

UPSC CSE 2022

**INTERVIEW
MATERIAL FOR
HOME STATE
UTTAR PRADESH**





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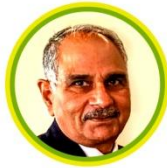
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UTTAR PRADESH

Introduction

- Uttar Pradesh is the seventh most populous state in the world, Uttar Pradesh can lay claim to being the oldest seat of India's culture and civilization. It has been characterized as the cradle of Indian civilization and culture because it is around the Ganga that the ancient cities and towns sprang up.

BRIEF HISTORIC OUTLINE

- The epics of Hinduism, the Ramayana, and the Mahabharata, were written in Uttar Pradesh. Uttar Pradesh also had the glory of being home to Lord Buddha. It has now been established that Gautama Buddha spent most of his life in eastern Uttar Pradesh, wandering from place to place preaching his sermons. The empire of Chandra Gupta Maurya extended nearly over the whole of Uttar Pradesh. Edicts of this period have been found at Allahabad and Varanasi. After the fall of the Mauryas, the present state of Uttar Pradesh was divided into four parts: Sursena, North Panchal, Kosal, and Kaushambi.
- The western part of Uttar Pradesh saw the advent of the Shakas in the second century BC. Not much is known about the history of the state during the times of Kanishka and his successors. The Gupta Empire ruled over nearly the whole of Uttar Pradesh, and it was during this time that culture and architecture reached their peak. The decline of the Guptas coincided with the attacks of Huns from Central Asia who succeeded in establishing their influence right up to Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh.
- The seventh century witnessed the taking over of Kannauj by Harshavardhana. In 1526, Babur laid the foundation of the Mughal dynasty. He defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the battle of Panipat. Babar carried out an extensive campaign in various parts of Uttar Pradesh. He defeated the Rajputs near Fatehpur Sikri while his son Humayun conquered Jaunpur and Ghazipur, after having brought the whole of Awadh under his control. After Babur's death (1530), his son Humayun forfeited the empire after being defeated at the hands of Sher Shah Suri at Kannauj.
- After the death of Sher Shah Suri in 1545, Humayun once again regained his empire but died soon after. His son Akbar proved to be the greatest of the Mughals. He established a unified empire over nearly the whole of India. During his period, Agra became the capital of India and became a heartland of culture and arts. Akbar constructed huge forts in Agra and Allahabad. The period of Jahangir (after 1605) saw arts and culture reach a new high. In 1627, after the death of Jahangir, his son Shahjahan ascended the throne. The period of Shahjahan is known as the golden period of India in art, culture, and architecture. It was during his reign that the classical wonder Taj Mahal was built in memory of his wife Mumtaz Mahal. The régime of Aurangzeb saw the peak of the Mughal Empire in terms of geographic expansion.

Vedic Period

- There is hardly any mention of the area comprising present Uttar Pradesh in Vedic hymns. Even the sacred rivers, the Ganga and Yamuna, appear only on the distant horizon of the land of the Aryans. In the later Vedic age, the importance of Sapta Sindhu recedes and Brahmarshi Desh or Madhya Desh assumes significance. The region comprising Uttar Pradesh at that time became a holy place of India and the foremost centre of Vedic culture and knowledge.
- The new States of Kuru-Panchal, Kashi and Kosal find mention in late-Vedic texts as prominent centres of Vedic culture. The people of Kuru-Panchal were regarded as the best representatives of Vedic culture. They enjoyed great respect as outstanding orators of Sanskrit. The Upanishad literature was the product of meditation in the Ashrams of the sages, several of which were in Uttar Pradesh, Eminent sages like Bharadwaj, Yajnavalkya, Vashishta, Valmiki and Atri have either their Ashrams here or were otherwise connected with this State. Some Aranyakas and Upanishads were, written in the Ashrams located in this State.

Post-Vedic Period

- The cultural heritage of Uttar Pradesh was maintained in the period of the Ramayan and Mahabharat i.e., the epic period. The story of Ramayan revolves around the Ikshwaku dynasty of Kosal and of Mahabharat around the

'Kuru' dynasty of Hastinapur. Local people firmly believe that the Ashram of Valmiki, the author of Ramayan, was in Brahmavart (Bithoor in Kanpur District) and it was in the surroundings of Naimisharany (Nimsar-Misrikh in Sitapur district) that Suta narrated the story of Mahabharat as he had heard it from Vyasji. Some of the Smritis and Puranas were also written in this State. Gautam Buddha, Mahavir, Makkhaliputta Goshal and great thinkers brought about a revolution in Uttar Pradesh in the 6th century B.C. Out of these, Makkhaliputta Goshal, who was born at Shravan near Shravasti, was the founder of the Ajivika sect. Mahavir, the 24th Trithankar of Jains was born in Bihar but had many followers in Uttar Pradesh. He is said to have lived twice during the rainy season in this State-once in Shravasti and the second time in Padrauna near Deoria. Pawa proved to be his last resting place. In fact, Jainism had entrenched itself in this State even before the arrival of Mahavir. Several Tirthankars such as Parshwanath, Sambharnath and Chandraprabha were born in different cities in this State and attained 'Kaivalya' here. Jainism must have retained its popularity in this State in Subsequent centuries also. This fact is borne by the ruins of several ancient temples, buildings, etc. The remains of a magnificent Jain Stupa have been dug out near Kankali Tila in Mathura, while Jain shrines built in the early Middle Ages are still preserved in Deogarh, Chanderi and other places.

The Age of Buddha

- The Buddha attained Enlightenment at Bodh Gaya in Bihar but it was in Isipattan or Mrigdav in Sarnath in U.P. that he preached his first sermon and laid the foundation of his Order. From this point of view, Sarnath has the distinction of being the birthplace of 'Dhamma' and 'Sangha', the two elements of the Holy Trinity of Buddhism, the third being the Buddha himself. Other notable places in Uttar Pradesh followed by Buddha's association are Kushinara of Kushinagar (in Deoria district) where he attained 'Mahaparinirvana, Shravasti the capital of Kisal where he performed a great miracle, and Sankashyar Sankisa (in Etah district) where another miracle of his life occurred. The rulers of several states in the then Uttar Pradesh were greatly influenced by the teaching of Buddha.
- Besides Buddhism and Jainism, Pauranic Brahmanism also had deep roots in the state. Ancient images of Gods and Goddesses of Brahmanical order, a temple of the Kushan period have been found which alludes to Brahmanism. In fact, **Mathura can be said to be the birthplace of Indian sculpture.**

Age of Synthesis

- In successive centuries after Buddha, Ayodhya, Prayag, Varanasi, Mathura and several other cities continued to play important roles in the making of religious and cultural history in India. Several kings who ruled the region became immortal because of Vedic rituals performed by them and patronage extended by them to learning. Scholars like Ashwaghosh, Kalidas, Ban, Vakpati, Bhavbhuti, Rajshekhar, Laxmidhar, Sri Harsh and Krishna Misra adorned their courts. Yuan-Chiang says that the people of Uttar Pradesh were full masters of the language and spoke it correctly, their pronunciation was like that of the Devas, elegant, and beautiful, and their intonation was clear and distinct, worthy of emulation by others, the rules framed by these people were accepted by all. Rajshekhar of Pratihara also pays homage in a similar vein to the people and poets of Panchal.
- Varanasi continued to be a prominent centre of learning as in the past. Ayodhya and Mathura acquired fame as the birthplaces of Ram and Krishna. Pilgrims from every corner of the country continued to throng to Prayag and as such, it was called the Tirtharaj.
- The Shankaracharya established one of the four prominent sacred Dhams in Badrikashram in this region.

The Mauryan Period

- With the emergence of the Mauryans in the 3rd century B.C., a new chapter was opened in the history of Art. It is said that Ashok visited Sarnath and Kushinagar and personally ordered the construction of Stupas and Viharas at these two sacred places. Their traces have disappeared but the remnants of stone pillars found at Sarnath, Allahabad, Meerut, Kausambi, Sankisa and Varanasi give us an idea of the excellence of Mauryan Art. All the Ashokan pillars have been built with Chunar stones. The Lion Capital of Sarnath is, without doubt, an excellent specimen of Mauryan Art. Writes the famous historian Vincent Smith, 'It would be difficult to find in any country an example of ancient animal sculpture, superior or even equal to this artistic expression of Sarnath because it successfully combines realistic treatment with idealistic dignity and every detail has come out with utmost perfection.' Mathura was another important centre of Art in the Mauryan Period. Colossal sculptures of Yakshas and Yakshinis have been found in the district Parkham, Borada and Jhing-ks-Nagar and certain other places. All

these represent contemporary folk art. There was considerable artistic activity in Uttar Pradesh during Shung-Satvahan Period. A large number of architectural and other fragments found in the ruins of Sarnath tell us the story of buildings, etc. built during this period. The remains of a semi-circular temple of this period are now represented only by its foundation wall, during those days Mathura was a prominent centre of the Bharhut-Sarnath School of Art. Several important specimens of these schools have been found here.

The Golden Age

- The Gupta Period is known as the golden age in the history of Indian Art. Uttar Pradesh did not lag any of the countries in artistic endeavour. The stone temple of Deogarh (Jhansi) and the brick temple at Bhitargaon in the Kanpur district are famous for their artistic panels. Some other specimens of ancient art and craft are Vishnu images, the standing statue of the Buddha in Mathura and the seated image of Tathagat in the Sarnath museum. Both the Mathura and Sarnath schools of Art reached their zenith during the Gupta Period. Elegance and balance were the special features of the architecture of this period while the sculptures were characterized by physical charm and mental peace.

The Sultanate Period

- The Sultanate period is known as a dark age in the realm of Art. The Sultans confined their building activities mainly to Delhi, although they constructed mausoleums and mosques here and there in Uttar Pradesh also. After the advent of the Sharqi rulers in Jaunpur, a new life was infused in art activities. Under their patronage, famous mosques like Atalla, Khalis-Mukhis, Jhanjihri and Lal Darwaza were constructed. The grandest and the biggest of them all is the Jama Masjid. The Atal Masjid built by Ibrahim Sharqi in 1408 AD became a model for the construction of other mosques in Jaunpur. It is an exquisite specimen of the Hindu and Muslim architecture reflecting both vigor and grace in the style of construction. The Jaunpur mosques have certain special features. The most important of these is their artistic propylaeum.

The Mughal Period

- Babur, a descendant of Timur and Genghis Khan invaded Delhi, defeated Ibrahim Lodhi and founded the Mughal empire that stretched from Afghanistan to Bangladesh, with its power centralised in Uttar Pradesh. Mughal King Humayan was defeated by Sher Shah Suri of the Suri dynasty, and thus the control of Uttar Pradesh was renounced to the Suri dynasty. Sher Shah Suri and Islam Shah Suri ruled from Gwalior as their capital. The death of Islam Shah Suri paved way for Hemu, who was known as Hemchandra Vikramaditya, to rule over Delhi. In the second battle of Panipat, the most prominent king of the Mughal dynasty-Akbar seized power from Hemu and made Fatehpur Sikri, near Agra his capital. Akbar's reign is regarded as the reign of cultural, and art development. The fall of the Mughal empire led to the rules of Marathas and Rohillas as well as their mutual rivalry that ended with the second Anglo-Indian war as Marathas lost most of their reign to the British Empire including Uttar Pradesh. Prominent landmarks belonging to the Muslim Rule in U.P. Taj Mahal built by Shah Jahan is the greatest architectural achievement. Buland Darwaja at Fatehpur Sikri.
- The Mughal architecture was marked by its grandeur during the reign of Akbar and by its lyrical quality during the reign of Shahjahan. The monuments built by Akbar in Sikri, and in Agra and Delhi by Shahjahan, reflect their mental attitudes. So long as Shahjahan did not shift his capital to Delhi, Agra and its neighbourhood remained the main centre of Mughal architectural Activity. Prominent buildings constructed in Uttar Pradesh in the Mughal Period include the city built in Sikri by Akbar, the Agra Fort, and buildings within the mausoleum of Akbar in Sikandra and of Itmad-ud-daula in Agra, the Akbar's fort in Allahabad and mosques constructed by Aurangzeb in Mathura, Mathura, Varanasi and Lucknow.

