FLAME UNIVERSITY

# DISCOVER INDIA

GROUP

29

2024-25


ANTIQUE MARKET?
FLEA MARKET?
NOISY ?
SAFE ?
So what is chor bazaar?
DISAPPEARING?
CHOR/SHOR ?
THIEVES MARKET??



# Literature Review

Community Impact

Informal Economy

Antiques

Cultural Heritage

Urbanization

Street Vendors Act

Socioeconomic Change

Mumbai

Market Transformation

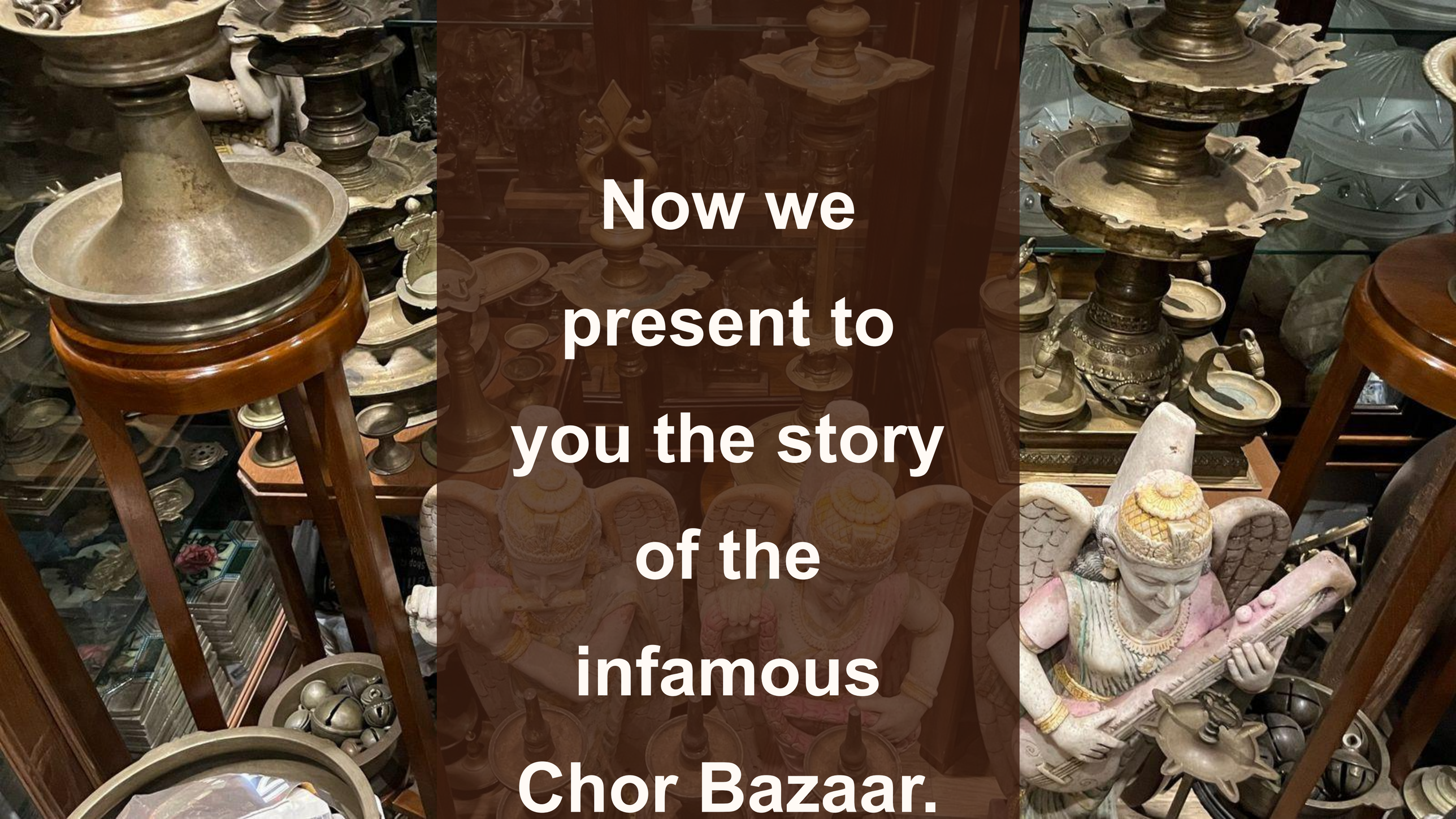


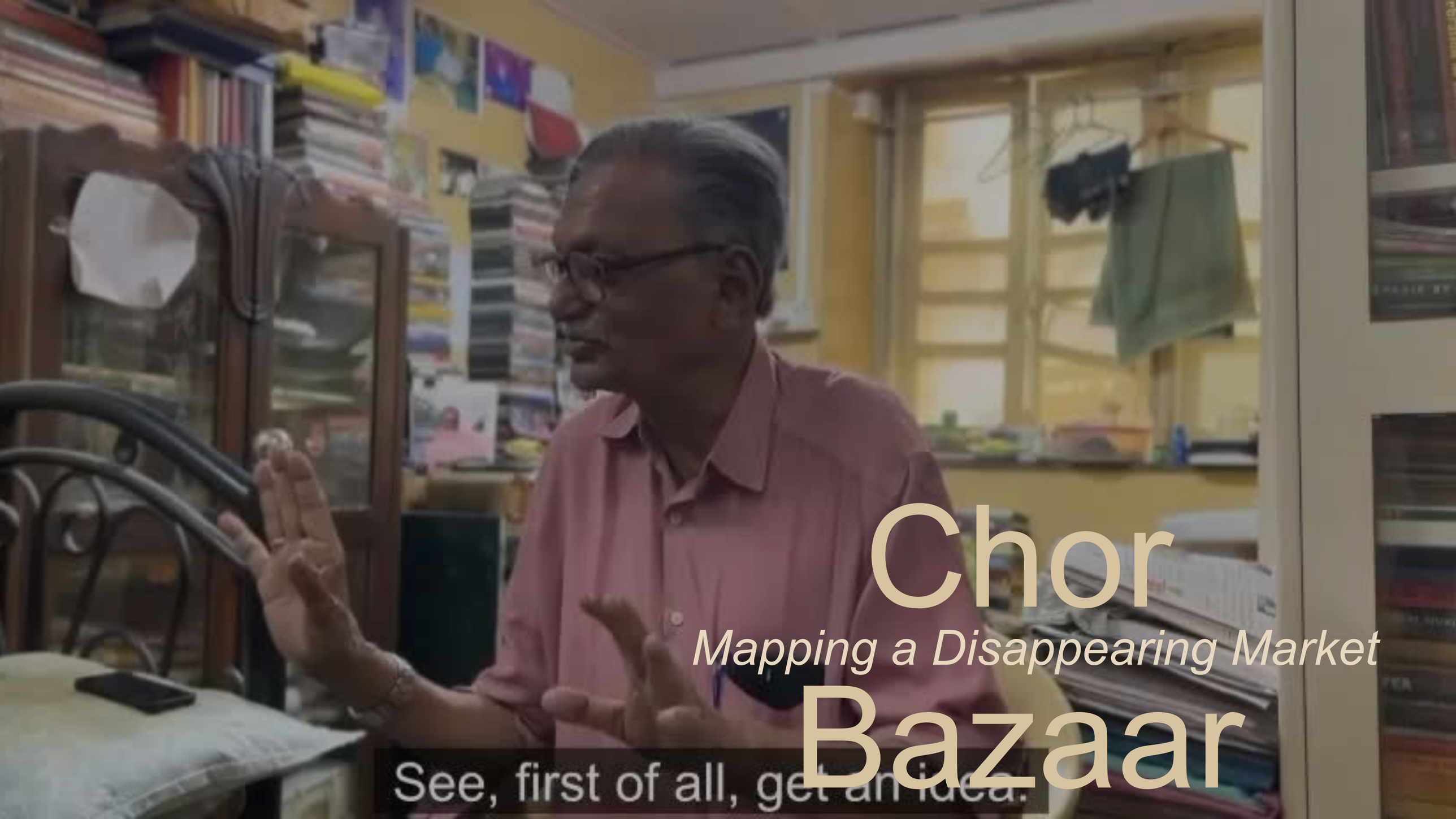
# RESEARCH CONCERN AND OBJECTIVE

- Chor Bazaar’s Lost Identity
- Impact of  The Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust (SBUT)

