

HISTORICAL PLACES OF SAMARKAND AND ITS ROLE IN THE FIELD OF TOURISM IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation. This article revises all historical places of Uzbekistan, which attract tourists all over the world. In this article I gave information about historical places of Samarkand, Bukhara, Tashkent, Khiva.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada O'zbekistonning tarixiy obidalar haqida ma'lumot berilgan. Ushbu tarixiy obidalar asrlar davomida sayyohlarni o'ziga jalb qilib kelgan. Maqolada Samarqand, Buxoro, Toshkent va Xiva shaharlaridagi tarixiy obidalar haqida ma'lumotlar berilgan.

Аннотация. В данной статье рассматривается информация об исторических монументах Узбекистана которые привлекают иностранных туристов в течении нескольких веков. Статья рассматривает информацию про исторические монументы Самарканда, Бухары, Ташкента и Хивы.

Key words: Samarkand, monuments, mosque, historical, oriental, Central Asia, tourist, Imam-al Moturidi, Hazrat Davud Cave.

Ключевые слова: Самарканд, памятники, мечеть, исторический, восточный, Средняя Азия, турист, имам-аль-Матуриди, пещера Хазрат Давид.

Tayanch iboralar: Samarqand, obidalar, masjid, tarixiy, sharqona, O'rta Osiyo, sayyoh, Imom-al Moturidiy, Hazrati Dovud g'ori.

Introduction. Samarkand is both modern and historical city in Uzbekistan. It contains a great history which is one of the oldest and unique cities of Central Asia. It is 2750 years old that is the same age as Rome and Athens. This city has been a true example of oriental hospitality. The name Samarkand comes from the Sogdian word Smr'kand, which means "stone fortress" or "stone city". In ancient times, Samarkand was the capital of the oldest Sogdian state and was called Afrosyab. There are many aspects of Samarkand that are different from other cities, and it plays an important role in the tourism industry of Uzbekistan. Tourists visiting Uzbekistan do not leave without seeing Samarkand. Also, Samarkand is an Islamic city. Imam al-Bukhari mosque is a special place of interest. In addition, Cave of Hazrati Dovud and Mausoleum of Imam al-Moturidi also have their own characteristics and mysterious history. To this day, our historical buildings have been preserved without losing their integrity.

Keywords: Imam al-Bukhari mosque, Cave of Hazrati Dovud, Mausoleum of Imam al- Moturidi.

Nowadays the growth of tourists is on increase, especially, they are interested in our historical places and monuments. It is obvious that there are a lot of historical areas in Samarkand.

The historical monuments of Uzbekistan have attracted Western travelers for centuries. Historical Samarkand is often the first stop for visitors to Uzbekistan – with the exception of capital Tashkent which serves as a transport hub. The high-speed train from Tashkent to Samarkand takes two hours, halving the time it takes to drive between the two cities.

Samarkand is probably the most famous Uzbekistan’s historic city. Over 2,750 years of age, it boasts very impressive architectural monuments and a rich history. Samarkand originated from Afrosiab. The Registan Square, with the three grand madrasahs on its sides, is the top of Samarkand attractive places. The most famous among others are Gur-e Amir Mausoleum, Bibi-Khanym Mosque is one of the largest mosques.

For many centuries the Registan Square was and still remains the centre of Samarkand. As the history says, many centuries ago, small river crossed the square where the first medrasah was constructed. Years have passed, the river dried up leaving only sands in the river-bed. In the 15th century the first medrasah was founded just on that place giving name to the square Registan. Beginning from that time, all celebrations, festivals and Sunday's bazaars took place just at that place.

One of the most popular and sightseeing places is Imam al-Bukhari mosque. Now the place is called Mosque of Imam al-Bukhari. Its role in tourism industry is great, more and more visitors come every year in order to see and observe it. This mosque is situated not far from Samarkand city. **Memorial complex of Imam Al-Bukhari** gained worldwide fame in the Muslim world. It is located 12 kilometers from Samarkand. At one time, the mosque was constructed here, quite near the grave of Mukhammad Ibn Ismail Bukhari. The complex includes mausoleums, mosques, administrative and other buildings constructed along inner yard. The Imam al-Bukhari mausoleum is located in the center of complex. This cubical building is crowned with a seventeen-meter dome. On right side, under the sagana decorated with light blue onyx, there is a grave of al-Bukhari covered with marble. Walls are decorated with light-green, blue and white mosaics, as well as with another beautiful stones and mosaics; floor is decorated with stones.

Hazrat Daud Cave is one of the famous holy places in Uzbekistan. The cave and all complex Hazrat-Daud is very interesting for tourists, it is an exotic place. **Mausoleum of Abu Mansur Maturidi** is a mausoleum is also situated in Samarkand.

Number and country of annual visitors to Samarkand

South Korea	Japan	France	Germany	Italy	Spain
9,4 thousand	8,3 thousand	6,3 thousand	5,5 thousand	5,4 thousand	4,5 thousand

An analysis of the geography of foreign tourists showed that 3.9 thousand from Turkey. The majority of foreign tourists are citizens of the Russian Federation and the CIS countries – 76.3 thousand people, from Central Asian countries – 49.6 thousand people. Uzbekistan attracts Malaysia and Indonesia with its pilgrimage tourism. 1.6 thousand Malaysians and 1.7 thousand Indonesians visited Uzbekistan this year.