Poet-Saints of Uttar Pradesh

1. **Tulsidas:** Tulsidas or Goswami Tulsidas was a 16th century great Hindu poet and saint acclaimed as one of the greatest poets in Indian and world literature. He is noted for his dedication and devotion to Lord Ram. The writer of the great book the Ramcharitmanas, a devotional retelling of the Sanskrit Ramayan, based on Ram's life in the dialect language Awadhi. The word Ramcharitmanas factually means lake of the deeds of Ram. He is also regarded to be the composer of the Hanuman Chalisa, a popular devotional hymn dedicated to Hanuman, the divine devotee of Lord Ram.

2. **Swaminarayan:** In the 18th century, a dark period of the country's history, it was then that the land was blessed with a divine incarnation. He performed extreme austerities and revealed the limitless power of faith and conviction. He educated his followers to rid them of superstitions and enlighten them with faith. Giving is an outstanding example of selflessness with his prayer for all his followers. He stood up against corrupt practices being followed under the guise of religion. He blessed mankind with peace, happiness and an inspirational path to devotion.
3. **Sant Guru Ravidas:** Sant Guru Ravidas was a famous saint, sage, poet, social reformer and supporter of god in India. Ravidas was from the Harijan family and that's why he was going through some taboos. The 15th to 16th century CE was the time that he found the Ravidassia religion. Esteemed as a guru (teacher) in the region of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and generally Haryana and Punjab. Sant Ravidas Jayanti is celebrated by his followers on Magh Purnima (full moon) in India. People and disciples of Ravidas gather from around the world to Shri Guru Ravidas Janam Asthan Mandir at his birthplace to celebrate the occasion.
4. **Malik Muhammad Jayasi:** An Indian Sufi poet, Malik Muhammad Jayasi (1477- 1542). His writings were in the Awadhi language and in the Persian Nasta liq script. Padmavat, an epic poem is his best-known work.
5. **Surdas:** A 16th-century blind Hindu devotional poet who was known for his devotion to lord Krishna. During the reign of Akbar, the great saint Surdas was born. His passionate description of Krishna's life in a folk language known as the Braj bhasha, one of the dialects of Hindi is still today a treasure of Krishna's bhajans. He is generally considered as having taken his influence from the guidance of, whom he is assumed to have met in 1510. There are a lot of stories regarding him, but most considering he is known to be born blind. Sur Sagar, (Sur's Ocean) the book is traditionally credited to Surdas. Anyhow, many of the poems in the Sur Sagar seem to be written by later poets in Sur's name.

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6. **Kabir:** Kabir Das (1398-1518) was a 15th-century Indian mystic poet and saint. His writings influenced Hinduism's Bhakti movement, and his verses are found in Sikhism's scripture Guru Granth Sahib, the Satguru Granth Sahib of Saint Garib Das, and Kabir Sagar. Born in the city of Varanasi in what is now Uttar Pradesh, he is known for being critical of both organized religion and religions. He questioned what he regarded to be the meaningless and unethical practices of all religions, primarily what he considered to be the wrong practices in the

Hindu and Muslim religions.

Kabir suggested that "Truth" is with the person who is on the path of righteousness, considered everything, living and nonliving, as divine, and is passively detached from the affairs of the world.

Nawabs of Awadh

- The Nawabs of Avadh kept alive some of the old traditions of buildings construction. They built many places, mosques, gates, gardens and Imambaras. In the beginning, the buildings constructed by them were confined to Faizabad alone, but later, the main centre of their architectural activity shifted to Lucknow. Among them, famous buildings are the Ashaf-ud-Daula Imambara, the Mausoleum in Kiserbagh, Lal Baradari, the Residency, Shahnazaf, Husainabad Imambara, Chhatr Manjil, Moti Mahal, Kaiserbagh Place, Dilkusha Gardens and Sikandarabagh. The style of these buildings may be decadent and hybrid but it has its own special characteristics such as fish motif at the gates, domes with golden umbrellas, vaulted halls, arcaded pavilions, underground chambers, and labyrinths.
- The Bara Immabara built by Asaf-ud-Daula is both dignified and imposing. Its vaulted hall is typical of pure Lucknow style and is said to be the biggest hall of its kind in the world.

Modern history and British Rule

- Starting from Bengal in the latter half of the 18th century, a series of battles for North Indian lands finally gave the British East India Company accession over this state's territories – including the territories of Bundelkhand, Kumaon and Benaras rulers – and the last Mughal territories of Doab and Delhi. When the Company included Ajmer and Jaipur kingdoms in this northern territory, they named it the "North-Western Provinces" (of Agra). Today, the area may seem large compared to several of the Republic of India's present 'mini-states' – no more than the size of earlier 'divisions' of the British era – but at the time it was one of the smallest British provinces. Its capital shifted twice between Agra and Allahabad.
- Due to dissatisfaction with British rule, a serious rebellion erupted in various parts of North India; Meerut cantonment's sepoy, Mangal Pandey, is widely credited as its starting point. It came to be known as the Indian Rebellion of 1857. After the revolt failed the British attempted to divide the most rebellious regions by reorganising the administrative boundaries of the region, splitting the Delhi region from 'NWFP of Agra' and merging it with Punjab, while the Ajmer- Marwar region was merged with Rajputana and Oudh was incorporated into the state. The new state was called the 'North Western Provinces of Agra and Oudh', which in 1902 was renamed the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh. It was commonly referred to as the United Provinces or its acronym UP.
- In 1920, the capital of the province was shifted from Allahabad to Lucknow. The high court continued to be at Allahabad, but a bench was established at Lucknow. Allahabad continues to be an important administrative base of today's Uttar Pradesh and has several administrative headquarters.
- Uttar Pradesh continued to be central to Indian politics and was especially important in modern Indian history as a hotbed of both the Indian Independence Movement and the Pakistan Movement. Nationally known figures such as Jawaharlal Nehru were among the leaders of the movement in UP. The All-India Kisan Sabha (AIKS) was formed at the Lucknow session of the Indian National Congress on 11 April 1936 with the legendary nationalist Swami Sahajanand Saraswati elected as its first President, in order to address the long-standing grievances of the peasantry and mobilise them against the zamindari landlords' attacks on their occupancy rights, thus sparking the Farmers' movement in India.
- During the Quit India Movement of 1942, the Ballia district overthrew the colonial authority and installed an independent administration under Chittu Pandey. Ballia became known then as Baghi Ballia (Rebel Ballia) for this significant contribution to India's freedom movement.

Post-independence

- Modern-day Uttar Pradesh saw the rise of important freedom fighters on the national scenario. Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, Smt. Indira Gandhi, Sri Charan Singh and Sri Chandra Shekhar were only a few of the important names who played a significant role in India's freedom movement and also rose to become the prime ministers of this great nation.
- After independence, the state was renamed Uttar Pradesh ("northern province") by its first chief minister, Govind

Ballabh Pant. Pant was well acquainted with and close to Jawaharlal Nehru (the first Prime Minister of free India) and was also popular in the Congress Party. He established such a good reputation in Lucknow that Nehru called him to Delhi, the capital and seat of the Central Government of the country, to make him Home Minister of India on 27 December 1954. He was succeeded by Dr Sampurnanand, a classicist Sanskrit scholar. Following a political crisis in Uttar Pradesh, initiated by Kamalapati Tripathi and C.B.Gupta, Sampurnanand was asked to resign as CM in 1960 and sent to Rajasthan as the Governor of Rajasthan, paving the way for Gupta and Tripathi to become Chief Ministers.

- Sucheta Kripalani served as India's first woman chief minister from October 1963 until March 1967, when a two-month-long strike by state employees caused her to step down. After her, Chandra Bhanu Gupta assumed the office of Chief Minister with Laxmi Raman Acharya as Finance Minister, but the government lasted for only two years due to the confusion and chaos which ended only with the defection of Charan Singh from the Congress with a small set of legislators. He set up a party called the Jana Congress, which formed the first non-Congress government in U.P. and ruled for over a year.
- Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna was chief minister for the Congress Party government for part of the 1970s. He was dismissed by the Central Government headed by Indira Gandhi, along with several other non-Congress chief ministers, shortly after the imposition of the widely unpopular Emergency, when Narain Dutt Tewari - later chief minister of Uttarakhand - became chief minister. The Congress Party lost heavily in the 1977 elections, following the lifting of the Emergency, but romped back to power in 1980, when Mrs Gandhi handpicked the man who would later become her son's principal opposition, V.P. Singh, to become Chief Minister.

Creation of the state of Uttarakhand

- On 9 November 2000, the Himalayan portion of the state, comprising the Garhwal and Kumaon divisions and Haridwar district, was formed into a new state 'Uttaranchal', now called Uttarakhand, meaning the 'Northern Segment' state.

Culture

- The Culture of Uttar Pradesh is an Indian culture which has its roots in Hindi and Urdu literature, music, fine arts, drama, and cinema. It is believed to be the land of the Nawabs, of Rama and Buddha. The costume of Uttar Pradesh is a very typical one where the women are clad in their saris adorned by the golden jewellery and Mangal Sutra worn by married women while the men look clad in dhoti kurta or kurta pyjama. Toe rings are common all over Uttar Pradesh among married women folks.

Art and Architecture

- The region also witnessed the flourishing of the ancient Indo-Aryan civilization, from which rose a stream of powerful kingdoms and empires - Hindu, Islamic, Buddhist, and European - whose influences coursed deeply through the outpourings of their cultural developments.
- Uttar Pradesh's architectural heritage showcases this fabulous wealth of structures which is inspired by the confluence of Buddhist, Hindu, Indo-Islamic and Indo-European cultures, which offers the visitor an invaluable education in the evolution of its architecture.
- The various phases of architecture in Uttar Pradesh are as follows -

Buddhist Architecture:

- Sarnath or Isipatana is one of the four pilgrimage sites for Buddhists, designed by Gautam Buddha. The other three sites are Kushinagar, Bodh Gaya, and Lumina. But Turks destroyed most of the ancient Buddhist structures and buildings at Sarnath, some of the major ruins left over are -
 - **Dhamek Stupa** - It is an appealing 39m high and 28m in diameter.
 - **Dharmarajika Stupa** - It is one of the few pre-Ashokan stupas left over, with only the foundations remaining.
 - **Ashoka pillar** - Originally erected here and surmounted by the 'Lion capital of Ashoka', it was broken during Turk invasions. But the base of the pillar still stands at its original location.
 - The famous **Ashokan lion capital** which miraculously survived its 45-foot drop to the ground has been housed in Sarnath archaeological museum.
- Many stupas were built during the Buddhist phase. Earlier they were elevated egg-like structures made from

mud, but subsequently, they were lined with bricks, a square harmika and a chattravalli (umbrella) were built on the top of them, and a staircase was also added to reach the top of the stupas.

