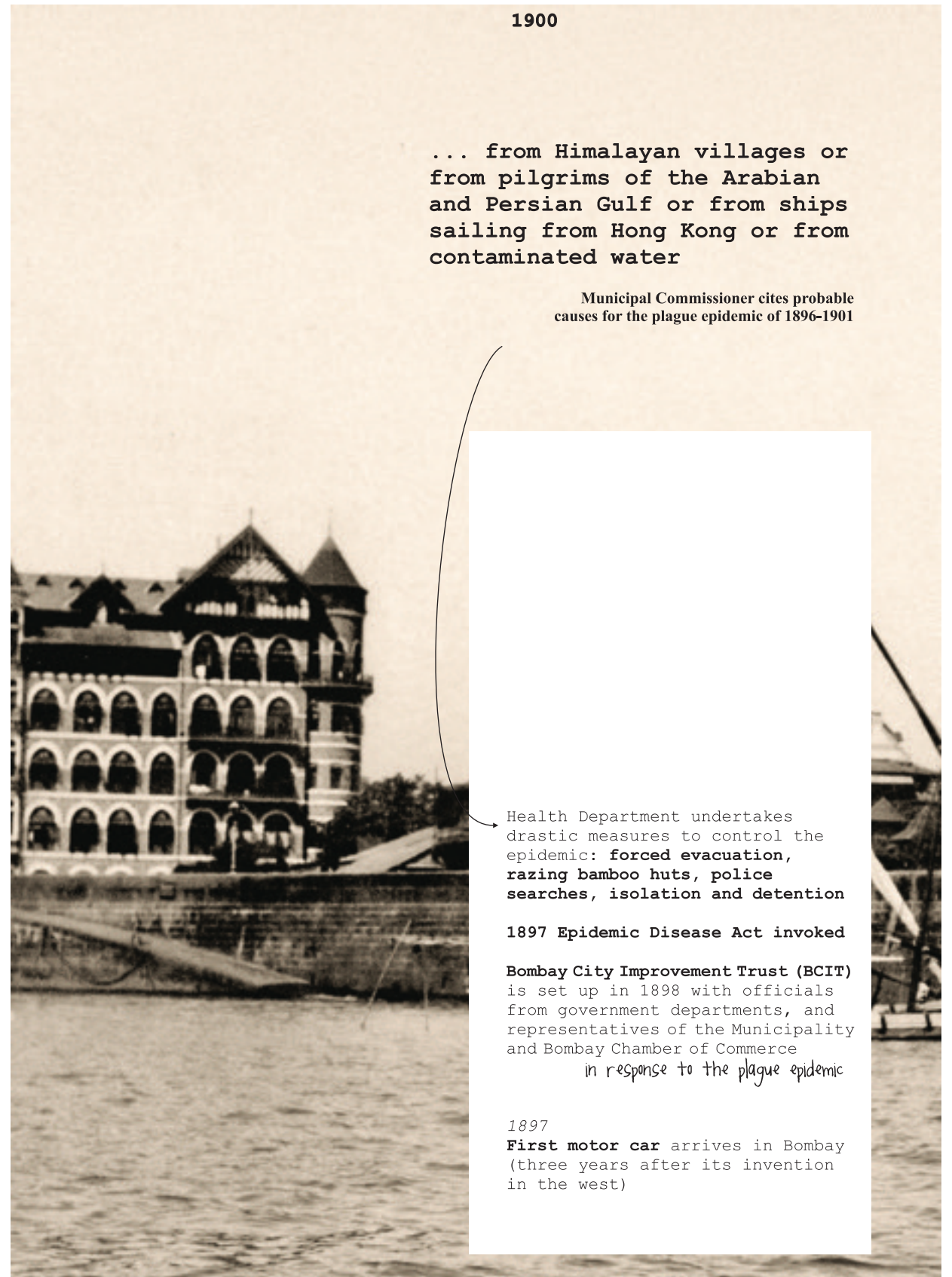




1900

... from Himalayan villages or from pilgrims of the Arabian and Persian Gulf or from ships sailing from Hong Kong or from contaminated water

Municipal Commissioner cites probable causes for the plague epidemic of 1896-1901



Health Department undertakes drastic measures to control the epidemic: **forced evacuation, razing bamboo huts, police searches, isolation and detention**

