



REGARDING BURIAL STRUCTURES IN KOVARDON

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ABOUT ARTICLE

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Abstract: In this article, the burial structures found in the village of Kovardon, Urochi Chirchik district, Tashkent region, are analyzed. It is recorded that the deceased were laid on the ground in the graves, and the bones of the deceased, cleaned of flesh, were buried in the graves. Based on the analyzed graves and the artifacts found in them, it is correct that the Qovunchi culture dates back to the 2nd to 1st half of the 6th century AD, and that the inhabitants of the Tashkent oasis underwent changes in the tradition of burying the dead in the 7th-7th centuries. given

INTRODUCTION

Through the study of burial structures, it is possible to determine some issues that written sources cannot illuminate, in particular, the spiritual culture of the representatives of the population scattered in different places, to observe the changes of archaeological cultures, and to find solutions to the periods and stages of culture. Therefore, it is possible to unravel the ending of the Melon culture, which is controversial among some researchers [7: 3-40; 10: 90-189; 5: 70-71, 100; 2: 290; 8: 16; 11: 17], Although research work was carried out at the beginning of the 21st century. It was necessary to announce the results of the research work in the burial structures of the Kovardon archaeological monument, the results of which have not been made public.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Kovardon archaeological monument is the ruins of an ancient city, located on the left bank of the Karasuv River, which separated from the left bank of the Chirchik River, in the village of Kovardon, Upper Chirchik District, present-day Tashkent region. This rectangular monument has been compared with the ancient city of Kabarna recorded in written sources [6: 456-457], whose ruins covered an area of more than 75 hectares. The city is strategically located on top of the hills. Its northern and western sides are surrounded by tributaries of the Chirchik river, and its eastern and southern sides are surrounded by streams such as Aqaliq and Yuzurug.

The ruins of this city were discovered in 1972 by the Shosh-Ilaq expedition of the Institute of Areology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan led by Yu.F. Buryakov. In the same year, burial mounds were excavated in the ruins of the city and in the area adjacent to it from the north and east, called "Mingtepa" by the local people [4: 87].

As mentioned above, the location of Kovardon in a favorable geographical location did not require protecting it with a massive defense structure. There are two separate arches on the western side of the old city. They consist of rectangular hills with a height of 14-15 meters. These hills are called "Khontepa" and "Khonimtepa". Both of them are surrounded by a massive defensive wall made of large raw bricks (50x30x10 centimeters) and straw.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

From the lowest layer of the 9-meter-high cultural layer in the Khontepa arch, fragments of hand-made pottery were found without the help of a potter's wheel from the III-IV centuries [4: 87]. Adjacent to the arch is a large area of the city where the traces of the streets that used to be traveled in their time have been preserved. In order to study Shahrstan, stratigraphic excavations were carried out in several places and interesting ceramic objects were found.

- Analysis and results. It is noteworthy that in Kovardon, burial structures - naus, with a wall raised from clay, were found at the bottom of the hills, which are 8-14 meters in diameter and 1.5-3.5 meters in height. A number of burial structures of various types have been discovered, most of them have the following description:

Burial structure 1. From the outside, the core of the oval-shaped burial structure is slightly extended from the northwest to the southeast. This structure is entered from the south-west side. It consists of two parallel walls in the form of a corridor. Its entrance is 3 meters long and 0.8 meters wide. The entrance is in the middle of the room. The room is rectangular, 3.85 meters long and 2.10 meters wide. The thickness of the wall of the room raised from the pakhsa is up to 2.25 meters, and the preserved height is up to 0.9 meters. The inward slope of the wall, as well as the corridor-shaped entrance, indicate that its roof is closed in the form of a low dome. The lower side of the room was covered with straw, and the upper part was covered with a mixture of straw and rectangular raw bricks (size 37-38x27-28x8 centimeters). On the surface of the bricks there are marks in the form of a straight line on the fingers. The floor of the room is flat, and large sand is spread on it. The wall of the room is without plaster (Fig 1).

Among the heaps on the floor of the room, the bones of the dead and various objects were found, which were scattered in all directions, mixed with the soil. This situation indicates that "marham"s grave" was later looted by someone (probably treasure hunters) and its contents were taken away (stolen).

Scattered around the room were shards of reddish-colored pots (of irreparable quality) made on the potter's wheel. One of the jugs has a short body and a small upright handle attached to the top of the mouth. The diameter of its mouth is 9 centimeters, and the diameter of its base is 8.5 centimeters. Among the finds in the room, a stone stone measuring 12.5 centimeters in length, 3.5 centimeters in width, and 1 centimeter in thickness is noteworthy. Another find is flat, another oval-shaped pebbles. It seems that this find was used to decorate or decorate objects. A gray stone stick (surmatosh) and a petrified shell were found in the same place as the flint.

