Mumbai: a global city?

Marine Drive
Where is Mumbai located?

In Google Map
« The Gateway of India » © Wiki media Commons
PRESENTATION OF MUMBAI

Mumbai or Bombay is the capital of the state of MAHARASHTRA

It’s the most populated city in India and the 4th world populated city (Tokyo, Seoul, Mexico, Delhi,) with slightly over 22 million people.

It’s also the capital of trade and entertainment of India.

Bombay was the name given by the Portuguese in the 16th century and now the Marathi traditional name is used instead.
Mumbai is a very populated city and it’s growing bigger.
However, knowing Paris, London, New York are well known global cities, we can wonder if Mumbai can be seen as one.

Let’s read this first text to give a definition of a global city.
In determining whether a city can become global, size matters, of course -- because it represents the possibility for diversity and complexity -- but it is not the only important factor. The emerging megacities of Asia are not necessarily truly global, at least not in the way we currently understand the term. Many if not most of today's global cities are Old World cities that reinvented themselves. Like London and Istanbul, they already had enormous complexity and diversity.

That's not to say that newer-world cities cannot reinvent themselves as global cities. Take Miami, never an Old World city. Today it is certainly a global city. Why? One factor was the infrastructure of international trade that the Cubans in Miami developed. There was also real estate development, often spurred by wealthy individuals from South America, and the establishment in Miami of Latin American bases for firms from Europe and Asia.

These conditions do not exist in Chinese cities. They are too government-controlled to be equivalent to Miami. And I happen to think that some of this is good -- if it aims at rebalancing the strong inequalities created by the current economy.(

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So what is a global city?

It’s a city which concentrates high level activities which have a worldwide influence.

These activities can be political (UNO in NY), commercial (Port), financial (investments) or cultural (cinema or monuments) or all together.

Let’s see what Mumbai offers to answer this key question.

In 2004, the Indian government has launched a 8-billion-plan to make Mumbai a world-class city: let’s see what has happened so far.
I/AN ECONOMIC CENTER

A/ Economic activities

- 1/5th of India’s GDP
- 30% of the income tax of India is raised there
- Lots of huge companies can be found in Mumbai see document 1

The most famous is Tata Motors (since 1860) the largest Indian car manufacturer which makes also Daewoo trucks and land Rovers and Jaguars.

It became famous worldwide for creating the « Tata Nano » worth 2000 euros

It owns 80 companies worldwide and invests in research: tata Institute
AN ECONOMIC CENTER

Economic activities

-In Mumbai there is also a center for Atomic research: the BARC

-Mumbai is also famous worldwide for its jewellery, its embroidery and its gems (perles)

-There is a diamond stock exchange in Mumbai
AN ECONOMIC CENTER

B/ Financial activities

- There is the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) see doc 2
- It opened in 1875 and it’s the oldest Asian stock exchange.
- It refers to the SENSEX index
- It’s located in DALAL street the equivalent of Wall street in NY.
AN ECONOMIC CENTER

C/ Economic centers

A new business district has been founded (total 6 CBD)

THE BANDRA-KURLA COMPLEX
AN ECONOMIC CENTER

C/ Economic centers

Mumbai has many ports:

Mumbai ‘s main port is Mumbai Port Trust an autonomous corporation wholly owned by the government of India. The port is primarily used for cargos.

Container traffic is directed to NHAVA SHEVA or Jawaharlal Nehru Port JNPT
C/ Economic centers

Mumbai has a huge airport which drains 30% of India’s passenger traffic: it’s the leading Indian airport.

A new Airport has been constructed and opened in 2014.
II/A CULTURAL CENTER

A/ BOLLYWOOD

- It’s the Hindi-language film industry
- The name is a mix of Bombay and Hollywood
- It provides India with cultural identity
- The revenues of Bollywood film have grown by 360% from 1985 to 2005
II/A CULTURAL CENTER

B/ School and culture

-Mumbai is a hub and a leading university site in South-east Asia

-There can be found:

   **The Indian Institute of Technology of Bombay:**
   www.iitb.ac.in. Set in 1958 with the help of the UNESCO

   It is one of the top engineering school in S/E Asia and offers doctoral degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

   **The S P JAIN School** management: one of the top 10 business school in Asia
Mumbai University

Founded in 1857, the University of Bombay is one of the first three oldest public state universities in India,
III/ BUT MUMBAI IS NOT YET A GLOBAL CITY…

A/ Huge social gaps to be bridged

What strikes the most in Mumbai is the gap between the poorest and richest which is visible in the urban environment.

-Mumbai is known for its huge 1 million-dweller shanty-town of DHARAVI
A/ Huge social gaps to be bridged

The case of the “intouchable” or DALITS must be mentioned too: they belong to an ostracised cast and are stuck to the worse jobs as scavengers.

There are some “affirmative action” programs and a minority has managed to open a Dalit Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Mumbai to help economic integration of this cast
The chawls or low-class housing for workers (slums)
ANTILLIA TOWER

Antilia is a 27-floor personal home in South Mumbai belonging to businessman Mukesh Ambani, chairman of Reliance Industries the most expensive home in the world.
III/ BUT MUMBAI IS NOT YET A GLOBAL CITY…

B/ not always a modern city

Hand-washers

Meal delivery by Dabbawallah…
III/ BUT MUMBAI IS NOT YET A GLOBAL CITY…

C/ what are the challenges to meet?

Its swelling population, deteriorating environment, income contrast and inadequate infrastructure are challenges for making Mumbai a global city.

1- Efficient transport facilities

The East-west connection is inefficient and slow

2- Housing

There is a need to build affordable housing: 42 % of Mumbai housing is slums.

49% of slums still use open defecation

It brings water-related diseases like malaria or typhoid
2- Housing

A new district is spreading with the building of new housing: NAVY MUMBAI
III/ BUT MUMBAI IS NOT YET A GLOBAL CITY…

C/ what are the challenges to meet?

3- **management of waste**

9000 tons of waste a day

Need to create public awareness for recycling

4- **Lack of drinking and safe water**

Even if monsoons precipitations are collected into 6 lakes it’s not well treated

Supply in drinking water is 2.4 million litres a day and need is 3 million litres: only 65 % of the needs are met!
III/ BUT MUMBAI IS NOT YET A GLOBAL CITY…

C/ what are the challenges to meet?

5- Bridge the gap between the haves and the have-nots.

In Mumbai malnutrition is present and even some starve.

Whereas there are hundreds of slimming clinics!