History of Art and Architecture 124z:
Architecture and Dynastic Legitimacy:
The Early Modern Islamic Empires (1450-1650)
Prof. Gülru Necipoglu

Proseminar
Wednesday 3:00-500 pm.
Sackler Museum 406

REQUIREMENTS

15 minute class presentation on a selected optional reading during the semester, final paper (15 to 20 pages) and paper presentation at the end of the semester.

All required readings are available on reserve at the Fine Arts Library.


SYLLABUS

1. Sept. 21 Introduction: Islamic Architecture of the Three Empires and Late Medieval Precedents (Timurid, Mamluk)
   - Blair and Bloom, Art and Architecture of Islam, 5-19, 37-54, 70-96 (optional)
   - O’Kane, “Monumentality in Mamluk and Mongol Art and Architecture,” 499-522
   - Necipoglu, Challenging the Past: Sinan and the Competitive Discourse of Early Modern Islamic Architecture,” 169-80

2. Sept. 28 Ottoman Capitals: Bursa, Edirne and Istanbul
   - EI article, “OTTOMANLI”, 190-202
   - Vryonis, “Byzantine Constantinople and Ottoman Istanbul,” 13-52
   - Necipoglu, “The Life of an Imperial Monument,” 195-225 (optional)

3. Oct. 5 Ottoman Socio-Religious Architecture
4. Oct. 12  Ottoman Palatial Architecture and Gardens
- ---. “The Suburban Landscape of Sixteenth-Century Istanbul as a Mirror of Classical Ottoman Garden Culture,” 32-71

5. Oct.19  Safavid Capitals: Tabriz, Qazvin, Isfahan
- EI article, “SAFAWIDS”, 765-771
- McChesney, “Four Sources on Shah Abbas’s Building of Isfahan,” 103-134

- Rizvi, “The Imperial Setting: Shah Abbas at the Shrine of Shaikh Safi ad-Din Ishaq in Ardabil,” pp.9-15
- Hillenbrand, “Safavid Architecture,” 759-842 (optional)
- Rizvi, “Mortar mixed with the sweetness of life,” 323-351 (optional)

7. Nov. 2  Safavid Palatial Architecture and Gardens
- Necipoglu, “Framing the Gaze in Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Palaces,” 303-342
- Babaie, “Shah Abbas II, the Conquest of Qandahar, the Chihil Sutun, and Its Wall Paintings,” 125-142
- Alemi, “The Royal Gardens of the Safavid Period,” 72-96
- Subtelny, “Agriculture and the Timurid *Chaharbagh*,” 110-128 (optional)
- Wilber, *Persian Gardens and Garden Pavilions* (optional)
- Golombek, “The Gardens of Timur,” 137-147 (optional)
- Babaie, “Safavid Palaces at Isfahan: Continuity and Change (1590-1666),” (optional)

8. **Nov. 9**  
**Mughal Capitals: Delhi, Fatehpur Sikri, Agra, Lahore**
- EI article, “*MUGHALS*”, 313-316
- Blake, *Shahjahanabad: The Sovereign City in Mughal India (1639-1739)*
- Brand and Lowry, *Fatehpur-Sikri: A Sourcebook* (optional)

9. **Nov. 16**  
**Mughal Socio-Religious Architecture**
- Brand, “Orthodoxy, Innovation and Revival: Considerations of the Past in Imperial Mughal Tomb Architecture,” 323-334
- EI article, “Tadj Mahall,” 58-60

10. **Nov. 23**  
**Mughal Palatial Architecture and Gardens**
- Koch, “Diwan-i-Amm and Chihil Sutun: The Audience Halls of Shah Jahan,” 143-165
- ---, “The Mughal Waterfront Garden,” 140-160
- ---, “Mughal Palace Gardens,” 143-165
- Richards, “The Formulation of Imperial Authority Under Akbar and Jahangir,” 252-285 (optional)

Final Paper Presentations
Bibliography

All readings are available on reserve at the Fine Arts Library (or reference if applicable). “Extra” denotes a reading that is not assigned.


Brand, Michael and Lowry, Glenn. *Fatehpur-Sikri: A Sourcebook* Cambridge, MA, 1985 (optional)


---. “Shah Abbas and the Pilgrimage to Mashhad,” Safavid Persia: The History and Politics of an Islamic Society, pp.191-229


---. “Framing the Gaze in Ottoman, Safavid, and Mughal Palaces,” in Ars Orientalis 23 (1993), 303-342.


---. “Dynastic Imprints on the Cityscape: The Collective Message of Imperial Funerary Mosque Complexes in Istanbul.” Colloque Internationale: Cimetières et traditions funéraires dans le monde islamique (Institut Français d'études Anatoliennes,

---. The Age of Sinan: Architectural Culture in the Ottoman Empire (Princeton Press, 2005). (Optional)


Rizvi, Kishwar. “’Its mortar mixed with the sweetness of life:’ Architecture and Ceremonial at the Shrine of Safi al-din Ishaq Ardabili During the Reign of Shah Tahmasb I.” Muslim World 90/3-4 (2000), 323-352. (optional)


