

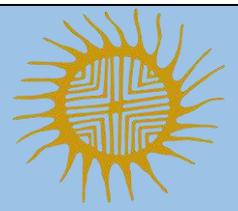
# COMPLETION REPORT

## DARGAH PIR ZAKRI, SAKRAND



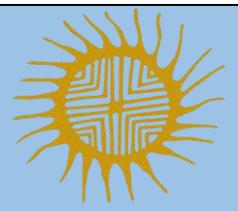
ENDOWMENT FUND TRUST FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE HERITAGE OF  
SINDH





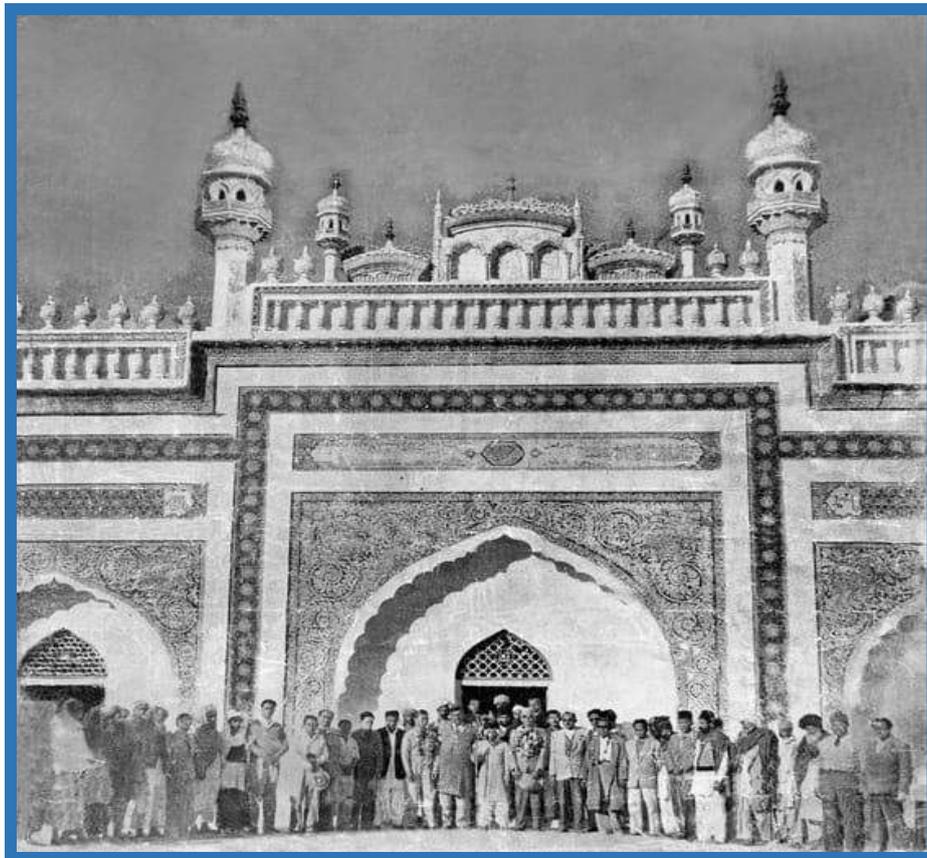
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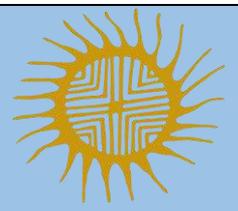
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## **HISTORY**

On the Eastern Bank of the Indus; in the Taluka of Sakrand in District Shaheed Benazirabad, stands a quiet lodge of one of the most vocal Sufis of Sindh. Syed Muhammad Shah Jillani, known as 'Roz-e-Dhani' was the son of Syed Muhammad Sher Shah Zakri. Syed Muhammad Sher Shah Zakri hailed from Kashmir and settled in Sindh contemporaneous to the new wave of Sufism in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century. He was given the title of 'Zakri' as he used to perform 'Zikr'.

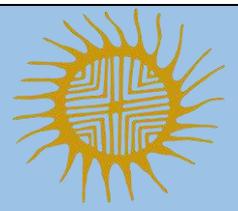




The province of Sindh always had been a nursery for different ideologies, philosophies and religions. Historically hospitable and receptive, the people of Sindh quickly incorporated Sufism as it was more culturally relative and in harmony with the Sindhi way of life.



