

taj mahal story Study Guide

Taj Mahal story: An Enchanting Tale of Love, Loss, and Architectural Brilliance

The Taj Mahal stands as a timeless symbol of love and devotion, captivating millions of visitors from around the world each year. Its mesmerizing white marble domes, intricate carvings, and lush gardens tell a story that transcends centuries. But behind its breathtaking beauty lies a compelling narrative ? a story rooted in love, tragedy, and artistic mastery. This article explores the fascinating Taj Mahal story, from its origins to its cultural significance, and the enduring legacy it holds today.

The Origins of the Taj Mahal

The Love Story Behind the Monument

The story of the Taj Mahal begins with Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan and his beloved wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Their relationship was marked by deep affection and mutual respect, making her his trusted confidante and companion.

- **Mumtaz Mahal:** Born as Arjumand Banu Begum, she was known as Mumtaz Mahal, meaning "Chosen One of the Palace."

- **The Marriage:** Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal married in 1612, forming a powerful alliance and a romantic partnership that lasted until her tragic death.

The Tragedy That Sparked the Creation

Mumtaz Mahal's death in 1631 during childbirth left Shah Jahan devastated. Her loss profoundly affected him, inspiring a monumental project to honor her memory.

- **Her Passing:** Mumtaz Mahal died giving birth to her 14th child, leading Shah Jahan into profound grief.

- **The Vision:** Filled with sorrow and love, Shah Jahan conceived a grand mausoleum that would serve as her eternal resting place.

The Construction of the Taj Mahal

Design and Architecture

The Taj Mahal is an exquisite example of Mughal architecture, blending Islamic, Persian, Ottoman Turkish, and Indian styles to create a harmonious masterpiece.

- **Architectural Elements:** Symmetrical layout, large central dome, minarets, sprawling gardens, and reflective pools.
- **Materials Used:** Predominantly white marble sourced from Rajasthan, with semi-precious stones inlaid for decoration.
- **Construction Timeline:** Construction began in 1632 and was completed around 1653, taking approximately 21 years.

The Craftsmen and Artisans

A diverse team of artisans, calligraphers, stone-carvers, and workers from across the Mughal empire collaborated to realize Shah Jahan's vision.

- Over 20,000 laborers and artisans worked on the project.
- Specialists in pietra dura (stone inlay work) created intricate floral and geometric patterns.

The Symbolism and Artistic Significance

Design Elements and Their Meanings

The Taj Mahal's architecture is rich in symbolism, representing paradise and divine beauty.

- **The Central Dome:** Represents the heavens and the universe.
- **Minarets:** Frame the mausoleum and symbolize the call to prayer, connecting earth and heaven.
- **The Gardens:** Reflect the Islamic concept of paradise, with lush lawns, water channels, and flowering trees.

Inlay Work and Decorations

The monument's surface is adorned with intricate decorations that showcase Mughal artistry.

- Inlaid semi-precious stones form floral motifs, calligraphy, and geometric patterns.
- The calligraphy features verses from the Quran, inscribed in elegant Thuluth script.

The Cultural and Historical Significance

Global Recognition and UNESCO World Heritage Site

Since 1983, the Taj Mahal has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, recognizing its universal cultural value.

- It attracts over 7 million visitors annually.
- It is considered one of the New Seven Wonders of the World.

Symbol of Love and Unity

The Taj Mahal is more than an architectural marvel; it embodies themes of love, loss, and human emotion.

- It inspires countless stories, poems, and romantic legends.
- Its universal appeal makes it a symbol of India's rich cultural heritage.

Conservation and Challenges

Preservation Efforts

Over centuries, the Taj Mahal has faced environmental and human-induced threats.

- Pollution from nearby industries has caused discoloration of the marble.
- Efforts include cleaning, pollution control, and visitor management.

Current Challenges

Maintaining the monument's pristine condition requires ongoing commitment.

- Addressing air pollution to prevent marble deterioration.
- Controlling the impact of millions of tourists.
- Implementing sustainable tourism practices.

The Enduring Legacy of the Taj Mahal

Inspiration for Art and Literature

The Taj Mahal has inspired countless works of art, from paintings to poetry, capturing its ethereal beauty.

Symbol of India's Heritage

It stands as a testament to India's rich history and architectural ingenuity, attracting scholars and tourists alike.

