



Shri Dakshin Delhi Gujarati Mandal (Regd.)

SOUVENIR

2014-15



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LPG APPLIANCES

Use BIS-approved appliances from authentic sources.
In BIS-approved LPG cylinders and Suraksha or tubes from authorised LPG dealers only.



BEFORE USE

Check the cylinder valve to ensure the rubber 'O' ring is present inside. Only snap solution to gas leaks; never lighted match-sticks to check leaks.



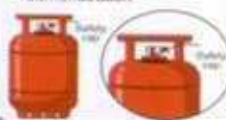
WHILE IN USE

Leave vessels unattended on burners in use - the contents overflow, extinguishing fire and causing gas leak.
Do not keep electrical appliances like refrigerators, the kitchen power fans in them can act.



WHILE RECEIVING CYLINDER

- Check that the cylinder has the company seal and safety cap intact.
- If you are not sure about safe use of LPG, ask the delivery person for a demonstration.



BEFORE USE

- Retain safety cap with nylon thread attached to the cylinder. Fix the cap on to the valve to stop leak, if any.
- Do not store inflammable material like rubber mats, coil, etc., inside the kitchen or above the stove.



AFTER USE

- Turn 'off' the regulator knob and then the stove knob before retiring to bed.
- Always keep the regulator knob in 'off' position when the cylinder is not in use.
- Empty cylinders must be stored in a cool and well ventilated place with the safety cap put on.



BEFORE USE

- Always keep the cylinder in upright position at ground level in a well ventilated place.
- Always keep the gas stove on a platform above the cylinder level.
- Do not keep the cylinder in a cabinet or in a pit below floor level.



BEFORE USE

- Shelves or storage cabinets should not be placed above the hot plate - reaching out to containers could cause accidents.
- Do not have curtains on the windows near the gas stove.



SERVISING

- Always keep rubber tube uncovered and visible.
- Check rubber tube regularly for cracks; change rubber tube at least once in two years.



BEFORE USE

- Keep the cylinder away from other sources of heat.
- Never keep kerosene or other stoves on the floor where an LPG cylinder is in use.



WHILE IN USE

- Strike match first, then open burner knob.
- Always use cotton clothes and cotton apron while cooking; never use synthetic clothes like silk, chiffon, etc.
- Clothing is for wearing, not pan-handling. Use only pot holders.



SERVISING

- Get your gas appliances serviced periodically.
- Self-repair is unsafe. Call distributor's mechanic.



IN CASE OF GAS LEAK

- Do not operate electrical switches or appliances in the room.
- Isolate the main electrical supply from the outside only.



- Open all doors & windows for ventilation.
- Put off all flames, lamps, incense sticks, etc.
- Put the safety cap on the cylinder.



- Call your distributor or emergency service cell for help.
- LPG being heavier than air, tends to settle at the ground level on leakage. If LPG leakage is noticed, use all available ventilation to disperse the gas.



Shri Dakshin Delhi Gujarati Mandal (Regd.)

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Tel.: 9910991803, 2651 6578, 26967672

IT Regn. u/s 12A: DIT(E)04-05/247

Society Regn: S 5072

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

The Mandal projects Gujarati Culture to Delhi. Since its inception more than 48 years ago Mandal registered on 18-11-63 under Societies Registration Act 1860 (Registration No. S 5072), it has grown in stature from a modest beginning through untiring efforts and dedicated service by office bearers over last three decade. I acknowledge my gratitude to all present and past office bearers in particular and members of Mandal in general for their selfless service in enhancing cultural aspirations of Gujarati people of Delhi by their active involvement and participation in various activities. The members of Mandal have been have been organizing festivals on Gujarat art and crafts, Gujarati food festivals, Ras garba, Navratri dandiya, New year get together etc. The mandal also encourages literary, educational and sports activities among children of its members by providing annual scholarships and prizes. The national and international outlook of Gujaratis can be witnessed in participation of Delhites of all ethnic groups in our programmes. We are grateful to our generous donors and volunteers for success of our programme without which we could not have achieved the same.

