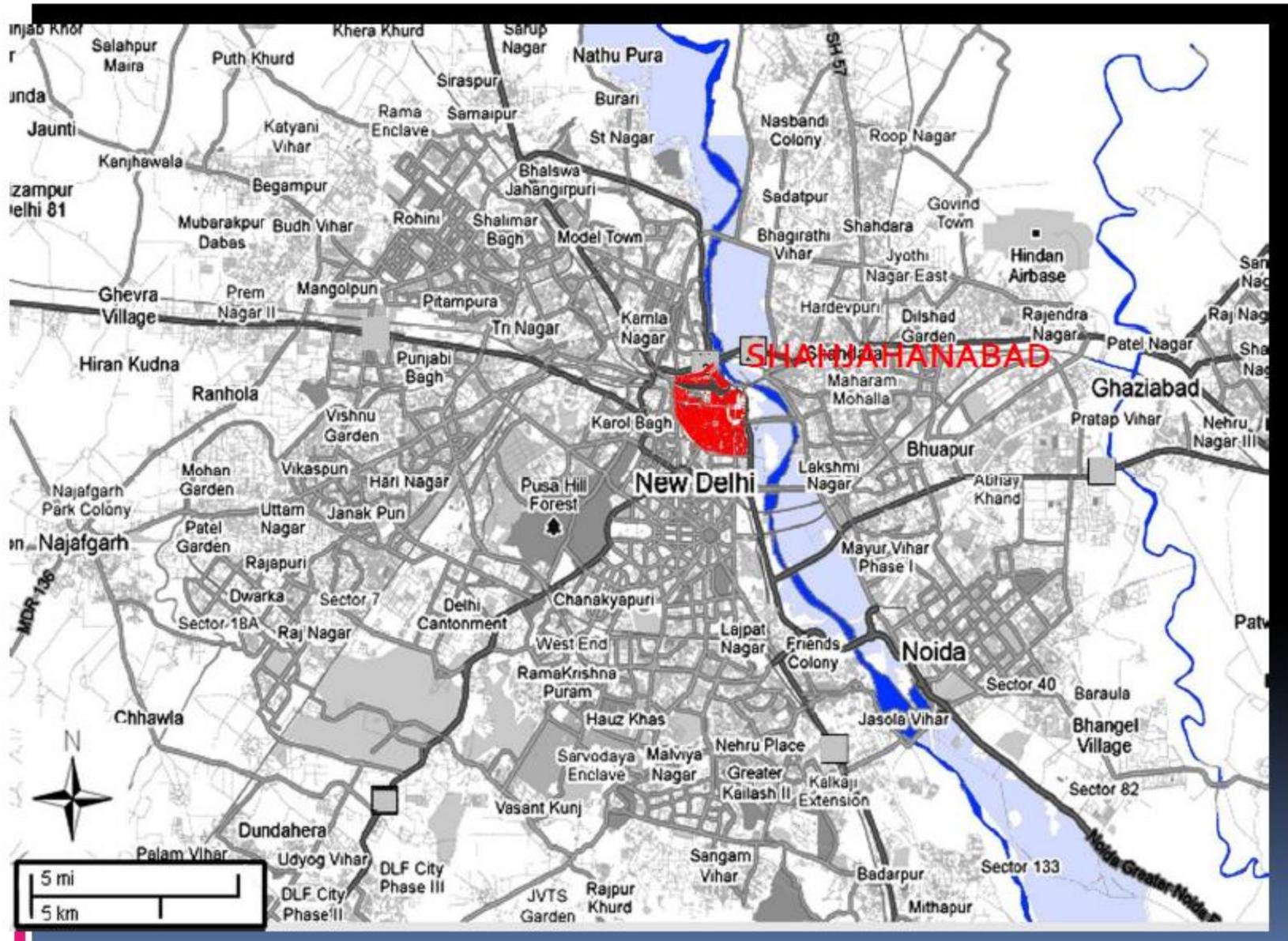


Subject: Town Planning

Topic: Delhi

Presented by: Ar. Mohd. Shahroz Alam



In A.D **1638** shahjahan decided to shift his capital from agra to delhi and founded the **walled city of shahjahanabad** on the right bank of river yamuna,north of old ruins of firojabad.

