



## **Report on: Exploring the Old City: Heritage Walk Ahmedabad**

**Date: 26/07/2025 [Saturday]**

**Time: 07:00 to 11:00**

**Venue: Swaminarayan Mandir, Kalupur, Ahmedabad**

**Faculty Incharge: Dr. Hardik Solanki**

**Participants: MMC sem 1**

### **Introduction**

On Saturday, 26th July 2025, we students went on the Ahmedabad Heritage Walk as a part of our educational trip. The main purpose of the walk was to explore the old city of Ahmedabad and learn about its rich history, culture, and architecture. Ahmedabad is known as India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, and this walk helped us understand why it holds such an important place in our country's heritage.

During the walk, we visited many historical places like old temples, mosques, beautifully carved havelis, and narrow traditional lanes called pols. Walking through these old areas gave us a glimpse of how people used to live in earlier times and how their culture is still alive today.

This experience was not only educational but also very interesting, as we got to see the real beauty and traditions of Ahmedabad up close.

### **Objectives**

The main objective of the Ahmedabad Heritage Walk was to help us students understand the historical and cultural importance of the old city. Through this walk, we got a chance to explore ancient buildings, traditional houses (havelis), religious places, and narrow streets known as pols.

- The walk aimed to: Create awareness about our city's heritage.
- Help us learn how people lived in the past and how they preserved their culture.
- Show us the unique architecture and planning of old Ahmedabad.
- Encourage us to respect and protect historical places.

Overall, the objective was to connect us with our roots and give us a real-life learning experience outside the classroom.

### **Process**

Our Ahmedabad Heritage Walk began early in the morning from Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur, which is one of the oldest and most famous temples in the city. From there, we started walking through the narrow

streets of the old city, guided by a heritage expert who explained the history and importance of each place we visited.

Here are the main places we covered during the walk:

- Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur- Starting point of the walk; a colorful and peaceful temple.
- Kavi Dalpatram Chowk, Lambeshwar Ni Pol- A small square dedicated to the poet Dalpatram, with his statue.
- Calico Dome- A historical structure related to the textile industry, though now in ruins.
- Kala Ramji Mandir, Haja Patel ni Pol- A small temple with unique black stone idols.
- Shantinathji Mandir, Haja Patel ni Pol- A beautifully carved Jain temple.
- Kuvavala Khancha, Doshivada ni Pol- A traditional water well inside a quiet residential area.
- Zaveri Vad- Known for jewellers and beautiful old homes.
- Sambhavnath ni Khadki- Another Jain temple area with peaceful surroundings.
- Chaumukhji ni Pol- A street named after a four-faced Jain idol (Chaumukhji).
- Doshivada ni Pol- One of the oldest pols, with beautifully carved wooden houses.
- Astapadji Derasar - A Jain temple with elegant architecture.
- Harkunvar Shethani ni Haveli- A grand traditional haveli (mansion) showing the lifestyle of the past.
- Fernandez Bridge (Gandhi Road)- A busy street market area, famous for books and stationery.
- Jami Masjid (mosque)- Our walk ended here. It is one of the most important historical mosques in Ahmedabad, built in 1424.

During the entire walk, we saw how different religions and communities lived together peacefully and how their architecture and lifestyles reflected harmony and unity.

## **Conclusion**

The Ahmedabad Heritage Walk was a truly eye-opening and educational experience for all of us. It helped us understand how rich and diverse our city's history and culture are. Walking through the narrow \*pols\*, visiting old temples, mosques, and havelis, we realized how people from different communities lived together peacefully and respectfully.

We also saw how beautifully the old buildings were made, with detailed carvings and smart planning - something we don't usually notice in modern structures. The walk reminded us of the importance of preserving our heritage and being proud of our roots.

