



# STUDY OF POTENTIAL OF PILGRIMAGE CITIES IN INDIA, CASE OF CHITRAKOOT

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**Abstract:** In addition to providing jobs and easily accessible training, tourism also creates markets for the sale of local goods and services and generates revenue. Tourism-related revenue can be utilized for waste and wastewater treatment, as well as for the expansion of vital energy, transportation, and other infrastructure.

Chitrakoot being a part of Ramayana circuit is being seen as an opportunity to increase the tourism in the city and have potential to contribute to the Indian economy. So for the development of tourism in Chitrakoot we need to understand the character, function and necessity of pilgrim cities of India.

This dissertation analyses the amenities and techniques for the infrastructure development of pilgrimage cities. This is the base of the study which gives the final understanding of how and what a pilgrimage city need for the development of tourism.

I. *IndexTerms* – Introduction, Need of the study, Aim, Objectives, Scope, Limitations, Research Question, Literature study, Case Study, Case study- 1: Mathura- Vrindavan, Case Study- 2: Varanasi, Results and Inference

## II. INTRODUCTION

Being a part of Ramayana Tourism circuit, Chitrakoot is one of the developing cities in India. According to the epic Ramayana, Chitrakoot is the place where Bharat, brother of Lord Rama came to visit him and asked him to return to Ayodhya and rule the kingdom. It is believed that the supreme Gods of Hinduism, (Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva) took incarnations here. The place is dotted with many temples and several religious sites. Chitrakoot is a spiritual retreat, thronged almost throughout the year by travelers. (Government of Uttar Pradesh, District Chitrakoot, n.d.)

State and Central Government is working to improve the tourism experience in Chitrakoot. Chitrakoot falls in the Northern Vindhya Range of mountains spread over the State of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. (Government of Uttar Pradesh, District Chitrakoot, n.d.)

The project focuses on identifying tourist attraction and improve its condition and infrastructure. It also focuses on improving accommodation facilities in Chitrakoot and its connectivity.

### 1.1 Need of the study

Tourism plays a vital role in nation's economy. Chitrakoot being a part of one of the biggest religious cities attracts a large number of populations. Tourism is one of the most important and key industry of Chitrakoot and that has huge potential such as Pilgrimage tourism, wild life, adventure tourism, medical tourism and cultural tourism for tourism development and a pool of tourist activity can be found widely spread in the state.

So to develop tourism in Chitrakoot we need to understand the development pattern of pilgrimage cities in India and how the economy of these cities is are dependent on tourism

### 1.2 Aim

Understanding the Tourism potential of pilgrimage city, provide a safe and secure tourist experience and increase the livelihood of the locals.

### 1.3 Objectives

- To understand a detail study of pilgrimage cities of India.
- To recognize opportunities for the economic growth through tourism.
- To study the challenges faced by pilgrims in pilgrimage cities.
- To understand the livelihood and opportunities for the local population of pilgrimage cities.

### 1.4 Scope and Limitations

#### 1.4.1 Scope

This study will focus on analyzing the problems and prospects of tourism in pilgrimage cities and how to manage tourism effectively by employing new management strategies. The study will also focus on understanding how to providing more opportunities to the place and conserving the authenticity of the city at the same time.

### 1.4.2 Limitation

- Study will include tourist attraction at pilgrimage site only.
- Study would focus on components of physical infrastructure.
- Study will also include excursion sites and their effect on the city.

### 1.5 Research Question

- What are the factors influencing the potential of pilgrimage city in India?
- How the influx of visitors to a pilgrimage city does is influenced by the progress and development of the surrounding region?

### 1.6 Methodology

This research incorporates a range of methodologies to comprehensively address the topic at hand. These methodologies include identifying various steps to achieve the inference of the dissertation. Each step is worked to achieve the objectives of the study.

First step is to identify the objectives of the study. After identifying the objectives, we work accordingly.

To achieve the first objective, we will do the literature study of pilgrimage cities in India then we analyse the factors influencing pilgrim comfort and changes made in the city in the past years. After the analysis we study the techniques to improve amenities for pilgrimage that were used in the past years and what other techniques we can use and finally we will give the inference.

