



### Later Period Temples:

There are several later period temples such as Jaina temple, Karni Mata temple, Shiva temple, RadhaKrishna temple, a temple of Ramdeoji etc.

### Management issues:

Being as a Desert Fort, the Bhatner Fort faces aeolian erodation, which severely affects its fortification. The vandalism is one another problem regularly experienced by ASI on almost all the monuments.

Visitor's amenities / services provided by ASI –

- 1.Approach pathways
- 2.Drinking water facility
- 3.Toilet Facility
- 4.Benches and Dustbins at suitable locations.
- 5.High mast National Flag as Selfie Point
- 6.Illumination at specific occasions.
- 7.Cultural / awareness programmes for students / locals on special occasions.

### Prime Visiting Period:

- Location: Hanumangarh city in the state of Rajasthan, India.
- Best Time to Visit: The fort is open throughout the year, but the winter months (October to March) offer pleasant weather for exploration.

### Local Attractions:

While in Hanumangarh, visitors can explore other near by attractions, such as the ancient Bhatner Temple, the Kalibangan Archaeological Site and Museum, and the Brahmani Temple, each contributing to the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

### Appeal

- \* Preservation of country's heritage is the moral responsibility of every citizen, hence save it for future generation.
- \* please don not walk on the rampart of the monument.
- \* Please do not throw garbage and waste in the monument.

**"आतो सुरगां मे सरमावे, ई पर देव रमण मे आवे,  
ई रो जस नर नारी गावे,धरती धीरां री !"**  
- कन्हैया लाल सेठिया



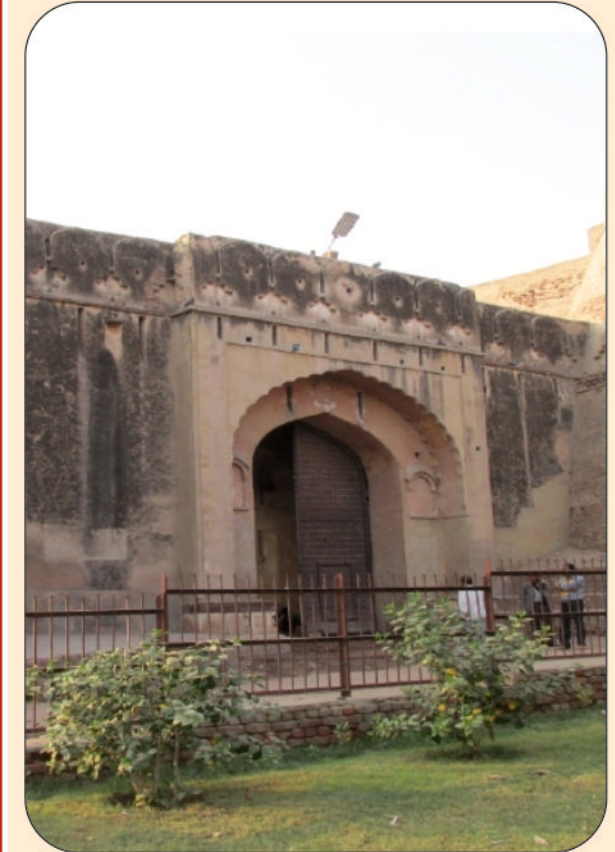
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**प्रत्नकीर्तिमपावृणु**

**ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA**  
Ministry of Culture  
Government of India



# BHATNER FORT

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Save Monuments : Feel Glorious



## Bhatner Fort

(Latitude: 29° 35' 09" N, Longitude: 74° 19' 31" E)



The old name of Hanumangarh was Bhatner or the fortress of the Bhati Rajputs. The fort is located 419 kms north-west of Jaipur and 232 kms north-east to Bikaner and fall at ancient Multan- Delhi route. It was an important fort frequently mentioned by the Muslim historians. Built on the banks of the ancient Saraswati River, the fort held immense strategic significance, controlling trade routes and acting as a bulwark against invasions. The remnants of the river, though dry today, evoke a sense of awe as they whisper tales of the bustling trade and vibrant culture that once flourished in this desert oasis. It is classified as Dhanwan Durg, being surrounded by desert. It is said that after losing the battle against Sultan of Ghazni, king Bhupat took shelter in jungle around river Ghaggar. There he constructed a safe castle for himself which came to be known as Bhatner. In the middle of 13<sup>th</sup> c CE, Sher Khan, a cousin or nephew of Balban (The Sultan of Delhi) was Governor in these parts of the country and was instructed to carry out conservation of fort Bhatinda and Bhatner. At Bhatner, he died in 1269 CE, where a tomb was erected in his memory. In 1391 CE, the Fort Bhatner was wrested by Timur during the reign of Rao Dulchand, a Bhati ruler, subsequently the fort appears to have been held alternatively by Bhatias, Johiyas and Chayals (All muslim Rajputs) till 1527 CE, when it was taken by Rao Jetsingh of Bikaner.



Afterwards, it came twice under Mughals besides possession of Chayal and Bikaner royal family. A Subedar of Hissar attacked it under the order of Mughal emperor Akbar. Ultimately, in the year of 1805CE on the day of Tuesday, a day of Lord Hanuman, it was captured by Bikaner State from the Bhati Chief Zabita Khan and remained with it till the formation of Rajasthan State.



### Outermost Entrance Gate of Fort

The ruler of the Timuri dynasty, Timurlang, in his biography 'Tujuk-e-Taimuri', described it as the strongest fort in India. He has written that he has never seen a strong fort like Bhatner in his life. Even Mughal Emperor Akbar described this fortification in his book "Ain- I- Akbari". There are three grand entrance gates. The outermost arched main entrance gate is followed by the middle gate. Near the third or inner gate, a plaque depicting hand prints was found.



Glimpse of Independence Day 2022

The Fort is associated with Jainism in medieval times. It was a seat of the Acharyas of the Bada gachchha. There is an old temple of Santinatha associated with this cult. Legend says that in 1432 CE, Bhadresvar Suri of Brihad-gachchha placed an image of Santinatha in this temple. During 1443 CE, Kunta, the wife of Sarftghi Nayana, performed an installation ceremony of the image of Adinatha though MahendraSuri of Brihad-gachchha for the merit of her husband. It is also said that Acharya MahendraSuri also placed the images of Mahavir Swami, Sambhavnatha and Ajitnatha. In 1469 CE, Simghaka, with his wife and sons, installed an image of Sambhavanatha though Kakkasuri of Upakeigachchha at this place. A coin was also found from Bhatner of Chauhan King Ajayaraja of Ajmer, which evident his rule on Jangalu region on that time period.



The entire fort is built of burnt bricks, covering an area of 52 Bigha. It is a large parallelogram having twelve projected circular bastions on each side consisting 52 total bastions and several wells situated along the wall. The fort is built over ahabitational deposit which has yielded Painted Grey Ware (circa 1100-800 BCE) and Rangmahal Ware (1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> c CE). This monument has declared as Centrally Protected Monument of National Importance vide The Ancient and Historical and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act, 1951 (LXXI of 1951).



### Other structures :

Two graves called Mama Bhanja-ki- Qabra built within fort. Another grave of Sher Khan (Governor and nephew of Sultan Ghiyas-ud-din- Balban (1266 – 1290 CE).



### Conservation and Maintenance:

The fort is being maintained and conserved by ASI. The 36 bastions has been restored and conserved, besides this, fort buttress, water canal in the fort and fortification wall have been restored in fallen places and have conserved. The second and third entrance gate have recently been restored. The bastions flanking the outermost gate has strengthened by underpinning work.

