

## **KHUDOYORKHAN PALACE**

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Kokand has been known by various names since the 10<sup>th</sup> century, but its heyday dates back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century, when the city became the capital of the Kokand Khanate. This city has preserved the ancient structure which consists of new and old parts. The new city was saturated in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Commercial and enterprises, administrative buildings, banks, industrial palaces, the khan's palace in the old part of the city – the Horde, monuments of folk architecture mosques, madrasas and monuments survived until the early 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.



Today, many architectural monuments, historical buildings have been preserved in the territory of our country and are of interest to the world community. These cultural heritages, which speak of our glorious history, have not lost their charm so far. As the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan said:

“ Located at the crossroads of the Great Silk Road, this ancient city is the pearl of the beautiful Fergana Valley, rightly called the "Golden Valley". Having a glorious history of two thousand years, a beautiful nature, and witnessing many great events, Kokand is a shining example of the development of national statehood, science, art and literature, architecture”<sup>1</sup>.

One of such majestic architectural monuments is the Khudoyorkhan Palace in Kokand. The monument was built by Khudoyorkhan of the Minglar dynasty. The construction of the Khudoyorkhan Palace dates back to the late Middle Ages. The first and second stages of Russia's conquest of Central Asia period. The palace was built between 1863 and 1870. It is built on an artificial hill with a high brick foundation: the khan's residence, about a hundred inhabited and used for various purposes large and small rooms, inner and outer rooms. The palace was the residence of the khan's family, as well as the head office of the state. During the construction, the northern part of the khanate was invaded by the Russian army. In 1864, Shymkent and Turkestan, in 1865, Tashkent were occupied, and in 1867, the Governor-General of Turkestan was established in these areas.

The palace, which occupies an area of about 4 hectares, is a multi-courtyard composition. In 1876, in the master plans of the Kokand Horde, compiled by Captain N. N. Voronets and later topographer A. I. Borisovsky, it is seen that in front of the palace was a closed area with gates fortified on the main axis, which was a garden and a garden. was surrounded by was surrounded by a wall.

<sup>1</sup> Shavkat Mirziyoyev. From the speech at the opening ceremony of the Kokand International Handcrafts Festival. 2019.



Raw and baked bricks, marble, cast iron in the construction of the monument plaster, parquet, stone, wood, tin, various precious stones, etc. items used. The main style of the palace is one-story, with the roof protruding slightly from the central wall. Tall and luxurious, on both sides of the roof and at the two corners of the style there are bouquets finished with domed mezzanines. The length of the roof is 40 m. The portal on the huge carved doors has an inscription in Arabic "Great Sayyid Muhammad Khudoyorkhan". The palace is surrounded by a beautifully carved fence. On the right side of the complex, it is decorated with a ceramic-faced tower, decorated with a pattern reminiscent of the colors of Fergana silk<sup>2</sup>.

The construction of the palace involved the best masters of the khanate and neighboring properties. Construction was led by Kokand's talented architect Mir Ubaydullo. The best artisans of Rishtan, an ancient ceramic center, were engaged in decorating the palace. Initially, the palace had 119 rooms, which were decorated with ganch carvings and colorful ornaments when they were opened. The various patterns on the arches, roofs and bouquets

<sup>2</sup>A. Zamonov, *Tarix fanidan olimpiadaga tayyorlanamiz - "Toshkent"*, 2012. 81b.

the tiles are skillfully crafted. It is entered through a domed gate. The top of the dome, in turn, is finished with a domed mezzana light enters through barred windows. The rooms are decorated with carved patterns. A special place was occupied by the throne room and the khan's reception room; the treasury, the royal treasury, and the military arsenal are located nearby. The rooms for his children and the private rooms of the khan and his wives were also very decorated. After the conquest of the Kokand khanate by the Russian Empire, Khudoyorkhan and his family were sent to Tashkent<sup>3</sup>. Most of his property was confiscated and later looted. Today in several museums of the world you can find some exhibits of the Kokand Khanate. One of them, the throne of Khudoyorkhan decorated with precious stones, is kept in the Hermitage of St. Petersburg. Only 2 courtyards

and 19 rooms have been preserved from the palace to this day; the local historical museum, which tells the story of the former glory of the mighty khanate, is located here.



The Horde is different from other historical sites in the Fergana Valley aspect is that it was considered the palace of the ruler of the state. Parts of Khudoyorkhan Palace were repaired in 1998 and 2002. In 1924, an exhibition of the achievements of the Kokand Khanate was opened in the center of Khudoyorkhan. The Kokand Museum of Local Lore has been operating in the palace since 1925 is coming. In addition, this historical monument hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> International Crafts Festival in September 2019.

**References:**

1. Shavkat Mirziyoyev. From the speech at the opening ceremony of the Kokand International Crafts Festival. 2019.
2. Zamonov, Tarix fanidan olimpiadaga tayyorlanamiz - "Toshkent", 2012.
3. H. Bobobekov, Qo'qon tarixi – "Fan", 1996.