

Remarkable Identification of Rohi Derawar Fort

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Abstract- Derawar Fort is a remarkable identification of Rohi Cholistan. Derawar Fort was built in AD 900 known as Dera Rawal. Derawar Fort is a giant four-sided fortress in Ahmadpur East Tehsil, Punjab, Pakistan. About one hundred ten km south of the town of Bahawalpur, the forty supporters of Derawar Fort are evident for numerous miles in the Rohi Cholistan Desert. When the Derawar Fort was built, all the towers of the fort were made of mud. Over time, the fort also saw its rise and fall. Then when the Nawab of Bahawalpur Khan I made it the capital of his state, then the Nawab of Bahawal Khan I constructed it with tile bricks. At the same time, it has its own identity in the world.

Index Terms- Monuments, Identification, History, Cholistan Desert, Architecture.

I. INTRODUCTION

The fortress Derawar is among extraordinary forts of Cholistan which lies on historic river Hakra and 50km from Tehsil Ahmadpur Sharqia. Its renowned fort was center stage among the Rajput and Daudputras Abbasai competitions during 18th century. Its geo-strategic position at the center of the Cholistan desert made it a reserve for several leaders and their treasure hoards thus prompting the rulers of Jaisalmeer and Bahawalpur States to obtain it and opportunity it into state capital. The existing building is stated to have been built over the ruins of an ancient, pre-Muslim period fort. Derawar Fort was built in AD 900 by Dera Sidh-also known as Dera Rawal or simply Rawal, a scion of the Bhatti dynasty of Jaisalmer who constructed the fort with the consent of Jajia Bhattia, a Rajisthani prince. The castle was once at the beginning named after its founder, Dera Rawal, however with time, became acknowledged as Derawar Fort.



Ownership of the fortress frequently modified hands. During the Aryan era the warrior Sudasa, fought in opposition to the Aryans as nicely as non-Aryan took the control of Derawar Fort and its surrounding area?" Subsequently, when the Aryans engaged Jaisalmer, Derawar Fort kept on passing from one invading party to the next. Finally, Ameer Sadiq Muhammad Khan Abbasi I, founder of the Kingdom of Bahawalpur, seized Derawar Fort from the Sikh Ruler, Rawal Rai Singh, in AD 1733, supported by using the Governor of Multan, after a brutal battle. The castle remained in the control of the Abbasi family to era, was made capital in AD 1747 of the State until the foundling of

Bahawalpur by way of Ameer Bahawal Khan Abbai I and Derawar Fort flourished as way of its populace grew, schools, industrial centers, offices and headquarters of the country Camel Corps have been recognized within. Scarcity of water successively caused the fort's shape to decay and components of it to fall. Built on a high mound, Derawar Fort was once at the start blanketed by way of an outer fortification wall, only part of which remains. The fortress is square in plan, measuring 672 ft. across, and originally had a barrel-shaped roof. Entering to the bastion is complete a large wooden gate guarded by using a test submit on its



southern side. The gate itself is seventeenth ft. excessive and has a width of 13 toes 8 inches. The gate opens into an arched passageway that is nearly 60 ft. in size and leads into

the major plinth level inner the fort. The main fortification wall varies between 60 and 90 ft. in height and is supported by means of forty bastions. The nook bastions measure close to forty seven ft. in diameter.



The surviving bastions display unique geometrical designs in brick-work nearly 15 ft. beneath their crests. At present, most of the bastions are intact. It is said that 1/2 of them have been made of sun-dried brick and 1/2 of burnt brick. The bricks used range in size from one bastion to the next; indicating that repairs and additions had been carried out from time to time."

The best possible bastion, recognized as Kakoha after its architect, is situated on the left façade of the most important entrance, and was as soon as famous as a venue for literary soirees." Still equally west are a number of visitor rooms at once earlier than the fundamental entrance to the



