



## Editor's Desk



Indian monuments are not just architectural marvels but also serve as an important educational resource. They offer a glimpse into India's rich history, culture, and heritage, and can teach us valuable lessons about the past. Many of these monuments stands for centuries, and provide insights into the architecture, engineering, and craftsmanship of the time. Additionally, the stories and legends associated with these monuments can inspire students and scholars to explore the intricacies of Indian mythology and religion. By visiting and studying these monuments, students can gain a deeper understanding of India's past, and develop a sense of pride and connection to their country's heritage.

One of the most well-known and impressive monuments in India is the Taj Mahal. It is a symbol of love and devotion and is considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Children can learn about the history behind its construction and the story of the emperor who built it in honour of his beloved wife. They can also explore the intricate carvings and

designs that adorn the Taj Mahal and appreciate the artistic traditions that were prevalent during its construction.

Another iconic monument in India is the Red Fort in Delhi. It was built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan and served as the imperial residence for several years. Children can read about the history of the Mughal Empire and the significance of the Red Fort in that era. They can also learn about the architectural features of the fort and the various buildings and structures that make up its complex.

The Qutub Minar in Delhi is another monument that children can explore through reading. It is a towering minaret that was built during the medieval period and is a fine example of the Islamic architectural style prevalent at that time. Children can learn about the history behind its construction, the intricate carvings that adorn its surface, and the unique features that make it stand out from other monuments in India.

In addition to these well-known monuments, India has several other structures and sites that can be of interest to children. The ancient city of Hampi, the caves of Ajanta and Ellora, and the Konark Sun Temple are just a few examples of the rich heritage that India has to offer.

Reading about these monuments can help children appreciate the diversity and richness of India's cultural heritage. It can also encourage them to explore and learn more about their own country's history and traditions. By instilling an interest in these monuments and their history, children can develop a sense of pride and connection to their cultural roots.

*Rachana Nirgudkar*

## IN PRAISE OF THE ARCHITECTURAL WONDERS...

Monuments are those richly laden, diaphanous fabrics that have been smoked out to be tessellated with a resplendent brocade showing the dexterity of the maker's hands, that is, the country which bears the cachet of soliciting these monuments. They are like the stanchions, which stand temerarious and intrepid unaccompanied by the uneasiness which is usually caused by the scorching and profuse ochre sunlight, dreich rainfall and insidious snowfall.

No matter how hard nature seeks and endeavours to vitiate these audacious and dauntless monuments, they remain adamant, inexorable and obdurate towards the natural phenomena. No person can pursue the superlative and paramount complement of the monuments which have stayed in the same position for centuries and more. No one can have a Herculean hypothesis, how much ever staunch, of the demolishing of the monuments. But one can certainly have myriad conjectures about the origin of these monuments.

No doubt, monuments do you no harm. Some people do believe that these monuments are the abodes of some ghosts or spiritual beings!!

Let me assure you, no such thing is a fact but a myth!!

*Madhuri Asolkar - 9 A*



## बासगो मठ

बासगो मठ, जिसे बाजगो गोम्पा के नाम से भी जाना जाता है, लदाख के लेह जिले के वासगो में स्थित एक बौद्ध मठ है।

यह १६८० में नामग्याल शासकों के लिए बनाया गया था। मठ प्राचीन शहर के खंडहरों ले ऊपर पहाड़ी की चोटी पर स्थित है और अपनी बुद्ध प्रतिमा और मिति चित्रों के लिए प्रसिद्ध है। इस परिसर में चमचुंग, चंबा, लाखेंग और सेरजंग मंदिर शामिल हैं, जो मैत्रेय बुद्ध को समर्पित है। यह प्राचीन लदाख का एक महत्वपूर्ण राजनीतिक और सांस्कृतिक हिस्सा था। बास्को गोम्पा बलुआ पत्थर की चट्टानों पहाड़ों और लेकर इलाके के साथ सहजता से विलीन हो जाता है। हिमालय और काराकोरम पर्वतमाला से घिरा हुआ है। मंदिरों का यह खंडित गढ़ लदाख में बौद्ध धर्म की धुरी था।

*Prisha Joshi - 9 A*

# MONUMENTS – A WINDOW INTO OUR PAST

India is a land of ancient civilizations, diverse cultures, and rich history. Over the centuries, various empires and dynasties have contributed customs and cultures and legacy of India. We can see this in the monuments and architectural wonders of that time. These monuments are a window into India's past, cultural heritage and identity.

The significance of Indian monuments can be seen in their architectural skills and historical importance. The monuments tell us about that time period. The carvings in these monuments depict stories of that time and the life of people.

