

**SELECT CATHEDRALS
AND OTHER SACRED
BUILDINGS OF
THE MEDIEVAL ERA
(CA. 500-1500 A.D.)**

(REDUCED RESOLUTION)

WESTERN RITE (ROMAN CATHOLIC)

- **AACHEN CATHEDRAL**
- **ARCHBASILICA OF ST. JOHN LATERN**
- **AVILA CATHEDRAL**
- **BASILICA ST DENIS**
- **BEEHIVE HUT MONASTERY**
- **BORGUND STAVE CHURCH**
- **BURGOS CATHEDRAL**
- **CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME**
- **CHARTRES CATHEDRAL**
- **COLOGNE CATHEDRAL**
- **DUOMO DI MILANO**
- **DUOMO DI PISA**
- **ELY CATHEDRAL**
- **FLORENCE CATHEDRAL**
- **GREAT MOSQUE OF CORDOBA**
- **MONT SAINT-MICHEL**
- **OLD CATHEDRAL OF COIMBRA**
- **PALAIS DES PAPES**
- **PALMA CATHEDRAL**
- **PARMA CATHEDRAL**
- **REIMS CATHEDRAL**
- **ROSKILDE CATHEDRAL**
- **SAINTE-CHAPELLE**
- **SALISBURY CATHEDRAL**
- **SAN MARCOS BASILICA**
- **SANCTUARY OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE**
- **SEVILLE CATHEDRAL**
- **SIENA CATHEDRAL**
- **ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH, GHENT**
- **ST. VITUS CATHEDRAL**

EASTERN ORTHODOX

- **BETE GIYORGIS**
- **CATHEDRAL OF ST. DOMINUS**
- **CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS**
- **CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY MANDYLION**
- **ETCHMIADZIN CATHEDRAL**
- **RILA MONASTERY**
- **SAVIOUR CATHEDRAL**
- **SEDLEC OSSUARY**
- **ST. CATHERINE'S EASTERN ORTHODOX MONASTERY**
- **ST. MARY'S CHURCH, GDANSK**
- **ST. SOPHIA'S CATHEDRAL, KIEV**
- **TRINITY LAVRA OF ST. SERGIUS**
- **VORONET MONASTERY**

ISLAMIC

- **GREAT MOSQUE OF SAMARA**
- **HAGIA SOFIA**
- **KAABA**
- **TEMPLE MOUNT**
- **ULUGH BEG MADRASA**

JEWISH

- **ALTENEU SHUL**
- **DUBROVNIK SYNAGOGUE**

**AACHEN CATHEDRAL,
GERMANY
805**

OLDEST IN NORTHERN EUROPE







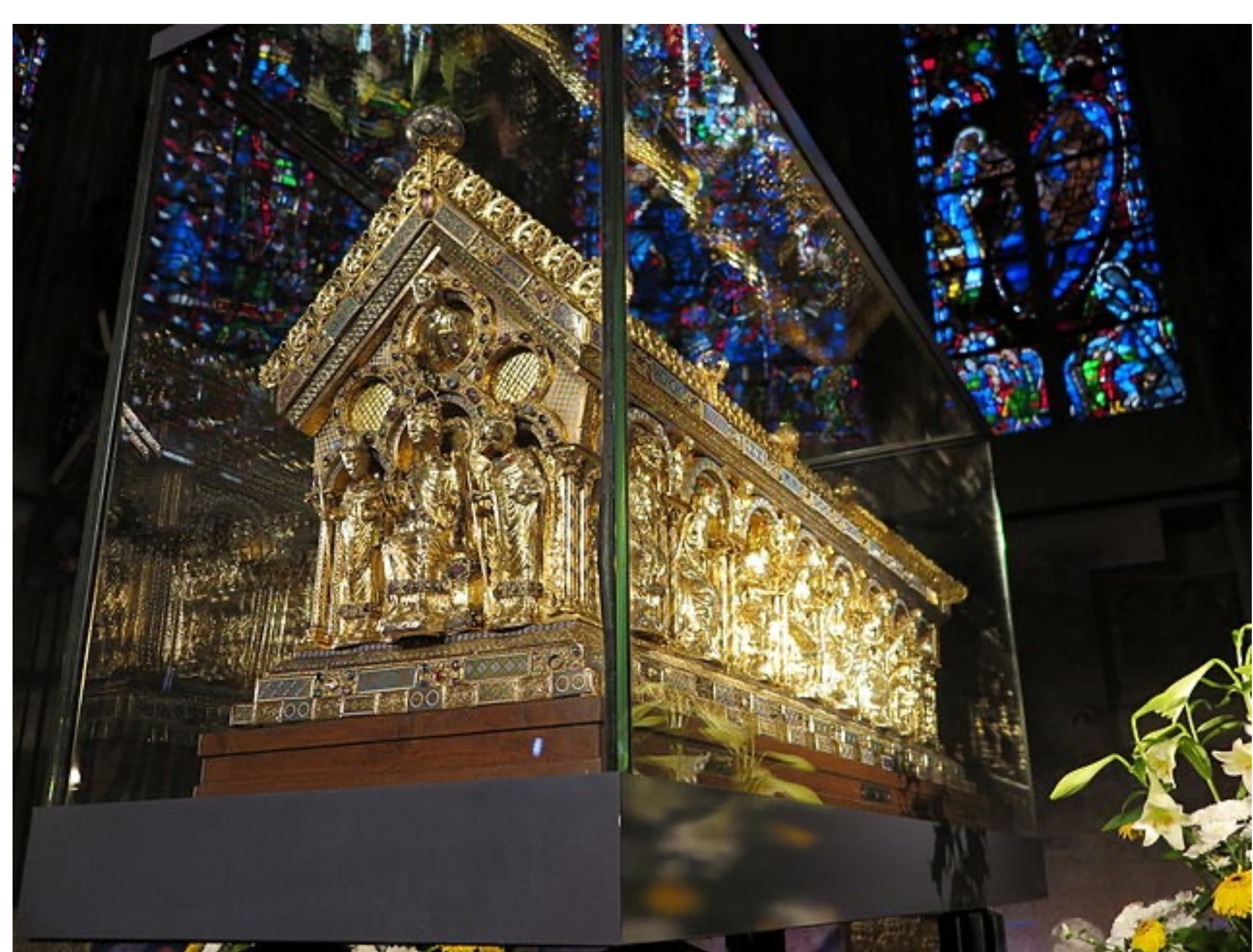




**BUST OF CHARLEMAGNE
(RELIQUARY BUST);
HOLDS HIS SKULLCAP.**

**"...WHEN HE DIED IN
814, CHARLEMAGNE'S
EMPIRE ENCOMPASSED
MUCH OF WESTERN
EUROPE, AND HE HAD
ALSO ENSURED THE
SURVIVAL OF
CHRISTIANITY IN THE
WEST. TODAY,
CHARLEMAGNE IS
REFERRED TO BY SOME
AS THE FATHER OF
EUROPE."**





**EYE OF GOD
(SYMBOLIZES
OMNIPRESENCE
/ OMNISCIENCE
OF GOD;
THE TRIANGLE
ALSO
REPRESENTS
THE TRINITY)**

**THIS IS THE
EARLIEST
"EYE OF GOD"
WITHIN A
TRIANGLE IN A
MEDIEVAL
CHURCH**

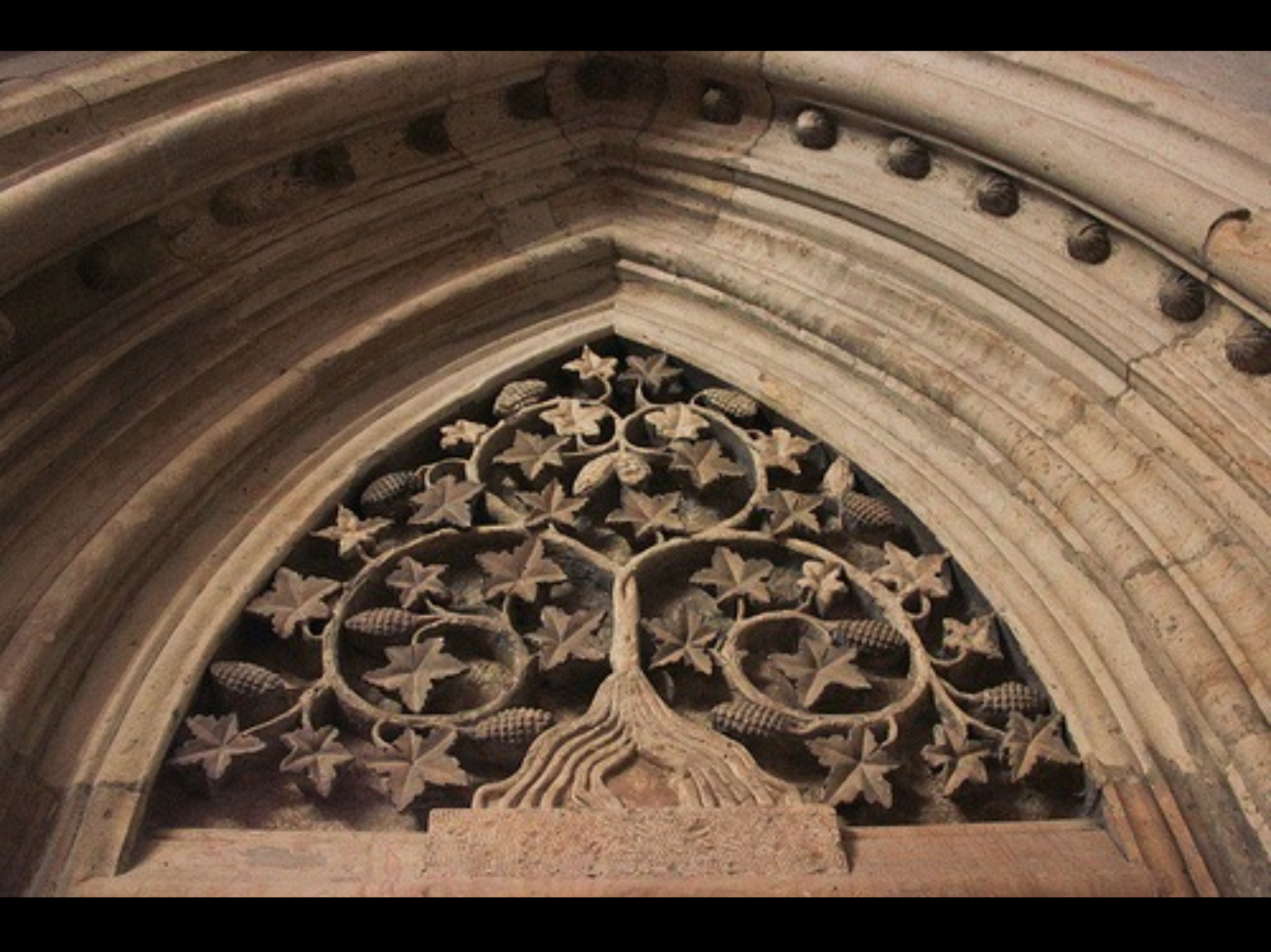


**ALTENEU SHUL
["OLD NEW SYNAGOGUE"],
PRAGUE
COMPLETED 1270**

OLDEST ACTIVE SYNAGOGUE IN EUROPE







PRAGUE GOLEM

"[...] AN
ANIMATED
ANTHROPO-
MORPHIC BEING,
MAGICALLY
CREATED
ENTIRELY FROM
INANIMATE
MATTER. [...]"

LEGEND HAS A
FAMOUS GOLEM
LYING IN THE
LOFT OF THE
ALTNEU
SYNAGOGUE



**ARCHBASILICA OF ST. JOHN LATERN,
ROME**

GROUND BROKEN 4TH CENTURY A.D.

**"IT IS THE OLDEST AND RANKS FIRST
AMONG THE FIVE PAPAL BASILICAS OF
THE WORLD [...] THE OLDEST CHURCH
IN THE WEST [...] IT HAS THE TITLE OF
ECUMENICAL MOTHER CHURCH
AMONG ROMAN CATHOLICS. "**









**AVILA CATHEDRAL,
SPAIN
12TH CENTURY**

**ONE OF THE FIRST TWO GOTHIC
CATHEDRALS IN SPAIN**









**BASILICA ST. DENIS,
PARIS
1144**

**ALL BUT THREE FRENCH KINGS ARE
ENTOMBED HERE**

"[DENIS] WAS MARTYRED [...] IN CONNECTION WITH THE DECIAN PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS, SHORTLY AFTER 250 AD. DENIS IS SAID TO HAVE PICKED HIS HEAD UP AFTER BEING DECAPITATED, WALKED TEN KILOMETRES (SIX MILES), WHILE PREACHING A SERMON OF REPENTANCE THE ENTIRE WAY, MAKING HIM ONE OF MANY CEPHALOPHORES IN HAGIOLOGY."

"THE SITE WHERE HE [...] ACTUALLY DIED WAS MARKED BY A SMALL SHRINE THAT DEVELOPED INTO THE SAINT DENIS BASILICA, WHICH BECAME THE BURIAL PLACE FOR THE KINGS OF FRANCE."