On the other end of the world, there are also those who want to see Samarkand. Therefore, this year 800 pilgrims from Brazil and Australia visited the city, and more than 1000 tourists from Canada came to Uzbekistan to see the unique architectural monuments and enjoy the nature of the country.

2. Research methods. In this study, a qualitative approach along with quantitative approach is used analyze some valuable data which was then revealed the content or meaning of the study. Qualitative research is mainly based on exploratory research. It is used to gain an understanding of underlying reasons and opinions. It provides insights into the content as well as assists in establishing ideas for potential quantitative research. Qualitative research is also used to measure and analyze trends and insights. Qualitative data collection methods vary using unstructured or semi-structured techniques. Some common methods include focus groups, individual interviews, and participation and observations.

Quantitative Research is used to quantify the problem by way of generating and accumulating some data which can be transformed into applicable statistics. It is used to quantify attitudes, opinions, behaviors, and other defined variables and generalize results from a larger sample population.

Hotels of Samarkand

Hotel	Arka Boutique Hotel	Hilton Plaza 777	HOTEL SHAHDIL	Medina Hotel Samarkand	Wellness park hotel	Com fort hotel
Price	1 129 250 UZS	1 110 267 UZS	1 010 000	967 779 UZS	925 225 UZS	850 000 UZS
Stars	4	4	4	4	3	3

(Source: Author's Processed Data)

It set goals to diversify tourism products and services, expand and improve the quality of transport routes, create favorable conditions for tourists.

In this regard, the potential of Samarkand is very high. Therefore, comprehensive work is underway to develop tourism infrastructure in the region. In particular, a tourist center is being established in Samarkand district. This beautiful place will have 8 modern hotels, a large conference hall, restaurants, a park and picnic site. The streets connecting this tourist center with Samarkand International Airport, railway station, Imam Bukhari Mausoleum, Registan Square and other attractions are being repaired.

In order to develop the tourism potential of Samarkand, 10 new hotels are being built. After reviewing the presentation, the head of state gave instructions on the development of transport, road and communication networks, beautification of

Samarkand, expansion of trade and services. The data collection procedure in this study is to collect primary data such as field observations, documentation studies and interviews. Then collect secondary data such as collecting from several sources, namely articles, internet sites, newspapers, magazines, and books.

Data analysis techniques use descriptive analysis that aims to describe and explain the potential of tourist attractions through the results obtained in the study. Data analysis techniques are a way to analyze the data obtained with the aim of testing the formulation of the problem. Researchers should ascertain the analysis patterns used depend on the type of data collected. In qualitative research, analysis is more emphasized on efforts to reveal things related to processes not products because what is important is processes, so in general researchers do not take too many samples because they are sufficient to be studied in depth related to the process itself.

Results and discussions. The greatest poets and philosophers of the world have given the city many names – the garden of the soul, the pearl of the east, the mirror of the world and even the face of the earth. However, they was not be able to describe the beauty and richness of this beautiful city. The cultural heritage of Samarkand is quite large, for many centuries the city has been a key center of the Great Silk Road. At the beginning of the XXI century, the city was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List under the name “Samarkand – Crossroads of Cultures”. Having visited the city, you will be surprised with the number of historical monuments located here.

Samarkand souvenir shops can make happy the fans of woodcrafts, textile and other materials. By tradition, most of the workshops are placed in the old madrassas and all crafts are hand-made by local artisans. However, in Samarkand, in addition to the usual souvenirs, you can find several more features that you will not find in other regions of the country. First of all, we advise you to visit the Siab bazaar, which is located next to the Bibi Khanum Mosque, almost in the centre of the old part of Samarkand. This market is abundant of dried fruits, nuts and sweets. Among other things, the Samarkand flatbread and halva can be distinguished.

History of Samarkand. The historic town of Samarkand is a crossroad and melting pot of the world's cultures. Founded in the 7th century B.C. as ancient Afrasiab, Samarkand had its most significant development in the Timurid period from the 14th to the 15th centuries. The major monuments include the Registan Mosque and madrassas, Bibi-Khanum Mosque, the Shakhi-Zinda compound and the Gur-Emir ensemble, as well as Ulugh-Beg's Observatory. and a half millennia. Evidence of settlements in the region goes back to 1500 BC, with Samarkand having its most significant development in the Temurid period, from the 14th to the 15th centuries, when it was capital of the powerful Temurid realm. The historical part of Samarkand consists of three main sections. In the north-east there is the site of the ancient city of Afrosiab, founded in the 7th century BC and destroyed by Genghis Khan in the 13th century, which is preserved as an archaeological reserve. Archaeological excavations have revealed the ancient

citadel and fortifications, the palace of the ruler (built in the 7th century displays important wall paintings), and residential and craft quarters. There are also remains of a large ancient mosque built from the 8th to 12th centuries.

