

= Hisar (city) =

Hisar pronunciation , previously spelled Hissar , is the core of Hisar Urban Agglomeration and administrative headquarters of Hisar district of Hisar division in the state of Haryana in northwestern India . It is located 164 km (102 mi) to the west of New Delhi , India 's capital , and has been identified as a counter @-@ magnet city for the National Capital Region to develop as an alternative center of growth to Delhi .

The city was ruled by several major powers , including the Mauryans in the third century BC , the Tughlaqs in the 14th century , the Mughals in the 16th century , and the British in the 19th century . After India achieved independence , it was unified with the state of Punjab . When the Punjab was divided in 1966 , Hisar became part of Haryana .

The current name was given in 1354 AD , as Hisar @-@ e @-@ Firoza by Firuz Shah Tughlaq , the Sultan of Delhi from 1351 to 1388 . The Ghaggar and Drishadvati Rivers once flowed through the city , but they have now changed their course . Hisar has a continental climate , with very hot summers and relatively cool winters . The most commonly spoken languages are Hindi , Haryanvi , and Bagri .

= = History = =

= = = Early history = = =

Archeological excavations at nearby locations of AntarcticaRakhigarhi , Siswal , and Lohari Ragho suggest the presence of human habitation from pre @-@ Harappan period . Later , Aryan people settled around Drisadvati River . The Jain literature Uttaradhyayana Sutra mentions a town Isukara in the Kuru country which is believed to be the earlier name of Hisar . The kingdom of Hisar , with its capital at Agroha , possibly assisted Chandragupta Maurya in his war against the Greeks . The kingdom was then included in the Mauryan Empire , as evidenced by the discovery of Ashokan pillars in the vicinity of the city . The city later came under the Kushan Empire and the Gupta Empire . In the 12th century , the Chauhan king Prithviraj Chauhan made Hansi , located in the present day Hisar district , his capital and built a fort . It remained a strategic place for Chauhan Empire until Prithviraj was defeated in the Second Battle of Tarain by the invading Ghurid ruler Muhammad Ghori .

= = = Tughlaq era = = =

Hisar was founded in 1354 AD , as ' Hisar @-@ e @-@ Firoza ' by Firoz Shah Tughlaq , who reigned over the Sultanate of Delhi from 1351 to 1388 . He built a walled fort with four gates , the Delhi Gate and Mori Gate to the east , the Nagori Gate to the south , and the Talaqi Gate to the west . The construction of the fort started in 1354 AD and was completed in 1356 AD . In the middle of the fort stood the Firoz Shah Palace . Apart from its several underground apartments , the complex had different buildings such as Baradari , Lat ki Masjid , Diwan @-@ e @-@ Aam , and Shahi Darwaza . Near the palace was the Gujri Mahal built by the emperor for his wife Gujri . The city was named as Hisar @-@ e @-@ Firoza , which means Fort of Firoz in Persian . Timur invaded the city in 1398 AD and his soldiers set fire to the fort .

The city later come under the rule of Sayyid dynasty and Lodi dynasty before Babur defeated Ibrahim Lodi in the first battle of Panipat .

= = = Mughal era = = =

When Babur invaded India in the 1524 ? 1526 , Hisar was part of Ibrahim Lodi 's empire . In the battle of Panipat in 1526 , Babur sent prince Humayun , who succeeded in defeating the army of Ibrahim Lodi . Babur handed over the city of Hisar to Humayun as a reward for his success on his

first military expedition . In 1540 , Hisar came under the control of Sher Shah Suri when he defeated Humayun but Humayun took it back in 1555 and assigned it to Akbar . During Akbar 's reign (1556 ? 1605) Hisar became once more a place of considerable importance . The city remained under the rule of Mughals until 1760 .

= = = British era = = =

Hisar was occupied by George Thomas , an Irish adventurer , in 1798 . The arrangement continued until 1801 , when Thomas was driven out by the Sikh @-@ Maratha @-@ French confederacy . The region came under the rule of British East India Company in 1803 and remained a part until the Indian Rebellion of 1857 when Muhammad Azim and Rao Tula Ram conquered it away for a short period . The company sent forces under General Van Cortlandt , who defeated Azim and Tula Ram on 16 November 1857 . Between 1803 and 1879 , British constructed a 4 @,@ 000 @-@ km @-@ long Great Hedge of India , for levying the customs duty on salt and sugar , that ran through Hisar and Hansi . Hisar became a municipality in 1867 .

The city remained as a major center of the Indian independence movement from the rebellion of 1857 until the independence , as many national leaders visited the city during the movement such as Lala Lajpat Rai in 1886 , Subhas Chandra Bose in 1938 , and Jawaharlal Nehru in 1946 .

