

Ancient India

Planning of Cities in Sub-Continent
after
Indus Valley Civilization

After Indus Valley Civilization

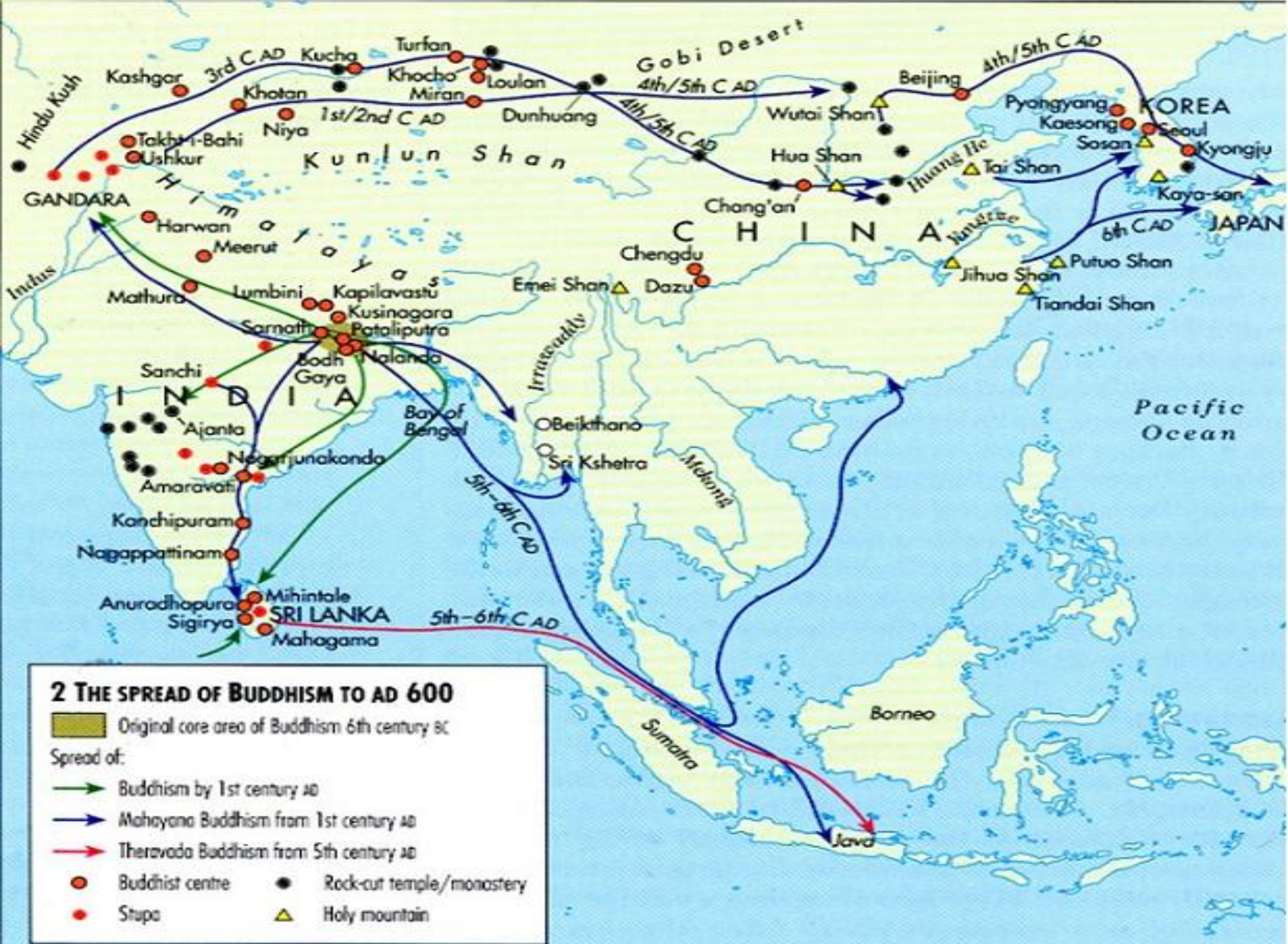
- Collapse of Indus valley civilization
- A time of sudden change 1700 BC
- Aryan invasion 1500 BC
- A changing way of life

Indo- Aryan town

- Corresponds to the plan of temple
- Collection of villages each could be lineked to a present day municipal ward
- Eight types of villages
- Agricultural civilization
- North towns got destroyed by invaders
- Towns were built according to Vedic traditions e.g. Madurai and Srirangam.

