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THE ROLE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES IN ESTABLISHING AND PROJECTING RURAL AREAS OF UZBEKISTAN

Abstract: In the article the author will analyze and study the influence and impacts of the cultural heritage sites in projecting housing in the village mahallas in the Republic and indicate the recent achievements as well as reforms in this field. Furthermore, according to the up-to-date demands, some advice and suggestions are presented regarding to designing housing village mahallas in historic sites.

Key words: cultural heritage sites, village mahallas, “Seven pilgrims - Yetti pir” sacred place, “Imam Bukhariy” and “Chashma” memorial complex, tourism infrastructure.

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Introduction

Historian and theorist scientist who was well-known at architecture and art Graber I. Z. presented the following standpoints: “You are blessed to be a generation of such a notable ancestor who inherited utterly disparately cultural historic monuments which have been cautiously saved so far and should be kept properly hereafter so as to draw the attention of tourists to your country like who are regular visitors of Italy. Such kind of days will come soon and it will bring endless pride as well as fame that can surely prove you with beautiful future” in his 1928, article “Ancient memorial places and constructing new buildings in urban area” [2].

As it is known from History, cultural heritage sites which have always been in the spotlight thanks to demand and their services to the public, have always been under the protection by every nation [1].

Urgency

Since ancient time Uzbekistan historic-memorial sites and their architecture have been greatly interested by many tourists of the world. According to the list of the World Heritage sites in Uzbekistan with properties of cultural and natural heritages which were inscribed in UNESCO’s World Heritage List namely Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and Shahrizabz cities have been deeply focused by visitors due to their

convenient location for touristic purposes. Accordingly with the statistics there are more than 7,5 thousand cultural heritage sites in the republic and 68 percent of them are located in rural areas.

But, 70 percent of 4 thousand sites are located far from the touristic centers. Consequently, the touristic infrastructure in these places has not been fully developed owing to their inconvenient routine [3].

During, the Soviet Union time many kinds of holly places were neglected and never reconstructed or used as a storage, stable, bath-house and so on in order to destroy as well as fade Uzbek history away from the face of the world. When the Independence was gained, an attitude towards our history and its heritages were radically changed. Thanks to this, quite many reforms and laws were accepted so as to protect and use for historic purpose. Moreover, “The usage and protection of cultural heritage sites in the Republic of Uzbekistan” laws were accepted in 2001. But we can’t surely say that these laws are not only now appropriate but also demanding in the period of globalization.

Theoretical approaches

At the initiative of the President Shavkat Mirziyoyev some projects have been recently accomplished to improve touristic field which consequently have brought about increasing a number

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of tourists' visits to our country. According to the Decrees of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On providing the tourism sector with intensive improvements and measures in the Republic of Uzbekistan" in December 2, 2016 and "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" in January 5, 2019 are expected to open the door to the rapid development of the tourism in our country leading to increasing a number of the hotels, giving an access to the foreign citizens to buy real estate, simplifying the system of visa and converting foreign currency as well as formatting the infrastructure of the tourism [7;8].

Accordingly, with the facts of the World Touristic Organization, Uzbekistan is on the 150th place on gaining profit from this sector.

Due to the facts that historic constructions are located far from the center of attention causes hindering formation of the infrastructure of the tourism and these drawbacks should be sorted out by organizing and founding museums, resorts, workshops of handicraft, eastern bazaar and others in those zones.

Among the post-socialistic countries let's take Azerbaijan an example. At the beginning of the century not only cultural heritage monuments but also modern constructions were built to draw the touristic attention to this country such as during the period of 2012-2014 23 structures and 13 complexes were built to hold many kinds of sports tournaments. Azerbaijan claimed to be the host country for the following 2020 Olympic sports games which encouraged to construct the special stadium according to the world standards for this occasion cost 720 mln. dollars [4].

China experienced such kind of projects in 1993 reconstructing the main plans of Nanlu in Beijing and in 2007 these projects were enhanced leading to found the center of tourism which demanded to build a range of hotels, restaurants, other places to serve for tourists [5].

