

# SIDI SAIYYED MOSQUE

The **Sidi Saiyyed Mosque**, popularly known as **Sidi Saiyyid ni Jali** locally, built in 1572–73 AD (Hijri year 980), is one of the most famous mosques of [Ahmedabad](#), a city in the state of [Gujarat](#), India. The mosque was built by Sidi Sayyad, a [Habshi](#) nobleman, in 1572–73.

## History<sup>[edit]</sup>

The Sidi Saiyyed Mosque, popularly known as Sidi Saiyyid ki/ni Jali locally, built in 1572-73 AD (Hijri year 980), is one of the most famous mosques of Ahmedabad, a city in the state of Gujarat, India. As attested by the marble tablet fixed on the wall of the mosque, it was built by Shaikh Sa'id Al-Habshi Sultani. Sidi Sa'id was originally a slave of Rumi Khan, a Turkish general who had come to Gujarat from Yemen, bringing along with him his Habshi slaves. Sidi Sa'id later served Sultan Mahmud III, and upon his death, joined the [Abyssinian](#) general Jhujhar Khan. Upon Sidi Sa'id's retirement from military service, Jhujhar Khan granted him a [jagir](#). Sidi Sa'id over his career became a prominent nobleman: he collected a library, owned over a hundred slaves, performed the [Hajj](#) pilgrimage, and instituted a langar (public kitchen). Previously at the site there was a smaller brick mosque, which was rebuilt by Sidi Sa'id, and he was buried near the mosque when he died in 1576.<sup>[1][2]</sup> The mosque was built in the last year of the existence of Gujarat Sultanate.<sup>[1]</sup>

During the British colonial period, it served as an office or *kachery* for the Mamlatdar of Dascrohi taluka. During its time as an office, doors were installed, the mihrabs were converted into presses, and the interior was whitewashed. During an official visit to Ahmadabad, [Lord Curzon](#), Viceroy of India, ordered the Mamlatdar's office to vacate the premises, as part of his wider policies of preserving historic monuments.<sup>[2]</sup>

## Architecture<sup>[edit]</sup>



The marble screen from inside.

The mosque is entirely [arcuated](#) and is known for its ten intricately carved stone [latticework](#) windows ([jalis](#)) on the side and rear arches. The rear wall is filled with square stone pierced panels in geometrical designs. The two bays flanking the central aisle have reticulated stone slabs carved in designs of intertwined trees and foliage and a palm motif. This intricately carved lattice stone window is the Sidi Saiyyed Jali, the unofficial symbol of city of Ahmedabad and the inspiration for the design of the logo of the [Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad](#).<sup>[citation needed]</sup>

The central window arch of the mosque, where one would expect to see another intricate jali, is instead walled with stone.<sup>[3]</sup> This is possibly because the mosque was not completed according to plan before the [Mughals invaded Gujarat](#).<sup>[3][2]</sup>

## **Adalaj Stepwell ( Rudabai Stepwell)**



Ahmedabad is a perfect place for people visiting and visiting great tourism attractions along with the number of attractions to explore in and around the city. Ahmedabad enjoys rich cultural traditions, it is the center of Gujarati cultural activities and has various traditions of different ethnic and religious communities. The festivals celebrated here include Ganesh Chaturthi, Navaratri and Diwali. The celebration of the celebration and worship includes the annual annual kite festival on 14 January. Navratri nights are celebrated with various folk songs of Gujarat in different places in the city.

Deepavali celebrates the festival of light, celebrated with lamps in every home. An annual Rath Yatra on Vikram Samit's Jadh-Sud-Bij and an integral part of the celebration of Tajali in the Muslim holy month of Muharram, the hare culture.

## **Jama Masjid Ahmedabad**



Ahmedabad city is rich with rich architectural heritage which is important for the local identity and continuity of the place. The property of leading heritage is the Indo-Islamic monuments of the 15th to 17th centuries: the tombs of the jamas, three gates, the elite gate and historic roots, and the tombs of the queen and kings, the rest of the castle walls, 12 original gates and other archaeological surveys Indian (ASI) Protected by. In addition to these monuments, there is a potential legacy limit in the form of poles, which are traditional residential clusters of medieval period, making Ahmedabad extraordinary.

