

Safa Masjid

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Safa Masjid Latest News

After months of delay and neglect, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) will begin repairs on the damaged mihrab structure surrounding the centuries-old water tank at Safa Masjid in Ponda.

About Safa Masjid

- Safa Masjid, also known as the Safa Shahouri Masjid, is a **historical mosque** located in the village of **Ponda, Goa**.
- **Constructed in 1560 by Sultan Adil Shah of Bijapur**, the mosque stands out as one of the **few Islamic structures that survived the Portuguese colonial era** when many temples and mosques were destroyed.
- Recognized for its historical and architectural significance, the Safa Masjid has been **designated a national monument under the protection of the Archaeological Survey of India**.

Safa Masjid Architecture

- The mosque is designed in an **Indo-Islamic architectural** style.
- It has a **rectangular structure with a single prayer hall**. The roof is built with terracotta tiles.
- A **striking feature** of the mosque is **its simplicity**, with **minimal decoration** and a **focus on clean lines**, creating a peaceful and contemplative environment.
- The mosque **doesn't bear any inscription, nor** are there **historical records that mention its construction**.
- Near the mosque is a **water tank (hauz)**, featuring **intricate masonry and stone carvings**.
- It is believed that this tank was part of a more extensive water system, which may have included fountains and pavilions.
- One of the most enchanting features of Safa Masjid is its **garden, designed in the Charbagh style**. This garden layout includes an arrangement of paths and plantings.

Source: **TOI**

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