# 

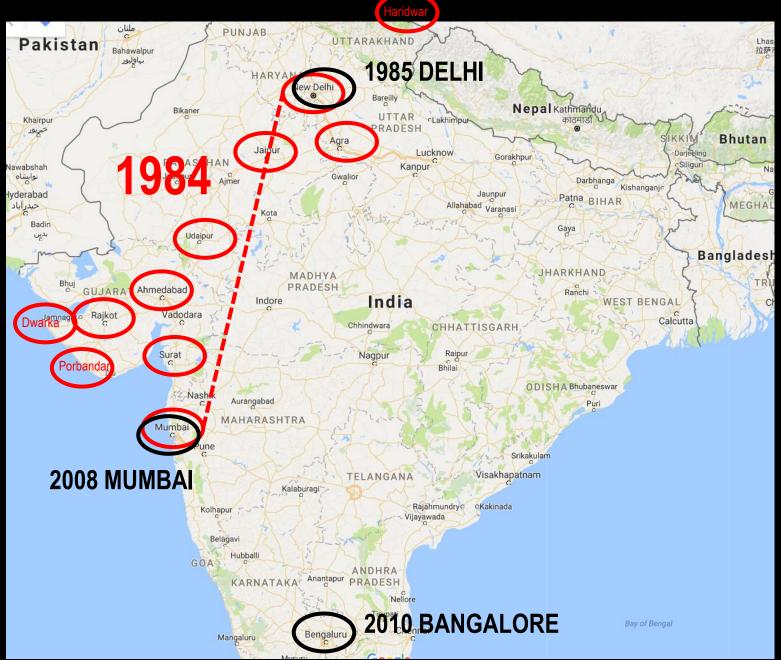
# Steve Ransome Diane Watling

#### WHY WE WENT TO INDIA AND WHAT WE DID

My wife and I were invited in 1984 to accompany Gujarati friends for 5 weeks to help his parents

- perform a Hindu pilgrimage
- visit their old villages and their relatives
- visit temples
- see the river Ganges
- visit other sites such as the Taj Mahal
- go to Mumbai and New Delhi.
- + 1 trip to Delhi + 2 business trips

#### INDIA (5 WEEK TRIP + SOME BUSINESS)



#### **INDIA GEOGRAPHY AND FACTS**

- 1. World's largest democracy, 1200 million (20x UK)
- 2. 9 hrs away from UK by aeroplane
- 3. +4  $\frac{1}{2}$  or + 5  $\frac{1}{2}$  hours timezone (New Delhi time)
- 4. Hindus 80%, Muslims 14%, Christians 2%, Sikhs 2%, Buddhists 1%, Jains, 0.5% Zoroastrians others ...
- **5.** Varied climate Tropical jungle, Desert to Himalayas
- 6. Currency Indian Rupee (~100 to the British pound)
- 7. Main languages are Hindi and English but about 15 main languages + 3000 dialects are spoken

#### **INDIAN BANKNOTES ~ RS100 = £1**

#### SOME OF MINE ARE NOW WORTHLESS













#### INDIAN BANKNOTES ~ RS100 = £1

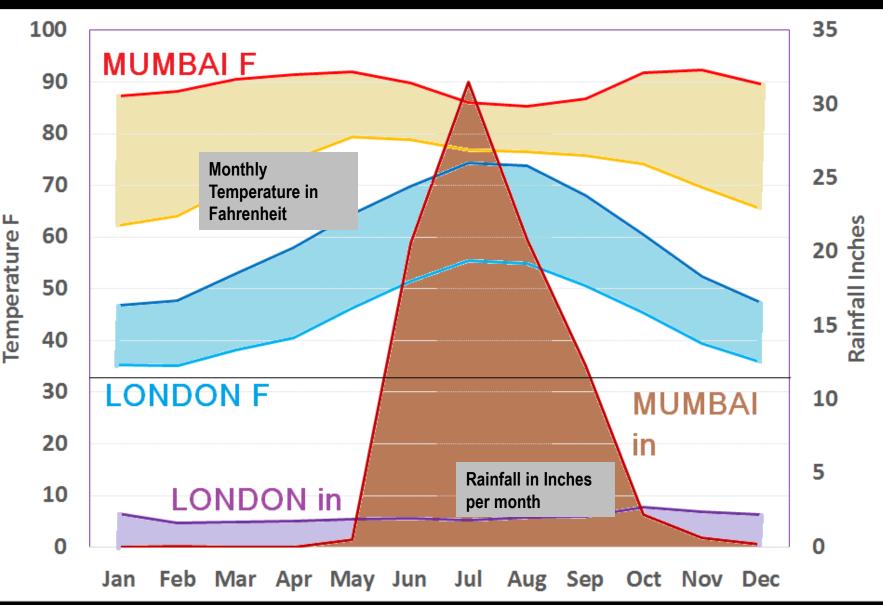
15 (/22) different languages on bank notes

Assamese Bengali Gujarati Kannada Kashmiri Konkani Malayalam Marathi Nepali Oriya Punjabi Sanskrit Tamil Telugu Urdu ... HINDI

Mostly mutually incomprehensible



## WEATHER MUMBAI VS. LONDON TEMPERATURE (F) AND RAINFALL (INCHES)



#### INDIAN NUMBERS ARE CONFUSING NUMBER OF "0", NAME

#### Western Counting

- 5) 100,000
  Hundred thousand
- 6) 1,000,000 Million
- 7) 10,000,000 Ten million

