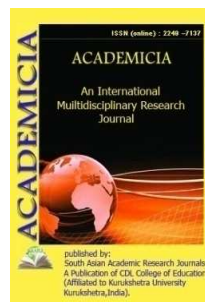


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**ULUGBEK MADRASAH SQUARE - REGISTAN**

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## ABSTRACT

*Registan is a beautiful place with world famous monuments. This article is about Registan Square, the symbol of Samarkand, and the interesting history of Mirzo Ulugbek, Sherdor and Tillokori madrasahs. The qibla of the Mukatta Mosque has been identified by astrologers by the stars. In Boburnom: “(Mirzo Ulugbek) built a mosque south of the madrasah called Masjid-i Mukatta. In that sense, Mukatta says, they chopped wood from continent to continent and added Islamic and Chinese designs. The entrances served as summer classrooms. There is a mosque between the two classrooms on the west side. Ulugbek madrasah covers an area of 81x56 meters and has a width of 16.5 meters. The yard was 40x30 meters. The largest and most attractive of them is undoubtedly the Registan. Registan Square, the heart and greatness of Great Samarkand, the greatness of the three madrasahs erected on it, as well as their decorations and bright colors will amaze visitors.*

**KEYWORDS:** Samarkand, Registan, Amir Temur, Mirzo Ulugbek, Yalangtush Bahodir, Sherdor, Tillokori, Chorsu, Science, Culture, Architecture. **Method:** data analysis, generalization.

## INTRODUCTION

Registan Square and its luxurious buildings - Mirzo Ulugbek Madrasah, Sherdor and Tillokori - have a long history, adding beauty to the ancient and modern city of Samarkand. Since the time of Mirzo Ulugbek, Registan has been the main square of Samarkand. Large markets were opened in or around Registan Square, and large scientific centers, scientific libraries and important government institutions were located here. The decrees of the rulers of Samarkand are published

here. Brave warriors who fought the enemy took the oath in this square and received the blessing of the elders.

**Main part.** Archaeological excavations in Registan Square show that during the time of the primitive community there was a huge forest here, and the oldest hunters hunted various wild animals in the forest. During excavations in the lower layers of the Registan Square, hunting weapons of primitive people were discovered.

In ancient times, a large canal was laid from the modern Registan square to the city of Afrosiab. In the VIII-X centuries, many buildings began to appear on the site of Registan Square, since the Arabs who invaded Samarkand forcibly resettled several thousand local residents from Afrosiab. It was during this period that craft workshops and shops were built here. In the 11th and 12th centuries, the site of the present Registan Square and the surrounding area were surrounded by an external defensive wall and became known as the “outer city”.

When the city of Afrosiab was destroyed by Genghis Khan in 1220, it became impossible to live here, and the surviving people moved to the modern old city, around Registan Square. From here the channel widens and grows shallow. After that, a new channel will be dug for the channel. Due to the accumulation of a large amount of sand in the old channel of the canal, the place became known as Registan, which means "sandy place".

During the reign of Amir Temur, the Registan Square was replaced by a central market, as well as covered stalls built by Jahangir's wife Tuman oka.

