



# What Historical Sources Say About Boysun?

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**ABSTRACT**

*In recent times, important scientific researches are being carried out to study the ethnogenesis and ethnic history of our people, to restore our material and spiritual heritage and to inculcate it in the minds of the young generation. The article presents an analysis of historical sources about the ancient history of Boysun, a district located in Surkhandarya region*

**Keywords:**

*Paretaka, Boysun, Greco-Bactrian Kingdom, E.V. Rtveldadze and A. Sagdullaev, Shorob Kurgani.*

**Introduction.**

The history of mankind reflects rich material and traditional resources, and in the years of independence, objective scientific research was conducted to study these resources on the example of Uzbekistan. In particular, the history of Boysun, which includes rich material and spiritual culture in the Surkhan oasis, is of particular importance.

**Results and discussion.**

Boisun region is located in Northern Bactria and is mentioned in historical sources under the name of Paretaka. It is known that the reports in the works of Curtius Rufus "History of Alexander" and Arrian (95 175) "Campaigns of Alexander" contain valuable information about the regions, fortresses and cities located in Northern Bactria and Sogdia. According to his information, in the third month of his campaigns, Alexander left his winter quarters with his army and marched towards the Gabaza region.

The second stage of Alexander's march to the southern regions of Central Asia. avv. It started in the spring of 327 and is said to have passed mainly through the "land of the Paretaks". Scientists have different opinions about the location of this region. For example, according to

V. Tomashek, Paretaka region is located in the territory of Badakhshan, and it was a mountainous country. According to V. V. Grigorev, the term Paretaka means "mountainous country" and it is located in the oases of Surkhondarya, Surkhan and Kafirnihon, that is, in the middle and northern part of the Hisar region. I. Marquardt calls Paretaka a "river-washed region" and informs that it is located in the territory of present-day Surkhandarya region and Tajikistan. The state of Bactria was a vast land, consisting of territories from Hindikush (Parapamis) in the south, Sogdiyona in the north, and Margiyona (Murgob oasis) in the west. In the famous historical source "Avesta" this country is described as an incomparable land and it is mentioned as a land of glory, where the flag of Bakhti (Bactria) always flies high. The area of present-day Surkhan oasis, a part of Bactria, had extremely prosperous large cities located on the right bank of the Oxus, which were famous as economic, political and cultural centers with flourishing trade. Bactria was ruled by great dynasties, its political power was unlimited, and its military power was so formidable that even the great powers were afraid of it.

Alexander, who occupied most of the territories belonging to the Achaemenids of Iran. In 329, under the pretext of "revenge" on Bessus, the Bactrian satrap who killed his arch-enemy Darius III, he passed through Araks (Amu Darya) and invaded the present-day Surkhandarya territories. On the eve of Alexander's conquest, the Bactrian satrapy was considered one of the most developed countries politically, economically and culturally. If we consider the distance from Bactria to the crossing of the river Oxus as 400 stadia (75 kilometers) based on Curtius Rufus's statement, it will be known that Alexander's soldiers passed the crossing between the cities of Termiz and Kalif. This crossing point was Sho'rob and Chochkaguzar crossing, west of Termiz. Alexander crosses the Ox. This is a hangout, E.W. Rtveladze and A. According to the Sagdullaevs, it happened through Shorab fortress (Turkondaryo, i.e., the continuation of Sherobodaryo, where the Karasu flows into the Amudarya). The available historical sources about the Greco-Macedonian occupation in the Boisun area record the following points. According to Greek and Roman sources, Spitamen's drastic actions were supported by rebels in Bactria led by Catan and Avstan. According to some researchers, the inhabitants of Ksenepa, located in the Boisun region, revolted and attacked the Bactrian troops who moved to the Greek-Macedonian and Alexander's side. In order to suppress the rebellion in Paretaka, Alexander, with the army of his commander named Krater, crossed the Amudarya and went to Zariaspa (another name of Balkh). The rebellion in Paretaka was led by warriors named Katan and Avstan. In a brutal battle between the two, Catan and one and a half thousand Bactrian rebels are killed, and Avstan is captured. This very battle of the Greeks at Paretaka was one of the last battles on Bactrian soil. According to historical sources, there is a large source of water in the area of Bozortepa, and Alexander the Macedonian gathered forces in this area to strengthen military operations and gain additional strength.

