

## Styles of Madrasas in the Registan Square in Samarkand during (9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> A.H / 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> A.D) centuries

### An Archaeological & Architectural study

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#### Abstract

Registan Square is regarded as one of the most beautiful remains of the Timurid State and its rulers who succeeded in the city. Prince Timur (771 - 807 AH / 1369 - 1405 AD) established it as a complex for Madrasas to spread science and culture and elevate the standard of people in the city, after being merely a wide space where people gathered to listen to royal statements and witness the implementation of public judgments. Although Samarkand includes a number of Madrasas that are considered educational institutions in addition to being unique historical architectural monuments, there is little left of these Madrasas. Such few remains are a model of the architectural styles of Madrasas in Central Asia, which is the dominant Ionian style in the region. Although these Madrasas were designed according to the Ionian style prevailing in the architecture of Islamic Madrasas in general, they were treated in a special local way, granting them a distinct architectural and artistic trait, not only in Central Asia, but also in the architecture of Islamic Madrasas as a whole.

Registan became the central square of Samarkand in the (9<sup>th</sup> AH / 15<sup>th</sup> AD) century. A square was used as commercial and craft center and Ulugh Beg made it spiritual center. Ulugh Beg constructed a majestic madrasa and Sufi Khanka with a huge dome. By the (11<sup>th</sup> AH / 17<sup>th</sup> AD) century old buildings of Registan had been in collapse and the governor of Samarkand Yilnkush Bahadur built Sherdor Madrasa instead of Ulugh Beg 's Khanka and later Tilla Carrey Madrasa.

#### Keywords:

Samarkand, Registan, Madrasa, Entrance, mihrab