

National Mission for Clean Ganga

(Reg. Society)

Ministry of Jal Shakti

Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
Government of India

 Indian
National Trust
for Art and
Cultural Heritage

INDIA@75

Azaadi Ke Rang Bharatiya Sanskriti Ke Sang

**GNAMAMI
GANGE**

Documentation of Ganga from Gaumukh to Gangasagar

Fatehpur District

Intangible Cultural Heritage



INTACH

Documentation of Ganga from Gaumukh to Gangasagar

Fatehpur District

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February-April 2022

Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage

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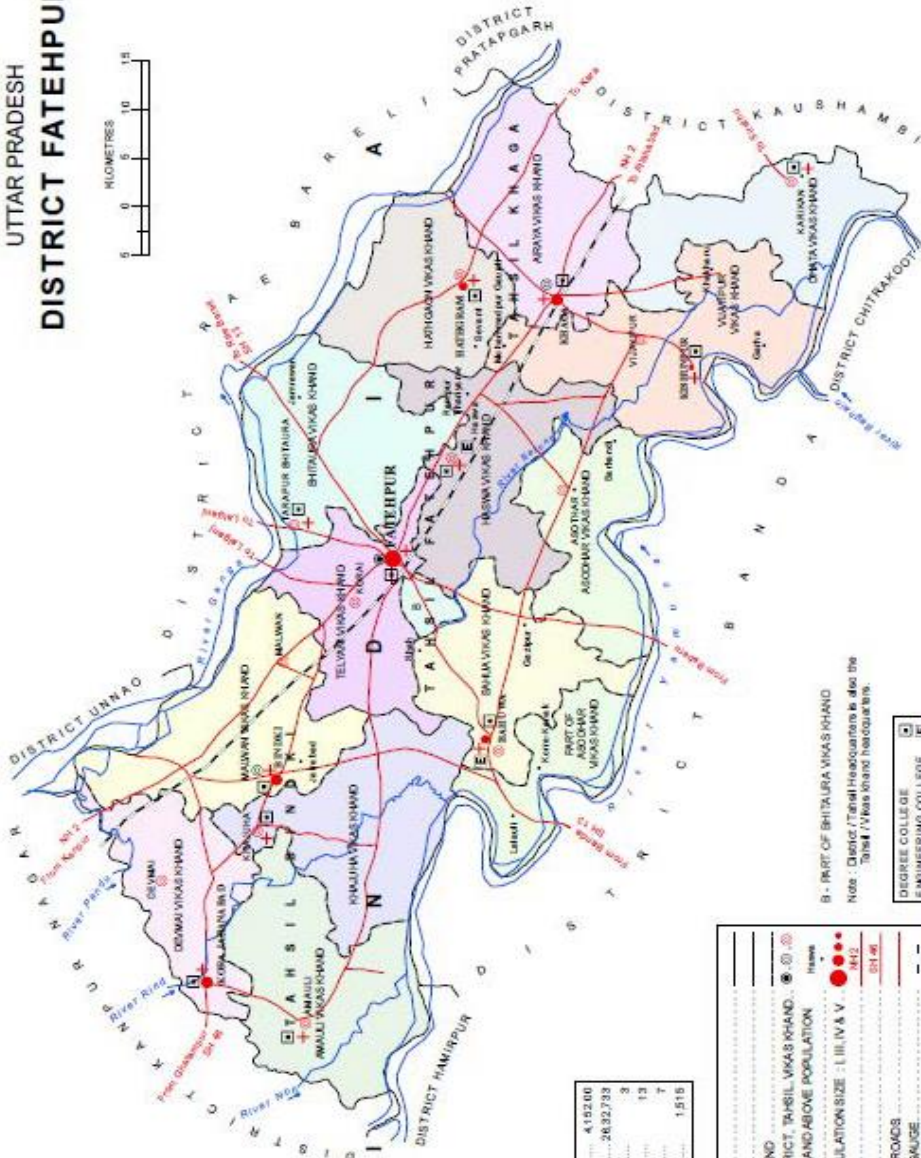
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Figure 1 Tambeshwar Temple, Image Source: Official website of the district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

UTTAR PRADESH
DISTRICT FATEHPUR



Area (Sq. Km.)	4152.00
Population	28,32,733
Number of Tahsils	8
Number of Gram Panchs	13
Number of Towns	7
Number of Villages	1,515

BOUNDARY - DISTRICT	.....
TAHSIL	.....
VIKAS KHAND	.....
HEADQUARTERS: DISTRICT, TAHSIL, VIKAS KHAND	.....
VILLAGE HAVING 10,000 AND ABOVE POPULATION WITH NAME	.....
URBAN AREA WITH POPULATION SIZE : I, II, III, IV, V	.....
NATIONAL HIGHWAY	.....
STATE HIGHWAY	.....
IMPORTANT METALLED ROADS	.....
RAILWAY LINE-BRID/GAUGE	.....
RIVER AND STREAM	.....

B - PART OF BHITLAURA VIKAS KHAND
 Note: District/Tahsil Headquarters is also the
 Town/Village Head Office.

DEGREE COLLEGE	.....
ENGINEERING COLLEGE	.....
HOSPITAL	.....

Introduction



Figure 2 Thakur Dwara Mandir, Adampur Ghat Image Source: ICH TEAM, INTACH

Fatehpur, also called as “The city of Doabs” is located in southern Uttar Pradesh between two sacred rivers, Ganga on the northern boundary and Yamuna along the southern boundary. Fatehpur is a place of historical importance and is blessed with a rich cultural heritage. It is one of the 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh in northern India that has its mention in the Puranic literature. Fatehpur district is a part of the Allahabad division and encompasses many ancient villages and cities of cultural importance like Khajua, Renh, Bindki, Shivrajpur and Tenduli. The inscriptions of the Hindu temples and the Jain and Buddha Shrines date back to the times of the Gupta and post-Gupta periods and the art and architecture of the contemporaneous sacred complexes and edifices are admirable and laudable.

The ghats, temples and historical ponds of Fatehpur district are of crucial significance from the perspective of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. One of the unique facts about the Om ghat at Bhitaura, is that here twenty four hours, the jaap of Om takes place. In

Hindu tradition, this spiritual word “Om” signifies the essence of the ultimate reality (Parabrahman) which is consciousness (Paramatan). A six to seven feet tall Shivlinga enshrined at Om Ghat holds significant cultural and spiritual value.



Figure 3 Shivlinga at Om ghat, Image Source: Official website of district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

Fatehpur has a rich historical past as it has been the native place of many freedom fighters and well-known Urdu and Hindi poets. The population of this place is mixed because it was ruled by both Hindu and Islamic rulers in the past and Indo-Islamic architecture is also reflected in some of its places of heritage importance. The languages spoken here in contemporary times are the dialects of Awadhi, Hindi, Urdu as well as English.

The name “Fatehpur” according to local tradition is derived from a battle won by Ibrahim Shah of Jaunpur over Raja Sita Nand of Athgarhia. It is also to be noted that there is another derivation of the name, traced to Fateh-mand Khan who is believed to have founded the town.

A large part of the district was ruled by the Rajas of Argai and formed part of the Kannauj Kingdom according to some traditions. During the rule of early Mughal kings, this region was included in the province of Kora and in the 15th century period, it was also part of the short-lived kingdom of Jaunpur. During the times of the rule of the Great Mughal king Akbar, the

western half of the present Fatehpur district was part of Sirkar of Kora and the eastern half included Kara. Later on, during the slow decline of Delhi dynasty, Fatehpur was given to the district of Awadh. This place is also ruled by the Marathas during the period of 1736-1750. Then, it was taken over by the Pathans of Fatehpur. Three years later it was annexed by Safardjung. Lastly, in 1801 it was ceded to British Empire in India.