**Remains: The Red Fort, JamaMasjid, main streets of Old Delhi (like Chandni Chowk),** long sections of walls and several city gates. Though a busy commercial hub, this is still the vibrant heart of the city where old lifestyles, traditional crafts and cuisines can still be appreciated.



The old city was surrounded by a wall enclosing approximately 1500 acres, with several gates, comprising:

❑ **Nigambodh Gate - North/East, leading to historic Nigambodh ghat on Yamuna River.**

❑ **Kashmiri Gate - North**

❑ **Mori Gate - North**

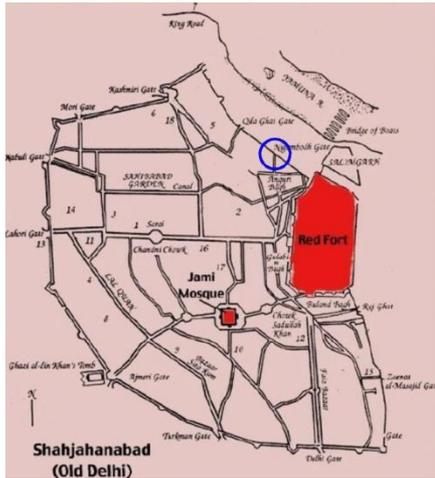
❑ **Kabuli gate -West**

❑ **Lahori gate -West**

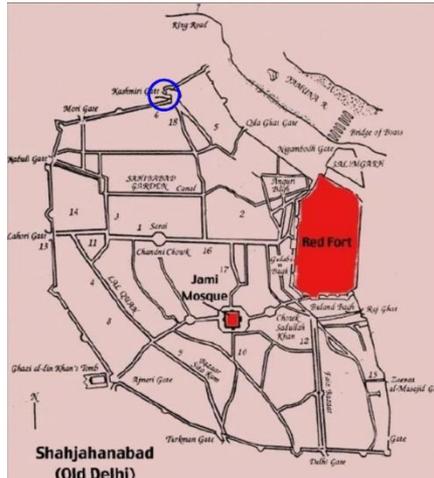
❑ **Ajmeri Gate - South East, leading to Ghaziuddin Khan`s Madrassa and Connaught Place ; a concentrating point in New Delhi.**

❑ **Turkman Gate - South East, nearby some pre-Shah jahan remains, which got enclosed within the walls, incorporating the tomb of Hazrat Shah Turkman Bayabani.**

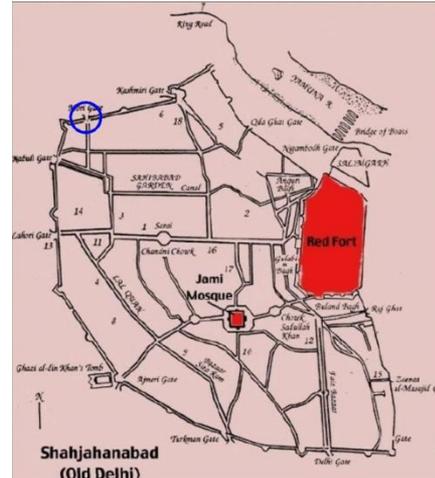
❑ **Delhi Gate - South; leading to Feroz Shah Kotla cricket ground and what was then older habitation of Delhi**



