

Tomb of Nadra Begum needs immediate repairs

Lahore Dawn 17-6-03

LAHORE, June 16: The roof of the tomb of Nadra Begum, opposite the shrine of Hazrat Mian Mir, requires immediate repair as the rundown building could collapse any time.

The seepage of rain water through the roof has weakened the whole structure and the coming monsoon could be dangerous for it.

The federal archaeology offi-

cials, however, claimed that funds to repair the roof had been released and the work would begin soon.

Princess Nadra, the wife of Dara Shikoh, and granddaughter of Emperor Jehangir, died in AD1659 was brought here from Sindh to be buried near the shrine of Hazrat Mian Mir, her spiritual mentor.

There is no epitaph or any

other description about the history of the unprotected tomb and baradari displayed outside the main gate or the tomb.

Youth and children of the nearby localities use it as a playground. A regular cricket net has been set up there.

None of the visitors know about the historical significance of the place when inquired. They consider it as a part of Hazrat

Mian Mir's shrine. There has been no renovation of the tomb for the last three decades.

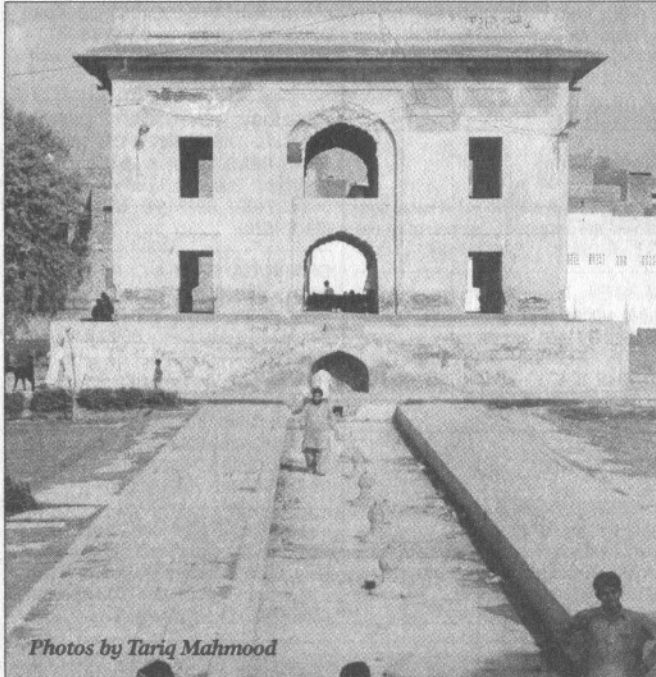
The grave of Nadra Begum is located in the middle of the tomb but it is also in a shabby condition, with many bricks fallen apart. Its walls have also visible cracks.

The kanker lime plaster that adorned the tomb from interior and exterior have completely dis-

appeared. A series of fountains are also out of order since long.

The boundary wall of the baradari has also been encroached. A number of houses have been built there over a period of time which are in direct violation of Antiquity Act, 1975. Under the act no construction was allowed around 200 feet of a protected monument.

— ZULQERNAIN TAHIR



Photos by Tariq Mahmood

