CHAPTER I

A GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL FRAME WORK OF ALIGARH CITY
Aligarh city is the head quarter of Aligarh district. It is located in the western part of the state of Uttar Pradesh, at a distance of about 126 km from Delhi and 80 kms from Agra. The district of Aligarh spreads from 27° 29' to 28°11' north latitudes and 77°29' to 78°38' east longitude (Fig.1). It lies in the central part of Ganga-Yamuna Doab (interfluves).

The District has been divided into 6 tehsils namely Koil, Sikandra Rao, Khair, Hathras, Atrauli and Iglas. The district according to 1981 census, has a population of 2,56,5,450 spreads over an area of 5,024 square kilometer. About 65 per cent of the total population is engaged in agricultural activity and about 77 per cent of the total population lives in rural areas. The rural population is 1,974,113 while the urban population is 591,337. According to 1991 census urban population is 329,5982. Population growth from 1981-1991 is 28.0 per cent.

Tehsils (administrative unit) are further subdivided into Jawan, Dhanipur, Lodha, Akrabad, Sikandra Rao, Hasayan, Khair, Chandaus, Tappal, Mursan, Sasni, Hathras, Atrauli, Gangeri, Bijauli, Iglas, Gonda, spread over 1,769 villages, the city of Aligarh lies almost in the centre of the district which is located in the Lodha block.
Table 1
Aligarh District: Decade wise population growth during 1901-1991

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1.1. PHYSICAL FEATURES

The topographic feature of Aligarh district are similar to those found in other parts of the Ganga - Yamuna Doab (interfluvies). Physiographically, the district contains vast alluvial plains, having a gentle slope from north to south and south-east, and is drained by the rivers Ganga in the north -east and Yamuna in the north-west. Figure (2) has been prepared for the understanding of the topography of Aligarh district.

From the low khadar (new alluvium) of the Ganga river in the east, the level of the district rises sharply to the high uplands which crown the old flood bank of the river Ganga and then descends in lands to a
ALIGARH DISTRICT
TOPOGRAPHY

ALIGARH CITY

SOURCE: AGREWAL, R.R. & MEHROTRA, C.L. 1951, SOIL SURVEY AND SOIL WORK IN U.P., VOL I, ALLAHABAD

FIG. 2
depression, drained by the Nim and chhohya nadi (rivulet). Beyond which, it rises again to the bank of the kali nadi, is another sandy to silty belt rising from the low and narrow khadar belt of that stream. Adjoining it, is a fertile belt of broad central depression. The city of Aligarh is located in this depression.

Through the centre of the district a broad of low-lying land runs from north-west. This broad low-lying belt is in fact the continuation of the belt which begins from the district of Meerut, passing through the Ghaziabad and Bulandshahr district, enters Aligarh district from Koil Tashsil in the north. The depression is narrow in the north and gets wider towards the south and it eventually passes into the adjoining district of Etah. It is believed to be a part of a very extensive low-lying tract which runs through the centre of the doab parallel to the river Ganga and Yamuna. This tract is characterised by imperfect drainage and numerous Jhils (lakes) in which the surface water collects.

Beyond this depression, the surface rises again into a level plain known as water uplands. In the north west, the general characteristics of the doab are maintained, loam alternating with clay in the depressions and with drainage channels, till finally comes the high cliff of Yamuna. From here, the level
drops to the khadar of Yamuna. In the south west of the district, sandy tracts with practically no depressions are found.

Topographically, the district represents a shallow trough (sauce-pan shape) like appearance (Fig.2). On the basis of topography the district could be divided into three divisions:

1. The khadar plain found mainly along the river Ganga in the east and along the river Yamuna in the west.
2. The eastern and western uplands.
3. The central low-lying tract.

The city of Aligarh is located almost in the centre of this centred low-lying tract.

1.2. DRAINAGE

Aligarh district is well served by numerous rivers and drainage lines. There are two types of rivers here:

1. Those rivers which have their source in snow covered Himalayas and are perennial like the river, Ganga and Yamuna.
2. Those rivers which are seasonal and reduce to insignificant water resources in dry season. Ganga, Yamuna, Kali, Sengar, Karon, Rind and Neam are the important seasonal streams of Aligarh district, as in (Fig.3).

