

The Significance of the Activity of the "Turkestan Amateur Archeologist Circle" in the Formation of the Archeology of the Country of Turkestan

Rakhmatullaev Akhadulla Yusupjon ugli

Researcher of Jizzakh State Pedagogical University, Uzbekistan

Annotation: In this article, the factors of formation and development of archeology of the Turkestan region are analyzed, and the role and importance of local archeology circles is highlighted in it.

Key words: Turkestan, archeologist circle, archeology, local history, source studies, collection, history of Turkestan, museum.

Introduction

In the structure of the first scientific societies in Turkestan, the circle of amateur archaeologists of Turkestan occupies a special place. On the one hand, the colonial regime did not financially support the work of scientific and social organizations, on the other hand, local intellectuals were not paid attention to, and scientific study of Central Asia was not encouraged. Already during the campaigns of Tsarist Russia, the tsarist government, interested in knowing the geographical system in the country, began to approach local geography in terms of its own interests. The assistant commander of the troops of the Turkestan military district sent a letter to lieutenant general Masievskiy, in which he was asked for permission to start oriental research. However, the East should be studied not for the East or science, but for Russia.

Materials and methods

Historical and cultural wealth of the region attracted antiquarians and collectors in the early times. The study of the ancient history of Turkestan was initially carried out by researchers, military and local officials. The initial studies were mainly carried out using the photographic method. In 1867, archaeologist P. Lerkh started the study of historical objects in Turkestan. The Archaeological Commission of the Russian Empire sent P.I. Lerkh, who visited the country twice, to conduct an excavation in Jhonicent. During his five-month trip, P.I. Lerkh will visit Shymkent, Tashkent, Khojand, Oratepa and Jizzakh regions[1].

V.V. Bartold, in his book "On the issue of archaeological research in Turkestan" published in 1894, said that a serious study of the country is still ahead of us, and local scientific forces should play the main role in this work. The Statute of the Turkestan Archeological Enthusiasts Circle, developed on the basis of his proposal, was approved by the Ministry of Public Education of the Russian Empire on October 31, 1895[2]. Amateur archaeologists working in the country united in 1895 in the circle of amateur archeologists of Turkestan. As in other fields of science, there was no planning of research work, and there was no possibility to conduct research work due to the lack of specialists. Archeological works mainly consisted of studying ancient monuments based on written sources, checking and identifying some archaeological sites, and occasionally conducting archaeological excavations. The discovery of a large number of pictures carved on stone in a place called Soymailitash in the Fergana mountain range by members of the Turkestan archeology amateurs' circle, the opening of the famous Biyanaman ossuaries, etc., became very important scientific discoveries in the annals of science[3].

The real information collected by the members of the circle, the materials they found for the first time, became the auxiliary information for the subsequent researchers and allowed to record many details of the monuments of the past that have been lost with the passage of time, as well as the folklore and written sources related to these monuments. The circle of Turkestan amateur archaeologists did not start its activity from a large area, "free space". After the Turkestan region was annexed to Russia, scientific research was started. In particular, we can cite the works of N.S.Likoshin and P.I.Lerkh (1867), the study of the ancient settlement of Samarkand by A.Khoroshkhin in 1872, the fact that Kushakevich conducted research in Khojakent district and wrote down his data, and many more examples. The number of observers coming to Turkestan has increased.

In 1894, in his special work, V.V. Bartold emphasized how urgent it is to study the antiquity of Turkestan, and it is necessary to strengthen scientific research in this direction. Based on the proposal of the scientist, on October 31, 1895, the "Regulation" of the Turkestan archeological amateurs' circle was approved by the Ministry of Public Education of the Russian Empire. More than a year later, on December 11, 1895, a club was opened in Tashkent. The main goal of this circle was to systematically organize archaeological research in Turkestan, to identify monuments through research, to study topography, local history, and to study ancient monuments mapped on a map. The members of this circle first investigated the ruins of ancient cities and villages and carried out preliminary archaeological excavations. Our opinion is evidenced by the fact that excavations were carried out at the monuments of Afrosiyob in Samarkand, Poykent in Bukhara, Khojabakirgansoy basin in Khojand, places near Oratepa, and ancient buildings around Tashkent. Also, the members of the circle were engaged in collecting, recording and accounting materials related to ancient objects, artifacts, oriental manuscripts, numismatics and ethnography. So, the researches conducted in Turkestan by amateur archaeologists who worked in 1895-1917 became important for the development of archeology and historiography of Uzbekistan.

In general, in our opinion, the first foundation stone has been laid for the study of the ancient history and culture of the peoples of Turkestan, including the Uzbeks. However, archeology was still far from being established as a perfect science during this period. That is, in this period, the "chronological scale" of material culture has not yet been created, the finds are expressed with broad historical dates, in general, in terms such as "before Islam", "before the Mongols", "before the Timurids", the majority of the studied archaeological monuments are built of mud and raw bricks, the methodology of excavation works factors such as the fact that it was not fully developed and the results of archaeological excavations were hardly compared with the written sources, and the creation of the ancient history of the peoples of Turkestan was not put on the agenda as a special problem.

It can be seen that the large-scale archaeological and historical research of the Turkestan region by Western scientists led to the acquisition of rich information on the history of the country and the discovery of scientific innovations.