- The Ashokan pillars are free-standing and are made from chunar sandstones, which form an eminent landmark of Indian architecture. Famous for their lustrous polish, the Ashokan pillars consists of a tapering plain circular shaft with inscriptions of Ashoka. Based on an elaborately ornate abacus, a magnificent capital is placed atop the shaft. The abacus is decorated with a variety of motifs. The animal sculptures like of lion and the bull, enhance the beauty of these pillars.

Hindu Architecture:

- A lot of religious architectural styles were seen during the Gupta period. An example of a plan is known to be from Mathura, which is about 1800 years old apsidal brick temple. Some of the notable temple examples belong to the 13th and 14th centuries from the city of Varanasi and Sonbhadra. Some of the famous Hindu temples are Kashi Vishwanath temple of Varanasi, Dashvatra temple of Deogarh, Ratneshwar Mahadev Mandir of Varanasi, Krishna Janma Bhumi in Mathura, etc.

Indo - Islamic Architecture:

Sultanates:

- The rise of the process of dynamic synthesis was seen during the sultanate architecture period, which led to a cultural reproaching and fusion of two diametrically opposite artistic traditions. While Islamic architecture tried to create its style in the architecture of Uttar Pradesh, it was also seen that Hindu architecture still influenced their structures. One such example is the Atala Masjid of Jaunpur, which is deeply influenced by the Hindu style, the reason for such influence is alleged to be that the masjid is situated on the site of Atala Devi temple, hence the name.

Mughal:

- The use of red sandstone and marbles were among the main features of the Islamic architecture style. The Allahabad fort, standing on the banks of the Yamuna River near the confluence with the Ganges, is the largest fort built by the Mughal emperor Akbar.
- Akbar tried to mix and blend the practical sciences of Hinduism with that Islamic architectural styles. He incorporated pillars, and beam construction technology like that of the Hindu style, and developed his unicity style of architecture. His style can be reflected in his tomb in Sikandra, and the city of Fatehpur Sikri.
- The major elements used in Mughal architecture were flat or corbelled roofs, curved brackets, deep eaves, narrow columns, chhatris, and motifs such as bells and chains, toranas, etc, which were borrowed by the sultanate from pre-Turkish Hindu architecture.

Awadh:

- Saadat Khan Burhanul Mulk (Nawab) – laid the foundation of Awadh dynasty.
- The following are the distinct features of Awadh architecture:
 - Use of Fish as an auspicious and decorative motif especially on Gates
 - The use of Chattr (umbrella) as in the Chattr Manzil.
 - The Baradari (the twelve doorway pavilions)
 - Rumi Darwaza, the signature structure of Lucknow.
 - Enclosed Baghs like Sikandar Bagh
 - Vaulted halls such as the Asafi Imambara
 - The labyrinth Bhulbhulaiyan
 - Taikhanas
 - Use of lakhauri bricks.

Bara Imambara:

- Built by Asaf-ud-daulah, Nawab of Lucknow, in 1784, to provide succour to the famine stricken people.
- Also called the 'Asafi Imbabara'.

- Bara means big, and 'imbabara' is a shrine built by Shia Muslims.
- Bada Imambara- a great hall built at the end of a spectacular courtyard.
- Approached through two magnificent triple-arched gateways.
- The hall is Asia's largest without any external support of wood, iron, or steam beams.
- 16 feet thick roof.



Bhulbhulaiyan (labyrinth)

- Present in the main imambara building
- 8 surrounding chambers built to different roof heights, permit the space above these to be reconstructed as a labyrinth with passages interconnecting through 489 identical doorways .
- Came about unintentionally to support the weight of the building.

Rumi Darwaza or The Turkish Gate:

- It was one of the architectural projects taken up by the fourth ruler of Awadh, Nawab Asaf-ul-daulah, as part of his relief operations, to provide work and help to the famine-affected people in his state in 1783-84. The gateway is believed to have been constructed over two years and constructed in 1786 at a cost of rupees one crore.
- Height - 60 feet
- Uppermost part - Octagonal Chatri (Umbrella) carved beautifully, approachable by a staircase.
- The word 'Roomi' is derived from the modern day Rome that used to be Istanbul (capital city of Eastern Roman Empire).
- Finest gateway built in Lucknow.
- Highly inspired by a similar gateway in Istanbul.

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British Colonial Period

European Styles:

- The Allahabad Public Library constructed in the Scottish Baronial style, and All Saints Cathedral, Allahabad, and Kanpur Memorial Church constructed in the Gothic Revival style are examples of European architecture style buildings in Uttar Pradesh.

Indo - Saracenic Architecture:

- Indo- Saracenic style can be seen in the Lucknow Charbagh railway station and Kanpur central railway station.

Tourism

- Uttar Pradesh is home to India's most visited sites, Hinduism's holiest city, Varanasi. Kumbhcity, Prayagraj. Uttar Pradesh is at the heart of India; hence it is also known as *The Heartland of India*. The cuisine of Uttar Pradesh like Awadhi cuisine, Mughlai cuisine, and Kumauni cuisine is very famous not only in India but also in many places abroad and Pratapgarh is also famous for Rajputana.
- It is home to the Ayodhya and Mathura birthplace of Lord Rama, Lord Krishna and Bhagwan Parshuram respectively. There are different places one can visit in Uttar Pradesh. Agra, Ayodhya, Jhansi, Kanpur, and Lucknow are historical cities famous for their monuments.
- Mathura, Vrindavan, Gokul, Varanasi, Ayodhya, Gorakhpur and Prayagraj are holy cities for Hindus and Kushinagar and Sarnath are important Buddhist places among the main four pilgrimage sites related to the life of Gautama Buddha. Noida is the most developed urban city in Uttar Pradesh.
- To boost tourism in the state from within the country and other parts of the world, the Government of Uttar Pradesh established an Uttar Pradesh Heritage Arc covering the cities of Agra, Lucknow, and Varanasi.

Language

- The languages of Uttar Pradesh generally belong to two zones in the Indo-Aryan languages, Central and East. There are approximately 29 languages spoken in Uttar Pradesh. Hindi is the state's official language (Urdu is co-official), and according to census data, it is spoken by 80.16% of the population. Bhojpuri is the second most spoken language of the state, it is spoken by almost 11% of the population. However, Hindi is a wide label that covers many dialects, which may or may not be considered separate languages and may or may not be fully mutually intelligible. These include Awadhi, Bhojpuri, Braj Bhasha, Bundeli, Bagheli, and Kannauji.

Folk Music

- The heritage of folk music in Uttar Pradesh is one of the oldest traditions. It is named rasiya or braj. Most of the folk music in Uttar Pradesh revolves around the love and desire between Radha and Krishna. Most of these folk kinds of music are accompanied by drums and other instruments and are performed in festivals. The oldest traditions of music in Uttar Pradesh were established around the Guptas. There are different types of folk music which are:
 1. **Sohar:** Sohar is one of the most popular forms of folk songs performed in Uttar Pradesh even today. These songs are related to the religious culture prevalent in the areas. Sohar is predominantly performed during childbirth. Bhikari Thakur is usually credited with the popularisation of folk songs in the Bhojpuri region. Harikirtan is also a very religiously associated folk song sung in Uttar Pradesh. Sohar is predominantly sung and performed by women on birth which is seen as an auspicious moment in the family.
 2. **Chanayni:** Chanayni is a type of folk-dance music that is very much prevalent in most regions of Uttar Pradesh. This type of folk music usually is performed to celebrate any occasion or special moment. Folk music is often paired with folk dances so the type of songs that are sung during the Chanayni dance is called Chanayni music.
 3. **Kaharwa:** Kaharwa is a well-known taal or system of singing style in India that originated in Uttar Pradesh. The Kaharwa taal is a famous taal with variations such as qawwali, and dhumali and is divided into 2 with 8 beats. It is a caste-based folk song that is performed by the Kahar caste. The Kaharwa is a ceremonial song sung during weddings.
 4. **Kajri:** Kajri folk song is often used to describe the longing of a maiden for her lover as the black monsoon cloud arrives in the summer skies, and the style is notably sung during the rainy season. It is traditionally sung in the villages and towns of UP around Banaras, Mirzapur, Mathura, Allahabad and Bhojpur regions of Bihar.
 5. **Ghazal:** The ghazal was a popular singing style that was performed only in the royal courts of the Awadh region; today it has left the confines of the princely courts and is more accessible to the common masses. It is a mellifluous style of singing, basically uniting verses in prescribed formats.
 6. **Qawwali:** Qawwalis are the poems of Sufi saints, usually sung in tandem by two or more people while others

form a circle dancing around the tombs of Sufi saints with much fervour that the heady flavour of music and dance leads to a trance-like state.

7. **Marsiya:** Marsiya is the term used to refer to the martyrdom of Prophet Muhammad's grandson, Imam Hussain. It is very solemn and the sad content of its lyrics and music is popular among Shia Muslims.
8. **Birha:** Among the folk music genres especially from eastern Uttar Pradesh, Birha is the most common and very popular one. Birha denotes the sombre mood of lamenting wives who are separated from their husbands as they go in search of livelihoods.

Folk Dances

1. **Charkula Dance:** Charkula is a dance form that owes its birth to the Krishna era. It is therefore not surprising that it is so popular in Braj region of Uttar Pradesh. Women are dressed in long skirts that reach up to the toes. There is a colorful blouse and the dancer covers her body and face with the veil. These women carry a large multi-tiered circular wooden pyramid having 108 oil lamps on their heads while dancing. They perform their dances to the tunes of Rasia which is the song of Lord Krishna. The movements of the dancers are limited due to the heavy load of stuff on their heads.
2. **Kathak Dance:** Kathak is the most popular among all the classical as well as folk dance forms in India. The dance owes its origin to the state of Uttar Pradesh. It started its journey from the courts of Emperors and Nawabs of the then Awadh and has traversed a path that was full of turmoil to reach where it is i.e. in the hearts of the masses. Kathak has the monopoly of courtesans and consorts in its early phase. This dance form was primarily developed for the amusement of royals that wanted a slight break from pure classical dances. Therefore, a dance form was born that was semi-classical in nature and was based on Persian, Awadhi and Urdu poetry. This north Indian dance form is inextricably bound with classical Hindustani music where the rhythmic nimbleness of the feet is accompanied by the Tabla or Pakhawaj.
3. **Raslila:** Raslila is a famous art form of the Braj region of Uttar Pradesh. It is a dance form that is attached to the love of Lord Krishna with milkmaids of his village and his consort Radha. Raslila is generally performed by mobile troupes that roam round village to village. Though the dramas have basic scripts there is ample room for improvisation and extemporization, only to return to its formal delineation after the inspiration of the creative force is consumed.
4. **Chhapeli:** This dance goes very far back in history, older than the separate one of the undivided state of Uttar Pradesh. Chhapeli dance is one of the folk dances that Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh both share. Chhapeli may be a dance that is done in hasty steps of high speed. Chhapeli may be a music style too. One interesting and attractive part of this dance is that it is a traditional dance performed by real lovers.

