

# عنماكن

## MONUMENTS AND HERITAGE



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AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC COLLEGE  
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# Masjid Jami - Herat, Afghanistan



**The Masjid-i Jami of Herat, the city's first congregational mosque, was built on the site of two smaller Zoroastrian fire temples that were destroyed by earthquake and fire. A mosque construction was started by the Ghurid ruler Ghiyas ad-Din Ghori in 1200 (597 AH), and, after his death, the building was continued by his brother and successor Muhammad of Ghor.**

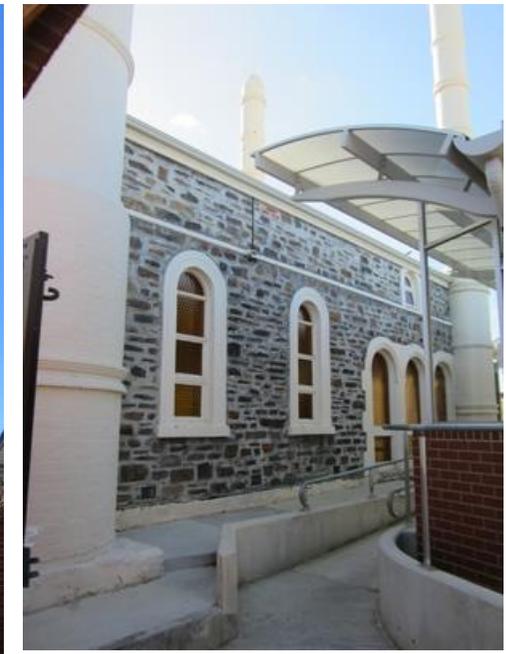
**In 1221, Genghis Khan conquered the province, and along with much of Herat, the small building fell into ruin. It wasn't until after 1245, under Shams al-Din Kart that any rebuilding programs were undertaken, and construction on the mosque was not started until 1306. However, a devastating earthquake in 1364 left the building almost completely destroyed, although some attempt was made to rebuild it. After 1397, the Timurid rulers redirected Herat's growth towards the northern part of the city. This suburbanization and the building of a new congregational mosque in Gawhar Shad's Musalla marked the end of the Masjid Jami's patronage by a monarchy.**

# Adelaide City Mosque

(Afghan Mosque)

## Adelaide, Australia

This mosque was constructed in 1888 and was the first mosque in any Australian capital city. It has four minarets which were built in 1903 for 150 pounds by local cameleers with some help from Islamic sponsors from Melbourne. Its founding members lie in the quiet part of the South West corner of the city.



# Sunshine Mosque - Victoria, Australia



The Cyprus Turkish Islamic Community of Victoria was established in Richmond, Clifton Hill, and was then relocated to Ballarat Road, Sunshine in 1985. The Sunshine Mosque is the biggest Mosque in Victoria, and has extended its services to cater for ladies, elderly and youth groups.

The Sunshine Mosque did not achieve its status within Victoria very easily. It required extensive financial assistance from the local community. The whole project was managed by the late Mr Hasan Dellal, who had spent many hours in coordinating its development.

The Sunshine Mosque represents an achievement and is a gift to the wider Australian community by the Turkish Cypriot community. To Muslims, it is a place of worship and a meeting place, while to non-Muslims it is a gift of Ottoman architecture which can be admired as they pass by the Ring Road to and from the city of Melbourne.

# Holland Park Mosque - Brisbane, Australia

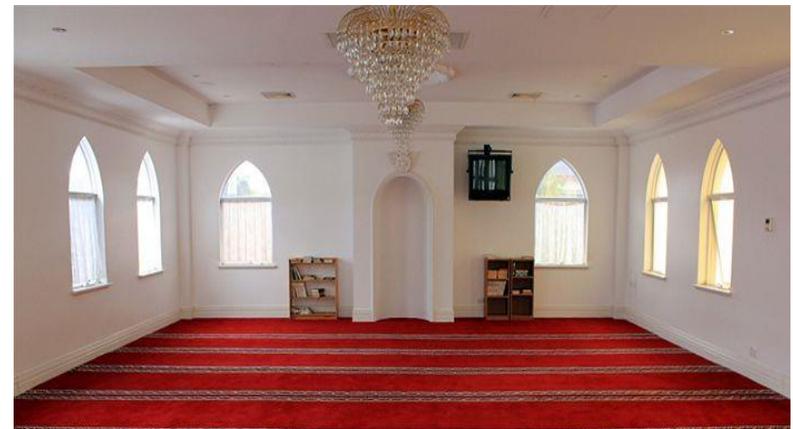


Holland Park Mosque is one of the oldest Mosques in Australia and the only mosque which has not closed its doors to the public in 105 years. This Mosque was built in 1908 by Afghani and Pakistani cameleers. This mosque stood until 1968 and was 1000m<sup>3</sup>. It was later replaced by a larger mosque to accommodate the ever increasing Muslim population.

# Perth Mosque

Perth Mosque, located in Perth, Western Australia is the oldest mosque in Perth.

The mosque was designed and built in 1904 or 1905 by Fattah Mohammad Dean, an immigrant from Punjab.



# The Gallipoli Mosque - Auburn, Australia



The Auburn Gallipoli Mosque is an Ottoman-style mosque in Auburn, a suburb of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

The mosque's name invokes the legacy of the Gallipoli Campaign during World War I, which played a pivotal role in the history of both Australia and the Republic of Turkey. According to mosque officials, the name is meant to signify "the shared legacy of the Australian society and the main community behind the construction of the mosque, the Australian Turkish Muslim Community."

The first mosque on the present mosque site was opened for worship on 3 November 1979. It was a house with internal walls removed to generate open space. The construction of the present mosque structure began in 1986. Its construction and external finishes were completed and officially opened on 28 November 1999, twenty years after the first opening.

# Shah Jahan Mosque - London, England



The Shah Jahan Mosque was built in 1889. It was partly funded by Sultan Shah Jahan, Begum of Bhopal, as a place for students at the Oriental Institute in Woking to worship at. (1847–1924) The building was built in Bath and Bargate stone. It was designed in an Indo-Saracenic Revival style, and has a dome, minarets, and courtyard. The mosque became the first formal place of Islamic worship in England.

# Dearborn Mosque - Michigan, USA



**Built in 1937 by the nascent Islamic community (then mostly Sunni Muslims from the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon), and was the second mosque constructed in the United States. The building is three stories high.**

**The number of people attending grew rapidly through the 1960s to 1980s and in the early 1980s the mosque obtained a court order permitting it to broadcast the call to prayer using loudspeakers, overruling objections from some of its neighbors. It was the first mosque in America to do so. The court ruled that it was the Muslim equivalent of church bells.**

# Al Azhar Mosque – Cairo, Egypt



Al Azhar mosque was constructed for the newly established capital city of Cairo in 970. The architecture of Al Azhar is closely tied to the history of Cairo. Materials taken from multiple periods of Egyptian history, from the Ancient Egyptians, Greek and Roman rule, to the Coptic Christian era, were used in the early mosque structure. Later additions from the different rulers of Egypt likewise show influences from both within and outside of Egypt. Sections of the mosque show many of these influences blended together while others show a single inspiration, such as domes from the Ottoman period and minarets built by the Mamluks.

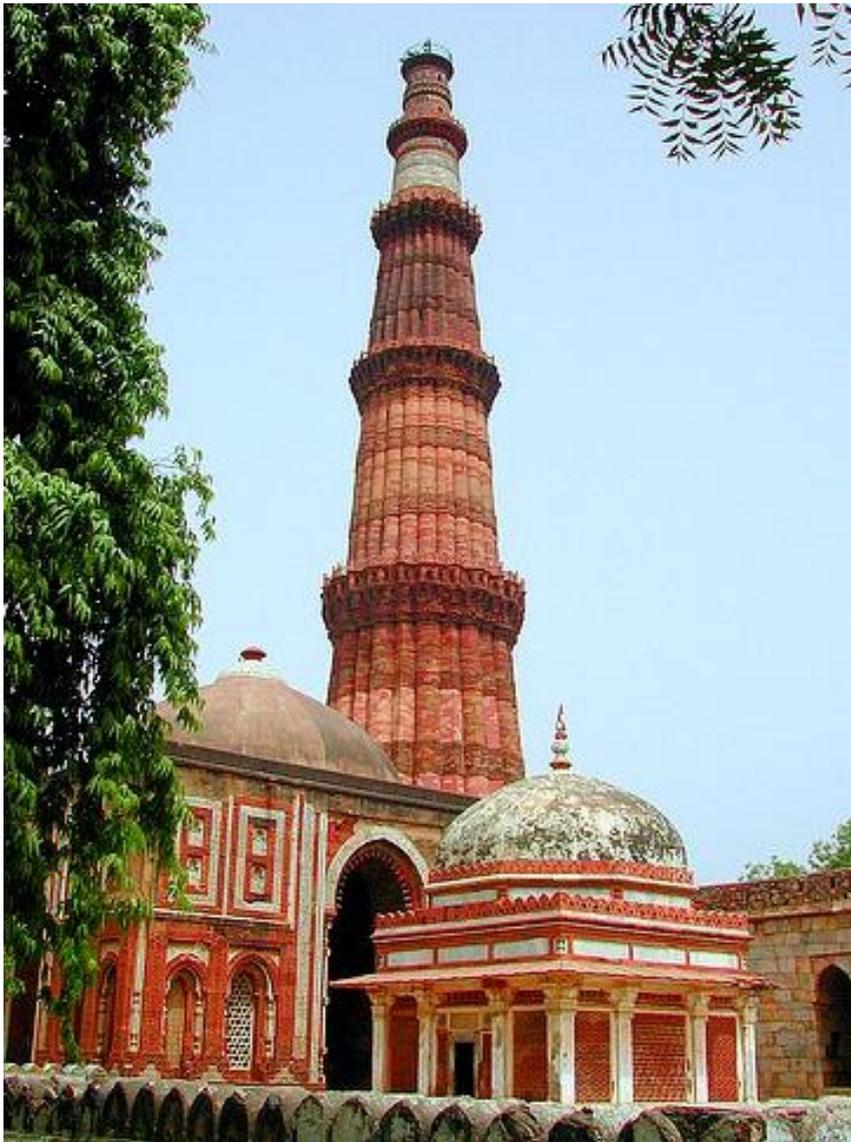


# Sher Dor Madrasah – Samarkand, Uzbekistan



In the 17<sup>th</sup> century (1910 – 1036), the ruler of Samarkand, Yalangtush Bakhodur, ordered the construction of the Sher-Dor and Tillya-Kori madrasahs  
The tiger mosaics on the face of each madrasa are interesting, in that they flout the ban in Islam of the depiction of living beings on religious buildings

# Qutb Minar - Delhi, India



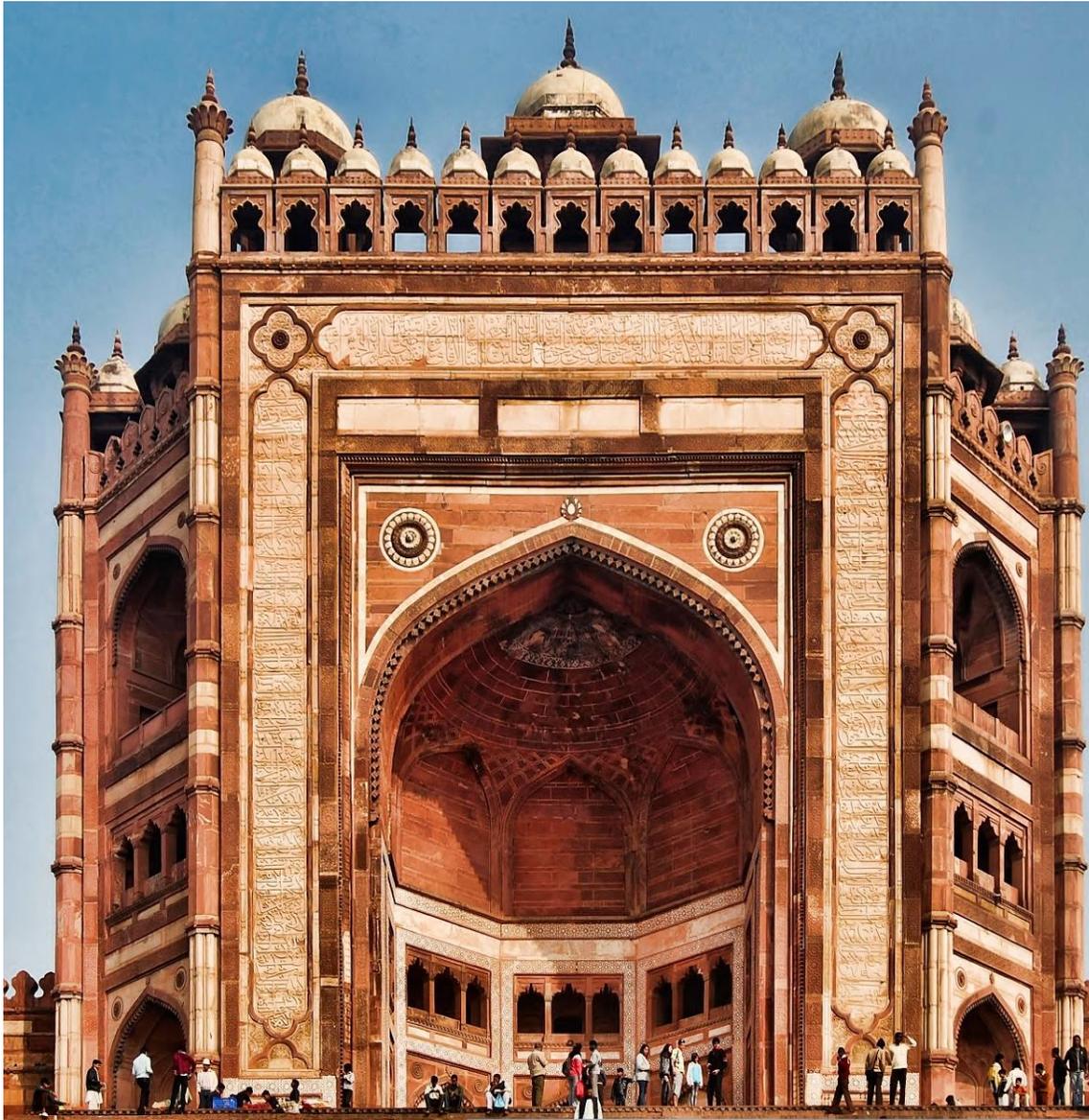
Qutb Minar and its monuments are located about sixteen kilometers south of Delhi.

