Rediscovering the Cultural Identity of the City Lucknow: Placemaking in Architecture

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Abstract
Cultural Heritage influences a city's development and growth trends. The preservation of historic sites, architectural character, and cultural areas can considerably boost tourism, property values, and a city's overall image. Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh's capital, is an excellent illustration of how cultural heritage has had a significant impact on modern urbanization. The city's rich cultural legacy and traditions are intertwined with its economic fabric. This research dives into Lucknow's spatial expansion during the last century, including the growth of its surrounding districts. The approach used in this study included a thorough review of past studies as well as an analysis of Google Earth maps to analyze the area in question. Furthermore, the study uses relevant case studies from other heritage cities to assess best practices. One of the paper's primary findings is the importance of architecture and placemaking in cultural resurgence. Preserving and supporting cultural infrastructure can have a substantial impact.
Keywords: Heritage; Cultural infrastructure; Cultural identity; Urbanization; Place making.

1. Introduction
1.1 Cultural Heritage
Culture is a multifaceted concept that includes the shared values, beliefs, behaviors, and artifacts that define a group of people. It is the filter through which people view and engage with the outside world, forming their social customs, cultural identity, and practices. Language, religion, food, customs, music, and the arts are all parts of culture, which is woven together into a complex and resilient whole. It changes over time as a result of internal innovations, historical developments, and interactions with other cultures, but it also maintains continuity and a sense of belonging. A city such as Lucknow's embodies culture through its lively festivals, mouth watering food, expressive language, and creative pursuits, all of which add to the city's distinct urban identity.

Heritage, on the other hand, refers to the legacy passed down by previous generations, which includes both tangible and intangible elements of historical, cultural, and social significance. Monuments, structures, antiques, and landscapes are examples of tangible heritage; they are the physical reminders of a city's history. Customs, rites, folklore, and knowledge systems that are passed down through generations make up intangible cultural heritage. Because it links current and future generations to their ancestors and promotes a sense of pride and continuity, heritage is an essential part of cultural identity. The architectural wonders of Lucknow, like the Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza, as well as the city's rich traditions of classical music, dance, and poetry, all vividly display the city's heritage and are essential to its historical and cultural heritage.

Lucknow's identity is rooted in its culture and heritage, which are essential to placemaking and architectural expression. In order to ensure that the city's distinct character is preserved and honored in the face of contemporary development, it is imperative that these components be understood and preserved.

The material and immaterial expressions of human civilization are all included in cultural heritage. They serve as a reflection of a society's distinct identity and past. It consists of many different things, ranging from concrete monuments and artefacts to intangible customs and beliefs. Cultural heritage can be divided into two subsets: tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

Actual artefacts produced, preserved, and handed down through generations within a civilization are referred to as tangible cultural heritage.

The Unesco category of "tangible cultural heritage" includes artistic outputs, constructed heritage, such as buildings and monuments, and other tangible achievements of human ingenuity that have cultural significance in society.

"Intangible cultural heritage" encompasses more than just equipment, supplies, artefacts, and cultural sites; it also refers to behaviours, representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills.In an effort to highlight the richness of Indian culture that is ingrained in its intangible heritage, India developed the National List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH).

By increasing awareness of them on a national and worldwide scale, it seeks to ensure the preservation of the numerous components of intangible cultural heritage from various Indian states.

Cultural heritage is an important asset that links us to the past, influences the present, and moulds the future.Cultural heritage is the history, identity, and cumulative wisdom of all societies. It plays a crucial part in forming a community's identity by reflecting its beliefs, customs, and goals. Climate change poses a hazard to cultural assets that could lead to physical degradation or forced migration, which could weaken cultural identities and interfere with the continuation of traditions.

1.2 Importance of Cultural identity/heritage

- **Helps in the promotion of cultural tourism:**
  Famous landmarks like the Taj Mahal, India Gate, and Charminar are important draws for travellers. They are an excellent means of advancing Indian cultural tourism. The appropriate actions are being taken by the Indian government to safeguard these monuments.

- **Supports in maintaining identity:**
  Each historic site has a distinct history connected to it. These narratives provide an explanation of the city's historical development as well as future projections. They enliven the community and serve as a constant reminder that history is shared by all. The celebration of holidays will unite people. The monuments that our ancestors passed help define legacy. It is the duty of all to protect them for future generations.

- **Economic Growth:**
  Improving the existing monuments will come at a much lower cost than constructing new ones. Furthermore, it aids in providing jobs for the local populace. Heritage conservation has a significant positive impact on the construction sector. The nation's economic progress is a result of all these factors, and India's culture minister is moving in the proper way to ensure that it does.

- **Assists in raising property value:**
  It has been noted that keeping these historical monuments intact will raise their worth and the significance of the neighbouring properties. Property values are generally greater in areas close to historical landmarks than in areas without any historical landmarks.