1897 Epidemic Disease Act invoked

Bombay City Improvement Trust (BCIT) is set up in 1898 with officials from government departments, and representatives of the Municipality and Bombay Chamber of Commerce
in response to the plague epidemic

1897

First motor car arrives in Bombay (three years after its invention in the west)

1896 'Living Photographic Pictures in Life-Size Reproductions' by Messrs. Lumière Brothers at Watson's hotel, (Esplanade Mansion), Kala Ghoda

THE SEA BATH

ARRIVAL OF A TRAIN

A DEMOLITION

LADIES & SOLDIERS ON WHEELS

and **LEAVING THE FACTORY**

moving images that become leitmotifs of cinema in the next century

Public screenings open at Novelty Theatre, Grant Road

1896 Colaba railway station opens under BB&CI - by 1900, daily run of 44 local trains

1898

TRAIN ARRIVING AT BOMBAY STATION

filmed & commercially screened at Tivoli Theatre by a foreign entrepreneur/magician who names his apparatus after himself **Andersonoscopegraph**

As the 20th century begins

First planned suburban scheme (Dadar-Matunga-Wadala-Sion) to decongest the city modelled on British garden suburbs

this eventually leads to the creation of Hindu colony and Parsi colony in Dadar, and Tamil colony in Matunga

1899 **WRESTLING MATCH & MONKEY DANCE IN HANGING GARDEN**

Bhatvadekar

Save Dada ^ shoots the first moving images produced by an Indian

1900 Tent cinema exhibitor F B Thanawalla shoots assorted footage of Bombay city and events, and shows it as **GRAND KINETOSCOPE NEWSREELS**

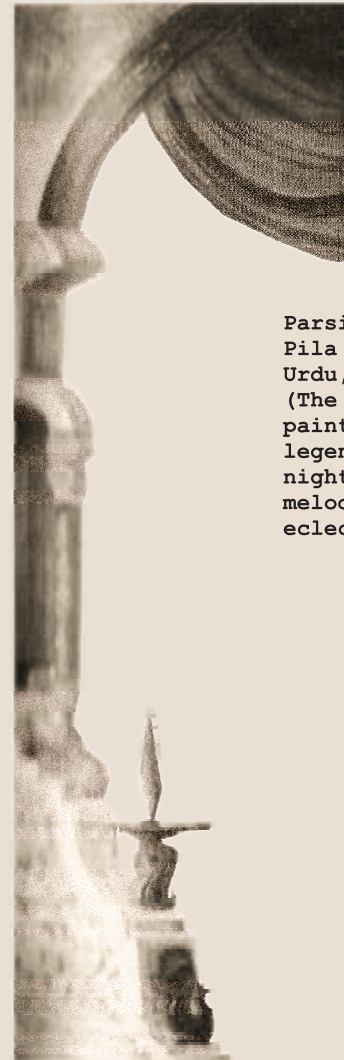
New Year's eve 1900

Tivoli Theatre at Bori Bunder shows variety film programme with music by a string band

Pila House hybridization of Play House

a cluster of theatres staging Parsi Theatre plays and Tamasha performances - bordered on the east by the red light area of Kamatipura (named after Telugu-speaking community of masons), and on the west by migrant courtesans and other entertainment artists at Congress House (named after the office of the Congress Party nearby)

is at its peak at the turn of the century



Parsi Theatre plays are staged at Grant Road, Pila House and Bori Bunder, in Gujarati, Urdu, and occasionally, Marathi and English. (The salient features of these plays: painted backdrops; stories from Persian legends, Sanskrit epics, Arabic Arabian nights, Shakespearean plays and Victorian melodrama; and performance conventions from eclectic sources)



