottery
<b>Other sites (including sub culture) – Kenwal, Padari, Dwarka, Bet Dwarka, Kuntasi , Malvan</b>	

### Special Reference

**Dholavira** – Pre harppan as well as harppan site

This site is discovered by Sh. J P Joshi (1967-68 )and excavated by Sh. R. S. Bisht

### Major findings at Dholavira :



- First evidence of script
- Water harvesting system
- A stadium



**Sh. Shambhudaan ji**- Local historian and resource person of **Dholavira** , who helped **sh. R. S. Bisht** during his excavation of **Dholavira**

Source - <https://www.bbc.com/gujarati/india-58098525>

### Chalcolithic (Copper and Lithic Age) Sites in Gujarat (circa 2000-1200 BCE )

- Prabhas
- Rangpur



## Megalithic sites in Gujarat (1000 BCE- 1 CE)

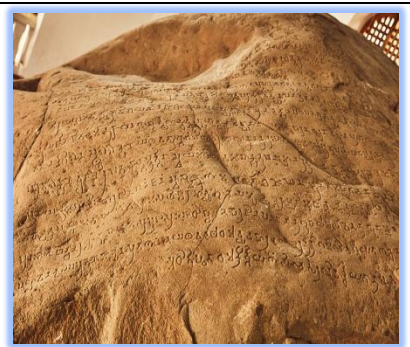
- Megalithic structure near **Bhimasar**, about 22 km east from Rapar. (a stone structure, locally known as 'Bhim gufa' about 2 km from Bhimasar village near a hillock)
- Based on its design the structure at Bhimasar is estimated to belong to 700-500 BCE period.

### Anarta

- **Anarta** is a Vedic period kingdom of ancient India described in the Mahabharata, roughly forming the northern Gujarat state of India.
- 

## Mauryan Empire (321-185 BCE)

- Saurashtra was the part of Chandragupta Maurya's (322- 298) kingdom.
- Sudarshan Lake in Girnar (Saurashtra) was built by Pushyagupta, the provincial ruler of Chandragupta Maurya.
- Rock edicts in the Girnar hills showed that Ashoka (268/272-232 BCE) also maintained his domain into Gujarat.



- These inscription are records of three kings – Ashoka (Mauryan), Rudradaman I (Sakas) and Skandgupta (Guptas)
- Girnar Hill is believed to be the Nirvana Bhumi of 22nd Tirthankara Lord Neminatha. Girnar was anciently called Raivata, sacred amongst the Jains to Neminath, the 22nd Tirthankar, and a place of pilgrimage before 250 BCE.



- Girnar mountain has Ambaji Mata temple, the incarnation of Parvati Mata and Guru Dattatray temple on its peak.

## Bactrian Greeks (Indo Greek)

- Menander (165-145 BCE) repaired the Sudarshana lake built by Mauryans to irrigate the region of Saurashtra.

## Sakas (Scythians)

- Sakas (also known as Western Shatrap) ruled over Gujarat for about 400 years .
- Important Ruler – Rudradaman Pratham (130 to 150 CE)
- Rudradaman Pratham also repaired Sudarshana lake.

## Guptas

### Some important rulers of Gupta dynasty

- Chandra Gupta I (319-350 CE)
- Samundra Gupta (350-375 CE) -
- Rama Gupta
- Chandra Gupta II (375-415CE) – **he defeated Sakas** of Gujarat
- Kumara Gupta (415-455 A.D.) -- reference of **LAT REGION** is found in Mandasor inscription , many types of coins have been recovered from Gujarat.
- Skanda Gupta (455-467 A.D)- The Junagadh rock inscription is also related to him. He appointed Prandatt governor of Saurashtra

## Maitrak

After Gupta Bhatarka established MAITRAK KINGDOM in Gujarat

- Xuan Zan came to India- 630-643 CE(seventh century). He also visited Gujarat (Vallabhi in 640 CE ) during the rule of Dhruvsena Maitrak.
- Vallabhi (near Bhavnagar) was also famous as a Buddhist university.
- Harshavardhana, 606-647 CE was the ruler of north India that time.
- Siddhis (Bantu people -Africa )arrived in (Bharuch) India around 628 CE.
- Muhammad Bin Qasim (Arab) had conquered Sindh in 712- some Siddhis (Zanjis) had also come with him.
- Siddhi's are believed to be the descendants of the Bantu people in East Africa.
- Some believe they were brought to India by the Portuguese towards the end of the 17th century, possibly as slaves. Some believe they were brought by the Arabs even earlier, dating back to the 7th century. When slavery was abolished, they fled into the thick jungles, fearing re-capture and torture.



*Siddi Dhamal*



- Udvada Atash Behram ( [Pardi](#) taluka in the [Valsad district](#) ) is the oldest existing fire temple in India, representing a cultural and religious link with Iran. The Atash Bahram fire was consecrated at Sanjan from alaat (sacred implements for consecration) brought from Iran to India in 715, consequent to the migration of [Zoroastrians](#) in [Greater Persia](#) due to the persecution by the [Islamic](#) rulers who conquered that country; those who moved to India are called [Parsis](#); the earliest link of worship of the sacred fire in Zoroastrian temples are dated to the 4th-century BC.



- Northern part of Gujarat was ruled by the north Indian **Gurjara-Pratihara** dynasty from 8 to 10 century. They were part of Tripartite Struggle also known as The Kannauj Triangle Wars for control of northern India **took place in the ninth century, other kingdoms were the Palas and the Rashtrakutas.**



### Important Rulers

- Nagbhatta I (730-756 CE) – (Hansot inscription )
- Vatsraj
- Nagbhatta II (Gwalior inscription)
- Bhoja (836-885 CE) (Una inscription) Suleiman (Arab traveler-850) described Mihira Bhoja one of the greatest Gurjar emperors.
- Mahendrapala- I (885-910 CE)
- Mahipala- I, Al-Mas'udi (Arab traveler- visited India around 915 CE )

### OTHER RAJPUT DYNASTY

#### Chavdas

- Chavdas (circa 690-942 CE )became independent after the decline of Maitraks.
- Vanraja founded the city of Anahilavad (Patan).
- Patan, an ancient fortified city, was founded in 745 AD by Vanraj Chavda, the most prominent king of the Chavda Kingdom. He named the city “Anhilpur Patan” or “Anhilwad Patan” after his close friend and Prime Minister Anhil Gadariya.

- Panchasara Parshwanath Jain Derasar is one of the largest of more than 100 Jain temples in Patan. Dedicated to Shri Parshwanathji, it was built by King Vanraj Chavda around 746 CE.



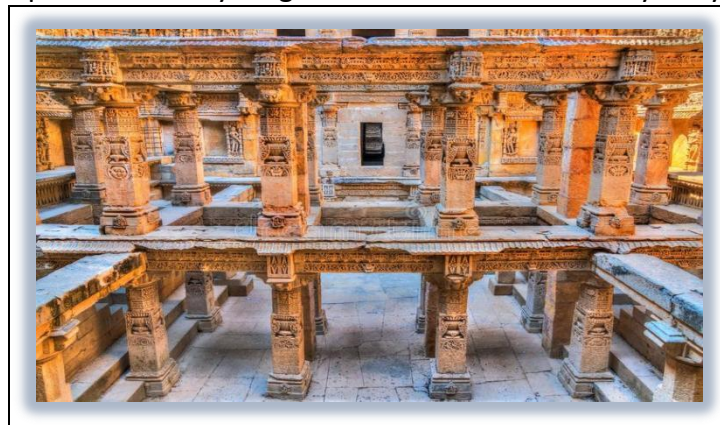
**Solanki Dyanasty**

- Samant Singh established Solanki dynasty in Circa 940 CE.
- Mulraj I- (941-955 CE) made Añahilaváḍa (Patan) capital of Gujarat – established Somnath temple as a pilgrimage of his kingdom.
- Bhim I (1022-1064 CE)- reconstruction of Somnath temple , his feudatory Vimalshah constructed Jain temples of Dilwara in Mountabu.



**Sun Temple**

- Modhera sun temple was built by King Bhimdev I of the Solanki dynasty in 1026 AD.



**Rani ki Vav**

(UNESCO's World Heritage Site)

- **Rani ki Vav** was built by Rani Udayamati in memory of her husband Bhimdev I (1022 - 1063 AD) of the Solanki dynasty. Rani ki Vav was built in the complex Maru-Gurjara architectural style.



- Karndev I (1064-1094 CE) (Associated with Karnavati (Ahmedabad) was the last king of Vaghela Dynasty.
- Siddhraj Jaysinh (1094-1133 CE) (introduced “**Sinh Samvant** “1113-1114 CE).
- The Rudra Mahalay Temple was built in the 12th century by Siddhraj. The temple is an architectural wonder with a three-storeyed 'shikhara', 1600 pillars, 12 entrance doors, central mandap and porches in four directions. Around the temple, there were 11 shrines of Rudra.
- Kumarpal – (1143-1172 CE) Protector of Jainism, Hemchandra wrote ‘Kumarpal Charita based on the life of Kumarpal.
- Ajaypal- (1172-1176 CE).
- Mulraj II
- Bhim II- He defeated Muhammad Ghori (1178 CE-**Battle of Kayadra**) and Qutab-ud-din Aibak (1195).



- This famous monument of Shiv temple was built by BHIMDEV SOLANKI (II) in between 1178 to 1240 AD. According to local legend, this temple was built by a Devdasi in a single night. Muhammad Ghazni damaged the temple. The temple was neglected for many years and many of its artifacts were stolen.
- Mahmud Ghazni attacked on Somnath temple around 1025-27 CE.
- Muhammad Ghori attacked on Gujarat around 1178 CE (**Battle of Kayadra**)

### Vaghela Dynasty

- Karandev was the important ruler.
- Qutab-ud-din Aibak attacked on Chalukya around 1195.
- Vaghelas were defeated by Alaudin khiliji in 1297 CE and annexed Gujarat in his kingdom.

### The Sultans of Delhi - (1206- 1526 CE)

#### Rule by Governors Appointed by Sultan of Delhi

- Governors under Khalji dynasty- Ulugh Khan, Alp Khan ( 1310–1315) Kamal al-Din Gurg ( 1315-1316), Ain-ul-Mulk Multani (1318).
- Timur invaded India in 1398 , after this attack many regional rulers asserted their independence from sultans of Delhi.
- Last Tughluq governor Zafar Khan declared himself independent in 1407 and formally established Gujarat Sultanate.

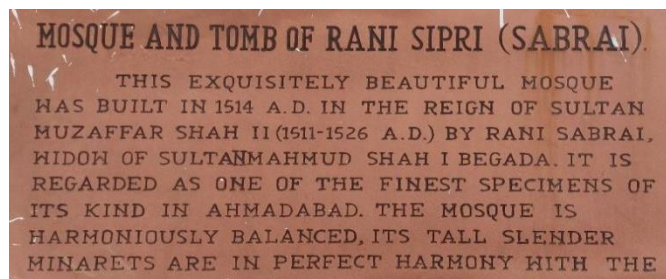
## Independent Ruler (Regional Power)

- Zafar Shah (last Subedar of Delhi Sultanate ) declared independence form Delhi
- Ahmad Shah I (1411-1441) was the first independent Muslim ruler of Gujarat and founded Ahmedabad on the bank of river Sabarmati.
- The Historical city of Ahmedabad was Built within the 12 Darvajas. They were the gate way of Ahmedabad.



The Tin Darvaja

- Mahmud shah 1458/59-1511- The most famous ruler of Gujarat, known as Mahmud Begada because he won Pavagadh and Junagadh forts, fought many battles (**Battle of Chaul - famous**) with Portuguese. **Duarte Barbosa visited India during his period.**
- Rani Sipri Mosque is an old mosque built by the wife of Sultan Mahmud Begada, Queen Sipri. It was also known as Rani Sipri ni Masjid or Masjid-e-Nagina. It is one of the significant sacred places of worship for Muslims in Ahmedabad.

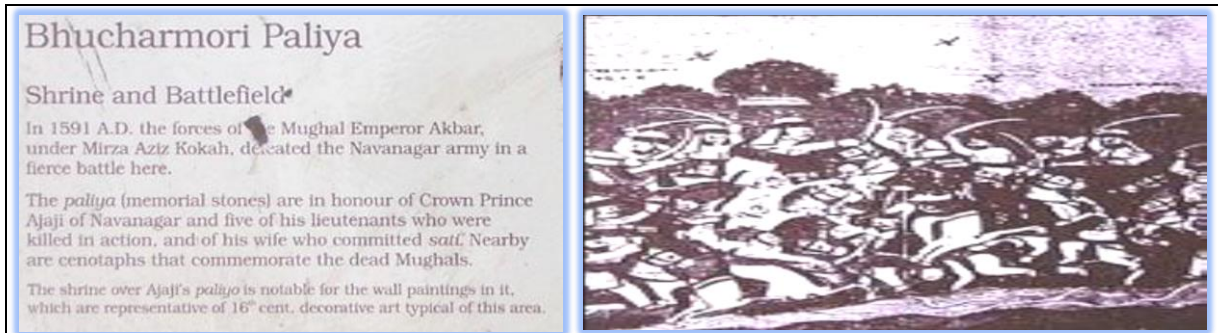


- Sikandar shah
- Bahadur shah (1526-1537 CE) was defeated by army of Mughals (1535-36)

## Mughals (1556-1705)

- Akbar (1542 -1605 CE) conquered Gujarat in 1572 and it became part of Mughal empire (Included in 12 Subas (Province ).
- Akbar's foster brother Mirza Aziz Kokaltash was appointed as the viceroy.
- Khan Sarovar is situated outside the South Gate in Patan, Gujarat. The tank was constructed using the stones from ruined structures in the year 1589 AD by Mirza Aziz Kokah, the then Governor of Gujarat.
- The Battle of Bhuchar Mori, also known as **Battle of Dhrol**, was fought between the army of Kathiawar led by Nawanagar State and the Mughal army at Bhuchar Mori near Dhrol, in Jamnagar district, Gujarat. It was meant to protect Muzaffar Shah-3, the last

Sultan of Gujarat Sultanate who had taken asylum under Jam Sataji of Nawanagar after his escape from the Mughal emperor Akbar. It was fought in Vikram Samvat 1648, July 1591. The Kathiawar army included the armies of Junagadh and Kundla who betrayed Nawanagar and joined the Mughal army at last. The battle led to a large number of casualties on both sides. The battle resulted in the victory of the Mughal army.



- The Mughal emperor Shah Jahan was appointed as the 'Subedar or Governor of Gujarat during the regime of Jahangir. Shah Jahan's wife Mumtaz Mahal is believed to have given birth to Aurangzeb in November 1618, inside the fort of Dahod, known as Fort of **Ghaddi**.
- Aurangzeb, prince Dara Shikoh, and later prince Murad Bakhsh also acted as viceroys in Gujarat
- Pir Muhammad Shah was a Hussaini Sayyid and a well-respected Sufi who lived in Ahmedabad during the rule of Aurangzeb.



- During Aurangzeb's rule Muhammad Azam Shah acted as viceroy.
- South Gujarat was lost to the Marathas.
- Marathas also captured Ahmedabad for short time.

### Maratha

- Chatrapati Shivaji attacked Surat twice in 1664 and again in 1672.
- The Peshwas had established their sovereignty over Gujarat including Saurashtra, and collected taxes and tributes through their representatives.
- Damaji Gaekwad and Kadam Bande divided the Peshwa's territory between them, with Damaji establishing the sway of Gaekwad over Gujarat and made Baroda (present day Vadodara) his capital.



- In 1802 Gaekwads concluded the Treaty of Cambey with the British that recognized their independence from the Maratha empire.
- Maharaja Sayaji Rao III who took the throne in 1875, did much to modernize Baroda, establishing compulsory primary education, a library system and the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda He also encouraged the setting up of textile factories, which helped create Baroda's textile industry. He is well known for offering B. R. Ambedkar a scholarship to study at Columbia University.