- **It's an element of a greater whole:**
  Heritage preservation will greatly benefit the people who live here, just as technological growth is changing the world. It will bring together individuals with diverse backgrounds and skill sets to work toward a great cause from all around the world. Respect will be encouraged between people as a result. Future generations' understanding of what constitutes heritage will be aided by heritage preservation.

- **Reducing the demolition waste is possible:**
  According to a research study, the average brick home destruction can result in 60–100 tons of debris. Just think of the waste that would result from destroying these monuments. Therefore, it is preferable to restore them as opposed to erasing them.

1.3 LUCKNOW: About the City

Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh in northern India, has a vibrant and varied history that has shaped the dynamics of contemporary urbanisation. Nawab Asaf-ud-Daula established Lucknow in the 18th century, and it grew to become a major political and cultural centre during the Nawabs of Awadh era. The city's thriving reputation as a hub for poetry, music, fine arts, and manners earned it the nicknames "Shiraz-i-Hind" and "The Constantinople of the East". A tribute to its past, Lucknow's architectural treasures, including the Bara Imambara, Chota Imambara, and Rumi Darwaza, each exquisitely represent the city's distinct fusion of Mughal and Awadhi architectural traditions.The well-known Lucknowi food, evocative Urdu poetry, and traditional dance forms like Kathak are all woven into Lucknow's cultural tapestry and contribute to the city's unique personality. As urbanisation becomes an inevitable force, the issue will be to maintain these cultural features while balancing the needs of modern spatial planning (Aziz Amen, 2017; Aziz Amen & Nia, 2018)
. Therefore, understanding Lucknow's historical background is necessary to grasp the complex interplay between customs and changes in the contemporary urbanisation process.

1.3.1 History of Lucknow

Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, is a dynamic Indian city renowned for its historical sites, kite flying customs, and cultural legacy, as well as the impact of the "**Nawabs**" and "**Aadab**." According to legend, Lord Lakshmana created the city, and the sheikhs expanded it in the thirteenth century. The centre region, which stretched from Machhi Bhavan to Lakshman Tila, was regarded as the city's hub. During the 1857 revolt, the Awadh Nawab's power had a long-lasting effect. Prior to the **1857 rebellion**, the construction of renowned structures such as the **Bara Imambara, Chota Imambara, and Rumi Darwaza** epitomised Lucknow's architectural landscape. These architectural marvels, which combined Mughal and Awadhi styles, demonstrated the magnificence and refinement of the metropolis.

In addition, Lucknow became a hub for the fine arts, music, and literature because of the Nawabs' encouragement of poets, musicians, and other artists. Because of its elite's polished and courteous lifestyle, Lucknow became known during this time as a centre of culture and thought.

Before 1857, Lucknow saw social and economic progress. The city became well-known for its brisk commerce, vibrant bazaars, and lively marketplaces. The Nawabs' crucial contribution to the advancement of economic development was primarily responsible for Lucknow's prosperity.

The Awadh kingdom's capital, Lucknow, was located between the Yamuna and Ganges rivers in an advantageous location during the Nawabian era. It successfully repelled British, Pathan, and Maratha assaults. Nazir-Ud-din Haider and Ghazi-Ud-din Haider oversaw the construction of several notable structures, such as Chattar Manzil and Moti Mahal. During the Shah Dynasty, Aminabad Market, Jama Masjid, Chhota Imambara, Kanpur Road, and the Iron Bridge were all built.

An important factor in the 1857 Indian Rebellion was the **Siege of Lucknow**, which was started after the **British East India Company** took the city in **1856**. Even after obtaining independence in 1947, Lucknow continued to have a big impact on politics and government.The city's well-known cultural heritage, which combines Awadhi and Mughal influences, includes classical music, Urdu literature, and breathtaking architecture. In the midst of fast urbanisation and modernization, Lucknow has managed to accomplish significant socioeconomic progress while maintaining a harmonious balance between modern development and the preservation of its rich cultural legacy.

1.4 Cultural Heritage and its Importance in Lucknow

Cultural legacy encompasses the collective wisdom, history, and identity of all societies. It is essential to the formation of a community's identity since it embodies its values, traditions, and aspirations. Climate change is a threat to cultural resources because it may result in physical deterioration or forced migration, which could erode cultural identities and make it more difficult for customs to survive.

Climate change affects all forms of cultural heritage, both directly and indirectly, through a variety of causes such as rising sea levels, forest fires, droughts, heat waves, severe rainfall, and strong winds, to name a few. The challenge facing India's citizens, officials, and practitioners is to devise a comprehensive plan that would prevent damage to cultural assets that are both moveable and immovable.The security of these ancient structures and artefacts is in jeopardy due to inexact procedures and ignorance. It is therefore very important to consider and put into practice a comprehensive strategy for protecting our cultural legacy, including both conventional wisdom and recently developed, cutting-edge techniques.

