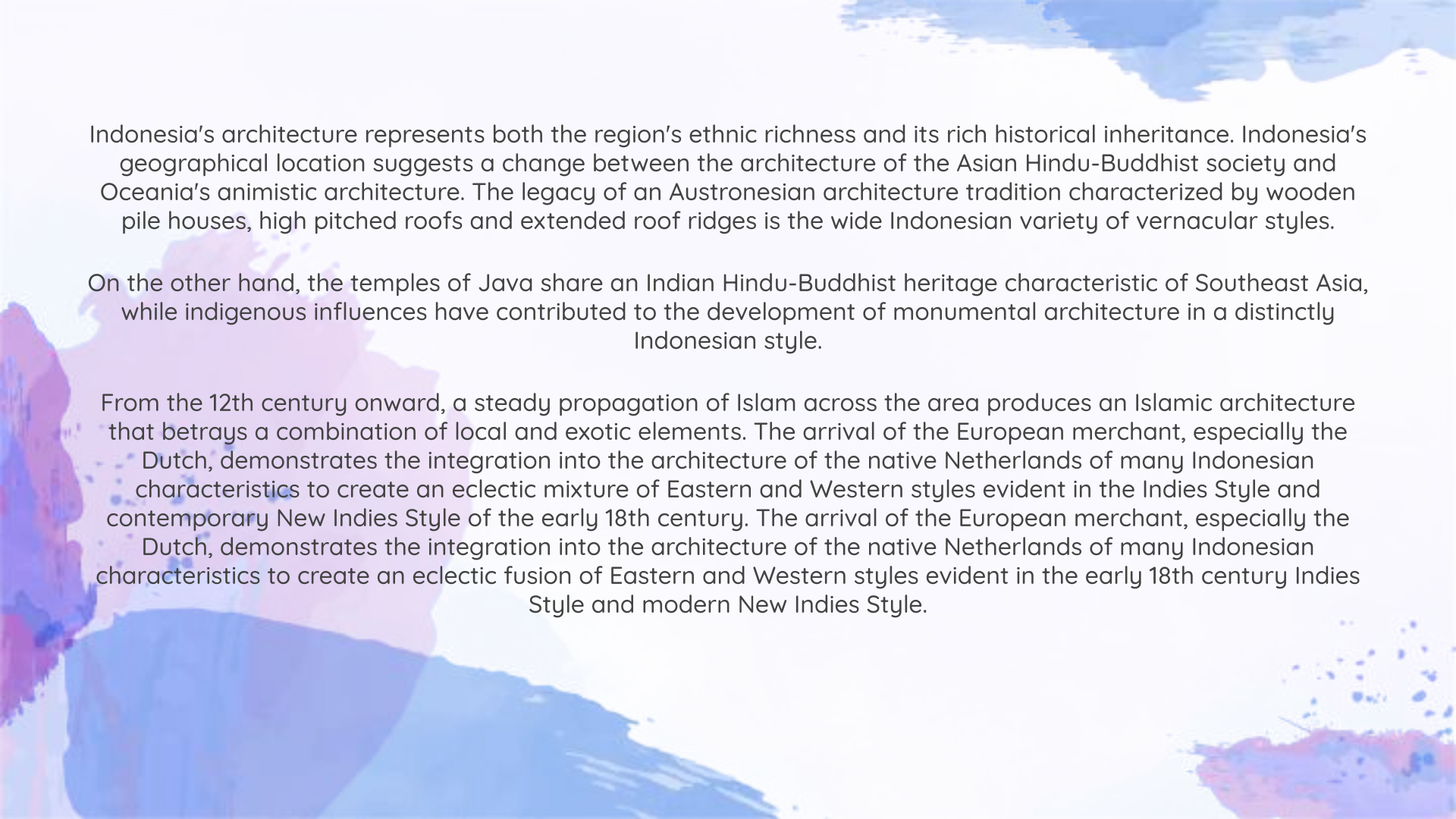


6.3

Indonesia




Indonesia's architecture represents both the region's ethnic richness and its rich historical inheritance. Indonesia's geographical location suggests a change between the architecture of the Asian Hindu-Buddhist society and Oceania's animistic architecture. The legacy of an Austronesian architecture tradition characterized by wooden pile houses, high pitched roofs and extended roof ridges is the wide Indonesian variety of vernacular styles.

