

= Allahabad =

Allahabad (/ ʔʔlʔʔhʔbʔʔd /) , also known as Prayag ʔ ʔ ʔʔʔʔ (/ prʔʔjʔʔʔ /) and Ilahabad , is a city in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh and the administrative headquarters of Allahabad District , the most populous district in the state . As of 2011 , Allahabad is the seventh most populous city in the state , fifteenth in the Northern India and thirty @-@ sixth in India , with an estimated population of 1 @.@ 11 million in the city and 1 @.@ 21 million in its metropolitan region . In 2011 it was ranked the world 's 130th fastest @-@ growing city . Allahabad , in 2013 , was ranked the third most liveable city in the state (after Noida and Lucknow) and twenty @-@ ninth in the country .

The city 's original name ʔ Prayaga ʔ ʔ ʔʔʔʔ , or " place of offerings " ʔ comes from its position at the Sangam (confluence) of the Ganga , Yamuna and mythical Sarasvati rivers . It is the second @-@ oldest city in India , and plays a central role in Hindu scriptures . Allahabad was originally called Kaushambi (now a separate district) by the Kuru rulers of Hastinapur , who developed it as their capital . Since then , Allahabad has been a political , cultural and administrative centre of the Doab region . Mughal emperor Akbar renamed it Ilahabad , which the British changed to Allahabad . In 1833 it became the seat of the Ceded and Conquered Provinces region before its capital was moved to Agra in 1835 . Allahabad became the capital of the North @-@ Western Provinces in 1858 , and was the capital of India for a day . The city was the capital of the United Provinces from 1902 to 1920 and remained at the forefront of national importance during the struggle for Indian independence .

Located in southern Uttar Pradesh , the city 's metropolitan area covers 70 @.@ 5 km² (27 @.@ 22 sq miles) . Although the city and its surrounding area are governed by several municipalities , a large portion of Allahabad District is governed by the Allahabad City Council . The city is home to colleges , research institutions and central and state government offices . Allahabad has hosted cultural and sporting events , including Kumbh Mela and the Indira Marathon . Although the city 's economy was built on tourism , most of its income now derives from real estate and financial services .

= = History = =

The city was earlier known as Prayʔga , a name still commonly used . Prayʔga existed during the Vedic period , and is mentioned in the Veda as the location where Brahma (the Hindu creator of the universe) attended a ritual sacrifice . Excavations have revealed Northern Black Polished Ware dating to 600 ʔ 700 BCE . The Puranas record that Yayati left Prayag and conquered the region of Saptha Sindhu . His five sons (Yadu , Druhyu , Puru , Anu and Turvashu) founded the main tribes of the Rigveda . Lord Rama , the protagonist of the Ramayana , spent time at the Ashram of Sage Bharadwaj before travelling to nearby Chitrakoot .

When the Aryans first settled in what they called the ʔryʔvarta (or Madhyadesha) , Prayag (then Kaushambi) was an important part of their territory . The Kurus , rulers of Hastinapur (near present @-@ day Delhi) , established the town of Kaushambi near Prayag . They shifted their capital to Kaushambi when Hastinapur was destroyed by floods .

The Doab region , which includes Allahabad , was controlled by a succession of empires and dynasties . The area became part of the Mauryan and Gupta Empires from the east and the Kushan Empire from the west before being governed by Kannauj during the 15th century . The city was the site of Maratha incursions before India was colonised . In 1765 , the British established a garrison at Allahabad Fort . Prayag became a part of the Delhi Sultanate when it was annexed by Mohammad Ghori in 1193 . Later , the Mughals took over from the slave rulers of Delhi and under them Prayag rose to prominence . Allahabad was a provincial capital in the Moghul Empire under the reign of Jahangir . Akbar built a fort on the banks of the sangam and renamed the settlement Ilʔhʔbʔd (Persian for " place of a god ") in 1575 . A unique artefact associated with Jahangir 's reign found in Allahabad is a large jade terrapin , now in the British Museum 's collection .

