

## Leaving Rajasthan, and Heading South (1/7/2008 to 1/13/2008)

After dropping Karin and Jeff off at the airport, I headed back to Jaipur, not because I really like the place, but rather to hang out with my father before he took his group south. Although the city is not as bad as the reputation it has, for being a large city full of tour groups, scam artists and pushy vendors. Fortunately the vendors move on quickly to more inviting target than a guy with ripped pants and dirty cloths. I basically tagged along with my dad's student tour for 3 days, which meant a step up in accommodation (former palaces converted into hotels) and transportation aboard a chartered bus. The stint in higher class accommodation didn't do anything to make me want to change my travel style. In my opinion, about all you get for 10 times the price is nicer furniture. After Jaipur my dad's tour visited some of the villages in Shekhawati a region known for its elaborately painted havalies (houses of rich merchants). I hitched a ride back to Delhi with the tour and then parted ways with my dad; while he and his students were flying south, I was going to take a more leisurely journey south starting with the city of Gwalior dominated by its famous fort.



Smoking a pipe in Jaipur.



Kites for sale in Jaipur.



**Decorated elephant's behind, at the Amber Fort near Jaipur.**



**Elephants at the Amber Fort near Jaipur. The sign is actually pointing the way to a real toilet although the elephant toilet is pretty much right where the arrow is pointing.**



**Jaipur.**



**Movie posters next to street side toilet in use, Jaipur.**



**Cenotaphs of the Maharajas of Jaipur.**



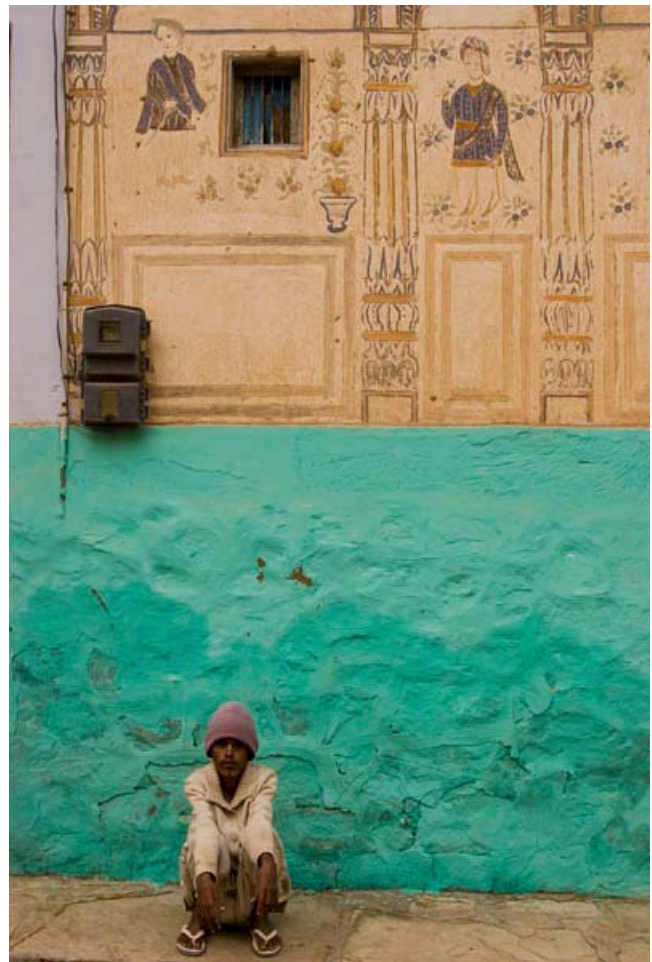
**Marble carving on the cenotaphs of the Maharajas of Jaipur.**



