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# DESIGNING PUBLIC SPACES IN TASHKENT CITY

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# **ABOUT ARTICLE**

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Abstract: The promising possibilities of solving the problems of designing public spaces in Tashkent in the GIS environment are shown. The history of the creation and transformation of the park located in the center of Tashkent is described. The square, with its central convenient location, as well as the presence of a cafe-restaurant, an ice cream parlor, a flower shop and other establishments operating until late in the evening, attracted the attention of residents of the city and was a favorite vacation spot for citizens. In 2009, comprehensive measures were taken to reconstruct the square - new paths were laid, benches were installed, lighting was replaced, etc. However, the cutting down of old trees, many of which were more than 100 years old, completely changed the appearance of the square. Despite the planting of new trees, the attraction of the square was lost. By now, new trees have grown noticeably, but this is not enough to restore the attractiveness of the square. In this work, it is proposed to restore institutions demolished in different years and a map has been compiled indicating the places in the square of these institutions.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Geoinformation systems are one of the tools for solving urban planning tasks when carrying out works on territorial planning, architectural and construction design, construction, reconstruction and operation of buildings and structures [1,2]. In the process of performing engineering and construction work, it is necessary to take into account many different factors: the requirements for providing an accessible living environment for various groups of the population, the influence of man-made factors on the environmental situation, which leads to the need to implement automated planning solutions for urban and industrial landscapes, which allow for a comprehensive analysis of the studied objects and the relationships between them [3]. This goal is achieved by solving the problem of researching the possibilities of using modern geoinformation technologies in accordance with the relevant norms and standards of engineering and construction surveys and the methodology of digitalization development in urban planning [4,5].

The comprehensive program "Digital Tashkent" provides for the transition to the "digital rails" of the main socio-economic relations in the life of the capital [6,7]. One of the main tasks of Digital Tashkent is the creation of a Geoportal of the city of Tashkent, which many specialists are currently working on [8].

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Aerial photography of the territory of Tashkent was carried out in accordance with the procedure established by law and orthophotoplanes were prepared (orthophotoplane is a digitally transformed image of the area (object) created from overlapping source photographs) of high resolution in the WGS—84 coordinate system. Also, based on these orthophotographs, an accurate detailed digital map of Tashkent is being created with a specific display of infrastructure facilities and the street and road network: streets, squares, driveways, dead ends, and other public spaces [9, 10].

We are well aware that public spaces are public areas free of transport, including pedestrian zones, squares, streets, squares, boulevards. A public space is an urban area accessible for use by all citizens. Thanks to and with the help of public space, we are all somehow included in a large system called the "urban environment".

We walk along the embankments with friends, sit on a bench and read a newspaper, or get acquainted with random passers-by in the park. All this happens thanks to and with the help of public space.

One of the first places where travelers go in Tashkent is Amir Temur Square. The attraction is located in the city center, from here it is easy to reach other interesting places of the Uzbek capital, besides, many go for a walk around the square to relax by the city fountains and look at the monumental monument to Amir Temur, the commander of the XIV century, who is known to many readers as Tamerlane [11,12].

The square has the shape of a ring with 8 alleys diverging into long streets and connecting to the main city roads. If you delve into the distant history, you can learn that this place was once the center of the intersection of the four roads of the Great Silk Road, which ran from the ancient Chinese city of Chang'an through the territory of modern Tashkent to Kokand and beyond.

Famous buildings of national importance are located around the square. Among them are the State Museum of the History of the Temurids, the famous Tashkent chimes, built back in 1947, and behind them a quiet cozy park; the buildings of the Law University of the XIX century, the multistorey hotel "Uzbekistan", as well as the grandiose Palace of Forums, built in 2009 for international events. Every evening, a small ensemble of fountains turns on near the palace, which saves people from the heat, and nearby, along the street, active young people are having fun: roller skating, segway or skateboard.

The history of the park began in the 2nd half of the 20th century, when the Turkestan region, later called the "Turkestan General Government", was incorporated into the Russian Empire. A park was laid in the center of the city, around which buildings of women's and men's gymnasiums, a state bank and a teachers' seminary were built.

In Soviet times, the park became known as the Revolution Square. The square has become a popular place for meetings and recreation of citizens (see Fig.1). The famous cafe (restaurant) was opened here in 1961 Druzhba, built in the then fashionable concrete —glass style, as well as several ice cream parlors, the main of which was the Snezhok cafe, where more than one generation of young Tashkent residents ate ice cream on weekends and holidays, and their parents could drink a glass of fresh fruit juice or Tashkent mineral water here — one of the best table mineral waters in its class [13].

With its central position, the square attracted the attention of people who wanted to express their political sympathies or demands for one reason or another. Communist rallies were held here more than once in the twenties and thirties, and since the late 1960s, Crimean Tatars have held their rallies in the square several times, unauthorized by the authorities, demanding to lift the ban on their return to Crimea after their deportation by Stalin in 1944.