Qutab Ud-Din-Aibak, founder of the Delhi Sultanate, started construction of the Qutub Minar's first storey around 1192. In 1220, Aibak's successor and son-in-law Iltutmish completed a further three storeys. In 1369, a lightning strike destroyed the top storey. Firoz Shah Tughlaq replaced the damaged storey, and added one more. Sher Shah Suri also added an entrance to this tower while he was ruling.

The tower is 72.5 meters high. Characteristically, the base, which measures 14.32 meters in diameter, narrows to 2.75 meters at its peak.



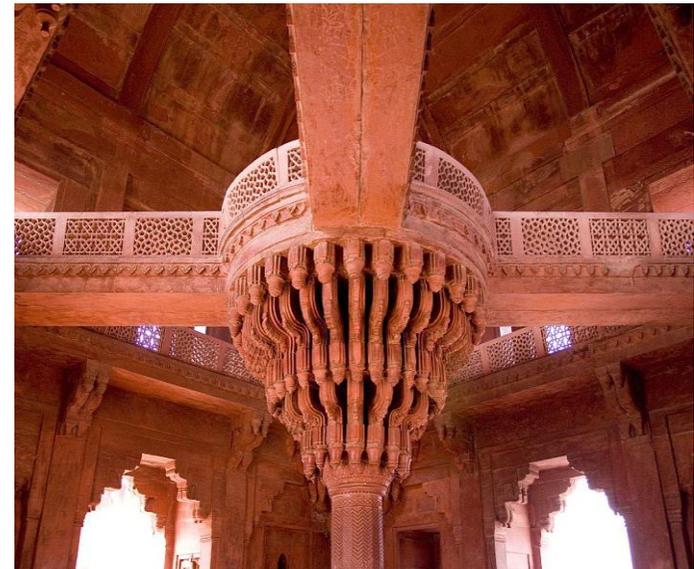
# Fatehpur Sikri - Uttar Pradesh, India



Built during the second half of the 16th century by the Emperor Akbar. Fatehpur Sikri (the City of Victory) was the capital of the Mughal Empire for almost 10 years.

The rectangular mosque comprises of a central nave with a single dome, two colonnaded halls on either side, with two square chambers crowned with domes. Carved mihrabs adorn the main chamber and the two smaller rooms.

The mosque marks the phase of transition in Islamic art, as indigenous architectural elements were blended with Persian elements.



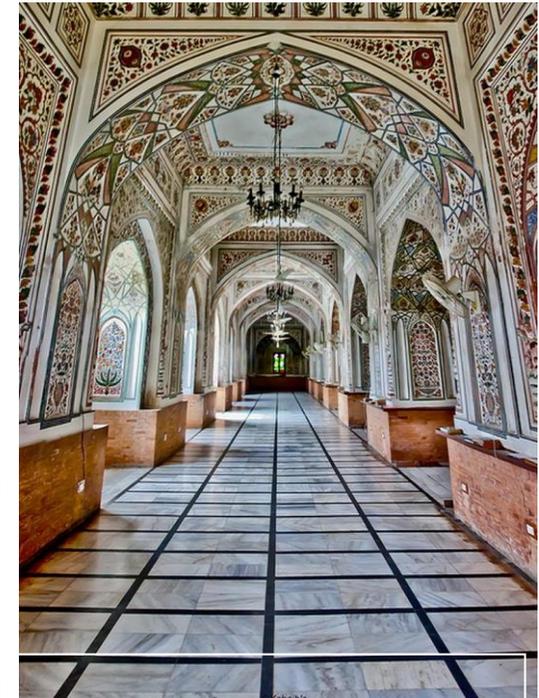
# Cheraman Juma Mosque - Methala Kerala, India



The Cheraman Juma Mosque is a mosque in Methala, Kodungallur Taluk, Thrissur District in the Indian state of Kerala. Built in 629 AD, it is the first mosque in India. It was built by Malik Deenar, an Arab propagator of Islam.

It is believed that this mosque was first renovated and reconstructed in the 11th century AD.

# Mahabat Khan Mosque - Peshawar, Pakistan



The Mahabat Khan Mosque, (Mohabbat), is a 17<sup>th</sup> century Mughal-era mosque in Peshawar, Pakistan. The mosque was named after the Mughal governor of Peshawar, Nawab Mahabat Khan bin Ali Mardan Khan, known alternatively as *Mahabat Khan* and *Ali Mardan Khan*, who served under Emperors Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb.

The Mosque was built between 1660 and 1670 on the highest point in the old city.

The mosque is 30,155 square feet in size. Its open courtyard has a centrally-located ablution pool and a single row of rooms lining the exterior walls.

# Suleymaniye Mosque - Istanbul, Turkey



The Suleymaniye Mosque complex was designed by Sinan, who was the chief architect in the Ottoman court from 1539 until his death in 1588. It is the second largest mosque in Istanbul.

This "vast religious complex called the Süleymaniye...blended Islamic and Byzantine architectural elements. It combines tall, slender minarets with large domed buildings supported by half domes in the style of the Byzantine church Hagia Sophia (which the Ottomans converted into the mosque of Aya Sofya)

# QolShari Mosque – Kazan, Russia



The QolSharif Mosque located in Kazan Kremlin is among the most beautiful and biggest masjid in Europe. Named after the Tatar imam who sacrificed his life while saving the city, the QolSharif Masjid is located inside the walls of the Kremlin. The masjid was originally built in the 16th century and has prayer facilities for both men and women. The interior of the masjid is spacious and the dome has inscriptions of verses from the Holy Qur'an and some of the names of Allah. The exterior of the masjid features a soothing turquoise blue and white colour.



# The Great Mosque of Samara, Iraq

A dominating, magnificent structure that was once the largest mosque in the Islamic world built by Caliph Al-Mutawakkil in 852 AD using bricks and clay.

It has a rectangular plan measuring 240m x160 m with walls 10 m high and 2.65 m thick, supported by 44 towers. The courtyard was surrounded on all sides by an arcade. The greatest part of which the one was facing Holy Mecca.

The Mosque's minaret is the famous Spiral (Al-Malweyya), which rises 27 m away from the northern side of the Mosque to a height of 52 m. Some historians believe that it pre-dates the Mosque and that Caliph Al-Mu'tasim built it.

# The Great Mosque of Cordoba, Spain



The construction of the Great Mosque began during the Emir Abdal-Rahman I reigns in 785, some 74 years after the conquest of the Visigoths by the Muslims or Moors. The Mosque was added to by Abdal-Rahman II in 833, before being completed by al-Hakam II and the vizier al-Mansur in the second half of the 10th century. Of the four stages, containing the mihrab (niche in the wall pointing to Mecca) is the most decorative and striking. One of the largest mosques in the world, the Great Mosque is by today's standards (an impressive building), measuring 180 by 130 metres.

# Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, Abu Dhabi



Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque was initiated by the late president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), HH Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, who wanted to establish a structure which unites the cultural diversity of Islamic world with the historical and modern values of architecture and art. His final resting place is located on the grounds beside the same mosque. The mosque was constructed from 1996 to 2007. It is the largest mosque in the United Arab Emirates. The building complex measures approximately 290 m by 420 m, covering an area of more than 12 hectare, exclusive of exterior landscaping and vehicle parking.

# Al Badiyah Mosque- Fujairah

## United Arab Emirates



Al Badiyah is a settlement in Fujairah. It is the site of the Al Badiyah Mosque, the oldest mosque in the United Arab Emirates, dating back to the 15th century

The small, square structure has an area of 53 square metres and was built from materials available in the area, primarily stones of various sizes and mud bricks coated in many layers of whitewashed plaster. The roof has four squat, helical domes that are supported by only one centrally placed pillar that also forms the ceiling. Entrance to the mosque is through double-winged wooden doors.

The prayer hall has a small *mihrab* (the niche in the wall that indicates the direction of Mecca), a simple pulpit, arches and openings.

A central pillar divides the internal space into four squares of similar dimensions. The pillar supports all four domes that can be seen from the exterior.

Inside the prayer hall, a number of small decorative windows allow light and air to enter the mosque. There are also cube-shaped spaces carved into the thick walls where copies of the Quran and other books are stored.

The mosque continues to host daily prayers and is a tourist attraction.

# Masjid Raya Medan- Indonesia



**Sultan Ma'mun Al Rashid Perkasa Alam of Sultanate of Deli started the development of Masjid Al Mashun on 21 August 1906. The completed development took three years to complete. The Sultan was deliberately developing the majestic Mosque, because it is more important than his own grand palace, Maimoon Palace. Sultan Ma'mun bore the cost of construction, but it is said Tjong A Fie, the famous Chinese-Indonesian in Medan who lived during the same era with Sultan Ma'mun Al Rasyd also contributed to the development of this mosque.**

# Grozny-Central-Dome-Mosque – Chechnya



**Akhmad Kadyrov Grozny Central Dome Mosque is located in Grozny, the capital of Chechnya, and bears the name of Akhmad Kadyrov. The mosque design was based on the Blue Mosque in İstanbul. On October 16, 2008, the mosque was officially opened in a ceremony in which the Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov attended with the Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin. In this mosque ten thousand Muslims can pray at a time and its minarets reach 60m high.**

# Dome of the Rock (Qubbat Al-Ṣakhrāh)



**Dome of the Rock, (Qubbat al-Ṣakhrāh) is a shrine in Jerusalem built by the Umayyad caliph ‘Abd al-Malik ibn Marwān in the late 7th century CE. It is the oldest extant Islamic monument.**

**The rock over which the shrine was built is sacred to both Muslims and Jews. The Prophet Muhammad, is traditionally believed to have ascended into heaven from the site.**

**Both the Dome and Al-Aqṣā Mosque are located on the Temple Mount, the site of Solomon’s Temple and its successors, an area known to Muslims as Al-Ḥaram al-Sharīf. The Dome’s structure and ornamentation are rooted in the Byzantine architectural tradition, yet its construction in the 7th century represents an early stage in the emergence of a distinct Islamic visual style.**

# Emin Mosque - Turfan, China



**The Emin Mosque in Turfan is the tallest monumental minaret in China. Also known as Sugong Tower, the minaret was built in a simple Islamic style. It is circular, 44 meters in height, and 10 meters in diameter at the base. The mosque was built in 1779 during the Qing Dynasty in memory of the Uygur King Emin Khoja by his son King Suleiman.**

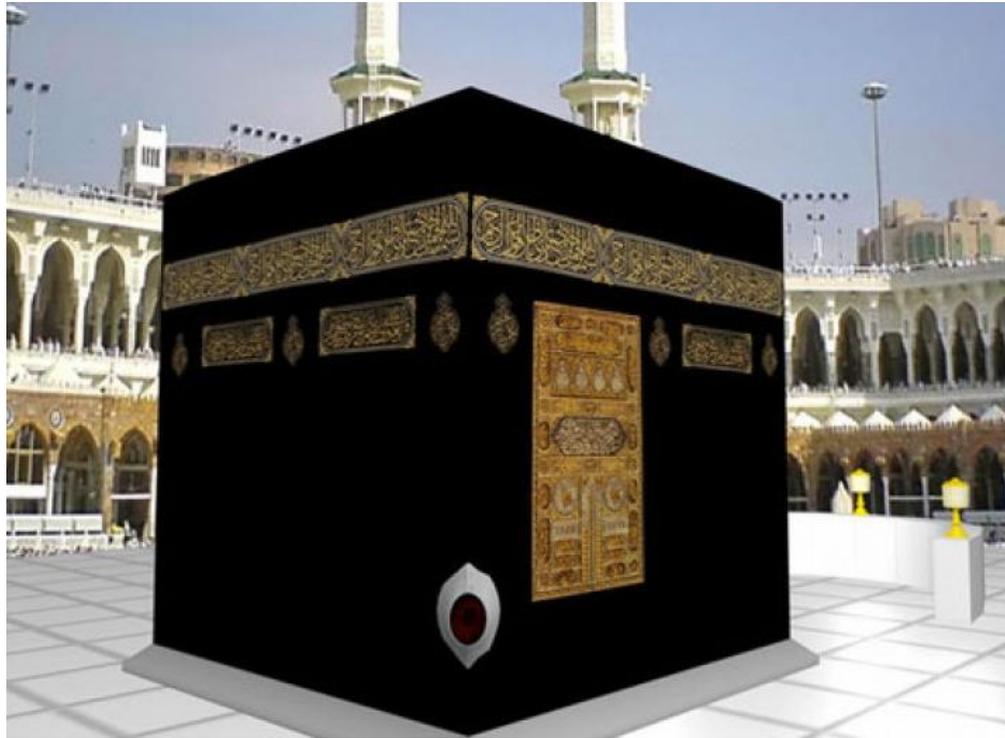
# Putra Jaya Mosque - Malaysia



The Putra Mosque is the principal mosque of Putrajaya, Malaysia. Construction of the mosque began in 1997 and was completed two years later. It is located next to Perdana Putra which houses the Malaysian Prime Minister's office and man-made Putrajaya Lake.

