

# What is a Mosque like?

- The Arabic word for 'mosque' is **masjid**. This means a 'place of prostration.'
- A Mosque is the building Muslims can prostrate (bow) to Allah (God) in prayer.
- It is important as it provides a clean, safe and quiet place to pray. It is also a centre where Muslims can regularly meet together.

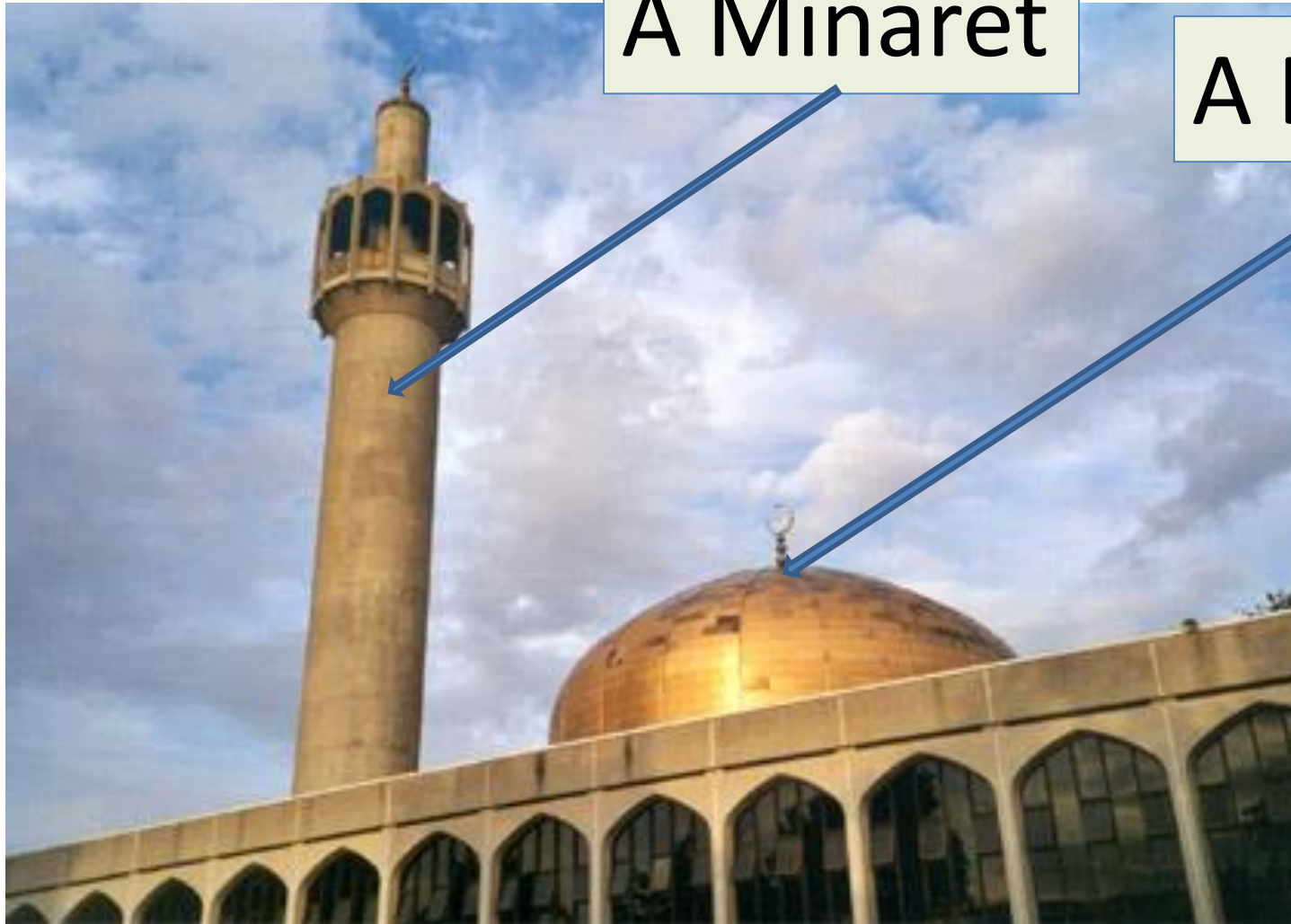


The first Mosque was built and designed by the Prophet Muhammad in the city of Medina in Saudi Arabia.

# What does a Mosque look like?

A Minaret

A Dome



Regents  
Park  
Mosque,  
London.

# Inside a Mosque: the prayer hall

Regents Park  
Mosque in London.

