

NADIRA BEGUM TOMB AND TANK

The tomb of Nadira Begum and Tank is located at Dharam Pura very near to the shrine of Mian Meer. Nadira Begum, wife of the unfortunate Dara Shikoh died of dysentery during his wandering in Sind at the time of the war of succession to the throne between him and Aurangzeb, his younger brother. She died in about 1659 A.D. and her body was brought from there to be buried near Hazrat Mian Mir Sahib, who was her spiritual master. Apparently the tomb was constructed by Aurangzeb. It lies in the centre of big tank projected by a cause-way on south.

The tomb is a square in plan, each side being 44 feet long. It is two storied structure and measuring from the grave platform its total height comes up to 32' 6". The height of the first storey is 13 feet. The pavilion is constructed of burnt bricks with kankar lime mortar and bears recessed openings on all the four sides, three each, in both the storeys. The central openings are arched, while those on the side are flat. Whole of the structure of the pavilion was lime plastered.

The grave which lies in the centre of the pavilion is 6 feet 10" long, 2 feet 10" wide and 1'-8" high. There were arched small holes on the northern end of the grave on a raised portion for lighting up the area with oil lamps, but presently a guard has been appointed over the grave to illuminate the interior with electric bulbs. On the northern face of the grave "Bismillah" and the holy Kalimah are laid in marble slab in the pietra dura design in Nastaliq character, while on the southern and name of the deceased and her date of demise is written on marble slab in the same design.

There are four arched openings on the ground floor in the interior around the grave and above them exactly of the same type arches are built in the upper storey. All these arched openings in both the storeys are cusped in design.

In the interior of both these storeys the ceilings and faces of the walls are decorated with traditional Mughal architectural features of "Ghalib Kari", panels of various geometrical shapes and bear traces of red green and black colours. The colour schemes appear to be carried over the whole of its interior surfaces, except the dado of the upper storey which was brilliantly embellished with glazed tiles of multicolor, traces of which still remain.

All the four facades of the pavilion are decorated with blind cusped arch and panels. They contain projecting over which rises the high parapet wall.



TOMB OF ALI MARDAN AND GATEWAY

The tomb of Ali Mardan Khan is located near MughalPura Railway sheds. It covers total area of 1.10 Acres (119 Km). it is a protected monument and built at 17th century A.D. basically it a tomb of great architect of Shah Jahan period named Ali Mardan Khan.

Ali Mardan Khan was also the Governor of Qandahar under Shah Safi (1629-1642 A.D.) of Iran. Disgusted with the tyranny of the Shah. He surrendered Qandahar to Shah Jahan in 1637 A.D. and took refuge in his court. He was appointed Governor of Kashmir and in 1639 A.D. Punjab was also given under his charge. In 1642 A.D. he received the high title of Amir-ul-Umara, and was such a favorite of Shah Jahan that the Emperor called him “Yarwafadar”(the faithful friend). He showed great skill and judgment in the execution of public works, specially canals. Among other works to his credit is the well famed Shah Nahar of Shalamar Garden. He died at Machhiwara on his way to Kashmir in 1656-57 A.D. was buried by the side of his mother in her tomb which once stood in the midst of a garden. The garden unfortunately has now totally disappeared with the exception of the gateway which alone can give an idea of the excellence of enameled tile mosaic work and its refined patterns, with which the entire monument was once decorated.

The tomb, a massive brick construction, octagonal in plan with a high dome and kiosks on angular points, stands on an eight sided podium, each side measuring 57’-6”. It was originally built with all the architectural grace typical of that time, but was vandalized by the Sikhs who deprived the building of all its stone facing and other decorations, leaving only traces here and there. From the small pieces still intact, it appears that the dome was finished with white marble inlaid with floral designs in black marble. It is relevant to mention here that as this Tomb is just located adjacent to Railway workshop so unfortunately the Pakistan Railway administration has been closed the main gate way of the Ali Mardan Khan due the security threats.



BUDDHAS TOMB

Present Condition of the Monument

The Tomb of Buddah was made during Aurang zaib Period. It covered 0.12 Acres (1K-4M). Buddu was a brick manufacturer during the time of Shah Jahan. The tomb situated on the

right side of Grand Trunk Road near Gulabi Bagh Gateway is a simple brick structure. It has one arched opening on each side and is surmounted by a low pitched dome, carried on a high cylindrical drum over an octagonal base. The exterior of the building is paneled and finished with plaster. The dome carried on quenchers is decorated with enameled tiles in blue, yellow, white, green and light chocolate colors laid in ziz-zag pattern. Although the monument is called Buddh's tomb, it is, in all probability, the tomb of Faqir Abdul House, a saint who died in A.C. 1671.

Unfortunately the car repairing workshops are located adjacent to the Tomb. Which are destroying the boundary wall of the tomb. There are no arrangement of the Buddah Tomb.

Recommendations

- Provision of reasonable amount in annual development budget for the development of the Lawn of the Tomb.
- Shifting of the Motor Mechanic workshop around the boundary wall of the Tomb.
- Placement of two security guards and one at morning shift and one at evening shift
- Placement of permanent Gardener at this site for the maintenance of the Lawns.
- Installation of the CCTV cameras at the Tomb.
- Installation of the walkthrough gate of the tomb
- Placement of the wooden benches with the canopy
- Installation of the Razor wire on the boundary wall of the Tomb.

SARUWALA MAQBARA

Present condition of the Monument

The tomb of Sharfun Nisa Begum commonly known as Saruwala Maqbra is located at Begumpura near Dai Anga's mausoleum, there is a solid, tower like, tapering brick built structure with chahajja (pent)near the top and surmounted by a four sided pyramidal low dome carried over a double low neck.

