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## A STUDY OF THE HISTORICAL SCENIC SPOT CHAND BAORI ABHANERI

### Author's detail

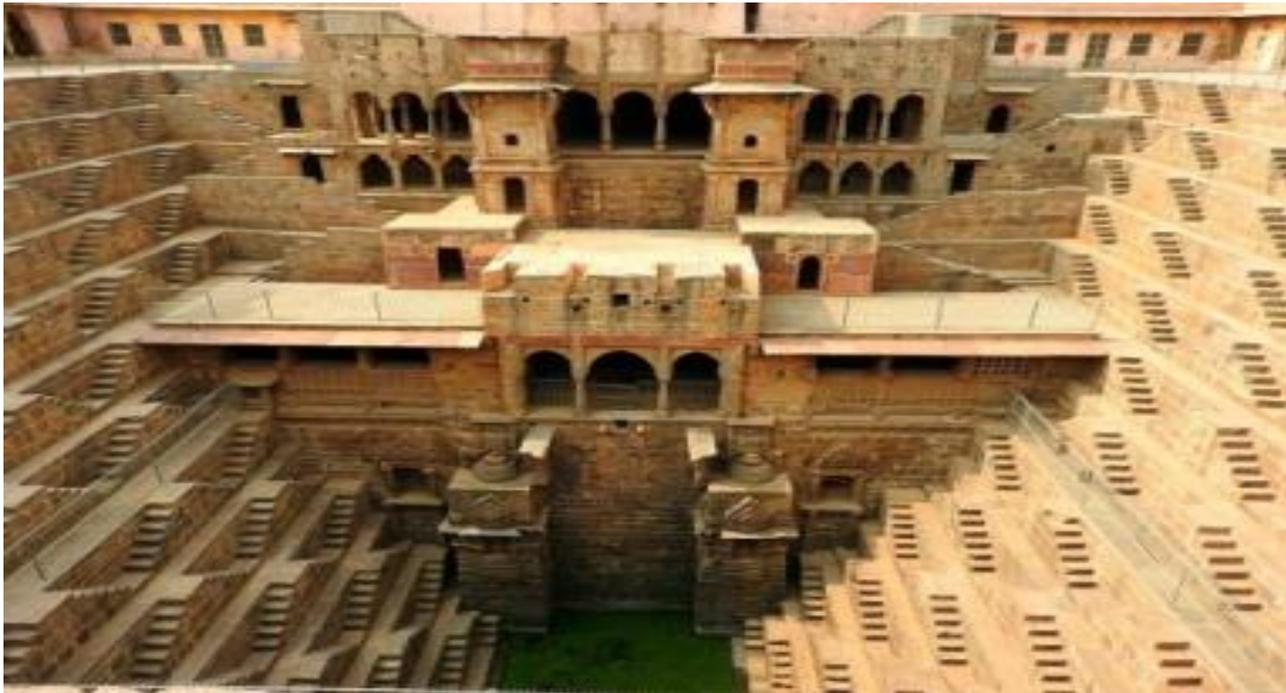
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Figure -01



## ABSTRACT

In the presented research paper, an attempt has been made to reveal in depth about the historical events related to Chand Bawdi Abhaneri, Bandikui, Dausa and its antiquity. Chand Baori located in Dausa district has a lot of historical importance, it is the center of attraction of domestic and foreign tourists. This step is very important for historical studies and research work, in this research paper, an attempt has been made to bring to light some untouched facts related to Chand Baori Abhaneri so that researchers and learners can benefit from the subject of history, and knowing those facts expand your historical knowledge.

**KEYWORDS** - Historical events, tourism, stepwell, foreign, knowledge

## INTRODUCTION

Abhaneri 88 kms from Jaipur on the Jaipur-Agra road is another attraction of Dausa, it is believed to be established by Raja Chandra. Originally named as Abha Nagri which means the city of brightness due to mispronunciation it is now called as Abhaneri. The Department of Tourism hosts a wonderful two-day “Abhaneri Festival” promoting heritage tourism in the area. Cultural performances and village camel safari are the main attractions of the festival. One of the popular places to visit in Abhaneri is the Chand Baori (stepwell). Built back in the eighth century, it is one of the deepest and largest step wells in India. The phenomenal structure is 19.5 meters in depth and features 1000 narrow steps, spanning 13 storeys.

Abhaneri, a historical place that has a different identity on the world stage, is 35 km from Dausa district headquarters. It is situated in Baswa Tehsil at that distance. Which is 12 km from Bandikui Railway Station. that is located at a distance. It is 6 km from Jaipur – Agra Highway. in the north is. This stepwell is one of the most important stepwells in India. This place is maintaining its own identity among the historical sites. Because of this, more foreign tourists come here than domestic tourists. Among the places of interest here, the temple of Harshad Mata, Shri Devnarayan Bhagwan Temple, Chand Baori built in Gurjar Pratihar style, Shri Balaji Temple etc. have a special place. Contemporary of Chand Baori, a historic stepwell was built by Gurjar Pratihar rulers in Aloda village of Dausa district, which is known as Aloda Ki Sunhari Baori. The Chand Baori of Abhaneri and the Sunhari Baori of Aloda are called as twin sisters. Because according to mythological beliefs, these two steps were built at the same time.