The Ganga, having its source in the snowy caps of Himalayas, enters the great plain at Hardwar. From
ALIGARH DISTRICT
DRAINAGE

SOURCE:
SOI SHEET NO 53H, 53L, 54H, 54I,

Kilometres

FIG. 3
where, it flows south wards upto Bulandshahr then it enters Aligarh eastern boundary of the district.

The Yamuna is one of the most important tributaries of the Ganga. It’s source lies very close to that of Ganga in the Himalayas and it enters the plain at Dehradun from where following a southward direction it moves along the north western border of Aligarh and then it again moves towards south into the Mathura and Agra districts. In Aligarh Yamuna flows from north to south with a minor loop.

Kali nadi rises in Muzaffarnagar district and moving south wards through the districts of Meerut, Ghaziabad, and Bulandshahr, it enters Aligarh, Kali is a perennial stream and runs through a narrow valley marked by high banks. Neem Nadi is a small stream coming from the north and joins the Kali nadi on its left bank. It is seldom dry in hot season and is in undated during the rainy seasons. The bed of this river has been deepened to improve the drainage and its water is used for irrigation purposes. Sengar nadi is the tributary of Yamuna and rises from the central depression of Aligarh district. Originally, it rose from the great Adhawan jhils of central depression. It flow southwards through the south-east corner of the Koil tehsil (administrative unit), then moving west of village Akrabad in Sikandra Rao Tashsil.
The broad low-lying tract of Aligarh district is dotted by Jhils but these are not permanent features. The Jhils increase in number and extend from the northern boarder of the district to southwards. The chief Jhils of Koil tehsil are Sikrsikaran, Ikri, and Adhawan. In Akrabad block, the largest Jhils are at Ladhua, Sihauli and Gopi. Another group of Jhils in of Hasayan block, comprising the broad jhils of Hasayan, Bakayan, Nagla, Sheikha and Jao. The Atrauli tehsil does not have any prominent Jhil except for the several shallow Jhils found in the depression to the south-east of the Atrauli town. There are no jhils in Iglas and very few in Hathras, while the Khair tehsil is similar devoid of Jhils except in the north-eastern corner, which is the part of the central depression and have large lakes of Agar and Morehna.

1.3. CLIMATE

The district experiences tropical monsoon type of climate characterised by distinct seasonal rhythm. Summer start around April and continue till June with mean maximum and minimum temperature ranging from 37°C to 10°C respectively occasionally shooting up to 46°C. The year is generally divided into four following season:

- Cold weather season (December to February)
- Hot weather season (March to Mid-June)
Season of general rains (Mid-June to September)
Season of retreating monsoon (October and November)

1.3.1. The Cold Weather Season

By the end of November the southwest monsoon completely ceases and the district comes under the influence of the high pressure belt which develops over north India owing to low temperatures. In this season relatively low pressure exists over the Indian ocean thus causing the winds to blow from the plains towards the sea. The beginning of cold weather is marked by a considerable fall in temperature. The mean monthly temperature shows a further fall in January when the average is 15°C. The diurnal range of temperature during the winter month is high making the nights cold while the days are relatively warm.

The prevailing direction of winds during the season is from west and northwest to east and southeast. This is determined partly by pressure distribution and partly by the trend of the Himalayan relief. The winds during the season are very light and generally blow at the average speed of three kilometer per hour. These winds are of continental origin and are mostly dry. Except for the small amount brought by cold weather storms the season is largely rainless. The sky for the most part remain cloudless and the cloud-cover largely exceeds two-tenth. Thus the cold weather with its clear
skies, low temperatures and bright sunny weather is fine and pleasant. An exception to the prevailing fine weather is the occurrence of winter rain brought about by the cold weather storms. The amount of rainfall caused by these disturbances is small, irregular and sporadic. The total rainfall during December, January and February is only 1.40 inches. The weather during the cold season is pleasant but it does not last long. Although in February there is little change in weather except for an increase in temperature yet by the end of this month, with the northward movement of the sun, temperature rapidly rises and the hot weather season begins.