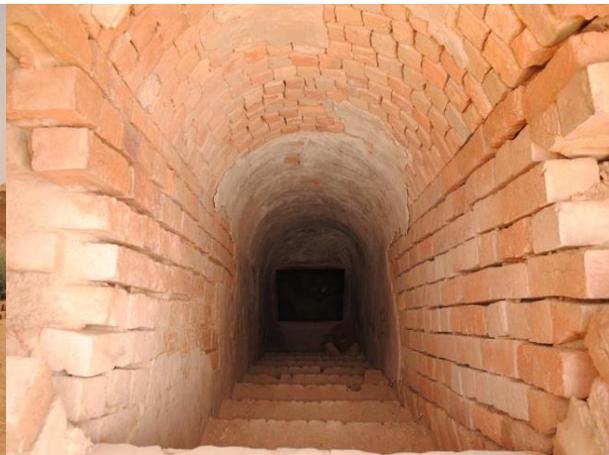
zenan khana. The visitor rooms are preceded by way of the Ameer's chamber with a veranda elegantly embellished with fresco work and three embellished arches. The room in the

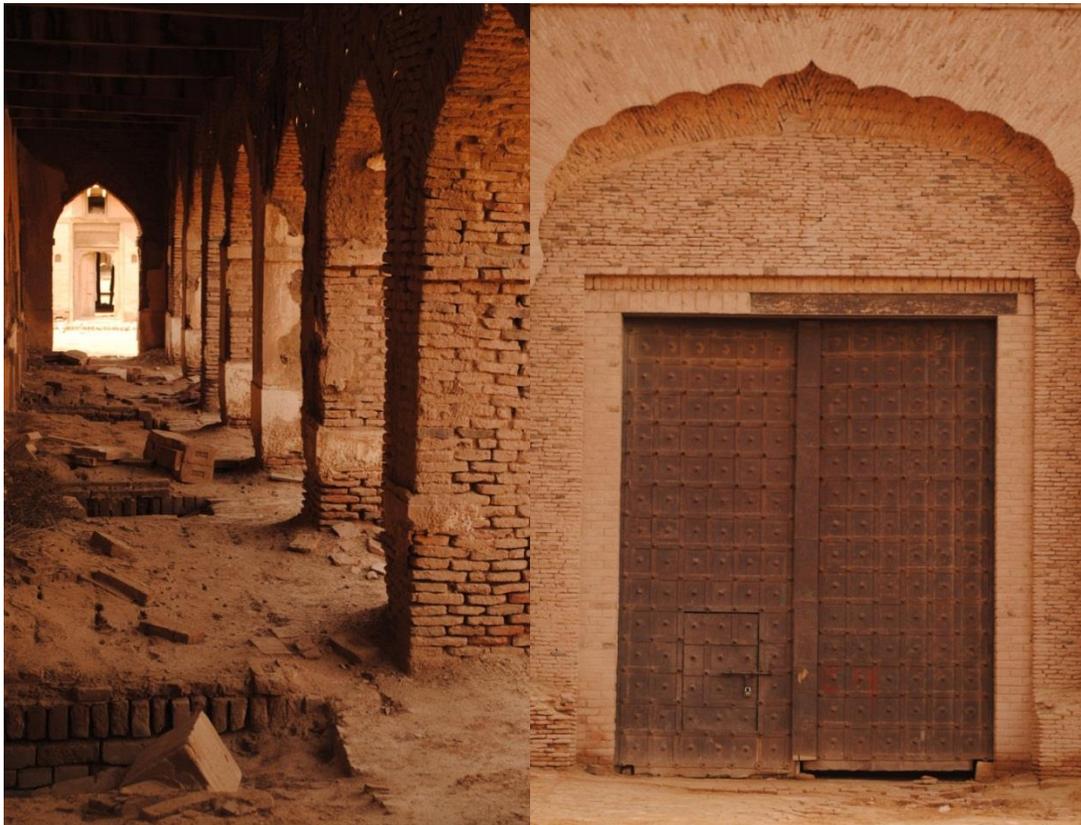
front leads to a hall that passes via the center of the visitor rooms. The residential quarter or families region is advanced via a large wooden door adorned with significant Carvings; there is a mosque near the entrance to this area, marked with two small minarets.



A corridor leads through the major zenan khana and the rooms on either aspect are bisected through a range of skylights. Each room has a fireplace and an attached washroom. The fresco

work on the walls, even though need of restoration is nevertheless worth seeing. Towards the cease of this complex on the southern aspect is every other double-storey chamber belonging to the Ameer of Bahawalpur.





The zenan khana itself includes two similar buildings, uniquely linked with the aid of competency of openings, and enclosed by way of an unnecessary wall, components of which

are still standing. Derawar is a great architectural masterpiece. Occupying the far south of Punjab, Cholistan is the largest desert in Pakistan, covering over 25,000 sq. kms area





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