

الجامعة الإسلامية العالمية ماليزيا
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
يُونُسُ بَرَسِيَّتِي إِسْلَامُ أَنْتَارَا بَغْسِيَا مِلِّيْسِيَا

Garden of Knowledge and Virtue

ASSESSMENT OF A MASJID

AS A PLACE OF RACIAL HARMONY

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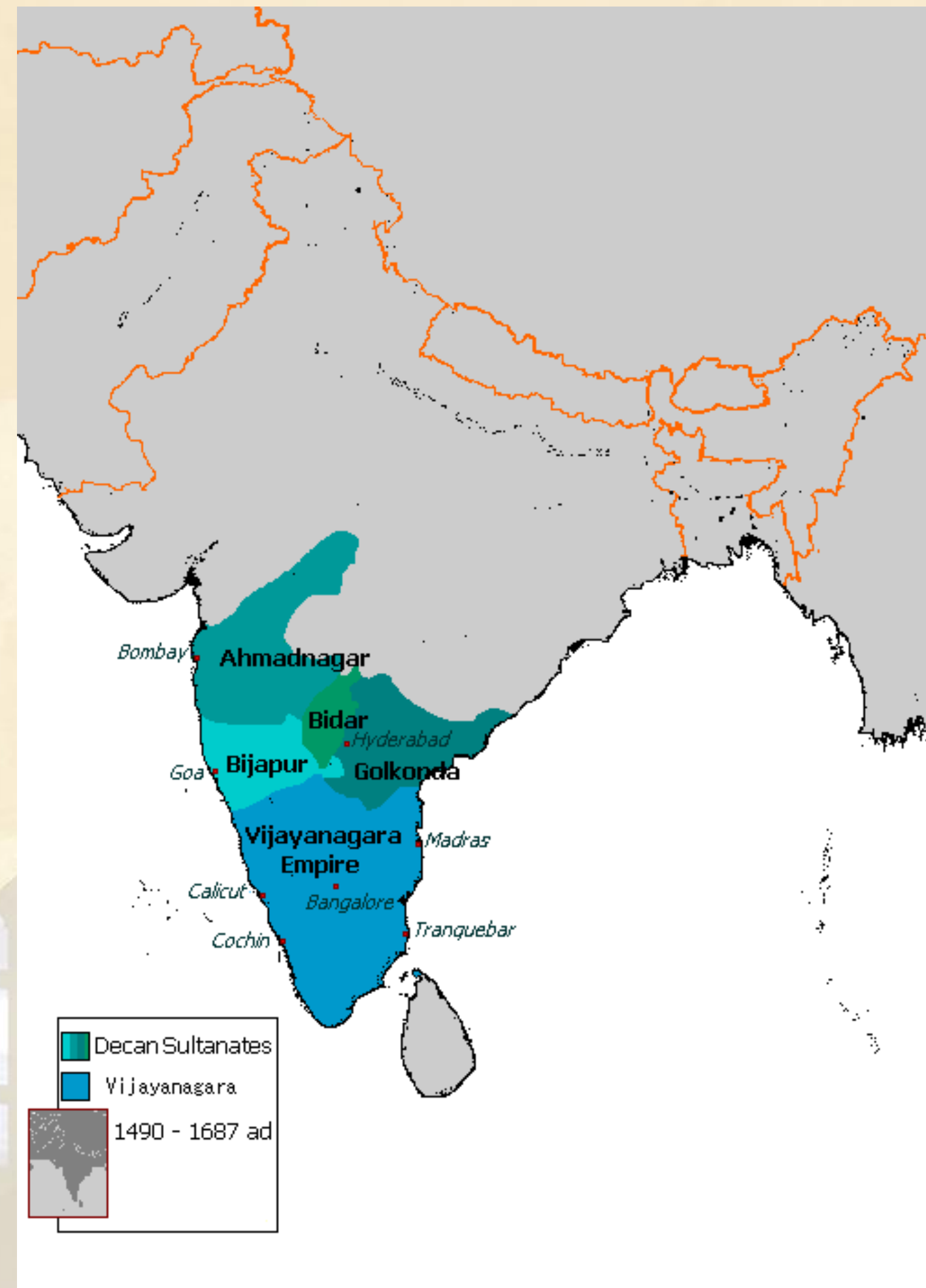
INTRODUCTION TO TOPIC

- **INDIA** is a Nation of various culture where people belonging to different religious, racial, cultural and lingual identities live together harmoniously.
- Currently various incidents are happening in India those are affecting the communal harmony.
- But India is known for communal harmony which has to be maintained.
- Communal harmony now is the primary need of country and it means that people of different religions, castes, creeds, sex and different background live together in the society with love and peace.
- Its very much important to understand the importance of communal harmony, and there are various example of it in India and one of the best example exist in state of Goa in India that is **heritage mosque of Surla Tar.**



