

HISTORICAL DESTINATIONS IN NORTH INDIA AND THEIR IMPACTS: AN ANALYTICAL STUDY (SPECIAL FOCUS ON DELHI)

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Abstract: *India is popularly known as incredible India among tourists of India and abroad. India is explored and ruled by several invaders and traders from time to time. Some invaders ruled for a long period and some did that for a loot purpose and left India with the taste of their culture. In all over India, we can witness different monuments of different dynasties in India. Maximum monuments were built by rulers of other countries. These rulers chose to rule north India, because many battles were fought in north India, such as Delhi, Panipat, Rajasthan, Punjab, and so on in order to earn gold and to set up a new capital. From different period of time invaders from Turkey, Afghanistan, Iraq, Portugal, France and other parts of the world, including Britain, entered India. Some of them came for trade and some came for maximizing their reign. These invaders during their reign built many famous constructions, which are very popular today. Therefore, in this way Delhi was built several times and became the capital of India, which is filled with the monuments of different historical dynasty where we can see the mixed culture and traditions. Large amount of such constructions can also be seen mainly in Agra, Jaipur and in other parts of India. That is why today maximum tourist from every part of the world likes to travel in North India to experience the beauty of historical architecture. The said paper will try to find out different dimensions of historical monuments and their importance in north India. The paper mainly focus on Delhi as it is believed that Delhi has been destroyed and constructed many times, but still it is a matter of research for us that how we can preserve the beauty of these historical monuments in Delhi for future.*

INTRODUCTION

North India is a mixture of different types of people with different cultures and traditions, existence of the heart touching pilgrimage centres and the exotic architectural monuments and archaeological sites. This is one of the places in India where the tourists feel to visit several times, not only to wander in the elegance of the physical attractiveness, but feel the warmth of devotional celebrations, and visit the number of religious sites and monuments that are evidence of North India's picturesque history. The cultural heritage of North India includes Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab. Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar are treated as North Indian states for their cultural and linguistic identity. [2] Most of the part of India's historical, archaeological and architectural wealth is found within the locality of North India. In Krimchi, a small village in Udhampur, **Jammu and Kashmir**, the oldest temples of India is found, known as Pandava temples. The attractive Hindu pilgrimage town

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called Jageshwar is situated in the Almor district of **Uttarakhand**. 124 small temples in cluster formation can be seen here. The valley of Kangra is situated in the state of **Himachal Pradesh**. Kangra is native to the Himalayan Pyramid - *Masroor* Rock Cut Temple. Other famous attractions are the Kangra fort, Taragarh palace, Indrarah Pass, and the Kareri Lake. Urban and Architectural Work of Le Corbusier are located in **Chandigarh**. A strong religious and historical place where Bhagavad Gita was addressed by Lord Krishna to Arjun is the holy land of **Kurukshetra**, in **Haryana**. Some of the historical sites are Brahma Sarovar, Sri Krishna Museum and the Brisma Kund. The Pandav brothers founded **Panipat**, in Haryana during the period of Mahabharata. This place is known for the battle of Panipat. Other heritage sites in Panipat are Panipat Museum, the grave of Ibrahim Lodhi, Kabuli Bagh and Kala Amb. **Karnal** in Haryana is a place related to the history of Mahabharata. It is called the rice bowl of India. The places of attraction are the Karnal Fort, Karnal Lake, Cantonment Church Tower and the Pukka Pul. **Hisar** is a historical city in Haryana which has evidence of presence of pre-historic man. Famous monuments here are the Banawali, Gumbad, Fort of Prithviraj and Devi Bhawan Mandir. **Hansi** in Haryana is a historical city with many buildings of archaeological interest. The oldest fort in Haryana is found in Hansi. Statues of the founders of Buddhism, Gautam Buddha and the Jain God, Mahabir are seen here. **Ayodhya** is a town next to Faizabad in **Uttar Pradesh**. It is believed to be the birth place of Lord Rama. It is a city of temples and has rich history. **Varanasi** in Uttar Pradesh is the oldest city of the world. It is situated on the banks of the River Ganga. The place is famous for its Ghats and for the colorful and vivid life of its people. **Vrindavan** is a town in Mathura, Uttar Pradesh also known as Krishna Bhumi. The temples here are devoted to Lord Krishna and Radha which is treated as one of the holy places for Hindus. Taj Mahal is located in **Agra**, Uttar Pradesh is a famous tourist destination in North India. The Mahabodhi Temple complex is located at **Bodh Gaya, Bihar**. It was built by the Emperor Ashoka in 260 BC is a famous travel destination. Sri Harmandir Sahib is a Golden Temple located in Amritsar, Punjab, is a famous tourist spot. Dilwala temples is located in **Mount Abu**, Rajasthan. **Alwar** is a majestic town located in the state of **Rajasthan**. It has places and forts with its picturesque scenic beauty. The major tourist attraction of Alwar is the Bhangarh Fort which is predicted to be haunted by the archaeological department. Khajuraho Group of Monuments is situated in the **Chhatarpur** district of **Madhya Pradesh**. These monuments are a group of Hindu and Jain temples. This temples are famous for seductive sculptures with Nagara - style architecture. Bhimbetka Rock shelter is situated in the **Raisen** district of Madhya Pradesh. This place is the belongings of the Palaeolithic Age. The Gwalior Fort, Raja Man Singh Tomar's Palace, Scindia Museum and the Gopachal Parvat lies in the historical city of **Gwalior**, Madhya Pradesh. [3] **Delhi** is the capital of India which has a strong historical background in the Indian History. The powerful emperors from different parts of the world ruled over Delhi several times. The history of Delhi was as old as the Mahabharata. Delhi was known by different names during the historical period such as Indraprastha, Lal Kot, Siri, Dinpanah, Quila Rai Pithora, Ferozabad, Jahanpanah, Tughlakabad and Shahjahanabad. For over five centuries Delhi faced political violence. Delhi was ruled by the Mughal empire, Rajputs and the British rulers.[4] In this way Delhi was built several times and after the independence in 1947, New Delhi became the capital of India. Due to ruling of different strong emperors and invaders of different historical dynasty, Delhi became the existence of cultural heritage of North India. Therefore maximum number of tourists from different parts of the world love to visit North India to explore the beauty of historical architecture. Some of the popular tourist destinations are- Red Fort, Jama Masjid, Qutub Minar, Himayun Tomb, Lotus Temple, Iskcon Temple, India Gate, Parliament house, Rashtrapathi Bhawan, Jantar Mantar. Due to underground construction, granite quarrying, collapse of fort walls, some monuments has gone disappeared. Many historic sculptures, temples and tourist places have been damaged and the jewels of the monuments have been taken out from North India. Therefore, for the

storage of the treasures and the beautiful architectures, ASI has divided the area into different circles for the preservation of the historical monuments and archaeological sites. Whether the surveyors maintaining the monuments for the next generation, today we people will have to survey and investigate and will have to make new laws. A little struggle and effort is needed to make the extreme changes that will make the generations of the past, present and the future proud feel for the well maintenance of the cultural heritage of North India.

