SOME REMARKS ON THE HISTORY OF SUGDIA IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Tugalov Boburjon Bakhodir oglu
Jizzakh State Pedagogical University
Faculty of History Department of History of Uzbekistan (PhD), Associate Professor

Abstract: This article presents information based on general concepts related to the life of the Sugdians in the Middle Ages based on historical sources.

Key words: Sughd, Avesta, Gava, Naqshab, Samarkand, Bukhara farming, gardening, kurgan, Bactria, Gavkhana, Zarafshan, Kashkadarya, Zirabulok, Khorezm.

There is also information about the areas with which the Sogdians lived, the important role they played in their trade, and the areas in which they were located. At the same time, significant results are being achieved in the social and humanitarian sciences - history, philosophy, law, archeology, oriental studies, cultural heritage of the peoples of Uzbekistan, linguistics and literary studies, art studies, and other areas. The preparation and publication of the "Encyclopedia of World Philosophy", the only encyclopedia in Central Asia, which is considered one of the most significant encyclopedias in the world in its field, in 2020, is a striking example of this[4].

If we look at history, the only information that has come down to us about the state of Sogd-Sugdiana is that "Gava", mentioned in the Yasht book of the "Avesta", may be the oldest region of Sogdiana. The accuracy of this information can be seen in the fact that many names of this region have been preserved repeatedly. That is, Gavkhona, the Gavdara mountains, the peak of Gau, and others. So, the meaning of the word Gava meant the concept of "mighty Sogdiana". In addition, Sogdiana was part of Ancient Bactria, which included the present-day Kashkadarya and Zarafshan oases. In written sources, we can also find information that this region is mentioned as "Sogda" (in the Avesta), "Suguda" (in the Behistun inscriptions), and in works by the Greco-Romans (Arrian, Strabo, Rufus of Kursi) as "Sugdiana"[1]. People entered the territory of Sogdiana in the Paleolithic Age, and in subsequent periods they began to spread widely along the mountain and river oases. In the 5th-7th centuries, primitive economies and material culture developed in favorable natural and geographical conditions. For centuries, the Sogdians and Turkic peoples lived side by side, creating a single ethno-cultural space in Sogd, Ustushona, Chach, Fergana, Yettisuv and East Turkestan. The Turkic-Sugdish branch of the Great Silk Road brought together the peoples and nations living from Merv to the Great Wall of China through economic cooperation, as well as in political and ethno-cultural terms. The Turkic-Sugdish unity played an important role in the competition with China in the East and Iran in the West, in maintaining the independence of the region, and in ensuring the security of the caravan routes. The settlements established by the Sogdians served as intermediaries in trade, politics, and cultural relations between China and Western Asia and Europe. These trading settlements expanded and developed into large cities[3]. The Stone Age sites of

Amonkutan, Kotirbulak, Zirabulak and Samarkand have been discovered and investigated. Afrosiyob is an ancient city founded in the 8th-7th centuries BC on the eastern border of present-day Samarkand. Its area is 219 hectares, and some literature states that it was founded by the Sogdians. According to some sources, namely in the 10th-8th centuries, the ancient Kashkadarya population was engaged in agriculture and animal husbandry, as can be seen from the remains of houses and mounds found. The oases of Sangratepa and Chiroqchitepa are among them[2].

We can also see information that Sogdiana was located in the Zarafshan and Kashkadarya oases, bordering Bactria in the southeast and Khorezm in the northwest. So, from this information, we can conclude that in ancient times Sogdiana was located at the crossroads of important trade routes. At the same time, the Great Silk Road has become an arena for the struggle of political and economic interests between the Roman, Parthian, Kushan, and Han empires since ancient times. In the 3rd-4th centuries, the ancient Kushan and Kang states disintegrated. After the disintegration of these states, in 350, the independent activity of the Sogdians on the Silk Road intensified. Later, after the events that took place in this region, this period was also called the Sogdian period[3]. In addition, the Sogdians were also called very skilled traders and suppliers of various products to all markets in a timely manner. This is because the Sogdians supplied large quantities of Sogdian agricultural and handicraft products to many countries, such as Byzantium, Korea, and Japan, by sea and land routes, and in addition to the demand for raw materials, a large part of the population of Central Asia spoke the Sogdian language and some also spoke the Turkic language. Then the Sogdian language was widely used as an international trade language in many regions, namely China, East Turkestan, Fergana, and the Seven Seas. It should be added that each state and city that constantly and actively participated in trade had its own coins and reforms in this regard, and this reform was also carried out in the Sogdians, as there were Turko-Sugdian coins minted in Samarkand in the 6th-7th centuries, that is, in the Middle Ages. Information has reached us that these coins were read and studied by the candidate of historical sciences G. Boboyorov[3].

In conclusion, we are talking about the Sogdians in the Middle Ages, and the Sogdians mainly reached a high level of agriculture, gardening, crafts, and trade during this period. At the same time, we also have information about the fact that the products of the Sogdians were famous in the countries and that there was a strong demand for these products in all state markets. At the same time, information based on general concepts related to the life of the Sogdians in the Middle Ages is presented.

List of used literature:

1. Sultanov Farhod O‘rta asrlar tarixi (I qism. O‘zbekiston tarixi) Sharq nashriyoti Toshkent-2012

2. A.S. Sagdullayev, O‘zbekiston tarixi (I darslik) O‘zbekistin Respublikasi Fanlar akademiyasi “ Fan” nashriyoti davlat karxonasi Toshkent-2018

3. М. Ишоқов “Суғдиёна – тарих чорраҳасида” Тошкент-1999

4.Yangi O‘zbekiston taraqqiyot strategiyasi. Toshkent-2022.