#### Indian counting

- 5) 1,00,000
  Lakh
- 6) 10,00,000

• 7) 1,00,00,000 Crore

 Thousand Million Billion

 Thousand Lakh Crore

## INDIA IS A COUNTRY OF CONTRASTS

#### Private building in Mumbai for owner of Reliance industries costing \$1B

#### slums





# MUMBAI TRAFFIC JAMS JUST LIKE IN ENGLAND.

IT TOOK 1 1/2H EACH WAY TO GET TO THE FACTORY



# **TRAFFIC IN DELHI IS CHAOTIC TOO**



#### EVEN IN THE COUNTRYSIDE DRIVING IS CHAOTIC, I WOULDN'T TRY



#### **BANGALORE'S MAIN SHOPPING STREET**



#### **TRANSPORT IN INDIA**

A HINDUSTAN AMBASSADOR (MORRIS OXFORD III) PRODUCED IN INDIA 1958-2014 HIRED BY THE DAY WITH A DRIVER

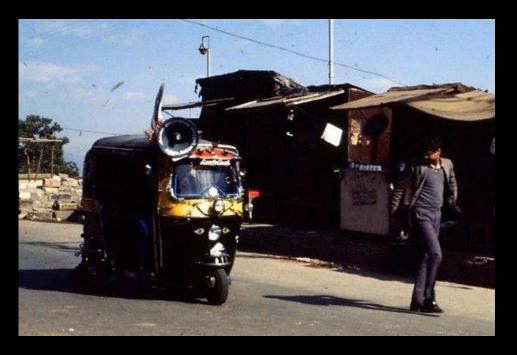


#### **TRANSPORT IN INDIA**

A HINDUSTAN AMBASSADOR (MORRIS OXFORD III) PRODUCED IN INDIA 1958-2014 HIRED BY THE DAY WITH A DRIVER ORIGINAL BRITISH VERSION



#### **TUK TUK 3 WHEELER TAXIS.** COULD GET UP TO 6 PASSENGERS IN BUT HAD TO WALK PAST POLICE STATIONS HORNS CONSTANTLY IN USE





