

Remarking An Analisation Diffence Architecture of Bidar fort under Bahamani Kingdome

Abstract

Bidar Fort is considered as one of the most formidable forts of the country. The fort was distinctly planned and built on the brink of the Deccan plateau by Sultan Ahmed Wali between AD 1426 to AD 1432. Engineers and architects of various countries were employed on its design and construction Its surrounded by 5.5 kms of defence wall consisting of 37 massive polygonal bastions and 7 strong irregular rhombic shaped gates. The fort is entered from the south east by a zig zag passage protected by three gateways. The gate is S shaped because of the elephants and to protect the people within the fort from attacks. This fort is unique due to its triple moat defence which was made by Turkish mercenaries in resemblance to Medieval European forts. Another interesting feature is the massive magazines for arms storage and tunnels for escape in emergencies. The well planned defence architecture of Bidar Fort has exerted enormous influence on subsequent planning and designing of other medieval cities like Golkond, Bijapur and Bangalore. Within the fort are the monuments namely Takht Mahal, Tarkash Mahal, Rangeen Mahal, Gagan Mahal, Shahi Matbakh, Solah Khamba Mosque and Naubat Khana which is noteworthy. In this context the present paper deals with the study of defence architecture of bidar fort.

Keywords: Defence, Architecture, Bidar Fort, Bahamanis and Baridh Shahi.

Introduction

The present-day Bidar fortress was rebuilt using red laterite stone around the old fort in 1428 by Ahmed Shah Bahmani. Constructed on the edge of the plateau, Bidar fort has a haphazard **rhombus**-shaped layout.¹ The fort is 0.75 miles long by 0.5 miles in breadth (1.21 km long by 0.80 km). The fort walls measure 2.5 km (1.6 mi) on the outside, and include within numerous buildings, arches, pavilions, mosques, gateways and gardens.² To the north and east, steep cliffs provide natural protection to the moat and the **glacis**; elsewhere, facing Bidar city, from the south-east to the south-west, the walls are protected by a unique triple-channeled moat, described by Yazdani (1995)

The width of the moat between the glacis and the first partition wall is 32 feet 6 inches [9.91 m], between the first and second partition-walls 36 feet 4 inches, and between the second partition-wall and the scarp 41 feet 9 inches [12.73 m]. The depth of the moat is 30 feet, and the height of the scarp above the rock-base on which it is built varies from 32 feet 8 inches to 43 feet

The seven gates of the fort are named from East to West as follows:³

1. Gate 1 - The Mandu Darwaza, the main gate
2. Gate 2 - The Kalmadgi Darwaza,
3. Gate 5 - The Delhi Darwaza,
4. Gate 6 - The Kalyani Darwaza,
5. Gate 7 - The Carnatic Darwaza,
6. Gates 3 and 4 are without a name.

There are 37 bastions on the fort wall, with cannon made of bars of metal welded together and held together by metal hoops were mounted on the bastions.⁴ The Munda Burj is the most prominent bastion, and the heaviest guns were placed here to dominate the approaches.

Bidar fort has a number of monuments within the fortress complex. Prominent amongst them are the *Rangin Mahal* ("Painted Palace"), so called because of its elaborate decoration with coloured tiles; the *Takht Mahal*, or throne room; the *Jami Masjid* ("Great Mosque") and the *Sola Khamba Masjid* ("Sixteen-Pillar" mosque) With the establishment

Sanjeev Kumar Tandle
HOD,
Deptt.of History,
Govt First Grade College,
Manhalli, Bidar

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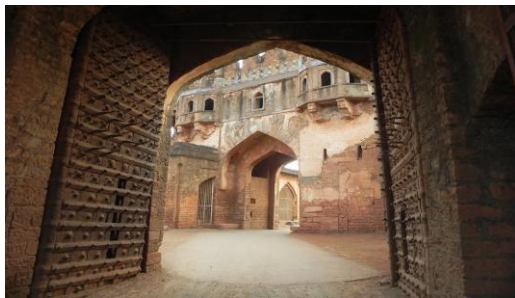
of the Bahmani Kingdom in the Deccan from 1347, the architectural styles of the Persian architecture of Iran made impressive and lasting impacts, which are seen in the Bidar Fort.⁵ The mosques, arches, gardens and the palaces were built within and also outside the fort in the Bidar city. Some of the important structures built are elaborated. Innovative systems of water management are seen in and around the fort and city of Bidar.⁶

The influence of Persian culture was distinct in Bidar in the Deccan, during 15th and 16th centuries

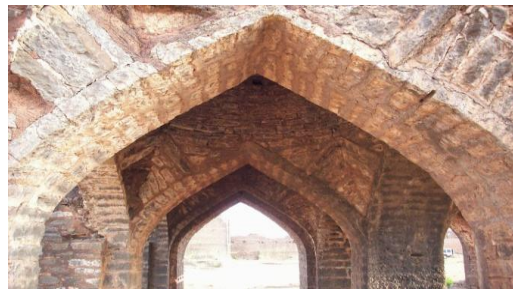
Aim of the Study

1. To study of bidar fort .
2. To know the significance of defence architecture.
3. To know the methodology of defence structure.
4. To know the types of defence architecture.

Images of Defence Architecture



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Conclusion

Bahamani rulers played very significant role to establish the defence architecture in bidar fort. It is the only fort which is having three walls drain surrounding the fort with systemic defence architecture in the fort and outside. The credit to designer and engineers who built the bidar fort.

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