

Studying of Uzbekistan's Architectural Monuments (on the Basis of Local Sources)

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Abstract: This article is devoted to learning the history of architectural monuments in Uzbekistan from the researches of the Soviet period. Special attention is given to the history of studying the peculiarity of architecture in Uzbekistan, especially of architectural masterpieces' structures, shapes, and views, and ancient traditions in national architecture and questions of their decorations. Additionally, the roles of archival and photo documents of the Central Archive Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan and The Committee of Preservation of Middle Asia's ancient art, monuments, natural resources, and museum affairs in the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan are illuminated in the study of Uzbekistan's architectural monuments during the end of the 19th-20th centuries. It pays special attention to covering the history of the activities of state institutions in scientific study, and the restoration and preservation of the architectural monuments of the Republic. The article also contains scientific analysis of documents from personal archives of scientific researchers such as V. L. Vyatkin, B. N. Zasipkin, S. N. Polupanov, M. E. Masson, and G. A. Pugachenkova, who play important roles in the study of various aspects of Uzbekistan's architectural monuments.

Key words: Archival sources, architectural monuments, mosques, madrasas, mausoleums, palaces, local residential buildings

Uzbekistan's material culture, especially the study of historical-memorial monuments which were created with a base of Uzbekistan's national traditions, and researching their unique sides, were foundational topics of history, archeology, ethnography, mastership, and architecture even before the country's independence. Various matters of the national architecture were analyzed by experts of the fields above.

It is known that deep research of the architectural monuments of Uzbekistan began in the 19th century. The organizing circle of Turkistan amateur-archeologists and the many matters they learned were significantly important in that time (Masson M.E. 1956. 9). The circle that was founded at the end of the 19th century (Dec.11. 1985) focused principally on researching historical monuments of Turkistan. As a regulation of the circle, learning about all historical monuments located in the Turkistan region, analyzing scientifically all materials used in building them, and matters of publishing were taken into consideration. The research organized by them, especially of the material resources that were found as a result of research at the sites of historical monuments, needed to be submitted to the Archeological Commission of Empire.

Scientific research of the Turkistan amateur-archeologist circle is precious and precise information about the locations of several archeological and architectural monuments in the Turkistan region. This research included the monuments' preserved condition, measures, draughts, and photographs. In addition, historical reference books about researched archeological and architectural monuments and myths mentioned them. The Commission that began to work in 1918 to preserve the falling minaret of Ulugbek Madrassah, under the supervision of the notable orientalist scholar, Vyatkin, was the

continuation of the circle of Turkistan amateur-archeologists. Vyatkin, who was considered a protector of Uzbekistan's archeological-architectural monuments, and his commission's members, cooperated with local masters and famous engineer-architects B. N. Kastalskiy and M. F. Mauer. On September 6, 1919, a new commission was organized under the Republic of Turkistan Public Education and the supervision of S. Abdusattarov for learning about Uzbekistan's ancient monuments. However, the commission's affairs were solely for gathering information about historical-architectural monuments¹. After the October Revolution, there were even more commissions, but in those years, few affairs were carried out for researching and preserving the monuments.

Finally, in 1920, research of different kinds of historical monuments began, as well. In other words, several state establishments were organized which were able to, subsequently, accomplish many positive achievements. This was especially true under the decisions of the Central Social Committee of the Turkistan Republic, the Central Archive Management of the Republic of Uzbekistan², and the Committee of Preservation of Middle Asia's ancient art, monuments, natural resources, museum affairs³, etc.