The pink-domed Putra Mosque was constructed with rose-tinted granite and consists of three main functional areas - the prayer hall, the Sahn, or courtyard, and various learning facilities and function rooms. The mosque can accommodate 15,000 worshippers at any one time:-

# Kaaba - Makkah



The Kaaba is a prismatic stone structure made of granite. It is approximately 13.1 m high with sides measuring 11.03 m by 12.86 m. Inside the Kaaba, the floor is made of marble and limestone. The interior walls, measuring 13 m by 9 m, are clad with tiled white marble halfway to the roof, with darker trimmings along the floor. The floor of the interior stands about 2.2 m above the ground area where *tawaf* is performed.

The wall directly adjacent to the entrance of the Kaaba has six tablets inlaid with inscriptions, and there are several more tablets along the other walls. Along the top corners of the walls runs a green cloth embroidered with gold Qur'anic verses. Caretakers anoint the marble cladding with the same scented oil used to anoint the Black Stone outside. Three pillars stand inside the Kaaba, with a small altar or table set between one and the other two. Lamp-like objects (possible lanterns or crucible censers) hang from the ceiling. The ceiling itself is of a darker colour, similar in hue to the lower trimming. A golden door—the *bāb al-tawbah* (*Baabut Taubah*, and meaning "Door of Repentance") on the right wall (right of the entrance) opens to an enclosed staircase that leads to a hatch, which itself opens to the roof. Both the roof and ceiling (collectively dual-layered) are made of stainless steel-capped teak wood.

# The Prophets Mosque - Medina



**Al-Masjid an-Nabawi or the Prophet's Mosque is a great mosque in Medina, Saudi Arabia. It stands on the site of a mosque built by the Prophet Muhammad himself next to his house and contains his tomb. The Prophet's Mosque is the second holiest mosque in the world after al-Haram in Mecca.**

**Inside, the Prophet created a shaded area to the south called the suffrah and aligned the prayer space facing north towards Jerusalem. When the Qiblah (prayer direction) was changed to Mecca, the mosque was re-oriented to the south. The mosque also served as a community centre, a court, and a religious school. Seven years later (629 AD/7 AH), the mosque was doubled in size to accommodate the increasing number of Muslims. Subsequent Islamic rulers continued to enlarge and embellish the Prophet's Mosque over the centuries.**

# Al-Aqsa Mosque - Jerusalem



During Prophet Mohammad's life (pbuh), he instructed Muslims to visit not only the mosque in Mecca, but also the 'Farthest mosque' which lay 2000 kilometres north, in Jerusalem. Hence it is called Al-Masjid El-Aqsa, or Al-Aqsa Mosque.

Al-Aqsa Mosque is the second oldest mosque in Islam after the Ka'ba in Mecca, and is the third in holiness and importance after the mosques in Mecca and Medina.

The rectangular Al-Aqsa Mosque is 144,000 square meters, 35 acres, or 1/6 of the entire area within the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem as it stands today. It is also called Al-Haram El-Sharif (the Noble Sanctuary). The Dome of the Chain marks the exact central point of this Mosque.

# Sultan Ahmed Mosque (Blue Mosque)

## Istanbul, Turkey



The Blue Mosque was commissioned by Sultan Ahmet I when he was only 19 years old. It was built near the Hagia Sophia, over the site of the ancient hippodrome and Byzantine imperial palace (whose mosaics can be seen in the nearby Mosaic Museum). Construction work began in 1609 and took seven years. The original mosque complex included a madrasa, a hospice, a primary school, a market, and the tomb of the founder. Most of these buildings were torn down in the 19th century. One of the most notable features of the Blue Mosque is its six minarets.

# Masjid Al-Nileen - Omdurman, Sudan



The Mosque of the two Niles is a mosque in Omdurman, Sudan. It is located on the western banks of the Nile River, just opposite to the confluence of the two Niles. It was built in the 1970s during the Nimeiry era of Sudan, and since then remains one of the fine architectural religious venues in the country.

# Jamia Mosque – Nairobi



The mosque plays a central role to Nairobi's large Muslim population and is the location of choice for most Muslims for the Friday prayers hence its name which refers to the "Friday congregation".

The mosque institution was found in 1902 with the original structure which is an iconic, historical and architectural masterpiece being constructed from 1925-1933 through the efforts of the immigrant Asian community and the local Muslim population.

The mosque was later extended into a modern wing in 1998 thus resulting in the current Jamia Mosque Complex.

The section of the old mosque is built in typical Islamic architectural style and retains a classic design with extensive use of marble and inscriptions from the Qur'an.

It is recognizable by its 3 silver domes, and four minarets signifying a symbolic presence of Islam within the Central Business District and the Capital City.

# Mosque of Negash - Ethiopia



**This masjid (mosque) is located in the town of Negash in northern Ethiopia and is around the area where a just ruler, Ashama ibn Abjar (King Negus) lived at the time of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him). He gave refuge to two groups of Sahabah, companions of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) who migrated there on account of the persecution of the Quraysh in the early days of Islam.**

**After much suffering at the hands of the Quraysh in Makkah, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) commanded a small group of Muslims to make Hijrah (migration) to a safe place in the country of Abyssinia. (What is now Ethiopia). Abyssinia at that time was ruled by a Christian King (who later on embraced Islam), famous for his mercy and equity, whose title was Negus. They were sure to receive protection and worship and live in peace there.**

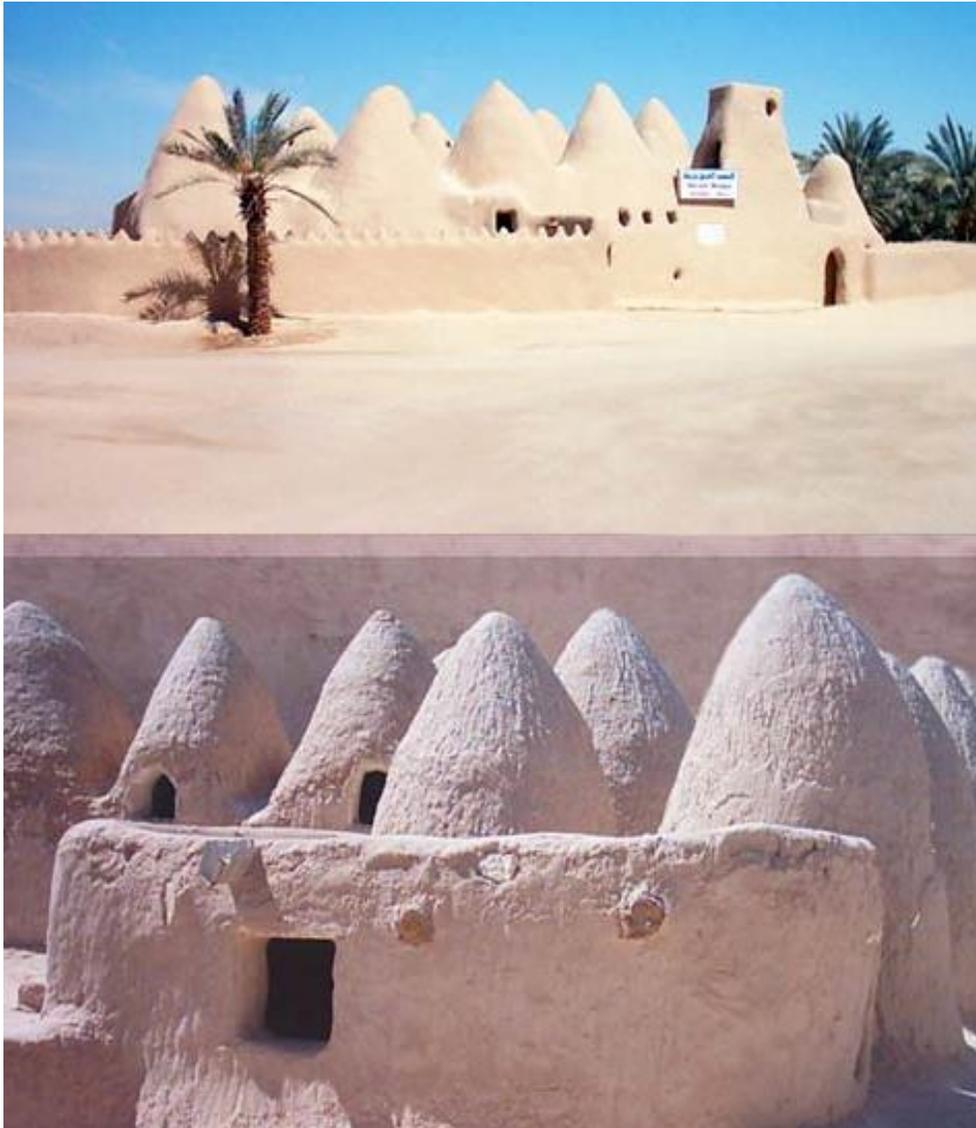
# Masjid-e-Khalil - Hebron, Palestine



**Masjid-e-Khalil in Hebron is built over a small cemetery where lies the graves of four of the most illustrious Prophets and their wives. Abraham (upon him be peace), his son Isaac (upon him be peace), his son Yaqoob (upon him be peace) and his son Yusuf (upon him be peace).**

**Almost all of the outer construction which can be seen today was built in the 1st century BC by Herod the Great. Herod's building did not contain a roof. In 637 CE, the area came under the control of the Muslims and the building was converted to a roofed mosque.**

# Atiq Mosque - Awjilah Libya



The Atiq Mosque the Great Mosque, or al-Kabir mosque) is a mosque in the oasis village of Awjila, in the Sahara desert of the Cyrenaica region of Eastern Libya.

The community dates back to classical times. Since the seventh century, Islam has always played a central role in the life of Awjila.

The 12th-century mosque, the oldest in the region, has unusual conical domes made of mudbrick and limestone that provide light and ventilation.



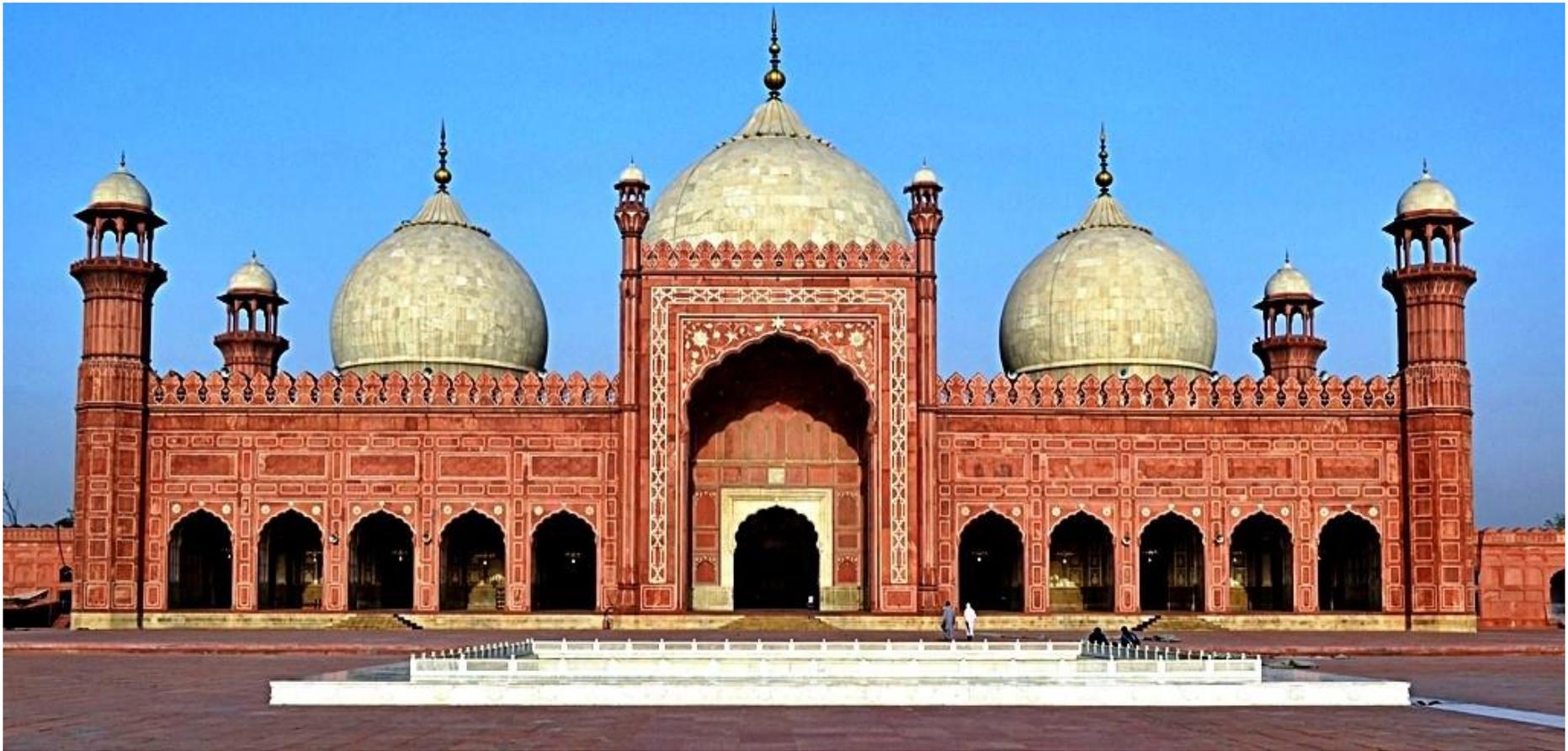
# Cheraman Juma Masjid – Kerela, India



The Cheraman Juma Mosque was the first mosque in India. It is in Methala, Kodungallur Taluk, Thrissur District in the Indian state of Kerala. Built in 629 AD, it is the first mosque in India. It was built by Malik Deenar, an Arab propagator of Islam. It is believed that this mosque was first renovated and reconstructed in the 11<sup>th</sup> century AD.

