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## **Kunya-Urgench, Turkmenistan, nomination of the ancient town of Kunya-Urgench for inclusion on the World Heritage list by the Government of Turkmenistan**

Mukhammed A. Mamedov, Ruslan Murado, Igor Zubanov, Annamurat Begmuradov, Medet Masharipov, Sébastien Moriset

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# Kunya-Urgench

## Turkmenistan

NOMINATION OF THE ANCIENT TOWN OF KUNYA-URGENCH  
FOR INCLUSION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST BY THE

**GOVERNMENT OF TURKMENISTAN**

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January 2004



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## Photographic analysis of the site evolution

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## Graphic archives

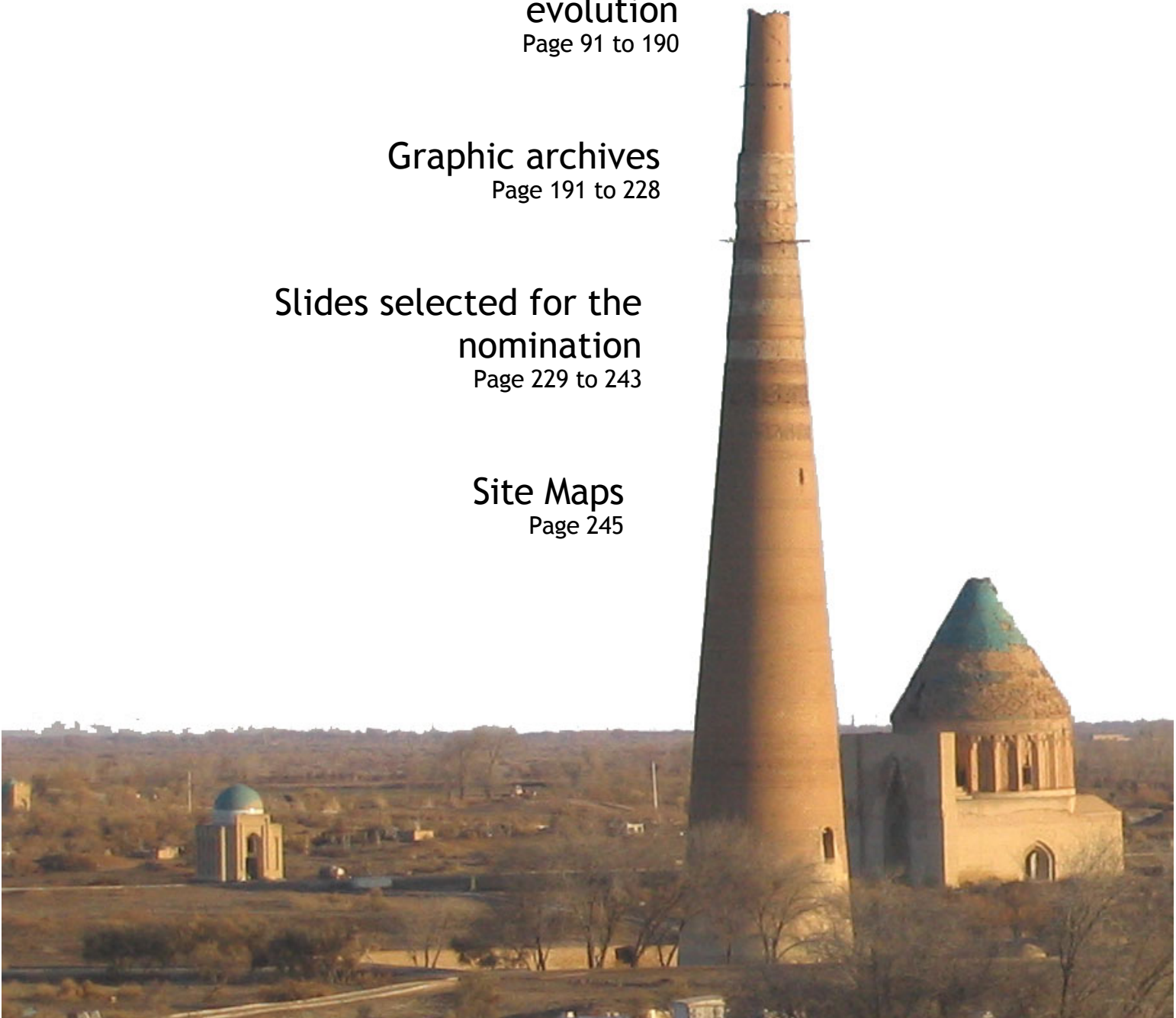
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## Further information

More information or clarifications on this nomination file can be obtained from:

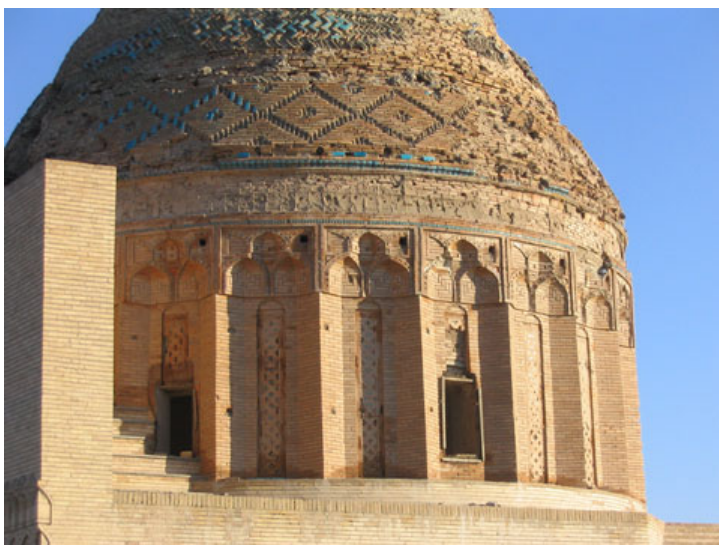
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# Kunya-Urgench

## Turkmenistan

NOMINATION FORM



## Acronyms

DPM : National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan

SHCP-KU: State Historical and Cultural Park Kunya-Urgench

UNDP : United Nation Development Programme

## Glossary of Turkmen names used in the file

Hakim: Mayor (of Kunya-Urgench) or Governor (of the Dashoguz Vilayet)

Hakimlik: Mayor's office or Governor's office (administrative structure headed by the Hakim)

Vilayet: province; Turkmenistan is divided in 5 vilayets

## Other names for this site:

Kunya-Urgench is referred to in the literature and on the internet under a great variety of names and spellings:

- Avesta-Urva (6<sup>th</sup> Century BC)
- Hangrid-Hanjird (7-8<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD)
- Gurgench-Djurdjaniy (9-12<sup>th</sup> Centuries AD)
- Gurganj
- Gurgandj,
- Gurgengj,
- Urgendj,
- Old Urgench,
- Kunia-Urgench,
- Khunia-Urgench,
- Kune-Urgench,
- Konye-Urgench,
- Kohne-Urgench,
- Kunyaurgench,
- Koniaurgench,
- Köneurgench,
- etc ...

## Note:

**Kunya-Urgench** should not be confounded with the modern town of **Urgench (or Urganch)** which lies 140 km SE in Uzbekistan, on the Amu Darya River and the Shavat canal, in the Khiva oasis.

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# 1

## Identification of the Property



Sultan Ali mausoleum (top) and Najm Ad-din Al-Kubra mausoleum

**a. Country**

Turkmenistan



**b. State, Province or Region**

Dashoguz Vilayet

**c. Name of Property**

Kunya-Urgench

**d. Geographical coordinates**

The site proposed for inscription in this file comprises 3 portions of land that are located in the same town, but are not adjacent. A great number of coordinates have been recorded on each of the 3 sections of the site, and can be found on the maps, at the end of this file. (page 245).

Coordinates of the centre of each section:

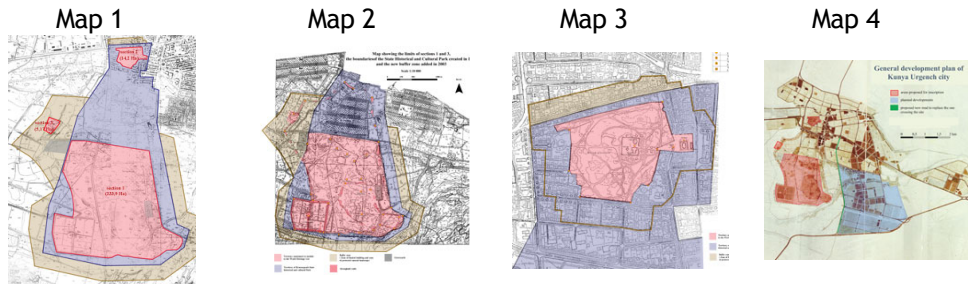
Section 1:	N 42° 18' 318''	E 59° 08' 494''
Section 2:	N 42° 19' 554''	E 59° 08' 754''
Section 3:	N 42° 18' 906''	E 59° 07' 694''

**e. Maps showing boundary of area proposed for inscription and of any buffer zone**

Four maps are available at the end of this nomination file, p. 245

This includes:

- Map 1: general map showing the whole site (scale 1/10000)
- Map 2: sections 1 and 3 (scale 1/1000)
- Map 3: section 2 (scale 1/1000)
- Map 4: future town developments



**f. Area of property proposed for inscription and buffer zone.**

The site proposed for inscription is composed of 3 sections that are disconnected by the modern town, which has developed in the centre of the ancient complex.

section	description	area (ha)
1	Southern section: (largest section comprising the minaret and most of the monuments)	333,90
2	Northern part: Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex	14,17
3	Western part: the smallest section comprising Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medressa	5,17
Total		353,14

Buffer Zones:

The site is protected by two types of buffer zones:

- The entire “State Historical and Cultural Park”, which was created in 1988, is considered as a buffer zone for Sections 1, 2 and 3.
- New by-laws (see appendix 8, page 85) have been created for two additional portions of land, to protect the proposed areas.

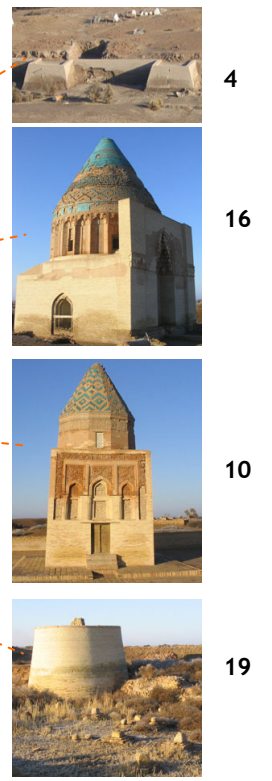
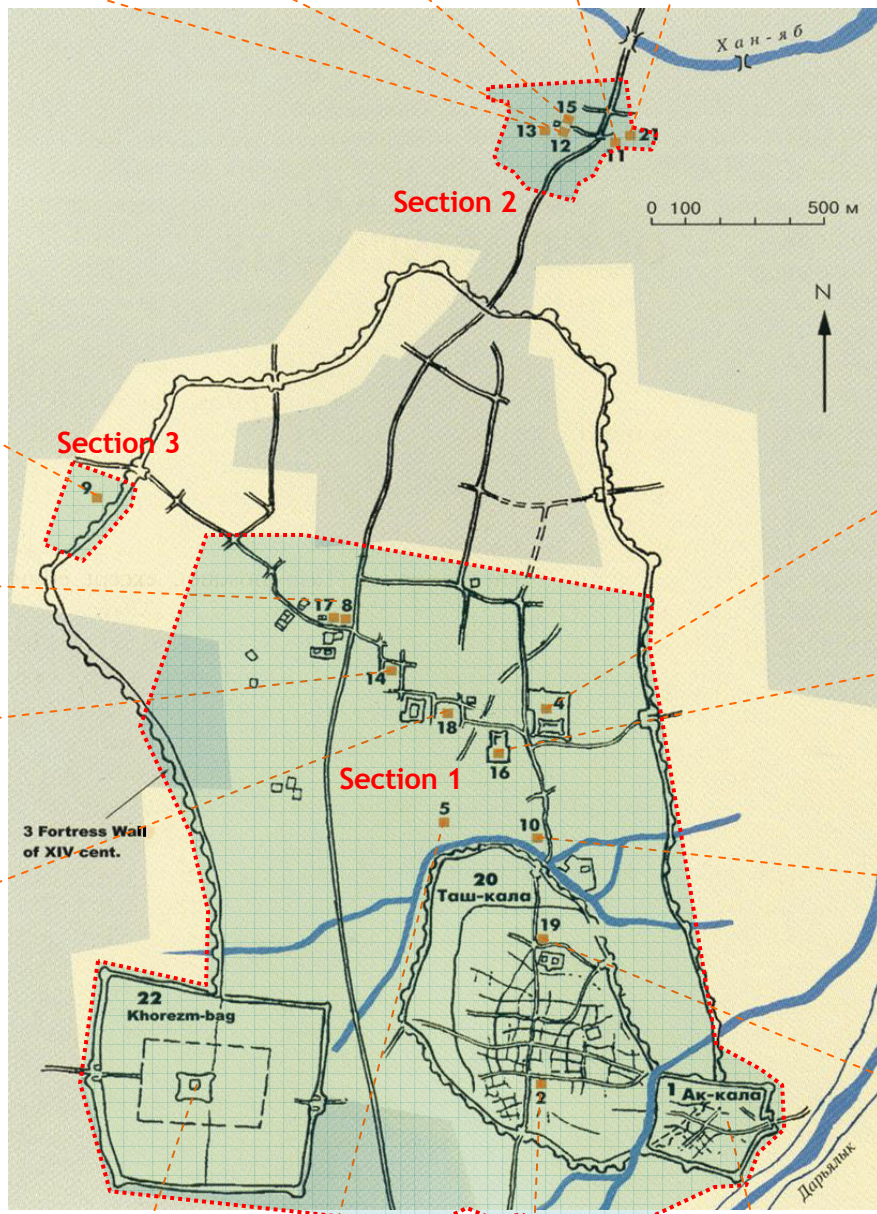
buffer zones	colour on maps	area (ha)
1	Portion of land protected since 1988	648,09
2	New extension created in 2003	21,45
3	New extension created in 2003	213,76

Map showing the location of the monuments and the boundaries of the 3 sections of land proposed for inscription



The numbers refer to the book Gurganj, page 7

- 1 Ak Kala
- 2 Gate of Caravanserai
- 3 Urgench Fortress wall
- 4 Kyrkmolla
- 5 Ali al-Ramitan
- 9 Ibn Khajib
- 10 Il Arslan
- 11 Maktarin Ishan
- 12 Najm Ad-din Al-Kubra
- 13 Piryar Vali
- 14 Seyit Akhmet
- 15 Sultan Ali
- 16 Tekesh
- 17 Turabek Khanum
- 18 Kutlug Timur minaret
- 19 Mamun minaret
- 20 Tash-Kala
- 21 Tash mosque
- 22 Korezm Bag



22 5 2 1



2

**Justification for inscription**





Eastern elevation of Turabek-Khanum mausoleum

## **a. Statement of significance**

Turkmenistan, the crossroad of the busiest medieval path - the great Silk Road - and the meeting point of western and eastern civilizations, is well known by archaeologists and historians as a great land of history and ancient civilizations. Kunya-Urgench is the largest archaeological site in the north of Turkmenistan, on the left bank of the old Amu-Darya riverbed, representing a vast zone of protected landscape with well preserved monuments of great architectural value, numerous ruins and rich unexplored archaeological sub-layers. There is no doubt about the architectural, archaeological and historical significance of this site.

### *Architecture*

Kunya-Urgench, capital of the ancient Khorezm Empire, is especially striking for its remaining standing structures, and more particularly for its extraordinary 60-m high Kutlug-Timur minaret dating back to the 11-12<sup>th</sup> Century, which is unique in the world. Other remaining structures are remarkable for their refined medieval Muslim architecture, such as the magnificent mausoleum of Turabek-khanym dating from 1370. Other surviving monuments include fortresses, mosques and minarets, medresses and mausoleums. In addition to these monuments, the remains of four forts lie within the site, including the earliest, Kyrkmolla, dating back to the 4/5<sup>th</sup> Century BC.

### *Archaeology*

In between the monuments, the rest of the site is covered with earthwork remains of decayed mud brick buildings and is of the greatest importance for its archaeological potential. Since it was abandoned in the middle of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century, the site is being used as a graveyard only, and the archaeological sub-layers remain well preserved.

### *History*

The history of the city of Gurganj, well-known nowadays by the orientalists, dates far back in the past, with monuments even older than those of Bukhara, Samarkand or Khiva. The capital of the Khorezm Empire was located right here and became the largest and most powerful state union on the Muslim East by the 12-13<sup>th</sup> centuries. Great individuals like al-Biruni, al-Khorezmi and Avitsenna worked in this city. Even the main forces of resistance to Genghis-Khan troops were here. Numerous archaeological and architectural monuments of great cultural and scientific

importance testify of this rich history.

### *Traditions*

Local people have conserved elements of the rich folklore of post Mongol period. Handicrafts are still produced and used nowadays, and many features of the traditional life style can be witnessed today in the new Kunya-Urgench.

### *Building tradition*

Kunya-Urgench was for a long time an independent school of construction masters. The knowledge of this school spread on the wide Muslim world and can be recognized in the structures, shapes and decoration of many buildings of Timur period in the Kazakh plain, in Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, the Golden Horde cities of the Volga region, and also in Transcaucasia, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan and India. The closest architectural relations are obviously with the other Khorezm territories surrounding Kunya-Urgench. Remains of this influence can be seen in Dekhistan, in South-West Turkmenistan, and also in the Northern provinces of Iran, from Tabriz to Mashhad. In the late 14<sup>th</sup> Century, Tamerlan employed several architects and builders from Kunya-Urgench, who erected beautiful buildings in Samarkand for him.

The monuments of Kunya-Urgench reflect the vast knowledge and great ingenuity of the local craftsmen, who brought several construction details and decoration techniques to the highest perfection. A great variety of shapes, structures, materials and decoration techniques have been used here. Different types of building structures and unusual shapes of domes are visible here. The monuments also demonstrate the evolution of treatment methods for internal surface of domes, from richly decorated tiled surfaces to stalactites (*muqarnas*). The region has always been known for the superiority of the craftsmen. Even nowadays, the quality of new buildings, whether made of cob, adobe or burnt bricks, is far better than in the southern parts of the country.

### *Religion*

Several religious places such as the mausoleum of sufiyan Sheikh Najm ad-Din al-Kubra still attract Muslim pilgrims even from the most remote countries of Asia. Most of the national visitors (more than 100,000 a year) visit the site for its religious values.

## b. Possible comparative analysis

The comparisons that can be made are manifold. The first one will be with other medieval towns in Central Asia, such as Bukhara, Khiva or Samarkand. The second is with other comparable monuments, such as high minarets in the region.

As compare to the above cities, Kunya-Urgench has lost its original urban fabric and only scattered monuments remain intact. Archaeologically speaking, the historical landscape in Kunya-Urgench is much better preserved than in those renowned old cities of Central Asia. After migration of people to a new place in 1646, this territory has never been re-occupied or used for building construction, and was partially turned into a vast graveyard. Moreover, if many historical objects in other biggest archaeological parks of Central Asia have been destroyed as a result of intensive agricultural activity for the whole 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Kunya-Urgench has also never been exposed to such negative impact. The minimum of human interaction has made Kunya-Urgench a really unique reserve of historical monuments and intact underground archeological layers, yet unexplored.

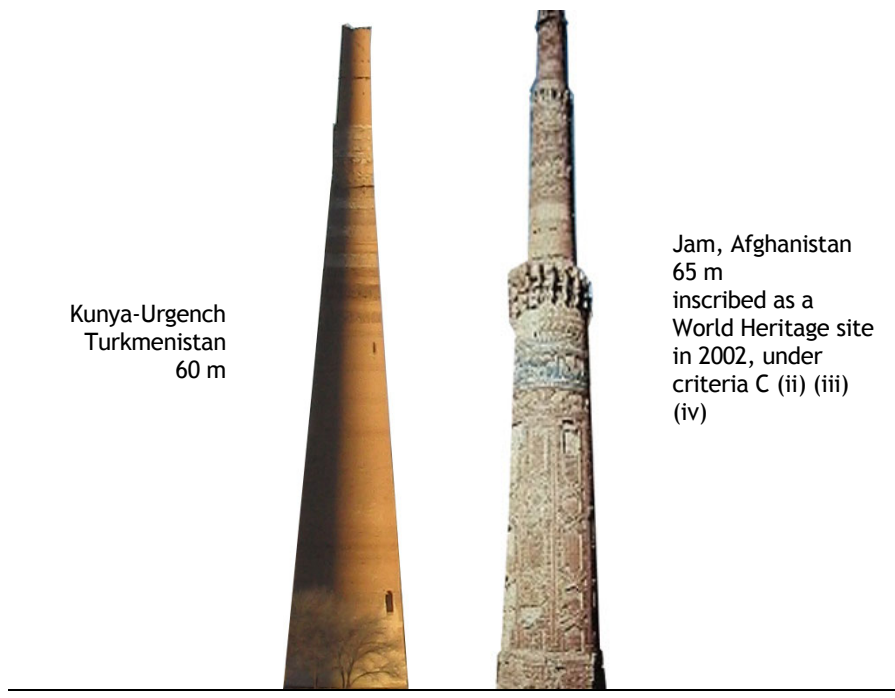
Several of the preserved architectural monuments of Kunya-Urgench are unique in the world. For example, the mausoleum of Turabek-Khanum (14<sup>th</sup> century), has its specific spatial composition and decoration which has never been duplicated elsewhere.



Decorated dome on Turabek-Khanum mausoleum

The monuments of this city are distinguished for their high degree of decoration. They show outstanding patterns of classical arabesques in monochrome terracotta and bright brilliance of enamel. Impetuous play of color, enlivening arid geometric patterns, does not rival, but forestalls the total polychromy of posterior monuments of Samarkand, Shakhrisyabz, Herat, Isfahan, Khiva.

The 60 meter tall Kutlug-Timur minaret (11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Century) which bears a high degree of authenticity in terms of material and fabric, is the tallest in Central Asia. Other remains of minarets can be seen in Turkmenistan, one in Kunya-Urgench and two in Dekhistan (south-west Turkmenistan), but the highest of them is only 22 m high. Medieval minarets of Central Asia can be classified under two main styles. What makes a distinction between the two types is the shape of the trunk. Some had plain conical trunk topped with luxurious circular balcony; the minarets of Khorezm, Dekhistan, Northern Iran and Caucasus are of this kind. Minarets of the second style were also conical, but their trunk was stepped. In other words, they were divided into sections of different diameter (getting narrower upwards). This style is typical of the Indo-Iranian subcontinent and the minaret of Jam in Afghanistan, which is slightly higher than the Kunya-Urgench minaret, is a striking example. Kutlug-Timur minaret, (the highest in Inner Asia) is the greatest example of the first style.



### c. Authenticity/Integrity

The standing monuments do not reflect the authenticity of the flourishing Khorezm capital, and the layout of the town can not be seen anymore. However the monuments provide authentic examples of the rich architecture, especially from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries. Since the inhabitants deserted the town to develop a new settlement, the old Kunya-Urgench, mostly ruined, has remained undisturbed for 3½ Centuries, and the integrity of the land was preserved.

The Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex, surrounded by the modern town, is less isolated than the other two sections of the site, but a wall blocks the view of the new buildings and helps to preserve the integrity of this series of monuments.

The level of restoration and conservation interventions being very different on each individual building, it is difficult to generalize about the level of authenticity. Important restoration works were carried out during the past 30 years, to stabilize the threatened structures. To some extent, over-restoration and reconstruction overwhelms the honest evidence and patina of this site. But it also reflects the trend in conservation of the soviet era, which consisted in completely restoring the monuments rather than conserving them.

In regard to the material aspect of authenticity, the monuments have not been altered. Some of the restoration works have made use of modern burnt bricks replacing ancient burnt ones, slightly affecting the colour of the walls but not its fabric. The partly restored adobe monument (Kyrkmolla) has been restored with adobes.

New materials have only been used for landscaping the land surrounding the monuments, and to channel visitors. This includes the construction of retaining brick walls, narrow concrete paths for visitors, concrete benches, and metal barriers.

Workmanship has remained extremely well preserved, and the techniques used to build the ancient town are still in use today. This ensures that the techniques needed to conserve the monuments are well mastered and will continue to survive. This is not the case in some of the other Turkmen sites, such as Merv (World Heritage Site), where the workmanship is of lesser quality, and high quality bricks are not available. Bricks burnt in the local

Kilns of Kunya-Urgench are still used today to conserve some monuments in Merv.

The remoteness of Kunya-Urgench, far away from the capital also prevents it from the influence of new materials, which would affect the authenticity of the settlement surrounding the site.

A series of archives photographs have been compiled in the second part of this file (page 191). These old photos, some dating back to the 1920's, are compared to present-day photographs showing the site in its current state. This document provides clear indications on the site evolution in the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The photographs clearly show the positive evolution - removal of inconsistent structures or electric poles, cleaning, conservation of threatened elements - as well as the negative ones - over restoration, conspicuous reinforcements, destruction and reconstruction of monuments.

#### **d. Criteria under which inscription is proposed**

##### **Criterion (i):**

*(represent a masterpiece of human creative genius)*

Kunya-Urgench is an outstanding collection of exceptional monuments covering a long period in the history of the region. The site embodies an exceptional testimony of the great creativity and advanced building culture developed by the local craftsmen since the 11<sup>th</sup> Century.

The Kutlug-Timur minaret, the most striking one at first glance, is a masterpiece of creative genius, and is itself worthy of World Heritage Status. Kunya-Urgench displays various building structures, with rare dome shapes. Amongst them are Tekesh mausoleum, with its conical dome built on a high facet-drum, and the monumental Turabek-Khanum mausoleum, which are remarkable examples of this prominent creativity, which has spread over the entire region.

##### **Criterion (ii):**

*(exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design; or)*

The ruins are a brilliant testament to the extraordinary skills of the Urgench School of architecture and construction. The architectural styles developed in Kunya-Urgench have exerted considerable influence in the development of religious architecture in central Asia and Iran during the Islamic period. Local architects and craftsmen have participated in the construction of significant monuments in other towns in Uzbekistan and Iran. The Seljuk city in particular influenced architecture and architectural decoration and scientific and cultural development.

##### **Criterion (iii):**

*(bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared; or)*

The monuments of Kunya-Urgench and its associated archaeological remains are exceptional testimonies to the power and quality of the Khorezmian capital that rose to great prominence between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries, before being destroyed by the Mongols. The sequence of the development of Kunya-Urgench, the series of fortifications and their urban lay-outs bear exceptional testimony to the civilizations of Central Asia. Looking at the beauty of the nowadays preserved monuments, one can imagine the splendour of this flourishing capital, once called the “Pearl of Khorezm”.



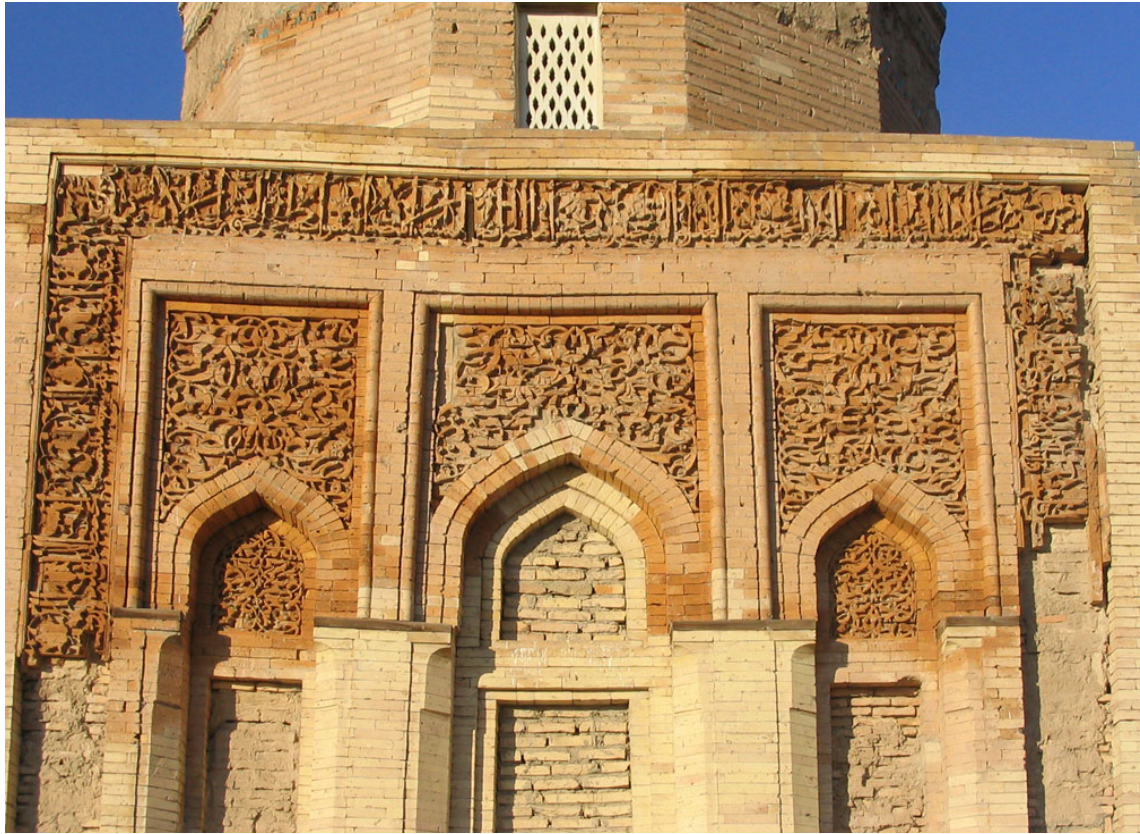
**Criterion (iv):**

*be an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history; or*

The monuments of Kunya-Urgench are outstanding examples of Islamic architecture and ornamentation in this region and played a significant role in their further dissemination.

3

Description



Il Arslan mausoleum (top) and Tekesh mausoleum (bottom)

## a. Description of Property

More detailed descriptions of the site and its monuments can be found in the book “Gurganj”<sup>1</sup>, provided with this file.



### *General description*

Kunya-Urgench was the ancient capital of Khorezm, a historical land situated near the Amu-Daria river. Several settlements have developed on this land over 2500 years.

Today, the site is a major pilgrimage site, but also the most impressive cultural site in Turkmenistan.

The ancient town of Kunya-Urgench is a vast deserted land, almost flat, with remains of ancient fortified towns (Kyrkmolla, Ak-Kala, Korezm-bag), and scattered solitary monuments on it. A detailed excursion tour of the site nearly requires a whole day.

The land has been used as a graveyard in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, but this activity has stopped. As a result, several graves of various sizes, in an advanced state of decay can be seen on the empty land, in between the monuments. As they are not maintained, they gradually disappear. As part of the cleaning efforts, the Park staff also removes some of the old graves on a regular basis. Footpaths have been demarcated on this empty land to channel the flow of visitors. Other minor equipments such as benches and dustbins can also be seen. Signboards, showing the plan and indicating the name and the construction date of the monument are also placed in front of each monument.

This “empty” land hides rich archaeological sub-layers. When

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<sup>1</sup> Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, *Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)

walking on the site, one may find a large number of unbroken and broken baked bricks, alabaster fragments, pieces of turquoise glazed tiles and other types of coloured ceramics. The main portion of land (section 1) is actually crossed by the Ashgabat - Kunya-Urgench road, and by electric poles. Both the poles and the road will be removed and reconstructed outside the site boundaries in the near future. The other two sections are only accessible by foot.



Eastern part of section 1  
seen from the minaret



Road crossing section 1



section of the site Views of the new town, surrounding section 2



Cemetery surrounding section 2



Empty land surrounding section 3

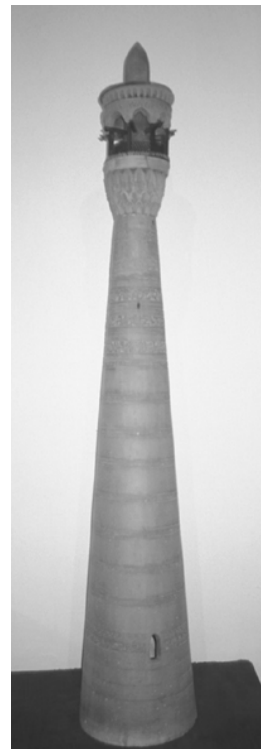
Individual descriptions of significant monuments are given hereunder. Detailed descriptions of other monuments are available in the “Gurganj” book.

### *Description of Turabek-Khanum Mausoleum*

This monument, named after Turabek-Khanum, is located in the northern part of the ancient Gurgench. Some historians do not consider it to be a mausoleum, but rather the palace of the Anushtegyns Dynasty. One of the interesting features of this monument is the decorated dome covering the main hall. The surface of the dome is made of colourful and delicate mosaic panel with the ornament of stars and flowers. From the central hall, it is possible to go down to the crypt, where the ashes of the several representatives of the Dynasty are buried.

### *Description of Minaret Kutlug-Timur*

With its 60 m height, this is the highest monument in the park. The diameter of the minaret at the base is approximately 12 meters, and only 2 meters at the top. The minaret was crowned in the past by a wooden lantern, built on wooden beams, inserted in the brickwork. The top of the minaret is accessible with the internal screw ladder, which starts at 7 m above the actual ground level. Access was possible in the past from the top of the mosque, which is no more visible today. The plinth part of the minaret and the surrounding landscape were completely restored in the 1990's.



Model showing the wooden lantern

### *Description of Tekesh Mausoleum*

This monument, also known as Sultan Tekesh mausoleum, is a semi-cubic structure, measuring 11,45 x 11,45 m, crowned with a 18 meters high 24-sided conic cupola. Sultan Tekesh ruled between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries.

*Description of the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum Sultan Ali Mausoleum and Piryar Vali complex*



This mausoleum ensemble is situated in the heart of the new town of Kunya-Urgench, in the middle of a Muslim cemetery. The mausoleum of Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra was constructed in the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> Century. The monument is named after Ahmed Ibn Omar Najm-ad-Din al Kubra al Khorezmi. He was born in Urgench in 1145, and became the founder of the Kubravid's school of Sophism. Najm-ad-Din al Kubra was famous not only as a philosopher, but also as a painter, physician, chess master and talented general. Seven books and 24 rubais written by Kubra survive to this day. This monument is a perfect architectural achievement. Its portal dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> Centuries. The monument was rebuilt during the era of prosperity of Khorezm, and again after the Mongol invasion. The mausoleum of Sultan Ali is located on the opposite side of the mausoleum of Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra. This monument is linked to the name of Sultan Ali, who ruled Urgench in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. The monument is hexagonal in shape. The diameter of its cupola is 9,5 m.

This mausoleum complex also comprises the little mausoleum of Piryar Vali, located on the western side of the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum. Several people were buried in this mausoleum, such as Shyh Setdar, Sheker Gendji, Daniyar Vali. Piryar Vali was a contemporary of Najm-ad-Din al Kubra. Initially the monument was constructed in the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> Century. The height of its portal is 6.5 m and length is 7.5 m.

*Description of Dash mosque (20<sup>th</sup> Medressa converted into a museum)*

This square building is made of a series of small rooms, opening on a large central courtyard. Built as a mosque, it mainly served as a coranic school, before being turned into a beautiful site museum in the 1990's. This museum presents the history of the site, and the traditional arts and crafts of the region. It also presents several findings from the site and other ancient settlements of the Dashoguz province. Each little room is dedicated to a specific know-how of the rich Turkmen culture (carpet making, pottery, Yurt construction, etc...)

*Description of Il-Arslan mausoleum*

Il Arslan is a magnificent building, located between Dash mosque and the Mausoleum of Tekesh. This magnificent structure is named after Il Arslan, who ruled from 1156 to 1172. According to scientific theories, this building was used as a water storage.

*Description of Kyrkmolla*

The Kyrk Molla fortress is a 12 m high mound located in the north-eastern outskirts of Gurgench. It represent the oldest nucleus of Urgench. The earliest ceramics discovered here goes back to the 5<sup>th</sup> Century BC.

This fortress is protected by a thick mud-brick wall, which has been partially rebuilt after archaeological excavations. It dates back to the 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries.

*Description of Ibn Khajib complex*

The monument of Ibn Khajib, located in the western sector of ancient Urgench, was built in honour of Ibn Khajib, a talented disciple of Najm-ad-Din al Kubra. This monument is actually a complex, different parts of which were constructed in different periods of time, from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries. The remains include a burial chamber and premises for the visitors.

*Description of Ak-Kala*

This fortress is located southwest of the ruins of Medieval Urgench. Their high walls, stretching on more than a kilometre and built with sun dried bricks, have partly survived to our days. The shape of the fortress is still clearly visible. The height of the walls of the fortress ranges from 6 to 8 metres, and the thickness is 2 m at the top. The corners of the fortress



are embellished with semi-circular towers, and the internal face of the fortress wall is reinforced with buttresses.



*Description of Khorezm-Bag*

This is a quadrangular fortress (400 x 500 m) built in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century in the South-western outskirts of Kunya-Urgench, by Khan Muhammed Emin, who transferred his residence from Khiva. It was surrounded by a high rampart, which is severely eroded but can still be seen today. The fortress is divided in two sections by a wall, in the middle of which stands a large mound.

## b. History and Development

No one knows when Kunya-Urgench was founded. Scientists assume that Kunya-Urgench correspond to the ancient town of “Urga”, mentioned in the Zoroastrian book called “Avest”.

Archaeological findings in the Kyrkmolla Hill also tell us that the town was already strongly structured in the Antique period (4/5<sup>th</sup> Centuries BC).

Arabs invaded Khorezm in 712 and Kunya-Urgench was given its Arabic name Gurgandj. Due to its location on the main trade routes from the South to the North, and from the West to Mongolia and China, the city soon became a prosperous centre. This crossroad position was a great contribution to the development of science and culture in Central Asia.

Thanks to the Arab manuscripts, more is known about the history of the site over the last millennium.

Kunya-Urgench rose to great prominence between the 10<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Centuries as a major trading centre and as the Khorezmian capital. Many wonderful monuments of that era have survived.

It became the capital of the khanate of Khorezm in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century and the second city after Bukhara in Middle Asia. Legend tells that Kunya-Urgench was destroyed and re-built seven times. The city was destroyed by the Mongols in the early 13<sup>th</sup> Century. Despite the Mongol invasion, it regained its previous status and was described in the 14<sup>th</sup> century by the Arabic traveller Ibn-Battuta as “*the largest, considerable, beautiful and majestic city of Turks with fine bazaars, wide streets, numerous buildings and impressive views*”. The city however never recovered from Timur’s campaigns against Khorezm between 1372 and 1388 and its decline continued until the 16<sup>th</sup> Century when it was replaced as a regional capital by Khiva. The town was finally abandoned in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. At the same time, the Amu-Darya river also changed its course.

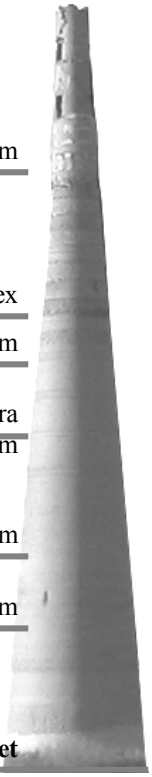
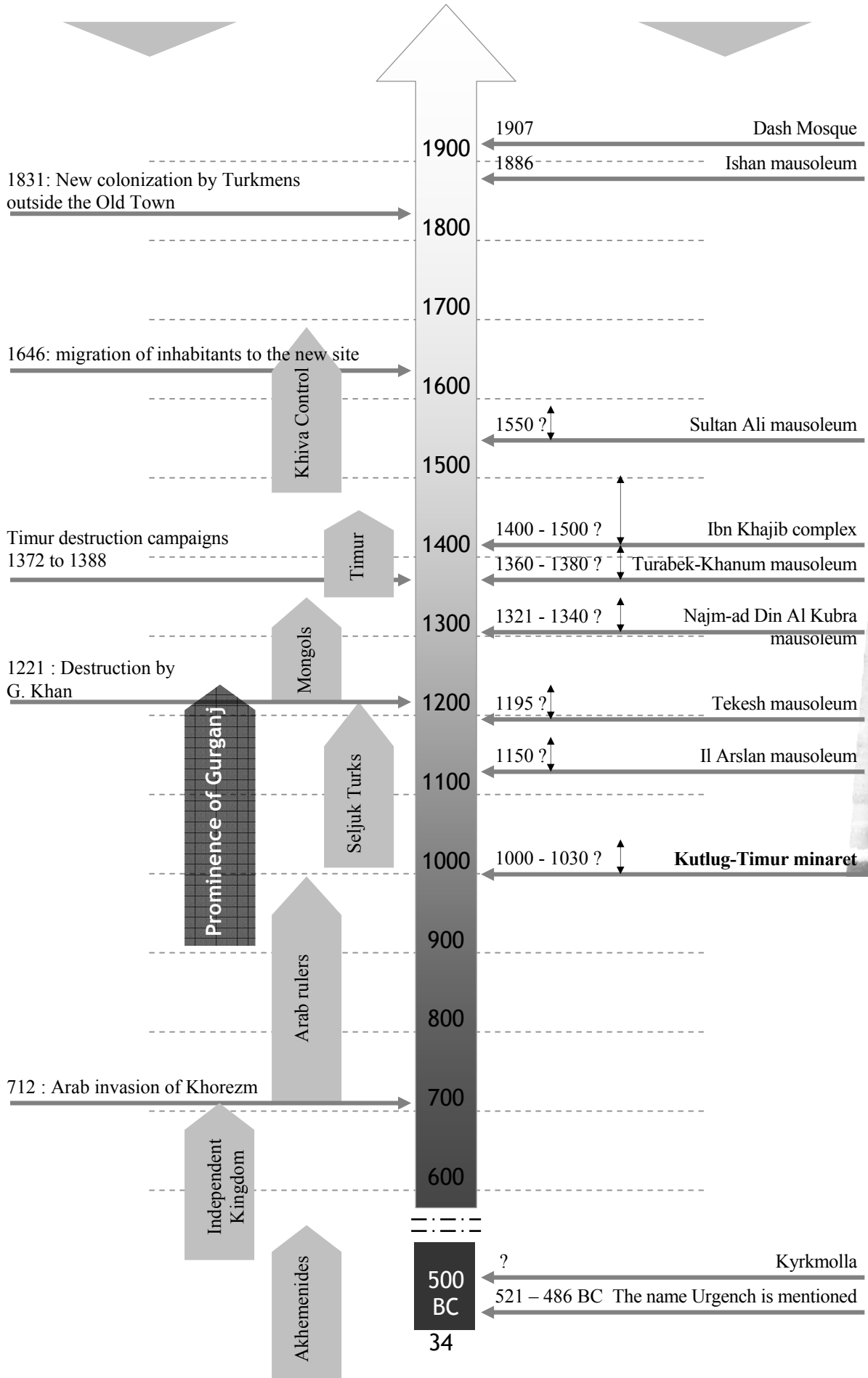
More details on the history of the site and its monuments can be found in the book “Gurganj”<sup>2</sup>, provided with this file.

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<sup>2</sup> Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, **Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide**, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)

# HISTORIC EVENTS / REIGNS

# MONUMENTS



### c. Form and date of most recent records of property

As for any of the 1300 gazetted monuments of Turkmenistan, the monuments of Kunya-Urgench are registered on an official inventory form called “*Pasport*”, which contains basic information such as its location, use, history, value, state of conservation, protective by-laws, etc... These forms are regularly up-dated, and also serve as monitoring sheets.

The *Pasport* forms are kept in 3 places:

- 1 copy at the Office of the Provincial Director of the Department of Monuments
- 1 copy with the Director of the Department of Monuments, Ministry of Culture, Ashgabat
- 1 copy for with the officer in charge of the territory where the monument is.

### d. Present state of conservation

Different levels of intervention can be witnessed on site, from minimal preventive conservation to complete restoration. Some buildings have been entirely reconstructed on top of the ancient foundations. Some others have received no attention at all. The actual state of conservation of the remaining structures therefore varies a lot. The state of conservation of the property should be considered for each individual building.

The main conservation works, implemented with national funding, occurred in the 1980's and 1990's. Another restoration campaign was implemented with UNDP in 1999-2000.

In addition to the present text, the series of photographs<sup>3</sup> showing the evolution of the site over the 20<sup>th</sup> Century is quite evocative of the State of conservation of the site, and the level of interventions carried out on specific monuments.

#### *Turabek-Khanum Mausoleum*

Conservation started in the 1980's. Works done between 1983 and 1993 included the restoration of the walls of the mausoleum, including the wall base. Decorative wooden screen walls “panjaras” were restored in the openings, the floor tiles were repaired, the collapsed northern

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<sup>3</sup> Second part of the present document: Photographic analysis of the site evolution over the past 75 years, by means of comparing archive and recent photographs.

portal was reconstructed, missing carved wooden doors were replaced, the spiral staircase was restored and landscaping work around the monument was implemented.

In the framework of the UNDP programme, implemented in 1999-2000, the inner dome was restored. The small domes on the southern and northern sides of the mausoleum were also restored. On the northern side, the broken arch was reconstructed, and the entire parapet wall, as well as the flat roof (tiled floor and drainage)

Currently the state of conservation is stable. However, urgent intervention is required to save the remaining decorations, both inside and outside. Unique mosaics and architectural details (stalactite domes) are threatened. Pieces of them are frequently detaching from the building, due to the weather, the pigeons, and natural aging.

#### *Minaret Kutlug-Timur*

Conservation works done in the 1980's included the complete cleaning and conservation of the lower part. The surrounding land was cleaned-up, levelled and equipped with benches. The spiral staircase was repaired. In the frame of the UNDP programme, the top part of the minaret was partially reinforced. The upper part of the minaret is deformed, the top is inclined 1,25 m away from its original position. This work was not completed due to time constraints, more reinforcement are required to prevent future deformation or collapsing of the upper part (10 m from the top).

At the same time, the plinth part of the minaret and the surrounding landscape were completely restored. The entire brickwork of the minaret needs to be checked and conserved (replacement of missing bricks, and re-pointing mortar joints). The top of the minaret is closely monitored to control its movements.

#### *Tekesh Mausoleum*

Major conservation works done with State budgets started from 1983. The foundation was reinforced, the walls were restored, the corrugated drum with the stalactite and the portal arch with its stalactite were reinforced. Inside, the brick work as conserved, and the plasters were completely restored.

The outer conical dome which was covered with glazed bricks is in critical condition today, because of advanced erosion. Some portions of the domes are very thin (less than a centimeter) due to severe erosion, some others

have already collapsed. The external decorations also require conservation (frise, glaze tiles with high relief inscriptions and other tiles are detaching).

#### *Seyet Akhmet*

The building was in very poor state and was completely surveyed in 1992. It unfortunately collapsed the following year. It was completely reconstructed on the ancient foundation, using new materials. This mausoleum is therefore totally new.

#### *Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum*

Conservation and restoration have been conducted at the end of the 1980's, early 1990's. During this period, all the external and internal walls were restored, all domes (big and small) also restored, panjara screens installed in the windows, carved doors installed in the doorways, manufactured after the existing samples of ancient doors, restored brick tiles on all floors, conducted conservation works in all 4 rooms, inside the mausoleum, walls, brickwork, dome, tromps, and plaster. However, the works conducted have not touched the main portal at the front entrance. Currently, it is leaning about 50 cm out. The stalactites above the entrance as well as the remaining decorative glazed tiles require restoration.

At the same time, inconsistent elements were removed, including a mud brick house built by the religious authorities and several graves.

General landscaping and construction of a short retaining wall around the site also took place, to restrain visitors' movements.

#### *Mausoleum Sultan Ali*

Preventive conservation was conducted in the early 1990's. New wooden carved doors were installed. Minor preventive conservation works done. Currently, the monument is still endangered. The walls and the dome are cracked, the portal is leaning out, which has numerous big and small cracks, including in the dome. Monitoring devices were placed on the cracks to follow their evolution. General landscaping was also done around the monument.

#### *Dash mosque (20<sup>th</sup> Medressa converted into a museum)*

Large scale conservation works implemented in the late 1970's, early 1980's. The building was in an advanced state of decay, with many parts ruined. Works included restoration of walls, domes, roof, and landscaping of the

inner yard and surrounding land. It remained unused for 10 years. Later, at the beginning of the 1990's, it was converted into a museum, and new wooden carved doors were installed. Under the UNDP project (1999-2000), the exhibition was enhanced. This entailed the installation of a new lighting and alarm system, installation of panjara screens, showcases and mannequins, and purchase of new artefacts for the exhibits. Signboards were also placed, not only in front of the museum, but in the entire park, in front of each monument. A concrete fence was constructed on the southern and eastern borders of the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex.

Today, the Dash mosque is in perfect condition.

#### *Matkarim Ishan mausoleum.*

The building was restored in the late 1980's, and is in perfect condition (like new).

#### *Gate of Caravanserai*

Partial restoration works were conducted in the 1980's. The very poor state of conservation required major works to be done. Huge buttresses considerably modified the aspect of the monument, but safeguard the monument from collapsing. Currently, the monument is in a stable condition. Conservation works need to be done on the ornamental glazed tiles and carved bricks, in the internal part of the arch.

#### *Il-Arslan mausoleum*

Restoration work was done in 1980's. The walls which were in an emergency state were repaired, the brickwork of the 12-sided drum was restored, the interior was also restored, the windows were closed with panjara screens. Carved doors installed. The surrounding site was cleaned and large quantities of earth removed up to the original floor level. Landscaping also included the construction of a retaining wall around the mausoleum. The building can be considered to be in a stable state of conservation. However, conservation of decorative carved bricks will be required. The glazed tile on the 12-sided dome will also require conservation, as they have started to detach.

