

## **About Interconnection between Memorial Monuments of Azerbaijan and Eastern Countries**



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### **ABSTRACT**

Monuments of material culture of Azerbaijan find analogs among monuments of Central Asia, Turkey and Iran not only in architectural planning solutions, but also in construction equipment and construction design. Masters from the Middle East including Azerbaijan were involved in construction of considerable buildings in these countries. The unity of the cultural threads conducting in Transcaucasia is found in the architecture of the mausoleums erected in Asia Minor and Khoresm. Construction art of the Azerbaijan masters had got into Khorezm masters' environment through the cities of the Golden Horde. Close interrelation of composition and construction design was shown in the mausoleum Pir-Mardakyan (XIII-th century), in the village Geoglyar of the Shemakha region of Azerbaijan and in Fakhr ad-Din Razi's mausoleum (XIII-th century) in Kunya-Urgench in Turkmenistan. Pir-Mardakyan mausoleum is of tower and dome type. This type of mausoleums is intermediate between the tower mausoleum and a dome tomb. Fakhr ad-Din Razi's mausoleum belongs to the Khorezm type. High-rise compositions are inherent in Khoresm: massive basis, quite high drum and peaked tent dome. This mausoleum is a transitional stage from central dome type construction, to portal where one of four facades is accented by decorative enrichment. Mausoleums Pir-Mardakyan and Fakhr ad-Din Razi, as tower dome type, represent a combination of usual dome tombs and tower mausoleums. Usually there isn't any gradual transition in these mausoleums between cubic and top tower like volume. That's why the tower part is perceived from the outside not as compositionally finished bottom volume, but as an independent volume which has been set up on the lower part. The main part of the internal volume of the mausoleum Pir-Mardakyan is the room of a tomb having in the plan a square form, passing by means of angular trumpet arch in an octahedron. Octahedral prism which is ended with a pyramidal tent towers over an octahedron. Fakhr ad-Din Razi's mausoleum represents characteristic construction for Central Asia, square on external contour and with the square room developed into crosswise one by the means of deep vaulted niches, arranged in the thickness of the walls. Masters from Azerbaijan, Central Asia and Iran creatively solved methods of ceramic facing in architecture, synthesizing in it achievements of arts and crafts of their local countries. Method of "corrugating" of a wall surface was widespread in architecture of these countries. Corrugation gained distribution in memorial buildings of Iran — in Radkan and Kishmara's mausoleums. This method, in the beginning only as constructive, in process of appearance of new construction materials gradually turned into the decorative. In Azerbaijan this method took the place only in the mausoleum of Karabaglar. If in the Karabaglar mausoleum this method is obviously constructive, in Radkan it has decorative character. One can see an original interpretation of corrugation method in the mausoleum of Sheikh Sheref in Kunya-Urgench. In that architecture of the mausoleum Juga village (Azerbaijan) we observe the same composition methods, architectural forms and ornamental motives, as in Akhlat, Erzurum, Vastan's monuments. This characterizes interrelation of construction culture of the people of Transcaucasia. Prevalence of finishing of the buildings by facing blocks is testimony of that, for example Ulu-Dzhami's mausoleum on the bank of the lake Van and Magoka Attari's mosque in Bukhara.

**Keywords:** Memorial monument, Azerbaijan, mausoleum, Middle East, portal.