



ARCH 122: Mid-Term Test, Spring 2014

QUESTION 1. Give a short definition for FIVE of the following words:

4.5
5

0.5 ✓ a. minbar ^{in a mosque}
It is a place where the imam or the khatib stands to preach or to say a speech on Fridays (symbols of authority)

b. tesserae

1 ✓ c. velum
It is a sheep skin that was used long time ago (6th century) to write manuscripts on (like book of Rebecca & Abraham)

d. martyrrium

WRITE

1 ✓ e. codex
It is some kind of books which is the book in the form of pages (other kind is roller scroll)

f. millefiore

g. carpet page



h. diptych



i. chancel

It is the place in a church near the altar with the apse

1 ✓ j. maqsura ^{in a mosque}
It is a place near the mihrab made specially for the caliph or the prince to sit in

k. soffit

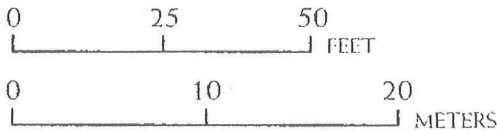
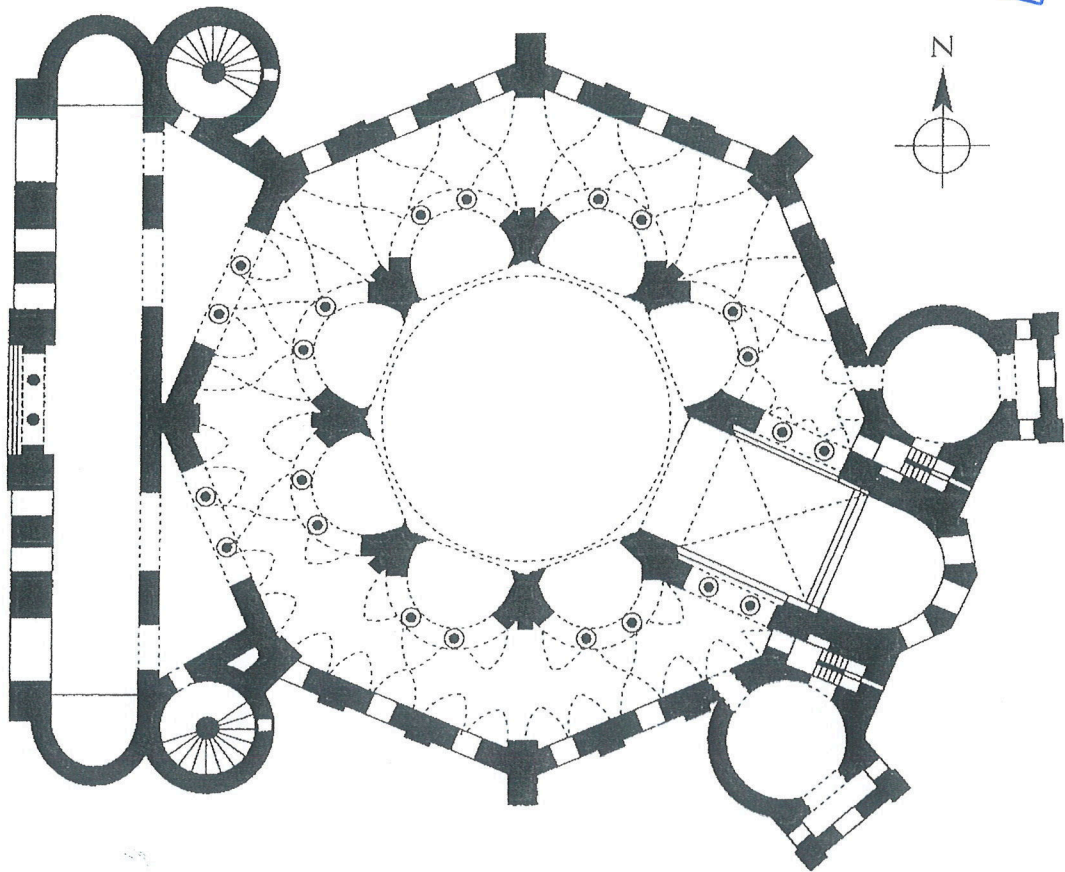
1 ✓ It is the interior of arches or vaults usually decorated by different mosaic

l. voussoir

m. bevel

QUESTION 2. Identify the following plans by name, date and location, and then write a sentence on the significance of each.

a.

