

Analysis of the Issues of Early Statehood in the Region in the Case of Ancient Khorezm

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Abstract: In this article, when the ancient state of Khorezm formed and which areas it includes. Also, its ancient cities are socio-economic and economic about the life of the ancient Greek scholar about the ancient state of Khorezm, the information left by modern scientists is ancient, as a result of his scientific research on the Khorezm state, here is a brief summary of the information.

Keywords: "Khorazm", "Avesta", Behistun and Naqshi Rustam writings, Susa Palace, Herodotus' History, "Alexander the Great history".

Khorezm is an ancient state with a unique civilization in the lower basin of Amudarya. In ancient times, the country geographically occupied a much larger territory than the present Khorezm region. It included Birota (Darganota) in the south, the Aral Sea in the north, Sarikamish basins and upper Uzboy in the west, and the southern Okchadarya deltas in the east¹. Today, the northeastern part of Turkmenistan, the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and Khorezm regions are located in the ancient Khorezm region.

The current word "Khorazm" is given as "Khwarazmi" ((H)uvārazmi) in ancient Iranian language, "Khorasmiya" in Greek sources, and "Khoramni" in the work of Ctesius. I.M. Dyakonov and V. Geiger interpret the etymology of the word "Khorazm" and conclude that "Khvarizem" - "khvara" - food, that is, fertile land or "khvar" - "sun" can also be². In later studies, the meaning of "Sunny Land" is widely recognized.

This ancient country was first mentioned in the "Mikhr-yasht-X" part of "Avesta" as "Khwarizam", the last country along the flow of wide tributary rivers, after countries like Ishkata, Margush, Hava. But the researchers also connect the cities of Aryoshayana, Aryonam Vaykhakh (Eronvej), Vakhvi Daiti river, Vorukash, Chaytasta lakes, Kankha, Urva in the "Avesta" with ancient Khorezm. The river "Vakhvi Daiti", which is the most mentioned in the Avesta texts and is considered sacred, is indicated by researchers as "Amu Darya".

The historical processes expressed in "Avesta" reflect the era of military democracy in Central Asia. The fact that the historical process in "Avesta" is mainly connected with ancient Khorezm, Sugd and Bactria is also reflected in archaeological materials. The mountains mentioned in "Avesta" are Pamir, Hindikush, Tian-Shan, lakes - Aral Sea, Takir Lake, Khamun, wide rivers Amudarya and Syrdarya. Khorezm's interpretation based on the information of "Avesta" will be considered in more detail in the fifth chapter.

¹ Yagodin V.N. Genesis and formirovanie rannehorezmiyskoy gosudarstvennosti. / Iстория государственности Узбекистана. Т.И. - С. 107.

² Dyakonov I.M. Iстория Мидии от древнейших времен до конца IV в. н.э. - С. 56; Geiger W. Ostiranische Kultur im Altertum. - Erlangen. 1882. - P. 29.

Information on the history of ancient Khorezm is preserved in the written sources of the Achaemenid era - the Behistun rock inscriptions, the inscription found in the Susa palace, the statue of Darius I, the inscriptions of Nakhshi Rustam, the inscriptions on the tomb of Darius I, the relief images of the Persepolis palace, the tombstone inscriptions of Artaxerxes II. These sources are I. Marquardt, E. Hertzfeld, R. Kent, A. Edakov, A. A. Freiman, V. V. Struve, V. I. Abaev, M. A. Dandamaev, S. P. Tolstov, I. Widely researched by V. Pyankov, Yu.A. Rapoport, M.M. Dyakonov, B.I. Vainberg³.

The inscription found in the palace of Susa contains the following information: "When I built the palace in Susa, its decorations were brought from far away countries. ... The dark-blue shiny stone used here was originally brought from Khorezm."

In Achaemenid written sources, Khorasmites were mentioned for the last time on the tombstone of Artaxerxes II (404-359 BC)⁴. M.A. Dandamaev analyzes this information and shows that in this source the Khorezms are mentioned not as dependents, but as allies. It is confirmed on the basis of archeological sources that Khorezm state became independent in the end of the 5th century BC and the beginning of the 4th century BC. Ancient authors on the history of ancient Khorezm - Skilak (6th century BC), Hecataeus of Miletus (6th century BC), Herodotus (484-425 BC), Ctesius (415-415 BC) 397 BC), Strabon (64-23 BC), ancient Roman historian Quintus Curtius Rufus (1st century BC) and Arrian (95-175 BC) have preserved information.

The researchers who analyzed these data suggested that the Khorasmites originally lived in the south. The information provided by Herodotus in his "History" has become a topic of discussion among scientists to this day⁵. According to this information, Hyrcania, Parthia, Tamania, Drangiana were located along the Akes River, and Khorasmia bordered them. Many researchers identify the Akes River with the Tajan River in present-day Turkmenistan they compare. S.P. Tolstov believes that the Akes River was in the present Khorezm region⁶. On the basis of this information of Herodotus, the German scientist I. Marquardt developed the idea of the "Great Khorezm" state⁷. According to his idea, Khorasmites led the union of countries bordering the Akes River described by Herodotus. This political union was disintegrated by the Achaemenid invasion.

