


THE MAUSOLEUM OF AISHA BIBI

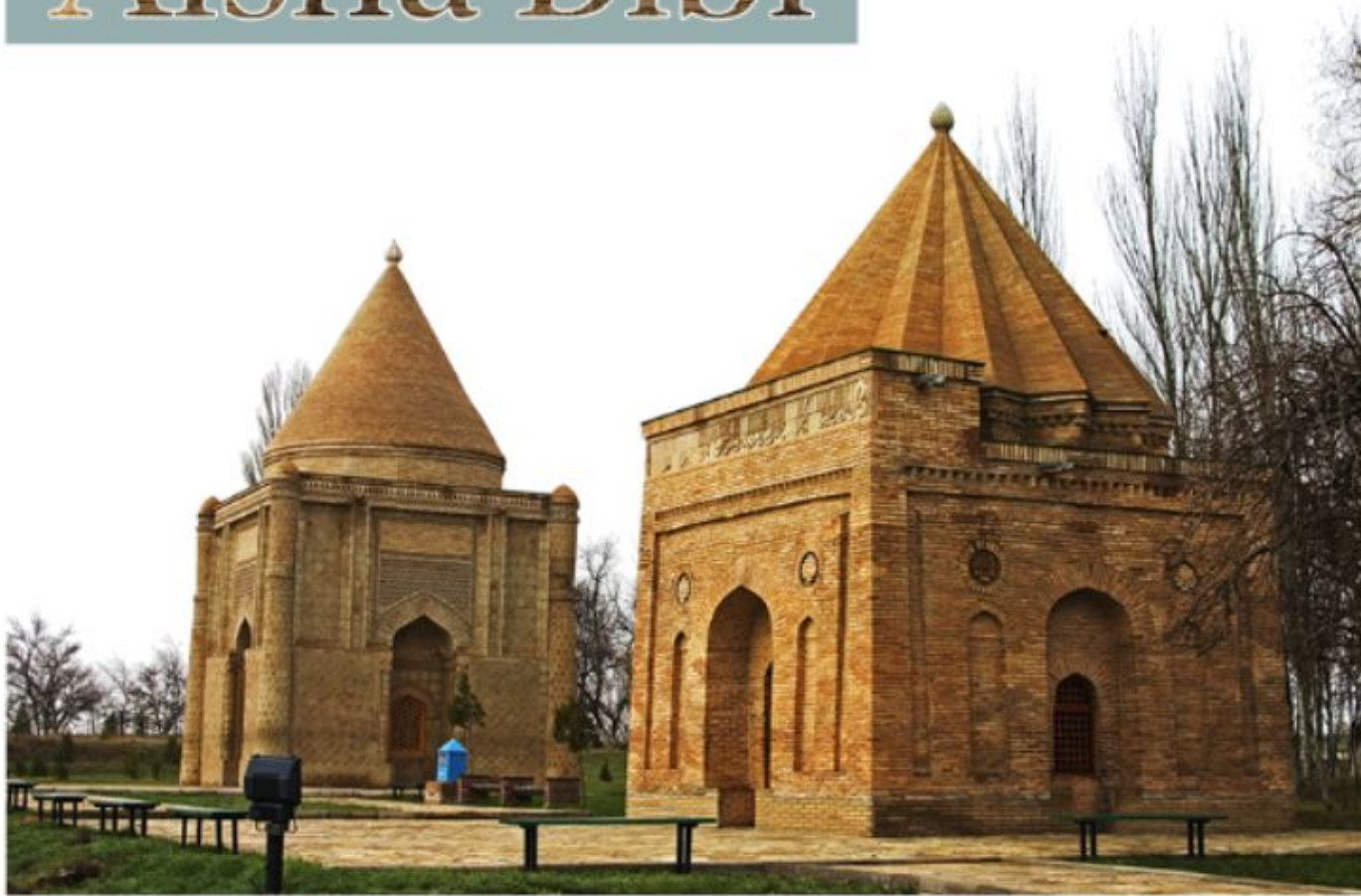
Lesson objectives:

- ◆ To listen and read for specific information
- ◆ To read for comprehension
- ◆ To write a summary

- 1 Look at the picture and read the title of the text.
How was this mausoleum created? 



The Mausoleum of Aisha Bibi



1 Listen and read to find out.

The Mausoleum of **Aisha Bibi**

In the Taraz region of southern Kazakhstan, there stands a beautiful and mysterious building from many years ago. Hundreds of delicate patterned tiles decorate every wall of the building. It is called the Mausoleum of Aisha Bibi and, although its true origins are lost in history, there is a local legend that tells the tragic story of Aisha Bibi and her death.

A long time ago, the great khan of Taraz, Karakhan, travelled to Samarkand. While he was walking along the streets of that great city, Karakhan came across Aisha Bibi, the beautiful daughter of Khakim-Ata. When Karakhan and Aisha Bibi saw each other they both fell in love.

Karakhan went to Aisha's father to ask if he could marry his daughter but Khakim-Ata refused. Although Karakhan was a khan, his kingdom was still very small at that time and he had less money than Khakim-Ata. There was nothing he could say to change Khakim-Ata's mind. Before he left, Aisha Bibi and Karakhan made a secret promise to marry each other.

A few weeks passed, but Aisha Bibi had no news from Karakhan. She decided to travel to Taraz to find

him. Her mother helped her pack a few things to take with her and sent her old nanny Babadzha Khatun with her. But as Khakim-Ata saw his daughter riding away he shouted a curse after her: “You will cross six rivers, but you will not cross the seventh!”

