

Arts of Asia Lecture Series Fall 2011  
The Arts of South Asia & the Islamic World: Beliefs Made Visible  
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**SURREAL OR PRACTICAL? INDIA'S ETHEREAL ARCHITECTURE**

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BUDDHIST MONUMENTS

Stupas at Sanchi

Stupa II, Stupa of the Saints, 75-50 BCE

Aniconic symbols of the Buddha

Stupa I, The Great Stupa, 50 BCE-50 CE

South *torana*, gateway, Asokan column, c. 250 BCE

Bharhut Stupa

*vedika*, railing, 100-50 BCE, Indian Museum, Kolkata

cf. Narrative panels, events in the life of the Buddha

Kushan Period, Gandhara, 2<sup>nd</sup> century CE 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Galleries, Asian Art Museum

HINDU TEMPLES

Dasavatara (Vishnu) Temple, Deogarh, Gupta, c. 500-550 CE cf. Standing images of Vishnu in AAM galleries

Parasurameshvara (Shiva) Temple, Bhubanesvar, Orissa, c. 650 CE cf. *linga* in Indian Gallery, and also in Himalayan Gallery

Kandariya Mahadeva (Shiva) Temple, Khajuraho, Candela Dynasty, 1025-50 CE cf. *apsaras*, heavenly female deity, Indian Gallery

JAIN TEMPLES

Chaumukha Temple, Ranakpur, Rajasthan, started 1440 completed 1496 CE

cf. Jain seated and standing Jinas, and hanging bracket musicians in Indian Galleries, Asian Art Museum

Vardhamana (c. 540-468 BC) founder of Jainism, son of Siddhartha, chief of the Jnatrikas, a *ksatriya* clan, a contemporary of Siddhartha Gautama (Buddha), he was known to his followers as Mahavira, the Great Hero.

*jina*

conqueror

*tirthankara*

ford maker (there are 24 *tirthankaras*)

Adinatha (Rsabhanatha)

1st *tirthankara* (identified by his long hair)

Neminatha

22nd *tirthankara* (usually green carnation)

Parsvanatha

23rd *tirthankara* (usually protected by *naga*)

Mahavira

24th *tirthankara*

Digambaras

sky-clad sect

Svetambaras

white-clad sect

MUGHAL MONUMENTS

Mughal Dynasty: 1526-1887

Babur: 1483-1530 r. 1526-1530  
Humayun: 1508-1556 r. 1530-1556  
Akbar: 1541-1605 r. 1556-1605  
Jahangir: 1569-1627 r. 1605-1627  
Shah Jahan: 1592-1666 r. 1627-1658

### Humayun's Tomb, Delhi, completed 1571

Commissioned possibly by a wife, Hajji Begum. Main patron, Akbar acting on Advice of Bhairam Khan, his chief military advisor Architect: Mirak Sayyid (Mirza) Ghiyas, originally from Herat, Persia.

*char bagh*: four-fold garden defined by narrow waterways double dome

### Fatehpur Sikri, 1571-1585

Akbar built Fatehpur, City of Glory, at Sikri, to honor Shaik Salim Chishti, who foretold the birth of his son Salim (Jahangir) b. 1569, and to celebrate his victories over the Rajput forts at Chitor and Ranthambor in 1568 and 1569.

Diwan-i-Aam: Hall of Public Audience

Diwan-i-Khass: Hall of Private Audience (Imperial column in interior)

Ankh Michauli: Treasury

Astrologer's Seat

Panch Mahal: 5-storey Wind Palace

Anup Talao: Peerless Pool

Jami Masjid: Great Mosque

Buland Darwaza: Victory Gate

Shaikh Salim Chishti's Tomb

### Taj Mahal, Agra (begun 1632 completed 1643)

The 'Crown Palace' built as the mausoleum for Mumtaz Mahal (1593-1631), 2nd wife of Shah Jahan who died on June 17, 1631. Mumtaz Mahal 'The Chosen One of the Palace' was the daughter of Asaf Khan, the brother of Nur Jahan, 2nd wife of Jahangir, Shah Jahan's father. Shah Jahan died in 1666; he was imprisoned in the Red Fort, Agra, by his third son, Aurangzeb, and was also buried in the Taj Mahal.

Architect: Ustad Isa from Persia

Calligrapher: Abd al-Haq from Shiraz, entitled Amanat Khan 'Trustworthy Noble' *pietra dura*, marble inlaid with precious and semi-precious stones *char bagh*: four-fold garden

### B'HAI TEMPLE

Lotus Temple, Delhi

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