Our Mandal also jointly participated in Sardar Patel Jayanti Celebrations, organized by Gujarat Education Society on 3rd November. Week-end Dandiya, were organized at IIT campus on 27th Sep 14, Ashthmi and Sharad Purnima programmes at Gulmohar Club or 1st Oct and 8th Oct 2014 at Gulmohar Park which was largely attended by members, their friends and IIT students at IIT venue and members of club at Gulmohar Club with active participation of Gulmohar Club for which we are deeply grateful.

We are also particularly grateful to advertisers and donors particularly Indian oil, Indo chemicals Indian Railway who have generously consistently contributed to make our programmes and Souvenir a success besides other advertisers. We will be failing in our duty if we do not acknowledge particular thanks to Sh Rahul Patel, Smt Binduben Misra Mrs Sunidhiben Patel, Smt Sachinaben Patel, for Rangoli. Nutan Varshaabhinandan was organized at Sardar Patel Vidyalaya on 24th Oct 2014. We also participated in Sharad Utsav programme at Gujarati Samaj on 12th Oct. Picnic with kite flying was organized on 12th January 2014. We hope that our esteemed donors will continue to extend their co-operation for enabling us to serve worthy cause of fulfilling cultural aspirations of Gujaratis in Delhi particularly.

We also respectfully pay our homage to Shri Krishankant Oza one of founder member of the Mandal who passed away on 10th September 2014

Shailendra Pancha
President



DANDIYA AT GULMOHAR CLUB

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GUJARAT

Gujarat is a state in the western part of India [known locally as Jewel of the West]. It has an area of 196,204 km² (75,755 sq mi) with a coastline of 1,600 km (990 mi), most of which lies on the Kathiawar peninsula, and a population in excess of 60 million. The state is bordered by Rajasthan to the north, Maharashtra to the south, Madhya Pradesh to the east, and the Arabian Sea as well as the Pakistani province of Sindh to the west. Its capital city is Gandhinagar, while its largest city is Ahmedabad. Gujarat is home to the Gujarati-speaking people of India.

The state encompasses major sites of the ancient Indus Valley Civilization, such as Lothal and Dholavira. Lothal is believed to be one of the world's first seaports. Gujarat's coastal cities, chiefly Bharuch and Khambhat, served as ports and trading centres in the Maurya and Gupta empires, and during the succession of royal Saka dynasties from advent of the Western Satraps era, whose geographic territories included Saurashtra and Malwa: modern Gujarat, South Sindh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh states.

Gujarat was known to the Ancient Greeks, the various Persian Empires, the Roman Republic, and familiar in other Western centers of civilization through the end of the European Middle Ages. The oldest written record of Gujarat's 2,000 year maritime history is documented in a Greek book titled 'The Periplus of the Erythraean Sea: Travel and Trade in the Indian Ocean by a Merchant of the First Century'.

Gujarat has played an important role in the economic history of India.

Etymology

Modern-day Gujarat is derived from Sanskrit (Gurjar-Rashtra), the Gurjar nation. Parts of Rajasthan and Gujarat have been known as Gurjaratra (country ruled or protected by the Gurjars) or Gurjarabhumi (land of the Gurjars) for centuries prior to



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- १ किसी भी लावारिस या संदिग्ध वस्तु को न छुएं क्योंकि यह बम हो सकती है।
- २ ऐसी किसी भी वस्तु के नज़र आने पर शोर मचायें और अपने सह यात्रियों को-सावधान करें।
- ३ तुरंत रेलवे सुरक्षा बल (आरपीएफ), राजकीय रेलवे पुलिस (जीआरपी) या इयूटी पर कार्यरत किसी रेल कर्मचारी को सूचित करें।



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the Mughal period. Historically, the Gurjars were Sun-worshippers and are described as devoted to the feet of the Sun-god (God Surya). Their copper-plate grants bear an emblem of the Sun and on their seals too, this symbol is depicted. Many Gurjars claim descent from Suryavanshi Kshatriyas (Sun Dynasty) and connect themselves with the Hindu deity Rama. The Gujar clan appeared during the 7th to 8th century in Northern India about the time of the Huna invasions. The origins of the Gujjars are uncertain. The name of the tribe was Sanskritised to "Gurjara"