1.3.2. The Hot Weather Season

This season begins in March and continues till mid-June. Its beginning is marked by an appreciable rise in temperature and decrease in pressure. The mean maximum and minimum temperature in March are 24°C and 32°C respectively. The temperature continues to rise in April when the respective maximum and minimum for the month are 31°C and 38°C. The months of May and June record exceptionally high temperatures. The days are characterised by intense heat and dry air, the humidity being as low as 24 per cent.

In the summer months hot dry winds of great velocity are a regular phenomena. The velocity of these winds begins to increase steadily from March when the
average wind speed is about 4.75 km per hour. The monthly average, however, do not give a correct idea of variations during the 24 hours. For instance, the wind is usually calm during the night hours but from 8.00 am to 1 or 2.00 p.m. It increases rapidly and during the next two or three hours it blows almost with the force of gale, after which it falls off again very rapidly until 6.00 p.m. when it is light and nearly calm. These winds are locally known as loo. They become extremely dry and hot and blow with increasing force till the approach of rains. The humidity is lowest, occasionally falling to 2 or 3 per cent in the afternoon. There is generally no rain during the summer months exceeds for the small amount accompanied by thunder storms.

1.3.3. The Season of General Rains

The season of general rains on account of the excessive heat of the summer months low pressure area develops in northwestern India and by the middle of June it brings a complete reversal in the air movement. With the arrival of humid oceanic currents temperature falls and air becomes cool and pleasing. The mean monthly temperature falls from 47°C in June, the relative humidity increases from 27 per cent in May to 74 per cent in July. The time of the onset and retreat of the monsoon varies from year to year (Fig.4) The rains generally set in by the middle of June and continue till
FIG. 4

ALIGARH DISTRICT
ISOHYETS
the end of September or early October from viewpoint of agriculture this is most important season of the year as it receives nearly 90 per cent of the total annual rainfall. The soils of Aligarh district are much the same in composition and appearance as those of the doab. Due to the saucepan shape of the district with the rivers Ganga and Yamuna flowing on the high land peripheries and a central low-lying tract, the alluvium brought by the river Yamuna spreads over about one-fourth of the total area of the district. Thus, soils of Aligarh are mainly made up by the alluvium brought by these two rivers.

The alluvial soils of Aligarh district has been divided into two broad geological divisions the older alluvium (Bhangar) and the newer alluvium (Khadar). The older alluvium occupies the level plains above the general flood limits of the main rivers and their tributaries whereas the newer alluvium occupies the flood plains of the rivers and their tributaries as a result of which the constituents of such lands are renewed every year. The alluvium chiefly consists of various grades of sand, silt and clay. A characteristic of the clayey part of the alluvium plains is the abundant dissemination of impure calcareous matter in
the form of irregular concentration-kankar. The soils differ greatly in texture and consistency ranging the sands through loams and silts to heavy clays that are ill-drained and are sometimes charged with injurious accumulations of sodium salts producing a sterile deflocculated conditions called usar.

The Atlas of Agricultural Resources of India, edited by Dasgupta, S.P., (1980) in (Fig.5) shows that there are four types of soils found in Aligarh district.

1.4.1. Younger Alluvial Soils

These soils occupy narrow belts in the eastern corner along the courses of Ganga and in the western corner along the course of Yamuna. These tracts receive every year new deposits of silt and sands due to floods in the rivers Ganga and Yamuna. The colour of these soils varies from light grey to ash grey and dark grey. The texture of these soils is sandy to silty loam. The water table is usually higher near the surface. The drainage is imperfect, restricted and poor.

1.4.2. Calcareous Alluvial Soils

These soils are found in Iglas tehsil, Mursan block of Hathras tehsil and Gangeri blocks Atrauli tehsil. They occupy mainly the Gonda block. The colour of these soils varies from brown to radish brown. The texture of these soils varies from sandy to sandy loam and small sandy. For agricultural purposes, they are not
good soils due to poor inorganic matter, sandy nature and presence of soluble salts.

