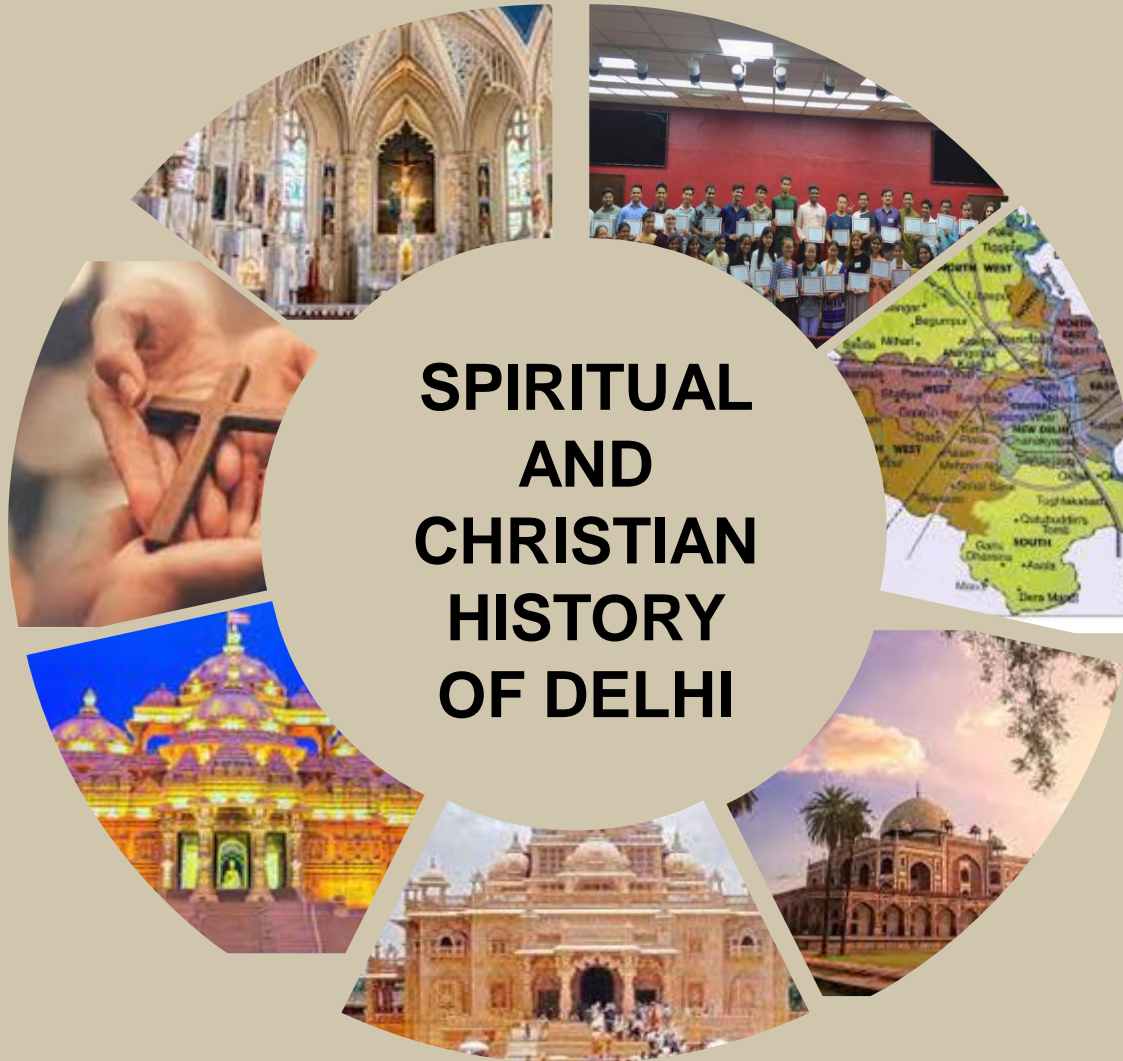




# Spiritual and Christian History

**SPIRITUAL  
AND  
CHRISTIAN  
HISTORY  
OF DELHI**



# THE HISTORY OF DELHI

**SPIRITUAL  
AND  
CHRISTIAN  
HISTORY  
OF DELHI**



# DELHI

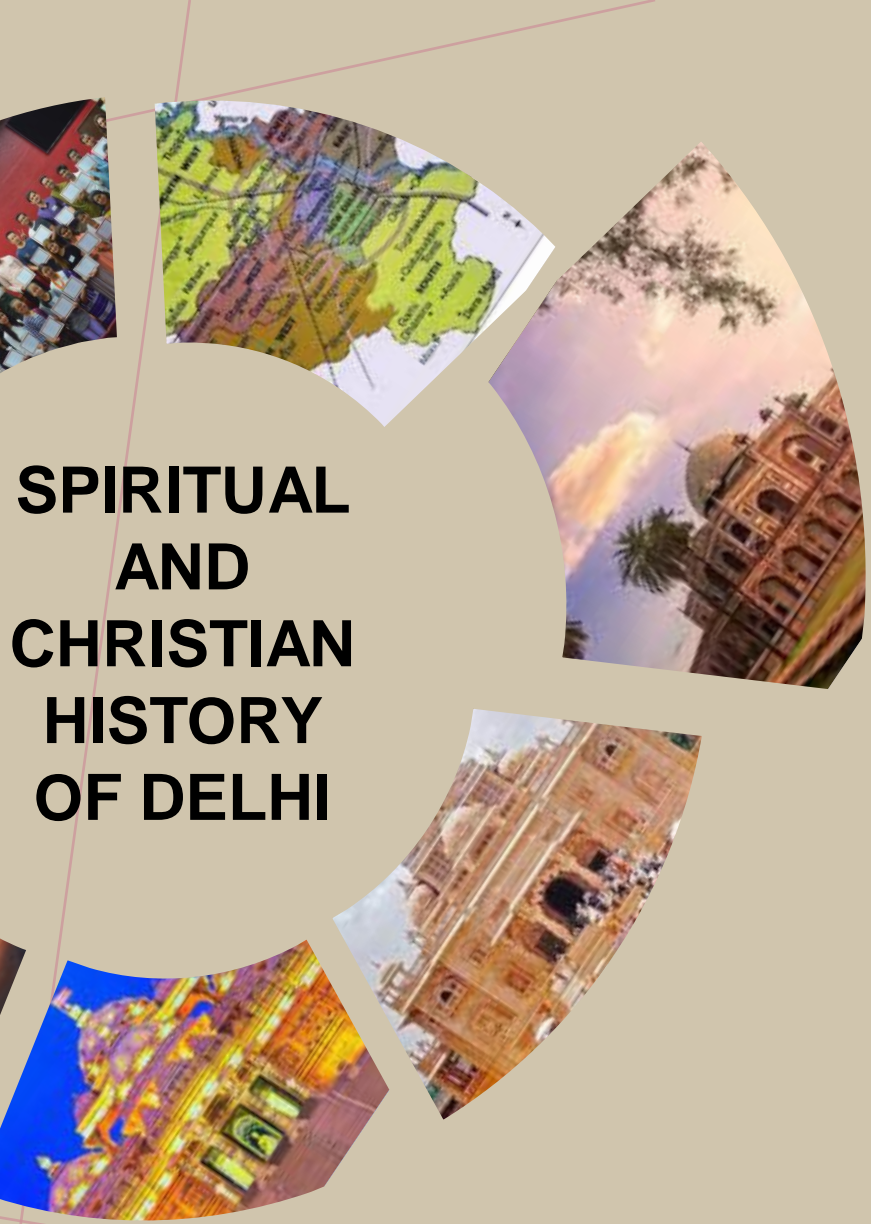
Delhi, the capital of India has a strong historical background. It was ruled by some of the most powerful emperors in Indian history.

In the year 1803 AD, the city came under the British rule. In 1911, British shifted their capital from Calcutta to Delhi. It again became the center of all the governing activities.

According to legend, the city was named for Raja Dhilu, a king who reigned in the region in the 1st century BC.

## SPIRITUAL AND CHRISTIAN HISTORY OF DELHI





## **SPIRITUAL AND CHRISTIAN HISTORY OF DELHI**

# **MONUMENTS OF DELHI**

Our national capital is a fascinating place that offers you a complete dose of history, heritage, culture, and tradition on any given day. There is no dearth of historical sites in the capital city; if anything, there is only abundance.



The Red Fort Complex was built as the palace fort of **Shahjahanabad** – the new capital of the **fifth Mughal Emperor** of India, Shah Jahan. Named for its massive **enclosing walls of red sandstone**, it is adjacent to an older fort, the Salimgarh, **built by Islam Shah Suri in 1546**, with which it forms the Red Fort Complex.

