# HISTORY OF KARSHI MAHALLAS

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**Resume:** This article provides a comparative analysis of the various names, locations, and functions of the ancient neighborhoods of Karshi, one of the largest cities in Central Asia, ancient and modern, a symbol of peace and tranquility, based on written and ethnographic research.

**Keywords:** Neighbourhood, guzar, community, aksakal, Karshi, Charmgar, Kurgancha, Zogza, Arabxone (Kumrabat), Buzrabat (Buzrukabad), Beshgumbaz, Makhsumabad, Karluqxone.

**Резюме.**Ушбу мақолада Ўрта Осиёдаги энг йирик шаҳарлардан бири, қадимий ва новкирон Қарши шаҳрининг тинчлик ва осойишталик рамзи ҳисобланган қадимий маҳаллаларининг турли номлари, жойлашган жойлари ва вазифалари ёзма ва этнографик тадқиқотлар асосида қиёсий таҳлил этиб ўтилган.

**Резюме.**В данной статье на основе письменных и этнографических исследований проводится сравнительный анализ различных названий, местоположений и функций древних кварталов Карши, одного из крупнейших городов Центральной Азии, древнего и современного, символа мира и спокойствия.

**Таянч сўзлар:** Махалла, гузар, жамоа, оқсақол, Қарши, Чармгар, Қўрғонча, Зоғза, Арабхона (Қумработ), Бузработ (Бузрукобод), Бешгумбаз, Махсумобод, Қарлуқхона.

**Ключевые слова**: Махалля, гузар, сообщество, аксакал, Карши, Чармгар, Курганча, Зогза, Арабхона (Кумрабат), Бузрабат (Бузрукабад), Бешгумбаз, Махсумабад, Карлукхона.

The mahalla - the guzars - is essentially a historical community of several families, founded on the initiative of citizens. The word "neighborhood" is Arabic and means "neighborhood," a place where citizens live and work, a place, a city within a city.[4;358] A neighborhood is an association of people who live on several streets and separate guzars, who love each other, and who feel a constant closeness through this space. The life goals of these people are also harmonized in a common way: weddings, hashars, helping the needy, various holidays, celebrations and so on. In short, mahallas play an important role in shaping and improving the sense of community in people.

The roots of the history of the mahalla go back to ancient times in the sacred book of Zoroastrianism "Avesto", Abu Nasr Farobi's "City of Noble People", Abu Bakr ibn Jafar Narshahi's "History of Bukhara", Alisher Navoi's "Hayratul abror" ("Surprise of good people") contain interesting stories about mahallas.

Historic as-Sam'onni (XII century), Hamavi (XII century) in Nasaf mentioned such mahallas as Boyan, Al Wassni, Juviq, Joybor (juwaybar). For example, the famous Imam Muhammad ibn Ismail al-Bukhari lived in the Boyan mahalla in Nasaf and collected information for hadiths. Samani also prayed in the mosque attended by Ismail al-Bukhari. Historical sources report that the mahallas also developed during the reign of Amir Temur and the Temurids.

At the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries, there were 280 mahallas (guzars) and 170 mahallas (suburban gardens and orchards) in Bukhara, 196 in Bukhara, 43 in Andijan, 20 in Khiva, 20 in Karshi and 52 in Shakhrisabz. The sources indicate that there are 74 mahallas (guzars) in the book [1;64].

Karshi, the largest political and administrative city of the Bukhara Emirate and the second most influential city until 1920, had more than 20 mahallas (guzars) in the early twentieth century. It is known that the history of Karshi mahallas (guzars) has not been studied as a separate subject. In the work of O.ASukhareva "On the history of the cities of the Bukhara Khanate" (1958) is a list of the following mahallas in Karshi:

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Mirdashuy, Mirzalot, Agalik, Chubin, Khonako, Harrot, Sharshara, Beglarbegi, China, Uymauy, Eronguzar, Kazikhana, Haramsaroy, Darvozayit, Boyguzari, Mirzalatip, Temirchi, Kholvagar, Kulolguzar, Chilangaron and others.[2;115]

The play mentions the names of about 20 villages adjacent to the city: Charmgar, Qurghoncha, Zogza, Arabkhana (Qumrabot), Buzrabot (Buzrukobod), Beshgumbaz, Makhsumabad, Qarluqxona. [2; 116] Also, according to our ethnographic data, the city. The following mahallas (guzars) were also found to be active: Degrez, Miskarlik, Sandikchi, Dukchi, Kosagir, Duradgor, Alachabof. The names of these mahallas (guzars) are not complete, which requires further scientific research, of course.

The main areas of mahalla (guzar) handicrafts are associated with the names of tribal tribes (ethnonyms), canals, pools, bridges, mosques, reliefs and various other names in the area.