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

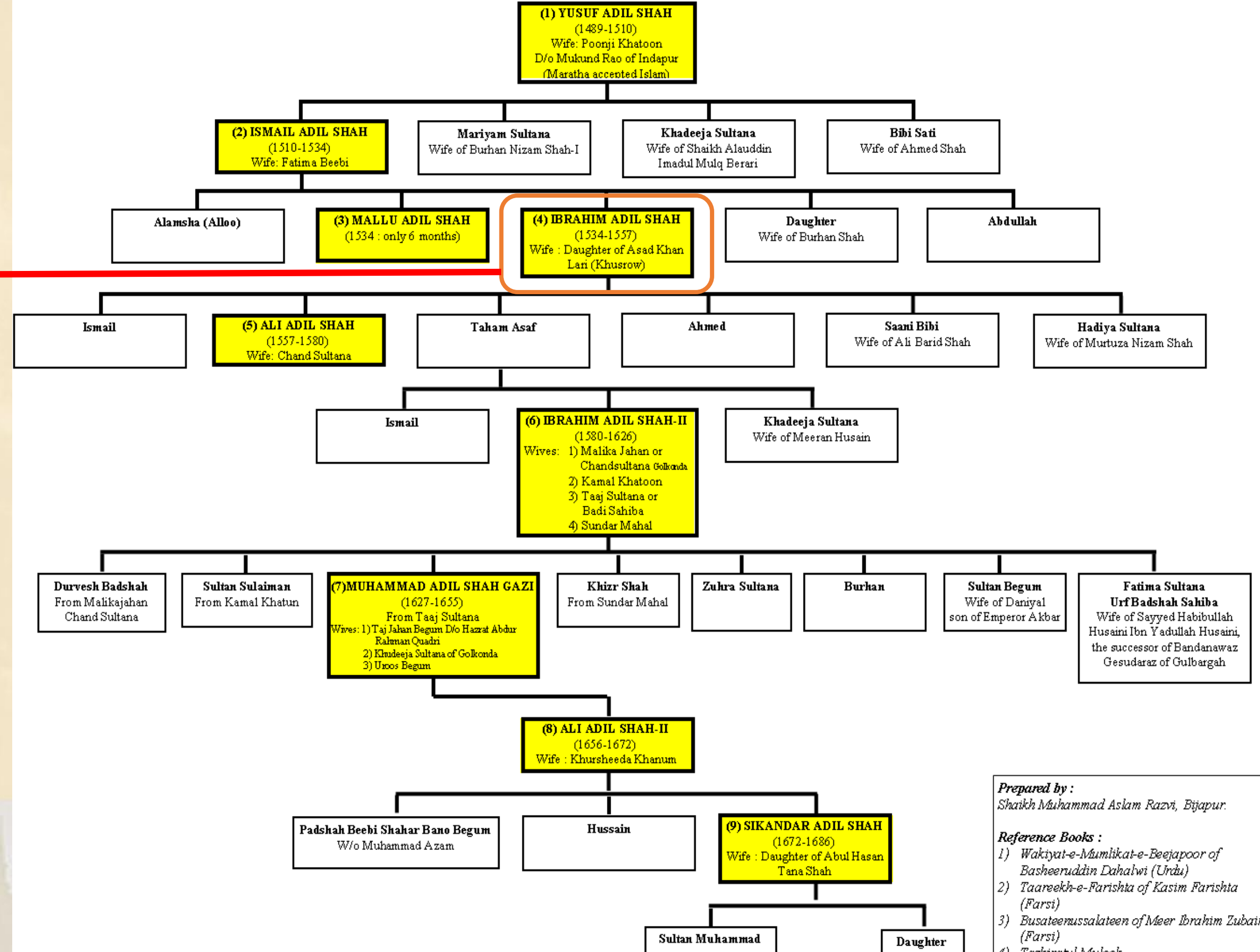
- The **Adil Shahi** or **Adilshahi**, was a Shia, and later Sunni Muslim, dynasty founded by **Yusuf Adil Shah**,
- That ruled the Sultanate of Bijapur, centred on present-day Bijapur district, Karnataka from 1489 to 1686.
- The Bijapur Sultanate's borders changed considerably throughout its history.
- Bijapur was bounded on the West by the Portuguese state of Goa and on the East by the Sultanate of Golconda, ruled by the Qutb Shahi dynasty.
- The Bijapur Sultanate was absorbed into the Mughal Empire on 12 September 1686, after its conquest by the Emperor Aurangzeb. **Sikandar adil shah** was last Adil shahi sultan



GENEALOGY CHART OF YUSUF ADIL SHAH



SHAJARA-E-YUSUFI (Family Lineage of Adil Shahi Dynasty the Rulers of Bijapur (India))



Prepared by :
Shaikh Muhammad Aslam Razvi, Bijapur.

Reference Books :

- 1) Wakiyat-e-Mumlikat-e-Beejapoor of Basheeruddin Dahalwi (Urdu)
- 2) Taareekh-e-Farishia of Kasim Farishia (Farsi)
- 3) Busateenussalateen of Meer Ibrahim Zubairi (Farsi)
- 4) Tazkiratul Mulook.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND of ADILSHAHI SULTANATE IN GOA

Old goa was founded by Bijapur sultanate; in **15th century** on the banks of Mandovi river. The city was second capital after Bijapur of the rule of Adil Shahi dynasty. Here are some Important buildings of the town.

GATEWAY OF PALACE OF ADIL SHAH



PALACE OF ADIL SHAH



SURLA TAR MOSQUE, BICHOLIM



SAFA MASJID, PONDA



THE PALACE OF ADIL SHAH

Which had different types of rooms and pillars inside. There was a big chowk in front of the and there was big garden attach to the palace.

Gateways of Adil shah palace



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Principal mosque, (**Surla tar mosque**, Bicholim and **Safa Mosque** Ponda) The tank at the Surla Tar Masjid is similar to that at the Safa Masjid, lined with ogee arches along its laterite walls, which are interrupted by flights of stairs down to the water. The masjid building here contains a prayer hall fronted by a lobby, unlike the Safa Masjid, which only has a prayer hall. Both buildings are surrounded by a row of ruined pillars, clearly the remains of what would have been a surrounding pillared portico.



