

## GRAND GATES OF INDIA

A gate or gateway is an entry to a city, a building, a religious structure and its size complements its function. Each gate is influenced by the culture it resides in, the purpose it is built for, and its location. For example, gates made at the edge of ancient Harappan settlements were designed to be entryways and had a simple design. However, gates such as the *toranas* were built for a spiritual purpose showing Buddha's life and message. Gates changed with time due to cultural influences as well as functional diversity.

Let's flip through the pages of this newsletter and learn about the numerous kinds of gates found in India, from the ancient period till today...

Tilkesh Singh Rathore, Class 8A, LakshmiPat Singhania School, Kankroli;  
Manan Khaitan, Class 6B, Maharana Mewar Public School, Udaipur

Illustration by Palak Pandey, Class 8C,  
Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi

Many a story  
many a fate,  
is told by every  
grand gate...



Hello Heritage Friends,

While walking through your city, have you ever noticed the different kinds of gates on your path? Each gate or gateway has distinct features. These gates make up a huge part of our city's and our regional heritage, and therefore, they need to be protected very carefully by all of us.

Come discover how and why these gates have been built and what stories they tell us!

### GIANT ENTRY

The gateway of a city was made with spiked wooden panels and was large enough for an elephant. Sometimes there was a double gate to prevent enemy elephants from entering the city.



### GOPURAM GLORY

The *gopurams* or gateways of South Indian temples were built at great heights so that devotees could locate the temples and pray from afar too.

Anika Karan, Class 7, Gitanjali Devshala, Hyderabad

Illustration by Adithi Singh,  
Class 9C, Sir Mutha School, Chennai



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# GLORIOUS GATES

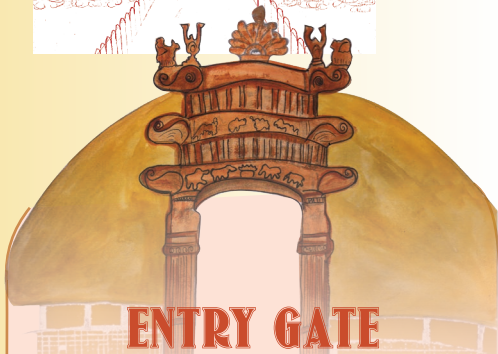
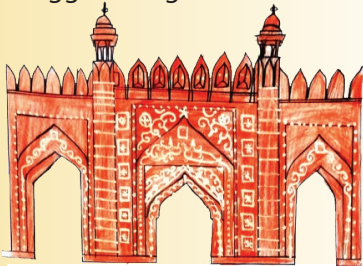
Gates in India, and across the world, can be found in various forms and locations depending on their use and purpose.

## WHAT IS A GATE?

A gate or gateway is usually the point of entry or exit to a place enclosed by walls. Lying at the edge of a distinct area, they mark the transition between the outside and the inside. Since they facilitate the entry of a larger number of people, gates are bigger and grander than doorways of buildings.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The large gates of the Maratha Giri Durgs (hill forts) and Jal Durgs (sea forts) were known as Mahadarwazas.

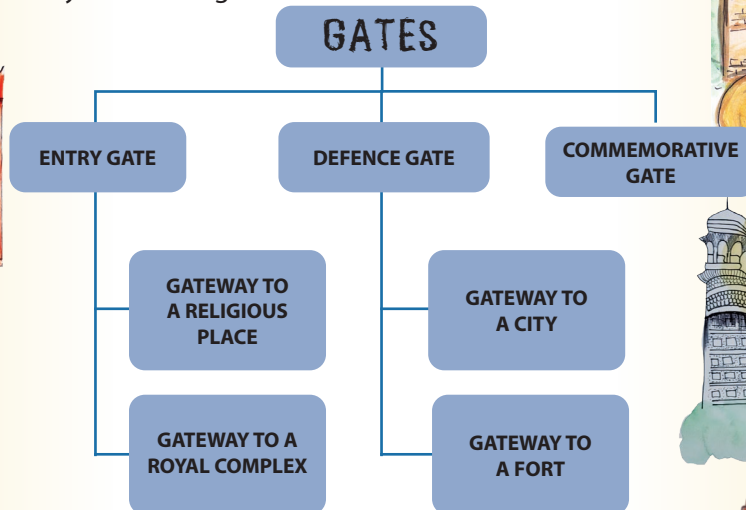


## ENTRY GATE

These gates mark the entryway into a sacred or royal place, as they symbolise the transition between mundane and sacred, or royal. It was also significant as it welcomes visitors.

**Examples:** Toranas of the Sanchi Stupa, Gopuras of Meenakshi Temple, Madurai and Teen Darwaza in Ahmedabad.

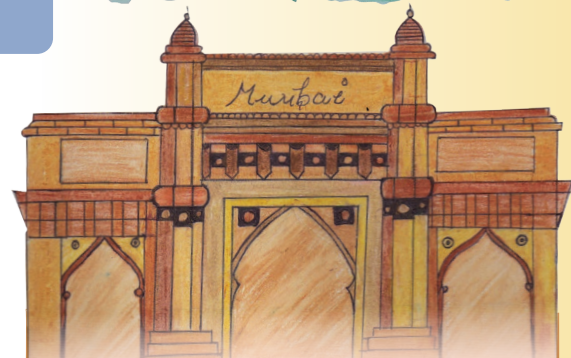
## GATES



## DEFENCE GATE

The gates which are a part of a fortified wall are known as defence gates. With many sub-elements such as guard rooms, and spikes, defence gates are designed to prevent enemies from entering.

**Examples:** Amar Singh Gate of the Agra Fort, Hall Gate in Amritsar, and Talaqi Gate, Purana Qila in Delhi.



## COMMEMORATIVE GATE

These gates are built to mark an event, commemorate a person, or pay respects to those who made sacrifices during wars. They started being made in the Mughal period, but most of these gates were made in the colonial period.

**Examples:** Buland Darwaza in Fatehpur Sikri, Gateway of India in Mumbai, and the India Gate in New Delhi.

Illustrations by Gungun Kanwar, Class 6C, Chandrakanthi Public School, Coimbatore; Shivansh V, Class 5, KLE School, Dharwad; Dhruvika Mittal, Class 9B, Delhi Public School, Rohini, Delhi; Palak Agarwal, Class 8A, Dundlod Vidyapeeth, Jhunjhunu; Varsha, Class 9A, Army Public School, Chandimandir Cantt.

## ACTIVITY: GUESS THE GATE

Read about these gates and identify what kind of gates they are.



(a) Akshardwar, Bhavnagar



(b) India Gate, New Delhi



(c) Nurmahal Gate, Nurmahal



# GATES - PART BY PART

The need for gates and gateways grew significantly over a period of time. Depending on a gate's function different features emerged and became important.

## DEFENCE GATE

### BASTION

Built on either side of the entrance these are circular-shaped tapering at the top

### PARAPET

A pointed arch-shaped or square-shaped parapet with loopholes for surveillance

### DID YOU KNOW?

The iron spikes were studded in gateways to prevent elephant attacks.



### TOWER

High conical towers used by the guards to observe the surrounding area

### TURRET

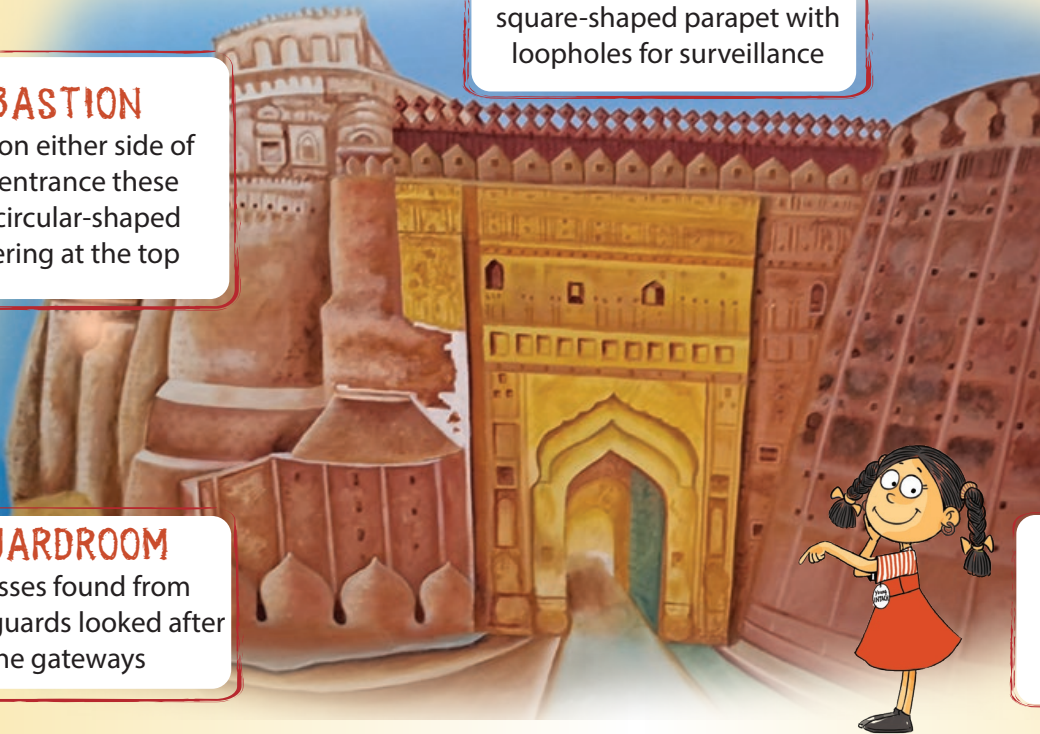
A small covered building with slits from where soldiers attack