The most significant personalities include Deputy Collector Hiqat Ullah Khan who was deputed in the district during the 1857 revolution and he was also included in the army of Nana Saheb Peshwa. Hiqat Ullah Khan was later captured by the British Army and given the death sentence. Other revolutionaries include Shri Dariyaw Singh- Martyr of Fatehpur district who was sentenced to death by the British Government, Shri Ganesh Shankar Vidarthi, a freedom fighter influenced by Gandhian Ideology, Thakur Jodha Attaya, a freedom fighter who played a significant role in the 1857 revolution and was hanged on an imlie (tamarind) tree with 51 other revolutionaries. This tree still exists and is known as "Bawani Imlie"(Figure 5).

Rastrakavi Sohanlal Diwedi also comes under the umbrella of the most famous personalities of Fatehpur. Sohan Lal Diwedi, a well-known poet was felicitated with the title of Rastrakavi. Other important icons include James Miller, a Scottish recipient of the Victoria Cross, famous Saint Riyaz Ahmed Naqshbandi and VP Singh, the 17th Prime Minister of India.

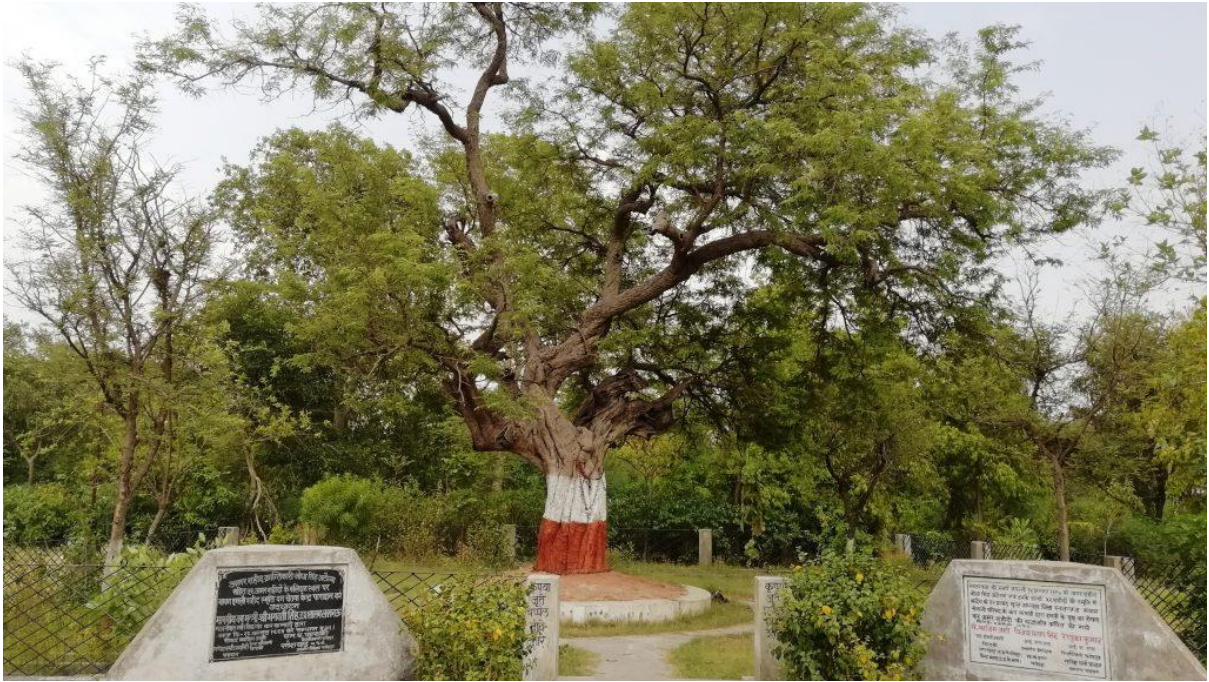


Figure 4 Bawani Imlie Tree, Image Source : Official Website of Fatehpur district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 5 Aurangzeb Pavillion Khajua, Image Source: Official Website of Fatehpur district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

