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**Jasurbek Zokirjonovich Akhmedov**  
scientific researcher

Academy of sciences of Republic of Uzbekistan  
Stat museum of history of Uzbekistan  
[jasur184@list.ru](mailto:jasur184@list.ru)

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## ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND MUSEUMIFICATION OF THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MONUMENTS OF THE FERGANA VALLEY

**Abstract:** This article demonstrates the museumification of archaeological objects in Fergana Valley. The stages of their identification, research, conservation, restoration, exposition interpretation and further use as objects of the museum display are noted.

**Key words:** museumification, archaeology, monument, restoration, conservation, museum, exposition.

**Language:** English

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### АРХЕОЛОГИЧЕСКИЕ ИССЛЕДОВАНИЯ И МУЗЕИФИКАЦИЯ ИСТОРИЧЕСКИХ И КУЛЬТУРНЫХ ПАМЯТНИКОВ ФЕРГАНСКОЙ ДОЛИНЫ

**Аннотация:** В статье рассматриваются вопросы музеефикации археологических объектов в Ферганской долины. Отмечены этапы их выявления, исследования, консервации, реставрации, экспозиционной интерпретации и дальнейшего использования в качестве объектов музейного показа.

**Ключевые слова:** музеефикация, археология, памятник, реставрация, консервация, музей, экспозиция.

#### Introduction

In the Fergana valley have been preserved ruins of many ancient cities and towns, graves and dwellings. They are divided depending on their tasks towns, villages, temples, cemeteries, separate houses, defense structures, and fortresses in every historical period. Among them are archeological monuments, which have a special place in the world civilization. Selengur Cave near the Sokh area of Fergana region, the Kuva Buddha monument, the Kuva town hall (I-XII centuries), the ruins of the Dalvarzin city of Andijan region (XII-VII centuries BC), ruins of Eilatton (VI-IV centuries BC), the ruins of the city of Mingtepa (third millennium BC), the ancient part of city of Andijan (6 th centuries BC – XV centuries), Akhsikent in the Namangan region (I-XIII centuries), Balandtepa (I- XIII centuries), Munchoktepa (I-VIII centuries), Mugtepa (I-VIII centuries). The preservation of these monuments and to make museological tasks are one of the challenges facing specialists. Some of them were established museums. Pop archaeology museum, Museum of Kuva

shahristan, Museum of history urban development of Andijan[1].

#### Materials and Methods

As a result of the research on the peculiarities of the study of historical and cultural monuments of the Fergana valley on the museum aspect, the archeological study of this region was begun in the late XIX th century. Russian scientists A.Fedchenko, N.S.Severtsov and A.Middendorf have collected some data in the process of research in this territory.

The first research of this area was begun by the orientalist and archaeologist N.I.Veselovsky (1848-1918) the docent of Saint-Petersburg University, who arrival to Central Asia, definitely to the Fergana valley. During 1884-1885 the scientist drew attention to the study of Islamic periodicals and Kosonsoy (Mugh), Akhsikent, and Uzgan. In particular, N.I.Veselovsky studied about 30 stone forts in ancient cemeteries in northern Fergana. These works were first carried out in Fergana archeology[2].



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The next work was begun in 1930. In the same year, the Leningrad State Hermitage Department staff conducted archeological observations in connection with the construction of Uchkurgan Power Station. In contrast to previous researchers, he concentrated on studying Latinin monuments of Islam. He has discovered many unknown memorials. These are the Fergana-based red-brown clay and pottery, which include the flower and birds. These findings later became important in the valley archeology. Another great service of the scientist began studying the history of irrigation in Fergana valley, the first in Central Asia, and emphasized the importance of this sector in the future.

In the period from 1939 till 1940 in Uzbekistan has made a mount of a huge construction works. Particularly building of waterworks and canals, among them archaeological observations, which are carried out during the construction of the Great Fergana canal, differ in their size. The 270 km long excavation took place with archeologists. Numerous information about the ancient history of the valley was obtained[3].

Later, in 1940, T.G.Obolduyeva constructed the North Fergana canal and V.D.Zhukov undertook such archeological observations in the South Fergana construction. From 1943 till 1944 V.D. Gaidukevich made a scientific search for the construction of the Farhad Power Station. As a result of the archaeological work during the period of the above-mentioned large constructions, hundreds of monuments were collected from the original materials. This has been an important factor in increasing Fergana's history with scientifically-motivated materials[4].

