

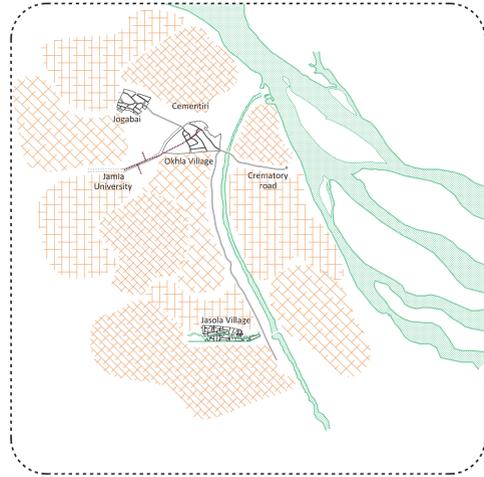
# Okhla, Delhi, is a neighbourhood of the district of South Delhi with 500.000 habitants. The majority of the population are muslim coming from rural areas.

In India, Muslims are considered a minor religion and in some cases are discriminated, having problems to establish themselves in non-Muslim neighborhoods. Their inhabitants hardly go out of the area, becoming a closed ghetto in the city. Moreover, most of the settlements are unauthorized and corrupt, having gaps in infrastructures and services. In this context, women suffer freedom restrictions under "religious laws" and also gender violence and harassment. According to social workers in the area 70% of women suffer domestic violence.



