

Wooden domes in the north west of Iran

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Abstract Dome has long history in Iran. The most common flat ceiling was used in Achaemenid dynasty but before and after this time it was rarely possible to bring cedar from Lebanon. but because of lack of curved arch and dome were replaced as a structural and geographical phenomenology in Iran architecture.

The remained wooden domes from Safavid period represent that background of these wooden domes in Iran date back to the previous periods not the beginning of Safavid period (17th Century) and it is proved from the artistic skills performed in these domes. Since wood is a mineral and is destroyed faster than other materials so there are a few old properties of wooden constructions. Some of these kinds of domes belonging to Safavid period are remained in Azerbaijan in which woods were located on the squinches of the main base and repeated to shape dome. This paper tries to study structure and construction of these kinds of wooden ceilings.

Key words: wooden, dome, curve