#### OLDER ARTICULATED BUS IN MUMBAI 1984 TYPE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN NOW



#### **MORE RECENT MUMBAI BUSES 2008**



## HARLEY DAVIDSON SOUND ALIKE 4 PASSENGERS FOR TOURISTS



#### MANY LORRIES ARE DECORATED BY THEIR DRIVERS



# **COACHES DO BREAKDOWN**



## **RECOVERING A CRASHED LORRY**



# SHIP OF THE DESERT, RAJHASTAN







#### MUMBAI FOOD DELIVERY DABA (TIFFIN) DELIVERIES OF FOOD FROM HOME TO OFFICES







#### wikipedia

#### **MY DINNER** INDIAN BREAD, CURRY, SAMOSAS, PICKLES AND FRUIT JUICE



# **ROADSIDE SNACKS**



### PICNIC IN THE HOTEL -OUR FRIEND'S PARENTS KNEW WHAT TO BUY



# HOTEL BREAKFAST



# TAJ INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, MUMBAI WE COULD ONLY AFFORD AN ICECREAM THERE



# STREET SCENE IN MUMBAI



#### VICTORIA/CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI STATION MUMBAI 1887 18PLATFORMS, 26 COACH TRAINS



# HANGING GARDENS OF MUMBAI



#### SCHOOL OUTING, MUMBAI EVERYONE WANTED TO SAY HELLO



#### ANIMAL TOPIARY IN MUMBAI



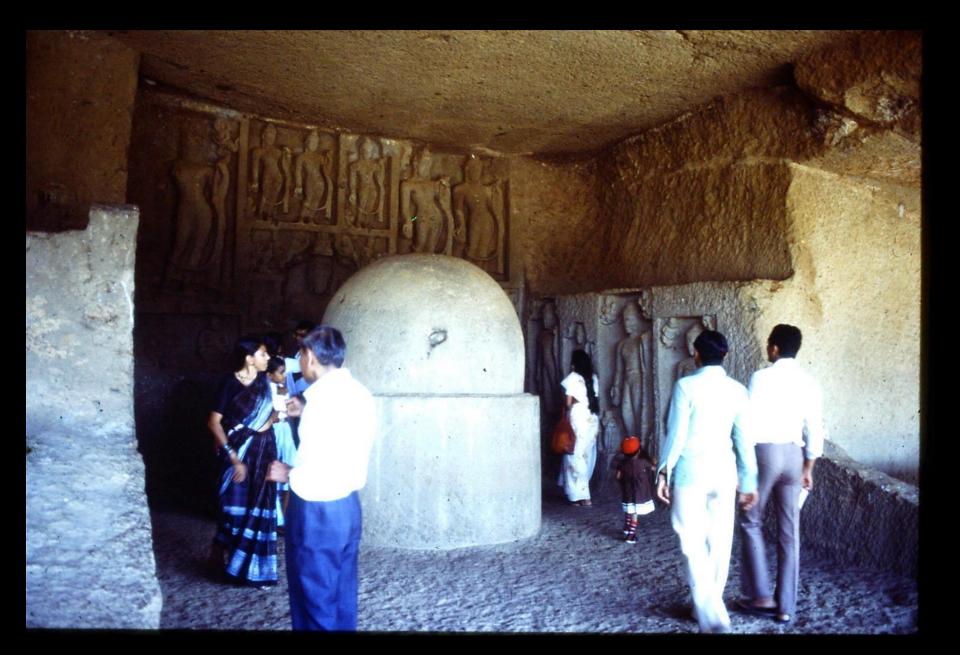
# ELEPHANTA ISLAND NR MUMBAI HINDU AND BUDDHIST ROCK CAVES



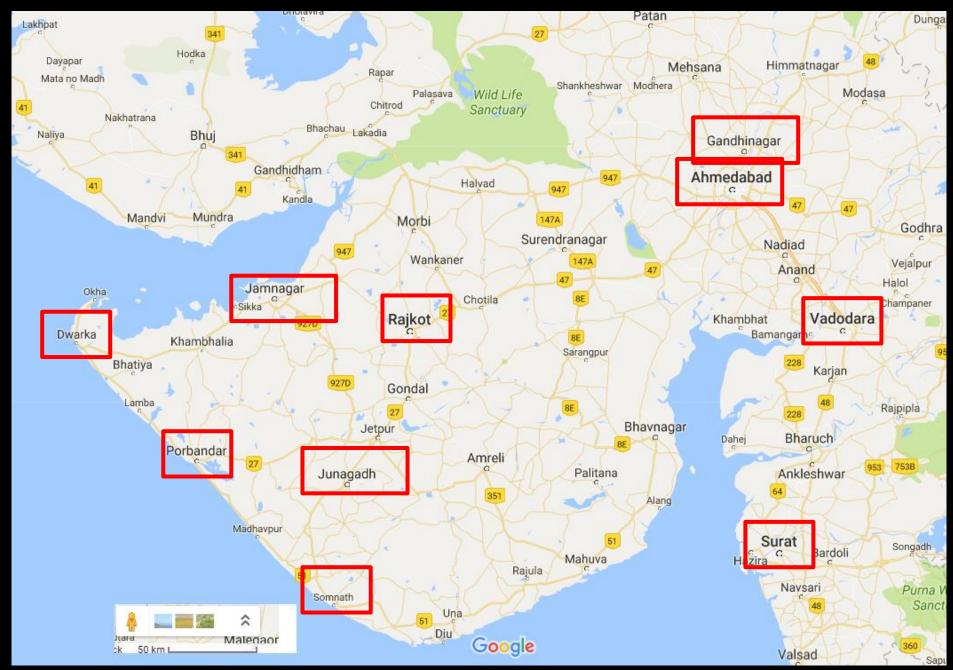
## **ROCK TEMPLES 5<sup>TH</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY**



## INSIDE ROCK TEMPLE S://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/ELEPHANTA\_CAVES



### **GUJARAT – THE MAIN REASON FOR THE VISIT**



## **MEETING OUR FRIENDS' SHOE MAKER FAMILY**



## FEASTING AT THEIR FAMILY'S HOUSE



## **OUR FRIEND'S FATHER FOUND HIS OLD HOUSE**



## **OUR FRIENDS MET THEIR OLD NEIGHBOURS**



## IN THEIR FRIENDS' HOUSE



## **CHILDREN FOLLOWED US EVERYWHERE**



## DOORWAY AT NEARLY EMPTY VILLAGE



# WELL AT ALMOST EMPTY VILLAGE (8 HOUSES) MOST OF THE OWNERS WERE LIVING ABROAD



#### THE EMPTY VILLAGE IS LOOKED AFTER

ONE COUPLE RETURNED AND LOOK AFTER ALL OF THE HOUSES, EVEN PUTTING LIGHTS UP FOR THEIR FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS (DIWALI) JUST BEFORE THEIR NEW YEAR IN NOVEMBER

6.0

## **ORNATE ARCHITECTURE**



## HINDU TEMPLES



## HINDU TEMPLE



## HINDU TEMPLE



## HINDU TEMPLE



#### SOMNATH TEMPLE

STORIES OF LEVITATING STATUES THE TEMPLE IS SITUATED AT SUCH A PLACE THAT THERE IS NO LAND IN A STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN SOMNATH SEASHO<u>RE UNTIL ANTARCTICA</u>

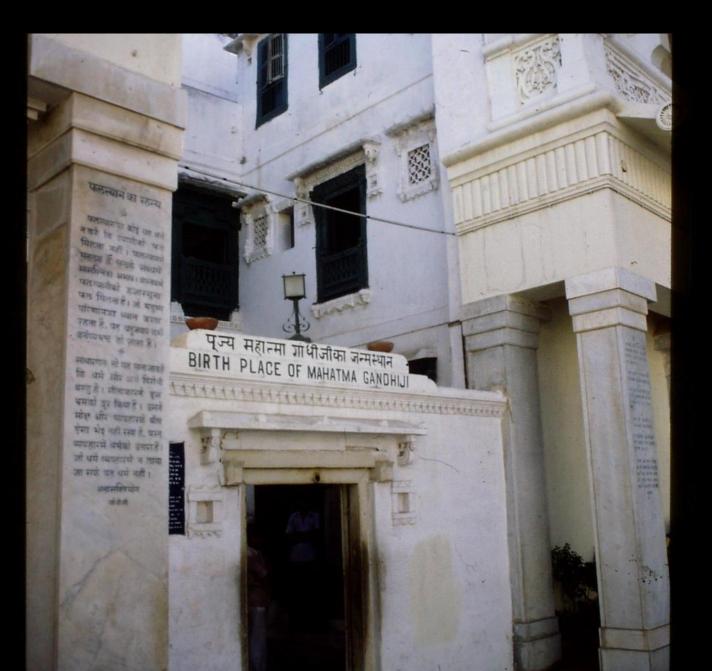


## **MAHATMA GANDHI 1869-1948**

- From Porbandar, Gujarat
- Pacifist leader of Indian independence movement from Britain
- Inspiration for civil rights and freedom
- Wanted to stop separation of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh and have one united India with all religions (Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Jain, Christian and others ...)
- Assassinated in 1948
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct is national holiday



