

GOVT. OF INDIA RNI NO.: UPBIL/2015/62096

UGC Approved Care Listed Journal

ISSN
2229-3620

SIU



SHODH SANCHAR

Bulletin

An International
Multidisciplinary
Quarterly Bilingual
Peer Reviewed
Refereed
Research Journal

Vol. 11

Issue 41

January to March 2021

Editor in Chief

Dr. Vinay Kumar Sharma

D. Litt. - Gold Medalist





ARCHITECTURE IN MUGHAL PERIOD

□ Mrs. Sharmila Poonia*

ABSTRACT

The Mughal age was not only a period of experiment and innovation but of continuation and culmination of the process of fine arts that had their seed shown in the later part of the Turko-Afghan rule. Again, The Mughals Emperors being lovers of fine arts had evolved new styles and techniques which indicates a happy mingling of Persian and Indian elements. This synthesis has left a deep impression on painting, Architecture, embroidery, jewelry and metal work of the age. All the fine arts of the period breathe a spirit of today, we shall talk about Mughal architecture, look at who the Mughals were, what they built and how they are architecture change through time, what kinds of influences that they bring from their homelands in the Fergana Valley and what kind of elements that they pickup in India, where we have a very different tradition of architecture. Who are the Mughals anywhere and what is the extent of their rule, here we see that the Mughals over a period of a 150 years expanded to cover most of South Asia, they started of by invading Delhi got beaten back, recovered Delhi in the 1550s under Humayun and from there on, till the death of Aurangzeb, there was no looking back. They with every successive emperor conquered more and more lands, after the death of Aurangzeb in 1707 the Mughal Empire starts fragmenting and by the end of the Mughal error in 1858, when the last Mogul emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar is sent off to Burma, there is very little expansion. Infect you have a contraction of the Kingdom.

The Mughal Emperors took keen interest in the art of architecture. The architecture. The architecture of the Mughal period presents a fine example of the synthesis of Persian and Indian elements. The Mughal emperors had enormous wealth. They built may beautiful buildings. According to Fergusson, the Mughal style of architecture was foreign in origin, especially from the point of view of decoration. But F.B. Have has rejected this view and has remarked that Indian culture had a remarkable power of absorbing foreign elements of art. It has been rightly remarked by Dr. Iswari Prasad that "The Mughal style, which was amalgamation of many influences, was more sumptuous and decorative than the style that preceded it, and its delicacy and ornamentation furnished a striking contrast to the massiveness and simplicity of the art of pre-Mughal days." With the Mughals getting a strong foothold at Delhi Indo-Islamic architecture entered its most fascinating phase and large number of works of unusual brilliance and splendor were produced. It was a purely Indian architectural movement wherein both the Hindus and Mohammadan craftsmen joined together their inventive and artistic faculties to create dreams in marble and stone. Many Mughal Employers make unique architectures. Example of Emperor who make beautiful architectures - Babur, Humayun, Shahjahan, Akbar, Jahangir, Aurangzeb.

Keywords: Mughal, Architecture, Indo-Islamic, Emperor, buildings, structure, gateways, Mosque.

Introduction

It developed the styles pf earlier Muslim dynasties in India as an amalgam of Islamic, Persian, Turkish and Indian architecture. Mughal buildings have a uniform pattern of structure and character, including large bulbous domes, slender minerals at

the corners, massive balls, large vaulted gateways and delicate ornamentation, "grandiose architecture was the most visible of the ways that the Mughals used to assert their sense of superiority and their supremacy over what in many ways remained to them on alien land." Examples of the styles can be

*Assistant Professor in History, Guru Nanak Girls College Yamunanagar

found in modern day India, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan. The Mughal dynasty was established after the victory of Babur at Panipat in 1526. During his five-year reign, Babur took considerable interest in erecting buildings though few have survived. His grandson Akbar built widely, and the style developed vigorously during his reign. Among his accomplishments were Agra Fort, the fort city of Fatehpur Sikri, and the Buland Darwaja. Mughal architecture reached its Zenith during of Shahjahan, who constructed Taj Mahal Jama- Masjid the Shalimar gardens of Lahore.