As given in the archive documents, the decree which was adopted by Central Executive Committee⁴, the research and preservation of all historical monuments of the Turkistan region was ordered to the Commission of the Central Archive Committee. The following assignments were given according to the regulation of the Commission of Committee:

- Immediate registration of historical monuments
- Preserving historical monuments
- Repairing and reconstructing historical monuments
- Gathering all materials which belonged to Uzbekistan's historical monuments and analyzing them scientifically, etc.⁵

According to the documents of CSARU, at the meeting of the Central Archives Department of the Turkistan Republic, which was held on October 7, 1920, the lectures of branches of the department on the matters of researching the historical monuments of Samarkand and preserving them, were listened to and adopted as important decrees. A lecture given by V. L. Vyatkin, who was the chief of the department's archeological branch, was devoted to the results of attempted affairs between January and September, 1920. In that lecture, valuable information was given about research on Mirzo Ulugbek Madrassah in Registan Square, Guri Amir Mosque, Bibihonim Mosque, and the ancient town of Afrasiyob, which is situated in Samarkand. According to the lecturer's words, as a result of that archeological research, the part of the archeological monuments that was covered by soil was studied and analyzed scientifically. Because of this archeological research, all the monuments that were destroyed and sorrowful were repaired and reconstructed. M. F. Mauer, who was the chief of the technical and construction branch of the department, stated this in his lecture about assignments, which were given by the technical and construction branch. Mauer was invited to that branch to suggest the reconstruction possibilities of Mirzo Ulugbek Madrasah's northeastern tower. In his lecture, the main attention was drawn to find out the answer to the question that caused many disputes among members of the branch. In other words, these were the effects of a sorrowful year. The tower's initial location changed and a special disputable matter to clarify the authentic place of the tower was emphasized. Besides that, the threshold of Sherdor Madrasah and its destroyed part was to be reconstructed immediately, which matter was stressed separately. At the end of the meeting, many decrees were adopted to solve the matters as stated above⁶.

The chief of the Fictional Branch Committee, I. S. Kazakov, emphasized that there was no positive result because of inconvenient

conditions during the report period (January to February, 1920). Thus, it was quite impossible to fulfill all the arranged plans for reconstructing destroyed parts of architectural-memorial monuments because of financial guarantee issues and an insufficient number of specialists who are experienced and highly qualified. In the documents of archive, some information was emphasized about cleaning internal decorations, researching them, and reconstructing some parts of them by the members of the branch during the arranged period. In that lecture, some valuable suggestions were given by I. S. Kazakov. For instance, during the winter season, research of architectural monuments could be performed, and an album of draw models of Mirzo Ulugbek Madrasah and its falling tower could be created by the members of the branch.

In 1921, the committees “Protecting ancient art, monuments, natural resources, and museum affairs” under the Commissariat of Turkistan National Enlightenment, “Turkomstaris”, and “Sredazkomstaris” (after 1925) made several expeditions, which are good examples of studying the history of Central Asia. These organizations were leaders for researching and saving monuments in Central Asia. According to the decree of The Republic of Turkistan Commissariat of Public Education on May 21, 1921, a committee was founded for preserving Turkistan antiquity, art monuments, natural resources, and museum affairs (Turkomstaris), and then the authority of controlling such affairs was given to the committee. Thus, the activities of Turkomstaris were the following:

- controlling all museums located in Central Asia (social, natural, historical, art, and industrial museums which belonged to central cities and local areas)
- researching and constructing historical-architectural monuments, and preserving natural resources

- gathering different materials which belonged to the assignments of Turkomstaris and analyzing them scientifically

According to the archive documents, the chairman and vice-chairmen of Turkomstaris were appointed due to the decree of Turkistan national commissars. The members of the committee were chosen among several institutions - committees and universities such as The Scientific Council of the Central Asian Republics, Tsuardel, The Turkistan Institute of Oriental Studies, Turkistan State University, Material-Culture Institution of Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR), the Committee of the Protection of Antiquity, and Art Monuments and Natural Resources, which assigned affairs for the preservation and study of museums. Turkomstaris was divided into four sections:

- museum affairs
- preserving and reconstructing antiquity and art monuments
- archeology
- preserving natural resources

Taking into consideration several historical-architectural monuments, located in different regions of Uzbekistan, several fields of the committee were founded, such as Samkomstaris, Buhkomstaris, and Khivkomstaris.

