

HAND OUT
CHAPTER- 5 (MODULE-1/2) Rulers and Buildings
CLASS VII **SUBJECT- HISTORY**

Monuments

Various grand buildings and structures were built by the rulers. These are known as monuments. There were two types of structures that were built by rulers and their craftsmen that earned the status of monuments:

- Residences of Rulers like Forts , Palaces, Gardens which were protected and secure.
- Public Structures like Temple, Mosques, Bazaar

Engineering Skills and Construction

Between the 8th and 18th Centuries craftsmen used such technologies which were out of the imaginations and were successful to carve beautiful architectures on monuments.

Between seventh and tenth centuries craftsmen started building complex architectures which included more rooms, roofs, doors, and windows. However, between the eighth and the thirteenth centuries, various temples, mosques, tombs and buildings attached to large stepped wells, also known as baolis, were constructed out of the trabeate style which became quite famous around that time.

Temple Construction in the Early Eleventh Century:

King Dhangadeva of the Chandela dynasty constructed the **Kandariya Mahadeva temple** dedicated to Shiva in 999. It had an ornamented gateway leading to an entrance and the main hall (mahamandapa) . The **Rajarajeshvara temple at Thanjavur** has the tallest shikhara amongst temples of its time. Harminder Sahib popularly known as Golden Temple was constructed at Amritsar.

Building Temples, Mosques, and Tanks

Temples and Mosques were the places to worship. Temple was also used as a means to demonstrate power and wealth. Rulers used to build the huge temple which depicts the picture of the world they ruled. These temples also included deities of the subordinate.

Islam does not have the belief in incarnations of god but they built beautiful architecture known as mosques to offer there pray to God. Rulers used religious architecture to gain fame. They build reservoirs and cultural center. They got involved in building well which was there for common people and ultimately was known for their great deeds.

Why were Temples Destroyed?

As temples were a depiction of Ruler's power and wealth so when other kingdoms used to attack another kingdom they used to destroy the Temple as they ultimately destroyed Ruler's power. For example, Pandyan king Shrimara Shrivallabha invaded Sri Lanka and defeated the Jewel Palace. He then proceeded to destroy monasteries and seize all the golden images from the palace.