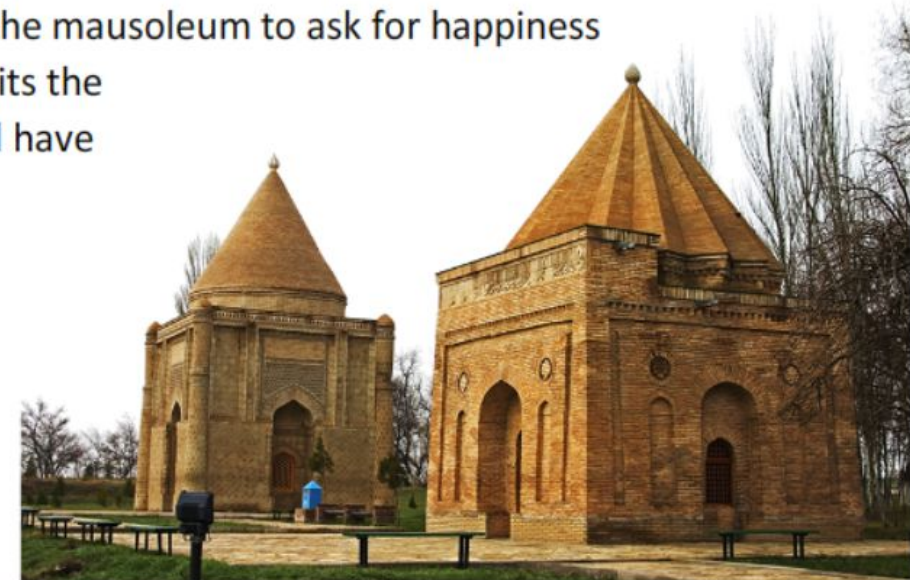
The two women rode north for weeks, until they saw the city of Taraz in the distance. Before they crossed the seventh river, they stopped so Aisha could bathe, forgetting her father’s curse. Just then, a poisonous snake leapt from under a rock and bit her. The poison was fast. Aisha Bibi begged her nanny to ride ahead to Taraz and bring Karakhan to her.




























The old woman rode as fast as she could, but when Karakhan arrived, Aisha Bibi died in his arms. The noble Karakhan ordered that a beautiful mausoleum would be built in the exact place that she died. Her faithful nanny Babadzha Khatun guarded the mausoleum until her own death.

Karakhan later founded the great Karakhanid Empire and became a powerful and wise khan. He lived for many years but never married. When he died, he asked to be buried somewhere facing the beautiful

mausoleum of Aisha Bibi.

To this day, women who are getting married visit the mausoleum to ask for happiness and children. The legend says that anyone who visits the Mausoleum of Aisha Bibi on their wedding day will have a long and happy marriage.



- 1  **beg**  сұрау, жалыну // просить, умолять
- 2  **curse**  қарғыс // проклятие
- 3  **delicate**  жіңішке, нәзік // тонкий, нежный
- 4  **empire**  империя // империя
- 5  **faithful**  жанқияр // преданный
- 6  **kingdom**  корольдік // королевство
- 7  **mausoleum**  мұражай // мавзолей
- 8  **nanny**  бала күтуші // няня
- 9  **noble**  игілікті // благородный
- 10  **pack**  орау, қаптау // упаковывать, паковать
- 11  **patterned**  оюлармен // с узорами
- 12  **poisonous**  улы // ядовитый
- 13  **refuse**  бас тарту // отказывать
- 14  **region**  облыс, аймақ // область, регион
- 15  **tile**  плитка, кафель // плитка, кафель

2



Read the extract again and for questions 1-3 choose the correct answer (A, B or C).

- 1 Which of the following is true about the Mausoleum of Aisha Bibi?
 - A Many of its patterned tiles are lost.
 - B It is in Samarkand.
 - C No one knows its true origins.

- 2 Why did Khakim-Ata refuse when Karakhan asked if he could marry Aisha Bibi?
 - A Karakhan's kingdom was too small.
 - B Aisha Bibi didn't want to marry Karakhan.
 - C Karakhan lived too far away.

- 3 What happened after Aisha Bibi died?
 - A Karakhan guarded her until he died.
 - B Karakhan built a mausoleum where she died.
 - C Karakhan got married to another woman.

1 ★ **Label the pictures.**

- river • rock • mausoleum • building
- kingdom



2 ★ **a) Match the adjectives to the words below.**

- delicate patterned • true • local
- poisonous • faithful

- 1 legend
- 2 tiles
- 3 nanny
- 4 snake
- 5 origins

★ **b) Use the phrases to complete the sentences.**

- 1 There are all over the walls of the mausoleum.
- 2 The of the mausoleum are lost in history.
- 3 Aisha died after a bit her.
- 4 The story of Aisha Bibi and her death is a
- 5 Aisha had a who loved her a lot.

NOW I



know how
can



speak about
understand the information
explain the problem
give arguments
say my opinion on ...

During today's lesson I have



got acquainted
found out
learnt
remembered



INDEPENDENT WORK

- 6** a)  In groups, draw the story in 6 pictures.
Use them to present the story to the class.

The Mausoleum of *Aisha Bibi*

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- 6** b) Use your answers in Ex. 6a to write a summary of the story.