Beginning of Buddhism

- Birth of Buddha 560 BC
- A challenge to Hindu beliefs
- Spread of Buddhist ideas
- Emergence of Buddhist cities



Emergence of Buddhist Towns

- Gandhara region (Taxila cities Bhirmound, Sirkap, Sirsukh)
- Nalanda, Bihar (600BC to 1100 AD)
- Pataliputra

Nalanda & Pataliputra

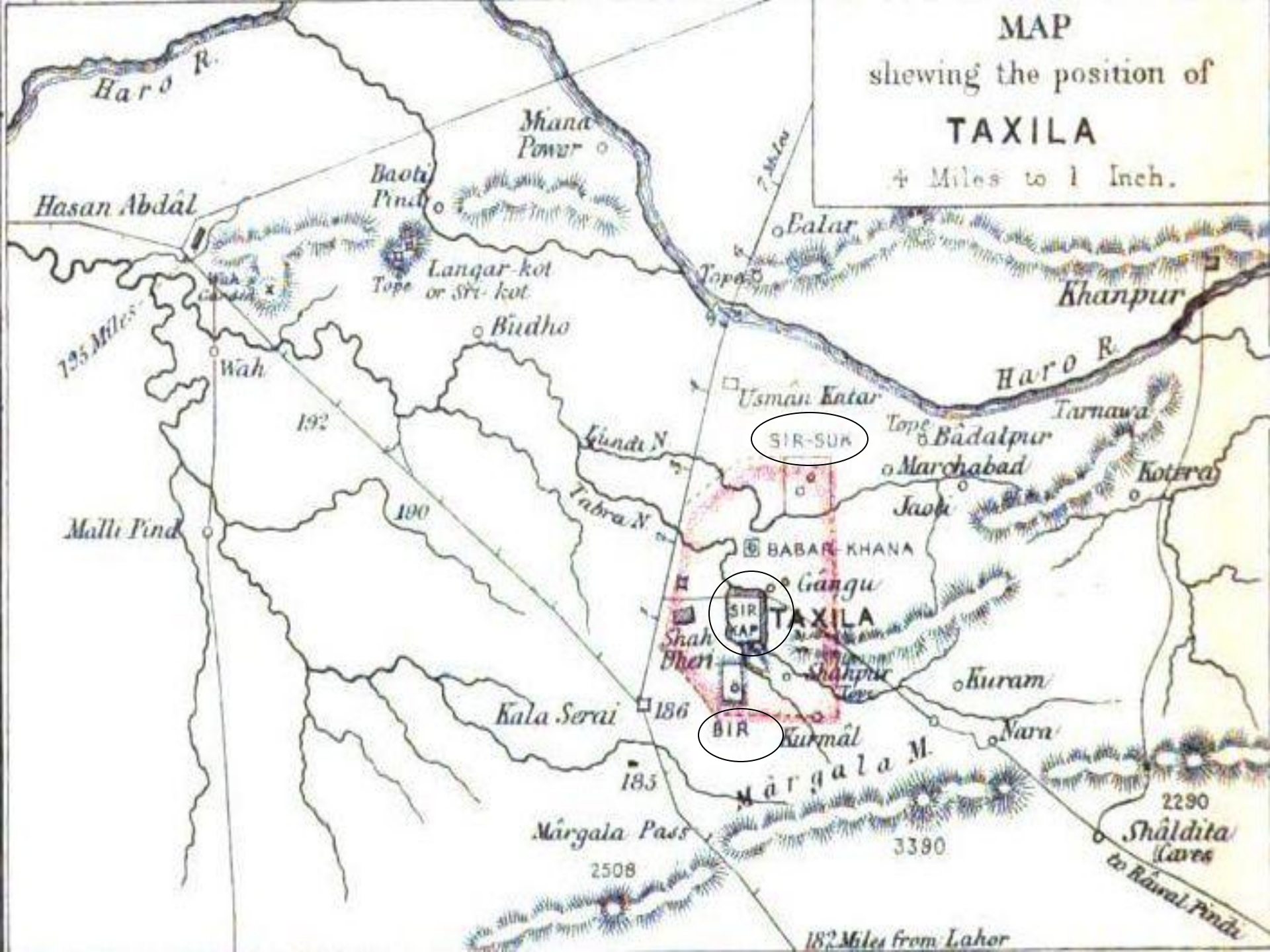


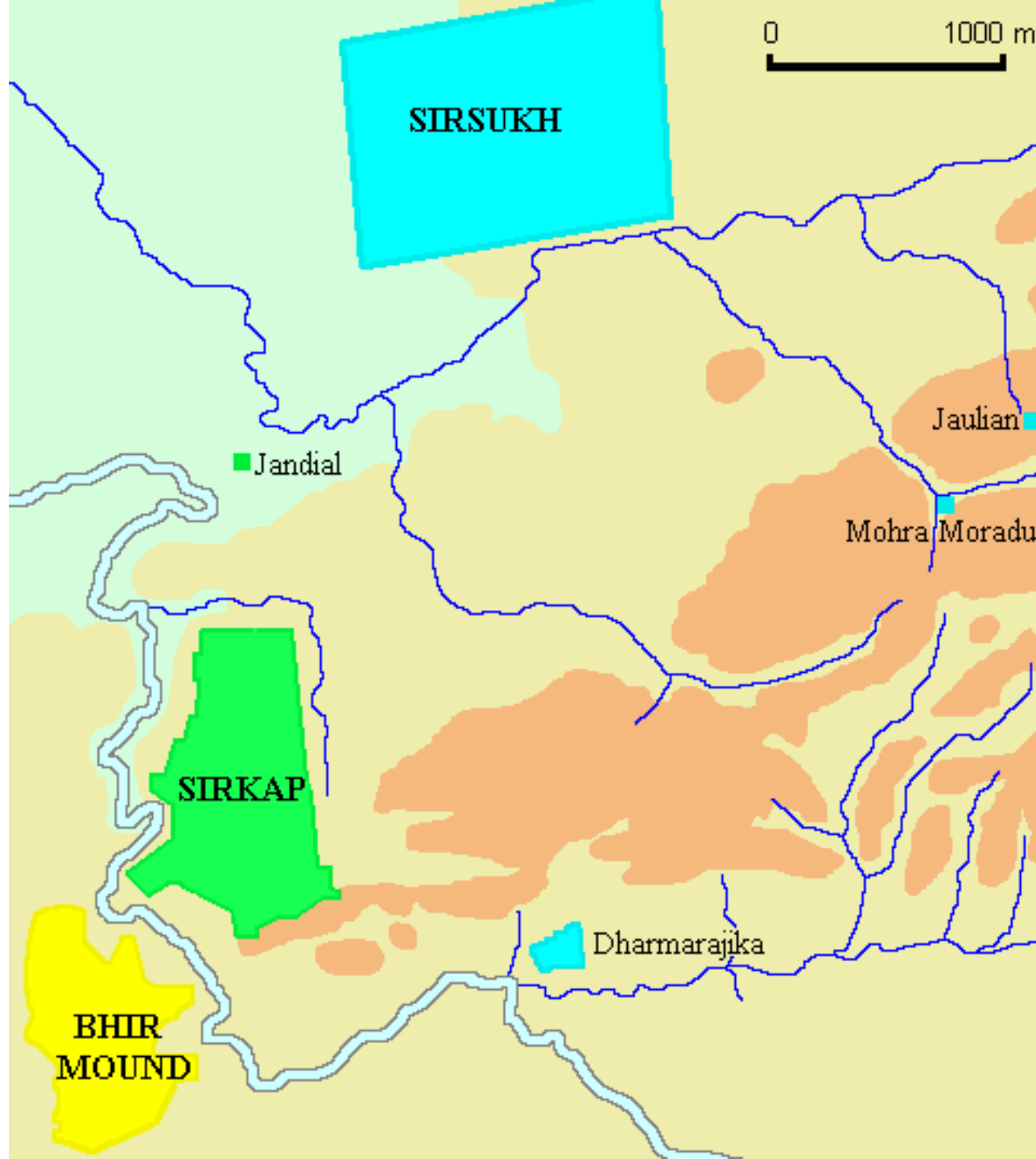
Taxila city

- The city dates back to the Gandhara period and contains the ruins of the Gandhāran city of **Takṣaśilā** which was an important Hindu and Buddhist centre.
- The ruins of Taxila contain buildings and buddhist stupas located over a large area. The main ruins of Taxila are divided into three major sites, each belonging to a distinct time period.

MAP
shewing the position of
TAXILA

+ Miles to 1 Inch.





Bhir Mound

- The ruins of the town form an irregular shape measuring around 1 km from north to south and about 600 meters from east to west.
- The oldest part or layer of these ruins is from the sixth and fifth centuries BC.
- The second layer is from the fourth century BC and existed at the time of the invasion of Alexander the Great.
- The third layer is from the time of the Maurya kings of India (third century BC).
- The fourth and topmost stratum contains the constructions from time after the Mauryan period.