Since ancient times, trade relations between Arabia and India were active. Even before Islam had been established in Arabia, Arab traders visited the Malabar region, which was a major link between the ports of India and Southeast Asia. Many non-Muslims conduct initiation ceremonies to the world of letters of their children here.

# Badshahi Mosque – Lahore, Pakistan



The Badshahi Mosque is a Mughal era mosque in Lahore, capital of the Pakistani province of Punjab. The mosque is located in the west of Lahore Fort along the outskirts of the Walled City of Lahore, and is widely considered to be one of Lahore's most iconic landmarks. Badshahi Mosque was commissioned by Emperor Aurangzeb in 1671, with construction of the mosque lasting for two years until 1673. The mosque is an important example of Mughal architecture, with an exterior that is decorated with carved red sandstone with marble inlay. It remains the largest and the most recent of the grand imperial mosques of the Mughal-era, and is the second-largest mosque in Pakistan. After the fall of the Mughal Empire, the mosque was used as a garrison by the Sikh Empire and the British Empire, but is now one of Pakistan's most iconic sights.

# Sultan Hasan Mosque – Cairo, Egypt



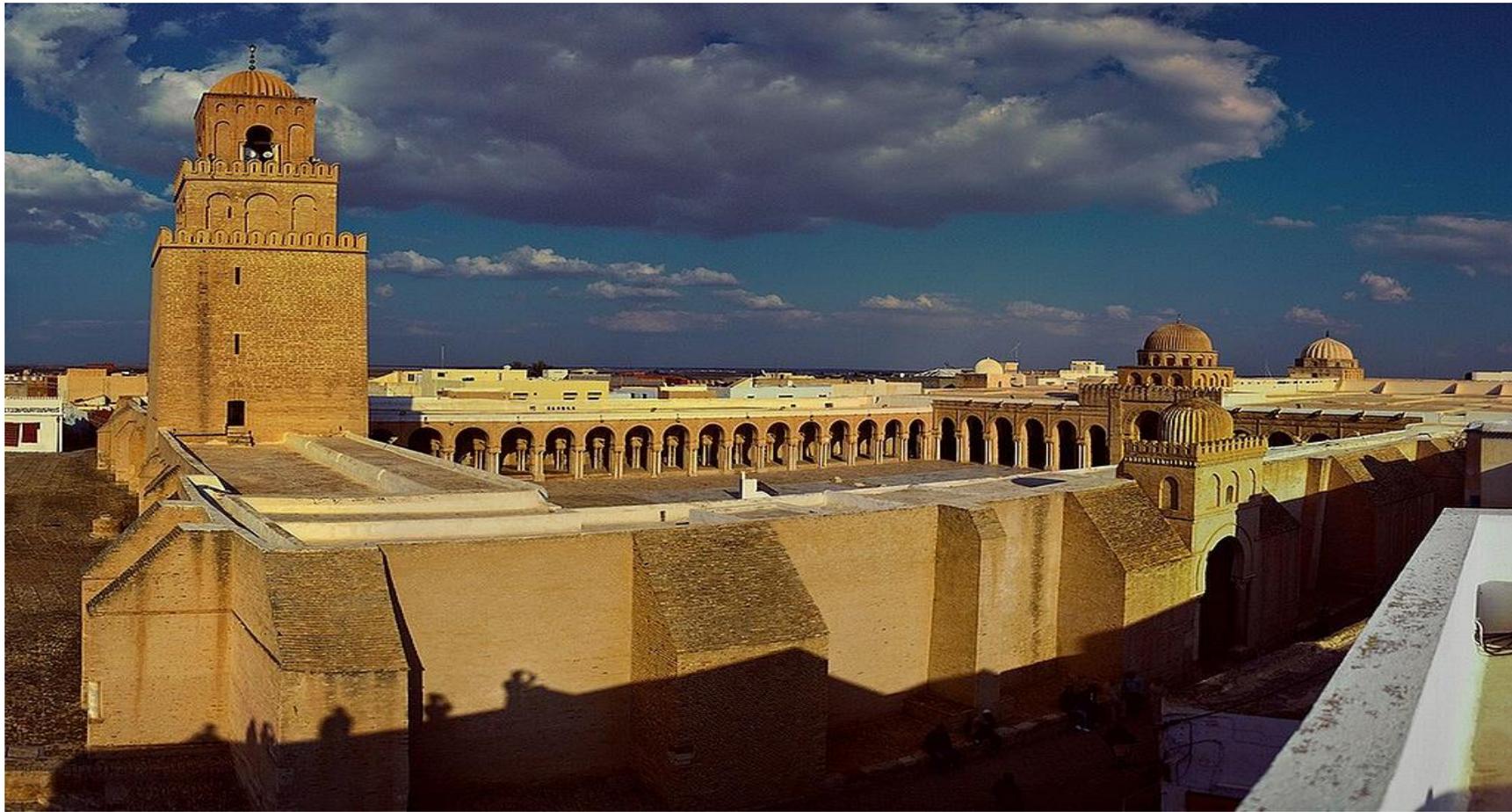
The Mosque-Madrassa of Sultan Hassan is a massive mosque and madrassa located in the Old city of Cairo. It was built during the Mamluk Islamic era in Egypt. Its construction began 757 AH/1356 CE with work ending three years later. At the time of construction, the mosque was considered remarkable for its fantastic size and innovative architectural components. Commissioned by Hasan, has several "wonders of construction" The mosque was, for example, designed to include schools for all four of the Sunni schools of thought: Shafi'i, Maliki, Hanafi and Hanbali.

# The Sixty Dome Mosque - Bangladesh



The Sixty Dome Mosque (the Shat Gambuj), in Bagerhat in the South Bangladesh, on the eastern bank of a sweet water tank or pond is one of the oldest mosques in the country and is described as "historic mosque representing the Golden Era of Muslim Bengal". It is laid over an area of 160 feet (49 m) by 108 feet (33 m). The mosque is unique in that it has 60 pillars that support 77 exquisitely curved "low squat domes" that have worn away over time. It has seven central domes that are four-sided and built in Bengali style. It was established in 1440 by Khan Jahan Ali.

# The Great Mosque of Kairouan - Tunisia



**The Great Mosque of Kairouan also known as the Mosque of Uqba is a mosque in Tunisia. Established by the Arab general Uqba Ibn Nafi in 670 AD (50 Hijra). The mosque is spread over a surface area of 9,000 square metres and it is one of the oldest places of worship in the Islamic world, as well as a model for all later mosques in the Maghreb (Berber World). The Great Mosque of Kairouan is one of the most impressive and largest Islamic monuments in North Africa.**

**Its perimeter is almost equal to 405 metres (1,328 feet). This space contains a prayer hall, a marble-paved courtyard and a square minaret. In addition to its spiritual prestige, the Mosque of Uqba is one of the masterpieces of Islamic architecture, notable among other things for the first Islamic use of the horseshoe arch.**

# The Great Mosque of Djenne – Mali, Niger



The Great Mosque of Djenné, a large banco or adobe building that is considered by many architects to be one of the greatest achievements of the Sudano-Sahelian architectural style. The mosque is located in the city of Djenné, Mali, on the flood plain of the Bani River. The first mosque on the site was built around the 13th century, but the current structure dates from 1907. As well as being the centre of the community of Djenné, it is one of the most famous landmarks in Africa. Along with the "Old Towns of Djenné," it was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1988.

# The Xi'anxian Mosque- Guangdong, China



The Great Mosque, located at 30 Huajue (Change Feeling) Lane in the center of the city, is the largest and one of the most important Islamic places of worship in China. Its construction started in 742 AD during the first year of the Tianbao Era of Emperor Xuanrong's reign in the Tang Dynasty, and additions were made during the Song (960-1279), Yuan (1271-1638), Ming (1368-1644), and Qing(1644-1911) dynasties, which makes the mosque as an ancient architectural complex representative of many periods of time.

# Masjid al-Qiblatan – Medina, Saudi Arabia



**Masjid al-Qiblatayn, or the Mosque of the Two Qiblas, is a mosque in Medina that is historically important for Muslims. Prophet Muhammad received the command to change the direction of prayer (Qiblah) from Jerusalem to Mecca and in this mosque the entire congregation led by a companion changed direction in prayer. Thus, it uniquely contained two prayer niches (*mihhrabs*). Recently the mosque was renovated and the old prayer niche facing Jerusalem was removed, and the one facing Mecca was left. The Qiblatayn Mosque is among the earliest mosques in Islamic history, along with Quba Mosque and Al-Masjid al-Nabawi barring the Great Mosques of Mecca and Jerusalem.**

# Masjid Al Markaz Al Islami Makassar, Indonesia



The Great Mosque of Makassar is a mosque located in Makassar, Indonesia, and the main mosque of the South Sulawesi Province. The construction began in 1948 and completed in 1949. Since then the mosque had undergone renovations from 1999 to 2005. The mosque can accommodate up to 10,000 worshippers, making it one of the largest mosques in Southeast Asia.

This two-storey mosque uses about 80 percent of building materials from local raw materials, and has two minarets as high as 66.66 meters, and other adjacent facilities such as library and the office of the Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) South Sulawesi chapter.

# Umayyad Mosque - Damascus, Syria



**The Umayyad Mosque, also known as the Great Mosque of Damascus, located in the old city of Damascus, is one of the largest and oldest mosques in the world.**

**After the Muslim conquest of Damascus in 634, the mosque was built on the site of a Christian basilica dedicated to John the Baptist (Yahya), honoured as a prophet by Christians and Muslims. A legend dating to the 6th century holds that the building contains the head of John the Baptist. The mosque is also believed by Muslims to be the place where Jesus (Isa) will return at the End of Days. The mausoleum containing the tomb of Salahuddeen Ayoubi and in a small garden adjoining the north wall of the mosque.**

# Taj Mahal - India



The Taj Mahal meaning Crown of the Palace) is an ivory-white marble mausoleum on the south bank of the Yamuna River in the Indian city of Agra. It was commissioned in 1632 by the Mughal emperor, Shah Jahan (reigned from 1628 to 1658), to house the tomb of his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal. The tomb is the centrepiece of a 17-hectare complex, which includes a mosque and a guest house, and is set in formal gardens bounded on three sides by a crenelated wall.

Construction of the mausoleum was essentially completed in 1643 but work continued on other phases of the project for another 10 years. The Taj Mahal complex is believed to have been completed in its entirety in 1653 at a cost estimated at the time to be around 32 million rupees. The construction project employed some 20,000 artisans under the guidance of a board of architects led by the court architect to the emperor, Ustad Ahmad Lahauri.

The Taj Mahal was designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1983 for being "the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage". It is regarded by many as the best example of Mughal architecture and a symbol of India's rich history. The Taj Mahal attracts 7–8 million visitors a year. In 2007, it was declared a winner of the New 7 Wonders of the World (2000–2007) initiative.

# Chand Minar – Daulatabad. India



Chand Minar is at Daulatabad. It was built in the Turkish style in 1435 by Ala-ud-din Bahmani to celebrate his occupation of the fort. The Chand Minar is considered to be among the finest specimens of Persian architecture in Southern India.

This 30-metre high tower is divided into four storeys. It has 24 chambers and a small mosque at its base. It is covered with the Persian blue tiles that make the Chand Minar outstanding.

Path passes bastions; studded gates, a drawbridge and the Chini Mahal, where Abdul Hasan Tana Shah, the last King of Golconda, was imprisoned in 1687 for 13 years are the important attractions of the tomb. There is also a 6.6m long 'Kila Shikan' (Fort Breaker) iron cannon on the bastion.

There are 100-steps stairs that lead to the 'Baradari' (pavilion) at the end of the tunnel inside the citadel. This pavilion is said to be the palace of the Yadavi Queen and later Shah Jahan.

There is another cannon at the top with a ram's head on the butt. Around the muzzle of the cannon, it is inscribed in Persian as "Creator of storms". Aurangabad is well connected by air, rail and road with the important places within and beyond the state.

# Ibrahim Rauza – Bijapur, India



Ibrahim Rauza is the tomb complex where Ibrahim Adil Shah II is buried along with his wife queen Taj Sultana, his two sons and mother on the right side. It is among one of the supreme achievements of Adil Shah II. It was completed in the year 1627 by Ibrahim Adil Shah II. It is a square structure with twin buildings and delicate carvings. With Qur'anic scriptures covering the walls. The building was designed by the Persian architect Malik Sandal.

The right side with a mosque set in a walled garden facing over an attractive pond. The tomb is in a chamber of 13 meters and has the ceiling divided into nine squares with curved sides. It is one of the most splendid mosques and tombs of Bijapur..

The dome is rising from a lotus petal base. The big fountain and reservoir divide the mosque from the tomb. This consists of the interconnected buildings, with the faultless domes topped with the crescent moons and surrounded on the four corners with the symmetrical minarets that manages the structural simplicity with intricate stonework with

# Timbuktu - Mali



Timbuktu was founded in the 5<sup>th</sup> century, and with the University of Sankore, 180 Quranic schools and 25,000 students, it became the centre of Islamic culture during the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. The site is home to the three mosques – Djingareyber, Sankore and Sidi Yahia – as well as 16 mausoleums and other holy places. The site was also of economic importance. The market place was where manuscripts were negotiated and traded along with salt from the north and gold, cattle and grain from the south.

