**Uttar Pradesh**

1. **Agra**

Agra became part of independent India on 15th Aug 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state of Uttar Pradesh was formed. Agra district is a part of Agra division. Agra is a historical city located on the river bank of Yamuna.

It is believed that Agra was an ancient city from time of the Mahabharata and known as ‘**Agrava**’ and referred as Arya Gufa on the above of the Aryans. Later on, Sultan Sikandar Lodhi, the Muslim ruler of Delhi founded Agra in the year 1504. During Mughal era it was known as “**Akbarabad**” and remained the capital of the Mughal empire under the emperors Akbar, Jahangir and Shah Jahan.

The district is bounded by –

North – Mathura district,

East – Firozabad district,

West – Bharatpur district,

South – Dhaulpur district.

Agra city is full of lovely and priceless architectural and historical monuments. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri are located in Agra. The first garden named ‘Aram Bagh’ was built on the river Yamuna by Babur. The first stone for Red Fort was laid by Akbar. Taj Mahal was built by Shah Jahan and is one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

**Other places to visit:**

### Sikandra Fort (Sikandra)

At the distance of 16 km from Agra town, the Sikandra Fort homes the great emperor Akbar’s Tomb. The fort is known for its magnificent gates, tombs, and red sandstone designs which makes it one of the most visited tourist places in Agra. The fort is also known for its architecture which is a blend of Islamic and Hindu designs.

### Jodha Bai ka Rauza (Dadupura)

At the distance of 8 km from Agra town, Jodha Bai ka Rauza or Jodha’s Palace in Agra was built by Akbar for his favorite queen Jodha. The monument stands as a symbol of peaceful Hindu-Muslim relations which makes it one of the most popular tourist attractions in Agra.

### Diwan-I-Aam (Rakabganj)

Hailed as one of the UNESCO world heritage sites, about 8 km away from agra, Diwan-i-Aam is one of the most beautiful places to visit in Agra. It is famous as the place where Shah Jehan used to have his meetings with the public and heard their problems.

### Chini Ka Rauza (Agra)

At the distance of 12 km from agra, this is one of the most unique historical places to visit in Agra which was built in 1635. The mausoleum is perched on the banks of River Yamuna and charms the visitors with stunning Indo-Persian architecture.

Agra is famous for its market for Leather goods, Cut stones, Handmade Carpets and Candy for Petha. The major industries are electrical goods, pipes, fan, handicrafts, Zari Zardozi, Marvel, Stone Carving, inlay work and carpet.

The major crops are wheat, paddy, Bajra, Mustard, Potato etc.

1. **Aligarh**

Aligarh became part of independent India on 15th Aug 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state of Uttar Pradesh was formed. The district Aligarh is bounded by major rivers Ganga and Yamuna, from north east and north west sides, respectively.

In 1194 A.D. Quitubud-din-Aibak invaded Kol and appointed Hisam-ud-din Ulbak as its governor. Muhammad (son of Umar also governor Kol) during Ibrahim Lodhi’s reign renamed Kol as Muhammadvgarh in 1524-25. Aligarh got its present name from the Shia commander Najaf Khan who captured Kol. The Jats, the Marathas, the mugals and the British all ruled the kingdom of Aligarh. Aligarh was known by the earlier name of **Kol** **or** **Koil** before the 18th century.

This district is bounded by –

North – Bulandshahr district,

East – Badaun and Etah districts,

West – Mathora district,

South – Hathras district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Shekha Bird Sanctuary (Barkatpur)**

Located at a distance of 17 km from the main part of Aligarh city is the Shekha Bird Sanctuary. This bird sanctuary is situated close to a huge lake called Shekha Jheel where thousands of migrant and non-migrant birds visit to breed. This fresh water lake exists throughout the year and has come about from the Upper Ganges canal, flowing adjacent from the lake.

## **Teerthdham Mangalayatan (Aligarh)**

This temple is located at a distance of 13 km from the main city of Aligarh on the Aligarh-Agra Highway, spreading over an area of 16 acres of land. This temple is said to be one of the biggest Jain temples in the entire country and was established by the Shri Adinath Kund-Kund

Kahan Digamber Jain Trust.

## **Jama Masjid (Aligarh)**

The Jama Masjid was constructed in 1724 by Sabit Khan, and it is one of the oldest and most excellent mosques in Aligarh. It took a sum of 14 years to be finished. The mosque is halfway situated at the culmination of the Balai Qila, which is the most elevated mark of the city.

Aligarh is famous for its AMU and World-renowned lock industry (brass, bronze, iron and aluminium) and recently expending meat industry and its addition to NCR.

The major crops are wheat, rice, sugarcane, potato, oilseeds, pulses and coarse cereals.

1. **Prayagraj**

Prayagraj became part of independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state of Uttar Pradesh State. The Ganges River flows through the city of Prayagraj before merging with the Yamuna River.

Emperor Akbar founded the city in the name of ‘**ILLAH BAS**’ which later became ‘**ALLAHABAD**’ meant the city of Allah, impressed with the strategic importance of the SANGAM on 16.10.2018, it is officially renamed Prayagraj. It is believed that Lord Bramha, the creater choose a land for the prakrishta yajna. This land as the confluence of three holy rivers Ganga, Yamuna and Sarswati blessed by Gods came to be Known as **Prayagraj**.

The district is bounded by –

North - Pratapgarh and Jaunpur districts,

East - Mirzapur and Varanasi districts,

West - Banda and Fatehpur districts,

South - Boundary separates it from Madhya Pradesh.

The famous personalities of India i.e., Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi, Madan Mohan Malviya, Gulzarilal Nanda, Rajiv Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri, V. P. Singh, Amitabh Bachchan are born here.

The Prayag Kumbh Mela is possible the biggest festival in the world held here. The famous cable stayed bridge (New Yamuna Bridge) is India’s own Golden Gate bridge and was built in 2004. It runs across the entire 5 pm of huge Yamuna River and connect Allahabad Nalini.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Shri Adi Shankar Viman mandapam**

At the distance of 4 km from Prayagraj city, Shankar Viman mandapam is a holy temple dedicated to the Hindu God Shiva or Shankara. It is located to the North of the Triveni Sangam and the left bank of the river Ganges. However, it remains open all year round and can be visited for special prayer sessions as well.

* **Bharadwaj Ashram (George Town)**

The Bharadwaj Ashram is a temple and Ashram located about 3 km away from Prayagraj city. This place is devoted to the story of Bhardwaj and how he brought the Ganges to the Earth. According to a mythical legend, after Ganga agreed to descend to the Earth, Bharadwaj prayed to Lord Shiva to catch Ganga’s flow before she fell onto the Earth just to avoid floods in the world.

The major industries are fishing and agriculture. Zardozi embroidery is also very famous here.

The major crops are Wheat and rice. Allahabad Surekha or red guavas are very famous here.

1. **Ambedkar Nagar**

Ambedkar Nagar (Akbarpur) district was formed on **Sep 29, 1995** by bifurcation of Ayodhya district (Faizabad). The Sarayu River is the main river and is located at the northern boundary of the district.

According to Ramayana, Akbarpur is where king Dashratha shot Dhanus to Shravan Kumar at the place called Shravan Kshetra. Also, Lord Rama’s son Kush ruled Shrawasti situated here. During the reign of Mughal Emperor Akbar, Risaldar Kunwar Singh, who was a Kshatriyas and possibly who built this new town, was changed from Gudaikhera to 'Akbarpur'.

The district is bounded by –

North – Basti and Sant Kabir Nagar districts,

East – Azamgarh district,

West – Ayodhya (Faizabad) district,

South – Sultanpur district.

The district was created and named in the memory of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar. It is birth place of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia. This district has many historical places namely Sharwan Chetra , Dargah Sharif at Kichaucha ,Govind sahab and Shiv Baba.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Narvadeshwar Mahadev Temple**

This temple dedicated to Lord Shiva is a beautiful and famous temple known as Narvdeshwar Mahadev Temple in Ambedkar Nagar. This temple is situated in Shivala Ghat. A small river flows near the temple. You get to see the Shivling in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple.

Ambedkar Nagar is known for its textile industry, Power Plant, Sugar Plant and Cement manufacturing plant. The district is also noted for Tanda Terricot clothes based in nearby Tanda.

The major crops are Pulses- Gram, Pigeon pea, Field pea, letil etc.

1. **Amethi**

Amethi district was formed on **1 July 2010** by bifurcation of Sultanpur district. Gauriganj is the administrative headquarters of the district. This district is a part of Ayodhya division in the Awadh region and The Gomti River drains almost the whole district.

The history of the princely state of Amethi is more than a thousand years old. Raja Sodh Dev Singh established this princely state in 966 AD during the invasion of Turks. It was previously known as “**Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Nagar**”.

The district is bounded by –

North – Ayodhya district,

East – Sultanpur district,

West – Barabanki and Raebareli districts,

South – Pratapgarh district.

Amethi became known worldwide parliamentary election on the behest of Raja Rannajay Singh who had close relationship with Nehru family. It is also famous for Hanmuman Temple called ‘Hanumangarhi’ and a mosque both built about 100 years ago.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Nandmahar Dham**

Nandamhar Dham is a famous place in Amethi city. Nandmahar Dham falls on the road leading to Gauriganj and Musafirkhana. You can come over here. A big fair is held here on the full moon day of the month of Kartik, in which people of Yadav caste mainly come to worship Shri Krishna ji and his father Nand ji.

## **Samaspur Bird Sanctuary**

## Samaspur Bird Sanctuary is a main tourist destination of Amethi district. Here you get to see many species of birds. This place is located in Salon in Amethi district. There is a park here, where entry is charged. There is a big lake here. This lake is spread over a very large area.

## **Shri Mukut Nath Dham**

Shri Mukut Nath Dham Temple is situated in village Tala. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. It is said that this temple belongs to the time of Pandavas. In this temple, Duryodhana wore his crown by offering it to Lord Shiva. That's why this temple is known as Shri Mukut Nath Temple.

The major industries are Cement industry, manufacture of grain mill products, starches and starch products, etc.

The major crops are Wheat and Rice.

1. **Amroha**

Amroha district was formed on **24 Apr, 1997** by carving out of Dhanora and Hasanpur tehsils of the erstwhile Moradabad district. The major river flowing through Amroha district is the Ganges, which passes through the southern part of the district.

The district was founded about 3000 years ago by King Amarjid Amroha of Hastinapur. Raja Amarjodha, of the Bansi dynasty, was the ruler of region Amroha in 474 B.C. In Tarikhi-Amroha, it is mentioned by its author that Amroha was ruled by Rajputs between 676 and 1141 A.D. In 2012, this district was renamed from “**Jyotiba Phule Nagar**” district to Amroha district. It was also known as ‘**Ajijpur**’.

The district is bounded by –

North – Bijnor district,

East – Moradabad district,

West – River Ganges district,

South – Badaun District.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Chamunda Mata Temple**

Chamunda Mata Temple is located in Hasanpur tehsil of Amroha district. This temple is very beautiful. In the sanctum sanctorum of the temple, you get to see a very beautiful idol of Chamunda Mata.

Amroha is known for its production of mangoes and known a variety of fish. Some of the industries are cotton and textiles handlooms weaving, Pottery making, Sugar milling, Carpet manufacturing, wool handicraft and Dholak manufacturing.

The major crop is Sugarcane.

1. **Auraiya**

Auraiya district was formed on **17 Sep, 1997** by bifurcation of Etawah district. The district is a part of the Kanpur Division. The main rivers which flow through the district are Yamuna and Senger.

Under the Rohillas In 1760 AD Ahmad Shah Durrani invaded India; he was opposed in 1761 by the Marathas on the field of Panipat and inflicted on them a signal defeat. Among other Maratha chieftains Govind Rao Pandit lost his life in the action. Auraiya previously known as Etawah district itself.

The district is bounded by –

North - Kannauj district,

East – Kanpur district,

West – Etawah and Gwalior districts,

South – Jalaun district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Sri Mangala Kali Mandir**

Shri Mangala Kali Temple is dedicated to Mangala Mata. This temple is about 6 kilometers away from Auraiya district. If you come to visit Devkali temple in Auraiya district, then you can also come to visit Sri Mangala Kali temple.

## **Baba Saheb Temple**

Baba Saheb Mandir is situated near Pachanda Sangam Sthal near Auraiya district. The Sangam Sthal here is very beautiful and Baba Saheb's temple is built near the Sangam Sthal. You will meet Baba Saheb in the temple to have darshan.

It is famous for animal husbandry and its major producer of pure desi ghee.

The major crops are millets, bajra and jowar, paddy and maize.

1. **Azamgarh**

Azamgarh became part of independent India on 15th Aug 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950 of Uttar Pradesh State. Azamgarh is situated on the bank of Tamsa River.

Azamgarh was founded by Azam, son of Vikramajit in 1665, who was descendant of Gautam Rajputs of Mehnagar in pargana Nizamabad who like some of his predecessors had embraced the faith of Islam. He had a Muslim wife who leave him to sons Azam and Azmat. It is also known as land of the sage Durvasa whose ashram was located in Phulpur sub-district.

The district is bounded by –

North – Gorakhpur district,

East – Bihar State,

West – Jaunpur and Mau districts,

South – Ghazipur district.

Azamgarh is birthplace of poet Ayodhya Singh.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Mandleshwar Vishwanath Temple**

Mandaleshwar Vishwanath Temple is situated in Azamgarh Mehnagar Tehsil. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. A pond is also found here. This pond is built behind the temple. This pond is spread over a very large area. There are trees and plants around the pond.

## **Maa Palhmeshwari Temple**

Maa Palhameshwari Temple is situated in Palhana village of Mehnagar tehsil in Azamgarh. The goddess sitting in the Palhameshwari temple is the form of Goddess Durga and you can come here and have darshan of the mother.

## **Maharishi Durvasa Temple**

Maharishi Durvasa Temple is situated in the village named Durvasa. Tamsa and Magahi rivers confluence here. It feels great to be here. Here one can see the ashram of Maharishi Durvasa ji. This place is naturally beautiful.

Azamgarh is famous for the manufacturing of Benarasi sarees.

The main crops of Azamgarh are wheat, jwar, tomato and dairy product i.e., buffalo Murrah/desi.

1. **Baghpat**

Baghpat district was formed on **1st Sep, 1997** by bifurcation of Meerut district. Baghpat town lies on the east bank of the Yamuna River and It falls under the National Capital Region of Delhi.

The city, founded by the Pandava brothers of Mahabharata, was originally known as “**Vyghraprastha**” Or “**Tigercity**” because of the population of tigers found many centuries ago, and was one of the five villages asked by the Pandava brothers from Duryodhana to avoid the Mahabharat. Barnava, near Baraut is the site of the Lakshagraha – palace made of wax, that was built by Purochana a minister of Duryodhana to kill the Pandavas. the city was finally named Baghpat, or Bagpat, during the [Mughal era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mughal_Empire).

The district is bounded by –

North – Shamli and Muzaffarnagar district,

East – Meerut district,

West – The Yamuna River, Delhi, and Sonipat district in Haryana state.

South – Ghaziabad district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Trilok Teerth Dham**

## 

Bada Gaon’s Trilok Teerth Dham is a Jain temple. This temple is designed in the shape of the Jain Emblem. On top of the temple is a 31-foot-tall statue of Rishabhdev in padmasan position constructed of Ashtadhatu (8 metals). A meditation centre, Samavasarana, NandishwarDweep, TrikaalChaubisi, Meru Temple, Lotus Temple, Parshvanath Temple, and Jambudweep are all part of this temple.

* **Valmiki Ashram**

## The Valmiki Ashram is located about 25 kilometres from the city towards Meerut, off Meerut Road and near the Hindon River in the village baleni, where the Ramayana Luv and Kush sons of Lord Rama were born and raised. This is where Sita settled following the Ram-Ravanyudh incident in the Ramayana.

Baghpat district is mainly known for its home furnishing works across the country. There are sugar mills in Baghpat, Ramala and Malakpur. There are certain units who make shoes and agriculture equipments also.

The major crops are wheat, mustard, sugarcane and rice.

1. **Bahraich**

Bahraich became part of independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state of Uttar Pradesh State. Bahraich is sharing the border with Nepal and Bahraich is a beautiful city situated at the bank of holy river Saryu.

The dense forests and fast-flowing rivers are the specialties of district Bahraich. It was famous as the Capital of God Brahma, the maker of the universe. It was also known as part of Gandharva Forest. Even today Northeast area of several hundred square kms of the district is covered by the forest. It is said that Brahma ji developed this forest-covered area as the place of worship for Rishis & Sadhus.