History Of Gujarat

The docks of ancient Lothal as they are today. Ancient sophisticated water reservoir at Dholavira

Historically, the state of Gujarat has been one of the main centres of the Indus Valley Civilization. It contains major ancient metropolitan cities from the Indus Valley such as Lothal, Dholavira, and Gola Dhoro. The ancient city of Lothal was where India's first port was established. Also, Dholavira, the ancient city, is one of the largest and most prominent archaeological sites in India, belonging to the Indus Valley Civilization. The most recent discovery was Gola Dhoro. All together, about 50 Indus Valley settlement ruins have been discovered in Gujarat. The ancient history of Gujarat was enriched by their commercial activities. There is a clear historical evidence of trade and commerce ties with Egypt, Bahrain and Sumer in the Persian Gulf during the time period of 1000 to 750 BC. There was a succession of Hindu and Buddhist states such as the Western Satraps, Satavahana dynasty, Gupta Empire, Chalukya dynasty, Rashtrakuta Empire, Pala Empire and Gurjara-Pratihara Empire as well as local dynasties such as the Maitrakas and then the Solankis.

The early history of Gujarat is full of imperial grandeur of Chandragupta Maurya who conquered a number of earlier states of Gujarat. Pushyagupta, a Vaishya, was appointed Governor of



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Saurashtra by the Mauryan regime. He ruled (322 BC to 294 BC) Giringer (present Junagadh) and built a dam on the Sudarshan lake. Emperor Ashoka, the grandson of Chandragupta Maurya, not only ordered engraving of his famous edicts on the rock at Junagadh, but asked his Governor Tusherpha to take out canals from the lake where an earlier Mauryan Governor had built a dam. Between the decline of the Mauryan power and Saurashtra coming under the sway of Samprati Mauryas of Ujjain, there was a Greek incursion into Gujarat led by Demetrius.

For nearly 300 years from the start of the 1st century AD, Saka rulers played prominent part in Gujarat's history. Weather beaten rock at Junagadh gives a glimpse of the Ruler Rudradaman I (100 AD) of the Saka satraps known as Western Satraps, or Kshatrapas. Mahakshatrap Rudradaman I founded the Kardamaka dynasty which ruled from Anupa on the banks of the Narmada up to Aparanta region which bordered Punjab. In Gujarat several battles were fought between the south Indian Satavahana dynasty and the Western Satraps. The greatest ruler of the Satavahana Dynasty was Gautamiputra Satakarni who defeated the Western Satraps and conquered some parts of Gujarat in the 2nd century

The Kshatrapa dynasty was replaced by the Gupta reign with the conquest of Gujarat by Chandragupta Vikramaditya. Vikramaditya's successor Skandagupta has left an inscription (450 AD) on a rock at Junagadh which gives details of the repairs of the embankment, damaged by floods, of Sudarshan lake by his Governor. Anarta and Saurashtra regions were both part of the Gupta empire. Towards the middle of the 5th century, the Gupta empire started to decline. Senapati Bhatarka, the Maitraka general of the Guptas, took advantage of the situation and in 470 AD he set up what came to be known as the Maitraka state. He shifted his capital from Giringer to Valabhipur, near Bhavnagar, on Saurashtra's east coast. Maitrakas of Vallabhi became very powerful and their rule prevailed over large parts of Gujarat and even over adjoining Malwa. Maitrakas set up a university which came to be known far and wide for its scholastic pursuits and was compared with the famous Nalanda university. It was during the rule of Dhruvasena Maitrak that Chinese philosopher-traveler Xuanzang visited in 640 AD.

