

URBAN MONUMENTS OF FERGANA VALLEY AND THE EARLY GOVERNMENT PROCESS CHARACTERISTICS

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Abstract: The history of Uzbekistan, particularly the emergence of the first statehood in the Fergana Valley, is one of the most urgent problems among researchers today. In the history of the Uzbek people and statehood, the Fergana Valley is an ancient place with a long history. Most of the archaeological monuments, which are extremely important for past history, are also located in the valley.

In this article, as a result of a comprehensive study of the monuments of the Late Bronze Age and the First Iron Age of Fergana, the question of the appearance of peasant settlements, then city-like fortresses, and then the first cities and states is analyzed on the example of Chust, Dalvarzin and Eilatun monuments.

The purpose of the research is to reveal the history of the origins of peasant communities and herders' cultures, socio-economic, political and mutual relations during the Bronze and Early Iron Ages. This study was carried out within the framework of scientific research on the topic "Fergana Valley during the Bronze and First Iron Ages".

Keywords: *Fergana Valley, Late Bronze Age, irrigated farming, specialized crafts, urbanization process, socio-economic and archaeological signs, peasant settlement, city-like fortresses, early urban culture, statehood.*

1. Introduction

The Fergana Valley is the largest of the ancient historical and cultural regions of Uzbekistan, and it is a land where a unique culture has been formed since the beginning of history, and the first examples of urban planning and early statehood appeared on its territory. But until recently, the archeological research conducted in the study of the history of the cities of the Fergana Valley could not be compared with the southern, central or western regions of the Republic. For example, the study of monuments such as Erkurgan, Kal'ai Zohaki Maron or Shulluktepa in the Karshi oasis, Uzunkir, Sangirtepa in the Kesh-Shahrisabz oasis, Djarkoton, Dalvarzintepa, Zartepa, Kampirtepa, Old Termiz monuments in the Surkhan oasis, or Afrosiyob, Koktepa, Dabusiya in the Samarkand oasis was reported very well about the urbanization processes in Uzbekistan [11: 148-149].

The emergence and development of cities has its own laws and stages. In order to obtain the status of a city, certain conditions, i.e. political, socio-economic and cultural factors, as well as physical-geographical factors are of great importance: mineral resources, the location of the city, water supply, connection with the outside world (connection with trade routes)[17: 77].

In the science of history, the process of urbanization is divided into the oldest, ancient and medieval cities, taking into account the characteristics of different periods [23: 15]. For example, the culture of urban planning in the Fergana Valley is included among the ancient cities, the archaeological record of the cities (large area, perfect defense system, arch, temple, etc.), the presence of the first irrigation facilities and the development of crafts are signs of changes in the ancient society. These processes indicate the beginning of the emergence of the first forms (signs) of statehood.

2. Materials and methods

Since ancient Ferghana was the most favorable area for agriculture, settled agriculture and the first urban culture were founded here since the Bronze Age. On the basis of archaeological sources related to the Chust culture, information was obtained not only about the formation of the first urban culture in the Fergana region, and on this basis, the study of the history of the first states in the ancient Fergana region was also started.

The role of Uzbek scientists under the leadership of Ya. G. Gulomov is very important in the study of the archaeological sites of the Fergana Valley. Archeological signs to give city status to the monuments found and examined in the valley were first developed by Yu.A. Zadneprovsky, and later this topic was developed by A. Anorboev, B. Kh. Matboboev, M. H. Isomiddinov, G. P. Ivanov. It was developed on the basis of new information in the scientific publications of such scientists as F. Maksudov, B. Abdulgazieva, B. Abdullaev, I. Yoldoshev.

3. Results

The rapid development of irrigated agriculture in the Fergana Valley has led to the acceleration of urbanization processes. As a result of archeological research, many clarifications were made on the relationship between man and nature in the ancient period of the Fergana Valley. The ancient farmers of Ferghana took over the irrigated lands and built artificial anthropogenic landscapes, which differed in a number of qualities, first of all, in the ecological conditions of the soil. As a result of their correct and rational use of natural landscapes, they grew the agricultural products they needed [3: 99-100].