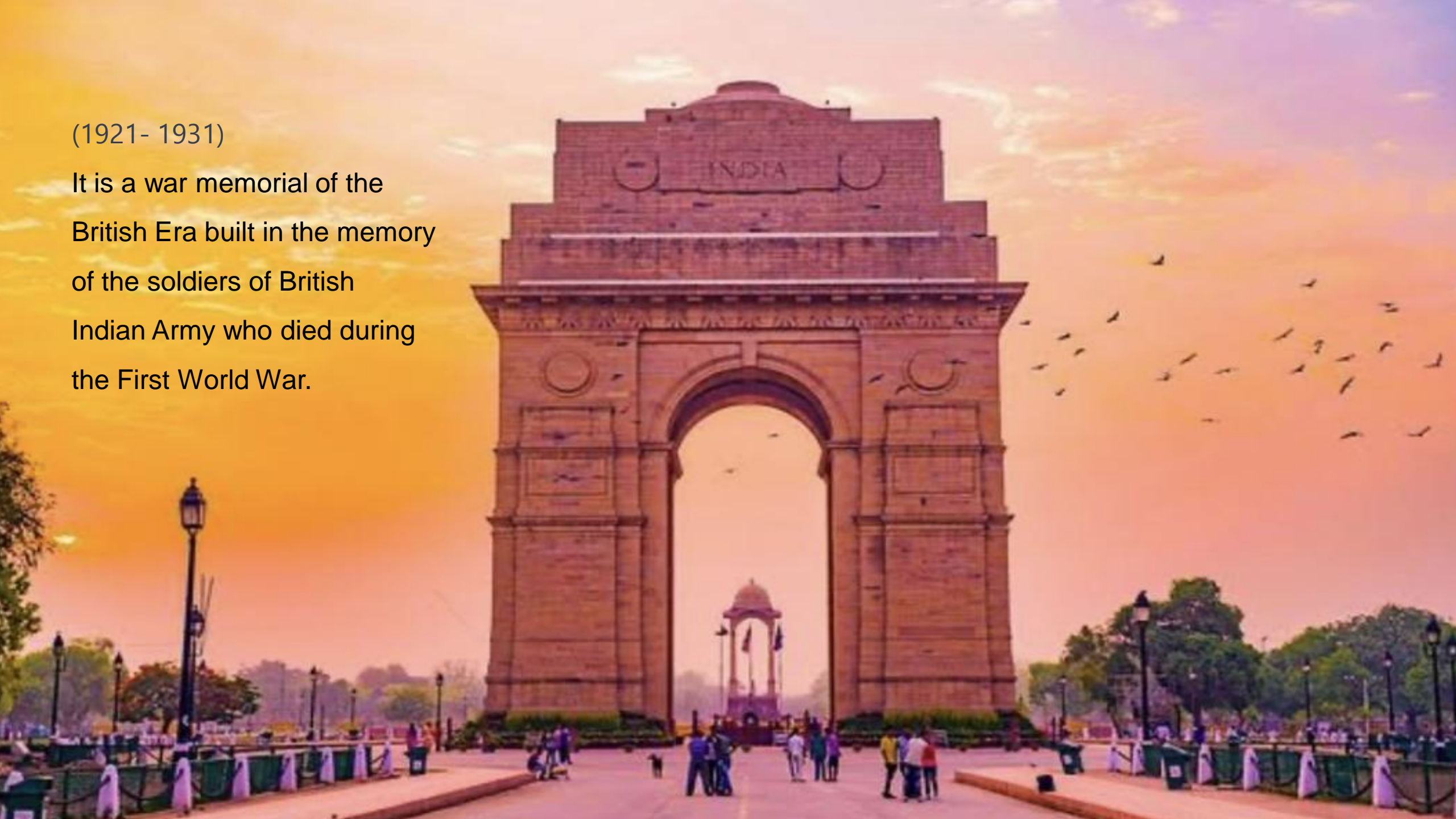


INDIA

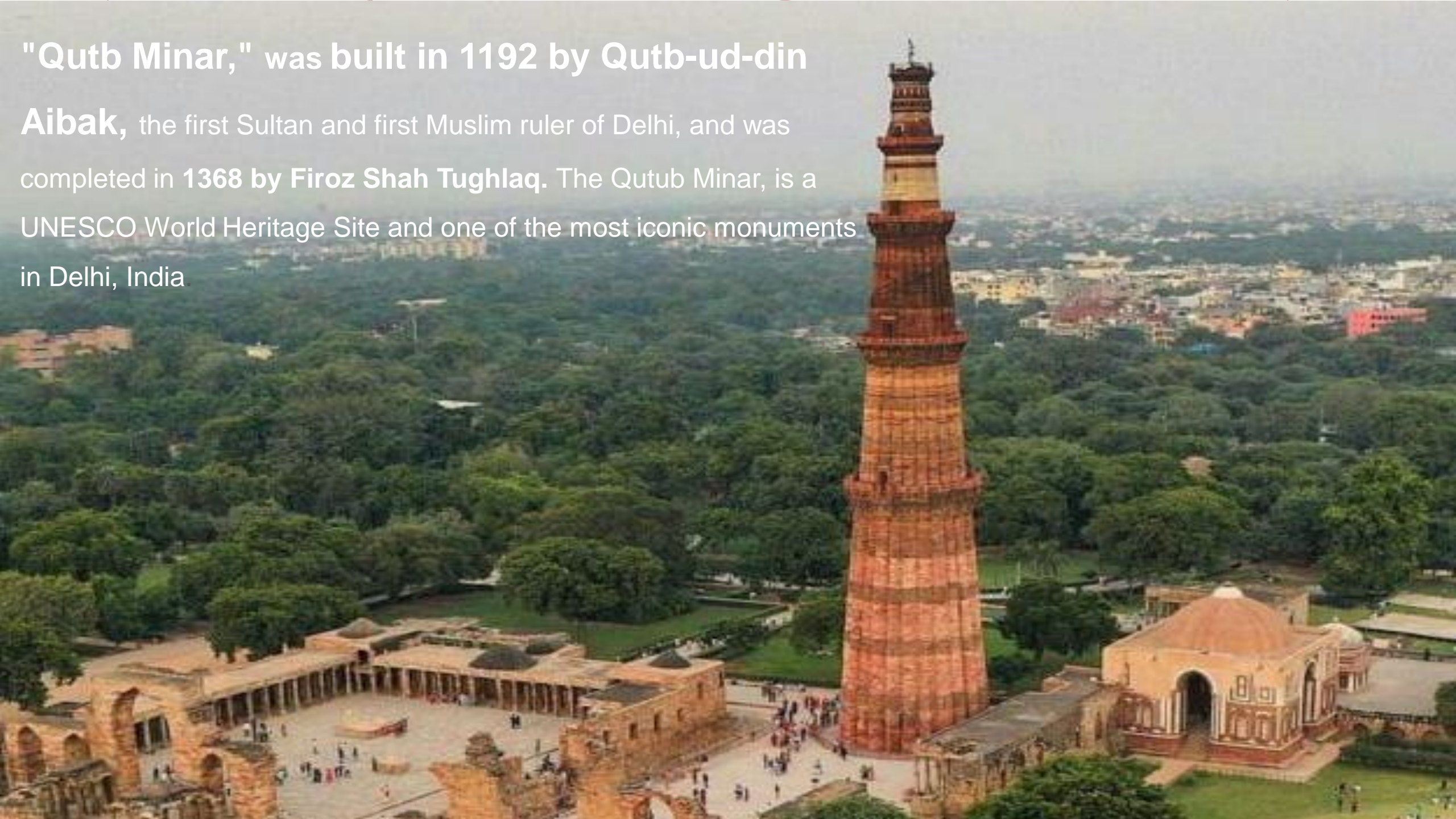
GATE

(1921- 1931)

It is a war memorial of the British Era built in the memory of the soldiers of British Indian Army who died during the First World War.



"Qutb Minar," was built in 1192 by Qutb-ud-din Aibak, the first Sultan and first Muslim ruler of Delhi, and was completed in 1368 by Firoz Shah Tughlaq. The Qutub Minar, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most iconic monuments in Delhi, India.