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Shailendra Panchal (: 99 109 91803)

In the early 8th century, the Arabs of the Umayyad Caliphate established an Empire which stretched from Spain in the west to Afghanistan and Iran in the east. Al-Junaid, the successor of Qasim, had finally subdued the Hindu resistance within Sindh and had established a secure base. The Arab rulers tried to expand their Empire southeast which culminated in the Battle of Rajasthan fought in 730 CE, but the Arab invaders were defeated and repelled out of the areas east of the Indus river by a Hindu co-alliance between the north Indian Gurjar Emperor Nagabhata I of the Pratihara Dynasty, the south Indian Emperor Vikramaditya II of the Chalukya dynasty and many other local small Hindu kingdoms. After this victory, the Arab invaders were driven out of Gujarat. General Pulakesi, a Chalukya prince of Lata, received the title Avanijanashraya (refuge of the people of the earth) and honorific of "repeller of the unrepellable" by the south Indian Emperor Vikramaditya II of the Chalukya dynasty for the protection of Gujarat during the famous battle at Navsari where Syrian troops suffered a crushing defeat. In the late 8th century the Kannauj Triangle period started. The 3 major Indian Dynasties such as the northwest Indian Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty, the south Indian Rashtrakuta Dynasty and the east Indian Pala Empire dominated India from the 8th to 10th century. During this period the northern part of Gujarat was ruled by the north Indian Gurjara-Pratihara Dynasty and the southern part of Gujarat was ruled by the south Indian Rashtrakuta Dynasty. However, the earliest epigraphical records of the Gurjars of Broach, attests that the royal bloodline of the Gurjara-Pratihara dynasty of Dadda I-II-III (650 - 750) ruled south Gujarat. Southern Gujarat was ruled by the south Indian Rashtrakuta dynasty until it was captured by the south Indian ruler Tailapa II of the Western Chalukya Empire.

Destruction of Somnath Temple

The Somnath temple, known as "the Shrine Eternal", having been destroyed six times and rebuilt six times.

The Somnath Temple located in the Prabhas Patan near Veraval in Saurashtra, on the western coast of Gujarat, India, is one of the twelve Jyotirlinga shrines of the God Shiva. Somnath means "The Protector of (the) Moon God". The Somnath Temple is known as "the Shrine

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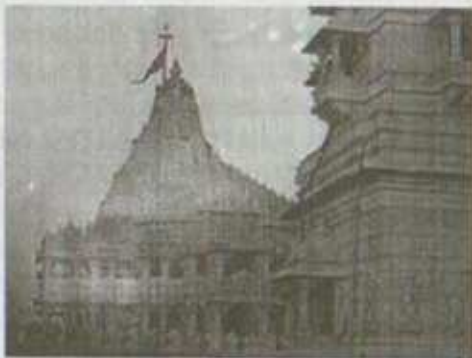
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Eternal", having been destroyed six times by Muslim invaders.

Mahmud of Ghazni conquered and destroyed thousands of Hindu temples during his raids including the famous Somnath Temple, which he destroyed in 1025 AD, killing over 50,000 people who tried to defend it. The defenders included the 90-year-old clan leader Ghogha Rana. Mahmud had the gilded lingam broken into pieces and had then made into steps for his mosque and palace.

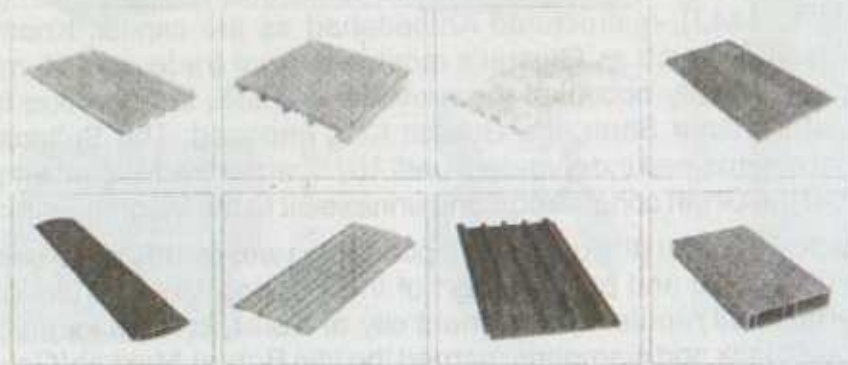


The following extract is from "Wonders of Things Created, and marvels of Things Existing" by Zakariya al-Qazwini, a 13th-century Persian Arab geographer. It contains the description of Somnath temple and its destruction:

