

# **Alai Minar\_ Pre-Mughal Architecture: A Contemporary Master Piece**

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The main factor which keeps ALAI MINAR alive is the question why did Hindu extremists not demolish this incomplete structure or transform it into another shape? Ala-ud-Din wanted to build a second tower of victory twice as high as Qutab Minar, but when he died the tower had reached only 27 meters and later no one was willing to continue his over ambitious project. Alai Minar (Figure 1) is an incomplete tower today which stands to the north of Qutub Minar and the mosque. There are many myths to construe the stories of the minaret. Some of the art historians say that it was just a base or platform and the major architecture was supposed to be built later. Some others say that it was constructed with the waste or left material of the complex to preserve the idea of making a structure. On the other side, there are few claims about secret ways to store war equipment, as it was constructed under the “slave dynasty”.

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