

Planning and Rearrangement Proposal for Temporary Flows & Ephemeral Cities

A Project Submitted
in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements
for the Degree of

MASTER

In

Urban and Regional Planning

By

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BABU BANARASI DAS UNIVERSITY

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The thesis has not been submitted elsewhere for a degree. YES NO

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the work, which is represented by me in this dissertation, entitled “**PLANNING AND REARRANGEMENT PROPOSAL FOR TEMPORARY FLOWS & EPHEMERAL CITIES: case study of PRAYAGRAJ**”, in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of **Master In Urban And Regional Planning** submitted to the School of Architecture and planning, Babu Banarasi Das University Lucknow, is an authentic record of my own work carried out during the period from **February 2023 to June 2023** under the supervision of **DR. MOHIT AGARWAL**, School of Architecture and planning, B.B.D. University Lucknow Uttar Pradesh ,India.

The matter embodied in this thesis has not been submitted by me for the award of any other degree of this or any other institute.

Date - ___/___/2023

Place – Lucknow

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ASHUTOSH KUMAR SINGH

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ABSTRACT

Human settlements have always included and in fact started out with temporary settlements. The movable animal skin tents of the hunter-gathers to the latest military camps, the world has come a long way. These settlements are ephemeral in nature, lasting for a very short time.

Ephemeral settlements are completely heterogeneous in nature. There is not one common thing or factor between two such settlements. This can be attributed to the fact that each settlement has a unique site, place, context and time frame. However, all these instances of ephemeral settlements usually revolve around a modus operandi. A central idea is most often what holds together various aspects of an ephemeral city.

These factors can be anything like religion, celebration, transaction, extraction, disaster, military and refugee. Ephemeral landscapes of religion show us how intensity stretches physical and symbolic boundaries of everyday functional spaces. In this form of the ephemeral, powerful colors, images and fragrances promote possibilities for the temporary, flexible and sacred in the city. They are fostered by situations in which space is modified, totally transformed or even constructed in order to facilitate the practice of faith. The biggest ephemeral mega city existent today is the Kumbh Mela. Each year (Magh Mela) a temporary settlement covering almost 19.42 sqkm of the riverbed area, is constructed by the government of Uttar Pradesh for the pilgrims who come there to take a dip at the holy Triveni Sangam. In this process, lot of manpower, materials, pollution and wastage of money is created. Pressure is also put on the river bed soil.

What if the government adopted a more permanent solution in terms of accommodation and other facilities for the pilgrims in the same location or somewhere close by? Would that save a lot of time and money every year?

Hence this dissertation strives to explore the above-mentioned possibilities and address the ultimate question - **"THE KUMBH MELA: CAN THE EPHEMERAL MAKE WAY FOR THE PERMANENT?"**

ACKNOWLEDEMENTS

It is my pleasure to write this acknowledgment and give thanks to all those who provided me support to do this work and helped me to understand and study this topic, it gives me great pleasure to express my gratitude and thanks to my guide **Dr. Mohit Agarwal**, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture and planning B.B.D. University Lucknow for their valuable guidance, steady encouragement, and strong support to reach to this stage.

My sincere regard to **The Dean Dr. Mohit Agarwal**, “School of Architecture and planning B.B.D. University Lucknow” to let me appear in the final stage of thesis work and providing me the patronage to avail the facilities of this department, otherwise it would not have been possible to do this work. I am thankful to all the faculty and staff members of this department.

Last but the least, I am obliged to **my parents and my family** for giving me freedom to explore and grow professionally and for supporting me.

ASHUTOSH KUMAR SINGH

1210106006

TABLE OF CONTENT

REPORT	ii
CERTIFICATE	iii
CERTIFICATE	iv
DECLARATION	v
ABSTRACT	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
CHAPTER1: INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER2: LITERATURE REVIEW	5
CHAPTER 3: CASE STUDY	7
CASE STUDY 1	7
CASE STUDY 2	11
CHAPTER 4: SITE STUDY	15
CHAPTER 5: SITE LOCATION	32
CHAPTER 6: PROPOSAL	39
CHAPTER 7: REFERENCES	42

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

In recent years, for instance, there has been an extraordinary intensification of pilgrimage practices, which has translated into the need for larger and more frequently constructed structures for hosting massive gatherings.¹ Extreme examples of temporary religious cities are the ephemeral constructions created for the Hajj in Mecca, as well as a series of temporary cities constructed in India for hosting celebrations such as the Durga Puja, Ganesh Chaturthi, and Kumbh Mela—the last a religious pilgrimage that, according to official figures, supports the congregation of more than 100 million people.

Natural disasters and changes in climatic conditions are increasingly displacing people through involuntary journeys, making evident the importance of temporary shelters as holding strategies or short-term solutions. The temporary cities constructed in the Philippines, Haiti, Chile, and several other places, as a result of a natural disaster, are some recent examples.



Forms and Outcomes of Contemporary Pilgrimage

Flows of people are increasing tremendously, not only as an effect of optimization, in the capacity of mobilizing people, but also in more specific contexts. In recent years, for instance, there has been an extraordinary intensification of pilgrimage practices, which has translated into the need for larger and more frequently constructed structures for hosting massive gatherings.

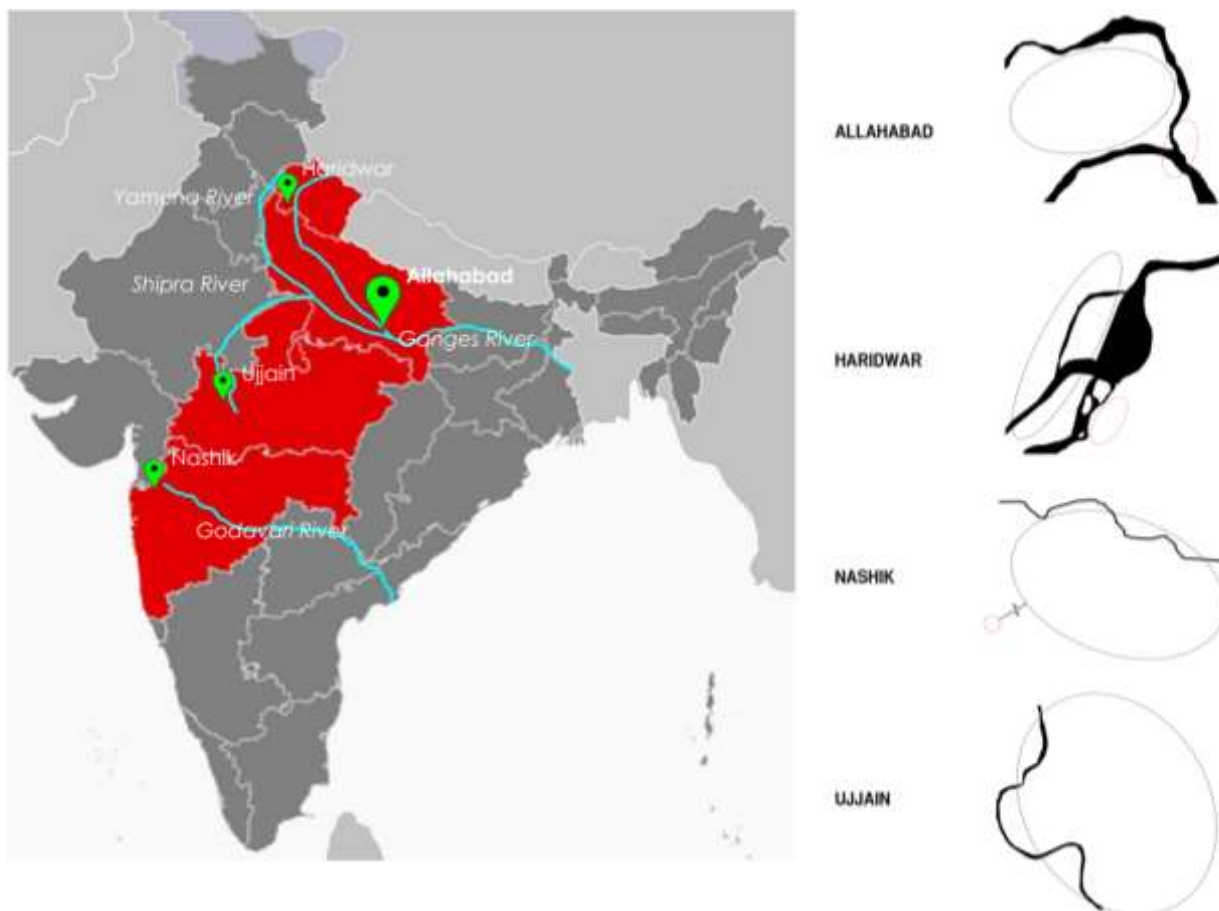
Locations of Kumbh-melas

Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) Kumbh Mela: This is the most famous and widely recognized Kumbh Mela, held at the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. It is considered the holiest of all the Kumbh Melas and takes place every 12 years. The last Prayagraj Kumbh Mela was held in 2019, and the next one is scheduled for 2025.

Haridwar Kumbh Mela: Haridwar, located in Uttarakhand, is another important site for Kumbh Melas. It is held on the banks of the Ganges River, where it enters the plains from the Himalayas. The Haridwar Kumbh Mela takes place every 12 years as well. The last one was held in 2021, and the next one is scheduled for 2033.

Nashik Kumbh Mela: Nashik, a city in Maharashtra, hosts the Kumbh Mela along the banks of the Godavari River. This Kumbh Mela occurs every 12 years as well. The most recent Nashik Kumbh Mela was held in 2015, and the next one is expected in 2027.

Ujjain Kumbh Mela: Ujjain, located in Madhya Pradesh, is another significant site for the Kumbh Mela. It is held on the banks of the Shipra River. The Ujjain Kumbh Mela takes place every 12 years. The last one was held in 2016, and the next one is scheduled for 2028.



NEED OF STUDY

Ephemeral cities offer unique insights into innovative and efficient urban planning and design strategies. Studying these temporary settlements can provide valuable lessons on how to effectively manage and accommodate large-scale events, optimize resource allocation, and create temporary infrastructure that meets the needs of a temporary population.

AIM

Depends less on the rearrangement of buildings and infrastructure, but more on the ability for us to imagine material, technological, social and economic landscapes in a more open and dynamic way.

OBJECTIVES -

- To study the nature and extend of the infrastructural facilities, such as roads, health and hazard , and water etc. to meet the demands of the fast growing casuses in the district and identifying the gaps.
- To ascertain the influence of the tradition
- To make the suitable suggestion for the promotion of tourism
- To review policies and program and to propose suitable guidelines and framework for Vulnerability temporary city.

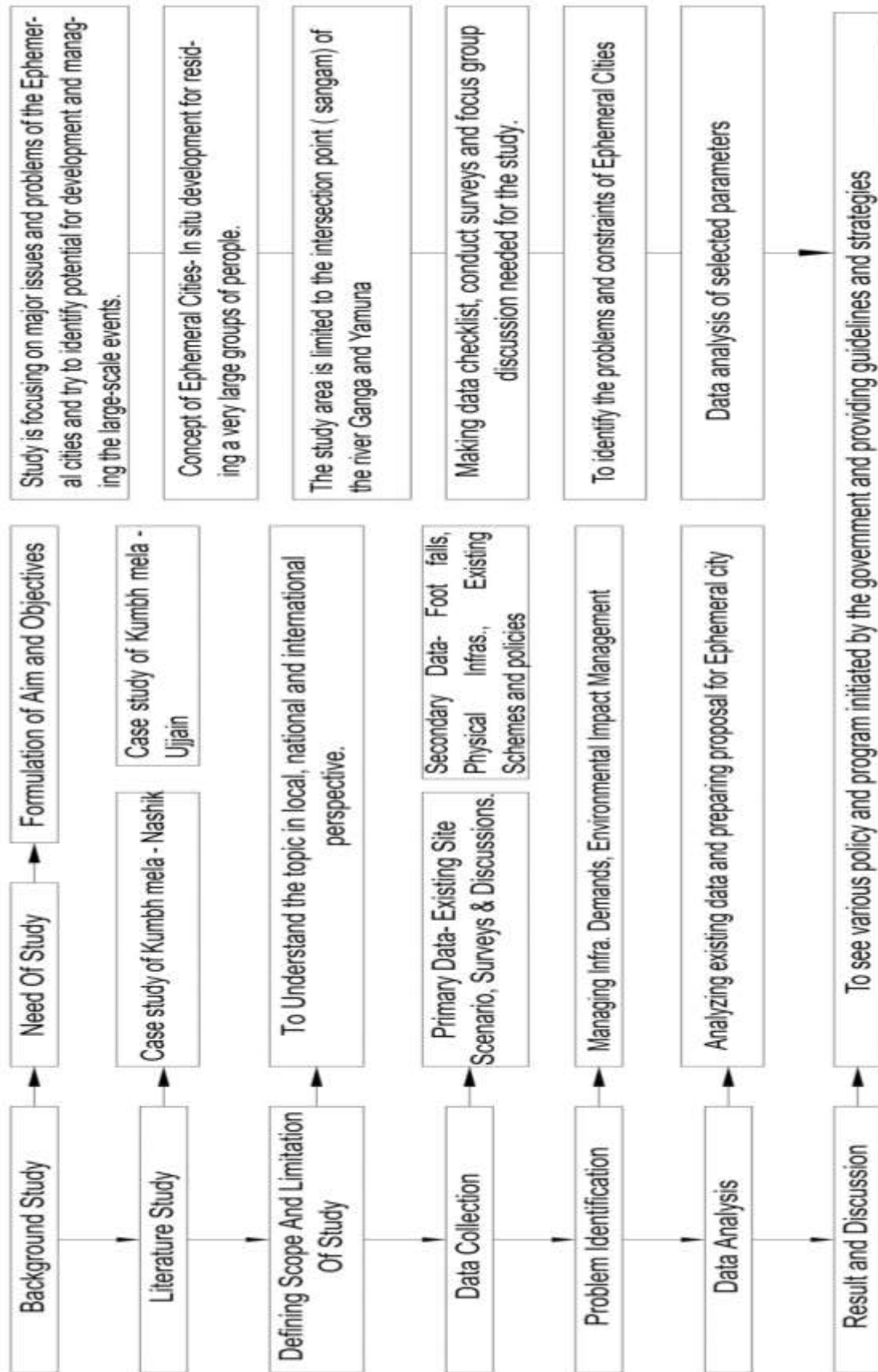
SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of extractive activities, like the ones at play in the Yanacocha mine in Peru, where more than 10,000 temporal dwellers reside, the Maritsa Iztok Mines in Bulgaria, the Motru Coal Mine in Romania, and the Chuquicamata, Salvador, and Pelambres sites in the north of Chile, generate completely different types of temporary settlements, adding to the complexity of dealing with environmental consequences and incredibly large-scale operations that constantly modify the topography of a landscape at a territorial scale. In these cases, the life cycle of temporary cities aligns with the duration of the extractive activity and the presence of resources, so that most of these settlements have a known or predictable date of expiration.

LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

The scope of extractive activities, like the ones at play in the Yanacocha mine in Peru, where more than 10,000 temporal dwellers reside, the Maritsa Iztok Mines in Bulgaria, the Motru Coal Mine in Romania, and the Chuquicamata, Salvador, and Pelambres sites in the north of Chile, generate completely different types of temporary settlements, adding to the complexity of dealing with environmental consequences and incredibly large-scale operations that constantly modify the topography of a landscape at a territorial scale. In these cases, the life cycle of temporary cities aligns with the duration of the extractive activity and the presence of resources, so that most of these settlements have a known or predictable date of expiration.

METHODOLOGY



CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

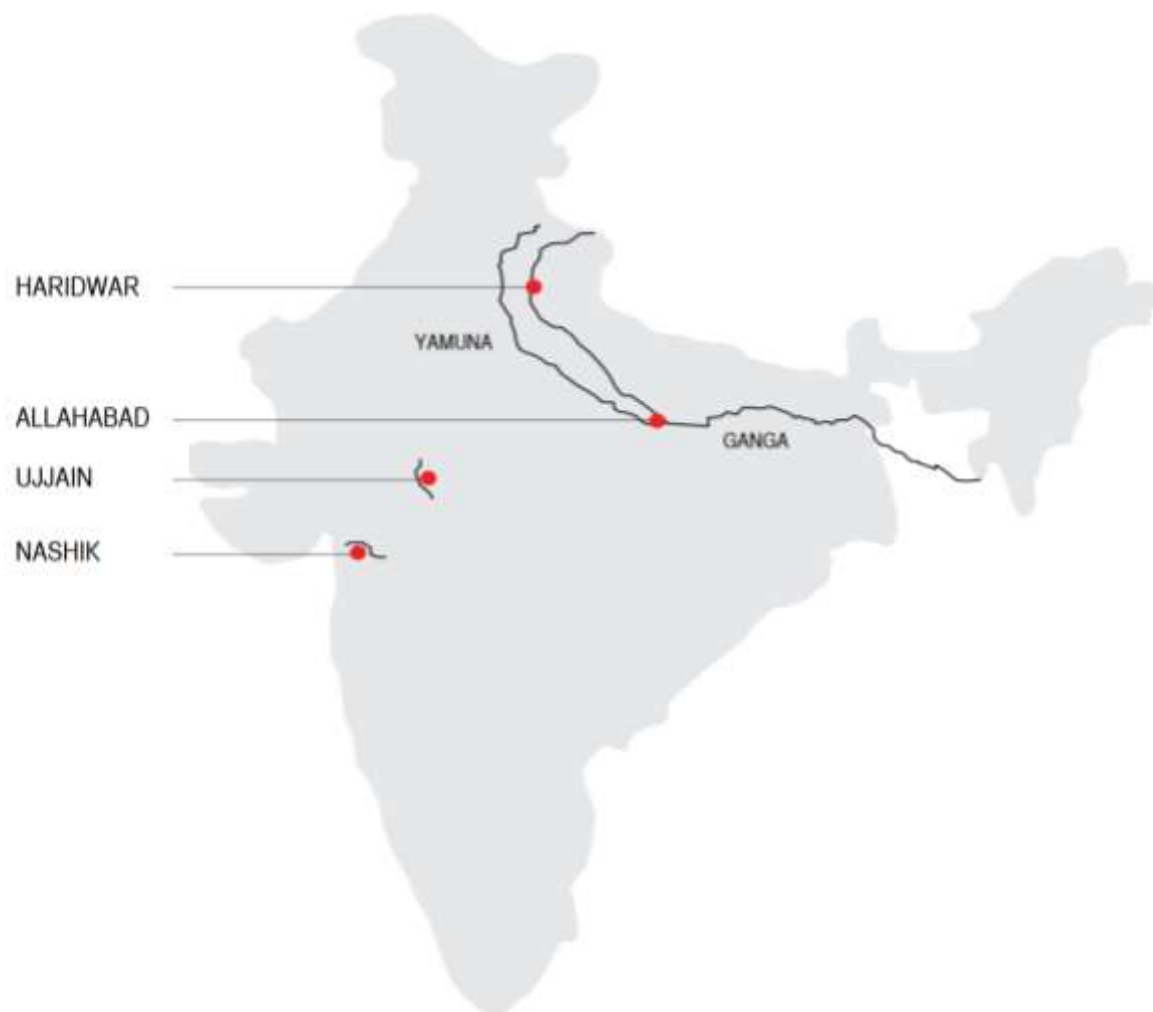
KUMBH MELA

Kumbh Mela The Kumbh Mela is one of the largest peaceful, religious gatherings in the world, with an estimated 120 million people visiting over the two month period. The sheer size of the gathering raises many logistical challenges for the governments that regulate and plan the Kumbh Mela. Historically, the Kumbh Mela has had issues with control and safety of the masses of pilgrims. Part of the solution for controlling the masses of people is the careful planning of infrastructure and built complexes. The Kumbh Mela has continued to grow drastically over time and with it has grown the complex mega-city that gets constructed for each pilgrimage. The Kumbh Mela is a Hindu religious gathering that takes place across India at four different cities along the Holy Rivers of India. The pilgrimage occurs every twelve years at each location, meaning that a gathering takes place around once every three years at one of the four sites. At each of the four locations, pilgrims gather on the riverbanks and floodplains of the Ganges, Yamuna, Shipra, and Godavari Rivers. The primary purpose of the pilgrimage is to bath in the rivers as an act of rebirth.



Types of Melas:

- Maha Kumbh Mela - occurring every 144 years - only in Allahabad.
- Purna Kumbh Mela - after every 12 years - last one took place in January 2001 in Allahabad.
- Ardh Kumbh - 6th year after Kumbh Mela.
- Kumbh Mela - every 3rd years, rotating through Allahabad, Nasik, Haridwar and Ujjain.
- Magh Mela - Annual, held every year except years of Kumbh Mela and Ardh Kumbh Mela Held in Magh (Jan-Feb); hence the name. Only in Allahabad

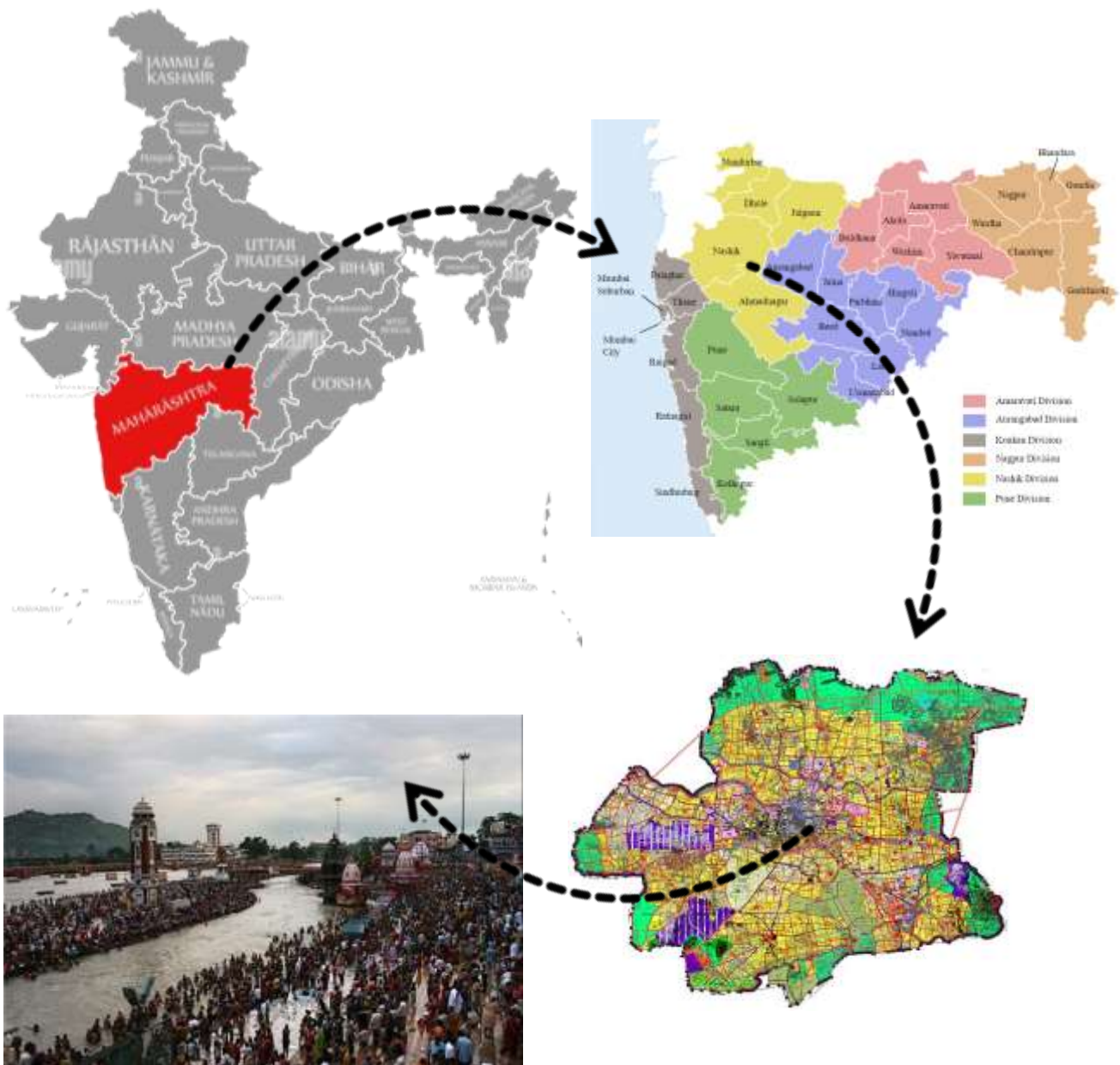


CHAPTER 3: CASE STUDY

STUDY 1 - Mega Events as Catalyst for Urban Transformation A Case of Kumbh Mela in Nashik

INTRODUCTION:

Nashik is an important pilgrim center in India. It is located on the bank of the river Godavari. Nashik is the fourth largest city in Maharashtra and the population of the city as per 2011 census is 14.86 lakhs. It is one of the four cities to host the Kumbh Mela. The Kumbh Mela in Nashik is held after every 12 years at the Ramkund and Tapovan. The Tapovan is the famous area where Lord Rama and Sita stayed for a period of 12 years. The city is well known for its grapes and also known as the 'wine capital of India'. It is well connected by rail and road to all the major cities of the country.



In 2015, Nashik has hosted the Kumbh Mela known as “Sinhastha Kumbh Mela” from July 14 to September 25, 2015. The overall Sinhastha Kumbh Mela includes a collaboration of over 22 Government Departments. This includes the departments of Collectorate Nashik (Kumbhamela Cell), Nashik Municipal Corporation (NMC), Trimbakeshwar Municipal Council, Nashik City Police, Nashik Rural Police, Public Works Department, Irrigation Department, Maharashtra Jivan Pradhikarn, Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation, Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (City), Maharashtra State Electricity Distribution Company Ltd. (Rural), Civil surgeon (For Nashik and Trimbakeshwar), District Health Officer, National Highway Division, Disaster Management Cell, Central Railway, District Information office, Deolali Cantonment Board, Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation, Forest Department, State Archaeology and Central Archaeology.