= = = After independence = = =

After independence , the city became a part of Punjab and later Haryana in 1966 .

= = Geography = =

Hisar is located at 29 @.@ 09 ° N 75 @.@ 43 ° E ? / 29 @.@ 09 ; 75 @.@ 43 in western Haryana . It has an average elevation of 215 m (705 ft) above mean sea level . The region is part of the alluvial Ghaggar @-@ Yamuna plain and its southern and western portions mark a gradual transition to the desert . Ghaggar and Drishadvati Rivers once flowed through the city . According to tectonic map , the district lies on Delhi @-@ Lahore Ridge which is bounded by thrusts and no earthquake of any significance has originated in the zone in the past . Only one instance has been recorded of a famine occurring in the city in 1837 ? 38 .

= = Neighborhoods = =

Main residential areas include :

Popular commercial areas include :

= = Climate = =

Hisar has a continental climate , with very hot summers and relatively cool winters . The main characteristics of climate in Hisar are dryness , extremes of temperature , and scanty rainfall . The maximum daytime temperature during the summer varies between 40 and 46 ° C (104 and 115 ° F) . During winter , its ranges between 1.5and 4 ° C. Maximum temperature recorded is 48 @.@ 3 ° C (118 @.@ 9 ° F) in May 1944 , whereas the minimum temperature recorded is ? 3 @.@ 9 ° C in January 1929 . Annual average maximum and minimum temperature is 31 @.@ 5 ° C (88 @.@ 7 ° F) and 16 @.@ 2 ° C (61 @.@ 2 ° F) , respectively . Relative humidity varies from 5 to 100 % .

Hisar is located on the outer margins of the south @-@ west monsoon region . The average annual rainfall is around 450 mm (18 in) , most of which occurs during July and August . The annual highest rainfall of 793 @.@ 6 mm (31 @.@ 24 in) was recorded in 1976 and the lowest of 145 @.@ 2 mm (5 @.@ 72 in) in 2000 . Dew is observed in December and January . Hot winds , locally known as loo , are strong and frequent from May to July . Occasionally , dust @-@ storms are experienced during summer and hail @-@ storms during February to April . Fog prevails

generally in December and January . Thunderstorms also occur during postmonsoon season and summer .

= = Civic administration = =

Hisar became a municipality in 1867 . It was made the headquarters of the Hisar district in 1832 . The Municipal Corporation of Hisar (Hisar Nagar Nigam) , consisting of 20 wards , is headed by Mayor of Hisar and the functions of the Nagar Nigam include registration of birth & death and marriage , water supply , drainage and sewerage , sanitation , solid waste management , street lighting , and building regulation . Law and order in the city are maintained by Haryana Police , which is headed by Superintendent of Police . The city also serves as headquarters of the Hisar Range of Haryana Police which covers Sirsa , Jind , Bhiwani , and Hisar and is headed by Inspector General of Police . District court was set up at Hisar in 1832 and was upgraded as a Sessions Division in 1915 . It is headed by Chief Judicial Magistrate . The district court has a bar association which was founded in 1870 .

Hisar elects its member to the legislative assembly for Hisar (Vidhan Sabha constituency) and a member to the parliament for Hisar Lok Sabha constituency . It serves as the headquarters of 33rd Battalion of Border Security Force and 3rd Battalion of Haryana Armed Police . The 33rd Armoured Division of Indian Army is stationed at Hisar and is a part of I Corps . In 1996 , Brigade of the Guards arrived here for conversion to mechanized profile and the unit is now a fully mechanized battalion .

= = Economy = =

The city has a large steel industry and is known as the ' city of steel ' . As of June 2012 , Hisar is India 's largest manufacturer of galvanized iron . Textile and automobile industry is also a major contributor to the economy of the city . It also has a large number of livestock farms with the Central Livestock Farm , established in 1809 being one of the Asia 's largest cattle farms . The Jindal Group and Jindal Steel and Power headed by Savitri Jindal , the 10th @-@ wealthiest woman in the world is based in Hisar . The city has been identified as a counter @-@ magnet city for the National Capital Region to attract migrants and develop as an alternative center of growth to Delhi .

= = Demographics = =

According to the 2011 census of India , Hisar has a population of 301 @, @ 249 and is currently the 141st @-@ most populated city in India . Males constitute 54 % of the population and females 46 % , with 844 females per thousand males . Hisar has an average literacy rate of 81 @. @ 04 % , higher than the national average : male literacy is 86 @. @ 13 % and female literacy is 75 @. @ 00 % . In Hisar , 11 % of the population is under 6 years of age and the child sex ratio is 860 girls per thousand boys . Although Hisar city has population of 301 @, @ 249 , its urban population is 306 @, @ 893 , of which 166 @, @ 623 are males and 140 @, @ 270 are females . The decadal growth rate was 27 @. @ 06 % .

