



# KHOREZM FIRST AND LAST FROM THE PAGE COVERING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN THE IRON WORLD

**Komilova Sabohat<sup>1</sup>, Matyakubova Shahodat<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Graduate Student of the "History" Department of Urganch State University

<sup>2</sup>Graduate Student of the "History" Department of Urganch State University  
Urgench, Uzbekistan

## ANNOTATION

*The article covers the history of socio-economic relations covering the early and late iron society in Khorezm.*

**KEY WORDS:** *Tozabogyob, Amirabad, Southern Aralbuyi, Central Asia, reservoir Okchadarya, M.A. Itina, S.P. Tolstov.*

During the Bronze Age groups of people in Southern Aralbuyi were adapted with the natural condition containing special features and they developed material culture and economical forms which belonged to this geographical territory. Traditions of house building, types of labor and household tools were suitable to the life style of the native people. In this process, we have to take into consideration not only peculiarities of natural environment but also the development of producing power and degree of using technological innovations.

The production of agricultural goods, crafts of the society and peculiarities of works, the task of rising economical and sociable system on the basis of archeological materials and sociable and economical relations which belong to the history of the Bronze Age in Khorezm oasis haven't been learned thoroughly yet. These tasks were shortly reflected in some chapters of monographs and scientific articles.

At the result of new scientific investigations we can observe scientific and methodical complete changes in the modern process of learning and generalizing active problems which belong to the history of the Bronze Age in Central Asia. This situation causes the necessity of looking through scientific approaches and opinions about the ancient history of Khorezm oasis separately which were considered as superior for many years on the basis of new information.

The following problems haven't been learned till the last years and the reasons which are directly connected with those problems haven't been widely analyzed as a special theme:

- the task of the usage of hovels with lath columns as houses, light huts, and later shacks with half cellars for a very long period (approximately for more than 3 thousand years) in the territories of Southern Aralbuyi;

- the keeping the potential degree of primitive method of making clay dishes in hands which is one of the signs of development degree of material culture;

- the task of later appearance of agriculture and livestock breeding from chronological view point in Khorezm oasis than in other regions of Central Asia and they are leading forms which were considered as superior in the regional production economy;

- the peculiarities of relations between ancient societies, sociable and economical relations, system of society and governing.



From the archeological point of view the learned memorials in Southern Aralbuyi are considered with developed and last stages of the Bronze Age. It is possible to compose the following table generalizing the existing information from scientific literatures.

It is possible to see from the table that forms of economy and works, structures of housing, habit of using stones and bronze in order to make instruments, method of making clay dishes in hand are the continuance of cultural traditions formed during Tozabogyop – Amirabad cultures of the late Bronze Age according to their signs. But these traditions were developed on new basis and their some changes in the sights, looking, forms and qualities of housings, instruments, clay dishes, jewelries.

The houses of Tozabogyop culture separately contained half cellars and from this the size of houses are commented with the following measurements: 105-129-132-140 square/meters (the largest ones), 72-80-90 (medium sized), 21-34-62 square/meters (the least ones). In Amirabad memorials there were identified some houses which contained 2-3 half cellars among separately situated half cellars, but there is hardly a difference between their sizes, only the territory of one largest house is equal to 165 square/meters, so, the medium depth of cellars comprises 0,4-0,8 meters.

In the center of half cellars there were identified a big mud-built stove and household pits covered with mud surrounding it.

Things made of bronze were found in a low amount in Tozabogyop culture memorials. They basically consist of knives, sickles, awls, tips of arrows, bracelets, earrings and rings and they comprise rare instruments and jewelries. The kinds of bronze fireplaces and arrow tips which belonged to Amirabad culture increased, so there were found stone molds to put bronze sickles and arrow tips. There are some assumptions that bronze goods had been made by regional masters considering the foundation of fixed molds from the memorials of Kukcha 15 and Jonbos 21 of Tozabogyop culture. Blacksmithing was also domestic crafts among pottery-making.

In the southern Okchadarya reservoir the identified Bronze Age locations were not surrounded with defending walls. This shows that there was not the necessity of defending from outer attacks. The locations haven't got a definite plan, houses are situated unorganisedly. According to the writings of M.A. Itina, Bronze Age societies didn't use half cellars for long, they changed their places during the process of the level of water was going down in riverbed branches, so, there existed seasonal houses related to economical form of livestock breeding in pastures.