Over time, large neighborhoods were divided into several independent parts. Some small neighborhoods have joined the big ones, and their names have been preserved only in the memory of the elders, and some have been completely forgotten. Like the cities of the last feudal period in Central Asia, the center of the oasis was located in the old part of the city of Karshi, Kulol, Karvon, Miskar, Chorsu, Kosagir, in the northern part of the fortress, the present Beklar guzars. Military units called "Shogird Pesha", which are part of the regular army, conducted training exercises in the guzar of the beys.[1;65]

In each mahalla (guzar) of the city, the settlements are located on the street, narrow street, closed streets, with the back side facing the neighboring mahallas. Thus each neighborhood was separated from each other by walls. In the previous period, each neighborhood had an average of 30 - 60 households and had its own mosque. Over time, large neighborhoods were divided into several independent parts, some small neighborhoods merged into a large one, leaving only their names, and some were completely forgotten.

The city of Karshi is not divided into districts like Samarkand or Tashkent. It consisted of two parts. The first was the central part of the city - the fortress, the second was the part around the fortress - the fortresses. The first part, the city fortress was inhabited by scientists, officials and rich merchants, and the second part - around the fortress lived craftsmen, farmers, small traders.[3;19] The second part of the city is divided into two mahallas called Charmgar and Buzrukabad, Gulshan, Arabxona, Pistakent, Shulluktepa, Kochkak, Chorva Baygundi and Gavxona villages were included and each neighborhood was headed by a separate elder grandfather.[3;19]

The main name of the South Gate is Qarluqkhana. The mahallas (guzars) on the outside of the gate are called Qarluqkhana. As the name suggests, the Qarluqs, one of the oldest generations of Uzbeks, lived here. [5:75]

The inhabitants of the central part of the city were officials and wealthy merchants, far removed from these associations. The mahalla was managed by a master (grandfather) along with the existing craft associations of the same name. Internal relationships between members of the same neighborhood, as well as relationships between different neighborhoods, have not yet been studied not only for Karshi, but also for other cities where similar groups exist.

Traditional hostility and rivalry between neighborhoods was noted everywhere and was expressed in the battles that took place between them. In Karshi such battles were called "duk" and the struggle began with the legs, the opponents tried to knock each other down with blows, if it was not possible to succeed in this way, a fight broke out, if none of the opponents admits defeat, they were beaten and one of the warring parties continued until he escaped. [2;122]

The inner-city neighborhoods were inhabited mainly by wealthy merchants and the upper classes. The city of Karshi consisted of small mahallas (guzars) of the same type as Bukhara mahallas. A complete list of Karshi neighborhoods has not yet been compiled. In total, the following mahallas can be mentioned for Karshi: Mirdashuy, Mirzolat, Agolik, Chubin, Honako, Harlot mahallas were near the Charmgar Gate (also known as Khiyabon); Near Sharshara Gate (New Gate) Sharshara, Beglarbegi, China, Uyumauy mahallas; Near the Kuyuk Gate (Tutak) there were guzars called Irani guzari, Qazikhana, Haramsaroy, Darvozai Tutak mahalla, Boyguzari, Mirzo Latif, and the location of Temirchi, Halvogar, Kulol guzar, guzari Chilangaron mahallas is not clear. [2;115]

The out-of-wall parts of the city were much larger than the small neighborhoods of the old city, surrounded by a wall and a moat, each of which consisted of several mosques. According to data obtained in

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1948, the Charmgar guzar, located behind the city gates of the same name, consisted of about 300 houses, consisting of four mosques: the Lower Mosque, the Middle Mosque, the Hazrati Qutbishaykh Mosque, and the Grand Mosque. Located a little north of Charmgar, Qurghoncha Guzar consisted of 160 houses consisting of about five mosques (Honako, Middle Mosque, Pakolyuk Mosque and two small mosques located in the line of gardens and in light buildings in the form of awnings).[2;116]

Located north of the old city, Zogza guzar consisted of 300 houses and three mosques (Lower Zogza, Upper Zogza, the name of the third mosque is unknown). The number of mosques in the houses where the fourth guzar is located in the Arabkhana or Qumravot is not clear, which is small except for the apparent delay. Buzurravot guzar (Buzurg-ravot), located to the south of Charmgar Gate, consisted of 300 houses and had two mosques (one of the mosques is called Dukchi Mosque, the other is unknown). The Beshgummaz guzari, located south of Buzurravot, consisted of two mosques (the Inner Mosque and the Outside Mosque) whose number of households was unknown. Makhsumovot guzar is located in the south-west of the old city. The informants also could not determine the number of his houses; according to them, it consisted of two mosques (Abduqadir Aqsaqqal and Ichkari mosque). [2;116]

Thus, a deeper study of the history of the mahallas of Karshi, the symbol of Central Asian urban planning, on the basis of new sources will further enrich the knowledge about the past and present of the city of Nakhshab – Karshi, the life and work of our ancestors.

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