TYPES OF MELAS IN NASHIK

There are four types of Melas :

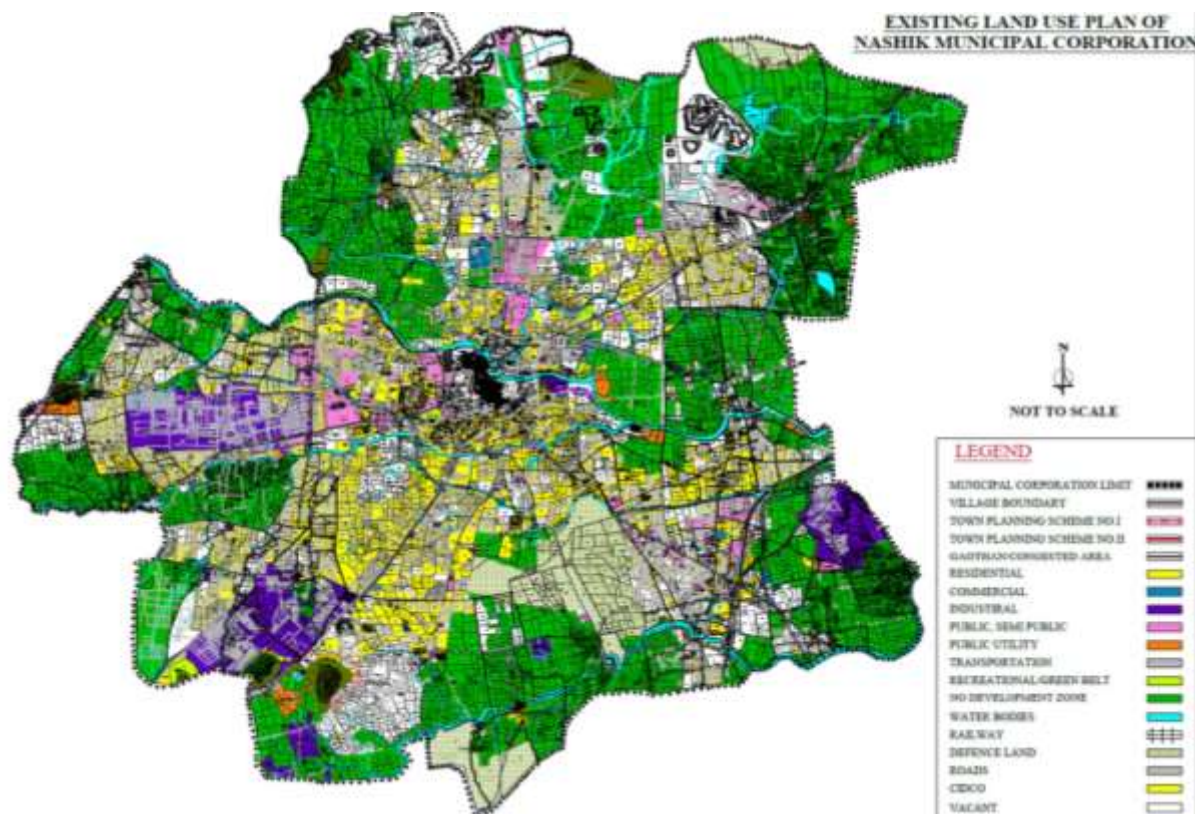
- The Maha Kumbh, which occurs every 144 years, last took place in 2005 in Nashik .
- The Purna Kumbh takes place every 12 years at Nashik.
- The Kumbh takes place every 3 years at all four sites



SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NASHIK KUMBH

- **Kumbh in Monsoon**
 - Unlike other Kumbh Melas, the Kumbh at Nashik is held in the monsoon
 - Average rainfall at Tryambakeshwar is above 2000 mm. Nashik city is 700 mm. overall district 2600 mm
 - Probability floods due to Gangapur dam water release , 10 kms from city
- **Space Availability**
 - Very limited space for Kumbh Mela
 - Location for holy dip (Shahisnan) is in locality and the space for bathe is comparatively very less.
- **Sadhugram**
 - established where space and facilities like water, sewage are provided to Akhadas.
- **No Camps for pilgrims**
 - Pilgrims come before 48 hours in Nashik only on three Parvanis , holy bath days
 - No camp established or no space is provided,
 - More than 50 lakh floating population of pilgrims for a day

LAND USE PLAN OF NASHIK



Nashik kumbh mela

The expected number of sadhus for the kumbh mela-2003 was around one lakhs. For this purpose 100 acres of land was acquired near tapovan and the sadhu camp was erected on this land along with all the infrastructural facilities. The roads on which shahi procession was carried out were widened to carry the large influx of pilgrims. The roads connecting the city to the godavari river were also widened during the kumbh. A new shahi marg was constructed from gadge maharaj bridge to godavari parangan. Majority of projects were undertaken by the Nashik municipal corporation. Various development works carried out by the Nashik municipal corporation for the kumbh mela were:

- Development of sadhu camp
- Augmentation of water supply scheme
- Renovation and beautification of godavari ghats
- Providing various arrangements to avoid the pollution in river godavari
- Construction of roads, bridges and flyovers
- Construction of parking lots
- Provision of medical services
- Implementation of sewerage scheme
- Provision of health and sanitation infrastructure
- The total expenditure done by the Nashik municipal corporation for the various development projects was Rs 230.00 crore.



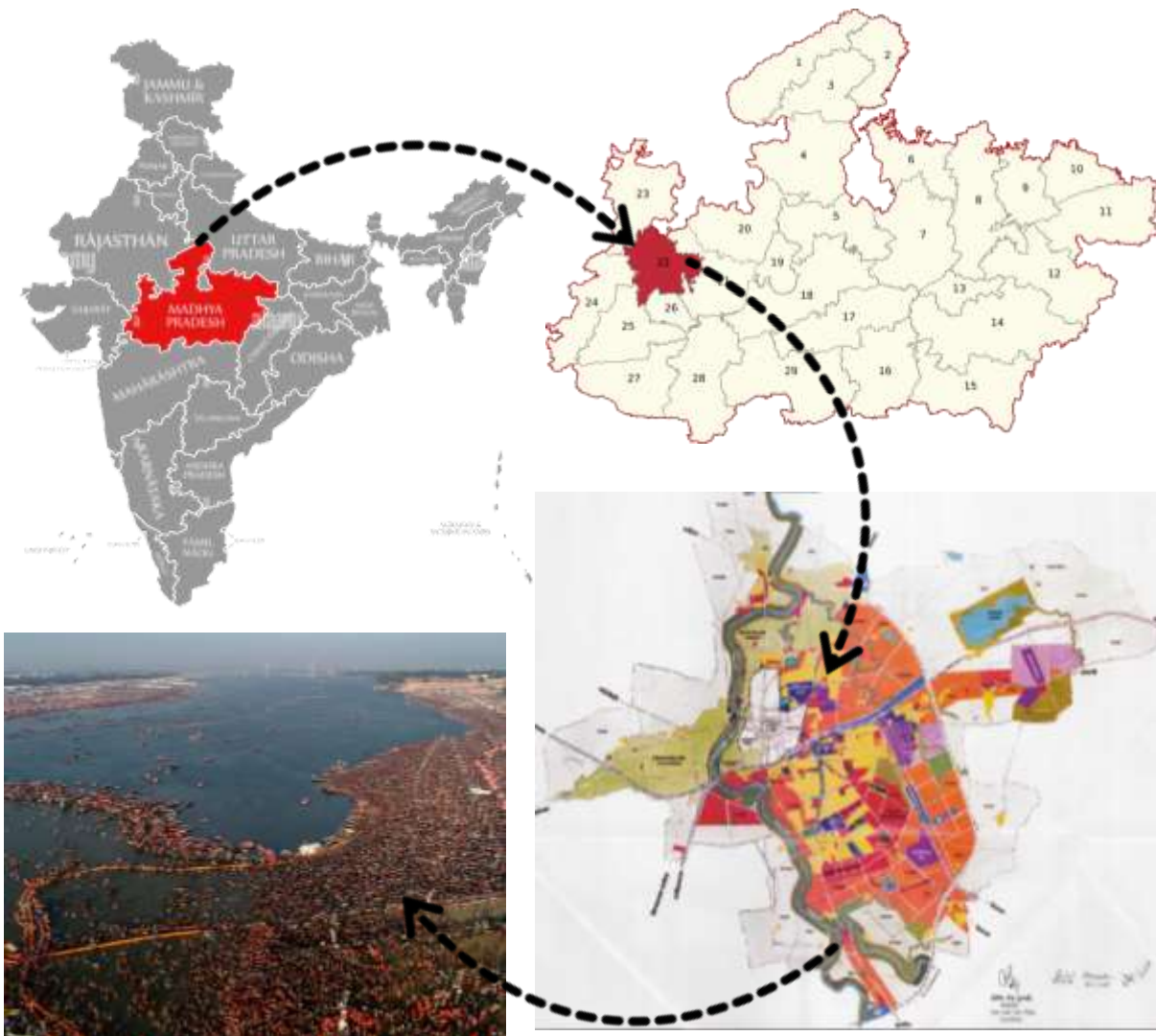
For integrated development plan for kumbh mela:

- Profiling of Nashik (greater nashik(gr. Nashik, hereafter) includes the area covered within the radius of 40 km from Nashik city centre)
- historic and cultural facilities.
- Land uses, ownership pattern, development context.
- Traffic transportation systems.
- Industrial development.
- Population concentration pattern.
- Occupational structure.
- Projection of population.
- Environmental status pattern..
- Infrastructure coverage.
- Tourism sector assessment of Nashik.
- Understanding prominent tourist spots, activities/attractions at each spot, tourism infrastructure available and tourist response,
- identification of issues/bottlenecks in development of tourism offerings at such spots.

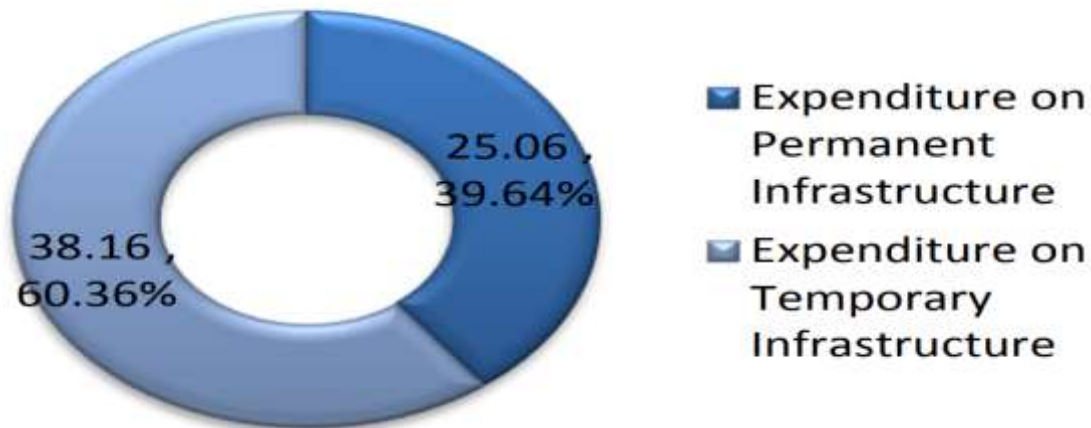
STUDY 2 - Mega Events as Catalyst for Urban Transformation A Case of Kumbh Mela in Ujjain

Introduction

- Ujjain (City of Victory) is an ancient holy city of central India located in the Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh. Ujjain is situated on the Eastern Banks of the River Shipra. It is the city of temples, with more than 2000 temples and is one of the seven most auspicious pilgrimage cities in India. Ujjain derives its identity from religion and pilgrimage. The history of Ujjain dates back to around 5000 years and was one of the most important towns in the history.
- The city was the capital of the Malwa region under kings like Emperor Asoka and Chandragupta II. Ujjain is the home to one of the twelve Jyotirlinga shrines of Lord Shiva, the Mahakaleshwar and attracts maximum number of tourists. It is the place where Lord Krishna received his education from Maharishi Sandipani



Expenditure Pattern- 1992



Ujjain: Impact of Kumbh

The Kumbh Mela in Ujjain started with the small gathering of few hundred Sadhus, who stayed here with no formal arrangements. The arrangements for the Mela started under the Maratha rule and then, after the independence, became the responsibility of the city officials. The planning for the Sinhashta-1992 started in August 1987.

The Kumbh Mela was organized in an area of 1367 hectares and was divided into 3 zones for effective management. The total number of pilgrims and tourist who arrived for the event was around 75,00,000 (75 lakhs) while the population of the city at that time was only 3,62,000 (3.62 lakhs- 1991 census). Various departments were involved in the preparation of the whole event.

PERMANENT INFRASTRUCTURE_SINHASTHA 1992		
S. No.	Projects	Expenditure
1	Gambhir Dam	900.00
2	Chimli Barrage	99.45
3	Harifatak Over Bridge	611.00
4	Bherugad Bridge	80.00
5	Mangalnath Pedestrian Bridge	54.53
6	Nanakheda Bus Depot	72.00
7	Dharamshalas and Pravachan Hall near Mahakal Temple	138.48
8	Development of Ghats on the River Shipra	143.58
9	Other works	407.00
Total		2,506.04

It was the first event to give Ujjain the Legacy Projects and benefit the city residents. The proposals of Rs 5023.53 lakhs were sent to the State Government while the total amount spent for the event was 6322.24 lakhs (U. M. Corporation, Sinhashta Kumbh Mela- 1992 1992).

Tourist Footfall in Ujjain

Ujjain receives a large influx of floating population which ranges from an average of 3,000 tourist on regular day to around 3,00,000 to 5,00,000 pilgrims on special occasions like Nagpanchmi and Mahashivratri. The population of Ujjain is 5,15,215 (in 2011 census) while the expected number of devotees for the Kumbh Mela in 2016 is around 5,00,00,000 (5 crore), of which around 1.5 crore are expected to arrive on a single day of Shahi Snan.