= = Religion = =

Over 97 % of the city 's population are followers of Hinduism . The remaining 3 % are followers of Sikhism , Jainism , Islam , and Christianity . The city had a major Muslim population before Indian Independence in 1947 , following which most Muslims migrated to Pakistan during the Partition of India . It was also a major centre of learning for Digambara Jains and was once the seat of Bhattaraka , head of Digambara Jain institutions .

= = Culture = =

Most of the popular Indian festivals are celebrated in the city , the most important being Diwali , Dussehra , Ram Navami , Janamashtami , Shivratri , Gugga Navami , Holi , Basant Panchami , Teej , and Makar Sankranti . The festivals of Jains , Christians , Sikhs and Muslims are also celebrated . Sweets are popular , with Hansi ka Peda being the most popular amongst them . Ghoomar is the primary folk dance performed by people during festivals and other occasions and Saang is the folk @-@ theatre of the region . Classical Indian vocalist Jasraj and poet Vishnu Prabhakar belong to Hisar .

= = = Architecture = = =

Signs of pre @-@ Harappan settlements have been found at Siswal and Lohari Ragho . One of the four pre @-@ Harappan phases has been named Sothi @-@ Siswal period (3200 ? 2600 BC) on this site . Harappan settlements can be found as well in Rakhigarhi . The site covers 2180 hectares , making it the largest Harappan site known in India and the second @-@ biggest overall after Mohenjodaro . All the sites are maintained by Archaeological Survey of India . Agroha is another place of historical importance . It is situated about 24 km from the city and was once the capital of king Agrasena , who is believed to have lived during the last stages of Dwapar Yuga in the Mahabharat era . Remains of his capital have been excavated , known as Agroha Mound or locally as Ther , and belong to around 3000 BC . The city was also a major centre during the Mauryan period as Buddhist and Jain temples have also been revealed in the excavations .

Firoz Shah Palace Complex is another prominent historical site located inside the city . It was built by Firuz Shah Tughlaq in 1354 . Asigarh Fort , a centrally protected monument , was built in 1304 ? 1305 . Historical places from the British era include St. Thomas Church and Jahaj Kothi Museum , a Jain temple converted to a museum .

= = Places of interest = =

Siswal , Banawali , Kanwari , and Rakhigarhi are some of the sites of Indus Valley Civilization of now lost ancient Drishadvati river flowing through Hisar , Drishadvati river was a tributary of ancient Sarasvati River which still flows as remnant Ghaggar @-@ Hakra River . Historic Agroha Mound and Agroha Dham is a prominent religious place located on the outskirts of the city about 22 km away on Fatehabad @-@ Sirsa @-@ Bhatinda road . A local deity Banbhoori is worshipped by local people . Delhi Sultanate era Firoz Shah Palace Complex and Prampir Badshah tomb are located in the city .

The oldest park located in the city is the Krantiman Park , located across the historic St. Thomas Church . The park was built in the 19th century and was then known as Company Bagh . Other parks include Madhuban Park , Town Park , and O. P. Jindal Knowledge Center . The O. P. Jindal Knowledge Centre , inaugurated in 2009 a museum , library , park and houses a 25 @-@ storied , 282 @-@ ft- high steel tower modeled on the Space Needle in Seattle . Haryana Rural Antique Museum , which is maintained by CCS HAU in its Gandhi Bhawan , exhibits evolution of agriculture and vanishing antiques . Jahaj Kothi Museum , named after George Thomas , is located inside Firoz Shah Palace Complex and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India . Rakhigarhi Indus Valley Civilisation Museum is located at Rakhigarhi , which is a Indus Valley civilisation site 60 km away .

Blue Bird Lake , an artificial lake and tourist complex maintained by the Haryana Tourism , offers boating and watersports , birding , picnicking , and recreation . The deer park and Shatavar Vatika Herbal Park are located at the outskirts of the city and maintained by the Haryana State Forest Department . It was established in 1971 and endangered species such as blackbuck , chital , sambar , and nilgai can be found here . Hisar Police Lines Golf Course is located near the Hisar Airport .

= = Media = =

DD Haryana Doordarshan Kendra headquartered at in Hisar was set up in 2002 . Besides Doordarshan , local cable operators offer over 900 local , regional , national and international channels in the city . An All India Radio Hisar station is located at Hisar . Private FM stations operating in Hisar are BIG FM , Radio Mantra , Radio Dhamaal and Radio Tarang . CCS HAU Community Radio Station (CHCRS) was started in 2011 by CCS HAU as the first community radio station of North India at 91 @. @ 2 MHz for farming community .