According to Puranas **King Luv**, the son of God Ram & King Prasenjit ruled Bahraich. Also, during the period of exile Pandavas & along with mother Kunti visited this place. According to some other historians in the middle age this place was the capital of “Bhar” dynasty. Therefore, it was called as “**Bharaich**”. Which later come to be known as “Bahraich”.

The district is bounded by –

North – Border of Nepal,

East – Gonda and Shravasti districts,

West – Kheri district,

South – Bara-Banki and Sitapur districts.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Sangharan Mahakali Temple (Dighahi)**

Sangharan Mahakali Temple is located near Dighahi Square in Bahraich. A very grand statue of Kali Mata is found in this temple. Many people come here to visit Kali Mata. Apart from Kali Mata, many other gods and goddesses are present here.

## **Mari Mata Mandir**

Mari mata’s temple, located on the banks of the Saryu River along the Bahraich-Lucknow Highway at the northern end of Bahraich city in Uttar Pradesh, is a place of pilgrimage for devotees. During Navaratri, devotees from both rural and urban areas gather in temples to worship and pray.

Bahraich is very well known for its sugar industry which has posted positive growth rates throughout. There are major sugar mills in Bahraich in the areas of Nanpara, Jarwal, Chilawaria, Balha and Kaiserganj and all of them are performing quite well. Handicraft made from wheat stalks is a major product here.

The major crops are wheat, rice, sugarcane, pulses and mustard.

1. **Ballia**

Ballia became part of independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state of Uttar Pradesh was formed. Originally, Ballia district was established in 1879 out of Ghazipur district along with some parts of Azamgarh district.

King Bali made his glorious capital. It is believed that the name of the city Ballia is derived from the name of one of the famous saints of Indian history, Valmiki. On 30th Jan 1930, people of Ballia had taken control of the town and they declared Independence. Chittu Pandey led the quite movement in Ballia on August 19, 1942 and known as Tiger of Ballia. It is the birthplace of Sri Mangal Pandey and Sri Chittu Pandey. It is believed that the city was initially called '**Ballian**' and then changed as 'Ballia'. Ballia Old name and surname: Ballia is also known as Baghi Ballia due to its significant contribution in the freedom struggle of India.

The district is bounded by –

North – Deoria district,

East – Bihar State,

West – Mau district,

South – Ghazipur district.

It is the birthplace of former prime minister of India Chandra Sekhar Singh.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Gayatri Shaktipeeth Temple**

The temple is 1 km from Ballia Railway Station and located near Mahavir Ghat in Ballia city. Here you get to visit Mother Gayatri Mata. Many devotees come here to visit the mother. You also get to see Shriram Smriti Upvan here, which looks very beautiful.

## **Bhrigu Temple**

This temple is about 1 km away from Ballia Railway Station. Bhrigu Temple is a famous temple of Ballia district. This place is the Taposthali of Bhrigu Rishi and he took Samadhi here. Sage Bhrigu had kicked Lord Vishnu, due to which he was cursed and he came here and did hard penance and took samadhi here.

## **Shri Chiteshwar Nath Temple (Chitauni village)**

Chhiteshwar Mahadev Temple is located in Chitauni village in Ballia district. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This temple is a very ancient temple. This temple is about 400 years old. A stone Shivling is sitting in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple and the statue of the snake god is sitting.

* **Chaturbhuj Nath Temple (Sikandarpur)**

Chaturbhuj Nath Temple is located in Sikandarpur in Ballia district. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. Here you also get to see a pond. This temple is very beautiful. A fair is also held here on Mahashivaratri.

Though Ballia's core occupation is agriculture there are some additional small industries. Rasra is the second major commercial area of the district, having a government sugar mill and a cotton weaving industry. Maniar is known for its bindi industry and is a major supplier.

The major crops are wheat, barley, rice, sugarcane, chick pea and field pea etc.

1. **Balrampur**

Balrampur district was formed on **May 25, 1997** by carving out of Gonda district. Balrampur district is a part of Devipatan division as well as the historic Awadh regions. Located on the banks of the West Rapti River.

In Balrampur Gautam Buddha spend 21 years under the sacred Peepal tree. The famous incident of Angulimal happened in the forest of Sravasti, where the dacoit who used to kill people and wear a garland of their fingers was enlightened by Gautam Budda.

Balrampur dynasty belongs to Janwaar Kshatriya (Descendant of Janmejay the Great Kuru King and the great grandson of Arjun) is one of the very rich dynasties in India. Currently Maharaja Dharmendra Prasad Singh holds the crown of Balrampur Riyasat. The famous institution M.L.K. P.G. College. Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh, India is established by Rajpariwar. The oldest inter college of the city Maharaja Pateshwari Prasad inter college is also established in 1883 by Rajpariwar. Beside these things Rajpariwar has opened many hospitals, inn, schools etc. the famous Balrampur Hospital in Lucknow is one of the finest examples of their charitable works.

The district is bounded by –

North – Dang deukhuri district of Nepal,

East – Siddharthnagar district,

West – Shravasti district,

South – Basti district.

BCM- Balrampur Chini Mills Limited (Sugar Factory), the second largest sugar production unit in India is located in Balrampur. Bajaj Hindusthan also has a Sugar mill in the district near Utraula.

The major crops are Paddy, maize, groundnut, wheat and gram. Balrampur is a low land area where small lentis pulses are cultivated as cash crops.

1. **Banda**

Banda became a part of independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared as a district on 26th Jan 1950 when new state Uttar Pradesh formed. It is a part of Chitrakoot Division. The Baghein River traverses the district from south-west to north-east.

The founder of Banda was Ali Bahadur I. He was a grandson of the Peshwa Bajirao and son of Shamsher Bahadur. The region which is presently known as Banda district can boast of a rich historical tradition going back to the remote antiquity. Bamdeo, the great sage from whom this district derives its name “**Bamda**” (later Banda) lived in this region.

The district is bounded by –

North – Fatehpur district,

East – Chitrakoot district,

West – Hamirpur and Mahoba districts,

South – Satna, Panna, and Chhatarapur districts of adjoining Madhya Pradesh.

The famous Kalinjar-hill (Kalanjaradri) is said to have derived its name from Lord Shiva himself who is the main deity of Kalinjar called Nilakantha even today. This place is clearly mentioned in the Hindu holy books viz. the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and also in Puranas.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Bhuragarh Fort**

The Bhuragrah Fort is located on the Ken River’s bank. The sunset from the fort is a breathtaking sight. The historical significance of Bhuragarh Fort is linked to the Bundela monarchy and the sons of Maharaja Chattrasal, Hridaya Shah and Jagat Rai. In 1746 A.D., Kirat Singh, son of Jagat Rai, restored Bhuragarh Fort.

* **Bamdev Temple**

The temple was named after Bamdeo Rishi, a sage mentioned in Hindu mythology as a contemporary of Lord Rama. Bamdeo is reported to have lived in a hermitage on a hill. One of the largest and oldest Shivlings may be found in the temple in the town of BambesharPahar.

Banda is famous for its Shajar stone which is used for making jewellery and the historically and architecturally significant site Khajuraho and kalinjar are nearby.

The major crops are paddy rice, wheat and vegetables.

1. **Barabanki**

Barabanki became a part of independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared as a district on 26th Jan 1950 when new state Uttar Pradesh formed. This is one of the five districts of Ayodhya division, in the central Awadh region. Ghaghra is the most important river of the district.

The current Barabanki district was first established by the British upon their annexation of Oudh State in 1856. Originally, the district was known as “**Daryabad**”district because its headquarters were at Daryabad, but in 1859 they were relocated to Barabanki. The name "Barabanki" was chosen for the district's official name over "**Nawabganj**".

It is believed that Mata Kunti was born here in Kintur at Barabanki district. The district of Barabanki also known as the ‘Entrance to Poorvanchal’, has the privilege of being the penance ground to numerous saints and ascetics.

The district is bounded by –

North – Gonda, Bahraich and Sitapur districts,

East - Ayodhya district,

West – Lucknow district,

South – Rae Bareli district.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Avasaneshwar Mahadeva Temple**

Avasaneshwar Mahadeva Temple is built on the banks of Gomti river, about 3 km from Haidergarh tehsil in Barabanki district. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva and the idol of the serpent god.

## **Shailani Mata Temple (Dallukhera village)**

Shailani Mata Temple is situated in Dallukhera village on the banks of Gomti river in Barabanki district. This temple is dedicated to Shailani Mata or Shailputri Mata.

The district is known for fabric knitting through handloom. Owing to the high demand of cotton clothing, there is also a huge demand for handloom products prepared using traditional technology. Barabanki has been major hub of opium production.

The major crops are rice, wheat, pulses and sugarcane.

1. **Bareilly**

Bareilly became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The Bareilly district is a part of the Bareilly Division. The river Sarda or Gogra forms the eastern boundary of the district and is the principal stream.

According to the epic Mahabharata, Bareilly region (Panchala) is said to be the birthplace of Draupadi. Also, the folklore says that Gautama Buddha had once visited the ancient fortress city of Ahicchattra in Bareilly. The city is also known as Bans-Bareilly.Bareilly was founded in 1537 by **Jagat Singh Katehriya**, a Rajput who named it Bareilly other his two sons Bansaldev and Baraldev.

The district is bounded by –

North – Udham Singh Nagar district (Uttarakhand State),

East – Pilibhit and Shahjahanpur districts,

West – Rampur district,

South – Badaun district.

It is also religiously famous for ‘Ala Hazrat’ and as ‘The Nath Nagari’ for its 5 ancient Shiv temples. Bareilly is a strategic location for the Indian Air force.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Jagannath Temple**

It is a temple devoted to Lord Shiva the principal deity in the town. **Jagannath temple** has an exquisite architecture with paintings and sculptures that are about 200 years old. The designs on the walls narrate the story of the lord. The sonority of the temple bells proves to be music to the ears.

### Tulsi Math

This particular temple is devoted to Tulsi Das who was the author of the famous book called **Ramcharitramanas**. He translated many ancient scriptures, including Ramayana so that these sacred scriptures can reach to the masses. This temple believes that he was the reincarnation of Valmiki and therefore pays tribute to him as an important religious figure.

Bareilly is famous in the world of fashion designing for its “Zari Zardozi” works and crafts like bamboo and wooden furniture, Surma manufacturing etc. and also for Cutdana Moti.

The major vegetable crops in Bareilly are Cabbage, Caulti flower, Potato, Onion, Tomato, Brinjal, Lobhiya, Lauki, Turai, Kheera, Kaddu and Bhindi.

1. **Basti**

Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The river Ghaghara is flowing through the south corner of the district.

**Raja Udai Raj Singh** was the first ruler of Kalhans dynasty based at Basti. In 1801, the town Basti became a tehsil headquarter, and in 1865, it was chosen as the headquarters of the newly established Basti district of Gorakhpur Commissionary. Specifically, it happened on 6 May 1865.

Basti was originally known as “**Vaishishthi**”. The origin of the name Vaishishthi is attributed to the fact that the area was ashram of Rishi Vashishtha in ancient period.

The district is bounded by –

North – Siddharthnagar district,

East – Sant Kabir Nagar district,

West – Gonda district,

South – Faizabad and Ambedkar Nagar districts.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Ramrekha Temple**

## 

Ramrekha Temple is a famous religious place located near Basti town. This is the first stop of 84 Kosi Parikrama. Here you get to see the temple of Shri Ram Ji. Rooprekha river flows near the temple. People come here to do circumambulation and take a bath in the river Rooprekha. It is said that Shri Ram ji came here and after resting for some time, proceeded from this place.

## **Sir Ghat Mata Mandir (Rudhauli)**

Sir Ghat Devi Temple is located at Rudhauli in Basti district. Shri Ram meets in this temple to have darshan of Mata Sita. There is also a pond built here.  It is said that one's wish is fulfilled by praying in this temple.

Basti is also known for its bamboo, eucalyptus, mango and shisham. Four sugar factories are housed in the district.

The major crops are sugarcane, maize, paddy, pulses, wheat, barley and potato.

1. **Bhadohi**

Bhadohi district was formed on **June 30, 1994**, by carving out from Varanasi district. This district is situated in the plains of the Ganga River, which forms the southwestern border of the district.

**Maharaja Prabhu Narayan Singh** created Bhadohi in 1911. This place gets name from Bhar Raj of the region, which had Bhadohi as its capital. The Mayawati changed this district name from Bhadohi to Sant Ravidas Nagar (SRN) on Sep 5, 1997. The Akhilesh Yadav government resolved on 6th Dec 2014 to change the name back to Bhadohi.

The district is bounded by –

North – Jaunpur district,

East – Varanasi district,

West – Prayagraj district,

South – Mirzapur district.

**Other places to visit:**

### Semradhanath Temple

Semradhanath Temple, which is situated between Kashi and Prayag and on the border of Bhadohi and Mirzapur, is a famous Shiva temple situated on the banks of Maa Ganga ji. Which is located in the depth of a well. Although there is always a crowd of devotees in this place, but in the month of Shravan, there is a huge crowd of devotees.

### Chakwa Mahaveer Temple

Chakwa Mahaveer Temple is in Bhadohi where there is huge crowd of devotees on every Tuesday and Saturday. Swings, circus etc. come in the fair of Chakwa Mahavir, which is very big from the point of view of tourists. Chakwa Mahavir Temple is the temple of Hanuman ji. Ashram, water and electricity facilities are also available for devotees to stay at Chakwa Mahavir temple.

Bhadohi is known by the name ‘Carpet city’ for its hand-knotted carpet. Indian Institute of Carpet Technology the only institution in entire Asia was set up in Bhadohi in 2001.

The major crops are wheat, paddy, jawar, bajra, bengal gram, pulses, oilseeds and vegetables.

1. **Bijnor**

Bijnor Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Bijnor is situated at the bank of Ganga.

Bijnor district was created in 1817 and was called Nagina district. The headquarters was relocated to Bijnor in 1824, although the district was still called "Nagina district" until 1837, when it officially became known as Bijnor district. This place was also known as **Daranagar**.

The district is bounded by –

North – Pauri Garhwal district,

East – Moradabad district,

West – Muzaffarnagar district,

South – Meerut district.

It is also the birth place of the greatest king ‘Bharata’. Mahatma Vidur after his dispute with Duryodhana spend his later years in Bijnor. Vidur Kuti which is 12 KM away from Bijnor still lies here.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Shri Mahashakti Kalika Temple**

Shri Mahashakti Kalika Mandir is a famous temple in Bijnor city. This temple is dedicated to Kalika Devi. In this temple, we meet to see Kalika Devi. The sanctum sanctorum of the temple is very beautiful and in the sanctum sanctorum one can see a very grand statue of Maa Kalika Devi and including colored glass.

* **Charminar Najibabad**

Charminar is a beautiful place situated in Najibabad Bijnor. This place is turning into ruins. Here you get to see four beautiful minarets. The fort was also built here, which is now completely broken. These towers are still in good condition.

Bijnor is notable for its sugarcane production and mills, with two of the top five sugar mills situated in the district.

The major crops are Sugarcane, paddy, wheat, and oilseeds.

1. **Budaun**

Budaun became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The prominent river that flows through the district is Ganga.

Budaun is holy land of Great Sufi Saint’s, Auliya, Wali and Peer’s as well as a place of izarat’s. According to Prof. Goti John this city was named “BEDAMOOTH” in an ancient inscription (stone write-up) which is now in Lucknow Museum. Budaun is said to have been founded about 905 CE by Buddh a hindu Raja. According to the mythological stories, Badaun was named after **Ahir** prince Budh.

The district is bounded by –

North – Rampur, Bimnagar and Bareilly districts,

East – Bulandshahr and Aligarh districts,

West – Shahjahanpur district,

South – Kanshi Ram Nagar and Farrukhabad districts.

Budaun is a big market, historically famous and religiously important city. It is the heart of Rohilkhand.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Shree Sahastradham Gaurishankar Devalaya**

Shri Sahastradham Gauri Shankar Devalaya temple located at Badaun city. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. In 2001 Shri Ram Sharan Rastogi got this temple constructed. In this temple you get to see India's only Rasalinga. Wrestling means Shivling made of gold and mercury. Saptadhatu has also been mixed in this Shivling.

* **Biruawadi Temple**

Biruawadi Temple is a famous temple of Badaun city. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. There is also a garden here, where you can sit peacefully.

## **Shri Sankat Mochan Balaji Darbar**

Shri Sankat Mochan Balaji Darbar is also known as Hanuman Garhi temple. This temple is very beautiful and the idol of Hanuman ji looks very huge and amazing. There are many other deities sitting inside the temple.

