

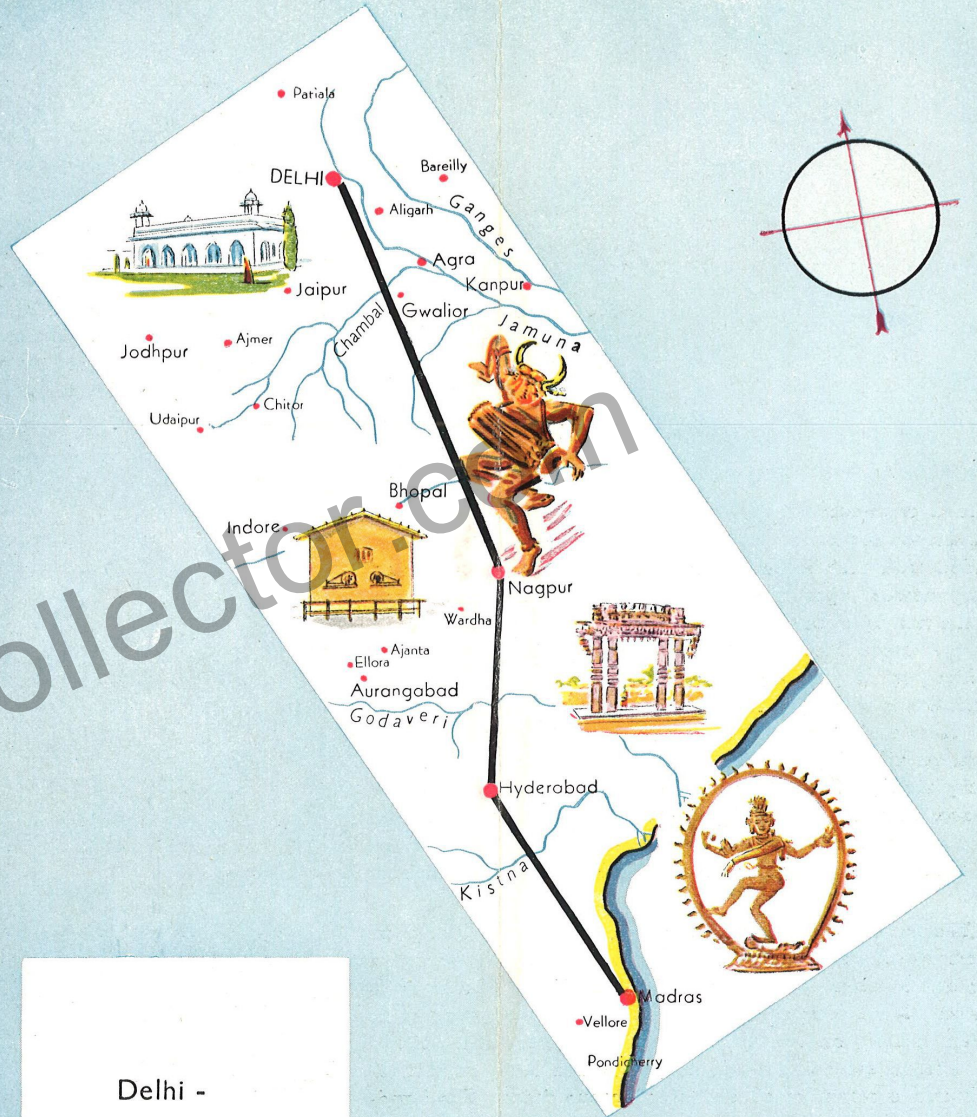
Northern and Southern  
cultures meet in  
the Deccan

