



# Royal Tehran Hilton

TEHRAN - IRAN

MOVED AROUND TOO. THEN WE WENT TO THE FRIDAY MOSQUE, WHICH, IF I REMEMBER WAS BUILT IN THE 8<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY. IT WAS ~~ORIGINALLY~~ ORIGINALLY A ZOROASTRIAN TEMPLE. THIS WAS THE RELIGION OF THE PERSIANS BEFORE THE ARABS OVER-RAN PERSIA AND FORCED THE ISLAMIC OR MUSLIM RELIGION ON THE PEOPLE. THEN IT BECAME A MUSLIM MOSQUE. IT WAS BUILT BEFORE TILE EXISTED SO IT IS DESIGNED & DECORATED ONLY WITH BRICK. YOU JUST CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT INTRICATE DESIGNS WERE MADE OF ONLY BRICK. SOME OF THE BRICKS ARE INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED. IT WAS PARTIALLY DESTROYED BY FIRE IN THE 11<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WHEN THE ARABS CAME AND BURNED EVERYTHING IN THEIR LIBRARY. ONLY THE TWO HUGE DOMES WERE NOT DAMAGED.

WE WENT TO ONE OF THE OLD KING'S PALACE - THE PALACE OF 40 COLUMNS. ONE KING BUILT IT AND ALL THE WALLS & CEILING WERE VERY ELABORATED & ARTISTICALLY PAINTED. ANOTHER KING CAME ALONG & FROM JEALOUSY OF THIS