The Taj Mahal, one of India's most famous monuments, is a testament to the Mughal era's architectural grandeur and artistic finesse. Built by Emperor Shah Jahan as a mausoleum for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, the Taj Mahal is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a symbol of India's rich cultural heritage.

Apart from their architectural significance, Indian monuments also hold immense historical importance. They provide valuable insights into the lives, culture, and traditions of the people who built them. For example, the Qutub Minar in Delhi is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of India's most prominent landmarks. It was built by Qutb-ud-din Aibak in the 12th century and stands as a testament to the might of the Delhi Sultanate and the Islamic influence on Indian culture and architecture.

As time progressed, India was influenced by other countries. This could be seen in the architecture. There was a cultural exchange and this led to fusion of many architectural styles in the monuments. Styles such as Indo-Islamic architecture, Dravidian architecture, Indo-Saracenic architecture emerged.

Indian monuments also play an essential role in promoting tourism and the country's economy. They attract millions of visitors every year, providing employment opportunities to local communities and contributing to the country's economic growth. For example, the Taj Mahal alone attracts millions of tourists every year, making it one of India's top tourist destinations.

In conclusion, Indian monuments hold immense significance as our country's rich cultural heritage, artistic brilliance, and historical importance. They provide a window into the past and help us understand the evolution of Indian culture and civilization. They also play a crucial role in promoting tourism and contributing to the country's economic growth. Thus, it is essential to preserve and protect these monuments for future generations to come.

*Devika Iyer - 8 B*

## From the Buddha's treasure...



### II Buddham Sharnam Gacchaami II

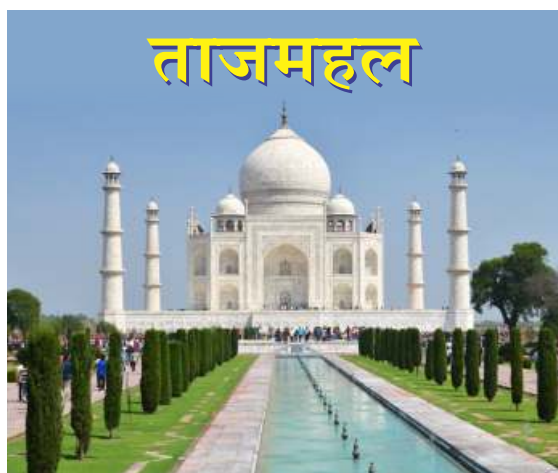
Okay.. Good day'. You must be wondering why you were all greeted with this mantra? It is because this mantra keeps playing for the entire day in my mind Yes, I am the most famous Buddhist Stupa located at Sanchi. Sanchi is a small village located in Madhya Pradesh. Samrat Ashoka - The Great, commissioned the construction of my building in the third century BCE and made me a unique monument not only for the followers of Buddhism but for the entire clan of peace loving people.

I carry a very big responsibility when people call me the Great Stupa. I have relics of Lord Buddha in me. They are a major attraction for people all over the world. I feel privileged to have been in the presence of relics of such a great preacher.

These relics are sheltered by my various architectural features. My dome like structure and the gateways depicting stories of Lord Buddha have made me a cultural heritage for the country.

May I please ask you to remove a 200 rupee note from your wallet? The orange coloured one! That's right! Now, flip the note and look at the image on its back. Voila!!! It's me !! The Government of India has proudly presented me on the first ever introduced 200 rupee note. I feel really blessed to have been appreciated by great ruler Ashoka, great preacher Lord Buddha and our all time great Government of India. In case you want to know more about me, visit me at Sanchi and we shall have a nice tour of all the places around me.

*Aryana Aslekar - 7 A*



## ताजमहल

**ताजमहल** भारत का गौरव है जिसकी प्रशंसा सम्पूर्ण विश्व में की जाती है। सुंदरता की मिसाल दिया जाने वाला ताजमहल भारत के लोगों को ही नहीं बल्कि विश्व के कोने-कोने में बसे लोगों को अपनी ओर आकर्षित करता है। ताजमहल का नाम दुनिया के सात अजूबों में शामिल है। अपनी भव्य सौंदर्यता की वजह से ताजमहल को 1983 में यूनेस्को ने विश्व धरोहर स्थल करार दिया है। प्रत्येक भारतवासी के दिल में बसे ताजमहल को इस्लामी कला का रत्न भी घोषित किया गया है। स्थापत्य कला की यह ईमारत अपने अंदर कई रहस्य छुपाये हुए है। इन रहस्यों को ताजमहल का दीदार करने के बाद ही जाना जा सकता है। इसलिए इस सुन्दर मनोहारी कलाकृति को विस्तार से जानने के लिए दिन प्रतिदिन लाखों सैलानी इसे देखने आते हैं। अगर आपने ताजमहल का दीदार अब तक नहीं किया है लेकिन आप इसे देखने जाने की मंशा रखते हैं तो इस लेख को पूरा पढ़िए। आज हम आपको ताजमहल से जुड़ी कई बातें बताने वाले हैं जो यकीनन बाद में ताजमहल देखते समय आपका मजा कई गुना बढ़ा देंगी।