STUDY AREA

North India adjoins the northern parts of India. It lies on Continental India, North of Peninsular India. The geographical features of North India are the Indo - Gangetic Plain, Himalayas and the Thar Desert. The Ministry of Home Affairs in its Northern Zonal Council Administrative Divisions covered the states of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Delhi and Chandigarh. The Ministry of Culture in its Northern Culture Zone includes Uttarakhand. The Geological Survey of India includes Uttar Pradesh and Delhi. Other states also included are Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. North India has been the historical centre of the Mughal, Delhi Sultanate and British Indian Empires. The climate of North India follows temperate zone of the earth. The pattern of the climate is cool or cold winters, hot summers and moderate monsoons. During summer, the temperature rises up to 35 degree Celsius in most of the part of Indo – Gangetic Plains, reaching as high as 50 degree Celsius in the Thar Desert and 48 degree Celsius in Delhi. During winter, the temperature falls to minus 5 degree Celsius in the plains and below freezing point in some states. In Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand heavy to moderate snowfall can be seen. North India also faces heavy fog during winter. North India receives rain and snow precipitation due to two weather patterns – The Indian Monsoon and Western Disturbances. The traditional seasons of North India are summer, rainy, cool, autumn and winter. The vegetation of North India are deciduous and coniferous. Some of the deciduous trees are sal, teak, walnut, sheesham and poplar and the coniferous trees are cedar, fir, birch, juniper, cypress, pine, and spruce. 500 varieties of mammals, 2000 species of birds, 30,000 types of insects, wide varieties of fish, amphibians and reptiles are found in North India. The demography of North India belongs to Indo Aryan ethno linguistic branch. The various ethnic groups include Brahmins, Rajputs, Banias, Jats, Ahirs, Gurjars, Kolis, Khattris, Kambojs and the Dalits. Other minority ethno – linguistic group include Dravidian, Tibeto – Burman and Austroasiatic. The dominant religion of North India is Hinduism. Other religions practiced by the ethnic communities are Islam, Sikhism, Jainism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Buddhism. Linguistically Indo – Aryan language is a dominated language of North India. The official language of North India is Hindi. The native languages of the state of North India are Urdu, Dogri, Rajasthani, Bhojpuri, Awadhi, Haryanvi, Garhwali, Kumaoni, Kinnauri, Ladakhi, Lahuli – Spiti and Korwa language. The wildlife national parks and reserves, the holy pilgrimage centres and the historical monuments and archaeological sites encompass North India. The study area will specially highlight Delhi, the capital city of India.

OBJECTIVE OF RESEARCH

1. To focus on historical places in North India specially highlighting Delhi.
2. To find out the different dimensions of the historical monuments and their importance in the concerned area.
3. To find out the impact of Tourism on historical sites.
4. To suggest the related solutions for preservation of the beauty of historical monuments of Delhi for future generations.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is based on primary and secondary data. The data have been collected from various officials and semi – officials published reports, ASI, research journals, newspaper reports, research articles, websites and works of individual scholars.

The main sources of primary data used are – Map of Delhi using Arc GIS Software. The data has also been collected from Field survey report.

The main sources of secondary data used are – District Census Hand Book 2011, Ministry of tourism Annual Report, Tourism Statistical year book of India, Census of India 2011, Archaeological Survey of India report.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

North India is influenced by the history of ancient Indus Valley Civilization. This is the reason large number of tourists attracts here. During the historical period Egypt and Mesopotamia was connected with North India for trade. The Aryans from Central Asia entered North India, invaded the region for agriculture. The Greek settled in North India after the invasion of Alexander in 326 BC. The Gupta Empire occupied North India up to Bay of Bengal in the East during the period between 4th and 6th centuries AD. Hun invaded the North West - India by defeating the Gupta Empire in 535 AD. After the Hun Dynasty the other Central Asian Tribes entered North India and settled during the 6th century AD. During 1011 to 1030, Mahmud of Ghazni, an Afghan ruler, captured North India several times in order to loot the wealth from Hindu temples of Thanesar, Mathura and Somnath. In the later part of the 12th century, Muhammad Ghori captured North India. He started his invasion through a Himalayan Gomal Pass and then he established his empire in North India. After the death of Ghori, the succeeding emperors and sultanate like Mughals ruled over Delhi and the Delhi Sultanate was formed. During this period many historical monuments were built. Later the British East India Company entered India by taking the permission from the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan. Their intension was to establish trade in North India. With the settlement of business in trade they defeated the Mughal Empire. During the period of 1857, the last Mughal Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar fought battle with the British company and was defeated. The Empire was ruled under the British Queen Victoria till India became independent on 15th August 1947. [7]

Historical destinations in North India with special focus on Delhi – its different dimensions and their importance

Taj Mahal, Agra

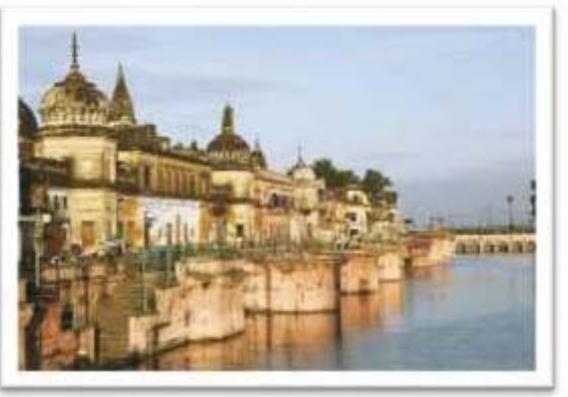
The most beautiful building in the world is Taj Mahal situated in Agra in Uttar Pradesh. It was built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan, in the memory of his third wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Taj Mahal is called as the “symbol of love”.



