

ARTISTIC CERAMICS



Artistic ceramics is the type of craftsmanship, specializing in production of various items using clay. People began to be engaged with ceramics from the Neolithic age. Dishes were made using special clay by hand and ready wares were then dried. Availability of the clay in the world ensures the prevalence of the ceramic in almost every nation.

At first ceramic making was peculiar to women. Men were involved in making pottery only after the creation of the potter's wheel. The ready wares burnt in special furnaces (depending on the size of the ware). The simple ways of making ceramic is still known to the people living on the mountains



of the Asia. Archeological findings from the residences dating back to the neolith age testify that the bottom of the dishes of that period were made acuminate (dishes were kept on the ground in order to keep the substance cool).

Uzbekistan is the place where the richest heritage of the ceramic art is preserved. From ancient times every region has it's own handicraft centers. In terms of execution technique ceramics are divided into two types, i.e. unglazed and glazed ceramics. Though, unglazed molded ceramics has more ancient origins. Since the end of the VIII-beginning of the IX century glazed





ceramic wares emerged and got widely spread in the cities of Mawarannahr.

In the XIX century major schools and centers of ceramics got formed in the territory of the present-day Uzbekistan. These were:

a) Samarkand-Bukhara school with its centers located in Tashkent, Samarkand, Urgut, Bukhara, Ghijduvan, Shakhrisabz, Kitab, Kattakurghan and Denau;

b) Ferghana school with its centers located in Rishtan and Gurumsaray;

c) Khorasm school with its centers located in Khiva and Chimboy as well as in settlements of Madyr and Kattabog;

d) Kasbi (Qashqadaryo) school.

Notably, ceramics of each center preserved their local features. Nowadays, they produce different dishes: plane bowls and plates,

small and big vases and household ceramics. In Ferghana and Khorazm ceramics, it is possible to observe predominantly blue and sky blue colors. Ceramics of these centers differ from each other in terms of décor, shape and type. The representatives of these schools are: masters M.Turopov (Gurumsaroy), I.Komilov, A.Nazarov (Rishton), R.Matchonov (Khorazm) and others.

Ceramics of Bukhara-Samarkand school had ochrous-yellow and greenish colors (this was the result of application of lead glaze). Nowadays the representatives of this school are Alisher and Abdulla Narzullayev (Gijduvan), Namozans Nomon Obloqulov (Urgut), Kh.Haqberdiyev (Samarkand). Nowadays, only unglazed dishes are produced in Kashkadarya.

