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THE IMPORTANCE AND TYPES OF GREEN AREAS IN URBAN IMPROVEMENT

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Annotation: This article presents a classification of green trees and seedlings planted during the process of urban improvement by categories and examines the use of landscape architecture for the modern aesthetic and environmental purposes of the city.

Keywords: Greening, urban landscaping, landscape system, landscape architecture, aesthetic and ecological, relief, horticulture, ecology, natural.

Аннотация; В данной статье представлена классификация зеленых деревьев и саженцев, посаженных в процессе благоустройства города по категориям и рассмотрены вопросы использования ландшафтной архитектуры для современных эстетических и экологических целей города.

Ключевые слова: Озеленение, озеленение городов, ландшафтная система, ландшафтная архитектура, эстетико-экологическое, рельеф, садоводство, экология, природное.

Annotasiya: Ushbu maqolada shaharni obodonlashtirishda ekilgan yashil daraxtlar va ko‘chatlarning toifalar bo‘yicha tasnifi berilgan va landshaft arxitekturasidan shaharning zamonaviy estetik va ekologik maqsadlarida foydalanish masalalari muhokama qilingan.

Kalit so'zlar: Ko’kalamzorlashtirish, shahar ko’kalamzorlashtirish, landshaft tizimi, landshaft arxitekturasi, estetik va ekologik, relyef, bog'dorchilik, ekologiya, tabiiy.

Introduction. One of the key directions of modern urban planning is to transform urban areas into environmentally healthy, comfortable, and aesthetically attractive spaces. In this process, green areas trees, shrubs, flowerbeds, lawns, and parks play an essential role. They not only enhance the beauty of the city but also have a positive impact on human health, improve the microclimate, and reduce dust, noise, and harmful gases. The presence of green spaces is one of the main indicators that determine the ecological stability of a city. Today, in many countries of the world, urban development policies are being implemented based on the principles of the “green economy.” This process is actively taking place in all major cities of Uzbekistan, including Samarkand, Tashkent, Bukhara, and Fergana.

Urban green areas play a vital role in modern city improvement, serving ecological, social, aesthetic and health-related purposes. As urban populations grow and cities expand, the need to integrate nature into urban environments becomes ever more critical. Green areas—such as parks, tree-lined streets, lawns and gardens—are no longer optional amenities, but essential components of sustainable and livable cities. From an ecological perspective, green spaces

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contribute substantially to improving air quality, regulating micro-climates and supporting biodiversity. Trees and vegetation absorb carbon dioxide, filter pollutants and produce oxygen.[1]

When planning urban improvement projects, it is important to classify and integrate different types of green areas according to their functions and locations. Public green zones such as city parks and promenades serve broad recreational and social functions. Semi-private green zones near administrative, educational or health-care buildings cater to more specific users. Finally, protective green belts around industrial or transport corridors fulfil mainly environmental and buffering roles. By recognising these categories, city planners can more effectively allocate resources, ensure equitable access and design appropriate plant species and structure for each setting. In conclusion, as cities face the twin challenges of rapid urbanisation and climate change, the role of green areas in urban improvement cannot be overstated. Properly designed, maintained and distributed green infrastructure contributes to healthier, more resilient, attractive and socially cohesive urban environments. Incorporating a diversity of green area types into urban planning offers a strategic pathway to sustainable city development. [

Beyond environmental benefits, green spaces significantly enhance human well-being and social life. Accessibility to natural areas within the city has been associated with lower stress levels, improved mental health and greater opportunities for physical activity.Green public spaces encourage community engagement, provide venues for recreation and improve the aesthetic quality of neighbourhoods, which in turn can raise property values and stimulate local investment.[2]

The concept of urban improvement and its components. Urban improvement refers to a set of measures aimed at creating comfortable living, working, and recreation conditions in a certain area. This process consists of the following main components. Development of road and pedestrian infrastructure (streets, walkways, public spaces), establishment of green areas (parks, gardens, squares, and alleys), construction of water bodies and fountains, installation of lighting, decorative, and architectural elements, ensuring environmental cleanliness.

These elements are closely interconnected and together form an integrated landscape-compositional system. Among them, green spaces serve as the “natural lungs” of the city. The role of green areas in urban ecology. Green vegetation performs not only aesthetic but also ecological, social, and health-related functions. Their main significance can be summarized as follows. Ecological function: trees enrich the air with oxygen, absorb carbon dioxide, and reduce noise levels by 40–50 dB. Climatic function: they stabilize the city’s microclimate and reduce temperature by 3–5°C. Hygienic function: they trap dust, reduce bacteria, and purify the air. Aesthetic and psychological function: they have a positive effect on human emotions and create a pleasant environment for recreation. Therefore, each city should have at least 20–30 square meters of green space per person. This corresponds to international standards. [1,4]

Types of green areas and their functional classification Green spaces are divided into several categories according to their functions within the city:

Category 1 – Public green areas. This group includes parks, recreation gardens, central boulevards, promenades, and public squares. They are open to the public and are intended for cultural, sports, and social events. For example, the area around Registan Square, the Siyob Bazaar promenade, and Navruz Park in Samarkand are examples of such public green zones.

Category 2 – Restricted-use green areas. These types of plantations are mainly located around administrative buildings, educational and healthcare institutions, and kindergartens. They serve as places for rest, outdoor study activities, and relaxation for employees and students.

[1] https://www.trvst.world/environment/why-are-urban-green

[2] https://zengreen.net/whats-new/the-importance-of-preserving-urban-green

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Category 3 – Special-purpose green areas. This category includes industrial zones, roadside and railway protective plantations, cemeteries, botanical gardens, and greenhouses. They mainly perform protective, filtration, and ecological stabilization functions.

For instance, green belts around industrial enterprises help to reduce dust and gas emissions, protecting the surrounding environment. Principles of designing and planning green areas. The main requirement of urban landscape architecture is to design green spaces in a comprehensive manner. The following principles are essential. Territorial integrity – green areas should harmoniously integrate with the urban environment. Connectivity with transport and pedestrian routes – parks and gardens must be linked to city centers. Consideration of water bodies and topography preservation of natural landscape features. Use of local plant species – ensuring ecological adaptability and water efficiency. Aesthetic harmony – maintaining visual balance with architectural structures. [2,3]

Social and cultural significance of green areas. Green spaces are an integral part of urban culture. They are not only places of recreation but also serve as venues for communication, sports, arts, and education among residents. Concerts, exhibitions, and national celebrations held in parks increase civic engagement and social cohesion. According to psychological research, people living in green environments experience 30% less stress and demonstrate higher productivity. Therefore, in modern urban planning, the term “green infrastructure” has emerged, recognized as equally important as transport, energy, and architectural systems.

Conclusion. Green areas are an inseparable component of city life, performing ecological, social, and aesthetic functions. They not only represent the beauty of nature but also strengthen human health and maintain environmental balance. In every newly constructed or reconstructed city, it is recommended that at least 30 percent of the total area be allocated to green spaces. To transform a city into a truly “green city,” every citizen, architect, environmentalist, and responsible organization must contribute to this common goal.

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