**BEEHIVE HUT MONASTERY,
SKELLIG MICHAEL, IRELAND
6TH-8TH CENTURY**

**SHOWS, 'AS NO OTHER SITE CAN, THE
EXTREMES OF A CHRISTIAN
MONASTICISM CHARACTERIZING MUCH
OF NORTH AFRICA, THE NEAR EAST AND
EUROPE''**

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE

**"[...] ESTIMATED THAT
NO MORE THAN TWELVE
MONKS AND AN ABBOT
LIVED HERE AT ANY ONE
TIME"**



BETE GIYORGIS
["CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE"],
LALIBELA, ETHIOPIA
LATE 12TH OR EARLY 13TH CENTURY

"... THE CHURCH ITSELF IS PART OF THE
UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE
"ROCK-HEWN CHURCHES, LALIBELA"





**BORGUND STAVE CHURCH,
BORGUND, NORWAY
12TH CENTURY**

"THE [STAVE CHURCH] NAME DERIVES FROM THE BUILDINGS' STRUCTURE OF POST AND LINTEL CONSTRUCTION, A TYPE OF TIMBER FRAMING WHERE THE LOAD-BEARING POSTS ARE CALLED STAFR IN OLD NORSE AND STAV IN MODERN NORWEGIAN."



ROOF "TILES"



WOODEN "NAIL" CONSTRUCTION





**BURGOS CATHEDRAL,
SPAIN
1221**

**"THE CATHEDRAL WAS DECLARED A
WORLD HERITAGE SITE BY
UNESCO..."**











CATHEDRAL OF NOTRE DAME DE PARIS 1163

"THE CATHEDRAL IS WIDELY CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF FRENCH GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE, AND IT IS AMONG THE LARGEST AND MOST WELL-KNOWN CHURCH BUILDINGS IN THE WORLD. THE NATURALISM OF ITS SCULPTURES AND STAINED GLASS ARE IN CONTRAST WITH EARLIER ROMANESQUE ARCHITECTURE."

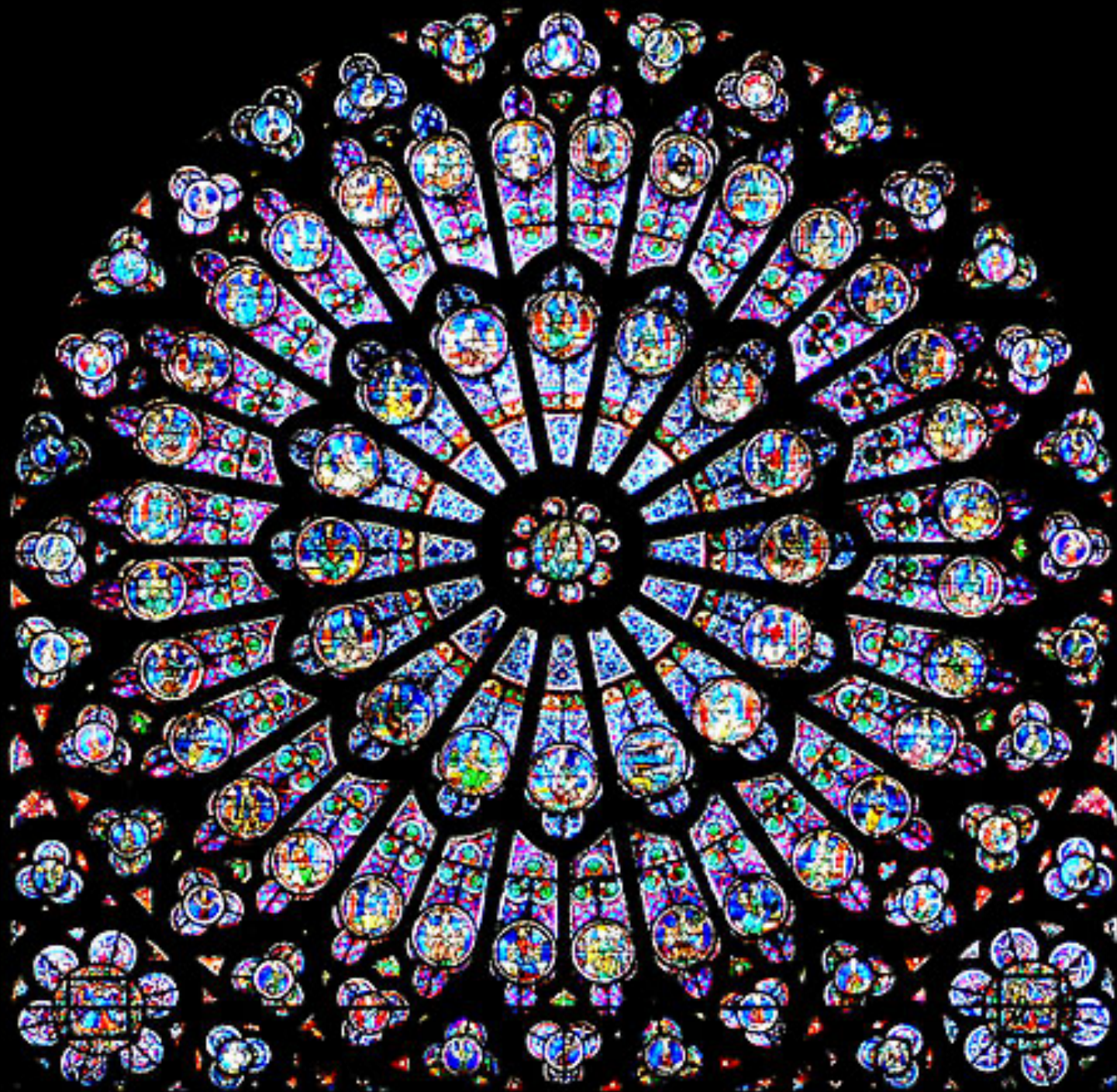














**CATHEDRAL OF ST. DOMNIUS
["KATEDRALA SV. DUJE"],
SPLIT, CROATIA
CONSECRATED 7TH CENTURY**

**"... THE OLDEST CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL
IN THE WORLD THAT REMAINS IN USE IN
ITS ORIGINAL STRUCTURE, WITHOUT
NEAR-COMPLETE RENOVATION AT A
LATER DATE."**







**CATHEDRAL OF THE DORMITION OF THE
THEOTOKOS [E.G., THE PASSING OF THE
VIRGIN MARY FROM EARTHLY LIFE]
VLADIMIR, RUSSIA
1160**

**"THE 6-PILLARED 5-DOMED CATHEDRAL
WAS EXPANDED IN 1185-1189 [...]
EMBRACING THE AREA OF 1178 SQ.
METERS, IT REMAINED THE LARGEST OF
RUSSIAN CHURCHES FOR THE
FOLLOWING 300 OR 400 YEARS."**



**CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY MANDYLION,
ANDRONIKOV MONASTERY,
MOSCOW, 1420**

**NAMED IN HONOR OF THE "MANDYLION:"
"THE IMAGE OF EDESSA WAS A HOLY
RELIC CONSISTING OF A [...] CLOTH UPON
WHICH A MIRACULOUS IMAGE OF THE
FACE OF JESUS WAS IMPRINTED – THE
FIRST ICON ("IMAGE"). IN EASTERN
ORTHODOXY, AND OFTEN IN ENGLISH, THE
IMAGE IS KNOWN AS THE MANDYLION."**



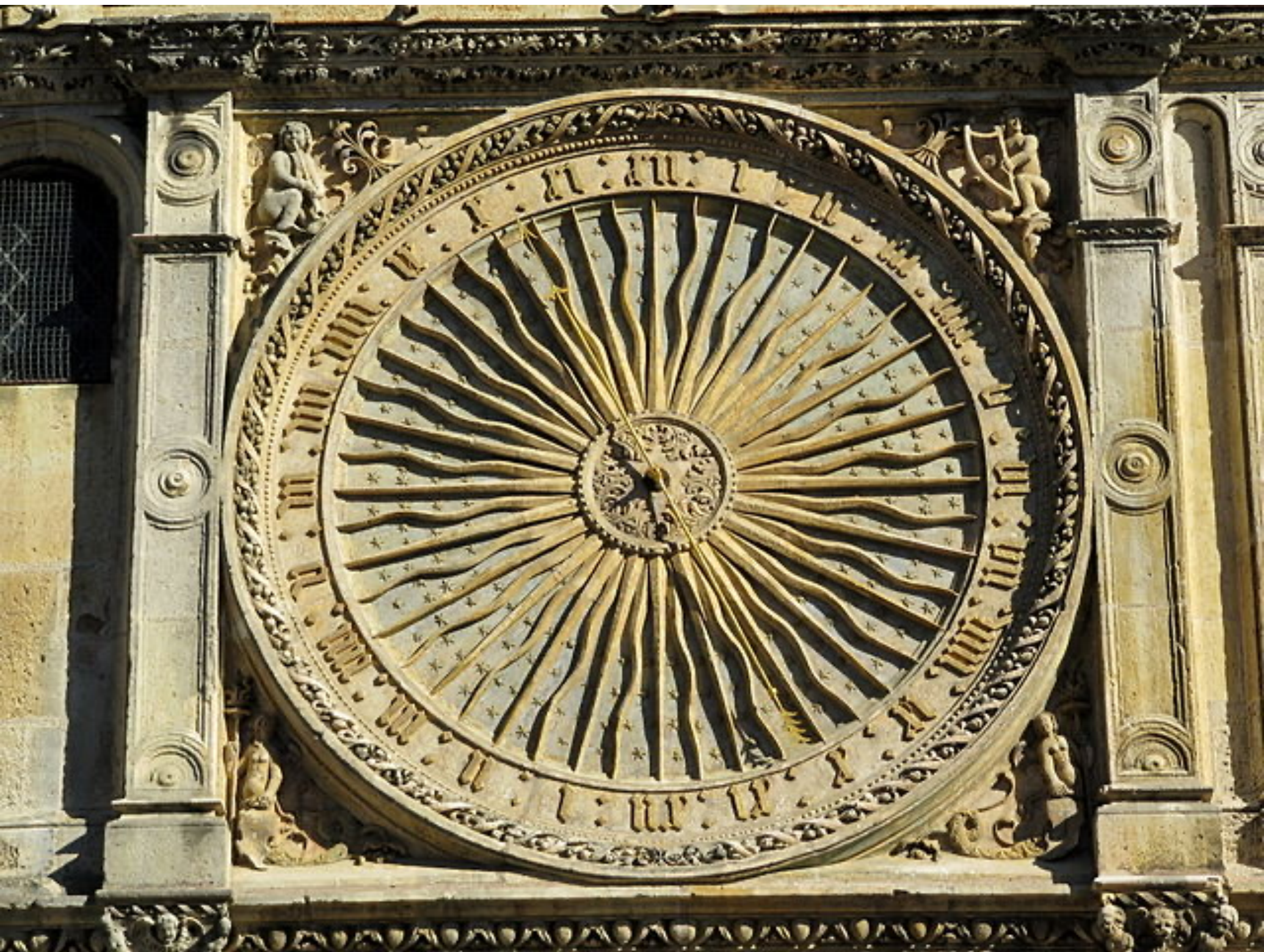
**CHARTRES CATHEDRAL,
FRANCE
12TH CENTURY**

**"BY THE END OF THE 12TH CENTURY
[CHARTRES] HAD BECOME ONE OF
THE MOST IMPORTANT [...]
PILGRIMAGE DESTINATIONS
IN EUROPE."**



















