

Proceedings of the 1st International Congress on

#### "Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics"

ISSN: 2795-5621 Available: http://procedia.online/index.php/applied/index

# URBAN PLANNING PROCESSES IN TASHKENT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 20TH CENTURY

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Annotation: Along with other colonial territories of Russia, from the first years of Soviet power, Turkestan also fell under the rule of the communist system. Urban planning issues required a new approach. During this period, due to the attractiveness of the "communist" ideology of the new system, most of the talented architects who worked under the tsarist government perceived it with high spirits. Since the 1920s, new projects of typical buildings for Tashkent have been developed. Due to the synchronism of architectural processes and urban planning in the cities of Uzbekistan, we considered it necessary to study the approach to the article in this context. The city of Samarkand was chosen as the first capital of the Turkestan Autonomous Republic, in 1930 the capital of the republic was transferred from Samarkand to Tashkent. During the period of large-scale industrialization of the country - the construction of new industrial cities and the reconstruction of existing ones, the design of housing in conjunction with public buildings acquired particular importance in the architecture of this period.

**Keywords:** From the capitalist system to the communist system, the Turkestan SSR, "socialist economy", "communist ideology", architecture of 1917-1930s, new residential areas, general plan of the city of 1925, constructivism, industrialization processes, new industrial cities.

The Russian "bolshevist" revolution, which took place in the territories of the Russian Empire, turned this society from one way to another - from the capitalist system to the communist system in October 1917. And from the first years of the Soviet rule, Turkestan was transferred to the communist system along with the colonial territories of imperialist Russia. Turkestan Soviet Autonomous Republic, established on April 30, 1918, was included all the territories of the former governorate of Tsarist Russia. Under the pretext of people's interests, the geniuses of the revolution declared the ownership of real estate - land, housing, industry and mineral resources as state property, and the communist ideology was established as the foundation of economic recovery in the society. The civil war that broke out in all the territories of the former Tsarist Russia brought the country of the Soviets to an economically helpless situation: "Constructions were carried out on a small scale due to the economic difficulties during the civil war" [1]. And it took several years to restore the "socialist economy" and the national economy.

As a result of communist ideology, the terms given to the names of the "famous people" of Tsarist Russia, existing in hundreds of cities of the former union, were erased, and the erected statues were demolished. The names of geniuses of communist ideology, organizers of repression, loyal communists were given, and statues were erected to them instead of the removed terms. Along with this, in the "Revolution Avenue", which became the place of revolutionary celebrations, "the bust of



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Karl Marx, the genius of the world proletariat" was built in place of the statue of General K. P. von Kaufman, a symbol of the tsarism's colonial policy in Turkestan, in the post-revolutionary years in Uzbekistan. This was the beginning of the naming of the main squares, districts, factories and avenues of the cities of our country by the names of people who had nothing in common with Uzbekistan.

State planning of the national economy was required, as the right to real estate ownership, land, housing, industry, and mineral resources were declared state property. The development of industry and agriculture, the problems of settlement of the population created the need for a new approach to the issues of urban planning, in its turn. During this period, due to the attractiveness of the new system - the ideology of "communist idealism", most of the talented architects who worked during the tsarist government accepted it in a cheerful spirit and started creative activities in accordance with the requirements of the new society: "New projects of model buildings for Tashkent began to be created from the 20s. Famous architects were invited for this work from Soviet union centers. In particular, the architect Yanchevsky created the project of the building complex for the university, and the brothers A.A. Vesnin and L.A. Vesnin created the project for the Institute of Physics in 1921. Based on national traditions, economically efficient building projects were developed with the aim of using local materials" [2]. On the other hand, the architects and constructors who worked in the urban planning of our country during the period of the Turkestan governorate began to carry out creative activities in accordance with the requirements of the communist society. The architects and constructors who worked in the Turkestan governorate were: "G.M. Svarichevsky, A. Giltin, L. Voronin, F. Smirnov, L. Silchenkov and others, whose activities were incomparable in the formation of the first urban planning infrastructure in the Republic [3].

Since the historical processes of the vast territory under the Soviet administration were similar to the trends of the architecture of the central cities of the Union, we found it necessary to study the approach to the article in this way, due to the fact that the architectural processes and urban planning realities were synchronized in the cities of Uzbekistan. It is desirable that the historical processes of urban development of our country be researched in the same period as the previous studies.