#### **GANDHI'S BIRTHPLACE**



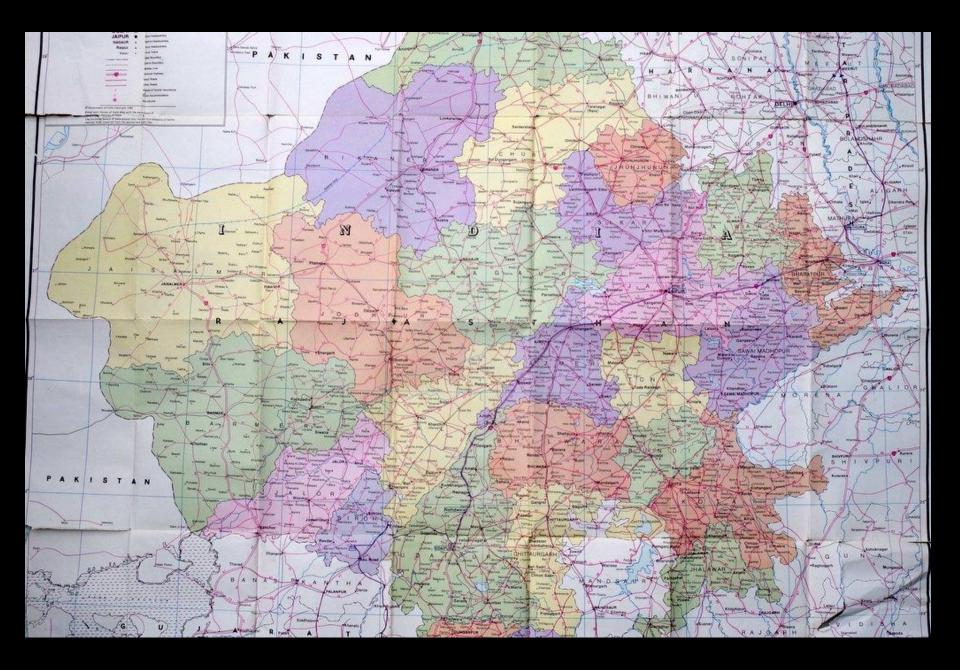
#### GANDHI'S BIRTHPLACE



# SABARMATI ASHRAM/GANDHI'S ASHRAM CONTAINS A MUSEUM, HIS WRITINGS AND POSSESSIONS



## **ROUTE THROUGH RAJASTHAN**



## YOUNG GIRLS WITH ANIMAL DUNG FOR FUEL



## DUNG DRYING ON THE WALL – HANDPRINTS TO IDENTIFY WHOSE IT IS



## DILWARA JAIN TEMPLE – MOUNT ABU



## MARBLE TEMPLE CARVING



## **10<sup>TH</sup> TO 14<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY JAIN TEMPLE**

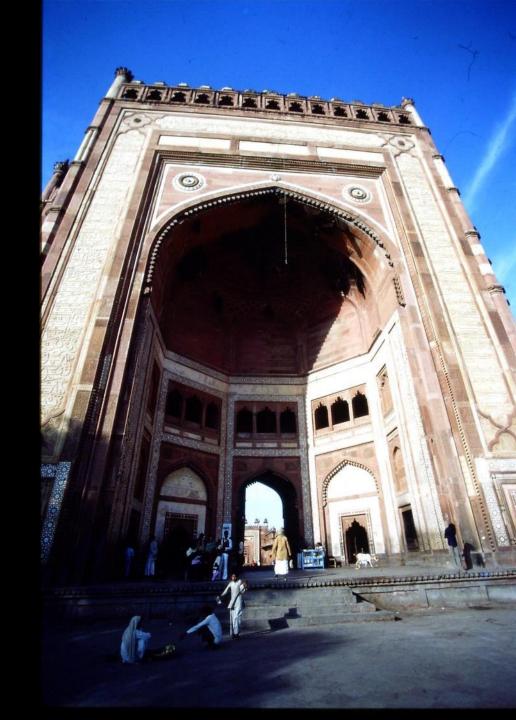


## JAIN TEMPLE



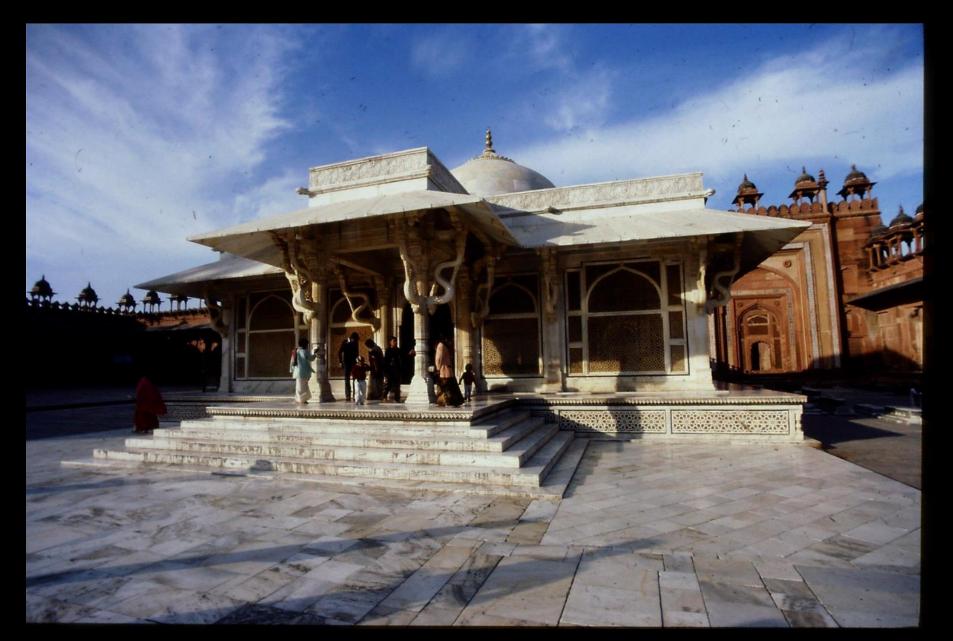
## **FATEPUR SIKRI**

- Founded 1569 my Mughal emperor Akbar
- Abandoned 1585 due to problems with the water supply and its proximity to their enemies
- Hornets crawling everywhere and we weren't allowed shoes



## TOMB OF SALIM CHISTI

PIERCED "JALIS" OR MARBLE SCREENS – CAN SEE OUT BUT NOT IN



## UDAIPUR (THE WHITE CITY)



#### CITY PALACE, UDAIPUR'S FORT 1559 800 FT LONG \* 100 FT HIGH



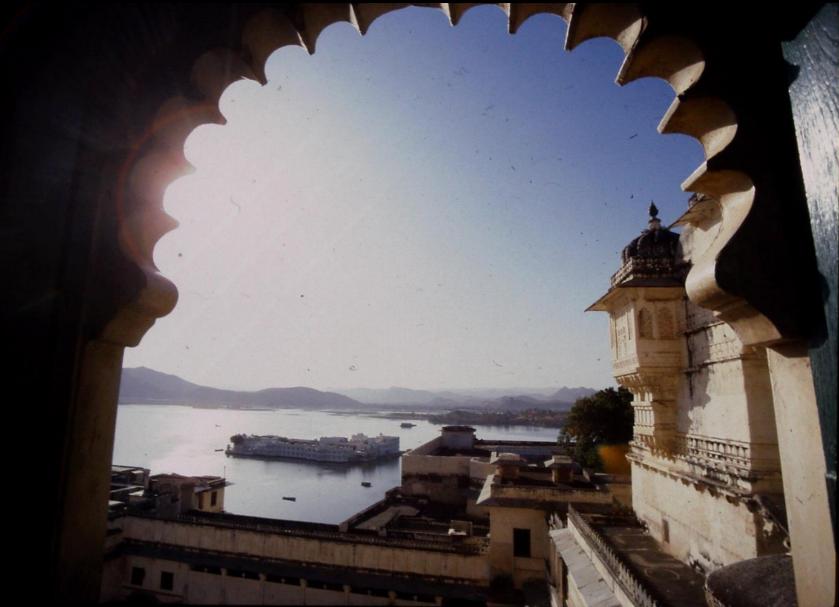
## **CITY PALACE – TO WATCH THE WIVES DANCING**



