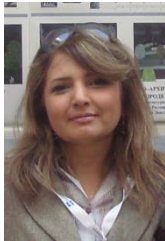


Style of “Oriental” Arab East in the Architecture of Baku



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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to find out the factors influencing architectural aspects which form style of “oriental” in Baku in XIX - and beginning of XX centuries and analysis of architecture of the buildings of that period which mirrored this style the most. Baku's Medieval architecture's role in introducing and developing style of “oriental” in Baku is undeniable taking into account the fact that the architecture of the majority of the buildings established in 19th-20th centuries was mostly about synthesis of local and medieval architecture. The union of Azerbaijan in the seventh century with Arab Caliphate and the adoption of Islam led to the changes in the traditional life style, as well as the architecture. In the method of construction of a ribbed dome of the minaret, its completion is a traditional belt stalactite cornice - sheriff feel the influence of architecture minarets of mosques, widespread in the Maghreb and Egypt. The architecture of the palace ensemble Shirvanshahs - in the Old city- Icheri Sheher combines the features of local Shirvan-Absheron branch and the Muslim East. Important role in the architecture of the medieval Baku, as well as all the Muslim East, played an ornament. To some extent the ornament compensated Islamic ban on depiction of living beings, but at the same time, it was an important means of expressing artistic content. In the XIX-early XX century with the development of capitalism and industry in Azerbaijan architecture developed primarily in two areas - regional and European. Construction of the Trans-Caucasian railroad with numerous facilities in 1883 marked the beginning of the penetration of the architectural style of “oriental” of Azerbaijan, which means the architecture of the Arab East from Egypt to Spain. The emergence of fashion during the Romantic era in Baku for East exoticism could be explained with the search of architectural style that could compete with bored forms of classical and Gothic. The architecture of the city of Baku in the XIX - early XX century was dominated by modern and eclectic with elements of style of "oriental". In spite of all the “Europeanization” of Baku, the architectural elements of buildings: the national ornaments, pinnacles, window bars, etc. clearly express the oriental flavor of the city. One of the main reasons for the spread of the features of style of “oriental” in Baku is the fact that during this period in Azerbaijan there were no socio-economic conditions for the revival of the national architecture on a large scale, which could opposed to the European style and eclecticism. That is why any manifestation of national methods and forms in architecture was often limited to the erection of an eclectic (including the style of “oriental” buildings. Analysis of the architecture of the buildings of Baku, where we used elements of the east, including the style of “oriental”, they say that the Baku-based architects in the construction of these buildings often turn to oriental architectural forms and decorative motifs that to some extent closer to the traditions of the local Shirvan Absheron architectural school.

Keywords: Baku, Medieval, Medieval, Shirvan-Absheron, Arab East, regional.