



CULTURE, TOURISM & ANTIQUITIES
DEPARTMENT GOVERNMENT
OF SINDH



Preservation, & Protection of Buddhist Stupa Thul Mir Rukan Shaheed
Benazirabad District (Nawabshah) Sindh.

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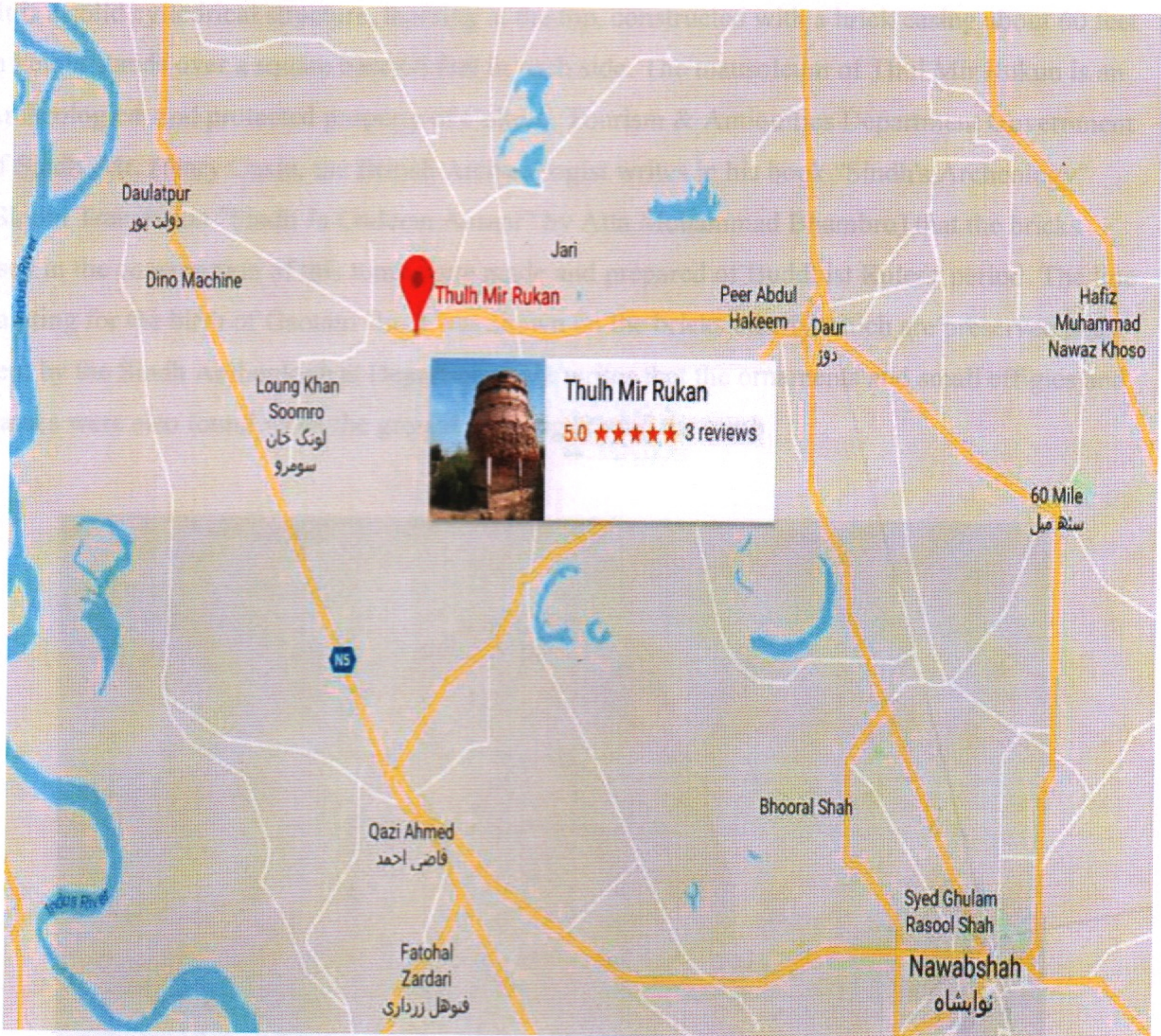
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INTRODUCTION

Thul Mir Rukan is about 15 km south east of Daulatpur town in District Shaheed Benazirabad (Nawabshah) early history of the thul is shrouded in obscurity with a little legend connected with it. It is said that a king who has no son, and wanted to preserve his name for endless time so it was advised by his council of ministers to erect this tower.

