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ARTISTIC SOLUTION OF HI-TECH STYLE MOSQUES

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Abstract

This article discusses a new type of construction and decoration of mosques – the hi-tech style, new mosques built in this style around the world and in Uzbekistan, and their unique artistic aspects.

Keywords: *Islam, mosque, hi-tech, Doha mosque, Shakirin mosque, Ayman Kadyrov mosque, Tepa mosque, Hasankhan Qori mosque, R. Alimov, minaret, mihrab, minbar (a pulpit), ablution room*

Introduction

The development of Islamic architectural structures and their decoration in the world, the improvement of types and technologies of decoration, the distinction between traditional and innovative methods of construction and decoration increase the importance of studying this issue separately. The harmony of decoration and patterns in the architecture of modern mosques, the uniqueness in determining the norms of proportion, and the principles inherent in traditional practice require separate research.

Research methods:

Comparative, analytical, analytical methods of art history and theoretical approaches were used, as well as descriptive, as well as comparative-typological methods.

Results:

Hi-tech style mosques can be said to be a product of the 21st century. Especially in the last decade, a number of new mosques have been built in an ultra-modern style throughout Islamic countries. It is appropriate to mention some of the most famous mosques here. A mosque in the form of a space structure, which is considered one of the achievements of modern architecture, was opened in the capital of Qatar, Doha. The minarets of the Education City mosque have an unusual appearance, and these minarets, stretching into the sky, are inscribed with verses in Arabic script in golden letters. The height of these minarets is 90 meters, and both extend towards the city of Mecca. When looking at the mosque from the qibla, the word Allah in Arabic spelling appears.

Tourists and worshipers note that this building resembles a spaceship from afar. Construction work on this mosque began in 2013. Currently, the mosque, built in a complex architectural style, with internal and external buildings, is open to worshipers. The mosque has 5 main pillars, which represent

the 5 pillars of Islam. There is a fountain in the courtyard of the mosque, which flows water from four streams. The main feature of the interior of the mosque is the harmony of light and shadow. The uniqueness of the lighting system is that the light enters through holes of various shapes and creates the appearance of a starry sky. The mosque can accommodate 1,800 people at a time. It has separate halls for women and men. In addition, rooms for education and a library have been built here. The interior walls of the main building of the mosque are decorated with patterns and verses using the art of calligraphy. The walls of the mosque are decorated with verses from the Quran, and the altar is made of gold.

Kadyrov Mosque, also known as the "Mother's Heart," was built in 2014 in the city of Argun, Chechnya, and is the first high-tech mosque in Russia. The mosque was inaugurated on May 16, 2014. The mosque is named after Ayman Kadyrov, the wife of the first president of the Chechen Republic, A. Kadyrov. Construction of the mosque began in mid-January 2011 in the center of Argun, on the site of the former city mosque. It was designed by Turkish architect Deniz Baykan. The Ayman Kadyrov Mosque is the first mosque in Russia to be built in a high-tech style and designed in an ultra-modern way. During the day, depending on the weather, the domes of the mosque change color – from light gray to turquoise blue. At night, the mosque and the surrounding area are illuminated with colorful LED lamps and projectors. Its appearance resembles a huge Muslim turban. The prayer hall is located under this turban-like dome. The surface of the dome is completely decorated with Islamic gold water ornaments. The walls of the mosque are decorated with marble. The oval domes of the main prayer hall are covered with a dome 23 meters high and 24 meters in diameter. A separate decoration of the mosque is the central chandelier. Its weight is seven tons and its diameter reaches thirty meters. Thousands of light bulbs that make up one composition are painted with verses from the Holy Bible. Three minarets 55 meters high are erected. The mosque is designed for 15 thousand people and has 26 entrances. Two streams with fish flow down the stairs leading to the main entrance.

The Shakirin Mosque in Turkey follows the structure of a classic Ottoman mosque. It consists of a dome with a diameter of 39.6 meters and two minarets with a height of 35 meters. The dome was designed by British architect William Pye and is made of composite aluminum alloy. The main difference of the Shakirin Mosque from others is the abundance of glass: it has glass walls on three sides, so the interior is visible from the outside. The total area of the structure is 10 thousand square meters, the prayer hall is designed for 500 people. Modern materials were used in the interior: the pulpit is made of acrylic, the altar is reminiscent of a seashell, and the turquoise is made of composite material. The chandelier in the shape of a flowing drop is made of plexiglass, metal, mirrors and glass. It contains 99 names of Allah.