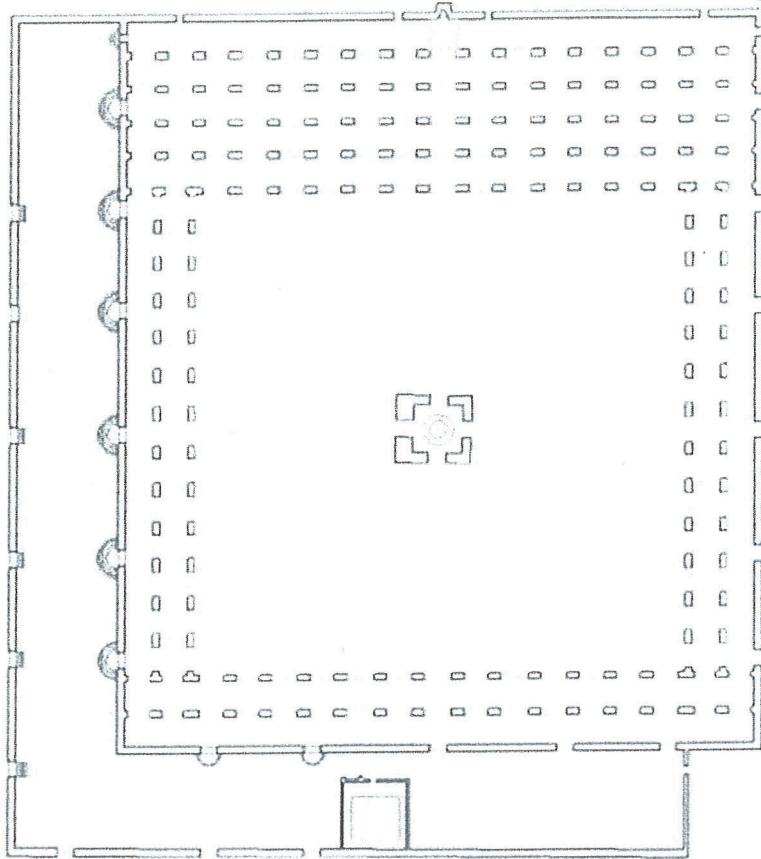
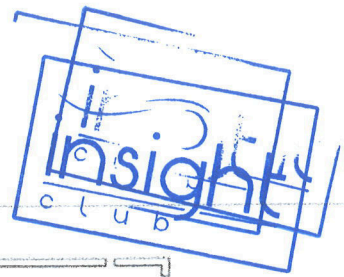


4/5

- ✓ - St. Vitale church plan
- ✓ - 6th century
- ✓ - Ravenna

It is an octagonal plan church. It is special because inside this church artists used reverse proportion in painting (diverging line to make objects bigger). It has 2 entrances.

b.



4/5

Scale:



- ✓ Ibn Tulun
- ✓ Cairo
- × 10th century

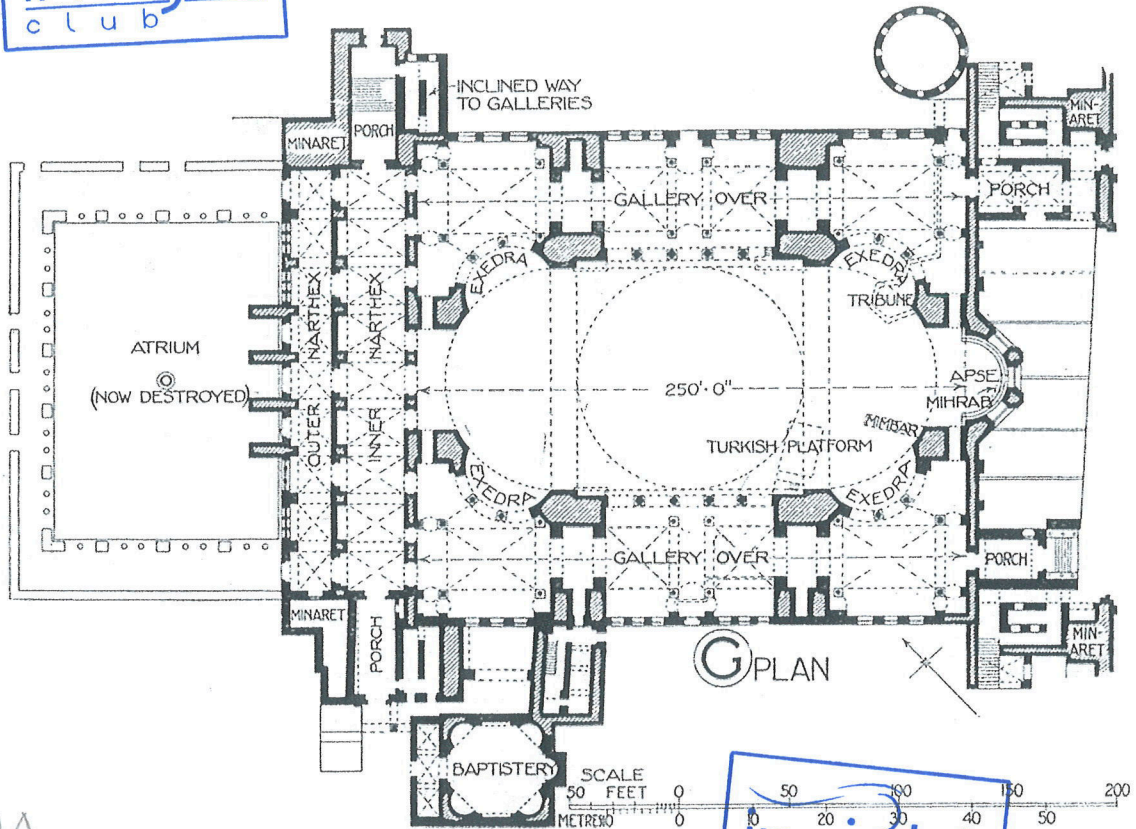
It is made of 2 squares. Hypostyle is on 3 sides making a courtyard (a fountain centering it) and a deep hypostyle in the 4th side leading to the minbar. There is a exterior minaret with a spiral shape.

× The space between minaret and the mosque is a sacred place.

Piers are rectangular making the feeling of walls that are pierced by windows

OK

c.