"Somnath: celebrated city of India, situated on the shore of the sea, and washed by its waves. Amongst the wonders of that place was the temple in which was placed the idol called Somnath. This idol was in the middle of the temple without anything to support it from below, or to suspend it from above. It was held in the highest honour amongst the Hindus, and whoever beheld it floating in the air was struck with amazement, whether he was a Musulman or an infidel. The Hindus used to go on pilgrimage to it whenever there was an eclipse of the moon, and would then assemble there to the number of more than a hundred thousand.

When the Sultan Yaminu-d Daula Mahmud Bin Subuktigin (Mahmud of Ghazni) went to wage religious war against India, he made great efforts to capture and destroy Somnath, in the hope that the Hindus would then become Muhammadans. As a result thousands of Hindus were forcibly converted to Islam. He arrived there in the middle of Zi-l K'ada, 416 A.H. (December 1025 A.D.). "The king looked upon the idol with wonder, and gave orders for the seizing of the spoil, and dinars

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1297-1614 CE

From 1297 to 1300, Allauddin Khilji, the Turkic Sultan of Delhi, destroyed the Hindu metropolis of Anhilwara and incorporated Gujarat into the Delhi Sultanate. After Timur's sacking of Delhi at the end of the fourteenth century weakened the Sultanate, Gujarat's Muslim Rajput governor Zafar Khan Muzaffar (Muzaffar Shah I) asserted his independence, and his son, Sultan Ishaan Shah (ruled 1411 to 1442), restructured Ahmedabad as the capital. Khambhat eclipsed Bharuch as Gujarat's most important trade port. Humayun had also briefly occupied the province in 1536, but fled due to the threat Bahadur Shah, the Gujarat King imposed. The Sultanate of Gujarat remained independent until 1576, when the Mughal emperor Akbar the Great conquered it and annexed it to the Mughal Empire.

The port of Surat (the only Indian port facing westwards) then became the prominent and principal port of India during Mughal rule to gain international repute. The eminent city of Surat, famous for its cargo export of silk and diamonds, earned the title Bab-al-Makkah (Gateway to Makkah). Muslim pilgrims, both local and foreign, from as far as Egypt, Syria, Hejaz, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, China, and Russia assembled, under the royal patronage of the Mughals, to come and go for the annual Hajj pilgrimage to Mecca from the ports of Surat, Veraval and Mandvi.

Early 14th-century Maghrebi adventurer, Ibn Batuta, who famously visited India with his entourage, recalls in his memoirs about Cambay, one of the great emporia of the Indian Ocean that indeed:

"Cambay is one of the most beautiful cities as regards the artistic architecture of its houses and the construction of its mosques. The reason is that the majority of its inhabitants are foreign merchants, who continually build their beautiful houses and wonderful mosques - an achievement in which they endeavor to surpass each other"

Many of these "foreign merchants" were transient visitors, men of South Arabian and Persian Gulf ports, who migrated in and out of Cambay with the rhythm of the monsoons. But others were men with Arab or Persian patronyms whose families had settled in the town generations, even centuries earlier, intermarrying with Gujarati women, and assimilating everyday customs of the Hindu hinterland.

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The Age of Discovery prompted pioneer Portuguese and Spanish long-distance maritime travels in search of alternative trade routes to "the East Indies", moved by the trade of gold, silver and spices. In 1497, Portuguese explorer Vasco da Gama is said to have discovered the Europe-to-India sea route which changed the course of history, thanks to Kutchi merchant and navigator Kanji Kalam, whose ship he is reported to have followed from the East African coasts of Mozambique sailing onwards to Calicut off the Malabar coast in India. Later, the Gujarat Sultanate allied with the Ottomans and Egyptian Mamluks naval fleets led by governor-generals Malik Ayyaz and Amir Husain Al-Kurdi, vanquished the Portuguese in the 1508 Battle of Chaul resulting in the first Portuguese defeat at sea in the Indian Ocean.