There is another stepwell associated with Chand Baori, Bhandarej's stepwell, both of these steps are connected by a tunnel, but for safety it has been closed by the Archaeological Department. Many other places of interest in the vicinity are associated with this stepwell, which we will study further.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Highlighting the importance of Chand Baori
2. Study to help promote private and tourism business
3. Assistance in the study of private and public research
4. sAssisting in the study of private and public sector teacher occupations

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

- In the present research survey method is used by the researcher.

**ESTABLISHMENT**

Chand Bawdi Abhaneri was built according to historical evidences by Gurjar Pratihar Emperor Mihirbhoj (also known as Raja Chand) in the 9th century. Due to which its name was given as Chand Baori. But according to the legends, it was built by the Nikumbha dynasty king Chanda or Chandra, according to the legends, it was built by the ghosts and demons in one night. The length and breadth of Chand Baori is  $35 \times 35$ , which is about 13 floors deep. In this stepwell, there are four more paved steps to go to the bottom of the water, whose number is 3500. Seeing the symmetrical triangular structure of these stairs, one presses a finger under the teeth. It is said that the steps by which one goes to the bottom of the water are not again from the same steps, hence it is also called a maze. Due to Rajasthan being a dry desert area, construction of stepwells is common. Because Bavdia used to provide coolness in the atmosphere in summer. Chand Baori Abhaneri would also have been constructed in this category.

**ARCHITECTURAL ARCHITECTURE OF CHAND BAORI**

On 3 walls of this 19.5 meter deep stepwell, there are steps giving geometrical shape. You do not climb these stairs directly, you climb from one side. It is not known whether the triangular structure was done only from the point of view of beauty and artistry or there was some other reason. In my estimation, climbing high stairs from one side is not preferable from the point of view of safety, so they should be made in a triangular structure. Looking at the steps made in the form of a maze, it seems that we will not be able to come up again from the stairs from which we have come down. On enquiry, it was found that there is a statue of Lord Vishnu inside the lower floor of the stepwell. But cannot see it, because it is forbidden to go inside it. In fact, the sources of water are considered to be the form of Kshirsagar. The ocean of milk where Lord Vishnu resides. Perhaps that is why the idol of Lord Vishnu would have been installed here. On the fourth floor, pillared corridors have been made in many floors. The further protruding bastions are similar structures, which are facing towards the stepwell. The grand statues of Ganesh ji and Mahishasurmardini on the lower floor of the stepwell add to its beauty. If we look carefully, we can see a device to pull the water up. Its construction has been done so efficiently that it appears to merge with the structure of the stepwell. According to popular legends, a tunnel has been built in Chand Baori, which goes to another Bhandarej stepwell in Dausa district, at some point in time the people of a procession went inside to see this tunnel, which did not return out, since then the Archaeological Department has closed this tunnel. Got it done.

**Figure -02**

## OTHER ARTISTIC STEPS OF CHAND BAORI

Beautiful artistic corridors have been built around the Chand Baori, in which fragmented idols of many deities, deities, yakshas, yakshaniyos etc. have been made. It is believed that these idols were demolished during the invasion of Mahmud Ghazwani, which is still found in the same condition today. These fragmented idols have been kept safe by the Archaeological Department within the boundary wall of Chand Baori. These broken idols were part of Harshad Mata temple. There are more corridors around the stepwell. Beautiful paintings have been done by excavating the corridors here

**Figure -03**



## HARSHAD MATA TEMPLE

There is a small Harshad Mata temple, which is built on a high platform, on the west of Chand Baori and 100 meters away. This temple is built in Nagara style, in which there is a round and high dome above the sanctum sanctorum of the temple. One has to climb some stairs to reach the temple. In some inscriptions, Harshad Mata was also called Harshiddhi Mata, she is considered to be the goddess of joy and gaiety. Harshad Mata Temple and Chand Baori are contemporary structures, both of which were built by the same king. When we circumambulate the temple, we see that pictures of sunflowers are carved on some of the stone walls. Sunflower flowers are cultivated on both sides of the temple, due to which the temple looks more attractive.

**Figure -04****SHREE BALAJI MANDIR**

On one side of Harshad Mata Mandir is Shree Balaji Mandir, in which there is a statue of Hanuman ji. This temple has been built later, but there is a lot of recognition of this temple among the people, the tourists who come to Abhaneri, they must visit here.

**SHRI DEVNARAYAN MANDIR**

Near Chand Baori Abhaneri, there is also a small temple of Shri Devnarayan Bhagwan, which is as old as Chand Baori. Devnarayan ji is the family deity of Gurjar Pratihara, so due to Abhaneri being a Gurjar dominated area, there is a lot of recognition of this temple, people come from far and wide to visit here.

**Figure -05**

**OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST NEARBY**

1. 25 KM from Abhaneri there is a world famous Mehndipur Balaji temple where a huge Lakkhi fair is held on Hanuman Jayanti.
2. Chand Baori Abhaneri is 70 km away from Bhangarh Fort, which is called India's first haunted fort.
3. Many historical and religious places can be seen in Jaipur, 80 km away from here.

**IMPLICATIONS**

- Providing variety of experiences about tourism
- Emphasis on development of tourism
- Emphasis on facilities for tourists
- Emphasis on enhancing safety of tourists

**SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH**

- Do your background research
- Understand the objectives
- Choose the most suitable research methods
- Expect the unexpected
- Maintain a child-like enthusiasm
- Be empathic but maintain objectivity
- Analyze the results with a colleague

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