#### *Kyrkmolla*

This monument is a 3-hectares archaeological site which has not been entirely studied yet. Major excavations started in 1991 on the western side of the hill (more than 3000 m<sup>3</sup> of soil removed). Excavations allowed discovering the foundation of a defensive wall with towers. Under the

UNDP project, the defensive wall was partly reconstructed with mud bricks, and coated with a straw-earth mortar. Windows were kept to show some of the original bricks. The monument is in a stable condition but requires regular maintenance.

*Juma'a mosque and Mamuna minaret*

The site is an archaeological site discovered after 1993 excavations. Under the UNDP project, minimal preventive conservation was carried out. The minaret was partially reconstructed, 6 meters above ground level, on the existing foundation. Due to excavations, the level of the site is much lower than the park level. This creates major erosion problem due to the presence of humidity.

*Ibn Khajib complex*

Conservation on the monuments started in 2001, and continued until today. The building was partially restored (repair on the brickwork and re-pointing mortar joints). The front portal and the southern side were restored. Urgent conservation is required to save the remains of the medressa. General landscaping is also required to drain rain waters away from the site.

*Ak-Kala*

This site has never been touched by archaeologists or conservators. Only surveys have been carried out. It is in an advance state of decay, and suffers from natural aging due to climatic factors, but archive photographs prove that the decay process is rather slow. Some remaining wall elements, which are severely undermined, require attention.

*Fortress wall of Kunya-Urgench.*

This wall is almost totally destroyed. Most of it has disappeared, and it can hardly be traced within the new town. Only a long mound of soil remains from it, and the best preserved part of it is on the south-western side of the Park.



**e. Policies and programmes related to the site presentation and promotion.**

The presentation of the site is quite consistent, in the sense that all signboards and information panels are similar in colour, materials and shapes.



Signboard in front of Il Arslan mausoleum



Pilgrims at Najm Ad-din Al-Kubra mausoleum



Pilgrims

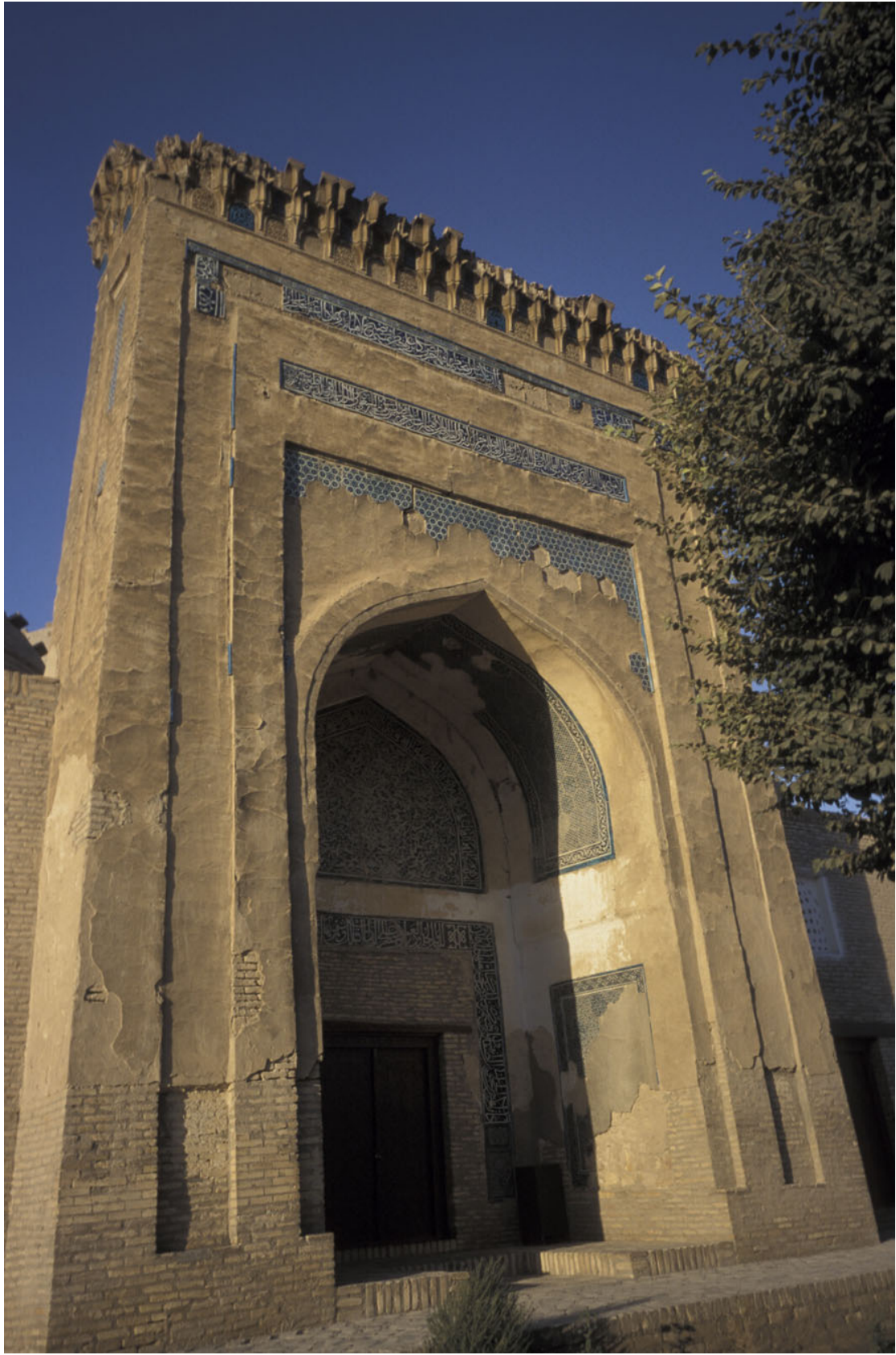


Fothpath and benches

In terms of interpretation, a museum of National crafts has been set up by the government with the technical and financial assistance of UNDP, in the ancient mosque and medressa known as Dash mosque. This building presents the various craft products of the region, and explains the production process for each type of craft, by showing the tools and equipment used to produce them.

4

Management



Portal of Najm Ad-din Al-Kubra mausoleum

### **a. Ownership**

The SHCP-KU is a government-owned land.

### **b. Legal status**

All the monuments in the property are gazetted on the list of historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan, which comprises more than 1300 individual monuments.

In addition, Kunya-Urgench is one of the 8 “State Historical and Cultural Parks” which have been created to protect the most significant sites in Turkmenistan. The SHCP-KU was originally created on the basis of Cabinet of Ministers of the Turkmen-Soviet socialist republic decree dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1985, reference N°10085, and was registered at the Vilayet level under decree N° 440/16 from the Hakim of the Dashoguz Vilayet. This decree was officially approved by the State cabinet of ministries on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1989. The precise limits of the SHCP-KU are given in the State Act N° 007963, dated 18 June 1992 (see appendix 7).

Finally, Kunya-Urgench was one of the 3 first sites proposed on the tentative list with Old Nisa and Ancient Merv, for inscription on the UNESCO World Heritage List.

### **c. Protective measures and means of implementing them**

The law of Turkmenistan provides legal protection for all monuments (see extracts of the law in appendix 9). However, being a State Historical and Cultural Park, Kunya-Urgench falls under a much more precise legal text which sets strict rules regarding activities and conservation policies taking place on site. A translation of this text is available in appendix 5, page 76. In addition to this text, special by-laws have been set-up by the Hakim in 2003 to create buffer zones that will reinforce control on the land immediately surrounding the protected site (appendix 8, page 85). The implementation of these laws is ensured by the park staff posted on site, and by the town authorities (police, chiefs of kolkhozes). Breaches of law are actually not possible, as they would be immediately be reported by the security staff or site guides.

#### **d. Agencies with management authority**

There are only two agencies with management authority, one in Kunya-Urgench (the SHCP-KU office), and one in Ashgabat (the DPM). The DPM in Ashgabat has legal control and authority to approve projects related to the site, and therefore monitors the site management from Ashgabat. The director of the SHCP-KU is in charge of the site management, but he has to seek permission from the DPM to implement works. The same applies to all archaeological missions, which are not allowed to dig without the permission of the DPM, and without being invited to work by the SHCP-KU director. Important conservation actions are generally executed on site in the presence of a DPM representative.

The Kunya-Urgench Town authorities (Hakim office) are also informed about the annual action plans of the SHCP-KU, and sometimes suggest specific activities to be implemented, but they do not directly interfere with the management, and have no right to implement activities against the will of the SHCP-KU Director or the DPM.

#### **e. Level at which management is exercised and name and address of responsible person for contact purposes**

Management is exercised at two levels, at the site level (SHCP-KU office, Kunya-Urgench), and at the national level (DPM, Ashgabat):

- in Ashgabat: Mukhammed A. Mamedov (Head of DPM)

Address: Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan

Turkmenistan

744000 Ashgabat

Magtymkuli street 73a

Phone: (993-12) 35 05 16 or 35 45 54

e-mail: rum@online.tm

- in Kunya-Urgench: Annamurat Begmuradov, (Director of the SHCP-KU)

Address: Turkmenistan 746370

Daşoguz welayat

Koneurgench şäheri

Galkynyş koçesi N 69

Phone numbers: office (993-800347) 21 0 08 museum

23 5 71 Medet's office 22 0 14

#### **f. Agreed plans related to property**

The law of Turkmenistan contains general policies for the management of the Heritage organisation and the management of monuments. This general plan also provides general guidelines applying to all sites in the country. From this document, more detailed versions have been developed for each individual site, including Kunya-Urgench. It is this last document, which sets guidelines and constraints for the preparation of the annual action plan. A new action plan is prepared at the end of each year. This plan is then sent to Ashgabat, where it is controlled by Berdy Udemuradov, Chief of the protection, research and monitoring of Monuments and Dr. Mamedov.

### g. Sources and levels of finance

The Turkmenistan Ministry of Culture, via the DPM, is covering all the salaries of the SHCP-KU staff.

All other expenses, including office running expenses and conservation activities, are paid from the tourism income. Entry fee for Turkmen visitors is 1000 Manats (0,05 US\$), and 11000 Manats (0,55 US\$), for foreigners.

Tourism income (in Manats, including entry fees + donations)	2000	2001	2002
from Turkmen visitors	36 960 600	106 841 000	140 480 000
from foreign visitors	11 407 000	13 651 000	18 128 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>48 367 600</b>	<b>120 492 000</b>	<b>158 608 000</b>
<i>equivalent in US\$</i>	<i>2418</i>	<i>6025</i>	<i>7930</i>

Officially, an annual budget is allocated to the SHCP-KU for conservation works (100 Million manats  $\approx$  5000 US\$) . But this budget is unexploited due to complex administrative procedures, which are totally unsuited for the field of conservation. Modification of administrative procedures has been announced by the President at the beginning of 2003. These new procedures should allow all State Historical and Cultural Parks in Turkmenistan to make use of these allocated funds. None of the Turkmen Parks can make use of this fund at the moment.

### h. Sources of expertise and training in conservation and management techniques

The SHCP-KU staff, with the assistance of the DPM staff in Ashgabat is experienced and qualified to implement conservation works.

A British expert, Roger Capps, was involved in the restoration of monuments under the UNDP programme, implemented in 1999-2000. He worked on the reinforcement of the Kutlug-Timur minaret and the partial restoration of the Turabek-Khanum Mausoleum.

Other specialists include architects Vladimir Artemeyev and Aliya Urmanova from Uzbekistan.

## i. Visitor facilities and statistics

### Existing facilities:

The site has been quite well developed since the 1980's, in terms of site presentation and interpretation. The following can be found on site:

- Ethnographic museum: an excellent museum (see photos) has been set-up in the medersa, near the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex. This museum was first set-up in the early 1990's, and was completely re-arranged under the UNDP project in the year 2000. It presents the Turkmen arts and crafts (carpet making, wood work, pottery, jewellery, etc...). Most of the exhibited materials were found on site during excavations, or have a direct relation with Kunya-Urgench. Information panels provide information in Turkmen and English.
- Guides:
- Trails are clearly marked and delimited all over the site.
- Signboards: signboards can be found near each monument. Written in Turkmen and English, they give the name of the building, its date of construction, and show the floor plan.
- Parking space is also available for busses and private vehicles.
- Toilet blocks are available near the parking spaces, where tourist busses are parking.
- Publications: Summarised guide books on the history and architecture of the site, and leaflets are available for sale at the museum.

### Missing facilities:

Kunya-Urgench does not offer any accommodation facility. Tourists coming from Ashgabat generally sleep in Dashoguz, which is 100 km away. The site also lack restaurant or refreshment facilities, but such facilities are included in the future development plans. In addition, there is no souvenir shop and no restaurant/bar, near the sites.



Visitor statistics:

Kunya-Urgench is the most visited heritage site in Turkmenistan. Visitors mainly originate from the region (Dashoguz Vilayet). Other visitors come from the other regions of Turkmenistan. The number of foreign visitors remains limited, but is on the rise, as shown in the table below.

	2000	2001	2002	2003
Turkmen visitors	35 441	106 841	140 480	161217
Foreign visitors	1 037	1 241	1 648	1600

#### **j. Property management plan and statement of objectives**

There are 3 documents governing the site management:

- The Law of Turkmenistan, which provides guidelines (appendix 9, page 87)
- The Policy for the State Historical and Cultural Park, Kunya-Urgench (appendix 5, page 76)
- The action plan, prepared every year and written in Turkmen language. This action plan is a list of planned activities for the coming year, and is prepared by the Park management team and sent to the DPM for approval. A translation of the 2003 and 2004 action plans is available in appendix 3 and 4, page 73.

At the occasion of this nomination process, an additional plan has been prepared to summarise all the above documents. It clearly sets the objectives for the site conservation, and comprises a list of activities to be implemented in the next 5 years. This plan was prepared with a representative of the DPM and the park management team. It still needs to be approved by the DPM.

#### **k. Staffing levels (professional, technical, maintenance).**

The Park staff consists of 33 staffs, including 3 who work on a part-time basis. A detailed staff chart can be found in appendix 6, page 80 of this document.

# 5

## **Factors Affecting the Property**



Conical dome of Tekesh mausoleum

## **a. Development Pressures**

The fact that the site is adjacent to a small contemporary urban settlement with a population of 30 000 inhabitants certainly represents a threat. However, all development plans for this town take into account the existence of the site, and do not affect it. New development zones for the town (residential development) are planned on the north-east and eastern parts of the town. Industrial developments are also planned far away from the site, on the Kunya-Urgench - Dashoguz road. (see Map of future developments, last page of the present file)

Currently, development pressure exists, especially around the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex, which is surrounded on the northern and western sides by residential areas. One house owner has already encroached on the site to expand his yard. Future encroachment is unlikely to happen, since the limits of the site and the limits of each individual plots are well recorded at the regional planning office. The law also forbids the construction of new structures/buildings within the SHCP-KU boundaries.

The development of the town (e.g. construction of storey buildings) around the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex could be harmful for the view from the site. A buffer zone has been created to control future developments (see text in appendix 8, page 85, and map on last page).

Farmers also represent a threat to a certain extent. The southern part of the site is entirely surrounded by farmland, and the collective farms are tempted to expand their plantations on the park land, although it is forbidden by the law. Two small portions of the Park appeared to be illegally used for farming activities in April 2003, one in Khorezm-bag (south-west corner of the site), one in the north of Ak-Kala (south-east border of the site). The Hakim has addressed the farmers who have abandoned those lands immediately after the April 2003.

In April 2003, these encroachment issues were raised with the Hakim of the town, who took immediate action. At a weekly town council meeting, the Hakim gave orders to the competent authorities (including deputy Hakims, town development architects, heads of Kolkhozes, head of the police, the chief prosecutor, other politicians and stakeholders) to solve these problems.

## **b. Environmental Pressures**

As for most of the archaeological sites in the area, the high water-table resulting from intense irrigation since the 1950's, causes damage to the site, especially at the base of the buildings, where the soluble salts crystallise.

## **c. Natural disasters and preparedness**

Turkmenistan is a seismic zone (Ashgabat destroyed in 1948), but Kunya-Urgench being far away from the Kopet-Dag mountains, it is in a zone of moderate seismic activity, and all monuments, including the high minaret, have resisted so far.

## **d. Visitor/tourism pressures**

Despite the great number of visitors, the site is not affected by tourism. The visitors remain on the clearly marked paths, and very few

## **e. Number of inhabitants within property, buffer zone**

Within property: Only section 1 of the site is inhabited. 2 family houses are built at the edges of the site, near the cemeteries, far away from the monuments. The Park management is intending to shift these families outside the Park boundaries. Only 10 people live in these two houses.

## **f. Other**

Among other threats, we can mention the problem of archaeological excavations without permission, or without post-excavation conservation. At the moment, it is not a threat. No archaeological diggings have been carried out since the creation of the SHCP-KU in the 1980's. But it is a common threat in the sub-region, and Merv is a good example of the risks encountered by such sites.

More information on the threats affecting can be found in the SWOT analysis, in appendix 3a of the present document.

# 6

## **Monitoring**

### **a. Key indicators for measuring state of conservation**

The key indicators which are checked in the monitoring activities are:

- Activities carried out on site (illegal farming or grazing, encroachment, ...)
- Level of erosion of the base of walls
- Deformation of the structures
- Loss of decoration, such as glazed tiles

### **b. Administrative arrangements for monitoring property**

As explained in chapter 3c, the monuments are registered on an official inventory form called “*Pasport*”, which contains information on the evolution of the site. These forms are corrected on a regular basis and serve as monitoring sheets.

Monitoring is done continuously by the park security and guiding staff, who are posted at the monuments. They report to the management team all the changes observed (crack, deformation, fall of tiles). The old photographs inserted in the second part of this file show that the erosion/evolution of building is extremely slow. The main changes are due to the intervention of the park staff (repairs and conservation works), and those are systematically documented and inserted in the “*Pasport*”.

More precise monitoring activities also exist. It includes the monitoring of the Kutlug-Timur minaret. A special stand for the theodolite has been set-up, and it allows checking if the tower, especially the deformed top part, is not moving.

### **c. Results of previous reporting exercises**

Results of the Monitoring activities are inserted inside the “*Pasport format*”.

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## **Documentation**



- a. Photographs, slides and, where available, film/video
- 54 slides with captions, showing most of the monuments are inserted at the end of the document, page 229
  - Copies of the archive photographs that are kept in photo albums in Kunya-Urgench and Ashgabat are also inserted in this file, page 91 to 190
  - Copies of the existing drawings and maps found in various books are inserted from page 191 to 228
- b. Copies of property management plans

All documents relating to management are in Turkmen. A summary of these documents is inserted in the present nomination file, pages 64 to 79.

c. Bibliography

The following bibliographic reference, included in the nomination package, is available both in Russian and English language. It is the most comprehensive book on Kunya-Urgench. A Russian bibliography is available in it.

- *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)

Other bibliographic references are in Russian, and are not available anymore, apart from the following 3 booklets designed for the general public, which provide a summarised history of the site. Those booklets can be purchased at the Kunya-Urgench museum or in Ashgabat.

- *Yemra Yusupov, The heart of ancient Khorezm*, 14 x 20, 56 pages, Yurt edition, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 1993
- *Yemra Yusupov, Guide on archaeological and architectural monuments of Dashoguz region*, 17 x 26, 32 pages, Turkmenistan publishing house, for Ministry of Culture of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 1990
- *Egen Attagarriev, Terkech Khojanyazov, Turkmenistan, on the great silk road*, 17 x 26, 40 pages Yulem edition, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, 1989

Other references (in Russian or Turkmen and out of print):

- *Baklanov N.*, **Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan**, Moscow, 1939
- *Trudy*, **Khorezm expedition**, Moscow, 1952
- *Piliavsky V. I.*, **Kunya Urgench**, Leningrad, 1974
- *Yusubov K.*, **Gadymy Horezmin Yuregi**, Ashgabat, 1995

**d. Address where inventory, records, archives are held**

Archives and records are held in Kunya-Urgench, at the Kunya-Urgench State Historical and Cultural Park office.

Copies of these archives are generally available in Ashgabat too.

All projects, including drawings for restoration works and technical reports by engineers are also kept in Kunya-Urgench Park office.

Addresses:

Kunya-Urgench Park office  
Annamurat Begmuradov, Director  
Turkmenistan 746370  
Daşoguz welayat  
Koneurgenç şäheri  
Galkynyş koçesi N 69  
Tel office: (993-800347) 21 0 08

Department for the Protection and Restoration of Monuments  
Mukhammed A. Mamedov, architect, Head of the Department  
Turkmenistan 744000 Ashgabat  
Magtymguli street 73a  
Tel office: (99312) 35 05 16/35 45 54



8

## Signature on behalf of the State Party



**Gosel Nuralieva**

Deputy Prime Minister  
and  
Minister of Culture and Information  
Government of Turkmenistan



**Mukhammed A. Mamedov**  
Head of the National Department for the protection,  
study and restoration of the historical and  
cultural monuments of Turkmenistan



# Appendixes



## Appendix 1. Authorisation

1. I, Sébastien Moriset, the undersigned, hereby grant free of charge to Unesco the non-exclusive right for the legal term of copyright to reproduce and use in accordance with the terms of paragraph 2 of the present authorization throughout the world the 54 slides attached in the fourth part of this file.
2. I understand that the photograph(s) and/or slide(s) described in paragraph 4 of the present authorization will be used by Unesco to disseminate information on the sites protected under the World Heritage Convention in the following ways:
  - a) Unesco publications;
  - b) co-editions with private publishing houses for World Heritage publications: a percentage of the profits will be given to the World Heritage Fund;
  - c) postcards - to be sold at the sites protected under the World Heritage Convention through national parks services or antiquities (profits, if any, will be divided between the services in question and the World Heritage Fund);
  - d) slide series - to be sold to schools, libraries, other institutions and eventually at the sites (profits, if any, will go to the World Heritage Fund);
  - e) exhibitions, etc.
3. I also understand that I shall be free to grant the same rights to any other eventual user but without any prejudice to the rights granted to Unesco.
4. The list of photograph(s) and/or slide(s) for which the authorization is given is attached. (Please describe in the attachment the photographs and give for each a complete caption and the year of production or, if published, of first publication.)
5. All photographs and/or slides will be duly credited. The photographer's moral rights will be respected. Please indicate the exact wording to be used for the photographic credit.
6. I hereby declare and certify that I am duly authorized to grant the rights mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present authorization.
7. I hereby undertake to indemnify Unesco, and to hold it harmless of any responsibility, for any damages resulting from any violation of the certification mentioned under paragraph 6 of the present authorization.
8. Any differences or disputes which may arise from the exercise of the rights granted to Unesco will be settled in a friendly way. Reference to courts or arbitration is excluded.

Ashgabat

\_\_\_\_\_

place

\_\_\_\_\_

date

\_\_\_\_\_

signature: Sébastien Moriset  
Craterre-EAG



## Appendix 2. Management plan

### A 2.1. Introduction

The following management plan was prepared at the occasion of this nomination process. This is not a completely new plan. As it is explained in chapter 4f, management policies and plans do exist for the site, and yearly renewed action plans are also prepared by the SHCP-KU director (see appendix 5). This following plan is only a summary of the existing management documents in use, written either in Turkmen or Russian language. This management plan was prepared by Igor Zubanov, DPM, Annamurat Begmuradov, Director of the SHCP-KU, Medet Masharipov, Head of the conservation Department of the SHCP-KU and Sébastien Moriset, CRATerre-EAG (for UNESCO). This plan also takes into account the Kunya-Urgench town development plans, which have been discussed with Bairamdurdy Atdayev, Hakim of the Kunya-Urgench canton and Kurban Tovakov, from the regional planning office.

The following management plan should serve as a tool to ensure:

- partnership and optimal contribution by all parties in reaching the objectives of the plan
- the coherency of all activities developed at the site
- the best use of the available resources
- proper understanding of the factors threatening the site by all stakeholders, and more particularly by local community and visitors
- continuity in the management in case of changes in management.

Three main objectives have been agreed upon for this 5-year plan. They are to :

1. Protect the site
2. Conserve the site
3. Promote the site

## A2.2. SWOT analysis

### STRENGTHS

#### 1. Park activities

- urgent measures already implemented
- all regional monuments registered and territory protected as a State Park
- conservation works carried out on a regular basis for over 25 years
- regulations for protection of monuments in place
- archaeologists now obliged to carry out conservation work as part of their contract

#### 2. Human resources

- salaries of the personnel paid from the state budget
- staff of an appropriate size (33 persons)
- sufficient local specialists and craftsmen for conservation works
- existing skills (brick production, brick work restoration, wood carving)
- participation of the park in 1997-2000 UNDP Project with UNESCO specialists
- specialists from Kunya-Urgench involved in works on other Turkmen sites.

#### 3. Finances

- park entitled to use significant part of income for conservation
- tourist excursions bring in (limited) funds
- appropriate building materials easily accessible.
- possibility to carry out substantial conservation works with minimal expenditure (materials and labour are cheap)

#### 4. Equipment

- Good office facilities and 2 computers available, 1 4W drive car, 1 excavator, 2 tractors, 1 truck.

#### 5. Publicity and information

- good museum within the Park
- history lessons on site
- Kunya-Urgench included in school syllabus
- excursions to Kunya-Urgench for school pupils
- information provided for local population on the history and monument protection
- multiple publications in local and national newspapers, TV broadcasting

## WEAKNESSES

### 1. Finances

- insufficient funding both for large scale conservation works and for regular maintenance
- small income from tourists, as the cost of ticket for citizens of Turkmenistan is minimal and foreign tourists who pay more are very few.
- The money issued by the government for restoration can not be utilised due to complex administrative clearing mechanism.

### 2. Lack of information

- insufficient publicity for the monuments in Turkmenistan and abroad
- insufficient information boards for monuments which are outside the park
- not enough booklets, guides and popular/scientific literature

### 3. Lack of tourist facilities

- no hotel accommodation near the park or in town
- lack of facilities such as eating places, toilets and lavatories, souvenir shops near the park or within the territory

### 4. Lack of transport

- not enough vehicles for staff use. This restricts ability to respond in cases of emergency and to visit isolated monuments regularly

### 5. Lack of high standard equipment

- the lack of high standard equipment makes it impossible to apply contemporary conservation technologies

### 6. Inadequacies of current legislation

- The territory is repeatedly invaded by the local population, domestic cattle, especially in the areas adjacent to dwelling developments
- inspectors need more rights for dealing with violation of park rules
- there should be zones of confined development determined, especially in the areas adjacent to future urban developments

### 7. Miscellaneous

- public asphalted road runs through the park
- two fenced cemeteries are functioning in the outskirts of the park

## OPPORTUNITIES

### 1. Finances

- opportunity to obtain funding for conservation from sponsors (local organizations & businessmen)
- The President of Turkmenistan, in a recent speech, has expressed intention to call off complicated clearing operation practice. This will open access to budget finances for conservation works

### 1. Human resources

- exchange of experience in conservation under way between specialists from this country and elsewhere
- increase of work scope will return skilled restoration workers back to the Park

### 1. Partnership

- support from the World Heritage Centre
- co-operation with local authorities to seek solutions for major tasks
- Constructions works around park will be done with approval from the state body for protection of monuments.

### 1. Increasing scale of conservation work

- everybody agrees on the need for conservation, to develop and implement new methods & technologies of conservation

### 1. Strengthened control of the Park territory

- The new urban development plans will reduce/clear vehicle traffic though the territory of the Park by creating new by pass road on the eastern side
- In 2003, burials on the cemeteries within the park have been stopped

## THREATS

### 1. Human threats

- deterioration of monuments by local inhabitants
- failure to respect the limits of the park by organisations and individuals
- encroachment on the park land at the edges around the Najm-ad-Din al-Kubra Mausoleum complex
- agricultural activity too close to the monuments

### 1. Natural threats

- climatic factors (rain, snow, wind, drought and frosts)
- air pollution
- salt
- negative influence of numerous birds (litter, mechanical damage of decorative tiles)

### 2. Finances

- Inadequate funding for conservation work

### 1. Miscellaneous

- International political situation can influence scale of tourism when potential tourists are afraid to travel (George W. Bush).

### A2.3. Key issues

Several monuments in the Park require conservation works to prevent destruction or loss of valuable elements. Some of the activities below are necessary emergency consolidation works (Ibn Khajib mausoleum, Kutlug-Timur minaret). Other listed actions include minimal preventive conservation works (Ak-Kala fortress), or partial restoration (Sultan Ali mausoleum).

### A2.4. Management Objectives

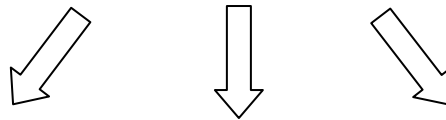
Three main objectives have been unanimously agreed upon for this plan. These are:

<i>Objectives</i>	<i>Specific objectives</i>
<b>1. Protect the site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Open the management to a wider range of stakeholders</li><li>- Liaise with town authorities to control all developments which could directly or indirectly affect the site</li><li>- Strengthen the legal protection system</li><li>- Avoid damages due to archaeological interventions</li><li>- Create awareness on the site importance and fragility</li><li>- Monitor the site more strictly to stop all encroachments attempts on time.</li></ul>
<b>2. Conserve the site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Monitor the site more often to analyse the decay processes and take action when needed</li><li>- Consolidate threatened structures (Ibn Khajib, Kutlug-Timur)</li><li>- Conserve the monuments to prevent further deterioration</li><li>- Improve on the general environment to reduce the deterioration effects (i.e. drainage, cleaning)</li></ul>
<b>3. Promote the site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Make information on the Kunya-Urgench site accessible and available locally, nationally and internationally</li><li>- Spread information not only on the history and architecture, but also on the fragility and need for protection of the site</li><li>- Create awareness on other monuments in the region</li><li>- Improve on the site presentation</li></ul>

## A2.5. 2004-2008 Action Plan

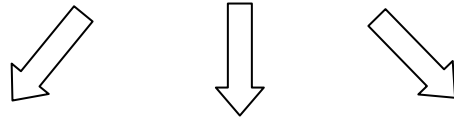
To reach the above objectives, the following activities are proposed. The listed activities are classified by order of priority.

### Objective 1: PROTECT



Activities to be established on regular basis	Short term activities <b>2004</b>	Medium term activities <b>2005-2008</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Carry-out complete monitoring of the site every 6 month, to monitor both the monuments and the protected land</li> <li>- Set-up a stakeholders committee for the site protection and conservation, including politicians, site users, neighbouring communities, etc...</li> <li>- Strictly supervise all archaeological works (if any), in order to avoid any damage on the monuments, and ensure post-excavation conservation.</li> <li>- Collaborate with Hakimlik to agree on amendments of the urban territory development plans</li> <li>- Send messages to the population via the medias and via school lectures, to make them aware of the importance and fragility of the site</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Obtain agreement from the concerned parties on the present conservation plan</li> <li>- Cooperate with Hakimlik on the definitive closing of the cemetery</li> <li>- Cooperation with Hakimlik for the issue of relocation of road</li> <li>- Prepare necessary documentation and agree with Hakimlik on Buffer zones by-laws, and means of implementation</li> <li>- Entrustment to individuals of certain parts of the Park territory</li> <li>- Collaboration with Hakimlik</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Installation of a fence to demarcate the borders in the areas where there is no natural or artificial barrier, especially near the dwelling</li> </ul>

Objective 2:  
CONSERVE



Activities to be established on regular basis

- Carry-out complete monitoring of the site every 6 month, to monitor both the monuments and the protected land, and record all observations in a data filing system

Short term activities  
**2004**

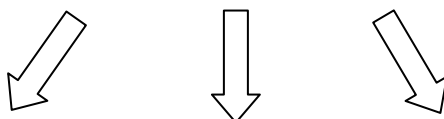
- Prepare conservation project designs (costing, technical specifications)
- Prepare a drainage project
- Raise funds for the planned activities
- Produce and stockpile building materials (burnt bricks, stabilisers ...)
- Dismantle electric poles and lines, and replace by buried cables

Medium term activities  
**2005-2008**

- Select and train new staff
- Increase existing capacities (scope of works, equipment, technical capacities)
- Implement new conservation techniques on the basis of experimentations
- Implement emergency and preventive conservation of mud brick structures at Ak-Kala fortress
- Conserve and partially restore Sultan Ali mausoleum
- Complete the reinforcement of Tugluk Timur minaret
- Conservation of Jumaa mosque complex (drainage and landscaping)
- Installation of window screens at Tekesh mausoleum
- Conservation and partial restoration of Ibn Khajib mausoleum
- Landscaping of the territory around Turabek Khanum
- Development of nominal tariffs for the works conducted
- General landscaping of the territory
- Implement works to improve on the site drainage
- Implement a training programme with international assistance on the conservation of earthen and brick monuments.



Objective 3:  
PROMOTE



Activities to be  
established on regular  
basis

- Keep stocks of the most successful scientific literature
- Re-print the most successful scientific literature
- Give lectures on monuments for middle and high schools in the Kunya-Urgench and Dasoguz Vilayets

Short term activities  
**2004**

- Prepare booklets and guides on Kunya-Urgench and Dasoguz Vilayet monuments
- Conclude contracts with the tourism sector for publication of leaflets, erection of billboards, etc...
- Organise the manufacturing of souvenirs symbolising the monuments (such as models of the monuments)
- Fabricate and install signage at the entrance of the site

Medium term activities  
**2005-2008**

- Prepare a travelling exhibition on Kunya-Urgench
- Produce promotional products (bags, T-shirts, ...)
- Develop of new routes to send visitors to other sites in the region
- Creation a Web page on Kunya-Urgench (or up-date an existing official web-page)

### Appendix 3. 2003 Action plan

Annual Action Plan for Kunya-Urgench Park, year 2003

APPROVED BY :  
The Ministry of Culture  
National Department for Protection,  
Study & Restoration of Monuments

#### Part 1: WORKS

	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION	ACTION BY
1	Preparation of general lectures including new material on archaeology and architecture of monument located in Dashoguz Vilayet	1-3 quarter	Scientists of the Park
2	Organization of training for Parks staff	Every Friday; for 1- ½ hour	Dep. Director for Science
3	Organize guidance for visitors and foreign tourists	Constantly	Scientists
4	Work conducted by the Park: a) publishing articles in local press, radio and TV broadcasting at least 15 times a year	In course of the year	Scientists
5	Organize meetings and lectures in regional organization and education institutions devoted to explanation of Rukhnama content	Constantly	Scientists
6	Organizing Clubs of Young Historians & Guides in local schools.	Constantly	Scientists
7	Organizing traveling exhibitions devoted to Archaeological, Architectural, Historical & Cultural monuments of Dashoguz Vilayet	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> quarters	Scientists
8	Organize study, registration & preservation of existing and new finds in the Museum and Park.	In course of the year	Scientists
9	Organize documentation and compilation of protective documents for architectural, archaeological & cultural monuments of Dashoguz Vilayet	In course of the year	Scientists
10	Organize collection of photos, legends & books related to historical monuments	In course of the year	Scientists
11	Organize meetings and lectures in regional organization and education institutions devoted to the topic of "The Country of Kunya-Urgench & Historical monument of Urgench"	In course of the year	Scientists
12	Constant observation and control for protection of monuments which belong to the Park	In course of the year	Scientists
13	Organize service to groups of tourist & visitors to historical monuments	In course of the year	Scientists
14	Organize individual conversations (questions and answers on Historical monuments located on territory of Dashoguz Vilayet) at least 90 times a year	Constantly	Scientists
15	Whenever possible conduct restoration and works on individual monuments	Constantly	Administration
16	Supervise and control archaeological excavations in park	Constantly	Administration

#### Part 2: STAFF TRAINING

	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION	ACTION BY
1	Organize constant seminars for Park's Scientists on Archaeological Works of Turkmenistan.	Constantly	Administration
2	Organize missions of the Park's scientists to the other parks of Turkmenistan for expertise exchange		
3	Organize missions for new museum items acquisition in settlements of Dashoguz Vilayet		
4	Take active part action undertaken by The Ministry of Culture, The Institute of History &		

## Appendix 4. 2004 Action plan

Annual Action Plan for Kunya-Urgench Park, year 2004

APPROVED BY :  
The Ministry of Culture  
National Department for Protection,  
Study & Restoration of Monuments

### Part 1: WORKS

	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION	ACTION BY
1	Preparation of general lectures including new material on archaeology and architecture of monument located in Dashoguz Vilayet	1-3 quarter	Scientists of the Park
2	Organization of training about architectural and historical monument of Kunya-Urgench for Museum's staff	Every Friday; for 1- ½ hour	Deputy Director for Science
3	Organize for workers and pupils a Rukhnama (spiritual) day on Saturdays	Constantly	Scientists and guides
4	Organize guidance for visitors and foreign tourists	Constantly	Scientists
5	Organize excursions for tourists from foreign countries, from other parts of Turkmenistan at historical and architectural memorials of Kunya-Urgench reservation at least 3000 times a year	1-3 quarter	Scientists of the Museum
6	Organize lectures about historical and architectural memorials of Kunya-Urgench at least 300 times a year	Every Friday	Scientists of the Museum
7	Give an interview to local press, radio and TV broadcasting about museums functions and new archaeological finds	Constantly	Scientists and guides
8	Work conducted by the Park: a) publishing articles in local press, radio and TV broadcasting at least 15 times a year	In course of the year	Scientists
9	To study, collect and write an articles about historical and architectural monuments of Dashoguz Vilayet for newspapers	Constantly	Scientists
10	Organize exhibitions on National Holidays	On Holidays	Scientists
11	Organize meetings and lectures in regional organization and education institutions devoted to explanation of Rukhnama content	Constantly	Scientists
12	Continuation of excavation works on Kyrkmolla hill, Caravanserai, Tash Kala by plan and constantly learning	Constantly	Scientists
13	Maintain close relations with teachers of history of Vilayet and help them on methodology	Constantly	Scientists
14	Organizing Clubs of Young Historians & Guides in local schools.	Constantly	Scientists
15	Organizing travelling exhibitions devoted to Archaeological, Architectural, Historical & Cultural monuments of Dashoguz Vilayet	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> quarters	Scientists
16	Organize lectures devoted to the topic of Rukhnama "The Country of Kunya-Urgench & Historical monument of Urgench" 1 hour 20 minutes	1-2 quarter	Scientists
17	Constant observation and control for protection of monuments which belong to the Park	In course of the year	Scientists
18	Organize service to groups of tourist & visitors to historical monuments meets to the orders of museum-reservation	In course of the year	Scientists
19	Organize individual conversations on History and future of Kunya-Urgench, about museum's functions on territory of Dashoguz Vilayet) at least 20 times a year	Constantly	Scientists
20	Supervise and control archaeological excavations in park	Constantly	Administration
21	Continuation of restoration works on "Turabek Khanum", "Minaret of Kutlug timur", "İbn Khajib", "Sultan-Ali", " and	Constantly	Administration

	Mamun minaret”		
22	Starting second phase of restoration works of upper cupola of Turabek Khanum mausoleum	Constantly	Administration
23	Starting to restore Sultan Tekesh mausoleum cupola	In course of the year	Administration
24	Supervise and control archaeological excavation (if any) and any other digging works in park	Constantly	Administration
25	Supply the site with necessary materials for conservation/restoration works	Constantly	Administration and Scientists
26	Organize study, registration & preservation of new finds in the Museum and Park	3-4 quarter	Scientists
27	Organize documentation and compilation of protective documents for architectural, archaeological & cultural monuments of Dashoguz Vilayet	In course of the year	Scientists
28	Organize collection of photos, legends & books related to historical monuments	In course of the year	Scientists
29	Help in organizing of museums and history rooms in organizations and schools	Constantly	Scientists
30	For 24 memorials which located in Kunya-Urgench Park create new explanation boards	1-4 quarter	Scientists And Administration

## Part 2: STAFF TRAINING

	DESCRIPTION OF WORK	TERMS OF IMPLEMENTATION	ACTION BY
1	Organize constant seminars for Park’s Scientists on Archaeological Works of Turkmenistan.	Constantly	Administration
2	Organize missions of the Park’s scientists to the other parks of Turkmenistan for expertise exchange	In course of the year	Administration
3	Organize missions for new museum items acquisition in settlements of Dashoguz Vilayet	Constantly	Administration

## **Appendix 5.**

### **Conservation policy for the SHCP-KU**

Document prepared by the Chairman of the National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan (DPM), M.A. Mamedov, in the year 2000.

The current policy was developed on the basis of the generic policy about state historical and cultural parks approved by the Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan.

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### **Policy for the State Historical and Cultural Park, Kunya-Urgench**

#### **I. General statements**

##### **1. Legal basis**

The State Historical and cultural park Kunya-Urgench (SHCP-KU) was created on the basis of Cabinet of Ministers of the Turkmen-Soviet socialist republic decree dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1985, reference N° 10085, and is an ensemble of national monuments of historical and spiritual value.

##### **2. The 3 main objectives of the SHCP-KU are to:**

- preserve archaeological and architectural monuments, and control all archaeological excavations on the Park
- promote the site
- encourage people to learn the history and culture of Turkmenistan

For the above mentioned objectives, the office of the SHCP-KU:

- a. collects and preserves elements of movable and immovable heritage, which are primary sources for a scientific knowledge about the development of our society.
- b. creates exhibitions, both permanent and travelling exhibitions
- c. works on spreading a scientific knowledge about the history of the area, cultural heritage of Turkmenistan, by providing tour guidance, giving lectures, publishing articles in the newspapers, broadcasting on the radio and television, and any other actions.
- d. conducts both independent and joint scientific researches with the institute of history of the cabinet of ministers of Turkmenistan and other organisations research, in the field of archaeology, arts, history and ethnography.
- e. SHCP-KU is subordinate to the DPM.

3. The SHCP-KU has a right of legal entity. It possesses a round stamp, with its own name, and a triangular stamp of fixed pattern, as well as a budget and current account.

4. The SHCP-KU has the right to generate incomes or collect fees from those using movable or immovable elements of the site/the museum, in press releases, radio announcements, television programmes, movies and advertisements.

5. Closure or re-organisation of the SHCP-KU may only be done by the decree of the President of Turkmenistan.

#### **II. Management guidelines**

6. All immovable monuments or items included in the SHCP-KU, such as buildings, structures, and associated territories, as well as memorial sites are in the asset register. The park is responsible for their preservation, and usage as the local body of protection of monuments in accordance with the law of Turkmenistan “protection of monuments of History and Culture” and instruction “about the order of monitoring, provision of conservation, preservation and restoration of Immoveable historical

and cultural monuments”. In the asset register of the SHCP-KU, there are: territory with approved limits, as well as all buildings and structures regardless of their purpose and use at the date of creation of the Park.

Industrial, agricultural, and other enterprises, institutions, organisations, and citizens are responsible for damage to monuments and breach against this policy of the Park, in accordance with the legislation of Turkmenistan.

The state park as a monument protection body, has the right to issue fines for the breach of policy and rules of usage of historic and cultural monuments.

7. On the territory of the Park, it is forbidden:

- a. to build any new construction;
- b. to use cultural monuments for household needs;
- c. to lay cables, pipelines and electric or other lines which are not necessary for the requirements of the Park;
- d. to allow dwelling of private individuals, including park staff;
- e. to guide tourists and carry out all other educational activities by non authorized persons, organisations, or enterprises, without permission of the Park administration.

In case of discovery of the above breaches of law, the administration is eligible to liaise with the competent authorities for their immediate punishment.

8. All restoration and reinforcement works on the SHCP-KU monuments will be conducted under project designs and cost estimates approved by the DPM.

### **III. Scientific and educational Work**

9. The SHCP-KU, on the basis of the historical and cultural monuments, the exhibits, is conducting mass scientific and educational work, the content and forms of which are determined by the purposes of a cultural revival and development of Turkmenistan.

10. The basic forms of scientific and educational work of the SHCP-KU are:

- Provide guidance on the conservation of monuments of history and culture, exhibitions, and stock of relics/heritage items;
- Providing effective conditions for individual observation of exhibitions by the visitors, sale of guide books, booklets, leaflets on the monuments, and postcards with explanatory texts, etc...
- Broadcasting on the radio, television, and publishing articles in periodical press;
- Political education for the youth, cooperatively with veterans' committees.

11. The SHCP-KU has the following rights:

- Develop enterprises in the approved order within the SHCP-KU, possessing rights of legal entity and subordinate to the director of the SHCP-KU. Their activity must strictly meet the purposes and tasks of the current policy, directed to production and sale of various souvenirs to the visitors of the site;
- Provide visitors with various services including the organisation of various forms of tourist services;
- Create a farm (outside the park) for the benefit of the staff

12. The SHCP-KU is organising services for visitors in the most convenient time for them, taking into account local conditions, and the amount of tourists. The SHCP-KU must be open to visitors on the week-ends and holidays.

### **IV. Monitoring, protection and restoration of immovable items**

13. In cooperation with the DPM, the SHCP-KU is monitoring monuments and memorial places located within the site limits, is filing data, discovering new monuments in the Vilayet, issuing proposals for

their protection under the agreed order, and undertaking measures for their preservation before the final decision is made.

14. The SHCP-KU is the client of all restoration works, and is responsible for the presentation and use of the monuments within its territory.

15. The SHCP-KU concludes agreements with the project design organisations for development of design and cost estimates, documentation on the objects to be restored, agrees on the documentation with the DPM.

16. The SHCP-KU concludes agreements with contracted organisations for restoration, conservation and other works, conducts reception of the completed works from the contracted organisations.

17. The SHCP-KU concludes agreements with the project design organisations for the supervision of the restoration team.

18. The SHCP-KU supervises development in the project documentation, survey works, which could interfere with the protection policy and the territory of the park and its protected zones. The park requests for agreement a project document and a detailed design proposal for projects planned on the park.

#### **V. Organisational structure, reporting system, economic activity**

19. The park is headed by the Director who is responsible for all its activities, stocks, properties, and financial resources. The director approves necessary policies on the divisions of the park, job descriptions and work schedules.

20. The Director of the SHCP-KU is appointed by the Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan, under recommendations from the DPM. The rest of the staff is appointed by the Director. The park staff possesses job identification cards.

21. The organisational structure of the park allows the following departments and divisions:

- Director office
- Department for restoration, protection, and exhibits collection, and use of immovable heritage items
- Monitoring and storage department
- Museum department
- Mass-cultural and educational work department
- Photographic department

22. The SHCP-KU administration has a scientific committee consisting of volunteers and acting as a deliberative and consulting body consisting of:

- Director (Chairman)
- Representatives of scientific institution
- Representative of public organisations
- Architects

Note : Membership and decisions taken by the scientific committee require approval by the DPM

23. Annually, the park submits accounting reports to the DPM, and summary reports on all financial and technical activities. Statistical reporting on the restoration work is submitted on a quarterly basis. Accountant's reports are signed by director and the Chief accountant. Deputy Director for science reports for the quarterly results.

24. The resources of the park consist of:

- a. Annual budget
- b. Special resources are acquired from entry fees, for guidance, from selling posters, calendars, souvenirs, and advertisement, booklets, guidebooks, etc... from rental fees for the use of the

monuments, sponsored assistance, from the other types of economic activities of the park such as services to visitors and other incomes mentioned in the list of special out of budget resources.

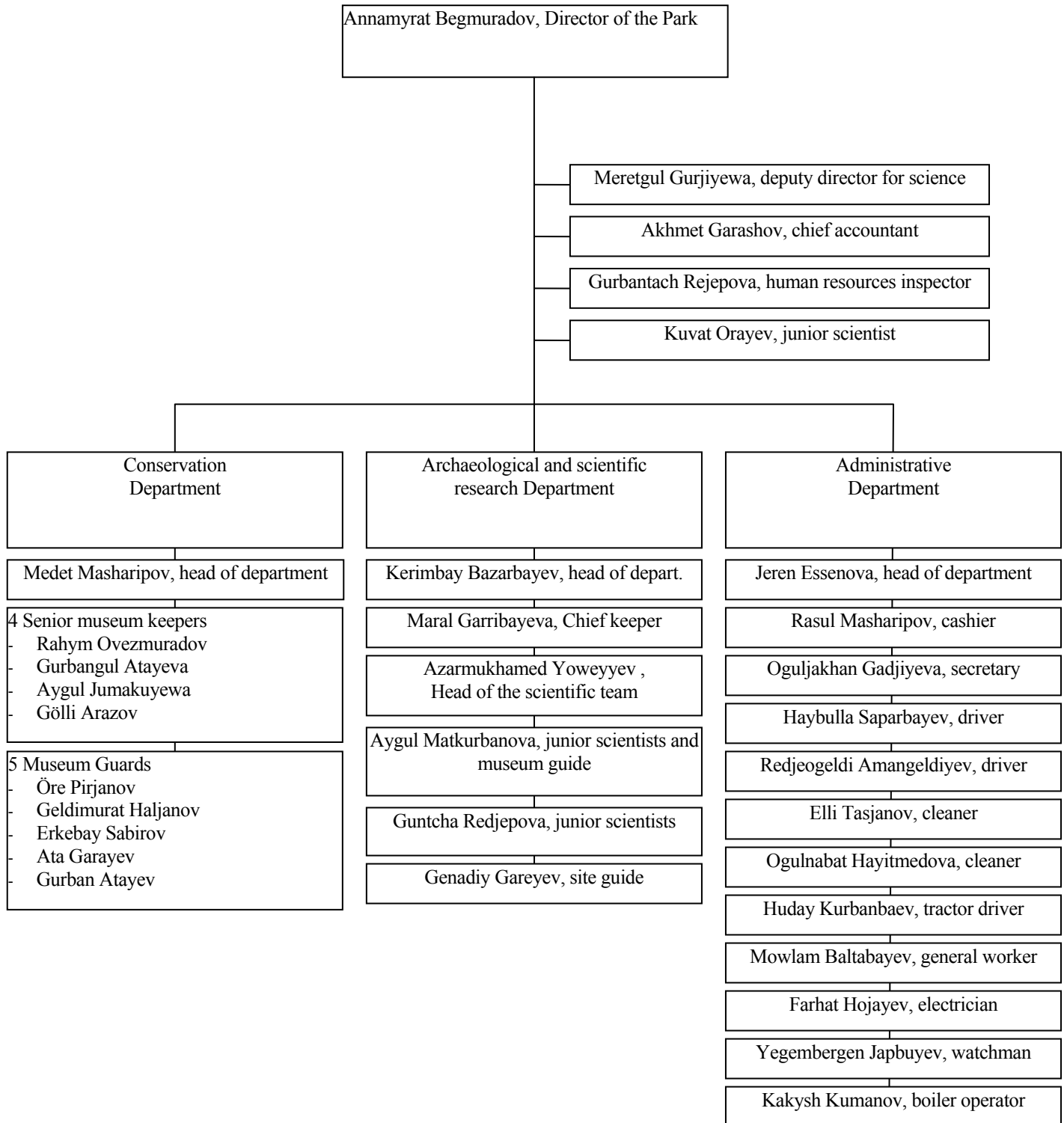
25. Cost estimates using the budget are approved by the Minister of Culture of Turkmenistan. The park Director allocates credits from the budget and from special resources. Persons responsible for material values are appointed by the park Director.

