



THE ISSUE OF STUDIEDNESS OF ANCIENT FERGHANA IN CHINESE MANUSCRIPTS

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ABSTRACT

This article summarizes the historical, political, socio-economic and cultural life of ancient Fergana based on scientific studies by Chinese scholars, their occupations, customs and names in the Chinese sources of the region.

KEY WORDS: Chinese written sources, «Historical Memories» («Shiji»), «History of the Han Dynasty», «The History of the Next Han Dynasty», «The History of the Jin Dynasty» («Jinshu»), «History of the Wei Dynasty (Veyshu)», «The Suy Dynasty's History» («Suyshu»), «The History of the Northern Dynasties» («Beyshi»), «The History of the Tang Dynasty» («Tangshu»), ancient Fergana, Davan-Daiyuan, Pouluona, Faxanna, Ningyuan, Parkana.

DISCUSSION

In the study of ancient history and culture of Central Asia local written sources, the history of dynasties in China, various travel arrangements, diaries of ambassadors and tourists are used which makes them important.

Many historians and orientalists have accepted the idea that the kingdom of Davan (Day-yuan) in the Chinese chronicles proposed by the French Chinese scientist J. Degin in the eighteenth century should be considered as Fergana (Rtveladze, Alimova etc., 2009. p.187). Therefore, the absence of local written sources on the history of ancient Ferghana makes the question of the study of Chinese information more relevant.

Some work on studying the Chinese written sources on the history of Ferghana was carried out in the history of the former Soviet Union. In this regard, N.Ya. Bychurin (Bichurin, 1950), N.V. Cuner (Küner, 1961), L.A. Borovkova's researches are important.

We can find information on the political, socio-economic and cultural history of ancient Ferghana by Chinese sources, including Sima Chiang's «Historical Memories» (Shiji), Ban Gun's «First Han Dynasty», Sima Byao, and Fan Yel's «The Next Han Dynasty Description», Chin Shu and Fang Shuanling's «Three Kingdoms Descriptions», Lee Yanshu's «History of Northern Dynasties» and there are some other ancient sources on Kangkia, Dakhya (Dashya) and Day-yuan states, their geographical location, population, rulers, and the role in political processes (Kuldoshev, 2010).

Having conducted research on the history of urban development and evolution in the Ferghana Valley, I.Yuldashev points out that the information on Ferghana in Chinese written sources was published by N.Ya.Bichurin, and was widely used in various publications, he further mentions that even at the end of the 20th century the information was repeated in the

level of chrestomatija and basic information on Chinese sources is as follows:

- Yuzuji tribes of eastern Turkestan, moving through Davan (Ferghana) to Dacha (Bactria);
- Travel by Chinese Ambassador Zhang Xiang and its results;
- The mention of the state of Davan. Population of 60,000 or 300,000 people;
- Chinese military march to Davan. Wars for «Heavenly Horses»;
- The capital and cities of Davan;
- The inhabitants of Davan and their occupation;
- Information on historical geography (Yuldashev, 2011)

During the years of independence, the scholars of the source A.Khodzhaev and A.Aitboev, using their sources and literature published in Chinese and Uighur languages, enriched the field of history and source study with new general information. In particular, scholarly publications of the scientist A.Khodzhaev analyzed and summarized political, socio-economic issues related to the history of Davan-Day-yuan, and trade relations of the Ferghana Valley with China (Khojaev, 2001; 2004; 2005; 2007; 2005).

The book «Information on the history of Fergana (Translations and Interpretations from the Ancient and Early Medieval Chinese sources)» was published as a fruit of the scientist's research (Khodjaev, 2013). The book pays a great deal of attention to the etymology and origin of a number of toponyms and ethnos in our history through Russian translations, which have been used as primary sources until recently. In particular, some of the information contained in the works of Russian historians suggests that there were deficiencies and shortcomings, and that the Russian transcription of some toponyms was neither modern nor ancient.



Below we find it necessary to give some information about the Fergana in the history of the Chinese dynasties by the scholar. Sima Chiang's «Historical Memories» (Shiji), written in the first modern style in ancient China, consists of 130 chapters, based on information collected by the Ambassador sent by U-dzi to Central Asia, Fergana.

In the chapter 123 of «Historical Memories» (Shiji): «The Great Fergana Description» reads: ... Day-yuan (Great Fergana) is in the south-west of Huns, or about 10,000 (5760 km) far west of the Han country. The people of Fergana are engaged in farming, planting rice and wheat and making wine from grapes. They had many horses with bloody sweat. In fact, these horses were actually horses from God.

In the Fergana country there are many buildings and towns made of walls. More than 70 large cities and villages are located on its territory. The population of the town is more than a few hundred thousand, and its armies consist of riders armed with arrows, spears and shields.