*Manya Naik - 9 A*

## Let's dig up the past!

Being a historian, I travelled across many states of the Indian subcontinent, studying the various monuments. As India is a diverse country, we historians enjoy digging into the past which is connected to the different cultures and traditions of the different states. So let me tell you about the numerous monuments, starting with our home state Maharashtra.

Whenever we talk about Maharashtra's history, one face instantly flashes before our eyes. The face of none other than Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj! He had constructed various forts for different purposes. Majority of them were built to act as a defense mechanism during wars in order to keep the enemies away. One of his forts is the Torna Fort, also known as Prachandagad or the Eagle's Nest is located 1400 meters above sea level in the Sahyadri Mountain Range. It is considered as the highest hill fort in the Pune district. Torna was the first fort conquered by Shivaji Maharaj, which led to the beginning of Swaraj. The fort is even popularly known as Prachandagad due to its huge premise. The origin of this fort is not known. However, the legend says it was constructed in the 13th century by Siva Panth who was a follower of the Hindu, God Shiva. From 1470 to 1486 A.D., Malik Ahmed, a Bahmani ruler, took control of this fort. In later times, Nizam Shah ruled it. In 1646, Shivaji Maharaj brought this fort under his control from Adilshah, and it came to the Maratha Empire. Later on, he named it Torna. He was the one who built some new structures in the fort of Torna. His great escape from Agra is still remembered in Maratha history. Shivaji Maharaj came here & renovated the fort after he escaped from Agra. After Shivaji Maharaj's death, Mughals took over this fort from Marathas after the assassination of Sambhaji Maharaj. However, brave Maratha warriors successfully regained the fort with the strategic efforts of Shankaraji Narayan Sachiv. In 1704 A.D, Aurangzeb again captured the fort Torna and named it "Futulgaib" or "The



Divine Victory". It is even astonishing that, within four years after the control of Aurangzeb, Sarnobat, Nagoji Kokate fetched this fort under the Maratha Empire. Though Shivaji Maharaj had to give many forts in the treaty of Purandar, still Torna remained with him. That was all about Maharashtrian history. Let's move on to the south now.

Situated on the banks of the Tungabhadra river in the eastern part of central Karnataka, lies Hampi. Hampi is famous for its ruins which belong to the Vijayanagar empire. Situated in the shadowed depth of hills and valleys in the state of Karnataka, this place is a historical delight for travellers.

Surrounded by 500 ancient monuments, beautiful temples, bustling street markets, bastions, treasury building and captivating remains of Vijayanagar Empire, Hampi is a backpacker's delight. Hampi is an open museum with 100+ locations to explore and a favourite way to see the city from the perspective of its history. Hampi was the capital of the Vijayanagar empire around 1500 AD, and by some accounts, the second largest city in the world at that time. Over the next centuries it fell out of importance, and now you can explore the ruins of a lot of temples and other structures spread out over a vast area. The terrain around Hampi is as mysterious as the ruins itself - the city is surrounded by boulders of different sizes, and you can climb to the top with a little effort to get a stunning view of the entire city and the geography. It is located on the banks of the Tungabhadra River. Famous for its massive, beautifully carved temples, especially the Virupaksha Temple, dedicated to the patron deity of the empire. You can also find remains of the old aqueducts, canals and military barracks and stables here. Hampi was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1986 and many efforts have been taken to restore the lost glory of the place - very limited (if any) modern establishments are allowed in the main area, which gives an authentic feel to the ruins. That's it! for today. See you next time!

*Aaditi Shiraskar - 7A*



Vacations are meant for tours and trips. One such trip with my family was to Kumbhalgarh fort. We decided to drive all the way. The driver dropped us right in front of the gates of Kumbhalgarh fort! For a time, I thought it was a haunted fort. But out of curiosity, I wanted to explore it, as soon as possible. We all entered the fort.