Fairs and Festivals

1. **Ram Navmi Mela:** Ayodhya hosts this grand festival on **Lord Rama's birthday**. The festival is celebrated in the month of April. Numerous devotees gather to venerate the Lord at **Kanak Bhawan**.
2. **The Kumbh and the Ardh Kumbh:** These fairs are organised every twelve and six years in **Haridwar**. In India, the Kumbh and Ardh Kumbh are also celebrated in **Prayag, Nasik, and Ujjain**. Lakhs of pilgrims, sages, and saints flock to these Tirathas (pilgrimages) to celebrate this divine event. They take dips in the holy rivers considering the water as Amrit (nectar). These much-awaited fairs are perfect blends of religious and social features of the Hindu culture.
3. **Shravan Jhula Mela:** As the name suggests, the fair is organised in the month of Shravan according to the Hindu calendar. The images or idols of Lord Rama, Goddess Sita and Lakshman are taken to **Mani Parvat**, where these are made to swing from the branches of the trees. The fair lasts till the end of the month of **Shravan**.
4. **Jhanda Fair:** This fair is organised at Dehradun as a tribute to Guru Ram Rai, the Sikh Guru. He once visited Dehradun in the year 1699 when he built a gurudwara (Guru Ram Rai Darbar) and hoisted his flag (Jhanda). This fair marks this event. A huge fair is held every year in the month of March (on the sixth day after Holi) and a flag is unfurled at Jhanda Chowk.
5. **Tapkeshwar Fair:** Tapkeshwar Shiv Temple is located at 6 km from Dehradun. A fair, dedicated to Lord Shiva, is held here on Shivratri every year.
6. **Barsana Holi:** Barsana or 'Latthmar' Holi is celebrated at Barsana (48 km from Mathura). As the legend goes, Lord

Krishna used to visit Barsana with his friends (Gopas) to play Holi with his beloved Radha and her friends (Gopis). While playing, the gopas were chased by the gopis with 'Lathis' (bamboo) in their hands, thus giving rise to the 'Latthmar Holi' of Barsana. The festival is celebrated with coloured powder and coloured water at the Ladliji temple, dedicated to Sri Radha Rani. After Barsana, Holi is also celebrated at Baldeo (the town named after Balram; 20 km from Mathura) and Nandgaon (7 km from Barsana).

7. **Kampil Fair, Kampil:** A Jain fair is organised at Kampil or Kampilya village in tehsil Kasganj of Etah district. The city was once the capital of King Drupad (father of Queen Draupadi of the epic Mahabharata). The renowned town is known as the birth place of the 13th tirthankar Brahlan Vimal Nath and was once visited by Lord Mahavir. A five-day fair is organised here on the banks of River Ganga in the month of March.
8. **Taj Mahotsava:** This is a grand festival organised in Agra (along the river Yamuna) by UP Tourism to pay a tribute to the legendary craftsmen of Uttar Pradesh. The festival exhibits the arts, crafts, culture and cuisine of the Braj area.
9. **Yoga Festival at Varanasi & Allahabad:** This is a recent addition to the state culture. It is organised to promote the unparalleled art of meditation and Yoga that has heavily influenced the India and world. Great sages and Yogis teach the perfect way to find peace of mind and solace without corrupting the soul.

Handicrafts

- The arts and crafts in Uttar Pradesh are not famous only in India but all over the world. Right from the silken saris to the earthen pottery, carpet weaving to chikankari embroidery, Uttar Pradesh is always on the forefront in artifacts. Specific regions deal with the specific art or craft such as
1. **Chikankari of Lucknow:** The delicate art of embroidery has its origin in the city of Nawabs. Its name has been derived from the Persian word 'chikan' meaning cloth wrought by needlework. Earlier it emerged as a court craft but with the keen efforts of art lovers this craft was publicized and became an important commercial activity. The various patterns of the chikankari are muree, lerchi, keelkangan and bakhia. The charm of this craft lies in the minuteness, evenness and sheer excellence of the craft as well as the use of white embroidery on white cloth. The motifs of chikankari range from Mughal architectural design of buildings to vine themes and from birds to animals.
 2. **Varanasi Brocade or Kinkab:** There is no match to the rich Varanasi brocades created on the fine silk or cotton fabrics with the use of golden and silver thread on the 'pallas' (end pieces) and the field of sari. The gold thread with the silver background defines the grandeur and the geometric patterns in the 'butidar' and 'jaal' style just add to its beauty. It has become a trend among Indian brides to have a few Benaras saris especially the deep red golden zari sari among its wedding attire. The design motifs of these brocades are intricate floral and foliage patterns, kalga and bel, and in sari pallas and dupattas a string of upright leaves called jhalar.
 3. **Stonecraft:** The hub of stonecraft in India is Agra. The art of carving thin marble slabs to make fine lattice windows is the most difficult for craftsmen. The other marble products available in Agra are mirror frames with lace-like fringes, fretwork balustrades, bowls, garden furniture, etc. Another speciality of Agra is the inlay work on marble with colourful and precious stones to form a multitude of mosaics. When you visit the city, purchase some artefacts to remind you of the trip, which may also be used as a decoration piece in your room back at home.
 4. **Carpets:** After the Persian and Arabian carpets it comes the turn of UP's local carpets are prepared at Bhadohi, Shahjahanpur and Mirzapur. Most of the population in these areas is affiliated with the profession of carpet weaving. With the exotic designs of flora and fauna, Taj Mahal, "Kethariwala Jal", "Jamabaz", "Kandhari", etc. the industry has succeeded in attracting not only the national market but due to some attractive Chinese designs international market establishing as well.
 5. **Art Metal Brass Ware:** Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh produces large quantities of art metal ware. It is especially famous for its color enameling and intricate engraving. There are two types of engravings one is called nakshi and is done on the tinned surface while the other is known as khudai and is done on lac-coated unpolished brass. The pointed steel pencil is used to make the design in khudai type. The metal brassware consists of traditional vases, Ganeshas, laughing Buddhas, stools, trays and contemporary beautiful bowls. The Natraja is the most beautiful article in the brassware to be gifted and kept as a decorative item.
 6. **Glass Ware:** Ferozabad has become synonymous with the name of glassware. Earlier only glass bangles were produced, but with the help of sophisticated machines, full-fledged glassware is produced. The entire populace is involved in this industry. Varanasi specializes in making glass beads and exports most of the production.

Similarly, thin glass plates are produced which after cutting into pieces called "tikku" are used by women to decorate their fabrics. In Saharanpur, intriguing glass toys are filled with a coloured liquid called rachkora and the mouthpiece of hukka is produced. The glass bangles with a multitude of colours matching every dress is the most used ornament in the state.

7. **Pottery:** In Uttar Pradesh, Khurja has evolved its own style in earthenware. By adding colour to the dull and unattractive pottery, Khurja gave a lease of life to it. The shades and the designs in contrast to its background can attract the attention of any person with an aesthetic sense. Apart from Khurja, Rampur surahis along with the water containers from Meerut and Hapur are famous all around the nation for their shapes, designs, colours and their ability to keep the water cold even during the harsh summer days.
8. **Jewellery:** Lucknow is well known for its jewellery and enamel work. Exquisite silverware with patterns of hunting scenes, snakes and roses are very popular. The Bidri and Zربولand silver works of Lucknow have fine embroidery on excellent pieces of huqqa farshi, jewel boxes, trays, bowls, cufflinks, cigarette holders, etc. Renowned ivory and bone carvings with motifs of flowers, leaves, creepers, trees, birds and animals are widely produced in Lucknow. The master craftsmen create intricate items like knives, lampshades, shirt pins and small toys.
9. **Perfume:** 'Attars' or perfumes are also produced in Lucknow since the 19th century. The Lucknow perfumers experimented and succeeded in making attar with delicate and lasting fragrances that are made from various aromatic herbs, spices, sandal oil, musk, the essence of flowers, and leaves. The famous Lucknow fragrances used in perfumes are khus, keora, chameli, zafran and agar.
10. **Terracotta:** Gorakhpur has villages where clay figures of animals are created and is famous for its ornately decorated terracotta horse too. The potter creates the basic form by placing separate pieces of mud on the wheel and then carving them.

Paintings

- The tradition of painting in Uttar Pradesh has been going on since pre-historic times. The cave paintings of Sonbhadra and Chitrakoot depict scenes of hunting, war, festivals, dances, romantic life, and animals. The golden period of painting in UP was the Mughal Era. The art of painting attained its peak during the reign of Jahangir. The Mughal style of painting remains one of the greatest achievements of Asian culture and is unique in its concept, presentation, and style.
- The art of painting reached the epitome of perfection in the area of Bundelkhand when the King of Orchha reconstructed the temple of Keshav Dev in Mathura. The paintings of Mathura, Gokul, Vrindavan and Govardhan depict the scenes from the life of Lord Krishna. Another major pre-modern painting tradition of UP is known as the Garhwal School which was patronized by the Kings of Garhwal.

GEOGRAPHY

- Uttar Pradesh is a frontier state located in the north-central of India. It is located between 23°52' to 30°24' northern latitude and 77°05' to 84°38' east longitude. Uttar Pradesh is bounded by Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh on the north-west, Haryana and Delhi on the west, Rajasthan on the south-west, Madhya Pradesh on the south, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand on the south-east and Bihar on the east. Uttar Pradesh has a total area of 243,286 km², which is 7.33% of the total area of India.

Climate

- The climate of the state is tropical monsoon. The average temperature varies in the plains from 3 to 4 °C in January to 43 to 45 °C in May and June. The rainfall in the plains is heaviest in the east and decreases towards the northwest. Floods are a recurring problem in the state, causing damage to crops, life, and property. The eastern districts are the most vulnerable to floods, the western districts slightly less and the central region markedly less. The eastern districts' susceptibility to floods is ascribed, among other things, to heavy rainfall, low flat country, high subsoil water level and the silting of beds which causes river levels to rise. The problem in the western districts is mainly poor drainage caused by the obstruction of roads, railways, canals, new built-up areas etc. There is water logging in large areas. The major flood-prone rivers are the Ganga, Yamuna, Gomti, Ghaghara, Rapti, Sharda and Ramganga. The inadequate drainage capacity of the smaller western Sirsa, Kali and Aligarh

drain is also a cause of floods.

Political Geography

- Uttar Pradesh has 75 districts. It comprises administrative divisions. Within these 18 divisions, there are a total of 75 districts. These administrative divisions are:
 - Agra, Allahabad, Aligarh, Azamgarh, Bareilly, Basti, Chitrakoot, Devipatan, Faizabad, Gorakhpur, Jhansi, Kanpur, Lucknow, Meerut, Mirzapur, Moradabad, Varanasi, Saharanpur



Topographic Divisions:

Uttar Pradesh can be divided into 3 major topographical regions:

- Siwalik foothills of the Himalayas and the Terai region:** Siwalik Range forms the southern foothills of the Himalayas which border U.P. on the north. The lowland area dispersed with marshes, thick forests, swamps rich in clay and tall grasslands that runs parallel to the Bhabhar tract is called the Terai region. This area is composed of fine alluvium primarily sand, clay, silt, and gravel. As the rivers flow down the slopes of Bhabhar and course through the relatively planar areas of Terai the sediments are deposited in shallow beds, and the sunken river streams of Bhabhar reemerge on the surface, causing massive floods.
- Gangetic plains:** Gangetic plains are characterised by flat topography and highly fertile alluvial soil. The two-river system called Ganges which includes Ganga and Yamuna and their tributaries, that flow down the Himalayas is responsible for laying in alluvial deposits which make the soil of Gangetic plains highly fertile and suitable for growing crops like rice, wheat, barley, gram etc. These plains span about three-fourths of the total area of the state, stretching from east to west and covering most of its central portion. Its flat topography comprises of several physical features like rivers, lakes, ponds, elevation ranging from 60 mts in the east to 300 mts in the north-west and a gradient of 2 m/sq km.