5/5

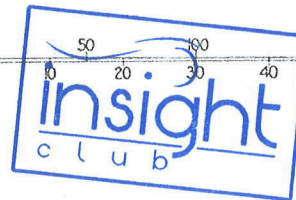
HAGIA



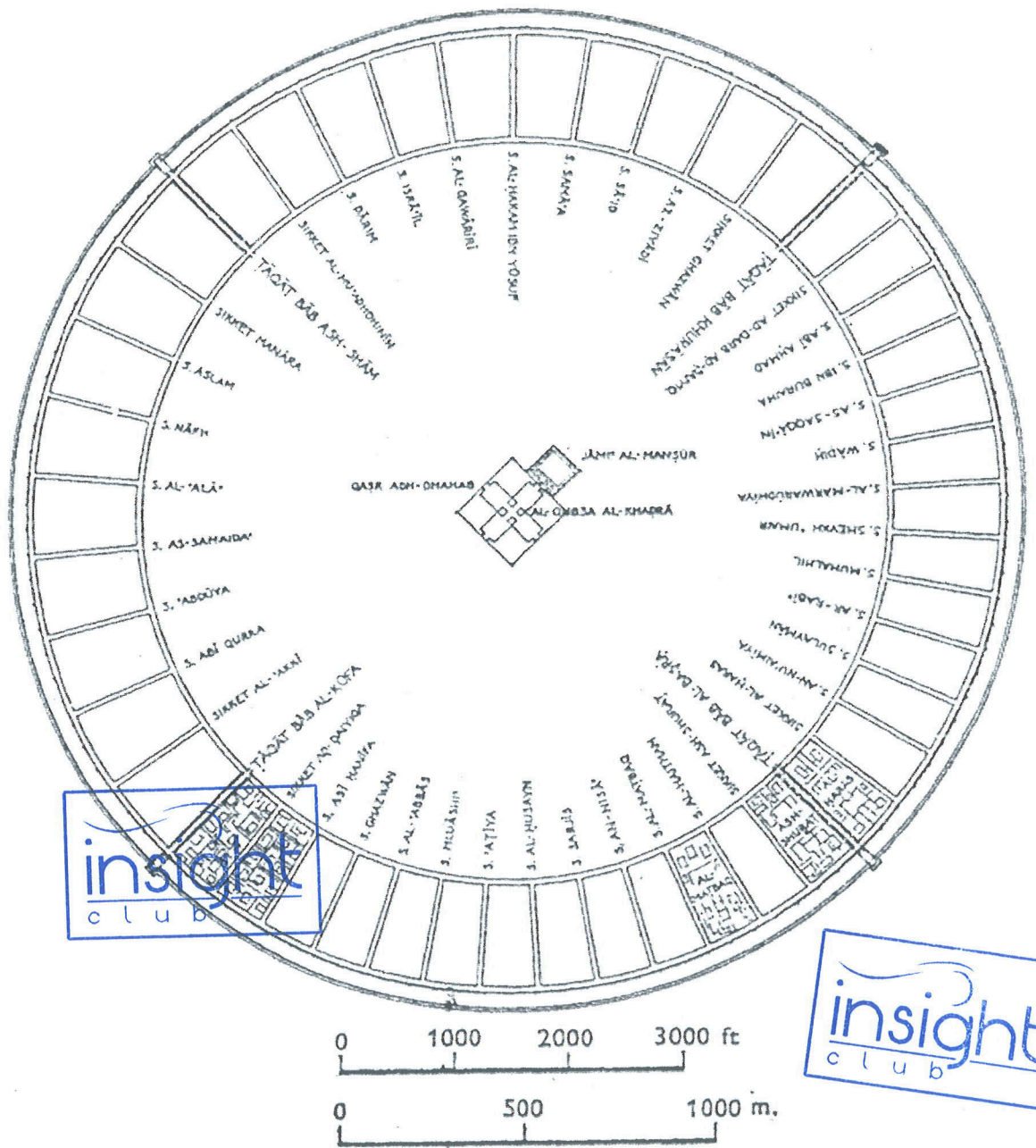
- ✓ Hagia Sophia
- ✓ Istanbul (Constantinople)
- ✓ 6th century
- ✓ It was ~~built~~ ordered to be built by Justinian, it was finished by 5 years only.
- ✓ Primarily it was a church, then changed to mosque and now it's a museum containing both Islamic & Christian features.

~~2~~ half domes raised the central one.

- ✓ Primarily it was built by brick & thick mortar which made the dome collapse.