The early forms of urban development and statehood in the archaeological complexes of the Fergana Valley are compared with the well-studied historical and cultural oases such as Margiyona, Bactria, Sughd and Khorezm. The

location of the monuments in Bactria and Sughd, their material culture and early cities have many similarities with the same processes in the valley. In particular, the development of production forces led to an increase in population and an increase in agricultural oases. The fact that there are more than 80 Late Bronze Age monuments in the Fergana Valley indicates that the first urban planning and the first buds of statehood appeared in this area.

Although new traditions appeared in the early Iron Age Fergana Valley urban planning compared to the previous period, in some cases there are similarities between the continuation of the Bronze Age city building traditions and the aspects of urban planning in the southern regions of Central Asia. In turn, this process had an impact on the traditions of statehood.

As a result of a comprehensive study of the monuments of the Late Bronze Age of Fergana, it was found that, first, the settlements of farmers, then city-like fortresses, and then the first cities appeared [19: 7].

In the formation of ancient city-states, the agricultural and craft farms of the settled population were the main economic factor, and they were, at first, the economic center of the surrounding areas, the center of social management of the political and religious self-governing stratified communities of a district, region or a certain country, i.e. the first was a state.

Historically, the presence of three other factors related to the sedentary economic life of the population is considered necessary for the formation of cities. The first of them is favorable natural conditions, water and other geographical factors, and the second is productive irrigated agriculture and agrotechnics that support it. These are the economic factors in the emergence of ancient cities. Thirdly, the religious, military, and political management system of the stratified society that emerged on the basis of these economic factors must have been created, that is, fundamental changes in economic life (discovery of the artificial irrigation system in agriculture, the release of water from rivers to new lands through main canals, land work involves the use of plows and animal power).

The invention of the spinning and loom in the field of handicrafts, the discovery of the wheel and the complex two-tiered furnace in pottery, the discovery of the technology of metal melting and casting, the transition from domestic animals to the use of transport, the transition to the construction of houses and monumental buildings based on a plan in construction, about the environment based on accumulated knowledge (astronomy, astrology, sundial, calendar, invention of complex calculation system, etc.), stratification occurs in social life. When this stratification process reaches a certain point, the need to manage society arises. It was a social factor. Only when the historical conditions for these three factors to exist in a dialectical unity are born, ancient cities and city-states appear on their base [6: 14-24].

According to the archaeologist Sh.B. Shaydullaev, it is time to raise the problem of the ancient kingdom of Ferghana on the example of Chust culture monuments. Because solving the problem of the kingdom of Ferghana compared to the ancient kingdom of Khorezm, which exists in science, seems to be much easier from an archaeological point of view. As mentioned, facts such as the complex of more than 80 monuments, the categorization of monuments of the city type, and the expansion of the geography of Chust culture monuments to Bactria provide a positive solution to this issue [26: 29].

In the 70s of the 20th century, Yu.A. Zadneprovsky was the first among researchers to introduce the issue of the first cities of ancient Fergana into scientific circulation [8: 88-90 ; 9: 74]. The results of the study of the ancient Chust farming culture were expressed in his doctoral thesis. Houses, pottery samples, work tools and types of monuments related to this culture were analyzed in depth. Their chronology is the end of the II millennium - AD. From the beginning of the 1st millennium BC. It was defined as up to VIII - VII centuries. This period of Fergana was concluded as "the formation of the earliest simple statehood and the formation of the first class communities" [10: 44].

Abdulhamid Anorboev also conducted research on the history of ancient Fergana statehood and urbanism in different years [2: 70-71 ; 4; 5: 3-14]. In the scientific publications of the researcher, such issues as the material culture of the old cities, the economy and lifestyle of the population are reflected [1].

A. According to Anorboev, in the second half of the 2nd millennium, the establishment of agriculture in Fergana led to an increase in food products and the possibility of growing additional products in some families. As a result of mutual disagreements and wars, prisoners are taken. They are forced to work in families with more surplus products. Class differentiation will increase. As a result, agricultural oases in river and stream basins saw the emergence of peasant settlements, then the first cities and the first states ("nome").

