

**BUKHARA OASIS WEDDINGS CEREMONIAL DRESSES ANALYSIS (LATE 19TH CENTURY - EARLY 20TH CENTURY)**

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**Abstract.** *The article provides an ethnographic analysis of the dresses worn during wedding ceremonies celebrated in the Bukhara oasis at the end of the 19th century - the beginning of the 20th century. It is stated that the clothes suitable for the life of the oasis, typical for the wedding process, were formed over the centuries and took their place in the set of national clothes. The article explains the important factor of external natural environment, economic activity, culture, religious belief in the formation of ceremonial clothes.*

**Key words:** *oasis, marriage, ceremony, silk, national dress, atlas, bekasam, banoras, clouded cloth, white dress, scarf, turban.*

**АНАЛИЗ ТОРЖЕСТВЕННЫХ ПЛАТЬЕВ  
БУХАРСКОГО ОАЗИСА (конец 19 века - начало 20 века)**

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**Аннотация:** *В статье проводится этнографический анализ нарядов во время свадебных церемоний, отмечавшихся в Бухарском оазисе в конце XIX - начале XX века. Утверждается, что одежда, которая соответствует образу жизни в оазисе, характерная для свадебного процесса, формировалась веками и заняла свое место в комплекте национальной одежды. В статье объясняется важный фактор внешней природной среды, хозяйственной деятельности, культуры, религиозных убеждений в формировании обрядовой одежды.*

**Ключевые слова:** *оазис, бракосочетание, церемония, шелк, национальная одежда, атлас, bekasam, банорас, абр, белое платье, платок, чалма.*

**INTRODUCTION.** Along with traditional clothes, ceremonial clothes are the basis of the people's lifestyle. Clothes are a valuable resource in the process of historical formation of ethnos, in the study of ethnogenesis. Ceremonial clothing and costume ensembles associated with marriages serve as a basis for studying the beliefs and ideologies of the oasis population. Ceremonial costumes created over the centuries, their individual elements and fabrics testify to the adaptation to the natural and climatic conditions of the oasis.

Importance from this study of late 19th - early 20th century ceremonial clothing, considered:

- expansion and enrichment of the existing scientific views on the formation process and historical-gradual development laws of ceremonial dresses;

- to serve the development of the science of ethnography based on views on the meaning and content of the wedding ceremony clothes used in each region in a unique way.

Significance of research on Bukhara oasis wedding ceremony dresses:

- enrichment of existing scientific-theoretical views on the process of formation and historical development, laws of ritual costumes;

- it is to serve the development of ethnographic science based on the facts that wedding ceremony clothes and costumes are used in a unique way in each region of the oasis.

**LITERATURE ANALYSIS AND METHODOLOGY.** The wedding ceremonies of the residents of Bukhara oasis and the valuable historical and ethnographic information related to them served as a basis for understanding the importance of marriage relations and ceremonies in people's lives. Ethnographer O. Sukhareva [7;9] published a number of works and articles on the clothes of the local population based on scientific data and field research.

A number of scientific researches of scientists such as N. Labocheva [4;36], M. Gorelik [2;54], M. Bikjanova [1;133] on the study of traditional clothes of Uzbeks are particularly noteworthy. Ethnographic information about the clothes of the inhabitants of the oasis can be found in the road notes of tourists, ambassadors and soldiers who visited at the beginning of the 19th century, as well as in the travelogues of various expedition participants. However, they focused more on the anthropological description of the local population and gave information about clothes only in some places. In particular, E. Meyendorf noted that Bukhara women wore wide dresses that covered their bodies, while English tourist A. Boris wrote

down information about long-heeled boots and women's large white turbans, which are part of the national costume.

**RESULTS.** Scientific research on wedding dresses shows that:

- the materials related to wedding ceremony dresses of oasis residents were formed as a whole system;
- the life-household tasks, historical-genetic roots, characteristics of the stages of development of the wedding ceremony clothes were revealed;
- the need to study wedding dresses based on the materials of specific regions and preserve, study, promote and use it as material cultural heritage was explained.

Due to the fact that this scientific research was carried out on the basis of certain principles, methods and forms, general scientific methods were used in this research. It is important to justify the relevance of the topic for this scientific article, in which the chosen method serves the purpose of the research.