**Maharaja Sayaji Rao III**

- Maharaja Sayajirao Gaekwad III of Baroda, invited Raja Ravi Varma, who was among the India's greatest artists during British rule, to paint at his court.
- The Nawabs of Babi dynasty ruled the Junagadh State. The construction of the Mahabat Maqbara was started in 1878 by Nawab Mahabat Khan II (1851–82) and ended in 1892 during the reign of Nawab Bahadur Khan III (1882–92)



- This air palace located in Wadhwan taluka of Surendranagar district was built by Rajvi Dajirajbapu of Wadhwan in 1818.

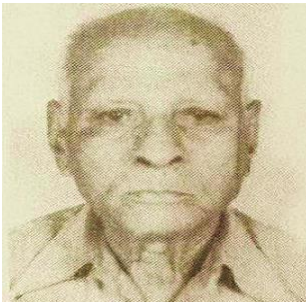
### **Portuguese**

- Portugal was the first European power to arrive in Gujarat.
- Nino da Cunha (1534 ce) acquired Diu and Bassein from Bahadur Shah of Gujarat.

- Established their rule in Daman, Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli .
- The Daman and Diu were taken by India with the Annexation of Goa in 1961.
- In 1961 Jamni Ramji Bartha along with other members of the senior panchayat went to Delhi and signed the recommendation letter for the merger of 'Dadra & Nagar Haveli' with India.



Jamni Ramji Bartha



Shri. Jayant Desai



Late Shri Krishnarao G. Chauhan

- Shri. Jayant Desai was one of the main pioneers of the freedom movement of Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
- The area of Dadra and Nagar haveli was captured by pro-India forces in 1954.

### British

- William Hawkins came at Jahangir's court to seek permission to open a factory at Surat.
- A **Farman** was issued by Jahangir permitting the English to build a factory at Surat (1613).
- After third Anglo Maratha war, large part of Gujarat came under British empire.
- Gujarat was under the jurisdiction of Bombay presidency

### Dutch

- Dutch set up factory at Surat in 1616 CE

### French

- The first French factory was established at Surat by Francois Caron after 1664 CE.

## Freedom Movement in Gujarat - Fighters and Movements

- 1857 revolt started in Ahmedabad .
- Revolts were also seen in Godhra, Jhalod, Dahod .
- Naykada people revolted in Panchmahal area .
- Surajmal was the leader in Lunawada.
- Other rebellion – Thakorejivabhai, **Waghers** of Okhamandal ( Jodha Manek)

## Freedom Fighters of Gujarat

- Mahatma Gandhi



### Kochharab Ashram

Kochharab Ashram, also spelt Kochrab Ashram, was the first ashram founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915, following his return to India from South Africa.

- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- Morarji Desai
- K.M. Munshi
- Narhari Parikh
- Mahadev Desai
- Mohanlal Pandya
- Ravi Shankar Vyas
- Usha Mehta
- Perin Captain
- Gopaldas Ambaidas Desai
- Vinod kinariwala
- *Shyamji Krishna Varma*

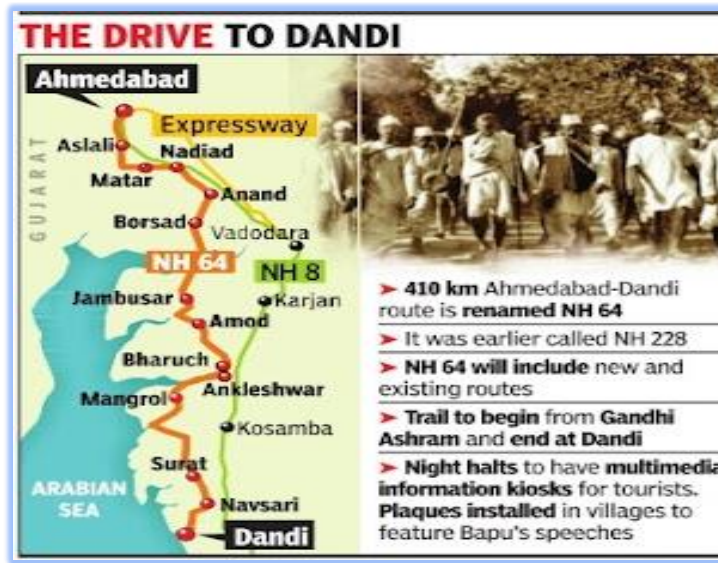
### MANGADH HILLS (Dahod)- A Barbaric Tribal Massacre

- Buried in the Aravalli mountain range on the Rajasthan-Gujarat border, is a barbaric tribal massacre, carried out on November 17, 1913, nearly a century ago. The agitation was held under leadership of Shri. Govind Guru six years before the Jaliawala Bagh for social movement (Bhagat Movement for emancipation of Bhil Tribe). This incident happened at Mangadh hills in which more than 1500 innocent people, most of the Tribal, were massacred by Britishers.

### Important movement in Gujarat

- Kheda - [Mahatma Gandhi](#) launched, the [Satyagraha](#) struggle against oppressive taxation by the British.
- Bardoli- [Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel](#) led the movement of Bardoli satyagraha where Vallabhbhai Patel got the title "Sardar" by women.
- Borsad- it was a movement against tax.
- Salt Satyagraha/ Dandi march - On **March 12, 1930**, Gandhiji set out from Sabarmati with 78 followers on a 241-mile march to the coastal town of **Dandi**.





- **Dharasana Satyagraha (VALSAD)** -On May 21, the poet **Sarojini Naidu** led 2,500 marchers on the Dharasana Salt Works. The incident, recorded by American journalist **Webb Miller**, prompted an international outcry against British policy in India.
- In the words of **Webb Miller**, a reporter for United Press: “Not one of the marchers even raised an arm to fend off the blows. They went down like ten-pins. From where I stood, I heard the sickening whacks of the clubs on unprotected skulls. Those struck down fell sprawling, unconscious or writhing in pain with fractured skulls or broken shoulders. In two or three minutes the ground was quilted with bodies. Great patches of blood widened on their white clothes. The survivors without breaking ranks silently and doggedly marched on until struck down...”

#### HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF BALACHADI (JAM NAGAR)

- There was a campsite for Polish refugee children of World War II, built by K. S. Digvijaysinhji, Jam Saheb Maharaja of Nawanagar in 1942, near his summer resort. He gave refuge to hundreds of Polish children rescued from Soviet concentration camps. The campsite is now part of the Sainik School. There were other bigger Polish settlements in India at the time in areas such as Valivade and Panchgani in Maharashtra. Valivade was the largest settlement of Polish citizens In India during the war.



- **Amul** is an Indian [dairy](#) state government [cooperative society](#), based at [Anand](#) in [Gujarat](#). Formed in 1946, it is a cooperative brand managed by the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (GCMMF),
- [Tribhuvandas Kishibhai Patel](#) under the guidance of [Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel](#) became the founding chairman of the organization
- Varghes Kurien, founder-chairman of the GCMMF for more than 30 years (1973–2006), is credited with the success of Amul's marketing.



**Kurien, Tribhuvandas & Dalaya**

### **GUJARAT - After 1947**

- The First Schedule in the 1949 Constitution recognised States in Parts A, B, and C, and Territories in Part D.
- The province of Gujarat was included in Bombay state ( part A state).
- in 1956 the province was enlarged to include Kachchh(part c) and Saurashtra(part b).
- 1 May 1960, Gujarat (**15<sup>th</sup> state of India** )and Maharashtra became the new states of India.
- The first capital of Gujarat was Ahmedabad; the capital was shifted to Gandhinagar in 1970.

#### **SOURCE**

**Wikipedia**

**Lucent's general knowledge book**

**Kiran Competition Times**

**Medieval History by P. Singh**

### **MAJOR TOURIST PLACES OF GUJARAT**

#### **WHITE RANN OF KUTCH**



- With the Thar Desert on one side and the Arabian Sea on the other side, Rann of Kutch is a spellbinding marvel of sand and salt.
- It is about 80 km from Bhuj and 413 km from Ahmedabad.
- It is one of the top places to visit in India, and among the must include places in Gujarat packages.
- It lies between the Gulf of Kutch and the Indus River in Pakistan and comprises flatlands of salty clay located about 15 meters above sea level.
- A large part of the Kutch, commonly known as the Great Rann of Kutch, submerges in water during the rainy season and becomes dry during the winter season.
- Spread over an area of 7500 sq. km, the Great Rann of Kutch, formed of salt marshes, is considered one of the largest salt deserts in the world and among the most popular tourist places in Kutch.

### **VADODARA**

- Located on the banks of Vishwamitri River, Vadodara is a beautiful city in the western Indian state of Gujarat.
- It is situated at a distance of 109 km from Ahmedabad .



- Formerly called Baroda, Vadodara is the third-largest city in Gujarat, after Ahmedabad and Surat.
- The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, Lakshmi Vilas Palace, Baroda Museum, , are some of the notable architectural monuments in Vadodara.
- Often called the Cultural Capital of Gujarat, the city of Baroda comes alive during the Navratri celebrations. No city in India celebrates the festival of Navratri with as much zeal and energy as Vadodara does.

### **JUNAGADH**

- Located in the foothills of Mount Girnar, Junagadh is the seventh-largest city in Gujarat and among the best tourist places in Gujarat.
- It is about 91 km from Somnath, 103 km from Rajkot, and 319 km from Ahmedabad.





- The literal meaning of the term 'Junagadh' is an 'old fort' which derives from Uparkot, an ancient fort built in the 4th century CE on a plateau in the middle of the town.
- Besides, Mahabat Maqbara, Durbar Hall Museum, Mount Girnar, Sakkarbaug Zoological Garden, Ashoka's Rock Edicts, and Buddhist Caves are some of the best Junagadh tourist places.

### **PATAN**

- Patan is an ancient fortified city located on the banks of Saraswati River in Gujarat, India
- It is one of the popular heritage destinations in India situated about 129 km from Ahmedabad.



- The city is shielded by the fort walls and gates, which prevent the ancestral aura and old-world charm from escaping.
- From medieval forts to an ancient Kali temple built in the Solanki Dynasty, this settlement is bound to take you through the bygone eras .
- Rani ki Vav or the Queen's Stepwell has the unique most architectural attributes and is the must-visit place in Patan.
- Besides, Patan is also famous for Patola sarees, one of the finest hand-made textiles in the world.
- It has its origin in a very intricate and difficult technique of tie-dyeing and knot dyeing known as 'Bandhani'.
- Spotless Jain Temples and numerous talavs or lakes enhance the glamour of this town.

### **BHUJ**

- Often called the Jaisalmer of Gujarat.
- It is situated about 78 km from Kutch, 232 km from Rajkot, and 334 km from Ahmedabad.
- Located in the western part of India, Bhuj is the most important city in the Kutch region of Gujarat and also the capital of the former princely state of Kutch.



- Shree Swaminarayan Temple, Bhujia Hill Fort, Aina Mahal, Prag Mahal Palace, Hiralakshmi Memorial Craft Park, Kutch Fossil Park, Tapkeshwari Temple, and Rudramata Dam are some of the top tourist places in Bhuj.

### **JAMNAGAR**

- Ideally located at the confluence of Nagamati River and Rangmati River, Jamnagar is a city on the coast of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat.
- About 92 km from Rajkot, and 310 km from Ahmedabad, it one of the famous Gujarat tourist places.



- Often called the Jewel of Kathiawar, Jamnagar is an industrial city of Gujarat brimming with exquisite Rajput architecture and a pristine coastline.
- Ranjit Singh reconstructed the city on European town planning principles, under the guidance of Sir Edward Lutyens - architect of New Delhi.
- Jamnagar is also known as the Chhoti Kashi as the whole town is dotted with several Hindu and Jain temples.
- Pratap Vilas Palace, Ranmal Lake, Lakhota Palace and Museum, Bala Hanuman Temple, Darbar Gadh, Adinath Jain Temple, and Khijadiya Bird Sanctuary are some of the top tourist places in Jamnagar.

### **PORBANDAR**

- Porbandar is a beautiful coastal city located in the Indian state of Gujarat. About 183 km from Rajkot, and 399 km from Ahmedabad, it is one of the popular places to visit in Gujarat.



- Located along the banks of the Asmavati River, Porbandar is an important city in India's history due to being the birthplace of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The most fascinating feature of Porbandar holiday packages is the haveli where Gandhiji was born which has now been converted into a temple called Kirti Mandir.

- Sudama Mandir, Bharat Mandir, Shri Hari Mandir, Chowpatty Beach, Porbandar Bird Sanctuary, Ghumli, Huzoor Palace, and Darbargarh Fort are some of the top tourist places in Porbandar.

### **PALITANA**

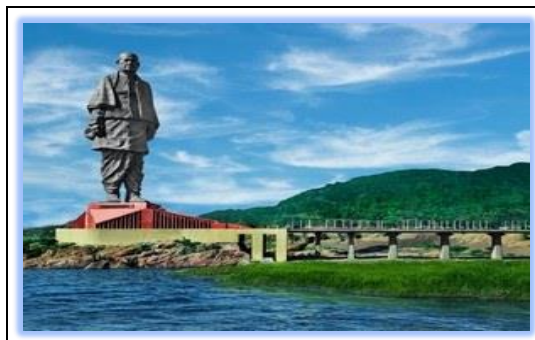
- Earlier known as Padliptapur, Palitana is one of the holiest places of pilgrimage in Gujarat, and among the best places to visit near Ahmedabad.
- It is about 171 km from Rajkot, and 214 km from Ahmedabad.



- Palitana is a famous destination in Gujarat for being the base to the holy Shatrunjaya hill which is home to 863 exquisitely carved Jain temples built by devotees during a period spanning 900 years from the 11th century onwards.
- Along with Mount Abu, Girnar, and Chandragiri, Shatrunjaya hill is one of the most sacred places for the Jains, and among the most significant places to visit as part of Palitana packages.
- Meticulously carved in marble, the temples in Palitana are famous for their architectural beauty.
- The architectural motifs of this temple are notable. Kumarpal temple, Chaumukh temple, Vimalshah temple, and Sampriti Raja temple are the other Palitana places to visit.

### **KEVADIYA**

- Kevadiya is a census town in the Narmada district of Gujarat.
- It is one of the top places to visit in Gujarat as the Statue of Unity is located here. It is about 85 km from Vadodara, and 189 km from Ahmedabad.
- Nestled between the Satpura and Vindhya mountain ranges, the tribal village of Kevadia is home to a 182 m tall statue of the Ironman of India Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.
- This is the 'Tallest Statue in the World' and is the must-include place in Kevadiya packages.





- Besides the Statue of Unity, Valley of Flowers, Jungle Safari, Cactus Garden, Butterfly Garden, Khalwani Eco-tourism, Zarwani Waterfall, the Narmada Dam, etc are some of the popular places to visit in Kevadiya.

### **ADALAJ STEPWELL (NEAR AHMEDABAD)**

- At a distance of 21 km from Ahmedabad Junction, Adalaj Step-well, also called Adalajni Vav is a stepwell located in the village of Adalaj near Ahmedabad city of Gujarat.
- It is one of the famous places of heritage in Gujarat, and among the must-include places in Ahmedabad tour packages.



- Also known as Rudabai Step well, Adalaj Step well was built in 1499 by Queen Rudabai, wife of Vaghela chief, Veer Singh.
- According to history, the construction of step-well was started by King Rana Veer Singh and he died in a war with King Mahmud Begada unfortunately.
- The step-well is built in the Solanki style of architecture with Islamic influence. It consists of five storey, each of which is uniquely designed with beautiful carvings all over the walls and columns.

### **LOTHAL (NEAR AHMEDABAD)**

- Lothal is an excavated site situated in Bhal region in Dholka of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- It is at a distance of 42 km from Nalsarovar and 79 km from Ahmedabad.
- Lothal is one of the prominent cities of the ancient Indus valley civilization and among the best historical sites in Gujarat.



- Literally called 'Mound of the Dead', this ancient and desolate ruined city of Lothal provides a fascinating insight into the life of the Harappan culture and the Indus Valley Civilization.