The building is the tomb of Sharfun Nisa Begum, the sister of Nawab Zakariya Khan, surnamed Khan Bahadur Khan(d.1745 A.D.), governor of Lahore during the reign of Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah (1719-48 A.D.). The tomb is locally known as Sarvwala Maqbara(the cypress tomb), from its ornamentation of cypress trees. These cypresses, four on each side, are intercepted by smaller blooming flower plants, all in enameled tile mosaic work, on plaster base. This tomb is the last of the monuments of Mughal period. According to Latif, the tower was formerly surrounded by a beautiful garden and tank, which have now totally disappeared. The burial chamber is on the top, at a height of about 16 feet, approachable only by a removable ladder. The idea appears to have been intended to keep out of sight even the actual grave of the pious lady. Unfortunately the security condition is very of mausoleum is very poor. There is no security guard available. The condition of the lawns is average. The cenotaph of the Sharuf-un-Nisa is covered with huge dust due the negligence and dampness the interior of the Tomb is also destroying and filled with dust and dirt.

Recommendations

- Proper cleanliness of the cenotaph and tomb enclosure is required.
- Placement of the permanent sweeper for the cleanliness
- Placement of permanent Gardener at this site for the maintenance of the Lawns.
- Installation of the CCTV cameras at the Tomb.
- Installation of the walkthrough gate of the tomb
- Placement of the wooden benches with the canopy
- Installation of the Razor wire on the boundary wall of the Tomb.
- Provision of permanent guard at there

DAI ANGA'S TOMB

Present Condition of the Monument

The tomb of Dai Anga is located at stop of Begum pura on G.T road near UET. It covered 2.3 Acres (22K-19M)1.10 Acres(11k9m) and built by Shah Jahan If we go at this site

then we can see that behind the Gulabi Bagh Gateway and on the site of the former garden lies the mausoleum of Dai Anga, the wet nurse of Shahjahan. She was the wife of Murad Khan, a Mughal Magistrate of Bikaner. She was the founder of Dai Anga's Mosque, one of the well known ancient mosques of Lahore. The Quranic inscription on the walls of the tomb chamber ends in the name of the scribe, Muhammad Saleh, and the date 1082A.H(1671 A.D.), which seems to be the year when the tomb was constructed. Brick built and square in plan, the tomb stands on a low platform under which lie the actual burials in a subterranean chamber. The mausoleum comprising of a central tomb chamber and eight rooms around it, was once beautifully decorated with mosaic work. The roof bears a low pitched dome on a high neck and square kiosk in each corner supported on slender brick pillars. The original two cenotaphs have been replaced later by the existing brick built ones.

It is also pertinent to mention the lawns of the site was developed by department of Archaeology with collaboration Parks and Horticulture Authority , Punjab. The overall condition of the lawn are superb.

Recommendations

- This year reasonable amount has been approved for the development of Dia Anga tomb and gateway. Therefore it is proposed that the renovation work should be started as soon as possible.
- Installation of the CCTV cameras at the Tomb.
- Installation of the walkthrough gate of the tomb
- Placement of the wooden benches with the canopy
- Installation of the Razor wire on the boundary wall of the Tomb.

JANI KHAN'S TOMB

Present Condition of the Monument

The tomb of Jani Khan is located near SinghPura stop G.T road Lahore. The tomb of Jani Khan is covered 671x671' and it was built by later Mughal period.

Jani Khan was the second son of Nawab Qamaruddin Khan, Wazir of Mughal Emperor Muhammad Shah(1719-48 A.D.), Qamaruddin Khan along with his two sons, Mir Moinul Mulk and Jani Khan bravely opposed Ahmad Shah Abadali at Sirhind on 11th march 1748(A.H.1161) In this battle Qamarud Din was killed by a cannon ball while at prayers in his tent, but Abdali was defeated on account of the bravery shown by his two sons mentioned above. As result of this, the new Mughal Emperor Ahmad Shah then appointed Jani Khan as a second Bakshi in A.D.1748 and further in 1751(A.H.1165) he was made Qazir and entitled as Intiamud Daula Khan-e-Khanana. He was murdered by Imadul Malik Ghazi-ud-Din Khanb on November, 26th A.D. 1759, but according to Tahqiaqat-e-Chisti he died in A.h.1192(1778 A.D.) and was buried in the tomb, built by his sister who was the wife of Nawab Zakria Khan, in 1140 A.H. (1727 A.D.)

The Tomb: Rectangular in plan (27'x25) it is a small building with three arched openings on each side and with a beautiful curvilinear roof of a very pleasing shape decorated with enameled mosaic work in zigzag pattern. The interior is also decorated with floral and plant decorations in fresco. There are three Kutcha graves in it, the originals might have disappeared during the Sikh period. Originally the tomb was surrounded by a garden which has now disappeared. The remains of the gate to the south were still existing when Kanhiya Lal wrote his history towards the end of last century.

The present condition of Jani Khan tomb was poor. The tomb is now closed for general public and surrounded by different houses at populated area. The courtyard of the tomb has been occupied with dust and rubbish. The interior of the tomb is also in deteriorating condition. Everywhere at this tomb you can see dust, dust and dust. No plantation and no security can be seen at this tomb. There is the need of the hour to renovate this tomb as soon as possible.

Recommendations

- Provision of reasonable amount in annual development budget for the renovation and up gradation of the Jani's Khan tomb
- Proper cleanliness of the cenotaph and tomb enclosure is required.
- Placement of the permanent sweeper for the cleanliness
- Placement of permanent Gardener at this site for the maintenance of the Lawns.
- Installation of the CCTV cameras at the Tomb.
- Installation of the walkthrough gate of the tomb
- Placement of the wooden benches with the canopy
- Installation of the Razor wire on the boundary wall of the Tomb.
- Provision of permanent guard at there