



**THEORETICAL AND METHODOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS
OF STUDYING THE HISTORY OF CITIES OF UZBEKISTAN
DURING THE YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE (ON THE
EXAMPLE OF THE CITY OF KARSHI)**

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ABSTRACT

Cities located in a certain region of the world are considered as centers of society and the state. In the context of modern globalization, changes in the political, economic and socio-cultural spheres in the world have a certain impact on the development of cities. Therefore, the study of urban socio-economic processes from a historical point of view is becoming one of the pressing problems for researchers of history, including other fields.

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Introduction:

Today, the cities of the world develop from year to year and acquire a completely new look. Therefore, the study of the history of the city has become one of the main directions of historical science. Cities are characterized by the period of their creation, the nature and position of the historical, industrial, administrative and cultural center. The city has been formed as a whole as the main center of the state and development of society since ancient times. Ancient cities have gained importance as a stronghold of civilization in human history.

Uzbekistan is recognized in world history as the region where ancient cities were formed. In particular, the cities of Samarkand, Bukhara, Tashkent, Shakhrisabz, Karshi and Termez are cities with a history of many thousands of years. During the years of independence, the anniversaries of a number of ancient cities of Uzbekistan were celebrated on an international scale.

At the same time, these processes require an in-depth study of the history of urban planning. The field of urban planning in history is developing every year. This creates a need for new development of issues such as methodology, principles and approaches in urban history research.

Relevance and current state of the topic:

The power of cities has always been determined by their antiquity, convenient geographical location, role in the life of society and the country, cultural monuments, trade and industrial development. Today, along with the development of natural, economic and labor resources, science and technology, communications, logistics, transport system and industry, city landscape, tourist opportunities, and environmental condition are of great importance in modern urban development. [1].



The history of cities is important when studying the history of a particular area. Every city has genetics, that is, a history of origin. According to their purpose, cities are divided into political and administrative centers, industrial centers, transport and logistics centers, agro-industrial cities, recreation cities, science and cultural centers. In this classification of cities, the development of cities of each group does not occur by chance, but according to certain laws. For example, in large cities that play a leading role in the socio-economic development of a certain region, several industries are developed, research institutes, various educational institutions, administrative, cultural, educational organizations and institutions that in countries are scientific, technical, cultural and economic, they are considered the main cultural centers of development, and also play a role in management and organization for surrounding small towns and regions.

Experimental part (research):

The city is a vital necessity created by humanity, and this is very important for its full functioning. The city is a relatively high and complex form of construction activity. That is why the emergence of cities is directly related to the emergence of architectural structures. The city is an area with a complex planned structure, where productive forces, cultural traditions and specialized crafts are concentrated. The development of cities is directly related to many factors, primarily with the growth of the population, its labor activity and lifestyle [2].

You can determine the mentality, history and modernity, economy and culture of the people. Analysis of the formation and development of cities allows us to determine the following directions of the country's development.

As a very complex phenomenon, the city is formed and developed under the influence of various factors and conditions. The cities were originally a political, economic and religious center, as well as a fortress of defensive and strategic importance. The city was also a stronghold of the ruling dynasty's policies and a strong administrative center. Since cities were the main political centers, the conquest of one state by another ended in the capture of capitals and was considered a sign of the defeat of the defeated state. The English scientist G. Child suggested that, among other signs, a territory with a population of 5,000 or more people can be considered a "city" [3]. Researchers express the concept of "city" through its functional status. On this occasion, there are different opinions of researchers, contradicting each other. Some foreign scholars recognize the city as any settlement that occupies a politically dominant position in the gradual development of settlements. Another group of scientists proposes to attribute to the cities all settlements whose inhabitants are not engaged in agriculture. The following group of scientists considers cities only settlements that served as political centers.

One of the first Soviet researchers was N.P. Antsiferov, who tried to study theoretical issues of the history of urban planning [4]. In the studies of such researchers as I. Gruzy and M.G. Rabimovich, questions are analyzed related to the concept of "city" and the theoretical foundations of studying the history of cities in general [5].

Analysis of the obtained results:

The theoretical foundations of the problem of urban research are reflected in studies of various areas [6]. During the study, the authors express their thoughts about the image of the



city, the stages of the formation of a particular city, urban symbolism, which aspects of socio-economic and cultural life should be paid attention to when exploring the city.

In subsequent years, regional studies, in particular the history of cities, and studies within the framework of urban studies were generally supplemented by the study of urban space, which was associated with an interest in the mentality of the city. There are issues of urban, territorial and cultural (sometimes civilizational) identity. These studies were conducted in an interdisciplinary direction. The interest of researchers was manifested not only in the field of sociology and cultural anthropology, but also in the field of human geography, urban anthropology, geohistory and other fields of the humanities. The authors paid attention to the analysis of the study of the category of the image of the city in various disciplines [7].

Most researchers [8] refer to the classic work of the American specialist in the field of urban planning K. Lynch "Image of the City" (1960) and the concepts introduced by him (for example, "imagination"). But other researchers disagree with him. For example, L.P. Zamyatin argued that K. Lynch describes the topographic method as "the only" applicable today "in the city" and historically very controversial. L.P. Zamyatin considers other methods used in various scientific disciplines: art criticism, emphasizes that individual images of the city, created in the minds of an individual cultural figure, are transmitted to the entire population through works of art. Methods of political science (image of the city as a mental phenomenon); method of philological research, in which the main means of reconstructing the image of the city are word markers and metaphors, which can be used in the analysis of any written texts, including printed ones, specific to the city [9].

According to L.P. Zamyatin, not only mental images of the city are important, but also a geographical image, consisting of spatial ideas about the city and a system of signs and symbols that most accurately describe a particular city. The author proposes to classify geographical images according to their representative sources: reproduced by the media, created in narrative texts, scientific texts, sociological surveys, as well as on the basis of statistical data and images obtained from field studies [10].

The problem of defining regional identity is an ongoing topic of scientific interest. This, in turn, requires attention to the methods of urban anthropology. This issue is devoted to the work of the Canadian researcher T. Richardson, who, although close to sociology in the methodology of urban anthropology, drew attention to the fact that anthropology cannot be ignored when studying the image of the city. According to T. Richardson, this remains an important methodological basis, and many of the most interesting modern anthropological studies of cities are devoted to the imagination of the city and at the same time the practice of politics. There are also works on this topic by American historians Karl Qualls, Hervey De Haan and other authors. [11].

Conclusion:

The perception of urban space is indeed one of the most important categories used by urbanists, sociologists, geographers, psychologists and architects. At the same time, the question of what methods can be used in research on this topic is relatively little studied. Various methodological approaches, as well as methods and techniques that can be effective



for studying the perception of urban space, are also discussed in the works of researchers, who also propose and analyze the most effective ways to combine them.

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