According to A. Anorboev, in the middle of the second half of the 2nd millennium, "initial states" or state-type political associations were formed at the beginning of the 1st millennium. He puts forward the idea that the first state union appeared in Fergana on the basis of "initial states" [5: 10-11]. However, not only in the statehood of the Fergana Valley, but in the history of the entire Central Asian statehood, the question of whether cities appeared first or whether the state appeared first is a problematic issue. That is, issues related to the problems of historical reconstruction of archaeological material. According to A. Anorboev's conclusion, the first peasant settlements appeared first, then the first cities and the first states ("nome"). In the same issue, A. Anorboev made a general conclusion that which layer of the settlement of Fergana is the oldest and which parts of which monument can be called a city, without distinguishing the general stages of the city's development.

In the 90s of the 20th century, Bakijon Khoshimovich Matboboev conducted research on the ancient cities of Fergana and oasis statehood [16: 25-38 ; 17: 77-78 ; 18; 20: 42-44]. Along with researching the ancient material culture, the researcher paid special attention to the issues of the first urban development culture in the region, historical periodization of cities. In his opinion, the first buds of urban planning culture in Fergana belong to the Late Bronze Age

and the Early Iron Age. In particular, the monument of Buonamozor (Chust) is a medium-sized monument in terms of its area (4 ha), structure and economy, and it served as a larger village. However, the meeting of the part surrounded by a strong wall (sometimes called an arch) on the northwest side of the monument indicates that the signs of urban planning appeared in it, that is, it can be called a city-like space (protogorod). In addition, this monument was a unique center of the northern part of the Fergana Valley [25: 88-94] .

Another unique monument of Chust culture, Dalvarzin , with its historical topography and unique material culture, is one of the first cities not only in the valley, but also in Uzbekistan. In the last period of the Chust culture, in the territory of Ferghana, the first states had the appearance of city-states or oases-states[22: 23]. This monument was discovered in 1952 by archaeologist Yu.A. Zadneprovsky from St. Petersburg, and the scientist conducted regular archaeological excavations for 16 years [22: 17] . In 2003-2005, the Institute of Archeological Research of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Babur International Foundation [14: 143-152] , and in 2018-2019, conducting archaeological research in cooperation with Japanese scientists under the leadership of B.Kh. causing it to be acquired. As a result of the research, it was found that the monument, which has an area of 25 hectares and a cultural layer of 4 meters thickness, consists of three parts, each of which is surrounded by separate defensive walls. That is, the ruins of Shahap have three components and they are called Dalvarzin I, II, III.

Each part of the three-part city had its own function, that is, they consisted of the living quarters, the ark, and the parts for keeping livestock. There is an arch in a specially separated and walled area. The remaining parts are also surrounded by defensive walls. B. Matboboev's conclusions also lack deficiencies that should be identified during archaeological excavations. However, it has not been determined which part of the Dalvarzin monument, how thick the cultural layers are, and which defensive walls were developed synchronously with the defensive walls surrounding those layers.

According to Ferghana archaeologists, Dalvarzin is distinguished by its territorial size, complex structure, divided into components, protection by perfect defensive walls and special attention to the arch, and being a center of handicrafts and product exchange, and trade. Craftsmanship was divided into several areas. In particular, evidentiary objects were found from the fields of pottery, textiles, stonework, jewelry, and bone processing [15: 22-23] .

Dalvarzin is recognized by major archaeologists and historians as the oldest city in the valley. For example, Academician A. Askarov agrees with the conclusion that Dalvarzin is the oldest city in the valley[7: 13-25]. A.S. Sagdullaev, who studied the ancient cities in the southern regions, also believes that Dalvarzin was formed as a city in VIII-VII centuries [24: 103]. So, the opinions of those who say that urban development processes in Fergana were later than in other regions are unfounded, the presence of signs of the first urban culture confirms that B.Kh. Matboboev's opinion about the initial state unification is correct. However, in order to clearly state this opinion, it remains unclear from which period the mentioned archaeological materials were used, and on the basis of which signs these conclusions were reached. For example, the last stage of the Koktepa monument in the Zarafshan oasis is clear. If we say that this monument is an "Early Iron Age city" based on its history during that last phase, we would make a completely wrong conclusion. However, we determined which part of this monument belongs to which periods in field conditions and then made a conclusion. For example, if the total area of Koktepa within the inner defensive wall is 24, the total area of the oldest parts is much less than the later ones. In our opinion, the 3 defensive walls of the Dalvarzin monument belong to different periods. Because, according to the authors who excavated Dalvarzin, the total thickness of cultural layers everywhere is 4 m. consists of [14: 145]. However, when we were in the excavations of archaeologists from Japan in this monument, we have seen that the total thickness of the cultural layers in the peripheral parts of the monument was close to 0.5 m.

