

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUKHARA AS A CITY

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**Abstract:** This article tells about the ancient city of Bukhara and its development as a city. Bukhara was a famous trading city on the Great Silk Road. Its center is a treasury of historical and architectural monuments of the Middle Ages, which are under the protection of the state.

**Key words:** Great Silk Road, ancient city, World Heritage List, Central Asia, architectural monuments, technical infrastructure.

Bukhara was a famous trading city on the Great Silk Road. Its center is a treasury of historical and architectural monuments of the Middle Ages, which are under the protection of the state. The Government of Uzbekistan pays great attention to the protection and preservation of the historical zones of the city. In 1994, Bukhara was included in the UNESCO World Heritage List as a monument of world cultural heritage. In 1997, her 2500th anniversary was celebrated in Bukhara. This city can be considered as a basis for determining the individual features of the new national architecture of Uzbekistan. A number of cultural events and international congresses became part of the process of intensifying a new understanding of the role of the historical centers of the republic. In the XX century, there was a conflict between the typically traditional "texture" of the Old City and various modern urban structures. Bukhara under Russian rule and in the Soviet period. The urban structure and basic design of all the houses of this period, with their arrangement of rooms and decor, have their roots in the ancient traditions of Central Asia and show constancy over time. Bukhara at the beginning of the 19th century is a compact closed city consisting of a citadel, a shakhristan, a city proper, a rabad and a suburb. In 1868, with the disintegration of the sovereign Emirate of Bukhara, a process of internal political changes began. Initially, the military interests of Russia, manifested in the construction of barracks and garrisons, began to acquire an economic character. Then the process of intervention in the local economy began, and the infrastructure of trade and business changed in a direction convenient for Russia.

The map (Parvenov/Fenin), which contains 500 public buildings already in operation around 1900, shows Russian military installations such as garrisons and military depots. According to written sources, there were 365 residential quarters in the city, 60 intra-city bazaars, and 20 near the city gates, the largest of which was located near the Samarkand gates. The most significant food market was located around the Registan. Compact bazaars with adjoining caravanserais located at the crossroads of streets were covered with domes. Some of them still exist. Direct reconstruction of the city center is not possible. In any case, we could reconstruct some of the caravanserais and trade outlets that do not exist today, based on aerial photographs from 1930 showing an elongated bazaar with small shops and caravanserais behind them. In 1920,

Bukhara became the People's Republic, and socialist transformations soon began. Prior to this, the population of Bukhara, to a greater or lesser extent, adhered to the traditional way of life. In 1929, the first five-year plan for the industrialization and collectivization of agriculture was adopted. With the accelerated process of industrialization and the abolition of private property, a search began for new socialist forms of housing and urban planning. The population - 70,000 in 1911, decreased to 50,000 in 1920 - began to grow, and the city was reconstructed with a new design of its central part. Within the city itself, new structures were also emerging that gradually supplanted the traditional ones, although attempts were made to combine existing architectural elements with modern forms.

A lot of work was done to develop the social and technical infrastructure of the city, improve the water supply system. A power supply network was built, new streets appeared, old ones were widened, and narrow dead-end passages between houses, typical for an eastern city, were made through. Under ideological and political influence, the historical center of the city gradually lost its function as a spiritual and economic center. The open spaces that exist today illustrate this fact. Commercial buildings and many religious buildings were destroyed. New buildings and entire complexes of socialist culture have grown up around the old city center. In 1930, there were 82 primary and secondary schools, 10 vocational and technical educational institutions in Bukhara, including a pedagogical institute and several branches of the university. Buildings of a new type were built for public, administrative and cultural purposes, including clubs, the House of Soviets, libraries, museums, administrative buildings, hospitals, clinics. In 1924 the Russian-Bukhara Film Company was founded.

This direction was largely supported by the decision to give Bukhara the status of a city-museum, which was reflected in the planning concept of 1976. Not all of the historical structure was to be preserved. Only some historically significant buildings were declared monuments designed to impress tourists, since the development of tourism has become the main task for Bukhara. About 15% of old Bukhara was to be protected, and the Ministry of Culture of Uzbekistan established a general guideline for the conservation of historical buildings. About 35 mosques, madrasahs and mausoleums have been recognized as monuments of material culture. On the border of the historic city center, new construction was limited. New collective-farm bazaars were located here, and bazaars with shops and caravanserais in the old city were demolished. From 1960 to 1975, the population of the city increased from 70,000 to 140,000. Modern Bukhara has about 300,000 inhabitants. Housing construction was a priority. In housing construction, forms of housing and types of buildings, rationalization and standardization prevailed at this time.

In 1962, the concept of a new "ideal" city was formulated, a plan was developed for its expansion based on 250,000 inhabitants. The city included such central elements as sports facilities, a hospital, shopping, administrative and cultural centers. Industrial areas were developed, residential areas were built quarters The development of a public transport system was envisaged, including wide ring roads The expansion of the city was determined by the urban axis oriented to the south The connecting element of the

newly planned part of the city with its historical part was the central city square. The 150 m wide avenue was divided into traffic lanes and park lanes by five rows of trees.

It served as an urban center in the immediate vicinity of the intersection of the main streets. The connection between the old city and the axis of new developments was singled out as a representative zone with the dominant party building of the regional committee and other modern administrative buildings.

The location of important administrative complexes in the southeastern part along the central avenue to the south was borrowed from earlier projects. A new city center was planned. The long-term effect of this planning concept continues to this day. Modified plan combining ideas from 1976 and 1977 has been implemented. Some of these targeted public buildings are important evidence of Uzbek architecture of that period. Some facades with their geometric shapes are decorated in the style of traditional oriental ornaments. The high complex of the regional executive committee dominates the whole territory to this day. Some planned buildings have been replaced by others. Urban planning reflected the long coexistence of ideals of the past and the present, which are not easy to separate. The basic unit of the residential areas of the socialist city was the so-called microdistrict - a set of identical residential buildings.

It was assumed that each microdistrict is a residential complex with a certain set of services in the service sector. Several microdistricts formed a large standardized housing estate with a more complete set of services. Bukhara has four residential districts and four industrial districts respectively, with a population of 40,000 people. Residential complexes consist of four, five-story buildings that form a single complex. Motor roads and pedestrian sidewalks parallel to the big boulevard are connected to them. The system of neighborhoods provides equal access to all elements of the city's infrastructure. The rather spacious type of new districts contrasts with the dense buildings in the historical city and competes with it, as a result of which the historical center has lost its role.

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