

1. **Asher, Catherine B.** “Precedents for Mughal Architecture.” Chapter. In *Architecture of Mughal India*, 1–18. The New Cambridge History of India. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992.
 - Asher studies Mughal architecture and its purpose. She explains how rulers used buildings to show power and faith. This book explains the cultural background of the Taj Mahal.
2. **Begley, Wayne E.** “The Myth of the Taj Mahal and a New Theory of Its Symbolic Meaning.” *The Art Bulletin* 61, no. 1 (1979): 7–37. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3049862>.
 - Begley questions the idea that the Taj Mahal is only about love. He argues it represents Islamic ideas of paradise. This article explains the monument's deeper religious meaning.
3. **Flood, Finbarr Barry.** *Objects of Translation: Material Culture and Medieval “Hindu-Muslim” Encounter*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2009
 - Flood looks at cultural exchange in Mughal art. He explains how different traditions came together. This source explains the mixed style of the Taj Mahal.
4. **Koch, Ebba.** “The Taj Mahal: Architecture, Symbolism, and Urban Significance.” *Muqarnas* 22 (2005): 128–49. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/25482427>.
 - Koch explains the design and symbolism of the Taj Mahal. She shows it represents paradise and Mughal power not just love. This source supports my thesis about its religious and political meaning.
5. **Michell, George.** *The Majesty of Mughal Architecture*. New York: Thames & Hudson, 2007.
 - Michell explains how Mughal buildings showed power. He focuses on size materials and design. This source explains the Taj Mahal's message of authority.