Modern Cultural Impact

The monument continues to feature in films, music, and popular culture, reinforcing its status as a global icon.

Visiting the Taj Mahal Today

Best Time to Visit

The most favorable seasons are during the winter months (October to March) when the weather is cooler and more pleasant.

Tips for Visitors

- Arrive early to avoid crowds and enjoy sunrise views.
- Wear comfortable footwear for walking.
- Respect the local customs and preservation guidelines.

Nearby Attractions

While in Agra, visitors can explore other historical sites such as:

- Agra Fort
- Fatehpur Sikri
- Mehtab Bagh (for a different perspective of the Taj Mahal)

The Lasting Impact of the Taj Mahal Story

The story of the Taj Mahal is not just about an architectural wonder but also about the enduring

power of love and human creativity. Its narrative continues to inspire millions, reminding us of the profound emotions that can shape history and art.

Conclusion

The Taj Mahal story encapsulates a romantic tragedy transformed into a masterpiece of human achievement. From its origins rooted in love to its status as a symbol of cultural heritage, the monument embodies timeless beauty and emotional depth. As a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it remains a beacon of India's rich history and a testament to the universal language of love and artistry. Whether viewed as a historical monument, an architectural marvel, or a symbol of eternal love, the Taj Mahal's story will continue to enchant generations to come.

Taj Mahal story

The Taj Mahal is more than just an architectural marvel; it is a symbol of everlasting love, a masterpiece of Mughal architecture, and an enduring testament to India's rich history. Its story intertwines romance, artistry, politics, and cultural evolution, making it one of the most compelling monuments in the world. In this comprehensive exploration, we delve into the fascinating history behind the Taj Mahal, examining its origins, architectural features, cultural significance, and the legends that have persisted for centuries.

The Origins of the Taj Mahal: A Love Story Encased in Marble

Historical Context and Political Climate

The story of the Taj Mahal begins in the early 17th century during the Mughal Empire, a period marked by grandeur, artistic innovation, and political consolidation. Mughal emperor Shah Jahan, who reigned from 1628 to 1658, was known not only for his military conquests but also for his patronage of the arts. His court was a hub of cultural activity, fostering architecture, poetry, and craftsmanship that would leave lasting legacies.

It was during this era that Shah Jahan fell deeply in love with Mumtaz Mahal, a Persian princess and his favorite wife. Their union was characterized by a profound bond, and Mumtaz Mahal was a trusted confidante and companion. Her death in 1631, during the birth of their 14th child, profoundly devastated Shah Jahan, inspiring him to create a monument that would embody his eternal love for her.

The Commissioning of the Taj Mahal

Within two years of Mumtaz Mahal's death, Shah Jahan commissioned the construction of the Taj Mahal as a mausoleum to house her remains. The project was initiated in 1632 and took

approximately 22 years to complete, involving thousands of artisans, architects, and laborers from across the Mughal Empire and beyond.

The Taj Mahal was conceived as a symbol of love, but also as a display of imperial power and artistic excellence. Its location was strategically chosen along the banks of the Yamuna River in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, offering both aesthetic beauty and symbolic significance.

Architectural Marvel: Design, Materials, and Craftsmanship

Architectural Style and Influences

The Taj Mahal is a quintessential example of Mughal architecture, which itself is a synthesis of Islamic, Persian, Central Asian, and Indian styles. Its design demonstrates a harmonious blend of symmetry, geometry, and artistry.

Key features include:

- Central mausoleum with a large dome
- Four minarets at each corner
- Formal gardens and reflecting pools
- Intricate marble inlay work

This grandeur is not merely aesthetic; it reflects spiritual symbolism, with the symmetry representing balance and harmony, and the central dome symbolizing the throne of paradise.

Materials and Craftsmanship

The construction of the Taj Mahal utilized a diverse palette of materials:

- White Marble: Quarried from Makrana in Rajasthan, the marble's translucent quality lends an ethereal glow, especially under moonlight.
- Precious and Semi-Precious Stones: Lapis lazuli, jade, turquoise, amethyst, and other stones were used for intricate inlay work, creating floral motifs, calligraphy, and geometric patterns.
- Brick and Red Sandstone: Used for the structural framework and auxiliary buildings.

