

JIWAJI UNIVERSITY, GWALIOR

BALLB II SEM

HISTORY PPT LECTURE

10

UNIT-II

TOPIC- DELHI SULTANATE

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THE DELHI SULTANATE

ART AND ARCHITECTURE:

Probable questions:-

1. Describe the progress of architecture during the reign of delhi sultans.
2. Write a note on the development of Indo-Islamic architecture.
3. Write a note on the development of provincial architecture.

Architecture during Delhi sultanate

All fine arts, viz, painting, music and dance are denounced in islam, but architecture progressed during this period. Fine arts were patronised by the provincial rulers. As the source of income of the provincial rulers were not as extensive as those of the sultans. So architecture progressed vaery much in comparison to fine arts.

Character of the architecture:

The historians hold divergent opinions regarding the architecture during this period.

- Fergusson- He has remarked that the architecture was, 'indo-saracenic' or 'pathan'.
- E.B.Havell- He is of the view that it is entirely indian in 'soul and body'.
- Sir john marshall- He has remarked, 'indo-islamic art is not merely a local variety of islamic art, but a modified form of Hindu art.'

Characteristics of architecture:

- A mixture of indian (hindu) and iranian (muslim) style:

The buildings were designed by muslim architects to suit the requirements of their religious ideas, but they were constructed by hindu craftsmen. Obviously the buildings had the combination of indo-islamic architecture.

- Buildings constructed with the material of hindu temples:

Quwwat-ul-islam mosque in delhi and Adhai-din-ka –jhopra a mosque in ajmer have been built on the ruins of hindu temples.

- Pointed arch in the muslim architecture:

Hindu used square pillars which supported their temple roofs, but muslim used the arches and domes to support the roof.

- Carvings:

The muslim did not allow any representation of living things, the hindu workmen were allowed the use of flowers and trees in the decoration of muslim buildings.

- Use of geometrical designs:

During the sultanate period geometrical designs, square, hexagonal and rectangular etc. began to be used for decoration purposes.

- Quranic ‘ Aayats’:

The use of quranic aayats in the buildings served two purposes i.e. religious as well as decorative.

- Use of stones and lime:

During the sultanate period several types of coloured stones like red, light black, yellow and white marbles were used.

Monuments of slave sultans:

- Quwwat-ul-islam mosque and Adhai din ka jhopra were early buildings built by aibak in delhi and ajmer respectively. Aibak also planned the construction of qutub minar but couldn't complete it.

- Iltutmish completed the construction of qutub minar. Beside it, he constructed sultan garhi, hauz-e-shamshi, jami masjid at badaun and atarkin ka darwaza at jodhpur.
- The tomb of balban and the red palace at delhi are buildings of the time of balban. The tomb of balban age is the best specimen of indo-islamic architecture.

Monuments of khilji sultans:

Alauddin khilji built jamait khana mosque, alai darwaza at the qutub minar, hauz-i-alai or hauz-i-khas, city of siri and the hazar situn (palace of thousand pillars) are fine specimen of khilji architecture.

Monuments of tughlaq rulers:

The buildings of tughlaq period were different from those of the khilji age. The decoration and splendor of khilji period were replaced with simplicity and solidity. The reason of this change may be weak economy of the tughlaq dynasty rulers.

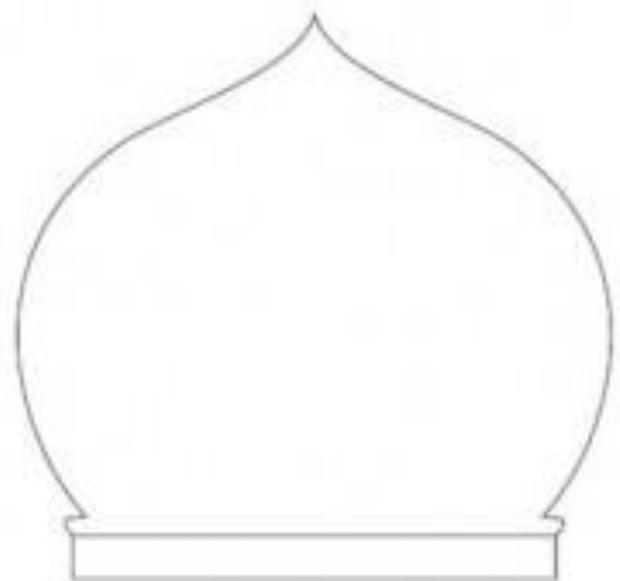
- Ghiyasuddin built the city of tughlaqabad.
- MBT built the fort of adilabad, founded the city of jahanabad.
- FST was a great builder. According to ferishta, he built four tombs, thirty palaces, five reservoirs, two hundred caravanserais, thousand bridges.

