

Dome transition in the historic shrine of Aziran, Iran

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Abstract The various types of squinches as one of the particular features of Iranian architecture have proposed significant inventions on the basis of translating the domes upon predominantly rectangular chambers. In this method, the notion of premier squinches seems to have been technically improved by forming each course slightly ahead of the row underneath. Hence, the transitional zone eventually transforms into the succession of corbel-shaped masonry courses. Although the dome translation is usually generated through the common semi-conical shapes at the corners, the diagonal supports in the Shrine of Baba-Mola Aziran' dome transition is performed through the corbel-like courses in a special geometrical method which makes this a distinctive combination of two different methods called "Patgin" and "Patganeh".

As such, this article attempts to address this simple geometrical solution of dome transition in the Iranian traditional structures with focus on this historic dome.

Keywords Aziran Baba-Mola shrine, squinches, corbelled courses