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# HISTORIOGRAPHY OF FERGANA VALLEY URBANIZATION PROCESSES. (ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDY OF CHORDONA AND SARVONTEPA IN THE CITY OF ANDIJAN.)

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#### **ABSTRACT**

In the article, the archeological data on the emergence and development of the cities of the ancient history of the city of Andijan, located in the Fergana valley, are analyzed. Also, the article explains that the ancient culture of the Fergana Valley was a large city-culture that made a significant contribution to the development of world civilization, which was substantiated by archeological researchers.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Central Asian civilization, Fergana Valley, Pamir-Fergana expedition, Chust culture, Academy of Material Culture, urbanization, Chordona, Sarvontepa.

#### INTRODUCTION

The research of urbanization processes - the history of the emergence of cities, their role and importance in the development of society is one of the most urgent issues of the science of history. It is known that cities have a special place in society since their inception. It is difficult to imagine important stages of human development without the definition of cities. Urbanization means: on the one hand, the creation and development of cities, and on the other hand, their

influence on the development of society. In the course of human history, the processes of urbanization did not take place equally in all places, and this process consists of several stages. The first cities of Sumer, Elam and India appeared in the IV-III millennia BC, and in China - in the III-II millennia BC. In Northern Europe, these processes took place somewhat later - in the middle of the 1st millennium AD [1.10.14-15]. Different points of view on the characteristics of the first cities

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of Central Asia A.A. Askarov, Yu.F. Buryakov, E.V. Rtveladze, V.M. Masson, Yu.A. Zadneprovsky, N.N. Negmatov, T.Sh. Shirinov, A.S. Sagdullaev, B.Kh. Matboboev, B.J. Eshov, O'.Abdullaev, A.A. Xakimov and other scientists reflected in their scientific research.

The study of the history of the city of Andijan conditionally began at the end of the 19th century. To be more precise, this process started in 1890 when the members of the land tribute commission began to collect preliminary information about the city area. In 1893, the map of the city of Andijan was redone by the Fergana administration of this commission. In this document, archaeological monuments such as Chordona (Chardana), Sarvontepa (Sarvantepa), Kultepa (Kyultepa-Kultepa), Koshtepa, Yalang'och Kurgan, Kara Kurgan and Eski Kurgan were first mapped on the city map [2.34]. All the listed monuments, except Kara Kurgan and Yalang'och Kurgan, were later preserved to varying degrees, and the cultural layers in them were identified and studied as much as possible.

In 1939, during the construction of the Big Fergana Canal, an archaeological control expedition was organized under the leadership of M.E. Masson [3.52-54]. When M. E. Masson came to Andijan, Yusup Ali Muhammad (Yusuf Ali Musaev), a representative of the famous master dynasty, presented him with molded "terracotta tiles" found in the city area and dated to the end of the 13th - beginning of the 14th century [2.34]. V. D. Zhukov, the leader of the second detachment of this expedition, also got acquainted with the monuments of Andijan city and noted the archaeological materials of the 10th-11th centuries [4.41-84].

Ethnographer A.K. Pisarchik made a great contribution to the study of Andijan [5.216-298]. First,

in 1938, he researched the folk architecture of the Fergana Valley under the instructions of Uzkomstaris (Committee for the Protection of Ancient Monuments and Art Samples of Uzbekistan), and later in 1944-1947, with the referral of the Institute of History and Archeology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In particular, the cities of Margilon, Andijan, Ko'kan and Namangan are studied in detail by conducting a survey and recording architectural monuments. Thanks to the research of this scientist, we have detailed information about the late medieval arch and city of Andijan [5.216-298]. Information about the remains of the city walls and ancient buildings is especially important. A.K. G.Dadaboev, B.Abdulgazieva, carried B.Matboboev out archaeological research on the basis of the Andijan city plan drawn by Pisarchik showing the arch and the city. S. Jalilov and B. Abdulgazieva studied the arch and city in detail, and by comparing the remaining walls of the city with the information of A.K. Pisarchik, they were able to determine the area and boundaries of the medieval arch and city. In 1975, G. Dadaboev, an employee of the Institute of Archeology of the FA of Uzbekistan (Bagijon Matboboev participated as a student in the archaeological expedition) made inspection visits to some places of the old city. The 1st wall was built in the place of the defensive wall in the courtyard of house 10 on Haqiqat Street in the present Ark. As a result of the inspections, it was found that the preserved part of the wall stretches for 500 meters in the east-west direction. According to G. Dadaboev [6], here the junction of the walls is found. A part of the wall has been preserved in the area of Traktor Street, and its current height is 2-4 meters. The upper part of the wall is made of solid straw blocks, the lower part is made of clay blocks with small gravel. At a depth of 1.20 meters from the current level of the ground, the lower part of the wall expands by 60-70 centimeters. At a depth of 1.50 meters, a continental layer consisting of

