Features of the formation of modern Ethno-Architecture of the residential environment of Kyrgyzstan

Saltanat Kozhobaeva
Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transport and Architecture n. a. N. Isanov, A.Maldybaev st., 34B, 720044, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
kozhobaeva74@mail.ru

Abstract. Period of formation of Residential architecture of Kyrgyzstan has a long history. It was based on the stages of housing development from antique time to present day. According to analysis of literary and scientific sources, Kyrgyz people had not only nomadic lifestyle but also a sedentary lifestyle. So many scientists and researchers studied architecture of past eras based on archeological excavations, which testified civilization and life style of Kyrgyz people. Based on this, we can conclude, that Kyrgyz architecture has a history of sedentary and nomadic type of housing with its national identity and coloring, which today should give impetus to formation and to development of modern ethno-architectural living environment of Kyrgyzstan.

1. Introduction
Dwelling, as one of the most ancient types of buildings, carries a rich history of formation and development at all stages of human life. Throughout the entire period from antiquity to the present day, the living environment changed, depending on changes in social structures and social processes. In the early stages of the development of the Kyrgyz people, the function of the dwelling was performed by a “yurt”. It has a round shape at the base, the supporting frame of which is a collapsible frame made of special types of wood and with a domed covering. In turn, this entire structure is closed with a very dense and high quality felt, which protects home from overheating in summer and from cold air temperatures in winter. In addition, today we can confidently state the fact that this is an ecologically clean living environment. Since in past centuries Kyrgyz people led a nomadic lifestyle, the “yurt” fully satisfied their needs due to its convenience and practicality. The flexibility of the design scheme and the small dimensions of the dwelling prove its quick assembly and disassembly by the efforts of one family within a short period of time. Also its particular advantage is the fact that it is quite convenient in transportation.

Today the “Yurt” is not only a national historical type of mobile housing, but one of the most important components of the ethno-culture of Kyrgyz civilization. According to legend, it symbolizes the family, the earth and the Universe, and also reflects all stages of life of Kyrgyz people from birth to death. Most of Kyrgyz traditions are associated with “yurts”, from important rituals and ceremonies to handicraft arts and crafts. The elements of the “yurt” are also reflected on the flag of Kyrgyzstan, which carries the symbolism of ideology and statehood. However, over the course of a century, he general population of Kyrgyzstan has switched to a settled lifestyle. Residential buildings began to be built from local materials in the form of low-rise buildings (1900-1933), in later periods with the development of industry and industrial construction (1930-1960), the types of residential buildings are...
being improved both in terms of height and diversity in infrastructure. New design standards are being introduced, requirements are changing, conditions and construction technology are improving. The state of the formation and development of the architecture of residential buildings, their artistic and expressive significance completely passes into the political concept of the development of then Soviet Union, which included present-day Kyrgyzstan. The tasks were set to provide each family with living space, improve living conditions and family development. The result of which was the development of standard projects and rapid industrial methods for the construction of Buildings and structures. For the construction for residential and public buildings, unified factory-made structures were developed, which served as the era of Soviet Monotonous typical and featureless architecture. Although it will be fair to say that in the 1980s, the architects of Kyrgyzstan made attempts to reproduce the national culture by using ornaments and forms of opened loggias in large panel buildings. However, these attempts were only minor elements. At the turn of the century from 1900 to 2005, the now Sovereign Kyrgyzstan experienced a difficult time of frozen architectural construction activity. [1]

And only now, over the past 10 years, we see a rapid growth in the construction of residential buildings of various types, the architecture of which mainly copies foreign projects. Volumetric planning solutions do not have a clear justification, and the spatial solutions of the building itself does not reflect the type of national culture and aesthetics. Although it should be noted that recently, attempts have been made to create a new and modern ethno-architecture, even competitive projects are being prepared and special disciplines are being studied, but due to its rawness, all this remains so far only on paper.

2. Research structure

2.1 Key Words
Living environment, housing, “yurta”, nomadic people, ethno-architecture, traditions, national coloring.

2.2 Aim of the work
Research of architectural spatial solution in formation of modern ethno-architecture of Kyrgyz living environment.

2.3 Research objectives
Analysis of the existing architectural planning and volumetric spatial structure of the housing stock of Kyrgyzstan; determining the influence of traditional housing on development of modern design and ideological and conceptual solutions for the living environment; traditions and national color in the development of modern ethno-architecture of the living environment of Kyrgyzstan.