1.4.3 Saline and Alkaline soils

It is found that mainly due to imperfect drainage, the district contains vast areas of such soils which are either saline and Alkaline. Unfortunately arid climate, poor drainage and high ground water table together account for soil salinization and subsequent alkalinization. These soils are widely distributed in the Tehsils of Sikandrarao and Koil and in some parts of Khair, Hathras and Iglas Tehsils. The texture of these soils varies from loam to clayey loam, while the colour varies from grey to dark grey. Aligarh city lies in this region.

1.4.4. Older Alluvium

The soil type covers most of the area of the district. The soil texture varies from good quality loam to sandy loam. Its colour varies from light to deep brown. This soil is very fertile, some of the highest yields in the district comes from the soil region.

1.5. HISTORY OF THE CITY

Aligarh takes its name from the prophet Mohammad’s cousin and son in law, ‘Ali’ since Afrasiyab Khan and his master, Mirza Najaf Khan, were Shia, they gave the fort name ‘Aligarh’. It is generally spelt Aligarh, but the British authorities have sometimes spelt it as
'Allygurh'. During the maratha occupation of the fort, its name remained unchanged. After the British annexation the entire territory of united provinces was reconstituted and in 1804 for the first time Aligarh as a district was formed. In the mutiny records of 1857, we frequently get the city referred to as Koil.

The early history of the Aligarh, indeed, down to the A.D., is surrounded in obscurity. There are many number of local traditions. The district is said to have belonged to the pandavas, who after the destruction of Hastinapur, 5000 years ago, shifted their capital to Ahar in Bulandshahar district. An area whose history and continuity of settlements such as that of Aligarh, spans over three thousand years and can be reasonably expected to have been the scene where transformation of some village into urban centres would have taken place.

From 1194 till 1526 Koil region was ruled by Turk or Afghan kings of Delhi through their governors. Slave dynasty's hegemony over this area spanned from 1194 to 1290, that of Khilji's from 1290 to 1320, of Tughlaq's from 1320 to 1414 and of Lodhi's from 1451 to 1526. During this period Koil continued to be an important place and figured again and again in contemporary narratives of late 12th to early 16th century. Throughout the early medieval period Koīl appears as an important city. The term Khitta was used for Koīl, a term
which is commonly used for a large city or metropolis.\(^5\)

An inscription of Mohammad bin Tughlaq mentioned Kol as holding an important place among cities of northern India.\(^6\) The size of the main mosque, Jama Masjid, also reflects the large and metropolitan dimensions that the city might have attained. The second quarter of the 16th century marks the establishment of Mughal empire which continued an important place throughout the Mughal period and almost all Mughal kings visited it.

During Akbar's time Kol was the capital of an administrative sarkar. Indigo cultivation had reached a high level of production which made Kol an important commercial centre. Indigo was exported to Armenia, Samarqand and Kashghar.

The district during Akbar's successors, Jahangir and Shahjahan retained the characteristics of Akbar's period. Towards the beginning of the 18th century, after the death of Aurangzeb, Mughal power started dwindling in Aligarh districts and Jats started emerging as a powerful zamindar caste of peasants. The Jats of Aligarh trace their arrival in the area in about 1646 when their ancestors Bikram Thakur drove out Janghara Rajputs and Kalaras who inhabited the tract.\(^7\)

In the earlier half of the eighteenth century, Sabit Khan was appointed Governor of Kol by Muhammad Shah. Sabit Khan took great interest in the construction of
buildings in Aligarh. He constructed a fort known as Sabitgarh (1717), the present Aligarh fort, and repaired the old fort of Kol, reconstructed the Jama Masjid (through an underground channel near the Nandan cinema). During 17th and 18th centuries Kol was a very important centre of learning and education. There were scholars specialising in different branches of learning and students from other places came to Kol.

In 1760 Ahmadshah Abdali captured Ramgarh Fort. During his tenure, as a result of his oppressive rule, the town of Kol was ruined. In 1775 Najaf Khan, a mughal commander, established his rule in the District and sent his lieutenant, Afrasiyab who laid a siege of Ramagarh Fort and got it vacated after a few months, for a few thousand rupees. He renamed it as Aligarh.