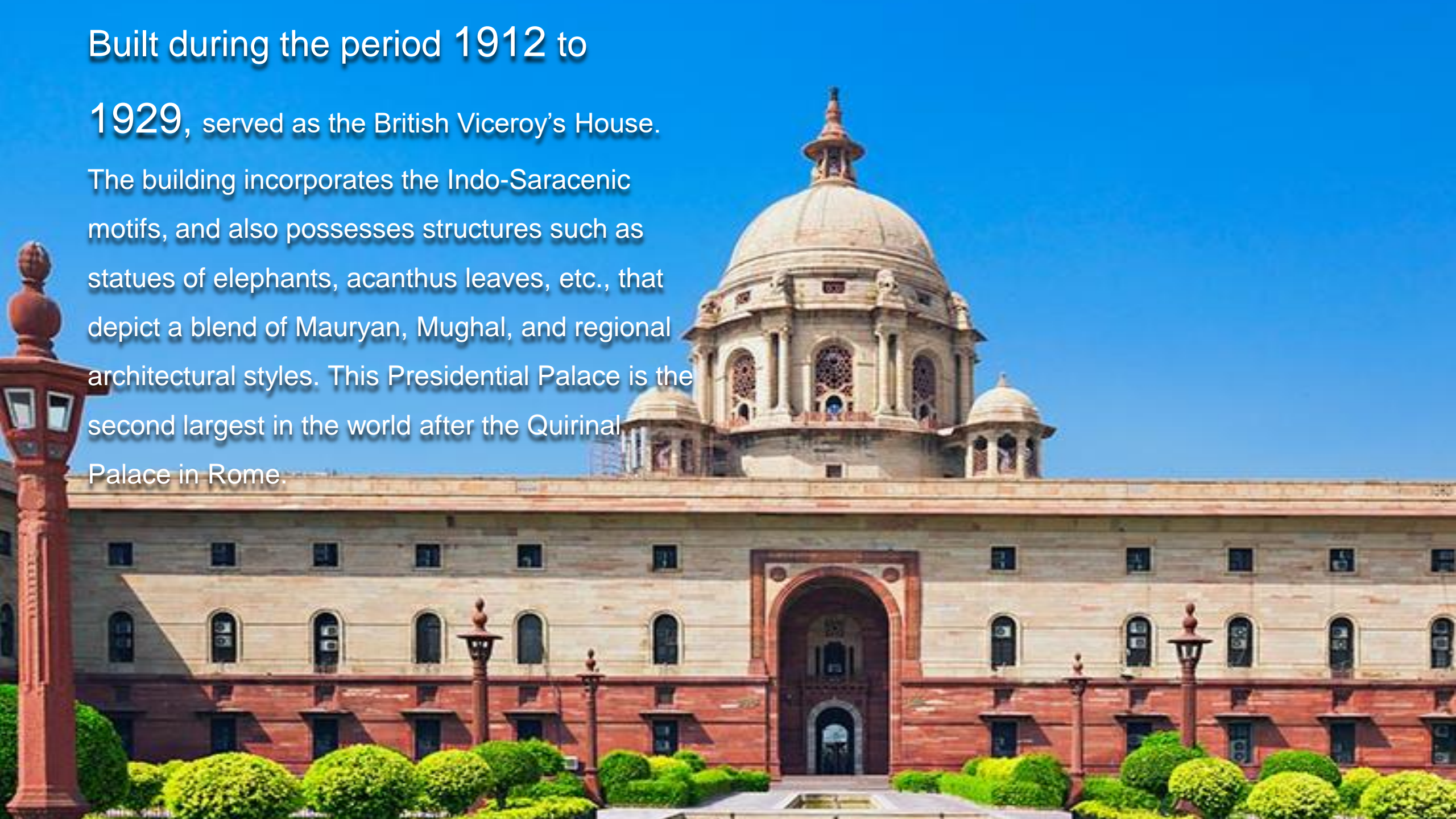
RASHTRAPATI

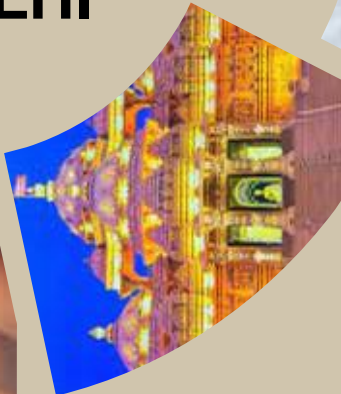
BHAVAN

Built during the period 1912 to

1929, served as the British Viceroy's House.

The building incorporates the Indo-Saracenic motifs, and also possesses structures such as statues of elephants, acanthus leaves, etc., that depict a blend of Mauryan, Mughal, and regional architectural styles. This Presidential Palace is the second largest in the world after the Quirinal Palace in Rome.



