



This complex concrete shell structure in the shape of a lotus flower and housing 1200 seats; involved some of the earliest applications of advanced desk top computers to develop the architect's free-form geometry into a coordinate geometry that provided the basis for finite element analysis and construction formwork.

F&N commissioned and supervised wind tunnel testing to determine the wind pressures to apply in the analysis of the shell structure. The structure was also designed to withstand the loading provisions of the Indian seismic design code of practice. The structure has 3 sets of thin concrete shells, with the inner leafs rising to a height of 34m. All of the visible concrete shells use white cement and aggregates, and galvanised reinforcement and great care was taken with all finishes. A very high quality of concrete finish was specified and achieved throughout. The exterior is clad with marble panels, shaped according to F&N's precisely calculated geometry.

F&N's was recognised for its work in realising and achieving the architect's original concept. The architect was F. Sahba.

Client:

National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'i Faith in Delhi

Location:

Delhi, India

Service Dates:

1978 - 1982

Services:

Structural design & site supervision

Awards:

Special Award of The Institution of Structural Engineers 1987