He also founded the city of fatehabad, jaunpur and hisarfiroza.

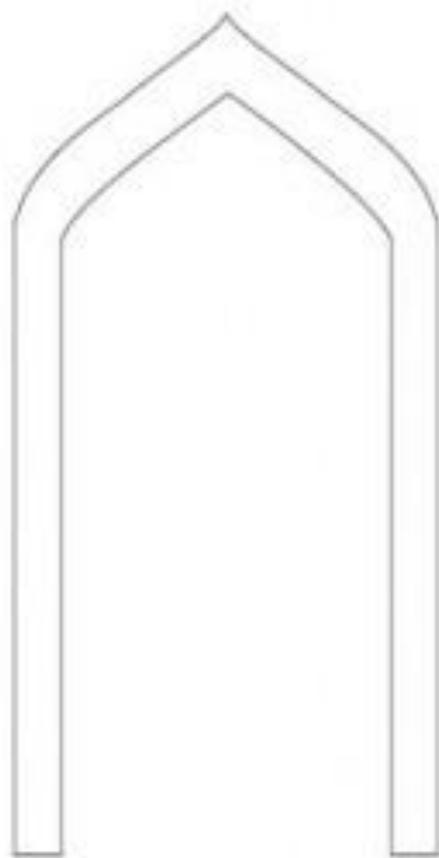
Monuments of sayyid and lodi sultans:

- Sayyid ruler Mubarak shah founded the city of mubaraqabad.
- Tomb was the important architectural element during the sayyid and lodi era. Two types of toms were:
 1. Square tomb- built for nobles.
 2. Octagonal tomb- built for sultans
- The attempt in the direction of double dome started with tomb of taj khan (1501) and tomb of sikandar lodi (1517), both in delhi.

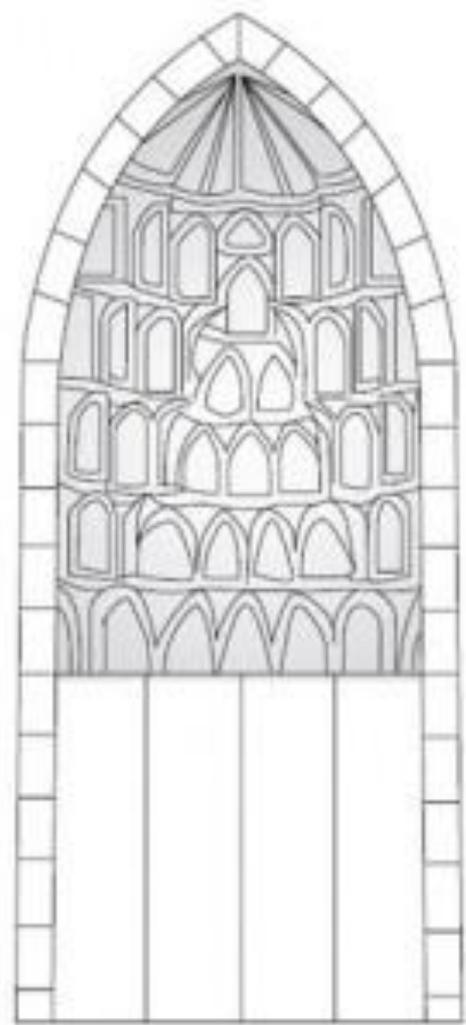
However, the fully mature form of the double dome is seen for the first time in india in the tomb of humayun.



a. Dome



b. Arch



c. Mugarnas Vault

CONCLUSION

Before the commencement of islam in india, brahamanical, buddhist and jain styles were prevalent. Muslims brought their own style from western and central asia. Owing to mixture of all these styles a new style emerged in india during the delhi sultanate, hence, eight specialist have found many things common in the construction of temples and mosques, such as, the open court encompassed by chambers of colonnades, decoration and ornamentation.

We can say indo-islamic architecture derives its character from both, though not always in an equal degree.

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THANK YOU

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