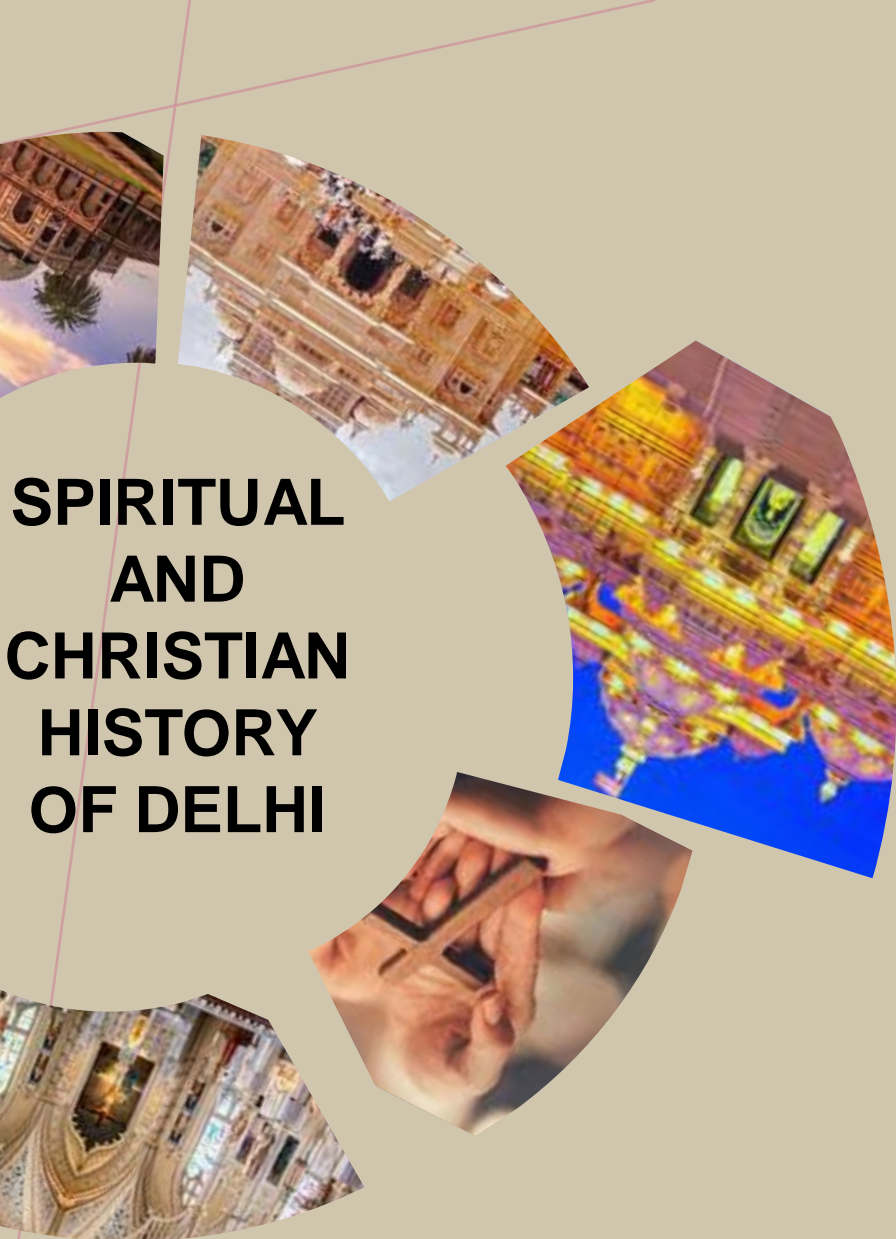


# SPIRITUAL AND CHRISTIAN HISTORY OF DELHI

# HINDUISM

refers to an increasing tradition of texts and practices, some of which date to the 2nd millennium BCE or possibly earlier. Hinduism is the oldest living religion on Earth. Its many sacred texts in Sanskrit served as a vehicle for spreading the religion to other parts of the world. From about the 4th century CE, Hinduism had a dominant presence in Southeast Asia, one that would last for more than 1,000 years.