Architecture under Babar: - (1526-30)

Babar, a man of critical taste, did not much appreciate the building of the Turkish and Afghan rulers at Delhi and Agra. But he was impressed by the beautiful architecture at Gwalior where he saw all the places of Man Singh and Vikroma Jit and pronounced them, "Singularly beautiful, though built in different patches and without regular plan." The places at Gwalior were a fine example of the Hindu architecture and attracted Babar. He employed many hundred of workmen on his buildings in Agra, Sikri, Bayana, Dholpur, Gwalior and Aligarh (Koil). But only two his buildings have survived and these are a large Mosque at Panipat and a Jama Masjid at Sambhal in Ruhelkhand, both built in 1529. The style of these buildings are purely Indians. The third buildings of his time is also a mosque, built by AbulBaqi at his orders at Ayodhya. But these building have no special architectural significance. Babur came to India throughout Afghanistan, where we find some of the constructions that he undertook, most notably the Baugh-e-Babur, Babur built the Baugh-e-Babur, a garden outside a Kabul, it is interesting for historians of architecture in India because it has a plan that would later be called a Charbagh plan, a quadripartite arrangement, what is not evident in this picture, so much is the sloping terrain on which this garden is, from one side to the other is a very heavy gradient which allows water to flow through naturally, the quadripartite arrangement is separated by a number of water channels, which irrigates the garden, trees of various colours and heights should have been planted in various sectors of this garden, so that once you set in the pavilion right on top, you would see the garden laid out like a carpet below you with different colours, the height of the trees would be arranged in a way that they might appear to be at same level from the top,

this kind of planning would be seen in later gardens that the Mughals built in India for almost 2 to 300 years, in fact this garden came to be called the Mughal garden in colonial times. Babur's garden has a center water channel that goes down using the force of gravity, another feature that most Mughal Gardens in India would use, the grave of Babur himself is very simple, open to the sky in conformance with traditional Orthodox beliefs about how a grave should be. The garden was very badly destroyed in the civil war that Afghanistan suffered in the 90s and 2000s and has recently been completely restored. While it is not in India itself, it is an important precedent for things that will follow Babur's descendance in India.

Architecture under Humayun: (1530-56): -

Humayun was also fond of architecture, but he did not leave behind any prominent architecture monuments his troubled reign does not seem to have been favorable for providing buildings at least on a permanent scale though we learn that he erected a magnificent palace of seven stores surrounded by gardens and orchards, which also called as 7 halls of audience. The buildings seems to have been splendid but it may have been composed of ephemeral materials. The two-mosque built by him, one at Agra and the other at Fatehabad in Hisar, are in ruins and do not possess any originality of design. It has been embellished in Persian style. Khana-i-Tilism. The most fascinating building which Humayun erected was the famous Khan-i-Tilism. It contained a group of buildings constructed at Agra on the bank of river jamuna. The whole is collectively, known as Khana-i-Tilism or Imrati-i-Tilism. Qasr-i-Rawan, this was the most novel of all his buildings. It consisted of three stores, whose separate pieces were most artistically joined, and it was not easy to distinguish them from one another. There are err, number of tombs from Humayun's reign which you find in Delhi, these tombs are largely unknown in terms of who the inhabitants were, but they are giving local monikers like Nila Gumbads and Sabz Burj, which is to say blue doom and green doom. What is interesting about them is that they follow a completely timurid plan and we shall locate what a timurid plan for domes and this period is, noticed that portals on four of the sides are much taller and larger than the ones in the middle which are smaller, these four portals which are larger in size would be

called Evans and they become an important feature of Mughal architecture as well.

Architecture under She shah: -

The best example of the Indo-Muslim architecture is the mausoleum of Sher shah which was built by him on a high plinth in the center of a lake at Sahasram in Bihar. The building is Muhammadan in design, but its interior is embellished with Hindu corbelling and horizontal architectures Havel says that Sher shah tomb is a purely Indians in conception as any Hindu temple. Sher shah erected another important building, namely, the Purana Qila on the site Of Humayun's Din Panah. Only a part of the purana Quila has escaped the ravages of time. He also built a mosque inside it, known as the Qila-i-Kunhna Masjid.

