

SOME CONSIDERATIONS ON THE ORIGIN OF MILITARY FORTIFICATIONS ON THE ISLAND**Satimov B.M.**

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Abstract:The objective of the origin of military fortifications on the island is one of the most important problems in history. This issue is related to current topics such as the emergence of building and architectural culture in the areas of the lower Syrdarya and Amudarya basins, the beginning of the use of raw bricks and straw in construction.

Key words:Architectural design, rectangular raw bricks, construction of buildings, mausoleums, building traditions.

The topic of the origin of military fortifications on the island is one of the most important problems in history. This issue is related to current topics such as the emergence of building and architectural culture in the areas of the lower Syrdarya and Amudarya basins, the beginning of the use of raw bricks and straw in construction. In different years, S.P. Tolstov, V.M. Masson, M.G. Vorobeva, M.I. Itina, E.E. Nerazik, M.M. Mambetullaev, O.A. Vishnevskaya, Yu.A. Rapoport, G. Khodzhanizayov, K. Sobirov and other researchers expressed different opinions on the history of the construction of the Aral Sea, but the issue of the origin of defense structures in the Aral Sea was not a special research topic.¹

Compared to the southern regions of Central Asia, in the oases of the lower part of the Syrdarya and Amudarya basins, the field of construction and architecture has developed chronologically and has its own characteristics. From the Neolithic period, long flange-shaped wooden pole huts built on the ground, and semi-basement huts and light huts were built in the Bronze Age. However, far from the establishment of settlements, the development of construction techniques was first expressed in the architectural design and the use of rectangular raw bricks in the construction of the Northern Tagisken mausoleums (IX-VIII centuries BC) in the lower Syrdarya. The architectural traditions of these mausoleums were not known in the world of steppe herders. Therefore, S.P. Tolstov interpreted the use of rectangular bricks in their construction in connection with the "strong influence of highly developed southern civilizations"². A little later, M.A. Itina also assessed the spread of building methods in the Eastern Aral Bay as a Bactrian cultural influence³.

¹ Сагдуллаев А.С., Матякубов Х. К проблеме происхождения глинобитно-сырцової архитектуры в Хорезме // Вестник Национального университета Узбекистана. Специальный выпуск. 2013. – С. 59-64; Кдырниязов М.Ш., Ягодин М.–Ш., Мамбетуллаев М.М., Сагдуллаев А.С., Кдырниязов О.Ш. История цивилизации Хорезма. – Нукус: Qaraqalpaqstan, 2017. – С. 91-94.

² Толстов С.П. По древним дельтам... – С. 86.

³ Абдуллаев У.И. From the History of The Study of The Saks' Monuments in The Lower Syr Darya And Amu Darya Basins // Ilkogretim Online - Elementary Education Online, 2021. – С. 1463.

According to H. Matyokubov, it was a difficult process for steppe herdsmen to adopt the above-mentioned building traditions based on cultural ties only, because for many centuries, herdsmen traditionally lived in cellars and huts and did not use raw bricks in construction⁴.

In our opinion, the importance of the farming direction in the assessment of the lifestyle and economic sphere of the inhabitants of the Late Bronze Age of the Archipelago has been overestimated by researchers. Therefore, the population groups that built the Northern Tagisken tombs are interpreted as representatives of herding tribes with a sedentary lifestyle and agricultural skills⁵. Perhaps, based on these views, it is concluded that Tagisken builders mastered certain building styles and raw brick making skills as a result of the influence of mutual cultural and economic relations of southern civilizations and steppe cultures⁶. But the important situation of practical knowledge and experience in construction was left out of the discussion.

Especially, this issue is related to the next historical stage. In the Eastern Aral Bay of the VII-VI centuries, settlements and military fortifications built of raw bricks and thatch have not been identified, but during this period, the first Sakas lived in felt grasses, and defense structures were built here at a later stage, AD. appears in the V-IV centuries BC.

The oldest military fortification in Khorezm oasis - mil. avv. It is Kozalikir fortress, built on the border of VII-VI centuries. The monument is located in the ancient oasis of Sarikamishboyi Dovdon valley, 120 km from Amudarya. located in the west (Northern Turkmenistan). Kozalikir was discovered by S.P. Tolstov. Although archeological excavations were not carried out in the ruins of the castle at that time, the researcher interpreted his initial ideas and put forward the idea of "a city where people live inside the walls", it is noted in paragraph 1.2 of this work. In his monograph "Po sledam drevnekhorezmiyskoy tsivilizatsii" published in 1948, the scientist explained his views somewhat more widely (this monograph was published in Uzbek in 1964)⁷.

S.P. Tolstovning yozishicha, mumkin bo'lganida Qo'zaloqi xarajati "yodgorlikni qurshab olgan shaxarning devorlari orasidagi yo'laklarda yashagan". Ko'zaloqir mudofaa devorining ichida, e'lon qilingan rekonstruksiya qarab, ana shunday uchta o'zaro parallel koridorimon yo'lak bo'lib, "ular bosqinlar, biy yurishlar va to'qnashuvlar davrining timsoli". Bu to'qnashuvlarga "jamoaning asosi boyligi bo'lgan chorva sababdan, uni har kimlardan bo'lsa ham bosqinchi himoyalangan", ya'ni mudofaa devorlari bilan o'rab olingan Ko'zaloqirning keng ichki qismi mol qamaydigan joy, ya'ni quton". Bu borada qal'aning vazifalari ochib berilgan, lekin kelib chiqib ketishi masalasi muxokama qilinmagan⁸.

