CHAPTER V
MUSLIM MONUMENTS OF BIDAR DISTRICT

In this chapter an attempt has been made to bring to light the monuments built during the reign of Muslim rulers in Bidar district other than forts and palaces. As such it deals with the monuments built during later Bahmanis (of Bidar), Barid Shahis, Adil Shahis (if any), Mughal rule in Deccan and Nizams of Hyderabad.

TOMBS OF BAHMANI SULTANS

The entire group of Bahmani tombs is located at Ashtur, a small village in the lowlands at a distance of one mile and six furlongs towards the east from Bidar town. The main road is from the Dulhan Darwaza, whence a Local road passing by the village, enables the visitor to reach these mausoleums. There are eight tombs of the kings of the Bahmani dynasty lying in this area and their comparative dimensions and style of architecture demonstrate in the clearest manner the gradual fluctuation of the political power of the dynasty. They are described below in chronological order.

Tomb of Ahmad Shah al-Wali Bahmani.

Ahmad Shah was the ninth king of the Bahmani dynasty and ruled for thirteen years (1422-36 CE) with great pomp and glory. The architecture of the tomb has a square plan measuring 77 feet 1 inch on each side externally. The walls are massively built, their thickness being 12 feet 6 inches. To add further strength the architect has given them a batter, since they rise 57 feet above the floor and are surmounted by a parapet the height of which is 4 feet 9 inches above the top of the walls. The parapet are pierced by three doors, towards the
north, the south and the east, and in front have arches in the form of recesses. These arches span 19 feet 7 inches and the height up to the apex being 29 feet 9 inches. The surface of the walls on the outside is further divided by arched niches of varying dimensions, but all showing a pleasing sense of proportion in their shape. A feature common to all of them is the stilt at their apexes. Some of the niches have small arched openings at their backs, filled up with latticework which admits light and air to the interior of the tomb and also relieves to a certain extent the heaviness of the exterior of the building. The parapet has a plain design of arch-heads, but the turrets at the corners are quite ornate and their tiny niches give them a picturesque appearance. ¹

The dome of the building is three-fourths of an globe in shape, it has an octagonal base at the roof level, measuring 214 feet 8 inches in girth, each side of the octagon being 26 feet 10 inches in length. The walls of the base have a parapet of trefoil design at the top and they rise 16 feet 6 inches above the roof level. The dome is 196 feet in circumference and its height up to the top of its finial is 54 feet from the roof and 38 feet from its springing point, close to the parapet above the walls of its octagonal base. The finial by itself measures 11 feet 7 inches in height. The total height of the dome including the finial is 107 feet 9 inches measured from ground level. ²

The inner plan of the tomb comprises a square hall, 52 feet 2 inches long on each side. There is a lofty arch in the middle of each of the four sides of the hall, and the hall itself is flanked by a deeply recessed niche both on its right and left side. The plan of the interior of the tomb is ornamented by squinches at the
four corners of the hall, the plan of the building thus becoming octagonal at the top of the squinches. Above this level, there is another change in the plan of the building, which becomes 24 sided owing to the pendentives constructed below the circular base of the dome.\(^3\)

The interior of the tomb, although somewhat dark, is artistically relieved by splashes of most brilliant colours, which have been used in the paintings of the walls and the vault. The designs of the vault can best be appreciated which, represents faithfully the various creeper and floral patterns, the numerous geometric devices and several calligraphic styles. The last-named are exhibited in four concentric bands with a circular panel in the middle at the apes; of the vault. The first band is divided into eight oval panels by small hexagons containing the name of Ali written thrice in the Kufic script.\(^4\)

**The Tomb of Sultan Ahmad Shah’s Wife (?)**

The tomb which is assigned to the wife of the Sultan Ahmad Shah Wali lies to the east of Ahmad Shah’s mausoleum, but at a lower level. There is no inscription on the tomb and much of its internal decoration has perished. Its architecture is almost the same as that of Ahmad Shah’s tomb, but it is considerably smaller in dimensions. The base of this tomb measures 48 feet 3 inches square externally in contrast to the 77 feet 1 inch of the tomb of Ahmad Shah’s tomb. It is built on a platform 4 feet 2 inches high, and the walls of the tomb rise 28 feet 8 inches above the Sultan’s own tomb. The walls have a slight batter to counteract the thrust of the vault of the dome which has a circumference of 129 feet at the roof level.\(^5\)
The tomb is entered by a doorway from the south, the arch of which shows a stilt at the top. The interior of the building is square plan, measuring 31 feet 7 inches on each side. But squinches at the corners and above them clusters of triangular abutments projecting from the walls, have converted the square plan first into an octagon and afterwards into a 24-sided figure. There are traces of painting on the ceiling of the vault, but owing to the neglect of centuries, the colours and the designs have almost completely perished. There are five graves in the sepulchral hall, of which the one at the extreme left is said to be that of Ahmad Shah's wife.⁶

**The Tomb of Ahmad Shah's Son (?)**

There is another tomb to the south of Ahmad Shah Wall's mausoleum which is supposed to be that of the Sultan's son, Hasan Khan. But as Hasan Khan was really the nephew of Ahmad Shah Wali and after the latter's succession to the throne, he was first kept under surveillance at Firozabad and subsequently was blinded and died in captivity at the same place. It appears improbable that the corpse of a rival prince would have been brought to the capital for burial in the royal cemetery. From an architectural point of view the building is not of much importance, for its style, both externally and internally, is the same as that of the tomb of Ahmad Shah's wife and in dimensions it is even a little smaller than the latter. The square base measuring 45 feet 7 inches on each side externally and 31 feet 1 inch internally. The height of the walls being 23 feet 3 inches and the circumference of the dome at the springing point, 122 feet 7 inches. The interior of the tomb was originally decorated with stuccowork representing floral designs and religious texts, the remnants of which may be
noticed at the tops and the spandrels of the arches, notably in the mihrab. The latter is built in the form of an arched niche in the western wall and has a semi-decagonal plan at the base.\(^8\)

**The Tomb of Sultan Ala-ud-Din Shah II**

Ala-ud-Din was the eldest son of Ahmad Shah Al-Wali, who succeeded after the death of the latter in 1436 CE. The tomb of Ala-ud-Din, which was perhaps built by him during his lifetime, must have been a magnificent building when intact, for such features of it as have survived show a great improvement in its decoration compared with that of Ahmad Shah's mausoleum. The tile panels and the carving on the black stone margins of arches attract the eye at once by their colour schemes and delightful designs. To the tiles much damage has been done by the inclemencies of weather and by the vandalism of curious visitors who have torn out the tiles from the panels up to the height their hands could reach on the walls.\(^9\)

The arches of the tomb display an air of majesty in their large dimensions and perfect taste in their fine proportions. The three entrance arches in the middle of the walls towards the south, east, and north, have each a span of 16 feet 9 inches in contrast to a height of 35 feet 6 inches from the floor to the apex. The exterior of the building on each side, beside the lofty arches in the middle, has a pair of comparatively smaller arches flanking the latter towards both the right and the left.\(^10\)

The pairs of smaller arches differ in dimensions, but their shapes are uniform. They have also alcove-like recesses behind them which originally were lavishly decorated with encaustic tiles. The name of the king with his title was
given in the band of tiles above the southern doorway, but except the word *as-
Sultan* the rest of the inscription has perished. 11

The dimensions of the square base of the building and the dome
surmounting it are practically the same as those of the mausoleum of Ahmad
Shah, but the parapet above the walls is of the trefoil pattern, differing from that
of the latter building, which is arch shaped. Of the two designs, the trefoil pattern
has a better artistic effect and it is more appropriate to the other decorative
features of Ala-ud-Din's tomb. In its inner arrangement the building comprises a
square hall with deeply recessed arches and niches built on all its four sides. The
hall itself measures 51 feet 2 inches on each side. The niches have openings at
their backs for light and air. 12

**The Tomb of Sultan Humayun.**

The tomb of Sultan Humayun is situated next to the tomb of his father,
Sultan Ala-ud-Din, but having been struck by lightning, the larger part of its dome
and walls have fallen down. However, such parts of the building as are intact
show some features which may be of interest to the student of Bahmani
architecture. The architect of Humayun's tomb with has chosen a different shape
for the arches of this building, which he has arranged by giving a wide span and
low imposts to the arches. The dimensions of the large arches of this style in
Humayun's tomb are; span 12 feet 10 inches, height of the imposts 9 feet 6
inches, and height of the arch from ground level up to the apex, 18 feet 2 inches.
The face of the walls internally has another series of arches in its upper part; they
are smaller in dimensions than the lower ones but more squat in proportions than
the. Above the smaller arches the architect has built triangular corbels arranged
in clusters, and placed above them heavy stone slabs which make the plan of the building 24 sided at that level, while the weight of the corbels and the stone slabs which project inwardly also assists in counteracting the thrust of the dome.\textsuperscript{13}

The tomb at its base measures 77 feet 5 inches on each side externally and 52 feet 4 inches internally, the thickness of the walls thus being 13 feet 6 inches approximately. There are, however, steps built in the thickness of the walls which lead to the roof. The tomb is entirely built of black trap masonry laid in lime, but the upper courses of the dome are of light spongy bricks, which float in water. It is apparent that the majority of the masons employed for building these tombs would have been Hindus and they must have recommended the use of light bricks in the construction of the upper part of the dome in order to avoid the unnecessary load.\textsuperscript{14}

As the interior of the dome is not plastered and further its masonry has been split by lightning, one can see that the construction of the dome comprises concentric belts of masonry, which decrease in thickness upwardly. In other words, the thickness of the crust of the dome near its springing point is 6 feet while at the top it has decreased to 3 feet 4 inches only. Another distinctive feature of the interior of this tomb is the trabeate style of the frames of its niches, while those of the tombs of Ahmad Shah and Ala-ud-Din, alluded to above, are arch shaped. The change shows the influence of Hindu architecture, for niches with carved rectangular openings are a distinguishing feature of the medieval temples of the Deccan. In this building the niches when fitted with wooden doors
may have been utilized for keeping sacred texts and other articles such as tomb covers, canopies, and censers, connected with the ritual of the tomb.\textsuperscript{15}

**The Tomb of Sultan Nizam Shah.**

Located to the west of Humayun's tomb, it remains incomplete. The enclosure walls of the tomb are massively built and rise to a height of 25 feet from the ground level. The external dimensions of the tomb at the base are the same as those of the other royal tombs, i.e., 77 feet on each side. The sepulchral hall, which is square in plan, measures 50 feet 4 inches in each direction.\textsuperscript{16}

There are openings in the southern, eastern and northern walls for entrance, while in the western wall is a semi-decagonal niche in the form of a mihrab. In the thickness of the eastern wall there are steps which apparently would have led to the roof. The exterior of the tomb towards the south has a large arch in the middle which forms the entrance and two arches on the wall on each side of the former. The shape of the large arch is irregular in dimensions, which are span 13 feet, height of the imposts 9 feet, and the total height from the floor to the apex 17 feet 8 inches. The pairs of arches on either side of the entrance arch is 9 feet 1 inch, the height of the imposts 8 feet 1 inch, and the height up to the apex 15 feet 10 inches.\textsuperscript{17}

**The Tomb of Sultan Muhammad Shah III.**

This tomb is also incomplete although Muhammad Shah ruled for nineteen years. The tomb is almost a replica of the tomb of Nizam Shah both in the methods of construction and the general appearance and was perhaps designed by the architect of the latter. The only difference is that the dimensions of the arches vary slightly. The construction of the southern wall of Muhammad Shah's
The Tomb of Malika-i-Jahan.

The title Malika-i-Jahan, meaning the 'Queen of the World', refers to the wife of Sultan Humayun, who played an important role in the history of the Deccan during the reigns of her minor sons Nizam Shah and Muhammad Shah. Her tomb is situated to the south-west of that of her husband, Humayun, and to the southeast of the incomplete tombs of her two sons, Nizam Shah and Muhammad Shah.

The Malika’s tomb is a little smaller in dimensions than those of her husband and of her two sons and measures 46 feet 5 inches on each side externally. The walls have three arches of pleasing proportions in each direction, and the middle arch in the southern wall forms the entrance to the interior of the tomb. The dimensions of these arches are uniform, their span being 8 feet 3 inches, springing-point 12 feet above the level of the ground, and height up to the apex 19 feet 2 inches. The spandrels of the arches are decorated with medallions of stuccowork. The height of the walls on each side is 30 feet 10 inches from the ground level and at the top they have a parapet which rises 4 feet 2 inches higher still. The circumference of the dome, which is surmounted on the tomb, is 124 feet externally. There are four graves below the vault and the second of these, which is in the middle of the hall, is pointed out as that of the
queen. The mihrab in the western wall of the tomb has some ornamental plaster-work. 19

**The Tomb of Mahmud Shah Bahmani.**

This king also ascended the throne at the early age of twelve years. Mahmud Shah, ruled for thirty-six years and probably had his tomb built during his life time, for he would have seen the incomplete tombs of his father Muhammad Shah and uncle Nizam Shah, both of whom had died young. The tomb of Mahmud Shah possesses all the solid dignity of the tombs of the earlier Bahmani kings, but it looks somewhat austere in architectural effect, for neither is its exterior lavishly decorated with encaustic tiles like the tomb of Ala-ud-Din, nor is its interior embellished with paintings like the mausoleum of Ahmad Shah al-Wall. The walls rise to a height of 45 feet 10 inches from the floor, the walls are crowned with a parapet of plain design representing arch-heads, the latter rising 5 feet above the top of the walls. 20

The enclosure walls at their base measure 77 feet on each side, and their face in each direction has an arch of massive proportions in the middle and smaller arches built both above its top and in its sides. These smaller arches are arranged in three rows, having been built one above the other. The shapes and dimensions of the arches of the three rows differ, those at the bottom being the largest and those at the top the smallest. The dome has an octagonal base on the roof and its walls rise 13 feet 4 inches above this. The circumference of the dome at its springing-point is 206 feet. There is no decoration on the walls of the building except an ornamental parapet of trefoil design built below the rim of the
Two Anonymous Tombs (of Ahmad Shah and Ala-ud-Din?)

To the south of Sultan Mahmud Shah's tomb there are two sepulchres of small dimensions wherein may have been interred the last remains of the two puppet kings, Ahmad Shah and Ala-ud-Din, who were placed on the throne by the all powerful minister, Amir Barid, in 1518 and 1521 C.E. respectively.

Of these two sepulchres, one has a conical dome with eight facets, which are marked by plaster ribs. The interior of the tomb is square at the base, measuring 15 feet 3 inches each way, but the squinches at the corners and overlapping arches have made it necessary that the plan near the rim of the vault should become octagonal so that it may fit in with the plan of the vault. The walls of the sepulchre have an arch on each side, and they rise to a height of 12 feet above the ground level and are crowned with a parapet which rises 2 feet 2 inches higher still. There is only one grave below the vault, which may be that of Ahmad Shah.  

On the west of the above tomb there is another sepulchre which is incomplete. The walls of this building have not been plastered this sepulchre may belong to Ala-ud-Din.

The Tomb of Sultan Wali-Ullah.

The tomb of this king is situated within the main group of the Bahmani tombs, to the west of Mahmud Shah's mausoleum. It is an insignificant structure compared with the majestic tombs of his forebears and consists of a square base crowned with a conical dome. The walls of the base measure 26 feet 10 inches
on each side, and they rise to a height of 16 feet 2 inches above the ground level. On the top of the walls there was originally a parapet, traces of which still exist. Above the roof a conical dome rises which has eight facets. The interior of the sepulchre is entered by a small door from the south, the dimensions of the latter being; width 2 feet 3 inches, height 4 feet 7 inches. The plan of the interior of the tomb is square, but on account of the arches which are built at the corners and which project a little from the lines of those built in the side walls, it has become octagonal, and fits in with the shape of the vault of the ceiling.24

The Tomb of Sultan Kalim-Ullah.

He was the last nominal king of the Bahmani dynasty, whom the minister Amir Barid proclaimed in public as the rightful sovereign in 1525 C.E., but in reality kept him under the closest watch and treated him with such indignity that in 1527 he had to flee for his life, to Bijapur and afterwards to Ahmadnagar. The unhappy king did not receive a generous reception from the rulers of either of these two places and he passed the remaining part of his life virtually as a prisoner. After his demise his body was brought from Ahmadnagar to Bidar and interred in the royal cemetery close to the tomb of his brother Wall-Ullah.25

His tomb is similar in style to the tomb of Wali-Ullah, although slightly larger in dimensions than the latter. The walls of the tomb measure 28 feet 10 inches on each side at the base externally, and rise 17 feet 5 inches above the ground level. On the top of the walls was originally a parapet, the remains of which may be noticed in a few places. These remains show that the parapet when intact must have been 3 feet 2 inches high. The vault of the tomb has a conical shape externally and is divided into eight facets, but internally the shape is considerably
modified and it looks more or less circular with only a slight stilt towards the apex.
The tomb is entered by an arched door from the south and the internal arrangement of the building can be studied best by comparing the plan and section given on. The sepulchral hall is octagonal in plan with pentagonal projections at the corners. The arrangement of overlapping arches to distribute the weight of the dome. The building is crowned with a pinnacle of cylindrical shape made of black stone.26

The Mosque near the Tomb of Sultan Kalim-Ullah

To the south-west of Kalim-Ullah's tomb, on the other side of the road, is a mosque which was used for offering prayers before the corpse was interred in the tomb. It is a small building comprising a single hall which measures 34 feet 3 inches in length and 13 feet 6 inches in width. The ceiling of the hall is divided into three compartments, each compartment having a shallow vault. In the front of the mosque there are three arched openings of uniform size, the span of the arches being 8 feet 3 inches, the springing-point 4 feet 5 inches above the ground level, and the height of the apex 9 feet 9 inches from the floor. The height of the front wall of the mosque up to the dripstones (Sajja or Chajja) is 14 feet 10 inches, and above that was a parapet which is now in ruins. In the western wall the mihrab is built in the form of an arched niche, the upper part of which is adorned with miniature arches of plaster-work, and the spandrels with medallions.27

The Tomb of Shah Rukh Khan.

To the north of Sultan Mahmud Shah's mausoleum, at a distance of nearly two furlongs is a tomb reported to be that of Shah Rukh Khan. He was probably a
scion of the royal family, as in this area the only tombs are those of the Bahmani dynasty. The plaster of the southern and western parts of the dome had peeled off. The facade of the tomb is lavishly decorated with plasterwork, comprising floral devices, a chain and pendant motif, and calligraphic designs. Over the eastern doorway, the Ayat-al-Kursi (Throne verse, Quran, ii. 256) is inscribed. The walls forming the base of the tomb measure 39 feet 4 inches on each side, and rise to a height of 34 feet 8 inches including the parapet, which by itself measures 3 feet 8 inches above the top of the walls. The circumference of the drum of the dome at the roof level is 108 feet.