On the other hand, the temples of Java share an Indian Hindu-Buddhist heritage characteristic of Southeast Asia, while indigenous influences have contributed to the development of monumental architecture in a distinctly Indonesian style.

From the 12th century onward, a steady propagation of Islam across the area produces an Islamic architecture that betrays a combination of local and exotic elements. The arrival of the European merchant, especially the Dutch, demonstrates the integration into the architecture of the native Netherlands of many Indonesian characteristics to create an eclectic mixture of Eastern and Western styles evident in the Indies Style and contemporary New Indies Style of the early 18th century. The arrival of the European merchant, especially the Dutch, demonstrates the integration into the architecture of the native Netherlands of many Indonesian characteristics to create an eclectic fusion of Eastern and Western styles evident in the early 18th century Indies Style and modern New Indies Style.





07

Oceanic

Huts, constructed of wood and other vegetable products, form much of the Oceanic structures. Art and architecture have also been closely related, such as storehouses and meetinghouses are often adorned with intricate carvings, and so in this debate they are discussed together. The Pacific Islands' architecture was complex and often broad in scale. In great symbolic detail, buildings embodied the structure and concerns of the cultures that designed them. Most buildings in Oceania were theoretically little more than plain assemblies of poles tied together with cane lashings; elaborate joining and pegging practices were found only in the Caroline Islands.

Nan Madol of the Federated States of Micronesia is a major Oceanic archaeological site. Nan Madol was the Saudeleur Dynasty's ritual and political palace, which unified the approximate 25,000 inhabitants of Pohnpei until around 1628. It was a scene of human action as early as the first or second century AD, set apart between the main island of Pohnpei and Temwen Island. Islet building had begun in the 8th or 9th century, with construction of the distinctive megalithic architecture starting in 1180-1200 AD.



08

Eastern Asia

8.

