Chapter-5
A Profile of study Area

**Pune** is the ninth largest metropolis in India and the second largest in the state of Maharashtra, situated at 560 metres (1,837 feet) above sea level on the Deccan plateau, on the right bank of the Mutha river. Pune city is the administrative headquarter of Pune district and was once the centre of power of the Maratha Empire.

Pune is known to have subsisted as a town since 847 AD. It was the first capital of Shivaji. In 18th century, Pune became the political focus of Indian subcontinent, as the seat of Peshwas, the prime ministers of Maratha Empire.

Pune is called the cultural capital of Maharashtra. Since the 1950-60s, Pune has had conventional old-economy industries which remain to grow. The city is known as a hub for educational institutes and information technology that attract migrants and students from other places.

### 5.1 History

**a) Early & Medieval**

Copper plates dated 858 AD and 868 AD show that by the 8th century an agricultural settlement known as Punnaka existed where Pune is today. The plates indicate that this region was ruled by the Rashtrakuta dynasty. The Pataleshwar rock-cut temple complex was built during this era.

Pune was part of the Seuna Yadavas of Devagiri from the 9th century to 1327. In 1595, Maloji Raje Bhosale was appointed the jagirdar of Pune by the Mughal Empire. It was ruled by the Ahmadnagar Sultanate until being added by the Mughals in the 17th century.

**b) Maratha rule**

In 1626, Rango Bapuji Dhadphale was appointed as the administrator of Pune by Shahaji Raje Bhosale. He was one of the first major developers of the town, overseeing construction of some markets and residential areas like the Kasba Peth, Somwar Peth, Raviwar Peth and Shaniwar Peth. After the destruction of the town in raids by the Adil Shahi dynasty in 1630 and
again from 1636 to 1647, Dadoji Konddev, a military and administrative officer of Shahaji, oversaw redevelopment and construction of the area. He stabilized the revenue system of Pune and the neighbourhoods of Maval to the west of town. In addition, he developed effective system to control disputes and enforce law and order. Construction began on the Lal Mahal palace, as Shahaji's son Shivaji was to move there with his mother Jijabai. The Lal Mahal was completed in 1640. Jijabai is said to have commissioned the building of the Kasba Ganapati temple. The Ganesh idol dedicated at this temple is regarded as the presiding deity (gramadevata) of the city.

Shivaji was crowned Chhatrapati in 1674, thus founding the Maratha Empire. He oversaw further development of Pune, including the construction of the Guruwar Peth, Somwar Peth, Ganesh Peth and Ghorpade Peth. Shivaji encouraged development of dams in Parvati and Kondhwa regions of Pune for agriculture purposes. Pune and surrounding villages later provided manpower for Shivaji's efforts to build an army during the period 1645 - 1680. Between 1660 and 1670 the town was captured by Mughal General Shahista Khan, but was recaptured by the Marathas in 1670 after the battle of Sinhagad. During the 27-year long conflict between the Mughals and the Marathas, the town was occupied by Aurangzeb from 1703 to 1705; during this time the name of the town was changed to "Muhiyabad".[citation needed] Two years later, the Marathas recaptured Sinhagad fort and later Pune city from the Mughals.

c) Peshwas

In 1720, Bajirao was appointed Peshwa (Prime Minister) of the Maratha Empire, ruled by Chattrapati Shahu. He selected Pune as his base and started construction of Shaniwar Wada on the right bank of the Muthariver. The construction was completed in 1730, ushering in the era of Peshwa control of the city. The patronage of the Peshwas resulted in the construction of many temples and bridges in the city, including the Lakdi Pool and the temples on Parvati Hill. Bajirao Peshwa also constructed an underground aqueduct to bring water from Katraj Lake to Shaniwar Wada. The aqueduct is still open. Pune prospered as a city during the reign of Nanasaheb Peshwa. He developed Saras Baug, Heera Baug, Parvati Hill and new commercial, trading and residential localities. Sadashiv Peth, Narayan Peth, Rasta Peth and Nana Peth were developed in this era. The Peshwas fell into decline after their defeat in the 1761 Battle of Panipat. In 1802, Pune was captured by Yashwantrao Holkar in the Battle of Pune, directly precipitating the
Second Anglo-Maratha War of 1803–1805. During this period Sardar Apajiram Sahasrebudhe was the Kotwal of city (further adopted Kotwal as surname).\textsuperscript{10}

d) British rule

The Third Anglo-Maratha War broke out between the British and the Marathas in 1817. The Peshwas were defeated at the Battle of Khadki (then spelt Kirkee) on 5 November near Poona and the city was seized by the British.\textsuperscript{11} It was placed under the administration of the Bombay Presidency and the British built a large military cantonment to the east of the city (now used by the Indian Army).\textsuperscript{12} The Pune Municipality was established in 1858. Navi Peth, Ganj Peth and Mahatma Phule Peth were developed during the British Raj.