# Muhammad Amin Khan Madrassah - Khiya Uzbekistan



The biggest medieval madrassah in Khiva, the Madrassah of Muhammad Amin-Khan (1845-1855) is located opposite to Kunya-Ark at the gates of Ata-darvaza. Its area is 78 x 60 m. The Madrassah has 125 hudjras and could receive up to 260 pupils. The portal is crowned with five domes and flanked by corner towers.

# University of al-Qarawiyyin – Fez, Morocco

The oldest existing university in the world



The University of al-Qarawiyyin, also written as Al Quaraouiyyine or Al-Karaouine, is a university located in Fez, Morocco. It is the oldest existing, continually operating and the first degree-awarding educational institution in the world according to the UNESCO and Guinness World Records. It is sometimes referred to as the oldest university. It was founded by Fatima al-Fihri in 859 with an associated madrasa, which subsequently became one of the leading spiritual and educational centres of the historic Muslim world. It was incorporated into Morocco's modern state university system in 1963.

# Al Azhar University - Cairo, Egypt



**Al-Azhar University, "the (honorable) Azhar University" is a university in Cairo, Egypt. Associated with Al-Azhar Mosque in Islamic Cairo. It is the oldest degree-granting university in Cairo and is renowned as "Sunni Islam's most prestigious university". In addition to higher education, Al-Azhar oversees a national network of schools with approximately two million students.**

**Founded in 970 or 972 by the Fatimids as a centre of Islamic learning, its students studied the Qur'an and Islamic law in detail, along with logic, grammar, rhetoric, and how to calculate the phases of the moon. It was one of the first universities in the world, and the only one in the Arabic world to survive as a modern university including secular subjects in the curriculum. Today it is the chief centre of Arabic literature and Islamic learning in the world.**

# The Generalife Villa - Alhambra, Spain



Placed next to the Alhambra, the Generalife is the villa that the Muslim kings used as a place for rest and leisure.

As in the Alhambra, the systems of water canalization that were used, stand out. However, the sublime beauty of the enclosure lies in the harmony and fineness of the space distribution and the design and care of gardens, yards and water tanks

# Aljaferia Palace - Aragon, Spain



The Aljafería Palace (Spanish) is a fortified medieval Islamic palace built during the second half of the 11th century in the Taifa of Zaragoza of Al-Andalus, present day Zaragoza, Aragon, Spain. It was the residence of the Banu Hud dynasty during the era of Abu Jaffar Al-Muqtadir after abolishing Banu Tujibi of Kindah Dynasty. The palace reflects the splendor attained by the kingdom of the Taifa of Zaragoza at the height of its grandeur. The palace currently contains the Cortes (regional parliament) of the autonomous community of Aragon.

The structure holds unique importance in that it is the only conserved testimony of a large building of Spanish Islamic architecture of the era of the Taifas (independent kingdoms). So, a magnificent example of the Caliphate of Córdoba, its Mosque (10th century), and the Alhambra of Granada in Al-Andalus must be included in the triad of the Hispano-Muslim architecture. The Aljafería of Zaragoza (11th century) is an example of the realizations of the Taifa art, in the intermediate time of independent kingdoms previous to the arrival of the Almorávides.

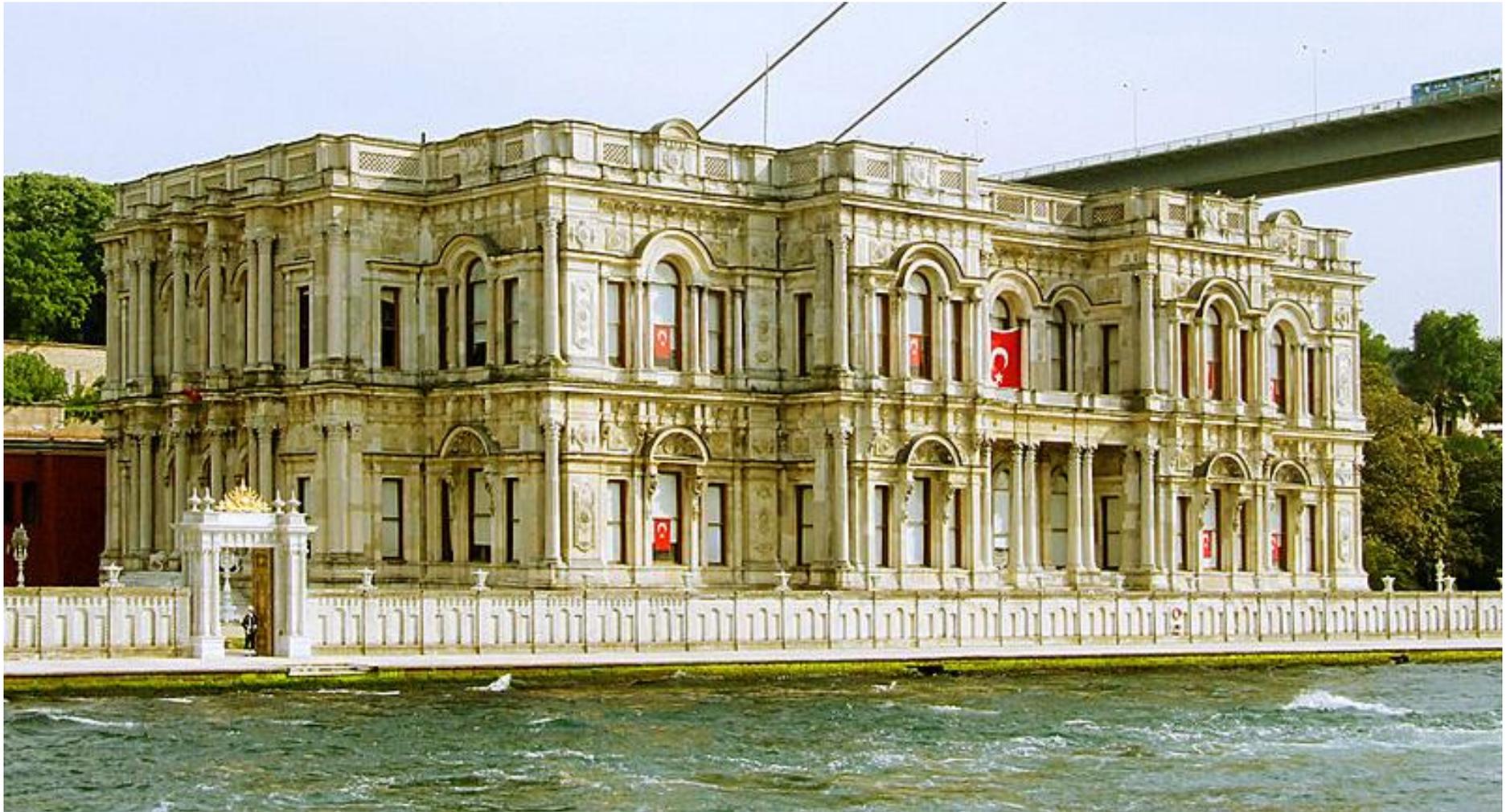
# Topkapi Palace - Istanbul, Turkey



**The Topkapi Palace (Turkish) is a large museum in Istanbul, Turkey. In the 15th century, it served as the main residence and administrative headquarters of the Ottoman sultans.**

**The project was ordered by Mehmed the Conqueror, six years after the conquest of Constantinople. Topkapi was originally called the "New Palace" to distinguish it from the Old Palace in the Beyazit Square. It was given the name Topkapi, meaning the Cannon Gate, in the 19th century.**

# Beylerbeyi Palace – Istanbul, Turkey



**Beylerbeyi Palace was commissioned by Sultan Abdul-Aziz (1830–1876) and was built between 1861 and 1865 as an Imperial Ottoman summer residence and a place to entertain visiting heads of state.**

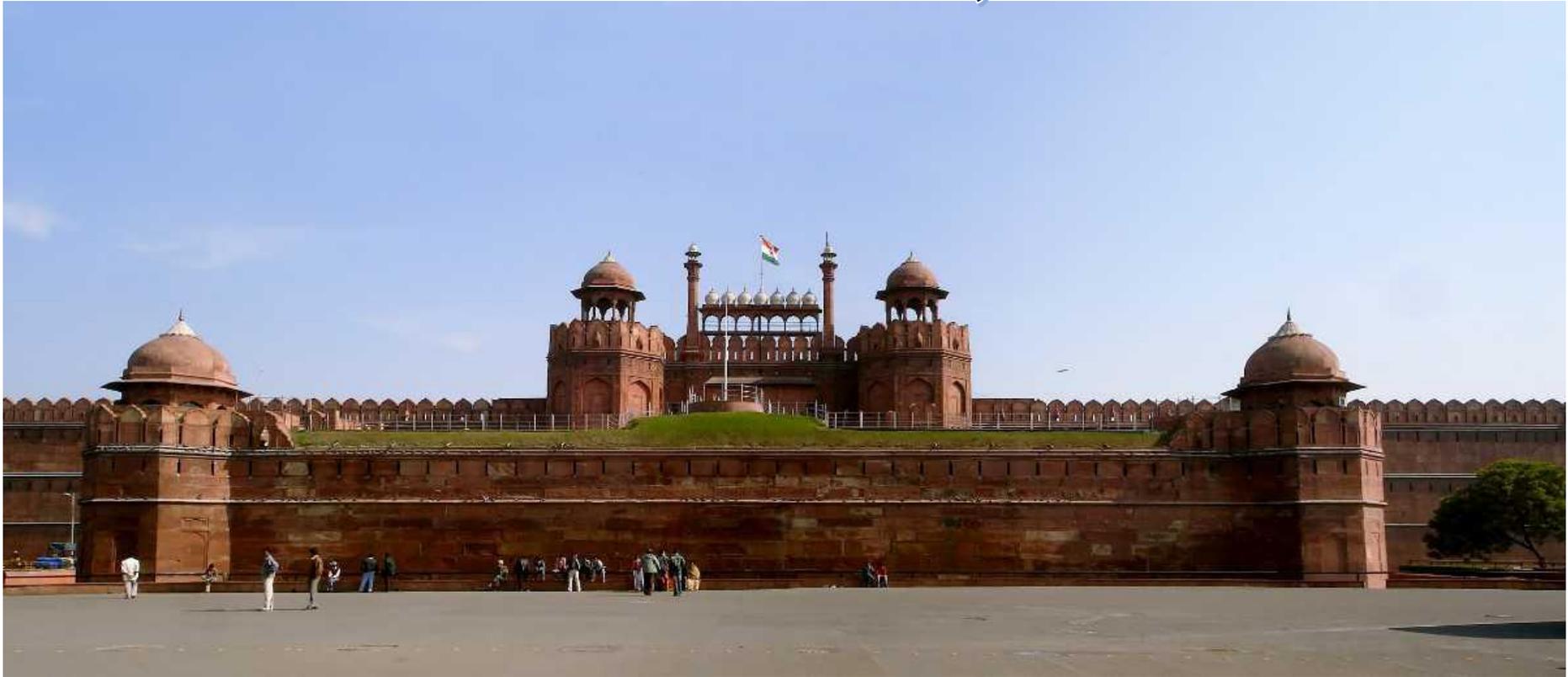
# The Citadel of Aleppo - Aleppo, Syria



**The Citadel of Aleppo is a large medieval fortified palace in the centre of the old city of Aleppo, northern Syria. It is considered to be one of the oldest and largest castles in the world. Usage of the Citadel hill dates back at least to the middle of the 3rd millennium BC. Subsequently occupied by many civilizations including the Greeks, Byzantines, Ayyubids and Mamluks, the majority of the construction as it stands today is thought to originate from the Ayyubid period.**

**An extensive conservation work took place in the 2000s. Dominating the city, the Citadel is part of the Ancient City of Aleppo, The Citadel received significant damage during the Battle of Aleppo. It was reopened to the public in early 2017 with repairs to damaged parts underway.**

# Red Fort – Delhi, India



**The Red Fort is a historic fort in the city of Delhi in India. It was the main residence of the emperors of the Mughal dynasty for nearly 200 years, until 1856. It is located in the centre of Delhi and houses a number of museums. In addition to accommodating the emperors and their households, it was the ceremonial and political centre of the Mughal state and the setting for events critically impacting the region.**

