



NEW DELHI UPDATE

Bulletin of Rotary Club of New Delhi

R.I. District 3010

Vol. VII No. 15 October 10, 2011

UNVEILING THE ORIGINS OF NAMES OF AREAS WITH SHORT HISTORY IN DISTRICT 3010 BY PEEPING THROUGH THE MISTS OF TIME INTO ERAS GONE BY



Today, R.I. District 3010 covers the National Capital Territory of Delhi, parts of States of Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

It has 134 Rotary Clubs with 5200 plus members representing over two thousand professions and constitute the cream of N.C.R. (National Capital Region) society, pledged to improvement of living standards in local and international communities as the ONLY way for world peace, understanding and contentment for all.

Each geographical area/city of R.I. District 3010 has an interesting historical background leading to present name, aura and activity. Some of this background is as follows:

UTTAR PRADESH (UP)

a) **Pre-history, legends and ancient period:**

- i) Archeological finds in Uttar Pradesh confirm presence of stone age hominids man around 74000 BC in UP areas such as Chatrapalia, Mahugarh, Lalitpur, Nidhi and Gopipur.
- ii) U.P. was host to ancient Mahajanapada era Kingdom of Kosala in Ayodhya where King Rama of Ramayana reigned (1610 BC?). Lord Krishna was born in Mathura in U.P. (1575 BC?).

B) **Recent History:**

- i) Most of empire building invasions of Northern India, through east and west passed through vast swathes of Gangetic plains of what today is Uttar Pradesh.

C) **Pre-independence**

- i) U.P., Pre-independence was called United Provinces of British India after various parts of it were earlier called the Presidency of Agra (A part of Presidency of Bengal), North Western Provinces and Oudh (Awadh). In 1937 the name was shortened to United Provinces.

- (ii) **After Independence** in 1947, the princely states of Rampur, Benaras and Tehri Garhwal were merged into United Provinces. In 1950 the name of United Provinces was changed to Uttar Pradesh.

1. **Pilkhuwa:** It is famous for its textile products specially bedsheets. According to myths city got its name in British age. There was an elephant names PIL which got lost. When the British soldiers were running helter skelter trying to locate the animal, the local villagers would ask PIL Khuwa (PIL Kho Gaya) — PIL is lost. The area became known as Pilkhuwa.

2. **Hapur:** In ancient Indian texts it is claimed that Hapur was founded by Raja Harish Chandra, the paragon of truth and virtue. Another local legend says that Hapur was refound by Daron ke Sardar Hardatta in 983. After this it was called Haripur. It

is also said that Hapur came from the word Hapar which means a Garden.

3. **Dadri:** The name probably has its origins from a lake in the region called Dadar in which there were numerous frogs called Dadurs. It could also have derived the name from similarities of professions and/or persons from Charkhi Dadri another town in Haryana.
4. **Modi Nagar:** The present area of Modi Nagar was largely once a village founded by one Nawab Zafar Ali (1400s AD) from whom the village passed into control of a lady of the Royal Mughal family and got the name Begumabad. In 1933 Gujjar Mal Modi established the Modi Group of Industries from where it got its present name.
5. **Jindal Nagar:** The name derives from the Jindal Pipes factory around which the township has developed.
6. **Ghaziabad:** The excavations carried out on the banks of river Hindon 2 Km from Mohan Nagar shows that civilization was developed here

NEXT MEETING

Thursday 13th October 2011

Ashok Hotel, New Delhi

Time : 6.00 p.m.

Speaker : **Dr. RAJIVA GUPTA**

Subject : **ARTHRITIS**

R'anns. are welcome and will be Club Guests



in 2500 BC. In 1313 in reign of Mohammed Bin Tuglak, this was a battlefield where subsequently Taimur Lang massacred thousands of persons. In 1740 Ghaziabad was founded by Wazir Ghaziuddin, a Minister of Mughal Emperor Ahmedshah called Alamgir II who was grandson of Mohammed Shah Rangila alias Roshan Akhtar husband of Begum Qudisia of famous Qudisia Gardens, Civil lines, Delhi. He named it Ghaziuddinnagar. In 1864 problem in printing such a large name on a rail ticket for the train on the Calcutta – Delhi line changed the name of Ghaziuddinnagar to Ghaziabad.

