Madrasa of Mustafa Pasha Al Nashaar in Zabīd, Yemen architectural and comparative study

Abstract:

Madrasa of Mustafa Pasha Al-Nashaar is considered one of the most prominent buildings of the Ottoman architecture in Yemen. It was built in 962-963AH/1554AD. It is located on the south side of Zabīd. It was commissioned by Mustafa Pasha al Nashaar who is considered the first Ottoman governor of Yemen. It was playing the role of madrasa to spread the Hanafite and Shafite Sunni doctrines and to eliminate the Zaydi Shiite doctrine. Also, it contains a mausoleum dome for Mustafa Pasha Al-Nashaar, his wife, and his sons. The madrasa is characterized by its Special Architectural style on the Ottoman style with a main domed section and a multiple-domed portico.

In this paper, the researcher studies a short biography of Mustafa Pasha Al-Nashaar, a descriptive and Analytical Study of the Madrasa, architectural and of this Madrasa, distinctive architectural and artistic features of the Madrasa. The researcher follows the descriptive, analytical, and comparative approach in this study.

The paper sheds new and unexpected light on the history of the Madrasa regarding its historical importance and its distinctive architectural style as it is a good example of the Ottoman style in Yemen. Also, the paper aims to document its exposure to demolition and ruin due to current war and conflict in Yemen.