



INDIAN SCHOOL MUSCAT  
SENIOR SECTION  
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS



CLASS: XI  
PAINTING (049) & SCULPTURE (051)  
WORKSHEET No. 12

### Unit – III (C) INDO-ISLAMIC ARCHITECTURE

#### Introduction:

In the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> centuries A.D., Islam came to India, particularly, with Muslim merchants, traders, holy men and conquerors over a passage of six hundred years. Although by the eighth century A.D., By the twelfth century India was already familiar with monumental constructions in grandiose settings.

the arcuate (*shaped like a bow*) form of construction was introduced gradually in which arches could support the weight of the domes. Such arches needed to be constructed with series of inter-locking blocks and fitted with keystones. The domes, resting on pendentives and squinches enabled spanning of large spaces leaving the interiors free of pillars.

A noteworthy aspect of these migrations and conquests was that Muslims absorbed many features of local cultures and traditions and combined them with their own architectural practices.

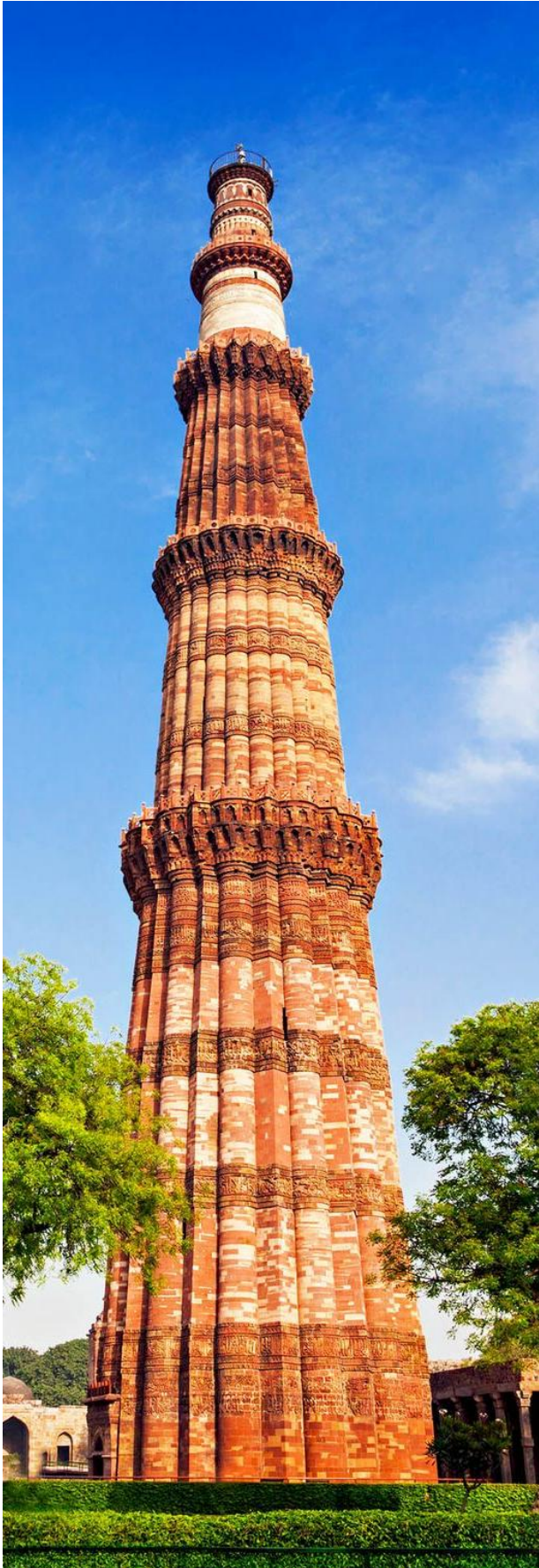
Thus, in the field of architecture, a mix of many structural techniques, stylised shapes, and surface decorations came about through constant interventions of acceptance, rejection or modification of architectural elements. These architectural entities or categories showcasing multiple styles are known as Indo-Islamic architecture.

According to E. B. Havell, Hindus conceived manifestations of gods everywhere in multiple forms as part of their religious faith whereas a Muslim thought of only one with Muhammed as His Prophet.

Hence, Hindus adorned all surfaces with sculptures and paintings. Muslims forbidden to replicate living forms on any surface developed their religious art and architecture consisting of the arts of arabesque, geometrical patterns and calligraphy on plaster and stone.

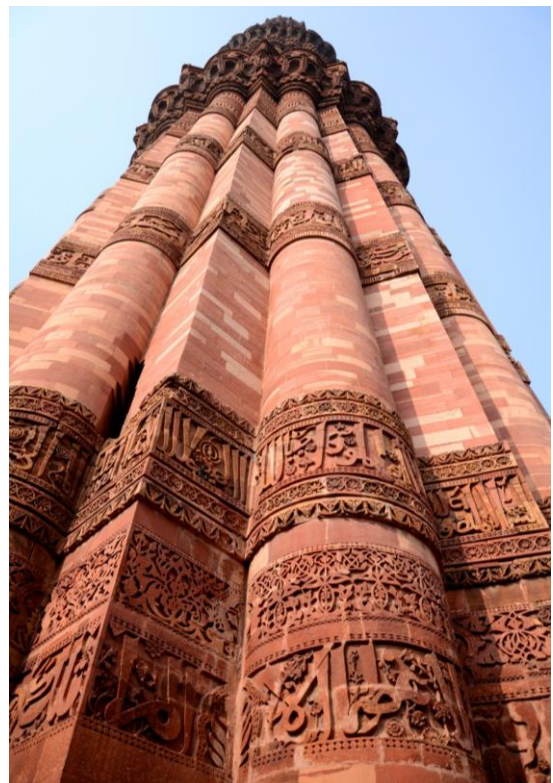
# 1. QUTUB MINAR

Place: Mehrauli, Delhi, India | Founder: Qutub-ud-din and completed by Iltutmish  
Medium: Stone (sand and marble) | Circa: 12<sup>th</sup> Century A.D. | Height: 72.5 mtr.