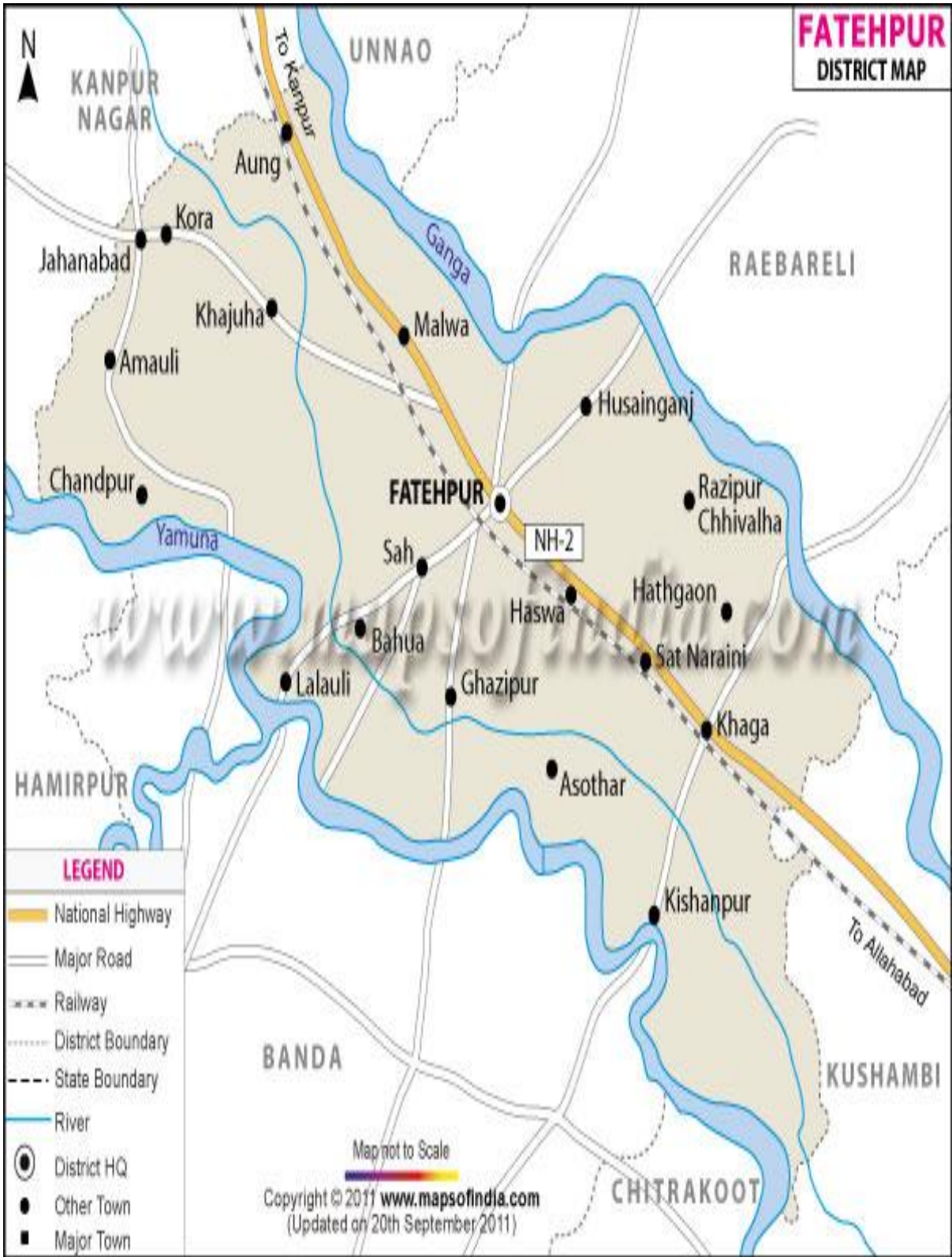


Figure 6 Fatehpur Map, Image Source: www.mapsofindia.com

The district of Fatehpur lies in the eastern part of the middle Ganga Plain. The river Ganga forms its northern boundary and separates it from the districts of Unnao and Rai Bareilly while the river Yamuna forms its southern boundary and separates it from the district of Banda and Hamirpur. Fatehpur is surrounded on the north west by Kanpur district, on the south east by Kaushambi district and on south by Hamirpur, Banda and Chitrakoot districts. Fatehpur is located at 25.93°N 80.8°E. It has an average elevation of 110 metres (360 feet). It is roughly rectangular in shape. It covers an area of 4,152 sq. kms. The district has an average length of about 100 kilometres from west to east.

Fatehpur is divided into three basic areas- Bindki, Fatehpur and Khaga. Bindki is a place of historical importance in India that is named after Raja Venuki. It is among the oldest tehsils in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Bindki is also associated with the first war of Independence in 1857. Khaga is another town and a sub-district in Fatehpur district. Fatehpur is a city situated between Ganga and Yamuna and has been named after Babu Fateh Chandra who helped Rani Laxmi Bai in the freedom struggle.



Figure 7 Fatehpur map showing three sub districts, Image Source: India net zone <https://www.indianetzone.com/>

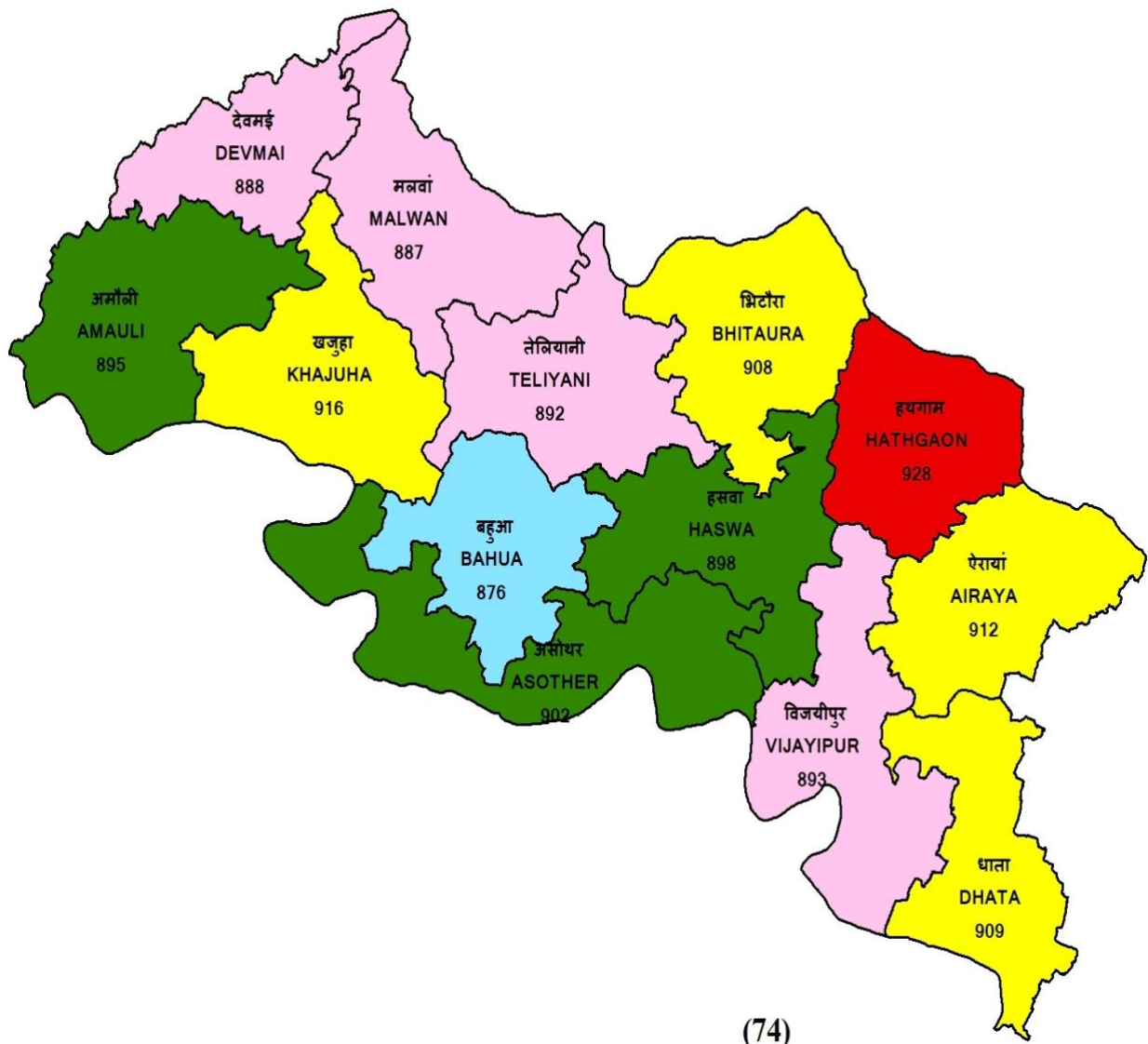


Figure 8 Fatehpur District Map, Image Source : Official Website of Fatehpur District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

Demography and Geography

Fatehpur district is spread over an area of 4,152 km². The district is divided into 3 sub-divisions, namely, Fatehpur, Bindki and Khaga. These sub-divisions are further divided into 13 development blocks: Airaya, Amauli, Asothar, Bahua, Bhitaura, Deomai, Dhata, Haswa, Hathgam, Khajuha, Malwan, Teliyani and Vijayipur.

Ganga and Yamuna rivers are bordering the district on the north and south respectively. These rivers along with their tributaries play an important role in fashioning the topography of the district. As happens in the doab area, the land in the neighbourhood of the rivers stands high and falls slightly towards the centre. The land is uneven along these rivers and there is a problem of soil erosion. On the basis of geology, soil, topography, climate and natural vegetation, the district has been divided into following three regions, Ganga Khaar, Fatehpur plains and Yamuna Ravines Tract.

The only tributary of Ganga in this district is the Pandu whereas the other streams of the district, namely the Nun, Rind, Bari Nadi, Chhoti Nadi and the Sasur Khaderi are the tributaries of the Yamuna. There are numerous lakes in the district. In the eastern area of Fatehpur, great lakes of Moraon, Ghuri and Makanpur are located. The largest among them is Moraon lake. The Moraon and Pharsi lakes alone can be described as permanent sheets of water in Fatehpur district.

The total population of the district is 2,632,733 among which rural and urban population is 2,310,740 and 321,993 respectively. The most populous tehsil is Fatehpur with a population of 1,096,453, followed by Khaga tehsil with population of 786,635. The least populous tehsil is Bindki with population 749,645. The maximum urban population (204,224) is at Fatehpur tehsil which is followed by Bindki.