## Kankaria Lake



**Kankaria Lake** is the second largest lake in [Ahmedabad](#), [Gujarat](#), India. It is located in the south-eastern part of the city, in the [Maninagar](#) area. It was completed in 1451 during the reign of Sultan Qutb-ud-Din [Ahmad Shah II](#) though its origin is placed in the [Chaulukya](#) period sometimes. A lakefront is developed around it, which has many public attractions such as a zoo, toy train, kids city, tethered balloon ride, water rides, water park, food stalls, and entertainment facilities. The lakefront was revamped in 2007–2008. Kankaria Carnival is a week-long festival held here in the last week of December. Many cultural, art, and social activities are organised during the carnival.<sup>[1]</sup>

### Etymology<sup>[edit]</sup>

Several stories are told for its name Kankaria. One reason said is that it was named this due to large quantities of [limestone](#) (*kankar* in [Gujarati](#)) dug out of it during excavation. Another story narrates that the [Sultan](#) Qutb-ud-Din asked the saint Shah Alam to select the site for the tank and the garden. The saint scattered some pebbles at the site which was excavated and the lake was built. Thus it was named Kankaria. Another story says the saint Hazrat-i-Shah Alam cut his foot on a pebble while passing through excavation and exclaimed, "What a pebble!" So it was

named Kankaria (pebbly). It was mentioned as Hauj-e-Qutb (the tank of Qutb) after the Sultan Qutb-ud-Din in the inscription at Kankaria.<sup>[2]</sup>

## History<sup>[edit]</sup>

There are various versions of its origin. According to the 14th-century chronicler [Merutunga](#), [Chaulukya](#) ruler [Karna](#) built a temple dedicated to the goddess Kochharba at [Ashapalli](#) after defeating the [Bhil](#) chief Asha. He also established the Karnavati city nearby, where he commissioned the Karneshvara/Karnamukteshwara and Jayantidevi temples. He also built the Karnasagara tank at Karnavati next to Karneshvara temple. Karnavati is identified with modern Ahmedabad and Karnasagar tank is identified with Kankaria lake but this identification is not certain.<sup>[3][4]</sup>

The construction of the lake started by [Sultan](#) Muizz-ud-Din [Muhammad Shah II](#) in the 15th century. The inscription at the lake mentions that it was completed during the reign of Sultan Qutb-ud-Din [Ahmad Shah II](#) in 1451. According to this inscription, its name is placed as "Hauj-e-Qutb" (Pond of Qutb) after him.<sup>[2][5]</sup>

Throughout the period of the [Gujarat Sultanate](#) and [of Mughal rule](#), the Kankaria lake with its Nagina Bagh were the favourite leisure place of rulers and the people and it were among the tourist sights of Ahmedabad ever since. The European travellers of the 17th century, [Pietro Della Valle](#) (1623), [Johan Albrecht de Mandelslo](#) (1638), [Jean de Thévenot](#) (1666); all had visited the lake gave its accounts. [Mandelslo](#) who visited Gujarat during the reign of [Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan](#) wrote in 1638:<sup>!</sup>

## Sarkhej Roza



**Sarkhej Roza** is a mosque and tomb complex located in the village of [Makarba](#), 7 km south-west of [Ahmedabad](#) in [Gujarat](#) state, India.

Although there are many *rozas*<sup>[1]</sup> across Gujarat, the Sarkhej Roza is the most revered. Sarkhej was once a prominent centre of [Sufi](#) culture in the country, where influential Sufi saint Shaikh Ahmed Ganj Baksh lived. It was on the saint's suggestion that Sultan [Ahmed Shah](#) set up his capital on the banks of the [Sabarmati](#), a few miles away from [Sarkhej](#).

# Teen Darwaza

**Teen Darwaza** is a historical [gateway](#) on the east of [Bhadra Fort](#), [Ahmedabad](#), [India](#). Completed in 1415, it is associated with historical as well as legendary events. The gates are featured in the logo of [Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation](#).



## History and architecture<sup>[[edit](#)]</sup>

The *Teen Darwaza* was an egress from [Bhadra Fort](#) to the eastward. The gateway has three arches which led into a large enclosure, forming the outer courtyard of the palace called *Maidan Shah* in past, with a fountain and raised terrace in the centre. The roadway in the central opening is 17 feet wide, and that of each side arch is 13 feet wide. It has highly decorated buttresses on the faces of piers between the arches. The height of the arches is twenty-five feet. The terrace on the top of the gateway was formerly roofed over. But in 1877 the gateway was repaired, and the terrace thrown open. Here the great feudatories or foreign embassies assembled before approaching the presence, and the sovereign enthroned on the terrace, mustered the troops for martial enterprises and gala-day reviews, or held court in the cool of the evening beside the splashing fountain. Now the area is congested market.<sup>[[2](#)][[3](#)]</sup>

It was built by [Ahmad Shah I](#) immediately after the foundation of Ahmedabad and completed in 1415.<sup>[[1](#)]</sup> Through it, in 1459, [Mahmud Begada](#), king for only a few months, and not fifteen years old, quiver on back and bow in hand, with only 300 horsemen, marched to disperse his rebel nobles and their 30,000 followers. Leaving the palace, the young king ordered the roads leading to it to be held by elephants, and, with the royal music playing, marched slowly along the main street. His cool bravery gave some of his faithful nobles time to join, and forming a considerable force, though small compared with the insurgents, attacked them, put them to flight, and destroyed their leaders.<sup>[[citation needed](#)]</sup> Later the newly appointed Maratha governors used to aim five arrows at one of its beams, and augur good or ill to their administration in accordance with their success in striking it.<sup>[[2](#)][[3](#)]</sup>

## Rani no Hajiro



**Rani no Hajiro**, also known as **Mughalai Bibi's Tomb** or **Tombs of Ahmed Shah's Queens**, is a tomb complex near [Manek Chowk](#), [Ahmedabad](#), India.



