

Azadi Tower

In 1966, 24-year-old architecture student Hossein Amanat won a competition to design a building to celebrate the 2,500th anniversary of the Persian Empire. It is now one of the most important symbols of Tehran. If you take the stairs or elevator to the top, you can see several hexagonal windows set around the upper level which give an amazing view of Tehran.

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The tower was originally named Darvazeh Kurosh (the Gate of Cyrus), then it was called Shahyad Tower. Later, it was changed to Azadi Tower, which means the Tower of Freedom.

There is a museum and a concert hall underneath the tower at the basement level.

The tower is 45 meters (148 ft) high.

Azadi tower is a combination of traditional and modern architecture, for example:

The four bases are similar to the pillars from the Achaemenid era.

The large arch of the tower is a symbol of Kasa arch (Taq Kasa), an ancient Persian building of the Sassanid era.

There is an oval shaped dome, similar to Isfahan Sheikh Lotfollah Mosque, which is only visible from the inside.

The upper body of the tower is like Iranian Badgirs.

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