

Analysis of Urbanization Processes in Sugdh in the First Iron Age

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Abstract: This article deals with the analysis of urbanization processes in Sughd during the Early Iron Age. Relying on historical data, the author studied and analyzed specific aspects of the analysis of the processes of urbanization in Sughd in the early Iron Age on the basis of existing scientific literature.

Key words: Sughd, early iron age, statehood, urban development, urbanization, regions.

Introduction:

By the early Iron Age, we can observe the continuous formation of urban culture in the Hisar foothills of Sogdia, the upper reaches of the Kashkadarya and the Karshi oasis. The center of the holy Soguda in the texts of "Avesta" was Samarkand Sogdi. Its capital, Samarkand, is located in the Zarafshan oasis, and this ancient region and its old cities have been the focus of research by Western, Russian and Uzbek orientologists and archaeologists. From the point of view of research imagination, a relatively complete study of these areas based on the analysis of archaeological and written sources was carried out by M. Isomiddinov, the main focus of this scientist was on the ancient cities of Afrosiyob, Koktepa and Yerkurgan. is focused².

The largest of them, Afrosiyab, the ancient city of Samarkand, is located in the northern part of modern Samarkand in the form of hills, and occupies an area of 220 hectares. Four rings of the fortress wall have been identified in these areas, and archeological research shows that the first and fourth rings are relatively old. From the lower layers of the first ring, the remnants of a raw brick wall were found, and the remains of this wall were dated by G.V. Dated to the middle of the 1st millennium³.

Main part:

Further studies made it possible to identify protective walls built in the "lumboz" method under this wall. From the layer of the first protective structures, hand-made patterned ceramics in the form of burgulik-chust were also found. Cylindrical vessels also appear in the strata of this period. M.Kh. Isomiddinov, who compared this layer with the layers of the Koktepa Temple on the basis of radiocarbon, dated it to the millennium BC. It belongs to the VIII-VII centuries. Also, the similarity in the fortifications of the Chust culture confirms this date⁴.

As a result of the archaeological research conducted in recent years, the discovery of the ruins of the ancient city of Koktepa, located 30 km west of Samarkand, made it possible to further expand our imagination about the ancient cities of Sogdiya.

This monument is located 5 km northeast of Chelak, the center of Payariq district, and its total area is more than 100 ha. When the pottery, plan, and raw bricks found as a result of the research were compared with the findings of Afrosiyab, it was concluded that Koktepa belongs to the early Iron Age and reflects the culture of early urban development. New researches of the ancient city, consisting of several cultural layers, have provided valuable information for the ancient urbanism of Sugdayona, including the defense system and internal structure of Koktepa compared with written sources⁵.

Hand-made patterned ceramics, rugs, and stone sickles were found in the houses on the lower levels of the large hill with a high tower in Koktepa. According to the researches, the material culture complex here is similar to the cultural complexes of Chust and Burgu in Ferghana and Choch of the Late Bronze and Early Iron Ages⁶. Here, a magnificent building of rectangular raw brick, which is believed to have been the governor's residence, was built. This complex was built in 1000 BC. It is dated to the beginning of the 7th century. The large dimensions of Koktepa, the level of defense including the gallery-shaped defensive arrangement, the internal constructions covering the governor's residence, the large temple complex serve as a basis for including it among the large ancient cities of the archaic period, such as Afrosiyab. does.

Since the 70s of our century, especially in recent years, a number of studies have been conducted in order to determine the age of Bukhara and celebrate its anniversary. From these studies, it can be concluded that the emergence of urban

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² Isamiddinov M.K. On the date of foundation of Samarkand. // ONUz.1997. No. 5, pp. 62-69.

³ Shishkina G.V. Ancient defensive wall of Samarkand. // ONUz.1990. No. 9, pp. 102-107.

⁴ Isamiddinov M.K., Ivanitsky D.I., Inevatkina O.N. On the discovery of a new ancient Ogdian city. // Cities of Central Asia on the Great Silk Road. Abstracts of reports. - Samarkand, 1994, pp. 33-34.

⁵ Raimkulov A.A. Greater Sughd-Sugdiyona: a land at the crossroads of historical processes. Tashkent.: "Economy-Finance". 2017. P. 16-30 (208).