Shah Jahan said that Taj Mahal made “the sun and the moon shed tears from their eyes”. In the Persian language, Taj Mahal is known as the Crown of Palaces. It took 17 years to complete the Taj Mahal by 1653. It is made from white marble and the tomb is designed in rectangular shape. Due to water channels and fountains in the entrance the monument became more wondrous. The wildest imagination of Taj Mahal made the visitors prepare for world wonder. It is the pure example of Mughal architecture which is now a UNESCO world heritage site. Therefore it is considered as the most beautiful building in the world. [8]

Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh

Ayodhya is expected to be the birth place of Lord Rama. It is a city which plays an important role in the Hindu epic of Ramayana. The colour and spirituality of Ayodhya attracts the tourist from different destinations. It is situated on the bank of river Sarayu, in Uttar Pradesh. It is a capital Awadh, which is believed to be a famous Hindu religious tourist place with temples and historical sites such as Ramjanma Bhoomi, Kanak Bhawan, Hanuman Garhi, Nageshwarnath Temple, Gulab Bari, Choti Chawni. It has rich history and many legends. Recently this place is in news due to Babri Masjid conflict. The Masjid which was constructed on Ramjanma Bhumi made dispute between Hindus and Muslims.



Gulab Bari is a beautiful rose garden in Ayodhya which is surrounded around the tomb of Shuja – ud – Daulah. The garden has varieties of exotic roses which attracts the tourists. Gulab Bari is known for the Imambara and the mosque.



Choti Chawni is a beautiful structure made out of white marble. It is known as Valmiki Bhawan or Maniramdas Chawn. There are 34 heritage caves out of which 12 are to the south known for Buddhist, 17 in the centre known for Hindu and 5 in the north known for Jain. The kailasha temple in the caves increases the beauty of the structure. [9]

Kurukshetra, Haryana

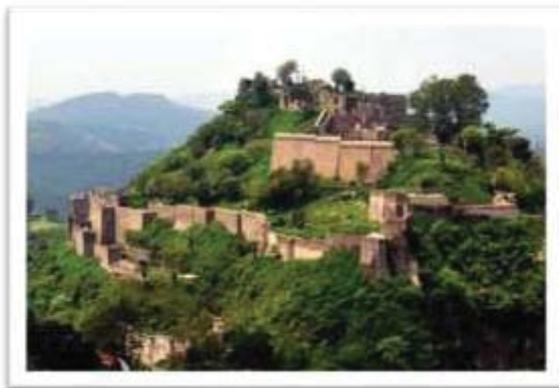
Kurukshetra is the centre point of the Epic Mahabharata. Lord Buddha and many Sikh Gurus visited Kurukshetra to spent time. It has many devotee centres, holy shrines, and kunds which visualize the epic ages and the early Indian civilization. The ASI claims that this place exists during the pre - Harappan times. Thanesar is a historical town in Kurukshetra. According to ASI, Ashoka was the Mauryan ruler of Kurukshetra. He developed a centre of learning for visitors who come from all over the world. Kurukshetra attracts the visitors because it has many temples, museums and lakes which records the history of pre – Harappan and Harappan civilizations. Brahma Sarovar, Krishna Museum, Bhadrakali Temple, Sannihit Sarovar, Sthaneshwar Mahadev Temple are some of the destinations attracts the tourists.



The archaeological evidence said that the Pandavas earned the blessings of Lord Shiva in Sthaneshwar Mahadev Temple. The tank in the site was believed to heal the properties as this tank healed Banasura's leprosy. It is an ancient capital of Harsha Vardana. The roof of the temple is designed like an amla dome with lofty pinnacles. It is an ancient statue of the Shiva Linga. It is thought to be the first idol of Shiva. [10]

Kangra Fort, Kangra

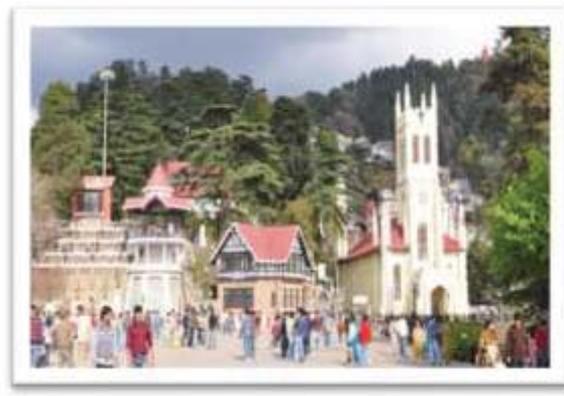
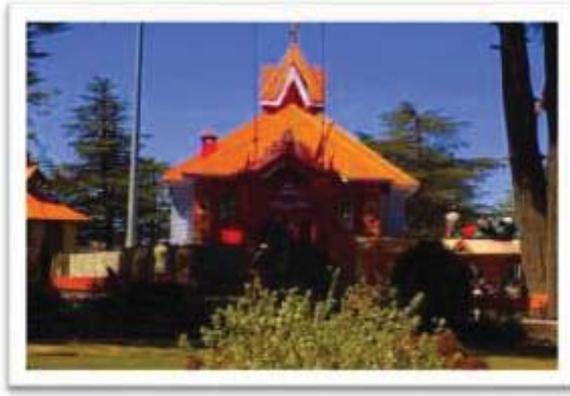
Kangra Fort is situated in the town of Kangra, in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Kangra Fort is observed to be a place which has thousands of years of grandeur, invasion, war, wealth and evolution. This fort has its origin to the ancient Trigarta Kingdom which is found in the Mahabharata epic. It is the largest fort in the Himalayas and the oldest in India. Jahangir captured the fort in 1622. Later Raja Sansar Chand – II finally invaded Jahangir and captured the fort from the Mughals in 1789. Later the British took from Raja Sansar and occupied the fort until on April 4, 1905, the fort was heavily damaged by the earthquake. The Kangra Fort is the symbol of elegance and royalty which attracts the visitors. A small courtyard is placed by two gates towards the entrance of the Kangra Fort known as Phatak. From the Ahani and Amiri Darwaza, a long and narrow passage runs to the top of the fort. This darwaza was of Nawab Ali Khan, the first governor of the Kangra from the Mughal Dynasty. After 500 feet, through the outer gate, the passage runs through the Jahangiri Darwaza from where the Muhammadan building appears. The slab of the fort is made of white marble which visualize the Persian inscription. Today the fort is in ruin now; the royal structure which used to stand there can be imagined. Therefore an exotic view can be seen from the top of the roof which mesmerizes the tourist. [11]



