IBM DataScience Final Capstone Project — The Battle of Neighborhoods by Krishanu Podder

Business Problem & background:

A travel agency is a private retailer or public service that provides travel and tourism-related services to the general public on behalf of accommodation or travel suppliers. Travel agencies can provide outdoor recreation activities, airlines, car rentals, hotels, railways, travel insurance, package tours etc. For a traveler who is travelling to a new place with the help of a travel agency, the place would be new and his food habits might not match with the place. In this case a travel agency can guide or recommend the customers with information like where can the customer get his favorite dish or which places are famous for a particular type of dish. That would not only be helpful for the customers but also add to the reputation of the travel agency. Besides the travel agency can have collaboration with the good restaurants, that would be advantageous for their business.

For this project, I have taken Kolkata (India) as my target city.

Kolkata is the capital of the Indian state of West Bengal. According to the 2011 Indian census, it is the seventh most populous city in India; the city had a population of 4.5 million, while the suburb population brought the total to 14.1 million, making it the third-most populous metropolitan area in India. Located on the east bank of the Hooghly River approximately 80 kilometres west of the border with Bangladesh, it is the principal commercial, cultural, and educational centre of East India, while the Port of Kolkata is India's oldest operating port. The city nicknamed the "City of Joy" is widely regarded as the "cultural capital" of India and as of 2019, six Nobel Laureates have been associated with the city. Recent estimates of Kolkata Metropolitan Area's economy have ranged from 60 to 150 billion dollar (GDP adjusted for purchasing power parity) making it the third most-productive metropolitan area in India, after Mumbai and Delhi.

A city filled with history and romance, Kolkata has long been viewed as the home of some of the best food in India. Much of this is to do with its past. Bengal was once ruled by the Mughals, who gave Bengali food the sweet spices, nuts and dried fruit that are characteristic of Persian rice and meat dishes. Later, Calcutta was the seat of British colonial power in India for almost 200 years. Over time, Calcutta became Kolkata and a melting pot of cultures and cuisines from around the world—Chinese, Portuguese, Armenian. They came and settled here and made the most of local ingredients to build a library of dishes, across street foods, family diners, bakeries, mishti shops and ethnic eateries.

Over last few decades Kolkata is continuously growing because of the city's important role in government and commercial business. With it's diverse culture, comes diverse food items. There are many restaurants in Kolkata City, each belonging to different categories like Chinese, Italian, French etc.

As part of this project, I will try to list and visualise all major parts of Kolkata City.

I will try to dig in to the data related to various cuisines, restaurants and find the answers to few questions:-

- -Which is the best location in Kolkata for Chinese Cuisine?
- -Which areas have large number of Chinese Restaurant Market?
- -Which areas have less number of restaurants?
- -Which is the best place to stay if I prefer Chinese Cuisine?
- -What places have best restaurant in Kolkata?