

Rock Paintings in Jizzakh Oasis

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Abstract:

This article provides information on the study of the rock paintings of the Jizzakh oasis, the research conducted by archaeologists on the study, the formation of rock paintings and the factors that caused it.

Keywords: Jizzakh oasis, rock paintings, archeological excavations, results of scientific research, research.

Introduction

Information about the history and social life of Jizzakh is also described in the work "Boburnoma" by Zahiriddin Muhammad Babur. In the work, he writes that he was in Jizzakh, Zomin, Pishagar, Rawat, Khojand. In 1501, Babur wrote that he was in Jizzakh after receiving a blow from Shaybani Khan and returning to Andijan: "After late prayer, we went down to Ilonotti, killed a horse, boiled its meat, made kebabs, and left the horse for a while. Early in the morning, we arrived at the city of Haliliya (now the territory of Kaliya fortress). Dizak was brought from Khaliliya, and Tahir, the son of Hafiz Muhammadbek, was a widower in Dizak. Fatty meats and small meats are cheap, sweet melons and good grapes are prosperous... Andok usrattin mundok and cheapness and baliyattin mundok kelduk kelduk" are considered to be an appreciation for the rich and cheap livestock, horticultural and agricultural products of Jizzakh, and the hospitality of its people [1].

In the 7th-12th centuries, the life of the Jizzakh oasis was somewhat developed, agriculture and handicrafts developed, and woolen fabrics, woolen dresses, cocoons, iron and metal products, and Ustrushona turquoise were made in the world market in Mirasman near the city. The Arab geographer and traveler Ibn Hawqal in his Kitab masalik al-mamolik (The Book of the Roads of the Countries) mentions the development of mining and processing of ore in Mink and Mirasman, where metal tools were made Khurasan, Baghdad and notes that it is widespread in Iran.

Professor Fayzulla Boynazarov, doctor of philological sciences, in his book "The Antiquity of Central Asia" and in the book "Iskander's Campaign" by the Greek historian Arrian, mentions that the city of Jizzakh is mentioned under the name of Gazo. Farang chronicler G. I. Dreiser also calls the city of Jizzakh by the name of Gazo in his book "History of Hellenism - History of Macedonia" published a hundred years ago. In the book "Drevniy Zaamin" by historians



Yu.F. Buryakov, A.A. Gritsina, B.D. Kochiyev, Gazoni is mentioned as the current city of Jizzakh [2].

The territory of Jizzakh region borders the Republic of Kazakhstan in the northeast, Syrdarya region in the east, Samarkand, Navoi regions, and the Republic of Tajikistan in the west and southwest. The region is located around the Syrdarya and Zarafshan rivers, it is part of the Turkestan, Molguzar and Nurota mountain ranges in the southeast of Central Asia, its area is 20.5 thousand square kilometers, and it consists of fertile plains and pastures. The Mirzachol Plain is located in the natural-geographical location of the Sangzor Valley, the southern slope of Turkestan Mountain. Mirzachol lands are part of Syrdarya and Jizzakh regions.

During the last years, archeological researches were carried out in the territories of Jizzakh region by the scientists of Samarkand Institute of Archeology. In the oases of Jizzakh and Ghallarorol, in the complex of Kharakana (Gallaorol district), ancient and medieval monuments such as Aydinsoytepa, Qing'irtepa, Jalmantepa, Lapaktepa, Nushkent were discovered and studied, the lifestyle of the primitive people who lived in this area, information on economic activity was collected. It became known that the valley in the basin of the Sangzor River has been inhabited since ancient times, a sedentary and semi-sedentary life based on agriculture and animal husbandry was established [3]. The ancient physical evidence found during the archaeological excavations shows that there were settlements in the Jizzakh oasis, in particular, in the Sangzor valley, Ilono'tti gorge, and Tuzkon regions as early as the Neolithic (new) stone age. So, the appropriation of lands in the Sangzor valley by our ancestors has a history of almost 5 thousand years [4].

The Neolithic (New) Stone Age is a period in which people's ideas and beliefs underwent a drastic change. This process is also confirmed by rock inscriptions and color images of our oldest photographic ancestors in the mountains of Molguzar and Nurota ridge. In 1956, academician A.R.Muhammadjanov and archaeologist M.Khujanazarov jointly discovered and studied a gallery of paintings depicting hunting scenes and other everyday processes of people carved by our painter ancestors on the rocks in Saykhonsoy and Takatosh near the city of Jizzakh. The researchers found 683 different animals from the forts on the left bank of Saykhonsoy at a height of a few meters, 12, or even 15 meters - tochkili, arhar, butu, horse, wild boar, gazelle, wolf, they managed to find and study many geometric shapes of leopard and dog carved on stone, and stone inscriptions depicting hunting processes of hunters with a bow [5].

Pictures carved on stone 6 meters high and 4 meters wide were also found in Takatash, which is located near Sayhonsoy. Scholars come to a conclusion that the main part of these paintings was carved with sharp tools for many years. Although the oldest copies of these paintings have been darkened by the sun and winds, they are clearly visible when the sun is shining. From a chronological point of view, it was concluded that the oldest of these rock paintings were made in the 4th millennium BC.

The rock inscriptions and paintings in Sayhonsoy and Takatash found by research scientists A.Muhammadjanov and M.Khojanazarov provide valuable information about the lifestyle,



animal world, and hunting scenes of the ancient people who lived by hunting and cattle breeding in the Sangzor and Jizzakh oasis.