In 1765 , forces of Mir Qasim , the Nawab of Bengal , Shuja @-@ ud @-@ Daula , the Nawab of Awadh and the Mughal emperor Shah Alam II lost the Battle of Buxar to the British ; this was

followed by the Treaty of Allahabad . Although the British did not yet establish direct rule , they saw Allahabad 's strategic position and established a garrison in Akbar 's fort . In 1801 , the Nawab of Awadh ceded the city to the British East India Company . Gradually , the rest of the Doab and its adjoining western region in its west (including Delhi and Ajmer @-@ Merwara) came under British rule . The northwestern area became a new presidency , the North Western Provinces of Agra , with its capital at Agra . Allahabad was an important part of the state . In 1834 , the city became the governmental seat of Agra Province and a High Court was established ; a year later , both were moved to Agra . Allahabad was a participant in the 1857 Indian Mutiny , when Maulvi Liaquat Ali unfurled the banner of revolt . During the rebellion Allahabad , with a number of European troops , was the scene of a massacre .

After the mutiny the British established a high court , a police headquarters and a public @-@ service commission in Allahabad , making the city an administrative centre . They truncated the Delhi region of the state , merging it with the Punjab and moving the capital of the North @-@ Western Provinces to Allahabad (where it remained for 20 years) . In January 1858 , Earl Canning departed Calcutta for Allahabad . That year he read Queen Victoria 's proclamation , transferring control of India from the East India Company to the British Crown (beginning the British Raj) , in Minto Park . In 1877 the provinces of Agra and Awadh were merged to form the United Provinces , with Allahabad its capital until 1920 .

The 1888 session of the Indian National Congress was held in the city , and by the turn of the 20th century Allahabad was a revolutionary centre . Nityanand Chatterji became a household name when he hurled a bomb at a European club . In Alfred Park in 1931 , Chandrashekhar Azad died when surrounded by British police . The Nehru family homes , Anand Bhavan and Swaraj Bhavan , were centres of Indian National Congress activity . During the years before independence Allahabad was home to thousands of satyagrahis led by Purushottam Das Tandon , Bishambhar Nath Pande , Narayan Dutt Tiwari and others . The first seeds of the Pakistani nation were sown in Allahabad . On 29 December 1930 , Allama Muhammad Iqbal 's presidential address to the All @-@ India Muslim League proposed a separate Muslim state for the Muslim @-@ majority regions of India .

Allahabad is known as the " city of prime ministers " because seven out of 15 prime ministers of India since independence have connections to Allahabad (Jawaharlal Nehru , Lal Bahadur Shastri , Indira Gandhi , Rajiv Gandhi , Gulzarilal Nanda , Vishwanath Pratap Singh and Chandra Shekhar) . All seven leaders were either born there , were alumni of Allahabad University or were elected from an Allahabad constituency .

= = Geography = =

= = = Cityscape = = =

The old part of the city , at the south of Allahabad Junction Railway Station , consists of neighbourhoods like Chowk , Johnstongunj , Dariyabad , Khuldabad and many more . In the north of the Railway Station , the new city consists of neighbourhoods like Lukergunj , Civil Lines , Georgetown , Tagoretown , Ashok Nagar , Mumfordgunj , Bharadwaj Puram and others which are relatively new and were built during the British rule . Civil Lines is the central business district of the city and is famous for its urban setting , gridiron plan roads and high rise buildings . Built in 1857 , it was the largest town @-@ planning project carried out in India before the establishment of New Delhi . Allahabad has many buildings featuring Indo @-@ Islamic and Indo @-@ Saracenic architecture . Although several buildings from the colonial period have been declared " heritage structures " , others are deteriorating . Famous landmarks of the city are Allahabad Museum , New Yamuna Bridge , Allahabad University , Triveni Sangam , All Saints Cathedral , Anand Bhavan , Alfred Park etc .