Environmental change results in cultural relocation, physical degradation, deterioration of artefacts, and loss of social landscapes, all of which have a significant effect on a social heritage. Buildings, landmarks, and archeological sites are destroyed as a result of physical degradation brought on by extreme weather events like floods and ocean levels. Cultural displacement can result from people moving to specific neighbourhoods or lifestyles, which obstructs the spread of social norms and dialects. Links between networks and their home grounds can also be broken by disruptions to social landscapes. Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh, is a city with a rich cultural heritage influenced by historical, artistic, and traditional factors. Awadh's rich history includes periods such as the Mughals and the Nawabs who shaped the city's architecture, traditions, and way of life. Bara Imambara, Chota Imambara, and Rumi Darwaza are a few of the noteworthy architectural landmarks. Lucknow is mostly recognized for its nawabi, or combination of Mughlai and Awadhi customs, cuisine. The city is also home to well-known Urdu poets and singers of ghazals and poetry. The city's renowned Chikankari embroidery is another symbol of its commitment to preserving its traditional crafts. India's rich past would not be the same without the city's cultural legacy, which promotes sustainability and economic prosperity.

1.5 Architecture and Placemaking

In architecture, placemaking is a collaborative method of creating and modifying public areas to improve the standard of living in local communities. It requires more than just building structures; it also entails designing spaces that promote cultural expression, social interaction, and a sense of community. Placemaking integrates elements of urban design, landscape architecture, and community participation while prioritising the needs and preferences of the people who will occupy and use the area. This method emphasises how crucial human-scale interventions are to creating lively and sustainable urban settings. Examples of these interventions include welcoming public squares, pedestrian-friendly roadways, and inclusive amenities. Placemaking attempts to turn underutilised or neglected areas into vibrant, dynamic spaces that represent the identity and values of the community via careful design and strategic planning. Additionally, by encouraging walkability, integrating green infrastructure, and lowering reliance on cars, placemaking fosters environmental stewardship and improves the general resilience and health of cities. Placemaking in architecture essentially acts as a stimulant for cultural enrichment, economic growth, and social engagement, enabling people to have an active role in directing the development of their built environment.

Placemaking is a critical strategy for revitalising public places and restoring cultural importance within communities. Placemaking aims to restore people's feeling of pride and identity by reestablishing connections between individuals and their cultural history through deliberate design interventions and community engagement programs. Placemaking initiatives serve as platforms for cultural celebration and storytelling by fusing aspects of local history, customs, and artistic expression into the physical environment. This gives locals a chance to reconnect with their roots and teach others about them. Furthermore, placemaking projects frequently entail working with regional craftspeople, artists, and cultural institutions, giving them a platform to exhibit their work and enhance the community's cultural life. Furthermore, by creating inclusive and accessible spaces that reflect the diversity of the community, placemaking fosters a sense of belonging and social cohesion among residents, regardless of their backgrounds or experiences. Ultimately, placemaking serves as a catalyst for cultural revival, empowering communities to reclaim and celebrate their heritage while building more inclusive and resilient societies for future generations.
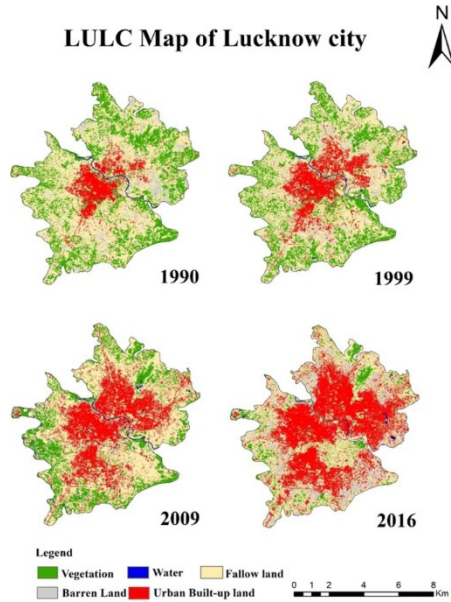
Figure a: Built and Unbuilt development of Lucknow
Source:https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12524-018-0880-1