The inner plan of the tomb is square, but it has been converted into an octagon by means of arches in the corners, which project a little from the lines of the sidewalls. Higher up, near the dome, the plan becomes sixteen-sided owing to a band of arched niches. The dimensions of the interior of the tomb according to its octagonal plan are 26 feet 8 inches across, from one side of the octagon to the corresponding one in the opposite direction. Inside the building, there are two graves with stone sarcophagi, which have been damaged by vandals. The floor of the tomb has also been completely destroyed by people in later times.

To the east of Shah Rukh Khan's tomb there is another tomb, but it is of smaller dimensions than the first. It is not possible to ascertain who is buried in the small tomb, but he must have been a member of the royal family and was perhaps related to Shah Rukh Khan. The walls of the building at their base measure 14 feet 8 inches externally on each side, and they rise to a height of 13 feet 5 inches from the ground level. The parapet originally built on the top of the
walls has perished almost completely. The interior of the tomb has a square plan at the base, measuring 14 feet 3 inches on each side, but higher it becomes octagonal owing to the squinches, which are built at the corners. There is only one grave, the masonry of which has decayed. There is a stone sarcophagus, which is lying apart, separately in the sepulchral hall.  

**The Well near Ahmad Shah Al-Wali’s tomb.**

There is an old well in the lowlands to the south of Ahmad Shah Al-Wali’s tomb, the distance of the well from the latter being half a furlong (100 mts) with masonry walls and steps and an arcade built in the south-west corner, a little higher than the water level.

The well has two inscriptions, one of them being in Persian and the other in Marathi, both mentioning the name of Mirza Wali Amir Barid, who as the eighth ruler of the Barid Shahi dynasty is mentioned by Firishta but in the Cambridge History of India (vol. iii, p. 709) the name of this king has been given as Ali Barid Shah. As Firishta’s statement regarding the name of the eighth Barid Shahi king is also supported by the author of Basatin, there remains no doubt that the name of the king was Mirza Wali Amir Barid and not of Ali Barid Shah as given in the Cambridge History.

**The Chaukhandi of Hazrat Khalil-Ullah and other tombs nearby.**

Chaukhandi is a compound Hindi word, chau-meaning four and khand meaning a storey, thus chaukhandi meaning a four-storeyed building. The term has been applied to this building because it is situated on a high place and approached by several flights of steps, although the building itself is only double
storeyed. Hazrat Khalil-Ullah was the son of Shah Nimat-Ullah Kirmani and the former came over from his native place to Bidar after the death of his revered father in 834 H. (C.E. 1431) during Ala-ud-Din, who, received him with the utmost kindness. The Chaukhandi has three graves in the main vault and several others in the corridor.\textsuperscript{33}

The tomb is on the way from the road which goes from the Dulhan Darwaza to the mausoleum of the Bahmani kings, being situated some three furlongs from the latter on the city side. The outer gateway of the tomb has to be approached first by ascending a flight of five steps and walk across a pavement 39 feet 5 inches by 64 feet 7 inches at the end of which, there is another flight of steps numbering seven and leading to another pavement which extends to a length of 37 feet 9 inches up to the steps of the gateway. The total height of the wall including the parapet is 30 feet 4 inches, while the entrance arch has a height of 21 feet up to its apex, with a span of 13 feet. The arch has a stilt at the top showing Persian influence. There is a panel with two medallions of stuccowork to decorate the arch; the panel contains a religious text and the medallions.\textsuperscript{34}

Visitor has to ascend two more steps to enter the gateway, which has a passage in the middle and two halls flanking the passage, one on either side of it. The width of the passage is 11 feet and its length up to the inner arch 39 feet. The ceiling over the passage is divided into three compartments by means of arches built across its width, each compartment containing a vault. The halls on both sides of the passage are uniform in dimensions, measuring 36 feet 7 inches
in length and 11 feet 5 inches in depth each. They have three arched openings towards the passage and their plinth rises 3 feet 4 inches above the latter.\textsuperscript{35}

The passage is reached by passing through the gateway ascending two steps, which leads to a terrace eleven steps higher than itself. The length of the passage from the gateway to this terrace is 58 feet and its width 12 feet 5 inches. On either side of the passage at this stage are a large number of graves belonging to the disciples of Shah Khalil-Ullah and his successors. The passage continues after ascending the eleven steps referred to above, and extends to a distance of 73 feet with a breadth of 13 feet 6 inches, until another flight of steps is approached. The latter number fourteen and lead to a platform the exact dimensions of which, owing to the tombs, which have been built towards the east and west in later times, cannot be determined with precision now. But the distance between the doorway of the Chaukhandi and the steps of the platform is 57 feet 5 inches.\textsuperscript{36}

There is much in common between the architectural features and decorative schemes of this monuments and the tomb of Sultan Ala-ud-Din, although their ground plans differ, the tomb of Ala-ud-Din being square (and the Chaukhandi octagonal. The outer arch of the entrance of the Chaukhandi has a span of 14 feet 8 inches, while its height up to the apex is 30 feet.\textsuperscript{37}

There are similar arches on all the eight sides of the octagon, and above them another series the spans of which are the same as those of the lower arches, but the height up to the apex has been kept less by the architect in order to avoid monotony in the general appearance of the building. The height of the
walls is 51 feet 4 inches and above them rises a parapet of massive arch-heads which measure 8 feet 8 inches in height above the roof level. The circuit of the walls at the base is 176 feet, each side of the octagon measuring 22 feet. The walls are built of black trap masonry laid in lime and they are very massive in construction, being 15 feet 10 inches thick. They could have borne the weight of the dome upon them, whether the architect had planned to build one is doubtful, for the arrangement of the arches in the upper part of the walls in the interior of the building is such as not to support the view that the building of a dome was part of the original scheme.\textsuperscript{38}

The walls in the interior of the building have not been plastered over, and the building material and methods can be studied with advantage. There are steps in the thickness of the walls, which lead to their top, and as behind the parapet, there is a clear space 10 feet 9 inches wide, one can walk with comfort on the top of the walls and enjoy the panorama of the surroundings. The site of the Chaukhandi is higher than that of the Bahmani tombs.\textsuperscript{39}

The interior of the tomb is approached by a covered passage from the arch facing the south, which has a recess 6 feet 4 inches deep to serve the purpose of a portico, and a room built in the thickness of the wall behind it. The ceiling of the passage is divided into three compartments by means of arches built across its width, and each compartment has a vault of pleasing design, the middle one being fluted. The tomb of the saint, which is built in the middle of the interior of the Chaukhandi has a square plan externally and an octagonal plan internally, the latter form arranged by means of semi-decagonal projections at the corners.
The external dimensions of the tomb are; the walls at their base on each side, 33 feet 10 inches, their heights including the parapet, 24 feet 1 inch and the circumference of the base of the dome at roof level, 133 feet 4 inches. The walls of the tomb are decorated with stuccowork both internally and externally, and such architectural features as overlapping arches or the ornamental border of trefoil design along the rim, or medallions in the spandrels of arches add further to the beauty of this tomb.⁴⁰

In later times, separate vaults have been built for the graves of the descendants of Shah Khalil-Ullah, one of which is attached to the Chaukhandi itself, and may be noticed in the form of a projection to the east of the passage. The external dimensions of the projection are 23 feet by 34 feet 11 inches, and the walls rise to a height of 27 feet 1 inch and are crowned with a parapet, which rises 3 feet higher still above them. The circumference of the dome at its springing-point is 66 feet. Inside the vault there are nine graves, seven being large and two small. The latter are probably those of the children of the family. Some descendants of the saint are buried in the corridor, four graves being in the apartment to the right of the passage and four in that to the left. There are two more graves in a chamber facing the south-west side of the Chaukhandi.⁴¹

On the western side of the octagon, there is a small enclosure with screens of latticework projecting from the main building. The designs of the latticework are very attractive. The dimensions of the enclosure are in length 15 feet, width 6 feet, height of the screen including the parapet, 11 feet 10 inches. There is only one grave in this enclosure. Outside the main building towards the west there is
another enclosure with screens of trellis-work. The screens measure 7 feet 8 inches in height and the other dimensions of the enclosure are: length 20 feet 7 inches, width 14 feet 5 inches. Inside the enclosure there are only two graves, apparently belonging to the members of the saint's family.\textsuperscript{42}

To the east of Chaukhandi stood a tomb, which is perished completely, the tomb was not of large dimensions, but it had certain decorative features which made the building very picturesque. The walls of the tomb on each side measured 28 feet 10 inches at their base externally and they rose to a height of 23 feet 10 inches from the floor. The facade was adorned with arches of elegant proportions and a parapet of trefoil pattern. Its circumference near the base was 81 feet. The plan of the interior of the tomb was octagonal. One will also notice pairs of brackets of Hindu design used as ornamentation on the wall below the inscriptive band. The latter, besides the religious texts, contained also the name of Sultan Mahmud Shah, son of Sultan Muhammad and perhaps also the name of the person who was buried in the tomb. It may be the sepulchre of Shah Muhibb-Ullah who occupied a pre-eminent position at the beginning of Sultan Mahmud Shah's reign. Being one of the two holy personages, who helped the king to ascend the throne during the ceremony of his coronation, the saint appears to have died during Mahmud Shah's reign.\textsuperscript{43}

To the south-west of the Chaukhandi there is another anonymous sepulchre similar in style to the above mentioned tomb which has now perished. Like the first tomb it has a square base and is crowned with a dome. The walls on each side measure 27 feet at the base and rise to a height of 17 feet 6 inches
from the ground level. The parapet has crumbled into ruins and has not been restored, but the dome is intact and at the roof level, it measures 76 feet 7 inches in girth. The ulterior of the tomb is square in plan, measuring 18 feet 10 inches on each side, and although the arrangement of squinches and overlapping arches is the same as in the last-mentioned tomb, yet the stucco decoration is more profuse than it is in the latter. The bracket-motif decoration along the rim of the vault, and in the space between the apexes of the overlapping arches, has a rather tawdry effect. The band of small squares incised in plaster is not so bad.

There are two more buildings near the Choukhandi. One of them is a two-storeyed structure to the left (west) of the gateway. The lower storey comprises a double hall, measuring 27 feet 8 inches in length and 19 feet 8 inches in depth. This hall has arched openings towards the east, which are somewhat squattish in their proportions. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted, but the vaults are rather shallow. The upper storey has only one hall, which measures 27 feet 8 inches in length and 19 feet 8 inches in depth. The hall has arched openings towards the east which are somewhat clumsy in their proportions. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted, but the vaults are rather shallow. The upper storey has only one hall, which measures 27 feet 8 inches in length and 9 feet 10 inches in width.

The other building is a small mosque near the first flight of steps towards the west. It consists of a prayer-hall with a court in front of it. The prayer-hall measures 22 feet 2 inches in length and 8 feet 2 inches in breadth. The ceiling is divided into three compartments, each comprising a vault. There are three arched openings towards the east. Adjoining the prayer-hall of the mosque
towards the south there is another hall measuring 15 feet 4 inches by 8 feet 7 inches. This latter hall has two arched openings towards the east.\textsuperscript{46}

**Tombs on a Platform under a Nim Tree.**

Nearly a hundred yards to the south of Shah Khalil-Ullah's shrine there are several tombs built on a platform, one assigned to Shah Nur-Ullah Husaini. At the time of the survey of the site in 1928, a loose inscriptive tablet was found lying on the platform, which had originally belonged either to one of the tombs built on the platform or to some other tomb in the vicinity of the latter. This inscription contains a chronogram, Jannat al-Firdaus, which according to the Abjad system gives 834 H. (C.E 1431) as the date of the demise of Shah Nur-Ullah Husaini, \textsuperscript{47} who was the grandson of Shah Ni'mat-Ullah and was the first descendant of the saint to visit Bidar. Ahmad Shah gave one of his daughters in marriage to Nur-Ullah.\textsuperscript{48} The inscription records that the tomb had fallen into ruin during the rule of the Barid Shahi kings, but that it was subsequently repaired during the reign of the Mughal king, Muhammad Shah, in 1196 H. (A.D. 1782).\textsuperscript{49}

**The Tomb of Shah Raju.**

The saint Shah Raju was a disciple of Hazrat Sayyid Muhammad Gesu Daraz of Gulbarga, and according to tradition he was one of those personages who were deputed by Sultan Firoz Shah to receive the latter saint when he arrived in Gulbarga from Delhi. Shah Raju appears to have lived long, for he went over to Bidar with the next king Ahmad Shah al-Wali and died during the reign of his son Ala-ud-Din. The tomb is situated near a small hamlet called Mirzapur, to the right of the Bidar Ashtur road. As the village nestles at the foot of the Habshi Kot hill towards the north the tomb can also be approached from the
hillside. It is a small structure, comprising a dome built on a square base. The walls of the latter on the ground level measure 31 feet 6 inches externally on each side, and rise to a height of 19 feet 3 inches above the floor. On the top of the walls a parapet is built which is 2 feet 9 inches high. The circumference of the dome at the roof level is 81 feet 2 inches. The interior of the tomb is square in plan and the walls are decorated with stuccowork arranged in the form of medallions and bands of intricate design. The latter contain religious texts and the ninetynine names of God as given in the Quran. At the corners of the tomb are squinches, which have caused the plan of the tomb to become octagonal above them.\textsuperscript{50}

**TOMBS OF BARID SHAHI SULTANS.**

This group of tombs of Barid Shahi period is situated about ten furlongs to the west of Bidar city and embraces a large area owing to the vast enclosures of the different mausoleums.\textsuperscript{51} But as a result of the enlargement of the city and residential buildings these monuments have now occupied the heart land of the Bidar town around NEKRTC Bus Stand and Depot. The tombs of the Barid Shahi kings are described in this section in their chronological order, but as the sepulchres of several saints are also situated close to the tombs, an account of these is given as well after the description of the royal monuments.

**The Tomb of Qasim Barid**

Qasim Barid was the founder of the dynasty, and although he did not assume royal titles and called himself only the minister, yet he was the de facto ruler of Bidar and the neighbouring districts during the reign of Mahmud Shah Bahmam. Qasim Barid died in 910 H. (1504 C.E.) and was buried in the suburbs
of Bidar by the side of the Bidar-Chidri road in present Adarsh Nagar. In contemporary history the place of his burial is not mentioned, but regarding Amir Barid it is stated that his corpse was brought from Daulatabad and interred in the enclosure of his father, Qasim Barid's tomb. The incomplete mausoleum of Amir Barid is well known to tradition and as he was buried in the enclosure of his father's tomb this must be somewhere on the same site.52

As there are several sepulchres close to the tomb of Amir Barid in the same enclosure, one of them with a conical dome, situated to the east of the latter, may be identified with that of Qasim Barid. This tomb resembles in general appearance the sepulchres of Wali-Ullah Bahmam and Kalim-Ullah Bahmani, but it is built on a platform raised 4 feet 6 inches above the surrounding land, and approached by a flight of steps of neatly chiselled and polished masonry. The platform is square in plan, measuring 26 feet 7 inches on each side, and the tomb is built in the middle of it. The walls of the tomb measure 19 feet 9 inches in each direction at the base and rise to a height of 16 feet, including the parapet, the latter by itself being 2 feet 6 inches high. The dome has a tapering shape and is divided into eight facets, the girth of these facets near the base being 46 feet approximately.53

The interior of the tomb is entered through a small door, 5 feet 9 inches in height and 2 feet 9 inches in width. The inner plan comprises a square chamber measuring 12 feet 8 inches on each side. There are two graves, one of them being that of a lady, probably of Qasim Barid's wife. The walls of the chamber in each direction have an arch the sides of which near their lower ends overlap the
sides of the arches in the adjoining walls. The form of the vault is octagonal internally also, and as it is built of brick laid in lime, the courses of the latter gradually decreasing in girth upwards can be easily seen since the vault is not plastered.54

The Tomb of Amir Barid.

Amir Barid seems to have begun the building of his tomb during his own lifetime, but as he died rather suddenly at Daulatabad in C.E. 1542, when leading an expedition to help Burhan Nizam Shah I, the tomb has remained incomplete. It is an imposing structure, built on a platform, 5 feet 8 inches above the surrounding land, and having a lofty portal towards the south. The outer arch of the portal is rather wide in proportion to its height, the span being 15 feet 6 inches and the height up to the apex 24 feet 6 inches; but it shows a stilt at the top, such as may be seen in the early Bahmani monuments of Bidar. The walls of the building have arches of this style in the other directions also and further they have a double series of niches, built one above the other and arranged on both sides of the large arches. The base of the tomb measures 63 feet 6 inches externally on each side, and the walls, unfinished as they are, rise 30 feet above the platform, or 35 feet 8 inches above the ground level. They are solidly built of rough tooled trap masonry laid in lime and although they are not plastered over yet rectangular and square panels with black stone margins, arranged in the side walls of the outer arch of the portal and in the back wall of the same, on either side and at the top of the doorway, indicate that the architect had planned to decorate the facade of the building with encaustic tiles as in the tomb of Sultan
Ala-ud-Din at Ashtur. The rope pattern carving of the marginal stones which is an attractive feature of the latter monument may be observed in this building also.\textsuperscript{55}

A door of considerable dimensions, 9 feet 9 inches in height and 5 feet in width, leads to a spacious hall, which is square in plan, measuring 41 feet on each side. It has no roof, but the design of its massive walls with the arrangement of the squinches at the corners clearly shows that the architect had planned to surmount the building with a dome, which owing to the sudden death of the king could not be built. The walls are nearly 11 feet thick and strong enough to support the load of the masonry of a dome. To go up to the roof the architect had planned steps in the thickness of the walls which may be noticed in the south-east corner of the building.\textsuperscript{56}

A temporary tomb was erected in the middle of the hall with an octagonal base and conical dome, but these might have been pulled if the larger dome had been built over the hall. But the larger dome, for reasons given above was never constructed and the temporary tomb still stands. The sepulchral chamber contains three graves, the middle one of which is that of Amir Barid and the others those of two of his wives. The sarcophagi of these three graves are of brick and mortar and the surface has been neatly plastered over. The site seems to have become in subsequent times the cemetery of the descendants of the Barid Shahi kings, for there are a large number of graves, which had decayed through neglect but have been repaired recently. Two tombs built on platforms to the west of Amir Barid's incomplete mausoleum, however, appear to be of the period when this dynasty held sway over Bidar (C.E. 1642-1619). The masonry
of the plinth of the platforms has crumbled in some places, but when intact the height of the platforms from the ground level must have been approximately 4 feet. 57

Among the two tombs the one towards the east is comparatively in a better state of preservation and it is crowned with a shapely dome. The walls of this building rise to a height of 16 feet 9 inches above the platform and are surmounted by a parapet which rises 4 feet 3 inches higher still. The design of the parapet represents overlapping arches, a device frequently to be seen in Bahmani monuments. The plan of the tomb is square both externally and internally, the outside measurements being 19 feet 8 inches on each side, and the inside 12 feet 9 inches in each direction. In the middle of the sepulchral chamber, there is a stone sarcophagus, which is neatly carved and polished. The interior of the tomb is ornamented with niches and squinches showing a refined taste. The other tomb on an adjoining platform is incomplete, for the dome appears never to have been built. The walls measure 18 feet 2 inches on each side at the base and rise to a height of 14 feet 11 inches above the platform. Inside the sepulchral chamber there is only one sarcophagus, the ‘tablet’ design of which indicates that the tomb is that of a lady. 58

The Tomb of Ali Barid.