Faculty of Theology, Marmara University, Istanbul "Marmara Il o hiyat" Mosque (2015). Classical Ottoman Turkey based on the traditions of architecture, but incorporating modern technologies It was built by hand. It has a diameter of 35 meters and a height of 35 meters from the floor. The prayer hall is shaped like a nautilus shell, typical of Turkey. covered with a dome. The dome structure is made entirely of steel Under the dome are 2 prayer halls with a total capacity of 4,500 worshipers. This mosque has 4 floors, most of which are underground. It houses a car park, classrooms, lecture halls, a conference hall and shops. The mosque building has two stylized A tall minaret is attached. Light enters the mosque halls from the roof and through latticed windows on the walls.

Such modern mosques have been built and are still being built in many countries, such as Turkey, Malaysia, Qatar, Egypt, Lebanon, Germany, Croatia. Changes in world architecture are also observed in mosques in foreign Islamic countries. For example, in the basement of new mosques built in Malaysia, a huge supermarket and household services are located, creating comfortable conditions for worshipers who come to the mosque, that is, the mosque building has been transformed into a large socio-religious educational center for the city's population. It has 4 tall minarets, which not only serve as a landmark from afar, but also turn into huge clocks that tell the time of the 5 daily prayers.

The first Hi-tech mosque in our republic was opened in the Valley of Legends complex in Namangan in 2021. The project of the mosque was prepared by Turkish specialists. Construction began in 2017. The area of the Yusufkhan oglu Qosimkhan mosque is 1.8 hectares, and the khanaqoh is 2000 sq m. The internal capacity of the mosque is 4.5 thousand seats, and the outer courtyard can accommodate 9 thousand people. The minarets of the mosque are 45 m high, the dome is 36 m high, and the circumference is 24 meters. Brick, granite, and white marble were mainly used in the construction. The Yusufkhan oglu Qosimkhan mosque is designed in a unique circular shape, in the style of modern Arabic architecture. The roof and minarets are blue, one large and two small domes are made of gold. Two non-spiritual minarets with three circular rings, sharply narrowing upwards, rise from the domes. The top of the minarets is decorated with a crescent moon, the sacred symbol of Islam. The mosque has two floors, extending upwards in the shape of an umbrella. There are 4 windows in the main building, and a large gate in the center.

The first Hi-Tech mosque in Tashkent – Tepa Mosque – was opened on March 10, 2023. It is a prayer hall located on Tepamasjid Street, Munavvarqori neighborhood, Mirzo Ulugbek district of Tashkent city. The mosque was first completed in the last quarter of the last century by hashar, and in the last years of independence, it was rebuilt with the help of sponsors due to the need for repair.

By 2021, work on its complete reconstruction began. Over the course of two years, the mosque was built in a modern Hi-tech style, and the nave was renovated to a state of unobtrusiveness and beauty. Currently, the mosque, which can accommodate more than 2,000 worshipers, has a main nave, ablution rooms, a library, administration and other technical rooms, all of which are equipped with modern equipment. Another aspect is that, based on the demands of today, solar panels were installed in the mosque. This not only provided the mosque with free sources of electricity, but also connected the water and building heating systems to these renewable energy sources. Now the mosque has an energy source without unnecessary expenses. The chairman of the Muslim Board of Uzbekistan, Mufti Nuriddin Domla Kholiknazarov, attended the opening of the mosque and performed the first Friday prayer with the congregation. Before the Friday prayer, the mufti congratulated the gathering on the newly built mosque, which was comfortable and cozy, and emphasized that it was a worthy gift for the month of Ramadan. Then, he spoke about the need to prepare properly for the month of Ramadan, and for this, to refrain from various sins, backbiting, and reproaching. In particular, he called for avoiding harmful habits such as backbiting, lying, and harming others with both tongue and hand, and emphasized that a believer should make the most of the virtues of the month of Ramadan. At the end of the Friday prayer, the mufti prayed to Allah Almighty for peace in the country, prosperity in the people, and for our compatriots who contributed to the construction of the mosque.

The Hasankhan Qori Mosque in Chilanzor was built in an unconventional, hi-tech style. It can accommodate 4,000 worshipers at a time. The foundation stone for the construction of the mosque was laid in 2021, and it was completed with the support of generous sponsors and volunteers. The mosque opened on March 10, 2024. The building also includes necessary rooms such as an administration, a library, an ablution room and a prayer room for local and foreign tourists. The mosque project was developed by local designer R. Alimov. So far, 4 hi-tech mosque designs have been developed based on his design. In addition to Tashkent, hi-tech mosques have been built in Samarkand and Gazalkent. Hi-tech projects have also been prepared for the Chaqich Imam Mosque in Chorsu and the neighborhood mosque in Sijjak. Designer Alimov Ramziddin Bakhodirovich graduated from the P. Benkov Art School (1995–99) and the Kamoliddin Behzod National Institute of Art and Design (1999–2004). In 2000–2003, he received advanced training in Malaysia and worked as an architect-designer. He is engaged in the design of not only mosques, but also hotels, private houses and other structures. He has designed many buildings in Tashkent, Tashkent region and regions of the republic, and also has a number of author's works in

foreign countries. In particular, he designed mosques in Malaysia.