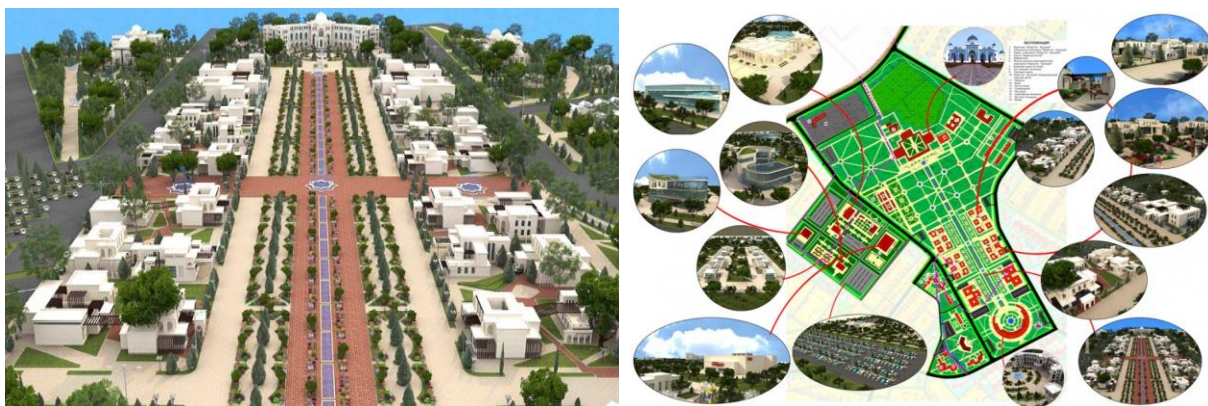
Analytical part

Imam al-Bukhari was the great theologian of the East. He collected and recorded about 600 thousand hadith, i.e. legend based on cases of life or some sayings of the Prophet. Out of them, al-Bukhari selected as "flawless" about 7400 hadith to include into famous "As-Sahih" which became the second most important book after the Koran for the majority of Sunni. Imam was born in Bukhara in 810, but ended his life in Samarkand. He was buried in a small village Hartang, 30 km from Samarkand.

The mausoleum of Imam al-Bukhari is one of the main pilgrimage sites in Uzbekistan. The President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyev paid visit to Samarkand on 17-18th March 2017. In the course of two days he visited a memorial complex of Imam al-Bukhari. During his visit to the complex, The President got acquainted with construction of Imam Bukhari International Science Center which will certainly become an important step towards further strengthening of interethnic and intercultural relations.

The center will surely promote Islamic culture and values, create conditions for obtaining modern education which will also play a significant impacted role in projecting housing in the rural areas. According to the construction plan and suggestions the total area of the complex will be enlarged to 60,4 hectares. Furthermore, 164 housing objects, other 30 buildings were moved to the place by establishing new dwelling sites local people [6].

Currently the mausoleum of Imam al-Bukhari presents in all of its magnificence. The complex occupies a vast territory, there are mausoleums, mosques, hotels for tourists and pilgrims, souvenir shops and religious literature. In spite of its location in the village, thanks to the projects, the number of tourists is radically growing (Pic.1).



Pic. 1. Samarkand region Payariq district Hartang village, Imam al-Bukhari complex and its reconstruction plan.

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There are many examples like these. For instance, the assemble of “Chashma” which is located in Navoi region Nurata district, the memorial complex “Yeti Pir” including in Hoja Bakhouddin Nakishbandi which is situated in the village of Kasri Orifan Bukhara region Kogon district. We can also add to our list a lot of cultural heritage sites like “Chor Bakr” in the village of Sumitan. It becomes clear that these types of places not only help widen up outlooks, enhance the structure of villages, lifestyles, behavior of youngsters and but also improve their mental-physical development.

