

# Qom green domes representative of Iranian-Islamic architecture

## Iranica Desk

The Iranian city of Qom houses many historical monuments including three 14th century tombs. They are located in a small garden known as Gonbad-e Sabz (Green Dome). The conical turquoise domes stand out a mile in nearby streets and attract the attention of tourists due to their architectural value.

Kazem Fadaeian, a cultural heritage expert in Qom, has told Miras Aria news agency about the age of the tombs.

"According to existing inscriptions, this historical and cultural complex belongs to the 14th century, in the Ilkhanid period. It used to be known as Darvazeh Kashan (Kashan Gate)," he said.

He added that historical inscriptions also show that commanders from the Ali Safi household were buried in the tombs.

Fadaeian said people in Qom, however, believe these tombs belong to three great Arab personalities who revived Qom in the Islamic era.

He also attached significance to the architectural values of the structures.

"The architect of the building has considered a regular octagonal geometric design for this historical building. This design can

be seen from inside the building. A 16-sided dome can be seen above this building, which is like a beautiful cone and draws the attention of tourists."

Fadaeian noted that the complex is a manifestation of Islamic and Iranian architecture. He said the decorations of the monument are influenced by the art and architecture of their contemporary building, the Dome of Soltaniyeh in Zanjan Province.

Gonbad-e Soltaniyeh (Dome of Soltaniyeh) is also a 14th-century monument. It is highly recognized as an architectural masterpiece, particularly due to its innovative double-shelled dome and elaborate interior decoration. The dome stands about 50 meters tall from its base. Covered with turquoise-blue faience tiles, the stunning structure dominates the skyline of the ancient city of Soltaniyeh.

The monument is, in fact, the mausoleum of Oljaitu, also known as Muhammad Khodabandeh, who was the eighth Ilkhanid Dynasty ruler, from 1304 to 1316.

Fadaeian said Gonbad-e Sabz complex has been registered on the National Heritage List due to its historical antiquity and its Iranian-Islamic architecture.



● IRNA

● dobaresafar.ir

## Kerman, city of tastes



Qavoat  
● rasekhoon.net



Kolompeh (R)  
● badr24.com



Komach sehen (R)  
● ashpaizha.com



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All human creations, from historical monuments and handicrafts to cuisines and sweets contribute to the collective identity of a nation.

The cultural manifestations and lifestyle of people in each community are very attractive to tourists. The intersection of food and culture is a powerful force which is the root of identity and the place of connection in a community.

The southeastern province of Kerman, which hosts 25 percent of the horticultural fields of the country, has a great capacity in the fields of foodstuff production and processing. The agricultural crops cultivated in the province, including pistachios, dates, walnuts and citrus fruits can be used to introduce the food culture of its people to the world in the best possible manner, according to IRNA.

Kerman has very versatile souvenirs which are attractive to all travelers. The variety of souvenirs satisfies every taste, with every financial ability, and no one returns to his or her city empty-handed.

In fact, there are few tourists who travel to Kerman and haven't tasted *kolompeh* (a soft, golden cookie filled with dates, nuts and spices), *qavoat* (a nutrition-

ally-dense recipe made of powdered seeds, nuts, and sugar), *komach sehen* (a date pie made with high protein wheat flour, filled with dates and walnuts). From sweets and local breads to organic and natural products, you can find anything in Kerman.

Experts believe that the capacity of Kerman's food production and processing industry hasn't been used properly, thus more efforts should be taken to introduce the delicious foods and sweets produced in the land to the people across the country and worldwide. In order to achieve the target, 13 companies of the province participated in the 30th International Exhibition of Food, Food Technology & Agriculture (Iran Agrofood 2023), held at the Tehran International Fairgrounds, from June 16-20, 2023.

Deputy Head of Kerman Food Industries Association Hamed Badrabadi said Kerman Province has a great potential in the field of farming, and this causes the related industries to prosper significantly.

He said a number of the products made with pistachios and dates, cultivated in the province, were displayed in the expo, but more efforts should be made to encourage investors to invest more in the sector.