To achieve the second objective, we study the economic aspects of pilgrimage tourism and analysis challenges in tourist spots. After the analysing the data we give the inference of this step.

And, for the final objective we need to understand the importance of local folk art in pilgrimage cities and study of methods for promoting the art and local artists which will give the inference

## III. LITERATURE STUDY

### 2.1 What is pilgrimage tourism?

Pilgrimage tourism is essentially the process of visiting pilgrimage sites. These are primarily religious destinations, and can even be said to have formed a very early version of tourism. (tourism teacher, n.d.)

Pilgrimage tourism is the type of tourism that entirely or powerfully motivates tourists for the achievement of religious attitude and practices. One of the oldest types of visiting the attractions and a global experience in the olden times of spiritual growth, it can be differentiated into different forms. (tourism teacher, n.d.)

### 2.2 Why is pilgrimage tourism important?

When talking about the importance of pilgrimage tourism, we can split this in two: for the destination and for the pilgrims themselves.

#### 1. For the pilgrims

Traditional pilgrimages are important to many people. People travel to certain destinations to experience religious enlightenment. (tourism teacher, n.d.)

#### 2. For the destination

As with any type of tourism, pilgrimage tourism has a huge economic impact. Some pilgrimage destinations and locations rely entirely on this kind of tourism for their income. This, in turn, is passed on to the surrounding areas. B&Bs get bookings, restaurants see more foot traffic, local shops gain customers. Jobs are created: for tour guides, for people making handmade souvenirs, for photographers and so much more. (tourism teacher, n.d.)

### 2.3 Components and factors determining pilgrims delight?

Kamal Kumar in his "ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY OF PILGRIMAGE TOURISM- A CASE STUDY OF MATHURA- VRINDAVAN CIRCUIT" (2022) says that the basic components of tourism are three A's namely Attraction, Accessibility (transport), and Accommodation.

An article- "IDENTIFYING FACTORS DETERMINING PILGRIMS DELIGHT AND INVESTIGATING THEIR ABILITY TO PREDICT IN VRINDAVAN CITY OF NORTH INDIA" by Amitabh Mishra, Ashutosh Singh, Institute of Business Management, GLA University,(2021) Mathura studied the different factors on which the comfort and basic needs of pilgrims can be determined.

The survey of 500 people had been conducted to determine the major factor that contribute in the pilgrim delight in Vrindavan.

As per the survey conducted there are majorly five factors determined which are needed for pilgrim delight:

#### 1. Convenience

- Experience on roads
- Experience with transportation facility
- Experience with supporting services such as banking, Telecommunication, medicine, etc.
- Experience with hotels and staying facility

#### 2. Basic facilities

- Experience with basic tourist amenities such as drinking water, toilets, vehicle parking, etc.
- Experience with shopping
- Experience with tourist attractions such as monuments, temples, etc.

#### 3. Public Safety

- Management of crowd
- Sense of Safety

- Experience with residents hospitality
  - Experience with availability of information and guidance
- 4. Meal**
- Quality of meal
  - Prices of items
- 5. Cleanliness and hygiene**
- Stray animals, mosquitoes, flies, etc.
  - Experience with cleanliness and sanitation

## 2.4 How can pilgrimage sites be used to bring regions together and boost economic growth?

### 1. Infrastructure development

Pilgrimage sites often require extensive infrastructure to support the large numbers of visitors they attract. Governments and private investors can leverage this demand to invest in infrastructure development in the surrounding regions.

### 2. Promotion of tourism

Pilgrimage sites can be promoted as tourism destinations, which can attract visitors not only for religious purposes but also for leisure and recreation. This can create employment opportunities and generate revenue for the local economy.

### 3. Cultural exchange and cooperation

Pilgrimage sites attract people from different regions and cultures, providing an opportunity for cultural exchange and cooperation. This can lead to the development of cultural tourism and promotion of regional diversity and cooperation.

### 4. Preservation of heritage

Pilgrimage sites are often associated with cultural and historical significance, which can be leveraged to promote preservation of heritage and attract visitors interested in history and culture.

### 5. Education and research

Pilgrimage sites can also be leveraged for educational and research purposes, providing opportunities for scholars and researchers to study the history, culture, and religion associated with the sites.

