

# History of Neemrana Fort

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**ABSTRACT:** Neemrana is an ancient historical town in Kotputli-Behror or Rath district of Rajasthan, India, 66 km (41 mi) from Alwar city, 122 km (76 mi) from New Delhi and 150 km (93 mi) from Jaipur on the Delhi-Jaipur highway in Neemrana tehsil. It was one of the three capitals of the Chahuhan of Ajmer and the last refuge of their descendants after the loss of Delhi. It is between Behror and Shahajahanpur.

**KEYWORDS:** Neemrana, Historical, Kotputli, Rajasthan, Tehsil, Fort, Refuge, Ancient

## I. INTRODUCTION

### Etymology

According to most commonly accepted legend Nimrana is said to be named after defeated chieftain Nimola Meva. Another legend says it to be named after Neem Trees.

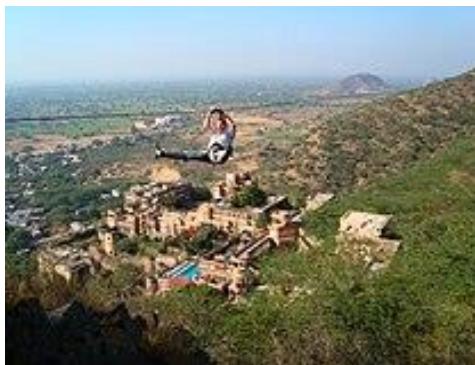
### History

Neemrana Fort Palace was constructed in 1464 AD and had been residence of the Chauhans of Ajmer after loss of Delhi. Subsequently it was converted into first heritage hotel of India in mid 70s of 20th Century.[1,2]

### Topography

Nimrana town proper is surrounded by Aravalli Hills to the north and acts as a gateway to Sahibi River Valley . The Soil surrounding hills is Balu and not fertile. There are scanty surface water resources . Sahibi river which flows around 5 km south east is usually dry. Various small streams used to emerge from the hills but now dry.

### Industry



Flying Fox Neemrana

The Rajasthan government, through Rajasthan Industrial Cooperation RIICO, has developed industrial zones in various stages in Neemrana in the past several years. Apart from the usual industrial areas, the Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP) and the Japanese Industrial Zone in Majra Kath are particularly noteworthy. India's first Japanese SEZ which is tax concession based Industrial township was established here . Besides Major Industries like Hero Motocorp , Daikin , Parle Agro are present here . India's first Microgrid Solar power plant was established in Neemrana. <sup>[1]</sup>

### Transport

Main mode of connectivity to other cities through Road with absence of Railway Network , NH 48 connects it to Delhi at 110 km and Jaipur at 140 Km . Nearest Railway station is Kund Railway Station . Nearest airstrip is Bachhod Airstrip at 20 km. Nearest International airport is Indira Gandhi International Airport at 100 Km.



## Education

Neemrana has many Universities and Colleges chief among them NIIT University, Raffles University, Parle School, Vrindavan School, Aeronautics College, Nalanda University Campus .

Neemrana Fort Palace is one of the most famous heritage hotels on Delhi-Jaipur highway. Earlier a palace, Neemrana is located near the Aravali mountain ranges of Rajasthan. The history of Neemrana Fort Palace dates back to 1464 A.D., when the palace was constructed. One of the oldest heritage hotels, the entire property of Neemrana Fort Palace is spread over 25 acres of land. The 10 storey palace is built over 3 acres of land. In the year 1986, this extra-ordinary fort-palace underwent restoration and reconstruction and was transformed into a hotel.

The state of Rajasthan, located in the northern part of the country, has gained a lot of fame globally due to the mountains and the magnificent forts, palaces and buildings situated on them. The 552-year-old Neemrana Fort situated on the Aravalli Hills is one of the most historical buildings in India.

Neemrana is a historical fort as well as a beautiful famous tourist destination. 'Neemrana' is an ancient historical city in the Alwar district, which is situated on the Delhi-Jaipur highway, at a distance of about 122 km from Delhi. There are many attractive places around Neemrana. Their interestingness is so much that domestic and foreign tourists can be seen here in large numbers. [3,5,7]

## II.DISCUSSION

The Historic Neemrana Fort, located in the Alwar district of Rajasthan, was built in 1464 AD. Neemrana Fort Palace is one of the few oldest heritage resorts in India. Neemrana is also very important from historical point of view. Actually the head of Neemrana city was Nimola Meo. The fort was named after the head of the city, Nimola Meo.

When there was a war between Nimola Meo and Prithviraj Chauhan in 1192, Nimola Meo was defeated in this war, then the Chauhans shifted their capital from Mandhan to Neemrana. Neemrana fort-haveli became the third capital of the descendants of Prithviraj Chauhan III. After being defeated in the war, Nimola Meo requested Prithviraj Chauhan to give that place his name, since then it came to be called Neemrana. Prithviraj Chauhan died in a battle with Muhammad Ghori in 1192.