The Gangetic plains are constituted by the Ganga-Yamuna Doab, the Ganges plains, Terai and the Ghaghra plains; and this entire expanse of alluvial terrain is divided into three sub-regions:

Eastern tract: The eastern tract of Gangetic plains is classified as a scarcity region as it is often afflicted with famines and floods, and the agricultural lands of this region do not receive adequate irrigation. A total of 14 districts falls under this tract.

Central tract: It is a well-irrigated tract but suffers from water logging.

Western tract: This zone is well developed in terms of Agriculture because of excellent water resources and irrigation systems.
- Vindhya Range and plateau:** Vindhyas are a discontinuous range of hills and mountains. The southernmost stratum of Gangetic plains in the U.P. is rendered by hard and varied topography of hills, highlands, and plateaus. With an average elevation of 300 mts, this is a low-lying range that receives sparse rains and is devoid of adequate water resources, thus farmers in this region resort to dry farming.

The following 4 divisions fall under the canopy of this region:

Bundelkhand plateau – Jhansi, Jalaun, Banda, Hamirpur Tehsils of Allahabad district Mirzapur district Chakia Tehsil of Varanasi district.

Types of forests

- Recorded Forest area constitutes about 6.88% of the total geographical area of the state and Total Forest and Tree cover is 9.01% of the total geographical area. There are three types of forests in Uttar Pradesh. They are:
 - Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest:** This type of forest is mostly present in the Terai region. These are found in areas with rainfall between 100-200 cms. The main species of tropical moist deciduous forests are Teak, Sal, Sheshum, Amla, Kusum etc.
 - Tropical Dry Deciduous Forest:** This type of forest is found in the central eastern and western plains. These are found in areas with rainfall between 70-100 cms. During the dry season, trees shed leaves completely and the forest appears like a grassland. The main species of this type of forest are Khair, Tendu, Palas, Axlewood etc.
 - Tropical Thorny Forests:** This type of forest is found in southwestern UP. These are found in regions with low rainfall of 50-70cms. Thorny trees, mainly, Babool, Thorny, legumes and Euphorias are found here.

Flora & Fauna

- On the Shivalik foothills and in the terai-bhabhar area grow the sal and gigantic haldu. Along river courses, the shisham grows in abundance. The Vindhyan forests have dhak, teak, mahua, salai, chironji and tendu. Sissoo mostly used for furniture while khair yields kattha, which is taken with betel leaves or pan. Semal and gutelare used as matchwood and kanju in the plywood industry. Babul provides the principal tanning material of the state. Some of the grasses such as baib and bamboo are raw materials for the paper industry. Tendu leaves are used in making bidis (Indian cigarettes), and cane is used in baskets and furniture. Herbs include medicinal plants like *Rauwolfia serpentina*, *Viala serpens*, podophyllum, hexandrum and *Ephedra gerardiana*.
- Animals that can be found in the jungles of Uttar Pradesh include the tiger, leopard, wild bear, sloth bear, chital, sambhar, jackal, porcupine, jungle cat, hare, squirrel, monitor lizards, and fox. The most common birds include the crow, pigeon, dove, jungle fowl, black partridge, house sparrow, peafowl, blue jay, parakeet, kite, mynah, quail, bulbul, kingfisher and woodpecker. Certain species are found in special habitats. The elephant is confined to the terai and the foothills. The gond and para are also found in this region. The chinkara and the sandgrouse prefer a dry climate and are native to the Vindhyan forests.



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Types of Soils in Uttar Pradesh

- The soil in Uttar Pradesh is mostly old. Except for the traces found in rivers valleys. Uttar Pradesh soil is covered by a deep layer of alluvium due to the slow-moving Ganges river and its tributaries. These alluvial soils are fertile that range from sandy to clayey loam.
 - Soils of Bhabar and Terai Region**

- **Bhabar Region Soil:** Bhabar runs along the Shiwalik foothills and is about 8-16 wide. The rivers that come from the Himalayas deposit their load along the foothills in the form of alluvial fans. This bhabar tract consists of gravel and un-assorted sediment deposits. This region is not suitable for cultivation. The bhabar soil is very shallow and porous or permeable in nature. As a result, this is only good for the growth of a big tree that has large roots.
 - **Terai Region Soil:** The Terai is a lowland region that lies in northern and southern Nepal, lies south outer foothills of the Himalayas, Sivalik Hills and north of the Indo-Gangetic Plain. This lowland has characteristics of having tall grasslands, scrub savannah, sal forest and clay rich swamps. This region runs parallel to the south of Bhabar and it is made of new alluvium. It is about 15 to 30 km wide. In this region, the underground streams of the Bhabar region re-emerge in this belt. This makes the region swampy lowland with silty soils. The soil here is sand and clay, this soil is suitable for the cultivation of wheat, rice, sugarcane, jute etc.
2. **Gangetic Plain Soil:** The soils of the Gangetic plain are formed as a result of sedimentary deposition by rivers. As a result, Alluvial soils are found in the Gangetic plain. Alluvial soil consists of locally transported detritus materials of soil and parent materials of slopping terrains from its upper sections, erosions, and landslides. Alluvial soil has fine particles of sand and Kankar (grave). Its physical and chemical composition makes it the most fertile soil in the world. The alluvial soil in this region is divided into two: Khadar and Bangar Soil.
 - **Khadar:** Khadar is composed of new alluvium and forms the flood plains along the banks of the river. These are clayey and loamy, leached and dry. Also, Khadar soil is less calcareous and carbonaceous. Khadar soil forms again and again as the river banks are flooded every year and a new layer of alluvium is deposited every year with every flood. Khadar soil is found in Central Ranges, Western, and Eastern Gangetic regions.
 - **Bangar:** Bangar regions are beyond the floodplains that lie more upland and consist of older alluvium. Bangar soil is higher in sandy loam content. The Bangar region is less prone to flooding. This soil is sandier and less fertile compared to Khadar.
 3. **Soils of Vindhya chal Highlands and plateaus:** This region exhibits hilly terrain and arid conditions. Soils in this region are generally developed from Vindhyan rocks that include gneiss, granites, sandstone, quartzite, limestone, dolomite etc. The soil type is fine loamy with stoniness and gravelliness. The soils of this region possess mixed red and black hues. These are slightly alkaline in nature, are excessively drained and Low Available Water Capacity (AWC).

Major Rivers

River	Source	Mouth	Length	Dam	Course
Ganga	Gangotri, Uttarakhand	Ganges Delta	2525 Km	-	Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, W.B.
Yamuna	Yamunotri	Ganges	1376 Km	Tajewala Barrage Dam, Sob river dam	Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi
Ghaghara	Mapchachungo glacier, Tibet	Ganges	1080 Km	-	-
Betwa	Vindhya range	Ganges	-	Rajghat Dam Parichha Dam, Matalita Dam	Madhya Pradesh
Chambal	Janapav hills, Vindhya range	Ganges	960 Km	Rana Pratap Sagar Dam, Gandhi Sagar Dam, Jawahar Sagar Dam	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
Son	Amarkantak	Ganges	784 Km	Bansagar Dam, Indrapuri Barrage	Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar
Sarda	Kalapani	Ganges	350 Km	Pancheshwar Dam	Uttarakhand
Gomti	Gomat Taal Ganges	Ganges	900 km	-	-

Ken	Ahirkawan Kaimur range, Jbalpur	Ganges	427 Km	-	Madhya Pradesh
Gandak	Nhubine Himal Glacier	Ganges	630 Km	-	Tibet, Nepal
Kosi	Sun Kosi	Ganges	729 Km	-	Tibet, Nepal, Bihar

Lakes

- Lakes in Uttar Pradesh serve the water needs of villages, small towns & remote areas. Several species of migratory birds like siberian cranes, greater Flamingo, Surkhhab, etc flock these lakes every year. Forest Department of Uttar Pradesh is responsible for the maintenance of the lakes in the state.

Major Lakes in Uttar Pradesh are:

Lake	Location	Type	Description
Barua Sagar Tal	Jhansi	Artificial Lake	Near Fort of Bundelkhand
Bela Sagar Tal	Kulpahar, Belatal	Artificial Lake	Locally k/as Bela Taal
Chittaura Jheel	Chittaura village, Bharach	Natural lake	Tera nadi flows from it.
Darwan lake	Hathpakad & Katehri	Natural lake	-
Gokul Barrage	Gokul, Mathura	Barrage	-
Keetham Lake	Agra-Delhi highway	Artificial Lake	Declared National Bird Sanctuary
Moti Jheel	Benajhabar, Kanpur	Artificial lake	Referred to as 'Lungs of Kanpur'
Raja Ka Tal	NH 19	Reservoir	Also k/as Bara Taal
Ramgarh Tal Lake	Gorakhpur	-	-
Shekha Jheel	Shekha village, near Aligarh	Artificial lake	Popular for the migratory birds.

Water Resources of Uttar Pradesh: Hydrology

- The major sources of surface water in Uttar Pradesh are the Ganges and its tributaries flowing from the northwest to the southeast direction. Ganges, Yamuna, Ghagra, Gomti, Gandak, Son, Kosi and Sarada are some major rivers flowing through Uttar Pradesh. The basin formed is the Ganga sub-basin of the Ganga-Brahmaputra-Meghna Basin. Some important facts related to the water resources of Uttar Pradesh are:
- Groundwater:** Uttar Pradesh is the largest user of Groundwater repositories. A very rich groundwater reserve exists in the form of several aquifer systems on alluvial plains. However, Bundelkhand lacks any major underground water storage areas. The gross groundwater withdrawal in Uttar Pradesh is 5.28-million-hectare metres.
- Hydrogeological Units:**
 - Bhabhar
 - Central Ganga plains
 - Marginal alluvial plains
 - Terai
 - Southern Peninsular zone (starting from north to south successively)
- Irrigation:** The plains are largely irrigated by vast stretches of canals and reservoirs that were built on the banks of the Ganges' northern and southern tributaries. A few "scarcity regions" are watered with groundwater using borewells. Only the eastern tract uses rainwater for irrigation. However, the Ganges River side lacks a reservoir.

ECONOMY

Demographic Profile

- According to the Census of India 2011, the population of Uttar Pradesh is 199,812,341, or 17% of India's population.
- Out of the State's total population, 52 per cent population are males and 48 per cent are females.

Population Growth

- In 2001, total population was 166,197,921 in which males were 87,565,369 while females were 78,632,552. The total population growth in this decade was 20.23 percent while in previous decade it was 25.80 percent.

Sex Ratio

- The average sex ratio is the number of females per 1000 males. As per the Census 2011, the Average Sex Ratio of Uttar Pradesh is 912 which is above than national average of 943 females per 1000 males. Also the child sex ratio (age less than 6 years) of Uttar Pradesh is at 902 which is lower than 918 of India.

