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## MINGTEPA - THE MOST GREATEST MONUMENT OF FERGHANA VALLEY

**Abstract:** This article is dedicated to the problems history and museumification monument of Mingtepa. The object found on the monuments of these cultures, testify the high level of development of various crafts.

**Key words:** Mingtepa, museum, archeologic, excavations, artefacts, ornaments, exhibits, architectural.

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### Introduction

During the years of independence, a lot of work has been done to study the ancient and modern history of our country. It is worth noting that, according to our esteemed President, that "life is the example of history, knowledge of history gives strength to a person armed with the truth of life," paved the way for studying the roots of the history of Uzbekistan, conducting scientific research and research.

Each of the ancient cities of the Ferghana Valley has its own unique history. In this regard, the ancient capital of Ferghana Mingtepa is noteworthy. Its ruins are located in the center of the Markhamat district of the Andijan region. Since the local population has many hills, therefore it is called Mingtepa.

### Materials and Methods:

The monument was first recorded in 1939 by members of an archaeological expedition led by M.E.Masson, organized during the construction of the Great Fergana Canal. In 1946-1947, the Pamir-Alai expedition, led by A.N. Bernshtam, conducted

reconnaissance work in Mingtepe. In 1973, Yu.A. Zadneprovsky was engaged in excavations [2, p. 80]. The ruins of this city are the largest among the ancient monuments of Fergana. The area of the inner city is 41 hectares, the monument - more than 270 hectares, including the outer city. The plan of the city has a parallelogram view from the sky with two rows of majestic defensive structures. The plan, adopted in the 50s of the last century, clearly shows the layout of the Ark, the inner and outer city. The inner city that has survived to this day is almost completely preserved defensive walls. You can clearly see the location of the towers on the walls. It is assumed that the entrance to the inner city was three or four-sided, and the main gate was located on the western side of the defensive wall. In 1946-1947 there were 16 hills in the inner part of the city. In the southeastern part, more building remains have been preserved. In the northwestern part, that is, in the center of the monument, there is a separate large hill, which is believed to have served as a citadel.

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It is known that in Chinese chronicles it is reported that in Davan, ancient Fergana, there were more than 70 large and small cities. The sources mention the names of three of them: Ershi, Yucheng and Guishan[1, p. 23]. The city consists of three parts: arches, inner city and outer city. Most researchers consider Mingtepa the capital of ancient Fergana. This idea was first proposed by the archaeologist A.N. Bernshtam. According to a Chinese source, Ershi was located, firstly, on the eastern side of the valley; secondly, Mingtepa has solid cultural layers from the time of the Chinese invasion (2nd century BC) and defensive structures (inner and outer walls) very similar to the wall they besieged; thirdly, Mingtepa is the largest and most majestic monument in the Ferghana Valley.

In 1986-1987 archaeologist B.Kh.Matboboev conducted excavations in two places of Mingtepa. The rectangular plan tower was completely cleared on three sides. An elongated room was dug in the middle of the tower. The walls of the room are plastered. A pile of large stones and a hand mill were found on the floor. During the cleaning of the tower and the wall, hand-painted ceramics from the red engobe and shurabashat periods were discovered.

In 2001, repeated excavations were carried out in Mingtepa. During the excavations, a significant archaeological complex was discovered, which covers a long historical period. The date of this complex was determined by the period of the IV-III centuries. BC. - IV-V centuries. AD

Unique artifacts discovered here during research and excavations show that material objects related to various areas of crafts - ceramics, masonry, blacksmithing - have a history of about 2.5 - 3 thousand years.

A narrow stone corridor, tools, tools, jugs of various sizes, stone, ceramics, bone remains, ceramics depicting warriors and horses, a deer-like animal found in the monument show that this city was highly developed in its time. The material and cultural artifacts found in the ruins of Mingtepa are distinguished by their unique color and richness of refinement. Ceramics are made with high taste and elegance, among which there are images of beautiful flowers, warriors and mythical birds.

Archaeological excavations at Mingtepe have expanded significantly in recent years. In addition to local experts, foreign archaeologists are actively involved in this work. Most of the research is carried out in cooperation between Uzbekistan (Center for Archaeological Research of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan) and Chinese scientists (Institute of Archeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences). Based on the unique results of eight years of joint cooperation, in 2019 the State Museum of the History of Uzbekistan organized an exhibition entitled

“Some Results of the Excavations of Uzbek-Chinese Archaeologists”.

With the special attention of our government, scientific research and archaeological research at this historic site will continue. Currently, in order to revive this place, a resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 29, 2018 No. 1059 “On the protection, study and rational use of the Mingtepa archaeological heritage site in the Markhamat district of Andijan region” has been adopted[3]. Based on this decision, a memorial center for the protection and study of the archaeological heritage site "Mingtepa" was created.

Based on archaeological finds, it became known that the ruins of Mingtepa are an ancient monument that plays an important role in the study of the history of our country, the history of mankind. Preserving the valuable artifacts found here and passing them on to future generations is one of the most important tasks of today[4]. Therefore, it is necessary to turn the Mingtepa monument into a museum and tourist attraction. To do this, it is necessary to collect more information about the archaeological site of Mingtepa and its unique finds, as well as to carry out propaganda work about its spiritual, educational, economic and social impact. It is necessary to organize excursions, attract tourists through the development of domestic and international tourism, and develop handicrafts in the region[5]. The natural and climatic environment, time and human activities (changes in temperature and humidity, earthquakes that have affected over the centuries) have led to material obsolescence, change and deterioration of the monuments, and today the task of their preservation is necessary.

### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, we consider it important to do the following:

- identification and installation of signs in the protected area of the Mingtepa archaeological site, demolition of illegal structures at the site and preparation of cadastral documents;
- carrying out comprehensive scientific research of the monument with the involvement of qualified specialists and scientists;
- organization of a modern museum with all the amenities for the preservation of exhibits and artifacts for tourists;
- carrying out restoration and conservation work in parts of the monument discovered by archaeologists, gradual roofing and the creation of an open-air museum;
- development of a special state program for the development of tourism, taking into account the ecology and natural climate of the region, in particular, mountains and hills, healing air flow, an abundance of sources saturated with underground minerals.

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