Figure b: Macchi Bhavan pre and post the mutiny period
Source:https://amanjul.wordpress.com/2019/01/18/explore-lucknow-teele-wali-masjid-mosque-the-unknown-gem-its-role-in-the-history-of-lucknow/
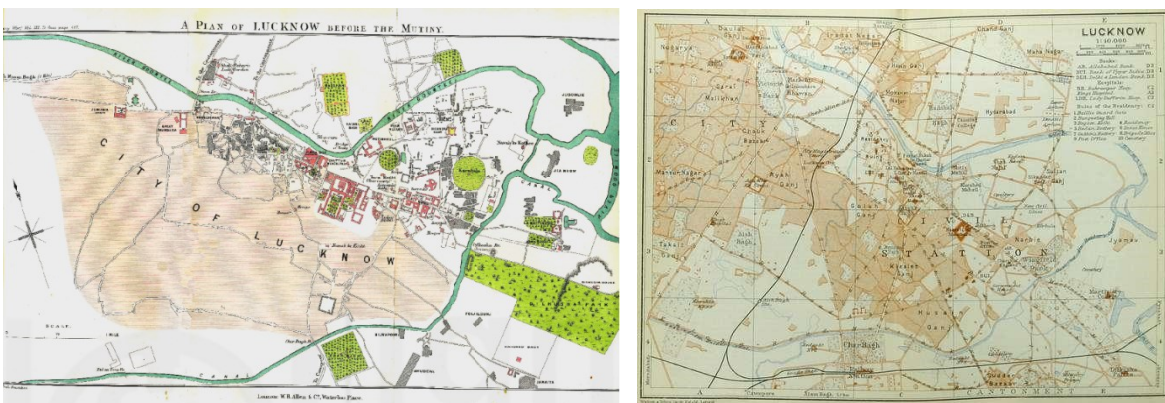
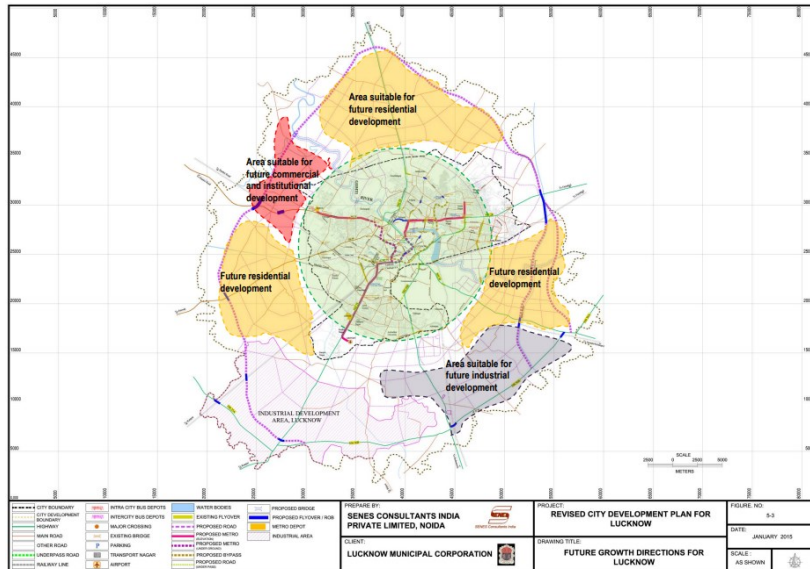

Figure c: Plan of Lucknow before mutiny
Source:https://franpritchett.com/00maplinks/colonial/lucknow1857/lucknow1857.html

Figure d: Future growth and development of periphery of Lucknow city
Source:https://lmc.up.nic.in/pdf/Final%20CDP%20-%20Volume%20I.pdf

3. Material and Methods

This study dwells on the basic understanding of Cultural Identity and Significance of the city Lucknow

This study would involve understanding how culture played a significant role in shaping the growth and development of the city due to urbanisation.

This study's main goal is to investigate the complex interplay between cultural influences and Lucknow's urban development—a city well-known for its magnificent architecture and rich history. This research aims to investigate how Lucknow's growth has been impacted by urbanisation and how cultural elements have not only survived modernization pressures but also played a significant role in shaping the city's identity and spatial configuration. The goal of the study is to clarify the role of culture in placemaking and the preservation of Lucknow's distinctive character in the face of rapid urban transformation through a thorough analysis of historical patterns, architectural landmarks, and urban planning strategies. Understanding the dynamics of architectural identity and cultural sustainability in the context of modern urban development depends on this investigation.

The main objectives of the study are as follows

- To understand the cultural heritage and practices along with the economy of the city of lucknow.
- To understand the spatial growth of Lucknow over the period of time and the development of the fringe areas.
- To identify the issues and challenges faced in the heritage core of the city.
- To understand impact of architecture and placemaking in cultural revival through relevant case studies

To learn about the development of the city, historical maps were consulted. To comprehend the expansion and advancement of the city, references were made to land use maps and master plan documents. To comprehend the expansion and urbanization trend, the study also made use of field research and observation.

Data on the effects of urbanization and future directions were gathered from the city through the preparation of a questionnaire and interviews. To wrap up the research and create plans for the city's future expansion, more data analysis was done.