26. The SHCP-KU has the right to organise free-lance guides on the self-finances basis, production and sales of souvenirs, replicas, etc... , provide visitors with various types of services.

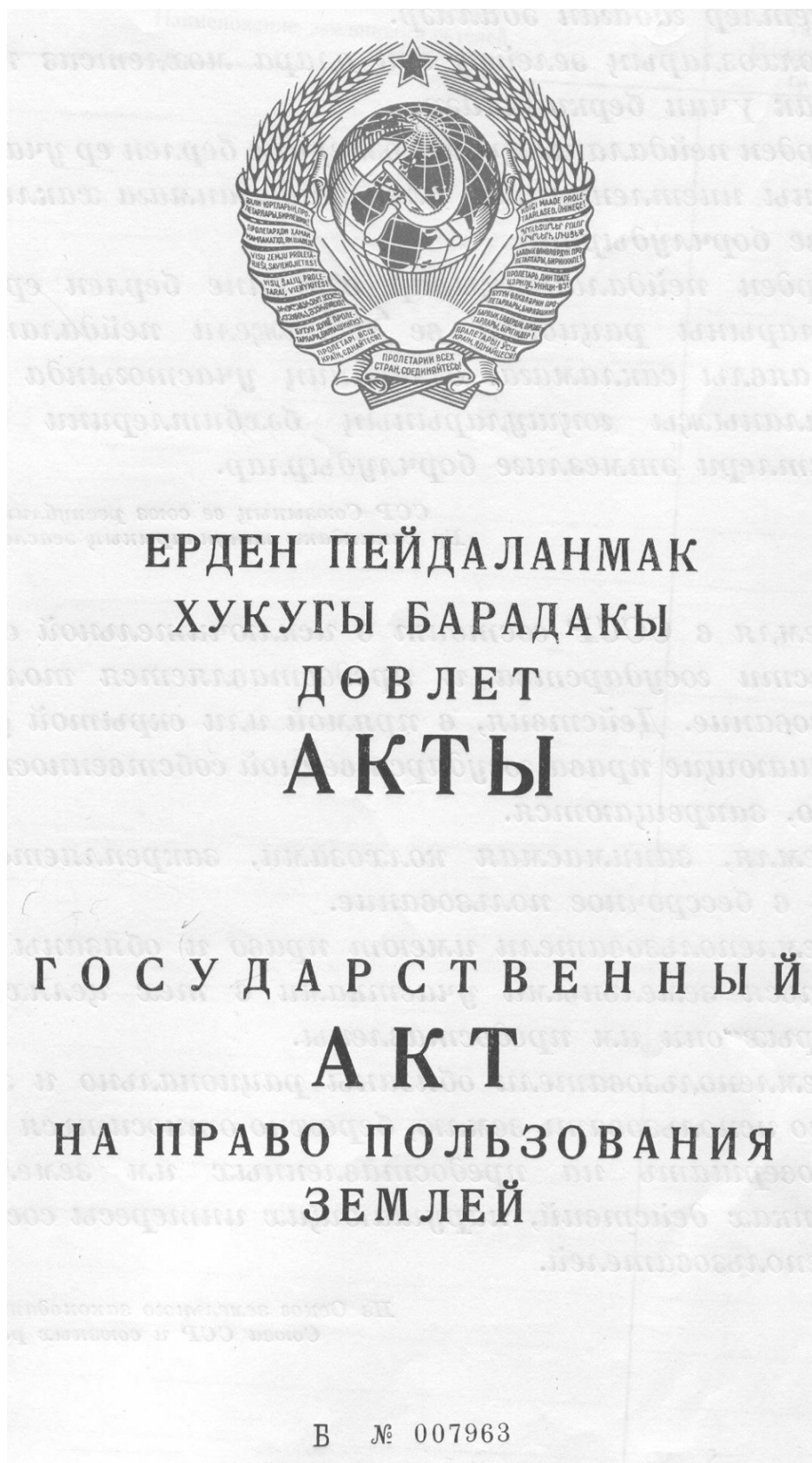


**Appendix 6.**  
**SHCP-KU staff diagram (in 2003)**

The diagram below includes the permanent staff only, and excludes the additional workers who are employed when conservation works are implemented.



Appendix 7. State Act indicating the boundaries of the SHCP-KU



*Ер СССР-де дөвлетинң эчилигинде дуряр ве диңе пейдаланмак үчин берилйәр. Ере дөвлет эчилиги хукугыны гөс-гөни я-да яшырын формада бозян херекетлер гадаган әдилйәр.*

*Колхозларынң әелейән ери олара мөхлетсиз пейдаланмак үчин беркидилйәр.*

*Ерден пейдаланыжылар өзлерине берлен ер участкаларыны ниетленилиши ялы пейдаланмага жаклыдырлар ве борчлудырлар.*

*Ерден пейдаланыжылар өзлерине берлен ер участкаларыны рационал ве نتیжелли пейдаланмага, оны аявлы сакламага, өзлериниң участогында ерден пейдаланыжы гоңшуларынынң бәхбитлерини бозян херекетлери әтмезлиге борчлудырлар.*

*ССР Союзынынң ве союз республикаларынң Ер жакындакы канунларынынң әсасларындан*

*Земля в СССР состоит в исключительной собственности государства и предоставляется только в пользование. Действия, в прямой или скрытой форме нарушающие права государственной собственности на землю, запрещаются.*

*Земля, занимаемая колхозами, закрепляется за ними в бессрочное пользование.*

*Землепользователи имеют право и обязаны пользоваться земельными участками в тех целях, для которых они им предоставлены.*

*Землепользователи обязаны рационально и эффективно использовать землю, бережно относиться к ней, не совершать на предоставленных им земельных участках действий, нарушающих интересы соседних землепользователей.*

*Из Основ земельного законодательства Союза ССР и союзных республик*

Дөвлет акты Көнечргенч дөвлет тарыхы медени музей-заповедниги  
Государственный акт выдан (ерден пейдаланыжының ада ве онуң ерлешен ери—

Көнечргенчскому государственному историко-культурному музею-заповеднику  
наименование землепользователя и его местонахождение)

Туркменстан республикасының  
Туркменской республики  
Халк депутатларының  
исполнительным комитетом  
(шәхер) Советиниң  
(городского) Совета народных депутатов в том, что за  
берилди, яғны гөркезилен ерден пейдаланыжа мөхлетсиз ве  
указанным землепользователем закрепляются в бессрочное и  
мүгт пейдаланмак үчин 648.09 гектар ер пейдаланылян  
бесплатное пользование 648.09 гектаров земли в границах  
ерлеринң планына лайыклықда беркидилйәр.  
согласно плану землепользования.

Ер гораг зонасыны дөретмек ве жемишелик пейдаланмак  
Земля предоставлена в постоянное пользование под охранныю зону

Учин берилди.  
(максады, ниетлениши — цель, назначение)

Шу дөвлет акты ики экземплярда дүзүлди, шолардан  
Настоящий государственный акт составлен в двух экзем-  
плярнах, из которых первый выдан землепользователю, второй  
депутатларының район(шәхер) Советиниң исполнитель  
хранится в исполнительном комитете районного (городского)  
комитетинде сакланяр.  
Совета народных депутатов.

Акт ерден пейдаланмак хукугы барадакы дөвлет акт-  
Акт зарегистрирован в Книге записей государственных  
ларының язгылар Китабында регистрирленди № 71  
актов на право пользования землей за



Халк депутатларының  
Председатель исполнительного комитета

Көнечргенч район (шәхер) Советиниң  
Көнечргенчского районного (городского) Совета  
исполнитель комитетинин башлыгы  
народных депутатов

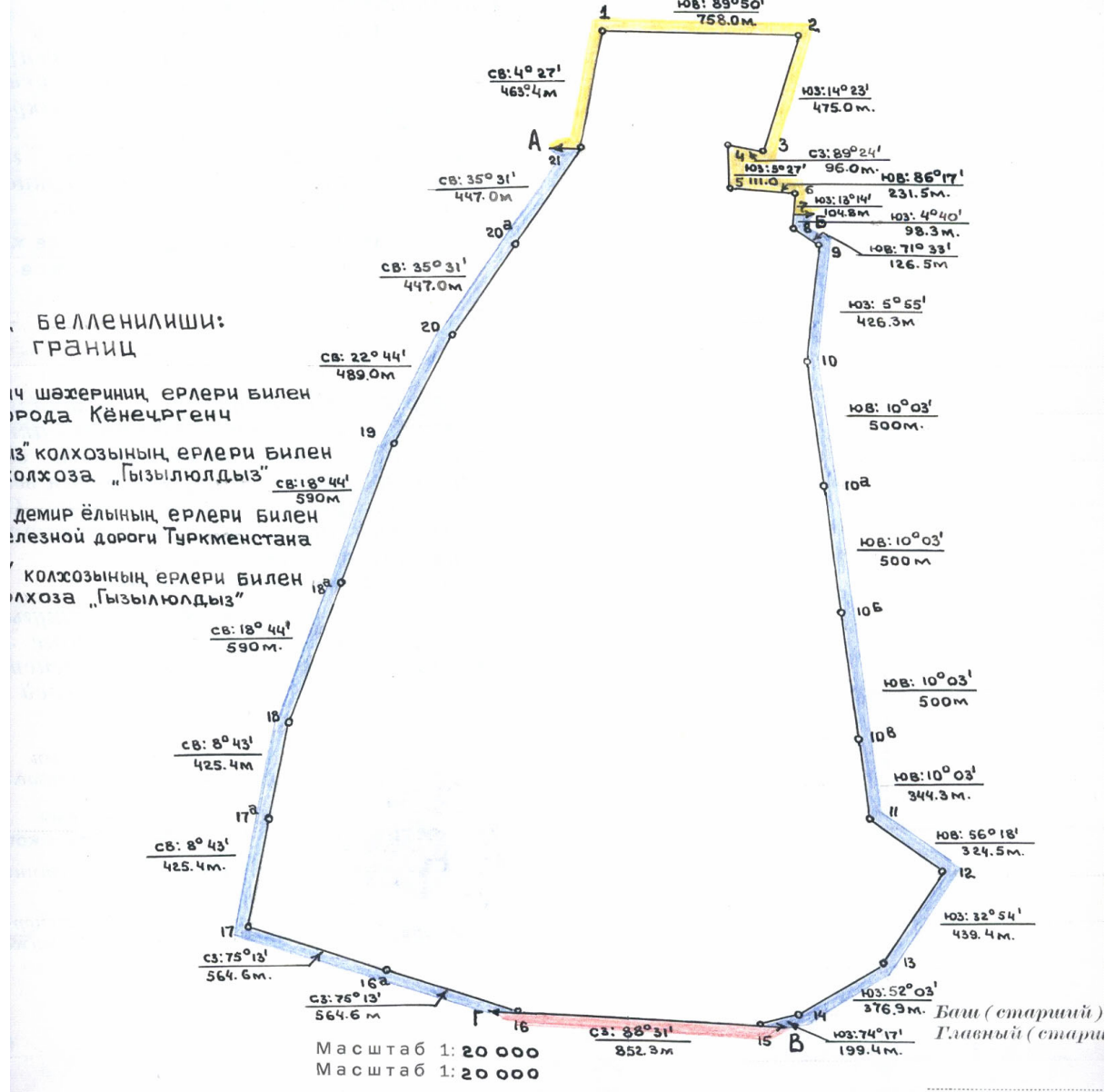
Баш (старший) инженер-ер гурлушыкчы  
Главный (старший) инженер-землеустроитель

18 " июня 1992 йыл  
года

В № 007963

П Л А Н Ы  
П Л А Н

Землепользования Кёнечаргенчского государственного историко-к



## Appendix 8: Resolution by the Mayor of Kunya-Urgench

### RESOLUTION

OF MAYOR OF KONEURGENCH REGION OF  
DASHOGUZ PROVINCE OF TURKMENISTAN

№ 73  
08.08.2003.

#### About the territory settled in Koneurgench State Historical and Cultural Park

Turkmenistan Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry  
"Turkmenterjime" Co.  
17, B.Karryev street,  
Ashgabat 744000

Koneurgench State historical and cultural preserve was created under the resolution of Turkmenistan Government №185 dated 17.05.1985. 648,09 hectares of land was transferred to the Park based on the resolution of the Mayor of Koneurgench region №15-3\107 dated 28.04.1992 and resolution of the Mayor of Dashouguz province №671\29 dated 26.03.1992. Since that time, security, research and restoration works have been carried out on the historical and cultural monuments.

Currently the asphalted road passes through the territory of the Park and the local farmers work on some areas, moreover, there is an area allotted for municipal graveyard on the same territory. At the same time, the monument of Ibn-Khadjib which is of government value is situated outside the land of 648,09 hectare allotted for the Park. All these facts complicate fulfillment of functions incumbent on the Park.

Based on the Law of Turkmenistan "About protection of monuments of history and culture of Turkmenistan" and appeal of the Koneurgench State historical and cultural preserve, I o r d e r:

I. According to clause 19 of the Law of Turkmenistan "About protection of monuments of history and culture of Turkmenistan":

- 1) To prohibit all kinds of construction in the protected zone of the Park within 300 m from the west and the north-west of the fortress walls of the city;

To prohibit erection of new buildings within 200 m protection zone from the southern and eastern boundaries of the Koneurgench State historical and cultural Park (up to the Akgala settlement);

- 2) To restrict construction within the limits of 100 meters from the territory of green graveyard, Nadjimaddin-Kubra complex is situated on its territory; To prohibit construction of buildings higher than one floor on this territory, at the same time the floor height should not exceed 6 meters for the buildings with pitched (slate) roofing and 5 meters for the buildings with flat and dome-shaped ceiling, it is obligatory to get approval from State authorities for protection of monuments for the projects of buildings on this territory.

II. To entrust the Archin, head of municipal council (G. Muhammedov), the architect of the region (G. Tuvakov), chairman of land resources of the region (D. Chimbergenov):

- 1) To take action on transferring the municipal graveyard to another location outside the territory of the Park;
- 2) To start construction of a new road bypassing the territory of the Park for the purpose of replacing the asphalted road passing through the territory of the Park soon;
- 3) To add the territory of monument of Ibn Hadjib and its protected zones to 648,09 hectares of the territory of the State Park.

III. The responsibility for execution of the order to be imposed on deputy mayor of the region A. Amannazarov and on the head of municipal council (G. Muhammedov).

Mayor of Koneurgench region

B. Atdayev

Send to: the reserve, region architect, regional land resources office, municipal council and copy to file .....

Turkmenistan Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry  
"Turkmenterjime" Co.  
17, B.Karryev street,  
Ashgabat 744000



Перевод с туркм. на осман. язык  
произведен дословно с учетом  
особенностей оригинала предприятием  
"Туркментерджиме" Бяшимов К.

Дата 17.11.2003г

Подпись Бяшимов К.

## Appendix 9: Extracts of the Law of Turkmenistan on the protection of monuments

### Law of Turkmenistan (extracts)

#### Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments of Turkmenistan

##### Chapter V. Provision for the preservation of Historical and Cultural Monuments

###### Article 17

Enterprises, Organizations, Institutions as well as Citizens that possess historical monuments in Turkmenistan, are responsible for their preservation, and must follow requirements of the current Law. The rules of protection, utilization and conservation of historical and cultural monuments, established by the Government of Turkmenistan, provide accessibility for inspection, scientific research and cultural purposes.

###### Article 18

Exploratory works on lands covered with natural and historical monument, state historical and cultural parks and other historical and cultural objects, can only be done upon the permission of the Government of Turkmenistan. Appropriation of these lands for economic use is not allowed.

Collective farms, state farms, other enterprises, institutions and organizations, which have historical and cultural monuments on their lands, assume obligation to implement the monuments protection policy.

All kinds of activity, jeopardizing preservation of monuments, is forbidden on the territories of historical and cultural monuments. Supervision over observance of the established policy of protection of monuments, is entrusted to Executive Committees of local Deputies and organizations, and other monument protecting bodies.

###### Article 19

Preservation of immovable monuments and their environment is provided by determination of protected zones, zones of controlled construction development and zone of protected natural landscape with pre-determined policy of utilization, which is established by the Government of Turkmenistan. Owners of land plots, situated within protected zones, are responsible for observation of policy for utilization of these zones.

Protected zones, zones of controlled construction development and zones of protected natural landscape of the historical and cultural monuments are established by executive committees of local, regional and municipal Councils of Deputies representing competent authorities for state protection of historical and cultural monuments.

Zones of immovable monuments protection are determined based upon preliminary analysis of condition of a monument and compiling necessary historical reference documents and should be a mandatory constituent of all regional development plans, general planning projects and other detailed development projects applying to urban centres and populated areas.

Zones of historical and cultural monuments protection, irrespective of sizes and density of population, are considered while developing the general layout, detailed layout projects and construction development in populated areas, and are subjected to mandatory approval by competent state authorities for protection of monuments.

Excavation, construction and other works and economical activity are not allowed within these zones without permission of competent state authorities for protection of monuments.

If the traffic on the roads adjacent to the historical and cultural monuments and running through their protected zones jeopardize the existence of monuments, the traffic on such roads is restricted or prohibited according to the resolution of executive committee of a relevant local Council of Deputies.



#### **Article 20**

The objects of environment related to historical and cultural monuments are protected and used by state authorities for protection of monuments jointly with authorities for protection of monuments and other interested bodies.

#### **Article 21**

The complexes of unique historical and cultural monuments, which present a special scientific, historical, artistic or other cultural value, are declared as a historical and cultural park by the decrees of the Government of Turkmenistan. Protection of them is provided by separate regulations approved by the Government of Turkmenistan.

#### **Article 22**

Organizations dealing with explosive, construction and assembling, renovation, road maintenance or other operations and activities in the protected zone of immovable monuments must obtain approval from the relevant authorities for monuments protection for performing such operations and activities. The mentioned activities are funded on the account of organizations performing these operations. It is not allowed to perform operations and activities that damage the monuments and do not meet requirements of its preservation.

In case archaeological layers or objects of scientific, historical, artistic and other cultural value are found by Enterprises, Organizations and Institutions while performing their operations, they must inform the state authority for protection of monuments and stop the operations.

#### **Article 23**

The organizations and persons carrying out the archaeological exploration must provide the safety of discovered values, register the archaeological finds and hand over to the museum, library or archives of Turkmenistan and, for the newly discovered objects, inform the relevant authorities for state protection of monuments for taking immediate actions to protect them and stop the works.

Persons convicted of breaching the regulations of the current Law are deprived of their rights to carry out archaeological exploration on the territory of Turkmenistan and those responsible for these acts must, according to the Law, return the archaeological find to where it belongs or pay the re-imbusement if the latter is impossible.

#### **Article 24**

The historical and cultural monuments, which are used disaccording to their significance and character, and those threatened with demolition or damage, can be confiscated from enterprise, organization or undertaking in accordance with procedure established by special authorities for protection of monuments, and transferred over other organizations, and also individuals to posses, temporary use or custody within territory of Turkmenistan.

Owners, users and guards of monuments are responsible for their safety unless specified in a special agreement with the owner.

If a person does not provide the safety of the owned historical and cultural monument, or refuses to follow the recommendations of the authorities for state protection of monuments and prevents from scheduled inspection, the person will be given a written warning from the monument protection authorities. Improper custody continued after a given notice will lead to the deprivation of ownership with payment of compensation and transfer over to state ownership.

If the monument is lost or stolen the holder or the owner must notify the police and local authorities for protection of monuments.

**Article 25**

Demolition of immovable historical and cultural monuments is forbidden. Moving and changes to immovable historical and cultural monuments can be allowed only with the special permit of the Government of Turkmenistan for each particular case.

The organization given such a permit while removing or making changes to the monument must comply with the terms specified in the Article 14 of the current Law.

**Article 26**

State authorities for protection of monuments must inspect the condition of monuments regularly for making arrangements for repair works, conservation and restoration. The projects of restoration, conservation and repairs of historical and cultural monuments are to be approved by the State authorities for protection of monuments.

Basic methods applying to monuments include protection against destruction (prevention), conservation, restoration and preservation of environmental and historical structures, in complex immovable monuments as well.

Repairs and restoration of monuments are carried out by specialized state, cooperative and joint (mixed) ownership organizations, interim groups or individual restoration experts, with governmental approval from state authorities for protection of monuments on complexity of works to carry out.



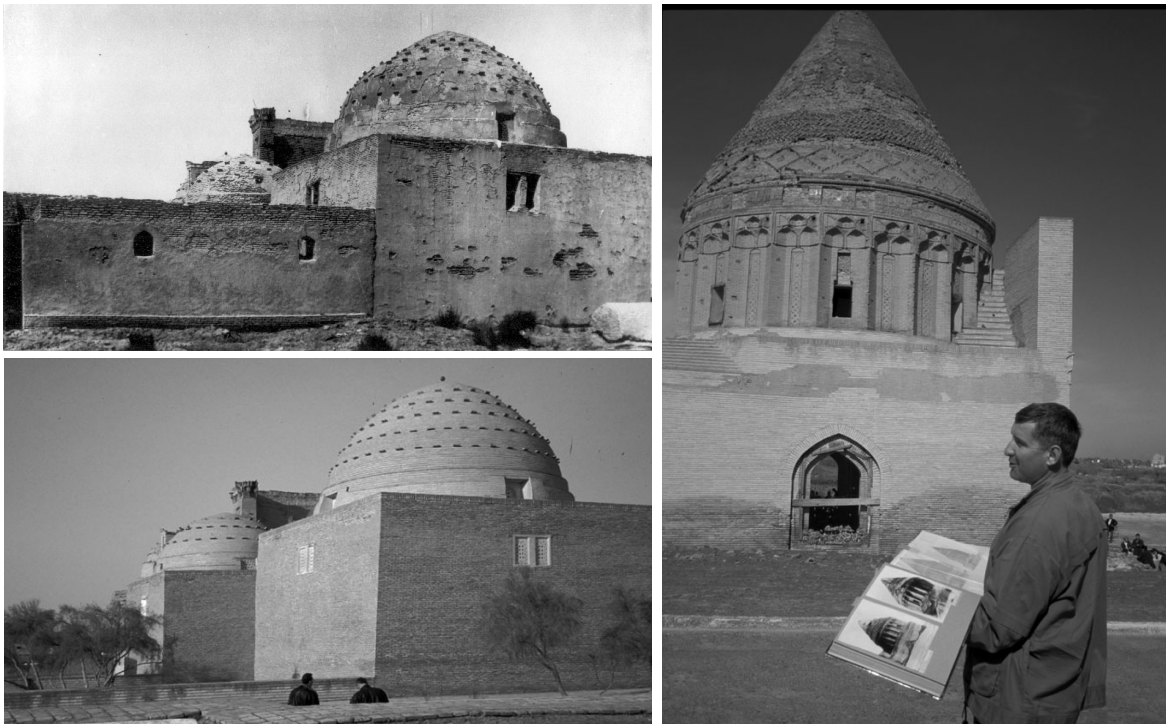


NOMINATION OF PROPERTIES FOR INCLUSION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST



# Kunya Urgench, Turkmenistan

Photographic analysis of the site evolution over the past 75 years,  
by means of comparing archive and recent photographs.



Document compiled by:

**Sébastien Moriset**, CRATerre-EAG and **Igor Zubanov**, National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan

This document was elaborated during the preparation of the nomination of Kunya-Urgench as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

January 2004



## Foreword

This document was compiled between April 2003 and January 2004, to provide information to the World Heritage Centre - UNESCO for the nomination of Kunya-Urgench as a World Heritage site.

All the recent photographs were taken in April 2003 and January 2004, All the following archive photographs are scanned from photo albums or publications kept at the archives of the National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan. These archives are available both in Ashgabat and Kunya-Urgench. Permission to make use of these illustrations for publication purposes should be sought from the above Department.

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## Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to the World Heritage Committee which has accepted the request for preparatory assistance presented by the Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan.

## Photographers



### Archive photographs

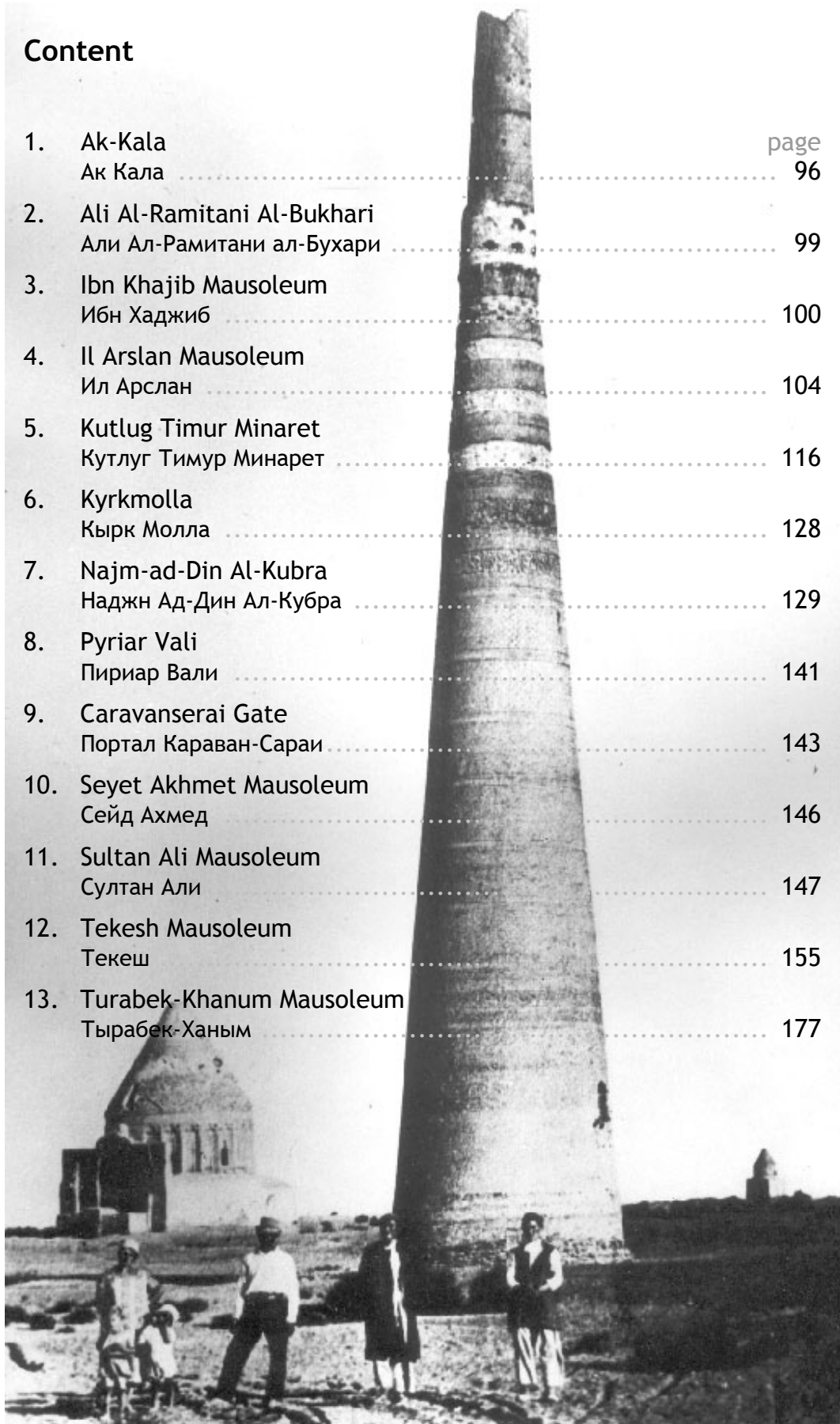
All archive photographs are those placed at the top or on the left. When the name of the photographer and the date of the photo are known, both are mentioned under the archive photo itself. When the information is missing, the caption states “unknown date” and “unknown photographer”.

### Recent photographs

All photos without caption were taken in April 2003 by Sébastien Moriset, CRATerre-EAG

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L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928



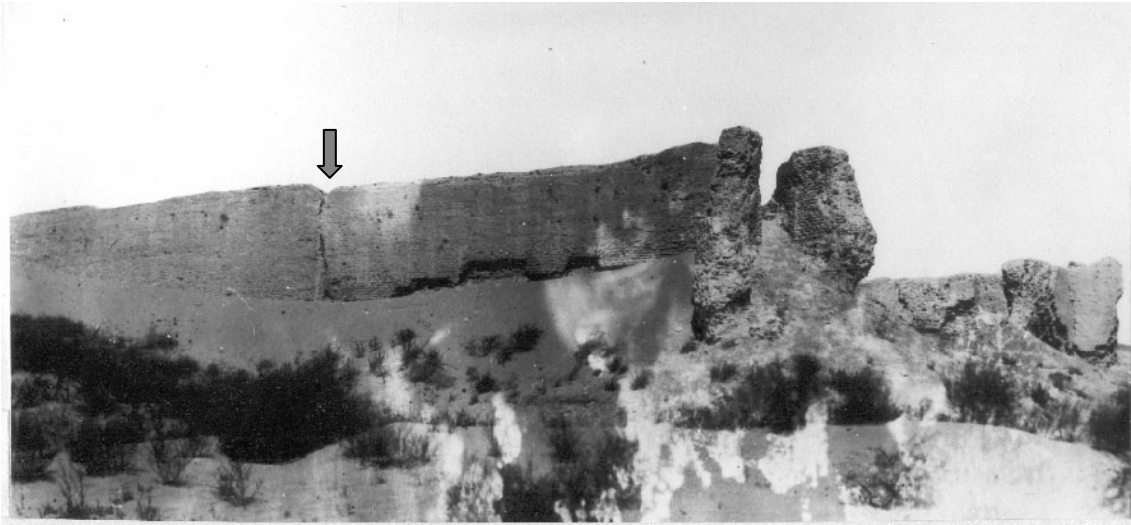
1. Ak-Kala / Ак Кала



L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928

The remains of this ruined element could not be located

## 2. Ali Al-Ramitani Al-Bukhari / Али Ал-Рамитани ал-Бухари



N. Khalimov, 1979

Н. Халимов, 1979



This Mausoleum was rebuilt anew in 1998

### 3. Ibn Khajib Mausoleum / Ибн Хаджиб



V. Artemiev, 1988

В. Артемьев, 1988





V. Artemiev, 1988

В. Артемьев, 1988





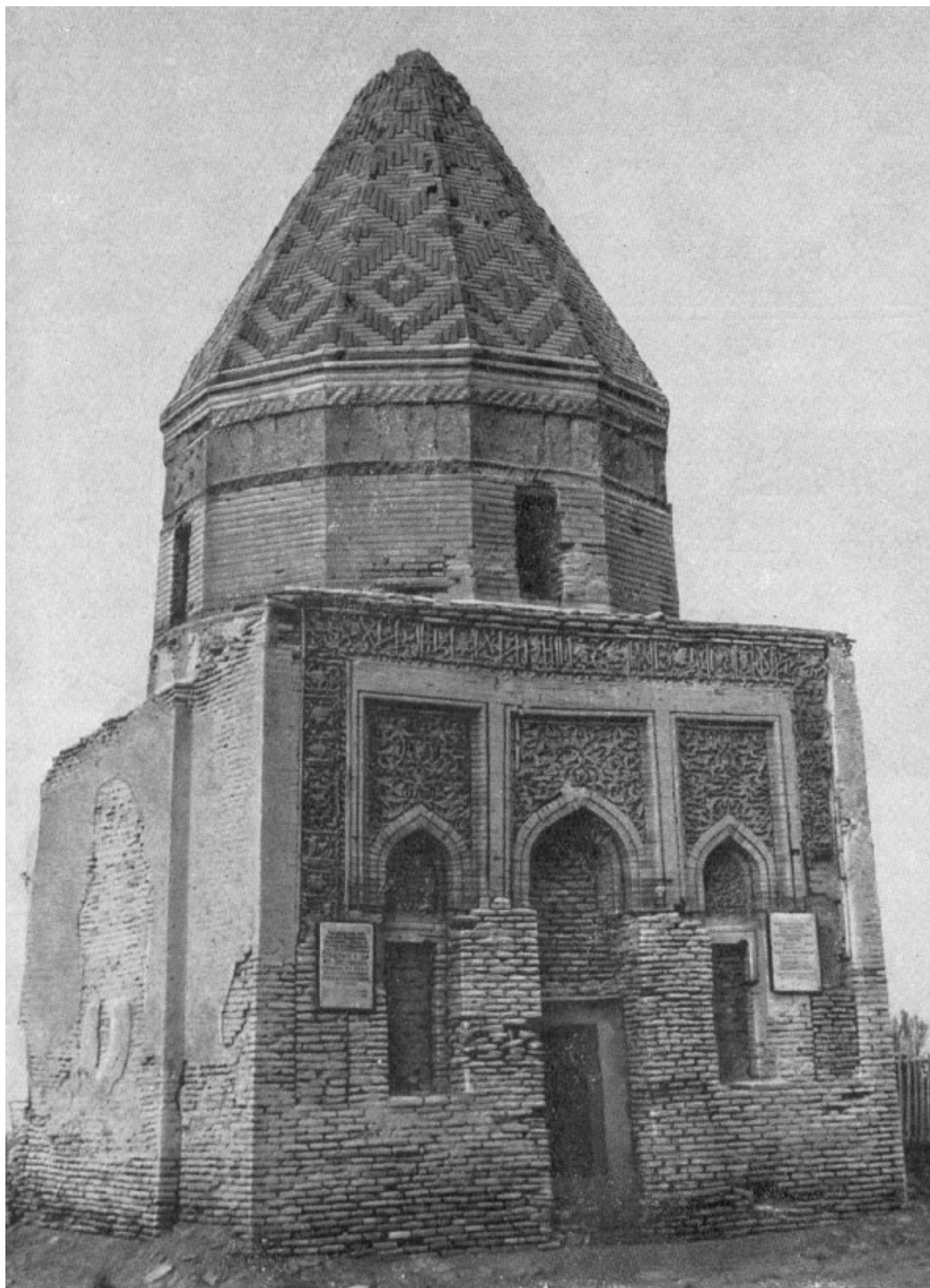
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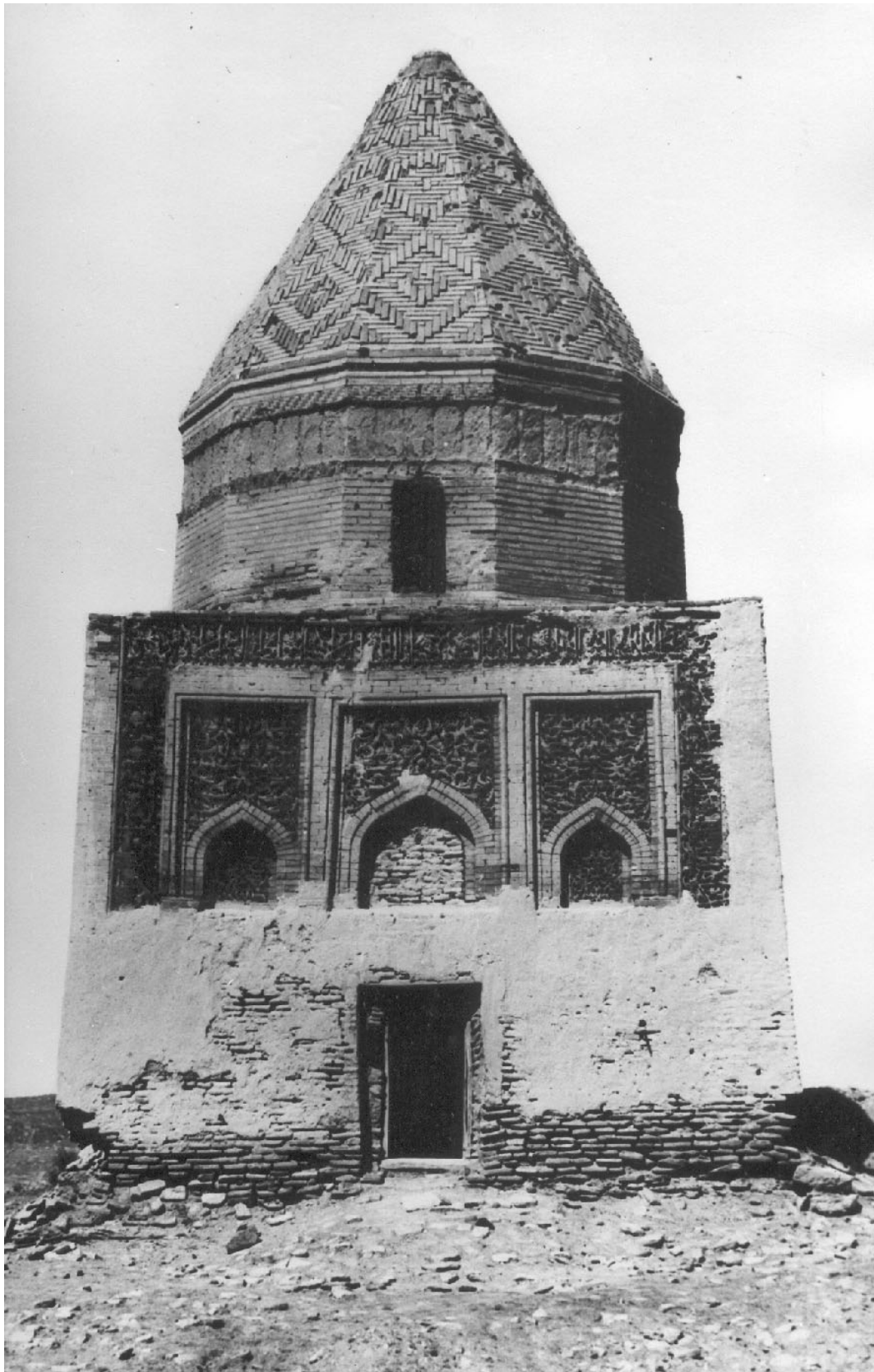
4. Il Arslan Mausoleum / Ил Арслан



V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

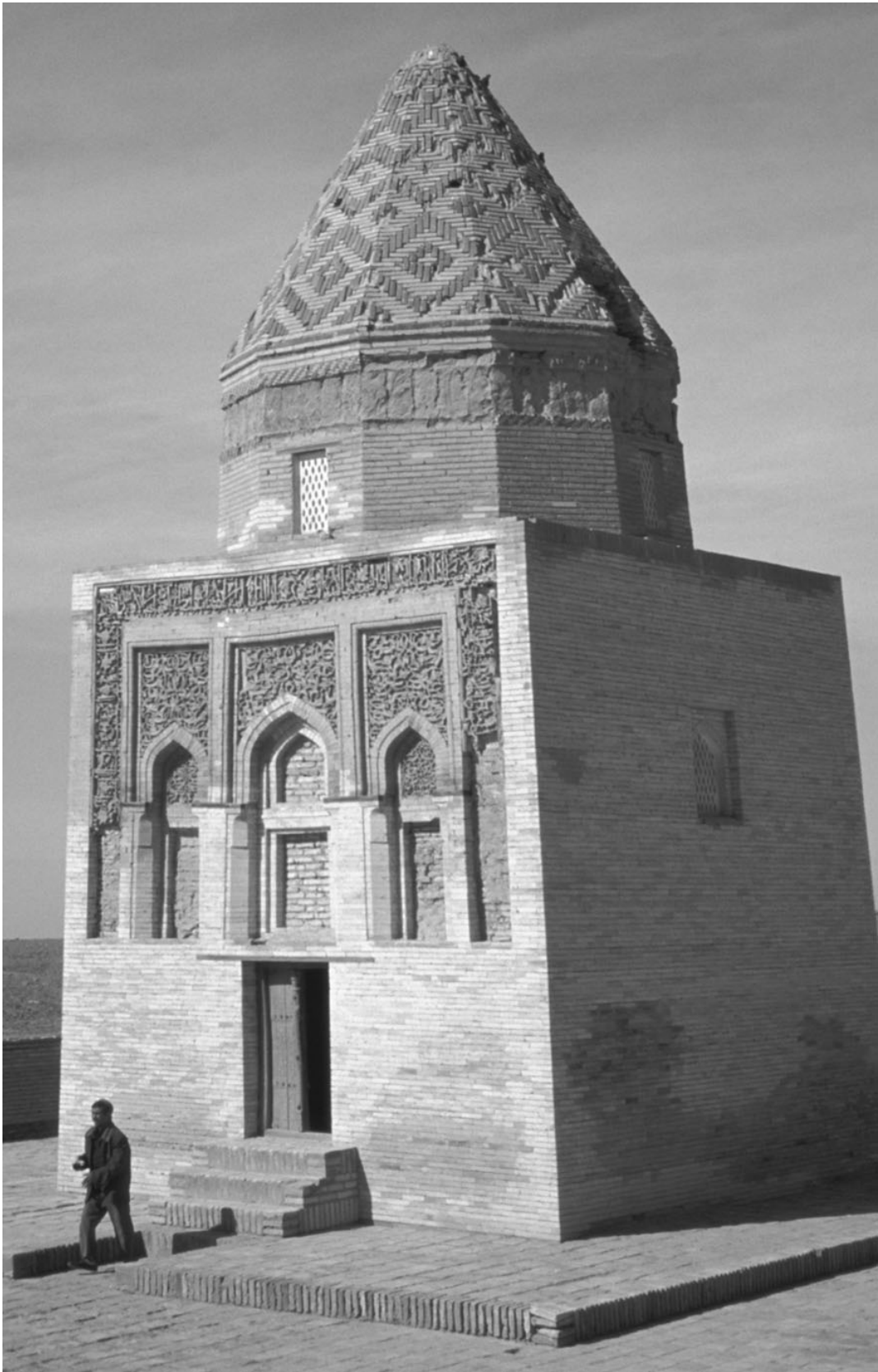
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929





L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928



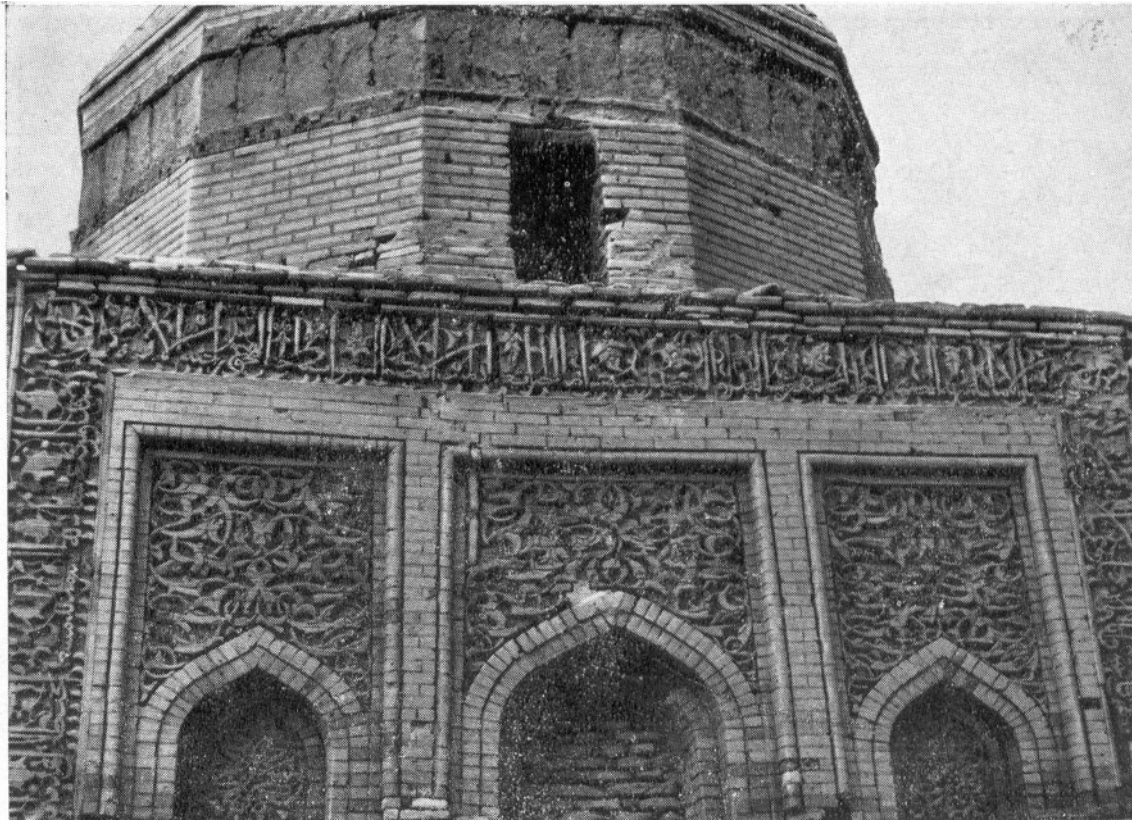




A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

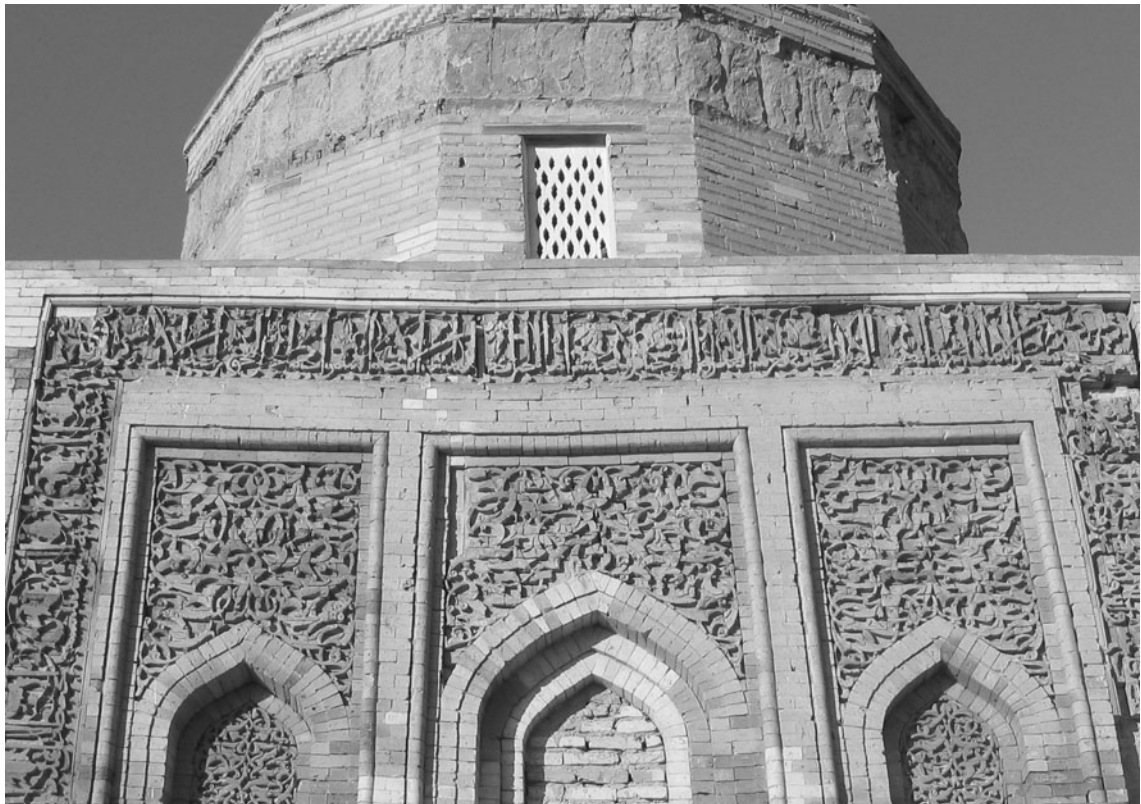
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928