No less than 80 monuments of the Chust culture are the most compared to monuments of the Early Iron Age in other historical and cultural regions of Central Asia.

In addition to socio-economic and cultural factors, military factors also played an important role in the emergence of cities in the Fergana Valley. According to I. Yoldoshev, the constant threat of attacks by herding tribes living in the mountains surrounding the valley and the regions extending to Eastern Turkestan led to the improvement of defense structures[12: 319] .

The next period of the urbanization process in Fergana is observed in the monuments of Eilaton culture. Archeological materials of this culture confirm that it continued the Late Bronze Age tradition. Mile in Izboskan district of Andijan region for urbanism of this period. An example is the ruins of the city of Eilaton, which dates back to the VI-III centuries.

The ruins of the city of Eilaton, its huge square and powerful defensive fortifications indicate that one of the largest and oldest cities existed in the Fergana Valley in the middle of the 1st millennium [22: 19-22] .

Based on the analyzed and summarized data, the process of formation of statehood in the regions of the Fergana Valley can be explained as follows:

Table 1

SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNS	
Socio-economic characteristics	Archaeological signs

Population growth and stratification of society (Herdsman, cultivators, artisans, builders, clan chiefs, tribal leaders, priests, warriors)	Increase in the number of residences; Territorial expansion of residences; Formation of the hierarchy of residences; Graves, quantity and quality indicators of finds found in them
The first state center is the existence of a city	The emergence of cities and the process of gathering villages around them
Craftsmanship development	The process of centralization of craft industries; Increase in types of craft products, quality changes; Improvement of labor tools
Development of agriculture	Creation of artificial irrigation tributaries and canals; Increase in the number of crops
Livestock development and shelters for livestock	An increase in the number of house and animal bones
Improvement of military affairs	Division of military fortifications; Defense walls, towers; Improvement of weapons
A centralized religion that unites people spiritually	Division of family altars; Monumental temples
Trade and cultural communication	Examples of material culture characteristic of other cultures; Improvement of roads
Private property, political union symbol	Seal
Civilized society level	Writing

It is appropriate to apply these archaeological features of early states to communities of highly developed agricultural cultures and urban communities that have reached early civilization. Depending on the nature of the culture being studied, it is not necessary to have all the indicated signs to be a first state.

Based on the conducted archaeological research, it is safe to say that Fergana did not lag behind other regions in historical development, and the first manifestations of statehood took place here as well. Because exactly in the first half of the 8th and 6th centuries, larger state associations began to emerge on the basis of small oasis states in Central Asia[13: 9].

Conclusion

It can be said that the statehood of Fergana continued in the early city-state forms of the Chust culture. However, as in the whole of Central Asia, the influence of the Sakas will significantly increase and they will completely seize power. The coming to power and rule of nomadic herders can be seen in the next stage of Fergana statehood.

The ancient state of Davan is a vivid manifestation of the statehood of Fergana, which according to one account was active on the stage of history for 400-500 years, according to another, longer. The State of Davan continues the tradition of statehood of the previous Eilatonian period.

It can be concluded from the above that the settlement of Chust (Buonamozor) was built in the Fergana valley by settled peasant communities, which reflected the first city-like signs, and the Dalvarzin monument is a vivid example of the first existing cities in the territory of Uzbekistan. Also, the division of the city identified in the Dalvarzin monument may have indicated the emergence of a system of governance, rather than a question of class division. Thus, in the last period of the Chust culture, the appearance of the first states in the territory of Fergana was city-states or oases-states. They represented a territorially small state organization. In all regions of Central Asia, the first statehood was formed on the basis of separate oases. This universal characteristic also belonged to the history of Fergana.

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