According to archive documents, in every meeting of the committee, urgent matters were debated. In those meetings, permanent member scientific experts such as D. I. Nechkin, E. A. Schmit, V. L. Vyatkin, I. S. Kazakov, B. N. Kastalskiy, and K. K. Berger were accomplishing urgent resolutions for all manners of research and preserving historical-architectural monuments. Furthermore, many experts and specialists were invited for researching and reconstructing historical-architectural monuments. As key examples, V. V. Bartold and

M. E. Masson were invited to research the main historical-architectural monuments of Samarkand, and architect M. F. Mauer was invited to reconstruct Mirzo Ulugbek Madrassa's falling tower. On December 24, 1924, Turkomstaris was ended because of finishing national-territorial delimitation, and, in its stead, Sredazkomstaris was founded for researching and preserving antiquity, art monuments, natural resources, and museum affairs. By the end of 1929, the committee had performed many actions, such as preserving, researching, and reconstructing architectural monuments in Central Asia, in the area of Uzbekistan due to its authority. The significant aspects of those attempts - the results and scientific specialists' reports of the research performed - were published in periodical papers, especially in "Izvestiya Sredazkomstarisa"⁷. Moreover, valuable documents, which belonged to state establishments as stated above, have been preserved up to the present day.

The documents, created on the basis of activities of Turkomstaris and Sredazkomstaris, were collected in the fund R-394 of the Central State Archive of Uzbekistan⁸. They are the following:

- the research, preservation, and reconstruction of historical-architectural inheritance of Central Asia, and the central committee's decrees and circulations
- documents on the research and reconstruction of historical-architectural and art monuments, sections of the committee, and areal commissions
- notes of committee meetings
- references on the locations of architectural monuments in historical cities and the projects for reconstructing them
- reports by the committee's and areal commissions' scientific workers and their scientific works
- financial emission for researching and reconstructing historical-architectural monuments
- archive documents, which belonged to the scientific expeditions for researching the historical-architectural monuments of Uzbekistan

- initial photo albums of the historical-architectural monuments that were situated in several historical cities of Uzbekistan
- unpublished scientific articles of scientific workers of the committee, orientalist scholars, and historians who researched Uzbekistan's historical-architectural monuments, etc.

According to the documents, between 1921 and 1929, Turkomstaris and Sredazkomstaris registered many monuments as under the protection of the state. In that period, the condition of those architectural monuments was sorrowful, and researching and constructing them was the main matter for the committee.

According to the decree of the committee, Registan Square and Sherdor, Ulugbek, Tillakori Madrassas, the Mausoleum of Guri Amir, the Mosque of Bibikhanum, Oksaroy (which was the residence of Amir Temur), the architectural complex of Shahi Zinda, the Mosque of Xuja Ahror, the Mosque of Ishratxona, the Mosque of Namozgoh, remnants of the Ulugbek Observatory, the cemetery of the Shaybaniy Khan Dynasty, the Mosque of Childuhtaron, the grave of the prophet Doniyor, the ancient town of Afrasiyob, the cemetery of Chuponota, and others in Samarkand, as well as the Kukaldosh Madrassa, Xuja Ahror Madrassa and Mosque, Barokhon Madrassa, Kaffol-Shoshiy Mausoleum in Tashkent, Ahmad Yassaviy Mausoleum and Mosque in Turkistan, the palace and residence of the Khans of Kukand in the Fergana region, the Mausoleum of Sheikh Fozil in Kosonsoy, and many other historical-architectural monuments were registered. Several projects were worked out for scientific research, repair, and reconstruction by scientific experts of Uzbekistan.

According to the decree of Turkomstaris, the registered architectural-historical monuments should be preserved and the traffic of trucks should be stopped. Particularly, because of the initiative of members of the committee, publicity for the preservation of the

historical-architectural monuments expanded broadly among local people. These kinds of affairs were utilized around Registan in Samarkand, so here the traffic of trucks was stopped and many posters were hung in the streets written in Russian and Uzbek. Because of the expedition Turkomstaris, some errors were specified during reconstruction at the beginning of the 20th century. Afterwards, the errors were corrected, as possible⁹.

In 1921, one of the local branches of the committee Samkomstaris suggested researching, reconstructing, and repairing the main architectural complexes of Samarkand, and then many positive achievements were accomplished.