2.4 The relevance of research
Against the backdrop of current architecture of the living space, among typical concrete and brick buildings of Soviet heritage on one side, either metal glass with decorated expensive facades of structures on the other side, the appearance of the cities of Kyrgyzstan is losing its history and national architecture, through which modern ethno-architecture could be reborn. The formation and development of ethno-architecture should be the main goal of today’s architects, which means the preservation of the culture, tradition and identity of Kyrgyz people, as well as the revival of the ideological education of the younger generation. Comparative analysis and research of illustrative facts showed that, in general, the architecture of Kyrgyzstan at this stage began to develop depending on market economic factors, which basically do not carry a conceptual ideological policy. The formation of a dwelling follows the path of material needs and most often pursues a commercial approach. On the basis of this, the relevance of this study is determined, justified by the comparative
characteristics of the architecture of the residential environment at the present time and the ways of its development in the future.

3. Results and discussions
In modern conditions of development of Kyrgyzstan, priorities are set for national identity and high ideological culture of society, which should be reflected in all spheres of human life. At the same time, architecture should take a strategic position. If we consider the history of architecture, then we can give a large number of examples when exactly architectural objects were the significance of the state, reflected its policy, greatness and its attractions. Moreover, the search for national identity in architecture is of particular importance. It must absorb the progressive experience of centuries, which has clearly expressed features of cultural continuity, while finding a “Golden circle” between two extremes: blind imitation of traditions and their complete impersonation. [2] Thus, an important direction in this study is the problem of the interaction of traditions and innovation in the architecture of residential buildings. Afterall, the essence of innovation lies not only in the development of traditions, but also in the combination of the achievements of the past and the present, the finding of the new and the unification of the old, which leads to a promising direction of ethno-architecture. In fact, ethno-architecture is also a tradition that permeates the entire layer of national culture and goes back to its figurative-semantic, architectonic foundations for the construction and interaction of spaces. In the investigation and study of this problem, historical, cultural, architectural and artistic sources were analysed, as well as material obtained from archaeology, art-history, ethnography, geography and history. Many works are presented in large publications summarizing works on the history of architecture and urban planning in Kyrgyzstan: L. N. Bernstam “Architectural monuments of Kyrgyzstan”.-M.L., 1950; B.E Nusov. “Architecture of Kyrgyzstan from ancient time to the present day”.-F., 1971; E.G. Pisarskoi, V.V. Kurbatov. “Architecture of Kyrgyzstan”. 1986. D.D Omuraliev “History of architecture of Kyrgyzstan”.-B., 2004., where a certain place is given to medieval and Soviet Urban planning. Historians and other researches of the Middle ages have long established the important role played by medieval town planning and architecture of Kyrgyzstan in the political, socio-economic, cultural and spiritual life of Central Asia. [3] The need to study national identity has been repeatedly pointed out by many theorists and historians od architecture. However, studies have shown that as such, a comprehensive study of issues of national identity in the formation of modern residential architecture in Kyrgyzstan has not yet been conducted.

The analysis showed that for a deep scientific and theoretical solution to the problem, a clear systematization of the assessment of regional and national features of the architecture of the housing has not yet been developed, which also affects the creative practice of architects. The signs of Regional affiliation are considered as the leading ones, and the national features of architecture determine its qualitative level. One can only imagine that then, in this case, national characteristics, that is ethno-cultural characteristics are understood as specific features characteristic of the architecture of Kyrgyz people, since these features have developed in time and are closely related to the image, traditions, way of life, climate, nature, etc. They are stable and reproducible, which makes it possible to formulate them clearly enough, set goals and fulfil the task, creating a work of ethno-architecture, which expresses the national spirit, color and originality of Kyrgyz people.

You can also state the fact that national architecture is perceived differently “inside” a particular country or “outside” it. The emphasis has shifted towards certain differences in cultural specificity, rather than the internal development of cultures. “National” and “Ethnic” began to be read as synonymous with exotic. How these two branches of culture are balanced, which are reflected in architecture in one way or another and its orientation in each specific period of time depends in a specific result.
At the same time, the scientific study of more than three thousand years of history and multifaceted modern architecture and urban planning of Kyrgyzstan as a complex topic that has important cognitive, ethno-cultural and socio-ideological significance for the current modern stage of formation, in fact, is only at the initial stage. For example, textbooks on modern architecture, a collection or an atlas of architectural monuments of Kyrgyzstan have not yet been created, which indicates an insufficient systematic study of the architectural and historical heritage. Scientists such as O. Spengler, G. Gachev, A. Bayburin, I. Veinberg believed that each historical type of culture within itself develops the concept of space inherent in it, and moreover, the change in this concept most accurately reflects the essential and deep metamorphoses of historical ethno-cultural processes. Therefore, to understand the essence of the traditional architecture of an ethnic group, it is necessary to study it’s concept of space, as well as, along with Ethnic ideas about dynamic forms, symbols, etc.