Uttar Pradesh fact file

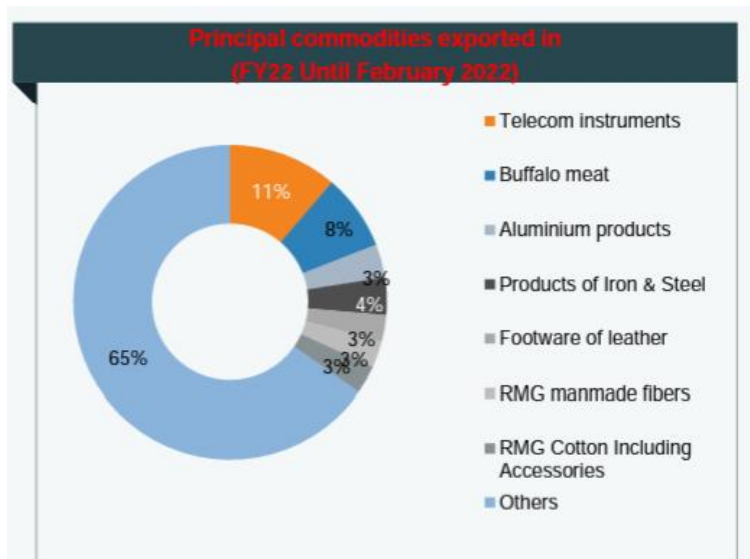
GSDP		India	Uttar Pradesh
1	GSDP as a percentage of all states' GSDP	100	8
2	GSDP growth rate	11.5	8.43
3	Per Capita GSDP (\$)	2,092	1,016
Social Indicators			
1	Literacy	77.4	67.68
2	Birth Rate	20	26.6
Industrial Infrastructure			
1	Operational PPP Projects	1824	77
2	Operational SEZs	267	14
Physical Infrastructure in West Bengal			
1	Installed Power Capacity	399, 496.61 MW	29,230.06 MW
2	National Highway Length (Kms)	140, 995	12,245
3	Airports	129	9
Investments			
1	Cumulative FDI equity inflow (million USD)	126, 690.84	785.85

FDI inflow & investments

- According to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), cumulative FDI inflow in Uttar Pradesh stood at US\$ 942 million between April 2000-March 2020. Between October 2019- December 2021, FDI inflows in Uttar Pradesh stood at US\$785.55 million. The state ranked 11th in India in terms of FDI inflows.
- In February 2020, state organised Defence Expo-2020 and received proposals worth Rs.5 lakh crore for investment.
- In 2019, 147 investment intentions worth Rs. 16,799 crore were filed in Uttar Pradesh. In July 2021, amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Uttar Pradesh received foreign investment intents of Rs. 17,000 crore from various enterprises, according to government officials.

Export Trends

- Merchandise exports from Uttar Pradesh reached US\$16.39 billion in FY21 and US\$18.83 billion in FY22 (until February 2022). Telecom equipment was the leading export category with an 11% share of state exports in 2021-22. Buffalo meat was the second-largest export category at 8%. The US is the major export market for Uttar Pradesh, accounting for about 17% of the export value in 2019-20. Uttar Pradesh exported commodities worth Rs.21,500.85 crores in April-May 2021, increasing 152.67% over the same time last year, according to Central Government data.



Physical Infrastructure

- Roads:** The national highways running through the state cover approximately 12,245km as of March 2022. Uttar Pradesh is well-connected to its 9 neighbouring states & other parts of India through 48 national highways. The length of national highways running through the state accounts for about 8.5% of the total National Highway (NH) length in India. Yamuna Expressway has 6 lanes & is 165-km long with controlled access which connects Greater Noida with Agra.
- Railways:** The Uttar Pradesh state government is considering expanding the metro rail services to the cities of Bareilly, Jhansi, Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Meerut and Prayagraj. The project is worth Rs. 2,670 crore and it will have 14 elevated stations on a 15.14 km long stretch in the first phase. Uttar Pradesh has the biggest railway network in the country with a railway density of 40 km which is double the rail density of India.
- Airports:** The state has six domestic airports, located at Agra, Allahabad, Bareilly, Gorakhpur, Kanpur, and Lalitpur. The state has two international airports located in Lucknow and Varanasi. International flights operate from Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, Lucknow, and Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport, Varanasi.
- Energy:** Uttar Pradesh was one of the states to bring in power sector reforms in the country. The fundamental restructuring of the state power sector was processed in the mid 1990s when in world bank was one of the main agencies funding power sector reforms in India. As of March 2022, Uttar Pradesh had an installed power generation capacity of 29,230.06 MW. Of this, 6,902.20 MW was from state utilities, 14,061.15 MW (private utilities) and 8,266.71 MW (central utilities). Thermal power contributed 21,033.03 MW to the state's total installed power generation capacity, followed by 3,424.03 MW (by hydropower), 289.48 MW (nuclear power) and 4,483.52 MW (renewable power), as of March 2022. Solar Energy Policy 2017 was implemented with the objective to attract private investments for increasing solar power generation. Target to generate 10,700 MW of solar power by 2022. The energy requirement in the state was 107,109 million units (MU) in 2019-20.

Social Infrastructure

- Education:** Uttar Pradesh has 79 universities out of which 28 are state universities, 9 are deemed universities, 4 central universities, and 29 private universities. As of 2018-19, Uttar Pradesh had 79 universities, and 7,078 colleges per lakh population and 3,143 Industrial Training Institutes. The state is one of the few states to have successfully implemented the "education for all" policy. Consequently, the state has made various investments towards the escalation of the standard of education across various levels. The state has a good presence of private players in the education sector.

According to the provisional data of Census 2011, Uttar Pradesh has a literacy rate of 67.68%; male literacy rate is 77.28% and the female literacy rate is 57.18%. In the State Budget 2021-22, the state Government allocated Rs. 3,406 crore (US\$469.50million) for Mid-Day-Meal and Rs.18,172 crore (US\$2.50billion) for 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan'.

- Health:** The Uttar Pradesh Government is planning to build seven 50 bedded hospitals in Lucknow, Gorakhpur and Ghaziabad districts, 25 primary health centres in Varanasi, Ghazipur, Meerut and Mirzapur, as well as 23 community health facilities in Gorakhpur, Pratapgarh and Ghazipur in the next two years. The Uttar Pradesh Government seeks to provide health insurance coverage to auto drivers, health 'sakhis' and Anganwadi workers under the Ayushman Bharat Scheme. The government has set a target to make 49 nursing schools, and 49 paramedical schools functional in the state in the next five years. The government will also increase seats substantially in different courses, including 7,000 seats in MBBS, 3,000 in PG, 14,500 in nursing and 3,600 in paramedical.

Educational infrastructure - 2018-19	
Universities ¹	79
Colleges	7,078
Medical colleges ¹	46
Polytechnics ¹	168
Primary schools	113,249
Upper primary schools	45,590

Major Educational Institutes in Uttar Pradesh	
▪	Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur.
▪	Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow.
▪	Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.
▪	Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad.
▪	Asian Academy of Film and Television, Noida.
▪	Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar.
▪	Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.
▪	National Institute of Technology (NIT), Allahabad.

Industrial Infrastructure

- Key Industries: Information technology, agro-processing, tourism, mineral-based industries, textiles, handloom and handicrafts, food processing and sports goods, vegetable and animal oils and fats, dairy products, grain mill products, animal feed, carpets and rugs.
- According to the state government, as many as 1,500 projects worth more than Rs.70,000 crore is planned to be launched in Uttar Pradesh's third groundbreaking ceremony to be held in June 2022. Some of these major projects are:
 - Adani Group's project worth around Rs.4,900 crore (US\$631.86 million).
 - Microsoft's Rs.2,100 crore (US\$270.85 million) software development centre.
 - As of July 2021, Uttar Pradesh had 21 notified, 14 operational SEZs and 24 formally approved SEZs. Uttar Pradesh, a state with access to a robust industrial infrastructure, has 15 industrial areas, 12 specialised parks, 4 growth centres & Industrial Infrastructure Development Centres (IIDC). The state has proposed 40 IT/ITeS parks (apart from ITSEZs), 2 biotech zones & a knowledge park. The development of integrated agro/food processing zones has been proposed at Hapur, about 54 km from Delhi.
 - The state Government sanctioned 20 SEZs in the state to accommodate various sectors such as IT/ITeS, textiles, handicrafts, and non-conventional energy. IT/ITeS accounted for the maximum share of approved SEZs in the state which accounted for 80% of the 20 SEZs, followed by electronic products contributing 18% to the overall share.

Minerals and Heavy Industries

Minerals found in Uttar Pradesh:

- Limestone, Dolomite, Glass-sand, Marble, Bauxite, Nonplastic Fireclay, Uranium, Barytes & Andalusite, Sandstone, Pebbles, Reh, Salt punter, Maurang sand, Diaspore, Sulphur, Magnesite, Pyrophyllite, Silica sand. In the early days Copper, Lead, Iron ore and Placer Gold have been mined on a small scale in parts of the Himalayas, Bundelkhand and South-Eastern districts. In addition, Vindhyan Sand Stone as building and Mill Stone was also mined in the districts of Agra, Allahabad and Mirzapur. Prior to 1900, the Copper ores were mined on a small scale in erstwhile Garhwal, however, the development of Modern Technology and decline in the prices also lead to the decline of small-scale Mining. Mining activity during 1920 and 1930 further declined due to various reasons. Geologists have been examining the ground in search of both Industrial and Metallic Mineral deposits which could be developed in relation to present-day Technology and Economics.

Agriculture

- The economy of Uttar Pradesh entirely depends on agriculture. Several important steps like an extension of irrigation facilities, Arrangement for the timely supply of fertilizers, pesticides and high-yielding seeds promoting high-yielding varieties of use of seeds and continuous consultancy services of experts on agricultural matters have been taken. Principal crops: Rice, wheat, and sugarcane. Other crops: Wheat, rice, maize, millet, and pulses, such as beans, peas, oilseeds, potatoes, lentils.

Agro & Food Processing

- The Uttar Pradesh government will set up excellence centres and mini-excellence centres/hi-tech nurseries in all 75 districts in the next five years to boost the horticulture and food processing industry in the state. Fair Exports, a major exporter of Lulu Hyper chain, has started trials of sourcing mixed vegetables including okra, round gourd, jackfruit, longbeans, and varieties of mango like Banarasi Langda, Dussehri and Papaya from Purvanchal east Uttar Pradesh) and the neighbouring region of Bihar.

Tourism

- In May 2022, Amity University in Noida, Uttar Pradesh, signed an MoU with the Tourism & Hospitality Skill Council (THSC), with the aim to train students in the field of tourism, travel, hospitality and aviation by different campuses of Amity University, through the implementation programmes under this MoU. Uttar Pradesh has now become home to the country's first-ever 'Amrit Sarovar' which was inaugurated in Rampur district in May 2022. It is one of the 789 ponds which the Uttar Pradesh government will develop. Nearly Rs.60 lakh were spent on the creation of this water body. The Uttar Pradesh government is all set to establish the UP Ecotourism Development

board. The key objective of the initiative is to promote the state's rich legacy of forests and wetlands to increase tourist footfall while creating jobs for those living around the natural heritage.

Renewable Energy

- Uttar Pradesh has the capacity to produce 4,248.76 MW of renewable energy. The state government has set an objective of annual addition for a production capacity of solar energy to 2,000 MW. The state has tremendous potential to increase its biomass energy production in 97,589 villages. The state is the largest producer of sugarcane and second largest producer of rice in India, the by-product bagasse and rice husk form abundant raw material base for power production.