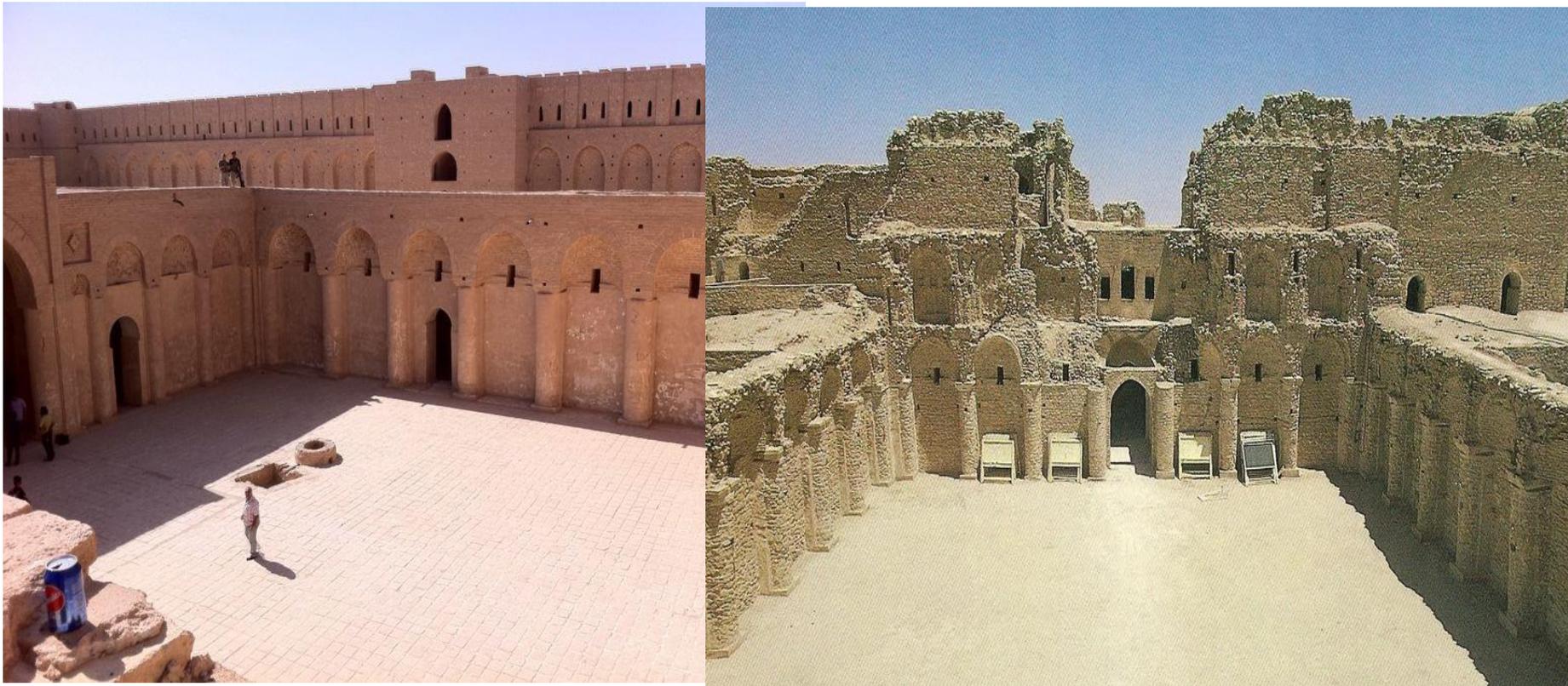
**Constructed in 1639 by the fifth Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan as the palace of his fortified capital Shahjahanabad, the Red Fort is named for its massive enclosing walls of red sandstone and is adjacent to the older Salimgarh Fort, built by Islam Shah Suri in 1546. The imperial apartments consist of a row of pavilions, connected by a water channel known as the Stream of Paradise (*Nahr-i-Bihisht*). The fort complex is considered to represent the zenith of Mughal creativity under Shah Jahan and although the palace was planned according to Islamic prototypes, each pavilion contains architectural elements typical of Mughal buildings that reflect a fusion of Timurid and Persian traditions.**

# Al Hambra – Granada, Spain



This sprawling palace in Granada, Spain was originally designed by Ibn Al-Ahmar and features a series of courtyards surrounded by rooms. Its overall structure presents a varied repertoire of the Moorish Islamic architecture through its columns, arches and domes. It is remarkable for its slender columnar arcades, fountains and the light reflecting water basins in its courtyards.

# The Fortress of Al-Ukhaidir – Karbala, Iraq



The Fortress of Al-Ukhaidir or the Abbasid palace of Ukhaider is located roughly 50 km south of Karbala, Iraq. It is a large, rectangular fortress erected in 775 AD with a unique defensive style. Constructed by the Abbasid caliph As-Saffah's nephew Isa ibn Musa, Ukhaider represents Abbasid architectural innovation in the structures of its courtyards, residences and mosque. Ukhaider was an important stop on regional trade routes, similar to Atshan and Mujdah. The fortress exemplifies Abbasid architecture in Iraq by demonstrating the "despotic and the pleasure-loving character of the dynasty" in its grand size but cramped living quarters

# Anadolu Hisari (Anatolian Fortress)



**A 14th century castle from the Ottoman's first attempt to capture Istanbul, Anatolian Fortress is located on the Asian shore of the city at the narrowest point of the Bosphorus Strait. Sultan Yildirim Bayezit built this fortress in 1391 on the ruins of an old temple dedicated to Zeus.**

# Rumeli Hisari (Rumeli Fortress) - Istanbul



**Before the conquest of Istanbul, the fortress was constructed by the order of Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror in 1452 in order to cut supply lines from the Black Sea. He had constructed Rumeli Fortress just opposite of the Anatolian Fortress (Anadolu Hisari) which Sultan Beyazit I had built in 1391. Interestingly, construction of the fortress with about 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> area was finished in just 4 months and Sultan Mehmet had been successful thanks to these two fortresses.**

# Al-Kala Fortress - Algeria



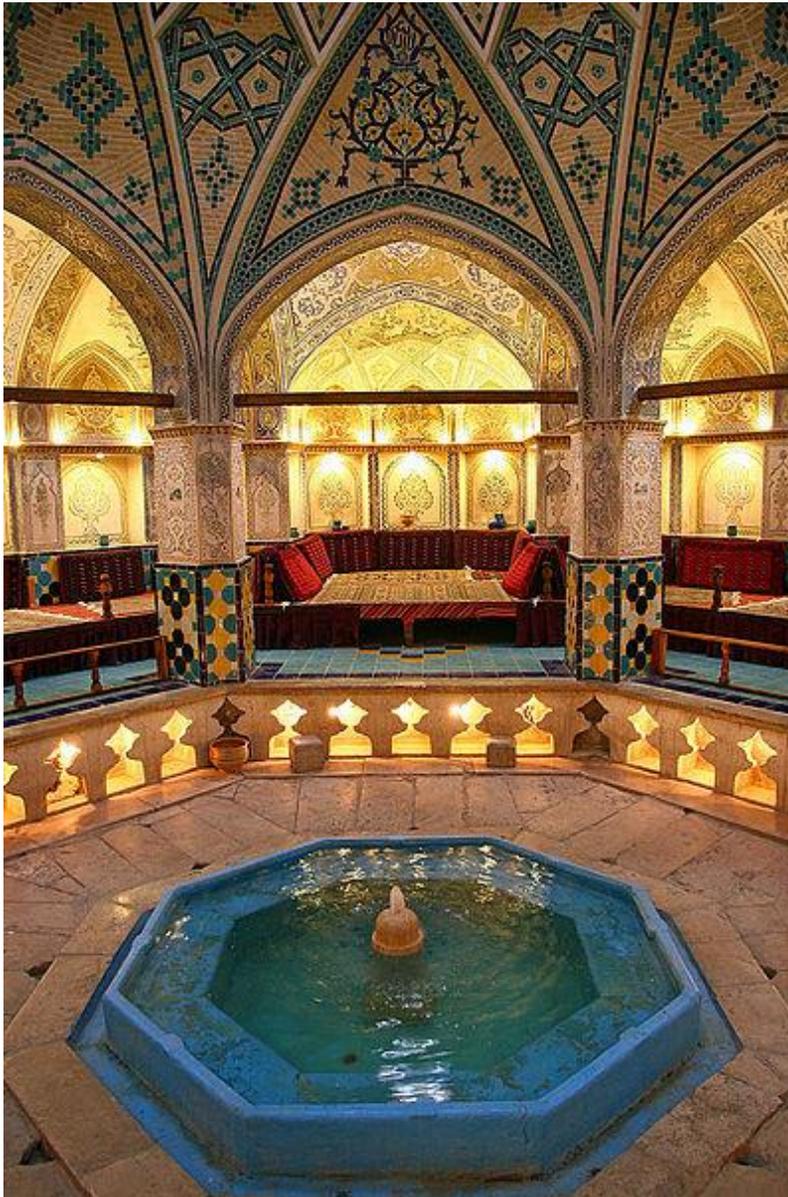
Surviving in an extraordinarily beautiful mountain town ruins of the first capital of the Hammadidov Empire, founded in 1007 and destroyed in 1152, you can create an authentic picture of a fortified Muslim city. The mosque, which prayer room has 13 aisles with eight rows of seats is one of the largest in Algeria. Beni Hammad Kala remarkable archaeological site is located 36 km north-east of M'sila city. This ensemble of the ruins, at 1,000 m above the sea level is located in the mountainous area of striking beauty on the southern flank of Djebel Maadid.

# Cemberlitas Bathhouse – Istanbul, Turkey



The bath was established by Nurbanu Sultan, wife of Selim II and mother of Murat III, for the purpose of bringing in revenue to support the Valide-i Atik Charity Complex in Toptasi, Üsküdar. According to the *Tuhfet'ül-mi'mârin*, the bath is one of the structures built by the architect Sinan, in 1584.

# Sultan Amir Ahmad Bathhouse Kashan - Iran



This bath house was constructed in 16th century, Iran. Part of the bathhouse is being used as a tea house. Sultan Amir Ahmad Bathhouse, has an area of around 1000 square meters and consists of two main parts, *Sarbineh* (the dressing hall) and *Garmkhaneh* (the hot bathing hall). *Sarbineh* is a large octagonal hall, which has an octagonal pool in the middle separated by 8 pillars from the outer section. There are four pillars in *Garmkhaneh*, which make smaller bathing rooms all around as well as the entrance section to *Khazineh* (final bathing room) in the middle. The interior of the bathhouse is decorated with turquoise and gold tilework, plasterwork, brickwork as well as artistic paintings. The roof of the bathhouse is made of multiple domes that contain convex glasses to provide sufficient lighting to the bathhouse while concealing it from the outside.



# Khadju Bridge – Isfahan Iran



It was built by the Persian Safavid King, Shah Abbas II around 1650 CE. on the foundations of an older bridge. Khadju Bridge has 24 arches and is 133 meters long and 12 meters wide. The pass way of the bridge is 7.5 meters wide, made of bricks and stones with 21 larger and 26 smaller inlet and outlet channels. The stones used in this bridge are over 2 meters long and the distance between every channel and the ceiling base is 21 meters.

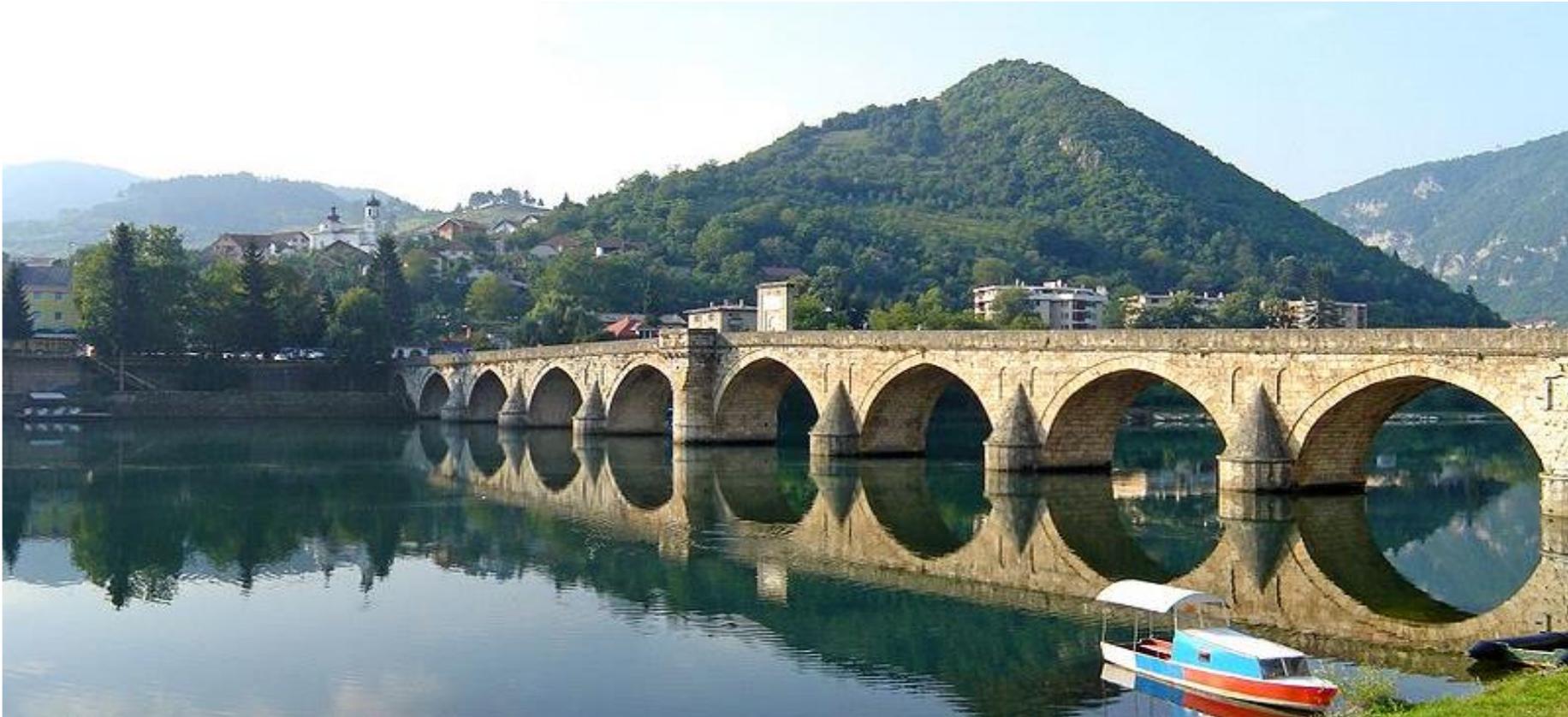
# Mes Bridge - Mes, Albania



**Mes Bridge is a bridge in the village of Mes, about five kilometers (straight line) northeast of Shkodër, in northwestern Albania. It was built in the 18th century, around 1780, by Kara Mahmud Bushati, the local Ottoman pasha and it spans the Kir River. It is 108 m long, and represents one of the longest Ottoman bridges in the region. It was built as part of the road that goes up the Kir Valley, eventually to Pristina.**

# Mehmed Paša Sokolović Bridge

## Bosnia & Herzegovina



The Višegrad Bridge was commissioned by Grand Vizier Mehmed Paša Sokolović, who exercised power over a long period at the summit of the Ottoman Empire during the reign of three sultans as a tribute to his native region and a symbol of trade and prosperity. Construction of the bridge took place between 1571 and was completed in 1577 by Mimar Sinan, the greatest architect of the classical period of Ottoman architecture. It is built over the Drina River in Eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina.

