Ceilings were also embellished with geometric motifs, often multicoloured and gilded, which has been interpreted as a representation of the vault of heaven. This can be seen clearly in the muqarnas vaults in which the interlacing develops from a central star to occupy the entire area available.

**Name:** Khanqah and Madrasa of Sultan Faraj ibn Barquq  
**Dynasty:** Hegira 813 / AD 1411 Mamluk  
**Details:** Cairo, Egypt  
**Justification:** This enormous vault covering a mausoleum is painted with a striking red geometric interlacing that originates with an eight-pointed star and opens out to infinity.

**Name:** Alhambra  
**Dynasty:** From Hegira 636 / AD 1238 to the reign of Muhammad V (AH 754–94 / AD 1354–91) Nasrid  
**Details:** Granada, Spain  
**Justification:** The geometric design of the star-shaped muqarnas vault in the Abencerrajes Room grows from a tiny eight-pointed star to create the large star.

**Name:** Djama'a Sidi Bel-Hasan (mosque)  
**Dynasty:** Hegira 696 / AD 1296 'Abd al-Wadid  
**Details:** Tlemcen, Algeria  
**Justification:** This small, octagonal vault was built using small, prismatic pieces (toothing) of different shapes bound to each other. The original, rich colouring is now faded.