### GUARDROOM

Recesses found from where guards looked after the gateways

### DRAWBRIDGE

A wooden bridge which leads to the gateway using a pulley



## COMMEMORATIVE GATE

### ARCH

The most significant part of a commemorative gate or gateway

### MINARET

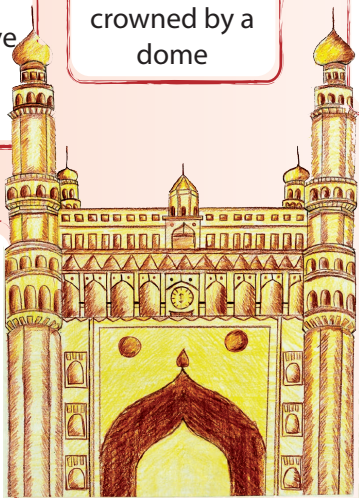
It is sometimes found at the corner crowned by a dome

### TURRET

The low-rise tapering turrets are covered buildings

### DOME OR CHHATRI

The elevated, dome-shaped pavilions above the gates



### FACADE

Front and back façade with niches decorated with couplets, symbols, motifs or names

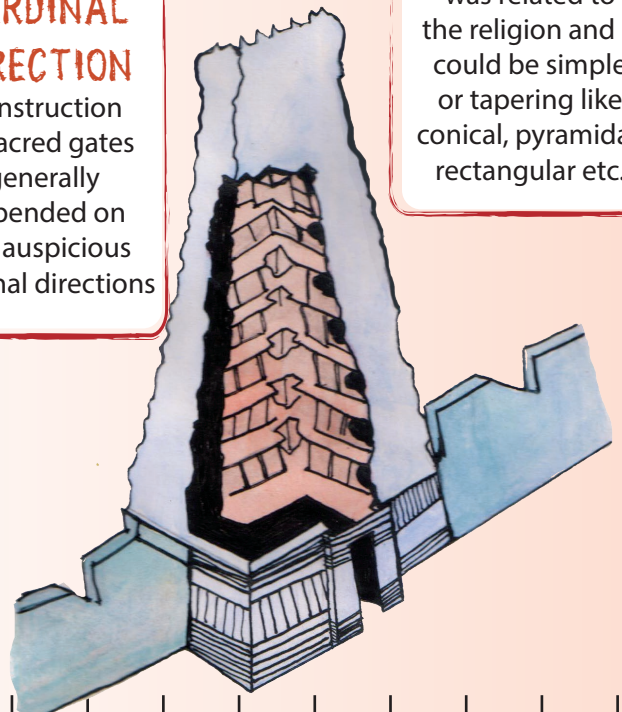
## SACRED GATE

### CARDINAL DIRECTION

Construction of sacred gates generally depended on the auspicious cardinal directions

### SHAPE

Shape of the gate was related to the religion and it could be simple or tapering like conical, pyramidal, rectangular etc.



# GATES DOWN THE AGES

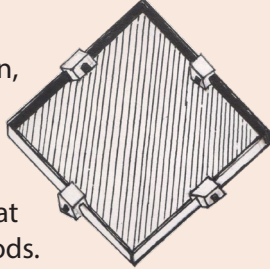
The evolution of architectural styles in the Indian sub-continent through the ages due to various socio-political and cultural factors can be seen in the gates and gateways of India as well. The change in the function, design, and placement of gates is related to such factors throughout history.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The late 19th century saw the emergence of the Indo-Saracenic style of architecture in gates. Along with bricks and stones, some gates were also created with cast iron.

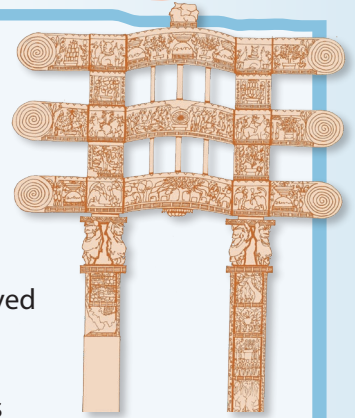
### HARAPPAN ENTRY

During the Harappan Civilisation, gates were built purely for functional purposes as entryways. They were a part of the tapered city walls that protected settlements from floods. The gates were made with baked bricks and were placed in the cardinal directions.



### TORANA TRIUMPH

The Vedic period saw the emergence of *toranas* as *grama-dwaras* (village gateway) to mark the entry into a village or region. In the Mauryan period, *toranas* evolved into grand gates of cities, and entryways into shrines. They acquired a sacred role, such as the *toranas* of the Sanchi Stupa.



### MEDIEVAL MASTERY

The architecture of gates acquired an Indo-Islamic nature during the Sultanate dynasties in the subcontinent. This included the use of domes, arches, and chambers within the gate structures. Gates acquired varied roles such as location for gatherings, as a guardhouse, and as a commemorative structure.



Saanvi Verma, Class 6E, DAV Sr Sec Public School, Sec-14, Faridabad

Illustration by Divya R Biradar, Class 9B, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi

### MUGHAL MARVELS

Following the concept of symmetry of the Mughal period, gates started being built with huge domes, tall minarets, and intricate designs. Gates also acquired a majorly defensive role with elements such as long metal spikes, thick doors, and strategically placed entrances.

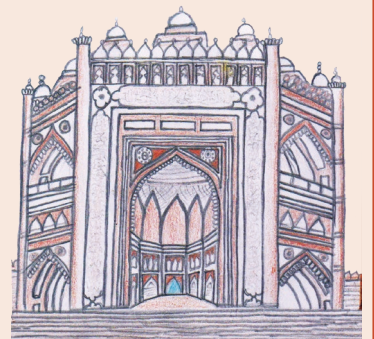
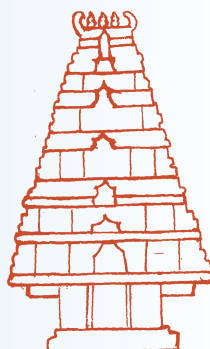


Illustration by Shaarfa Fatima, Class 6D, Bridgeford School, Ranchi

Anaaya Vats, Global Indian International School, Noida; Vishvendra Singh, Class 7, Indo American Public School, Udaipur

## ACTIVITY: MY GATE SKYLINE

Looking at the skyline given, make a similar one with at least 5 gates. Label each one of them!



Sri Govindraja Swamy Temple, Tirupati



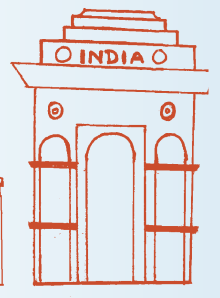
Jorwarar Singh Gate, Jaipur



Buland Darwaza, Fatehpur Sikri



Gateway of India, Mumbai



India Gate, New Delhi



# LEGENDARY LORES

Like any other forts or palaces, myths and beliefs are said to be also associated with the gates and gateways of ancient, medieval and modern era.

## SUFI STORY

It was believed that Salim Chisti lived in the area where the Buland Darwaza, Agra, stands today. Before it was built, it was nothing but barren land where the Sufi saint practiced his religion. It is said that Akbar built an underground passage which directly led to his fort in Agra. It was built so that Akbar could go to consult the revered Sufi saint for the heir of his empire.