As a result of the archaeological research carried out in Kozalikir, its historical topography was studied, and it was found that the monument, occupying an area of 25 hectares, consisted of the upper inner fortress and parts of the fortified "lower city" around it⁹. The defensive walls of Kozalikir were built on the steep slopes of a high hill. The thickness is 5 m. The length of the thatched wall is 3.5 km. Inside the wall, there was one corridor for archery through rectangular

⁴ Абдуллаев У.И. SOCIO-ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN BRONZE IN MIDDLE CENTRAL ASIA // Scientific and Technical Journal of Namangan Institute of Engineering and Technology 2019. – P. 8.

⁵ Толстов С.П. По древним дельтам... – С. 80.

⁶ Грязнов М.П. Тагискен – усыпальница вождей. Культура носителей мавзолеев // Средняя Азия в эпоху камня и бронзы. – М.–Л.: Наука, 1966. – С. 238.

⁷ Толстов С.П. Городища с жилыми стенами // КСИИМК. Вып. XVIII. – М., 1947. – С. 3-8.

⁸ Толстов С.П. Қадимги Хоразм маданиятини излаб. – Тошкент, 1964. – Б.100-103, 21-расм.

⁹ Толстов С.П. По древним дельтам Окса и Яксарта... – С. 99.

arches. Its width is 2-2.5 meters, and therefore it is known that it was built for military purposes, far from a residential function. The outer part of the wall is crossed by tires every 2 meters. They are arranged in a "chess" arrangement on two levels. In this way, the archer was able to shoot while kneeling and standing. In addition, every 30-35 m along the wall. in the distance there are semi-circular constellations from which arrows were shot from the bow through three guns¹⁰.

Three gates for entering the Kozalqir fortress were identified, the sides of which were strengthened by two large (6x4 m.) rectangular towers. It was possible to shoot from the inner rooms of the turrets through the tires. The width of the gates is 4 meters. According to this indicator, it was possible to enter the fortress in a short period of time through the wide gates and drive herds of livestock. In particular, S.P. Tolstov, who pointed out this aspect of the fortress, was right, when there was a danger of external invasions, such fortresses, in fact, became a place of refuge for the communities of shepherds and their cattle herds.

However, Kozalikir is distinguished not only by the above-mentioned feature. The remains of the palace, the residence of the chief of the tribal association, were found and examined in its inner fortress. This event in the history of ancient Khorezm is not only an innovation in the field of construction and architecture, but also marks the beginning of previously unknown processes in the military-political system. According to O. A. Vishnevskaya, the author of these important archaeological discoveries, the palace reflected the features of the economic and religious center of the tribal association. It contained 20 large courtyards and rooms. In the center of the complex there is a hall with two wooden pillars and an area of 800 sq.m. meter yard stands out. Along the walls of the courtyard, there are rectangular raw brick platforms¹¹. On one side of the courtyard is a raised brick throne, accessed by a brick staircase, and opposite the throne is a hearth for the sacred fire. Two large warehouses were also excavated. Barley and wheat grains were stored in the palace storerooms.

Perhaps, this is the reason for interpreting the palace as an "economic center". Usually, storehouses in palaces were a place to store agricultural products (food stocks) and valuables (jewelry), handicrafts and weapons. Therefore, in our opinion, it is appropriate to define Kozalikir as an administrative-political center and a place for the population and its main wealth - a hiding place for livestock, as well as a military fortification.

Since the 50s of the last century, the problem of the emergence of pakhsa - raw brick architecture and defense structures in Khorezm has become a debate in scientific literature, and it has been interpreted in two directions - the cultural influence of southern civilizations and the result of the migration of the "Khorasmites" population from the south to the Khorezm oasis.

Initially, V. M. Masson explained the process of using raw brick in the construction of Khorezm in connection with the Parthian-Margian cultural influence¹².

Although M.G. Vorobeva did not agree with this opinion, he wrote that the first skills related to the beginning of the construction of pakhsa - raw bricks in the Khorezm oasis "should be

¹⁰ Кўзалиқирда археологик тадқиқотлар О.А.Вишневская раҳбарлигида олиб борилган. Қаранг: Вишневская О.А.Раскопки городища Кюзелигыр // АО 1971. – М.: Наука, 1972. – С. 533-534; АО 1977. – М., 1978. – С. 544-545; АО 1978. – М., 1979. – С. 567; Вишневская О.А., Рапопорт Ю.А. Городище Кюзели-гыр. К вопросу о раннем этапе истории Хорезма // ВДИ. №2. – М., 1997. – С. 150-173.

¹¹ Вишневская О.А., Рапопорт Ю.А. Городище Кюзели-гыр... – С. 155-158.

¹² Массон В.М. Древнеземледельческая культура Маргианы // МИА. – №73. – М. – Л., 1959. – С. 54.

recognized as being acquired from the inhabitants of other regions", because the previous examples of the use of construction materials made of clay in the oasis were not identified. The data of archeological researches of the following years did not change this situation regarding the issue of local roots and traditions in the field of construction.

It is appropriate to express some opinions on the analyzed problem. The fact that the traditions of building defense structures, using raw bricks and straw as building materials in the construction industry do not have local roots are recognized by all researchers who have considered this issue.

There were no military fortifications in the steppes to the east of the peninsula (Central Kazakhstan, Ettisuv, Western Siberia), where cattle-breeding tribes of the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age lived. On the contrary, the history of defensive structures and the traditions of pakhsa - raw brick architecture have deep roots in the south of Central Asia.

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