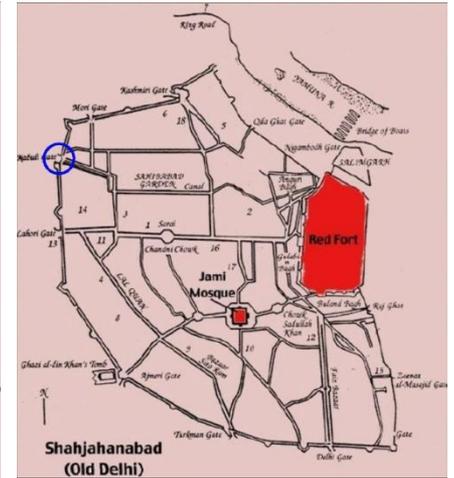
**Nigambodh Gate**



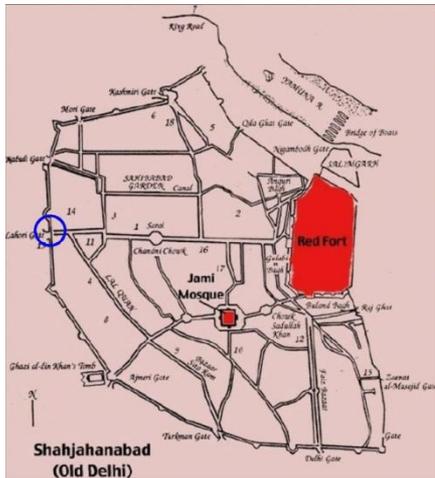
**Kashmiri Gate**



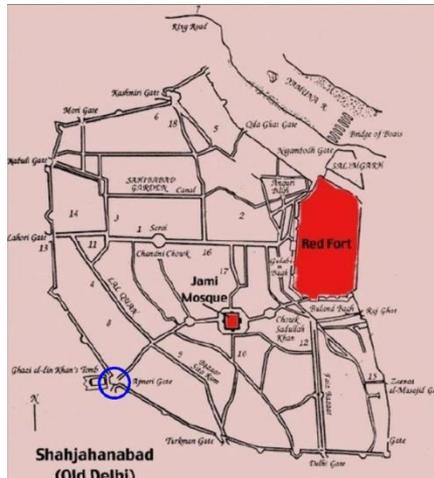
**Mori Gate**



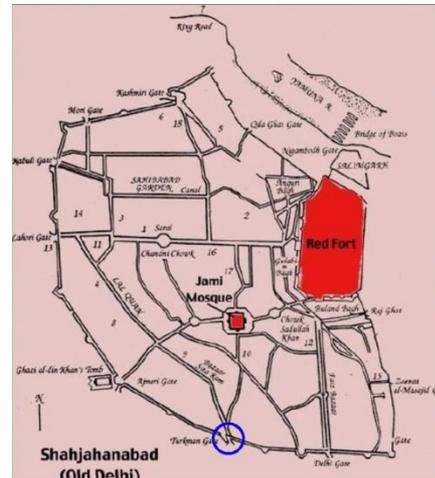
**Kabuli gate**



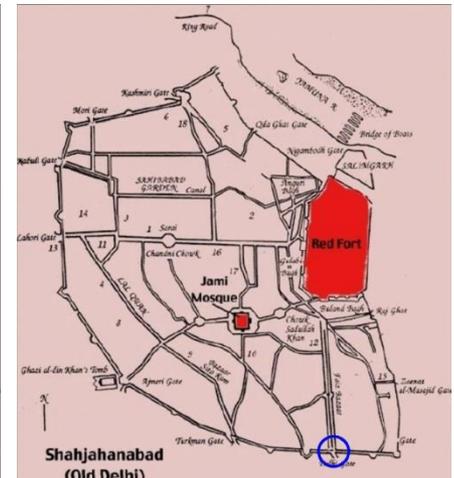
**Lahori gate**



**Ajmeri Gate**



**Turkman Gate**



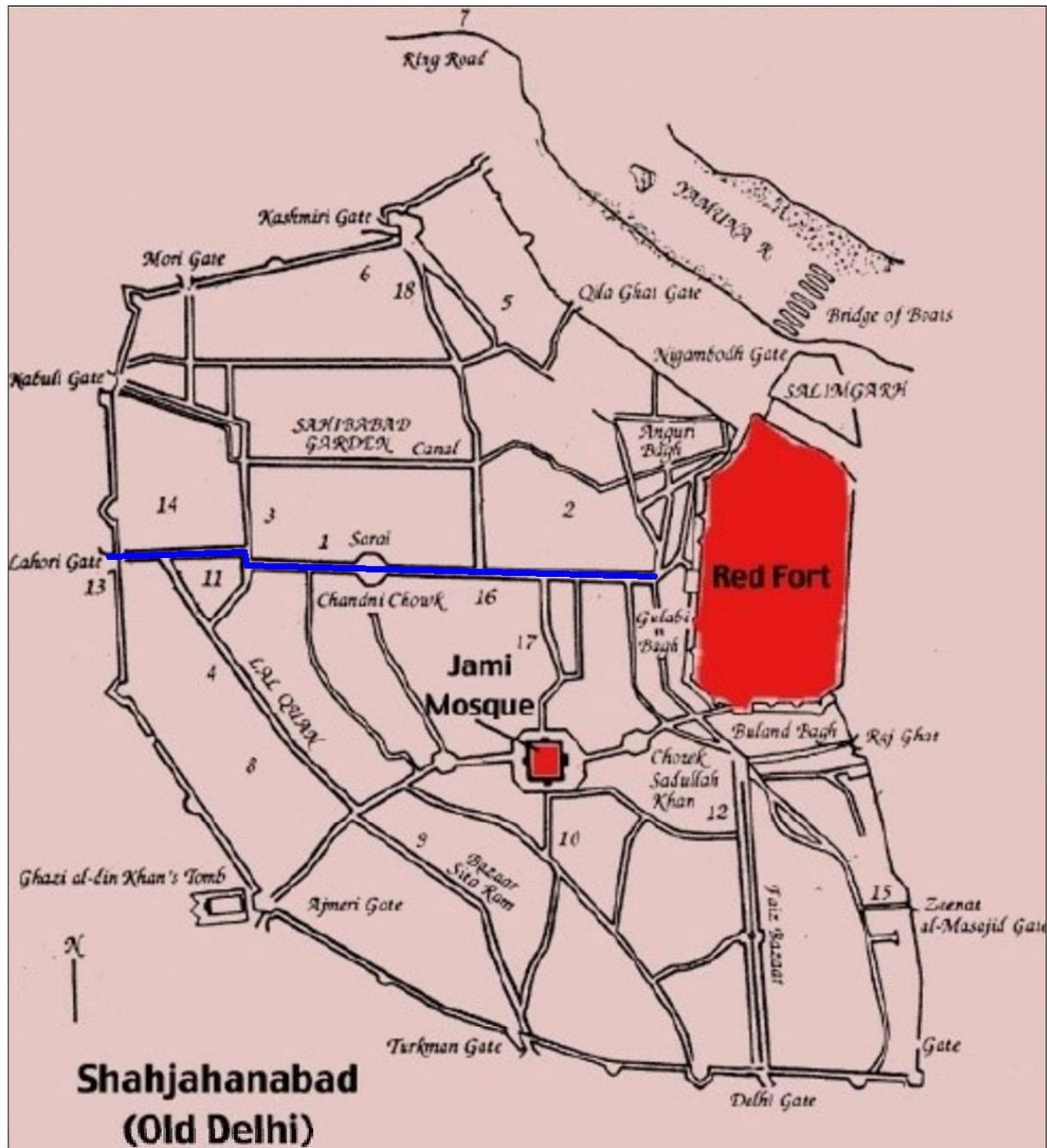
**Delhi Gate**

## Planning of Shahjahanabad

- ☐ The city was planned according to hindu planning principles of shilpashastra from vastushastra.
- ☐ The site was placed on a high land as in the shastra and was karmukha or bow shaped, for this ensured its prosperity.
- ☐ The arm of the archer was Chandni Chowk.
- ☐ The string was Yamuna river.
- ☐ The junction of the two main axes is the most auspicious point in the whole region and was therefore the red fort.