MONTHLY NUMBER OF TOURIST			
	Regular Tourists	Other Festivals ¹	Kumbh Mela
January	5721	30000	0
February	6187	100000	0
March	3521	0	0
April	11564	0	18750000
May	6690	50000	6250000
June	6730	50000	0
July	6632	25000	0
August	4708	400000	0
September	5467	0	0
October	9274	0	0
November	6443	37500	0
December	6397	37500	0

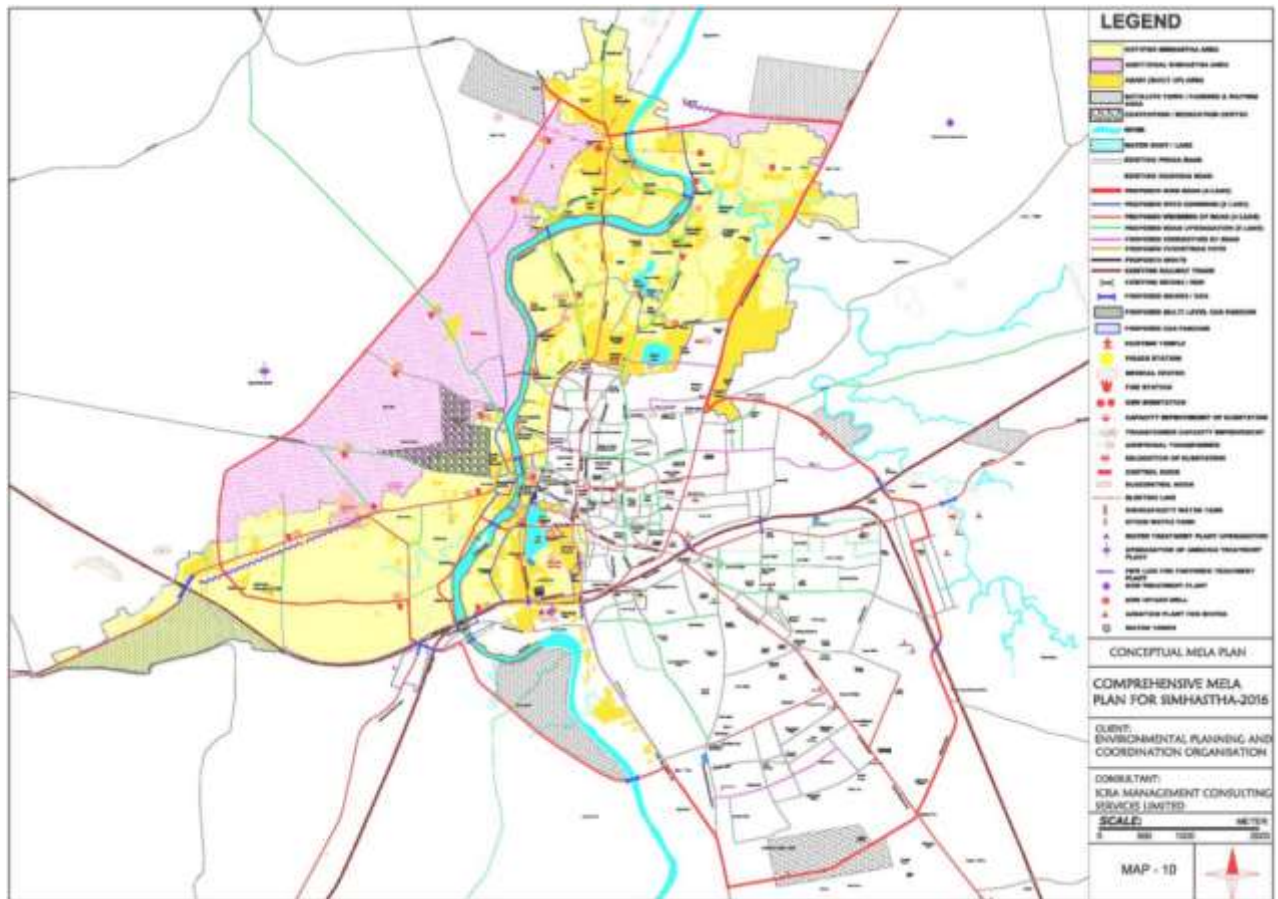
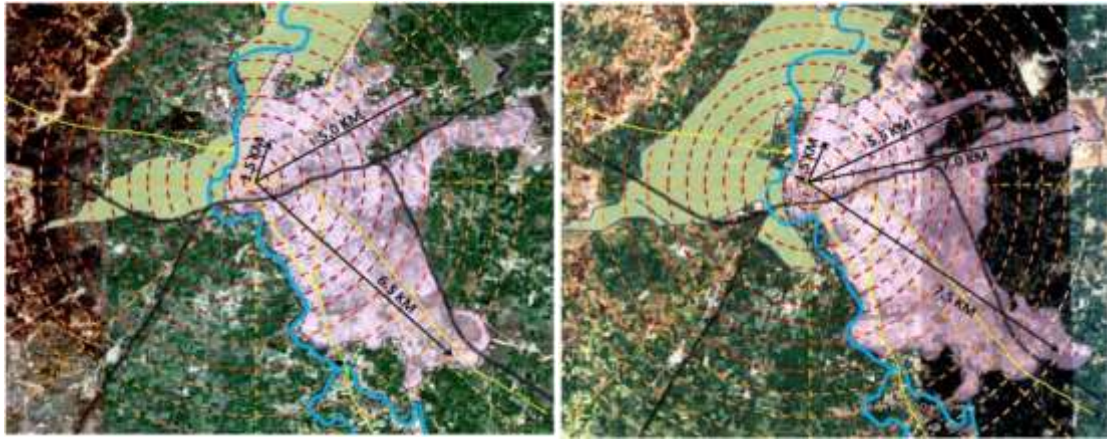


Planning for Mega Event

Kumbh Mela There are four major phases in any Mega Event and similarly for the Kumbh Mela. In the first phase the city builds the required infrastructure and facilities for the event in the stipulated time frame, which are permanent in nature and are a part of the city development. It also includes the capacity analysis and preinvestment studies regarding the expected demand and supply. The first phase is the most important phase in terms of city development as it majorly involves the urban regeneration and development. It includes the construction of roads, water supply and sanitation network .

The growth of the city





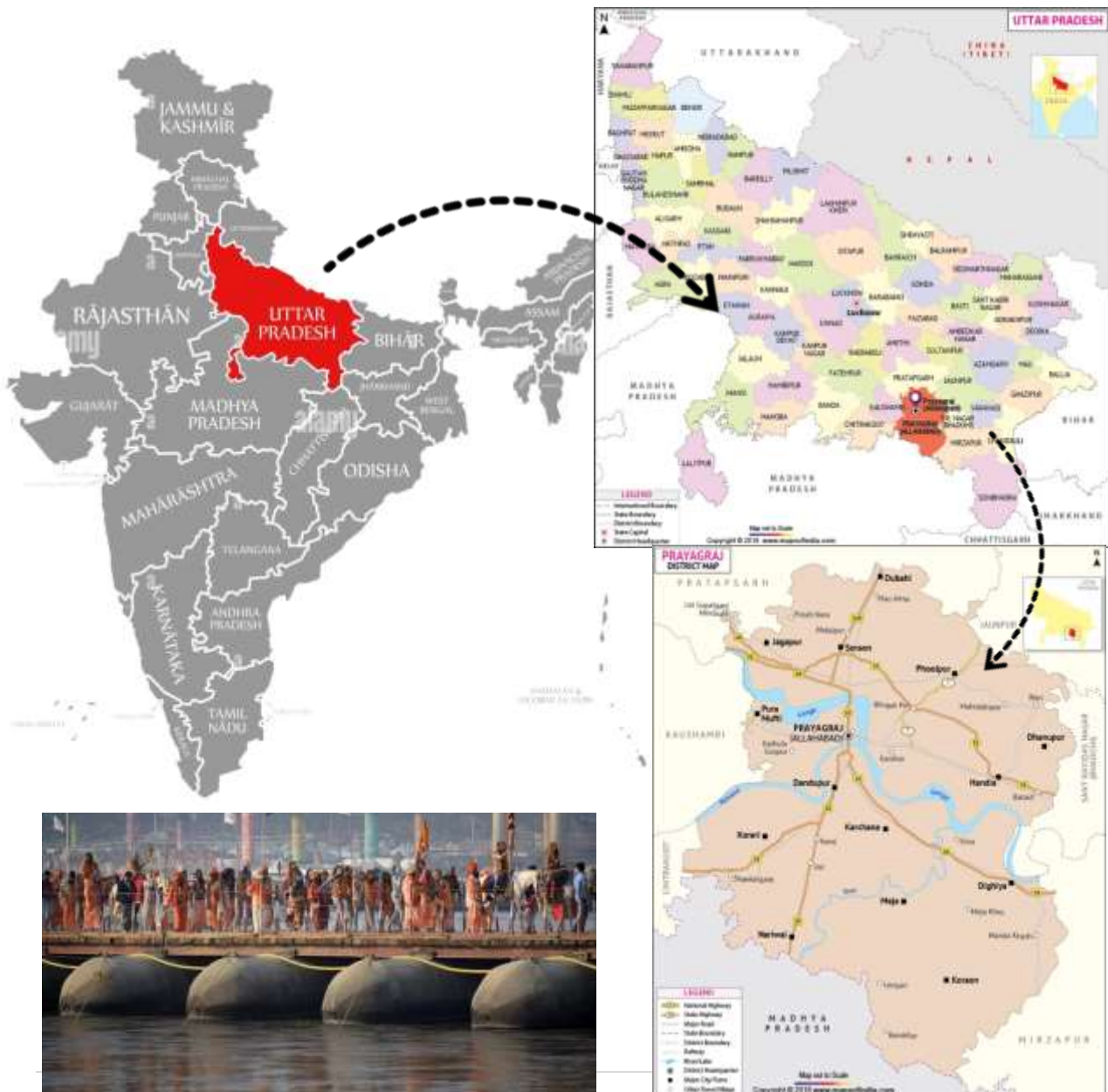
CHAPTER 4: SITE STUDY

INTRODUCTION

The land that is the physical site of the Kumbh Mela functions on a set of temporal cycles. During the festival, it is an urban space, zoned according to the rules of the gridded; during the interim years, it sustains agricultural life. The different melas themselves are categorized according to when they occur in a 144-year cycle, and the different planetary alignments that occur during this period.

There are four types of Melas :

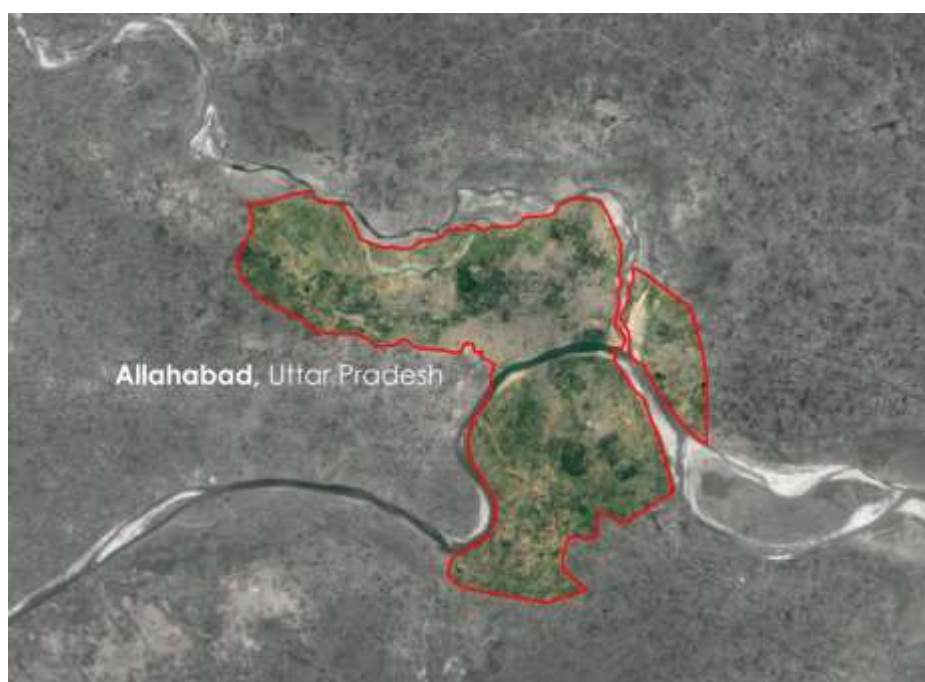
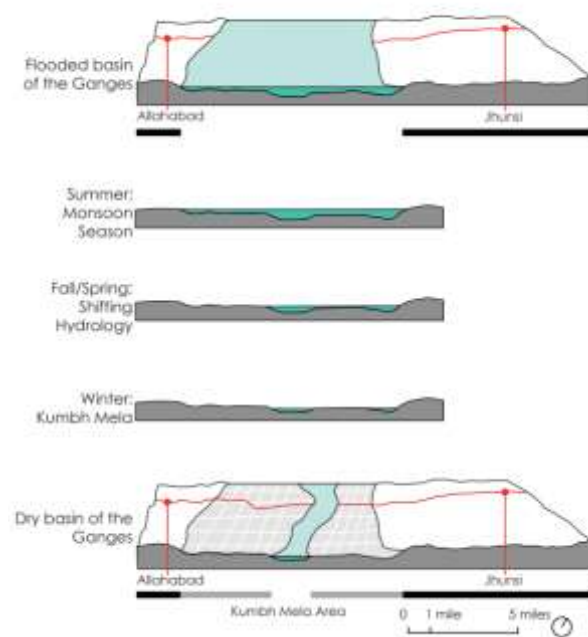
- The Maha Kumbh, which occurs every 144 years, last took place in 2001 in Allahabad
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- The Ardh Kumbh takes place every 6 years at Allahabad and Haridwar only
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Planning for Mega Event

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One of the greatest feats that the Kumbh Mela's temporary city must overcome is the site itself. For much of the year, the river basin is covered with water and is not able to be used for any built structures. The unpredictability of the course of the river is another challenge, as the path of the water changes significantly every time the river floods and drains. Each time the city is constructed, the plan must be adjusted to fit around the current path of the river. As seen in the Google Earth images, the route that the river occupies goes through a great deal of variation.