PORTUGUESE RULED GOA

- Later the city was captured by Portuguese and was ruled over from 1510 until 1961, when it was liberated into Republic of India together with rest of Goa.
- After the Portuguese conquest, the fabulous city attracted visitors from all over Europe; it was called the 'Rome of the Orient'.
- Alfonso Albuquerque - the founder of Goa - built the first church here, that of Our Lady of the Rosary.
- He also built the Se Cathedral, the largest church in Asia that took 80 years to complete.
- By the end of the 16th century the Portuguese maritime and colonial power waned.
- After Portuguese had defeated the adil shahi forces & expelled them from the tiswadi Island, Adilshahi rule existed over ponda, surla & other places



SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

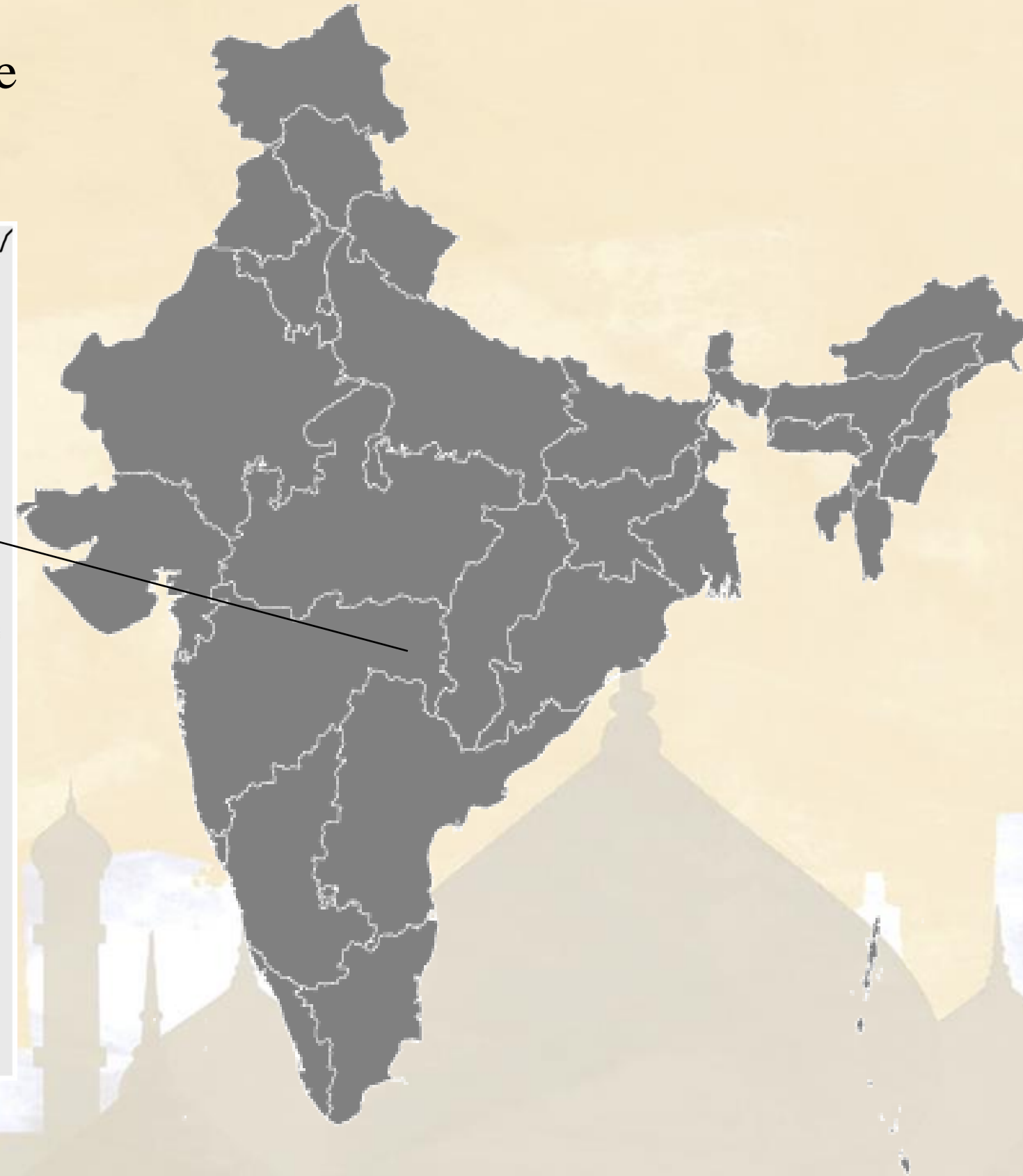
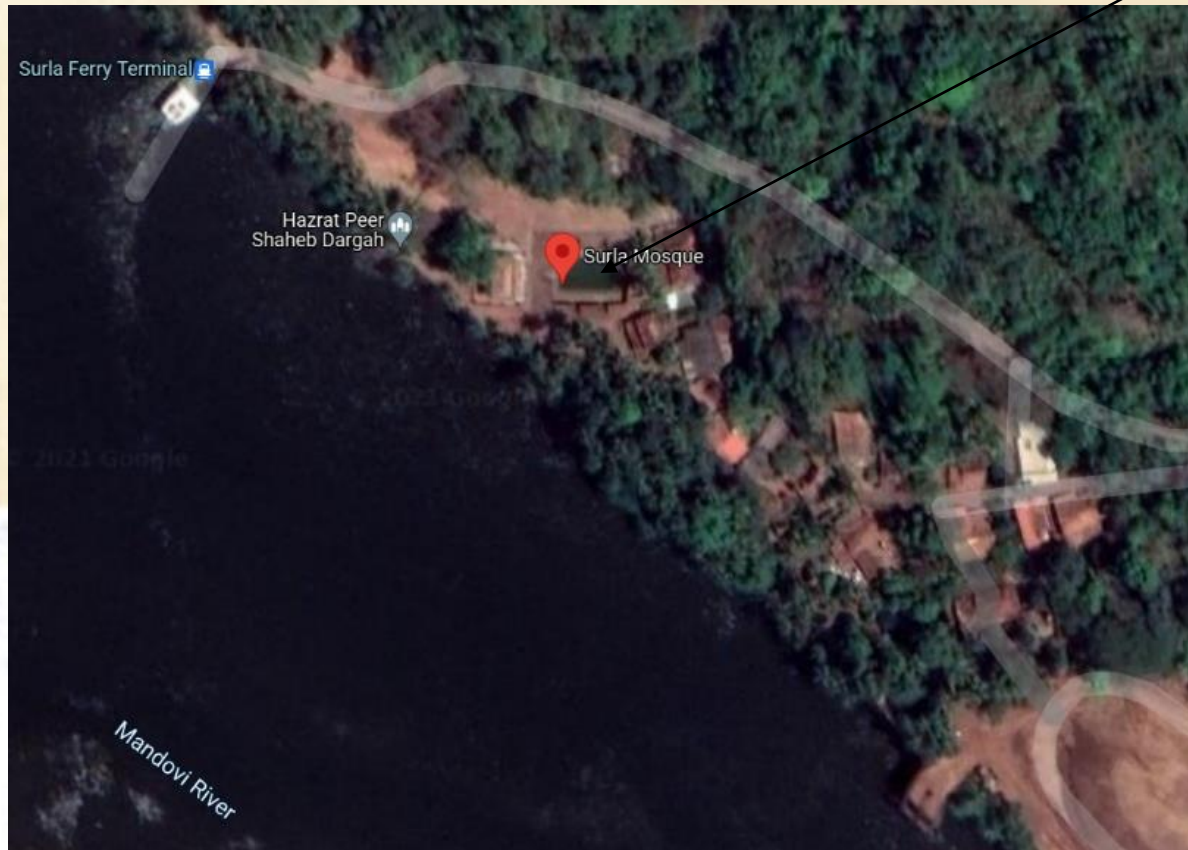
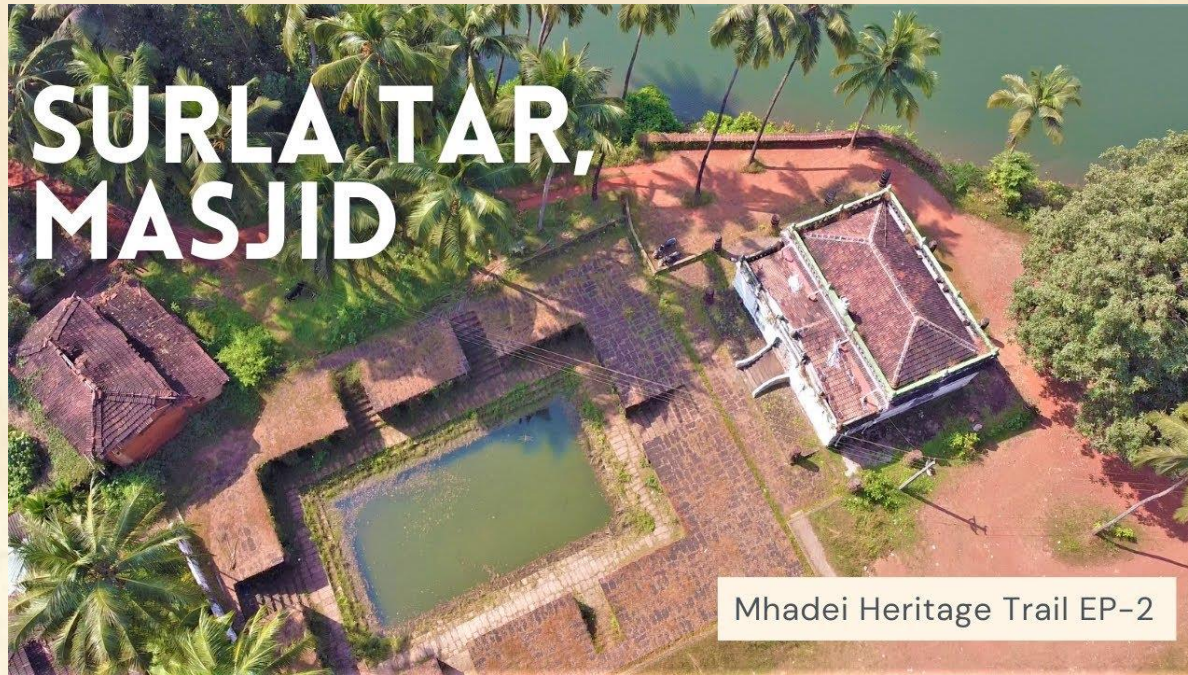
- Surla tar mosque is oldest surviving mosque in goa.
- This mosque nestled between the rich red laterite soil of surla, the aquatic expanse of river mandovi, and a green lush forest.
- In goa, this was one of 27th mosque built by adil shah I, over Goa around 1535 – 1537 local people called it pir babachi masjid
- The mosque at Surla Tar is situated along the bank of the River Mandovi.
- The place is open to both Hindu and Muslims.
- In Portuguese, the word ‘tar’ means the ferry point of the village, the mosque is quite close to that ferry point.



