The great cultural movements leave an indelible impression on the art of building by which the aspiration and life-styles are revealed in the substantial form for all to see. In India, people’s ideals can be seen from a rich expression of numerous noble monuments. This great cultural heritage of India preserves the memory of historically famous personalities or significant events for the successive generations. These monuments become the principal visible and material records of man’s evolution if used as the historical sources.

The earliest known evidence of the monuments in the territory of the Kapurthala State is said to have been the Buddhist monastery in the town of Sultanpur. It was blown off and the black layer is yet found in the mound of the town. With the advent of medieval period, both secular and religious buildings were built by the royal houses as well as by the general public. During the later Mughal period, taking advantage of the Turks invasions, the Sikh confederacy attained power in the Punjab. They developed their own architectural monuments in the eighteenth and the nineteenth century. Their style was in appearance of Mughal extraction with a certain character of its own.

In the twist of power in the Punjab, the erstwhile Kapurthala state was founded by Sardar Jassa Singh Ahluwalia. The uniqueness of the state is that it’s one part named Phagwara lied in the Jalandhar district. Twenty-four villages of Bhunga pargana and thirty-four villages of Lahore and Amritsar were also included in it. The Kapurthala chiefs also had taluqdar rights in Oudh Estate.

This state of Kapurthala is rich in material for the study of its historical monuments. After its annexation from Rai Ibrahim Bhatti, the Sikh chiefs started the erection of buildings. The most notable are found since the period of Fateh Singh Ahluwalia. Till the end of the period of Maharaja Jagatjit Singh, a large number of buildings show the interest of its rulers and the public in the building activity. With the passage of time and impact of weather, some of these buildings have disappeared and some are in a dilapidated condition. The new forms of construction are the great threat to these monuments. Moreover, renovation work on these monuments is destroying their heritage value. The neglect is always the worst enemy. Still there are buildings which are in good condition and can be studied as original monuments. The
present study is an effort to keep these monuments alive through this work. It will also help to recognize the value and importance of this fascinating heritage.

The study of architecture has been done by many scholars like Percy Brown, V.A. mith and R. Nath in their works. Detailed study has been done on the cities like Lahore, Delhi, Lukhnow, Banaras and Amritsar and the princely states of Patiala and Faridkot.

Percy Brown in his work, *Indian Architecture* in two volumes has done the historical survey of ancient and medieval period. In the ancient period, the rock cut temples to brick temples constructed by the rulers of different dynasties have been studied. The interiors of these temples are used as the dwellings of gods. The walls had imaginary figures. This indigenous art was of trabeate order. The buildings had the flat or low pointed roofs with different types of *sikhara*. This work was done on stone. The craftsmen worked magnificently and made the appearance of the building sculpturesque than the architectural.

With the advent of the medieval period in India, the building art was referred as Indo- Islamic architecture. The author is of the view that during this period, unlike the former, different types of buildings were constructed. Mosques and tombs are considered as religious buildings while the imperial palaces, forts, public buildings such as houses, pavilions, town gates, gardens, etc., are included in the secular buildings. The Mohammedans brought with them new principles and practices of the construction. They shifted the ‘beam and bracket’ system of the ancient architecture into arch as the method of bridging the space. The dome shaped the roofs of the building. The material used for construction was transformed from stone to marble. The construction activities are categorized as imperial, provincial and of Mughal style. In the area of Punjab, the Golden Temple of Amritsar found the mention for description as the Sikh architecture

Phillip Devies, in his book, *Splendours of the Raj, British Architecture in India 1660-1947*, has discussed many important monuments erected by the British in India. The author is of the view that in the early years under the East India Company the British aspirations were fundamentally commercial. Military engineers were employed for the construction. They used available pattern-books for proto-types and deployed considerable skill and ingenuity in their designs. In the late eighteenth century there was a major change in British perceptions. Their aspirations became imperial, though the trade remained important. The conscious reflection of the
civilized values of ancient Greece and Rome in the buildings of the period demonstrates a growing awareness of this wider political and social role.

The British intervention, self-righteous idealism aroused the violent reaction in the revolt of 1857. After this revolt Bengal, Madras and Bombay engineers were amalgamated with Royal Engineers in 1862 and Public Works Department began to recruit civil engineers. With this the Gothic revival was introduced in India and new architectural experiment to adapt the forms and styles of the medieval Europe in India was started. Among the buildings constructed with this style the architecture of Bombay was regarded superior than that of Calcutta not only due to the excellence of local material but also because of the trained civil engineers of Public Works Department of Bombay. Even then it is marred due to the local expertise in stone carving and the Bombay School of Art explored new Indo-Gothic architecture.