The policies carried out by Tsarist Russia did not fail to have an impact on Western scientists conducting archaeological research in the region as much as possible. The research of Western scientists in any region was carried out under the strict control of Tsarist Russia. Despite the existence of such prohibitions, a lot of information about the history and archeology of Turkestan has been collected by Western scientists. Although there were not many areas explored by Western scientists, it was a great innovation for its time. After all, every research method brought by them to study the country served for the development of science in the region. Research methods brought by Western scientists were directly used in the field of archaeology. Now, archaeological excavations in Turkestan are organized in an orderly manner based on certain rules. This led to the development of the science of archeology in Turkestan in the next period. At the same time, local archeology began to develop in the region.

In total, about 15 scientific societies were working in the country, among them there was also a society of history and archeology. However, it must be said that in the conditions of colonial Turkestan, the activities of scientific societies did not spread among the local population. Scientific medical societies are an exception to this. True, active local historians and local reporters have appeared in the presence of scientific societies. In this regard, under the influence of Russian researchers, collectors, and scientific societies, amateur antiquities have evolved from people who collect ancient monuments to amateur archaeologists. Among them, the names of Mirzo Bukhari and Mirzo Abdullah from Samarkand stand out. At the beginning of the 20th century, scientific societies in Turkestan, including amateurs of history and archeology, did significant work.

The circle of Turkestan amateur archaeologists did not start its activity from a large area, "free space". After the Turkestan region was annexed to Russia, scientific research was started. In particular, we can cite the works of N.S.Likoshin and P.I.Lerkh (1867), the study of the ancient settlement of Samarkand by A.Khoroshkhin in 1872, the fact that Kushakevich conducted research in Khojakent district and wrote down his data, and many more examples. The number of observers coming to Turkestan has increased.

Since the middle of the 19th century, as a result of growing interest in the ancient monuments of Turkestan, archaeological observations, searches, and partly excavations began to be carried out on various artifacts. In addition, during this period, interest in Turkestan's economy and culture increased due to its

relationship with Tsarist Russia. Specialist scientists of the central scientific-research institutions and organizations of the empire came to Turkestan and started their activities and researches.

Conclusion

Active members of the circle, which operated until 1917, V. Famous scientists such as Barthold, N. Veselovsky, V. Andreev, A. Divaev, N. Likoshin, N. Mallitsky, N. Ostroumov, A. Semenov, L. Zimin began to study the archaeological monuments of Tashkent, Khojand, Samarkand, Fergana regions, rare collected sources related to manuscripts, numismatics and ethnography, medicine and literature. Even topographers and archaeologists such as N. Sitnyakovskiy and L. Zimin conducted preliminary research in the ruins of Kampir Devor and Poykent, located in the territories belonging to the Bukhara Emirate. THAT is a public scientific center, whose financial resources are paid from the treasury of the Turkestan Governor General, and in some cases from the treasury of the empire. In return, the members of the circle helped the tsarist authorities to send rare manuscripts and artifacts from the country to Russia. In any case, the research conducted by amateur archaeologists in Turkestan in 1895-1917 and their work became important for the development of archeology and historiography of Uzbekistan.

References

1. Длужневская Г.В. Археологические исследования в Центральной Азии и Сибири в 1859-1959 годах (по документам Научного архива Института истории материальной культуры РАН). Санкт-Петербург, 2011. – С.36-37.
2. Бухарин М.Д. История отечественного востоковедения в переписке В.В. Бартольда и Н.Ф. Петровского (1893–1908 гг.) из архивных собраний Российской академии наук // Journal of modern Russian history and historiography 10, 2017. – P.132.
3. Развитие научного краеведения и истории в Туркестанском крае в конце XIX - начале XX вв. // http://testhistory.ru/history.php?id=his_1_91. 2015-yil 18-aprelda olindi
4. Shahzoda, Y., & Abrar, T. (2022). Activity of Political Parties in Uzbekistan: Formation and Development Prospects. *Texas Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 15, 1-4.
5. Khakimovich, A. A., & Ulugbek, V. (2022). Peculiarities of Formation of Exemplary Skills in Young People in the Conditions of Globalization. *Eurasian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences*, 15, 17-21.
6. Salokhiddinovich, T. A. (2022). A Theoretical Analysis of Political Conservatism. *Zien Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 14, 24-30.
7. Salokhiddinovich, T. A. (2022). Foreign Political Views Of Neoconservatism Theorists. *Texas Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 13, 67-70.
8. Muhammadsidiqov, Muhammadolim. "ANALYSIS OF SOCIO-POLITICAL PROCESSES IN ARAB COUNTRIES." *Journal of Social Research in Uzbekistan* 2.05 (2022): 29-34.
9. Muhammadsidiqov, Muhammadolim. "Effects of the Religious Factor on Socio-Political and Economic Processes in Egypt." *Zien Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities* 14 (2022): 169-174.
10. Muhammadsidiqov, M. (2022). "The Arab Spring" And Its Socio-Political and Economic Effects on North African Countries. *Texas Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 14, 140-144.
11. Мухаммадсидиков, М. (2022). ЖАМИЯТ БАРҚАРОРЛИГИГА ТАЪСИР ЭТУВЧИ МАЪНАВИЙ ВА СИЁСИЙ ТАҲДИДЛАР. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 2(5-2), 1074-1082.
12. Kistaubaev, S. (2022). Impact of Ecological Policy on Environmental Sustainability. *Texas Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 13, 45-49.
13. Kistaubaev, S. (2022). Harmony Of Ecological Outlook and Values. *Zien Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 13, 25-28.
14. Khakimovich, A. A. (2022). The Role of the Unity of Knowledge and Example in the Improvement of Personal Moral Qualities. *Eurasian Research Bulletin*, 15, 102-107.