



**Faculty of Archaeology  
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**Beijing Monumental Mosques Since the  
third century AH (Ninth century AD) until  
the thirteenth century AH (Nineteen  
century AD) architectural archaeological  
study**

**For Ph. Degree of Islamic Archeology**

**Submitted by**

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## **Abstract**

Through ongoing research of Representative Muslim's architecture, such as Chinese Mosques, this paper seeks to shed light on the artistic features of ancient Muslims architecture. Many of the key characteristics of this distinctive ethnic heritage are based in commonly held religious beliefs and on the relationship between culture and religion. The purpose of this study is to explore the characteristics of design and architecture of mosques, they evolved from using a predominantly Arabic style to incorporating the traditional palace building cluster style typical of China. It is evident that the architectural evolution of Muslim culture in China has been influenced by Traditional Chinese culture.

Chinese Islamic architecture characterized by architectural forms that it is considered different from the Islamic world architecture; Due to many factors; the most important is the Islamic architecture in China was not built by the state or the ruling class, but the sponsors are the Muslim people themselves. Chinese Islamic architecture blended between culture and content of Islam together with traditional local Chinese heritage. Chinese mosques architecture reflects this blend clearly both in the planning or units and architectural elements or motifs.

This research aims to study the characteristics of Chinese mosques architecture, through studying one of the most important planning patterns; the traditional courtyards plan Known as (Siheyuan). So we will make a practical study on Beijing Monumental Mosque. This research includes a descriptive study of ten mosques in the city of Beijing; followed by an analytical study of the history and architecture and compared the Chinese domestic architecture, as well as to compare the architecture of mosques of the Islamic world.

The study concluded that mosques architecture in Beijing is not in the totality Chinese architecture; but a Blend between the Chinese cultural heritage and the Islamic culture, This resulted in a style with a unique architecture combining vocabulary and elements of both Chinese and Islamic architecture.