Shyamji Kumar, Class 9C,  
Navy Children School,  
Visakhapatnam

## DID YOU KNOW?

A family has been lighting a diya to commemorate a legend of a watchman, Ahmed Shah and Goddess Lakshmi's protection on Bhadra fort and Teen Darwaza in Ahmedabad.



## ARUNACHAL'S GLORY

In Thembang, Arunachal Pradesh, an immense fort was built by the villagers of Bhud, Khawna, Rahung, and Khotam. Two gates were built north and south, for entry and exit. As the day dawned gates were shut and stone slabs were kept on top of the wall of the fort for the intruders. This resulted from the battle for control of the fort between the Bapus and Miji tribes of Deojing.



## 'KHOONI' DARWAZA

The historical Khooni Darwaza, Delhi is shrouded in legends and stories. In addition to the legend that three Mughal princes were slain here, it is also said that after ascending to the throne, Jahangir, Akbar's son, ordered his men to kill the sons of Abdul Rahim Khan-i-Khana, who was one of the *Navaratnas* in Akbar's court, because they opposed him becoming the Mughal emperor.

Aahna Roy, Class 12, Delhi Public School, Indirapuram,  
Ghaziabad



Illustration by Aahna Roy, Class 12, Delhi Public School, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad

## ACTIVITY: STAMPED STORY

Behind every gate, there's a legend! Look at this set of stamps on historical gates (2019) and share a story about each of them.



# GUARDING CITIES

Gates and gatehouses were built as part of city's wall or fortifications in the ancient and medieval periods, and are some of the most necessary parts of a city.

## CITY GATES

DEFENDING THE CITY

USED AS A CHECKPOINT

USED FOR TRADE AND EXCHANGE

## SAFEGUARDING DELHI

Being the site of 8 capital cities, Delhi has numerous gates that were built between the 8th century and the modern times. Each city had gates with distinct features. For example, Shahjahanabad had 14 gates and 16 smaller *khirkis* to accommodate movement of people, as well as royal processions of the Mughals. Very few gates of these cities exist today in Delhi due to the passage of time and battles.

Aahna Roy, Class 12, Delhi Public School, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad; V Kirshore, Class 8C, Glazebrook Public School, Salem; Tammana Choudhary, Class 7, Bhaskar Vidyapeeth, Dhar; Alabhya, Class 12, Delhi Public School, Dwarka, Delhi

## ACTIVITY: MAPPING DELHI

Identify and label the cities of Delhi in the map given.

1. Shahjahanabad
2. Dinpanah
3. Ferozabad
4. Indraprastha
5. Siri
6. Jahanpanah
7. Lal Kot
8. Tughlaqabad



## DID YOU KNOW?

18th-century city of Jammu had 5 entry and exit gates - Gummat Gate, Maheshi Gate, Jogi Gate, Dennis Gate, and Exchange Road Gate.



Illustration by Jayendra Jasrotia, Class 7C, Jodhamal Public School, Jammu



Red Fort

Illustration by Aqeedah Zartab, Class 11, Delhi Public School, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad

| City No. | Cities Of Delhi              | Gates Today  |
|----------|------------------------------|--|
| 1        | Lal Kot Citadel              | Chaumukha Darwaza  |
| 2        | Siri Fort                    | Southern Gate  |
| 3        | Tughlaqabad                  | Entry Gate to Ghiyas-al-Din Tughlaq's tomb                           |
| 4        | Jahanpanah                   | East Gate of Begumpur Masjid   |
| 5        | Ferozabad (Feroz Shah Kotla) | No gates remaining   |
| 6        | Dinpanah                     | Bada Darwaza, Talaqi Darwaza, Humayun Darwaza, Lal Darwaza           |
| 7        | Shahjahanabad                | Kashmiri Gate, Delhi Gate, Ajmeri Gate, Turkman Gate, Nigambodh Gate |
| 8        | New Delhi                    | India Gate   |

## SHIELDING JAIPUR

The city of Jaipur, which was built by Sawai Jai Singh II in the early 18th century, had 7 city gates – Suraj Pol, Dhruv Pol (Jorawar Singh Gate), Chand Pol, Ajmeri Darwaza, Naya Pol, Sanganeri Pol and Ghat Pol. Each one of these is named after its function or location.

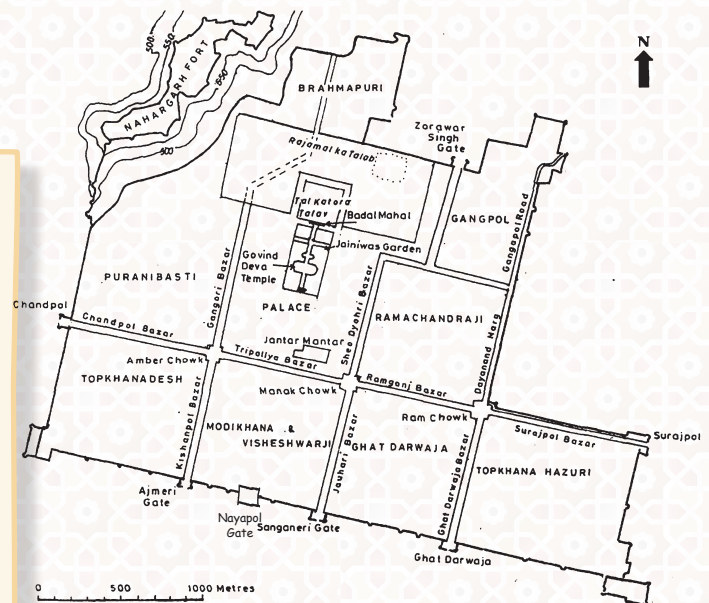
**Gates Today:** All 7 are standing to this day!! Colour them in the map.

Nitya, Class 6, Swami Vivekanand Public School, Jagadhari; Nupur Malik, Class 6A, Dharav High School, Jaipur

Illustration by Maitri Shukla, Class 9A, Army Public School, Shankar Vihar, Delhi



Ganesh Pol



## SECURING AMRITSAR

While fortifying the holy city of Amritsar, Maharaja Ranjit Singh of the Sikh empire also built 12 gates within the walls. Each one of these 12 gates marked the beginning of streets leading up to the Golden Temple. Some of them were Lahori Gate, Hathi Gate, Rambagh Gate, Khazana Gate, Ahluwalia Gate. Almost all of these were damaged or demolished along with the city walls when the British annexed the kingdom. Hall Gate, which lies at the beginning of Hall Bazaar, was constructed by the British in 1879.

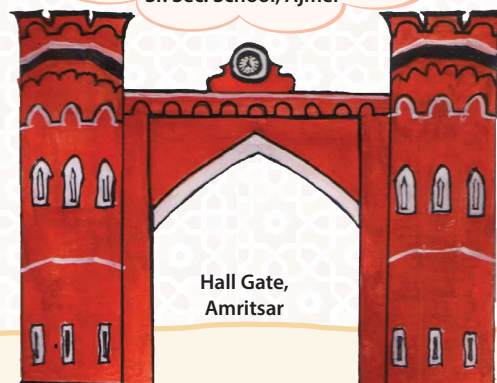
**Gates Today:** Rambagh Gate, Hall Gate. Most of the others were reconstructed by the British.

Amanat Ali, Class 10B, Pine Hall School, Dehradun; Navleen Kaur and Yashikapreet Kaur, Class 8C, Sri Guru Harkrishan Public School, Golden Avenue, Amritsar; Divya Raman, Class 8E, Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Elamakkara, Kochi; Vanya Sharma, Class 6E, Bhavan's SL Public School, Amritsar

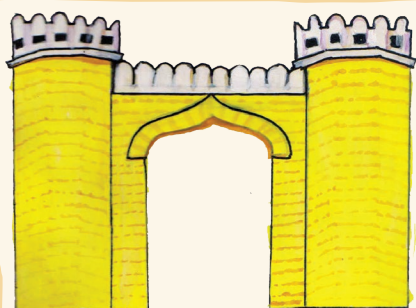
## DID YOU KNOW?

Usri gate is one of the four gates of Ajmer, Rajasthan, built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar.

Palak Samariya, Class 11, All Saints Sr. Sec. School, Ajmer



Hall Gate, Amritsar



Dabeerpura Darwaza, Hyderabad

## SUPPORTING HYDERABAD

From the late 17<sup>th</sup> century, till the reign of the first Nizam ruler in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, a fortified wall was built around the old city of Hyderabad. This wall consisted of 13 gates known as *darwazas* and 13 smaller entrances known as *khirkis*. The gates included Purana Pul Darwaza, Chanderghat Darwaza, Dabeerpura Darwaza, Aliabad Darwaza, Dilli Darwaza, and Mir Jumal Darwaza.

