

RIVETNA

DISCOVERING AFFINITY

OBSERVATIONS OF ZOROASTRIAN
ART AND ARCHITECTURE IN TAJIKISTAN

CYRUS RIVETNA AIA

November 16 2024

for Society of Scholars of Zoroastrianism Conference



Takhti Sangin



THE GROUP

8 participants + 2 guides + 1 driver - from US, Canada, Australia - archaeologists

Cyrus' Birthday dinner in the Land of Cyrus the Great



Takhti Sangin



GEOGRAPHY AND ROUTE

Central Asia

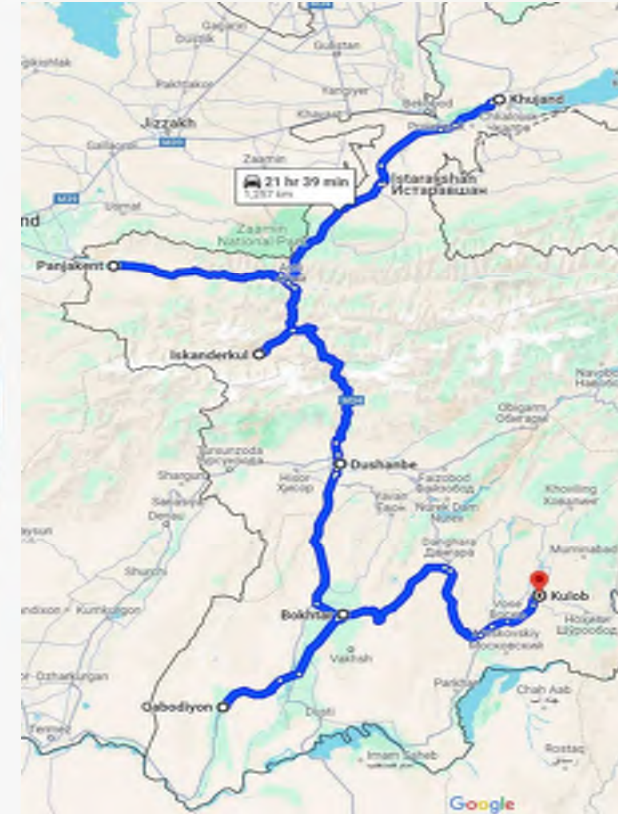
Aug 13th through Aug 23rd
2024

10 Days

Western Tajikistan, from
north to south.



World Map centered on Tajikistan



The Route

INDEPENDENCE SQUARE

Dushanbe

12 Panels showing the history of Tajikistan



First panel



Second panel



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF TAJIKISTAN

Persepolis details - starts with Zoroastrian exhibit - Cyrus the Great at the entrance

Recreation of a fire altar



Zoroastrian exhibit



Cyrus the Great statue



Bronze Censer

SARAZM

4th Century BC - fire altar



Fire altar



Aerial view

ANCIENT PANJIKENT

Arab invasion in 722AD - Mud architecture -



Ongoing excavation at Ancient Panjikent



Ruins of Ancient Panjikent

ANCIENT PANJIKENT

Two temples + a third - pottery



8th century pottery



Ruins of Ancient Panjikent

DEVASHTICH

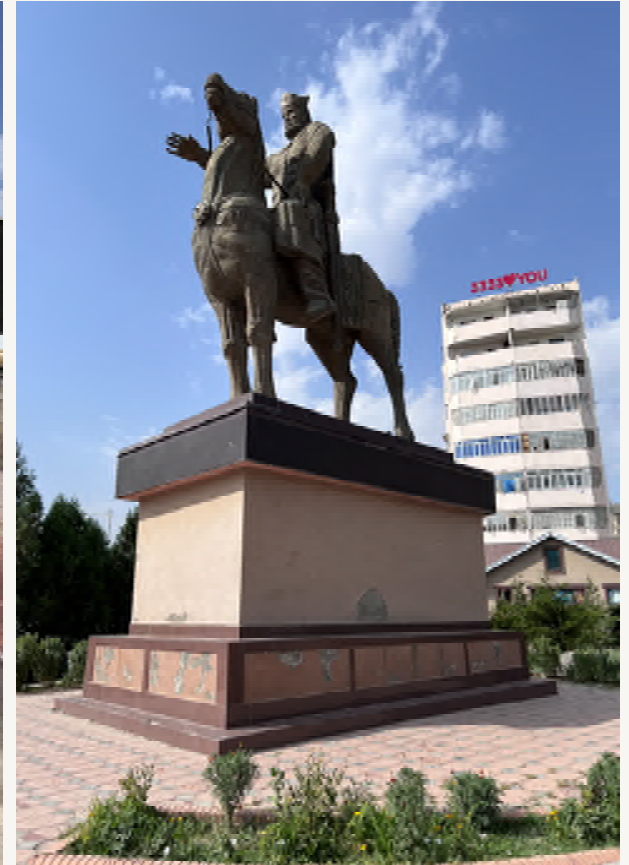
Last king of Panjikent - 722 Arab invasion - National hero



