



DOI: **10.5958/2249-7137.2021.01803.6**

THE TERM BUKHARA AND THE MOST ANCIENT ARCHITECTURAL IMAGE OF THE CITY

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ABSTRACT

Independence has opened a wide way to study the centuries-old rich historical, scientific, cultural and religious heritage of the Uzbek people and use it as a common and invaluable property of the people. It is a priceless treasure of spiritual wealth, values, state, nation, individual and a source of development. The science of history has a special role in the development of this spiritual and ideological foundation. As the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Islam Karimov said: The verse plays an important role”¹.

KEYWORDS: *Presence, Book, Bute, Bukhaer, Bukhala, Shahrstan, Ark, Kala, Kanakhona, Mausoleum, Madrasa, Mosque, Dome.*

INTRODUCTION

Bukhara is one of the ancient and beautiful cities of our country. Bukhara was named differently in different historical periods. In Chinese sources, the names of Bukhara are An, Ansi, Ango, Nyumi, Bukhara, Buxu, Bute, Buxaer, Bukhara, Fluxo, Puxala and others. Medieval historians mention Bukhara as Numijkat, Bumiskat, Madinat us-Sufriya, Madinatut-Tujjar, Fohira. This city was founded twenty-five centuries ago in the lower part of the Zarafshan valley. It is said to have originally appeared in the form of three fortresses located opposite each other on the two banks of the lower reaches of the river called Zerirud. One of the forts was named Foxira, the second Navmichkat (sometimes Bumiskat), and the third Faroviz (or Farobdiz). From time immemorial, the fortresses have been surrounded by ponds and swamps, as well as vast fields covered with

¹Каримов И. А. ЎзбекистонXXI аср бўсағасида: хавфсизликка таҳдид, барқарорлик шартлари ва тараққиёт кафолатлари. – Тошкент: Ўзбекистон, 1997. – Б. 140 – 14.

flowers. The centuries-old thickets, groves, and groves that covered the entire valley were home to countless species of wildlife and exotic birds. Therefore, the inhabitants of this land and the first city built in it were called in ancient times "Bug-oro", which means "God's ornament", "God's glory" or "God's beauty"². In the book "History of Bukhara" written by Abu Bakr Muhammad ibn Narshahi in 943-944, there is a lament of the people of Bukhara dedicated to the assassination of Siyavush, which was founded by Siyavush Buxoro Bukhara Arkin. It is noteworthy that the cry "they say". The History of Bukhara also provides valuable information about the name of Bukhara: "Abu-l-Hasan Nishapuri in his book Khazainul-Ulum states that the city of Bukhara is one of the cities of Khurasan, although the Ceyhun River passes through it. Ahmad ibn Muhammad ibn Nasr says that Bukhara has many names and mentions the name Numijkat in his book. Elsewhere, I saw that it was called Bumiskat. Elsewhere in Arabic it is written "Madinat us-sufriya", which means "city of copper", and in another place it is written in Arabic as "Madinatut-tujjor", which means "city of merchants". The name Bukhara is more popular than all those names. No other city in Khorasan has so many names. In one hadith, the name of Bukhara is Foxira. The imam, ascetic, and preacher Salmani Farsi says that the Prophet said: Gabriel said that there is a place on the east side, it is called Khurasan, and its three cities will be adorned with rubies and corals on the Day of Judgment; they emit light; there are many angels around those cities, who glorify, praise, and say takbir, and bring those cities to the abode with reverence and reverence as they take the bride to the bridegroom's house. There will be seventy thousand flags in each of these cities, seventy thousand martyrs (lying) under each flag, and with the intercession of each martyr seventy thousand Persian-speaking people who know God as one will be saved from suffering. On the Day of Judgment, it will be a ten-day journey on all sides of the city: right and left, front and back, all of which will be filled with martyrs. Prophet Gabriel! He asked me to tell him the names of the cities; One of the cities of Gabriel is called Qasim Persian in Arabic, Yashkard; the second is called Samaron in Arabic and Samarkand in Persian; the third is called Foxira in Arabic and Bukhara in Persian. Prophet, O Gabriel! Why is it called Foxira? Gabriel replied: "Because on the Day of Judgment, the city of Bukhara will be proud of its many martyrs." The Prophet cried out: O God! Bless the fox, purify the hearts of her people with piety, purify their deeds, and bless them to my ummah! He said. It is in this sense that the sunrise and sunset testify to the compassion of the people of Bukhara, their faithfulness and purity³. W. W. Barthold suggested that the term Bukhara in Sanskrit means "Vixara" - a temple. Some sources suggest that the word Bukhara is derived from the Sogdian language "Bukhara" - meaning the beauty of God⁴. At the beginning of the century, Bukhara was one of the largest cities in Central Asia. An urban culture has been formed in Bukhara. The magnificent murals depicting the art of hunting were found not far from the city (about 25 km) - in the ancient fortress of Varakhsha⁵. Also, based on the research of an archeological expedition led by academician AR Muhammadjanov, it was found that in the relatively recent period (from the early Middle Ages to the twentieth century) the northern protective wall of the city arch was secured eight times. In the top layer, a 1-meter-high and 0.5-meter-wide straw wall was found. Below it is a wall made of baked bricks with a height of 12 meters, a thickness of 2 meters at the base and a top of 0.5 meters in the form of a sheath, measuring 25-26 X 12-6 cm. There are

