

# The Contextual Issues in the Islamic Architecture of Bengal Mosques

Saiful Hasan Tariq (Corresponding author)  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Architecture, Stamford University Bangladesh,  
2/C, Rajuk Officers' Quarter, Malibagh, Dhaka-1217, Bangladesh  
Tel: +8801912356611 E-mail: shtariq1757@yahoo.com

Mahbuba Afroz Jinia  
Senior Lecturer, Department of Architecture, Stamford University Bangladesh,  
26/C Asad Avenue, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh  
Tel: +8801912356622 E-mail: arch\_majinia@yahoo.com

## Abstract

The history of the settlement in Bengal region is probably more than 3,000 years old. The Muslim rule was introduced by the invasion of Ikhtiyar Uddin Muhammad bin Bakhtiyar Khilji at around 1204 A.D. In the later years lots of Muslim rulers came in this continent and contributed in the construction of Masjid, Madrasa, and Mausoleums. Unique building materials, climatic considerations, social and contextual impact on spatial quality has given such prominence in these structures that it has become identical as "Bengal Style" among the other styles practiced in Indian sub-continent and outside of India in other Muslim countries during 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> century. This paper is an outcome of the search on contextual issues of Bengal mosques practiced from 12<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> century and put light on the existing practice of mosque architecture in Bangladesh.

**Keywords:** Islamic architecture, Building materials, Climate, Context, Bengal style.

## References

Hasan, P. (1989). Sultanate Mosque and Continuity in Bengal Architecture, *Muqarnas* Volume VI: An Annual on Islamic Art and Architecture, 6 (1): 58-74.

Hasan, P. (2007). *Sultans and Mosques: The Early Muslim Architecture of Bangladesh*, I.B. Tauris & Co Ltd, London. Retrieved from [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adina\\_Mosque](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adina_Mosque) . Retrieved on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

<http://www.asikolkata.in/maldah.aspx>. Retrieved on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

[http://www.banglapedia.org/HT/H\\_0136.HTM](http://www.banglapedia.org/HT/H_0136.HTM). Retrieved on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

<http://www.historyfiles.co.uk/KingListsFarEast/IndiaBengal.htm>. Retrieved on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2012

Husain, A. B. M. (ed.) (2007). *Sthapotto*, Bangladesh Asiatic Society, Bangladesh.

Imamuddin, Abu. H., Hasan, S. A., Sarkar. D. (1985). Community Mosque- A symbol of society, conference proceedings, *Exploring Architecture in Islamic Cultures 2: Regionalism in Architecture*, 2 (1): 60-69.

Zakaria, A.K.M. (2007). *Bangladesher prachin Kirti (2<sup>nd</sup> Part)*, Dipro Publishers, Bangladesh.