The architectural formation of the Registan Square dates back to the reign of Mirzo Ulugbek. The great astrologer Mirzo Ulugbek, who ruled Samarkand for 40 years (1409-1449), spared nothing for the improvement of this city. Mirzo Ulugbek completed the construction of historical monuments not only in Samarkand, but also in Bukhara, Gijduvan, Shakhrisabz, as well as 26 historical buildings built during the reign of Amir Temur and earlier. [1]. By order of Mirzo Ulugbek, the construction of a luxurious madrasah began in the western part of the region. The madrasah, built in 1420, amazed contemporaries with its grandeur and beauty. Boburnom provides information about two other buildings built by Mirzo Ulugbek on the territory of Registan Square. One was a bathroom and the other was a mosque. The bathroom is called Mirza Banya and is paved with various stones. “Such baths are not known in Khorasan and Samarkand,” wrote Mirzo Babur. The mosque is located south of the madrasah and is called the Mukatta Mosque. It is so named because its walls and ceiling are made of intercontinental timber with Islamic and Chinese designs. There was a difference between the qibla of the mosque and the qibla of the mosque of the madrasah. Because the madrasah was built in the direction of the main street of the city. The qibla of the Mukatta Mosque has been identified by astrologers by the stars. In Boburnom: “(Mirzo Ulugbek) built a mosque south of the madrasah called Masjid-i Mukatta. In that sense, Mukatta says, they chopped wood from continent to continent and added Islamic and Chinese designs. The walls and ceiling are of this type. This is the big difference between the qibla of the mosque and the qibla of the madrasah. However, the direction of the qibla of this mosque is determined by an astrological sign.[2]. Some consider this mosque to be one with the Maghrib Mosque. In fact, the Maghrib mosques have continued their pre-Islamic traditions and are somewhat submerged. The Magoki Attori and Magoki Korpa mosques are known in Bukhara. The foundations of the Magok mosque in the Samarkand region were excavated between the Tillakori madrasah and the Chorsu [3].

Mirzo Ulugbek wanted to educate people by building madrasahs, and encouraged them to perfection. During the construction of the madrasah, he also paid great attention to its philosophical aspects. Academician Boturkhon Validzhodzhaev in his scientific brochure "Higher education in Samarkand - oliya madrasah - excerpts from the history of the university": "... Further improvement of the education system of Mirzo Ulugbek, linking it with the results of scientific research. His aspirations are especially vividly manifested in the complex of oli madrasahs he built in Samarkand ... "Olia madrasah" is understood in two senses: firstly, it is at the highest level in terms of architecture, painting and art, that is, monumental ", and the other , unlike other madrasahs, is a higher educational institution in the education system, a university of its time. " [4].

Four tall towers are built at the four corners of the Ulugbek madrasah, built in 1417-1420. Several comfortable and cozy rooms and classrooms have been built with great skill in the inner courtyard of the madrasah. Also, the inner and outer walls of the madrasah were decorated with multi-colored tiles. The pool in the courtyard of the madrasah was gushing with water, and when the sun was shining on it, the patterns on the walls were dazzlingly reflected by the sun.

Ulugbek Madrasah is a classic example of the monuments of the East as an architectural masterpiece. The madrasah was two-story, with 55 rooms, large classrooms and verandas at four corners. 2-3 students studied and lived in special training rooms. The entrances served as summer classrooms. There is a mosque between the two classrooms on the west side. Ulugbek madrasah covers an area of 81x56 meters and has a width of 16.5 meters. The yard was 40x30 meters. The building is finished with tiles. Internal and external insulators are made of marble slabs and columns. The roof is decorated with a girth of several stars, reminiscent of Zigi Koragoni. Two corners of the facade of the madrasah are decorated with three-storey towers. Only the first tiers of four towers survived, which fortified the four outer corners of the madrasah. The current height of this tower is about 33 meters. In 1932, under the leadership of engineer M.F. Mauer, the northeastern tower of the Ulugbek Madrasah, which weighed 400 tons, was repaired by twisting. By the middle of the twentieth century, the southeastern tower of the Ulugbek madrasah tilted 1.8 meters from its axis and sagged 4 meters on one side. The tower was restored to its original form on March 1, 1965 under the leadership of E.M. Handel. This madrasah, built by Ulugbek, was the most advanced, well-equipped university of its time and became famous as the first medical institution in the East and a scientific institution with a wide range of possibilities. At the same time, it was known throughout the world as the Ulugbek Academy.