Shimla Tourism

The capital of Himachal Pradesh is Shimla. It has a famous hill station with rich colonial history in North India. It has famous mall road, the ridge, toy train etc. established by the British Colonials who left behind the memories for tourists like honeymooners, families and travellers. Shimla is one of the most beautiful tourist destinations in India which is situated at a height of 2200 m. It is aesthetically a well-planned city in India. As it was a summer capital of British India, the natural beauty, the atmosphere, the well-knit roads, impeccable cleanliness and efficient administration, bound the tourist to live for long and feel the nature because it makes a perfect destination for tourists in the world. Shimla has colonial style buildings, Institute of Advanced Studies, and the historic temples named the Jakhoo Temple.

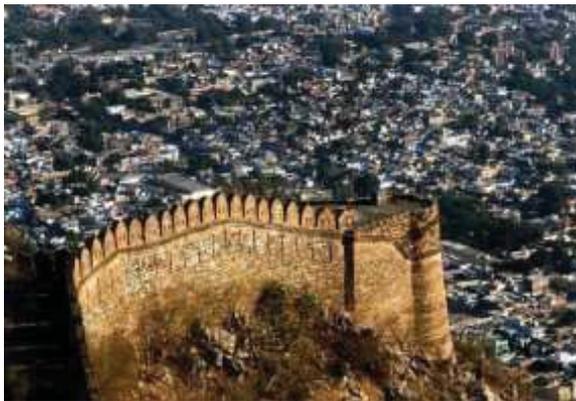
The Jakhoo Temple is set on the highest point on Jakhoo hill in Shimla. The Jakhoo temple is devoted to the Hindu monkey god – Hanuman. This temple attracts the tourists, the visitors, the Hindu pilgrims and the devotees because it has the world's largest Hanuman statue which is visible from many locations of Shimla.



Shimla is a base with nearby tourist places like Chail, Kufri, Naldehra, Mashobra, Tattapani and Narkanda. The toy train runs from Kalka to Shimla through beautiful hills and valleys passes through more than hundred tunnels. It is one of the most beautiful narrow gauge train routes in the world which comes in UNESCO world heritage site. [12]

Bala Quila Fort

Alwar Fort is located in the Aravalli Range of Alwar town. This fort was built by Hasan Khan Mewati in the 15th century. According to the Hindus, the fort describes that it is the strength of the king.



The definition of the Baba Quila is the young fort. Laxman pole connects the fort to the Alwar city. Kachhwaha Rajput Pratap Singh captured the fort in 1775 AD. The Alwar fort is visible with a distance of 595 m from the Alwar city. The fort has 6 gates which talk of the valor and chivalry of the Rajputs. The wall is designed with ancient sculptures and scriptures. It is an architectural piece of the indo-Islamic style. The beautifully crafted wall takes the tourist to the golden era. Some of the buildings in the fort are Taj Mahal, Salim Sagar Pond, Suraj Kund and 15 temples which reflect the history of the bygone era today. The fort was used by the Mughals for attacking Ranthambore. The fort has a radio station which can be visited with the permission of the superintendent of police, Alwar.

Varanasi Tourism

Varanasi is a spiritual capital city of India located on the bank of the river Ganga. It is a pilgrimage place for Hindus where people come for salvation and purification. Varanasi is a place of marvelous architectural heritage.



The city is described as a melting place where life and death come together. Chaos and noise are seen on the ghats of Varanasi in the day time. Ganga Aarti takes place in the evening which makes the area silent. Pandits performing the rituals are the performances of the senses made by them.

Golden Temple

Golden Temple is a spiritual place in India. It is the holiest shrine also known as Sri Harmandir Sahib. Many people visit Golden Temple from all over the World to explore spiritual solace and religious fulfilment. It is located in the beautiful city of Amritsar. Golden Temple is a shrine shining in the centre of the tank which makes the visitors memorable.



The visitors believe that the tank has healing powers that can cure many diseases. This place has a mesmerizing beauty and peace where the pilgrims gather to listen to the hymns and pay respect to the Guru Granth Sahib. The structure of the golden temple is a sight of beauty and admiration. This place is incredibly peaceful. Inside the main entrance clock tower of the temple the Sikh Museum is located. The Ramgarhia Bunga is surrounded by two Islamic style minarets located at the southeast end of the tank. Golden Temple is one of the most beautiful attractions in the world.

Mahabodhi Temple

The Mahabodhi Temple is called the great awakening temple. It is one of the world heritage sites located in Bodh Gaya. It is a Buddhist temple where the Buddha achieved enlightenment.

The total area of temple is 4.8 hectares, and it is 55 meters tall. The Bodhi tree is situated to the left of the Mahabodhi temple where Lord Gautam Buddha used to meditate. This temple has a very calm and peaceful ambiance loved by the pilgrims. During the visit of the Great Emperor Ashoka to Bodh Gaya in 260 BC, he constructed a small temple by the tree which later named as Bodh tree.



Fatehpur Sikri

The Mughal Emperor Akbar founded Fatehpur Sikri in 16th Century. It is made of red sandstone. For fifteen years Fatehpur Sikri was the capital of Akbar's Empire.



Today it is a UNESCO world heritage site and also a famous tourist destination. Fatehpur Sikri is home to Jodha Bai's palace. It is a home of architectural excellence, religious beliefs, and tourist spot. Akbar built this monument to honour Sheikh Salim Chisti. Also he built a marvellous mosque along with it. He constructed three palaces for his favourite three wives, one is hindu, one is muslim and the other is christian. Fatehpur Sikri is an Indo-Islamic Masterpiece. It has an 11km long fortification wall which shows several gateways. It is a history of paradise.

