

# GOLDEN RESEARCH THOUGHTS

## THE HISTORICAL RESOURCES FOR TOURISM IN AND AROUND AHMEDNAGAR CITY (M.S.)



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### **Abstract :**

Tourism is the fourth largest industry in the World. Many factors facilitates for the growth of tourism in Ahmednagar District like different types of historical monuments, forts, museums, folklore, tribal culture evergreen forest, dense forest, natural scene, falls, biodiversity, vegetation, birds and wild life sanctuary attracts tourist. Nagar city is known as a historical city because it was founded by Nizam Shah. Therefore there are a lot of historical places in the city. After Nizam Shah Mughal, Maratha and British also ruled on the city. So the clubbing of historical tourist spots found in the Nagar city.

**Keywords:** Tourism, historical resources, Bagh, Masjid, fort, museum.

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### INTRODUCTION

Ahmednagar is a district in the Indian state of Maharashtra. It is famous for various geographical, historical, religious and cultural aspects. It is situated on the west bank of the Sinariver. Sugar, milk and bank co-operatives thrive here. The city was founded in 1490 by Ahmad Nizam Shah Bahri. The city witnesses some magnificent architectural monuments from the NizamShahidynasty. Tourism in Ahmednagar have a lot for the tourist to discover. The district is strewn with a number of temples, many of them ancient, which are much visited by the pilgrims. Among them, Shirdi is quite famous across the India. The famous Sai Baba Temple lies in Shirdi. Some other famous tourist places in Ahmednagar are Ahmadnagar Fort, AnandDham, Mula Dam, ChandbibiMahal etc.

### Objective

- 1) To find out the historical places in and around Ahmednagar city.
- 2) To examine the historical importance of tourist centers.
- 3) To identify the problems of historical places.
- 4) To know the problem faced by the tourist at historical places.
- 5) To make suggestions for the development of historical tourism.

### Study Area

Ahmednagar district is largest district of state in area and Ahmednagar is largest city in Ahmednagar district in area and population size. Ahmadnagar, the head-quarters of the district bearing the same name and a taluka known as Nagar, is located between Latitude of 19° 01' 11" North to 19° 09' 4.7" North and longitudes 74° 40' 37.52" East to 74° 46' 8.28" East. City is situated at the height of 656.54 meters from mean sea level; a contour of 660 meter surrounds the city. Ahmednagar city is situated in the central part of the Deccan plateau, in the upper 'Seena' basin on the eastern flank of Harishchandra hill ranges. Ahmednagar city Centrally located in the of map of State of Maharashtra, geographically enjoys its prominent place in the state. Towards the East of the city there is PathardiTahsil; Towards the West there is Parner Tahsil; while towards the North it is attached to Rahuri, and towards the South there is ShrigondaTahsil.



### Methodology and Data Source

The entire study is based upon the data derived from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data has been collected by visiting, observation and discussion with tourist at tourist centers. Secondary data information is collect from historical museum, newspapers, reports, articles, books, internet documents, Z.P. office and socio economic survey abstract of Ahmednagar district.

### Ahmednagar Fort

The Ahmednagar fort is the major attractions in the Ahmednagar. Malik Shah Ahmed who was the first sultan of Nizamshahi dynasty built this humongous fort in 15th century. It is on the eastern side of Ahmednagar city, about half a mile away. It is so built that only the top most part of it can be seen from the road, the rest of the part being hidden by the glaci. There is a great dry ditch eighty five to one hundred feet wide and fourteen to twenty feet deep. The fort is built by stone masonry which is massive throughout. The fort has two entrances, the chief of which is on the western side.. The walls of fort rising about 30 feet from the bottom of the ditch, consist of a number of semicircular bastions eighty five yards apart, connected by curtain s with parapets varying from five to ten feet in height, pierced in most places by loopholes. Behind the parapet a six feet wide path runs round the top of the wall. The bastions have embrasures. The fort

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has in all 22 bastions and 24 citadels.

From 1803 to 1817 many Maratha noblemen were kept as prisoners in this fort. In the First World War many German soldiers were kept in this fort as prisoners. In 1947 many Indian patriots like Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Sardar Patel, Acharya Narendra Dev, Asif Ali, Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad, were detained in the fort. Jawaharlal Nehru wrote his world famous book 'The Discovery of India' in this fort. Recently a third entrance on the northern side is built and this is now the route in regular use. The army offices occupy the present fort and it is now open to all.

### Historical Museum

This museum is located near to district collector office and it is the largest museum in the city. This museum is mainly dedicated to preserving rich Indian and world history. This Historical Museum and Research Centre was developed with the assistance and guidance of the Ahmednagar Palika. Established on Maharashtra Day in the year 1960, the Centre initially started with just two rooms and now has transformed into a full blown museum. Personalities like Shri Sardar Babasaheb Mirikar, Shri Munshi Ammid, and Shri N.V. Pathak led the research and assembled a huge number of historic files and artefacts. The Museum currently boasts of astounding 12,000 manuscripts, in excess of 8,000 coins and close to 50,000 historical documents, apart from the numerous other artefacts. A London map of India from 1816 and a 66 m long horoscope are amongst the major attractions in this place.