**Gates Today:** Purana Pul Darwaza, Dabeerpura Darwaza

## SHELTERING AHMEDABAD

The two forts of Ahmedabad were established by Ahmed Shah I of the Gujarat Sultanate in the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. The Bhadra fort consisted of 8 major gates such as the Lal Darwaza, Teen Darwaza and Bhadra Gate. The 2<sup>nd</sup> fort had close to 12 major gates which included Delhi Gate, Astodia Gate and Shahpur Gate. Two more gates were added during the colonial period – Prem Bhai Darwaza and Panchkuva Darwaza.

**Gates Today:** While old city walls were demolished, most gates out of the 21 remain today and stand tall!



Teen Darwaza, Ahmedabad

Illustration by Ruhanika Toor, Class 7A, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi

## ACTIVITY: WHAT'S IN A NAME

Below are interesting names of some city gates. Research and write down why they are called by these names.

- Panchkuva Darwaza, Ahmedabad
- Rambagh Gate, Amritsar
- Chand Pol, Jaipur
- Lahori Gate, Delhi
- Mir Jumal Darwaza, Hyderabad

Named after the 5 wells that existed here

|  |
|--|
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|  |
|  |
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|  |



Lahori Gate, Delhi

Illustration by R Aarathi, Class 8C, Sir Mutha School, Chennai

# PROTECTING FORTS

Gates were often first line of defence for cities and regions. In earlier times, when territorial invasions were frequent, the gateways stood as formidable barriers safeguarding the inhabitants within.

Tulika Das, Class 8A, Bridgeford School, Ranchi

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Hathi Pul is the main entrance to the Gwalior Fort. Elephants could easily pass through it, so the name.

## TREASURED THORANAM

Kakatiya Kala Thoranam is a historical arch of the Warangal fort in Telangana. The arch gateway or Warangal Gate was built in 12th century during the rule of the Kakatiya dynasty. The gate of this fort is officially incorporated in the emblem of Telangana.

Kundana Vanmai, Class 9, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's ARR School, Hyderabad; J Vrinda, Class 9C, Bhavans Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya, Sainikpuri, Hyderabad; Arihant, Class 9D, Navy Children School, Visakhapatnam



Illustration by C Supraja, Class 9, Rotary English Medium School, Kamala Nagar, Anantapur

## DRAMATIC DARWAZAS

Purana Qila in Delhi is one of oldest surviving fort of Delhi. It has three double-storey arched gateways, the Bara Darwaza facing west is the only functional gate today. The other two gates, facing the south and the north is the Humayun Gate and the Talaqi Gate respectively and are made of red sandstone.

Anusha Singh, Class 9B, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi



## ROYAL RESPECT

The Magazine Gate directed towards Dargah was also the gate to Akbar's Palace was built by him in 1570 in Ajmer, Rajasthan. He used to stay in the palace during his visit to the Dargah of Khwaja Saheb. It was taken over by the British from the Marathas in 1818 and renamed as Magazine Gate.

Priyanshi Verma, Class 7, All Saints Sr. Sec School, Ajmer



## PORTUGUESE PRIDE

The fort in Rachol village, Salcette, Goa was gifted to Portuguese by the Vijayanagar Empire in lieu of protection from the Mughals. The fort is in ruins but the old gate of arms of the Portuguese monarchy stands tall. The gate has been protected by the government of Goa.

Garima Gupta, Pine Hall School, Class 9B, Dehradun



## ACTIVITY: FORT FEATURES

In the image given below mark the features of a fort and gate. Also add some additional features of a gate.



# SANCTIFYING SHRINES

To enter any religious space, shrine gates were made to mark the area of sacred spaces. Let's learn about some of them!

A. Ezhil Arasi, AMM School, Kotturpuram, Chennai; Aditi Singh, Class 11, Swargiya Ram Vilas Singh Sikshan Sansthan, Mughalsarai

## DARSHANI DEORI

The Golden Temple in Amritsar, Punjab has four entrances symbolising acceptance of all people.

The main entrance, Darshani Deori was decorated in 1800 CE by Maharaja Ranjit Singh. It has a carved portrait of Guru Nanak Devji.



Jasleen Kaur, Class 9A, Father's International School, Ambala

## DID YOU KNOW?

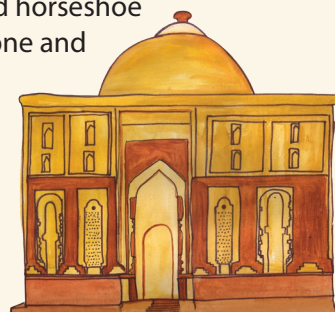
The gateway of the Tawang Monastery in Arunachal Pradesh is called the Kakaling, which is built like a hut-like structure featuring mandalas and deities on its ceiling and walls.

## DEVOTED DARWAZA

Alai Darwaza serves as the southern gateway of the Quwwat-ul-Islam in Qutub complex built by the Sultan Alauddin Khilji in Delhi. The gatehouse is made up of a single hall with very thick walls and shallow dome and horseshoe arches made in red sandstone and white marble.

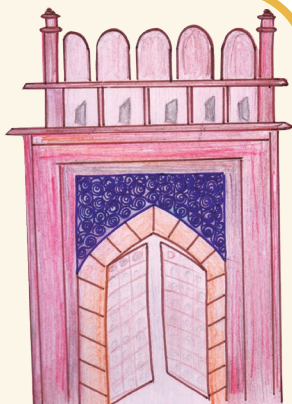
Medhansh Kumar, Class 6, Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai; Saanvi Verma, Class 6E, DAV Sr Sec Public School, Sec-14, Faridabad

Illustration by Supriti Sahu, Class 7A Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi



## DIVINE ENTRANCE

Delhi Gate is a massive arched gateway constructed by Mughal Emperor Akbar leading to Dargah Sharif in Ajmer, Rajasthan. This gate is called the Delhi Gate because it used to face the Mughal capital Delhi.



Sonakshi Dayma, Class 11, All Saints Sr. Sec School, Ajmer

## GIANT GOPURAM

The Andal Temple located in Srivilliputhur, Tamil Nadu, is dedicated to saint poet Andal. The temple's gateway dates back to the 9th century and is built in the Dravidian style, with intricate carvings and vibrant paintings. The gateway is 59 m tall and is the official symbol of the Government of Tamil Nadu.



Shravanthi J Singh, Class 8A, Sir Mutha School, Chennai

## ACTIVITY: RAM MANDIR DWARAS

Ram Mandir in Ayodhya will have 6 entry gates named after characters of the Ramayana. Name them!

## ACTIVITY: DEVOUT DWARAS

Jagannath Temple in Puri, Odisha is one of the sacred shrines of Lord Vishnu, in the form of Krishna and his brother Balabhadra and sister Subhadra. It has gates in the four directions.

Let us mark on the layout what each gate's name signifies.

### Hasti Dwara

Vyaghra Dwara  
Tiger signifies Dharma

Singha Dwara



### Ashwa Dwara

## DID YOU KNOW?

The Mysore Palace has four entrances and 'Jayamrthanda Gate' is the grandest of all the gateways. It is opened once a year to welcome the Dasara Elephants into the Palace.

Dharshith MV, Class 9B,  
Shantiniketant Trust School,  
Micolayout, Bengaluru

# GALLERY OF INDIA'S

There are many gates in India which are unique in terms of its making, history and

## RAMBAGH GATE

The gate was constructed near Rambagh Chowk on the route, from the summer palace of Maharaja Ranjit Singh to the Golden Temple.

Kanav, Class 8 E, Bhavan's SL Public School,  
Amritsar

## BURIA FORT GATE

The fort was built by the Sikh ruler Nanu Singh Buria in 1760 in Yamunanagar, Haryana. The fort lies in ruins and the front gate was made of teak wood with a height of 20 ft.

Ruhani Mehta, Class 8, Sant Nischal  
Singh Public School, Yamunanagar

## CHAND POL

The Chand Pol (Moon gate) in Jaipur, Rajasthan is one of the original seven gates of the walled city built by Maharaja Jai Singh II. It was used by the royal family during moonlit nights.