## Major Streets

- The streets in Mughal capital were usually **narrow and crooked**.
- the major streets in the new capital were designed as **wide and straight**.
- The east-west street called **Chandni Chowk connected the Lahori Darwaza of the fort**
- It ran in a straight line forming a wide wide street with broad vista..
- The Fort was visible from any place on the street.
- This perspective view marked a **new concept of town planning for the Mughal capital**.



Another main street the **Faiz Bazaar or Akkarabadi Bazaar**, was also wide and straight.

- It had a north-south axis and connected Delhi gate of the fort with the city walls Delhi gate and is about 1km in length.

- These major two streets developed as processional routes, as well as commercial arteries.

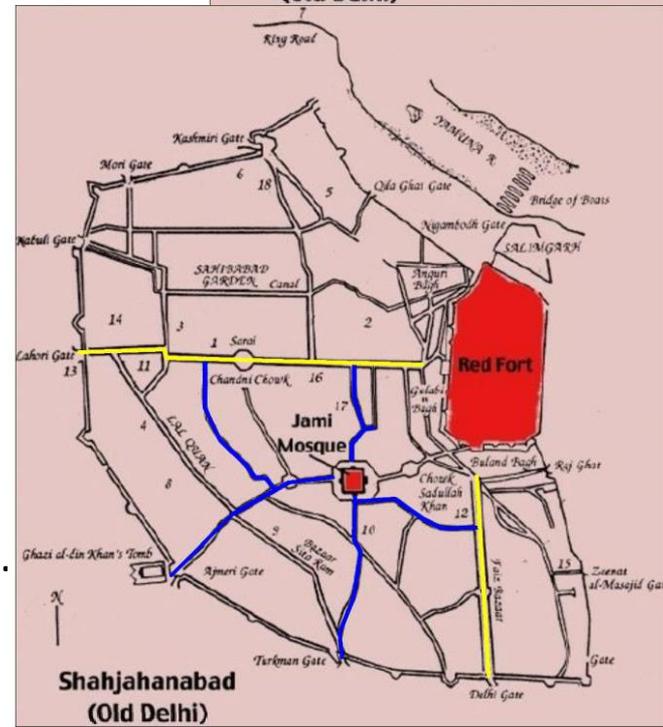
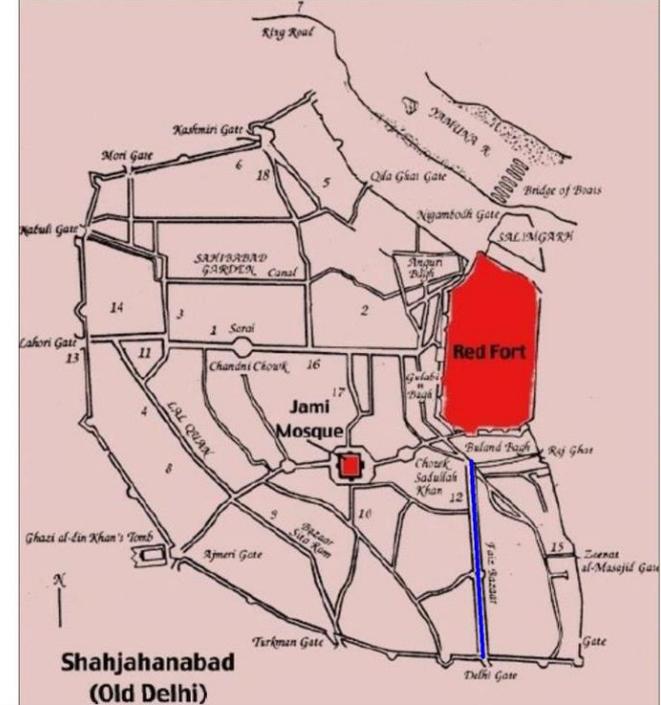
### Five Main Streets

- The basic network of the five main streets extended from Chandni Chowk and Faiz Bazaar to other gates and to different part of the walled city.