There, we met our tour guide. He was a hilarious person. He told us that the fort was not haunted so there was no need for me to get more anxious. He told us many stories related to Kumbhalgarh fort. He also said that it was the birthplace of Maharana Pratap. In spite of being the birthplace of Maharana Pratap, not many of us know the Kumbhalgarh fort. It is a lost heritage site. As we went ahead, we saw a Shiva temple with a huge Shivalinga. Can you imagine a temple inside a fort?

While he was telling us some interesting tales associated with the construction, we saw the rooms and toys of Maharana Pratap. We also saw the utensils that were used in that period. As we ended exploring the site, we realized that we were on the top of the fort. We saw a scenic view from the top. We also clicked many pictures.

In the evening, we finished our tour. There was a surprise for us. As it was dark, when we completed our tour, we saw a light and sound show inside Kumbhalgarh fort. We can say Rajasthan is land of forts such as Chittorgarh, Amer, Ranthambore and many more. But Kumbhalgarh is unlike other forts. Everyone must visit there and should have an experience. Keep exploring heritage sites!

*Aastha Thakker - 6A*



# DIARY OF EVENTS

At BPIS, we conduct events and activities wherein students can learn through multiple interactions with their peer groups and teachers. They are designed in order to foster development and good education in students.

The second term began with excursions planned for the secondary section and picnics for the primary and pre primary section. The pre-primary enjoyed to their fullest and had their best time at 'Baccha Party'. Students of Grades 1 and 2 were thrilled with the rides at Tikujiniwadi. Students of Grades 3 and 4 were happy to have hands-on approach to all the available occupations, professions and learning at KidZania. A sneak peek into rural India and its economy was experienced by the students of Grades 5 and 6 at Monteria Village.

Excursions were planned for grades 7 and 8 to Silvassa and for grades 9 and 10 to Mahabaleshwar. The picnics and excursions planned were the most awaited ones after a gap of two years.

The School Annual Day is an occasion to recognize and celebrate students' unique talents and achievements, and to further display them on a wide platform. This year's theme for the Annual Day was 'Panchatstva- the essence of life' Pre primary and Grades 1 to 4 celebrated their annual day on 24 November 2023 whereas Grades 5 to 10 on 25 November 2023 at Kalidas Natyagruha. The five elements were depicted in the form of musicals, dance and drama.

Sports Day was held for the students of Grades 1 and 2 wherein innovative and enjoyable obstacle races were held and Yoga asanas were displayed. We ensured 100 percent participation of students.

Pre primary section always has a lion's share in the events and programmes conducted in the school. Fancy Dress was held in the month of February. A magic show was organized for the toddlers. Along with events, various festivals were celebrated by pre primary students along with Grades 1 and 2 such as Diwali, Holi, Christmas, Makar Sankranti. The Term End Party themed 'Summer' was enjoyed by the pre primary section on the last day of the academic year.

A culmination titled 'Pinnacles of Future' was organized for Grades 1 and 2 where the students presented their skills learnt throughout the year and interacted with their parents.

Pyjama Party was arranged for Grades 1 and 2 on 21 March 2023 in the school auditorium. Students looked adorable in their night suits carrying their plush soft toys enjoying the last day of the academic year.

A Swacch Bharat Abhiyan campaign was organized in the school in various forms for all grades. Colouring competition (Grade 1), a Cleanliness Drive (Grade 2), Elocution (Grade 3), Bulletin Board Activity (Grade 4), Street Rally (Grades 5 and 6) Poetry making (Grade 7), Poster Making (Grade 8) and Debate (Grade 9) were the activities organised based on the theme.

Christmas was celebrated on 23 December 2023. A short shadow play was performed by the students depicting the story of the birth of Jesus Christ in an innovative way.

Republic Day was celebrated on 26 January 2023. A short programme with an amalgamation of culture and patriotism was presented by the students.

Marathi Diwas was observed on 26 February 2023. Students in this programme displayed the colours and the flavours of the Maharashtrian culture, tradition and heritage in the form of dances, songs, speeches and powadas.

Our school also participated in the 'Mulund Cha Gaurav' held at Sambhaji Garden on 19 March 2023.

Life Skill Workshop was organised for the students of grades 7 and 8 based on Cyber-bullying. A positive feedback was received for the workshop.

The Third Open House was scheduled on 14 January 2023 and the Fourth Open House on 1 April 2023.

Semester 2 examinations for Grades 9 and 10 were conducted in the month of February. Semester 2 examinations for Grades 3 to 7 were conducted in the month of March.

To mark the official farewell of grade 10 students, a party was organised on 31 January 2023 for the students. The school bid adieu to the students and mementos were distributed to the students. The ICSE board examinations were held in the school premises from 26 February to 29 March 2023.