For the investigation, a sample size of 50 people was employed, and additional data analysis was done.
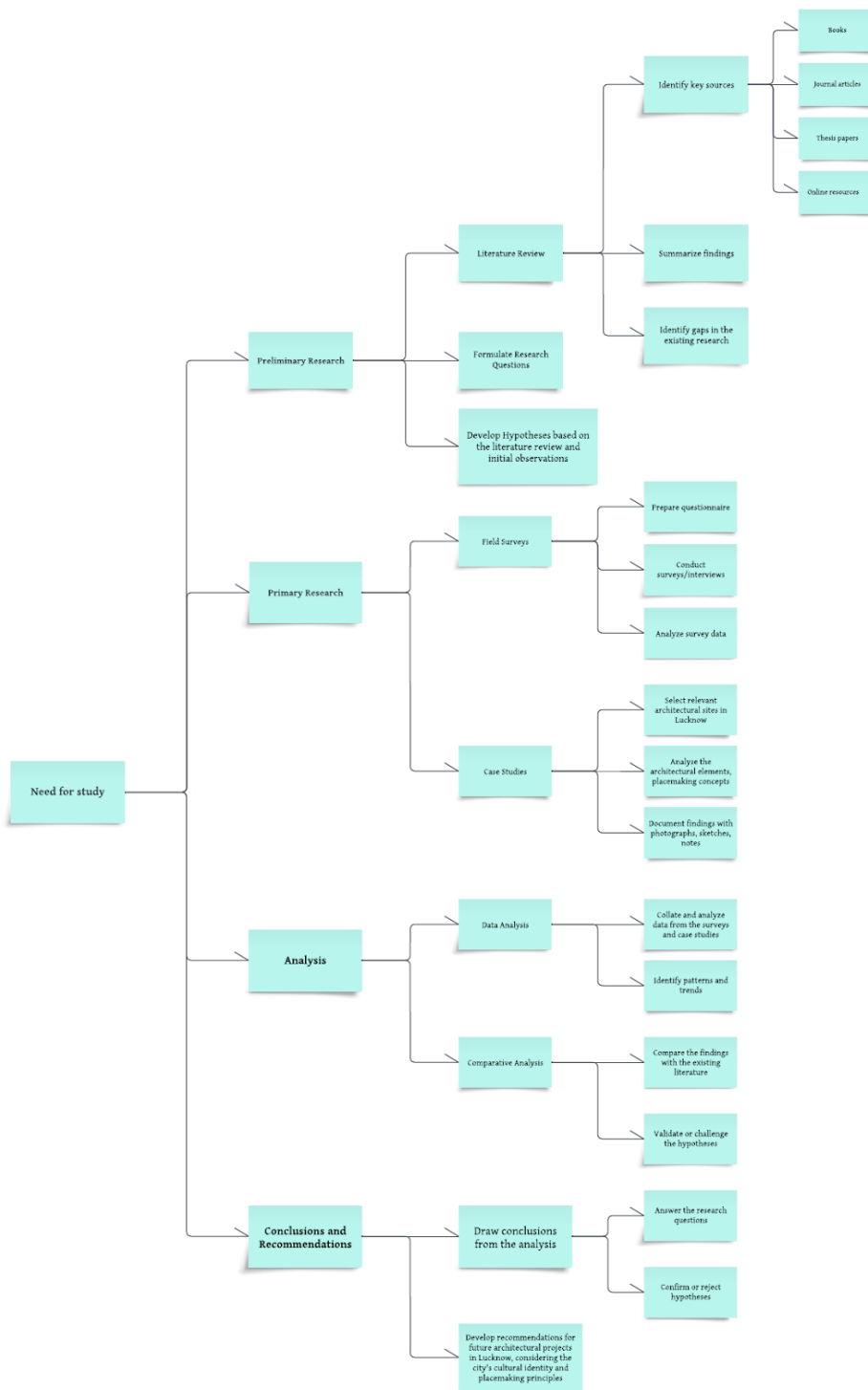
Figure 1.6.1 Methodology Flow Chart

4. Case Studies
4.1 The Case of Jammu and Jaipur Bazaars: The Cultural Identity of a City

Streets are the "paths" that take travellers to places and become a companion in their journey. Cities are an integrated system of streets, which plays an important role in developing and defining the identity of a city. Culture is considered the fourth pillar of sustainability, and the design of cities is blended with streets interlaced with cultural belonging. This helps in identifying a cultural identity for a city, inching closer towards establishing social sustainability.

The layout and hierarchy of streets, urban form, and system of services reflect the culture and advancement of the Indus Valley Civilization. Streets inherit their identity from landmarks, activities, socio-economic profile, architecture, and landscape. With a cultural use of the streets, footfall increases, and with this cultural identity, the streets and cities start developing sustainability.