In Central Asia, the study of Uzbekistan's architectural monuments was researched actively by local Russian scientists. With the help of their efforts, the Zarafshan Commission had many achievements in saving Architectural monuments in Bukhara, especially Bukhara's historical monuments that were registered in 1920. Those monuments were studied heavily between 1924 and 1926. Initially, D. A. Morozov, D. Ginsburg, and other architects studied the architecture of the historical monuments and organized plans of historical cities and took photos of historical monuments. Subsequently, many historical-architectural monuments in Uzbekistan were analyzed by the expedition of Sredazkomstaris, and many works were created based on that.

Nowadays, all documents pertaining to the research of the architectural monuments of Uzbekistan are preserved in organizational funds, such as the Turkistan architect-amateurs circle, Sredazkomstaris, and the private funds of V. L. Vyatkin¹⁰, B. N. Zasiipkin¹¹, S. N. Polupanov¹², M. E. Masson, G. A. Pugachenkova¹³, and others in the Central State Archive of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Those precious historical sources have significant importance for learning the history of national architectural monuments created by the Uzbek nation.

In general, scientific works based on research of the history of Uzbek national-architectural monuments, published between 1917 and 1990, could be divided into two groups: articles and scientific prints. In the investigation of the first group, some national-architectural monuments which were created in Uzbekistan were researched as detached theme and scientific articles, and brochures were created, which collected all-inclusive and crucially important information. Scientific works based on ancient monuments in Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva were researched as a complex. Thus, it was significant because of having included a wealth of valuable material sources: scientific works and brochures created by V. L. Vyatkin and M. E. Masson, who researched historical-architectural monuments of Uzbekistan in an architectural way. “Antichnaya arxitektura Samarkanda” (Vyatkin, 1933, p.1-32), “Sobornaya mechet Timura, izvestniy pod imenam Bibihanum” (Masson, 1929, p.16), “Registan i ego medrese” (1930. 1-30), “Observatoriya Ulugbeka” (1941. 1-48), “Samarkand vremeni Ulugbeka” (1948. 89-101), were among the scientific articles that were written by those authors. As such, “Dvorets-sad Timura Davlat-abad” (Suxarev, 1940, p.1-8), “Observatoriya Ulugbeka v svete novix dannix” (Kari Niyazov and Jalalov, 127-136), “Samarkandskaya shkola zodchix” and “Me’mor san’ati” (Zohidov, 1965, p.1-175; 1978, p.1-102), “Ulugbekning Samarkanddagi obidalari” (Abdukadirov, 1969, p.1-22), “Shayboniyxon suv ayirgich koprigi” (Muhammadjonov, 1969, p.1-8), “K istorii slojeniya ansamblya Shahizinda v XV v.” and “Medrese Ulugbeka v Samarkande” (Bulatova, 1965, p.226-273; 1969, p.45-48), “Geometricheskoe garmonizatsiya v arxitekture Sentralnoy Azii IX-XV vv” and “Iskusnie geometricheskie priyomi v zodchestve Samarkanda kontsa XIV-nachala XV v” (Bulatov, 1988; 1959), and other scientific articles were researched as detached themes and analyzed scientifically for those monuments’ historical significance, creation history, appearance, shape, and ornamentation. The

history of architectural monuments created between the 10th and the 15th centuries, which belong not only to Uzbekistan but also to other cities of Middle Asia, were illuminated in the above-mentioned scientific works. As well, architectural structure, plan, appearance, unique building way, general similarities, and differences of architectural design of Muslim architectural monuments were elucidated in them.

