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The Taj Mahal: a Token of Undying and Everlasting Love by Shah Jehan, the Mughal Emperor with Love to His Wife, Mumtaz Mahal by [Austin Brian](#)

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When it comes to the Indians, a monument that captures their attention and fills them with an undying and cherishing spirit of love and selfless heartfelt feelings is the Taj Mahal, Agra. One of the biggies that made it to the seven amazing wonders of the world, Taj Mahal was constructed by the Mughal dynasty the then emperor, Shah Jehan, in the fond memory of his lovely wife, Mumtaz Mahal. He was so immersed in her love even after her death that he decided to raise such a beautifully decked white marble structure that signifies love, beauty and selfless companionship. Taj Mahal is situated in the state of Uttar Pradesh, in the city of Agra in India and the mention of its very name is a sense of pride for every Indian. Considered as the queen of all the palaces, this pure white marble monument is a world heritage site and one of the finest instances of the Mughal Architecture. It took around 21 years for the craftsmen and the artisans to complete the construction of this epitome of love monument. Since then, many leading architects have tried to copy the structure and architecture of Taj Mahal, Agra but none has been successful in making such a fine example.

Origin, inspiration and architecture details:

Shah Jehan was stricken with grief and sorrow when his wife Mumtaz Mahal died while giving birth to their child in 1631. This prompted the Mughal ruler for the construction of the worldwide renowned structure in the year 1632. The main dome mausoleum's construction was finished in 1648, while the other buildings, minarets and the gardens and lawns were completed after five years. Inspired by the Persian and early Mughal architectural styles, Taj Mahal Agra was made as an inspiration from Gur-e-Amir in Samarkand, Jama Masjid in Delhi and Humayun's tomb in Delhi. The difference though among these buildings and the unique Taj Mahal was that all the former stated buildings are built up of red sandstone while the Taj Mahal was uniquely made up of white sandstone and marble and even engraved with precious stones.

Tourism:

Being one of the new seven world wonders, Taj Mahal Agra attracts millions of people all the year round who come to see this epitome and example of love from near and far. A comparatively lower entree fees is charged from Indian tourists while the foreign tourists have to pay a little extra for their entree. Photography is allowed but you cannot wear footwear inside the arena of the Taj Mahal- a step taken to keep its beauty and cleanliness intact.

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