Key terms in this research include streets, edges, nodes, paths, street furniture, social sustainability, culture, identity, and space and place. Streets are typically lined with buildings or public spaces that generate other activities along their length,

while edges are linear elements not used as paths by the observer. Culture is a way of life representing the social behaviour of a group of people, and identity is the perception of a group about themselves and others. Streets are the backbone of a city, and their cultural identity is developed through street design, surrounding landmarks, built forms, landscape, nodes, colours, and street activities. These elements contribute to the development of a city's cultural identity. For example, Chandni Chowk in Delhi, a part of the former Shahjahanabad of the Mughal Empire, has a strong historical character due to its historical landmarks like Fatehpuri Masjid, Johri Bazar, Historical Havelis, Sunehri Masjid, Red Fort, and Gurudwara Sis Ganj

Sahib. Jaipur, the pink city, is identified by its streets through Rajasthani culture and colour. Jaisalmer, the gold city, Udaipur, and Jodhpur are examples of cities that identify their streets through Rajasthani culture and colour. Colour, tradition, architecture, and bazaars become the "culture" of the streets in the city, helping to develop a cultural identity.

6.1.1 Market Spaces
Sources:https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/food-news/8-of-the-best-places-to-dine-in-chandni-chowk/photostory/72184903.cms, https://www.earthtrekkers.com/journey-through-india-in-photos/jaisalmer-streets/

The literary examples of streets in various parts of the country support the Fig idea that the cultural identity of a street is dependent on its design, facades, colours, nodes, landscape, and activities like bazaars, food, and children playing. (Mengi, n.d.).

4.2 Returning the city to the people: Ahmedabad's community heritage conservation How Indian cities have changed as a result of the heritage trails

Indian cities with a long history often have strong architectural and urban character, but these areas have become marginalized due to urban growth, leading to decay, economic conditions, and population migration. The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) and the Foundation for Conservation and Research of Urban Traditional Architecture (CRUTA) established the first Heritage Cell in 1996, which has become a National Model for Heritage revival. The project aims to build awareness among citizens and develop a comprehensive plan for the conservation of the Walled City of Ahmedabad, enabling communities to take pride in traditional buildings and participate in their revival. The Heritage Cell aims to create awareness of heritage resources, promote traditional built forms, support participatory action, coordinate stakeholder efforts, mobilise finance and resources, and interface with concerned citizens. The Heritage Walk aims to initiate public awareness and interest in conservation activities by showcasing Ahmedabad's built heritage and facilitating participation. (*Template for Case Studies*, n.d.)

4.3 Urbanism, Placemaking, and Cultural Renaissance: Towards a Conceptual Framework

Cities in India, including megacities like Delhi and Mumbai and second-tier cities like Lucknow, Jaipur, and Surat, are aspiring to become global cities through borrowed images from bigger cities or direct imagery supplied from the internet and media. This has led to the Southern turn in urban theory, which has opened possibilities for understanding cities beyond the global cities paradigm. Cities that do not traditionally classify as command and control centres or cultural capitals are generating new interest among urban scholars.

India's cities are progressively embracing their uniqueness and recognizing it as a source of diversity. With festivals, the resuscitation of customs and rituals, and the celebration of regional arts, crafts, and cultural icons, modern urban India is experiencing a cultural renaissance. Numerous factors are contributing to this revival, such as government initiatives to boost the travel and tourism sector, the creative and cultural sectors, citizen-driven cultural activism, and local communities repurposing and recreating long-standing customs and practices. There are significant implications for placemaking and urbanisation from the complex web of cultural practices, which take many various forms.

This study looks at the connections between the modern urbanisation of India, the idea of place and place building, and the recent cultural rebirth of Indian cities from a variety of theoretical angles. It aims to sketch the outline of a new theoretical framework that would be helpful for academics and urban researchers researching Southern urbanism and cities in the global South, based on empirical data and examples from all across India. Singh (2018)

4.4 India's Heritage Cities: Amazing India

On World Heritage Day, India's heritage cities are must-see destinations for those interested in history, tradition, and culture. One of the nation's seven holy cities, Varanasi is thought to be the residence of Lord Shiva and is among the oldest continuously inhabited places. The focal point of the city's spiritual scene is the Ganges River's stepped banks, or ghats, where thousands of devotees bathe in order to atone for their sins and reach moksha (salvation). One of the most sacred

places in Buddhism, Varanasi is also a hub for astrology, yoga, Ayurveda, philosophy, and other disciplines. Ujjain, one of the seven holy sites of Hinduism and dubbed "the town fallen from heaven to bring heaven to earth," is considered an important centre for trade and education. Remains of ancient monuments, such as palaces, forts, memorial buildings, temples, shrines, pillared halls, baths, and gateways, can be found at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Hampi, a mythical lost city. The capital of Bihar, Patna, is one of the oldest cities still in existence and proudly nurtures the state's history, patriotism, and culture. (Singh, n.d.)

