



A GEOGRAPHICAL STUDY OF TOURISAM DEVELOPMENT IN AURANGABAD DISTRICT

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Introduction :

Tourism has very long history. In 17th Century there are various tours organised in Europe. In 18th and 19th Century the travel and tourism started on a large scale for trade and business, as well as for the discover of new land on the earth surface. Due to the socio-economic and technological development recently tourism changed a lot. This activity is growing at a fast rate in various parts of the world. Now a days due to the availability of road, rails and air transport, as well as the publicity and facilities, tourism has emerged as a good industry.

Tourism can be defined as, a process in which a man or a group migrated from his native place to else where. It also defined as the process in which the tourist his mind for visit to a certain place, and starts to visit and come back to his own place including the communicational activity.

Development of tourism is largely depend. upon the geographical factors like topography, climate, soil and vegetation etc. There are some socio-economic factors like transportation, capital, technological vision of the people also important. The tourism activity developed in a region where these factors are more favourable. European continent and some costal areas of the world, shows rapid development of tourism industry. Therefore the geographical factors play very important role for the tourism development in any part of the world. Maharashtra and Particularly Aurangabad district shows a fast development of tourism industry in the recent years. There are various types of tourism activity such as natural tourism, historical tourism, religious tourism, and adventures tourism. Aurangabad district is known for tourism hub as well as the tourism capital of Maharashtra state. The places like Ajanta, Ellora have established an international standard and attract tourists from various parts of the world. The recent development shows some change in tourism activity at national level.

Study Area :

Aurangabad city is a historical city, and Aurangabad district has a historical background in Maharashtra State of India. Aurangabad district is located in Godavari Basin and very small part in Tapi Basin. The latitudinal extension of this district is 19° 3' and 20° 0' north latitude and 74° 10' and 76° 0' east longitude. The total geographical area of this district is 10100 sq. km. Aurangabad city is well known tourist hub, surrounded by the historical monuments like Ajanta caves, Ellora caves, Aurangabad caves, Daulatabad Fort, Bibi Ka maqbara, Panchakkee, Jaikwadi Project, etc. Recently the Aurangabad city has been declared as a tourism capital of Maharashtra State. The topography of this district is favourable for the development of tourism in this area. The general topography of Aurangabad District shows that there are both plains, highlands and hilly region with the extensive Godavari basin.

The climate of this district is very pleasant and suitable for the tourist activity. The rainy, winter and summer seasons have some characteristics in this area. The highest temperature in summer is not recorded more than 40°C, while the winters are also warm and healthy.

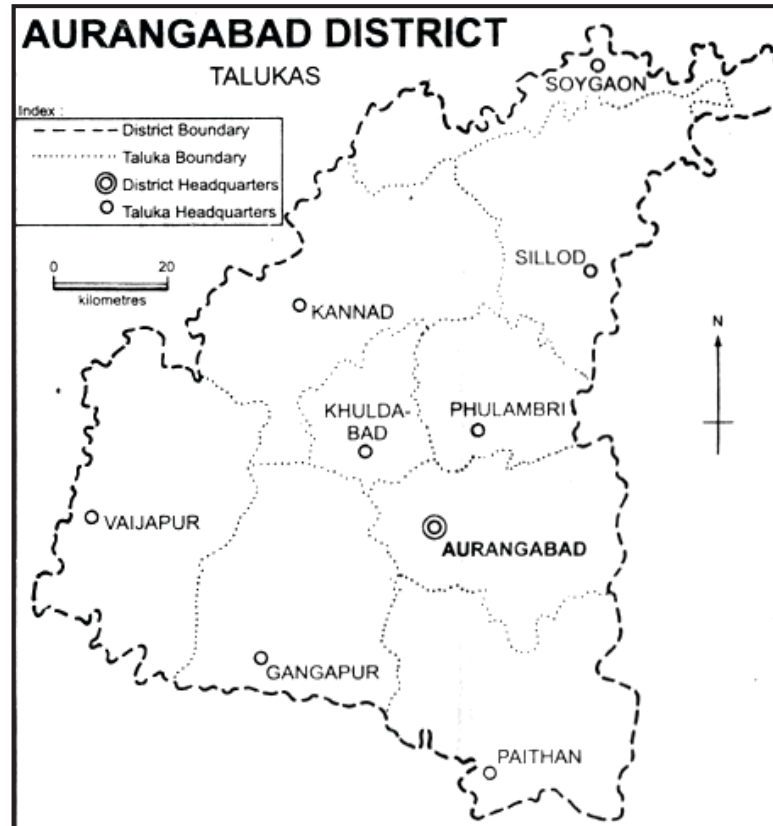
The total Population of this district is 1585828 according to 1981 census it is 3,695928. The density of population is 365 per sq. km in Aurangabad city. The total area of this district is 141.1 sq. km.

Objectives for the present paper are as follows :

- 1) The Study of tourism and tourist places in Aurangabad city and district.
- 3) To Study the flow of tourists from various parts of the country and from outside the country

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- 4) To find out the ways and means for the development of tourism in Aurangabad city as well as the district.