COLOGNE CATHEDRAL
[IN GERMAN: "KÖLNER DOM"]
GERMANY
1248

THE LARGEST GOTHIC CHURCH IN
NORTHERN EUROPE

THE LARGEST FAÇADE OF ANY CHURCH
IN THE WORLD

**BUILT IN THE FORM OF
A LATIN CROSS**





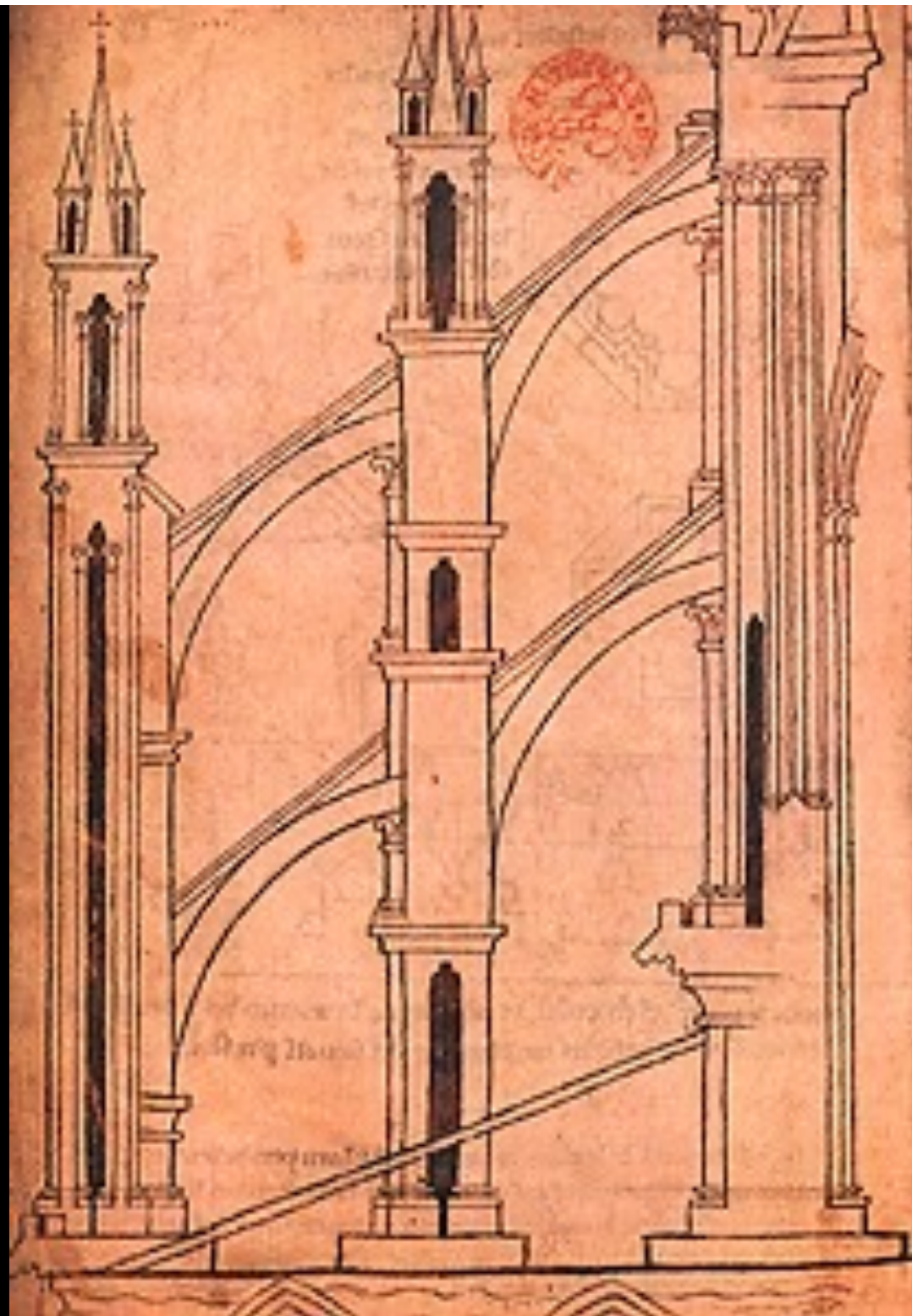


FLYING BUTTRESSES



FLYING BUTTRESSES

"THE PURPOSE OF ANY BUTTRESS IS TO RESIST THE LATERAL FORCES PUSHING A WALL OUTWARDS (WHICH MAY ARISE FROM STONE VAULTED CEILINGS OR FROM WIND-LOADING ON ROOFS) BY REDIRECTING THEM TO THE GROUND."









**DUBROVNIK SYNAGOGUE,
CROATIA
14TH CENTURY**

**"THE OLDEST SEFARDIC SYNAGOGUE
STILL IN USE TODAY IN THE WORLD AND
THE SECOND OLDEST SYNAGOGUE IN
EUROPE"**





**DUOMO DI MILANO,
ITALY
1386**

**"THE GOTHIC CATHEDRAL TOOK NEARLY
SIX CENTURIES TO COMPLETE. IT IS THE
5TH-LARGEST CHURCH IN THE WORLD AND
THE SECOND LARGEST IN ITALY"**









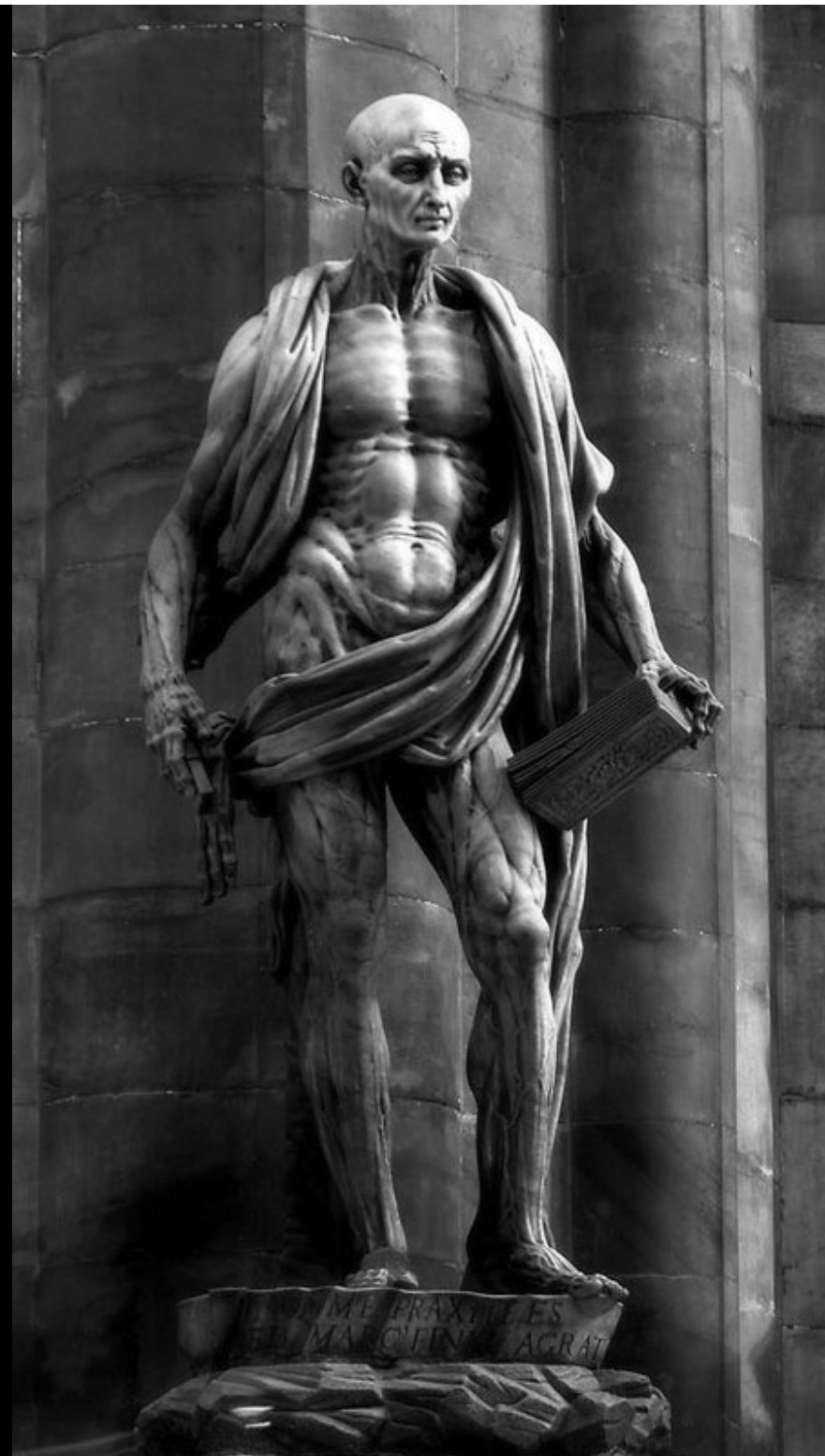




ST BARTHOLOMEW

ONE OF THE TWELVE APOSTLES

'CHRISTIAN TRADITION HAS THREE STORIES ABOUT BARTHOLOMEW'S DEATH: [...] THE ACCOUNT OF BARTHOLOMEW BEING SKINNED ALIVE IS THE MOST REPRESENTED IN WORKS OF ART [...]'



**DUOMO DI PISA,
PISA, ITALY
1064**

**"... SET THE MODEL FOR THE
DISTINCTIVE PISAN ROMANESQUE
STYLE OF ARCHITECTURE. THE
MOSAICS OF THE INTERIOR, AS WELL
AS THE POINTED ARCHES, SHOW A
STRONG BYZANTINE INFLUENCE. [...] [THE BAPTISTERY] IS THE LARGEST
BAPTISTERY IN ITALY..."**













**ELY CATHEDRAL,
UNITED KINGDOM
1083-1375**

"ARCHITECTURALLY IT IS OUTSTANDING BOTH FOR ITS SCALE AND STYLISTIC DETAILS. HAVING BEEN BUILT IN A MONUMENTAL ROMANESQUE STYLE, THE GALILEE PORCH, LADY CHAPEL AND CHOIR WERE REBUILT IN AN EXUBERANT DECORATED GOTHIC."















**ETCHMIADZIN CATHEDRAL,
VAGHARSHAPAT, ARMENIA
COMPLETED 483**

OLDEST CATHEDRAL IN THE WORLD







**FLORENCE CATHEDRAL,
ITALY
1296-1436**

"PART OF THE UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE COVERING THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF FLORENCE [...] A MAJOR ATTRACTION TO TOURISTS VISITING THE REGION OF TUSCANY. THE BASILICA IS ONE OF ITALY'S LARGEST CHURCHES, AND UNTIL DEVELOPMENT OF NEW STRUCTURAL MATERIALS IN THE MODERN ERA, THE DOME WAS THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD."







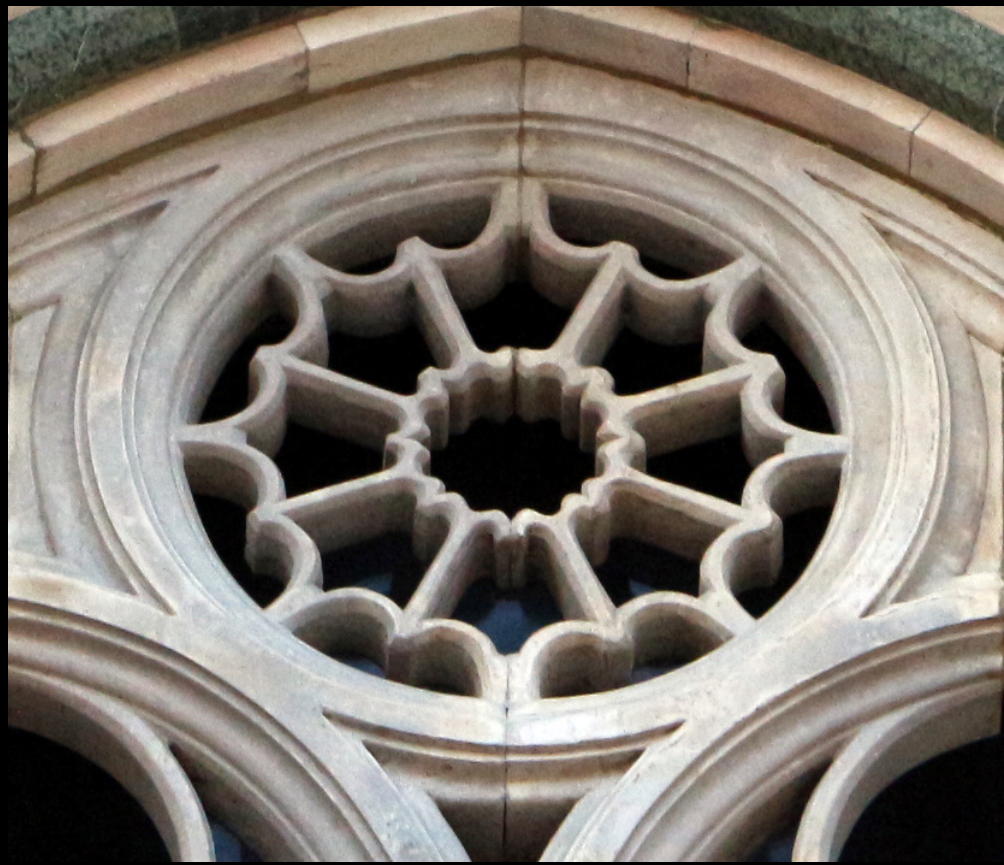
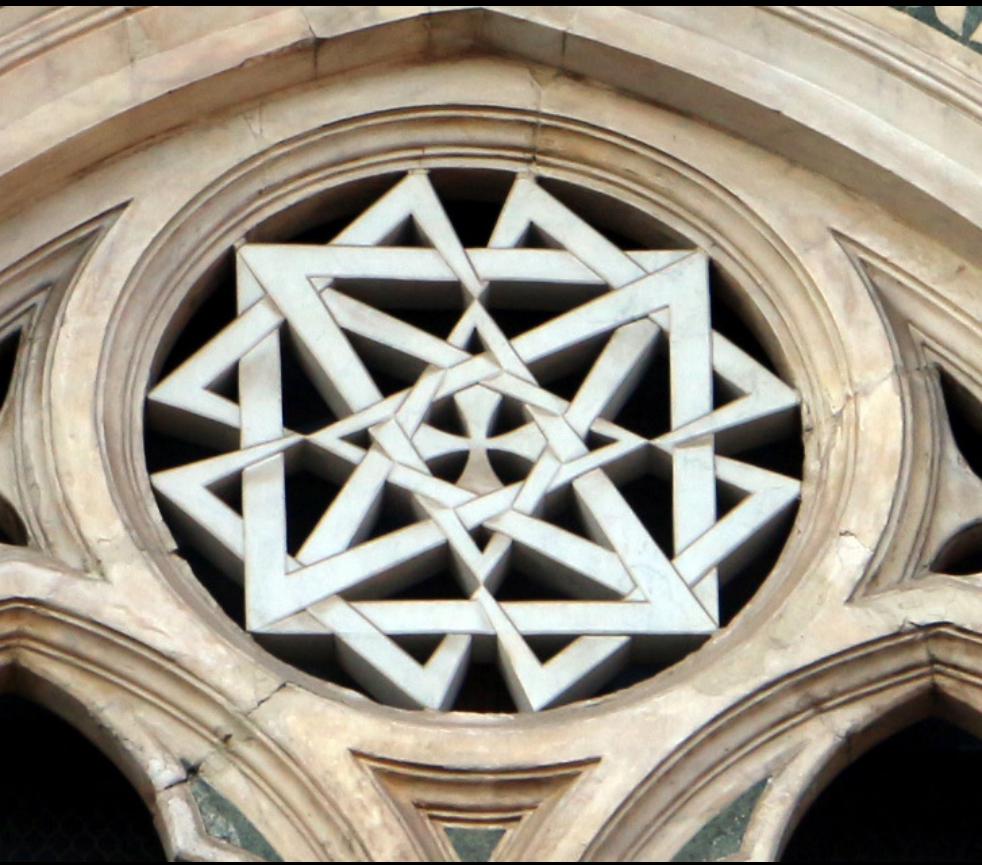












SOLAR GNONMON (HIGHEST IN THE WORLD): AT THE SUMMER SOLSTICE, THE SUNLIGHT LANDS IN THE CIRCLE.



