

WAYS OF FORMATION OF CITIES IN THE ZARAFSHAN OASIS

Abdirakhmonova Mahfuza Nodir qizi

Assistant, Termez State University of Engineering and Agrotechnologies

Rustamova Laylo O'ralovna

Student, Termez State University of Engineering and Agrotechnologies

abdiraxmonovamaxfuza@gmail.com

Abstract:

This article discusses the formation of the historical cities of the Zarafshan oasis and the emergence and development of community centers in this process.

Keywords: Zarafshan River, Lake Mokhandarya, Kaltaminor, Bactria, Sogdiana, Khorezm, Parkana, Burgut Castle in Khorezm, Dargam Canal in Samarkand.

Introduction

The formation of the Zarafshan River dates back to the Paleolithic period of archaeological chronology. During this period, the Amu Darya, Syr Darya, and Zarafshan rivers formed in Central Asia. At one time, these rivers flowed into the Caspian Sea, and their territory stretched in the form of the Pamir-Alai in the south, the Tien Shan in the north, the Hindu Kush and Kopet mountain ranges in the west, connecting with the Elburz in the Caucasus and Karatay, reaching from the Tien Shan in the southwest to the Aral Sea in the northeast [1]. The Zarafshan River begins at the junction of the Turkestan Range in the north and the Hissar and Zarafshan Ranges in the south, at the Zarafshan Glacier (the glacier is 24.7 km long, 1.7 km wide, and 200 m thick [2]) at an altitude of 3,154 meters [3], and extends to the Sandikli Sands of the Kyzylkum Desert (781 km) in the west. The Zarafshan Valley gradually widens, reaching a width of 4-5 km in the upper reaches of the river, and the basin narrows again at the confluence of the Kishtutsay River into the Zarafshan. Further along, the valley widens again, reaching a width of 60-70 km in the Bukhara oasis areas [4].

Main part

In the 60s-70s of the last century, during the work of the expedition to study the Zarafshan oasis in the Lower Zarafshan under the leadership of Yakhyo Gulomov, samples of agricultural culture that arose in the Lower Zarafshan basin due to irrigation around Lake Mokhondaryo were identified [5].

When irrigated agriculture had not yet emerged in the Zarafshan valley, all the waters of the river flowed towards the Bukhara oasis. By the 3rd millennium BC, as a result of the warming of the climate in Central Asia, desertification began in the Bukhara oasis[6].

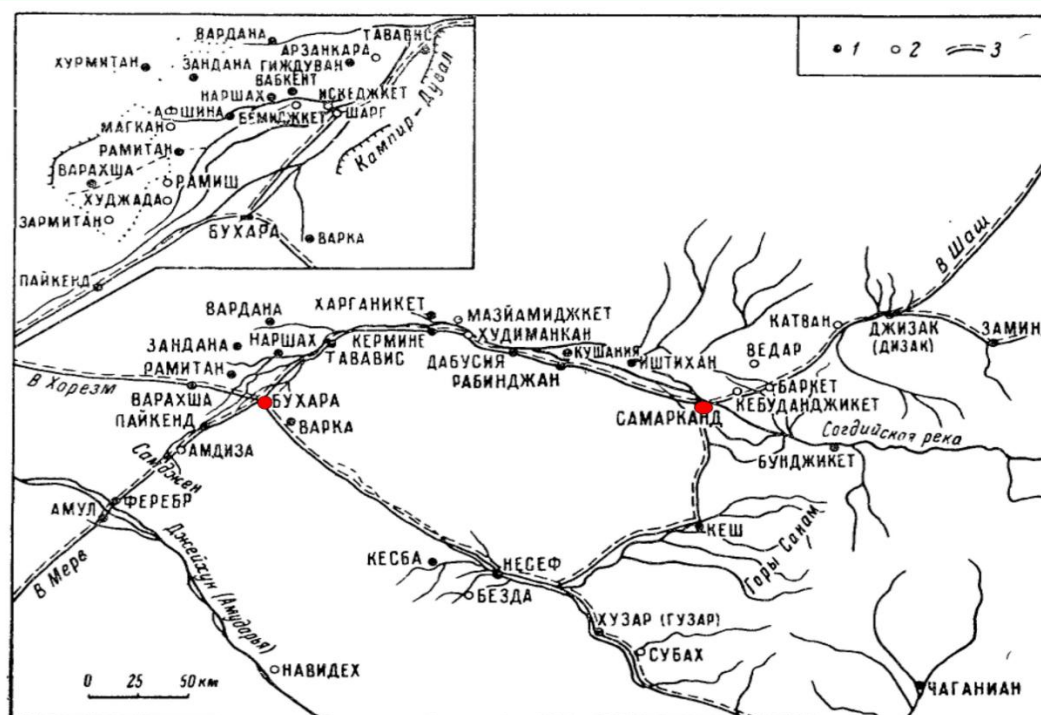
The topographic location of the sites of primitive communities found and studied in the basin of the ancient basins of the Lower Zarafshan oasis gave an interesting picture. For example, the sites are located in a chain-like pattern along the sides of the basins that have dried up to this day. This suggests that Neolithic communities lived along the banks of the flooded plains at that time and created a unique material culture. The main part of these sites falls on the northern borders of the plains. Unfortunately, most of the cultural layers of these sites have been destroyed as a result of erosion processes that have occurred over the past 5-4 thousand years.