**Haveli in Nawalgarh,  
Shekhawati region.**



**Man getting some sleep in front of a  
painted Haveli in Nawalgarh, Shekhawati  
region.**



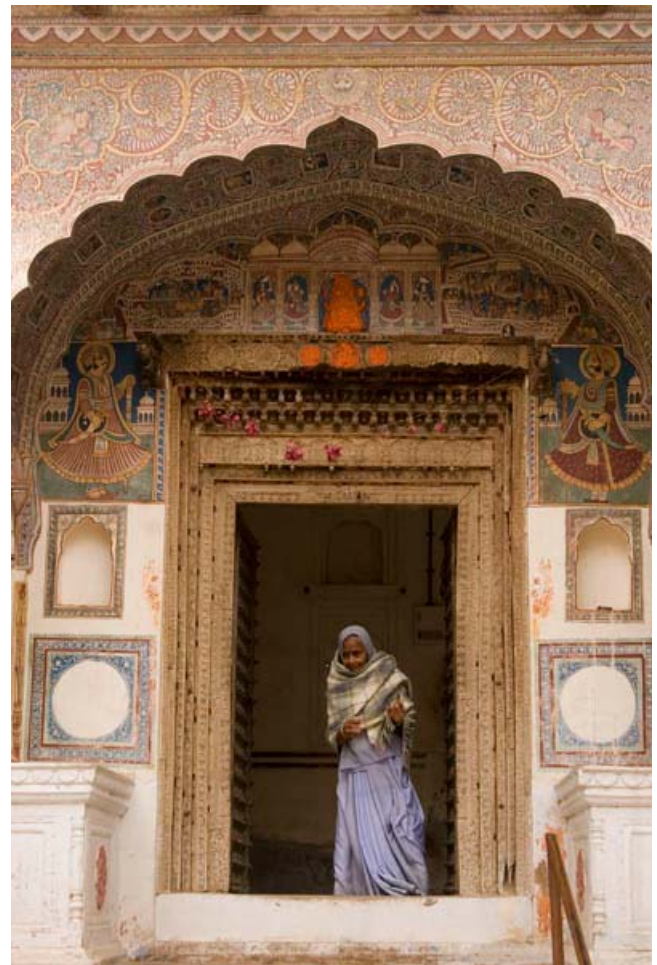
**Haveli in Mandawa, Shekhawati region.**



**Painted Haveli in Nawalgarh, Shekhawati region.**



**Haveli in Mandawa, Shekhawati region.**



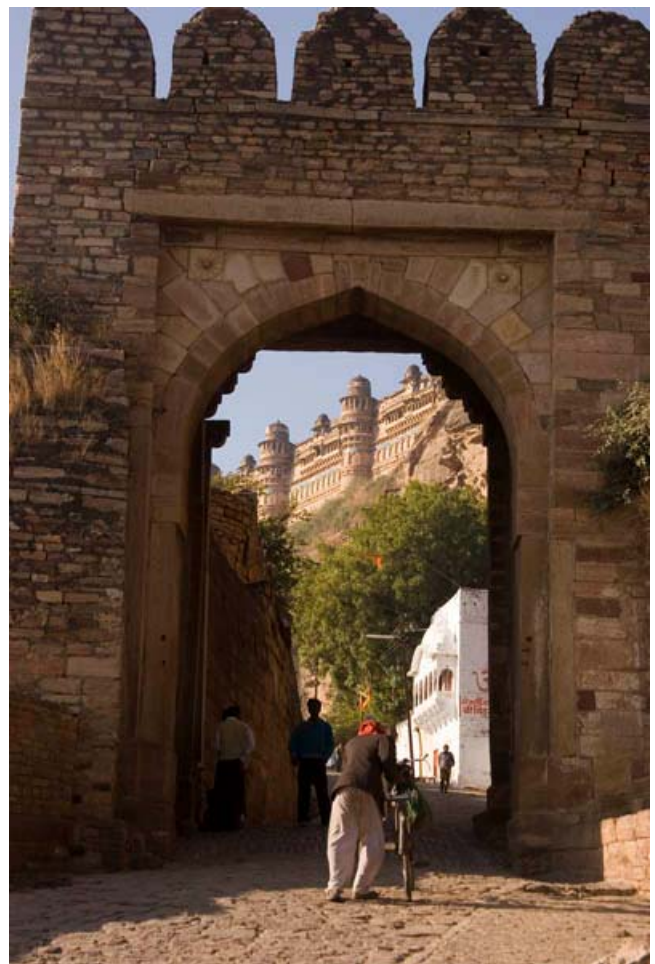
**Haveli in Mandawa, Shekhawati region.**



**Strong man pulling car depicted on a haveli in Mandawa, Shekhawati**



**Haveli in Mandawa, Shekhawati region.**



**Gate entering the fort, Gwalior.**



**Man Singh Palace  
(constructed from 1486 to  
1516), fort, Gwalior.**



**Man Singh Palace (constructed from 1486  
to 1516), fort, Gwalior.**



**Modern Sikh temple within the fort (built  
to commemorate a Sikh saint who was  
imprisoned at the fort), Gwalior.**



**Man Singh Palace  
(constructed from 1486 to  
1516), fort, Gwalior.**



**Cow in front of a car  
show room, Gwalior.**



**Driving school with simulator, Gwalior. I wonder if they have cows popping up in the middle of the road on the simulator as well.**