Hawa Mahal

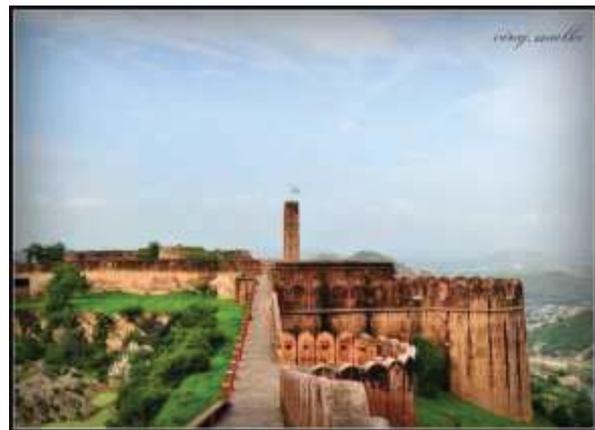
Hawa Mahal stands at the crossroads of the main road in Jaipur. It is known as the signature building of the city. It was built by Maharaja Sawai Pratap Singh in 1799. Hawa Mahal is named because the building has many small windows which allow fresh cool air to enter the palace to keep the palace comfortable during the summer months.



The main logical architecture for construction of Hawa Mahal was to permit the women of royal house to observe the festivals and other activities going on in the streets instead it was invisible from outside. It is a Rajput architectural design made of red and pink sandstone. The structure of the palace is pyramidal which resembles a crown and it has countless tiny windows. The Hawa Mahal palace has five floors; each one of them has unique decorated chambers. There is a beautiful fountain inside the main palace from where one can move to different floors. The top floor of the palace gives a beautiful view of the City Palace, Jantar Mantar, and the Siredeori Bazar. Nearby Hawa Mahal there is a small museum which has rich relics and miniature paintings.

Amber Fort

Amber Fort is situated on the top of the Aravali hill in Jaipur and it has a beautiful view from across the Maatha Lake. It is a beautiful architectural monument visited by over five thousand tourists daily. It is made of pink and yellow sandstone which gives a mesmerizing view from the bottom of the Aravali hill. Amber Fort was built by Man Singh, the most trusted general of Akbar. Amber Fort or Amer Fort is a place of photographer's paradise.



It has large ramparts, several gateways, and paved path. Amer is a small town with an area of four square kilometers; it was once a capital city of Rajasthan and today it became a famous tourist spot which attracts the visitors worldwide. The fort can be visited on an elephant back.

Amber Fort and Jaigarh Fort is located on the top of the hill called 'Cheel ka Teela'. There is an underground passage which is called an escape route used during emergencies.

Agra Fort

Agra Fort is also known as Lal Qila, Fort Rouge, or Red Fort of Agra. Agra Fort is located on the right bank of the river Yamuna in Agra, Uttar Pradesh.



It is situated at a distance of 2.5 kms from the world famous Taj Mahal. Agra Fort was built in the year 1573 by Mughal Emperor Akbar. It was the main residence of the Mughal dynasty until 1638, when the capital was shifted from Agra to New Delhi. The Agra Fort comes under UNESCO world heritage site due to its historical importance and unique construction. Agra Fort is known to be the most important and unique monument built by the Mughals. It has beautiful architecture and Mughal style of art which makes the tourist visit to the destination. The construction is made of red sandstone which stands on the opposite side of the purplish blue sky. Within the premises of the fort, the beautiful architecture of the Mughal dynasty like the Pearl Mosque, Diwan-I-Khas, Diwan-I-Aam, Moti Masjid, and Jahangiri Mahal lies.

A beautiful view of Taj Mahal can be seen from the Agra Fort.

Historical places of Delhi

Delhi is a famous historical place which is known for its modern tourist destination and places of worship of many religions. Delhi is native to UNESCO world heritage site due to home of unique architectural sites like Qutub Minar, Red Fort, Humayun's Tomb, along with famous historical places and places of tourist attractions such as Chandni Chowk, Purana Quila, Parliament House, Connaught Place, James Church, Pitampura TV Tower, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Tallest Indian Flag, Lodhi Garden, Rajpath, Old Fort, Ahinsa Sthal, and Mughal Monuments in Delhi. Delhi was ruled by many powerful emperors. If we see the history of Delhi, Delhi was named as Indraprastha, the capital of the Pandavas. The soil of Delhi is filled with love, sacrifices, and bloodsheds for the country. The monuments and the historical sites of Delhi stand silent which reveals the story of the past. Delhi was not always been the capital of India but it plays a vital role in the Indian history. It has always been a gateway city of India. Delhi traces its history to Mahabharata, which was the great epic tale of wars that was fought between cousins, Kauravas and the Pandavas for the Indraprastha city. As we all know Delhi is attracted to domestic and international tourists due to abundance of treasures kept away by the ancestors. Therefore history of Delhi was written by every historian during the different era for the future generations like the history of Pandavas and the Harappan Culture (before 300 BC), Mauryan Empire (300 BC to 1st Century AD), Tomars and Chauhans (736 to 1192 AD),

Sultanate Period (1192 to 1526 AD), Mughal Era (1526 to 1857 AD), British Empire (1857 to 1947 AD), Indian Independence (1947 AD).