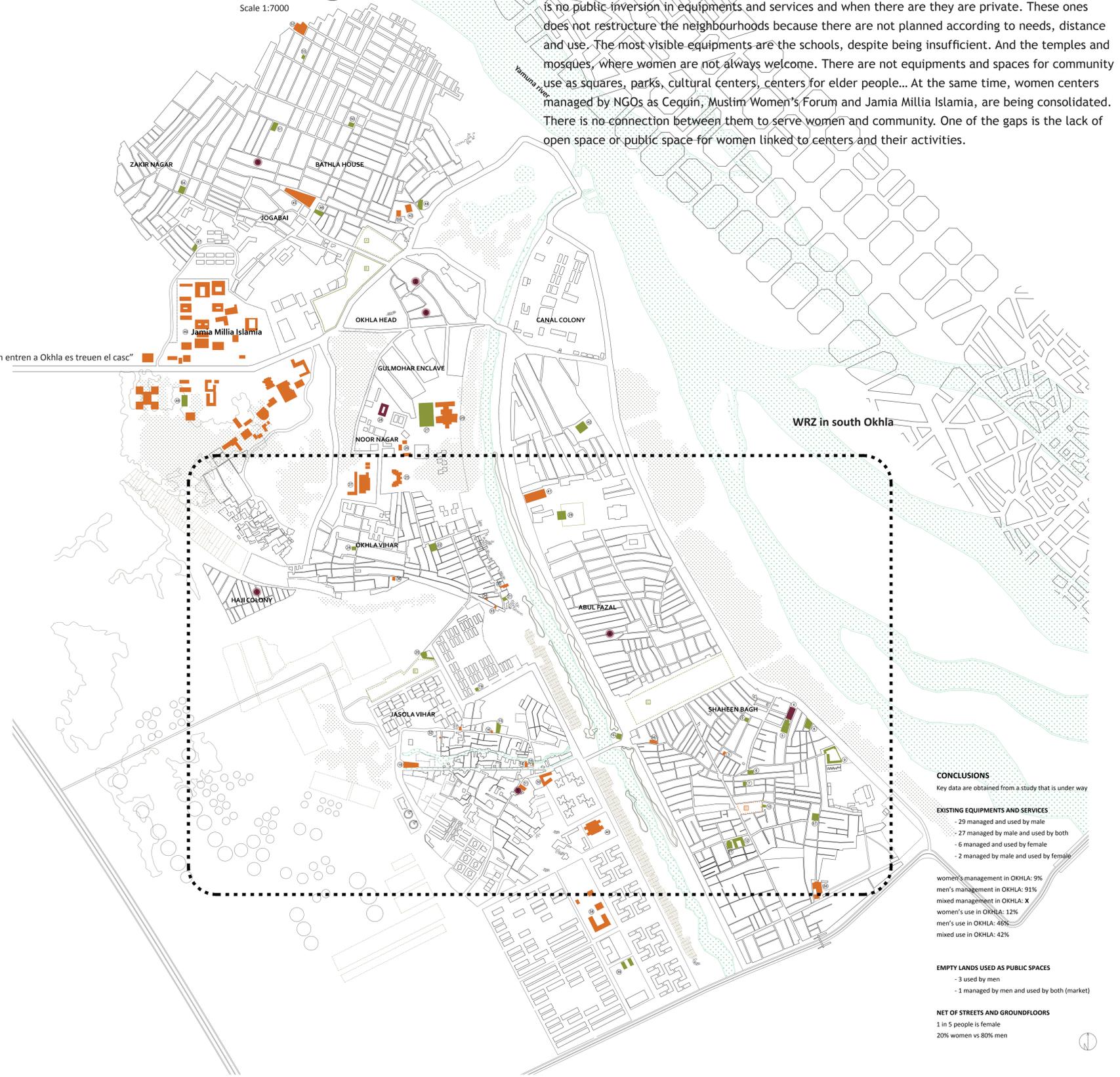
## Origins of Okhla

In the ancient times, Okhla was a rural area where there exist 3 villages (Jogabai, Okhla Head and Jasola). Since Agra Canal was built in 1824, agriculture was developed further. In 1920 muslim University, Jamia Millia Islamia is established near Okhla Head (we still perceiving the old path that entered the village). The university has been a key element since its beginnings till now. It has been the growth catalyst of Okhla. The population has quickly changed from rural to urban, losing the original activities and giving way to the rapid construction of unauthorized and unplanned neighborhoods.



# The gender of services in Okhla

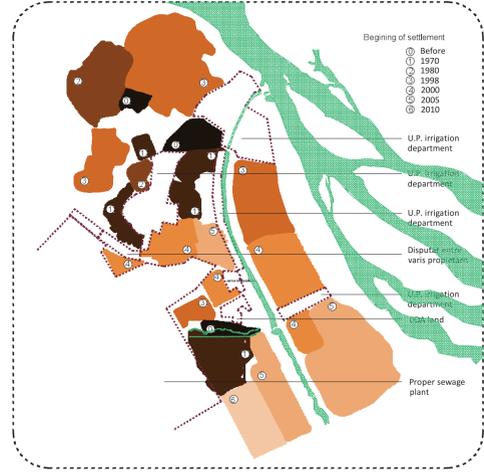
Once the basic housing needs are satisfied there is no public inversion in equipments and services and when there are they are private. These ones does not restructure the neighbourhoods because there are not planned according to needs, distance and use. The most visible equipments are the schools, despite being insufficient. And the temples and mosques, where women are not always welcome. There are not equipments and spaces for community use as squares, parks, cultural centers, centers for elder people... At the same time, women centers managed by NGOs as Cequin, Muslim Women's Forum and Jamia Millia Islamia, are being consolidated. There is no connection between them to serve women and community. One of the gaps is the lack of open space or public space for women linked to centers and their activities.



"Els mototristes quan entren a Okhla es treuen el casc"

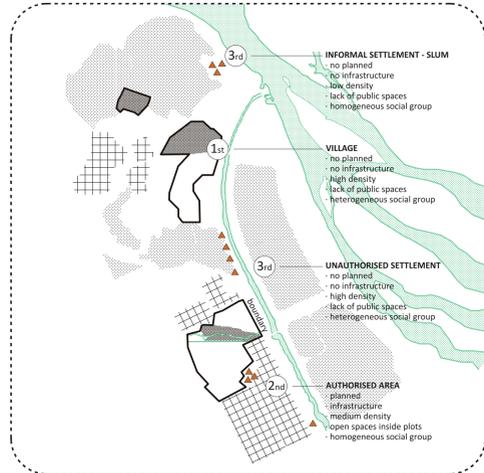
## Okhla evolution

Okhla doesn't have a clear urban structure because it has been growing along the time according to different needs, specially to solve housing requirements without planning. It is composed of different neighbourhoods that we understand as independent bubbles isolated by urban gaps. In the last 40 years, the neighbourhoods have grown around rural preexisting villages, colonizing the area from north to south with very high density.



## Settlements in Okhla

The growth mechanism of Okhla is similar to the rest of Delhi. It is based in 3 types of settlements: villages, planned areas and unauthorized areas. 1st - Consolidation and legalization of the villages by defining them with boundaries. 2nd - Planned growth with closed condominiums of housing outside the villages. 3rd - Non authorized areas that give services to planned areas (domestic services, shops, drivers, ...) and to receive migrant people. We also identify other isolated areas, the slums, placed in the most disadvantaged and vulnerable areas.



**CONCLUSIONS**  
 Key data are obtained from a study that is under way

**EXISTING EQUIPMENTS AND SERVICES**  
 - 29 managed and used by male  
 - 27 managed by male and used by both  
 - 6 managed and used by female  
 - 2 managed by male and used by female

women's management in OKHLA: 9%  
 men's management in OKHLA: 91%  
 mixed management in OKHLA: X  
 women's use in OKHLA: 12%  
 men's use in OKHLA: 46%  
 mixed use in OKHLA: 42%

**EMPTY LANDS USED AS PUBLIC SPACES**  
 - 3 used by men  
 - 1 managed by men and used by both (market)

**NET OF STREETS AND GROUND FLOORS**  
 1 in 5 people is female  
 20% women vs 80% men