In this area, sites with intact or partially damaged cultural layers have been preserved. The most interesting of them is the site of Uchashi 131. The site is located in the Daryosay basin, and in its cultural layer, fragments of pottery belonging to the early Neolithic period and the remains of the oldest huts belonging to the Kaltaminor communities were found. There are three of them, their dimensions are 10-12 x 15-17 meters, the area is approximately 150-200 sq. meters. The formation of historical urban centers of the Zarafshan oasis dates back to ancient times. It is known that urbanization processes occurred in the territory of Central Asia in the 4th-2nd millennia BC. Places of worship located on caravan routes and receiving a large flow of people were considered favorable places for the emergence of cities. Therefore, in this place, in the 4th-2nd millennium BC. In the 2nd millennium BC, the fortresses of Sopollitepa and Jarkutan were built, in the 1st millennium BC. In the 1st millennium BC, Marokand (Samarkand), Basileya (Koktepa), Xenippa (Shahrisabz), Nikshapa (Karshi), Bukhara and other cities arose. According to V.A. Nielsen, the cities of Central Asia were the property of individual landowners - feudal lords before and after the Arab conquest.



This had a significant impact on the structure of the city. The city at that time had a moat, which protected the part where the owners lived. In some cases, the moat served only as a protection (for example, in Panjakent) [7]. In some cities (for example, in Varakhsha), there were also buildings that served as the royal palace. Such buildings were located inside or next to the moat and were distinguished by their size and splendor. They were usually built on platforms and were located higher than the rest of the city.

Ancient historical sources mention large states and regions such as Bactria, Sogdiana, Khorezm and Parkana on the territory of modern Uzbekistan. Cities formed by tribal associations began to emerge in these regions. The center of economic life was no longer rural settlements, but cities. As a result of the development of high urban planning, cities began to form, consisting of defensive structures, streets and squares, public centers, palaces and religious buildings, as well as residential buildings. With the abolition of slave society in the 3rd-4th centuries, the Kushan, Parthian and Ancient Khorezm empires declined. With the emergence of Kushan feudalism, the role of cities and the pattern of population settlement changed. Some cities fell into ruin, for example, Tuproq Qala [8]. The way of life in Samarkand declined. The cities of Bukhara, Paykent and Varakhsha, located on the caravan route, were developed. New settlements appeared, with fortified surroundings and feudal castles inside. Such fortified fortresses appeared in the areas of Central Asia irrigated by rivers and canals. Examples of such fortresses are the Burgut fortress in Khorezm, the ruins of feudal castles behind the Dargam canal in Samarkand. Such fortresses are found in abundance in the Surkhandarya hills, in the northwestern part of the Bukhara oasis and in the Kashkadarya valley. Such fortresses were formed in the 5th-8th centuries and continued to exist later.



Зарафшон воҳаси ҳудудидаги қадимги шаҳарлар харитаси



Қадимги Панжакент шаҳристони режаси



Қадимги Афросиёб шаҳристони умумий кўриниши

Figure 1. City plan of ancient cities

The similarity of social development in Movarunnahr, Khorasan and Khorezm shows the commonality of population patterns. Protected fortresses and palaces were also present in Movarunnahr, Khorasan and Khorezm. Palaces in these oases had a rectangular, square or almost square layout. Palaces were built on higher hills, had steeper walls and were often 2-story. Palaces were located along the line of protective walls or inside the fortress.

We already know that some of the cities of Central Asia in the pre-Islamic period were formed as separate simple communities, not under the control of feudal rulers. The “city of merchants” – Paykent can be cited as an example of this. In Panjakent, while there was an official governor, the city’s revenues were controlled by two groups of people’s representatives: “aristocratic landowners” and “merchants and artisans.” The city’s two-tiered form of mutual governance necessitated the construction of an administrative building that could satisfy this social status-democratic need. This building was different from the palace, and at the same time, it had to be as official and impressive as the palace [9].

Conclusion

Thus, the architecture of the 5th-8th centuries can be called the first stage of the architectural style that emerged during the period of Central Asian feudalism. As a result of the decline of the slave states, the way of life in many cities declined. Until the 8th century, the structure of Central Asian cities consisted of an ark and a shahristan, and the rabat part was just taking shape [8].

References

1. Ochilov A. T. Buxoro vohasi shakllanishida Zarafshon daryosining o’rni va voha tarixiy geografiyasiga doir ayrim mulohazalar // «Scientific progress» Volume: 1, Issue: 6 - 935 b
2. Muhammadjonov A.R. Quyi Zarafshon vodiysining sug’orilish tarixi. – Toshkent, 1972. -B.22.
3. Shuls V.L. Gidrografiya Sredney Azii. –Tashkent, 1958. -S.59
4. O’zbekiston milliy ensiklopediyasi. 3 jild, 2002 yil, 675 bet.
5. Gulyamov Ya., Islomov U., Asqarov G. Pervobytnaya kultura i vozniknoveniye oroshayemogo zemledeliya v nizovyyax Zaravshana –Tashkent Fan, 1966;
6. Shmidt M.A. Geologicheskiy i gidrogeologicheskiy ocherk zapadnoy chasti Zeravshanskoy kotloviny.— «Materialy po gidrogeologii i inzhenernoy geologii UzSSR». вып. V, Tashkent, -C.28.;
7. Nilsen V. A. Arxitektura Sredney Azii (V–VIII vv.). – Toshkent: «Fan», 1966. – S. 321 –329.
8. Pugachenkova G.A., Rempel L.I. Выдающийся памятник архитектуры Узбекистана. – Toshkent: Gos. izd. xud. lit. Uz SSR, 1958. – S. 10-165.



9. Абдирахмонова М. ТУРИЗМ ИНФРОСТРУКТУРАСИНИ
РИВОЖЛАНТИРИШДА ХОНАҚОҲЛАРНИНГ ЎРНИ //Eurasian Journal of
Academic Research. – 2022. – Т. 2. – №. 13.– С. 1532-1535.