

## **"YOGOCHLI" CISTERN IS AN ANCIENT SETTLEMENT**

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### **Annotation:**

Among the majority of regions of Uzbekistan, Syrdarya region was home to many scholars and historical sites. These monuments serve to reach us very important information from the distant past. In the meantime, it is our priority to bring the public's attention to these places and pass them on to future generations as much as possible.

**Keywords:** Syrdarya scholars, distant history, Samanid dynasty, Arab conquest, historical documents, historical records, Sufism, architectural culture, Shibla village.

Sardoba (Persian-Tajik: sard - cold and ob - water) is a domed pool specially built to collect and store water in regions with a shortage of water. It was built in other countries in Central Asia and the East. The wall of the cistern is cylindrical, its circumference is 12-13 meters, its depth is 10-15 meters, the surface of the pond is level with the ground level. The dome of the cistern is made of high-quality brick and ganch, the top is perforated, and holes are made around it for water to flow into the pool. There is also a door to enter it, and the front of it is surrounded by a wall to keep the water clean. Next to the cistern, a manger for watering cattle was made, and water was poured into it from the pond through a special channel.

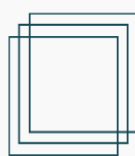


Some cisterns also had rooms for mirobs who controlled and cleaned them. Depending on the geographical location, the nature of the place, and the topography, the cisterns used to collect several types of snow, rain water, canal water, ditch water, and underground water. According to historical data, there were 44 cisterns in Movarounnahr. 29 of them were built in the Karshi desert, 3 in Mirzachol, 3 on the ancient trade route between Tashkent and Ferghana, 1 in Choli Malik near Karmana, and were used until the end of the 19th century.

One of the cisterns was built in the middle of the 17th century in the Sandiqli desert of the present-day Turkmenistan desert on the caravan route connecting the cities of Kerki and Karshi. The pool is the Sangisuvloq cistern, which has a circumference of 17 meters. In ancient times, cisterns played an important role in the steppes and deserts, providing water for livestock and trade caravans. The currently preserved cisterns are of historical ethnographic importance.

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Sardoba is located in Gumbaz village, Sardoba district, Syrdarya region. The village got its name because it was built around an ancient waterworks.

Here we give some information about the history of Sardoba. The oldest intercontinental trade route in human history, which appeared in the 2nd century BC, occupies an important place in human history. Through trade relations carried out on this 12-kilometer-long road connecting the West and the East, nations benefited from each other's achievements and thus progressed faster. It should be noted that the territory of the current Syrdarya region played an important role in this road due to its geographical position. After all, any caravan that left Rome and went to China, after ancient Bukhara and Samarkand, certainly passed through the land of Syrdarya. For this reason, many facilities serving caravans have been built on this land.

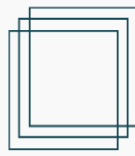
For example, according to medieval Arab geographers, in ancient times there were 3 caravan routes crossing Mirzachol. Two of them went from Zomin through Khavos to Tashkent along Syrdarya, while the third caravan route went from Jizzakh to Shosh along the current "concrete" road. This road was the shortest to Shosh, but it was difficult because it crossed the desert. For this reason, 3 cisterns were built on this road. In the past, an indoor water storage pond was built mainly due to the need to supply water to the military.

The first one was 40 kilometers south of Chinoz, near the settlement "Slavyanka" of the present Republic of Kazakhstan. This cistern is called Yakasaroy. The second one was near Mirzaqishlaq, Aqoltin district, 13 kilometers south of Yakkasaroy. This cistern was called "Mirzasardoba" and there was also a caravanserai near it. This caravanserai is called "Mirzaabad". The third cistern is a cistern in the village of Gumbaz, Sardoba district, 30 kilometers south of "Mirzasardoba", 35 kilometers north of Jizzakh.

Researcher, S. Qudratov seriously studied the history of cisterns in the territory of Syrdarya region and managed to collect interesting information. In particular, he writes about the history of the "Yogochli" cistern as follows:

"This cistern is referred to as the "Wooden cistern" in the works of historians of the 19th century. This well-preserved architectural structure is the oldest monument in the region that came down to us from our ancestors. That is why it is important to study it. Bukhara Khan Abdullah Khan 2 (1534-1598) was in this place on April 10, 1580 during his march to Tashkent (1579-1583) and ordered the construction of a cistern and a caravanserai here.

A wooden cistern has a dome-like appearance. It is finally built of quality bricks. Bricks are square, size 25\*25\*5 centimeters. The inner diameter of the dome is 15 meters and its height is 12 meters. In the interior of the cistern there are closed, nest-like holes 2 meters above the floor. The thickness of the wall of the cistern is 1.5 meters in the lower part, it becomes thinner as it goes up, and in the upper part its thickness is like a brick.



The cistern is entered from one side - the north side. There were holes in the form of an arch on the other three sides. The entrance is arched, from which the cistern is entered through brick steps. There is a special corridor at the entrance. According to 19th century historians, there was a special room above the corridor for the servants and guards of the cistern. It was reached by a spiral staircase built outside the cistern. This room is currently unavailable.

"Yogochli" cistern is filled with rain and snow water. Therefore, the "Yogochli" cistern is located in a stream, this situation allowed it to receive all the surrounding waters. The surrounding waters were poured into the cistern using specially dug tributaries. Special flat drains are installed in the cistern, which are connected to each other by a ring drain.

Three special ventilation holes are installed in the cistern to prevent water from boiling over. The upper part of the dome is also left open for this purpose. That's why the water of the cistern was like ice, clean and clear. The cistern is cleaned once a year. According to medieval historians, there was a caravanserai and a farm near the "Yogochli" cistern.

In conclusion, a lot of valuable information has reached us from the distant past to the present in the historical heritage and historical sites preserved in the Syrdarya region. It is probably for this reason that even today this city attracts the attention of many tourists and forces them to visit this area again and again.

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