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river gravel and sand was recorded. While the author of the excavations, G. Dadaboev, stated that no material culture items were found, according to S. Jalilov, fragments of pottery belonging to the 12th-13th centuries were collected from the yards next to the opened shurf [7.36]. The upper part of the wall is made of solid straw blocks, the lower part is made of clay blocks with small gravel. At a depth of 1.20 meters from the current level of the ground, the lower part of the wall expands by 60-70 centimeters. At a depth of 1.50 meters, a continental layer consisting of river gravel and sand was recorded. While the author of the excavations, G. Dadaboev, stated that no material culture items were found, according to S. Jalilov, fragments of pottery belonging to the 12th-13th centuries were collected from the yards next to the opened shurf [7.36]. The upper part of the wall is made of solid straw blocks, the lower part is made of clay blocks with small gravel. At a depth of 1.20 meters from the current level of the ground, the lower part of the wall expands by 60-70 centimeters. At a depth of 1.50 meters, a continental layer consisting of river gravel and sand was recorded. While the author of the excavations, G. Dadaboev, stated that no material culture items were found, according to S. Jalilov, fragments of pottery belonging to the 12th-13th centuries were collected from the yards next to the opened shurf [7.36].

B. Abdulgazieva, an employee of the Andijan Regional Museum of Local History, and later a researcher at the Institute of Archeology of the Academy of Sciences of Uzbekistan, also carried out effective activities in the study of the city. From the 6os and 70s of the 20th century, he conducted archaeological observations in the city and collected information about the history of Andijan. In collaboration with the Provincial Museum and the Pedagogical Institute, an excavation was made in

Sarvontepa, but although the excavation did not reach the mainland layer, materials from the 1st and 2nd centuries were obtained. From 1981, under the leadership of B. Abdulgazieva, with the financial support of Andijan city executive committee, special archaeological excavations were organized in the city. Researches were conducted in 1981-84, 1986-87 in Ark Ichi (Ark Ichi neighborhood), Chordona Shahriston. Many years of excavations were carried out in Chordona and Shahristan based on the plan. The upper layer of the cellar belonging to the 12th-13th centuries was fully excavated, the lower layer corresponding to the 7th-8th centuries in the northern part and the graves between them and dating from the 13th-14th centuries were excavated. In 1981-1983, in order to study the stratigraphy of the city in the area of the old city, a number of excavations were made. It is also planned to collect information about the history of the construction of the fortress walls and their use. As a result, the southern wall of the arch was excavated to a depth of 40 meters, and the remains of the late medieval period were identified: the lower part from the middle of the 15th-16th centuries and the remains of the upper part from the 16th-18th centuries. Determining the date of the construction of Andijan defensive walls was one of the important results of the archaeological expedition of B. Abdulgazieva [8.4-12]. It has been proven that this wall was built in the 14th century, that is, during the rule of the Timurids. The wall also served its purpose in the 16th and 17th centuries. According to the author of the excavations, the fortress was built on the territory appropriated during the Karakhanid era [9.]. Thus, archeological research conducted in 1981-1983 and 1987 confirmed the presence of cultural layers in this area from antiquity to the late Middle Ages. Even so, the early stages of the city's history remained understudied. Archeological research conducted in 1987 confirmed the existence of cultural layers from antiquity to the

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late Middle Ages in this area. Even so, the early stages the city's history remained understudied. Archeological research conducted in 1987 confirmed the existence of cultural layers from antiquity to the late Middle Ages in this area. Even so, the early stages of the city's history remained understudied.