One of the fortresses of Sogd and Bactrians called "Sisimifra" and "Khorien", which was besieged by Alexander the Great of Macedonia in 327 BC, is believed to be located around the "Iron Gate" near Darband. Chief Alexander Sisimifra (in Darband) was

assisted by generals such as Oxyartes, Horien, and Datafari in capturing the fortress of Horien.

The height of the Horien fortress was 20 stadia (3500-3700 mt.kv) and its circumference was 60 stadia, and all sides consisted of slopes. A lonely road led to the rock and a deep chasm surrounded the rock. According to historians, the Horien fortress was located in the "Iron Gate" gorge, and the "Iron Gate" served as a border between Bactria and Sogdia.

Historian Arrian's "History of Alexander's Campaigns" (IV,18-19) describes Alexander's campaigns as follows. Since the fury of winter was still strong, Alexander allowed the army to rest in Navtak. As soon as Koklam arrived, he came to the rock (petra), which is called "Sugd Rock" because he heard the news that the Sugdians had gathered a lot of people. On this rock, Oxyartes of Bactria hid his wife and daughters, thinking that this place could not be taken by himself, and then turned his back on Alexander and left. They decided that if this rock was taken, Sugd would have no place to run if they wanted to rebel. When Alexander approached the rock, he saw that a direct attack was useless due to the steepness of the surrounding area. Alexander stockpiled food in preparation for a long siege. The thick snow made the work of the Macedonians very difficult, and waterlogged the enemy's drinking water. Nevertheless, Alexander decided to take the rock. The local troops responded with mockery to the offer to surrender. "Let Alexander first find winged warriors who can come here, we are not afraid of ordinary servants!"

About 300 people who have mastered the art of rock climbing by participating in previous exercises have been found. They have prepared the max they need. Tying ropes of flax fiber to the ropes, they came to the land where the walls of the rock were quite steep and therefore the least protected. After that, they stuck the nails in the places where there was no snow or the snow was frozen hard, and they started to climb up one from there, the other from there, helping each other as a ladder. At dawn, they climbed the rock and occupied the top of the mountain. Then, according to the order of Alexander, they went towards the Macedonian camp and began to shake the shawls made of flax fiber. Alexander sent messengers to the foremost guards of the Sugdians, to surrender without delay, for the winged man had been found, and to point to the top of the mountain.

The local troops saw the peak and surrendered in fear. Among the many women and children captured were Oxyart's wife and children, including a daughter named Roxana. Alexander fell in love with her, although his passion was very strong, he did not touch the honor of the girl who was considered his captive, and found her worthy of marriage. It is assumed that the descendants of Roxana became heirs to Alexander the Great's kingdom as a result of the charm of the Boisun beauty. Because Alexander managed to secure his rule after capturing the Darband defense fortress during the last phase of the rule of the Greco-Bactrian kingdom during his conquest. The Darband defense fortification was built in the fourth quarter of the II century BC, and its remains were preserved in the Akkotol Pass in 1989-1990. Because, during the archeological research, ceramic vessels from the period of the Greco-Bactrian Kingdom were found in the layers of the defensive wall.

### Conclusion.

During the Kushan period, which is of special importance in the history of world civilization, Boysun region developed socio-economically, trade progressed, strong new caravansary, castles and villages were built, and it became a prosperous country. In particular, the arrival of a large group of peoples who founded the Kushan state from the northern countries to Bactria occurred through the "Iron Gate" in Boysuntog. The fact that one of the hunters (tohars) lived around Boysun is evidenced by the ancient grave excavated near the village of Okjar on the right bank of the Hangarak (Boysun) stream. Between the 1st century BC and the 1st century AD, there was a strong fortress city called Poikalon (Poyi kalon) on the site of the current Boisun city.

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