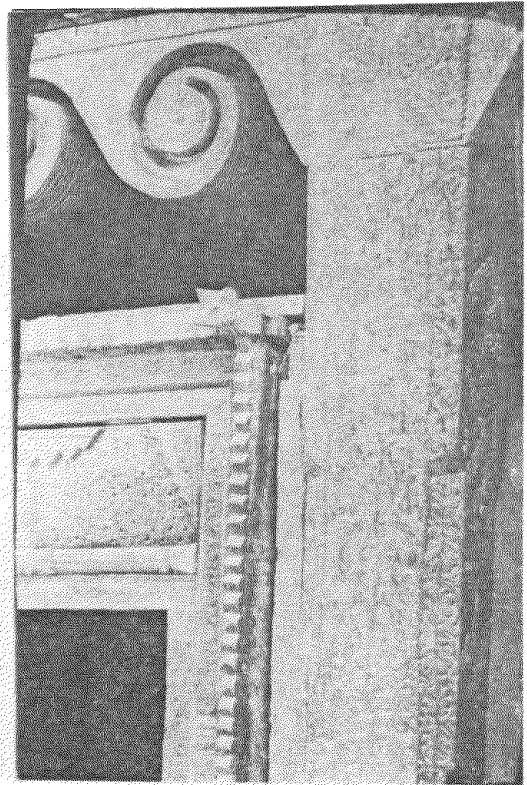


FIG. 43
Mosque, Kalam



FIG. 43a
Mosque, Kalam



the slopes are covered with dense pine forests. Timber naturally forms an essential part of the building traditions of these valleys.

Decorative timber carving artistry in the handling of structural elements and attention to sophisticated compositions and careful proportioning of every detail, such refinements are usually reserved for the exquisite mosques of this region.(Fig.43)

The domestic architecture is much simpler and more functional. The external walls are usually thick, rough masonry, often reinforced by crudely hewn timber sections, or given a coat of mud plaster. The roofs are invariably flat and made up of a heavy layer of compacted earth on timber boards and joists.

The ancient technique of brick domes is known but reserved for mosques or tombs, and seldom used for ordinary dwellings. (Figs.44,45).

Even fairly isolated communities are not immune to new ideas. Deep inside the Cholistan desert the traditional Gopa, round house plan with conical thatched roof, is giving way to the rectangular plan form imported from the adjacent 'developed' areas of the Punjab. A similar process of transformation can be seen in the roof construction (Fig.46): from conical thatch to double pitched thatch and to flat roofs employing sawn timber or steel beams imported from the town.(Figs.47,48). These trans-

FIG. 44
Mosque, Dingarh

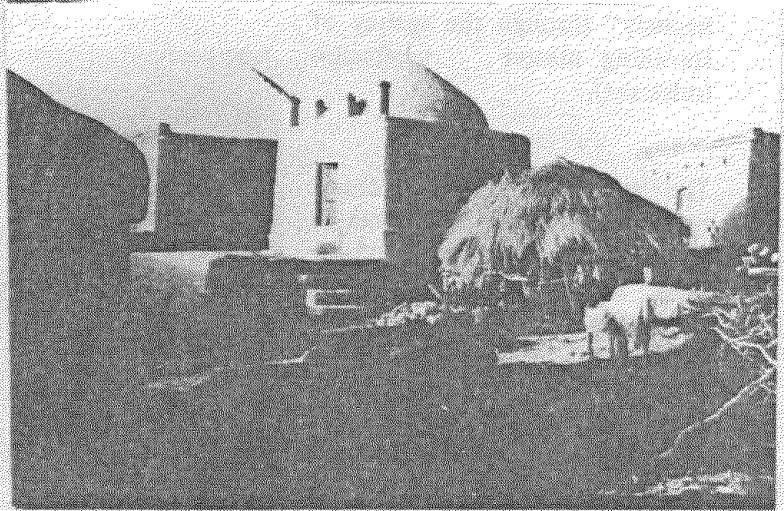


FIG. 45
Tomb, Baluchistan



FIG. 46
Dingarh, Cholistan

