

SUMMER 2010 №2



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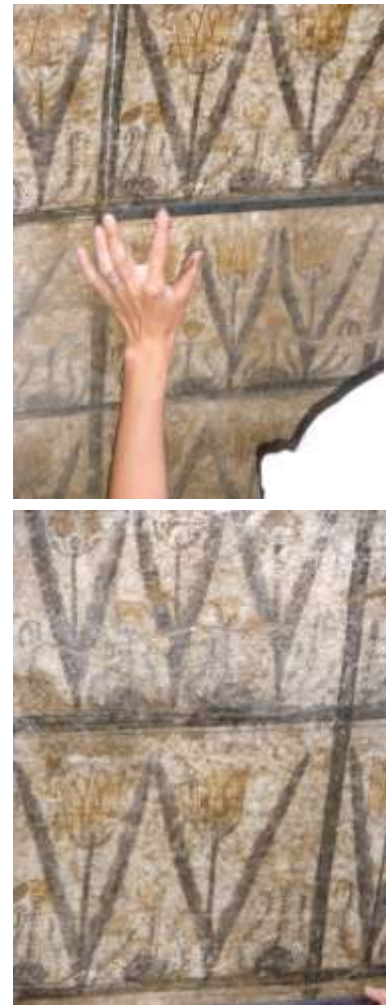
THE UNIQUE FINDING IN THE ANCIENT PENJIKENT!

Since 70's there is cooperation between Tajik Historical Institute and National Hermitage of Russia working on archeological site of Ancient Penjikent. Every summer the group of scientists from St. Petersburg comes to Penjikent, and every year the new findings excavated impress the scientists and Penjikent visitors. According to the archeologists the Ancient Penjikent is one of the unexplored archeological sites. Only 60% of the ancient town was excavated.

This year one of the rooms of the palace complex was excavated. The walls of the room are covered with three layers of paintings. The walls were painted with beautiful tulips. These three layers of paintings go back to 6th century. ***“It is very rare case, when the wall paintings could be preserved in such a bog size. The paintings are good condition on the four walls, which are 2 meters high!! The yellow color of the flowers and precise black outline of them could enrapture anyone, who can see the fresco!”*** – said Pavel Lurye, chief of the Ancient Penjikent archeological expedition.

The huge reconstruction and conservation works are still supposed to be done. Next year the restorers from Hermitage Museum are going to involve also the local students, who will have an opportunity to learn how to restore the wall fragments. According to the archeologists, Tajikistan has a lack of qualified restorers specialized on fresco restoration, while unexplored archeological sites both in the South and North of Tajikistan store the huge number of valuable frescos.

The fresco found in the Ancient Penjikent this summer will be one of the valuable and unique exhibits of the museums of Tajikistan.



Fragments of wall paintings
Photo of Zafar Norov



ZTDA BECAME A MEMBER IN THE CENTRAL ASIA CRAFTS SUPPORT ASSOCIATION

On the 3d of June 2010 ZTDA became a member in the Central Asia Crafts Support Association (CACSA). The CACSA was created for revival and development of the handicraft in the Central Asia. CACSA unites over sixty local craft groups from across Central Asia, including Mongolia. The CACSA support their member in increase their professionalism and strengthen the network for sharing the experiences, creation of business connections as well as marketing and promotion of the crafts.

ZTDA as a member of CACSA has got an opportunity to learn from experience of other members working in Central Asia, which might contribute to the improvement of the craft quality. This platform will enable an access to the new markets for the crafts from the Zerafshan Valley.

ZTDA is looking forward to cooperate with central Asian designers and handcrafters in conducting the master classes and seminars in the future. We hope that ZTDA working in its region developing the crafts could contribute to the preventing the traditional cultural heritage of the people of Central Asia.

YAGNOB RIDDLE

From 9th till 13th of August ZTDA has invited nice journalists from Tajikistan, Russia and Germany to join on the 5 day expedition to the Yagnob Valley. The journalists had a chance to be introduced to the unique culture of Yagnob people. Through articles and photographs the region will get better known among the people in other countries, but also within Tajikistan, which was the main goal of the organized journey

Since many years plenty of expeditions were organized to the Yagnob area. The Russian topographical expedition started exploration in 1820. The first scientific exploration under the leadership of Abramov was conducted in 1870. The book of German scientist indicated the natural uniqueness and authenticity of culture and language in his article "Yagnob riddle" published in 1883.

On this expedition the members had a chance to meet and talk to people to be introduced in their way, joy of life, and their everyday problems. Here we have to say about less access to education, and medicine!!

In the Valley we could see the new built houses. In the 1970's many inhabitants of the higher territories of Zarafshan Valley were resettled to undeveloped lands of present Ganchi, Zafarabad and Matcha districts. Among this population there were Yagnobian people too. But in the 1990's after Tajikistan gained independence many began returning back to their own villages. The old man in Pskon village has explained that their family decided to return and has being lived in Pskon for last 10 years. He said: "It was difficult, but here is our home". We were invited by him for a lunch, where we had an opportunity to have interesting conversation with the host. At the end of our conversation and very delicious lunch, we could hear the Yagnob songs.

Every of the expedition members could find their interesting moments. For example, Alexey Golubtov, the photographer of the Journal "Вокруг Света – Round the world" was impressed by the game of local boys. The played a game being the land reclamation experts. They were busy with two pieces of pipe planning at which angle and direction the pipes have to be set up in order to lead water source – small water stream crossing the garden.

During expedition days we could undertake the hike started on the altitude of 1500m passing alpine pastures extend between the mountain ranges to the north and south of the valley. It was a great opportunity to be introduced to the flora and fauna of the Yagnob Gorge. Among animals the marmots are the frequent met friends of Yagnob fauna.

Many amazing, beautiful, unforgettable, touching pictures and stories are imprinted in the memories, on the photographs, and in the notes.

If you would decide to visit the Yagnob area, we will be happy to organize the tour for you. You could ask for tour description and program, contacting us at : tic_panjakent@yahoo.com



1. Petroglyphs close to Kirionte Village



3. View on Yangob river



2. Pskon Village



4. Fields on the altitude of 3000 m.

FAIRS IN AUTUMN

This autumn there is a chance to meet each other on the Fairs in Dushanbe and Tashkent. You will have an opportunity to be introduced to the new tourist products getting the ravel advices directly from ZTDA colleagues.

DUSHANBE, 20th of September 2010 - in the frame of German Weeks on the Fair of German Organizations working in Tajikistan. **Place:** Hayat Regency Hotel in Dushanbe.

TASHKENT, 7th - 8th of October 2010 on the Tashkent International Tourism Fair. **Place:** The Gem of the East – Uzbekistan in Tashkent. For more information please visit: www.tourfair.uz

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