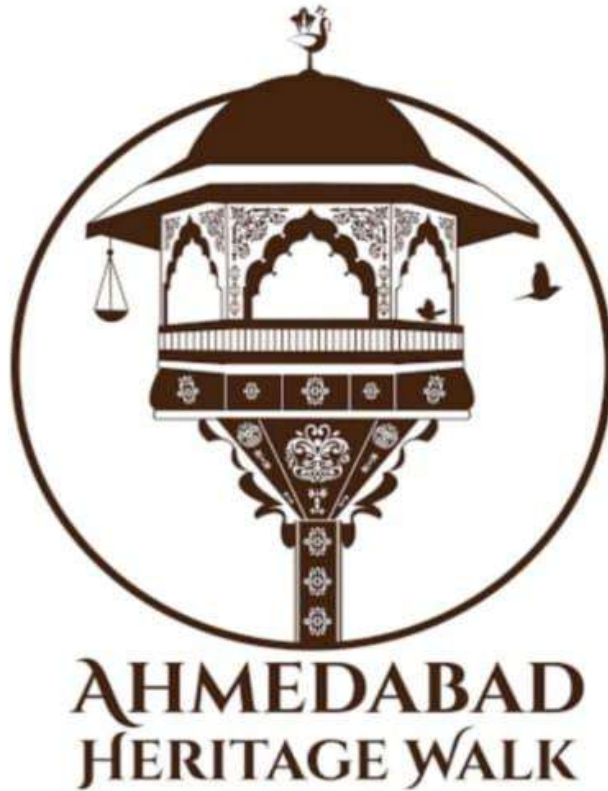
Overall, the heritage walk was not just a trip - it was a journey into the heart of Ahmedabad, full of stories, history, and lessons we will never forget.

**Annexures:**

Annexure - I: List of Places Covered During the Heritage Walk

1. Swaminarayan Temple, Kalupur
2. Kavi Dalpatram Chowk, Lambeshwar Ni Pol
3. Calico Dome
4. Kala Ramji Mandir, Haja Patel ni Pol
5. Shantinathji Mandir, Haja Patel ni Pol
6. Kuvavala Khancha, Doshivada ni Pol
7. Zaveri Vad
8. Sambhavnath ni Khadki
9. Chaumukhji ni Pol
10. Doshivada ni Pol
11. Astapadji Derasar
12. Harkunvar Shethani ni Haveli
13. Fernandez Bridge (Gandhi Road)
14. Jami Masjid Mosque

Social Media link: [https://www.instagram.com/reel/DMp\\_aEyNibh/?igsh=djVjdmpwOWs5MTZs](https://www.instagram.com/reel/DMp_aEyNibh/?igsh=djVjdmpwOWs5MTZs)



**On Saturday [26/07/2025], we went on a Heritage Walk organized in the old city of Ahmedabad. The walk was part of our educational program to explore and understand the rich cultural and architectural heritage of the city. It was guided by a local heritage expert and attended by our classmates [Master's semester 01] along with our respected Hardik sir.**



**The walk started from Swaminarayan Temple at Kalupur, a magnificent temple built in 1822. From there, we passed through narrow lanes called 'pols', which are unique residential clusters in the old city. Each pol has a history of its own and reflects the social unity of that time.**





**We saw beautifully carved wooden havelis with intricate designs. The concept of 'chabutra', raised platforms for feeding birds, shows the bond between humans and nature. We also visited Manek Chowk, a vibrant market that changes its purpose from morning to night.**



**Inside the pols, we discovered ancient Jain derasars, which were beautifully maintained and reflected the community's spiritual traditions.**





**During the Heritage Walk, we visited a small and peaceful Ram Mandir located inside Haja Patel ni Pol. This temple is dedicated to Lord Ram, Sita, Lakshman, and Hanuman. It is made in traditional Gujarati style with beautiful wooden carvings. Though it is hidden in narrow lanes, the temple has a calm and spiritual atmosphere. Local people come here every day for prayer, and it shows how religious life is still alive in the old city.**

**One special thing about this temple is the unique idol of Hanuman ji, which is very different and rare...**





Later in the walk, we visited Badshah no Hajiro, which is the tomb of the kings of Ahmedabad. Here lies Sultan Ahmed Shah, the founder of the city. The place is calm and has beautiful graves covered with colorful cloths. People come here to pray and show respect. It is a part of our city's royal history.



**Our last stop during the Heritage Walk was the beautiful and big Jama Masjid. It was built in 1424 by Sultan Ahmed Shah, the founder of Ahmedabad. The mosque has a large open courtyard, many stone pillars, and a calm prayer hall. The architecture is a mix of Hindu and Islamic styles, which makes it very unique. Many people come here daily to offer prayers. After visiting this grand mosque, our Heritage Walk came to an end, leaving us with great memories and knowledge about the city's history.**





**This marked the end of our Heritage Walk, but the memories and learnings will always stay with us.**