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Almudena Cathedral by James Purefoy

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The capital of Spain was Toledo before Madrid. It was King Philip II that made his capital as Madrid in 1561. He felt the need of a new cathedral in the capital city but he failed to make one in his reign. After him several other rulers tried the same but they failed. It was Virgin Almudena that got permission for constructing this cathedral in 1868 for the first time. For the same reasons it is known as Almudena Cathedral.

The construction of the cathedral started in 1883. It was initially to be created as a church but with the efforts of Pope Leo XIII it was created as a cathedral. It was designed by Marques de Cubas auspiciously. It has the style of a neo gothic building and it has the famous Latin cross in its ground plan.

The construction work of the cathedral ended in 1993 when Pope John Paul II consecrated it finally. The cathedral was officially due to complete in 1999. However Pope John Paul II consecrated it in the year 1993. Once consecration was done the cathedral was officially declared complete. A statue of the Pope is also present in front of the cathedral for the same reasons.

There are various reasons which took time in the making of this cathedral. One of the main reasons is the circumstances that affected it from time to time. The construction work started very slowly and it was stopped in the 1930s. The Spanish civil war was the reason of its stoppage in that time. Another mishap happened in 1944 when the cathedral was under fire because of its neo gothic style. On that the design of cathedral was changed. Architects Carlos Sidro and Fernando Chueca Goitia made the new design of this cathedral. There were many classical elements added in the new design by them.

A great thing about Almudena Cathedral is that it has a good size. It is 104 meters long and it has a width of 75 meters. Similarly it has a big central dome having diameter of twenty meters. It has a modern interior and when itâ€™s compared to the cathedral of Toledo it is way better in all disciplines. Another great aspect is the fine location of this cathedral. It is located in the neighborhood of the Royal Palace in the capital city of Spain. That palace is famous because itâ€™s very large and it has visitors from all parts of the world for the same reasons.

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