Ali Barid was the third chief of the dynasty and the first to assume the royal titles, which appear in the following form, as inscribed on his palace in the Fort: 59

“(The king) aided by divine help, the supreme monarch, al-Majlis-al-Mukarram (of exalted seat), the august, the most benevolent, Barid-i-Mamlik (the messenger of good news to states) Ali.”
He was the most powerful of all Barid Shahi kings, and he ruled for the longest period, from 949 to 987 A.H. (C.E. 1542-80). He built his own tomb before his death. As regards the style of the building experts hold different opinions, some consider it to be a great improvement upon the heavy and somber architecture of the Bahmani tombs, while others find fault with its top heavy dome and narrow base. The main entrance to the tomb is from the south where a gateway of considerable dimensions and sufficient architectural merit still stands. But it was also approached from the north, east, and west, but the entrance towards the north has completely disappeared. The tomb also had an enclosure wall, traces of which still exist and some portions of it towards the south have been rebuilt in recent times.\textsuperscript{60}

The facade of the southern entrance is decorated with a number of architectural motifs which, beginning from the top, comprise first a parapet of trefoil pattern, below which is a band of twelve star shaped panels, sunk in the wall. Below the latter again there are plain bands which form the margins of two series of arches outlined on the wall for the purpose of ornamentation. These arches have wide spans and low imposts and the fillet-like arrangement along their openings. The middle arch in the upper series has three windows of elegant design, which open on the hall in the upper storey of the building and by their position remind one of the balconies of the Moorish buildings in Spain. These small windows have a carved band at their top and above that the chhajja (lintel) supported on brackets. The designs of the brackets and of the carved band are copied from the Hindu temples of medieval period. Above the chhajja is an
ornamentsed parapet of overlapping arches, the design of which is delicate, but the parapet looks superfluous when viewed in relation to the general appearance of the building.61

The entrance arch of the gateway has very fine proportions. Beyond the entrance arch a covered passage 28 feet 8 inches long and 8 feet 10 inches wide leads to another arch, which opens, on the court of the tomb. The roof of the passage is vaulted, being divided into two compartments. On either side of the passage towards the east and west is a rectangular hall, measuring 24 feet 5 inches in length and 14 feet in depth. The roof of each of these two halls is vaulted being divided into two compartments by wide spanned arches built in the middle of each hall across its depth. The arches of these halls opening towards the passage are also wide spanned, their dimensions being; span 9 feet 6 inches, height of the columns 4 feet 5 inches, and height of the apex from the floor 10 feet 5 inches. The vaults of the ceiling are lavishly decorated with plaster-work, the designs being floral or geometric, or copied from woodwork such as ribbed partitions. The columns have receding fillets of plasterwork from bottom to top along their shafts and also on their heads, and in this feature they resemble the Hindu columns of the medieval period.62

A staircase, comprising fifteen rather high uncomfortable steps, is built in the western side of the building and leads to the upper storey of the gateway. The plan at this stage consists of an open court and a hall at its back towards the south. The court measures 34 feet 4 inches in length and 15 feet 4 inches in width, and has two small closets in its eastern wall, one in the form of a lavatory
and the other intended for use as a small bathroom. The hall has three arched openings towards the court (north), five windows in its southern wall and one each in the eastern and western walls respectively. The openings towards the court are in the shape of wide spanned arches with low imposts, their dimensions being: span 8 feet 8 inches, height of the imposts 3 feet 9 inches, and height of the apex from the floor 8 feet 10 inches. The arches appear squat and clumsy in their proportions are seen in great abundance in the Barid Shahi buildings of the period. The hall measures 37 feet 9 inches in length and 14 feet 2 inches in breadth and has a vaulted ceiling, which is divided into three compartments by means of wide-spanned arches built across the depth of the interior structure. The ceiling, walls and columns of the hall are elaborately ornamented with stuccowork, but the striking feature of the decorative scheme is the large number of small niches.  

Through the inner arch, which stands at the northern end of the covered passage, a spacious court, which is divided into walks and flowerbeds and contains the tomb in its centre is entered. The arrangement of the flowerbeds is such that there are two, one on each side of the path, which leads from each of the entrances to the steps built on the four sides of the platform of the tomb. The court including the platform on which the tomb is built is square in plan, measuring 140 yards on each side. The walks and the flowerbeds had been completely effaced and they have only just lately been restored.

The tomb is built on a platform rises 5 feet 10 inches above the ground and its plinth is faced with finely dressed trap masonry having two ornamented bands,
one near the top and the other at the lower end of the plinth. This latter band has a leaf pattern on it. The platform measures 154 feet 6 inches on each side, and at the top has a lime-concrete pavement. Above this pavement, leaving a margin 36 feet wide all around, there is another platform, which encloses the walls of the tomb. The height of this is only 1 foot 1 inch above the pavement, but it has a length of 82 feet 10 inches and a width of 12 feet 10 inches on each side. The enclosure walls of the tomb rise to a height of 61 feet 8 inches above the second platform, including the height of the parapet, which by itself measures 3 feet 10 inches. The sidewalls have each a lofty arch halfway along, the span of each arch being 20 feet 7 inches and its height up to the apex 30 feet 1 inch. The exterior of the tomb is decorated with carved dadoes up to a height of 6 feet 9 inches, and higher up the walls have ornamental arches which are arranged in pairs on each side of the big arches. The space above the apexes of the latter has been divided into five panels by the insertion of stone bands arranged horizontally apparently to divert the attention of the observer from the disproportionate height (61 feet 8 inches) of the building in regard to its width (57 feet 2 inches). The carving of the dadoes comprises flowers with eight petals of a plain design. The spandrels of both the big and the small arches are decorated with medallions containing calligraphic and floral patterns. Originally, they must have been emblazoned with encaustic tiles, for traces of these may be noticed in a few places. The parapet at the top is of stone, neatly carved, the design being a trefoil.
The tomb is crowned with a large dome resting on a circular base which rises 15 feet 6 inches above the roof and is decorated with niches and mouldings. The circumference of the base of the dome at the roof level is 155 feet 6 inches and it remains practically the same at the springing point of the dome. The shape of the latter is that of a globe, and near its base it is adorned with a railing of plasterwork representing posts of fancy designs. The finial at the top of the dome is of copper, plated with gold and has a beautiful design, comprising an octagonal disk in the middle with several orbs of different sizes arranged at its bottom and top and the whole crowned with a flower with eight petals and a circular shoot in the middle. The dome does not show the stilt of the earlier Bahmani domes and its shape is quite pleasing to the eye, but its size is undoubtedly much too large in proportion to the dimensions of the building and the whole looks top-heavy, particularly when seen from some distance. The architect has, however, made the walls of the base extremely massive in order to strengthen the building, these being actually 9 feet in thickness, and has further secured them by the two platforms, which encircle the structure at its feet.66

The interior of the tomb, owing to the four lofty open arches facing the four points of the compass, is very bright and airy and presents an appreciable contrast to the somber but mysterious sepulchral halls of most Bahmani tombs. The presence of doors in three directions, north, east, and south, is a feature not unusual in Muslim tombs, but such doors are generally of small size and only subdued light is admitted into the interior of a shrine through them. The object of this arrangement is that the votaries may have a tranquil mental atmosphere for
their prayers. Further, the western side of a tomb is always kept closed where a mihrab is built for saying prayers and chanting holy texts.  

The stone dadoes of the exterior of the tomb with eight-petalled rosettes carved on them are continued to the interior of the building and their grey hue matches well with the colour of the stone flooring wherein hexagonal slabs are inserted in a diaper design. The interior of the tomb, which measures 37 feet 5 inches square, has a low pavement with polished black stone margins in its middle. This pavement is 41 inches higher than the floor of the interior of the tomb, and its other dimensions are; length 23 feet 6 inches and breadth 8 feet. On this pavement there are five sarcophagi, three of which are built of brick and lime and two of stone, one of the latter being of highly polished black basalt. This sarcophagus has a casket shape at the top, but lower down it has the usual box-like rectangular form, with well-finished carving on its sides which comprises simple geometric and floral patterns and also a chain design with a pentagonal pendant. The Islamic creed and the dates of the completion of the building and the demise of Ali Barid are also carved on the tomb.

On the walls above the dadoes there are arch-shaped ornamental panels which are arranged in pairs on either side of the four main arches of the tomb. The spandrels of these arches are decorated with medallions containing religious texts reproduced in brilliant tile-work. A better display of tile-work is seen in the rectangular panels arranged on the walls above the lower series of ornamental arches. The colour schemes of these panels may be appreciated. One of these panels built in the eastern wall contains the chronogram of the building according
to the *Abjad* system and also the name of the calligraphist, *Khwajagi of Shirwan*. Another panel built in the northern wall records the name of the king and the date of his death according to the above mentioned system of calculation.69

The tile decoration is continued in the upper parts of the walls, and there are bands of Quranic texts written in the *thulth* style and reproduced in tile work. The kings of Bidar employed Persian artists for the decoration of their edifices, and the two calligraphists *Khwajagi* of Shirwan and Abdul-Fattah, who designed the inscriptions of this tomb, may have also been adepts in manufacturing tiles, for no name of any expert craftsman of the latter industry is to be found in the building. The tile-work of the tomb is of a very superior. In the Quranic bands the background is bluish-green of the colour of a turquoise, and the letters are inscribed in white, which makes them stand out well so that they are easy to read.70

The architectural features of the interior of the tomb are almost the same as those of the Bahmani tombs, for example there are squinches at the corners which have changed the square plan of the floor into an octagonal one, and higher up by the construction of overlapping arch-heads it has become 24 sided. Still further above is a band of encaustic tiles, divided into forty-eight panels, the plan thus gradually becoming more suitable for the circular base of the dome. Above the tile-panels, there are two bands of rosettes worked out in plaster, and between these two bands there is a series of niches again decorated with tiles arranged in floral patterns. At the top of all these bands is a rail pattern stretching
lace-like along the lower end of the vault. The design has been worked out in encaustic tiles.\textsuperscript{71}

A special feature of the decorative scheme of this tomb is that there is no exaggerated embellishment and this fact indicates considerable restraint on the part of the architect in designing the ornamentation. The work as regards technique and skill is, however, of a high order, whether represented in the carving on stone, or the plaster decoration, or the tile-panels. The spacious platform with its high plinth adds to the dignity of the building, while the vast court, originally divided into flowerbeds and planted with fruit-trees, must have lent further charm to the monument. These delightful features in some way compensate for the lack of religious atmosphere to be noticed in the Bahmani tombs, but one incongruity which strikes the connoisseur at once is the disproportionately large size of the dome which has given an air of top-heaviness to the building.\textsuperscript{72}

On the platform to the south-west of the main tomb there are sixty-seven tombs of the concubines of Ali Barid about whose death a number of scandalous stories are current which illustrate the lust and cruelty of the king. These may have no basis in actual occurrences; but at least there lies behind them the undoubted fact that the kings of the Deccan did possess large Harems, and contemporary history shows that slave-girls were brought from distant countries like Georgia and Circassia and that the vassal chiefs of the Deccan also made presents of beautiful girls to their overlords.\textsuperscript{73}
Attached to the tomb towards the northwest is a mosque. The mosque has a separate entrance from outside the tomb, near its southern gateway, but it can also be approached from the court of the tomb. The plan of the building comprises an open court, a cistern, prayer hall, and an arcade. The court has been divided into four flowerbeds by footpaths, which run in the middle of the court from east to west and north and south and cross one another near the centre. The prayerhall is built at the western end of the open court and comprises a single apartment, measuring 41 feet 4 inches in length and 14 feet 11 inches in depth. The front of the building is distinctly imposing, having three arches in the middle and two minarets at the sides. The arches are quite wide-spanned and decorated with medallions and wreaths of stuccowork. Above the arches is the row of brackets supporting the dripstones and at the top a parapet of elegant design representing arches overlapping one another. The minarets are slender in form, the lower part of the minarets of this mosque is, however, octagonal and not round like that of the minarets of the Madrasa. The ceiling of the prayerhall is vaulted, being divided into three compartments by arches built across the width of the hall. There are three niches in the western walls and one in each of the northern and western. The middle niche of the western wall is deeper than the other two in its sides, and it projects from the main wall of the building both internally and externally and has a double vault, the lower forming the ceiling of the niche and the upper rising above the roof like a chimney with a square base and a domical top. The walls and ceiling of the prayer-hall are richly decorated with mouldings and floral designs worked out in stucco and this pretty detail
offers a pleasing contrast to the spacious dimensions of the arches which are built across the hall.  

The arcade built at the southern end of the court measures 69 feet 10 inches in length and 15 feet 6 inches in width. It has five arches towards the court, the general appearance of which is the same as that of the arches of the prayer-hall, although their dimensions differ slightly, the span of the prayer-hall arches being 11 feet 1 inch and the height up to their apex 11 feet 6 inches. The facade of the arcade has not been plastered over and it appears to have been built after the mosque was finished.

On the northern side of the court of the mosque is a cistern of considerable dimensions, measuring 36 feet 3 inches square at the top. It is 6 feet 3 inches deep; but 3 feet 5 inches below its mouth there is a broad step, 2 feet 8 inches wide, running all along the walls, for the convenience of those bathers who did not know how to swim. The cistern has a spacious margin round its mouth, measuring 6 feet 6 inches in breadth. The water for the cistern was supplied from a well which is built at a short distance towards the west. Traces of the old aqueduct, extending from the well to the cistern, still exist. There are two more wells, situated towards the north-west and the east of the main building, which were probably dug for the gardens of the tomb.

The Tomb of Ibrahim Barid.

Adjoining the western wall of the Ali Barid’s mausoleum enclosure is the tomb of his son Ibrahim Barid, who ruled from 1580 to 1687 C.E. This building in some of its features is a replica of the tomb of his father, being situated hi an extensive court with fruit-trees and flower shrubs planted in it and footpaths and
platforms artistically arranged. The garden, except for a few mango and tamarind trees, has perished and the footpaths also have only recently been restored. The tomb having been built on a high platform presents an imposing appearance; but as it is a little smaller in dimensions than the tomb of Ali Barid and further, as it has not been finished, it suffers by comparison with the latter.  

The platform on which the tomb is built rises 6 feet above the ground and is approached by steps from all four directions. Similar masonry has also been used for the plinth of the platform. The latter measures 103 feet in length on each side and a width of 21 feet 10 inches, beyond which another platform is built encircling the tomb. The dimensions of the second platform are; length on each side 60 feet 1 inch, breadth 9 feet and height above the first platform 1 foot. The floor of the tomb is raised 1 foot above the second platform and the plinth as well as the walls raise up to a height of 5 feet 8 inches. At the corners of the building there are slender octagonal pillars the capitals and pedestals of which besides floral and starshaped patterns have a vase like decorative motif. On the body of the vase an ornamental disk (chakra) is carved. The work seems to have been done by Hindu sculptors. Higher up, the walls are built of roughly tooled masonry laid in lime and as the building has not been plastered over, the methods of construction and the material can be studied to advantage. 

The tomb has a large arch in the middle on each side and there are small ornamental arches arranged in pairs on either side of the large arches (Pl. CI). The latter have each a span of 15 feet 7 inches and rise to a height of 24 feet above the floor. The spandrels of both the large and small arches are adorned
with rosettes of stone, the carving of which shows exquisitely careful workmanship. Above the apexes of the arches on either side there are three horizontal panels one above the other. At the top of the walls is a parapet of trefoil design, measuring 3 feet 8 inches in height, while the total height of the walls including the parapet is 41 feet 3 inches above the floor. As the walls at their base measure 41 feet 10 inches in length on each side, which is also nearly their height from the floor, the building up to the top of the walls looks like a cube. Above the roof the dome of the tomb has a circular base which is decorated with mouldings and a band of niches arranged below the dripstones. The height of the circular base from the roof up to the dripstones is 12 feet 6 inches. The dome has a stilt at the top and it is more like the earlier Bahmani domes in shape than like a copy of the orb of Ali Barid's tomb. The circumference of Ibrahim Barid 's dome near its springing point is 115 feet 6 inches. The rim of the dome is decorated externally with a leaf pattern and the dome rises in the form of a colossal bud from its midst. The rod, which would have formed the core of the finial, is attached to the building and its cadaverous look has given the tomb the name *Sabdal Barid ki Gumbad*, or the Tomb of the Crow-bar Band. 79

The walls of the tomb are 7 feet thick and the interior measures 27 feet 11 inches in each direction, the plan being square. There are three graves, the middle one of which is that of Ibrahim Barid and the other two those of his wives. The sarcophagi of these graves are built of brick and mortar. The walls and the ceiling of the tomb have not been plastered over and the horizontal courses of the masonry of the walls and the concentric bands of the brickwork of the dome
can be clearly seen. The arrangement of squinches, overlapping arches, and bands of panels and mouldings shows that the tomb when finished would have resembled the tomb of Ali Barid in its architectural scheme.  

There are several graves in the court of the tomb towards the south which are shaded by age-worn mango-trees, the remnants of the old garden of the monument. These graves are apparently those of the members of Ibrahim Barid's family. There is another tomb built on a small platform to the east of Ibrahim Barid's mausoleum. The sarcophagus of this tomb is of polished black basalt, and it is similar in design and finish to the sarcophagus of Ali Barid's tomb. It is not unlikely that this is the tomb of a later king of the dynasty. There is also a lady's grave on the eastern side of the latter.