- The origin and history of Lothal can be dated back to 2400 BC. Discovered in the year 1954, Lothal is one of the primary sites of Archaeological Survey of India. The excavation work here began in 1955 and was continued till 1960.
- Like other cities of the Indus Valley Civilization, Lothal too had an excellent architecture and town planning.

### **JAMBUVAN CAVE (NEAR PORBANDAR)**

- At a distance of 17 km from Porbandar Railway Station, Jambavan Cave is an ancient cave located at Ranavav near Porbandar city of Gujarat.
- Situated near Saurashtra Cement Factory, it is one of the historical places in Gujarat and among the most visited tourist places in Porbandar.



- Also known as Jambavant Cave or Jambuvantki Gufa, this cave was the resting place of the warrior Jambuvan, who had his own special role in both the Hindu epics; Ramayana and Mahabharata.
- It is believed that this is the place where Lord Krishna and Jambuvan fought for the Syamantaka jewel for 28 days. Recognizing Lord Krishna and his powers, Jambuvan withdraws from the fight and gives the gem and his daughter to the Lord.

### **ATAL BRIDGE - SABARMATI RIVERFRONT**



- **Atal Bridge Ahmedabad** - Timing, location, ticket price: Atal Bridge, a foot-over bridge (FOB) on Sabarmati River in Ahmedabad, was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 27 August 2022, the pedestrian-only bridge is now thrown open to the public.
- The steel bridge, named after former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, has a unique design, complete with LED lighting.

- **Atal Bridge Ticket Price:** There is a ticket charge to use the bridge as set by Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation Limited (SRFDCL).
- For the age group between 12 and 59 years, the ticket price is Rs 30. Senior citizens and children (3 to 12 years) will have to pay Rs 15. Entry for kids below 3-year age and differently-able people is free.
- **Atal Bridge Timing :** The Atal Bridge remains open from 9 am to 9 pm for all pedestrians and cyclists. Visitors are allowed on the bridge only for 30 minutes maximum.
- The visitors should also keep in mind they cannot bring any food items on the bridge. Smoking or chewing pan is also prohibited.
- **Atal Bridge Length & Design :** The bridge, about 300 meters long and 14 meters wide, is built using 2,600 metric tonnes of steel pipes. Its roof is beautified with colourful fabric and the railing has been built with glass and stainless steel.
- It also consists of a flower garden on the western end and an art and culture centre is coming up on the eastern end.

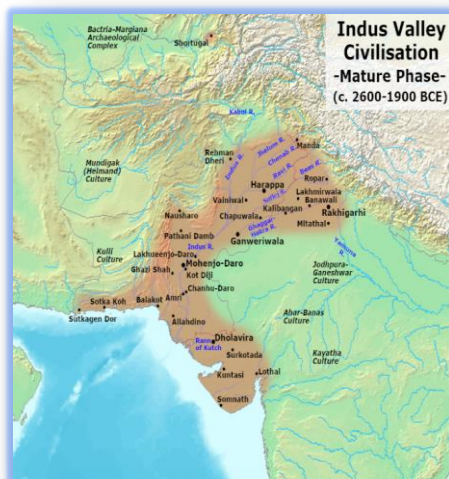
### SAPUTARA

- Saputara in **Gujarat** is located about 164 km from Surat, about 1000 m above sea level on the **Maharashtra-Gujarat** border.
- Blessed with natural beauty and bio-diversity, Saputara enjoys cool climate throughout the year and has much to offer in the form of gardens, parks and sanctuaries. Minimally commercialized and still unspoiled,
- Saputara is an ideal tourist spot to enjoy with your family. The hills and forests around the hill station are an ideal place for trekking enthusiasts. Trekking trails to Rajat Pratap and to Tridhara near Dhupgarh are very popular.



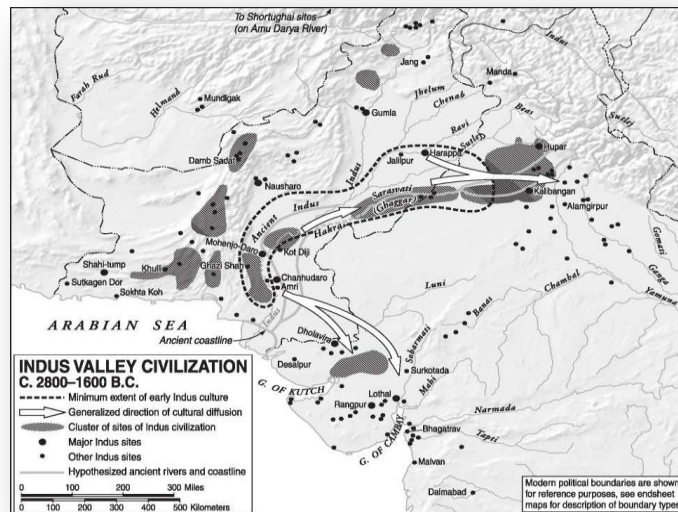
- The town is also known as the 'Abode of Serpents' and even has a shrine to serpent god on the banks of river Sarpaganga.

### GUJARAT & INDUS VALLEY CIVILIZATION





## LOCATION OF SITES



### **SURKOTADA (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ) (FOSSILS DOMESTIC ANIMALS WERE FOUND)**



Ruins at Surkotada



- Surkotada is a small, 3.5 acre site northeast of Bhuj, in Gujarat, approximately 50 kms from Rapar.
- The Harappans came to Surkotada around 2300 B.C. and built a fortified citadel and residential.
- Good number of bones of horse (*Equus Caballus*) and ass (*Equus asinus*) have been recovered.
- It was discovered and excavated by Shri Jagat Pati Joshi of ASI in 1964-1968.
- The mound has an average height of five-to-eight meters (east-to-west) at the time of its discovery.

### **JUNI KURAN (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ) (FORTIFIED CITADEL, LOWER TOWN, PUBLIC GATHERING AREA)**

- The stadiums would have been used for communal gatherings, cultural programmes and games among other social activities. The stadiums are situated on the southern side of the citadel having two gateways.

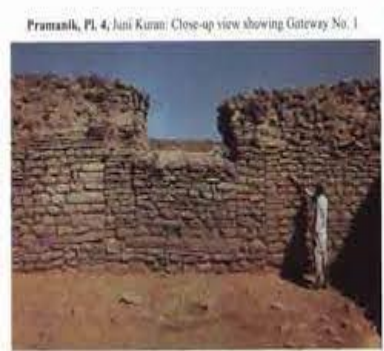




Pramantik, Pl. 3, Juni Kuran: Details showing Gateway No. 2



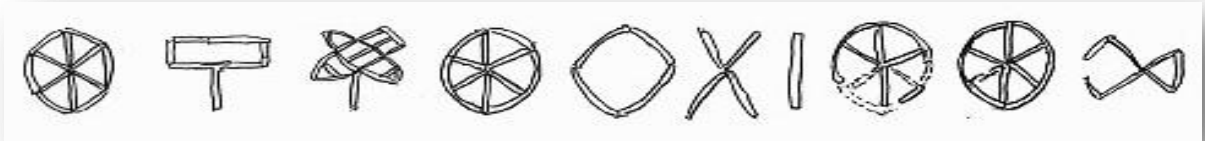
Pramantik, Pl. 2, Juni Kuran: General view of stadium No. 1 and Gateway



Pramantik, Pl. 4, Juni Kuran: Close-up view showing Gateway No. 1

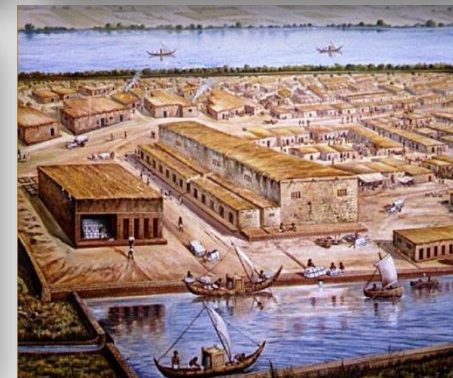
- The latest found Harappan site is stadia at Kuran, a small village located in the Pachcham Island of Kutch, Gujarat.
- Experts say they were used for communal gathering.
- Archaeologists say that if Lothal is famous for its dockyard and Dholavira for reservoirs, then Kuran should be known for its stadia unearthed recently.
- The stadium number one was meant for the common people while the other stadium was for the elite class.

### DHOLAVIRA (DIST:- KUTCH , BHUJ) (WORLD'S FIRST SIGNBOARD)



- UNESCO has included Dholavira of Kutch in the list of World Heritage Sites in 2021.
- Dholavira is the larger of the two most remarkable excavations of the Indus Valley Civilization or Harappan culture, dating back to 4500 years ago.
- Dholavira, known locally as Kotada (which means large fort), sprawls over 100 hectares of semi-arid land at the north-west corner of the island of Khadir, one of the islands in the Great Rann of Kutch
- Dholavira has one of the world's earliest water conservation systems ever excavated.
- Dholavira is one of the two largest Harappan sites in India, and 5th largest in the subcontinent.

### **LOTHAL (DIST:- AHMEDABAD) (WORLD'S FIRST KNOWN DRY DOCK)**

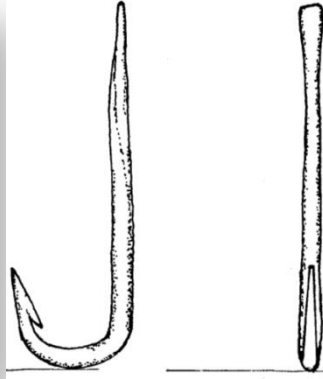


- It is said that Lothal is a combination of two words; Loth and thal, which in Gujarati means 'the mound of the dead'.
- About 80km southwest of Ahmedabad, the city that stood at this archaeological site 4500 years ago was one of the most important of the Indus Valley civilization, which extended into what is now Pakistan.
- The site has been nominated to be enlisted as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Artifacts suggest that trade may have been conducted with Mesopotamia, Egypt and Persia.
- Archaeologists believe that the city was a part of a major river system on the ancient trade route from Sindh to Saurashtra in Gujarat.



## BET DWARKA (DIST:- DEV BHUMI DWARKA)

(LATE HARAPPAN SEAL, INSCRIBED JAR, THE MOULD OF COPPERSMITH, A COPPER FISHHOOK)



- During investigations undertaken in the 1980s, the remains of earthen pots and other artifacts of Late Harappan period were found near Sidi Bawa Peer Dargah.
- In 1982, a 580 meter long protection wall dated 1500 BC was found, which is believed to be damaged and submerged following a sea storm.
- The artifacts recovered include a Late Harappan seal, an inscribed jar and a mold of a copper-smith, also a copper fishhook. The temples on the island are built around end of eighteenth century.

## GOLA DHORO, BAGASARA (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ)

(CRAFT PRODUCTION)



Side View of the Seal



Shell Bangles Excavated at  
Gola Dhoro



Unique Gola Dhoro Seal

- Gola Dhoro is an archaeological site belonging to Indus Valley Civilization, situated at the head of the Gulf of Kutch, near Bagasara in Kutch district of Gujarat.
- The site contains a small fortified area of approximately 50x50 m. with living quarters and manufacturing sites both inside and outside this area.
- The site is believed to date from 2500-2000 BC.
- Gola Dhoro specialized in the production of shell bangles and semi-precious stone beads as well as objects of copper and faience.
- This unwalled town with a walled citadel seems to have been a centre for trade and industry.

- Artifacts found are craft items of shell, semi-precious stone, stone beads, faience and copper, unique unicorn seal with hollow place looking some sort of container inside, other harappan seals (total six), copper knives with bone handles, copper artifacts, etc.

### **KANJOTAR & KAJ (CERAMIC ARTIFACTS, INCLUDING BOWLS, ANCIENT PORT)**



### **(Animal Bones)**

- Kaj is composed to one earthen mound and several houses. It appears that it was inhabited after the Indus period by a people who traded with the Roman Empire.
- Due to the discovery of a stone anchor, it has been proposed by Gaur that Kaj was a port town.
- Kanjotar (near muldwarka) is composed of two earthen mounds. One of these is located on the eastern side of the village, next to a modern temple. The other is situated two kilometers away. It is speculated by Ratnagar that Kanjotar could be a port town.

### **KOTADA BHADLI (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ) (EVIDENCE OF DAIRY PRODUCTION)**



#### **(Age-old story: Analysis of residues on ancient pots show the earliest evidence of dairy processing.)**

- Kotada Bhadli is an archaeological site of the Indus Valley civilization.
- Evidence of dairy production has also been found at the site by analyzing residues on ancient pots. The researchers consider them the earliest direct evidence of dairy product processing, thus throwing fresh light on the rural economy of the civilization.
- The studies were carried out on 59 shards of pottery from Kotada Bhadli, a small archaeological site in present-day Gujarat.



**KHIRASARA (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ)**  
**(WARE HOUSE, INDUSTRIAL AREA, GOLD, COPPER, SEMI-PRECIOUS STONE, SHELL OBJECTS, AND WEIGHT HOARDS)**



**(Khirasara excavation site)**

**(Archaeological artifacts recovered)**

- Khirasara is an archaeological site belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- This site is located in Nakhatrana Taluka of Kutch district in the western Indian state of Gujarat.
- It is located on the bank of Khari River. The site is 85 km from Bhuj, the district headquarter.
- During 1976-77 exploration, an Archaeological Survey of India official discovered a big cubical weight, chunks of pottery, sprinklers and spouts of red polished ware from the site.
- Specimens of fine perforated pottery were discovered from the site during the excavation. Seals found at this site are exhibited at Kutch Museum. A "warehouse" found at the site had 14 parallel walls.
- The warehouse measured 28 meters by 12 meters while the walls had an average length of 10.8 meters and 1.55 meters breadth.
- Its structure above the walls was made of wood and daub.

**KUNTASI (DIST:- MORBI)**  
**(DEVELOPED PORT)**



Terracotta Wheels at Kuntasi



- Kuntasi is an archaeological site (locally known as Bibi-no-Timbo) which is identified as a port belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization.
- This site is located on the right bank of Phulki River, about 3 km south-east of Kuntasi village and 30 km from Morbi in Gujarat. It is five km inland from present shore line.
- A stone platform ran along the western side of the wall, and adjoining this inside the walled town were a substantial industrial complex and a number of storage facilities.
- Two cylindrical stone anchors, suggesting seaborne activity were also found.
- A small pot with copper hoard, few copper bangles, two finger rings and more than thousand micro beads of steatite were also found.

### **LOTESHWAR (DIST:- PATAN)**

- Loteshwar is a village and an archaeological site belonging to Indus Valley Civilization located at Patan district, Gujarat, India.
- This site is locally also known as Khari-no-Timbo and located on a high sand dune on left bank of Khari river, a tributary of Rupen River.
- Loteshwar is recognized as ancient site occupied since sixth millennium BCE by hunter gatherer community and by fourth millennium BCE domestic animals like sheep and goat were also kept.



Underground Trench at Loteshwar

### **RANGPUR (DIST:- AHMEDABAD)**

- Rangpur is an ancient archaeological site near Vanala on Saurashtra peninsula in Gujarat
- Lying on the tip between the Gulf of Khambhat and Gulf of Kutch, it belongs to the period of the Indus Valley Civilization, and lies to the northwest of the larger site of Lothal.
- It is the type site for the Rangpur culture, a regional form of the late phase of the Indus Valley Civilization that existed in Gujarat during the 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BCE. Based on the distinct pottery excavated here, it was identified as a separate culture or subculture.
- Acacia wood was used in Rangpur for construction, tools and furniture. Dishes with beaded rim and grooved shoulder, painted black - and redware and high-necked jars.
- Evidence of shell working found. Other artifacts found at the site include axes, beads of steatite and carnelian and Earthen wares.