It is further stated that Kangkia was located in the north of the Fergana state, in the west there was the Great Guzer (Dai-ruzie), in the southwest Fergana bordered by Bacteria (Dashya), in the north-east by Asuen (Usun), in the east by Dandon, Houthan (Yutian)...» (Khodjaev, 2013. p. 33-34).

The «History of the Han Dynasty», written after the «Historical Memories» («Shiji»), was written by a large group of palace historians, which was completed by the palace historian Ban Gu. It is therefore customary to say that Hanshu was written by Ban Gu.

The «Hanshu» («History of the Han Dynasty») consists of 200 chapters. After the death of Ban Gu, another 20 chapters were added to the history, including those related to disaster. The work is devoted to the historical events of the Western Han dynasty (8 BC to 206 BC) and to the 212-year history. Its chapters such as «Description of the Western Countries» and «Zhang Chiang Description» read: «... the ruler of Day-yuan lives in the city of Kiveyshan (Guyshan). From here to Changan it is (Sian) 12,550 (7,228,8 km). The population is 60 thousand families and 300 thousand people. Of these, 60,000 are eligible for military service. There is one minister and one ministerial assistant under the ruler

...The land, climate, wealth and traditions of the people of the Fergana state are the same as those of Great Guzer (Day-ruzie) and Parfia (Anshi). Grapes are served to make wine in the vicinity of Fergana (Day-yuan). This wine has been around for several decades, but it is still intact and locals like to drink it. Horses here are feed on alfalfa...» (Khodjaev, 2013. p. 70-71).

«The History of the Next Han Dynasty» (Khou Khunshu) (269-316 AD) was written by palace historians Hua Chiao and Hua Chelar who were father and son. The history of Fergana has not been separately collected in this history. After the writing of this work,

«Hanshu» became known as «Chyan Hanshu» («The History of the Early Han Dynasty»).

In chapter 97 of «The History of the Dynasty of Jin» (Jinshu), written by Wang In from 330-340, it reads «... there are more than 70 large and small cities in Day-yuan. In this country rice and wheat are planted, grapes are served to make wine; horses are fed whose body makes bloody sweat. The locals are a deep-eyed, have dense hair, it is custom for a boy to send two-eyed gold rings and bracelets as gifts for the future bride before marrying. At the same time, the future bride is sent three maids to be tested.

The mother of a child born out of wedlock is subject to contempt.

The responsibility for the death of someone who rides and falls on a horse is the responsibility of its owner.

The local people are very good at trading and do not lose their rights to trade. They make gold jewelry (from Chinese gold) and do not use them for money...» (Khodjaev, 2013. p. 77).

The 130-page history of the Wei dynasty, written by one of the palace historians Wei Shou (506-572), not listed in N.Ya. Bichurin's translations, also provides valuable information: «Luona is the ancient state of Day-yuan. Its capital is Sulu (Kashgar), located to the northwest of Kuwaan (Guyshan). From here to the center of Wei Dynasty there is a distance of 14,450 li (8323.2 km).

The next source is «Suyushu Dynasty History» – a historical work on the history of the Suy State written by a group of palace historians, such as Suy Jinzung, Yan Shigu, Kun Inda (581-618), which was lost and replaced in the early years of Tang State (629-656).

Due to the serious relationship of the Suyan and Tang empires with the Turkish khagan, information about the Turks has played an important role in this work. The third part of the work, titled «Western Countries» («Shiyuy»), provides information on Turkestan history, including Fergana: «To the west of Pamir (Tsungling), 500 kilometers (288 km) west of the capital of Fakhhan-guo (Ferghana), it used to be called Gaishieu (Chuysou) in the past. The surname of the ruler is Jabgu (Zhao), and the name is Alchi (Alich). The total size of the wall of the capital is 4 li (2.304 km). There are several thousand soldiers. The ruler sits on the golden throne in the form of a sheep (ram). The ruler's wife wears a golden crown ...» (Khodjaev, 2013. p. 80).

«The history of the Northern Dynasties» (Beyshi), a total of 100 chapters, was written in the first half of the 7th century and it retells the events took place from 386 to 618. Its author Lee Yanshou Tang is one of the greatest historians of the Tang Dynasty who served at the royal palace.

Chapter 97 «Western Countries» of «The History of the Northern Dynasties» provides the following information:

«The state of Luona is ancient Day-yuan. Its capital is Kiveyshan (Guyshan). It is located in the



northwest of Suly (Kashgar). There is a distance of 14,450 li (8323.2 km) to the center of the Wei Dynasty.

In 229 AD, the ruler of that country sent an ambassador to the Wei Emperor and presented him a horse which would produce bloody sweat.

After that, every time the ambassador was sent, he would send presents to the Wei Dynasty» (Khodjaev, 2013., p. 82).