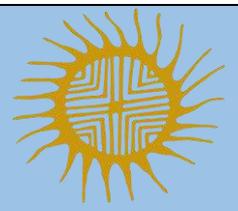
The tomb and mosque at Dargah Pir Zakri were commissioned during the lifetime of Syed Muhammad Shah Jillani in 1935. It is said that skilled and famous masons and artisans of that time were hired to construct the magnificent structures. The structure was delicately built with mud bricks and mortar; skillfully painted and calligraphied; intricately planned; and elaborately designed to withstand time and follower influx. The Dargah boasts a wide assortment of different architectural styles and ideologies in its identity. The Dargah is a structural Magnum Opus of the Zakris of Sakrand and symbol of their irrefutable mark on the Sufi Landscape of Sindh.



## MATERIALS USED

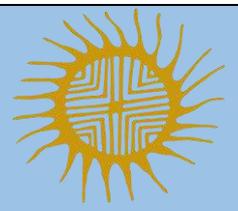
- Mud bricks as a masonry unit.
- Burnt bricks as a secondary masonry unit.
- Mud was used as a mortar.
- Gara (mud and wheat chaff) was used as the first layer of plaster.
- Lime mixture (lime, sand and jute) was used in the second layer of plaster.
- Mud was used as the sole binder in arches and domes.
- Wood was used in the doors and canopy of the structure.
- Cement concrete and iron reinforcement was used to reinforce the roof (in previous restoration attempt).
- Kashi tiles.
- Modern ceramic tiles.
- Mirror mosaic/Glass cutwork art.





## **ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS**

- The tomb is truly architecturally unique.
- The structure is made of mud bricks laid in mud mortar.
- The domes are meticulously constructed using only mud mortar; it is surprising that they were able to withstand the effect of weathering and age.
- The plan of the structure is square.
- The tomb can be divided into two parts: The tomb itself and the corridor.
- The corridor upholds a total of 16 domes: 4 larger corner domes; 12 smaller domes, 3 on each side.
- The domes are faux-onion domes as they are semi-circular structurally but have been plastered for aesthetics.
- The finials used to be kashi. Currently they are cemented.
- The domes and the roof have been cemented with reinforced concrete cement; this played a role in suspending the original structure by seamlessly binding it into one component slab. The shear dead load of the slab might be the reason the structure still stands.
- Burnt as well as sundried bricks have been used as masonry units in the structure, forming inhomogeneous composite walls.

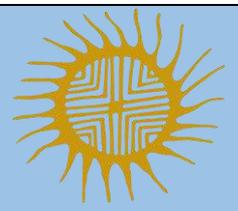


## **CONDITION REPORT**

- The inner tomb is well maintained.
- The southern side of the outer corridor has seen some fairly recent restorations.
- A decorative cement curtain wall is constructed on the southern façade of the structure.
- Cracks have appeared between the new façade and the old structure as the materials were incompatible and lost cohesion so much so that the wall may be completely freestanding.
- Rampant dampness can be observed in the structural walls.
- The weight of the roof component, along with capillary dampness in the walls, has caused the bricks at sill level (2-3 feet from the floor level) to completely spall and detach.
- The structure is load bearing and has many openings in shape of windows and arches thus its bearing capacity is inherently compromised.
- The main arches in the corridor are not cracked at the crown; however cracks have appeared by pressure exerted by perpendicular connecting arches.
- The roof is known to leak after prolonged rainfall.
- The structure is differentially settled on the northern side.
- The northern side of the structure is in its original shape.
- Superficial cracks have appeared on the walls and the domes.

Dargah Pir Zakri, Sakrand

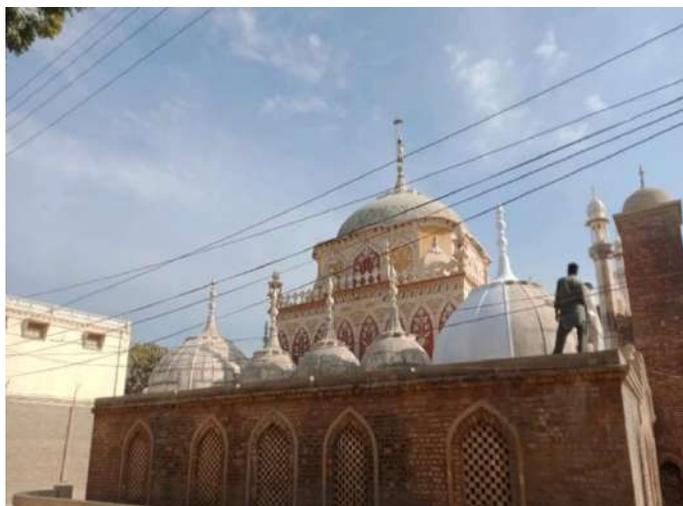
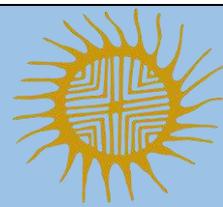
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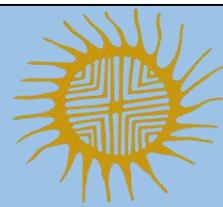
## PHOTOGRAPHS



