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## Kaffal Shashi Mausoleum in Tashkent: History of Architecture and Methods of Restoration

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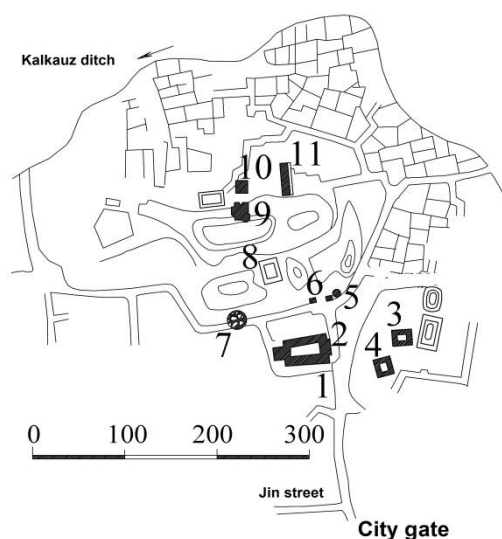
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**Abstract:** This article highlights the formation of the mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffalya Shashi in the city of Tashkent. And also, about its architecture, the history of restoration, methods of reconstruction and the current state of the monument.

**Key words:** Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi, restoration, conservation, tympanum, reconstruction.

### INTRODUCTION

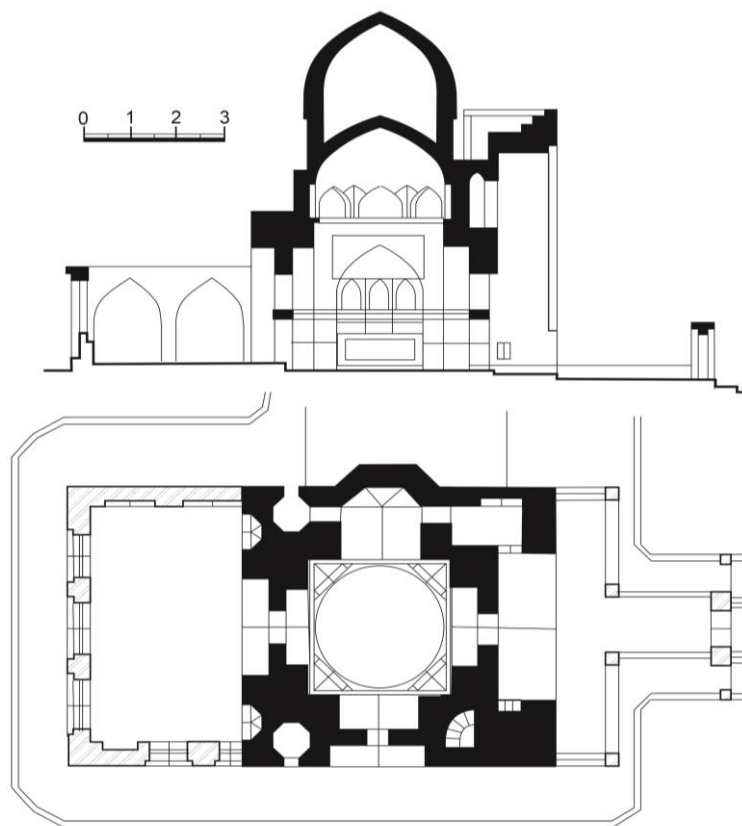
Uzbekistan is rich in masterpieces of historical architecture. Up to the present time, special attention has been paid to the preserved architectural monuments of Samarkand, Shakhrysbab, Bukhara, Khiva, and Termez. Architectural monuments of Tashkent, with their expressive artistic and local features, have the right to occupy their rightful place in the historical and cultural heritage of Uzbekistan. [4].



