

Frequently Asked Questions

Question 01:

Explain Baroque style of Architecture with one example.

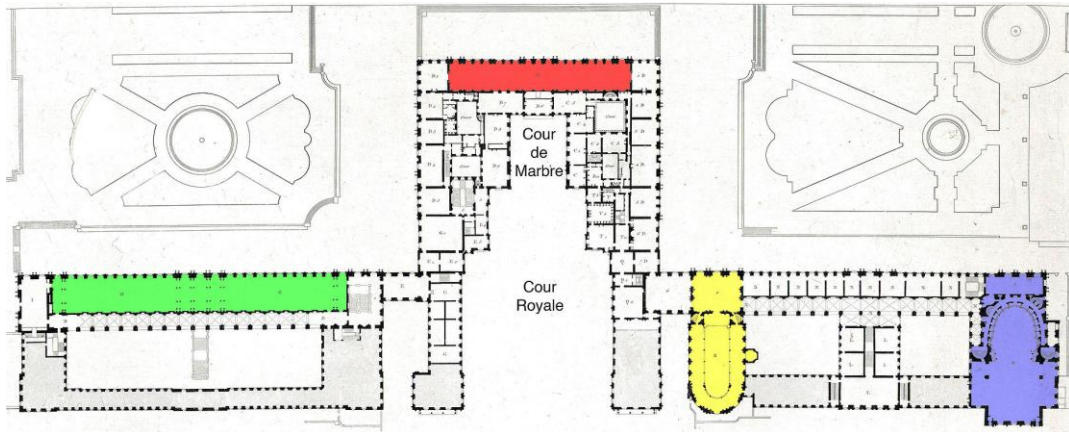
Answer:

- Happened between 1600 -1750
- Baroque means, very fancy or elaborate or over decorated
- From a Portuguese word Borocca which means *a pearl of irregular shape*
- Baroque architecture is the building style of the Baroque era, that took the Roman vocabulary of Renaissance architecture and used it in a new rhetorical and theatrical fashion
- This was often to express the triumph of the Catholic Church and the absolutist state. It was characterized by new explorations of form, light and shadow, and dramatic intensity.
- It implies strangeness, irregularity and extravagance
- Baroque was, initially at least, directly linked to the Counter-Reformation, a movement within the Catholic Church to reform itself in response to the Protestant Reformation.
- Baroque architecture and its embellishments were on the one hand more accessible to the emotions and on the other hand, a visible statement of the wealth and power of the Church.
- Baroque architecture was not one style; it was a fusion of multiple styles, that included motion and energy, dramatic contrast, extreme emotions and massive proportions.
- Brilliantly colourful, passionate artworks. They were fascinated with light. They used light and colour to dissolve form, by having dark background
- Michelangelo's late Roman buildings, particularly St. Peter's Basilica, may be considered precursors to Baroque architecture.
- Used contrast colours to heighten dramatic effect
- In Baroque painting, eye is given only a little rest; one form leads to another

- Bernini, Rembrandt, Rubens were famous Baroque artists
- By the middle of the 17th century, the Baroque style had found its secular expression in the form of grand palaces, first in France—with the Château de Maisons (1642) near Paris by François Mansart—and then throughout Europe.
- Baroque architecture spread through Europe and Latin America, where it was particularly promoted by the Jesuits.
- Distinctive features of Baroque architecture can include:
 - In churches, broader naves and sometimes given oval forms
 - Fragmentary or deliberately incomplete architectural elements
 - Dramatic use of light; either strong light-and-shade contrasts
 - Opulent use of colour and ornaments
 - Large-scale ceiling frescoes
 - An external façade often characterized by a dramatic central projection

The Palace of Versailles

- A.D. 1664
- The Palace of Versailles, or simply Versailles, is a royal château in Versailles in France. It is also known as the Château de Versailles.
- The court of Versailles was the centre of political power in France from 1682, when Louis XIV moved from Paris, until the royal family was forced to return to the capital in October 1789 after the beginning of the French Revolution.
- By Jules Hardouin Mansard (1647-1708), for Louis XIV., and is remarkable only for the uniformity and tameness of its design.⁴
- The dimensions are very large, the central projection measuring 320 feet and each wing 500 feet, thus giving a total of 1,320 feet. Le Notre laid out the gardens which, with their fountains, terraces and arbours, are very fine

