



## In the XIX Century Overview of Kattakurgan City Analysis

Yarashev Fozilbek Sobirovich

*Doctoral Student (PhD) Samarkand state architectural and civil engineering university*

**Annotation:** This article examines the layout and structure of the fortress of the city of Kattakurgan, as well as the neighborhoods and villages around the fortress in the 70s of the XIX century. At the beginning of the 18th century, the historical part of the city began to develop. The arch is surrounded by a high wall. The fortress and the city itself were in the shape of a right angle. The Narpai river flows from the western side of the fortress. The madrasah is rectangular in shape, with a courtyard in the middle, and rooms around the madrasah. In the studied period, there were 14 neighborhoods inside the Kattakurgan city wall and 10 outside the wall.

**Key words:** Kattakurgan, kurgan, ark, horde, madrasa, mosque, pool, Narpai river, Damarik canal, neighborhood.

At the beginning of the 17th century, Kattakurgan and its surrounding areas were under the jurisdiction of the Bukhara Emirate. The city of Kattakurgan was officially founded in 1683.

The architectural-spatial structure of the city of Kattakurgan began to take shape at the beginning of the 17th century. At the beginning of the 18th century, the historical part of the city began to develop. Initially, the Ark (Horde) was built in the city by three brothers, Sufi Allayar, Farkhod Atalik and Olla Nazarbi. In this complex, they began to live with their families and relatives. The arch is surrounded by a high wall. Because by that time, the city had not yet been formed as a fortress, had not had its defense wall. It should be noted that for this reason, the brothers built the Ark (Horde) and surrounded it with a wall in order to ensure the safety of themselves and their family members.

Later, population growth and migration of people from other regions led to the formation of the first neighborhoods around the Ark. After that, the streets of the city began to be formed gradually, and squares were formed at the intersections of the streets. Neighborhoods have gradually started to form in these areas. As a result of the arrival of merchants, ambassadors, artisans, the majority of the population came to the city, the elders and the mayor of the city began to think about the protection and security measures of the city. Because in that period, the city of Kattakurgan was formed, the number of neighborhoods increased, and the city began to feel the need for its own defense system. Because invaders and settlers started attacking the city from different sides. After that, with the hard work and will of the city's inhabitants, a strong fortress was built around the city and surrounded by its defense wall.

The fortress and the city itself were located in the form of a right angle, slightly extending from north to south, and there were gates on all four sides. The gates of the city are the southern Samarkand gate, the northern Bazardarvoza, the eastern Haydarchaman and the western Bukhara gates. Residents of the city and those coming to the city entered and left through these gates. Later, the economic development of the city, the increase of the population, the city with its beauty, with its craftsmen, led to the migration of people from other cities and regions. After that, due to the lack of residential buildings inside the fortress, people outside the city started to move and build their own houses. Later, neighborhoods began to form outside the fortress.



It should be noted that due to the increase in the population of the city and the large number of people who wanted to live in the fortress, the level of the fortress was large. Because the fortress had its own defensive wall and it was safe to live there. According to our researches, as the formation and development of the city fortress and its prestige increased, middle and rich people and merchants lived in the fortress. Poor people took land outside the fortress and built houses for themselves. Outside the fortress, the inhabitants of each fortress had their own plots and gardens.

At the entrance to the fortress, there are caravanserais, market stalls, public and residential buildings, and gardens on both sides of the central street. The city bazaar is located on the left side of the central street after exiting the fortress Bazar Gate. On the right side of this street there is a caravansarai, a kitchen and shops. Public buildings are also located on the 2nd side of the street after exiting the Samarkand gate.

The Narpai river flows from the western side of the fortress. The fortress was surrounded by a high defensive wall, and there were towers of the wall. There is a central street in the middle of the Kattakurgan city wall.

It should be noted that each neighborhood had its own community center inside the fortress. In the community center: the mosque, its courtyard, a pool around the mosque, a bakery, an elder's (fifty) room, warehouse buildings. In the territory of the neighborhood there is a workshop, a blacksmith's shop, a shop, a shoemaker's shop, a butcher's shop, and public buildings. Among the magnificent public buildings of the city, the Muhammed Nakibbek madrasa and bathhouse are located on the central street of the city.

Which served for the defense of the city. Because when the enemy attacked, the trenches and the high wall served as a good defense.

In the late Middle Ages, the cities of Uzbekistan had several common and some unique aspects in terms of their planning structure. One of the common features of most cities was that they were surrounded by defensive walls. The city walls played an important role in protecting them from external threats, maintaining social life and order. For this reason, they are built to be strong and durable. The defensive walls of the city together with the moats around them were considered the best means of defense of the city, [1] .

The roads leading to the fortress through the city gates were considered the main roads and were wider. Along these roads leading to the fortified center, there are public buildings and handicraft workshops, bakeries, shop stalls, blacksmith shops and shoemakers' workshops.

In addition to city gates, streets were of great importance in their structural structure. The streets intersected at the city markets, which started from the city gates. These streets were wide, and there were often stalls on both sides of the road [1] .