⁶ Matboboev B.Kh. The roots of the early statehood of ancient Ferghana // History of Uzbekistan. 2002. no. 1. B. 3-11.

development in Zarafshan's floodplains was connected with the spread of tribes throughout the oasis. mil to the territories of the current Bukhara region. avv. As early as the IV-III millennia, Neolithic hunters and fishermen tribes with a high stone culture spread⁷.

Analysis of the results of archaeological research conducted in the city of Bukhara and the Bukhara oasis shows that ancient Sogdiana was a place of peasant farmers since the Eneolithic and Bronze Age. They are the Zamonbabo cultures found in Zarafshan, first of all, with the Sarazm culture in the upper reaches of Zarafshan. The owners of this culture were of great importance in the formation of the first urban planning culture in the Bukhara oasis, and by the early Iron Age, on the basis of these ancient cultures, settlements embodying the signs of urban planning appeared and developed in the Bukhara oasis⁸. In particular, many of the settlements found in the oasis were surrounded by strong walls, and there were specialized handicrafts and sedentary agriculture. Mil. avv. By the 5th-4th centuries, traces of the development of the culture of urban planning can be observed in the surroundings of the current Bukhara.

Results and Discussions:

According to the researches of the FA Institute of Archeology in recent years, from the lower layers of Yerkurgan, BC. Cultural layers of the IX-VII centuries were identified. Also, there were four construction periods in Yerkurgan, and the oldest protective wall of the first construction period dates back to 1000 BC. It was observed that it was built in the VIII-VII centuries. Therefore, the latest research proves once again that Yerkurgan can be included in the ranks of urbanistic centers along with other Central Asian monuments of this period (Kyziltepa, Marv, Boloi Hisar, Uzunqir, Afrosiyob, etc.).

From the regions of Eastern Kashkadarya (Kitob-Shahrisabz oasis) in recent years. avv. New information was obtained about the urban planning culture of the first half and middle of the 1st millennium. Sangirtepa and Uzunqir monuments in these areas are located in the largest and most ancient cultural and economic area of the oasis on the banks of the Shorobsoy River in the middle reaches of Kashkadarya.

As a result of archeological and stratigraphic studies in Sangirtepa, the history of the monument's formation, its development and the stages of its abandonment have been determined. The period of the first formation of the monument. avv. It belongs to the IX-VIII centuries. During this period, a large structure surrounded by a strong thatched wall rises here⁹.

According to the conclusions of M. Khasanov, who has continued research work in Sangirtepa in recent years, Sangirtepa was built in 1000 BC. From the 9th-8th centuries to the 5th-4th centuries, Kuchuktepa pottery complexes in Bactria are observed in all three periods (I-III). Also, the central hall of the Zoroastrian temple was opened here for the first time in Sogd regions¹⁰.

In our opinion, the first cities in the Sogdian oasis were distinguished from the villages by their economic, political and cultural status. According to the analysis of the research results, the oldest cities appeared mainly in the events where the inhabitants were engaged in irrigated agriculture, along the ancient trade routes, around the residences of the rulers. It is doubtful that such cities served as political, economic, cultural and religious centers of the oases where they are located.

Summarizing the issues of the emergence and development of Sugdiyana urban planning, it can be said that the formation of the first urban planning is closely related to the development of the society, and this process includes long and step-by-step periods. The formation and development of Sogdiya urbanism can be a vivid example of this.

Conclusion:

Until recent years, the formation of the first urban culture in the territories of Uzbekistan was believed to be in the middle of the 1st millennium BC. Its foundations date back to the Neolithic and Eneolithic periods. The urbanism of Sugdiyana began to take shape in the first quarter of the 1st millennium BC. Old cities such as Afrosiyab, Koktepa, Yerkurgan, Uzungyr are miles away. avv. In the middle of the millennium, it had strong defense structures. According to research results, their age is not less than 27 centuries. These ancient cities were highly developed, formed in many oases based on agriculture and went through stages of development. Also, crafts, exchange and trade flourished in these old cities.

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⁷ Adylov Sh.T. Origins and emergence of civilization and statehood in Western Sogd. // ONUz. 1998. No. 4-5. pp. 23-30.

⁸ Isakov A.I. Sarazm (On the issue of the formation of the early agricultural culture of the Zarafshan Valley. Excavations 1977-1983). Dushanbe. 1991.

⁹ Lushpenko O.N. Early Iron Age of Southern Sogd. A.K.D. - Samarkand. 1998. P. 22-29.

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