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"Building Types in Islamic Architecture"—The Mosque, Palace and Tomb
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The Mosque:

The Prophet's mosque was the earliest mosque built around 622 CE.

The parts:

- *Qibla* wall or directional wall
- *Minbar* or platform for the orator
- *Sahn* or courtyard
- *Riwaq* the arcades or colonnades that surround the *sahn*.
- *Haram* the covered area before the *qibla* wall
- *Mihrab* central niche constructed into the *qibla* wall

Two main types of mosques

- Hypostyle mosque (mostly used in Western Islamic architecture)
- Iwan style mosque (mostly used in Eastern Islamic or Persianate architecture)

The Dynastic Builders:

- **The Umayyad Dynasty (621-750 CE) of Syria and Spain**
- **The Nasrid Dynasty (1232-1492 CE) of Granada, Spain**
- **The Mughal Dynasty of the Great Emperors (1526-1707 CE) of India**

Key Architectural Monuments:

1. The **Great Mosque of Cordoba** built in 786 and enlarged during the 9th and 10th centuries by the Umayyad Dynasty.
 - Voussoirs—wedge shaped element of the arch
 - Maqsura—Cordoned off enclosure of a mosque for royalty
2. The **Alhambra Palace** 1333-1492 built in Granada, Spain by the Nasrid Dynasty.
 - Inscription "There is no victor but Allah"-- Wa-la ghaliba illa-liah
 - Mirador—architectural or garden that offers sweeping landscape views.
Overlook.

3. **Fatehpur Sikri** (founded 1569) a palatine city built by the Mughal Emperor Akbar (r. 1556–1605) in northern India.
 - Diwan-i Am—public audience hall
 - Diwan-i Khass—a private audience hall
 - Ibadat Khana—house of worship built 1575 CE

4. The **Taj Mahal** (built 1632-1648) mausoleum built by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan (r. 1592-1666) in northern India
 - *charbagh*—four-part garden
 - *pishtaq*—formal gateway
 - ‘*Urs*—celebration of a death anniversary
 - *kabristan*—cemetery

Selected Reading list:

Michael Brand and Glenn Lowry, *Akbar's India: Art from the Mughal City of Victory*, New York: Asia Society, 1985.

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Martin Frishman & Hasan-Uddin Khan eds., “Islam and the Form of the Mosque,” 17-41. *The Mosque: History, Architectural Development & Regional Diversity*. London: Thames and Hudson, World of Art, 1994.

Robert Hillenbrand, "Birth of Islamic Art: the Umayyads," 11-37 in *Islamic Art and Architecture* London: Thames and Hudson, World of Art, 1999.

Nasser Rabbat, "The Palace of the Lions, Alhambra and the Role of Water in its Conception.” In *Environmental Design: Journal of the Islamic Environmental Design Research Centre 2*, edited by Attilo Petruccioli, 64-73. Rome: Carucci Editions, 1985.