Ran Khamb or Polo Posts.

A road from Ibrahim Barid's tomb goes due north to Qasim Barid-II's tomb, and crosses on the way first the old polo ground and afterwards the Bidar-Udgir road. Four heavy stone pillars, two at each end of the playing-area, are fixed firmly into the ground. The distance between the two pairs of pillars is 591 yards and the spacing between the pillars themselves at each end is 11 feet 9 inches. The pillars are carved of single blocks of pinkish granite and they rise from heavy circular pedestals in the form of round shafts. The circumference of the pedestal of each pillar is 16 feet 2 inches, while the pillar itself is 8 feet in girth and rises 7 feet above the ground. Ran Khamb means literally the post marking the site of a combat, but here the name must have been used figuratively, signifying the post marking the ground wherein sporting events took place. Some Muslim scholars have expressed the view that the posts mark the eastern and western limits of
the sacred grounds in which the Barid Shahi kings are buried, and indeed, as they stand close to the old Udgir road they can hardly be polo-posts. Masonry pillars marking the boundary of the sacred area of the Kaba exist in the suburbs of Mecca and if the opinion of the scholars in question is to be accepted, then the posts at Bidar must have been set up with a similar religious purpose in view.\textsuperscript{82}

**Enclosure of Later Barid Shahi Tombs**

**The Tomb of Qasim Barid II**

Qasim’s tomb is situated to the north of the Udgir road and faces the tomb of Ibrahim Barid towards the south. The building was originally enclosed by a wall and had a garden in its court. The original gateway of the tomb is intact and it has an arched entrance of modest dimensions towards the south. A passage of 22 feet in length and 8 feet 8 inches in width leads the visitor to another arch, which approaches to the court of the tomb. The passage has a vaulted ceiling, which is divided, into two compartments. On either side of the passage is a room, 19 feet 8 inches in length and 10 feet 9 inches in depth for the accommodation of guards. The court is now crowded with tombs an idea of the spaciousness of the court may be formed from the large dimensions of the area enclosed within the walls, which measures 320 yards from east to west and 108 yards from north to south.\textsuperscript{83}

The tomb is built on a large platform, square in plan and measuring 91 feet 9 inches on each side. The height of the platform above the surrounding land is 5 feet 6 inches and a flight of seven steps leads to its top. The steps are built of neatly chiseled trap masonry, which has been used for the plinth of the platform also. The latter is further embellished with mouldings and a design representing a
leaf pattern. There are also elegantly carved pillars of basalt of a dark for the support of the masonry of the platform.\textsuperscript{84}

The tomb though is of modest dimensions, shows a fine sense of proportion as regards the height of its walls and the circumference of its dome. The circumference of the dome is 82 feet 2 inches at its base and it has a hemispherical form with a slight stilt at top. The walls on each side have a large arch in the middle externally and two small arches, arranged one above the other, on either side of the former. Above the middle arches there is an ornamental design comprising a lozenge shaped panel in the middle and two smaller panels, one on either side of the large panel. At the top of the walls is a parapet of trefoil pattern and small pillars crowned with orbs at the four corners. The dome near its springing-point is decorated with mouldings and floral and geometrical patterns, among which a band of stars incised in plaster is particularly attractive.\textsuperscript{85}

The door of the tomb is on the south. The frame of this door is of black stone and above it the spandrels of the arch are embellished with rosettes. The arch-head of the door is carved with spirals. The interior of the tomb is square in plan on the floor level and measures 20 feet 6 inches on each side. There are two graves, one of Qasim Barid II and the other of his wife. The sarcophagi over these graves are built of brick and mortar and the surface is plastered over. The walls have squinches at the corners and also stalactites which serve as ornaments for the interior of the building. There are also small decorative niches in the middle of which the chain and pendant device worked out in plaster is
prominent. On the platform of Qasim Barid's tomb there are some more tombs. The ornamental plaster-work of these tombs is worthy of notice.\textsuperscript{86}

The court of Qasim Barid-II’s tomb seems to have become the cemetery of the family in later times, since beside a large number of graves built on the ground there are four, which have domes over them and probably belong to distinguished members of the clan. They are all situated to the east of the main tomb and the one nearest to it is built on a platform 38 feet square and 3 feet high. The tomb itself measures 19 feet 6 inches on each side externally and 13 feet 6 inches internally. It is open on three sides now, but originally it had only one door towards the south and was closed in other directions. There are two graves in the interior of the building, of which one in the middle of the chamber is that of a lady. Some parts of the tomb have decayed and the parapet which was originally built on the top of the walls is missing.\textsuperscript{87}

\textbf{Other Tombs in the enclosure of Qasim Barid II’s Tomb.}

Near to the tomb of Qasim Barid II to the west of it in the same enclosure is another tomb built on a platform. This tomb is a little smaller in size than that of Qasim Barid II and its platform measures 42 feet 6 inches on each side and rises 3 feet 9 inches above the ground level. A flight of seven steps leads to the top of the platform and the building of the tomb thereon measures 23 feet 9 inches on each side externally and 15 feet 6 inches internally. It has a low arched door that gives access to the interior, which has two graves, one that of a ruler or a scion of the family and the other may be that of his wife. The marginal mouldings of the overlapping arches at the corners of the sepulchral room have produced a sort of network, which looks very artistic. The walls are further embellished with niches,
and there is also a decorative band of stucco-work along the lower end of the vault of the ceiling. The arches of this tomb have no stilts.\textsuperscript{88}

The next tomb is crowned with a pyramidal vault the plaster ribs and ornamental floral designs. It is built on a square platform of 3 feet 4 inches high and measuring 27 feet 4 inches in each side. The enclosure walls of the tomb measure 17 feet on each side externally and 11 feet internally. The walls at their top have a dentated moulding above which a parapet of trefoil design was constructed. A large part of this parapet has now perished. The walls of this tomb on each side have an ornamental arch, and one of them facing the south contains the door, which gives access to the interior of the tomb. In the sepulchral chamber there are two graves.\textsuperscript{89}

Close to the pyramidal tomb is a platform, the neatly chiseled masonry. The platform is square in plan, measuring 23 feet 6 inches on each side and rising 4 feet 6 inches above the ground. On this platform there were originally three graves, but now the plaster sarcophagi of only two are intact, and one of them on account of the tablet (takhti) design. Near this platform towards the south-east is a well which originally supplied water to the garden of the tomb. The well is still in good condition.\textsuperscript{90}

**Tomb of Chand Sultana**

To the north-east of the well mentioned above is another tomb which on account of the crescent of its finial is popularly called the sepulchre of Chand Sultana, the moon faced queen, although in contemporary history there is no mention of any lady of this name in the Barid Shahi family. The tomb is, however, very solidly built and its large dome and artistically carved sarcophagus clearly
indicate that it is the tomb of a distinguished lady of the family who might have had any title. It is built of rough tooled masonry and the walls have not been plastered over, it looks somewhat incomplete. The building has a high plinth, the floor being 4 feet 6 inches above the ground level and the walls rising 31 feet 6 inches still higher. The latter measure 28 feet 6 inches at their base on each side, and near the top they have several mouldings and also a band of carving representing the dentated parapet of the early Buddhist shrines. Higher up, the walls are crowned with a parapet of the trefoil pattern and the building is ultimately surmounted by a dome the circumference of which is 114 feet 6 inches at the roof level. The finial fixed at the apex of the dome is probably of copper but plated with gold and comprises several orbs and disks which are crowned with an eight-petalled flower over which a crescent rises. The inner plan of the monument is square at the floor level, but higher it becomes octagonal owing to the squinches built at the corners and still higher, near the base of the dome, it turns into a sixteen-sided figure as a result of the arched niches built along the walls. The sarcophagus over the grave is of a closegrained stone greyish in colour. It has excellent polish and also neat carving, both indicating clever workmanship and refined taste. 91

Farther towards the east there is another tomb which is built on a platform rising 4 feet 6 inches above the ground level. A flight of five steps leads to the top of the platform, which has a square plan and measures 31 feet 11 inches on each side. The walls of this tomb rise to a height of 20 feet 9 inches and are crowned with a parapet which by itself is 2 feet 9 inches in height. The dome of
the tomb is small, but it matches well with the size of its base. The interior of the tomb is square in plan, measuring 13 feet 11 inches on each side. The walls and the dome are plastered over and the mouldings and other decorative designs show careful workmanship. At the gateway of the court there a cistern built towards the south-west of the main tomb. It is 3 feet 4 inches deep and measures 25 feet 6 inches on each side at its mouth. The water for the cistern was supplied through a channel from a well built towards the west.  

Outside the enclosure of Qasim Barid-II's tomb near the gateway there is a mosque, the roof of which has fallen down, and the walls of the prayer-hall also, until a few years back, were in a dilapidated condition, but now they have been thoroughly restored. The hall measures 34 feet 4 inches in length and 16 feet 6 inches in depth, and towards the east it has a screen of three wide-spanned arches. The span of each of these arches is 9 feet 11 inches and the height up to the apex 9 feet 6 inches. The plaster carvings on the facade and on the interior of the building show elegant designs.  

The Idgah  

At its eastern end the court of Qasim Barid-II's tomb adjoins the back wall of the Idgah. This latter is situated due north of Ali. This monument has no inscription, but as Idgahs are always constructed outside the town in Muslim countries and as there are no level lands outside Bidar except towards the west, this Idgah, which is the only place of worship of its kind outside the town of Bidar, may well have been built by Bahmani kings. The building comprises a wall with a court in front, 175 feet 6 inches from north to south and 169 feet from east to west. A low enclosure wall has been built in modern times on three sides of the
court, towards the north, east and south. The old wall facing the Ka'ba has seven arched niches, the middle one of them being the mihrab in front of which the Imam stands when conducting public prayers. Close by there is also a pulpit which possesses no architectural or artistic merit. The only architectural features of the building worthy of notice are the cylindrical pillars, one at each end of the back wall of the Idgah.\textsuperscript{94}

**The Barber's Tomb.**

Along the road which goes from the Idgah to the northern verge of the plateau there is a tomb on the left of the road, called the Barber's tomb or Nayi Ka Maqbara. Whether this designation is correct or not cannot be ascertained from contemporary history. The tomb is a small structure, but architecturally it has certain features which are noteworthy. The most prominent among them is the design of its masonry finial and the shape of its dome, looking rather squat and flattened. The tomb is in the form of a pavilion and is open on all four sides. It is built on a square platform, which is 2 feet 4 inches high from the ground level and measures 25 feet 10 inches on each side at the top. The arches on all four sides of the tombs have receding facets along their openings and are further decorated with a frill like design near the top of their columns and a spiral motif along the arch-head. The span of these arches is 9 feet 2 inches. The dimensions of the tomb are 17 feet 6 inches on each side externally and 11 feet 9 inches internally. There are three graves in the interior of the building. The sarcophagi of these graves, which were of brick and mortar, have decayed considerably. The parapet along the edge of the roof of the building has completely perished.\textsuperscript{95}
Close by to the south-west of the tomb is a small mosque which apparently is connected with the former and might have been constructed for funeral services and the recital of the Quran. It has three arched openings towards the east, the span of the arches being 7 feet 5 inches and the height up to the apex 9 feet 7 inches. The prayer hall, which is divided into two apartments, measures 27 feet 6 inches in length and 19 feet 4 inches in depth. The parapet representing overlapping arches built at the top of the walls has a graceful effect, but unfortunately the small turrets at the corners have suffered much damage from weathering and two of them have completely perished. The ceiling of the prayer hall is divided into vaulted compartments, which are decorated with plaster ribs.  

**The Tomb of Abdullah Maghribi**

Some 200 yards from the Barber's Tomb to the west direction there is a shrine associated with the name of Abdullah Maghribi. He was a local saint who lived during the reign of a Barid Shahi king. The tomb has a large enclosure, the gate which faces the south has been much damaged. The area within the enclosure measures 178 yards from north to south, and 141 yards from east to west. The tomb of the saint is built on a platform and crowned by a dome, which looks rather heavy for its base. The walls of the tomb at their base measure 29 feet 8 inches on each side externally and 18 feet 10 inches internally.

To the left of Abdullah Maghribi's tomb on the same platform there is another tomb, the major part of the dome of which has fallen down. The walls also had developed cracks, but recently they have been carefully grouted with lime mortar. Below the platform the court is now littered over with graves, there was once a well-laid-out garden within the enclosure of the tomb.
The Tomb of Khan Jahan Barid

Khan Jahan Barid was the son of Qasim Barid the founder of the dynasty and affectionately attached to his brother Amir Barid-I. His tomb was perhaps built by him during his lifetime since it is complete architecturally and in addition to the usual adjuncts of a Barid Shahi tomb, such as the mosque, the Khanqah (the rest-house) and the court with a garden, it has a moat around its enclosure, which is cut in solid rock like the moat of the Fort. This moat is 14 feet wide and 10 feet deep. Inside the enclosure, the court has a well-laidout plan, being divided into flowerbeds by footpaths and octagonal platforms. A masonry-built aqueduct shows that the water for the garden was supplied from a well, which is situated to the south of the tomb. The entire court measures 278 feet from north to south and 279 feet from east to west.99

This tomb is constructed on a platform of 6 feet 6 inches in height. It is built of neatly chiseled masonry and has flights of steps on all its four sides, each flight comprising seven steps. Around the walls of the tomb there is another platform which rises 9 niches above the main platform and measures 56 feet 4 inches on each side. The walls of the tomb are decorated externally with arches, which are arranged in two rows, one above the other. In the band which divides the lower series of arches from the upper there are small lozenge shaped panels filled with religious texts of an ornamental design. The spandrels of the arches are decorated with medallions worked out in plaster, whilst on the walls at the back of the niches, the pendant and chain design is prominent carved on the sarcophagi. The walls are crowned with a parapet of trefoil design, which rises 3 feet 3 inches above the walls, while the height of the latter from the floor is 20
feet 6 inches. The dome rests on a circular drum built above the roof and has mouldings and a decorative band carved in plaster around its base. The circumference of the dome near its springing-point is 67 feet 9 inches.\(^{100}\)

The tomb at its base is square in plan and measures 25 feet 6 inches on each side externally and 17 feet 6 inches internally. The squinches built at the corners in the interior of the tomb have plaster ribs, which form a pleasing addition. There are five graves, four of which are those of ladies and the fifth of Khan Jahan himself. There are also two tombs of the male members of the family, and one of a woman, on the main platform\(^{101}\)

There is a mosque connected with the tomb of Khan Jahan which is situated in its forecourt towards the west and it has also a khanqah (rest-house) attached to it. The prayer hall of the mosque has three arched openings towards the east, the shape of the arches being somewhat flattened, their span uniformly 7 feet 9 inches and their height up to the apex 8 feet 6 inches. The hall is 29 feet 8 inches in length and 18 feet 10 inches in depth and has a casket-shaped ceiling divided into three compartments. The middle opening of the prayer-hall has a spiral design carved along its arch-head.\(^{102}\)

The Khanqah is in an L-shaped plan comprising a single hall at its bottom and a double suite of rooms in its upper part. The single hall measures 37 feet 6 inches from north to south and 13 feet 4 inches from east to west. The ceiling of this hall is vaulted, being divided into three compartments. The complex of rooms in the other part of the building comprises a hall in front facing the south and three apartments at its back. The front hall measures 39 feet in length and 17
feet in depth. Of the three apartments at the back of the hall, the one towards the east measures 14 feet by 9 feet 3 inches, the middle one 10 feet 3 inches by 9 feet 3 inches, and the third on the western side 13 feet 2 inches by 9 feet 3 inches. The ceilings of these three apartments are vaulted. The front hall also has a vaulted ceiling which is divided into three compartments. To the south of the mosque is a cistern for ablutions, which is square in plan and has a margin 5 feet 2 inches wide on all its four sides. The dimensions of the cistern itself are 25 feet 5 inches on each side with a depth of 2 feet 9 inches.\textsuperscript{103}.

