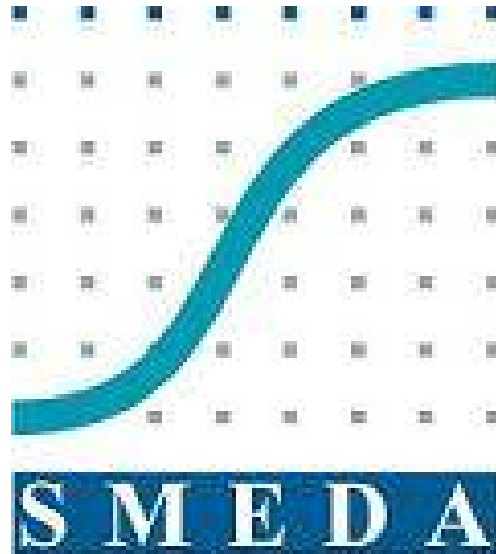


PROFILE

DISTRICT GHOTKI



Prepared

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1. INTRODUCTION

Ghotki District is a district of Sindh Province, Pakistan. Mirpur Mathelo is the Head Quarter of Ghotki District. The town is located at 28°1'0N 69°19'0E with an altitude of 72 meters (239 ft). Pano Aqil army cantonment is also near Ghotki city but in Sukkur District. Ghotki district is spread over an area of 6975 square kms. The length is 50 miles from east to west and breadth is about 60 miles. Ghotki city is situated near National Highway alongwith railway line which crosses from the center of the city.

Ghotki has four seasons i.e. Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn around the year. Ghotki has very fertile land and main crops it produces are Cotton, Wheat, Sugar cane and Rice. Ghotki is sort of industrial area in Interior Sindh since it hosts Oil and Gas Development Corporation (OGDC), Engro Chemicals and Fauji Fertilizers. Popular places of Ghotki main city are Sessions Court, Circuit House, Shahi Bazaar, Ladies Market, Jamia mosque, Government Park, Rehmoowali Park.

Ghotki district has following five Talukas.

1. Ghotki
2. Mirpur Mathelo.
3. Khangarh
4. Daharki
5. Ubauro

2. HISTORY

Ghotki was founded by an ambassador general of Raja Ibn Selaj Birhman (a relative of Raja Dahar of Sindh) in 637 A.D (15th year of Hijra) named Hath Sam who set up an army settlement/camp after defeating a Muslim Army of Arabia. The camp later assumed the shape of a village on 17th Shaban in 17th year of Hijra (639 A.D) when people of different tribes came to settle here. Two years later the people deserted this village and it again became a land of birds and animals. In year 695 A.D certain fishermen came here and settled and named the village as "Miani". But when the river changed its course the people left the village again to the mercy of jackals.

In 712 A.D Mohammad Bin Qasim conquered the Sindh by defeating Raja Dahar. Ghot Ibn Samed Ibn Patel a Hindu born to a son of Raja Dahar was settled here. Ghot voluntarily and happily accepted the Islam on the hands of Arabs and married to a new Muslim -Emna according to Shariat-e-Mohammadi and gave birth to a baby boy Tameer from whom the Ghota tribe came into being. Arabs awarded many jagirs to Ghotas and named this village as "Dharwali" to honour their grandfather. Subsequently as the Ghotas progressed quantitatively and culturally the name of village was changed from Dharwali to Loh-e-Saheban when a Saint came from Baghdad whose name was Syed Mubarak Shah Jillani Baghdadi. After the British conquest of Sindh province in 1847, they awarded huge blocks of irrigated, fertile land to the Ghotia tribal chieftains in return of their loyalty to the British. Gradually, the town's name changed into Ghotki (of Ghottas) in lieu of Loh-e-Saheban.

Jamia Masjid ("Jamia" Mosque)

In the Ghotki there is a historical grand mosque known as Jamia Masjid Ghotki. According to a hand-written book "Sahih-ul-Subaten" of Gul Mohammad, that

is available in library of the Madrassa Qasim-ul-uloom of the Ghotki, Syed Abu Saleh Moosa Shah Hussiani Jillani who was the near fellow of the famous saint Hazrat Sultan Baho of district Jhang from He was titled as Ghous Moosa shah, in the days of Mian Noor Mohammad S/O Mian Yaar Mohammad Abbasi / Kalhoro constructed this Mosque at this time the name of city was Loh-e-Saheban which means land of purity or place of purified persons means (Jillani Syeds belongs to Prophet's Family). The Jamia Masjid is a large mosque.

