

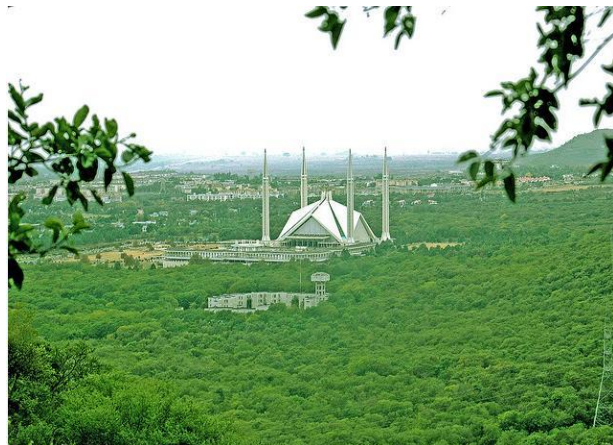
Faisal Masjid

History of Faisal Masjid

- Faisal Masjid was built with financial support from Shah Faisal of Saudi Arabia.
- An international competition was held in 1969 which architects from 17 countries submitted 43 proposals. After four days of deliberation, Turkish architect Vedat Dalokay's design was chosen.
- Building work started in 1976 and completed in 1986
- It cost 130 million Saudi Riyals

Fast Facts

- Faisal mosque is the largest and the most beautiful mosque of Pakistan.
- It is also the largest mosque of Asia as well as sixth largest mosque in the world.
- Covered Area: 54,000 square feet
- 3 lac namazees can pray at at one time in the Masjid; 15,000 in the Hall, 85,000 in the Verandas and Courtyard (85,000) and 2 lac in the lawns.
- There is a separate hall for women which accommodates 15000 women
- Around 4,000 people visit the Mosque during the five working days.
- On Friday, Saturday and Sunday and more than 20,000 people visit the mosque
- During Ramzan, there is arrangement for approximately 1500 people to stay for Aetekaf at the Faisal Mosque.
- You have to take off your shoes and give them to the shoe keeper before entering the mosque.
- It is located at the foothills of Margallah hills and at the end of Shahrah-e-Faisal



- The Mosque is decorated with hundreds of lights for religious occasions.



Design

- It looks like an Arab Bedouin's tent, with its large triangular prayer hall and four minarets.
- Each minaret is 88 meter tall. The minarets are shaped like pencils.
- Unlike traditional masjid design, it lacks a dome.
- The mosque is made of marble



- In front of the hall is “the Stage”.
- Here on specific religious days, the imam gives a sermon for rest of the practitioners
- The first seven verses of the Holy Qur'an written on a tablet of Quran.
- The first Kalma is written on every two panels. You can read the complete statement of oneness written on the center panel.

- The Qibla Wall has three types of tiles: Blue tiles, green tiles and yellow tiles. The blue tiles show the color of the sky. And the green ones depict the grass. And the yellow ones are depicting the blessings of God which He showers upon us.



There is a beautiful central chandelier which was gifted by the Muslims artisans of China. It is fitted with 1,100 electric bulbs



Library

- There is a library at the Mosque with hundreds of books on Islam and its history.
- It contains about 25,000 books on Islamic topics especially on the Quran, Tafsir, Hadith, Fiqh, Aqidah, Islamic Culture, Islamic History, Da'wah methodology, Comparative Study of Religions, History of Pakistan, Kashmir, Quaid-e-Azam, Iqbaliyat, and other relevant subjects.
- About a hundred people daily visit the library and benefitted from the collection of books available there.

Book and Gift shop

There is a book stall where books are sold on discount rates. A gift shop has also been set up in the Mosque which attracts a large number of people, he said adding, the shop sells Pure Honey, Dates and several other Islamic models etc.