Renewable energy generation potential (2018-19)	
Energy	Production Potential (MW)
Solar Energy	22,830
Wind Energy^	1,260
Small Hydro Power	461
Bio Energy (Biomass Power)	1,765
Bio Energy (Bagasse Cogeneration Power)	2,000
Bio Energy (Wasteto Energy)	5

Protected Areas

National Parks	Tiger Reserves	Wetlands
Dudhwa National Park	Dudwa Tiger Reserve	Bakhira Wildlife Sanctuary
	Pilibhit Tiger Reserve	Haiderpur Wetland
		Nawabganj Bird Sanctuary
		Parvati Agra Bird Sanctuary
		Saman Bird Sanctuary
	Amangarh Tiger Reserve	Samaspur Bird Sanctuary
		Sandi Bird Sanctuary
	Ranipur Tiger Reserve	Sarsai Nawar Jheel
		Sur Sarovar
		Upper Ganga River

Famous Personalities

- Gautama Buddha:** The founder of Buddhism, Gautama Buddha, was born in Lumbini, 563 BC, in the house of King Shroudhan of Ikshvaku Kshatriya Shakyakul. His mother's name was Mahamaya and she was from the Koli dynasty. His wife's name was Yashodhara and the son's name was Rahul. After the harsh practice of the years, he got knowledge under Bodhi tree in Bodh Gaya (Bihar), and he gave his first sermon in Sarnath, which is called the Dramaprabartak Chakra. In 483 BC at 80 years of age died (Mahaparinirvana) in Kushinagar Uttar Pradesh.
- Banabhatta:** Banabhatta was a writer and poet of Sanskrit prose of the seventh century. He was the poet during King Harshvardhan's reign (606 BC to 646 BC). His two major works are Harshacharitam and Kadambari.
- Ziauddin Barani:** Ziauddin Barani was a historian and political thinker who lived in India during the time of Muhammad bin Tughlaq and Feroz Shah Tughlaq. 'Tarikh-e-Ferozshahi' is his famous historical work. Ziauddin Barani was born in the Syed family in 1285 AD. Ziauddin was a resident of Baran (modern Bulandshahr), so he used to add Barani in his name.
- Amir Khusro:** His real name was - Abul Hassan Yemenuddin Muhammad. Amir Khusro was born in the Patiali village (Kasganj) in Uttar Pradesh's Etah district in 1253. He was a Persian poet and used to write in Hindavi. He used to call himself parrot-e-Hind. He is credited with the invention of the Khadi Boli.
- Sir Syed Amad Khan:** Syed Ahmed Khan was born on October 17, 1817, in Sadat (Syed), Delhi. He was a teacher, lawmakers, and writers and was the founder of the Anglo-Mohammedan Oriental College, Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh. Sir Syed Ahmed was a reformer and a visionary, who made effort throughout his life for education among Muslims.
- Rani Lakshmi Bai:** Rani Lakshmi Bai was a freedom fighter in the first Indian freedom struggle of 1857. She was

born on 19 November 1835 in Bhadaini town of Varanasi. Rani Laxmibai's childhood name was Manikarnika, people used to call her Manu. Manu's mother's name was Bhagirathibhai and father's name was Moropant Tambe. She was married to Maharaj Gangadhar of Jhansi. Opposing Dalhousie's doctrine of lapse she died fighting the British in Gwalior on June 18, 1858.

7. **Nana Saheb:** Nana Saheb was one of the architects of the first struggle for Indian independence of 1857. His original name was 'Dhondumpant'. In the freedom struggle, Nana Saheb led the rebels against the British in Kanpur. Nana Sahib was born in 1824 in the house of Madhavarnayana Rao, a resident of Venugram. His father was a brother of Peshwa Bajirao II.
8. **Tatya Tope:** Tatya Tope was born in 1814 AD in the village of Yeola in Patauda district near Nashik. His father's name was Pandurang Triambak Bhatt and his mother's name was Rukmini Bai. He was the commander of the army of Nana Saheb.
9. **Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya:** Mahamna Madan Mohan Malaviya was born on 25 December 1861 in a Brahmin family in Allahabad. His father's name was Brajnath Malaviya and his mother's name was Munadevi. Malviya Ji founded Banaras Hindu University in the year 1915. He was elected Congress president in the year 1909, 1918, 1930 and 1932. He died at the age of 85 years of age on 12 November 1946. The Government of India honored him with Bharat Ratna on December 24, 2014.
10. **Motilal Nehru:** Motilal Nehru was born on May 6, 1861, in Agra. He was the father of the first Prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru. He chaired the Congress session of 1919 in Amritsar and Calcutta in 1928. In 1923, he along with CR Das set up Swaraj Party. He was president of the Indian Constitution Commission established by Congress in 1928. This commission presented the Nehru Report. Motilal Nehru passed away in Allahabad in 1931.
11. **Ramprasad Bismil:** Ram Prasad Bismil was born on June 11, 1897, in the Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. His father's name was Murlidhar and his mother's name was Basmati. Ram Prasad Bismil was a freedom fighter, poet, translator, historian, and literary writer. Sarfrosi ki Tamanna is his composition. He was involved in kakori train robbery. And was hanged by the British government on December 19, 1927, in Gorakhpur Jail.

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12. **Mangal Pandey:** Mangal Pandey was born on 30th January in Nagwa village of Ballia district. He was a platoon soldier in "34th Bengal Native Infantry" stationed at the Military Cantonment of Barrackpur near Kolkata. He

refused to use greased cartridges and mutinied and killed his adjutant and was hanged On 8 April 1857.

13. **Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:** Jawaharlal Nehru was born on 14th November 1889 in Allahabad. In 1947, he became the first Prime Minister of independent India. His sister Vijayalakshmi Pandit later became the first woman president of the United Nations General Assembly. In 1916 He got married to Kamala Nehru, and in 1923, he was made the general secretary of the Indian National Congress. Jawaharlal Nehru died on May 27, 1964, due to a heart attack.
14. **Lal Bahadur Shastri:** Lal Bahadur Shastri was born on 2 October 1904 in Mughalsarai. After the death of Jawaharlal Nehru, he was made the Prime Minister of India on June 9, 1964. He died in Tashkent. He was awarded Bharat Ratna in 1966. He gave "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" slogan.
15. **Kabir Das:** Saint Kabirdas was a famous poet of Hindi literature, though his poems, Dohe criticized many ill practices prevalent in society. He was born in 1425 AD in Varanasi. He was raised by Neelu-Neema. His main composition is Sakhi, Sabad, Ramani.
16. **Tulsidas:**He is considered one of the best poets of the Hindi language He was born in 1552 in Rajapur, Uttar Pradesh. His master's name was Narharidas. His main works include Ramcharitmanas, Vinayastika, Dahavali, Kavitali, Hanuman Chalisa, Vairagya Sandeepani, Janaki Mangal, Parvati Mangal etc. He died in 1680.
17. **Surdas:**Surdas was a poet of Hindi literature, and was born in 1478 AD. He is said to be blind by birth. His main compositions are Saurasagar, Surasaravali, Sahitya Lahari His master's name was Balbhacharya He died in 1583.
18. **Ustad Bismillah Khan:** Bismillah Khan was born on March 21, 1916, in Dumraon, Bihar. Famous Shehnai maestro honored with 'Bharat Ratna' (2001). Bismillah Khan was honored with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1956. He was also honored with the Tansen Award by the Government in Madhya Pradesh.
19. **Atal Bihari Vajpayee:** Born & brought up in Gwalior, Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the 10th & first non-congress Prime Minister to serve a full five-year term in the history of independent India. His birthday, 25th December, was declared "Good Governance Day" in his honour. Vajpayee was conferred with Bharat Ratna in a special gesture by the then President of India in his residence on 27 March 2015. He was referred to as the Bhisma Pitamah of Indian Politics by former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. He was awarded Padma Vibhushan in 1992 & the Best Parliamentarian Award in 1994.
20. **Amitabh Bachchan:** Born in Allahabad, Amitabh Bachchan is regarded as one of the greatest and most influential actors in the history of Indian cinema. He was popularly known as the "angry young man" for his on-screen roles in Bollywood. French director François Truffaut called him a "one-man industry" due to his popularity in the 1970s & 1980s. Bachchan has also worked as a playback singer, film producer and television presenter. He was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1984, the Padma Bhushan in 2001, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2015. Additionally, he was also honoured with the Knight of the Legion of Honour in 2007 by the French government.
21. **Dhyan Chand:**Born in Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh in a Rajput family, Major Dhyan Chand was a former international hockey player, and a legendary figure in Indian and world hockey. He is best remembered for his extraordinary goal-scoring feats & three Olympic gold medals. He is often referred to as 'Hockey ka Jadugar' (Magician of the game of Hockey). His birthday, 29th August is celebrated as National Sports Day. Major Dhyan Chand was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1956. In 2021, the government of India renamed the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award to Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award to honour him.
22. **Indira Gandhi:** Born in Allahabad, United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, British India (Present day Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh), Indira Gandhi was the first and only female prime minister of India. Her family ultimately became the most important political family in India, with her son Rajiv Gandhi becoming a prime minister, and her daughter-in-law becoming the president of the Indian National Congress after the death of Rajiv Gandhi. She

was the longest-running prime minister of India after her father, Jawaharlal Nehru, and her prime ministerial tenure saw much unrest due to India's involvement in the freedom movement of East Pakistan which led to the creation of Bangladesh. She instituted a state of emergency between 1975 to 1977 during which widespread atrocities were carried out.

Tribes

- Agariya Tribe:** One of the Scheduled Tribes of Uttar Pradesh is the Agariya people. During the years of British rule, the ones who lived in and around Mirzapur were involved in the mining of iron.
- Aheria Tribe:** An ethnic community of people in India, Aheria is mainly found in the state of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan. Before the 1920s, they were mainly hunters but later they became farmers.
- Baiga Tribe:** Commonly found in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, the Baiga tribe also has some sub-castes like Nahar, Bijhwar, Narotia, Kadh Bhaina, Rai Bhaina, Bharotia etc. This tribe practices shifting cultivation in the forest. As they never plough the same patch of the earth, again and again, they lead a semi-nomadic life. Baigahase tattooing is an integral part of their lifestyle. They are the successors of the Dravidians.
- Beldar Tribe:** A part of the Scheduled Castes, Beldar are originally from Uttar Pradesh. The Kewat community is claimed to be their ancestors and has a history of moving from one place to another. Bind Tribe of Uttar Pradesh: The Bind tribe is found in Uttar Pradesh and belongs to the Other Backward Caste. This community claims that they belong to the Simha community and are different from the other castes including the Bin in Bihar. They have originated from the Vindhya Hills located in the central part of India.
- Buksa Tribe:** Living mainly in the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, the Buksa people are indigenous people who have been granted the status of the Scheduled Tribe.
- Chero Tribe:** Found in the states of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in North India, the Chero is a scheduled caste, a community that claims to have been originally the Chandravanshi Rajputs. They belong to one of the tribal communities that are residents of the southeastern parts of Uttar Pradesh like the Kol and Bhar. They ruled northern parts of Bihar until the Rajputs disposed them off. Now, they can be found in the areas that extend from Muzaffarpur to Allahabad. They are subdivided into Chaudhary and Mahto.
- Ghasia Tribe:** The Ghasia are one of the many tribal communities from Sonbhadra and Mirzapur in the southern parts of Uttar Pradesh. According to their claims, at some point in time, they were the rulers but since they lost their rulings, they started cultivation.
- Kol Tribe:** Mainly found in the Allahabad, Varanasi, Banda and Mirzapur districts, the Kol is the largest tribe in Uttar Pradesh. As stated in history, this community migrated from the central parts of India almost 5 centuries ago. They are one of the Scheduled Castes available in UP.
- Korwa Tribe:** The Korwas, a Scheduled Tribe found in the Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh is an economically and socially poor community. They are isolated tribes and most of them are hunter-gatherers.