As per 2011 census,

- Area **4152 sq. km**
- Population **2632733**
- No of Blocks **13**
- No of Nagar Palika Parishads **02**
- No of Villages **1512**
- No of Gram Panchayats **840**
- No of Male Population **1384722**
- No of Female Population **1248011**

Journey from Ancient to Modern



Figure 9 Shiv Temple at Fatehpur, Image Source: Spark plug blogspot.com

The historical past of Fatehpur district is very unique and eventful. The earliest history of the region till the end of Mahabharata is mainly known through the religious and ancient sources of the Puranas. The known ancient past of this place is as old as Vedic era. Its account has been found in the Brahma Puran. The Brahma Puran is ancient and one of the prominent among the collection of eighteen major Puranas. These collections of Hindu texts were originally written in Sanskrit language. The Ghats of Bhitaura and Asani were described as sacred in the Puranas. Bhitaura ghat, also called the Om Ghat is described as sacred in the Puranas. It is the site of sage Bhrigu and was regarded as an important centre of learning. In the ancient times of Vedic era, the region of Fatehpur district was called Antardesh that means a fertile land between two large rivers. Later, it was called Madhyadesh which means the central region.

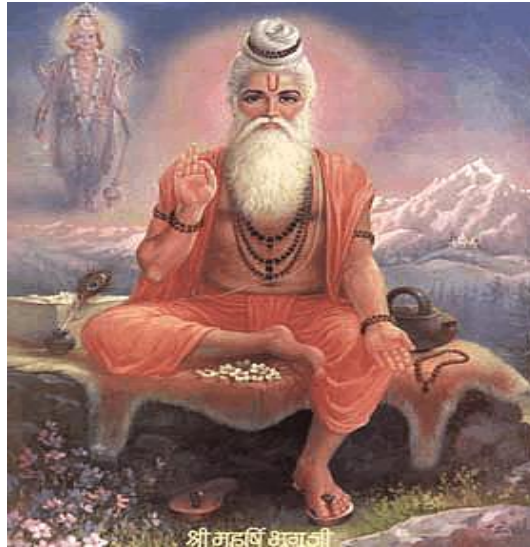


Figure 10 Sage Bhṛigu, Image Source Vipasana Blogspot.com



Figure 11 Bhṛigu Samhita Image Source Vipasana blogsopt.com

Today, this region is covered by the present day Fatehpur district that was included in the Vatsa kingdom. Vatsa was one of the sixteen Mahajanpadas described in Buddhist literature.

It is to be noted that in village Renh, that is 25 km in southwest of Fatehpur town, some articles of archaeological interest have been found that are of the time period 800 B.C. Many articles like coins, bricks, idols etc. of Mauryan period, Kusan period and Gupta period have been found throughout the district.



Figure 12 Unique style of Art at Shiva Temple at Fatehpur, Image Source Spark plug blogspot.com

The temples constructed by the Guptas still exist in the villages of Fatehpur like Tenduli, Korari, Sarhan, Bujurg etc. These temples are very important from the point of view of heritage and culture. This place should be given considered significant due to the fact that golden coins of period of Chandragupta-II have been recovered from village Bijauli. The bricks used in fort of Asani are also of Gupta Period.

During the time period of Buddha, this region was included under Vatsas mahajanpada. During middle of the fourth century B.C., this region was taken over by the Nandas of Magadha. After the Nandas, the district came under the rule of the Mauryan empire. Then came the Shungas and after the Shungas the Kanva dynasty came into power. After

the Kanva rule, the Guptas rose to annex this region. It is to be highlighted that the imprint of various empires can be found in this region that is mainly evident through its cultural and



heritage aspect. Towards the end of the first century A.D this region came under the control of the Kushana dynasty. During the fourth century A.D., the Guptas again established their rule in this region. Fatehpur shared the fruits of the golden age, and contributed much towards the peace and prosperity of central India. In the texts of Hiung Tsang, famous Chinese scholar, this region of Fatehpur is also described.

Figure 13 Hiung Image Source
Britannica.<https://www.britannica.com>

From the end of the 8th century to the end of the first quarter of the 11th century, this district formed part of the kingdom of Kannauj or the Pratiharas. A lot of internal troubles and disputed successions took place which led to the decline of the Pratihara empire. After end of Pratiharas empire, there were repeated incursions into this region. Gahadavala dynasty of Kanyakubja (modern Kannauj) ruled over the whole of present Uttar Pradesh including this district. The kingdom of Kannauj was overthrown by Mohammad Ghuri in 1194 and the Muslim conquerors rule began in this region.

In 1556 A.D, Fatehpur district was under the Mughals. During the days of Akbar and his successors the area constituting the present district formed part of the province of Allahabad. After the death of Aurangzeb in 1707, references to the present district became more frequent.



