

MANUSCRIPT HERITAGE OF BUKHARA

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Abstract: Libraries in the territory of Bukhara have existed since the most ancient times. During that period, libraries were located in the emir’s palaces, scientific centers, and educational institutions. Libraries were also considered state treasures and part of the ruler’s wealth. In the Middle Ages, manuscripts were kept in repositories within the rulers’ palaces, as well as in madrasas and mosques. The palace libraries of Bukhara contained books in Arabic, Persian, Turkic, Chinese, Russian, and Pashto.

The article discusses the rare collections of the Information and Library Center of the Bukhara region named after Abu Ali ibn Sina. Manuscript books are of enormous significance for the study of the history and cultural heritage of every nation. Famous and unknown laborers, representatives of many generations, preserved for posterity masterpieces of creative thought, described historical events, and expressed the aspirations and hopes of people, as well as their tireless striving for a better future.

The study of these manuscripts, their scholarly description and cataloging, the creation of a unified electronic catalog of Oriental manuscripts preserved in manuscript collections and private libraries of Uzbekistan, and finally, the publication of these monuments of cultural heritage of our ancestors have been and remain among the main tasks of national historians and Orientalists.

Keywords: library, book, article, bibliography, search, placement.

Аннотация: Библиотеки на территории Бухары существовали с самых древнейших времён. В тот период библиотеки были при эмирских дворцах, в научных центрах, учебных заведениях. Библиотеки считались также государственным богатством и частью казны правителя. В средние века рукописи хранились книгохранилищах при дворцах правителей, а также при мадрасах и мечетях. В дворцовых библиотеках Бухары имелись книги на арабском, персидском, тюркском, китайском, русском, пушту языках.

В статье рассказывается о редких фондах информационно- библиотечного центра Бухарской области имени Абу али ибн Сино. Рукописные книги имеют огромное значение для изучения истории и истории культуры каждого народа. Известные и неизвестные труженики, представители многих поколений запечатлели для потомков шедевры творческой мысли, описали исторические события, выразили думы и чаяния людей, их неустанное стремление к лучшему будущему.

Исследование этих рукописей, научное описание и издание их каталогов, создание единого электронного каталога восточных рукописей, хранящихся в рукописных фондах и частных коллекциях Узбекистана, и наконец, публикация этих памятников культурного наследия наших предков были и остаются одни- ми из главных задач отечественных историков и востоковедов. многих поколений запечатлели для потомков шедевры творческой мысли, описали исторические события, выразили думы и чаяния людей, их неустанное стремление к лучшему будущему.

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Ключевые слова: библиотека, книга, статья, библиография, поиск, размещение.

In the modern era, understanding one's own identity requires a deep study of the spiritual heritage of our ancestors, as well as the history of culture, religious and secular thought. Meeting this need is only possible through scholarly research and reflection on history. In this process, manuscripts – authentic witnesses of the past – and the treasures where they are preserved, play a special role.

One such treasury is the Oriental Manuscripts Fund of the Information and Library Center named after Abu Ali Ibn Sina in the Bukhara region – a renowned spiritual center with an extensive collection of manuscript books covering various fields of knowledge.

It is worth noting that in the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries, ancient Bukhara produced many educated and enlightened individuals – historians, local historians, writers, and poets – who made an immense contribution to the cultural heritage of future generations. Among these enlighteners, a special place belongs to the famous local historian, Orientalist, translator, and professor Muso Saidjonov.

Muso Saidjonov, a collector and researcher of the rich historical and cultural heritage of his ancestors, played a key role in the creation of the Local History Museum and the Regional Library named after Ibn Sina in Bukhara. He worked actively to enrich the collections with rare sources: manuscripts, lithographic books, historical documents, samples of calligraphy, and other spiritual treasures. At that time, the library was located in the building of the Mir-i-Arab Madrasa of Amir Olimkhan, near the Kalyan Minaret.

In 1971, a new building was constructed for the library, and the rare collection was transferred there. The core of the Oriental Manuscripts Fund consists of books from the libraries of the palaces of the Bukhara emirs, as well as personal collections of such prominent figures as Ahmad bin Mahmud (Khoja Porso), Ahmad Donish, Sadri Ziyo, Muhammad Siddiq Khashmat, Mahdikhon Kotib, and his son Abdulfattoh Kotib.

The fund contains manuscripts dating from the 8th to the 20th centuries, as well as lithographic editions from the 19th–20th centuries, published in Central Asia, Afghanistan, Russia, Turkey, Iran, India, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, and in the cities of Uzbekistan – Bukhara, Samarkand, Khorezm, Tashkent, and Kokand.

