

Jamma Masjid

The Jamma Masjid (Lat. 25° 04' 29" N., Long. - 87° 46' 46" E.) is located about 32 km from the district headquarter Sahebganj and about 480 km from Ranchi, the capital city of Jharkhand. Jamma Masjid was built in the last quarter of the 16th century CE by Raja Mansingh, the Governor of Emperor Akbar. It is situated on a high land known as "Hadaf" which is an Arabic term that means the target of Archery butts. Hadaf was part of Rajmahal township where the capital was shifted in 1592 CE from Gaur due to the change of course of the river Ganga and further the population being decimated by some epidemic in 1575 CE.



The Jamma Masjid, locally called as Jami Masjid consists of a large prayer hall to the west, a spacious courtyard enclosed by a high compound wall with arched recesses on its inner-side, and it has three gateways on the north, south and east, the last being the main entrance with a porch at the front. Originally, the entire buildings measured (76.20 X 64.00) mt. but over the years its southern portion and northern portion had collapsed. At present the Ranchi circle of ASI has taken up its conservation, and restoration work is in progress. The prayer chamber of the mosque consisted of a large central hall that looks two storied from outside because of the effect produced by large windows and the continuous parapet below

it. The western wall of the prayer chamber consists of several niches adorned with stucco floral decoration.

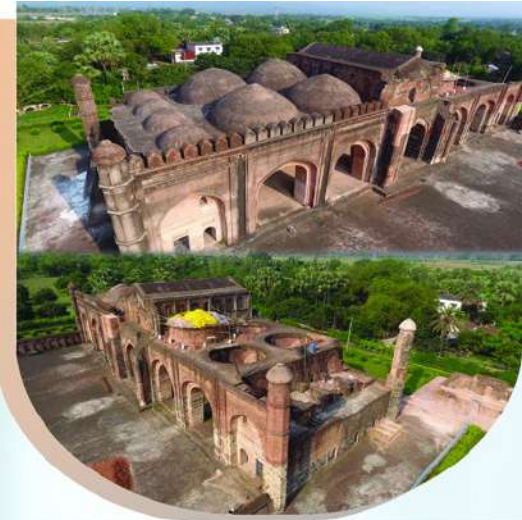
The architectural features of the mosque are highly impressive, representing a fine specimen of Mughal architecture showcasing characteristic features of the era such as grandeur symmetry and intricate ornamentation.



The mosque's layout with a large prayer hall to the west and spacious courtyard enclosed by a high compound wall and the presence of three gateways follows the traditional arrangement of Mughal Mosques.

Conservation work at Hadaf, Rajmahal, Distt. Sahebganj

The façade of the left wing of the mosque lost its plaster due to passage of time. The same is maintained as per original including raising the height of parapet by brick work maintaining the same height as in the right wing.



The Jamma Masjid consist of eight number of major domes, 04 in northern wing and 04 in southern wing, beside the central arched roof. The domes of northern wing were collapsed due to vagaries of nature. The domes of northern wing were restored as per original by using lakhauri bricks and traditional lime mortar as well as minars on all the four corners. Besides a small mosque within the premises was conserved as per original.