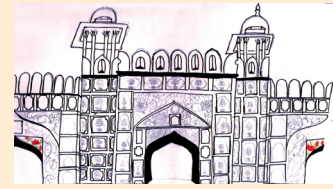


Illustration by Aarna Negi, Ramjas  
International School, RK Puram,  
Delhi

Nitya, Class 6, Swami Vivekanand Public School, Jagadhari;  
Avika Jain, Class 9H, Gwalior Glory High School, Gwalior

## JORAWAR SINGH GATE

Constructed in the 18th century in Jaipur, Rajasthan, the gate showcases Rajput architecture.



Illustration by Divyanshi Bisht,  
Class 9C, Ramjas International  
School, RK Puram, Delhi

Named after the cousin of Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II, the gate served as a formidable defence for the city.

Palak, Class 6E, Bridgeford School,  
Ranchi

## ASTODIA DARWAZA

The gate is built by Sultan Mahmud Begada using ashlar stone masonry in 15th century in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. It lies on the southern side of the old citadel.



DJ Ashmitha, Class 5B, Maharishi Vidya Mandir,  
Thiruvottiyur, Chennai

## MAKAI GATE

Makai Gate leading towards Bibi ka Maqbara is situated in Aurangabad, Maharashtra. The gate's western side faces towards Mecca, the sacred place of Muslims and hence the name Makai Gate or Mecca Gate.



Illustration by Shital Yadav,  
Class 9A, Army Public School,  
Chandimandir Cantt.

Shivansh V, Class 5, KLE School, Dharwad

## MAJEVADI GATE

It is the remaining part of the medieval fortifications of Junagadh, Gujarat. The gate is fitted with large nails for defending against elephants used by enemies to ram the doors.

Vaishnani Khushi, Class 8B, PKM Upper Primary,  
Junagadh; Sidapara Bansi, Sarvoday School,  
Majevasdi, Junagadh

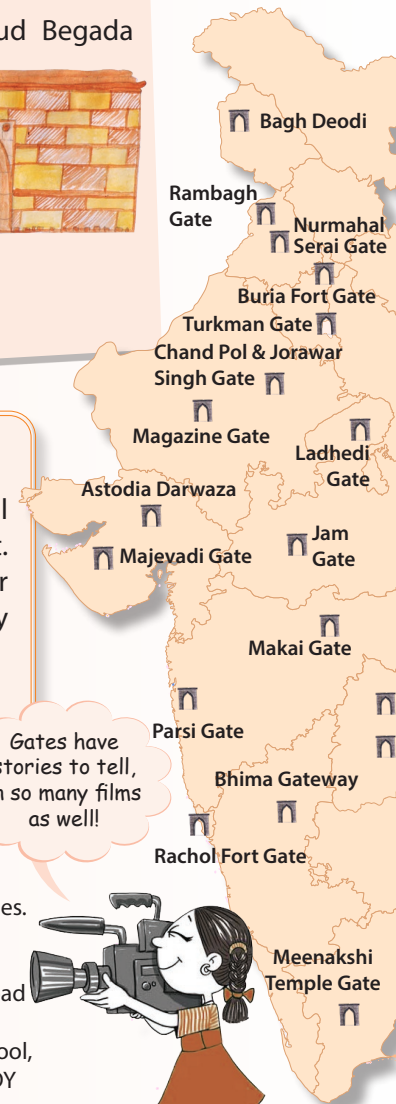
## BHIMA GATE

It was the main entrance to the Vijayanagara Kingdom in Hampi, Karnataka. It was named after the mighty Bhima from Mahabharata symbolising the empire's strength.



Illustration by Siddarth S, Class  
8B, Shantiniketant Trust School,  
Micolayout, Bengaluru

Vadlamudy Dhatri, Class 9C, Bhavans Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya,  
Sainikpuri, Hyderabad



Gates have stories to tell, in so many films as well!

## ACTIVITY: FILMY CONNECT

Children have made some films on the gates. Here are some of them.

1. Main Teen Darwaja by Mahatama Gandhi International School, Ahmedabad <https://youtu.be/JfKa13ihbnA>
2. The Eternal Flame by The Shri Ram School, Gurgaon - <https://youtu.be/5mJRUisIDY>
3. The Gateways to Dreams by Somaiya Vidyavihar, Mumbai - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ffh96hgkgGc>



# GRAND GATES

functionality. Each gate has a fascinating story to tell and is built in a distinct manner.

## BAGH DEODI

Constructed during the Dogra period, the Bagh Deodi served as a main entrance to the garden opening of Poonch Qila, Jammu.

Nandini Sharma, Class 8, Jodhamal Public School, Jammu

## SABHYATA DWAR

It is a victory monument on the banks of the Ganga River in Patna, Bihar. The gate is built in Mauryan-style of architecture and depicts the messages of four great men associated with Bihar - Megasthenes, Ashoka, Buddha and Mahavira.

Deepak Kumar, Class 11, Central Hindu Boys's School, Varanasi; Yash, Class 7C, Army Public School, Chandimandir Cantt.



Illustration by Shriyanshi Padhan Class 8C, DAV Sr Sec Public School, Sec-14, Faridabad

## TURKMAN GATE

It is one of the gates of Shahjahanabad, built by Shahjahan when he shifted his capital from Agra to Delhi. The gate is named after the Mughal-era saint, Shah Turkman.

V Kirshore, Class 8C, Glazebrook Public School, Salem

## LADHEDI GATE

Ladhedi gate or Buland Darwaza of Gwalior was built to commemorate the friendship of the rulers of Gwalior and Jaunpur.

Rishi Bhilwar, Class 7, Kerala Convent High School, Thatipur, Gwalior; Kanupriya Sharma, Class 10F, Gwalior Glory High School, Gwalior

## JAM DARWAZA

It is situated in the Maheshwar tehsil of Khargone in Madhya Pradesh. The gate was built by Rani Ahilyabai Holkar, and is known to be the gateway to the famous Malwa Plateau and Nimar Plains.

Aakriti Shrivastava, Class 7A, Happy Days School, Shivpuri



Illustration by Aakriti Shrivastava, Class 7A, Happy Days School, Shivpuri

## NORTHBROOK GATE

The gate is located on the banks of the Brahmaputra River in Guwahati, Assam. It was built to mark the arrival of Viceroy Northbrook in Guwahati.

Khushi, Class 11, Dundlod Vidyapeeth, Jhunjhunu

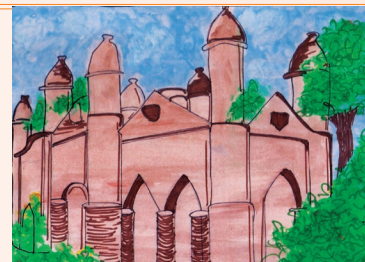


Illustration by Abhishek Pal, Class 9B, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi

## BARABATI FORT GATE

The gate was erected by Maharaja Markata Keshari of Somavanshi dynasty in 987CE in Cuttack, Odisha. It is made in the indigenous Odisha style of architecture depicting Hindu motifs and stone masonry construction.

Illustration by Sudha Sudiksha Jena, Class 8B, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi



## FATEH DARWAZA

The outermost enclosure of the Golconda fort, Telangana, is called Fateh Darwaza or Victory gate, after Aurangzeb's army marched successfully through this gate. The gate features unique acoustical effects.

Kishan Negi, Class 10A, Pine Hall School, Dehradun; Ashwith Sai, Class 9B, Oxford Grammar School, Hyderabad