Bathing Locations

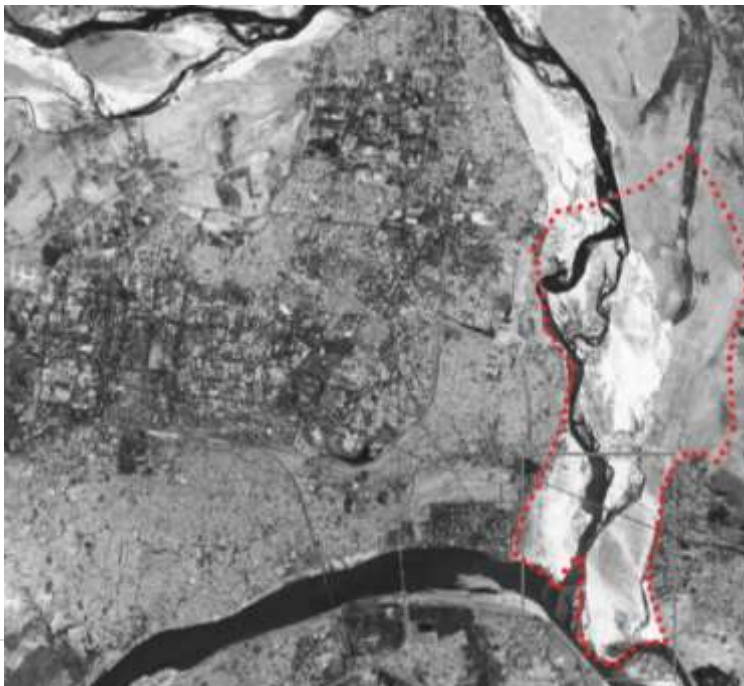


SITE

The confluence of three rivers, or triveni, holds a special place in the Hindu imagination. Allahabad thus draws the largest gatherings of all the Melas, and with each passing festival, reinforces its image as the center of Hindu spirituality.

The area of Allahabad used for the Kumbh is highlighted here in red. It is adjacent to the main city, occupying the ground where the rivers converge.

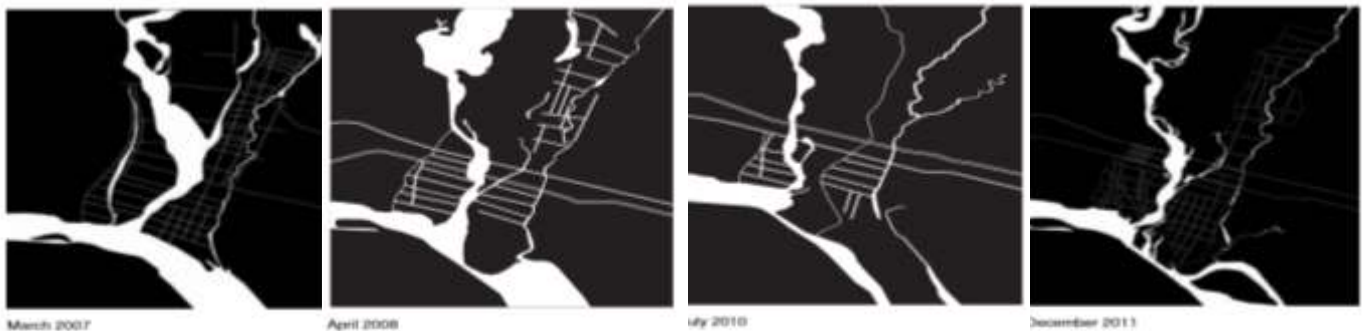
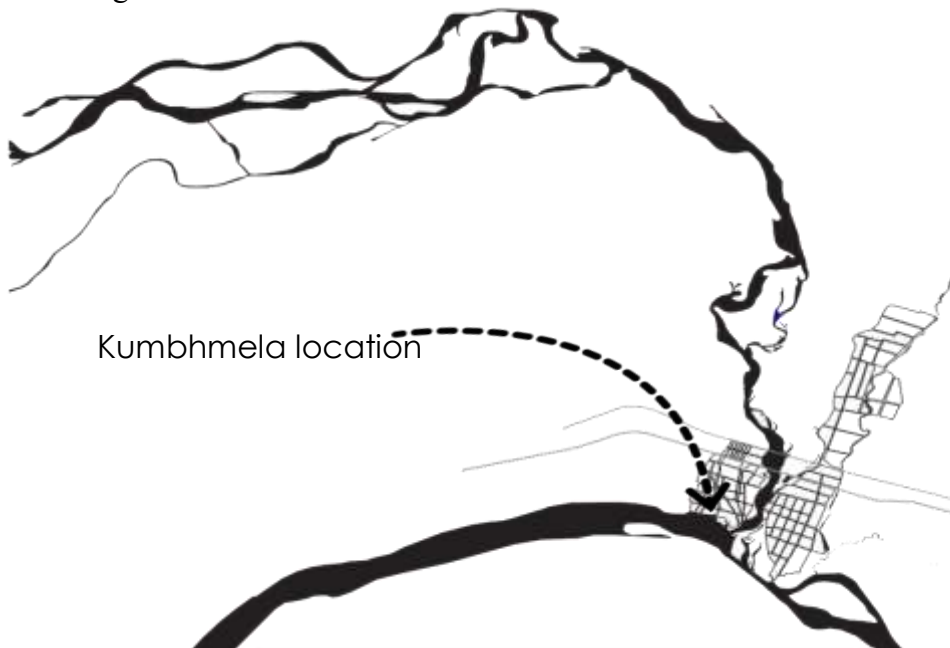
The 2013 festival begins on January 14, with the sacred day of Makar Sankranti. By this time the temporary city will be virtually complete and ready for the Mela which begins on January 27 and extends to March 10, the main bathing day being Mauni Amavasya Snan on February 10.



On each of these days, and the ones in between, pilgrims are scheduled to bathe at particular times and in a specific order. In the past, the ascetics have been allowed to bathe first - at times this has caused some consternation among others, as well as an intense desire to view the spectacle. In 1954, this led to a fatal stampede in Allahabad. Kumbh Mela site, Allahabad 44 45 ALLAHABAD

The most recent Kumbh Mela was held in Allahabad from January 14th until March 10th, a 55 day period. Attracting more than 120 million visitors, the gathering was by far the largest in the history of the celebration. The pilgrimage was actually a Maha Kumbh Mela, “Maha” meaning “Great,” which is celebrated every 144 years in Allahabad. The city of Allahabad is already considered the most holy of four Kumbh Mela locations due to its proximity to the Triveni Sangam. The Triveni Sangam is the confluence of the Ganges and Yamuna Rivers, thus bathing in the waters at Allahabad is more sought after than the single rivers at the other Mela locations.

Year	Number of Attendees
1903.....	400,000
1906.....	2,000,000
1919.....	3,000,000
1930.....	4,000,000
1942.....	2,000,000
1954.....	6,000,000
1966.....	7,000,000
1977.....	10,000,000
1989.....	15,000,000
2001.....	80,000,000
2007.....	70,000,000
2013.....	120,000,000



Geographic transformation of Kumbh Mela site at Allahabad, 2007-2011

Modes of Transportation Available during Kumbh Mela

During the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, various modes of transportation are typically available to accommodate the large influx of pilgrims and visitors. Here are the common modes of transportation that are often available during the Kumbh Mela:

Shuttle Buses:

Special shuttle bus services are organized during the Kumbh Mela to transport pilgrims between different locations within the Kumbh Mela area. These buses facilitate convenient movement between various bathing ghats (riverbanks) and key points of interest.

Boats and Ferries:

Prayagraj, situated at the confluence of the Ganges, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers, offers boat and ferry services during the Kumbh Mela. These services provide transportation across the rivers and facilitate access to different bathing ghats and important areas.

Temporary Pontoon Bridges:

Temporary pontoon bridges are constructed during the Kumbh Mela to connect different parts of the city and ease movement across the rivers. These bridges serve as vital transportation links for pedestrians and vehicles.

Auto-rickshaws and Cycle-rickshaws:

Auto-rickshaws and cycle-rickshaws are common modes of transportation in Prayagraj during the Kumbh Mela. They are available for short-distance travel within the Kumbh Mela area and can be a convenient option for navigating through crowded areas.

Taxis and Private Vehicles:

Taxis and private vehicles, including cars and motorcycles, can be used for transportation during the Kumbh Mela. Taxis can be hired through local services or mobile applications, providing a more personalized and flexible mode of transportation.

E-rickshaws:

E-rickshaws, electric-powered three-wheeled vehicles, are often available as a sustainable mode of transportation during the Kumbh Mela. They are suitable for short-distance travel within the Kumbh Mela area.

It's important to note that the availability and organization of transportation options during the Kumbh Mela can vary from year to year. It is advisable to refer to official sources, local authorities, or the Kumbh Mela administration for the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding transportation arrangements during your visit.

Information and Data

- State: Uttar Pradesh District: Allahabad Government Type: Mayor-Council
- Government Body: Allahabad
- Municipal Corporation Area: 300 sq. miles
- Elevation: 322 feet Population: 1,117,094 people Density: 3,200 people per sq. mile
- Official Language: Hindi
- Religions:
 - Hinduism - 76.03% , Islam - 21.94%
 - Christianity - 0.68%, Buddhism - 0.28%
 - Other - 1.34%

Points of Interest

- A. New Yamuna Bridge
- B. Allahabad Fort
- C. Allahabad High Court
- D. Khusro Bagh Garden
- E. Swaraj Bhavan Mansion
- F. Metropolitan Allahabad



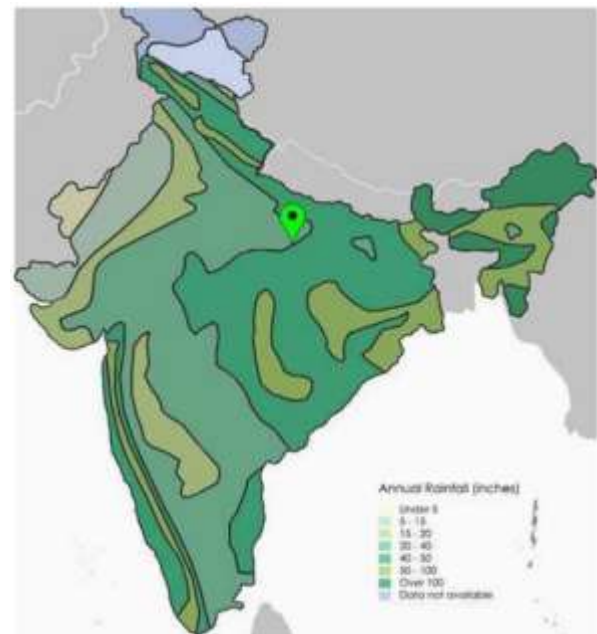
RAINFALL

The annual rainfall in Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) during the Kumbh Mela can vary depending on the specific year and prevailing weather patterns. Prayagraj experiences a monsoon-influenced humid subtropical climate, with distinct wet and dry seasons. Here's a general overview of the annual rainfall in Prayagraj

Monsoon Season: The monsoon season in Prayagraj spans from June to September, with July and August being the peak months for rainfall. During this period, the city receives the majority of its annual rainfall. The average monthly rainfall in Prayagraj during the monsoon season can range from around 200-300 mm (8-12 inches) or more.

Winter Season: The Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj usually takes place during the winter months of January to March. This period is relatively dry with minimal rainfall. The average monthly rainfall during this time is significantly lower, usually ranging from 10-30 mm (0.4-1.2 inches) or even less.

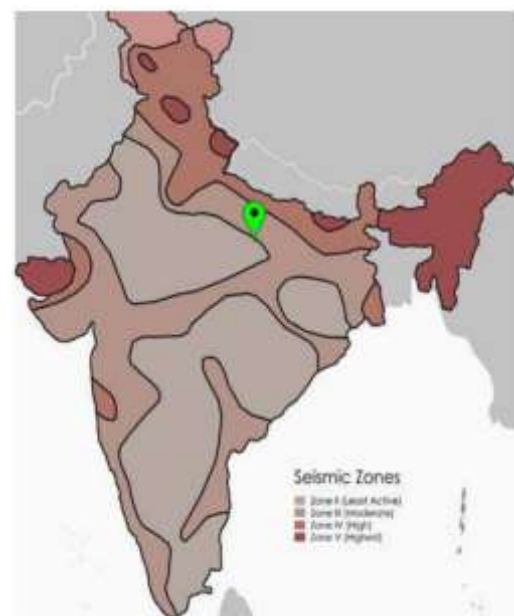
It's important to note that these are general trends, and rainfall patterns can vary from year to year. It's advisable to check the local weather forecasts and consult meteorological sources for the most accurate and up-to-date information on rainfall during the specific year of the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj.



EARTHQUAKE ZONE

Prayagraj is located in seismic Zone III, according to the seismic zoning map of India. Seismic zones are a way of classifying regions based on their vulnerability to earthquakes. Zone III is categorized as a moderate seismic zone, meaning it has a moderate probability of experiencing seismic activity.

While Prayagraj falls within Zone III, it's important to note that seismic activity can occur in any region, and it's always recommended to adhere to safety measures and guidelines in case of an earthquake. During the Kumbh Mela or any other time, it's advisable to stay informed about emergency procedures and follow the instructions of local authorities regarding safety protocols.