Pune was an important centre in the religious and social reform movements of the late 19th century. Prominent social reformers and freedom fighters lived here, including Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Vitthal Ramji Shinde, Dhondo Keshav Karve and Mahatma Jyotirao Phule. Vinayak Damodar Savarkar resided in Pune when he enrolled in Fergusson College in 1902.

In late 1896, Poona was hit by bubonic plague. By the end of February 1897, the epidemic was raging with a mortality rate twice the norm and half the city's population fled. A Special Plague Committee was formed under the chairmanship of W.C. Rand, an Indian Civil Services officer. He brought troops to deal with the emergency. Although these measures were unpopular, the epidemic was under control by May. On 22 June 1897, during the Diamond Jubilee celebration of the coronation of Queen Victoria, Rand and his military escort were killed by the Chapekar brothers. A memorial to the Chapekar brothers exists at the spot on Ganeshkhind Road (University Road) between the Reserve Bank and the Agricultural College.

Poona was prominently associated with the struggle for Indian independence. In the period 1875 and 1910, the city was a major centre of agitation and social reforms led by Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, Gopal Krishna Gokhale and Bal Gangadhar Tilak, as well as the well known feminist Tarabai Shinde. They demanded the abolition of caste prejudice, equal rights for women, harmony between the Hindu and Muslim communities, better schools for the poor and complete independence from Britain.\textsuperscript{13} Mohandas Gandhi was imprisoned at Yerwada Central Jail several times and placed under house arrest at the Aga Khan Palace in 1942–44, where both his wife Kasturba and aide Mahadev Desai died.
5.2. Geography

Pune is located 560 m (1,840 ft) above sea level on the western margin of the Deccan plateau. It is situated on the leeward side of the Sahyadri mountain range, which forms a barrier from the Arabian sea. It is a hilly city, with its tallest hill, Vetal Hill, rising to 800 m (2,600 ft) above sea level. Just outside the city, the Sinhagad fort is located at an altitude of 1300 m. It lies between 18° 32" North latitude and 73° 51" East longitude.

Central Pune is located at the confluence of the Mula and Mutha rivers. The Pavana and Indrayani rivers, tributaries of the Bhimariver, traverse the northwestern outskirts of metropolitan Pune.

5.3 Climate

Pune has a tropical wet and dry climate with average temperatures ranging between 20 to 28 °C (68 to 82 °F). Pune knows for three seasons: summer, monsoon and a winter. Typical summer months are from March to May, with maximum temperatures ranging from 30 to 38 °C (86 to 100 °F). The warmest month in Pune is April; although summer doesn't end till May end, the city often receives heavy thundershowers in May (and humidity remains high). Even during the hottest months, the nights are usually cool due to Pune's high altitude. The highest temperature ever recorded was 43.3 °C (109.9 °F) on 30 April 1897. The monsoon continues from June to October, with moderate rainfall and temperatures ranging from 22 to 28 °C (72 to 82 °F). Most of the 722 mm (28.4 inches) of annual rainfall in the city falls between June and September, and July is the wettest month of the year. Hailstorms are also common in this region.

5.4. Demography

Report of 2011 Census of India estimate, the population of the Pune urban agglomeration is to peg around 5,049,968. This includes the towns of Pimpri-Chinchwadand, Khadki and Dehu. Growth in the software development and education sectors has led to an influx of skilled labour from throughout India. The population of the urban agglomeration was estimated to be around 4,485,000 in 2005. The migrating population rose from 43,900 in 2001 to 88,200 in 2005. According to the Pune Municipal Corporation, 40% of the population lived in slums in 2001. The sharp increase in censorial decade of 1991–2001 can be attributed to the amalgamation of 38 fringe villages into the city. The literacy rate is about 81%.
Marathi is the official and most widely spoken language, while Hindi, Gujarati and English are understood and spoken widely. Pune has a great Marathi influence as it was the bastion of the Maratha Empire. Like most of the cities, Pune is also one of the cities in India having majority of Hindu population 70%. Central Pune has Brahmin majority. Pune also has a good Christian and Muslim population.

Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism are major religions in Pune with 72.0%, 10.0%, 12.0% and 2.5% of the population following them. Christian are 2.0% And others are 1.5%, 52.5% of Pune's population is in the 15–59 years age category. Around 11% of the population is under 6 years of age.

5.5. Economy

As one of the largest cities in India, and as a result of its have many colleges and universities, Pune is emerging as a prominent location for manufacturing and IT companies to expand. Pune has the seventh largest metropolitan economy and the sixth highest per capita income in the country.