Rangpur City

### ROJDI (DIST:- RAJKOT)

- Rojdi is an archaeological site belonging to the Indus valley civilization. It is located on the northern bank of the Bhadar River in Gondal taluka of Rajkot district in central Saurashtra peninsula of Gujarat.
- It was continuously occupied from 2500 BCE to 1700 BCE.
- There was also a systematic excavation at an outer gateway and at an isolated structure at the northern slope of the site.
- The houses in Rojdi were built on stone foundations, probably with mud walls above them.
- No bricks were found, baked or otherwise, in the excavations. No wells, bathing platforms and the associated street drains were found either.
- The most frequently found vessel is the hemispherical red ware bowl, often with a stud handle, this accounts for over half of all shreds recovered from Rojdi.
- Its overall character suggests a farmer's village.

### SHIKARPUR (DIST:- KUTCH, BHUJ)



#### (Stone bead and bead roughouts)

- Shikarpur is a village in Bhachau Taluka of Kutch district of Gujarat.
- The archaeological site is 4.5 kilometers (2.8 miles) south of Shikarpur, at Valmio Timbo.
- Pottery with various types of drawings and engraved designs were also found.
- The artifacts found are ornaments of semi-precious stones, steatite and terracotta, bangles made of shell and terracotta, copper chisels and knives, arrowheads, rings, terracotta toy cart frames, and animal figures.
- A depiction of a human torso made of terracotta was another important finding: this is well-baked, but the arms, head and lower part of the body are broken off.

### VEJALKA (DIST:- BOTAD)





- Vejalka is a village in Ranpur Taluka of Botad district in Gujarat.
- The site is located 50 km from Lothal which is major archaeological site of the region.
- There are around 190 Harappan sites in the state, most in Kutch and Saurashtra region.
- It is a rural centre which supplied raw material to urban centres. During the excavation, the archaeologists found a large number of pottery, animal bones, mud walls, beads and stone blades. The beads and stone blades suggested that there was a small scale industry at the site.
- The mud structures inform about domestic architecture of the time.

**Resources & Data Collection:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indus\\_Valley\\_Civilisation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indus_Valley_Civilisation)

<https://www.gujarattourism.com/experiences.html?cid=22>

<https://www.gettyimages.in/photos/indus-valley>

**Compiled By:** Mr. Priyakant C. Tarpara,

TGT-Social Science, K. V. Sabarmati.

**ધર્મ અને આસ્થા નું પ્રતિક**

**Temples of Gujarat**

**AKSHARDHAM TEMPLE**

- 'Akshardham' literally means the divine abode of God. It is an eternal place for one to offer devotion and experience everlasting peace.



- **Swaminarayan Akshardham** in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India is a large Hindu temple complex inspired by Yogiji Maharaj (1892-1971).
- Located in the capital of Gujarat, the complex was built over 13 years and is a tribute to Swaminarayan and his life and teachings.
- The focal point of the complex is the Akshardham Mandir, which measures 108 feet high, 131 feet wide and 240 feet long and features 97 carved pillars, 17 domes, 8 balconies, 220 stone beams and 264 sculpted figures.
- Opened on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1992.

**HUTHEESING JAIN TEMPLE**





- **Hutheesing Temple** is a Jain temple in Ahmedabad in Gujarat, India.
- It was constructed in 1848 by Hutheesing family.
- The temple blends the old Maru-Gurjara temple architecture style with new architectural elements of haveli in its design.
- The construction of the temple was initiated originally planned by Hatheesing Kesarisinh a wealthy trader of Ahmedabad who died at the age of 49.
- The construction was supervised and completed by his wife Harkunwar.
- **Address:** Hutheesing Jain Temple, Camp Rd., Bardolpura, Madhupura, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380004

### **DWARKADHISH TEMPLE, DWARKA**



- Dwarkadhish Temple is best known as Jagat Mandir. Many people call this temple as Trilok Sundar Mandir.
- Dwarkadhish temple is a part of the admired Chardham yatra in the Hindu religion.
- Temple is dedicated to Lord Krishna; the temple is more than 2500 years old and appeals devotees from all across the globe.
- The main door is known as 'Moksha Dwara' which means Door to Salvation is the North entrance, on the other hand, the south door is known as 'Swarga Dwara' which means

Gate to Heaven. On the backside of the door, there are 56 steps, which leads to prominent River Gomati.

- The temple is also the 108th Divya Desam of Lord Vishnu. On top of this temple is a flag with a sun and a moon on it, which is changed three times a day.
- The existing structure of the temple was created around the 15th and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family.

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day.

**Timings–** 06:30 AM to 01:00 PM and 05:00 Pm to 09:30 PM

**Entry Fee:** No entry fee

**Best Time to Visit Dwarkadhish Temple:** October to March

**Location:** Dwarka, Gujarat 361335, India

**How to Reach Dwarkadhish Temple:** Nearest airport– Jamnagar airport (45 km), Nearest railway station– Dwarka and Jamnagar railway station (132 km)

### SOMNATH TEMPLE, SOMNATH



- Somnath temple is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas of Lord Shiva, the renowned Hindu Architecture -Somnath temple is known to be one of the most gorgeous temples in Gujarat that exist from prehistoric times.
- It is believed that the temple was initially built by the Moon God in gold, recreated by Ravana in silver and then by Lord Krishna in wood and then King Bhimdev in stone.
- The temple was badly spoiled and robbed of its riches by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1024 AD.
- It is also known as Deo Pattan, Prabhas Pattan, and Somnath Pattan.
- The present structure was established by the maintenance of Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel in the year 1950.
- Now, it is being managed by Shree Somnath Trust.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family.

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Timings–** 06:00 AM to 09:30 PM

**Entry Fee:** No entry fee

**Best Time to Visit Somnath Temple:** September to March is the best months to visit Somnath, as the winters are quite cold

**Location:** Somnath Mandir Rd, Veraval, Gujarat 362268, India

**How to Reach Somnath Temple:** Nearest airport- Keshod airport (55 km), Nearest railway station- Veraval railway station- 7 km.

### SUN TEMPLE, MODHERA



- One of the furthestmost stunning Hindu temples in Gujarat, it is built in such a way that the sun shines on the image of Surya chakra, from sunrise to sunset.
- This Temple was founded in the 11th century by King Bhimdev of the Solanki Dynasty and is placed on a small hill in Modhera, around 106 km north-westwards of Ahmedabad.
- The main hall and the shrine are braced by exquisitely carved pillars with statues of gods and demons.
- The temple is situated on the banks of Pushpavati River; the temple is devoted to Sun God. Its interior hall has 12 niches that epitomize the monthly displays of God.
- Temple Also has a dedicated spot to Lord Vishnu, Lord Ganesha, Lord Shiva, and Sitala Mata.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family.

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 12° C

**Timings–** 06:00 AM to 06:00 PM

**Entry Fee:** Free

**Best Time to Visit Sun Temple:** October and March

**Location:** On Becharaji, Highway, Modhera, Gujarat 384212, India

**How to Reach Sun Temple:** Nearest airport- Ahmedabad airport (102 km), Nearest railway station- Mehsana railway station (40 km)

### RUKMINI TEMPLE, DWARKA





- Rukmini Temple is dedicated to Idol Rukmini, the partner of Lord Krishna, Rukmini Devi Temple is a trivial temple, which is relatively popular for its beautiful artifacts and two of its beautifully -designed panels.
- It is said that the temple was built around the 12th century. The partitions of the Rukmini temple are decorated with stunning paintings, portraying various events of Goddess Rukmini with the Lord. It is around 1.5 km northwards of the town.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family.

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 22° C

**Timings**– 05:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 04:00 PM – 09:00 PM

**Entry Fee:** Free

**Best Time to Visit Rukmini Temple:** Throughout the year except on Ekadashi days and full moon days.

**Location:** Rukmini Devi Temple, Dwarka, Gujarat, India

**How to Reach Rukmini Temple:** Nearest airport- Jamnagar airport (45 km), Nearest railway station- Dwarka and Jamnagar railway station (132 km).

### BHALKA TIRTH, SOMNATH



- Bhalka Tirth at near Veraval in Saurashtra is located 4 kilometers away from the Somnath temple and a must-visit place in Veraval.
- Bhalka's Tirth is the place where Lord Krishna was fallacious for a deer, while he was ruminating in the jungle, and was hurt by an arrow by a hunter.
- Placed within Somnath and Veraval, this is the site where he left the earth for his blissful place. The spot is on the meeting of three rivers- Hiran, Kapila and Saraswati, called Sangam. Also nearby is the temple named Mahaprabhuji's Bethak, devoted to Lord Krishna along with an old Banyan tree.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family.

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 22° C

**Timings**– – 06:00 AM to 09:00 PM

**Entry Fee:** Free



**Best Time to Visit Bhalka Tirth:** September to March

**Location:** Bhalka, Veraval, Gujarat 362265, India

**How to Reach Bhalka Tirth:** Nearest airport- Keshod airport (55 km), Nearest railway station- Veraval railway station- (7 km)

### SHRI SHATRUNJAYA TEMPLES, PALITANA



- Shri Shatrunjaya Temples are situated at Shatrunjaya in Palitana. These are the holiest places to visit by the Jain community.
- Shikharji and this place hold utmost importance and is considered to be built by Kumarpal Solanki, a great Jain patron.
- The Jains believe that visiting these temples will offer them Nirvana or salvation. Carved with around 863 marbles, this temple is dedicated to Rishabha.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 22° C

**Timings:** NA

**Entry Fee:** No Entry Fee

**Best Time to Visit Shatrunjaya Temple:** Throughout the year

**Location:** Palitana, Gujarat 364270

**How to Reach Shatrunjaya Temple:** Bhavnagar is the nearest airport from the temple which is located at a distance of 51 kms. From here one can hire a taxi.

### JAGANNATH TEMPLE, AHMEDABAD



- This beautiful temple is located in Ahmedabad and primarily dedicated to Lord Jagannath.
- This temple was established around 450 years ago and built by Sadhu Sarangdasji .it is known for its Rath Yatra festival.
- This temple was once attacked by the Muslims during the 1969 Gujarat riots.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 22° C

**Timings:** 5am–1pm, 3–9:15pm

**Entry Fee:** No Entry Fee

**Best Time to Visit Jagannath Temple:** Throughout the year

**Location:** Shri Jagannathji Mandir Trust, Nr. Jamalpur Darwaja, Jamalpur, Ahmedabad, Gujarat 380022.

**How To Reach Jagannath Temple:** The nearest airport is Ahmedabad from the temple

### BHADKESHWAR MAHADEV TEMPLE



- This is an abode of Lord Shiva . The Shivalinga was found in the Arabian sea around five thousand years ago.
- The temple gets submerged in the ocean for a short period each year which is said that the ocean performs Abhishekham of the Linga.
- At this place Shivratri is performed with much vigour and joy at a grand scale.
- This place is also a major spot to enjoy a beautiful sunset and sunrise in the ocean.

**Ideal For:** All- Couple, Group, Solo, Family

**Ideal Trip Duration:** 1 day

**Weather:** 22° C

**Timings:** NA

**Entry Fee:** NA

**Best Time To Visit Bhadkeshwar Mahadev Temple:** Throughout the year

**Location:** Near Circuit House, Sunset Point, Dwarka, Gujarat 361335

**How To Reach Bhadkeshwar Mahadev Temple:** Nearest airport- Jamnagar airport (45 km), Nearest railway station- Dwarka and Jamnagar railway station (132 km).

## SANDIPANI TEMPLE



- This beautiful temple is located in Porbandar and is dedicated to the pure friendship of Sudama and Krishna.
- This is one of the only places in the world which still holds the loyalty and devotion of Sudama.
- It is also called the Shri Hari Mandir which took almost 13 years to build. Boasting one of the grandest structures among all the temples in Gujarat, this temple is visited by both Indian and foreign tourists.

## AMBAJI TEMPLE, BANASKANTHA



- Ambaji Temple in Banaskantha district is one of the 51 Shakti Peethas in India.
- The temple is located on the Arasur hill in the Aravalli Range.
- **How to Reach: Air:** Nearest airport is Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport at Ahmedabad which is about 186 km from Ambaji. **Train :** Abu Road station which is at a distance of 20 km from Ambaji is the nearest railway station. It is well connected to major cities including Delhi.

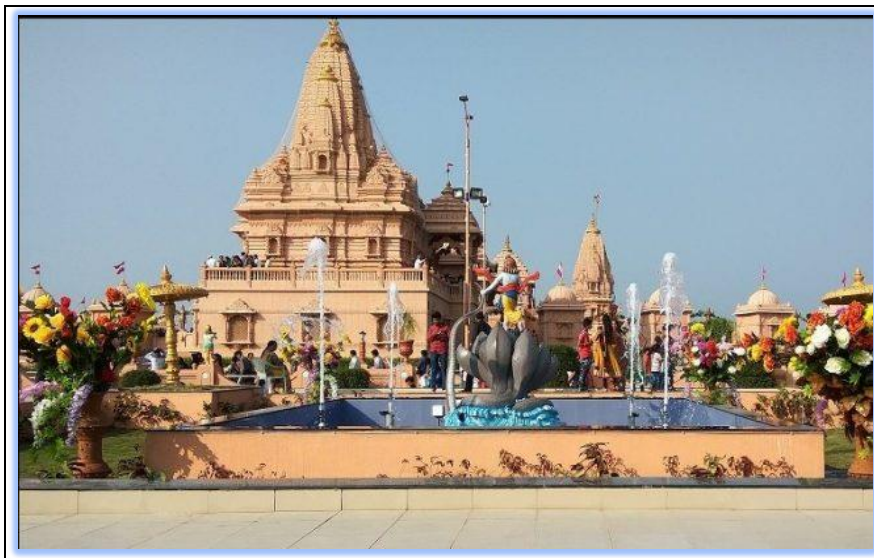


## KALIKA MATA TEMPLE, PAVAGADH



- Kalika Mata Temple at Pavagadh is part of the Champaner Pavagadh Archaeological Park.
- The temple is great holy Shakti Peethas, located at summit of Pavagadh Hill.
- Mahakali is located at a height so you need to climb or reach through a rope way.
- **By Rail :** The nearest railway station to Pavagadh is Champaner located at a distance of **1 km**. But, not many trains are scheduled to **Champaner Railway Station**. You can reach **Vadodara** by train and then board the train to reach Champaner. From Champaner you need to **hire a vehicle** and reach Pavagadh.
- **By Bus:** There is no major bus to Pavagadh. A better option is to reach Vadodara or Champaner and then hire a cab or drive your personal vehicle to reach Pavagadh.
- **By Air: Vadodara Airport** is nearest to Pavagadh. Pavagadh is **48 km** from the Vadodara airport. It's convenient to hire a cab and reach Pavagadh.

## NILKANTH DHAM SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE, VADODARA



- Nilkanth Dham Swaminarayan Temple in Poicha near Vadodara is a beautiful temple on the bank of river Narmada.
- The temple is constructed in very huge area and a must visit place near Vadodara.
- **By Rail** : The nearest railway station to Poicha is at Rajpipla at a distance of 13.3 Km. However, the Vadodara Railway station is just 62.4 Km from Poicha.
- **By Air** : The Vadodara Airport is 62.4 Km from Poicha. You can avail a flight to Vadodara and easily reach Poicha by bus or personal cab.
- **By Road** : The best way to reach Poicha is by road. Hire a cab or drive your personal vehicle to Poicha. It's also convenient to take a GSRTC bus or private deluxe bus and reach Poicha.

### KIRTI MANDIR



- Mahatma Gandhi was born in a home wedged in the narrow lanes of Porbandar on 2nd October 1869.
- The memorial that stands adjacent to the modest ancestral house of the family is known as Kirti Mandir.
- A sprawling courtyard is surrounded by a photo gallery that showcases the trajectory of Gandhi's life.
- The exact place where he was born is the highlight for many travellers.
- This was originally a three-storey house that went through some modifications since Mahatma Gandhi's grandfather constructed it.
- The foundation of the present modern structure, Kirti Mandir, was laid in 1947 during the lifetime of Gandhi by Shri Darbar Gopaldas Desai, a noted Gandhian and socialist.
- The memorial was completed in 1950 after the Mahatma's passing away and was inaugurated by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on 27 May 1950.
- **By Road**: The city also has ample state and private bus services from major connections in the state.
- **By Train**: The city also has a railway station from major connections in the state.
- **By Air**: Porbandar has a domestic airport which has reasonable connectivity to cities in India.

