

Plate 30.

From the Zanana Mahal in the Fort at Agra.

The Zanâna Mahâl, or Queen's Palace, adjoins the Khâs Mahâl or Private Palace. The Fort was built by Akbar about the middle of the 16th century; the Khâs Mahâl by Shah Jahan A.D. 1628—58. "Nowhere," says Fergusson, "is the contrast between the style of Akbar and that of Shah Jahan more marked than in the Palace at Agra,—from the red stone Palace of Akbar, with its rich sculptures and square Hindu construction, a door opens into the white marble court of the harem of Shah Jahan, with all its feeble prettiness, but at the same time marked with that peculiar elegance which is found only in the East." "The Palace buildings," he adds, "are interesting as a monument of the domestic life of the past, and beautiful as specimens of pure domestic Saracenic art."

Plate 31. Figs. 1, 3, 5, 6. **From the Fort at Agra.** See remarks above, Plate 30.

„ Figs. 2, 4. **From the Sultana's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.** See remarks to Plate 18, Figs. 3, 4.

Plate 32. Fig. 1. **From the Sultana's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.** See remarks to Plate 18, Figs. 3, 4.

„ Fig. 2. **From the Zanana Mahal in the Fort at Agra.** See remarks above, Plate 30.

„ Fig. 3. **From Raja Birbal's daughter's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.**

Birbal was one of Akbar's Hindu courtiers. Originally poor, he was taken into favour on account of his wit and agreeable conversation. He fell while in command of a military expedition against the Yusufzais on the north-west frontier, in a disastrous retreat, in which about 8000 of his men perished. The building from which this pattern is taken is in that part of the Palace supposed to have been the residence of his daughter. Fatehpur Sikri was founded by the Emperor Akbar A.D. 1571—1586. See remarks to Plate 18, Figs. 3, 4.

Plates 33 and 34. **From the Sultana's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.** See remarks to Plate 18, Figs. 3, 4.

Plate 34. Figs. 3, 4. **From Raja Birbal's daughter's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri, and house adjacent.**
See remarks above, Plate 32.

Plate 35. **From the Sultana's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.** See remarks to Plate 18, Figs. 3, 4.

Plates 36 to 46. **From Raja Birbal's daughter's Quarters, Fatehpur Sikri.** See remarks above, Plate 32.

Plate 41. Fig. 3. **From the Fort, Agra.** See remarks above, Plate 30.

Plates 47 to 49. **From the Rai Samand, Udaypur.**

There is a large artificial lake at Rajanagar, near Udaypur. The dam or band by which it is formed was carried out as a famine work in A.D. 1660. It is noted for its marble ghats or steps, upon which are erected three marble pavilions, in which the carvings in the roofs and on the pillars are very beautiful.

Plates 50 to 52. **From the Tomb of Sultan Ahmad, Ahmedabad.**

Ahmedabad was founded in A.D. 1411, in the first year of his reign, by Ahmad Shah, and continued to be the capital of the Muhammadan kingdom for about 160 years till the fall of the dynasty in the time of Akbar. While the Muhammadans despoiled the works of their Hindu predecessors, they employed Hindu workmen to construct and manipulate the details of the buildings they erected, and impressed the style of art with a character and charm peculiarly its own.

Plate 52. Fig. 2. **From the Tomb of Shah Alam, Ahmedabad.**

A group of buildings a mile south of Ahmedabad goes by the name of Shah Alam, from the tomb of a saint of that name, the son of Qutb ul Alam. He held a high place in the confidence of Qutb Shah, and was entrusted with the education of Mahmud Shah Bigarah. Shah Alam died in 1475, and his tomb was erected by Taj Khan Nariyali, a nobleman of Mahmud's court. A century later the dome was gilded and the tomb beautifully ornamented by Asaf Khan, the Vazir of Jahangir and brother of the Sultana Nur Jahan. The mosque was built by Muhammad Shah Badakshi; the assembly hall was built by Muzaffar Shah III, but partly destroyed by the British army during the siege of Ahmedabad in 1780. The group is marked architecturally by a gradual transition of style.

Plate 53. **From the Tomb of Sultan Ahmad, Ahmedabad.** See remarks above, Plates 50 to 52.

Plate 54. **From the Mosque of Rani Sipara, Ahmedabad.**

The beautiful mosque and tomb of Rani Sipara was, we learn from an inscription, erected by herself A.D. 1541, in accordance with the usual custom. It is built of cream-coloured sandstone, and is justly considered a gem. She was the mother of Abu Bakr Khan, son of Mahmud Shah Sultan.

Plates 55 and 56. **From Buildings at Bijapur.**

Nearly all the principal buildings were carried out between the years A.D. 1557—1650. Adil Shah was a Turkish slave purchased for the body guard at Bidar, and soon raised himself to such eminence that on the defeat of Dastur Dinar in A.D. 1501, he established himself as the founder of the Adil Shahi dynasty of Bijapur. The real building epoch of the city begins with Ali, A.D. 1557, and all the important buildings are crowded into the 100 years which elapsed between his accession and the wars with Aurangzeb, which ended in the destruction of the dynasty. Some of the buildings are as remarkable as those of any of the Muhammadan capitals of India.

Plate 57. **From Makka-ka Naql, at Bunnur.**