LOCATION : SURLA TAAR MOSQUE LOCATED IN BICHOLIM VILLAGE,COTOMBI, GOA

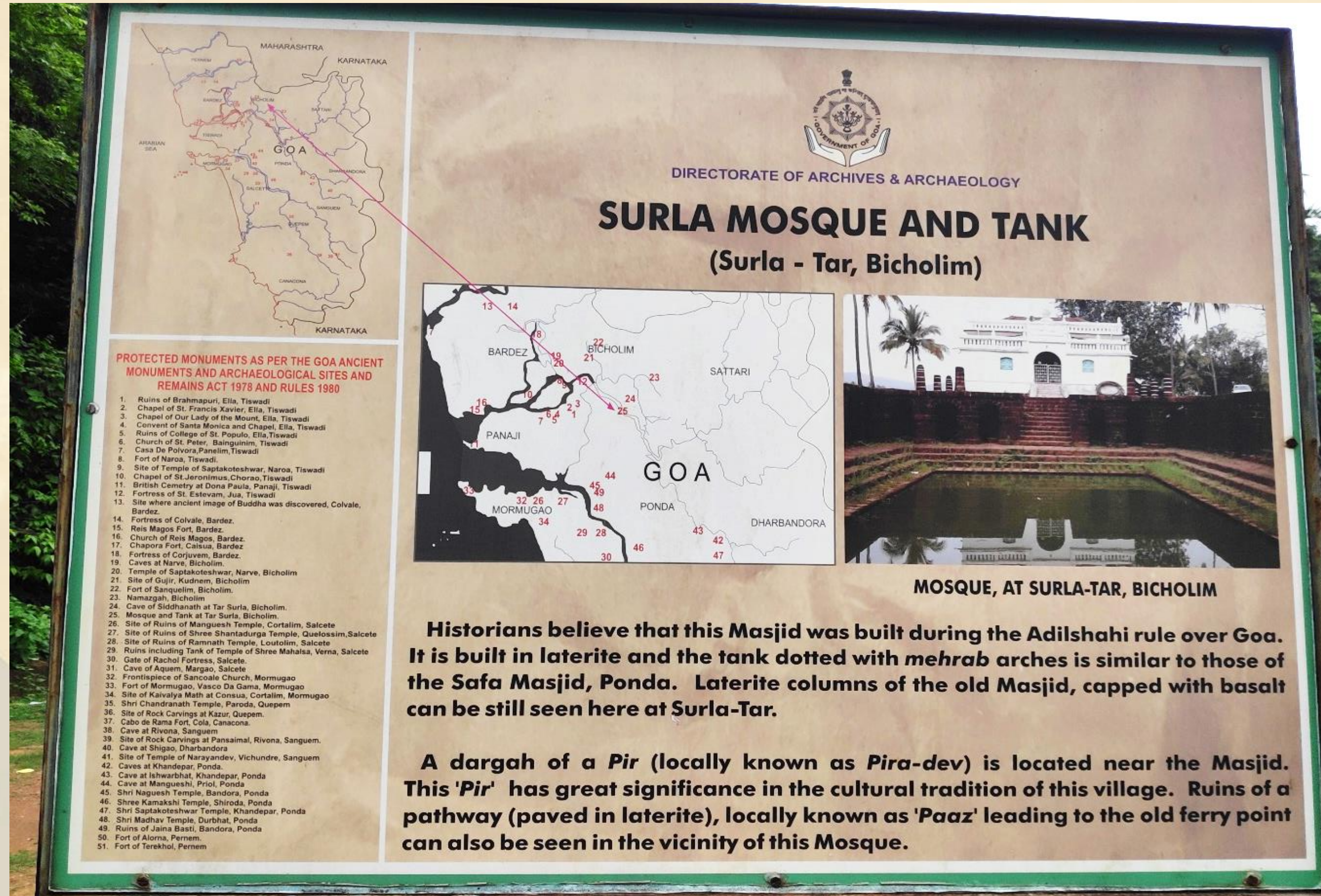
Surla taar mosque located in bicholim village,cotombi, goa

The Pir Saheb (saint) whose dargah (shrine or tomb) is behind the Surla Tar



SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

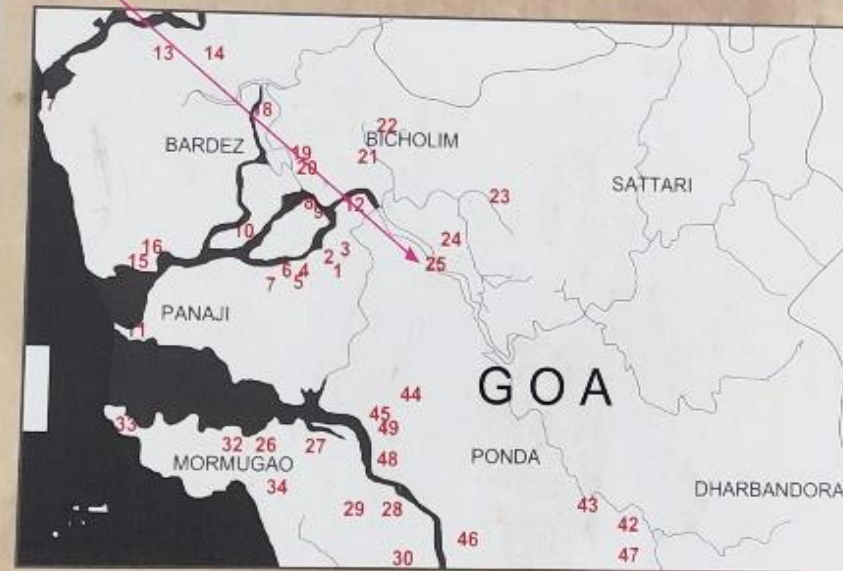
Surla tar mosque is one of the 51 protected monuments in Goa which are being managed by the department of archives and archaeology, government of Goa



PROTECTED MONUMENTS AS PER THE GOA ANCIENT MONUMENTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND REMAINS ACT 1978 AND RULES 1980