**GREAT MOSQUE-CATHEDRAL ["MEZQUITA"]
OF CORDOBA, SPAIN
BUILT 780; CONVERTED INTO A CATHOLIC
CHURCH IN 1236**

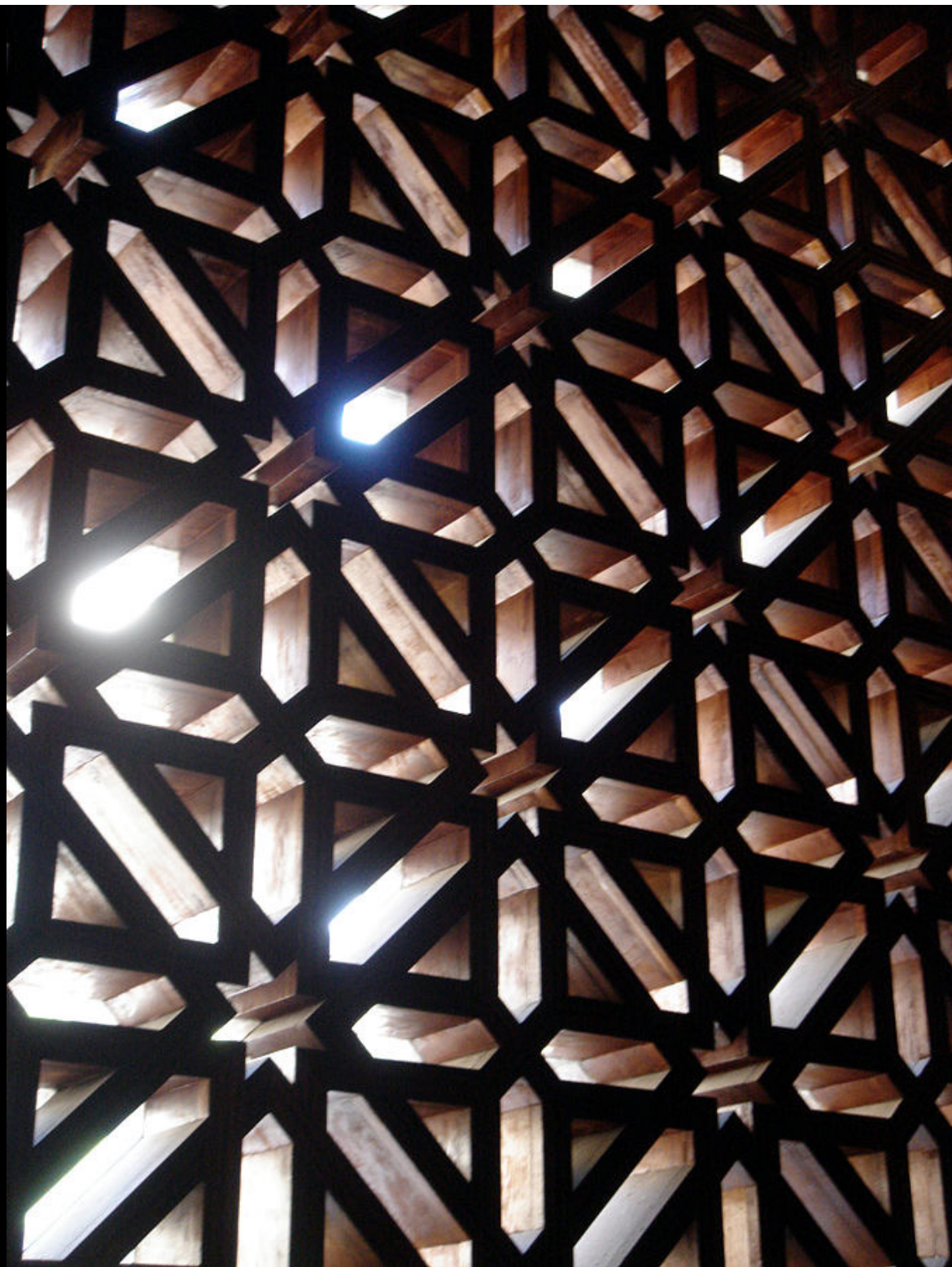
**"THE STRUCTURE IS REGARDED AS ONE OF
THE MOST ACCOMPLISHED MONUMENTS OF
MOORISH ARCHITECTURE. [...] AFTER THE
RECONQUISTA, IT WAS CONVERTED TO A
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, CULMINATING
IN THE INSERTION OF A RENAISSANCE
CATHEDRAL NAVE IN THE 16TH CENTURY."**

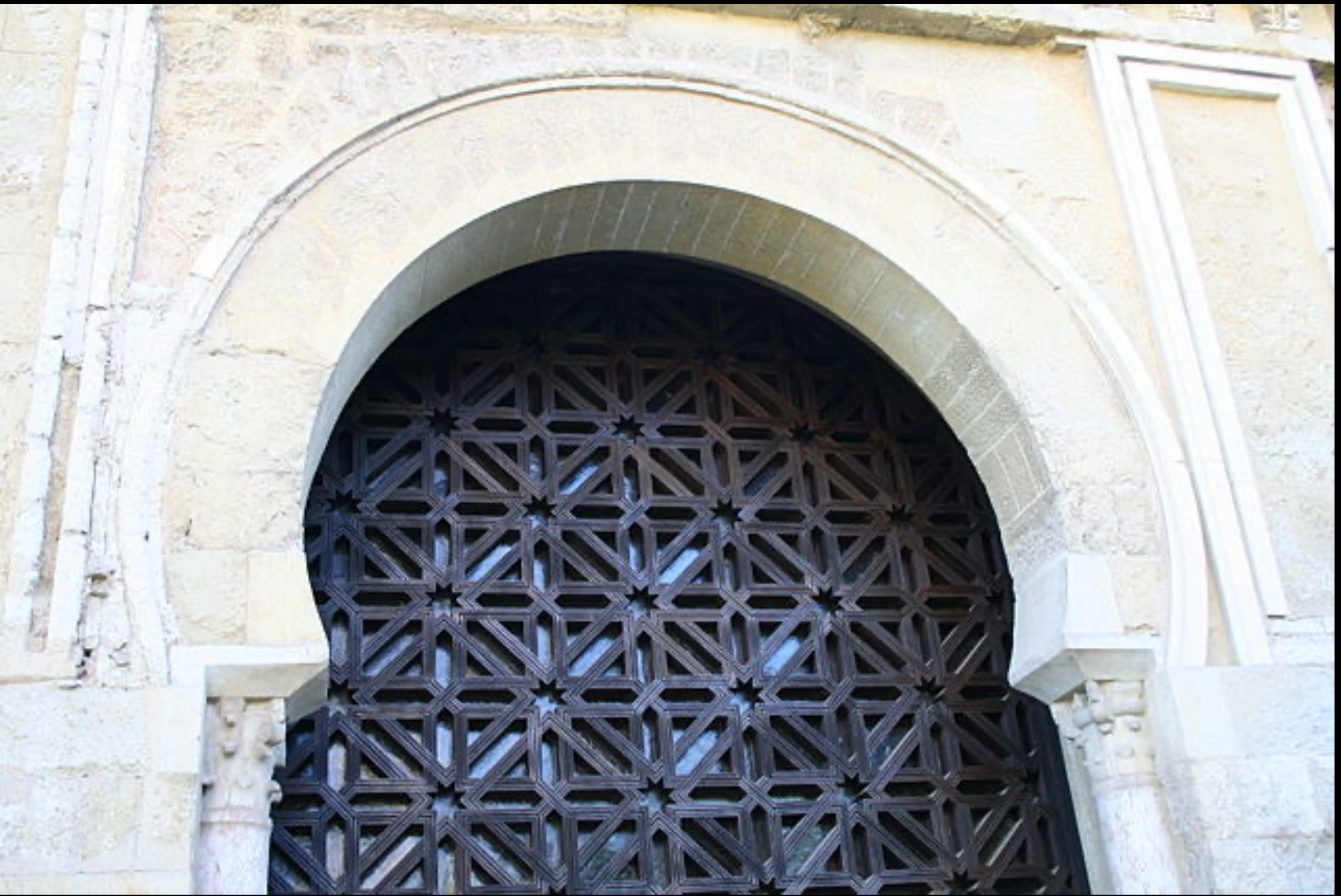




PILLAR FOREST/HYPOSTYLE HALL













zoisberg 2010



**GREAT MOSQUE OF SAMARA,
IRAQ
COMPLETED 851**

**"THE GREAT MOSQUE WAS [...] THE
LARGEST MOSQUE IN THE WORLD FOR
THE NEXT 400 YEARS BEFORE IT WAS
DESTROYED [...] IN THE YEAR 1278.
THE OUTER WALLS AND THE IMPOSING
52-METERS MINARET IS ALL THAT
REMAINS OF THIS ONCE GREAT MOSQUE."**