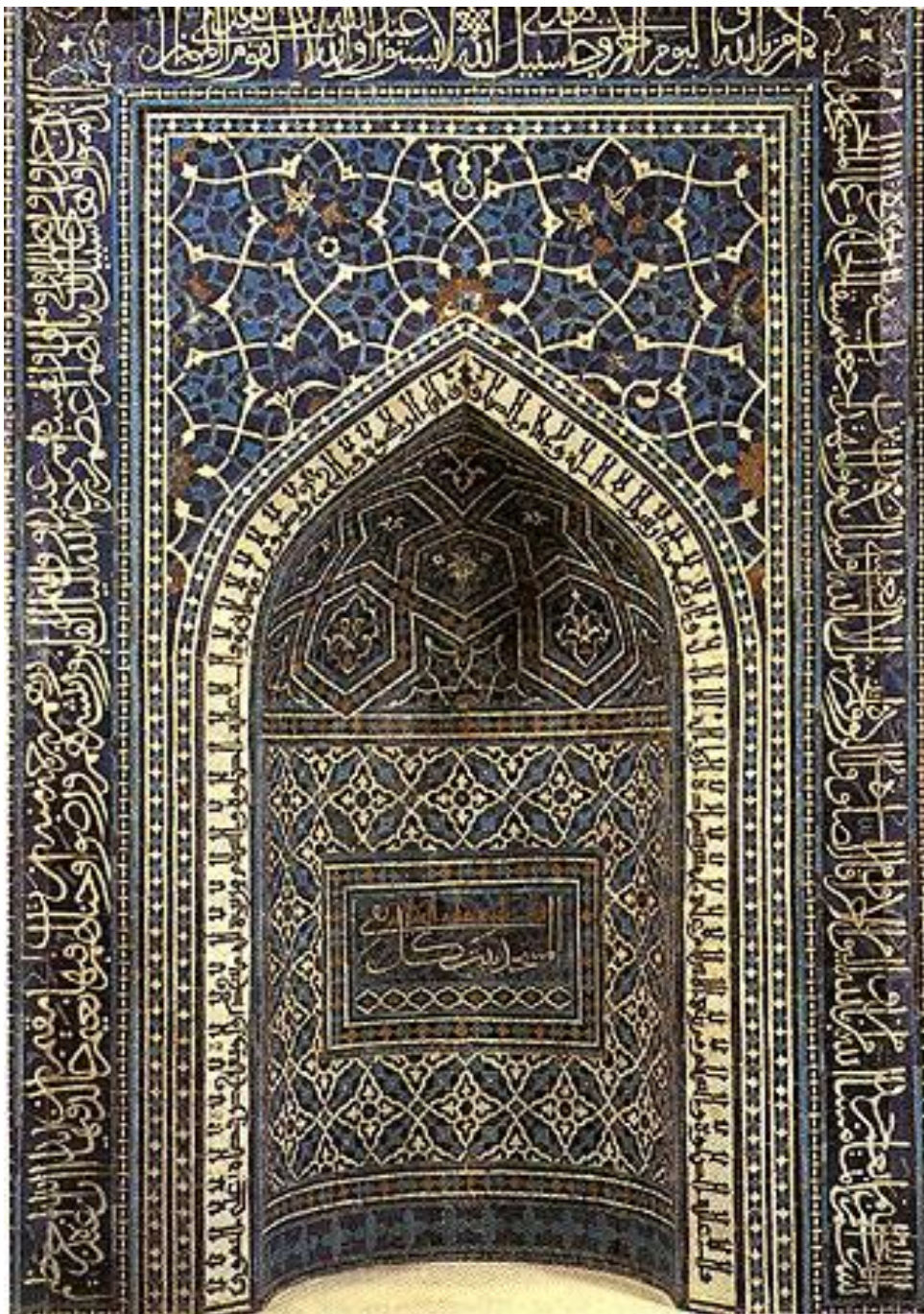




The image captures the vast interior of the Shah Faisal Mosque in Islamabad, Pakistan. The space is characterized by its high, vaulted ceiling and a series of tall, narrow, vertical windows that allow natural light to filter through, creating a bright and airy atmosphere. A large, intricate, golden chandelier hangs from the ceiling, adding a touch of traditional Islamic artistry. The floor is covered in a blue and white patterned carpet. In the foreground, a large, green, industrial-style fan is visible, suggesting a warm climate. The overall design is a blend of modern architecture and traditional Islamic motifs.