= = = Topography = = =

Allahabad is in south @-@ eastern part of Uttar Pradesh , at the confluence of the Ganga and Yamuna . The region was known in antiquity first as the Kuru , then as the Vats country . To the southwest is Bundelkhand , to the east and southeast is Baghelkhand , to the north and northeast is Awadh and to the west is the lower doab (of which Allahabad is part) . The city is divided by a railway line running east @-@ west . South of the railway is the Old Chowk area , and the British @-@ built Civil Lines is north of it . Allahabad is geographically and culturally strategically located . Geographically part of the Ganga @-@ Yamuna Doab (at the mouth of the Yamuna) , culturally it is the terminus of the Indian west . The Indian Standard Time longitude (25 @. @ 15 ° N 82 @. @ 58 ° E) is near the city . According to a United Nations Development Programme report , Allahabad is in a " low damage risk " wind and cyclone zone . In common with the rest of the doab , its soil and water are primarily alluvial . Pratapgarh is north of the city , Bhadohi is east , Rewa is south and Kaushambi is west .

= = = Climate = = =

Allahabad has a humid subtropical climate common to cities in the plains of North India , designated Cwa in the Köppen climate classification . The annual mean temperature is 26 @. @ 1 ° C (79 @. @ 0 ° F) ; monthly mean temperatures are 18 ? 29 ° C (64 ? 84 ° F) . Allahabad has three seasons : a hot , dry summer , a cool , dry winter and a hot , humid monsoon . Summer lasts from March to September with daily highs reaching up to 48 ° C in the dry summer (from March to May) and up to 40 ° C in the hot and extremely humid monsoon season (from June to September) . The monsoon begins in June , and lasts till August ; high humidity levels prevail well into September . Winter runs from December to February , with temperatures rarely dropping to the freezing point . The daily average maximum temperature is about 22 ° C (72 ° F) and the minimum about 9 ° C (48 ° F) . Allahabad never receives snow , but experiences dense winter fog due to numerous wood fires , coal fires , and open burning of rubbish ? resulting in substantial traffic and travel delays , but the city does not receive snow . Its highest recorded temperature is 48 ° C (118 @. @ 4 ° F) , and its lowest is ? 2 ° C (28 ° F) .

Rain from the Bay of Bengal or the Arabian Sea branches of the southwest monsoon falls on Allahabad from June to September , supplying the city with most of its annual rainfall of 1 @, @ 027 mm (40 in) . The highest monthly rainfall total , 333 mm (13 in) , occurs in August . The city receives 2 @, @ 961 hours of sunshine per year , with maximum sunlight in May .

= = = Biodiversity = = =

The Ganga @-@ Jamuna Doab , of which Allahabad is a part , is on the western Indus @-@ Gangetic Plain region . The doab (including the Terai) is responsible for the city 's unique flora and fauna . Since the arrival of humans , nearly half of city 's vertebrates have become extinct . Others are endangered or have had their range severely reduced . Associated changes in habitat and the introduction of reptiles , snakes and other mammals led to the extinction of bird species , including large birds such as eagles . The Allahabad Museum , one of four national museums in India , is documenting the flora and fauna of the Ganga and the Yamuna .

The most common birds found in the city are doves , peacocks , junglefowl , black partridge , house sparrows , songbirds , blue jays , parakeets , quails , bulbuls , and comb ducks . Large numbers of Deer are found in Trans Yamuna area of Allahabad . Other animals in the state include reptiles such as lizards , cobras , kraits , and gharials . During winter , large numbers of Siberian birds are reported in the sangam and nearby wetlands .

= = Demographics = =

The 2011 census reported a population of 1 @, @ 117 @, @ 094 in Allahabad . Provisional data suggest a density of 1 @, @ 086 people per km² in 2011 , compared to 901 in 2001 . Natives of Uttar Pradesh form the majority of Allahabad 's population . The sex ratio of Allahabad is 858 per

1000 males and child sex ratio of girls is 876 per 1000 boys .

Allahabad 's literacy rate of 86 @. @ 50 percent is close to the all @- @ India average of 74 percent and the highest in the region . Male literacy is 90 @. @ 21 percent and female literacy 82 @. @ 17 percent . Among 35 major Indian cities , Allahabad reported the greatest number of violations of special and local laws to the National Crime Records Bureau .

Hindi , the official state language , is the predominant language in Allahabad . English is also used , particularly by white @- @ collar workers . Urdu is spoken by a sizeable minority . The Hindi dialect spoken in Allahabad is Awadhi , although Khariboli is also common in the city . Bengali and Punjabi are also spoken .