During the analysis of the information given by the Greek authors, two different directions were formed among the researchers. The first group of scholars believes that the Khorasmites first lived in the south and later moved to the lower Amudarya, while the second group of scholars admits that they lived in the lower Amudarya since ancient times. Among the supporters of the first direction, there is also a debate about the original homeland of the Khorasmites, since Herodotus' information about the Akes River does not fit the geographical context. Most scientists refer to this area as the Tajan-Murgob valley. A. Askarov says that it is Khirot valley, and E. V. Rtveladze concludes that it was between the Amudarya and Murgab, i.e. Band-i

³ Kent R. Old Persian: A Grammar. Texts. Lexicon. - New Haven, 1953; Dandamaev M.A. Political history of the Achaemenid Derzhavy. - S. 248; Dyakonov M.M. Ocherki istorii drevnego Irana. - Moscow: Vostochnaya literatura, 1961; Dandamaev M.A. Lukomin V.G. Culture and economy of ancient Iran. - Moscow: GRVL, 1980. - S. 144-145; Edakov A.V. Novye nadpisi Akmensidov. // VDI, 1976, No. 2; Tolstov S.P. Ancient Khorezm; The same author: Po drevnym deltam Oksa i Yaksarta. - Moscow: Nauka, 1962; Pyankov I.V. Khorasmii Hecataeus of Miletus. // VDI. 1972. No. 2. - 13 - 14; Rapoport Yu.A. A brief essay on the history of Drevnego Khorezma in ancient times. // Priarale v drevnosti i srednevekove. - Moscow: Vostochnaya literatura, 1998. - S. 28-41; Weinberg B.I. Pamyatniki kuyusaiskoy culture. // Kochevniki na granitsakh Khorezma. (Trudy XAEE - XI). - Moscow: Nauka, 1979. - S. 7-77.

⁴ Kent R. Old Persian: - P. 155- 156.

⁵ Herodotus. History. III. 117.

⁶ Tolstov S.P. Po sledam drevnehorezmskoy civilization. - M.-L.: Izd-vo Akademii nauk SSSR, 1948. - P.103.

⁷ Markwart I. Wehret and Arang; Egamberdieva N.A. The first state of Khorezm. // Social sciences in Uzbekistan, 1998, #2, - B.26.

Turkestan, located in the south-east of Turkmenistan, in the north-west of Afghanistan, and on the west side of Paramisad.

In the work of Herodotus, there is information that the Khorezmites were 16th satrapy in the Achaemenid state and paid 300 talents a year together with the Parthians, Sugdians, and Aryans. This shows that the Khorezm people were dependent on the Achaemenid Empire. Herodotus' third information about Khorezmites wrote that Khorezmites took part in the campaigns of Xerxes (486-465 BC) to Greece: "... the Khorezmites were commanded by Artabazus, the son of Pharnakes...". Through this information, we can witness that the Khorasmites paid a large amount of taxes to the Achaemenid state, and that they also participated in military campaigns organized by them to other states.

Information about Khorezm during the invasion of Alexander the Great is preserved in the works of Arrian and Quintus Curtius Rufus. The Greek historian Arrian's work "Alexander's Campaigns" gives the following information: "... At that time Pharasman, the king of Khorasmians, came to Alexander with one and a half thousand horsemen. Pharasman said that he would live as neighbors with the Colchis and the Amazonian tribes, and that if he wanted to subjugate the tribes living on the shores of the Euxine Sea (Black Sea) as well, he would act as their guide and prepare the necessary things for the warriors. ... He (Alexander) thanked Farasman and made a friendly alliance with him, but he said that it was not time to go to Pontudlya. He entrusted Farasman to the Persian governor Artabaz of Bactria to accompany them to his homeland⁸. This news also caused a lot of debate among researchers.

This event is interpreted differently in the Roman historian Quintus Curtius Rufus. In the eighth book of his "History of Alexander the Great" he gave the following information: "Frataernes, the ruler of the Khorasmians, together with his neighbors the Massagetae and Daxians, sent his men to the king (Alexander) to convince him of his submission." The information in the work of Quintus Curtius Rufus was analyzed by Yu.A. Rapoport. According to him, Phrataernes was the king of Khorezm during the reign of Alexander the Great. He sent his men to Makedonski. The Greek historian Arrian wrote that the ruler of Khorezm was Pharasman in order to raise the honor of Alexander even more. Analyzing the data, Yu.A. Rapoport comments that Farasman was Fratafern's son or his relative⁹.

Due to the fact that there is little preserved information on the history of ancient Khorezm in written sources and it is not possible to make a full assessment from the point of view of today, it has been the cause of many discussions among researchers. It is possible that the archaeological evidence collected in later periods will show the solution of such disputes.

In recent years, researchers have extensively analyzed the information preserved in written sources about the states formed in the regions of the Amudarya basin, and new ideas are being put forward. Great attention is paid to the issues of interpretation of the events and places presented in them. As a result of archeological research, new pages of ancient history are opened as a result of the discovery of local written sources, extensive analysis of numismatic materials.

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⁸ Arrian. Pokhod Alexandra. IV.15. 4,5,6.

⁹ Rapoport Yu.A. Khorezm v Drevnosti. // Rapoport Yu.A., Nezarik E.E., Levina L.M. V nizovyakh Oksa and Yaksarta. Obraztsy drevnego Priaralya. - Moscow: Indirik, 2000. - S. 34.

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