In the early 21st century, Hinduism had nearly one billion followers worldwide and was the religion of about 80 percent of India's population.



**SPIRITUAL  
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CHRISTIAN  
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# **TEMPLES OF DELHI**

- 1. Swaminarayan Akshardham or Akshardham Temple.**
- 2. ISKCON Temple**
- 3. Chhatarpur Mandir**

AKSHARDHAM

TEMPLE



CHHATARPUR

MANDIR



The temple was established in 1974, by Baba Sant Nagpal ji, who died in 1998

One of the largest temples in Delhi. A blend of both South and North Indian temple architecture can be seen in the complex, and the architecture of the temple in itself is a major point of attraction.

There are 20 different shrines inside the complex dedicated to different deities.

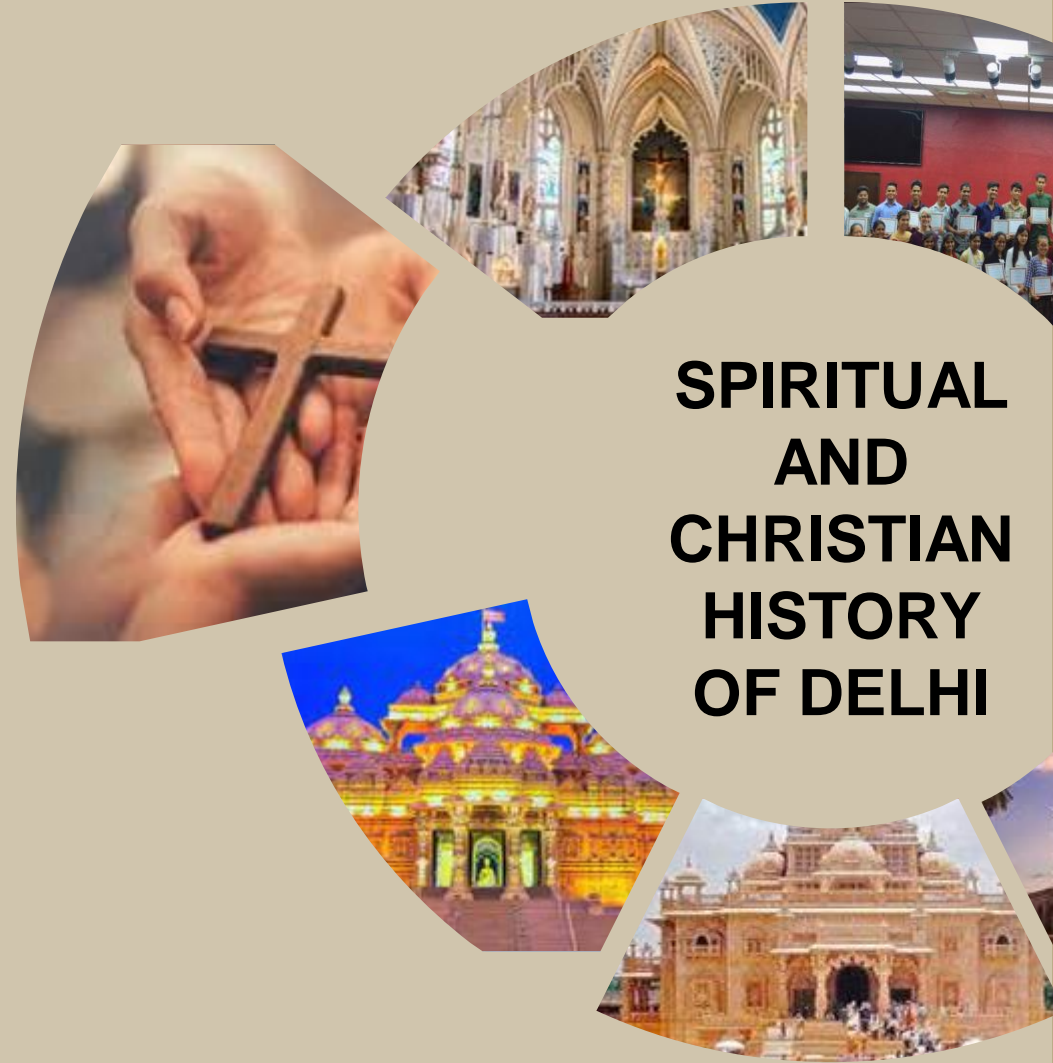
**SPIRITUAL  
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# CHRISTIANITY IN DELHI

Christianity in Delhi dates back to the Mughal emperor Akbar's era. Sir Thomas Roe, King James I's ambassador to India during Jahangir's reign. It tells the story that two princes converted to Christianity (including Jahangir's nephew). This ploy was unsuccessful. During the reign of Emperor Aurangzeb there was a decline in Christianity.

Christianity was introduced to Delhi for the second time by the British. British soldiers made numerous churches for their own worship. The Church of England sent many missionaries to India to propagate the gospel among people who were unaware of Christianity. Numerous people were converted to Christianity by their efforts.