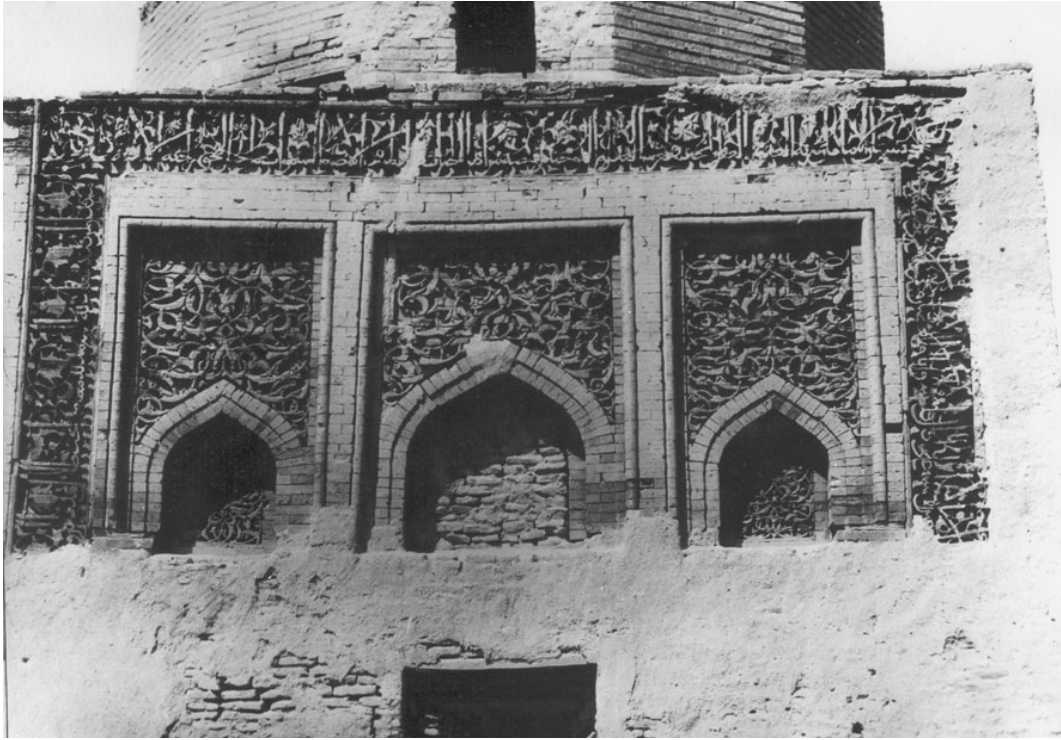




V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

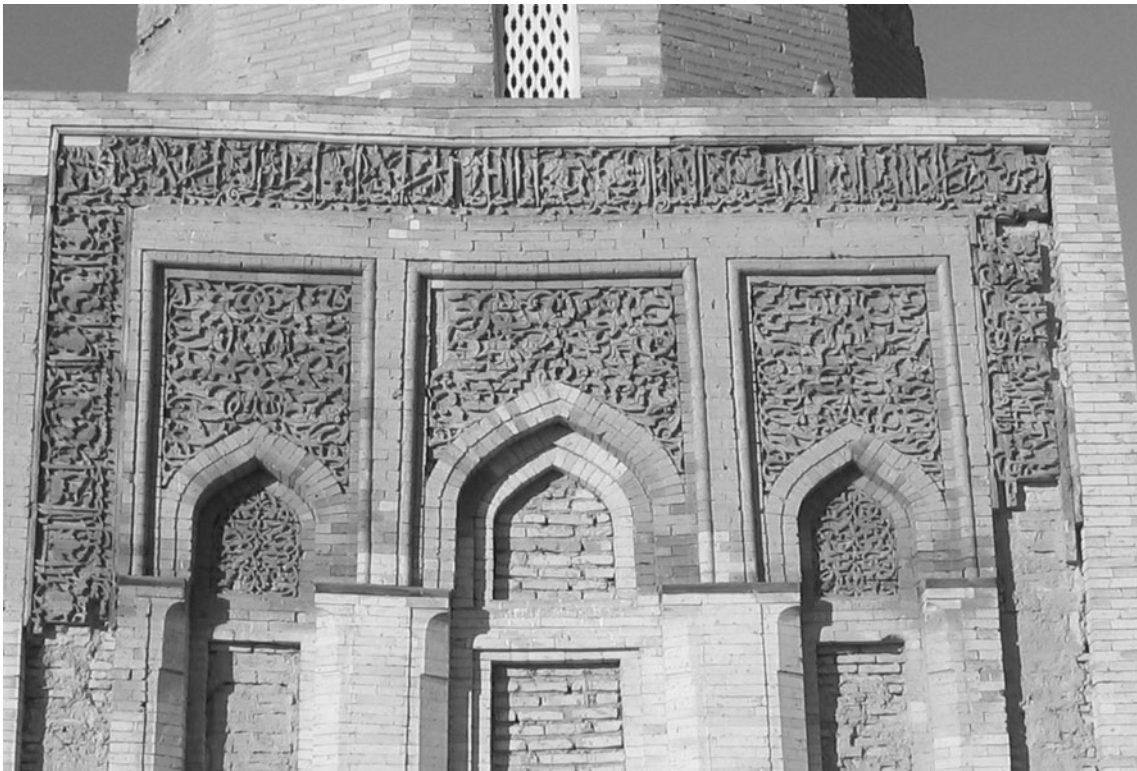
В. И. Пилявский





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928



## 5. Kutlug Timur Minaret / Кутлуг Тимур Минарет



L.I. Sokolov 1928      Л.И.Соколов 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1929 Л.И.Соколов 1929



A.U. Iakoubovsky 1925 А.Ю.Якубовский 1925

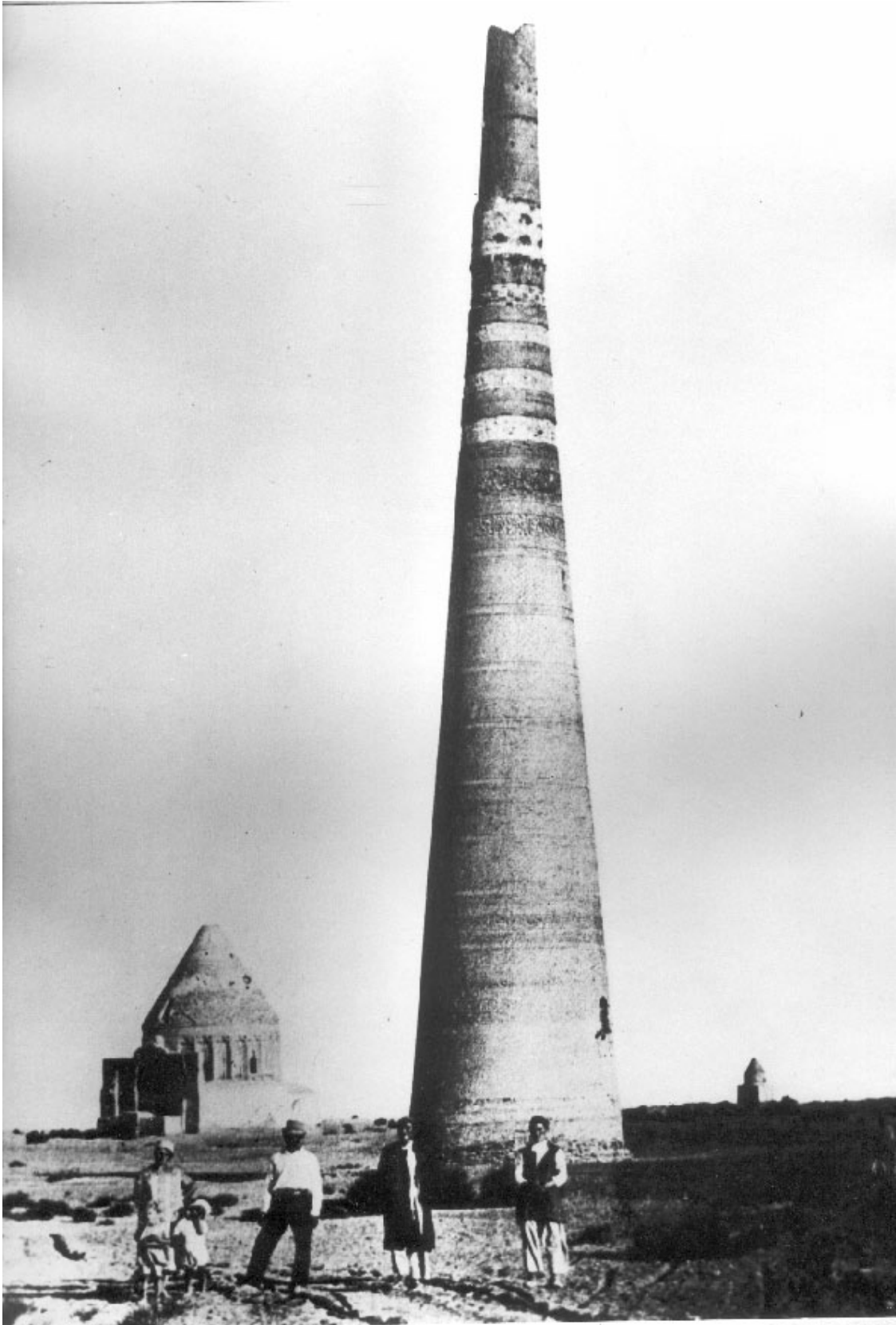


unknown photographer 1986

Фотограф неизвестен 1986







L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928





unknown photographer 1986

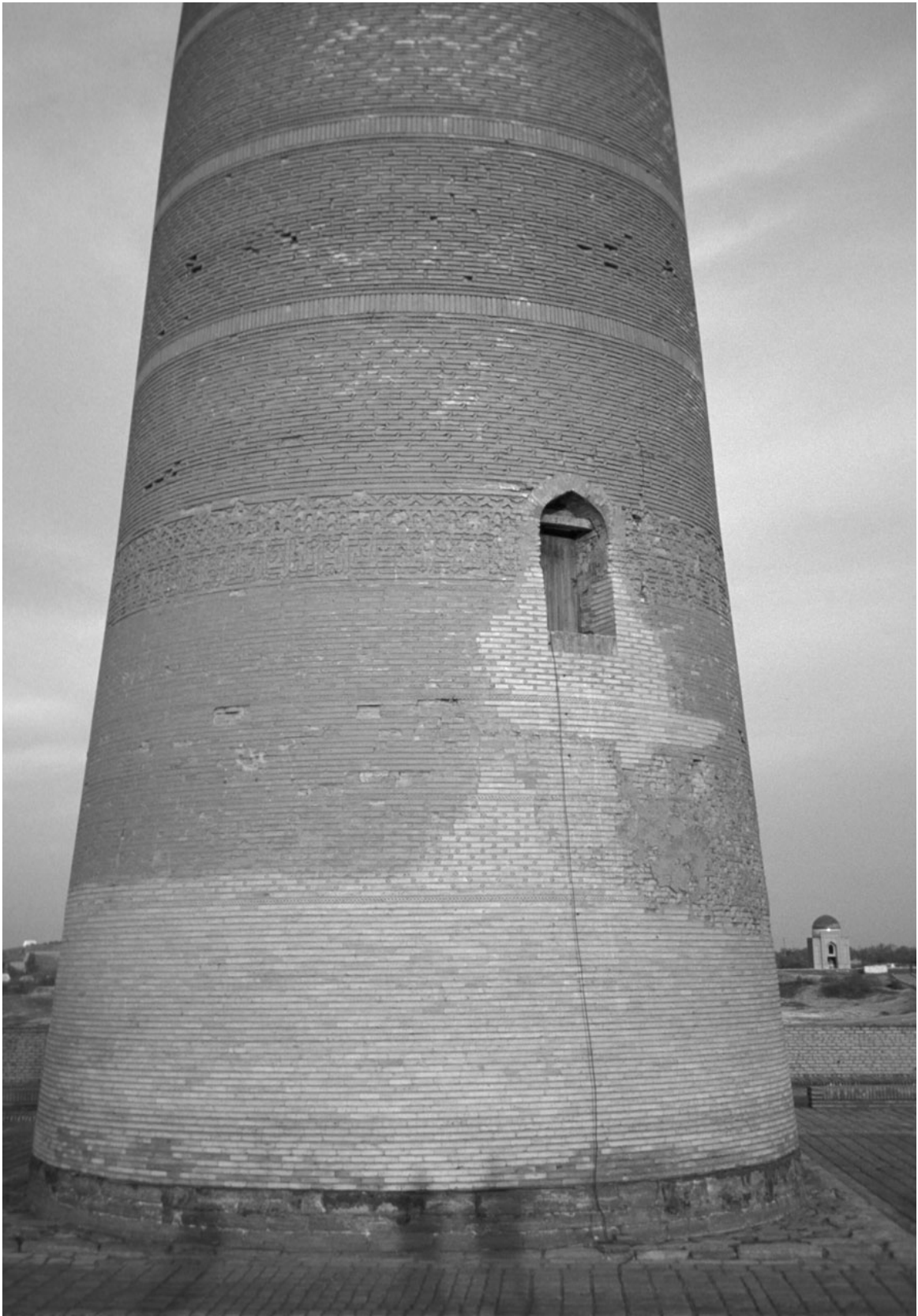
Фотограф неизвестен 1986





L.I. Sokolov 1928

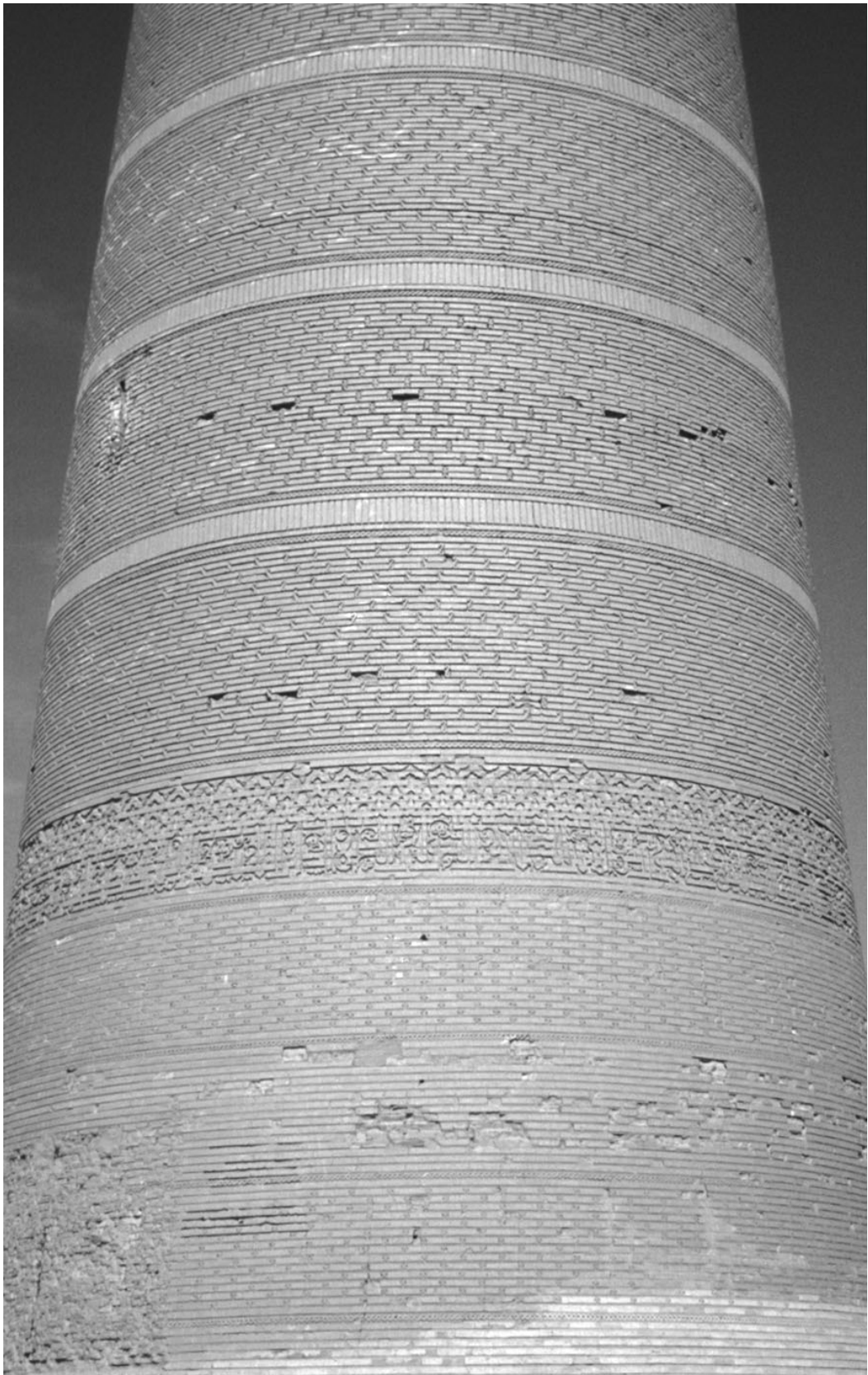
Л.И.Соколов 1928





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





## 6. Kyrkmolla / Кырк Молла



unknown photographer, 1980's

Фотограф неизвестен



7. Najm-ad-Din Al-Kubra / Наджн Ад-Дин Ал-Кубра



unknown photographer, 1986

Фотограф неизвестен, 1986





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский





unknown photographer, 1986

Фотограф неизвестен, 1986





L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929



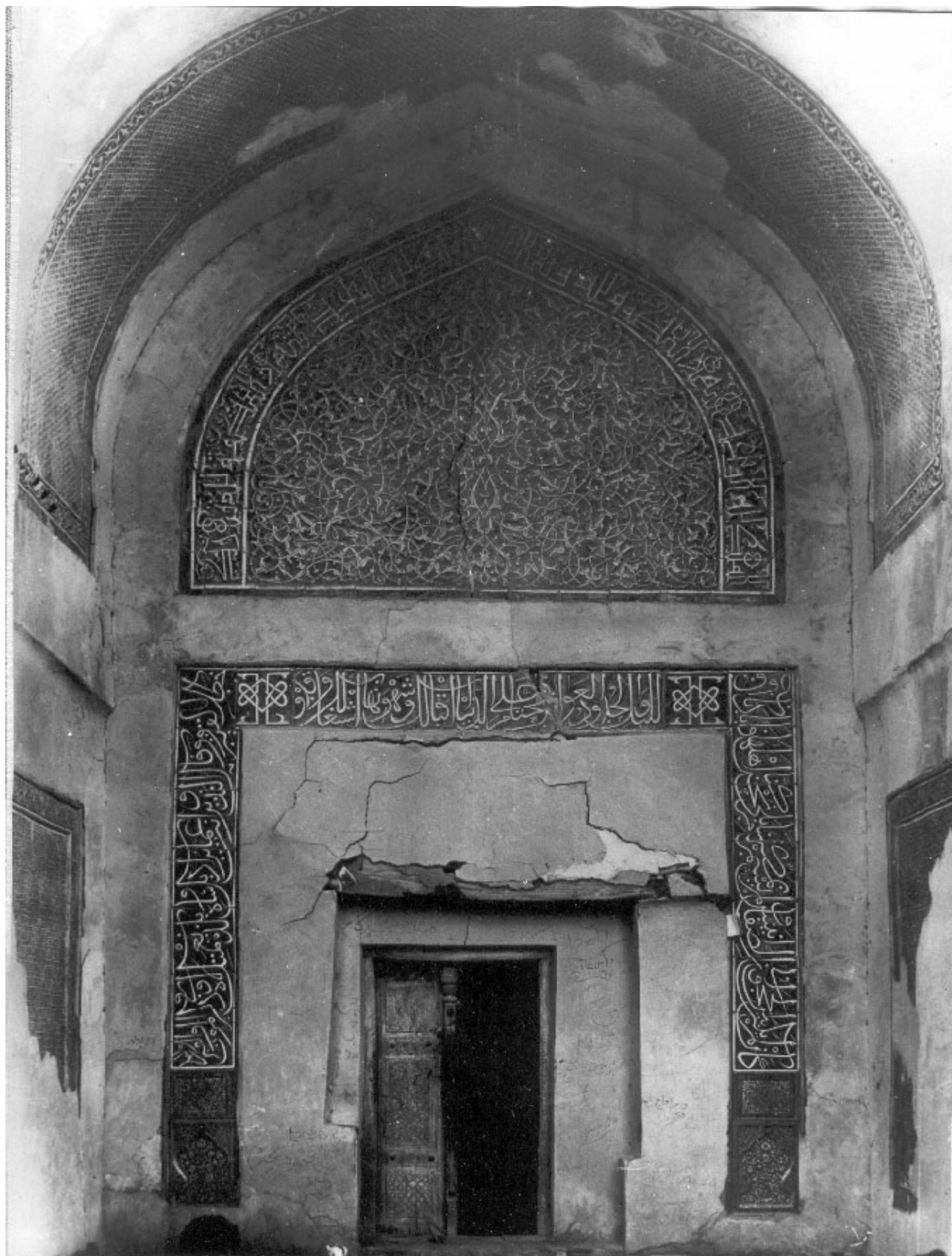


V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский

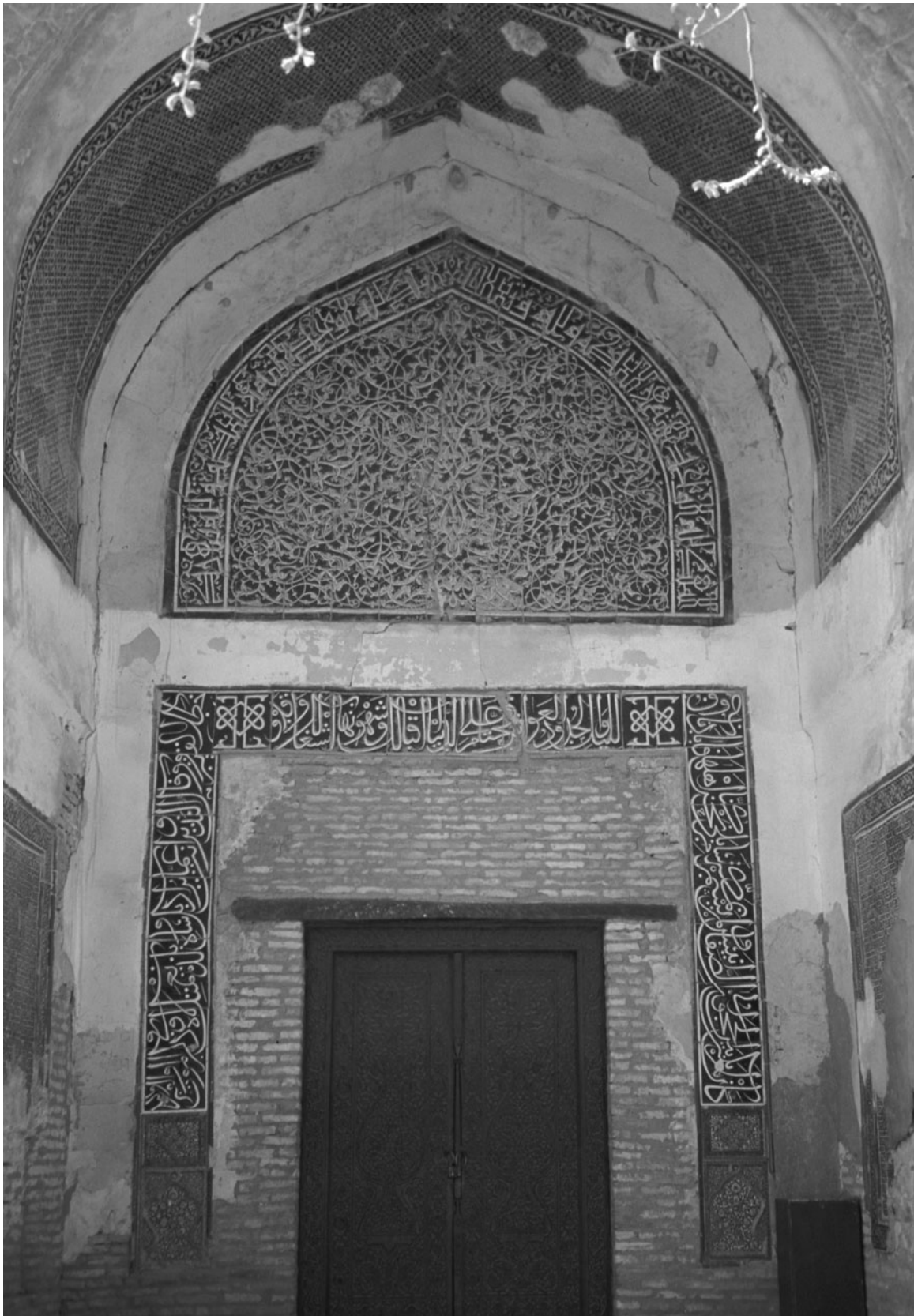


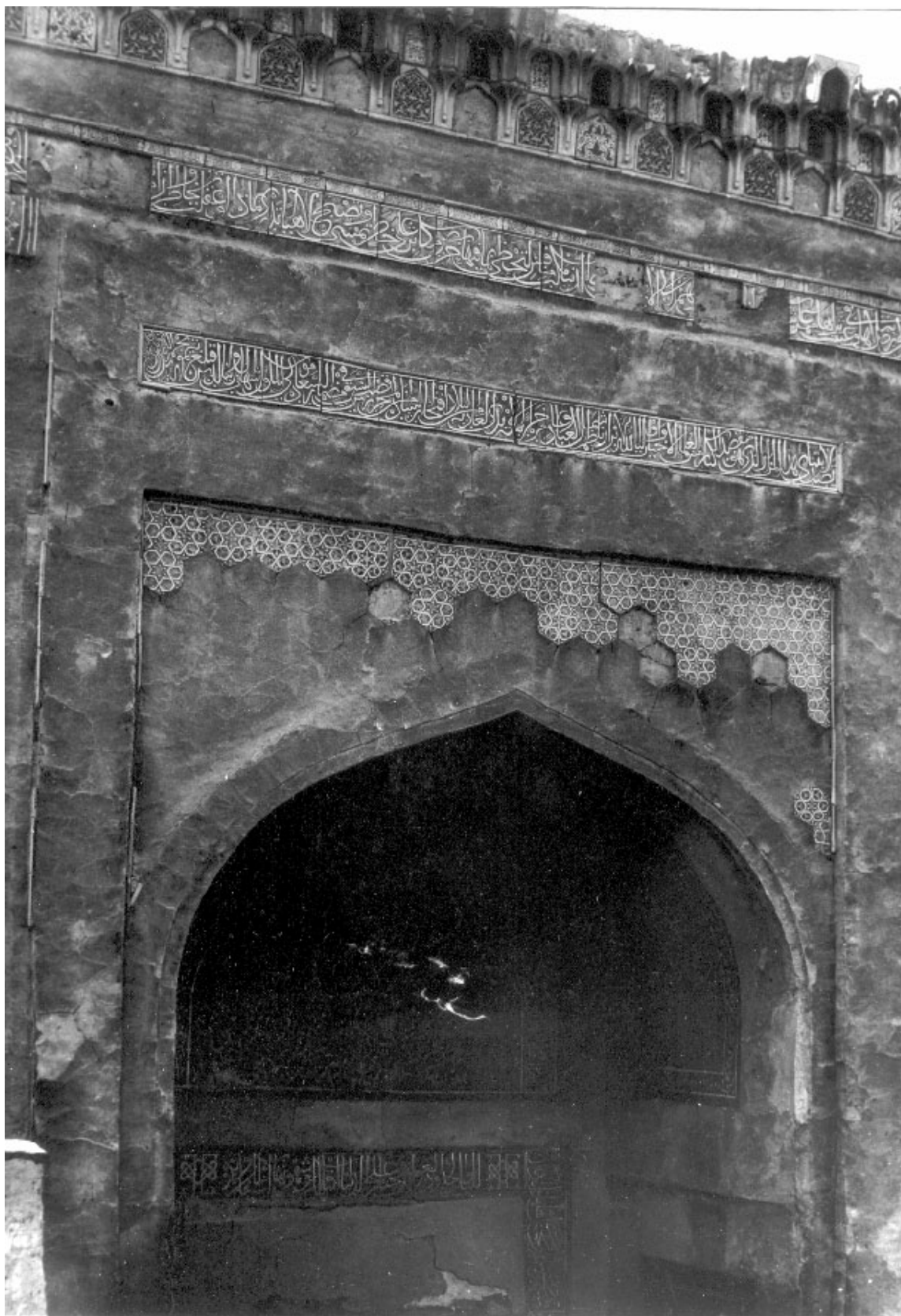




A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929



8. Pyriar Vali / Пириар Вали



N. Khalimov, 1979

Н. Халимов, 1979





N. Khalimov, 1979

Н. Халимов, 1979



9. Caravanserai Gate / Портал Караван-Сараи



A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928







A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928



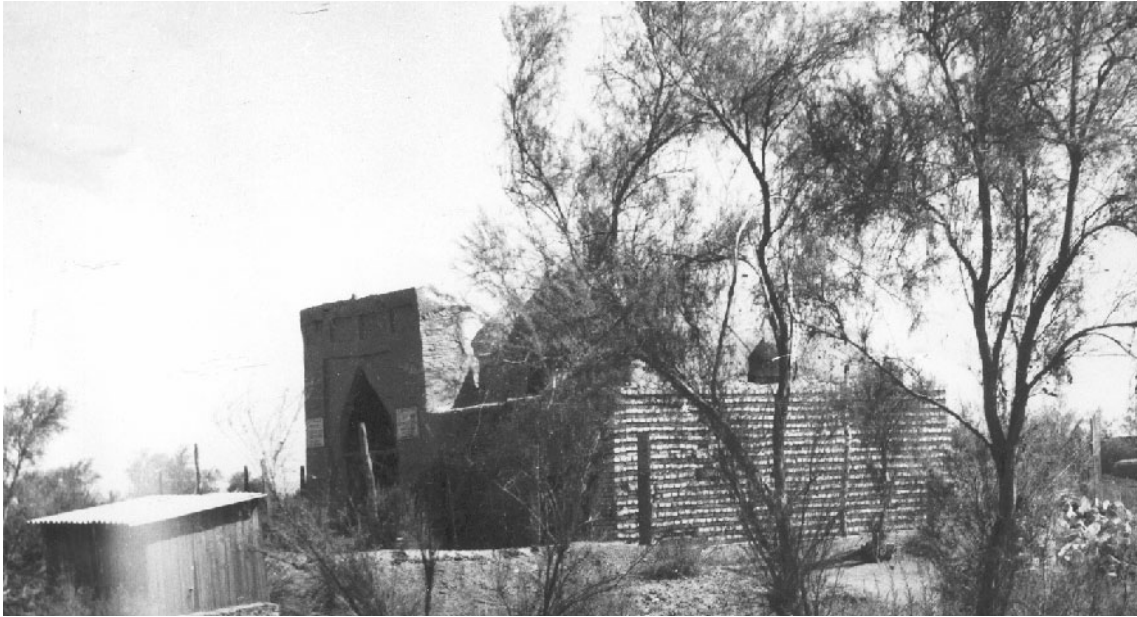


V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский



10. Seyet Akhmet Mausoleum / Сейд Ахмед



unknown photographer, 1986

Фотограф неизвестен, 1986



rebuilt on the ancient foundation, after it collapsed in 1993

11. Sultan Ali Mausoleum / Султан Али



L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929





unknown photographer, 1980's

Фотограф неизвестен

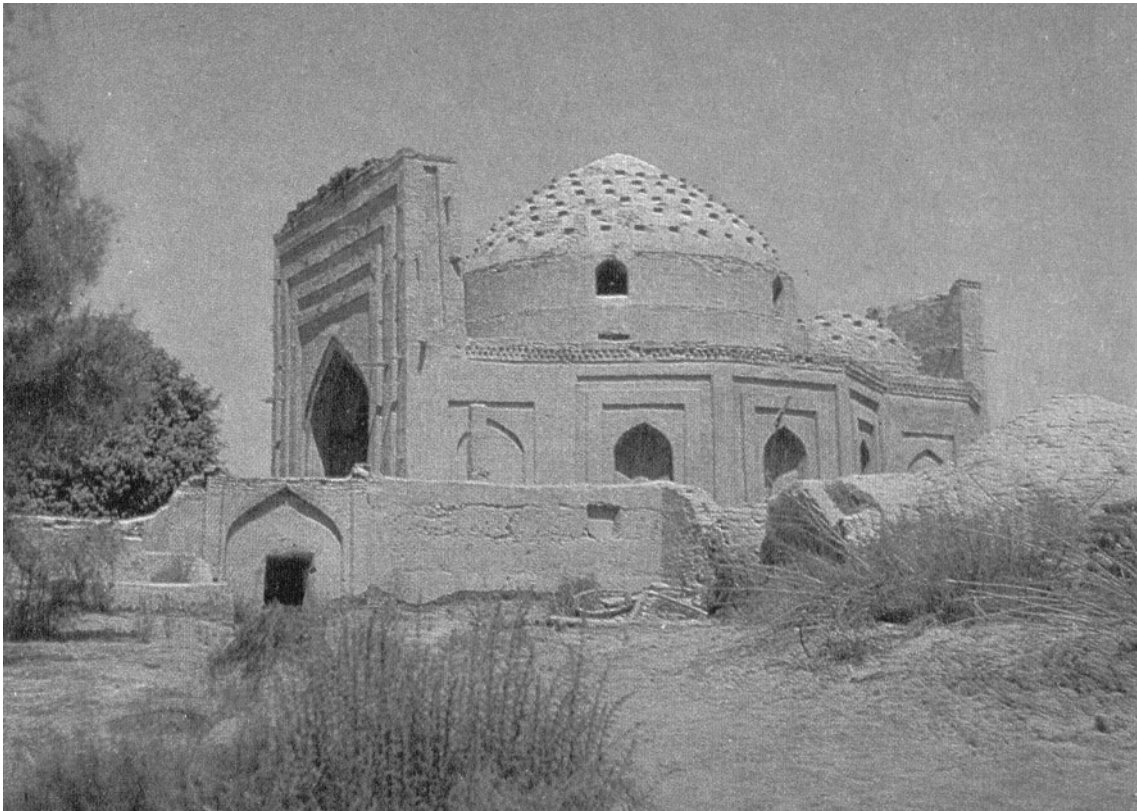




unknown photographer, 1985

Фотограф неизвестен





V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский





unknown photographer, unknown date







A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929





L.I. Sokolov 1929

Л.И.Соколов 1929



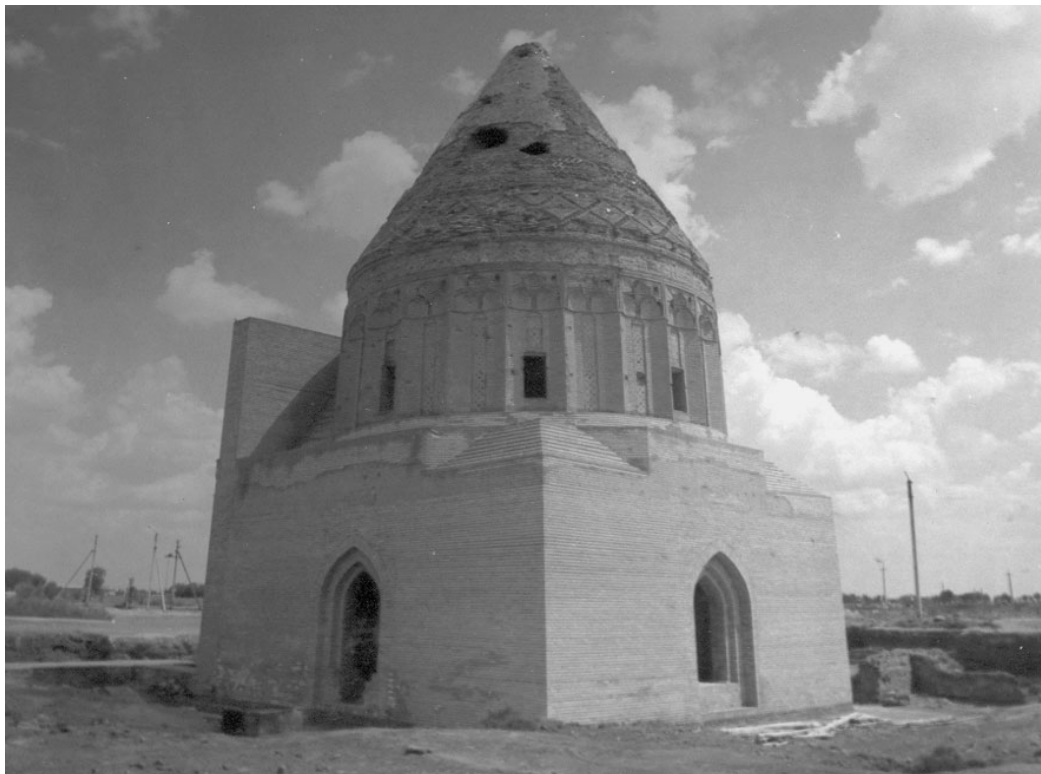
## 12. Tekesh Mausoleum / Текеш



V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский





unknown photographer, 1980's

Фотограф неизвестен

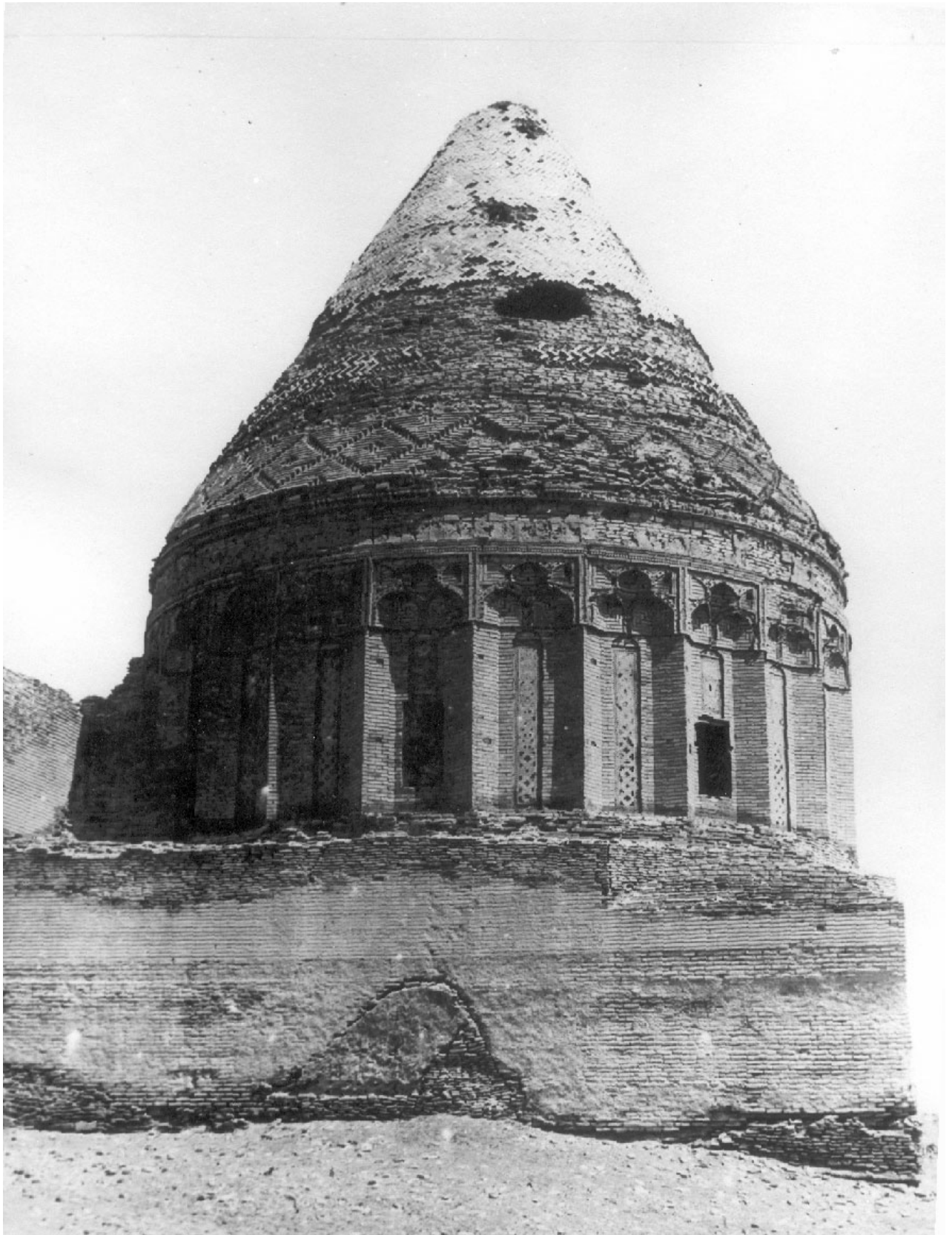




unknown photographer, 1986

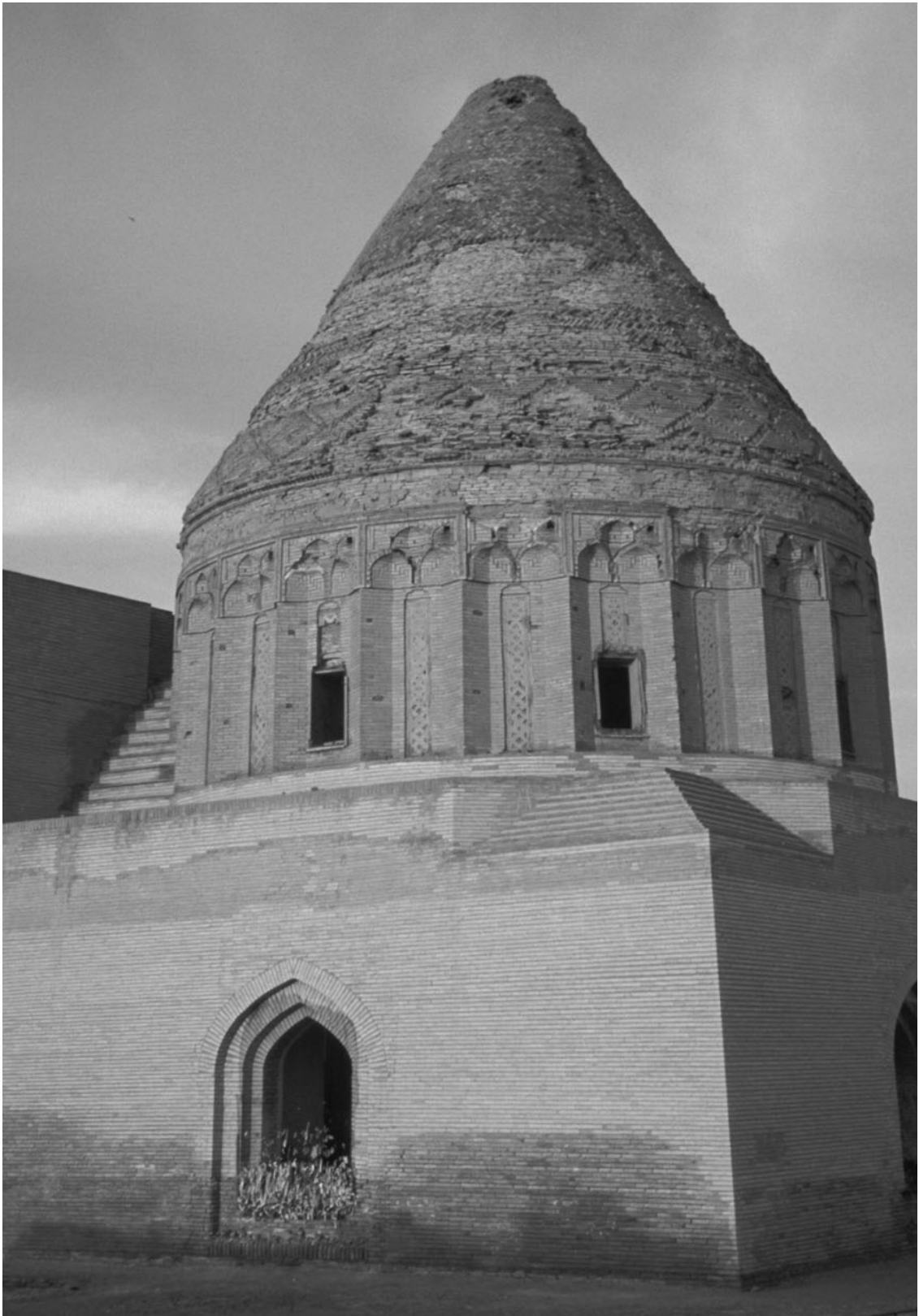
Фотограф неизвестен , 1986



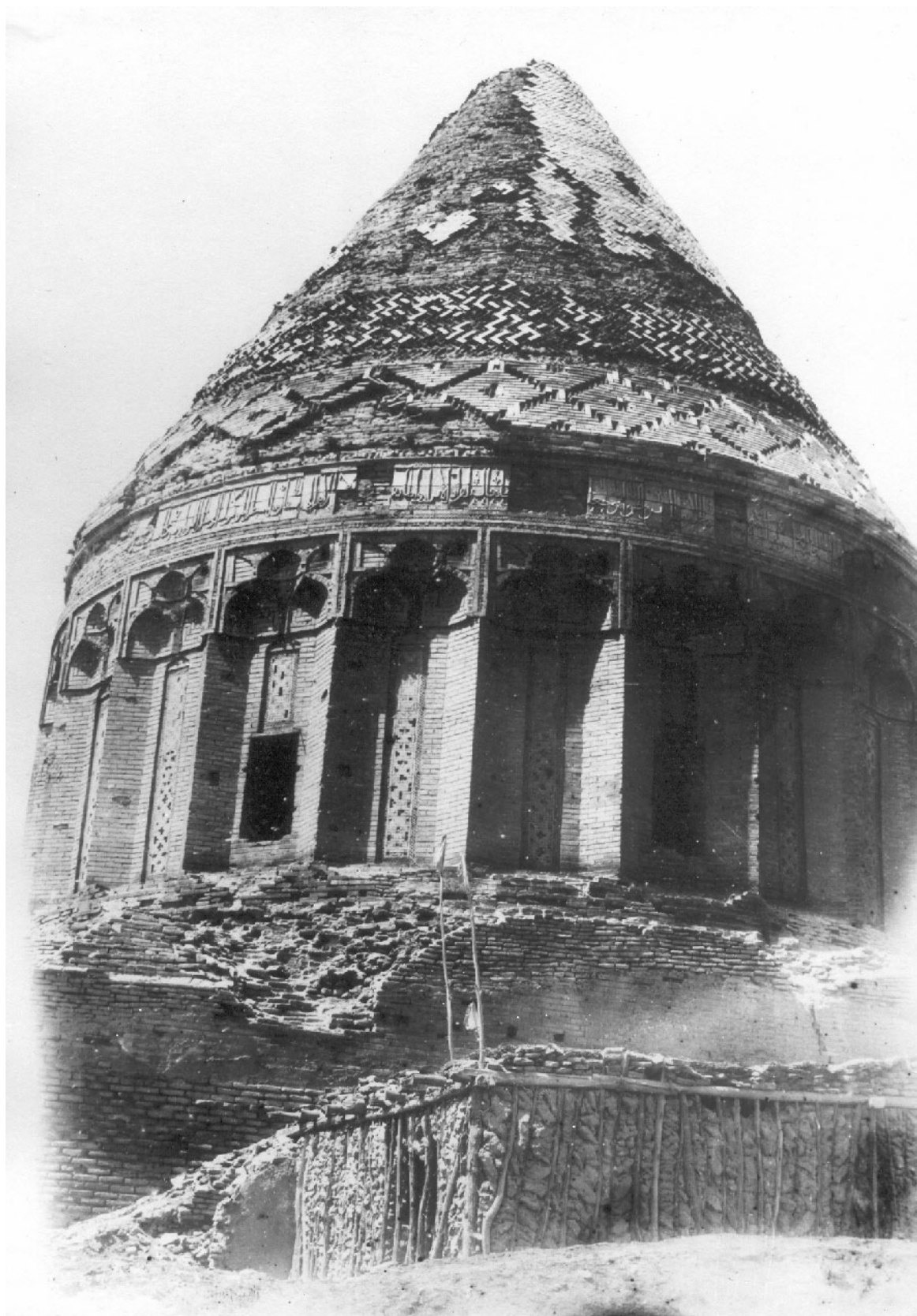


A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928







A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

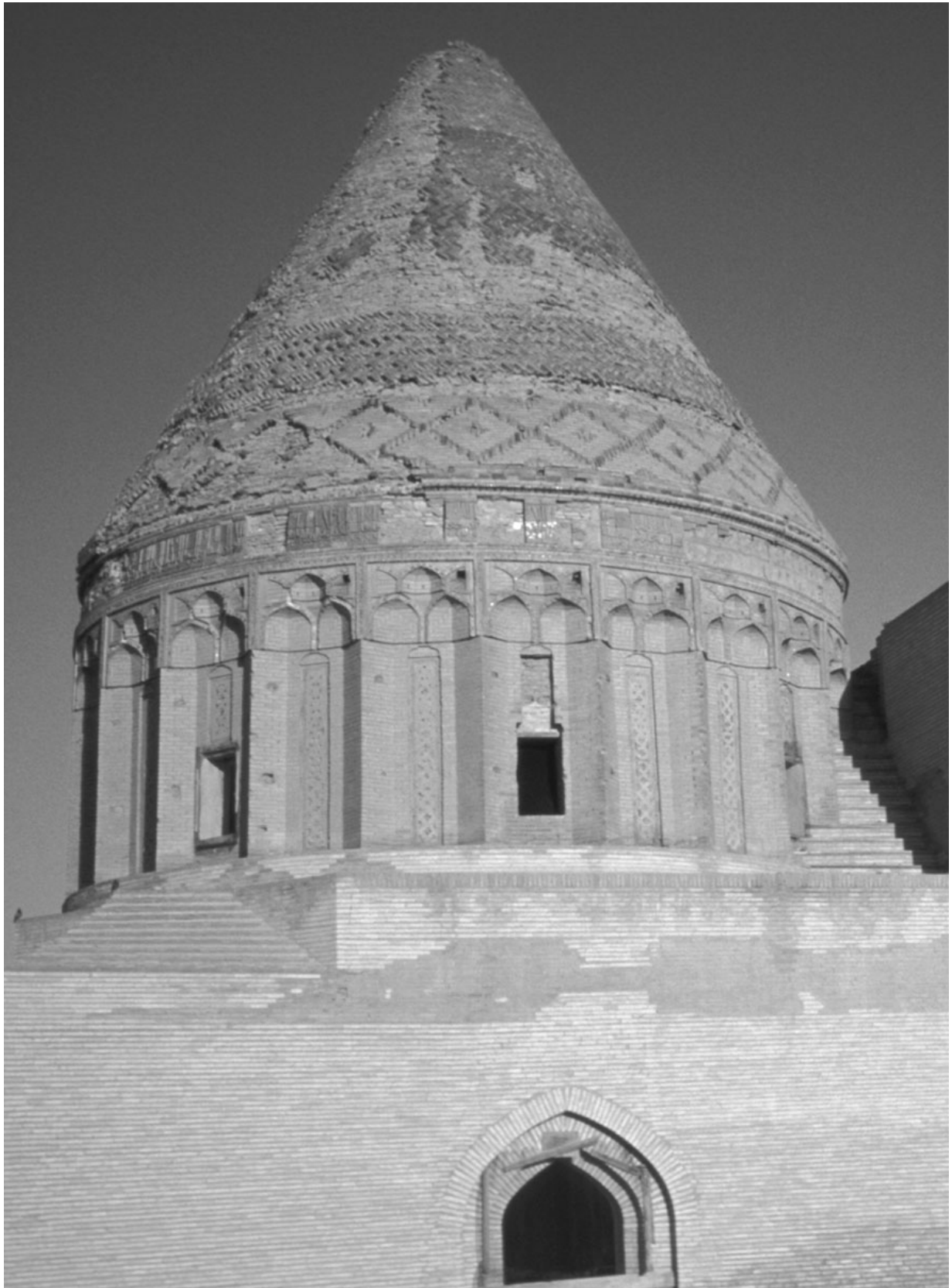
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