The artisans responsible for the craftsmanship were master craftsmen from across Asia, including Persia, the Ottoman Empire, and India. Their work involved:

- Marble Inlay (Pietra Dura): An art form involving inlaying semi-precious stones into marble to create elaborate floral and calligraphic designs.
- Calligraphy: Verses from the Quran adorn the tomb and gateways, executed in black marble with high precision.
- Carved Jali Screens: Intricately carved marble screens that filter light and add to the monument's serenity.

Innovations and Architectural Techniques

The Taj Mahal's architecture reflects advanced engineering:

- The central dome rises about 35 meters (115 feet) and is topped with a lotus-shaped finial.
- The four minarets are slightly tilted outward to prevent collapse in case of earthquakes.
- The foundation is designed to handle the weight of the marble structure on the alluvial soil of the Yamuna River banks.

The Symbolic Significance and Cultural Impact

Symbol of Love

Over the centuries, the Taj Mahal has become the epitome of romantic devotion. Its story of a grieving emperor creating a mausoleum for his beloved wife has captured imaginations worldwide. The monument's serene symmetry and delicate ornamentation evoke feelings of eternal love and loyalty.

Religious and Cultural Connotations

While primarily a Muslim mausoleum, the Taj Mahal's architecture incorporates elements that resonate with Indian, Persian, and Islamic traditions. Its design incorporates:

- Islamic geometric patterns and calligraphy
- Persian garden layouts symbolizing paradise
- Indian decorative motifs

It has also influenced numerous other structures and inspired poets, artists, and filmmakers globally.

Tourism and Economic Significance

Today, the Taj Mahal attracts over 7 million visitors annually, contributing significantly to India's

tourism economy. It has been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1983, ensuring its protection and global recognition.

Legends and Myths Surrounding the Taj Mahal

The Black Taj and the Lost Tomb

One popular legend claims Shah Jahan planned a "Black Taj" on the opposite bank of the Yamuna River, intended as his own mausoleum. Supposedly, he ordered the construction of a black marble mausoleum that would mirror the white one. However, the story is largely considered apocryphal, with little historical evidence.

Another myth suggests that Shah Jahan intended to have his tomb beside Mumtaz Mahal but was overthrown by his son Aurangzeb before completing his plans. This narrative emphasizes themes of love and tragic destiny, fueling the monument's romantic aura.

The Theft of the Crown and the Damage Theories

Some stories allege that the Taj Mahal was once a Hindu palace or that its precious stones were stolen or looted during various invasions. Historians, however, confirm that the monument has remained largely intact, with restorations maintaining its grandeur.

Preservation Challenges and Modern-Day Initiatives

Environmental and Human Impact

The Taj Mahal faces multiple threats:

- Pollution from nearby industries and vehicle emissions causes marble discoloration.
- Water pollution affects the Yamuna River, risking structural stability.
- Heavy footfall causes wear and tear on the delicate inlay work and marble surfaces.

Restoration and Conservation Efforts

Recognizing these challenges, authorities have undertaken:

- Regular cleaning and polishing of marble surfaces.
- Restrictions on industrial emissions in the vicinity.
- Implementation of visitor management strategies.

- Use of modern technology like laser cleaning to preserve delicate carvings.

International collaborations and government agencies continue to work toward safeguarding the monument's legacy for future generations.

Conclusion: An Enduring Legacy

The Taj Mahal's story is a tapestry woven with threads of love, artistry, political ambition, and cultural synthesis. Its construction was driven by a personal tragedy that transformed into an eternal symbol appreciated worldwide. Architecturally, it stands as a pinnacle of Mughal craftsmanship, blending Persian elegance with Indian ornamentation.

As a living monument, it continues to inspire millions and embodies the universal themes of love and devotion. Its story is not just about a mausoleum but about the enduring human desire to create something beautiful that transcends time.

Whether viewed as a masterpiece of architecture, a symbol of love, or a cultural icon, the Taj Mahal remains one of the most compelling stories ever told in stone and marble—a story that continues to enchant and inspire across generations.