There are 14 neighborhoods within the city of Kattakurgan. Every neighborhood has a mosque, a pool around it, a neighborhood courtyard, and a bakery. Some neighborhoods had several ponds. These ponds provide water to the city residents. Water flows into the ponds from the eastern side of the Damarik canal. The water enters each pond and finally flows into the Narpai River.

Inside the Kattakurgan fortress, there were Sufi Allayar, Madrasa, Kochakhur, Kichik Arabkhana, Kalandarkhana, Haji Kurban, Sufiguzar, Haidarchaman, Begijan, Garb mosque, Kurmaguzar, Shorguzar, Hokiguzar, Kimokhgar and Kurmaguzar neighborhoods.

Outside Kurgan, there are the villages of Kariravot, Kunjipay, Arvat-atay, Arabkishlak, Sarbazar, Carmazar, Chordarai Darun, Mavrikurgan, Pas Chordara and Lublakhur.

In the Ark (Horde) in the center of the city lived the rulers of the city and their families. In addition, the court, reception hall, treasury and fortress guard buildings were located in the Horde.



It was built on an artificial hill with a height of 14-15 m, and its territory occupied 0.65 hectares. The arch is rectangular in shape, the sides are 65 x 100 m long. The wall of the arch was built of mud (bricks made of straw) and later repaired with bricks. The closest gate to the arch is the Haydarchaman gate from the east, the distance between them is 300 m. The main entrance gate of the Ark is located right next to the central street of the city, that is, the Samarkand Gate. The main entrance gate of the Ark is opposite to each other. The gate of the arch leads to the central street of the city, and next to it, there is a madrasah and a bathhouse.

The madrasah was rectangular in shape, with a courtyard in the middle, and the madrasah consisted of rooms around it. The madrasa consists of two parts: the mosque building and the madrasah buildings. According to our research, the building of the madrasa and the mosque were built at the same time. Later, the madrasa building was damaged and demolished.

On the opposite side of the madrasah is a large square with a market and stalls. The madrasah and the bathhouse were built by Muhammed Nakibbek and are still named after him. The main facade of this complex is oriented towards the east, that is, the main street. The mosque building had a winter house and a summer porch. The madrasa building has 2 floors, and its design is in the shape of the letter "P".

The structure of the complex, its layout and its location on the central street, as well as the compositional connection of 2 main large-scale buildings, play a dominant role in the composition of the city center.

In the studied period, there were 14 neighborhoods inside the Kattakurgan city fortress and 10 neighborhoods outside the fortress. There were 40-50 to 100 households in each neighborhood inside the fortress. According to statistical data, there were gardens belonging to each neighborhood around the Kattakurgan city fortress. They planted garden and land crops in the spring, and in the fall they gathered and returned to the fortress.

There were several aspects that united the late medieval cities located in Central Asia. One of them is the structure of cities and some aspects related to it. These include being surrounded by walls, the presence of gates, the internal structure of cities, and others [1].

Residential buildings in the city of Kattakurgan are mostly 1-story or in some places 2-story (shacks) and they are built of shingle and clay pakhsa.

The city of Kattakurgan was the center of the uezd of the same name during this period, and it was surrounded by gardens. In this city, which used to be the center of bek, the bek fortress and garden have been preserved. Kattakurgan was surrounded by walls, and it had 4 gates named Bukhara, Samarkand, Bazar and Aydargan. On the hill in the center of the city there was a fortress, from which the whole city was visible [1].

Outside the Kattakurgan fortress and at the entrance to the Bukhara Gate, there are caravanserais, houses of merchants and artisans, residential buildings and gardens on both sides of the city's central street. Public buildings and shops are located on the left side of the street. It should be noted that public buildings around the city are located as a complex. In the west of the city, the Narpai river flows and cleans the city's air. The Narpay river flowing around the fortress served to clean the air of the city.

The central Nakibbek street of the city continues from the Bazar gate. To the west of this street, the city's big market is located. So this gate is called Bazardarvoza due to its location in front of the market. 100 m after the gate, the road goes to the west and connects to the bridge at the crossing of the Narpai river. On the other side of the Narpai canal, this bridge served to reach neighborhoods, residential buildings, gardens, cultivated fields, and to go to the cities of Bukhara Emirate, Karmana, Khatirchi, Nurota. The bridge is 5 m wide and 50 m long. The bridge is solidly



built of wood. Near this bridge, there were 2 similar bridges on its left side. After crossing the second bridge, there are public buildings and caravanserais on the west bank of the Narpai River. Analyzing their architectural structure, the building was rectangular in shape with a courtyard in the middle. Their width was 10-12 m, and their length was 50-60 m.

A street runs along the length of the river on the western left side of the Narpai river. This street was 8 m wide and 200 m long. At the end of this street there is a third bridge, which is also made of wood. It should be noted that the main purpose of the 3 bridges being located close to each other, namely the proximity of residential areas and public buildings to the (western) area of the river, was taken into account. In addition, the proximity of the bridges to the gate made it easier for local residents to reach the fortress faster when the enemy and robbers attacked. According to the elders, these bridges were damaged and repaired several times during natural disasters due to the increase of river water.