*Figure 1-Master plan of Khazrati Imam complex: 1-Barak Khan Madrasah, 2- Suyunchkhaja Khan mausoleum, 3-Tilya sheikh mosque, 4-Muyi Muborak Madrasah, 5-chillakhona, 6-entrance to the cemetery, 7-tree (chinar), 8-khauz, 9-Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi, 10-Mausoleum of Baba Khoja, 11-Nomozgokh mosque. (Bulatova, Man'kovsaka,1893)*

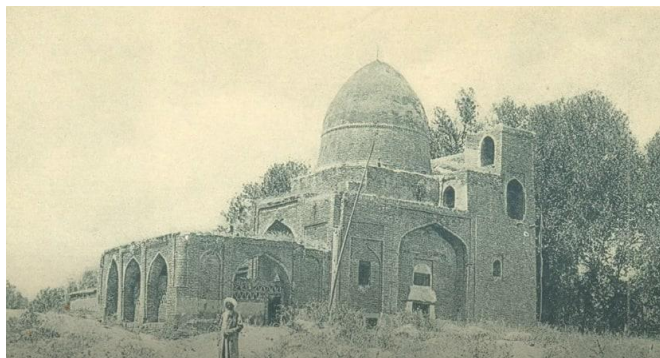
Abubakr Mukhammad Kaffal Shashi was one of the first imams of the muslim world, a native of Shash, a preacher and a well-known muslim scholar, an expert on the Koran, khodis, muslim law and lexicology.

According to historical information Kaffal Shashi died in 366 AH (976/977 AD) and was buried in the area irrigated by the aryk Kalkauz, where one of the four urban areas - Sebzar, later developed. In the 16th century, when under the Sheibanids Tashkent became a culturally developed and trade and crafts center of Maureannahr, Kaffal Shashi mausoleum was erected anew on the site of the destroyed old structure, which was one of the main shrines of the city [2]. The whole area in the Sebzar part of the old city was called Khazret Imam (in modern pronunciation Khast Imam) after the sheikh (Fig. 1), [1].



*Figure 2 - The plan of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi mausoleum (Bulatova, Mankovskaya, 1983).*

**The main part.** To the south there was a large, shady cemetery. Here grew a plane-tree (chinar) in girth - 12 m, with two trunks [1]. There is little information concerning the first period of construction of the tomb, which began in the 10th century, nevertheless it is assumed that after the death of Kaffal Shashi this place was considered a holy place (Anonymous). At present, the new complex also includes the Barak Khan Madrasah, the Tilla Shaykh Mosque, and the Moi Mubarak Madrasah (Fig. 1). The new tomb was built by the architect Gulyam Khussein in the mid-16th century. The tomb and its surroundings may have undergone many interventions due to wars, invasions, natural disasters, earthquakes, destruction, rebuilding or changes through restorations as well as expansions by adding new mausoleums [6].



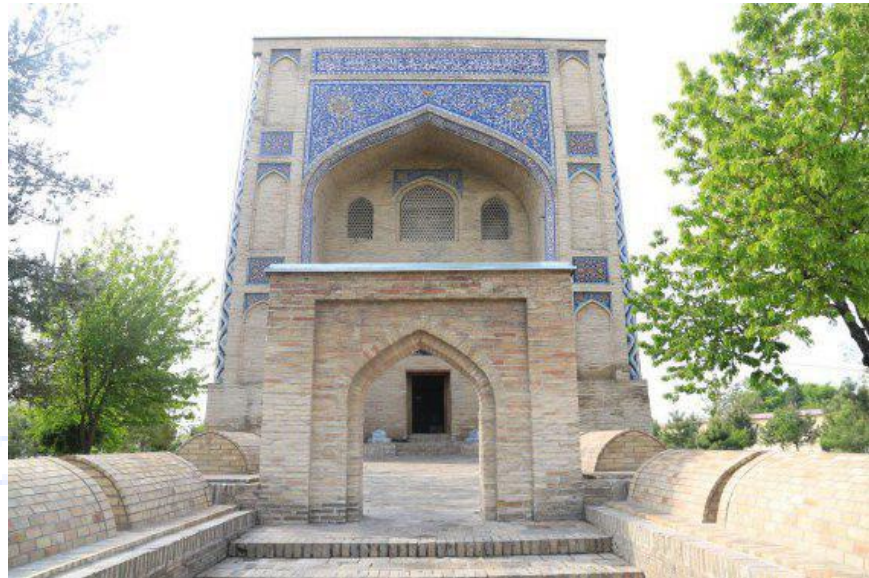
*Figure 3 - Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi., East-west facade., (Archive of Glav NPU., the colonial period).*



*Figure 4 - Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi., (Photo by author, 2022)*



*Figure 5 - Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi., (Archive of Glav NPU., the colonial period.).*



*Figure 6 - Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi., Overview., (Photo by author, 2022.).*