## IV. CASE STUDY

### 3.1 Case study- 1: Mathura- Vrindavan

#### 3.1.1 Why Vrindawan- Mathura?

- Mathura-Vrindavan is one of the biggest pilgrimage attraction in India
- Total footfall: more than 6 million pilgrims every year
- The economy of Vrindavan and Mathura heavily rides on the tourism industry.
- Although, the Mathura-Vrindavan Circuit is a vast cultural region which spreads in 84 Kos and popularly known as Braj region
- Presently, more than 5000 temples and hundreds of ashrams, few sacred forests and groves, kunds (ponds) and few parikarma marg exists in the region.

#### 3.1.2 Circuit Details:

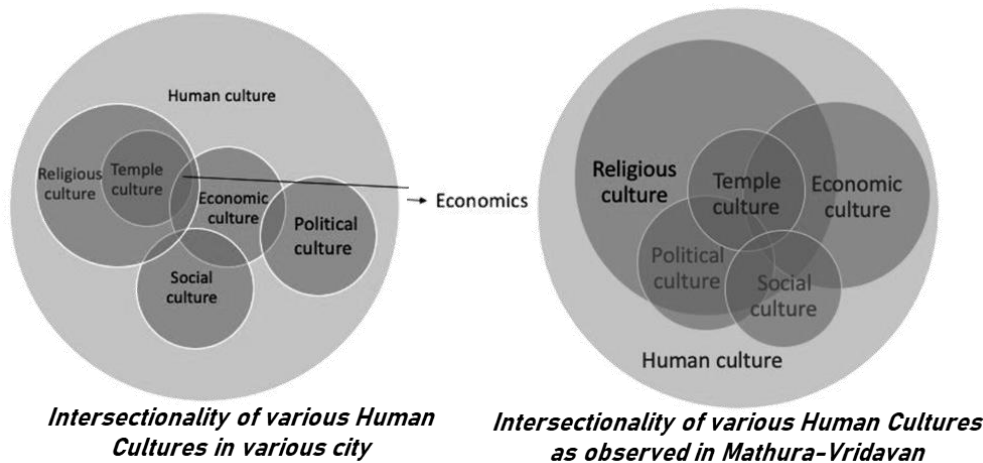
- **Connectivity:** Mathura and Vrindavan are well-connected by road and rail. The nearest major railway station is Mathura Junction.
- **Tourist Facilities:** Both Mathura and Vrindavan offer various accommodation options, ranging from budget to luxury hotels. There are also local markets offering religious artifacts and souvenirs.
- **Religious Festivals:** The Mathura-Vrindavan circuit is particularly vibrant during festivals, such as Holi and Janmashtami, when pilgrims and tourists from across India and the world visit these sacred places.
- **Cultural Events:** The region often hosts cultural events, bhajan and kirtan sessions, and other religious gatherings that attract devotees.

#### 3.1.3 Impact of pilgrimage on different human culture

Different human culture includes:

- Religious culture is created out of devotion of a God of certain religion
- Economic culture is created within the interaction of such people and the demand and supply of various goods and services, to sustain their livelihood.
- Political culture involves the political activities of a person.
- Social culture factors influence the feelings, attitudes, values, beliefs and interactions of a population group.

The foremost impact of the pilgrimage tourism is via the contact of religious sites and institutions and the visitors. Subsequently, the visitors are also introduced to the business facilities surrounding such religious institutions. Few examples include: travel agencies, restaurants and hotels. Their interaction provides employment opportunities result in rise in Economic Potential.