Shah Faisal Mosque in  
Islamabad, Pakistan





The **Mihrab** –  
an alcove in  
the wall, shows  
the direction to  
pray in. This is  
towards the  
holy city of  
Mecca.





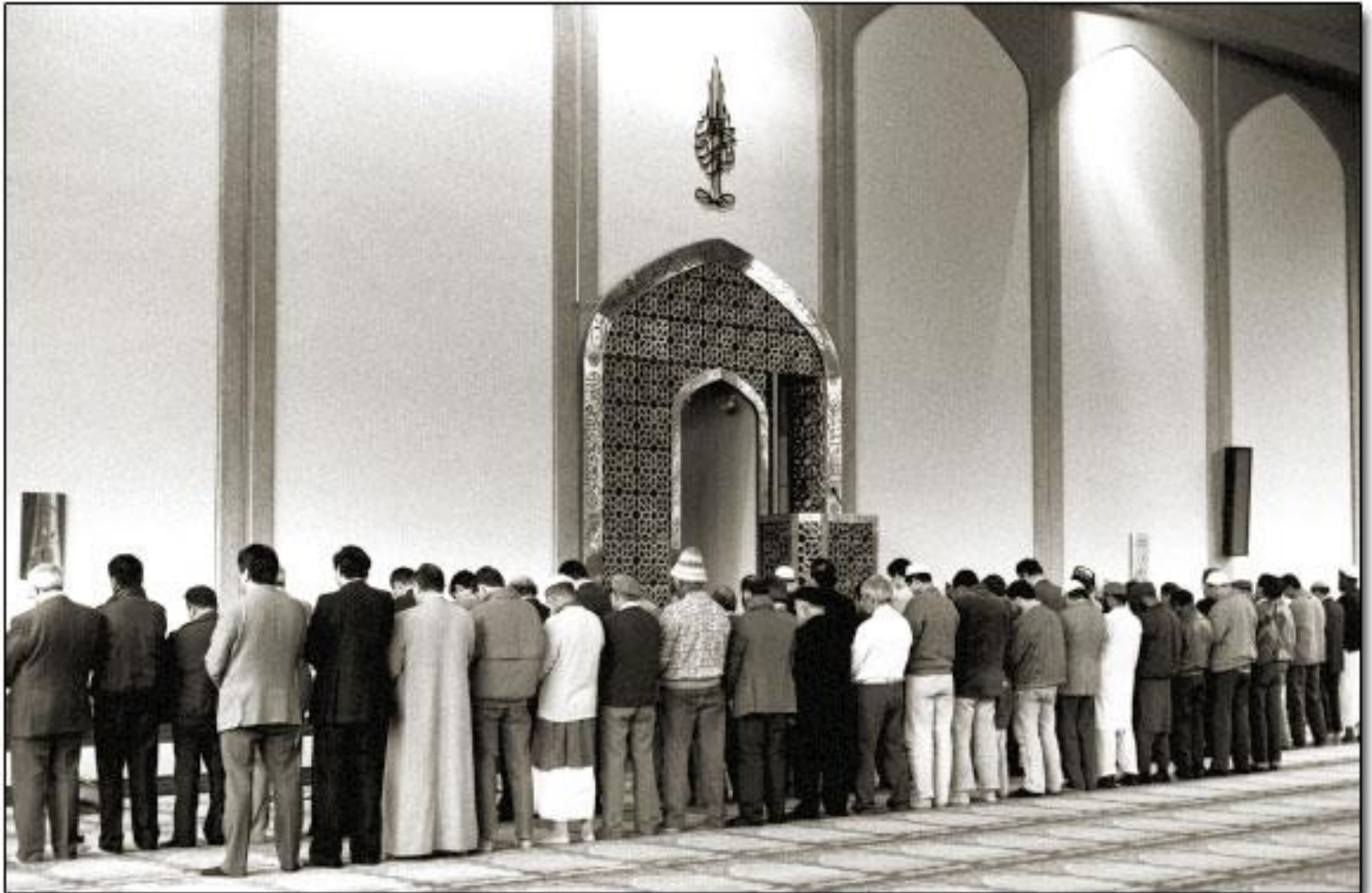
A mihrab can be very ornate. Elaborate, geometric patterns are often used.



Some mihrab  
might be quite  
plain.



Muslims in the Mosque will pray together facing towards the Mihrab.







Notice the **prayer mats** on the floor facing the mihrab.





