WORLD CONFERENCE ON STUDENT - CENTERED LEARNING APPROACHES

# SCIENTIFIC-EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND THE PRESERVATION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE AT THE STATE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF THE ANDIJAN REGION

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***Abstract.*** *The article examines the formation stages, organizational structure, and modern scientific and collection activities of the State Museum of History and Culture of Andijan Region. It highlights the scientific value of unique archaeological, numismatic, ethnographic, and artistic collections preserved in the museum's funds. Special attention is paid to the activities of its key structural branch — the Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur House-Museum, as well as innovative educational methods aimed at engaging young people with historical exhibits and fostering cultural tourism in the Fergana Valley.*

***Keywords:*** *museology, State Museum of History and Culture of Andijan Region, cultural heritage, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur House-Museum, museum fund, Mingtepa settlement, youth engagement, interactive exhibitions.*

## Introduction.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, the preservation, comprehensive scientific study and intact transfer of national cultural heritage objects to future generations is one of the priority directions of state policy. In this process, regional museums serve not only as a repository of historical objects, but also as an important research, spiritual and educational, and tourist center. With its long history, rich funds and unique collections, the State Museum of History and Culture of the Andijan Region holds a special place in the museum system of the republic. The purpose of this study is to systematically

describe the history of the museum's establishment, provide an analysis of the rarest exhibits kept in its funds, reveal the scientific and educational significance of the Babur branch, and outline effective methods of engaging young people with historical heritage.

**Research methods.**

In preparing the article, the methods of historicism, systems analysis, comparative-typological and source studies were used. The normative-legal and empirical basis of the research consisted of resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan concerning the improvement of museum activities [1], reporting documents of the museum fund, results of archaeological expeditions, as well as scholarly literature on Babur studies and regional studies [2; 3].

**Results and discussion.**

The formation history of the State Museum of History and Culture of the Andijan Region dates back to the 1930s. Initially, the institution was established in 1934 as the Andijan Regional Local Lore Museum on the basis of the regional agricultural exhibition.

During the years of independence, a number of reforms were carried out with the aim of raising the museum's work to the level of modern requirements. In particular, in accordance with Resolution No. 975 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 11, 2017, the regional local lore museum and the Museum of Literature and Arts, founded in 1972, were merged, and the State Museum of History and Culture of the Andijan Region was established in a new status [1].

Today the museum's structure consists of 4 main departments (history, nature, fine arts, and scientific-educational and collections departments) and 1 branch (the Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur House-Museum) [4]. The museum's funds preserve

more than 156 thousand unique artifacts. Among them, the following collections of particular scientific value can be highlighted:

**1. Archaeological and numismatic collections.**

The museum's archaeology fund contains thousands of finds related to the ancient and medieval history of the Fergana Valley. In particular, glazed and ornamented pottery, iron weapons, ancient jewelry and stone sickles belonging to the Chust culture, found at the Mingtepa site — the capital of the ancient state of Davan — and at the Dalvarzintepa settlement, dating to the 2nd–1st centuries BC, are of special importance [2]. The numismatic fund, in turn, holds a treasury of silver and copper coins minted during the periods of the Karakhanids, the Timurids, the Baburids and the Khanate of Kokand, which serves as an important source for studying the region's trade and economic relations.

**2. Works of fine and applied arts.**

The fine arts department brings together rare works by the founders of the Uzbek school of fine arts. In particular, the psychological portraits of Alisher Navoi, Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur and other great figures painted by the People's Artist of Uzbekistan Abdulhaq Abdullayev constitute the museum's golden fund [2]. Moreover, samples of the folk applied art of the valley — Shahrikhan knife-making, Andijan skullcap embroidery, wood carving and traditional embroidery (suzani) — reflect the rich ethnographic image of the region.

**3. Activities of the Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur House-Museum (branch).**

The most important spiritual and educational unit in the museum system is the Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur House-Museum located on the Bogishamol hill in the city of Andijan (within the territory of the “Bobur” National Park) [4].

This memorial complex was built directly at the historic site mentioned in the “Baburnama”, where the great poet and commander had a chamber built for rest and creative work [3]. The branch's exposition brings together rare manuscripts and

lithographed books from the era of Babur and the Baburid dynasty (including Gulbadanbegim, Humayun, Akbar Shah), medieval weaponry, miniature artworks, copies of diplomatic correspondence, as well as a mausoleum complex where symbolic soil brought from Kabul and Agra is kept.

Today this branch has become not only a place of pilgrimage for local and foreign tourists, but also a prestigious scientific center where international Babur studies scholarly conferences are held.

**4. Modern mechanisms for engaging young people with museum exhibits.**

In modern museology, alongside traditional excursions, innovative pedagogical approaches are being widely implemented in order to shape the historical memory of the young generation and enhance their sense of national pride. Work with young audiences at the museum is systematically organized in the following three main directions:

– **"Lesson at the museum" and practical workshops**: mobile lessons on Uzbekistan's history, literature and art studies are conducted directly in the exhibition halls for pupils of general education schools and students of academic lyceums and higher education institutions. Such lessons, held next to the exhibits, make it possible to reinforce theoretical knowledge through real historical objects. In addition, master classes in pottery, embroidery and ornament painting are organized for young people.

– **Digitalization and interactive technologies**: taking into account young people's interest in the digital information environment, QR codes providing information in Uzbek, Russian and English have been installed next to the main exhibits. Touch information kiosks and 3D virtual tour systems have been introduced in the museum halls, allowing young people to independently study the history of the creation of artifacts and the processes of archaeological excavations in multimedia format [4].

– **“Open Doors Day” and spiritual-educational campaigns**: with the aim of organizing young people's leisure time in a meaningful way, the museum regularly holds “Museum Weeks”, historical quest games, intellectual quizzes, as well as exhibitions by young Andijan artists and craftsmen. Furthermore, within the framework of the “Journey into the Past” program, traveling exhibitions organized for young people in the remote districts of the region significantly expand the museum's audience.

**Conclusion.**

In conclusion, the State Museum of History and Culture of the Andijan Region and its Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur branch are leading scientific and educational institutions that embody the centuries-old historical and cultural layers of the Fergana Valley.

The unique archaeological, numismatic and artistic exhibits kept in the museum's funds serve not only to enrich the science of history, but also to educate the younger generation in a spirit of patriotism. In the future, the complete digitalization of the museum's collections, the introduction of extended reality (AR) technologies into its exhibitions and the expansion of international scientific cooperation will create a foundation for further enhancing the region's cultural and tourism potential.

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