Figure 14 Bagh Badshahi at Fatehpur, Image Source : Spark plug.blogspot.com

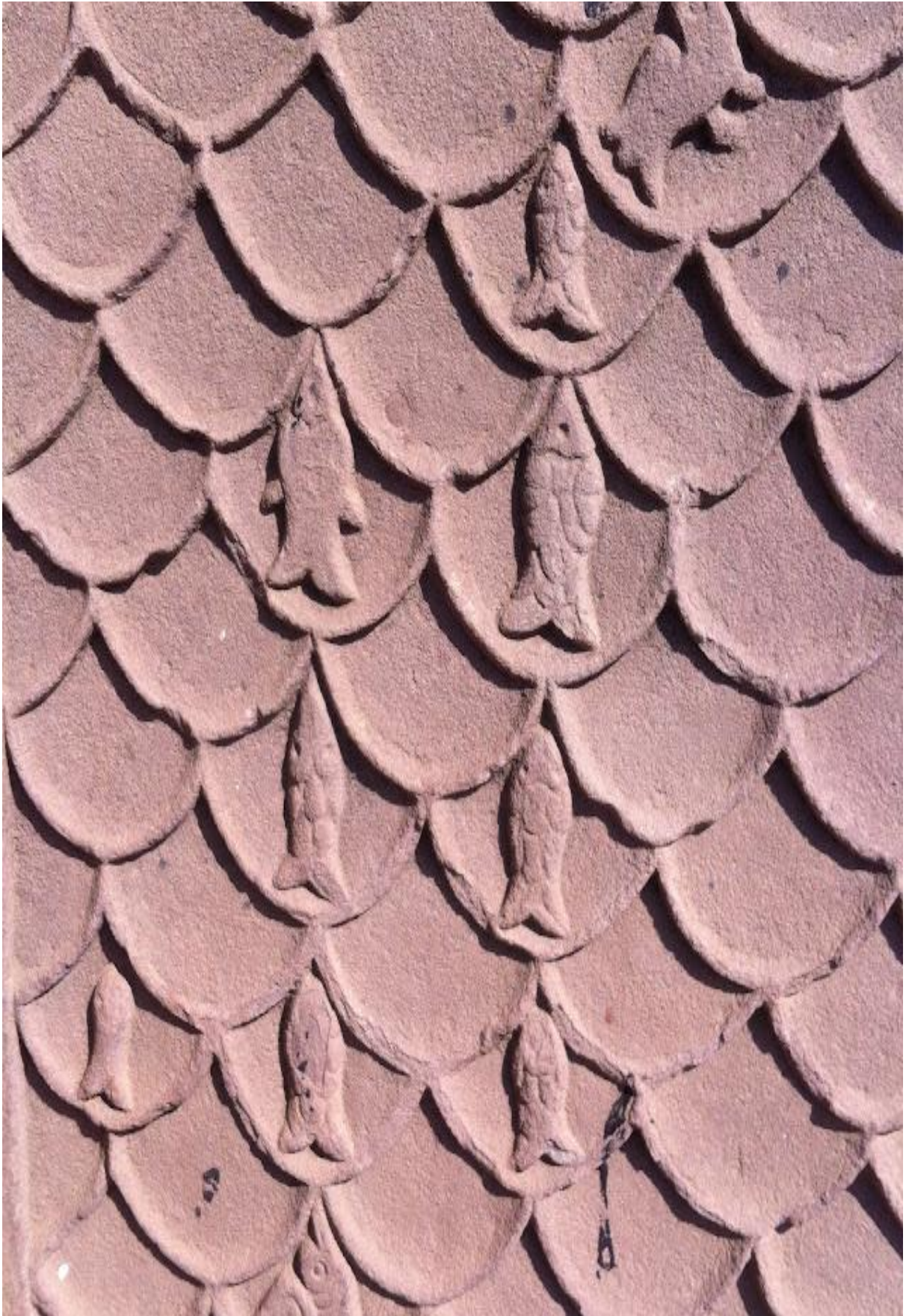


Figure 15 Unique Fish Art at Bagh Badshahi, Image Source : Spark Plug.blogspot.com

On January 5th, 1659 A.D., Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb had a fierce battle with his brother, Prince Shahshuja, who was killed near this place. To celebrate his victory, Aurangzeb constructed a large beautiful garden "Badshahi Bagh" and a big lodge having 130 rooms.

During Mughul regime, the control of Fatehpur shifted from time to time in the hands of Jaunpur, Delhi and Kannauj. In 1801 A.D., this region came under control of East India Company and in 1814 this was given the status of a sub-division (Pargana) whereas the headquarter was at Bhitaura. In 1826 A.D., Fatehpur was relabelled as the district headquarters.



Figure 16 Bagh Badshahi Board Image Source Spark Plug Blogspot.com

Revolt of 1857 and Bawani Imlie Samarak



Figure 17 Statue of Veer Jodha Singh at Bawani Imlie, Fatehpur, Image Source Spark-plug blogspot.com

The freedom struggle of Fatehpur should be given considerable importance. The people of this place actively participated in the Indian independence movement. The fire of revolution that broke out on 9th June, 1857 was wiped out completely by 26th June 1858. There was a fresh wave of nationalism in the country with the beginning of the 20th century and Fatehpur was no exception. People of this region very enthusiastically fought for their motherland and took part in the freedom movement when called upon by national leaders of that era.



Figure 18 Bawani Imlie Monument Image Source : Official website of district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

The Bawani Imlie Samarak is a symbol of tribute and respect to the sacrifices of the freedom fighters. The Bawani Imlie is located near the town of Khajuha in Bindki sub division of the district. On 28th April, 1858, fifty two freedom fighters were hanged on an “Imlie” tree by the British army. The “Imlie” tree still exists; people believe that the growth of the tree stopped after the massacre.



Figure 19 Imlie/Tamarind Tree , Image Source: Official website of District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

Thakur Jodha Singh Attaya is one of the important and reverent persons who participated in the first war of independence. Thakur Jodha Singh Attaya was a rich person from Rasulpur village. He started a guerrilla warfare against the British on the call of Nana Saheb. Dariyawa Singh and Shivdayal Singh also helped him in the struggle. Freedom fighter Jodha Singh attacked and captured the government treasury at Fatehpur on 10 June 1857. He was a mere 20 years old when he started a revolt against the British.



Figure 20 Main Monument pillar at Bawani Imlie, Image Source : Spark Plug Blogspot. com



Figure 21 Bawani Imlie Samarak Image Source: Spark Plug Blogspot.com

विकासखण्डखजुहाजनपद फतेह पुर
स्वतंत्रता सेनानियों के नाम

क्रमिक	नाम	पिताकानाम	ग्राम
1	श्री बिन्दा सिंह	गयावीर	शिवसी
2	बशी धर	गोपाल वैश्य	बिन्दुकी
3	बिंद्या सागर	मनी राम	"
4	बन्चलाल	रघुवर दयाल	सुल्तानगढ़
5	बलदेव प्रसाद	काशी प्रसाद	सेबसी
6	बट्टी प्रसाद कैबेदीवाल	शिवदत्त	बिन्दुकी
7	भगवान दीन	मन्तू लोहार	खमीबाव
8	मदन मोहन	रामधर	बिन्दुकी
9	भेदिनाल	भीरवारी	"
10	चैता	कामता	सरदारपुर
11	दुर्गा	नन्द किशोर	"
12	गिरधारीलाल	बिन्दा	दीघा
13	गंगा दीन	इश्वरी	आहियापुर
14	गुलपारी	मोद सिंह	बिन्दुकी
15	गजधर प्रसाद भगवानुआ	रामधीन	सहबाजपुर
16	हरि प्रसाद	लालाराम	खजुहा
17	जानार्थक नगालाल	विश्वनाथराम विश्वनाथल	शिवरी
18	जय राम सिंह	गंगा दीन	कुब्रमरा
19	कलत्तू सिंह	राम दयाल	मिरा खेडा
20	कहईसाल	राम प्रसाद	नाचखेडा

Figure 22 Names of Martyrs at Bawani Imlie Samarak Image Source Spark Plug Blogspot.com



Figure 24 The pillars having names at Bawani Imlie Monument, Image Source: Spark Plug Blogspot.com

On 9 December 1857, Jodha Singh along with 51 other revolutionaries surrounded and attacked the tehsil office in Jehanabad and imprisoned the Tehsildar. Due to the guerrilla tactics of Jodha Singh, the British were worn out and launched a massive operation to capture Jodha Singh and 51 other revolutionaries. To instil fear amongst the local people, they were all hanged on a tamarind tree. This monument is called Bawani (52) Imlie because 52 People were hanged here at Tamarind (Imlie) tree. This tree is still found at Fatehpur.

According to the belief of the local people, the growth of the tree stopped from that day onwards when 52 revolutionaries were hanged. Martyrs Memorial Day is celebrated at the same place on 28 April each year.

Temples and Sacred Complexes

The institution of pilgrimage to holy places is ancient and a continuing religious tradition of the Hindus. There are many sacred places and temples in various parts of Fatehpur attracting millions of pilgrims from all over the country. Hence, religion plays a vital role in generating an eco system in which all the social segments of Hinduism participate. The inscriptions of the Hindu temples in addition to the Jain and Buddha sacred complexes go back to the time period of the Gupta and post-Gupta eras. The quality of the art and architecture of these edifices represents the cultural heritage of the district. The artistic style of the complexes in the district sacred to religion from antiquity is primarily Indian in idea but the Indo-Islamic style of architecture at some places is also found. The Indo- Muslim style of architecture adds to the beauty and glory of this place. The temples found at Asni, Asother, Bahau, Bindki, Renand Gunir and other ancient towns and villages of the region are constructed mainly in Indian style, whereas the influences of the Muslim period are found at Amauli, Deomai, Fatehpur, Haswa, and Malwa.



