

Working title

Titles and subtitles should be focused to include key terms that readers would use if searching for information on this topic

Title: SHITTE TOMBSTONES OF DERBENT CEMETERY, DAGESTAN REIGON DURING THE QAJAR ERA

Subtitle: IRANIAN TOMBSTONES OF DERBENT CEMETERY

Keywords

Include key terms (not already included in the title/subtitle) that readers would use if searching for information on this topic

Tombstones, Mausoleums, Ziyarats, Shrine Domes, Caucasus, Dāghistān, Derbend
Khanates, Russian Tsarist, Orientalists, Iconography, Multilingualism

Author/Editor information

Specify if this book is authored or edited.
Include address and contact details, qualifications and experience, and a short biography for all book authors and/or editors

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- Lecturer of Islamic Art and Inscription, Islamic Archaeology Department, University of Fayoum, Egypt.
- Convener, guest lecturer, and lead discussant at 11 International General Conferences in Egypt and abroad.
- Assistant editor of Historical Inscriptions and Calligraphy Studies Journal, Faculty of Archaeology-Fayoum University.
- I own about 13 scientific papers published in peer-reviewed scientific journals in Egypt, Algeria, Turkey, Russia, and India. In the disciplines of Humanities, Architecture, and Islamic Arts in Europe, Islamic Civilization in Southern Russia, and Islamic inscriptions.

Primary audience

Please indicate the **most relevant target audience**

Artists
Religious Affairs researchers
Ismaili Shia
Linguists

Secondary audience

Please describe your entire audience in as much detail as possible, e.g. industry sector, job role, level, subject specialism. If the book could be used for a course please provide details, including program and level.

Academics
Students and alumni

Background and purpose

- Provide a brief description of this book, similar to what you would find on the back cover of the published book.
- What is your purpose in writing this book? Why is there a need for a new resource in this area?

Islamic tombstones in Dāghistān are the most crucial sources of the historiography and the Islamic presence in the Caucasus due to its tangible impact on ideas and beliefs, influenced by the diversity of community cultures and ethnicities, witnessed demographic changes, documented military policies, reveal economic aspects, and subjected religious factors and doctrinal beliefs through written inscriptions of the 13th AH/ 19th century AD.

Caucasian tombstones were out of researchers for many reasons: geographical for its natural remoteness, linguistic for the multiplicity of its spoken and written

- What **problem** does this book solve for readers?

languages, cultural for diversity of its inhabitant cultures, political for its rulers, and religious conflict between its diverse creeds and sub-creeds. Thus, over many decades ago, researchers overlooked its study, but our study of tombstones in the Caucasus began to attract researcher's attention towards it because of decorative and inscribed written inscriptions, of which carried religious connotations, political dimensions, social transformations and cultural changes.

Currently, tombstones have provided us with important observations about penetration level of the Persian heritage, Islamic culture, the orientation and quality of Sufi Ṭarīqahs among the Muslim community of Dāghistān. In addition to the nationalities, local residents, immigrants and expatriates and their doctrinal beliefs, this brought together Sunni, Šī'ī and followers of Sufi Ṭarīqahs.

European Orientalist academics and researchers made various assumptions about the layout of cemeteries, boundaries, tombstone types, Shrine Domes, Mausoleum and Ziyarats, burial places and spaces in their frequent visits to the territory of Dāghistān such as (Berezin, Munster, S.). These tombstones contain texts in many languages engraved with phrases related to Islamic geography, history, civilization and genealogy and indicate the most important Sufi scholars, as well as family's names and jobs. Thus, the contents of the written and engraved tombstone inscriptions varied to include Qur'ānic quotations, deceased's names and surnames either for women or men, begging for mercy and forgiveness, religious phrases, next to date of death and finally maker names.

Other Symbolic connotations, figures and emblems of funerary inscriptions and Repertoire to denote the function of the deceased prior to his death are also revealed through carved pictorial iconography, of which officially developed during the Islamic rule in the Caucasus. Additional sculptural analyses related to illustrations, decorative elements, patterns of the main and subsidiary tombstones, as well as semantics of Colors and their symbolic uses. Thus, the ranges of funeral inscriptions for tombstones catalogue are further Consider a scientific encyclopaedia consisting of the most important topics describing the life of people in the Caucasus, public and private, indicated by tombstones next to the affairs of the Islamic community.

Benefits to audience

With reference to the target audience(s) listed above, please give details of:

- The information needs and daily challenges of the audience relating to the subject of the book and how your book will address these needs, challenges or pain points
- List **three key features** and content in your book that will be most valuable to the reader

(1) The project documents the multilingualism, of written inscriptions and historical script content on the immovable and movable material monuments of the Caucasus.

(2) Study the intellectual population diversity and the races of settlers in the Caucasus and their culture, and the factors influences, such as mass migrations, Wars, and settlement campaigns by Persians, Turks or Russians.

(3) Local basic multilingualism was recorded on the monuments, such as: [Arabic, and Persian], as well as local dialects such as [Dagestani, Azeri, and Avar].

(4) It traces the chronology of the ruling dynasties to the end of the tsarist era.

(5) Documents Ottoman changes with religious, and demographic consequences of the Caucasus by architectural and artefacts in regional museums.

(6) Turkification policy of the Caucasian society during Ottoman rule, and its written inscriptions of architectural buildings applied artefacts and tombstones.... etc.

(7) Russification policy and its products in writing manuscripts, and Applied

Arts, have not been studied for political, religious, linguistic, cultural, and geographical reasons.

(8) Documenting aspects of Islamic culture, defending Arabic manuscripts and literature and the written texts that contain their historical significance.

(9) Study cultural products of the Caucasian Muslim ethnicities, their number exceeded thirty, the most important of which was the "Avar's"; then the "Azeris", and others. Each of them has its own language, which is written in their manuscripts, and buildings, and has its own culture, heritage and arts.

(10) Documenting of Sufism penetration into Caucasian society, its return on material cultural products and movable applied artefacts.

(11) Study of Iranian influence and Persian culture, social, linguistic, administrative traditions and manifestations. As well as the ideological and linguistic influence on religious buildings and Applied Arts.

(12) Documents the immutable material heritage of the surviving buildings in the Muslim republics of the Russian Federation through architectural structures.

(13) Study Caucasian folklore and Arts and its connection with the heritage of local peoples, which were classified by socio-religious function.... etc.

(14) Tracing geographical and administrative boundaries of the Caucasus through photographs and orientalist's depictions, comparing them with historical annals, countries' geography and monuments.

Inclusion and Diversity

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THE PROJECT SERVES THE ISLAMIC HERITAGE BY DOCUMENTING THE ARABIC, TURKISH AND PERSIAN WRITTEN WRITINGS, HISTORICAL EPIGRAPHY, AND CALLIGRAPHIC INSCRIPTIONS ACCOMPANYING THE ISLAMIC RULE THAT HAS LASTED OVER 100 YEARS SINCE QAJAR ERA.

THE PROJECT AIMS TO PRESERVE THE ARAB HERITAGE AND ISLAMIC MATERIAL CULTURE, DOCUMENTING THE WRITTEN INSCRIPTIONS, HISTORICAL EPIGRAPHY, AND CALLIGRAPHIC INSCRIPTIONS ON THE ISLAMIC MONUMENTS, EXISTING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE RULE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLICS IN THE ENTITY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION; WITH MUSLIM MAJORITY ENDING EVEN BEFORE THE END OF THE TSARIST ERA IN RUSSIA.