4.5 India's urban transformation: art and culture will be crucial

Throughout human civilization, art and culture have played a vital role as a means of expression and amusement. They employ about 30 million people and generate $2,250 billion in revenue globally, all of which contribute to economic growth and productivity. Due to their effects on industrial activity, tourism, and skill development, these industries are strongly associated with the economy. Global hubs for culture, such as Paris, Los Angeles, Sydney, Bogota, London, and Amsterdam, provide a wide range of experiences while boosting the GDP and job market. These cities have substantial financial resources allocated to preserving and enhancing their distinct city identities, a sizable consumer base, a supportive tax and regulatory framework, and a robust cultural infrastructure. Despite possessing substantial cultural capital in the form of two film industries, 37 World Heritage Sites, and a rich cultural legacy, Indian cities have not yet reached the full extent of their potential.(Gehl, n.d.)

4.6 Case Studies from Historic Delhi: Development in the Heritage City

In city development and master plans, the urban problems of historic Indian city-cores are frequently confined to "heritage zones," which results in a lack of sustained conservation and revitalization initiatives. The physical and perceived economic decline of historic built environments is attributed to a number of factors, including new building technologies, a break in architectural and planning continuity, and the proliferation of institutions. This paper does not advocate for a fictitious disconnected ideal of urban conservation; rather, it seeks to recognize the dynamics of contemporary urbanism in real-world settings. The histories, procedures, and results of two project case studies—one from Shahjahanabad, Delhi, and the other from Lutyens' New Delhi—illustrate these dynamics. The purpose of this paper is to present an overview of how democratic planning processes are negotiated in built environments on a daily basis under the heading of "heritage." It is possible to ensure a sustainable future for the past by engaging in various levels of engagement of reflection. (*Development in the Heritage City, Case Studies From Historic Delhi*, 2019)

4.7 Avadh Shilpgram, Community Store Archohm, Lucknow

The complex's structures are designed to resemble a patchwork of materials and shapes that alludes to the disorganised layout of the urban bazaars that can be seen all over the area.Visitors are progressively led to an open plaza at the centre of the curved building by a spiralling structure surrounded by craft stores that starts in the entrance courtyard.The complex's structures are designed to resemble a patchwork of materials and shapes that alludes to the disorganised layout of the urban bazaars that can be seen all over the area. Visitors are progressively led to an open plaza at the centre of the curved building by a spiralling structure surrounded by craft stores that starts in the entrance courtyard.The campus's architecture was also impacted by the area's old buildings. Specifically, the spiralling route was flanked by an arch-lined colonnade, which was informed by the arches of Agra's Buland Darwaza, also known as the Gate of Magnificence.The ground floor circulation space is accessed by the steel frames of the double-height arches, which are adorned with perforated stone jali screens that are customarily used to direct cool air into Indian buildings' rooms.The jalis' elaborate carvings are modelled after traditional Chikan embroidery.A stepped amphitheatre with planted beds may be found in the open space in the complex's middle. Access to the upper level, which faces the round stage, is via a paved slope. (Griffiths & Fanthome, 2016)

Figure 6.7.1 Avadh Shilpgram
Source:https://www.dezeen.com/2016/09/25/awadh-shilpgram-crafts-campus-archohm-lucknow-traditional-indian-architecture/

5. Results and Discussion
The survey was conducted over the sample size of 10 amongst the boundaries of the city,
Survey question:
1.How familiar are you with the cultural history of Lucknow?
- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Neutral
- Somewhat unfamiliar
- Very unfamiliar

How important do you think it is to preserve Lucknow's cultural heritage through architecture?
- Very important
- Important
- Neutral
- Somewhat unimportant
- Very unimportant

Which architectural element do you believe most represents Lucknow's cultural identity?
- Mughal architecture
- British colonial architecture
- Traditional Nawabi structures
- Modern urban architecture
- Other (please specify)

Do you feel that modern developments in Lucknow respect its cultural heritage?
- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

What role do you think community involvement plays in preserving cultural identity through architecture in Lucknow?
- Very significant
- Significant
- Neutral
- Insignificant
- Very insignificant

Have you noticed any recent architectural projects in Lucknow that successfully blend modernity with cultural heritage? If yes, please name one.
- Yes (please specify)
- No
- Not sure

Which area in Lucknow do you think best exemplifies its cultural heritage through architecture?
- Old City
- Hazratganj
- Gomti Nagar
- Aminabad
- Other (please specify)

