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JUNI KHYAT जूनी ख्यात

(सामाजिक विज्ञान, कला एवं संस्कृति की शोध पत्रिका)

A Peer-Reviewed and Listed in UGC Care List



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डॉ. बी. एल. भादानी

प्रोफेसर

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श्याम महर्षि

सह संपादक

डॉ. रीतेश व्यास



मंकुभूमि शोध संस्थान

संस्कृति भवन

एन.एच. 11, श्रीडूंगरगढ़ (बीकानेर) राजस्थान

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Nahr-i Bahist and Eighteenth Century Delhi

• Dr. Ataullah

The city's canal system is thoroughly described in eighteenth-century cartographic works and contemporary sources. These contemporary sources claim that the Nahr-i Bahist (or Nahr-i Faiz) canal supplied water for gardens, waterfalls, fountains, pools, and canals. In the fourteenth century, Sultan Firuz Shah Tughlaq dug a canal that was thirty kos long, and during the construction of Shahjahan's new capital, it was further extended to thirty kos, passing through the town, palace, and bazaars.

The city of Delhi was built on the banks of the Jamuna River. In the contemporary sources and cartographic works of the eighteenth century, we encounter a detailed description of the canals that ran through the city. These contemporary sources claim that the *Nahr-i Bahist* (or *Nahr-i Faiz*) canal supplied water for gardens, waterfalls, fountains, pools, and canals.

A canal thirty Kos long had been dug in the fourteenth century by Sultan Firuz Shah Tughlaq. This canal was subsequently repaired by Akbar's governor at Delhi, Shihab-al Din Khan. It was also extended up to Hansi and Hissar.¹ When Shahjahan constructed his new capital, he ordered a repair of this canal, and it was further extended by another 30 Kos to flow through the town, palace, and *Bazârs*;² and was renamed *Nahr-i Bahist*. It was also known as the Ali Mardan Khan canal, as it was Ali Mardan Khan who took up its repairs.

During its repairs by Ali Mardan Khan, a channel from Hansi and Hissar was excavated to the north-western suburbs of the city. He also constructed an aqueduct of five arches (162 feet long and 24 feet wide) to bridge the drain carrying overflow water from the

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