Also, a thin bone ring with a diameter of 1 centimeter and an iron buckle with a length of 2.5 centimeters were found in this place. Small in size, this buckle is mostly suitable for thin belts. A very poorly preserved thin copper coin with a diameter of 1.5 centimeters was also found near the northeast wall

of the room. Also, two beads were found here, one of them - the round one, decorated with circular patterns on the top. The second is made of glass. Its surface is octagonal. Among the findings, a find that looks like a piece of coal is interesting. Antimony was probably made from it.

Burial structure 2. It has a circular appearance from the outside. This building is entered from the southwest side. The entrance corridor is 2.70 meters long and 0.8 meters wide. It leads to a rectangular room with a length of 3.8 meters and a width of 2.10 meters. This room is oriented lengthwise from northeast to southeast. 2 - all signs of the burial structure are similar to the first.

On the floor near the north-eastern wall, a large amount of humus was found, and next to it, broken pieces of a ceramic coffin (master) intended for placing the bones of the deceased, which had been cleaned of flesh, were found. A partial restoration of ostadone was achieved. It has a unique rectangular shape (25x25 centimeters). Its length is 60 centimeters.

At the base of the ostadon, there are four cylindrical legs with a length of 6.5 centimeters and a diameter of 3 centimeters. In the upper part of the ostadon there is an oval cut. It can be the place where the cover of the intersection is closed. On the four sides of the cross-section, there are two overlapping holes with a diameter of 0.6 centimeters, and the wall of the place where the holes are located is 1.5 centimeters thick.

The structure next to the ostadon is like a shell, and the belly part is like a saline hum. It was also used to store the bones of the deceased. It had a vertical handle on the shoulder. It was made in a pottery workshop. The clay after cooking is light reddish in color. The outer side (surface) is painted in gray color. Its height is 43 centimeters, the diameter of its mouth is 27 centimeters, and that of its base is 26.5 cm, its wall is 1.2 centimeters thick..

Burial structure 3. This burial structure has a unique structure (Fig. 2), and its external appearance resembles a grave. As a result of the excavation work, the body of the deceased was found in a rectangular pit at the bottom of the structure. The depth of this shallow pit is 35 centimeters. The cave stretches from the northeast to the southwest. The length of the gore is 1.76 centimeters, the width is 80 centimeters. A young girl was buried here lying on her side. His head is directed to the northeast. Manhuma's bones were badly preserved, some parts turned into complete humus. A circular silver earring (1.5 cm) was found on the left side of the head, and a small cup-like container was found next to the earring. The height of this container is 5.5 centimeters, the diameter of the mouth and base is 4.5 centimeters. A jar similar to the one found in burial structure 1 was also found on the floor of the grave. As we said before, a device in a complete state was made on the deceased who was buried deep. After the deceased was placed in the pit, a mat made of special varieties may be laid over him. The reason for this is the discovery of a small ash-like layer taken over the deceased during excavation. After that, a layer of pakhsa made of baked clay was made on top of it. Its height was 80 centimeters and its diameter was 5 meters. Raw bricks measuring 45-46x26x8-9 centimeters were laid on top of it. Its height is unknown.

Burial structure 4. This burial structure looks similar to burial structure 3. It is dilapidated and built of a complex mixture of raw bricks (dimensions 48x26x10 centimeters) and cinder blocks.

The body of an older man was found at a depth of 40 centimeters extending from here to the south. The body was laid on its back with its head facing south. A number of glass beads and a knife were found around the deceased on the floor.

Burial structure 5. It is located about 250 centimeters northeast of burial structure 4. This burial structure is also similar to the 3rd burial structure. Its base is circular (the circumference of its base is 13 meters). It is made of straw bricks with a height of 80 centimeters and rectangular shape (size

44x24x10; 45x27x10; 52x32x12-13 centimeters). The thickness of the clay placed between the bricks is 4-5 centimeters. The important thing here is that after the straw is poured, a thin plaster of sand is applied over it, and then a large layer of sand is laid on it with a thickness of 1.5-2 centimeters. It was entered through a 7-meter-long corridor made in a square shape (size 70x70 centimeters) as a result of carving pure soil. This long corridor slightly rises from north to south. According to the remnants left here, after the excavation of the corridor, a special mat woven from branches was covered over it. It is closed in two layers, and between the layers, a 10-centimeter thick soil mixed with stone is placed. Two similar burial chambers have been identified from this burial structure (Fig. 3).