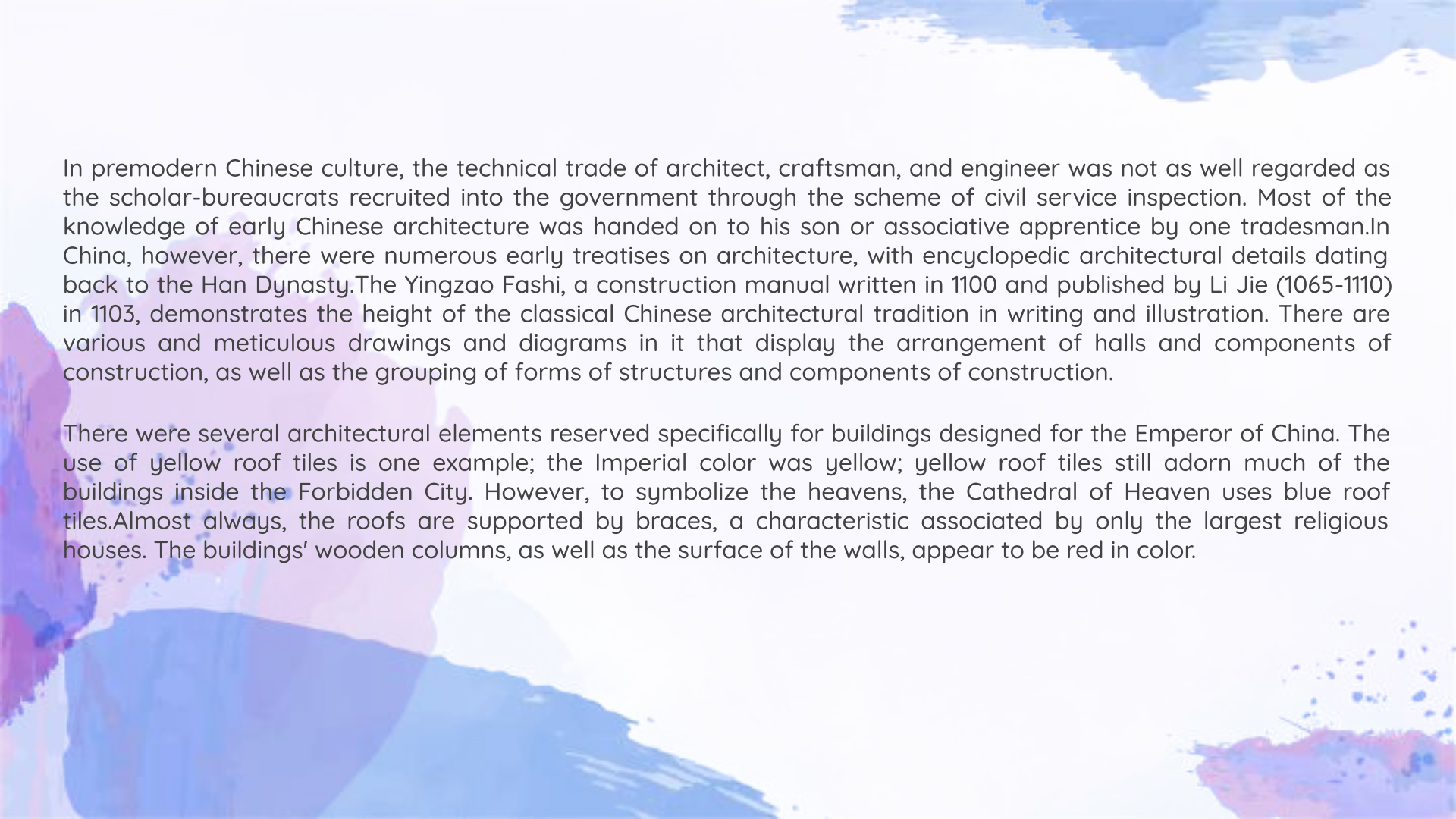
1

Chinese

Chinese architecture refers to an architectural style which has taken form for several decades in East Asia. Japan, Korea, Vietnam and Ryukyu, in particular. Chinese architecture's structural ideals have remained largely intact, with the decorative elements becoming the major changes.

Chinese architecture has had a significant influence on the architectural designs of Korea, Vietnam and Japan since the Tang Dynasty.


The oldest rammed earth fortifications remain, with proof of timber architecture, from the Neolithic period Longshan Culture and Bronze Age Erlitou culture. Yinxu Palace's subterranean remains date back to the Shang Dynasty (c. 1600 BC-1046 BC). Architectural focus was put on the horizontal axes in historic China, in particular the building of a heavy foundation and a large roof floating over this foundation, with not as much emphasis on the vertical walls. This contrasts with Western architecture, which seeks to increase in depth and height. Chinese architecture emphasizes that the width of the buildings has a visual influence. The divergence from this pattern is the tower architecture of the Chinese tradition, which started as an indigenous tradition[citation needed] and was gradually affected by the stupa, which originated from Nepal, the Buddhist building for housing religious sutras. Representations of the ancient Chinese tomb style date to the Han Dynasty (202 BC-220 AD) of several story residential buildings and watchtowers. The oldest existing Chinese Buddhist pagoda, however, is the Songyue Pagoda, a 40 m (131 ft) tall circular-based brick tower built in 523 AD in the province of Henan. Stone-based structures were more prevalent from the 6th century onwards, although the oldest are found in Han Dynasty tombs from stone and brick arches. Founded from 595 to 605 AD, the Zhaozhou Bridge is China's oldest existing stone bridge, as well as the oldest open-spandrel segmental arch bridge in the world.



In premodern Chinese culture, the technical trade of architect, craftsman, and engineer was not as well regarded as the scholar-bureaucrats recruited into the government through the scheme of civil service inspection. Most of the knowledge of early Chinese architecture was handed on to his son or associative apprentice by one tradesman. In China, however, there were numerous early treatises on architecture, with encyclopedic architectural details dating back to the Han Dynasty. The Yingzao Fashi, a construction manual written in 1100 and published by Li Jie (1065-1110) in 1103, demonstrates the height of the classical Chinese architectural tradition in writing and illustration. There are various and meticulous drawings and diagrams in it that display the arrangement of halls and components of construction, as well as the grouping of forms of structures and components of construction.