On 4th September in 1803 British Army attacked Aligarh Fort. After British occupation in 1804 the present district of Aligarh was formed and was divided into six tehsils namely Koil, Atrauli, Sikandra Rao, Iglas and Hathras. Agriculture was the mainstay. Culturable area was as high as 88 per cent and in some tehsils as much as 96 per cent.

Population of the district during the second half of the 19th century grew way wardly from about seven and a half lakhs in 1847 to about twelve lakhs in 1901 and the density fluctuated from 186 to 241 persons per square
kilometers. The district during the 19th century was dotted with 1,799 settlements - towns and villages, (in 1865), of which eight exceeds 5,000 population. By the beginning of the 29th century there were 1,776 towns and villages of which seven were large enough to cross the 5,000 mark.9

Industry had appeared as a recognized activity though a bit trifling in first quarter of the 19th century. Pottery was introduced by Henderson in 1823 and he also made improvements in the manufacture of cotton, Indigo, and fine gun powder. There were numerous indigo factories in the district but none in the town.10 By the beginning of the 20th century industrial activity had firmly established and had diversified. The most important industry is that of cotton. Thirty four cotton factories run by steam employing about 3,000 workers and large amount of hand ginning throughout the district. Hand weaving not only with stood the competition from factory made cloth but flourished. Fabric woven in various colours and a good deal of calico printing distinguished the district. Aligarh was also a celebrated place for its cotton rugs and carpets and some 300 looms were at work. There were other industries also by the beginning of the 20th century. Crude glass, glass bangles, blow glass phials and bottles were made in various parts of the district. There were European
style factories also a steam flour mill at Hathras, a lime factory, also at Hathras, and a saltpetre refinery at Sikandra Rao. Wood carving of a good standard at Barla and stone carving at Aligarh and Hathras deserve mention. Ordinary pottery was also made. By 1907 brass and iron lock industry was firmly established and there were twenty seven locks works in Aligarh, Hathras, Iglas and other places. High quality locks were exported throughout India.11

Atkinson noted nearly hundred Imambaras (place of Shia rituals) all over the town and many Hindu temples including Achaleshwar in the Southern portion of the town, bordering Achal tank which was supplied with water from Ganga canal. A large masonry tank, constructed by Jadu Rai Kayasth, sometime in later half of seventeenth century, along the Delhi Road which was in ruins was also noted by Atkinson.

British developed the city in the north, between old Koil town and the Aligarh Fort and designated it as civil lines. It was here that Railway station, Judge’s court, clock tower, collectorate, post office, government press, government school, Jail and a church were built. Private and government houses of the administrative elite were also situated in civil lines. Building of Aligarh Institute and Scientific Society founded by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, founder of Aligarh
Muslim University was also situated in civil lines, in the area which now houses the Tibbiya College pharmacy. In Rasalganj, which was not in civil lines but was well outside the Koil town, the British had constructed two hospitals.

1.6. MORPHOLOGY OF THE CITY

Starting from its medieval history it was a walled city with gates opening towards Delhi, Agra and Badaun etc. Numerous sarais (inns) which were lying outside the limits of the city, along the roads leading to the city, have become full-fledged mohallas (neighbourhood) by now. These mohallas have now been drawn into the city matrix. Mohallas with prefix sarai like sarai Hakeem, sarai, Qazi, Sarai Mansingh and Sarai Virandaban are all well known sarais.

As shown in fig.6, with the development of Railway line in the later part of the nineteenth century, dividing the city into a western and eastern half, made the segregation of this area are more pronounced. This segregation however was overwhelmed by the post independence development of the city.

The morphology of Aligarh city mainly consists of four areas.

1.6.1. Upper Kot (Balai Qila)

This area historically and textually represents the core and centre of the city. The antiquity of
sequential occupation, contained within this walled area has produced very high level of congestion and a very high population density. Most of the buildings in this area are two storey high. Larger (Havelis) were compartmentalised by succeeding generation adding to residential congestion. The congested and over crowded houses and areas, within the framework of narrow circuitous lanes, by lanes and blind alleys, speak of age and the territorial constraints.