= = Civic administration = =

Allahabad is known as the " Prime Minister Capital of India " , since seven of fifteen Prime Ministers of India are from the city . The city is administered by several government agencies . The Allahabad Nagar Nigam (ANN) , also called Allahabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) , oversees the city 's civic infrastructure under the Allahabad Metropolitan Region . The corporation originated in 1864 , when the Lucknow Municipal Act was passed by the Government of India . Allahabad is divided into 80 wards , with one member (or corporator) elected from each ward to form the Municipal Committee . The corporators elect the city 's mayor . Allahabad 's chief executive is its Commissioner , who is appointed by the state government . The city 's rapid , unplanned growth has created traffic congestion and stress on infrastructure which has challenged the ANN . Traffic gridlock has been addressed by a flyover system and one @- @ way streets . Land is expensive in Allahabad , especially in Civil Lines (where skyscrapers exceeding 10 ? 15 floors are being built) .

As of 2012 , the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) controls the AMC . The city has a non @- @ political titular head , who presides over municipal functions and conferences . As the seat of the Government of Uttar Pradesh , Allahabad is home to local governing agencies and the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly (located in the Allahabad High Court building) . The Allahabad police , headed by a commissioner , is overseen by the Uttar Pradesh Ministry of Home Affairs . The Allahabad district elects two representatives to India 's lower house , the Lok Sabha , and 12 representatives to the state legislative assembly .

= = Economy = =

Overall Allahabad has a very stable and diverse economy comprising various sectors such as State and Central government offices , education and research institutions , real estate , retail , banking , tourism and hospitality , agriculture based industries , railways , transport and logistics , miscellaneous service sectors , and manufacturing . Average Household Income of the city is US \$ 2 @, @ 299 .

The construction sector is a major part of Allahabad 's economy . Secondary manufacturers and services may be registered or unregistered ; according to the third All India Census for Small Scale Industries , there are more than 10 @, @ 000 unregistered small @- @ scale industries in the city . An integrated industrial township has been proposed for 1 @, @ 200 acres (490 ha) in Allahabad by the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India .

The city is also home to glass and wire @- @ based industry . The main industrial areas of Allahabad are Naini and Phulpur , where several public and private sector companies have offices and factories . Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited , India 's largest oil company (which is state @- @ owned) , is constructing a seven @- @ million @- @ tonnes @- @ per @- @ annum (MTPA) capacity refinery in Lohgara with an investment estimated at ? 62 billion . Allahabad Bank , which began operations in 1865 , Bharat Pumps & Compressors and A. H. Wheeler and Company have their headquarters in the city . Major companies in the city are Reliance Industries , Alstom , ITI Limited , Areva , BPCL , Dey 's Medical , Food Corporation of India , Raymond Synthetics , Triveni Sheet Glass , Schneider Electric India Ltd , Triveni Electroplast , EMC Power Ltd , Steel Authority of India , HCL Technologies , Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) , Vibgyor Laboratories ,

Geep Industries , Hindustan Cable , Indian Oil Corporation Ltd , Baidyanath Ayurved and Hindustan Laboratories . The city is also headquarters of Central Organisation for Railway Electrification .

The primary economic sectors of the district are tourism , fishing and agriculture , and the city is a hub for India 's agricultural industry . In case of Agriculture crops Paddy has the largest share followed by Bajra , Arhar , Urd & Moong in declining order during the Kharif season . In Rabi , Wheat is pre dominant followed by pulses and oilseed . Among oilseed crops , Mustard has very less area under pure farming and is grown mainly as a mixed crop . Linseed dominates the oilseed scenario of the district and is mainly grown in Jamunapar area . In case of pulses gram has largest area followed by pea and lentil (masoor) . There is fairly good acreage under barley .

= = Culture and tourism = =

Allahabad has a literary and artistic heritage ; the former capital of the United Provinces , it was known as Prayag in the Vedas , the Ramayana and the Mahabharata . Allahabad has been called the " literary capital of Uttar Pradesh " , attracting visitors from East Asia ; the Chinese travellers Huen Tsang and Fa Hien found a flourishing city in the fifth and seventh centuries , respectively . The number of foreign tourists , which mostly consisted of Asians , visiting the city was 98 @, @ 167 in 2010 which subsequently increased to 1 @, @ 07 @, @ 141 in 2014 . The city has a tradition of political graffiti which includes limericks and caricatures . In 1900 , Saraswati first Hindi monthly magazine of India , was started by Chintamani Ghosh . Mahavir Prasad Dwivedi , the doyen of modern Hindi literature , remained its editors from 1903 to 1920 . The Anand Bhavan , built during the 1930s as a new home for the Nehru family when the Swaraj Bhavan became the local Indian National Congress headquarters , has memorabilia from the Gandhi @-@ Nehru family .

