

Kolkata – The City of Joy

Kolkata, formerly known as Calcutta, is the capital city of the Indian state of West Bengal. It is one of India's oldest and most culturally rich metropolitan cities. Known as the "City of Joy," Kolkata is famous for its vibrant festivals, colonial architecture, literature, art, and cuisine. The city is situated on the eastern bank of the Hooghly River and serves as the principal commercial, cultural, and educational hub of Eastern India.

Kolkata's history dates back to the late 17th century when it became an important trading post for the British East India Company. The city played a key role in India's independence movement and has since evolved into a major urban center. Its streets reflect a mix of old-world charm and modern life, where trams, yellow taxis, and bustling markets coexist with shopping malls and IT parks.

The city's cultural scene is deeply rooted in literature, music, theatre, and art. It is home to the Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore and the legendary filmmaker Satyajit Ray. Every year, the city hosts the famous Durga Puja festival, which transforms Kolkata into a dazzling display of creativity, devotion, and celebration. Other notable landmarks include the Victoria Memorial, Howrah Bridge, Indian Museum, and the Marble Palace.

Modern Kolkata is also a growing IT and education hub, with institutions such as the Indian Statistical Institute, Jadavpur University, and the Indian Institute of Management (IIM Calcutta) contributing to its intellectual landscape. The city's warmth, hospitality, and strong sense of community continue to make it one of the most endearing cities in India.