6. **NOIDA:** Is a short form of New Okhla Industrial Development Area which came into administrative existence on 17 April 1976. It is located in the Gautam Budh Nagar, District of UP which earlier housed one hundred villages. The city was created under the UP Industrial Area Development Act and received a large urbanization thrust under the patronage of one Mr. Abhishek Sinha during the National Emergency in 1975–76.

DELHI and NEW DELHI

7. **DELHI:** Known to be continuously inhabited since 6th century BC, various legends surrounding the name Delhi are as follows: a) Dhillu, a Maurian King inhabited the city in 50 BC and called it Dilli after his name b) Corruption of the word Dehleez (Persian) meaning threshold/gateway to the vast Gangetic plain of India. c) Named after Dhillika, daughter of Chief of village of Madh where Connaught Place stands now around 10 BC. d) The Tomaras around 25 BC called the City Dhilli (loose) as it was the place where the famous iron pillar made by Raja Dhava first installed became loose and had to be placed in its present location.

From ancient times Delhi starting from Indraprasatha site of habitation of Mahabharat legends, Pandavas and Kauravas, to Shahajahanabad (Old Delhi of today in and around the Red Fort, *Quila e Mualla*), has been inhabited in a major way seven times, through the reigns of the Mauryas, Slave Dynasty, Khiljis,

Tuglaks, Lodhis and the Mughals.

8. **New Delhi:** Largely refers to British Delhi, made outside the ramparts of the Red Fort (Shahajahanabad) after 1857, the first war of National independence from the British and present areas of city designed by Lutyens/Edwards/Tor Russel including Connaught Place, India Gate, National Stadium, Eastern and Western Courts, Rashtrapati Bhavan, Old Vice Regal Lodge, North and South Blocks and Central Delhi made after 1910 when British shifted the capital of India from Calcutta to Delhi. From 1960s onward, various colonizers such as DLF, Ansals and company have expanded the boundaries of New Delhi in all directions, South, North, West and East.

HARYANA

9. **HARYANA:** The ancient tribal/caste inhabitants were collectively known as Ahirs derived from the Sanskrit word Abhir which means fearless. They claim to be descendants of Yadavs of Chandravanshi Khatri the line of Lord Krishna (1500 BC?). The land where they lived was called Abhirayana. In time it came to be called Haryana. Earlier during Vedic times and mythology of Gods, it was called the land of Shiva or Hari ka Desh. A legend has it that the river Ganges flows from Hair (Jata) of Lord Shiva, or from an area called Shiv Ki Jata or the Shivaliks earlier called the Gangotri Hills. The region surrounding the plain of river Ganges near the hills was called Hari Dwar and area outside the Dwar was called Haritanaka or Hariyana.

10. **Faridabad:** It was founded in 1607 by Sheikh Farid, a Sufi Saint and also Treasurer of Emperor Jahangir during the reign of the latter in 1605–1627. Sheikh Farid built a fort, a tank and a mosque which are now in ruins. Later it was part of a Jagir held by ruler of Ballabgarh. Faridabad District was carved out of erstwhile Gurgaon District. As a part of Pakistani Refugee Resettlement Project after India–Pakistan Partition, light industrial development initiated by refugees set the base of the present industrial infrastructure in Faridabad.

11. **Gurgaon:** Legend has it that

Gurgaon is the ancestral village of Guru Dronacharya son of Ancient Rishi Bharadwaj (1550 BC) and teacher of martial arts to Pandavas and Kauravas of Mahabharat vintage. The village was gifted to Drona by Dhritirashtra of Hastinapur and father of the Kauravas. It was known as Guru Gram. Over time the colloquial term Gaon (which also means village in Prakrit language) was substituted for gram and the name Gurgaon emerged. The Dronacharya Well still exists within the Gurgaon city along with a village called Gurgaon.

12. **Rewari:** It is believed that during the Mahabharat (1550 BC) there was a king named Rewat whose daughter was named Rewati. The King founded a city named Rewa Wadi after his daughter. Later Rewati got married to Lord Balrama, the elder brother of Lord Krishna. Much later the city Rewa Wadi became known as Rewari. Important historical personalities from Rewari were: King Hemu Vikramaditya who repeatedly defeated the Mughals but was finally defeated and beheaded by Emperor Akbar; and Freedom fighter Rao Tula Ram who fought with the British in the first war of independence in 1857.