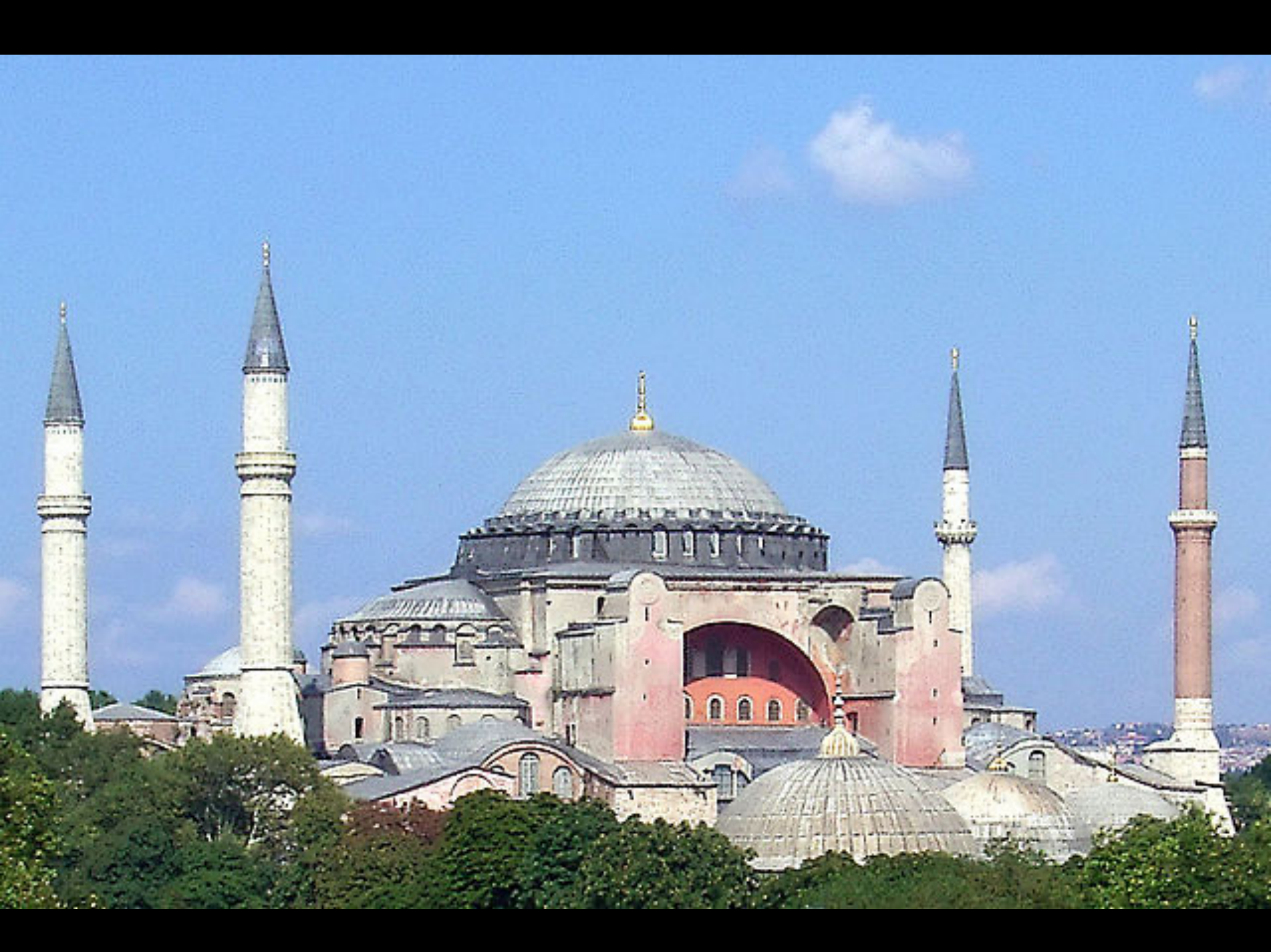






**HAGIA SOFIA [LITERALLY
"THE CHURCH OF HOLY WISDOM"],
ISTANBUL, TURKEY
532**

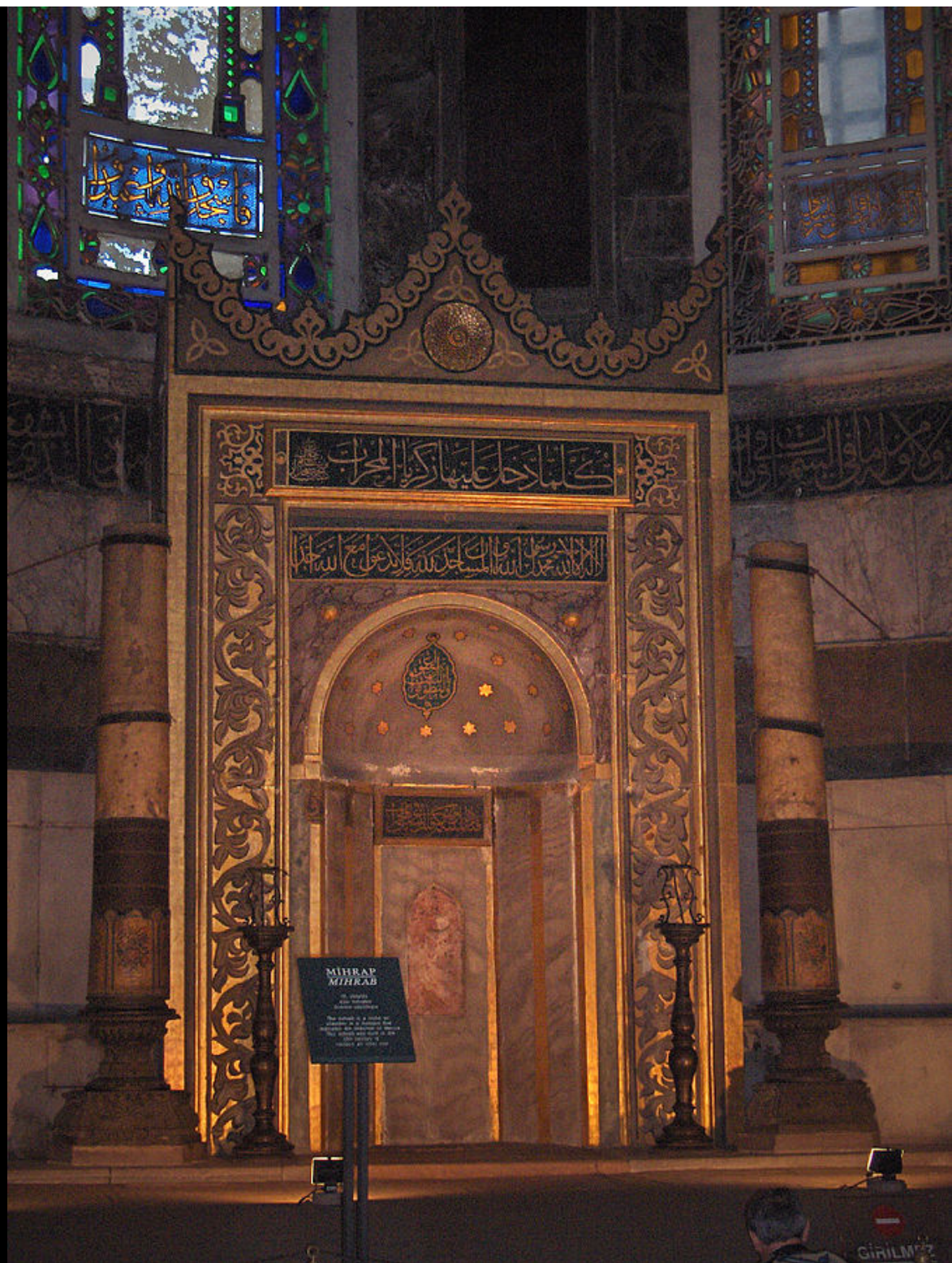
**'[HAGIA SOPHIA] IS CONSIDERED THE
EPITOME OF BYZANTINE ARCHITECTURE
AND IS SAID TO HAVE "CHANGED THE
HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE". IT
REMAINED THE WORLD'S LARGEST
CATHEDRAL FOR NEARLY A THOUSAND
YEARS [...]'**











MİHRAP
MİHRAB
The mihrab is a niche for
prayer, and is a symbol of
the mosque's direction.
The mihrab is a symbol of
the mosque's direction.

GİRİLMİŞ





"THE OMPHALION IS [...] THE LOCATION WHERE THE CORONATION OF EVERY BYZANTINE [...] EMPEROR TOOK PLACE. THIS IS ALSO THE SPOT WHERE THE EMPEROR WOULD SIT & PARTICIPATE DURING CHURCH CEREMONIES."

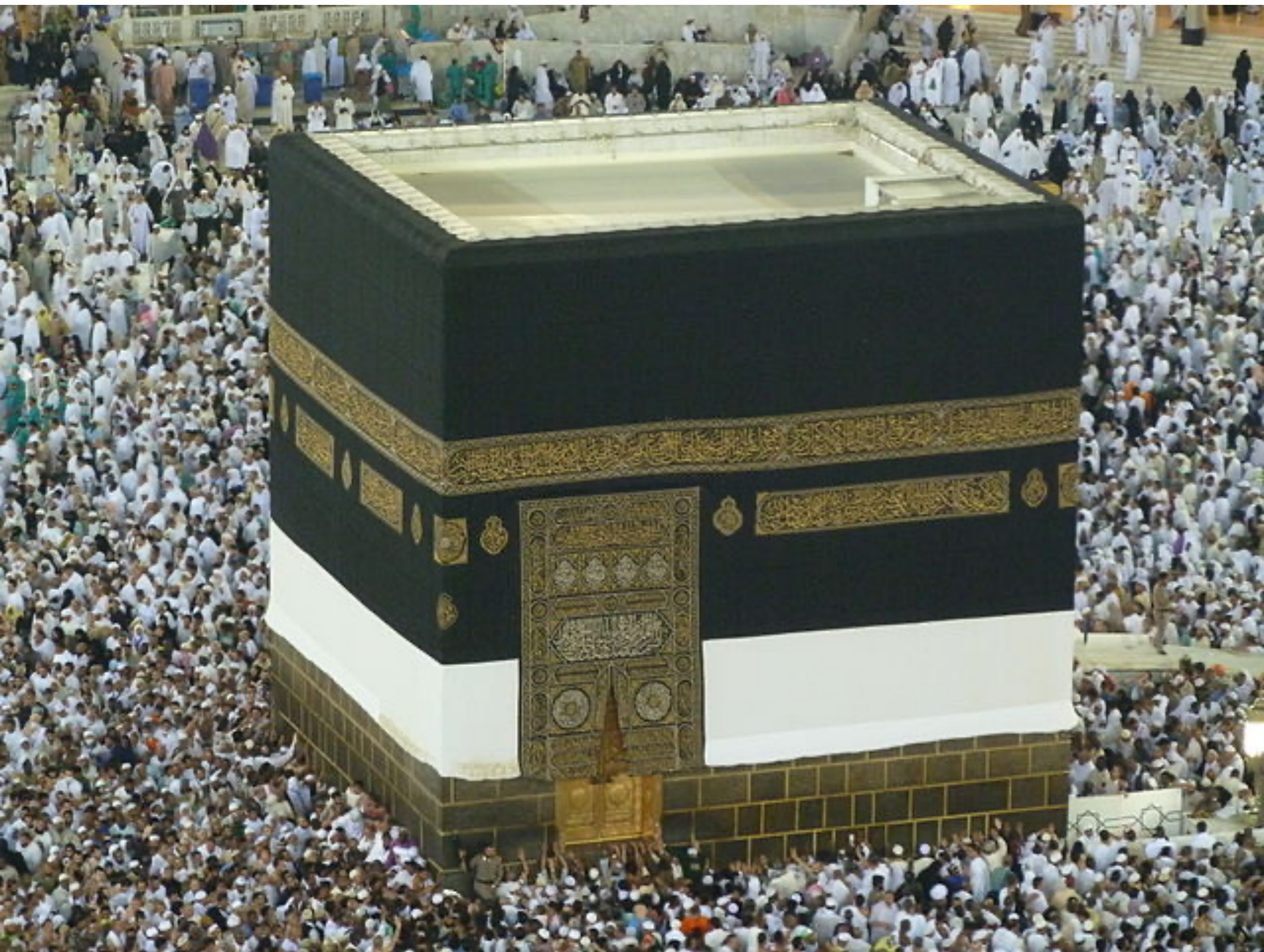


LUSTRATION URN



**KAABAH ["THE CUBE"],
AL-MASJID AL-HARAM MOSQUE,
MECCA, SAUDI ARABIA
[AVAILABLE FOR PILGRIMAGE FROM 629]**

**"THE KAABAH IS THE HOLIEST SITE IN
ISLAM. [...] IN 624 [...] THE QIBLAH
(PRAYER DIRECTION) WAS CHANGED
FROM [THE DOME OF THE ROCK IN]
JERUSALEM TO THE KAABAH IN MECCA."**



BLACKSTONE:

**SAID TO DATE
TO ADAM AND
EVE.**

**"EASTERN
CORNERSTONE
OF THE KAABA
[...] REVERED
BY MUSLIMS
AS AN ISLAMIC
RELIC [...] NOW
CEMENTED
INTO A SILVER
FRAME IN THE
SIDE OF THE
KAABA [...]"**





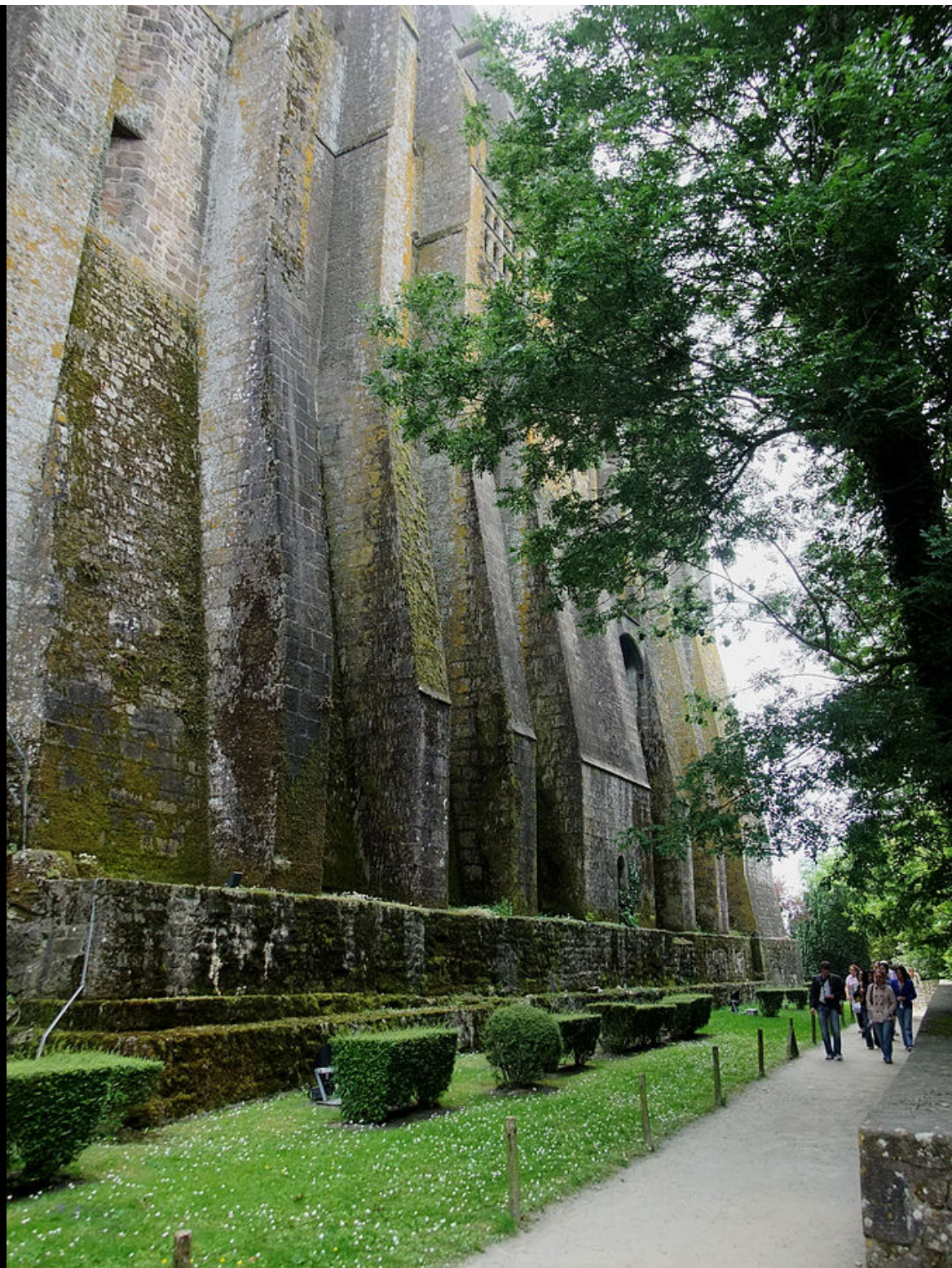
**MONT SAINT-MICHEL,
NORMANDY, FRANCE
8TH CENTURY**

