

Glossary

Bakshi – surname used by those serving revenue administrative functions in the Mughal period

Batashas – sweet round and flat candy made of sugar and served on auspicious occasions

Birees/bidis – cigarettes with tobacco wrapped in leaves

Burra Lat Saheb – “burra” means big and “lat saheb” was a term for British officials so together it means high ranking British official

Darbar – open air courts held by Indian rulers and kings

Darbari – attendee to an open air court held by rulers and kings in India

Darshan – seeing or glimpsing a spiritually enlightened soul, the deity of worship and sometimes just an elevated individual

Deonagri/Devnagari – script in which Hindi and many other Indo-European languages are written

Gaddi – a cushioned throne

Illaichidanas – sugary round candy with cardamom served on auspicious occasions

Kayastha – a Hindu community of scribes, clerks, managers and administrators

Kayastha Pathshala – a Kayastha community school and educational institution opened in Allahabad (now Prayagraj) in 1873

Lucknowa tola – neighbourhood of descendants from the city of Lucknow

Maktab – an occasion when a child is formally introduced to writing which is a matter of celebration/festivity

Maulvi – a Muslim learned man

Munshi – clerk or manager

Pan – betel leaf used as mouth-freshener and digestive

Pansupari party – party serving betel-leaf and different kinds and forms of tobacco-usage as a matter of celebration

Parwana – official order in writing

Qalamdan – pen-holder (could also include ink-holder)

Rajputs – Kshatriya community of warriors, rulers and nobility

Ramrajya – ideal kingdom of Lord Ram, the main protagonist from the Indian epic Ramayana

Saheb – Master or Lord, generally added as a prefix even as a matter of respect

Sanad – an official document/seal of appreciation

Satyagrahi – a term coined and popularized by Mahatma Gandhi meaning to hold firmly to truth or truth force

Sharbat – a sweet and cool beverage served during summers

Vidya-arambh – an occasion when a child is formally introduced to writing which is a matter of celebration/festivity