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About the History of the Study of Archaeological Monuments of Central SUGD

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Abstract: In this article, the authors provided information about the history of the study of the ancient city of Samarkand, Afrosiyab, and the monuments around it, as well as the role of Afrosiyab in the history of Sughd urban planning.

Key words: Sughd, city topography, underground rooms, M. Dzhorakulov, Afrosiyob, Sinch, A. Anarboyev, M. Saidov, koshk, qasr, kurgan, irrigation ditches, A.Y. Yakubovsky, Karakhanids.

Our country is one of the centers where the civilization of the world nations has flourished. This is confirmed by the large number of objects of material, cultural and archaeological heritage and the large amount of archaeological resources and materials obtained as a result of their research. Therefore, from the first years of the independence of our Republic, great attention was paid to the issues of in-depth study of the cultural heritage of our people, its preservation and transmission to the next generation, and their legal foundations were also created.

At the end of the 8th century BC - by the 7th century BC, rapid changes began in the development of settlements in the south of Central Asia, and settlements with fortified walls, palaces, turrets, moats, archways and other signs of urban planning appeared in the regions of Bactria and Sugdiyana. Mil. avv. In the 7th-6th centuries, significant changes were made in the irrigation system in the western regions of Central Asia, and they became very important for the development of the cities of that period. From the same time, the first cities began to appear in the territory of Ancient Sughd. The political processes that took place in the following periods caused great changes in the socio-economic life of Central Asia, including Sughd. In particular, the establishment of a new religion in the country, and attempts to destroy spiritual and material culture by force led to a number of changes.

The study of historical monuments in the city of Samarkand began in the last quarter of the 19th century. In 1888, documents related to the census of the first rural population in Turkestan contain information about the number of historical monuments in the oasis - shrines, mosques, mausoleums, cemeteries. information about monuments is given. They are mainly in the form of memoirs, and are more limited to recording and recording existing settlements and other monuments.[2:52]

The ancient place of Samarkand city, the first archaeological researches in Afroasia and its surroundings were carried out by V. Vyatkin at the beginning of the 20th century. Obtained during the excavations, the researcher summarizes the available information and writes that the dwellings were built of straw, raw bricks and wood, and thatch and straw were used in the construction. Although their work in this regard is not highly appreciated by some researchers due to the incompleteness of the reports of the work done and the obtained materials, these excavations provided the first information about the history of the urban development of medieval Sughd.



The research carried out in the former Soviet Union is very important. In it, from the end of the 20s of the 20th century, especially with the initiative of Sredazkomstaris in 1928, the study of historical monuments on a planned basis was started in many places of Central Asia. Under the leadership of I. Zarubin, ethnographic expeditions were organized to the volosts of Samarkand region and data were collected.[4:32]

The special study of the settlements of Sughd was started by the Samarkand archaeological expedition established in 1958. Extensive excavations were carried out in about 50 areas of the city in the course of conducting research aimed at solving problems such as topography, production, urban planning, and beautification issues. studied as a remnant of lakay and material culture, their place in the urban infrastructure, local tradition in the construction of residential areas, fundamental changes and integration problems are not sufficiently covered. At the same time, the problems related to the daily life of the families who lived in these houses were not taken into account. In particular, in the process of researching artisan neighborhoods, as a result of focusing mainly on problems related to production in the analysis of archaeological materials, little information was given about the rooms related to accommodation.

By the middle of the last century, the method of conducting research in the ancient cities of Central Asia was gradually formed, which created the basis for the establishment of complex expeditions for the study of large ancient cities. In particular, the Samarkand archaeological expedition, established in 1958, will be tasked with researching the city's topography, production, urban planning, and beautification issues. Research in this direction was carried out by the Samarkand archaeological expedition of Uzbekistan and France, and in recent years by the Afrosiyob expedition of the Institute of Archaeological Research. Excavations are being conducted at the site. As a result, in these excavations, in most cases, in the process of uncovering the upper layer, a part or several rooms of urban dwellings, their brick-covered floors, underground rooms (basement), sofas, hearths, badrabs, tashnavs are noted. , in some cases separate residences and neighborhoods will be opened as a whole.[6:67]

In 1969-1970, a special study of the settlements of Sughd was carried out by M. Dhorakulov and Sh. It was carried out by the Tashkhojayevs. During the excavations carried out by them in the western and central part of Afro-Siab, settlements belonging to middle-class urban residents of the 9th-11th centuries were identified and excavations were carried out in them. the data also did not fully reveal the features of the residences of this period.