One of the evident examples can be “Chashma” complex which is one of the most important centers of Islam in Nurata, and all of Navoi region, which is annually visited by thousands of religious people and tourists. The “Chashma” Complex includes such constructions as the “Juma” mosque, Nurata cemetery, spring and well. Local people believe that the Nurata spring heals all diseases and even mental ailments. Nurata graveyard is situated in the south-east of the spring. Close to the spring there is a six-meter deep well – another element of the complex “Chashma”. “Juma” mosque is located directly above the holy spring, at its base there are 40 columns, and the diameter of the dome 16 meters. During, the Soviet Union period this shrine owned only 1200-1500 m²

space. After gaining our Independence it was reconstructed and enlarged which was determined to increase the number of tourist’s arrivals and growing interests in this place.

Thanks to the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of Uzbekistan “The measures about renovation of Chashma in Navoi region Nurata district” accepted in October 9, 2017, many changes were accomplished including enlarging “Chashma” zone and restoring its historic objects. According to the accepted principle plans, the objects which are belonged to the XVI century such as historic relies, 2 mosque, the bridge, middle ages’ bath-house, the historic wall, graves and landscape objects-the fountain, historic draw-well, a new-gate together with constructing canals, eating places, (restaurants, cafes, tea- houses) hotels and motels, a staircase cascade, craftsmen’s workplace, shops and etc. were planned [9].

In the course of the renovation 2005-2015 this zone was enlarged up to 2.0 hectares in around of “Chashma”. Due to the 2017-2018 projects, it will be reconstructed once more, frantically total 15.0 hectare area will be flourished. And also playgrounds, boulevards, traditional houses are expected to be built. (Pic. 2).



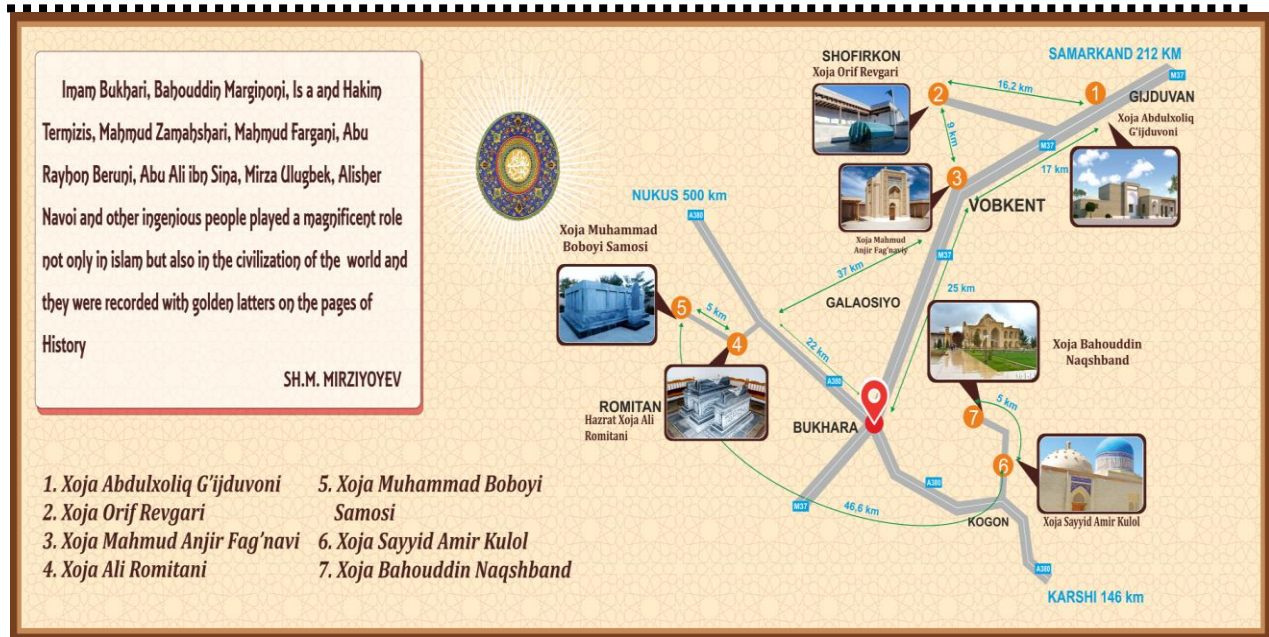
Pic. 2. The expecting appearance of the shrine after the reconstruction “Chashma” in Navoi region Nurata district.