1900

The number of functioning spinning and weaving units touches 138

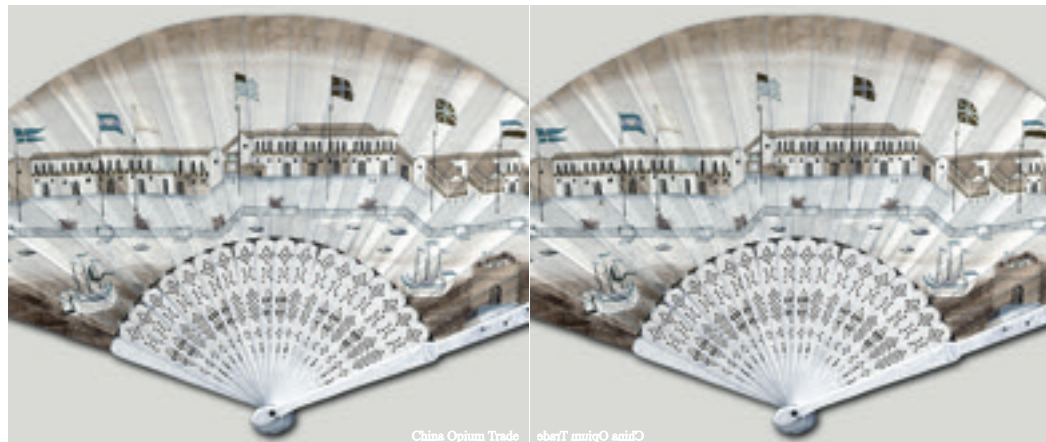
WORKERS/ARTISANS

- EMBROIDERY, AND LACE AND MUSLIN MAKING: 1000
- TOBACCO AND SNUFF MANUFACTURERS AND SELLERS: 2800
- LIME KILNS, AND BRICK AND TILE MAKING: 1200
- MARBLE WORK: 800
- LEATHER INDUSTRY: 5500
- SWEETMEAT MAKERS AND SELLERS: 1750
- BAKERIES: 1400
- BLACKSMITHS: 1901
- COPPERSMITHS: 5000

Census 1901, Vol. II-II A, Bombay (Town and Island)

62 dialects, including Marathi, Gujarati, Hindustani and English, are reported to be in use in Bombay

Gazetteer of Bombay City and Island (1901), Vol. 1



1901

Singaporean Abdulally Esoofally travels around Asia with **tent cinema** (comes to India in 1908)

Raja Ravi Varma sells his lithographic press at Bhatwadi for Rs 25,000

Newsreel footage of Second Boer War released at Novelty Theatre

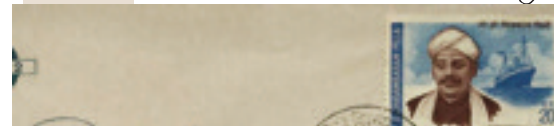
R P Paranjpe, Wrangler from Cambridge University, becomes protagonist of the first 'newsreel' in India as Save Dada shoots his return from England on Lumière equipment

At Gaiety Theatre, Boribunder, a 12-year-old boy plays Desdemona/Sundari in Gujarati

will be known as Jayshankar Sundari for the rest of his life

1903 Taj Mahal Hotel opens

Jamsetji Tata dies - so do his plans to develop north B'bay



British architect George Wittet attempts to incorporate Indian motifs within colonial architecture

1905 **Prince of Wales Museum of Western India**

1910 **Cowasji Jehangir Hall** for visual and performing arts (currently NGMA)

1911 **Gateway of India**

By 1901 Bombay is the most important sea port in the region for import trade and second only to Calcutta in export trade

1902 **City Police Act** is passed to rid the city of beggars, vagrants and famine refugees who come to Bombay from Kathiawar and the princely states of Gujarat - urban public is defined in terms of 'public place', 'public order', 'public entertainment', 'public amusement' and 'public peace'



1903 **Ratepayers' Associations** are formed to resist the BCIT scheme to acquire land, citing hygienic town planning as the reason, by demolishing dwelling units in dense residential areas

1904 **Kolis** (traditional community of fisherfolk) are prohibited from fishing or running fish markets at Chowpatty, on grounds of public health

1904-07 Land prices escalate as a result of BCIT's land acquisition drive

1903

Bombay Photographic Society

Bombay Presidency Cricket Match: **Europeans vs. Parsis at Gymkhana Ground**

Maharashtra Vyayamshalas (gymnasiums) with Baniyas, Bhaiyyas (north Indians), Marathas and Muslims as members



1904

THE LIFE OF CHRIST is shown by Manek D Sethna's Touring Cinema Co.