**The Tomb of Hazrat Bibi Bandagi Husaini.**

The road which divides into two behind the western side of Khan Jahan’s tomb, one branch goes in a westerly direction towards the tomb of Hazrat Wali-Ullah Husain, which will be discussed later whereas the other is laid out in a north westerly direction and leads to the tomb of Hazrat Bibi Bandagi Husain. Bibi Bandagi was a descendant of Hazrat Banda Nawaz Gesu Daraz of Gulbarga. Before approaching the tomb there is a mosque to the left. Five of the six vaults of the prayer hall had fallen down. The mosque has been thoroughly grouted with lime mortar. The prayerhall has two apartments, which together measure 25 feet 6 inches in length and 20 feet 3 inches in width. The eastern wall of the mosque has three arched openings with pillars of Hindu design supporting the arch-heads. The shafts of these pillars are carved, representing concave fluting and the abacus, which are square in design, bear the images of the lion-headed god, Narasimha. These pillars although possessing considerable girth are rather low in height, each measuring 3 feet 2 inches and the arches which they support are also not symmetrically graceful, their span being 7 feet 4
inches and their height up to the apex 8 feet 6 inches. The mosque lies close to the tomb, which is built on a platform about 2 feet high. The shrine was originally enclosed by a low wall, which has now fallen into ruins.\textsuperscript{104}

On the platform there are many tombs, but only two of them have domes over them, and the main tomb is enclosed on all four sides by walls which indicate a batter as they rise upwards. The height of the walls is 18 feet from the floor and at their top, they are crowned with a parapet 2 feet 6 inches high. The sepulchral chamber is entered by a low door, 5 feet 3 inches high and 2 feet 8 inches wide, which is built in the middle of the southern wall of the tomb. Inside there are three graves, one in the middle and another on the right being those of ladies, and the third, which is on the left, being that of a male member of the family. The other tomb is crowned by a small dome, and the walls of its base have open arches in all four directions, towards the east, west, north, and south. The base of the tomb is square in plan and measures 17 feet on each side. The walls of this building also indicate a batter. They rise 15 feet above the floor and are surmounted with a parapet which is 2 feet 6 inches high.\textsuperscript{105}

**The Tomb of Hazrat Shah Wali-Ullah Muhammad al-Husaini**

The main approach to this tomb is from the Bidar-Udgir road. The tomb stands to the right of the road at some distance, a motorable path which first leads to the entrance of the tomb and then turning towards the east goes towards the tomb of Khan Jahan Barid and joins the road which comes from the shrine of Bibi Bandagi Husaini. Shah Walli-Ullah Husaini was a descendant of the well-known saint of Gulbarga, Hazrat Banda Nawaz Gesu Daraz and the son-in-law of
the brother of Malik Marjan, who held the governorship of Bidar under the Bijapur king when the town with its fort fell to Aurangzeb in 1656 C.E.\textsuperscript{106}

The shrine, although built in the middle of an extensive court, is of not much importance from an architectural point of view. The building is square in plan and measures 22 feet 5 inches on each side externally. The walls rise 18 feet 5 inches above the platform on which the tomb is built and are surmounted by a parapet of trefoil design. The height of the parapet above the walls is 3 feet. The dome of the tomb is semicircular in shape, but there is a bulge near its lower end. The circumference of the dome is 56 feet at its springing point. The sepulchral room is entered by a small door, measuring 2 feet 10 inches in width and 5 feet 9 inches in height, the arch above the door is a little larger in dimensions and it has a carved stone margin along its opening. The posts bear the vase and chakram (disk) designs as carved on the pillars of Barid Shahi tombs, while the arch-head has a spiral motif.\textsuperscript{107}

Behind the tomb of the saint there is an enclosure, inside the enclosure there are three graves apparently of descendants of the saint. There are, however, some old tombs to the east of the main shrine amongst which two are prominent because they are built on platforms. The first of these has a square plan measuring 13 feet 9 inches on each side and having open arches towards the east, west, and south. The northern side of the tomb is closed and an inscriptional tablet is fixed into the wall on its outer face. The walls of the shrine rise 13 feet 3 inches above the platform and at then top they have a parapet which rises 2 feet 6 inches higher still. The ceiling is vaulted, but there is no
dome on the roof of the building. The second platform has the tombs of two more ladies who are buried in a single enclosure. This platform is larger in dimensions than the first, since it measures 38 feet 6 inches in length and 26 feet in width, and has a height of 2 feet 5 inches from the ground level. The enclosure, containing the two graves, is almost square in plan, measuring 15 feet 2 inches by 16 feet 8 inches. The walls of the enclosure have three arches on each side which are filled with trellis-work. The height of the enclosure, including the parapet built on the top of its walls, is 8 feet 3 inches. The two tombs inside the enclosure are built of brick and mortar and they have no roof over them.¹⁰⁸

**The Tomb of the Dog**

On the Udgir road, on the left, near the railway track, there is a small tomb built of trap masonry with no plaster over it. As regards the shape of its dome and the four open arches built in its sides facing the four cardinal points, it resembles the tomb of Ali Barid. The building is called locally Kutte ki Qabr, or the tomb of the dog. Firista in the account of Ahmad Shah al-Wali describes the story of a dog, which through its characteristic instinct of devotion saved the life of a person, while its master, suspecting the animal to be disloyal, killed it. The master when he was apprised of the courage of the dog much regretted his hasty judgment and built a dome over its grave outside the town of Bidar. Firishta further writes that the tomb still exists, but except for the popular tradition mentioned there is no evidence whatever that the present structure is the tomb to which Firishta refers in his work.¹⁰⁹

From its style the building, appears to be of the Barid Shahi period, as such it may be the tomb of one of the scions of the royal family or of some
distinguished official. Due to neglect this monument has been considerably damaged by weathering, but it is still an important landmark in the panorama of Bidar when looking towards the west from the platform of All Barid's mausoleum. The tomb was originally enclosed by a wall. The platform, on which the tomb is built has also crumbled away in several places, but the walls and the dome are intact. The base of the building, which is square in plan, measures 13 feet 3 inches on each side externally and 7 feet 9 inches internally. The walls rise to a height of 16 feet 6 inches above the floor, the width of the building is 13 feet 3 inches only. The excessive height of the building is still more conspicuous owing to the high and narrow base of the dome, which projects like a neck from the roof. The dome is globular in form and at its base measures 32 feet 6 inches in circumference. The arches built on all the four sides of the building are elegant in shape, the span of each of them being 5 feet 3 inches and height up to the apex 10 feet 10 inches. The black stone bands are arranged on the facade of the building.110

The Tomb of Hazrat Nizdm-ud-Din

A little farther on the Bidar-Udgir road, on the left almost by the side of the road, there is a tomb which is associated with the name of Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din. He was a saint of considerable influence and flourished during the reign of the later Bahmani kings who endowed four villages for the maintenance of his tomb. He is also reported to have held several high offices of state, including the Ministry of the Royal Treasury, but with the decline of the Bahmanis he was deprived of this latter office during Ali Barid.111
The building is constructed of large blocks of masonry and has a square plan, the walls measuring 31 feet 5 inches at floor level and rising to a height of 23 feet 4 inches above it. At their top the walls have an arch-shaped parapet, 3 feet 2 inches high. The tomb is crowned by a dome which has a circumference of 82 feet 3 inches at its base. The shape of the dome suggests a massive style of architecture an impression which is confirmed by the batter of the walls as they rise upwards. The tomb is closed on three sides, and the only entrance is through a small door built in the middle of the southern wall of the shrine. 1 In the interior of the building there are three graves; the sarcophagi of two of them are of black stone and that of the third is of brick and mortar.112

Two Anonymous Tombs

At a distance of some two furlongs to the south of Hazrat Nizam-ud-Din's shrine there are two tombs of the Barid Shahi period. They bear no inscription, nor do the local people know anything about the history of the persons who are interred there. The style of the first one of them is an imitation of the architecture of Ali Barid's tomb and it is not unlikely that it is the burial place of one of the dignitaries of the Barid Shahi court. This tomb is incomplete for it has no plaster over its masonry and no dome constructed on the top and has only two courses of stonework above its duo decagonal base. The tomb is built on a platform and has an open arch on each of its four sides, facing the four cardinal points. The shape of these arches shows a fine sense of proportion, since each of them has a span of 6 feet 11 inches with a height of 11 feet 3 inches. The facade of the building is adorned with pairs of small arches built on either side of the large arches. The tomb has a square plan, measuring 18 feet 9 inches on each side.
externally and 11 feet 10 inches internally. The walls of the building rise to a height of 15 feet 3 inches above the floor of the tomb. The interior of the building has a vaulted ceiling, which is divided into twelve concave facets by ribs of brick, which have not been plastered over. There are many graves below the platform of the main tomb and these apparently belong to the family of the person who is interred in the latter.\textsuperscript{113}

The other of the two principal tombs is situated close by and has a pyramidal roof with eight facets. This tomb is square in plan at its base and measures 19 feet on each side externally. The walls of the building, which are built of trap masonry, rise to a height of 16 feet 5 inches above the floor, and as the parapet has now completely crumbled away, the walls may well have risen a couple of feet higher still when it was intact. The interior of the tomb has been used as a store-room in recent times by the cultivators of the surrounding land and as a result of their ignorant vandalism the tombstone has been completely destroyed.\textsuperscript{114}

**Some Anonymous Barid Shahi Tombs**

On coming out from the southern gateway of Ali Barid's mausoleum almost in front of it there is a group of tombs built on platforms. The width of its door is 2 feet 6 inches and its height 5 feet 6 inches. To the north-east of this group there are some more tombs which are built on two platforms and are comparatively in a better state of preservation. These platforms are attached to one another, but one of them is smaller than the other and built on the south of the larger one. The plinth of the small platform is faced with neatly dressed trap masonry and has a height of 3 feet 8 inches above the ground. The platform has flights of steps
towards the east, west, and south, there being four steps of well-chiselled stone in each flight. At its top the platform measures 48 feet 2 inches by 29 feet 6 inches, and it has a strong lime concrete flooring the margins of which are again of smoothly dressed masonry. On the platform there were originally fourteen tombs, but the sarcophagi of ten of them are now missing.\textsuperscript{115}

The large platform is 1 foot 6 inches higher than the small one and at its top has a square plan measuring 49 feet 10 inches on each side. The platform has a stone flooring comprising well-dressed slabs of trap which have also been used for the facing of the plinth. The height of the flooring is 5 feet above the ground. In the middle of the large platform there is another, rising 1 foot 10 inches higher than the first and measuring 23 feet 8 inches on each side, the plan being square. There are three tombs built on a pavement on this latter platform, the sarcophagi of two of these being of brick and mortar, but of the third the sarcophagus is of a highly polished black stone (basalt ?). The large dimensions and the neat carving of this third sarcophagus, which among other motifs contains the chain and pendant design, would support the surmise that the tomb belongs to a member of the royal family.\textsuperscript{116}

\textbf{The Tomb of Hazrat Shah Zain-ud-Din Kunj Nishin.}

The shrine is situated at a distance of about two furlongs to the south-west of the tomb of Ali Barid and is held in considerable reverence by the religiously minded people of Bidar, who visit it frequently. Hazrat Shah Zain-ud-Din was a descendant of the famous saint Junaid of Baghdad and he migrated to Bidar during the reign of Ala-ud-Din Bahmani (1436-58 C.E). The king is reported to have built a dome over his tomb. The title Kunj-Nishin ordinarily signifies a
person who has retired from the worldly life and taken up his residence in a secluded place, but Kunj also means a grove and the locality wherein the last remains of the saint are interred. It is not unlikely that he got this title on account of his taking up his abode in the grove.\textsuperscript{117}

The tomb has undergone considerable alteration in later times, for the cusped arches above the door and the small turrets at the corners of the roof are not of the Bahmani period. The tomb has a square plan, measuring 36 feet 2 inches on each side externally and 23 feet 5 inches internally. The walls rise to a height of 25 feet 11 inches from the floor and at their top are crowned with a parapet composed of arch-shaped masonry blocks which each measure 3 feet 1 inch in height. The dome has an irregular shape and looks too heavy for the building. In the interior of the structure there are three graves, the middle one being that of the saint himself, that on the right the tomb of his son, Shah Jamal-ud-Din and the third on the left the grave of his grandson, Shah Nizam-ud-Din. The court around the tomb extends 170 feet from east to west and 231 feet from north to south, but a portion measuring 85 feet in length and 22 feet in breadth has been taken away from its eastern side.\textsuperscript{118}

At the back of the saint's tomb towards the south there is another sepulchre containing the graves of three ladies. One of them is reported to be that of the wife of the saint. This building has not undergone much alteration, for the shape of the arches above the doorway is in the Bahmani style and the small turrets at the corners of the roof follow this same fashion of architecture. The tomb has a square plan and measures 23 feet on each side externally and 18 feet 9 inches
internally. The walls measure 17 feet 6 inches in height, and at the top they are surmounted by an arch shaped parapet, which rises 2 feet 6 inches above them.\textsuperscript{119}

**Mosques near Hazrat Zain-ud-Din.**

Around the shrine of Hazrat-Zain ud-Din to a distance of four to five furlongs on each side, traces of several old structures may be seen, which have otherwise completely crumbled away. Two mosques, however, have escaped destruction, one of them being situated to the south-west of the saint's shrine at a distance of some four furlongs from the latter. This mosque is insignificant both in consideration of its dimensions and of the style of its architecture, but it has an inscriptional tablet built into the wall above the middle arch of its facade. The inscription gives the name Fath Shah as that of the builder of the mosque and also the date, the year its construction as 1080 H. (C.E. 1669). The layout of the mosque includes a prayer-hall with three arched openings towards the east and a platform in front. The platform measures 44 feet 9 inches in length and 17 feet 9 inches in breadth, its height above the surrounding land is 2 feet 3 inches. The prayer-hall consists of a single apartment, 20 feet 8 inches in length and 12 feet 3 inches in depth. The arches of the three openings of the hall towards the court are small and they have a flattened and rather clumsy appearance, owing to the span of each of them being 5 feet 6 inches and their height up to the apex 6 feet 9 inches. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted and is divided into three compartments.\textsuperscript{120}

The second mosque is to the south-east of the saint's shrine, being situated near an old tank which has now silted up, but at one time must have formed a
pleasing feature. The mosque comprises a single hall, measuring 30 feet 9 inches in length and 15 feet in depth. The arches of these openings are each of them being 8 feet 6 inches and height up to the apex 9 feet 6 inches. The ceiling of the building is vaulted, being divided into three apartments just as is the ceiling of the mosque described above.  

OTHER MONUMENTS IN THE SUBURBS  

This group of monuments is situated within an ambit of six miles from the town of Bidar. They present considerable variety, comprising of gardens, tanks, water-channels, tombs and places of worship of different faiths. It is difficult to observe the chronological order in describing these monuments, for their geographical positions do not indicate any dynastic influence. In such circumstances for the convenience it has been thought best to follow the roads which emerge from Bidar. Hence, a geographic approach is adopted in describing these monuments starting from Eastern region of the Bidar town and moving on in clockwise direction of the town.  

The Farah Bagh  

The name Farah Bagh, Garden of joy, was given to a beauty spot of Bidar where water oozes out from the bosom of the rock and the valley below is divided into natural terraces and clothed with luxuriant verdure. The place is situated about a mile and a half to the south-east of Bidar approached from the Mangalpet Darwaza. The garden laid out by the Mughal governor, Mukhtar Khan, in 1082 H. (C.E. 1671) has fallen into complete ruin. The valley still has some magnificent trees, which besides affording shade to the votaries present a picturesque view.
There is a flight of broad but abrupt steps, which may always be found in a state of poor condition, being damaged by the rainwater on the one hand, and by the ponies and the cattle of the votaries on the other. Near the foot of the steps towards the right is a mosque, built, according to an inscription, by Mukhtar Khan who held the governorship of Bidar under the orders of Aurangzeb during the years C.E. 1671-72. The inscription, except for some benedictory words which are in Arabic, comprises a Persian record mentioning the building of a mosque and the laying out of a garden in this delightful place by Mukhtar Khan the governor of Zafarabad, and the bestowal of the garden by Mukhtar Khan upon his grandson, Mirza Najm-ud-Din Muhammad. The style of writing is Nastaliq, and the Persian verse given in the beginning of the inscription is a masterpiece of the art of calligraphy which has always been held in great esteem by the Muslim kings. ¹²³

The mosque itself is a small structure comprising a prayer hall with a terrace of 23 feet 4 inches in length, 19 feet 4 inches in width in front of it. The prayer-hall measures 21 feet 2 inches in length and 18 feet 10 inches in width, and it has three arched openings towards the east. The middle one of these openings is larger than the two side ones, the span of the middle arch being 7 feet, and its height up to the apex 8 feet 9 inches. The ceiling of the building is vaulted, being divided into three compartments by arches, which are built across the depth of the hall. The garden with its buildings seems to have been made over by the Asaf Jahi dynasty at the time of their establishment in the Deccan to the keepers of the adjacent Hindu shrine. Along the southern wall of the mosque
there are steps which lead to a cistern, with a pavement and an enclosure wall around it. The enclosure wall has arches on its surface for the purpose of ornamentation. The cistern is square in plan and measures 16 feet 6 inches on each side and has a depth of 4 feet 6 inches. The water to this cistern is supplied from a channel which is cut in the rock and extends to the natural fissure whence the spring issues.¹²⁴

Nearby, towards the west, adjoining the southern wall of the mosque, is the doorway of the temple. Its Iron gate and cusped arch head have a modern appearance. Passing through the door is a passage, which is hewn in the solid rock which forms the walls and the ceiling. The length of the passage is 27 feet 10 inches and its breadth 9 feet 3 inches. ¹²⁵

The flow of water in the channel is continuous. The water in the channel in fair weather is generally 4 feet 6 inches deep, but during the rainy season it rises. The length of the channel, from the steps to the mouth of the spring, is 298 feet, and at the end some chambers are cut in the rock which also have a landing in front of them, the length of the landing being 18 feet and its width 5 feet 7 inches. A pancha-linga, and the images of the lion incarnation of Vishnu and the bull, are installed in the chambers, and lamps are kept burning there night and day to glorify the gods.¹²⁶

On the terrace in front of the mosque, there is another flight of steps, towards the east, which descend to the second stage of the garden. Originally there were neatly built cisterns, also an artificial cascade with niches for lamps at its back, the remains of which may still be seen in the southwestern part of the
terrace. But in recent times, owing to the scarcity of running water in Bidar, the washer men of the locality have built small tanks on this terrace for laundry purposes, and on a sunny day the southern hill of the valley is entirely covered with clothes which are spread there for drying. Pilgrims cook their food also on this terrace.\textsuperscript{127}

The third stage of the garden is reached from the second by another flight of steps which are built along the basement of the latter towards the east. This terrace is more spacious than the first two and has several samadhis (the tombs of yogis) in the middle and an arcade along its southern side. The arcade measures 34 feet in length and 12 feet 10 inches in depth, and has seven openings towards the court. Originally the arcade appears to have been continued along the eastern side of this stage, but since the reoccupation of the garden by the pujaris of the temple two shrines have been built in an irregular manner. The one at the southeast end of the terrace has a double hall in front and a cell with two side chambers at the back, the inner dimensions of the entire building being 32 feet 3 inches by 21 feet 7 inches. In front of the cell is an octagonal fireplace with a margin of floral design. This seems to be the ornamental basin of a fountain of the Mughal style for the large artificial cascade, referred to above, is built below this temple, and the streamlet issuing from the spring and falling down in sprays at the various cascades would have passed through this fountain and finally discharged itself with picturesque effect in the valley below immediately behind the temple. The portion of the arcade on the north of the shrine has fallen down.\textsuperscript{128}
The Fortress of Habsi Kot.

Habsi Kot, or the fortress of the Abyssinians, is a hillock situated close to the town of Bidar towards the east, being separated from the latter by a narrow gorge. On the top of the hillock there are some tombs of the Abyssinian nobles who were employed at the court of the Bahmani and Barid Shahi kings and the Persian and Arab dignitaries in their service. The hillock has a plateau of an irregular shape, which is important from the point of view of military strategy, covering as it does the Dulhan Darwaza, the Mangalpet Darwaza, and the fortifications between, in its section north to south. The best approach to the plateau is from the road going to the Farah Bagh. There is no doubt that the place was at one time occupied by Abyssinians and they were severely punished for their misconduct.