**"ONE OF FRANCE'S MOST
RECOGNIZABLE LANDMARKS, MONT
SAINT-MICHEL AND ITS BAY ARE PART
OF THE UNESCO LIST OF WORLD
HERITAGE SITES AND MORE THAN 3
MILLION PEOPLE VISIT IT EACH YEAR."**









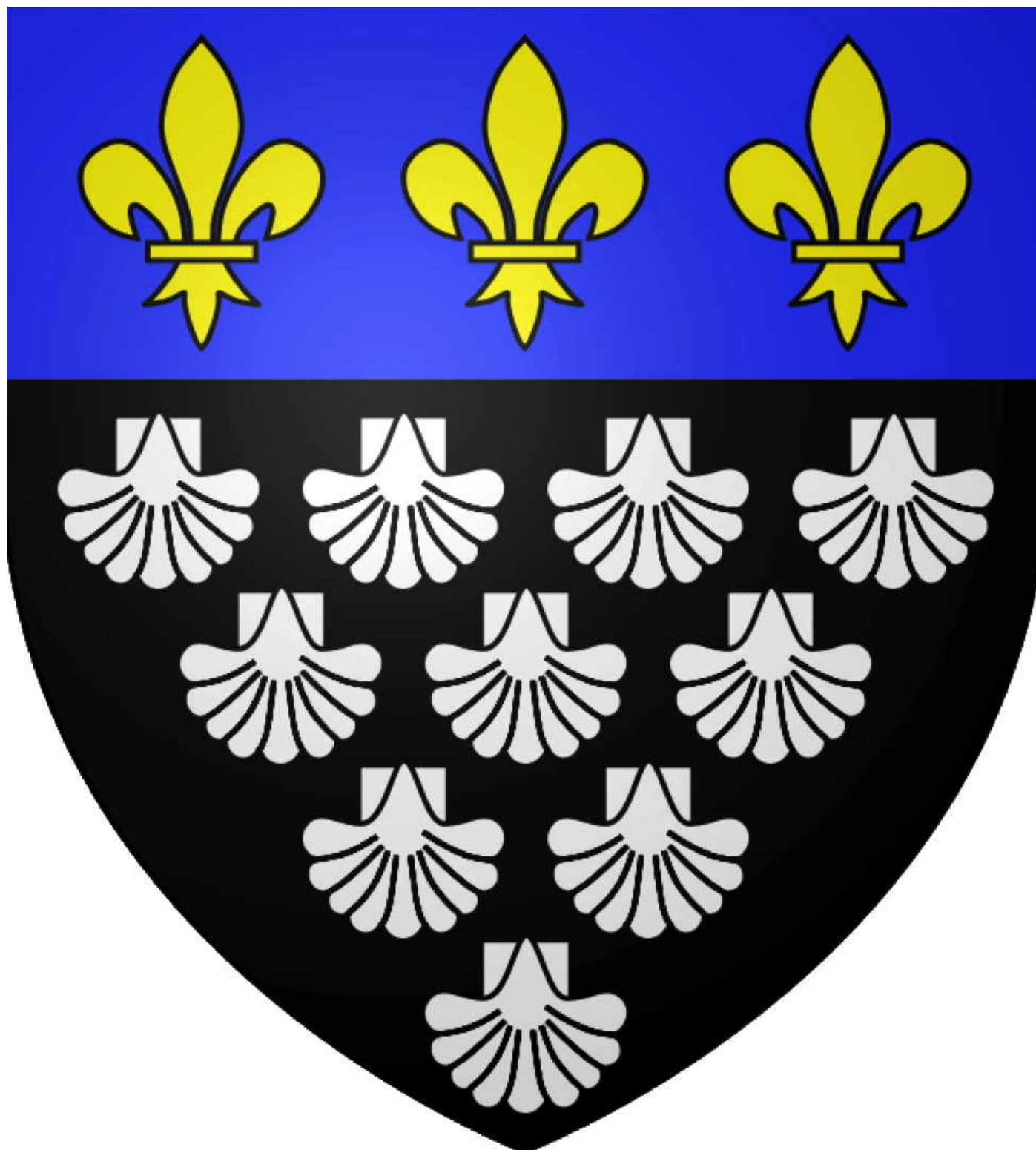
HUMAN-POWERED TREAD WHEEL CRANE











**OLD CATHEDRAL OF COIMBRA
["SÉ VELHA DE COIMBR"],
PORTUGAL
13TH CENTURY**

**"... COIMBRA CATHEDRAL IS THE ONLY
ONE OF THE PORTUGUESE ROMANESQUE
CATHEDRALS FROM THE RECONQUISTA
TIMES TO HAVE SURVIVED RELATIVELY
INTACT UP TO THE PRESENT. "**







**PALAIS DES PAPES,
AVIGNON, FRANCE
13TH CENTURY**

**"ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST
IMPORTANT MEDIEVAL GOTHIC BUILDINGS
IN EUROPE. [...] THE PAPAL RESIDENCE WAS
THE SEAT OF WESTERN CHRISTIANITY
DURING THE 14TH CENTURY." "NOT ONLY
[...] THE LARGEST GOTHIC BUILDING OF THE
MIDDLE AGES, IT IS ALSO ONE OF THE BEST
EXAMPLES OF THE INTERNATIONAL GOTHIC
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE."**



"... A DEADLOCKED CONCLAVE FINALLY ELECTED CLEMENT V, A FRENCHMAN, AS POPE IN 1305. CLEMENT DECLINED TO MOVE TO ROME, REMAINING IN FRANCE, AND IN 1309 MOVED HIS COURT TO THE PAPAL ENCLAVE AT AVIGNON, WHERE IT REMAINED FOR THE NEXT 67 YEARS. THIS ABSENCE FROM ROME IS SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS THE "BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY OF THE PAPACY..."







**PALMA CATHEDRAL ["LA SEU"],
MAJORCA, SPAIN
1229**

**"T IS 121 METRES LONG, 55 METRES
WIDE AND ITS NAVE IS 44 METRES TALL.
BY WAY OF COMPARISON, THE HEIGHT
OF THE CENTRAL NAVE REACHES 33M
IN NOTRE DAME DE PARIS, 38M IN
REIMS, 42M IN NOTRE-DAME D'AMIENS
AND 48M IN SAINT-PIERRE DE
BEAUVAIS, THE HIGHEST OF ALL
GOTHIC CATHEDRALS."**







**PARMA CATHEDRAL,
ITALY
1059**

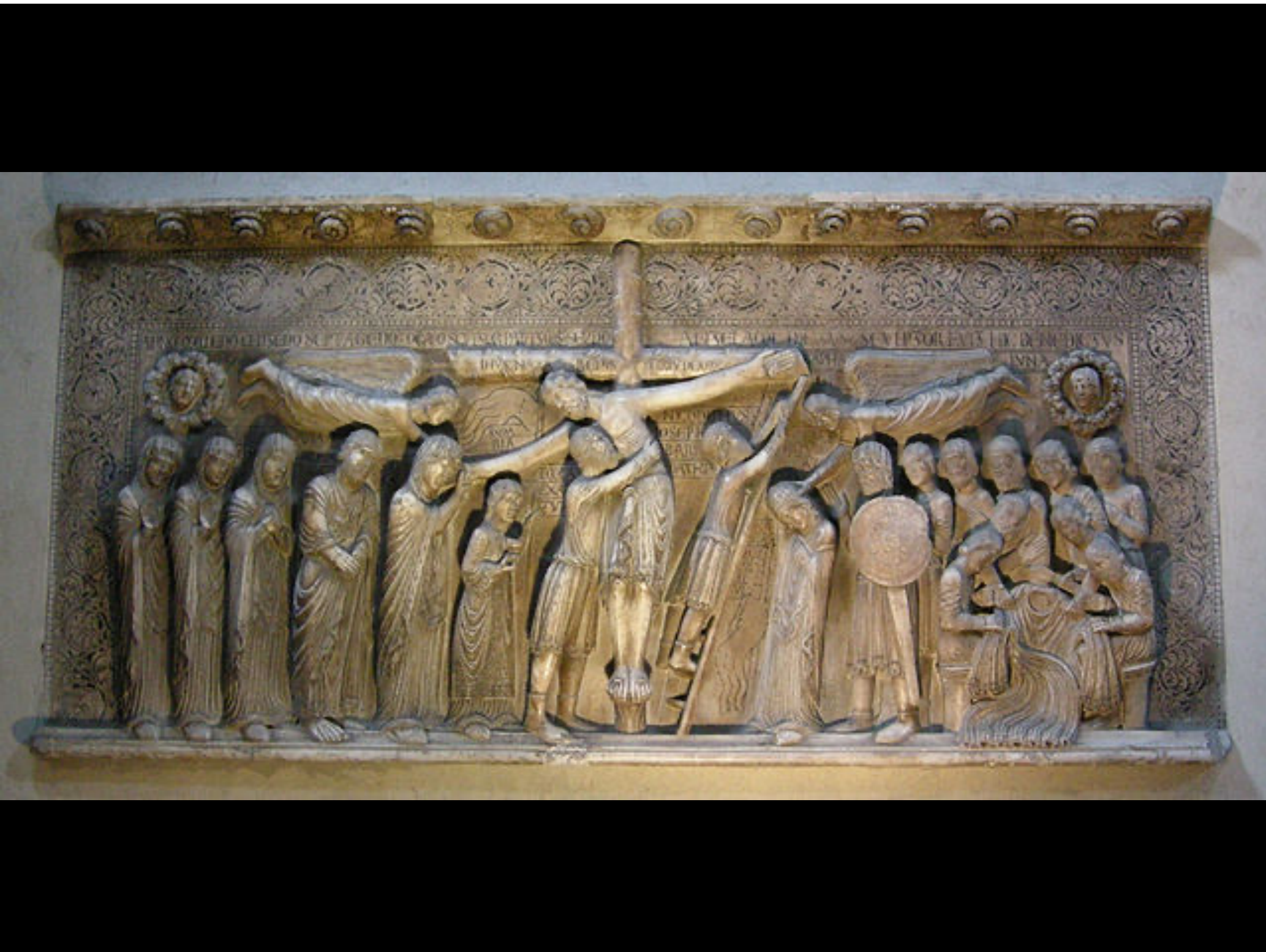
**"IT IS AN IMPORTANT ITALIAN
ROMANESQUE CATHEDRAL: THE DOME,
IN PARTICULAR, IS DECORATED BY A
HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL ILLUSIONISTIC
FRESCO BY RENAISSANCE PAINTER
ANTONIO DA CORREGGIO."**

















**REIMS CATHEDRAL,
FRANCE
1275**

**"[...] WITH THE BAPTISM OF CLOVIS
BY SAINT REMI IN 498-499, THE
PRECEDENT OF ROYAL UNCTION WAS
ESTABLISHED IN THE REIMS CATHEDRAL."**





RILA MONASTERY, BULGARIA 927

**"FOUNDED IN THE 10TH CENTURY,
THE RILA MONASTERY IS REGARDED AS
ONE OF BULGARIA'S MOST IMPORTANT
CULTURAL, HISTORICAL AND
ARCHITECTURAL MONUMENTS AND IS A
KEY TOURIST ATTRACTION FOR BOTH
BULGARIA AND SOUTHERN EUROPE."**