² <http://uztarix.narod.ru/buxoro.html/>

³ Наршахий. Бухоро тарихи./ Мерос. – Тошкент: Камалак, 1991. – Б.102-103.

⁴ Бахрамов К., Хамроев К. Бухоро бу илм – илм эса Бухородир. – Бухоро, 2008. – Б.8.

⁵ Me'morchilik: darslik/ Vatixov. M.M., Mirzayev Sh.R. – T.: Tafakkur, 2010. – B. 149.

semicircular towers along the walls. After the Arab conquest of Central Asian cities, they settled in the fortress in the center of the city and in front of it. As the indigenous peoples settled in the non-Arab part of the city and continued their occupations, this part of the city developed rapidly and came to be known as the Shahristan.

According to Arab travelers and historians, in the early Middle Ages, most of the cities of Central Asia consisted of three parts. One of the three parts is the city arch (kohandiz), the ruling residence, and the other is the shahristan, the main part of the city, which includes trade and handicraft areas and other residential buildings. The third part was called rabot and it was considered a commercial craft area outside the city. However, the results of the study of the cities of the VII-VIII centuries show that most of them consisted of only two parts - the arch (or castle) and the shahristan⁶. It is known that Bukhara was a large city in the early Middle Ages. According to L. I. Rempel, the Shahristan near the Bukhara arch was crossed by two streets on all four sides of the sky. The Ark had two gates (Registan and Goriyan) and Shahristan had six gates called Attoron (BenuSaad), Mihra (BenuAsad), Ark, HokiRoh, Nur, Shahristan. The city is crossed by the Rudi-zar (Shohrud) canal. According to Narshahi, there was a market for idols and a large temple near the canal⁷.

The arch is built to resemble the shape of a constellation of seven pirate stars. Is it just a resemblance or is it a secret? It is not surprising that the blessed light radiating from the universe from Bukhara Sharif is connected with this secret.

Muhammad Narshahi's History of Bukhara narrates the construction of the Bukhara Ark: "No matter how hard the rulers of Bukhara tried to strengthen the Ark, its walls always collapsed. Bidun Bukhara asked the scholars for advice on the cause of the incident. Then the scholars of Bukhara said that the Ark should be built on seven rocks in accordance with the location of the seven pirate stars in the sky. After that, the walls of the arch were not demolished"⁸. Modern astronomers have determined that each star in the seed of the seven astronomical stars coincides at an angle of 90 °C to each angle of the Arc.

Another great thing about the Ark is that none of the people who have lived and reigned in it since they built the castle have been defeated and have always been victorious. None of those who ruled in Bukhara died inside the Ark; at the time of the king's death, for some reason, he left the palace and died there. Is it a coincidence or a divine miracle? Exploring the nature of these mysteries requires patience and research from our scientists. But historical fact has confirmed this for 4,000 years⁹.