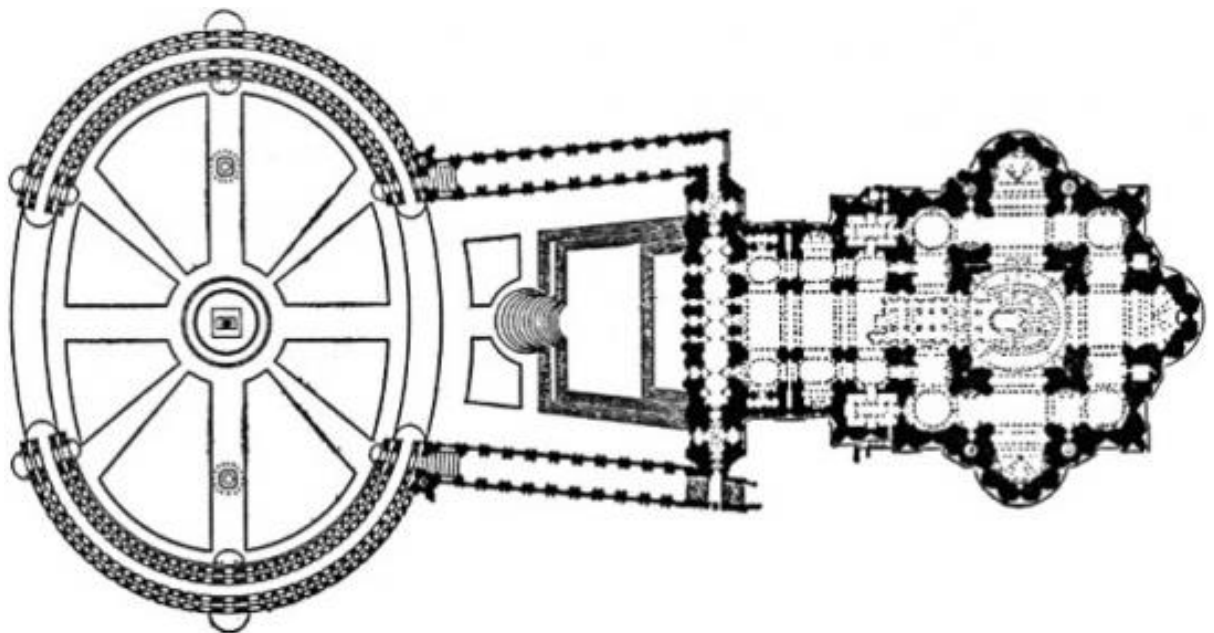


Question 02:

Explain in detail the architecture of St Peter Rome with illustrations

Answer:

- AD 1506-1626
- The most important building erected in the period, and many architects were engaged upon it.
- In plan it was a Greek cross, the later extension of the nave and aisles toward the east practically bringing the whole scheme to a Latin cross.
- Designed principally by Donato Bramante, Michelangelo, Carlo Maderno and Gian Lorenzo Bernini



- The nave, 80 feet wide, consists of four bays of immense size, the central crossing is covered by the dome, 137 feet 6 inches in diameter, and the short

transepts are terminated by semicircular apses, the western arm being precisely similar.

- This was probably effected so as to in close the whole of the area of the previously existing church
- Renaissance church in Vatican City, the papal enclave within the city of Rome.
- One of the largest churches in the world
- St. Peter's is regarded as one of the holiest Catholic shrines
- Catholic tradition holds that the Basilica is the burial site of St. Peter, one of Christ's Apostles and also the first Pope
- supposedly, St. Peter's tomb is directly below the high altar of the Basilica.
- There has been a church on this site since the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great.
- Construction of the present basilica, began on 18 April 1506 and was completed on 18 November 1626.
- The nave, 80 feet wide, consists of four bays of immense size
- the central crossing is covered by the dome, 137 feet 6 inches in diameter
- the short transepts are terminated by semicircular apses, the western arm being precisely similar.
- The high altar stands under the dome, within a "baldachino," 100 feet high, over the alleged, tomb of St. Peter.
- A vestibule at the East end extends the whole width of the church, the chancel being at the west end.



- The interior has one gigantic order of Corinthian pilasters, crowned with semicircular barrel vaults, 150 feet high.
- The walls are faced with plaster, and coloured to imitate marble, producing a rich effect, and the dome is beautifully decorated in mosaic.