* **Bhagirathi Ghat (Kachla)**

Bhagirathi Ghat is a beautiful site located at Kachla in Badaun city. There is a beautiful Ghat built on the banks of the river Ganges here. This ghat is very nice. Here the view of the river Ganges is very tremendous. There are also many temples here, which are very aesthetic.

Budaun is famous for its Zari-Zardozi products. The Zardozi industry is largely cottage industry. It is an important agricultural center.

The major crops are Wheat, sugarcane, paddy and Bajra.

1. **Bulandshahar**

Bulandshahr became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Bulandshahr district is a district in the Meerut region in the North Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, situated between the two rivers Ganga and Yamuna. It is a part of the National Capital Region of India.

Bulandshahr is a Persian word and it means “High City”. The origin of Bulandshahr date back to 1200 B.C. It is situated in close proximity to Indraprastha and Hastinapur, the seat of power of the Pandavas. The city has ruins of medieval statues and objects of ancient temples. Kala Aam is famous place in Bulandshahr, which is known as ‘**Murderers’s Place**’.

The district is bounded by –

North – Hapur district,

East – Amroha and Sambhal districts,

West – Gautam Buddha Nagar district,

South – Aligarh district.

Mango orchards is syana belt of Bulandshahr are very famous. Khurja town is a city of Potteries located in Bulandshahr and also known for Ayurvedic doctors. The Nuclear Atomic Power Plant is also located at Narora in Bulandshahr district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Mandu Ashram (Gajraula)**

This ashram is situated in Gajraula village of Siyana tehsil of Bulandshahr. This ashram is built on the banks of river Ganges. The view around the ashram is very peaceful and natural. This ashram belongs to Mandu Rishi.

## **Maa Avantika Devi Temple (Anuppur)**

The temple of Maa Avantika Devi is built on the banks of the river Ganges, about 15 kilometers away from Anuppur Tehsil in Bulandshahr. This temple is believed to be of Mahabharata period. It is said that Shri Krishna ji abducted Rukmani ji here. Rukmani ji came here to worship Maa Avantika ji and Shri Krishna ji abducted Rukmani and married Rukmani.

## **Siddha Peeth Shri Mahakali Temple**

Siddha Peeth Shri Mahakali Temple is a famous temple of Bulandshahr. This temple is dedicated to Mahakali ji.  There is a huge crowd in this temple during Navratri.

Bulandshahr is a significant industrial hub. Key players include chemical, metal and ceramic industries. Additionally, the sugar mills, crockery manufacturers, and electrical goods manufacturers are profit making firms.

The major crops are Sugarcane, Wheat, Maize and Potato.

1. **Chandauli**

Chandauli district was formed on **20 May, 1997** by carving out of the Ghazipur district. Chandauli district is a part of Varanasi Division. The district is situated in the eastern and southern side of holy river Ganga.

Being the part of Kashi Kingdom, the history of the Chandauli district is the same as of Kashi Kingdom and of Varanasi district. Before the birth of lord Buddha, in 6th century B.C., Bharatvarsha was divided into sixteen Mahajan padas, Kashi was one of them and its capital was Varanasi. Chandauli is popularly known as ‘Rice Bowl’ of U.P. It is also known for Coal Mandi.

The district is bounded by –

North – Ghazipur district,

East – Bihar State,

West – Mirzapur district,

South – Sonbhadra district.

Chandauli is mainly famous Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary where interesting species of animals, birds and plants are found. Also, Former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri borned here in Mugalsarai.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Hetampur Fort (Hetampur)**

Hetampur Fort is located in Hetampur village of Chandauli district. There is a boundary wall all around this fort and you also get to see some remains here. This fort is 400 years old and you can come here and roam around in this fort.

## **Muskhand Dam (Chakia)**

Musakhand Dam is a beautiful dam. This dam is surrounded by hills from all sides. This dam is located in Chakia tehsil of Chandauli district. This dam is situated at a distance of about 62 kilometers from Varanasi. This dam is built on the Karmnasha river. The water of this dam is used for irrigation and for drinking water.

The major industries are agro-based industries, mineral based, wool –silk-artificial thread base cloth, readymade garments and engineering enterprises.

The major crops are Rice, Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Sugarcane, Chickpea, Field pea and Pigeon pea.

1. **Chitrakoot**

Chitrakoot district was formed on **6th May, 1997** by carving out of Banda district. The important rivers of district Chitrakoot are Yamuna River, Mandakini (Paishwani) River and Gunta River.

Chitrakoot is one of the important places connect to the epic Ramayana, where Lord Rama is persuaded by his brother Bharata to return to Ayodhya and where Rama performed the last rites of his father Dasharatha in presence of Gods and Goddess. Maharshi Valmiki Ramayan was composed here. It is also believed that the supreme Gods of Hinduism i.e., Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva took incarnation here.

The Chhatrapati Shahuji Mahraj- Nager was converted its name as Chitrakoot district on **4th Sept, 1998**. The word “Chitrakoot” has been used here to refer to this larger area and symbolizes the rich and varied cultural, religious, historical and archaeological heritage of the various places and sites of this area. Lacs of people gather here at these sites on each Amavasya. Chitrakoot is a holy place famous both for its natural scenery and its spiritual attitude.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Ganesh Bagh**

Located just 11 km on the Karvi-Devangana Road, Ganesh Bagh is a place with an architecturally beautiful temple, baoli with seven storeys and ruins of a palace exist. The whole complex was built by Peshwa Vinayak Rao as a summer retreat and is also known locally as mini-Khajuraho.

# **Kalinjar Fort**

Located around 88 km from Chitrakoot, Kalinjar is a fort which was once an important symbol of power and hence desired by various kings. There are multiple temples within the fort area as well and hence an important place for Hindus.

Chitrakoot is known for its handloom and handicraft products, which include textiles, pottery, terracotta, and stone carving. The district has several power generation projects, including hydroelectric and thermal power plants. The district has a sugar mill located in the city of Karwi.

The major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Pulses, Wheat and Sugarcane.

1. **Deoria**

Deoria became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The major rivers that flow through Deoria district are the Ghaghara and the Rapti.

Deoria district has a rich history that dates back to ancient times. The region was an important center of trade and commerce during the Mauryan and Gupta empires. The area was also ruled by several powerful dynasties, including the Mauryas, Guptas, Kushanas, and Mughals. The name DEORIA is derived from ‘**Devaranya**’ or ‘**Devpuria**’ as believed.

Ancient history of the district is related with Ramayan times when ‘Kaushal Naresh’ Lord Ram appointed hius elder son ‘Kush’ the king of Kushawati- which is today ‘**Kushinagar**’. The term Deoria generally means a placed where there are temples.

The district is bounded by –

North – Sant Kabir Nagar district,

East – Maharajganj district,

West – Gorakhpur district,

South – Kushinagar district.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Durga Mandir**

A ‘Durga Mandir’ can be found on Kasia Road, near SOMNATH MANDIR in Deoria. It is a Goddess DURGA Temple where it is assumed that everything you wish for would come true. DEORAHI MANDIR, Deoria is an ideal location for spending quality time with your loved ones. Enjoy the Blessings and Attractions of this well-known Temple.

* **Ahilyapur Temple**

This is the holy temple of Durga Mata ji located in Ahilyapur village of Deoria district, where thousands of people gather here during Navratri.

* **Shayam Temple**

This Shyam Mandir is located in Sindhi Mill Colony, about 1 kilometer from Deoria Railway Station. This is a very beautiful temple of Radha-Krishna ji, where daily aarti in the evening gives a lot of peace to our mind, this temple has white marble which attracts us towards itself.

The major industries are textile and sugar industries.

The major crops are wheat, rice, sugarcane, and vegetables.

1. **Etah**

Etah district was formed on **24 Apr, 1997** when it was separated from the Mainpuri district. Etah district is a part of Aligarh Division. The major river that flows through the Etah district is the Yamuna River.

Etah is also known as the "Bhojpur Region" because of its association with Raja Bhoj, a legendary king of the Paramara dynasty who is said to have ruled this region. The district is also known for its historical and cultural significance, as it was a part of the ancient kingdoms of the Mauryas, the Guptas, and the Mughals. **Anitha** was previous name of Etah in the ancient times.

The district is bounded by –

North - Badaun and Shahjahanpur districts,

East - Farrukhabad and Kannauj districts,

West - Kasganj and Aligarh districts,

South - Mainpuri district.

Goswami Tulsi Das writer of Ramcharitmanas was born in 1497 at SORON in Etah District.

The Noah Kera village in Etah district is believed to be wedding venue of Lord Sri Krishna with Rukmani.

Etah also is very famous for its Yagyashala which is located in the Gurukul Vidyashala made by the king of Awagarh.

The major industries are Handloom industry, Sugar industry, Dairy industry and Brick-making industry.

The major crops are sugarcane and wheat, paddy, pulses, oilseeds, and vegetables.

1. **Etawah**

Etawah district was formed on **16th Aug, 1984** by carving out of Mainpuri district. The Yamuna River is the major river that flows through the Etawah district.

Etawah district has a rich and ancient history. The region was ruled by several powerful dynasties and kingdoms throughout its history, including the Mauryas, Kushans, Guptas, and Mughals. A descendant of King Bharata considered to be the founder of ancient Etawah. It has been found that the name Etawah is derived from the term used for brick burners as there are thousands of brick centers near the boundaries.

The district is bounded by –

North - Kannauj district,

East – Mainpuri district,

West – Firozabad district,

South – Auraiya district.

Etawah is the place of Sangam or confluence between Yamuna and Chambal. It is also the site of the remains of the Great Hedge of India. The noted Hindi writer Gulabrai was a native of Etawah. Etawah appears prominently in stories of the Mahabharata and Ramayana.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Siddhanth Temple (Hanumantpur)**

This temple is built in Hanumantpur town of Etawah district. The district is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This temple is built on the banks of Chambal River. This temple is built in the ravine.

## **Bhareshwar Mahadev Temple (Bhareh village)**

Bhareshwar Mahadev Temple situated in Bhareh village of Etawah city. Here one can see the ancient temple of Lord Shiva and Shivling is sitting in the womb, which looks very beautiful. This temple is ancient. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva.

## **Brahmani Devi Temple (Nagalatair village)**

Brahmani Devi Temple situated near Nagalatair village of Etawah city. In the sanctum sanctorum of this temple, one can see the idol of Brahmani Devi, which looks very beautiful. It is said about this temple that the mother fulfills the wishes of the people.

The major industries are Sugar Manufacturing, Textiles, Brick manufacturing and Handicrafts.

The major crops are Wheat, Paddy, Pulses, Sugarcane, Mustard, and Potato.

1. **Ayodhya**

Ayodhya became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Previously it was known as Faizabad and on 6th Nov, 2018 renamed as Ayodhya. Ayodhya is one of the seven sacred cities of Hindus situated on the bank of holy river Saryu.

According to the Ramayana, Ayodhya was founded by Vaivasvata Manu (Son of Lord Surya), the progenitor of mankind and measured 12X3 Yojanas in area. Both Ramayana and Mahabharata describe Ayodhya as capital of the Ikshvaku dynasty of Kosala including Rama and Dasharatha. It is the birthplace of Lord Rama, the seventh incarnation of Vishnu. A grand temple is being built now a days and supervised by the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra since 2020. Ayodhya earlier known as ‘**Saketa**’ during ancient time it was also known as ‘**Kaushaladesa**’.

The religious leaders Gautama Buddha and Mahavira also visited and lived in Ayodhya city. Ayodhya is also birthplace of five Tirthankaras.

The district is bounded by –

North - Gonda district,

East - Faizabad district,

West - Barabanki district,

South - Ambedkar Nagar district.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Kanak Bhawan**

At a distance of 2 km from Ayodhya, Kanak Bhawan is another Hindu temple located in the Tulsi Nagar area of Ayodhya. Kanak Bhawan temple is dedicated to Lord Ram and his divine consort Sita. It is believed that this building was gifted to Devi Sita by Kaikei immediately after her marriage to Lord Rama. Vikram Aditya got it renovated and was completely revamped and rebuilt by Vrish Bhanu Kunwari in 1891.

# **Guptar Ghat**

At a distance of 10 km from Ayodhya Junction, Guptar Ghat is a holy ghat situated on the banks of River Saryu in Faizabad near Ayodhya. According to legend, Guptar Ghat is believed to be the place where Lord Rama meditated and undertook the Jal Samadhi to leave the earth and go back to his original abode **'Vaikunta'**. It is a popular belief among devotees that taking a dip in the Saryu River on this ghat will wash away their sins and relieve them from worldly worries.

# **Dasrath Bhavan**

At a distance of 2 km from Ayodhya Junction, Dasrath Bhavan is a religious place situated in Ramkot Ayodhya. Dashrath Bhavan is believed to have been constructed at the same place where the original palace of King Dashrath (the ruler of Ayodhya and father of Lord Rama). Lord Ram along with his siblings spent their childhood and youth in this area. Popularly known as Bada Asthan or Badi Jagah, this pretty palace hosts a decorated and ornamented entrance with beautiful paintings.

# **Gulab Bari**

At a distance of 5 km from Ayodhya Junction, Gulab Bari is a mausoleum situated in the Vaidehi Nagar area of Faizabad. Gulab Bari, literally meaning '**Garden of Roses**', is a lush green garden and is home to the magnificent tomb of Nawab Shuja-ud-Daula, the third Nawab of Awadh, who ruled between 1753 and 1775. The tomb was constructed by himself during his lifetime which is approached through an imposing gateway. Listed under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, Gulab Bari is currently preserved as a part of national heritage.

# **Bahu Begum Ka Maqbara**

At a distance of 8 km from Ayodhya Junction, Bahu Begum ka Maqbara is a mausoleum located on the Maqbara Road in Faizabad. Bahu Begum ka Maqbara is the tomb of Begum Unmatuzzohra Bano, the wife of Nawab Suja-ud-Daula. The mausoleum was commissioned by Nawab Suja-ud-Daula in the memory of his loving wife. Hence it is popularly known as the **'Taj Mahal of the East'**. It is the tallest monument in Faizabad and is best known for its magnificent architectural design.

The major industries are sugar refineries and mills for extracting oil from seeds. Ayodhya district mainly produces Jaggery and Jaggery product like Sesume Gajak, Laddoo, Chikki, Gur ke Laddo etc.

The major crops are Rice, Wheat. Sugarcane, Maize and Vegetables.

1. **Farrukhabad**

Farrukhabad district was formed on **Sep 18, 1997**,by carving out of Kannauj district. The district is part of Kanpur Division. The Ganga River and Ramganga River are located to the east and the Kali River to the south.

It was founded by Nawab Mohd. Khan Bangash in 1714. It derives its name from an old fort. Sankassa is an ancient city of Farrukhabad district came into eminence at the time of Gautam Buddha after the passing away of Gautam Buddha, the great king Ashoka developed this place and build the Great Ashoka Pillar and established a stupa and temple in memories of visit of Buddha. This temple exists also the ruins of the stupa exist in Vishari Devi.

Kampil another city of Farrukhabad district of Mahabharata days, it was the capital of Dhrupad, the father of Draupadi. It is believed that the Yajna Kund from which Draupadi have been born from fire is situated here. In this city two temples are dedicated to the 13th Tirthankar, one belongs to Swetambar Jains and another are to Digambar Jains.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Shree Shakti Peeth Mata Gurgaon Devi**

Gurgaon Devi Temple is an ancient temple which is dedicated to Mangala Gauri. A story is famous about this temple, that the idol of the goddess sitting in this temple was made by Guru Dronacharya with his own hands and he worshiped the goddess, which pleased Mangala Gauri Devi.

## **Kampilpuri Teerth**

Kampilpuri pilgrimage site is a famous pilgrimage site in Farrukhabad. This is Shwetambar Jain temple. Here one can see a very beautiful temple carved out of white marble. Here we meet to see the very beautiful statue of Lord Vimalnath of Jainism.

Farrukhabad is famous for Sugar Mills and an abundant production of potato, sunflower, chewing tobacco and supari. Farrukhabad also famous for Zardozi embroidery zari and music tradition.

The major crops are potatoes, wheat, paddy, maize, sugarcane. tobacco, vegetables and fruits.

1. **Fatehpur**

Fatehpur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Fatehpur district is a part of Prayagraj division. Located on the banks of the sacred rivers Ganges and Yamuna, this district is situated between two important cities, Prayagraj and Kanpur.

Fatehpur was mentioned in the puranic literature. The Ghats of Bhitaura and Asani were described as sacred in the puranas, Bhitaura, the site of the sage Bhrigu was an importance source of learing. Fatehpur is vedic times known as ‘**Antradesh**’.