Fig.1. A.Timur Square in the recent past

On August 31, 1994, on the eve of the third anniversary of Uzbekistan's independence, the square was renamed Amir Temur Square (Amir Temur xieboni), and a new monument by sculptor Ilkhom Jabbarov was unveiled in its center — a bronze equestrian monument to Tamerlane, a great statesman and commander of the Middle Ages, one of the founders of Uzbek statehood, designed to ideologically consolidate society around the great the achievements of their ancestors.

In the square, all the drinking and entertainment establishments located in it were liquidated - the Druzhba cafe and several ice cream parlors, as well as the flower pavilion — the Moorish Pavilion.

In 2009, comprehensive measures were taken to reconstruct the park, new paths were laid, benches were installed and lighting was replaced, and old trees, many of which were more than 100 years old, were cut down, new ones were planted instead (Fig.2).

And here is one of the favorite places of Tashkent residents, where for decades representatives of more than one generation of citizens walked, played chess, met and



Fig.2. View of Amir Timur Square in 2009.

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fell in love, this summer in the midst of chilli resembles a giant, sad lawn studded with stunted seedlings, on which a rare passerby has absolutely nowhere to hide from the scorching rays of the sun.

All this has led to the fact that the square has lost its former attractive power.

Over the past 14 years, the trees have grown, and the square has become a more visited place for residents of the city (Fig.3).

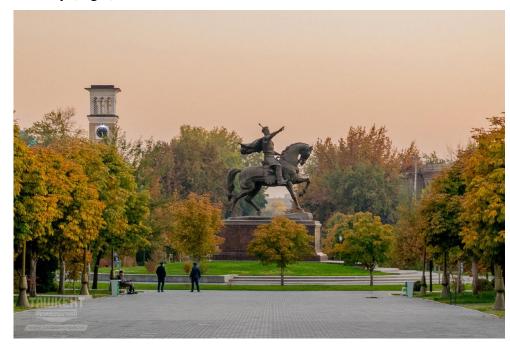


Fig.3. Modern view of Amir Timur Square

However, much remains to be done to make the square once again a favorite place for citizens to relax as before.

According to a sociological survey of local residents, it is necessary to restor: 1. Ice cream parlor (Fig.4).

- 2. Tea house with traditional Uzbek cuisine (Fig.5).
- 3. Flower shop (Fig.6).
- 4. Underground toilet (Fig.7).
- 5. Improve the condition of pedestrian crossings in the square (Fig.8).
- 6. Arrange benches along the sidewalks of the square (Fig.9).

The objects are selected as meeting modern architecture.

Architecture is known as art, which not only creates amazing buildings, but also conveys ideas, desires and values.



Fig.4. Ice cream parlour



Fig. 5. Teahouse



Fig.6. Flower shop

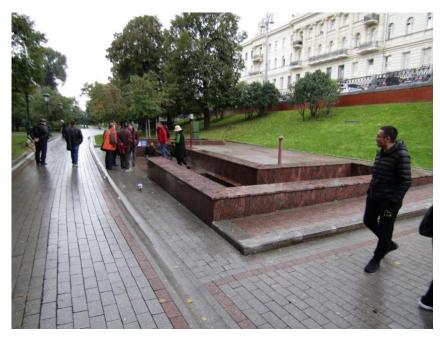


Fig.7. Underground public toilet

There are many squares, cafes and attractions in the city center, but they are all separated by a large number of wide highways. It is impossible to approach Amir Timur Square at all during a normal walk, there are almost no pedestrian crossings. Meanwhile, there are more people walking in Tashkent City Park than in the north. It is necessary to add more pedestrian crossings to Amir Timur Square: two pedestrian crossings from the side of the Broadway pedestrian alley and one crossing from the Uzbekistan Hotel.



Fig.8. Pedestrian crossing to the square



Fig. 9. Benches along sidewalks

# **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

We have compiled a map of Amir Timur Square (Fig.10) on a scale of 1:15000. Taking into account the wishes of the residents of the city, six objects listed above have been introduced. the length of the sidewalks



Fig.10. A.Timur Square, taking into account the proposed transformations Taking into account the transformations we have proposed will certainly make this square a favorite vacation spot for citizens.

The theoretical and methodological foundations of geoinformation support of public spaces of the city are analyzed.

The issues of considering GIS of public spaces in Tashkent as a tool for solving problems of designing the urban environment are analyzed. The fundamental possibility of solving the problems of designing public spaces in a GIS environment is shown [14.15].

### CONCLUSION

Ways have been proposed to make the square a favorite recreation place for citizens again. A map of Amir Timur Square has been created, with the addition of 6 objects. The types and descriptions of these objects are given.

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