The automotive sector is outstanding in Pune. It is home to the Automotive Research Association of India, which is responsible for the homologation of all vehicles available in India. All sectors of the automotive industry are represented, from two-wheelers and auto rickshaws to tempos, cars, tractors, trucks and excavators. Automotive companies like Mahindra & Mahindra, Mercedes Benz, Tata Motors, Force Motors (Firodia-Group), Kinetic Motors have set up manufacturing unit in Pune. Automotive companies including Volkswagen, General Motors, and Fiat have set up Greenfield facilities near Pune, leading The Independent to cite Pune as India's "Motor City". Several automotive component manufacturers like Saint-Gobain Sekurit, TATA Autocomp Systems Limited, Robert Bosch GmbH, Visteon, ZF Friedrichshafen AG and Continental Corporation are located here.

India's largest engineering conglomerate, the Kirloskar Group, was the first to bring industry to Pune by setting up Kirloskar Oil Engines Ltd. in 1945 at Kirkee in Pune. The Group was firstly set up in Kirloskarwaadi. Kirloskar Brothers Limited (India’s largest manufacturer and exporter of pumps and the largest infrastructure pumping project contractor in Asia), Kirloskar Oil Engines (India's largest diesel engine manufacturing company), Kirloskar Pneumatics Co. Ltd. and otherKirloskar companies are based in Pune.
The Hinjawadi IT Park (officially called the Rajeev Gandhi IT Park) is a project started by MIDC to house the IT sector in Pune. When completed, the Hinjawadi IT Park is expected to have an area of about 2,800 acres (11 sq. km). The estimated investment in the project is Rs. 60,000 crore (US$11 billion)\(^{27}\). To facilitate economic growth, the government provided liberal incentives in its IT and ITES Policy, 2003 and leased properties on MIDC land\(^{28}\). The IT sector employs more than 70,000 people. Software giant Microsoft intends to set up a 700 crore (US$130 million) project in Hinjawadi\(^{28}\).

Pune Food Cluster development project is an initiative funded by the World Bank. It is being implemented with the help of SIDBI, Cluster Craft to facilitate the development of the fruit and vegetable processing industries in and around Pune\(^{29,30}\).

The Meetings, Incentives, Conferencing, Exhibitions trade is expected to get a boost once the Pune International Exhibition and Convention Centre (PIECC) will be completed in 2017. The 97-hectare PIECC will boast a seating capacity of 20,000, with a floor area of 13,000 sq.m. It will have a convention centre, seven exhibition centres, a golf course, a business complex, a five-star hotel, shopping malls and residences. The US$115 million project is developed by the Pimpri-Chinchwad New Town Development Authority\(^{31}\).

5.6 Industry

The emergence of industrial Pune began in the early 1960s, with advent of mechanical engineering industries. Pune's proximity to Mumbai, good climate and availability of talent made it a destination for large firms like Tata Motors (TELCO then), Buckau Wolf (Thyssen Krupp now), Hindustan Antibiotics, KSB Pumps and several others.

Today, Pune has a various industrial population. It is one of India's most important automotive hubs, with some domestic and international auto giants manufacturing here, including Daimler Benz and Volkswagen. Pune also has hundreds of large and small IT companies.

Pune is the largest hub in India\(^{32}\) for German companies. According to the Indo-German Chamber of Commerce, Pune has been the exclusive largest hub for German companies for the last 60 years. Over 225 German companies have set up their businesses here\(^{33}\).

5.7. **New and established Industry majors in Pune**
Pune is one of the premier industrial centres of India. It is home to one of the world's three largest two-wheeler manufacturers, Bajaj Auto. Other global automobile names like Telco, Mercedes Benz and Bajaj Tempo also have huge manufacturing facilities here. Apart from the auto giants, a large number of engineering, electronic and electrical industries have set up base in the large, medium and small scale sectors. The industrial township of Pimpri Chinchwad, adjacent to the main city, is dotted with over 4,000 manufacturing units. This vast and well established industrial base has imbibed the city with a 'professional' ethos and work culture.

Corporate Headquarters - Among the large corporate headquarters in the city are: Atlas Copco, Bajaj Auto, Bajaj Allianz, Bajaj Tempo, Cummins India, Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals, Kirloskar Oil Engines, Kinetic Engineering, Mercedes Benz (India), SKF Bearings, Sandvik Asia, Tetrapak India, Thermax, Zenser... Multinationals Fiat, Whirlpool and Sharp are some of the big brick'n mortar names that have made huge investments near Pune in the recent past.

Bajaj Electricals Ltd, Cummins Generator Technologies India Ltd., Cummins India Ltd, Haier Appliances India Pvt. Ltd., LG Electronics India P Ltd, Valeo Engine & Electrical System India Pvt. Ltd., Whirlpool of India Ltd, Dow Corning India Pvt. Ltd., Foseco India Ltd., Fresenius Kabi India Pvt. Ltd., are also located in Pune region.

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