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DEVELOPMENT OF CARPET WEAVING IN MEDIEVAL ORIENTAL CRAFTS

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**Abstract.** This article provides information about carpet weaving, which has a special place in the crafts of the peoples of the East. The factors of development and the current state of carpet weaving are revealed on the basis of historical sources in this field.

**Keywords:** Carpet, felt, weaving, Oriental peoples

**Introduction.** From ancient times, carpet weaving, felt, shawl, felt weaving have been widely developed in the handicrafts of the Eastern people and have become a separate art form, and this field continues nowadays. People needed blankets, shawls and carpets to protect their homes from the cold, frost and loud noise, and to keep them warm.

Carpet weaving was originally widespread among nomadic peoples engaged in animal husbandry. Colorful carpets were popular in ancient Assyria, Babylon, Media, and later in Iran, India, and Turkey. The art of carpet weaving in Iran appeared 2,500 years ago. With the development of handicrafts, there have been extensive changes in this area, and the secrets of weaving have been passed down from generation to generation. Archaeological sources testify that the remains of ancient carpets were found and studied in Khorezm in the I millennium BC.

Especially in the Middle Ages, the art of carpet weaving developed among the peoples of the East. During this period, the art of carpet and felt weaving was developed in Iran, India, China, Pakistan, Movarounahr (especially Bukhara, Samarkand) and other regions, and there were separate workshops of famous masters in this field.

Manuscripts and archeological finds of the 7th century testify to the widespread development of this profession in Central Asia at that time. In the 5th and 7th centuries, Karshi and Nakhshab were the largest cities in Central Asia and carpets woven in Karshi and Nakhshab were sold in China. In the 10th and 11th centuries, small rugs woven in Khorezm, Bukhara and Samarkand were especially popular in foreign Muslim countries.

Weaving of Persian carpets is carried out according to different rules. According to Chinese sources, during the Sassanid rule in Iran (224-641 AD), the carpets began to record historical information, that is, the carpets depicted a certain city, king, queen, gardens. In 628 AD, after the Byzantine emperor Heraclius captured the Sassanid capital of Ctesiphon, a unique type of carpet was removed. In 637, after the conquest of Ctesiphon by the Arab army, many carpets were taken away, including the very famous carpet called "Khusrav's Spring". This carpet, woven during the reign of Khusrav I, measures 400x100 meters and weighs several tons. The carpets are decorated with flowers in red, yellow, white, blue, green and other colors, and rare stones and gold items are used as

ornaments. The carpets made for the king by the carpet weavers were such that in winter it was possible to feel the feeling of spring by looking at these carpets.

The art of carpet weaving is also developed in present-day Pakistan, but the term Pakistani rugs was not used until the 1950s. Because Pakistan was part of India and the carpets produced here were called Indian carpets. According to some historians, the first weaving art appeared in Mohenjodaro and Harappa, which existed in the 3rd millennium BC in the Indian Valley. In the Middle Ages, the art of carpet weaving in Pakistan was associated with the influx of Muslims in the 11th century. During the Baburid period, one of the changes in this field was the introduction of Iranian carpet weaving techniques and techniques. In India, the art of carpet weaving developed in the Middle Ages during the Baburid period. Carpet weaving is a traditional form of Indian handicraft. Carpets are usually woven from wool and silk, but sources say that they are also woven from cotton, cocoons, bamboo and wool. Cities such as Agra, Delhi, and Lahore became centers for carpet weaving, and each city center had a carpet weaving workshop.

In the history of the peoples of the East, the development of carpet weaving is directly related to animal husbandry. With the expansion of cities and the growth of trade, there were carpet weaving workshops in some city centers.

In the cultural life of the ancient Asian countries, the art of carpet weaving is especially developed and has its own weaving techniques. For example, in Turkey, Armenia, Azerbaijan and other countries, the weaving of carpets, shawls and felt has been developing since ancient times. The techniques and forms of weaving ancient carpets woven in these countries, their images and patterns are close to each other.

According to archeologists who excavated in Turkey, not much information has been found about the carpets of the III and VI centuries. There is only information about the simplicity of the technique of weaving these carpets. Many ancient Turkish carpets date back to the 13th century. Carpets woven during the Seljuk period were discovered by archaeologist F.R. Martin in 1905 at the Alovuddin Mosque in Konya. Seljuk carpets were also found in 1930 in Fustat. Woven carpets of this period were popular throughout Europe and Asia, and even archaeologists were able to find carpets made in Spain in medieval Turkey from Spain. The art of carpet weaving flourished in Armenia during the reign of the Kingdom of Silicia, and a carpet weaving association was formed in Armenia during this period, but after the Mamluk invasion of Egypt in the 13th century, the locals migrated to Poland, Transylvania, Crimea and Iran. They took their carpets with them and continued their work there, of course, the Armenian carpet weaving method spread to the above countries, and these countries mixed with the armenian weaving method. The art of carpet weaving in Azerbaijan dates back to ancient times. This dates back to the 2nd millennium BC, when women began to weave during the transition from women to men during the Bronze Age. Herodotus, Xenophon, Claudius and others gave information about ancient Azerbaijani carpets. In the Middle Ages, the Arab travelers Al-Mas'uduy, Al-Mugaddasi, and the Chinese traveler Juan Tes Ank gave information in their works. In the Middle Ages, during the Sassanid rule, magnificent carpets of silk, gold and silver were woven in Azerbaijan. Carpets made in Azerbaijan in the 13th and 14th centuries were exported to foreign countries. These carpets are divided into 8 types according to the weaving technique. There were Palos, Jejim, Xanim, Ajoyib, Shedde, Verni, Zilli, Sumah and 7 carpet weaving schools. These are: Quba, Baku, Absheron, Shirvan, Ganja, Karabakh, Tabriz.

In the developed Middle Ages, carpet weaving was further developed in our region, and changes took place in the technique of weaving. Information about medieval carpet weaving can be found in many sources. For example, from the images of carpets preserved in the murals of Varakhsha, Poykent, Afrosiyob, Panjikent, written sources of this period, such as the works of Arab

historians in the VII-IX centuries, the works of Marco Polo traveling in Asia in the XIII century, Sahibkiran Amir Temur in the XIV century. Memoirs of the Spanish ambassador Ruso de Gansales, who visited the palace, and other sources. In particular, the examples of carpet weaving are reflected in the miniatures of the schools of Bukhara, Tabriz, Isfahan, Samarkand, Herat, based on manuscripts of the XIV-XVII centuries.

The traditions of carpet weaving in the Bukhara region have been passed down from generation to generation and developed over the centuries. The girls started carpet weaving at the age of 7-9, at the age of 14-15 they independently knitted small carpets, at the age of 17-20 they knitted for their own house or for the groom's house. At the age of 30-35, women became masters of carpet weaving. Autumn wool was mainly used for carpet weaving, because autumn wool was harder and was suitable for carpet weaving. The peoples of the East wove carpets not only from wool, but also from silk fiber, in which the development of silkworm breeding is of particular importance.

At present, the Mogaki Attor Mosque in Bukhara has been turned into a carpet-weaving museum, where many samples of carpets are kept as exhibits. After the independence of Uzbekistan, in 1991, the mosque was renovated and hundreds of thousands of exhibits were placed and turned into a carpet-museum-reserve. In general, the peoples of the East have achieved great results in the manufacture of carpets, carpet weaving has become a kind of folk art, which has a special place in the socio-economic life of the people and has served as a source of livelihood for many families.

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