



GOLDEN TEMPLE (IN ASR.)

The Golden temple , also known as "The Harimandir Sahib" or "Sri Darbar Sahib" , famous for its full golden dome, is situated in a sacred pond Amrit sarovar or " the pool of nectar ". Amritsar city is basically named after these two words Amrit + Sarovar. The Golden temple is an exceptional place where pilgrims can feel God and one feels like Unification with God . A visitor must cover his / her head before entering the temple premises as it is considered to be a mark of respect to God . The temple complex has got four point entrance in four different directions and idea behind laying doors in four different directions was to spread a spiritual message that people of any cast, creed and religion can visit this great holy place to take the blessings of God. The main door to this temple complex , called "Darshani Deodi", is carved with splendid silver craftsmanship .The Temple complex also houses a dedicated Central Sikh Library and Museum, showcasing beautiful paintings , manuscripts , coins , arms and other masterpieces from Sikh history . Maharaja Ranjit Singh had got built the upper half of the building with approximately 400 kg of gold leaf and embellished the interiors with beautiful rare decorations .The lower half of the sacred temple is built in marble with similar carvings as in famous Taj Mahal .The first floor of the shrine is also called "Sheesh Mahal" or "The Hall of Mirrors" as it is ornamented with different colours of mirrors inlaid in walls and ceiling. The First floor spreads a soul soothing view of the whole Shrine . The original copy of the holy book of Sikhs called "Granth Sahib" is placed inside this main temple complex , covered under a jeweled canopy during the day and is taken back with a ceremony to Akal Takht (the seat of Sikh religious leaders) at night. As per Ripley's Believe It Or Not , 9th series, it is the most expensive book cover ever made on this earth . The



Akal Takht also houses the ancient weapons used by the Sikh warriors. Guru Hargobind established it. While taking Parikrama of the shrine , one encounters several holy and historic spots on the marble pathway . The must see spot among them is the "Dukh Bhanjani Ber"- This Jujube tree is believed to have miraculous medicinal properties to cure any ailment . It was planted 450 years ago, by the Golden Temple's first high priest, Baba

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