Monument in Khujand



Monument in Panjikent



CHAHAR TAQ IN THE CITY OF CYRUS THE GREAT

Istaravshan - Poor recreation of a Sassanian fire temple

Stone model, National
Museum of Tajikistan



Interior View, showing fire altar



Reconstructed exterior view

ARYAN CULTURE CENTER

Rana Zairdukht

Organization dedicated to the promotion
of Zoroastrianism

Zoroastrian names

Publication with Zoroaster



Cyrus + Cyrus

Wall sculpture depicting a Zoroastrian battle



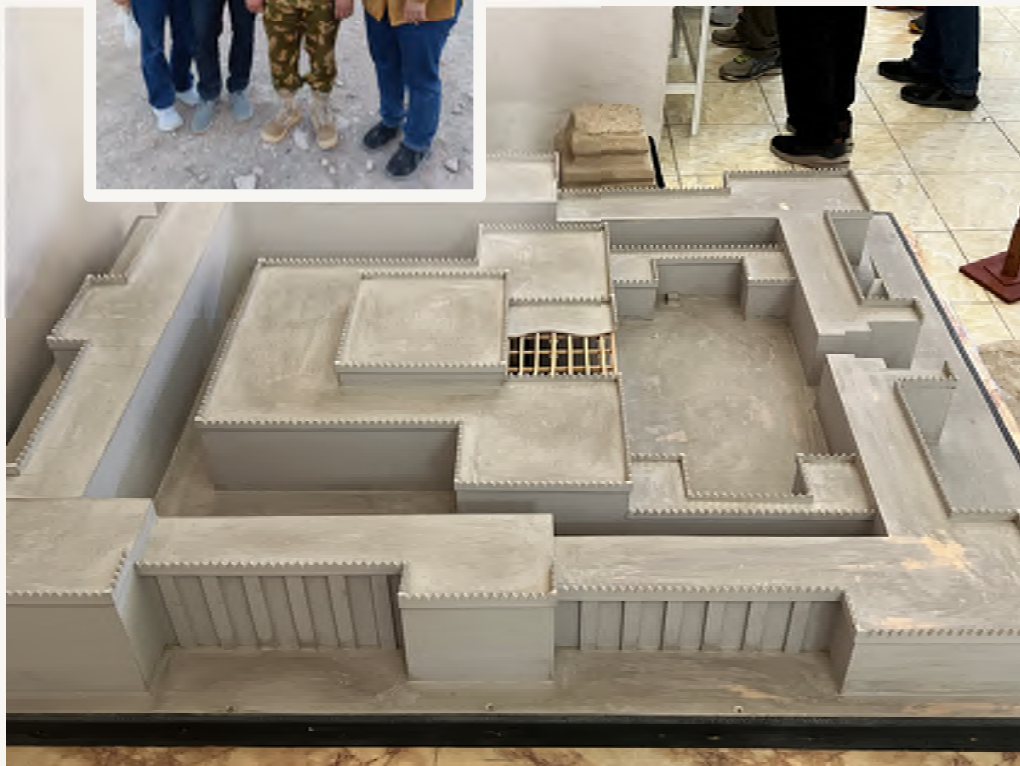
Our Route

Farohar embroidery

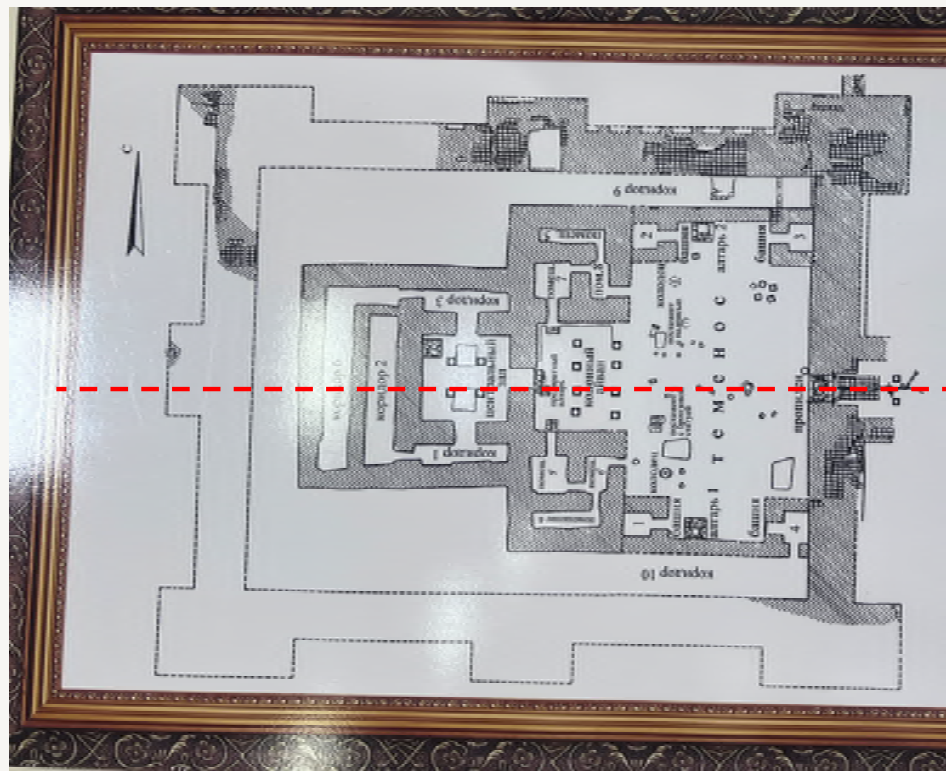


TAKHTI SANGIN

Three rivers - Oxus treasures - border of Afghanistan



Model, Avesta Museum, Qabodiyon



Plan, National Museum of Antiquities

TAKHTI SANGIN

Three rivers - Oxus treasures - border of Afghanistan



Temple faces the sunset view at the valley of the mountains



Looking east towards Afghanistan and the Oxus River

DISCOVERING AFFINITY

CYRUS RIVETNA AIA



Iskanderkul Lake