

Hamмам of Mitrovica City- an Important Historical and Cultural Monument

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Abstrac

In the context of cultural heritage in Mitrovica, an important place takes the Hammam of the city, built in the last decade of XVII century. This monument until the year 1959 had the Hammam function (Allaturke bathroom) and later was used as the museum of the city after crossing into the social property; municipality of Mitrovica has supervised and cared for its maintenance. The project for its maintenance and protection had a special importance. In 1954, with the popular council decision of Mitrovica city, this important cultural monument declared the museum of the city which served until 2010. The museum is 1200 m². This monument has served as an authentic way of communication, so this monument must be considered as a special evidence for our culture, as a part of Balkan museums. The hammam of Mitrovica city it's the most representative architectonic monument in modern history of our city.

Keywords: Mitrovica; monument; cultural heritage; Autentich; Historiography.

1. Introduction

Sometimes happens that many resources show briefings that are in the contradiction with our past events, but historians must try to show the important events that happened and to express them in scientific and objective way [1]. The objective of historian as a searched and important segment for societies to bring information with scientific objectivity based on the resources and archive documents. My theme has for shaft theme the hammam (allaturka bathroom) an important exemplar of cultural heritage of Mitrovica city.

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The hammam of Mitrovica is an important historical and cultural monument which takes place in the center of Mitrovica. All the information we have in disposal show that the old hammam was built during the last decade of XVIII century and in the beginning of XIX century.

Still is not known exactly where is built. In the past this object was surrounded by the mosque 'Gazi Isa Beg' and Madrasah (century building in the Arab Turkish language), and a tower clock and beside it were some old houses a mart and a khan. Clock tower, which was an important historical and cultural monument in that time, was destroyed by order of serb mayor Petar Cunoviq in 1923, and the Qarshia Mosque built in XVIII by Isa Beg was burned and destroyed by gendarmerie of Yougoslav Kingtom (known as Slovenian Croatian Serb Kingtom) in 1926.

Unlike the past, this important monument now is surrounded by high buildings, this seems that has suffocated and endangers its survival. However, the Mitrovica's Hammam its still most representative architectonic monument in modern history of our city.

The hammm still its establishment until the past war period was used as a public bathroom for many generations until became a state property and lost its function as a hammam (allaturka bathroom). In 1959 this object had another function was used as the city museum [2].

The hammam building after crossing in state owned the Mitrovica municipality had supervised, contributing to keep in a better condition. Even if the building was not in a threatening situation; the project for its protection had a big importance [3].

At the entrance of hammam have had some changes. Now it is a two-storied object with a central gallery. Even we don't have documents for these changes, it could be dating from the first part of XIX century. The remainder of the monument are maintained with its original function and its amazing appearance. In the past the hammam was considered as a monument with a big importance for society, as a cultural and spiritual symbol in a particular historical context. [4].

In 1954, with the popular council decision of Mitrovica city, this important cultural monument declared the museum of the city [5].

The building of Mitrovica's hammam served as a museum of the city until 2010. In the areas of this object were set different archaeological exhibits ethnographic, crystals of Trepça and some exhibits of last war in Kosovo. All these exhibits which were placed in the museum of Mitrovica, were from Mitrovica and its surroundings. Archaeological exhibits dates 7000BC while ethnographic exhibits from XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX century. 2. Role and the importance of Mitrovica's Hamman during the centuries

The Mitrovica's hammam as we said, it's one of the most architectural objects saved of the city. The object is built from big blocks of white stone and mortar. Later the facade was covered with mortar.



Figure 1: outside of Hamam Of Mitrovica , Kosova

The roof consisted by cupolas with small holes for lighting and for a big cupola. The big hall for rest , Hammam had the gallery and the fountain, which was placed in the middle of hall, and above each of them has had cupolas, reclined on four pillars .The gallery had the pillars by wood ,which stretched to the four corners of the pillars ,surrounding the main part ,in gallery goes through the wooden stairs .



Figure 2: Inside of Hamam Of Mitrovica , Kosova

The fountain was six floors .built with white marble ,and one of the most protected monument to us .All the locals were by white marble .The inner decoration of the part for washing is from fountains and central postament of stone [6].

In the part of entering in bathroom had a big size,and the other part is the preparatory and the toilet, than in the other part were the desks to sit ,and a part when people hang out their clothes ,in the entrance was the place for resting mind and body .In the central part of interior was a capital construction which was very important.

The hammam was used by different classes of society and by Turkish army .Also had four rooms and its central part .The lightening was the same as in other buildings of this nature. Every room had the marble dishes where the cold and hot water flows which came by a 40tons kettle , and the most interesting and important part was the rose stone, which when the slab moves inside of it were the heating ducts ,which were always hot, where people got warm by it.

Both objects have more than 1200 m2. This space have used men and women but in fixed duration .Men have taken shower every morning at 7:00 until 10:00 .After a pause comes the women from 11:00 to 17:00 until it closes .

On Fridays and on Sundays were reserved days for men. In the end its important to say that the hammam was used by rich families for many private weddings and parties [7].

Now we can ask for this important cultural monument in our city, how it is treated by our society ,that has done little for this monument, as a way of autochthonous communication ,to considerate by our state not as a burden but as special evidence for our culture. The heritage mustn't be considered as burden by our society but as a treasure, so the cultural monuments mustn't be understood as a "top show" but as historical evidence which is very important.

Sometimes the historical monument were bypassed for the reason that people maybe couldn't write for special events, let alone to collect exhibits, but the truth is that in Kosovo are about 3000 evidenced objects ,where of those 500 are in permanent risk ,and 60 of them are very important. It's important that important monuments of Kosova are part of Balkans museums [8].

3. Conclusion

In the end we can reach a conclusion that the important monuments of Mitrovica must have a special attention by the institutions in Kosovo. The importance of this monument consists the fact of being one of the most important monuments which was built two centuries ago, we think that these monuments must be saved by the UNESCO. As soon as Kosovo becomes the part of this international organization.

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