Tourist attractions in Aurangabad city and district:-

There are various tourist places in Aurangabad city and the district. The important places of tourist attractions in this area are Bibi-ka-Maqbara, Panchakki (Watermill), fifty two historical gates, Salim Ali Lake and Bird sanctuary, Aurangabad caves, Kali Masjid & Jama Masjid, Shivaji Maharaj Museum, Siddharth Park etc. located in various parts of the Aurangabad city. There are some places of tourist attractions in this district such as Ajanta caves, Ellora caves, Daulatabad fort, Grishaneshwar temple, holy place of Paithan city, Gautala sanctuary, Pitalkhora Caves etc. The visitors from various parts of the world as well as within the country, will visit these places every year. The places of tourist attractions are facing some problems related to the development and facilities. The tourism in Aurangabad city and district has some important constraint, if these constraints increase, the development of tourism can be observed very fast. The major constraint in tourism development of Aurangabad city and district are related with socio-economic factors like accommodation facility, Communication network, climatic changes, food quality etc.

The important five places of tourist attraction in Aurangabad city and district attract thousand of visitors from various parts of the country as well as from the world. The visitors statistics of Ajanta, Ellora Caves, Bibi-ka-Makabara, Daultabad Fort and Aurangabad caves are shown in the following tables

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Sr. No.	Name of the Tourist Attractions	2005 - 2006		2006 - 2007		2007 - 2008	
		Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin
1	Ajanta Caves	283281	15529	269959	17639	289130	23139
2	Ellora Caves	442329	10460	579724	5640	432762	13727
3	Bibi Ka Maqbara	531143	3938	308428	5328	577861	8073
4	Daulatabad Fort	373859	5082	20940	1337	316893	6881
5	Aurangabad Caves	24733	1173			29270	2342
	Total	1655345	36182	1562265	29944	1645916	54162

Sr. No.	Name of the Tourist Attractions	2008 - 2009		2009 - 2010		2010 - 2011	
		Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin
1	Ajanta Caves	271681	28642	263943	28700	314354	33802
2	Ellora Caves	377909	15977	311168	14833	505848	19201
3	Bibi Ka Maqbara	584136	10810	682876	11502	921869	15152
4	Daulatabad Fort	290313	7547	207086	5782	326594	6325
5	Aurangabad Caves	29760	2196	28540	2132	36854	1482
	Total	1553799	65172	1493613	62949	2105519	75962

Sr. No.	Name of the Tourist Attractions	2011 - 2012		2012 - 2013		2013 - 2014	
		Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin	Indian	Forigin
1	Ajanta Caves	335330	23152	362448	27194	300823	9012
2	Ellora Caves	566287	14533	900483	27904	108000	11800
3	Bibi Ka Maqbara	980762	12897	1554041	14528	960000	5400
4	Daulatabad Fort	428722	6658	942721	7789	576000	3780
5	Aurangabad Caves	36401	1432	38745	2056	45600	684
	Total	2353502	45590	3798438	79471	1990423	30676

Sr.No.	Name of the Tourist Attractions	2014 - 2015	
		Forigin	Indian
1	Ajanta Caves	324800	9744
2	Ellora Caves	126000	106000
3	Bibi Ka Maqbara	924000	5700
4	Daulatabad Fort	288700	3960
5	Aurangabad Caves	29400	309
	Total	1692900	125713

The above table shows that Aurangabad city and district, there are many visitors from all over the world and from India visited every year. The development of above five tourist places are not undergone large development. Therefore the visitors face many problems related to the transport facilities, hotels, restaurant and some other facilities. The government announced Aurangabad district as a tourist hub in Maharashtra State, but still the area and tourist places lack basic facilities.

Trends of Tourist Flow :-

Trends of tourist flow at Aurangabad city and district shows that, there are thousands of tourists from all over the world and within the country every year. The visitors statistics shows that there is a growth in flow of towards the five places in Aurangabad city and district. The visitors from various parts of the world as well as within the country show good number at these places between the period 2005-2006 to 20016-20017. Here the tourist Increased from 1655345 to 1990423 and foreign tourist from 36182 to 30676. The traffic flow of tourist increased due to the basic facilities provided by the government as well as the private agencies. The transport facilities shows good development hence attract the tourist to Aurangabad city and district. A good connectivity of roads, rails and air transports from various parts of India and abroad play important role. The accommodation for tourist also improved in Aurangabad city and disrict. There are various good hotels and guest houses providing accommodation facilities to the tourist with good quality services. It resolution mining the tourist flow towards the places of Aurangabad city and the district. A good knowledgeable touriest guides with the print material provide all information about the tourist attractions in Aurangabad city and District. The traffic flow of touriest at Aurangabad city and District is still very low, compare to the other touriest places in India. The tourist flow may increase after the development of facilities for tourist given by the state government and private agencies. The transport and accommodation as well as the services should be modernised to attract tourist from all over the world as well as from India.

It is revealed that touriest traffic in Aurangabad has increased from 2005-2006 to 2014- 2015 with a fast rate. Now from 2015 onwards the rate of tourist flow has slightly decreased in Aurangabad city and District. It is expected that the touriest traffic would be reached to the higher target with the help of the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corpration. The higher target of the tourist flow may achieve with the help of some systematic efforts.To increase the touriest flow at Aurangabad, some important steps should be implemented, first step is that the traffic flow all over the world to India should be diverted to Aurangabad. It is observed that there is not more than five percent of the total flow of tourist traffic comes to India visited Aurangabad city and District. The second important aspect

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is to spread the publicity of various important and heritage sites of Aurangabad City and District. It is observed that there is a limited publicity of the heritage sites like Ajanta and Ellora at local and abroad. The next step to increase traffic flow at Aurangabad is related to the development of transport and accommodation facilities. The present transport and accommodation facilities in Aurangabad City and District is very limited and not modernised. A good connectivity between various tourist places in Aurangabad City and District should be increased.

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