The district is bounded by –

North – Kaushambi district,

East – Pratapgarh district,

West - Kanpur Nagar district,

South – Allahabad district.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Shri Siddha Peeth Tambeshwar Temple**

Shri Siddha Peeth Tambeshwar Temple is located in Fatehpur city. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The Shivling sitting in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple is made of copper. Here the Shivling is covered with copper metal and the entire Jalhari is made of copper and here the idol of Nag Devta is also made of copper. That's why this temple is known as Tambeshwar Temple.

## **Bavan Tamarind Martyr Memorial Site (Khajuha village)**

Bawan Imli is located near Khajuha village of Bindki tehsil in Fatehpur district. This is a martyr's memorial site. Here the British Government sentenced 52 Indian revolutionaries to death and hanged them to a tamarind tree. Hence this place is known as Bawan Imli.

The major industries are Sugar Industry, Agro-based Industries, Textile & leather industries.

The main crops are being Millet or jowar cereds i.e. pulses and arhar and cottin.

1. **Firozabad**

Firozabad district was formed on **Feb 5, 1989**, by carving out of the Agra district. The district is a part of the Agra division. The major river that flows through district is the Yamuna River.

The name of Firozabad was given in the region of Akbar by Firoj Shah Mansab Dar in 1566.

During the reign of Akbar, revenue was brought through the city, which was looted by the Afghans. Akbar sent his army led by Firoz Shah Mansab Dar to make the city a cantonment to collect taxes and the city of “**Chandrawar**” was renamed as Firozabad after him.

The district is bounded by –

North – Etawah and Mainpuri districts,

East – Farrukhabad district,

West – Hathras district,

South – Agra district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Marsalganj Jain Temple**

## Fariha Jain Temple is roughly 21 kilometres from Firozabad. Shri Marsalganj (Rishabh Nagar) Diagambar Jain AtishayaTeerthKshetra is its name. The major deity is Bhagawan Adinatha’s Idol. The temple compound is neat and well-kept.

## **Sofi Sahab Mazar**

## About 15 kilometres from Hirangaon, Firozabad, on the banks of the Yamuna, is the Makvara of Sufi Shahe, where a fair is held every year, and there is also Urhassa on the Sufi Shah’s mazar at the aforementioned place, where people from the Muslim and Hindu faiths of the city attend the fair.

## **Vaishno Devi Temple**

## The temple is roughly 4 kilometres distant from Firozabad Tundlaroute, and it is a must-see for any true mind. Every year, a fair is held in Navadurga, and thousands of people travel long distances to visit the Shradalu temple.

## **Santee**

Santee hamlet is located around 13 kilometres north of Firozabad and contains an ancient Khera and a Shivaji temple spread across 100 bighas. It is reported that King Shantanu’s fort was located here in ancient times. Every year in the month of Phalgun, thousands of worshippers bring water from the Ganges here to take Caravans.

Firozabad district is known for its glass industry and is sometimes referred to as the "City of Glass". The district is home to several glass factories that produce a wide range of glass products, including bangles, lamps, and other decorative items. Firozabad is also called “Suhag Nagar” as because different types of items for brides are made here.

The main crops here are rice, barley, wheat, maize, jwar and bajra.

1. **Gautambuddha Nagar**

Gautam Buddha Nagar district was formed on **Sept 6, 1997**, by carving out of the Ghaziabad district. Gautam Buddh Nagar district is located in the National Capital Region (NCR) of India. and previously it was known as Greater Noida which was divided into four sub division i.e., Greater Noida, Noida, Dadri and Jewar. Yamuna Express Passes through this district.

The district is located in the region that was once known as the Kuru Kingdom, an ancient Indian kingdom that is mentioned in the Hindu epic, the Mahabharata. The district is named after “**Gautam Buddha**”, the founder of Buddhism. Gautam Buddha Nagar is one of the best places to visit to explore one of the fastest developing cities in India.

The district is bounded by –

North – Ghaziabad district,

East – Bulandshahr district,

West – Delhi (NCR),

South – Aligarh district.

The area occupied by this district has a very glorious past, which has a root in Tretayug (Ramayana Kaal) as Bisrakh the birthplace of Rawan’s father, Viseswa Rishi lies in this land. In Dwapar Yug (Mahabharat Kaal)- Dankore was the Dronacharya’s Ashram, where Kaurav and Pandav took their training in Astra and Shastra. Eklavya-the disciple of Dronacharya also hails from this place.

**Other places to visit:**

### Buddh International Circuit

# Officially inaugurated in the month of October in 2011, the Buddh International Circuit is a world class, high-end racing track located in the Greater Noida region of the NCR. Definitely a great choice in places to visit in Noida, the Buddh International Circuit was the place where the first ever Formula One Indian Grand Prix was organized in the year 2011.

### Worlds of Wonder

Taking excitement to the next level, this amusement park in the nerve of Noida is a great way to kill time while you enjoy forgetting the world outside. It features about 20 rides, a water park and track for go-karting, enough for a thrilling day-out. With everything in the park being entertaining, to say the least, Worlds of Wonder appeals to every age group.

### DLF Mall Of India

Malls are a frequent sight in Delhi, but the people prefer places with a wide variety of shops and entertainment available. Located in Noida, the mall is spread in an area of about 2 million sq ft, making it one of the largest in the country. Divided into 5 zones, the mall is as tall as 7 floors and includes more than 330 brand names operating in the space.

Noida is a prominent location for the **Indian entertainment industry**, with many films, television series, news channels, and other media being filmed here.

The major crops are wheat, rice and sugarcane.

1. **Ghaziabad**

Ghaziabad district was formed on **Nov 14, 1976** by carving out of Meerut district. It is also one of the largest and most important cities in the National Capital Region (NCR) of India. The Hindon River flows through the district.

In ancient times, the region was known as "**Garhmukteshwar**" and was an important center of the Hindu religion. The city of Garhmukteshwar is mentioned in the Mahabharata and the Puranas, and was said to be the site of a great sacrifice performed by King Janmejaya to avenge his father's death.

Also, the city of Ghaziabad was founded in 1740 A.D. by Pashtun nobleman named Ghazi-ud-din, who served as a wazir in the court of Mughal emperor Mohammad Shah. ‘Dasna’ is 10 Km from the city of Ghaziabad, it was set up the Rajput King ‘**Salarsi**’. A fort is there which has historical importance. As its boundary is adjacent to Delhi, it acts as the main entrance of Uttar Pradesh and that is why it is also called the GATEWAY OF U.P.

The district is bounded by –

North – Meerut district,

East – Bulandshahr district,

West – Delhi (NCR),

South – Gautam Buddh Nagar district.

Mohan Nagar is an industrial town that is situated on the Grant Trunk Karnal Road about 7 Km away is famous for Mohan Nagar Temple. The city is home to a temple constructed by Rani Bai Sindhia in the 19th Century.

Modinagar another town is located on the Delhi Mussoorie highway and is named after the businessman Gujarmal Modi who established a Sugar Mill in 1933, thus claiming the land. It has various factories, braveries and distilleries. It is one of India’s most famous centers of the oil engines industry. It also is a good place for swiping.

The major crops are Wheat, Rice, Sugarcane, Vegetables and fruits.

1. **Ghazipur**

**About district:**

Ghazipur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The district is part of Varanasi Division. The major river that flows through Ghazipur district is the Ganges.

Prior to the division, the Ghazipur district was one of the largest districts in Uttar Pradesh and had a rich history and culture. Historians mentioned about its nomenclature through which Ghazipur is named after Saiyyad Masood Ghazi. Istekbal says, that Saiyyad Massod Ghazi, known for Hindu- Muslim Unity, established this city in 1330 A.D. In ancient time it was known as ‘**Gadhipur**’.

Ghazipur was covered with dense forest in Vedic era and it was a place for Ashrams of Saints during that period. This place is related to the Ramayana period where Maharshi Yamdgni, the Father of Maharshi Parsuram resided over here. The Famous Rishis Gautam & Chyavan were given teaching and sermon here in ancient period. The Lord Buddha who gave the first sermon in Sarnath, Varanasi which is not very far from here. The Aurihar area of Ghazipur district became the main centre for teaching of Lord Buddha. Chinese Traveller Hiuen Tsang had visited this area and described this place as Chanchu “**The Land of Battle Fields**”.

The hero of 1st freedom movement Mangal Pandey comes from this soil only. Ghazipur have a big opium factory and also famous for production of unique rose-scented spray called Gulab Jal.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Maa Kamakhya Devi Temple (Gahmar)**

Maa Kamakhya Devi Temple is a famous temple of Ghazipur. This temple is located in Gahmar village in Ghazipur. This temple is very ancient. Here we meet to see the very beautiful statue of Kamakhya Devi. It is said that by coming to this temple and asking for a wish, all wishes are fulfilled.

## **Mahahar Dham**

Mahahar Dham is a major religious place of Ghazipur. Here you get to see the ancient temple of Lord Shiva. It is said about this temple that this temple was established by Dasaratha, the father of Rama. Here you get to see the Shivling, which is of a different type.

Ghazipur is well known for its opium factory, established by the British East India Company in 1820 and still the biggest legal opium factory in the world, producing the drug for the global pharmaceutical industry.

The major crops are rice, wheat, sugarcane, maize, and mustard, among others. The district is also known for its mango orchards and is a major producer of the fruit.

1. **Gonda**

**About district:**

Gonda became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Gonda district is mainly drained by the Ghaghara River, also known as the Karnali River.

Gonda district has a rich history that dates back to ancient times. The region was once a part of the Kosala Kingdom, which was ruled by the Ikshvaku dynasty. Later, the region came under the rule of the Gupta Empire, which was known for its achievements in the fields of art, literature, and science. In ancient times, this district was known as "**Kusavati**" or "**Kosambi**."

The district is bounded by –

North – Bahraich district,

East – Balrampur district,

West – Barabanki and Siddharthnagar districts,

South – Faizabad district.

Gonda is the birthplace of great poet Tulsidas who wrote Ramcharitmanas, the founder of the Swaminarayan Sampradaya ‘Lord Swaminarayan’ was also born here. Acharya Patanjali (200 BC) founder of Yoga came from here only.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Jhali Dham**

Jhali Dham is a major religious place in Gonda city, this is the tomb of Shri Jhali Maharaj. Here one gets to see the Kamdhenu Gau Mata Temple, which is very beautiful.

## **Maa Barahi Devi Temple**

Maa Barahi Devi Temple is situated in Umri Begumganj village in Gonda district. It is said that this is the 1st Shaktipeeth and the teeth of Mata Sati fell at this place.

## **Dukhharan Nath Temple**

Dukhharan Nath Temple is located in Gonda city. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This temple is situated in the main road in the middle of Gonda city. Many devotees visit the temple on Mondays to have darshan of Lord Shiva.

There are Several sugar mills, rice mills and one of the India’s six Indian Telephone industries is situated here.

The major crops are Food grains, Oil seeds, Sugarcane and Potato.

1. **Gorakhpur**

Gorakhpur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The Rapti River is the major river that flows through the Gorakhpur district.

The rich history of Gorakhpur can be traced over the years back to Vedic era, The famous kingdom of Koshal claimed ownership of Gorakhpur. As per epic Mahabharata for Rajsurya Yagya prince Bhim visited here to extend an invitation to saint Gorakhnath. By the 12th century, Gorakhpur shot to fame when Shiv Avtari Mahayogi Guru Gorakhnath after whom this city was named, made his appearance here. His Samadhi is a famous tourist spot here. In last 2600 years Gorakhpur’s name was changed 8 times Saint Guru Gorakhnath was the inspiration behind the name Gorakhpur. Gorakhpur is also head quarter of Air Force and known for Cobra Squadron.

The district is bounded by –

North – Deoria district,

East – Mau and Ballia districts,

West – Sant Kabir Nagar and Basti districts,

South – Kushinagar district.

**Other places to visit:**

### Vir Bahadur Singh Planetarium

The Vir Bahadur Singh Planetarium is one of the most impressive places to visit in Gorakhpur. The Moon, the Sun and the Planets, if these three words fill you with enticement, then Vir Bahadur Singh Planetarium deserves a spot on your list of must-visit tourist attractions. This stupendous planetarium organizes three shows daily for all visitors and all these shows are something that you should watch to know about the solar system.

Gorakhpur city is known as ‘Java’ of India’ because of the high number of sugar mills in the area. Gita Press situated here which is world’s largest publisher of Hindu religious texts. It was established in 1923 by Jaya Dayal Goenka and Ghanshyam Das Jalan. Hanuman Prasad Poddar better known as ‘Bhaiji’ was the founding and lifetime editor.

The major crops here are paddy, maize, jowar and bajra.

1. **Hamirpur**

Hamirpur district was formed on **Sept 1, 1972** by carving out of the Mahoba district. Hamirpur district is a part of Chitrakoot Division. Two major rivers Yamuna and Betwa meet here. On the banks of river Betwa lies the "Coarse sand" which is exported to many parts in U.P.

Hamirpur is named after the name of founder ‘**Hamira Deva**’ a Kala Chuni Rajput, who came to this place and the 11th century from Alwar. Ancient history of Hamirpur district may be trashed back to the paleolithic age. Shisupal a king described in Mahabharata ruled this kingdom and was killed by Lord Krishna.

The district is bounded by –

North – Jalaun district,

East – Mahoba district,

West – Jhansi district,

South – Banda district.

Hamirpur has a very special significance for the disciples of Meher Baba, as Mahesersthana, a place near Hamirpur, Mehar baba declared himself as the “Avtar of the Age”.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Kashipur Shiva Temple**

Kashipur Shiv Temple is a beautiful temple situated on the banks of Dhasan River and about 11 km away from Harpalpur. This temple was built 1000 years ago by the Chandela kings. The architecture of this temple is very beautiful and this temple is built on the banks of river Dhasan.

## **Sangameshwar Temple**

Sangameshwar Temple is a famous temple of Hamirpur. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This temple is built on the banks of the river Yamuna, about 3 km from Hamirpur city.

## **Chaupara Temple**

This temple is situated in Rath tehsil of Hamirpur. This temple is also known as Shri Chaupareshwar Ram Dham. Here you get to see the very beautiful Sitaram Dwar, which is the entrance of the temple.

The district is also an abode of numerous reputed educational institutions. Sumerpur town of the Hamirpur district has been known for the production of leather shoes or Jooti which is completely hand made.

The major crops are wheat, rice, sugarcane Lentis, Jowar, Bengal gram, Bajra, Mustard, arhar, Peas, Oil seeds, guava, citrus, Amla etc.

1. **Hapur**

Hapur district was formed on **Sep 28, 2011** by carving out of the Ghaziabad district. Hapur district is a part of Meerut division. It falls within the NCR of India but comes under the state legislature of Uttar Pradesh. The major river that flows through the district is the Ganga River.

Hapur district has a rich history dating back to ancient times. The region was once part of the Indus Valley Civilization and was later ruled by various dynasties including the Mauryas, Guptas, Mughals, and the British. Hapur was earlier known as ‘**Haripur**’ which was the rest place of Sri Krishna during his visit from Mathura to Hastinapur. It is also believed that Hapur town was founded by Raja Harishchandra.

The district is bounded by –

North – Jyotiba Phule Nagar district,

East – Bulandshahr district,

West – Ghaziabad district,

South – Meerut district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Maa Brajeshwari Devi Temple**

Maa Brijeshwari Devi is also known as Kangra Dham and Nagarkot Temple. This temple is located in village Sapnavat in Hapur district. This is the temple of Mother Kangra Devi. This place is also known as Brijeshwari Devi.

## **Maa Vaishno Devi Temple**

Maa Vaishno Devi Temple is a famous temple in Hapur city. This temple is located in village Sapnavat in Hapur district. This temple is built in a very grand way. Many idols are found in the temple, which look very attractive. Meet at the entrance of the temple to see the idol of Maa Durga. We meet in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple to have darshan of Vaishno Devi.

Hapur is known as Powerloom city and famous for its handloom made bed sheets in Pilkhuwa. Hapur also a manufacturing centre for stainless steel pipes, sewing machines, and wood and paper products. It is also famous for Papad, Paper cones and tubes.

The major crops are wheat and sugarcane.

1. **Hardoi**

Hardoi Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The major rivers that flow through Hardoi district are the Ganges and its tributaries, the Ramganga, the Gomti, and the Sai.

Hardoi district is related with ‘HIRANAKASHYAP’, king of ancient time. Its present name Hardoi is a distorted version of its earlier name ‘HARIDROHI’ which means against of God or an unbeliever in God. The Naimisha Forest near Hardoi is believed to be the place where the Mahabharat was narrated by sage Shannaka. It is also believed that two Avatar of God born in Hardoi one was ‘Narsimha Avtar’ and another was ‘Vaman Avtar’. Became of this it was known as ‘**Hardwi**’ and later on renamed as ‘Hardoi’.

