



## THE ROLE OF TOPONYMS IN THE STUDY OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE CITY OF TASHKENT)

**Dr. Khayriya A. Burieva**

*Doctor Of History Dsc Acting Professor, Department Of Source Studies And Archival Studies, Faculty Of History, National University Of Uzbekistan*

### ABOUT ARTICLE

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**Abstract:** This article is devoted to the topic of the cultural life of Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the 20th century, which studies the history of the spheres of the cultural life of the city on the example of transformational processes in toponyms associated with the cultural institutions of the city. In particular, on the basis of an interdisciplinary approach, the issues of cultural development are reflected in historical toponymy. Based on archival and statistical sources, the article provides information on the names of cultural institutions - theater, cinema, museums - operating in the city of Tashkent in the 20th century.

### INTRODUCTION

Uzbekistan is one of the centers of civilization with an ancient history in the world. Its rich history is reflected in its cultural and spiritual monuments. Scientific research in different historical directions is important in researching this historical heritage. In particular, the results of the study of the history of cities and place names in them have a special place in clarifying issues related to the country's cultural development. Historical toponyms are included in the cultural heritage of the peoples of the earth, in a number of countries they are registered in normative documents as historical and cultural heritage. The United Nations Convention on the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage sets important guidelines for the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage, and also emphasizes the need to support organizations and scientific projects and research in this field [8; Convention 1972]. For example, Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan, is known as one of the major culture, art, science, technology, industry, trade centers in the Asian region, and a city with a rich history. Its cultural development is directly related to the political, social, economic, and cultural processes that took place in its territory during long historical processes, which left a certain mark on the topographical and

toponymic conditions of the city. From this point of view, toponymic research is required to clarify the history of cultural institutions of the city.

### THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

This article contains the facts related to the cultural institutions that operated in the 20th century in the territory of Tashkent city and their names.

It is known that at the beginning of the 20th century, the city of Tashkent served as the capital of the Turkestan Governorate. Along with administrative organizations, cultural institutions are also established here. Including, various scientific, cultural, educational societies, circles, statistical committee, astronomical observatory, library, museum, club, cinema, printing house, photo studios were opened. According to sources, in 1911 New City had 2 museums, 1 astronomical observatory, 1 statistical committee, 3 theaters, 2 cinemas, more than 10 libraries, 14 printing houses, 14 photo studios, more than 60 different societies, circles, there were clubs [1; Burieva, 2009, p. 93-98]. They organized their work based on the instructions of the Turkestan General Governorate in connection with the study of the country's history, nature, natural resources, economic opportunities, and cultural life, as well as for the purpose of organizing the cultural life of the population in a certain way. These factors are also reflected in the names of institutions.

The names of such institutions usually refer to a certain area, profession (Туркестанский педагогический кружок – Pedagogical circle of Turkestan; фотография “Кавказская” – “Kavkazskaya” photo studio), the name of the famous person and the field of activity of the institution (Пушкинское общество или Пушкинское общество, организующее образовательные чтения и служащее народному образованию – The Pushkin Society or Society named after Pushkin, which organizes educational readings and serves public education), the name of the owner of the organization, and sometimes the name and serial number (Типография Берсона – Berson Publishing House; Первая частная типография или Типография Ильина – The first private printing house or Ilin printing house), belonging to the state or an organization (Типография при Канцелярии генерал-губернатора – Printing office at the Governor General’s Court; Мусульманское благотворительное общество “Помощь” – “Help” Muslim charity society) are grouped into toponyms.

The history of the city of Tashkent in 1917-1980 is related to the fact that the city served as the capital of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic established by the Soviet government, and the political, economic and social changes that took place in the life of the city during this period were directly related to its cultural development. Cultural institutions organized their activities on the basis of five-year plans established by the Soviet government. The activities mentioned in these plans are aimed at establishing an ideology that glorifies the Soviet system, ensuring the rule of a single Communist Party in the new country built by the Soviets, and instilling obedience to the government’s decisions in the people's minds. The idealistic ideas of the Soviet system were propagated in trade unions, libraries, and various clubs organized in institutions and organizations, the policy of glorifying the persons who sacrificed for the creation of the Soviet state, who were active in the work of the Communist Party was carried out, and the moral freedom of a person was restricted. The names of the newly established cultural institutions were also chosen by the government in accordance with the prevailing ideology, in particular, the names of famous statesmen of the Soviet era, the names of important political events made up a large part of the toponyms associated with cultural institutions.