The first - 1917 - early 1930s. The Modern style that prevailed during the status of Tashkent as the center of the Turkestan governorate in our urbanism was very rapid and left many monuments as a legacy, but it ended in a short period of time. (Researchers note that the first representatives of constructivism, which became fashionable in Western Europe and America: "Wright in the USA, in Western Europe - architects such as Augus Perre, Peter Behrens, Otto Wagner, Adolf Loss, were looking for a way to get the architecture of the old society out of the deadlock it entered, so what we see now led to modern constructivism" [3].) Formed on the basis of functionalism, which is the main postulate of the modern style, constructivism began to gain special importance in the architecture of the new society: "The tendency of constructivism, which implies a methodological direction specific to urban architecture, began to be manifested in the creative activities of Tashkent architects"

Among the urgent tasks of the new system was: "Creation of new residential areas, reconstruction of places where workers stay, and creation of the general plan of Tashkent." This general plan of the city dates back to 1925, which was created under the leadership of G.M. Svarichevsky and L.N. Voronin. The plan aimed dividing the back of the station into new residential quarters without changing the city center"[4].

Due to its avant-garde characteristics, the constructivist style acquired a revolutionary essence in the early years of communist ideology and was praised by the geniuses of the Bolshevist idea. During this period, the new quarters and buildings built in the city of Tashkent show the characteristic of this style. As much as the Soviets welcomed the avant-garde of painting in the early period of the formation of their ideological postulates, they quickly adopted constructivism in architecture as well. It should be



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mentioned here that the architects who worked in the direction of constructivism saw a symbol of modern architectural forms corresponding to the architecture of the Soviet period.

Samarkand was chosen as the first capital of the Turkestan Soviet Autonomous Republic, which was formed in the early years of Soviet rule in Central Asia. However, the Bukhara Emirate and Khorezm Khanate, which were under the protection status of the tsarist government, were destroyed soon. As a result, the territories that were divided by the Soviets - Turkestan (until the conquest of Tsar imperialism - the Kokan Khanate), the Bukhara Emirate and the main core of the Khorezm Khanate - were united, and on October 27, 1924, the territorially unified Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan was established. From this period, along with the restoration of the "socialist" economy and national economy, several important public buildings - the Central Telegraph (architect M. Ginzburg), the Uzbek State Philharmonic (architects I. Goloshapov, A. Sidorov, A. Brilevich), Polyclinic (arch. K. Babievsky) on Sh. Rustaveli street were built [2].





Figure 1. Central Telegraph Figure 2. Polyclinic on Sh. Rustaveli street.

The building of the Workers' University (architect G.M. Svarichevsky) was built in 1929: "The design of this building is very simple, the classrooms are proportionally located on both sides of the meeting hall in the middle. The building of the Communist University (built in 1927; architect G.M. Bauer, now the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan) on Karl Marks (now Sayilgoh) Street was built in the constructivist style. It has a rather complex composition. Among the public and administrative buildings of the late 1920s and early 1930s, the House of the Supreme Council of National Economy (built in 1928; architect A.I. Petelin; now a printing house) stands out on the former Kirov (now Mustafa Kemal Atatürk) street, which occupies about a quarter of the space, the rooms of different shapes and views are skillfully planned" [1].

The capital of the Republic was moved from Samarkand to Tashkent in 1930. After the relocation of the capital of the republic, architects began to build a new building as a residence of the administration: "The Government House (in the place of the current Senate building) started the project of a new building in place of the former residence of the Governor-General (the White House)" [2] (architect S.N. Polupanov) . The construction of the cathedral here was destroyed, and it was planned to reconstruct the square and install a statue of Lenin. The Government House included the main areas of the White House and completely occupied the western part of Cathedral Square (later Red Square, now Independence Square).



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Figure 3. "Government House" (in the place of the current Senate building).



Figure 4. The building of the Communist University (now the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Uzbekistan)

Young architects and constructors like S. Polupanov, F. Dolgov, A. Pavlov, A. Sidorov, A. Petelin, K. Babievsky, graduates of Moscow, St. Petersburg and Ukrainian schools of architecture started their activities in Uzbekistan during this period [2]. Constructivism ideas, which were fashionable in Soviet architecture, were reflected in the works of architects who came to Uzbekistan, it is worth noting that engineers also took leading positions in the development of this direction. Later, architects embraced functional styles as the basis of creativity in the direction of constructivism. At that time, constructivists and rationalists focused on the search for new architectural forms of socialist life. Such



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architects as S. Polupanov, G. Svarichevsky and other architects dealt with these issues in Uzbekistan. As part of the building plan, commune houses with common dining halls, reading rooms, libraries, and recreation rooms were built.

In conclusion, during the industrialization processes carried out within the framework of the union in the country - the construction of new industrial cities and the reconstruction of existing ones, the design of residences combined with public buildings gained a special significance in the architecture of this period. Also, great attention is paid to greening and beautification of residential areas for residents to relax and have fun. The creative processes in the urban planning of our country, as in the realities occurring within the framework of the architecture of a unified territory of the Soviets, solving the problems of urban planning, such as the needs of industrial enterprises and the development of agriculture, providing the population with housing, became an actual issue in this period.

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ISSN: 2795-5621 Available: http://procedia.online/index.php/applied/index

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