

LIST OF HINDU TEMPLES DESTROYED AND CONVERTED TO MOSQUES IN BENGAL BY MUSLIMS

We give below, state-wise and district-wise, the particulars of Muslim monuments which stand on the sites and/or have been built with the materials of Hindu temples, and which we wish to recall as witnesses to the role of Islam as a religion and the character of Muslim rule in medieval India. The list is the result of a preliminary survey. Many more Muslim monuments await examination. Local traditions which have so far been ignored or neglected, have to be tapped on a large scale.

We have tried our best to be exact in respect of locations, names and dates of the monuments mentioned. Even so, some mistakes and confusions may have remained. It is not unoften that different sources provide different dates and names for the same monument. Many Muslim saints are known by several names, which create confusion in identifying their mazārs or dargāhs. Some districts have been renamed or newly, created and a place which was earlier under one district may have been included in another. We shall be grateful to readers who point out these mistakes so that they can be corrected in our major study. This is only a brief summary.

Sita Ram Goel

It should be kept in mind that the list below doesn't include all the temples destroyed by Muslims and which were converted to mosques. The below is the list of mosques and Darghas where evidences exists of having been made after destroying the temples at these locations. In many mosques, Muslim rulers were able to eradicate all signs of temples, and hence not given in below list.

Anyone is free to visit the below list of mosques and see the remnants and materials of Hindu temples used in their construction. Archaeological Survey of India should conduct an excavation of below mosques to find out more about the ancient temples in these locations and possible mass graves around the mosque sites.

I. BANKURA DISTRICT

Lokpura

1. Mazār of Ghāzī Ismāil. Converted Venugopala temple.

II. BARISAL DISTRICT

Kasba

2. Masjid. Temple site.

III. BIRBHUM DISTRICT

Moregram

3. Mazār of Sayyid Bābā. Temple materials used.

Patharchapuri

4. Mazā of Dātā, or Mahbûb Sāhib. Temple site.

Rajnagar

5. Several Old Masjids. Temple sites.

Sakulipur

6. Jāmi Masjid. Temple site.

Siyan

7. Dargāh of Makhdûm Shāh (1221). Materials of many temples used.

IV. BOGRA DISTRICT

Mahasthan

8. Dargāh and Masjid of Shāh Sultān Mahîswār. Stands on the ruins of a temple.

9. Masjid on Silādevî Ghat. Temple materials used.

V. BURDWAN DISTRICT

Inchalabazar

10. , Masjid (1703). Temple site.

Kasba

11. Rājā, Masjid. Temple materials used.

Kalna

12. Dargāh of Shāh Majlis (1491-93). Temple site.

13. Shāhī Masjid (1533). Temple site.

Mangalkot

14. Jāmi Masjid (1523-24). Temple site.

Raikha

15. Talāb-wāfī Masjid. Temple site.

Suata

16. Dargāh of Sayyid Shāh Shahîd Mahmûd Bahmanî. Buddhist Temple materials site.
17. Masjid (1502-02). Temple site.

VI. CALCUTTA DISTRICT

Bania Pukur

18. , Masjid built for Alāud-Dîn Alāul Haqq (1342). Temple materials used.

VII. CHATGAON DISTRICT

19. Dargāh of Badr Makhdûm. Converted Buddhist Vihāra.

VIII. DACCA DISTRICT

Dacca

20. Tomb of Bîbî Parî. Temple materials used.
21. Saif Khān-kî-Masjid. Converted temple.
22. Churhattā Masjid. Temple materials used.

Narayanganj

23. Qadam Rasûl Masjid. Temple site.

Rampal

24. Masjid. Converted temple.
25. Dargāh of Bābā. Adam Shahîd (1308). Temple materials used.

Sonargaon

26. Old Masjid. Temple materials used.

IX. DINAJPUR DISTRICT

Basu-Bihar

27. Two Masjids. On the ruins of a Buddhist Vihāra.

Devatala

28. Dargāh of Shykh Jalālud-Dîn Tabrizi, Suhrawardîyyia sufi credited in Muslim histories with the destruction of many, temples. Temple site.
29. Jāmi Masjid (1463). VishNu Temple site.

Devikot

30. Dargāh and Masjid of Pîr Atāullah Shāh (1203). Temple materials used.
31. Dargāh of Shāh Bukhārî. Temple materials used.
32. Dargāh of Pîr Bahāud-Dîn. Temple materials used.
33. Dargāh of Shāh Sultān Pîr. Temple materials used.

Mahisantosh

34. , Dargāh and Masjid. On the site of a big VishNu Temple.