3. POPULATION

The population of Ghotki district, presently comprising five Talukas is 10,37,000 and the average annual growth rate of population is 3.26%. Population density of 159.6 persons / sq. km.

House hold size of district is 5.5 persons.

Rural Population of the district is 83.67%.

Urban population of the district is 16.33 %.

Percentage of Population by Religion and Rural/Urban Areas, 1998

Religion	All Areas	Rural	Urban
Muslim	93.06	94.90	83.64
Christian	0.14	0.07	0.51
Hindu (Jati)	6.17	4.58	14.29
Ahmadi	0.08	0.06	0.18
Scheduled Caste	0.5	0.34	1.35
Others	0.04	0.05	0.02

Only one AFP case was found from Hindu community, which was negative adequate stool specimen and discarded as GBS. Routine as well as SIA coverage among Hindu community children was 89% and 100% respectively during the March & April rounds 2002.

4. AGRICULTURE SYSTEM

The major crops during Rabi season are wheat, mustard, jambho, grams and kharif seasons are cotton paddy, corn, sugarcane, jawar, guar, bajra, sesamum.

5. SWEETS

The famous sweets of Ghotki district are Perra, which is exported all over the country.

6. HORTICULTURE

Climate of Ghotki is suitable for growing fruit and vegetable crops, like banana, dates, mangoes, lemon, carrot, redish, cabbage, spinach, onion, green chilleies, etc.

7. LIVESTOCK

Ghotki district is rich in livestock i.e. cattle, buffalo, goat and sheep are found in every part of district Ghotki and there are many dairy farms in district Ghotki.

NUMBER OF DAIRY AND LIVESTOCK

Lives stock	Numbers (in thousands)
Cattle	198
Buffalo	189
Sheeps	63
Goats	371
Camels	2.25
Horses	2

8. Industries

Detail of industries and factories established in Ghotki district is given below;

1. Sugar Mills (02)
2. Rice Mills (28)
3. Flour Mills (15)
4. Ice Factories (10)
6. Oils Mills (20).
7. Stabilizer and UPS making (02).
8. Handicrafts.
9. Candle Making.
10. Spice Factories.
11. Fertilizers (02).

9. TRADE AND TRADE CENTER.

Ghotki district is main trading center of whole district it has a famous galla mandi which is the main source of agriculture trade in the city and taluka Daharki and Khangarh of district is also important trading center for cotton wheat rice and sugar cane. The main items of trade like cotton, wheat, rice and onion are supplied to other parts of the country.

10. EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Educational Institutions are Primary School (2001), Middle Schools (48), High Schools (32), Higher Schools (04), Govt. Degree Colleges (03), Poly technical College, Virtual University, Private Schools, Computer Training Institutes, Law College, Paramedical College, Vocational Training Centers. Etc.

11. BANKS BANKING/FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

In Ghotki district Habib bank, National Bank, Allied Bank, United Bank, Askari Bank, Khusuhalli Bank, Micro Finance Bank, Bank Al-Habib, ZTBL, Alfalah Bank.

ATM Machines are also working in few banks.

12.HOTELS

Following hotels are working in Ghotki.

1. Shelton Hotel
2. Green Hotel
3. City Hotel.
4. Prince Hotel.
5. Serina Hotel.
6. Dileep Hotel.

13.PUBLIC PARKS

1. Ali Muhammad Khan Park
2. Public Park
3. Rehmoowali Park
4. Chawla Park

14. POTENTIAL PROJECTS IDENTIFIED BY SMEDA

- Seed Processing Unit (Wheat and Cotton)
- Dairy Milk Plant
- Animal and Poultry Feed
- Biscuit Factory
- Agriculture Implement Industry
- Amusement Park (zoo, fun land and water park).