### **Architectural and restoration works**

A square in plan building with a developed portal exit from the north, secondary niche entrances from the south and east, a faceted protrusion - from the west (Fig. 2). The protruding niche is a developed space 6 m wide and 3.5 m deep. The cruciform plan, the two and three-tiered square and octagonal khudjras in the corner pylons, and the remnants of ganching ribs in the corners of the main square show that the hall was intended to be blocked by intersecting arches: the hall, however, is blocked by a dome on an octagonal tier of arch sails in combination with shield-shaped sails, covered from outside by a decorative dome on a conical drum (Fig. 3). From the building of the middle of the 16th century the walls are preserved to the height of five arches of the quatrefoil. The discrepancy between the plan and the ceiling suggests that either construction was interrupted and completed by unskilled craftsmen, or, most likely, the repair of the lost ceiling [1]. Typical for the 16th century preservation of brick facades - the facing layer - is made of brushed brick with sparing use of tile decoration, focused on the main facade [10].



The staircase, fence and entrance arch are made of rectangular modern bricks (Figures 5-6). In the walls of the ancient part of the mausoleum burnt brick (on the western facade of 26x4, 25.5x4.5-25x4.8, on the eastern 25x4.526x4.5; 10r.+10sh = 68.5cm) was used. The mortar is light, strong ganch. Plinth in repair plasters: two layers of ganch and one of cement (Figures 3-6). The framing of the main arch used brick (36-37x5.5-6.5 cm). The khudjras in the pylons of the portal are covered by "balkhi" vaults [1].

The facades are lined with black brickwork, on the east facade brushed facing brick (23x4 cm) is used, the figured paired column lining is done in wattle and daub. The main facade is in repair plaster, into which belts of majolica inscriptions (white and yellow letters on a blue background, blue and green shoots) are pasted, in their old place. The windows are inset with ganch fence. The drum of the dome is a complex geometric mosaic pattern (reconstructed during the years of independence) (Fig. 8). Above the door was a historical inscription in majolica panel, written in verse and containing the date of construction - 1541/42, the name of the architect - Gulyam Hussein and calligrapher Katyb Qudrat (Figures 9-10), [2]. Dimensions: in plan - 13.3 x 12.5 m, height of the portal - 12.1 m, the height of the dome - 16.4 m.

The building has been restored several times. In the first half of the 19th century the domes were rebuilt (Fig. 3) and the sub-dome structures were changed, the roof and the skuphoria were covered with iron; in 1934 the vault of the main portal was dismantled and re-laid, the deformed keel-shaped vault was repeated (Fig. 5); in 1948 the crack that appeared after the 1946 earthquake was re-laid [7]; The measurements were made in 1937 by T.S. Stramtsova [8], in 1941 and 1944 by students of the Central Asian Polytechnic Institute under the supervision of N.I. Frenkel.

Foundations - The foundations are based on bulk soils. Physical properties of soils: Volume weight of soil = 1.6 t/m<sup>3</sup>. Specific coupling = 0.05 kg/cm square. Angle of internal fracture = 30°;

Groundwater flows at a depth of more than 10.0 m from the surface.

Seismicity of the area is 9.0 points.

Frost penetration depth is 0.6 m.

The foundations of the mausoleum made of burnt brick were uncovered at a depth of 0.65 m - stepped, under it is domestic masonry to a depth of 1.1 m, the condition of the foundations is satisfactory, traces of destruction or cracks were no found.

Walls - All minor cracks in walls should be cleaned of old mortar and mixed with cement mortar. Areas of bulging brickwork should be repointed with cement mortar.

Roofing - The roof is made of square burnt brick size 250h250h50 mm. on cement mortar with iron seams on waterproofing carpet, with slopes to the wooden gutters. Keramsit with volume weight = 800.0 kg/m cube was used as backfill [9].

Kaffal Shashi mausoleum is a rare variety of multi-chamber mausoleum-khanaka of the mid-16th century with an asymmetrical layout; it has preserved a unique decor for Tashkent - 16th century majolica with a historical inscription containing the name of the master builder and date of construction. The monument is of great historical and artistic value.

Despite its small size, the mausoleum leaves an impression of great monumentality. Elevated on an elevated platform, it is visible from afar. The modesty of the exterior decoration - yellowish tone of brick texture of masonry - meets the clarity of the architectural composition. Only the facade of the portal is covered with cladding bricks and majolica slabs (Figures 9-10), [2].