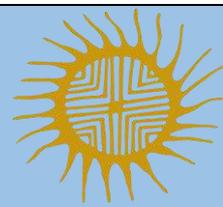
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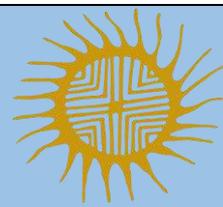
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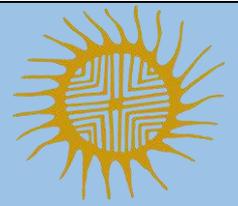


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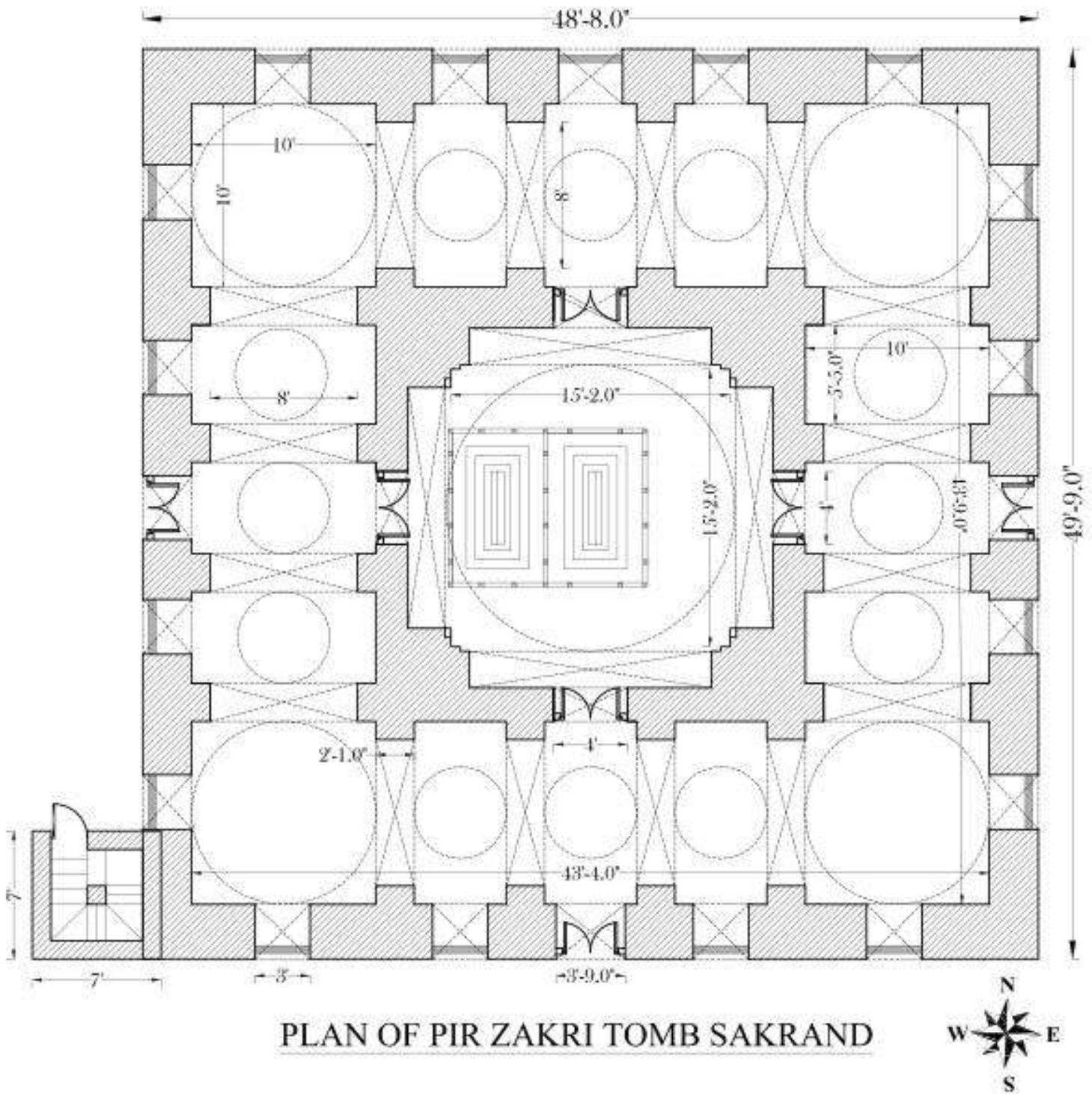