Source: Discover India Program, 2019-2020

Figure 3. 1 Impact of pilgrimage on different human culture

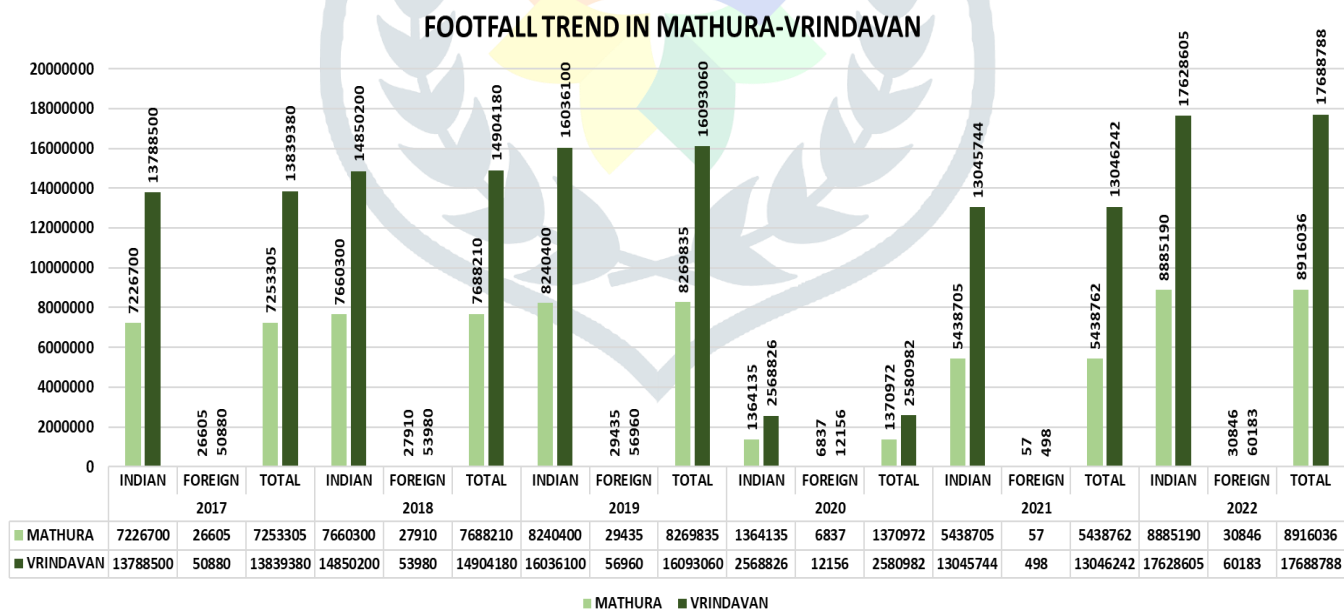
Apart from the pilgrimage industry, there was a clear interaction between the different human cultures in Vrindavan: social culture, religious culture, economic culture and political culture.

An article says that political culture is solely related to the economic culture. However, we observed that in a religious city like Vrindavan, political culture is closely intertwined with all the other cultures.

In Mathura-Vrindavan it is observed that there is a thorough interaction between the social culture and the temple culture.

**3.1.4 Tourist footfall Trend (2017-2022)**

- The tourist visits Mathura-Vrindavan in 2017 are 13839380 in Vrindavan and 7253305 in Mathura which constantly increased till 2019.
- However there has been a sudden drop seen in 2020 due to pandemic.
- But from 2021 there has been increase in tourists again and it was found to be maximum in 2022 that is 17688788 in Vrindavan and 8916036 Mathura



Source: uptourism.gov.in

Figure 3. 2 Footfall Trend

**3.1.5 Initiatives shaping the growth of pilgrimage in Mathura-Vrindavan circuit**

While supplementing the efforts of the district administration and local bodies, various initiatives have been undertaken by the Union Government and State Government to improve basic amenities for the pilgrimage tourism in the area. Few of them are:

- The Mathura-Vrindavan circuit is lying in the Taj Trapezium Planning Area and in proximity to the Taj city of Agra which is one of the three major destinations of tourism golden triangle of northern India. The planning and development efforts are being carried out under the auspices of the planning authority of Taj Trapezium planning area.
- Under PRASAD Scheme Ministry of Tourism, Government of India sanctioned Rs. 50 crores for the development of facilities and basic infrastructure along Parikarma Marg in 2019. In addition, grants have also sanctioned under the HRIDAY Scheme and AMRUT Scheme in 2015 for improvement in basic facilities. Under the HRIDAY scheme beautification afforestation along the Parikarma Marg has been carried out.