B. P. Denike can be included in the list of authors who enlightened the applied arts' history of the peoples of Middle Asia, particularly the history of Uzbek national architecture. Besides architectural monuments, B. P. Denike investigated national handicrafts like metallurgy, wood engraving, carpeting, etc. The author's "O reznix derevyannix dveryax v Sredney Azii" (Denike, 1928, p.178-179) is an example of this. In 1939, B. P. Denike analyzed the applied art of the peoples of Middle Asia, especially the development of Uzbekistan national architecture and several types of national applied art, the achievements in this branch, the changes of national applied art, and national architecture in his work named "Arxitekturniy ornament Sredney Azii" (1939). The results of scientific activities of the Institute of the USSR Archeology and Art were presented between 1928 and 1929 and elucidated in the scientific selection named "Isskustvo Sredney Azii" (1928), which was published under the leadership of B. P. Denike. Basically, in this collection, the level of development of local peoples' material culture was assessed on the example of analyzing the national architecture of Middle Asia. In the collection, B. P. Denike divided Middle Asia's history into two periods: non-Islamic and Islamic periods. Sequentially, he divided the Islamic period into two stages: before Mongols, and after the Mongols colony (1928). The author analyzed scientifically the building, appearance, and condition of the architectural assemblages of Bukhara and Uzgend, and expressed his thoughts on them. He especially defined great buildings of Amir Temur and Temurid's period, taking into consideration their architectural

achievements. As such, in the scientific collection, several scientific articles were published which were researched by several young scholars, and the articles were based on some architectural monuments as a source. It is noteworthy that B. N. Zasipkin created many works on the protection and restoration of architectural monuments of Middle Asia (Zasipkin, 1931, p. 21-53).

The period of the Soviet Union was an impeccable time of emphasizing the scientific works of famous historian scholar G. A. Pugachenkova on researching historical architectural monuments of Uzbekistan in that period. Because of the many works created by this author, Uzbekistan's historical cities of Samarkand and Bukhara's ancient monuments were brought to light as a complex in a certain order. In "The Mausoleum of Ismail Samani. Bukhara" (Pugachenkova, 1964., p.1-6), "Samarkand. Bukhara. Po drevnim pamyatnikam Samarkanda i Buxari" (1968, 10-111), "Tim va takilar. Buxoro" (1969, 1-8), and other works, the scholar defined architectural monuments of those cities with proficiency and analyzed them scientifically. Significant features of the works were the history of building, time, location, plan, structure, and the architectural decoration of monuments located in Bukhara and Samarkand from ancient times until the 17th century, which described all of that important information for us.

The author also showed the areal difference of types of ventilation, and the heating and ornamentation of local residents. "Vostochnaya miniatyura, kak istochnik po istorii arxitekturi XV–XVI vv." by Pugachenkova was devoted to creative works, in other words, to scientifically research miniatures in the East, particularly during the Timurids and Sheibanids periods (1960, 100-139). In the book, miniatures were utilized for learning the decoration of Uzbekistan's architectural monuments as a basis of source, and the given information was proven scientifically. The works of Pugachenkova emphasized researching historical architectural monuments of Uzbekistan in the

period of the Soviet Union. Because of the many works which were created by this author, Samarkand and Bukhara's ancient monuments were brought to light as a complex in a certain order. Through "The mausoleum of Ismail Samani. Bukhara", "Tims and taki's. Bukhara", "Samarkand. Bukhara. Through the ancient monuments of Samarkand and Bukhara", and other works, the scholar defined architectural monuments of those cities with proficiency and analyzed them scientifically. According to the sketch named "Sadogo-parkovnie iskusstvo Sredney Azii v epoxy Timura i Timuridov" by Pugachenkova, gardens and alleys were created by Amir Timur and palaces were built in them; also, the history of creation and significance, location, structure, and other important information was given (1951, 120-155). In general, Pugachenkova's research works give valuable information about the architecture of the middle of the century, including the building history of architectural monuments, the way of decoration and ornaments, and the creative works of master-architects who built them (1965, 227-255; 1969, 107-132; 1969, 28-30).

"Museyi pod otkritim nebom" by G.A. Pugachenkova was dedicated to enlighten the history of those architectural monuments that were built over the last thousand years. Even if it was not about ancient architectural monuments, building mastership of the Uzbek nation and about having delivered to this period were narrated (1981, 1-304). These opinions were mentioned by the author in the book-album: "Nowadays we speak about very many cities named 'city-museums' because of their historical architectural monuments. Yet there are not only historical cities and villages but also historical and solitary places in the world."