# UNIQUE

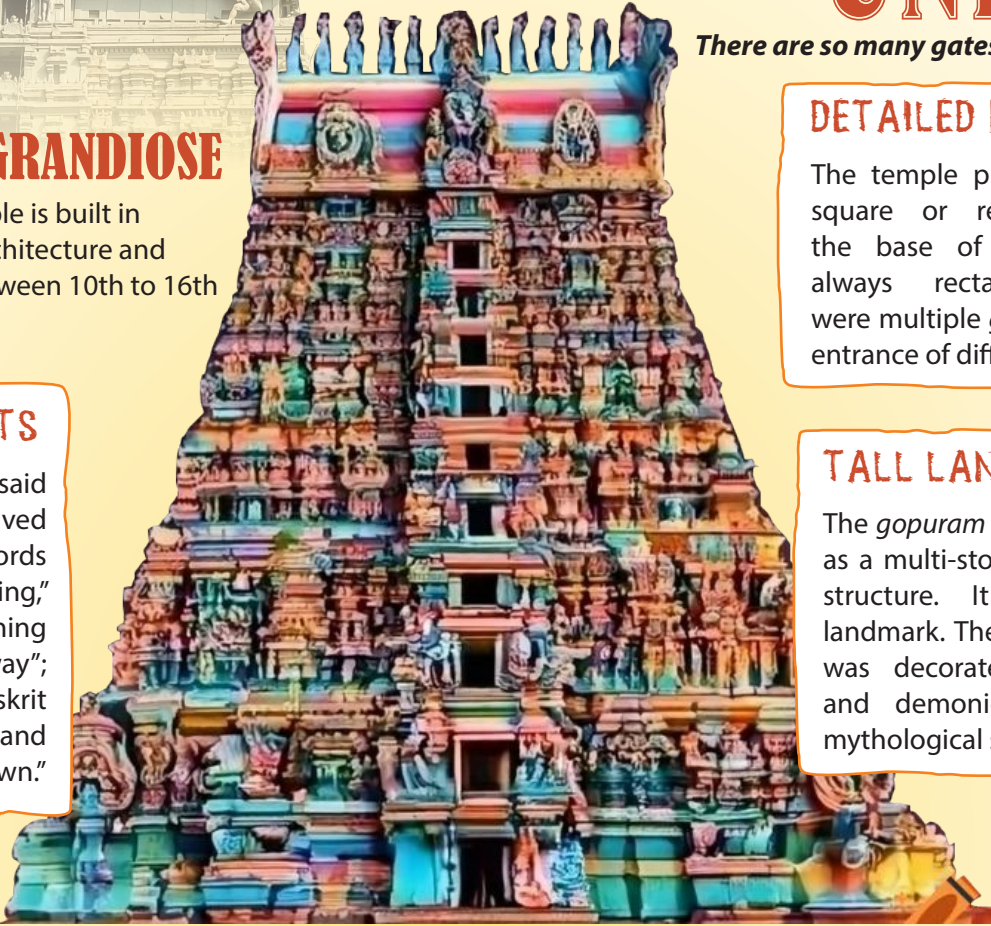
There are so many gates which are unique in

## GOPURAM GRANDIOSE

The Meenakshi temple is built in Dravidian style of architecture and was constructed between 10th to 16th century CE.

### ANCIENT ROOTS

The word *gopura* is said to have been derived from the Tamil words *ko* meaning "king," and *puram* meaning "exterior or gateway"; or from the Sanskrit *go* meaning "cow" and *puram* meaning "town."



### DETAILED PLAN

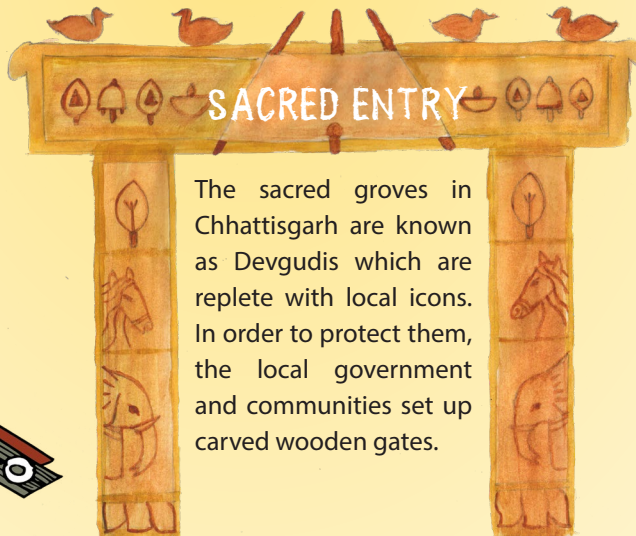
The temple plan is generally square or rectangular but the base of *gopurams* are always rectangular. There were multiple *gopurams* at the entrance of different shrines.

### TALL LANDMARK

The *gopuram* was constructed as a multi-storeyed pyramidal structure. It acted as a landmark. The outer structure was decorated with divine and demonic figures from mythological stories.

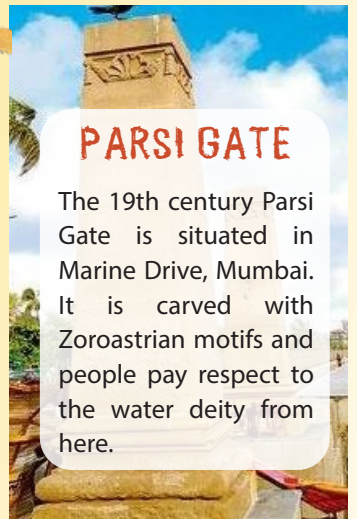
## TREASURED GATES

India has many kinds of communities which live in gated spaces. Each one has intricately designed gates to signify community cultures and worship.



### SACRED ENTRY

The sacred groves in Chhattisgarh are known as Devgudis which are replete with local icons. In order to protect them, the local government and communities set up carved wooden gates.



### PARSI GATE

The 19th century Parsi Gate is situated in Marine Drive, Mumbai. It is carved with Zoroastrian motifs and people pay respect to the water deity from here.

### CARVED CREATION

At the entry and exit of almost every village in Nagaland are carved wooden gates that act as symbols of power and abundance. Some are:

- Round Objects – Sun and Moon
- Warrior with a Spear – Wise men in the village

## ACTIVITY: SACRED SYMBOLS

The Rumtek Gate in Sikkim has used the symbols of deer and chakra. Design a similar gate giving reasons for the icons used.



# GATES

terms of its making, history and functionality.

## BULAND DARWAZA

Buland Darwaza is the main entrance to the Jama Masjid at Fatehpur Sikri, near Agra, Uttar Pradesh.

### DID YOU KNOW?

Kamaniya gate was built in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh as a gift from the Peshwas of Pune to Bhonsles of Nagpur who ruled the region in the 18th century.



Illustration by Harshita Singh Thakur, Class 8C, MM International School, Jabalpur

### GRAND GATEWAY

It is the largest gateway in the world and is built in Mughal style of architecture under Emperor Akbar's rule. Made of red and buff sandstone, the 15-storey-tall structure also serves as the southern entrance to the city.

Glory Gopnika, Class 8C, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's ARR School, Hyderabad; Gaurish, Class 6E, DAV Sr Sec Public School, Sec-14, Faridabad



Illustration by Kriti Mina, Class 8A, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Vidyashram, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur

### VICTORY 'WONDER'

The gate was not originally a part of the Jama Masjid but was erected by Akbar to celebrate his conquest over Gujarat in 1573. The 'door of victory' is a commemorative gateway which took 12 years to be built.

Saanvi Reddy, Class 8B, Delhi Public School, Visakhapatnam; Iniya MK, Class 6A, Chandrakanthi Public School, Coimbatore

## RUMI DARWAZA

It is also referred to as Turkish Gate and was built in Awadhi style of architecture in 1784 by Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

### NAWABI ENTRY

Rumi Darwaza was earlier used as an entrance gate to the Old City of Nawabs, and soars to a height of 60 ft. It was built to generate employment during the famine of 1784. It is now a symbol of Lucknow.



Illustration by students of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan Vidyashram, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur

### AWADHI ARCHITECTURE

The ornate edifice was patterned on the Bab-i-Humayun gate of Turkey and is marked by an eight-faceted umbrella-like structure in its uppermost part. With a big arch in the centre the structure is made using Lakhori bricks and Surkhi mortar.

Nandini Parida, Class 8, Green Fields School, New Delhi

## NURMAHAL SERAI GATE

The serai was built for commercial purpose in 1628 in Nurmahal city in Punjab.

### SERAI SPLENDOUR

The Mughal era was marked by expansion of trade and commerce so the serai was built for the traders which brought in a lot of tariffs. It was constructed on the orders of Noor Jahan, wife of the Mughal emperor Jahangir, and looked after by Zakariya Khan, Governor of Doab.



Illustration by Gracy Yadav, Class 9B, Ramjas International School, RK Puram, Delhi

### TOWER TALES

The western gateway of the serai, called Lahore Gate is double-storied and built in red sandstone. It has octagonal towers at the corners and the front is divided into panels heavily ornamented with sculptures.

Avisha Bahuguna, Class 9A, DAV Sr. Sec. Public School, Sec-14, Faridabad

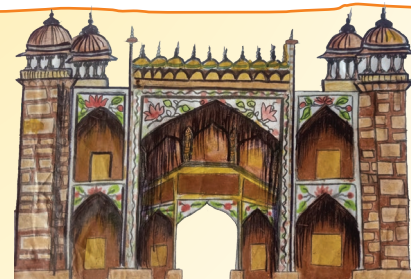


Illustration by Ananya Sharma, Class 7B, Happy Days School, Shivpuri

## ACTIVITY: DRAMATIC ENTRY

Darwaza-i-Rauza serves as the majestic entrance to the architectural wonder Taj Mahal in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. Draw a similar entry gate of any other monument.

