



Historical Studies Of Archaeological Research Carried Out In The Sughd Oasis

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ABSTRACT

This article provides information on the historiography of the material collected and studied as a result of archaeological excavations in the Sughd oasis, including excavations in the territory of Southern Uzbekistan.

Keywords:

Sughd, fortifications, cemeteries, crafts, expeditions, monuments, metallurgy, glassmaking, topography

The study of the source studies of the historical geography of Sughd puts before the historical science a number of problematic tasks in the study of the history of the Bronze and Early Iron Ages. First of all, the lack of written sources on the history of the Bronze and Early Iron Ages in Sogdia, and the destruction of the Avesta book on the Early Iron Age during the conquest of Alexander the Great and the Arab Caliphate, further complicate research. In this regard, the analysis of archeological research on the history of the historical and cultural region plays an important role.

The first excavations in Sughd were carried out by A.B. Borzenkov in 1874 at the Afrosiyab monument in Samarkand. In 1883, V.V. Krestovsky began excavations at Afrosiyab, but these studies did not yield the expected results, but were stopped by the Imperial Archaeological Commission. South Sughd is relatively unexplored at this stage. Archaeological sites in the oasis were first described in a small bulletin published in 1908 as a result of observations by a Russian officer, amateur artist, archeologist and orientalist B. Litvinov. In this article, the author notes that it is the largest archeological monument in the hilly oasis near the city of Karshi, called

Shulluktepa by the locals. Beginning in 1916, TAHT member IA Castane began researching archeological sites in the oasis. Therefore, I.A. Castane noted that Nautaka, first mentioned in ancient sources, was located near the modern city of Karshi.

Another member of the circle, L.A. Zimin, also did some research in the oasis. In the spring of 1916, Lazimin, who conducted research at the Shulluktepa monument, noted that the largest Nakhshab and medieval city of Nasaf, which was the largest before the Arab invasion of the Lower Kashkadarya, was located on this monument and was first mentioned in Shulluktepa literature in the 18th century[1]. Archaeological excavations in the Russian Empire have come to a halt due to the ongoing civil war and the tense political situation. However, these observations and studies have been of great importance in subsequent research on the ancient and early medieval history of Sughd.

The development of Central Asian archeology as a separate branch of science began with the work of M.Y. Masson, who began his research in Afrosiyab in 1912 under the leadership of V.L.Vyatkin the work of M.Ye. Masson and other researchers during this

period focused on the identification, preservation, and partial restoration of monuments, new methods and techniques of archaeological research were developed in the process.

At the initiative of I.A. Sukharev, an employee of the Samarkand Regional Museum, with the participation of GV Grigoriev, several scientific trips were organized to collect antiquities, photographs and maps of monuments at the monuments around Samarkand. The remains of the city's ancient defense structure, the Wall of Doomsday, have also been studied. During the excavations carried out by I.A. Sukharev in 1938 at the monument to Kofirqala, located 12 km from Samarkand, on the banks of the Dargom Canal, together with N.N. Zabelina, valuable artifacts of Sughd pottery were found. An important step in the study of the development of handicrafts was the discovery in the monument of pottery jars and various ceramic vessels of Samarkand Sogdian pottery. GV Grigoriev's research also led to some scientific conclusions about the fortresses in and around Samarkand and their water supply[2].

In connection with the construction of the Kattakurgan reservoir, under the leadership of V.A. Shishkin, archeological excavations were carried out in the area, and ancient pottery, metalwork and glassware were found. Excavations in 1933 in the upper reaches of the Zarafshan River, at the confluence of the Qum and Zarafshan rivers, led to the discovery of a large number of handicrafts, along with the remains of various written sources. These findings were later explored in more detail in Sogdian handicrafts.

Archaeological excavations were also carried out in the Bukhara-Sughd region during this period. In 1934-1935, V.A. Shishkin conducted research at the main defensive structure of the oasis - the monument to Kampirdevol. The Varakhsha Palace, a famous medieval monument, was also "discovered" during the excavations. In 1939, an expedition of the Hermitage Museum led by A.Y. Yakubovsky carried out excavations in the north-eastern part of the arch of Poykend Shahristan.

