



## Muradabad ki Pahadi

[Source: IE](#)

### Why in News?

**Muradabad ki Pahadi**, a historical site in Delhi, has recently come into the spotlight. Named after the 14<sup>th</sup>-century **Sufi saint Syed Murad Ali**, this site features two mosques from different historical periods, attracting the interest of historians and locals alike.

### What are the Key Facts About Muradabad ki Pahadi?

- The site features two mosques from the [Tughlaq](#) and Lodi dynasties, reflecting their distinct architectural styles.
  - Tughlaq-era mosque known as **Qasai Wala Gumbad**.
  - Lodi-era mosque known as **Shahi Masjid**, features a lotus kalash.
- Syed Murad Ali's tomb is situated here, adorned with intricate arches and ornate doorways.
- The site now houses the **Abdul Mannan Academy**, a madarsa that serves the community and continues to preserve the site's heritage.



### Note:

- Muradabad ki Pahadi has nothing to do with the city of Moradabad, named after **Prince Murad Baksh**, son of **Emperor Shah Jahan**.

### What are the Key Features of Tughlaq Architecture?

- Tughlaq architecture is known for its sturdy and solid construction. Buildings featured **sloping**

walls, a technique known as **batter**, to support the increased height and loftiness of the domes.

- The Tughlaqs innovatively combined the **principles of the arch, lintel, and beam in their constructions**.
- Decorative items such as the water pot and lotus, derived from Hindu motifs, were incorporated into Tughlaq architecture, resulting in the [Indo-Islamic style](#).
- **Notable Tughlaq Constructions:**
  - **Tughlaqabad:** Founded by **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq**, Tughlaqabad was the third city of Delhi, combining a city, fort, and palace. It marked the beginning of large-scale urban complexes.
  - **Ghiyasuddin Tughlaq's Tomb:** This tomb introduced new architectural trends, including the use of a **high platform for elevation**, a white marble dome, and red sandstone for beautification. The pointed or 'Tartar' dome design became a hallmark of Indo-Islamic architecture.
  - **Jahanpanah:** Built by **Muhammad Bin Tughlaq**, Jahanpanah was the fourth city of Delhi, emphasising the dynasty's urban planning prowess.
  - **Firuzabad:** Constructed by Firuz Shah Tughlaq in 1354, Firuzabad included notable structures such as **Kushk-i-Firuz palace and Kotla Firuz Shah citadel**. Firuz Shah also added two more storeys to the **Qutub Minar and constructed Hauz Khas**.

### What are the Key Features of Lodi Architecture?

- The Lodis **utilised both the arch and lintel-and-beam methods** in their constructions, showcasing their mastery of diverse architectural principles.
- They adopted elements **from Rajasthani and Gujarati architecture**, including balconies, kiosks, and eaves.
- Only tombs were commissioned during the Lodi period (1451-1526) featuring hard, bare, octagonal designs about 15 metres in diameter, with a sloping verandah.
  - **Many Lodi tombs were set on elevated platforms** and surrounded by gardens, creating a visually striking and serene environment.
- A major innovation under the Lodis was the **introduction of double dome architecture**. This technique involved constructing a dome with an inner and outer shell, with a distinct space between them.
  - The double domes were used to strengthen the structure and reduce the dome's inner height.
- **Notable Lodi Construction:**
  - **Lodi Gardens:** This expansive garden complex in Delhi is a notable example of the Lodi architectural style. It includes several significant structures.
    - **Tomb of Sikander Lodi:** Renowned for its double dome architecture, this tomb exemplifies the innovative design of the Lodi period.
    - **Tomb of Mohammed Shah:** Another prominent tomb in Lodi Gardens, showcasing the elevated platform design characteristic of Lodi architecture.

### UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

**Q. With reference to the cultural history of India, consider the following statements: (2018)**

1. White marble was used in making Buland Darwaza and Khankah at Fatehpur Sikri.
2. Red sandstone and marble were used in making Bara Imambara and Rumi Darwaza at Lucknow.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans: (d)**

PDF Refernece URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/muradabad-ki-pahadi>