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In Bukhara, shrines are everywhere. They are traces of a golden past that gave the city a reputation as one of the most important holy places in the Muslim world. As a local point on the Silk Road and center for Islamic philosophy, art and theology, Bukhara has long acted as a meeting point for people from different parts of the world. Most shrines in Bukhara are grave sites, the burial places of saints which are located in the rural parts of the region play an important role in the further development on flourishing goings – on of the people who reside there. Some of the more famous shrines is the “Yeti Pir”.

One of the “Yeti Pir” shrines - Hoja Abdukholik Gijduvoni is situated in Gijduvan district of Bukhara region who was the founder of the spiritual chain Hojagon. Owing to his standpoints, he impacted quite much on the evolution of Islam, culture in Islamic world. His mausoleum is located in the western part of the central alley of the settled area (Pic. 3).



Pic.3. The situation chart of the shrine “Yeti Pir” in Bukhara region.

From the chart above it is quite evident that all the seven shrines are located in the rural or suburban parts of Bukhara. During the period of Independence most of these cultural heritage sites were renovated and became flourishing places not only for people who inhabit there but also for tourists who have much growing interest in our country’s history [10].

In addition, on 21-23 February 2019, Bukhara city hosted the First International Travel & Tourism Forum. This forum was organized by the initiative of the President of Uzbekistan Sh.Mirziyoev to enhance the country’s position on international tourism in the international arena. The Forum was emphasized in the international recognition of Uzbekistan as one of the largest centers of travel tourism in the Islamic world.

The Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan Aziz Abduhakimov, who participated in the forum, said: “The great scholars such as Imam Al-Bukhari, Imam At-Termizi, Abu Mansur Motroudi, Abdukhalik Gijduvani, Bahovuddin Nakshband, Burhoniddin Marginini, Mohammad Khorezmiy, Ahmad Farghani, Abu Nasr Farabi, Abu Rayhan Beruni, Abu Ali Ibn As the homeland of scholars and thinkers who have left an indelible mark in the history

of world science, such as Sino, Mahmud Zamakhshari, Mirzo Ulugbek, Ali Kushchi, Uzbekistan’s land is calling all tourists from all over the world as one of the most important centers of Islamic civilization.

The Bukhara Declaration on the recognition of Uzbekistan as one of the tourist tourism centers was adopted at the international forum. The signing of the Bukharian Declaration is an important event in the history of Uzbekistan. According to experts, the signing of this document will give a powerful impetus to the development of travel infrastructure in the republic and further increase of tourist flow in general.

Taking into account the fact that tourism is not enough for historical tourism sites and pilgrimage, it was emphasized that besides the advocacy work to increase the attractiveness of tourism in Uzbekistan, the pilgrims need to create favorable conditions.

Conclulsion

As I have mentioned above cultural heritage sites should be tremendously seriously considered while constructing and projecting housing, public premises like shops, bazaars, eating places where they have

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been existing for a quite long time and played a great role in the history, culture of our country.

Accordingly, with the above mentioned we may suggest and recommend followings:

1. Some changes on the protection as well as use of cultural heritage sites should be done concerning development of cities, Building codes and Norms.

2. Followings:

a) projects should be organized by a professional group of specialists on reconstructing, renovating historic places and such kind of organization should be enhanced though training young specialist in this area and experience changing programs.

b) to coordinate and amplify competitiveness of the organization related to renovation and reconstruction of historic sites.

c) some enterprises should be founded which will produce only special renovating – reconstructing materials and equipment and their competitiveness should be seriously amplified.

d) particular advertising organization should be formatted for touristic interests in this field.

e) road conditions and routine should be improved by creating convenience for foreign and local touristic visits to cultural heritage sites.

f) there should be an office including specialist- architects for the use and protection of such type of structures in every region of our country.

g) specific lessons should be held in educational institution including from kindergartens, schools, universities on the scholars, cultural heritage sites, shrines and etc. and how to treat every tourist who pays a visit to these kind of places.

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