# RESEARCH GAPS ADDRESSED

- There was lack of transparency from vendors and officials that limited our understanding of Chor Bazaar's supply chains and redevelopment plans.
- Resistance from SBUT and ward offices restricted access to maps and data, hindering spatial analysis.
- Redevelopment impacts are not even and are benefiting larger businesses while marginalizing small vendors and residents.
- The absence of participatory planning highlights the need for more inclusive and equitable urban renewal.


Now we
present to
you the story
of the
infamous
Chor Bazaar.




# Chor Bazaar

*Mapping a Disappearing Market*




# SHOR



# Beyond the “Thieves” Market

# CHOR BAZAAR

# FIRE OF 1803

Origin of Chor Bazaar after the Fire

New Town and Old Town

Creation of Informal Markets

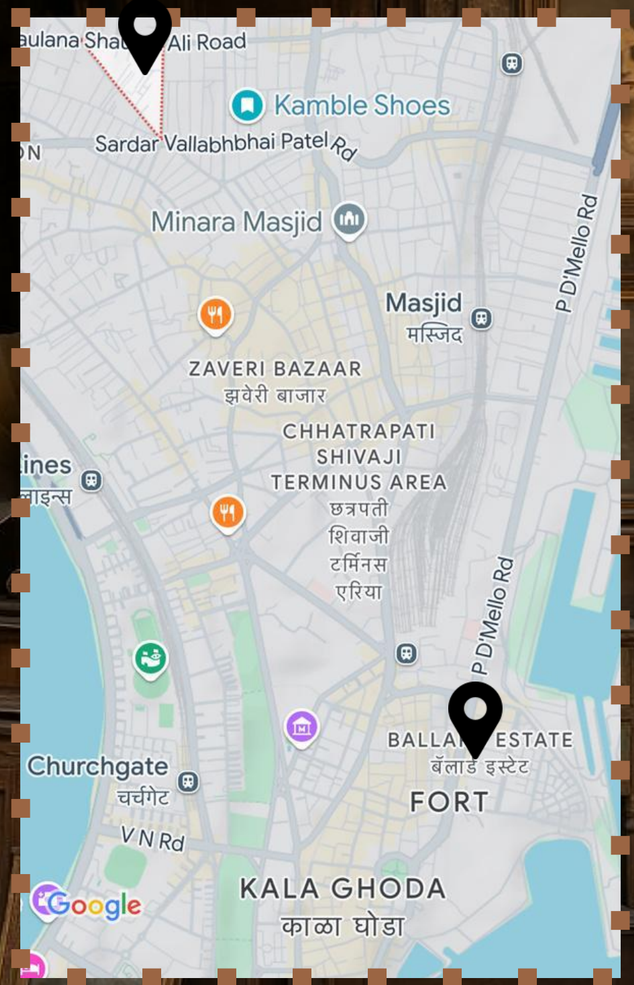
Geographic Location and Nature of Trade

Literature




Map of Areas Affected by the Fire- grey shaded parts

(Hasan, 2018)




Chor Bazaar's location on Google Maps today

# Archival Journey

Methodology : Primary research on field

Research gap addressed : misconception of the market



# Qutbi Masjid, Mutton Street

Image Source: (Amaan,

# ANTIQUES

- Antiques sold for decades
- Most are second-hand items
- Stolen goods have been seen but difficult to verify
- Antique duplicates produced to meet demand

Methodology - Qualitative Research

# GENERATIONAL SHOPS

- Chor Bazaar shops have been passed down generations
- Most are run by original owner's grandchildren
- Current owners expand on old customer base and inventory



Methodology - Qualitative Research

# BOLLYWOOD CONNECTION

- Bollywood boosts the antique demand
- Film companies rent/buy from shops like Hakims
- Poster and vinyl's are popular among general public
- High international demand via auctions abroad

Methodology - Qualitative Research

# PEOPLE AND CUSTOMERS

- Customers have been coming to Chor Bazaar for many years.
- Drawn to the market because of its intriguing name and curiosity after learning about it online from travel blogs or lists.
- They view Chor Bazaar as a cultural wonder that draws them back for its visual spectacle, local spirit, and uniqueness.