Bhir Mound

- The streets of the city show that they were narrow and the house plans were very irregular.
- There is little evidence of planning - most of the streets are very haphazard.
- The houses had no windows to the outside.
- They opened towards inner courtyards.
- The courtyard was open and 15 to 20 rooms were arranged around it.

Bhir Mound



Sirkap

- The city of Sirkap was built by the Greco-Bactrian king Demetrius after he invaded ancient Pakistan around 180 BC.
- Sirkap is also said to have been rebuilt by king Menander I.
- The site of Sirkap was built according to the "Hippodamian" grid-plan characteristic of Greek cities
- It is organized around one main avenue and fifteen perpendicular streets, covering a surface of around 1200x400 meters, with a surrounding wall 5–7 meters wide and 4.8 kilometers long.
- The ruins are Greek in character, similar to those of Olynthus in Macedonia.

Sirkap

- Numerous Hellenistic artifacts have been found, in particular coins of Greco-Bactrian kings and stone palettes representing Greek mythological scenes.
- Following its construction by the Greeks, the city was further rebuilt during the incursions of the Indo-Scythians, and later by the Indo-Parthians after an earthquake in 30 AD.
- Gondophares, the first king of the Indo-Parthian Kingdom, built parts of the city including the double headed eagle stupa and the temple of the sun god.

Sirkap

- The site of Sirkap bears witness to the city-building activity of the Indo-Greeks during their occupation of the Indian territory for close to two centuries, as well as their integration of other faiths, especially Buddhism.
- The houses were mostly built with underground floors in sirkap.
- The city was overtaken by the Kushan kings who abandoned it and built a new city at Sirsukh, about 1.5 km to the north-east.

Sirkap

- **Double-Headed Eagle Stupa**
- The building that is known as the **Apsidal Temple** is the largest sanctuary of Sirkap, measuring about 70 by 40 meters (by contrast: the Parthenon in Athens is 70 by 31 meters).
- One **round Stupa** is present at Sirkap. It is one of the oldest Stupas in the Indian-Subcontinent

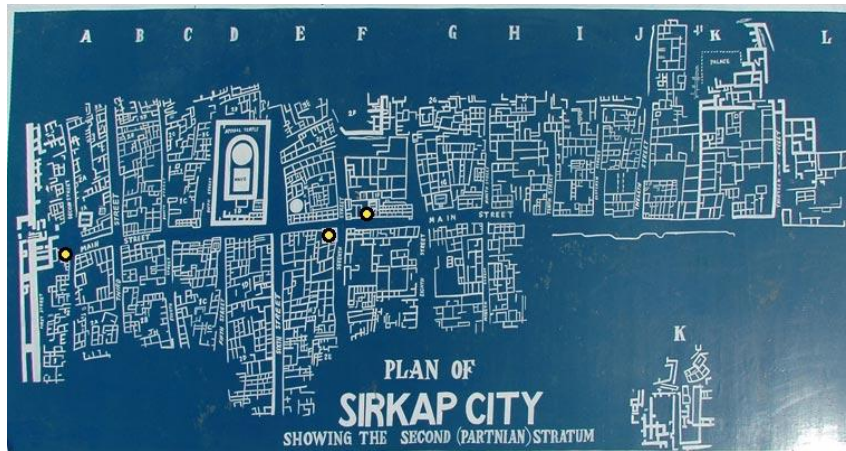
Sirkap



Sirkap



Sirkap



Sirsukh

- The city of Sirsukh was founded by the Kushan king Kanishka after 80 CE, and is the last of the great ancient cities of Taxila.
- The invaders decided to abandon the older city of Sirkap and build a newer city on the other side of the Lundi nala.
- The wall of the city is about 5 kilometers long and about 5.4 meters thick.
- The city wall covers an area of around 2300 x 1000 meters seen along the east-west direction, and is laid out in a typical Central Asian style, complete with suburbs.
- Sirsukh was left uninhabited when the White Huns invaded the Punjab at the end of the fifth century CE. To the north-east of the city flows the Harro river whereas to the south the Lundi-ravine is present.

Sirsukh

- The wall of the city is made of large stone bricks with smaller stone bricks in-between the larger ones.
- It is remarkably smooth on the outer side.
- Circular bastions are present in the wall at small distances for defence.
- These bastions contain holes for archers who could shoot arrows at the enemy outside.