Question What is the historical significance of the Taj Mahal? The Taj Mahal was built by Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, symbolizing eternal love and showcasing Mughal architecture. It is also a UNESCO World Heritage Site and an iconic symbol of India. How was the Taj Mahal constructed and what materials were used? Construction of the Taj Mahal began in 1632 and took about 22 years to complete. It was built using white marble imported from Rajasthan, along with precious and semi-precious stones for intricate inlay work. Skilled artisans from across Asia contributed to its design and craftsmanship. What are some interesting stories or legends associated with the Taj Mahal? One popular legend suggests that Shah Jahan planned to build a black marble mausoleum across the Yamuna River to mirror the Taj Mahal but was thwarted by political rivals. Another story tells of the immense grief Shah Jahan felt after Mumtaz Mahal's death, which inspired the grand construction as a symbol of his eternal love. Why is the Taj Mahal considered a masterpiece of Mughal architecture? The Taj Mahal combines elements from Persian, Indian, and Islamic architectural styles, featuring a symmetrical layout, elaborate minarets, a large central dome, and intricate marble inlay work. Its harmonious proportions and artistic details make it a pinnacle of Mughal craftsmanship. How has the story of the Taj Mahal influenced popular culture and tourism? The Taj Mahal's romantic story and stunning beauty have inspired countless poems, songs, and artworks worldwide. It attracts millions of tourists annually, boosting India's tourism industry and fostering global appreciation for Mughal heritage. Are there any conservation efforts or challenges related to the Taj Mahal's preservation? Yes, the Taj Mahal faces threats from pollution, environmental degradation, and structural issues. Efforts include pollution control measures, restricting industrial emissions nearby, and ongoing restoration projects

to preserve its white marble beauty for future generations.

Related keywords: Taj Mahal history, Mughal architecture, Shah Jahan, Mumtaz Mahal, Indian monuments, Mughal empire, love story, Agra tourism, mausoleum design, Indian heritage

WHERE IS THE TAJ MAHAL

Where is the Taj Mahal?

The Taj Mahal is one of the most iconic monuments in the world, renowned for its breathtaking beauty and historical significance. Located in India, this magnificent mausoleum attracts millions of visitors each year who come to witness its stunning architecture and learn about its romantic history. If you're planning a trip or simply curious about its geographical location, this comprehensive guide will answer the question, "Where is the Taj Mahal?" and provide detailed insights into its location, accessibility, and surrounding attractions.

Location of the Taj Mahal

The Taj Mahal is situated in the northern part of India, specifically in the city of Agra, Uttar Pradesh. It is positioned on the right bank of the Yamuna River, which adds to the scenic beauty of the site.

Geographical Coordinates

- Latitude: 27.1751° N
- Longitude: 78.0421° E

These coordinates help travelers and map services pinpoint the exact location of the monument.

City and State

- City: Agra
- State: Uttar Pradesh
- Country: India

Located approximately 200 kilometers southeast of Delhi, the capital city of India, Agra is famous for housing several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, with the Taj Mahal being the most prominent.

How to Find the Taj Mahal

Understanding the precise location of the Taj Mahal is essential for travelers. Here's a breakdown of how to locate it:

Using Maps and Navigation Tools

- Google Maps: Search for "Taj Mahal" or "Agra" to get directions from your current location.
- GPS Coordinates: Enter the coordinates 27.1751° N, 78.0421° E for pinpoint accuracy.
- Travel Apps: Many travel apps provide detailed routes and nearby facilities.

Proximity to Major Cities

- From Delhi: Approximately 3-4 hours by car or train.
- From Jaipur: Around 6 hours by road.
- From Lucknow: About 4-5 hours by road or train.

The proximity to these major cities makes the Taj Mahal accessible for travelers across India and from abroad.

Accessibility to the Taj Mahal

Reaching the Taj Mahal is relatively straightforward due to its popularity and the well-developed transportation infrastructure.

By Air

- Nearest Airport: Kheria Airport in Agra (AGRA)
- International Access: Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport is the closest major international airport, approximately 220 km away.
- Domestic Flights: Regular flights connect Delhi and other major Indian cities to Agra.

By Train

- Agra Cantt Railway Station: Well-connected with major Indian cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai.
- Tourist Trains: Several luxury and regular trains operate on routes leading to Agra.

By Road

- Bus Services: Frequent government and private buses run from Delhi, Jaipur, and other cities.
- By Car: Renting a taxi or self-driving is a popular option, with well-maintained highways leading directly to the monument.