**SPIRITUAL  
AND  
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# CHURCHES OF DELHI

1 SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL CHURCH

2 ST. JAMES

3 CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF REDEMPTION



SPIR  
A  
CHR  
HIS  
OF D

SACRED HEART

CATHEDRAL CHURCH



The Sacred Heart Cathedral New Delhi was only the second Catholic Church in Delhi. The gap between the constructions of St. Mary's Church Old Delhi and Sacred Heart Cathedral New Delhi was 70 years. Yet those were the years of evangelization and pastoral care by the great Capuchin missionaries

ST. JAMES

CATHEDRAL CHURCH



Formerly known as Skimmer's Church, St. James' Church is believed to be the oldest worshipping church in the National Capital Region. It was commissioned by Colonel James Skinner, after whom it has been named, and consecrated in the year 1836. Tucked away in the bustling Kashmiri Gate area, it is a part of the history of the region. This is the church that the Viceroy of India attended until 1931. Several other important people, including Queen Elizabeth II in 1961 and the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1995, have also paid a visit to the church.

CATHEDRAL CHURCH  
OF REDEMPTION

The Cathedral Church of the Redemption has a history that spans more than eight decades. The foundation stone of this building was laid down by the Governor General and Viceroy of India, Lord Irwin himself in the year 1927. After years of planning and fund generation, the church was officially opened for public in 1931. The interiors of the church, adorned with some gorgeous paintings, are just as fascinating as its history



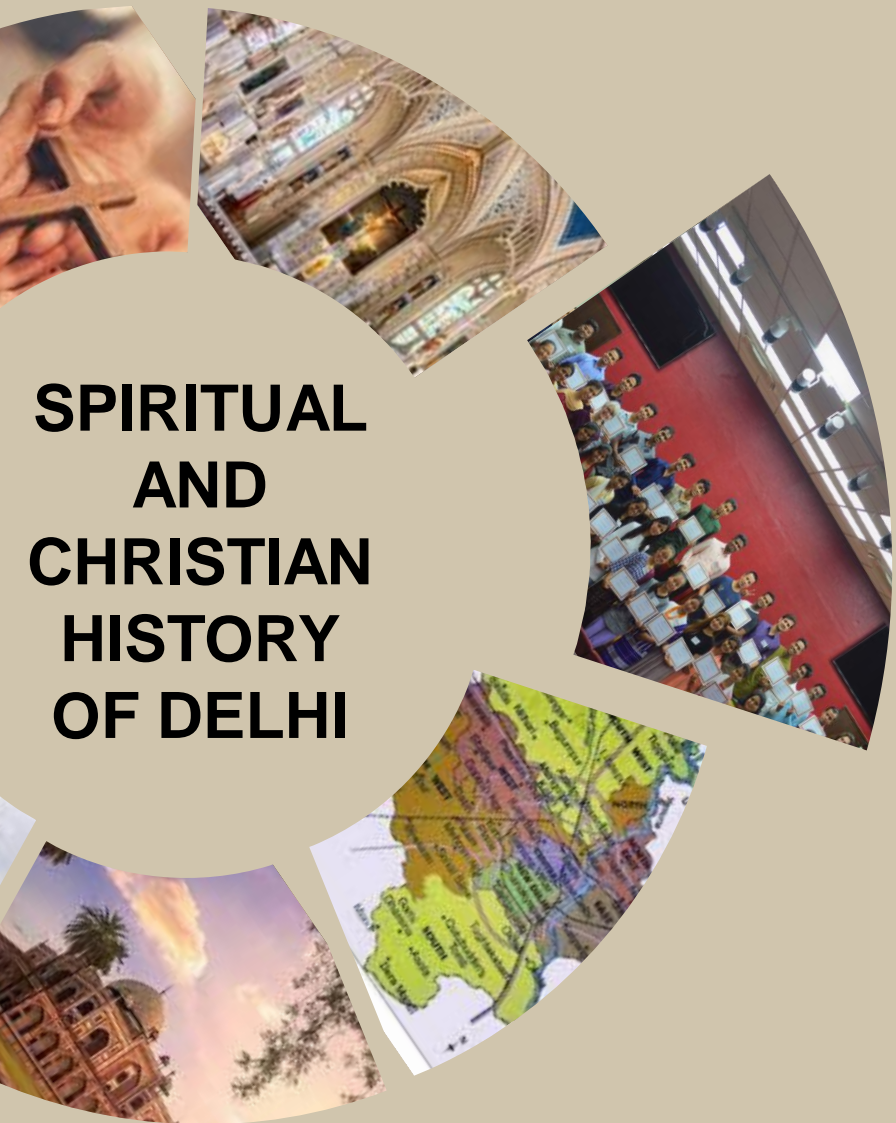
### 3. St. Thomas Church

About half a century ago, the then Archbishop of Delhi felt the need to establish a parish where the people of South Delhi could go to worship. Thus, St. Thomas Church was constructed in the year 1972, and it has been drawing hordes of the devout ever since. The design of the building is derived from the Mughal structures that dot entire Delhi.