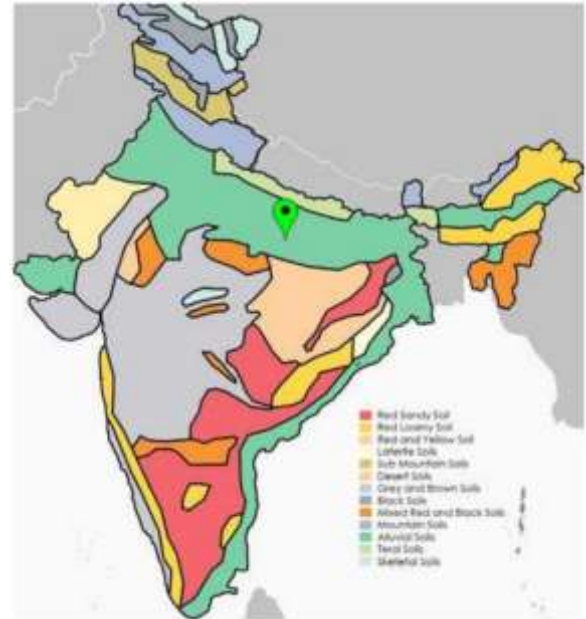


SEISMIC

If you have specific concerns or require detailed information about seismic activities in Prayagraj during the Kumbh Mela, it's recommended to consult local authorities, meteorological departments, or geological surveys for the most up-to-date and accurate information.

The soil type in Prayagraj (formerly Allahabad) can vary, as the city is situated in the Indo-Gangetic plain, which is known for its fertile alluvial soil. The alluvial soil is formed by the deposition of sediments brought by rivers such as the Ganges and Yamuna. This soil is generally rich in nutrients and suitable for agricultural activities. During the Kumbh Mela, the specific areas where the event is organized may have different soil characteristics due to the temporary structures and preparations made for the event. However, the surrounding areas of Prayagraj are predominantly characterized by alluvial soil.

It's important to note that soil composition can vary in different parts of the city, and if you require more detailed or specific information about the soil type in Prayagraj during the Kumbh Mela, it may be best to consult local authorities, agricultural departments, or geological surveys for accurate and up-to-date information.



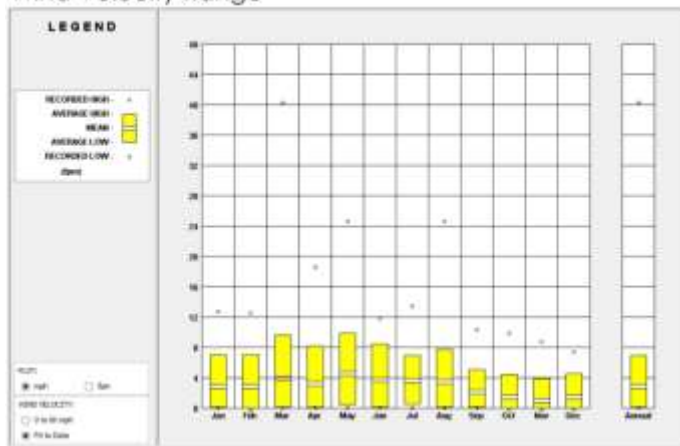
CLIMATOLOGY

During the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, the climate conditions can vary depending on the time of year. The Kumbh Mela is typically held in the winter months and early spring, which span from January to March. Here's a general overview of the climate conditions in Prayagraj during this period:

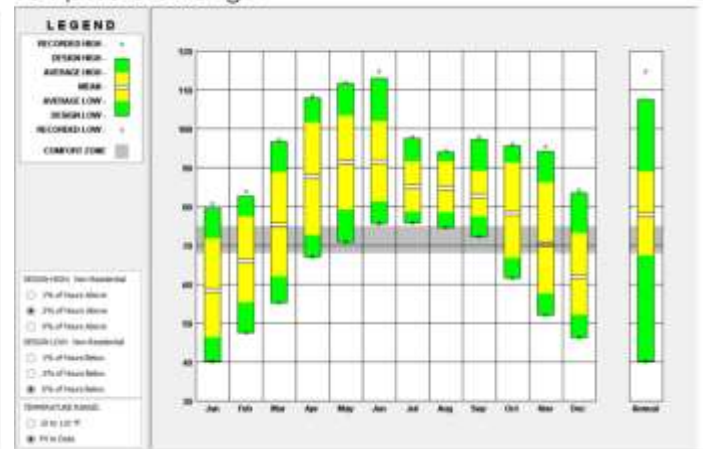
Temperature: In January, the average daytime temperature in Prayagraj ranges from around 15°C (59°F) to 23°C (73°F), while nighttime temperatures can drop to around 7°C (45°F) to 12°C (54°F). As the Kumbh Mela progresses into February and March, temperatures gradually start to rise. By March, the daytime temperatures can range from 25°C (77°F) to 33°C (91°F).

Humidity: Prayagraj experiences moderate to high humidity levels throughout the year. During the Kumbh Mela, humidity levels can vary, but they are generally moderate.

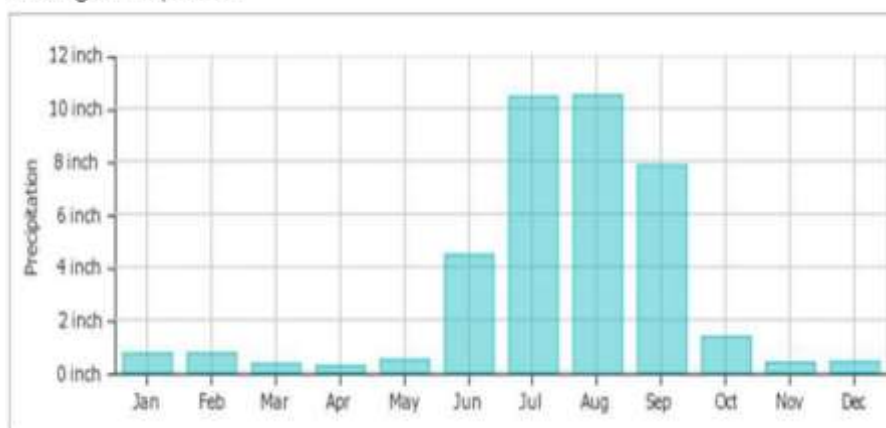
Wind Velocity Range



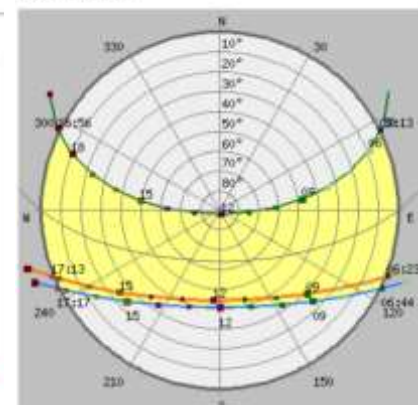
Temperature Range



Average Precipitation



Sun Path



WATER LEVEL OVER THE TIME

One of the greatest feats that the Kumbh Mela's temporary city must overcome is the site itself. For much of the year, the river basin is covered with water and is not able to be used for any built structures. The unpredictability of the course of the river is another challenge, as the path of the water changes significantly every time the river floods and drains. Each time the city is constructed, the plan must be adjusted to fit around the current path of the river.

The route that the river occupies goes through a great deal of variation. The basin of the Ganges River is constantly changing due to the rising and falling of the river's water level. During the summer months, which is monsoon season in Uttar Pradesh, the river basin floods and the Ganges River becomes more than 5 miles wide near the Triveni Sangam. In the winter, when the Kumbh Mela occurs, the water levels are at the lowest.



04/23/2007



04/07/2008



04/04/2011



10/12/2012



01/10/2013



02/17/2013



02/08/2014



03/14/2016

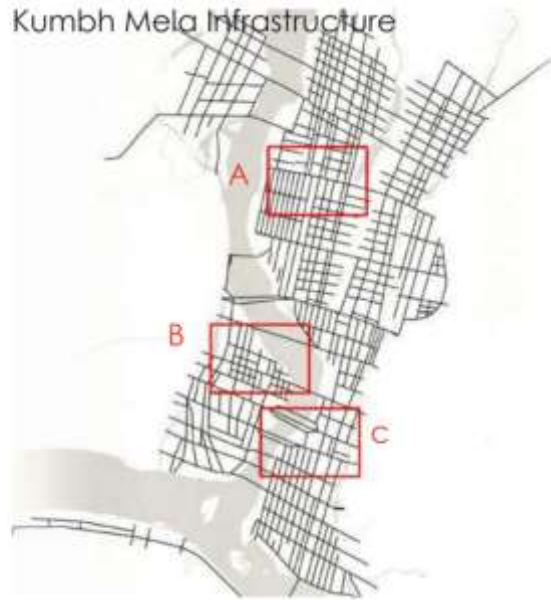
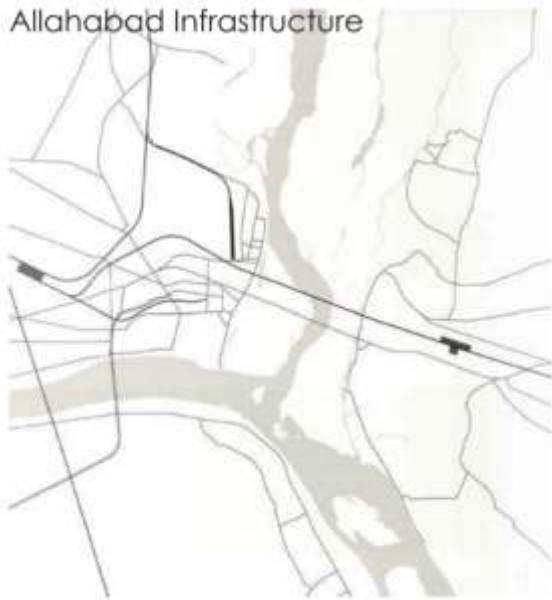


03/27/2017

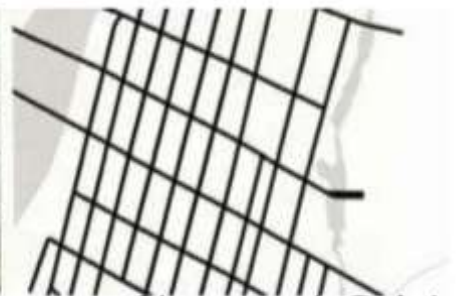
Allahabad and Kumbh Mela Infrastructure

The flow of people into the Sangam is largely dictated by the popular bathing locations along the river bank. During peak bathing hours, the number of people in certain areas of the river is regulated in order to prevent overcrowding and potential incidents.

The flow of people is carefully considered in the planning of pedestrian roads and bridges. One way traffic patterns and checkpoints allow the Kumbh administration to better monitor and control the masses of pilgrims.



A.....Regular Grid



B.....Skewed Grid



C.....Discontinuous Grid

Ganges River During Rainy Season



Ganges River During Rainy Season



TEMPORARY BRIDGE ASSEMBLED ON KUMBH MELA SITE

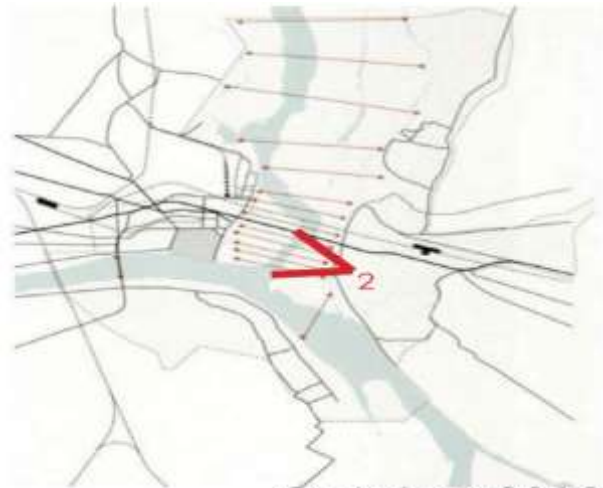
The shifting hydrology of the Ganges River at the Triveni Sangam is integrated into the most basic fabric of the ephemeral city of the Kumbh Mela. In the rainy season, from June through September, the river floods much of the land where the temporary city and infrastructure is constructed. By October, the river is low enough that pontoon bridges can be constructed and put in place along the river. The pontoon bridge material is constructed and deconstructed every year for the Magh Mela. Land throughout designated sectors of the Kumbh Mela masterplan is allocated for the storage of any building and infrastructure materials during the off season.

By November, the rest of the roads and infrastructure is constructed in preparation for the festival to begin in January. By the middle of January, the Kumbh Mela temporary city is fully constructed and the majority of pilgrims are living on the banks of the Ganges. The ephemeral urban explosion proves every year to be a greater spectacle of color, scale, and complexity.

During the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj, additional transportation options are typically made available to accommodate the large influx of pilgrims and visitors. In addition to the modes of transportation mentioned earlier, here are some additional modes of transportation that are often available during the Kumbh Mela:



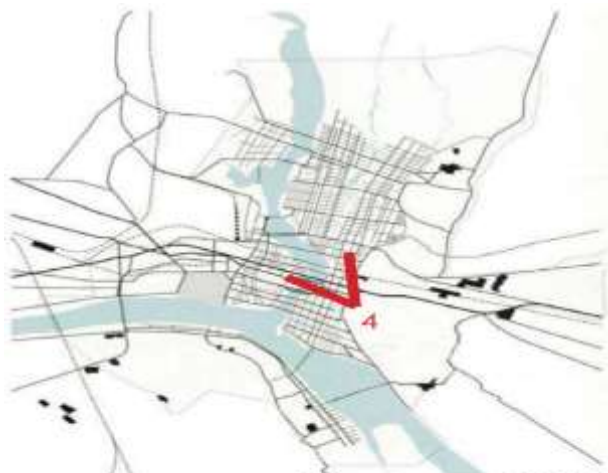
July 2012



October 2012



November 2012



January 2013





March - May (prior)
 _Agricultural land covers the area.
 _Roads designated to transport materials.
 _Assessment of conditions; planning begins.