## AGRICULTURE IN GUJARAT

Gujarat is the largest producer of major cash crop like **cotton, groundnut, tobacco, cumin, sesame, etc. in India. Other major crops produced are Rice, Wheat, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Tur, and Gram.** Gujarat has an agricultural economy. The total crop area amounts to more than one-half of the total land area.

### COTTON



- Gujarat is the largest producer of cotton growing and contributing 35% of total cotton production in the country.
- The total area under cotton cultivation in Gujarat is 2.45 million hectares of which 0.35 million hectares is under drip irrigation
- The varieties grown are Digvijay and Gujarat cotton-11. This zone consists of area lying **north east of the river Sabarmati, Kutch and Saurashtra excluding Mathio tract.**
- The districts covers under this zone are Banaskantha, Mehsana, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Junagadh, Jamnagar and Kutch).

### POTATO



- Banaskantha has become one of the leading district in potato production.
- Banaskantha produces around 17.10 lakh MT of potatoes.
- Farmers have adapted drip irrigation system which has helped to increase productivity per hectare.
- Banaskantha contributes around 52% of the state potato production.
- Potatoes are grown in **25 talukas in Gujarat i.e.** Deesa, Vadgam, Dantiwada, Dhanera, Palanpur, Ladol, Vijapur, Nandol, Dahegam, Manasa, Chaklasi, Borivi, Kanjari, Chhani, Lunawada, Modasa, Prantij, Dhansura, Idar, Prantij, Jamnagar, Dwarka, Anjar.



## GROUNDNUT



- Gujarat is the largest producer of groundnuts in India.
- **It is both grown during Kharif and Rabi seasons.** Apart from Gujarat, it is cultivated in West Bengal and Rajasthan. Groundnuts are a rich source of protein.
- "Gujarat is expected to harvest a record groundnut crop of **38.55 lakh tonnes during the current Kharif season**, which is about 8.74% higher when compared to 35.45 lakh tonnes produced in the previous year.

## JEERA



- **Gujarat** is the single largest producer of jeera in the country accounting for over 60-70% of total production and the rest of the yield comes from Rajasthan.
- Gujarat and Rajasthan together account for about 99% of jeera production in the country while the other states produce negligible quantities.
- Ambaliya said that as compared to north Gujarat, cultivation cost of jeera remains high in **Devbhumi Dwarka**, one of the 11 districts of Saurashtra region.

## TOBACCO



- In Gujarat, tobacco is cultivated in around 1.59 lakh hectare, the major type being bidi tobacco.
- The other types of tobacco grown in Gujarat are chewing (Lal and Kala chopadia), Hookah (Gadaku) and rustica, which are grown in about 40,000 ha.
- Total production comes to about 263 million kg with a productivity of 1658 kg/ha.
- India's First Deputy Prime Minister Vallabhbhai Patel Was Born In Kheda District of Gujarat State. Kheda city is famous for tobacco farming.

## SUGARCANE



- In Gujarat we can find sugarcane being produced in – **Kachchh, Narmada, Navsari, Surat, Saurashtra, Tapi, Surendranagar** etc.
- Today, there are **around 554** sugar mills and factories in the state of Gujarat.

## Diamond Industry of Surat



- The word 'Diamond' brings sparkle in every woman's eyes. These precious stones are best weapons to woo a woman, be it proposing for a wedding or gifting on anniversaries. Today diamond epitomizes prosperity, endurance, dignity and peerless quality.
- Surat produces insignificant amount of diamonds, however due to the availability of low waged workers and presence of the international market, Surat prevails the diamond polishing industry.
- The diamond industry started when a local business man in Surat had brought a boat full of diamond cutters from East Africa to commence the city's diamond polishing industry in 1901.
- The diamond cutting and polishing industry started way back in the 1960s when some entrepreneurs belonging to the Patel community of Saurashtra started importing rough



diamonds and exporting polished diamonds. This industry grew gradually until 1980s after which there was rapid growth.

- In 2005, Surat was reported to have cut 92% of the entire world's diamond pieces and earned India \$15 billion in exports.

## PATAN PATOLA HERITAGE



- It mentions women wore it for holy ceremonies. Patola entered Gujarat in the 11th century via Maharashtra's Jalna district. The fabric was a symbol of wealth and faith of king Kumarpal of Solanki Dynasty in Patan.
- Patola has a very old history. It is believed that the word "Patola" must have been derived from the word "pat", and in Sanskrit it is called "patta" and in telugu "patola".
- It has been mentioned in the tour-depiction that in 1342 A.D. a merchant named Ibn Battuta gifted Patolas to many kings in their courts.
- Patola is a double ikat woven sari, usually made from silk, made in Patan, Gujarat, India.
- The word patola is the plural form; the singular is patolu. They are very expensive, once worn only by those belonging to royal and aristocratic families.
- The story begins more than 900 years ago, with a king named Kumarpala. The king had a passion for Patola, one of the most luxurious textiles in the world.

## ALANG SHIP BREAKING YARD



- Alang Ship Breaking Yard is the world's largest ship breaking yard, responsible for dismantling approximately half of all ships salvaged around the world.
- It is located on the Gulf of Khambhat in Alang, Bhavnagar, Gujarat, India.
- Since its establishment in 1983, the shipyard has acquired a total of 110.6 billion US dollars, including total assets.



- Its growth has prompted its extension north-east towards Sosiya in Gujarat, and it is now often referred to as the Alang-Sosiya Yard.
- Alang Ship Breaking Yard is the world's largest, followed by Aliğa Ship Breaking Yard (Turkey), Chittagong Ship Breaking Yard (Bangladesh) and Gadani ship-breaking yard (Pakistan).
- In the 1980s, Gadani was the largest, but competition from newer facilities such as Alang resulted in a significant reduction in output, with Gadani today producing less than one-fifth of the scrap it produced in the 1980s.

### BANDHANI



- Bandhani work is done on fabrics like super fine cotton, muslin, and silk and mulmul cloth as well.
- The bandhani work was first started by the Khatri community in Gujarat some 5,000 years ago.
- Jamnagar, located on the Gulf of Kutch is well known for its patronage, valor, and arts and crafts.
- The color and design elements of the region are illustrated through the Bandhani (tie and dye) creations.
- The beautiful history of Puranic lore gave way to the development of dye work, embroidery, bead work, wood and metal work. Bandhani is a unique way of coloring the cloth by tying into tiny knots that had been folded several times already.
- This cloth is dyed in colors several times till the desired shade of color is achieved. Bandhani work is done on fabrics like super fine cotton, muslin, and silk and mulmul cloth as well.
- The work is mainly done with dark colors.
- The main colors being used in this work include black, yellow, blue, red and green. The colors can be both natural and artificial.
- The end result of bandhani work turns out into symbols like dots, stripes, waves or squares. These final results are called as patori, khombhi, ghar chola and chandrokhani depending on the designs.
- Different colors of dye represent different occasion. A red bandhani work represents new bride. Similarly, a yellow work represents a new mother.

## GIFT CITY - GANDHINAGAR



- GIFT City is an integrated development on 886 acres of land with 62 mn sq. ft. of Built Up area which includes Office spaces, Residential Apartments, Schools, Hospital, Hotels, Clubs, Retail and various Recreational facilities, which make this City a truly “Walk to Work” City.
- GIFT City consists of a conducive Multi-Service SEZ (Special Economic Zone) and an exclusive Domestic Area.
- This City is a Vertical City which optimizes land area consumption for development.
- The City is located on the bank of river Sabarmati connecting the Business capital (Ahmedabad) and Political capital (Gandhinagar) of Gujarat State- the Growth Engine of India.
- GIFT City is a new Financial & Technology Gateway of India for the World.
- GIFT City is an emerging global financial and IT services hub, a first of its kind in India, designed to be at or above par with globally bench-marked business districts.
- It is supported by state-of-the-art infrastructure encompassing all basic urban infrastructure elements along with an excellent external connectivity.
- Companies from Financial Services, Technology and all other services sector will be targeted as potential occupants within the city.

## AMUL-ANAND MILK UNION LIMITED



- **Amul** is an Indian dairy state government co-operative society, based at Anand in Gujarat.
- Formed in 1946, it is a co-operative brand managed by the Gujarat Co-operative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd. (GCMMF), which today is jointly controlled by 36 lakh milk

producers in Gujarat, and the apex body of 13 district milk unions, spread across 13,000 villages of Gujarat.

- Tribhuvandas Kishibhai Patel under the guidance of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel became the founding chairman of the organization and led it until his retirement in the 70s.
- He hired Vergheese Kurien in 1949 and convinced him to stay and help with the mission.
- Vergheese Kurien, known as the "Father of the White Revolution" in India, made dairy farming India's largest self-sustaining industry and the largest rural employment sector providing a third of all rural income.

## RELIANCE



- Dhirajlal Hirachand Ambani (28 December 1932 – 6 July 2002), popularly known as Dhirubhai Ambani, was an Indian business tycoon who founded Reliance Industries.
- Ambani took Reliance public in 1977 and was worth US\$2.9 billion in 2002 upon his death. In 2016, he was honoured posthumously with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honour for his contributions to trade and industry.
- Reliance Commercial Corporation was founded by Dhirubhai Ambani in 1966 as a polyester firm. It was renamed to Reliance Industries on 8 May 1973.
- Reliance later entered into financial services, petroleum refining, power sector. By 2002 Reliance had grown into a US\$15 billion conglomerate.
- All type of production like house hold and electronic – electrics material and all investment field are covered by reliance group.

## AHMEDABAD (OLD NAME – KARNAVATI) THE HERITAGE CITY

Ahmedabad is India's first city to have been designated as the World Heritage City by UNESCO. It attracts several visitors to witness the plethora of historic sites which have impressive stories to support behind them.

### TIN DARWAZA / TEEN DARWAZA





### Tin Darwaza – C.A.D. 1414

- The Historical city of Ahmedabad was Built within the 12 Darvajas. They were the gate way of Ahmedabad.The Tin darwaja are one of the finest of them.
- This imposing gateway of three arches was built in or about 1414 by Sultan Ahmed Shah I (1411-1442) , the founder of Ahmedabad as the main portal of his citadel called the Bhadra
- It preserves a slab of Marble bearing a Nagari inscription dated Saka 1734 (A.D. 1812), which was affixed to it by ChimANJI Raghunatha , a Maratha Subedar of Ahmedabad to proclaim his order for determining a Daughter’s right of accession to the estate of her father.

***“Let the daughter get her due share of father’s property without any hitch. So is Lord Vishwanath’s command. If you defy, the Hindu will have to answer Mahadev”***

- The Teen Darwazas are located 300 meter in the east of Bhadra Fort.
- The Teen Darwaza is an integral part of Ahmedabad heritage due to its highly decorated buttresses on piers.

### THE JAMA MASJID, AHMED SHAH’S TOMB POPULARLY KNOWN AS BADSHAH KA HAZIRA



**TOMB OF SULTAN AHMAD SHAH-I**  
 THIS ELEGANT EDIFICE POPULARLY KNOWN AS BAD-SHAH KA HAZIRA IS THE MAUSOLEUM OF SULTAN AHMAD SHAH I (A.D. 1411-42). BUILT ON A SQUARE PLAN, IT IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN AHMADABAD ON A RAISED PLATFORM. IT CONSISTS OF A CENTRAL HALL WITH FOUR SMALL CHAMBERS AT THE CORNERS

QUTBUDDIN AHMAD SHAH II. (DIED IN 1458 A.D.) BUILT IN THE LIFE-TIME OF THE SULTAN AHMAD SHAH HIMSELF ALONG WITH THE ADJACENT JAMI MASJID. IT WAS REPAIRED IN A.D. 1537 BY A NOBLEMAN ENTITLED FARHATUL-MULK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF AHMAD CHHAJJU, AS IS EVIDENT FROM A PERSIAN INSCRIPTION COMPOSED BY THE POET YAHYA.

ANDA PILLARED PORTICO, PROJECTING FROM THE MIDDLE OF EACH SIDE AND ON THE SOUTH, FACING THE ENTRANCE, IS ENCLOSED BY BEAUTIFULLY PERFORATED STONE SCREENS. THE CENTRAL HALL IS CROWNED BY A MASSIVE DOME OF TRABEATE PATTERN AND CONTAINS THE GRAVES OF SULTAN AHMAD SHAH I. (DIED IN 1442 A.D.) HIS SON MUHAMMAD SHAH II. (DIED IN 1451 A.D.) AND GRANDSON

- The Jama Masjid is the biggest mosque of Ahmedabad
- This mosque complex is 110 meter long and 66 meter wide.
- This Elegant edifice popularly known as Badshah ka Hazira is the mausoleum of Sultan Ahmed Shah-I (AD 1411-1442).
- Build on a square plane, it is the first of its kind in Ahmedabad on raised platform.
- It consists of a Central Hall with four small chambers at the corners and a pillared portico, projecting from the middle of each side and on the south, facing the entrance is enclosed by beautifully perforated stone screens.
- After walking 300 meter from Teen Darwaza towards east, there comes 'Jama Masjid' or **Jumah Masjid (Friday Mosque)**, It was much bigger in size in comparison to Sahi Jam-e-Masjid. Sultan Ahmed Shah-I constructed this mosque in 1424.
- The central and largest arched gateway to prayer hall has two grand size columns, actually base of its principle minarets which were collapsed in the 1819 earthquake. Even though, its minarets have broken but still the structure looks complete and perfect in itself.

## THE HAZRAT PIR MOHAMMAD DARGAH SHARIF AND LIBRARY

### PIR HAZARAT LIBRARY







- The library is located within the premises of the tomb-shrine complex of Pir Muhammad Shah (1688 – 1749).
- Sunni Vohras of the Kadi jamat are also followers (*murids*) of Pir Muhammad Shah. Pir Muhammad Shah wrote five *sujaras*. Dargah sharif of Hazrat Pir Muhammad Shah is a well-known historical site where many go to visit the *dargah* and library.
- Pir Muhammad Shah was a bi-lingual poet and wrote profusely in Persian and Dakhani.
- Pir Muhammad Shah was a Hussaini Sayyid and a well-respected Sufi who lived in Ahmedabad during the rule of Aurangzeb.
- His father died before his birth and his uncle, 'Abd al-Rahman, trained the young Muhammad Shah in religious scholarship and practical Sufism.
- The Pir was a great lover of learning and possessed an extraordinary memory.
- During his lifetime, the Pir and his *murids* (disciples) had amassed a large collection of manuscripts and books of academic and spiritual value.
- These are housed in the "kutubkhana" (library).
- Among his many works, the best known is *Nur al-shuyukh* in Persian which is a versified history in the *mutaqarib* meter.

### THE BHADRA FORT



- The fort was built by the emperor Ahmed Shah in 1411. The fort's name is taken from the Goddess Bhadrakali who is also considered the "Nagar Devi". The fort was also called Ark fort.
- The history of any city can be seen in its monuments.



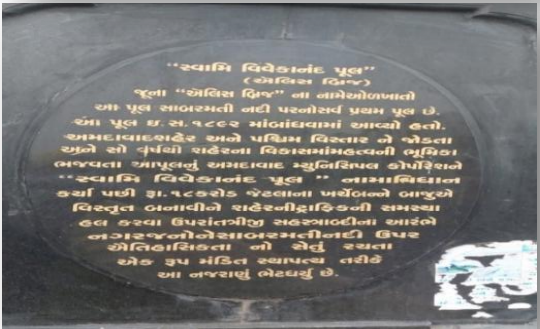
- It was a fort cum palace of Ahmed Shah. The British captured the fort in 1817 and used it as a prison until Independence. After independence, the fort is mainly used as a complex for the government offices.
- Its gate formed the eastern entrance of the Ahmedabad city, which stretched west to the river.