The school officially reopened for the new academic year 2023-2024 for Grades 9 and 10 on 5 March 2023 and Pre Primary to Grade 7 on 5 April 2023.

# PICNICS AND EXCURSIONS



“This excursion trip was the most exciting part of this academic year. It was the best period of my life. The bus journey was vibrating with songs and students dancing all over. The sightseeing and activities organised for Grades 7 and 8 at Silvassa were really worth remembering. The DJ Night of the day was the best. I could even hear the words 'Abhi toh party shuru hui hai...' in my dreams. It was indeed an adventurous excursion. I wished it would never end. The monotonous days were now filled with a jovial mood. I still reminisce and laugh at the jokes we cracked and recall the fun we had those two days”.

*Sharvil Tole - 7 A*

## GRADES 9 AND 10



It was truly a mesmerizing experience for me as it was my first overnight stay with all my Grade 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> friends at Mahabaleshwar. After the long COVID phase, everyone was awaiting this relaxation and finally the excursion was announced by our class teacher. We all had a lot of fun, be it the dance in the bus, both, while going and also during the return journey of the trip or being perplexed at the overwhelming prices of sandwiches at the Mapro garden outlet. For me the best part of the trip was spending sleepless nights playing fun games and chit chatting with my friends. Our teachers and our tour and travel guide, “Shubham dada” were amazing. Even though we could not visit a few spots due to time constraints, the whole trip overall was well planned, well organized and well executed. And my sincere thanks to the school staff for making this trip such an amazing one.

*Arnav Shettigar - 9 A*

Nestled amidst lush green landscape and beautiful Sahyadri mountains, Mahabaleshwar is truly a magical place to experience a rejuvenating excursion with your tribe. The cool crisp mountain air makes this hill station a great escape from the humdrum of Mumbai's daily life. Just like piccolo has bores to release all the air pressure out of it, this excursion was just a point of pressure release for all from our busy schedule of studies. Going on a trip on a usual day is splendid but going on a day for junket, a day which celebrates the birth of this excerpt's writer, is remarkable. It was immensely pleasurable celebrating my birthday with maniac friends. I personally relished and roistered visiting Pratapgad fort which stood boasting all its splendour and loyalty towards Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. It was eminently adventurous to ride a horse. It was incredibly prodigious to have a nautical boat ride on the serene and tranquil water of Veena lake. There were abounding unique things in the market of Mahabaleshwar for one to shop. Besides shopping we learned about bargaining skills too. At midnight, wandering around in a hotel with my friends was the most eerie experience and was the highlight of the trip too. Just like the sun is the shiniest object visible from the earth, this trip to Mahabaleshwar was the shiniest part of this year. I would surely cherish the memories of this trip for years to come.

*Ira Parab - 9 A*

# Events and Competitions



BACCHA PARTY



TIKKUJINI WADI



TIKKUJINI WADI



HOLI



ANNUAL SPORTS



AWARENESS RALLY



PAJAMA PARTY

# Events and Competitions



CHRISTMAS



CULMINATION



MAGIC SHOW



MARATHI DIWAS



# ANNUAL DAY





# THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HISTORY OF MONUMENTS AND LITERATURE

India is rich with ancient ruins, remains, and monuments. Many historical places are lying buried under the earth. But excavations are being carried out to bring some such places to light. The material remains discovered from excavations and ruins speak a good deal of the past. For example, the excavations at Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa brought to the knowledge of the world the existence of the Indus Valley Civilization.



History and literature are closely related fields of study, as both seek to understand and interpret the human experience. Literature is a creative form of expression that reflects the cultural, social, and historical context in which it is produced.

Through literature, we can gain insights into the values, beliefs, and experiences of people from different periods and places.

Moreover, literature can also serve as a valuable source of information for historians, providing a window into the past that is not always accessible through other forms of documentation. By studying literary works alongside other historical sources, historians can gain a more comprehensive understanding of a particular time and place.

In summary, history and literature are interconnected disciplines that inform and enrich each other. By studying both, we can gain a deeper appreciation and understanding of the human experience throughout time.

## Inscriptions on the wall of monuments relation with literature

Inscriptions on the wall of monuments are a form of written text that can be considered a type of literature. They are usually carved or engraved onto the surface of the monument and can provide valuable insights into the cultural, historical, and artistic context of the time in which they were created.

Inscriptions on the walls of monuments often commemorate significant events, individuals, or religious or cultural practices. They can also serve as a way for rulers or conquerors to assert their power and establish their legacy. In this way, inscriptions on monuments can be seen as a form of propaganda, shaping the public's perception of the events and individuals they commemorate.