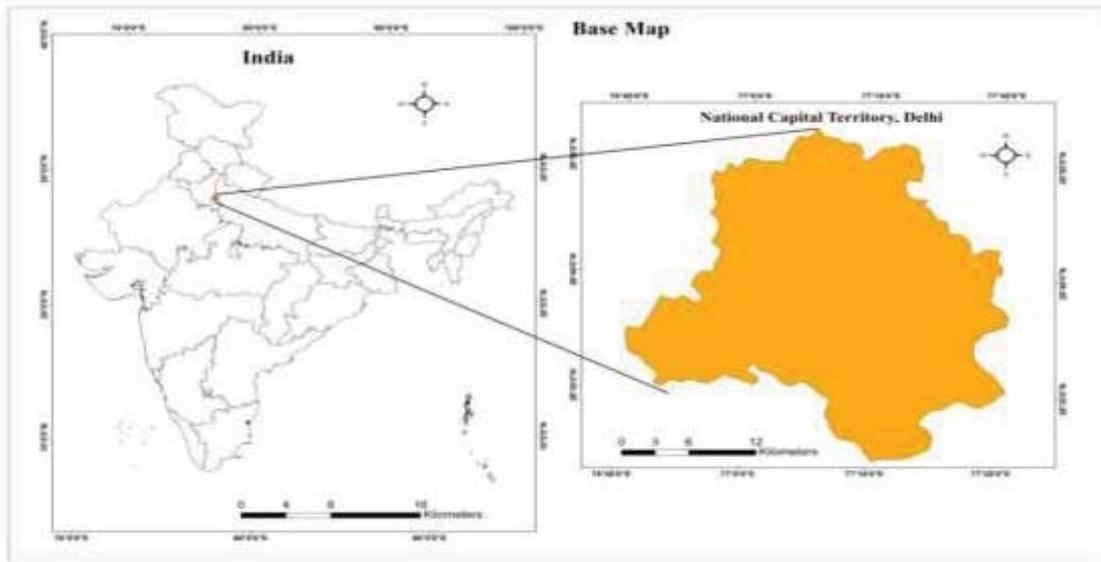
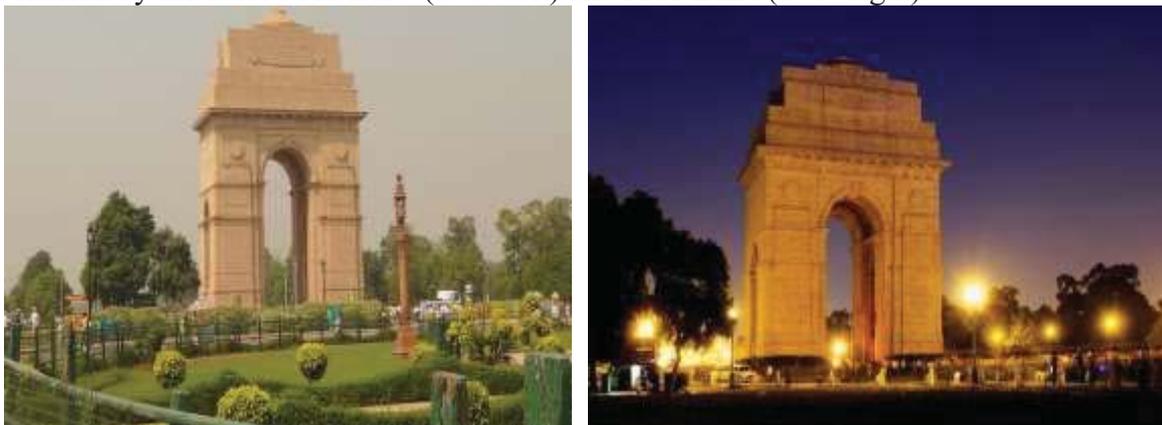


Figure: GIS base map showing the capital city of Delhi

India Gate

India Gate is a most famous historical site of Delhi as well as India situated with a leg on either side of the Rajpath. One of the tallest gate in India is the All India War Memorial in New Delhi. It is 42 metre high, an “Arc De Triomphe” like archway situated in the middle of a crossroad. India Gate was designed by Edwin Lutyens. The complete arc is situated on the base of the red Bharatpur stone and it has a huge moulding. At the top of the India Gate has a shallow domed bowl where burning oil is filled on anniversaries. The both side of the arc is written INDIA, bordered by the dates MCMXIV (1914 left) and MCMXIX (1919 right).

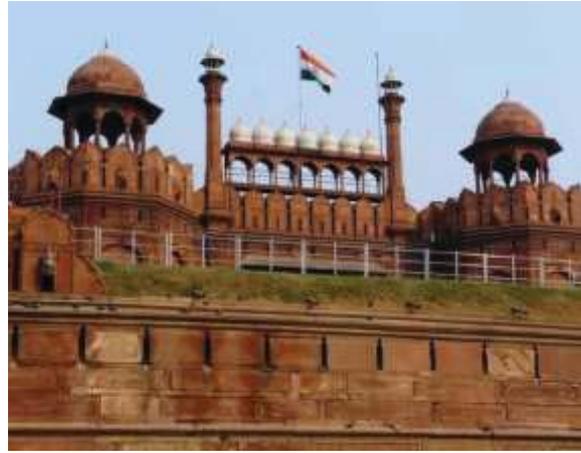


It has fountain nearby with lush green lawns famous for picnic spot for the visitors. [14]

Red Fort

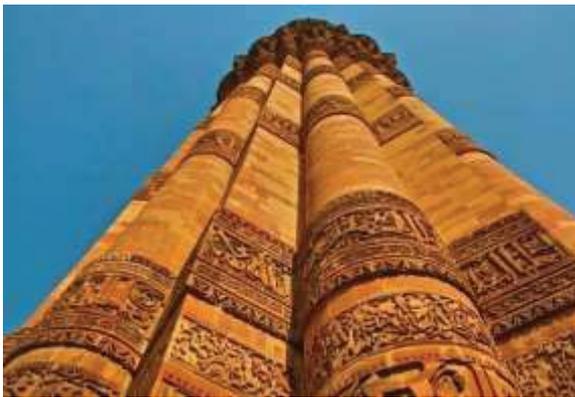
Red Fort is a historical place located in the capital city of New Delhi. Red Fort was the main residence of the Mughal Dynasty. It was built by Shah Jahan in 1639. The Red Fort derives its name from the red sandstone walls. It was the political and ceremonial centre of the Mughal

Dynasty. Today this monument is a home of number of museums. During the Independence Day the national flag are put down by the Indian Prime Minister in the Red Fort. [17]



Qutub Minar

Qutub Minar is the tallest individual building in the world and the second tallest monument in Delhi which comes under UNESCO world heritage site. It is situated in Mehrauli. It was constructed by Qutub Uddin Aibak in 1199. Iron pillar and the Alai Darwaza is situated besides the Qutub Minar. The height of the Qutub Minar is 14.3m at the base and 2.7m at the top. There are 379 stairs which takes one to the top of the monument. The qutub Minar is a five storey building which tilts a little from 65 m above the ground level. It is built of red sandstone and marble. It is an Indo-Islamic architecture where every floor has a balcony surrounded by the minaret and it is supported by corbels. Verses from Quran are engraved on the minaret with Parso-Arabic and Nagari Characters. [15]