October (prior)
 _River recedes; damp soil behind.
 _Sector boundaries and roads outlined.
 _Electrical poles begin to be deployed.



December (prior)
 _Major roads completed.
 _Pontoon bridges 75% constructed.
 _Water, telecommunications, and electricity infrastructure deployed.



December-January (prior)
 _All roads completed.
 _All bridges completed.



February (during)
 _100% Kumbh Mela ground occupation.



March-April (after)
 _Tent disassembly; infrastructure removal.
 _Bridge deconstruction; material collection.
 _Agricultural activity resumes.

There are some key points to keep in mind when designing temporary structures for the Kumbh Mela. These points focus on ensuring safety, functionality, cultural sensitivity, and an immersive experience for the millions of pilgrims and visitors.

Safety and Structural Stability: Ensure that all temporary structures are designed and constructed to meet appropriate safety standards and regulations. Conduct structural assessments and incorporate measures to withstand weather conditions, including strong winds, rain, and potential seismic activity.

Scalability and Flexibility: Design structures that can accommodate varying numbers of people, as the attendance at the Kumbh Mela can vary from millions to tens of millions. Provide flexibility in the layout and design to accommodate different activities and events during the Kumbh Mela, such as religious ceremonies, cultural performances, and exhibitions.

Cultural Sensitivity: Incorporate architectural elements and design motifs that reflect the local culture, heritage, and spirituality of Prayagraj and the Kumbh Mela. Respect and integrate traditional craftsmanship and materials in the construction of the structures, showcasing the rich art forms and cultural diversity.

Functional Layout: Plan the layout of the temporary structures to optimize the flow of people, allowing for easy access, navigation, and crowd management. Include dedicated spaces for key activities such as bathing areas, prayer spaces, cultural performances, medical facilities, food stalls, and information centers.

Adequate Facilities: Provide essential amenities and facilities, including clean and accessible washrooms, drinking water stations, seating areas, and resting spots. Designate spaces for medical aid centers, emergency services, and security personnel to ensure the well-being and safety of all participants.

Sustainability and Environmental Considerations: Integrate eco-friendly practices in the construction and operation of temporary structures, including the use of renewable energy sources, waste management systems, and water conservation measures. Minimize the environmental impact by utilizing reusable or recyclable materials and reducing waste generation.

Aesthetics and Visual Appeal: Create visually appealing structures that contribute to the overall ambiance and festive atmosphere of the Kumbh Mela. Use vibrant colors, decorative elements, lighting, and multimedia displays to enhance the visual experience and capture the essence of the event. Remember that these key points should be tailored and adapted based on the specific requirements, guidelines, and regulations set forth by the Kumbh Mela administration and local authorities.

The need for a planning and rearrangement proposal for the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj arises from several key factors:

Managing Large Crowds: The Kumbh Mela is one of the largest religious gatherings in the world, attracting millions of pilgrims and visitors. Effective crowd management is crucial to ensure the safety, security, and well-being of the participants. A well-designed proposal can help address crowd control, minimize overcrowding, and streamline the movement of people within the event area.

Infrastructure Enhancement: The existing infrastructure in Prayagraj may need improvements and expansions to accommodate the massive influx of pilgrims during the Kumbh Mela. This includes enhancing facilities such as roads, bridges, bathing ghats, sanitation facilities, and temporary structures. A comprehensive proposal can identify areas that require attention and provide recommendations for infrastructure development.

Sanitation and Waste Management: With such a large gathering, proper sanitation and waste management systems are essential to maintain hygiene and cleanliness. A well-planned proposal can address the need for sufficient restroom facilities, waste disposal mechanisms, and waste segregation practices to ensure a clean and healthy environment for the attendees.

Transportation and Connectivity: The Kumbh Mela requires efficient transportation systems to facilitate the movement of pilgrims and visitors within the event area. Enhancing transportation infrastructure, providing diverse transportation options, and ensuring smooth traffic flow can help alleviate congestion and enhance accessibility to the various sites and events.

Safety and Security: Given the sheer scale of the Kumbh Mela, safety and security measures are of paramount importance. Adequate arrangements need to be made to handle emergencies, ensure crowd control, and provide medical services. A planning proposal can outline measures to enhance safety, including the deployment of security personnel, establishment of medical centers, and implementation of emergency response systems.

Information and Communication: Effective communication is crucial to provide timely and accurate information to the participants. A well-designed proposal can recommend the use of digital platforms, mobile applications, and information kiosks to disseminate information about schedules, facilities, and important updates.

Accessibility and Inclusivity: The Kumbh Mela should be accessible and inclusive for all individuals, including those with disabilities or special needs. A planning proposal can address the need for accessible infrastructure, assistance services, and facilities to ensure that everyone can participate in the event.

Stakeholder Engagement: A planning and rearrangement proposal involves collaboration and engagement with various stakeholders, including local authorities, government agencies, community representatives, and religious leaders. Such engagement ensures that diverse perspectives and expertise are considered in the decision-making process, leading to a more comprehensive and inclusive event planning.

In some instances, the planning of the Kumbh Mela in Prayagraj has faced the following specific problems:

Crowd Management and Safety: Overcrowding and insufficient crowd control measures have led to stampedes and accidents in the past. Ensuring the safety and well-being of pilgrims and visitors amidst large crowds is a significant challenge that requires robust crowd management strategies, effective queue management, and enhanced security measures.

Infrastructure Development: The existing infrastructure in the Kumbh Mela area may face limitations in terms of capacity and functionality. Inadequate or poorly maintained bathing ghats, temporary structures, and basic amenities like roads, bridges, and sanitation facilities can impact the overall experience and pose logistical challenges.

Sanitation and Waste Management: Maintaining cleanliness and proper waste management during the event has been a recurring problem. Insufficient restroom facilities, inadequate waste bins, and a lack of effective waste disposal mechanisms have led to unhygienic conditions and environmental concerns.

Transportation and Traffic Congestion: Managing transportation and traffic flow within and around the Kumbh Mela area has been a significant challenge. Inadequate parking facilities, traffic congestion, and limited public transportation options have resulted in difficulties for pilgrims and visitors to access the event and move around the area.

Communication and Information Dissemination: Providing accurate and timely information to a large number of attendees has been a challenge. Inadequate signage, information centers, and digital communication channels have made it challenging for pilgrims to navigate the event area and stay informed about important announcements and updates.

Environmental Impact: The Kumbh Mela generates a significant environmental impact due to the large number of people and associated activities. Issues such as pollution, water contamination, and damage to the river ecosystem have been of concern and need to be addressed through sustainable practices and environmental initiatives.

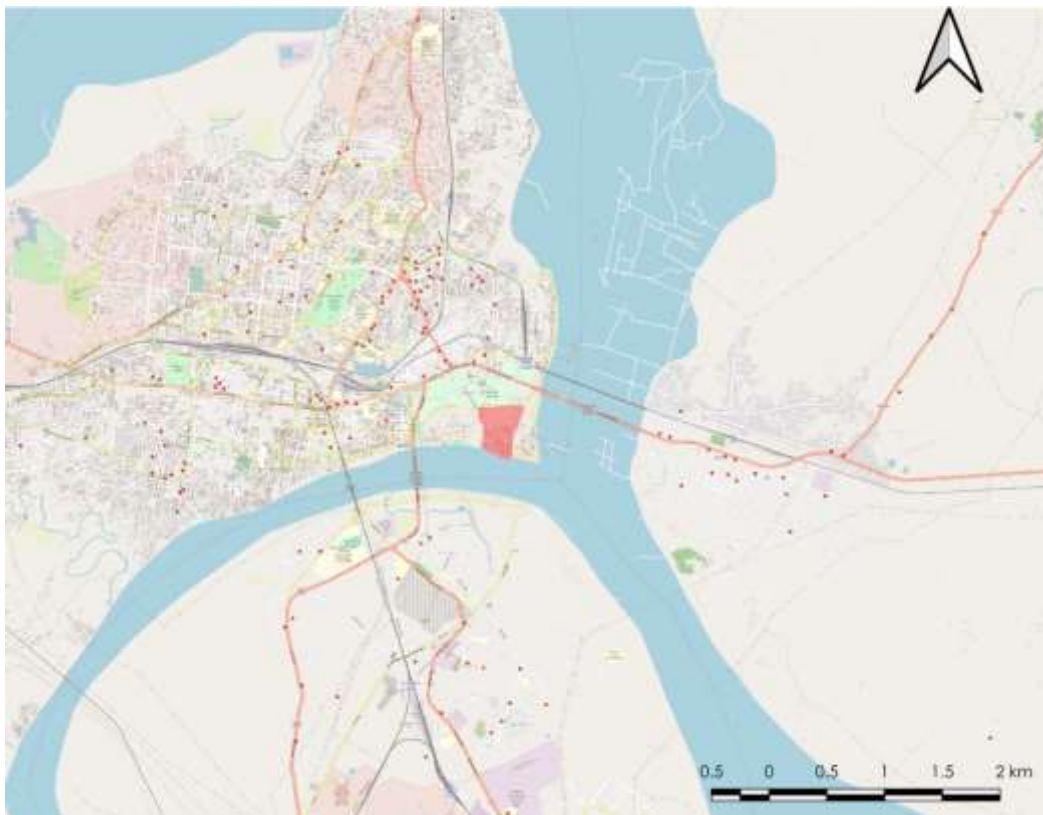
Stakeholder Coordination: The coordination among various stakeholders involved in organizing the Kumbh Mela, including government agencies, local authorities, and religious organizations, has sometimes faced challenges. Ensuring effective collaboration, communication, and decision-making among these stakeholders is crucial for successful planning and execution of the event.

CHAPTER 5: SITE LOCATION

SITE LOCATION

In order to better govern and plan the Kumbh Mela, the areas allocated for the temporary city are broken down into 14 sectors. The divisions are used to facilitate the construction process, in addition to the maintenance of masses of people during the festival. Many of the sectors contain similar program within them, despite the varying sizes of the areas. The areas outlined are what the Kumbh Mela administrations granted for use during the Kumbh Mela, but much of the land farther from the rivers is not heavily used. Judging by satellite images of the areas taken during the off months, these locations are used for the storage of construction materials that get reused every year for the Magh Mela gathering.

Sector 2 occupies about 0.60 square miles or 400 acres on the north bank of the Yamuna River. This area is just outside the Sangam and one of the main bodies of the Kumbh Mela mega-city on the western bank of the Ganges. Sector 2 is much less dense than the other areas lining both sides of the Ganges. It acts as a transition from the urban world to spiritual environment of the Sangam. Both Sectors 1 and 2 are located adjacent to the Naini Bridge and one of the major highways running into Allahabad and through the Kumbh Mela areas.





SITE LOCATION – Sector

The project site is located between the two primary modes of transportation across the Ganges River. The railway runs at ground level along the northern edge of the site, and transitions into bridge over the Ganges and its riverbanks.

The elevated highway along the southern edge of the site sits about 30-35 feet above the ground surface. The integration of the project with the existing infrastructural fabric ensures the visibility and accessibility of the project.

The relationship of the site to the vehicular modes of transportation is equally as important as the proximity to pedestrian circulation both year round and during the Kumbh Mela. The site sits just outside the most desirable bathing location of the Sangam. During the bathing days of the Kumbh Mela, the project site will sit along the primary flow of pilgrims from North to South to bathe in the river.