By stating that opinion, the author proved that our country is ancient and how rich it was in its architectural monuments, not only in cities but also in villages and solitary places. Particularly, in the book-album, the history of Uzbek national architecture was collected, including history from ancient times until the 20th century. In the book-

album, material sources were found from ancient monuments having been studied by archeologist-scientists and expeditions relevant to ethnography and mastership. The author was the leader of those expeditions. In other words, several features of national architecture were analyzed scientifically, which were relevant to several periods. The historical periods of architectural monuments were analyzed periodically and comparatively with each other, and this was the significance of it. The book-album named "The Museum Under the Open Sky" by famous scientist G. A. Pugachenkova included several photographs of the architectural monuments mentioned above. Additionally, in the book-album, valuable information was given fully about the history of architectural monuments, their building history, their location, their structure, their decoration, and architects who participated in building the construction. The album was about not only architectural cities but also local villages and places that were built in a national architectural way; the houses, the local places where the inhabitants lived, their construction, their raw materials, and the differences between areas were analyzed and compared. In the book, residents of the Uzbek nation stressed that the monuments had a long-lived experience, and that the country's continental weather had been considered. In other words, the daily convenience of several places was planned by considering their natural features.

The other scientist is L. I. Rempel, who also studied Uzbekistan's architectural monuments. The valuable work named "Vidayushiesya pamyatniki arxitekturi Uzbekistana" by Pugachenkova and Rempel was written in regard to the period of research and written as a result of architectural research (Rempel, 1958, p.1-292). Additionally, "Arxitekturniy ornament Uzbekistana" and "Dalyokoe i blizkoe. Bukharskie zapisi" were devoted to building history and the decoration of architectural monuments that were located in several districts of Uzbekistan. (1961, 1-256; 1981, 1-304). "Architectural ornament of

Uzbekistan” was written by the author regarding the decoration of memorial buildings and their artistic way analyzed comparatively among buildings constructed in different periods. “Far and near. Records of Bukhara” by Rempel was devoted to scientific analysis of information that was accumulated over forty years. In the work, historical topography of the city, ancient arterial roads, architectural complexes, residential homes located in towns and in the countryside, administrative buildings, trade complexes, handcrafting centers, and their unique appearances and architectural structures were described in totality with the help of a map of the city of Old Bukhara. Besides that, in the work, important and valuable information was given about the life and activities of famous handicraftsmen. In general, many scientific works created in the period had the unique feature that the works included the experienced generation who created the Uzbek people’s architectural heritage. Several scientists as mentioned above researched artistic and inimitable patterns of the architectural art history of Uzbekistan and emphasized many times the decoration of architectural monuments that were built in the Amir Timur and Timurids periods.

One of the notable scientists of the period, Ibrohim Muminov, wrote several works devoted to the life of statesman Amir Temur, who was important to the Uzbek nation. The works focused attentively on his architectural monuments. The significance and history of architectural monuments built by Amir Temur in Samarkand, Tashkent, and Shakhrisabz were illuminated in a brochure named “Amir Temurning O’rta Osiyo tarixida tutgan o’rni” by Ibrohim Muminov. The brochure was significant because it was written with the help of historical sources (1968, 1-42).

Besides that, several pamphlets and brochures were prepared during the research process as a result of expeditions relevant to archeology and regional studies. For example, a group of archeologists and scholars of regional studies published several books like “O’zbek-

Sovet arxitekturası” (Kadirova, 1966, p.1-47), pamphlets “O’zbekiston shaharlari” (Shishkin, 1944, p.6-23), “Xivaning arxitektura yodgorliklari” (Bulatova, Notkin, 1972, p.1-79), “Arxitekturnie pamyatniki Kashkadari” (Mankovskaya, 1979, p.1-100), and others. In those books, regional and architectural expeditions that were organized for studying historical monuments of Uzbekistan’s historical cities were taken as a source.

