

THE ISSUE OF LOCALIZATION OF THE ANCIENT FERGANA CAPITAL OF ERSHI

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Annotation

The article analyzed the opinions and comments expressed by historians about the location of Ershi, the capital of the ancient state of Ferghana. Opinions of some archaeologists were given near the city of Ershi.

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In the 30s and 40s of the last century, complex archaeological expeditions were organized in a number of regions of Central Asia. These include the archaeological research carried out in the Fergana Valley [11:118]. During this period, complex expeditions of this nature were organized in many regions of Central Asia. Especially Khorezm complex archaeological expedition led by SPTolstov [14], southern Tajikistan expedition led by A.M. Mandelshtam [9], Zarafshan archaeological expedition led by AYYakubovsky [15], MYMasson Margyyona expedition [10] are among them.

These expeditions planned various scientific works. Archaeologists of the Ferghana expedition focused their attention on the monuments of the Bronze Age culture. In Chust and Dalvarzintepa, trenches were laid and pottery fragments were taken into account. The animal bones from the strata were limited to drawing conclusions about socio-economic life by distinguishing between large-bodied cattle and small-bodied animals [6]. From the results of these studies, the analysis of bones or plant remains and seeds has made it possible to trace the origins and genealogies of communities and peoples more fully.

The Mingtepa monument was first erected in 1939 in connection with the construction of the Big Fergana Canal by M.E. Explored by members of the expedition led by Masson. In 1946, professor ANBernstam from Leningrad began to study the history of Mingtepa archaeologically. For the first time, information from archaeological finds and written sources was summarized. ANBernstam in his book called "Ancient Fergana" mentions Mingtepa near Marhamat district of Andijan region. the capital of Fergana state, whose monument is mentioned in written sources Location of the city of Ershi comes to the conclusion that This conclusion is based on the rock paintings carved on the rocks of Aravon, a short distance from the ruins. We know from additional sources that the people of Ershi raised thoroughbred horses. According to written sources, Ershi was a large city surrounded by two walls. NGGorbunova mentions that the current ruins of Mingtepa are also separated by walls in her work "Kohna Ferganada". According to him, Mingtepa is one of the oldest cities of the Ferghana Valley, the

total area of which is 45 hectares [8:13].

YAZadneprovsky also conducted archaeological research at the Mingtepa monument. In T studies uses the trenching and digging methods of his time and focuses on the issue of total number of pottery shards and it is valuable for collecting important materials for archeology [12]. Under the leadership of YAZadneprovsky, excavations were carried out at two points. The excavation area is 40 km. This area mainly corresponds to the eastern part of the city. YAZadneprovsky will continue his research work in Mingtepa together with BXMatboboyev. They write articles devoted to the analysis of expeditions conducted in 1950-1987. The results of stratigraphic observations and analysis of pottery are covered in [13].

Chinese written sources, there were more than 70 cities in the ancient state of Ferghana, and Ershi was its capital [17].

According to archeological sources, Akhsi is an ancient city that was created in III-II centuries BC. Archaeologists began to study it from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century. It was first studied by NIVeselovsky in 1885. 1914 IAKastane conducted excavations. Research was also conducted by Russian archaeologists. MYMasson conducted archaeological excavations in 1939, N. Berishtam in 1948 [18]. As a result of the excavation research, the city of Akhsi consists of three parts, the first part is called the ark, the second part is the city, and the third part is called the rabot. YGulomov and I. Ahrorov conducted small research works. In addition, in 1967, the artist A. Smirnov collected and partially studied the ceramics found in the ruins of the city of Akhsi. The Akhsi monument was placed under state protection in 1950 due to its high place in the history of the culture of the Uzbek people. According to written sources, the area of ancient Akhsi is 40 hectares [17:137].

In the ruins of the city of Akhsi As a result of the research conducted by I. Ahrorov and A. Anorboyev, artificial irrigation facilities were studied. ZMBobur's work "Boburnoma" mentions that "Akhsi water comes from Koson". As a result of research, it was found that drinking water was brought to Aksikent from Kosonsoy. In the 1970s and 1980s, historians and archaeologists Y. Kasimov, I. Ahrorov, and A. Muhammedjanov discovered and excavated the Akhsikent waterway, and as a result, unique examples of an irrigation structure built in the tunnel method were found [19].

Another scientist who has been researching the history of the Fergana Valley for many years is A. Anorboyev. He studied the ruins of old Akhsi and gave information about Ershi, the capital of the Ferghana state. According to him, he concludes that Ershi is a descendant of the old Akhsi [1]. According to the archaeologist's opinion, the city of Ahsikent, where the residence of the Khagan of Fergana was located, consisted of an extraordinary city. The Chinese army only broke the outer wall and occupied the outskirts of the city. City dwellers and defenders settle in the city. In addition, according to historical data, Fergana horses were brought into the inner part of the city. As a result of negotiations with the Chinese soldiers, they were given 3,000 "heavenly horses". It can be seen that the city of Ershi covered a very large area. He gave his opinion, taking into account the current territory of Ahsikent.

Another of our senior archaeologists, A. Askarov, studies the history of the Ferghana Valley and gives his opinion about the ancient capital. As a result of his scientific observations, he emphasized that the ancient city of Ershi is located in the place of the present Marhamat. As a result of historical events, the city of Ershi fell and was replaced by Merhamat. After studying the current location of his arch, he agreed with the opinion of A. Anorboyev and said that the city of Ershi corresponds to the current Ahsikent [4:7].

According to the information provided by the well-known Chinese scientist A. Khojayev, the population of Fergana consisted of 60,000 families and made up 300,000 people. The state of Fergana was ruled by a single ruler. The ruler was elected through a council of elders, and he always followed the advice of the elders before starting a war or making peace [17:137]. According to historical written

sources, a special military strategic plan was drawn up for the march to the ancient state of Ferghana. According to him, in addition to unemployed youths and border guards, thieves and criminals in prison will also be recruited into the army. In 102 BC, 60,000 troops set out. The army was led by more than 50 experienced generals under the leadership of Commander-in-Chief Li Guangli. In addition to 100,000 cattle, 30,000 war horses, more than 10,000 camels, donkeys and mules were used to supply the army with food. More than 50 officials participated in the army, mainly in supply work. In order to surrender Ferghana as soon as possible, various specialists were recruited into the army. Quickly occupy Ershi from water facilities special tools were brought for disconnection [5 : 147-148] . He devised a plan to capture the city by blocking the waterway and leaving it without water . If we make a conclusion , it is not true for the people of Ahsikent . S abi, even with modern technology, the waterway of the Syr Darya can not be changed . In addition, there is another source of water flowing near the city of Ahsikent - Kosonsoy. Kosonsoy can be diverted to Syrdarya by blocking the waterway, but this way the population will not be cut off from water. A part of Aksikent receives water from Syrdarya. As a result, we can know that the city will not give up. Taking into account the given information and the natural geographical location, we think that it is more appropriate to say that the ancient city of Ershi is located in the place of modern Mingtepa, compared to Ahsikent.

In recent years, Ahsikent and Mingtepa archaeological sites are large-scale field research works are being carried out. It is worth noting that, taking into account the antiquity and beauty of the artifacts found in these two objects, once again Mingtepa is more ancient than Ahsikent, and it has a greater claim to the status of the capital.

In recent years, the introduction of exact sciences, digital technologies and the increasing level of scientific analysis in the science of archeology have provided significant results in illuminating and reconstructing the problems of ancient history. In particular, we hope that the development of such sciences as paleozoology, paleoecology, paleobotany, paleogeography and their widespread use in archaeological research will be a solution to other similar puzzles.

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