Sirsukh



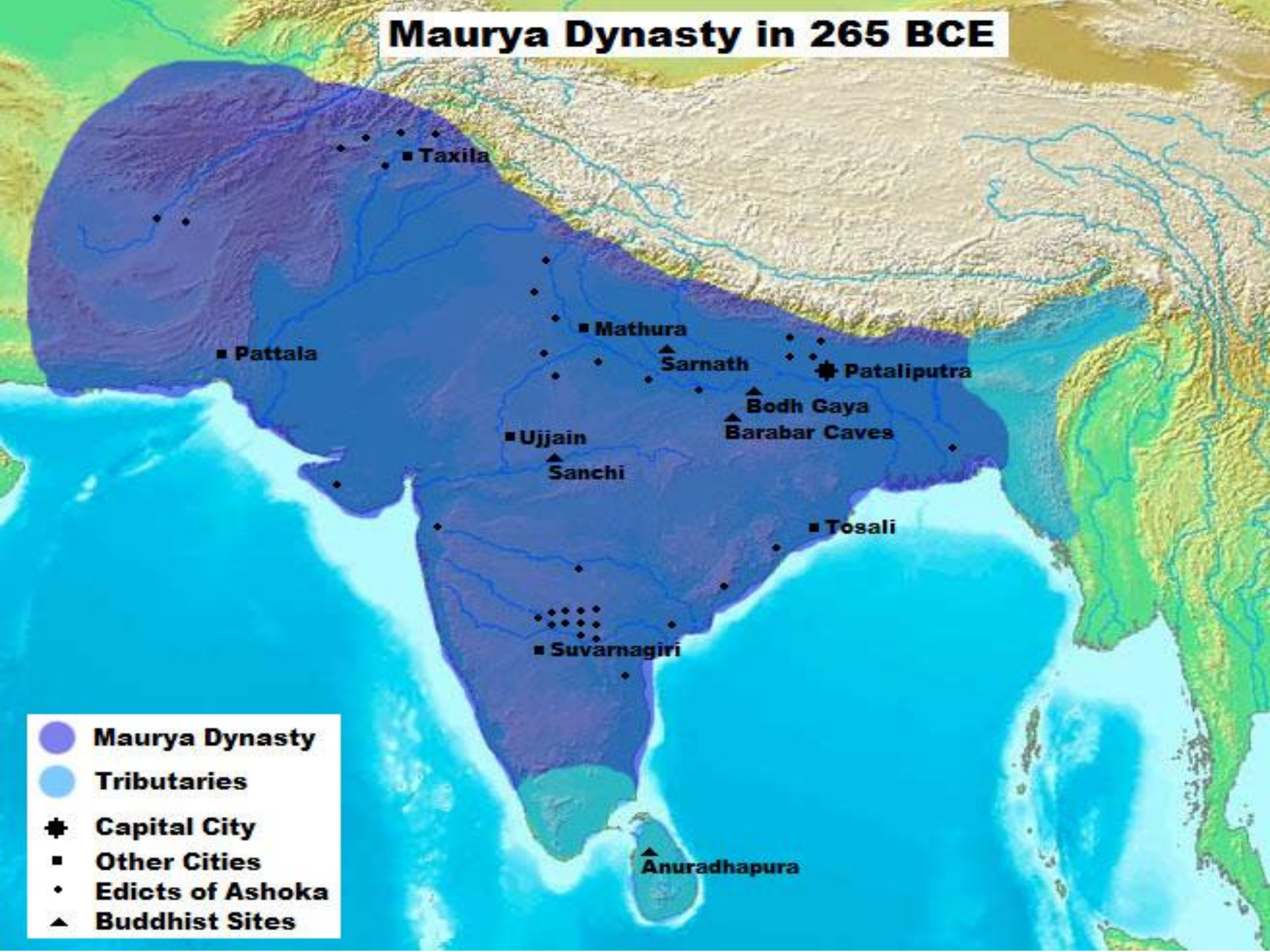
The Hindu Empire

- The golden age of India
- Gupta empire
- The villages and cities of empire
- End of empire

Mauryans and Guptas

- In the Indo-Gangetic plains town development was confined chiefly to the construction of strongly fortified capital cities.
- The rulers of Magadha built a fortress in the plains beside the rivers Ganges and Son where the straggling town of Patna now stands.
- This fortress of Patali was later enlarged into the splendid capital city of Pataliputra by Chandergupt Maurya, the first Maurya emperor.