- The streets were built as the spines of major activities and developed as **commercial thorough affairs**.

- They connected the **Ajmeri Darwaza with the Jami Masjid and Turkman and Lahori Darwazas**.

- The other streets were less significant and were mainly built as access roads to the residential areas.



## MAHALLA / KATRA

There was a tendency of the cities' population to settle by ethnic affiliations and to live in the same **neighborhoods**.

- The urban community and the Mughal capital was formed by such districts or wards, known as **mahallas and katra**s.
- These homogeneous units also define cultural as well as socio-economic activities.
- There were **36 mahallas in the walled city**. Each katra had an enclosed space created **between residential and commercial buildings** having entry to a katra made through a gate.
- These courtyards were environmentally sound and acted as **main ventilation shafts in a hot and arid climate**

## CITY WALLS

- The layout of the city walls was based on a **geometrical planning**;
- A polygonal plan with gateways. The four main gates were **Delhi Darwazaon south, the Ajmeri Darwazaon the south-west, the Lahori Darwazaon the west and the Kashmiri Darwazaon the north**.
- These important gates were positioned according to the basic network of the city

## **Streets, Bazaars, Chowks**

☐ The city was separated from the surrounding land by a wall and a moat. Passing through the city's gates marked the passage from one domination to another. The main thoroughfares , the secondary roads and the bazaars were public space.

## **Havellis**

☐ The members of the imperial household who lived outside the fort/ palace built large mansions (havellis) on the model of the imperial design of the red fort. As a rule these city palaces accommodated not only the owner and his family, but also their numerous followers, servants, and craftsmen with their workshops. The internal organisation of the space within the havellis was therefore also based on the strict distinction between the public, semi private and private spaces.

## **Interior courtyard of a Havelli in the walled city**

☐ Notice the spill out of day to day activities in the courtyard- thus the typology was not only suited climatically but also enhanced the living.

## Bagh

☐ The north area of Chandni Chowk was occupied by a bagh called the Jahanara Begumi's Garden. It was laid out in a planned fashion, in addition to the road planning of Chandni Chowk.

## CITY WALLS

- **The layout of the city walls was based on a geometrical planning; i.e. to say, a polygonal plan with gateways. The four main gates were Delhi Darwaza on south, the Ajmeri Darwaza on the south-west, the Lahori Darwaza on the west and the Kashmiri Darwaza on the north. These important gates were positioned according to the basic network of the city, being laced on the cardinal points.** The graphic representation of the city was indicated geometric planning and the geometric placement of the main gates

## Conclusion

- ☐ The new Mughal capital and the fort were designed as an ideal city and a **paradise** on Earth.
- ☐ The design and planning methods were **geometric and provided for green areas (gardens) and water facilities.**
- ☐ **Principal elements** in the town planning were the fort, **the Jami Masjid, two major streets, city wall and gates, the Bagh, the Id-gah and the Karawan Sarai.**
- ☐ The Red fort was designed as a **symbol of Muslim power** and as an ideal living space on a formal geometrical plan.
- ☐ The **Jami Masjid was designed as a symbol of Muslim power and of the capital.**
- ☐ Two major **streets were developed as the central axis and as processional routes and they were new elements in the capital;** the design and the planning method was a new concept in town planning in the Mughal capital.
- ☐ **Planning in the capital did not provide planning of residential areas.**
- ☐ The city wall and gateways were drawn on a geometrical plan.
- ☐ **Urban forms and patterns developed on their own in response to the emperor's basic need and idea and little attention was paid to the social planning.**