This poster is part of a longer project on the Atlas of India. The spatial analysis in the atlas produces a historical view of the environment in India on a scale that has not been possible or attempted before the advent of remote sensing data analysis and through the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies. To view India’s environmental history and analyze issues on development one needs to spatialize history through visual data. For digital scholarship on South Asia, integrating these historical themes necessitates large scale data analysis.

This poster shall display some examples of the use of GIS technologies and satellite derived remote sensing data in the classroom to visualize and quantify environmental change in India. As part of the Environmental Studies undergraduate program at FLAME University, India, students are introduced to open source GIS software such as QGIS and GRASS GIS and taught various techniques to analyze spatial data. The applications of these techniques cross disciplinary boundaries and students typically produce original work that visualize and document our changing environment. Shown here are examples of work produced in such courses and include the use of antique maps in visualizing environmental change in the city of Hyderabad, India over a period of approximately 100 years. Also shown are student contributions in creating an atlas of India’s environmental history using satellite data. The themes our classes attempt to map include urban expansion, deforestation, displacement due to development projects, water resource management and disaster preparedness.

**HISTORICAL GIS: SPATIAL HISTORIES OF INDIA**

Detailed historic maps of the city of Hyderabad from 1915 at a scale of 50 feet to one inch (1:600) were analyzed by students in an introductory GIS course. These maps housed at the Prshant Lahoti Collection at the Kalakriti Archives (India’s largest private collection of historic and antique maps) were provided to students in digital format. As part of the course, students georeferenced, digitized, and quantified the spatial extent of individual neighborhoods of the city as it existed approximately 100 years ago.

**ATLAS OF INDIA’S ENVIRONMENTAL HISTORY**

Incoming freshman students of an introductory Environmental Studies course created maps that show environmental change in India on decadal scales using freely available satellite data (LANDSAT series).

Acknowledgements:
Devdatta Tengshe, Karan Kumar, Tirtha Patel, Prshant Lahoti of Kalakriti Archives.