Tejaswi, Class 9E, Army Public School, Chandimandir Cantt; Dhruvika Mittal, Class 9B, Delhi Public School, Rohini, Delhi

# GATEWAY OF INDIA: SYMBOLIC ENTRY

The Gateway of India is an arched monument that was completed in 1924 to commemorate the visit of King George V and his wife to India in 1911.

Thanushree S, Class 9, Shantiniketan Trust School, Bilekahalli, Bengaluru

## DID YOU KNOW?

The land on which the Gateway of India is built was actually reclaimed from the sea between 1915 and 1919.



Illustration by  
Zamyang Bhutia,  
Green Fields School,  
New Delhi

## SYMBOLIC STRUCTURE

The Gateway of India has always stood as a symbol of entry to India, from when it was built to signify King George's arrival in 1911 to the exit of the last British troops from independent India in 1948. For this reason, a flight of steps has been built on the back end of the gateway which descends into the Arabian Sea.

Dhriti, Class 6, Swami Vivekanand Public School, Jagadhari



## MATERIAL MAGIC

This grand gateway was designed by the architect George Wittet, and built with a honey-coloured basalt stone which was sourced locally. The *jaalis* were brought from Gwalior.

Darshana Kumawat, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Vidyashram, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur

## STATELY STYLE

It has been designed in the Indo-Saracenic style of architecture (an amalgamation of Western and Indian features) which includes pillars, *chhatris*, *jaalis*, minarets, and arches. Many elements of Gujarati architecture can also be found on the gateway.

Sri Monosha, Class 9B, Vishaka Valley School, Visakhapatnam;  
Ch Priyanka, Class 8, Olivet School, Visakhapatnam

## CEREMONIAL CENTRE

The Beating Retreat ceremony of the India Navy is held at the gateway every year. Since 2003, the Jewish community of Mumbai collects at the Gateway of India annually to celebrate the festival of Hanukkah and light the sacred lamp called menorah.

Illustration by  
Suhani Vijay,  
Bharatiya  
Vidya Bhavan  
Vidyashram,  
Pratap Nagar,  
Jaipur

## ACTIVITY: PHOTO STUDY

Observe the image given and analyse the elements found around the Gateway of India. List down the impact these elements have on this grand structure.



Contributions from the students of RN Podar School, Mumbai

## ACTIVITY: 3D DESIGN

In 2019, CyArk and Seagate Technology digitally scanned the gateway to record and preserve the monument. These scans were also used to make 3D models which can be viewed digitally. You can view this model online at - <https://g.co/kgs/ngqrG7Z>

View the gateway and note down the new features you discovered through this 3D model!

Research and find out which other monuments in India have been preserved digitally in a similar manner.



# INDIA GATE: ICONIC WAR MEMORIAL

Completed and inaugurated in 1931, India Gate in New Delhi is a commemorative gate of the colonial period. It is 42 metres high with a width of 9.1 meters.

Rianna Upadhyay, Class 4, Amity International School, Vasundhara Sector 6, Ghaziabad; KVSS Venkateswarlu, Class 8D, Akshara School, Kakinada

## DID YOU KNOW?

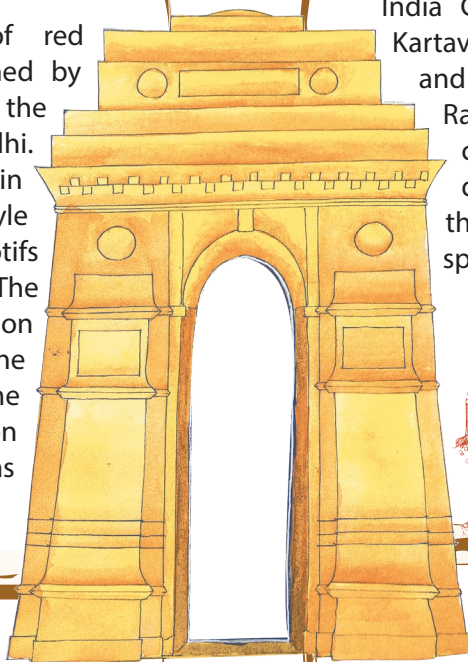
India Gate was originally called the All-India War Memorial, and was inspired by other war memorials in Europe.

## MONUMENTAL ARCH



Illustration by Vishwajeet, Class 8, Swami Vivekanand Public School, Jagadhari

The arched gate of red sandstone was designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, the architect of New Delhi. He designed the gate in a simple classical style without any strong motifs or religious symbols. The gate has 4 arches (one on each side). On top of the structure is a small dome which echoes the bigger one found on Rashtrapati Bhavan. The word INDIA has been inscribed on its very top.



## LINEAR LINK

India Gate is located at the east end of Kartavya Path (formerly known as Rajpath and Kings Way) and lies directly opposite to Rashtrapati Bhavan. This ceremonial path comes alive every year on 26<sup>th</sup> January during the Republic Day parade. Today, the archway is a popular tourist spot.



## SOLDIERS' STORY

India Gate was built to commemorate the 70,000 soldiers of the British Indian Army who fought and died during the Anglo-Afghan Wars and the First World War. The facade of the gate has the names of over 13,000 soldiers inscribed on it.

Rida Fathima, Class 7B, St Paul's Public School, Fort Kochi; M. Mathangi, Class 8, Good Earth School, Chennai

## FAMED FLAME

Initially, Lutyen's had suggested that a pillar with a flame be put on the top of the gate. Instead, in 1971, the Amar Jawan Jyoti (eternal flame) was added under the archway as a monument to the 'unknown soldier' of India. Since 2019, this flame has been shifted to the National War Memorial.

## ACTIVITY: CARDBOARD CREATIONS

Build your very own India Gate using cardboard by following the instructions given.

### Materials required:

- Cardboard • Ruler • Pencil
- Scissors • Glue • Paints

**Step 1:** Using a ruler and pencil, sketch the design of the India Gate on the cardboard. Make sure to include the arches and pillars. These should be in separate pieces.

**Step 2:** Using scissors cut out the design of the India Gate.

**Step 3:** Once you have cut the pieces, assemble them together using glue.

**Step 4:** Paint the structure. Your model is ready!



## ACTIVITY: THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER...

The National War Memorial near India Gate was built in 2019 to honour the Indian Armed Forces. It has an eternal flame representing the immortal unknown soldier.

Write a letter to the unknown soldier.

# ACTIVITY 4U: THE GATE TRAIL

## INSTRUCTIONS

The game is about the Young INTACH Girl's journey through some of the grand gates and gateways of our country! This is a dice game, so roll the dice and play on! Start with a 6...

The path consists of 50 numbered segments. Callouts include:

- Segment 19: +2 -2
- Segment 22: +2 -2
- Segment 28: +3 -3
- Segment 33: +3 -3
- Segment 37: +2 -2
- Segment 41: +3 -3
- Segment 48: +2 -2

## CLUES

6. Kakatiya Kala Thoranam is found in this city (+3,-3)
10. This is a symbol of sacrifice (+2,-2)
14. The last British soldiers left from here in 1948 (+2,-2)
19. This is the highest gateway (+2,-2)
22. It has an eternal diya within it (+2,-2)
28. This gate was earlier called Dhruv Pol (+3,-3)
33. It is a pyramidal multi-storeyed *gopuram* (+3,-3)
37. The gate was built for the Viceroy in Guwahati (+2,-2)
41. An eastern temple dedicated to Lord Krishna (+3,-3)
48. The Prime Minister gives a speech from here (+2,-2)

## HOW TO PLAY

1. Every time you reach a gate and correctly guess it, go ahead as per the number mentioned.
2. Every time you reach a gate and fail to answer it, go back as per the number mentioned.



# HERITAGE NEWS

## MY MONUMENT SEARCH NATIONAL PROGRAMME



INTACH's Heritage Education and Communication Service is organising a poster making competition "My Monument Search" 2023-24. It requires students to make a poster with a suitable slogan based on any lesser-known built heritage which can be either a fort, palace, place of worship, civic building, educational institution, etc. along with a 200 words write-up describing its history, myths and stories, architecture, condition today and steps for its protection and promotion. The competition is being done by more than 100 INTACH chapters and Young INTACH heritage clubs.

The objective behind this was to encourage the younger generation to appreciate their unique lesser-known built heritage and to make efforts to take care and to conserve this precious heritage. Furthermore this also brought together students, teachers, eminent persons and the community in general for creating awareness and appreciating India's endangered and diverse heritage.