Upper Kot area is largely inhabited by Muslim working class and middle class people. Some of the families trace their history to medieval period and represent the social elite of the area. Household industries and trade has improved the well-being of a section of the people, but of the otherhand it pollute the health behaviour of every section of the people.

1.6.2. Achal Tal Area

Achal Tal area is east of the pre-christian and medieval zone is the ancient area dating back to the tenth century. Evidence of full fledged settlements are lacking but the presence of a large tank can not be conceived otherwise. This is a site inhabited predominantly by Hindus. In later periods development of this area took place between Manik Chowk and the Madar Gate.
1.6.3. Civil Lines Area

This area or British zone is characterised by almost complete segregation for the first, line zone. It remoteness in earlier areas of ancient and medieval settlement speaks of the British intension of keeping a distance from the commoners and from the people to be governed.

This zone, developed after the British hegemony over the city, was established in the early nineteenth century. The principle lines of development were the Marris Road, University Road, Anupshahar Road and the Russellganj, now Rasalganj. All the afore said road have been a north south trend and seen to have been oriented with reference to the Railway Station, Clocktower, Press, Church, Collectorate bear the imprints of the British period. This area is sparsely built. Large spacious houses with lawns infronts and kitchen gardens in the backyard, presents a refreshing contrast the congested and dillapitated areas of old city.

1.6.4. Peripheral Ring

These areas are the most recently developed area. They do not make a well demarcated zone but appear in the form of small clusters which have been developed in the post independence period. Most of them are residential but some are industrial. These areas are well laid out rectangular patterns. Many of these areas,
were till recent past villages. Well outside the city limits and its infrastructure but then the sprawling city swapped their lands and occupations. Villages like Kishanpur, Dodhpur, Begpur, Jamalpur, Bhamola and Nagla Baraula witnessed in mute silence their transformation. New residential and industrial colonies have developed, in many of them, in post independence period like the industrial colony, tube well colony, loco-colony, medical colony, Begpur, Kelanagar, Dodhpur and Janakpuri. These colonies have been developed on the northern circumference of the city, on the southern, Jawalapuri, Mahendra Nagar, Sahebsingh nagar and Nagla Masani colonies have been developed.

The interaction between various social and economic factors, precipitating through history, has created the present functional pattern of the city. The weight of history has kept the city at a lower level of functional specialisation and account for mixed land uses and for unlike activities being carried at one and the same place. On the otherhand, the thrust of social and economic forces have pushed the process of functional segregation a step further.

There are no compact zone, there are areas with dominance of one or the other function. Among such dominance areas are the educational, commercial, industrial, administrative and residential.
1.7. RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURE OF THE CITY

Aligarh city is quite old city i.e. one of the oldest city of India. Due to this characteristic it has varying type of residential structure. In olden days it was known as sarai town, so named mohallas as sarai Rehman, Sarai Ansari, Sarai Hakeem, Sarai Nawab, Sarai Kababeg, Sarai Mian, Sarai Khan, and Sarai Qazi. These Mohallas are dominated by the Muslims. Around 80 per cent are Muslims, 15 per cent Hindus and 5 per cent are others. The houses of these mohallas are very old and made up of red bricks. Windows and doors are made up of wood. These houses have one main gate, quite large in size, this is the main entrance. The size of the rooms, in these houses are mostly 20x25 feet. These houses have separate kitchen and bathrooms. But the condition of these houses in every Mohalla is very delicate. In these type of houses people said that they enjoyed living in this house during summers but in winters it is vice-versa. Some Mohallas like sarai Rehman and sarai Hakeem have developed new houses because sarai Rehman which is situated in the outskirt of the city on the G.T. Road i.e. way to Delhi.