Architecture under Akbar: (1556-1605)

The style of architecture evolved by Akbar represented a fusion of the Hindu and Muslim styles and may be called the mixed Hindu-Muslim style. During the reign of Akbar architecture got much impetus. The emperor's interest and patronage of architecture led to the erection of magnificent monuments. Abul Fazal says that "His Majesty plans splendid edifices and dresses the work of his mind and heart in the garment of stone and clay. In the sphere of the building arts, Akbar found the artisans of India still maintaining the living traditions of their craft. The guilds of workmen merely required organization to provide the type of structure that he desired. The style of building that evolved under their ruler's patronage was chiefly executed in red sand stones readily available in these parts" Fergusson says that Akbar was one of the greatest builders of his race and left few of his capitals except perhaps Delhi without some fit monuments of his greatness. His buildings are very similar to one another in style, but very unlike those either before or after his time. In fact, the Mughal architecture begins with Akbar who was without doubt a great and prolific builder. During his reign, many beautiful buildings were built which were later on developed by his successor. Akbar stood and worked sincerely for Hindu-Muslim unity one, he was an admirer of Hindu-Muslim arts, he linked the Hindu art as much as Muslim arts, and there is a combination of both styles in his monuments. An example of Hindu style of Architecture under Akbar

may be seen in the Jahangiri Mahal in the Agra Fort. Besides this, the places of Jodhabai resembles the Jain temples. Humayun's Tomb - The earliest building of Akbar's reign is the tomb of Humayun at Delhi which was built by Haji Begum, the widow of Humayun. The building in Persian in style. The Agra Fort - The earliest specimen of Akbar's new style of architecture is the Red Fort at Agra. It was begun in 1565 under the supervision of Qasim Khan and it cost thirty-five lacks of rupees in the currency of that time. It is nearly 1½ miles in its circuit, and the inner walls, entirely made of beared- sand stone, are nearly 70 feet high. Percy brown says that these walls "were composed of a massive interior core rubble and concrete faced with carefully worked blocks of sand-stones fort had originally four gates, two of which were later walled up. The other two remain to this day. The main gate on the western side, which was finished in 1566, is known as the Delhi gate. Passing through this gate one reaches the inner entrance called the Hathi Pole or Elephant gate because its archway was flanked by two elephants with their riders in stone. These were raised to the ground by Aurangzeb's order in 1668. Percy Brown says, "Takbir has this constructed in the 1570s, as a marker of his own monumentality, while ostensibly it is a memorial to his father, it actually proclaims Akbar's greatness as an emperor. This mode in which Mughal emperors will use grand buildings in owner of somebody else, to mark their own rein is notable, we shall see several mausoliar like this notably the Taj, which was built by Shah Jahan for his wife but again get associated with the name of Shah Jahan himself and similarly the last of the great Mughal emperors, Aurangzeb builds his wife or at least commissions of his wife a great mausoleum called Bibi ka Maqbara in Aurangabad. That mausoleum to is built for his wife, but it is Aurangzeb and his son whose names are remembered because of his construction, this also is the tomb that will form the template for what Mughal tombs become, for Evans these four grand openings on four sides, four is Delhi gate is undeniably one of the most impressive portals in all India,"

Architecture under Jahangir: (1605-1627)

Jahangir's great mosque at Lahore is a good example of the Persian style and is covered with enamelled tiles. The tomb of Itmad-Ud-Daula, at Agra, completed in 1628, was built entirely of white

marble and adorned in intricate pietra dura mosaic, an inlay technique of using cut and fitted, highly polished coloured stone to create images. Jahangir builds a number of buildings, including a mausoleum for his father-in-law, the father of Noor Jahan, Itimad-ud-Daulah also at Agra, you do see a typical Mughal predilection for a building that is cross actually symmetrical, which is to say all four facades of the building look the same. Jahangir also expands the red fort at Agra building large portions of it, he introduces gateways and builds himself a set of gardens in Kashmir, which is enamoured with making trips there throughout his reign. In Kashmir he builds sets of gardens, much like the Baugh-e-Babur, the gardens of his great-grandfather, which have cascades and flowing water coming down slopes with a central pavilion where one can sit and enjoy the trees and the sound of water with the sight of mountain in the background. Mughal architecture became more Persian than Indian under the rule of Jahangir.