= = Facilities = =

= = = Utility services = = =

Before independence of India , monsoon or groundwater were the main sources of irrigation . The main source of water now is Balsamand branch of Western Yamuna Canal . Municipal Corporation of Hisar supplies potable water to the city . The city first got electricity in 1936 . It is now produced by the Rajiv Gandhi Thermal Power Station and distributed by Dakshin Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Limited . Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) provides landline and broadband services . Cell phone coverage is extensive , and the main service providers are Vodafone Essar , Airtel , MTNL , Reliance Communications , Idea Cellular and Tata Indicom . The planning of the city is done by Haryana Urban Development Authority .

= = = Healthcare = = =

People from Punjab and Rajasthan come to Hisar for medical treatment . The district Red Cross Society caters to specially abled people .

= = Transport = =

= = = Road = = =

The city lies on National Highway 10 and National Highway 65 . National Highway 10 from Delhi to Fazilka connects it to Rohtak and Sirsa and National Highway 65 from Ambala to Pali connects it to Kaithal and Jodhpur . The state highways of Haryana that pass through Hisar are State Highways 10 , 13 , and 20 . Besides , there are district roads , village link roads and canal inspection roads . In 1947 , the total metalled road length in the city was 137 km (85 mi) which increased to 1 @, @ 188 km (738 mi) in 1978 .

Hisar Bus Stand is the hub of bus service that is the major means of transport in the district . Bus services are provided by Haryana Roadways and other private operators . Hisar Bus Stand came into being on 11 August 1969 and has a subdepot at Hansi . As of 2012 , the depot has a total of 198 buses with daily ridership of 73 @, @ 500 . Bus stands are located at Hisar , Adampur , Barwala , Hansi , Narnaund and Uklana . All the 290 villages of Hisar district are connected to the city through either public transport provided by Haryana Roadways or through private buses . Auto rickshaws are a major means of transport for travelling within the city . In August 2012 , city bus service was started in the city . The city is a part of Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Project which aims at developing strong road and rail connections between the cities lying on it and develop them as an industrial area .

= = = Rail = = =

Hisar is a railway junction station , and it falls under Bikaner division of North Western Railway Zone . The first railway line to the city was laid down in 1883 when Delhi Rewari Railway was extended to Bhatinda . Currently , four broad gauge railway lines are at the station . The railway station is a part

of Western Dedicated Rail Freight Corridor according to which the city is to be developed as an export @-@ oriented industrial unit . The city is well connected to the neighboring states through rail links .

= = = Air = = =

Hisar Airport (IATA : HSS , ICAO : VIHR) is located on the outskirts of the city . In August 2012 , the DGCA approved the Haryana state government 's plan to develop the airport to operate domestic passenger services . Its 4 @,@ 000 @-@ foot (1 @,@ 200 m) runway will be extended to 6 @,@ 000 ft (1 @,@ 800 m) to accommodate air service .

= = Education = =

Before the British Raj , indigenous schools provided elementary education . Till 1892 , the city had only one middle school . The first private school , CAV High School , was set up by Arya Samaj in 1918 . Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University , one of Asia 's biggest agricultural universities was the first university established in Hisar , in 1971 . Other universities located in the city are Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology , Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences and Shanti Niketan Vidyapeeth , Hisar . Commercial and private pilot license training is provided by the Haryana Institute of Civil Aviation (HICA) from Hisar Airport built in 1965 .

A few agricultural and veterinary research centers are also situated in the city such as National Research Centre on Equines , Central Sheep Breeding Farm , Government Livestock Farm , Hisar Northern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute , Regional Fodder Station , Hisar and Central Institute for Research on Buffaloes . In 1988 , the city hosted the 2nd World Buffalo Congress . The major library in the city is Nehru Library .

= = Sports = =

Mahabir Stadium , Haryana Agricultural University Stadium and HAU Giri Centre host state sponsored sports academies . Hisar hosted the 51st National Boxing Championship in 2004 and 22nd Haryana State Women Sports Festival in 2008 . It has a sports center run by Sports Authority of India at Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University which has a synthetic track of international standard apart from other facilities . Other major sporting venue in Hisar is Mahabir Stadium for multiple sports which was completed in the year 1972 , run by District Olympic Association . Sports persons from Hisar include Chandgi Ram , Geetika Jakhar in wrestling , Krishna Poonia in discus throw , Manvinder Bisla in cricket , Nirmala Devi in wrestling , Udey Chand , and Vikas Krishan Yadav in boxing . In April 2012 , 18 @-@ year @-@ old Ajay Kumar from Hisar qualified for 2012 Summer Olympics .