

## **The Establishment of the First Museums in Uzbekistan**

**s.f.f.d (PhD) Kasimov Oybek Sadikjanovich**

**Nasritdinova Feruza Qahramonovna**

National Institute of art and design

named after Kamoliddin Bekhzod

Postgraduate student of the 1st degree

**Annotation:** This article tells about the history of the creation and development of the first museums of Uzbekistan, the formation of the first exhibitions, the architecture and interiors of museum buildings of the former Soviet Union and the first years of independence.

**Keywords:** Museums, monuments, Turkestan, architecture, environment, landscape, design, architects, union, independence, Tashkent, construction materials, marble, color, glass, harmony, ancient, culture.

The establishment of the first museums in Uzbekistan dates back to the period of the Turkestan Governor General. During this period, the princes, nobles, intellectuals and local officials who lived in the territory of our country kept many works of art, precious jewelry, as well as examples of national craftsmanship in their homes. The initial museum funds were formed on the basis of these private collections.

On March 16, 1876, the editor of the newspaper "Turkestansky Vedomosti" wrote in an official letter to the Governor General's office, N.A. It is reported that Mayev's report on opening a museum in Tashkent is being sent [1]. Prominent scientists, local historians, doctors, and historians of their time, together with representatives of the local population, started the work of establishing European-style museums and public libraries in Turkestan.

Earlier, in 1870, the Turkestan National Library was established in Tashkent, which served to preserve a number of valuable items of private collectors for science. A number of scientists, institutions and some local individuals filled their collections with rare items related to mineralogy, zoology, numismatics, and ethnography of Turkestan.A.P. In Fedchenko's message to the Governor General of Turkestan, he wrote: "In order to successfully develop Turkestan, it is necessary to get to know it thoroughly, and the museum is the best tool for this" [2].

Some scientists opposed this idea and considered it useless and harmful to study our culture, but there were also tourists who had a positive reaction after getting acquainted with the architectural monuments of the regions. In particular, the Swedish architect Martin emphasized that our historical buildings are important for world culture.

The beginning of the construction of museums in Turkestan is associated with the names of research scientists such as A.P. Fedchenko, V.F. Oshanin, V.V. Bartold, the initiators and creators of the first museums [3]. These scientists played an important role in the opening of the first museums in Turkestan. According to their initiative, this issue was put to the vote by the General Governor of Turkestan at the meetings, and at the meeting held by General N. Golovachyov, the military governor of Sidarya region, on January 9, 1876, it was decided to open a museum in the territory of Turkestan.

Thus, in 1876, the first museum was established in Central Asia [4]. N.A. because the state did not allocate a building for the museum. Two rooms will be allocated from Mayev's silk school. By January 1877, the museum had more than 1,500 items on ethnography, production technology, agriculture, natural history and archeology, and about 800 ancient coins" [5]. (Fig. 1). The museum developed rapidly. On the basis of these exhibits, departments of ethnography, technology, nature, historical-archeology, numismatics, agriculture were established. There were original copies of valuable, rare and rare items. Later, the museum was added to the public library. will be sent. Tashkent Museum has its importance in history as the first museum. The museum's collection grew richer year by year. Museums were opened in other regions under the influence of the museum's activities.

The first museum was opened in Samarkand in 1896. He will be allocated rooms from the building of the Georgiev Church. First of all, agricultural implements will take place at the exhibition. Archeology, ethnography and numismatics collections are also displayed in the museum, although not on a large scale. More than a hundred photos representing the household life and customs of the population are hung on the walls [6].

At that time, higher organizations did not allocate enough funds and it was not possible to build separate buildings for museums. 300 soums are allocated for the maintenance of the museum. N.A. According to Mayev, 1,600 soums per year were required for the museum's operation [7]. Nevertheless, they created thematic exhibitions in the museums and tried to create a unique atmosphere in the interiors. We can see this in the example of the Tashkent museum. Over the years, this field has been formed and developed.

During the former Soviet Union, new buildings for many museums were built in our country. As a result, examples of architecture typical of Soviet modernism were created. Under the influence of state policy, small museums were established in regional centers, collective farms, educational buildings and schools. Employees and students are involved in regular excursions by the administration.