In addition, there are research results that were discovered during the archaeological excavations in Afrosiyab, but were not included in scientific circulation or were partially described. In 1978-1979, in the course of research conducted under the leadership of A. Anarboyev, the remains of settlements dating back to the beginning of the IX-XIII centuries were discovered, but the results of this research were recorded only in scientific reports. In 2010-2014, while the research works are continued in the 29th excavation, the main attention is focused on the study of the material culture of the Early Middle Ages [8:270-275].

The researches about the settlements of Samarkand were later carried out by the archaeologist M.M. It is being studied by Saidov. Summarizing the archaeological materials collected so far in the studies of M. Saidov and their comparative analysis and generalization with new information are of great importance in the study of medieval settlements.[9]

Based on the results of the above-mentioned studies, the need for arable land increased with the acceleration of land ownership relations in the agricultural economy, and with the strengthening of the settlement of nomadic cattle-breeding tribes. Cultivated land has expanded. Wet, deep and branched canals were built, and the water supply of agricultural oases was fundamentally improved. Cities became crowded. Fortified residences with the names "koshk", "qasr", "korgon" and "kopgon" were built in the villages. Such strong buildings were built on a high foundation made of raw bricks and straw. The castle was surrounded by a thick and high wall, there were "tirkis", i.e., target holes for shooting from bows, and high towers at the corners.



Koshk, kasr and kurtons were mostly located at the head of large irrigation canals, around central cities and along the borders of agricultural oases. Small mounds were raised around large and small castles along the oases where water was extracted and cultivated. For example, in the VI-VIII centuries, in the Burgutkala region of ancient Khorezm, there were about a hundred castles and fortresses, which were located at a distance of one hundred to two hundred meters from each other. According to written sources, Bukhara.

The tension that occurred in the internal and external life of the country in the second half of the 4th century and the 5th century had a particularly strong impact on construction. In the agricultural oases of Sughd, many fortified castles and noble peasant fortresses built on high foundations rose. The four corners of the fortifications were reinforced with high towers, walls and ramparts, and several rows of archer target holes were provided. The fortresses of noble owners with a high arch in the center and surrounded by two or three rows of thick defensive walls are typical examples of early medieval architecture. Among them are the Alfir fortresses in Vairon and Khorezm.

In the construction and architecture of this period, especially the palaces had a special place. Some of them are even two-story, and can be reached by a special lift - a ramp. Inside the palace, there were several rooms with flat, dome-shaped and arched roofs. Most of the time, in its central part, there is a mionsarai - a hotel or a temple, surrounded by long rooms like an entrance corridor, in the middle of the room there are wide platforms along the wall, and in the center there is a building with a fireplace. From the end of the 5th century, in addition to the traditional raw brick and straw, baked brick began to be used in construction. During this period, baked bricks were used for paving the floors of palaces and temples.

In particular, in the arch, which is an integral part of the city, during the excavation works conducted in more than 20 objects, along with the mosque, the palace and a number of other public structures, the remains of the residence are also observed. In the following years, as a result of the excavations carried out by the joint expedition of Uzbekistan and France in the arch of the city, the remains of seven memorial structures on the upper floor and five on the lower floor, conditionally recorded as "pavilions", were discovered and studied here. It was observed that the core of these constructions, i.e. pavilions, which are connected with the activities of the ruler of the Karakhanids, Osman, was formed by a sahn (courtyard) covered with solid brick, around which the main, auxiliary and utility rooms were located. The walls of the building were made of sich, and this fact indicates that sich was widely used not only in residential areas, but also in the construction of palaces. [14:68]

The number of excavations carried out in the area between the second and third defensive walls, that is, in the inner city, is not very large, in this regard, the 13th, 14th, 16th, 19th, 28B, 29th and 47th excavations conducted here are examples. can be made. Most of the excavations are superficial, and in all of them there are remains of walls, tashnav, badrabs from the beginning of the 8th-13th centuries.[15:247-256]

According to the researcher M. Saidov, during this period, more than 30 objects were excavated in the territory of the outer shahristan, and in most of them, elements related to the settlements of the studied period are observed. For example, in the southwestern part of the city (excavation 1), along with cultural layers of the 10th-12th centuries, the remains of the wall belonging to the 9th century are located on the remains of the early medieval buildings. in the excavation, levels covered with baked bricks and stones were observed, and the authors note that they are small courtyards of potters' houses dating back to the X-XI centuries.

Thus, Sughd urbanism and its residential remains have been observed in monuments such as Poykend, Varakhsha, Altintepa, among other large cities of Sughd. In the modern science of world history, special attention is paid to the ways of its formation and the characteristics of its development at different stages, to the use of traditional and new advanced-innovative methods in construction, instead of the urban topography of settlements. At the same time, by studying settlements, especially urban settlements, it is possible to get to know the history of socio-economic relations in each historical period and clarify it.



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