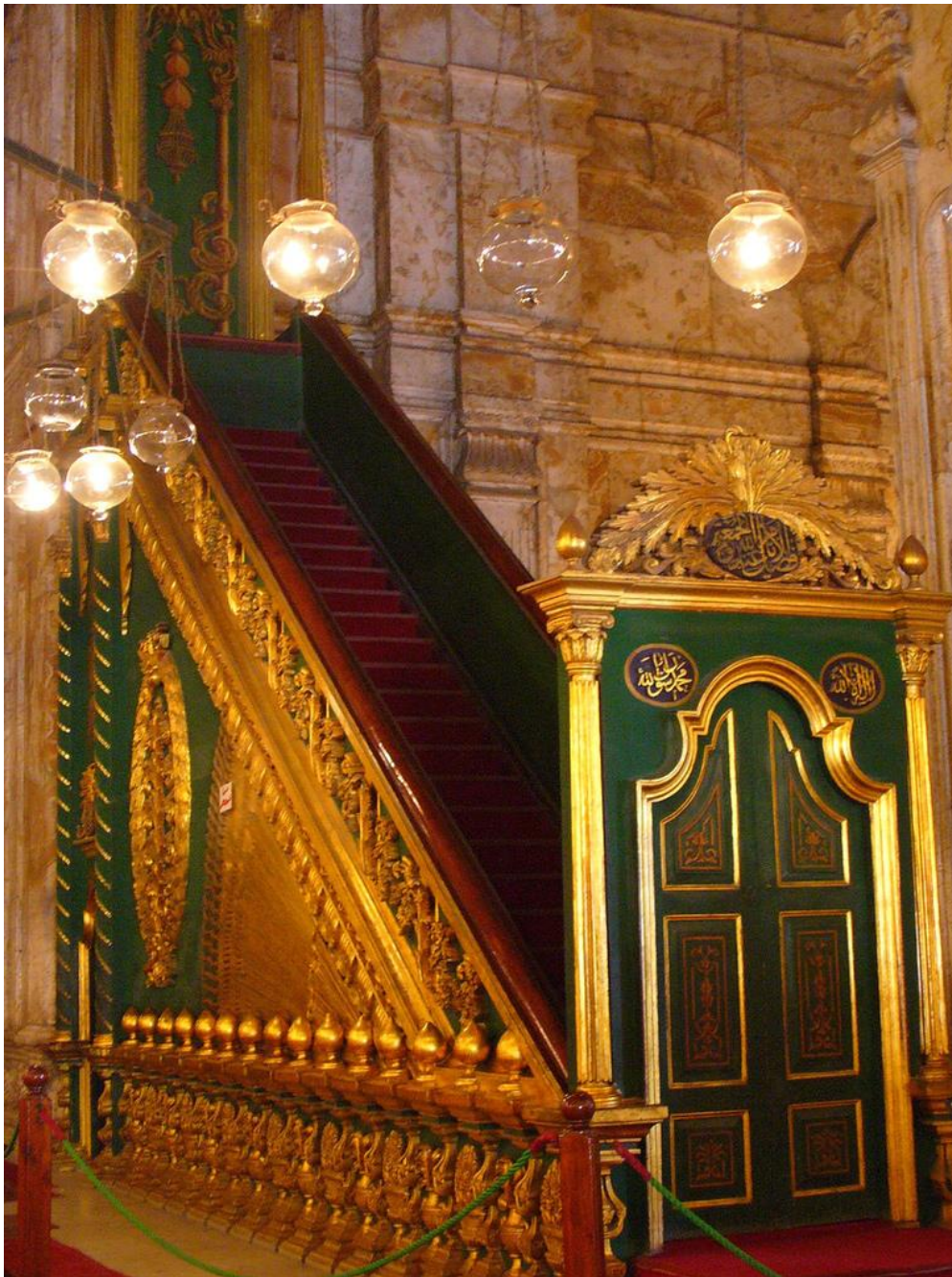
Muslim prayer mats ensure that a Muslim can pray in a clean place. When a Muslim prays on their mat, it becomes a Mosque and should be treated with respect.







The **Mimbar** – a raised platform.



The Imam  
preaches  
(explains the  
religion's beliefs)  
and leads  
prayers from  
here.





It raises them  
up so the  
people can see  
and hear them  
more easily.

There will be a space for a **washroom** so that a Muslim can perform wudu before they pray.







There will be  
a **space for**  
**shoes**. No one  
will wear  
shoes when  
they go into  
the prayer  
hall.

The mosque is a place of **study** as well as of prayer. Muslims come to the mosque to learn more about Islam, the Qur'an and Allah. There is often a separate room in the mosque where study classes and lectures are held on the Qur'an and Islam.