To 16th-century European observers, Gujarat was a fabulously wealthy country. The customs revenue of Gujarat alone in the early 1570s was nearly three times the total revenue of the whole Portuguese empire in Asia in 1586-87, when it was at its height. Indeed, when the British arrived on the coast of Gujarat, houses in Surat already had windows of Venetian glass imported from Constantinople through the Ottoman empire. In 1514, the Portuguese explorer Duarte Barbosa wrote about the cosmopolitan Rander otherwise known as City of Mosques in Surat province, which gained the fame and reputation of illustrious Islamic scholars, saints, merchants and intellectuals from all over the world:]

Ranel (Rander) is a good town of the Moors, built of very pretty houses and squares. It is a rich and agreeable place... the Moors of the town trade with Malacca, Bengal, Tawasery (Tannasserim), Pegu, Martaban, and Sumatra in all sort of spices, drugs, silks, musk, benzoin and porcelain. They possess very large and fine ships and those who wish Chinese articles will find them there very completely. The Moors of this place are white and well dressed and very rich they have pretty wives, and in the furniture of these houses have china vases of many kinds, kept in glass cupboards well arranged. Their women are not secluded like other Moors, but go about the city in the day time, attending to their business with their faces uncovered as in other parts.

The conquest of the Kingdom of Gujarat marked a significant event of Akbar's reign. Being the major trade gateway and departure harbour of pilgrim ships to Mecca, it gave the Mughal Empire free access to the Arabian sea and control over the rich commerce that passed through its ports. The territory and income of the empire were vastly increased

The Sultanate of Gujarat and the merchants

A modern Zoroastrian Agiary in Western India

For the best part of two centuries, the independent Sultanate of Gujarat was the cynosure of its neighbours on account of its wealth and prosperity, which had long made the Gujarati merchant a familiar figure in the ports of the Indian Ocean. The merchants of Gujarat, both Hindu and Muslim, as well as the enterprising Parsi class, had been specialising in the organization of overseas trade for many centuries. By the 17th century, Baghdadi Jews and Chavuse had assimilated into the social world of the Surat province, later on their descendants would give rise to the Sassoons of Bombay and the Ezras of Calcutta. At its zenith, Gujarati



merchants with the aid of Khoja and Bohra shipowners, nakhudas, and lascars, had created the legacy of an international transoceanic empire which had a vast commercial network of agents stationed at all the great port cities across the Indian Ocean. These networks extended to the Philippines in the east, East Africa in the west, and via maritime and the inland caravan route to Russia in the north.[39]

As Tome Pires, a Portuguese official at Malacca, writing of conditions during the reigns of Mahmud I and Mozaffar II, expressed it: "Cambay stretches out two arms; with her right arm she reaches toward Aden and with the other towards Malacca" (Pires, I). His contemporary, Duarte Barbosa, describing Gujarat's maritime trade, recorded the import of horses from the Middle East and elephants from Malabar, and lists exports which included muslins, chintzes and

silks, carnelian, ginger, and other spices, aromatics, opium, indigo, and other substances for dyeing, cereals, and legumes. Persia was the destination for many of these commodities, and they were partly paid for in horses and pearls taken from Hormuz. It was the latter item, in particular, which led Sultan Sikandar Lodi of Delhi, according to Ali-Mohammad Khan, author of the to complain that the "support of the throne of Delhi is wheat and barley but the foundation of the realm of Gujarat is coral and pearls". Hence, the sultans of Gujarat possessed ample means to sustain lavish patronage of religion and the arts, and to build madrasas, and 5naqhs, and to provide douceurs for the literati, mainly poets and historians, whose presence and praise enhanced the fame of the dynasty.