**DISCUSSION.** Wedding dresses are honored as a demand of the time and a value that has preserved national characteristics. The textile industry plays an important role in clothing and its evolution. In the second half of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the textile art was widely developed in our region, and traditional Uzbek silks such as “shoyi”, “khanatlas” and semi-silks such as “bekasam”, “banoras”, “adras” were produced in Bukhara and other cities [8;11] . Noblemen of Bukhara wore clothes made of these fabrics. The clothing of the poor population is mainly made of yarn. In the oasis, the main fabrics were used for sewing ritual clothes: yarn, silk, wool and fabrics. Making fabric from thread, wool, cocoon, and skin in home conditions has existed in the oasis since ancient times. The production of silk and semi-silk fabrics was established in the center of Bukhara, in large cities and villages. Silk and semi-silk fabrics are used for wedding and ceremonial wear.

In the middle of the 19th century, in Bukhara and its surroundings, nationally unique high-quality fabrics were prepared. In particular, three colors - dark-red, yellow, and pink - were used in the preparation of “cloudy fabrics” of Bukhara. The clothing of the population changed mainly at the beginning of the 20th century, and the transformation in it was especially noticeable in the urban centers. At the beginning of the 20th century, the ceremonial dresses of Bukhara women were made of luxurious silk fabrics.

The inhabitants of the oasis were distinguished from the inhabitants of other regions by their special ceremonial clothes. Especially the wedding dresses deserved a special mention. Wedding clothes were in bright colors,

mostly white. Because it is color is considered a symbol of happiness. For this reason, a special white dress was sewn from thread fabric, its length was long, the hems fell to the ankles, the collars were in a modern style, and the hems were wide and long enough to cover the fingers [6;253]. The bride's scarf was also white, sometimes decorated with flower embroiders, and sewn from thread fabric with laces. The foot-wears consisted of traditional *makhsi-kavush*, shoes. In recent centuries, kalishes were made from imported skin or rubber.

Women's ceremonial dress consisted of underwear and outerwear. They are "*kamzul*", "*mursak*", "*kaltacha*", "*sleeveless nimcha*"s. Ceremonial headdresses were also different. In particular, scarves, forehead scarves, "*duppi*" are made of colorful threads and silk [9;7]. An important place is given to embroidery in the decoration of wedding ceremony clothes. We know that color plays an important role in the art of Uzbek embroidery. Most of the dresses used large, full-scale, ornate embroidery art. Men's wedding dress was simpler and less varied: white shirt and pants, white turban, *duppi* among them [3;153]. A leather quilted robe worn over a dress, a belt-scarf, shoes, and boots are also part of the wedding attire. These clothes are made of fabric made by local tailors.

Wedding clothes differed according to the social background of the bride and groom. Simple families sewed set of wedding clothes from hand-woven thread fabric, and wealthy families sewed from semi-silk, silk, farangi fabrics imported from other countries. The population living in each region of the oasis has ethnically specific ethnographic values and traditions and such local characteristics have been formed as a result of mutual cultural influence during the historical process.

Wedding ceremonial dresses allow us to make certain conclusions about the history and historical-gradual development of the unique formation that has reached today on the basis of ancient ethno-cultural values and beliefs. From this point of view, the wedding clothes of the residents of the oasis are also important because they express the ancient traditions, magical views and imaginations of our ancestors. National values were forgotten under the influence of historical processes, as well as the development of information and communication tools and the dominant ideological policy of the time, while the national clothes of the oasis continued to change.

The wedding dresses worn by the residents of the Bukhara oasis have changed due to the influence of the times and have been enriched with

modern dresses, but still retain their unique traditional elements. This can be explained by the persistence of traditions and customs in the oasis.

**CONCLUSION.** In conclusion, it can be noted that clothes reflect people's way of life, worldview, ethnic characteristics, thoughts. Traditions, social relations, and some elements of religion are expressed in the national ceremonial clothes which goes back to the history of the nation. In it, the household lifestyle of the population, some aspects of the specific aspects of economic management are clearly visible. Suggestions for research on the article consists in:

- studying of ethnographic literature and scientific research works, as well as research of ritual clothing and introduction into scientific circulation based on field ethnographic - sociological surveys;

- identification of traditional and modern types of oasis wedding ceremonial dresses, research of their social significance from a historical ethnographic point of view;

- study and classify the characteristics of clothes worn at wedding ceremonies;

- studying the processes of transformation of ceremonial clothes under the influence of socio-political and ideological processes and making scientific conclusions based on this. Bukhara oasis wedding dress research suggestions:

- analysis of the social significance of the clothes worn in oasis wedding ceremonies from a historical-ethnographic point of view;

- study of ethnographic scientific research, research of wedding ceremony dresses on the basis of field ethnographic - sociological surveys;

- consists of a scientific conclusion based on the study of the transformation of ceremonial clothes under the influence of social-ideological processes.

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