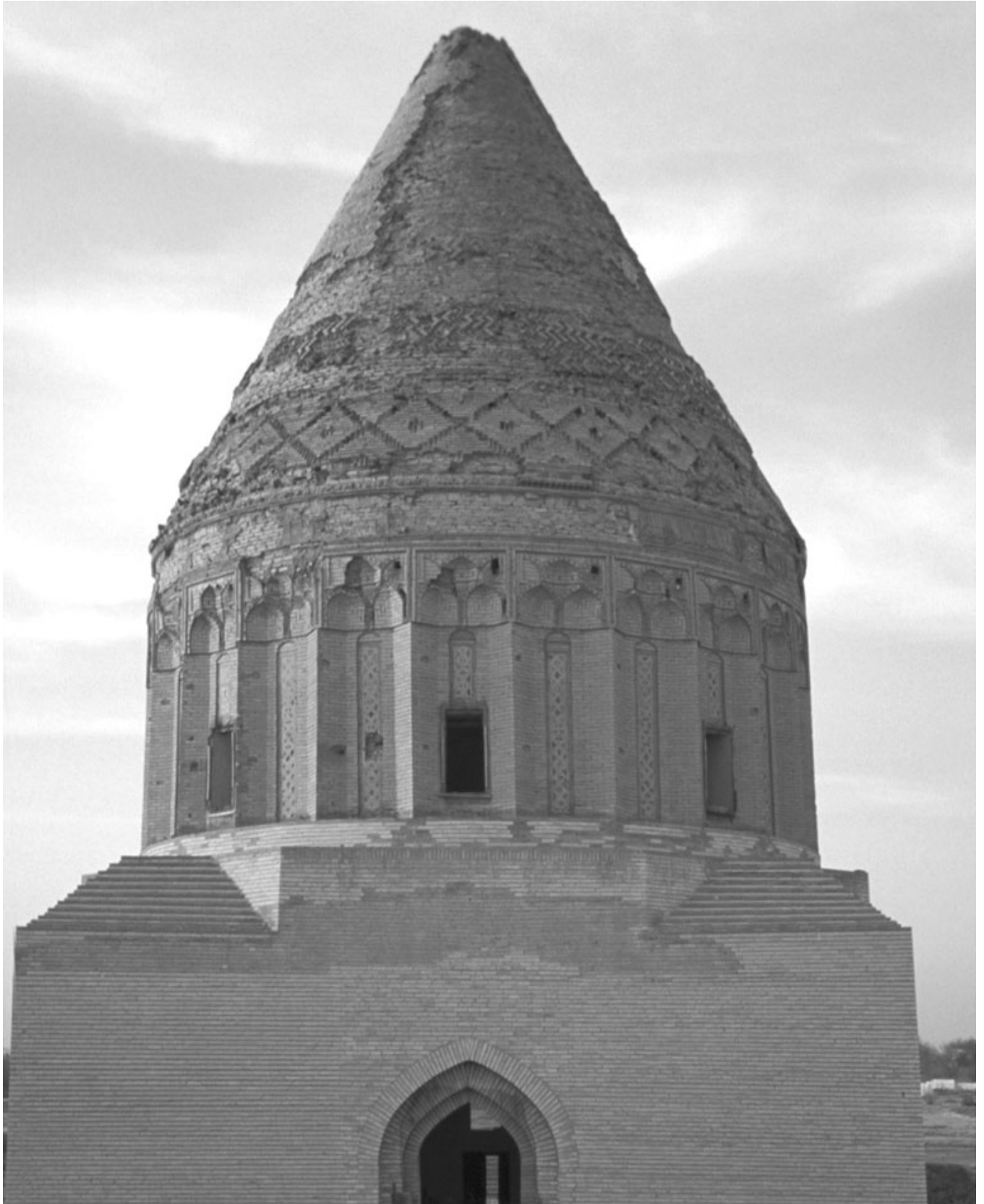
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1928

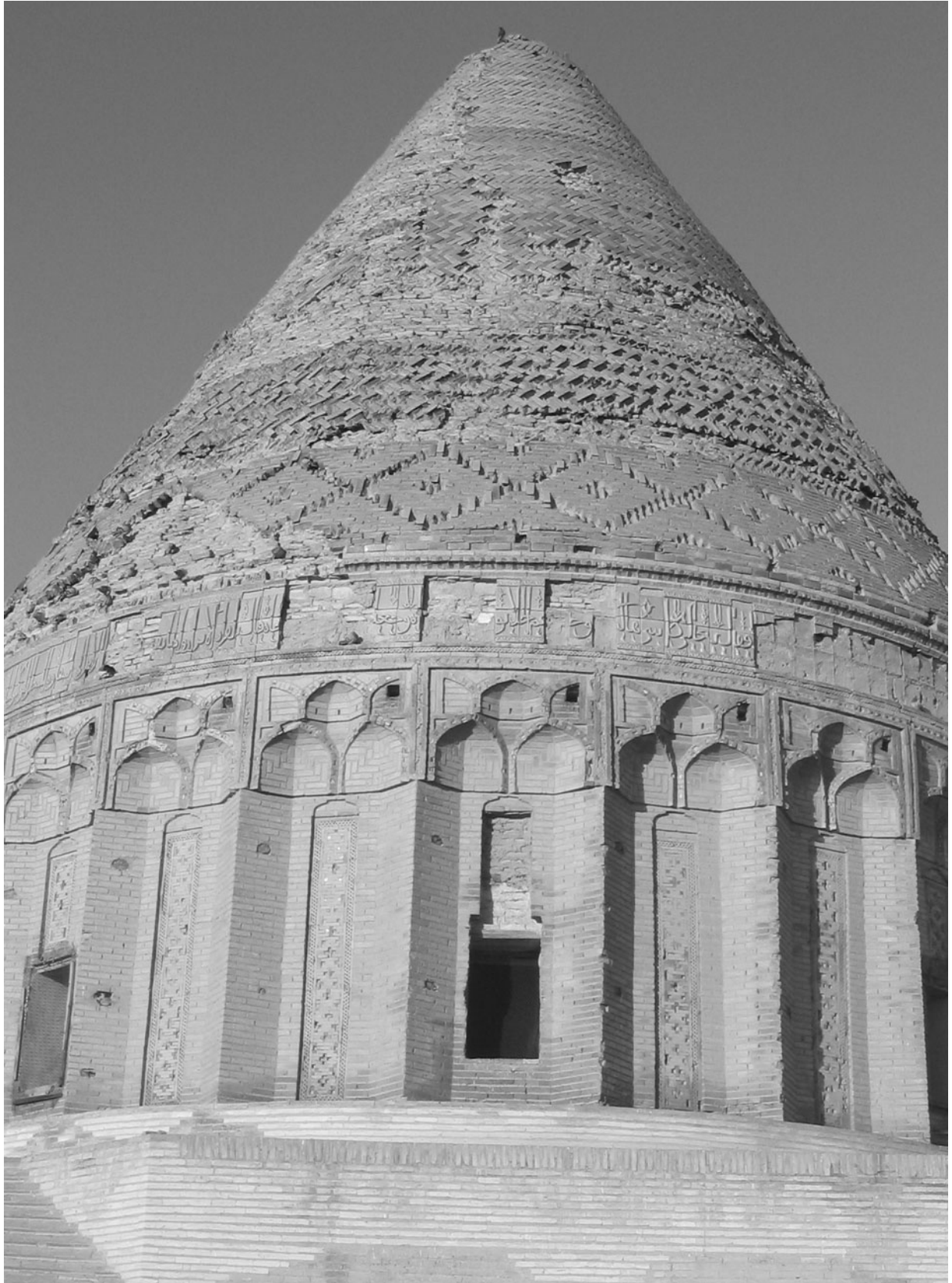
Л.И.Соколов 1928



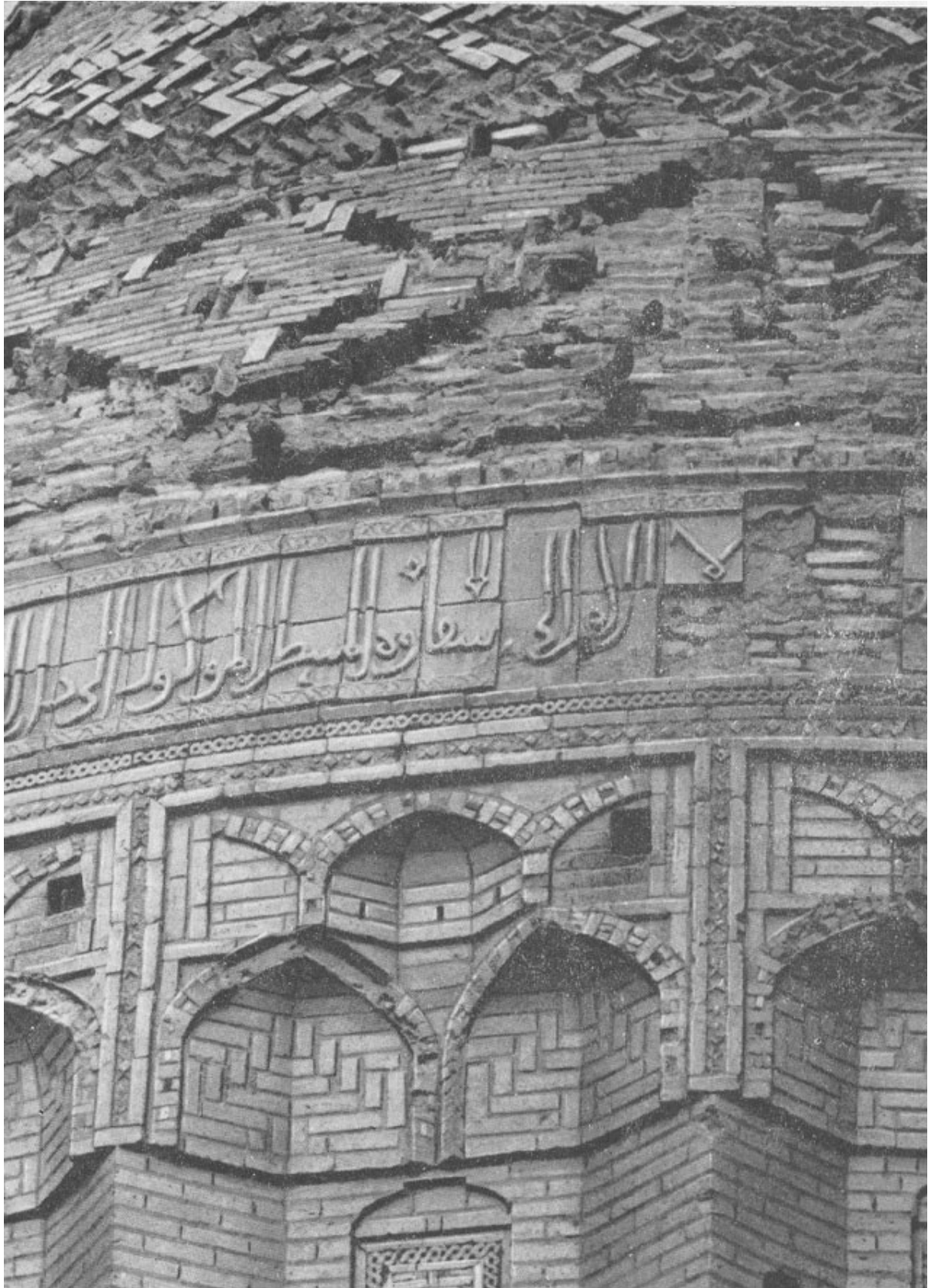


A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928

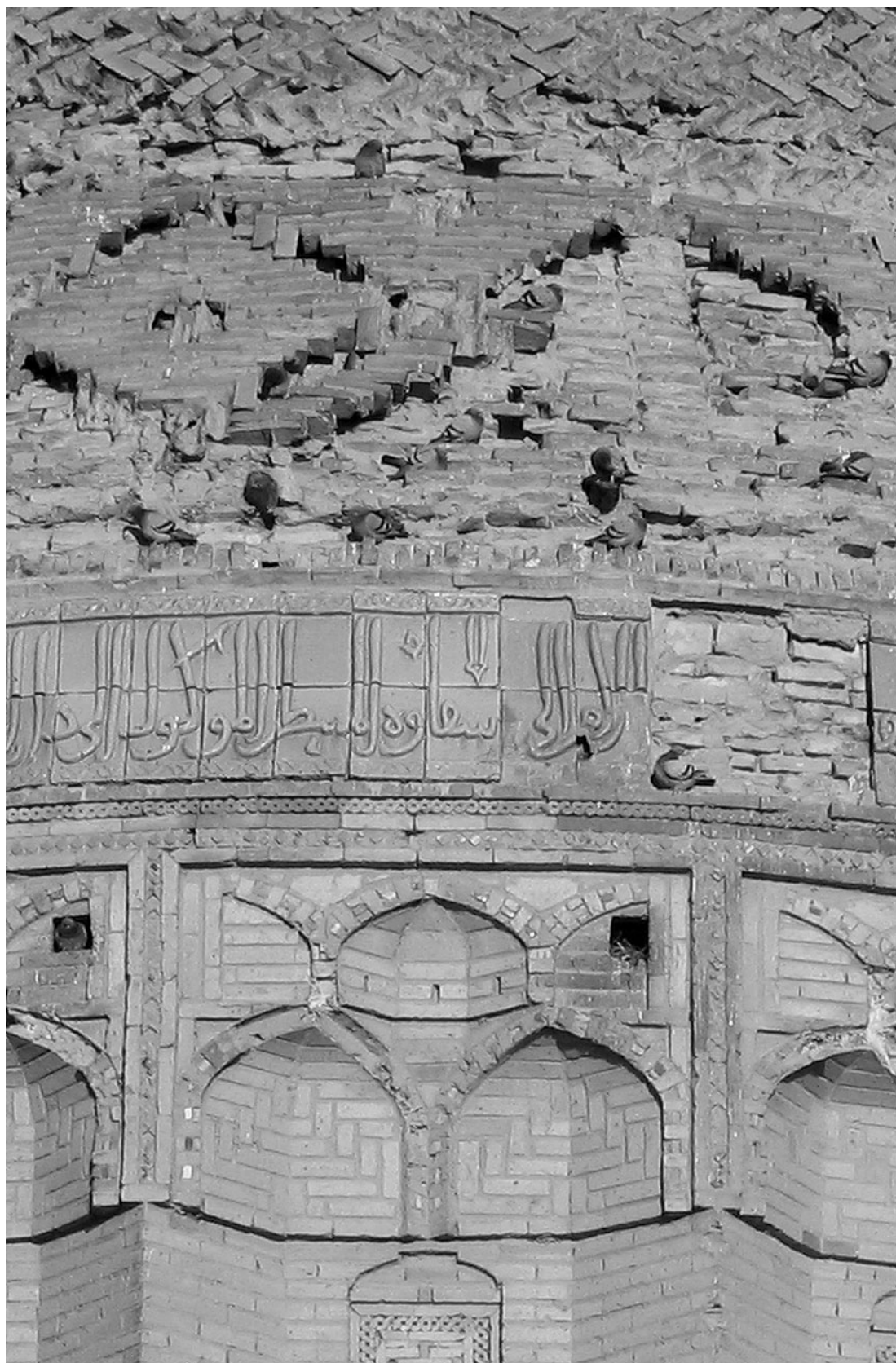


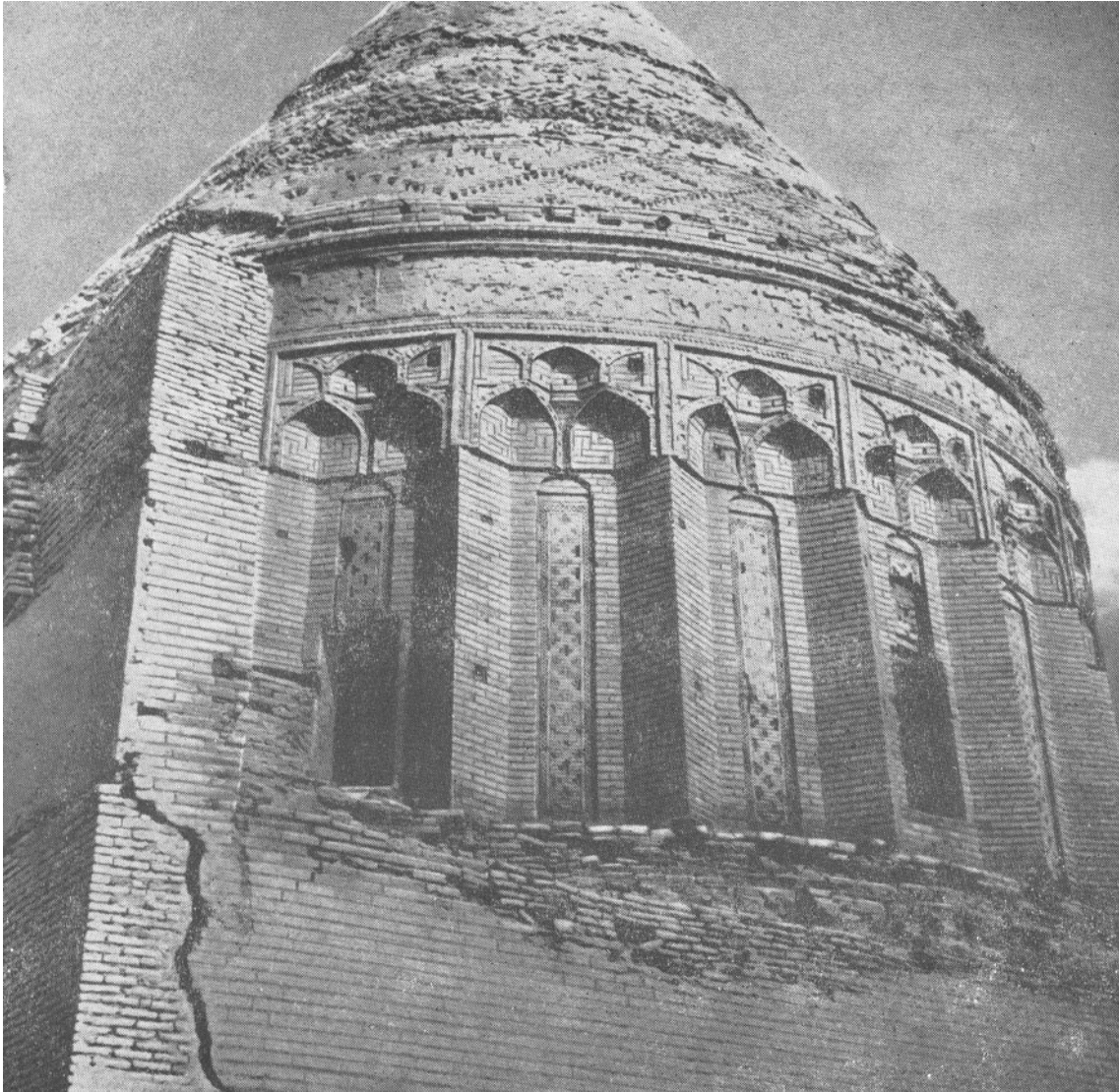




V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский





V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

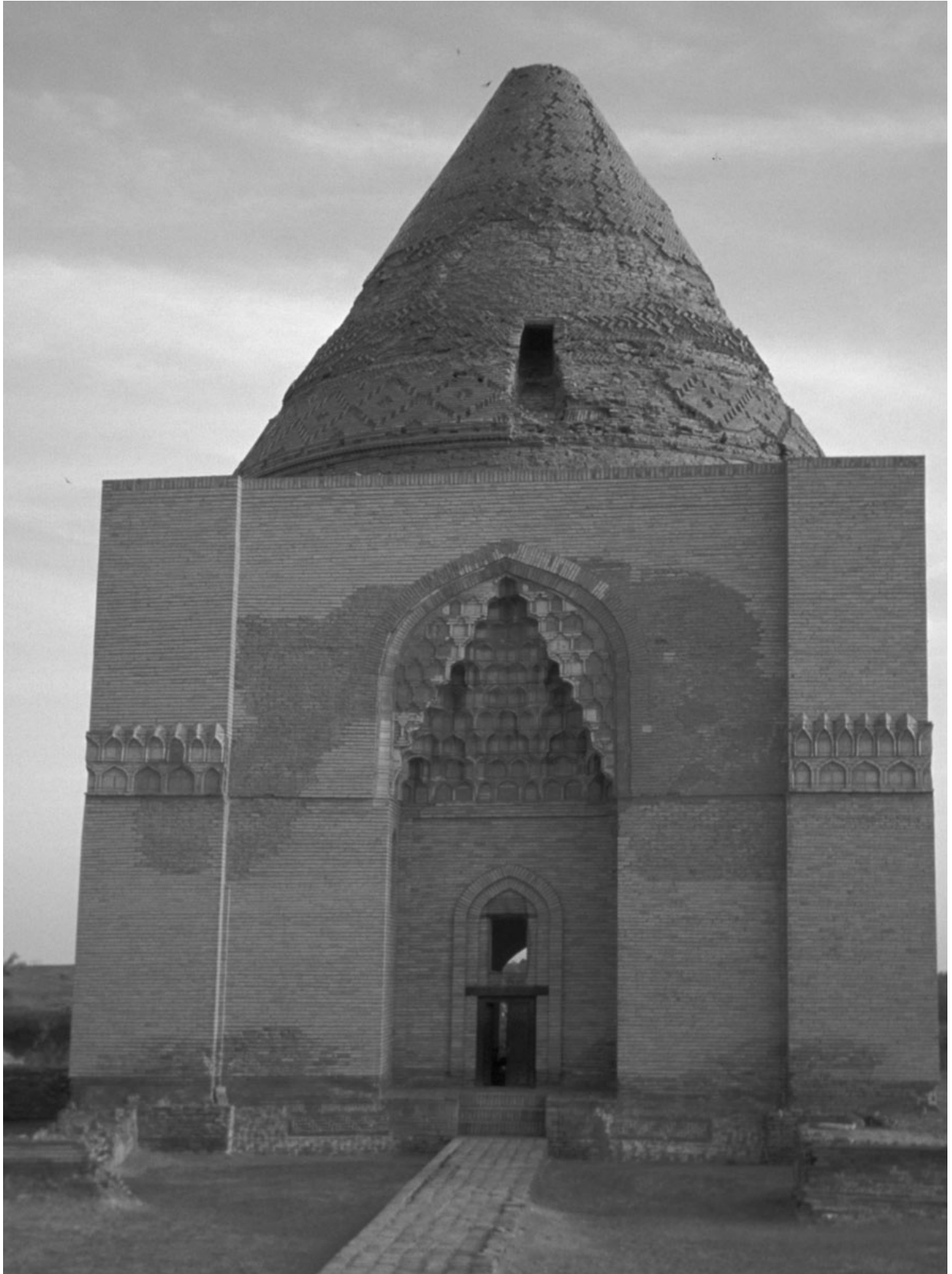
В. И. Пилявский

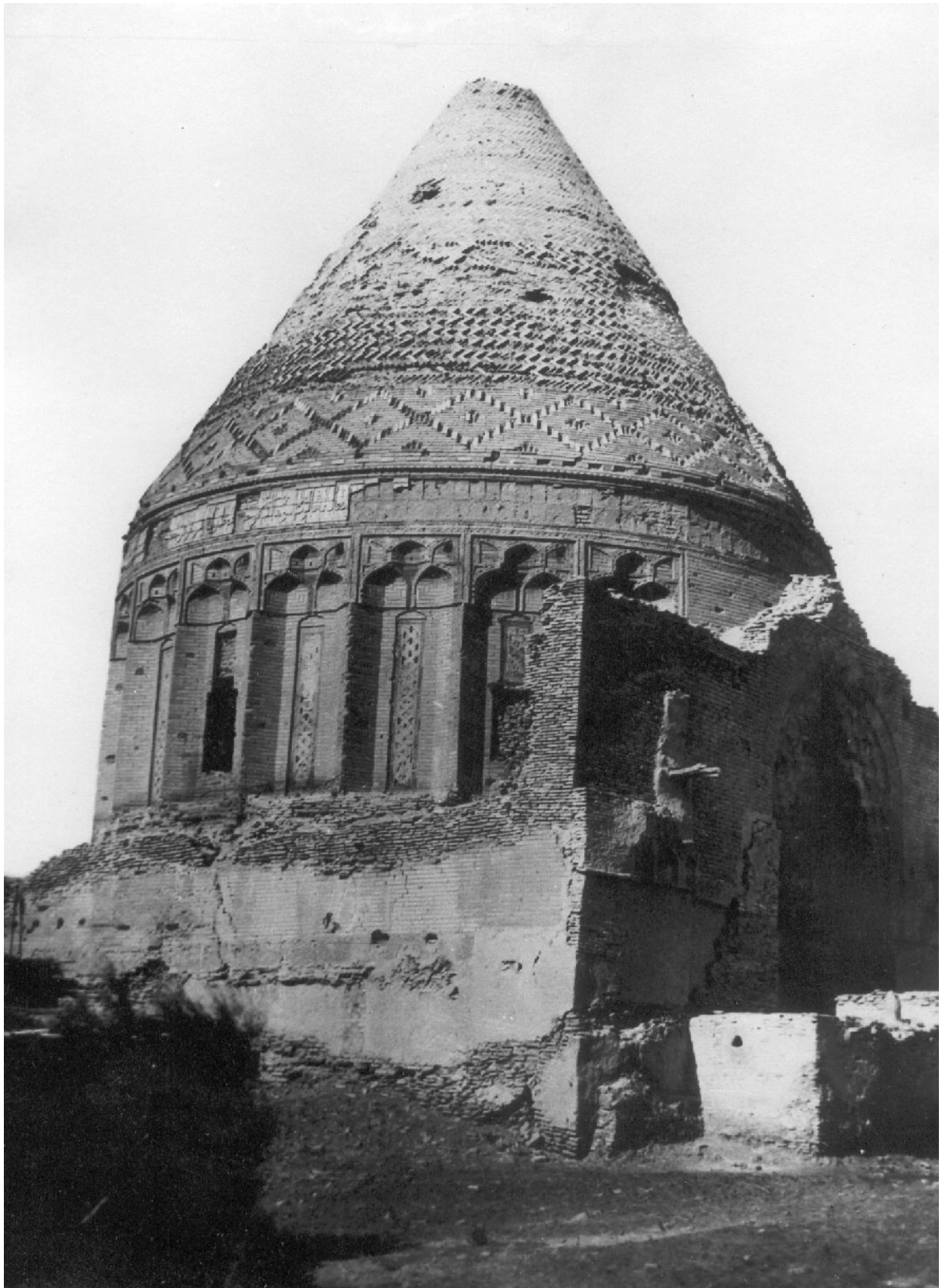




A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

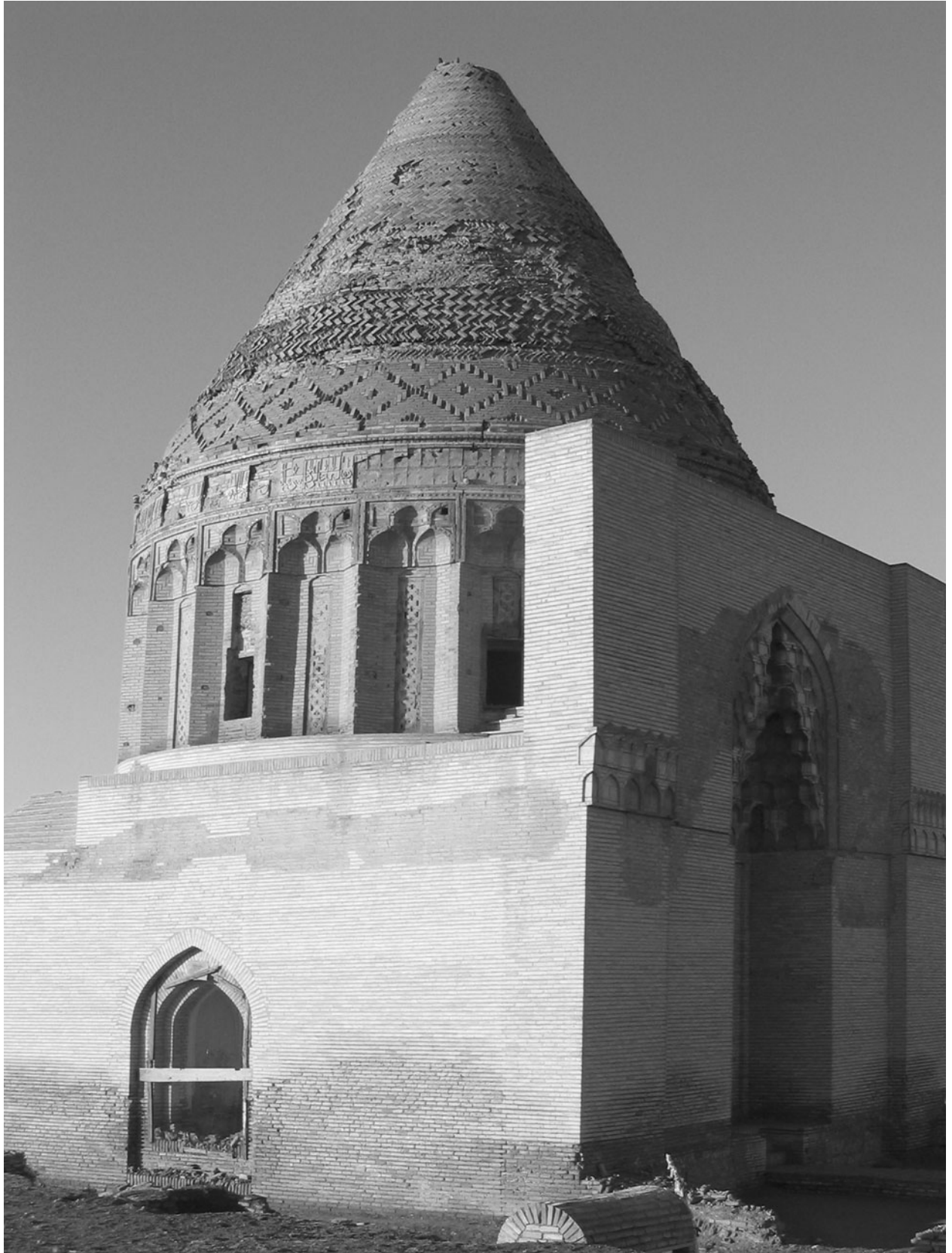
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





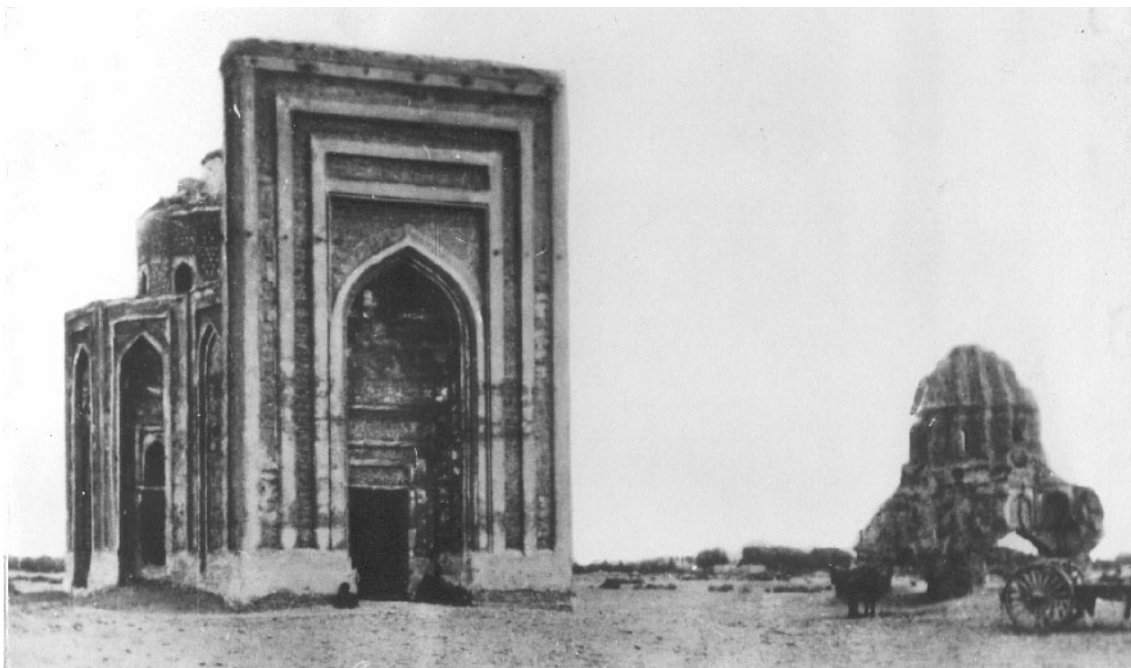


unknown photographer, unknown date

Фотограф и дата неизвестны



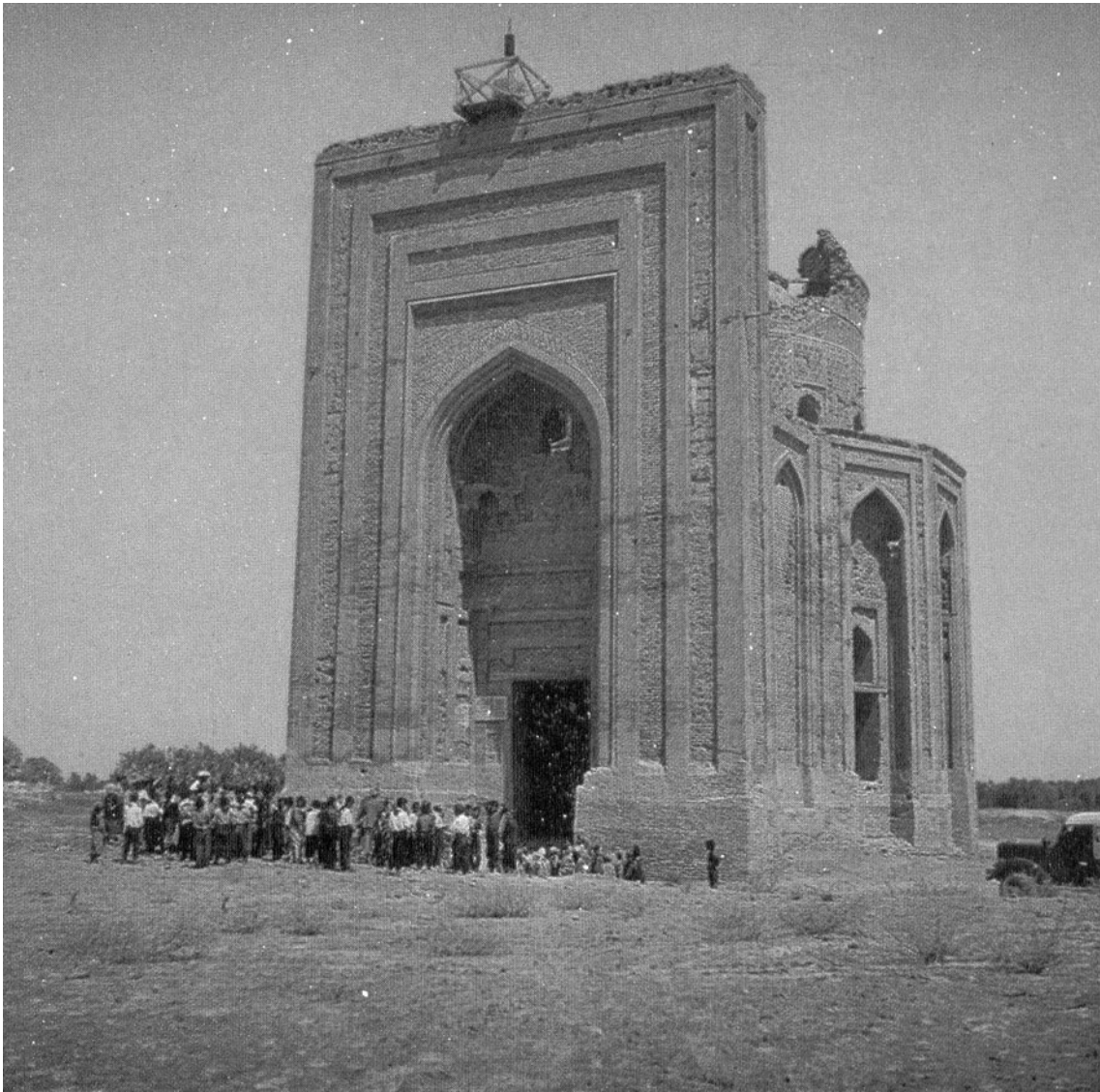
13. Turabek-Khanum Mausoleum / Тырабек-Ханым



D.D. Bukinitch 1914

Д.Д. Букинич 1914





V. I. Piliavsky, 1970's

В. И. Пилявский

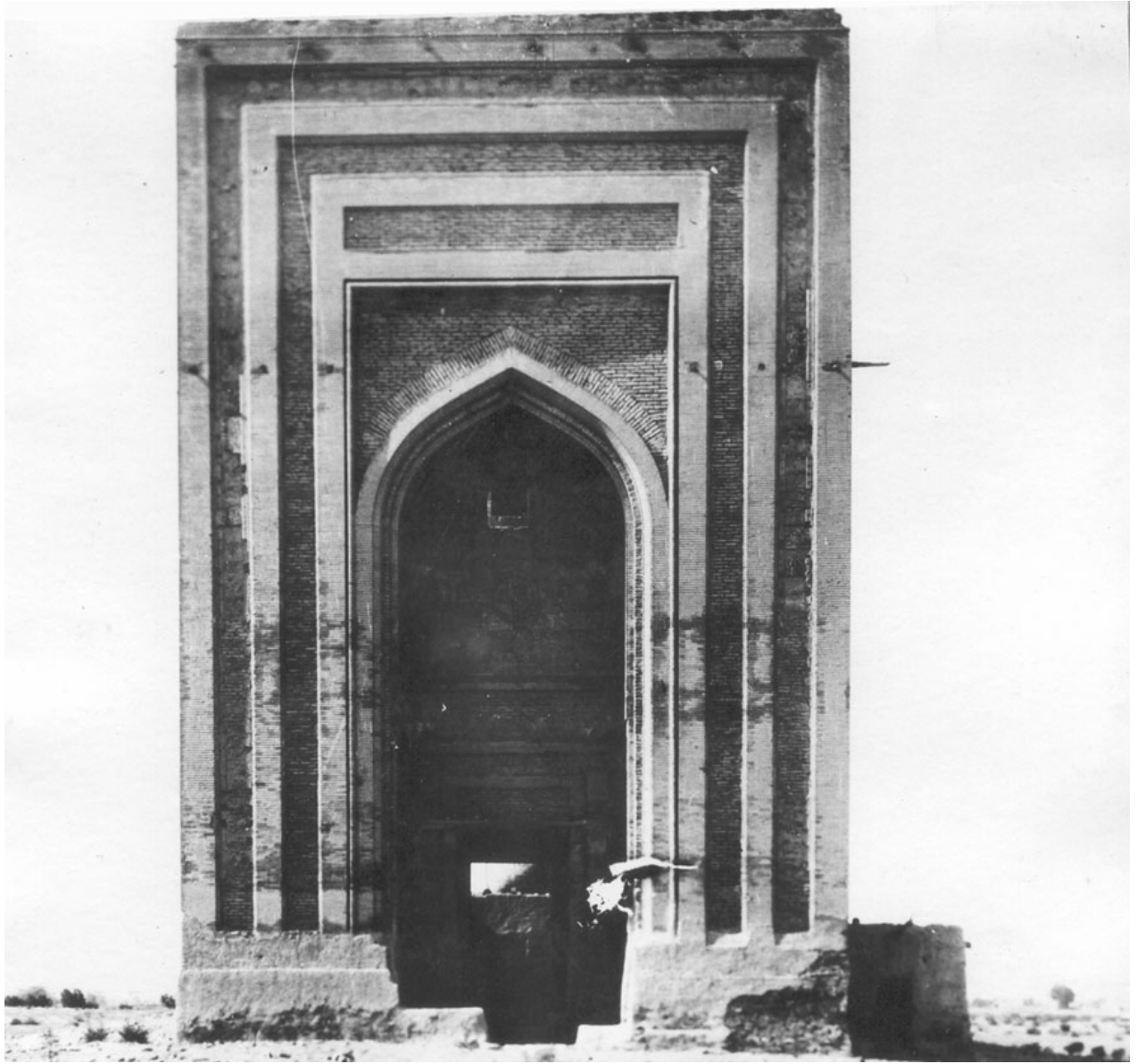




unknown photographer, unknown date

Фотограф и дата неизвестны



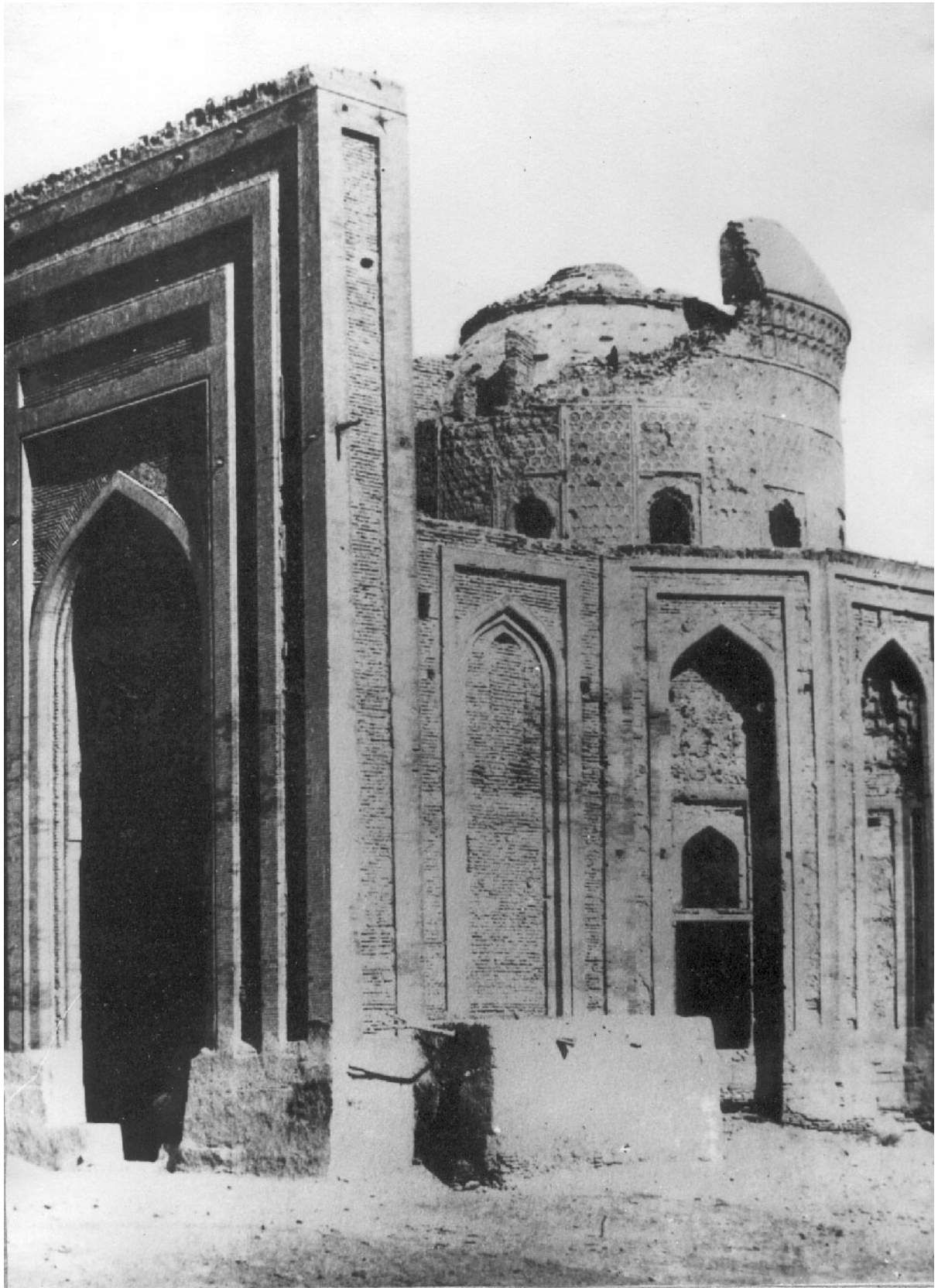


L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928







A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

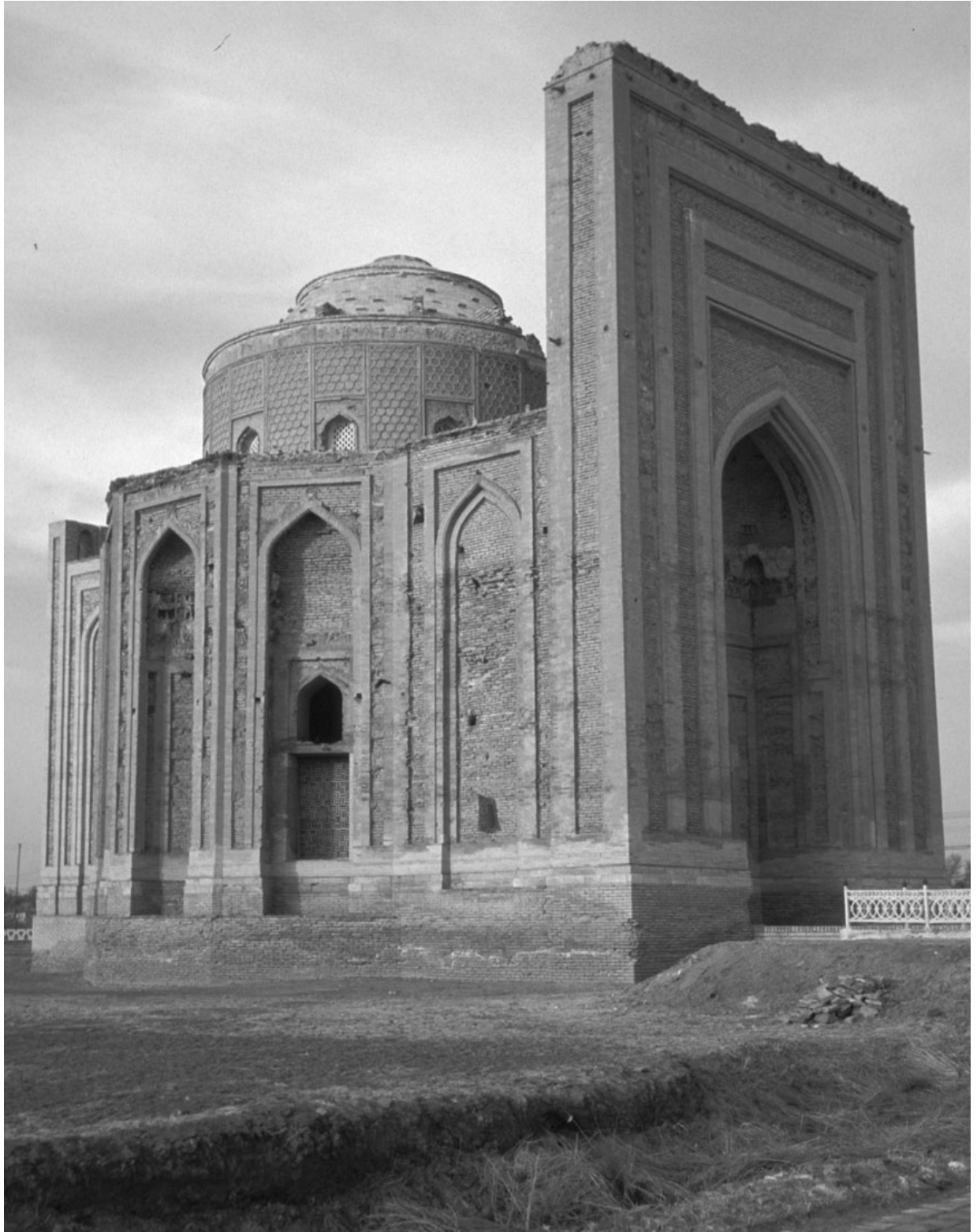
А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





A.U. Iakoubovsky 1928

А.Ю.Якубовский 1928





L.I. Sokolov 1928

Л.И.Соколов 1928





unknown photographer, 1986

1986



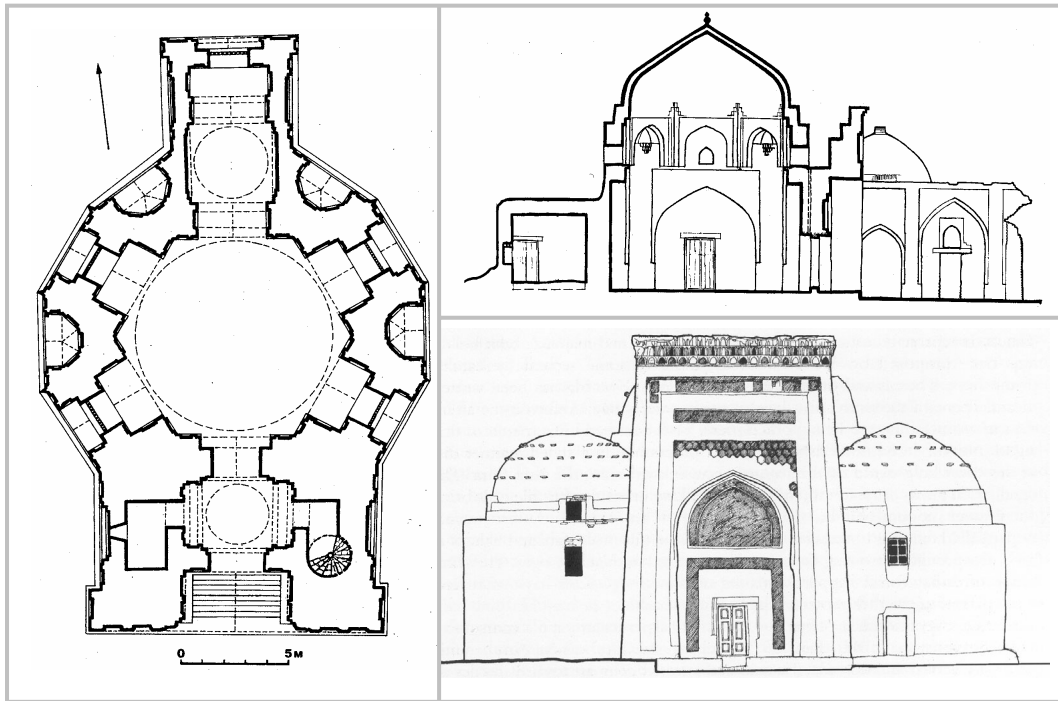


NOMINATION OF PROPERTIES FOR INCLUSION ON THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST



# Kunya Urgench, Turkmenistan

Compiled graphic archives



Document compiled by:

**Sébastien Moriset**, CRATerre-EAG and **Igor Zubanov**, National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan

This document was elaborated at the occasion of the preparation of the nomination file for the nomination of Kunya Urgench as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

January 2004



## Foreword

This document was compiled to provide information to the World Heritage Centre - UNESCO for the nomination of Kunya Urgench as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

All the following documents are scanned from the archives of the National Department for the protection, study and restoration of the historical and cultural monuments of Turkmenistan. These archives are available both in Ashgabat and Kunya Urgench. Permission to make use of these illustrations for publication purposes should be sought from the above Department.