## CITY PALACE UDAIPUR







#### STATUE IN FLOODED VALLEY



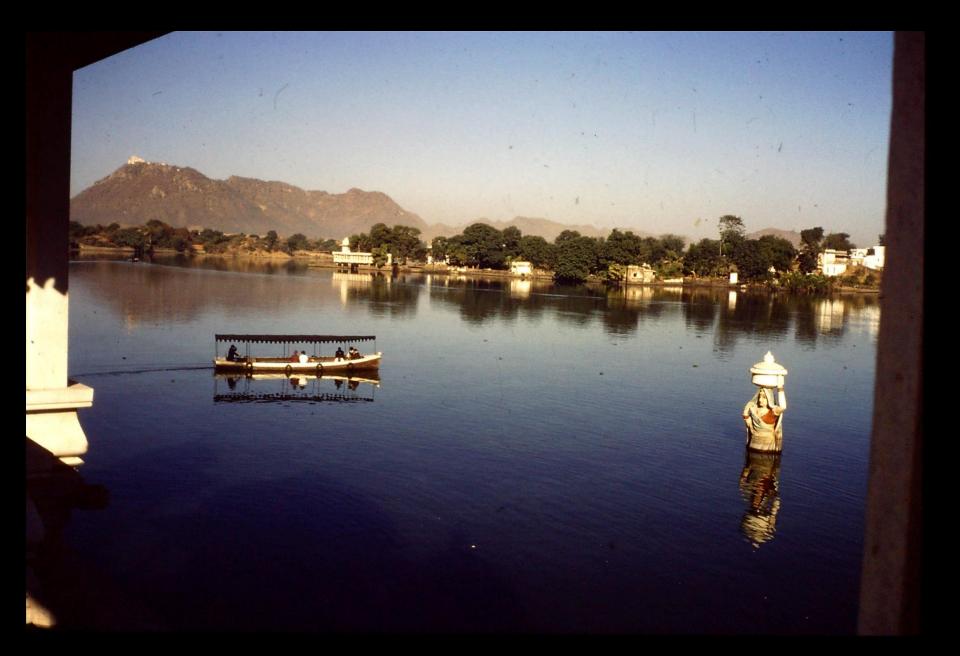
#### **APPROACHING THE LAKE PALACE HOTEL**



#### INSIDE THE LAKE PALACE HOTEL BLAGGED OUR WAY IN



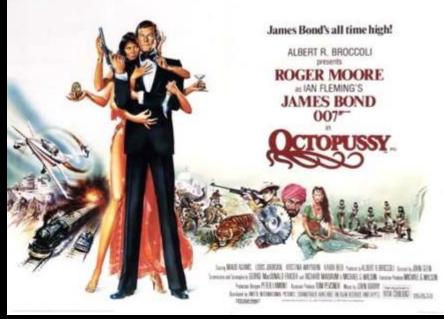
#### **BOAT TO SHORE AGAIN**



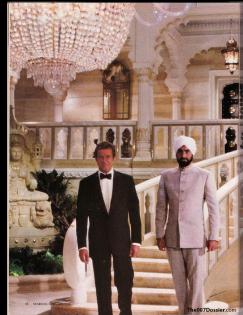
#### **ELEPHANT AND SUNKEN PALACE**



#### **OCTOPUSSY (JAMES BOND 1983)**









# JANTAR MANTAR (JAIPUR OBSERVATORY) 1734 19 STONE ASTRONOMICAL INSTRUMENTS BUILT FROM OLD SANSKRIT TEXTS MEASURES TIME AND PREDICTS ECLIPSES



### WORLD'S LARGEST STONE SUNDIAL

- 27m or 88ft tall
- Sun's shadow moves at 1 mm per second (or the width of your hand every minute)
- Can tell the local solar time to an accuracy of about 2 seconds



## **SMALLER STONE SUNDIAL**

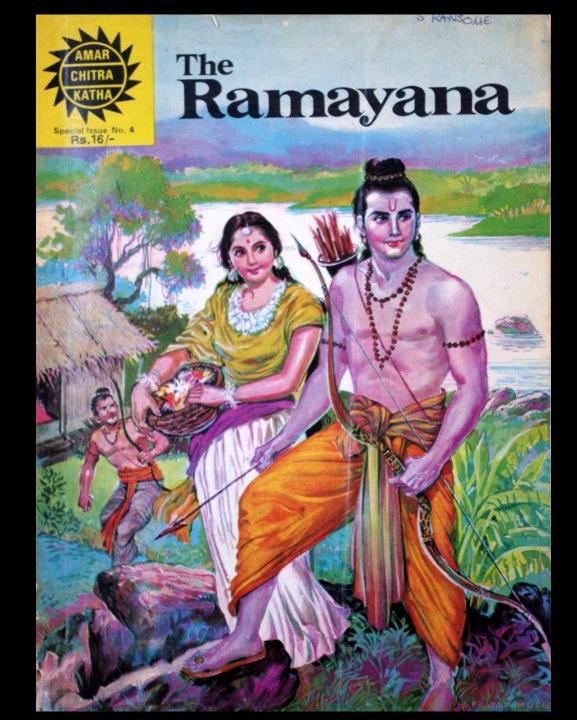


#### **JAI PRAKESH MANTRA**

ACCURATELY MEASURES POSITIONS OF OBJECTS IN THE SKY FROM SOMEONE "IN THE HOLE"



