



## PECULIARITIES OF THE FIRST URBANIZATION PROCESSES IN THE FERGANA VALLEY

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### ABSTRACT

The article analyzes scientific collections, monographs and numerous articles on the history of cities. At the beginning of the century, effective work was carried out on the study of ancient cities. However, to date, the historiography of the subject has been little studied. Existing scientific views, approaches and conclusions on the problem of historical patterns of formation and development of cities in Bactria, Sogd, Khorezm, Tashkent oasis and Fergana, the main results of the study of ancient urbanization in Uzbekistan are not sufficiently analyzed and available data are not summarized.

**KEYWORDS:** - Urbanization, research, system, bronze and early iron, Bactria, Sogd, Khorezm, Tashkent, first statehood, First antiquity, Middle antiquity, Evening antiquity.

### INTRODUCTION

The Fergana Valley is one of the first systems of urban culture that has gone through a unique stage of development. Reflecting the first urban planning signs in the valley itself. (Large area complex structure and defense order, separate arch, craft center, etc.) The concept of archeological monuments was developed as early as 1973 by Yu.A. Zadneprovsky. [1] Although some comments have been made on this issue over the past period, the above concept has not lost its relevance so far [2].

As a result of archeological and paleogeographic research conducted by A. Anarbaev in recent years, many clarifications have been made in the relationship between man and nature in the

ancient period of the Fergana Valley. The ancient gardeners of Fergana combined irrigated lands and created artificial anthropogenic landscapes, which differ in a number of qualities, first of all, in soil ecological conditions. As a result of the correct and rational use of natural landscapes, they have grown the agricultural products they need. Along with artificial irrigation and tillage, sediments have also increased productivity.[3]

### THE MAIN FINDINGS AND RESULTS

According to scientists who conducted research in the ancient city of Marhamat, the first urban culture in the Fergana Valley has ancient roots, and the roots of this process can be traced back to the ancient agricultural culture. According to archeological research, the ancient farming culture in the valley dates back to the last



quarter of the second millennium BC. This culture is called "Chust culture" after the place where it was first discovered and studied in science, and this culture belongs mainly to the ancient population engaged in agriculture. Periodically, the monuments of Chust culture are divided into two, and the first stage - mil. avv. XII-IX centuries, the second stage BC. It is dated to VIII-VII centuries [4]

Ancient Fergana farmers often built their homes around water sources. In recent years, archeological data have been obtained that the inhabitants of the Bronze Age in Fergana plowed the land. In particular, photos of Soymalitosh in the Fergana mountain range and Yangiariqsay rock near Sogd show a man driving a double. [5]

Ancient farmers not only mastered natural waterways, but also farmed them by digging small canals along rivers and streams that were easy to extract. Evidence of this is the fact that Dalvarzintepa and Ashkoltepani, located in the Andijan region, are located in the largest water source - the Karadarya basin (3-4 km away).

The Chust monument is located on the bank of an ancient spring near a small river. [6]

According to research, more than 80 monuments of the first agricultural culture of Fergana have been identified. They are divided into three depending on the area and size: large monuments (Dalvarzin, Ashkoltepa), medium-sized monuments (Chust, Dehqontepa, Ush, Khojambog) and small monuments. [7]

According to A.Abdulgozиеv, the sites of ancient cultivators in the valley are located in the form of separate oases or groups (two or more monuments), depending on the development of fertile lands near the water. Proof of this can be found in the system of settlements of the Chust cultural monuments studied in the valley over the past 50 years. Such oases have been found

and studied in 15 geographical areas of the Fergana Valley. These are Govasay, Kosonsoy, Aravansay, Chartaksay, Moylisuv, Akburasay and others. Researchers have found that each of the ancient agricultural oases has its own characteristics, depending on the size and location of the monuments. The people living in these oases formed their own farming communities. Each oasis had its own socio-economic characteristics, and from their combination emerged agricultural centers. [8]

According to Yu.A.Zadneprovsky, who made a comparative analysis of the ancient Fergana agricultural centers with other regions of Central Asia, similar centers will appear in ten places in Central Asia at the same time as the valley centers. These include Yoz, Yashilli (Turkmenistan), Kuchuktepa, Chirakchi, Burguluk (Uzbekistan); Chust (Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan), Shahristan (Tajikistan) and other agricultural centers. Among these similar agricultural centers, the Chust monuments are relatively old from time to time. [9]

According to B. Matboboev, who conducted research on the antiquity of Fergana, the main major settlements of the Chust culture are Dalvarzintepa, Chust, Ashkoltepa, which are the first monuments of urban planning in the Fergana Valley. It is around Dalvarzintepa and Chust that it is surrounded by defensive walls, in which the ark inhabited by the ruler is distinguished. [10]

By the way, we found it necessary to dwell briefly on the defense structures, which are one of the key elements of urban planning culture. Thus, in the development of urban culture, protective structures were one of the main factors and played an important role in the processes of urbanization in society. The defensive structures in different parts of the Central Asian region are unique, in this regard,



all the defensive structures of the ancient period of the Fergana Valley were built of guvala, raw brick and cotton. A study of the historical topography of defensive structures shows that the main criterion for their emergence and development was the long existence of sedentary farming settlements and their proximity to nomadic tribes. This neighborhood was not always based on peace, and in some cases ended in military conflict. [11]

After many years of research, it has been found that the people living in Dalvarzintepa built it in three parts. Each section was surrounded by separate defensive walls and they had their own mission. 18 hectares of Dalvarzintepa area is residential, 5 hectares is a shelter for the surrounding population in case of danger, and 2 hectares is a special allotted area, where the rulers lived. The walls of the old town were rebuilt using cotton and raw bricks. This means that Dalvarzintepa is a well-thought-out settlement, where almost all the features of the first urban planning are found in this monument.[12]

The area of Dalvarzintepa is large, ie 25 hectares, which is the result of socio-economic development. The ancient city had a complex plan structure, a three-pronged component, and an arch.

The monument had an excellent defensive order, and each part of the ancient city was protected separately. Among them, special attention was paid to the arch, which was defended on the basis of a well-thought-out plan. In the ancient city, various branches of handicrafts - pottery, metal, stone and bone - are relatively well developed. The above-mentioned signs serve as a sufficient basis for describing Dalvarzintepa as a monument in the form of the first city. [13]

## CONCLUSION

In short, as a result of large-scale research conducted from the second half of the twentieth century to the present day, significant work has been done on the urbanization of the Bronze and Early Iron Ages of Uzbekistan. As a result of the first agriculture, the first states, cultural and economic ties, the development of handicrafts in the II-I centuries BC, historical and cultural centers such as Chust, Dalvarzintepa, Ashkoltepa, Ershi were formed in the valleys, laying the foundation for the next urban culture.

The peculiarity of this period of urbanization in the region was that, depending on their location, cities are recognized as a key factor in statehood, performing various socio-economic and political (for later periods) and, of course, cultural functions. In our opinion, a more in-depth analysis of the functions performed by urban planning is a separate topic.

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