In the years after the Second World War, the types of museums, libraries, hotels, cafes, restaurants, etc. increased, and new methods were introduced to architectural and artistic decoration. Changes in the dynamics of the number of theaters, cinemas, and museums in statistical sources show that the

number of theaters and museums has decreased compared to the pre-war period, but film productions, on the contrary, have increased (see the table).

**Table**  
**Theater, cinema, museums \***

	1940 y	1950 y.	1955 y.	1958 y	1959 y	1960 y
Theaters	12	7	7	7	6	6
Cinema	61	53	79	86	77	79
Museums	5	5	5	5	4	4

\* The table is based on the following literature data: The national economy of the city of Tashkent. Statistical collection. - Tashkent: Gosstatizdat, Uzbek branch, 1961. - P.86-90.

During the period until the end of 1966-1980, the number of cultural institutions in Tashkent doubled, and this situation is primarily explained by the expansion of the city's territory and the increase in the number of its population due to natural and mechanical growth. In the amendments made to the city's master plan in the years after the earthquake, it is planned to create beautiful gardens in the central part of the city, in the center of districts, in other densely populated areas, as well as around large water bodies, and to build recreation parks - parks. Along with the elimination of the consequences of the Tashkent earthquake, new theaters, concert halls, palaces of culture, and museums were built in the city.

Some information about the recreation park, cinema, theater, museum, library, clubs in the city can be found in archival sources of the period under study..

Cultural and recreational parks are established in the central part of the city or in other densely populated areas. Parks have become a place of public recreation, rich in nature, providing cultural recreation in the spring and summer season. There are various attractions, restaurants and cafes. The working order of the parks is determined by the government, and the annual plan includes celebration of holidays, various cultural and educational events. A hall for performances and lecture halls have been built in the park. During 1970-1980, new parks were created in the city, and in 1980 there were 22 parks and gardens in Tashkent [4; Geogr. atlas, 1984, 55 p.]. In the names of parks and gardens, there are many things related to anthroponyms and historical facts (Furqat Culture and Recreation Park, A.S. Pushkin Culture and Recreation Park, May 1 Culture and Recreation Park, Communards Avenue), the park belongs to a certain organization, the main activity the number of toponyms reflecting its direction or specific features is relatively small (Uzbek SSR FA Botanical Garden, Small Garden near the Palace of Arts, Zoo).

Since cinemas are considered to be the main places where people enjoy cultural entertainment throughout the year, the city administration paid special attention to their condition, work plan and program of shows. In archive documents, reports and inspection materials of cinemas contain information about positive and negative aspects of their work. In the 1980s, 24 large cinemas operated in the city [5; TShMDA F.7, v. 73]. The names of the cinemas are named in a unique way, that is, according to the analysis of their meaning, the names included in the series of cultural and spiritual toponyms ("Druzhba", "Guncha", "Chayka", "Tinchlik"), the toponyms named after the area where they

are located ("Yangiabad", "Kokcha" ), named after geographical places ("Kazakhstan", "Vostok", "Moscow"), toponyms related to historical events ("Tashsovet 50th anniversary", "VLKSM 30th anniversary", "UzSSR 25th anniversary") and anthropotoponyms ("Hamza", "Lisunova", "K.Yormatov" film studio).