# Stari Most (Old Bridge)

## Mostar, Bosnia & Herzegovina



**Stari Most (literally, "Old Bridge") is a rebuilt 16th-century Ottoman bridge in the city of Mostar in Bosnia and Herzegovina that crosses the river Neretva and connects the two parts of the city. It was built by a famous Ottoman Sultan's architect Mimar Sinan/Hajruddin who built many of the key Sultan's buildings in Istanbul.**

# Shahi Bridge – Jaunpur, India



**Mughal Emperor Akbar ordered the construction of the Shahi Bridge, which was completed in the year 1568–69 by Munim Khan. It took four years to complete the bridge. It was designed by Afghan architect Afzal Ali.**

**The bridge was severely damaged in the 1934 Nepal–Bihar earthquake. Seven of its arches had to be rebuilt. In addition to its historical significance, the bridge is still in use.**

**The bridge is generally recognised as Jaunpur's most significant Mughal structure.**

# Entrance of Makkah – Saudi Arabia



It is the entrance to Mecca and the birthplace of Prophet Muhammad – signifies the boundary of the *haram* area of the city of Mecca, where non-Muslims are prohibited to enter.

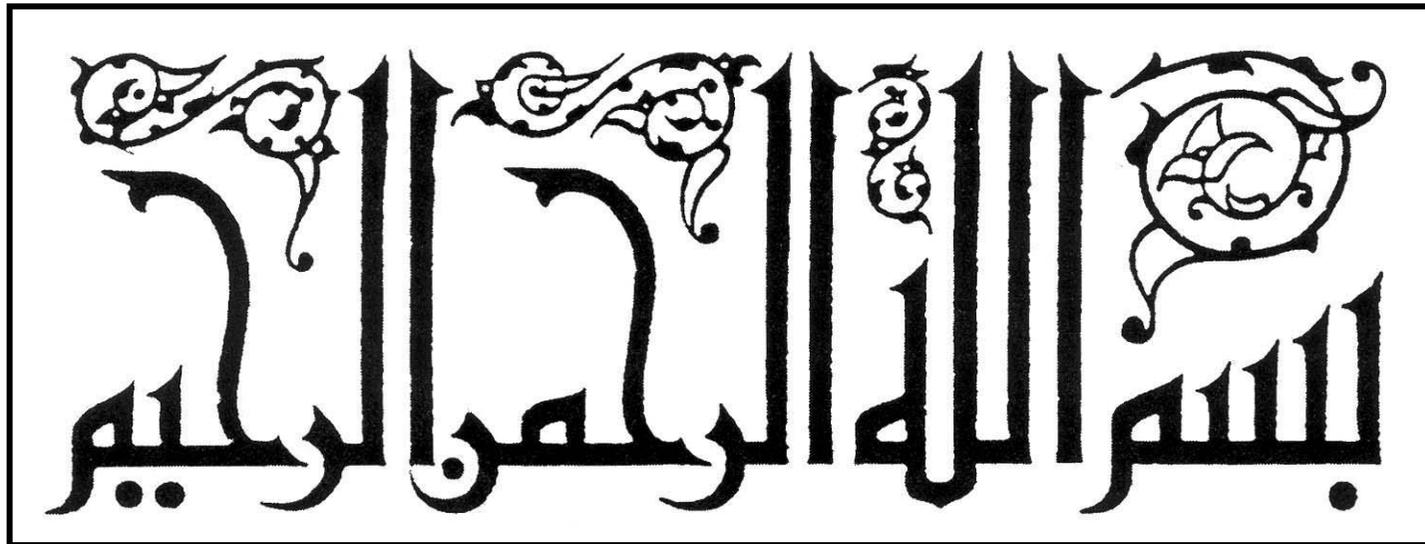
The Gate was built in 1979. Design was done by Dia Aziz Dia, and architect was Samir Elabd.

Gateway is built as an arch over road, and consists of three main parts. The main part is structure of the Islam's *Holy Book* – Qur'an, sitting on a rehal (book stand). Reinforced concrete was used as primary building material; plastic, glass, wood and other materials are also present (e.g. Islamic luminous mosaics/vitrails beneath arches, arched entrances into premises etc.). Whole structure is decorated with various patterns and can get illuminated at night in many different ways.

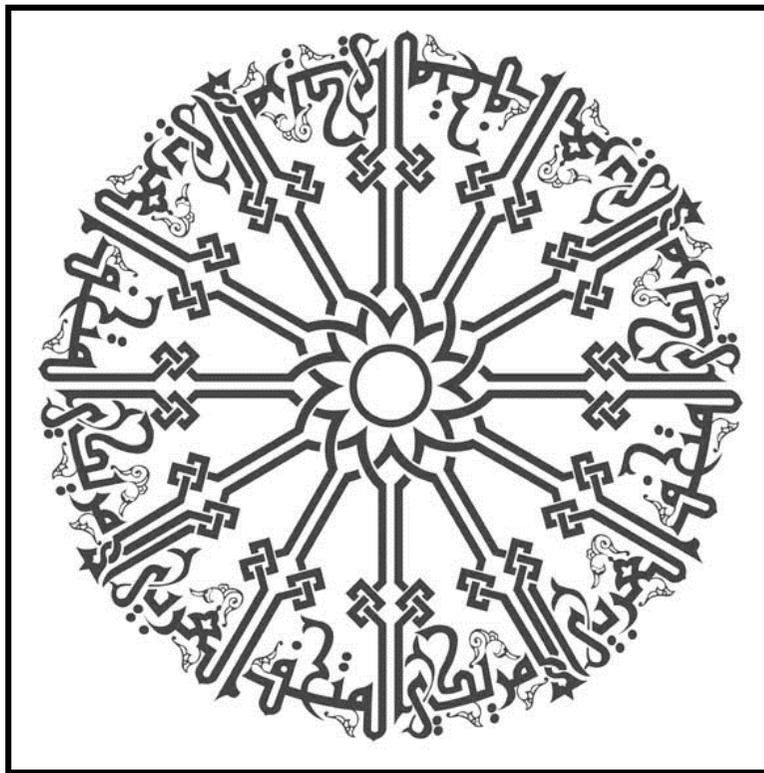
# Islamic Calligraphy



*Kufi* or *Kufic*: is noted for its proportional measurements, angularity, and squareness. *Kufic* is one of the earliest styles to be used to record the word of God in the *Qur'an*. One of the early *Kufic* inscriptions can be seen inside the Dome of the Rock in Jerusalem.



# Variations of Kufic Style:



Early Kufic  
س م ل ل ا ح م ر ا ل ح م

Eastern Kufic  
ب س م ا ل ل ا ح م ر ا ل ح م ر ا ل ح م

Knotted Kufic  
س م ل ل ا ح م ر ا ل ح م ر ا ل ح م

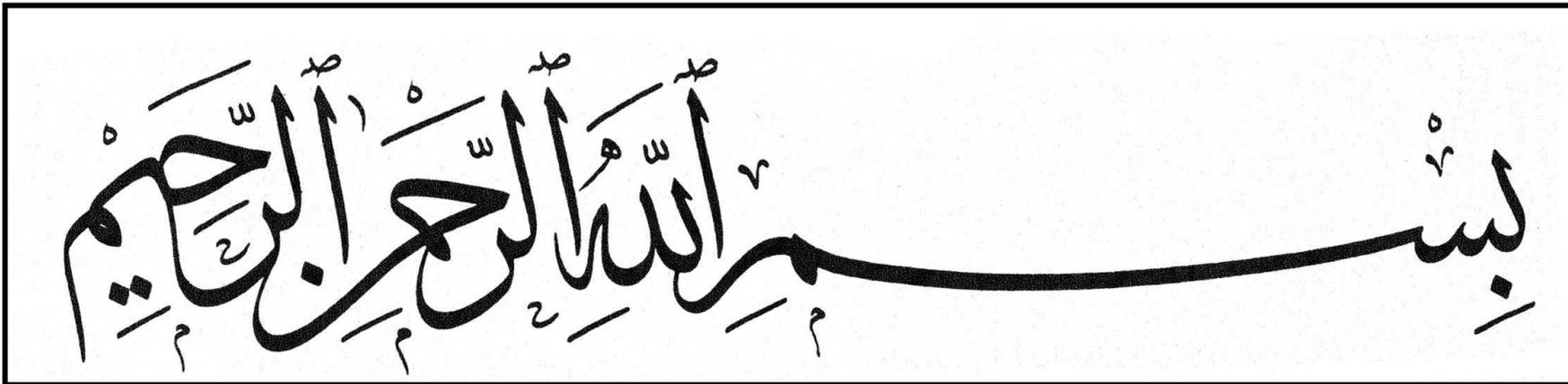
Square Kufic  
س م ل ل ا ح م ر ا ل ح م ر ا ل ح م

© M. Sakka 1987

# Islamic Calligraphy



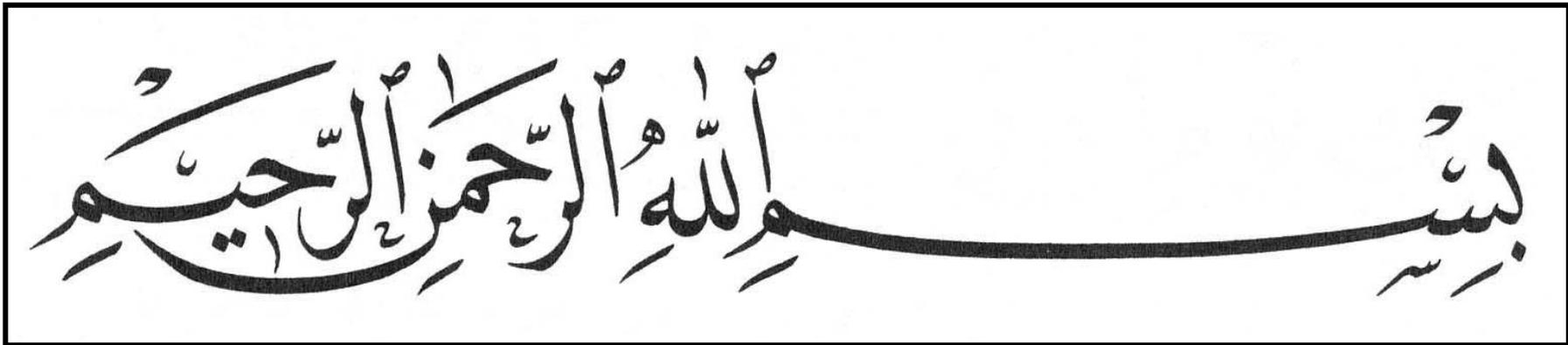
*Thuluth* means “one third,” referring to the proportion of the pen in relation to a previous style called *Tumaar*. It was first formulated in the 7th century A.D., and fully developed in the 9th century. It is noted for its cursive letters and its use as an ornamental script.



# Islamic Calligraphy



*Nasakh* means “copy” in Arabic, is one of the earliest scripts, redesigned by *Ibn Muqlah* in the 10th century A.D., using a comprehensive system of proportion. It is noted for its clarity to read and write, and was used to copy the Qur’an.



# Islamic Calligraphy

خط تعلق

*Ta'liq* means “hanging,” referring to the shape of the letters, is a cursive script developed by the Persians in the early part of the 9th century A.D., and it is also called *Farsi* (Persians).

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

# Islamic Calligraphy

الخط الديواني

*Diwani* was developed by the Ottomans from the *Ta'liq* style. This style became a favorite script for writing in the Ottoman chancellery, and its name was derived from the word “Diwan,” which means the “Royal Court.”

سید محمد عبدالرحمن

# Islamic Calligraphy

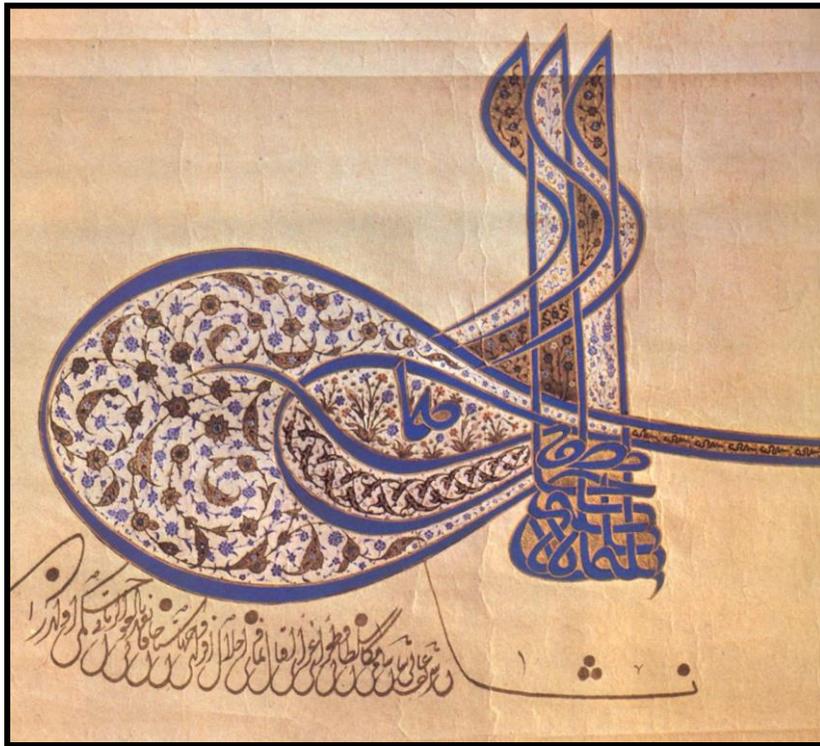
خط الرقعة

*Riq'a* is a style that has evolved from *Nasakh* and *Thuluth*. It is noted for its simplicity and its short horizontal stems. The word *Riq'a* means “a small sheet,” which could be an indication of the media on which it was originally created.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

# Islamic Calligraphy

*Tughra*' was used by the Ottoman sultans as their signature. It was supposed to be impossible to imitate.