Figure 25 Tambeshwar Temple at Fatehpur, Image Source: Official website of the district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 26 Temple of Mirabai at Shivrajpur, Fatehpur Image Source Official website of the District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 27 Figure 28 Shiv Temple at Khajua, Fatehpur Image Source <https://fatehpurdistrict.blogspot.com/2012/04/culture-of-fatehpur-district.html>



Figure 28 Unique art at one of the Shiv temples at Khajua, Image Source Spark-Plug blogspot.com

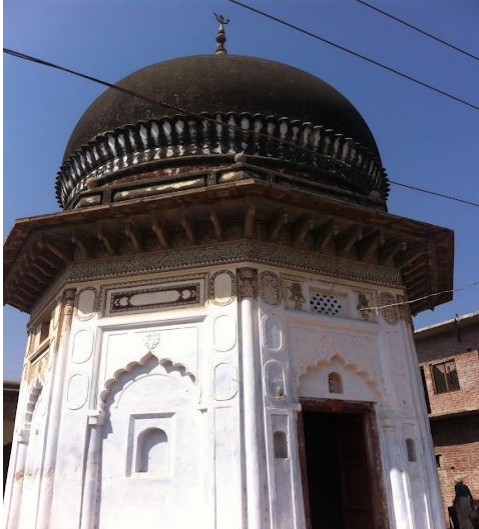


Figure 29 Old Shiv Temple at Fatehpur

district [Image Source spark plug blogspot.com](#)

There are many temples of Lord Shiva in Fatehpur district. Lord Shiva is known by many names like Mahadeva, Mahayogi, Pashupati, Nataraja, Bhairavi, Viswanath, Bhava, Bhole Nath and he is treated as one of the most important of Hindu deities. Lord Shiva is the shakti or power, the destroyer –the most powerful Hindu God. In addition to this, he is also called Mahesh, one of the godheads in the Hindu trinity, along with Brahma and Vishnu.

The most famous temples found at Fatehpur district are of Hindu Gods and Goddess in addition to those

of local deities. A few among them include following:

- Tambeshwar Temple
- Old Shiv Temple, Churiyani
- Jay Mala Saraswati Gyan Mandir
- Shree Vishwakarma Mandir
- Ayodhya Kuti
- Vishwa Peeth
- Hanuman Mandir
- Radha Krishan Mandir
- Siddha Sri Sankath Mochan Ji
- Shiv Mandir
- Baramdeo Dewa Asthan
- Durga Jee Temple
- Banasthali Vidya Mandir
- Rani Raja Temple
- Ganesh Mandir
- Jharkhanddi Baba
- Bheemseni Shiwala Sidhpeeth
- Kali Maa Mandir

- Baarahi Mandir
- Durga Mandir
- Fulwan Temple
- Gharwasi Temple, Village Gharwasipur
- Akhand Ashram
- Chaturbhuji Temple
- Jai Guru Dev Temple, Bindki
- Ram Janki Mandir
- Pracheen Maurya Kaleen Mandir
- Banketeshwar Baba Shiv Mandir
- Jwala Devi Mandir
- Sheetla Devi Temple
- Shri Banke Bihari Mandir
- Killeswar Baba Mandir

Fatehpur region's mythology and history is full of inspiring stories. Its pilgrimage spots, sacred complexes and historical ponds serve as a reminder of not just the significance of art and its utility, but deep-rooted belief systems.

Thakur Dwara Mandir is located at Shamshai Ghat at Fatehpur and is situated at a distance of 1 kilometre from the banks of Ganga river. It is said that the foundation stone of this temple was laid under the patronage of Mira Bai, the devotee of Lord Krishna. It is also known as Mira Kumarika Sthal and an idol of Girdhar Gopal (Lord Krishna) placed here has been brought from Chittorgarh, Rajasthan.



Figure 30 Thakur Dwara Mandir at Shamshar Ghat, Image Source : ICH Team, INTACH



Figure 31 Ram Sita Lakshman Mandir Image Source ICH Team

Ram Sita Lakshman temple is situated at Shamshai Ghat on the banks of river Ganga. At this temple, a gold idol of Ram, Sita and Lakshman was placed by a Zamindar (Landlord) of Khanpur. This is a very calm place to meditate and worship God to seek blessings.



Figure 32 Bade Shivala Mandir Image Source : ICH Team, INTACH

Bade Shivala Mandir is located at Rewari Buzurg village and is around 4 kilometres from the Ganga Ghat. This is an ancient temple and is believed to be in existence from the past 2000 years. It is a symbol of Hinduism and Lord Shiva is prayed to here. This ancient temple has borne the brunt of many natural disasters and calamities like thunder, lightning, thunderstorms and survived till the present day, glorifying its rich historical past.



Figure 33 Baba Brahmsihla Mandir at Adampur Ghat Image Source ICH Team, INTACH

Baba Brahmsihla Mandir is found near the Adampur Ghat. It is situated at a distance of 100 metres from the banks of river Ganga. This sacred complex was established in 1628 under the patronage of Maharaja Govindrav.



Figure 34 Baba Brahmrishi Mandir, Image Source : ICH Team



Figure 35 Krishna temple at Adampur Ghat, Image Source : ICH Team, INTACH

Krishna temple is situated on the banks of river Ganga at Adampur Ghat. This temple is a 100 years old and it is very famous among its devotees.

Historical Ponds



Figure 36 Rani Ka Talab 2, Image Source Official website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

Religion and spirituality are still among the most common motivations for travel. Many major tourist places have developed primarily due to the result of their connections to

sacred places, people and events. Fatehpur is also well known for its historical ponds and their majestic beauty. These ponds have historical relevance and occupy an important place in the heritage of present day Fatehpur district.

- **RANI KA TALAB**

One of the ponds, called Rani ka Talab is found in Haswa, known as Haswa Nagar, and famous for its artistic and unique architecture. Its unique design and workmanship is admirable. This pond was built in 1871 by Rani Gomati Kunwar, daughter of landlord Lala Ram Ghulam. Rani Gomati Kunwar was married to Raja Rai Bahudar Amarnath of Phulpur state in Prayagraj. Their marriage union ended due to Raja Amarnath's demise and the responsibility of Phulpur state was given to Babu Gaya Prasad. It is said that a similar pond was constructed by Rani Gomti Kuver at Phulpur state, identical to the one at Haswa. The main purpose of construction of these ponds was conservation of water and another purpose was that women could bath independently, hence, this pond was built very deep. This particular pond is 70 foot in length and 40 foot in depth and changing rooms are also made especially for women. The beauty of the pond is seen in the carvings on stone stone and fine art work. Due to the end of the usefulness of ponds, the importance of historical ponds has been forgotten. Even though no longer in use today, once it was a crucial means of water supply.