During the 19th and 20th centuries , Hindi literature was modernised by authors such as Mahadevi Varma , Sumitranandan Pant , Suryakant Tripathi ' Nirala ' and Harivansh Rai Bachchan . A noted poet was Raghupati Sahay , better known as Firaq Gorakhpuri . Gorakhpuri and Varma have received Jnanpith Awards . Allahabad is a publication centre for Hindi literature , including the Lok Bharti , Rajkamal and Neelabh . Persian and Urdu literature are also studied in the city . Akbar Allahabadi is a noted modern Urdu poet , and Nooh Narwi , Tegh Allahabadi , Shabnam Naqvi and Rashid Allahabadi hail from Allahabad . English author and 1907 Nobel laureate Rudyard Kipling was an assistant editor and overseas correspondent for The Pioneer .

Although Hindu women have traditionally worn saris , the shalwar kameez and Western attire is gaining acceptance among younger women . Western dress is worn more by men , although the dhoti and kurta are seen during festivals . The formal male sherwani is often worn with chooridar on festive occasions . Diwali (celebrated as a festival of light between mid @-@ October and mid @-@ December) and Rama Navami (when decorations light the banks of the Ganga and the Yamuna) are the two most popular festivals in Allahabad .

Allahabad is noted for historic , cultural and religious tourism . Historic sites include Alfred Park , the Victoria and Thornhill Mayne Memorials , Minto Park , Allahabad Fort , the Ashoka Pillar and Khusro Bagh . Religious attractions include the Kumbh Mela , the Triveni Sangam (sacred in Shaktism) and All Saints Cathedral . The city hosts the Maha Kumbh Mela , the largest religious gathering in the world , every twelve years and the Ardh (half) Kumbh Mela every six years . Cultural attractions include the Allahabad Museum , the Jawahar Planetarium and the University of Allahabad . North Central Zone Culture Center , under Ministry of Culture (India) and Prayag Sangeet Samiti are nationally renowned centres of Arts , Dance , Music , local Folk Dance and Music , Plays / Theatre etc. and nurture upcoming artists . The city has also hosted International Film Festival of Prayag .

= = Infrastructure = =

= = = Transportation = = =

Allahabad is served by Allahabad Airport (IATA : IXD , ICAO : VIAL) , which began operations in

February 1966 . The airport is 12 kilometres (7 @. @ 5 mi) from the city centre and lies in Bamrauli , Allahabad . Air India and Spice Jet connect Allahabad to Delhi and Mumbai . Other nearby airports are in Varanasi , Lucknow and Kanpur . Ventura AirConnect is operating direct flights to Lucknow & Varanasi from Allahabad Airport . Allahabad Junction is one of the main railway junctions in northern India and headquarters of the North Central Railway Zone . The four major railway stations in Allahabad are Prayag Station , City Station at Rambagh , Daraganj Station and Allahabad Junction . The city is connected to most other Uttar Pradesh cities and major Indian cities such as Agra , Aligarh , Bareilly , Jhansi , Kolkata , New Delhi , Patna , Mumbai , Visakhapatnam , Chennai , Bangalore , Guwahati , Thiruvananthapuram , Hyderabad , Pune , Bhopal , Kanpur , Lucknow and Jaipur . Auto Rikshaws have been a popular mode of transportation . Since 2014 , E @-@ rickshaws have also been introduced and quickly spread over the city . Renowned taxi firms like Ola Cabs , TaxiForSure etc. are also operating in the city , making transportation in the city more hassle @-@ free & convenient . Cycle rickshaws are the most economical means of transportation in Allahabad along with e @-@ rickshaws .