From a literary perspective, inscriptions on the walls of monuments can be analyzed for their style, tone, and language. They may be written in poetic or prose form, and their language may be formal and ornate, designed to impress and inspire the viewer. The inscriptions can also be studied for their use of symbolism, allegory, and metaphor, which can provide further insights into the cultural and religious beliefs of the time.

## Ancient scripts found in monuments are a literary source of history

Ancient scripts are indeed an important source of history and literature. Throughout human history, writing has been used to record events, express thoughts and ideas, and convey cultural and societal norms. Ancient scripts, which

were used by various civilizations throughout the world, provide valuable insights into the lives, beliefs, and practices of our ancestors.

For example, the cuneiform script used by the Sumerians, Babylonians, and Assyrians in Mesopotamia is one of the earliest known writing systems, dating back to the 4th millennium BCE. Cuneiform tablets have been found containing everything from business transactions and legal codes to religious texts and epic literature, such as the famous Epic of Gilgamesh.

Similarly, the hieroglyphic script used by the ancient Egyptians provides us with a wealth of information about their civilization, including their beliefs about the afterlife, their religion, and their daily lives. The Rosetta Stone, a famous artifact discovered in Egypt in 1799, was instrumental in deciphering the hieroglyphic script.

The ancient Greek alphabet, which gave rise to the modern Western alphabet, has also been invaluable in preserving literature and history. Ancient Greek texts, such as the works of Homer, Sophocles, and Plato, have had a profound impact on Western culture and continue to be studied and revered to this day.

In summary, ancient scripts are a crucial source of history and literature, providing us with a window into the lives and cultures of our ancestors.

## Are monuments also a big source of history and literature?

Yes, monuments can serve as important sources of history and literature. Monuments are physical structures that are built to commemorate or honor a particular person, event, or idea.

They can provide insight into the values, beliefs, and cultural norms of a society at a particular point in time. Many monuments have historical and literary significance because they represent key moments or figures in history. For example, the Great Pyramid of Giza is a monument that serves as a reminder of ancient Egyptian civilization and the engineering prowess of its people. Similarly, the Parthenon in Athens, Greece, is a monument that represents the cultural and artistic achievements of the ancient Greeks.

Monuments can also be literary sources because they often contain inscriptions, dedications, or other written material that provide information about the people or events they commemorate. For example, the Rosetta Stone, which was discovered in Egypt in 1799, contains inscriptions in three different scripts that were used to decipher ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs. The inscriptions on the Rosetta Stone have provided historians and linguists with valuable information about ancient Egyptian language and culture.

## Conclusion

Overall, while there may be instances where the history of monuments is closely related to literature, this is not always the case. The relationship between literature and monuments is complex and multifaceted, and is shaped by a range of cultural, historical, and political factors.



# कुतुब मीनार



कुतुब मीनार भारत में दिल्ली शहर के महरौली में ईंट से बनी, विश्व की सबसे ऊँची मीनार है। दिल्ली को भारत का दिल कहा जाता है, यहाँ पर कई प्राचीन इमारतें और धरोहर स्थित हैं। इन पुरानी और खास इमारतों में से एक इमारत दिल्ली में स्थित है जिसका नाम है कुतुब मीनार, जो भारत और विश्व की सबसे ऊँची मीनार है।

कुतुब मीनार का निर्माण 1192 में कुतुब – उद – दीन ऐबक द्वारा किया गया था और बाद में उसके एक इल्तुतमिश द्वारा पूरा किया गया था। यह मीनार इंडो – इस्लामिक अफगान स्थापत्य शैली में बनी है। कुतुब मीनार भारत का सबसे खास और प्रसिद्ध पर्यटक स्थल है। यह इमारत हिंदू-मुगल इतिहास का एक बहुत खास हिस्सा है। कुतुब मीनार को यूनेस्को द्वारा भारत के सबसे पुराने वैश्विक धरोहरों की सूची में भी शामिल किया गया है।

1369 में बिजली गिरने मीनार क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया था जिसे फिरोजशाह तुगलक द्वारा इसकी मरम्मत और जीर्णोद्धार कराया गया, जिसने इसकी ऊँचाई को और बढ़ा दिया। मीनार पाँच मंजिला एक वृत्ताकार मीनार है, प्रत्येक मंदिर एक बालकनी से अलग होती है। इसमें ऊपर की ओर जाने वाले 379 सीढ़ियों की एक गोलाकार सीढ़ी है। यह मीनार लाल बलुआ पत्थर, संगमरमर और ग्रे क्वार्टजाइट से बनी है। कुतुब मीनार को सर्वश्रेष्ठ यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर स्थलों में से एक के रूप में जोड़ा गया है। कुतुब मीनार दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी ईंटों की दीवार है जिसकी ऊँचाई 72.5 मीटर है। मोहाली की फतह बुर्ज के बाद भारत की सबसे बड़ी मीनार में कुतुब मीनार का नाम आता है।

Yash Panchal - 9 A

नमस्कार दोस्तों, कैसे हो आप? मुझे आशा है कि आप ठीक होंगे। क्या आपने कभी सोचा है कि चारमीनार (एक अद्भुत स्मारक) कहाँ है और इसे कैसे बनाया गया?