The district is bounded by –

North – Sitapur district,

East - Shahjahanpur district,

West - Kanpur Nagar district,

South - Lucknow district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Baba Adinath Temple (Baban)**

Baba Adinath Temple is located at Baban village in Hardoi district. In this temple you get to see the Shivling. This temple is about 400 years old. It is said about this temple that Aurangzeb's soldiers tried to destroy this temple. His evidence is still present here.

## **Baba Shree Neev Karauri Maharaj Temple (Sandi)**

Baba Shree Niv Karori Maharaj Mandir is a famous temple situated in Sandi in Hardoi district. This temple is very big and very beautiful. Here you get to see Baba Niv Karauri Maharaj. Apart from this, here you get to see many gods and goddesses. Here you get to see Shri Ram and Sita ji, Hanuman ji.

Hardoi district is known for cloth weaving and making products like iron, cloth, Gamcha, shirts and more.

The major crops are maize, urd, moong, mustard, pea and gram.

1. **Hathras**

Hathras district was formed on **May 6, 1997** by carving out of the Aligarh district. The Yamuna River flows through the Hathras district.

The city is known as Braj ki dehri as because it is near to Mathura where Lord Krishna used to take his cows for grazing. It was also ruled by Sindhias for a short period. The town of Hathras is believed to have been founded by a Rajput king, **Raja Hathras**. At present estate king of Hathras is Raja Amar Pratap Singh. It was originally named Mahamaya Nagar (named for Mayadevi, mother of the Buddha) and was renamed to Hathras district in 2012.

The district is bounded by –

North – Aligarh and Budaun districts,

East – Mathura and Aligarh districts,

West – Etah and Agra districts,

South – Agra district.

Hathras district was abode of famous saint Tulsi Das in 18th century whose renowned works includes Ratan Sagar and Ghat Ramayan. The popular Hindi poet and musician Harivansh Rai Bachchan was also resided here.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Maa Kankali Devi Temple (Mahmudpur)**

Maa Kankali Devi Temple is situated in Mahmudpur village in Hathras. This temple is situated on the road leading from Hathras to Aligarh. You can come and roam here. This temple is an ancient temple. Here you get to visit Maa Kankali Devi. The idol of Maa Kankali Devi is very grand.

Hathras is notyable place for Holi colors and Gulal powder. Hathras is famous for handicraft, wooden crafty, clay materials, megtal craft and some nice hand weaven cottons magterials, carpet manufacturing, artifical moonga-moti pearls, brass etc.

The major crops are Wheat, Sugarcane, Rice, Mustard, Maize, Gram, Potato, Peas, Arhar and Moong.

1. **Jalaun**

Jalaun became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Jalaun District is a part of the Jhansi Division. The Betwa River is the main river that flows through Jalaun district.

The region was a part of the ancient empires of the Maurya and Gupta dynasties. The town Jalaun was formerly residence of a Maratha Governor but never the headquarter of the district. The administrative headquarters of the district is at Orai. It is said that the present name of the district is derived from Rishi Jalwan, who lived here in ancient times.

The district is bounded by –

North – Hamirpur district,

East – Kanpur dehat district,

West – Etawah district,

South – Jhansi district.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Lanka Minar (Kalpi)**

Lanka Minar is located in Kalpi in the city of Jalaun. This tower made in the memory of Ravana, a famous character of Ramayana. This building was constructed in the 18th century. From the top end of this building one gets to see the beautiful view all around and the view of Yamuna River is also available to see.

## **Jalaun Wali Mata Temple (Kathod village)**

Jalaun Mata Temple is a famous Shaktipeeth was established by the Pandavas. This temple is situated near Kathod village. Here you get to see the temple of Sundar Mata in the middle of the rugged. A very beautiful statue of Mother is sitting in the sanctum sanctorum.

Jalaun is known for its specialization in providing Handmade Paper with different designs and patterns in different thicknesses and sizes which are suitable for a variety of decorative purposes.

The major crops are wheat, rice, pulses, sugarcane, and oilseeds.

1. **Jaunpur**

Jaunpur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Jaunpur is a district in the Varanasi Division, which is situated on the banks of the Gomti River.

Jaunpur was originally founded in the 11th century but was sashed away by Gomti floods. It was rebuilty in 1359 by Firuz Shah Tughlug, whose fort still stands. Jaunpur emerged as an important center of Islamic culture and scholarship under the Sharqi dynasty, who ruled the region from the 14th to the 15th century. The original name of Jaunpur was ‘**Jamadagnipuram**’ but changed by Mohd Bin-Tughlaq after his brother’s Juna Khan’s name.

The district is bounded by –

North – Azamgarh and Gorakhpur districts,

East – Ghazipur district,

West – Pratapgarh district,

South – Sultanpur district.

The Kota doria and sheer organdie fabrics embroidered with elegant patters of Chikankari and Zardosi are a specially of Jaunpur. Also jwellery and warrs of he Bidri and Zarbuland silver handloom woven. Persian carpet and tragrout oils (ittar) are Jasmine oil, tobacco leaves, raddish and imarati sweetment. Because of its rich culture, literature, architecture and musical arts it is called **Shiraz-e-Hind**.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Atala Masjid**

In 1408 A.D., Ibrahim Shah Sharki built the Atala Masjid which came to be considered as the ideal for the construction of the other mosques of Jaunpur. In this mosque, beautiful galleries were built by surrounding it with artistic walls. Its construction was begun by Feorze Shah in 1393 A.D.

# **Masjid Lal Darwaja**

This mosque has been built by V.V.Raje, wife of Sultan Mahamud Shah Sharki in 1455 A.D. at Begumganj, a mile north of the city. It has three gateways and a courtyard. On two of its pillars some inscriptions in Sanskrit and Pali are there which do not shed much light except for the samvat year and the names of some kings of Kannauj.

The major industries are Brick industry and carpet factory.

The major crops are rice, maize, pigeon pea, pearl millet, blackgram wheat and chickpea.

1. **Jhansi**

Jhansi became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The Betwa River is a major river that flows through Jhansi district.

Jhansi was a stronghold of the Chandela Kings. Balwantnagar was the name of this place that time. To strengthen the security of Orchha kingdom Raja Bir Singh Deo in 1613-1618 constructed a fort on a hill in Balwant Nagar, when he looked at the site of the new fort from his palace, he told his general that the place was looking like a **Jhain-si** (blurred Shadow) and Jhansi got its present name.

The district is bounded by –

North – Lalitpur and Jalaun districts,

East – Hamirpur and Mahoba districts,

West – Datia and Gwalior districts in Madhya Pradesh,

South – Tikamgarh and Chhatarpur districts in Madhya Pradesh.

In 1842 Raja Gangadha Rao married Manikarnika. After this marriage Manikarnika was given the new name ‘**Lakshmi Bai**’, who led forces against British in 1857. She sacrificed her life to the cause of Indian independence in 1858 and popularly known as Jhansi Ki Rani Lakshmi Bai.

Jhansi is known for species of citrus fruits and crops include wheat, pulses, peas and oilseeds. It has rolling Mills. It also famous for intricately design of colorful glass bangles.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Karguanji Jain Temple**

Karguvanji Jain temple is a 700-year-old temple, resting amidst the vicinity of Jhansi city. It is an important pilgrimage for Digambar Jains, a sect that believes in renouncing all material things to attain salvation. The full name of the temple is Shri Digamber Jain Atishaya Kshetra Sanvaliya Parasnath Karguvanji, Atishay Kshetra meaning a place of miracles.

* **Rani Lakshmi Bai Park**

Rani Lakshmi Bai Park located in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh is set in the foothills of Jhansi Fort and is interconnected to Maithili Sharan Gupta Park. At the centre of the park there is a magnificent bronze statue of Rani Lakshmi Bai riding her horse, her sword raised and her adopted son Anand Rao, sitting behind her.

The major industries are Government Cotton Mills. Heidelberg Cement Factory. Parichha Thermal Power Project, Parichha. Indian Hume Pipe Ltd.

The major crops are Black gram, green gram, groundnut, sesame, pigeon pea, sorghum and paddy.

1. **Kannauj**

Kannauj became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The Ganges is the main river of the district at the North East border of the district.

‘Amavasu’ founded a kingdom, the capital of which later was Kanyakubja (Kannauj).

This region rose into great prominence during the Mahabharata period. Kampilya was the capital of South Panchal and it was here that the famous Svayamvara of Draupadi. Kannauj is one among the most ancient place of India having rich archeological and cultural heritage, The ancient name of this place is **Kanyakubja** or **Mahodya**.

The city of Kannauj was the capital of the powerful Kannauj Kingdom, which was ruled by the Harsha dynasty from the 7th to the 11th century AD. The region also witnessed several battles between the various rulers who vied for control over it, including the Battle of Kannauj in 1540, which was fought between the Mughal Emperor Humayun and Sher Shah Suri.

The district is bounded by –

North – Farrukhabad district,

East – Kanpur Nagar district,

West – Mainpuri district,

South – Auraiya district.

A large number of coins were found at places like Mathura and Kannauj. Also, large numbers of stone statues are found here.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Gauri Shankar Temple**

Gauri Shankar Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. Outside the main entrance of the temple, one can see the very beautiful idol of Lord Shiva. Meet inside the temple to have darshan of the Shivling. This temple is very beautiful and has been built in an orderly manner.

## **Makhdoom Jahania**

Makhdoom Jahaniya is a historical site located in the city of Kannauj. This mosque is dedicated to the Sufi saint Makhdum Jahaniya. In this mosque you get to see beautiful monuments. There is a huge dome built here, which looks very attractive.

## **Annapurna Temple**

Annapurna Temple is located in Tirwa tehsil in Kannauj city. Very beautiful carvings have been done in the walls of this temple. Very beautiful statues of elephants have been made here. Annapurna Temple is dedicated to Annapurna Mata, the goddess of grain.

Kannauj is famous for distilling of scents and known as India’s Perfume Capital. It has more than 200 perfume distilleries and a market centre for perfume, tobacco and rose water.

The major crops are Paddy, maize, wheat, mustard and potato.

1. **Kanpur Dehat**

Kanpur Dehat district was formed on **Apr 23, 1981** by bifurcation of the Kanpur district. The administrative headquarters of the district are at Mati-Akbarpur. Kanpur Dehat district is located on the banks of the river Yamuna. Kanpur is an industrial city of U.P.

It is believed that this city was founded by Raja Hindu Singh of the Sankandi state. Kanpur's original name was “**Kanhpur**”. Kanpur district was divided into two districts namely Kanpur Nagar and Kanpur Dehat in the year 1977. The two were reunited again 1979 and again separated in 1981. Kanpur Dehat district was renamed as ‘Ramabai Nagar District’ on 1 July 2010. In July 2012 it was returned to Kanpur Dehat District.

The district is bounded by –

North - Kanpur Nagar district,

East - Unnao district,

West – Hardoi and Farrukhabad districts,

South – Lucknow district.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Jain Glass Temple**

Just 4 km away from the city center, this temple among places to visit in Kanpur is an astonishing architectural masterpiece, made entirely from glass and enamel! The Jain Glass Temple of Kanpur, a regally beautiful structure, was built by the Jain community in reverence to the 24 Tirthankaras of the Jain tradition.

The major industries are world famous 'Lal Imli' woolen factory, LML, Pan Parag, ICI Limited (now known as Duncan’s Fertilizers), one of the largest leather industries in the world and myriad cotton mills.

The major crops are potato, oil seeds, paddy, sugarcane, wheat and pulses.

1. **Kanpur Nagar**

Kanpur Nagar became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Kanpur Nagar district is situated on the banks of the Ganges River.

In 1207 Raja Kanh Deo of the Kanhpuriya clan of Rajput established the city of **Kanhpur** and made it his capital which later came to be known as Kanpur.

The district is bounded by –

North – Hardoi district,

East – Unnao district,

West – Fatehpur district,

South – Kanpur Dehat district.

Kanpur is an industrial town. The first woolen mill company known as ‘Lal Imli’ (Red Tamarind) was established by the British India Corporation in 1876 by Alexander Mac Robert in Kanpur. The eastern and northern facades of the mill are reminiscent of the Palace of West minister, due their architecture. Proximity to Ganga River and with the North-east corner of mill being tapped by a clock tower similar to Big Ben in London.

The city is also widely regarded as the “Lather City” of the World and is predominantly nicknamed as the “Manchester of the East” for its chemical, textile and leather industries. A few famous industries are LML, Pan Parag, ICI Ltd, (now known as Duncans Fertilizers) Myriad Cotton Mills, HAL, DNSRDE, SAFm Field Gun Factory and Parachute factory.

The major crops grown in these areas include wheat, rice, sugarcane, and vegetables such as potatoes, tomatoes, and cauliflower.

1. **Kasganj**

Kasganj district was formed on Apr 15, 2008 by carving out of the Etah district. The district lies between the Ganges and the Yamuna rivers.

Kasganj was founded centuries ago by Nawab Yaqoob Ali (decedents of Nawabs of Farrukhabad) and named as ‘**Yaqootganj**’. It was renamed as Kasganj became of the abundance of Kans tree that grow in the region. For a while, the district was named after a politician, Kanshi Ram and formerly Known as “**Kanshi Ram Nagar**”.

The district is bounded by –

North & Northeast – Badaun district,

East – Farrukhabad district,

West – Aligarh district,

South – Etawah and Mainpuri districts.

Soron is also known as SHUKAR KSHETRA. Soron is believed to be the birth place of great Indian poet TULSI DAS who had composed **RAMCHARITMANAS** in the praise of lord Ram. Near the Kund of soron there is a very famous temple of Lord Hanuman which is popularly known as Shree Ladoo Wale Balaji. Near this temple is Shree Varaha Bhagwan’s temple.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Kampil Shiva Temple**

Located on the banks of the river Ganges, Kampil is an ancient town that is believed to have been visited by Lord Rama during his exile. The town is home to several ancient temples, including the Kampil Devi Temple and the Kampil Shiva Temple.

* **Bhole Baba Temple**

The Bhole Baba Temple is located in the town of Sidhpura and is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The temple is known for its beautiful architecture and is a popular pilgrimage Site.

* **Patthargarh Fort**

Located in the town of Patthargarh, the Patthargarh Fort is an ancient fort that dates back to the Mughal era. The fort is known for its beautiful architecture and is a popular tourist attraction.

Kasganj is famous for Zardozi craft related to embroidery, Monga Pearl Silk etc.

The main crops are Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Potato, Garlic and application of Micronutrients – Sulphur and zinc.

1. **Kaushambi**

Kaushambi district was formed on **Apr 4, 1997** by carving out of Allahabad district. The district headquarters is situated in the town of Manjhanpur. The district is a part of the Allahabad division. The Ganges River flows through Kaushambi district, and the Yamuna River forms its northern border.

The district has a rich historical and cultural heritage, with numerous ancient temples and historical sites. The Kaushambi district was once an important center of Buddhism and It is the place where Lord Buddha stayed and preached in the sixth and ninth year of his attending enlighten. The name "Kaushambi" is derived from the name of the ancient city of **Kosambi**, which was an important center of Buddhism during the time of Lord Buddha.

It is also believed that the famous sage and Sanskrit scholar Katyayan Rishi was born here. The birth place of Sri Padmaprabhu Bhagwan is also situated here. Prabhu Giri Hill and temple Kaushambi is a Jain Pilgrimage where Jain Saint Padma Prabhu did Tapasya. The Ashoka pillar at Allahabad is also located in this district. Prabhasgiri is a religious historical site on the bank of Yamuna River where Shri Krishna was killed by Jarat Kumar’s arrow while hunting deer.

The district is bounded by –

North – Pratapgarh district,

East – Fatehpur district,

West – The Yamuna River, which separates it from the state of Madhya Pradesh.

South – Allahabad district.

Kara (village) is birth place of the well-known saint Malookdas (1631-1739 A.D.) whose ashram and Samadhi is situated here. Kaushambi is also famous for ‘Lathi’ which is found in Lathi Mohalla of Muratganj.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Durga Devi Temple**

Durga Devi Temple is located at a distance of around 1 Km in south-west of Manjhapur town area. It is believed that Durga Devi Temple exists at the place from 4th Century BC. There are 2 Black Stone idols of Devi Durga and Lord Shiva. These are the most revered deities of Hinduism. Existence of these deities shows prevalence of form of worship at that time.