The complete fusion of two traditions, which was neither Indian nor European but wholly original style of architecture is seen at New Delhi. The work of Lutyens, Henry Medd and Arthur Shoosmith achieved the highest levels of sophistication and became the crowning achievements of British Architecture in India. The author has deeply studied the works of architecture of the period and sufficient detailed explanations with the photographs of the buildings taken for the study in the book have been given.

Subhash Parihar, in his work, *A Study of the Mughal Architecture in the Punjab*, gives an account of the monuments erected during the Mughal rule by the nobles and general public. The buildings have been categorized into residential buildings, gardens, tombs, mosques, *serais*, etc. The author describes the history, dimensions, styles, architecture and the material used in the construction of the buildings. The work gives the idea of the development of architecture of the Mughal times, which was just started with the coming of Babur in India to the times of Aurangzeb. It has been seen that from the beginning of red marble to white marble, the exclusive buildings were built. The styles, plans and techniques, interior art and decorative details have also been described. The method of preparation of the tiles, which were the main decoration material, is discussed in a separate chapter. In the work the building plans and techniques are also given. The entire work is illustrated with the drawings and photographs of the buildings.

Pardeep Singh Arshi’s book, *Sikh Architecture in the Punjab*, gives a comprehensive idea of the Sikh *gurudwaras*. The study reveals that the Sikh
architecture though is an extension of the Mughal architecture, yet Sikh gurudwaras contains many distinctive elements by virtue of the utilization of architectural traditions and techniques in the terms of functional requirements like Sangat and Pangat and to otherwise the character of military edifices. In some of the gurudwaras there is an underground cell which added the overall architectural distinctiveness. Almost for three centuries this Mughal architecture had put a considerable influence on the Sikh building activities. After the death of Banda Bahadur the impact of Rajput architecture is seen on the gurudwaras. The author has to face the problem to study the evolution of the architectural types because most of the gurudwaras have undergone renovations, However, he took information from the old photographs. The study suggests that basic concept of the Golden Temple has served as the model of the Sikh architecture. The author has studied the gurudwaras upto 1900.

Anju Arora’s work, The Princely State: British Paramountcy and Internal Administration 1858-1948 deals with the state affairs and the British policies towards the state. In the book the relations of the Kapurthala State with the British reveals that how the will case and the question of its ruler’s legitimacy was solved. In the matters of central and local administration, revenue system, health services, education system the rulers of Kapurthala state were elite enough to follow the new policies started by the British in other parts of India. The public works department of the state dealt with the construction of buildings in the state whether these were the royal palaces, gardens, religious buildings or the buildings related to the general public utility. The department took great interest with the orders of the Maharaja to establish factories in the state territory. Though the work has a great deal with the Kapurthala State but it has a little to do with the architectural aspect. Whatever important in the work are, the political history and the brief description of the buildings.

The District Gazetteer of Kapurthala State published in 1904 and Kapurthala District Gazetteer published in 1984 has traced the history of the area from the ancient times to the formation of Kapurthala district. These give information on the geographical location and physical features of the area, its administration, revenue system and economy, judicial system etc. The gazetteer of Kapurthala State deals with the systems of princely times and in the district gazetteer the system after independence has been described. In both of these works, the section ‘places of interest’ gives an account of the important monuments of the state. The description of
the location of the cities, monuments and their old photographs are very important for
the present study.

*Punjab Da Gaurav, Sultanpur Lodhi- A Study*, has been published by the
Academy of Folklore Punjab. In the articles of this book a brief description of a
number of historical and religious monuments in the area of Sultanpur Lodhi has been
given. The monuments relates to the medieval and modern periods. The important
monuments of the medieval period are - old bridges, *Hadira, Shahi-Sarai*, etc. The
monuments of the modern period include the *gurudwaras*, temples and tombs. The
authors have not only discussed the history of Sultanpur Lodhi from the very ancient
times, they have also described in detail the history of the buildings found here as the
great monument. They have also given the present condition of these buildings. They
also tell about the destruction of *naqasses* and paintings which are the artistic
decorations and the source of history.

The above discussion reveals that the study of monuments of Kapurthala state
needs elaborate research. An effort has been made to find out these monuments, to
study the features of these buildings and analyze their importance in this work.

The first chapter discusses the geographical features and historical background
of the state. The emergence of the Ahluwalia *misal* and the princely state of
Kapurthala has been discussed in detail. The geographical features are studied as the
erection of the buildings depended on the materials available in or near the area. The
techniques of construction also depended on the geographical conditions. In this
chapter the historical background and emergence of all the important cities of the state
has been given. It has been found that most of the buildings constructed during the
period of this study were built in these cities.

