

## Title: Sarkej Roja By Nikfar Nishat Amin, 7<sup>th</sup> sem

Sarkhej Roza comprises one of the most elegant and unique architectural complexes of Ahmedabad. Visiting Sarkhej Roza Complex in Gujarat, India is really worthwhile - Mosques as well as mausoleums and pavilions situated around Sarkhej Pond are very interesting.

It was documented by students of Royal School of Architecture in the year 2014. At around 10kms to the south-west of central Ahmedabad, reaching Sarkhej Roza is easy via auto rickshaw which would cost around 100 Rupees. Also there are plenty of auto-rickshaws available for the return journey.

There are two parts to look around both of which are free - namely looking around the Complex and Jama Masjid itself; and then wander around Sarkhej Pond / Tank / Lake to look at the remarkable buildings which surround it.

To go into the complex it is necessary to remove your footwear - also particularly women should be reasonably dressed i.e. no shorts or low cut tops etc. Footwear left at the entrance is placed in a box and watched over - on return a small donation of around 20 or 30 Rupees is expected. Within the Tomb and Mosque area there are several donation boxes around but feeding them is not compulsory. The actual Mosque itself is closed between 12:00 and 14:00 hours each day as well as possibly for a short time during Prayers.



**Bird's eye view of Sarkhej Roza**

1. Saints tomb
2. Mosque complex
3. Queen's tomb
4. King's tomb
5. Water tank

### A short summary on Sarkhej Roza

- The campus was initiated in 1446 by Sultanate King Muhammad Shah.
- Initially it included the mosque and the tomb of Sufi Saint- Khattu Ganj Baksh.
- The Srakhel complex was built in phases and was eventually completed over a decade
- Later, Muhammad Begara added the large water tank with steps all around.
- Sarkhej has now become a place of repose and meditation; a summer resort for the royal family. Also, he built a mausoleum for himself and his family opposite to that of the saint.
- A garden was constructed to commemorate the event.
- The complex is therefore one of the important phase in the socio-political history of Gujarat.

- Further additions to the complex were made in 1584 A.D., when Akbar's forces defeated Muzaffar III.



**Pavilion and saints tomb**



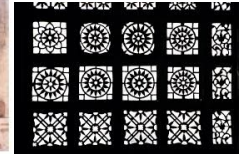
**Royal tombs and water tank**



**King's retreat**



**SARKHEJ ROZA MOSQUE**



## **Conclusion**

Sarkhej Roza is a calm and peaceful place. On visiting the place, you become one with the surroundings.