

**Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2014**  
**The Arts of the Islamic World**  
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**I. Important Safavid rulers in Isfahan:**

Shah 'Abbas I (r. 1588 to 1629 CE)

Shah 'Abbas II (r. 1642-1666 CE)

Shah Solayman (r. 1666-94 CE)

Shah Soltan Hossayn (r. 1696-1722 CE)

**II. Zayandeh Rud, the river of the Isfahan oasis**

**III. Parts of the Safavid urban layout:**

A. *Maidan -e Naqsh-i Jahan*: the main square of Safavid Isfahan: plan established 1592 CE, when Shah Abbas I inaugurated the new capital complexes and their spacious public zones with subsequent changes in mid- 17<sup>th</sup> c.

Key elements of the space

1. *Ali Qapu* (Sublime Gate): the gate pavilion leading through to the administrative center as well as the private spaces of the palace district beyond. Construction phases: 1590, 1620's, 1670's
2. *Masjid- i Shaykh Lutfullah*: across and opposite the gate pavilion
3. *Masjid-e Jadid-e Abbasi*: the new congregational/ royal mosque
4. *Qaisariyye* (Bazaar) Gate: across and opposite the new great mosque, a monumental entry into a series of covered streets, crossings, inns and warehouses (connects the new maidan to the old bazaar and the old congregational mosque)

B. *Chahar Bagh Promenade* (construction beginning c.1596 CE)

1. *Pavilion of the Eight Paradises* (Hasht Behesht) 1669 CE

C. *Palace of Forty Columns* (Chehel Sotun) first phase c. 1637-50 CE

D. Bridges of Isfahan:

1. Allah Verdi Khan Bridge 1602-07 CE
2. Hasanabad (Khaju) Bridge 1651/2 CE

E. Neighborhoods

1. Bidabad: new neighborhood with service complex of Ali Quli Agha (1710's)
2. Abbasabad: new neighborhood of palaces built up after 1600 CE
3. Jubareh
4. Dashti
5. New Jolfa (new Armenian suburb across the river after 1590 CE)

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