Architecture under Shahjahan: (1627-1658)

He built many structures during his rule. Shah Jahan architecture is an Indian building style that flourished during the time of ShahJahan, the Mughal emperor. The Taj Mahal, in Agra, India may be a Prime example of this sort of architecture. The architecture was categorized by equilibrium and stability between the fragments of the building, with white marble being a top high-quality of piece. Another example of Shah Jahan period architecture is found in Delhi, India, at the place fortes begun in 1638. The Hall of personal Audience”, and therefore the "Hall of Public Audience" " which housed the Peacock throne, are two more samples of architecture from this era. He wanted to build a black Taj Mahal opposite to the white Taj Mahal and make a bridge by which could be used to pass from one Taj Mahal to the other above the Yamuna river, but it was never accomplished due to the glochid Salim Kara issues that were uprising at the time and another architecture of Shah Jahan period was the Red Fort also called the Delhi Fort or Lal Qila in Urdu, large sections of Agra Fort, the Jama Masjid, the Wazir Khan Mosque, the Moti Masjid, the Shalimar Gardens. The graceful Naulakha Pavilion at the Lahore Fort was built during the supremacy of Shah Jahan.

Probably the most celebrated builder of the Mughal dynasty was the Emperor Shah Jahan, Shah Jahan is known for number of commissions and also

known to have created a style that will become the Mughal style thereafter, but initially when he is posted as a prince in Sindh in his reign there, that this building gets built, this mosque at Thatta, this follows a completely different idiom, unlike any other Mughal building because it is looking west wards toward Iran for its crafts traditions and its design logic, but what Shah Jahan will build that will become an emblem republic of India is the red fort in Delhi, north of where the Purana Kila was he builds himself an entire city called Shahjahanabad, with the red fort on the eastern side against the Yamuna river, he also builds in the middle of the city a grand mosque called the Jama Masjid, the citted L, which is against the Yamuna is today called the red fort, whereas the rest of the city of Shahjahanabad is recognized as old Delhi, many of the areas in Delhi today still bears the names of the various gates of this vaults city built by Shah Jahan. Here is another map of the city of Delhi and the red fort, now to the bottom because East in this map is shown at the bottom, the plan of the red fort in Delhi is not the similar from the plan of the Agra fort, which also is set against the Yamuna river on its eastern side, so you have a large part of citted L or the fort facing the town and one side, the eastern side faces the river, which gives it natural defence, but also an easy exit.

Architecture under Aurangzeb = (1658-1707)

Aurangzeb was a great emperor but Aurangzeb was not much interested in architecture. A small marble mosque constructed by Aurangzeb known as the Moti Masjid (Pearl Mosque) in the Red fort complex in Delhi. He ordered the construction of the Badshahi Mosque in Lahore.

Conclusion:

Mughal kingdom was a great epoch which has given India a very rich and principled history to be marked with excellent words. Mughals saw their decline in the end of 19th century. There were so many reasons for the decline of Mughal empire. This empire was a winning empire and has given glorious history to us and the Mughal art and architecture is magnificent piece of art & and painting.

REFERENCES

1. Society and Culture in Medieval India (1206-1707), M.P. Srivastava, (P. No. 170-171).
2. Babarnama, Cambridge History of India, Vol-IV. (P. 523).

3. Babarnama, Cambridge History of India, Vol-IV. (P. 524).
4. Society and Culture in Medieval India (1206-1707), M.P. Srivastava, (Page No. 171-172).
5. James Ferguson, Hand Book of Architecture Vol-I (P. 445).
6. Society & Culture in Medieval India, M.P. Srivastav, P.No. 172.
7. Ain-Akbari, Vol-I, P-222.
8. Percy Brown, Indian Architecture (Islamic Period) Vol. II, P.99
9. James Fergusson, A History of Indian and Eastern Architecture, P-297.
10. James Fergusson, A History of Indian and Eastern Architecture, P-445.
11. Society and Culture in Medieval India (1206-1707), M.P. Srivastava, P.No. (178-179)