The second part of the Tang Dynasty, which has come down to the present day, is called «The New History of Tang Dynasty». It consists of 225 chapters, and Chapter 221 provides the following information: «Ningyuan was originally called Fergana (Bakhanna, Fakhanna) or Parkon (Poohan) during the Wei Dynasty it was called Poulona. Located 8,000 li (4,608 km) away from the capital city of the Tang Dynasty (now Xi'an). The ruler of Ferghana lives in the city of Aksikent (Shijian), north of the river Naryn. There are 6 big, 100 small towns in Fergana, people live long. Her rulers have been in power for generations from the Wei and Jin dynasties ... » (Khodjaev, 2013., p. 84).

From the above, it is clear that sources in the history of Chinese dynasties are Shiji, Hanshu, and Jinshu, mention the names of the Duanjuan, «Veyshu» and «Beshi» in Luona («Puo» at Weyshu falls in the Luona toponymy) and Suyushu and further names such as Fahan (Baxan) and Ningyuan in Shin Tangshu are also recorded».

According to the information provided by A.Khojaev, the abbreviated form of the Pouluona toponym of Luona in «Veyshu»; The Pouluona and Fahanna toponyms are Chinese transcriptions of the terms Parkona and Fergana; He concluded that the term Fahanna was used from the 7th century onwards. However, due to the lack of precise information on how the term Parkona has become a Dewanan, the scientist has focused on the meaning of the term «Dewanan» and analyzed it by analyzing the translation of the Great Parkona (2013, p. 127). In other words, as a result of a deep study of Chinese sources dating back to the sixth century AD, it is found out the ancient capital of Ferghana was the same as its first capital city, and they were represented by a Chinese hieroglyph (Yuan) (with modern phonetic form «Van»).

In order to avoid confusion, the scholar quoted ancient Chinese historians by calling the word «da» (great, big) the name «Day-yuan» (modern reading - Davan - Great Park or Big Park) was formed. The Davan toponym emphasizes the word «Great Parkana», which means a large valley surrounded by mountains, and the Van «top» is a Chinese translation of «Parkana» surrounded by mountains (Khodjaev, 2013., p. 16).

This is what the Parkana toponym meant. For example, referring to works by famous geographer S.K.Karaev and V.A. Livshitz, some European researchers have compared the Fergana toponym with the word Parkon, but they have failed to defend this thesis. At the same time, according to the scientist M.Ishakov, in the ancient Sogdian language, the word «par» means wall or circular heights, and the word

«kan» means accumulation, or accumulation of wealth, and that the meaning of the Fergana toponym is derived from these two words, which led him to find these composition of these two words valid.

According to E.M. Murzaev, in the Pamir languages there are the words «pargana» and «bargana» which are used in the sense of a plain surrounded by heights. In the languages of the peoples of Central Asia, it is not uncommon to replace the «f» with «p». For example, in some dialects of Uzbekistan, the Fergana toponym is pronounced «Parghona». There are also frequent changes in pronunciations of «gh», «k» and «q» sounds.

According to Chinese scholar Shyuy Shuya, in eastern Iran Pargana or Barghana means «a place surrounded by mountains and open only on one side» After the arrival of the Arabs, the sound of the «p» according to their language was changed to «f», and the toponym «Pargana» began to be called «Fergana».

According to the scholars, it can be said that the ancient words «Parkona» and «Pargana» in the ancient Sogdian and Pamir languages have the same meaning. Of course, this is no coincidence. In addition, the Yuan toponym was used in the report of Zhang Chiang, the first Chinese ambassador to Ferghana who came to Ferghana in 127–126 BC (his date of birth is unknown, he passed away in 114 BC). Later it was used by historians in the Palace of Chinese rulers. Therefore, when he arrived in the Ferghana Valley, the Chinese ambassador, Zhang Chiang, struggled to transcribe the name of the country with hieroglyphs, he translated its meaning into Chinese. Because at least 4 hieroglyphs would have to be used to correctly transcribe the name of that country. This was a difficult issue for the Chinese at the time, as they were accustomed to writing city and country names in one or, in most cases, two hieroglyphs. In addition, the use of the word yuan (hieroglyph), meaning the word «pargona» and «parkona» in Chinese during the time of the ambassador, was helpful. In modern Chinese, this hieroglyph is used as a “bowl” for drinking (Khodjaev, 2012).

In conclusion, the failure of any local written sources to tell us about Ferghana, its social, economic and political life was not reached until the eighth century AD, because of the Arab invasion. Therefore, the role and place of Chinese written sources is very important in covering ancient history of Fergana.

The problem of ancient cities of the Ferghana Valley, which has been cited in written sources in recent years, has been confirmed by archeological studies. B.Matboboev, A.Anorboev, M.Isomiddinov, G.Ivanov, B.Abdulgazieva, B.Abdullaev, I.Yuldashev, E.Rtveladze, A.Saidov, E.Abdullaev and many others have contributed to this. Now, additional information cited in the written literature and archaeological investigations of the controversial capital to the present day are among the most pressing challenges faced by our scientists and young people.



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