Buses operated by Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) are an important means of public transport in the metro . National Highway 2 runs through the city centre . India 's longest cable @-@ stayed bridge , the New Yamuna Bridge (built 2001 ? 04) , is located in Allahabad and connects the city to the suburb of Naini across the Yamuna . The Old Naini Bridge now accommodates railway and auto traffic . A road bridge across the Ganga also connects Allahabad and Jhusi . National Waterway 1 , the longest Waterway in India , connects Allahabad and Haldia . Allahabad Metrorail Project covering the entire metropolitan region is also underway . After the decision to develop Allahabad as a Smart City , more stress is being laid on transportation facilities in the city .

= = = Utilities = = =

The city generates 5 @,@ 34 @,@ 760 kg of domestic solid wastes everyday , while per capita generation of waste is 0 @.@ 40 kg per day . The sewer service areas are divided into nine zones in the city . Allahabad Municipal Corporation oversees the solid waste management project . Allahabad was the first city to get pre @-@ paid meters for electricity bill in Uttar Pradesh . The city is equipped with over 40 CCTVs at major crossings and markets .

= = Education = =

The Allahabad educational system is distinct from Uttar Pradesh 's other cities , with an emphasis on broad education . Board of High School and Intermediate Education Uttar Pradesh , the world 's biggest examining body , is headquartered in the city . Although English is the language of instruction in most private schools , government schools and colleges offer Hindi and English @-@ medium education . Schools in Allahabad follow the 10 + 2 + 3 plan . After completing their secondary education , students typically enroll in higher secondary schools affiliated with the Uttar Pradesh Board of High School and Intermediate Education , the ICSE or the CBSE. and focus on liberal arts , business or science . Vocational programs are also available .

Allahabad attracts students from throughout India . As of 2010 , the city had one central university , three deemed universities and an open university . Allahabad University , founded in 1876 , is the oldest university in the state . Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad is a noted technical institution . Sam Higginbottom Institute of Agriculture , Technology and Sciences is an ' A @-@ grade ' , deemed university with global standards . Other notable schools in Allahabad include the Indian Institute of Information Technology - Allahabad ; Motilal Nehru Medical College ; Ewing Christian College ; Harish @-@ Chandra Research Institute ; Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute and Institute of Engineering and Rural Technology .

Academics and artists who were born , worked or studied in Allahabad include mathematician Manindra Agrawal , electrical engineer Sorab K. Gandhi , poet Subhadra Kumari Chauhan , novelist Julia Strachey , philanthropist Jagmal Raja Chauhan , actor Amitabh Bachchan , Nobel

laureate Rudyard Kipling , Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain and musicians Shubha Mudgal and Hariprasad Chaurasia .

= = Sports = =

Cricket and field hockey are the most popular sports in Allahabad , with kabaddi , kho @-@ kho , gilli danda and pehlwani are played in rural areas near the city . Gully cricket , also known as street cricket , is popular among city youth . Several sports complexes are used by amateur and professional athletes ; these include the Madan Mohan Malviya Stadium , the Amitabh Bachchan Sports Complex and the Boys ' High School and College Gymnasium . There is an international @-@ level swimming complex in Georgetown . The National Sports Academy in Jhalwa trains gymnasts for the Commonwealth Games . The Indira Marathon honours the late prime minister Indira Gandhi .

= = Media = =

Allahabad 's Hindi @-@ language newspapers include Dainik Jagran , Amar Ujala , Dainik Bhaskar , Nai Dunia , Hindustan Dainik , Daily News Activist and Aaj . The Leader , Northern India Patrika (NIP) and The Pioneer are English @-@ language newspapers published in the city ; others include The Times of India , the Hindustan Times , The Hindu , The Indian Express , and The Asian Age . Newspapers in Urdu , Gujarati and Punjabi are also available .

All India Radio , the national , state @-@ owned radio broadcaster , has AM radio stations in the city . Allahabad has five FM stations , including two AIR stations : BIG FM 92 @.@ 7 , Red FM 93 @.@ 5 , Gyan Vani , Vividh Bharti and Akashwani . There is a Doordarshan Kendra in the city . Regional TV channels are accessible via cable subscription , direct @-@ broadcast satellite service or Internet @-@ based television .