There was not found any archeological information belonging to farming culture by the middle 2 thousands B.C. in the territory of Southern Aralbuyi and people of Tozabogyop are considered as the most ancient regional farmers. S.P. Tolstov and Y.G. Gulamov stressed that farming appeared in Khorezm oasis during the Bronze Age. Because of B.V. Andrianov's investigations, the prints of ancient farming lands and river channels in Jonbos-Kukcha oasis were found and checked. The size of farming lands (definitely private plots) are 16x10, 10x10, 7x7 m, the length of rivers are 150 – 200 meters, but there was not found any seeds of wheat and barley in houses. The private plots were situated near water – on the shores of riverbeds. Perhaps, farmers took their benefit from the wetness of private plot soil at the result of the rise of underground water. It is necessary to emphasize that it is not important to increase farming possibilities during the process of food production by the Bronze Age people of Southern Aralbuyi. Even in the late Bronze Amirabad Age there were not existed wide irrigation constructions in Okchadarya reservoir and worked farm lands were limited.

In comparison, in the south of Central Asia in oasis of eneolithic period farming lands which were based on artificial irrigation covers 50-70 hectares. Medium 47-52-71 hectare farm lands were used in different stages in the south of Uzbekistan surrounding Bronze Age Sapallitepa. Hunting also was an important job among farming and livestock breeding in the life of people of Sapallitepa.



Farming lands in the Bronze Age in the territories of Northern Afghanistan (Southern Bactria) contained 40-45 hectares and there was not found the prints of wide irrigation constructions.

At his time S.P. Tolstov wrote that there appeared wide irrigation system with developed branches during the last stage of (the 8<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C.) Amirabad culture and it is possible to suppose that the existence of this system caused the appearance of slavery relations among primitive societies M.A. Itina was a supporter of that idea and wrote on the basis of the first results of the archeological investigations carried out in the memorial Yakkaparsan 2 that during the 9<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C. in the culture of Amirabad societies there appeared new sociable formation – passing to slavery system at the end of primitive society. But the indicators belonging to farming lands in Okchadarya reservoir and the size of farming, the degree of the usage of artificial watering lands with agricultural aim and other factors (total number and territorial density of people) do not serve as the basis for the above narrated conclusions.

The methods of providing with food materials of the society in Southern Aralbuyi which belong to this theme and which is considered as an important function of economical system was not systematically learned enough.

It is possible to come to conclusion that irrigation farming economics was not superior at first in the territories which had been mastered by the people of Tozabogyop considering the origination of them from desert tribes among which Srubnaya and Andronovo cultures spread and migration to the territories of Okchadarya reservoir.

The tribes of Andronovo culture in the Southern Urals were busy with livestock breeding, kair (liman) farming, which was carried out on the lands sometimes made damp by riverbeds, was considered as an subsidiary task in their life.

According to archeological information, the bones of domestic animals which were found from Tozabogyop culture location are the bones of 60 cows, 349 minor livestock, 17 horses, 2 camels were found. From percental point of view the bones of domestic animals of Amirabad period comprise – 28,5% thick horned livestock, 50% minor livestock, 18,5% horses. From it we can see that minor livestock breeding was considered as superior in the composition of domestic animals. It was very comfortable to breed goats and sheep on desert lands. Cows were cared in the pastures surrounding the locations.

The bones of minor livestock were more found among the bones of domestic animals which were found in the Southern Turkmenistan memorials of the Bronze Age and in Zamonbobo location in Lower Zarafshan. They comprise 63.22% of the total amount of the bones found in Sapallitepa, but the weight of cows was comparingly heavier and basically they provided people with milk and meat. So, increasing the number of thick horn cows was a productive form of livestock breeding than minor livestock.

In the south of Central Asia camel-breeding (the second half of the 3 thousands B.C.) and horse-breeding (2 thousands B.C.) developed as separate branches of agriculture. Camels, horses, donkeys were widely used as transports moving on dry land in the Bronze Age. They played a great important role in carrying luggages, passing long distances and in the migration processes.

Bones of domestic camels and horses were found in the Bronze Age memorials of Southern Aralbuyi. They were basically used in household works and as transports. Horses played an important role in the process of seasonal moves of cattle breeders and mastering new territories.

Livestock breeding was an important branch in the economy of Southern Aralbuyi societies as a productive economy. Livestock breeding provided people with meat, milk, wool, and leather goods.

It is necessary to pay attention to hunting in the process of providing the regional society with food. Bones of deers and elks were found in the Bronze Age memorials of Okchadarya reservoir.



Hunting these fast running animals was a complex task in the wasteland condition. It is possible to make an assumption that the method of surrounding wild animals was also used besides the actions of single hunters using arrows.

Fish bones were not found in the memorials of Tozabogyop culture. We can make a conclusion that fishing was unconsciously developed during the Bronze Age considering lots of little lakes for fish and the situation of locations on the riverbeds of Okchadarya. As an argument for this conclusion we can offer fishhook made of bronze found in the memorial Barktom 8, it is like a fishhook belonging to Zamonbobo culture.

