

Nasir-Al-Mulk Mosque in Shiraz

Nasir Al-Mulk Mosque is located in the city of Shiraz, and was built in Qajar era by Nasir Al-Mulk. This mosque has two eastern and western bedchambers, and the eastern one has a tiled altar accompanied with 12 columns and windows with colorful glasses.

In fall and winter seasons when sunlight shines through the colorful glasses, it presents as exemplary beauty to the interior of the bedchamber, making this mosque outstandingly aesthetical among other mosques of Iran. The tiling and paintings of the bedchambers are of exceptional beauty as well.

I have seen Stained glass work in many architectural buildings, however the stained glass in The Nasir ol Mulk Mosque is Exceptional.

From the start of dawn the mosque is filled with colour and light. Sun shines through the glass and fills the inside, the persian rugs, the ceiling and wall tiles with patterns and colours.

I am so amazed at how the architect was able to combine so many things to build such an exquisite mosque.

I went to this mosque on a winter morning, and waited for the light that moves gently from the right hand side of the mosque towards the left, to fall exactly in the center so that my photograph could be completely symmetrical.

More information about Nasir al-molk for those who are interested in Architecture and Archaeology :

A brief introduction to Islamic architecture of Iran

Islamic period is a part of Persian history that starts after Sassanid period with coming Muslims till now.

This important part of history, have a long age, more than 1 millennium and divided into different dynasties. Every period have unique and own characteristics like architecture, economic system, social classifications and etc.

Now, we are going to have a glance to Qajar dynasty, because the place that we are speak about it, built at qajar period.

Every type of architecture in each period have some unique elements but it borrows some elements from previous periods. Therefore, the architecture of qajar period owes to Safavid art and architecture.

The Qajar art & architecture have not the magnificence and beauty of the previous period, for example some cities like Isfahan, Tabriz and Qazvin were extended and developed in the Safavid period with grand and unique mosques, schools, Caravanserais and complexes. But in the Qajar period some cities like Tehran, Shiraz, Yazd and Kashan were raised by building mosques, bathes and palaces.

One of the most important monuments of this period is the Nasir-Al-Mulk mosque that was built in Shiraz, by one of the dignitaries that named Nasir-Al-Mulk. This mosque has several names like pink mosque because of the usage of pink and yellow flowers in tiles. But the thing that makes this place more important, is the technique of usage of glasses and play with lights. Another part of this mosque that attracts most of photographers to take photos, is the harmony of using the columns inside it and this element, inspired from the Jam-e mosque of Shiraz.

All of the mosques around the Islamic world, are very similar together, but they are different from each other. This difference is obvious in their plans. For example in Iran, the most mosques in every period, have 4 loggia, some others have 2 loggia and in rare cases we see even 1 loggia.

The Nasir-Al-Mulk mosque has 2 loggia in north and south and in one of them exists 2 minaret and 2 halls in west and east. Some arts are very significant at this mosque, like tiling, painting in roofs of loggia, colorful glasses, plaster-works, turnery of columns and the beautiful decorations of Mihrab.