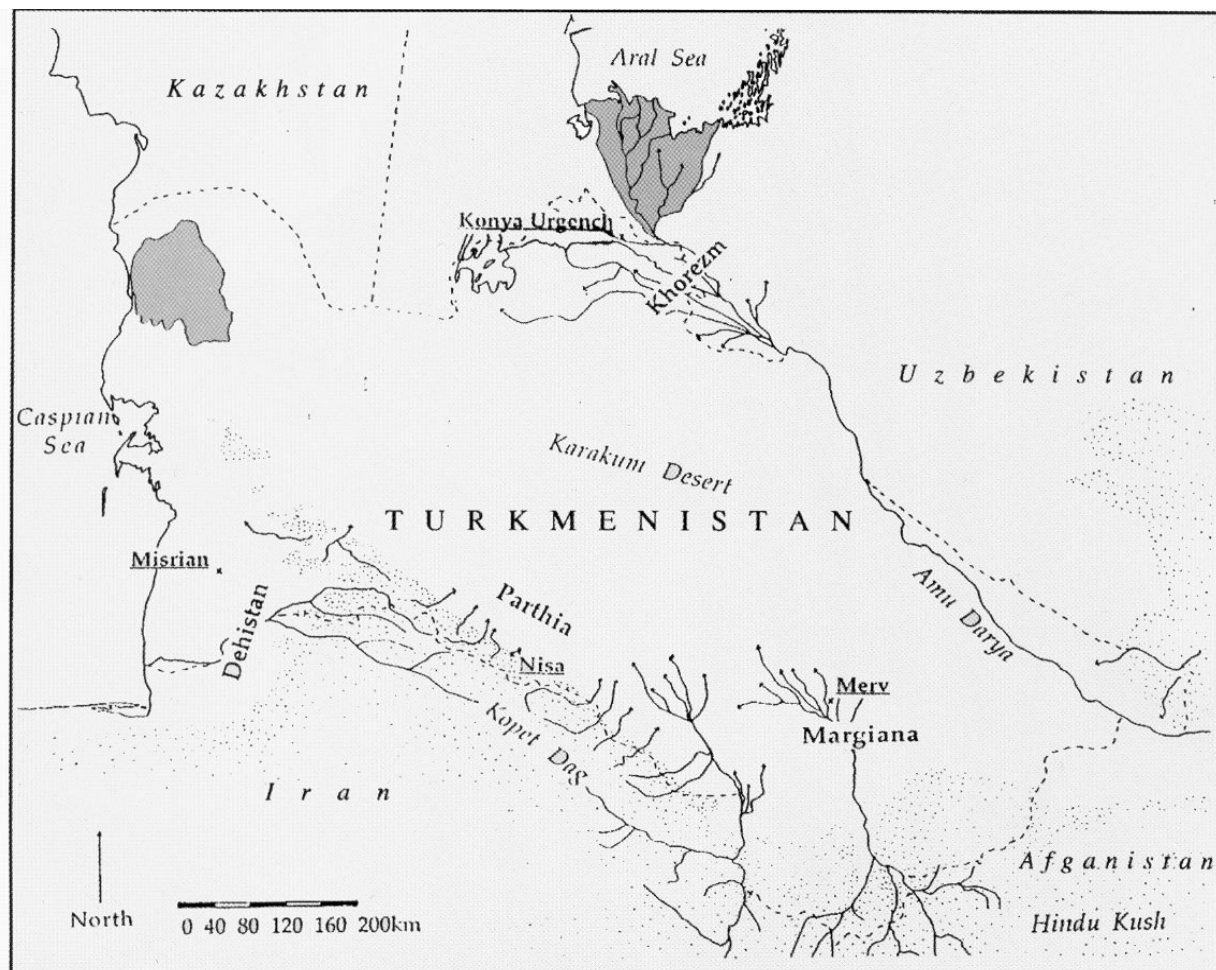
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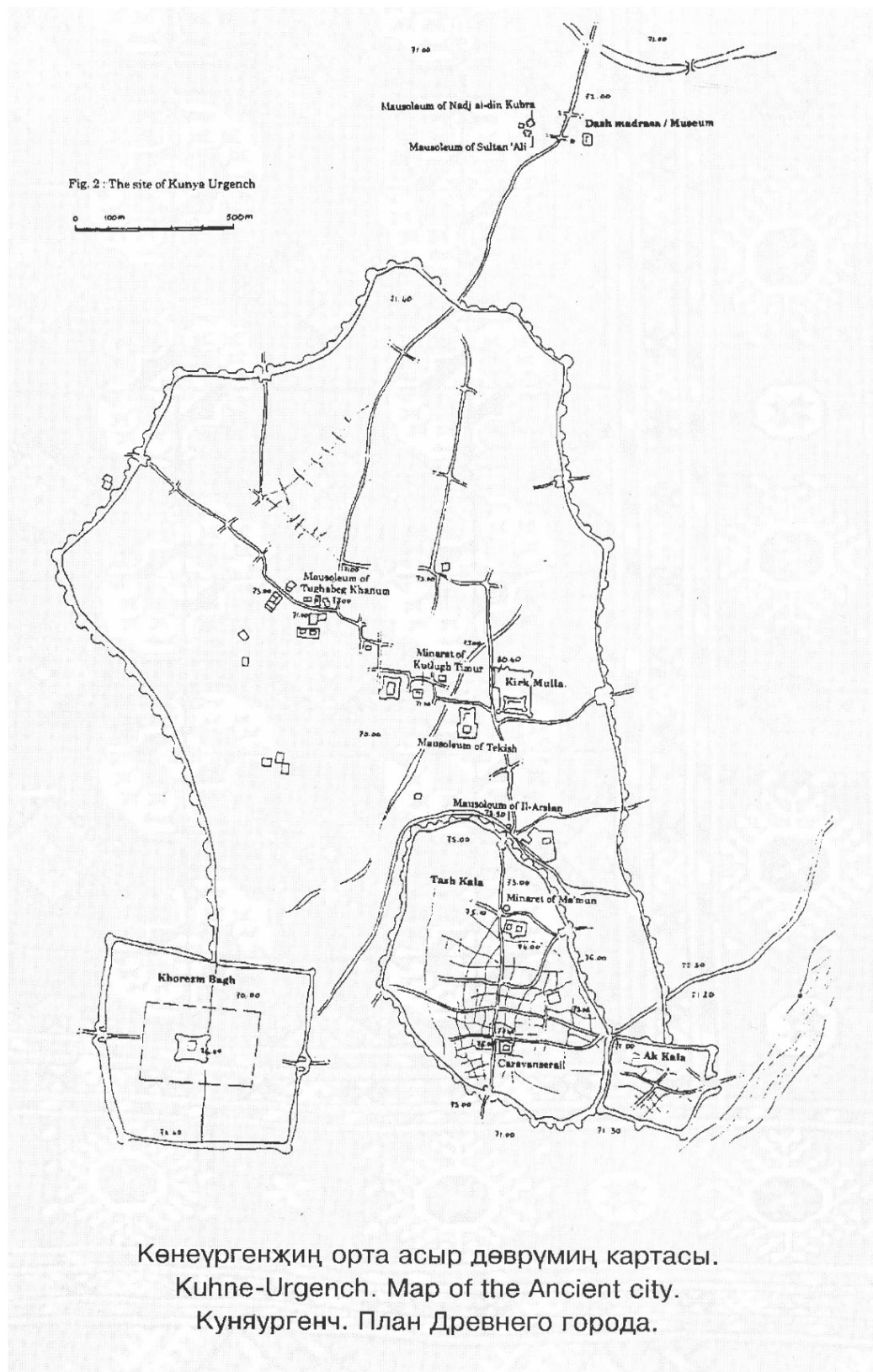
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# 1. Regional map / Региональная Карта



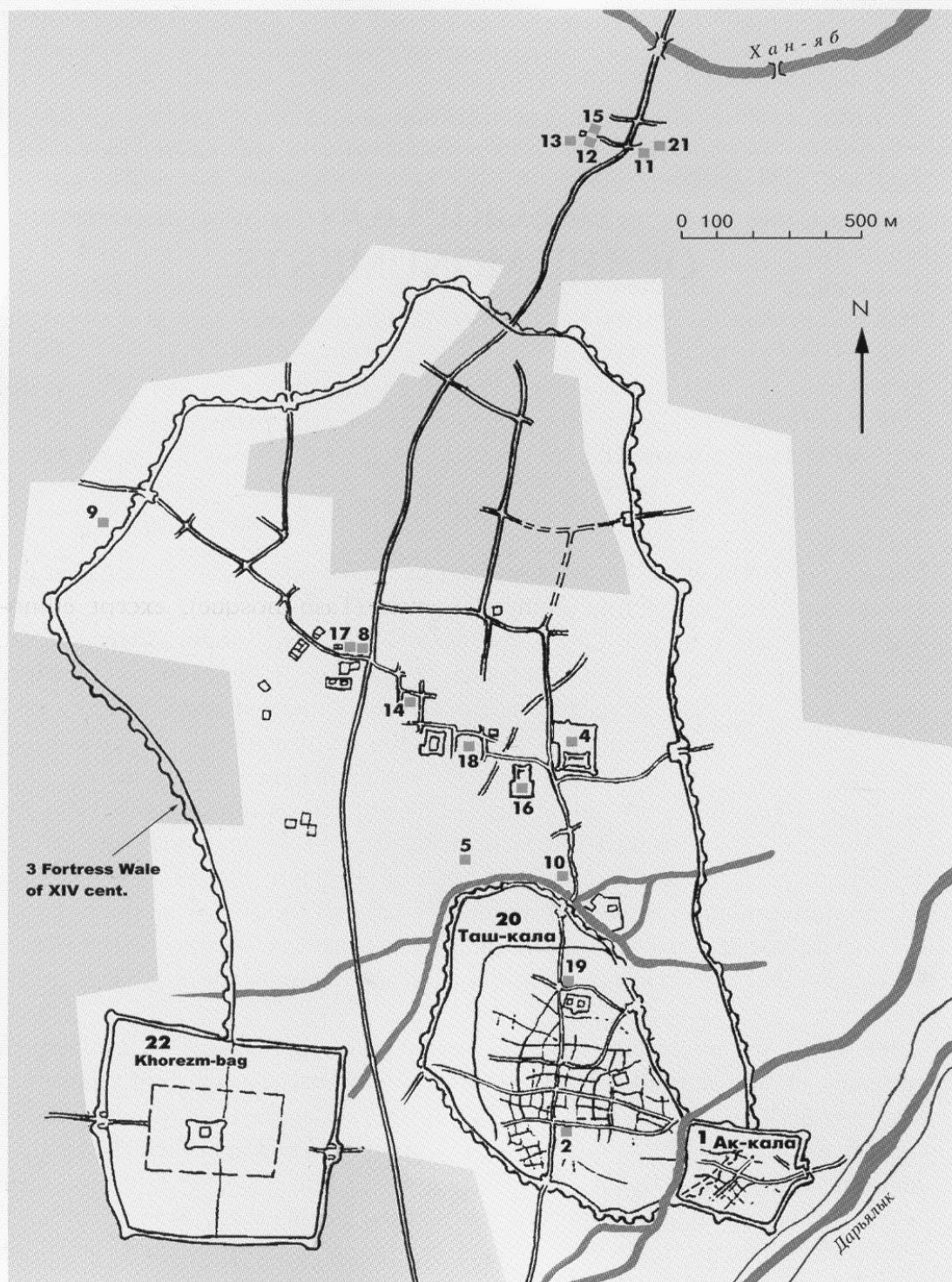
## 2. Site maps / План Древнего Города



Көнеүргенжиң орта асыр дөврүмиң картасы.  
Kuhne-Urgench. Map of the Ancient city.  
Куняургенч. План Древнего города.

Drawn by: Tolstov  
Date: 1951  
Book: *Trudy, Khorezm expedition*, Moscow, 1952 (in Russian)

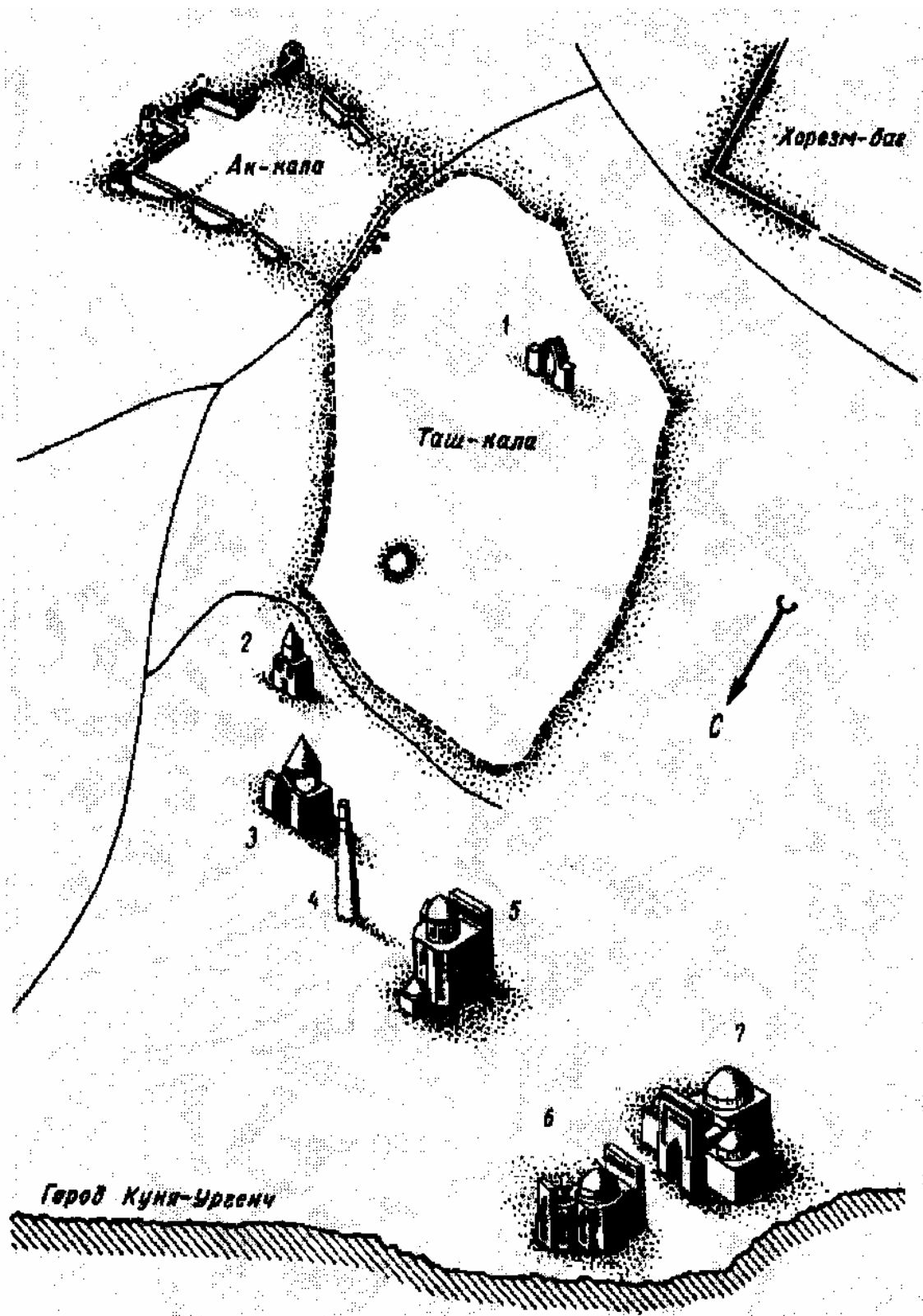
On the scheme numbering of the monuments corresponds to their ordinal numbers in the guide-book. Only fortification works are inscribed. The protected territory of historical landscape is marked out by the yellow colour



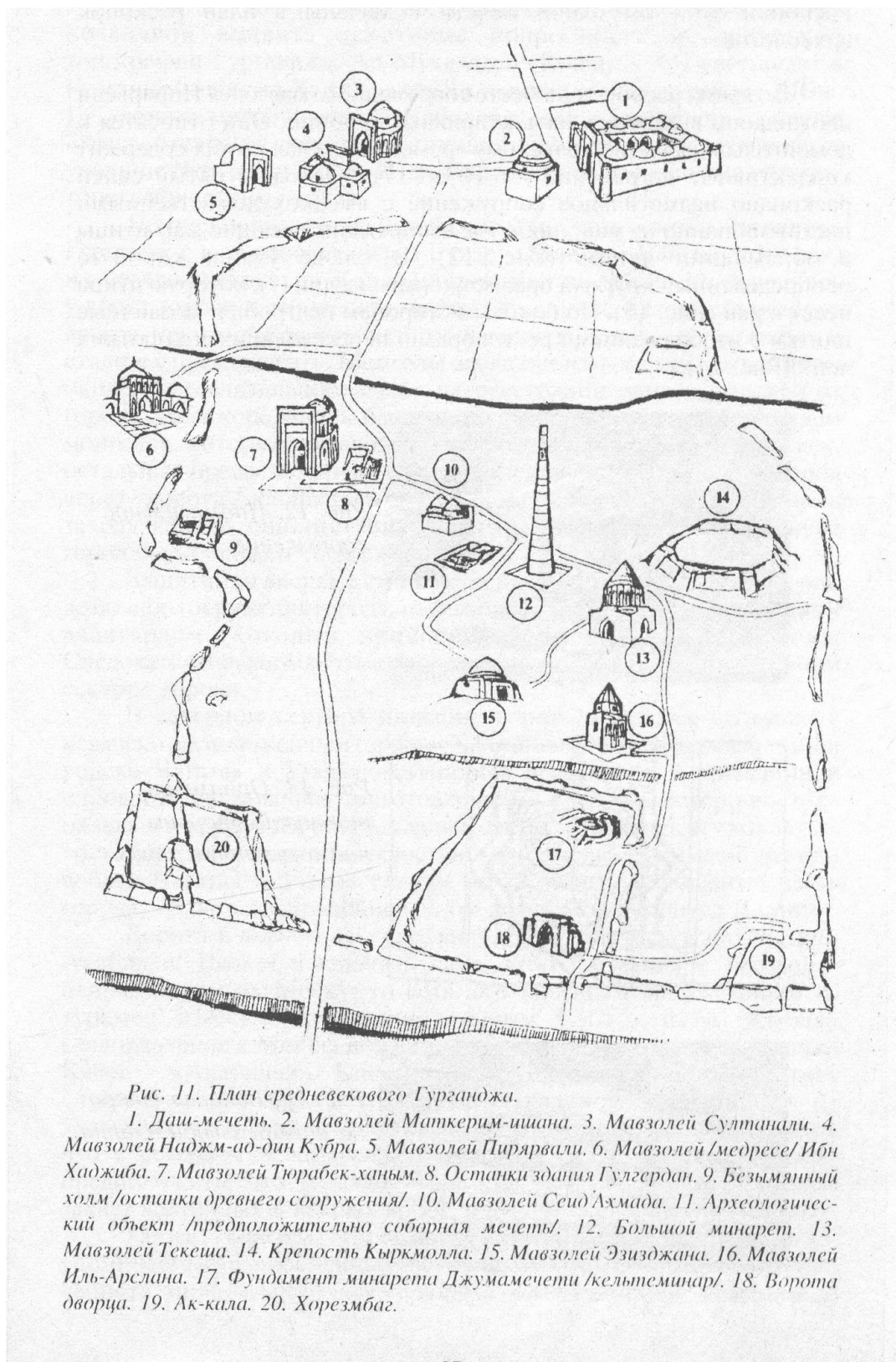
Drawn by: Ruslan Muradov

Date: 1999

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 [Russian version published in 2000]



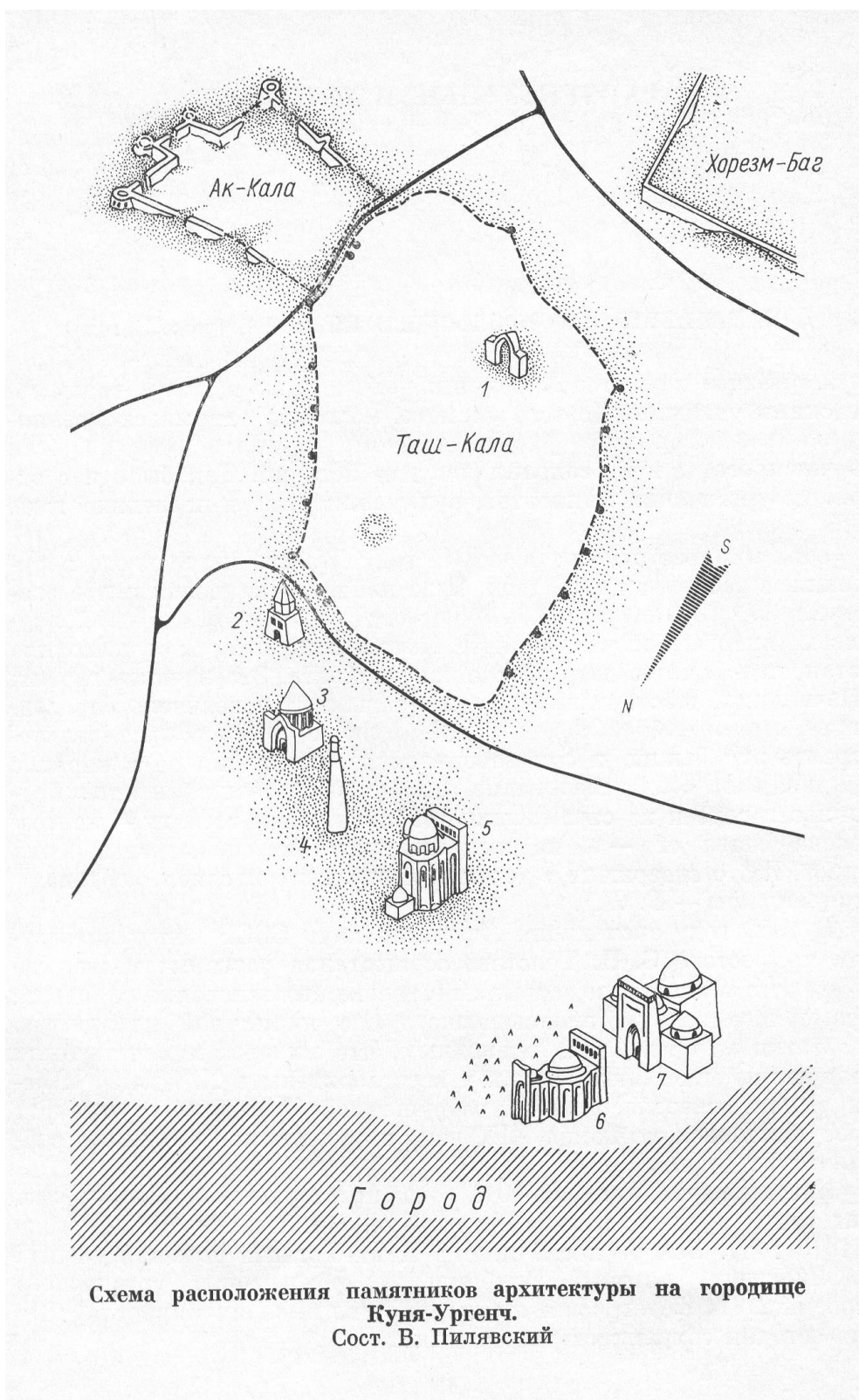
Drawn by: V. I. Piliavsky  
Date: 1970  
Book: *Piliavsky V. I., Kunya Urgench*, Leningrad, 1974 [in Russian]



Drawn by: R. Muradov

Date: 1993

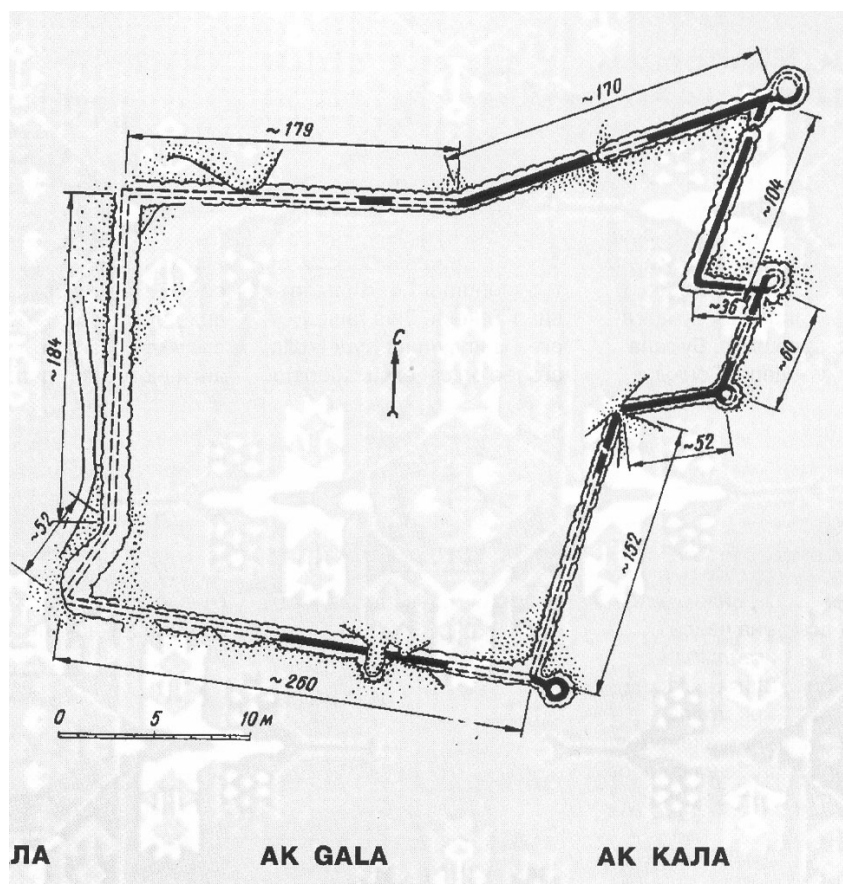
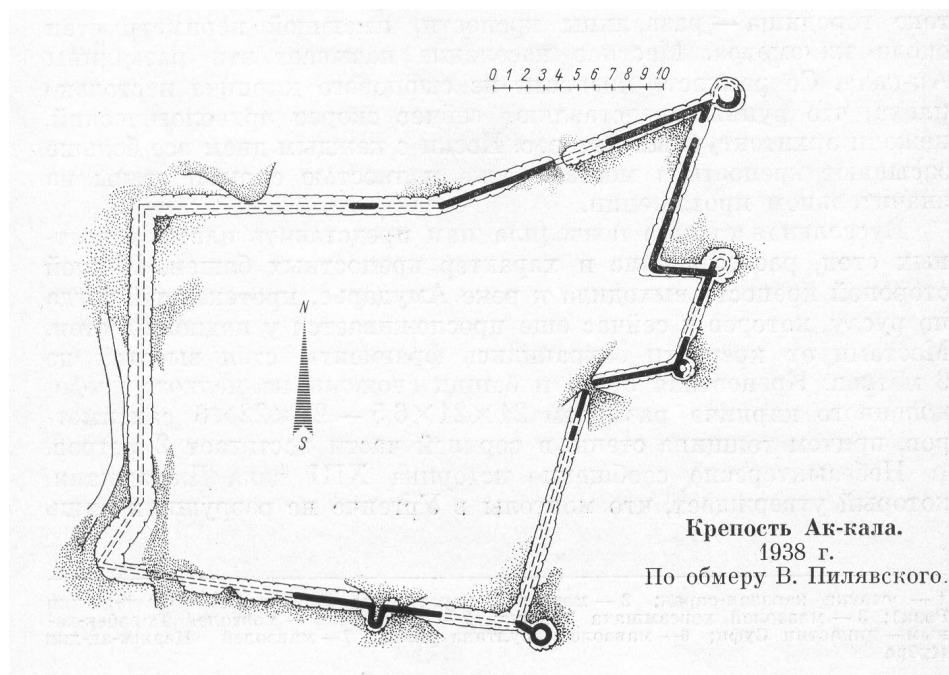
Book: Yusubov K., **Gadymy Horezmin Yuregi** [ancient Khorezm heart], Ashgabat, 1995 [Turkmen language]



Drawn by: V. I. Piliavsky  
 Date: 1970  
 Book: Piliavsky V. I., **Architectural heritage of Turkmenistan**, Leningrad, 1974 (in Russian language)

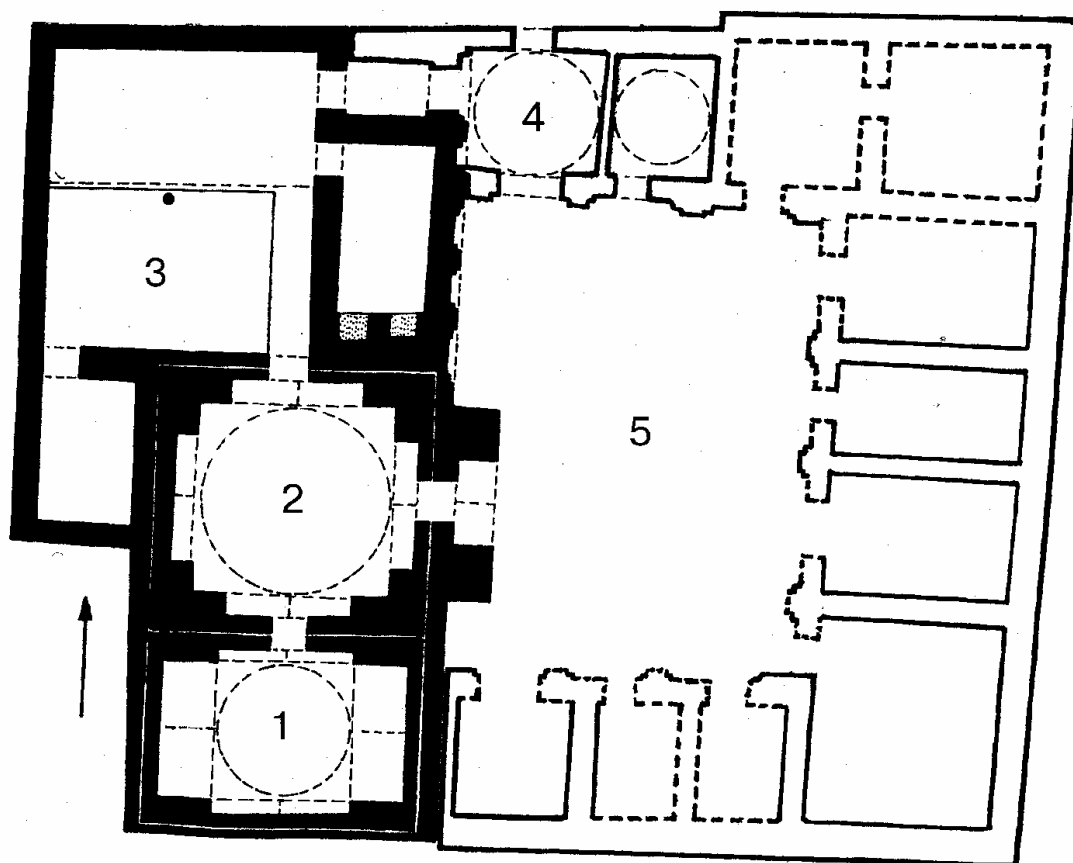
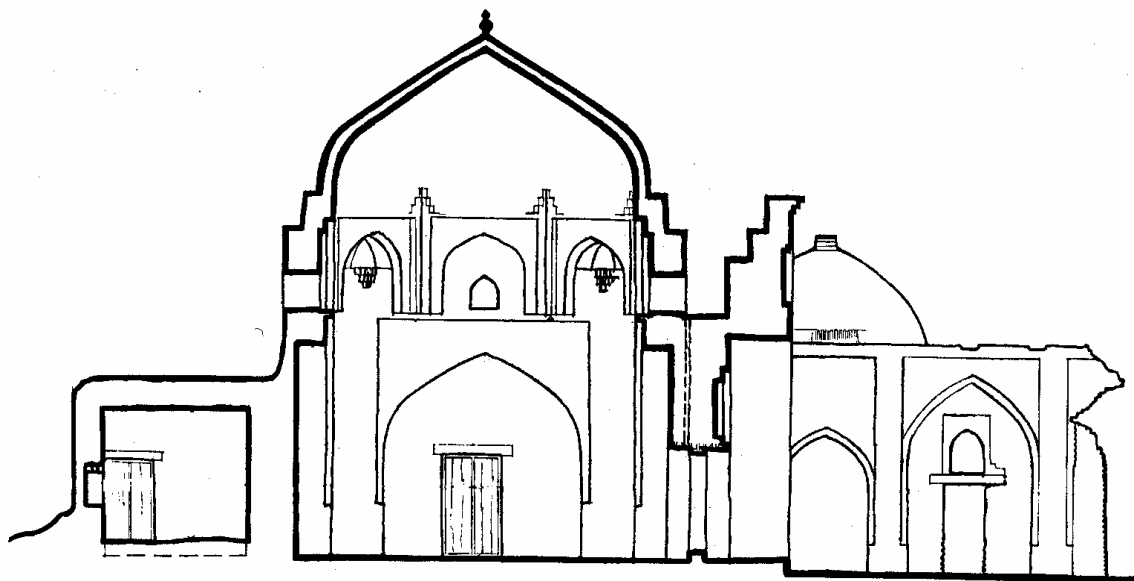


### 3. Ak-Kala / Ак Кала



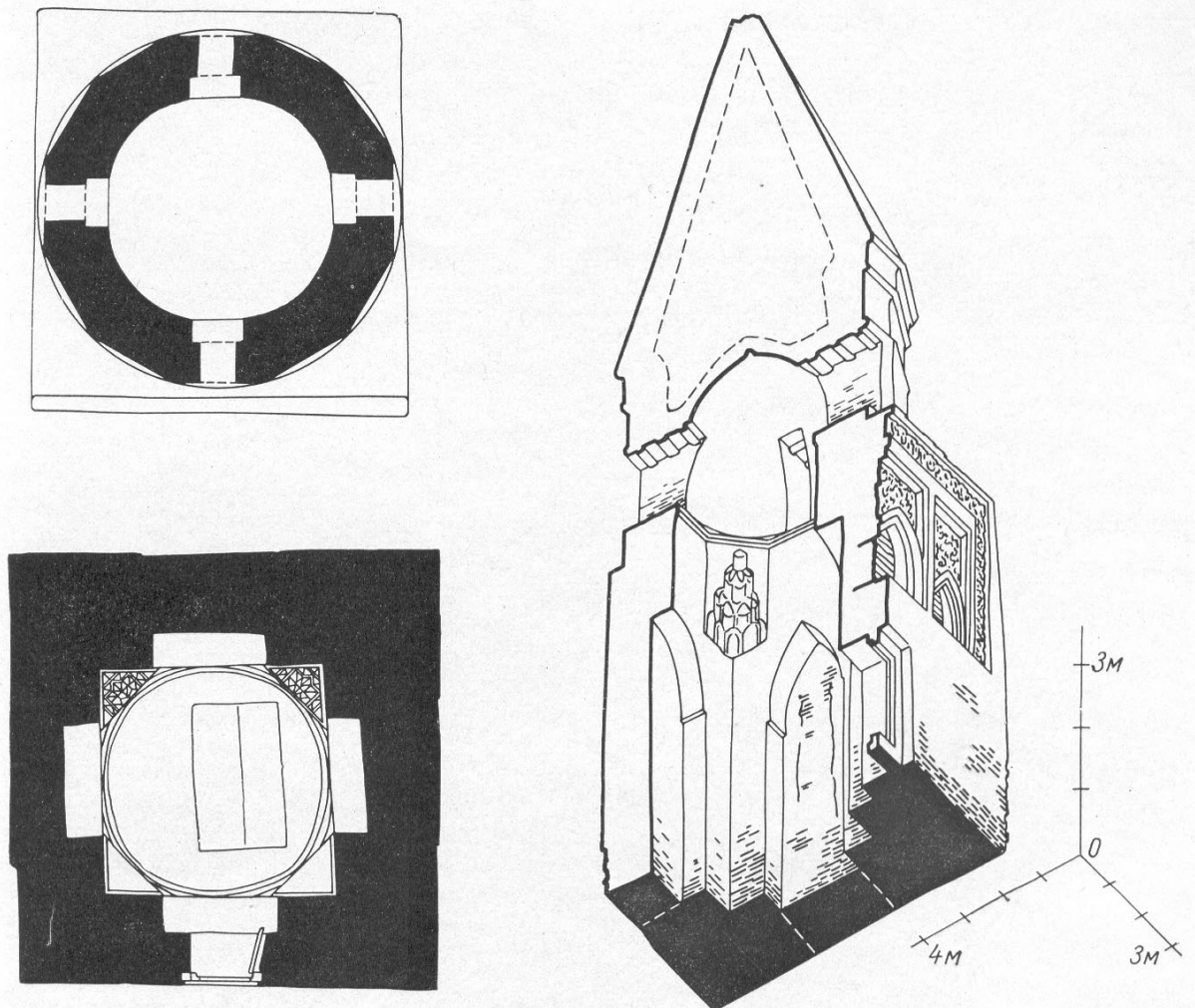
Drawn by: V. I. Piliavsky  
Date: 1970  
Book: *Piliavsky V. I., Kunya Urgench* Leningrad, 1974

#### 4. Ibn Khajib Mausoleum / Ибн Хаджиб



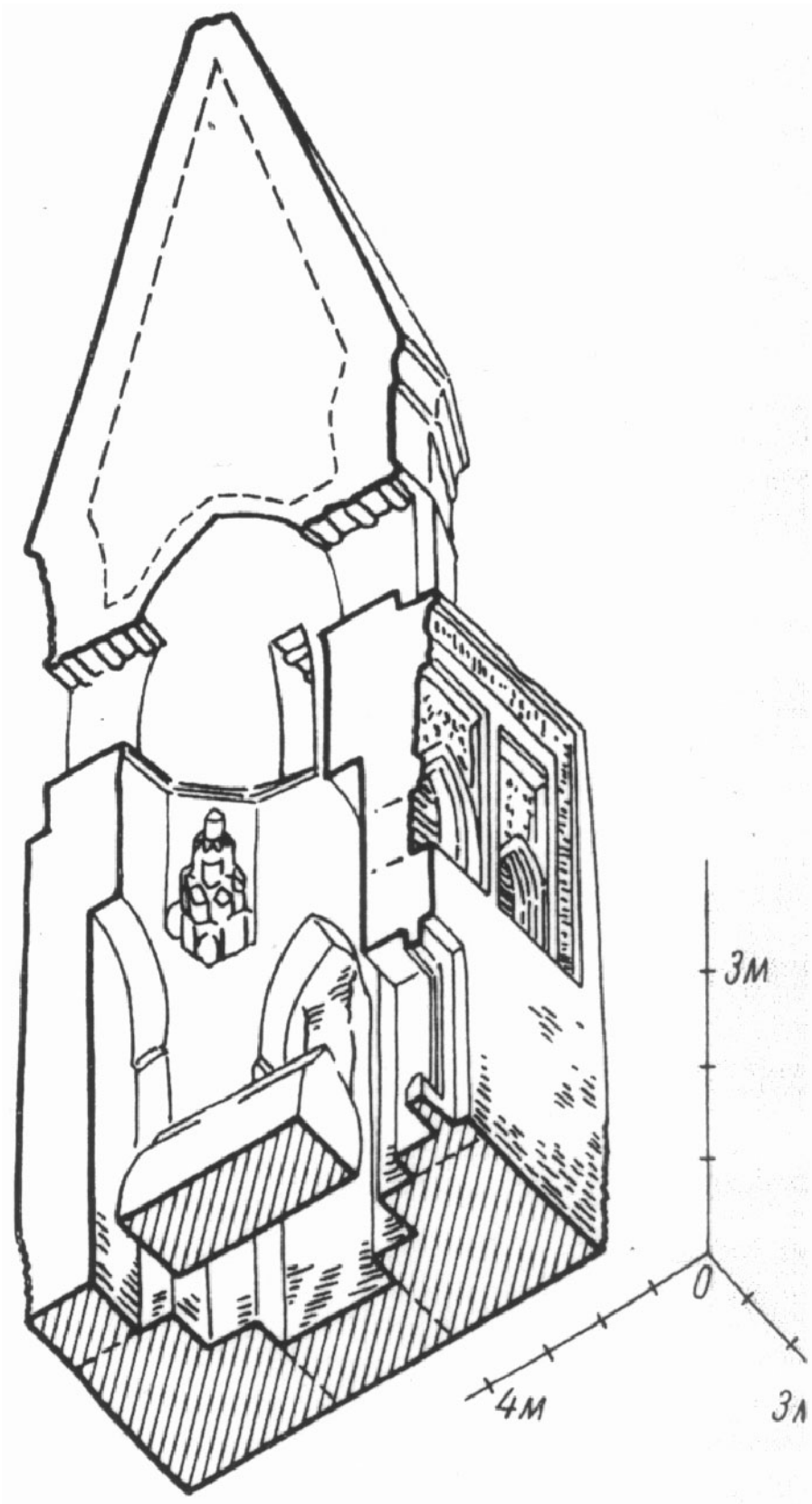
Drawn by: V. Artemiev and A. Urmanova  
Date: 1989  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni. 17 x 26. 106 pages. Padova, Italia. 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)

## 5. Il Arslan Mausoleum / Ил Арслан



Мавзолей хорезмшаха Иль-Арслана (Фахр-ад-дин Рази).  
Планы по четверику и восьмигранному барабану.  
По обмеру Н. Бакланова, 1929 г.  
АксонOMETрический разрез. По чертежу Н. Бакланова, 1929 г.

