

The Ways Of The Development And The Model Of Architectural Forming Of Central Asian Markets

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Abstract: The paper based on scientific analyses in evolution development of historical-markets in Central Asian countries and on this basis the model of its architectural was built.

Index Terms: Architectural forming, bazaar's complex, commercial centers, covered markets, handicraft's rows, historical markets, trading rows

1 THE GENESIS OF EASTERN BAZAARS

IN the towns of Central Asia, markets played an important role in economics and social life. They were an important element in town planning, making them public-trading centers. Obviously, the genesis of isolating eastern bazaars should be searched in more ancient times in "Avesto" (the sacred book of "Zoroastries"), the term "Chavrusuk" is used, which according to experts meant a "four-sided bazaar" [1, p.51], located at the crossroads, that is in "Chorsu". By archeological excavations, dating back to the quarter of the VII century, two small pre-historic bazaar complexes were founded in the site of ancient town Penjikent. [2, p.67; 3, p.26]. One of them was situated at Chorsu and was a complex of small premises for trade and crafts. The other bazaar's complex was adjoined to one of the main streets of the town and consisted of a number of workshops and shops premises, located around the open market square. Beginning from the IX century, bazaars appeared in the written sources as the main economic center of the city. In the history of Central Asia, the IX-X centuries are marked as the time of culture and economy flourishing with the formation of the Samanid's state. During this period, cities become a place of concentration of handicraft production and trade, which led to the formation of a new part of the city structure, outside the walls of Shakhristan-Rabad. Rabads were inhabited by artisans, who worked in their home workshops or in bazaars, uniting by craft in the neighborhoods and bazaars shopping areas.

2 THE BAZAAR OF SAMARKAND

One of the bazaars of the period under consideration was the so-called bazaar of Samarkand Sogd, which was located to the south of Afrosiab, on the territory of Rabad [4, p.229]. Its location, according to O.G.Bolshakov, covered the area from the present Registan to the Siab market. The central place in the bazaars was occupied by Chorsu, where streets were from the gate of rabad along the streets, diverging from Chorsu, and in small squares, which are situated on the territory of a bazaar, specialized shopping arcades, craftsmen's shops and caravan-serais were arranged. [3, p.72]. This, the bazaar of Samarkand Sogd was a bazaar street with Chorsu, trade and handicraft rows and caravan-searis. We have known Chorsu as a trading domed building since the XI century. In Merv, according to the data of at-Tartousi in the XI-XII centuries, there existed Chorsu, covered with arches and a dome with light windows [4, p.297]. The written sources testify that even in the early Middle Ages, bazaars of some cities of Central Asia had covered trade structure called "tim". In particular, "tim" functioned in Bukhara, Ispidjab, Ushturkat, Chaganian, Amule and other cities. [1;4]. It

should be noted, that the word "tim" originally meant only a function, therefore it was equally applicable to separate trade buildings and to specialized indoor trade-craft streets and trade rows [1, pp.52-55]. Al – Mukaddasi uses the word "tim" even in relation to the urban caravan-serais, where the wholesale trade was carried out and visiting merchants lived.

3 TRADE AND MARKET FACILITIES OF MIDDLE AGES

The historical period of the late of the XIV-XV centuries added in the history of Central Asian architecture one of the brightest pages also embracing the theme of trade and market facilities. During the reign of Timur and the Timurids in the cities of Central Asia, numerous bazaar structures are being built, including specialized covered tims, covered bazaars-streets, Chorsu. It is interesting to note, that historians of the pre – Timurids times don't mention of the existence of any covered shopping streets or buildings in Samarkand, besides the above – mentioned Chorsu of Samarkand Sogd. The construction of such structures here obviously begins since the time of the Timur reigning. By the order of Timur's wife Tuman – aga, a special indoor building was built in Registan – "Timi Kuliakhi – Furushon" ("The dome of head – dress seller"). Then, in 1404 by the order of Timur, a covered bazaar highway was built, which led from the gate Akhanin, cutting the whole city. [5, p.134]. During the reign of Ulugbek, the Registan bazaar area was turned into a social, commercial and social – cultural center of the city. The madrassah and a khanaka, a mosque, a caravan – seari, baths were built here. The central trade and public space continues along the main streets and guzars of quarters: the Puli Safed bazaar was located in the street, connecting Registan with the Chorsu gates; near the mausoleum of Rukhobod was the bazaar of Muhammad Sultan; in the street, connecting Registan Square with the Kuksaray palace, the Zargaron bazaar was located, where numerous shops and jeweler's workshops were placed [6, p.37]. In the markets of the XIV – XVII centuries monumental constructions – "tokis", "tims", Chorsu, covered bazaar streets and as well as caravan – serais took a prominent place, which in architectural respect significantly surpassed the bazaars and trade and craft buildings of the early medieval period. Later, during the XVIII – XIX and the beginning of the XX centuries, no significant changes occurred in the spatial and structural plan for the organization of bazaars in the cities of Central Asia. There are examples, when caravan – serais and "tim" are united in a single shopping complex (for example, the caravan and Tim of Allakuli-Khan in Khiva).

