

AGRICULTURE
AND
COMMERCE

The early Indian settlers possessed an immense love for the soil . Many settled down as market-gardeners and within a short time realised that there was a ready market for their produce in Durban . At first they appeared as street vendors and hawkers. In time, the Indian flower-stall and the Indian Market became famous landmarks in Durban .

With this introduction coupled with increasing urbanisation, the Indian turned his energies towards commerce .Inevitably the "Indian curio shop" and the "Currie shop" attracted attention .On the other hand with remarkable versatility he adapted himself and successfully entered the competitive free market economy.Today thousands are employed in commerce e.g. the retail and catering trade .

The most significant development in recent times has been the spectacular development and importance of the Indian in the South African commercial world. The Oriental Plaza in Fordsburg is an excellent example of the small Indian entrepreneur,where he blends his oriental commercial style in a western-orientated economic system and simultaneously caters successfully for the needs of all sections on the African sub-continent .

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