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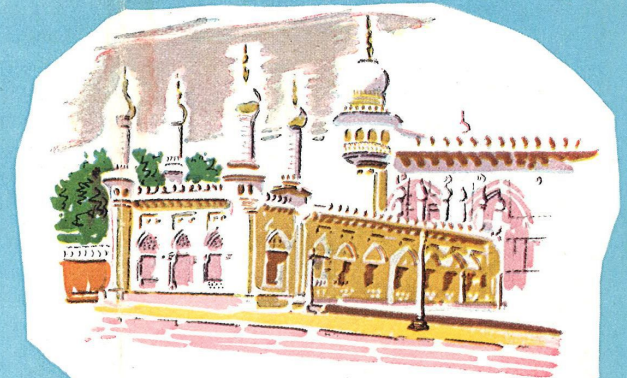
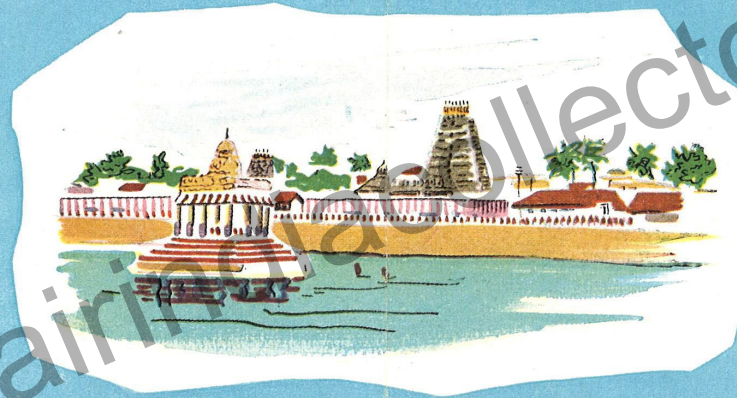
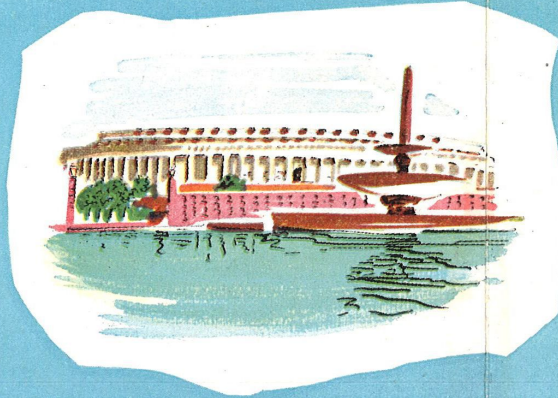
# Routes of the Golden Eagle

On your flight southwards 254 miles to Hyderabad over the Deccan expanse, you cross the river Godavari and its tributaries Penganga and Wardha. You must have heard of the Nizam of Hyderabad, said to be the "richest man in the world", though currently the Sheikh of Kuwait seems to have a better right to the title of Croesus. There is certainly enough evidence yet in the Nizam's palaces to make a challenger think twice. The Nizam's sprawling palace barely visible behind high walls lies south of the celebrated Char Minar, a stately gateway with four minarets in the centre of the city.

dominions were cut at Golconda and became famous as the Golconda diamonds.

The final lap of 326 miles from Hyderabad to Madras takes you over the Penner and Kistna rivers and over the Eastern Ghats to the coast. In Madras you can stroll along the Marina, the second-best beach in the world, or drive along the road which runs parallel to it for four miles, still unspoiled by the absence of big hotels and shops. The third biggest city in India, Madras has a large number of parks, tree-shaded avenues, garden-houses and old buildings. It strongly maintains its ancient character and customs. Rich in language and culture, Madras has remained comparatively independent of foreign influence.

You will recognize the Mylapore temple by its sculptures dome. It is believed that St. Thomas, one of the Twelve Apostles, settled in Mylapore and was martyred here. But Mylapore has been immortalized by Tiruvallavar (A.D. 100), the greatest of Tamil poets, author of the Kural, described as the "literary treasure, the poetic mouthpiece, the highest type of verbal excellence among the Tamil people." Today Madras is internationally famous for its classical dancing and music; and the Kalakshetra, a famous school for these twin arts, attracts quite a number of European and American students.



It is a cross-country service from Delhi to Madras—north-west to south-east changing landscape—sandy deserts studded with rock fortresses, river lined by green fields and rolling downs, tiger-infested forests, savage mountain crags and the rich uplands of the Deccan trap. Taking off from Delhi with the Qutab Minar still within view you soon realize that the first part of your flight is almost parallel to the Jamuna. In fact this is so till you have left behind Agra where the river turns more to the east. If your plane has not gained too much height on a bright day the massive fort of Gwalior should be clearly visible. Soon after passing Gwalior you are over the wooded hills of central India, cleft by the valley of the Narbada. It is good tiger country almost up to Nagpur which you reach after a flight of about 3½ hours by Dakota from Delhi.

The capital of Madhya Pradesh, Nagpur is today an important railway centre and airport—the meeting point of the night Air Mail planes from Calcutta, Delhi, Bombay and Madras. Much of its contemporary history tends to obscure its ancient history, but for the sacred hill of Ramtek in the north-east with its gleaming white temples which serve as a landmark and a reminder of distant, vigorous times. The hand-weaving industry still remains one of the living traditions of Nagpur, famous for fine fabrics.



The Char Minar is a spectacular landmark around which runs the principal street of Hyderabad. The usual buildings which every major Indian city boasts, such as a high court and a library, Hyderabad also possesses, but here the architecture is distinctive, particularly the modern Saracenic style of Osmania University.

Six miles from Hyderabad is Secunderabad, one of the finest towns in India with a country atmosphere. It is a modern city with many hotels and clubs—a popular base for tourist excursions in and around the Osmansagar Lake and the Himyat Sagar Lake, flanked by charming gardens. The historic

## DELHI-NAGPUR-HYDERABAD-MADRAS

fort of Golconda is five miles west of Hyderabad. It was founded in 1518 as the capital of the Kutab Shahi dynasty. Diamonds found in the Kutab Shahi