4 THE EVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL ASIAN BAZAARS

Thus, the study of the history of the formation and peculiarities of the evolutionary development of the Central Asian bazaars shows that initially there was a sales place in the square at the gates of the arch (citadel) in the form of a shop – “dukan”, which gradually expanded to form here a peculiar center of the bazaar [Fig.1. I stage]. In its turn, at the crossroads of the main streets of Shakhristan, another place of the bazaar appeared in the form of a “dukan” or a craft shop [II stage], then these two points joined together to form a market pedestrian street, where the “dukans” blocking each other formed a trading row – “rasta” [Fig.1. III stage, a]. With the development of external (inter-district and international) trade between cities at the gate of Shakhristan, a trade service was formed which grew towards the central crossroads of the city streets [III stage, b]. As a result, there were four shopping streets – bazaars, at the crossroads of which “Chorsu” was formed. Probably, the Chorsu was not originally a covered building, but in due course shopping buildings were erected at the crossroads to which the name Chorsu passed on. Simultaneously, with these busiest parts of the central bazaar street were covered with canopies or domes [III stage, c]. The bazaar street crossed the whole city or its parts covered by a trade highway, the construction of which depended on specific socio – economic and natural – climatic conditions.

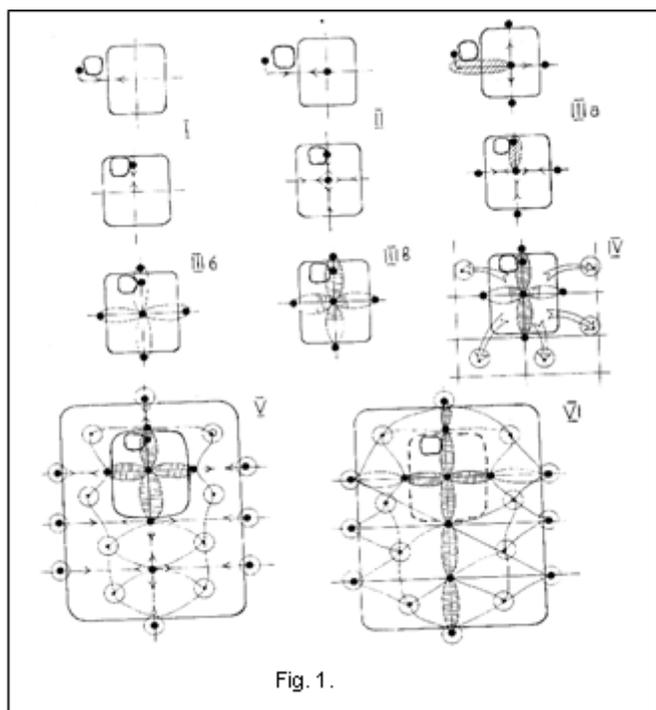


Fig. 1.

Figure axis labels are often a source of confusion.

In connection with the development of the economy and trade, Shakhristan was consolidated the part of bazaars, primarily bazaars, requiring large free spaces (trade in livestock, firewood, etc.), as well as craft workshops, whose work is connected with fire were taken out of Shakhristan [Fig.1. IV stage]. As a result, trade and handicraft suburb was formed – rabad. In the process of building rabad, the street network developed and its territory was walled. As a result, a new network of bazaars was formed in the rabad, which was concentrated in places of crossing the main streets [V stage].

The newly emerged bazaars, connecting with the old ones, formed a kind of pedestrian – trading artery of the city, against which stood the city’s bazaar street, sometimes piercing the whole territory of the city [Fig.1. VI stage]. The crossing of the main bazaar street with the cross streets was decorated with monumental dome – trading passages – “toki” and the market square – a special multi – dome indoor market – “tim” (as it was, in peculiar in Bukhara). In the centers of artisan quarters of makhallas, small guzar bazaars were formed, consisting of several trade and craft shops [V-VI stages]. In the areas near the city gates, bazaars were formed, some of them had canopies – “kappans” for trade cereals, cotton and also dry agricultural products. Near the outer gates of Rabad, bazaars were also formed for the sale of bulky goods. Wholesale trade was also carried out in caravan – serais, which as constituent parts of bazaar often adjoined shopping streets or were blocked by “tims” (caravan – sarai and tim of Allakulihan in Khiva). Thus, the general formula and a model for the formation of eastern bazaars and caravan – serais [Fig.1.], described above is typical for most of the historical cities of the Middle East, it could have its own specific in the formation of bazaars of a particular city.

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