Humayun's Tomb

Humayun's Tomb was a relaxing place of the Mughal Emperor Humayun. It is situated in the Nizamuddin East area of Delhi. It is one of the first garden tomb built by Humayun in the Indian Sub-Continent. This tomb comes under UNESCO World Heritage Site list in the year 1993. The tomb is situated in the middle of the huge ornate Mughal Garden. It is situated on the banks of the river Yamuna. This tomb is a mausoleum of his wives, son, and descendants of the later Emperor Shah Jahan and the other Mughals. The structure is a mixture of Persian

and Islamic architecture. The tomb is made up of debris of granite and red sandstone and applying white marble as a covering material. [16]



Jama Masjid

The word ‘Jama Masjid’ is derived from the word ‘Jummah’ when the Muslims pray to Allah on Fridays. It is the reminder of the Mughal architecture. It is made up of red sandstone and white marble. It is the largest mosque in India. Every year thousands of Muslims visit the Mosque to have prayer service on Eid to have special Eid Namaz on Eid. The mosque was built by 5000 artisans under the supervision of Wazir Saadullah Khan. It took six years to complete the mosque. The costing to build the mosque at that time was 1 million rupees. The mosque can be seen from the three sides of the stairs through east, north and south. It has four towers and two 40m high minarets. The construction of the mosque started in 1644 and completed in 1656. Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan built the Jama Masjid. It is located in old Delhi in Chandni Chowk. The courtyard is capable of holding 25000 devotees. [18]



Tourism impacts on historical sites

No doubt northern part of India is full of wows and woos when talk about historical destinations particularly. These destinations are indeed a milestone for the increment of foreign currency. As the present paper suggests some positive and negative impacts of tourism on these given historical sites, our research highlight areas, where clear focus needs to be required. There should be awareness in the utilization of cultural heritage for exhibiting the past and figure out the positive and negative result for the management of the monuments in North India especially in Delhi. Recently due to rapid growth of tourism in the market, it has become important to develop potentially the historical sites which are in danger due to pollution, nearby industries,

acid rain, and due to other activities taken place in the area. There should be site surveys, ethnographic observations, and repeat photography to analyze the impacts on historical sites taken place by the surrounding activities and due to natural environmental changes. Mechanical interactions may change the beauty of the monuments and may damage the archaeological record which may affect the tourism industry to a great extent. Evidence of tourism sector may alter evidence of the past histories without removing them but at the same time tourism sector has a minor effect on the monuments in relation to the process of nature. Therefore tourism never takes place at the historic sites which never changes, i.e., frozen but at sites that is going towards extinction. A tourism sector always tries to focus on the historical sites that are always accessible to the visitors. The influence of tourism industry toward the monuments may go to the lower level if there are changes in the environmental impact assessment and monitoring. Qualified guides and the authorities who are capable to handle the responsibility and who are active to take precautionary action of the monuments which are in danger for future generations are mentioned.

Government is trying to visualize the tourism industry development by diminishing the negative impacts and developing the positive impacts. Degradation of historic sites and monuments leads to overcrowding and congestion which causes negative environmental impacts. Development of tourism will take place if the natural environment will be protected, if there will be balance in the ecosystem, if conservation and preservation of historical buildings and monuments will take place, if the area's appearance will be improved by the authorities, if the industries will be built away from the sites. Therefore positive environmental impact will be visualized.

The positive impacts for the development of the tourism and the monuments are income generation, employment generation, development of supportive industries, and supports for regional development. The tourism industry has brought many economic, socio-cultural and environmental advantages towards historical buildings and monuments. If we focus towards the history of thousands of years, North India is dominated by world heritage sites which include palaces, temples, monasteries, monuments, and historical buildings etc. The heritage site has become one of the important pull factors in North India to attract the tourists from all over the world. The foreign tourists mainly attract towards the archaeological and historical sites of North India which generate the income to

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the government revenue. As India is a developing country, it is difficult to store money for the maintenance, restoration and development activities of the monuments and historical sites. Therefore this stored earned money can be used for preservation and conservation of sites and this money can also be used for the provision and good facilities of the domestic and international tourists of north India. We can even see more employment opportunities in the area directly or indirectly because most of the monuments are situated in the remote areas in the dry zone.

The negative impacts related to the development of the heritage sites are over-dependence on tourism, the conflicts of interests, unauthorized construction and modifications, misinterpretation through guiding and poor site management, etc. Over concentration on tourism is taking place due to earning more and more money without concentrating on the impacts. Therefore, no proper decisions and plans are taking place to make better facilities and to improve the negative impacts. The main target of the ASI (Archaeology Survey of India) should be to conserve and protect the monuments for future generations, so that the world will be able to know the history and heritage of the ancestor in the coming future. The first preference of ASI should be to conserve the heritage site without compromising the safety of the treasures than the second preference of developing the tourism industry. Local people visit the monuments paying less money for entrance, on the other hand foreign tourists visit the tourist site paying more money comparatively in order to earn experience and satisfaction. Therefore due to overcrowding and bad behaviour of the locals, the foreign tourists suffer the negative impact in the area. The heritage sites of North India have become one of the best business opportunities by establishing souvenir shops, hotels, restaurants, and spa etc. Therefore, many modifications and constructions are going on in the area with a great speed without keeping the originality and affecting the historical values which will create frustration and dissatisfaction among the tourists leading to negative publicity further affecting the revenue in the tourism industry. Misinterpretation through local guiding due to lack of knowledge about the history of the monuments when the tourist tries to know more about the history dissatisfies and frustrates the foreign tourists. The unethical behaviour of the tourist should be avoided under the premises of the pilgrimage sites or the heritage sites and the monuments as it damages the tour experiences of the domestic and international tourists. Due to high tourist traffic and high expectations of visitors in the historical sites, major problems are taking place. The poor site management and the site facility management should be maintained by the site managers and the authorities by controlling the size of the number of visitors and their behaviours to conserve, preserve and protect the monuments.