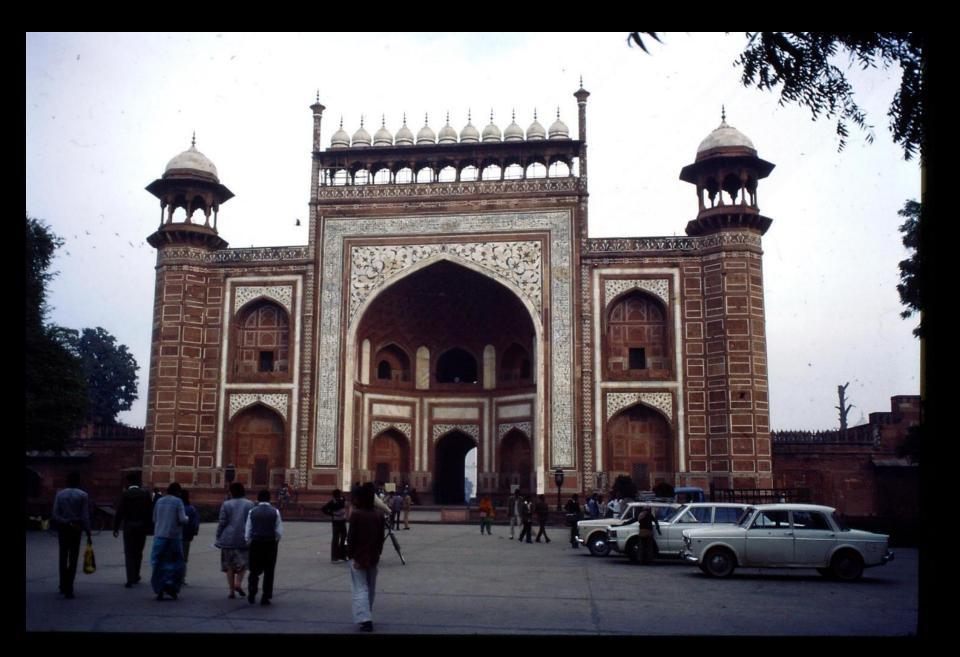
#### CARTOON STORY BOOK OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY



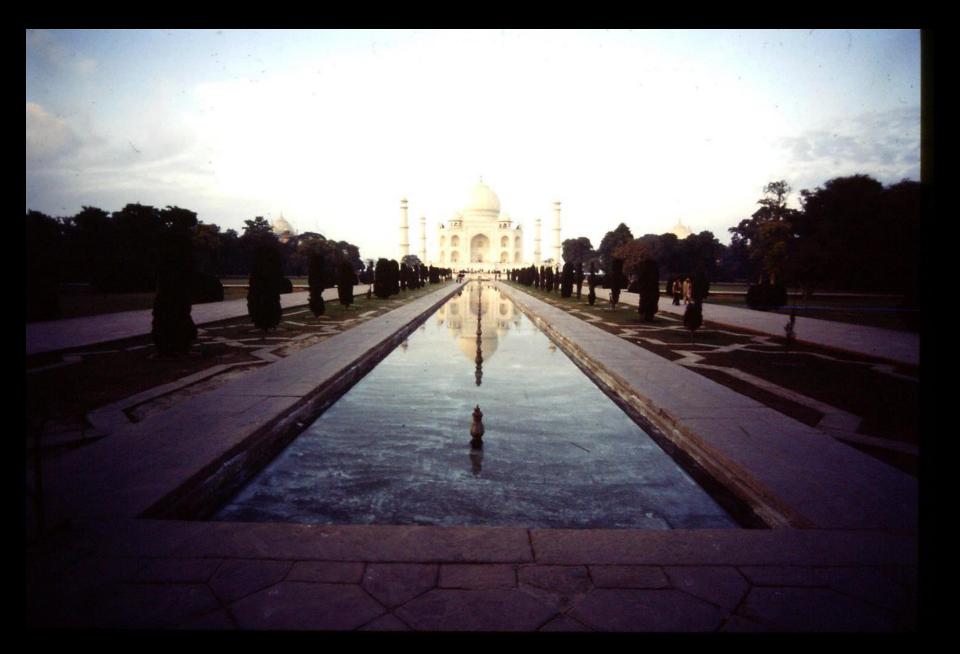
#### CARTOON STORY BOOK OF HINDU MYTHOLOGY