In 1966-1974, archeologist A. Kabirov carried out scientific research on the study of stone inscriptions. In 1987, the formation of a group for the study of rock inscriptions in the Molguzar and Nurota mountains at the Institute of Archeology in Samarkand served as an important factor in the study of rock paintings. More than 30 unknown rock monuments were found and studied by archaeologists in Jizzakh oasis, Khatirchi and Nurota districts. More than 500 ancient stone pictures painted with red paint were found and studied from the stone belts of Oksagolota stream in Khatirchi district alone. It is noted that these rock paintings were made in the 1st millennium BC and 1st millennium AD [6].

The people who settled in the Sangzor Valley first settled on the banks of natural wastewater, around the streams and lakes flowing from Turkestan, Molguzar, and Nurota mountains, in areas where livestock and people could drink water, and where it was possible to irrigate crops without difficulty. lived in a peninsular style. According to historical sources, the working tools of primitive people were very simple, and they had difficulty hunting large animals. Because of this, people were forced to live in a community. Because single people could not hunt animals. Primitive people united in a large group, became a great force, and managed to overcome the difficulties and disasters that occur in nature together. Primitive people hunted small animals with tools made of stone and tree branches, and managed to find food by digging plant roots. What nature gave to people, they mastered those ready-made things. In this process, people improved both physically and mentally.

Archaeologists managed to find and study the monuments of the Middle Paleolithic period in Uzbekistan. These monuments were found not only in open settlements, but also in caves. One of such caves is the Teshiktash cave found in the Boisun Mountains, which was found to be a settlement of the Neanderthal type people typical of the Middle Paleolithic. Bones of Neanderthals belonging to the Middle Paleolithic period were found in the cave. This site of Neanderthal people belongs to the muste period, that is, 100-40 thousand years ago, and there are about 3000 stone tools made by Neanderthal people, such as chisels, saws and axes, bones of arka, deer, wild horse, fox, rabbit and other animals. found.

Monuments of the Middle Paleolithic-Muste period were also found and studied in Khujakent and Abirakhmat caves in the Tashkent oasis, Omonkuton near Samarkand, and Takalisoy. During this period, people discovered fire, learned to cook meat over a bonfire and scare off wild animals with fire.

Human settlements of the Late Paleolithic period were found and studied in more than 30 places in Samarkand, Surkhandarya, and Tashkent regions, in Central Asia. At the end of the last Paleolithic era, clan communities (matriarchy, patriarchy) appeared instead of primitive groups of people. The members of the Urug team worked together, and the products of their labor were considered common property. An elder (an experienced and respected member of the team) led the work of the Urug team. In the Jizzakh region, the settlements that provide information about the life and lifestyle of the people of the Paleolithic period have not yet been sufficiently explored, and until recent years, no research has been conducted at all. In order to solve this



problem, the Jizzakh expedition group of the Institute of Archeology in Samarkand is carrying out preliminary archaeological research. Archaeologists studied the sand quarries in Chimkurgan community farm of Forish district and the surrounding land and found out that the earth layers around Karatogori were formed in the Paleozoic period. Because the Paleozoic era is characterized by extreme activity of tectonic movements (earthquakes). During this period, large-scale depressions were formed in the upper crust of the earth as a result of severe bending and cracks, which led to the formation of water basins and lakes. As a result of the archaeological research conducted in Karatogetak, it was proved that the sand quarry was the place where such water bodies dried up. According to the historian-archaeologist experts of the group, they found out that the tectonic movements of the earth's surface continued for a very long time in Forish district, in particular, Jizzakh region, and therefore bending, bending, and uplifts appeared here. In addition, stone tools related to the life of Middle Paleolithic primitive people 100-40 thousand years ago were found around the sand quarry. Among the finds, a stone weapon made of flint, measuring 54x53x21 mm, nucleus is very important. According to the research, it was proved that the primitive craftsmen made several knife-like stone tools from this nucleus stone. Antiquities from the first stone age found in the Jizzakh region indicate that the history and culture of our country, dating back to the distant past, are 100-40 thousand years old, and that it is one of the ancient lands inhabited by people. It was concluded that perhaps our ancestors who lived in the territory of Jizzakh region had direct cultural contact with people who lived in the regions of Zirabulok Amonkuton.

Irrigated agriculture develops in the Jizzakh oasis, on the banks of the Sangzor river. Cultivation of the land was improved by people with tools made of copper, bronze and iron made by artisans. Due to the development of animal husbandry and handicrafts, the expansion of cultivated areas, the production of additional products occurs. This situation is the reason for the separation of animal husbandry from agriculture, the development of handicrafts, and the emergence of division of labor.

Countries such as Sogdiya, Bactria, Khorezm, Kang'va Parkana, which followed the path of ancient high cultural life, appeared in the territory of Central Asia. According to the Chinese annals, among these states, the state of Ustrushona also arose. By the beginning of the 3rd-4th centuries AD, the culture of Ustrushona developed, and it is known in history as "the country of 400 castles". Early medieval towns, defense and irrigation facilities began to appear in Ustrushona instead of large towns and fortresses. Chinese and Arab sources of the 6th century AD describe the borders of the Ustrushona state as follows: "Ustrushona consisted of the territories surrounding Samarkand from the bottom, Shosh from the north, Kesh and Sogdiana from the south, and Fergana from the east." According to Al Istakhri, "Most of Ustrushona is occupied by mountains, there are no rivers or lakes where ships can sail. The state of Ustrushona is divided into 18 districts. Rustoks in the plain include Bunjikat, Savat, Zomin, Hovas, Shovkat, Fankat, Kharakana.

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