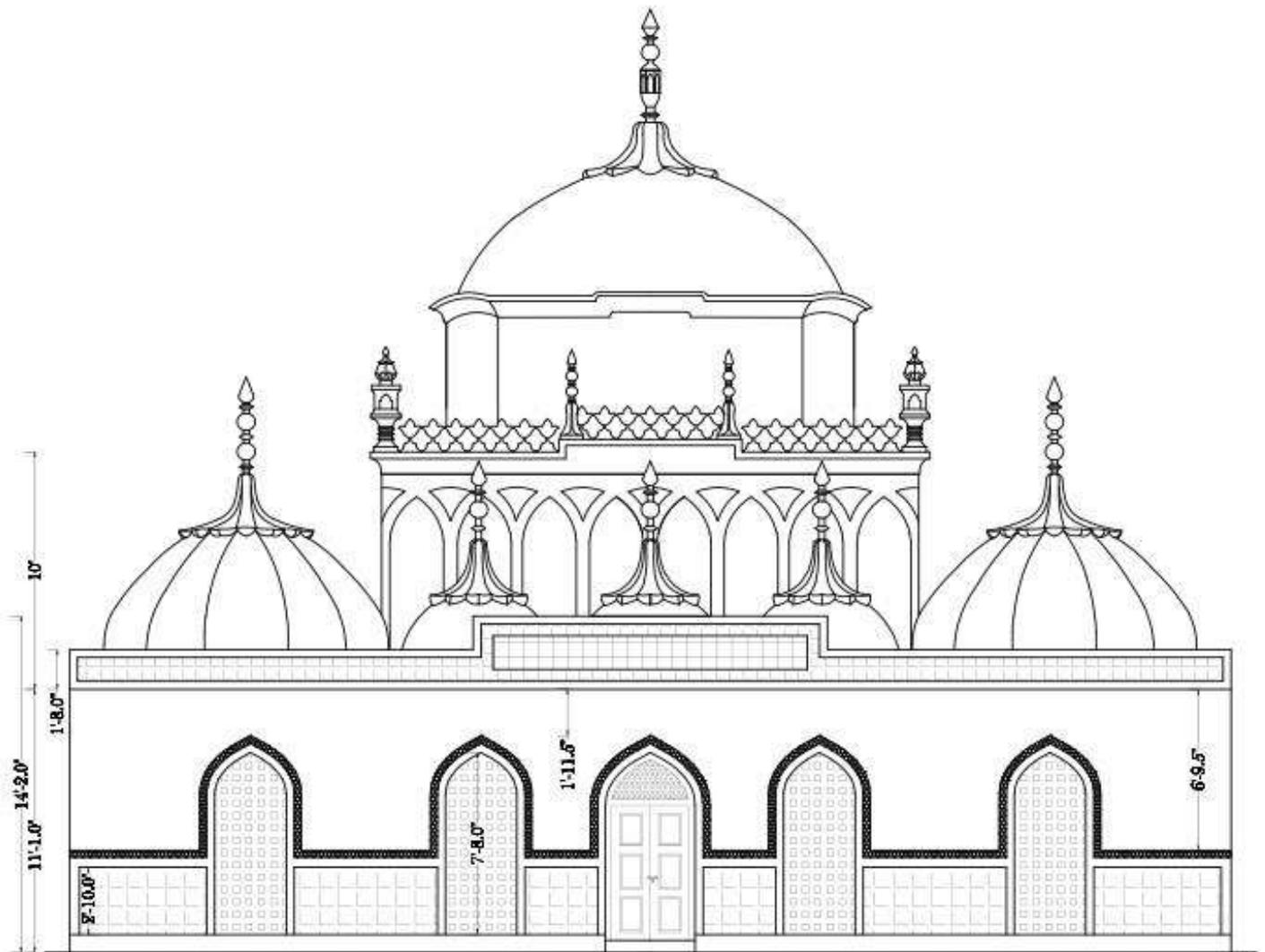
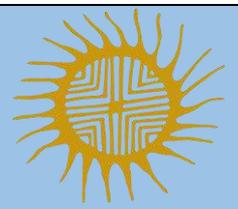
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## Architectural Drawings





**ELEVATION OF PIR ZAKRI TOMB**