In 1926, Yakubovsky was sent on a scientific trip to carry out historical and topographic observations in the Kashkadarya (South Sughd) oasis. During the trip, the researcher took photos of more than a hundred architectural monuments, as well as archeological observations of some monuments[3]. The development of caravan routes in the ancient and medieval times and the problem of roads connecting the oasis with neighboring areas were reflected in M.Y. Masson's research on the construction of caravan routes.

AITerenojkin conducted a series of researches in Afrosiyab, the central monument of Samarkand Sugdi, and managed to collect a large number and variety of sources. By 1950, the researcher had conducted a large-scale study of Sughd's social life and cultural ties with neighboring countries. The researcher also made tentative conclusions (219 ha) about the total area of the ancient city. However, since these studies did not cover all areas of the monument, in 1958 the Institute of History and Archeology organized a special Afrosiab archeological expedition led by V.A. Shishkin. The expedition surveyed all areas of the monument according to a 1885 topographic plan of the city.

Research on water supply of Samarkand and its environs was carried out in 1957 under the leadership of Y. Gulyamov. A researcher who conducted a series of studies in the upper reaches of the Dargam Canal concluded that the main water source of the oasis was this structure, and that the oasis was not based on artificial irrigation in ancient times, but rather on the Siyab River and several noted that it was irrigated using spring water[4]. However, as a result of archeological researches carried out by G.V. Shishkina, N.B. Nemseva and M.N. Fedorov in 1959-1965, the population of the oasis av. He had extensive knowledge and skills in the field of irrigation as early as the 6th and 5th centuries BC. It was discovered that it was built in the I century. Further research on the history of irrigation of the lower basin of the Zarafshan River was carried out by A.R. Muhammadjanov.

In addition to the Afrosiyab monument, research was carried out in other parts of

Samarkand Sughd. In particular, in 1959-1960, V.A. Shishkin conducted observations and preliminary research on a number of monuments in Urgut district. In 1961, S.K. Kabanov studied the monuments in the area of the Katvan steppe north of the Zarafshan River, and O.V. Obelchenko the first medieval defensive structure of the oasis, the Wall of Doomsday, was studied during these years by V.A. Nielsen and T. Agzamkhoyev.

In 1947-1970, the Tajik-Sughd expedition of the Institute of Material Culture of the USSR Academy of Sciences and the State Hermitage Museum conducted a series of archeological excavations in Panjikent Shahrستان, the main city monument in the mountainous Zarafshan region of Samarkand Sughd. Research conducted first by A.Y. Yakubovsky, then by I.M. Dyakonov and A.M. Belenitsky in the monument of the V-VIII centuries allowed to obtain important archeological finds on the role of handicrafts in urban culture in Sughd, the specialization and development of various crafts. Also, the excavations in Panjikent have led to important conclusions about the system of social relations in urban life and the strata of the urban population.

In 1947, V.A. Shishkin, V.A. Nielsen and L.I. Albaum conducted observations in order to re-examine some of the excavations carried out in the pre-war period in the territory of Varakhsha Shahrستان in Bukhara Sughd and to analyze some parts of the monument. The first systematic study of the monument began in 1949 and continued until 1954 under the leadership of V.A. Shishkin. In 1952-1953, O.V. Obelchenko studied the burial mounds of cattle and semi-nomadic tribes in the eastern part of the oasis. In 1954, research was conducted near the town of Poykend, which allowed to obtain a large number of material objects of the VI-VIII centuries.

Since the 1950s, the Mohandarya Archaeological Group of the Institute of History and Archeology of the Uzbek SSR, headed by Y. Gulomov, has been conducting research in the oasis. By 1963, a special work by V.A. Shishkin was published, reflecting the research carried out in the Bukhara oasis up to that time.

Excavations carried out by members of the Mohandarya Group between 1968 and 1969 also uncovered a large number of artifacts dating back to antiquity.