The first burial chamber is located in the middle of the east side of the corridor mentioned above. Its roof is arched. This room is 1 meter high, 1.6 meters long, and 1 meter wide. The room stretches from north to south. The entrance to the living room from the corridor is square, and it is closed with straw blocks. Items in the closet were stolen. Petrified shells and small pieces of pottery were found in the soil piles. Ceramics are made of reddish clay and painted in gray.

1.70 meters south of the first burial chamber is the second one. This room is 1.6 meters long, 1 meter wide and 0.7 meters high. It is much more damaged than the first one, and nothing has been found of it at all.

Burial structure 6. It is located west of burial structure 5 (about 120 meters). It was built of pakhsa (height 90 centimeters) and large rectangular raw bricks (52x32x12; 44-45x27-28x10-12 centimeters). This structure with a diameter of 11 meters looks like a grass from the outside. The surface of the bricks is covered with various symbols in a geometric style. Here too, sand is sprinkled over the thatched wall. At the bottom of the middle part of the device, a rectangular pit was opened, in which the deceased was placed. Its height is 2 meters, width is 90 centimeters, depth is 45 centimeters. The deceased buried here belongs to a man, his height is 1.85 meters. The head of the deceased was laid to the north. The remains of the bones in the grave are in disarray. The things in the grave were stolen. Only a large petrified shell was found from it.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the studied burial structures of three different types are uniform from the outside, that is, they are round in shape. In their construction, large-sized raw bricks of pakhsa and rectangular shape were mainly used. On the surface of the bricks, stamps and signs of different geometric shapes were drawn with the help of fingers. Such forms are rarely found among monuments in the Tashkent oasis. Marks and signs were used in each burial structure in their own ways, and they are not mutually exclusive. Only in the 6th burial structure can be found various marks and raw bricks of different sizes. This indicates that the body of a person with a high position among the tribe was buried in the burial structure. As for the 5th burial structure, this grave is not considered a "laying ground" for the deceased. There are many reasons for this, firstly, the rooms here are too narrow for the deceased, secondly, the entrances to them are blocked with large bricks, and thirdly, it is difficult to crawl into these rooms through a narrow corridor. The conclusion here is that this greenhouse may have served as a cenotaph. Such a situation was observed in many different rooms of this type studied in Uzbekistan, that is, such structures were empty (without corpses). Observations show that if a person who died as a result of a clash between two rivals remains there, and if it is not possible for his relatives to take him back to his country, they build such structures in their country in honor of the deceased. This person must have been the head of his country and tribe. Such structures built for the deceased should be equipped with equipment named for him.

In the first type of burial structure (burial structure 1), the deceased were buried in a lay-out, and in the second type (burial structure 2), the bones of the deceased, cleaned of flesh, were buried in the graves. Their appearance is similar to the tombs studied in Tuyaboguz [1: 71-76] and Pskent [3: 131-132] regions of Tashkent region. Also, such burial structures are found outside Uzbekistan in Panjikent [13: 65-78] (Tajikistan) and Kazakhstan [12: 112. Table. 1] was studied. All of them belong to VII-VIII centuries.

Pottery found in burial structures is interesting. Among them, there is a handle of a round-shaped jug that goes down from the upper lip to the belly, and there is a kumbal on the opposite side of it. Also, a large tube-shaped (hum-like) dish is very unique. It had upright handles on both sides. Next to this vessel is a four-legged master in the form of a sarcophagus (stone coffin). Such masters were found in monuments in Khorezm [9: 100. Fig. 5], and they correspond to somewhat earlier times.

Based on the discovery of ceramics belonging to the 1st - 4th centuries [10: 90] from the bottom of these burial structures, it can be said that life in these places ended in the 4th - 5th centuries. As a result, these lands were turned into graves and the deceased were buried according to the above-mentioned traditions in the VII-VIII centuries. With this, there is another complete reason to say that a new tradition, other than the tradition of the "Kovunchi culture" [11: 16-17], which is widespread in the Tashkent oasis and belongs to the 1st half of the 2nd century BC - 6th century AD the recognition of the existence of the basis is proved. It is also possible to say that the lower chronological limit of the "Kovunchi culture" by some researchers is determined by the VIII century [8: 16]. A part of the traditions inherited from the Melon culture has been preserved with certain changes. This is even done by pouring a black or reddish liquid from their shoulders to decorate the surface of jugs made in the 9th-10th centuries, as was used to decorate the bowls belonging to the melon culture. One such jug was found in the upper layer of the Nogaykurgan-Kogaittepa monument belonging to the above-mentioned period.

So, the burial structures studied in Kovardon play an important role in proving the formation of new traditions in the Choch-Tashkent oasis, and in proving that ideological changes took place in the minds of its inhabitants.

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