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## Architecture Of The Palace-Gardens Of The Bukhara Emirate: The Karmana Palace-Gardens

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### ABSTRACT

This article discusses the formation of the palace-gardens in Karmana, which served as the second capital of the Bukhara emirs. The paper delves into the placement of these palaces, their functional layout, the role of traditional folk master architects in their aesthetic development, as well as issues of preserving these monuments through innovative methods of graphic reconstruction and data collection.

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**Introduction** Karmana, which was part of the Bukhara Emirate, has an ancient history. Outside the Ark of Bukhara, the territories along the Zarafshan River were rich in natural riparian forests and picturesque landscapes. The emirs frequently visited these areas for hunting and relaxation, which led to the construction of numerous palace-gardens. In particular, Emirs Muzaffarkhan, Abdul Ahad Khan, and Alim Khan commissioned the construction of many palace-gardens in Karmana.

**Relevance of the Study** The palace-gardens of the Bukhara Emirate were distinct from the palace-gardens of the Fergana and Khorezm khanates in that they were situated over extensive areas outside of the cities, designed as separate garden ensembles. Their structure typically included reception halls, residential quarters, mosques, summer palaces, kitchens, harems, and other structures, as well as pools, all situated within expansive gardens. The influence of European construction culture is also evident in the architecture of palace-gardens from the last century of the Bukhara Emirate [9, pp. 27-28].

The architectural features of the palace-gardens, particularly those in Karmana, remain under-researched. Thus, the significance of this study lies in compiling available information to create a comprehensive source and finding solutions for the preservation of the remaining palace-gardens.

**Research Object and Methods** Following the death of Amir Muzaffarkhan, Amir Abdullahadkhan ascended to the throne and began to develop Karmana as a second capital. He constructed numerous palaces and gardens in the area, with many located along the banks of the Zarafshan River. The creation of these

**Research Results:** Historical sources note that during the Manghit era, palaces such as Mirzo's Chorbough, Charmgary's Chorbough, and Olchin's Chorbough in Karmana were well-known leisure spots for the ruling elites of the Bukhara state. [8, p. 36]

Mirzachorbog is located in the Kohnakurgan area of Karmana. It has a more advanced and complete architectural composition compared to other palaces. Master Shirin Murodov, who worked on the construction of Karmana's palace gardens for 15 years under Amir Abdullahadkhan, demonstrated his expertise in this palace as well. Mirzachorbog has partially survived to this day and is considered a unique monument. Its preservation and restoration remain pressing issues for specialists, and various projects have proposed partial conservation, preservation, and restoration efforts.

Another significant palace is Haydarobodchorbog, which is currently being used as a children's summer camp. It is also notable as the place where Amir Abdullahadkhan passed away. [4, p. 19]

Additionally, palaces such as Honchorbog, Gulchorbog, Boghi Olchin, Askarobod Chorbog, Zaqotchilar Chorbog, Nosirbodomchorbog, and Jarchorbog existed, but little information is available about them. Their functional aspects can only be inferred from their names. For instance, Gulchorbog was known for its collection of rare flowers and trees, many of which were imported from abroad.

In Zaqotchilar Chorbog, Amir and other officials would distribute their zakat. Seasonal fruit-bearing and ornamental trees were also planted in the palace gardens. Large quantities of fruits such as cherries, apricots, and apples were exported abroad, especially the diverse varieties of grapes. [2, p. 128]

The names of the palace-gardens are closely tied to the craftsmen who built them. Researchers I. Notkin and V. Nielsen note that traditional methods were blended with new styles in the works of masters like Usta Murodov and Usta Hafizov. [6, p. 145]



Graphic Reconstruction of the Interior of Mirzachorbog Palace-Garden  
(Based on Author's Photos)

**Discussion and Conclusions:** The architecture of palace-gardens requires thorough and meticulous research. Valuable information regarding their historical formation is not only found in written sources but also through extensive studies conducted by specialists. It is essential to restore their historical drawings if they are lost, using period-appropriate analogs. Modern innovative computer programs will be invaluable in this process. Working with systems like CAD, 3DMax, and 3D printing is highly recommended. These programs increase efficiency and productivity, enabling high-quality graphic restoration projects for architectural monuments.

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