The Bek Baraka Mosque in Zangi Ota district is being built in a high-tech style. Its dome is made of glass, and the decorative windows in the building are made of iron bars. The building includes several parts, a special prayer room for women, classrooms, special rooms for marriage ceremonies, and a lobby. It is 2-story. The decorations under the dome have calligraphy inscriptions with verses in the Kufic style. The doors are made of metal and plastic. Plexiglas. MDF. Gypsum cardboard. He worked with a mosque in Samarkand and designed 6 mosques in Tashkent. R. Alimov noted that the color issue is very important when decorating the interior of mosques, especially the altars. Because in traditional mosques, cold colors, especially blue, are often used, and there are too many decorations, which tires worshipers. In hi-tech style mosques, light colors, white, and yellow are used, which leads to spiritual relief for worshipers. Khojaev Fayzulla Fozilkhonovich, trained in Malaysia. His teacher is Osim aka. Since the 1990 s, he has been working on creating decorative works for buildings. Since 2010, he has been working on muqarnas in mosques in Tashkent. He worked on decorating the Hasankhan Kori mosque in Chilanzor. He works on decorating the interior of the building. Designer Abdurashid is working on the Khai Tek mosque in Yalongoch. This neoclassical mosque is planned to be completed in 2025. Work has begun on the reconstruction of the Sheikh Ziyovuddinkhan mosque in the Mirzo Ulugbek district of Tashkent in a new style. Also, three mosques are being built in the Hi-tech style in the Mirzo Ulugbek, Chilanzor, and Shaykhantakhur districts.

In recent years, along with mosques built in the traditional style, modern Hi-tech style mosques have also begun to be built. This is especially evident in the reconstruction of existing mosques in situ. There are a number of reasons for the increase in Hi-tech style mosques:

1) In recent years, as a result of increased religious freedom, the number of worshipers has increased. This places demands on mosques to accommodate more worshipers. In a market economy, every square inch of land in the city has its own price. Therefore, mosques built in the traditional way can accommodate fewer worshipers. In hi-tech schools, the efficient use of available space is of primary importance. Hi-tech mosques, based on available opportunities, are expanding their space by using convenient solutions such as basements, 2 nd floors, and verandas to accommodate more worshipers.

2) In planning Hi-tech mosques, cost-effectiveness is also a top priority. Because decorating traditional mosques with traditional ganchkar, painting, wood carving, huge pillars, muqarnas, domes increases the cost of construction. Since most mosques are built with the funds of the population and sponsors, the design of mosques in the less expensive Hi-tech style is being chosen.

3) Another reason for the increase in hi-tech style mosques is the demands of customers. Currently, sponsors and wealthy people are visiting abroad a lot, especially Islamic countries such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Qatar, Malaysia, Turkey, Egypt. Seeing the designs of hi-tech style mosques in these places, they are sponsoring the construction of new style buildings, including mosques, in our republic.

4) Relatively cheap products are being used in the construction of new mosques, in particular, MDF, plexiglass, gypsum cardboard, and foam plastic are being used more for decoration. Doors are made of profiles and metal, and windows are made of plastic frames. Carpentry work is done on machines, and gluing is much cheaper than manual labor.

5) One of the main reasons is that it takes less time to build hi-tech style mosques than traditional style mosques.

The use of relatively light materials in hi-tech mosques also leads to the lightness of the building. In the artistic decoration of hi-tech style mosques, various colored lights and colored stones are used. In hi-tech style mosques, examples of ganchur, painting, and calligraphy are also used, but new forms and decorations are used based on the requirements of the author designers. That is, traditional masters work based on the designer's patterns. In hi-tech mosques, decorations are made in the style of minimalism, and a large part of the ceiling or walls is left undecorated. This is also due to the fact that in the decoration of traditional mosques, excessive, overly

grandiose construction and modest decoration, gilding, and the entire surface of the domes and walls are objected to by believers. In hi-tech style mosques, modern technology and equipment are also used effectively. In particular, solar panels, water heating equipment, and electric charging equipment are installed on the roofs of mosques. Once mosques are built and put into operation, the issues of their preservation are also relevant.

Conclusion

Hi-tech style buildings also outperform traditional mosques in terms of preservation efficiency. No matter how modern and unconventional the hi-tech style mosques are, they follow the basic rules: a minaret, a mihrab, a pulpit, and ablution facilities are built. The main difference between hi-tech style mosques and traditional mosques is clearly visible in the minarets.

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