1. Ruins of Brahmapuri, Ella, Tiswadi
2. Chapel of St. Francis Xavier, Ella, Tiswadi
3. Chapel of Our Lady of the Mount, Ella, Tiswadi
4. Convent of Santa Monica and Chapel, Ella, Tiswadi
5. Ruins of College of St. Populo, Ella, Tiswadi
6. Church of St. Peter, Balgulinim, Tiswadi
7. Casa De Polvora, Panelim, Tiswadi
8. Fort of Naroa, Tiswadi.
9. Site of Temple of Saptakoteswar, Naroa, Tiswadi
10. Chapel of St. Jeronimus, Choroa, Tiswadi
11. British Cemetery at Dona Paula, Panaji, Tiswadi
12. Fortress of St. Estevam, Jua, Tiswadi
13. Site where ancient image of Buddha was discovered, Colvale, Bardez.
14. Fortress of Colvale, Bardez.
15. Reis Magos Fort, Bardez.
16. Church of Reis Magos, Bardez.
17. Chapora Fort, Caisua, Bardez.
18. Fortress of Corjuvem, Bardez.
19. Caves at Narve, Bicholim.
20. Temple of Saptakoteswar, Narve, Bicholim
21. Site of Gujir, Kudnem, Bicholim
22. Fort of Sanquelim, Bicholim.
23. Namazgah, Bicholim
24. Cave of Siddhanath at Tar Surla, Bicholim.
25. Mosque and Tank at Tar Surla, Bicholim.
26. Site of Ruins of Manguesh Temple, Cortalim, Salcete
27. Site of Ruins of Shree Shantadurga Temple, Quelossim, Salcete
28. Site of Ruins of Ramnath Temple, Loutolim, Salcete
29. Ruins including Tank of Temple of Shree Mahalsa, Verna, Salcete
30. Gate of Rachol Fortress, Salcete.
31. Cave of Aquem, Margao, Salcete
32. Frontispiece of Sancoale Church, Mormugao
33. Fort of Mormugao, Vasco Da Gama, Mormugao
34. Site of Kaivalya Math at Consua, Cortalim, Mormugao
35. Shri Chandranath Temple, Paroda, Quepem
36. Site of Rock Carvings at Kazur, Quepem.
37. Cabo de Rama Fort, Cola, Canacona.
38. Cave at Rivona, Sanguem
39. Site of Rock Carvings at Pansaimal, Rivona, Sanguem.
40. Cave at Shigao, Dharbandora
41. Site of Temple of Narayandev, Vichundre, Sanguem
42. Caves at Khandepar, Ponda.
43. Cave at Ishwarbhat, Khandepar, Ponda
44. Cave at Mangueshi, Priol, Ponda
45. Shri Naguesh Temple, Bandora, Ponda
46. Shree Kamakshi Temple, Shiroda, Ponda
47. Shri Saptakoteswar Temple, Khandepar, Ponda
48. Shri Madhav Temple, Durbhat, Ponda
49. Ruins of Jaina Basti, Bandora, Ponda
50. Fort of Alorna, Pernem.
51. Fort of Terekhol, Pernem

SURLA MOSQUE AND TANK (Surla - Tar, Bicholim)



MOSQUE, AT SURLA-TAR, BICHOLIM

Historians believe that this Masjid was built during the Adilshahi rule over Goa. It is built in laterite and the tank dotted with *mehrab* arches is similar to those of the Safa Masjid, Ponda. Laterite columns of the old Masjid, capped with basalt can be still seen here at Surla-Tar.

A dargah of a *Pir* (locally known as *Pira-dev*) is located near the Masjid. This '*Pir*' has great significance in the cultural tradition of this village. Ruins of a pathway (paved in laterite), locally known as '*Paaz*' leading to the old ferry point can also be seen in the vicinity of this Mosque.

SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

- There are mehrab arches built with exposed laterite stone that surround a water tank in front of the mosque.
- Laterite columns capped with basalt can be seen around the mosque.