According to the assumption of M.A. Itina, perhaps eating fish was prohibited during Bronze Age, this behaviour might come out from the appearance of fish conviction and imageries of totems. The ancientness of the prints of fish conviction in Southern Aralbuyi was reflected in the ethnographic information.

In our opinion fishing didn't lose its role among hunting wild animals and birds in the life of the Bronze Age societies in Southern Aralbuyi. The works which were connected with mastering existing food products in the nature was developed additionally with productive economy. The existence of lots of fish bones in the lower cultural layers of the location Qanga 2 belonging to Amirabad culture can prove this conclusion.

Household crafts, various house professions and works played an important role in the process of supporting the needs of society. It is necessary to pay attention to the following approaches and tasks in learning their relationship and development:

- identifying the degree of profession and technological peculiarities of production;
- marking the territorial situation of crafts in locations;
- identifying the degree of changing products of household professions and crafts.

The Bronze Age instruments and things in Southern Aralbuyi were produced in household conditions according to their main peculiarities. Household crafts was connected with making stone and bronze instruments and clay dishes. Livestock breeding caused the development of spinning, textile manufacturing and leather production. Members of societies made various instruments and things due to economical branches, life condition and household needs. Creating dishes from mud and instruments from stone in the strap method was not a difficult labor. It is possible to make stone instruments, for example medium sized hand mill which is used in Archeology during 10 hours.

Bronze things were also produced in household condition. Their types hardly changed in the process of 700 years of the development of Tozabogyop and Amirabad cultures. According to M.A. Itina's writings, it is possible to make an assumption that there existed specialized masters who were busy with producing bronze goods because stone molds were found in a separate house in Yakkaparon location.

In our opinion, the main portion of existing things were the products of household handicraft. Hand made clay dishes were the continuance of primitive traditions according to their quality. According to ethnographical information, making dishes from mud in hands and ripening them on bonfire were women's job for a long time. Farmers, cattle breeders and hunters could make their special instruments in household condition. So, it is not out of the realm of possibility that societies bartered some bronze goods and jewelries.

Therefore, it is necessary to stress that household handicraft products were used at first for the internal everyday needs of members of society. Besides, some products (dresses, carpets, wool and leather) were used in internal and external bartering processes. But there is no written sources about this theme and archeology owns limited possibilities in identifying the amount of producing goods in order to barter.



Considering the peculiarities of archeological materials, there is a supposition that jewelry goods, labour tools and instruments were used in ancient bartering processes. The appearance and development of such form of bartering was marked by people's different location and economical directions. Barter which was based on economical factors appeared because of life needs.

The possibilities of internal and external bartering relations widened. At the result of the appearance of transportation objects. There were found copies of wheels of carriages made of mud in the locations of Bayramkazgan, Kukcha 15 and Kukcha 16 of Tozabogyop period. Wheels were invented during Bronze Age in Central Asia and there appeared carts with wheels joined to domestic animals (camel, horse, donkey). This is proved by clay monument of camel and cart, pieces of clay monument carts, horse and camel which were found in Oltintepa in Southern Turkmenistan.

So, it is necessary to mention the beginning of complexity of ethnic processes in the archeological materials belonging to the late Bronze Age. Invention of big mausoleums in Lower Syrdarya reservoir in Northern Aralbuyi (Northern Tagisken) and learning the burial ceremonies of elder grandfathers and leaders of migratory livestock breeder tribes in them are the plain expression of sociable changes in the 9<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> centuries B.C.

## REFERENCES

1. Itina M.A. *The history of the steppe tribes of the Southern Aral Sea* // Tr. HAAE - M., 1977. T. Kh.
2. Tolstov S.P. *Ancient Khorezm*. - M.: MGU, 1948. - S. 67; Gulyamov Ya.G. *The history of irrigation of Khorezm from ancient times to the present day*. - Tashkent: Fan, 1957.
3. Andrianov B.V. *Ancient irrigation systems of the Aral Sea region*. - M.: Nauka, 1969.
4. Lisytsina G.N. *Formation and development of irrigated agriculture in South Turkmenistan*. - M.: Nauka, 1978.
5. Sarianidi V.I. *Ancient farmers of Afghanistan*. - M.: Nauka, 1977.6. Salnikov K.V. *Essays on the ancient history of the Southern Urals*. - M., 1967.
6. Ermolova N.M. *Remains of mammals of the Bronze Age from the settlement of Altyn-depe* // *New archaeological discoveries in Turkmenistan*. - Ashgabat, 1982.
7. Shirinov T. *Production tools and weapons of the Bronze Age of the Central Asian Mesopotamia*. - Tashkent: Fan, 1986.