The second chapter deals with the royal palaces and rest houses. The palaces
not only serve the purpose of residence of the royal family, these also were used as the
seat of governance. The rest houses were used for the stay of the royal members,
officers of the state, the British officials and the guests from the other states during
their official visits. The architecture, their styles as well as the expenditure and time of
the construction of these buildings have been studied. It is found that the rulers of
Kapurthala state built their residences in the Europeans styles. If their one palace was
built in Kamra style of the British, the other was built in villa style of the Italians. The
most important palace built by its last ruler was built in the style used by the French
monarchs in Paris. The British effect has been underlined in the rest houses.
In the next chapter the buildings constructed for the purpose of administration, education, health and factories, etc., are taken for study. These buildings included the Court Complex, Darbar Hall, Tehsil buildings at various headquarters, buildings for the state assembly and municipalities, college, schools, hospitals, buildings in Kapurthala, Sultanpur and Phagwara, the gardens of Kapurthala and the factories opened during this period. The architecture, plans of these structures and utilization of these buildings form the subject matter of this chapter.

The fourth chapter deals with the survey of religious buildings. Many religious places stood in the territory of the state which include the gurudwaras, temples, mosques and tombs. The scheme of the construction of religious buildings of all the communities has been studied. It has been found that the religious buildings are the beautiful unique structures and still are in a good condition. The architectural styles of all these buildings are discussed on the basis of archaeological sites and literary sources.

In the fifth chapter, the buildings erected for the smadhis and memorials have been analysed. There are the buildings constructed over the funeral places of the royal family and the memorial for the royal horses. Beautiful war memorial is built for in the honour of the soldiers, who fought for the state and the British. All these are constructed by the state. There are certain other tombs, smadhis and mazaars which are built by the public. The buildings are standing as the fine monuments.

The next chapter deals with the extinct monuments of the state. Though there are some monuments that do not exist, yet their documentary proof is available in different sources. All the religious as well as secular buildings that are found in any type of source have been discussed. It is found that the religious buildings are the main prey of destruction as many of the religious buildings have gone through the renovation and the construction of new one by destroying the old structures. However, the secular buildings have fell down due to the lack of funds and impact of time and weather.

The seventh chapter deals with the architectural features of these buildings. It throws light on the styles of the roof, domes, gateways, doors, windows, minarets, shapes of the arches and bricks. Both flat and vaulted roofs are found, doors and windows are fixed in the arches of different kinds. The domes are kept on many religious as well as secular buildings. It highlights both the European and indigenous styles and elements of the architecture which developed in this princely state in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.
The eighth chapter is devoted to the architectural decorations in which the explanation about the tile works, paintings, statues, plasters, paints, carvings and the material used for the decorations. The methods of carving, moulding, painting and preparation of colours and other materials have been discussed. The available plans and the plates of the buildings, the architectural features and the decorations are given with the explanations.

The last chapter reviews the main findings. It has been seen that a large number of buildings were erected by the state and a few buildings were constructed by the common people. In these buildings both Indian and European styles were adopted. These monuments throw light on the interests of the rulers and the people of the state. These also give the picture of the economy of the state. The state has spent money not only on the royal palaces but the public utility and religious buildings were also built at the state cost. The rulers of the state, however, had been economically sound but the buildings for hospitals and education were not considered sufficient by the state people and there was demand for more such buildings.

This study is based on the variety of the primary sources and secondary works. In addition to the monuments a good amount of material is available in the official records of Kapurthala State which is preserved in the Punjab Government Records Office, Patiala. Information is available in the Administration Reports, Census Reports and the District Gazetteers. The newspaper reports, the travel accounts, maps of the various buildings, their photographs and the drawings have been studied. The secondary works have also been consulted from the libraries of N.J.S.A. Government College, Kapurthala, Apeejay College of Fine Arts, Jalandhar, D.A.V. College, Jalandhar, Punjabi University, Patiala, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, District Court Library, Kapurthala, Sainik School Library, Kapurthala and other offices of Kapurthala district. The public works department of Kapurthala district has the plans of many buildings constructed in the territory of the erstwhile state. These have been duly considered for the study. The documentation of work is mainly based on the field work. A number of persons living in or nearby localities of the both extant and extinct buildings have also provided useful information about these buildings. The information the secondary sources have been adequately analyzed.

Amritsar

(Chander Kanta)