THE HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE HISTORY OF MATERIALISTIC CULTURE OF UZBEKISTAN (1917-2010)

Abstract: The article is devoted to the analysis of materialistic culture history of Uzbekistan during the Soviet period and in the years of independence through scientific literature.

Key words: materialistic culture, historical monument, national culture, architectural monuments, madrasah, museum

Language: English

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Introduction

The study of materialistic culture and historical monuments has always held an important role in the life of a society. This way, the literature concerning the history of materialistic cultural heritage of Uzbekistan can be divided into two categories:

1. The literature, articles, and guidebooks published during the reign of Soviet government;
2. The researches published in the years of independence.

When studied and analyzed carefully, the literature and scientific research works carried out during the soviet period indicate that the matter was approached under the communistic ideology. Majority of the researches carried out during the Soviet period had seen only one side of the history of Uzbek national culture, materialistic-cultural monuments and architecture.

It should be specifically pointed out that most of the researches of this period had been carried out by Russian orientalists. For instance, the researches of N.S. Likoshin, V.V. Bartold, V.L. Viatkin, M.E. Masson, A.A. Mironov can be taken to prove the above mentioned idea. The data about Madrasahs, which are considered to be architectural monuments in Turkestan, and their constructional style and the way they worked holds unique position in the articles of N.S. Likoshin [1]. The articles of the author look at the performance of madrasahs and religion schools only negatively. However, V.V. Bartold’s works devoted to the history of cultural heritages of Turkestan [2] is distinguished from other Russian authors’ works in terms of fair point of view. Orientalist scientists clearly states that the government of the empire was not paying attention to the preservation and restoration of historical sightings in Turkestan.

Among the researches concerned about the culture of Turkestan, in the 50s-60s of the XX century there emerged special scientific researches devoted to the enlightenment. These were the works of V.Kocharov, K.Bendrikov, Y. Abdullayev [3] that along with the history of enlightenment of Muslim nations of Turkestan, cultural monuments of the land were also partially mentioned.

During the 70s of XX century, which is the Soviet reign in the land, there appeared many major monographs devoted to the history of the culture of Uzbekistan. These were the works of T.N. Koriniyozov, I.M. Muminov, M.G. Vahobov that they are mainly about historical and architectural monuments, and the history materialistic culture of Uzbekistan under Soviet reign [4].

A group of art researcher scholars had special brochures published on architectural monuments and heritages of the Republic. Although research-scholars T.Ikramov, G.Pugachenkova, I. Pletnev, K.Kryulov, L.Mankovskaya [5] approached cultural monuments with soviet spirit, it is still possible to obtain crucial precise data about the construction and reconstruction date of architectural monuments, the career of mudarrises and scholars in madrasahs.

The research of Yu. Rahmatullayev is devoted to the preservation and investigation of architectural
and cultural memorials. It only looks at the efforts of soviet government on preservation of cultural destinations and memorials positively [6].

Most of the researches conducted in the 80s of the XX century were directly devoted to the museums, materialistic culture and architectural memorials in Uzbekistan. In particular, the researches of N.Sodikova [7] the object of the research was activity of historical and cultural monuments and museums, their historical development stages were mentioned. The coverage of the author’s article is so wide that it is devoted to the situation of the museums of Turkestan before October Revolution, then it focuses on the study of the history of museums served in Uzbekistan from the early years of soviet period up to 1973. Although the research work was based on many archive data, as it was the requirement of the era the dissertation was under influence of the soviet ideology.

Although the work of F.Norkhujav on the history of cultural memorial was watered with soviet ideology, it honestly writes that the number of historical cultural memorials increased. In particular, during the years under the soviet rule in Uzbekistan “There are over seven thousand architectural, archeological, historical and monumental art related memorials” [8] as it is mentioned.

The work of P.Zohidov provides detailed information about the importance of architectural heritage, the history of ancient buildings, materialistic-cultural monuments and architectural memorials, Mosques and madrasahs of Samarkand, the art of architecture, the observatory and mosque of Ulugh beg [9].

The monograph of I. Azimov [10] is devoted to the study of the history of the architectural memorials of Fergana valley, in particular, unique public architecture of Andizhan, Namangan and Fergana regions, their historical monuments and architectural heritage, Major mosque and madrasahs, palaces and wood carving.

The second category includes works, researches and articles published in the years of independence. In the years of independence, the new way of studying history the process of fair approach towards history has emerged. Number of articles, special researches, study books and monographs related to materialistic cultural history, national enlightenment destinations (mosques and madrasahs) in Uzbekistan have been published in this period.

Several researches devoted to the higher religious educational institutions of madrasahs that has been constructed in a unique architectural design, which has had important position in the spiritual-cultural life of Uzbek people throughout centuries, and their activities have been conducted. Research works of history scientists I.Alimov, R.Shamsutdinov, B.Rasulov, O.Komilov, A.Salmonov research works [11] are worthy to specific attention.

Positive developments that took place on the matter of the preservation and study of cultural memorials in Uzbekistan, the tragedies of a number of deserted mosques and madrasahs because of negative attitude of soviet government towards religious institution were studied fairly in the research work of M.Mirzaev [12] for the first time. The dissertation of the aforementioned author studies the establishment and development of the preservation and study of historical and cultural memorials in the period starting from 1917 to 1941 in exactly Uzbekistan. The first chapter of the work is concerned about the organization of the study and preservation of memorials in Turkestan ASSR, the establishment of the Turkestan committee of the preservation of museum activities and ancient monuments, and art and nature (Turkkomstaris), and the second chapter is concerned about further modification of studying and preservation of memorials after the establishment of national republics in Central Asia.

A grand work [13] devoted to the culture, architectural monuments and memorials of ancient city Khiva has been published under co-authorship of history scientists. The book includes information about the culture of Khorazm, Khiva in ancient and Middle Ages, scientific developments of the land, architecture, graphic and practical art, and the art of manuscript books, literary heritage, music, public fairs and holidays. In the monograph [14] published by the Sciences Academy of the Republic of Uzbekistan depicts the matters of Uzbek culture, the situation of national culture in the past, non-materialistic attitude towards cultural pearls and the matter of limited rights of soviet nations towards their own cultural-spiritual heritage during the two empires, in other words, during the Russian Empire and the Soviet Republics.

The research work of D.Kurbanova is devoted to historical and materialistic memorials dating back to the Temurid period that are kept in museums overseas. Similarly, the dissertation is also concerned about reasons of how materialistic wealth was carried out to foreign lands and the issues of returning those back to Uzbekistan [15].

On the behalf of twenty years of Independence of Uzbekistan an album-brochure on the art of architecture and monumental sculpture [16] has been published. It is stated that Uzbek national architecture and city construction was cut off its roots and was being formed in strange frames which contradicts our national traditions in the period of former soviet.

**Conclusion**

To sum up, the materialistic culture of Uzbekistan, the history of historical monuments has
attracted attention of many researchers. The matter was approached only through one side during the soviet period because of existing ideology. The researches published in the years of liberty have been created basing on the fairness tendency.

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