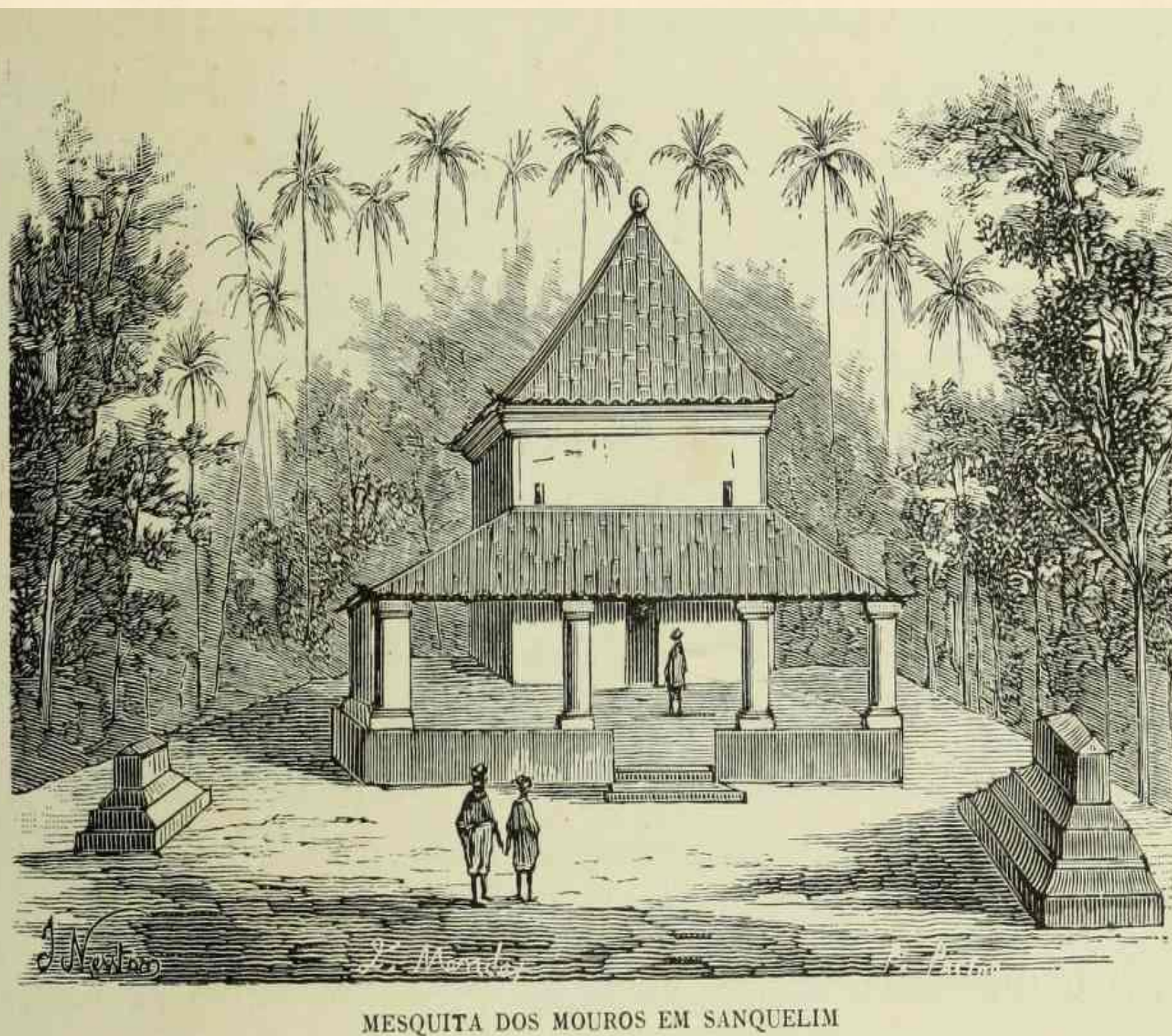
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

- It is not clear till now that when Surla tar mosque was built but history says that by 1560 itself
- Goa has been the home of Muslim communities long before the region became part of the Deccan Sultanates in the 14th century.
- Muslim communities, especially connected to trade, are recorded as being based in the region from as early as the seventh century.



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

- The probable design of the original roof, a sloping one built of timber and topped by tiles, along with the arrangement of a central prayer hall surrounded by a portico, is close to the old mosques of Kerala, says Shokoohy, and is typical of mosques of the western coast.
- But, through its high floor level, decorative niches, and ogee arches, it also resembles the architecture of the Deccan sultanates. The result is an architectural hybrid, unique to Goa and part of the region's distinctive and creatively heterogeneous architectural traditions, which include churches, temples, and domestic architecture.



A hand-drawn illustration titled Mesquita dos Mouros em Sanquelim. Credit: Page number 25 of A ÍNDIA PORTUGUEZA-Volume II, by António Lopes Mendes via Internet Archive.

SURLA TAR MOSQUE (BUILT BY IBRAHIM ADIL SHAH-I IN 16TH CENTURY)

- The masjid however lost its moreover original structure to ravage of the time.
- The mosque was renovated in 1967
- The more recent painting of the mosque has reduced the historical authenticity of the structure.
- The water tank is not used today. There is a separate tap near the tank, which is used by the faithful for ablutions. There was an underground drainage, which used to run from the tank and empty into the river. At present, the drain is blocked



DARGAH HAZRAT PIR BEHIND SURLA TAR MOSQUE

- The Pir Saheb (saint) whose dargah (shrine or tomb) is behind the Surla Tar mosque is associated with the local deity Sri Sidhdeswar, making the dargah a place of reverence for Hindus and Muslims alike.
- Godd Bangal is the local name given to the Pir Saheb.
- Pir Saheb and his companion had come to Goa in the pre-Portuguese era to build harmony between the conflicting Hindus and Muslims.
- The pir obviously succeeded in building strong bridges between the communities for, till date,
- Pir Saheb was listed as one of the official affiliate deities of Siddeshwar, the chief deity of Surla village, when the Siddeshwar temple was registered in 1936.



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SHIGMO FESTIVAL AT SURLA TAR MOSQUE

- Dargah of Hazrat Pir Saheb, which is the spot for a unique celebration of Shigmo festival.
- The five-day long Shigmo Festival celebrations in this village concludes with a procession to the mosque where the Hindu villagers pay their respects to the Muslim saint.
- The tradition of Hindus and Muslims joining in for Shigmo festivities apparently goes back 250 years and reflects the brotherhood between the two communities.

The story goes that the Hazrat pir sahib had performed several miracles, helped people in need and fulfilled their wishes, and on this day, the villagers visit the dargah and the mosque as a mark of gratitude. “Everyone lives here in unity and we all believe that Hazrat Pir Saheb blesses us regardless of which religion we follow. Our God Siddheshwar and Pir Saheb have an ancient connect, and it translates into brotherhood among the people of the place.



SHIGMO FESTIVAL AT SURLA TAR MOSQUE

- During the celebration procession comes here, to seek blessings at the masjid & dargah and they get blessed by maulana at masjid.
- at masjid there is a large Muslim devotee attendance, they jointly pray for the well being of the village
- On this day, the villagers of Surla set out on foot from Siddheshwar Temple, that's around 1 km away from the mosque and dargah, beating drums and spreading Shigmo cheer.