WEST PORTICO FRESCOS, RILA MONASTERY



**ROSKILDE CATHEDRAL,
ZEALAND, DENMARK
1170**

**"THE FIRST GOTHIC CATHEDRAL TO BE
BUILT OF BRICK"**







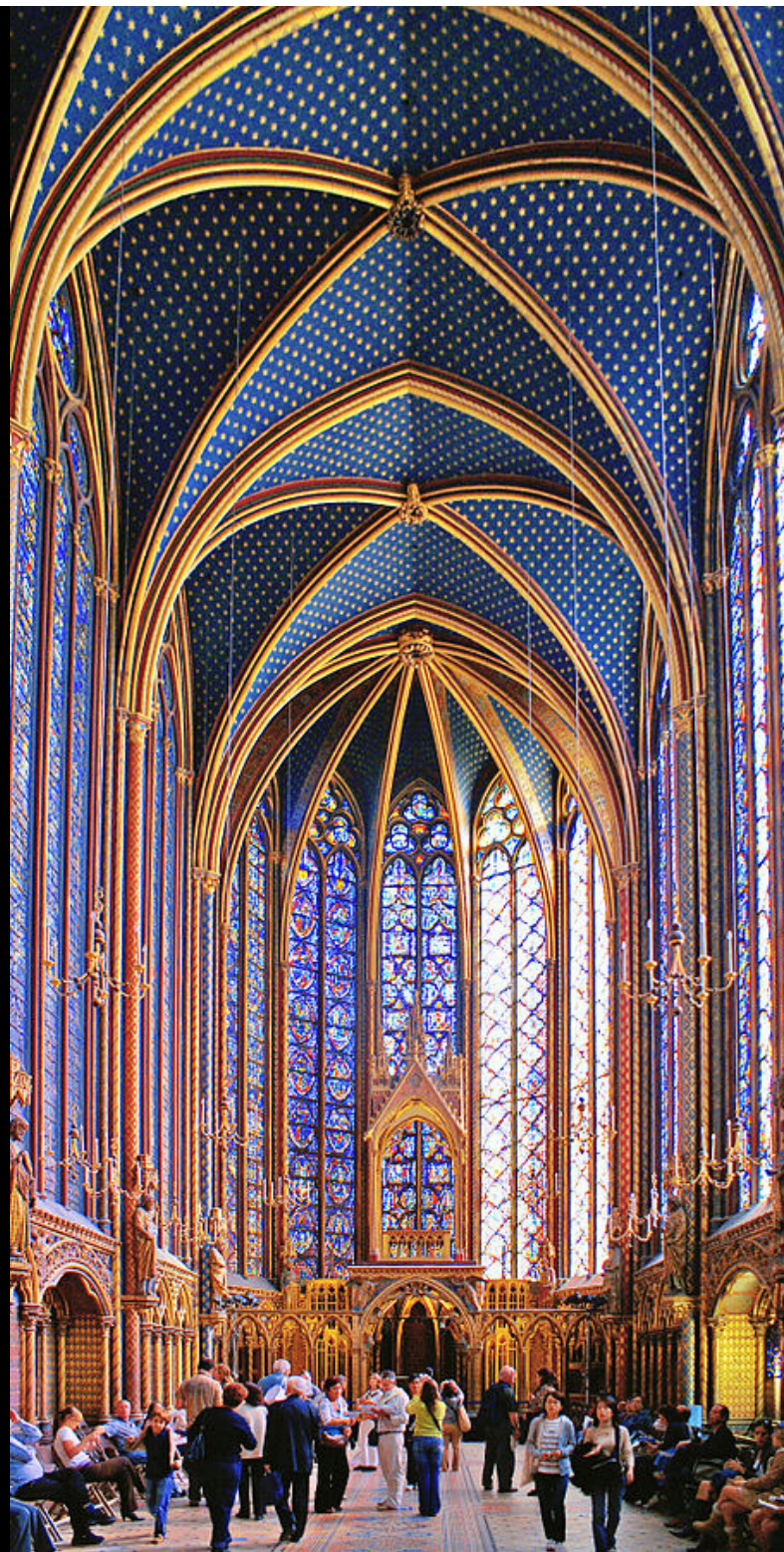


**SAINTE-CHAPELLE,
PARIS
1239**

**"AMONG THE HIGHEST ACHIEVEMENTS
OF THE RAYONNANT PERIOD OF GOTHIC
ARCHITECTURE"**













**SALISBURY CATHEDRAL,
WILTSHIRE UK
1220-1320**

**"ONE OF THE LEADING EXAMPLES OF
EARLY ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE [...] THE CATHEDRAL HAS THE TALLEST
CHURCH SPIRE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM
(123M/404 FT). IT [...] HAS THE BEST
SURVIVING OF THE FOUR ORIGINAL
COPIES OF MAGNA CARTA [...]"**











**POLYCHROME
STATUARY,
SALISBURY
CATHEDRAL**



**SAN MARCOS BASILICA,
VENICE, ITALY
1092**

**"... ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN EXAMPLES
OF ITALO-BYZANTINE ARCHITECTURE. [...] FOR ITS
OPULENT DESIGN, GOLD GROUND MOSAICS, AND ITS
STATUS AS A SYMBOL OF VENETIAN WEALTH AND
POWER, FROM THE 11TH CENTURY ON THE BUILDING
HAS BEEN KNOWN BY THE NICKNAME [...] CHURCH
OF GOLD [...]"**







"[MOST OF MOSAICS] USE THE TRADITIONAL BACKGROUND OF GOLD GLASS TESSERAE, CREATING THE SHIMMERING OVERALL EFFECT."





SANCTUARY OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, JERUSALEM, RECONSTRUCTED 1048

**"THE SITE IS VENERATED AS CALVARY
(GOLGOTHA), WHERE JESUS [...] WAS
CRUCIFIED, AND ALSO CONTAINS THE
PLACE WHERE JESUS IS SAID TO HAVE
BEEN BURIED AND RESURRECTED [...] FOR
MANY CHRISTIANS THE MOST
IMPORTANT PILGRIMAGE DESTINATION
SINCE AT LEAST THE 4TH CENTURY [...]"**

RUN BY ORTHODOX & ROMAN CATHOLICS

THE IMOVABLE LADDER

"... A WOODEN LADDER [...] FIRST MENTIONED IN 1757 [...] HAS REMAINED IN THE SAME EXACT LOCATION SINCE [THEN]. THE LADDER IS REFERRED TO AS IMMOVABLE DUE TO AN UNDERSTANDING THAT NO CLERIC OF THE SIX ECUMENICAL CHRISTIAN ORDERS MAY MOVE, REARRANGE, OR ALTER ANY PROPERTY WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF ALL SIX ORDERS."







TOMB OF JESUS







VIGIL LAMPS AT THE EDICULE (JESUS' TOMB)



**SAVIOUR CATHEDRAL
["CATHEDRAL OF THE TRANSFIGURATION"],
CHERNIHIV, UKRAINE
1036**

**"ONE OF THE OLDEST STONE BUILDINGS IN
UKRAINE AND THE FINEST EXTANT
MONUMENT OF THE MEDIEVAL CHERNIHIV
PRINCIPALITY"**



**SEDLEC OSSUARY,
KUTNA HORA, CZECH REPUBLIC
CIRCA 1400**

**"THE OSSUARY IS ESTIMATED TO
CONTAIN THE SKELETONS OF BETWEEN
40,000 AND 70,000 PEOPLE, WHOSE
BONES HAVE IN MANY CASES BEEN
ARTISTICALLY ARRANGED TO FORM
DECORATIONS AND FURNISHINGS FOR
THE CHAPEL. THE OSSUARY IS AMONG
THE MOST VISITED TOURIST
ATTRACTIONS OF THE CZECH
REPUBLIC"**



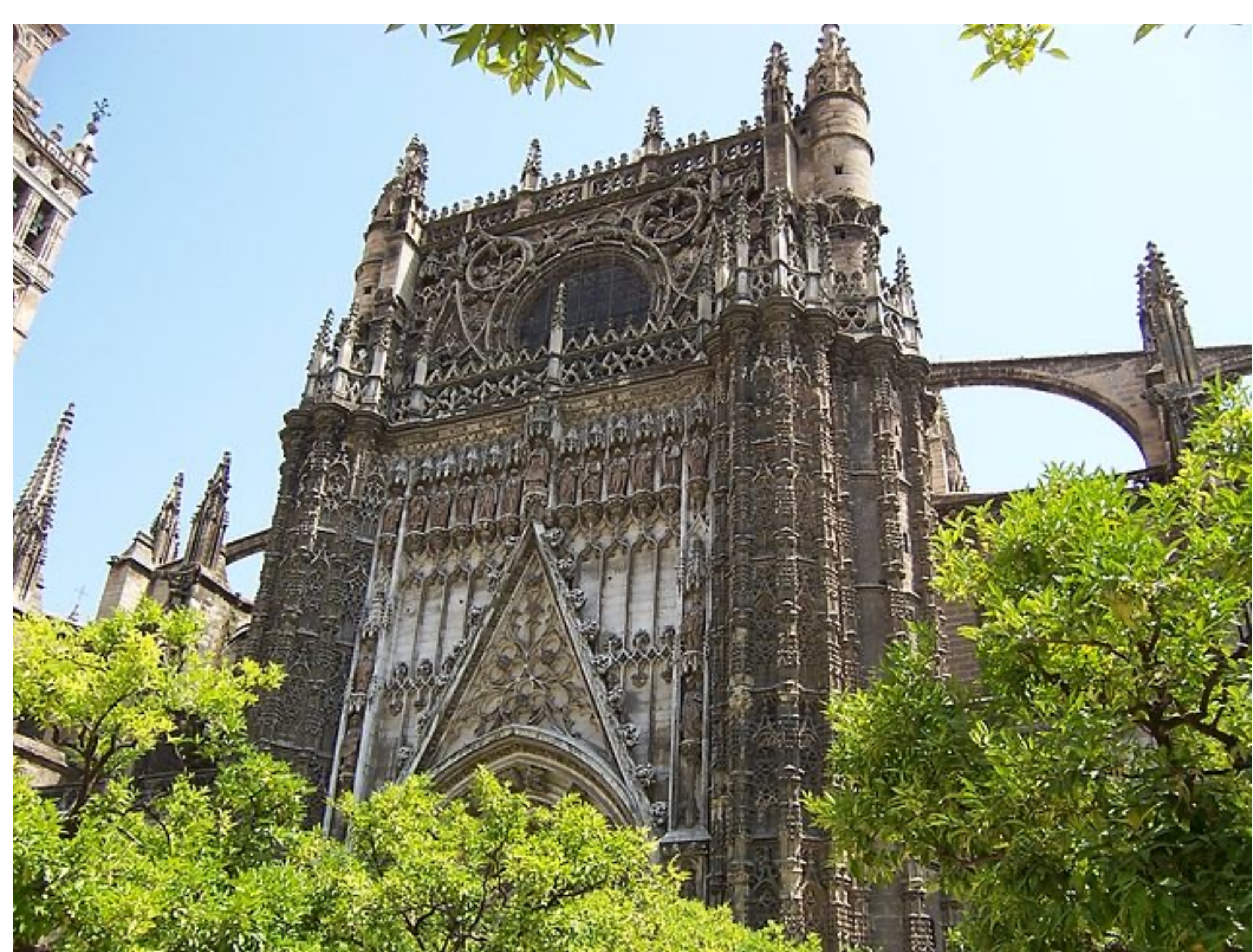
Skull of a person in the center, possibly
a woman, with a small object on top, possibly
a small object, possibly a small object.

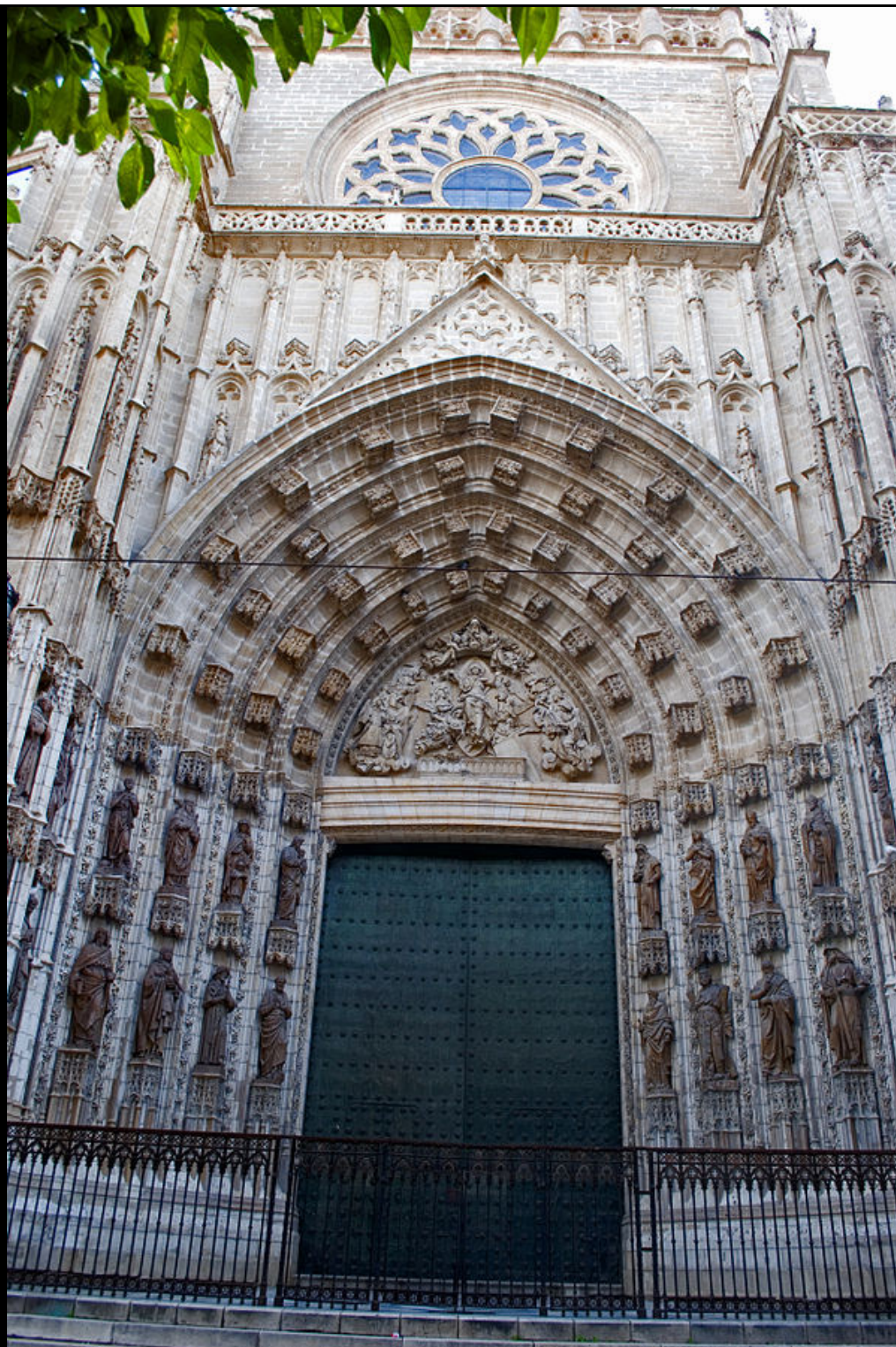




**SEVILLE CATHEDRAL,
SPAIN
1402-1506**

"AFTER ITS COMPLETION IN THE EARLY 16TH CENTURY, THE SEVILLE CATHEDRAL SUPPLANTED HAGIA SOPHIA AS THE LARGEST CATHEDRAL IN THE WORLD, A TITLE THE BYZANTINE CHURCH HAD HELD FOR NEARLY A THOUSAND YEARS. THE CATHEDRAL IS ALSO THE BURIAL SITE OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS."