Theaters have a special role in increasing the level of cultural development of city residents. Since Tashkent is the capital city, several theaters famous for the republic were placed in it [6; TShMDA f.28, p. 55-60]. It is known that in the mid-1980s, 9 theaters served the audience with their creative products. Some concert performances were performed in the halls of various cultural palaces and clubs, for example, in the Palace of Culture and Technology of Airmen, Palace of Culture of Shoemakers, Palace of Culture of Railwaymen, etc. During this period, the city also had the Military Meeting Hall, "Bahor", Y.M. Sverdlov Conservatory, and concert halls of the Palace of Arts. Toponyms related to theaters consist of anthropotoponyms, words that mean the theater's direction of activity, territorial affiliation, and sometimes the language in which it is performed. From their meaning, it can be determined that Tashkent theaters are aimed at audiences of different ages, divided into types, created in the genres of opera, ballet, drama, musical comedy, and won various state awards.

In the period under study, libraries gained an important importance in the system of cultural and educational institutions. According to sources, there were 50 public libraries in Tashkent in 1940, 64 in 1950, 98 in 1955, and 107 in 1960 [2; National economy 1961, p.88]. Libraries are classified into public, scientific, special, technical, and children's libraries. Their names can be classified into anthropotoponyms (Uzbek SSR State Public Library named after Alisher Navoi, library named after Nadira), as well as groups of toponyms reflecting the type of library, affiliation to the organization, order number, and territorial location.

Museums have their role in forming the cultural and educational outlook of a person and increasing their knowledge, promoting the cultural heritage and achievements of the people through physical evidence. Especially in the period under study, they played an important role in the history of the country, in showing its achievements in the fields. In 1941, it is noted in the sources that 4 large museums were operating in the city of Tashkent:

1. Historical-Revolutionary Museum (Uzbekistan St., 2nd house)
2. Polytechnic Museum (at Kuybshev Street, 4)
3. Museum of Nature (at 12 Sagbon Street)
4. Art Museum (Uzbekistan St., 2nd house)

In these years, the names of the museums reflected more of their specialization.

It is observed that the names of museums became more complicated in later periods. In particular, most of the toponyms contain words denoting the territory and belonging to the organization. The names of the following large museums in Tashkent for this period (1956) are known from research [3; Sokolov 1957, pp. 81-85]:

1. The Museum of the History of the Peoples of Uzbekistan (initially it was called the "People's Museum of Turkistan", later the "Main Museum of Central Asia", then the "Central Historical-Revolutionary Museum", etc.)
2. State Art Museum of the Uzbek SSR (founded in 1918 on the basis of the collection of N.K. Romanov)
3. Museum of Natural-Scientific Propaganda and Propaganda (located on Beshogoch Square)
4. Nature Museum of the USSR Academy of Sciences

## 5. Literary Museum of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

In 1960-1980, along with large and specialized museums, house museums were opened in Tashkent, and this situation was also reflected in toponyms. In particular, H.Abdullaev, M.Ashrafiy, S.Borodin, Oybek, Gafur Ghulam and other house-museums were established. In the late 1980s, 16 large museums were operating in the city. Also, in this period, public museums established in enterprises, institutions, educational institutions are widespread. It is known that 22 public museums and 52 school museums worked in Tashkent at the end of the 1980s [7; Tashkent 1992, 116 p.]. Among the names related to the museums of this period, there is a high weight of toponyms that reflect the specialty of the museum and indicate belonging to the region, the organization (Literary Museum, Museum of Cinematic Art of Uzbekistan, TashDU Museum), and the group of anthropotoponyms can be noted in the next place (Gafur Ghulom House-Museum).

## CONCLUSION

In general, the 20th century was a period rich in toponymic and topographical changes in the history of Tashkent city, which was caused by its political, economic, cultural development and natural changes. The territory of the city expanded, Russian and other European peoples entered the ethnic composition of the population, the population grew, the administrative system of the city was radically reorganized during the period of Russian colonialism and then the Soviet authoritarian system. These changes directly caused transformations in the economy and culture of the local population. Naturally, new institutions were established in all areas, and new toponyms were formed along with them. The historical processes of the city and the whole of Uzbekistan are reflected in the names of cultural institutions. In the cultural sphere, along with traditional directions, new - Russian and European views have entered, new organizations have been formed and internationalization processes have been activated. The results of the analysis of the names of the institutions related to the cultural development in the Tashkent region are valuable material for clarifying the scope of activity, history, and importance of these organizations and serve to give an objective assessment of the city's past processes.

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