Tourist Tips for Access

- Best Time to Visit: Early mornings or late afternoons to avoid crowds and extreme heat.
- Tickets: Available online and at the entrance; consider purchasing in advance.
- Guided Tours: Many options available for a comprehensive experience.

Surrounding Area and Nearby Attractions

The location of the Taj Mahal within Agra offers visitors numerous other sites of interest.

Major Nearby Attractions

- Agra Fort: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, this massive red sandstone fort offers stunning views of the Taj Mahal.
- Fatehpur Sikri: An ancient Mughal city located about 40 km from Agra, famous for its well-preserved architecture.
- Mehtab Bagh: A beautiful garden across the Yamuna River providing a perfect view of the Taj Mahal at sunset.
- Itimad-ud-Daulah's Tomb: Often called the "Baby Taj," this mausoleum is a precursor to the Taj Mahal's design.

Local Markets and Cuisine

- Sadar Bazaar: For souvenirs, handicrafts, and textiles.
- Local Food: Try Mughlai cuisine such as kebabs, biryanis, and sweets like Gulab Jamun.

Historical Context of the Taj Mahal's Location

Understanding the historical reasons behind the Taj Mahal's placement provides richer insight into its significance.

The Choice of Location

- The Taj Mahal was built as a symbol of love by Emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favorite wife, Mumtaz Mahal.
- Its placement on the Yamuna River was strategic, offering a serene and picturesque setting.
- The city of Agra was an important Mughal administrative center during the 17th century, making it a fitting location for such a grand monument.

Urban Development Around the Taj Mahal

- Over the centuries, Agra has grown into a bustling city, integrating modern infrastructure while preserving the historical landscape.
- The government has implemented measures to protect the monument and enhance visitor access.

Conclusion: Where is the Taj Mahal?

The Taj Mahal is located in the city of Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India, on the southern bank of the Yamuna River. Its precise geographical coordinates are 27.1751° N latitude and 78.0421° E longitude. Easily accessible from major Indian cities like Delhi, Jaipur, and Lucknow through air, rail, and road networks, the Taj Mahal remains one of the world's most visited and admired monuments. Its strategic location in a historically significant city adds to its charm and allure, making it a must-visit destination for travelers seeking to explore India's rich cultural heritage.

Whether you're planning a trip or just curious about its whereabouts, knowing where the Taj Mahal is allows you to appreciate its grandeur in the context of its geographical and historical setting. Remember to plan your visit accordingly to experience its beauty at the best time of day and enjoy nearby attractions that enrich your journey.

SEO Keywords:

- Where is the Taj Mahal
- Location of the Taj Mahal
- Taj Mahal in India
- How to reach Taj Mahal
- Agra attractions
- Taj Mahal coordinates
- Visiting the Taj Mahal

- Taj Mahal travel tips
- Nearby places to Taj Mahal
- Best time to visit Taj Mahal

Where is the Taj Mahal? An In-Depth Guide to India's Iconic Monument

The question "Where is the Taj Mahal?" is one that travelers, historians, and architecture enthusiasts alike frequently ask. This magnificent mausoleum, renowned worldwide for its breathtaking beauty and intricate craftsmanship, is situated in a specific corner of India that has become a symbol of love and cultural heritage. Understanding the exact location of the Taj Mahal not only helps in planning your visit but also deepens appreciation for its historical and geographical significance.

The Geographic Location of the Taj Mahal

Where is the Taj Mahal Situated?

The Taj Mahal is located in the northern Indian city of Agra, within the state of Uttar Pradesh. Agra, often referred to as the city of the Taj, lies on the banks of the Yamuna River, approximately 200 kilometers (around 125 miles) southeast of India's capital, New Delhi. This positioning makes it accessible for millions of travelers visiting India from around the world.

Coordinates and Map Context

- Exact Coordinates: 27.1751° N latitude, 78.0421° E longitude
- Region: Northern India
- Nearby Major Cities: Delhi (200 km), Jaipur (240 km), Lucknow (330 km)

The Taj Mahal's location is strategically placed along the historic Grand Trunk Road, a vital trade route that connected different parts of India and beyond during the Mughal era. Its proximity to Delhi, India's political hub, has historically made it a prominent destination for travelers.

