

# History of Global Architecture

Created in celebration of World Architecture Day on October 6, 2025, with the theme "Design for Strength." [uia-architectes.org](https://uia-architectes.org) Credits to the BACED group of Bengaluru Based Architects & Designers (BACED\_Grp4 Designers @Bengaluru). Join their WhatsApp group for more discussions: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EQXjzwZV0Zy3jsN25a0NML> [architecturaldigest.in](https://architecturaldigest.in)

Since I cannot directly generate or output a PDF file, below is the expanded chart in markdown format. You can copy this into a tool like a word processor (e.g., Microsoft Word or Google Docs), format it as needed, and export it to PDF. For best results, use a landscape orientation and adjust table widths.

Style	Period / Extent & Centers	Factors	General Characteristics	Contributions	Notable Exam
Egyptian	3100-332 BC, Nile Valley	Religion (afterlife), stone abundant	Massive, stone, post-and-lintel, hieroglyphics	Monumental tombs/temples	Pyramid of Giza, Temple of Karnak
Mesopotamian / Persian	3500-330 BC, Tigris-Euphrates, Persia	City-states, lack of stone, religion	Ziggurats, palaces, mudbrick, glazed tiles	Arch, vault development	Ziggurat of Ur, Ishtar Gate
Indus Valley (Harappan)	3300-1300 BC, Indus Valley (India, Pakistan)	Urban development, trade, agriculture	Baked brick buildings, grid layouts, advanced drainage	Early urban planning, sanitation systems	Mohenjo-daro, Harappa
Greek	900-146 BC, Greece	Democracy, marble available, philosophy	Orders (Doric, Ionic, Corinthian), temples, symmetry	Architectural orders, aesthetics	Parthenon, Erech
Ancient Chinese	c. 2000 BC-1912 AD, China	Imperial rule, Confucianism	Wooden structures, dougong brackets	Modular building	Great Wall of China

Chinese	1912 AD, China	Confucianism, defense	dougong brackets, curved roofs, courtyards	durability, earthquake-resistant designs, pagodas	China Forbidden City, Temple of Heaven
Etruscan	900-100 BC, Tuscany (Italy)	Funerary cult, arches, bronze/terracotta	Tombs, simple temples, arches	Arch refinement, urban planning	Tomb of the Bulls, Tarquinia, Porta Unica
Roman	753 BC-476 AD, Roman Empire	Empire expansion, concrete invention	Arches, vaults, domes, basilicas, aqueducts	Concrete, infrastructure, amphitheaters	Pantheon, Colosseum, Aqueduct of Segovia
Ancient Indian	c. 1500 BC-1800 AD, Indian subcontinent	Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, monarchies	Stupas, rock-cut caves, temples with shikharas, intricate carvings	Rock-cut techniques, mandala layouts, vimanas	Sanchi, Ajanta, Ellora, Khajuraho, Temples of Hampi
Mesoamerican (Mayan/Aztec)	2000 BC-1521 AD, Mexico, Central America	Religion, astronomy, city-states	Stepped pyramids, plazas, ball courts, corbel arches	Astronomical alignments, urban ceremonial centers	Chichen Itza, Teotihuacan, Mayan Temples
Early Christian	330-800 AD, Rome & Byzantium	Christianity legalized, basilicas reused	Basilicas, plain exteriors, symbolic interiors	Basilica plan, Christian iconography	Old St. Peter's, Basilica of San Vitale
Byzantine	330-1453 AD, Constantinople	Christian theology, domes, mosaics	Domes on pendentives, centralized plans	Dome + mosaic integration	Hagia Sophia, San Vitale
Islamic	c. 650 AD-present, Middle East, N. Africa, Asia	Islam, trade, cultural fusion	Mosques with minarets, domes, geometric patterns, hypostyle halls	Iwan portals, muqarnas, arabesques	Dome of the Rock, Alhambra, Mahal of Fateh
Khmer	802-1431 AD, Cambodia	Hinduism/Buddhism, divine kingship	Temple-mountains, bas-reliefs, carved	Massive stone temples	Angkor Wat, Bayon

	Cambodia (Southeast Asia)	divine kingship	bas-reliefs, barays	temples, hydraulic systems	Bayon
Romanesque	900-1200 AD, W. Europe	Feudalism, pilgrimage, monasteries	Thick walls, round arches, barrel vaults	Pilgrimage churches, fortress style	St. S. Pisa C
Japanese	c. 600 AD-present, Japan	Shinto/Buddhism, Zen, isolation	Wooden post-and-lintel, tatami, sliding doors, gardens	Nature integration, minimalism	Horyu Temp Kinka
Gothic	12th-15th c., France, Europe	Catholic Church, urban growth, power	Pointed arches, ribbed vaults, flying buttress, stained glass	Structural innovation, light-filled cathedrals	Notre Chart Cathe
Great Zimbabwe (African)	11th-15th c. AD, Southern Africa (Zimbabwe)	Trade (gold/ivory), kingship	Dry stone walls, enclosures, conical towers	Curvilinear masonry, hill complexes	Great Zimbab ruins
Incan	1200-1533 AD, Andes (Peru, Bolivia, etc.)	Empire expansion, agriculture, topography	Polygonal stone masonry, terraces, roads	Dry stone fitting, landscape integration	Mach Sacs
Renaissance	1400-1600 AD, Italy	Humanism, revival of classics	Symmetry, domes, orders, proportion	Humanism in design, classical revival	Florer Cathe (Duor Peter Basili
Baroque	1600-1750 AD, Italy, Spain, France	Counter-Reformation, monarchy	Dramatic, dynamic forms, ovals, rich ornament	Emotional & theatrical architecture	Palaco Versa Paul's Cathe
Rococo	1700-1780 AD, France	Aristocracy, salons, secular culture	Light, playful, pastel colors	Interior design refinement	Amali Salon

	France, Germany	secular culture	pastel colors, ornate interiors	monument	Baroque Prince
Neoclassicism	1750-1830 AD, Europe, USA	Enlightenment, revolutions	Greek/Roman revival, columns/pediments	Civic architecture, national monuments	Pantheon (Paris), Capitoline
19th c. Revivals	1800s, Europe & America	Nationalism, industry	Gothic Revival, Neo-Romanesque, eclectic	Historicism, revivalism	Houses of Parliament (London)
Modern	19th-20th c., Global	Industrial revolution, steel/glass	Functionalism, minimalism, skyscrapers	International style, new materials	Eiffel Tower, Bauhaus, Fallingwater

This chart provides a comprehensive overview of global architectural history, incorporating diverse civilizations for a more inclusive perspective. Periods may overlap due to regional developments.

- ↳ Explore World Architecture Day theme
- ↳ Bengaluru architecture landmarks
- ↳ Make table more visually appealing