- The exterior, roughly executed in travertine, has an immense order of Corinthian pilasters, 108 feet high including entablature, with an attic 39 feet high surrounding the entire building.
- The dome of St. Peter's rises to a total height of 136.57 metres from the floor of the basilica to the top of the external cross.
- It is the tallest dome in the world.
- Its internal diameter is 41.47 metres, slightly smaller than two of the three other huge domes that preceded it, those of the Pantheon of Ancient Rome, 43.3 metres, and Florence Cathedral of the Early Renaissance, 44 metre.
- The view of the dome from the east except at a distance, is nearly cut off behind the screen wall of the now extended nave.
- The design owes much to the circular four-fold colonnades added by Bernini in the seventeenth century, which in close one of the noblest entrance courtyards in Europe.

Question 03:

Discuss the features of French Baroque with an example.

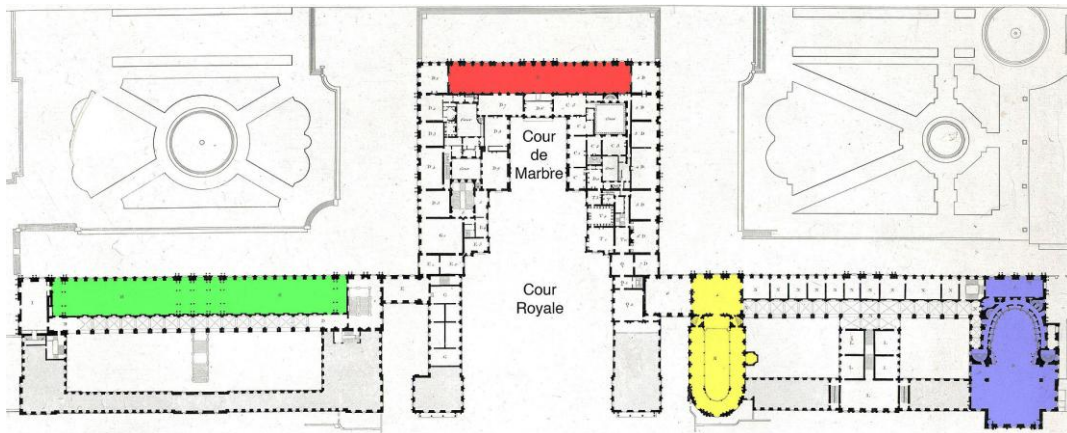
Answer:

- Happened between 1600 -1750
- Baroque means, very fancy or elaborate or over decorated
- From a Portuguese word Borocca which means *a pearl of irregular shape*
- Baroque architecture is the building style of the Baroque era, that took the Roman vocabulary of Renaissance architecture and used it in a new rhetorical and theatrical fashion
- This was often to express the triumph of the Catholic Church and the absolutist state. It was characterized by new explorations of form, light and shadow, and dramatic intensity.
- It implies strangeness, irregularity and extravagance
- The centre of Baroque secular architecture was France, where the open three-wing layout of the palace was established as the canonical solution as early as the 16th century.
- But it was the Palais du Luxembourg by Salomon de Brosse that determined the sober and classicizing direction that French Baroque architecture was to take.

The Palace of Versailles

- A.D. 1664
- The Palace of Versailles, or simply Versailles, is a royal château in Versailles in France. It is also known as the Château de Versailles.
- The court of Versailles was the centre of political power in France from 1682, when Louis XIV moved from Paris, until the royal family was forced to return to the capital in October 1789 after the beginning of the French Revolution.
- By Jules Hardouin Mansard (1647-1708), for Louis XIV., and is remarkable only for the uniformity and tameness of its design.⁴

- The dimensions are very large, the central projection measuring 320 feet and each wing 500 feet, thus giving a total of 1,320 feet. Le Notre laid out the gardens which, with their fountains, terraces and arbours, are very fine



Question 04:

Explain protestant reformation and its importance in Christian Architecture.

Answer:

- The Protestant Reformation, often referred to simply as the Reformation was a schism from the Roman Catholic Church in 16th century Europe.
- Although there had been significant earlier attempts to reform the Roman Catholic Church before Luther Martin Luther is widely acknowledged to have started the Reformation
- Martin Luther was a German professor of theology, composer, priest, former monk
- Luther began by criticizing the selling of indulgences, insisting that the Pope had no authority over purgatory.
- The core motivation behind these changes was theological, though many other factors played a part, including the rise of nationalism, the Western Schism which eroded people's faith in the Papacy, the impact of humanism and the new learning of the Renaissance which questioned much of the traditional thought
- It was a fusion of multiple styles, that included motion and energy, dramatic contrast, extreme emotions and massive proportions.
- Brilliantly colourful, passionate artworks. They were fascinated with light. They used light and colour to dissolve form, by having dark background