



G.D.GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR

Subject: Social Science

Aspect: Supported

Topic: Colonialism And Urban Changes

Date: 14-09-2021

Name:

Grade/Sec.: **VIII**.....

Learning Objective:

- Outline the nature of urban development in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Introduce students to the history of urban spaces through photographs how new forms of towns emerged in the colonial period

Planning a New Capital

- In 1877, to acknowledge Queen Victoria as the Empress of India, Viceroy Lytton organised a Durbar in Delhi, although Calcutta was the capital of British India. The reason to choose Delhi, the former capital of the Mughals, for such an event was to communicate to the Indian people that the Mughal empire was no longer in charge of India.
- In 1911, when King George V was crowned in England, a Durbar was again held in Delhi to celebrate the occasion, and the decision to shift the capital of British India from Calcutta to Delhi was formally announced at this Durbar.
- Two architects, Edward Lutyens and Herbert Baker, were called on to design New Delhi and its buildings.
- The government complex in New Delhi consisted of a two-mile avenue, Kingsway (now Rajpath), that led to the Viceroy's Palace (now Rashtrapati Bhavan), with the Secretariat buildings on either sides of the avenue.
- New Delhi took nearly 20 years to build, and the idea was to build a city that was in stark contrast to the Mughal capital of Shahjahanabad; there were to be no crowded mohallas, and no mazes of narrow bylanes. In New Delhi, there were instead to be broad, straight streets lined with sprawling mansions set in the middle of large compounds.
- The new city was also designed to be a clean and healthy space; it had to have better water supply, sewage disposal and drainage facilities than did the Old City.

Life in the Time of Partition

- In 1947, India got independence from the British, but at the same time it was partitioned into India and Pakistan. This led to such a huge migration of refugees from Punjab that it changed the social background of Delhi, and the previous urban culture (largely based on Urdu) was overshadowed by new tastes and sensibilities, in food, in dress, and in the arts.