The arch is the oldest building in the city and has served as the residence of the rulers of Bukhara for centuries. The area of the arch is about 4 hectares, located on an artificial hill with a height of 20 meters. The walls of the castle are a layer of mud that has been piled on top of each other for centuries and was later lined with fine bricks.

The arc has existed since the middle of the first millennium BC. In the IX-X centuries the Ark was rebuilt and surrounded by a castle wall. In the 13th century, as a result of Genghis Khan's

⁶Нильсин В. А. Архитектура Средней Азии (VII-VIII вв.). – Ташкент: Фан, 1966. –С.11.

⁷Ахмедов М. Ўрта Осиё меъморчилиги тарихи. – Т.: Ўзбекистон,1995. – Б. 26.

⁸Наршахий. Бухоро тарихи/ Мерос. – Тошкент: Камалак, 1991. – Б.104.

⁹Бахрамов Қ., Хамроев К. Бухоро бу илм – илм эса Бухородир. – Бухоро, 2008. – Б.10.

invasion, the Ark was destroyed. The current appearance of the arch has been preserved since the 16th century¹⁰.

The arc walls were high and thick. They are made of cotton and large raw bricks. Here and there high-rise towers were built. During the siege, a number of targets were used along the walls and towers to shoot at the enemy. The city had several gates, each of which was entered through separate gates through the central street. There were special guards at the gates. The gates were closed in the late afternoon and opened in the early morning. During the siege, they were guarded day and night. The fort, built in the highest part of the city, surrounded by a special wall, is called an arch. It was inhabited by kings and princes. In addition to the royal palaces and palaces, the arch contained an office (cabinet), a treasury, a mint, a prison, and shelters for navkars. The other two main parts of the city were inhabited by city officials, artisans, merchants, their businesses and shops, as well as a temple and market. From ancient times, Bukhara was located on the Great Silk Road, through which Bukhara merchants transported various trade goods in camel caravans to China, India, Iran and Byzantium. As the population grew, so did the city. In the ninth century, Bukhara was surrounded by a single outer wall ring, which included all three ancient parts, in order to secure the expanded part of the city. Over the centuries, the city area has expanded. Around it, outside the city wall, new streets, guzars and neighborhoods were erected. In the 15th and 16th centuries, another series of outer wall rings surrounded the new sites. During this period, the city was entered through 11 gates. The city had 12 mahallas, more than 200 guzars and mosques. Each mahalla had a katkhudos, a guzar elder, an imam, and a poykori - a fifty-head. Each mahalla had a separate mosque, as did the tombs of each mahalla. The city is supplied with drinking water through more than 100 pools. The pools are filled with water once or twice a month through the city's Shahrud canal and tributaries, as well as many underground water structures - tazar and gulbas. Special watermen - meshkobs carried water in leather mesh for the needs of the houses, especially the archers. The city has about twenty baths and a number of domed rastas, which are open in winter and summer¹¹.

The Ark is fortified with a high, strong roof. The majesty of the Registan Square was a sign of the greatness of power, a sign that it could not be conquered. There is a shahristan around its walls. The Ark Fortress is a large elevation above the ground, built on a hill 20 meters high. The arch is rectangular in shape, extending from west to east. The southeast corner is slightly cut. It is located on the west side of the ancient and eternally young city of Bukhara. The length of the castle wall is 789.6 meters, height 16-20 meters, land area 3.96 hectares.

The Ark fortress has been renovated and rebuilt several times. Through the ascending path (ramp), the west side of the arch is entered through a huge wooden gate (16th century). The length of the ramp is 20 meters. It is surrounded on both sides by a massive stone pyramid. The towers on both sides of the roof of the arch are a well-preserved structure of "bouquets" and a three-story building between them. There is a long corridor leading to the arch - 12 shelves on the left wall of the corridor and 13 shelves on the right wall. Some of the shelves on the left have doors to the dungeon.

¹⁰Рахмон Муний. Бухоро. 1-қисм. – Бухоро, 2005. – Б. 33.