The archeological study of the Kashkadarya oasis during this period is closely connected with the name of archeologist S.K. Kabanov. Systematic archeological excavations of monuments in the oasis began in 1946[5], including excavations at the Old Fayzli and Kasbitepa monuments in the oasis. S.K. Kabanov, comparing the information mentioned in the works of Arab geographers with the topography of these monuments, determined that they were the medieval cities of Bazda and Kasbi. In the autumn of 1946, members of the Amudarya expedition A.I. Terenojkin and L.I. Albaum made observations at a number of monuments in the Lower Kashkadarya region. The publication in 1948 of B.Y.

The establishment of the Kesh Archaeological and Topographic Expedition (KATE) in 1963, led by M.Y. Masson, led to extensive research in the eastern part of the oasis, in the early Middle Ages. Consistent research on numismatics, historical topography, and mining history was identified as key areas for the expedition. Based on the identified directions, a topographic plan of major cities in the upper and middle reaches of the Kashkadarya River was developed, as well as conclusions were drawn to determine the location of cities and properties mentioned in ancient written sources.

During this period, important research was conducted in the Kashkadarya oasis. The Kesh Archaeological and Topographic Expedition (KATE) conducted a series of studies on the extensive development of small agricultural basins in the eastern part of the oasis during the early Middle Ages, based on small rivers and other water sources in the oasis. In particular, in 1981-1984, a group of expeditions led by N.I. Krashennikova studied the monuments of the middle reaches of the Shorobsoy and discovered the agricultural basin. It was discovered in the first half of the first millennium. Subsequent research has also explored the agricultural oasis on the right bank of the Kashkadarya River, in the Karatash-

Chashma basin, whose primary sources are in the Zarafshan ridges. Based on the study of monuments in these basins, G.Y. Dresvyanskaya noted that most of the agricultural oases were developed during the early Middle Ages.

Research on the history of the mining industry, which played an important role in the development of Sogdian handicrafts, was conducted by Y.B. Pruger during this period. It should be noted that the researcher also participated in geological exploration in the Nurata ridges in 1961-1975, gained extensive experience in the study of ancient deposits and the supply of raw materials for the development of metallurgy in Bukhara and Samarkand. had published important scientific conclusions. In the 70s and 80s, Y.B. Pruger conducted a series of researches on the early medieval mining in the eastern part of the oasis, in the Zarafshan and Gissar mountains, the results of which were reflected in the researcher's special manual and articles.

French archaeologists have been studying the monuments of Afrosiab and its environs since 1989. The research conducted by the joint expedition focused on determining the period of formation of urban culture in Sughd. Koktepa, as well as the analysis of long-term consistent research on the Afrosiyab monument, have led to new scientific conclusions about the date of the city of Samarkand. The city was formed as a result of the expedition. avv. It dates back to the first quarter of the first millennium. An international scientific symposium dedicated to the formation of Samarkand was organized, and in 2007 the 2750th anniversary of the city was widely celebrated internationally.

Since 2003, the Uzbek-Italian joint expedition has been conducting research at the Kofirqala monument, the first major medieval handicraft center. The expedition also conducted a survey of the northern and western foothills of Mount Zarafshan and created a topographic map of the monuments in the area. Archaeological and geological research conducted by the Uzbek-German expedition in 1997-1999 in the Central Kyzylkum region provided important information on the importance of mining in the Sughd metallurgy.

As a result of archeological researches in Samarkand Sugd, the village and fortress monuments developed in the south of the Zarafshan river were studied by K.Askarov, and the agricultural oases and handicraft and trade centers occupying the right bank of the river were studied by A.Okhunboboev. was found. The role of monuments around Afrosiyab in the development of Samarkand was studied in the study of T.I. Lebedeva, and the role of ceramics in urban crafts was analyzed in the study of L.F. Sokolovskaya. As a result of research at the Panjikent monument, V.I. Raspopova conducted research on the development of urban culture in the early Middle Ages in Sughd.

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