#### **AGRA : TAJ MAHAL ENTRANCE**







#### TAJ MAHAL

#### MINARETS ARE BUILT PROTRUDING OUTWARDS IN CASE OF EARTHQUAKE BUT THEY ARE SUBSIDING



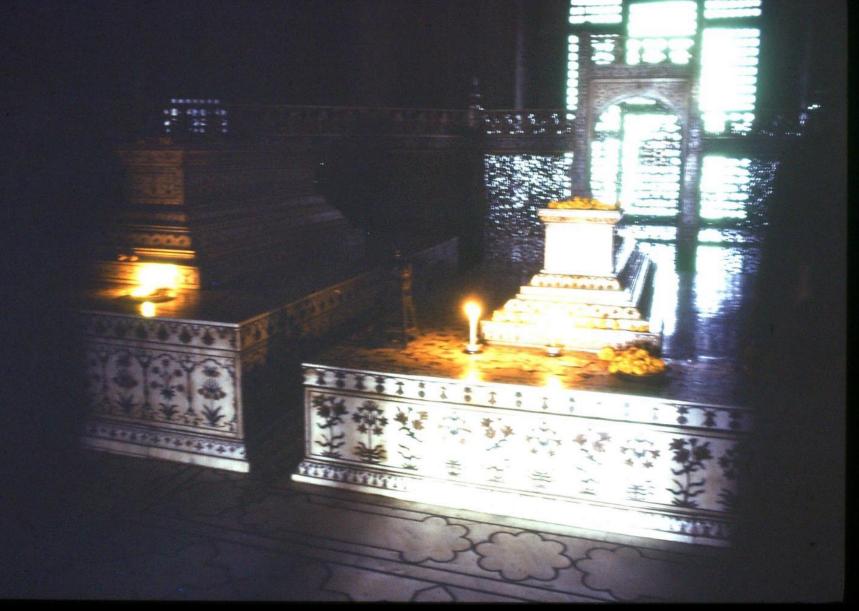
## **KORANIC VERSES ON THE TAJ**



#### **CARVINGS AND PRECIOUS STONE INLAY**



#### TOMB OF SHAH JAHAN AND MUMTAZ HIS FAVOURITE WIFE (AFTER 13 CHILDREN)



## WEDDING COUPLE



## IT WAS WEDDING TIME



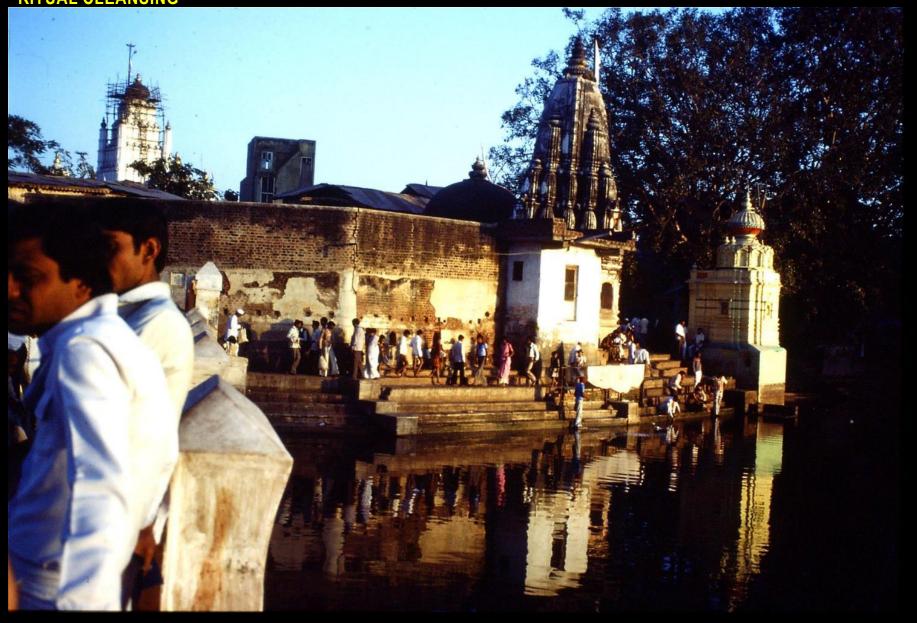
## WEDDING CELEBRATIONS IN THE COLOURS OF THE INDIAN FLAG



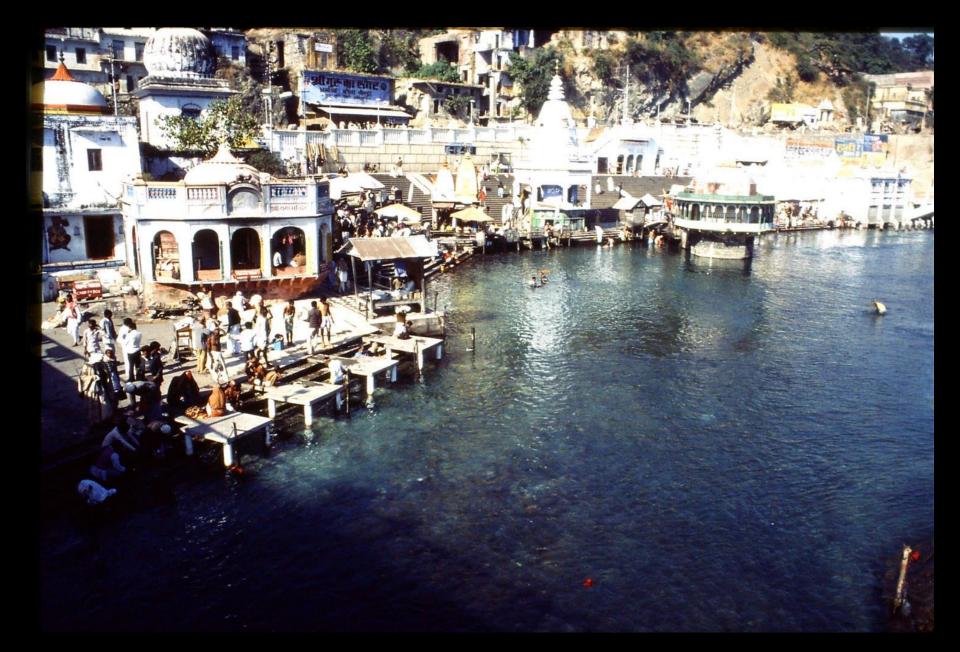
#### **RIVER YAMUNA** KRISHNA HID THE COW GIRLS' CLOTHES WHILE THEY BATHED



#### BATHING AT THE GHAT BY THE HOLY RIVER YAMUNA RITUAL CLEANSING



### **BATHING IN THE GANGES AT HARIDWAR**



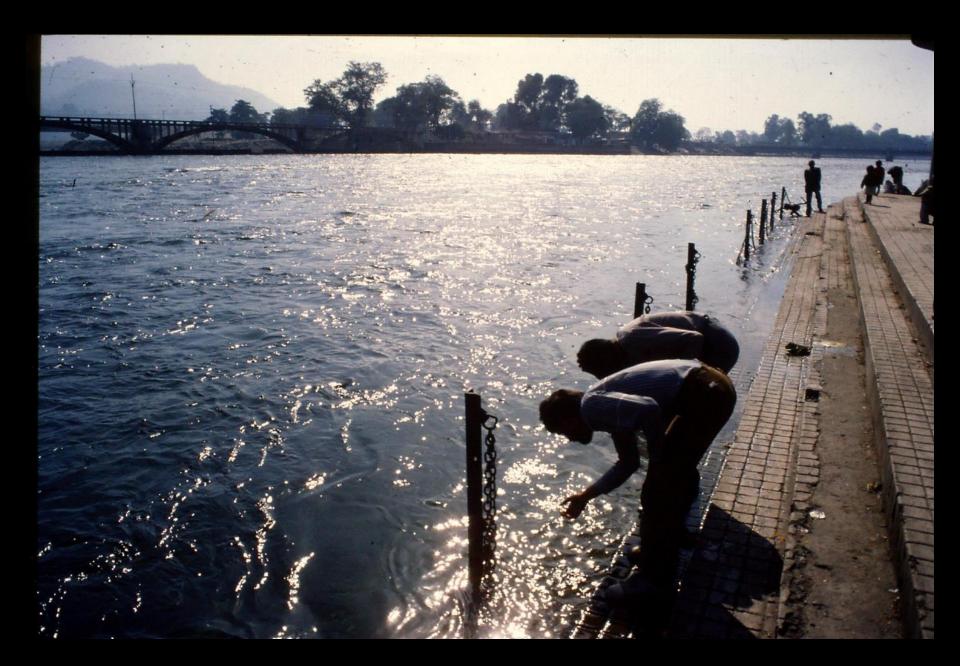
#### THE YAMUNA BEHIND THE TAJ MYTH THAT THERE WAS TO BE A BLACK 2ND TAJ



## FOOTHILLS OF THE HIMALAYAS, HARIDWAR



### **DRINKING AND WASHING FROM THE GANGES**



#### CARROM FLICKING DRAUGHTS, LIKE SUBBUTEO ON A SNOOKER TABLE



#### STATUE OF THEIR ELEPHANT HEADED DEITY GANESH



## **POWDER – FOR HOLI ?