Since 1946, the largest scientists of the Moscow Institute of Ethnography and Archeology have participated in joint research with local history museums in the Fergana valley. In particular, in the Andijan local history museum, V.Kozenkova, Fergana N.G.Gorbunova, B.Z.Gamburg, Yu.G.Chulanov in Namangan, Yu.D.Baruzdin and A.I.Poshko in Osh conducted active archeological investigations in the valley[5].

The discovery of the Selenghur cave in Fergana was a new invention for that period. The stone weapon age in this area is a million year-old. The preliminary data on the fergantrop, created on the basis of the remains of a rare man, found in the same place, dating back 800 thousand years ago, was obtained. According to the head of this expedition, academician O'.Islomov, these findings indicate that Fergana was one of the oldest place for people and in the early stone period people made the valley. It has also been discovered that the Palaeolithic period (from 20-10 thousand years ago) in the Fergana Valley. In medieval Fergana, Obishir, and Toshko'mir were found monuments of mesolite (middle stone period - 7-6 thousand years ago) and

neolithic period (new stone period - 4-3 thousand years ago). All of these are important discoveries in the history of mankind[6].

The findings of the research revealed that the monuments of Fergana's history after the Neolithic era were not found at all. For example, eneolith, the first bronze period problems are "white spots" in the valley arc. At the time of the Neolithic era, however, A. Bernshtam (1910-1956) worked on the findings. The researcher united the scientific potential of Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, and carried out extensive work. For this purpose, the Pamir-Fergana complex archaeological expedition was organized in 1950-1952, and ancient farmers, cattle-breeders, urban and rural ruins were studied on a uniform basis. N.I.Veselovsky conducted research on the monuments of the medieval monuments, and B.A.Latinin, to muslimism. A.Bernshtam's research area is extensive, from the Stone Age to the XVIII-XIX centuries. He carried out scientific research in Eylatan, Mingtepa, Koson, Axsikent, Kuva, and Uzgan, the largest archeological monuments of the Fergana valley. By comparing written sources data with the digging results, the scientist made important conclusions. One of these conclusions is that the ancient Fergana culture has two dimensions (farming and livestock breeding) and their interaction. According to this, ancient times in the valley were the cultivation and nomadic culture of the nomadic herd. In mountainous regions, where peanuts and rivers flowed, the mountainous regions inhabited the nomadic livestock. This historic process is still going on. The basis of the A.N.Bernshtam's conclusion is that further archaeological excavations prove the accuracy of this conclusion[7].

Archaeological study of the Ferghana Valley has risen to a new level in the 50-60th years of the 20th century. By that time, scientific centers under the Academy of Sciences of the Central Asian republics launched a large-scale scientific research on their territory. There were also monuments found in the Fergana valley. These include the Hok treasure, discovered in 1894 (the first half of the 2nd millennium BC), the Platonic treasure, discovered in 1924 (about two thousand years BC), and the stone found in the Sokh village of Fergana 2 thousand years). According to the researchers of the Neolithic period, especially Timofeev, the chronologically endangered stone weaponry falls in the middle of the Sarijuga Scepter of Central Fergana[8].

In the second half of the 2nd millennium BC, the tribes of the Bronze Age were found in Kairalukum at the end of the 2 millennium BC 1,000 years ago, great work has been done to study the history of farming (Chust culture). Basically Yu.A.Zadneprovskiy, V.Sprishevsky, B.KMatboboyev have done a great deal to study these monuments. Zadneprovskiy, in particular, identified more than 80 Chust period monuments from the



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valley and showed their role and importance of Fergana history[9].

The first Iron Age (6th-4th centuries BC) or Eylatan's monuments were widely studied by NGGorbunova, the ancient tombs left by them. Very valuable information was received from the tombs, such as Oktam, Sufan, Kunung, and Walik. Certain work has also been done in Eylatan, the ruins of a single city in this era, but most of the monument was demolished.