To the south, there are architectural ensembles and the medieval city of the Timurid epoch of the 14th and 15th centuries, which played a seminal role in the development of town planning, architecture, and arts in the region. The old town still contains substantial areas of historic fabric with typical narrow lanes, articulated into districts with social centres, mosques, madrassahs, and residential housing. The traditional Uzbek houses have one or two floors and the spaces are grouped around central courtyards with gardens; built in mud brick, the houses have painted wooden ceilings and wall decorations. The contribution of the Timurid masters to the design and construction of the Islamic ensembles were crucial for the development of Islamic architecture and arts and exercised an important influence in the entire region, leading to the achievements of the Safavids in Persia, the Moghuls in India, and even the Ottomans in Turkey.

To the west there is the area that corresponds to the 19th and 20th centuries expansions, built by the Russians, in European style. The modern city extends around this historical zone. This area represents traditional continuity and qualities that are reflected in the neighbourhood structure, the small centres, mosques, and houses. Many houses retain painted and decorated interiors, grouped around courtyards and gardens. The major monuments include the Registan mosque and madrasahs, originally built in mud brick and covered with decorated ceramic tiles, the Bibi-Khanum Mosque and Mausoleum, the Shakhi-Zinda compound, which contains a series of mosques, madrasahs and mausoleum, and the ensembles of Gur-Emir and Rukhabad, as well as the remains of Ulugh-Bek's Observatory.

Attractions. Samarkand is Uzbekistan's undisputed claim to fame. This magnificent city remains cloaked in its past splendor as the capital of the powerful Timurid Empire, which in its heyday stretched across Asia from eastern Turkey to India. The city was a haven for caravan traders, intellectuals and Islamic scholars, a heritage still evident in the handicrafts, religious schools and observatory for which Samarkand is now known. The crowning jewel of Samarkand, Registan Square once served as the central plaza of Tamerlane's renowned capital. This carefully restored 15th-17th century ensemble now constitutes a UNESCO site and Uzbekistan's most popular attraction. Its three imposing monuments – Ulugbek Madrasah, Sher-Dor Madrasah and Tilla-Kori Madrassah – dwarf everything in their vicinity and have a near-hypnotic way of arresting the gaze of many an admiring visitor.

Gur-Emir served as the blueprint for the Taj Mahal and is now one of the most recognizable landmarks in Uzbekistan. Interestingly, Tamerlane never intended to be buried at Gur-Emir, or even in Samarkand for that matter, yet after a series of unforeseen events he now lies interred in his capital alongside several close relatives and a mentor. While the courtyard views of Gur-Emir are amazing in themselves, the inner crypt is truly a sight to behold.

One of the largest mosques in the world at the time of construction in the early 15th century, Bibi-Khanym Mosque was built in the throes of victory following Amir Timur's conquest of India. Depending on which account you believe, the cutting-edge construction was either dedicated to Bibi-Khanym, Timur's favorite wife, or was built by the queen as a surprise for her husband on his return from battle. Either way, the overeager architects compromised structural integrity for size, and the building began to crumble in a few short years.

When you're ready to step out of Tamerlane's historic empire into modern Samarkand, look no farther than the lively Siab Bazaar, located right next to Bibi-Khanym Mosque. Rows upon rows of aisles awash with the colors of sparkling fabrics, eye-catching souvenirs and seasonal fruits are a feast for the eyes, while the scent of Samarkand's famous bread and the high-spirited invitations of the sellers to taste their products prove an irresistible temptation for many a traveler.

Facilities of Samarkand. The progress of construction of a number of large infrastructure facilities, including the Samarkand Touristic Center tourist complex, was studied. It is worth noting that this year Samarkand will host the Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the Summit of the Organization of Turkic States, and in 2023 Samarkand will host the Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Conclusion

Having obtained some data by researchers Samarkand still needs to be improved significantly so that tourist flow will increase and bring more benefit, and there are several suggestions for Samarkand for further development in its touristic facets. First of all, government should try to maintain historical places of Samarkand as well as the beauty of nature, establish more facilities and comfort in Samarkand.

Furthermore, authority should pay attention to improve and modernize inadequate facilities and rethink to find solutions for problems so that visitors are interested in paying a visit to Samarkand. Government should actively promote Samarkand on social media and pay attention to collaborate with influencers so that more people are curious about visiting Samarkand. In addition to this, authority has to make attractive attraction package packages for families, couples, adventures by combining attractions that have many visitors with quiet visitors, so that visitors can spend their money in the Samarkand.

Touristic spots of Samarkand should be widely advertised around the world so that more and more tourists could have a desire to pay a visit to Samarkand, and not only these attractive sites of Samarkand have to be broadcasted widely but also they should be appearing on various world-wide social medias and websites. Touristic field officials should also consider about creating night rides so that tourists can spend their money at night too, such as making a large screen at one of the campsites to watch together by wearing a headset so as not to disturb those who are resting. The headset will be rented out to tourists.

Free ways of obtaining national products and items should also be widely available which promotes the increase of tourist flow and curiosity urges tourists to visit and see Samarkand in the long run

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