There was a large library in the rooms of the second floor of the Ulugbek madrasah. Most of the books collected by Amir Temur and his children have survived. In the Ulugbek madrasah there is a well-established system of deep knowledge and education in all religious and secular subjects. Famous scholars such as Mawlana Muhammad Khawafi, Kazizada Rumi, Giesiddin Jamshid, Muiniddin Kashi and Ali Kushchi were among the leading scholars and teachers of the madrasah. Ulugbek himself taught in madrasah together with other scientists.

Education in madrasah is carried out in three stages: the first stage is "adno" or "low level", the second level is "avsat" or "miyona" the middle level, the third level is "excellent", "Top" upper part. The talented Taliban studied diligently in each department for four to five years. As a result, a student who studied in a madrasah, mastered the main subjects of his program and was able to

demonstrate his knowledge at examination lessons, is issued a "Certificate". Education in the madrasah is free and funded by the foundation. Extensive information is contained in the brochure of Academician Boturkhon Valikhodzhaev "Excerpts from the history of higher education madrasah in Samarkand".

The great Uzbek thinker, poet and public figure Alisher Navoi, who lived and studied in Samarkand in 1465-1469, also enriched his knowledge in the field of astronomy, geography, history and literature. His education at the Ulugbek madrasah for more than two years played an important role in his later life.

After the Timurids, the Sheibanids, who ascended the throne of Samarkand, also did a lot to improve this city. The historian Hafiz Tanish Bukhari writes that in 1581 and 1587 Abdullah twice ordered the restoration of architectural monuments of Samarkand, on which large sums of money were spent.

Registan Square again became a huge construction site in the early 17th century. Here the governor of Samarkand Yalangtoshbiy Bahodir built two beautiful, luxurious and glorious madrassas. In honor of Piri Hoja Hashim's grandfather Mahdum Azam, he built 14 domed khanaqahs, 2 mosques and a madrasah in Dahbed. The tomb of Yalangtosh Bahodir, the son of Abdukarim Boyhoji, a skilled commander and head of state from the Olchin clan, is in Dahbed, and his tombs are at the feet of Mahdumi Azam and Khoja Hashim Dahbedi. In order to perpetuate the memory of Yalangtosh Bahodir during the years of independence, on July 10, 1992, the former Republican Street in Samarkand was renamed Yalangtosh Bahodir by the 89th decision of the regional governor.

The construction of the Sherdor madrasah, located on the opposite side of the Ulugbek madrasah, began in 1619. The architects who designed this madrasah tried in every possible way to make it look like the Ulugbek madrasah. Thanks to this, the height of the roof of the Sherdor madrasah, its blue domes and majestic minarets resemble the Ulugbek madrasah built in the 15th century.

The tiles and decorations of the Sherdor madrasah are unique. Also, the inner courtyard of the Sherdor madrasah and the premises in it differ from the Ulugbek madrasah in architectural solutions.

Madrasah Sherdor was built in 1619-1636 and has a size of 70 by 56 meters, that is, a rectangular shape, and the courtyard is surrounded by two-story rooms. There are 54 of them, the size of the yard is 30 by 38 meters, there are classrooms in the corners.

The lion on the roof of the Sherdor madrasah, the sun with a human face on its back, and a frightened deer looking back also add to the beauty of the madrasah.

Disputes about the philosophical meaning of the images of the sun, lion and deer have not yet been resolved.

The names of Abdul Jabbar, the chief architect who built it, and Muhammad Abbas, the chief architect who created the architectural decorations, are forever engraved on the walls of the Sherdor Madrasah. Master Mulla Abdul Jabbar was an independent artist who knew not only the language of patterns, but also the philosophy of beauty and symbolism.

The famous scientist, academician Polat Zakhidov in his book "The World of an Architect" says this about the decoration of the Sherdor madrasah: This is how Abu Takhirhodja from Samarkand, in his book "Samaria, written in the 1930s," interprets the images on the roof of the Sherdor madrasah. Khurshid - the shape of the sun is combined with the sign of a lion: the lion's attack is reflected by the blade of the sun's rays. As if the light repels trouble. In any case, it seems that the creators are symbolically expressing a deep ideological idea. Architect Abdujabbor encourages people to learn. He promotes the philosophical idea that enlightenment leads to spiritual purity and perfection through spiritual purity [7].

