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Khorasan
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The heritage of Timurid architecture in Khorasan

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Introduction

The reign of the Timurids is one of the most brilliant periods of Islamic civilization and the period of the rise of Iranian art and architecture. The special architectural style and beautiful decorations left in the buildings of the Timurid era are remarkable. During this period, architecture achieved unprecedented prosperity in terms of grandeur and richness of decorations, which can be seen in buildings such as Ghiasieh Khorgard School, Dodar School and Goharshad Mosque. Timurid mosques and schools, as well as family tombs and buildings built on the tombs of political and scientific figures of this period, somehow represent its architectural style, such as high and onion-shaped entrances and domes, as well as beautiful decorations dominated by azure. It catches the eye of every viewer. Shrines built on the tombs of Sheikh Ahmad Jami and Abu Bakr Taybadi are among the tombs of the Timurid era in Khorasan. Also, other buildings such as caravanserais, reservoirs, mill, etc. were built in this period, which although a large part of this building may have been destroyed or rebuilt in later periods, but still reflects the taste and art of architecture. It is the Timurid era. In this research, the architecture and decorations of this building have been studied by library method and descriptive method.

Methodology

Inspired by architectural styles such as Seljuk architecture, the architecture of the Timurid period reached such a level of prosperity that the buildings of this period are considered as the most beautiful historical monuments. Emphasis on the maximum size of the building, attention to diversity both inside and outside the building, the predominance of azure color in tile decorations, the invention of new types of domes and arches, the richness of color decorations were important features of this new architectural style. During this period, methods were tried to make the building look taller, including by creating parallel and vertical lines in the symbols, so that it draws the eye upwards, dragging the main arches of the roofs up to the dome. To make the roof appear taller, create arches that run through two floors without being cut between the two floors, such as Ghiasieh Khorgard School. The high porches and entrances of the Timurid buildings are decorated with beautiful mosaic tiles and the onion-shaped and grooved domes, which are mostly decorated with azure tiles, are the special features of this period that distinguish the Timurid buildings from other period architecture. It makes historical distinctions. Also, various types of multi-covered domes were used and the covered domes appeared for the first time in this era, the oldest of which has been used in the Goharshad tomb in Herat.

In addition to the looting and killings he carried out in the occupied territories, Timur paid as much attention to civil works as possible, especially in Samarkand. He transferred artists and craftsmen from different areas to Samarkand, who played an important role in the development of architecture of this period (Kavusi, 1389: 109). Architects from

different parts of Iran have played a role in the formation of Timurid architecture, because after his conquests, Timur chose the city of Samarkand as its capital and invited architects and artists to develop it. These artists created several buildings and finally in the ninth century, Samarkand became the center of Islamic art innovations, which formed a new style by using the architecture of previous periods, which we see the peak of prosperity and progress during the reign of Shahrokh Teymouri. . In this era, mosques and schools were designed similarly, which reduces the detection coefficient of the visitor to the building, at least from a very weak exterior. Timur attached great importance to the development of cities, especially the city of Samarkand. The masters and architects of this period also used their skills and tastes in these buildings in this created space, which resulted in the formation of a special style of Timurid architecture, which complemented both the previous methods and the influence of the architecture of later periods. Took. After Timur, attention continued to be paid to the construction of buildings during the Shahrokh period, as his era is considered one of the brilliant periods of Timurid architecture in Khorasan. Shahrokh, his wife Goharshad, as well as a number of ministers and emirs of this period, such as Pirahmad Khafi and Jalaludd Firuz Shah, had significant civil activities. Among the buildings of this period, we can mention Goharshad Mosque, which was built by the order of Lady Goharshad, and Ghiasieh Khorgard School, which was built by the order of Pirahmad Khafi. During this period, unlike the Timurid period, when carved and glazed pottery or seven colors were used, the use of mosaic tiles expanded and seven-color tiles declined. In later periods, with the success of Shahrokh's successors during the second half of the ninth century, due to political problems, architecture did not continue as in the Shahrokh period. . Affordable seven-color tiling was revived, and Sultan Hussein Bayqara and Amir Alishir Navai were the main supporters of this style. But after Shahrokh's death, as a result of political instability and family disputes, civil activities and attention to architecture stagnated. Among the remarkable buildings that were built during the period of these two Timurid rulers, at the same time with the construction of numerous magnificent buildings such as schools and mosques, were the tombs, which today are considered to be the largest and most important buildings of the ninth century The tombs, which were usually built on the tombs of kings and mystics of this period, were gradually expanded with the addition of sections such as mosques, schools and monasteries. The construction of tombs in this period has been very popular among the Timurid sultans and officials, so that tombs have been erected in the corner next to their territory and they have been decorated in beautiful ways. In addition to this building, it is necessary to mention the caravanserais and reservoirs built in this period in Khorasan. In this research, using field information and library resources, to study and express the features and differences of some of these buildings that are important More are, will be paid. Among the questions that we are trying to answer in this article, the following can be mentioned:

What is the main feature of Timurid architecture that distinguishes the works of this period from other buildings?

What are the architectural and decorative features of the Timurid monuments in Khorasan?

Results and Discussion

The Timurids paid special attention to the creation of numerous buildings and in this regard, they used the common architectural design and method of previous periods. In terms of building decorations, this period is one of the important Islamic periods that flourished as a result of the attention and encouragement of rulers such as Timur and Shahrokh, as well as other personalities of this period who were involved in the construction of various buildings. The method of decorating with mosaic tiles in the Timurid period indicates that the artists of this period had reached a high level of skill in the decorative method, so that in less period such a tile decoration has been observed. Buildings such as Goharshad Mosque in Mashhad, Ghiasieh Khorgard School, as well as buildings built in Bukhara and Herat, show the prominence of the art of tiling and its application in religious buildings. In most buildings of this period, the verticality of the building has been emphasized, which was mostly created by using circular towers in the corners of the building. Such decorations are one of the first features of the Timurid period. In most buildings of this period, the verticality of the building has been emphasized, which was mostly created by using circular towers in the corners of the building. This type of decoration is one of the first features of the Timurid period.

Conclusion

Also, one of the most remarkable results that can be obtained from this period is the amount of huge buildings that were built in this era, high porches and entrances decorated with beautiful mosaic tiles and onion-shaped domes, which are mostly made of tiles. Decorated azure is a special feature of this period. Also, the architecture of the Timurid era can be considered as the peak of the use of color in architecture, an example of which can be seen in the Kufic inscriptions, copies and thirds in gold on the background of blue tiles.

Keyword: Timurid period, Khorasan, architecture, decorations



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