- In 2014-15, the Krishna circuit was developed by the Ministry of Tourism under the Swadesh Darshan Scheme and it has been approved by the Central Government. It (The Krishna Circuit) includes 12 destinations spread across 5 states. The destinations covered under Krishna Circuit are (i) Dwarka, Gujarat (ii) Nathdwara, Jaipur and Sikar, Rajasthan (iii) Mathura, Vrindavan, Barsana, Gokul, Nandgaon and Govardhan, Uttar Pradesh (iv) Jagannath Puri, Odisha and (v) Kurukshetra, Haryana.
- The Uttar Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation and Pawan Hans India Limited launched a 10 minutes helicopter ride for old aged pilgrims who face problems in performing Govardhan parikarma in 2014 and for differently abled pilgrims to enjoy their experience of pilgrimage.
- In 2018, the Govt of Uttar Pradesh has constituted the Uttar Pradesh Braj Tirth Vikas Parishad for the dedicated development of Braj region. This dedicated agency bestowed with the role of regulation in Braj Development. The master plan of the Braj area is being developed in the auspices of the Uttar Pradesh Braj Tirth Vikas Parishad, Mathura.
- The Department of Tourism, Govt of Uttar Pradesh running the World Bank aided the Pro-poor Tourism Project under the guidance of Mathura-Vrindavan Development Authority, Mathura to improve basic infrastructure, to improve capacity building for local artisans especially women and to generate new avenues of employment.
- Introduction of daily Kurukshetra-Mathura train to increase accessibility and connecting of two major pilgrimage cities relating to the life of Lord Krishna is of great importance for many devotees.
- Various NGO's and voluntary organizations like Yamuna Mission, Friend of Vrindavan, Braj Foundation and ISKCON, Vrindavan are also playing vital role in the rejuvenation of ecology and cultural conservation in the study area.

### 3.1.6 Upcoming Projects:

- The metro rail lines will be extended up to the Jewar Airport in coordination with the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) for industrial development in the area. This will further boost the pilgrimage tourism in the area.
- Upcoming International airport at Jewar, Noida (the only 2nd International Airport with in the vicinity of 100 kms will make it accessible with four major highways.
- Proposed Delhi-Varanasi Bullet Train Corridor will pass through Gautam Budh Nagar and provision of one of its terminus at Jewar Airport will boost further the economic development and pilgrimage tourism.
- The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) has proposed a "heritage corridor" and a tourism hub for the Mathura-Vrindavan belt. As per the plan, two 100-metre-wide roads will link both towns to the Yamuna Expressway, the Yamuna riverfront will be developed, meditation centres and a museum will come up in the area that will also have a retail space.

## 3.2 Case Study- 2: Varanasi

### 3.2.1 Why Varanasi?

- Varanasi, or Banaras, (also known as Kashi) is one of the oldest living cities in the world.
- Located in the middle-Ganges valley in the southeastern part of the state of Uttar Pradesh, Varanasi lies on the left bank of the river.
- It shows similar characteristics to Chitrakoot, as Chitrakoot is also located on the bank of River Mandakini
- There has been a recent infrastructural advancement resulting in increase in footfall of tourist

### 3.2.2 Tourist footfall Trend (2017-2022)

- According to Uttar Pradesh tourism department's official website, the Varanasi city has 10 times the number of tourists it had before the Covid pandemic.
- In 2019, the total number of tourists in the city amounted to nearly 68 lakh.
- Four years later, it matches that figure in one month alone with nearly 7.2 crore tourists in 2022.
- During Covid in 2020, the number had dropped to under 10 lakh.
- Most people point to the redevelopment of the Kashi Vishwanath Dham Corridor as the reason for the massive rise in tourist footfall to the city that has long combined mysticism with its many 'touristy' attractions – the Ganga cruise, the famed 'aarti' and its age-old craft of weaving.



Source: uptourism.gov.in

Figure 3. 3 Tourist footfall trend of Varanasi

### 3.2.3 Tourist attractions in Varanasi

#### 1.Kashi Vishwanath Temple

Many people see it as the foremost temple to visit in Varanasi, and some consider it the most significant temple in the entire country. The story of Kashi Vishwanath Temple is as old as over three thousand and five hundred years, which is an astounding amount of time. So much has happened in and around it that it is hard to not feel overwhelmed when visiting it. It is one of the 12 Jyotirlingas that are Shivalingas that are the physical symbols of Lord Shiva. The spires and domes of the shrine are completely covered in gold. The then ruler of Punjab, Maharaja Ranjit Singh was responsible for that, as covering temple domes in gold is a Punjabi tradition, as demonstrated in the Golden Temple. Many devotees believe that a single glimpse of the Shivalinga cleanses your soul and puts life on a path of knowledge.