यह भारत के तेलंगाना में हैदराबाद में स्थित वास्तुकला का एक सुंदर नमूना है। यह हैदराबाद शहर के केंद्र में स्थित है। यह भारत के सबसे प्रसिद्ध ऐतिहासिक स्मारकों में से एक है। इसे मुहम्मद कुली कुतुब शाह ने 1591 में बनवाया था।



कुछ का मानना है कि यह एक घातक प्लेग के अंत का जश्न मनाने के लिए बनाया गया था। चारमीनार को "आर्क डी ट्रायम्फ ऑफ़ द ईस्ट" के रूप में जाना जाता है जो हैदराबाद का प्रतीक है।

चारमीनार एक चौकोर आकार की संरचना है। यह मीनारों के साथ बनाया गया है जो 56 मीटर ऊँची हैं। इसकी चार मीनारें हैं।

इसके हर तरफ एक विशाल आकार की घड़ी है। इसमें बीच में एक वजू खाना भी शामिल है जहाँ लोग नमाज़ के लिए जाने से पहले अपना चेहरा और हाथ धोते हैं। इसमें मस्जिद के केंद्र में एक फव्वारा भी है।

चारमीनार के चारों ओर एक विशाल बाजार है। बाजार को लाड बाजार के नाम से जाना जाता है। यह अपने आभूषणों, विशेष रूप से सुंदर चूड़ियों के लिए जाना जाता है। पत्थर गट्टी अपने मोतियों के लिए भी प्रसिद्ध है। सरोजिनी नायडू ने इस पर "हैदराबाद के बाजारों में" एक कविता लिखी है।

चारमीनार हैदराबाद के इतिहास में एक महत्वपूर्ण स्थान रखता है। यह हैदराबाद का प्रतीक है। इसकी सुंदरता और विशाल प्रभावशाली संरचना दुनिया भर के पर्यटकों को आकर्षित करती है।