### Neemrana Fort Interesting Facts

1. This huge 10-storey fort has been built by cutting the Aravalli hill in three acres. This is the reason that going up and down in this palace gives the feeling of climbing a hill.
2. The mixture of Mughal and Rajputana architectural styles is clearly visible in the construction of this fort. Apart from this, the image of the British era can also be seen in the interior decoration of the palace.
3. This palace is situated between Behror and Shahjahanpur. It is also known as Rath Kshetra.
4. This fort has been converted into a heritage resort in the year 1986 by the Government of India. Situated on a high hill, Neemrana Fort-Haveli has a luxurious outlook of beauty around it makes this place even more attractive.
5. Ten Floors high this palace has a total of 50 rooms. There is a conference hall in the Nazara Mahal and Durbar Mahal built here. Many restaurants have been built in this fort, which has turned into a palace. There is also an open swimming pool in this palace.
6. The special thing about this fort is that every room built here has been given a different name. If you want to enjoy the majestic opulence in the fort, then for a nominal fee, tourists can enjoy the splendor of the palace for two hours, but can only use these rooms for the whole day. These rooms cannot be rented at night. Are being given.
7. Being built on a high mountain, most of the rooms have balconies to enjoy the grandeur of the surroundings to the fullest. Even from the bathroom of this fort, you will easily get to see lush green views.
8. The mind swells to see the serene atmosphere of the fort and the gorgeous pictures inside.



9. At present, this palace has become a major heritage site and is a suitable venue for weddings and conferences.
10. The Sariska Tiger Reserve, one of the country's famous tiger reserves, is also located here. This tiger reserve was once the hunting ground of the royal family of Alwar. 200 km from Delhi on the Delhi-Jaipur route. Sariska National Park situated at a distance of 866 sq.km. Is covered around in In this park, Bengal's royal tiger, panther, sambar, brock, crocodile and different species of birds are found.
11. There is an ancient site called 'Kesroli' in Alwar district, at a distance from Neemrana. It is a wonderful place to visit. Apart from this, if you are fond of boating then you can also go to Silisedh Lake from Kesroli, which is very popular for boating.[8,9,10]

### **III.RESULTS**

A magnificent palace amidst lush greenery, Neemrana Fort Palace was built in 1464 in Neemrana, a town in Alwar district of Rajasthan and belonged to the descendants of Prithviraj Chauhan III of the Rajput Chauhan dynasty. The rulers defied the British and bowed to none even as their land was being given away to the neighbouring kingdoms. Strained with difficulties, in 1947, Raja Rajinder Singh of Neemrana left the palace as the façade had started crumbling and the ramparts started to crack, moving to Vijay Bagh. In 1986 the historical ruins were acquired for restoration and in 2000, it had opened its doors with just 15 rooms. By 2008 it had completely restored resplendently and had metamorphosed into a 4-star luxurious heritage hotel with a fusion of traditional Rajasthani and modern interiors. It consists of 74 rooms and an additional wing which houses the two swimming pools and spa, hanging gardens with a salon, a restaurant with a roof-top garden, an amphitheatre and conference rooms.

Take a tour of the magnificent 11 tiered Neemrana Fort for a small fee and explore the charm of the old heritage. You can visit the fort or book a stay and feel like royalty whilst enjoying the luxuries of the palace. Neemrana offers guests a camel ride and vintage car rides.

Adrenaline junkies can experience the thrill of zip lining from the Neemrana fort and being fascinated by the breathtaking view below. At 400 meters in length and 40km speed, it will cover around 5 different hills spanning the palace and will take around 2.5 hours to complete.

Around 126 kms away is the Sariska Wildlife Sanctuary. Once upon a time, a hunting preservation of the Maharaja of Alwar, it is now a tiger reserve known for its Royal Bengal Tigers which were relocated from Ranthambore. Apart from the glorious tigers, you can also witness other wildlife species such as nilgai, leopard jungle cat, hyena, rhesus monkey and birds such as kingfisher, grey partridge, crested serpent eagle, bush quail, woodpeckers, etc. The sanctuary has the largest population of peafowl and crocodiles. The sanctuary has a diverse landscape ranging from rocky hills to enchanting forests and lush grasslands and a must visit for nature enthusiasts.

Venture to the Bala Quila Fort which is located above the city palace on a hill of the Aravalli range. It was built in the 15 century by Hasan Khan Mewati and was later possessed by Marathas, Yadavas and Kachwaha Rajputs. The fort is a massive imposing structure stretching 5km long from north to south and 1.6 km width from east to west. It has 6 gates - Jai Pol, Suraj Pol, Laxman Pol, Chand Pol, Krishen Pol and Andheri Gate - and around 15 large and 51 small towers. 304 meters above sea level, it offers a spectacular view of Alwar. Rajasthan has more history than the entire country put together – it is the realm of erstwhile Maharajas and their lavish palaces and majestic forts.

The best time to visit Neemrana Fort is September to March. Though, it is pleasant throughout the year as it is set amidst greenery, the mercury dips during the winter season making it a more comfortable experience.[9,10,11]

### **IV.CONCLUSIONS**

The industrial town of Neemrana is an ancient town, situated on the Delhi-Jaipur Highway, between Behror and Shahajahanpur. This area is also known as Ahirwal region and is the site of a 16th-century hill-fort occupied by Chauhans till 1947. The erstwhile ruling Chauhan family is considered to be of the direct lineage of Prithviraj Chauhan. Apart from this fort, there is also another fort, Kesroli in Alwar district, that is one of the oldest heritage sites. In Kesroli, you can witness the oldest remains of Buddhist Vihara at Viratnagar where the Pandavas spent the last year of their exile incognito. Known as Pandupole, this place has a reclining statue of Hanuman and the samadhi of the ruler saint Bhartrihari.

What is more famous in Neemrana nowadays is the large industrial belt that has sprung across the town with many multinational companies having set up base here. An excellent destination for a quick weekend getaway, only a drive



from the National Capital, Neemrana offers great facilities. Days Hotel at Neemrana offers great stay for those travelling to this town, whether it be for business or pleasure.[10,11]

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