TOMB OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS



PENITENTS, SEMANA SANTA DE SEVILLA



**SIENA CATHEDRAL,
ITALY
1215-1263**

**"THE EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR ARE
CONSTRUCTED OF WHITE AND GREENISH-
BLACK MARBLE IN ALTERNATING STRIPES,
WITH ADDITION OF RED MARBLE ON THE
FAÇADE. BLACK AND WHITE ARE THE
SYMBOLIC COLORS OF SIENA,
ETIOLOGICALLY LINKED TO BLACK AND
WHITE HORSES OF THE LEGENDARY CITY'S
FOUNDERS [...]"**













CRATES



ST CATHERINE'S EASTERN ORTHODOX MONASTERY, SINAI, EGYPT, 565

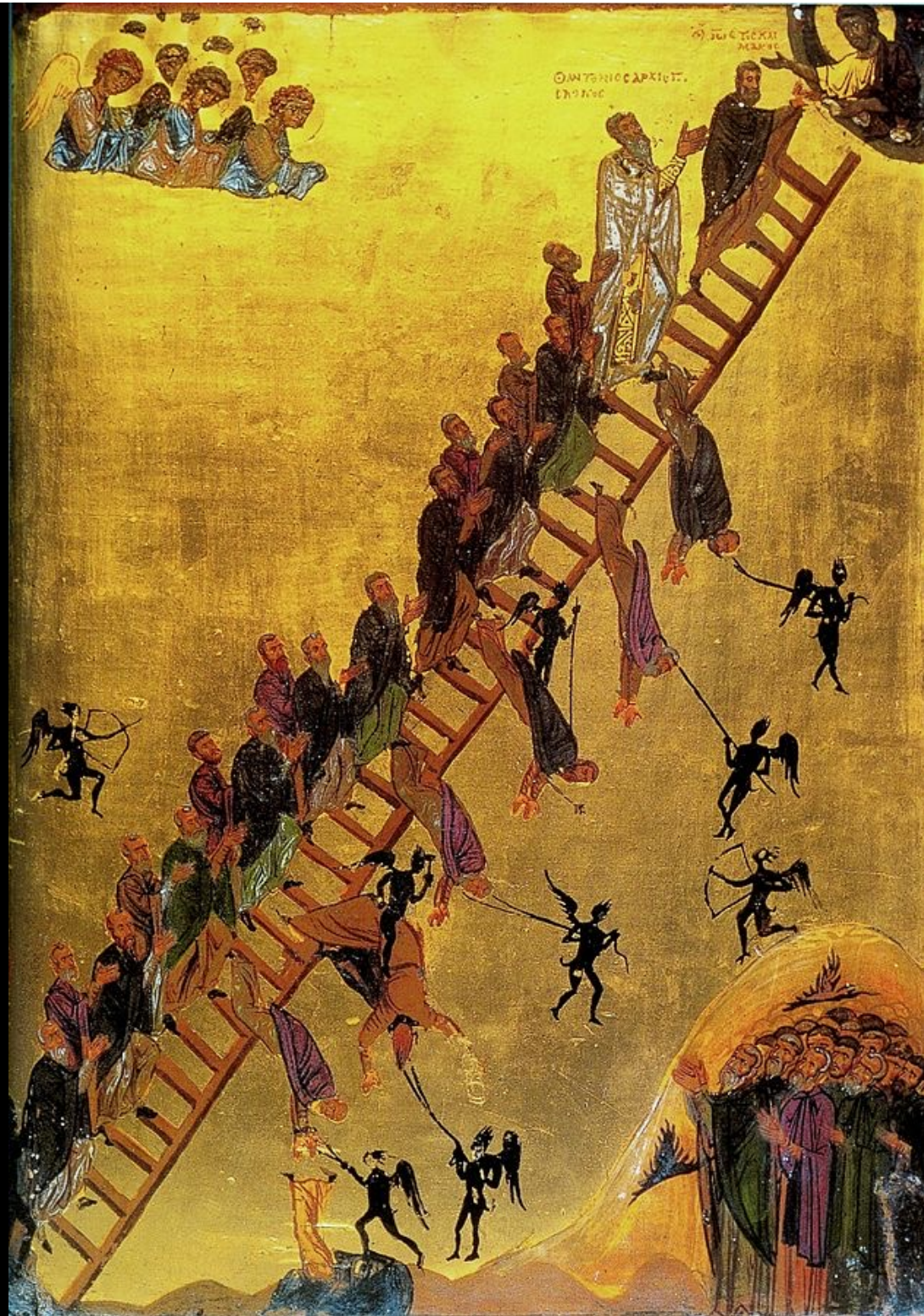
**REPORTEDLY AT THE SITE OF MOSES'
BURNING BUSH. "THE OLDEST WORKING
CHRISTIAN MONASTERY IN THE WORLD."
"THE WORLD'S OLDEST CONTINUALLY
OPERATING LIBRARY" WITH "THE SECOND
LARGEST COLLECTION OF EARLY CODICES
AND MANUSCRIPTS IN THE WORLD" AFTER
THE VATICAN.**



THE LADDER OF DIVINE ASCENT, 12TH CENTURY BY ABBA JOHN, ABBOT OF THE MONKS OF MOUNT SINAI, ST CATHERINE'S MONASTERY, SINAI.

30 STEPS TO REACH HEAVEN, INCLUDING ASCETICISM, HESYCHIA ("PEACE OF THE SOUL"), AND OTHERS.

www.prudencetrue.com/images/TheLadderofDivineAscent.pdf



**ST. MARY'S CHURCH,
GDANSK, POLAND
1379**

**"... CURRENTLY THE LARGEST BRICK
CHURCH IN THE WORLD."**













**ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCH,
GHENT, BELGIUM
13TH CENTURY**







**ST. SOPHIA'S CATHEDRAL,
KIEV, UKRAINE
11TH CENTURY**

**"[...] AN OUTSTANDING ARCHITECTURAL
MONUMENT OF KIEVAN RUS'. THE
CATHEDRAL IS ONE OF THE CITY'S BEST
KNOWN LANDMARKS AND THE FIRST
PATRIMONY ON TERRITORY OF UKRAINE
TO BE INSCRIBED ON THE WORLD
HERITAGE LIST [...]"**







**ST. VITUS CATHEDRAL,
PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC
1344**

**"THIS CATHEDRAL IS AN EXCELLENT
EXAMPLE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE
AND IS THE BIGGEST AND MOST
IMPORTANT CHURCH IN THE COUNTRY.
LOCATED WITHIN PRAGUE CASTLE AND
CONTAINING THE TOMBS OF MANY
BOHEMIAN KINGS AND HOLY ROMAN
EMPERORS [...]"**







GARGOYLE WATERSPOUT



TEMPLE MOUNT, JERUSALEM

'THE CRUSADER PERIOD BEGAN IN 1099 WITH THE FIRST CRUSADE'S CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM. AFTER THE CITY'S CONQUEST, THE CRUSADING ORDER KNIGHTS TEMPLAR WAS GRANTED USE OF THE DOME OF THE ROCK ON THE TEMPLE MOUNT [...]'



DOME OF THE ROCK





FOUNDATION STONE/ SANCTUM SANCTORUM

**HOLIEST SITE IN JUDAISM;
CLOSEST ACCESS FOR NON-
MUSLIMS IS VIA THE
WESTERN WALL TUNNELS
BENEATH TEMPLE MOUNT.**

**THE "WELL OF SOULS"
IS SAID TO BE BENEATH
THE STONE.**

**"THE CIBORIUM, A
PERMANENT CANOPY
OVER THE ALTAR IN SOME
CHURCHES [...] SYMBOLIZES
THE HOLY OF HOLIES."**



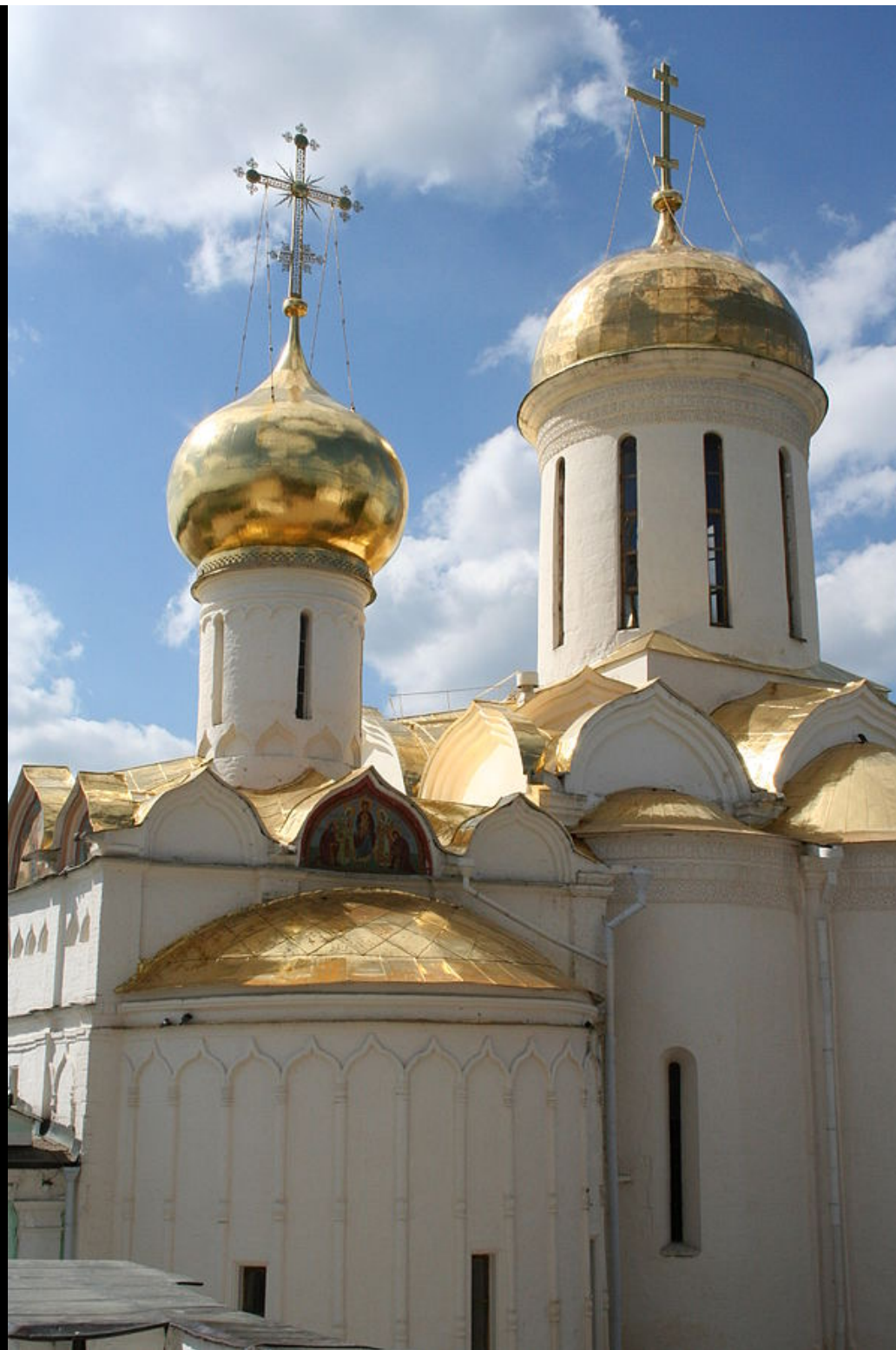
AL-AQSA MOSQUE (SMALLER SILVER-COLORED DOME IN FOREGROUND): THIRD HOLIEST SITE IN ISLAM



**TRINITY LAVRA OF ST. SERGIUS,
SERGIEV POSAD, RUSSIA
1422**

**"FROM THE TIMES OF ST. SERGIUS, THE
TRINITY LAVRA OF ST. SERGIUS HAS
BEEN THE CENTER OF RUSSIAN PIETY
AND NATIONALISM."**

**"THE MOST IMPORTANT RUSSIAN
MONASTERY AND THE SPIRITUAL
CENTRE OF THE RUSSIAN ORTHODOX
CHURCH."**





**ULUGH BEG MADRASA,
SAMARKAND, UZBEKISTAN
1417-1420**

**"ULUGH BEG WAS [...] NOTABLE FOR HIS
WORK IN ASTRONOMY-RELATED
MATHEMATICS, SUCH AS TRIGONOMETRY
AND SPHERICAL GEOMETRY. [...] HE RULED UZBEKISTAN, TAJIKISTAN,
TURKMENISTAN, KYRGYZSTAN,
SOUTHERN KAZAKHSTAN AND MOST OF
AFGHANISTAN FOR ALMOST HALF A
CENTURY FROM 1411 TO 1449."**









**VORONET MONASTERY,
ROMANIA, 1488**

**ONE OF THE PAINTED CHURCHES OF
ROMANIA, IT'S A UNESCO WORLD
HERITAGE SITE**





СВЯТЫЙ НИКОЛАЙ ПОСЛАНИЕ КЪ ДЕТЯМЪ

ПОСЛАНИЕ СЪ СВЯТЫМЪ НИКОЛАЕМЪ

ПОСЛАНИЕ СЪ СВЯТЫМЪ НИКОЛАЕМЪ

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