Figure 37 Rani Ka Talab Source Official website of Image District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 38 Rani Ka talab Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **AMAULI POND**



Figure 39 Amauli Pond, Image Source Official website of District Fatehpur
<https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **ASOSTHAMA POND**



Figure 40 Asosthama Pond, Asotha, Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur
<https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **BABA GAYADEEN POND**



Figure 41 Baba Gayadeen Dubey Pond, Image Source Official Website of Fatehpur District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **BABA KA TALAB**



Figure 42 Baba ka Talab Image Source Official website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **BAKEVAR TALAB**



Figure 43 Bakevar Talab Image Source Official website of District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 44 Bakevar Talab Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- GUSAI POND



Figure 45 Gusai Pond Image Source Official website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 46 Hathigam Pond Image Source Official website of district Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **HISTORICAL POND OF HASWA**



Figure 47 Historical Pond of Haswa Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **HISTORICAL POND OF KHAJUHA**



Figure 48 Historical Pond of Khajuha Source Official Website of Fatehpur District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **JAFARGUNJ POND**



Figure 49 Jafargunj Pond Image Source Official website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **JAI RAMPUR POND**



Figure 50 Jai Rampur Pond Image Source Official website of District fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **JWALA DEVI POND**



Figure 51 Jwala Devi Pond Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **PAKKA LAL BIHARA POND**



Figure 52 Pakka Lal Bihara Pond Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **PANTHESHWAN POND**



Figure 53 Pantheshwari Pond Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 54 Pantheshwari Pond Image Source Official Website of District Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **RANAN POND**



Figure 55 Ranan Pond Image Source Historical Website of Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

- **SURYAKUND POND**



Figure 56 Surya Kund Pond Source Official Website of Fatehpur District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>

Khajuraho Cave - Historical Significance, Mysteries and Chronology



Figure 57 Bagh Badshahi, Khajuraho Image Source IN. World.Orgs.com..jpg



Figure 58 View at Khajuraho, Fatehpur Image Source Twitter @IndianArtHistor



Figure 59 Mysterious Tunnel at Khajuha, Image Source Amar Ujala

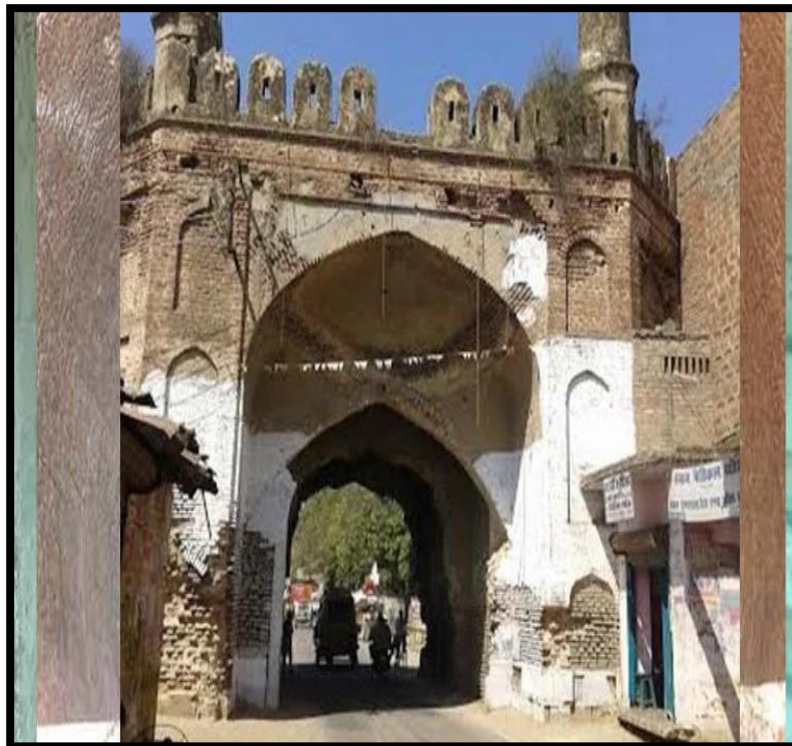


Figure 60 Mysterious Tunnel location at Khajuha Image Source Amar Ujala



Figure 61 Shah Shuja Mughal Prince Image
Source Wikipedia

Khajjuha town is located at about 10 kms away from Bindki and is very famous for its ancient brick temples and mainly for a place known as Bagh Badshahi that is located in the middle of the town of Khajjuha. This place witnessed one of the fiercest battles ever fought in India that took place on 5 January 1659 between Aurangzeb and his brother Shah Shuja. Shah Shuja was the second son of Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan and Empress Mumtaz Mahal.

In this battle, Shah Shuja and his son was brutally killed by Aurangzeb. To celebrate his victory, Aurangzeb constructed various buildings, talabs, sarais, and mosques at Khajjuha.

Two pavilions made of Lakhauri brick masonry, lime mortar, having ornamental sand stone work, stand over a 3.00 metre high platform measuring 280Mt x35Mt of size. Two sets of flights of steps leading to the garden as well as two fountains are also present.

Bagh Badshahi was originally a well-laid Mughal Garden surrounded by 3 metre high enclosure walls having entrance gateways at west, south and north sides of the garden, out of which the western one was the main entrance gate to these premises from Khajjuha town.

There is farming going on inside the premises of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) protected monument. To go to the monument, one has to take a small road next to the post office which takes one to the main monument.



Figure 62 Farming at Khajuha Image Source Amar Ujala



Figure 63 Khajuha Image Source Amar Ujala

Bagh Badshahi also has a mysterious tunnel and it is believed that one who goes into the tunnel never returns. This mysterious tunnel was said to have been built by Aurangzeb. According to local legend, once, for a marriage ceremony in the village, more than 100 people came to attend. These people were extremely fascinated by this tunnel, they went

inside and never returned. The tunnel is said to extend from Kolkata to Peshawar but the pathway is closed for now. At Bagh Badshahi, there are three big and deep tube wells that are around a thousand feet deep. Water was supplied from these wells to the gardens in the past during the rule of kings.



Figure 64 Mysterious Tunnel at Khajuha Image Source Amar Ujala



Figure 65 Bagh Badshahi, Khajuraho Image Source Twitter @Indian Art History.com

Ghats of Fatehpur



Figure 66 Adampur Ghat at Fatehpur, Image Source : ICH Team, INTACH

Fatehpur is well known for its ghats, among them, Bhitaura and Asani are very famous. Adampur Ghat is also well known among its devotees. There are many ancient temples located in the vicinity of this ghat.

Om Ghat, Bhitaura, is the block headquarters situated at the banks of the Ganga. This is the place where renowned saint Bhrigu worshipped for a long time. Here, the flow of river Ganga is northwards which is very significant from a religious point of view. Bhrigu Rishi is one of the seven great sages and considered as Manasa Putra of Brahma.

A school of Vedic education and learning is also present here, named as Bhrigu Ved Vidyalaya. This school conducts a 7 years course in Vedic education. At Om Ghat, "Om" is chanted day and night. At Om Ghat, a Shiv Linga that is around 6 to 7 feet long is present. The importance of Shiv Bhakti is well acknowledged in the region.



Figure 67 Om Ghat Bhitaura Image Source official website of Fatehpur district <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 68 Om Ghat Image Source Official website of district Fatehpur <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 69 People taking a holy dip at Om Ghat Bhitaura Image Source Official website of the District <https://fatehpur.nic.in/>



Figure 70 People worshipping Shiv Linga at Om Ghat Image Source Official website of the District

Traditional Crafts



Figure 71 Brass Handicrafts Image Source India mart

Fatehpur is well known for its brass handicrafts industry and it is an integral part of its identity. The art of brass metal work is practised in India since ancient times. The art and skill of mining, smelting and working of metals was developed thousands of years ago. Indian metal crafts are well known around the world and are still quite famous.



Figure 72 Brass Handicrafts Image Source India Mart



Figure 73 Brass Handicrafts Image Source India Mart



Figure 74 Brass Handicrafts Image Source India Mart



Figure 75 Brass Meena Cart Image Source India Mart

The traditional method behind this craft involves sand casting and lost wax technique. The craftsman transforms and moulds sheets of brass into wonderful objects of art.