¹¹<http://uz.tarix.narod.ru/buxoro.html/>

Underneath the “bouquets” were canopies and canopies where dangerous criminals were kept. On the middle shelf to the right of the dolon, a light is lit for the ghost of the legendary hero Siyavush during the Navruz holidays. The Amir's barn was also accessed by stairs (the barn was above the rooms where the prisoners were kept). There was a gunman's court at the exit from Dolon, and a torture chamber in the basement. Not far from it (in the western corner) was built the Juma Mosque with a porch in the XVIII century. The verses of the Qur'an are inscribed between the patterns on the inside of the walls of the mosque. The porch ceiling is decorated with intricate entrances.

The player's house is located in the northwest corner of the Ark Fortress. On the east side of the mosque there is a kitchen, and on the back there is a mint (a place where gold, silver and small coins are minted). To the northeast of the engraving was a jeweler's shop, to the south were the court of the devonbegi and the buildings belonging to the kushbegi (some of the buildings still exist). The narrow corridor, which starts from the Juma Mosque, is connected to the chorus through the courtyard of the birdhouse.

To the left of the choir is a large courtyard with a stone courtyard. Ambassadors were received and emirs were enthroned. The patterned roof at the entrance to the courtyard was built in 1605. The three sunny sides of the courtyard are surrounded by a porch. The front porch has two rows of embroidered columns, the eyebrows of which are adorned with a muqarnas that extend from the bottom to the top. A throne made of Nurata marble stood under the throne on this porch. On the south side of the courtyard there is a hotel Rahimkhan and a reserve (XVIII century). There are basements under these buildings, where the treasure is kept. In the courtyard on the west side of the arch, two-story buildings were erected for the clergy and servants. Not far away is a saloon, to the east of which are hotels, and other buildings (courtyards) opposite the officials. A bathhouse in the south, and a small mosque on its east side, have been preserved to this day. In the center of the arch are the houses where the wives of the emir live, and to the north are the houses where the wives of the birds live. To the east of the bath there is a dormitory - the girls' house in the Amir's harem. In the northeast corner was the ChilDukhtaron Mosque and the BattolGazi Cemetery. Along the eastern wall of the arch is a room for slaves (guards), and in the south-eastern corner there is a pharmacy (rooms for ammunition). About 20 percent of these buildings are now preserved. The adoption of Islam by the people of Central Asia, its formation as a state religion during the Samanid period, and its conversion into a religion for the local people were reflected in both architecture and architecture. Many monumental buildings, religious buildings, caravanserais, and public buildings began to be built. The construction of mosques and madrasas in cities and settlements is developed. Minarets have been erected in front of mosques to say the call to prayer. The construction of residential buildings has also progressed to some extent. Critical constructions were used in the construction of these buildings. Wooden elements of buildings and structures (columns, doors, ceilings) are decorated with carvings and glazing.

The monumental structures were built first of raw bricks and then of baked bricks. Dome, arches and roof constructions began to be used in the architecture of the buildings. These constructions are mainly made of baked bricks based on gypsum mixtures. The use of domed roofing constructions is highly developed¹². History has shown that ancient Bukhara Sharif was a major

¹²Me'morchilik./ Vatikov. M.M., Mirzayev Sh.R. – T.: Tafakkur, 2010. – B.160-161.

trading center. The Arabs called the city "Madina at the merchant", which means the city of merchants. The architecture of the city was very unique and there were different markets, different markets depending on the type of product. Bukhara is very rich in historical monuments. During the years of independence, all the ancient architectural monuments have been restored to their original appearance. At present, Bukhara has become one of the most attractive tourist destinations in the country. The mausoleum of Ismail Somoni (IX-X centuries), Kalon Minaret (XII century), MagokiAttori Mosque (XII century), ChashmaiAyub (XII - XIV century), TaqiZargaron, TaqiTelpakfurushon, TaqiSarrofon ensembles (XVI century), Ark (IV - III centuries BC - early XX century), Ulugbek Madrasah (1417), MasjidiKalon (XVI century) especially LabiHovuz The complex of architectural monuments in the square (XVI - XVII centuries). That is why these monuments now attract thousands of tourists. The 2,500th anniversary of Bukhara, one of the world's oldest cities, was widely celebrated by UNESCO in 1997 with the participation of members of the international community.

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