Bird's Eye View from Southeast



Bird's Eye View from Northwest

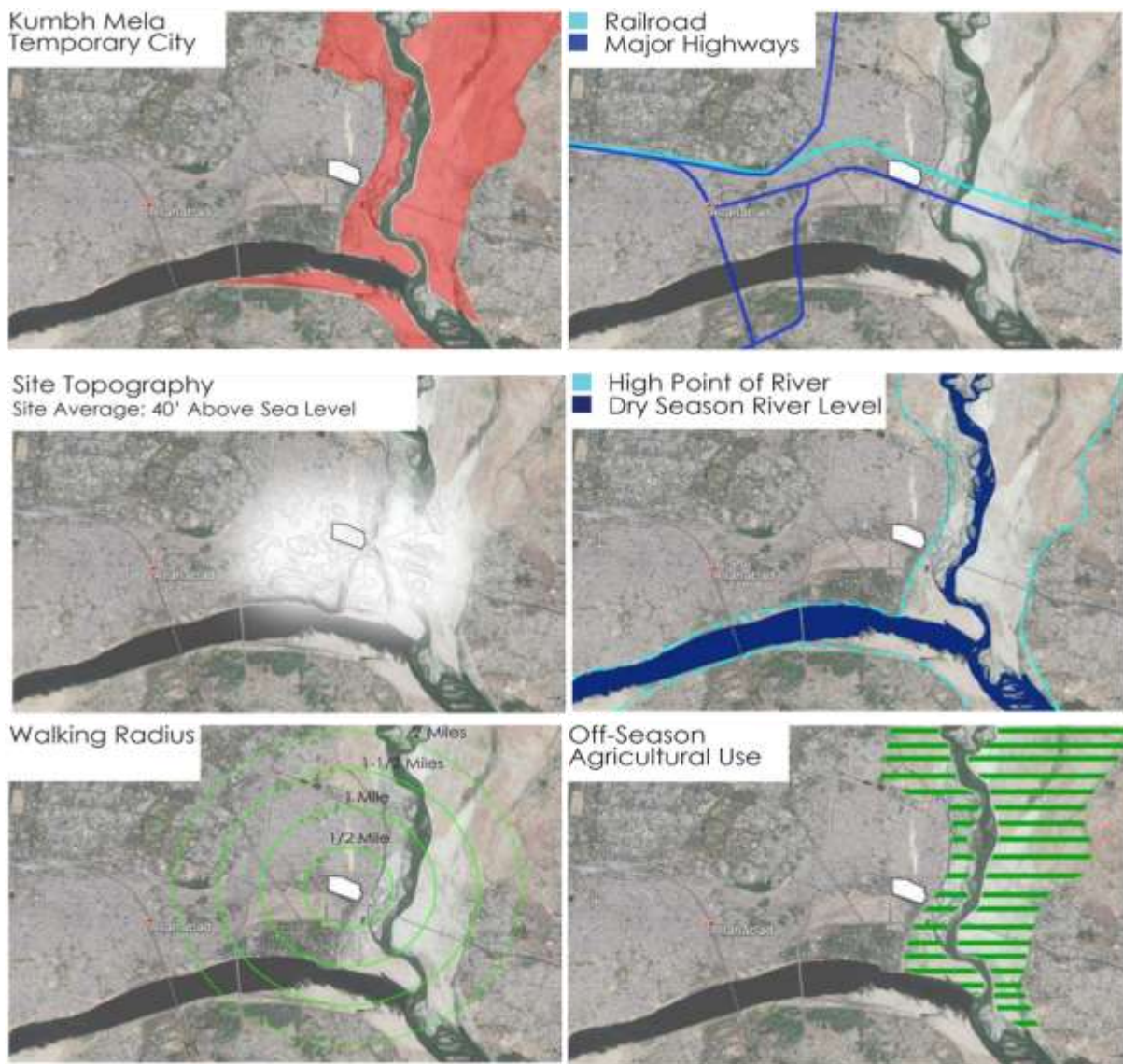


Site study

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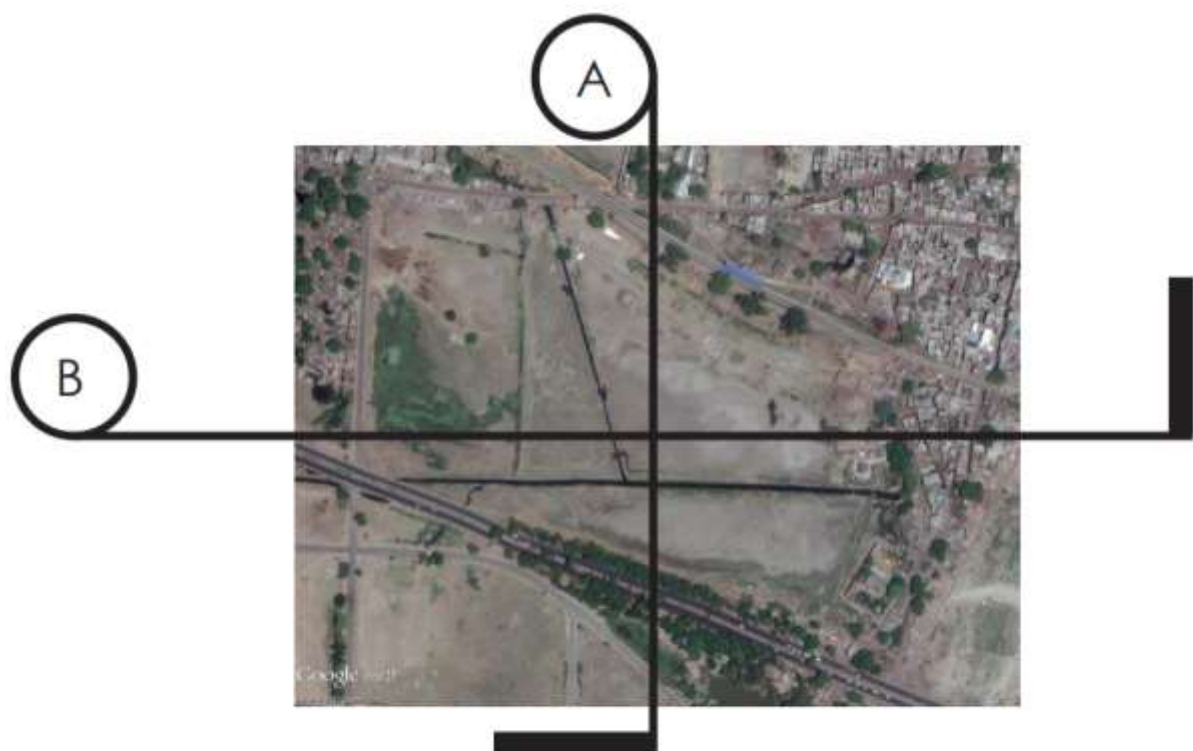
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SITE DETAIL

This area of the site is just over 48 acres and which equals a little over 2 million square feet. The site is mostly cleared of vegetation with some groups of small trees and brush around the edges of the plot. The borders are defined on all sides by fairly low traffic two way roads, making it accessible from all sides. The topography of the site is fairly minimal, with a difference of about 25' across the entirety of the site. Minimal site grading and clearing will be needed to prepare the land for construction. The vegetated area on the East edge of the site will need to be cleared and relocated ahead of construction. The existing drainage trench running through the site will be excavated and re-purposed as a design element within the project. The introduction of water collection to the site and program offers greater possibilities of year round use while the project is deconstructed.



Design Concept: "Serenity in Unity: Harmonizing Tradition and Modernity"

Key Elements:

- **Iconic Entrance Gate:** Create a grand and iconic entrance gate that represents the significance of the Kumbh Mela. The gate should incorporate traditional architectural elements such as intricate carvings, vibrant colors, and traditional motifs, while also incorporating modern materials and lighting techniques to create a visually striking landmark.
- **Vibrant Theme Colors:** Choose a vibrant color palette inspired by the cultural essence of Prayagraj. Colors like saffron, marigold yellow, and shades of blue can be used to create a lively and festive atmosphere throughout the event grounds.
- **Fusion of Traditional and Modern Structures:** Design temporary structures that reflect the amalgamation of traditional and modern architecture. These structures could feature contemporary designs with elements of local craftsmanship, showcasing intricate artwork, vibrant textiles, and ornamental details while incorporating sustainable materials and construction practices.
- **Interactive Art Installations:** Integrate interactive art installations that engage and captivate visitors. These installations can include multimedia displays, light projections, and interactive sculptures that depict stories from mythology, cultural heritage, and the spiritual significance of the Kumbh Mela.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Ensure sustainability is at the core of the design concept. Use eco-friendly and recyclable materials in the construction of temporary structures. Incorporate renewable energy sources, such as solar panels, to power lighting and facilities. Implement efficient waste management systems and promote water conservation practices throughout the event.
- **Landscape Design:** Enhance the ambiance of the Kumbh Mela with well-designed landscapes and green spaces. Incorporate local flora, create shaded areas, and provide seating arrangements for visitors to rest and reflect. Integrate water features like fountains or water bodies that symbolize the sacred rivers and create a serene atmosphere.
- **Information and Wayfinding:** Develop clear and visually appealing signages and wayfinding systems to assist visitors in navigating the Kumbh Mela grounds. Use innovative technologies like mobile apps or interactive digital kiosks to provide real-time information about events, schedules, and important locations.
- **Cultural Showcasing:** Create designated areas for cultural performances, showcasing various art forms, folk dances, music, and spiritual discourses. Provide well-designed stages and seating arrangements for visitors to enjoy and participate in these cultural activities.

- **Theme: "Sustainable Kumbh: Nurturing Nature, Preserving Heritage"**
- **Key Components:**
- **Eco-friendly Infrastructure:** Use of renewable energy sources such as solar panels and wind turbines to power temporary structures, lighting, and facilities within the Kumbh Mela area.
- Implementation of waste management systems including recycling facilities, composting, and proper disposal mechanisms.
- Promotion of eco-friendly construction materials and practices to minimize environmental footprint.
- **Water Conservation:** Encourage the responsible use of water through awareness campaigns and educational programs.
- Install water-saving fixtures, implement rainwater harvesting systems, and promote water reuse and recycling practices.
- Ensure proper sanitation facilities and waste management for the preservation of the rivers and water bodies.
- **Transportation and Mobility:** Develop a comprehensive transportation plan to manage the movement of pilgrims and visitors during the Kumbh Mela, with a focus on reducing congestion and emissions.
- Encourage the use of electric vehicles, including e-rickshaws and shuttle buses, within the Kumbh Mela area.
- Promote pedestrian-friendly zones and prioritize non-motorized transportation options.
- **Cultural and Heritage Conservation:** Preserve and highlight the cultural heritage of Prayagraj through exhibitions, performances, and storytelling sessions that showcase the history, traditions, and art forms of the region.
- Organize heritage walks and tours to promote awareness and appreciation of Prayagraj's historical landmarks and sites.
- Collaborate with local communities and organizations to safeguard and promote traditional crafts, music, and cuisine.
- **Sustainability Education and Outreach:** Conduct workshops, seminars, and interactive sessions to raise awareness about sustainability, environmental conservation, and responsible tourism among pilgrims, visitors, and stakeholders.
- Engage with educational institutions, NGOs, and local communities to develop initiatives that promote sustainable practices before, during, and after the Kumbh Mela.
- By incorporating these elements into the Kumbh Mela, we can create a more sustainable, inclusive, and environmentally conscious event that leaves a positive impact on the host city, its residents, and the millions of pilgrims who attend this significant gathering.

CHAPTER 6: PROPOSAL

PROPOSAL

The city of Allahabad is governed by the Allahabad Municipal Corporation, which is a mayorcouncil type government. During the planning, construction, hosting, and deconstruction of the Kumbh Mela, a district magistrate is appointed by the Allahabad government called the Mela Adhikari. The Mela Adhikari is responsible for coordinating all phases of the event, including land allocation and managing partnerships with religious organizations.

The planning of the Kumbh Mela begins more than a year prior to the festival. In total, there are 7 Indian Central Departments and 28 Uttar Pradesh State Departments that dedicate resources to form 7 Planning

Committees responsible for the conception, planning, construction, maintenance, and deconstruction involved in the Kumbh Mela.

The Kumbh Mela planning committees are responsible for providing the necessary facilities to serve a functioning city that can handle the influx of visitors.

Facilities Proposed for Kumbh Mela

- Police Booths
- Police Stations
- Hospitals
- ATM's
- Boarding/Lodging
- General Help Desk
- Lost/Found Counters or Desk
- Delegates (Akharas, Groups, Sanstha etc.)
- Shops (General, food, medicine, books, etc.)
- Ghats
- Public Conveniences
- Parking Places
- Kiosk points
- Fire stations
- Jal police
- Govt. Department Offices
- Media Centre
- I.T Centre (Including INTERNET, FAX, PCO etc.)

Bathing Services

Although the primary tradition associated with the Kumbh Mela is “bathing” in the Ganges River, this practice does not equate itself with cleanliness. The water of the Ganges River has become grossly overpolluted with sewage and other pollutants. It is estimated that almost 3 billion liters of untreated sewage is pumped into the Ganges every day. The program will include separate facilities for the four different Castes. The facilities will include individual toilets, individual shower stalls, and stalls for people to do laundry. The goal of this portion of the project is to provide a higher standard of cleanliness than what currently exists in the Kumbh temporary city.



Food Distribution

The Kumbh Mela temporary city contains food and general markets throughout the festival grounds. Hindu pilgrims typically cook their meals as large religious or familial groups at the Kumbh Mela. There is a greater need for food markets rather than prepared foods. The program of this project will include areas for food storage to work in conjunction with the existing food markets. A system of food distribution between the storage areas and the food vendors would be implemented.



The site will also include actual markets where pilgrims either arriving from the train, walking through the site, or coming from the Kumbh city can buy food to take back to their living quarters. The markets must be separated into four distinct spaces to accommodate for the four different castes of Hindu society. It is required that food be sold and prepared separately.



Informational Service

As a gateway to the temporary city of the Kumbh Mela, it is important to provide the pilgrims with the necessary information about layout of the expansive city and about the schedule of the festival itself. An information space within a great visitor's center will

provide the necessary outlet for people attending the event to better direct themselves through the chaos of the city. This program is aimed at serving primarily the attendees arriving to the site from the train, but appeals also to pilgrims already living in the tent city.

Technology and Communication

Although India is somewhat antiquated as far as technology is concerned, it is still the 21st century and accommodations must be made for people who wish to use cell phones, computers, and other technologies. The increase in cell phone use as studied at the 2013 Kumbh Mela shows the need for technological amenities. Architectural spaces for this program will provide publicly accessible computer workstations, as well as access to electricity to charge cell phones and laptops. Publicly available wifi and internet is another important consideration in the growing technological world. In addition to this public use program, there will also be private workspaces media entities that cover the events of the Kumbh Mela.



Government and Administration

The project will include dedicated buildings designed for the government and administrative entities that coordinate and oversee the Kumbh Mela. This space will be used year-round as these organizations begin planning the Kumbh Mela well before the festival takes place. This part of the program will include spaces for the Government of India, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Government of Allahabad, Religious Organizations, and Police and Fire Departments.



CHAPTER 7: REFERENCES

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