Maurya Dynasty in 265 BCE



- Maurya Dynasty
- Tributaries
- ★ Capital City
- Other Cities
- Edicts of Ashoka
- ▲ Buddhist Sites

Muslims in India

- Arrival of Arabs, 712 AD
- The start of new empire
- Mughal invasion 1523
- Cities founded by Mughals

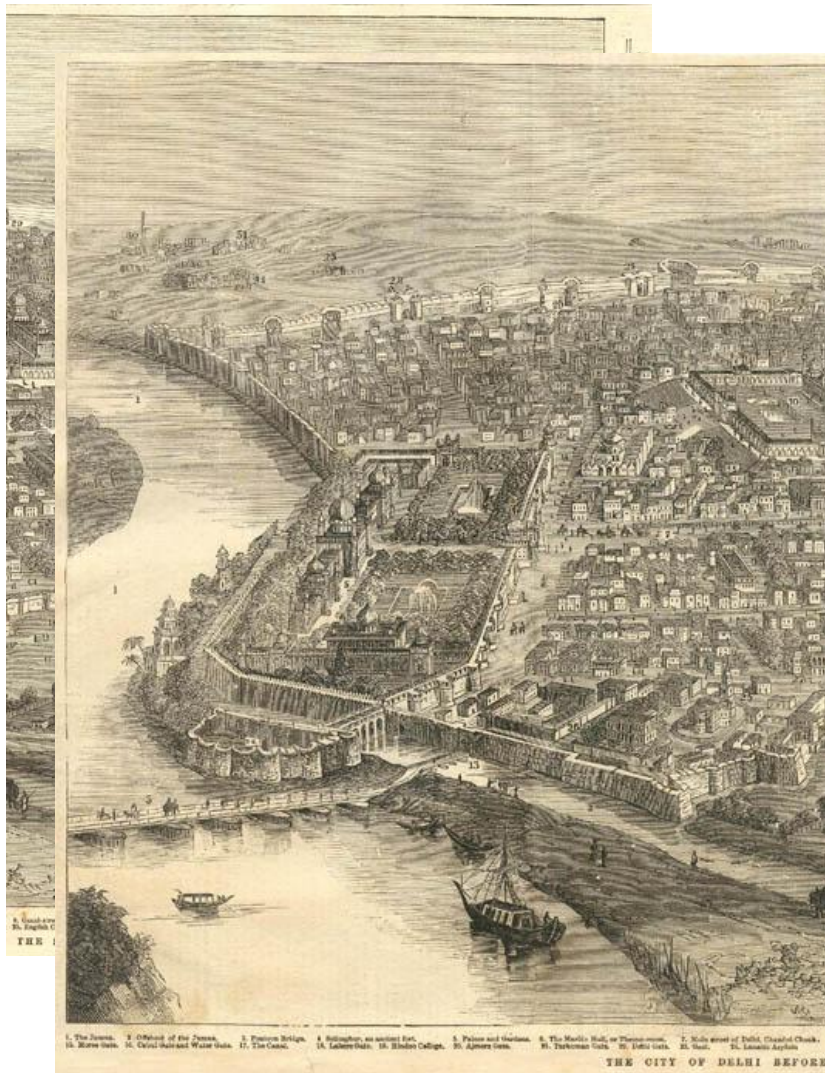
New cities of Mughal Period

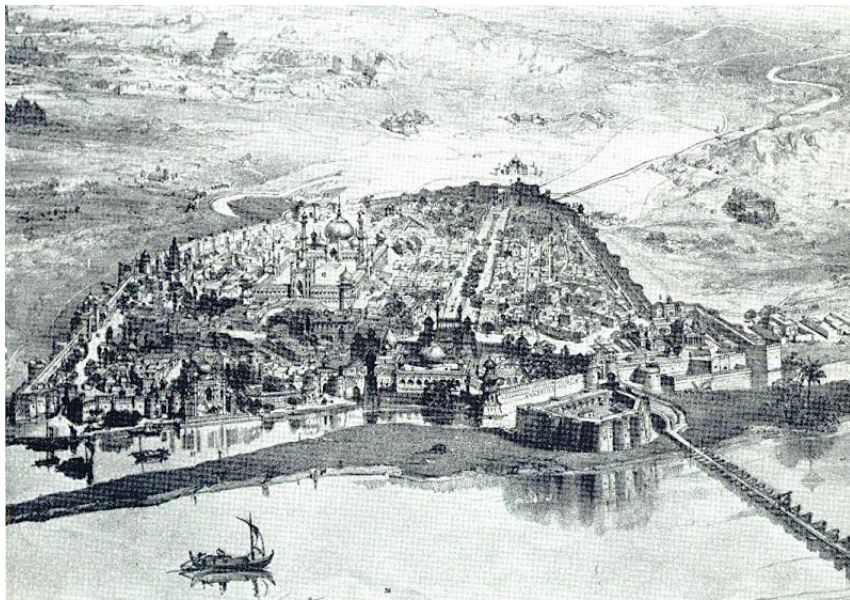
- Shahjahanabad,(Shahjahan 1693)
- Jaisalmer, (Mahalawar Jaisal Singh 1156)
- Golconda(1512)
- Jaipur,(Maharaja Sawai Singh 1728)