Gujarat and the Mughal Empire

Portrait of Mughal Emperor, Aurangzeb

Aurangzeb, who was better known by his imperial title Alamgir ("world-tamer"), was born at Dahod, Gujarat, and was the sixth Mughal Emperor ruling with an iron fist over most of the Indian subcontinent. He was the third son and sixth child of Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal. At the time of his birth, His father, Shah Jahan, was then the Subedar (governor) of Gujarat whilst his (Shah Jahan's) father, Jehangir, was the Mughal Emperor. Before he became emperor, Aurangzeb was made Subedar of Gujarat as part of his training and was stationed at Ahmedabad. Aurangzeb was a notable expansionist and was amongst the wealthiest of the Mughal rulers with an annual yearly tribute of £38,624,680 (in 1690). During his lifetime, victories in the south expanded the Mughal Empire to more than 3.2 million square kilometres and he ruled over a population estimated as being in the range of 100–150 million subjects.

Aurangzeb had great love for his place of birth. In 1704, he wrote a



letter to his eldest son, Muhammad Azam Shah, asking him to be kind and considerate to the people of Dahod as it was his birthplace. Muhammad Azam was then the Subedar (governor) of Gujarat.

In his letter, Aurangzeb wrote:]

"My son of exalted rank, the town of Dohad, one of the dependencies of Gujarat, is the birthplace of this sinner. Please consider a regard for the inhabitants of that town as incumbent on you.

Maratha Empire

When the cracks had started to develop in the edifice of the Mughal empire in the mid-17th century, the Marathas were consolidating their power in the west, Chatrapati Shivaji, the great Maratha ruler, attacked Surat twice first in 1664 and again in 1672. These attacks marked the entry of the Marathas into Gujarat. However, before the Maratha inroads into Gujarat, the Europeans had made their presence felt, with the Portuguese leading them, followed by the Dutch and the English.



The Peshwas had established their sovereignty over Gujarat including Saurashtra, and collected taxes and tributes through their representatives. Damaji Gaekwad and Kadam Bande divided the Peshwa's territory between them, with Damaji establishing the sway of Gaekwad over Gujarat and made Baroda (present day Vadodara) his capital. The ensuing internecine war among the Marathas were fully exploited by the British, who interfered in the affairs of both Gaekwads and the Peshwas.

1614–1947 CE

Princely states of Gujarat in 1924

Mahatma Gandhi picking salt at Dandi beach, South Gujarat ending the Salt satyagraha on 5 April 1930. In the 1600s, the Dutch, French, English and Portuguese all established bases along the western

coast of the region. Portugal was the first European power to arrive in Gujarat, and aftermath the Battle of Diu and Treaty of Bassein, acquired several enclaves along the Gujarati coast, including Daman and Diu as well as Dadra and Nagar Haveli. These enclaves were administered by Portuguese India under a single union territory for over 450 years, only to be later incorporated into the Republic of India on 19 December 1961 by military conquest.



The British East India Company established a factory in Surat in 1614 following the commercial treaty made with Mughal Emperor Nuruddin Salim Jahangir, which formed their first base in India, but it was eclipsed by Bombay after the English received it from Portugal in 1668 as part of the marriage treaty of

Charles II of England and Catherine of Braganza, daughter of King John IV of Portugal. The state was an early point of contact with the west, and the first British commercial outpost in India was in Gujarat.

17th-century French explorer François Pyrard de Laval who is remembered for his 10-year sojourn in South Asia et al, records witness accounts that the Gujaratis were always prepared to learn workmanship from the Portuguese, also in turn imparting skills to the Portuguese

"I have never seen men of wit so fine and polished as are these Indians; they have nothing barbarous or savage about them, as we are apt to suppose. They are unwilling indeed to adopt the manners and customs of the Portuguese; yet do they regularly learn their manufactures and workmanship, being all very curious and desirous of learning. In fact the Portuguese take and learn more from them than they from the Portuguese."