What architectural changes would you suggest to better reflect Lucknow's cultural identity in future developments?
- More restoration of historic buildings
- Incorporation of traditional design elements in new constructions
- Preservation of heritage sites
- Increased public spaces with cultural themes
- Other (please specify)

Responses

Question	Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4	Person 5	Person 6	Person 7	Person 8	Person 9	Person 10
Q1	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Neutral	Somewhat unfamiliar	Very familiar	Very familiar	Somewhat familiar	Somewhat unfamiliar	Neutral	Somewhat familiar
Q2	Very important	Important	Very important	Important	Very important	Important	Very important	Important	Neutral	Very important
Q3	Traditional Nawabi structures	Mughal architecture	British colonial architecture	Traditional Nawabi structures	Mughal architecture	Traditional Nawabi structures	Traditional Nawabi structures	Mughal architecture	Traditional Nawabi structures	Traditional Nawabi structures
Q4	Disagree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Neutral	Neutral	Agree	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree
Q5	Very significant	Significant	Neutral	Very significant	Significant	Very significant	Significant	Significant	Neutral	Very significant
Q6	Yes (Rumi Gate restoration)	Not sure	No	Yes (Bara Imambara project)	Yes (Heritage Walk initiative)	No	Yes (Chota Imambara renovation)	No	Not sure	Yes (Residency restoration)
Q7	Old City	Hazratganj	Old City	Aminabad	Old City	Hazratganj	Old City	Old City	Gomti Nagar	Old City
Q8	More restoration of historic buildings	Incorporation of traditional design elements in new constructions	Increased public spaces with cultural themes	Preservation of heritage sites	More restoration of historic buildings	Preservation of heritage sites	Incorporation of traditional design elements in new constructions	Increased public spaces with cultural themes	Preservation of heritage sites	More restoration of historic buildings

Summary of Results

The results of the study "Rediscovering the Cultural Identity of the City Lucknow: Placemaking in Architecture" showed that the majority of participants knew very little or nothing about the cultural past of the city. The significance of using architecture to preserve Lucknow's cultural legacy is well acknowledged. Mughal and traditional Nawabi buildings were found to be important symbols of the city's cultural identity. Regarding whether contemporary advancements honor this legacy, opinions are split, with many people feeling either neutral or opposing. Involving the community is thought to be important in this preservation endeavor. Notable recent examples of effective modern-meets-heritage projects are the Heritage Walk program and the restoration of Rumi Gate. Many times, the Old City neighborhood is cited as a model of cultural heritage through architecture. Future development ideas stress the need for a balance between innovation and preservation in order to preserve Lucknow's distinct cultural identity. These ideas include more historic building repair and the use of traditional architectural features in new construction.

5. Conclusions

The study emphasises the urgent need for an innovative urban development approach that prioritises the preservation and rejuvenation of Lucknow's cultural heritage. This necessity arises from the observation that current urban planning efforts fall short in safeguarding the city's cultural essence, as seen in the diminishing uniqueness of Lucknow and the densification of its historical centres. The proposal advocates for a holistic strategy that integrates architectural creativity with the conservation of heritage, stressing the importance of supporting placemaking endeavours that celebrate and breathe new life into Lucknow's cultural landmarks alongside infrastructure improvements aimed at alleviating congestion.

The absence of cultural infrastructure in Lucknow's planning agenda is a significant concern. It's imperative for government officials, architects, urban planners, and the community to collaborate closely to guide future developments in a manner that honours Lucknow's historical legacy while fostering a dynamic, inclusive urban landscape for the coming generations. By embracing this approach, Lucknow is poised to reclaim its cultural identity and lead in the arena of heritage-focused urban regeneration.

Placemaking emerges as a critical tool in the study for rejuvenating the city's heritage sites and reasserting its unique character. This participatory approach to redesigning and reenergizing public spaces meets the community's desires and dreams. Placemaking can transform underutilised heritage locations into vibrant spaces through comprehensive engagement, involving various stakeholders in the conceptualization and realisation of urban areas. Strategic initiatives such as creating walkable urban landscapes, repurposing historical edifices, and hosting cultural events that showcase Lucknow's heritage can reinvigorate the city's identity while enhancing social ties and economic prosperity. As Lucknow confronts the challenges of urban growth and globalisation, making placemaking a focal point of urban development is crucial for developing a lively, resilient cityscape that respects its heritage and builds a sense of belonging for its inhabitants. Furthermore, Cultural Infrastructure encompasses a wide range of elements like museums, art galleries, libraries, archives, theatres, performing arts venues, cultural centres, public art installations, digital and virtual art platforms, cultural transportation, tourism infrastructure, cultural policies, governance structures, and community organisations. These components are instrumental in maintaining and enriching the unique and rich character of a city's or its core's heritage, ensuring its cultural integrity remains vibrant and accessible.

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