### THE SIDI SAEED MOSQUE



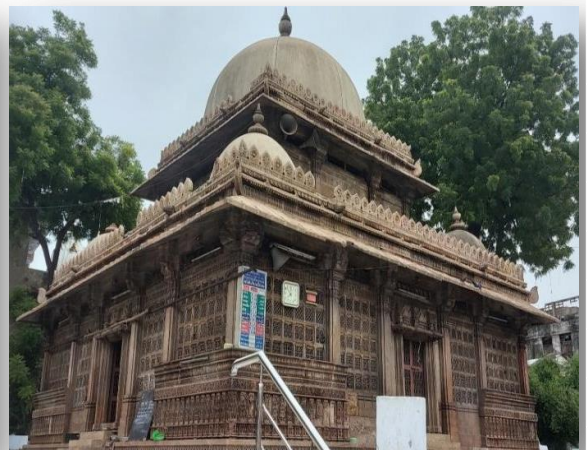
- One of the outstanding attractions of the city is the ancient Sidi Sayed Mosque located near Lal Darwaja.
- The mosque of Sidi Saeed was built in 2572 AD by an Abyssinian known as Sidi Saeed.
- He came from Habshah (Ethiopia) via Yemen to Gujarat and later served Sultan Nasir-ud-Din Mahmud.
- Today these Jalis, depicting the tree of life have become a distinguished symbol of the city of Ahmedabad.
- The grave of Sidi Saeed (died 24 December 1576) is situated within the compound of the mosque.
- The classic religious site was built by Sidi Saeed in 1572 with the help of 45 skilled artisans.
- It is more prominent for the stone latticework. Lattice stone work Jali gained so much prominence that it proved to be the inspiration for the design of the logo of the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad.

## THE ELLIS BRIDGE (NOW ALSO KNOWN AS SWAMI VIVEKANAND BRIDGE)



- During the British rule the first Bridge on the river Sabarmati was built in order to connect the east and the west Ahmedabad. The original wooden bridge was constructed by British engineers in 1870-71.
- It got destroyed by floods in 1875. A steel bridge was built in 1892 by engineer Himmatlal Bhachech and it was named after Sir Ellis, the commissioner of the North Zone. The steel was brought from Birmingham. Himmatlal built it at a very low cost.
- The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation declared the Ellis Bridge and its boundary, Manek Burj and the natural water drain near one of the banks of Sabarmati river protected sites in May 1989.
- In 1997, new concrete bridges were constructed on either side of the steel bridge to support heavy traffic. The original steel bridge is preserved as a heritage landmark.

## MOSQUE OF RANI SIPRI (SABRAI)





## MOSQUE AND TOMB OF RANI SIPRI (SABRAI)

THIS EXQUISITELY BEAUTIFUL MOSQUE WAS BUILT IN 1514 A.D. IN THE REIGN OF SULTAN MUZAFFAR SHAH II (1511-1526 A.D.) BY RANI SABRAI, WIDOW OF SULTAN MAHMUD SHAH I BEGADA. IT IS REGARDED AS ONE OF THE FINEST SPECIMENS OF ITS KIND IN AHMADABAD. THE MOSQUE IS HARMONIOUSLY BALANCED, ITS TALL SLENDER MINARETS ARE IN PERFECT HARMONY WITH THE

OPEN PRAYER HALL. THE DELICATE TRACERIES AND JEWEL LIKE CARVINGS ARE SUGGESTIVE OF FEMININE GRACE. THE SQUARE TOMB IN FRONT OF THE MOSQUE IS ENCLOSED BY PERFORATED STONE SCREENS. THE INNER SQUARE OF 12 PILLARS RISING TO A HEIGHT OF TWO STORIES IS CROWNED BY A SINGLE DOME. THE PRINCIPAL GRAVE IN THE CHAMBER IS ASCRIBED TO RANI SABRAI.

-o-o-o-

- Rani Sipri Mosque is an old mosque built by the wife of Sultan Mahmud Begada, queen Sipri.
- It was also known as Rani Sipri ni Masjid or Masjid-e-Nagina. It is one of the significant sacred places of worship for Muslims in Ahmedabad.
- One of the priceless gems of the city located in the walled city of Ahmedabad was built by Queen Sipri in 1514.
- The mosque was built after the king and the queen had executed their son for an offence. Situated near Astodia Darwaza, it also houses the burial remains of the queen.
- Rani Sipri was the daughter of a Hindu chief who had married one of the sons of Ahmed Shah.
- Inter religion marriages were common those days and as such historic sites built by the rulers reflected a merge of Hindu, Jain and Islamic styles of Architecture .
- Travellers would appreciate its ancient architecture that perfectly blends the Islamic and Hindu styles of architecture.

## MOSQUE AND TOMB OF BIBIJI ( BIBIJI MASJID) JHULTA MINARA – THE SHAKING MINARETS



## MOSQUE AND TOMB OF BIBIJI

THIS IS ONE OF THE LARGEST MOSQUES FAMOUS FOR ITS SHAKING MINARETS. THE FACADE OF THIS MOSQUE IS UNIQUE IN DETAILS. IN ADDITION TO THE THREE CENTRAL ARCHWAYS, ITS WINGS ARE IN THE SHAPE OF A TRIPLE ARCHED FORMATION HAVING A DOORWAY AND SIDE-OPEN WINDOWS WITH RICHLY CARVED SCREENS. UNDER THEM THE MINARS ARE MASSIVE BUT



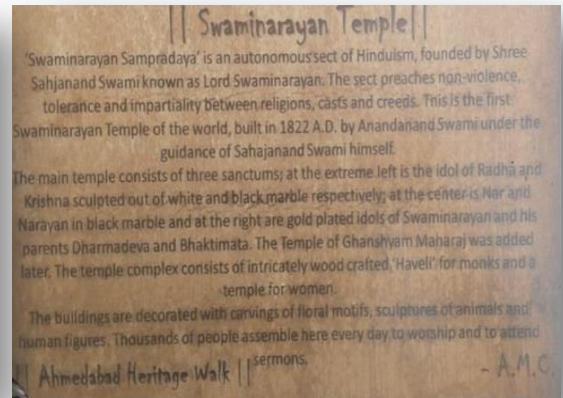
ELEGANT IN APPEARANCE. ITS LOWER PARTS ARE RICHLY CARVED AND ITS NICHE'S FILLED IN WITH FLORAL ORNAMENTATION OF VARIED PATTERNS. IN THE NORTH END OF THE PRAYER HALL IS THE MULKHANA OR ROYAL GALLERY ENCLOSED BY PERFORATED SCREENS.

THE MOSQUE WAS BUILT BY MAKHDOHA-T-JAHAN, MOTHER OF SULTAN OUTBUDDIN-AHMAD SHAH II IN 1454 A.D. THIS ROYAL LADY LIES BURIED IN THE MAUSOLEUM WHICH IS SITUATED TO THE EAST OF THE MOSQUE.



- Ahmedabad is the home of one of the masterpiece of sculpture known as “Jhulta Minar”.
- The Minars are three storey high with carved balconies.
- Also known as Shaking Minarettes, they are within the Sidi Bashir Mosque built in 1452 AD.
- This is one of the largest mosques famous for its shaking minarets.
- In the north end of the prayer hall is the Mulkhana or Royal Gallery enclosed by perforated screens. The mosque was built by Makhduma-i-Jahan , mother of Sultan Qutbuddin Ahmed Shah II in 1454 AD.
- This royal lady lies buried in the mausoleum which is situated to the east of the mosque.
- These structures have left the best of architects and pioneering design engineers intrigued and in unresolved wonder.
- What one cannot unravel is when one minaret is shaken the other begins to vibrate. The 500 year old structure is located in the Sakar bazar of Ahmedabad.
- It was initially a part of the Sidi Bashir mosque which was torn down during Gujarat Sultanate war.
- The minarets were to be the entrance of the mosque. The minarets have a striking architecture that makes them stand out and leave the visitors in awe

### THE KALUPUR SWAMINARAYAN TEMPLE



- It is the first temple of the Swaminarayan Sampradaya and it was built on land gifted by the British Imperial government in appreciation of the founder, Shri Sahajanand Swami and his followers' activities.
- The temple was built in 1822 and uses Burmese teak wood.
- It is a marvelous example of Art and Culture which is evident in the colorful and intricate carvings throughout the complex.
- The Temple is the Masterpiece of Hindu virtues which can be seen in sculptural art by depicting deities' episodes, auspicious symbols and religious icons representing axiomatic religion and Indian culture.
- The temple is believed to be a valuable cultural heritage in the socio - religious history of Gujarat and India.
- The main temple consists of three sanctums; at the extreme left is the idol of Radha and Krishna, sculpted out of white and black marble respectively.

- At the centre is Nar and Narayan in black marble and at the right are gold plated idols of Swaminarayan and his parents Dharmadeva and Bhaktimata.
- The temple of Ghanshyam Maharaj was added later .
- The temple complex consists of intricately wood crafted “Haveli” for monks and a temple for women.

### KOCHRAB ASHRAM



- The owner of the bungalow was Barrister Jivanlal Desai. He donated it to Gandhiji for freedom movement.
- Kochab Ashram, also spelt Kocharab Ashram, was the first ashram founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915, following his return to India from South Africa.
- This campus was called Satyagraha Ashram based on his ideas of achieving India's independence from British rule through peaceful methods.
- The Kochrab Ashram was the first ashram in India organized by Mohandas Gandhi, the leader of the Indian independence movement,
- Founded on 25 May 1915, Gandhi's Kochrab Ashram was located near the city of Ahmedabad in the state of Gujarat.
- This ashram was a major centre for students of Gandhian ideas to practise Satyagraha, self-sufficiency, Swadeshi, work for the upliftment of the poor, women and untouchables, and to promote better public education and sanitation. The ashram was organized on a basis of human equality.

### SARKHEJ ROZA



- **Sarkhej Roza** is a mosque and tomb complex located in the village of Makarba, 7 km south-west of Ahmedabad in Gujarat state, India.
- Sarkhej was once a prominent centre of Sufi culture in the country, where influential Sufi saint Shaikh Ahmed Ganj Baksh lived. It was on the saint's suggestion that Sultan Ahmed Shah set up his capital on the banks of the Sabarmati, a few miles away from Sarkhej.
- The architecture of the complex is credited to Azam and Muazzam Khan; two Persian brothers who are buried in the tomb near Vasna, Ahmedabad.
- The complex was originally spread over 72 acres, surrounded by elaborate gardens on all sides.
- Over time, human settlements came around it, eating into the gardens and reducing the area to 34 acres.
- Although there are many *roz*as across Gujarat, the Sarkhej Roza is the most revered.

## **FOREST AND WILDLIFE OF GUJARAT (NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SANCTUARY)**

### **GIR NATIONAL PARK**



- Gir National Park is located about 37 miles (60 km) south-southwest of Junagadh in a hilly region of dry scrubland. It has an area of about 500 square miles (1,295 square km).
- The Gir Forests Reserve, created in 1913 to protect the largest of the surviving groups of Asiatic lions, was accorded sanctuary status in 1965.
- Several hundred Asiatic lions have been bred in the sanctuary since it was established. "Lion shows" consisting of guided tours in protected vehicles are held regularly for visitors.
- Other fauna include leopards, wild pigs, spotted deer, nilgai (a type of antelope), four-horned antelope, and chinkaras (a type of gazelle). A large central water hole contains a few crocodiles.
- The park also has a small temple dedicated to Krishna near the Tulsi-Shyam Springs.



## NAL SAROVAR BIRD SANCTUARY



- It consists primarily of a 120.82-square-kilometre (46.65 sq mi) lake and ambient marshes, is situated about 64 km to the west of Ahmedabad near Sanand Village, in the Gujarat state of India.
- Mainly inhabited by migratory birds in winter and spring, it is the largest wetland bird sanctuary in Gujarat, and one of the largest in India.
- It was declared a bird sanctuary in April 1969.

## THOL LAKE



- Thol Lake is an artificial lake near Thol village in Kadi in Mehsana District in the Indian state of Gujarat.
- It was constructed as an irrigation tank in 1912. It is a fresh water lake surrounded by marshes.
- It was declared the Thol Bird Sanctuary in 1988.
- It is a habitat to 150 species of birds; about 60% are water birds.

## SIDDI TRIBE: AN EAST AFRICAN TRIBE IN GUJARAT (A TOUR ) A COMMUNITY OF AFRICAN DESCENDANTS

Deep in the Gir forest, in the village of Jambur and Talala



- According to Census 1931, they were brought to India by the Portuguese towards the end of the 17th century, possibly as slaves.
- Some believe they were brought by the Arabs even earlier, dating back to the 7th century.
- When slavery was abolished, they fled into the thick jungles, fearing re-capture and torture.

### SARDAR SAROVAR DAM



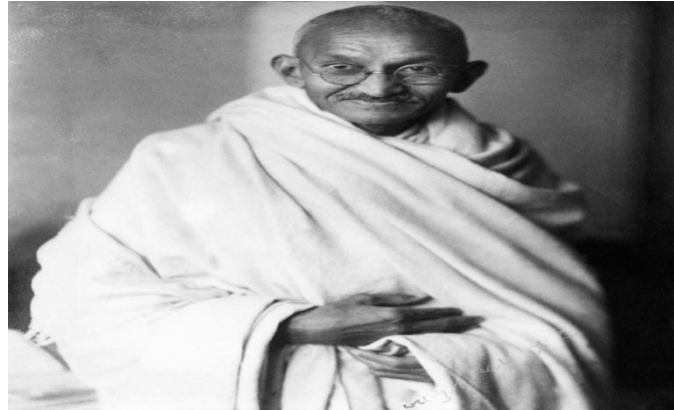
- The **Sardar Sarovar Dam** is a concrete gravity dam built on the Narmada river in Navagam near the town of Kevadiya, Narmada District, in the state of Gujarat, India.
- The dam was constructed to provide water and electricity to four Indian states; Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan.
- The dam was inaugurated in 2017 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The water level in the Sardar Sarovar Dam eventually reached its highest capacity at **138.7 metres** on 15 September 2019.
- It is the second largest concrete dam in the world in terms of the volume of concrete used in its construction, after the Grand Coulee Dam across the Columbia River, US.

### MUD PAINTING



- Lipan art (sometimes spelled as “Lippan” and known in English as Mud and Mirror Work is a traditional mural craft of Kutch, Gujarat, India.
- Lippan or mud-washing using materials locally available in the region like mixture of clay and camel dung keeps the interiors of the houses cool.
- Though the work is limited mainly to the interior walls, it can be found on the outer walls as well.
- These scintillating murals bring life, gaiety, and beauty to generally harsh life of people of Kutch

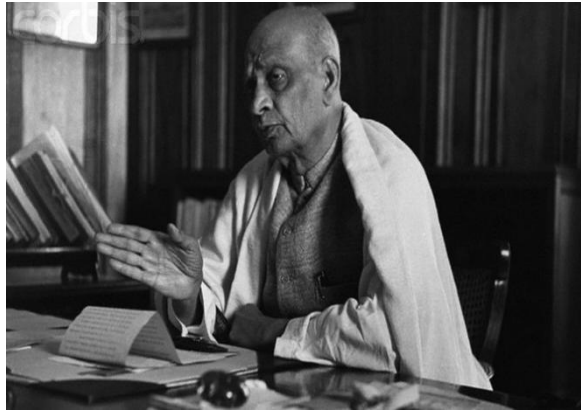
## PROMINENT PERSONLITIES MAHATMA GANDHI



- Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi is popularly known as Mahatma Gandhi. His birthday, 2nd October, is commemorated in India as Gandhi Jayanti, a national holiday, and worldwide as the International Day of Nonviolence.
- Gandhi is commonly, though not formally, considered the Father of the Nation in India and was popularly called **Bapu**.

