







Introduction of Azerbaijan's Rich Tradition National Carpet <u>Museum and Flame Towers</u>



By Ms. Bisma Liaqat, PRCCSF Fellow and Participant of FJHS-PRCCSF Fellowship Program 2024

Published on 24th October 2024





In this study, cultural significance of two landmark places located in Baku-Azerbaijan is

examined: firstly is the National
Carpet Museum and the secondly is
the Flame Towers. These edifice's
highlights the blending of ancient
craftsmanship with modern



technology, injecting more life into the culture of Azerbaijan. By transforming the edges and core of the subjects in the article, the interrelation between the country's carpet art and architecture is analyzed. And lastly most importantly, it discusses how the construction of carpets and Flame Towers in Baku represents the coalescence of ancient and modern civilization .

predominantly situated in a region rich in culture, Azerbaijan's strategic location along the east west axis justifies is vibrant history. Two of Baku's breathtaking landmarks that embody this history are the National Carpet Museum of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Flame Towers. This paper's aims to present these alluring structures, providing some exposure to scholars and practitioners of architectural design .

The Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum and Flame Towers aims to preserve and advance the high artistry of carpet weaving historically pervasive in the country. It is one of the largest museums of carpet art in the world housing over 10000 exhibits dedicated to carpets. The 17th century collections also include police officers' hats, uniforms and rugs and carpets orated widely available in the Soviet Union.





The National Carpet Museum and Flame Towers stand for the desire of Azerbaijan to hold

onto its cultural tradition and at the same time remain modernized. These touchstones reveal the cultures and traditions of Azerbaijan's past, promote ethnic relations, represent the



economic expansion, and demonstrate the ancient and contemporary state of Azerbaijan.

National Carpet Museum of Azerbaijan

The background of Corby's work must be noted. The Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum, located in Baku, concentrates on treasured carpet-making culture of Azerbaijan. Its shape represents the love the country has for this ancient art.

The Museum is a vault of a nation's ancient craft and high art, aiming to promote and further evolve carpet making, which has been part of Azerbaijan's heritage for several hundred years. The building itself is a work of architectural art. Reflecting



the grace of Azerbaijan through its designs cutaneous patterns, hues and symbolisms.

The National Carpet Museum serves as a center for education and research, fostering innovative ideas and dynamic structures that contribute the cultural heritage of the country.





The museum was constructed by the Austrian architect Franz Janz, who finished construction in 2014. This structure is simply the first of its kind in the world architecture of a rolled-up carpet, symbolizing the culture of Azerbaijan and its connection to its people.

The history of the carpet spans from the 17th to 19th centuries,

Showcasing designs from the capital and other regions of Azerbaijan. The museum features

Carpets from Host Regions known for specific outstanding designs and patterns as well

as Fusion Carpets that present new perspectives on age-old patterns.

Other Items include Embroidered textiles and ornaments.

Flame Towers

At the skyline of Baku, the most recognizable structure is The Flame Towers, consisting of three slender flame-like high-rise buildings representing Azerbaijan's rapidly developing oil economy. Designed by HOK International and constructed by



local Azinco, the towers were officially initiated in 2007 and completed in 2012.

These 32-story towers reaching a height of 182 m (597 feet) dominate the skyline with their curved flourish design inspired by the natural gas flameout with reflective glass and LED light covering its elevation El presented the earth the air and fire edify.





It is an important aspect of Azerbaijan's oil and gas industry developments. This further shows how this city evolved to be a contemporary and metropolitan root-showing architecture. An iconic element and a national cozy, lit up at night, can be seen from great distances.

The estimated total cost of construction about 350 million dollars Used more than 10 thousand tons of steel in the construction The bowl-shaped base of the towers is topped with triangle prisms which are resistant to intense winds and earthquakes part of the plan of urban reconstruction of Baku is the revitalization of the central part of Baku.

According to the information gained from the above interview, Flame Towers represented the new, modern era of Azerbaijan's capital Baku and prominent economic development of the country at the same time stressing the deep roots of its heritage and culture. The Flame Towers construction finished in 2012 is a contemporary architectural influence of an independent Azerbaijan. The inspiration for the towers came from the Zoroastrian temples and the country's battler primitive times with fire which is a national great history of this country.

Collaboration of Tradition and Modernity

The Azerbaijan National Carpet Museum and Flame Towers rest at opposite ends of the spectrum. One speaks about the legacy of the country, while the other about the prospects. These famous cultural monuments highlight the ability of Azerbaijan to intertwine the old and the new. Visitors are enchanted, for here it is possible to combine the past and present in one place. While engrossed with the history of carpet-weaving at the National Carpet Museum, at the same time, some breath-taking flame towers promote interference i.e., the





modern standpoint. On the other hand, the Flame Towers in all their modern splendor receive a curb because of the underlying importance of the museum .

Azerbaijan's carpet museum, and the flame towers represent the old and the new culture of the country. While Carpet Museum protects the artefact of carpet weaving, the Flame Towers stand as symbols of new age advancement of Azerbaijan. Together, these places demonstrate how the country can cherish the heritage and be progressive at the same time. They embody important cultural and architectural achievements which will define Azerbaijan from ancient times to these days.





References

https://www.google.com.pk/books/edition/Memories_of_Baku/-cqFMAEACAAJ?hl=en

https://azerbaijan.travel/visit-bakus-carpet-museum-cant-be-missed

https://www.jozan.net/the-carpet-collection-at-azerbaijan-national-carpet-museum/

 $\underline{https://www.forbes.com/sites/stephanrabimov/2020/04/13/in-azerbaijan-the-traditional-properties of the action of the properties of the$

<u>carpet-artisans-are-quietly-preserving-age-old-traditions/</u>

https://ww3.rics.org/uk/en/modus/built-environment/urbanisation/architectural-oddities-

baku.html

https://asianartnewspaper.com/azerbaijan-carpet-museum/