On-field findings and analysis
Methodology: Qualitative research

# VAGHRI

- Vaghri, once forest hunter and were labeled as “criminal tribes” by the British
- They migrated to Mumbai and began trading utensils for clothes
- During pilot visit, found 100+ Vaghri people
- Police are unaware of their identity despite being present in Chor Bazaar for 40+ years.
- Archives show how gentrification gentrification blurred their demographic clarity



Literature review

Methodology : qualitative Research - Interviews

# Saifee Burhani Upliftment Trust(SBUT)

*“Ghar walo ko ghar diya,*

*dukaan walo ko dukaan de diya”*



Background image: (Mahesh Tendulkar, 2024)

# SBUT

***“Redevelopment mein interest nahi tha”***

For some vendors, SBUT was not really a choice. They were content with the old feel and look of the market.

***“Law se koi nahi lad sakta”***

However, since SBUT was passed by the government, they were compelled to follow its mandate despite having no interest in the project.

Background image: (Mahesh Tendulkar, 2024)



# SBU

# T

*“Business will double after SBUT”*

Background image: (Mahesh Tendulkar, 2024)



Chor Bazaar under development



Planned future of Chor Bazaar after development

# Maps of SBUT Masjid



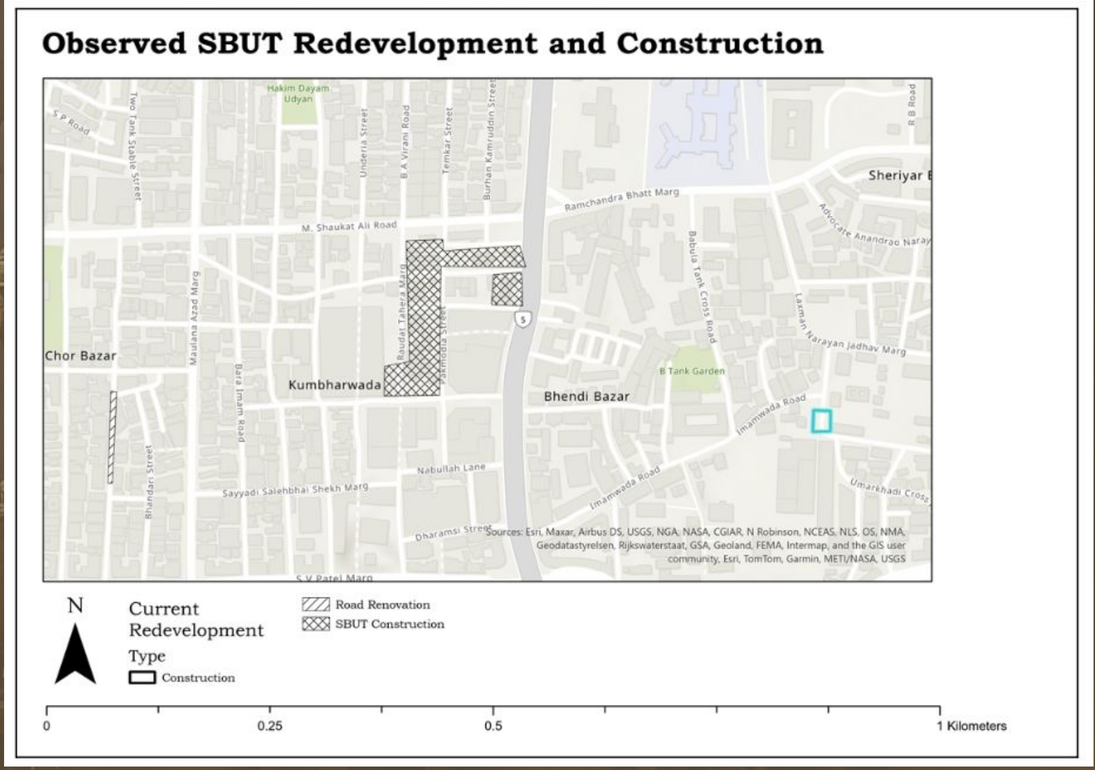

Pre Construction- 2009



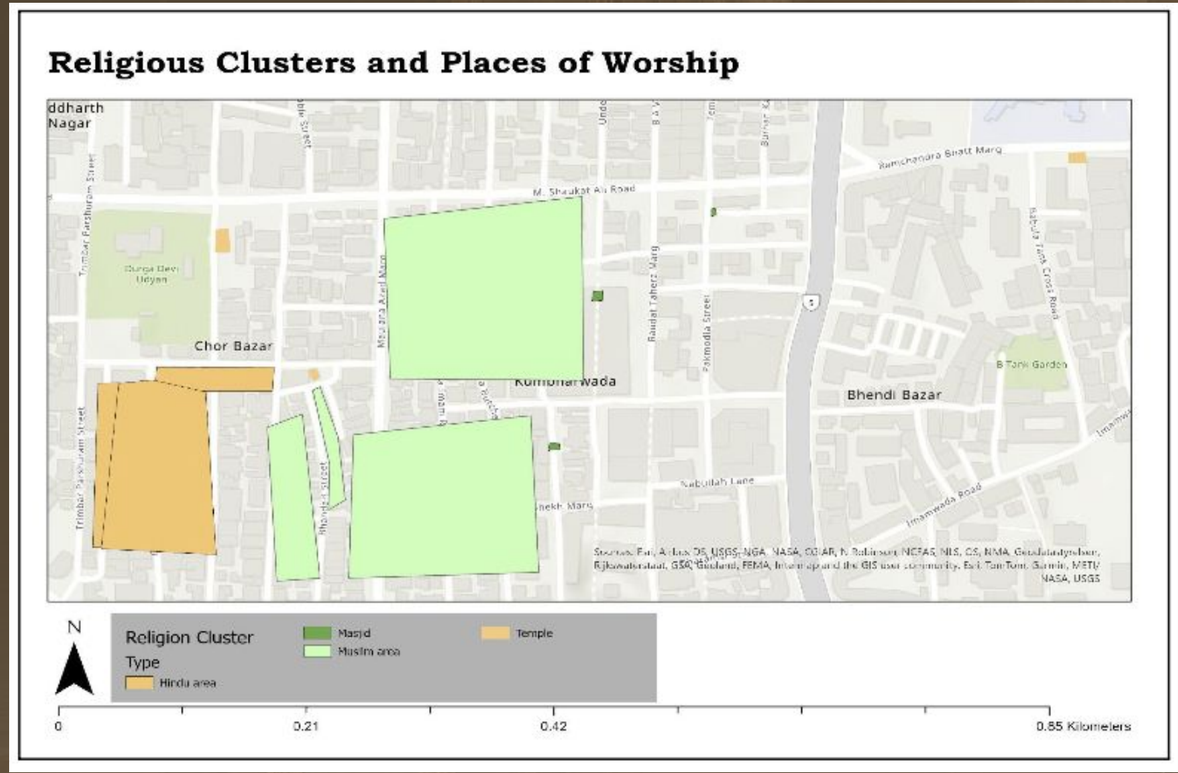

Post Construction- 2013

Maps: (Google Earth Pro)

# Geographic information system(GIS)




Observed SBUT redevelopment and construction (ArcGis Pro)




Religious Clusters and Places of Worship (ArcGis Pro)

Methodology

# CONCLUDING REMARKS

Chor Bazaar has been shrouded in misconceptions since the beginning, and since then, has changed in many ways. From it’s moving boundaries to the redevelopment altering its image currently, Chor Bazaar has been no stranger to change. One thing that we observed is that, despite the challenges that come its way, the one constant Chor Bazaar retains are its people. Shops are passed down through generations and even those demolished are waiting for the day they are reopened, tourists come to visit the noisy lanes every time they come back to Bombay. Chor Bazaar has become has become a piece of Bombay history, one that continues to write a very compelling story.


Thank You

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