## **Digambar Jain Temple**

Digamabar Jain Temple is another famous pilgrimage site of Jain Religion. It is dedicated to 6th Tirthankara, Lord Padma Prabhu. Digambarliterally translates to ‘Under Sky’. Broadly it means followers of Mahavir Jain who are not clad. Jain Temple was built in 1834.

The major industries are handloom and handicraft products, Sugar manufacturing, Textile manufacturing and food processing.

The major crops are Rice, wheat, sugarcane, and pulses. The famous Allahabad variety of guava is found here. The city is also known for banana cultivation.

1. **Lakhimpur Kheri**

Lakhimpur Kheri Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The district is home to several major rivers and tributaries that originate from the Himalayas and flow through the region.

Lakhimpur was formerly known as ‘Laxmipur’. Lakhimpur Kheri was built by the former king of Oel State between 1860 and 1870.

Dudhwa National Park is the only National Park in Uttar Pradesh situated at Lakhimpur Kheri. It is name to a large number of rare and endangered species including tiger, leopards, swamp dear, hispid hare and Bengal floricans.

It is also known for sugarcane industries some of the biggest Suger mills are situated here i.e. Bajaj Sugar Mill, DSCL, Kumbhi Sugar Mill and Balrampur Industries. It is also famous for incense sticks industries. The city is quite famous for its traditional chikan embroidery works.

The major food crops are Wheat, Rice, Maize, Barley and Pulses, Sugarcane, Oil-seeds and menthol mint are also cultivated here. This town is famous for flower named ‘Ketki’.

1. **Kushi Nagar**

Kushinagar district was formed on **May 13, 1994** by carving out from Gorakhpur district. The Gandak River, also known as the Narayani River, is one of the major rivers that flows through Kushinagar district.

The name ‘Kasia Bazar’ has been changed to Kushinagar. This is a Buddhist pilgrimage where Gautam Buddha had Mahaparinirvana (the find resting place). At the time of Buddha’s death, Kushinagar was also known as Kushavati and was the capital of the tribal kingdom of the Mallas. The name Kushavati came from ‘**Kusha Grass**’ that the Buddha favor while making meditation garden is situated here to meditate, which is very famous.

In the 19th century with the first Archaeological Surveyor of India found the main stupa and also discovered a 6.10 meters long statue of reclining Buddha in 1876. A wealth of Buddhist materials was also recovered in 1905-06. Chandra Swami, a Burmese monk, came to India in 1903 and made Mahaparinirvana Temple into a living shrine. Ashoka built a stupa and placed a Pillar to make Buddha attained Parinirvana in Kushinagar.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Parinirvana Stupa & Temple**

At a distance of 3 km from Kushinagar Bus Station, Parinirvana Stupa & Temple is a Buddhist shrine located in Kushinagar. The Mahaparinirvana Temple is said to be one of the most sacred shrines for Buddhists across the world. The statue of Buddha in the lying position was made with red sandstone of Chunar.

# **Wat Thai Temple**

At a distance of 4 km from Kushinagar Bus Station, Wat Thai Temple is a Buddhist temple & monastery situated in Kushinagar. Also known as Wat Thai Kushinara Chalermaraj Temple, Wat Thai Temple was built by the disciples of the Buddha from Thailand to celebrate the golden jubilee of King Bhumibol Adulyadej's accession to the throne of his country.

# **Japanese Temple / Burmese Temple**

At a distance of 3 km from Kushinagar Bus Station, the Japanese Temple is a Buddhist temple nestled amidst the age-old temples and stupas in Kushinagar. Popularly known as Burmese Temple or Golden Temple by the locals, the Japanese Temple is one of the unique structures and among the most-visited tourist destinations in Kushinagar.

The major industries are Sugar industries, Handcrafts, Dairy farming and Tourism etc. Sugar Mills are famous here.

The major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Maize, Potato, Vegetables and mango.

1. **Lalitpur**

Lalitpur district was formed on **Mar 1, 1974** by carving out of Jhansi district and is otherwise almost surrounded by Madhya Pradesh state. The major river that flows through Lalitpur district is the Betwa River.

The region around Lalitpur district has been inhabited since prehistoric times, and is believed to have been part of the ancient kingdom of Avanti. Lalitpur is known for Gupta movement and for many ancient movements of Hindu and Jain origins are in and outside the walls of the fort. The name Lalitpur is derived from Sanskrit words "**Lalit**" and "**Pur**", which mean "beautiful city".

The district is bounded by –

North - Jhansi district,

East - Jalaun district,

West - Tikamgarh district of Madhya Pradesh,

South - Sagar district of Madhya Pradesh.

It is believed that in Sumera Talab taking bath curls skin disease. Chandoli king took bath in the Talab and his skin disease cured.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Muchkund Cave**

These natural caves in a valley, located 5 kilometres from Dhaujari and 30 kilometres from Deogarh, are said to have sheltered Saint Muchkund, who resided and meditated here. During the Mahabharat period, Lord Krishna is also claimed to have visited these caverns.

# **Hazaria Mahadev Temple Lalitpur**

Hazaria Mahadev Temple is a religious place located in Lalitpur Talbehat. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. Here we meet to see a wonderful Shivling. Thousands of small Shivlings are made in Shivling. This Shivling looks very beautiful. You can come here for a walk. This temple is built in Talbehat, on the banks of the Talbehat pond.

## **Dudhai Temple Group Lalitpur**

The Dudhai Group of Temples is an ancient group of temples located in Lalitpur. Some temples here are in ruins and some temples are in good condition. Here you get to see the temple of Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma ji. Along with this, a Jain temple group is also found here.

The major industries are Stone-cutting and polishing, Handicrafts, Agro-based industries and Mining. Lalitpur is also known for Uranium deposits, Limestone, Magnesite, Copper, Gypsum are also found here.

The major crops are Wheat, Gram, Maize, Lentis, Soyabean, Paddy, Mustard, Tomato, Diary and Vegetables.

1. **Lucknow**

Lucknow became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The major river that flows through Lucknow district is the Gomti River, which is a tributary of the Ganges.

Lucknow is known as city of Nawabs and capital city of Uttar Pradesh. Lucknow has established its unique place with its Tehzeeb (manners), grand architecture, beautiful gardens, delectable cuisine etc. It is 2nd happiest city in India. Hazratganj is known as Heart of Lucknow.

Avadh is claimed to be among the most ancient of Hindu states. According to popular legend, Lord Ram of Ayodhya, gifted the territory of Lucknow to his devoted brother Lakshman after he had conquered Sri Lanka and completed his term of exile in the jungle. Therefore, people say that the original name of Lucknow was Lakshmanpur, popularly known as **Lakhanpur** or **Lachmanpur**. Wajid Ali Shah was the first ruler of Lucknow Asaf-ud-Daula, Son of Shuja-ud-Daula merged the capital from Faizabad to Lucknow in 1775.

The district is bounded by –

North – Sitapur district,

East – Barabanki district,

West – Unnao district,

South – Raebareli district.

Lucknow is also known as City of Gold and Siraje hind or Nawabo ka Nagar, Lucknow is famous for Chikankaro on Lakhnavi Zardozi, embroidery work which is 400-year-old embroidery Art.

Lucknow is India’s first ‘**CCTV City**’. Hindi and Urdu are widely spoken language in Lucknow and is the centre of Shia Islam in India.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Lucknow Zoological Garden**

It was built to commemorate the visit of Prince of Wales Edward VIII. The zoo covers nearly 71.9 acres of land and houses more than nine hundred species of animals, birds and reptiles.

* **Ram Manohar Lohiya Park**

The Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya Park is another endeavour by the Uttar Pradesh government to establish Lucknow as an important tourist spot for both Indians and foreigners. This park consists of four courtyards, a water body and fish and duck ponds.

Manufacturing industries situated in Lucknow are HAL, Tata Motors and Eveready India. All major I. T. companies are also situated here.

The major crops are Wheat, Mango, Banana, Guava and Papaya.

1. **Maharajganj**

Maharajganj district formed on **Oct 2, 1989** by carving out of the Gorakhpur district.  It is located in Terai region of Himalayas, bordering Nepal in North called ‘Sonauli’. Gandak, Rapti, Rohin are some major rivers flowing through the district.

In the epic period this area was known as ‘**Karapath**’, which was a part of Kosala state. It seems that the oldest emperor to rule over this region was Ayodhya Naresh Ikshvaku, who founded the **Suryavansh**. After Ikshvaku, there were many eminent kings of this lineage. Finally, in his life, Emperor Ram divided the Kosala kingdom into many small states and handed over the rule of this region to his son Kush. Valmiki is known from the Ramayana that after this, the title of ‘Mall’, Laxman’s son Chandkeshu became the ruler of this entire region.

It is mentioned in the Mahabharata that on the occasion of Rajasutra Yagya, edited by Yudhshathir, the responsibility of winning the preceding areas was entrusted. As a result, Bhimsen won the state named **Gopalak**. Accepted with Gopalpur located in Basgaon. It appears that the southern part of present Maharajganj district may have been influenced by Bhimsen’s victory.

The district is bounded by –

North - Siddharth Nagar district and the border with Nepal,

East - Kushinagar and Gorakhpur districts,

West - Sant Kabir Nagar district,

South - Ambedkar Nagar district.

It is also famous for ruins of Buddha. It is also famous for holy temple of Goddess Durga which has been established during the Mahabharata period.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Adrauna Devi Temple**

Adrauna Devi Temple is situated in Farenda Tehsil in Maharajganj about 5 km inside the road leading to Brijmanganj. This temple was situated inside a dense forest in ancient times. Arjun worshiped and worshiped Adrauna Devi in ​​this temple. Vanadevi is the form of Maa Durga.

## **Ancient Jagannath Temple**

Ancient Jagannath Temple is built on the right bank of the Narayani Canal. This temple is located in Badhara Mahant village of Maharajganj district. This temple was established in 1786. In this temple, people meet to have darshan of Lord Jagannath.

Maharajganj is famous for making various furniture items like chairs, door beds, sofas, tables, dressing tables and more. The Sal tree is abundantly found here and furniture made out are the very famous.

The major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Masoor and Sugarcane.

1. **Mahoba**

Mahoba district was formed on **Feb 11, 1995** by carving out of the Hamirpur district. Mahoba district is part of the Jhansi division. The major river that flows through Mahoba district is the Betwa River.

The name Mahoba is derived from ‘**Mahotsav Nagar**’, the city of great festivals, which were celebrated here by Chandra-Verman or Nannuka, it is believed that the district was founded by Chandela kings in the 9th century AD and was ruled by various dynasties over the centuries.

The existence of the sacred ‘Ram-Kund’ and ‘Seeta-Rasoi’ cave at the Gokhar hill here are said to be monumental to the visit of God RAMA who widely treated this hilly region while in 14-year exile at Chitrakoot.

Mahoba district is known for its bravery. The stories of Veer ALHA and UDAL defines its importance in Indian history. Mahoba District is also known as Alha-Udal Nagari. Mahoba is famous for the 9th century granite Sun Temple built in Prathihara style. It is also well known for the 24 rock-cut Jain Tirthankar Image on Gokhas Hill. Charkhari is a place in Mahoba is known as Kashmir of Bundelkhand have many beautiful lakes full of lotus all around. Mahoba is also for its Paan (Betal leaf) Mahoba is famous for brass work and antiques.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Badi Chandrika Devi Temple Mahoba**

Chandrika Devi Temple is dedicated to Chandrika Devi or Chandi Mata. A very beautiful idol of Chandi Mata is found in the temple. The idols of many other deities are enshrined in this temple. Here one can see the idols of nine goddesses. One can see the idol of Lord Shiva.

The district is rich in mineral resources, such as granite, soapstone, and limestone. Some of the major mineral-based industries in the district include stone cutting and polishing, and the manufacture of cement and plaster of Paris.

The main crops are groundnut, urd, Moong, Pigeon pea, Seasome, Barley, Mustard, Guava, Lime, Tomato and Brinjal.

1. **Mainpuri**

Mainpuri became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Mainpuri district is part of the Agra division. The major river that flows through the district is the Yamuna, which is one of the largest tributaries of the Ganges.

It was earlier part of Kannauj kingdom. The Chauhan dynasty ruled Mainpuri. Mainpuri famous part of the ancient legendry region of Lord Krishna’s land called Braj. The name "Mainpuri" is derived from the Hindi words "**mai**" and "**puri**", which mean "mother's town" in English. According to local legends, the town was founded by a king who dedicated it to his mother, and the name "Mainpuri" thus came into existence.

The district is bounded by –

North – Etah district,

East – Farrukkhabad and Kannauj districts,

West – Firozabad and Etah districts,

South – Etawah district.

Mainpuri is also known for the sarus crane (Grus Antigone). This bird, called krouncha in India. This bird called krouncha in India. Phoolbagh Garden and Lohia Park is famous place here. Cyavan Rishi Ashram and Vidur Ashram are situated here.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Kapil Muni Ashram**

Kapil Muni Ashram is located at Bevar in Mainpuri. In this ashram you get to see many deities. Here in the premises of the ashram, many statues of Rishi Muni are found to be seen. Here the statue of Maa Durga ji is found to see.

The major industries are Cotton ginning, oil mining and glass industries.

The main crops are Maize, Groundnut, Wheat and Barley.

1. **Mathura**

Mathura Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The district is part of Agra division. The Yamuna River is the major river that flows through Mathura district.

It is one of the seven sacred cities of Hindus. Sri Krishna is the sole idol which made Mathura a heavenly abode. It is the birth place of Krishna and he is considered as the re-incarnation of Lord Vishnu. Lord Krishna was born in Yadav dynasty.

According to Ramayana it was founded by Madhu (a man of the Yadu tribe). Later on, Madhu's son Lavanasura was defeated by Satrughana. Madhu says all the territory of Mathura belongs to Abhiras. Afterword, the place came to be known as ‘Madhavan’ as it was thickly wooded then ‘Madhupura’ and later ‘Mathura’.

The city was sacked and many of its temples destroyed by Mahmud of Ghazni in 1018 CE and again by Sikandar Lodhi, who ruled the Sultanate of Delhi from 1489 to 1517 CE. Sikander Lodhi earned the epithet of ‘Butt Shikan’, the ‘Destroyer of Hindu deities. The Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb, built the Shahi-Eidgah Mosque during his rule, which is adjacent to Shri Krishna Janmabhoomi believed to be over a Hindu temple.

Lord Krishna spent the bigger part og his lifetime in Brajbhumi mainly constituting Mathura, Vrindavan (11 KM), Gokul (16 KM), Nandgaon (32 KM), Goverdhan(23 KM) and Barsana (45 KM) all situated on the bank of River Yamuna. In Vishram Ghat Lord Krishna have taken rest after slaying his tyrannical maternal uncle ‘Kansa’ is a famous place to visit. Kesi Ghat in Vrindavan is another place to visit where Lord Krishna killed Kesi demon who appeared in the form of a gigantic horse and then took bath. Evening Arti is very famous in Keshi Ghat.

Mathura is a religious center not only for the worship of Lord Krishna but for Buddhist Monasteries and Jain Shrines.

Lal Pedas of Brijwasi is most famous delicacies here. Holi festival is celebrated here with great enthusiasm and known as ‘**Braj Ki Holi**’. The Braj Bhasha language is spoken here.

Mathura district is home to several industries, including the oil refinery industry, which is the largest industry in the district. The Mathura Refinery, which is owned by Indian Oil Corporation Limited, is the biggest oil refinery in North India.

The major crops here are wheat, bajra, mustard and gram etc.

1. **Mau**

Mau district was formed on **Nov 19, 1988** by carving out of the Azamgarh. The Ghaghara River, a tributary of the Ganges River, flows through the district and is the major river in the area.

Mau known archival history is about 1500 years old, when the whole area was a dense forest. The wild and tribal castes used to live around the river flowing here. The oldest inhabitants of this place are considered to be nuts. He also ruled this area. The name of Mau district is believed to have originated from the word "Mau" which means "**entrance**" or "**gateway**" in the local language. The district is located on the border of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar and is an entry point to the state of Uttar Pradesh for people travelling from Bihar. This is believed to be the reason behind the district being named Mau.

The district is bounded by –

North - Gorakhpur and Deoria districts,

East – Ballia district,

West – Azamgarh district,

South – Ghazipur district.

Rose Garden, Fantasia Water Park Resort and Molvi Sahab ka loag are famous places to roam around.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Dohrighat**

Dohrighat is situated in Dohrighat in Mau district. Here you get to see the beautiful Ghats on the banks of the Ghaghra River. There are also many temples built here, which you can see. Here you can also take a bath in the ghat.