## DESCRIPTION

- ‘Qutub’ means ‘pole’ or ‘column’ – symbol of justice and sovereignty.
- Circumference of the minaret is 13.75 m. at the base whereas decreasing upwards at the end it remains only 2.75 m.
- The first 3 storey have been made by engraving red sandstones in a specific shape (mix of polygonal and circular shape).
- The upper 2 storey with combination of red stone and white marble.
- To show each storey different on outer side has built a circle of ornamental overhangs.
- The purpose of observing the city scene upto far out and away has been built small gates on these overhangs.
- Calligraphy work on Polygonal and Circular shape design.
- Having world level identity among the Indian monuments

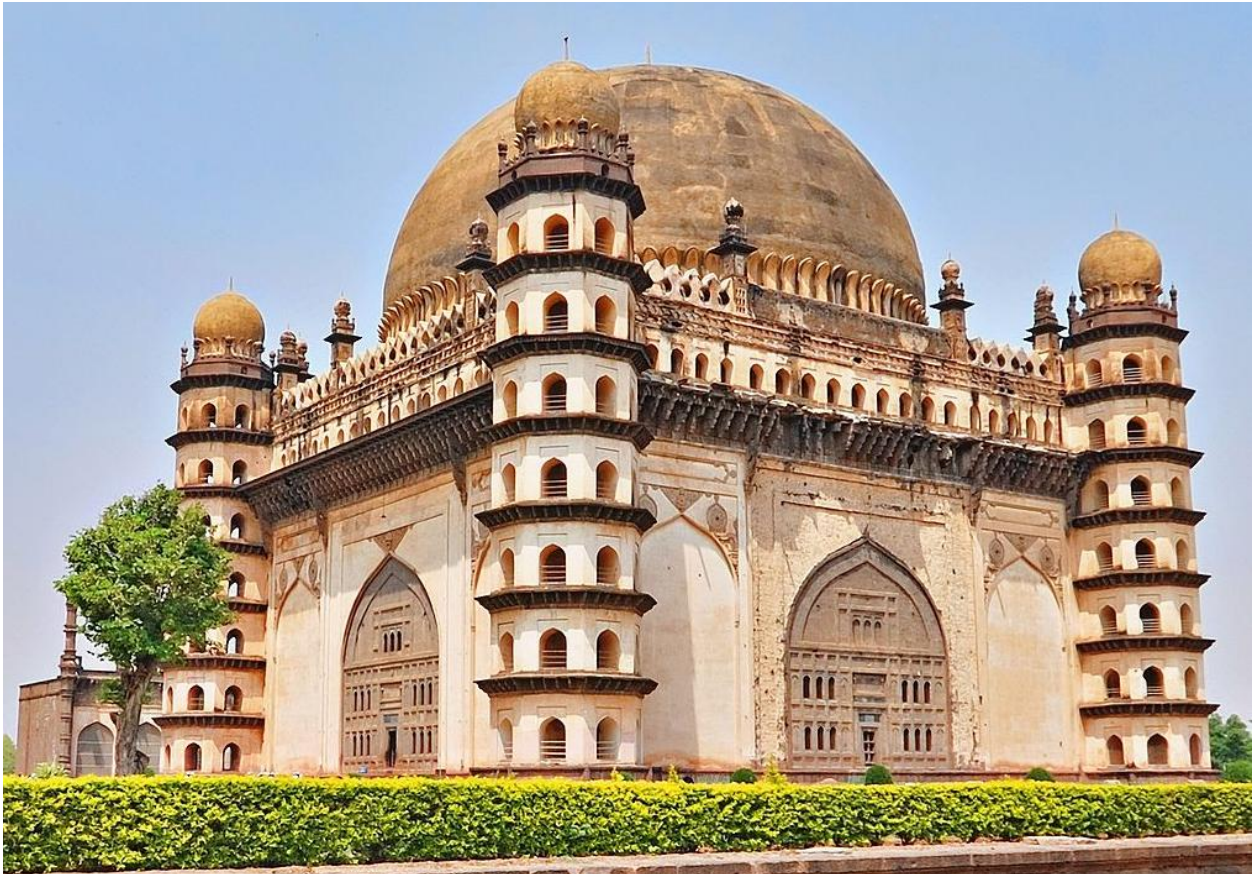




## **2. GOL GUMBAZ**

Place: Bijapur, Karnataka | Medium: Bricks and Limestone | Architect: Unknown

Type: Tomb/Mausoleum of Mohammad Adil Shah | Height: 51 meter | Circa: 1659 A.D.



### **General Description:**

- This monument is the tomb of Md. Adil Shah. It was constructed in special Indo-Islamic style in 1659 A.D.
- On a base of 47.5 mtr. length and width walls all around its four sides.
- It has a dome whose diameter and height are 44 mtr. and 33.22 mtr. respectively.
- In base of the dome have been made shapes as petals of a lotus flower.
- This is one of the biggest domes of Asia.
- Inside this building is a vast hall. There are archs giving the dome support towards inside, and a whisper gallery where sound get magnified and echoed many times over.
- On the four corners of the buildings are octagonal seven-storeyed minarets.
- It is situated at Bijapur city of Karnataka