There were several architectural elements reserved specifically for buildings designed for the Emperor of China. The use of yellow roof tiles is one example; the Imperial color was yellow; yellow roof tiles still adorn much of the buildings inside the Forbidden City. However, to symbolize the heavens, the Cathedral of Heaven uses blue roof tiles. Almost always, the roofs are supported by braces, a characteristic associated by only the largest religious houses. The buildings' wooden columns, as well as the surface of the walls, appear to be red in color.





8.2

Korean

The basic model of architecture is more or less similar to the building structure of Eastern Asia. Buildings are vertically and horizontally organized from a technological point of view. A building typically rises from a stone subfoundation to a tile-covered curved roof, maintained by a console frame and supported on posts; walls are constructed of earth (adobe) or are often formed entirely of movable wooden doors. Architecture is constructed according to the k'an unit, the distance between two posts (about 3.7 meters), which is built so that the "inside" and the "outside." often have a transitional area.

The console, or bracket structure, is a particular architectural feature that has been constructed over time in different ways. During the early Koryo dynasty (918-1392), a curved version with brackets mounted only on the column heads of the building was built when the plain bracket system was already in use under the Goguryeo kingdom (37 BCE-668 CE) in palaces in Pyongyang, for example. A good example is the Amita Hall of the Pusok temple in Antong. Later on, under the influence of the Mongol Yuan dynasty (1279-1368), a multiple-bracket system, or an inter-columnar-bracket set system, was established (from the mid-Koryo period to the early Choson dynasty). The consoles were also mounted on the transverse horizontal beams inside this device. Probably the most symbolic example of this form of structure is Seoul's Namtaemun Gate Namdaemun, the foremost national treasure of Korea.

The winglike bracket shape originated in the mid-Choson period (one example is the Yongnyongjon Hall of Jongmyo, Seoul), which is viewed by many scholars as an example of strong Confucian influence in Joseon Korea, which stressed in such shrine buildings simplicity and modesty. The multicluster brackets were also found only in buildings of importance, such as palaces or even temples (Tongdosa, for example). More sober and simple solutions also contributed to Confucianism.



8.3

Japanese

There is as long a tradition of Japanese architecture as any other part of Japanese culture. It also illustrates a variety of major variations and characteristics that are distinctly Japanese.

In reaction to the militaristic environment of the period, two new styles of architecture were developed in medieval Japan: the fortress, a defensive building intended to house a feudal lord and his soldiers in times of trouble; and the shoin, a reception hall and private study area constructed to represent the lord and vassal relationships within a feudal society.

Because of the need to reconstruct Japan after World War II, there are various examples of new architecture in major Japanese cities. Due to its long acquaintance with the cantilever concept to withstand the weight of heavy tiled temple roofs, Japan has played some part in modern skyscraper architecture. Fresh proposals for urban planning on the basis of the concept of layering or cocooning around an inner space (oku), a Japanese



09

Pre-Columbia

9.1

Mesoamerican

Mesoamerican architecture is a collection of architectural practices that are best known in the form of public, ritual and urban monumental buildings and structures created by pre-Columbian cultures and civilizations of Mesoamerica (such as the Olmec, Maya, and Aztec). A variety of various regional and historical styles are used in the distinctive features of Mesoamerican architecture, which are, however, greatly interrelated. As a result of the intense cultural interaction between the different civilizations of the Mesoamerican culture region over thousands of years, these styles emerged over the various phases of Mesoamerican history. A variety of distinct regional and historical styles are included in the distinctive features of Mesoamerican architecture, but they are substantially interrelated. As a result of the intense cultural interaction between the various civilizations of the Mesoamerican cultural zone over thousands of years, these styles emerged over the different periods of Mesoamerican history.





9.2

Inca

Incan architecture consists of the main accomplishments of building built by the Incas. An elaborate road system covering much of the western length of the continent was built by the Incas. The world's first suspension bridges may be considered to be Inca rope bridges. They built their roads and bridges for foot and pack-llama traffic because the Incas used no wheels (it would have been impossible for the terrain) or horses. In the old Inca capital of Cuzco, much of today's architecture displays both Incan and Spanish influences. Machu Picchu, the famous lost site, is the best surviving instance of Incan architecture. Ollantaytambo is another important site. Sophisticated stone cutters whose masonry didn't use any mortar were the Inca.