**State Nature Museum of Uzbekistan.** This museum was opened on January 1, 1926 in Tashkent. This museum was established on the basis of the Old City Museum, which operated in the old city of Tashkent. It was in the field of agriculture and was considered the first branch museum in the republic [8]. Initially, in this museum, items related to all areas of agriculture, seeds, processed feed, herbariums, models of machines were put on display.

In 1945, the museum was transferred to the system of institutions of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan and was called the "Nature Museum of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan" [9].

The interior of the museum was simple, but it was interesting for the audience, even though it was a little small in size. Mainly white color, wooden materials were used in the floor parts, and simple lights were used in the ceiling parts. Due to the narrowness of the exhibition halls, there were difficulties in serving a large number of spectators. In the exhibition section dedicated to the planet Earth, a model of the solar system is made on the upper part of the wall (pictures 2-4).

**The State Art Museum of Uzbekistan**, on April 19, 1918, Prince N. Romanov's collections in Tashkent were declared state property, and his house was turned into a museum. In this way, the construction of the museum began in the republic. The Central Art Museum was established on the basis of examples of fine and applied art collected by the prince [10]. The first name was the Museum of Folk Art, and in 1935-1966 the museum was located in the People's House. Since 1945, it has been operating as a separate museum called the Museum of Invitation Art of Uzbekistan. In 1974, a new museum building was built on the place of the People's House. Building architects I. Abdulov, A.K. Nikiforov, S. A. Rosenblum is considered (4-6 photos). In addition to works of art of our country's artists, sculptors and craftsmen, the works of European and Russian artists are displayed and exhibitions are organized in the museum. This museum is a cultural-educational, scientific institution, its building is built in the form of a simple cube. The facade part is divided into square elements in the memory of the metal structure, the outside is covered with stamped aluminum plates, the walls of the first floor and the entrance part are made of polished marble plates in gray. The building has windows on four sides. This, in turn, helps to evenly illuminate the interior of the building. The museum building has been preserved as a bright expression of modernism of the former union in Tashkent. On the first floor there is a lecture hall and an artist workshop. In the lobby, we can see examples of Uzbek architecture illuminated by the lights on the upper part of the building. From here, you can go to the second, third and fourth floors through the stairs covered with marble. There are 56 exhibition halls on these floors, and the main expositions are located here. White, blue and neutral colors are used in the interiors, wooden parquet coverings on the floor, marble on the stairs and the walls next to them, and glass lamps on the ceiling. The external landscape part of the museum The Museum of Folk Applied Arts of Uzbekistan was established in 1937. In 1938, the residence of Polovtsev, the tsar's official, built at the end of the 19th century, was allocated as a building for the museum. The residence is located in the city of Tashkent and is distinguished by its beauty. The building can be added to the list of architectural monuments. The famous Uzbek craftsmen of that time, Olimjon Kasimjanov, Usto Kal, Tashpolat Arslonkulov, participated in the decoration of the building.

The exposition of the museum includes examples of folk crafts and applied art, pottery, embroidery, jewelry, musical instruments, and the exposition is structured according to the types of applied art. The museum mainly exhibits works of the XIX-XX centuries.

There is a fountain in the center of the museum yard, decorated with national ornaments. In the exteriors, ganch, wood-carved columns and examples of paintings were used. The interior of the residence's rooms is also simple, typical of this period, the walls are mostly white and light green, and the floors are made of wood. The walls of the central room of the museum are decorated with examples of national paintings and carvings. The ceiling is also made in national style. The room has wooden columns that do not repeat each other. In the center of the room, there are heating stoves decorated with blue, emerald, and blue majolica, between the rich shelves on both sides. The room is filled with 19th century furniture and copper and silverware (pictures 7-9). In the years of independence, this museum was restored to its original appearance.