On ascending the plateau the first monument to attract attention is a cemetery enclosed by arched screens on all four sides. These screens measure 99 feet 8 inches in length towards the east and west and 65 feet 6 inches towards the north and south. The eastern and western screens have six arched openings on either side of the entrances built in their middle, while the northern and southern screens have only four arched openings flanking the entrances on those sides. The screens, including the basement which is 3 feet 10 inches high, rise 13 feet 8 inches above the ground now, and when the parapet was intact they may have risen some 3 feet higher still.129

The interior of the cemetery is approached by steps, and on ascending there is a domed tomb in the middle and a large number of graves with brick and mortar sarcophagi around the former. The domed tomb has an open arch on
each of its four sides in the style of Ali Barid’s mausoleum and the interior of the
building is decorated with plasterwork in which the chain-and-pendant motif and
calligraphic specimens are prominent. The tombstone is missing either stolen or
sold for use over another tomb built subsequently. The structure is square in plan
at the base and measures 14 feet 7 inches on each side externally. The arches
have a uniform span of 7 feet 3 inches, and the height of their apexes from the
floor is 9 feet 9 inches. The walls on each side measure 13 feet 9 inches in
height up to the dripstones (*Chajja*), but they rise farther above the latter and are
surmounted by a parapet. The dome of the building rests on an octagonal base,
which is adorned with bands and posts. The shape of the dome is of the
Bahmani style, it may be assigned to the late Bahmani or early Barid Shahi
period. According to local tradition the tomb is reported to be of one Zafar-ul-Mulk
Alawi.130

Nearby, towards the north of the arched enclosure of this tomb there was a
mosque, apparently connected with the latter. It was a small structure, but
showed certain massiveness in its style of architecture. The mosque was built of
trap masonry and has a wide spanned arch as the entrance to its prayer-hall.
The span of this arch was 9 feet, while its height to the apex is 8 feet 9 inches
only. The prayer room measured 14 feet 7 inches in length and 11 feet 7 inches
in width. Near the mosque there was also a well which was originally used for
ablutions by visitors to the tomb. The well is now choked up by the growth of rank
vegetation.131 But, the mosque and the well cannot be traced by now as they are
demolished and destroyed.
About little distance from the last tomb, in a northeasterly direction towards the brink of the plateau, another tomb may be noticed which has suffered much through the inclemencies of weather and other causes. As it has neither a dome nor any parapet above its walls the roof of the building appears like a pan (tava). The base of the building measures 18 feet 5 inches north to south and 13 feet east to west. There are arches on all four sides of this structure, the span of each arch being 8 feet 6 inches and height up to the apex 7 feet 3 inches. From the roof of the building excellent views are obtained of the places around.\textsuperscript{132}

To the north-west of the above monument, at a distance of 140 yards, is another tomb the dome of which is intact, but the plaster of the walls and the parapet above them have much decayed. The building has an arch on each of its four sides, the span of these being uniformly 7 feet 9 inches and height up to the apex 9 feet 4 inches. The walls rise to a height of 13 feet 4 inches from the floor, and when the parapet above them was entire they may have risen a couple of feet higher still. The shape of the dome resembles that of Barid Shahi tombs, and some other features of the building, such as an open arch in each of its side walls, also suggest that it belongs to the Barid Shahi period.\textsuperscript{133}

Another tomb is situated at a distance of 72 feet towards the south-west from the last-mentioned monument. This is built on a platform rising 7 feet 2 inches above the surrounding land and measures 52 feet 3 inches north to south and 65 feet 11 inches east to west at its top. The tomb is square in plan and measures 15 feet 3 inches on each side externally. The walls of the building have an open arch in the middle on each side and at their top they are crowned with a
parapet of trefoil pattern. The height of the walls including the parapet is 17 feet from the floor level. The arches in shape are very characteristic of the Barid Shahi style of architecture, the span of each of them being 7 feet and height up to the apex 8 feet 9 inches. Inside the building there are three tombs, the middle one being of a man and that on the right of a woman. The tomb on the left is much ruined, hence the difficulty in determining whether it is that of a woman or of a man. The real graves are built in a vault below the floor of the monument. The building has some delicate plasterwork on both its exterior and interior, and from the style of the latter and also from the shapes of its dome and arches there remains no doubt that the tomb was built some time during the rule of the Barid Shahi kings. To the north-west of this tomb is a deep well in which the water-level was 74 feet below the surface of the plateau at the time of the survey of the area in 1935. There is a passage with a flight of steps cut into the rock on the northern side of the well. The steps go down to the level of the water, and the dimensions of the well there are 23 feet 2 inches on each side.  

Farther west from the last tomb there is another tomb which is incomplete and is larger in dimensions and more massive in construction than the others described above. This tomb also has an open arch on each of its four sides, the span of the arches being uniformly 8 feet 10 inches and height up to the apex 11 feet 5 inches. The dome of the building seems to have never been built, but there is no doubt that one was included in the original design of the building because the octagonal base from which it would have sprung may still be seen at the top.
of the building. The base is supported inwardly by squinches built at the corners of the building which have converted the plan from a square into an octagon.\textsuperscript{135}

**The Dargah of Hazrat Shah Abul-Faiz.**

This shrine is situated at a distance of about a mile from the Mangalpet Darwaza, towards the south. The railway line forms a loop round the monument, and the domes of the shrine present an impressive sight to the eager tourist. Shah Abul-Faiz's tomb is still held in great reverence.

The tomb is situated within a large enclosure, measuring 279 feet east to west and 243 feet north to south, the height of the enclosure wall being 11 feet 6 inches. The tomb architecturally has all the characteristics of a Bahmani building, for the saint died during the reign of Muhammad Shah III and as this king and his forebears had great respect for Shah Abul-Faiz, the tomb was perhaps built at his instance. It is a massive structure, comprising a square hall with walls nearly 6 feet in thickness on each side, and crowned with a majestic dome. The walls at their base measure 51 feet 6 inches on each side externally and they rise to a height of 34 feet 8 inches above the floor, and at their top are surmounted by a parapet which rises 6 feet 2 inches above the roof level. The dome rises from a circular base above the roof, the circumference of the base being 142 feet 3 inches.\textsuperscript{136}

The coats of whitewash on the exterior of the building have effaced to a considerable extent the delicate plasterwork of the medallions arranged in the spandrels of the arches and similarly the continuous burning of incense in the interior of the shrine during the last centuries has covered the painting of the ceiling with a thick pall of smoke. Besides the stucco decoration the walls are
adorned with arches arranged one above the other in series; but all these features do not detract from the solid and massive character of the building. The access to the interior of the shrine is through an arch, which has a door in the post-and-lintel style at its back. The spandrels and the sidewalls of the arch are decorated with tilework representing chiefly floral designs. The work has been spoiled by careless whitewashing, for the corrosive effect of lime has not only destroyed the glaze but made the surface of the tiles rough, thus ruining their artistic beauty. The arch, along its margin, has a black stone frame, comprising two neatly carved columns and a border with a spiral design at the top. The carving above the door of the shrine shows Hindu workmanship.\textsuperscript{137}

The inner hall is square in plan at the floor level and measures 30 feet on each side. There are three graves, the middle one of the saint himself, whose full name was Shah Amin-ud-Din Abu'l-Faid and who died on the 6\textsuperscript{th} Rabi’ I, 879 H. (Thursday, 26\textsuperscript{th} July C.E. 1474), in the evening. The grave on the right is of Sayyid Shah Kalim-Ullah Husaini, who was the second son of the saint and who died in 892 H. (C.E. 1487). The grave on the left is of Sayyid Shah Abu'l-Hasan, who was the grandson of Shah Abu'l-Faid and succeeded his father, Shah Kalim-Ullah as sajjdda, on the latter’s death. Shah Abu'l-Hasan expired in 903 H. (C.E. 1498). In front of the tomb of the saint is an enclosure built of black stone, wherein the remains of two sons of Mir Nizam Ali Khan Asaf Jah (C.E. 1763-1803) are interred. The names of these two sons are Mir Rida Ali Khan and Mir Husain-ud-Din Ali Khan. The enclosure has a screen of cusped arches on all its four sides.\textsuperscript{138}
To the west of Shah Abu'l-Faid's tomb is the family vault of the saint, which comprises a hall crowned with a dome in the middle and a rectangular apartment on each side. The walls of the middle hall measure 32 feet 5 inches at their base externally from south to north, and rise to a height of 24 feet 2 inches above the pavement. At their top the walls were surmounted by a parapet which has largely fallen, yet its height above the roof can be determined from such remains as still exist. This is 2 feet 9 inches approximately. The circumference of the dome of the tomb at the roof level is 36 feet 2 inches. The two apartments, one on each side of the central hall, communicate with the latter by means of massive arches which have a span of 20 feet 7 inches, and walls 4 feet 8 inches thick on either side of them for support. The height of each of these arches up to their apexes is 20 feet 4 inches from the floor level. The central is square in plan and measures 24 feet 5 inches on each side, while the two apartments which are rectangular in plan measure 28 feet 9 inches north to south and 14 feet 5 inches east to west. The ceilings of these apartments are vaulted, but have no domes above their roofs.\textsuperscript{139}

In the central hall there are two tombs; that on the right is of Sayyid Shah Abd-ul- Qadir Muhammad al-Husaini, and that on the left of Sayyid Shah Abd-ul-Minallah Muhammad al-Husaini. The latter died in 939 H. (C.E. 1533). Below the arch on the right of the hall is another grave which is reported to be that of Sayyid Shah Yamin-Ullah. The rectangular apartment on the right contains only one grave, wherein according to the Sajjdda Sahib Shah Yamin-ur-Rahman is buried. The arch on the right has also a tomb below it in which Sayyid Shah Lutf-Ullah is
buried. There are two more tombs in the apartment adjoining the latter arch, towards the west. Of these tombs one on the right is of Sayyid Shah Atiq-Ullah and the other, on the left, of Sayyid Shah Abdullah Muhammad.  

In front of the family vault of the saint is the tomb of Ashuri Begam, wife of Nawab Nizam Ali Khan. The tomb is built in the open, but it has a stone enclosure around it. The enclosure has panels of jali-work (Netted work) which is quite artistic. Close to the tomb of Ashuri Begam, towards the south, is a small cistern for ablutions. It is square in plan, measuring 9 feet 2 inches on each side and 3 feet 6 inches in depth. The cistern has a polished black stone margin around it and a fountain in the middle from which water shoots forth. To the south of Ashuri Begam’s tomb is a langar-khana, which comprises a hall with five arched openings. Along the southern wall of the enclosure of Shah Abul-Faid's shrine there is a hall for the recital of the Quran which has arched openings towards the court. To the north-west of the dargah there is a small mosque with a single hall, measuring 24 feet 5 inches in length and 12 feet in depth. The hall has three arched openings towards the court, the dimensions of the latter being insignificant. The span of each of these arches is 6 feet 3 inches and height up to the apex 7 feet 10 inches. 

Adjoining the enclosure wall of the shrine towards the south is a sama-khana or Music hall, which, although a separate building, forms an important adjunct to the shrine. The plan of the sama-khana consists of an open court, 178 feet by 72 feet, a platform 65 feet 10 inches by 22 feet, and a double hall with rooms on either side of it. The double hall measures 65 feet 10 inches in length,
east to west, and 26 feet in width, north to south. It has five arched openings towards the court. The hall is used for qawwali (singing) for dervishes and the general public on ceremonial occasions. Leaving by the main gateway of the dargah towards the south along the western wall of the enclosure there is a deep well which has been the main source of the supply of water for the multifarious requirements of the dargah. The well has an octagonal plan at its top, measuring 15 feet across, and on one side it has a covered passage with a long flight of steps which extend to the surface of the water some 80 feet below the ground. The traces of a water channel laid out from the well may also be seen. 142

The Shrines of Hazrat Shah Ali and Hazrat Shah Abul-Hasan.

Hazrat Shah Ali was the great-grandson of Hazrat Shah Abul-Faid in the direct line and his tomb of the former is a replica on a slightly smaller scale of his Hazrat Shah Abul-Faid 's mausoleum. The tomb stands on a platform, measuring 153 feet north to south and 144 feet east to west. The base of the building is square in plan, it measures 51 feet 10 inches on each side externally and the walls are about 40 feet in height and at their top are surmounted by a parapet of 5 high. The circumference of the dome is 142 feet 6 inches above the roof level. The facade of the building is decorated with medallions and floral designs carved in plaster and arranged in the spandrels of the arches. The doorway is decorated with encaustic tiles of yellow, green, and blue colours. 143

The interior of the building has a square plan at the floor level, but at height it becomes first octagonal owing to the squinches built at the corners, and afterwards sixteen-sided on account of niches constructed below the circular rim of the dome. The walls of the interior of the tomb are decorated with stucco-work
representing various motifs, among which the chain-and-pendant design is also be noticed. In the middle of the hall there are three graves, the central one being that of Shah Ali himself with that of his son on the right, while the grave on the left is that of his grandson. Over the doorway of the tomb an inscribed tablet is fixed into the wall which gives 992 H. (A.D. 1584) as the date of the demise of Shah Ali and the building of the sepulchre wherein he 'rests in peace'.

At the southeastern end of the platform the tomb of another saint, called Shah Abul-Hasan, is built. He, like Shah Abul-Faid, belonged to the Chishtiya order of Sufis, and died in 1089 H. (A.D. 1678). The building is comparatively small; its base is 24 feet 6 inches on each side externally. The walls rise to a height of 19 feet above the platform and at their top they have a parapet which is 2 feet 9 inches high. The facade of the building is decorated with stuccowork and arches outlined on the walls. An inscription is carved above the doorway of the tomb, which consists of three lines of Persian verse written in Naskh characters of an ornamental type. The interior of the tomb is square in plan and measures 16 feet 5 inches on each side. There are three graves, one of which is that of Shah Abu'l-Hasan and the other two are of members of his family. The building is crowned by a shapely dome which has a circumference of 62 feet immediately above the roof level.

There are several tombs of the descendants and disciples of Shah-Ali and Shah Abu'l-Hasan on the platform and also a large graveyard at the back of the shrine of the Shah Abu'l Hasan. Below the platform, towards the north-west of Hazrat Shah Ali's tomb, is an enclosure containing four graves wherein the
principal successors of the saint are buried. Farther westward is a mosque which was apparently built for prayers as an adjunct to Shah Ali’s tomb. The building comprises a double hall, measuring 29 feet in length and 21 feet in width. The hall has three arches opening on the court in front, the span of each of these arches being uniformly 7 feet 8 inches and their height up to the top is 9 feet. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted, being divided into six compartments by arches built across the inner and outer apartments of the hall. The front wall of the mosque rises to about 13 feet above the floor and is surmounted by a parapet the height of which above the dripstones (Chajja) is 4 feet. Close by is a cistern for ablutions which is square, measuring 28 feet on each side and being 5 feet 3 inches deep. The tomb of Shah Ali and the other sepulchres described above can easily be visited from the road of Shah Abul-Faid’s Dargah, as they stand near the latter shrine towards the south and southwest. 147.

**The Tomb of Hazrat Sayyid Amir Hamza Qadiri.**

The shrine of Hazrat Amir Hamza Qadiri is located about 100 yards farther west from the last group of tombs, who is reported to be the twenty-second Shaikh in descent from Hazrat Muhi-ud-Din Abdu'l-Qadir al-Jilani. He arrived in Bidar from Baghdad some time during the reign of Aurangzeb, apparently after the conquest of the town by the emperor in 1656 C.E and was treated with respect by him and his governor on account of the saint's strict observance of the tenets of Islam. The tomb of the saint is built on a platform on which are three other tombs, but the former is easily distinguished from them by the screen built near it. Close by is another platform with two tombs, the latter belonging to the descendants or disciples of the saint. There is also a small mosque near the
tomb, which comprises a single hall, and has three arched openings towards the east. The hall measures 21 feet 3 inches in length and 13 feet in width, while the arches of the openings have a uniform span of about 6 foot and height up to the apex 7 feet 5 inches. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted but divided into three compartments. The mosque being small, the wall of its facade rises to a height of 12 feet only up to the dripstones (Chajja), above which is an ornamental parapet measuring 3 feet 4 inches in height. To the north of Hazrat Amir Hamza's tomb there is Chaukhandi of Dulah Miyan and the tomb of a courtesan. All these monuments may be visited from the Hyderabad-Bidar road

**The Dargah of Banda Ali Shah Majdhub**

The Dargdh of Banda Ali Shah Majdhub, the Chaukhandi of Mir Kalan Khan and the Tomb of Khass Mahal, all these monuments are situated in the vicinity of Bidar, on the right side of the road and the visitor notices them when coming from Hyderabad, either in a private motor-car or by the bus service. The tomb of Banda Ali Shah is built on a platform situated within an enclosure. The court around the platform measures 79 feet 7 inches north to south and 59 feet 9 inches east to west. The wall of the enclosure rises 9 feet 8 inches above the ground level and is surmounted by a parapet representing arch-heads. Majdhub, according to the Sufi terminology, means a dervish so absorbed in divine love as to forget all worldly concerns. Some charlatans pretend this attitude to deceive the credulous votaries who are fleeced by the agents of such pseudo-dervishes.
Chaukhandi of Mir Kalan Khan.

Mir Kalan Khan was the governor of Bidar for a long time, first under the Mughal emperor and afterwards under Asaf Jah I, when he declared his independence in C.E. 1724. The Chaukhandi is associated with the name of Mir Kalan Khan, but according to tradition his last remains were buried in the shrine of Multani Badshah. It is likely that Mir Kalan Khan built the Chaukhandi for members of his family who died before him, while his own body, owing to his special devotion to Multani Badshah, was buried within the enclosure of the saint's tomb. There are three graves in the Chaukhandi. The building is small, measuring 18 feet in length and 15 feet in width at base. The ceiling is vaulted, and the monument has an arch on each of its four sides. Of these arches two facing the north and south span 6 feet 3 inches with a height of 7 feet 5 inches of uniform dimensions, but a little larger than those towards the east and west which span only 4 feet 2 inches with a height of 6 feet 9 inches. The exterior of the building is richly decorated with stuccowork. There is also a platform in front of the Chaukhandi. Farther on is the Takiya, or the cemetery of Nadim-Ullah Shah, which has a door facing the road and several platforms with tombs thereon. It has also a small sepulchral chamber, square in plan.

Tomb of Khass Mahall

At a short distance from the above cemetery is the tomb of Khass Mahall, the daughter of Hazrat Abul-Faid who was married to Amir Barid. The title Khass Mahal signifies a lady of special rank. The tomb is enclosed by a wall, and the court inside has footpaths with stone margins. The gateway of the enclosure is intact and may be seen near the southwest end of the court. The plan of the main
building comprises a double platform with one stage above the other, the lower being only 1 foot above the ground and measures 48 feet 2 inches on each side, and the upper rising 4 feet 6 inches above the former and measures 39 feet at its top in each direction. The tomb is built in the middle of the upper platform, and at its base, which is square in plan, measures 18 feet 3 inches on each side externally. The building has an arch in the middle of each of its four sides and the walls rise to a height of 14 feet 5 inches above the floor. The tomb is built of trap masonry and in the interior of the building the square plan has been converted by squinches and arched niches into a twelve-sided figure with a view to fitting in with the circular base of the dome. The monument has a sepulchral chamber below its upper floor, which can be reached through an arched opening. Seven steps lead down to this chamber, which is rather small in dimensions, measuring 9 feet 6 inches on each side. The ceiling of the chamber is vaulted.  