The houses of these Mohallas are multi-storeyed type mostly they have three floors. By now the people
living in these houses have started repairing because without this it is not possible to live in these houses as they have responded during my survey. The houses are

**Distribution of Mohallas in wards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wards</th>
<th>Mohallas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1     | 1. Chavni  
      | 2. Naurangabad |
| 2     | 1. Javalapuri vasel Nagar  
      | 2. Nagla Mandir, Jawahar Tikona  
      | 3. Nagla Tad  
      | 4. Sikandra Rao |
| 3     | 1. Ghanshyampuri  
      | 2. Baikuthnagar  
      | 3. Vishnupuri, with Railway Road  
      | 4. Vishnupuri, Gandhi Eye Hospital |
| 4     | 1. Begum Bagh  
      | 2. Surendra Nagar |
| 5     | 1. Sudamapuri  
      | 2. Chandaniya  
      | 3. Niranjanpuri  
      | 4. Kishanpur |
| 6     | 1. Pandariba, Madpura, Ramghat Road, Railway Colony  
      | 2. Shayam Nagar  
      | 1. Lal Diggi  
      | 2. Girls College  
      | 3. Nagla Jahar  
      | 4. Press Colony Samad Road |
| 8     | 1. Marris Road  
      | 2. Begpur |
9 1. Dodhpur, Kaila Nagar  
   with Kirshi Farm  
2. Zohra Bagh  
3. Nagla Mallah  
4. Jeevangarh

10 1. Dodhpur, Nagla Dodhpur  
2. University with Medical College

11 1. Anupshahr Road, Qila Road  
2. Badar Bagh, Police Line, Jail Road

12 1. Jamalpur  
2. Bhamola Mafi

13 1. Kacheri Road  
2. Nai Basti  
3. Jail Road, Phular Road, Kishorepur, Avasvikas

14 1. Shivepuri  
2. Raghuvirpur  
3. Masoodabad (City High School)

15 1. Rasoolpur and Nagla Chooharpur  
2. Bima Nagar, Nagla Anda, Barola  
3. Tube Well Colony, Banna Devi

16 1. Gulariyai, Zamirabad, Banna Devi  
2. Sarai Lavariya, Udai Singh, Jain Road

17 1. Kothi Lekhraj, Mool Chand, Daramshala, Maloon Chand  
2. Sarai Rehman

18 1. Rasalganj, Chattari Compound, Danpur Compound

19 1. Sarai Ansari, Sarai Hakeem, Barah Duwari, Kuriyana  
2. Sarai Nawab, Yusuf Ganj

20 1. Nagla Masani  
2. Rorawar  
3. Gular Road, Delhi Darwaza  
4. Nagla Mehtab, Hiragarh
21 1. Delhi Darwaza
   2. Delhi Gate

22 1. Sarai Kab Beg
   2. Sarai Miyan

23 1. Turakman Gate
   2. Usman Para

24 1. Baniyapara
   2. Kanwariganj
   3. Aatish Bazan Gali
   4. Tan Tan Para

25 1. Phaphala, Pidruganj
   2. Mamoon Bhanja

26 1. Talab Sabir Khan, Aligarh Darwaza
   2. Katra, Modi Khana, Mahavirganj

27 1. Sheikhan, Chowk Bundu Khan
   2. Balai Qila
   3. Teela

28 1. Peer Ataullah
   2. Purani Kachehri
   3. Syed Bada, Sabzi Mandi

29 1. Sarai Kutub Darwaza
   2. Babri Mandi, Ghas ki Mandi

30 1. Khaidora, Sarai Gwali
   2. Afghan, Kala Mahal

31 1. Chouri Ladiya
   2. Sarai Bhatt Bhishambur Nagar
   3. Jaiganj

32 1. Sarai Virandavan
   2. Sarai Gharhi

33 1. Ganesh Kooncha
   2. Sarai Qazi

34 1. Sarai Bhusiya, Sarai Miyan
   2. Sarai Mij, Durgapuri
   3. Sarai Man Singh, Sarai Shivani
mostly by the occupants i.e. the people are living permanently and have no reason for shifting, some families are living as tenants.