Avinash Mishra - 7A

# शनिवार वाड्याचे रहस्य



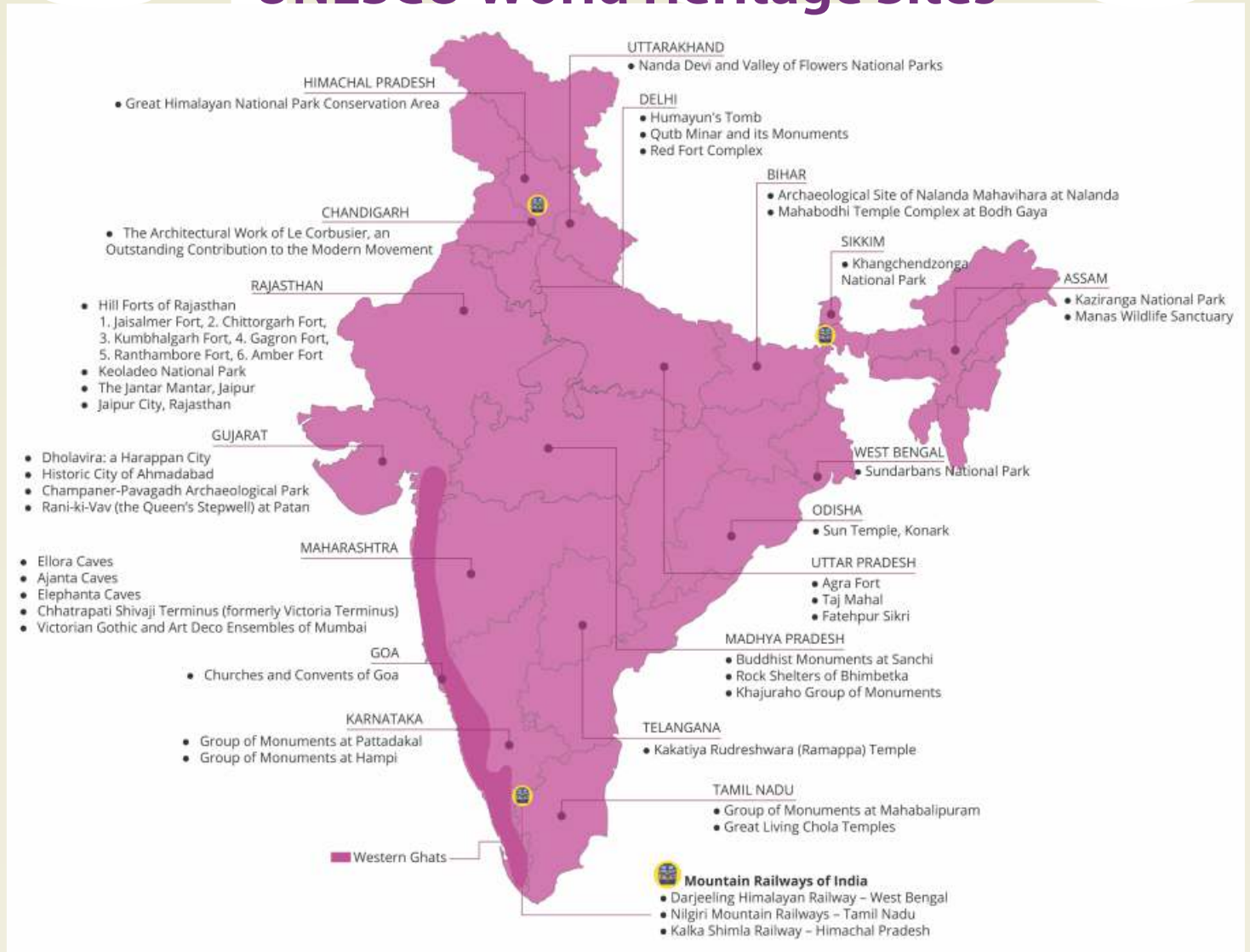
शनिवार वाडा हा महाराष्ट्रातील पुणे या शहरातील एक महत्वाची ऐतिहासिक वास्तू आहे. पहिले बाजीराव पेशवे यांनी सन १७३६ साली १३ खोल्यांचा पेशव्यांचा राजवाडा म्हणजेच शनिवार वाडा बांधला.

ह्या वाड्याशी निगडित एक रहस्यमय गोष्ट आहे. 'काका मला वाचवा' या किंकाळ्या अनेकांनी वाड्यात ऐकल्या आहेत. या मागचं रहस्य काय? नानासाहेब पेशवे यांचे सगळ्यात लहान पुत्र नारायणराव पेशवे यांना त्यांचे मोठे बंधू माधवराव पेशवे आणि विश्वासराव पेशवे यांच्यानंतर पेशवेपदाच्या गादीवर बसवण्यात आले. राघोबादादा नानासाहेबांचे धाकटे बंधू यांना ही गोष्ट मान्य नव्हती. नारायणराव हे वयाने लहान असल्यामुळे राघोबादादा सगळा कारभार बघत होते. याचा फायदा घेऊन राघोबादादा यांनी नारायणराव यांना धरून कैद करा असा खलीता काढला. परंतु त्यांच्या पत्नी आनंदीबाई यांनी याचा फायदा घेत धरा ऐवजी मारा असे केले त्यामुळे नारायणराव यांना सुमेरसिंह गर्दी आणि काही अंगरक्षक यांनी मारले. त्या प्रसंगी नारायणराव यांनी राघोबादादा यांना मारलेली आर्त हाक म्हणजेच काका मला वाचवा. त्या दिवसापासून असे म्हंटले जाते की नारायणरावांची ती हाक आजही शनिवार वाड्यात ऐकू येते. म्हणून शनिवार वाड्यात रात्री लोकांना जाण्यास मनाई आहे.

Parnavi Karandikar - 7 A



# UNESCO World Heritage Sites



## KNOWLEDGE ZONE : UNESCO AND INDIA - WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN INDIA

■ A World Heritage Site is a place that is listed by UNESCO for its special cultural or physical significance. The list of World Heritage Site is maintained by the international 'World Heritage Programme', administered by the UNESCO World Heritage Committee.

■ The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.

■ This is embodied in an international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972.

- Total Number of World Heritage Sites in India: 40
- Total Cultural Heritage Sites: 32
- Total Natural Sites: 7
- Mixed Site (Cultural as well as Natural) : 1
- World Heritage Sites Listed First: Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Ajanta Caves and Ellora Caves
- Latest Addition: (2021): Harappan City of Dholavira, Kakatiya Rudreshwara Temple.
- Countries With The Most UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Italy (58), China (56), Germany (51)
- India Is 6th In Number Of World Heritage Sites In The World.

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