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DISTINCTIVE FEATURES OF CENTRAL ASIAN ARCHITECTURE

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: 20 th April 2023	This article covers the distinctive features of Central Asian
Accepted: 11 th May 2023	architecture-that is, Styles and views in the area-from other regions to farli
Published: 20 th June 2023	aspects. You can also get methods, discussions, solutions and information on
	the architecture of Central Asia in the article.
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Keywords: Central Asia, architecture, cultural influences, geometric patterns, yurt, architectural forms, local materials.

INTRODUCTION: Central Asia, with its rich history and diverse cultural heritage, is renowned for its unique architecture that reflects the region's historical, social, and environmental contexts. This article aims to delve into the distinctive features of Central Asian architecture, exploring the methods used to construct these structures, presenting the results of their design principles, discussing their cultural significance, and drawing meaningful conclusions. By examining the architectural styles of Central Asia, we gain valuable insights into the region's past, its people, and their artistic expression.

METHODS: To understand the distinctive features of Central Asian architecture, extensive research was conducted, drawing upon scholarly articles, books, and historical records. Architectural experts and historians specializing in Central Asian studies were consulted to provide valuable insights into the subject matter. A comprehensive analysis was conducted, focusing on the architectural elements, materials, techniques, and cultural influences that contribute to the uniqueness of Central Asian architecture.

RESULTS: Geometric Patterns and Ornamentation: Central Asian architecture is characterized by intricate geometric patterns and decorative ornamentation. Islamic art, with its prohibition of representing living beings, plays a significant role in the region's architectural style. Arabesque motifs, calligraphy, and floral patterns adorn the walls, domes, and minarets of mosques, madrasas, and mausoleums.

Architectural forms: Central Asian architecture showcases a variety of distinctive forms. The yurt, a portable dwelling used by nomadic communities, is an iconic symbol of Central Asian culture. Its circular shape, light construction, and intricate wooden framework make it a practical and aesthetically pleasing structure. Other architectural forms include medrese (educational institutions), caravanserais (roadside inns), and palaces, each reflecting the needs and aspirations of the region's inhabitants.

Use of local materials: Central Asian architecture integrates locally available materials, harmonizing with the natural environment. Mud bricks, timber, adobe, and stone are commonly employed, ensuring sustainability and durability. The use of clay-based materials creates a sense of organic unity with the surrounding landscape, further enhancing the region's architectural aesthetics.

Structural techniques: Central Asian architects developed innovative techniques to construct their buildings. The use of domes and arches is prevalent, providing strength and stability to structures while allowing for expansive interior spaces. The structural system of pise (rammed earth), prevalent in Central Asian architecture, combines mud and other natural materials to create sturdy walls and foundations

DISCUSSION: Central Asian architecture reflects the region's historical and cultural diversity. Its distinctive features not only serve aesthetic purposes but also embody the values, beliefs, and traditions of its people. The geometric patterns and ornamentation seen in mosques and mausoleums reflect the influence of Islamic art, while the use of local materials establishes a deep connection between the architecture and the environment. The nomadic lifestyle is evident in the design of the yurt, a testament to the adaptability and resourcefulness of the Central Asian people.

The structural techniques employed in Central Asian architecture showcase the ingenuity of the builders. The domes and arches provide an aesthetic appeal while serving practical functions. The pise construction technique, with its durable walls and foundations, demonstrates the craftsmanship and knowledge of the builders, enabling them to create



lasting structures in an arid and seismic-prone region.

CONCLUSION: Central Asian architecture stands as a testament to the rich cultural heritage and historical significance of the region. Its distinctive features, including intricate ornamentation, unique architectural forms, use of local materials, and structural techniques, encapsulate the essence of Central Asian artistry and ingenuity. Through the exploration of Central Asian architecture, we gain a deeper understanding of the region's history, cultural diversity, and the creative spirit of its people.

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