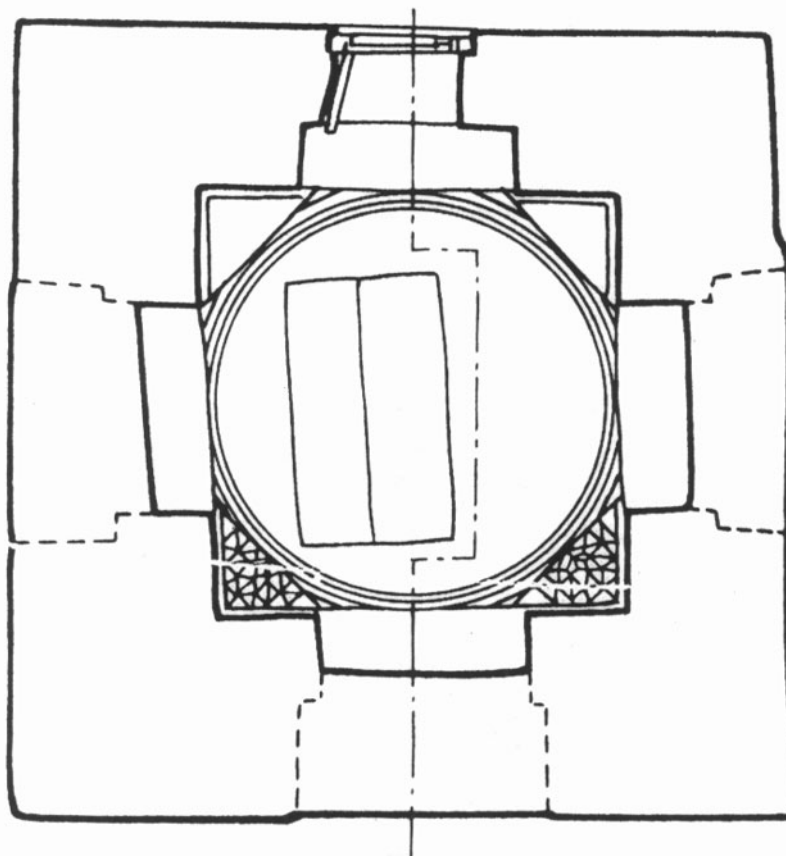
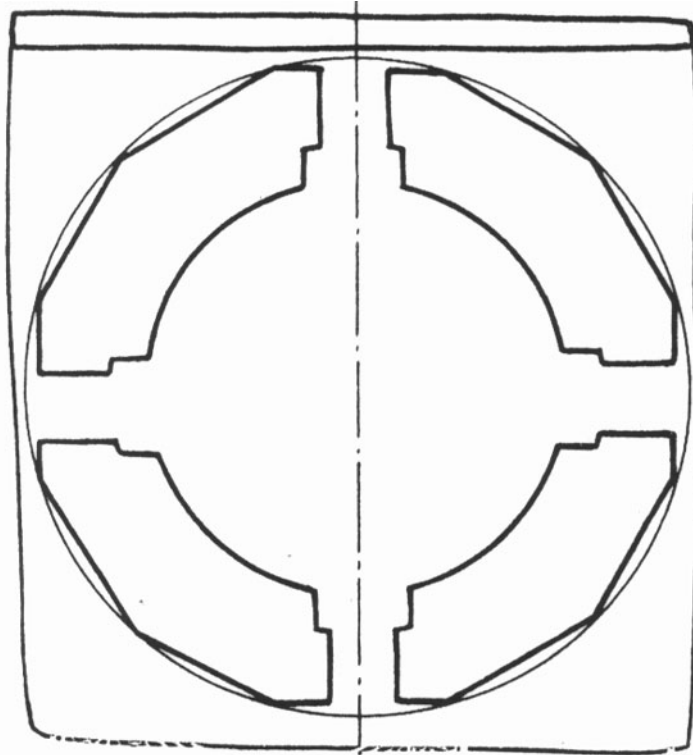
Drawn by: N. Baklanov  
Date: 1929  
Book: Piliavsky V.I., **Kunya Urgench**, Leningrad, 1974



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky

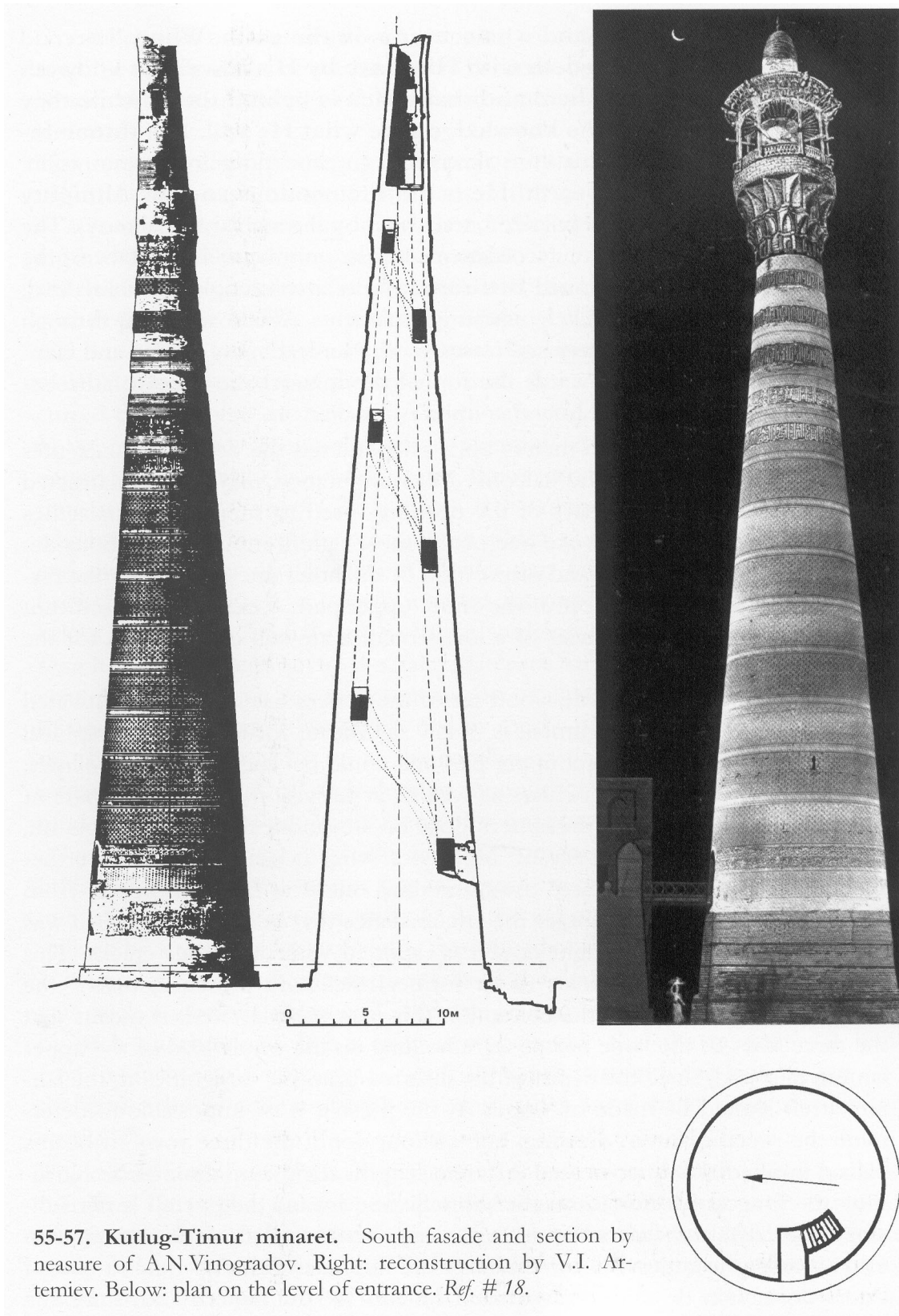
Date: 1974

Book: V.I. Piliavsky, **Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan**, Leningrad, 1974 [*Russian publication*]



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky  
Date: 1974  
Book: *V.I. Piliavsky, Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 [*Russian publication*]

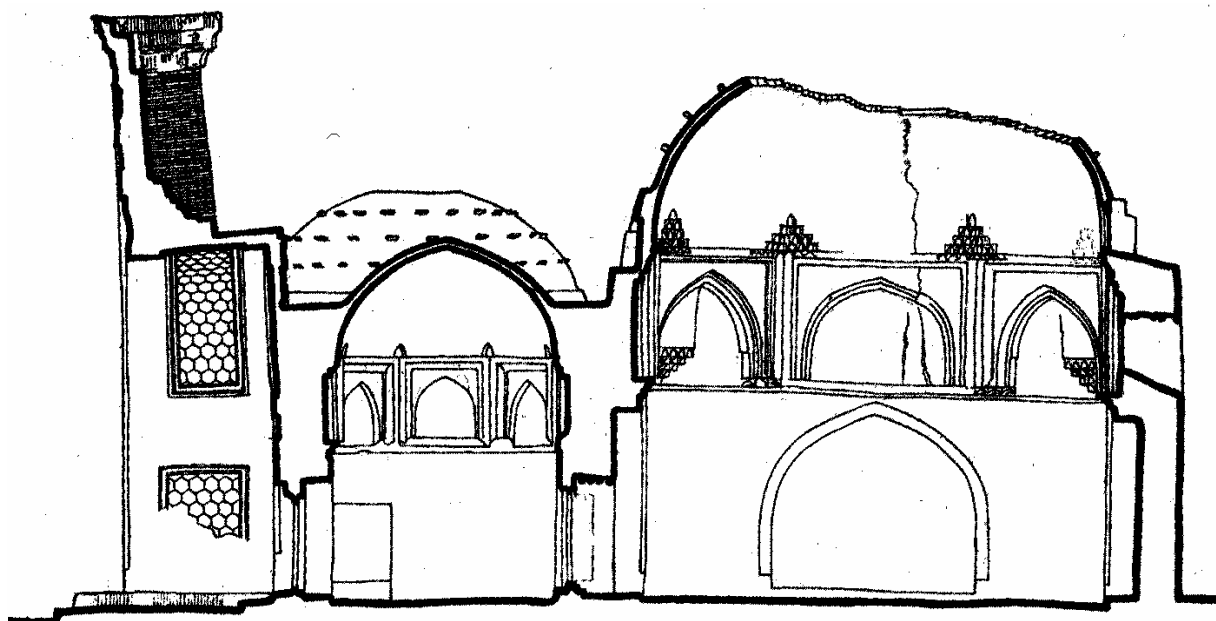
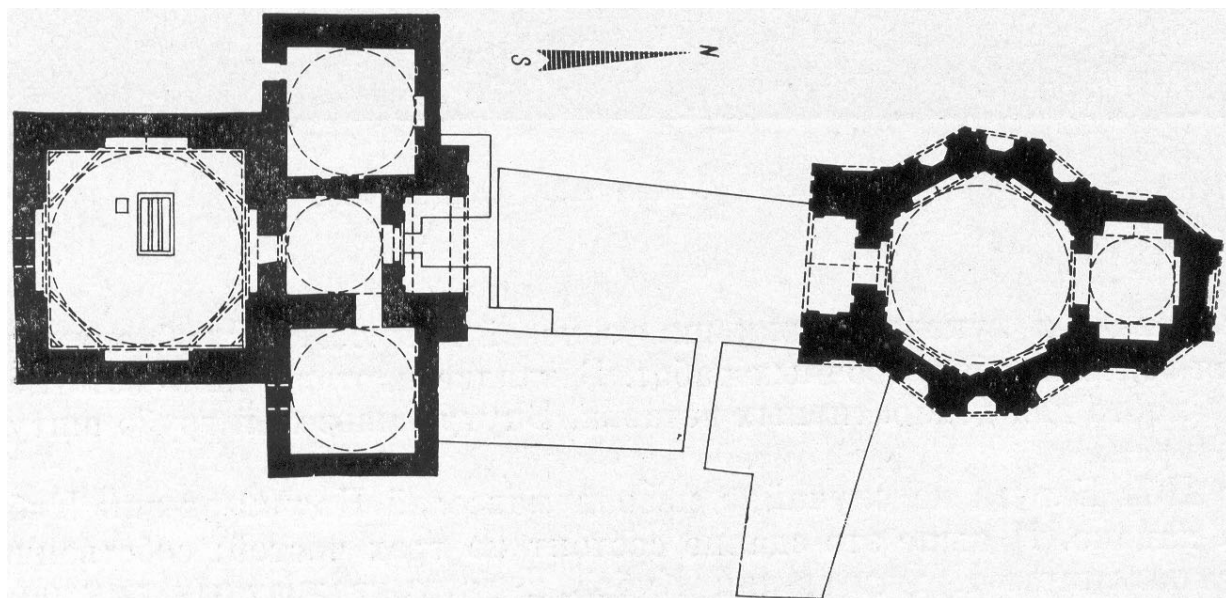
## 6. Kutlug Timur Minaret / Кутлуг Тимур Минарет



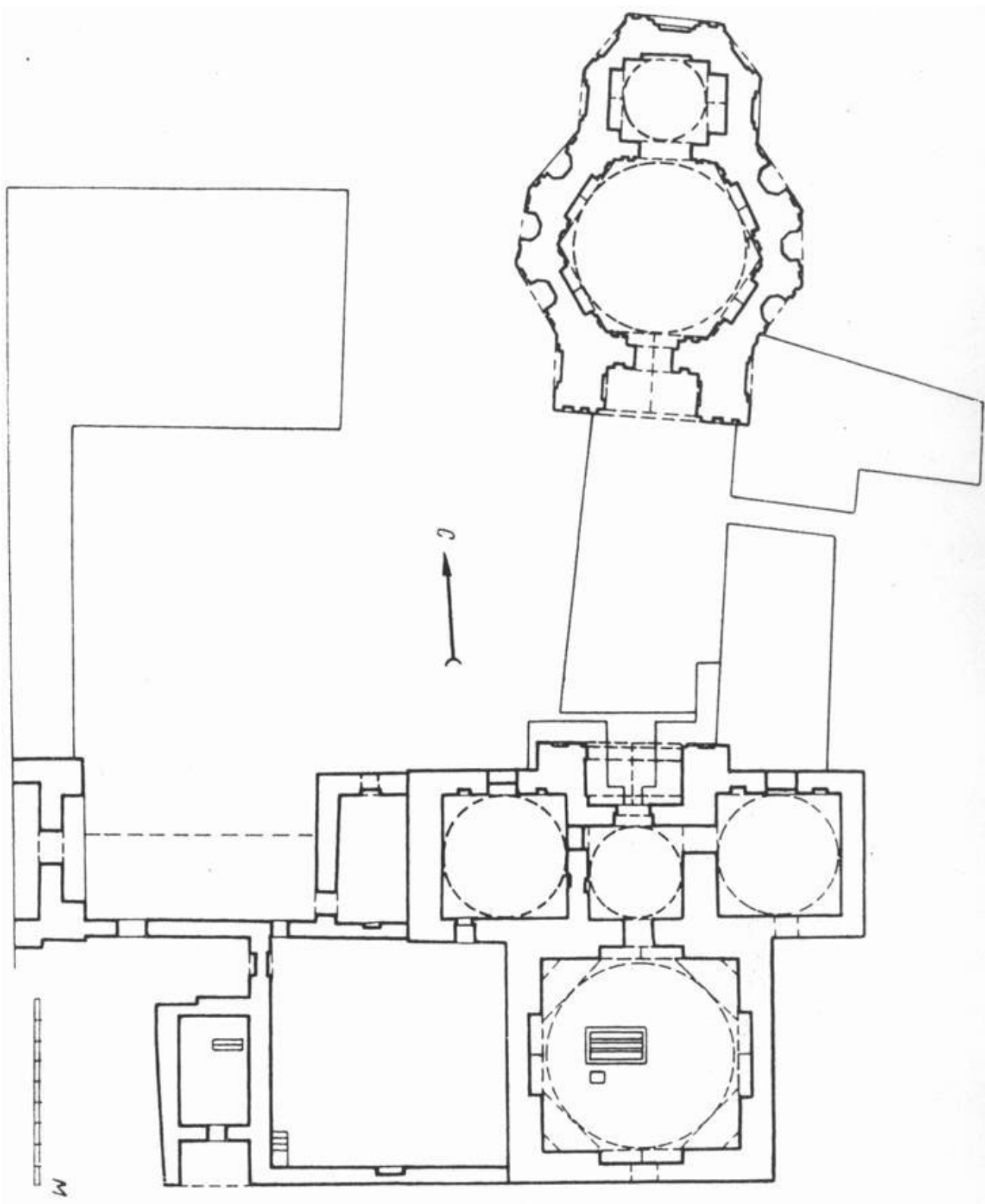
55-57. Kutlug-Timur minaret. South fasade and section by neasure of A.N.Vinogradov. Right: reconstruction by V.I. Artemiev. Below: plan on the level of entrance. Ref. # 18.

Drawn by: A.N. Vinogradov (elevation and section) and V.I. Artemiev (reconstruction)  
Date: 1961 (elevation and section) and 1989 (reconstruction)  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)*

Najm-ad-Din Al-Kubra Mausoleum / Наджн Ад-Дин Ал-Кубра

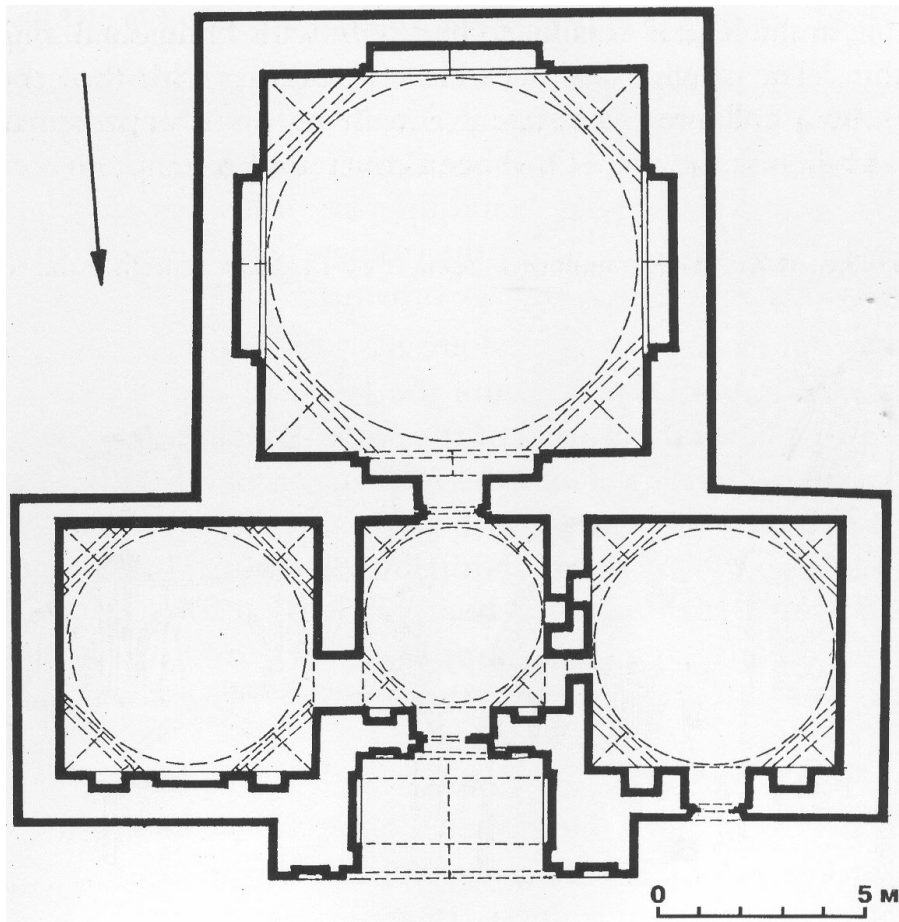
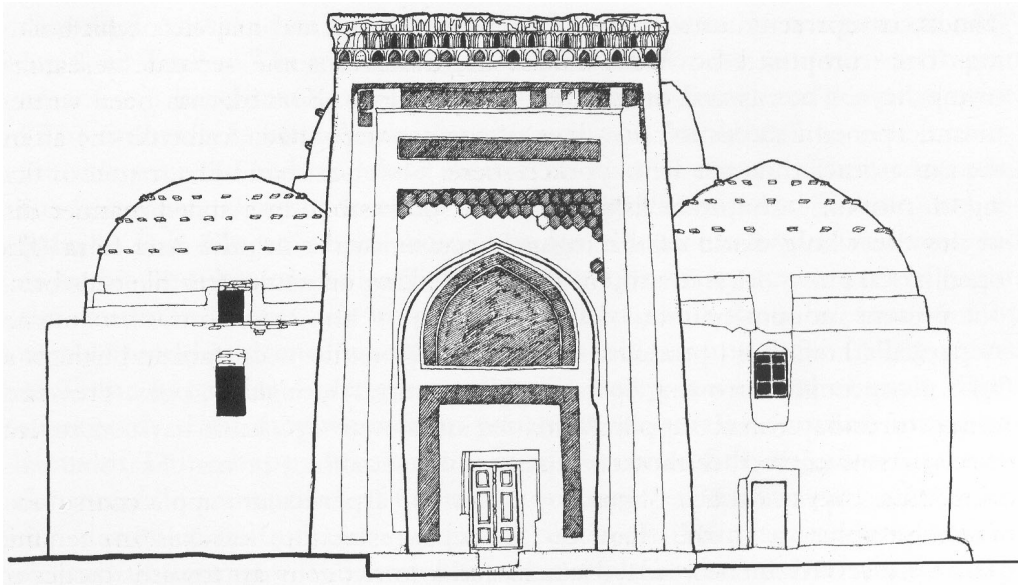


Drawn by: I.I. Notkin  
Date: 1959  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky  
Date: 1974  
Book: *V.I. Piliavsky, Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)



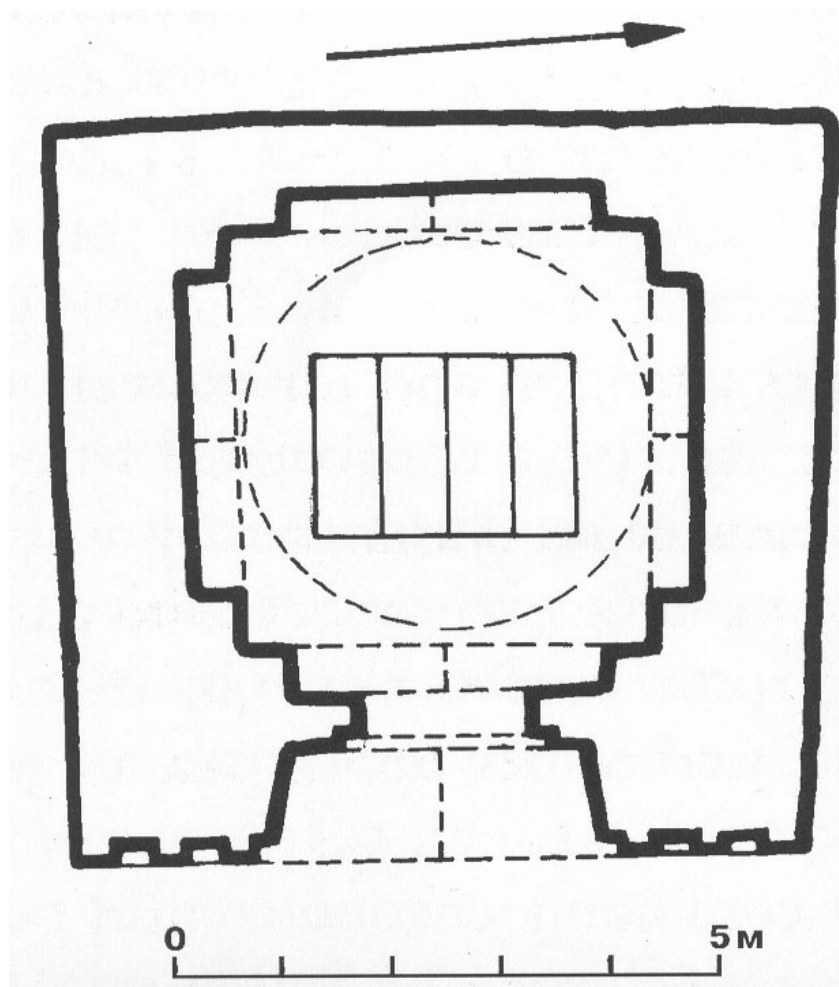


Drawn by: I.I. Notkin

Date: 1959

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)

## 8. Pyriar Vali / Пириар Вали

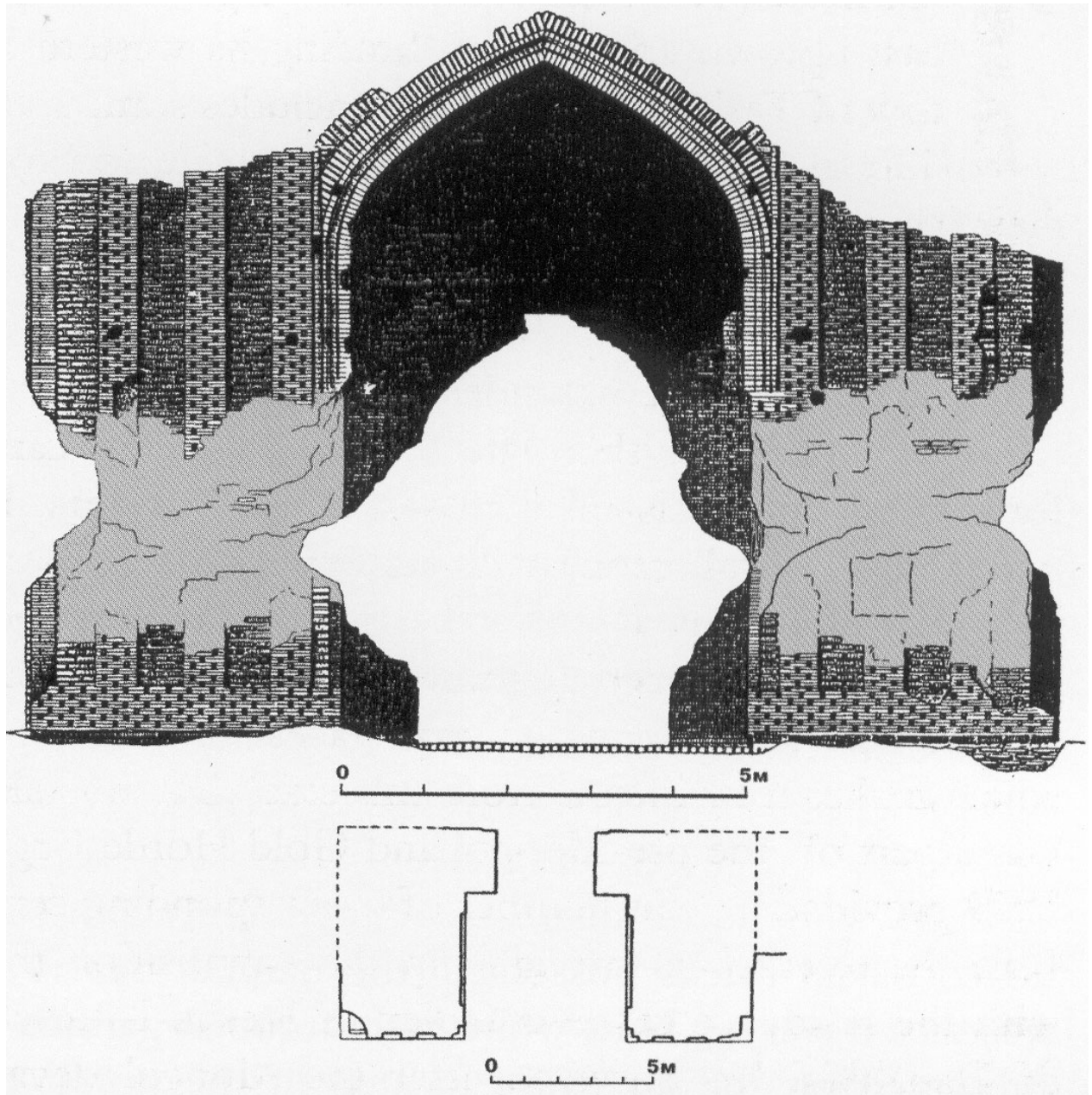


Drawn by: R. Muradov

Date: 1983

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)

## 9. Caravanserai Gate / Портал Караван-Сараи

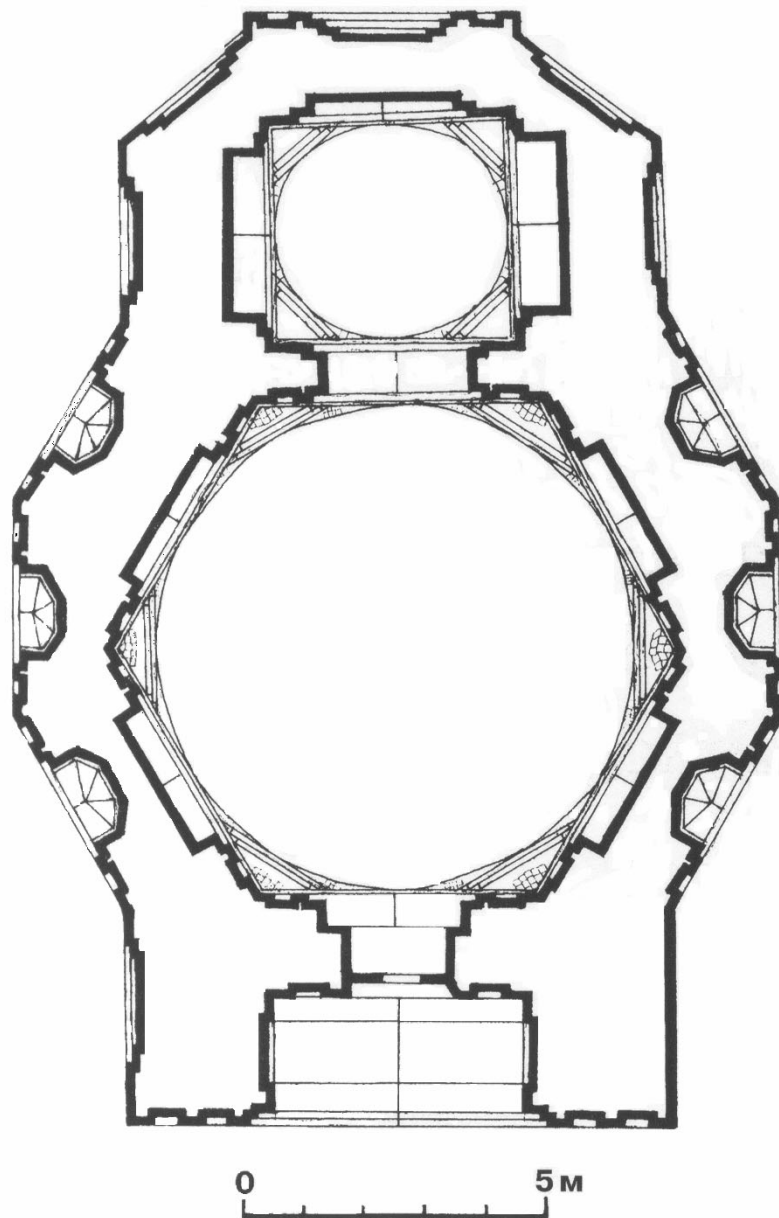


Drawn by: M. Lapirov-Skoblo

Date: 1951

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)

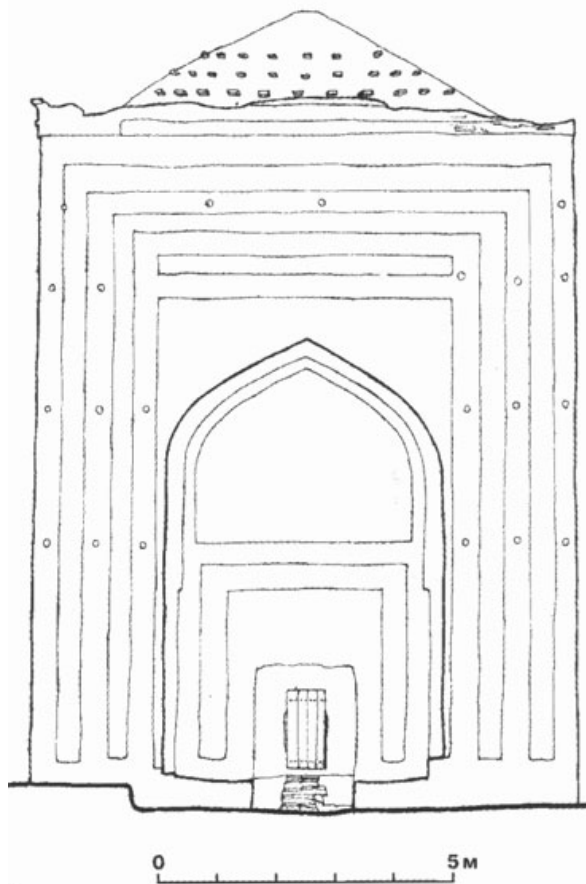
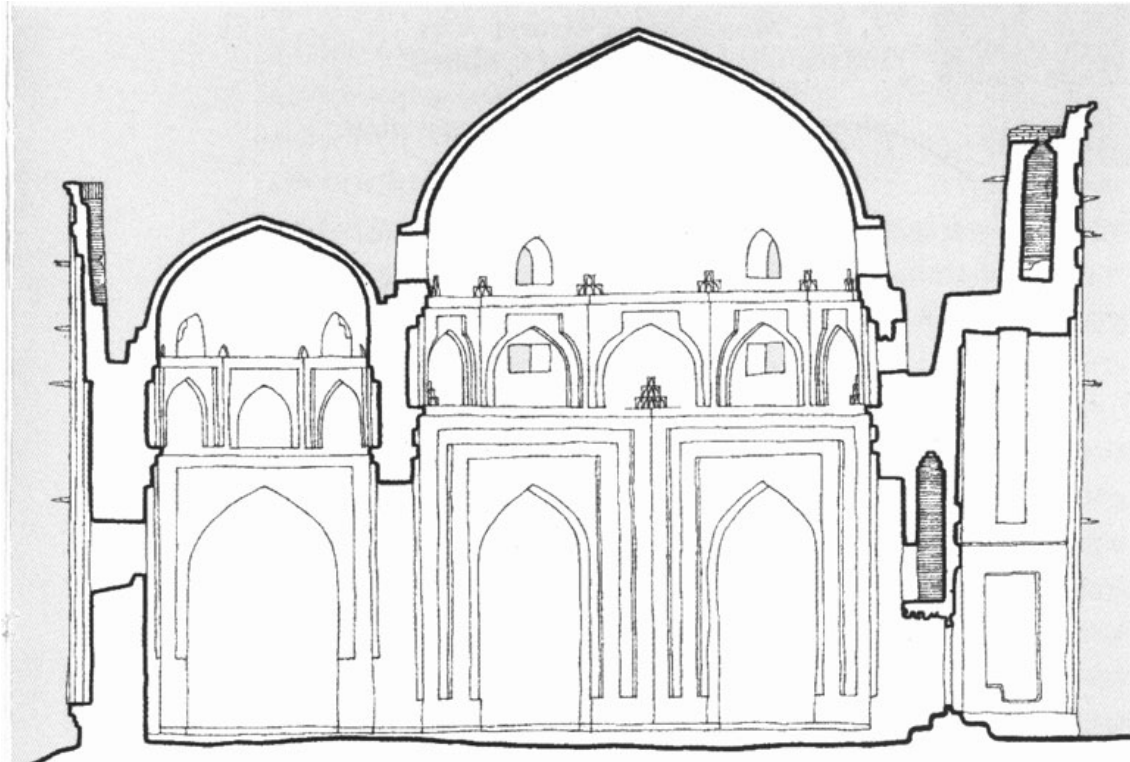
## 10. Sultan Ali Mausoleum / Султан Али



Drawn by: I.I. Notkin

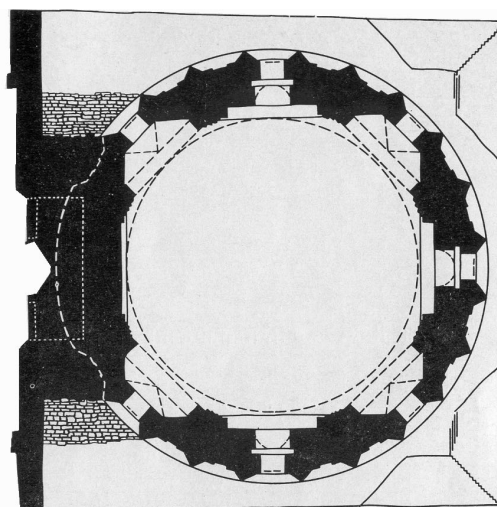
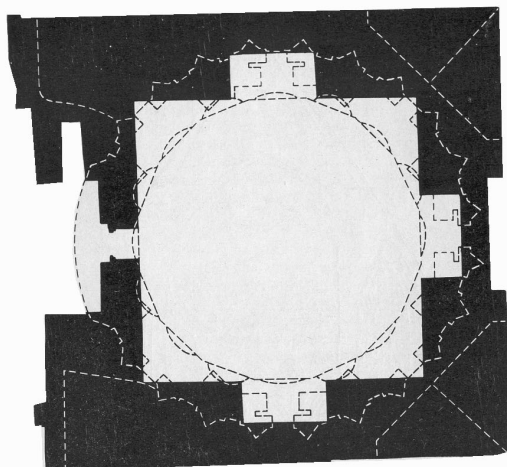
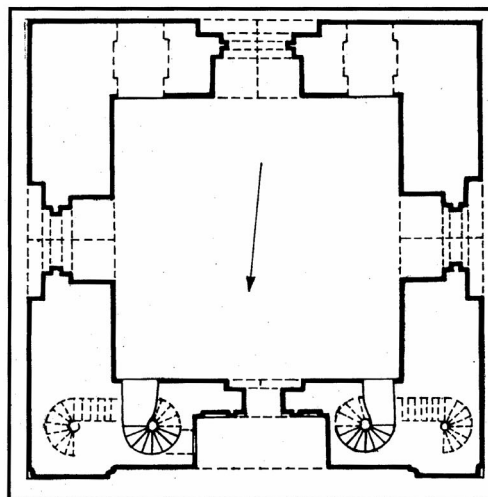
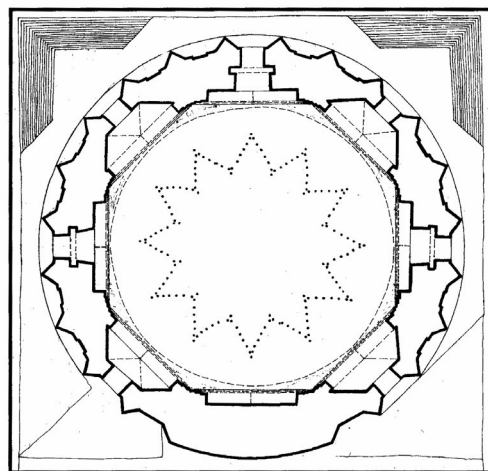
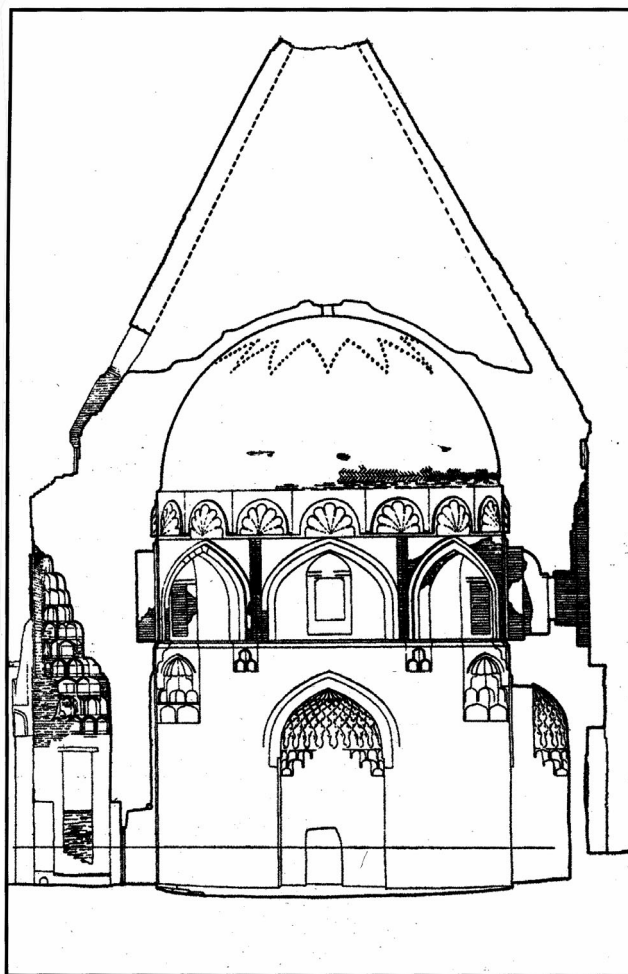
Date: 1959

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)

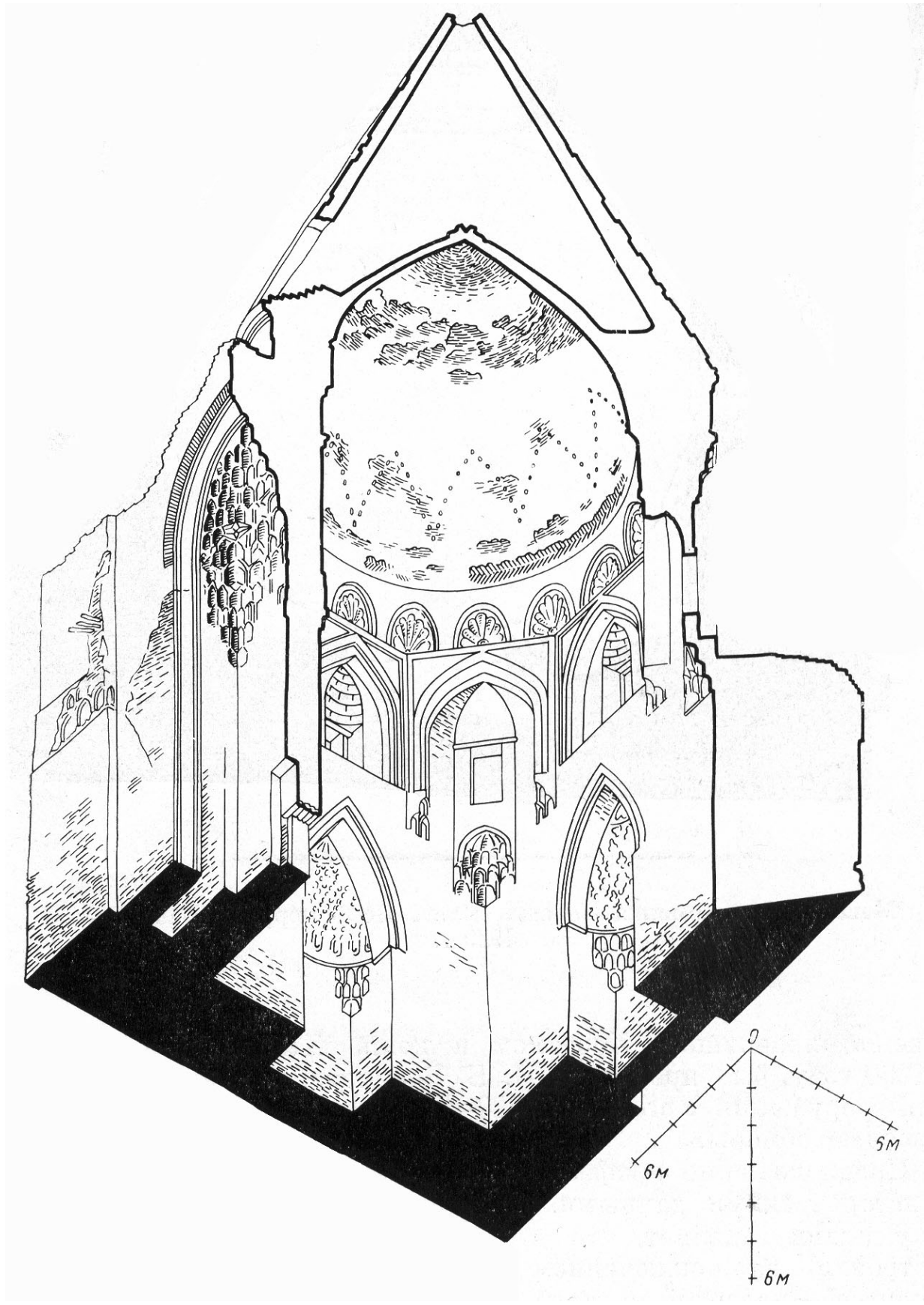


Drawn by: I.I. Notkin  
Date: 1959  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)

## 11. Tekesh Mausoleum / Текеш



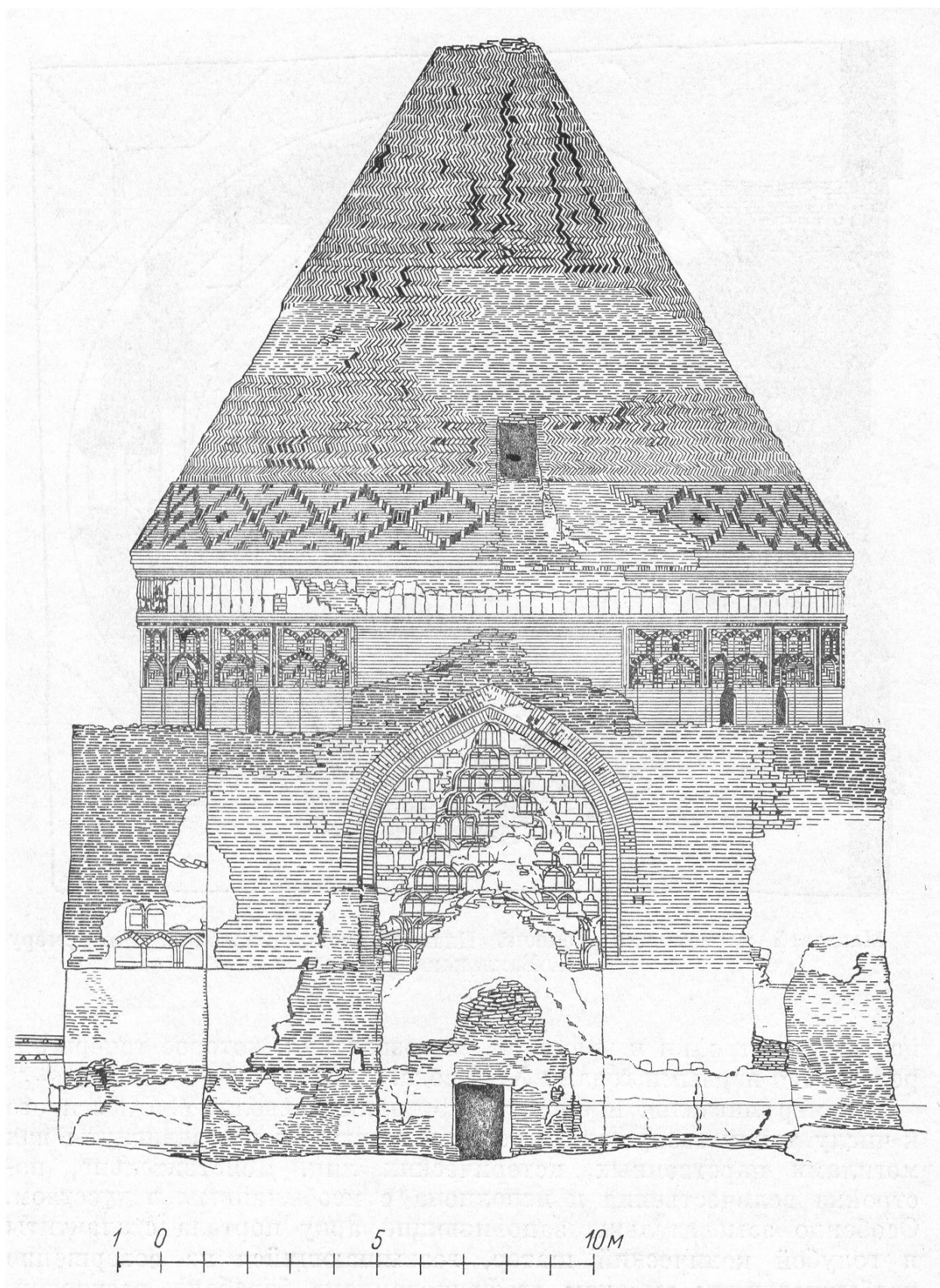
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Date: 1959  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)



Drawn by: N. Baklanov

Date: 1929

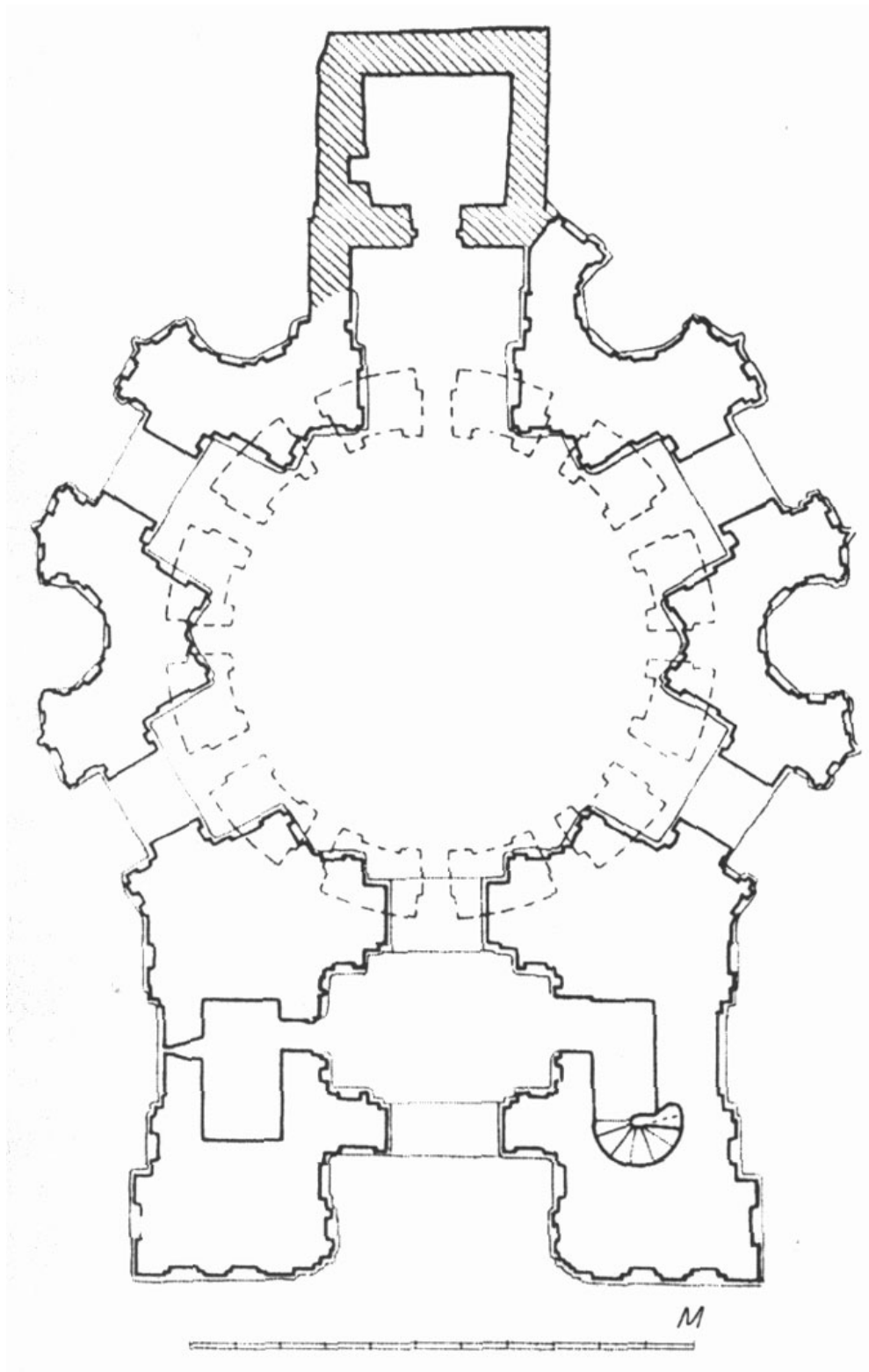
Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 [in Russian language]



Drawn by: N. Baklanov  
Date: 1929  
Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 [in Russian language]