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Suggestions for preservation of monuments for future generation

The task is to preserve the historical monuments of North India for future generation. Up to the day, the ASI is conserving and preserving the monuments of the past as evidence. The monuments of the Mughal Dynasty, the Rajput's, and the British not only express the history of the past but also they are part of the history which keeps the tourist in touch with the history. Therefore it is the duty of ASI to preserve the monuments and guard them originally so that the monuments would exit up to the future generations, as authentic cultural heritage. Another task is not to transform the monuments into the museums; rather if possible, it should be preserved and used in the surroundings. The preservation of the historical monuments would be possible if there will be understanding among the broad sectors of the population. Therefore it is very important to broadcast professional decisions and their backgrounds to the monument owners and the public. The government will have to support and protect the monuments of different dynasties through several procedures. The monuments of Delhi must become an inspiration and motivation for the coming future generations because this is a power and wealth of our country. No one knows when the monuments will crash down. Instead of depending on law, rule or force, it's better to be self realistic which can only save the heritage of the area. The monument is a mirror which symbolizes the culture, tradition, history, art and design of our country. It also represents the architectural skills of our past history. Therefore it is the duty of the authorities to save the monuments from destroying. No new industries or factories should be built up nearby any monuments. The old plants should be shifted away from the area of heritage site so that the smoke may not destroy the architecture anymore. The drainage system for waste water, industrial effluents and disposal of garbage should be properly well master planned to save the monuments from ruining. The cultural heritage is precious to every community and society which has to be saved and transferred to the next future generations by the civil society. ASI should put a strict law and rules against public who cause damage to the treasures by inscribing their names, messages and initials. Some heritage has already been lost and some are still in danger. As we all know that all monuments are a living heritage, so it is important to understand, define, interpret and manage them for future. There should be educational methods of teaching monuments conservation in relation to local importance and communities needs in all schools and institutions. The architectural education should be exchanged among the educationist in order to maintain the architecture and conserve the urban heritage. When the younger generations and the public will appreciate and give value to the monuments, after that we can say that the architectural heritage will be possible for the survival of future. The training programs and the educational programs for all ages should be organized in all the universities and technical institutions in order to give proper attention to the concerned subject. The authorities should be responsible for the chemical conservation and preservation treatment of monuments. Protection against moisture is also required. The structure of monuments should be given strength to save from harm done by pollution, acid rains, and other chemicals throughout the years. Reinforcement should be required to strengthen the stones cement and titanium. The government should spread awareness and advertise about how to preserve the monuments for future. Many seminars, workshops and conferences should be organized to aware the students and the younger generations to store the history with the support of money, time, expertise and labour with the help of chemical and other methods. For the restoration of monuments of North India materials should be used:

1. Repointing practices;
2. Mineral grout, polymer injection, anti-staining coating and techniques;
3. Portland cement mortars and grouts;
4. Lime cement mortars and grouts;
5. Pozzolanic mortars and grouts;

6. Epoxy resin mortars and grouts.

In today's modern world, it is important to conserve the monuments for future generations as success of the founders and the ancestors. Little effort from our side can create extreme changes and store the treasure which will visualize the past to the future.

Literature Review

For the said paper, several related articles and books have been consulted and analyzed with the topic. Some of related works have given us a prudent vision while giving some valuable suggestion to improvise the condition of the monuments. We have read pros and cons of impact of monuments in North India. Some of the related literatures to the given topic are mentioned below.

1. Heritage tourism refers to leisure travel that has as its primary purpose the experiencing of places and activities that represent the past. Heritage sites provide the tangible links between past, present and future. Heritage sites are in the centre of the struggle between the potentially conflicting aspirations of conservation and tourism. Heritage management enables the critical balance to be maintained between the needs of the resource and the needs of the visitor. Through education and entertainment and the enjoyment of heritage attractions such as nature reserves, national parks, museums, historic houses and gardens, villages or towns by people of all ages and socio-economic groups with different life-styles, it is possible to develop a climate of conservation awareness. Heritage resources are not replaceable; therefore conservation is the critical point in heritage management. [27]
2. More recently, heritage has superseded conservation, where marketing of heritage as a product according to the demands of the consumer, mainly tourists, has resulted in the commercialization of heritage over conservation values. Today, the symbiosis of both tourism and heritage places has become a major objective in the management and planning of historic areas. [28]
3. South America is perceived as an affordable ecotourism destination, with emphasis on the nature, cultural and heritage attributes of the region. It is also perceived as less developed, secured and westernized than their home environment. It is found that watching the movie has not dramatically changed the destination image of South America, but rather strengthened previous perceptions. [29]
4. Microbial activity can have an important impact on the durability of building materials. It is important to understand this activity in order to select appropriate treatment strategies for the repair and restoration of buildings and monuments. The microorganisms can modify the properties of building materials such as concrete,

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mortars, composites, timber, gypsum, etc., as well as the mechanisms responsible for deterioration of these materials. [30]

5. Agencies and organizations whose mission it is to protect and preserve historic and culturally important buildings, monuments, and artifacts from the ravages of weather, pollution, development, and even use by the general public must compete for needed resources with other social goals. [31]
6. Architectural preservation began as an expression of liberal conscience. It has devolved into a deeply reactionary mode of self-deception. It masks the failure of the liberal imagination to address the social justice side of the democratic equation. Arguments in favour of preservation run the gamut, from historical consciousness to urban planning, to even environmental protection. For some of its most zealous advocates, the preservation movement is so heroic that it seems to inspire single-handedly broad citizen involvement and progressive change, and to solve the problems of our decaying cities. Others, though, have a far more negative view of preservation. They accuse preservationists of being elitists who manipulate the preservation process to keep "undesirables" (i.e., the poor and minorities) out of their neighbourhoods. Furthermore, they believe that preservation drives out long-term residents from low-income neighbourhoods through gentrification. Whatever the arguments may be, it is impossible to deny preservation's past and future impact on the lives and neighbourhoods of low-income people. Furthermore, preservationists are increasingly being drawn into run-down areas to save endangered structures, providing close contact with the surrounding low-income residents. [32]

Conclusion

The concluding part of the present paper has focused on different hypothetical suggestions for the development of historical destinations of north India. In this research paper, we have drawn attention on social, economic, cultural and political impacts of historical destinations of north India. Archaeological Survey of India always has to face problems of demolition of historical destinations as they are ancient and over the period, their constructions have weakened. Thus, ASI has always on vigilance to repair it on time. But the materials used for the restoration is not up to the mark as it was during their first construction. So priority should be given on quality constructing materials. As a social negative impact of overcrowding at monuments requires attention on fixing number of visitors in the monuments premises in order to save the monuments from scratch and demolish. As the economical factor is concerned, strict fine must be levied on the person responsible for maligning the image of a particular monument. Things should be improved with the help of governmental and nongovernmental sectors. Because a state government is responsible to improvise, sensitize and to promote tourism of given tourist area and its historical destinations.

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