The participating chapters are: Gurgaon, Ambala, Yamunanagar, Hisar, Kangra, Amritsar, Faridkot, Jalandhar, Patiala, Malerkotla, Kapurthala, Bathinda, Varanasi, Kanpur, Allahabad, Ayodhya, Lalitpur, Mahoba, Calcutta,

Hooghly, Santiniketan, Darjeeling, Murshidabad, Bijapur, Gulbarga, Dharwad, Jamnagar, Rajkot, Chandrapur, Solapur, Wai Panchgani, Nashik, Nagaland, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Jammu, Kashmir (Srinagar), Ranchi, Mahabubnagar, Chennai, Kodaikanal, Madurai, Salem, Thanjavur, Calicut, Kasargod, Palakkad, Thrissur, Trivandrum, Anantapur, East Godavari, Guntur, Kadapa, Machilipatnam, Visakhapatnam, Marwar-Jodhpur, Alwar, Ajmer, Sawai Madhopur, Karauli, Burhanpur, Datia, Bhopal, Khandwa, Mayurbhanj, Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Balangir, Gaya, Hazaribagh, Patna, Purnea, Bhagalpur, Darbhanga, Bilaspur, Raipur, Durg Bhilai, Udaipur, Mandi, Navsari, Pune, Nagpur, Nagaur, Dhar, Morena, Katni, Sonapat, Jhalawar, Vadodara, Warangal, Bhilwara, Sarangarh-Raigarh, Jamshedpur, Coimbatore, Mahasamund, Srikakulam, Mizoram, Banda, Chittorgarh, Beawar, Panipat and Delhi.

At the end of the programme, 10 national winners and 100 regional winners from the competition will be awarded. Additionally, for this year, it has been decided that a position certificate will be awarded to best participants of each chapter.



Amritsar



Chandrapur



Delhi



Hisar



Kolkata



Srikakulam

# FILMIT INDIA

FILMIT India is a multi-cultural project that helps students makes short films on their city's heritage. The students are trained in content development and technical knowledge through a series of workshops. So far, over 7000 short films have been made by students in India.

FILMIT India marked its 16<sup>th</sup> year in 2023-2024. As part of the project, the FILMIT India Festivals was held between January-February and featured screening of the Best City

Films and the Overall Best Films (2023-2024) from different participating cities. The festivals were held for the following chapters - Chandigarh, Ambala, Varanasi, Ayodhya, Kolkata, Delhi, Jaipur, Ahmedabad, Vadodara, Mumbai, Goa, Chennai, Hyderabad and Kochi.



Varanasi and Ayodhya



Vadodara



Jaipur



Chandigarh and Ambala

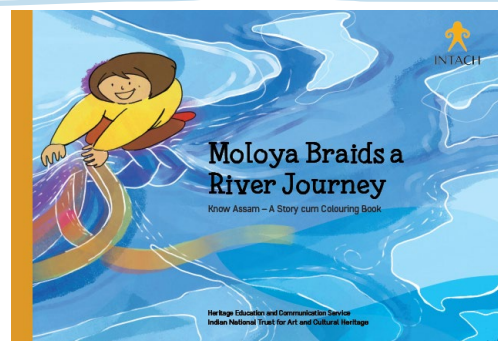


Delhi

## NEW PUBLICATION!

### MOLOYA BRAIDS A RIVER JOURNEY - KNOW ASSAM

This Story cum Colouring Book follows the journey of Moloya, her mother and her cousin through the state of Assam along the Brahmaputra. Through her journey she discovers the rich cultural and natural heritage of Assam.



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Subscription Amount - Rs 200 (4 issues)

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**Anika Karan**, Class 7, Gitanjali Devshala, Hyderabad  
**Adithi Singh**, Class 9C, **Shravanthi J Singh**, Class 8A, **R Aarthi**, Class 8C, Sir Mutha School, Chennai  
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**Nitya**, Class 6, **Dhriti**, Class 6, **Nitya**, Class 6, Swami Vivekanand Public School, Jagadhari  
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**Palak Samariya**, Class 11, **Sonakshi Dayma**, Class 11, **Priyanshi Verma**, Class 7, All Saints Sr. Sec School, Ajmer  
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**Navleen Kaur and Yashikapreet Kaur**, Class 8C, Sri Guru Harkrishan Public School, Golden Avenue, Amritsar

**Divya Raman**, Class 8E, Bhavan's Vidya Mandir, Elamakkara, Kochi  
**DJ Ashmitha**, Class 5B, **Medhansh Kumar**, Class 6, Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai  
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**Siddarth S**, Class 8B, **Thanushree S**, Class 9, Shantiniketant Trust School, Micolayout, Bengaluru  
**Nandini Sharma**, Class 8, Jodhamal Public School, Jammu  
**Deepak Kumar**, Class 11, Central Hindu Boys' School, Varanasi  
**Rishi Bhilwar**, Class 7, Kerala Convent High School, Thattipur, Gwalior  
**Aakriti Shrivastava**, Class 7A, **Ananya Sharma**, Class 7B, Happy Days School, Shivpuri  
**Ashwith Sai**, Class 9B, Oxford Grammar School, Hyderabad  
**Nandini Parida**, Class 8, **Zamyang Bhutia**, Green Fields School, New Delhi  
**Sri Monosha**, Class 9B, Vishaka Valley School, Visakhapatnam  
**Ch Priyanka**, Class 8, Olivet School, Visakhapatnam  
**KVSS Venkateswarlu**, Class 8D, Akshara School, Kakinada  
**Rida Fathima**, Class 7B, St Paul's Public School, Fort Kochi  
**M Mathangi**, Class 8, Good Earth School, Chennai  
**Students of RN Podar School**, Mumbai

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Purnima Datt  
**Research & Content Development**  
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**Acknowledgement**  
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**References**  
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48 Red Fort

Answers: Pg 2 - a. Entry Gate, b. Commemorative Gate, c. Defence Gate  
Pg 9 - Bharat, Lakshmana, Jatayu, Garuda, Hanuman  
Pg 16 - 6 Warangal, 10 India Gate, 14 Gateway of India, 19 Buland Darwaza, 22 Teen Darwaza, 28 Jorawar Singh Gate, 33 Meenakshi Temple, 37 Northbrooke Gate, 41 Jagannath Puri,

## WHAT'S NEXT?

### July-September 2024

#### Floor Art Traditions

Floor art is a ritualistic art form that has been practiced since ancient times. It varies in design and function across the country. Write to us in about **100 words** on any one of the following:

- Traditional or folk floor art from your region (materials used, design, and purpose)
- History and significance of India's floor art
- Motifs and their meaning as well as geometry in designs
- Relationship of floor art to festivals and celebrations
- Interview of a family member or craftsman involved in its making

You must accompany your write-up with a sketch, painting or even a personally clicked photograph of a floor art.

**Last date for entries:** May 15, 2024

### October-December 2024

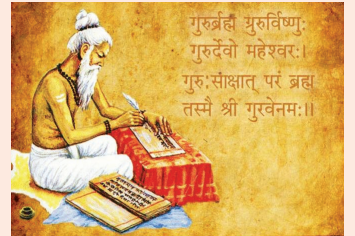
#### Sanskrit – The Source Language

Sanskrit is perhaps the oldest language of the world and serves as the root language for many contemporary languages. This ancient language is the largest source of classical literature and is used today in scriptures and sacred ceremonies.

Write to us in about **100 words** about any one of the following:

- Origin and history of Sanskrit
- Source books and grammar of Sanskrit
- Literature, science, mathematics, philosophy etc. associated with Sanskrit
- Unique learning and dissemination centres of Sanskrit
- Global and domestic impact
- Promotion by the Government, NGOs and communities

**Last date of entries:** August 15th, 2024



गुरुर्ब्रह्म युर्विष्णुः  
गुरुदेवो महेश्वरः।  
गुरुःसंक्षात परं ब्रह्म  
तस्मै श्री गुरुवे नमः॥

## FEEDBACK

Do you have any ideas, comments or suggestions to make Young INTACH more interesting? We welcome any thoughts on what themes you would like us to select for the upcoming issues of Young INTACH.

Please write to:

**Purnima Datt**

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To know more about HECS projects and publications, visit: [www.youngintach.org](http://www.youngintach.org)

**We are grateful to the Government of India for supporting Young INTACH, a quarterly heritage newsletter for and by children that has about 4.25 lakh readers and the number keeps on going higher with each issue.**

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