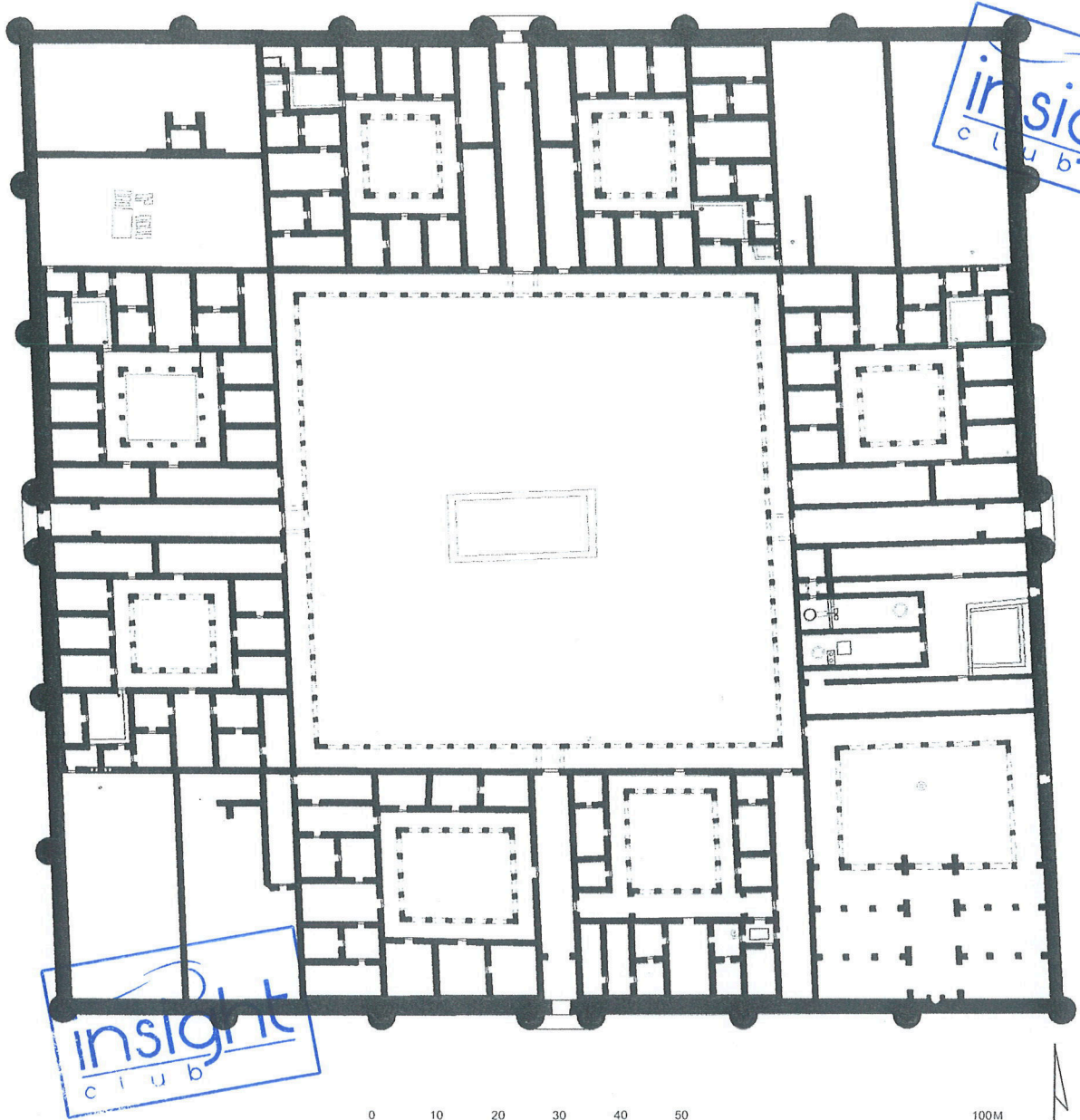
d.



3/3

- ✓ Baghdad, "city of Peace"
- ✓ 8th century
- ✓ in Baghdad, Iraq
- ✓ It is a perfect circular city with 4 gates, 4 main roads, a mosque in the center with a green dome (that has a rider with lance on top of it)
- ✓ Houses or residential neighborhood are on its periphery side.
- ✓ It failed because a circular place can't expand.

e.



