1 Medieval Architecture

Medieval Architecture

Indo-Islamic – Fusion of Hindu and Islamic features

Important features

- Arches and Beams
- Minars
- Mortar
- Art of Calligraphy
- Tessellation (Mosaic Design) and Pietra Dura
- False Domes and False Arches

Delhi Sultanate – (1206 CE –1526 CE)

Important Features

- Fusion of Secular and religious structures
- Fusion of Indian and Islamic structures
- Fusion of Trabeated and Arcuate styles
- Avoided portrayal of Living beings
- Used coloured stones
- **Unique features**
  - Domes
  - Minarets

Important structure of various dynasties

- Slave – Quwat ul Islam Mosque, Adhai din ja jhopra
- Khilji Dynasty – alai Dhawaja (Alaud din Dhilji), Haz Khas, Jamat Khana Mosque
- Tuglaq – Tughlaqabad city and fort
- Lodhi Dynasty – Tomb of Sikander lodhi

Mughal Architecture (1526 CE –1858 CE)

Important features

- Concoction – a mix of Rajput, Buddhist, Iranian and Central Asian styles
- Big and lofty
- Pillars, Dome, arches, squinches and plinth
- Special focus on gardens, the geometry of design, calligraphy and arabesque.
- First-time use of Red sandstone.
- Use of lime as a building material.
- Iranian and central Asian precious and semi-precious stones
- Persian style domes

Important structures

- Babur – three mosques in Panipat, sambhal and Ayodhya, Aram Bagh garden
- Humayun – new city named Din Panah (Old Fort)
- Akbar – Humayun tomb (first major Mughal architecture), Red fort of Agra, Fatehpur Sikri, Diwan I Khas, Jodha bai' palace, Maryam, Palace, Panch Mahal, Birbal Palace, Jama Masjid (Fatehpur Sikri), Shiekh Salim Chisti, Tomb of Agra.
- Jehangir – Tomb of itimad-ud-daulah (mini taj), Shalimar Bagh and Nishat Bagh of Kashmir.
- Shah Jahan – Red fort of Delhi, Chandni Chawk, Jama Masjid of Delhi, Taj Mahal of Agra.
- Aurangzeb – Bibi ka Maqbara.

Medieval Architecture

Provincial Architecture

Malwa Style

Features
- Absence of minars
- Inclusion of Rajput features
- Use of boat keel dome
- Fusion of arches and pillarsres

Important structures
- Jahaz Mahal
- Rani Rupmati Pavilion
- Hindola Mahal

Bengal Style

Features
- Small minars
- No use of decoration
- Focus of massivity
- Use of black marble and brick

Important structures
- Adina Mosque

Jaunpur Style/Sharqi School

Features
- Absence of minars
- Focus on massivity

Important structures
- Atala Mosque

Deccan style

Bijapur school

Features
- Three arch facades
- Bulbous door
- Use of minars and stone carvings

Important structures
- Gol Gumbaz

Golconda School

Features
- Hindu influence in motifs

Important structures
- Charminar

Medieval Architecture

Decan style

Kashmir Style

Features

- Similar to Wooden architecture
- Buddhist influence
- Creation of square hall with primordial roof crown

Important structures

- Khanqah Mosque

Rajput architecture

Features

- Forts and luxurious palaces
- Tall walls with granite
- Forts and palaces on hilltops
- Use of beams and pillars
- Use of Chattri
- Special focus on ventilation
- Strong Mughal influence in later structures

Important structures

- Jantar mantar
- Jaipur (pink city)
- Hawa mahal

Sikh Style

Features

- Religious in orientation
- Fusion of Mughal and Rajput styles
- Devoid of sculptor and images
- Four side entrances and larges halls and kitchens
- Square petal-shaped central dome
- Use of cupolas

Important structures

- Golden temple
- Nankana sahib