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THE YAHYO GULOMOV ROLE IN THE STUDY OF THE PRIMITIVE HISTORY OF THE BUKHARA OASIS

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РОЛЬ ЯХЬИ ГУЛЯМОВА В ИЗУЧЕНИИ ПЕРВОБЫТНОЙ ИСТОРИИ БУХАРСКОГО ОАЗИСА

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Abstract. In the 50s and 60s of the XX century, the first archaeological excavations were carried out in the western part of the Bukhara oasis, in the foothills of the Zarafshan River. It is headed by Yahyo Gulomovich Gulomov, the father of Uzbek archaeology. The expedition will find the sites of Neolithic and Bronze Age communities in the area, and later excavations at these sites will reveal many innovations in our history. The article discusses the role of Yahyo Gulomov in the study of the primitive history of the Bukhara oasis and his great contribution.

Аннотация. В 50–60-х годах XX века первые археологические раскопки проводились в западной части Бухарского оазиса, в предгорьях реки Зарафшан. Их возглавлял Яхья Гулямович Гулямов, отец узбекской археологии. Экспедиция найдет в этом районе стоянки общин эпохи неолита и бронзового века, и более поздние раскопки на этих местах откроют много новых страниц в истории Узбекистана. В статье рассматривается роль Яхьи Гулямова в изучении первобытной истории Бухарского оазиса и его большой вклад.

Keywords: archaeological excavations, settlements of Bronze Age communities, Zarafshan, Yahyo Gulomovich Gulomov, archaeological artefacts.

Ключевые слова: археологические раскопки, поселения общин бронзового века, Зарафшан, Яхья Гулямович Гулямов, археологические артефакты.

Introduction

As a result of archaeological excavations carried out by the Mokhandarya expedition in the Lower Zarafshan oasis, for the first time in this region, the process of transformation of Neolithic hunters and fishermen into the first peasant and cattle-breeding communities was observed [1–2]. Ya. G. Gulomov began the expedition with his student A. Muhammadjanov to study the irrigation system of the Bukhara oasis. As a result, A. Muhammadjanov's work was published, which shows the development of irrigation facilities in the Bukhara oasis from the emergence of irrigation systems to the beginning of the XX century [3].

The special team of the expedition found and studied more than 60 Neolithic and Bronze Age settlements of the IV-II millennia BC in the lower reaches of Zarafshan.

Material and research methods

Yahyo Gulomov conducts scientific research near the village of Yakkatut in the Karakul district, along the ancient dried-up rivers such as the Mokhandarya, Gurdush and Gujayli, which in the past separated from the Zarafshan River and flowed into the Amudarya [4]. In a 1956 article, the scientist concludes that “the north-western part of the Bukhara oasis is a promising archaeological reserve rich in archaeological monuments of primitive society” [5].

As a result of this long expedition, in 1966, co-authored with Yahyo Gulomov, Ahmadali Askarov and Utkir Islamov, they published a major fundamental work entitled “Primitive culture and the emergence of irrigated agriculture in the foothills of Zarafshan”.

As a result of the research, the settlements of ancient hunters and fishermen who lived in the V-III millennia BC were found and studied around the Big and Small Tuzkan lakes. It was concluded that the settlements of Darvozaqir I and Darvozaqir II found in Greater Tuzkon belonged to the Neolithic tribes. According to archaeologist D. Jurakulova, the discovery of the remains of a tent at the site of Darvozaqir is a unique phenomenon that is important in studying the culture, socio-economic life and daily life of primitive ancestors living in the lower basins of Zarafshan in the Neolithic period [6].

The study of the settlements found in Lower Zarafshan gave U. Islamov the following generalization — the formation of the Kaltaminor culture on the basis of the Caspian Mesolithic (late IV millennium – mid-III millennium); The Tuzkan tribes were engaged in hunting and fishing, were in constant cultural contact with the southern Urals through ancient Khorezm, southern Turkmenistan and the Aral Sea, and concluded that the first farming tribes in Uzbekistan were the successors of the Kaltaminor culture. Archaeologists often repeat that the influence of the Sopolli culture in the south was much greater in the formation of modern culture. At the same time, it should be noted that the formation of this culture was also influenced by hunters and fishermen of the slightly older Kaltaminor culture, as well as advanced Sarazm farming cultures.

As a result of the study of the surroundings of Lake Zamonbobo, the remains of an ancient cemetery of the Bronze Age were found and studied in the area. This cemetery was the cemetery of the primitive villagers who lived in agriculture and animal husbandry in the middle of the II millennium BC.

In the spring of 1950, it was found and studied in the lower basins of Zarafshan, northwest of the Bukhara oasis, on the northern shore of Lake Zamonbobo, which is drying up. This object became a base object for the study of the culture of the steppe tribes living in the late Eneolithic and Bronze Ages. The monumental mat was the main source in the analysis of the culture of steppe tribes, which were engaged in parallel with agriculture and domestic livestock [5, 7–9].