13. **Narnaul:** Dates back to Mahabharat (1550 BC) when it was called Nar Rashtra where fearless persons abounded. Another legend around 1100 AD mentions its name as Naharmaul (Fear of Lions) an area where lions roamed free in the jungles surrounding the township. According to another legend, Raja Launkaran named it Narlaun after his wife. Launkaran (40 BC) was a cousin of Anangpal Tomar who ruled in Delhi at that time. Sher Shah Suri was born here. During Mughal rule, Akbar established a mint here. After the disintegration of the Mughal Empire, Narnaul passed from Satnamis, a religious sect, to Rajputs and became a part of Jaipur. Later after 1857 uprising against the British, (When Rao Tula Ram of Rewari put up a brave but unsuccessful war campaign against the British), Narnaul was handed over to ruler of Patiala Raja Narendra Singh for helping the British. Today it is part of the Mahendergarh District of Haryana.

14. **Sonepat:** Legend has it that it was founded as Swarnaprasatha by the Pandavas of Mahabharat age (1550 BC?) being a very agriculturally fertile land. Another legend ascribes it to Raja Soni, the thirteenth descendant of Arjuna, one the Pandava brothers. From Swarnaprasatha to Swaranpath it became Sonepat. In times of Mahabharat, Swaranprasatha along with other four villages of Panprasatha, Baghprasatha and Tilprasatha were demanded by Pandavas from Kauravas in lieu of Kingdom of Hastinapur.

15. **Rohtak:** A very old city since the time of Ramayana (1640 BC), earlier called Roheetika, name derived from a tree of the same name and which abounds in and around the city. Rohitika is mentioned in Mahabharata (1550 BC?) in connection of a war campaign there by Nakul, one of the Pandava brothers. Later it came to be known as Rohtashgarh, a name applied to to ruined sites lying 5 km North and East of present city. Traditionally it is named after Raja Rohtash, in whose days the city was built.

16. **Gohana:** In ancient times Gohana was known as Gavambhavana and considered a sacred place. Gavambhavana in Sanskrit means a place where cows and cattle abound. This must have been an extremely agriculturally fertile land full of milk yielding cattle. Later Prithviraj Chauhan constructed a fort here in 1190. Subsequently Muslims and Taga Brahmins inhabited the city. In 1947 all muslims migrated to Pakistan.

17. **Ganaur:** In close proximity to Sonepat is also of vintage Mahabharat and earlier. The town was inhabited by a sect of Ahirs called Shaivites or followers of Shiva mythically said to descend from Ganas or Shiv followers with analogy of being the hairlocks of Shiva. The Sanskrit word Gana means a holy and divine collectivity which is brave and fearless. Hence the name Ganaur where the Ganas of Shiv resided. The word Gana also is probably behind the word Ganges called the river which descends from the head of Shiva.

COMPILED BY: PDG Rtn. DEEPAK TALWAR

HEALTH CHECK-UP CAMP AT MCD SCHOOL, MALVIYA NAGAR



Before School



After - In MCD School

To all the Members of Rotary Club of New Delhi:

We Rotarians are not devoid of compassion especially for the underprivileged section of the society. We are always seeking an opportunity where we can extend our help in the best manner possible as per circumstances and time available.

We have attempted to help these deprived children who would otherwise roam the streets-begging, involvement in crime, child prostitution, suffering from malnutrition and the worst thoughtful aspects which would shatter your belief in mankind, leaving you in the most disgusting state of mind.

Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) runs 1975 schools catering to 10 lakhs children coming from this section of society. The schools are upto class V and there are no fees charged. You would agree that at this most impressible age upto 10/12 years, the child needs utmost care. The schools are holding on to the best land in Delhi, employing teachers who are well paid if not better than many private schools, giving midday meals, stationery, dresses, shoes etc. to the children then why is their education not better or at par with any good private school !

This thought led us to the MCD School in Malviya Nagar, where in the Past years we had helped "Aarohan" an NGO which would send their children to the MCD school after giving pre-school training, as the children originated from Jagdamba camp which is the largest slum area in South Delhi. You would be glad to know that all these children who had never held a pencil leave alone a story book are getting 85% to 90% marks in their classes regularly.

It is also seen, though government is spending huge funds on the health of children, yet they are suffering from malnutrition, resulting in less concentration on studies. Several meetings with health department were held with suggestions forwarded by our expert medical council. Consequently the government agreed to look into the matter and asked our Rotary Club of New Delhi to hold a sample health camp in which they would also send their medical staff with medicines. This challenge was accepted and the role model camp was conducted in Malviya Nagar School. Members will be glad to know that all the suggestions, brought about practically have been adopted by medical department of the government covering all their schools.