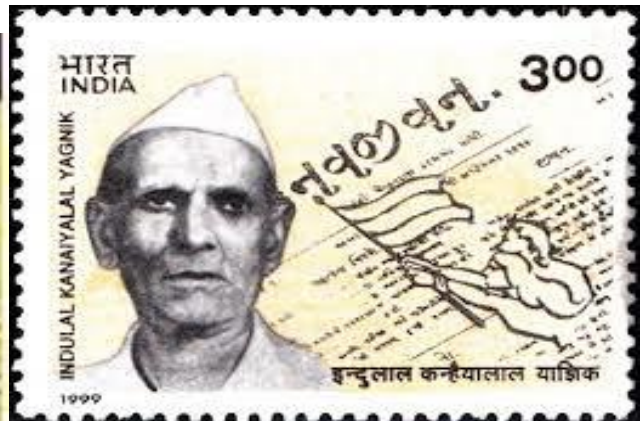
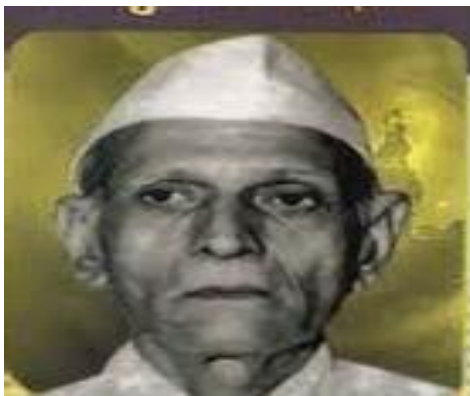


## SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL



- **Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel**, born on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1875 was the First Deputy Prime Minister, Home Minister, Information Minister and Minister of State issues of independent India.
- Vallabhbhai is considered as the architect of Modern India. From 1917 to 1924 Patel served as the first Indian municipal commissioner of Ahmadabad and was its elected municipal president from 1924 to 1928.
- Patel first made his mark in 1918, when he planned mass campaigns of peasants, farmers, and landowners of Kheda.
- In 1928 Patel successfully led the landowners of Bardoli in their resistance against increased taxes.
- Indian government awarded the “Bharat Ratna” posthumously to acknowledge the contribution of Vallabhbhai Patel in Building the united India. Statue of Unity is also installed to recognise the contribution of the Iron Man of India.

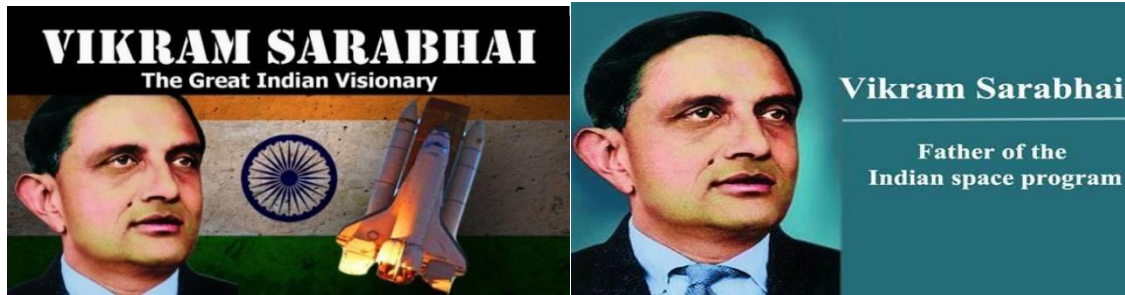
## INDULAL KANAIALAL YAGNIK



- **Indulal Kanaiyalal Yagnik** (22 February 1892 – 17 July 1972) was an Indian independence activist, who purchased Indian tri colour flag from Germany to India.
- He was a leader of the All-India Kishan Sabha and one who led the Maha Gujarat movement, which spearheaded the demand for the separate statehood of Gujarat on 8 August 1956.
- He wrote the first 30 chapters of Gandhi's autobiography in Yeravda jail after taking dictation from him.

- From 1924–28, he was the editor of *Hindustan*, a Gujarati daily from Bombay. During 1926–27, he was also an assistant editor of Bombay Chronical.

### DR. VIKRAM SARABHAI



- The Father of Indian space program, Dr Vikram Sarabhai is considered one of the pioneers in the field of modern Science and Technology.
- Dr. Vikram Sarabhai was born on 12 August 1919 in the city of Ahmedabad, Gujarat.
- He founded the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad on November 11, 1947
- Some of the most well-known institutions established by Dr. Sarabhai are:
  1. Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad
  2. Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad
  3. Community Science Centre, Ahmedabad
  4. Darpan Academy for Performing Arts, Ahmedabad (along with his wife)
- The establishment of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) was one of his greatest achievements.

#### HONOURS AND AWARDS

- Dr Sarabhai was awarded the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (1962)
- Padma Bhushan (1966)
- Padma Vibhushan, posthumous (after-death) (1972)

### MRINALINI SARABHAI



- A well-known classical dancer and wife of Dr Vikram Sarabhai.
- Mrinalini established the “Darpan” academy of performing art at Ahmedabad in 1948.
- She attained great fame in the field of dance by performing in different countries. Particularly, her performance in Paris, France brought her world wide recognition.
- Besides choreographing more than three hundred dance dramas, she has also written many novels, poetry, plays and stories for children.

- She was the chairperson of the Gujarat State Handicrafts and Handloom Development Corporation Ltd.
- Mrinalini Sarabhai has been awarded by the Indian Government with the national civilian awards Padma Bhushan in 1992 and the Padma Shri in 1965.
- She was also the first Indian to receive the medal and Diploma of the French association Archives Internationales de la Danse.
- She was nominated to the Executive Committee of the International Dance Council , Paris in 1990. She was presented with a gold medal by the Mexican Government for her choreography for the Ballet Folkloric of Mexico.

### **RANCHHODLAL CHOTALAL**



- Ranchhodlal was Born on 29<sup>th</sup> April, 1823 in Sathodara Nagar Bhraman.
- In 1861 he established the first textile mill of Ahmedabad.
- He was only the second person in India to have a mill. The mill was named Ahmedabad's Spinning and Weaving Company Limited which was the first cotton mill of Ahmedabad. He started his second textile mill in 1877.
- Ranchhodlal has the distinction of being the first Indian person to be nominated as the President of the Ahmedabad Municipality in 1885.
- He also founded one of the earliest high school of Ahmedabad, the RC High School in 1846, which is also named after him.
- In 1879 Ranchhodlal Chhotalal was responsible for founding and restarting of Gujarat College, which was put under management of the Gujarat College Committee, headed by him.
- This living legend of philanthropy died in October, 1898.

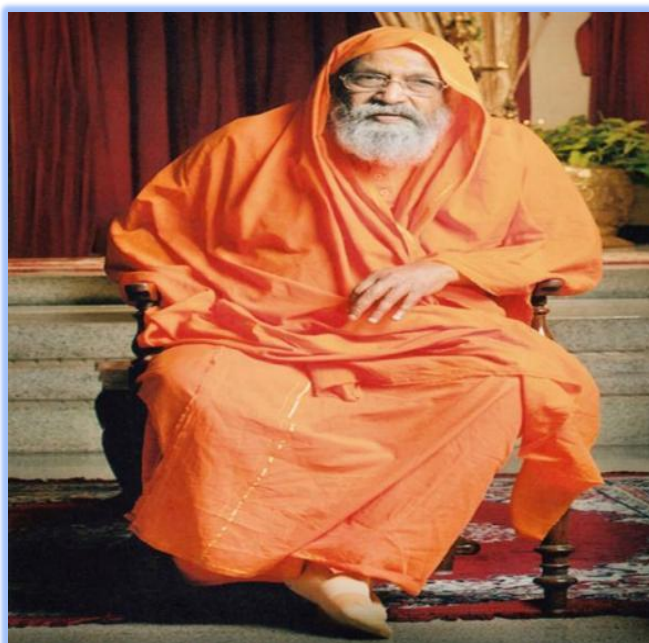


## SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRA



- Shrimad Rajchandra (11 November 1867 – 9 April 1901) was a Jain poet, mystic, philosopher, scholar and reformer.
- Born in Vavaniya, a village near Morbi, he is best known for his teachings on Jainism and his spiritual guidance to Mahatma Gandhi.

## DAYANAND SARASWATI



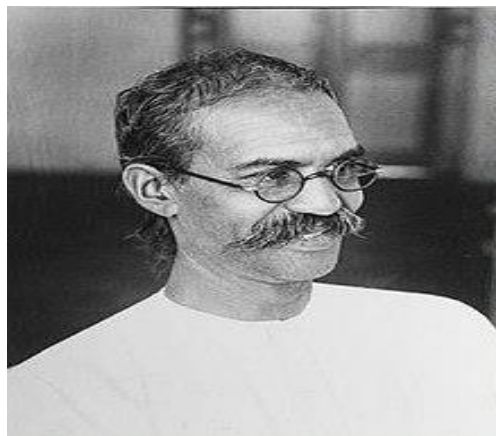
- **Dayanand Saraswati-** ( **Mula Shankar Tiwari**; 12 February 1824 – 30 October 1883) was an Indian philosopher, social leader and founder of the Arya Samaj, a reform movement of the Vedic dharma.
- He was the first to give the call for *Swaraj* as "India for Indians" in 1876, a call later taken up by Lokmanya Tilak. He was a sanyasi (ascetic) from boyhood and a scholar.
- He believed in the infallible authority of the Vedas. Dayananda advocated the doctrine of Karma and Reincarnation.
- He emphasized the Vedic ideals of brahmacharya, including celibacy and devotion.

## KRISHNA KUMARSINHJI BHAVSINHJI GOHIL



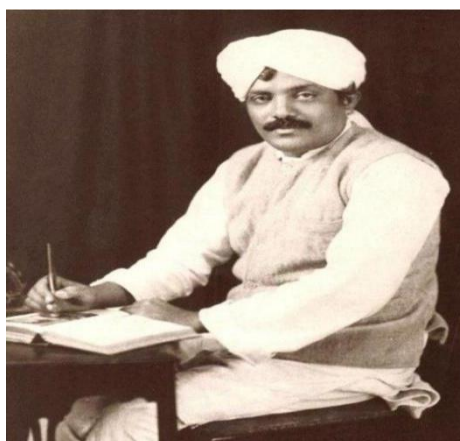
- Shri Krishna Kumarsinhji Bhavsinhji (19 May 1912 – 2 April 1965) was an Indian king and politician, the last ruling Maharaja of the Gohil dynasty, who ruled Bhavnagar State from 1919 to 1948 and also served as the first Indian Governor of Madras from 1948 to 1952.
- After the handover of rule of the Bhavnagar State as part of the Indian Union, Bhavnagar became the first state which joined the Indian Union.

## GIJUBHAI BADHEKA



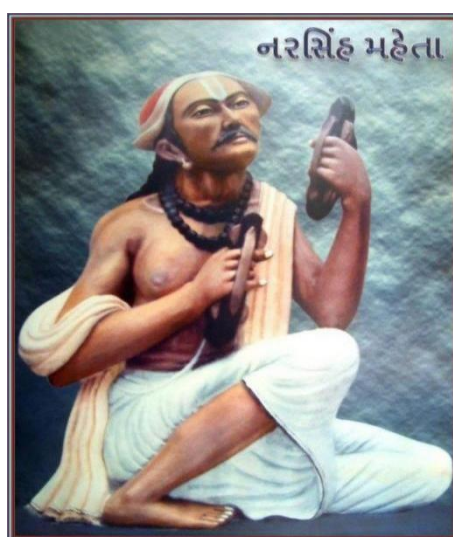
- **Gijubhai Badheka** (15 November 1885 – 23 June 1939) was an educator who helped to introduce Montessori education methods to India.
- He is referred to as "Moochhali Maa" ("mother with whiskers"). Badheka was a high court lawyer, however, following the birth of his son in 1923, he developed an interest in childhood development and education.
- In 1920, Badheka founded the "Bal Mandir" pre-primary school.<sup>[1]</sup> Badheka published a number of works in the field of education including Divaswapna .

## JHAVERCHAND MEGHANI



- **Jhaverchand** or **Zaverchand Kalidas Meghani** (28 August 1896 – 9 March 1947) was an Indian poet, writer, social reformer and freedom fighter.
- He is a well-known name in the field of Gujarati literature.
- He was born in Chotila where the Government College has been renamed for this literary figure as Raashtreeya Shaayar Zaverchand Meghani College, Chotila.
- Mahatma Gandhi spontaneously gave him the title of Raashtreeya Shaayar (National Poet)

## NARSINH MEHTA



- **Narsinh Mehta**, also known as **Narsinh Bhagat**, was a 15th-century poet-saint of Gujarat, India, honored as the first poet, or Adi Kavi, of the Gujarati language.
- Narsinh became a devotee of Krishna, and dedicated his life to composing poetic works described as bhakti, or devotion towards Krishna.
- His bhajans have remained popular in Gujarat and Rajasthan for over 5 centuries.
- Most notably, his composition 'Vaishnav Jan To' was Mahatma Gandhi's favorite and became popular with freedom fighters across India.



## SAYAJIRAO GAEKWAD - III

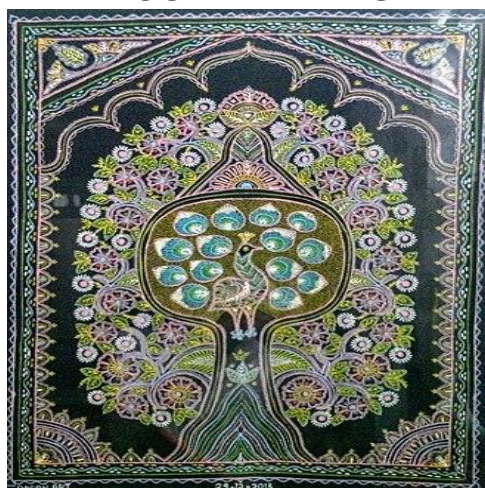


- **Sayajirao Gaekwad III** (11 March 1863 – 6 February 1939) was the Maharaja of Baroda State from 1875 to 1939, and is remembered for reforming much of his state during his rule
- He belonged to the royal Gaekwad dynasty of the Marathas which ruled parts of present-day Gujarat.
- He patronized Dr. Babasaheb alias Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, who later became head of the drafting committee of the Indian Constitution that came to force in 1950.
- The celebrated painter, Raja Ravi Varma, was among those who spent substantial periods of time at his court.
- His economic development initiatives included the founding of the Bank of Barodain 1908, which still exists and is one of India's leading banks.

## GUJARAT ART

- Gujarat is one of the jewels of India. Gujarat Art can be seen in its culture. Paintings in Gujarat mostly portray religious themes and show stories from the Puranas, and the epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Tales from the life of Krishna and local folklore have found their way into various miniature art, glass paintings as well as tribal art forms in the state.

## ROGAN PAINTING

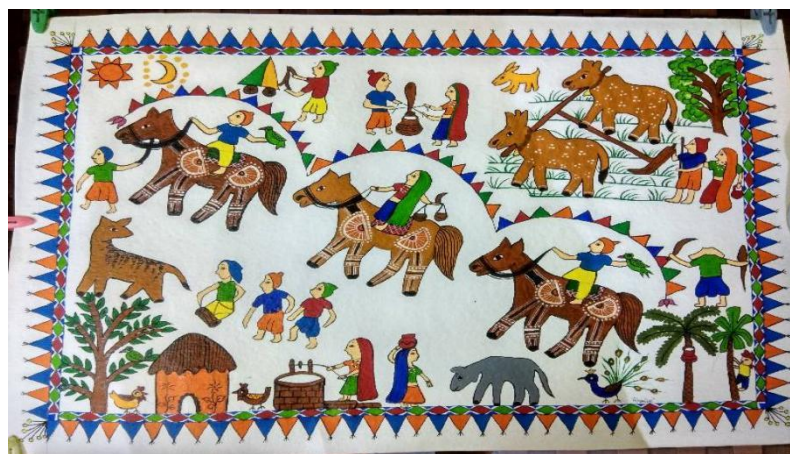


- **Rogan painting** is an art of cloth printing practiced all over Gujarat.
- Meaning 'oil-based' in Persian, the paint of Rogan art is made from locally grown castor seed oil.
- Having its origin in Persia some 300 years ago, this art form was traditionally used to embellish bridal trousseau of regional tribes.
- But, a lone Muslim family, the Khattris, in the remote village of Nirona in the Kutch district of Gujarat, is the last surviving custodians of this age-old art form.