Shahjahanabad

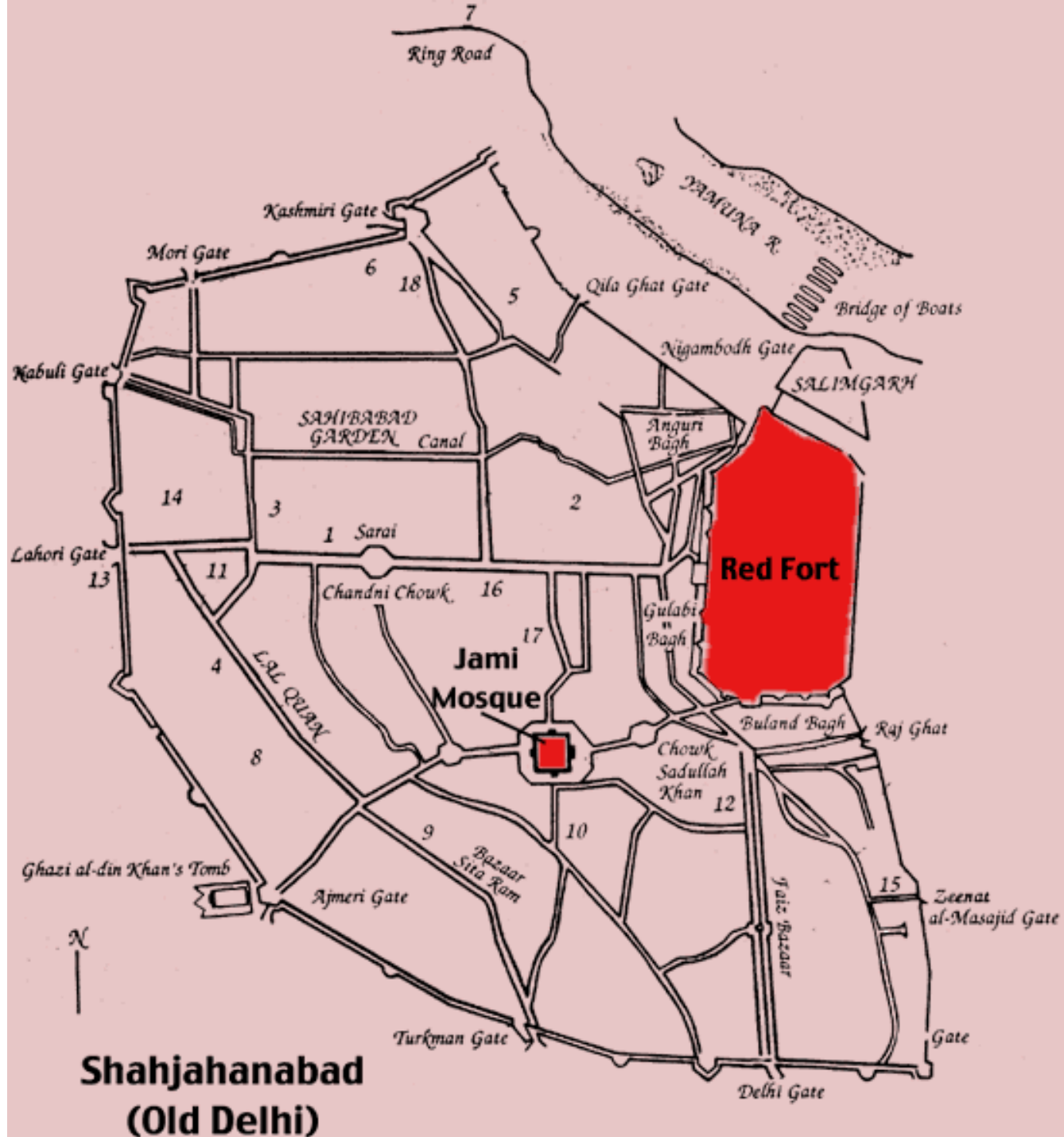
- Founded by Shahjahan on the banks of yumna in 1693.
- Had massive fortification with 14 gates and river on the east.
- The royal fort, red fort, was located on the northeast inside the walled city.
- He also built a great jamia masjid
- There was a great bazaar and a beautiful canal
- City had wide roads, gracious parks, and nobles' houses with large courtyards.
- Residential streets were kept narrow to protect people from the summer sun and biting winter winds.
- Houses were closely built having not more than two storey.

