

# Specifically, the situation of urban processes in the archaic period in the khorezm oasis



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**Abstract:** The article discusses the beginning of the urbanization process of the first cities in the territory of Ancient Khorezm. In the Archaic period, the issues of development of cities were thoroughly discussed. Information about the opinions of researchers is given in this regard.

**Keywords:** Kozalikir, Khumbuztepa, Dingilja, Okchadarya, Adamlikal'a, corridor, "long houses".

**Introduction:** The Khorezm oasis, located in the lower reaches of the Amu Darya River, possesses a unique civilizational development. In this region, the initial urbanization processes began even before the dominance of the Achaemenids. In the archaic period, the Khorezm oasis was home to the citadels of Khumbuztepa and Khazarasp in the south, and the Kozaliqir fortress in the northwest. The formation of these cities, as well as their construction styles, differ from one another and also exhibit distinct characteristics when compared to cities from the antique era. This indicates that the urbanistic processes in the Khorezm oasis unfolded in their own distinctive manner.

## METHODS

The article provides information about the state of urbanization processes in the ancient Khorezm region during the archaic period. The article uses generally accepted historical, scientific, comparative analysis, sequence methods.

## RESULTS

Although the construction of the monuments of Kozaliqir, Khazarasp and Khumbuztepa, the first cities in the Khorezm oasis, started the first stage of the urbanization process in the area, the time of the initial construction of these monuments remains controversial. V.N.Yagodin, M.Mambetullaev, O.A.Vishnevskaya, S.B.Bolelov, S.R.Baratov in their research on the Kozalikir and Khumbuztepa

monuments. They say that it was founded at the end of the 7th century and the beginning of the 6th century. In other studies, its date is BC [1] [8] [9]. They associate it with the 6th century, that is, the period of Achaemenid rule. N.A. Egamberdieva, who researched these controversial issues, concludes that these cities were built before the Achaemenid rule [2].

Many villages and fortresses of the archaic period have been found in the Khorezm oasis. They were found around Jingilji, Koykirilgankala, Bazarkala, Ayozkala and other monuments of eastern Khorezm oasis. Kozalikir was found in many places in the Western Khorezm oasis. M.G. Vorobeva, in her research work in the Khorezm oasis, showed that cities and villages were built in different ways in the archaic period, and found out that three main types were widespread [3].

He introduced a convenient, well-planned city to the first type. An example of this is the cities of Kozalikir, Bozorkala, Khazarasp. The second type is large (15-21 hectares) and small (up to 5 hectares) settlements with a straight line layout. They are one or two rows of houses and fortifications of different sizes and are located along the canals. Their length is often related to the length of the canals. The third type includes separately built large houses and fortresses.

Pottery workshops were found near settlements. The workshop was built at the same time as the villages. It was determined that they were built in the first phase of Kozalikir, depending on the method of processing of

pottery. At the same time, Scythian-type double-bladed and pointed arrowheads found in the monuments date back to the second half of the 7th century BC - BC. It belongs to the VI centuries.

In the archaic period, the walls of the houses of the inhabitants were thick, and the interior of the house was small. The houses were mostly one-room, two-room and more houses were observed in fortresses and palaces. At the end of the Archaic period, the number of separately built large houses and fortresses increased.

Many villages belonging to the archaic period have also been identified around the Kaltaminor canal. The Dingilja oasis is located in the southern Okchadarya basin, and there are 53 places where the ruins of houses and fortresses belonging to the archaic period have been recorded. This situation shows that this area is densely occupied by the population. mil. avv from this area. Jingilji fortress of the 5th century was found [4]. The fortress is rectangular in shape, 60.9x48.3 meters in size, surrounded by a 2-2.4 meter thick wall. The entrance gate was in the south. The material resources found there were similar to the material items of the upper stage of Kozalikir. M.G. Vorobeve conducted the research in it. There is a multi-room house in the eastern part of the fortress. The western part is an open area, and no traces of construction have been identified. It may have served as a yard. There was a rectangular pond in the yard. He found a large multi-room house measuring 43x25 meters in Kurgan. It was found that repairs were carried out. Before the first renovation, the house consisted of 7 rooms, with a central corridor passing through them [3]. This corridor divides the house into two parts: western and eastern. The houses were entered through the doors on this corridor. The corridor was 20.8 meters long and 2.55 meters wide [5]. Two rooms facing each other at the end of the corridor were separated from the others. In one of the rooms, pillars made of clay were found, and there was a separate entrance from the room to the north. It was built for living in the rooms in the western part of the house. The room in the northwest corner served as a storeroom. A room on the south side was a grain storage room, and a cellar was discovered under this room. The cellar was built long, its exit door was outside the fortress. When the fortress was renovated for the second time, its territory was expanded and changes were made to the construction of some parts of it. The view of the house stretches from east to west and is located in the northeast corner of the fortress. The building is entered from the south side. Even now, the houses of Khorezm residents are similar to the construction style of the house in the fortress. The long corridor in the middle is called "dolon" in Khorezm

language. The rooms of the house in the Kurgan were built in a square or rectangular shape and had hearths. Square or rectangular bricks were used in the construction of the house. The basement of the house was also identified. Researcher M.G. Vorobeve suggests that this fortress may have been a house belonging to the satrap of the Achaemenid Empire. A seal-ring with an image of an archer made of bronze belonging to the Achaemenids, a chalcedony bead with a lion with an open mouth were found in a grave near Kurgan. M.G. Vorobeve gave this opinion because such a seal-ring was also found in a place near Susa and the bead was made in the Achaemenian style [3].

A large fortress was also found in the vicinity of Odamlikala. It is built on a hill 0.7 meters high. The layout is trapezoidal, 600 sq.m. built in the area. Although its size is smaller than Dingilji fortress, its construction is similar. Two rooms were built on each side of the long corridor. Traces of a hearth were found in the southern part. An additional device was detected on the north side.

By the end of the archaic period, the number of large fortresses decreased, they became smaller in size. The number of two- and three-room houses in residential areas has increased. They are built of right corner and square bricks. Houses built of straw are rare. All the houses had platforms, farms and granaries.

In the Khorezm oasis, during the transition from the Bronze Age to the Early Iron Age, large "long houses" (Jonbos-7) were built for the clan community, together with separate residences of the population. We can consider that this was an intermediate stage in the construction of large cities in the Khorezm oasis.

In the plan of the houses built in the early archaic period, the traditional features of the houses built in earlier periods have been preserved. The distances between the houses built in the archaic period were large. The distance between the big houses and fortresses and people's residences was longer. Sometimes small houses are also built very far apart. The researchers suggested that this may have belonged to the farmers, who may have controlled the irrigation system. The discovery of material resources of the Archaic period in 285 places of the Archaic period proves that the territory was widely exploited and sparsely populated during this period [6] [7] [8].

## CONCLUSION

In the Archaic period, the process of urbanization of the Khorezm oasis started from the Okchadarya river basin and moved to the Dovdon and Chermonyob regions of the Sarikamish river basin. The archaic material objects found in the Akchadarya basin were similar to the material objects found in the Dovdon and Chermonyob

basins. Vessels similar to the pottery found in Kozalikir were found near the defense wall and arch of the ancient city of Bozharkala. This is the basis for saying that the villages founded in the archaic period turned into cities at the next stage.

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