SHIGMO FESTIVAL AT SURLA TAR MOSQUE

- They are welcomed by the devotees at the dargah, after which they make offerings of coconuts and incense sticks, pray for the well-being of people and seek blessings.
- It is followed by traditional dances to the beating of drums near the mosque.
- during Shigmo Festival every year villagers pay their respects and show gratitude to Pir Saheb. And they have been religiously coming every year.
- **This is a unique celebration in all of Goa.**



CELEBRATION OF SHIGMO

FESTIVAL

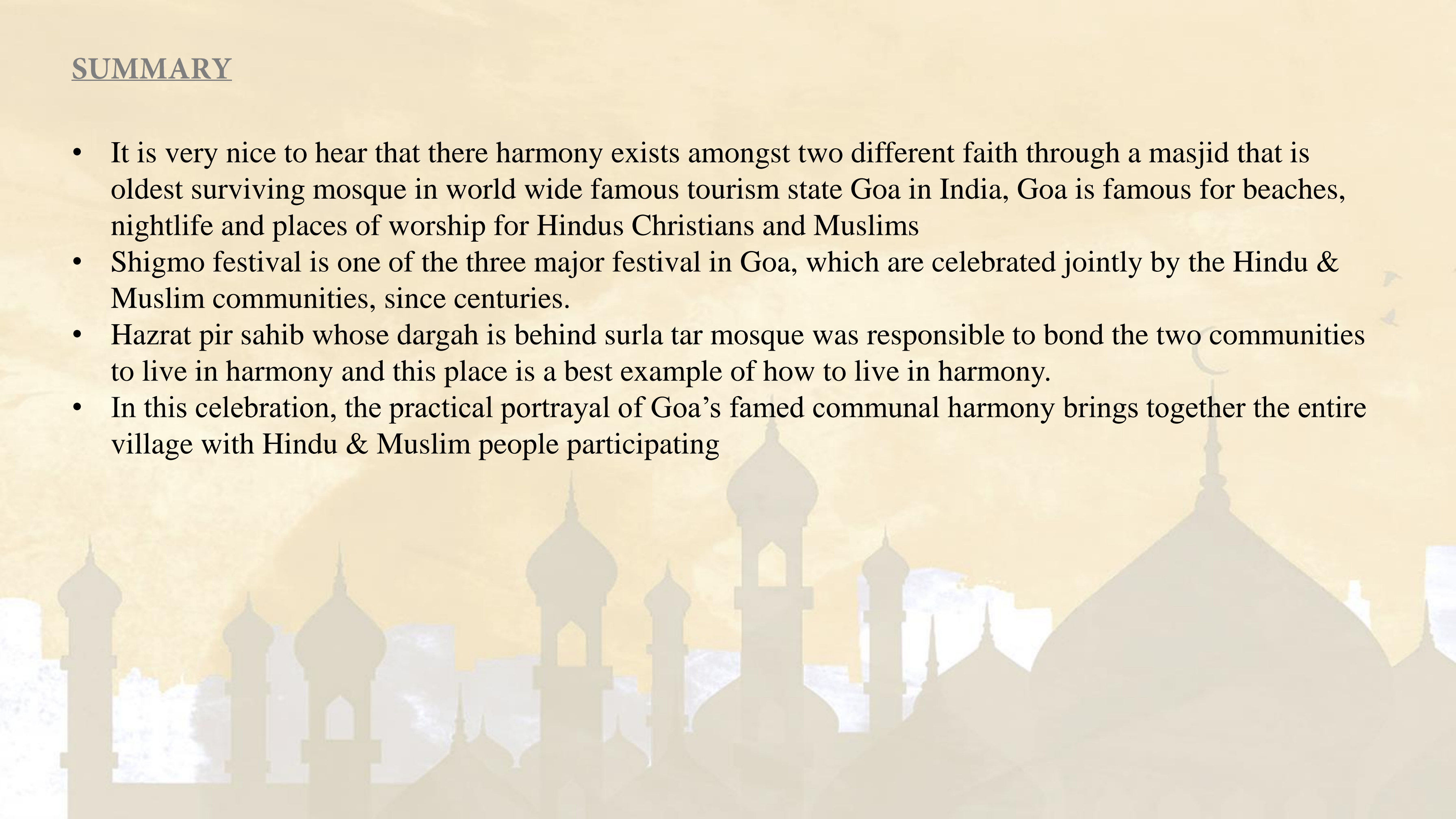
- The couplets sung during the all males dance performance, praise both the Hindu deity & the Muslim pir sahib.
- During these festivities, the folk dances performed are a variation of “talgadi dance” viz chandufal and bhonvartalo

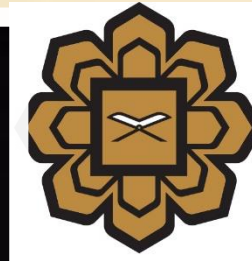


Residents say that in earlier times, the Muharram celebration at the mosque used to be a major event involving all communities in the village. Now, however, the Muslim population of the village has declined and so has the event. But the mosque remains a part of the village's Shigmo celebration, a traditional spring festival held in March in Goa.

SUMMARY

- It is very nice to hear that there harmony exists amongst two different faith through a masjid that is oldest surviving mosque in world wide famous tourism state Goa in India, Goa is famous for beaches, nightlife and places of worship for Hindus Christians and Muslims
- Shigmo festival is one of the three major festival in Goa, which are celebrated jointly by the Hindu & Muslim communities, since centuries.
- Hazrat pir sahib whose dargah is behind surla tar mosque was responsible to bond the two communities to live in harmony and this place is a best example of how to live in harmony.
- In this celebration, the practical portrayal of Goa's famed communal harmony brings together the entire village with Hindu & Muslim people participating





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Thank you...