The pamphlet “O’zbekiston me’morchilik obidalari davlat muhofazasida” (Rakhmatullayev, 1969, p.1-40) and the article “Soxranim kulturnoe nasledie” (Kryukov, 1989, p. 92-108), created by researcher-scientists, were devoted to research and the protection of cultural monuments of Uzbekistan in the Soviet Union in the 19th century as well as in the 1960s. The works also gave account of scientific establishments which were organized for this matter, and the activities of these establishments. “O’zbekiston toglarida me’morchilik san’ati” (Nozilov, 1972, p.1-36) and “O’zbekiston qishloq arxitekturası” (Mahkamova, 1983, p.1-39) focused on several important matters to which no other scientists paid attention. The authors paid special attention to the places where local residents lived and to the architectural relevance of mountains and heights. Particularly, valuable information was given about ancient palaces that were situated in the villages near the mountains in Nurata, Gallaorol, Forish, and Urgut, their architectural decoration and ornament, the material of building, and their structural styles in “Architectural art in the mountains of Uzbekistan” by D. Nozilov.

To conclude, architectural monuments of Uzbekistan reflected the experience of our great ancestors, skillful and talented handicraftsmen who were masters of intellect. Based on unique traditional architectural monuments, which retained their attractiveness and freshness, were taken into consideration attentively between 1985 and 1990.

In the end of 19th and in the early 20th century, many committees worked properly, such as the circle of Turkistan archeologist-amateurs, Tsuardel, Turkomstaris, and Uzkomstaris. These committees made much effort toward researching, repairing, and reconstructing the architectural-historical monuments of Uzbekistan. Particularly, as a result of the committees' affairs:

- many historical-architectural monuments located in Uzbekistan were registered
- the architectural monuments that were situated in central cities were researched completely
- several references were composed because of the scientific research on those historical-architectural monuments
- the saving condition of the monuments was clarified
- immediately, plans were arranged to do what was necessary in regard to the monuments' condition
- the national-architectural monuments, which were sorrowful and falling, were planned to be preserved
- financial means were provided for repairing and reconstructing the monuments through several kinds of projects
- several architectural complexes located in Uzbekistan were reconstructed and repaired, and necessary actions were taken for their preservation
- the possibility of developing international tourism was created in Uzbekistan
- to the extent possible, mass media also gave much information about the scientific research which was performed on the historical-architectural monuments

According to archive documents, it could not be said that the affairs stated above were not done for the sake of the Uzbek nation in the end of 19th century and in the early 20th century. Because of the wealth of

material, which was the result of scientific research, the material was taken to Moscow and Saint Petersburg, because Uzbekistan was under the occupation of the Soviet Union. Therefore, the nation of Uzbekistan was deprived of its historical-spiritual wealth.

Even still, in the end of 19th and in the early 20th century, much effort was made for preserving, repairing, and reconstructing the historical-architectural monuments which were situated in the precious cities of Uzbekistan. The influence of being under the Soviet Union was noticeable and significant, so a lot of information was not given correctly. Yet, clarifying several points in the scientific problem is an action that should be taken into consideration. Furthermore, because of so many scientific workers and the committees stated above, the new generation could witness such beautiful historical-architectural complexes that are situated in the Republic of Uzbekistan. Nowadays, they are considered not only the pride of the Uzbek nation, but also architectural heritages of a whole world, and they are fully appreciated.

In the scientific works which were created in the history of Uzbekistan, particularly bringing to light the history of national architectural monuments, biased approaches and the affection for a sovereign colony state were noticeable, yet scientists provided effective and urgent information about the matters. I hope that in the forthcoming days, our historian scientists and researchers will learn the field deeply, and surely we will be aware of the New History of Uzbekistan.

¹ CSARU f.R-3, l.1, f. 204, 1.

² Tshardel, in 1920, Jan 30.

³ Sredazkomstaris, 1924, Dec 26.

⁴ CEC in 1920, Jan 30.

⁵ CSARU f.R-394, l.1, 1-2.

⁶ CSARU. f.R-394, l.1, f.3, 70-72.

⁷ “Proceedings of Sredazkomstaris” special mass paper since 1925.

⁸ CSAU in 1958, Nov. 20.

⁹ CSARU f.R-394, l.1, f.3, 22-28.

¹⁰ CSARU. f.R-1591. s.u. 116

¹¹ CSARU. f.R-2406. l.1, s.u.1668

¹² CSARU. f.R-2286. l.1, s.u. 226

¹³ CSARU. f.R-2773. l.1, s.u. 1466.

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