It is a solid cylindrical structure, tapering at the top, constructed with a brick casing about 60 feet in height stands over a square base 66 feet in each side. The mausoleum of Thul Mir Rukun is an Archeological and protected property of Culture, Tourism & Antiquities Department Government of Sindh. Mr. Henry Cusin, the British Archaeologist writes in his book "Sindh's Archeology" (Sindhi Translation "Sindh Ja Qadeem Aasaar" by Atta Muhammad Bhambro) that the bricks used in the construction of this tomb were made and prepared of Buddhist Rulers' period. The line painting for the birth of Gaotam Budh was shown on the bricks clearly which are preserved and kept by the Sindh Archeological Department. He writes that the ornaments and small effigies and statues were also found when the ground was dug around the tomb.



General View

Present Architectural condition

Thul or Stupa is round in shaped a constructed with baked bricks (size 1'-0"x1'-6"x0'-3") in mud mortar this thul is divided into five horizontal phases from plinth to app. 60 feet high. It has been damaged badly in the past. The villager of surrounding area have taken bricks from the base of stupa that is why this round portion is irregular in shape. At the end of first phase there is series of 10 layers and after this phase, 02 meter high parallel 20 bricks panels (Pillars), above the second phase, there is another circle with extended curved rim about 02meter high. And above the third phase there is approx. 02 meter high portion with 20 decorated bracket (Pillars), these brackets have floral and geometrical carved work. Above the fourth phase there is an engraved rim, 5th and the last phase is also damaged like the bottom. A number of terracotta images of Buddha and 02 other representation showing the birth. Decorated pottery found.

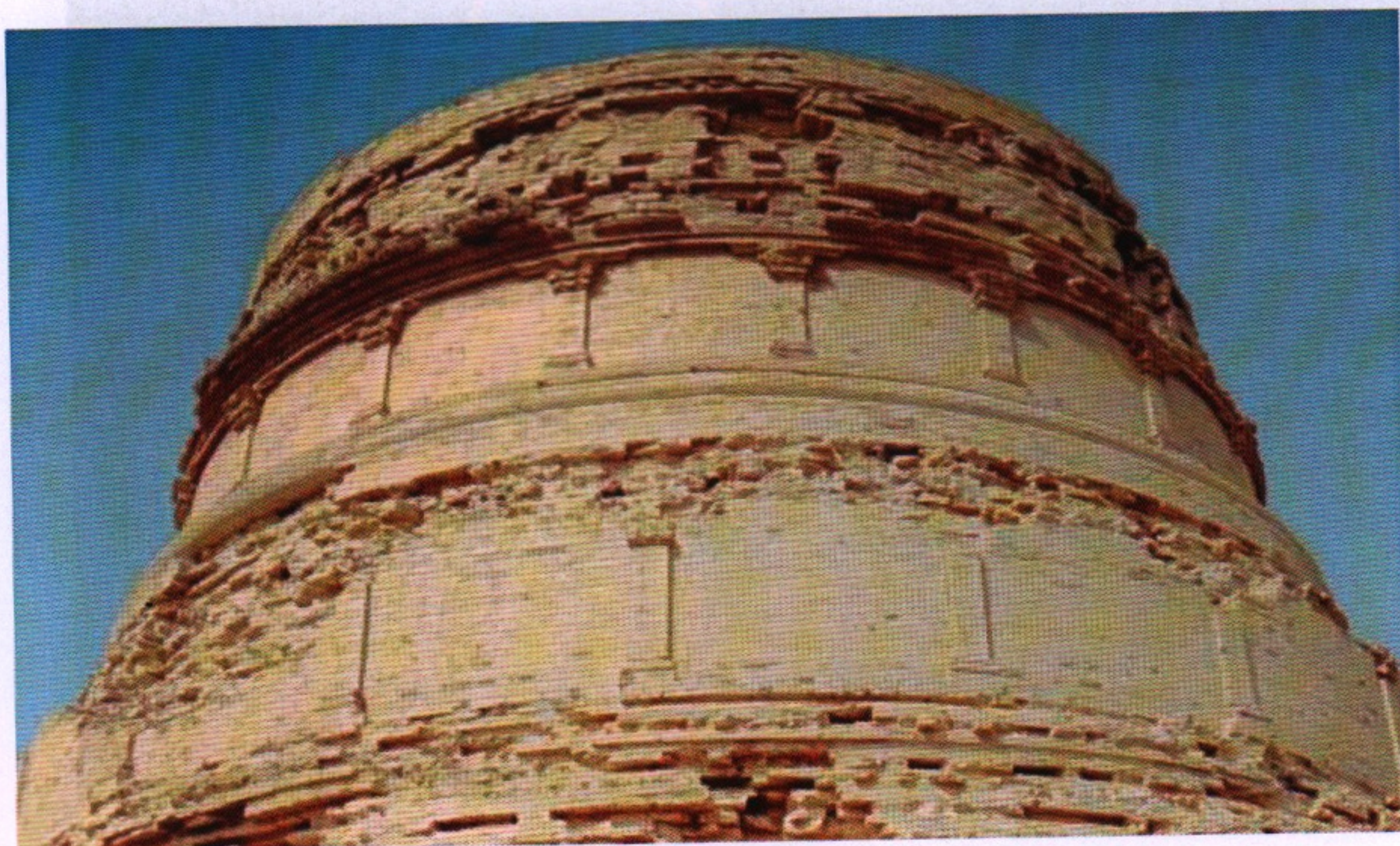
In present the heavily loaded structure is standing on the eroded base masonry mostly the bricks were removed by the local peoples with this result the stupa can be collapsed at any time and could not survived further. Therefore on the 1st instant the stupa may be stabilized by providing / filling the cavity developed at the base of stupa with same size of bricks, so that can be preserved the stupa for further conservation work, where on the 2nd phase the geometrical/ floral work be started similar to the original work.