**



#### **NEW DELHI CAPITAL SINCE 1947**



### **NEW DELHI : INDIA WAY?/ HUMP**



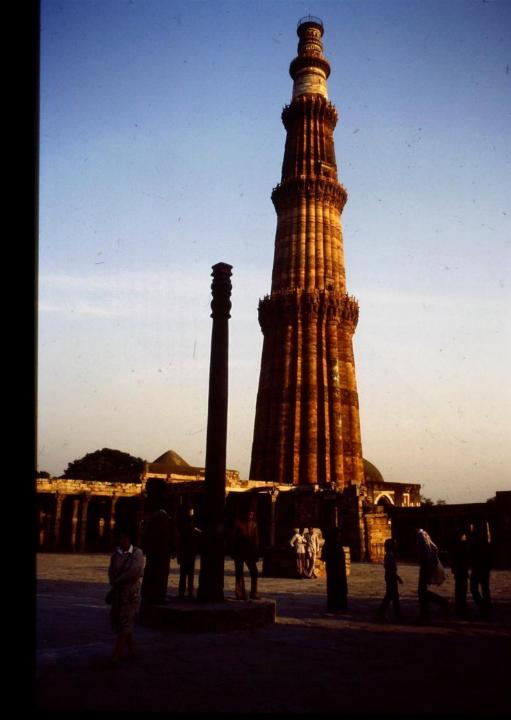
## LUTYENS STYLE AT NEW DELHI



## QUTB MINAR

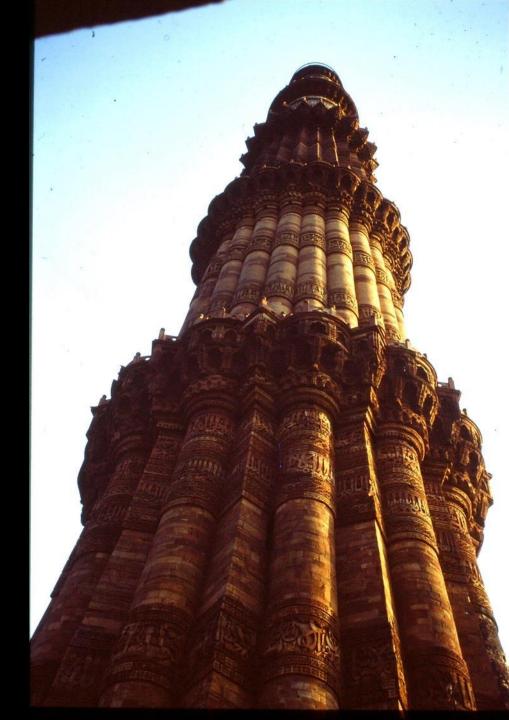


#### QUTB MINAR RUSTPROOF IRON AND BRICK MINARET



#### MINARET

- tallest brick minaret in the world (239 ft), 379 steps.
- diameter 14.3 2.7 metres
- celebrates the victory of Mohammed Ghori over the Rajput king
- struck by lightning in 1368
  AD, knocking off its top storey, replaced by the existing two floors
- faced with white marble and sandstone
- has intricate carvings of the verses from the Quran

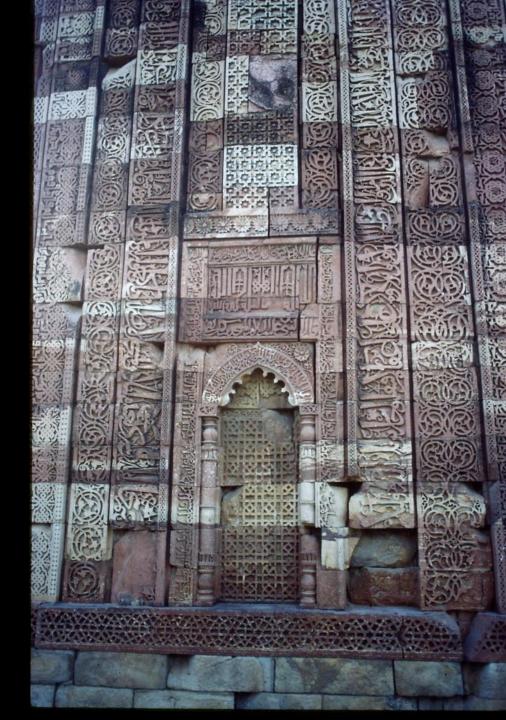


#### COLONNADES REUSE OF STONE





#### **REUSE OF STONE**



## **ELECTION TIME**







### **ELECTION NIGHT SCOREBOARD**



### AFTER A MONTH IN THE VAN





#### **ROUTE THROUGH GUJARAT**