- Timings: 2:30 AM to 11:00 PM
- Temple Schedule:
- Mangal Aarti: 2:30 AM
- Bhog Aarti: 11:30 AM to 12:00 pm
- Sapta Rishi Aarti: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM (darshan not allowed)
- Shringar/Bhog Aarti: 9:00 PM (only outside darshan allowed)
- Shayana Aarti: 10:30 PM

#### 2.Dashashwamedh Ghat, Varanasi

This particular ghat is believed to be the oldest one in the city, and is hence considered special. If you have seen video footages of people bathing in Ganga and praying with diyas in their hand on the banks of a river, odds are that it was this ghat you saw. It is often abuzz because of the hordes of people who flock to it to wash away their sins and pray. Ascetics, Hindu devotees and tourists alike all alight on the banks of the Ganga at Dashashwamedh Ghat on a daily basis. Being such an important landmark and host to the famous Ganga aarti, it is a must-visit on any trip to Varanasi!

Aarti Timings: 7:00 PM to 7:45 PM (summers); 6:00 PM to 6:45 PM (winters)

#### 3.Bharat Mata Temple, Varanasi

Being dedicated to the country itself, it is one of the rarest temples in the country. India is famous for its millions of temples and nationalist spirit, but there are very few places that commemorate the country itself. And since this is such a rare temple, it is visited by almost everyone who comes to Varanasi. Situated within the Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith campus, it was inaugurated by Gandhi himself in 1936. It was supposed to be an inspiring beacon of love and hope for all that were fighting against the British. Instead of a statue of a deity that looks like a human, this temple's statue is that of mountains, plains and oceans.

Timings: 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM

#### 4.Manikarnika Ghat, Varanasi

This ghat is again quite significant among Hindus as it is the main cremation ghat in the city. People who have died often get cremated here, in the belief that they attain moksha. There is a myth that says Devi Parvati's ear ornament fell at the exact spot of this ghat when Lord Shiva came here with her. Although the atmosphere is rather grim here most days, it is still a very historical place to visit if you are in Varanasi. Also, referred to as the burning ghat, it is certainly an important part of Varanasi, just as death is to life!

Timings: Open throughout the day

#### 5.Assi Ghat, Varanasi

Assi Ghat is believed to be the place where the legendary poet Tulsidas passed away. The southernmost ghat in the region, it is among the most popular with tourists. On an average day about 300 people visit it per hour, but during festival days that number can be as high as 2500 people. When here, you can go on a leisurely boat ride on the river or even a hot air balloon excursion! Devotees bathe here before conducting rituals as the water of the river is said to purify their soul, preparing them for the task.

Timings: Open throughout the day

#### 6.Ramnagar Fort, Varanasi

Located across the Ganga River from Tulsi Ghat, it was built out of sandstone in AD 1750 on the orders of Raja Balwant Singh, the king of Banaras at the time. He and his descendants have lived in that fort for centuries now. In 1971, the position of an official king was abolished by the government, but still Pelu Bhuru Singh, is commonly referred to as the Maharaja of Varanasi. Even though it was built by Hindu kings, it is a testament to the diversity of the region that it was built in the Mughal architectural style. It houses Veda Vyasa Temple, the king's living quarters, and a museum dedicated to regional history.

Timings: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Entry Fee: ₹ 150

#### 7.Sankat Mochan Hanuman Temple, Varanasi

Situated near the River Assi, this beautiful temple was built by a freedom fighter named Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya. Shrines for both Lord Ram and Hanuman can be found inside the temple. Be wary of the monkeys surrounding the area.

Location: Bhogabeer Colony

Timings: 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM

### 8. Kalbhairav Temple

This temple is located close to Visheshar Ganj. The temple is open from 5 in the morning to 1:30 in the afternoon and from 4:30 pm to 9:30 pm. According to legends, when the Vedas and sages declared Lord Shiva to be the greatest power of all, Lord Brahma became very arrogant and even laughed at the decision. Lord Shiva took the form of Kaal Bhairav and broke the fifth head of Brahma. Lord Shiva then mentioned that his new form, Kaal Bhairav will stay in Kashi (today's Varanasi) forever to remove the sins from the world.