### Bagh Rauza

The Bagh Rauza is a historical monument found in the city of Ahmednagar. Also called the Garden Of Shrine, the Bagh Rauza houses the grave of Ahmed Nizam Shah. The Nizami King was credited with being the founder of Ahmednagar and died in the start of the 16th Century. The monument is built in fine black stone and lies close to the Delhi Gate. Its dome is made in beautiful gold with quotes and teaching from Koran inscribed on it.

### Dargah Daira

It is very small and beautiful dargah where the famous Sufi saint Hazrat Shah Sharif resides. The special characteristic of this dargah is that it is not just visited by Muslim devotees but devotees from all religions and cast.

### Damdi Masjid:

This historical mosque called Damdi Masjid is located near to Ahmednagar fort. It was built in 1568. It is a single structured mosque that bears typical deccan architecture and intricate stone carvings; this single storied structure has an impressive facade of three arches supported on carved piers. In the 16th century this mosque was one of those few mosques in the country that bears deccan architecture and not the typical Mughal or Persian architecture certainly make this mosque an architectural wonder piece. The odd sounding name comes from damdis, the currency of the smallest denomination that was contributed by people building this mosque. So this mosque is called Damdi Masjid.

### Hast Behist Bagh

This bagh is on north of the city. There is a ruined palace and garden but the surrounding are still beautiful. It was built in 1506 by Nizam Shah. Inside the garden in the middle of a large pond was built an eight sided storied palace representing the eight gates of paradise which according to Muhammad on belief has eight doors. Burhan Nizam Shah, the second king named it the Hast Behist or Eighth paradise and made it eight flower-bed watered by canal from Sina river and enlivened with singing birds. Now this garden is ruined and only the remains are seen.

### Faria Bagh

Faria Bagh Palace was built by Ahmed Nizam in memory of his son Burhan Shah, during 15th century. It is octagonal structure with a flat-roofed upper story, over a domed central hall. The structure is rough stone, plastered with stucco. The palace was used for recreational purposes by the noblemen of that time and over the years.

### Alamgir

Alamgir is situated near Bhingar on Pathardi road. Aurangzeb died at the age of 91 at the very same place; his body was taken to Khultabad, near Aurangabad and buried there. This historical place also houses a Masjid and Baradari where meetings used to take place.

### Chandbibi Mahal

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The tomb of Sultan Khan II the famous minister of Murtazanazam Shah I. It is commonly known as "ChandbibiMahal". It is 13 km from Ahmednagar city. It is situated on the top of a hill. It was constructed by Salabat Khan for himself. The base of this tomb is circular but monument is octangle in shape. The relics of the constructor and his wife are buried in the basement.

### Cavalry Tank Museum

This is the first tank museum in Asia. It is known as Cavalry Tank Museum situated in the Armoured Crops Center and School. This is the second-largest display of military tanks in the world and the exhibit is open to the public. In this museum there is a large collection of tank used by rulers during period. The German and Japanese tanks captured during World War –II is put in this museum.

### Problems

- 1) Lack of perfect historical information about particular place.
- 2) Lack of transportation facilities till place.
- 3) Lack of directional and information signage.
- 4) No parking facilities.
- 5) There is no guide for giving the information.
- 6) The tourists found it hard to get safe and hygienic drinking water and food facilities at the center.
- 7) Lack of toilet facilities.
- 8) Misbehavior of tourists.
- 9) Lack of budgetary backing from Municipal Corporation of Ahmednagar.

### Suggestion

- 1) Give a wide publicity of about tourism centers by newspapers, television, radio, magazines etc.
- 2) Signing board and directional information board should be there on the way.
- 3) Municipal Corporation of Ahmednagar initiatives to ensure transportation facilities towards tourist centers.
- 4) There should be systematic parking facilities at the centers.
- 5) Provide guide to give the historical information about tourist centers.
- 6) There should be drinking water and food facility should be providing here.
- 7) Toilet facilities should be constructed at every center.
- 8) The condition of these historical centers is very poor and needs restoration and conservation.
- 9) Precautionary measures should be taken for the safety of tourists.
- 10) Spreading awareness to the visitors so that they behave in a responsible manner while visiting these places.
- 11) The technology of audio-visual system is pressed into service to present features of history of the centers.
- 12) Adding this to the City brochure and tourism literature.

### CONCLUSION:

Ahmednagar district have full of potential of tourism development on the basis of natural scenery, history, agriculture, quit and peas of mind ethnic attraction folk and food, temples, forts, wildlife's, water dams and waterfalls etc. Nagar city, the headquarter of the district is also a famous for historical tourism because there are many historical tourist places in the city. But they are not developed because of lack of tourism facilities at the centers except Ahmednagar fort. The condition of these historical spots is not so good. Some of them are at the stage of vanishing. So the concern authority should take care and conserve it for the development of tourism in Ahmednagar district.

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