Later in the 17th century, Gujarat came under control of the Maratha Empire who dominated the politics of India. Most notably, from 1705–1716, Senapati Khanderao Dabhade led the Maratha Empire

forces in Baroda. Pilaji Gaekwad, first ruler of Gaekwad dynasty, established the control over Baroda and parts of Gujarat. The British East India Company wrested control of much of Gujarat from the Marathas during the Second Anglo-Maratha War in 1802–1803. Many local rulers, notably the Maratha Gaekwads of Baroda (Vadodara), made a separate peace with the British and acknowledged British sovereignty in return for retaining local self-rule.

Gujarat was placed under the political authority of the Bombay Presidency, with the exception of Baroda state, which had a direct relationship with the Governor-General of India. From 1818 to 1947, most of present-day Gujarat, including Kathiawar, Kutch, and northern and eastern Gujarat were divided into hundreds of princely states, but several districts in central and southern Gujarat, namely Ahmedabad, Broach (Bharuch), Kaira (Kheda), Panchmahal, and Surat, were ruled directly by British officials.

Post independence

Bombay Presidency in 1909, northern portion

After Indian independence and the partition of India in 1947, the new Indian government grouped the former princely states of Gujarat into three larger units; Saurashtra, which included the former princely states on the Kathiawad peninsula, Kutch, and Bombay state, which included the former British districts of Bombay Presidency together with most of Baroda state and the other former princely states of eastern Gujarat. Bombay state was enlarged to include Kutch, Saurashtra, and parts of Hyderabad state and Madhya Pradesh in central India. The new state had a mostly Gujarati-speaking north and



Marathi-speaking south. Agitation by Gujarati nationalists, the Mahagujarat Movement, and Marathi nationalists, the Samyukta Maharashtra, for their own states led to the split of Bombay state on linguistic lines; on 1 May 1960, it became the new states of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

The first capital of Gujarat was Ahmedabad; the capital was moved to Gandhinagar in 1970. Nav Nirman Andolan was a socio-political movement of 1974. It was students and middle-class people's movement against economic crisis and corruption in public life. This was the first and last successful agitation after Independence of India that ousted an elected government.

Morvi dam failure in 1979 resulted in death of thousands of people and large economic loss. In the 1980s, a reservation policy was introduced in the country, which led to anti-reservation protests in 1981 and 1985. The protests witnessed violent clashes between people belonging to various castes.

In 2001 Gujarat faced a Magnitude 7.7 earthquake whose epicentre was about 9 km south-southwest of the village of Chobari in Bhachau Taluka of Kutch District. The earthquake killed around 20,000 people (including at least 18 in South-eastern Pakistan, injured another 167,000 and destroyed nearly 400,000 homes).

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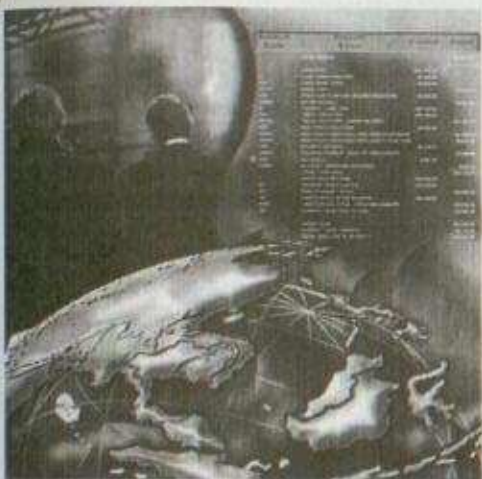


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Email dcpsouth2004@yahoo.com

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Bajaj Blood Bank	28712849
Sunil Blood Bank	24697646
White Cross Blood Bank	26831063, 26914168
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Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Inst.	27051011/ 29
Sama Nursing Home	26446198, 26442062, 26251293
ST. Stephens Hospital	22511488
Sir Ganga Ram Hospital	25735218, 25735205/ 06/ 07, 25712389
Safdarjung Hospital	26925801, 26925858, 26165032
Sitaram Bharatia Hospital	26867242, 26867933-83
Sucheta Kripalani Hospital	23363728,
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