

**Worksheet for Mira Xenia Schwerda's "Minaret"**  
by Sascha Crasnow  
(to be used with [video linked here](#))



**Key Takeaways:**

1. What are the three Arabic terms for minaret? What are each of their meanings?
2. What was one of the earliest forms of the minaret? What did it help with? What did it not impact?
3. Where is the minaret of Samarra situated within the mosque complex? What was the shape likely inspired by?



4. What does the rectangular shape of the minaret at the Great Mosque of Kairouan denote with regard to its potential relationship with other architectural or functional forms?
5. What is the political function of minarets? What architectural features emphasize this?
6. What is one of the examples included in the presentation of the impact of the minaret as a political-religious symbol outside of the Islamic world?

### **Contextualizing the Work**

1. Choose an example of a minaret and describe its key features. To which minarets in the presentation is it similar? What is its function in relationship to its corresponding mosque, surrounding city, and/or those in political power?