Phalke sees the film in 1910 at a tent cinema (America India Picture Palace) on Sandhurst Road, and resolves to make 'our kind' of films

Cooperage Ground at Colaba is declared open to the public as a recreational space (in 1857 the land had been reserved to serve as an open-air firing range)

1905

At **Esplanade Maidan** (area from Azad Maidan to Oval Maidan), open-air public screenings on electric cinematograph - assorted short films shown in tents

Bhang Wadi (named after the opium trade that flourished there) at Kalbadevi houses the Gujarati repertory, Deshi Natak Company - performances for audiences of workers and petty traders happen at night, under gaslight, in a courtyard surrounded by rows of rooms and with an elaborate gateway

BEST (Bombay Electric Supply and Tramways Co. Ltd) becomes an Indian enterprise and sets up a thermal power station at Wadi Bunder to supply electricity to its trams

1905-10 Record companies - **Gramophone and Typewriter Ltd, Beka Records, Sun Disc, Ramagraph, Pathéphone** - persuade actors/singers from Parsi Theatre and Marathi Sangeet Natak to record their songs

1905

Following mass opposition to the partition of Bengal, a call is issued to boycott all foreign manufactured goods

Indian National Congress launches the **Swadeshi movement**

Textile mills of Bombay - Swadeshi Mills, Khatau Makhanji Mills, Bombay United Spinning & Weaving Co. - supply dhotis to Bengal at concessional rates

1908

Nationalist leader Balgangadhar Tilak is sentenced by Bombay High Court to six years of rigorous imprisonment on charges of sedition

The public outcry and protest against his arrest escalates into a six-day general strike by workers of textile mills, supported by dock and railway workers

With the decline in the market for exports to China and rise in nationalistic sentiments, Bombay mills get an opportunity to reorient their products for the local market



Bombay Vakils' Association (Bombay Lawyers' Association) 1906, Bombay Postal Union 1907, Kamgar Hitwardhak Sabha (Workers Welfare Association) 1910, Bombay Clerks' Union 1918

1905 foundation laid for Alexandra Dock, to meet rising traffic of goods and traders

1906-08 scheme of 'model chawls for the industrial class' builds housing for police, municipality and port workers, at Nagpada, Agripada, Immamwada and other areas

1907 BCIT starts Empire Theatre on Hornby Road (now D N Road)

1910 foundation laid for Royal Opera House (eventually the entire area is known by its name) - famous for its baroque design

1910 due to fierce opposition from 'pucca' theatre owners, many tent cinemas are forced to shut down - Excelsior Cinematograph of the maidan gets rehabilitated at Novelty Theatre





1908
number of cotton textile mills in
the city is 85



1904-10 Sunni Toliwalas and Bohra shopkeepers clash in Bhendi Bazaar over the route of the Muharram *tabut* procession, invoking police and military intervention

the robust, carnival-like characteristics of Toli processions are considered vulgar and un-Islamic by educated Bohras

1906 Bank of India keeps its offices shut on Saturday for the **Jewish Sabbath**

1908 Bombay Municipal Corporation leases out land for the **Japanese crematorium**

1910 Rolls Royce unveils its handcrafted 'Silver Ghost' model (aimed at the maharajas of India)

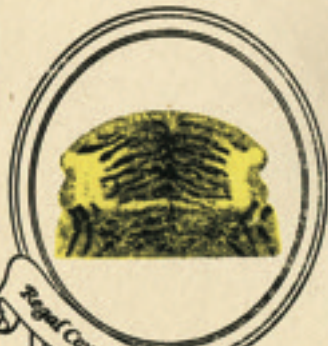
1910 Tamasha artist Patthe Bapurao's ode to the city
Mumbai anchi Mumbai aaya aaya...
Mumbai is ours, come to Mumbai



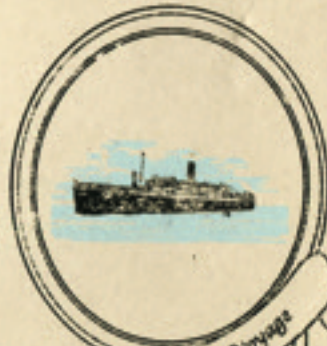


Royal Bengal Tiger Couch

19  08



Royal Courtship Settee



Queen's Voyage

Incredible India,
Crown Jewel of the Empire

WE BEAT THE WORLD IN ELEGANCE AND EXOTIC
SHIPPED WITH INSURANCE ON RECEIPT OF PRICE FORM THE PORTS OF BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA

CALENDAR

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
29	30	31					29	30						27	28	29	30	31			

56, BROMPTON ROAD, LONDON S.W