The walls of the madrasah also bear the name of the governor of Samarkand Yalangtoshbi Bahodir, who built it, and a hymn inscribed in his name.

“When an engineer gives a mountain,  
The sky bit his finger and said, "New moon."  
The basis for the Yalangtosh Bahodir,  
"Yalangtosh Bahodir" is in line with history” [8].

At the time of its construction, the madrasah was popularly known and documented as the "Great Madrasah of Yalangtoshbi", but in later times it was called Sherdor. The madrasah also hosts large-scale international forums.

The third madrasah built in Registan Square is Tillakori madrasah. This madrasah was also built by Yalangtoshbi Bahodir in 1646-1660 and, according to historical sources, was built for 17 years.

The roof of the Tillakori madrasah is as high and magnificent as that of the Ulugbek and Sherdor madrasahs. By the 17th century, the Amir Temur mosque was in disrepair, and the Alik Kokaldosh mosque in Registan was completely destroyed.

Therefore, the residents of Samarkand needed a new mosque. Realizing this, Yalangtoshbi Bahodir decided to combine the luxurious mosque into a new madrasah. The architects understood the ruler's intentions and transferred it to the project.

The courtyard of the madrasah was also built for the convenience of worshipers who come here to pray. The walls of the mosque and madrasah glittered due to the large amount of gold that was used to decorate them. For this reason, at the time of construction, the madrasah was called "Tillakori", although it was called "the small madrasah Yalangtoshbiy". The tiles and mosaics on the walls of the Tillakori Mosque are unique and unrepeatable in their beauty. The courtyard of the madrasah is 43x43 meters, there are premises on three sides, and a winter mosque on the west side. In its central part there is a domed target. The inner surface of the dome is dilapidated and filled with golden water. The inscriptions from the Qur'anic verses in white tiles on the side of the courtyard are also decorated with golden water. Tillakori madrasah differs from these two madrasahs in that only its facade is two-story, with rooms facing the courtyard, and a one-story mosque. Unlike the Samarkand madrasah, there is a two-story classroom on the side of the street and two bouquets.

Hundreds of students have studied for centuries at these three magnificent madrasahs in Registan Square. In his chambers, they learned the secrets of science, connecting night with morning. They were trained by some of the greatest scientists of their time.



Another historical building adjacent to the Registan ensemble is the Chorsu House. Chorsu is the main trading building in Samarkand at that time, built during the reign of Amir Shah Murad. Amir Shah Murad built the high hexagonal Chorsu-Taqi Musaddas shopping center in the center of Samarkand, northeast of Registan Square (behind the Sherdor Madrasah). Chorsu is a Persian word that means “four”, “suk” means “market”, which means a market square in a block, a road that opens in four directions. [9]. Chorsu is located at the intersection of six main streets. Accordingly, the building has a hexagonal shape. Amir Shahmurad has done a great job of improving Samarkand. Samaria also mentions the following: “Amir Masum is the emir of the Bukhara Shah Murad from the Mangit dynasty. According to our founding documents, after Shah Murad was sent to Samarkand by his father Amir Daniel, he renovated several high-rise buildings, including the Sheybanikhan madrasah.” [10].

### CONCLUSION

There are many ancient monuments of history and architecture in Uzbekistan. The largest and most attractive of them is undoubtedly the Registan. Registan Square, the heart and greatness of Great Samarkand, the greatness of the three madrasahs erected on it, as well as their decorations and bright colors will amaze visitors. They watch her beauty for hours, listening in a special spirit to the song of silence from her magical evenings. That is why every foreign tourist visiting Uzbekistan wants to see the Registan. Today, the tourism industry has risen to the level of government policy.

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