

Golden Fort Vocabulary

Rajasthan artillery bastions caste crenelated crenels Krishna
loopholes merlons palace Rajput Shastras trade routes
temple

The Golden Fort at Jaisalmer in _____, India, was founded and built on the initiative of Rawal (Prince) Jaisal in 1156. Jaisal believed it was his destiny as a descendant of the god _____ and the leader of the Bhatti Rajputs to build a new capital to defend his lands and control the wealthy _____ to the West and Africa beyond.

The fort is a fine example of a primarily defensive architectural structure before the advent of _____. Its high thick curvilinear concentric battlements - strengthened by 7 _____ with only one gateway, were designed to resist attack. The _____ double walls, 4.6m high on the outer walls and 9m on the inner, allowed warriors to hide on the wall-walk of the parapets behind the _____ and attack with missiles thrown from the _____ and the _____.

The fort's form was affected by geography- the sandstone Trikuta Hill rising 76m above the flat, dry Thar Desert near a water source. It was also determined by politics- the 'feudal' system of the _____ was dependent on the labour of local 'tribes' often in conflict with each other. Furthermore the _____ system and _____ designated that the fort follow a specific plan. As propaganda for the Rajput's warrior status Prince Faisal insisted his architect included a _____ and _____ within the walls, and that handcrafted sandstone walls were built to last. It proved its success as a functional fort by withstanding an eight-year siege between 1286 and 1294.