**The Tomb of Ghalib Khan Alias Mitthu Khan.**

Near the tomb of Khass Mahall there is another the dome which comes into view with that of the former as one comes to Bidar from Hyderabad by road. The building is associated with the name of Ghalib Khan, alias Mitthu Khan, (Mitthu in Hindi means ‘sweet’, Mitthu Khan, the sweet Khan who was probably an officer employed by some Mughal governor of Bidar. The tomb is built on a platform 3 feet high and measuring 36 feet 6 inches on each side at the top. The plan of the base of the tomb is also square, and it measures 15 feet on each side. The walls rise to a height of 12 feet 3 inches above the platform, and at the top have a parapet which is 2 feet 2 inches high.
The tomb is crowned with a dome, which has a circumference of 40 feet 5 inches at the roof level. The architectural arrangement of the squinches and overlapping arches is almost the same in this building as in the later Barid Shahi tombs, and it has also an open arch in each of its four side walls. The sarcophagus has decayed, but the plasterwork on the exterior of the building is more or less intact and in the decorative motifs figures of birds may be seen, which show that the masons employed for building the tomb were Hindu. Attached to the platform of the tomb towards the north there is another with several graves. There are also two wells and a mosque connected with the monument, situated close by. The mosque comprises a single hall with three arched openings towards the east. The inner dimensions of the hall are; length 23 feet 9 inches, width 14 feet 9 inches. The ceiling is vaulted, being divided into three compartments by arches built across the width of the hall. The ornamental parapet above the walls of the mosque and the turrets at the corners have almost completely collapsed away, and the present height is only 12 feet.¹⁵³

The Tomb of Hazrat Nur Samnani.

This tomb is situated at a distance of about 2 miles southeast of Bidar, on the verge of the plateau and thus commands excellent views of the valley below and the lowlands beyond. Shah Nur came from Samnan (a town in Persia between Damaghan and Khwar) to Bidar during the Bahmanis and must have exercised considerable influence. The tomb of the saint is built in the open on a long platform which is shaded by two stately banyan trees. Towards the southwest is another platform with several tombs wherein the descendants of the saint are enjoying their final peaceful rest.¹⁵⁴
The Tomb of Mahmud Gawan.

This tomb is situated two and a half miles to the south of Bidar, of which the first two miles are traversed by the Hyderabad road. A road leads to the monument, which first goes in a westerly direction until the Sharbat Bagh is reached, then turns towards the south and skirting the tank still associated with the name of Mahmud Gawan, climbs up the hillock on which the tomb is built. Owing to the tragic circumstances in which this great statesman was executed no monument worthy of his rank could be erected, and his remains rest under the shade of some neem trees. The tomb is built on a platform square in plan measuring 56 feet 6 inches on each side. The masonry of the platform had decayed considerably. As there are several other tombs on the platform, the Archaeological Department, in order to distinguish Mahmud Gawan's grave from others, has set up an inscriptive tablet at the head of the tomb under the orders of the late Maharaja Sir Kishan Parshad, when he was President of His Exalted Highness the Nizam’s Executive Council. Besides the platform of Mahmud Gawan's tomb there is another, but of smaller dimensions, on which several tombs are built. The latter are probably those of the relatives of the great statesman, or of the professors of the college founded by him at Bidar. 155

The Mosque at Gornalli.

About four furlongs to the south-west of the tomb of Mahmud Gawan, and three furlongs to the south of Sharbat Bagh, is the small village of Gornalli, which has a mosque bearing an inscription of Amir Barid II, dated 1019 H. The epigraph is in Persian and consists of four lines, the first two of which contain the Bismillah and the Islamic creed and states that it was built during the reign of Amir Barid II
and the builder of this mosque was Khwaja Bostan in 1019 H. (1610 CE). The script is *Thulth* of an elegant type.\textsuperscript{156}

The mosque is a small building, comprising a single hall with a court in front. The hall measures 22 feet 5 inches in length and 14 feet in width, and has three arches opening on the court. The span of the arches is uniformly 5 feet 5 inches, and the height up to the apex 7 feet 3 inches. The height of the front wall up to the dripstones is 12 feet 4 inches, and above that a parapet is built which has a trefoil design at its top. The arches of the facade of the mosque are flanked with a pier on each side, which has a square section in its lower part and at the top is crowned with an ornamental turret rising 6 feet 4 inches above the row of dripstones. The court of the mosque is rectangular in plan and measures 32 feet north to south and 15 feet east to west. It has a plinth one foot above the surrounding land. At the southern end of the court is a room with two arched openings towards the north. It measures 14 feet in length and 10 feet in width, and has a vaulted ceiling, which is divided, into two compartments. There are two tombs built on a platform at the northern end of the court of the mosque. The tombs seem to be those of important personages, for the plinth of the platform is lined with neatly chiselled masonry. The platform rises 3 feet 6 inches above the floor of the court and has a square plan, measuring 14 feet 6 inches on each side. The tombs are those of a man and a woman, but one of the sarcophagi, which were originally of polished black stone has been stolen.\textsuperscript{157}

**The Kali Masjid of Aurangzeb.**

The name Kali (black) appears to be a misnomer now, for the masonry of the building is covered with plaster, which in spite of being weather-stained, has
a yellowish-white tint. The mosque is situated at a distance of about four furlongs from the Fath Darwaza in the low land towards the south-west. It has a long inscription in Persian verse carved on its facade, which records the building of the mosque by one Abd-ur-Rahim in 1106 H. (C.E. 1695), during the thirty eighth regnal year of Aurangzeb.

The building is, however, insignificant from the architectural point of view because it comprises a single hall for prayers and a small platform in front of the same, towards the east. The prayer-hall measures 20 feet 9 inches in length and 13 feet 6 inches in width, while the dimensions of the platform are, length 24 feet 6 inches, breadth 19 feet 11 inches. Below the platform is a court with a cistern for ablutions, the measurements of the latter being: length 26 feet 8 inches, breadth 19 feet 11 inches, and depth 2 feet 3 inches. The ceiling of the prayerhall is vaulted and divided into three compartments. The building has three openings towards the east, the span of each of these arched openings being uniformly 5 feet 6 inches and the height up to the apex 7 feet 5 inches. The front wall rises to a height of 12 feet 2 inches up to the dripstones, above which is an ornamental parapet 3 feet 8 inches high. The parapet has a screen of four cusped arches in the middle and small turrets crowned with fluted orbs at the corners. The cusped arches and the kiosks with fluted domes represent two typical features of the Mughal architecture.

The Tomb of Hazrat Shaikh Muhammad Husain Imam-ul-Mudarrisin.

The title Imam-ul-Mudarrisin ‘the head of teachers’, was held by the Principal of the Madrasa founded by Mahmud Gawan at Bidar. Shaikh Muhammad Husain, according to his descendants who still live in Bidar, was
born in Bijapur and he held the office of Principal of the Madrasa during the reign of Aurangzeb, who had great respect for his learning and piety.\textsuperscript{160}

The tomb is situated to the north of the Kali Masjid discussed below, close to the fencing of the railway yard of Bidar station. It has an enclosure of its own, measuring 122 feet 7 inches east to west and 80 feet 7 inches north to south. The tomb is built in the open on a platform 3 feet 5 inches high, and has a length of 37 feet 11 inches with a width of 31 feet 8 inches at the top. Besides the tomb of the Shaikh there are ten other graves on the platform. A mosque with a single arched opening may also be noticed within the enclosure of the tomb. A new mosque is built near the tomb recently. Another enclosure near the doorway to the tomb of Shaikh Muhammad Husain has two graves within it. One of these graves is that of a woman and the other that of a man. In front of the enclosure is a platform with a large number of tombs built on it. These tombs, and the graves within the two enclosures, apparently belong to the disciples and the descendants of Shaikh Muhammad Husain.\textsuperscript{161} A mosque is built recently and the original monument is in utter ruins and unapproachable due to vegetation.

\textbf{The Kali Masjid.}

This monument is situated on a side of the old Chidri road, about two furlongs to the south-west of Bidar railway station. It is built of trap masonry of a dark colour, hence the name Kali Masjid, or ‘the Black Mosque’. The monument on the whole it is pleasing. The building has three massive wide-spanned arches in its front flanked by two slender minarets, one at each end. Minarets in the architectural scheme of a mosque have generally a threefold significance- to serve the purpose of a tower (ma’dhana) to call the faithful to prayer; to show the
high ideals of religion by their soaring dimensions and lastly to serve as buttresses to hold the thrust of the arches built in the front of mosques in India. The minarets of this mosque serve none of these three purposes, but at the same time their neatly dressed masonry, graceful carving, and slim form captivate the eye of even a connoisseur.\textsuperscript{162}

The arches of the mosque are of considerable dimensions, each having a span of 11 feet 10 inches and a height up to the apex of 15 feet 3 inches. The arch-heads rest on masonry columns, which are strongly built and rise to a height of 7 feet above the floor of the mosque. The general appearance of the arches shows a fine sense of proportion. Above the arches the facade of the building has two bands of polished hornblende which project from the surface of the wall and form a sort of frieze. The latter in the original design of the building may have borne religious texts or inscriptions mentioning the date and name of the builder of the mosque. Higher up is a row of brackets, which support the dripstones. These have weathered badly, but the brackets are intact and their carving exhibits considerable skill. Between the brackets are arch shaped panels decorated with the chain-and-pendant motif and other designs carved in relief. The height of the mosque is 25 feet 5 inches up to the dripstones, but it may have risen a few feet higher still when the original parapet, which has perished completely, was intact. In comparatively recent times a low wall has been built at the top of the old masonry, apparently with a view to stop the percolation of rainwater into the open joints of the stonework.\textsuperscript{163}
The minarets, octagonal in form, rise from large stone pedestals, which comprise a series of bands, arranged one above the other but each decreasing in girth compared with the one below it. The bands are neatly carved, their general design representing the base and the feet of a wooden casket. The influence of the carpenter's craft is also apparent in the thin neat bands of masonry placed round the shafts of the minarets, which would have been more appropriate to wooden columns in order to keep together their component parts. The minarets are incomplete, and their upper parts were either never built or have been destroyed by vandals during the political upheavals which took place after their construction. Their total height is 38 feet 2 inches at present, and the girth of the octagonal shaft is 10 feet, each facet measuring 1 foot 3 inches in width. The architect had also designed two balconies round each minaret; the remains of one of them may be seen above the row of brackets and the other about 8 feet higher.164

The interior of the building measures 45 feet 10 inches by 35 feet and is divided into six bays by the insertion of massive columns. The ceilings of all the six bays are vaulted, five being in the form of shallow domes, while the sixth, adjacent to the mihrab, has the form of a casket decorated with stone bands which project from the surface of the ceiling. The mihrab has a decagonal plan at the base internally, three sides being covered by the entrance arch. The roof of the mihrab is double, the lower roof being on a level with the roof of the prayer-hall, and the upper rising in the form of a dome above it. The dome rests on a high square base with an open arch in each of its four sides in the style of Barid
Shahi tombs. The back view of the mosque shows a neat style of building, and the thin round pillars, with bands round their girth at the joints of walls, are again reminiscent of the influence of the carpenter's workmanship. The building has no inscription to give its exact date, but from the style of its architecture it may be assigned to the early Barid Shahi period, that is, the first half of the sixteenth century C.E. The mosque has also a large well towards the west.\textsuperscript{165} Tin Sheets are fixed in front side recently which kill the beauty and originality of the monument.

**Tomb of Shah Ali son of Khalil-Ullah and Mosque of Barkhwurdar Beg.**

About 150 yards in a westerly direction from the Kali Masjid, the tomb of Shah Ali may be visited. It is situated on the left side of the Chhidri road. The tomb is incomplete; it stands in a large enclosure with an arched entrance over which an inscriptive tablet is fixed into the wall. The inscription contains the name of Shah Ali and also the Hijri date 1104 (C.E. 1692), in which year he probably passed away. Shah Ali may have been the son of Mir Khalil-Ullah who was appointed governor of Bidar by Aurangzeb in 1068 H. (C.E. 1658).\textsuperscript{166}

The tomb of Shah Ali was built then in middle of a mango grove which, although at present much ruined through neglect, yet in its palmy days would have given an attractive setting to the tomb. The base of the tomb is 1 foot 5 inches high from the surrounding land and above that the incomplete walls rise to a height of 5 feet 5 inches and end abruptly. The building is square in plan and measures 28 feet 4 inches externally and 20 feet 10 inches internally. The sepulchral hall, which has no roof, contains six graves, one of them being that of
Shah Ali and the other five those of his relatives. In the court of the tomb there is also a platform which has nine graves.167

Within the enclosure of Shah Ali’s tomb at the western end of the court, is a mosque associated with the name of Barkhwurdar Beg, whose name is also mentioned in the inscription carved on the building. 3 It is a small structure, comprising a prayer hall flanked with a minaret on either side and a paved court in front. The prayerhall measures 26 feet 7 inches by 15 feet 2 inches and has three arches opening on the court. The span of each of these arches is 7 feet 3 inches and its height up to the apex 8 feet 5 inches, hence they look rather squat. The ceiling is divided into three shallow vaults by arches built across the width of the hall. The minarets are slender in form and crowned with orbs. They rise only 25 feet above the floor. The height of the facade of the building, including the parapet, is 17 feet 1 inch. The mosque makes no pretension to architectural merit and it seems to have been constructed during the regime of Mughal governors in the last quarter of the seventeenth century C.E. The paved court in front of the mosque measures 41 feet 6 inches north to south and 30 feet 6 inches east to west. It has a cistern for ablutions in its middle, the plan of the latter being square, measuring 20 feet on each side and being 2 feet 10 inches deep.168

The Tomb of Shaikh Badr-ud-Din Qadiri.

Shaikh Badr-ud-Din Qddiri was the fourth son of Hazrat Multani Padshah, and like his revered father was held in great veneration for his piety and religious devotion during his lifetime and afterwards. The gateway of Shaikh Badr-ud-Din’s tomb is situated on the northern side of the Chhidri road, close to Barkhwurdar Beg’s mosque. The gate way is in a ruinous condition now, but on entering
through it the visitor will notice a cemetery with a large number of graves among which the tomb of Shaikh Badr-ud-Din is prominent. It is built on a square platform, measuring 42 feet 5 inches on each side and rising 5 feet 2 inches above the surrounding land. The tomb has no roof over it, but it is enclosed by a low wall with a parapet at its top, the height of the wall and the parapet together being only 4 feet 8 inches above the platform. Inside the enclosure there are five graves, one of the saint himself and four of his family. Among the latter two graves are of women.  

Close to Shaikh Badr-ud-Din’s tomb towards the west there is another, the gateway and enclosure of which have almost perished, but their plan can be traced from the line of debris lying at the site. The tomb is built on a square platform which measures 47 feet 8 inches on each side and rises 3 feet 3 inches above the ground. The margined stones of the platform are neatly dressed. The building of the tomb also has a square plan, measuring 24 feet 8 inches on each side externally and 17 feet 11 inches internally. The floor of the interior of the tomb is of stone, the slabs being smoothly dressed. A sarcophagus of polished black stone (basalt?) with the takhti design shows that the tomb is that of a woman. The building has an open arch in each of its four sides. The dimensions of these arches are insignificant, their spans being uniformly 3 feet 6 inches and heights up to the apex 6 feet 7 inches. The walls rise to a height of 16 feet 6 inches up to the dripstones, but above them is a parapet of the trefoil pattern which rises 3 feet 6 inches higher still. The building possesses certain features of Barid Shahi architecture, but the design of panels carved in plaster on the
exterior of the building leaves no room to doubt that the tomb, like others in the vicinity, belongs to the Mughal period in the latter half of the 17th century C.E.\textsuperscript{170}

A mosque connected with the tomb is situated to the west of the latter. The plan of the mosque comprises a prayer-hall with a platform in front of it. The platform measures 27 feet 10 inches north to south and 11 feet 10 inches east to west, and rises 1 foot 10 inches above the surrounding land. The floor of the prayer hall is 1 foot higher still, and the inner dimensions are; length 22 feet 5 inches, width 20 feet 6 inches, the plan being almost square. The ceiling is vaulted, comprising a single dome with stalactites of cut plasterwork at the corners. The front wall of the mosque has three arches opening on the platform. The middle arch is larger in dimensions than the two at the sides. The span of the middle arch is 8 feet 5 inches and the height up to the apex 8 feet 9 inches, while the span of the side arches is only 3 feet 2 inches, with a height of 5 feet 10 inches. The front wall of the mosque rises to a height of 15 feet 9 inches up to the Masjd, and above that is a parapet 3 feet high. The latter is modern and does not match with the general architectural style of the building.\textsuperscript{171}

The Tomb of Hazrat, Makhdum Qadiri

Shaikh Ibrahim Muhi-ud-Din al-Qadiri or Makhdum Qadiri was the eldest son of Hazrat Multani Padshah and died in 970 H. (C.E. 1563). The tomb is situated on the old Chidri road about three furlongs to the west of Barkhwurdar Beg’s mosque. The shrine has a double enclosure, the outer having a large gateway facing the south. The covered passage of the gateway measures 27 feet 5 inches in length and 8 feet 6 inches in width, and has a vaulted ceiling which is decorated with stuccowork. On either side of the passage there is a
room for guards, the floor of the latter being 2 feet 10 inches above the passage. The gateway has a hall in its upper storey with three arched openings towards the north.\footnote{172}

The tomb of the saint is built on a platform, which is approached by four steps and has a plinth 3 feet high above the ground. The platform extends both towards the front and the back of the tomb and its dimensions in the front are: length 110 feet 6 inches, width 78 feet. The general design of the tomb is of the Bahmani style, but the tile-work above the doorway, the small niches arranged in the upper arches of the façade, and the cusped design of the panel over the entrance arch all seem to be later additions, and they have disturbed the simple dignity of the building to a considerable extent. The plan of the tomb at its base is square both externally and internally, measuring 42 feet 2 inches on each side outwardly and 28 feet 3 inches inwardly. The walls rise to a height of 31 feet 1 inch and are surmounted by a parapet, comprising trefoil arch-heads and posts crowned with orbs. The height of the parapet is 3 feet 6 inches above the walls. The base of the dome is decorated with several ornamental bands, among which one representing a trefoil pattern is prominent. The circumference of the dome above the roof level is 110 feet 6 inches.\footnote{173}