The books are in Arabic, Persian, and Turkic languages (Old Uzbek, Tatar, Azerbaijani, Turkmen), covering a wide spectrum of sciences.

The owners of the books are described in detail – such as Muhammad Sharif Sadri Ziyo, Muhammad Siddiqkhontura Khashmat bin Amir Muzaffar, Abdulfattoh bin Mahdikhon, and Ibodullo Odilov. Their names can be found on the seals and covers of the books, confirming the authenticity of their provenance.

The manuscripts were copied by calligraphers from Maverannahr and Khorasan. Some were copied directly in Bukhara, as indicated on the final pages of the manuscripts. For example, a Sufi compendium was copied by Kotib Nurmuhhammad bin Sultan Muhammad Balhi in 1818 in the Subhonqulikhon Madrasa in Bukhara.

Among the most valuable exhibits are two leaves of the Qur'an containing verses 35–81 of Surah Al-Qasas, corresponding to the missing part of the Langar Qur'an, dating back to the 8th century.

They were copied on gazelle skin and kept in the library of Muhammad Siddiq, son of Emir Muzaffar.

Another remarkable treasure is a beautifully written Qur'an in the "Naskh Bukhari" script, copied by the calligrapher Mirzo Abdullo Bek, with ornamentation executed by the renowned Orientalist Ibodullo Odilov.

Among the Qur'anic commentaries preserved in the collection are:

- Tafsir-i Husayni by Husayn Va'iz Kashifi (autograph),
- Mafatih al-Ghayb by Fakhr al-Din al-Razi,
- Jami' al-Bayan by al-Tabari,
- Tafsir-i Ya'qub Charhi,
- Ruh al-Bayan by Shaykh Isma'il Haqqi.

Among the Hadith collections are:

- Mishkat al-Masabih by Mustafa al-Rumi, copied in 1722,
- Sharh Mishkat by Abdul-Haqq Dihlawi (17th c.),
- Kanz al-'Ummal by Ali ibn Hisam al-Din — a collection of more than 40,000 hadiths.

The collection also includes fatwas and works on Islamic law, including:

- the autograph Fatawa-i Mustasfa by al-Nasafi (1286),
- Fatawa-i Qaydi (1359),
- Kholasat al-Fatawa (1566).

Fatawa-i Tatarkhaniy (1599),

- Jami'al-Rumuz (1666),
- Asrar-i Dabbusiyya (1727),
- and others.

Among the Sufi works are those of such authors as:

- Jilani (1472),
- Muhammad bin Mahmud Bukhari (Fasl al-Khitab),
- al-Ghazali (Kimiya-yi Sa'adat, Ihya' 'Ulum al-Din),
- Ahmad Faruqi al-Naqshbandi (Maktubat, and others),
- Abdurahman Jami (Silsilat al-Dhahab).

There are also historical sources, including:

- Nawadir al-Waqa'i by Ahmad Donish,
- Tarikh al-Tabari,
- Temurnama,
- Baburnama,
- Kitab al-Qand, and others.

Historical works on other countries include:

- Tarikh Salatin-i Sāsāniyya,
- Tarikh-i Iran,
- History of Peter the Great,
- and chronicles of the Russo-Japanese War, etc.

Also collected are biographies of outstanding personalities, jurists (fuqaha), Sufis, and scholars — in the genres of tadhkira and manaqib.

Among the medical manuscripts are:

- Zakhira-i Khwarazmshahi by Jurjani,
- Tibb al-Qumri,
- Tibb-i Akbari,

- Al-Qanun fi al-Tibb by Ibn Sina, and others.

There are also translations of the works of Hippocrates and Galen into Arabic and Persian.

In addition, the fund contains works of Eastern classical literature:

- Kulliyat of Sa'di Shirazi,
- Khamsa of Nizami,
- Divan of Navoi, Bedil, Asiri,
- collections of Bukhara poets, etc.

There are also compilations of tales, stories, and poetic works that can be translated and used for educational purposes.

To assist researchers, the fund also holds dictionaries, glossaries, and encyclopedias in various languages.

Finally, the library features works on mathematics, geometry, logic, philosophy, astronomy, medicine, botany, chemistry, the art of calligraphy, and other sciences, authored by scholars of the East.

The presence of such a rich and diverse heritage in the Oriental Manuscripts Fund of Bukhara testifies to the high level of culture, science, and spirituality of our ancestors. These works are important not only for history but also for nurturing an enlightened generation dedicated to the prosperity of our country.

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