

SECTION 12. Geology. Anthropology. Archaeology.



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**PROBLEMS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH OF THE BASIC CRAFT'S
TRADITIONS OF GANJA (XIX-THE FIRST HALF OF XX CENTURIES)**

***Abstract:** For the first time in this scientific work have been researched the basic typical characteristics of craftsmanship branches and traditions of Ganja on the basis of innovative scientific technologies and methods.*

***Key words:** Ganja, handicraft branches, Azerbaijan, innovative methods and technologies, XIX-XX centuries*

During centuries Ganja city was one of the main handicraft centers. Ethnographic exploration of problems and branches of crafts very important, as a way of studying along with history and culture of the people, years generated political-economical and relations of production:

1. Closely bundled to an economy and a daily life of the people, craft employment were one of the basic carriers of national traditions. Each area of Azerbaijan possesses characteristic environmental resource bases for it, and it promoted development of various crafts. Thus, a number of employments in Ganja, during the period since 19 centuries to the middle of 20 centuries, differed from crafts of other areas of the country. It was first of all the trades bundled to a spreading of a city and population grown has increased demand for craft products.
2. Under such circumstances the handicraft work could not keep the natural character. Already in a number of branches finished articles have been exposed on a market. The increase in quantity of handicraftsmen in a city directly has been bundled to population growth. The competition of production of production plants and factories has not reached still serious level and consequently was created a favorable conditions for spreading of traditional occupations there.
3. In addition, products of these craft branches have been closely bundled to a life and traditions of the people, and it would be difficult to replace with their factory production. In the specified period of history in Ganja developed basically carpet weaving, weaver`s business, craft of the tailor, squeeze men, forge and a jewellery, trades of dyer, the stone mason, the cooper and leather dresser, weapon business and other similar craft branches. Among these crafts especially developed carpet weaving. To so wide development of carpet weaving promoted availability of raw materials.

4. In addition carpets were very widely used in a population life- both as furniture, and as a curtain, both as sand bed and as a coating for a floor. In carpet weaving have been held basically women. It has been bundled by that in a Muslim society of the woman preferred to work in house conditions. However also know cases when men were occupied with this craft. Tailors and hatters created both national clothes, and clothes in style of the European fashion.
5. According to the spent explorations there are exact data on wide development of a jewellery in Ganja in the end of 19 centuries – in a beginning of 20 centuries. Jewellers basically fabricated ornaments to order. Among them there was a specification. Jobs of skilful masters amazed even foreigners. Development of trading and economic relations of Ganja with the next states promoted a recognition of local jewels abroad. As an example it is served by unique samples handmade the Azerbaijan jewellers, stored in museums of St.-Petersburg, France and Georgia. On a ground classifying crafts it has been defined that by the end of 19 centuries a number of fashionable trades began to disappear. Among them were – wool-carder, hatcheller, selsbchy, dhulfachy, carriers. They have got rid of and have been replaced by representatives of new crafts. Distribution of experts of certain crafts on quarters and neighbouring communes was prominent of crafts. For example, it is possible to recollect. In these neighbouring communes functioned craft departments. Internal conditions of craft department reflected a sort of employment of his owner. In these departments worked the master and his pupils.
6. Ganja city is located on the ancient caravan routes, so merchants, travelers, scientists and cultural workers from different countries of the world visited Ganja, and first of all, their visiting helped our nation to integrate their spiritual values to all mankind civilizations. Also in XI century, during the Arab Caliphate flowering, the great thinker Gatran Tabrizi's population in Ganja shows, that Ganja has become a major center of culture and science in the Muslim East. From the sources it becomes clear; in that period in Ganja there were personal and public libraries, medresses as modern universities, observatories and medical centers. Muslim culture has spread to the neighboring Christian states from here. That why, many scientists, poets, architects, artists from different countries of East settled in Ganja. Also, Sheikh Nizami, appreciating Ganja's cultural level more highly, praised his native city "My Babylon".

In the middle of the XII century there were schools, medresses, private and public libraries, "The houses of wisdom" and "Health centers" in Ganja. In historical sources there was information that, in Ganja there was a large library "Dar al-kutub" that had been led by a famous scientist Abulfaz al-Nakhchivany. From Sheikh Nizami's reading and the names of the works, it becomes clear, that there were rich libraries in Ganja.

The high value of selcugs, that replacing arabs, to the science and culture, was the reason of formation of a new school of poetry, that was founded by Sheikh Nizami in Ganja.

The great Azerbaijani poet Sheikh Nizami had good knowledge about philosophical thoughts of such coryphaeus as Farabi, Kharezmi, Ibn Becci, Abu Ali Ibn Sina, Ibn Rusd. It shows that the language of science of that period - the Arabic language and philosophy were highly taught in Ganja. Nizami's works analysis shows, that he was familiar with the ancient Greek and Indian philosophy also. The using Al-Ustad's work "Munisname" in scientific society made deeper the level of ancient development of the Azerbaijan's literature.

A short introduction of "Munisname" book is equal to the whole literary book. Abu-Bakr ibn Khosrov al-Ustad was known as knowledgeable and experienced scholar, writer and poet had knowledge on the world and shariat sciences. That why he was awarded the nickname "Ustad" (Master).