**State Museum of the History of Timurids.** The State Museum of the History of the Timurids was built in Tashkent according to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. 99 dated March 14, 1996. This museum was established in order to reflect and widely promote the high-level development of science, education and culture during the Timurid period, to educate the young generation in the spirit of patriotism based on our historical achievements and traditions. The museum was officially opened on October 18, 1996. The First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan I.A. Karimov gave a speech at its opening ceremony and said, among other things: "The state museum of the history of the Timurids, which is being opened today with great joy, is another practical proof of the celebration of historical justice in our country in relation to the personality of the Master. [11]"

Many organizations contributed to the construction of the museum. Tashkent City Hall, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Tashkent City Construction Department, "Turon" company, Chkalov production association, Mikond plant, "Torsvak" construction company (Yugoslavia) are among them. The building is designed in a circular shape, with a blue dome at the top (Fig. 10).

The total height of this three-story building is 31 meters, the outer diameter is 70 meters, and the inner diameter is 50 meters. On its first floor, there are administration, departments, a small conference hall, treasury, library, shops, ticket office, wardrobe, rooms for technical equipment. The main exhibition halls are located on the second and third floors.

On the second floor there is a 200-seat meeting hall equipped with modern technical equipment. On the central wall of this floor, there is a visual art work called "The Great Owner - The Great Builder" by the miniature artists of the "Sanoyi Nafisa" group (S.Koraboyev, F.Kamolov, Kh.Nazirov, T.Boltaboev) under the association "Usto".

On a marble slab in the central part of the museum is one of the copies of the 7th century "Othman's Qur'an" published in Petersburg in 1905 (Fig. 11). White, blue, light neutral colors are used in the exterior and interior. The ceiling, stairs and columns are decorated with golden colors. In the center of the dome, decorated with blue and gold decorative muqarnas, there is a luxurious, elegant chandelier (Fig. 12).

The main exposition includes exhibits (maps, weapons, silver and copper coins, miniatures, etc.) that tell about the family of Amir Temuming, his rise to power, military campaigns, diplomatic relations, trade, crafts, landscaping, development of science, and famous Timurid rulers. unique pottery, pottery, coppersmithing, jewelry, fabrics, etc.). In addition, we can see the models of Aksaroy, Ahmed Yassavi Mausoleum, Bibikhanim Jame Mosque, Ulugbek Madrasah and Observatory, Gori Amir, and Tajmahal Mausoleums (pictures 13-14). There are three monitors in the exhibition halls, through which informative films from the Timurid period are shown. The museum stores monuments of archaeology, ethnography, numismatics, manuscripts, examples of fine art and more than six thousand objects.

**Repression Victims Memorial Museum.** In accordance with the decree of the First President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Islam Karimov, "On establishing the day of remembrance of the victims of repression", paragraph 5 of the decree aimed at perpetuating the memory of our selfless compatriots who were repressed during the authoritarian former Soviet regime states that "Victims of repression" about the establishment of the "memory" museum [12]. This museum was established on November 8, 2002, which is part of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of

Uzbekistan, the Republican Council of "Spirituality and Enlightenment", and the Academy of Sciences of the Charitable Foundation "Memorial of Martyrs".

The museum located in Tashkent was completed on the eve of the 17th anniversary of Uzbekistan's independence, its building was reconstructed and its expositions were expanded. This museum, which was solemnly opened on August 31, 2002, twice on the "Remembrance Day of Repression Victims", is considered one of the unique objects in the republic. The museum is located on the site of mass executions of repressed people from the beginning of the 20s to the end of the 30s of the 20th century. Initially, the museum building had one exhibition hall with an area of 400 m<sup>2</sup> and one dome. The exhibition consisted of 6 sections. The current building has 2 domes and consists of 3 halls. The total area of the exhibition is 960 m<sup>2</sup>. The veranda (terrace) is 640 m<sup>2</sup>, the basement is 1568 m<sup>2</sup>. The updated museum exhibition consists of 10 sections.

Museum expositions have 10 sensor kiosks, 9 monitors. The museum "Memorial of Repression Victims" is the only one in the Central Asian region with its content of unique materials related to the subject and meaningful exposition.

