

# On The Origin Of The Ethnotoponym Andijan

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**Abstract:** This article presents ideas about the origin of the ethnotoponym Andijan, one of the ancient city names of the Fergana Valley.

**Keywords:** Toponym, ethnonym, ethnotoponym, ethnic unity, clan, tribe, people, nation, written monuments, etymology.

Introduction: One of the names of the ancient cities in the Fergana Valley is Andijan. The discovery of artifacts dating back to the 7th-8th centuries as a result of archaeological excavations in the region confirms that it is one of the oldest cities in Central Asia [1; 323]. The ethnotoponym was first recorded in the 10th century in sources written by Arab travelers as Andukan // Andukon [2; 142], and in works written in Persian as Andigan // Andigon [3; 4], as well as in Z.M.Babur's "Boburnoma" as Andijan [5]. Although there are many legends and stories about the origin of the astionym Andijan among the people, science has not yet reached a clear conclusion about its scientific etymology.

### Access

One of the legends about the history of the name is mentioned by Ishaqkhon Ibrat in his work "History of Ferghana" written in 1916. According to him, the name Andijan is associated with the name of Odinajon, the daughter of the Turan king Afrosiyob: "The History of Qutadgu" tells us that Andijan was a city four thousand years ago, that is, during the time of Oguz Khan, but even before that, it was a prosperous city... When the time came, Afrosiyob became the king of Turan, made Andijan the capital, and sometimes traveled from the city of Konikduz to Tashkent and Andijan. However, according to the old saying, Andijan is actually Odinajon. Odinajon gave Afrosiyob a palace and a garden, and named her after her. They say that Odinajon was corrupted into the language and the name Munshira was changed to Andijan in Persian by Avazjon and the people of Avazjon" (p. 324). Another legend states that the origin of the name Andijan is related to the "And" tribe, that is, the Indians, who lived

here, while another legend says that the name of the city comes from the name of the person who first laid its foundation - Andi [6; 27].

#### **METHODS**

Information about Andijan is very rare in written sources on the history of our country. According to experts, the first source in which the term Andukan (Andijan) is mentioned is Istakhri's work "Kitab masolik al-mamolik" written in 930-933, in which Astionim is mentioned among the names of the cities of the Lower Nisya region of Fergana: "The regions of Fergana are: Lower Nisya, Upper Nisya, Asbara, Nekad, Mian-Rudan, Jidgil, Urest, Besafar, Asht. Upper Nisya is the first city of Fergana, because it is passed through on the way to Khujand. The cities of this region are: Vanket, Sokh, Khokand, Rishton. The cities of Lower Nisya are: Marginon, Zenderamsh, Nejreng, Ustikan, Andukan. And there are mountainous and steppe areas here" [7; 28].

Z.M.Babur lists Andijan among the seven largest cities of the Fergana region and dwells on the description of this region in more detail: "The towns on the southern side are Andijan, which is located in the middle, the capital of the Fergana region. Its food is delicious, its fruits are abundant, its melons and grapes are good. In the melon region, it is not a picture to sell melons on a melon tree. There is no better melon than Andijan. There is no greater fortress in the world than the fortresses of Samarkand and Kesh. It has three gates. The arch is located on the south side. Nine water tanks enter. This is amazing, it does not leave anywhere. Around the fortress, along the stone side of the moat, a highway of Sangreza descends. Around the fortress,

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This neighborhood is a neighborhood. This neighborhood is a fossil, this ditch is a place of pride. There are many hunting birds, and the pheasant is very fat. It is said that four people cannot eat the whole of one pheasant. The people are Turks. There is no one in the city and the market who does not know Turkish. The words of the people are true to the letter. For example, Mir Alisher Navoi's manuscript is found in Hiriyya, where he knows this language (pages 8-9).

There are also views on the origin of the name Andijan in the scientific literature. The Russian historian V.P.Nalivkin, who lived in the last century, connects the name with the name of the Uzbek tribe "Andi" and writes that the suffix "gon" is added to this lexeme and is pronounced as "Andijan" [8; 56]. A similar idea is also expressed by Ishaqkhan Ibrat: "This Andijan was originally Andigan, and when translated into Arabic, it becomes Andijan, for example, "kofi" is read as "jim" in Persian Arabic. Here, the word Farangi is read as Afranj in Arabic, and bangni is read as banj. Kofi is "j" in Persian Arabic, and Andigan must have been Andijan in Arabic words. Azerbaijan is written and read as Azerbaijan in Arabic. The word Andijan must have been Andigan originally. This was added in Persian, for example, as in bandigon or mardigon. In Persian, instead of gon, it is like the word mardal or ozodagon ozodalar. Andigon is the word andlar. "Andi" means the Turkic tribe, the Uzbeks" (p. 323).