GI Tags

Allahabad Surkha	Lucknow Chikan Craft	Mango Dusseheri	Malihabadi	Banaras Brocades and Sarees
Farrukhabad Prints	Agra Durrie	Hand made Bhadohi	Carpet of	Banaras Brocades and Sarees (Logo)
Lucknow Zardozi	Kalanamak Rice	Firozabad Glass		Kannauj Perfume
Kanpur Saddlery	Moradabad Metal Craft	Saharanpur Wood Craft		Handmade Carpets of Mirzapur
Handmade Carpets of Banaras	Agra Petha	Mathura Peda		Nizamabad black clay pottery
Varanasi Wooden Lacquerware & Toys	Meerut Scissors	Khurja Pottery		Banaras Gulabi Meenakari Craft
Mirzapur Handmade Dari	Basmati	Banaras Metal Repouse Craft		Varanasi Glass Beads
Ghazipur Wall Hangings	Varanasi Soft Stone Jali Work	Chunar Balua Patthar		Gorakhpur Terracotta

State Symbols

State Animal	Swamp deer (Barasingha)
State Bird	Sarus crane
State Tree	Ashoka
State Flower	Palash
State Dance	Kathak
State Sport	Hockey


State Government Schemes

- Old Age Pension Scheme:** Under Old Age/Farmer Pension scheme, those old-aged people who are 60 years of age or above and whose income from all sources in rural area is up to Rs. 46,080/- and in Urban areas Rs. 56460/-, are eligible under pension scheme. Under this scheme, people of 60 years or above will be given a pension amount @ RS. 500/- per month on quarterly basis.
- Matrabhumi Yojana:** This Matrabhumi Yojana aims to make the common man a direct participant in the development work of the state and strengthen participatory rural economy and infrastructure. The government will bear 40 per cent of the total cost of the project (construction of a community building, hospital, school, or common service centre, among others) while the remaining 60 per cent will be contributed by common citizens if interested. In return, the project will be named after the relatives of the collaborators as per their wishes.
- Prabhu Ki Rasoi Yojana:** The purpose of the scheme is to provide one-time free meals for poor peoples in the state. State govt. has announced that Administrative officials, NGOs and industrialists must come forward and support this scheme. Govt. would provide full support to the scheme through the administrative officers.
- Swami Vivekananda Etahasik Paryatan Yatra Yojana:** The state govt. will provide Rs. 12,000 each to a selected number of workers for pilgrimage visits under UP Labourers Scheme for Religious Travel. Those workers who have employed in around 6.5 lakh commercial establishments and 20,500 factories and workshops in UP can undertake religious travel.
- Berojgari Bhatta Yojana:** UP govt. will provide Rs. 1000-Rs. 1500 per month as financial assistance to the eligible beneficiaries. Unemployed candidates who are struggling to get a job can utilize this money to enhance their skills.
- Jansunwai – Samadhan :** It is an integrated system for grievance redressal in Uttar Pradesh to achieve the goal of good governance using latest technology involving all stakeholders. A citizen can freely and conveniently file a grievance, track the grievance lodged on all important platform and receive response to his satisfaction both in terms of quality and time. Along with lodging of complaints, citizen can also interact with Government/Departments/Offices in an easy and transparent manner. Complaints from all sources will be available on a single platform to all departments which will improve access, redressal & monitoring.
- Kanya Sumangala Yojana:** It is a conditional cash transfer scheme to ensure social security for a girl's child & her development. It provides conditional cash transfers to a girl child at different stages of her life. The total remittance is Rs. 15,000 per beneficiary. Along with the improvement in the health and education of girls, their dropout rates would get reduced. It will prevent social evils like female foeticide and child marriage. Moreover, girls will get an opportunity to advance towards higher education and employment. This scheme will assist girls of UP state from their birth till their graduate studies.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

- Tamil sangamam in Varanasi to be opened by Prime Minster:** PM Modi inaugurated the Kashi Tamil sangamam in Varanasi. The objective of sangamam is to rediscover, reaffirm and celebrate the age-old links between Tamil Nadu and Kashi - two of the country's most important and ancient seats of learning.
- Uttar Pradesh government forms the state's first all-woman PAC battalions:** The Uttar Pradesh government announced the formation of the state's first three all-woman battalions of the Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC). Also, women's help desks were set up at all 1,584 police stations of the state by appointing women to beat constables. The battalion has been named after Veer Naris.

- Uttar Pradesh govt bags Rs 16,000-crore deal for data centre projects:** Under this proposed policy, the state is planning to set up smaller capacity data centres in the hinterland across the state. The policy will aim to attract private sector investment to attain Rs 30,000 crore in the next five years. Data centre projects in UP include those of Hiranandani Group, Adani Group, NTT Japan, and Web Werks, among others.
- Centre approves Terai Elephant Reserve in Uttar Pradesh:** Uttar Pradesh is all set to get a new elephant reserve soon, as the Union ministry of the forest, environment and climate change (MoFECC) have given its nod to the Terai Elephant Reserve (TER), which will be spread in a 3,049 sq km area, including Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) and Pilibhit Tiger Reserve (PTR). It will be the second elephant reserve in UP and India's 33rd.
- Uttar Pradesh tops in the country, 8462 lakes developed under Mission Amrit Sarovar:** With the construction of a total of 8462 Amrit Sarovars (lakes), Uttar Pradesh has topped among states in the implementation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious mission, which is aimed at conserving water for the future. Madhya Pradesh is ranked second, Jammu and Kashmir third, Rajasthan fourth, and Tamil Nadu fifth in the implementation of Mission Amrit Sarovar.
- UP govt gives nod to Bundelkhand's first tiger reserve:** In a bid to promote tiger conservation in the state, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet gave a green signal for the development of the first tiger reserve in the Bundelkhand region. In a meeting chaired by the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the cabinet approved to notify Ranipur Tiger Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.
- Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approves night safari park, zoo in Lucknow's Kukrail forest area:** The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved the proposal for a night safari park in Lucknow district's Kukrail forest area. As part of the project, the government will establish a zoological park on around 150 acres and a night safari on 350 acres without disturbing the dense 2,027hectare forest in the forest area's eastern and western blocks.



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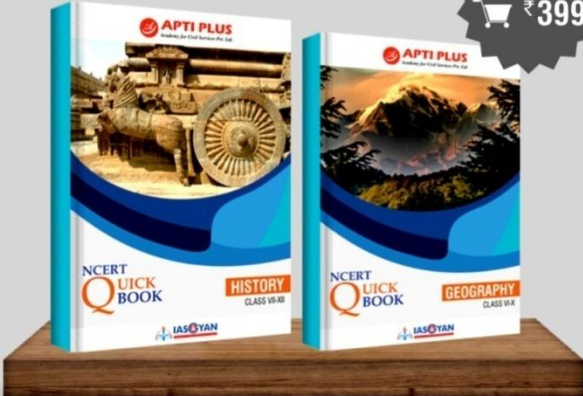
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- Uttar Pradesh govt gears up to build India's first education township:** As a first, the Uttar Pradesh government

is planning to build an education township in the state. As per the Yogi Adityanath government, the education township will be developed on the idea of 'Single Entry, Multiple Exit'. The government said the move will provide high-quality education to the youth and equip them with a variety of professional skills in a single place.

9. **President Kovind inaugurates Sant Kabir Academy and Research Centre in UP:** President Ram Nath Kovind paid tributes to Sant Kabir and inaugurated Sant Kabir Academy and Research Centre and Swadesh Darshan Yojana on June 5, 2022) at Kabir Chaura Dham, Maghar, Uttar Pradesh. He described Kabir's life as an ideal example of communal solidarity. His Samadhi and Mazar exist in the same premise which is a rare example of communal unity.
10. **UP launches 'Sambhav' portal for disposal of public grievances related to energy:** Minister for energy and urban development Arvind Sharma has launched the SAMBHAV (Systemic Administration Mechanism for Bringing Happiness and Value) portal for disposal of public grievances and monitoring programmes and schemes of the two departments.
11. **UP's Jhansi Railway Station Renamed As 'Veerangana Laxmibai Railway Station':** The Uttar Pradesh government has renamed Jhansi Railway Station as 'Veerangana Laxmibai Railway Station' after Rani Laxmibai. Earlier the Mughalsarai Railway station was renamed as Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya junction and the Faizabad Railway station as Ayodhya Cantt. Faizabad and Allahabad districts, were renamed as Ayodhya and Prayagraj, respectively.

Demand for dividing Uttar Pradesh into smaller states

- In 2011, then UP Chief Minister and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief, Mayawati, passed a resolution in the Assembly to split UP into four smaller states - Purvanchal, Bundelkhand, Awadh Pradesh and Paschim Pradesh - in the interest of providing better administration.



Reasons for the Demand:

- The present state of UP, often referred to as the "Hindi heartland" of India, was not a distinct political identity before it came under British Rule. The British acquired different territories forming parts of the state over a long period. In 1902, the new entity was given the name of "United Provinces of Agra and Oudh," after independence, state was given the name of Uttar Pradesh.
- Even after a long period of administrative continuity, UP has failed to develop a distinct regional identity unlike many other states of India. The state is marked by considerable cultural heterogeneity and divided on the basis of caste and religion. Linguistically the state is Hindi speaking, though there were distinct regional dialects like Khariboli, Brij Bhasha, Awadhi, Bhojpuri, and Bundelkhandi.

Border Disputes

- **Haryana-Uttar Pradesh Border Dispute:** To settle the boundary dispute between Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, an Act viz, The Haryana and Uttar Pradesh (Alteration of Boundaries) Act, 1979 was notified by the Central Government vide Act No. 31 of 1979. In pursuance of the provisions of the Act ibid, the Dixit Award was passed by the Government of India and boundary pillars were erected between the boundaries of both the states with the assistance of Survey of India. Over a period the boundary pillars have been washed away due to the flow of river Yamuna.

Issues and Challenges of Uttar Pradesh

1. Poverty

- U.P. is home to the world's largest number of poor.
- 75% of Rural households are dependent on Agriculture for their livelihood.
- Lower castes and women form a big part of the population living below the poverty line.
- Region with high impoverishment: Urban Southern Region (SR), rural Eastern Region (ER), and in both rural and urban areas of Central Region
- **Challenges:**
 - Generation of opportunities
 - Making the poor aware and conscious of opportunities
 - Protecting the poor and vulnerable

2. High Infant Mortality Rate and Poor Children Health

Infant Mortality Rate (2015-16): 64 per thousand live births

- U.P.'s infant mortality rate is very high in comparison to the Infant mortality rate in India, which stood at 41 per thousand live birth in 2015-16.

The severity of Situation:

1. 46.3% of children have stunted growth (low height for age)
2. 17.9% children come under wasted category (low weight for height)
3. 40% children are underweight

Reasons for such a high mortality Rate:

1. Unavailability of specialist doctors.
2. Lack of Adequate nursing staff
3. Lowest health workers share in India (19.9%)

3. Lack of Quality Education and Unfulfilled Educational Goals

Issues: poor learning outcomes, low enrolment in secondary classes, high absenteeism

- Young children are not able to read or write. In fact many cannot recognize letters & digits.
- Despite high enrolment in primary classes, the state of education is not enviable in the state.

4. High Levels of Unemployment

Unemployment in U.P.: 58 per thousand VS Unemployment in India: 37 per thousand

Unemployment in Youth (18 to 29 Age group): 148 per 1000

People migrating for jobs to other states (B/w 2001 & 2011): 5.8 million

Reasons:

1. Low skill levels
2. Low educational attainment
3. Lack of jobs

Steps taken: Government has promised creation of 7 million jobs and Rs 1000 Cr investment in startups in coming 5 years.

5. Access to Electricity

Power Cuts and non-electrification are a grievous issue in the state.

Un-electrified Rural households: 51.8%

This condition prevails in U.P. despite having third largest installed coal capacity in India.