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**THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MONUMENTAL PAINTING  
ART IN CENTRAL ASIA**

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*This article highlights the emergence of monumental painting art in Central Asia, its historical development stages, and its integral connection with architecture. The artistic and spiritual significance of wall paintings is analyzed through the process from ancient times to the modern era.*

**KEYWORDS:**

*monumental  
painting, wall painting,  
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Central Asia has anciently been one of the centers of high culture and art, where painting—specifically monumental painting—has occupied an important place. The art of monumental painting developed primarily in close connection with architectural structures, embodying the social, religious, and aesthetic views of society. Through wall paintings, the spirit of the era, the people's worldview, and cultural values were expressed. Historical Development The territory of ancient Central Asia is considered one of the regions where monumental painting art was formed and reached a high level of development. In this region, wall paintings reflected religious beliefs, state administration, social life, and mythological perceptions. Monumental painting played a vital role in decorating the interiors of palaces, temples, and luxury residential buildings in integration with architecture. Afrosiyob: An ancient site of Samarkand, famous for its wall paintings dating back to the 6th–7th centuries AD. Sogdian Art: These paintings are among the highest examples of Sogdian art, depicting diplomatic embassy scenes, solemn ceremonies, and representatives of various nations. Political Significance: The main theme of Afrosiyob paintings was to express the power of the Sogdian ruler and international relations. Compositions include ambassadors from China, Korea, and India, demonstrating Sogdiana's role as a vital center on the Great Silk Road. Artistic Style: Brightness of colors, dynamism

of figures, and a narrative character are characteristic of Afrosiyob paintings. Panjikent: Another major center where paintings depicted religious rituals, heroic epics, and daily life. These works are characterized by expressive imagery and color contrast. Bactrian Traditions Bactria was an ancient center of art where painting traditions formed under the influence of Hellenistic culture. Key Sites: Wall paintings found in Dalvarzintepa, Qoratepa, and Fayoztepa are bright examples of this period. Style: These works exhibit realism, anatomical precision, and spatial elements characteristic of Greek art. Cultural Synthesis: Buddhist themes were widely depicted alongside local religious traditions, confirming Bactria's position at a cultural crossroads. The Islamic Period and Evolution With the arrival of Islam, Central Asia's cultural and artistic life underwent profound changes.



Spiritual Context: Art became a tool for expressing spiritual and moral ideas rather than just aesthetic decoration. Architectural Integration: Painting became even more closely linked with architecture in mosques, madrasas, and mausoleums. Symbolism: Geometric patterns, floral designs, and epigraphy replaced figurative images. Colors like blue and azure were widely used as symbols of divinity. Modern Era In the 20th and 21st centuries, monumental painting expanded beyond traditional decorations to include new ideological content and techniques. Public Space: It became a part of the artistic decoration of public spaces rather than just religious or palace structures. Soviet Period: Art was linked to state ideology, focusing on themes of labor, industry, science, and peace. Style: Realism prevailed, and compositions featured expressive, life-like imagery. National Identity: In the modern period, national history, independence, and progress ideas found their reflection in monumental works.

### Conclusion

Throughout its long history, monumental painting has remained an essential part of Central Asia's cultural heritage. From ancient Afrosiyob to modern works, this art form demonstrates high artistic quality and social significance. Ultimately, it continues to preserve cultural memory and ensures the continuous development of national art in harmony with architecture.



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