

GEOGRAPHY OF RAJASTHAN

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RIVERS OF RAJASTHAN

All aspects relating to Rivers of Rajasthan have been simplified and summarized by the Delhi Law Academy in 21 pages. This sample contains the first 3 pages...

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Banas River & its Tributaries

- Banas river originates in the Khamnor Hills of the Aravalli Range, near Kumbhalgarh in Rajsamand.
- It is a tributary of the Chambal River and is approximately 512 kilometres in length.
- It is also known as <u>'Van Ki Asha'</u> (Hope of forest).
- There is another river in Rajasthan with name of Banas, which flows in western direction and is also called as West Banas River.

Origin	Khamnor Hills, near Kumbhalgarh in Raisamand.
Length	512 Kms
Discharge	Chambal near Rameshwar in Sawai Madhopur District
States & Major Cities	Nathdwara, Jahazpur and Tonk.
Right Bank Tributaries	Berach, Menali
Left Bank Tributaries	Kothari, Khari, Dai, Morel and Kalisil
Major Dams	Bisalpur

Banas River in Indian mythology

- Lord Parshuram, an avatar (incarnation) of Lord Vishnu, is linked strongly with Banas. Parshuram had killed his mother, Renukaji, on the order of his father. He went to several places seeking salvation. He saw that a calf, who had turned black on killing a man, turned white again after taking a dip in river Banas. Parshuram did the same and was relieved of the sin. The place is now called <u>Matrikundya</u> and falls in Bhilwara district. It is also known as the '<u>Haridwar of Rajasthan'</u>.
- <u>Jargaji</u>, an important pilgrimage, is located around 10 km from the origin point. Jarga ji was a devotee of Baba Ram dev, chief deity of the Meghwal community.
- The <u>Triveni Dham</u> near Mandalgarh in Bhilwara district where Berach and Menali rivers meet Banas also holds great value.
- At Sawai Madhopur, <u>Rameshwaram Ghat</u> is a famous pilgrimage spot as Banas merges into Chambal here.



Banas River Basin:

- Banas lies completely within Rajasthan and has the largest catchment area (45,833 square km) in Rajasthan.
- Banas drains the east slope of the central portion of the Aravalli Range, and the basin includes all or part of Pali, Rajsamand, Udaipur, Tonk, Ajmer, Bhilwara, Bundi, Chittorgarh, Dausa, Jaipur and Sawai Madhopur districts.

Tributaries of Banas:

1. Berach or Bedach

- Berach originates at Gogunda hills in the Udaipur District and is known by name of Ahar river.
- It is called Berach after appearing from Udaisagar lake near Udaipur.
- It flows northeast through Udaipur, Chittorgarh and Bhilwara districts, joining the Banas near Bigod village of Bhilwara district.
- Berach has significant historical significance with banks of Ahar having thrown up evidences of settlements dating back to the <u>Harappan and pre-Harappan eras</u> cultural levels, thus exhibiting connection with Indus Valley civilization.
- Additionally, evidences of big palaces were found at *Nagri*, an ancient site around 16 km from Chittorgarh.

2. Kothari River

- Kothari River rises from the Aravalli hills near Devgarh in the Rajsamand.
- It flows through Bhilwara and ultimately joins the Banas river at Nandrai in Kotri tehsil.
- The *Meja* dam on the Kothari river provides drinking water to the Bhilwara district.

3. Khari River

• Origin- Hills of Bijral village, North of Rajsamand district



- Length- 80 Km
- It meets near Banas river near Deoli (Tonk).

4. Dai River

- River Dai originates in the south-eastern slopes of the Aravalli Range, near Nasirabad tehsil of Ajmer.
- It flows southeast and then east in Ajmer District and for a short distance through Tonk district, before joining Banas River near Bisalpur village in Tonk district.

5. Morel River

- One branch of river Morel originates in the hills near Dharla and Chainpura villages in Bassi tehsil of Jaipur District and the second branch makes by receiving water from the catchment area of foothills of Paplaj Mataji mountains, district Dausa.
- It flows southeast and then southwest to meet river Dhund, and then again southeast through Jaipur, Dausa and Sawai Madhopur, eventually joining Banas river near Hadoli of Sawai Madhopur District.

6. Kali Sil River

- The River Kalisil originates in the hills near Rajpura village in Sawai Madhopur district.
- The river flows generally southwest, partly through hills and partly in the plains of Sawai Madhopur district, finally joining the Morel River.

Major Dams on Banas River

- **Bisalpur** Dam is a gravity dam on the Banas River near Deoli in Tonk district, Rajasthan, India.
- The dam was constructed in 1999 for the purpose of irrigation and water supply.