Continuing our efforts, a Health Camp to symbolize our concern for this section of society is being held at the:

Nigam Pratibha Kanya Vidyalaya (MCD Primary Girls School)

Malviya Nagar, New Delhi

**On the 10th, 12th, 13th & 14th
of October, 2011**

From 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

(11th October is a holiday on account of Balmiki Diwas).

Please give your most valuable asset: **Your Time** in manning the camp.

Your assistance for the days/time suitable to you may please be communicated to Rtn. Dr. Madhumati Singh, Director, Community Services at: **madhumatis@yahoo.com** (e-mail) or 9810403394 (Mobile).

Rtn. Pran Mehta, Chairman, Service Projects

WHY BEGIN ON JULY 1 ? July 1 Beginning of New Year

Ever wonder why the Rotary Year begins 1 July? The International Convention initially played a key role in determining the start date of our fiscal and administrative year.

Rotary's first fiscal year began the day after the first Convention ended, on 18 August 1910. The 1911-12 fiscal year also related to the Convention, beginning with the first day of the 1911 Convention on 21 August.

At its August 1912 meeting, the Board of Directors ordered an audit of the International Association of Rotary Clubs' finances. The auditors recommended that the organisation end its fiscal year on 30 June to give the Secretary and Treasurer time to prepare a financial statement for the Convention and Board and determine the proper number of club delegates to the Convention.

The Executive Committee concurred, and at its April 1913 meeting, designated 30 June as the end of the fiscal year. This also allowed for changes to the schedule for reporting

club membership and payments. Even "The Rotarian" changed its volume numbering system to correspond to the fiscal year (beginning with Vol. 5, July 1914).

Rotary continued to hold its Annual Conventions in July or August until 1917. Delegates to the 1916 event in Cincinnati, Ohio, USA, approved a resolution to hold future Conventions in June, mainly because of the heat in cities where most of them occurred. The next one was held 17-21 June in Atlanta, Georgia.

The term "Rotary Year" has been used to signify Rotary's annual administrative period since at least 1913. An article in The Rotarian that July noted, "The Rotary Year that is rapidly drawing to a close has been signalled by several highly successful joint meetings of clubs that are so situated as to assemble together easily and conveniently."

Since the Executive Committee's decision in 1913, the end of the Rotary Year has remained 30 June.

— Source: Rotary International

HURRY UP...

Rotary International encourages all the members of the Rotary Clubs to register on Member Access Portal of www.rotary.org. From 14 September to 14 October, Rotary club members are eligible to win 1,000 extra Rotary Foundation recognition points simply by registering on Member Access. Registrants will be entered into a drawing, and the winner will be announced after mid-October.

Start the registration process by using a valid E-mail address to create an account. You may be asked to provide additional information to help us determine your relationship with Rotary International and match you with your record in our database. Within 24 hours, you will receive a verification E-mail with a hyperlink that will connect you to a Member Access screen to complete your registration. If you do not see the E-mail in your inbox, check your spam/bulk junk folder.

If you have questions, E-mail the Contact Center at: contact.center@rotary.org Rotarians should contact South Asia Office, New Delhi.

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THE BOARD 2011-12

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Many Happy Returns

NO BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

PE Rtn. Ashish Makhija	Sept. 29
Rtn. Ajay Malhotra	Oct. 08
PP Rtn. Ranjit Sahni	Oct. 10

OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Dr. RAJIVA GUPTA



Dr. Rajiva Gupta is currently Head, Rheumatology and Clinical Immunology (Joint Diseases) at Medanta Hospital, Medicity, Gurgaon.

Earlier, Dr. Gupta was Associate Professor in AIIMS and has had a long experience in joints related diseases.

He will address us on "Arthrities"

World Arthritis Week is being celebrated during 10th October to 15th October. Dr. Rajiva Gupta will be addressing our Club Members as part of creating Public Awareness about Arthritis during this week.

GET WELL SOON....

Rtn. Gaurav Bhargav is hospitalised and is down with DENGUE fever and throat infection. He is admitted at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital and is expected to be relieved in a day or two. We wish him a very speedy and fast recovery.

Get Well Soon Gaurav!

We all look forward to see you soon amongst all of us.