In the scientific and cultural center of the East, in Ganja's literary environment were raised Abu Hafs, Abul Ganji, Abul Ula Ganjavi, Mahsati Ganjavi, Qivami Mutarrizi, Raziya Ganjavi, Mirza Shafi Vazeh, who gave priceless pearls to the treasures of world culture. Especially in that period, presence of such kind of chess-player, composer, thinker women as Mahsati Ganjavi and Raziye, who owned world science and philosophy again shows, that city from cultural point of view, stays on high level [3-5].

In middle ages in spheres of gentle and applied art, Ganja of inhabitants of territory, in agriculture life bone was widely applied. Bone products, raw materials, that found during investigations in and around Ganja prove that time bone processing separated from other spheres of craftsmanship.

Osteology analysis prove, that most of samples are prepared from the bone of bull, cow, deer among big horde animals and sheep, goat, boar among little horde animals. Only deering investigations in Mingechaur there were found a lot of samples of combs, agriculture instruments and art and other bone things. Such kind of bone samples also were found in monument complexes territory of Injachay and Kerpikli in Goranboy region during excavation. Art samples and dice for playing nard, found in territory Shatal, also attracts our attention. These samples of art make more ancient history of city culture of Azerbaijan and in whole play nard. There were found knife handles, rare geometrical decorations, samples of pipe and other instruments here.

During excavations there was found bone products that used as raw materials and cutting with pipe. In XI- XIII centuries this sphere of art was developing mostly. This thought is proved with a lot of bone and horn, found in zone of excavation. This period from bone there were prepared buttons, knives and etc. Found during archeological excavations and used in wooden treatment and knife, showed that at the beginning of XI – XIII in and around Ganja this sphere of craftsmanship in exist.

In this ancient city printed cotton and calico fabrics have been widely produced. In traditional cloth productions the main place took the urban mines. In the early 30s of the XIX century in Ganja there were more than 164 people - weaving. The majority of these artists were weaving. In Ganja, which was the most important center of cloth production were produced different kinds of cotton cloth.

Only in the 30s of the XIX century in Ganja were presently working 30 cloth bench. During one year this machine were producing 2000 of white cloth, 200 top of red cloth (shile) and nearly 400 benchchalamaya (thin cloth) spoke. In general, in Ganja from textile there were made cotton cloth with simple painting, various kinds' decorations. In most cases, in the XIX-XX centuries after coarse calico colored in white colors of, it colored to different colors [2-4; 6-9].

From the point of view silkworm breeding development and it's preparing technology there were two main forms of production: so-called raw silk weaving and felt weaving. In this important technological process it has such kind of production stages as cocoon opening, silk initial processing, preparing of raw silk, weaving technology, painting and decoration.

In the ancient Ganja during the stage of the Middle Ages the great progress of silkworm was represented by raw silk weaving. For this reason, on the basis of local traditions production of delicate silk textiles from raw silk.

In a life of the population of Ganja the role of craft products was great. These products were widely used inhabitants of Ganja they decorated conditions of living rooms, with them filled up a dowry of brides. The dresses created in local departments, suits and caps were an integral part of an attire of town-dwellers. In comparison with villages though the national clothes in 20 century began to supersede them gradually.

It also has been bundled to accruing arrival to Ganja representatives of other nationalities. Therefore changes in clothes were more marked. Only female ornaments as an

attire constituent part left the national feature. At this time there were fashionable ornaments on a breast, hands, set pins and on clothes. Its hereditary transfer to descendants was one more feature of craft business in Ganja. Hereditary jewelers, weavers, manufacturers of carpets, cobblers, potters and stone borer were especially allocated.

Studying of craft problems actually and in the modern world in sense of the decision of professional problems. From the investigated national employment carpet weaving, the jewellery, a stone dressing and strenuously develop on the basis of ancient traditions already dying out ancient trades, such as a pottery and an art embroidery. Traditional spheres of crafts are invaluable and reliable sources of studying of culture, aesthetic taste, outlook (world outlook) of the Azerbaijan people. Base – columns, capitels, that are symbols of irreplaceable art, part of columns, different man monuments, masonry art symbols, that have Ganja, agriculture and religious meaning, especially grave monuments and phalluses, collections of different colored (red, brown, black, grey and other rare colored) stamps and symbols of decorations, that were found in Azerbaijan during archeological investigations prove it. These rare discovers in and around Ganja are known from the archaeological investigations in ancient cultural, art and trade centers of Azerbaijan. The best samples of monuments, that concern to stone treatment are consists of column props, mill and gridding stones. In whole there were founded in and around Ganja a lot of samples, that concern to X century. They are consisting of stone figure, mills and column props.

But stone equipment, found in Ganja, Shamkir and Shatal prepared from mill and candlestick. Mill is usually prepared from volcanic, quartz, limestone and basalt. They used for grinding seed, millet, salt and for other aims [6-9]. We meet mostly mill stones, scales and pumice stone in stone treatment. At the same time there were used hewed stones for decorating buildings.

In this period there were prepared decorations from precious stone. In traditional production of cloth manufactory trade historically played an important place. This kind of craft that developed on the basis of local raw materials was tied with cotton-growing economy. Since the time of the early Middle Ages, Ganja as Tabriz, Ordubad have been the main center of Azerbaijan in production of cotton cloth. In this ancient city printed cotton and calico fabrics have been widely produced.

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