Nekmard

35. Mazār of Nekmard Shāh. Temple site.

X. FARIDPUR DISTRICT

Faridpzir

36. Mazār of Farīd Shāh. Temple site.

XI. HOOGHLY DISTRICT

Jangipura

37. Mazār of Shahîd Ghāzî. Temple materials used.

Pandua

38. Masjid. Temple materials used.

39. Mazār of Shāh Safiud-Dîn. Temple site.

40. Fath Minār. Temple materials used.

Santoshpur

41. Masjid near Molla Pukur (153-310). Temple site.

Satgaon

42. Jāmi Masjid. Temple materials used.

Tribeni

43. Zafar Khān-kî-Masjid (1298). Temple materials used.

44. Dargāh of Zafar Khān. Temple materials used.

45. Masjid (1459). Temple site.

XII. HOWRAH DISTRICT

Jangalvilas

46. Pîr Sāhib-kî-Masjid. Converted temple.

XIII. KHULNA DISTRICT

Masjidkur

47. Shāt Gumbaz. Temple materials used.

48. Mazār of Khanjā Ali or Khān Jahān. Temple site.

Salkhira

49. Dargāh of Maî Chāmpā. Temple materials used.

XIV. MALDA DISTRICT

Gangarampur

50. Dargāh of Shāh Atā. □iva Temple site.
51. Masjid on the river bank (1249). Temple site.

Gaur

Muslim city built on the site and with the ruins of LakshmaNāvatī, Hindu capital destroyed by the Muslims at the end of the twelfth century A.D. Temple materials have been used in the following monuments:

52. Chhotī Sonā Masjid.
53. Qadam Rasûl Masjid (1530)
54. Tāntipārā Masjid (1480)
55. Lāttan Masjid (1475)
56. Badī Sonā Masjid (1526)
57. Dargāh of Makhadûm Akhî Sirāj Chishtî, disciple of Nizāmud-Dîn Awliya of Delhi (1347)
58. Darsbārī or College of Theology.
59. Astānā of Shāh Niāmatu□llāh.
60. Chāmkattī Masjid (1459).
61. Chikkā Masjid.
62. Gunmant Masjid. Converted temple.
63. Dākhil Darwāzā.
64. Kotwālī Darwāzā.
65. Fīruz Minār.
66. ChaNDipur Darwāzā.
67. Bārāduārī Masjid.
68. Lukāchuri Masjid.
69. Gumtī Darwāzā.

Malda

70. Jāmi Masjid (1566). Temple materials used.
71. Sak Mohan Masjid (1427). Temple site.

Pandua

Another Muslim city built with the ruins of LakshmaNāvatī. Temple materials have been used in the following monuments.

72. Ādina Masjid (1368)
73. Yak lakhī Masjid.
74. Chheh Hazāri or Dargāh of Nûr Qutb-i-Ālam (1415).
75. Bāis Hazāri or Khānqāh of Jalālu□d-Dîn Tabrizī (1244).
76. Sonā Masjid.
77. Barn-like Masjid.
78. Qadam Rasûl.

XV. MIDNAPUR DISTRICT

Gagneswar

79. Karambera Garh Masjid (1509). Shiva Temple site.

Hijli

80. Masnad-i-Ālā-kî-Masjid. Temple site.

Kesiari

81. Masjid (1622). Mahādeva Temple materials used.

Kharagpur

82. Mazār of Pîr Lohāni. Temple site.

XVI. MURSHIDABAD DISTRICT

Chuna Khali

83. Barbak-kî-Masjid. Temple site.

Murshidabad

Temple materials have been used in the following monuments:

84. Katrā Masjid.

85. Motījhîl Lake Embankments.

86. Sangî Dālān.

87. Mahal Sarā□.

88. Alîvardî Khān-kî-Masjid.

89. Hazārduārî Mahal.

Rangamati

90. Dargāh on the Rākshasî DāNgā. Stands on the ruins of a Buddhist Vihāra.

XVII. NOAKHALI DISTRICT

Begamganj

91. Bajrā Masjid. Converted temple.

XVIII. PABNA DISTRICT

Balandu

92. Madrasa. Converted Buddhist Vihāra.

XIX. RAJSHAHI DISTRICT

Bhaturia

93. Masjid. Shiva Temple materials used.

Kumarpura

94. Mazār of Mukarram Shāh. Converted temple.

Kusumbha

95. Old Masjid (1490-93). Constructed entirely of temple materials.

XX. RANGPUR DISTRICT

Kamatpur

96. BaDã Dargãh of Shãh Ismãil Ghãzî. Temple site.

97. Idgãh on a mound one mile away. Temple materials used.

XXI. SYLHET DISTRICT

Baniyachung

98. Famous Masjid. Temple site.

Sylhet

99. Masjid of Shãh Jalãl. Temple site.

100. Mazãrs of Shãh Jalãl and many of his disciples. Temple sites.

XXII. 24-PARGANAS DISTRICT

Barasat

101. Mazãr of Pîr Ekdil Sãhib. Temple site.

Berchampa

102. Dargãh of Pîr GorãchãNd. Temple site.

EVIDENCE IS AVAILABLE THAT IN BENGAL THE ABOVE MENTIONED MOSQUES AND DARGHAS WERE CONSTRUCTED BY DESTROYING HINDU TEMPLES. BUT IN MANY OTHER CASES MUSLIMS SUCCEEDED IN REMOVING ALL TRACES OF TEMPLES FROM THE MOSQUES. IN SUCH CASES ONLY AN EXCAVATION BY ASI WILL REVEAL THE DESTROYED TEMPLES.

WHILE MUSLIMS ASK FOR REBUILDING THE ILLEGAL MOSQUE IN AYODHYA, WHY SHOULD NOT HINDUS DEMAND THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE DESTROYED TEMPLES IN INDIA?