In rest of the sarai Mohallas we found that these Mohallas are dominated by Hindus. This can be observed by the very name of Mohallas which are sarai Bhatt, Sarai Virandavan, Sarai Garhi, Sarai Bhusiya, Sarai Mij, Sarai Man Singh, is the best Mohallas with respect to residential purpose. In this mohalla the houses have been transformed to new houses. These Mohallas are situated on the outskirt of the city i.e. on Agra Road facing eastward. Rest of the Mohallas are nearly same as in the case of Muslim dominated one. One very peculiar feature of these Mohallas are that they are mostly
situated on the main highway or on main Road which connect the Aligarh city with other cities.

In Mohallas the residential structure is varying to a great extent, because these Mohallas are having mixed population. In the heart of the city the residential structure is not very good because the number of persons per house is more as compared to other wards and Mohallas. The houses are mostly old and a very heavy traffic during day time is observed. These Mohallas are Mamu Bhanja, Pidriganj, Balai Qila, Old Kacheri, Railway Road and Bara Dwari etc.

The Mohallas which are on the west of Delhi Railway line is not good for living except a few wards because most of the small scale and large scale industries are situated on this side. Very few areas like Avas Vikas Colony, Raghuvirpuri, Shivepuri and Tube Well Colony are good for residential purposes. The houses of these Mohallas are new, maximum are flats, dwell by only one family. Their family size is small and these are Hindu dominated wards having high income. Their houses have proper ventilation system. They own car, motorcycle and luxury appliances. They are mostly businessman and service man.

On the otherhand when the writer see the wards and Mohallas on the east of Delhi-Kanpur Railway line, the picture is just reverse to the previous one. These are mostly civil lines Mohallas Aligarh Muslim University areas. The Mohallas like Sir Syed Nagar, Zohra Bagh,
Dodhpur, Friends Colony, Badar Bagh, and Medical Colony are the Muslim dominated Mohallas with varying income group. In these the houses are made up of bricks and concrete. These houses are well planned houses, mostly the occupants are land lords, some have tenants. In these localities mostly university employees are residing, they have every type of household appliances, separate kitchen, drawing rooms and dining room.

Taking the Hindu dominated area or Mohallas of civil lines we have Marris Road, Durgapuri, Janakpuri, Vishnupuri, Surender Nagar, Gayan Sarowar, Man Sarowar, Ramghat Road, Lal Diggi, Girls College and Press Colony. These Mohallas are better in terms of housing condition. These houses are quite large having more then six rooms per house and their family size is also very small as compared to Muslims. They have lawns in their houses and also backyards. Houses are mostly new and planned Houses.

1.8. OCCUPATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE CITY

Aligarh city is multi-occupational in nature ranging from unemployed to employed in good jobs. Majority of the people are engaged in Business, ranging small scale shops to a large scale shops. Then comes the clerical grade jobs, and mechanics. In the old walled city of Aligarh people are engaged mostly in small scale industries like manufacturing of locks i.e. parts of locks, making pins, iron and silver melting is generally performed in the Mohallas of Aatish Bazan Gali, Peer
Ataullah, Talab Sabir Khan, Usman Para, and Turkman Gate. Some acid processing and Baking factory is also found in the Kanwari Ganj, people of these Mohallas suffer a lot of diseases due to their work they are engaged in. In other Muslim dominating Mohallas people are engaged in small cloth store or general store and others are engaged in mechanical work or as labour. In the Mohallas of Delhi Darwaza, Delhi Gate, Usman Para and Turkman Gate about 15 to 20 per cent youth and children, they do not do anything because they do not get any job even as a labour and they do not have enough money to study.

Persons living in civil lines or some other Mohallas have a good occupational system. They are mostly engaged in class one jobs as a Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers and Teachers. Ladies of their families are also working on top posts of various government services. Their children also studying in various professional courses.

Aligarh city is a bit famous for its industrial character too. The industries which are dominating are lock, paper and Dabur Janam Ghooti which is very famous all over India. These industries attract a large number of skilled and unskilled labours.
References


5. Ibid., p.56.


7. Crooke, W. Tribes and Castes of North western provinces and Awadh.

8. Siddiqi, Aligarh: Snippets from past, p.11.