Zamonbobo Cemetery has no external signs, or they are not well preserved to us. Therefore, according to Ya. Gulomov’s diaries, the undamaged bald area on the northern shore of the lake was divided into squares, and each square area was gradually excavated to a depth of 20 cm. Every 20 cm, the excavation area was cleared flat and traces of graves were searched. During the excavations carried out in this style, one by one, graves that had not been damaged by wind and rain began to be found. Between 1950 and 1953, 41 graves were opened. In 1961 and 1964, the search for new graves in Zamonbobo was continued by A. Askarov, and 5 more graves were opened. Thus, a total of 46 graves were excavated in Zamonbobo Cemetery. During the study of the monument, it was discovered that most of the graves were destroyed and human bones were scattered randomly. In only three cases (no. 1, 27, 36 graves) were the skeletons in place. Observations show that the skeletons are buried in a squat position, with the limbs bent and the side bent, as if the child were lying in the mother’s womb. The head of the skeleton faces east, northeast, and sometimes

northwest. Graves are mostly one-man, two-person, and sometimes re-buried. In each tomb, there are one or two vessels, mainly on the head side of the skeleton. In both cases, the vessels belong to a different ethnic character, that is, to the tribes of the ancient agricultural culture of the southern regions. In the tombs of men, there are leaf-shaped pedicels made of lightning from the grave (arrowheads), and in the tombs of women, there are, of course, yellow or red ocher, antimony, chalk and dwarf shovels. A terracotta goddess was found in the tomb of a woman. Burnt charcoal is found in some tombs. In the women's tombs, of course, there are beads made of colorful precious stones, pebbles, grains of corn, which look like black coal, copper glass, a half-moon copper knife, and animal bones. According to Yahyo Gulomov, Zamonbobo cemetery is located on two hills. They are divided into eastern and western sectors depending on their location. Initially, the tombs of the eastern sector were understood to be older than the tombs of the west. Initially, according to the structure of the tombs, the eastern sector was understood to consist of graves, while the western sector consisted of terraced tombs [10–11].

However, the next thorough scientific analysis of the tombs revealed that both sectors were the same — the terraced lahad (tomb). In this misunderstanding, it was found that the porches of most of the tombs were blown away by the wind, as they were shallower than their deeply excavated tombs.

In the tombs, where the porches were dug deeper, the porches were preserved along with the lahad part of the tomb. Chronologically older tombs are darker, ovoid in shape, with round-bottomed jugs, hand-made semicircular bowls and flint-shaped bowls, and imported vessels. In the area of Lake Zamonbobo, 2 sites belonging to this culture were found and studied. The first location is near Lake Zamonbobo, on the shores of the Gujayli (Gurdush) River. It is surrounded on both sides by ridges, and the side of the riverbed is surrounded by a wall that has become a border. The total area is 0.10 ha. Archaeological excavations in its central part have uncovered an oval-shaped basement, two tents, a two-chamber pottery kiln, and farmsteads in several places.

The studied basement is oval in shape, about 1 meter long, carved into the ridge, the length of which is from north-east to south-west. The length of the basement is 23.5 m, the width is more than 9 m, and the depth is about 1 m. The area of this basement is about 170 m². A series of furnaces, farm huts, and a cultural layer is gathered around the basement, under its wall. Along the basement wall, in the middle of its basement, were grooves in a row, indicating that they were pillars of the basement roof. The cultural layer collected inside the basement consisted of three horizons, the lowest of which was rich in archaeological material. In the basement, in general, a large number of pottery fragments, terracotta rugs, anthropomorphic forms, various labor and hunting tools made of flint, stones, sledgehammers and stone chisels, bone marrow, copper shovel fragments and a large number of pet bones were found in the basement area.

The second Zamonbobo settlement was found about 6–7 km west of the lake, on the banks of the Gujayli River. The small pottery fragments collected from the settlement area are similar in all respects to the Zamonbobo cemetery and the materials of the I settlement. The study of Zamonbobo cemetery, excavated by Gulomov and his students in 1950–1953, was continued by A. Askarov [12], who clarified a number of aspects of its age, structure, chronology, customs and ethnographic appearance of the people. The discovery of modern villages and their lifestyle, economy, customs, economic and ethnocultural relations with other tribes were studied [13].

Conclusions

In conclusion, as a result of the expedition led by Gulomov in Bukhara, first of all, studied the lifestyle and stages of development of the Stone and Bronze Age tribes in the lower reaches of the

Zarafshan River. Secondly, if we look at the stage of development of archaeology of Uzbekistan at that time, the work of the Lower Zarafshan oasis archaeological expedition in Bukhara became one of the most important practical and methodological works. It should be noted that the archaeological excavations in Bukhara should be turned into a “reserve” for tourists, and in the future, these objects should be formed as cultural sites that promote the rich history and culture of Uzbekistan around the world.

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