## **Avadhuteshwar Shiv Temple**

Avadhuteshwar Temple is a beautiful temple located near Mau district. This temple is dedicated to Lord Shiva. This temple is made in South Indian style and looks very beautiful. A pond is found just in front of the temple. There are many fish in the pond. Meet in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple to see the Shivling.

Mau also known as Maunath Bhanjan is an industrial town known for its handloom saree industry, specializing in Sadiya silk sarees.

The major crops are Rice, Wheat, Lentis and Gram

1. **Meerut**

Meerut Basti became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Meerut is situated between the holy rivers Ganga and Yamuna.

Meerut probably derives its name from the word “**Maya Rashtra**”, meaning the country of Maya, who was the architect of the asuras (the demons) as per the Hindu mythology. His daughter Mandodari was the wife of Ravana, the antagonist of the first epic, Ramayana. In Mahabharata, the Kauravas had their capital in Hastinapur, which is situated in present day Meerut District. Near to the city to Indraprastha (Present day Delhi) The Ashoka Pillar at Ferozshah Kotla in Delhi was unearthed in Meerut and later installed in Delhi.

Hastinapur is situated in the district is closely linked with Mahabharat and also a birth ground of three Jain Tirthankar.

The district is bounded by –

North - Baghpat district,

East - Ghaziabad district,

West - Muzaffarnagar district,

South - Hapur district.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Augharnath Temple**

The Augharnath Temple in Meerut, also known as the Kali Paltan Mandir, is the oldest Shiva temple in the city and also the most frequented. The Shiva Linga at this temple is believed to be a Swayambhu (self-manifested), making it a popular attraction among the devotees of Lord Shiva.

* **Shapir**

Shapir or Shahpeer Sahab ki Dargah is a mausoleum in Meerut constructed during Mughal Era by the queen, Noor Jahan. It was built in 1628 to honour a local Muslim Hazrat Shahpeer who is said to be the teacher of the emperor Jahangir and physician/advisor to the queen.

## **Fantasy World Water Park**

The Fantasy World Water Park in Meerut located along the National Highway 58 hosts an array of water activities for both children and adults. The amusement park has three vibrant sections of land rides, water rides and exclusive children's ride.

## **Gandhi Park**

Gandhi Bagh is one of the oldest parks in Meerut which was set up by East India Company. It is located on Mall Road, about 1 km away from the city and is famous for the musical fountain show which happens every evening. It is a perfect spot for a family picnic or anyone to spend the day with a green layer.

The scissors industry is well established around Meerut. Meerut is also known as the “Sport City of India”. Musical instruments are maximally manufactured in Meerut.

The major crops are Rice, Wheat and Sugarcane.

1. **Mirzapur**

Mirzapur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. It is a part of the Vindhyachal division. The major river flowing through Mirzapur district is the Ganges.

The name of the was kept in the name of ruler **Sheikh Mirza**, a local ruler who ruled the region during the 16th century. The word "Mirzapur" is derived from the Persian words "Mirza" meaning prince and "pur" meaning city or place, thus making it the "city of princes". The district has a rich history and has been an important center of trade, culture, and religion since ancient times. Mirzapur (Mir Laxmi + Pure City) is said to be the City of Goddess Laxmi.

The district is bounded by –

North – Bhadohi and Varanasi districts,

East – Chandauli district,

West – Allahabad district,

South - Sonbhadra district.

It is a Naxalite hot spot. Mirzapur is famous for holy shrine of Vindhyachal Shakti Peeth, Ashtabhuja and Kali Khoh and also have Devrahawa Baba Ashram. It has many water falls (Vindam falls, Tanda falls) and natural spots to visit. Mirzapur city has many hills i.e., Rajdari, Devdari, Lakhanita Devi and Sirsa.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Sita Kund**

One of the sacred sites in the area having ties to the ancient Ramayana narrative is Sita Kund. The story goes that when Goddess Sita was thirsty on her journey from Lanka, Lakshman broke an arrow in the ground to provide water, and the water developed into a never-ending spring.

## **Rameshwar Mahadev Temple**

Rameshwar Mahadev Temple is situated on Ram Gaya Ghat, 8 km from Mirzapur. According to mythology, a Shivaling is claimed to have been erected here by Lord Ram, offering it throughout in honour of his ancestors.

Mirzapur is famous for Carpet and brassware industries. Mirzapur handmade Durrie is one among a multitude of style of floor coverings. ‘Kajari’ is famous dance of Mirzapur.

The major crops are wheat, paddy, maize, pulses, oilseeds, and sugarcane.

1. **Moradabad**

Moradabad became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The major river that flows through Moradabad district is the Ramganga River, which is a tributary of the Ganges.

It was established in 1625 by Murad, the son of the Mughal Emperor Shahjahan; as a result, the city came to known as Moradabad. It was originally known as Rustam Nagar after a prominent Mughal general, Rustam Khan. The city soon became an important center of trade and commerce due to its strategic location on the trade routes between Delhi and the eastern provinces.

The Raza Library is a place that holds great historical significance in the city. It has some of the greatest manuscripts and an amazing collection of pictures inscriptions on palm leaves in many different languages.

Prem Wonderland Water Kingdom and Kanva Ashram are place to roam around.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Gautam Buddha Park**

## Gautam Buddha Park is situated at Moradabad, on the Harthola Station Road about 5 KM from Moradabad bus stand. Gautam Buddha Park is one of the many historical monuments and parks in Moradabad, the most recent of all of them. It is believed that Gautam Buddha spent most of his life in Uttar Pradesh.

## **Shri Parshwanath Digambar Jain Temple**

Shri Parshwanath Digambar Jain Temple is situated in Moradabad itself. Lord Parshvanath was born in Varanasi, the son of King Agrasen. This temple is believed to house the idols of Lord Parshvanath. The temple is dedicated to the memory of the 23rd Tirthankara of Jainism and it is said that the idol of Lord Parshvanath was found from a local well many years after his death.

Moradabad is renowned for brass work and has carved a niche for itself in the handicraft industry throughout the world. The modern, attractive, and artistic brass ware, jewelry and trophies made by skilled artisans are the main crafts. Hence, it is known as Petal Nagari (Brass City). It is also famous for wrought iron products made here.

The main crops are Wheat, Lentis, Mustard and Paddy.

1. **Muzaffarnagar**

Muzaffarnagar became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. This district is the part of National Capital Region. The major river that passes through Muzaffarnagar district is the Yamuna River.

Muzaffarnagar was founded in 1633 by **Sayyid Muzaffar Khan**, the son of a Mughal commander, during the reign of the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan. The town was originally called “**Sarwat**” and was renamed Muzaffarnagar after its founder.

This city is part of Delhi Mumbai industrial corridor (DMIC) and Amritsar Delhi Kolkata Industrial Corridor (ADKIC). It shares its border with the state of Uttarakhand and famous for ore of the biggest army garrison contentment in this part of country.

The district is bounded by –

North – Saharanpur district,

East – Bijnor district,

West – Haryana State,

South – Meerut district.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Sankirtan Bhawan**

Sankirtan Bhawan in Muzaffarnagar is a temple devoted to Lord Tirupati Balaji, making it the only temple of Lord Balaji in Northern India. This temple is also known as Kirtan Bhawan as kirtan (religious hymns) is held here every day at dusk.

* **Ganeshdham**

Ganeshdham is a famous temple in Muzaffarnagar popular for the 35 feet high statue of Ganesha. With River Tripatha flowing on one side and Vat Vraksha on the other, it is often visited by locals for the peaceful atmosphere.

It is principal commercial, industrial and educational hub of western U.P. Sugar, Steel and Paper industries are situated here. It is also famous for scissors, sports goods and Gazak.

The main crops are Sugarcan, Wheat, Paddy and Urd.

1. **Pilibhit**

Pilibhit became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Pilibhit district is a part of Bareilly Division. The major river in Pilibhit district is the Sharda River, also known as the Saryu River.

Pilibhit district had its origins as a subdivision of Bareilly district in 1871, consisting of the parganas of Jahanabad, Pilibhit, and Puranpur, with a magistrate based in Pilibhit. It was then officially upgraded to a separate district in November 1879. It was previously known as **Hafizanad** after the Rohila leader of the area Hafiz Rahmat Khan.

It is believed that Pilibhit was ruled by an ancient King named Mayurdhwaj or King Venu, a great devotee of Lord Krishna and a loyal friend of Arjun. Pilibhit is also known of Bansuri Nagar - The Land of Flutes for making and exporting.

The district is bouned by –

North – Nainital district of Uttarakhand,

East – Lakhimpur Kheri district,

West – Shahjahanpur district,

South – Bareilly district.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Pilibhit Tiger Reserve**

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Pilibhit Tiger Reserve is located inside the Terai Arc Landscape of Uttar Pradesh’s upper Gangetic Plain Biogeographic Province and is part of the Pilibhit district and Shahjahanpur district. There are Saal Forests, tall grasslands, and swamps, all of which are irrigated by rivers on a recurrent basis. The reserve is bordered by the Sharda Sagar Dam, which has a length of 22 km (14 mi). Located in Uttar Pradesh amid the foothills of the Himalayas and Terai plateau, it is surrounded by the Himalayas and the Terai. It is one of India’s 51 Project Tiger Tiger reserves.

# **Chhathavi Padshahi Gurudwara**

Located in Pakrdiya, this gurudwara dates back 400 years. Guru Govind Singhji is reported to have taken a break here on his journey to Nanakmatta. A gurudwara named Chattvi Padshahi Gurudwara was built here in honour of Sri Har Govind Ji, the sixth guru. Sri Baba Faoj Singh, a well-known social worker in the region, rebuilt this magnificent shrine in 1983.

There are four Sugar factories and three sowing plants, flour mills, steel plant and one alcohol distillery are situated here.

The major crops are Wheat, Sugarcane, and Rice.

1. **Pratapgarh**

Pratapgarh district was formed on **Jan 26, 2008**, by carving out from Sultanpur district. Pratapgarh district is a part of Prayagraj division. The major river flowing through Pratapgarh district is the Ganges (also known as Ganga). The district has Ganga Dolphins in its river.

The city of Pratapgarh is named by famous king of Somvanshi Dynasty, Raja Pratap Bahadur Singh (1628-1682) a rajput ruler who made a castle named **Pratapgarh Mahal**. This Garh (Fort) was also known by, Pratapgarh. To reach/visit the fort the ropeway can be used.

The district is bounded by –

North – Jaunpur district,

East – Sultanpur district,

West – Raebareli district,

South – Amethi district.

The district is primarily known for its historical and cultural significance, as it has several sites of great importance such as the Bela Bhawani Temple, Kampil Temple, and the ruins of the ancient fort of Bhatpurva. It is also home to the famous Tirthanath temple, which is a popular pilgrimage site for Hindus. Pratapgarh district has the world’s first temple dedicated to famous named “**Kisan Devta Mandir**”.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Ghusmeshwar Nath Dham**

It is about 35 km from Pratapgarh Railway and Bus stop. It is located on the bank of River Sai and enshrines a Shiva Linga, which is popular here by the name of Baba Ghuisarnath Dham.

* **Nag Vasuki Temple**

The temple finds mention in the Puranas. The temple is unique in that the presiding deity is the Nag (snake) Vasuki and its stone idol is located in the centre. However, the construction of the present temple shows that it is not older than 18th century.

* **Kot Monastery**

Built in 1978, Kot Monastery is located in Ranjeetpur, very near Pratapgarh city, about 5 km away from the Pratapgarh railway station. The complex houses the monastery and also a Buddha temple, Buddha Purnima and Amedkar Jayanti are celebrated here.

Pragtapgarh is top production of Aonla (Amla) which is used in sweets and medicines.

The major crops are wheat, paddy, and sugarcane. Guavas and mangos are cultivated here in large scale.

1. **Raebareli**

Raebareli became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. This district is a part of Lucknow Division. The main river of Raebareli district is the Ganges, which forms the southern border of the district.

The city was founded by Bhars and originally called ‘**Bharquila**’ or ‘**Barauli**’. Raebareli is closely associated with the Gandhi family. The Indira Gandhi Memorial Botanical Garden Houses medicinal, herbal and decorative plants and also a research institute. Statue of Smt. Indira Gandhi was established in 1986.

The historical town of Dalmau is situated on the bank of holy Ganga and is famous since ancient times. The prominent places are King Dal’s Fort, Bara Math, Mahesh Giri Math, Nirala Memorial Institute and Baithak of Alhaa Udal. The Behta Bridge is built on the river Sai which crosses Sharda Canal.

The district is bounded by –

North – Lucknow district,

East – Barabanki district,

West - Sultanpur district,

South - Amethi district.

Raebafreli houses one of the six manufacturing units of Indian Telephone Inds. Ltd. (ITI) and Rail Coach Mfg. Factory, Sugar Factory, NTPC Power Plant.

The major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Sorghum, Pigeon, Pea, Gram and Mustard.

1. **Rampur**

Rampur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. It is a part of Moradabad division. The major river that flows through Rampur district is the Kosi River.

The district is known for its rich history and cultural heritage, and is home to several historical monuments and sites, including the Rampur Raza Library, which is one of the biggest and most renowned libraries in the country with more than 12,000 rare manuscripts and paintings (Mughal) Arya Bhatt Planetarium is NASA Project in Rampur. The city of Rampur was established by Nawab Faizullah Khan on 7th October 1774 and named it as ‘**Mustafabad**’ alias Rampur.

The district is bounded by –

North – Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital districts of Uttarakhand,

East – Moradabad district,

West – Bareilly district,

South – Badaun and Shahjahanpur districts.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Rampur Raza Library**

Nearest Airport is Pantnagar Airport and is about 62 km approx from Rampur. As a storehouse of Indo-Islamic cultural legacy and a treasure-house of knowledge, Rampur’s Raza Library (Rmpur Raz Kitab Khna) was created by successive Nawabs of Rampur and is currently administered by the Government of India in the late 18th century and is located in Rampur district.

Rampur is famous for sugar refining, cotton milling, Zari embroidery work, textile wearing, plywood related work and manufacture of agricultural implement. The kite making industry is one of the oldest and prime industry in Rampur.

The major crops are Rice, Wheat, Sugarcane and Mentha.

1. **Saharanpur**

Saharanpur district was formed on **Dec 28, 1988** by combining parts of the districts of Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, and Meerut. The major rivers flowing through Saharanpur district are the Yamuna, Ganges, and Hindon.

Saharanpur was founded about 1340 and is named for Shah Haran Chishti, a Muslim saint. The name "Saharanpur" is believed to have been derived from the words "**Shah Haroonpur**," which means "the city of Shah Haroon," who was a saint in the area.

The district is bounded by –

North - Dehradun and Haridwar districts of Uttarakhand State,

East - Yamunanagar and Ambala districts of Haryana State,

West – Shamli district,

South – Muzaffarnagar district.

Sahara City Park and Gandhi Park are famous garden in the city. Asia’s second largest Arabic Madrasa in Deoband where lacs of foreign students getting education about Islam is situated here. Saharanpur is transportation hub.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Baba Bhuradev Temple**

This temple is nearly 1 km before the Shakumbhari Devi Temple. It is believed that before worshiping the Shakumbhri mother, it is necessary to worship Baba Bhua Dev. Even while on returning journey from Mataji’s temple, people bow down their heads to Baba Bhua Dev.

# **Bala Sundari Devi Temple**

Bala Sundari Devi Temple is located in Deoband, which is a tehsil of Saharanpur district and is situated on the road connecting Saharanpur with Muzaffar Nagar. Every year there is a grand fair on the Chaturdashi of Chaitra month.

Saharanpur is well known for its agricultural product i.e., Sugar, Mango, Rice and also famous for wool carving product. The city industry includes Railway Workshops, The Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute (1980), an aviation training center and several collages.

The major crops are Sugarcane, wheat, rice, maize, gram, and fruits like mangoes and guavas.

1. **Sambhal**

Sambhal district was formed on Sept 28, 2011 by carving out from Moradabad and Budaun. The district headquarter is Bahjoi town. The major rivers flowing through Bhim Nagar (Sambhal) district are the Ramganga and the Ganga.

Sambhal, has a rich history dating back to ancient times. The city has been ruled by various dynasties, including the Mauryas, Guptas, Mughals, and British. In ancient times, it was known as Sambhalgarh, and it was an important trading center during the medieval period. On July 23, 2012, the name of the district was changed from **Bhimnagar** to Sambhal.

Sambhal district was known for its dacoits in the past, although the situation has improved significantly in recent years due to increased law enforcement efforts.

This town is known for Hakims (Greek/Unani medicine) Sambhal is the largest market of menthol in South Asia. It is also popular for its handicrafts made of buffalo horn, seashells and mother of pearls.