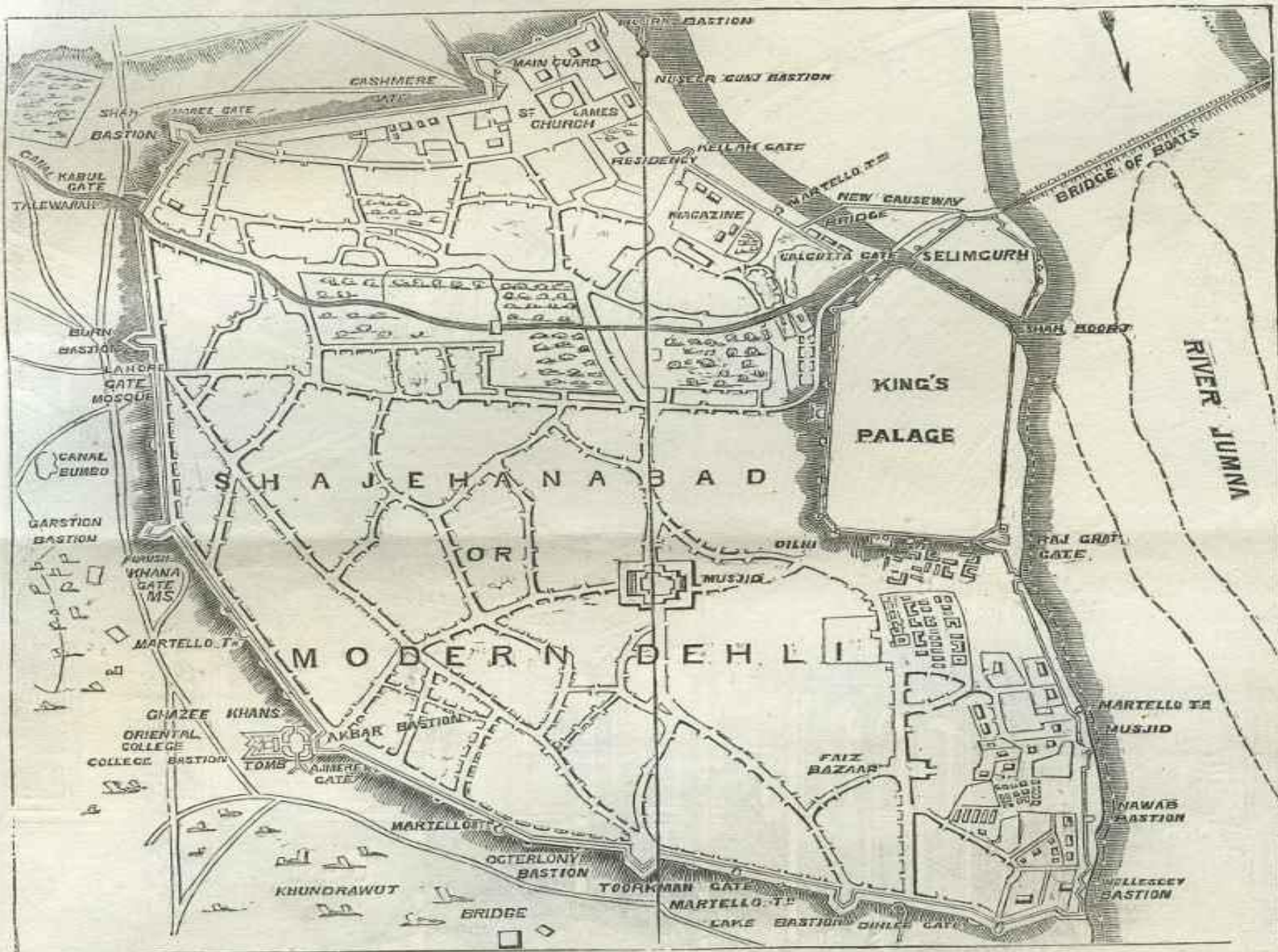
Shahjahanabad





Shahjahanabad





PLAN OF THE CITY OF DELHI.

British Intrusion

- Formation of East India Company(1600)
- Resistance to British occupation
- First war of Indian independence(1857)