Many findings of Yu. A. Zadneprovskiy's monuments of Shurabashot culture, connected with the peasant tribes, were erected after Eylatan culture. Until recently Shurabashat monuments were considered as unique to the eastern regions of the valley. However, recent searches of scientific findings have elaborated on these ideas: monuments of ancient culture The Yalpoktepa monument was found in the area between the rivers of the Karadarya River and the Norin River (80km from the newly discovered monument). The materials belonging to Shurabashot culture have also been found near Andijan. Hence, owners of this culture lived in the vicinity of the vast 4-1 centuries. Senior researcher of the Institute of Archeology of Shurabashat culture B.H.Matbabaev in 1993 conducted excavation works in the Kyrgyz Republic[10].

In the 60-70th years of the 20th century Yu.A.Baruzdin studied our land, located in the Batken district of the Osh region, in the Karabulak cemetery, dating to the 2nd and 4th centuries. The remains of mummified corpses and pieces of wood were found in the woods.

In our opinion, when speaking of the history of the valley, it is necessary to point out the scientific research carried out in the medieval written sources such as Akhsiket, Pop, Kuva. In Akhsiket, A.Anarbaev and I.Akhrarov conducted extensive work. As a result of the works of V.Bulatova, D. Varkhatova, the famous Buddhist temple was opened in the ruins of Kuva. In 1987-1992, the study of ancient Pop city was carried out. In particular, the role of the city, its developmental attributes were studied. According to the author of the excerpts, B. Matbabaev believes Pop is one of the oldest cities in the valley. Munchograd found the underground grave in 1988. The parchment was full of clothes, food, and weapons. In addition, in many places of the Fergana valley was carried out scientific research. Gurmyron mausoleum in Kosonsay district (B.Matbabaev), Tashkurgan mausoleum near Chust (S.Baratov), ruins of Eylatan (S.Kudratov) [11].

From 1985 to 1986, the researcher of the Institute of Archeology B.Matbabaev, in collaboration with the Saint Petersburg Archeology Institute, conducted research in Mingtepa (Ershi), the capital of the kingdom of Davan (Ferghana). Another medieval city of Andijan, B.Abdulgazieva, an employee of the Institute of Archeology, Professor of

Andijan State University S.Jalilov conducted a research.

During the years of independence, our country has created a perfect legal framework for the protection of cultural heritage[12]. Based on programs designed to store, study, gradually repaired and restore historic cities, architectural monuments and historical monuments.

In the early 1990s, partnership relations with prominent international organizations began to be established not only within the framework of the jubilee, but also with a number of scientific and practical significance and economic effectiveness, and accumulated relevant experience. On December 3, 1993, representatives of the United Nations Development Program, UNESCO and World Trade Organization visited for the first time independent Uzbekistan and got acquainted with the work on protection, restoration and use of cultural heritage and the development of tourism in the future. At the same time, they have given their suggestions on cooperation in the above-mentioned sectors [13].

In addition, within the UN-funded project, UNESCO experts conducted technical researches in 1995 to develop a comprehensive conservation and tourism development of four ancient cities of the Republic, Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and Kokand. It was backed up and supported by the work on the restoration, strengthening and the purposeful use of historical monuments.

The research finds that the international cooperation in the field of preservation, protection and preservation of all ancient monuments, historical and architectural monuments in Uzbekistan is yielding positive results. In a short period of time most of the historical and architectural objects in the country have been repaired, reconstructed and conserved. Uzbekistan has become one of the largest tourism centre in the world.

### Conclusion

Over the years of independence, Uzbekistan has done extensive work in the field of preservation, restoration and restoration of historical and architectural monuments of cultural heritage as well as in all spheres. This is especially evident in the Fergana valley, one of the cradles of ancient civilizations in Uzbekistan. In the course of the theme research, we have come to the following conclusions:

Firstly, Uzbekistan is one of the rich country with historical and cultural monuments in the world. In this area ancient culture of urban development, as well as the traditions of building, large architectural constructions have been developed and have gone through several stages;

Secondly, to learning more about the past history, historical-scientific development, idea about organizing museums of ancient places which, gives a



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proud feeling, to preserving them for future generation – are the main aim of our country since its Independence has established.

However, the physical (material) depreciation, alteration and erosion of monuments resulted from the effects of time and natural-climatic environment and human activity (weather and temperature changes, earthquakes that affected for centuries). Particularly from the 19th to the 20th centuries,

technogenic processes emerging from the development of the society (urban expansion, increase in construction areas, multi-storey houses, building growth, etc.) also resulted. Therefore, the task of protecting museums, museums of historical and cultural monuments has been put on the importance and the essence of the issue has become actual problem.

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