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Food In The City: Food As A Cultural Tool In Shaping An Urban Fabric- Case Of Kolkata

The thesis attempts to understand the indirect relationship between food and the city spatially, economically and environmentally. We can easily figure out from history that no city was ever built without considering where its food was to come from. Urbanization and globalization made the context of modern cities food system into more complex and unknown to the living conditions. According to statistics by 2050, two thirds of the world's population will likely to live in cities. So there is a huge possibility to replace natural determinants by alternative food network. Most of the cities are struggling to feed their city because of various reasons like growing population, geographical resource constraints, waste management etc. However the way should be sustainable, healthy, affordable and environmental friendly.

Kolkata, the capital city of West Bengal often described as “Triple- blessed” Indian city, possessing a river for drinking water and the wetlands to treat city sewage and produce food. In West Bengal Food is a local identity. But because of its rich hinterlands and colonial influences, Kolkata derived its own modified, accepted and refined food. Study is focusing on the city in three different levels Macro, Meso and Micro. In the macro level city explore from the perspective food system, determinants of food and its spatial distribution in the city. From the macro level understanding and user group surveys study further focusing on typology of food spaces. It will make a deep understanding on how everyday life is related to food socially and spatially. From the meso level conclusions study focusing on a particular typology and detailed understanding of its working system in terms of activity, morphology, connectivity etc to make a convivial expression of food in the city.

Keywords: *Urbanization, globalization, food system, food network, convivial expression*