## History and architecture<sup>[\[edit\]](#)</sup>



Tombs of Queens of Ahmed Shah I in 1866

*Rani no Hajiro* is located near Manek Chowk on east of the [Ahmed Shah's Tomb](#). The enclosure is high above the ground entered by a lofty gateway and the courtyard surrounded by a trellised cloister. The walls of cloister are fitted with carved stone screens. The square open enclosure of 36.58 meters side is probably built in 1445. The courtyard contains eight marble tombs of queens of [Ahmed Shah I](#) and other [Gujarat Sultanate](#) rulers. They are elaborately carved and inlaid with work of [mother-of-pearl](#) and metal.

The principal tomb belongs to Mughalai Bibi, the wife of Muhammad Shah II and mother of [Mahmud Begada](#). It is richly carved in white marble, and girt with a Persian inscription in minute relief. An adjacent tomb in black marble, once inlaid with mother-of-pearl, belongs to Mirki or Murki Bibi, the wife of [Shah e Alam](#), the sister of queen and the daughter of Jam of [Sindh](#). These tombs are covered with rich [brocade](#) works, the textile style developed during reign of Ahmed Shah I. The intricate stone tracery and carving is an amalgamation of Hindu, Jain, and Islamic architectural styles. Some Muslim families live inside complex which take care of the tombs.<sup>[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)</sup>

## Bhadra Fort

**Bhadra Fort** is situated in the [walled city](#) area of [Ahmedabad](#), [India](#). It was built by [Ahmad Shah I](#) in 1411. With its well carved royal palaces, mosques, gates and open spaces, it was renovated

in 2014 by the [Amdavad Municipal Corporation](#) (AMC) and the [Archaeological Survey of India](#) (ASI) as a cultural centre for the city.



## History<sup>[[edit](#)]</sup>

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[Ahmedabad](#) was named after [Ahmad Shah I](#) of the [Muzaffarid dynasty](#). He established [Ahmedabad](#) as the new capital of [Gujarat Sultanate](#) and built Bhadra Fort on the east bank of the [Sabarmati river](#). It was also known as **Arak Fort** as described in *Mirat-i-Ahmadi*. The foundation stone of fort was laid down at [Manek Burj](#) in 1411. Square in form, enclosing an area of about forty-three acres, and containing 162 houses, the Bhadra fort had eight gates, three large, two in the east and one in the south-west corner; three middle-sized, two in the north and one in the south; and two small, in the west.<sup>[[5](#)]</sup> The area within the fort had become occupied by urban developments by 1525.<sup>[[11](#)][[12](#)]</sup> So a second fortification was built later by [Mahmud Begada](#), the grandson of Ahmed Shah, with an outer wall 10 km (6.2 mi) in circumference and consisting of 12 gates, 189 bastions and over 6,000 battlements as described in *Mirat-i-Ahmadi*.<sup>[[6](#)]</sup> Almost 60 governors ruled [Gujarat](#) during the [Mughal period](#) including the future Mughal emperors [Jahangir](#), [Shah Jahan](#) and [Aurangzeb](#).<sup>[[7](#)][[8](#)]</sup> A seraglio was built later in the 17th century by a Mughal governor, Azam Khan, known as *Azam Khan Sarai*.<sup>[[9](#)][[12](#)]</sup> It was used as a *Musafir khana* (a resting place for travellers) during Mughal rule.<sup>[[3](#)][[10](#)]</sup>

Sarsenapati [Umabaisaheb Khanderao Dabhade](#) became the only female Commander-in-Chief in the history of the Marathas in 1732. She commanded the Maratha Army and fought a war near Ahmedabad at Bhadra Fort defeating Mughal Sardar Joravar Khan Babi.

Joint rule by [Peshwa](#) and [Gaekwad](#) of the [Maratha Empire](#) brought an end to the Mughal era in 1783. During the [First Anglo–Maratha War](#) (1775–1782), General Thomas Wyndham Goddard with 6,000 troops stormed Bhadra Fort and captured Ahmedabad on 15 February 1779. There was a garrison of 6,000 Arab and Sindhi infantry and 2,000 horses. Losses in the fight totalled 108, including two Britons. After the war, the fort was later handed back to Marathas under the [Treaty of Salbai](#).<sup>[[10](#)][[11](#)][[12](#)]</sup>

[Ahmedabad](#) was conquered by the British in 1817.<sup>[[2](#)]</sup> The fort complex was used as a prison during the [British Raj](#).<sup>[[3](#)]</sup>

*Azam Khan sarai* currently houses the government offices, an [ASI](#) office, a post office and the city's civil courts. It is also used for flag hoisting on Independence Day and Republic Day.<sup>[[3](#)][[10](#)]</sup>