- ✓ Qasr Al Hayr al Sharqi: (east)
- ✓ it is one of the desert places in the Umayyad period
- ✓ Date: 8th century.
- ✓ Place: on ~~the~~ pre-existing Roman Roads. SYRIAN DESERT
- ✓ It has a mosque, bath, oil press (like Romans in water work)
- ✓ and 6 houses (it is the 1st Islamic caravan inn (hotel))

slide 1: ✓ ^{Sava Simo} 901400309

Great mosque of Cordoba ^{8th century, Spain} ✓

It is a dome ✓ near the mihrab ✓ with an octagonal shape ✓.

Arches interlacing (above Maqsurat)

Koranic inscription on blue background for symbolic & decorative reasons, ✓
gold

The dome is covered by different mosaic & tesserae ✓
Octagonal ~~form~~ form makes more spaces for decoration.

This mosque was built by Abdulrahman I
pointed arches (derived from Sassanian period) ✓
central dome



slide 2: ✓

Book of Rebecca & Abraham, 6th century (medieval art)

It is an ^{early} ~~ancient~~ Greek book which ~~is~~ contains illustrations
~~The~~ ~~year~~ A person can either read to understand or
look at the illustration ~~at~~ as he move on.

It is written on velum which is a sheep skin
that is not really good (comparing it with papers)

It is a codex book (made of pages)

(the other kind of books is roll or scroll)

In ^{one} illustration it shows a palace perhaps and women taking water
from a lake.



$\frac{4}{6}$

Hinged belt ✓
7th century
early medieval art

It is a golden and red belt (which became the royal colors)

It is made by millifloré (the thousands flowers)
which is fusing rods of colorful glass and reducing it then
slicing it into ^{tiny} thin pieces.

It is symmetrical.

$\frac{3}{6}$

It has an interlace frame in red. ✓



Slide 4:

desert palace ✓

Qasr Amra 8th century ✓



It contains a bath ~~standing in the wilderness~~
It is a private palace that contains different themes of the interior (dancing women, hunting, craftsman working, the 6 kings) ✓

One of the themes is the prince theme
It may be a private palace

It is found on preexisting Roman roads, how it seems that it is in the middle of no. where) ✓

$\frac{5}{6}$

WHERE?

St Costanza ~~16~~ 4th century

It is a church dedicated to Constantine's daughter
~~the~~ the ~~aisles~~ ~~circle~~ the apse making
the soffit of the interior of the vaults is covered by mosaics
representing both Christianity and paganism.



It has some diptych showing figures praying or surrendering
The mosaic is more classical and related somehow to the
Roman period.

4.5
6



slide 6:

Great mosque of Damascus 706 AD

~~Umayyad~~ In Syria X

it is one of the mosaics found on the interior of this mosque.



It is vegetal decoration related somehow to Koranic inscriptions are for ~~symbolic~~ symbolic & decorative reasons. (playing the role of borders)

This Mosque is built by Walid I in Umayyad period

It is the 1st mosque that introduced the mihrab, the minbar, and dome above the minbar and the dome.

They were Umayyad royal features back then but they became religious islamic features that are now found in every mosque.



slide 3:

Madinat Al-Zahra (Cordoba Spain) ✓

audience hall ✓

10th century ✓

it is a rectangular form with aisles separated by columns and arches.

The arches are not semi-circular but larger, ✓

the columns are spolia (reused). ✓

between the arches we have different mosaics ^{and tesserae} that are X
interlocking vegetal or geometric shapes (beginning of arabesque)

$\frac{5.5}{6}$

Bonus:



It ~~is~~ may be a capital of columns that ~~is~~ like the ones used in madinat al zahra. ✓

It combines ~~the~~ geometrical and vegetal shapes. ✓

It has a kind of symmetry. ✓

It is carved ~~by~~ like the Samarra style C, which is carving in an oblique form forming abstracted shapes and playing on the +ve & -ve spaces. ✓
It is not heavily decorated, perhaps not finished.
In a way or another it ~~is~~ appears to be an abstraction of a cat with triangle face, long curly ears, and a long neck

$\frac{4.5}{5}$