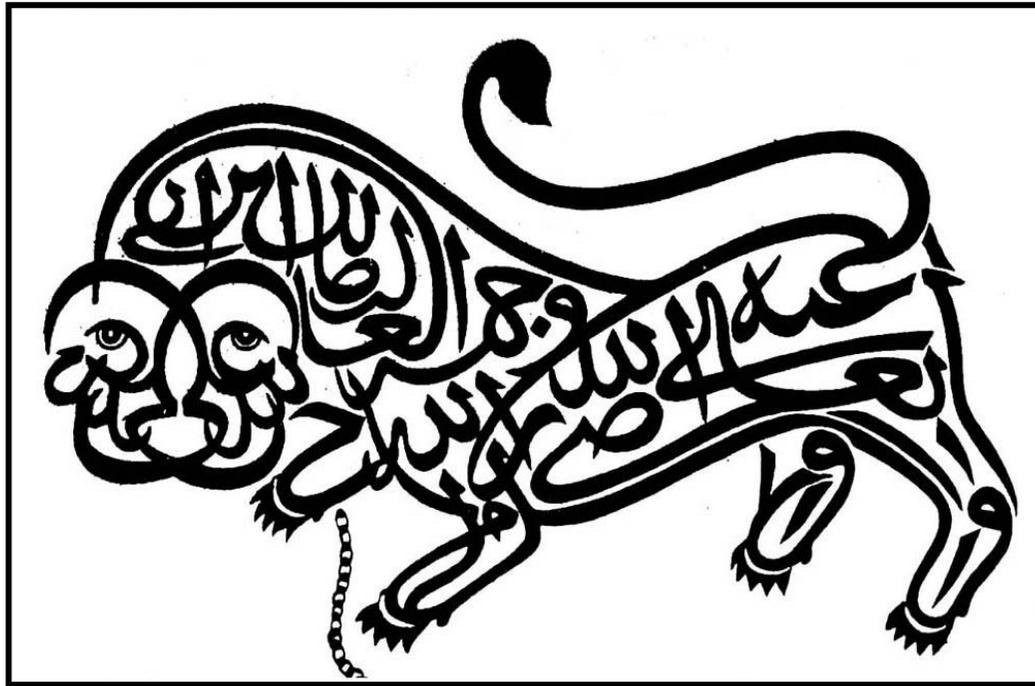


*Signature of an Ottoman Sultan*



*Bismillah in Tughra' style*

**Pictorial Calligraphy:** words are manipulated and structured into the shape of a human figure, a bird, an animal or an object.

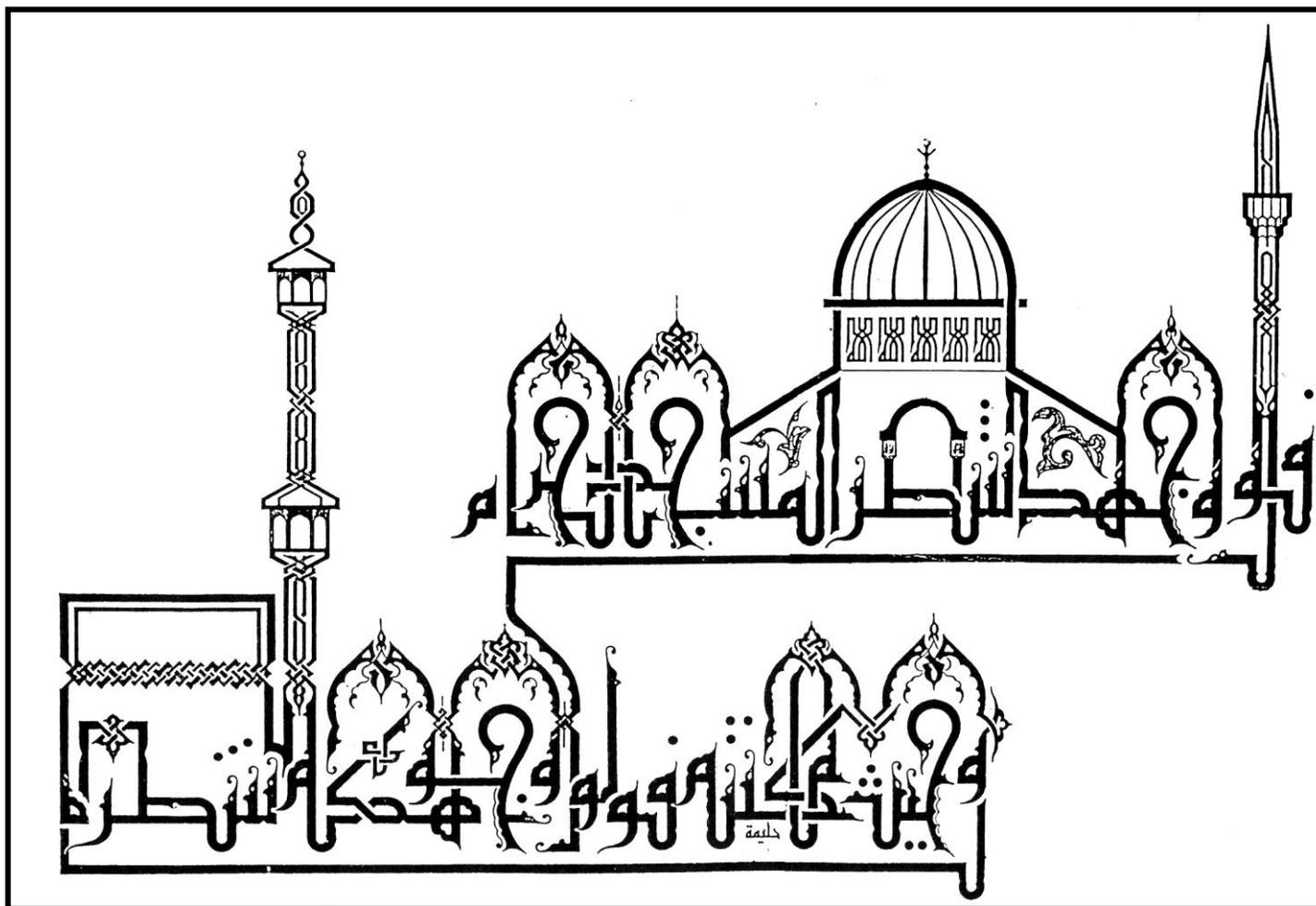


Prayer in a form of a Lion  
*“Ali bin abu Talib, the victorious lion of Allah, may Allah be pleased with him”*



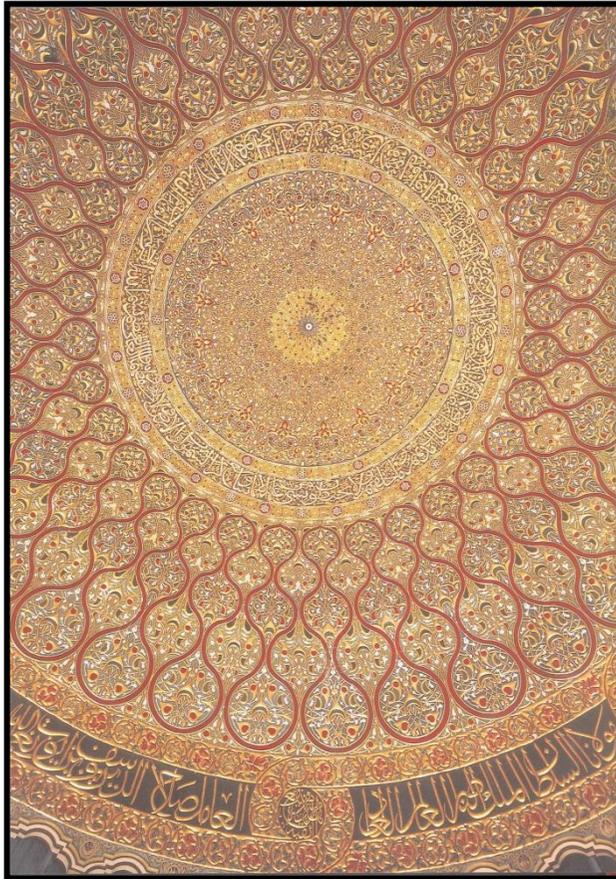
Prayer in a form of a human figure  
*“I testify that there is no god, but God and Muhammad is a messenger of Allah”*

# Pictorial Calligraphy



Qur'anic verse in the shape of a mosque

# Calligraphy in Mosques

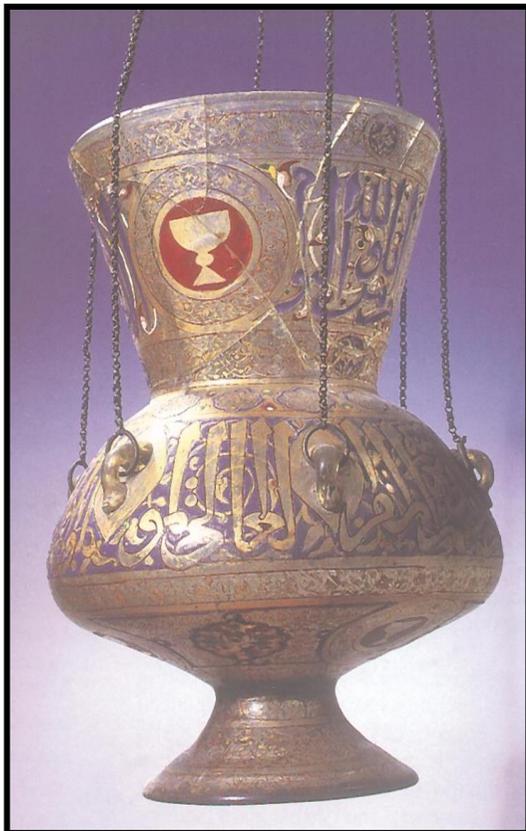


**The Dome of the Rock**

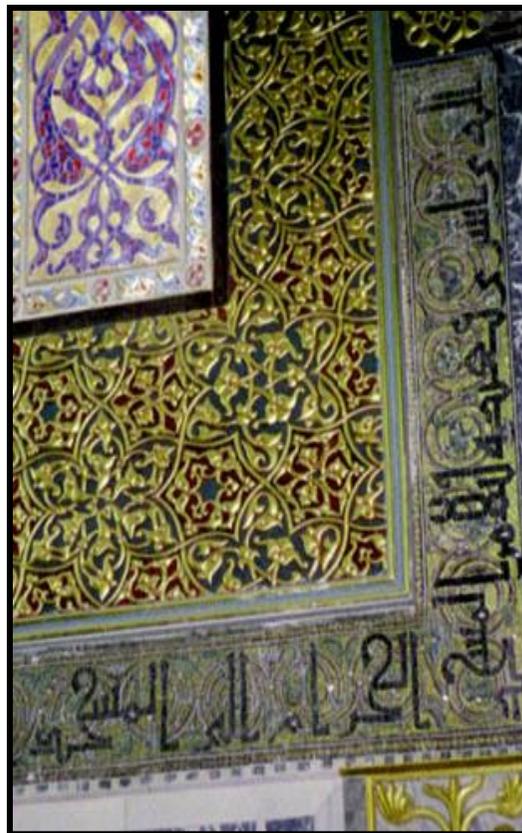


**Mimbar & Mihrab - Mosque of University of Jordan**

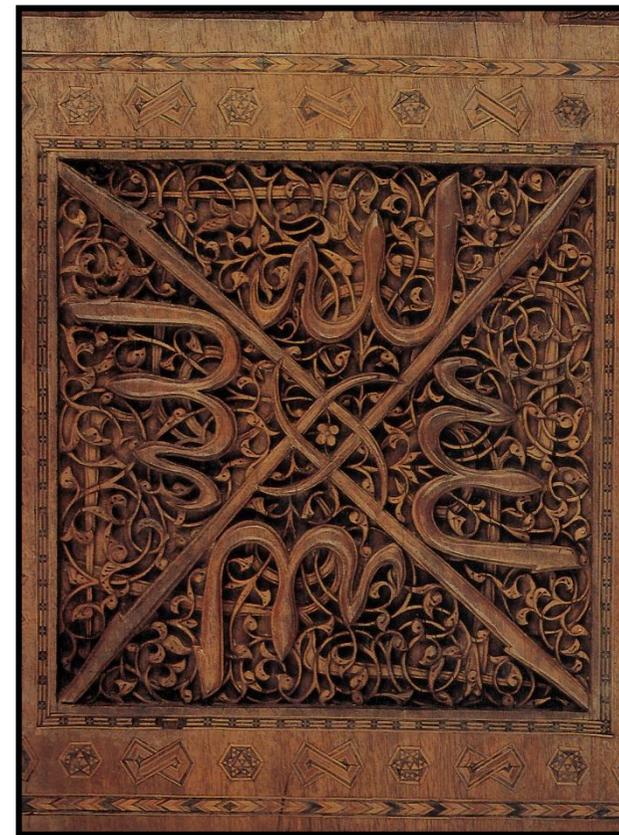
# Calligraphy & Diversity of Materials



**Glass**



**Mosaics**



**Wood**

# عنماكنا

## MONUMENTS AND HERITAGE



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