The museum building is one of the unique architectural structures of our country. This building was built on the initiative and idea of the first President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, I. A. Karimov, and was designed by the architect A. Turdiev. The building was built in the traditional style of architecture and decorated with national ornaments. The museum building has a square area of 20x20 m, a height of 20 m, a dome height of 6.2 m, and a diameter of 5.8 m. The building is surrounded by a 4 m wide open porch, 28 columns and beams, and entrance stairs on four sides give the building a unique elegance. Technical engineering, administration and additional rooms are located in the lower part of the building, which are connected with the exhibition hall through a special corridor and stairs. Marble, granite, granite stones, colored tiles were used in the decoration of the building, wood carving masters such as A. Abdullayev, S. Rahmatullayev, N. Sohibnazarov, M. Murodov, A. Karimov, masters of carving and painting, M. Mamajonov, R. It was decorated by tilers such as Muhammedjonov, M. Shedrin, and V. Gan. The interior decoration of the dome is made with intricate Iraqi muqarnas skill. Masters of the main architectural department of Tashkent city and "Usto" creative production union took an active part in the construction of the building (pictures 15-16).

In short, many of our museums have a hundred-year history and make a great contribution to the development of our culture. Among such ancient museums, we can include those created in Khorezm, Bukhara, and Ferghana. Each of them provides information about scientists, intellectuals and our rich history who contributed to the opening of museums in our country. In the period of independence, the increased attention to the development of the museum field stimulated the construction and formation of new and modern museums. As a result, museums with beautiful and rich expositions were built that do not repeat each other.

## **APPLICATIONS.**





**Figures 2-4. State Nature Museum of Uzbekistan.  
(Tashkent, Old City, 1960-1970s).**



Figures 4-5. State Art Museum of Uzbekistan (1974)





Figure 6. Interiors of the State Art Museum of Uzbekistan.



Figure 7. Museum of folk art of Uzbekistan

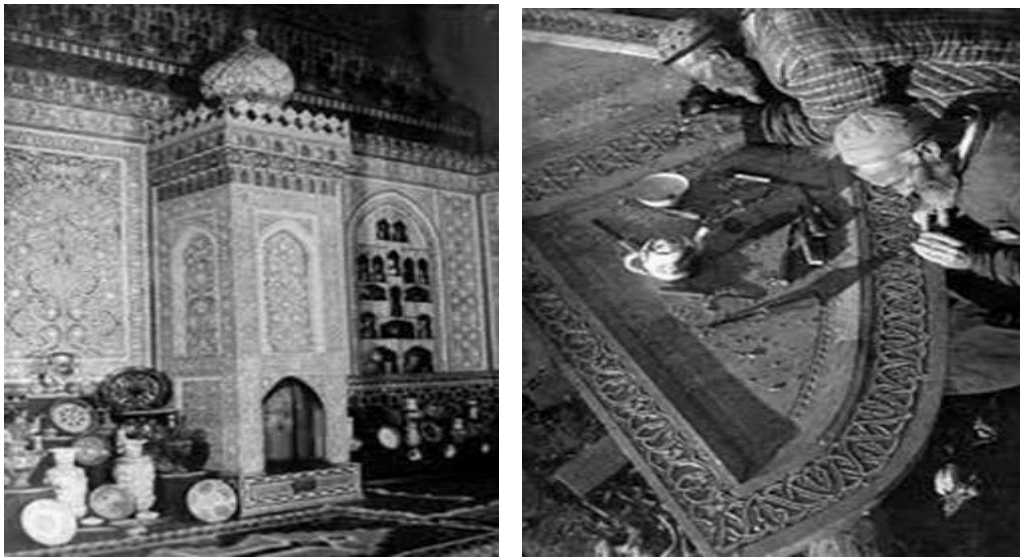


Figure 8: Museum of folk art of Uzbekistan (1938)



Figure 9. Interiors of the Museum of Folk Applied Arts of Uzbekistan.



Figure 10. State Museum of the History of Timurids.



Figure 11. from the 7th century.  
copy of the "Uthman copy of the Qur'an".



Figure 12 The interior of the  
museum of the History of the  
Timurids state



13-14 pictures. Models of architectural monuments in the State Museum of the History of Timurids



15-16 pictures. Repression Victims Memorial Museum.

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