At the entrance of the fortress to the Bukhara gate, on the right side of the main street, along the length of the street there are residences, public buildings, caravansarais, stalls, separate places for keeping horses and donkeys, several ponds and gardens. The buildings located in this area occupy an area of 0.6 hectares. After the gardens, the vineyards are the cultivated areas of the population. The buildings on this street are located along the length of the street, and on the yard side of the buildings, there are gardens and cultivated fields.

From the second bridge of the city, there is a road in the opposite direction, and this road leads to the north-eastern corner of the fortress.

There are public buildings on both sides of the main street at the entrance to the southern Samarkand gate of the fortress. A number of buildings were built on this street for merchants and visitors to the city. On the right-eastern side of the street there is a caravanseraï, ponds, a merchant's house, storage areas for caravans and donkeys. After the public buildings, there are parks. On the left-west side of this street, public buildings and residential buildings are located along the street.

There are several ponds in this area, water from the Damarik canal from the east came to these ponds and poured into the Narpai river.

Outside the Kattakurgan fortress, there were also neighborhoods, each of which had its own central mosque, pool, and public buildings. Most of the neighborhoods outside the city are located near the fortress. The Kariravat neighborhood outside the fortress is located on the north side of the fortress and at the market gate, 420 m from the city. A road from the central street of the fortress went to the territory of the neighborhood, and after a distance of 2 km, this road went along the Narpai river. Neighborhood residential and public buildings are located on both sides of this road. It should be noted that the area of this neighborhood plays an important role in the composition of the city due to its location.

Kunjipay neighborhood is located in the north-western part of the city, on the banks of Narpay river. On the opposite side of the river to the Kunjipay neighborhood is the Sarbozor neighborhood and there are 3 bridges to cross the river. Around residential buildings of the neighborhood there are cultivated fields, ponds, vineyards, cotton fields and open spaces.

In the north-western part of the city is the Arvat'-atay neighborhood, next to which a large stream separated from the Narpai river flows. This ditch was later poured into the river. Residents built a bridge to cross this stream.

In the western part of the city, on the left bank of the Narpai river, there is the Arab village neighborhood, and the Narpai river flows from the eastern side of the neighborhood. The territory of the neighborhood is located at a distance of 350 m from the fortress.



In the north-eastern part of the city of Kattakurgan, there are neighborhoods of Pas Chordara and Chordarai Darun. Damariq stream flows from the eastern side of Chordarai darun neighborhood. Chordarai is located in the neighborhood of Darun, at a relatively long distance from the fortress, and it is 1720 m long.

There is a large cemetery in the eastern part of the city of Kattakurgan, 1200 m away from the fortress. This cemetery is very old and was created in the years when the city was founded. Sarmozor neighborhood is located in front of this cemetery. The territory of the neighborhood is small, and there are few residential buildings in it.

Mavrikurgan neighborhood is located in the southern part of the city and 50 m away from Samarkand Gate. The central street of the city crosses the neighborhood. A caravansarai and public buildings are located around the neighborhood.

Lulakhur quarter is located after Mavrikurgan quarter, in the southern part of the city and near Dashtbazar village. Around the neighborhood there were gardens and vineyards. Dashtbazar village is located in the south-eastern part of the city of

Kattakurgan and on the banks of the Damarik stream . There is a market and residential and public buildings in the village. After these buildings, there are vineyards, gardens and cultivated fields. The eastern side of the village consists of steppe and open desert areas.

It should be noted that there are vineyards, orchards, cotton fields and cultivated fields around the Kattakorgon city fortress. From the northern side of the city, the Narpai River separates from the Zarafshan River and flows towards the southwestern part of the city, turning west and passing through it.

Damarig stream flows from the southern part of the city and flows to the northern part of the city. The city fortress and cultivated fields and gardens around the city drink water from the Damarik brook. Vegetative water means water collected from one place in a dam and flowed from it.

**Conclusion:** From the above points, we can say that Kattakurgan city fortress was one of the strong structures. It is worth noting that the compositional location of the city, the Narpai river flowing by it, and the layout and structure of the fortress and its surrounding neighborhoods give special solemnity to the compositional solution of the city. In short, the city of Kattakurgan is the most ancient and rich in historical monuments of its time in Central Asia.

#### References :

1. Mamatmusaev T, Typological foundations of historical cities of Uzbekistan. Tashkent 2019.
2. Bekmurodov Izzat. Kattakurgan: yesterday and today. Samarkand, Zarafshan publishing house, 1993.
3. Beknazarova, MB (2023). To The Study of the History of Restoration and Architecture of the Tashkent Madrasah Barakkhan of the 16th Century. Journal of Architectural Design, 17, 28-36.





*Fig. 1. The layout of the Kattakurgan city fortress. 1875*





*Figure 2. The general layout of the city of Kattakurgan. 1875*