





























Bazaars of India

Slide Script

- 1. Leaving the wide streets of the established fancy residential areas of the city, people go shopping on foot, by bus, bicycle or car, or riding a bicycle rickshaw. Canned and frozen foods are expensive in India. A well-run household prides itself on its ability to cook fresh food each day, and many families send someone to buy groceries almost daily.
- 2. Much of the shopping is done in the narrow lanes in the heart of the old city, seen here crowded during rush hour.
- 3. The freshest vegetables are available at the open-air wholesale markets, where each merchant will have one or two kinds of vegetables for sale, like the potatoes and onions in this picture. Most vegetables are sold by weight using a pan balance and government-inspected kilogram weights. This north-Indian man has weighed out 5 kg. of potatoes.
- 4. This garlic vendor from south central India has marked the location of his mobile shop using a bright purple cloth. Notice that he is also using a pan balance to measure what he sells.
- 5. Since some markets only open a few days each week, merchants design a moveable shop and travel to several different locations in a week. Selling a variety of seasonal vegetables like okra, green and white eggplant and wrinkled karela (kuh rail uh) or bitter-goard, these shopkeepers enjoy the hurly-burly excitement and good-natured bickering about prices at the bazaar.
- 6. If you don't have time to go all the way into the center of town to the wholesale market, you can shop in a smaller bazaar, buying from people like

this woman. She has bought an assortment of vegetables downtown and then has brought them in to a neighborhood shopping area to sell. She will arrange her shop at the same corner every day.

- 7. Even smaller shops are dotted among blocks of houses. Of course, the prices at these neighborhood shops are much higher than in the center of town, but here you get to visit with your neighbors and gossip with the shopkeeper. Visitors often drop in unexpectedly, and a homemaker is glad to have a nearby store which can supply food to suddenly stretch the family meal.
- 8. Some enterprising merchants will buy a cart and travel through a number of connected neighborhoods. This cart is made with four bicycle tires. The person making a purchase must be a puppeteer, he has a marionette tucked under his arm.
- 9. A shopping venture can make you hungry! You could stop for tea or coffee, or get some hard candy, or visit a roadside shop like this. Here are fresh hot puri (pooh -ree), fried circles of wholewheat dough which puff up into hollow balls of crisp bread, to dip into spicy pickles and chutney.
- 10. Maybe you'd prefer to think about a snack of chole-bathura (ch oh lay but oo rah). Chole is made of garbanzo beans cooked with a thick, spicy tomato sauce, and bathura are football shaped fresh bread like puris but made from roasted corn meal.
- 11. If you have a sweet-tooth, jalebi (jail aye bee) will be just the thing for you. To make a jalebi the first step is to squeeze swirls of sour-dough into hot oil, like the person in the picture is doing. When the pretzel shaped units are cooked golden brown the crisp hot tubes are plunged into

hot sugar water, to absorb the syrup. After they cool a bit jalebi's are ready to enjoy, a sticky, mouth-watering treat.

- 12. Back to shopping. Cities and towns are dotted with established shopping centers, usually several streets of small shops like the ones here lining the road. Shops in this area sell cloth, shoes, books, and stationary hardware, watches, dishes, etc. Often the ground-floor stores will have apartments upstairs.
- 13. Study the contents of this dry goods store. Square metal boxes contain rice, beans, and lentils. Basins hold different kinds of flour, surrounded by sacks of dried spices, turmeric, ginger root, and larger beans.

The glass-front cabinets on the left side of the picture contain boxes of tea, bottles of fruit juice concentrate, canisters of cleanser, laundry soap, shampoo, cookies and candies, soap, hair oil, and light bulbs. Almost anything which doesn't spoil or get stale can be found at a dry goods store.

- 14. A market is likely to have several shops selling plastic ware, shoes, books, and cloth. A shop owner will often hire a youngster to help at the store.
- 15. Some shopping areas are conjested, like this street of ornaments and costume jewelry. The black tassels on strings hanging in the right of the picture are ornaments which women braid into their hair.
- 16. Other shopping areas are open and airy and lit by florescent lights, like this row of sari and cloth shops in north east India.
- 17. You might go to a different part of town if you needed kerosene lamps or stoves,

- 18. string or twine or rope,
- 19. or kitchen utensils made of aluminum or stainless steel.
- 20. Water and grains can also be stored in pottery containers. The un-glazed pots let a little water evaporate through their porous walls, leaving the water inside pleasantly cool.
- 21. Smaller towns and groups of villages may be visited by travelling salesmen, like this one. He sells old fashioned brass containers for storing water, rice, and grain. Some milk cans and cylinder-shaped lunch boxes made of aluminum hang on a pole in the center of the picture.
- 22. This stand for selling glass and plastic bracelets has been set up for the day, as part of a weekly market or fair. Tomorrow its jewel-like colors will shine in the sun in a different neighborhood.
- 23. Women also wear silver or gold jewelry, which is sold by weight.
- 24. Re-cycling old bottles and tin cans is a well-established business in India.
- 25. A trip to the automotive section of the junk yard uncovers a wealth of parts and tools.
- 26. In spring-time, the wind blows just the right way for kite flying, and kite stores suddenly appear.
- 27. Here's a person retrieving a kite someone else lost control of!
- 28. This cheerful merchant has arranged the fruit to make a colorful and appetizing display.