## PITHORA ART

### SALIENT FEATURES OF PITHORA PAINTING

- It is a wall painting that is mainly characterized by the seven horses. It is believed that these seven horses represent the seven hills that surround the Gujarat-Madhya Pradesh border areas.
- The name, 'Pithora painting' is after the god of the tribe – God Pithora (Pithora Baba).
- The Pithora artists who are well-trained and were responsible to develop this Pithora art are called Lakharas.
- The Pithora wall painting is done during auspicious rituals by the Lakharas. The prevalent belief is that with the Pithora painting on their house walls, they seek God's blessings.
- The Pithora Art is done in the roofed gallery (Verandah) of the house.



### Mata ni Pachedi





- The term Mata-ni-Pachedi originated from Gujarati language, where Mata means 'goddess', ni means 'belongs to' and Pachedi means 'behind' .
- When people of the nomadic Devi Pujak community of Gujarat were barred from entering temples, they made their own shrines with depictions of the Mother Goddess of different forms on pieces of cloth.
- The art, said to be over 300 years old, is so unique to this region that the government has already applied for according the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for *Mata ni Pachedi* textile art form.

### MUD WORK



- The craft of mud work is deeply ingrained in Gujarat’s history and its popularity has spread across the world over the years.
- Inspired by clay art, this is a tradition that goes back years amongst the Kutch craftsmen Mud work frames from Kutch are wonderful representations of the culture and history of the state.
- Through little details like depicting local flora and fauna, the art form brings to life the authentic culture and traditions of Gujarat.

### Traditional attire of Gujarat

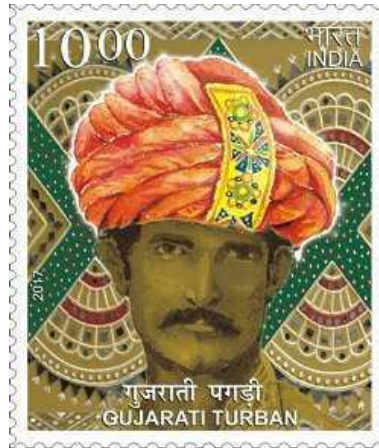
#### Traditional Dress of Gujarati Men





- Chorno : Chorno is a type of cotton pants that the Gujarati men wear.
- Kediya : Kediya is a garment that is worn above the chorno to cover the top part of the body. A kediya is also referred to as Angrakhu.
- Dhoti : Dhoti or dhoti is a long piece of garment that is wrapped around the lower body of men. Gujarati men wore white or light coloured dhotis for normal wear.

### PHENTO



- Phento is a headwear or a turban worn by Gujarati men, especially in rural area.

### TRADITIONAL ATTIRE OF GUJARATI WOMEN



- Ghagra Choli or Chaniya Choli - Traditional Dress of Gujarat. The traditional attire of Gujarati women is Chaniya Choli or Ghagra Choli; Women also wear an Odhni (dupatta or chunni) with it.
- Chaniyo : The Chaniyo or lehenga is a coloured petticoat or skirt-like garment worn by the women. The Chaniyo is designed with mirrors and thread work.
- Choli : The women wear Polku or Choli on the top. It is an embroidered short blouse.
- Chunni : Chunni, Odhni or dupatta is an elongated piece of cloth to complete the dress. The churn is worn diagonally and is used to cover their heads.
- Saree : A saree is a long piece of garment that is wrapped around the woman's body.

## FESTIVALS

- Gujarat is known as the 'Land of the Festivals' which keeps its traditions alive as they revolve around an occasion such as the turn of a season, the time for harvesting a golden field, or a religious event from India's extensive and rich mythological traditions.
- Mostly all Indian festivals are celebrated with great zeal and enthusiasm in Gujarat like Holi, Dhuleti, Janmashtmi, Ganesh Chaturthi, Shivratri, Uttarayan, Navaratri, Ramzan Eid, Muharram, Bakri-Eid, Christmas etc.

## NAVRATRI



- The word Garbo or Garaba has originated from Sanskrit word "Garbhdeep"- an earthen pot with circular holes is popularly known as Garbo. The earthen pot is symbol of human body and the lighted lamp inside signifies the divine soul.
- Dating back to the ancient era of Krishna, singing and dancing with 'Flute' and other Instruments with the dance forms like Garba, Garbi and Raas is the most popular Dance celebrations during Navratri in Gujarat.
- Devotees perform the 'devi-sthaapna' in their homes wherein they invite the Goddess and perform 'pooja-path' for nine days with fasting.

## KITE FESTIVAL



- According to the Hindu astronomy the sun enters the zodiac of Makar (Capricorn). Hence, it is called Uttarayan or Makar Sankranti.
- The festival of Uttarayan falling in the month of January is a festival which is celebrated with colourful kites all over Gujarat. People fly kites from dawn till dusk and enjoy the festival

with family and friends. People across the globe visit Gujarat during Uttarayan and enjoy very much.

- The International Kite Festival in Gujarat has become a major tourist attraction.

## RATHYATRA



**Rath Yatra is a Hindu festival**

- In Ahmedabad Rath Yatra is organised by Jagannath Temple, Ahmedabad on every Asadh-Sud –Bij since 1878.
- This annual festival celebrates Jagannath, Balaram and Subhadra. It is celebrated as a *Lokotsav* (public festival) of the state of Gujarat.
- The Ahmedabad Rath Yatra is the third largest Rath Yatra festival after those in Puri and Kolkata that are celebrated on the same day.
- The Rathes (chariots) were made from coconut tree by the devotees of Khalas caste from Bharuch. Chariots are still driven by people from that caste.

## CELEBRATIONS OTHER THAN FESTIVALS

### TANA –RIRI MAHOTSAV

- Tana-Riri Music Festival is organised every year by Government of Gujarat in their dedication.
- **Tana and Riri** is an Indian story about two girls born around 1564, who were asked to sing in the court of Akbar. The story has become part of Gujarati folk culture.
- The twins were from a northern town known as Vadnagar near Visnagar in the state of Gujarat.
- When Akbar's court singer, maestro Tansen's preceptor died, he sang the raag "Deepak". The effect of singing this raag is said to be that the singer starts feeling an incurable heat in his/her body. When Tansen was affected by the burns of the Deepak raag, he roamed around the whole of India. Finally the commander in chief of their army, Amjadkhan, came to Vadnagar and found out about the two sisters Tana and Riri who were proficient singers and could cure Tansen (expert of raag Deepak) by singing raga Malhar.
- When they were asked to sing at Akbar's court, they refused to come since it was their vow as Nagars only to sing in front of the village deity's idol. So they asked Tansen instead to come at their home if he wanted to subside the effect of raag Deepak; which he agreed to. Women didn't use to leave house and go elsewhere in those days. Thus these twin sisters became renowned as the only singers who were able to cure Tansen in whole India.



- Later on king Akbar invited them to become his court singers but they refused as they would only sing in front of God and not any king. So after one or more requests Akbar sent army to fetch them. Instead they committed suicide by drowning in a well. They chose to do this rather than to refuse, which would have caused a war-like situation in their town. Later when Akbar came to know of it he apologized to their father and asked Tansen to develop a new genre of pieces named in honor of Tana-Riri.
- A memorial has been erected in Vadnagar to honour Tana-Riri.

**Sources:**

- <http://www.gujaratdekho.com/gujarat-festivals.html>
- <https://www.gujarattourism.com/fair-and-festival.html>
- <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarat>

**FOLK DANCE OF GUJARAT**

- Gujarat is the Land of Festivals. The celebrations of festivals and fairs are accompanied with Music and Dance that breathe the soul fresh with vigor and joy. Blessed with rich Performing Arts, many dance and dance forms in Gujarat are popular throughout the world. Gujarat has a legendary distinction with variations in Folk Dance. The most popular Folk Dance in Gujarat is Garba and Ras.
- Dating back to the ancient era of Krishna, singing and dancing with ‘Flute’ and other Instruments with the dance forms like Garba, Garbi and Raas is the most popular Dance celebrations in Gujarat. A legendary unique Folk Dance form also has variations with Dandia or stick Raas.

**GARBA**



- The Garba is Gujarat's famous folk dance.
- The Garba word derived from Sanskrit word garbha deep which means an oil lamp placed in a holed earthen pot.
- The Navratri Festival is celebrated in honors Goddess Amba who fought nine nights to destroy a devil.
- Traditionally only women use to perform Garba. The Garbi is a similar dance form performed by men.
- The Garbi dance is very energetic dance that involves circular actions performed with fast speed and elegance. It is popular **Gujarat Folk Dance**.

**RAAS**

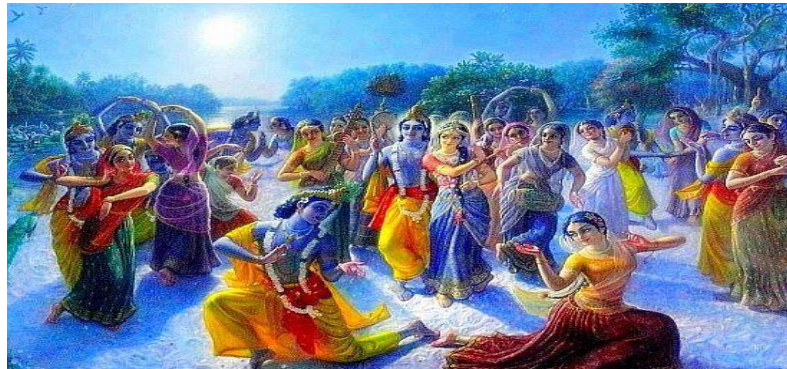
- The Raas is a dance form that is performed in such a way that includes beating of pairs of sticks (dandiya) together. The Raas is a favourite dance of Krishna which can be seen in paintings and artwork. The Men and women often dance together in Raas.



### **Some Folk Dance Forms of Garba:**

- Palli Jag Garbo
- Maniaro Raas / Kanabi Raas
- Vinchhudo
- Dandiya Nritya
- Mer Ras
- Kahalya
- Hudo
- Tippani
- Gop Ras

### **HALLISAKA**



- **Hallisaka** is a group dance native to Gujarat.
- The dancers form a circle with their hands joined together to form a chain.
- The '**tala**' is kept by clapping and the dance is accompanied by a melodious song.
- A young man who acts as Lord Krishna stands in the middle of the damsels.

### **DAANGI NRITYA**



- The Dangi tribe is found in the Dang region of Gujarat.
- The Daang is performed during festivals like Holi.
- It is also performed at fairs and ritual ceremonies. The dance is fast-paced and rhythmic.
- It is performed by both males and females.

Sources: [https://youtu.be/4Yb\\_Q2N2izk](https://youtu.be/4Yb_Q2N2izk)  
<https://youtu.be/zNYQkD3Vn4o>

## HUDO



- Hudo is a one of the well-known folk dance of Gujarat.
- It is the folk dance form of Bharwad tribe, the shepherd community of Gujarat.
- The idea of the dance originated from the sheep fights.
- There is also a tradition of selecting their life partners at the end of the dance.

Sources: <https://youtu.be/vIG51n8b93k>

## SIDDI DHAMAL DANCE



- This Siddhi Dhamal dance form is performed by the men of the Siddhi communities in Jafrabad and Jambur and came with them from East Africa.
- The dancers wear headdress and skirt beautifully decorated with peacock feathers. The dancers dance to the tempo of the dhol, and a smaller two-sided drum, called dhamal.

Source: <https://youtu.be/e1frbY6AUqY>



## TIPPANI DANCE



- The Tippani dance form came into existence in Chorwad region of Saurashtra in Gujarat.
- The Tippani dance form came into existence from an old practice of beating lime into the foundation of a house with a tippani, a long stick fitted at one end with square wooden or iron block.
- The dance originated among labourers such as Koli community who broke the stones and levelled the ground who performed it to avoid monotony of the work.

Sources: <https://youtu.be/BVeeCwz0blc>  
<https://youtu.be/VDciQxIM5I>

Some other folk dance forms are as follow and can be watched on the given links.

Mewasi Dance

[https://youtu.be/u\\_6TMvBN0j0](https://youtu.be/u_6TMvBN0j0)

Dhal Talwar Raas

<https://youtu.be/dzEc00zubD0>

Beda Raas

<https://youtu.be/GngzXITQGnY>

Maniyaro Raas

<https://youtu.be/ZOyPiilEVuM>

## FOLK SONG

- A song traditionally sung by the common people of region forms part of their culture.
- Folk song originating among the people of a country or area, passed by oral tradition from one singer or generation to the next, exist in several versions.
- The Gujarati music is greatly influenced by Narsingh Mehta and Baiju Bawara. Bhavai is a famous and popular Gujarati folk stage art.

**Lyrics and video links of some Gujarati Folk song are as follow.**

મારે ટોડલે બેઠો રે, મોર ક્યાં બોલે,

<https://youtu.be/veorJCiSwRk>

મોર બની થનગાટ કરે, મન મોર બની થનગાટ કરે.

<https://youtu.be/AZDxptWUutM>

લીંબુડા ઝૂલે તારા બાગમાં છબીલા લાલ

<https://youtu.be/TlvGdpR9ZhA>

આલાલીલા વાંસડિયા રે વઢાવુ

<https://youtu.be/MpPkdQlbhZs>

આભમાં ઝીણી ઝબૂકે વીજળી રે

<https://youtu.be/LkOKKjwM4yE>

રાજ મને લાગ્યો કસુંબીનો રંગ

<https://youtu.be/b9yem-ZL5uY>

મેહંદી તે વાવી

<https://youtu.be/e4TUWWbBPTc>

પાપ તારું પ્રકાશ જડેજા

<https://youtu.be/O3BIK7f8dTI>

સોના વાટકડી રે, કેસર ઘોળ્યાં રે વાલમિયા

<https://youtu.be/9FhVXwRuNJc>

આભમાં ઝીણી ઝબૂકે વીજળી રે

<https://youtu.be/39fAlNkrqqI>

<https://youtu.be/LkOKKjwM4yE>

## FOOD

- Food of Gujarat is the oldest culinary treasure of India. The state offers a variety of vegetarian dishes including different kinds of pickles, farsans, chutneys and foods that are always high on nutrition quotient.
- Farsans (snacks) including items like khaman, khandvi, kachori, mini-samosa, dhokla, and dahi vada are the speciality of North Gujarat thali.

## GUJARATI THALI

- The traditional Gujarati Thali is one of the best ways to know the Gujarati Cuisine. Gujarati Thali contains many small bowls filled with curries, snacks, sweets, bread, chutney (spicy condiment) and pickles.



**KATHIYAWADI THALI**



- **Rotli (Rotis) and Bakhri is ( a coarser bread made of bajra) with ghee or butter** is r common find in a typical Kathiawadi thali.
- The cuisine of Khathiawad is known for its spicy quotient as there is excessive use of chillies as well. |

### UNDHIYU

- **Undhiyu** is a Gujarati mixed vegetable dish that is a regional specialty of Surat, Gujarat, India.
- The name of this dish comes from the Gujarati word "undhu", which translates to upside down, since the dish is traditionally cooked upside down underground in earthen pots, termed "matlu", which are fired from above.
- Undhiyu and Paunkh are few popular dishes that are served in South Gujarat.





## SNACKS OF GUJARAT

- Dhokla, fafda, khakra, Jalebi ,Patra, Khandvi ,Handvo, Ganthiya etc- Gujarati snacks define the food culture of the state. In fact, these snacks are synonymous to Gujarati cuisine to most of the world.



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