The major crops are paddy, Wheat, Mustard, Sugarcane, Mentha, Lentis, and Potato etc.

1. **Sant Kabir Nagar**

Sant Kabir Nagar was formed on **Sept 5, 1997** by carving out from Basti district. Khalilabad is the district headquarters. The major river that flows through Sant Kabir Nagar district is the Ghaghara.

The place derives its name from its founder, Qazi Khailil-ur-Rahman, who was appointed chakladar of Gorakhpur about 1860. Khalil-ur-Rahman was sent to suppress revolts by Rajputs from the nearby villages. Notable amongst them were two brothers named Jai Singh and Vijay Singh. This district was field of activities of Sant Kabir Das and, therefore, it is named “Sant Kabir Nagar”.

The district is bounded by –

North – Siddharth Nagar district,

East – Gorakhpur district,

West – Basti district,

South – Ambedkar Nagar district.

This place is famous for its handloom cloth market. Popularly known as Bardahia Bazar. Basti Basta Water Park (Banha) and Bakhima Tal are famous places to visit.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Kuber Nath Temple**

Kuber Nath Temple is a major landmark of Sant Kabir Nagar. This temple is situated in Mehdawal Tehsil in Sant Kabir Nagar. Here one can see the temple of Lord Shiva. Shivling is sitting in the temple.

It is famous for excellent hosiery products. For summer season, the hosiery products of this district are quite compatible. These products include Children's dresses, T-Shirts for elders and other dresses.

The major crops are Rice, Maize, Wheat, Pigeon Pea, Lentis, Mustard, Potato and pea.

1. **Shahjahanpur**

Shahjahanpur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. It is a part of Bareilly division. The major river flowing through the district is the Ramganga.

The city of Shahjahanpur was founded by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in the early 17th century. It was originally called Shahjahanabad and served as an important center of administration and commerce. After the decline of the Mughal Empire, the city came under the control of the Nawabs of Awadh, who ruled over the region until it was annexed by the British East India Company in the 19th century. The city was named by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan.

The district is bounded by –

North - Bareilly and Badaun districts,

East - Farrukhabad and Hardoi districts,

West – Pilibhit district,

South - Kannauj and Sitapur districts.

It is the birth place of brave freedom fighter Ram Prasad Bismil, Shaheed Ashfaq Ullah Khan. The third tallest Hanuman Temple is situated here. It is also known for its posh cantonment area with its park and grounds.

**Other places to visit:**

##### **Hanumat Dham**

Hanumat Dham is a 104 feet statue of Hanuman ji which is made on sight. This place will be at a distance of 4-5 kilometers from Shahjahanpur Sadar. Click below for more information about this holy place.

The city is also famous for its carpet and jewellery industries. It is city where Ganga Jamuni culture flourished for a long time. Shahjahanpur club is an elite club situated here. Reliance Thermal Power at Roza is situated here.

The major crops are Wheat, Paddy (Rice), Pulses, Sugarcane and Groundnut, Mango and Guava are also famous here.

1. **Shamli**

Shamli district was formed on **Sept 28, 2011** by carving out of the Muzaffarnagar district. Shamli district comes in National Capital Region of India. The major rivers in Shamli district are Yamuna and Kali.

Shamli has a rich history and is said to have been a part of the ancient Kuru Kingdom. In Dawparyug Lord Krishana took the way of district at the time of going to Kurukshetra war from Hastinapur and in this way the sited under the trees of Barne in Hunuman Dham Shamli and took this sweet water from the old well, later sign of power the Baba Bharang Bali Booned this Holy place Shamli. That’s why this name of this city was “Shamvali” previously and then got converted into “Shayma Nagri” and now it is known as Shamli. According to some stories, this nagar was constructed by Kunti’s son Bheem Sen. It was known earlier ‘**Prabudh Nagar**’ and renamed Shamli in July 2012.

During the times of Ramayana, while Lord Veer Hanuman was taking the whole Dronachal Parvat with “**Sanjeevani Booti**” from Himalayas to Lanka for saving life of Lakshman, a piece of hill to be fallen off at this place which is now called “Hanuman Tilla”.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Jain Temple (Jalalabad)**

This temple is situated in Jalalabad of Shamli district. In this temple one gets to see the very beautiful idol of Lord Parshvanath.

Shamli is famous for Sugar/Jaggery. Shamli is known worldwide for its Rim-Axle industry.

The major crops are Rice, Wheat, and Sugarcane.

1. **Shravasti**

Shravasti district was formed on **May 1997** by carving out of Bahraich district. Bhinga town as its district headquarters. Shravasti district is a part of Devipatan Division. The major river in Shravasti district is the Rapti River, which flows through the eastern part of the district.

Shravasti teerth begins with the formation of Janpad's by Yugadidev Shri Adishwar Prabhu. This place was the capitol city of North Kaushal Janpad. Many Jain Kings such as King Jitari, the father of third Teerthankar Shri Sambhavnath Bhagwan and others past here after Bhagwan Adinath. Shravasti is one of the most reserve sites in Buddhism. It is believed that Buddha Taught many of his suttas (Sermons) here and that time city was called ‘**Savasthi**’.

As per epic Ramayana, Shravasti was a city created for Luv (one of the King Rama). As per epic Mahabharata King Shravatha founded the city Orajhar, Anguliumala Stupa. Kacchi Kuti and Pakki Kuti situated in Mahet are historical site to visit.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Daen Mahamongkol Temple**

At a distance of 1 km from Shravasti Bus Station, Daen Mahamongkol Chai Temple is a Buddhist temple and meditation center situated in Shravasti. The Daen Mahamongkol International Meditation Centre is the largest temple built by Maha Upasika Sitthipol Bongkot of Thailand. This is a center of learning and meditation giving a rejuvenating experience.

# **Shobnath Jain Temple**

At a distance of 2.5 km from Shravasti Bus Station, Shobnath Temple is an ancient Jain temple situated at the entrance of Mahet in Shravasti. The old temple is dedicated to Jain Tirthankara Sambhavnath. Shobnath Temple is a highly spiritual shrine for the Jain devotees as the temple is believed to be the birthplace of Lord Sambhavnath - the third Jain Tirthankar.

# **Anathapindika Stupa / Kachchi Kuti**

At a distance of 3 km from Shravasti Bus Station, Anathapindika's Stupa or Kachchi Kuti is an excavated monument located in the Mahet area of Shravasti. This splendid stupa was built by one of the leading disciples and the greatest patron of Gautam Buddha, Anathapindika. Sudatta was the original name of Anathapindika, who was an extremely wealthy person and a generous patron of Lord Buddha.

Shravasti is predominantly an agricultural district with agriculture being the major industry. The handloom industry is also an important sector, and there are several small-scale industries that produce textiles, carpets, and handicrafts.

The major crops rice, wheat, pulses, and oilseeds.

1. **Sidharthanagar**

Siddharth Nagar district was formed on **Dec 29, 1988** by carving out from Basti district. The major rivers that flow through Siddharth Nagar district are the Rapti and the Ghaghara. Siddhartha Nagar is situated the border of India and Nepal.

This district has been named after the name of Gautam Buddha’s childhood name Prince “**Siddhartha**”. It is birth place of Goutam Buddha (Childhood name Siddhartha) who left his place in Kapilvastu at the age of 29 and revisited in 12 years later after attaining the enlightenment. In the past, area was covered with forests​​ and of Himalayan foothills was part of Shakya dynasty. In the 6th century BC, the Shakyons built their capital in Kapilvastu and established a powerful republic here. Siddhartha Nagar is also known as ‘Naugarh’ and its constituency has been renamed to ‘Kapilvastu’.

Detta Adventure Park, Dhobi Ghat, Imagica Water Park, Lonavala Lake, Koh Chang, Prince of Wales Museum, Tunga Fort, Lion’s Point, Lohagad Fort, Bhusi Dam are some places to visit.

The Royal Retreat in Shivpati Nagar is a haven for those seeking to unwind and rejuvenate.

Kalanamak Rice is notable rice of Siddhartha Nagar. It is one the finest and highest selling price rice. Presently its market selling price is Rs. 12000 per quintal.

The main crops are Paddy, Wheat, Arhar, Masoor Sugarcane and Potato.

1. **Sitapur**

Sitapur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Sitapur district is a part of Lucknow division. The major rivers in Sitapur district are Gomti, Sarayan, and Kalyani.

Sitapur district is an ancient district with a rich history. It was once a part of the Kosala kingdom, which was ruled by King Rama during the Ramayana era. Sitapur is famous in India due to its historical background is Ram’s wife Sita. It is said that she stayed with Lord Ram at this place during a pilgrimage. Afterwards, King Vikram Aditya established this city in the memory of Sita, gave the place the name, Sitapur.

The district is bounded by –

North – Shahjahanpur district,

East – Hardoi district,

West – Unnao district and Nepal border,

South – Lucknow district.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Patthar Shivala (Khairabad)**

As early as 1926, Eye Hospital, Sitapur was established at Khairabad, a tiny town five miles from Sitapur’s centre. As the medical officer of the District Board Dispensary in Khairabad, Dr. Mahesh Prasad Mehre, the creator of this hospital, was in charge. They were deeply moved by the suffering of eye sufferers, since there was no adequate treatment system in place for them.

Sitapur is a traditional production Centre of handmade rugs, durries and Bathmats dating as back as Mugal Regime in India".

The main crops are Wheat, Rice, Urad, Sugarcane, Mustard, Groundnuts, Peppermint, Potato, Ginger and Banana.

1. **Sonbhadra**

Sonbhadra district was formed on **Mar 4, 1989** by carving out from Mirzapur district. The district headquarters is in the town of Robertsganj. It is 2nd largest district of U.P. The major rivers that flow through Sonbhadra district are the son, Gopad, Rihand, and Kharkhara.

Sonbhadra whose ancient name was **Gram Putra** or **Gupta Kashi** was built by the ancient king Putrak for his queen Paatali. The city of Varanasi, which is located in the neighboring district of the same name, was the capital of the Kashi Kingdom, and several important temples and monuments were built in and around the city. The district is also known as “Sonebhadra”. The name Sonbhadra is derived from two words 'Son' and 'Bhadra' which mean 'gold' and 'abundant' respectively.

Sonbhadra lies between Vindhya and Kaimur hills, and its topology and natural environment prompted First Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru to refer to Sonbhadra as the "**Switzerland of India**". The district is also home to many historic and religious sites like Vindhyachal, Shivdwar Temple, and Renukeshwar Mahadev Temple.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Rihand Dam**

Rihand dam is situated at Pipari on Renukut-Shaktinagar road at 8 km from Renukut and 46 km from the point where the son river joins river Rihand. The dam is built on river Rihand, a tributary of Son River over a reservoir named Govind Ballabh Pant Sagar Lake.

Sonbhadra is an industrial zone and it has lots of minerals like Bauxite, Limestone, Coal, Gold etc. It is also called as Energy capital of India because there are so many Power Plants. Hindalco Aluminium Plant at Renukot is the largest plant situated in this district.

The major crops are Paddy, Wheat, Arhar, Gram, Lentis, Lineseed, Sewamum, Pea and vegetables like Tomato, Brinjal, Chilli, Cucurbits and broad beans.

1. **Sultanpur**

Sultanpur became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. Sultanpur district is part of Faizabad Division. Sultanpur is a city situated on the banks of holy river Gomti.

Sultanpur was inhabited by Kush, son of Lord Shri Rama, hence Sultanpur was known by the names of **Kushbhavanpur** etc. This area along the banks of the Gomti River has been famous since ancient times for Kush-Kash. The city of Kusbhawanpur was renamed after the Alauddin Khalji's title Sultan and a new city was founded on the site, called Sultanpur.

As per Ramayana Kush the son of Lord Rama was born in Sultanpur district. Also, many Maharishis were born here i.e., Maharshi Valmiki, Durvasa, Vashishtha etc.

Victoria Manzil, Christ Church, Chimanlal Park and Soldiers Park are places here to visit.

Jagdishipur Industrial Park is situated here. Materials made of Moonj i.e., ropes, weaved cots etc. are famous here. A Parijat Vriksha is situated in Civil Lines area. It is a very old tree and fulfils the wishes of people.

**Other places to visit:**

* **Lohramau Devi Temple**

Lohramau Devi Temple is about 8-10 kilometres from Sultanpur. It is an ancient temple where people come to pray on a regular basis. During Navratri, a significant number of people visit the temple to offer nariyal, chunari, and other offerings to Goddes Durga.

The major industries are Sultanpur district has various industries such as cotton weaving, sugar milling, pottery, tannery, power looms. The district also has a sugar mill and a paper mill, which are major employers in the area.

The main crops are Gram, Pigeon Pea, Field Pea, and Lentis.

1. **Unnao**

Unnao became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The district is part of Lucknow Division. The Ganga, Kalyani and Sai are the main rivers of the district.

The history of the Unnao district can be traced back to ancient times, when it was known as "Akhil Bharatiya Kshatriya Bhati" or the Land of Kshatriyas. According to Hindu mythology, the district was ruled by the Kanyakubja Brahmins during the ancient period. The district was originally known as "**Unavamsa**," which means the lineage of Unas, a mythological king who is said to have ruled the region. Over time, the name "Unavamsa" is believed to have evolved into "Unnao." Unnao District is also known as "**The Land of Pen and Sword**".

Chandrashekhar Azad, great freedom fighter born here. Badarqa Harbans (Fine house with walls if limestone looks) Baksar is a historical city and place to visit.

**Other places to visit:**

## **Kalyani Devi Temple**

Located about only 2 km away from the Unnao railway station, Kalyani Devi Temple is dedicated to Lord Kalyani, this temple is visited by many locals from nearby cities as well.

## **Shiv Temple**

This temple is located near the Moti Nagar area which is about eight to 10 km from Unnao Junction railway station. Built about more than hundred years ago, the infrastructure of this temple has unique carvings.

Unnao is a long industrial city which houses leather industries, handloom and textile industry educational hub. The city is also famous for its leather, Zari-Zardozi work, mosquito net and chemical industries.

The major crops are food grain, sugarcane and oilseeds.

1. **Varanasi**

Varanasi became part of the independent India on 15th Aug, 1947 and declared a district on 26th Jan 1950, when new state Uttar Pradesh was formed. The Ganga (Ganges) river flows through the district. Part of the Varanasi division. Varanasi is one of the world's oldest continually inhabited cities.

Varanasi is a city in the northern Indian state of Uttar Pradesh dating to the 11th century B.C. Regarded as the spiritual capital of India, the city draws Hindu pilgrims who bathe in the Ganges River’s sacred waters and perform funeral rites. Along the city's winding streets are some 2,000 temples, including Kashi Vishwanath, the “Golden Temple,” dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva. Kashi, its ancient name, was associated with a kingdom of the same name of 2,500 years ago. The new name, Varanasi, was given to the old, holy city of Benaras in 1956.

Varanasi or Banaras (also known as Kashi) is one of the oldest living cities in the world. The land of Varanasi has been the ultimate pilgrimage spot for Hindu for ages. Hindus believe that one who is graced to die on the land of Varanasi would attain salvation and freedom from the cycle of birth or re-birth.

Abode of Lord Shiva and Parvati, the origin of Varanasi is yet unknown. Ganges in Varanasi is believed to have the power to wash away the sins of mortals. The city is a center of learning and civilisation for over 3000 years. Ganges is said to have its origins in the tresses of Lord Shiva. It is the birth place of Parasavnath, The twenty third Thirthankar.

Ayurveda is said to the originated at Varanasi. The city known worldwide for its many Ghat I.e., Dashshwamedh Ghat, The Panchganga Ghat, Manikarnika Ghat and the Harishchand Ghat.

The city has long been an educatuinal and musical centre. India’s oldest Sanskrit Collage the Banaras Sanskrit Collage was founded in 1791, CentralHindu College in 1898, Banaras Hindu University in 1916 and Kashi Vidhya Peeth in 1921 are situated here.

**Other places to visit:**

# **Ganga Ghat**

Ghats in Varanasi are riverfront steps leading to the banks of the river Ganges. The city has 88 ghats. Most of the ghats are bathing and puja ceremony ghats, while two ghats are used exclusively as cremation sites. Most Varanasi ghats were rebuilt after 1700 AD, when the city was part of Maratha Empire.

It was one of the first major urban settlements in the middle Ganges valley. By the 2nd millennium BCE Varanasi was a seat of Vedic religion and philosophy and was also a commercial and industrial centre famous for its muslin and silk fabrics, perfumes, ivory works, and sculpture, gold and silver brocade.

The main crops are Paddy, Maize, Arhar and Wheat.