

## How You Saw the Taj Mahal on a Moonlight Night

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The invitation to see the Taj by my cousin, Sohan, whom I look upon more as a friend than a brother was most welcome to me, for I had a burning desire to see the Taj for a very long time. Next morning of my arrival at Agra. I felt very proud and happy as my friend and I were on our way to the Taj. As we reached the Red Fort, I had the first glimpse of the Taj, but the morning being hazy, the glimpse was dismal. I had imagined to myself that on account of being made of marble has no brilliance just as glass or Topaz has. Marble is moderately shining. Had my misunderstanding not been removed. I would have lost half of the joy I was to have on seeing the famous historical monument. All the same, I was fully satisfied with the natural surroundings in the midst of which the Taj Mahal has been made. The current of the river Jamuna striking against the base of the Taj Mahal and then taking a turn is a fascinating idea. As a seasons change, there is change in the fauna and flora of Nature changing its colour every moment.

We were then on the ground on which the Taj stood. As I looked at the main building, I felt as if in the form of edifice of the Taj Mahal, Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal stood clasping each other with their hands round each other's shoulders. I rubbed my eyes to come to myself and looked again at the building. I had another delusion of the eyes. I thought the Taj Mahal to be a temple of love with Mumtaz Mahal as the deity on the altar and Shah Jahan, the priest offering flowers of his love to the immortal goddess. In fact, I fell into a strange confusion of thought.

After going over the whole building inside and outside, I had to confess frankly to my friend that by making the Taj Mahal, Shah Jahan and simply immortalized love and love was a power that could make a man create wonders. However, I had to confess frankly to my friend that by making the Taj Mahal, Shah Jahan and simply immortalized love and love was a power that could make a man create wonders.

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During my stay at Agra. I paid several visits to the temple of love's I saw it very closely at all times of the day and night in the morning at noon in the evening at twilight, in the pitch dark and in the moonlight. At all times, it had a peculiar beauty of its own. I found it wrapped in the atmosphere of perfect calm. It seemed to be in meditation. At first I felt that the overflowing fountains, the white empress and palm trees were adding to the beauty of the Taj but later on I had the feeling that the Taj was adding to their beauty. In the moonlight, I felt as if the marble of the Taj were

melting and flowing. However, the stone appeared to have become transparent like glass.

Architecturally, I found no defect in the building of it. The lower part of the building, the cupola and the minarets, all seemed to be so finely adjusted that the whole building seemed to be made in perfect proportion.

The Arable couplets, embossed on the front of the building, were written in larger letters on the higher part so that the lettering of them seemed to be in perfect union. The four minarets standing at the four corners looked like sentries standing on duty watching the wreckage of time on the building.

I could not but feel sorry to see that some couplets from the Quran had been written on the grave of Mumtaz, as shah Jahan himself had got the grave made, but there were no couplets over the grave of shah Jahan as Aurangzeb, the maker of Shah Jahan's grave did not think it proper to write the words of the Holy Book stone which might fall under human feet in some future period of the history.

Truly, the Taj Mahal is a tear that fell from the eyes of a true lover and changed into a statue of marble.