According to O.Khojimatov's analysis, the origin of the astionym Andijan is explained in a different way. Based on E. Murzayev's work "Dictionary of folk geographical terms", the scientist considers the first part of the astionym to be related to the geographical term "an", which is found in the ancient Turkic language as part of the units angar // ungir, handaq. While listing several lexical meanings of this term, such as depth, ravine, earth fissure, ungir, lake, sea, valley, he interprets the etymology of the astionym as "City in the Depths", considering the geographical location of the city of Andijan in a region with a relief similar to a cauldron, that is, in the depths [9; 8-10].

A.Muhammadjonov notes that the topoleksema andi or anda in the astiononym Andijan, when considered as an ancient Turkic-Mongolian word, means "to make a pact with a brother or a friend", "to be a close brother, close ally, comrade, vein", "to establish a relationship like a relative". According to the scientist, the unit andi // anda in the astiononym expresses the meaning "close", "not far" and, when combined with the morphemes kon // gon // jon, which express the meanings of "water", "river" or "stream", is interpreted as Andijan - "a city located on the stream" [10; 32-33]. Also, in his article titled "Andi" – "It means captured", linguist M. Tojiboyev notes that the unit "anda" is

derived from the Mongolian word "do'st" (friend), and that the Mongols gathered here after their conquests, rebuilt the city they had destroyed, and named it Andigon – "City of Friends" [11; 25].

According to Professor S.Jalilov, who has been studying this issue for many years, the name of the city is associated with the term "adog". The historian bases this on the opinion of Sheikh Sulayman Bukhari in his "Lug'oti chig'atoyi va turki osmoni" that "Adoq is the ancient name of the city of Andijan", which is quoted in "Lug'oti chig'atoyi va turki osmoni". It is worth noting that Mahmud Kashgari in his work "Devonu lug'otitturk" also indicates the toponym Azg'ish (Adg'ish) as a place name, emphasizing that the term azgish // ezgish refers to one of the Turkic tribes living in Uzjand [Uzgan] [12; 83]. In addition, the manuscript "Tuhfat at tavorikhi khani" also lists the name azoq // adoq among the Uzbek tribes [6; 29]. Therefore, according to S. Jalilov, the root of all the above terms is one, namely "ad", and this root word is the ancient Turkic name of the root "adoq", "adg'ish", which is one of the 92 roots. Also, in A. Ergashev's dissertation on the analysis of ethnotoponyms of the Andijan region, the author considers the etymon of the Andijan astonym to be the ethnonyms ad, andi and presents it as one of the place names characteristic of the most ancient periods of the region [13; 33].

Although all of the above views are based on scientific evidence, in our opinion, it is not entirely correct to attribute the lexeme andi // anda to the Mongolian language. Because the invasion of the cities of the Fergana Valley, including Andijan, by the Mongols led by Genghis Khan, falls on the 13th-14th centuries. Therefore, the Andijan sub-district existed much earlier than the Mongol invasion, that is, as early as the 9th-10th centuries, as Andukon. In our opinion, it is closer to the truth to attribute the etymology of the Andijan sub-district to the names of the Turkic tribes called "adog", "adgish", which are considered one of the 92 clans, based on the research of S.Jalilov. In order to substantiate our opinion, we will refer to some evidence about the history of Andijan. According to the conclusions of historians, the oldest objects found in the Andijan region date back to the 5th-8th centuries, and among these finds, one can note ceramic vessels with the Turkish stamp. These objects, in turn, indicate that Turkic peoples lived in Andijan even at that time [7; 83]. In addition, S.Jalilov and S.Shokarimov also provide evidence that from the 4th century BC, Turkic peoples began to migrate to all river valleys of Central Asia, this process also spread to Fergana, and the Turkification of Andijan began precisely from these periods [14; 4-5]. It is clear that since ancient times, the indigenous population of this region was mainly Turkic

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peoples and tribes, which in turn could not but affect their linguistic system, in particular, the place names they created, that is, toponymy. In addition, Z.M.Babur also emphasized the ethnogenesis of the Andijan people, writing, "The people are Turks. There is no one in the city and in the bazaar who does not know Turkish."

#### **CONCLUSION**

In our opinion, it is appropriate to interpret the second component of the astionim not as the units kon // gon // jon, which express the meanings of "water", "river", "stream", or the Persian suffix -on, which expresses the plural, but as the Sogdian kan - "city", "place", "dwelling", based on the first form of the name recorded in Istakhri's work (Andukan). So, the Andijan apse is linguistically formed as follows: the first part of the name comes from the name of the Turkic tribe ad. which forms the basis of the ethnonyms azoq // adoq, azgish // adgish, recorded in the ancient manuscripts "Lug'oti chig'atoyi va turki osmoni", "Devonu lug'otitturk" and "Tuhfat at tavorikhi khani". As a result of the addition of the lexeme kan, which expresses the Sogdian meaning of "city", to this ethnonym, the apse became adkan // adikon, later the sound "n" was added, and it took the form A (n) dukan > A (n) digon > A (n) dijon.

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