The sepulchral hall is entered by only one door, which is arch-shaped and has a width of 5 feet with a height of 8 feet 6 inches. Inside the hall there are five graves, one of the saint himself which has a wooden canopy over it, and four of his family; two of these have the takhti design which is the symbol on the grave of a woman. The walls of the hall are decorated with plasterwork representing
various designs, while the corners of the building have pairs of squinches, which convert the square plan of the hall first into an octagon and afterwards into a sixteen-sided figure. Higher up on the walls a band of niches may also be noticed, which have made the plan twenty four sided in order to adapt it to the circular base of the dome.¹⁷⁴

Adjoining the sepulchre of the saint towards the east is another tomb, much smaller in dimensions than the former. The facade of the building is adorned by two rows of arches, arranged one above the other, and at the top of the walls there is a parapet of the trefoil pattern. The walls rise to a height of 18 feet 4 inches above the floor, while the parapet rises 2 feet 2 inches higher still. The plan of the building at the base is rectangular both externally and internally, measuring 26 feet 6 inches by 19 feet 4 inches, and 19 feet 7 inches by 15 feet 8 inches, respectively. In the interior of the hall there are two massive designed arches towards the north and south in order to provide the rectangular plan of the hall with a square in the middle. There are six graves, of which two have decayed badly. Of the remaining four the symbols carved on two show them to be tombs of women and the other two of men.¹⁷⁵

There is another tomb towards the left of the main tomb which, like the two described above, is crowned with a dome. The building has a square plan at its base, measuring 23 feet on each side externally and 16 feet 10 inches internally. The walls rise to a height of 18 feet 5 inches above the floor and are surmounted by a parapet, which is 2 feet 2 inches high. The drum of the dome at the roof
level measures 57 feet 7 inches in circumference. The interior of the building is plain and has only squinches at the corners.\textsuperscript{176}

To the northeast of Hazrat Makhdum Qadiri’s tomb and close to it, is a mosque the facade of which is lavishly decorated with stucco work. The plan of the mosque comprises a prayer-hall with three arches facing the east and a low platform in front. The platform measures 43 feet 6 inches north to south and 32 feet 7 inches east to west. The floor of the prayer hall is 1 foot 4 inches higher than the platform, and measures 31 feet 5 inches in length and 19 feet 10 inches in width. The ceiling of the hall is vaulted and divided into three compartments the middle one of which has a dome rising above the roof of the building. The vaults of the two side compartments are shallow and concealed in the thickness of the roof. The openings of the arches are adorned with receding bands in the style of the doors of medieval Hindu temples. The arches are of uniform size, each with a span of 7 feet 10 inches and height up to the apex of 10 feet 8 inches. The spandrels of the arches and the portion of the wall below the Masjd are richly decorated with medallions and floral designs worked out in plaster. The parapet above the front wall of the mosque is considerably damaged through climatic conditions, but when intact it must have been a pleasing feature of the monument. The height of the wall including the parapet is 21 feet 4 inches. The minarets of the mosque have a graceful form, and they rise 36 feet 5 inches above the base of their pedestals. The galleries which project from the body of the shafts have crumbled very much, and the plaster of the minarets has also peeled off in several places, but the portions of the decorative work which are
intact give a fair idea of its pristine beauty. In the forecourt of the mosque there are three platforms carrying tombs and also a large number of ordinary graves. There was also a cistern in front of the mosque the remains of which may still be seen. The mosque was apparently built during the regime of the Bijapur governors of Bidar in the middle of the seventeenth century C.E. 177

**The Tomb and the Mosque of Shah Ali Qadiri.**

Farther along the cart track, which skirts the tomb of Hazrat Makhdum Qadiri and goes to the village of Chhidri, the tomb of Shah Ali Qadiri may be visited. The tomb has a mosque attached to it, which according to the inscription carved on the facade of the mosque was built by Rustam Dil Khan in C.E. 1695. Rustam Dil Khan was the son of Jan Sipar Khan, the governor of Bidar under Aurangzeb and when the father was promoted to the governorship of Golconda by the Emperor, Rustam Dil Khan was appointed in his place. According to local records Rustam Dil Khan retained the governorship of Bidar until 1099 H. (C.E. 1688), but from the wording of this inscription it appears that he was in power until 1107 H. (C.E. 1695) when the mosque was built by him. 178

The tomb of Shah Ali has a plinth 3 feet high, and above that the plan of the building is square both externally and internally, measuring on each side 24 feet 10 niches and 17 feet 9 inches respectively. The walls rises 18 feet above the floor of the building and inside there are three graves, of which one is that of the saint himself. Of the remaining two graves one is that of a man and the other that of a woman. The tomb in its present condition looks somewhat incomplete. 179
The mosque comprises a prayer-hall with three arches opening towards the east. The arches do not show a happy sense of proportion, the span of each of them being uniformly 7 feet 4 inches and height up to the apex 8 feet 8 inches. The prayer-hall measures 26 feet 7 inches north to south and 15 feet east to west, and has a vaulted ceiling. The front wall of the building rises 13 feet 8 inches above the floor and at the top is surmounted by a parapet which rises 3 feet 2 inches higher still. At each end of the parapet, towards the north and south, there is a short minaret, which raises 8 feet 2 niches above the dripstones.\textsuperscript{180}

**The Tomb of Qadi Shams-ud-Din at Naubad.**

To the south-east of the village (Naubad) is a tomb wherein, according to tradition, the last remains of Qadi (Qazi) Shams-ud-Din are interred. He was the Chief Qadi of Bidar during the reign of Sultan Ala-ud-Din Bahmani. Through neglect the building had fallen into a sad state of disrepair, but the Archaeological Department has restored it. It is, however, a small structure, and except for the inscriptional tablet it is not of any outstanding significance.\textsuperscript{181}

The tomb is built on a platform 2 feet above the land and measures 32 feet 4 inches by 41 feet 9 inches. The tomb has a square plan, and measures 16 feet 6 inches on each side externally, and 9 feet 8 inches internally. The walls rise to a height of 11 feet 4 inches above the floor and are surmounted by a parapet which rises 2 feet higher still. The circumference of the dome is 42 feet. In the interior of the building the square plan has been converted into an octagon by the insertion of corbels at the corners. There is only one grave and the entrance to the sepulchral room is through a small rectangular door measuring 4 feet 8
The Tomb of Hazrat Sayyid-us-Sadat (Muhammad Hanif).

The real name of this saint was Muhammad Hanif and he got the title Sayyid-us-Sadat, ‘the chief of chiefs’, either through his descent from the Prophet Muhammad or through his noble character. He is said to have been a native of Gilan and to have migrated to the Deccan some time during the reign of Ahmad Shah al-Wali. The tomb of Hazrat Sayyid Muhammad Hanif is still held in great reverence. The tomb is situated below the brink of the plateau near the tombs of later Barid Shahi kings. A motor road passes by the Idgah and the Barber's Tomb and ends at a point of the cliff, which offers an excellent view of the tomb and its charming surroundings. The tomb may also be approached by the road, which branches from the Udgir road a little beyond the District Jail and goes down the hill with a steep gradient direct to the shrine near Gurudwara Nanak Zeera.

There are two tombs, in one of which the saint himself is buried and in the other his wife, daughter, and one of his sons. Both the monuments are of uniform size, and as they are also close together, they look almost like twins in the panorama when seen from the plateau. The tomb of the saint is built on the right towards the east and is approached by a paved walk from the place where vehicles halt. The building has a square plan at its base, measuring 39 feet 7 inches on each side externally and 26 feet 11 inches internally. The walls are adorned with a double series of arches arranged one above the other and at their top the walls have a parapet comprising arch-heads. The height of the walls is 34 inches by 2 feet 6 inches. The door is, however, inserted in an arch which also has small dimensions its span being 4 feet and its height up to the apex is 7 feet 5 inches.182
feet above the floor and the parapet rises 3 feet 6 inches higher still. The height of the walls in relation to their width at the base of the building has given the latter the form of a cube, which is crowned by a circular dome. The circumference of the dome at the roof level is 104 feet 10 inches. The entire building attests the architect's fine sense of proportion.  

The interior of the tomb has squinches at the corners, and above them niches which convert the square plan of the building into a polygon with a view to fitting in with the circular base of the dome. The walls are further decorated with stuccowork representing medallions and floral designs. There are three graves, the middle one being that of the saint himself, which is distinguished by a wooden canopy built over it and the two on the sides are those of the saint's sons. The other tomb is built on a slightly lower level, although the dimensions of the building are almost identical, the walls including the parapet rising to a height of 38 feet and measuring at their base 39 feet 9 inches on each side, the circumference of the dome at the roof level being 105 feet. Inside the sepulchral hall are three graves, one being that of the wife of the saint and the other two those of his daughter and son. The grave of the daughter is on the right of her mother's.  

Towards the southwest of the saint's tomb is a mosque, which is connected with the shrine. It comprises a single hall, measuring 22 feet 9 inches by 13 feet 2 inches. The mosque has three arched openings of uniform size towards the east. The span of these arches is 5 feet and their height up to the apex 7 feet 8 inches. The ceiling is vaulted but divided into three dish shaped compartments by
arches built across the width of the prayer hall. At a short distance from the
saint’s tomb towards the southeast, there is another tomb, which is, however,
much smaller in dimensions than the former. The building has a square plan at
the base, measuring 15 feet on each side externally and 9 feet internally. The
walls rise to a height of 12 feet above the floor and are surmounted by a parapet,
which rises 2 feet higher still. The dome of the building has a leaf pattern
decorative band round its drum and the circumference of the dome at that point
is 38 feet 9 inches. Inside the building is the grave of a lady, and the tomb is
visited particularly by women.\textsuperscript{186}

To the west of these tombs, which are all built on a natural eminence, a
pavilion may be noticed. The building measures 21 feet 5 inches by 15 feet
externally. The arches of the pavilion are somewhat squat in proportions, their
span being 7 feet 7 inches and height up to the apex the same. The masonry
base of the pavilion shows that the water surface of the tank was originally 6 feet
below the floor of the pavilion. The road goes farther westward from the shrine of
Hazrat Sayyid Muhammad Hanif reaches the spring which is associated with the
name of the saint owing to an inscriptionsal tablet fixed into the wall above the
mouth of the spring.\textsuperscript{187}

The Tomb of Fakhr-ul-Mulk at Fathpur.

Fathpur is a village in the Bidar Taluka, Fakhr-ul-Mulk was one of the
dignitaries of the Bahmani court, and he came to Bidar from Gilan. The tomb has
a high basement, and there are flights of long steps on all its four sides. The
base of the building at the ground level measures 188 feet in each direction, but
at the top of nineteen steps, where the first landing is reached, its size is reduced
to 155 feet 3 inches. This landing is 2 feet 9 inches wide, and at its inner end it has a sort of retaining wall, which is built of neatly dressed masonry and rises 4 feet 6 inches above the first landing. There is another landing, which is broader than the first, being 5 feet wide and running round the basement on all four sides. At the end of the second landing, there is another retaining wall, which is built of large blocks of masonry and is 8 feet thick. The coping of this wall is decorated with knobs and lobes in the style of the plinths of Hindu temples. The basement of the building at the foot of this wall measures 150 feet on each side.\textsuperscript{188}

From the second landing, steps lead to the court of the tomb, which has a platform 16 feet 9 inches wide built along the upper retaining wall on all four sides. The lower part of the court, below the platform, is square in plan and measures 97 feet on each side. The tomb is built in the middle of this part of the court, where its base rises 3 feet 6 inches above the floor and has two masonry bands, each 1 foot 9 inches high, arranged around it. The walls of the building are decorated with a double series of arches, built one above the other, and at the top they have a parapet, comprising arch heads and little pillars crowned with orbs. The total height of the wall on each side above the floor of the building is 38 feet 6 inches, of which 4 feet 7 inches are included in the parapet. The base of the building measures 51 feet in each direction, externally. The sepulchral hall is entered by a door, which is built in the middle of the southern wall. The door measures 8 feet 9 inches by 4 feet 2 inches. In the hall there are two tombs, but the real graves are in the vault below, which is approached by a flight of steps descending from an opening in the floor of the hall towards the west.\textsuperscript{189}
There are traces of paintings on the vaulted ceiling of the building, but owing to percolation of rainwater through cracks in the masonry of the dome, developed by the growth of plants on it, the colours have faded badly. The entire building is in a ruinous condition, but it has now been repaired by the Archaeological Department. The lofty plinth of the building divided into several stages is very reminiscent of the basements of the medieval Hindu temples, but the style of architecture of the tomb itself is purely Muslim.\footnote{190}

**The Tomb of Shah Muhibb-Ullah al-Husaini.**

Near the village of Malkapur there are two tombs, one of which is assigned to Sayyid Shah Muhibb-Ullah. He was the grandson of Hazrat Shah Nimat-Ullah Kirmani and migrated to Bidar with his elder brother, Shah Habib-Ullah after the saint’s death. Shah Habib-Ullah possessed soldierly habits, he took part in the administrative affairs of the Bahmani kingdom and appointed his younger brother Shah Muhibb-Ullah as the spiritual successor (sajjda) of his holy forefathers. He was one of the two holy personages who placed the royal crown on Mahmud Shah’s head and afterwards, holding his arms as an indication of their religious support, led him to the throne.\footnote{191}

The tomb can be easily approached in fair weather by walking cross-country nearly a mile to the east of Ahmad Shah al-Wali’s tomb at Ashtur. The building is more or less in the same style as the contemporary tombs of the Bahmani kings and has fallen into a sad state of disrepair. The walls of the tomb at their base measure 50 feet 8 inches on each side externally and 33 feet 2 inches internally. They rise to a height of 36 feet above the floor and are surmounted by a parapet, which rises 4 feet higher still. The base of the dome at
the roof level measures 139 feet 10 inches in circumference. The face of the walls on each side of the building is adorned with arches arranged in a double series, placed one above the other. The floor of the sepulchral hall has decayed through neglect, but the arches in the interior of the building are intact and show a refined sense of proportion.\textsuperscript{192}

The other tomb which is situated close by is considerably smaller in dimensions than the above. It measures 37 feet 3 inches on each side externally and 25 feet 3 inches internally. The building has doors towards the north, east, and south, the western side being occupied by the mihrab. The arches of the exterior of the building show a distinct stilt near their apexes. The walls of the tomb rise to a height of 21 feet 5 inches above the floor and were originally surmounted by a parapet, which has almost completely perished. The base of the dome at the roof level measures 97 feet 4 inches in circumference. In the interior of the building there is some plaster decoration on the walls, and Quranic verses are carved on the arch-heads and the alcove of the mihrab. The squinches at the corners have receding facets of plaster-work along their arch-heads. This tomb is now also in a neglected condition.\textsuperscript{193}

\textbf{TOMBS AND MOSQUES IN BASAVAKALYAN.}

\textbf{Tomb and Dargah of Hazrat Khwaja Tajuddin Sher Sawar (Bagh Sawar)}

Sher Sawar or Bagh Sawar Dargah is situated very near to the present inspection bungalow. Syed Tajuddin was born in Khorasan, a city of Iran and came to Kalyan in 1387 C.E, when the Bahamani king Muhammad Shah II was ruling from Gulbarga. Legends say that he rode on lions and used snakes to
tame the lions. He became famous as Sher Sawar or Bagh Sawar. His tomb was built by a Bahamani Sultan.  

The mosque of the saint is surrounded by enclosure wall and has an Arched gateway of 15 ft by 10 ft in the form of arched pavilion. The wall of the gateway is there are about 25 ft. there are 8 arches of smaller dimension above the doorway. The building has a square plan at its base, measuring 39 feet 7 inches on each side externally and 26 feet 11 inches internally. The height of the walls is 34 feet above the floor and the parapet rises 3 feet 6 inches higher still. and the circumference of the dome at that point is 38 feet 9 inches. The tomb has recent arched extension walls around and two minarets of recent times. Inside the building is the grave of Hazrat Khwaja Tajuddin Sher Sawar.  

Within this enclosure there is a mosque with single hall, which stands on 18 carved pillars of ancient Hindu temple. Of these 18 pillars 10 are fixed in the wall of the mosque while 8 stand in the hall. It has four small minarets at the corners. This mosque seems to be constructed by demolishing one of the Hindu temples mentioned in the Kalyana Chalukyan inscriptions.  

**The Qureshi Mosque.**

Near Parusha Katte there is a mosque now called Qureshi Masjid. It seems to be of 16th-17th century mosque in its features built in black stones. The mosque is approximately 36ft and 20ft on all four sides and 30 ft in height above the floor and the parapet of stone rises 3 feet higher. There are four large minarets of 15 fts at the corners and two minarets of 9 fts between the front corner minarets. The mosque has 3 arched openings or open doors of 20 (hight) by 12 fts (breadth at floor level). There are two circular designs on either side of
these doors on the upper side. The parapet is also designed and adorned with floral designs. Relics of Chalukyan (of Kalyana) temples and a lion resembling the Hoysala emblem can be seen in the surrounding.

**Jama Masjid**

Located on the main road towards basavakalyan fort in the bazaar (market), it is said to have built when the fort was taken by Mohammad-bin-Tughluk’s Commander Malik Kafur. The mosque is a three hall monument with three arched openings in the front and there arched doors inside, the arches being 15ft in height and 10 ft in breadth. The central hall has a large dome the circumference of which is 10 ft at base and 15 in height. There are fine minarets at the corners of this mosque.

**Quazi's Mosque or Peer's Dargah.**

On the way to the fort through the main road, there is a graveyard of the family of the former Nawab of Kalyan. There is a big mosque and a tomb of a fakir named Peer Pasha in this grave yard. This place is also called “Peer Pasha Bungalow”. The tomb has a big hall of pillars of the Chalukyan style, in which there are other small tombs also.

**Dargah of Ismail Khadri, Ghodwadi.**

Ghodwadi also called Ghodwadi Shareef about 21 kms north-west of Humnabad town. It has the dargah of a well-known Muslim saint named Ismail Khadri in whose honour an urus is held every year in the month of Muharram. The dargah is of 17\textsuperscript{th} century and is a single hall of about 20 ft high and a dome on the roof which is 10 ft at base. The dargah has an arched door of about 6ft by 4ft.
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