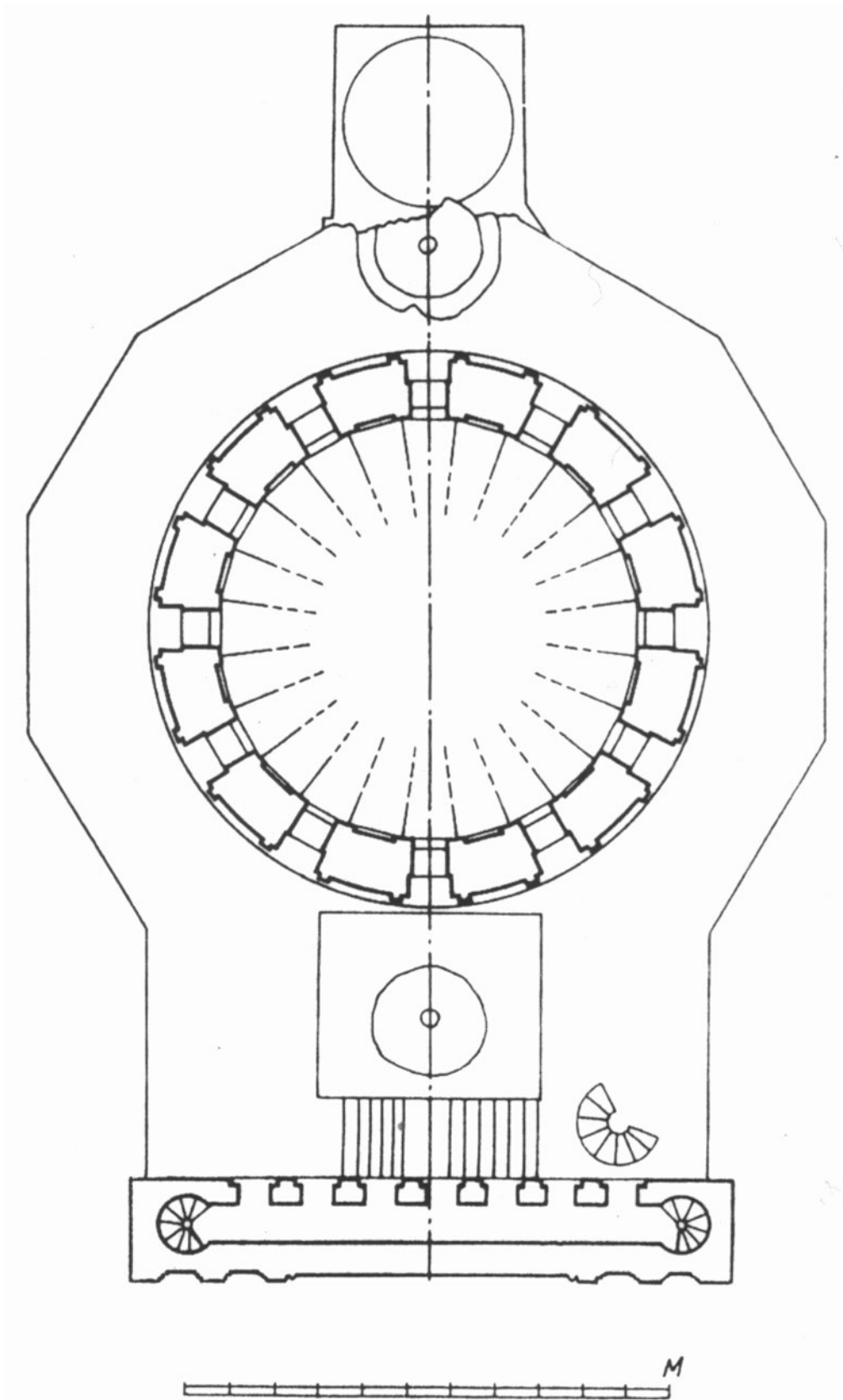
## 12. Turabek-Khanum Mausoleum / Тырабек-Ханым



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky

Date: 1974

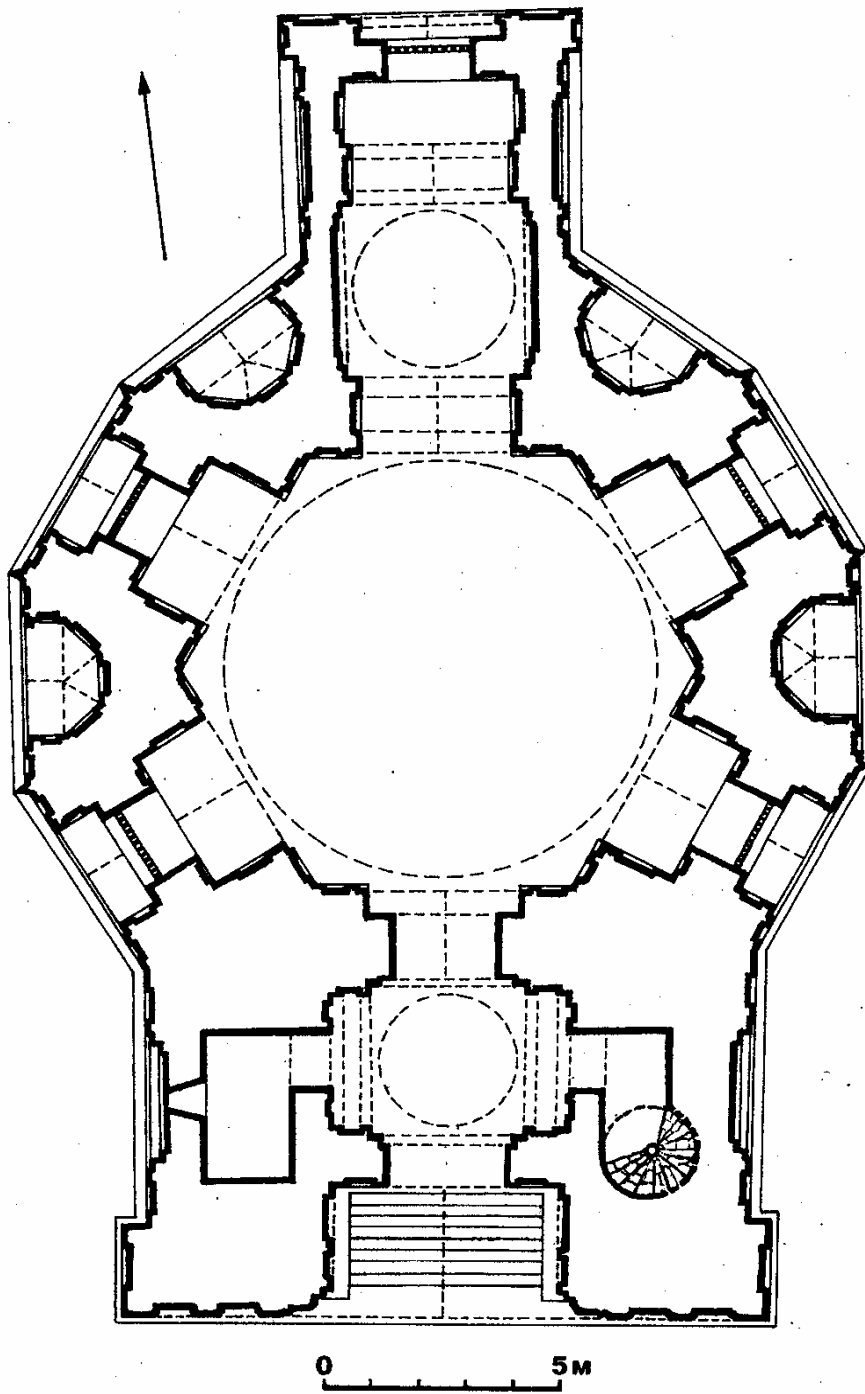
Book: V.I. Piliavsky, *Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky

Date: 1974

Book: V.I. Piliavsky, *Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)

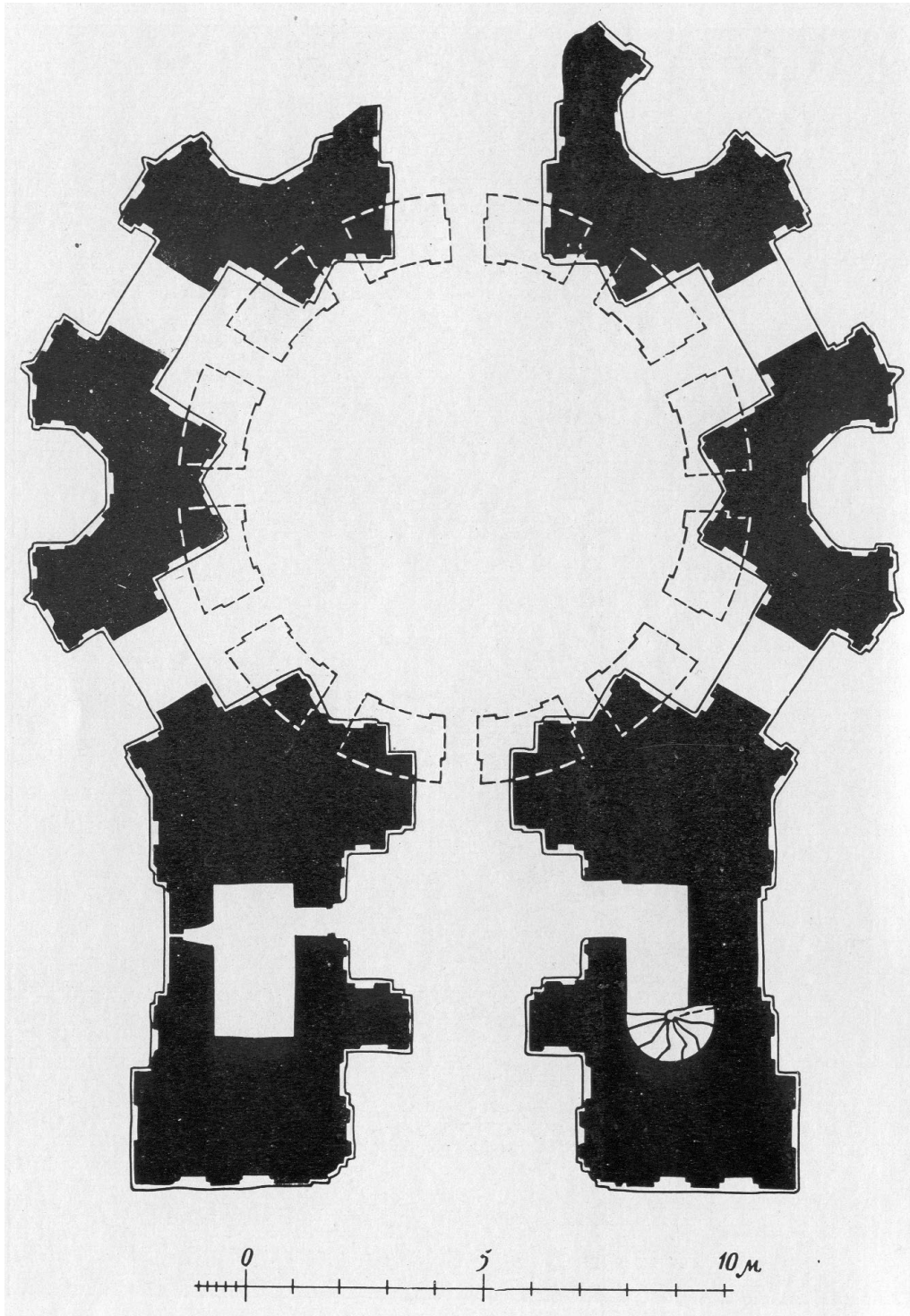


Drawn by: M.M.Tuhtaev

Date: 1985

Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (*Russian version published in 2000*)

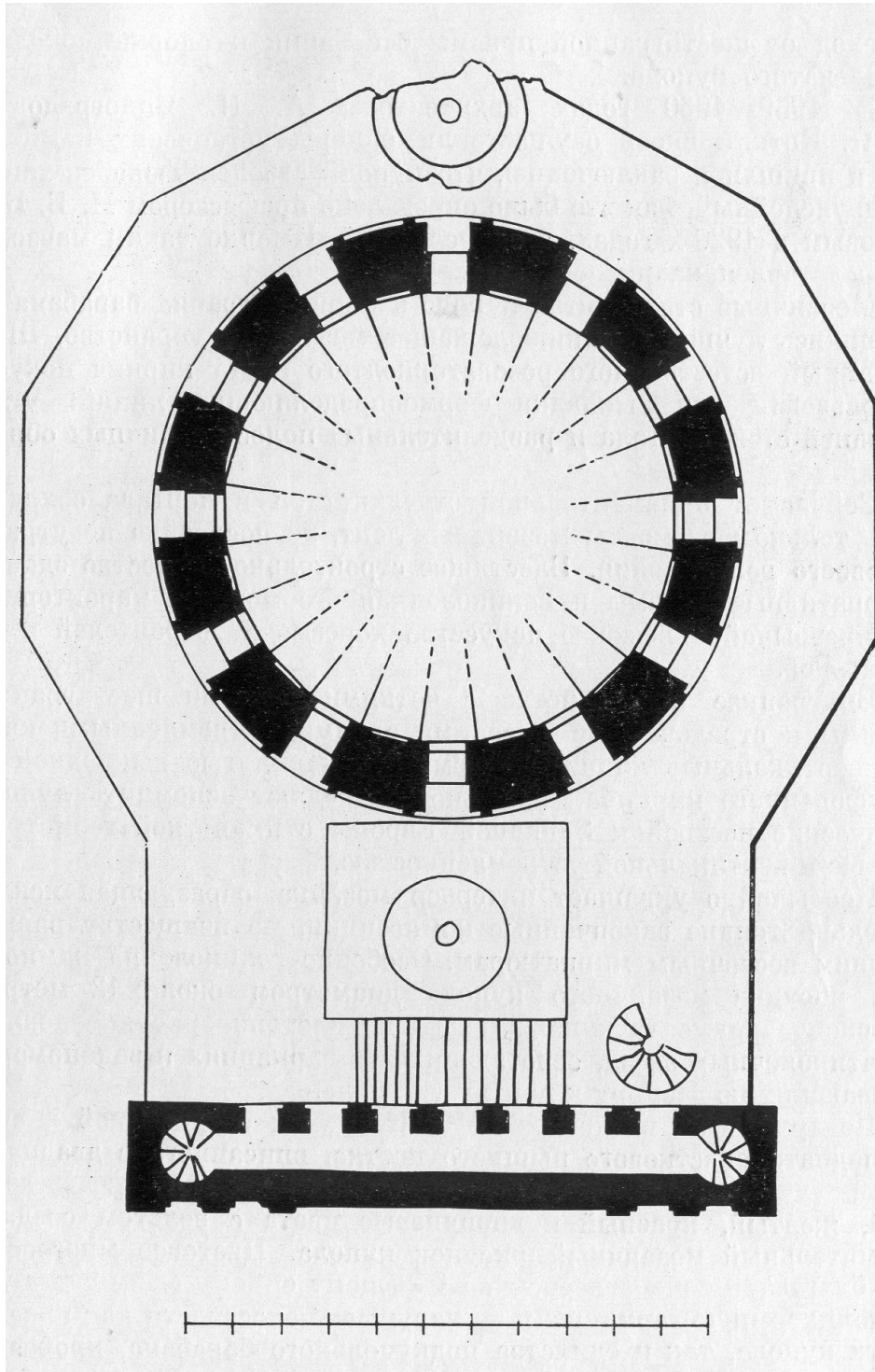




Drawn by: N. Baklanov

Date: 1929

Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 [in Russian language]

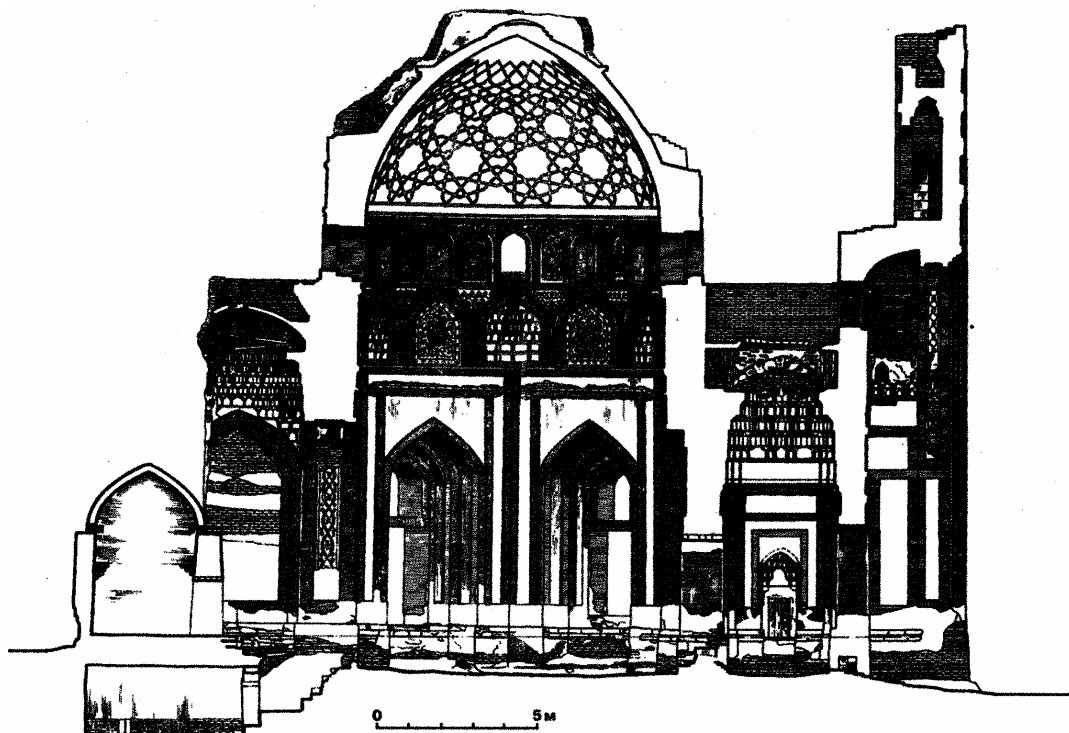
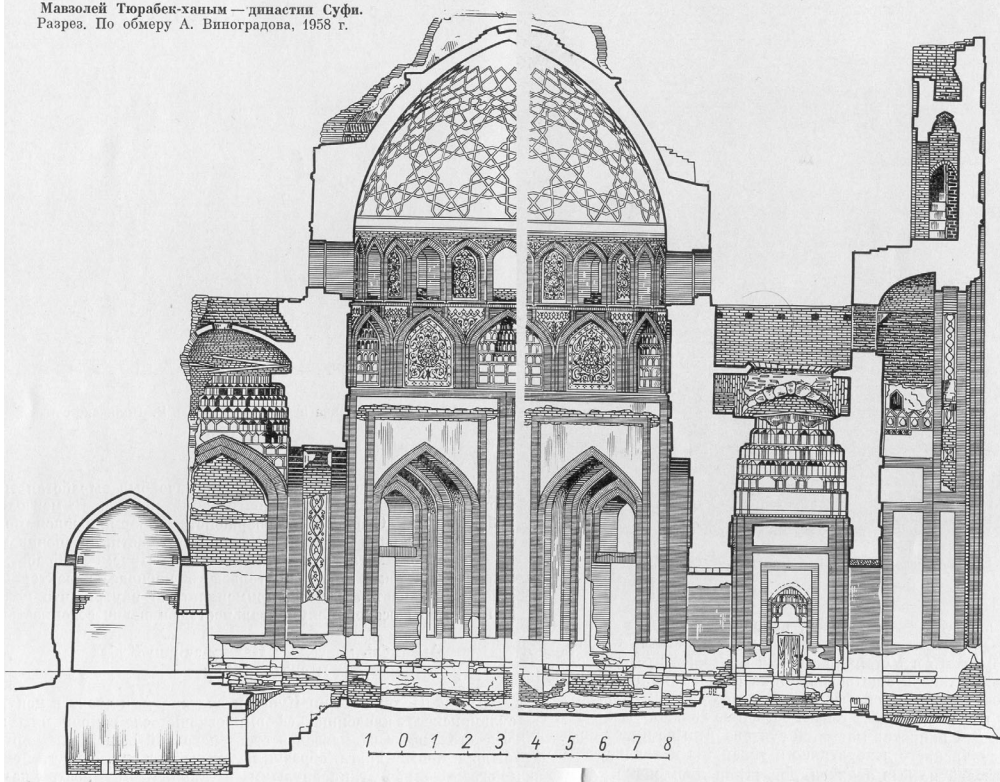


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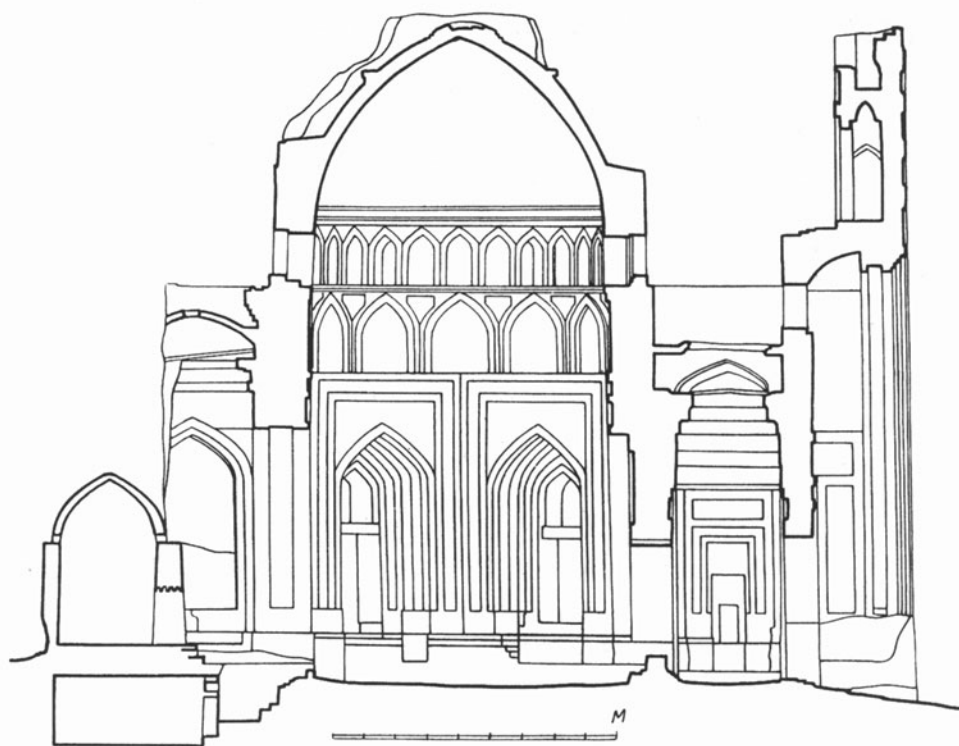
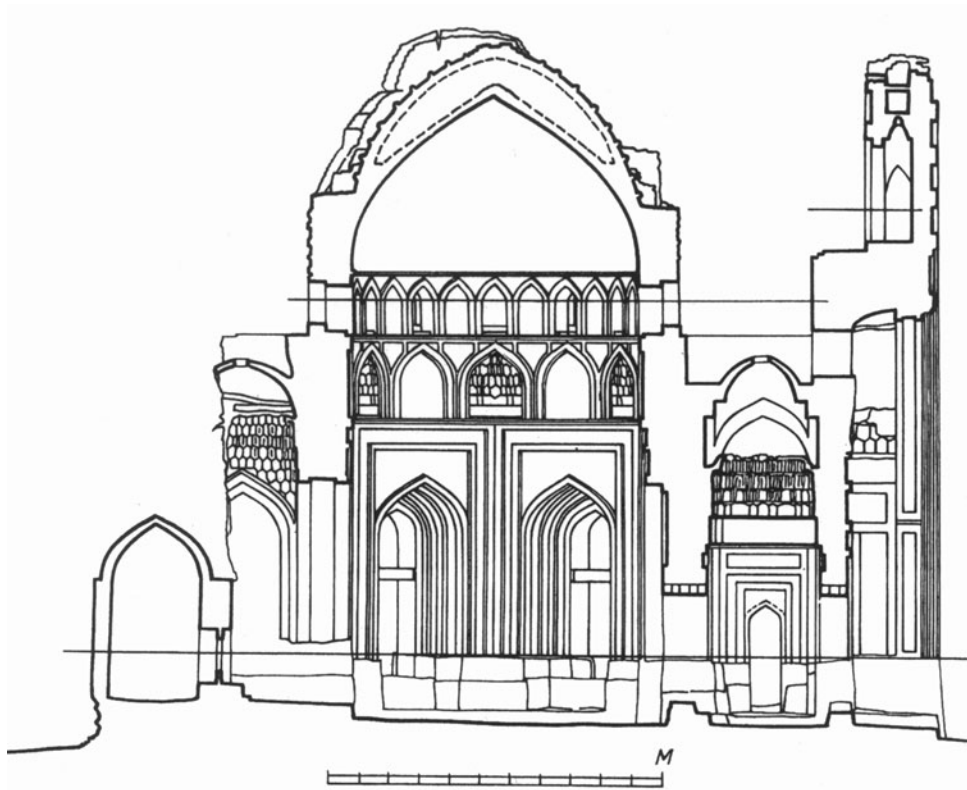
Date: 1929

Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 [in Russian language]

Мавзолей Тюрбек-ханым — династии Суфи.  
Разрез. По обмеру А. Виноградова, 1958 г.

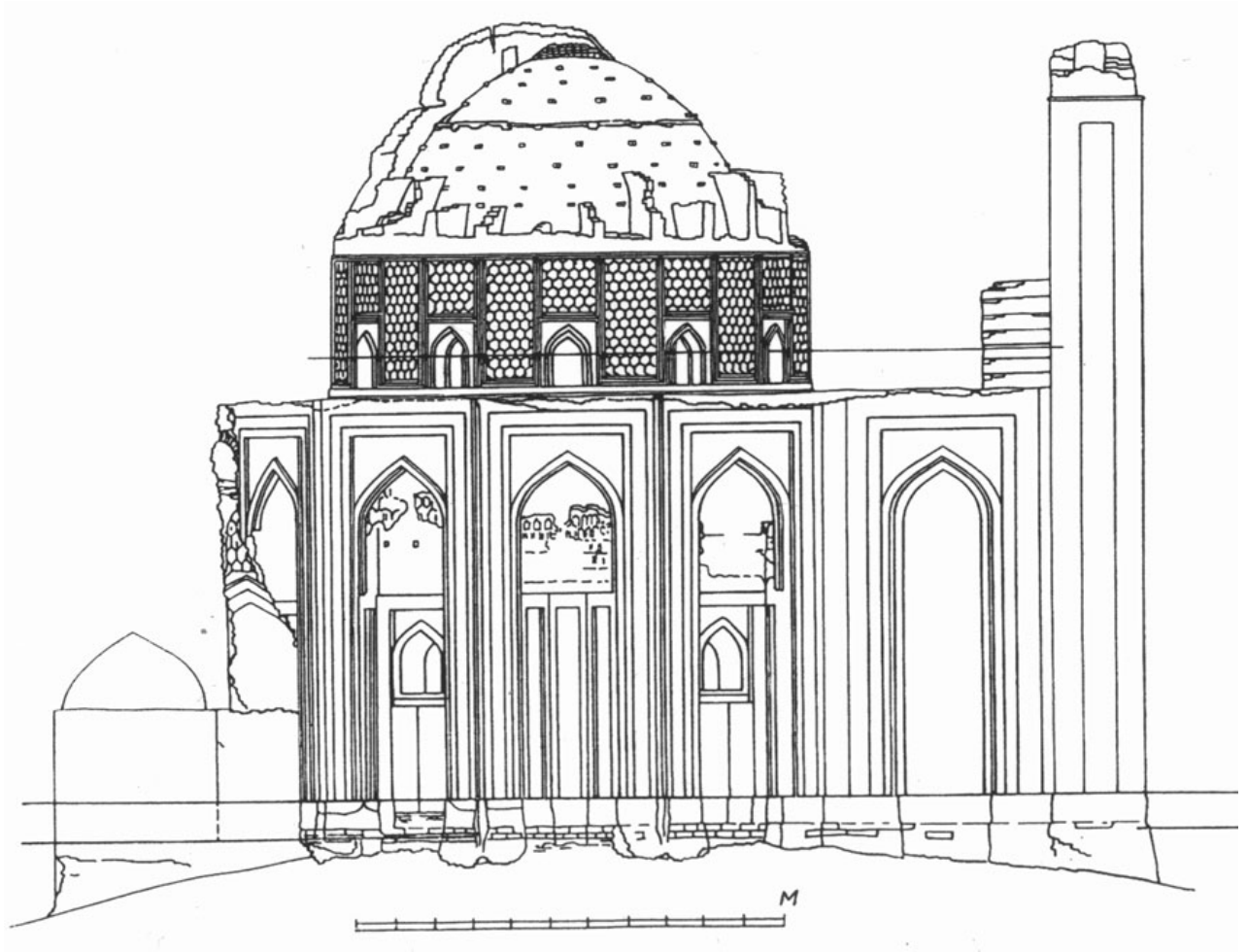


Drawn by: A.N. Vinogradov (top) and M.M. Tuhtaev (bottom)  
Date: 1960 (top) and 1985 (bottom)  
Book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001 (Russian version published in 2000)



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky  
Date: 1974  
Book: V.I. Piliavsky, **Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan**, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)

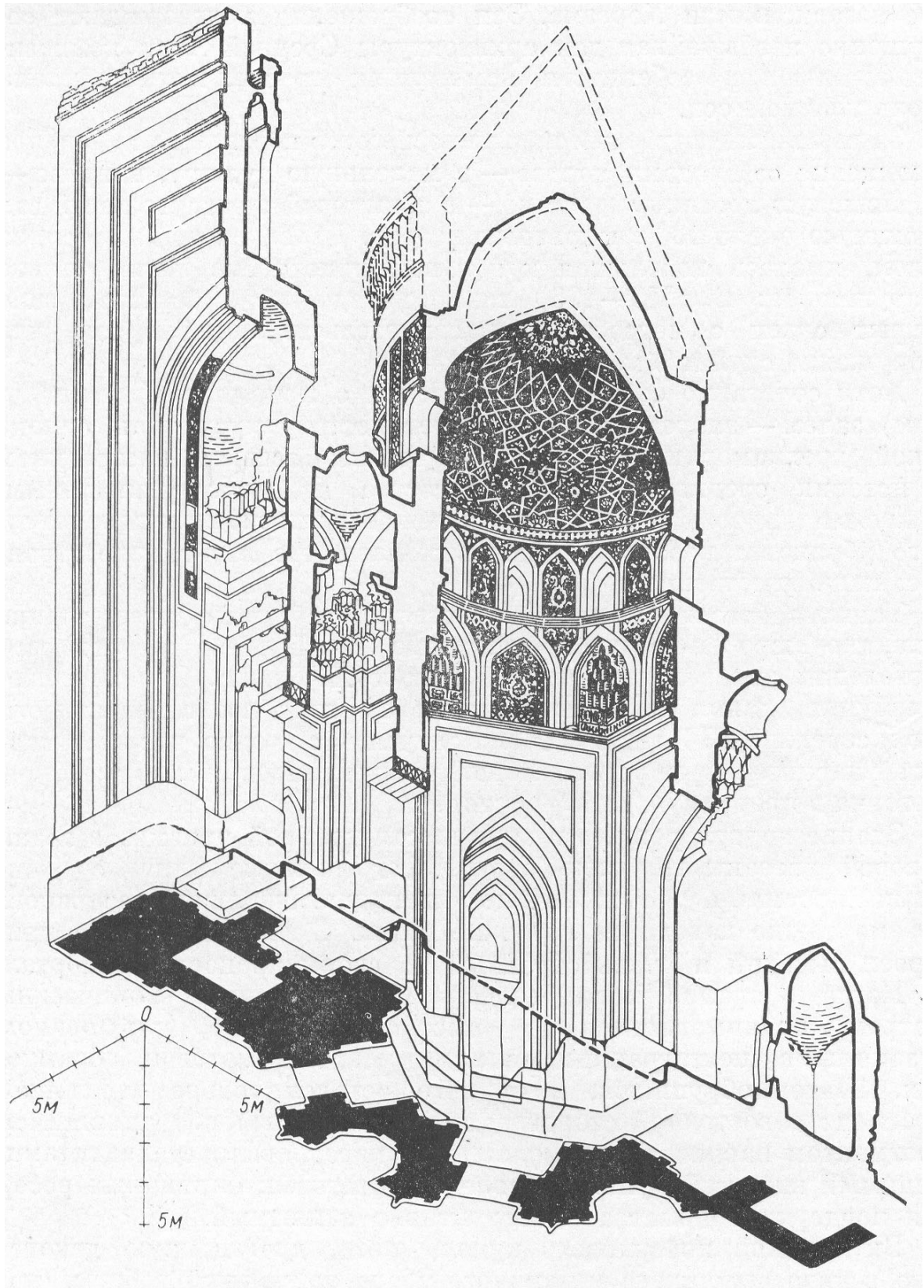




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Date: 1974

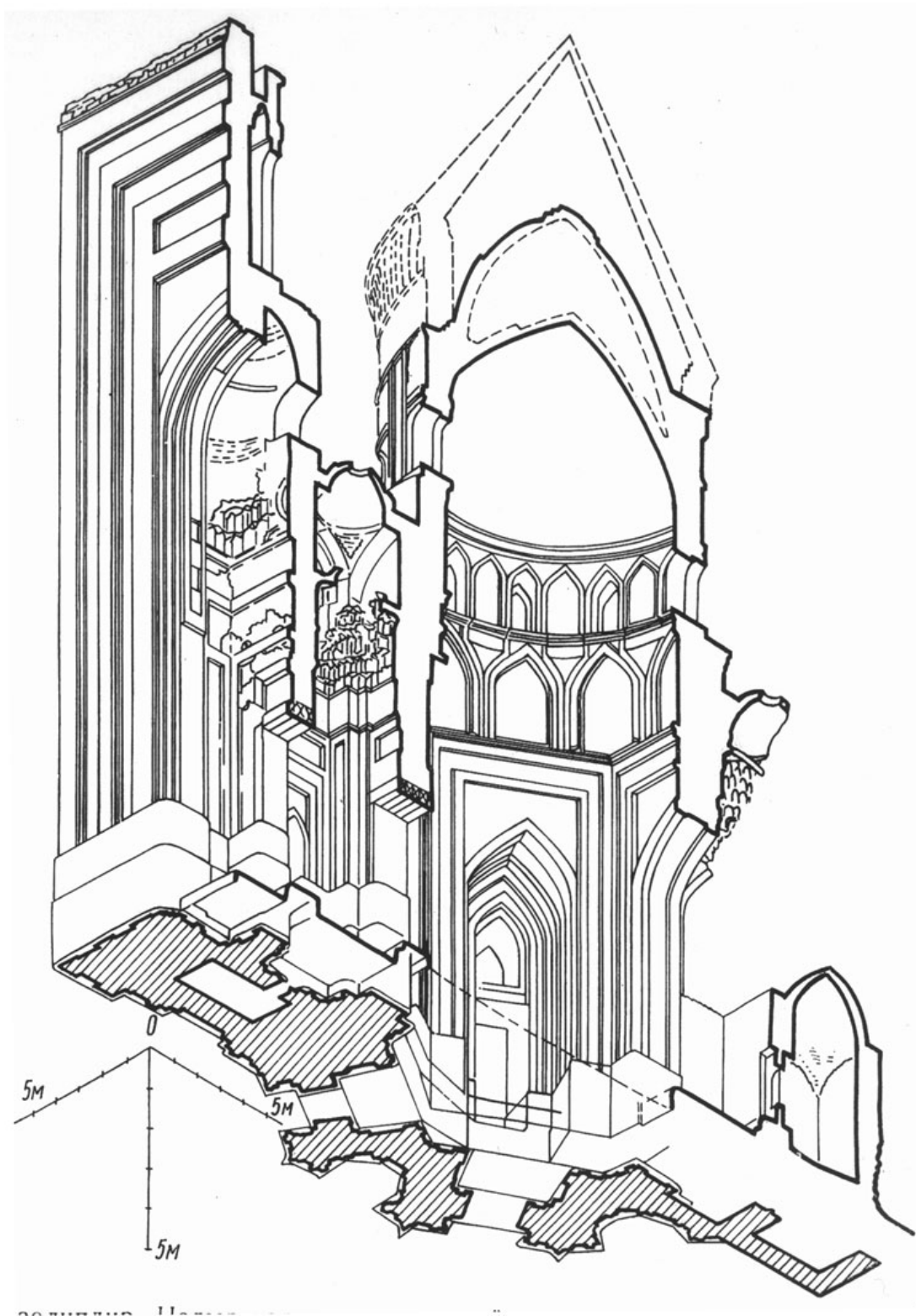
Book: V.I. Piliavsky, **Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan**, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)



Drawn by: N. Baklanov

Date: 1929

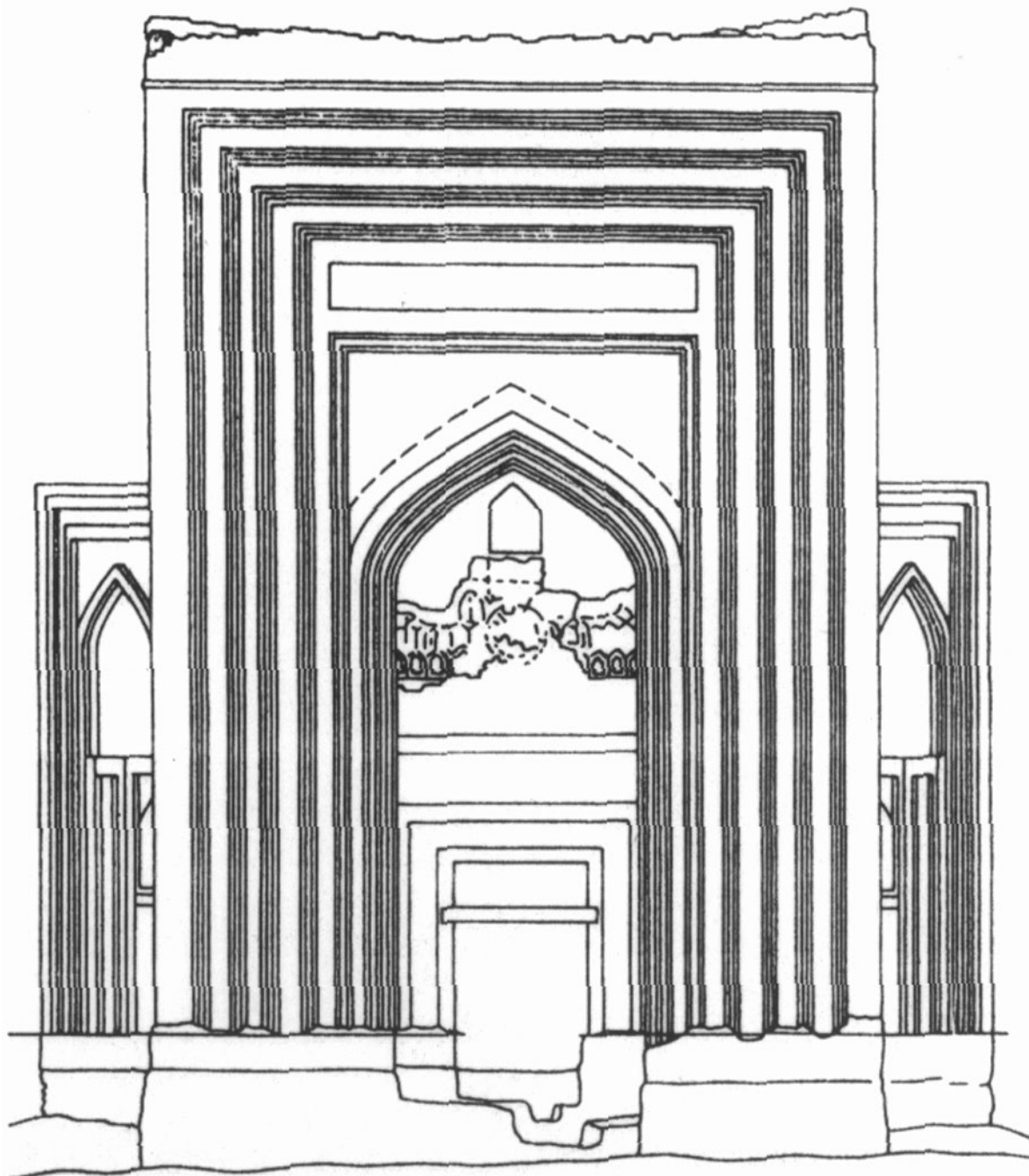
Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 (in Russian language)



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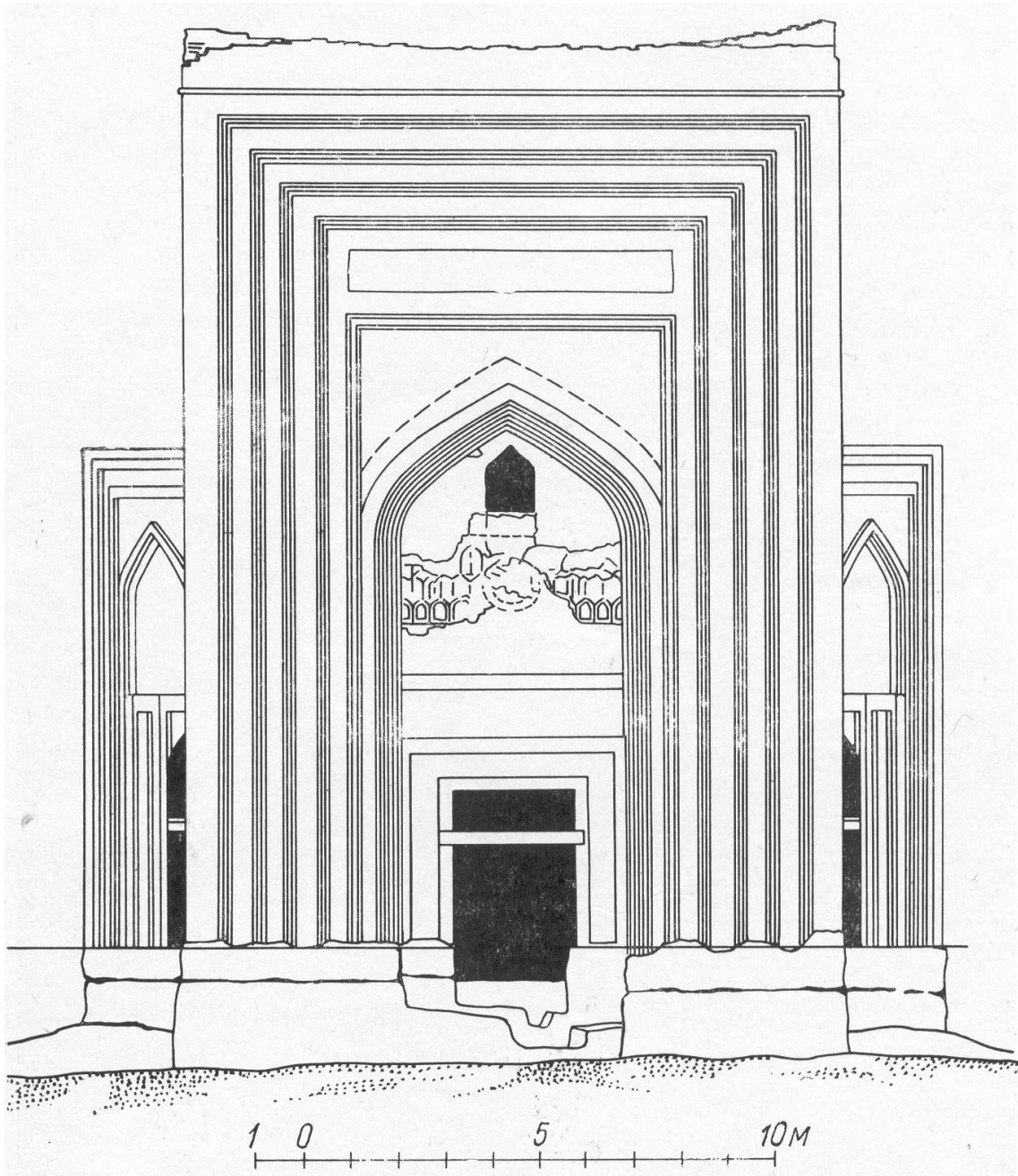
Book: V.I. Piliavsky, *Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)



Drawn by: V.I. Piliavsky

Date: 1974

Book: *V.I. Piliavsky, Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Leningrad, 1974 (*Russian publication*)



Drawn by: N. Baklanov  
Date: 1929  
Book: *Baklanov N., Architectural Heritage of Turkmenistan*, Moscow, 1939 (in Russian language)






# Slides selected for the nomination








## Slides selected for the nomination

All slides taken by Sébastien Moriset, CRATerre-EAG











### GENERAL VIEWS OF THE 3 SECTIONS










	Slide N°	Reference number* and name of the site element		Caption
	1		Section 1	General view of the eastern part of the section 1 of the site seen from the top of Kutlug-Timur minaret
	2		Section 1	Parking area on the road crossing the site, where all visitors start their visit. Photograph taken from the top of Turabek Khanum mausoleum.
	3	11+12+13 + 15+21	Section 2 of the site	The Section 2 of the site seen from the Western limit of the cemetery, which serves as buffer zone.
	4	11+12+13 + 15+21	Section 2 of the site	The concrete fence wall enclosing the cemetery which serves as buffer zone for Section 2 of the site. View from the South.
	5	9	Section 3 of the site	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse seen from a distance, with the surrounding empty land and cemetery. Turabek Khanum mausoleum and Kutlug-Timur minaret can be seen at the background.









### MONUMENTS








	Slide N°	Reference number* and name of the site element		Caption
	6	1	Ak-kala	General view of the site, with the ruined structures and walls at the background
	7	1	Ak-kala	Details of the ruined structures
	8	1	Ak-kala	Details of the ruined structures
	9	2	Gate of Caravanserai	North elevation
	10	2	Gate of Caravanserai	South elevation







	11	3	Fortress wall of Urgench	View of the remains of the fortress wall on the South-eastern corner of section 1 of the site
	12	4	Kyrkmolla	
	13	9	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse	View from the south, with the cemetery in the foreground
	14	9	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse	Entrance of the mausoleum, which was restored in 2002
	15	9	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse	View of the entrance of the mausoleum with the ruined elements on the northern side of the complex.
	16	9	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse	Northern elevation, showing the restored medresse in the North-West corner
	17	9	Ibn Khajib mausoleum and medresse	Restored medresse in the North-West corner
	18	10	Il-Arslan mausoleum	Front (Eastern elevation)
	19	10	Il-Arslan mausoleum	Eastern and Northern elevations
	20	10	Il-Arslan mausoleum	View of the front (Eastern) elevation of the mausoleum, with the new tile paving and the other monuments at the background (Kutlug-Timur minaret and Tekesh mausoleum)







	21	10	Il-Arslan mausoleum	View of the Northern and Western elevations
	22	11	Maktarim-Ishan mausoleum	View from the North Eastern side. The path on the road leads to Nadjm ad-Din al-Kubra and Sultan Ali mausolea.
	23	13	Piryar Vali mausoleum	South and Eastern elevations
	24	14	Seyit Akhmet mausoleum	Northern elevation (entrance)
	25	12	Nadjm ad-din al-Kubra	View of the monument at sunrise, seen from the North-Eastern side
	26	12	Nadjm ad-din al-Kubra	Entrance portal
	27	12	Nadjm ad-din al-Kubra	Entrance of the mausoleum
	28	15	Sultan Ali mausoleum	The mausoleum seen from the South-East, as visitors see it on their arrival to the site, with 2 graves at the foreground
	29	15	Sultan Ali mausoleum	The mausoleum seen from the South-East

	30	15	Sultan Ali mausoleum	The front portal seen from the South-East
	31	15	Sultan Ali mausoleum	The mausoleum seen from the North-West at sunset, with Nadjm ad-din al-Kubra at the background
	32	16	Tekesh mausoleum	Front (Northern) elevation
	33	16	Tekesh mausoleum	Eastern and Northern elevations
	34	16	Tekesh mausoleum	East elevation with Kutlug-Timur minaret at the background
	35	16	Tekesh mausoleum	Western elevation
	36	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	Visitors approaching the mausoleum from the South-Eastern side.
	37	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	View of the eastern elevation at sunrise

	38	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	View of the western elevation at sunset
	39	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	Remains of the double dome
	40	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	Detail of drum which was supporting the outer dome.
	41	17	Turabek Khanum mausoleum	Inside view of the dome
	42	18	Kutlug-Timur Minaret	Minaret alone, seen from the Eastern side
	43		Kutlug-Timur Minaret	Minaret seen from the North-western side, with Tekesh mausoleum in the background
	44		Kutlug-Timur Minaret	Minaret as seen by the visitors from the path, when coming from the West, with Turkmen visitors in the foreground

	45	19	Mamun minaret and Juma-mosque	Base of Mamun Minaret, with Kutlug-Timur minaret and Tekesh mausoleum in the background
	46	19	Mamun minaret and Juma-mosque	Juma-mosque remains in the foreground, with the partially reconstructed Mamun minaret in the background
	47	21	Tash mosque	Building used as the site museum, seen from the North-Western side
	48	22	Korezm-bag	Photograph taken from the mound, in the centre of Korezm-Bag

#### SITE MUSEUM AND SITE INTERPRETATION

	Slide N°	Reference number* and name of the site element	Caption
	49	21 Tash mosque	Courtyard of the mosque. Each room is used for the museum exhibitions.
	50	21 Tash mosque	Main exhibition hall
	51	21 Tash mosque	Detail of the exhibition hall
	52	21 Tash mosque	One of the exhibition rooms, depicting the traditional pottery making process
	53	21 Tash mosque	One of the exhibition rooms, depicting a student at work
	54		Floor tiles, stairs and bench at the foot of Kutlug-Timur minaret. The same type of site arrangement/landscaping can be found around the other monuments

\*the reference numbers correspond to the numbers used in the following book: *Mukhammed Mamedov and Ruslan Muradov, Gurganj, Architectural and Historical guide*, il Punto edizioni, 17 x 26, 106 pages, Padova, Italia, 2001