For this reason, since 2000, Andijan archeological detachment under the leadership of Professor Matboboev Bagijon Khoshimovich, specially organized by the Institute of Archeology of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the International Public Foundation named after Z.M. Bobur, has started archaeological research again. The main goal of the detachment was to determine the date of the foundation of the city and the stages of its development. The research was conducted in 2000-2012 and is still ongoing. First, an account of all the monuments preserved in the historical part of the city was taken, and objects were selected for detailed archaeological investigations. The main focus is Focusing on the topography of the location of the now partially preserved monuments, drawing on the information presented in the historical-topographical maps of 1893 and 1913, and comparing the preserved monuments with the information provided in the written sources. Based on systematic comprehensive analysis, 8 architectural-archaeological objects, 11 city cemeteries, 39 mosques were noted on city maps of the beginning of the 20th century. These monuments were conditionally included in the following groups:

- 1. Monuments with an archaeologically recorded cultural layer: Chordona, Sarvontepa, Koshtepa I, Koshtepa II, Yakkatepa, Ganchtepa-Ugrayor (the territory of the house-building complex), Kultepa, the medieval arch and the territory of the city;
- 2. Although archeological excavations were not carried out, monuments of pottery of different periods were

found: Karakurgan (place of the base of the regional public education department), Afghan garden, Akgor (N. Hakimov street), Mushktepa, Orazontepa.

3. Monuments known according to information received from local residents: Shodmonbuva tomb, Baba Sa'din, Shigousun father medieval cemeteries.[2.37]

In 2000-2012, the following archaeological researches were conducted in Andijan:

- 1. Archaeological excavations in Chordona (2000-2003).
- 2. Research in Sarvontepa (2001-2003, 2007).
- 3. Archeological research in the city of Ark Ichi (2001-2002, 2006).
- 4. Exploration works outside Shahristan wall (southern and western), i.e. rabad, with the help of shurfs (2007-2012) [2.38].

In conclusion, the data obtained from the Sarvon Hill during the last two years indicate that the ancient layers were not in the southern part of the city, as the researchers assumed, but in the western and southwestern parts of the city. The findings in Sarvontepa require clarification of another problem, that is, the issue of water supply of the ancient settlement. In this regard, it should be admitted that the researchers who assume that Andijonsoy was dug as an artificial channel in the middle of the 1st millennium BC are close to the truth. The recording of a rather large complex of the archaic period here confirms the age of Andijansoy.[2.38] So, the archaeological researches conducted in Andijan have provided excellent archeological data and provided enough grounds for a new study of some complexes. Until recently, only some findings of the early Middle

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Ages were recorded as the most ancient objects in the city. The discovery of a pottery complex in Sarvontepa became a real sensation. The age of this complex dates back to IV-III centuries BC (divided into two period groups: 1. VI-V centuries BC, 2. IV-III centuries BC). There is no doubt that Sarvontepa belongs to the Early Iron Age monuments of the Eilatonian culture, and these finds were new for the archeology of the valley. VI-V centuries BC, 2. IV-III centuries BC). There is no doubt that Sarvontepa belongs to the Early Iron Age monuments of the Eilatonian culture, and these finds were new for the archeology of the valley. VI-V centuries BC, 2. IV-III centuries BC). There is no doubt that Sarvontepa belongs to the Early Iron Age monuments of the Eilatonian culture, and these finds were new for the archeology of the valley.

So, Sarvontepa was the main core of the city of Andijan, its area is 20 hectares[10.130-134.]. Most importantly, a clean archaeological complex dating back to the VII-III centuries BC of the Early Iron Age was discovered. This discovery is an important innovation in the archeology of the valley. That is, these residents were the successors of the oldest settled farmers (Chust culture) of the valley.

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