**SPIRITUAL  
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# DELHI BIBLE INSTITUTE (DBI)

## The Beginning

In the year 1954, Delhi Bible Institute had its humble beginning in a rented shop in Jor Bagh Market by Mr. Robert Duff with a clear focus to promote the reading, studying and teaching of the Holy Bible.

## Mr. Robert Duff (founder of DBI)



Mr. Duff was a Missionary to North India, he learnt the Hindi language, he loved and gave himself to its people. Along with Mrs. Duff he founded Delhi Bible Institute in 1954. He planted Bethany Assembly later known as Bible Bhavan Christian Fellowship. He was also one of the founders of Masihi Sahitya Sanstha.

# DBI'S HISTORY

## The Beginning

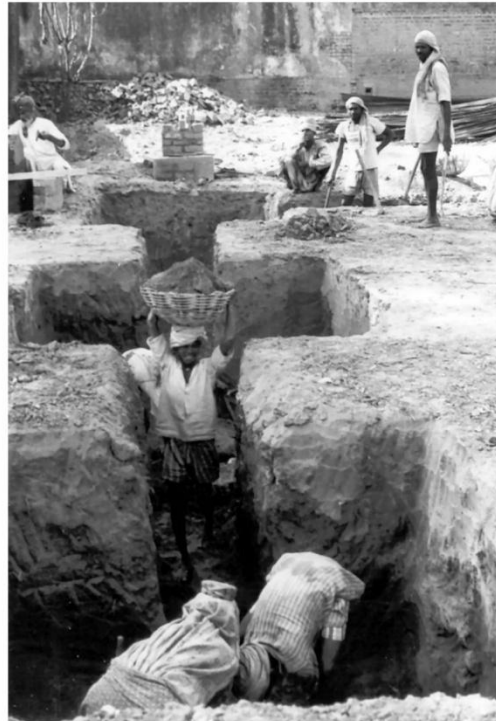
In the year 1954, Delhi Bible Institute had its humble beginning in a rented shop in Jor Bagh Market by Mr. Robert Duff with a clear focus to promote the reading, studying and teaching of the Holy Bible. Through generous donations, Bible Bhavan was built and dedicated to the service of God on 1 January 1966.



**The site identified**



**Cutting the first sod**



**Digging the foundation**



**Constructions begins**



**A home for Delhi Bible Institute**

## Spreading the Gospel

The population of India has trebled since the church started in 1954 . Millions are yet to hear about the message of forgiveness, peace and reconciliation. This need continually challenges us. With God's grace we now embark upon Vision 2045, with accomplishing of 12 new ashrams (centres) in the eleven state capitals of North India.



## Teaching the Word

- The focus of the work has been the local church. Through its service of Bible teaching and reaching others with the Word of God, it has endeavored to meet the needs of people, ranging from those with no knowledge of the Bible to those of believers requiring a deeper knowledge of the Word.



# *EQUIPPING LEADERS*

- Through our 1 week (RDT, Regional Development Training) and CE class,
- 1 month, 1 year (Expository Preaching Course) we train leaders to train others.
- Through the One-Year Expository Preaching Course we train students to preach the Word of God.
- Through the ESL Programme we teach them the basic English course.



# *PROVIDING THE RESOURCES*

- We as DBI provide resources such as
- Translation and publication of materials in the Hindi language for the ones who speak and read in Hindi, through this they can understand and strengthen their local church.
- Writing relevant new materials, we have written various books, 61 books, under DBI Publications.
- Bookshop ministry, through this ministry we make Bibles available and Gospel books available.
- Library facilities are also available for our students and staff.



• DBI, we are also on the path of processing a DBI

# LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS



- Through this ministry we Witness Events and Festivals such as:
  - ESBC (Exalt Summer Bible Camp), this is an event for the kids to know more about God and His Word, we also aim for the gospel to reach the non-believers.
- World Book Fair, through this we aim to share the gospel with others through the selling of various gospel books and the Bible and inviting them to our church to know more about Jesus.
  - Café@BB, we invite people for a special night of a musical event.
  - Global Christmas Cantata and Easter Concert.



# *HELPING THE POOR*

- Anokha Project Delhi, we provide proper education to the children living in slum areas.
- We also provide them with Education Resource Centres.
- Medical Camps, this is organized for our staff, students and everyone.
- Sowing Centres, through this we are training people for their own benefit and learning so that they can earn money to run their family.
- Computer Centres, through this we teach the students basic computer course as it is necessary for today's day and age.
- Homeless Under the Bridge, we provide tent, medicine, food for those who are living under the bridge.



*HELPING  
THE  
POOR  
(LANGAR)*



*HELPING  
THE  
POOR  
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*HELPING  
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*HELPING  
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(LANGAR)*



*HELPING  
THE POOR  
(LANGAR)*

# *SERVING THE CAPITAL CITY OF NORTH INDIA*

- DELHI BIBLE INSTITUTE (Bible Bhavan Christian Fellowship.)
- Every Sunday we gather to worship the Lord,
- Morning 8:00 AM for the Hindi Church Service,
- 10:00 PM for English Church at Khan market and Sonia Vihar,
- 12:00 PM for Nepali Church service.



# *PARTNERING AND NETWORKING*

- With like - minded Churches, Organisations and individuals in prayers, finances. Resources and personnel.