How to Access the Taj Mahal

Understanding the geographical placement helps in planning your journey. Here are key points regarding access:

From Delhi to Agra

- By Train: The Gatimaan Express and Shatabdi Express are fast, comfortable options that connect New Delhi Railway Station to Agra Cantonment Station in approximately 2-3 hours.
- By Road: State and private buses run regularly from Delhi to Agra, taking around 3-4 hours depending on traffic.
- By Car: Driving from Delhi via the Yamuna Expressway offers a scenic and quick route (approximate travel time: 3 hours).

From Other Major Cities

- Jaipur: Around 240 km away, accessible via road or train.
- Lucknow: Approximately 330 km, accessible by train or car.
- Mumbai and Kolkata: Longer journeys involving flights to Delhi or Lucknow, followed by land transport.

The Historical and Cultural Context of the Taj Mahal's Location

Why Agra?

The placement of the Taj Mahal in Agra is rooted in Mughal history. Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan chose this city as his capital during the 17th century, making it a political and cultural center. The city's strategic position along important trade routes and its proximity to Delhi made it an ideal site for such an imperial monument.

The Yamuna River's Role

The Taj Mahal's location along the Yamuna River is not accidental. The river provided essential water resources, aesthetic appeal, and a serene setting that enhances the monument's grandeur. The reflective waters of the Yamuna create stunning visual effects, especially during sunrise and sunset, adding to the monument's allure.

Visiting the Taj Mahal: Best Time and Tips

Knowing where the Taj Mahal is geographically also helps in planning the best time to visit:

- Best Time: October to March, when the weather is cooler and more comfortable.
- Avoid: Summer months (April to June), when temperatures can soar above 40°C (104°F).
- Timing: Early mornings or late afternoons provide softer light for photography and fewer crowds.

Other Important Nearby Attractions

While in Agra, visitors often explore additional sites, enriching their understanding of the region's history:

- Agra Fort: A UNESCO World Heritage Site, showcasing Mughal architecture.
- Fatehpur Sikri: A nearby ancient city and UNESCO site, built by Emperor Akbar.
- Mehtab Bagh: A garden complex across the Yamuna River, offering a stunning view of the Taj Mahal.

Summary: Pinpointing the Taj Mahal's Location

To sum up, the Taj Mahal's location can be pinpointed as follows:

- Country: India
- State: Uttar Pradesh
- City: Agra
- Coordinates: 27.1751° N, 78.0421° E
- Region Context: Northern India, along the Yamuna River, accessible from Delhi and other major cities.

Its strategic placement along key trade routes, near the Yamuna River, and within a culturally rich city underscores its importance as both a symbol of love and a marvel of Mughal architecture.

Final Thoughts

Understanding where the Taj Mahal is extends beyond mere geography; it involves appreciating its strategic, cultural, and historical setting. Whether you're planning a first visit or simply exploring its significance from afar, knowing its precise location helps deepen your connection to one of the world's most iconic monuments. When you stand before the Taj Mahal, you're not just witnessing a beautiful structure—you're experiencing a piece of history rooted in the geography of a vibrant, ancient land.

Question Where is the Taj Mahal located? The Taj Mahal is located in Agra, Uttar Pradesh, India. What is the exact address of the Taj Mahal? The Taj Mahal's approximate address is Dharmapuri, Forest Colony, Tajganj, Agra, Uttar Pradesh 282001, India. Can I visit the Taj Mahal from Delhi? How far is it? Yes, you can visit the Taj Mahal from Delhi. It is approximately 230 kilometers (143 miles) away and can be reached by train, car, or bus in about 3 to 4 hours. Is the Taj Mahal located in a specific region of India? Yes, the Taj Mahal is situated in northern India, in the city of Agra, within the state of Uttar Pradesh. Where is the best place to view the Taj Mahal? The best views of the Taj Mahal are from the south gate, the Yamuna River, or the surrounding gardens

and platforms that offer unobstructed vistas of this iconic monument.

Related keywords: Taj Mahal location, Taj Mahal Agra, Taj Mahal India, Taj Mahal timings, Taj Mahal history, Taj Mahal opening hours, Taj Mahal address, Taj Mahal ticket price, How to reach Taj Mahal, Taj Mahal best time to visit

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