Today in Kyrgyzstan there are many incomprehensible stylistic directions of modern architecture, both residential and public buildings, which do not create an expressive and aesthetic picture. They do not carry the information of national identity and, moreover, create a kind of architectural chaos. Therefore, today’s approach to the problem of originality is inconceivable without mastering the architectural traditions of Kyrgyzstan, analysing the experience of designing and building residential buildings in other countries. Today there is a clear need to express to express in the architecture of Kyrgyzstan its belonging to the national culture. This path will not be new, since history knows many stages in the development of culture, when in the past of their country, architecture was looking for inspiration to create a modern one by analysing the historical stages.

The aesthetic study of modern architecture of Kyrgyzstan seems to be very important and relevant. Architectural monuments of the past should serve as a basis for the service of future. The values of the past must become active participants in the life of the present. Continuity of cultural values is their most important attribute. But tradition cannot be inherited- it must be conquered. At the same time, tradition is viewed not as a set of formal and decorative means and techniques, but as a system of professional thinking at two main levels:

1) Approach to understanding and principles of shaping.

2) Representations associated with the peculiarities of the national character, which largely determines the first level.

It should be noted that the sources of ethno-architecture are natural, material, social conditions and the spiritual world of an ethnus, external sources are the architecture of neighbouring “ethnoses” and “epoch-making” forces. The originality of ethno-architecture is determined by the uniqueness of the forming origins of philosophy, religion, psychology, the objective world, nature etc. Internal sources are inexhaustible, priceless and varied.

The national idea as one of the sources of ethno-architecture is based on the understanding of the historically traversed road of the nation, its future and place in the world community. As can be seen from the historical and philosophical reasoning, the national idea of people always contains their “Golden age”, “the promised land-homeland”, “cultural heroes”, and other categories of “ethnos”. Let us recall at least the Kyrgyz state od 8th century: “Enesai”, “Ala-Too”, “Altai” and “Manas”.

The national idea is to strive for the “common ideal” that L.N Tolstoy once spoke of: “The essence of the integrity of national art is its internal engine, which finds full expression in the recreation of the generic essence, but each time in a new historical context of culture, embodying a common ideal, recreated at new levels with new qualities, and showing national character in this, culture reveals the creative potential of an ethnic group, contributes to world achievements”.

4
4. Conclusions

The modern architecture of residential environment in Kyrgyzstan has been developing quite dynamically over the past years, showing high statistical data on the commissioning of residential space in operation every year. However, based on the analysis, it can be concluded that each of new residential buildings was designed at an accelerated time, with only a commercial justification behind it. Unfortunately, today the residential architecture of Kyrgyzstan is in the hands of customers, which makes this structure vulnerable and unstable. National concepts, originality remain only as a modern aesthetic ideal, which is an artistic and spiritual synthesis of the traditional beauty of plastic forms, color combinations, silhouette and other components, contained in works of folk, applied art, architecture, as well as the beauty of native nature and historical motive. It is the dwelling, as one of the ancient types of buildings, that should carry the ideology, national spirit and high culture of our people. The study reflected the features of the ethno-architectural and ethno-cultural approach in the formation of modern architecture of the dwelling of Kyrgyzstan, which should be revived, become the norm and firmly enter the consciousness of every person.

References

[1] S. T. Kozhobaeva, “History of Development of Construction of Multi-storey Residential Buildings in the City of Bishkek”, Vestnik KGUSTA, No.3 (41)., pp.194-199, 2016.
[2] A. Ospanova; S. Sadykova; A. Toyshieva; and L. Sabyrbaeva. “Modern trends in the formation of ethno-architecture in Kazakhstan (on the example of the city of Astana)”. 8th International Scientific Conference of students and young scientists. “Science and Eduaction”, 2013.
[3] K. Narbaev, “Historiographical problems of architecture and City planning of Kyrgyzstan”, Science and new technologies, No.5, pp.98-101, 2013.