Remedial measures:-

At the 1st steps the following items of work is to be executed

1. Cleaning and removing of debris from inside the cavity.
2. Making proper alignment for filling the gapes/ cavity by baked bricks of an original size of bricks (Specially manufactured) in mud mortar
3. Execution of masonry work in mud mortar from the base up to the 20' feet high from ground level.
4. Levelling the ground around the stupa and making proper drainage by filling of sweet earth and hill sand.

Supply of material

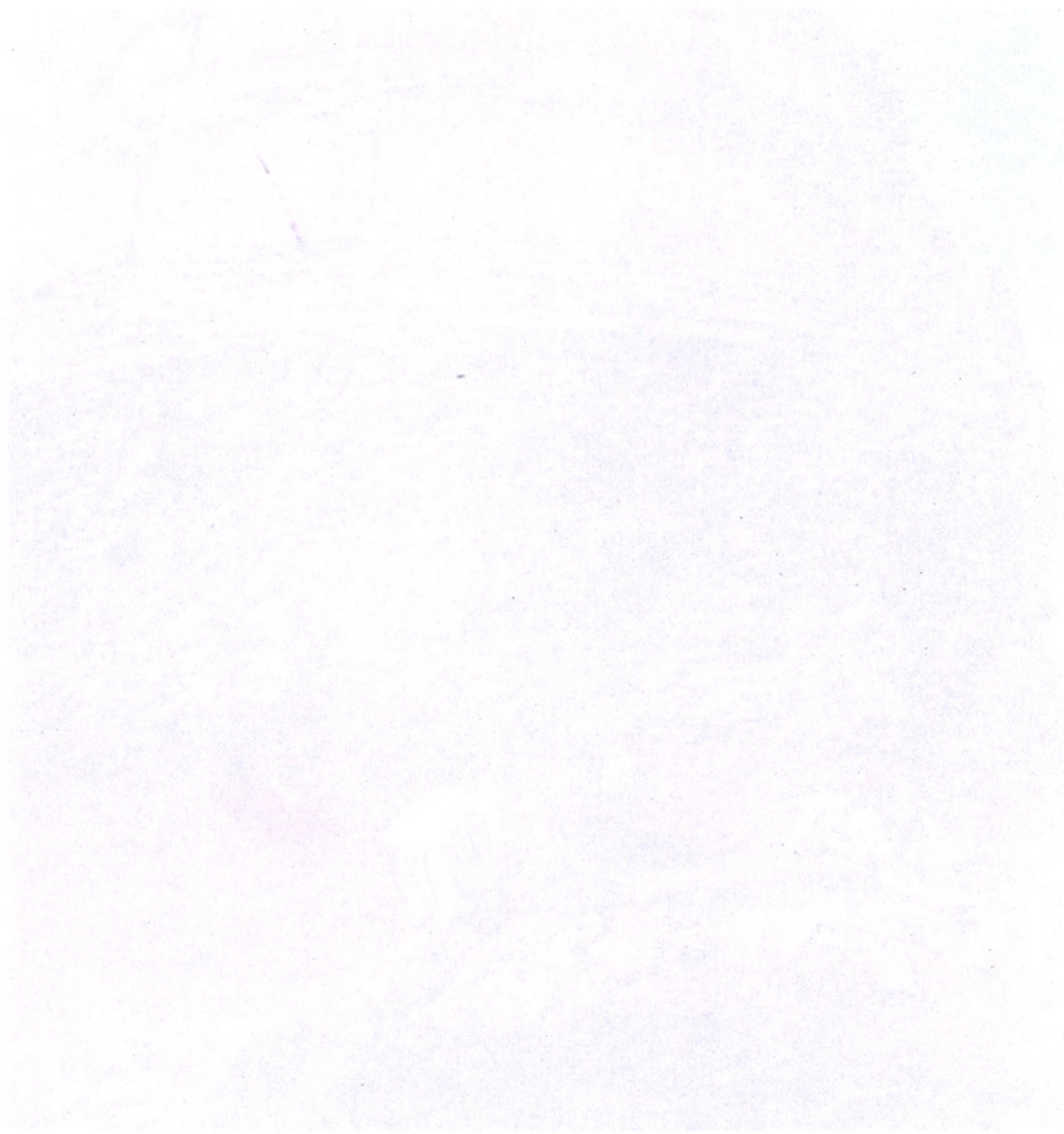


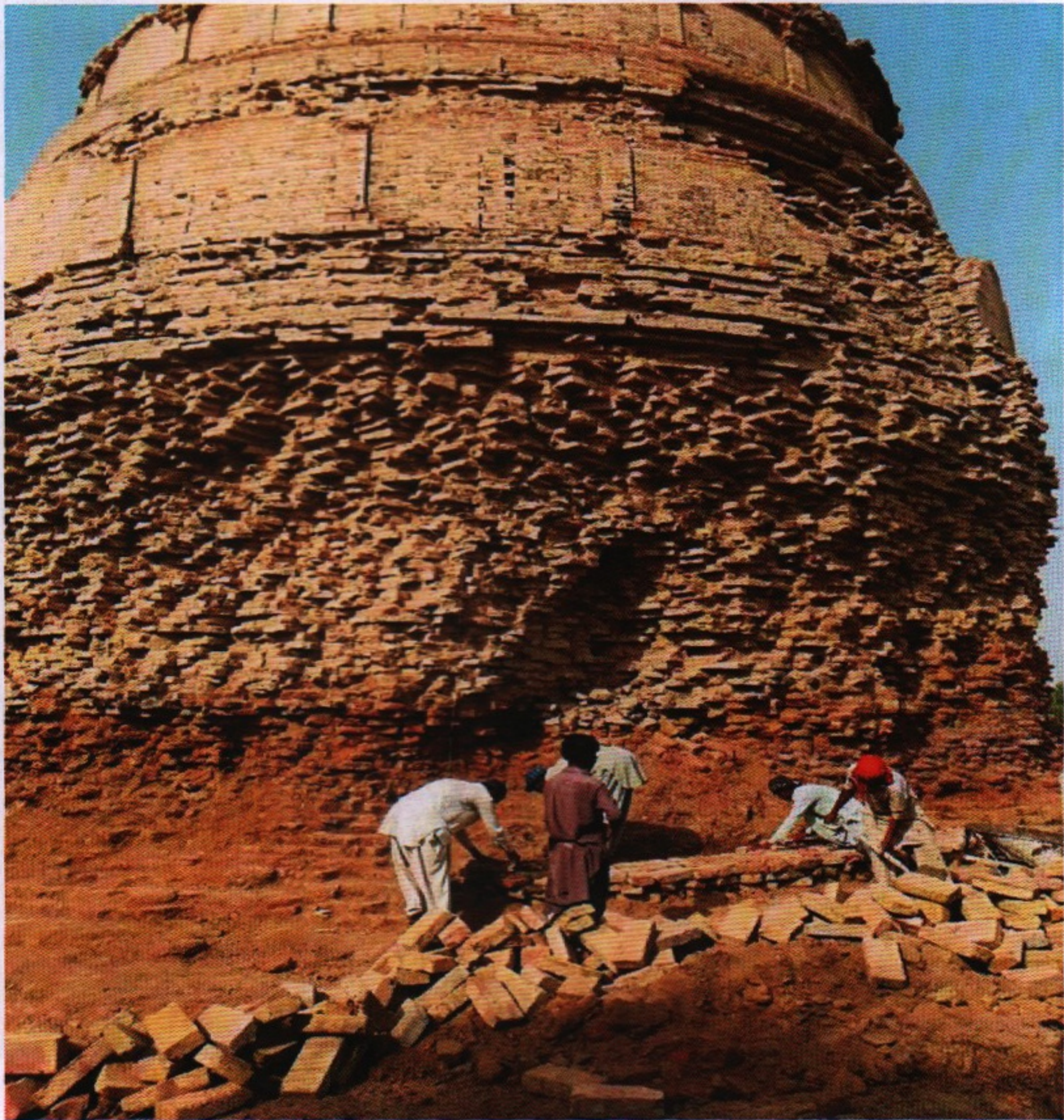
Supply of material





Photograph during Work







Conservation Photograph
(Before / After)



Before



After



Before



After