According to another legend, Lord Shiva took the form of Kaal Bhairav and broke the head of Lord Brahma. At that instant, he was affected by Brahma Hastiya sin (sin of hurting a Brahmin). The fifth head of Lord Brahma stuck to Lord Shiva's hand. He roamed all around the universe with the severed head. When he reached Varanasi, the head dropped from his hand, indicating that his sins have been washed. Thus, Varanasi became the place for any sin to be washed.

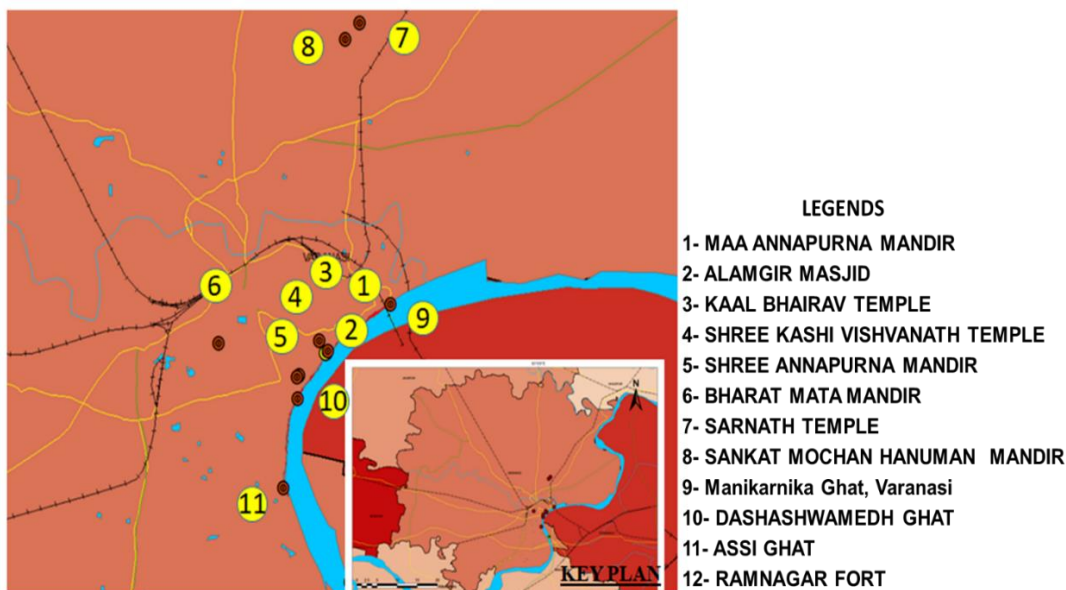
### 9. Alamgir Mosque

Aurangzeb's mosque or the Alamgir mosque is the 17th century mosque was built after destroying a Vishnu temple, in that location. Other religious tourists are not allowed to visit the mosque. It is built with a blend of Hindu and Islamic architecture.

- Alamgir Mosque Attractions
- Famous for domes and minarets
- Bamboo staff lamps are lit in October
- The place where the mosque is located is the point where five streams join together

### 10. Sarnath

Located 10 km away from Varanasi, Sarnath is a destination for **Buddhist pilgrimage**. This is the place where Lord Buddha gave his first sermon after enlightenment. In addition, Sarnath is the birthplace of the 11th Tirthankara. Thus, it is of religious importance for Jains too.



Source: Author

Figure 3. 4 Tourist attractions in Varanasi

### 3.2.4 Initiatives shaping the growth of pilgrimage in Varanasi

The timeline of the project unfolds as follows:

- Planning Phase (2017): In 2017, a comprehensive plan was formulated to restore and rejuvenate Varanasi's sacred Kunds, aligning with the broader goal of enhancing the city's environment.
- Proposal for Funding (2018): Subsequently, in 2018, a report was submitted to address the restoration of 10 Kunds, seeking financial support from NMCG (National Mission for Clean Ganga).
- NMCG Approval and Funding (2018): After deliberations, NMCG approved funding for the restoration of 10 Kunds, committing approximately Rs 20 Crore to the cause.
- Commencement of Restoration (July 2019): The restoration work commenced in July 2019, with a focus on fixing and rejuvenating the Kunds. By September 2021, significant progress was made, with 8 out of the 10 Kunds successfully restored.
- Restoration Activities (2019-2021): The restoration project involved various activities, including cleaning the ponds, constructing walls, installing lights, creating steps (Ghats), planting greenery, and implementing additional measures. The total cost incurred for these efforts amounted to around Rs 18.96 Crore.