Apart from brass handicrafts, this place is also known for wooden handicrafts. Wood carving is quite famous in many places of Uttar Pradesh including in Fatehpur district.

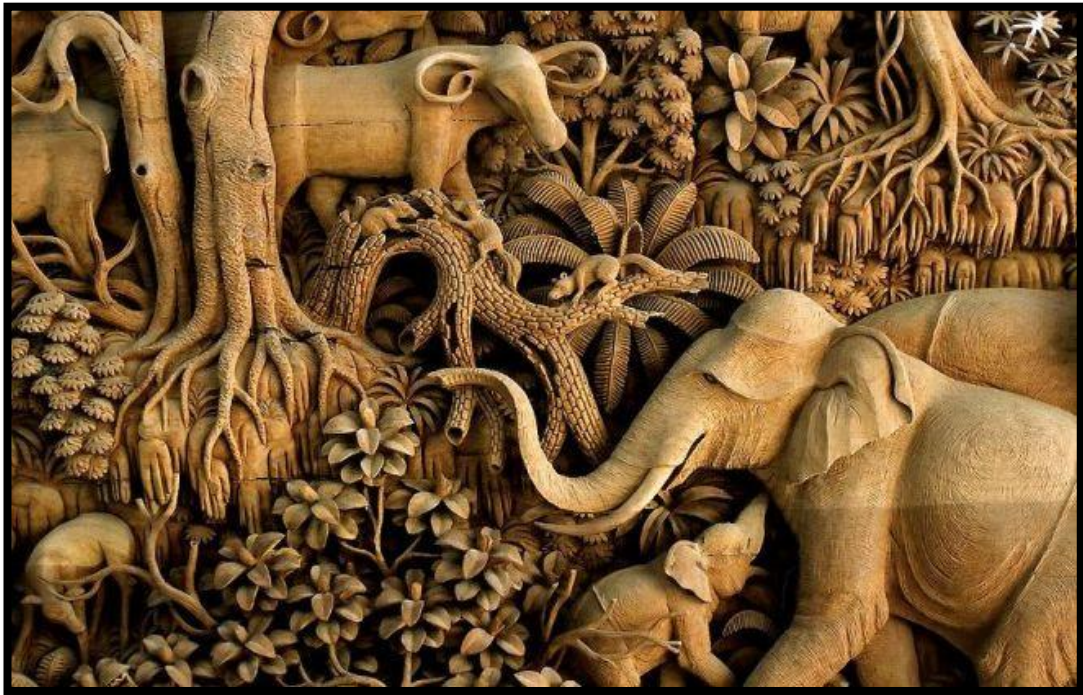


Figure 76 Wooden handicrafts Image Source Exporters India

Other than these traditional crafts, Fatehpur is also known for the textiles (primarily for bed sheets), leather products, paper and paper products.

Performing Traditions



Figure 77 Kajri Dance Image Source IndiaNetZone.com

The performing arts popular in the district of Fatehpur include Kajri, Dadra. Kajri dance is one of the most popular folk dances in Uttar Pradesh. This dance is just performed before the arrival of monsoon to express joy and happiness. Kajri is performed along with the Swing songs. The dancers usually wear a tight fitting and short blouse known as Choli paired with a flared skirt. The choli is covered with a dupatta over it that is tucked in at the waist of the skirt and is draped around the head and shoulder.

Famous personalities of this place who have promoted the heritage of music and tradition of the region include the famous saint Riyaz Ahmed Naqshbandi and Rashtrakavi Sohan Lal Diwedi, the great poet. Sohan Lal Diwedi was born in 1905 in Bindki sub division of this district and was also honoured with the title of Rashtrakavi. He published several compendiums like *Bhairavi*, *Pooja Geet*, *Prabhati*, *Yugadhar*, *Kunal*, *Chetna* and *Basuri*. *Hum Balveer* and *Andheri Raath* are two of his other famous and important works.

He was deeply influenced by Mahatma Gandhi and his ideological bent of mind. The influence of Gandhi and his thinking is evident in his work.

The seasonal folk songs are Hori or Phag in spring and Malhar and Kajri in the rainy season. Mushairas and Kavi sammelans, gatherings where Urdu and Hindi poets recite their poems, are very popular here in the urban areas.



Figure 78 Kajri singing by women in the month of Sawan, Image Source Jagran Images
https://www.jagranimages.com/images/09_08_2012-kajri08.jpg

Language and Culture



Figure 79 Sohan Lal Diwedi Image Source Poshampa.org

The culture and heritage of Fatehpur is rich and diverse; it is also the land of many famous Urdu and Hindi poets. Sohan Lal Diwedi, one of the famous and most revered poets was from Fatehpur.

The population of Fatehpur is mixed as this place was ruled by both Hindu and Muslim kings. The influence of this syncretic heritage and culture can be found here. The languages spoken here are Awadhi, Hindi, Urdu as well as English. Places of cultural importance here are Bhrigu Muni Ashram, Bhitaura, Haswa, Thakur Dwara temple, Krishna temple, Maheshwar temple of Sirhan Buzurg near Amauli, the Sun temple of Mahishasur Mardani and Mahanakhurd of Bahirampur, Haswa block, and many others. The inscription of King Kahipal of Kannauj from 991 Samvat is found at Alsi village. At one of the villages of the district, on the banks of river Yamuna, Lord Vishnu's idol belonging to the Gupta Period has also been found.

Food Ways



Figure 80 A picture giving a glimpse of Awadhi Cuisine Image Source: Indulge Express

Food and cuisine in Fatehpur are a combination of Awadhi and Mughal styles of cooking. Awadhi style cuisine reflects finesse, refinement and sophistication associated with the Nawabi way of life. Dum-pukht style of cooking food is considered the characteristic of Awadhi cooking. Dum-pukht style involves cooking in a heavy bottomed vessel with its lid sealed and left over a low fire for several hours. On the other hand, Mughlai cuisine is renowned for delicacies and the rich and aromatic flavour of the food. In Mughal style of cooking, there is extensive use of spices like saffron, cardamom, black pepper, dry fruits and nuts and using rich cream base of milk and butter in preparation of curry bases.

Traditional foods, mainly sweets, are given much importance in Fatehpur. During the time of festivals and special functions, sweets are sold and distributed in bulk among family and friends as per the city's tradition. The style of cooking food delicacies in Fatehpur is quite similar to the north Indian style of cooking. Mawa Pedas and Jalebi of this region are very famous.

Fairs and Festivals



Figure 81 A picture depicting crowds at a local fair Image Source Patrika News

Fairs and festivals in India are celebrated as part of life; so too in Fatehpur. The prominent fairs of this place include Sheetla Devi fair in Hussainganj held in Chaitra, Mahadeva's fair in Budwaraman in Shivratri, Ramlila fair in Kartik at Kishunpur, Ramlila Fair in Kwar in Jehanabad, Ashadh and Aghan cattle fair in Shivrajpur on the banks of river Ganga.

In addition to this, fairs are also organised wherein people gather to take a holy dip in the river. It is believed that bathing in the holy water of the Ganga absolves people of sins and brings salvation from the cycle of life and death.



Figure 82 Dusshera festival Image Source firstpost.com

The common Hindu festivals celebrated at Fatehpur are Diwali, Dusshera, Rakshabandhan, Shivratri, Bhai Dooj, and Bharat fair. Islamic festivals includes Muharram, Eid, Bakr Id, Eid Al-adha, Rabi Alanwal procession and Chehelom.

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