As a result of numerous earthquakes, feudal upheavals, improper repair work and economic turmoil that occurred in the tomb of Abu Bakr Mukhammad Kaffal Shashi over the centuries, the original appearance

of the architectural monument has partially changed [5] and in the mid-20th century there were changes in the repair history of the complex (Fig. 7). The complex became a hotbed of scientific research, and repair works in Abu Bakr Mukhammad Kaffal Shashi mausoleum were carried out by qualified specialists in stages.

Even during the years of independence, the mausoleum was fully restored. Based on primary photographs (historical photos, archival sources) in 2006-2008 in the mausoleum of Abu Bakr Mukhammad Kaffal Shashi repair work was carried out (Figures 4, 6, 8, 10). This mausoleum is considered part of the memorial ensemble Khasti Imam.

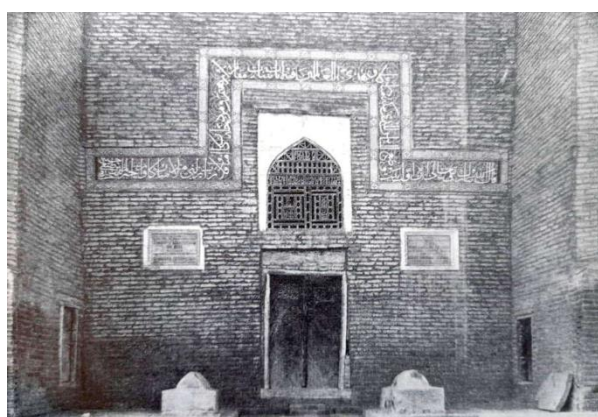
In spite of its small size, the mausoleum leaves an impression of great monumentality. Elevated on an elevated platform, it is visible from afar. The modesty of the exterior decoration - yellowish thin brick texture of the masonry - meets the clarity of the architectural composition. Only the portal facade is covered with cladding of glazed bricks and majolica slabs.



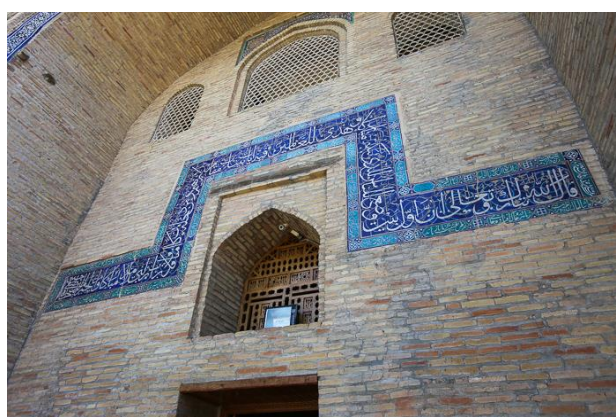
*Figure 7 - Mausoleum of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi with a new Russian style dome (1930)*



*Figure 8 - The turquoise dome stands on a high drum. On both sides are the tops of the stairs, which provide access to small hujras. (Photo by author, 2022)*



*Figure 9 - Entrance portal of Abubekr Mokhammed Kaffal Shashi mausoleum., (Bulatova, Mankovskaya, 1983)*



*Figure 10 - Majolica tiles with verses from the Koran and a note by the architect and masters of the building. (Photo by author, 2022)*

## CONCLUSION

To summarize, the foundation of the mausoleum was laid in 366 AH (976-77AD) after the death of Kaffal ash-Shashi, who built the mausoleum (the original mausoleum has not survived) 600 years later in the 16th century. The mausoleum is considered one of the best examples of medieval Tashkent architecture and is in a good style typical of its time. It is advisable to contribute to the protection, preservation of architectural monuments, to attract traditional masters and qualified restorers based on the results of scientific research [6]. The outstanding works of the masters of the past retain for us an important cultural, historical and artistic significance. They enrich the treasury of the culture of an era, constituting one of its beautiful assets.

Today, one of the architectural and religious monuments - the mausoleum of Abu Bakr Mukhammad Kaffal Shashi, serves as a place of pilgrimage. From the time of Kaffal Shashi and his disciples until the 16th century, the huts of a number of religious ulema were considered a cult-architectural monument on which cult buildings were formed.

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