- Future Plans (2022): Looking ahead, Varanasi has ambitious plans to extend the restoration to 7 more Kunds in 2022. This phase of the project is estimated to cost about Rs 39.17 Crore, highlighting the city's ongoing commitment to the preservation of its cultural and natural heritage.
- Revitalising Dashashwamedh Ghat Area
- In a notable initiative, the Dashashwamedh Ghat Area in Varanasi underwent a substantial transformation aimed at enhancing the experience for both visitors and pilgrims. This project, initiated in February 2021 and successfully completed in December 2021 with an estimated cost of around Rs 1.21 Crore, has significantly impacted the entire precinct.

### 3.2.5 Proposed projects for infrastructure development in Varanasi

#### 1. Town Planning Scheme under the AMRUT Initiative

Varanasi, as the sole representative from Uttar Pradesh among 25 chosen cities in India, is at the forefront of a groundbreaking project known as the "Pilot Project of Formulation of Town Planning Scheme and Local Area Plans" under the AMRUT Scheme by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). This initiative holds great significance in the broader context of efficient land management and urban development.

#### 2. Tent City by the Ganges

Varanasi is set to embark on a unique venture, establishing a Tent City on the banks of the Ganges to address the surging demand for accommodation, especially during peak tourist seasons. This innovative project aims to provide a distinctive and financially sustainable solution without incurring costs for the government. Positioned on the opposite side of the Ganga River, the property ensures easy accessibility.

The Tent City initiative is a proactive response to the high demand for accommodation, offering an alternative during peak tourist seasons when conventional lodging options may be limited

#### 3. Modern Ropeway System for Urban Transport Revolution

Varanasi is on the cusp of a transformative change with the development of a modern Ropeway System, strategically designed to revolutionize transportation in the city. This ambitious project involves the acquisition of land for 27 towers and 4 stations, with a vision to seamlessly connect the ancient and modern sectors of Varanasi. The Varanasi Ropeway System is poised to be a catalyst for enhanced mobility, traffic reduction, and a greener transit option, ultimately improving the overall visitor experience while contributing to environmental sustainability.

#### 4. Varuna River Front Development

The Varuna River Front Development Project is a strategic endeavor aimed at revitalizing the surroundings of the Varuna River. The primary goal is to create a dedicated pathway for e-rickshaws and two-wheelers, facilitating faster travel and potentially opening up opportunities for water sports. By creating a designated path for e-rickshaws and two-wheelers, the project aims to make transportation more efficient, catering to the needs of the community.

## V. RESULTS AND INFERENCE

The major parameters of pilgrim tourism are accessibility, accommodation, sanitation, meal and basic facilities.

1. For pilgrim site the major economy of the city depends on tourism.
2. The political, economic and cultural aspects are entwined with each other for a pilgrimage site.
3. The major local population is indulged in tourism business such as hospitality, guide, handicraft work, etc.
4. The pilgrims' perspective to visit these sites is to find devotion and calmness rather than having luxury experience.
5. During a particular festive season the footfall of pilgrim site increase drastically.
6. From the case study of Varanasi we have learn how promotion different activities and development of pilgrim site can result in the increase in footfall of tourists.
7. Strengthening of the existing infrastructure can promote tourism and serve the local community too.
8. Tourism promotion also generates employment in urban as well as rural areas, which may arrest the large-scale migration of rural mass to urban centres and in turn help avoid formation of more slums.
9. In pilgrim site accommodation is the major requirement as it should be of multiuse as the footfall increase is only see during the festive season.

## VI. ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The first and foremost gratitude towards my Parents, family members & Teacher who bestowed upon me the courage, patience and strength to embark this work and carried it to its completion.

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